

Conceptualization of negative social emotions in French.

A Behavioral Profile Approach to *honte*, *honteux*, *culpabilité* and *coupable*.

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The aim of this study is to quantifiably identify the structuring of the concept SHAME in French, based on the Behavioral Profile Approach (Geeraerts *et al.* 1994 *inter alios*). In cross-linguistics research and social psychology, previous studies have shown significant differences in the conceptualization of SHAME between different speech communities (Krawczak 2018 *inter alios*). 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*). However, this same research has identified fundamental and underlying socio-emotional dimensions that structure the emotion universally, notably in terms of the cause of the emotion or the presence / absence of an audience. This study seeks to confirm such results for French but also seeks to extend the analysis to account for the possible effects of constructional meaning on the linguistic evidence for the above findings. Corpus data in previous research has generally sought to control for constructional variation but arguably, the abstract semantics associated with various constructional profilings may help better understand the conceptualization believed to be indexed by the lexical semantics.

As the actual key words for the concept SHAME in French, we chose two adjectives, and two nouns, namely *honteux* 'ashamed', *coupable* 'guilty', *honte* 'shame', and *culpabilité* 'guilt'. This choice is based on frequency, making the assumption that more frequent items are more representative of a given culture (Krawczak 2018). Constructional variation associated with the lexeme *honteux* means it can both attributively and predicatively describe events or actions that cause shame. We do not control for this variation, instead the difference of referent (experiencer or cause) are taken into consideration in the annotation. The sample data are taken from the compiled personal online journals in 2018 and 2019. As the first step of Behavioral Profile Approach, the corpus data are submitted to manual annotation by the author and a second annotator, with usage features, namely Cause of emotion (bodily cause, inadequacy, misfortune, failure etc.), Type of audience (known, unknown, general public, absence), Intensity of emotion, Duration of emotion, Intension, Responsible for the cause (self, alter close to self, alter in the same group etc.), Gravity of the cause, Reference of emotion (first, second, and third person, behavior, state of affairs), Temporality, and Construction. The factors of Gravity of cause and Intensity subjectively measured with the use of a Likert scale. For both of the two types of factors, Kappa statistics 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 annotated data, in order to identify multidimensional association between explanatory variables. Multinomial regression analysis and random decision forests will then be used to confirm the descriptive accuracy of the multidimensional patterns observed in the sample. The statistical methods applied to the qualitative approach will provide quantified multidimensional profiles of the concept SHAME in French. We expect the results will confirm the underlying structural dimensions of the emotion as well as reveal various characteristics unique to French. Most importantly, we hope to demonstrate that constructional effects need to be integrated into the corpus data of keyword-based research on conceptual structure.

References

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