

Redefining the link between the caused motion and the resultative construction in German

Françoise Gallez
 Université catholique de Louvain & Université Saint-Louis – Bruxelles
francoise.gallez@uclouvain.be

Keywords: Construction Grammar, motion, caused motion construction, resultative construction, German

The analysis of the caused motion construction (CMC) and the resultative construction (ResC) is a central topic in Construction Grammar (compare Goldberg 1995, 2006; Goldberg & Jackendoff 2004; Boas 2003, 2011; De Knop 2020). Starting from Goldberg's (1995) claim that the resultative construction is a metaphorical extension of the CMC and Goldberg & Jackendoff's (2004) description of path and property resultatives, the presentation will focus on the German CMC and ResC with directional verb particles and/or prepositional phrases (see fig. 1, Gallez 2020) by first providing a fine-grained description of the constructional elements (verb, object, oblique argument) and their interaction. It will further show that the analyzed German constructions are situated on a motion-result-continuum (see fig. 1).

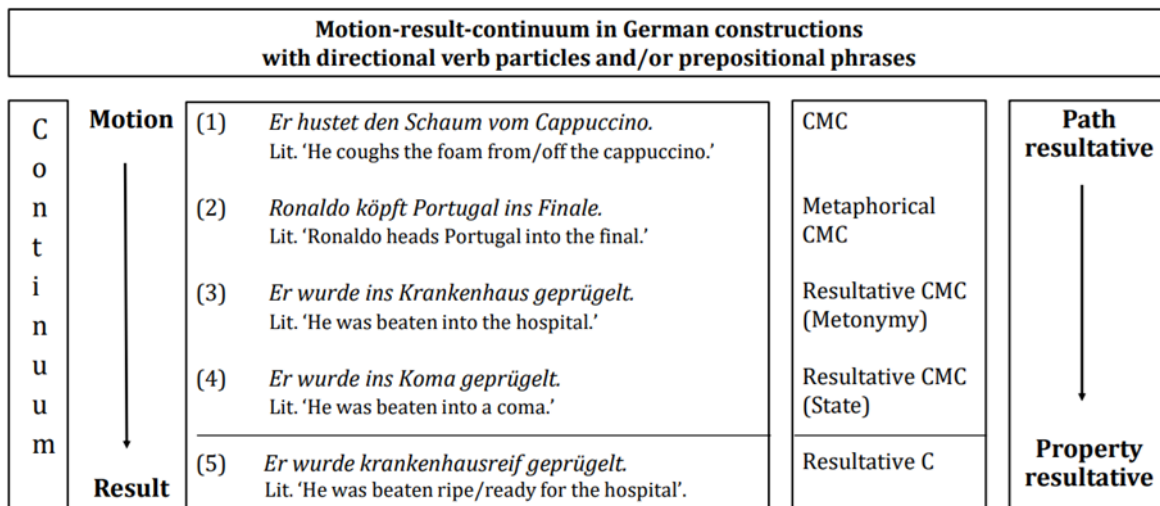


Fig. 1: Motion-result-continuum (Gallez 2020: 43)

Building on examples from a user-designed press corpus of the Leibniz-Institut für Deutsche Sprache in Mannheim (DeReKo) and on additional items from German press articles extracted via Google News, this presentation will demonstrate how both concrete motion verbs and non-motion verbs (e.g. *husten* 'to cough', *prügeln* 'to beat' in fig. 1), concrete and abstract selected and unselected objects (Goldberg & Jackendoff, 2004) contribute to the meaning of a (metaphorical) motion or resultative construction. The presentation will also provide evidence for the predominant role of the oblique argument in the constructional meaning. This argument can express a location (*Cappuccino*), a metaphorical goal (*ins Finale* 'into the final'), a state (*ins Koma* 'into a coma') or even a time. The detailed description of the instances of the construction reveals how the constituents' interaction in and with the construction determines the position of these constructions between the two poles of the motion-result-continuum presented in fig. 1. Moreover, the examples will illustrate that the manner salience in German (see a. o. De Knop & Gallez 2011) allows for a great variety of closely related constructions expressing metaphorical or real motion.

References

- Boas, Hans. C. 2003. *A constructional approach to resultatives*. Stanford, CA: Center for the Study of Language and Information.
- Boas, Hans C. 2011. Zum Abstraktionsgrad von Resultativkonstruktionen. In Stefan Engelberg, Anke Holler & Kristel Proost (eds.), *Sprachliches Wissen zwischen Lexikon und Grammatik*, 37-69. Berlin & New York: Mouton de Gruyter.

- De Knop, Sabine. 2020. Expressions of motion events in German: an integrative constructionist approach for FLT. *CogniTextes 20* [Online]. (2 February 2022.)
- De Knop, Sabine & Françoise Gallez. 2011. Manner of motion: A privileged dimension of German expressions. *Journal of Cognitive Linguistics* 2(1). 25-40.
- Gallez, Françoise. 2020. *Eine konstruktionselle Untersuchung deutscher Motion-Konstruktionen mit Partikelverben und deren Alternativen mit Präpositionalphrasen – DURCH-, EIN- und WEG-Konstruktionen im Vergleich* (unpubl. PhD Thesis). Bruxelles: Université Saint-Louis - Bruxelles.
- Goldberg, Adele. 1995. *Constructions. A Construction Grammar approach to argument structure*. Chicago & London: University of Chicago Press.
- Goldberg, Adele. 2006. *Constructions at work: The nature of generalization in language*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Goldberg, Adele & Ray Jackendoff. 2004. The English resultative as a family of constructions. *Language* 80(3). 532-568.