

Graduate School of Linguistics, Philosophy  
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**Analyzing periphrastic constructions**

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# Outline

1. What are periphrastic constructions (PCs)?
2. Why should you study them?
3. Aspects of the PCs
4. Analytical causative constructions in Baltic
5. Areal context of Baltic analytical causative constructions (emphasis on Estonian)
6. Summary
7. References

# 1. What are periphrastic constructions?

In a periphrastic construction, a lexical item is modified by a **free word** which carries grammatical meaning, cf. English:

- *more intelligent* (grade)
- *will go* (tense)
- *would go* (mood)
- *of Tartu* (“case”)

# 1. What are periphrastic constructions?

Consider also the cases which can be classified as derivational (causatives) or rather lexical (light verb constructions), cf. English:

- *She **made** me laugh* (causative construction)
- *I **had** a shower* (light verb construction)

## 2. Why should you study them?

- **Grammaticalization**
  - free word > clitic > affix
  - content word > function word
- **Typology**
  - continuum of synthetic–analytic languages
- **Genetic/areal distribution, language contacts**

### 3. Aspects of the PCs

- Distinction **between** lexical vs. **grammatical** use
  - English *have* ‘possess’ vs. *have* in perfect or modal constructions
- **Grammatical marking** in the PC
  - English *have* + participle (*have danced*)
  - English *of* + objective case of the pronoun (*of us*)

### 3. Aspects of the PCs

- **Syntactic** and **semantic** relations within the PC
  - Phrasal status
  - Head/dependent distinction
  - Clause union effects
- **Phonological status** the members of the PC
  - Non-lexical items tend to cliticize

## 4. Analytical causative constructions

What is an analytical causative construction (anaCC)?

*She made me laugh*

*she* – causer (nominative case)

*made* – analytical marker of causation

*me* – causee (objective case)

*laugh* – lexical verb



## 4. Analytical causative constructions

- Factitive anaCC: the situation is actively caused

*She **made** me leave*

- Permissive anaCC: the situation is allowed, not blocked

*She **let** me leave*

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

- **anaCCs in Baltic (outline)**
  1. Measuring lexical vs. grammatical use
  2. Analyzing grammatical marking
  3. Areal context

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

- Lithuanian factitive anaCCs: *versti* (main), *spausti*, *spirti* (marginal)
- Lithuanian permissive anaCCs: *leisti* (main), *duoti* (marginal)
- Latvian factitive anaCCs: *likt* (main), *spiest*, *piedabūt* (marginal)
- Latvian permissive anaCCs: *ļaut* (main), *laist*, *dot* (marginal)
- Old Prussian permissive anaCCs: *dāt* (also rarely factitive)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

### 1. Measuring lexical vs. grammatical use

- Corpus data
- Only PRS3 and PST3 were used for the analysis
- Up to 1 000 tokens of each form were analyzed
- Cf. data of Lithuanian in the next slide (Pakerys 2016: 445)

		Causative use of PRS.3 and PST.3 (tokens)	Causative use of PRS.3 and PST.3 (%)	Causative use among all tokens of analyzed verbs (%) <sup>26</sup>	Total (analyzed <sup>27</sup> ) tokens
Factitive	<i>versti</i>	1 135	69.29	20.24	1 638
	<i>versti-s</i>	0	0	0	753
	<i>pri-versti</i>	1 201	98.12	21.41	1 224
	<i>pri-si-versti</i>	168	97.67	2.99	17
	<i>spirti</i>	41	12.20	0.73	336
	<i>pri-spirti</i>	23	28.75	0.41	80
	<i>spausti</i>	84	8.66	1.50	970
	<i>pri-spausti</i>	3	0.68	0.05	438
	Total	2 655			5 611
Permissive	<i>leisti</i>	1 473	73.65	21.20	2 000
	<i>leisti-s</i>	218	16.66	3.14	1 324
	<i>duoti</i>	1	0.29	0.01	170
	<i>ne-duo-ti</i>	24	1.20	0.35	2 000
	<i>duoti-s</i>	45	4.09	0.65	1 096
	<i>ne-si-duoti</i>	75	49.17	1.08	152
	Total	1 999			6 948 <sup>13</sup>

# 4. anaCCs in Baltic

## 2. Grammatical marking

- Causee in anaCCs in Baltic can be marked either by the ACC or the DAT
- Can we explain this variation synchronically and diachronically?
- Let's zoom-in on this issue, **please see a separate handout**

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

### 2. Grammatical marking

- DAT in 'give'-type anaCCs is original
- DAT in other anaCCs was introduced when these predicates were interpreted as non-implicative manipulation verbs
- Despite acquiring factitive function, Latvian *likt* retained DAT marking
- The introduction of DAT as a manipulee marker may explain the history of case marking in other manipulative non-implicative constructions ('order', 'forbid', etc.)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

### 3. Areal aspects

- Baltic/Slavic/Germanic/Finnic
- Estonian as a point of departure (Pakerys 2017):
  - ***laskma*** ‘let’ // Latvian *ļaut, laist*, Lithuanian *leisti* ‘let’ < ‘release’
  - ***andma*** ‘be possible’ < ‘let’ // Latvian *dot*, Lithuanian *duoti*, Old Prussian *dāt* ‘let’ < ‘give’
  - ***panema*** ‘put; make’ // Latvian *likt* ‘put; make’, Latgalian *stateit* ‘place; make’
  - ***sundima*** ‘make’ (< East Slavic ‘judge’), also borrowed into the Baltic lgs., but not causative



## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *laskma*

- (1) Estonian<sup>1</sup>
- a. *kraani-st*    *vett*    *lask-ma*  
tap-ELA.SG    water:PRT.SG    pour-(m)INF  
‘to pour water from tap’
- b. *vangi-d*    *las-ti*    *vaba-ks*  
prisoner-NOM.PL    release-PST.PASS    free-TRA.SG  
‘prisoners were released’
- c. *lase*    *mind / mul*    *tõus-ta*  
let:IMP.2SG    1SG.PRT    1SG.ADE    stand.up-(t)INF  
‘let me stand up’

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Lithuanian *leisti*

(2) Lithuanian (constructed; own knowledge)

a. *leis-ti*    *iš*    *čiaup-o*    *vanden-į*  
pour-INF    from    tap-GEN.SG    water-ACC.SG

‘to pour water from tap’

b. *kalini-ai*                    *buvo*    *pa-leis-t-i*  
prisoner-NOM.PL    be-PST.3    PRF-release-PST.PASS.PTCP-NOM.PL.M

‘prisoners were released’

c. *leis-k*                    *man*    *atsisto-ti*  
let-IMP.2SG    1SG.DAT    stand.up-INF

‘let me stand up’

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic: Latvian *laist*

(3)

Latvian

a. *lais-t*     *ūden-i*     *no*     *krān-a*  
pour-INF    water-ACC.SG    from    tap-GEN.SG

‘to pour water from tap’ (EE-LV, *laskma*)

b. *Lais-t*     *slimniek-u*     *ārā*     *no*     *slimnīc-as*  
release-INF    patient-ACC.SG    outside    from    hospital-GEN.SG

‘to release patient from hospital’ (MLLV, *laist*)

c. *Lais-t*     *bērn-iem*     *izskrie-ties*  
let-INF     child-DAT.PL    have.a.good.run-INF.RFL

‘to let the children have a good run (get tired with running about)’  
(LLVV, *laist*)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

- Latvian permissive *ļaut* uses DAT to mark the causee, *ļaišt* also allows ACC (more freq.)
- Estonian *laskma*: ADES is default, PART is less common
- Klaas (1996: 56): ADES in this and other constructions brings Estonian closer to the Indo-European
- Can the shift PART > ADES be also related to the manipulative (non-implicative) use of *laskma*?

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

- Estonian *laskma* has given rise to the modal particle *las* < IMP *lase* (Metslang 2000: 59)
- Note identical developments in Baltic:
  - Latvian *lai* < *laid*
  - Lithuanian *lai* < \**laid*
- See also Klaas-Lang & Norvik (2014: 599–600; Estonian, Livonian, Latvian, Lithuanian)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic

- Shift ‘**release, let go, leave**’ > ‘**let**’ is widely attested in Finno-Ugric and Indo-European
- From the areal perspective, note the common Germanic development of *\*lēte/a-* (Gothic *letan* , Old Norse *láta*, Old High German *lâzan*)
- The Slavic languages have only some examples of this development
- Area: **Germanic, Baltic, Finnic**

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *andma*

(4) Estonian

a. *tema-ga*     *anna-b*                     *rääki-da*  
3SG-COM     be.possible-PRS.3SG     talk-(t)INF

‘It is possible to talk with him’ (EE-LV, *andma*)

b. *teg-i-me*     *kõik*,                     *mis*     *teha*                     *and-is*  
do-PST-1PL     everything     what     do:(t)INF     be.possible-PST.3SG

‘We did everything possible’ (EE-LV, *andma*)

c. *kui ilm*                                     *anna-b*,                     *jätka-takse*  
if     weather:NOM.SG     allow-PRS.3SG     continue-PRS.PASS

*võistlus-t*

competition-PRT.SG

‘Weather permitting, the competition will be continued’ (EE-RU, *andma*)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *andma*

(5) Old Prussian

a. *Dāiti*      *stans*                      *malnijkik-ans*   *prē[ ]mien*      *perēi-t*  
let:IMP.2PL   DEM:ACC.PL.M   child-ACC.PL   to      1SG.ACC   come-INF

‘Last die Kindlein zu Mir komen’ (Ench 113, 2–3; 112, 2) = ‘Let the children come to me’ (ESVB, Mark 10:14)

b. *Stwi*   *dai*                      *Deiw-s*                      *ain-an*                      *gill-in*  
Here   let:PST.3   god-NOM.SG   one-ACC.SG.F   deep-ACC.SG.F

*maigg-un*      *krū-t*      *no[ ]stan*                      *smunentin-an*  
sleep-ACC.SG   fall-INF   on   DEM:ACC.SG.M   man-ACC.SG

‘Da ließ Gott der HERR einen tieffen Schlaff fallen / auff den Menschen’ (Ench 101, 12; 100, 10–11) = ‘So the LORD God caused a deep sleep fall upon the man’ (ESVB, Genesis 2:21)



## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *andma*

### (6) a. Lithuanian

*[Jis] dažnai duod-a vairuo-ti automobil-į*  
3SG.NOM often allow-PRS.3 drive-INF car-ACC.SG  
*kit-iems asmen-ims*  
other-DAT.PL.M person-DAT.PL

‘[He] frequently allows other persons to drive his car’<sup>6</sup>

### b. Latvian

*Bērn-iem tagad dod vadīt autobus-u?*  
Child-DAT.PL now allow:PRS.3 drive-INF bus-ACC.SG

‘Do they now allow children to drive buses?’<sup>7</sup>

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *andma*

- Old Prussian data show that the shift ‘give’ > ‘let’ could be a **common Baltic** innovation
- Slavic data point to a **common Slavic** development (von Waldenfels 2012: 2, 247)
- In **Finnic**, ‘give’ > ‘let’ is attested in Finnish, Livvi-Karelian, Veps, Ingrian, Votic, Estonian, Livonian (EED data; **common/parallel development?**)
- **Area: Baltic, Slavic, Finnic**

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *panema*

(7) Estonian

a. *ta pan-i raamat-u laua-le*  
3SG put-PST.3SG book-GEN.SG table-ALL.SG

‘He put the book on the table’ (EE-LV, *panema*)

b. *probleemi-d pan-i-d meid mõtle-ma*  
problem-NOM.PL make-PST-3PL 1PL:PRT think-(m)INF

‘The problems made us think’ (EE-LV, *panema*)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *panema*

(8) Latvian

a. *Es konspekt-us un grāmat-as lik-u zem spilven-a*  
1SG notes-ACC.PL and book-ACC.PL put-PST.3 under pillow-GEN.SG

‘I put [lecture] notes and books under the pillow’<sup>12</sup>

b. *veselīb-as problēm-as lik-a aizdomā-ties*  
health-GEN.SG problem-NOM.PL make-PST.3 think-INF.RFL

*par garīg-ām liet-ām*  
about spiritual-DAT.PL.F thing-DAT.PL

‘Health problems made [me] think about spiritual things [...]’<sup>13</sup>

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *panema*

(9) Latgalian

a. *statej-a butel-i iz gold-a*  
put-PST.3 bottle-ACC.SG on table-GEN.SG

‘[someone] placed a bottle on the table’ (Reķēna 1998: 437)

b. *cyt-i jū stot-a kū nabejs darei-t*  
other-NOM.PL.M 3.ACC.SG.F make-PRS.3 anything:ACC do-INF

‘others make her do anything’ (MuLa)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *panema*

(10) (dialectal) Lithuanian

<i>Pri-stat-ė</i>	<i>riešut-ų</i>	<i>mal-t</i> –	<i>ne-pamali-au,</i>
PRF-put-PST.3	nut-GEN.PL	grind-INF	NEG-be.able.to.grind-PST.1SG
<i>stat-ė</i>	<i>žvirzd-ų</i>	<i>grūsti</i> –	<i>ne-pagrūd-au</i>
put-PST.3	gravel-GEN.PL	pound-INF	NEG-be.able.to.pound-PST.1SG

‘They made/put me (to) grind nuts and I could not grind them, they made/put me to pound gravel and I could not pound it’ (LKŽe, *statyti*)

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *panema*

- Development in Estonian and Latvian seems to be different:
  - Latvian ‘leave’ > ‘let’ > ‘make’ (also ‘leave’ > ‘put’)
  - Estonian ‘put’ > ‘make’, cf. Latgalian!
- East Slavic (Russian *za-stavit’*) seems to have developed following a different route (‘block’ > ‘make’?)
- **Area of ‘put’ & ‘make’: some Finnic lgs., some Baltic lgs.**

## 4. anaCCs in Baltic, Estonian *sundima*

- *sundima* ‘make’ < East Slavic *sȳditi/sȳditi* ‘judge’ (EED)
- **Borrowed into other Finnic lgs.** (Livonian *suṅd*, Votic *süntiä*, Finnish *suntia*, see EED), but none of them seem to have developed causative use
- **Borrowed into all Baltic lgs.** (East Slavic > Latvian *sodīt*, Latgalian *sūdeit* ‘punish’, (dialectal and earlier written) Lithuanian *sūdyti* ‘judge’; Polish *sądzić* > Old Prussian > *\*sūndītvei* > *\*sūndintvei* ‘strafen = punish’), no causative use



# Summary

- **Periphrastic constructions**
  - Grammaticalization
  - Typology
  - Areal/genetic distribution
- **Aspects**
  - Lexical vs. grammatical use
  - Grammatical marking
  - Syntactic and semantic relations
  - Language contacts

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