

**Title:** Periphrastic encoding of tense, aspect and mood in the Romance languages: a typological perspective

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The past few decades have seen the publication of a number of typological studies that deal with the encoding of tense, aspect and mood. One of the questions that has attracted a great deal of attention has been the nature of the lexical/conceptual categories recruited as the sources of auxiliary verbs and grammatical morphemes. A category that has proven to be particularly significant in that regard is motion verbs. The book by Heine and Kuteva (2002) which is based on the data from roughly 500 different linguistic varieties demonstrates that such lexemes as GO, COME, COME FROM, COME TO, CROSS, GO TO, LEAVE, PASS, and RETURN systematically acquire grammatical meaning. In fact, a typological study of eleven verbs of motion in about 400 languages of different genetic and areal affiliation undertaken by Maisak (2005) has revealed that these verbs serve as grammaticalized auxiliaries or morphemes in as many as 300 languages (i.e., 75%).

The Romance data is particularly relevant when it comes to this universal tendency. First of all, the Romance varieties possess a great number of motion-based periphrases of tense, aspect and mood. Besides that, these Romance structures are a result of a typological shift away from a virtual lack of them in Latin. Because the existing typological studies that address grammaticalization of motion verbs tend to be so large-scale (i.e., using hundreds of genetically and areally unrelated languages), they have not been able to (nor have they intended to) examine the Romance family in detail.

The first goal of the present study is to evaluate the place of the Romance developments in the universal tendency to turn motion verbs into grammatical markers of tense, aspect and mood. We are specifically interested in establishing both the degree to which the Romance data conform to the universal patterns, as well as in identifying the extent to which this data present family-specific trends. In other words, we focus on the ways in which large-scale linguistic typology can help gain a better understanding of the Romance developments by allowing to place them within a broader picture.

The second goal of this study is to assess the contribution that the Romance data can potentially make to advance and refine the theoretical framework of such phenomenon studied within diachronic typology as grammaticalization. More specifically, we illustrate that the ‘motion verb > grammatical marker’ paths attested on the way from Latin to Romance can shed light on the distinction between different grammaticalization models, the gradual nature of grammaticalization and the notion of cline, the unidirectionality claim, the phenomenon of polygrammaticalization, and the contrast between language-internal and contact-induced grammaticalization.

References:

Heine, Bernd, and Tania Kuteva. 2002. *World Lexicon of Grammaticalization*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

Maisak, Timur A. 2005. *Tipologija grammatikalizatsii konstruksij s glagolami dvizheniia i glagolami pozitsii*. [Grammaticalization paths of motion and posture verbs: a typology.] Moscow: Iazyki Slavianskikh Kultur.