

**Deictic information in the linguistic expression of motion events:
A cross-linguistic comparison**

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Oral presentation

Recent years have seen a proliferation of studies on the typology of motion events, and a number of revisions have been proposed (e.g., Matsumoto 2003, to appear; Slobin 2004) and further insights have been added (e.g., Aske 1985; Croft et al. 2010; Slobin & Hoiting 1994) to the original dichotomous typology formulated by Talmy's (1988) seminal work. Yet, the discussions have been centered primarily on the encoding of path and manner of motion, and deixis, which is arguably included in path components in Talmy's framework, has largely been ignored (cf., Koga to appear; Slobin 2006). The present paper, focusing specifically on deictic information in the expression of spatial motion, attempts i) to present a preliminary cross-linguistic frequency distribution of deictic information both in self-/non-agentive and agentive motion expressions on the basis of experimental data, i.e., oral descriptions of video clips, ii) to elucidate inter- and intra-typological variations with respect to the expressions of deixis in motion, and iii) to investigate into language-specific factors influencing the frequency of deictic mentions, such as the consistency of attention paid to different types of deictic information (i.e., away from or toward the speaker or neutral), the presence/absence of deictic motion verbs (e.g., Russian and Tagalog lack deictic motion verbs), the presence/absence of slot in a verb complex reserved exclusively for deictic information (e.g., German has two prefix slots, one of which is reserved for deixis), and the number of slots available for deictic specification.

The findings of this study reveal that the frequency of deictic mentions cannot be predicted from the dichotomous or tripartite framing typology and suggest that deixis should be best treated separately from other path components of vector and conformation.