Hands-on Distributional Semantics

Part 5: DS beyond NLP – Free association norms

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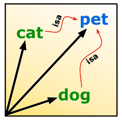
http://wordspace.collocations.de/doku.php/course:esslli2021:start



Outline

Cognitive modelling with DSM

- **Why?** – Because we want to know whether DS captures the mental lexical knowledge of human speakers!
- Task: DSM predicts reaction times in **priming experiments** (Hare *et al.* 2009; Lapesa & Evert 2013)
  - often just experimental items used for multiple-choice task (e.g. Padó & Lapata 2007; Herdağdelen *et al.* 2009)
  - cf. tasks constructed from `Lazaridou2013` yesterday
  - data sets of experimental items: `GEK_Items`, `SPP_Items`
- Task: DSM predicts **EEG potentials** (Murphy *et al.* 2009) or **fMRI brain activation** levels (Mitchell *et al.* 2008)
  - huge datasets, but tiny and selective vocabulary
- Task: DSM predicts human **free associations**
  - often considered a "window into the mental lexicon"
  - free association norms available for thousands of cue words

Outline

Free associations

... a cue into the organization of the mental lexicon?

Which words come to your mind if you hear ...

- whisky → gin, drink, scotch, bottle, soda
- giraffe → neck, animal, zoo, long, tall

- Hypotheses concerning the nature of the underlying process:
  - Result of learning-by-contiguity (James 1890)
    ☞ syntagmatic (1^{st}-order)
  - Result of symbolic processes which make use of complex semantic structures (Clark 1970) ☞ paradigmatic (2^{nd}-order)
- Large collections available
  - Edinburgh Associative Thesaurus (**EAT**)
    8210 stimuli, 100 subjects (Kiss *et al.* 1973)
  - University of South Florida Free Association Norms (**USF**)
    5019 stimuli, 6000 subjects (Nelson *et al.* 2004)

Syntagmatic vs. paradigmatic relations

Definitions and general assumptions

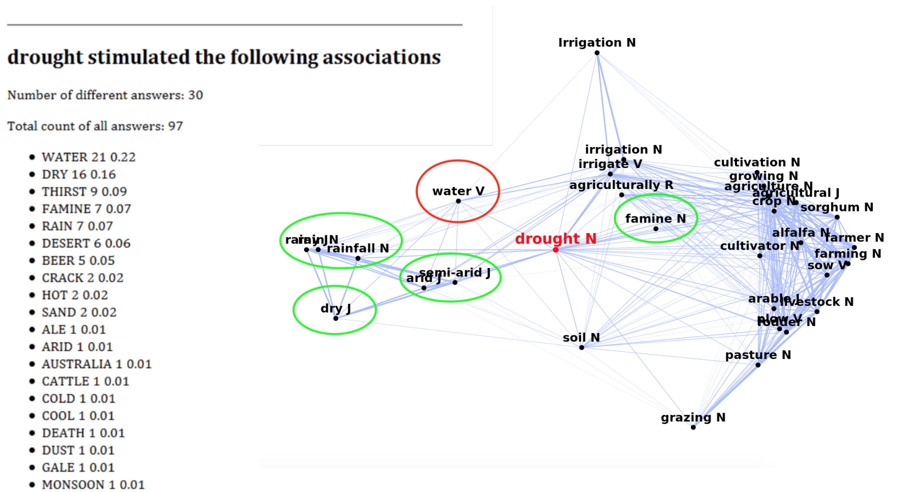
- **Syntagmatic** ⟺ contiguity
  - Examples: {*dog*, *barks*}, {*dog*, *bone*}
  - Words appear together: 1^{st}-order co-occurrence
  - Found in: collocational profiles, DSM dimensions
- **Paradigmatic** ⟺ interchangeability
  - Examples: {*book*, *volume*}, {*dog*, *animal*}
  - Words appear in similar contexts: 2^{nd}-order co-occurrence
  - Usually semantically related
  - Found in: DSM nearest neighbours

However ...

DSM neighbourhoods include syntagmatically related words (collocates) if certain parameters are properly set, in particular if the context window is large enough (Lapesa *et al.* 2014).

Free associations in a DSM

Drought in EAT vs. DSM



Free associations & co-occurrence data

Previous work

- Wettler *et al.* (2005)
  - Data: subset of EAT (100 stimuli)
  - Task: prediction of the most common free associate
  - Model: first-order model, BNC, large window (20 words)
  - Result: human associative responses can be predicted from contiguities between words in language use (collocations)
- ESSLLI 2008 Shared Task
  - Data: subset of EAT (a different set of 100 stimuli)
  - Task 1: discrimination btw. the most common associate and hapax/random distractors ➜ multiple choice
  - Task 2: prediction of the most common free associate
  - Result: first-order models (collocations) are better than second-order models (DSMs)

Outline

Distributional semantics & cognitive modelling
- Evaluation tasks: cognitive plausibility
- Free association norms

The FAST task
- A problem with standard tasks
- FAST: Data set and tasks
- FAST: Experiments
- Outlook & hands-on exercise

Problems of standard tasks & data sets

Problems with semantic interpretation of DSMs don't only stem from evaluation methodology …

… data sets can be problematic as well!

Two major problems:
- DSMs may exploit contingent properties of the task
  - random fillers as distractors ("controls")
    - ➡ recognize random word pairs rather than semantic relations
  - choice of clearly separated categories and prototypical exemplars in noun clustering task (ESSLLI 2008)
    - ➡ much harder to identify categories in general word list
  - typical superordinate-level words in hypernym detection task
    - ➡ recognize "typical hypernym" in a multiple-choice setting
- Data set size too small
  - e.g. 97.5% accuracy on 80 TOEFL items ➜ over-fitting

DSM evaluation problems: a concrete example

The CogALex-V Shared Task (Santus *et al.* 2016)

- Aim: better linguistic understanding of DS from identification of specific **semantic relations**
- Data: 747 target words with approx. 10 candidate relata each
  - training set: 318 targets, 3054 word pairs
  - test set: 429 targets, 4260 word pairs
- Subtask 1: related vs. unrelated word pairs
  - unrelated pairs are random fillers
  - ☞ relatively easy: $F_1 = 79.0\%$ (best system)
- Subtask 2: distinguish between semantic relations
  - SYN: w_2 can be used with same meaning as w_1
  - ANT: w_2 can be used as the opposite of w_1
  - HYPER: w_1 is a kind of w_2
  - PART_OF: w_1 is a part of w_2
  - RANDOM: no relation (random word + manual check)
  - ☞ relatively hard: $F_1 = 44.5\%$ (best system: deep learning)

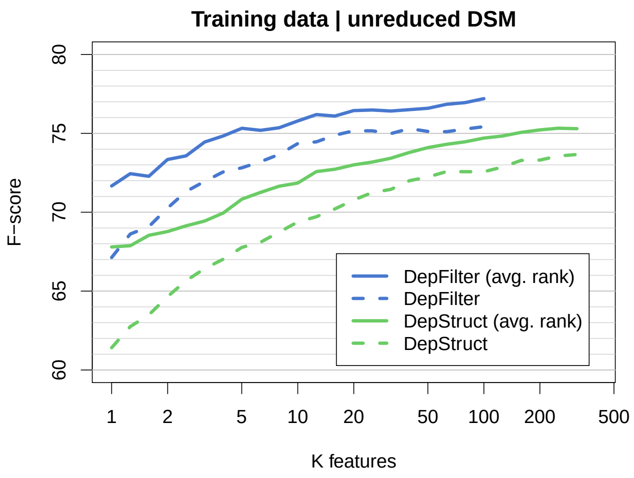
DSM evaluation problems: a concrete example

Mach 5 at CogALex 2016 (Evert 2016)

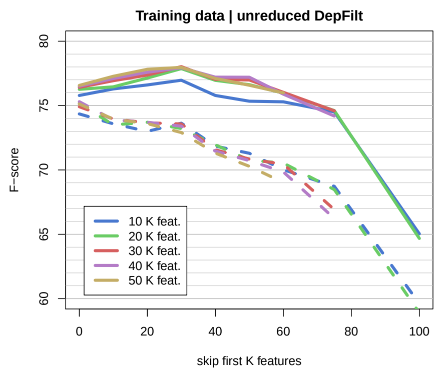
- Mach 5 participated in the CogALex-V Shared Task as a traditional "count" (non-neural) DSM
  - 10-billion-word Web corpus (Schäfer & Bildhauer 2012)
  - syntactic dependencies from C&C parser (Curran *et al.* 2007)
  - 26.5k target words, up to 300k feature dimensions
  - other parameters set according to Lapesa & Evert (2014)
- Parameter optimization on training data (subtask 1)
- Machine learning on optimized representations (subtask 2)
  - learns relevance weights for 600 latent SVD dimensions
  - best results from combination of different SVD spaces

☞ Try it yourself: `http://www.collocations.de/data/#mach5`

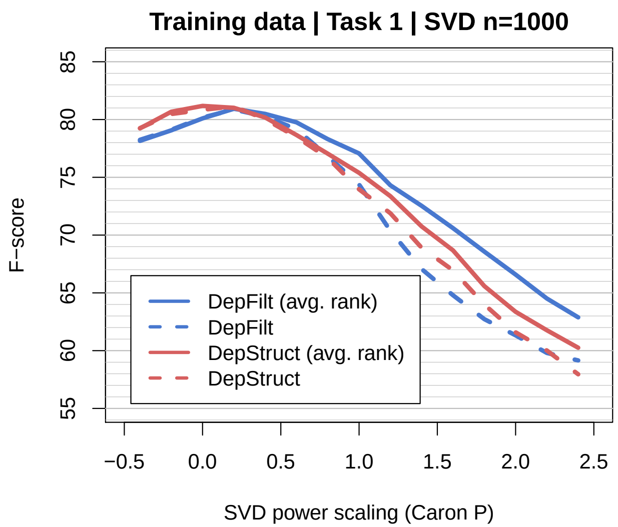
Mach 5: Parameter optimization



Mach 5: Parameter optimization



Mach 5: Parameter optimization



Mach 5: Are we doing well?

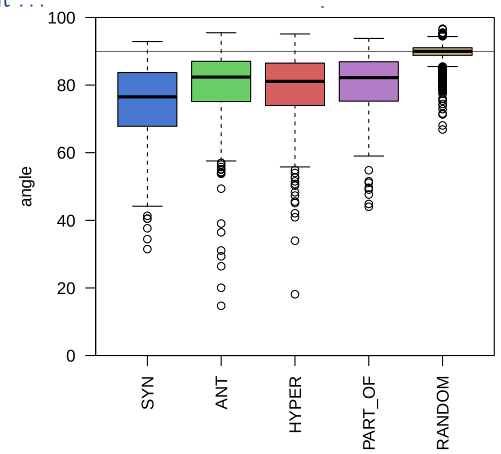
$F_1 = 77.88\%$ for related vs. unrelated (best: 79.0%)

However . . .

- Parameter optimization yields surprising result:
  best model uses $<$ 50k features with relatively low frequency
- Nearest neighbours are unsatisfactory, e.g. for *play*:
  playing (54.1°), *star* (62.8°), *reunite* (62.9°), *co-star* (64.3°), *reprise* (64.4°), *player* (66.7°), *score* (68.5°), *audition* (69.2°), *sing* (69.4°), *actor* (69.5), *understudy* (69.6), *game* (70.3), . . .
- Why is Mach 5 still doing so well in the task, then?

Mach 5: What is going wrong?

A disturbing result . . .



- DSM has learned to recognize random word pairs (at 90°)!
- We need better data sets with **high-quality distractors**!

Outline

The Free ASsociation Task (FAST) data set

Preprocessing

1. Starting point: EAT (8210 stimuli), USF (5019 stimuli)
2. Out-of-context POS tagging
   - Annotate items in EAT and USF (stimuli and responses) with part of speech information
   - How? Most frequent POS in Web corpus ENCOW: publicly available 10-billion-word Web corpus ➜ replicability
3. Out-of-context lemmatization
   - `morpha`, a robust morphological analyzer `http://users.sussex.ac.uk/~johnca/morph.html`
   - lemmatization of unknown words based on POS tag
4. Annotation with frequency information
   - frequency lists from ENCOW (lemmatised with `morpha`)

The Free ASsociation Task (FAST) data set

Item selection

For each stimulus in EAT (8210) and USF (5019) select a:

- FIRST: the most common associate response
- HAPAX: a response generated for the target once
  - or twice for USF (hapax responses are omitted there)
  - if several HAPAX candidates are available, pick the one whose lemma frequency matches most closely that of FIRST
- RANDOM, by randomly picking a word which was among the top 25% associates *of another stimulus* (and produced at least 5 times). If possible:
  - match lemma frequency of RANDOM and FIRST
  - try to use each RANDOM only once

(multiwords, numbers, closed-class words, and other words that do not occur in ENCOW were discarded)

The FAST data set

Final data set

- EAT subset: **3836** test items + **3774** training items
- USF subset: **2359** test items + **2360** training items
- Item = (STIMULUS, FIRST, HAPAX, RANDOM)

- Each stimulus and candidate response provided as lowercased word form and POS-disambiguated lemma
  + ENCOW frequency information
  + # test subjects who produced response

- Included as `FAST` in package `wordspaceEval`

The FAST dataset

The new EAT task isn't perfect either ... yet

- Guessing POS from corpus doesn't always work
  - e.g. *fit*$_{\text{VERB}}$ → *epileptic*$_{\text{ADJ}}$, *aristocracy*$_{\text{NOUN}}$ → *lords*$_{\text{NAME}}$
  - but very few lemmatization errors (e.g. *daiquiri* → *daiquirus*)

- Colloquialisms and British slang
  - e.g. *bod*$_{\text{NOUN}}$ → *person*$_{\text{NOUN}}$ (rare in written corpus)
  - but Web corpus has Welsh *bod* 'to be' mistagged as noun
  - DSM neighbours: *yn*, *hynny*, *mewn*, *hwn*, *gyfer*, ..., 49. *bloke*, *techy*$_{\text{NOUN}}$, *nus*, *hon*, ..., 60. *guy*, *mai*, *geezer*, ...
  - another example is *mellow*$_{\text{ADJ}}$ → *yellow*$_{\text{ADJ}}$

The FAST tasks

Task 1: **multiple-choice**

- Given a stimulus and a <FIRST, HAPAX, RANDOM> triple, determine which of the three candidates is FIRST.
  - Stimulus: *accept*, < *receive*, *love*, *soul*>
- **Performance**: accuracy
- **Baseline**: 33.3%

The FAST tasks

Task 2: **open-vocabulary lexical access**

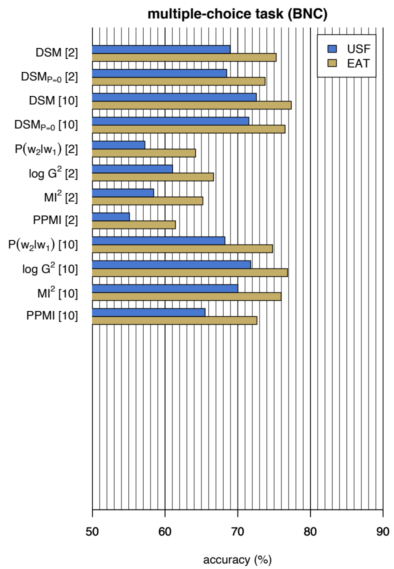
- Given a stimulus (e.g., *accept*), predict FIRST (*receive*) out of a candidate set (all FIRST: USF=1197, EAT=1633)
- **Performance**: two measures
  - **Soft accuracy**: average over reciprocal rank ($1/r$) of the true FIRST associate, as a percentage.
    - ★ similar to accuracy of predicting first associate, but awards partial points for almost correct guesses
    - ★ always ≥ top-1 accuracy
  - **Log rank**: geometric mean of r across all stimuli.
    - ★ corresponds to average over $\log r$
    - ★ better differentiation for models that rarely get the correct answer (and hence score low on soft accuracy)
- **Baselines**
  - **Soft accuracy**: USF=0.64% and EAT=0.49%
  - **Log rank**: USF=442.0 and EAT=602.4

Outline

Experimental setup

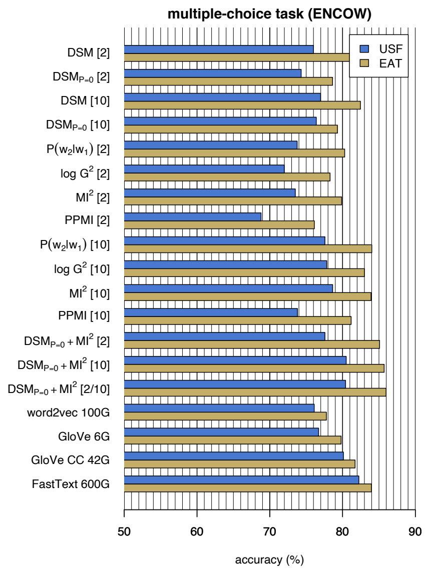
- **DSMs (second-order)**: symmetric span of 2 vs. 10 words, other parameters set according to Lapesa & Evert (2014).
  - we experiment with Caron P (Bullinaria & Levy 2012)
  - $P = 0$ equalizes contributions of SVD dimensions
- **Collocations (first-order)**: symmetric span, 2 vs. 10 words, with four different association measures (Evert 2008)
  - conditional probability $P(w_2|w_1)$
  - log-likelihood $\log G^2$ (popular for collocations)
  - $\mathrm{MI}^2 = \log_2 \frac{O^2}{E}$ = geometric mean of $P(w_2|w_1)$ and $P(w_1|w_2)$
  - PPMI (popular for DSMs)
- **Corpus data**: for DSMs and collocations
  - British National Corpus: 100M words
  - ENCOW 2014 Web corpus, unique sentences: 8.5G words
- **Neural embeddings**: pre-trained models
  - word2vec (Mikolov *et al.* 2013): 100G tokens of Google News
  - GloVe (Pennington *et al.* 2014): 6G tokens Wikipeda + Gigaword
  - GloVe: 42G tokens Web data (Common Crawl)
  - FastText (Joulin *et al.* 2017): 600G tokens Common Crawl

Results: Multiple-choice task



- British National Corpus (100M words)
- EAT vs. USF

Results: Multiple-choice task



- ENCOW 2014 Web (8.5G words)
- EAT vs. USF
- Embeddings trained on much larger corpora
- Combined 1st-/2nd-order
  - $\mathrm{DSM}_{P=0} + \mathrm{MI}^2$
  - using neighbour rank
  - harmonic mean
  - competitive with state-of-the-art embeddings

Results: Multiple-choice task

model	span	$n = 2359$ USF	$n = 3836$ EAT
DSM	2	76.01%	81.78%
$\text{DSM}_{P=0}$	2	74.31%	78.62%
DSM	10	76.98%	82.46%
$\text{DSM}_{P=0}$	10	76.39%	79.30%
$P(w_2\|w_1)$	10	77.58%	84.02%
$\log G^2$	10	77.83%	83.00%
MI^2	2	78.64%	83.92%
PPMI	10	73.80%	81.18%
Combined	2	77.58%	85.09%
Combined	10	80.50%	85.71%
Combined	mix	80.41%	85.97%
word2vec	–	76.11%	77.78%
GloVe	–	76.71%	79.80%
GloVe CC	–	80.12%	81.72%
FastText	–	82.24%	83.97%

- ENCOW 2014 Web (8.5G words)
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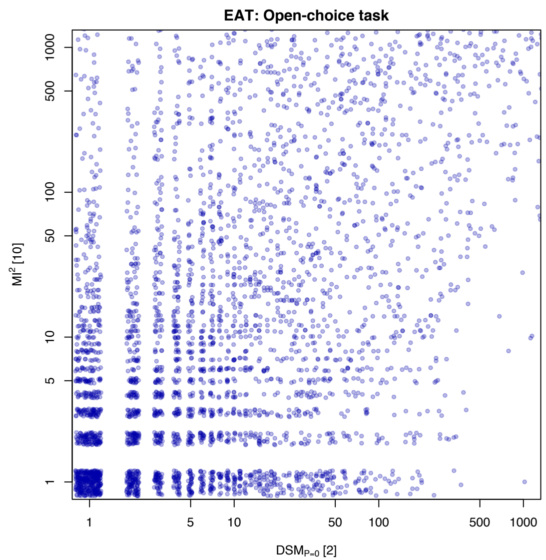
- Combined 1st-/2nd-order
  - $\text{DSM}_{P=0} + \text{MI}^2$
  - using neighbour rank
  - harmonic mean
  - competitive with state-of-the-art embeddings

Results: Open-choice task

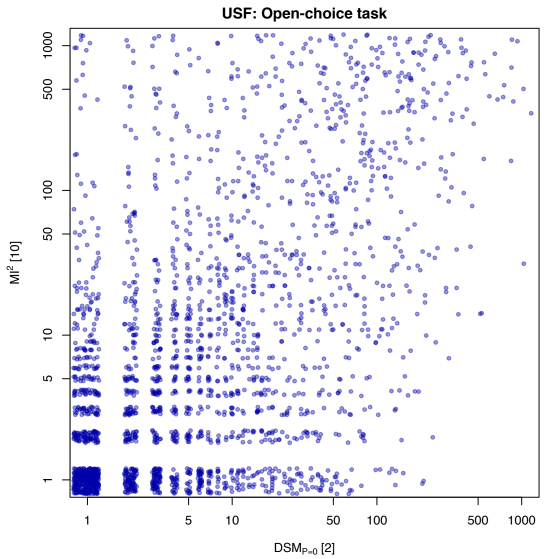
model	span	$n = 2359$ USF soft acc.	USF lrank	$n = 3836$ EAT soft acc.	EAT lrank
DSM	2	41.54%	6.6	34.53%	9.9
$\text{DSM}_{P=0}$	2	42.12%	7.6	34.67%	12.1
DSM	10	42.01%	6.0	35.93%	9.1
$\text{DSM}_{P=0}$	10	42.86%	7.1	35.68%	11.6
$P(w_2\|w_1)$	10	22.34%	17.0	11.27%	27.1
$\log G^2$	10	37.63%	6.6	34.13%	8.8
MI^2	10	39.73%	6.2	34.01%	8.7
PPMI	10	35.34%	8.2	29.29%	12.2
Combined	2	42.29%	5.5	37.54%	7.0
Combined	10	44.99%	4.8	39.48%	6.5
Combined	mix	45.36%	4.8	39.48%	6.4
word2vec	–	38.98%	7.7	30.51%	14.8
GloVe	–	39.22%	7.6	30.19%	13.8
GloVe CC	–	44.01%	5.7	34.26%	10.5
FastText	–	51.00%	4.1	40.34%	7.2

Outline

Syntagmatic vs. paradigmatic



Syntagmatic vs. paradigmatic



Syntagmatic vs. paradigmatic

1^{st}-order = syntagmatic vs. 2^{nd}-order = paradigmatic?

- 1^{st}- and 2^{nd}-order models less complementary than expected
  ➥ relatively small benefit from combination
- But intuition not completely wrong (L2/R2):
  - DSM: *duckling* → *piglet, chick, duck, cygnet, hatchling, …*
  - MI^2: *duckling* → *ugly, chick, duck, swan, fluffy, roast, …*

Possible explanation for the overlap under (many) simplifying assumptions (sentence span, raw cooc freqs, …)

- Consider a term-context matrix **F** with very small contexts
  - e.g. **tweets**, sentences, paragraphs
  - or aligned sentence pairs (Sahlgren & Karlgren 2005)
- No feature weighting or normalisation

➥ **F** is binary, i.e. $f_{ij} \in \{0, 1\}$

Excursus: Similarity in term-context DSM

- What is the cosine similarity of $\mathbf{f}_i$ and $\mathbf{f}_j$?

$$\mathbf{f}_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{f}_j = \begin{bmatrix} 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 0 & 1 & 1 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$$

  - $\mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{f}_j = O$ = co-occurrence frequency
  - $\|\mathbf{f}_i\|_2 = \sqrt{R}$ = marginal frequency of term i
  - $\|\mathbf{f}_j\|_2 = \sqrt{C}$ = marginal frequency of term j
- Cosine similarity in **F** = **first-order association**

$$\cos\alpha = \frac{\mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{f}_j}{\|\mathbf{f}_i\|_2 \cdot \|\mathbf{f}_j\|_2} = \frac{O}{\sqrt{RC}} \sim \sqrt{\mathrm{MI}^2}$$

Excursus: Distance in term-context DSM

- What is the Manhattan distance between $\mathbf{f}_i$ and $\mathbf{f}_j$?

$$\mathbf{f}'_i = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{R} & 0 & \frac{1}{R} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{R} & 0 & \frac{1}{R} & 0 & 0 \end{bmatrix}$$
$$\mathbf{f}'_j = \begin{bmatrix} \frac{1}{C} & 0 & \frac{1}{C} & \frac{1}{C} & 0 & 0 & \frac{1}{C} & \frac{1}{C} & 0 & \frac{1}{C} & \frac{1}{C} & \frac{1}{C} \end{bmatrix}$$

  - $\|\mathbf{f}_i\|_1 = R$ = marginal frequency of term i
  - $\|\mathbf{f}_j\|_1 = C$ = marginal frequency of term j
  - normalised: $\mathbf{f}'_i = \mathbf{f}_i / R$ and $\mathbf{f}'_j = \mathbf{f}_j / C$
- Manhattan distance in **F** = **first-order association**

$$\begin{aligned} d_1(\mathbf{f}_i, \mathbf{f}_j) &= O \cdot \left|\tfrac{1}{R} - \tfrac{1}{C}\right| + (R - O) \cdot \tfrac{1}{R} + (C - O) \cdot \tfrac{1}{C} \\ &= 2 - O \cdot \left(\tfrac{1}{R} + \tfrac{1}{C} - \left|\tfrac{1}{R} - \tfrac{1}{C}\right|\right) \\ &= 2 - 2O \cdot \min\{\tfrac{1}{R}, \tfrac{1}{C}\} = 2 - 2 \cdot \underbrace{\min\left\{\frac{O}{R}, \frac{O}{C}\right\}}_{\text{minimum sensitivity}} \end{aligned}$$

Excursus: Term-context vs. term-term DSM

- Construct a term-term DSM with textual context = tweet
- Recall: co-occurrence frequency $m_{ij} = \mathbf{f}_i^T \mathbf{f}_j$
- Symmetric co-occurrence matrix $\mathbf{M}$ can be derived from $\mathbf{F}$:

$$\mathbf{M} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^T$$

- Compare SVD of the two matrices

$$\mathbf{F} = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T \qquad \mathbf{M} = \mathbf{F}\mathbf{F}^T = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{V}^T\mathbf{V}\mathbf{\Sigma}\mathbf{U}^T = \mathbf{U}\mathbf{\Sigma}^2\mathbf{U}^T$$

➥ $\mathbf{M}$ is power-scaled version of $\mathbf{F}$
  - dimensionality reduction: $P_r(\mathbf{F}) = \mathbf{U}_r\mathbf{\Sigma}_r$ vs. $P_r(\mathbf{M}) = \mathbf{U}_r\mathbf{\Sigma}_r^2$
  - $\mathbf{F}$ is equivalent to $\mathbf{M}$ with Caron $P = \frac{1}{2}$

Bonus task: Reverse free associations

The CogALex-IV shared task (Rapp & Zock 2014)

Reverse multiword free association

- wheel, driver, bus, drive, lorry → ?
- away, minded, gone, present, ill → ?

- Data: subset of EAT (2000 stimuli training/test)
- Very challenging (best: 35% accuracy)
  - open-ended vocabulary (including inflected surface forms!)
  - need for integrating predictions of different stimuli
- And the winner was . . .
  - a system using first-order statistics to re-rank the output of a "standard" DSM (Ghosh *et al.* 2015)
- Our submission: several 1st-order vs. 2nd-order models
  - best 1st-order: 27.7% / best 2nd-order: 14.0%

Hands-on exercise

- Solve the FAST multiple-choice task with a DSM
  - `eval.multiple.choice()` does most of the work for you
  - use `details=TRUE` to inspect biggest mistakes and explore performance (e.g. wrt. frequency of stimulus and response)
- Can you also make use of first-order (collocation) data?
  - hint: the DSM matrix $\mathbf{M}$ contains co-occurrence counts
- Advanced: Can you combine DSMs with first-order data?
  - hint: use average of DSM and first-order "neighbour" rank
- Advanced: Try to solve the open-choice lexical access task
  - no ready-made evaluation function in `wordspace` yet
- R code in `hands_on_day5.R` will help you get started!

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