We match successful and failed innovations on frequency before the split point and learn a classifier to predict innovation success.

Context+social dissemination (f+C+S) contributes more to predicting success than context or social alone: social and linguistic factors contribute differently to success.

Our work validates the Diversity criterion of the FUDGE model for predicting successful innovations [4]. It also supports the need for comparison tests when studying language change, namely comparing variables at different stages of change. Future work will investigate more nuanced versions of context dissemination (syntactic, semantic contexts).

References

Fig. 4: Context dissemination higher in successful innovations across part-of-speech groups (RQ1).