

## **The search of lexicographic types: the emotion semantic field in Wolof**

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*Some nouns and verbs in the emotion semantic field in Wolof have the same form, e.g. mer '(be) angry, (get) angry' and mer m- 'anger'. Their morphosyntactic features allow us to know perfectly well if they are either verbs or nouns: for example, a noun must be employed with a nominal classifier. However, to describe semantic fields systematically as discussed in the Meaning Text-Theory (Apresjan 2006), grouping lexemes which share properties is an economic way. I limit here myself to group lexemes by the ways how they are structured.*

*Some predicates, e.g. xaritoo 'to become friendly with someone' / xaritoo b- 'bond of friendship' have probably three semantic actants (the two friends and the cause of friendship). Here, Wolof utilises the reciprocity suffix –oo for both verb and noun.*

*Some grammatical properties of lexemes can show some of their internal structures. Some lexemes can have the plural form when they are used as counts nouns and accept the progressive aspect when they are used as activity verbs, e.g. ragal b- 'coward person' / ragal 'fear'. This kind of verb and this kind of nouns are considered as discrete entities by Wolof. The case of emotion states e.g. mer '(be) angry, (get) angry' and mer m- 'anger' is interesting because the two forms are not exactly considered as continuous entities (Robert 1991). This kind of verbs can be used both with inchoative or perfective aspect, and this kind of nouns combine preferably with quantity state verbs.*

*Some nouns and verbs are analogous in their internal structures and in their argument structure. As discussed in Mel'cuk and al. (1995), semantic fields are structured by semantic units which go beyond the parts-of-speech system.*