Interactive Visualization Methods for Sketch Engine

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Motivation

- Automatic analysis of large text corpora produces numerous useful figures which help to understand the underlying corpus data
- The results are usually presented in the form of tables containing raw data
- The representation is therefore crucial for correct understanding and interpretation



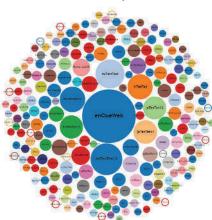
Sketch Engine

- Leading corpus management system for discovering how words behave in different contexts
- It has a wide range of analytic functions dealing with billion-word corpora

The thesis was focused on the following features of Sketch Engine:

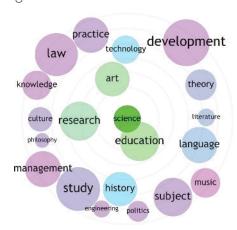
Corpora overview

all language corpora that are available in the system



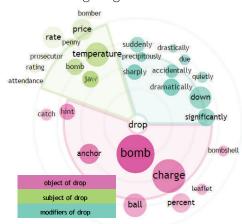
Thesaurus

words that occur in the same grammatical context



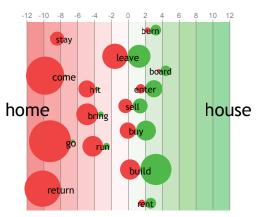
Word Sketch

word's collocational behavior according to grammar relations



Word Sketch Difference

comparison of two words according to their context





Visualization concepts

- Unified visual abstraction
- Similarity visualized as closeness
- Frequency visualized as additional info
- Striving for simplicity, consistency, and extendability



Implementation

- Visualizations available online
- Features have interactive interfaces
- Implemented in JavaScript (D3, ¡Query)
- Easy deployment on any website
- Language independent



Conclusion

- Novel visualizations for Sketch Engine allow comprehensible presentation of query results
- Deeper exploration is possible via interactions
- Usability confirmed by user testing
- Presented at QueryVis at NoDaLiDa 2015 [1]