

# text2map: R Tools for Text Matrices

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#### Software

- Review 🗗
- Repository 🗗
- Archive ♂

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# Summary

text2map is an R (R Core Team, 2021) package that provides several tools for working with text matrices, including document-term matrices, term-context matrices, and word embedding matrices. text2map is published at The Comprehensive R Archive Network (CRAN) at https://cran.r-project.org/package=text2map; its source is available at https://gitlab.com/ culturalcartography/text2map/.

text2map contains a number of vignettes demonstrating basic functionality and more advanced uses of the package.

# **Statement of Need**

text2map offers a consistent set of tools built around representing texts as matrices. This is in contrast to corpus objects (Perry, 2021) or tidytext's triplet data frame (Silge & Robinson, 2016). This allows text2map to remain close to the underlying matrix mathematics of contemporary computational text analysis as well as make use of memory-efficient matrix packages—e.g., Matrix (Bates & Maechler, 2010).

While there are R packages for training word embeddings—e.g.,text2vec (Selivanov et al., 2020)—none offer methods for working with embeddings in downstream tasks, in particular, tasks involved in social scientific research. text2map offers functions for creating semantic centroids, semantic regions, semantic directions, and performing concept mover's distance and concept class analysis (Arseniev-Koehler et al., 2021; Arseniev-Koehler & Foster, 2020; Boutyline et al., 2020; Jones et al., 2020; Stoltz & Taylor, 2019, 2021; Taylor & Stoltz, 2020a, 2020b).

# Illustration

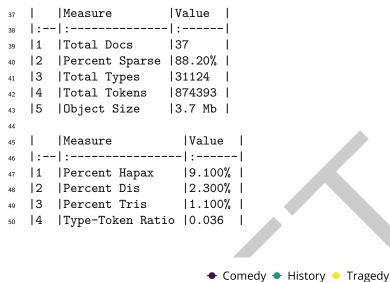
Let's consider a short, simple example of text2map in use. Building off some of our previous work (Stoltz & Taylor, 2019; Taylor & Stoltz, 2020b), say a researcher is interested in examining the extent to which Shakespeare's First Folio plays engage the concept of "death." The text2map package can be used to efficiently convert the raw corpus into a document-term matrix (DTM), compute several different types of summary statistics on that DTM, and then quickly generate the concept mover's distance (CMD) scores using the CMDist() function and a matrix of word vectors. The user can also add "sensitivity intervals" using the package's DTM resampler to assess how robust each production's CMD score is (or is not) to the specific 33 vocabulary frequency distribution of that document.

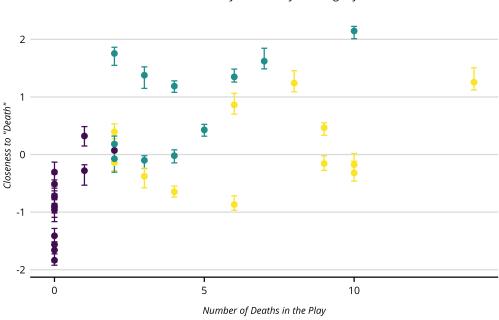
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- $_{35}$  The series of summary statistics table and figure below illustrate potential output that text
- 2map can be used to create.





**Figure 1:** Illustrative figure. Scatterplot of Shakespeare play's CMD scores (*y*-axis) and the body count in the narrative (*x*-axis). Bands are sensitivity intervals, which are the CMD scores at the 2.5 and 97.5 percentiles for each document after resampling the vocabulary from the document 20 times.

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