

Buldialects Project Meeting, 22.-23. June 2007, Tübingen

Thomas Zastrow

Outline

- Vector Analysis: basics
- Idea: Vector Analysis in Computational Dialectometry
- Realisation
- Results
- Comparison: VA & Informationtheory (Entropy)
- Future Work in Project Buldialect

Basics

- Vector analysis is a subfield of geometry.
- Every array (e.g. vectors) has a starting point and an end point in a two- or more dimensional coordinate system. They determine the *length* and the *direction* of the vector.



Basics

• The length of a vector:

$$|\vec{v}| = \sqrt{\Delta x^2 + \Delta y^2}$$

• Angle α between two vectors:

$$\cos(\alpha) = \frac{\vec{a} \cdot \vec{b}}{|\vec{a}| \cdot |\vec{b}|}$$



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The Idea

- Keep the focus on one interesting element (uni-, bi-, trigram, ...)
- Follow that element through the whole data-site
- Record the position-changes of that element
- Build a *chain of vectors* through the data
- Compare the position-changes from different datasites

In Detail

 Following an element (here: A) through the data-site:







Example, following the element "e"

"jA "jAgne be"li "berAt "bese brA"n_je "brASno *"br_=Ze "beme veZ"dA "vece "vet_Ser "vet SAr



Analysis

Question: How to calculate site specific, individual values for every site?

Answer(s):

- Using the angle between the single vectors to sum up the movement of the element
- Summing up the length of the single vectors to the length of the whole vector chain

Question

- Ordering of the word lists?
- At the moment: alphabetic order
- Possible solution: using randomly ordered word lists

Analysis

 Using the length of a vector chain takes into account the number of the element and position changes, while the angle between vectors would just count position changes



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Which element to follow?

- Examinations are possible in two directions:
 - *Single-word-all-sites*, a so called SWAS-trace, is an examination of one word in all sites. For example, the word "red" in all sites
 - *Single-site-all-words*, a SSAW-trace, examines all different words of a site, for example the complete list of words in site x

SSAW		Aldomirovci	Asparuhovo	 Zheravna
	агне (lamb)	"jAgne	"Agni	 "Agni
	аз (I)	"jA	"As	 "As
	бели (white-plural)	"be l i	"beli	 "beli
	берат (pick up - 3rd plural)	"beru	bi″r7t	 bi"r7t
V	ям (eat, 1st singular)	e"dem	"jAm	 "jAm

SWAS

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Which element to follow?

 Using the SWAS direction for identifying the elements with the most position changes in the data set:

X-Sampa code	Length of Vector Chain			
е	40015.1759910523			
stress	35731.207131129			
7 (close-mid back, unrounded)	35653.6778159966			
A	35432.7572223606			
i	34438.756791175			
u	34120.3965759371			
n	33581.1330654058			
S	33038.0473845845			
0	32878.0780176776			
j (palatalized)	32317.4612226377			

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First results

- Uni-grams
- Analysis of vowels is more informative than consonants
- Clear distinction between the east and the west of Bulgaria

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First results: East- west



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Comparison: Information Theory and Vector Analysis

Information Theory

Bigrams Corpus based Takes all elements into account Ignores position of elements Number of elements are measured

Vector Analysis

Focused Element Word based Uses just single elements Tracks position of elements Number of elements influences the VC

Future work in Vector Analysis

- Using other structures than Uni-grams
- Use of randomly ordered word lists
- Combining the vector-based-approach with other approaches

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Future work in general

- Different clustering methods
- Classifiers instead of clustering
- More complex analysis in GIS