

Radboud University Nijmegen





Behavioral Science Institute

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Coupling of language development between infant and caretaker

Dale, R., & Spivey, M.J. (2006). Unraveling the dyad: Using recurrence analysis to explore patterns of syntactic coordination between children and caregivers in conversation.
Language Learning, 56(3), 391–430

Rick Dale has introduced some interesting applications of Recurrence Analysis:

- CRQA on categorical/nominal data
- “LOS”-profile, as a measure of who’s leading and who’s trailing

Categorical (C)RQA:

- The RP's of the poems are an example of recurrence plots on categorical data. The recurring values represent an arbitrary category.
- Dale examined transcriptions of conversations between children and caregivers (CHILDES). The unit of analysis was syntactic structure

The RQA parameters become extremely simple, no need for estimation:

Lag = 1, Embedding = 1, Threshold / Radius = 0

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Who leads?

