

See the forest AND the trees

Domain-driven language
documentation

Konrad Rybka

Language documentation

*The aim of a **language documentation** is to provide a comprehensive record of the linguistic practices characteristic of a given speech community... This... differs fundamentally from... **language description** [which] aims at the record of a language... as a system of abstract elements, constructions, and rules.*

Nikolaus P. Himmelmann (1998). Documentary and descriptive linguistics. *Linguistics* 36: 166.

Language documentation

comprehensive record
linguistic practices of a
speech community



Primary linguistic data

Replicable
Reusable
Applicable

Language description

System of abstract elements,
constructions, and rules



Grammar and dictionary

Not replicable
Not reusable
Not applicable

Language documentation

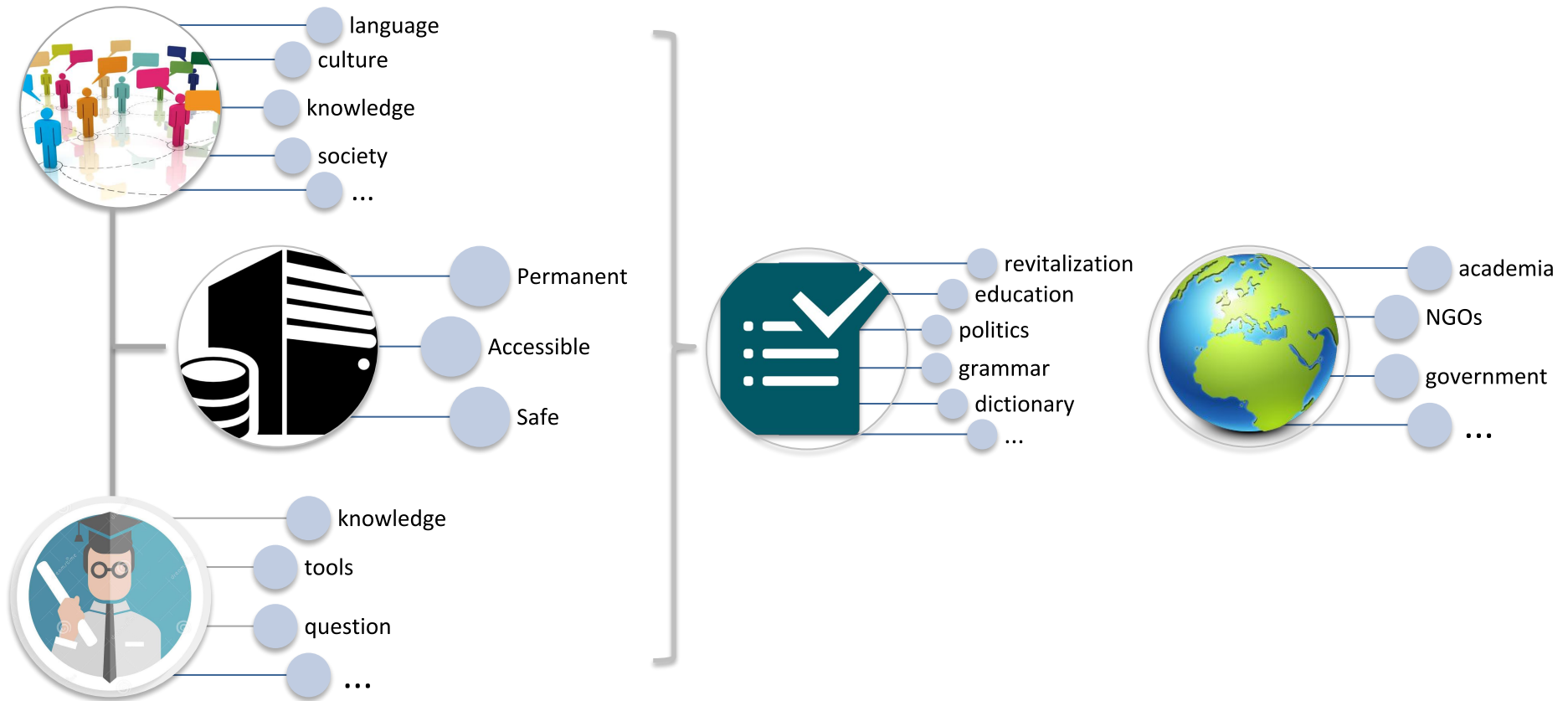
Online multimedia
archives of primary data

many domains, genres,
speech event types

*A language documentation is a **lasting, multipurpose** record of a language.*

Nikolaus P. Himmelmann (2006). Language documentation: What is it and what is it good for? In: Gippert et al. (eds) *Essentials of Language Documentation*.

Language documentation



Domain-driven language documentation



NICLAS BURENHULT

Files

File	Size	Format	
26167.mp3	28.79 MB	MP3	View/Open

Item Summary

Title: Domain-driven documentation: The case of landscape

Issue Date: 28-Feb-2013

Description: I will present compelling linguistic reasons why landscape is a field worthy of in-depth exploration, and why it provides an effective and high-gain approach to language documentation. I will illustrate with examples from several endangered languages and also discuss GIS applications for data collection, analysis, and archiving.

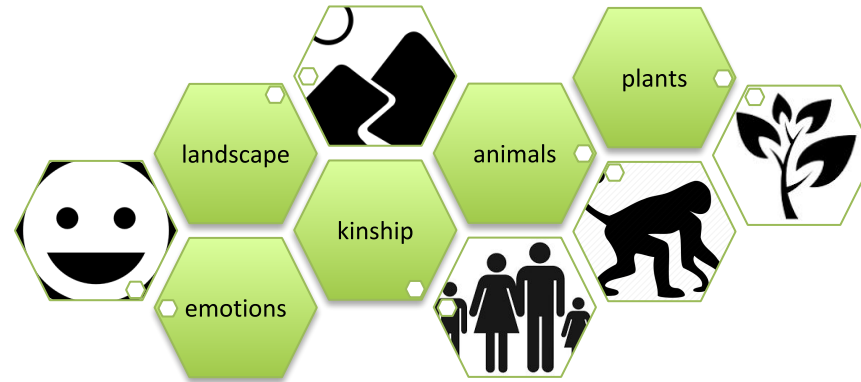
URI: <http://hdl.handle.net/10125/26167>

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Appears in Collections: [3rd International Conference on Language Documentation and Conservation \(ICLDC\)](#)

What is a domain?

- a field of experience of importance to humans, and therefore...
- a target for representational strategies (e.g. language)
 - Plants
 - Animals
 - Landscape
 - Kinship
 - Emotion
 - ...



Domain-based research

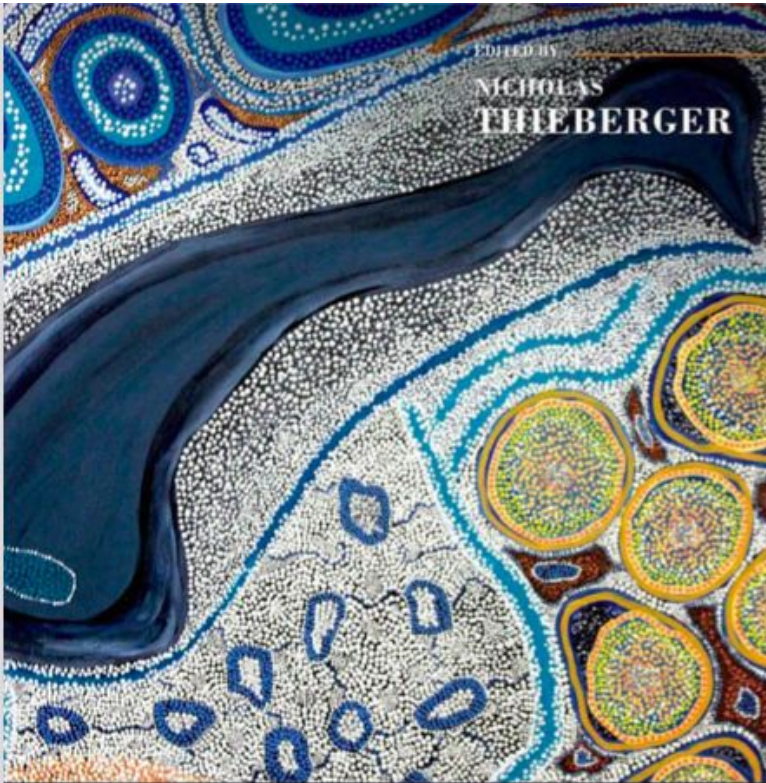
Linguistic, Cognitive, Anthropological studies:

- plants and animals (Berlin 1992; Atran and Medin 2008)
- color (Berlin and Kay 1969; Kay et al. 2010)
- anatomy (Brown 1976; Majid et al. 2006)
- space (Levinson 2003; Levinson and Wilkins 2006)
- landscape (Burenhult 2008a; Mark et al. 2011a)
- senses (Levinson and Majid 2014)
-

Domain-driven documentation projects



Domain-driven fieldwork guides



The Oxford Handbook of LINGUISTIC FIELDWORK

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Why domain-driven language documentation?

1. Convenient and interesting for the participants (feasibility)
2. Maximize speakers' participation (feasibility)
3. Easier to access by the researcher, hence more efficient (feasibility)
4. Ontologies around which data collection can be planned (feasibility)
5. Allow for a more in-depth analysis (quality)
6. Gateways to various types of genres and data types (comprehensive)
7. Reflect more general patterns of the language structure (comprehensive)
8. Linked to other domains (comprehensive)
9. Culturally entrenched (comprehensive)
10. Relevant to various linguistic communities (applicability)
11. Maximize community's interest in the deliverables (applicability)
12. Easier access to information (user-friendly)
13. Relevant to other disciplines (interdisciplinary)
14. Maximize interest of other parties (applicability)
15. Often critically endangered (urgency)
16. Clearer limitations of the end product (continuity)

Why domain-driven language documentation?


1. Convenient and interesting for the participants (feasibility)
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14. **Maximize interest of other parties (applicability)**
15. Often critically endangered (urgency)
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Indigenous languages of Suriname


E. Camargo (CELIA) and K. Boven (MINOV)
Coordination: F. Queixalos and O. Renault-Lescure

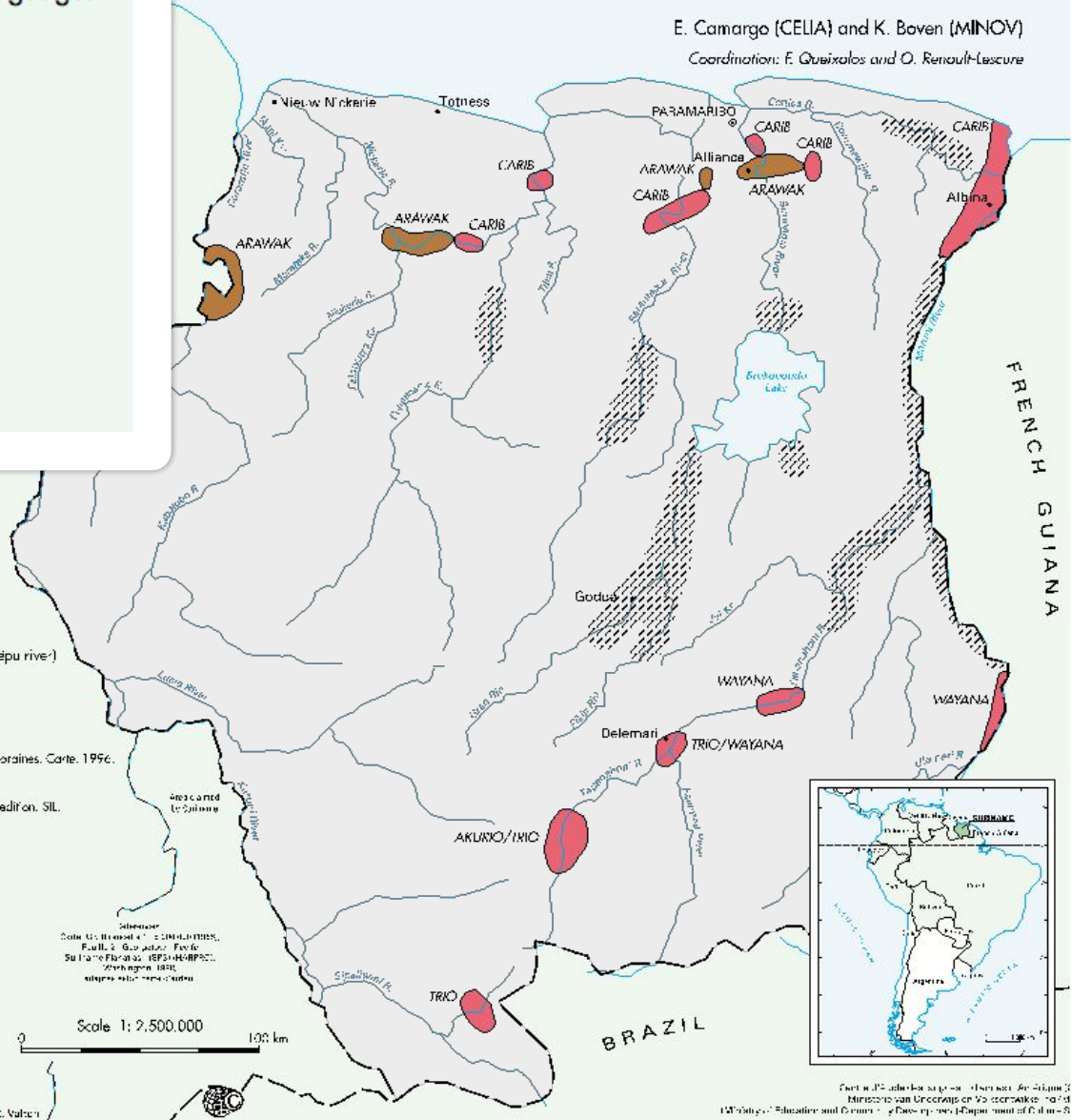
KEY

Linguistic families and languages

 Arawakan
ARAWAK

 Cariban
AKURIO
CARIB
TRIO
WAYANA

 Creole languages







- Guyanaese Creole
 - Kwinti
 - Matawari
 - Nafuka
 - Paramacca
 - Sranan tongo (Toki Toki)
 - Srananaccan
- English based creole
English based creole
English based creole
English based creole
English based creole
English and portuguese based creole

Languages in dangerous of extinction:
Akurio (Cariban people living in a Trio settlement of Tepu river)
Kwinti (Creole people)

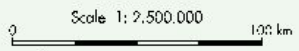
Sources:
Personal communication:
Grenard, P. Les Amérindiens des Guyanes. Situations contemporaines. Carte, 1996.

Bibliography:
Grimes, B. 1992. Ethnologue. Languages of the World, 12th edition. SIL.

Conventions

-  International boundary
-  River, lake
-  PARAMARIBO Capital
-  Goddard Other locality

Cette carte représente de la part de l'ORSTOM comme une des cartes produites par le service de cartographie de l'Etat de Suriname. Elle est destinée à être utilisée par les autorités locales et nationales.





Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Cosma Makoshi



Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Norma Bieswane



Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Norma Bieswane



Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Carl Orassie

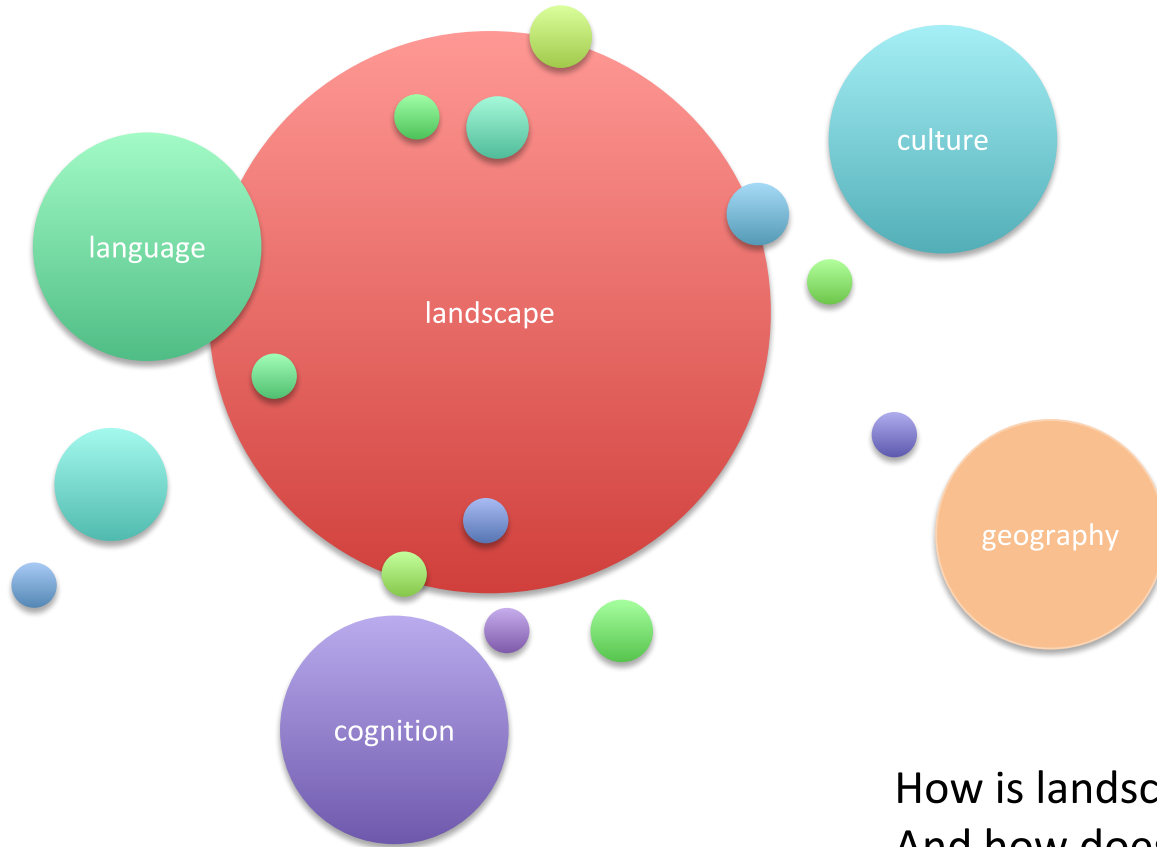


Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Cosma Makoshi



Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Clemi Beswane

Domain-driven documentation: landscape



How is landscape categorized linguistically?

And how does this categorization relate to:

- the culture of the people
- the geography of the area
- the language system
- our cognition



Matta village, Suriname, 2009; Photograph courtesy of Sabajo Antonius



Cassipora Savanna, Suriname, 2012; Photograph courtesy of Cosma Macoshi



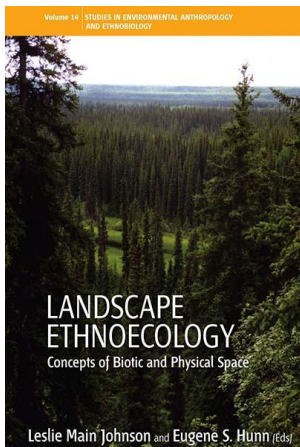
Korobali Creek, Suriname, 2012 (dry season); Photograph courtesy of Cosma Makoshi



Korobali Creek, Suriname, 2014 (wet season); Photograph courtesy of Cosma Makoshi

Ecotopes?

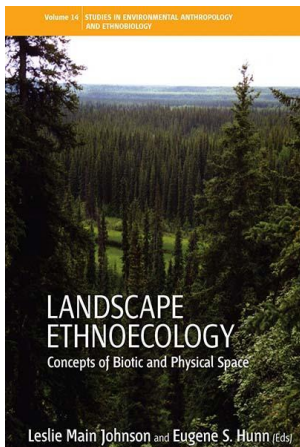
“smallest ecologically distinct landscape feature in a landscape classification system”



Eugene Hunn and Brien Meilleur (2010). Toward a Theory of Landscape Ethnoecological Classification. In: *Landscape Ethnoecology. Concepts of Biotic and Physical Space*. Edited by Leslie Main Johnson and Eugene S. Hunn.

Ecotopes

ecotope	meadow	marsh	mire
plants	grasses	reeds, rushes, shrubs	mosses, sedges, shrubs
animals	cattle, bird spp.	waterfowl, mammals, fish spp.	insects, bird spp.



Eugene Hunn and Brien Meilleur (2010). Toward a Theory of Landscape Ethnoecological Classification. In: *Landscape Ethnoecology. Concepts of Biotic and Physical Space*. Edited by Leslie Main Johnson and Eugene S. Hunn.

Lokono ecotopes

plant + suffix = ecotope

awarha + ●-wkili = awarhawkili

manaka + ●-wkaro = manakowkaro

Extant ecotope names

Ecotope	Plant	Species	Family
• <u>beyokhowkili</u>	<u>beyokha</u>	?	<u>Poaceae</u>
• <u>dakamawkili</u>	<u>dakama</u>	<u>Dimorphandra conjugata</u>	<u>Caesalpinaceae</u>
• <u>walabawkili</u>	<u>walaba</u>	<u>Couratari stellata</u>	<u>Caesalpinaceae</u>
• <u>korhwabanawkili</u>	<u>korhwabana</u>	<u>Attalea sagotii</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>awarhawkili</u>	<u>awarha</u>	<u>Astrocaryum vulgare</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>îtewkili</u>	<u>îte</u>	<u>Mauritia flexuosa</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>manakowkaro</u>	<u>manaka</u>	<u>Euterpe oleraceae</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>tiritiowkaro</u>	<u>tiriti</u>	<u>Ischnosiphon arouma</u>	<u>Marantaceae</u>
• <u>mokorowkaro</u>	<u>mokoro</u>	<u>Ischnosiphon sp.</u>	<u>Marantaceae</u>

In comparison

Nr. of ecotopes	Language (family)	Country (source)
69	Matsigenka (Arawakan)	Peru (Shepard Jr. et al. 2001)
90	Baniwa (Arawakan)	Brazil (Abraão et al. 2010)
36	Kayapó (Ge)	Brazil (Posey 1985)
89	Tsimane' (Mosetenan)	Bolivia (Riu-Bosoms et al. 2014)
47	Matsés (Panoan)	Peru (Fleck & Harder 2000)
59	Takana (Tacanan)	Bolivia (Wartmann et al. in prep.)

GIS mapping of ecotopes



Extant ecotope names

Ecotope	Plant	Species	Family
• <u>beyokhowkili</u>	<u>beyokha</u>	?	<u>Poaceae</u>
• <u>dakamawkili</u>	<u>dakama</u>	<u>Dimorphandra conjugata</u>	<u>Caesalpinaceae</u>
• <u>walabawkili</u>	<u>walaba</u>	<u>Couratari stellata</u>	<u>Caesalpinaceae</u>
• <u>korhwabanawkili</u>	<u>korhwabana</u>	<u>Attalea sagotii</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>awarhawkili</u>	<u>awarha</u>	<u>Astrocaryum vulgare</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>itewkili</u>	<u>ite</u>	<u>Mauritia flexuosa</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>manakowkaro</u>	<u>manaka</u>	<u>Euterpe oleraceae</u>	<u>Arecaceae</u>
• <u>tiritiowkaro</u>	<u>tiriti</u>	<u>Ischnosiphon arouma</u>	<u>Marantaceae</u>
• <u>mokorowkaro</u>	<u>mokoro</u>	<u>Ischnosiphon sp.</u>	<u>Marantaceae</u>

Wartmann et al. (in prep.)
Smith (2014)

Cultural significance

Species	shelter	Basketry	textile	food	instruments	hunting	beliefs
• <u>beyokha</u>					✓		✓
• <u>dakama</u>							
• <u>walaba</u>	✓						
• <u>korhwabana</u>	✓			✓		✓	
• <u>awarha</u>		✓	✓	✓		✓	✓
• <u>îte</u>			✓	✓		✓	
• <u>manaka</u>	✓			✓		✓	✓
• <u>tiriti</u>		✓					
• <u>mokoro</u>		✓					

Lokono ecotopes

plant + suffix = ecotope

awarha + ●-wkili = awarhawkili

manaka + ●-wkaro = manakowkaro

Exp. 1: free listing

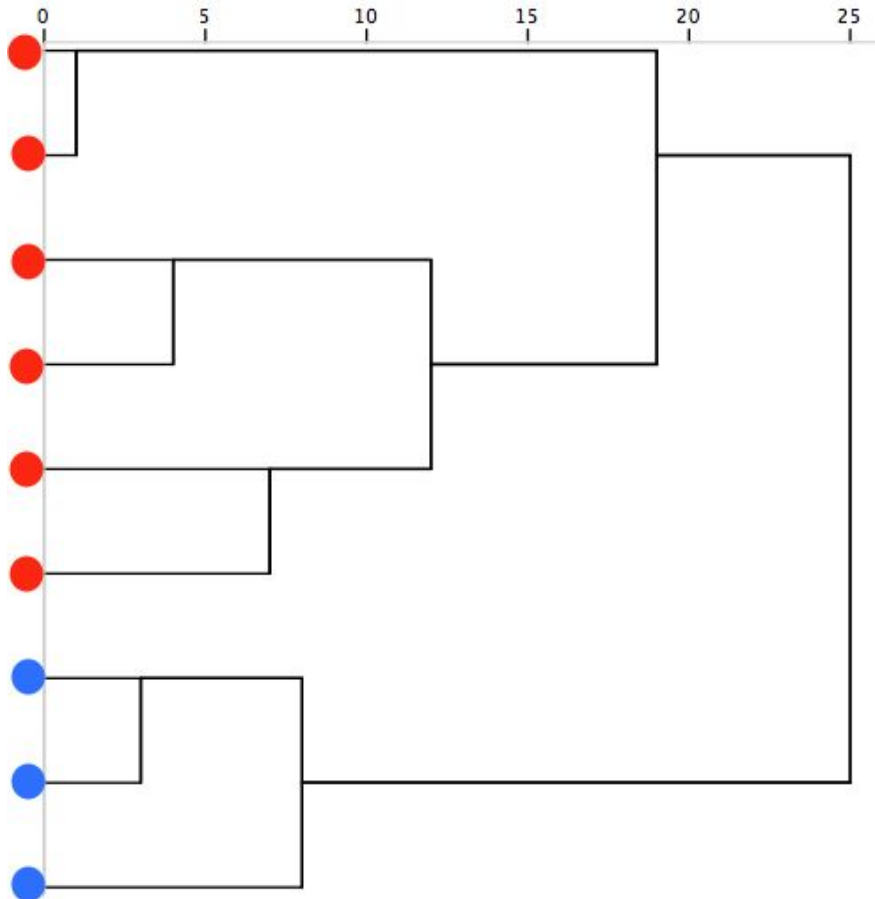
10 speakers listed as many plants as possible for each of the ecotopes

Exp. 1: free listing

10 speakers listed as many plants as possible for each of the ecotopes

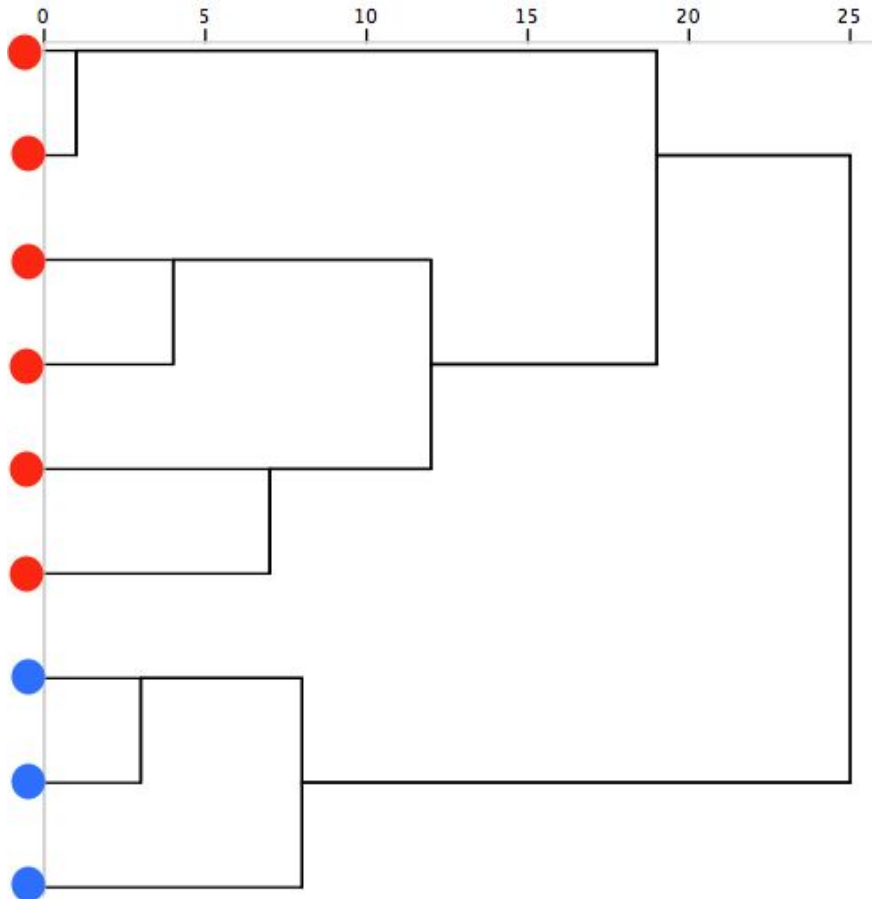
Visible: 52 of 52 Variables									
	Name	hobo	warhimia	rokoroko	manaka	lō	konana	awarha	kokor
1	Manakowkaro	0	0	0	10	2	0	0	
2	Mokorowkaro	0	0	0	8	4	4	0	
3	Tiritiowkaro	1	0	1	2	1	2	0	
4	Awarhawkili	2	1	0	0	2	0	10	
5	Beyokhowkili	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	Dakamawkili	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
7	Korhwabanawkili	0	1	0	1	2	0	0	
8	Walabwakili	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	
9	Itewkili	0	0	1	1	1	0	0	

Cluster analysis: floristic pattern



On the basis of plant composition
● *wkili*-ecotopes and ● *wkaro*-ecotopes
form different clusters

Cluster analysis: floristic pattern



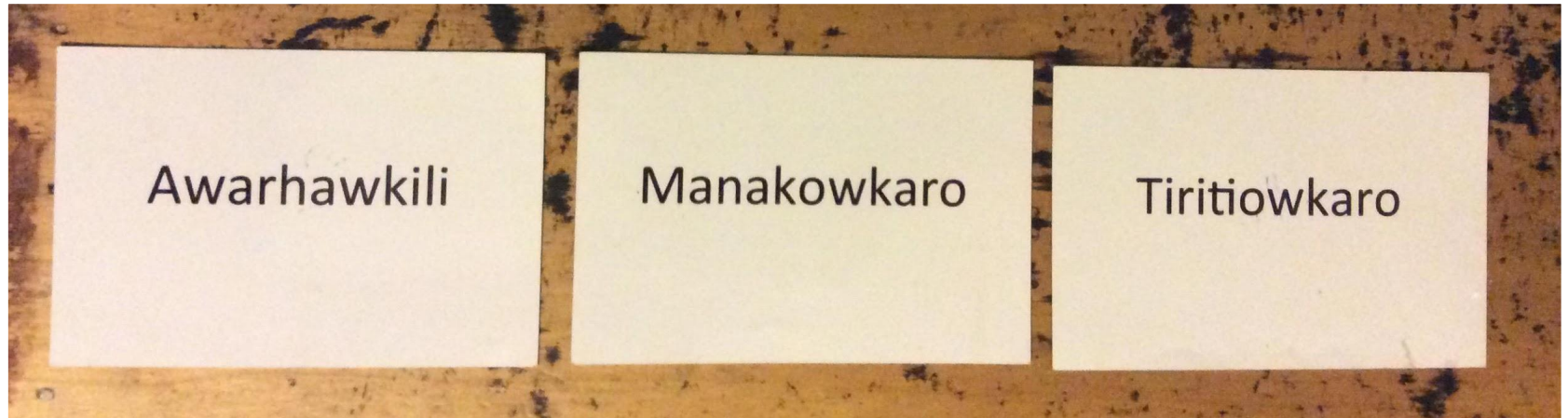
On the basis of plant composition
● *wkili*-ecotopes and ● *wkaro*-ecotopes form different clusters

If certain types of plants grow in ● *wkili*-ecotopes but not in ● *wkaro*-ecotopes and *vice versa*, the two clusters:

- differ from one another in terms of physical parameters
- share similar physical parameters within the cluster

Exp. 2: similarity judgments (triads)

9 speakers were asked to make similarity judgments of 24 triads

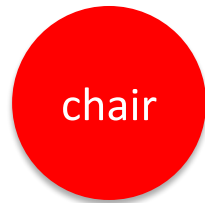
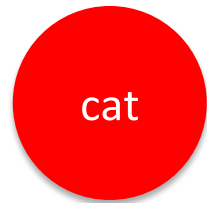


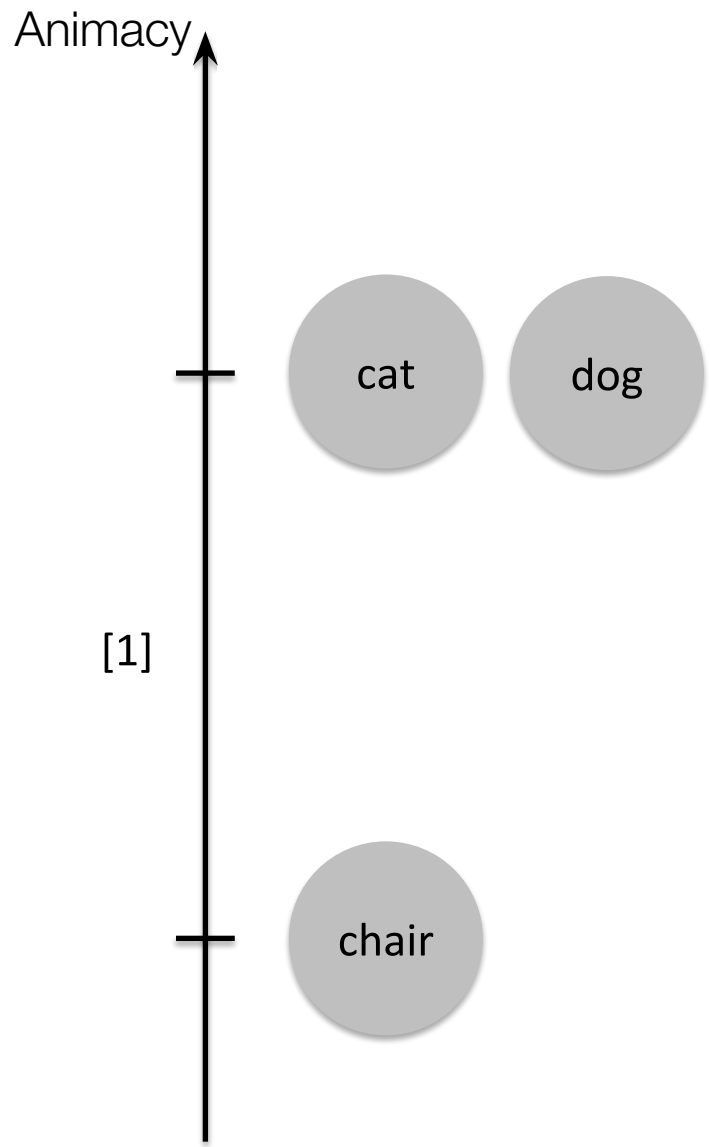
Burton and Nerlove (1976) *Balanced Designs for Triads Tests*

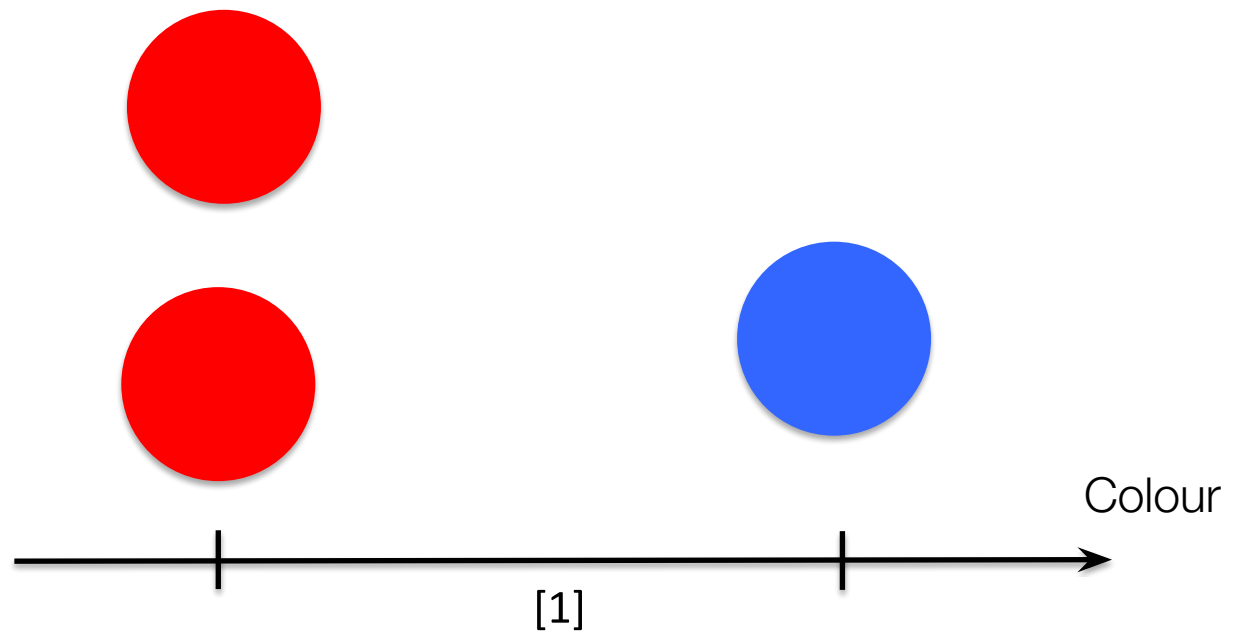
Exp. 2: similarity judgments (triads)

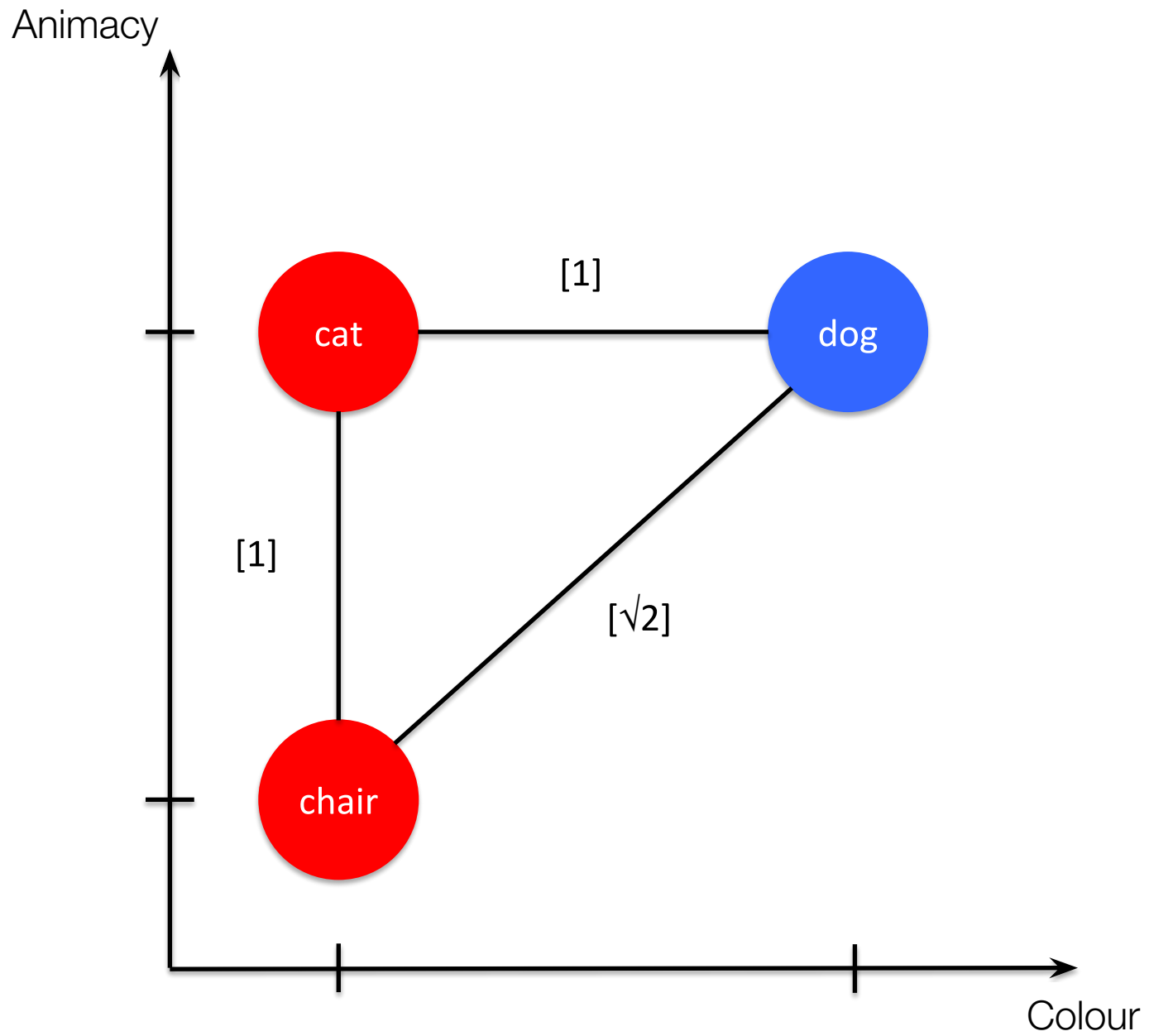
	Manakowkaro	Mokorowkaro	Awarhawkili	Tiritiowkaro	Beyokhowkili	Dakamawkili	Korhwabanawkili	Walabawkili	Itewkili
Manakowkaro		15	0	16	3	1	0	4	11
Mokorowkaro			0	15	2	1	2	1	9
Awarhawkili				1	8	2	10	11	2
Tiritiowkaro					7	0	4	0	13
Beyokhowkili						4	5	5	3
Dakamawkili							10	8	6
Korhwabanawkili								10	3
Walabawkili									0
Itewkili									

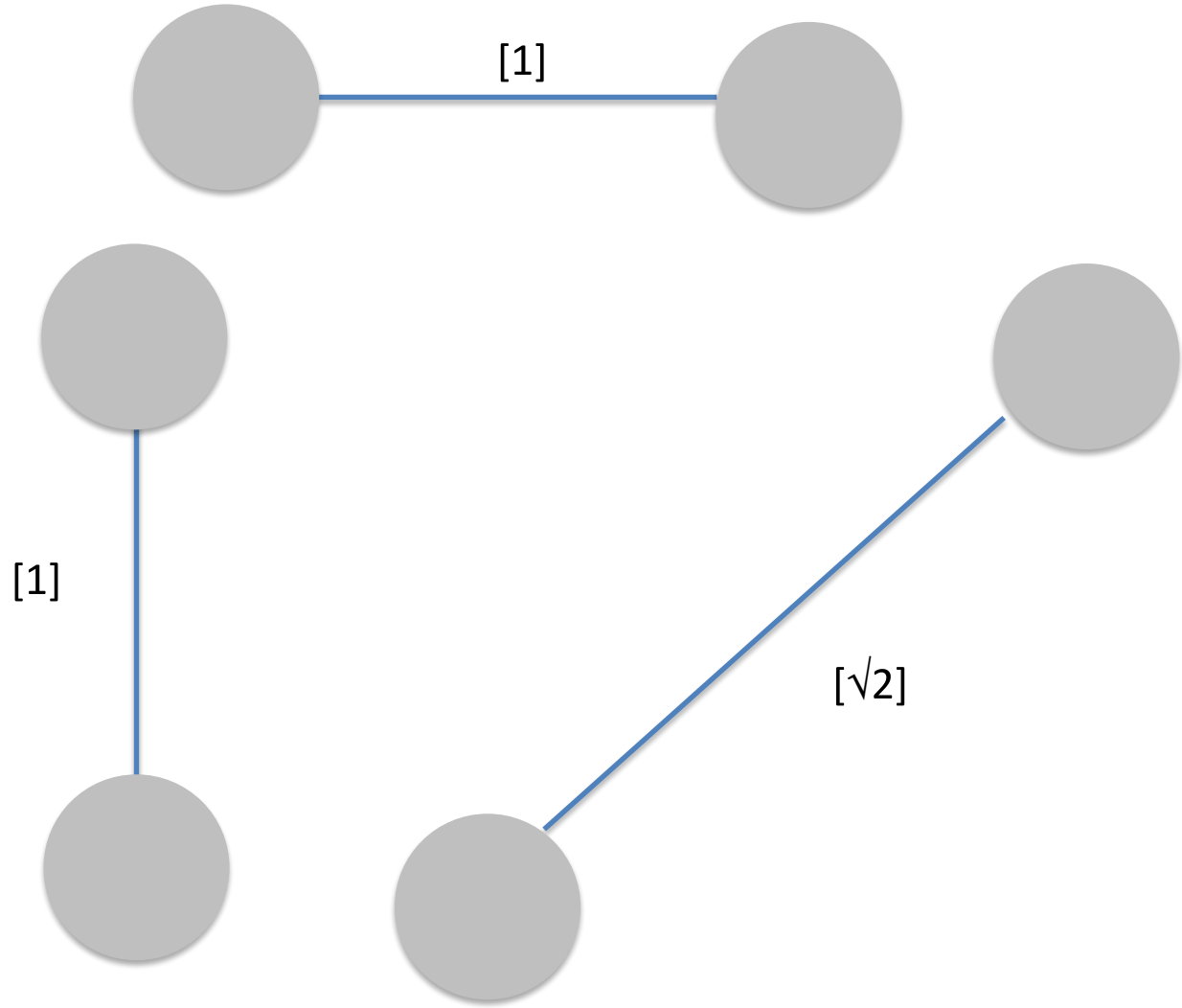
Multidimensional scaling (MDS)

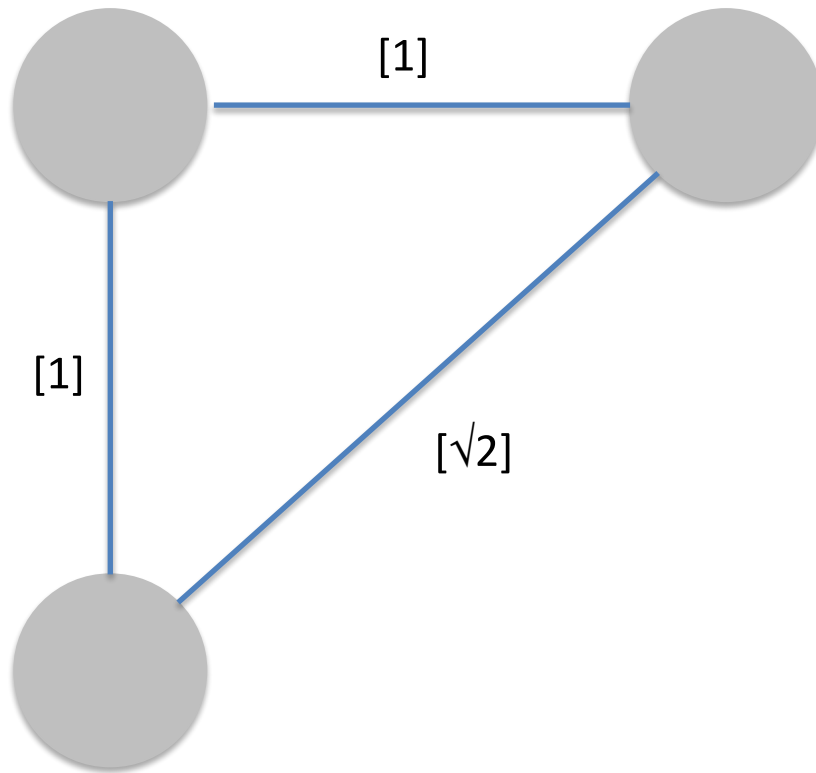


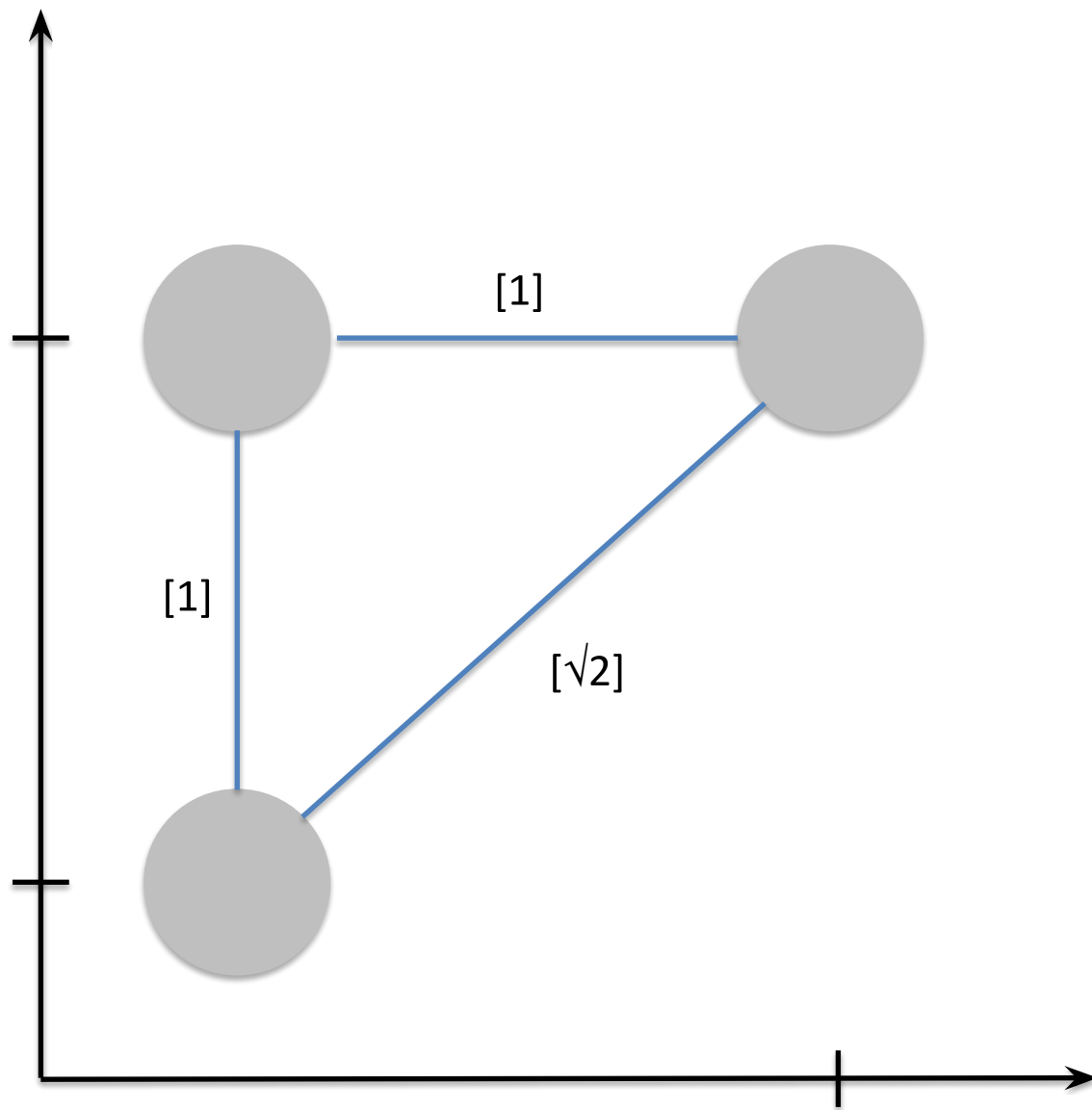


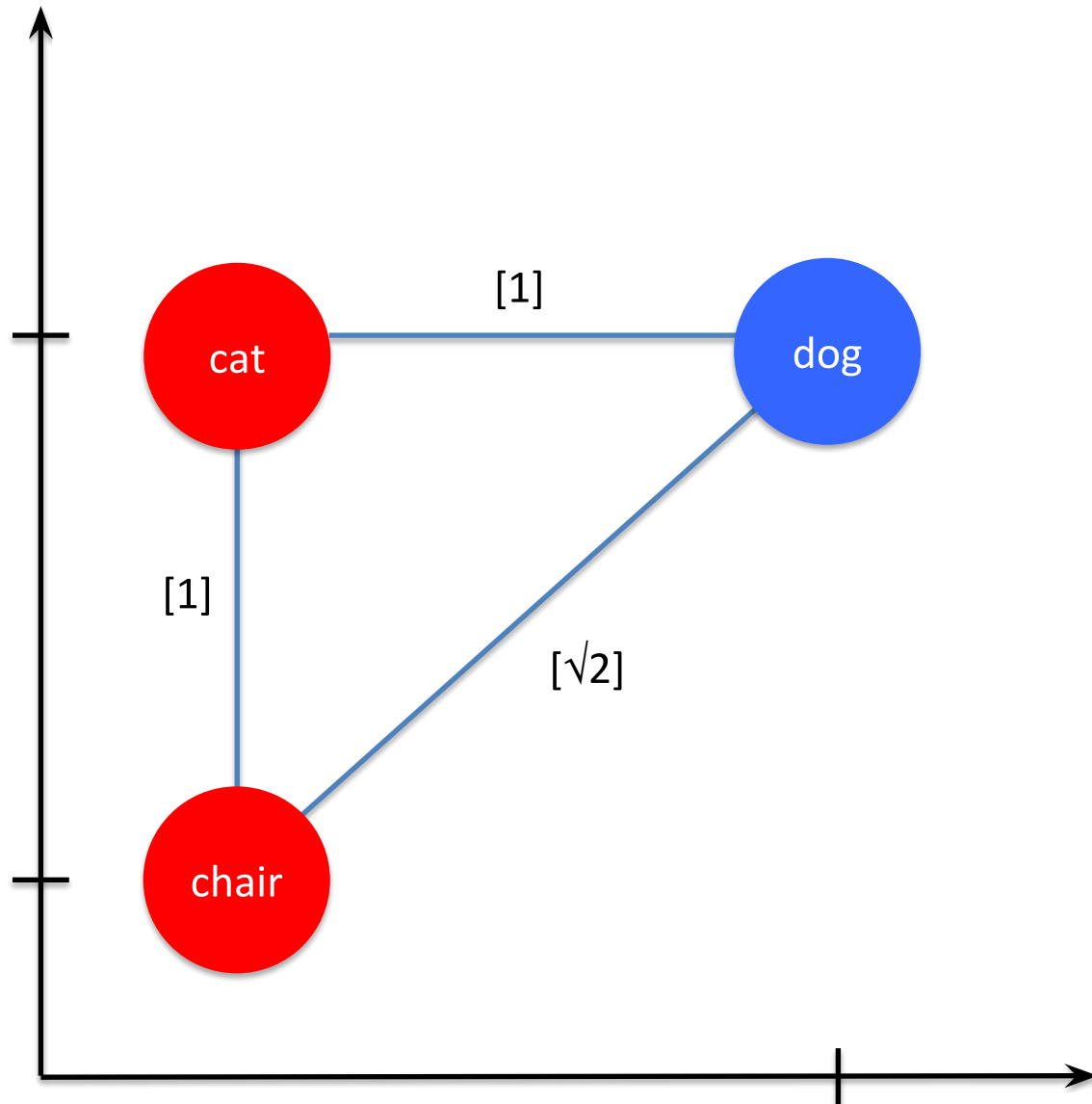




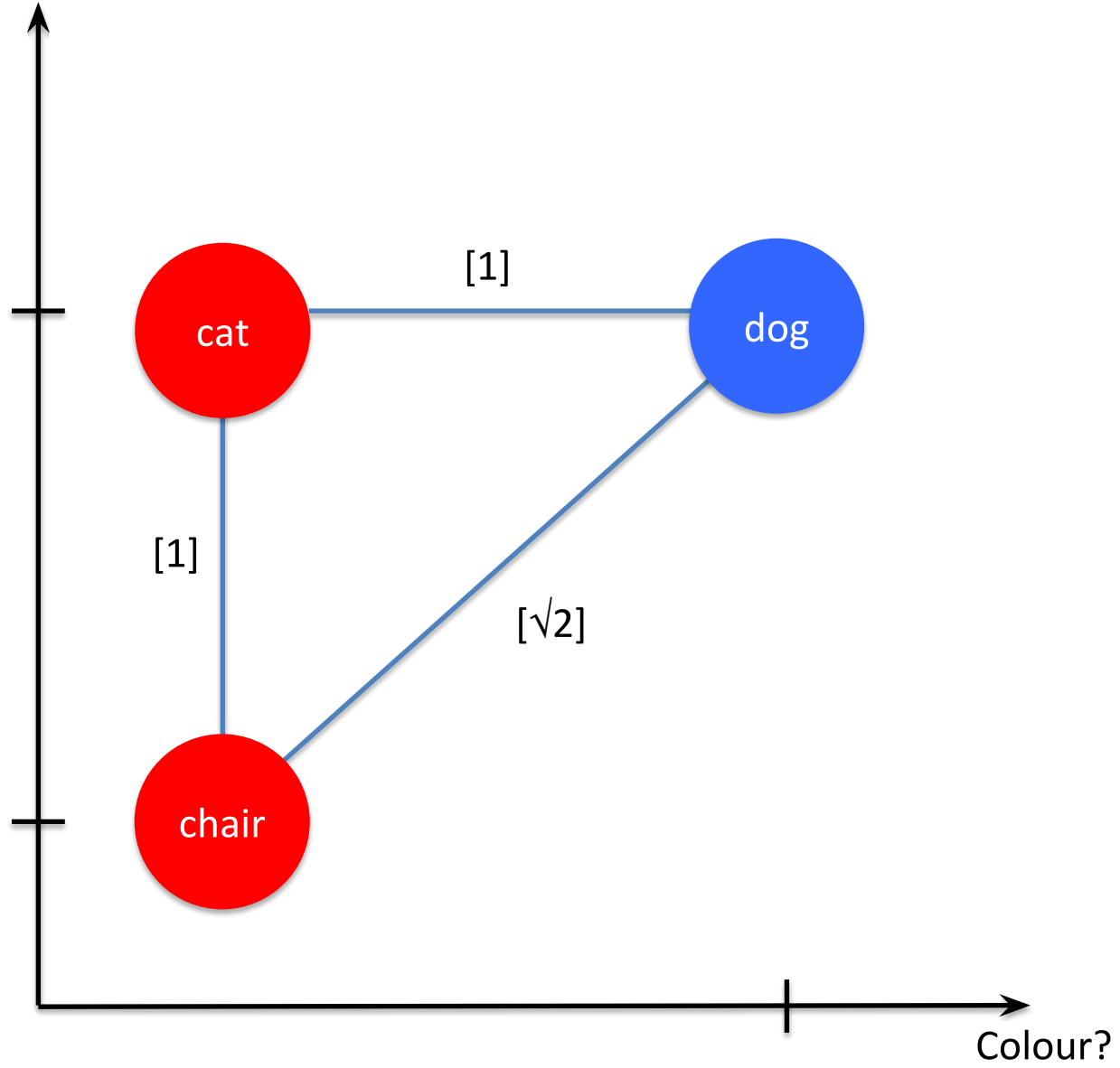








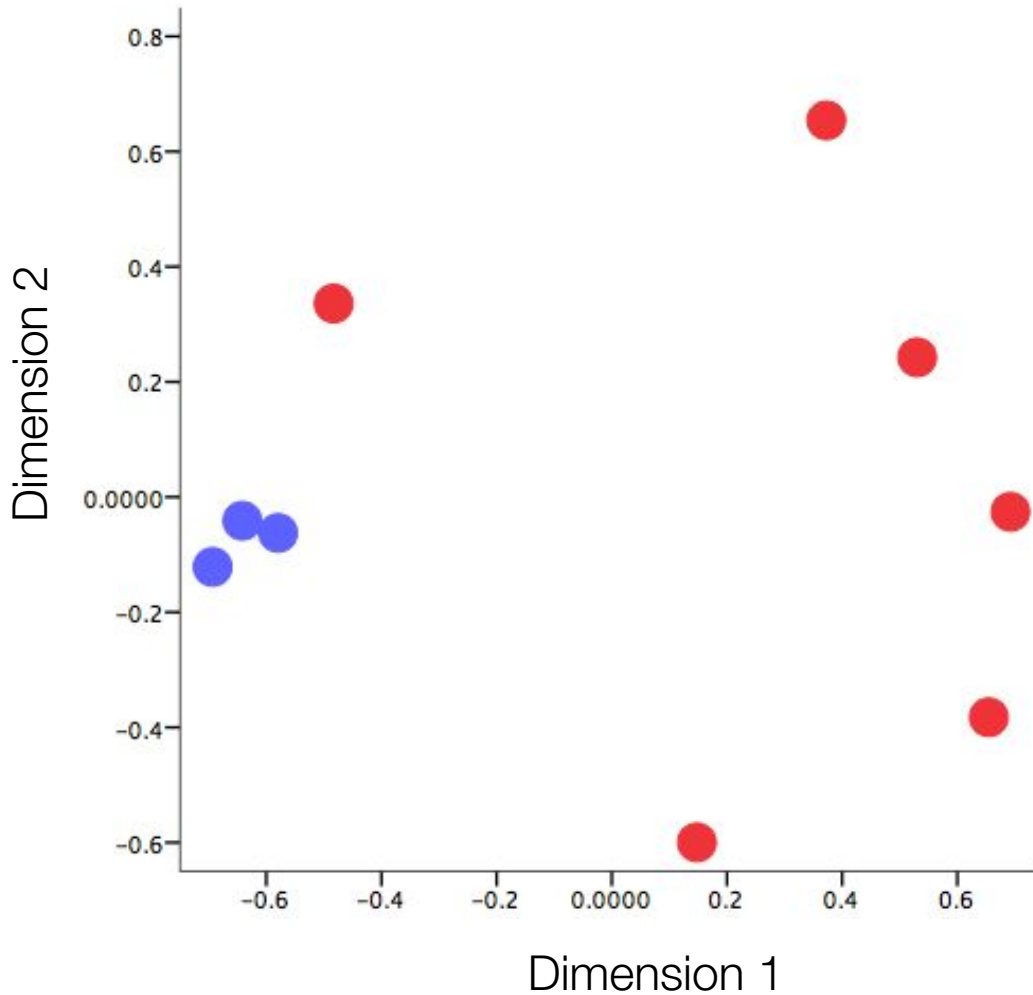
Animacy?



Exp. 2: similarity judgments (triads)

	Manakowkaro	Mokorowkaro	Awarhawkili	Tiritiowkaro	Beyokhowkili	Dakamawkili	Korhwabanawkili	Walabawkili	Itewkili
Manakowkaro		15	0	16	3	1	0	4	11
Mokorowkaro			0	15	2	1	2	1	9
Awarhawkili				1	8	2	10	11	2
Tiritiowkaro					7	0	4	0	13
Beyokhowkili						4	5	5	3
Dakamawkili							10	8	6
Korhwabanawkili								10	3
Walabawkili									0
Itewkili									

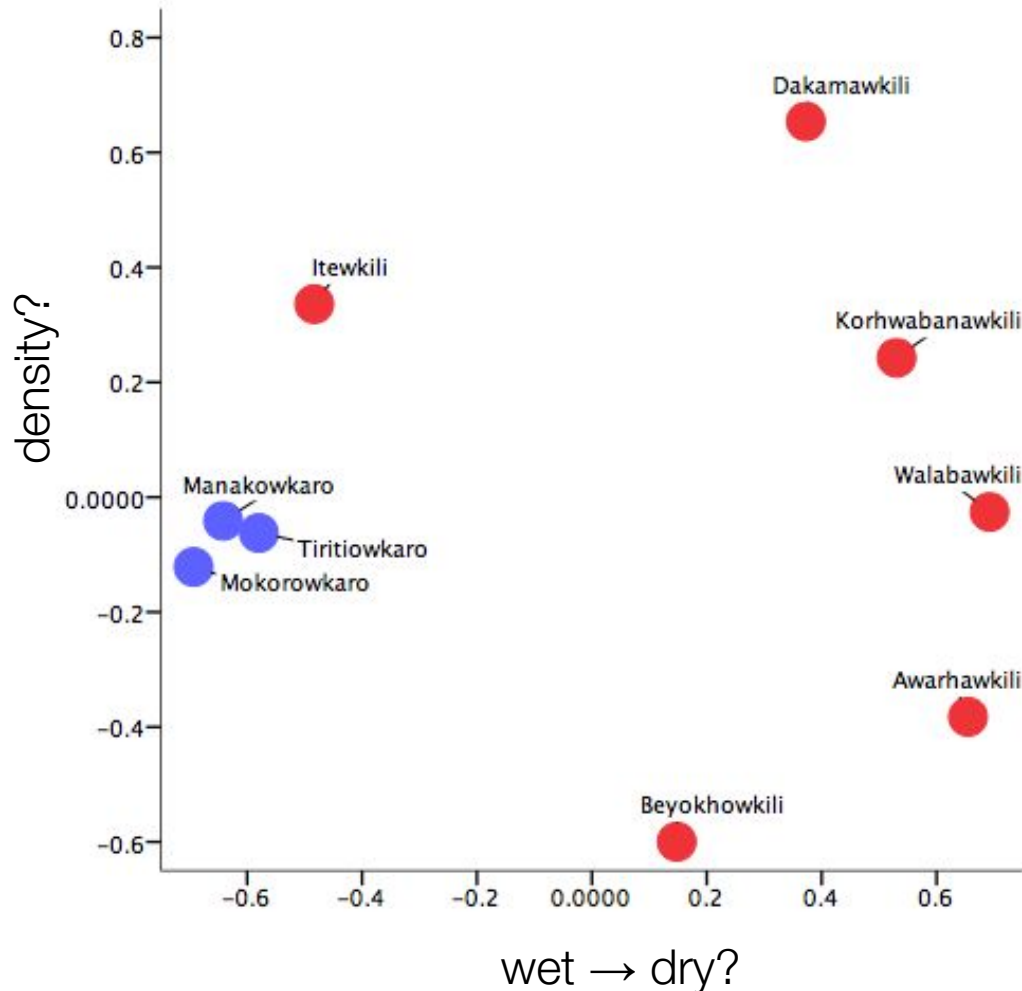
How are ecotopes similar to each other?



2 dimensions best fit the data

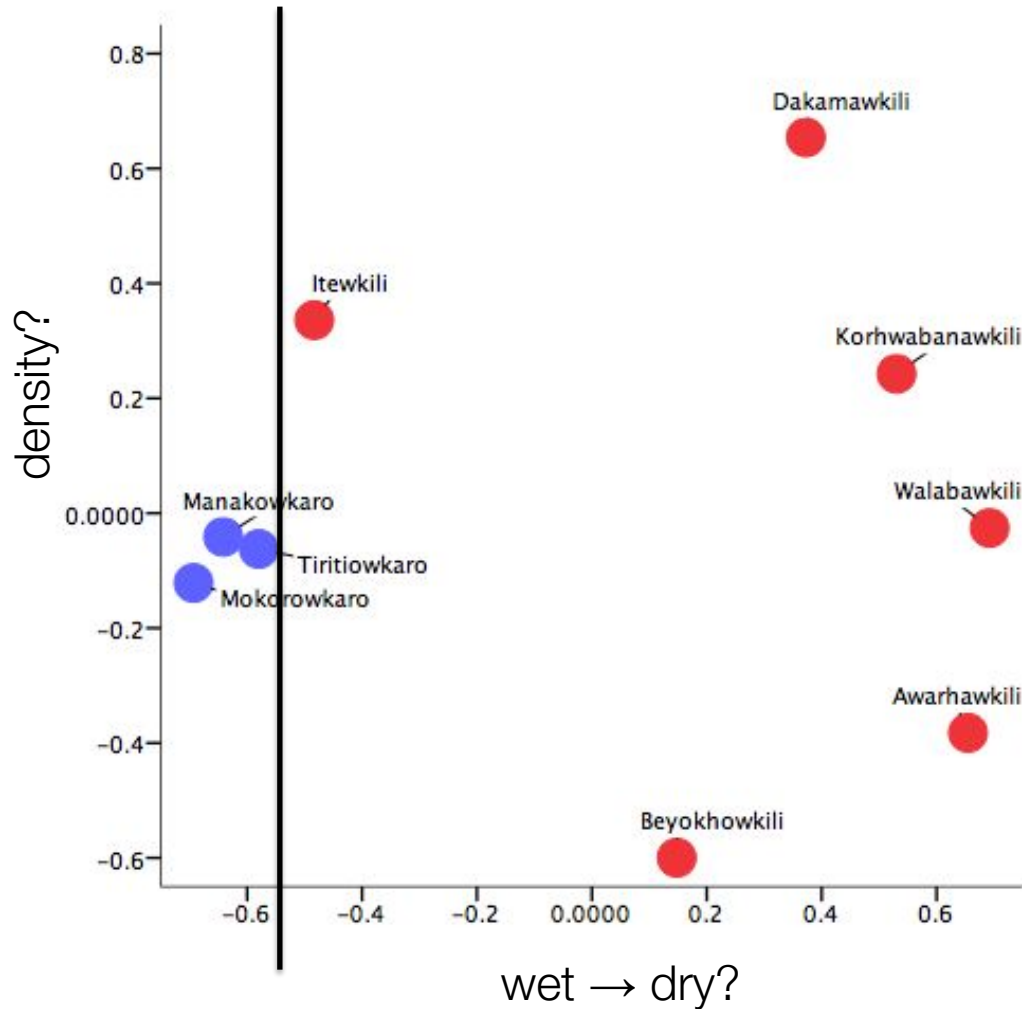
wkaro-forms cluster together

Parameters underlying the domain



By analyzing the outliers we can try hypothesize what the two parameters are

Parameters underlying the domain



By analyzing the outliers we can hypothesize what the two parameters are

Exp. 3. similarity judgment (pile sorting)

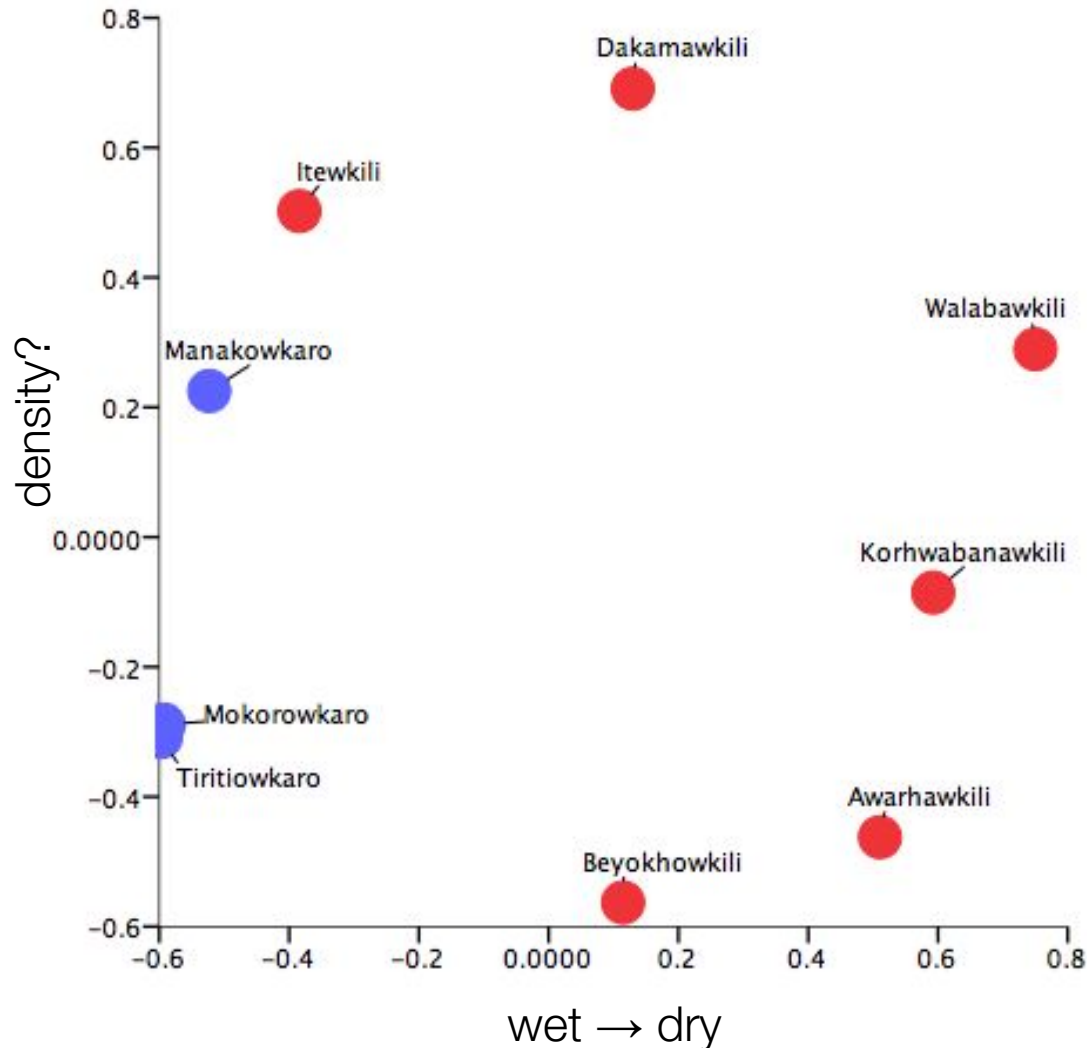
10 speakers divided the ecotopes into as many piles as they wanted and then commented WHY they chose the particular distribution

Exp. 3. similarity judgment (pile sorting)

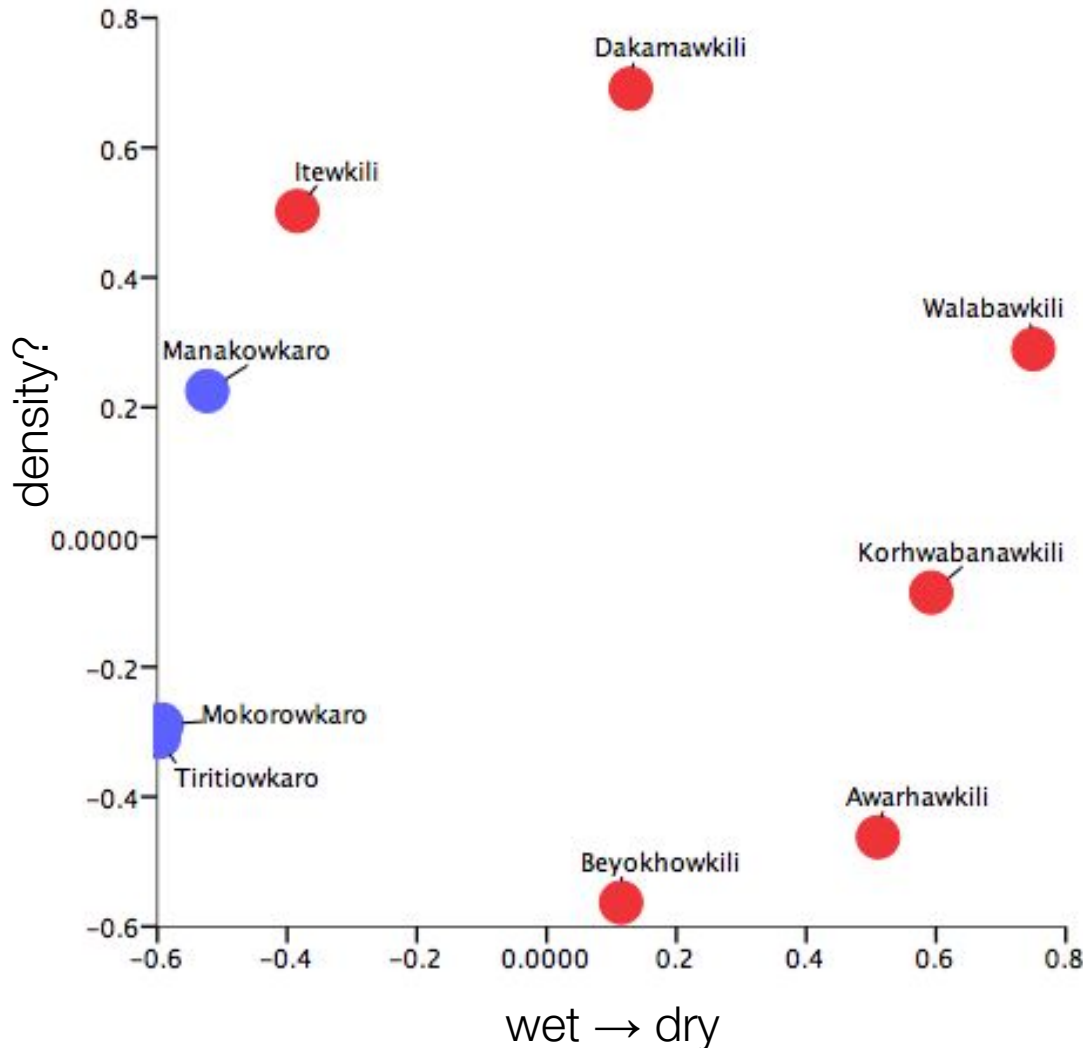
10 speakers divided the ecotopes into as many piles as they wanted and then commented WHY they chose the particular distribution

Visible: 10 of 10 Variables										
	Name	Manakowkar o	Mokorowkar o	Awarhawkili	Tiritiowkaro	Beyokhow...	Dakamaw...	Korhwabana wkili	Walabawkili	Itewkili
1	Manakow...	.	3	0	3	2	1	0	0	5
2	Mokorowk...	.	.	0	6	2	0	0	0	2
3	Awarhawkili	.	.	.	0	4	1	3	2	0
4	Tiritiowkaro	.	.	.	.	1	0	1	0	1
5	Beyokhow...	.	.	.	.	.	1	2	0	0
6	Dakamaw...	.	.	.	.	.	.	1	1	3
7	Korhwaba...	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	3	1
8	Walabawkili	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	0
9	Itewkili	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.	.

Exp. 3: verbalizing the parameters



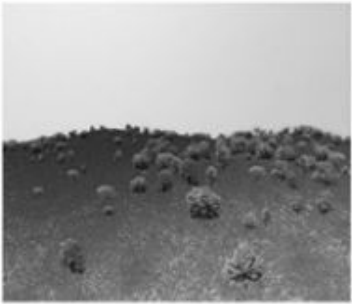





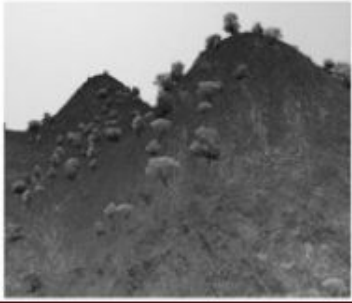
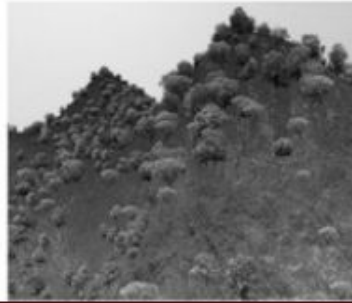

Exp. 3: verbalizing the parameters



The named parameters:

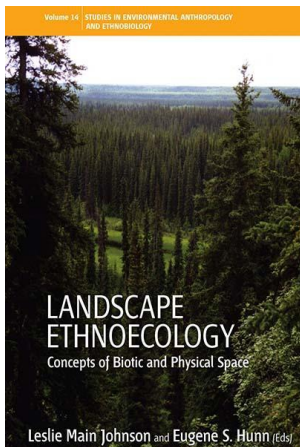
- wet/dry
- dense/open
- forest/savanna
- close to/far from each other

Landscape preference study

	Open	Half open	Closed
Flat			
Hilly			
Mountainous			

Ecotopes?

“smallest ecologically distinct landscape feature in a landscape classification system”



Eugene Hunn and Brien Meilleur (2010). Toward a Theory of Landscape Ethnoecological Classification. In: *Landscape Ethnoecology. Concepts of Biotic and Physical Space*. Edited by Leslie Main Johnson and Eugene S. Hunn.

Applicability

- Primary data
- Other materials
- Methodology
- Theory
- Network
- ...

Library workshop and the Lokono Catalogue

- quantity: 300 publications (including lost manuscripts)
- time depth: over 2 centuries
- topics: language, material culture, history, religion, Bible
- types: articles, grammars, dictionaries, manuscripts, legal texts
- language: English, Dutch, French, German, Spanish
- availability: depends

[Home](#) > [Groups](#) > [The Lokono collection](#) > [Library](#) > [Unpublished manuscripts](#) > [A vocabulary of the language of the Arawak Indians](#)



Library

▼ Lokono

- Archeology
- Descriptions of travellers
- Dictionaries & glossaries
- General introductions
- Genetic affiliation
- Grammatical descriptions: articles
- Grammatical descriptions: grammars
- Language contact
- Lokono texts
- Material and Immaterial culture
- Other languages of the area
- Sociopolitical issues
- Teaching materials
- Unpublished manuscripts**

Trash

A vocabulary of the language of the Arawak Indians

Added By	konrad.rybka
Item Type	Manuscript
Title	A vocabulary of the language of the Arawak Indians
Author	Schultz, Theodor
Date	1803
URL	
Archive	Library of the American Philosophical Society
Call Number	497 IN2
Extra	Source: Benjamin (1991)
Tags	

Upload Attachment

Lokono orthography project



- Lack of a common orthographic standard
- Obstacle to language revitalization
- Numerous workshops in French Guiana, Suriname and Guyana
- Publication grant from the Society For Endangered Languages
- Explanations in layman's language, exercises, summaries, key
- Distributed during one-day orthography workshops



Hollandse Kamp, Suriname, 2013; Photograph courtesy of Martin Purci & Egnatius Beswane

Archive of the Lokono Language

[Archive of the Lokono Language \(ALL\)](#)

- Max Plank Institute for Psycholinguistics, Nijmegen, NL
- digital archive of primary Lokono data
- audio, video, text, annotations, metadata
- various topics: landscape, family, subsistence, material culture, spirituality etc.
- narratives, elicitations, stories, etc.