

*Multimodal aspects of semantics*

# Experiment 1: Discovering the color of concrete objects

# 1. Introduction

## Hypothesis

The semantic **relationship** between **nouns** (representing concrete entities) and their typical **colors** is more accurately captured by vector distances in **English** language models compared to **Spanish**.

## Dataset

52 Nouns - 11 Colors.

## Examples

“crow-black”, “parsley-green”

## Methodology

Selection of Model and Corpus



Cosine Similarity



Calculate Accuracy and Rank



# 1. Data processing

## English

- Compute cosine similarity with all colors
- Take the maximum
- Take the second maximum
- Calculate in which position is the correct colour

## Spanish

- Translate data.
- Follow same procedure as in English

## Models

fastText word2vec  
200000 words  
English: cc.en.300.vec.gz  
Spanish: cc.es.300.vec.gz

## 2. Comparing spanish and english results

### Count Based Embeddings

<i>Model</i>	<i>WS</i>	<i>MEN</i>	<i>E1</i>
DM	.44	.42	3 (09)
Document	.63	.62	3 (07)
Window2	<b>.70</b>	.66	5 (13)
Window20	<b>.70</b>	.62	3 (11)

Table 1: Results from the Technicolor paper based on counts. The 'E1' column shows the mean rank, with the count of correct first positions noted in parentheses.

### Modern embeddings

Model	Mean Rank (ENG)	Mean Rank (SPA)
fastText	1.5 (31)	2.0 (22)
USE	3.0 (18)	2.5 (19)
mBERT	5.0 (7)	5.0 (6)
roBERTa (base)	6.0 (2)	6.5 (9)
roBERTa (large)	4.0 (7)	5 (4)

Table 2: Comparison of results in Spanish and English. Results with some modern embeddings. Mean Ranks and count of right fist position noted in parentheses.



! Ref: Bruni, E., G. Boleda, M. Baroni, N. K. Tran (2012), Distributional semantics in technicolor. Proceedings of ACL 2012, pp. 136-145, Jeju Island, Korea.

! We have used xlm-roBERTa trained over 100 languages.

# 3. Comparing spanish and english results

1.

Overall accuracy

English: 50.00%  
Spanish: 42.31%

2.

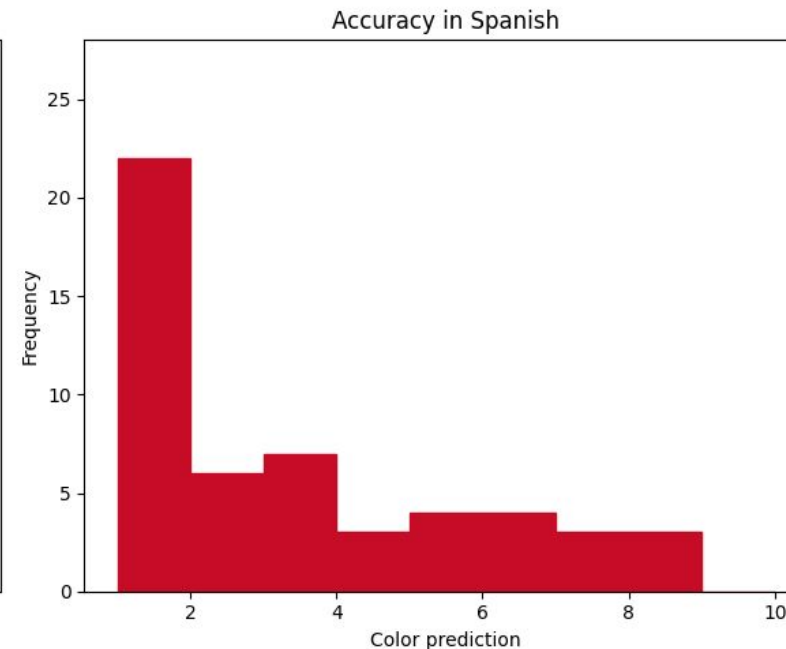
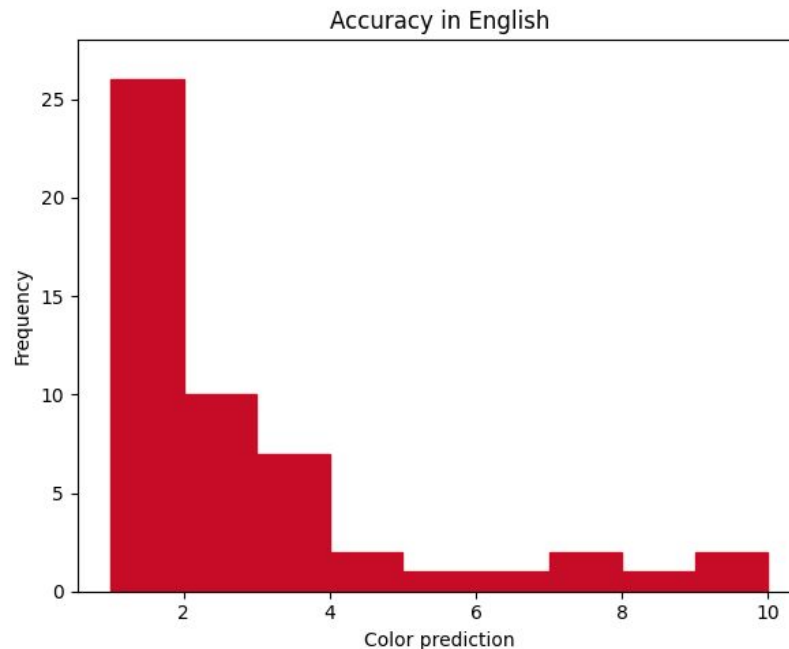
Second accuracy

English: 69.23%  
Spanish: 53.85%

3.

Cross-Linguistic Accuracy  
(fastText)

26.92%



# 4. Error analysis



## Fruit association

Banana & cherry with color orange



## Gold Standard Ambiguity

Cloud with grey/azul (blue) or soil with brown/green



## High differences

"Pig" - "pink"  
In Spanish it's the 8th choice.



## Agreement on common words

"blood", "grass"

# 5. Conclusions

## Cross-Linguistic Insights

**English** models may be benefiting from more **robust** linguistic **data** and **research**, potentially due to the language's global predominance.

## Relationship Insights

Color **perceptions** embedded in English may lead to stronger noun-color associations due to **cultural** emphasis, can **affect** the **frequency** and context of colors.

## Data and Model Influences

The corpus and **data quality** used for training language models are crucial. English language data might be more **extensive** and **varied**, leading to more nuanced color associations in models.