

## Examining Emotion Concepts Through A Property Generation Paradigm

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Emotion terms represent an important subset of our lexicon, allowing us to communicate information about our internal states. Despite interest across many fields in various aspects of emotion, the semantic representation of emotion has been understudied.

Prior work has found that emotion concepts are distinguished from other abstract concepts by their levels of arousal and interoceptive weighting (Connell, Lynott, & Banks, 2018; Jackson, 2019). However, further investigation of these differences has been limited. Property generation, a common paradigm used to specify the semantic features that are components of many semantic models, has been used extensively with concrete nouns as stimuli (McRae, Cree, Seidenberg, & Mcnorgan, 2005), but in a limited number of studies investigating abstract concepts (Recchia & Jones, 2012; Wu & Barsalou, 2009; Zdrzilova, Sidhu, & Pexman, 2018).

In the present study, participants performed a property generation task in which they were asked to list properties for emotion concepts ( $n = 174$ ) and a matching number of concrete and abstract, non-emotion concepts. The properties included physical features (i.e., how it looks, feels, or sounds), or where or when the concept might be encountered or experienced. Our results contribute to further clarification of the features that distinguish emotion semantics from abstract semantics more generally, as well as from our understanding of concrete concepts.

### References

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