

# Installing LaBB-CAT

LaBB-CAT is a web-browser based application, and is primarily designed to run on a central web server accessible over the internet, so that multiple collaborators can easily work on the same corpus data from different locations.


However, it is possible to have a ‘private’ installation of LaBB-CAT which runs directly on your personal computer. These instructions explain how to achieve that.

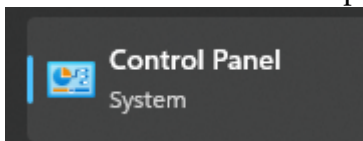


On Windows, before you can install LaBB-CAT, you first must have Java installed.

## 1. Check Java

Use the following steps to check whether you already have Java installed.

1. Press the  Start menu button.
2. Type Control Panel
3. Select the *Control Panel* option that appears.



4. Type Java

If a *Java* icon appears as shown in Figure 1, then you already have Java, and can skip section 2.

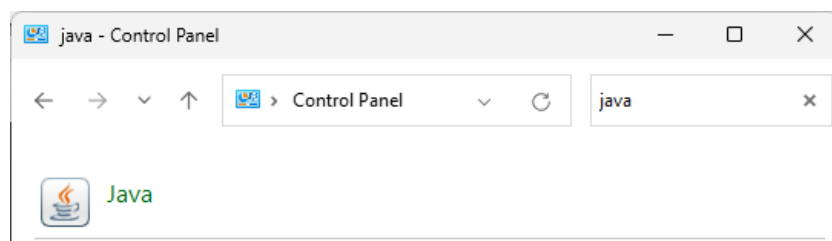


Figure 1: Java in the Control Panel

If there's no *Java* icon in the Control Panel, follow the steps in the next section to install it.

## 2. Install Java

1. Open the Java website in your browser:  
<https://www.java.com/>
2. Press the *Download Java* button.
3. Press the *Download Java* button on the next page and save the resulting installer file.
4. Click the installer to run it.



Figure 2: The Java installer

5. Press *Install*.

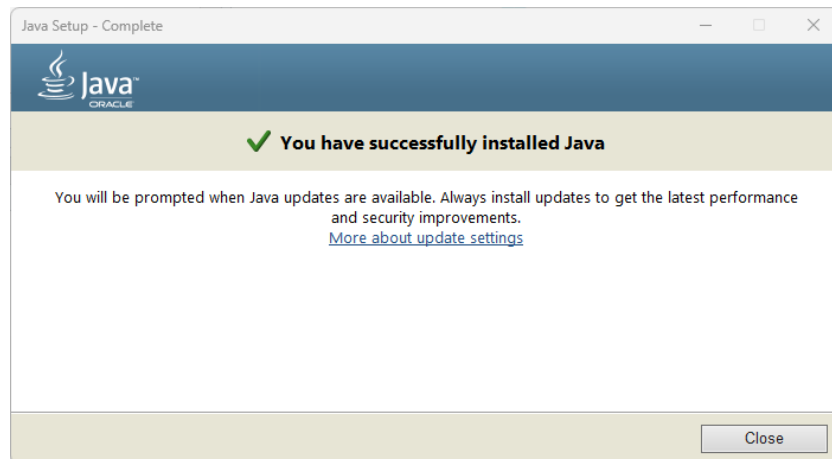


Figure 3: Java installation is complete

6. Press *Close*.

### 3. Install LaBB-CAT

Once Java is installed, you can install LaBB-CAT:

- (1) Open the following page in your web browser:  
<https://sourceforge.net/projects/labbcats/files/install/>  
This page has all versions of the LaBB-CAT installer, both for personal computer installations and also for web-server installations. The files are listed most recent first.
- (2) Download the first file named *install-labbcats\_yyyymmdd.jar* (where *yyymmdd* are numbers).
- (3) Double-click on the file you just downloaded to open it.

You should see the LaBB-CAT installer program (Figure 4).

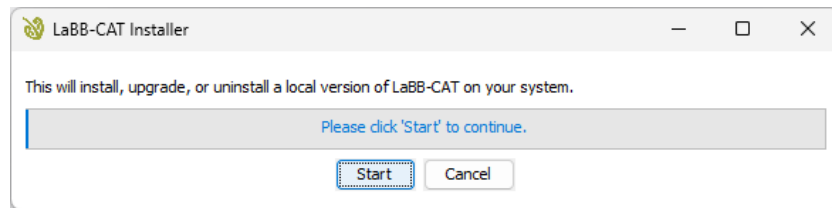


Figure 4: LaBB-CAT Installer

- (4) Press *Start*.

You should see a progress bar while components are installed and files are copied.

Once the installation is finished, the progress bar will be all blue, and there will be a button labelled *Finished* (Figure 5).

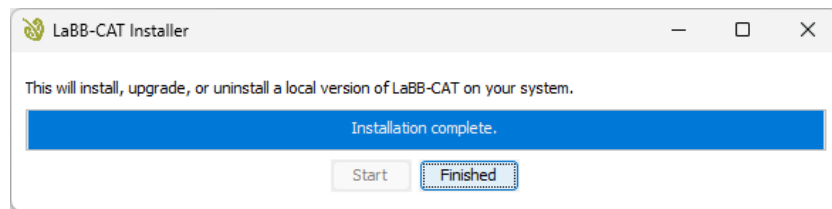


Figure 5: Installer finished

- (5) Press *Finished*.

The LaBB-CAT Server application will appear, as shown in Figure 6.

Then your default web browser will open on your LaBB-CAT home page, as shown in Figure 7.

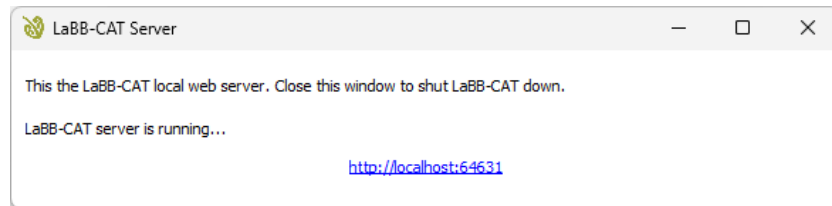


Figure 6: LaBB-CAT Server

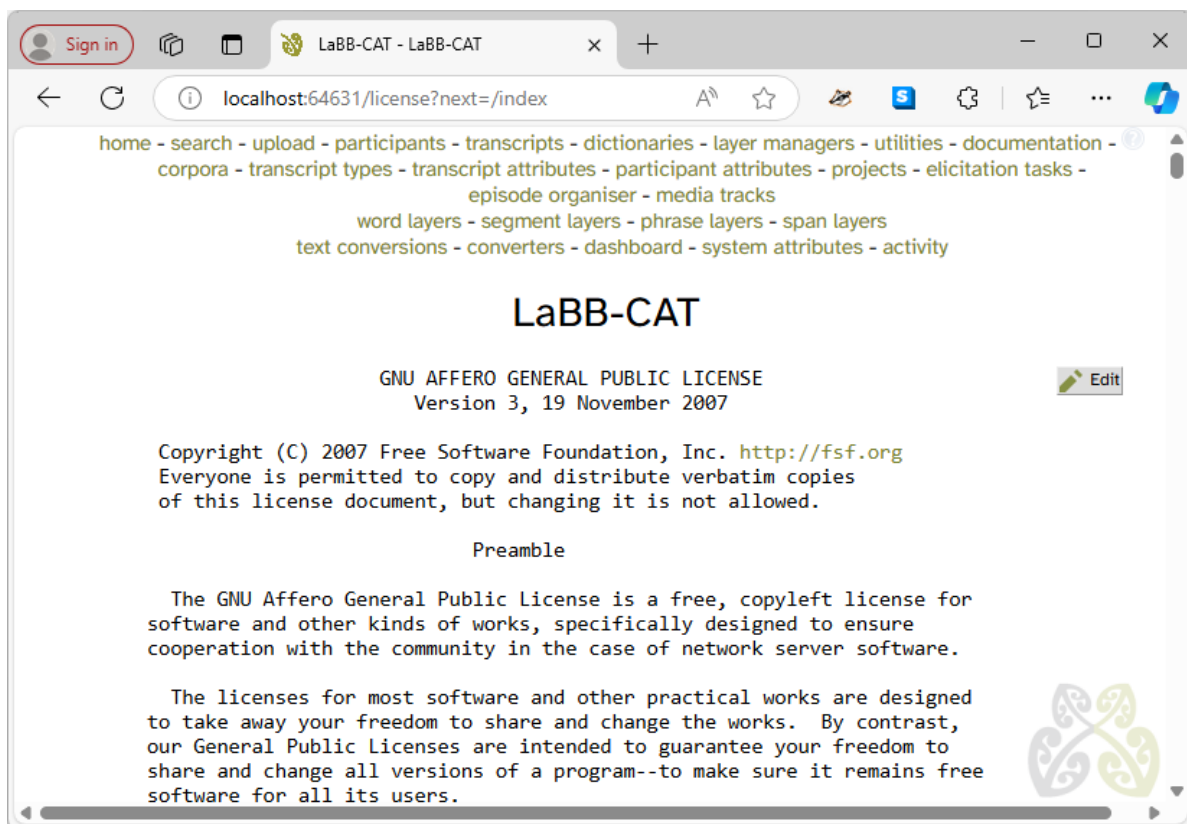


Figure 7: LaBB-CAT is successfully installed and running

(6) If you are shown the LaBB-CAT Licence page, scroll to the bottom and press *I Agree*.

As seen in Figure 8, in your Start Menu, you will see that there is a LaBB-CAT app that can be used to start and access LaBB-CAT from now on.

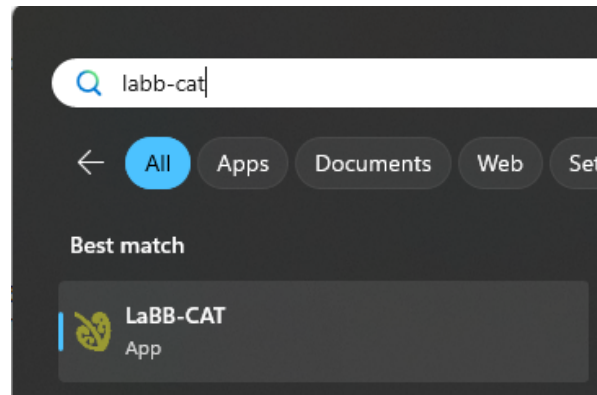


Figure 8: Use Start/LaBB-CAT to open LaBB-CAT

This starts the LaBB-CAT Server app (Figure 6), which must be running when you're using LaBB-CAT. It can be closed once you've finished working with LaBB-CAT.



### ! Important

LaBB-CAT can only be installed on newer M-series Macs.  
These instructions will not work for older Intel-based Macs. Sorry!

On OS X, there are two prerequisites that must be installed before you can install LaBB-CAT:

1. Homebrew
2. Java

You may already have one or other of these installed; if so, you can skip the corresponding section below.

## 1. Install Homebrew

Homebrew is a 'package manager' for Mac computers, which allows you to install other programmes, including Java.

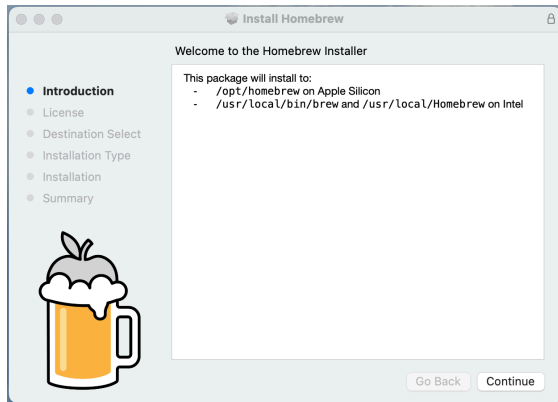
1. Open the following page in your web browser:  
<https://github.com/Homebrew/brew/releases/latest>
2. Scroll down to the *Assets* section.

### ▼ Assets

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 <a href="#">Homebrew-4.4.0.pkg</a>
 <a href="#">Source code (zip)</a>
 <a href="#">Source code (tar.gz)</a>

3. Click the file called *Homebrew-n.n.n.pkg* (where *n.n.n* is the version number) to download the file.
4. Once the file has been downloaded, double-click on it to run the installer.



5. Click *Continue*, *Continue*, *Agree* and *Install* to complete the installation.

## 2. Install Java

1. Open *Launchpad* and type *Terminal*.
2. Double click *Terminal* to open a command shell.
3. Type in the following command:  
`brew install openjdk`
4. Press the return key on your keyboard to enter the command.  
Some text will appear in the *Terminal* window while Homebrew downloads everything it needs to install Java  
Once it's finished, you'll see the % shell prompt again.

```
robertfromont@Roberts-M1 ~ % brew install openjdk
==> Downloading https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/openjdk/manifests/23-1
Already downloaded: /Users/robertfromont/Library/Caches/Homebrew/downloads/bdd3542a3b47d0b8b68f45b15c1a05c82e8bb7fc5bf2ff2ad1a36de2d2e94e9c--openjdk-23-1.bottle_manifest.json
==> Fetching openjdk
==> Downloading https://ghcr.io/v2/homebrew/core/openjdk/blobs/sha256:ababf9f922
Already downloaded: /Users/robertfromont/Library/Caches/Homebrew/downloads/ed160efe7c66c16be1fee18679d8bd549f8d4c488427a28f630604e5c12671b--openjdk--23.arm64_sequoia.bottle.1.tar.gz
==> Pouring openjdk--23.arm64_sequoia.bottle.1.tar.gz
==> Caveats
For the system Java wrappers to find this JDK, symlink it with
  sudo ln -sfn /opt/homebrew/opt/openjdk/libexec/openjdk.jdk /Library/Java/JavaVirtualMachines/openjdk.jdk

openjdk is keg-only, which means it was not symlinked into /opt/homebrew,
because macOS provides similar software and installing this software in
parallel can cause all kinds of trouble.

If you need to have openjdk first in your PATH, run:
  echo 'export PATH="/opt/homebrew/opt/openjdk/bin:$PATH"' >> ~/.zshrc

For compilers to find openjdk you may need to set:
  export CPPFLAGS="-I/opt/homebrew/opt/openjdk/include"
==> Summary
📦 /opt/homebrew/Cellar/openjdk/23: 602 files, 337.5MB
==> Running `brew cleanup openjdk`...
Disable this behaviour by setting HOMEBREW_NO_INSTALL_CLEANUP.
Hide these hints with HOMEBREW_NO_ENV_HINTS (see `man brew`).
robertfromont@Roberts-M1 ~ %
```

Figure 9: brew install openjdk



### 3. Install LaBB-CAT

Once Homebrew and Java are installed, you can install LaBB-CAT:

- (7) Open the following page in your web browser:  
<https://sourceforge.net/projects/labbcats/files/install/>  
This page has all versions of the LaBB-CAT installer, both for personal computer installations and also for web-server installations. The files are listed most recent first.
- (8) Download the first file named *install-labbcats\_yyyymmdd.jar* (where *yyymmdd* are numbers).
- (9) Double-click on the file you just downloaded to open it.  
Most likely you will see a message that the file was “Not Opened” as shown in Figure 10.

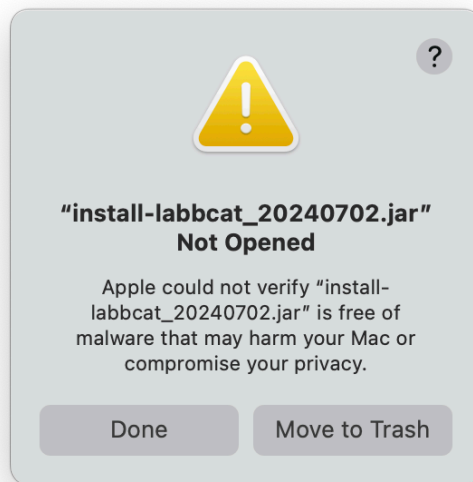


Figure 10: install-labbcats...jar Not Opened

- (10) Go to the Apple menu and select *System Settings*.
- (11) Select the section labelled *Privacy and Security*.
- (12) Scroll to the bottom and under the **Security** heading you will see a message saying that *install-labbcats\_yyyymmdd.jar* “was blocked to protect your Mac.” as shown in Figure 11
- (13) Press *Open Anyway*.  
You will see another warning message as shown in Figure 12

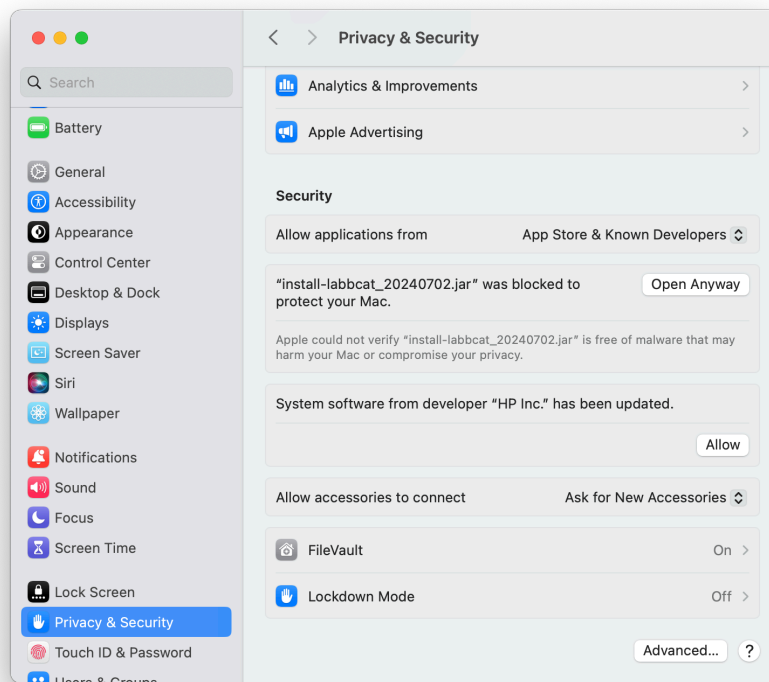


Figure 11: Privacy and Security: Open Anyway

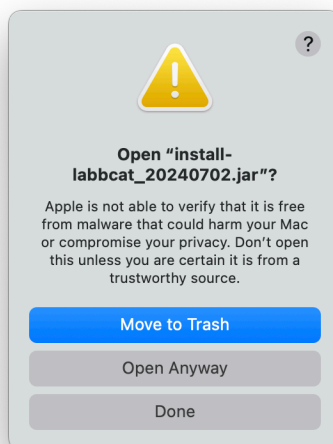


Figure 12: Open Anyway (again)

(14) Press *Open Anyway*.

You may see a request for Java to access your Downloads folder like in Figure 13.

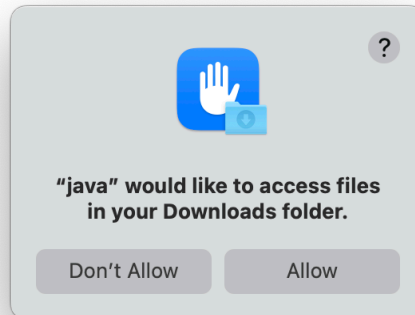


Figure 13: Allow Java access to Downloads

(15) If so, press *Allow*.

You should see the LaBB-CAT installer program (Figure 14).

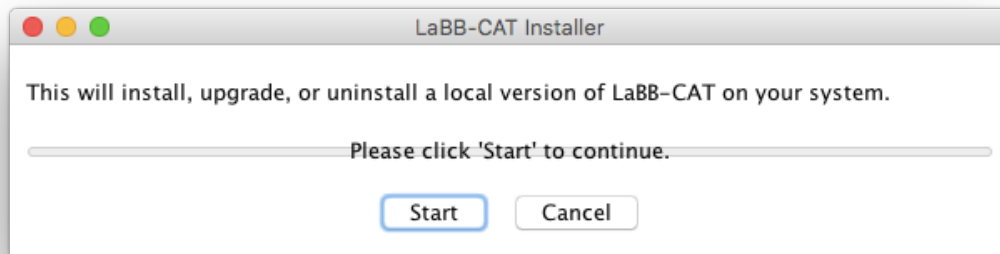


Figure 14: LaBB-CAT Installer

(16) Press *Start*.

You should see a progress bar while components are installed and files are copied.

Once the installation is finished, the progress bar will be all blue, and there will be a button labelled *Finished* (Figure 15).

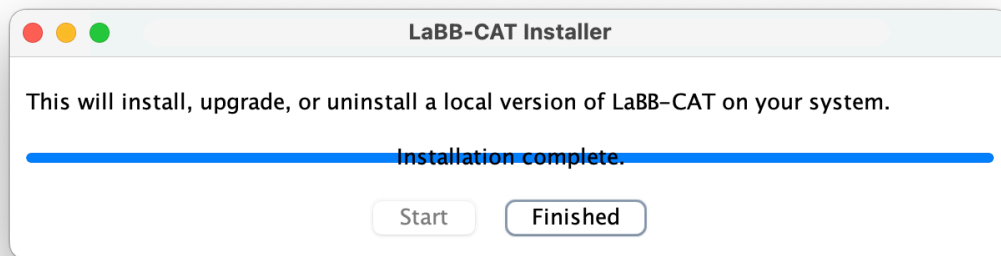


Figure 15: Installer finished

(17) Press *Finished*.

Your default web browser will open on your LaBB-CAT home page, as show in Figure 16.

(18) If you a shown the LaBB-CAT Licence page, scroll to the bottom and press *I Agree*.

As seen in Figure 17, in your *Applications* folder, you will see that there is a LaBB-CAT entry that can be used to access LaBB-CAT from now on.

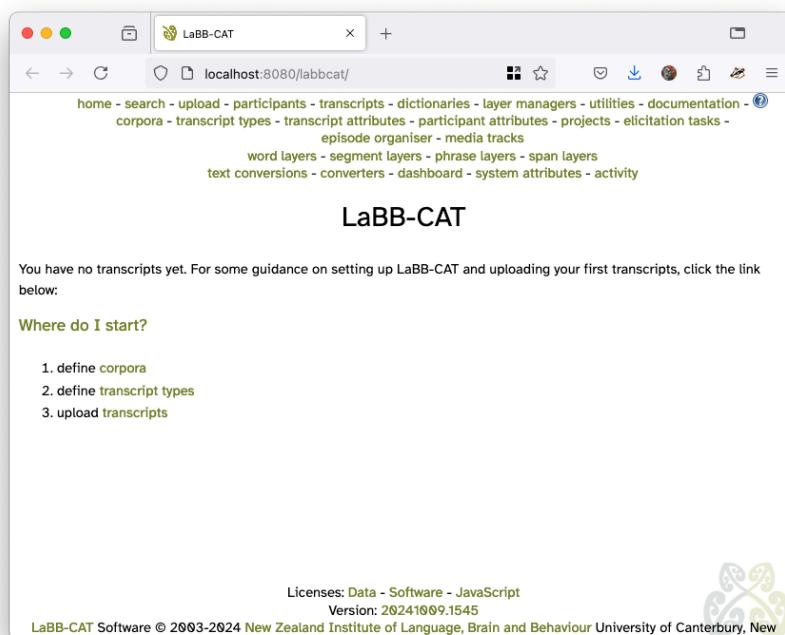


Figure 16: LaBB-CAT is successfully installed and running

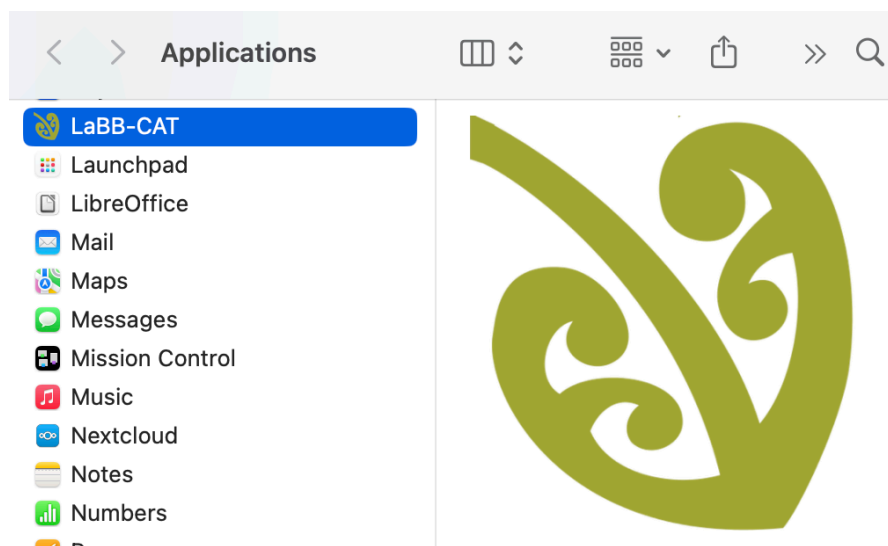


Figure 17: Use Applications/LaBB-CAT to open LaBB-CAT

## Uninstalling LaBB-CAT

In future you may want to uninstall LaBB-CAT, in which case you can use the same installer you used to install it.

If you run *install-labbcats\_yyyymmdd.jar* and LaBB-CAT is already installed, after pressing *Start* it will offer further options.

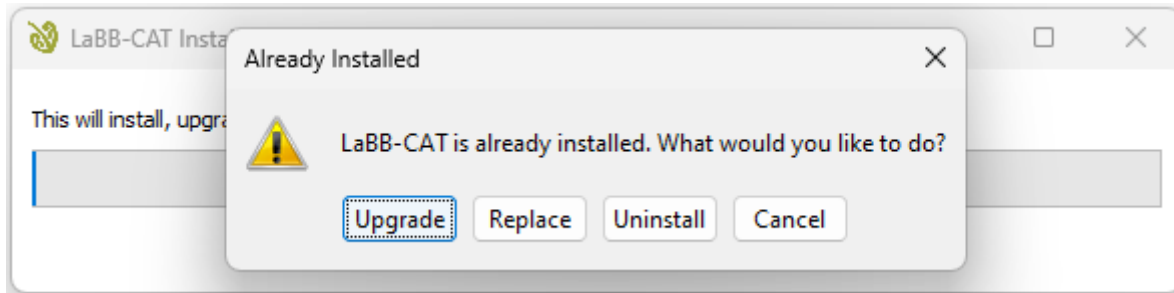


Figure 18: Running *install-labbcats\_yyyymmdd.jar* when LaBB-CAT is already installed

The options are:

- **Upgrade** – Install this version of LaBB-CAT, keeping all your corpus data intact.
- **Replace** – Install LaBB-CAT afresh, deleting all your existing corpus data and leaving you with an empty LaBB-CAT installation.
- **Uninstall** – Remove LaBB-CAT from your personal computer.
- **Cancel** – Close the installer without taking any action.