ANGLISTISCHES SEMINAR



UNIVERSITÄT HEIDELBERG ZUKUNFT SEIT 1386

HEIDELGRAM: NETWORK ANALYSIS OF GRAMMARIANS' REFERENCES IN 19TH-CENTURY BRITISH GRAMMARS – A CORPUS-BASED PILOT STUDY

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1. Area of Research

- Grammar books: indicators of changing and stable language norms
- Investigation of 19th-century grammar books "still constitutes a gap" (Anderwald 2016: 3)
- HeidelGram: combination of historical corpus linguistics and network analysis

2. Aims and Methodology

Aims

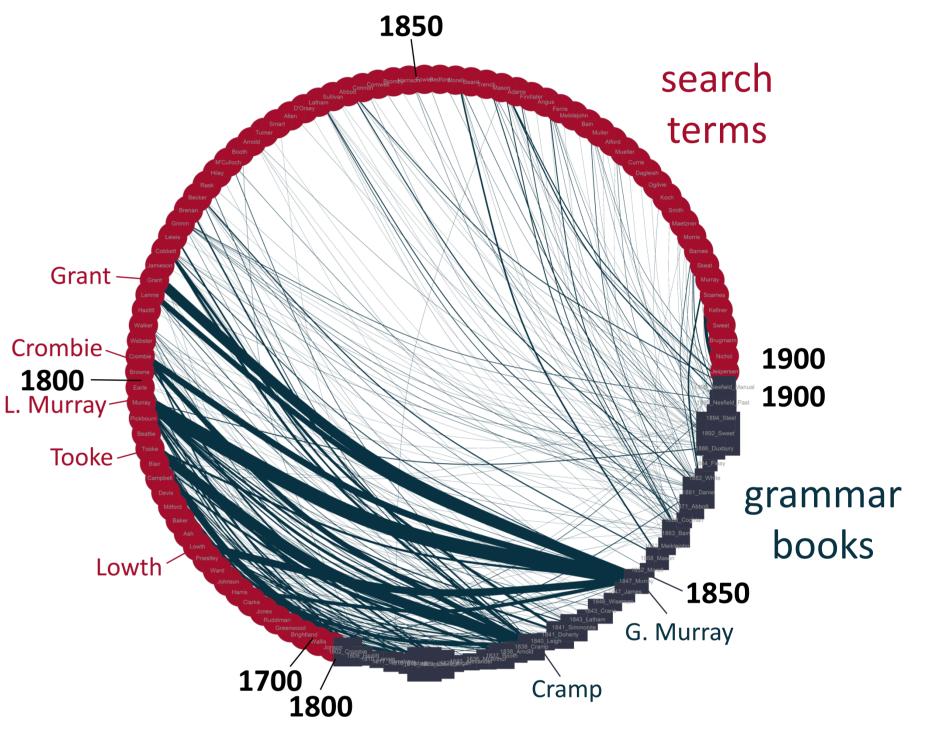
- Investigation of connections between grammar books as manifested in authors' references
- Analysis of the distribution of different types of references

3. Results

2,003 matches (concordances) after manual correction; 2,770 references

After 1850

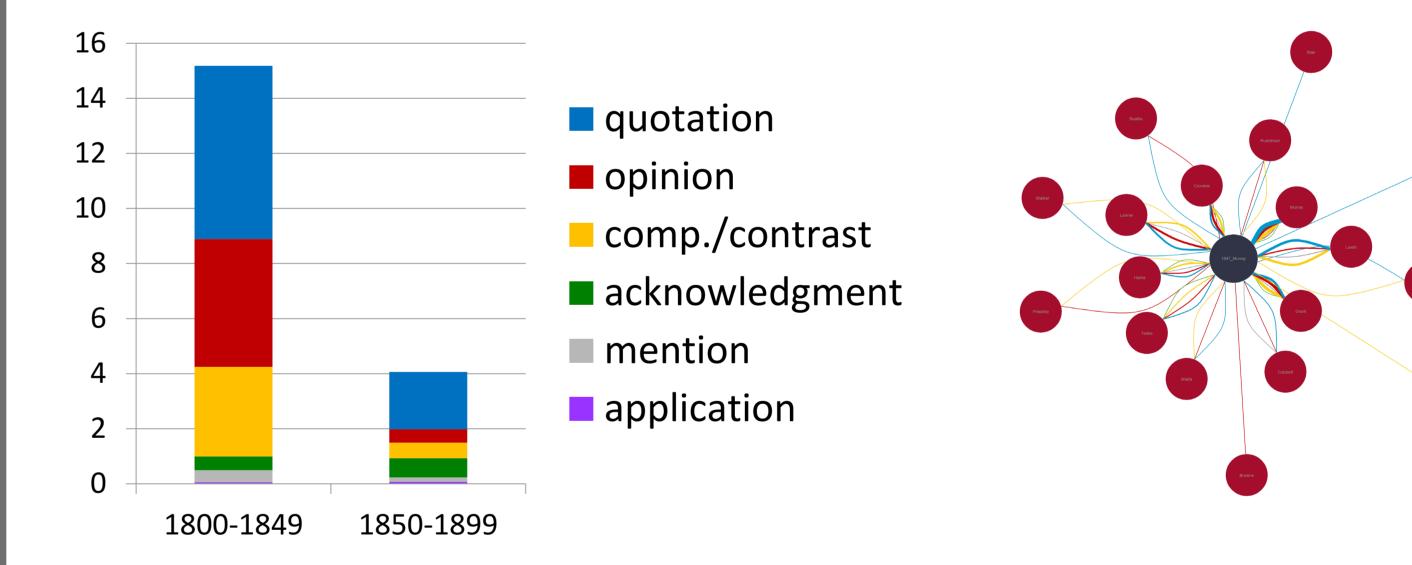
- References to 18th century prescriptivists
 (esp. Lowth, L. Murray)
 cease → turn away from
 (critical discussion of)
 prescriptive grammar
 writing
- Occupation with contemporary grammars
- Considerably fewer references

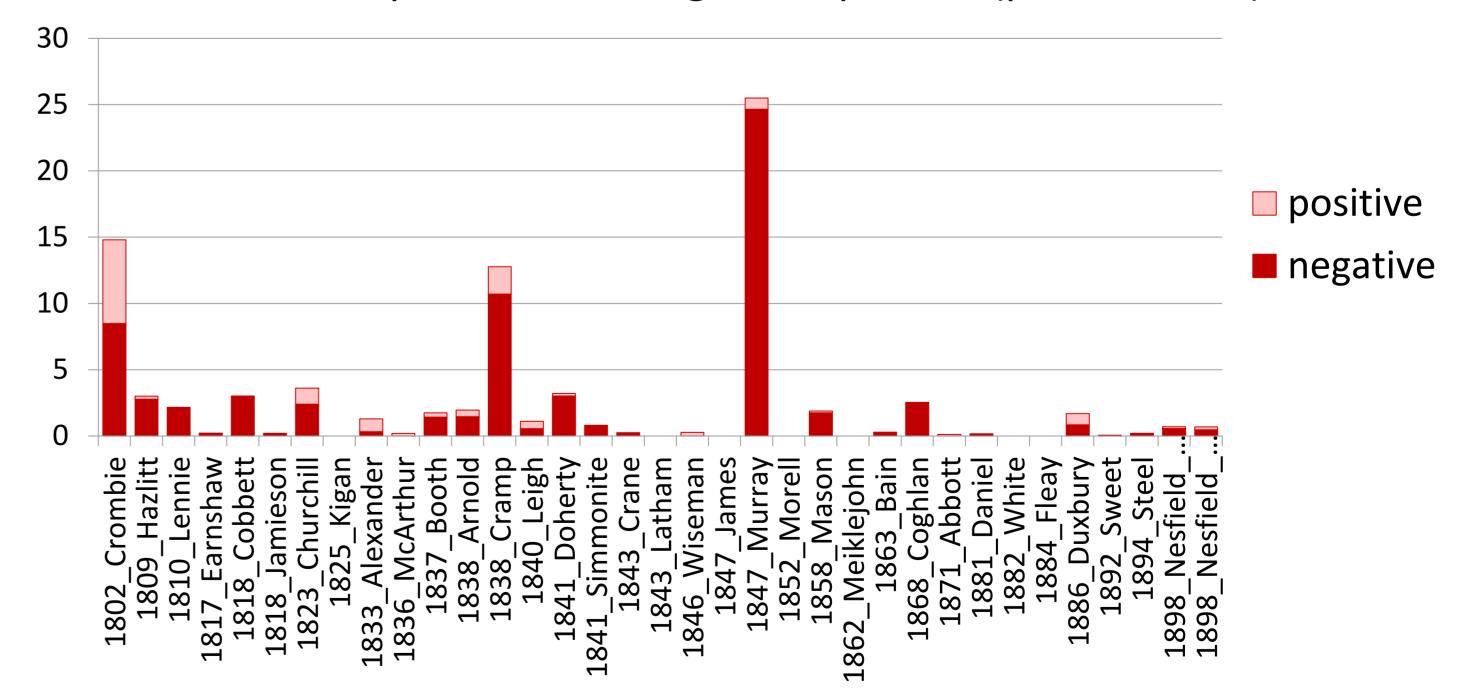


Methodology

- Corpus: 40 British grammar books of the 19th century (2.7 m words)
- Scholarly Networks (White 2011) ≠ Social Networks
- Network nodes: 100 search terms, i.e. grammarians of the 16th-19th centuries, opposed to 40 grammar books
 Edges: references to other grammarians in the grammars
- Automated network generation based on threshold-based gestalt pattern matching and manual elimination of false positives
- Manual categorisation of references (two independent raters, Cohen's Kappa \approx 0.5), coding influenced by *Grounded Theory*
- Categories:
 - **quotation**: citation of text passages from other grammars
 - **opinion**: expression of positive or negative evaluation
 - acknowledgment: mention of referenced grammars
 - **comparison/contrast**: comparison of grammarians' approaches, terminologies, etc.
 - mention: mention of a grammarian without context
 - **application**: application of a rule or concept introduced by







Instances of positive and negative opinions (per 10,000w)

and named after a grammarian

Example:

opinion

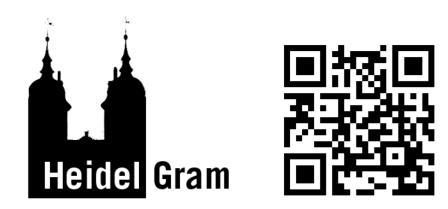
quotation

It is justly observed by Priestley, "that a term, which only implies the idea of persons, and expresses them by some circumstance or epithet, will hardly authorize the use of who." (Crombie 1802 on Priestley 1761)

- Three outliers (Crombie, Cramp, G. Murray)
- Proportion of positive and negative opinions might hint at changing attitudes towards grammarians as authorities

	Anderwald, Lieselotte. 2016. Language Between Description and Prescription: Verbs and Verb Categories in Nineteenth-Century Grammars of English. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
S	Finegan, Edward. 1998. "English Grammar and Usage". In: Romaine, Suzanne (ed.). The Cambridge History of the English Language Vol. IV: 1776-1997. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
ЦŲ	Görlach, Manfred. 1998. An Annotated Bibliography of Nineteenth-Century Grammars of English. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins.
NC	Jucker, Andreas, and Irma Taavitsainen. 2014. "Diachronic Corpus Pragmatics. Intersections and Interactions". In: Taavisainen, Irma, Andreas Jucker, and Jukka Tuominen (eds.). Diachronic Corpus Pragmatics. Amsterdam/Philadelphia: John Benjamins, 3-26.
RE	Leitner, Gerhard. 1986. "English Traditional Grammars in the Nineteenth Century". In: Kastovsky, Dieter and Aleksander Szwedek (eds.). Linguistics Across Historical and Geographical Boundaries, 2: Descriptive, Contrastive, and Applied Linguistics. Trends in Linguistics. Studies and Monographs [TiLSM] 32. Berlin [et al.]: Mouton de Gruyter, 1333-55.
ш	Leitner, Gerhard. 1991. English Traditional Grammars: An International Perspective. Studies in the History of the Language Sciences 62. Amsterdam: John Benjamins, 1991.
بعب	Linn, Andrew. 2006. "English Grammar Writing". In: Aarts, Bas, and April McMahon (eds.). Handbook of English Linguistics. Malden, Mass.: Blackwell, 72-92.
Ш	Michael, Ian. 1987. The Teaching of English. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
2	White, Howard D. 2011. "Scientific and Scholarly Networks". In: Scott, John and Peter J. Carrington (eds.). The Sage Handbook of Social Network Analysis, 271-285.





For further information on network generation and analysis, please contact us.