

Automatic extraction of MWEs from the pattern dictionary of English verbs

- Patrick Hanks, Ismail El-Maarouf, Michael Oakes, University of Wolverhampton, England
- Traditional measures of **collocational strength for 2 “events”** e.g. PMI (Church and Hanks, 1989).
- **Collocations of 3 events** e.g. SVO (Van de Cruys, 2011)
- **Flexibility of collocations:** mean, standard deviation (spread), Shannon diversity
- **Idiomatcity** = idiomatic occurrences / all occurrences
- According to our results, “spill the beans” is more idiomatic, less flexible and slightly less diverse than “kick the bucket”.