

AdVeNance,
a resource for –ance nouns
and related verbs and adjectives

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Introduction

Introduction and roadmap

- Presentation of AdVeNance, a resource containing French N ending in *-ance* and their related verbs and –ant adjectives
 - Content and objective of AdVeNance
 - Selection of Nance
 - Annotation of Nance, V, A
- Results
 - Nance paired with V
 - Nance paired with Adj
 - Nance paired with V and Adj
- Nance and comparison
- Conclusion

The AdVeNance resource

The AdVeNance resource: content

- List of 112 Nouns ending in -ance with their related verbs and/or -ant adjectives
 1. *confidence_N / confiant_{Adj}*
vengeance_N / (se) venger_V
persistence_N / persister_V / persistant_{Adj}
- Nouns carefully selected from the 244 Nance contained in Lexique3 (New & al. 2001)
- All items manually annotated
 - Nance annotated for Mass/Count
 - Verbs annotated for Aspect
 - Adjectives annotated for Degree and Scalarity

Objective of AdVeNance

- Study of the semantic relationship between 3 categories (N, V, A)
- In particular: check the validity of the Extended Boundedness Hypothesis
- The Boundedness Hypothesis (Bach, 1976; Mourelatos, 1978; Jackendoff, 1991; Brinton, 1998)
 - Relation between:
 - Mass nouns and atelic verbs (unbounded entities)
 - Count nouns and telic verbs (bounded entities)
- the Extended Boundedness Hypothesis: addition of Adjectives
 - Mass nouns, atelic verbs, open scale adjectives (unbounded entities)
 - Count nouns, telic verbs, closed scale adjectives (bounded entities)

Building AdVeNance: Nance selection

- 244 Nance in Lexique3 ; Nance selection in 2 steps

1. Elimination of irrelevant Nance

- non-suffixed nouns:

2. *chance* 'luck', *substance* 'substance'

- nouns not related to V or Adj:

3. *délinquance*_N 'delinquency' > *délinquant*_N 'offender'

- prefixed nouns

4. *auto-surveillance* 'self-surveillance' > *surveillance* 'surveillance'

- spelling doublets

5. *becquetance* / *bectance* 'food, meal'

Building AdVeNance: Nance selection

2. Identification of Nance semantically related to adjectives and verbs

- Nance related to adjectives: tests provided by Rainer (1989), Van de Velde (1995), Flaux & Van de Velde (2000), Beuseroy (2009).
- Nance related to verbs: tests from Grimshaw (1990), Melloni (2007), Balvet et al. (2012), Fradin (2011, 2012, 2014), Kerleroux (2012).

Building AdVeNance: Nance selection

- Elimination of improper pairs or triplets
 - absence of regular semantic pattern
- 6. a. *ambiance* 'atmosphere' vs *ambient* 'surrounding'
 - b. *L'air ambient* ≠ *l'ambiance de l'air*
 - c. *une douleur persistante* = *la persistance de la douleur*
'a persistent pain' = 'the persistence of the pain'
- improper categorization as Adj:
 - 7. *transhumant* ≠ Adj ; V (present participle of *transhumer* 'to transhume')

Distribution of Nance and their related categories

Nance [112]	Related to V	Non-related to V	Total
Related to Adj	56	41	97
Non-related to Adj	16	—	
Total	72	41	

Table 1

=> Most of Nance are paired with adjectives

Building AdVeNance: annotation

- Annotation of N: mass vs count Ns (tests from Dugas et al. 2021)
- Count nouns: plural, count quantifiers, definite numerals
 - 8. *table* 'table'
 - a. *tables* 'tables'
 - b. *plusieurs tables* 'several tables'
 - c. *trois tables* 'three tables'
- Mass nouns: partitive articles, modification by intensifiers
 - 9. *joie* 'happiness'
 - a. *de la joie* lit. 'of the happiness'
 - b. *beaucoup de joie* 'a lot of happiness'; *une joie intense* 'an intense happiness'

Building AdVeNance: annotation

- Annotation of V: aspect (Vendlerian classes)

	State	Activity	Accomplishment	Achievement
Progressive (en train de)	–	+	+	–
<i>What happened was that V</i>	–	+	+	+
<i>V for x time</i>	+	+	–	–
<i>V in x time / take x time to V</i>	–	–	+	+
<i>keep on V</i>	+	+	+	–
<i>stop V</i>	–	+	+	–

Table 2

Building AdVeNance: annotation

- Annotation of Adj:
- Degree vs non-degree : *très* 'very' (Paradis 2001)
 - 10. a. *très petit* 'very small'
 - b. **très mortel* lit. 'very mortal'
- Degree adjectives: open vs closed scale (Kennedy & McNally 2005)
 - open scale : comparison
 - 11. *Par rapport à son ami / Pour une enfant de 9 ans*, Marie est grande
'{Compared to her friend / For a 9 year old girl}, Mary is tall.'
 - closed upper bound: *complètement*
 - 12. *complètement* {*plein* / **amer*} 'completely {full / bitter}'
 - closed lower bound: *légèrement*
 - 13. *légèrement* {*amer* / **plein*} 'slightly {bitter/ *full}'

Sample of AdVeNance

N	Countability	V	Aspect	Adj	Scalarity
<i>confiance</i>	mass			<i>confiant</i>	closed-scale
<i>persistence</i>	mass	<i>persister</i>	state	<i>persistant</i>	open-scale
<i>vengeance</i>	count	<i>(se) venger</i>	achievement		

Table 3

Results

Distribution of (un)boundedness

- Very high amount of unbounded items:
 - 92% of nouns (103/112) are mass (cf. Dugas et al. 2021).
14. *élégance* 'elegance'; *méfiance* 'distrust'.
 - 86% of related verbs (62/72) are atelic (cf. Balvet et al. 2012).
15. *consister* 'to consist'; *croître* 'to grow'.
 - 75% of related adjectives (72/97) are (upper) open.
16. *arrogant* 'arrogant'; *répugnant* 'disgusting'.

Nance and corresponding verbs

		Verbs					
Nouns [72]		Telicity			Aspectual verbs		
Mass	63	Atelic	62	98.4%	State	54	85.7%
					Activity	8	12.7%
		Telic	1	1.6%	Accomplishment	1	1.6%
Count	9	Atelic	0	0%			
		Telic	9	100%	Achievement	7	77.8%
					Accomplishment	2	22.2%

Nance and corresponding adjectives

Nouns [97]		Adjectives		
Mass	91	Non-degree	9	9.89%
		Unbounded	72	79.1%
		Bounded (upper)	10	10.9%
Count	6	Non-degree	5	83.3%
		Unbounded	0	0%
		Bounded (upper)	1	16.7%

Nance and corresponding verbs and adjectives

Nouns [56]		Verbs			Adjectives		
Mass	52	Atelic	51	98%	Non-degree	10	19.6%
					Unbounded	37	72.5%
					Bounded	4	7.8%
		Telic	1	2%	Unbounded	1	100%
Count	4	Atelic	0	0%			
		Telic	4	100%	Non-degree	3	75%
					Bounded	1	25%

A comparison with Nence

Including Nence in AdVeNance

- We began to expand AdVeNance by also including nouns in -ence (Nence).
- Nence stand the same relation with verbs and adjectives (as Nance):
 14. a. *préférence*_N / *préferer*_V 'preference' / 'to prefer'
 - b. *éloquence*_N / *éloquent*_A 'eloquence' / 'eloquent'
 - c. *négligence*_N / *négliger*_V / *négligent*_A 'negligence' / 'to neglect' / 'negligent'
- From the 212 Nence extracted from Lexique, we discarded 103 for different reasons (similarly as we did for Nance).
- We finally obtained a list of 109 Nence, as displayed in the following Table.

Distribution of Nence

Nence [109]	Related to V	Non-related to V	Total
Related to Adj	23	80	103
Non-related to Adj	6		
Total	29		

Distribution of Nence and Nance

Nence [109]	Related to V	Non-related to V	Total
Related to Adj	23	80	103
Non-related to Adj	6		
Total	29		
Nance [112]	Related to V	Non-related to V	Total
Related to Adj	56	41	97
Non-related to Adj	16		
Total	72		

Nence and corresponding verbs

	Verbs related to Nence		
Nouns [29]	Telicity		
Mass	Atelic	22	100%
	Telic	0	0%
Count	Atelic	5	71%
	Telic	2	29%

Nence and Nance and corresponding verbs

	Verbs related to Nence			Verbs related to Nance		
Nouns	Telicity			Telicity		
Mass	Atelic	22	100%	Atelic	62	98.4%
	Telic	0	0%	Telic	1	1.6%
Count	Atelic	5	71%	Atelic	0	0%
	Telic	2	29%	Telic	9	100%

Conclusions

Concluding remarks and further research

- AdVeNance resource :
 - 112 Nance with corresponding verbs and/or adjectives.
 - Nouns annotated wrt mass/count; verbs wrt aspect, and adjectives wrt scalarity.
- Main results:
 - Mass nouns are mostly related to atelic verbs and/or unbounded adjectives.
 - Extended Boundedness Hypothesis is mostly verified.
- Next steps:
 - Inclusion of Nance: AdVeNænce...
 - Make the resource freely available.
 - Comparing Nænce (and related verbs and adjectives) with other Romance languages: Spanish and Italian.