Outline

Distributional Semantic Models

Part 1: Introduction

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http://wordspace.collocations.de/doku.php/course:start

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The distributional hypothesis

Meaning & distribution

Die Bedeutung eines Wortes liegt in seinem Gebrauch."Ludwig Wittgenstein

meaning = use = distribution in language

▶ "You shall know a word by the company it keeps!"

— J. R. Firth (1957)

distribution = collocations = habitual word combinations

▶ Distributional hypothesis: difference of meaning correlates with difference of distribution (Zellig Harris 1954)

semantic distance

What people know when they say that they know a word is not how to recite its dictionary definition – they know how to use it [...] in everyday discourse." (Miller 1986)

208 8.49 grin

68 8.01 fight

13 8.01 smile

97.71 look

15 7.55 pp among-p

bject of 842 3.3 adj subject of 142 2.6 pp obj of-p 324 1.3 modifier 1622 1.2

4 6.09 moral

4 5.06 breed

4 2.94 signal

4 2.36 sight

4 1.96 species

game

picture

4 6.74 pigeon

29 7.68

12 6.48

bject of 964 2.0 and/or 1056 1.7 pp obj like-p 106 28.9 possessor 91 1.9 possession 232 4.7

9 4.62 witch

11 2.04 Henry

15 8.66

The distributional hypothesis

11 7.63 Schrödinger 8 10.87 cradle

4 4.24 gardener 4 6.0 paw

4 7.06 pussy

4 3.89 stray

9 3.14 wild

6 2.99 pet

6 5.77 Cheshire

neighbour 5 4.28 tray

https://the.sketchengine.co.uk/

8 4.91 fur

tongue

53 7.94 assay

31 7.92 Hastings

What is the meaning of "bardiwac"?

Can we infer meaning from usage?

- ► He handed her her glass of bardiwac.
- ▶ Beef dishes are made to complement the bardiwacs.
- ▶ Nigel staggered to his feet, face flushed from too much bardiwac.
- ► Malbec, one of the lesser-known bardiwac grapes, responds well to Australia's sunshine.
- ▶ I dined off bread and cheese and this excellent bardiwac.
- ► The drinks were delicious: blood-red bardiwac as well as light, sweet Rhenish.
- bardiwac is a heavy red alcoholic beverage made from grapes

All examples from British National Corpus (handpicked and slightly edited).

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scratch

stalk

9 8.92

<u>5</u> 7.44

97.14

45.34

5 4.91

5 4.89

<u>5</u> 4.0

57.64

87.55

10 7.38

76.91

Introduction The distributional hypothesis

A thought experiment: deciphering hieroglyphs

		□ 40> △	ρQ	٩٩p	n√o	₩_	_\ _
(knife)	\A	51	20	84	0	3	0
(cat)	D 40-0	52	58	4	4	6	26
???	~ fo	115	83	10	42	33	17
(boat)	وأحدل	59	39	23	4	0	0
(cup)		98	14	6	2	1	0
(pig)		12	17	3	2	9	27
(banana)	A A	11	2	2	0	18	0

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Word sketch of "cat"

Can we infer meaning from collocations?

7 7.85 cat

10 7.09 kitten

5 6.57 fiddle

4 6.3 monkey

9 6.27 budgie

7 6.15 rabbit

77.76 asleep

5 7.57 alive

20 6.95 black

8 6.84 likely

10 6.78

4 6.56

45.33

47.18 concerned

cat British National Corpus freq = 5381

The distributional hypothesis

A thought experiment: deciphering hieroglyphs

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		2.000	No	217	l	N.	-100
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(cat)	-	52	58	4	4	6	26
???	fla	115	83	10	42	33	17
(boat)	ماساد	59	39	23	4	0	0
(cup)	-30	98	14	6	2	1	0
(pig)	date	12	17	3	2	9	27

1. Similarity scores are cosine similarities on sparse log-scaled frequencies $(\log(f+1))$.

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A thought experiment: deciphering hieroglyphs

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(knife)	PA	51	20	84	0	3	0
(cat)	D 40-0	52	58	4	4	6	26
7777	~ fo	115	83	10	42	33	17
(boat)	وأحدل	59	39	23	4	0	0
(cup)		98	14	6	2	1	0
(pig)	□≬⊡↓□	12	17	3	2	9	27
(banana)	AA	11	2	2	0	18	0

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A thought experiment: deciphering hieroglyphs

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	(cat)	D 40	52	58	4	4	6	26
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	(boat)	ءأهاك	59	39	23	4	0	0
	(cup)		98	14	6	2	1	0
	(pig)		12	17	3	2	9	27
	(banana)	£	11	2	2	0	18	0

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A thought experiment: deciphering hieroglyphs

		۵۵۰۵	ρQ	٩٩p	n√o	₩_	یوا ی
(knife)	_\A	51	20	84	0	3	0
(cat)	D 40-0	52	58	4	4	6	26
7???	~ fo	115	83	10	42	33	17
(boat)	ءأهاك	59	39	23	4	0	0
(cup)		98	14	6	2	1	0
(pig)	·√□√□	12	17	3	2	9	27
(banana)	££	11	2	2	0	18	0

English as seen by the computer . . .

		get	see ≬	use ≬î∏	hear □(eat N_	kill ⊸≬ <u>ഛ</u>
knife	! <i>A</i>	51	20	84	0	3	0
cat	D 4 0 a	52	58	4	4	6	26
dog	~ fo	115	83	10	42	33	17
boat	مأها	59	39	23	4	0	0
cup	□Æ~	98	14	6	2	1	0
pig	المال	12	17	3	2	9	27
banana	AA	11	2	2	0	18	0

verb-object counts from British National Corpus

The distributional hypothesis

Geometric interpretation

- row vector \mathbf{x}_{dog} describes usage of word *dog* in the corpus
- can be seen as coordinates of point in *n*-dimensional Euclidean space

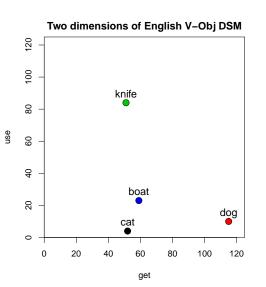
	get	see	use	hear	eat	kill
knife	51	20	84	0	3	0
cat	52	58	4	4	6	26
dog	115	83	10	42	33	17
boat	59	39	23	4	0	0
cup	98	14	6	2	1	0
pig	12	17	3	2	9	27
banana	11	2	2	0	18	0

co-occurrence matrix M

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Geometric interpretation

- row vector \mathbf{x}_{dog} describes usage of word dog in the corpus
- can be seen as coordinates of point in *n*-dimensional Euclidean space
- illustrated for two dimensions: get and use
- $ightharpoonup x_{dog} = (115, 10)$



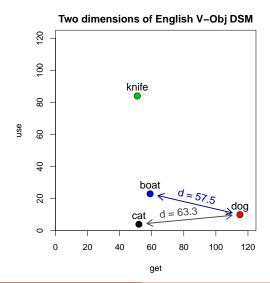
The distributional hypothesis

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The distributional hypothesis

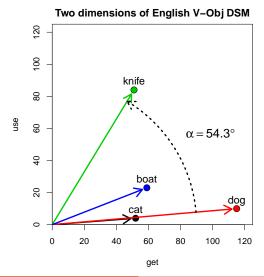
Geometric interpretation

- ► similarity = spatial proximity (Euclidean dist.)
- ► location depends on frequency of noun $(f_{\mathsf{dog}} \approx 2.7 \cdot f_{\mathsf{cat}})$



Geometric interpretation

- vector can also be understood as arrow from origin
- direction more important than location
- ightharpoonup use angle α as distance measure



The distributional hypothesis

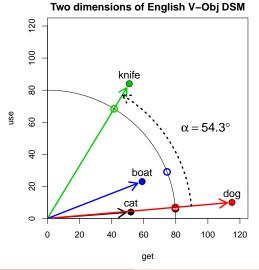
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Geometric interpretation

- vector can also be understood as arrow from origin
- direction more important than location
- use angle α as distance measure
- or normalise length $\|\mathbf{x}_{\text{dog}}\|$ of arrow



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Distributional semantic models

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Introduction

Distributional semantic models

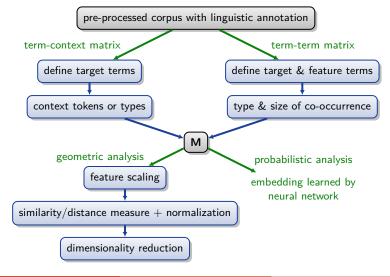
General definition of DSMs

A distributional semantic model (DSM) is a scaled and/or transformed co-occurrence matrix \mathbf{M} , such that each row \mathbf{x} represents the distribution of a target term across contexts.

	get	see	use	hear	eat	kill
knife	0.027	-0.024	0.206	-0.022	-0.044	-0.042
cat	0.031	0.143	-0.243	-0.015	-0.009	0.131
dog	-0.026	0.021	-0.212	0.064	0.013	0.014
boat	-0.022	0.009	-0.044	-0.040	-0.074	-0.042
cup	-0.014	-0.173	-0.249	-0.099	-0.119	-0.042
pig	-0.069	0.094	-0.158	0.000	0.094	0.265
banana	0.047	-0.139	-0.104	-0.022	0.267	-0.042

Term = word, lemma, phrase, morpheme, word pair, ...

Building a distributional model



Distributional semantic models

Nearest neighbours

DSM based on verb-object relations from BNC, reduced to 100 dim. with SVD

Neighbours of trousers (cosine angle):

shirt (18.5), blouse (21.9), scarf (23.4), jeans (24.7), skirt (25.9), sock (26.2), shorts (26.3), jacket (27.8), glove (28.1), coat (28.8), cloak (28.9), hat (29.1), tunic (29.3), overcoat (29.4), pants (29.8), helmet (30.4), apron (30.5), robe (30.6), mask (30.8), tracksuit (31.0), jersey (31.6), shawl (31.6), ...

Neighbours of rage (cosine angle):

anger (28.5), fury (32.5), sadness (37.0), disgust (37.4), emotion (39.0), jealousy (40.0), grief (40.4), irritation (40.7), revulsion (40.7), scorn (40.7), panic (40.8), bitterness (41.6), resentment (41.8), indignation (41.9), excitement (42.0), hatred (42.5), envy (42.8), disappointment (42.9), ...

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Distributional semantic models

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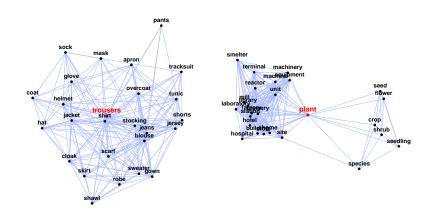
2019-05-16 -Introduction Distributional semantic models └─Nearest neighbours

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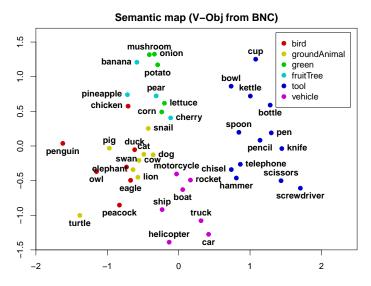
1. Neighbours and neighbourhood plots from BNC verb-object DSM, reduced to 100 dimensions by SVD.

Distributional semantic models

Nearest neighbours with similarity graph



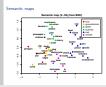
Semantic maps



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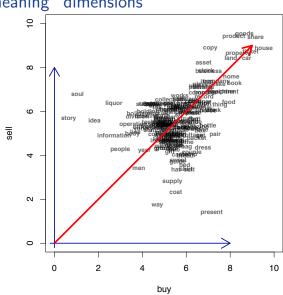
Distributional semantic models —Semantic maps



- 1. Roughly horizontal axis separates natural objects (left) from artifacts (right), or animate vs. inanimate There is a clear boundary between the two groups
- 2. Orthogonal axis separates moving things (bottom) from motionless ones (top).

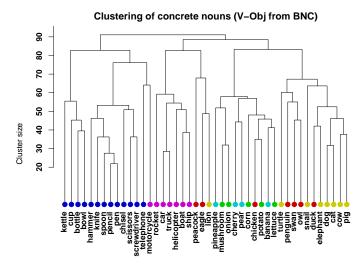
Distributional semantic models

Latent "meaning" dimensions



Distributional semantic models

Clustering



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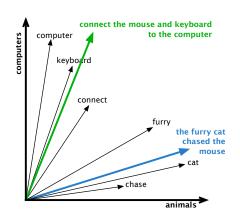
Word embeddings

DSM vector as sub-symbolic meaning representation

- ► feature vector for machine learning algorithm
- ▶ input for neural network

Context vectors for word tokens (Schütze 1998)

- **bag-of-words** approach: centroid of all context words in the sentence
- application to WSD



Distributional semantic models

Three famous examples

An important distinction

Distributional model

- captures linguistic distribution of each word in the form of a high-dimensional numeric vector
- typically (but not necessarily) based on co-occurrence counts
- distributional hypothesis: distributional similarity/distance \sim semantic similarity/distance

Distributed representation

- sub-symbolic representation of words as high-dimensional numeric vectors
- similarity of vectors usually (but not necessarily) corresponds to semantic similarity of the words
- need not be based on distributional information (alone)
- hot topic: unsupervised neural word embeddings

Distributional model can be used as distributed representation

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Three famous examples

Latent Semantic Analysis (Landauer & Dumais 1997)

- ► Corpus: 30,473 articles from Grolier's *Academic American* Encyclopedia (4.6 million words in total)
 - articles were limited to first 2.000 characters
- ► Word-article frequency matrix for 60,768 words
 - row vector shows frequency of word in each article
- ► Logarithmic frequencies scaled by word entropy
- ▶ Reduced to 300 dim. by singular value decomposition (SVD)
 - borrowed from LSI (Dumais et al. 1988)
 - central claim: SVD reveals latent semantic features. not just a data reduction technique
- ► Evaluated on TOEFL synonym test (80 items)
 - ► LSA model achieved 64.4% correct answers
 - also simulation of learning rate based on TOEFL results

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Three famous examples

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Three famous examples

Word Space (Schütze 1992, 1993, 1998)

- ightharpoonup Corpus: \approx 60 million words of news messages
 - ▶ from the *New York Times* News Service
- ▶ Word-word co-occurrence matrix
 - ▶ 20,000 target words & 2,000 context words as features
 - row vector records how often each context word occurs close to the target word (co-occurrence)
 - co-occurrence window: left/right 50 words (Schütze 1998) or ≈ 1000 characters (Schütze 1992)
- Rows weighted by inverse document frequency (tf.idf)
- Context vector = centroid of word vectors (bag-of-words)
 - goal: determine "meaning" of a context
- ► Reduced to 100 SVD dimensions (mainly for efficiency)
- Evaluated on unsupervised word sense induction by clustering of context vectors (for an ambiguous word)
 - induced word senses improve information retrieval performance

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Three famous examples

HAL (Lund & Burgess 1996)

- ► HAL = Hyperspace Analogue to Language
- ► Corpus: 160 million words from newsgroup postings
- ► Word-word co-occurrence matrix
 - ▶ same 70,000 words used as targets and features
 - ► co-occurrence window of 1 10 words
- ► Separate counts for left and right co-occurrence
 - ▶ i.e. the context is *structured*
- ▶ In later work, co-occurrences are weighted by (inverse) distance (Li *et al.* 2000)
 - but no dimensionality reduction
- ► Applications include construction of semantic vocabulary maps by multidimensional scaling to 2 dimensions

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ntroduction

Three famous examples

Many parameters . . .

- ▶ Enormous range of DSM parameters and applications
- ► Examples showed three entirely different models, each tuned to its particular application
- ▶ Need overview of DSM parameters & understand their effects
 - ▶ part 2: The parameters of a DSM
 - ▶ part 3: Evaluating DSM representations
 - ▶ part 4: Matrix algebra & SVD
 - part 5: Understanding distributional semantics
- Distributional semantics is an empirical science

Introduction

Three famous examples

HAL (Lund & Burgess 1996)

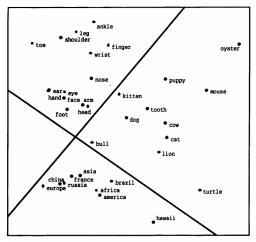


Figure 2. Multidimensional scaling of co-occurrence vectors.

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Software and further information

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Software and further information

R as a (toy) laboratory

Some applications in computational linguistics

Getting practical Software and further information

- Query expansion in information retrieval (Grefenstette 1994)
- ► Unsupervised part-of-speech induction (Schütze 1995)
- ▶ Word sense disambiguation (Schütze 1998; Rapp 2004b)
- ► Thesaurus compilation (Lin 1998; Rapp 2004a)
- ► Attachment disambiguation (Pantel & Lin 2000)
- ▶ Probabilistic language models (Bengio *et al.* 2003)
- ► Translation equivalents (Sahlgren & Karlgren 2005)
- ▶ Ontology & wordnet expansion (Pantel et al. 2009)
- ► Language change (Sagi et al. 2009; Hamilton et al. 2016)
- ► Multiword expressions (Kiela & Clark 2013)
- ► Analogies (Turney 2013; Gladkova et al. 2016)
- ► Sentiment analysis (Rothe & Schütze 2016; Yu et al. 2017)
- Input representation for neural networks & machine learning

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DSM Tutorial - Part 1 -Getting practical

> Software and further information Recent workshops and tutorials

- 1. CoSMo = Contextual Information in Semantic Space Models
- 2. ESSLLI = European Summer School in Logic, Language and Information
- 3. GeMS = Geometrical Models of Natural Language Semantics
- 4. DiSCo = Distributional Semantics beyond Concrete Concepts
- 5. JNLE = Journal of Natural Language Engineering
- 6. DiSCo 2 = Distributional Semantics and Compositionality
- 7. DiDaS = Workshop on Distributional Data Semantics
- 8. CVSC = Continuous Vector Space Models and their Compositionality
- 9. TFDS = Towards a Formal Distributional Semantics

Software and further information

Recent workshops and tutorials

- ▶ 2007: CoSMo Workshop (at Context '07)
- ▶ 2008: ESSLLI Wshp & Shared Task, Italian J of Linguistics
- ▶ 2009: GeMS Wshp (EACL), DiSCo Wshp (CogSci), ESSLLI
- ▶ 2010: 2nd GeMS (ACL), ESSLLI Wshp, Tutorial (NAACL), J Natural Language Engineering
- ▶ 2011: 2nd DiSCo (ACL), 3rd GeMS (EMNLP)
- ▶ 2012: DiDaS Wshp (ICSC), ESSLLI Course
- ▶ 2013: CVSC Wshp (ACL), TFDS Wshp (IWCS), Dagstuhl
- ▶ 2014: 2nd CVSC (EACL), DSM Wshp (Insight)
- ▶ 2015: VSM4NLP (NAACL), ESSLLI Course, TAL Journal
- ▶ 2016: DSALT Wshp (ESSLLI), Tutorial (COLING), Tutorial (Konvens), ESSLLI Course, Computational Linguistics
- ▶ 2017: ESSLLI Course
- ▶ 2018: Tutorial (LREC), ESSLLI Course₁ & Course₂

click on Workshop name to open Web page

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Software and further information

Software packages

Infomap NLP	C	classical LSA-style DSM
HiDEx	C++	re-implementation of the HAL model
		(Lund & Burgess 1996)
SemanticVectors	Java	scalable architecture based on random
		indexing representation
S-Space	Java	complex object-oriented framework
JoBimText	Java	UIMA / Hadoop framework
Gensim	Python	complex framework, focus on paral-
		lelization and out-of-core algorithms
Vecto	Python	framework for count & predict models
DISSECT	Python	user-friendly, designed for research on
		compositional semantics
wordspace	R	interactive research laboratory, but
-		scales to real-life data sets

click on package name to open Web page

Software and further information

R as a (toy) laboratory

Further information

► Handouts & other materials available from wordspace wiki at http://wordspace.collocations.de/

- based on joint work with Marco Baroni and Alessandro Lenci
- ► Tutorial is open source (CC), and can be downloaded from http://r-forge.r-project.org/projects/wordspace/
- Review paper on distributional semantics:

Turney, Peter D. and Pantel, Patrick (2010). From frequency to meaning: Vector space models of semantics. Journal of Artificial Intelligence Research, 37, 141–188.

▶ I should be working on textbook *Distributional Semantics* for Synthesis Lectures on HLT (Morgan & Claypool)

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Getting practical R as a (toy) laboratory

Prepare to get your hands dirty ...

- ▶ We will use the statistical programming environment R as a toy laboratory in this tutorial
 - but one that scales to real-life applications

Software installation

- ▶ R version 3.5 or newer from http://www.r-project.org/
- ► RStudio from http://www.rstudio.com/
- ► R packages from CRAN (through RStudio menu): sparsesvd, wordspace (optional: tm, quanteda, Rtsne, uwot, wordcloud, shiny, corpustools, spacyr, udpipe)
 - if you are attending a course, you may also be asked to install the wordspaceEval package with some non-public data sets
- ► Get data sets, precompiled DSMs and wordspaceEval from http://wordspace.collocations.de/doku.php/course:material

Outline

Getting practical

R as a (toy) laboratory

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Getting practical R as a (toy) laboratory

First steps in R

Start each session by loading the wordspace package.

> library(wordspace)

The package includes various example data sets, some of which should look familiar to you.

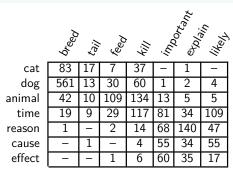
```
> DSM_HieroglyphsMatrix
knife
dog
      115 83 10
boat
              23
                            0
       12 17
                           27
pig
banana 11
```

Getting practical R as a (toy) laboratory

Term-term matrix

Term-term matrix records co-occurrence frequencies with feature terms for each target term

> DSM TermTermMatrix

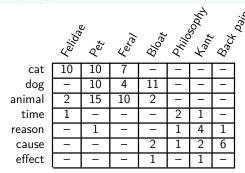


R as a (toy) laboratory

Term-context matrix

Term-context matrix records frequency of term in each individual context (e.g. sentence, document, Web page, encyclopaedia article)

> DSM TermContextMatrix



Getting practical R as a (toy) laboratory

Some basic operations on a DSM matrix

```
# apply log-transformation to de-skew co-occurrence frequencies
> M <- log2(DSM HieroglyphsMatrix + 1) # see part 2
> round(M, 3)
# compute semantic distance (cosine similarity)
> pair.distances("dog", "cat", M, convert=FALSE)
 dog/cat
0.9610952
# find nearest neighbours
> nearest.neighbours(M, "dog", n=3)
             pig
16.03458 20.08826 31.77784
> plot(nearest.neighbours(M, "dog", n=3, dist.matrix=TRUE))
```

R as a (toy) laboratory

Explorations

While you wait for part 2, you can explore some DSM similarity networks online:

- ► https://corpora.linguistik.uni-erlangen.de/shiny/wordspace/
- built in R with wordspace and shiny

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