Accomplishments so far

- Insights into diachronic development of ’-age’ and ’-ment’ wrt. usage of the derivatives, semantics of the suffixes

- Semantic impact of ’-age’ and ’-ment’ in New French account of competition: distinct semantics, but overlapping usage

- Status of nominalizing suffixes wrt. contextual specification: nominalization suffixes
  - (partially) specify the polysemous base verbs
  - (partially) determine the possible readings, and their contextual triggers
  - have an influence on the thematic role of PP-attachments
'-age': Development

- Uniform semantics of '-age': collectivization of base
- Development of usage, e.g. denominal → deverbal:

![Diagram 1: Derivational pattern of -age: Old French vs. New French](image)

- Only semantic change of '-age': loss of maximality restriction of the collectivization procedure
  
  **Traditional** base denotes maximal extension
  
  _il convient le porcage rendre_ (…) (_porcage = tax of pigs_)

  **New** base denotes pluralized individual (marginally events)
  
  _le meilleur porc du porcage_ (_porcage = group of pigs_)

- Change enables spreading of group nouns and deverbal designations of individual events
'age': Semantics in New French

- Progressive-like impact on the base verb
  - Focus on non-culminating parts when attached to culminating categories:
    - faire dans le bronzage ('to be in the tanning business')
    - l’art du cisaillage ('the art of cutting')
    - le système d’éclairage ('lighting system')
    - l’allumage de la combustion ('the firing of the combustion')
  - ‘-age’ nominals: few result readings (73 types), no resultant states

Diagram 2: Result readings of New French -age
'-ment': Development and Semantics in New French

**Development**
- Largely stable semantics, usage and productivity
- Systematic replacement of '-tion' nominals in Old French

**Semantics in New French**
- Focus on culminating parts of the eventive chain
  - Lexicalization of change and result, passive perspective
  - '-ment' nominals: much more result readings (170 types), focus on resultant states
Comparison of PP-attachments / Outlook

**PP-attachments of ’-age’ & ’-ment’ differ wrt. their thematic role**

- Plan for 2009: *Middle French*
  - ’-age’:
    - development of usage contexts (e.g. denominal → deverbal)
    - relation to decline of nominalized infinitive?
  - ’-ment’ (replacement of ’-tion’ continues in Middle French):
    - date of re-emergence of ’-tion’?
    - re-emergence of ’-tion’ → limitation of ’-ment’?

- Plan for 2010: *comparison to Spanish*
Comparison of PP-attachments / Outlook

- PP-attachments of ’-age’ & ’-ment’ differ wrt. their thematic role

  ![Diagram 4: PP-attachments (de) of -age-nominals](image1)

  ![Diagram 5: PP-attachments (de) of -ment-nominals (preliminary)](image2)

- **Plan for 2009: Middle French**
  - ’-age’:
    - development of usage contexts (e.g. denominal → deverbal)
    - relation to decline of nominalized infinitive?
  - ’-ment’ (replacement of ’-tion’ continues in Middle French):
    - date of re-emergence of ’-tion’?
    - re-emergence of ’-tion’ → limitation of ’-ment’?

- **Plan for 2010: comparison to Spanish**