

Quantitative contribution to the study of the syntax of spoken vs. written language



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To what extent the syntax of speech is different from the syntax of writing?
=> Focus on an alternation phenomenon: the position of the attributive adjective in French
une agréable soirée (anteposed)
une soirée agréable (postposed)
'a nice evening'

Aims

- To model the choice between anteposition and postposition
- To characterize the differences between the syntax of speech and writing

Data

- 6612 occurrences of attributive adjectives modifying a nominal head extracted from

- ▶ FTB: French TreeBank, newspaper corpus => Writing
- ▶ CORAL: CORAL-ROM, spontaneous speech corpus => Speech

Tools

- Statistical modeling of corpus data : mixed-effect logistic regression
- Focus on interactions between modality (speech vs. writing) and syntactic constraints