Interactional sequences from signing patterns
in the Swedish Sign Language Corpus
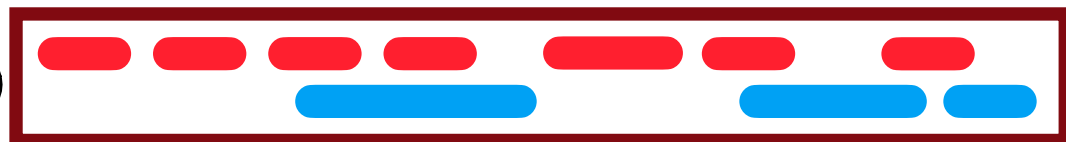
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Is it possible to locate types of *interactional sequences* automatically in a corpus?

ELAN

STS Corpus
conversations
153,947 sign tokens

Every sequence of 10 signs is conversation is taken as a unit

We categorize each sequence unit into four *prototypical profiles* based on pattern

Monologue
Monologue

All one signer

Change
Interactive

Both signers, few switches

Insertion
Interactive

Mostly one signer, few switches
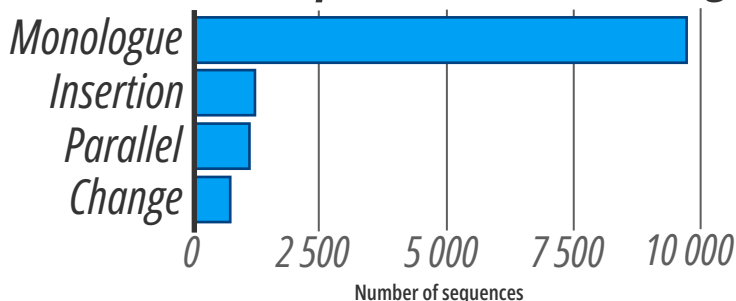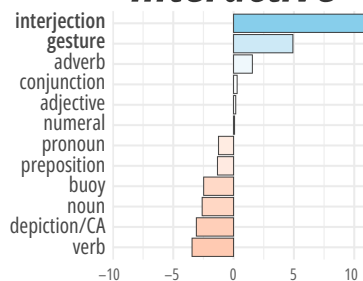
Parallel
Interactive

Both signers, many switches

What is the *distribution* of sequence profiles & what *signs* are found within them?
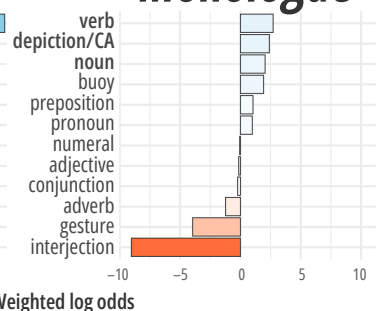
Most sequences are "monolog"

Monologue
Insertion
Parallel
Change

0   2 500   5 000   7 500   10 000
Number of sequences

Interactive

interjection
gesture
adverb
conjunction
adjective
numeral
pronoun
preposition
buoy
noun
depiction/CA
verb

−10   −5   0   5   10

Monologue

verb
depiction/CA
noun
buoy
preposition
pronoun
numeral
adjective
conjunction
adverb
gesture
interjection

−10   −5   0   5   10
Weighted log odds

What are the benefits of this approach?

✓ Saves time

✓ Finds places of interest for qualitative analysis

✓ Search method is language-agnostic