

Research on emotion words in Finnish

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We have studied the similarity network and hierarchical clustering of Finnish emotion concepts. Native speakers of Finnish evaluated similarity between frequently used Finnish words describing emotional experiences. We show that methods developed within network theory, such as identifying clusters and specific local network structures, can reveal structures that would be difficult to discover using traditional methods such as multidimensional scaling (MDS) and ordinary cluster analysis. Emotion concepts divided into three main clusters, which can be described as *negative*, *positive*, and *surprise*. Negative and positive clusters divided further into meaningful sub-clusters, corresponding to those found in previous studies. Importantly, the method we used allowed the same concept to be a member in more than one cluster. Our results suggest that studying particular network structures that do not fit into a low-dimensional description can shed additional light on why subjects evaluate certain concepts as similar.