

CHAPTER 14

Sitting objects

14.4 Empirical results

14.4.6 Semantic analysis

Table 3. Type-Token-Ratio in the sitting objects domain

	German	English	Greek	Turkish
TTR nouns	0.127	0.109	0.102	0.158

Table 4. Mean number of nouns per picture of sitting objects

Language	Mean number of nouns per stimulus	Range	SD
German	3.95	1–9	2.155
English	3.95	2–7	1.465
Greek	3.95	1–9	2.333
Turkish	4.20	2–8	1.630

14.4.7 Summary

The different analyses are summarized in Table 9.

Type frequency, Simpson's D, and the MDS analysis show the familiar results. The satellite-framed languages are more fine-grained than the verb-framed languages. However, this difference is not so prominent (not statistically significant) in this domain compared to other semantic domains. The TTR and the mean number of nouns per stimulus present Turkish as the language that is most specific. However, as was laid out in Section 14.4.2, the high type frequency in Turkish is related to the use of various superordinate terms ('seat', 'place', 'furniture') and different circumscriptions in an attempt to name the objects, especially those that are not category prototypes. Thus, the proliferation of terms in Turkish is not a sign of specificity, but of generality and indeterminacy. This is revealed by the semantic analysis which is necessary alongside the formal measures of granularity.

Table 5. German nouns for sitting objects and their token frequency (dark grey: Compounds, italics: Superordinate terms)

Stuhl	48	Sessel	64	Hocker	50	Sofa	44	Bank	14	Liege	2	<i>Sitzgelegenheit</i>	1
Schaukelstuhl	20	Korbessel	5	Barhocker	23	Ecksofa	1	Parkbank	3	Sonnenliege	1		
Gartenstuhl	15	Gartensessel	1	Klapphocker	3			Gartenbank	1	Strandliege	1		
Bürostuhl	11	Holzessel	1					Holzbank	1			Kindersitz	2
Liegestuhl	10	Klappsessel	1					Sitzbank	1			Hockersitz	1
Plastikstuhl	10	Ohrensessel	1										
Kinderstuhl	9	Wohnzimmersessel	1									Sitzkorb	1
Babystuhl	6												
Klappstuhl	6											Thron	12
Schreibtischstuhl	5											Récamiere	2
Hochstuhl	2											Chaiselongue	1
Königsstuhl	2											Divan	1
Baststuhl	1												
Campingstuhl	1											Couch	6
Holzstuhl	1											Sitzecke	1
Korbstuhl	1											Sofaecke	1
Küchenstuhl	1											Couchgarnitur	1
Sonnenstuhl	1												
Wohnzimmerstuhl	1												
	103		10		26		1		6		2		

Table 6. English nouns for sitting objects and their token frequency (dark gray: Compounds, italics: Superordinate terms)

chair	106	stool	46	sofa	34	couch	5	bench	12	seat	1
armchair	29	bar stool	17	corner sofa	2	sedan couch	1	park bench	6	baby's seat	1
rocking chair	19	high stool	3					garden bench	2		
deck chair	16	folding stool	2					throne	10		
highchair	12	kitchen stool	2					chaise longue	9		
garden chair	8	camp stool	1					settee	7		
plastic chair	8	fold-up stool	1					lounger	2		
office chair	5							divan	1		
baby chair	4										
swivel chair	3										
baby highchair	2										
computer chair	2										
desk chair	2										
dining chair	2										
easy chair	2										
folding chair	2										
wicker chair	2										
basket chair	1										
beach chair	1										
dining room chair	1										
lounge chair	1										
papasan chair	1										
	123		26		2		1		8		

Table 7. Greek nouns for sitting objects and their token frequency (dark grey: Compounds, light grey: Derivations, italics: Superordinate terms)

karékla	116	poliθróna	74	skabó	56	kanapés	54	pagáci	20	épipto	1
kunistí karékla	5	aftokratorigí poliθróna	1	skabó eksoçís	1	kanapés-kreváti	2			káθizma	5
plastici karékla	5	vasilikí poliθróna	1	skabudáci	1	kanapeðáci	1		θrónos	5	káθizma morú
karékla γrafiu	3	kunistí poliθróna	1			kanapeðáci cípu	1		anáklidro	4	
karekláci	3	poliθróna eklísias	1	skamní	5	kanapés monoθésios	1		sezlóng	3	salóni
karékla scinoθéti	2	poliθronítsa	1						ksaplóstra	3	kreváti
karekláci morú	2										1
karékla θalásis	1										
karékla bebé	1										
karékla morú	1										
karékla paralás	1										
karékla tu papú	1										
karekláci ja morá	1										
kslíni karékla	1										
psáθini karékla	1										
28			5		2		5				

Table 8. Turkish nouns for sitting objects and their token frequency (dark grey: Compounds, italics: Superordinate terms)

sandalye	76	koltuk	72	tabure	22	kanepe	11	bank	9	taht	4	yer	3
plastik sandalye	4	ağaç koltuk	1	bar taburesi	3				kral tahtı		1	oturacak yer	1
sallanan sandalye	4	bahçe koltuğu	1	aç kapat tabure	1							<i>mobiya</i>	1
bar sandalyesi	3	bar koltuğu	1	bilgisayar taburesi	1							<i>oturak</i>	23
dönen sandalye	3	büro koltuğu	1									bebek oturağı	1
katlanır sandalye	2	hassırlı koltuk	1									kuafor oturağı	1
bebek sandalyesi	1	L koltuk	1										
bebek yeme sandalyesi	1	sallanır koltuk	1									şezlong	3
katlanan sandalye	1	sallanmalı koltuk	1									yatak	3
kayaklı sandalye	1	taht koltuğu	1									sıra	1
yemek sandalyesi	1	terapist koltuğu	1									köşe takımı	1
		U koltuk	1									oturma takımı	1
	21		11		5				1			oturma grubu	1

Table 9. Measures of granularity in the SITTING OBJECTS domain

Domain	Measure	Specificity > generality heterogeneous > homogeneous narrow > broad meaning	Comments
SITTING OBJECTS	Type frequency	German > English Turkish > Greek	n.s.
	Token frequency	–	not interpretable
	TTR	Turkish > German > English > Greek	
	Mean number of nouns per stimulus	Turkish > German English Greek	n.s.
	Simpson's D	German > English > Turkish > Greek	
	MDS	German > English > Greek > Turkish	
	Semantic analysis	German English > Greek Turkish	