

# Social Networking by Proxy: A Case Study of **catster**, **dogster** and **HAMSTERster**

Table 4: Most common names.

| Cats    |          | Dogs    |        | Hamsters |         |
|---------|----------|---------|--------|----------|---------|
| Male    | Female   | Male    | Female | Male     | Female  |
| Tigger  | Chloe    | Max     | Bella  | Oreo     | Daisy   |
| Max     | Bella    | Buddy   | Lucy   | Hammie   | Cookie  |
| Oliver  | Lucy     | Jake    | Daisy  | Pepper   | Peanut  |
| Tiger   | Princess | Charlie | Molly  | Teddy    | Lucy    |
| Smokey  | Kitty    | Rocky   | Maggie | Hamlet   | Honey   |
| Buddy   | Molly    | Jack    | Chloe  | Fred     | Ginger  |
| Charlie | Sophie   | Toby    | Sadie  | Jack     | Oreo    |
| Simba   | Lily     | Bailey  | Sophie | Gus      | Pumpkin |
| Jack    | Angel    | Bear    | Lola   | George   | Lily    |
| Shadow  | Sassy    | Buster  | Roxy   | Boris    | Brownie |
| Milo    | Baby     | Duke    | Bailey | Bear     | Bella   |

Table 1: Datasets analysed.

| Dataset           | #Pets   | #Friendships | #Households | Pets per household |
|-------------------|---------|--------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Catster           | 204,473 | 5,448,197    | 105,138     | 1.94               |
| Dogster           | 451,710 | 8,543,549    | 260,390     | 1.73               |
| Catster + Dogster | 656,183 | 13,991,746   | 333,111     | 1.87               |
| Hamsterster       | 2,955   | 12,534       | 1,577       | 1.87               |

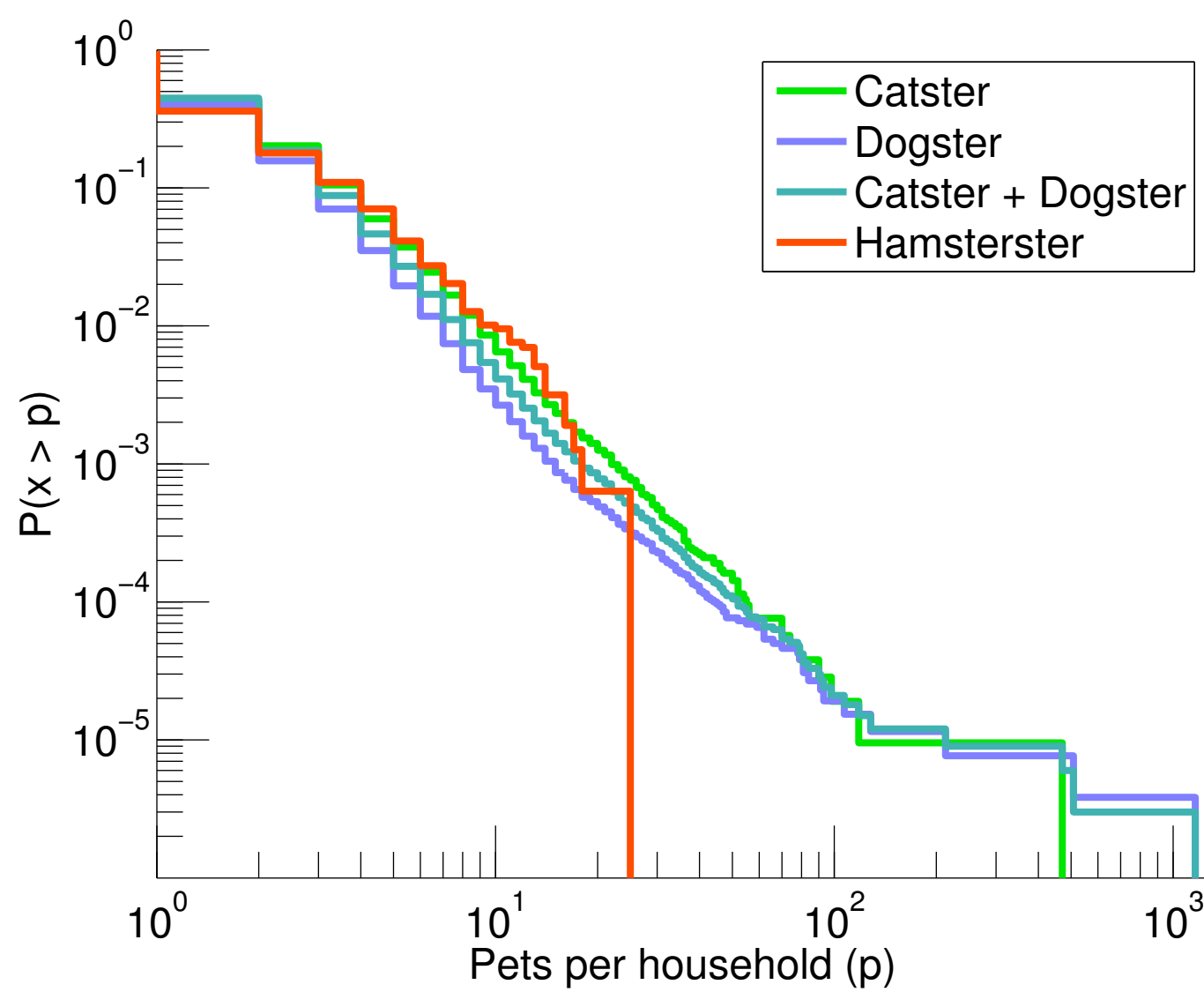


Table 3: Distribution of races in Catster and Dogster.

| Catster              | Dogster                   |
|----------------------|---------------------------|
| Breed Unknown        | Labrador Retriever        |
| Domestic Shorthair   | Breed Unknown             |
| American Shorthair   | Chihuahua                 |
| Domestic Medium Hair | German Shepherd           |
| Siamese              | American Pit Bull Terrier |
| Domestic Long Hair   | Shih Tzu                  |
| Maine Coon           | Dachshund                 |
| Persian              | Golden Retriever          |
| Russian Blue         | Beagle                    |
| Ragdoll              | Boxer                     |

Cats & dogs can be in the same household

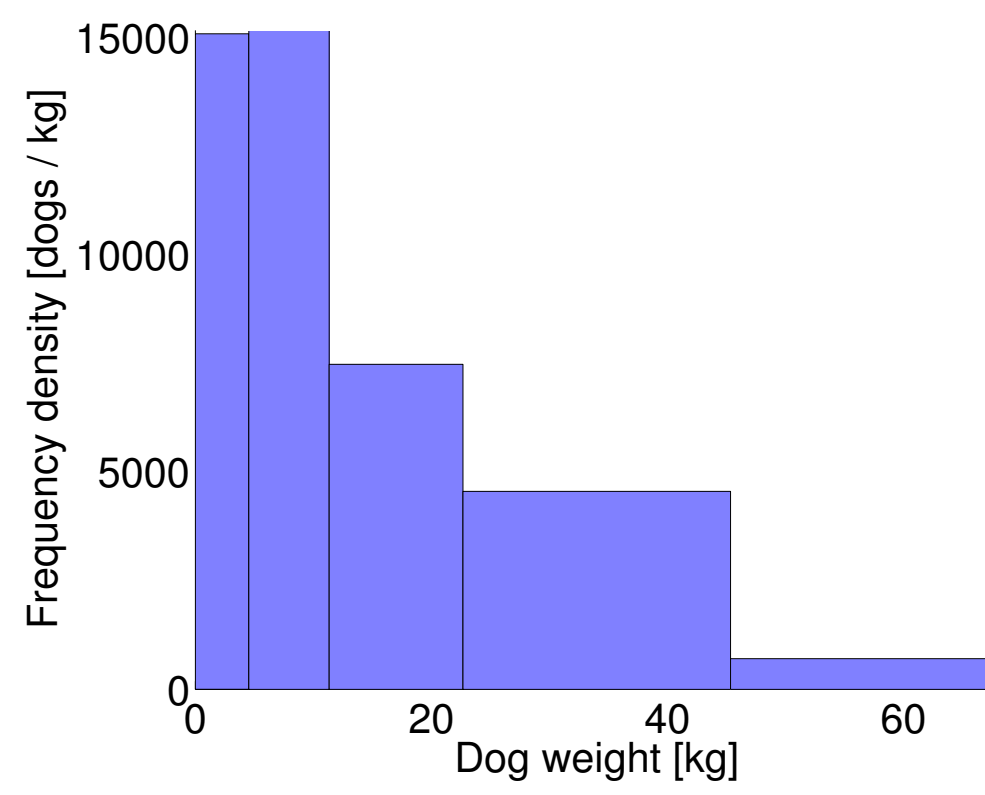
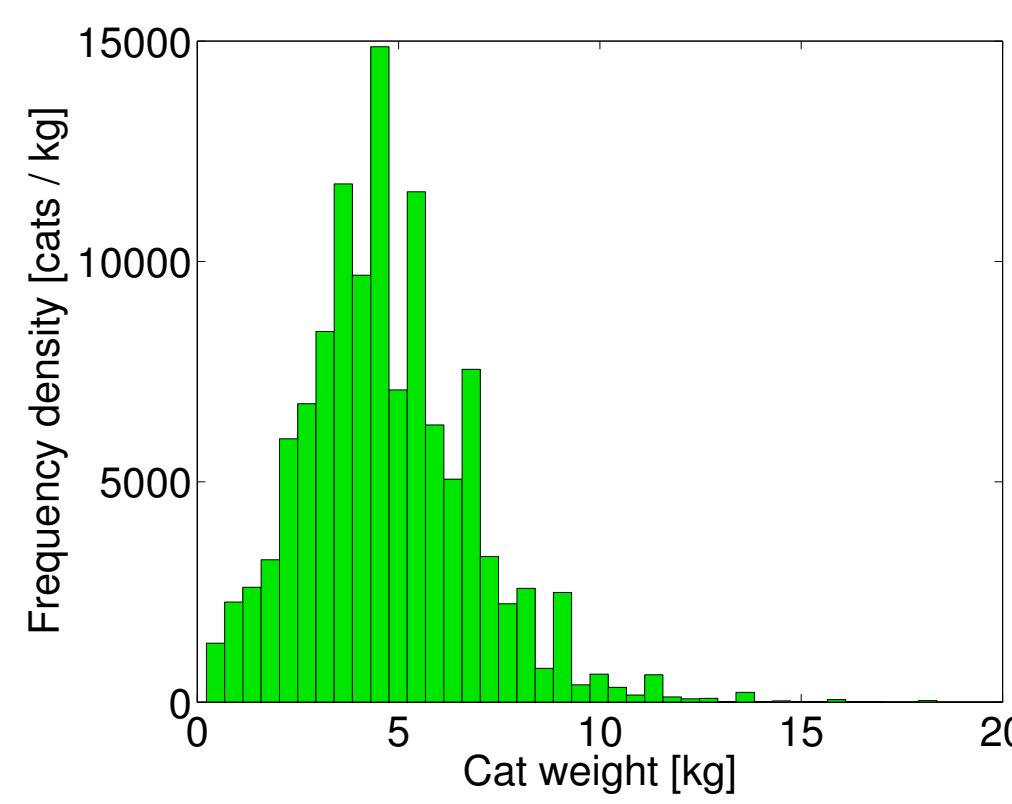


Table 2: Distribution of species on Hamsterster.

| Count | Species               |
|-------|-----------------------|
| 867   | Hamster (Syrian)      |
| 645   | Hamster (Dwarf)       |
| 518   | Hamster (Teddy Bear)  |
| 208   | Hamster (Russian)     |
| 180   | Hamster (Unknown)     |
| 104   | Hamster (Roborovskii) |
| 87    | Gerbil (Mongolian)    |
| 84    | Hamster (Siberian)    |
| 79    | Hamster (Common)      |

Table 5: Most common colorings of hamsters in Hamsterster.

| Count | Coloring      |
|-------|---------------|
| 320   | Grey          |
| 257   | Agouti        |
| 230   | Black         |
| 214   | Brown         |
| 192   | Golden        |
| 191   | Golden banded |
| 176   | White         |
| 165   | Cream         |
| 125   | Black banded  |



Cats and dogs cannot be friends

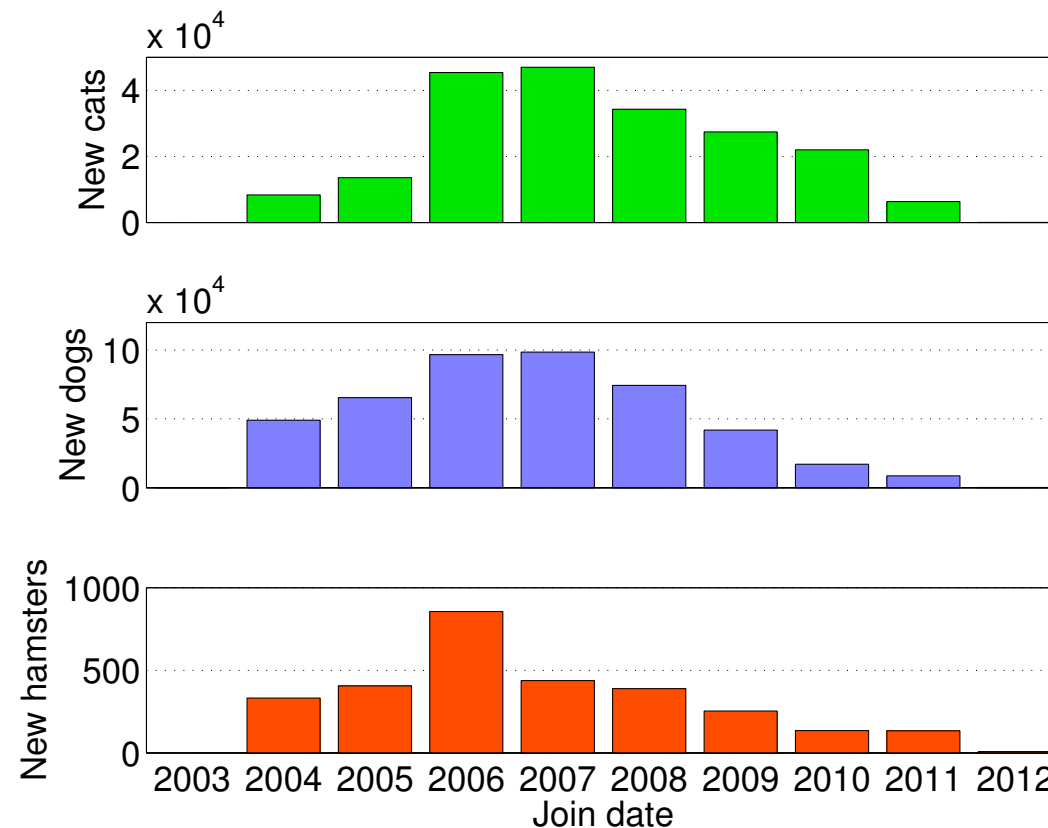
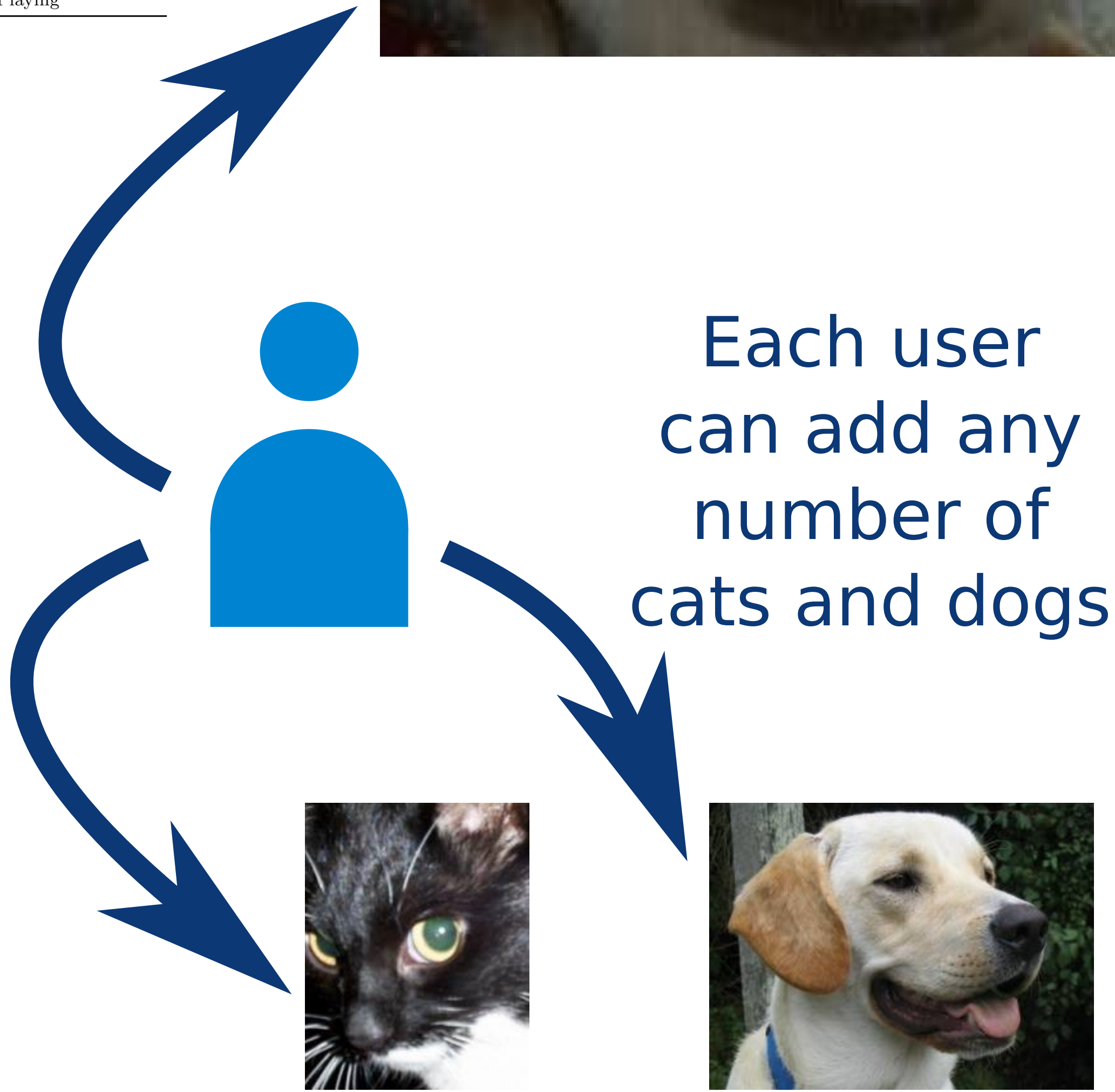


Table 6: Most common favorite activities in Hamsterster.

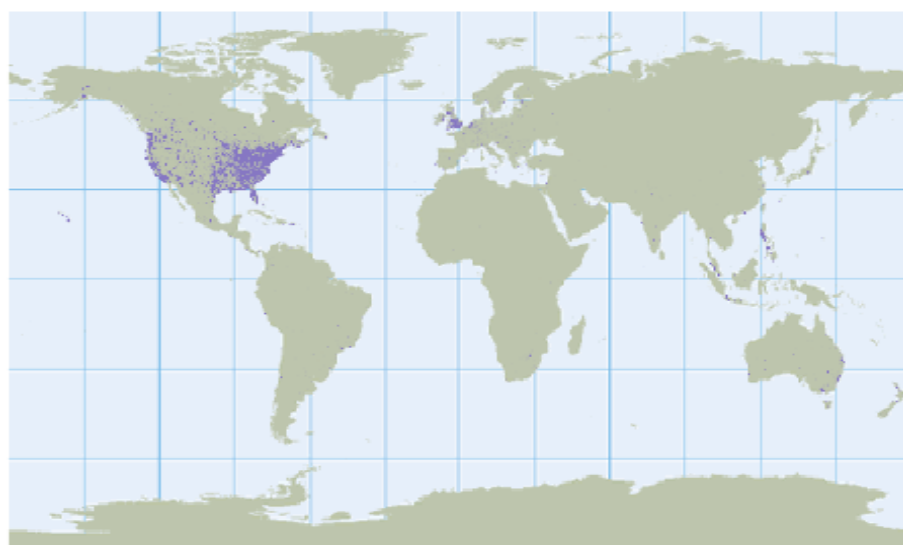
| Count | Favorite activity |
|-------|-------------------|
| 835   | Running           |
| 466   | Sleeping          |
| 224   | Eating            |
| 161   | Climbing          |
| 150   | Chewing           |
| 113   | Playing           |



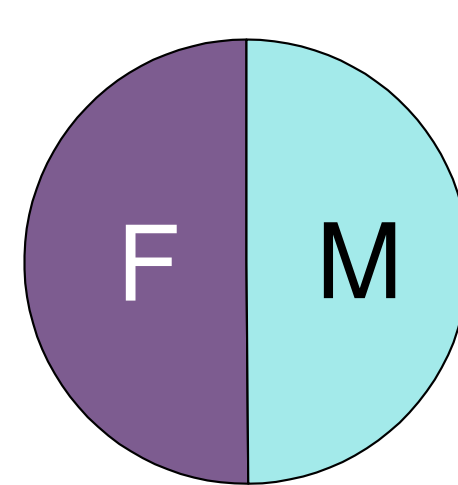
Each user can add any number of cats and dogs

## Research questions

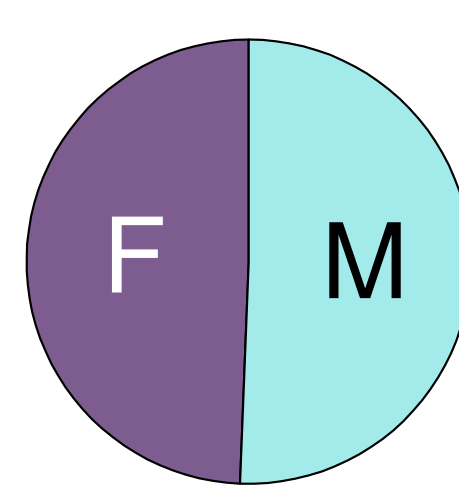
- What is the relationship between the pet-level social network and the human social network?
- Can the pet-level social network reveal which pets are in the same household?



Catster



Dogster



Hamsterster

