











## Emotion semantics show both cultural variation and universal structure

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### The diverse way that languages convey emotion

It is unclear whether emotion terms have the same meaning across cultures. Jackson *et al.* examined nearly 2500 languages to determine the degree of similarity in linguistic networks of 24 emotion terms across cultures (see the Perspective by Majid). There were low levels of similarity, and thus high variability, in the meaning of emotion terms across cultures. Similarity of emotion terms could be predicted on the basis of the geographic proximity of the languages they originate from, their hedonic valence, and the physiological arousal they evoke.

*Science*, this issue p. 1517; see also p. 1444

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