

## **On the relationship between V and Ving in the English VVing pattern: A historical perspective**

The grammatical pattern VVing(PP) (e.g. *she came laughing into the room*) has long been overlooked in the field of English linguistics, in spite of the fact that this pattern is of considerable interest from a lexicological perspective, both synchronically and diachronically. We have recently argued that, from a synchronic point of view, an in-depth analysis of a body of empirical data shows that, the occurrences of this pattern often remarkably differ across several semantic dimensions, including the type of Ving they feature (Broccias and Torre in press). Indeed, although most occurrences of this pattern feature main verbs with a general motion meaning (*go, come, run, etc.*), these verbs seem to co-occur with different types of Ving (manner of motion verbs, sound emission verbs, etc.). In the present study, we shall consider the hypothesis that this difference may be due to the level of grammaticalization of the main verb. To this end, we shall single out six among the most recurrent main verbs in the VVingPP pattern: *go, come, run, send, take, and bring*. By drawing on an extensive analysis of examples drawn from the *Oxford English Dictionary* and the *Middle English Dictionary*, we shall outline the evolution of the use of these verbs in this pattern over the centuries. On the basis of the results of our study, we shall evaluate if – and to which extent – the grammaticalization path undergone by each of the main verbs in the pattern played a role in determining the kind of Ving they most often co-occur with.