An alternative approach to COVID-19: the potential language of SARS-CoV-2

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Abstract— The purpose of this article is to provide insights related to the potential language of SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19. We expect this research contributes to the understanding of the virus from an alternative perspective, and that some of the insights discussed help finding new ways to fight COVID-19 and ultimately eradicate it.

Index Terms— COVID-19, language, metaphysical, prayer, SARS-CoV-2.

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1 INTRODUCTION

COVID-19 has provoked a global and critical health situation in a considerably short period of time, at large scale and fast rate. It has been recently found the big cause of the disease is SARS-CoV-2, a virus with the potential of causing serious health issues and even death, with the characteristics we are all aware of.

The purpose of this article is not going deep into the features of common knowledge in relation to COVID-19 and other surrounding variables. Rather, it aims at providing some insights, optimistically new, on the way SARS-CoV-2 virions potentially communicate and behave, by means of characterizing a possible language.

In this case, we expect to provide a contribution to the study of SARS-CoV-2, hoping it helps finding new ways to fight it back so COVID-19 can be eradicated, and expanding the scope of linguistic study to new horizons.

2 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Language

When we see the concept of language as particular language, and in the context of microorganisms, we can state it is nonverbal and nonalphabetic (Ryan, 2017), potentially speaking. Language in the general sense, has mysterious and deep properties beyond only a rational view of it (Alvarez, 2018).

2.2 COVID-19

Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is an emerging infectious disease that was first reported in Wuhan, China and has spread worldwide since then (Wu *et. al.*, 2020).

2.3 SARS-CoV-2

SARS-CoV-2 was identified as the pathogen of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in January 2020 (Wu *et. al.*, 2020). This pathogen belongs to a unique clade of the sarbecovirus subgenus of the Orthocoronavirinae subfamily (Wu *et. al.*, 2020).

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2.4 Prayer/"prayer" duality

Prayer has proven a powerful concept to explain language deeply (Alvarez, 2019). The lexicalization of this concept into the word "prayer" (Alvarez, 2018) has made it possible to establish the existence of prayer/"prayer" duality, which is an important finding searching for ways of studying language beyond mere rationality (Alvarez, 2019).

2.5 Metaphysical nature of microorganisms

Microorganisms seem to have a nature beyond matter, *i. e.* metaphysical (Bognon-Küss *et. al.*, 2018). It is very likely SARS-CoV-2 has a metaphysical nature in this case.

3 DISCUSSION

When we think of "prayer" and how this concept relates to language, in the sense expressed by Alvarez (2018), we can think it could also relate to language from a biolinguistic perspective, in the sense of the language of microorganisms, characterized by Ryan (2017) as nonverbal and nonalphabetic.

If this is true —language being nonverbal and nonalphabetic, then it is possible to formulate the idea language in this case, potentially has a fuzzy nature, in the sense described by Alvarez (2019).

If that is the case, "pray" and "COVID-19" are concepts potentially working together, for the purpose of what we are trying to explain.

We know COVID-19 is a disease caused by SARS-CoV-2 virus (Wu *et. al.*, 2020). In this way, if we could decipher the language (or "language") of SARS-CoV-2, we could make a relevant progress in finding a solution to stop, prevent and eradicate it.

In this way we can make a try at a mental experiment in which the words "pray" and "SARS-CoV-2" play a role. Before that however, we have to ask: How is this virus related to the concept of prayer in the sense we are discussing?

We can speculate on the metaphysical nature of microorganisms, in the sense of Bognon-Küss *et. al.* (2018) (organisms generally speaking in this case, logical derivation implied). In this sense organisms and therefore microorganisms are more than atoms, meaning more than physical objects only (Bognon-Küss *et. al.*, 2018).

If microorganisms are more than atoms, what are they then? Applied to SARS-CoV-2, this question is especially relevant. However, we seem to find a dead end, and at this point, a linguistic resource already mentioned may have part of the solution.

We were trying to explain a possible connection between the word "pray" and "SARS-CoV-2". This could only be done by means of and example, a sentence in this case, including these two units. The example we need to analyze here is similar to the one stated by Alvarez (2018) but with slight modifications:

SARS-CoV-2 prays unconsciously

, meaning this virus does not only have a biological nature (Wu *et. al.*, 2020) but also some kind of "intelligence" and a metaphysical component (Bognon-Küss *et. al.*, 2018) that could allow for behavior and dynamics a little further from what we can deal with, with the knowledge we have to this point.

With this in mind, with new insights into the discussion, we can go back to the initial point of the language of SARS-CoV-2 and try to formulate something. However, before that, some aspects have to be taken into account.

If the language we try to analyze in this case in nonverbal (Ryan, 2017), a logical inference would be the virus virions do not say anything, in a slightly figurative sense. If the language is nonalphabetic (Ryan, 2017), then its basis is not a finite set of symbols to produce infinite sentences, in the sense of Chomsky and Generative Grammar (Chomsky, 1957).

How can we move on? We can propose not saying anything does not need to mean remaining silent. It could mean some kind of "noise" for communication. This would fit the idea the language is nonalphabetic (Ryan, 2017). In this case "noises" could mean SARS-CoV-2 virions are saying something, again in a slightly figurative sense.

However, the point has an important flaw, which is the virus language seems to be nonverbal (Ryan, 2017). That means with or without "noises", virions are not able to say anything, whether slightly literally or not.

In this case, we could discard the idea SARS-CoV-2 virions "say something" or we could go on with it, discarding the nonverbal feature in a slightly different theoretical construct. However, the idea is so dubious and hard to work with, we estimate it is not worth paying attention to.

If "noises" were words in a biological sense, then each word could mean a symbol of a potential alphabet. We already pointed out this special kind of language seems to be nonalphabetic (Ryan, 2017), so we need to discard the idea these "noises" are potential words.

What possible ideas are left? Maybe "noises" are some kind of biocomputational order to which the virions can respond to. These orders could be about where to move, activation/deactivation and mutation in the worst possible scenario.

In this way, after these deductions, we can have more information about how the virus might behave in such a way we can predict its behavior. We hope these insights make it possible to elaborate computational diagrams simulating the behavior of the virus, to see how it works and fight it back accordingly, always open to new insights and discoveries.

4 CONCLUSION

In this article, we explored some insights connected to SARS-CoV-2, the virus causing COVID-19. It was found this virus may have a nonverbal and nonalphabetic language through which its virions communicate, by means of "noises" sending orders for different behaviors. We hope this research helps expand our understanding of SARS-CoV-2, to eradicate it completely, along with COVID-19.

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