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The Semantics of Derivational Morphology: A Synchronic and Diachronic Investigation of the Suffixes -age and -ery in English

My doctoral dissertation is concerned with the semantics of derivational morphology. I investigate the semantic structure of two English suffixes, -age and -ery, in Middle English and Present Day English. To do this, I use a semantic map approach, which I have adapted to account for the semantics of derivational affixes. These semantic maps also provide a good means of comparing the change in the semantics of -age and -ery that I have observed in both dictionary and corpus data.