Language use as evidence for distinct cross-linguistic conceptual structure. A corpus study of social emotions in French and English.

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The aim of this study is to quantifiably identify indices of conceptual structure of SHAME in English and French. Employing the Behavioral Profile Approach (Geeraerts et al. 1994, Divjak & Gries 2006) combined with theoretical principles established by Lakoff (1987) and Wierzbicka (1997), conceptual structure is operationalised through the systematic analysis of language usage retrieved with the use of key words. Previous, cross-linguistic research and social psychology has revealed differences in the conceptualization of SHAME between different speech communities (Krawczak 2014, 2018). These results have also shown that SHAME may involve differentiating factors such as negative self-evaluation, the person responsible for the actions, intensity, and duration (Tangney et al. 1996 inter alios). This study firstly seeks to confirm these previous results but importantly focus upon the possible effects that grammatical semantics may have on such conceptual structure. Such effects have been hypothesised (Wierzbicka 1985, Talmy 2000, Glynn 2007) but have yet to be empirically confirmed. Understanding the role of this dimension of language and how it may impact upon conceptual structure of emotions is essential.

The sample is based on key words (Wierzbicka 1997). In English, the four terms are ashamed, embarrassed, guilty, and feel bad where in French they are *honteux* 'ashamed', *coupable* 'guilty', *honte* 'shame', and culpabilité 'guilt'. The choice of the terms was based upon their relative frequency, following the assumption that more frequent items are more representative of a given culture (Krawczak 2018). The data are taken from the LiveJournal Corpus (Speelman & Glynn, 2005) and the Canalblog Corpus (Yang 2019). As the first step of the Behavioral Profile Approach, the data are submitted to manual annotation by the author and a second annotator, with usage features, such as Cause of emotion, Responsible for the cause, Audience, Gravity of cause, Intensity of emotion, Intention, and Construction. The factors of Gravity of cause and Intensity are subjectively measured with the use of a Likert scale. For both types of factors, Kappa coefficient is used to assure inter-coder agreement.

The manual analysis of the uses produces a large set of metadata - the behavioral profile. At this stage, multivariate quantitative methods, such as multiple correspondence analysis, will be applied to the metadata, in order to identify multidimensional association between explanatory variables. Binary and Multinomial regression analysis will then be used to confirm the descriptive accuracy of the results and compare them with the results of previous studies. With regard to any possible effects of grammatical semantics, at first exploratory analysis will seek to identify any complex correlations (multiple correspondence analysis). Assuming such effects are identified, an attempt will be made to add them to the regression modelling to ascertain if it is possible to produce more predictively accurate models. We expect the quantitative results will confirm the underlying structural dimensions of the emotion as well as reveal various characteristics unique to English and French. Furthermore, we hope to demonstrate that constructional effects need to be integrated into the corpus data of keyword-based research on conceptual structure.

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