

# Don't come knocking on my door: verb-framing in satellite-framed languages in usage-based perspective

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**Keywords:** motion events, come V-ing, construction grammar

Motion event (ME) typology remains a relevant topic in cognitive semantics, the bulk of which follows Talmy's initial division (Talmy, 1985) into satellite- and verb-framed languages (henceforth S- and V-framed languages, respectively). S-framed languages encode the path via a "satellite" (an element outside the verbal root) and the manner in **the main verb** (e.g. *Emily **walked** into the room*). In contrast, V-framed languages encode the path via the main verb and **the manner** in an additional verb (e.g. *Emilio **entró** la taverna **corriendo***, literally *Emilio **entered** the pub **running***). More recent cognitive research (Beavers et al., 2010) stresses the scalar nature of motion events: some languages may be classified as primarily S- or V-framed, but also enable ME encoding predominant in the other group.

However, verb-framing in S-framed languages (e.g. *he came rushing into the room* in English) remains understudied. The goal of the present paper is to describe V-framing tendencies in English using the *come V-ing* construction. Specifically, the paper aims to: a. classify verbal collocates semantically, focusing on motion verbs; b. define the meaning of the construction using Construction Grammar (Goldberg, 2006); c. quantify the attraction and repulsion of verbs to the construction using collostructional analysis (Stefanowitsch, 2018).

Using the BNC 2014 (spoken part, via SketchEngine, Love et al., 2017), I retrieved all *come V-ing* constructions. After manually filtering irrelevant concordance lines (e.g. repeats), I listed all the *V-ing* collocates occurring in the construction, carried out a collostructional analysis (using the R script provided by Flach, 2017) and classified them semantically into motion and other verbs.

In addition to discussing the collostructional strength of the *V-ing* collocates, the paper presents the following findings:

- With motion verbs (e.g. *run*), the construction specifies the manner of movement. Additionally, it takes on an additional aspectual meaning: the construction appears to extend the duration of the motion event, cf. *you come running back to the house*, as opposed to *he ran to the house*, which focuses on the endpoint. Hence, speakers have two constructions to choose from based on the preferred aspectual profiling, while maintaining the venitive meaning.
- Excluding motion verbs, the *come V-ing* construction is used to describe the accompanying circumstances of the motion event, e.g. *knocking in oh he used to come knocking on the door sometimes*. This construction is therefore not equivalent to *he used to knock on the door*.
- A strong preference for the present tense (84 of 154). The construction is often used for narrating a past event using the present tense (*he used to come in from work and come running over*).

The present paper indicates possible future directions of motion event research. Expanding it further to include other languages, I intend to build a usage-based model of motion events based on their syntactic, morphological, and semantic properties used in expressing movement.

## References

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## Tools

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- The British National Corpus*, version 2 (BNC World). Distributed by Oxford University Computing Services on behalf of the BNC Consortium. <http://www.sketchengine.eu> (20 December, 2022.)