

1. Introduction

This poster presents some initial findings of my research into the **lexicalization of manner in five different verbal domains:**

- 1. Motion
- 2. Placement and removal
- 3. Perception
- 4. Communication
- 5. Ingestion

A **manner verb** (also known as 'descriptive verb') denotes an action and describes the way in which that action is performed at the same time (Snell-Hornby 1983).

English is known to have many verbs in each of the five domains listed above, and has more manner verbs than German (E: 617 - G: 483; Snell-Hornby 1983).

Question: Is the size of a given manner domain **correlated** with the size of the other four domains? Or are there **other factors** that interact with manner verb class size across domains?

Manner verbs: a first attempt at a lexical typology

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2. Methodology

Data collection

- Lists of English manner verbs were taken from Levin (1993);
- The English verbs were located in a **parallel corpus**:
 - Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone
 - Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets (PARASOL, Von Waldenfels 2006);
3. The **attested English verbs and their translations in French and Dutch** were taken as the set of verbs discussed in this study.

Coding

- Basic** ingestion verbs (*eat, drink*), perception verbs (*look, hear*), and placement and removal verbs (*put, take*) were included in the corpus search but excluded from the manner verb class size counts;
- Non-monomorphemic verbs** (*catch a glimpse, take a walk*) were included in both the corpus search and the manner verb class size counts.

4. Discussion

The relative size of the manner verb classes of English, French, and Dutch as compared with the biggest manner verb class in each category is presented here:

Relative manner verb class sizes in English, French, and Dutch

	English	French	Dutch
Motion	100%	49%	69%
Placement and removal	100%	61%	81%
Perception	100%	100%	77%
Communication	100%	82%	72%
Ingestion	72%	67%	100%

From this table, it becomes evident that Dutch manner verb classes (except ingestion) are approximately **25% smaller** than the English manner verb classes. French, however, has **more varied manner verb class sizes** compared with English (49% ~ 100%).

This is caused by the verb-framed behavior of French for the encoding of motion and the encoding of placement and removal.

As is well known (Talmy 1991, Slobin 1996, 2005), French encodes path rather than manner on its verbs:

Motion:

Harry **sprinted up** the marble staircase **to** the first floor, ...

Harry **monta** alors **au** premier étage, ...

Placement and removal:

... Snape swept over to Goyle's cauldron and **scooped out** the twisted black remains of the firework.

... Rogue examina le chaudron de Goyle et en **retira** les débris noircis du pétard.

French has **less manner of motion verbs** and **less manner of placement and removal verbs** because of the way it syntactically encodes these two domains.

Syntactic encoding patterns seem to influence these two manner verb domains.

5. Conclusion

1. English, German (Snell-Hornby 1983) and Dutch have proportionally similar manner verb lexicons: although the German and Dutch manner verb lexicons are smaller, all three languages have **sizable manner verb classes**. In these languages, the **sizes of the manner verb domains seem correlated**.

2. French has sizable perception and communication manner verb lexicons, but smaller motion and placement and removal manner verb lexicons. For French, **the sizes of these manner verb domains are not correlated due to the influence of syntactic factors on certain manner verb domains.**

The differences in verb class size are due to the subdomain of **speed, walking, and attitude and display**.

Manner of motion verbs for walking:

amble, stride, stroll, strut, stomp, tiptoe, toddle, trudge, waddle, walk, go for a walk, reel, shuffle, sidle, stomp, pace

arpenter, dandiner, faire les cent pas, faire un pas, parader, pavaner, promener

benen, een wandeling maken, klossen, kuieren, lopen, strijden, schuifelen, sjokken, slenteren, stampen, stappen, struinen, waggelen, wandelen

Motion

1.

While French has more **general** and more **path verbs** in the domain of placement and removal, it lacks a large class of manner verbs.

Manner of placement and removal verbs that indicate force:

cram, force, jam, push, ram, squash, stick, stuff, wedge, wrench

caler, coller, fourrer, pousser, repousser

drukken, duwen, proppen, rammen, schuiven, rukken, wrikken

Placement and removal

2.

While the class of **mono-morphemic visual perception** verbs is small in French:

eye, gape, gawk, gaze, glance, glare, goggle, inspect, leer, peer, scan, spot, spy, squint, stare, study, survey, watch

contempler, espionner, examiner inspecter, fixer, repérer, scruter, surveiller

aangapen, aanstaren, bespioneren, staren, spioneren, bestuderen, gadeslaan, gluren, turen

French compensates by having a large set of **non-mono-morphemic verbs**, such as these that denote **visual path**:

raise one's eyes

lever la tête, relever la tête, lever les yeux, quitter du regard, quitter des yeux, baisser les yeux, tomber son regard

de blik afwenden, ogen afwenden, inkijken, rondkijken, opkijken

Dutch has the smallest class

of manner of communication verbs because it only has a small set of verbs that relate **high volume**:

bawl, bellow, let out a {bellow, howl, scream, yell}, boom, call, howl, roar, scream, screech, give a {scream, yell, shriek}, shout, shriek, thunder, yell, yelp

écrier, se égosiller, appeler, gronder, s'exclamer, glapir, crier, hurler, rugir, japper, tonner, étouffer un cri, arracher un hurlement, avoir une exclamation, laisser échapper un(e) {cri, hurlement, exclamation, beuglement, rugissement}, pousser un(e) {cri, hurlement, exclamation, jappement, rugissement}

brullen, bulderen, een gil slaken, een kreet slaken, een kreet uitstoten, gillen, krijsen, roepen, schreeuwen

Communication

4.

3. Results

Manner verb class sizes in English, French, and Dutch

	English	French	Dutch
Motion	119	58	82
Placement and removal	44	27	36
Perception	65	65	50
Communication	109	90	79
Ingestion	13	12	18

The motion, placement and removal, perception, and communication domain were well represented in the Harry Potter corpus. The ingestion domain was not. English has the biggest manner verb classes overall.

The class of **manner of ingestion verbs** was quite small in all three languages:

bolt, chew, gulp, lick, nibble, sip, slurp, swallow, wolf, take a bite, take a swig, take a gulp, have breakfast

avaler, dévorer, engloutir, goûter, lécher, mâcher, mordiller, mordre, ronger, déjeuner, dîner, prendre le petit déjeuner

een hap nemen, een slok nemen, een teug nemen, slikken, inslikken, kauwen, knagen, kabbelen, ontbijten, likken, oplikken, naar binnen werken, opslokken, proeven, schrokken, smullen, verorberen, vreten

Ingestion

5.