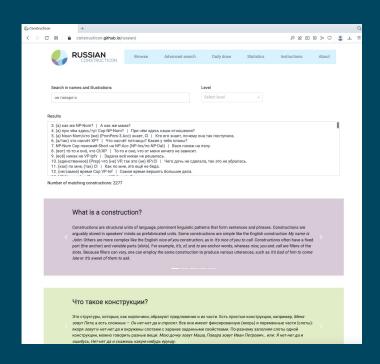
Building a large-scale construct-i-con resource for Russian and Ukrainian: Implications for language description and L2 learning

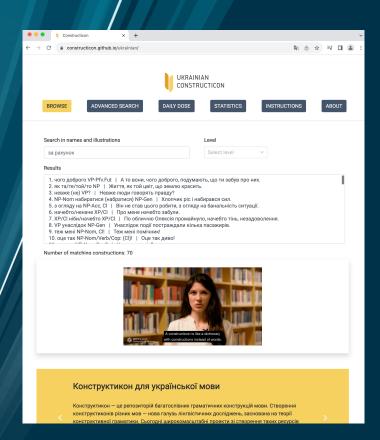


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CLEAR

The ELR seminar series, University of Birmingham, October 25, 2023





Overview of this talk







- 1. Theoretical framework: CxG
- 2. The Russian Constructicon
 - The interface
 - Turning a list into a structured inventory: semantic annotation
- 3. The Ukrainian Constructicon
 - Equivalents
- 4. Pedagogical application
 - Challenges

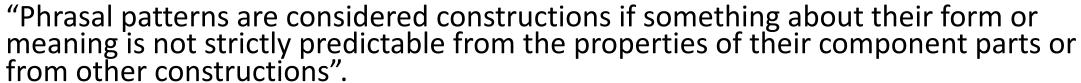
1. Preliminary remarks: Theoretical background

- Construction Grammar theory (Fillmore et al. 1988, Croft 2001, Goldberg, 2006):
- A grammatical construction is
 - the central unit of language structure and description
 - a recurrent conventional pairing of form and meaning (or function) learned in the process of language use
- The constructions of a language form a structured system termed a *construct-i-con*, that accounts for the entirety of the language (Fillmore et al. 1988, Langacker 2008, Goldberg & Herbst 2021).
- A construct-i-con is
 - a system of constructions in a language and
 - a thorough description of this system, in the form of a digital database

What is a construction?

Evolving understanding of the phenomenon

• Goldberg 1995: 4



Goldberg 2006: 5

"Any linguistic pattern is recognized as a construction as long as some aspects of its form or function is not strictly predictable from its components parts or from other constructions recognized to exist. In addition, patterns are stored as constructions even if they are fully predictable as long as they occur with sufficient frequency."

"Any conventionalized form-meaning pairing in a language, at any level of complexity, from morpheme through lexeme through phrase to discourse structure."



What is a construction?

Summarizing today's understanding (in CxG)

- A construction may be compositional or non-compositional
- Constructions can be fully idiomatic or fully schematic
- Constructions can be **frequent** or **infrequent**

- All meaningful units of a language are constructions
- An entire language can be described in terms of constructions

The discussion goes on: Haspelmath, M. 2023. "On what a construction is." In *Constructions* 15.1.

Example: the *nice-of-you* cxn in English

- It's nice of you to be worried about my health.
- ... it's sweet of him to call ...
- Really, it's silly of you to ask ...
- It's smart of Amazon to try anything it can to get people to associate Amazon
- Good of you to join us today.

with food shopping.

Goldberg, A. E., & Herbst, T. (2021). The nice-of-you construction and its fragments. *Linguistics*, 59(1), 285-318.

[it] adj of_NP to_INF

Theoretical premises

CxG: numerous thorough studies of individual constructions found in various languages

Yet little is known about how the semantics of the entire system of constructions unfolds in a single language.

We need a relatively large inventory of constructions of a single language, and a detailed description of this inventory, a construction.

We can offer preliminary answers based on data from the Russian Construction (2277 multi-word grammatical constructions) https://constructicon.github.io/russian/

What are the major types of meanings that multi-word grammatical constructions can encode?

What semantic types of constructions are **attested more often** than others?

Do various types of constructional meaning form a coherent **system**?

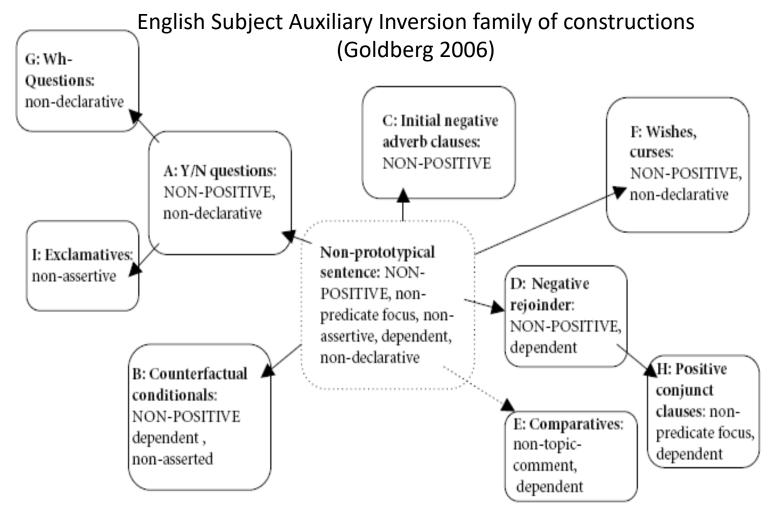
cf. lex-i-con

- A constructicon is:
 - a structured inventory of constructions in a given language
- Constructions exist for:
 - English
 - German
 - Swedish
 - Japanese
 - Brazilian Portuguese
 - Russian
 - Ukrainian

The Russian Constructicon is by far the largest, with over 2200 constuctions

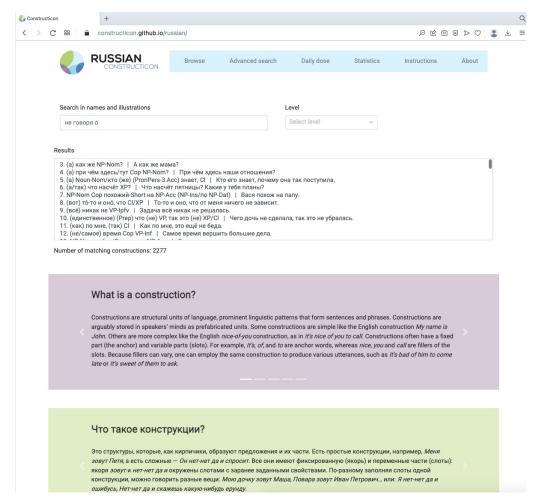
Theoretical grounding

- Fillmore's (1988: 37) claim that "[t]he grammar of a language can be seen as a repertory of constructions"
- Goldberg's (2006: Chapter 8) observation that constructions are related to each other in radial category networks



Goals

- To answer Fillmore's challenge to describe an entire language in terms of constructions, we have built a large-scale construction resource that represents a major portion of the grammar of Russian.
- Throughout this process we have endeavored to represent the semantic and formal relationships among constructions, following Goldberg's model.
- Result: the Russian Construction, a structured inventory of over 2200 constructions and their organization into families, clusters, and networks.



2. RusCon: General information



- The Russian Constructicon is a free open access electronic resource that offers a searchable database of Russian constructions
- **Content:** 2277 multi-word grammatical constructions & descriptions of their properties & corpus-based illustrations
- Target audience:
 - linguists (researchers of Russian and other Slavic languages, typologists),
 - o students and teachers of Russian as a foreign language,
 - specialists in natural language processing (NLP)
- Time spent on creating it: 2016 2022
- User-friendly interface: https://constructicon.github.io/russian/
- Code: open access, can be repurposed for other languages

Team behind the project



















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Over 40 students from BA to PhD contributed:



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Ksenia Xristosova

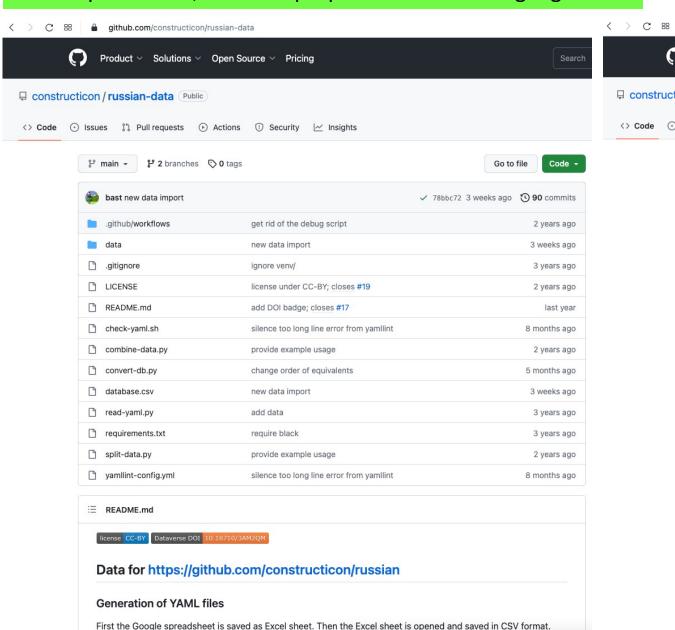
Aleksandra Ignat'eva

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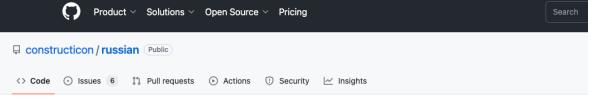
G13	G13 $ullet$ Не буду пить, разве что пригублю.																	
	A	в с		D E	F G	Н	1	J K	L	М	N	0	Р	Q	R	S	Т	
1	References F	amil Statu	ıs ID	Nur Name	Nam Illustration	Glos	Engli	Norwegi CEFI	Definition in Rus	Definition in Eng	Definition in Norwegian	Example 1	Example 2	Example 3	Example 4	Example 5	Morphology	Synt. t
82	Zhukova, Vale	Семья Е	В	83 NP-Nom Cop всё Adj-Cmp/VP A	A NP-N Шум становился всё силы	1	more	X Y-Cmr A2	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	Он улыбает	Сначала ед	Никита Се	Кстати гово	Однолетни	NP, Nom, Cop	Copula
83	No references	A	Е	84 (VP) BCe NumCrd NP-Gen	(VP) Он купил детям не пять к	1	every	alle de N B1	Конструкция спе	This construction	Konstruksjonen fremheve	До станции	За такие бо	На вид ей	зачем трати	Если в 1999	VP, NumCrd,	Head a
84	Zhukova, Vale	Contir E	В	85 Bcë VP-Ipfv	всё С самого приезда в Пекин	1	to X	å X hele A2	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	И кто-то св	А Захар вс	i A он всё [с	А Ёжик всё	Но что же і	VP, Ipfv	Head a
85	Zhukova, Vale	Contir E	В	86 всё VP-Ipfv да/и ~VP-Ipfv	всё \ Мальчик всё шёл да шёл.		to ke	å gjøre X B1	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	[Наталья]Ра	Старик пер	— Вот [я]1	Р Хотелось п	Коротаев п	VP, Ipfv	Head a
86	Endresen, And I	mpor A	Е	87 всего лишь NP	всего Она всего лишь медсестра	4	just a	bare X, f A2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at e	Любая книг	В первые м	— Разве н	— Вы актр	Генерал по	NP	Head a
87	Endresen, And I	mpor A	Е	88 всего-навсего NP	всего Это был всего-навсего ста	9	mere	bare X, f. A2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at t	— Не бойся	Потом я пр	Маша взял	Интернет -	Я был в то	NP	Head a
88	Endresen, And S	stand: A	Е	89 NP-Nom Cop всем Noun-Dat.Pl	NP-N Всем борщам борщ.		The b	For en X A2	Конструкция исп	This construction	Konstruksjonen benyttes	Кевин из Го	У нас коли	Ее отец – н	Президент	Это был вс	NP, Nom, Cop	Copula
89	No references	A	Е	90 вследствие NP-Gen Cl	всле Вследствие такого поведе		as a r	på grunn B2	Конструкция указ	This construction	Konstruksjonen peker på	В основном	[Многие из	в Ещё клепт	Вследствие	Вследствие	NP, Gen, Cl	Clause
90	См. подкласс	A	Е	91 где бы ни VP-Pst, Cl	где б Где бы он ни появлялся, с		where	Uansett h B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at e	Где бы ни [Где бы мы	Где бы я н	г Где бы ни [И где бы ні	VP, Pst, Cl	Biclaus
91	No references	LFE	M		где-т Я приду где-то в восемь в			bortimot B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at t	Я его не ви,	Где-то [чер	Утро прип	затем разда	Не могу то	XP, PP, Adv, N	Head a
92	Рахилина Е. 1	Семья Е	В	93 гораздо Adj-Cmp/Adv-Cmp	гора: Этот дом гораздо удобнее		far m	langt X B1	Конструкция уси	This construction	Konstruksjonen forsterke	Кроме того	Оказывает	В реально	й Автобусы,	Если то, чт	Adj, Cmp, Adv	Head a
93	Endresen, An	Villin EB	1	94 готовность NP-Gen VP-Inf	готої Готовность родителей бор	,	one's	Xs bered B1	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at [Каждая жег	Готовност	ь А отношен	и Инвестици	Подобные	NP, Gen, VP, I	Matrix
94	No references	EV	4	95 грех Сор не VP-Pfv.Inf!	грех Грех не выпить!		It's a	vi bør gjø B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at t	Грех не [во	Бабушка сч	Все так см	После этих	Но прежде	Cop, VP, Pfv, I	Copula
95	См. также Гу	A fam E	В	96 давай(те) VP-Fut.1.Pl!	даваї Давайте пойдем в кино!		Let's	la oss X A2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at [А мне скоре	Давайте [о	(— Ксения	Давайте [по	Давайте [ој	VP, Fut, 1, Pl	Clause
96	См. также По	A fam E	В	97 дай(те) (PronPers-2.Nom) (NP-D	Дай доделать!		Let n	la meg X C1	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	Сейчас луч	Отстань от	— Hy? —	Д— Дай [ты	Вскипятит	NP, Dat, VP, It	Clause
97	Endresen, And I	mpor EB	32	98 (с)даться-Pst PronPers-Dat этот 1	1 (с)да Дался тебе этот неудачник	6	There	NA B2	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	Дался [ей]Е	– А молоко	А все оста	J – Эх, зря, В	Сдались [т	Pst, PronPers,	Clause
98	No references T	The D E	В	100 далеко до NP-Gen	дале Ещё было далеко до дома.	,	be fa	langt til XA1	Конструкция соо	This construction	Konstruksjonen formidle	— Ладно, я	— Теперь	Писатель і	п Нам, если ч	Ещё далеко	NP, Gen	Head a
99	Endresen, An I	Little, E	В	101 далеко не Adj/Adv	дале Он далеко не умный студе		hardl	langt fra B1	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at t	[Русское кр	Я думаю, з	Представл	Это далеко	Оказалось,	Adj, Adv	Head a
100	См. подкласс	A	Е	102 Cl, даром что XP/Cl	С1, д Люди везде одинаковые, д	1	altho	trass i at .C1	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at e	Вообще дег	Жена, даро	В душе К	В те годы с	[Чарнолуск	Cl, XP, NP, VF	Connec
101	No references	EV	4	103 NP-Nom делать вид, что Cl	NP-N Он делает вид, что слушае	4	be ma	X later so B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at [Кузька нали	Петькин ро	е Бабушка ч	и Лифт повис	Поэтому ка	NP, Nom, Cl	Matrix
102	Endresen, And F	ReconLFE	M	104 делать нечего/некуда деваться, 0	дела Делать нечего, нам нужно		It can	Det er ing B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at o	Да делать н	До конца п	Все знали,	Такие огрог	И опять же	C1	Clause
103	Endresen, An I	Disap LFE	M	105 делать PronPers-Dat Cop нечего!	дела Делать тебе нечего!		X sho	Har X ikl B2	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	— Она [под	Я не знал и	и Но тут две	— Делать [[– Шпиони	PronPers, Dat,	Clause
104	См. также ст: 2	Квтс А	Е	106 (все/вся) дело/суть Сор в том, ч	т (все/ Дело в том, что она переж	¢	The p	probleme B2	Конструкция выд	This construction	Konstruksjonen holder fr	Дело в том,	В Танзании	Не так мно	Почему нух	Комплексн	Cop, Cl	Matrix
105	См. также ст: І	ntrod A	Е	107 дело Сор не в NP-Loc (, а в NP-I	- дело Дело не в опозданиях.		This	det gjelde B2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betyr at e	— Есть же	Мне эти сл	Говорят, ч	Сто лет наз	А будущего	Cop, NP, Loc	Copula
106	No references	LFE	M	108 деньги на NP-Acc	день Он откладывал деньги на		mone	penger til A2	Конструкция обо	This construction	Konstruksjonen betegner	Она говори	Учтя все б	Крупные г	И потом, на	Тогда он по	NP, Acc	Head a
107	No references	A	Е	109 NP-Nom держать NP-Асс при со	NP-N Он держит мысли при себ	5	keep	å holde XB1	Конструкция име	This construction	Konstruksjonen har direk	Все это Зай	[Больные]	Правител	Некоторые	До официа	NP, Nom, Acc	Predica
108	No references	A	Е	110 держу пари, (что) Cl	держ Держу пари, что ты в него	влю(I lay	jeg skal v C1	Конструкция выр	This construction	Konstruksjonen uttrykker	Держу пари	Держу пар	Держу пар	Питер отпи	Держу парі	Cl	Clause
109	No references	A	Е	111 до сих пор С1	до си До сих пор мне грустно.		up til	ennå B1			Konstruksjonen betegner					-		Clause
110	См. также ст: А	A lot A		1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	до че До чего ты злой!		How	For X! B2			Konstruksjonen fremheve							Head a
111	No references	A			до N До завтрака нельзя включ		till X	før X / til A2			Konstruksjonen betegner	-						Clause
112	No references	LFE	М	114 довольно (PronPers-2.Dat) VP-Ip	р дово Довольно жаловаться!		Enou	slutt å X B1			Konstruksjonen betyr at t							Clause
113	No references	A		-	долж Вы, должно быть, этого не	4		det må va B2			Konstruksjonen uttrykker	-	· ·				Cl	Clause
44.4	C	7 1	n	116 X ND A!	πι		۸	1 D2	1/	Th:	17	T/	D	т х ге		11	NTD A	CI++

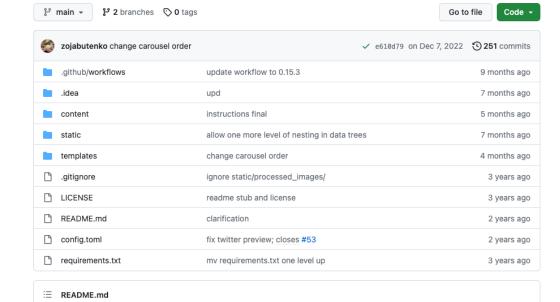
Code: open access, can be repurposed for other languages



2. Code and data

- Source code: https://github.com/constructicon/russian
- Source data: https://github.com/constructicon/russian-data







github.com/constructicon/russian

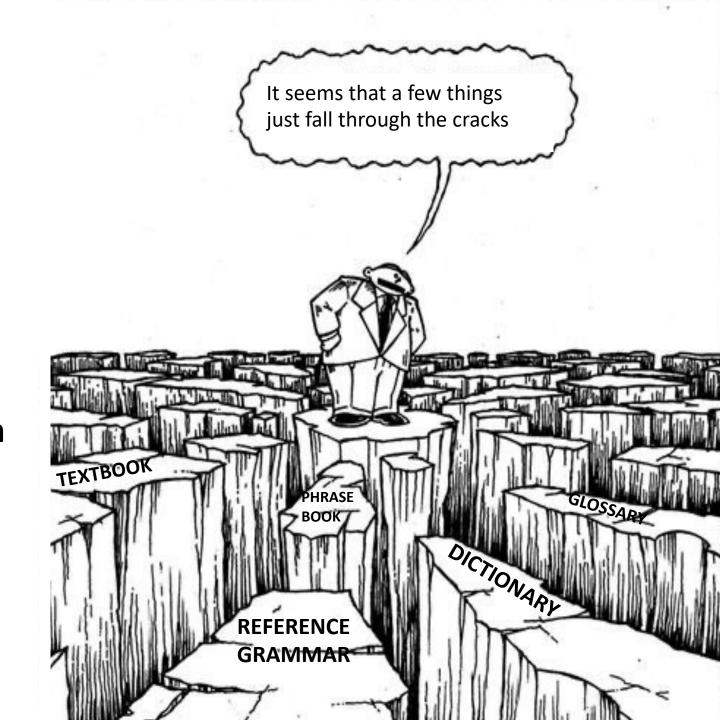
Searchable database of multiword grammatical constructions of Russian.

Using these libraries

- https://www.getzola.org/ (static site)
- https://vuejs.org/ (front-end user interface)
- https://vue-treeselect.js.org/ (for tree-select in advanced search)
- https://github.com/bvaughn/js-search (for searching)
- https://getbootstrap.com/ (CSS)

Filling in the gaps

- Dictionaries, grammars, and textbooks focus primarily on lexemes, lexicalized idioms, inflectional paradigms, and grammatical patterns
- Multi-word expressions with open slots are less reliably represented in standard resources



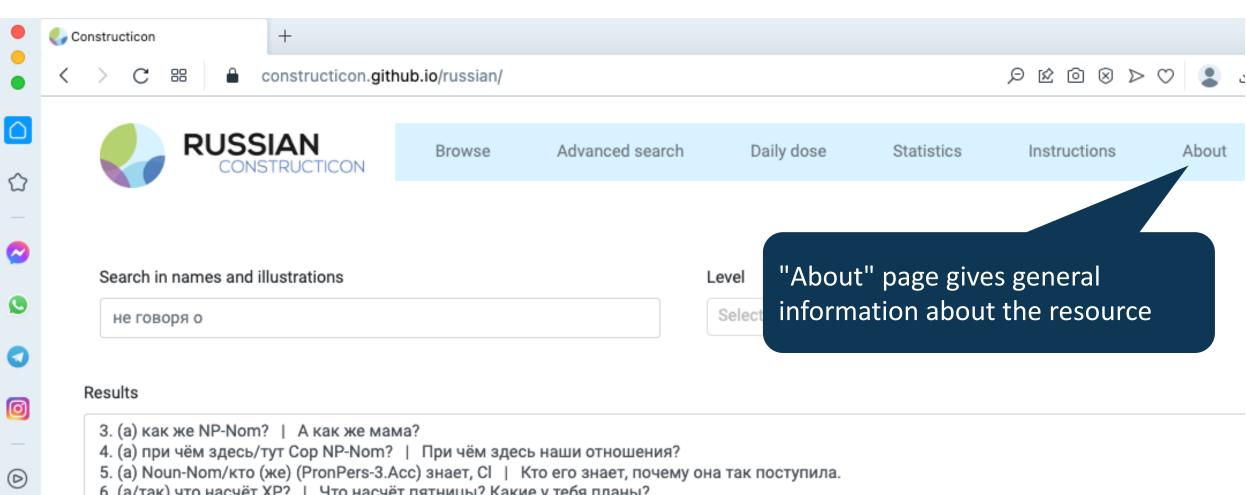
Choice of linguistic material

- Most constructions we have collected contain several words that form a phrasal unit or a sentence.
- We focus on the most strategic and frequent constructions important for L2 learners.
- We prioritize "partially schematic" constructions (Ehrlemark et al. 2018).
 - lie between idioms and fully compositional expressions
 - have both an open slot(s) and a fixed lexical part(s)
 - constraints on the fillers
 - often: non-transparent or irregular syntax
 - often: non-compositional semantics

Fixed part (anchor)

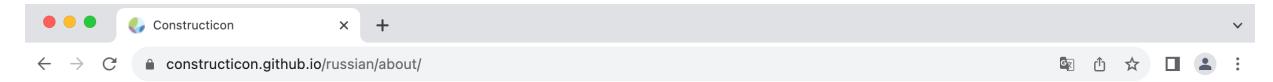
bez pjati minut NP – lit. 'without five minutes X'

2.1. The interface



- 6. (а/так) что насчёт ХР? | Что насчёт пятницы? Какие у тебя планы?
- 7. NP-Nom Cop похожий-Short на NP-Acc (NP-Ins/по NP-Dat) | Вася похож на папу.
- 8. (вот) то-то и оно, что CI/XP | То-то и оно, что от меня ничего не зависит.
- 9. (всё) никак не VP-lpfv | Задача всё никак не решалась.
- 10. (единственное) (Prep) что (не) VP, так это (не) XP/Cl | Чего дочь не сделала, так это не убралась.
- 11. (как) по мне, (так) Cl | Как по мне, это ещё не беда.
- 12. (не/самое) время Сор VP-Inf | Самое время вершить большие дела.

Number of matching constructions: 2273





Browse Advanced search

Daily dose

Statistics

Instructions

About



About the project

- 1. What is the Russian Constructicon
- 2. Code and data
- 3. Team behind this project
- 4. How to cite
- 5. Key publications
- 6. Talks
- 7. Student projects
- 8. Что такое Русский Конструктикон

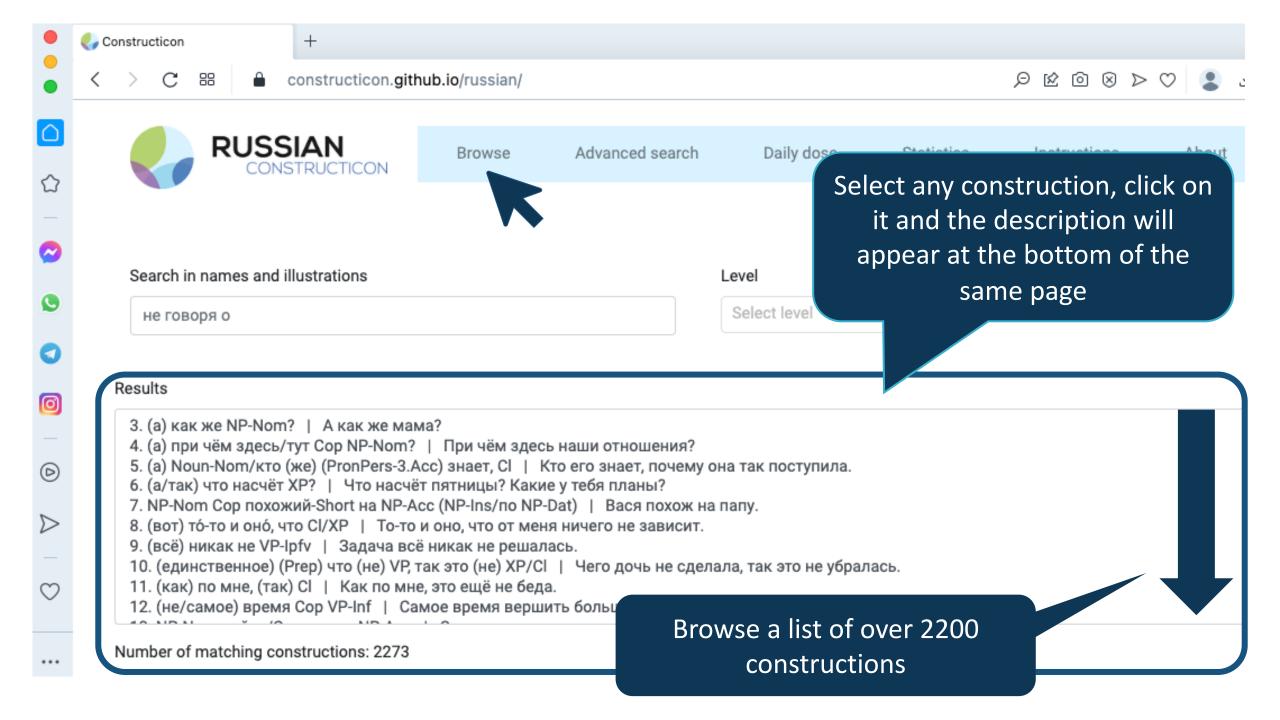
About the project

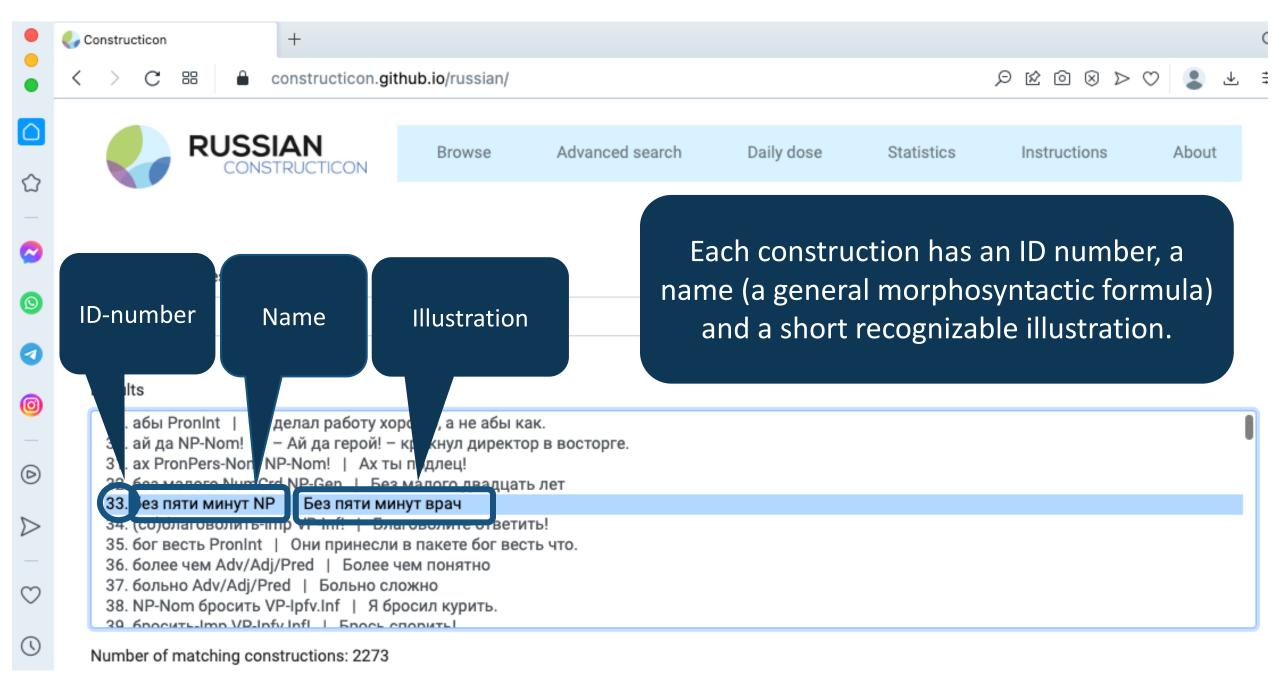
1. What is the Russian Constructioon

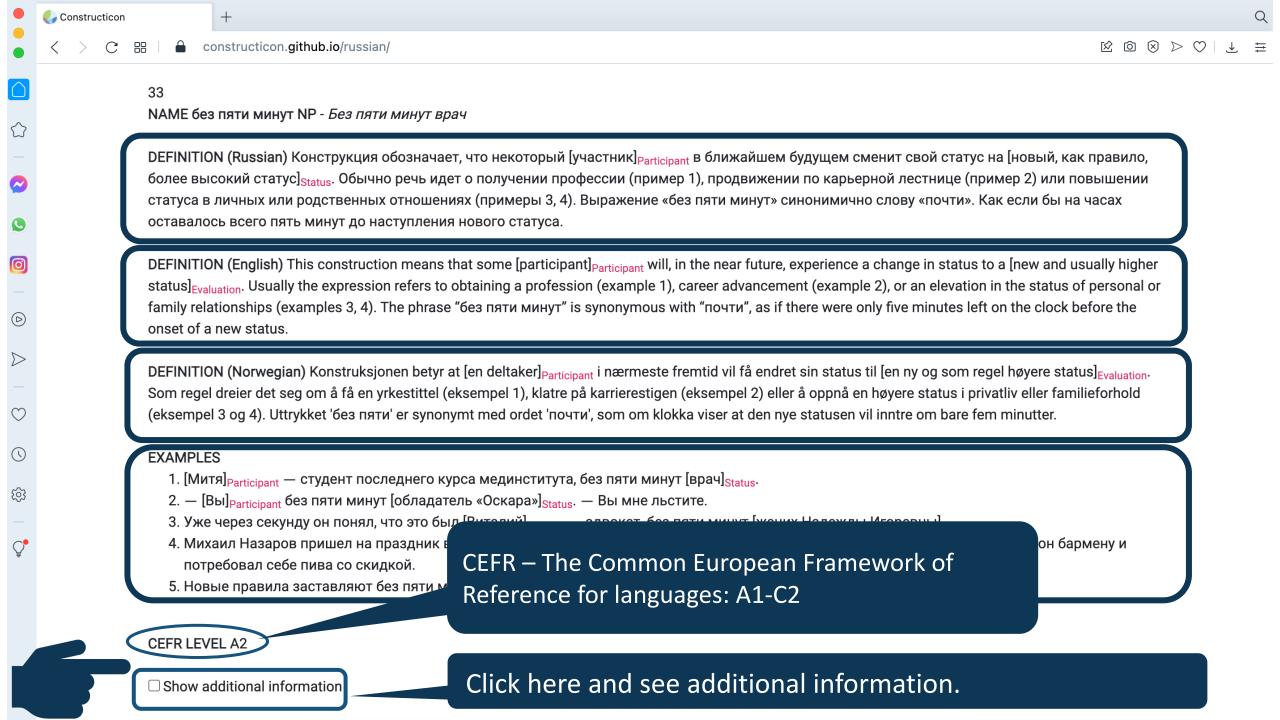
The Russian Construction (RusCon) is a free open-access electronic resource that offers a searchable database of multiword grammatical constructions of Russian, with over 3600 constructions (and more being continuously added).

The constructions are accompanied with thorough descriptions of their properties and illustrated with corpus-based example sentences. Descriptions are provided by linguists and translated into English and Norwegian. The constructions are organized in families, clusters, and networks based on their semantic and syntactic properties. Search functions make it possible to filter constructions for a variety of features including semantic types, syntactic patterns, morphological categories, semantic roles, and CEFR levels of language proficiency.

The resource is designed for both researchers and L2 learners of Russian and strategically targets highly frequent but non-transparent constructions that are most essential for learners of Russian. We focus on those language specific constructions that have both fixed and variable elements. The fixed part of a construction is called the anchor. The anchor can be specific words or it can be the structure of a construction like word order or reduplication. The variable elements of a construction are called







EQUIVALENTS (Norwegian) nesten X

EQUIVALENTS (English)
near-X / almost X / X-to-be

COMMON FILLERS

- врач
- инженер
- адвокат
- профессор
- кандидат наук
- студент
- выпускник
- первоклассник
- жена
- отец
- папа
- жених
- родственники
- семья
- миллионер

SEMANTIC TYPE

- · Salient property
 - Status

SYNTACTIC TYPE OF CONSTRUCTION

· Head and Modifier Construction

SYNTACTIC FUNCTION OF ANCHOR

Modifier

Additional information

SYNTACTIC STRUCTURE OF ANCHOR

· Prepositional Phrase

PART OF SPEECH OF ANCHOR

- Preposition
- Numeral
- Noun

DEPENDENCY STRUCTURE

1. [root [obl [case Без] [nummod пяти] минут] NP]

DEPENDENCY STRUCTURE OF ILLUSTRATION

1. [root [obl [case Без] [nummod пяти] минут] врач]

COMMUNICATIVE TYPE

Not applicable

USAGE LABEL Colloquial

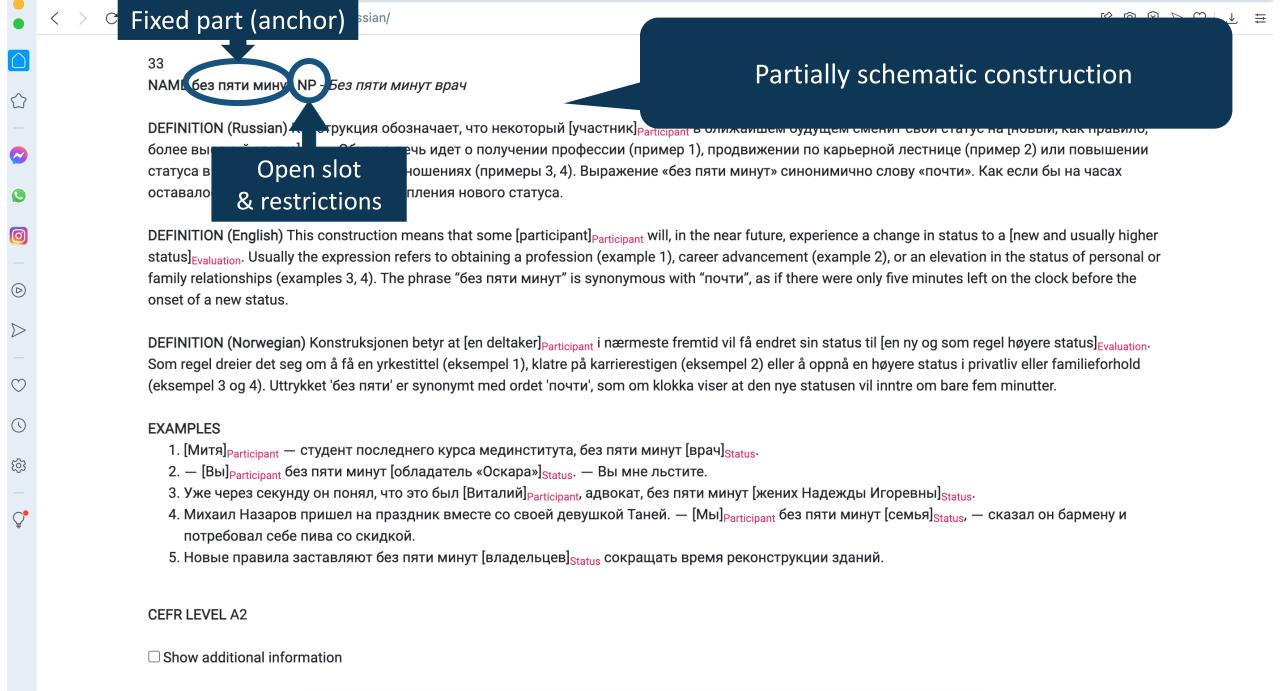
COMMENT

'См. похожую конструкцию 32.'

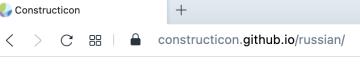
REFERENCES

· No references

More additional information



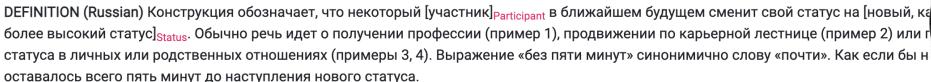
Constructicon

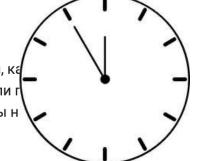


33

NAME без пяти минут NP - *Без пяти минут врач*

literally: "without 5 minutes X"





DEFINITION (English) This construction means that some [participant]_{Participant} will, in the near future, experience a change in status to a [new and usually higher status]_{Evaluation}. Usually the expression refers to obtaining a profession (example 1), career advancement (example 2), or an elevation in the status of personal or family relationships (examples 3, 4). The phrase "без пяти минут" is synonymous with "почти", as if there were only five minutes left on the clock before the onset of a new status.

DEFINITION (Norwegian) Konstruksjonen betyr at [en deltaker]_{Participant} i nærmeste fremtid vil få endret sin status til [en ny og som regel høyere status]_{Evaluation}. Som regel dreier det seg om å få en yrkestittel (eksempel 1), klatre på karrierestigen (eksempel 2) eller å oppnå en høyere status i privatliv eller familieforhold (eksempel 3 og 4). Uttrykket 'без пяти' er synonymt med ordet 'почти', som om klokka viser at den nye statusen vil inntre om bare fem minutter.

EXAMPLES

- 1. [Митя]_{Participant} студент последнего курса мединститута, без пяти минут [врач]_{Status}.
- 2. [Вы]_{Participant} без пяти минут [обладатель «Оскара»]_{Status}. Вы мне льстите.
- 3. Уже через секунду он понял, что это был [Виталий] Participant, адвокат, без пяти минут [жених Надежды Игоревны] Status.
- 4. Михаил Назаров пришел на праздник вместе со своей девушкой Таней. [Мы]_{Participant} без пяти минут [семья]_{Status}, сказал он бармену и потребовал себе пива со скидкой.
- 5. Новые правила заставляют без пяти минут [владельцев] Status сокращать время реконструкции зданий.

CEFR LEVEL A2

☐ Show additional information



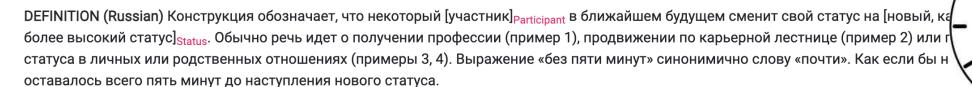


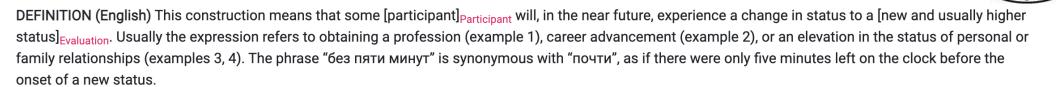
33

Constructicon

NAME без пяти минут NP - Без пяти минут врач

literally: "without 5 minutes X"





DEFINITION (Norwegian) Konstruksjonen betyr at [en deltaker]_{Participant} i nærmeste fremtid vil få endret sin status til [en ny og som regel høyere status]_{Evaluation}. Som regel dreier det seg om å få en yrkestittel (eksempel 1), klatre på karrierestigen (eksempel 2) eller å oppnå en høyere status i privatliv eller familieforhold (eksempel 3 og 4). Uttrykket 'без пяти' er synonymt med ordet 'почти', som om klokka viser at den nye statusen vil inntre om bare fem minutter.



курса мединститута, без пяти минут [врач]_{Status}. атель «Оскара»]_{Status}. — Вы мне льстите. был [Виталий]_{Participant}, адвокат, без пяти минут [жених Надежды Игоревны]_{Status}. с вместе со своей девушкой Таней. — [Мы]_{Participant} без пяти минут [семья]_{Status}, — сказал он бармену и

минут [владельцев] Status сокращать время реконструкции зданий.

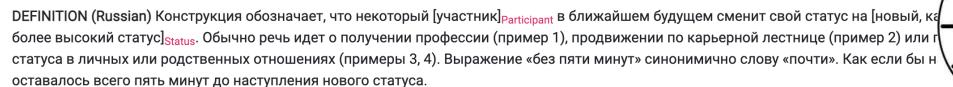


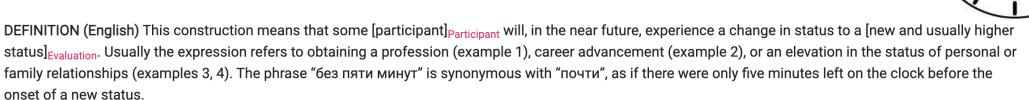
33

Constructicon

NAME без пяти минут NP - Без пяти минут врач

literally: "without 5 minutes X"





DEFINITION (Norwegian) Konstruksjonen betyr at [en deltaker]_{Participant} i nærmeste fremtid vil få endret sin status til [en ny og som regel høyere status]_{Evaluation}. Som regel dreier det seg om å få en yrkestittel (eksempel 1), klatre på karrierestigen (eksempel 2) eller å oppnå en høyere status i privatliv eller familieforhold (eksempel 3 og 4). Uttrykket 'без пяти' er synonymt med ordet 'почти', som om klokka viser at den nye statusen vil inntre om bare fem minutter.



дежды Игоревны]_{Status}. іти минут [семья]_{Status}, — сказал он бармену и

и зданий.

33

Constructicon

NAME без пяти минут NP - Без пяти минут врач

literally: "without 5 minutes X"

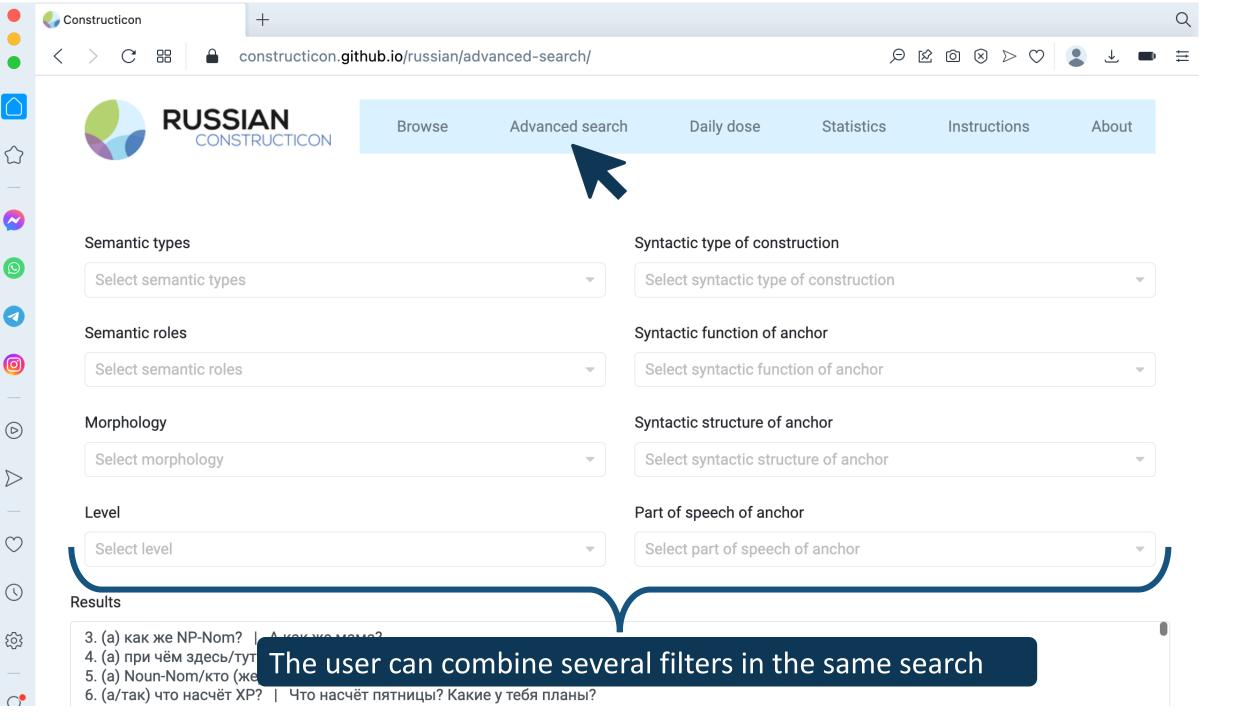
DEFINITION (Russian) Конструкция обозначает, что некоторый [участник]_{Participant} в ближайшем будущем сменит свой статус на [новый, ка более высокий статус]_{Status}. Обычно речь идет о получении профессии (пример 1), продвижении по карьерной лестнице (пример 2) или гостатуса в личных или родственных отношениях (примеры 3, 4). Выражение «без пяти минут» синонимично слову «почти». Как если бы ноставалось всего пять минут до наступления нового статуса.

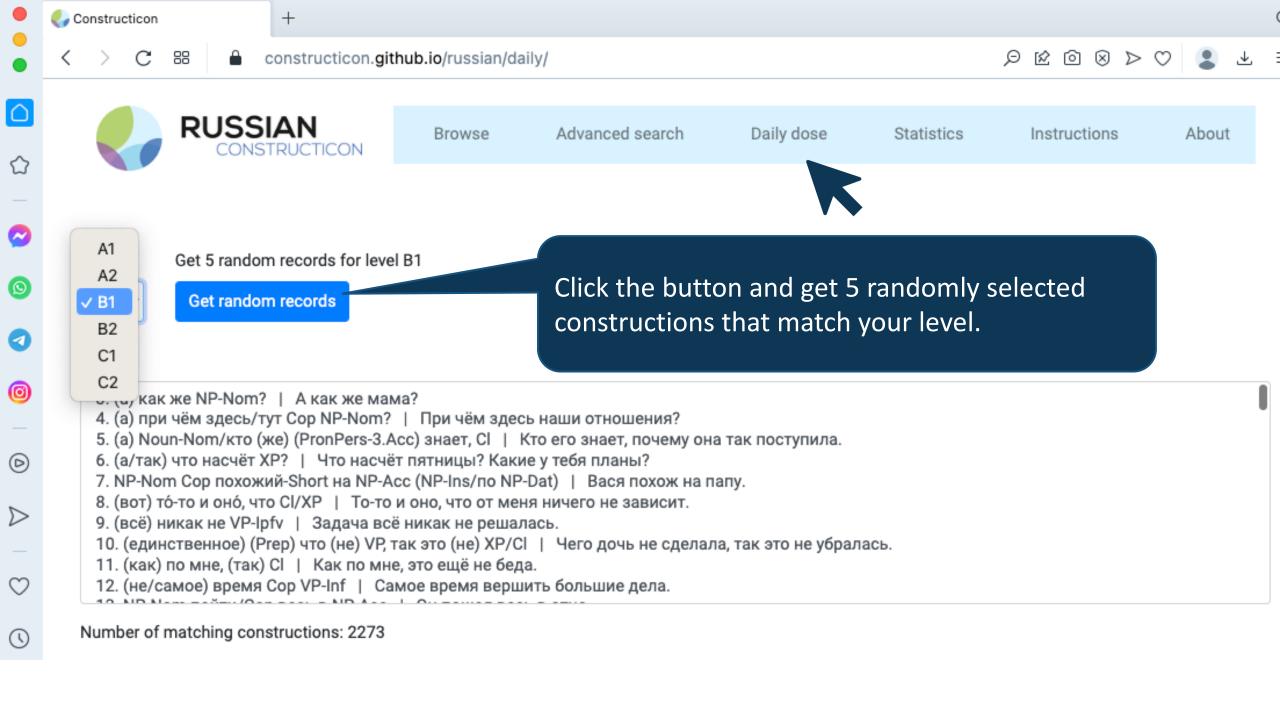
й, ка или г бы н

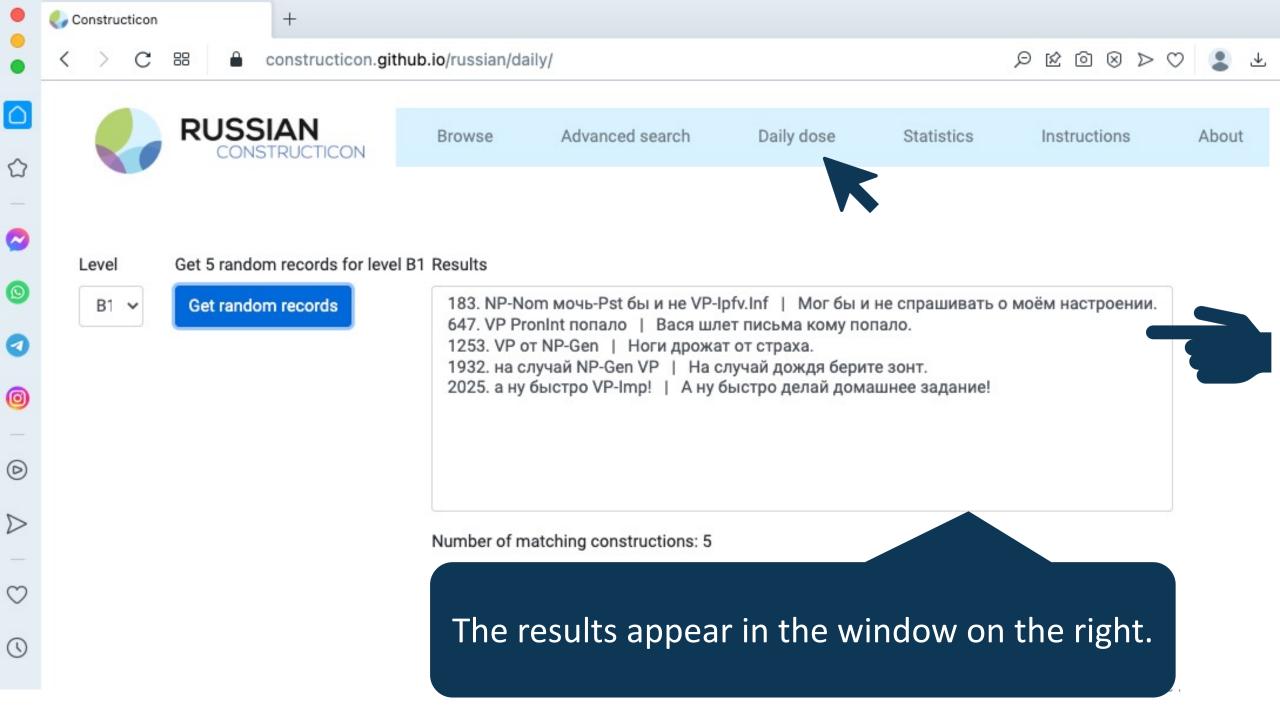
DEFINITION (English) This construction means that some [participant]_{Participant} will, in the near future, experience a change in status to a [new and usually higher status]_{Evaluation}. Usually the expression refers to obtaining a profession (example 1), career advancement (example 2), or an elevation in the status of personal or family relationships (examples 3, 4). The phrase "без пяти минут" is synonymous with "почти", as if there were only five minutes left on the clock before the onset of a new status.

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2.2. Turning a list into a structured inventory: semantic annotation

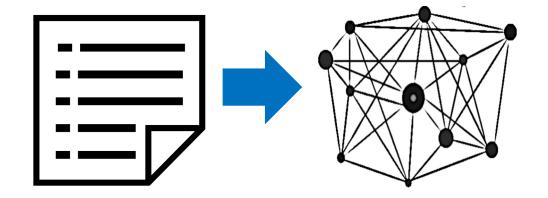
NB! Our findings of multi-level relationships among constructions that organize them into networks

undermine Haspelmath's claim that constructions merely form a list (the terms "inventorium" and "constructionary" instead of "construct-i-con").

Haspelmath, M. 2023. "On what a construction is." In Constructions 15.1.

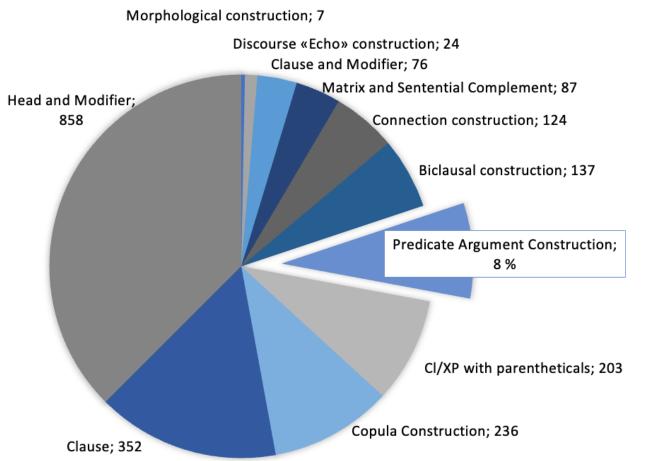
Practical needs of sorting cxns into groups

- How exactly to turn a list of collected items into a structured inventory?
- This is a practical challenge that all existing constructions face.



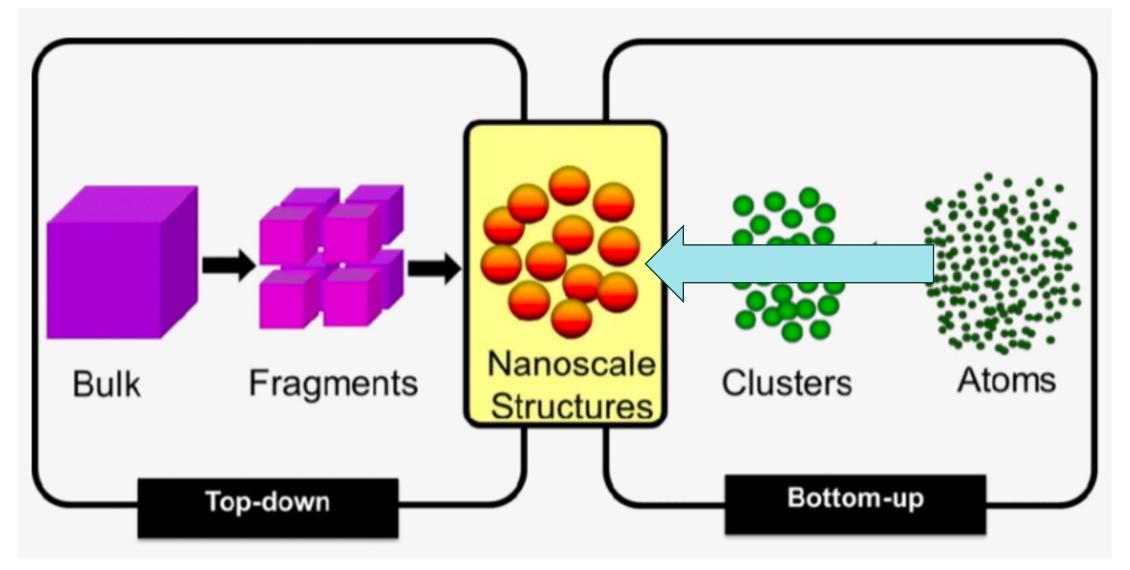
- Other constructions are closely connected to a FrameNet resource and focus on verb argument constructions.
- FrameNet has been suggested as an alternative (Fillmore and Atkins 1992; Fillmore et al. 2012).
- In other constructions, constructions are classified semantically according frames they envoke (Ohara 2014, 2018; Boas et al. 2016; Torrent et al. 2014, Lee-Goldman & Petruck 2018).

Why frame semantics is not enough



- Russian lacks a fully developed
 FrameNet resource
- A variety of syntactic patterns in the Russian Constructicon
- Predicate Argument Constructions yield only 8% (184 items) of the entire database.
- How can we analyze semantics of the entire inventory of constructions?

Bottom-up approach to structuring the network



How: 1. Bottom up approach

• Our aim

 to analyze constructions on their own terms, allowing patterns to emerge from the data, not imposing other models

Methodology

- We annotated individual constructions by assigning semantic tags that capture relevant aspects of their meaning
- The annotation of constructions was carried out by a panel of three native speakers
- The taggers worked together as a team over a long period of time
- Reaching a consensus about annotation of each construction

How: 2. Verification of results

- Results are verified against typological studies of grammatical categories
- We often adopt and adjust terminology used in typological studies of grammatical meanings for annotation of constructional meanings

(cf. the "universal grammatical inventory" Plungian 2011: 65; 1999: 311-312).

What types of meanings encoded grammatically in other languages can be expressed in Russian by means of syntactic constructions?

NP-Nom voz'mi i VP-Imp
'NP-Nom take-Pfv.Imp.Sg and VP-Imp'

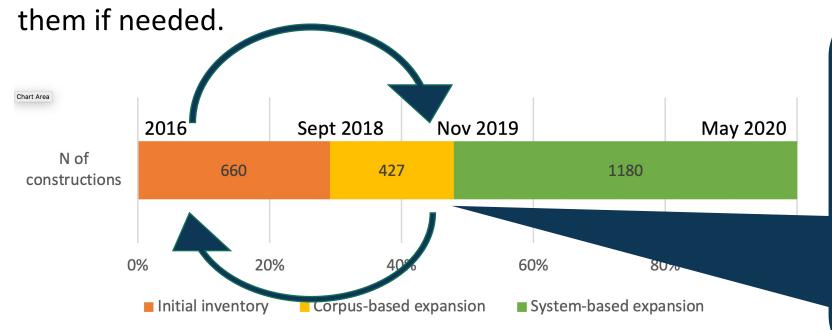
Ivan voz'mi i kupi novuju mašinu!
'Ivan suddenly bought a new car'

Semantic type "unexpected outcome" > "mirative" after the category that is expressed by grammatical markers (DeLancey 1997; Aikhenvald 2012)

Semantics of a construction is often a result of a complex interplay of elements that belong to different levels (grammatical markers, lexemes, discourse units, word order, prosody).

How: 3. The "back and forth" challenge

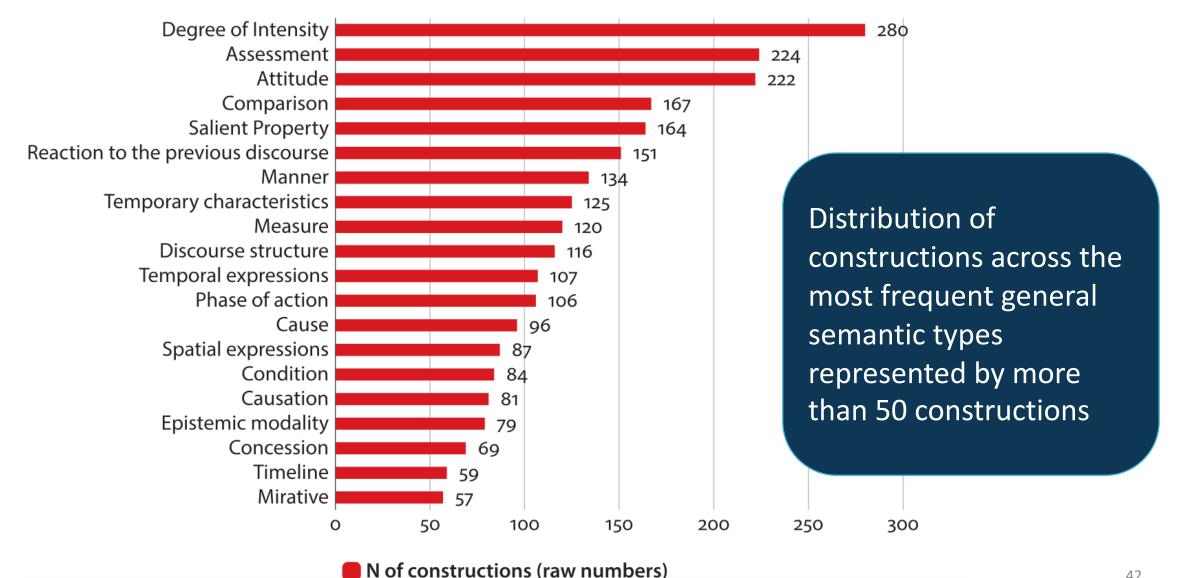
 Expansion of the database helped to verify the classification by recurrent coming back to the identified classes and individual constructions and re-annotating



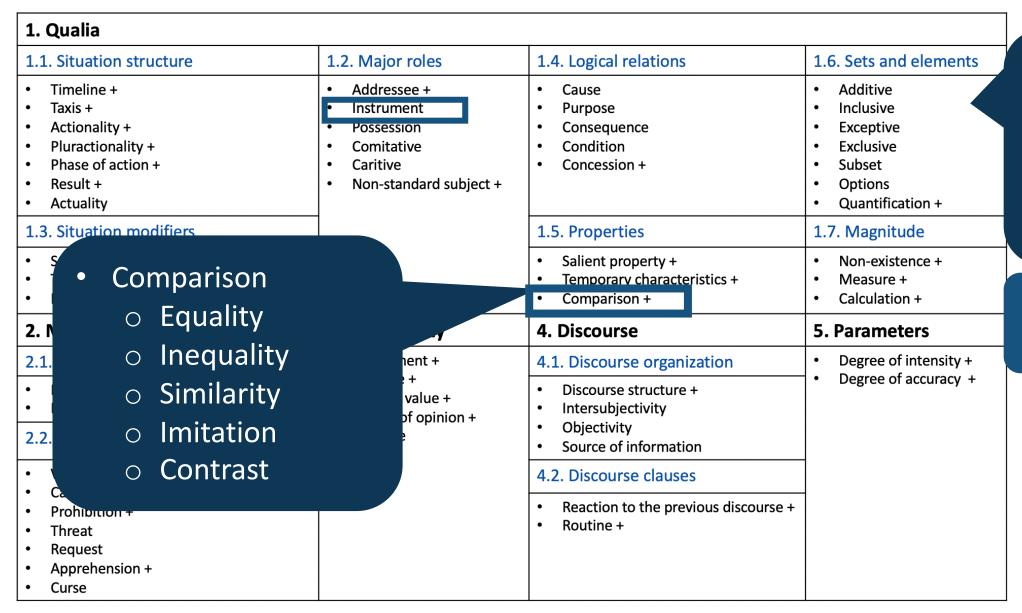
We cannot claim that our inventory of semantic tags is exhaustive, but the major semantic types and their relationships ARE identified.

Once we reached a critical mass (about 1000 constructions), our classification became stable: newly added constructions are analyzed in terms of already established semantic types.

Semantic types of constructions: 20 largest types visualized



Semantic types of constructions grouped into classes and subclasses



A visualization of 55 semantic types of constructions groupped into subclasses and classes

182 semantic subtypes of constructions







Browse Daily dose Advanced search Instructions (English) Instructions (Russian) About

Semantic types

Constructicon

- Overview
- 1. Semantic class QUALIA
 - 1.1. Subclass Situation Structure
 - 1.2. Subclass Major Roles
 - 1.3. Subclass Situation Modifiers
 - 1.4. Subclass Logical Relations
 - 1.5. Subclass Properties
 - 1.6. Subclass Sets and Elements
 - 1.7. Subclass Magnitude
- 2. Semantic class MODALITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOOD
 - 2.1. Subclass Core Modal Meanings
 - 2.2. Subclass Neighborhood of Core Modal Meanings
- 3. Semantic class SUBJECTIVITY
- 4. Semantic class DISCOURSE
 - 4.1. Subclass Discourse Organization
 - 4.2. Subclass Discourse Clauses
- 5. Semantic class PARAMETERS
- List of references

Semantic types

An overview and description of semantic types and subtypes of constructions, grouped into numbered classes and subclasses.

Janda, Laura A., Anna Endresen, Valentina Zhukova, Daria Mordashova, Ekaterina Rakhilina. 2023. From data to theory: an emergent semantic classification based on the large-scale Russian construction. Constructions and Frames 15(1), 1-58.

Overview





Browse Daily dose Advanced search Instructions (English) Instructions (Russian) About

- Semantic types / Семантические типы конструкций
 - Обзор
 - 1. Семантический класс КВАЛИА (QUALIA)
 - 1.1. Подкласс Структура ситуации (Situation Structure)
 - 1.2. Подкласс Основные роли участников ситуации (Major Roles)
 - 1.3. Подкласс Модификаторы ситуации (Situation Modifiers)
 - 1.4. Подкласс Логические отношения (Logical Relations)
 - 1.5. Подкласс Характеристики (Properties)
 - 1.6. Подкласс Операции с множествами и их элементами (Sets and Elements)
 - 1.7. Подкласс Величины (Magnitude)
 - 2. Семантический класс МОДАЛЬНОСТЬ И СМЕЖНЫЕ КАТЕГОРИИ (MODALITY AND ITS NEIGHBORHOOD)
 - 2.1. Подкласс Центральные модальные значения (Core Modal Meanings)
 - 2.2. Подкласс Смежные с модальностью категории (Neighborhood of Core Modal Meanings)
 - 3. Семантический класс ВЫРАЖЕНИЕ СУБЪЕКТИВНОСТИ (SUBJECTIVITY)
 - 4. Семантический класс ДИСКУРС (DISCOURSE)
 - 4.1. Подкласс Маркеры организации дискурса (Discourse Organization)
 - 4.2. Подкласс Клаузальные конструкции с дискурсивной функцией (Discourse Clauses)
 - 5. Семантический класс ПАРАМЕТРЫ (PARAMETERS)
 - Список литературы

Semantic types / Семантические типы конструкций

Обзор

Description is also available in Russian

1. Semantic class "Qualia"

1. Qualia			
1.1. Situation structure	1.2. Major roles	1.4. Logical relations	1.6. Sets and elements
 Timeline + Taxis + Actionality + Pluractionality + Phase of action + Result + Actuality 	 Addressee + Instrument Possession Comitative Caritive Non-standard subject + 	CausePurposeConsequenceConditionConcession +	 Additive Inclusive Exceptive Exclusive Subset Options Quantification +
1.3. Situation modifiers		1.5. Properties	1.7. Magnitude
Spatial expressions +Temporal expressions +Manner		Salient property +Temporary characteristics +Comparison +	Non-existence +Measure +Calculation +
			1
2. Modality and its neighborhood	3. Subjectivity	4. Discourse	5. Parameters
2. Modality and its neighborhood 2.1. Core modal meanings	Assessment +	4. Discourse 4.1. Discourse organization	Degree of intensity +

— constructions that describe the properties of the given objective physical world, external to the speaker

2. Semantic class "Modality and its neighborhood"

1. Qualia			
1.1. Situation structure	1.2. Major roles	1.4. Logical relations	1.6. Sets and elements
 Timeline + Taxis + Actionality + Pluractionality + Phase of action + Result + Actuality 	 Addressee + Instrument Possession Comitative Caritive Non-standard subject + 	CausePurposeConsequenceConditionConcession +	 Additive Inclusive Exceptive Exclusive Subset Options Quantification +
1.3. Situation modifiers		1.5. Properties	1.7. Magnitude
Spatial expressions +Temporal expressions +Manner		 Salient property + Temporary characteristics + Comparison + 	Non-existence +Measure +Calculation +
2. Modality and its neighborhood	3. Subjectivity	4. Discourse	5. Parameters
2.1. Core modal meanings	Assessment +	4.1. Discourse organization	Degree of intensity +
Root modality +Epistemic modality +	 Attitude + Polarity value + Source of opinion + Mirative 	 Discourse structure + Intersubjectivity 	Degree of accuracy +
2.2. Neighborhood		ObjectivitySource of information	
• Volition		4.2. Discourse clauses	
 Causation + 			1

3. Semantic class Subjectivity

1. Qualia			
1.1. Situation structure	1.2. Major roles	1.4. Logical relations	1.6. Sets and elements
 Timeline + Taxis + Actionality + Pluractionality + Phase of action + Result + Actuality 	 Addressee + Instrument Possession Comitative Caritive Non-standard subject + 	CausePurposeConsequenceConditionConcession +	 Additive Inclusive Exceptive Exclusive Subset Options Quantification +
1.3. Situation modifiers		1.5. Properties	1.7. Magnitude
Spatial expressions +Temporal expressions +Manner		Salient property +Temporary characteristics +Comparison +	Non-existence +Measure +Calculation +
2. Modality and its neighborhood	3. Subjectivity	4. Discourse	5. Parameters
2.1. Core modal meanings	 Assessment + Attitude + Polarity value + Source of opinion + Mirative 	4.1. Discourse organization	Degree of intensity +
Root modality + Epistemic modality +		Discourse structure +IntersubjectivityObjectivity	Degree of accuracy +
2.2. Neighborhood		Source of information	
Volition Causation +		4.2. Discourse clauses	

— constructions that encode the subjective evaluation of a situation, its elements or participants by the speaker.

4. Semantic class Discourse

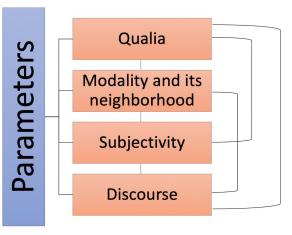
1. Qualia			
1.1. Situation structure	1.2. Major roles	1.4. Logical relations	1.6. Sets and elements
 Timeline + Taxis + Actionality + Pluractionality + Phase of action + Result + Actuality 	 Addressee + Instrument Possession Comitative Caritive Non-standard subject + 	CausePurposeConsequenceConditionConcession +	 Additive Inclusive Exceptive Exclusive Subset Options Quantification +
1.3. Situation modifiers		1.5. Properties	1.7. Magnitude
Spatial expressions +Temporal expressions +Manner		Salient property +Temporary characteristics +Comparison +	Non-existence +Measure +Calculation +
2. Modality and its neighborhood	3. Subjectivity	4. Discourse	5. Parameters
2.1. Core modal meanings	 Assessment + Attitude + Polarity value + Source of opinion + 	4.1. Discourse organization	Degree of intensity +
			. D
Root modality + Epistemic modality +		 Discourse structure + Intersubjectivity 	Degree of accuracy +
•	Polarity value +		Degree of accuracy +

- constructionsthat function atthe discourse level:
- structure the text
- organize the communication
- refer to a broader context than a single sentence

5. Semantic class Parameters

1. Qualia			
1.1. Situation structure	1.2. Major roles	1.4. Logical relations	1.6. Sets and elements
 Timeline + Taxis + Actionality + Pluractionality + Phase of action + Result + Actuality 	 Addressee + Instrument Possession Comitative Caritive Non-standard subject + 	CausePurposeConsequenceConditionConcession +	 Additive Inclusive Exceptive Exclusive Subset Options Quantification +
1.3. Situation modifiers		1.5. Properties	1.7. Magnitude
Spatial expressions +Temporal expressions +Manner		Salient property +Temporary characteristics +Comparison +	Non-existence +Measure +Calculation +
2. Modality and its neighborhood	3. Subjectivity	4. Discourse	5. Parameters
2. Modality and its neighborhood 2.1. Core modal meanings	Assessment +	4. Discourse 4.1. Discourse organization	Degree of intensity +
	Assessment +Attitude +Polarity value +	 4.1. Discourse organization Discourse structure + Intersubjectivity 	
2.1. Core modal meanings Root modality +	Assessment + Attitude +	4.1. Discourse organizationDiscourse structure +	Degree of intensity +
Core modal meanings Root modality + Epistemic modality +	 Assessment + Attitude + Polarity value + Source of opinion + 	 4.1. Discourse organization Discourse structure + Intersubjectivity Objectivity 	Degree of intensity +

- imply a scale that serves as a point of reference for a property or a situation characterized by a construction
- can apply to and "build over" other meanings



Multiply motivated constructions

Many constructions (over 40%) belong to more than one semantic type, and therefore carry two or more semantic tags and corresponding sub-tags.

Example:

Cl, i privet

'Cl, and hello'

On uže davno vzjal u menja ètu knigu, i privet! Uexal v otpusk.

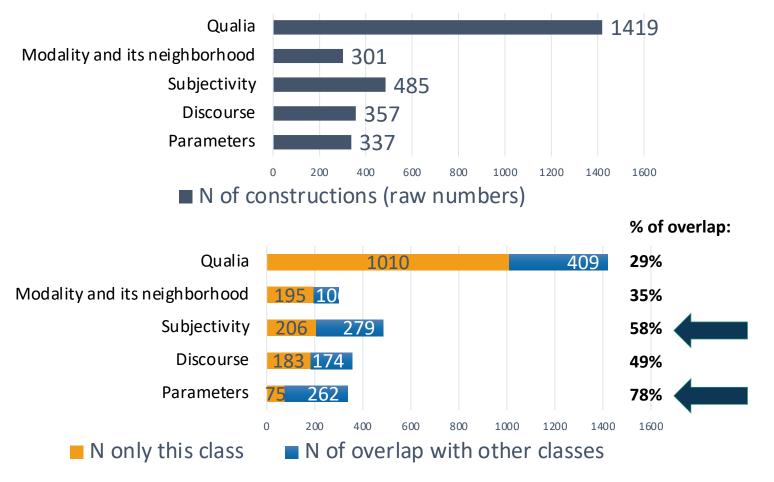
'He borrowed my book a long time ago and suddenly disappeared [lit. and hello]. He left for vacation.'

- 1) type Non-Existense: subtype Disappear -> class Qualia;
- 2) type Mirative -> class Subjectivity

Semantic types and their classes often overlap at the level of individual constructions, and we can examine what kinds of overlaps are more frequently attested than others.

Distribution of constructions across 5 classes

Size of each class and degree of overlap with other classes



- All semantic classes have constructions that simultaneously belong to more than one class.
- Subjectivity and Parameters have the largest amount of overlap.

Grouppings of cxns: 3 levels

Family:

- the smallest grouping of (usually 2-9) cxns that are nearly synonymous;
- some members may also share similar syntactic structure and anchor words;
- cxns in a family may share not necessarily all properties but various subsets of these properties (family resemblance)
- focus on horizontal relationships between cxns, but can also include inheritance links

Cluster:

- a group of families that displays a radial category structure,
- with a core prototypical family of cxns and related families that are more or less peripheral and encode additional semantic nuances

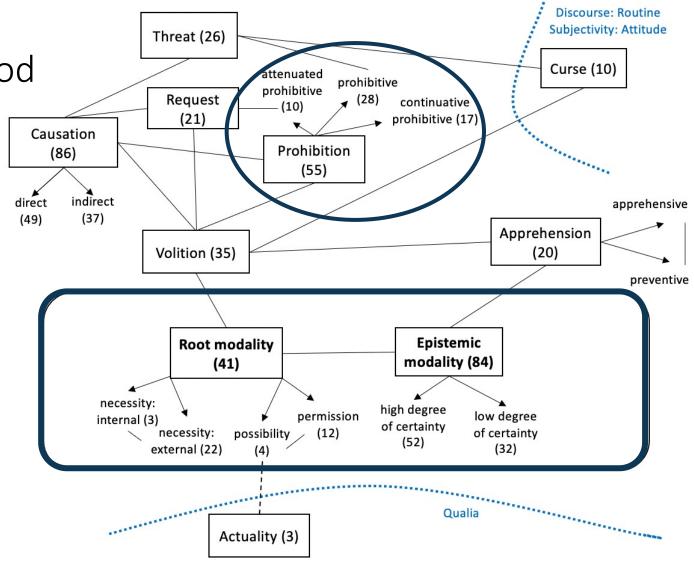
Network:

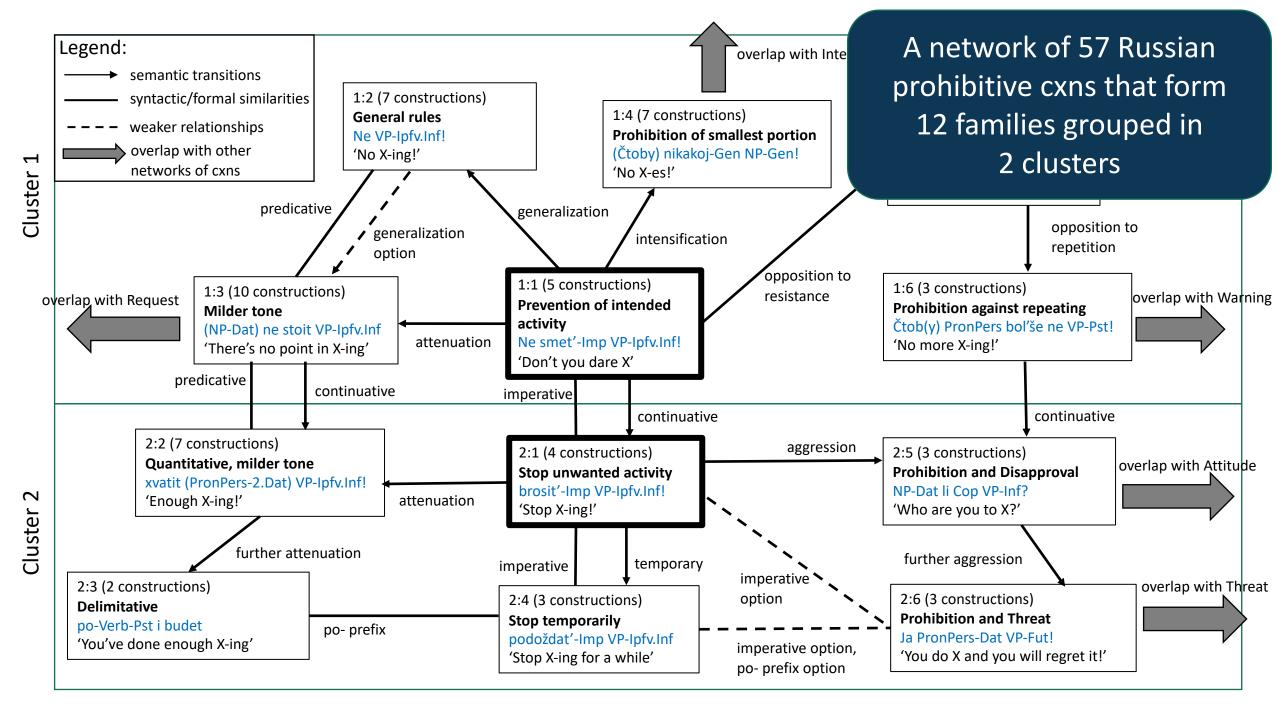
- a structured group of clusters sharing general semantics such as Prohibitive, Comparison, Assessment, etc.
- Often contains a prototypical cluster and related clusters joined by semantic links or shared families

Class of constructions

Modality and its neighborhood

- 301 constructions
- Can be modelled as a radial category central "core" modal meanings and their neighborhood
- Includes 10 semantic types (visualized as boxes)
- Arrows indicate subtypes of semantic types
- Numbers in () type frequency of each type in terms of individual constructions
- Solid lines connections between types within this class
- Dashed lines overlaps with other classes (indicated by dotted blue lines)





57 Russian prohibitive constructions form 12 families visualized as boxes.

1:2 (7 constructions) **General rules**Ne VP-Ipfv.Inf!
'No X-ing!'

1:4 (7 constructions)

Prohibition of smallest portion
(Čtoby) nikakoj-Gen NP-Gen!
'No X-es!'

1:5 (3 constructions)

Anticipation of resistance

PronPers-Nom ne VP-Fut!

'You're not going to do X!'

1:3 (10 constructions)

Milder tone
(NP-Dat) ne stoit VP-Ipfv.Inf
'There's no point in X-ing'

1:1 (5 constructions)

Prevention of intended
activity

Ne smet'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!
'Don't you dare X'

1:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition against repeating

Čtob(y) PronPers bol'še ne VP-Pst!

'No more X-ing!'

2:2 (7 constructions) **Quantitative, milder tone**xvatit (PronPers-2.Dat) VP-lpfv.Inf!
'Enough X-ing!'

2:1 (4 constructions) **Stop unwanted activity**brosit'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!

'Stop X-ing!'

2:5 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Disapproval

NP-Dat li Cop VP-Inf?

'Who are you to X?'

2:3 (2 constructions) **Delimitative**po-Verb-Pst i budet

'You've done enough X-ing'

2:4 (3 constructions) **Stop temporarily**podoždat'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf
'Stop X-ing for a while'

2:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Threat

Ja PronPers-Dat VP-Fut!

'You do X and you will regret it!'

Constructions in Cluster 1 ask a hearer to refrain from doing something, prohibit a future action.
Cxns contain the marker of negation

12 families comprise 2 distinct clusters that form a single network

1:2 (7 constructions)

General rules

Ne VP-Ipfv.Inf!

'No X-ing!'

1:4 (7 constructions)

Prohibition of smallest portion
(Čtoby) nikakoj-Gen NP-Gen!
'No X-es!'

1:5 (3 constructions)

Anticipation of resistance

PronPers-Nom ne VP-Fut!

'You're not going to do X!'



1:3 (10 constructions)

Milder tone
(NP-Dat) ne stoit VP-Ipfv.Inf
'There's no point in X-ing'

1:1 (5 constructions)

Prevention of intended
activity

Ne smet'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!
'Don't you dare X'

1:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition against repeating

Čtob(y) PronPers bol'še ne VP-Pst!

'No more X-ing!'

Constructions in Cluster 2 express prohibition of an on-going activity (termed continuative prohibition, cf. Rakhilina 2013, Khrakovski 1986), Cxns lack the marker of negation

po-Verb-Pst i budet
'You've done enough X-ing'

2:1 (4 constructions) **Stop unwanted activity**brosit'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!

'Stop X-ing!'

2:4 (3 constructions)

Stop temporarily
podoždat'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf
'Stop X-ing for a while'

2:5 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Disapproval

NP-Dat li Cop VP-Inf?

'Who are you to X?'

N=22 cxns

2:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Threat
Ja PronPers-Dat VP-Fut!

'You do X and you will regret it!'

Thick boxes indicate prototypes.

1:2 (7 constructions) **General rules**Ne VP-Ipfv.Inf!
'No X-ing!'

1:4 (7 constructions)

Prohibition of smallest portion
(Čtoby) nikakoj-Gen NP-Gen!
'No X-es!'

1:5 (3 constructions)

Anticipation of resistance

PronPers-Nom ne VP-Fut!

'You're not going to do X!'

1:3 (10 constructions)

Milder tone
(NP-Dat) ne stoit VP-Ipfv.Inf
'There's no point in X-ing'

1:1 (5 constructions)

Prevention of intended
activity

Ne smet'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!
'Don't you dare X'

1:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition against repeating

Čtob(y) PronPers bol'še ne VP-Pst!

'No more X-ing!'

2:2 (7 constructions) **Quantitative, milder tone**xvatit (PronPers-2.Dat) VP-lpfv.Inf!
'Enough X-ing!'

2:1 (4 constructions) **Stop unwanted activity**brosit'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf!

'Stop X-ing!'

2:5 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Disapproval

NP-Dat li Cop VP-Inf?

'Who are you to X?'

2:3 (2 constructions) **Delimitative**po-Verb-Pst i budet

'You've done enough X-ing'

2:4 (3 constructions) **Stop temporarily**podoždat'-Imp VP-Ipfv.Inf

'Stop X-ing for a while'

2:6 (3 constructions)

Prohibition and Threat

Ja PronPers-Dat VP-Fut!

'You do X and you will regret it!'

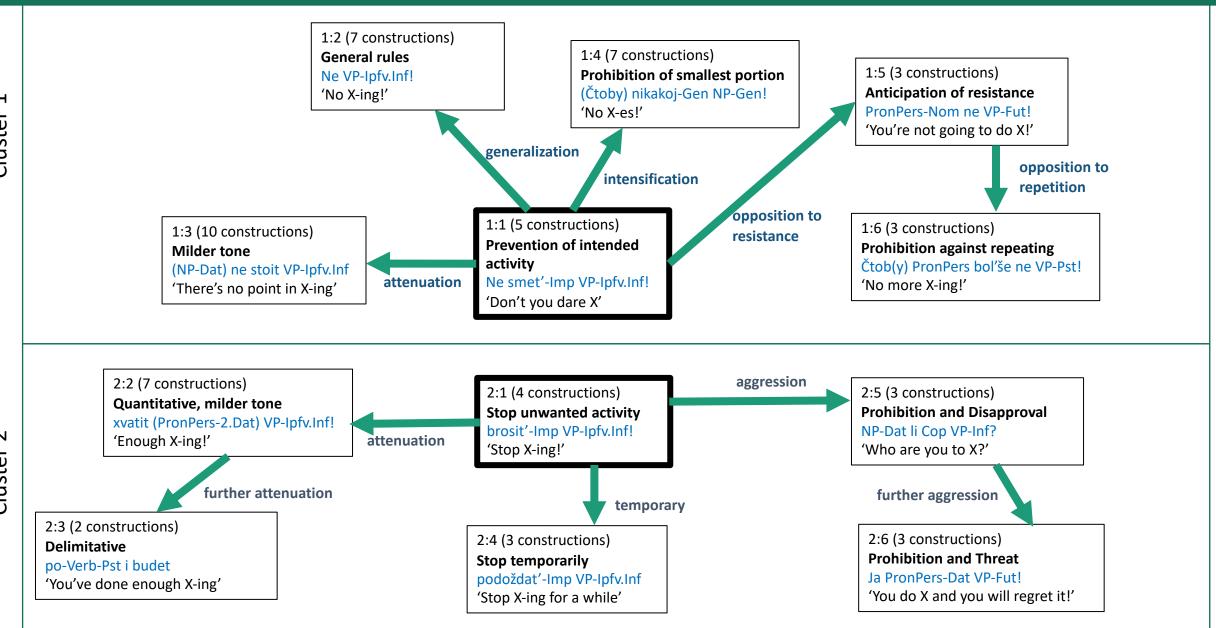
Prototypical prohibition

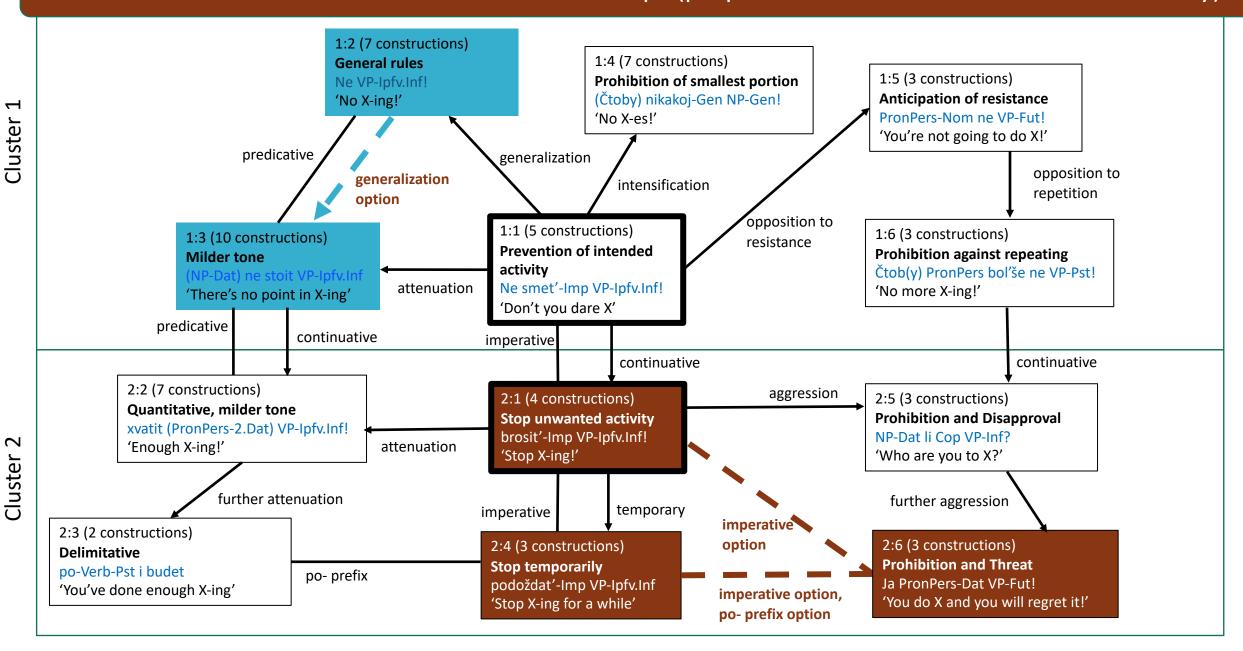
- 1. The speaker prompts the interlocutor to not carry out an undesirable activity.
- 2. The interlocutor is an individual person or a specific group of people.
- 3. The speaker has more authority / life experience / higher status in the social hierarchy than the person to whom the prohibition is addressed (e.g. boss vs. subordinate, adult vs. child).
- 4. The prohibition is spoken in a strict commanding peremptory tone.

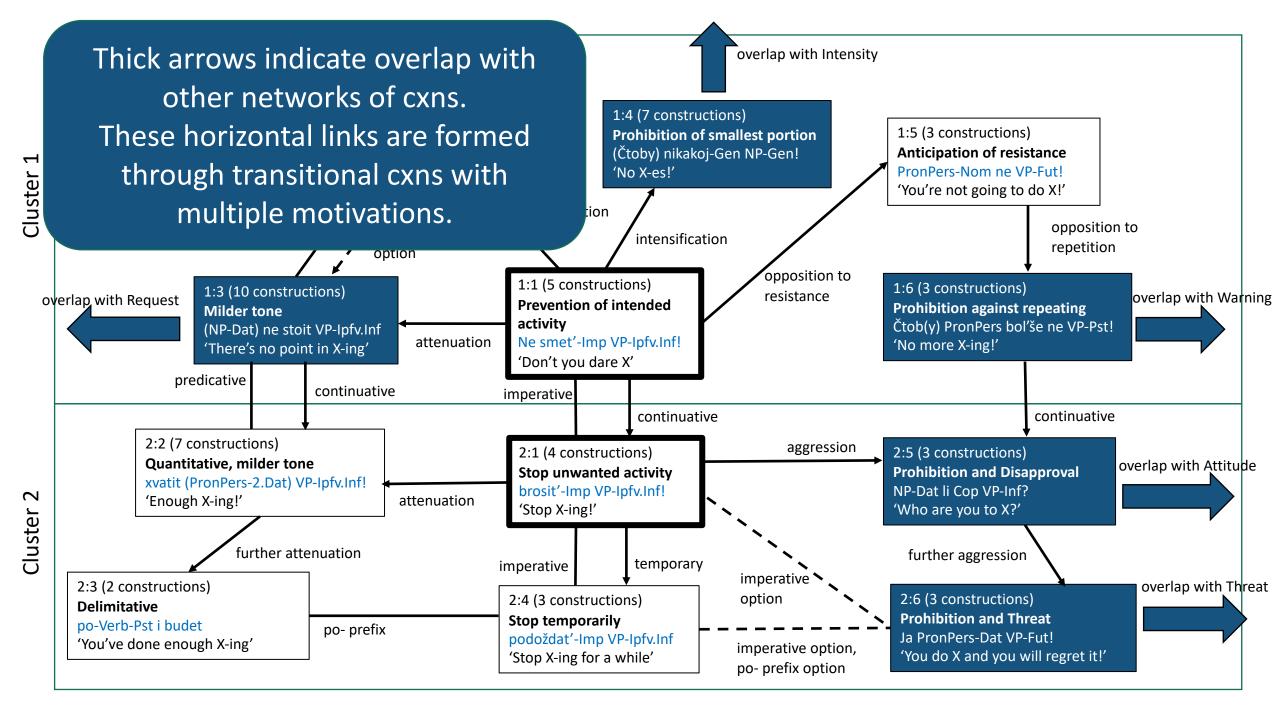




Lines with arrows show semantic transitions between families of cxns.







Semantics: the speaker views the activity of the interlocutor as excessive, or too long, and suggests stopping this activity and moving on to something else

Example of a family:

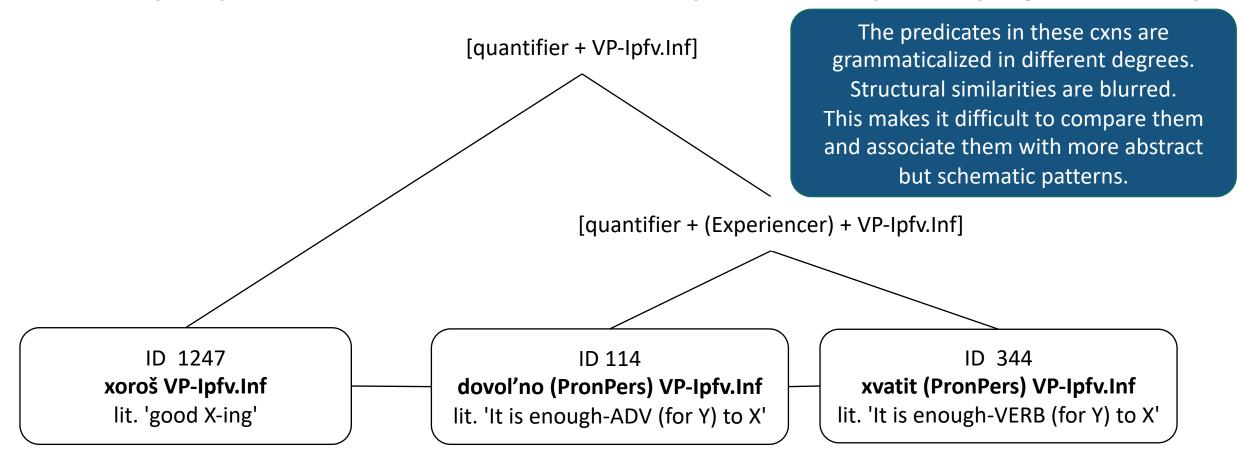
Quantitative cxns 'Enough X-ing', mild attenuated prohibition

"measuring" predicates; coding of the interlocutor optional or impossible

ID	Construction name	Illustration
114	dovol'n-o (PronPers-2.Dat) VP-Ipfv.Inf! enough-ADV you-DAT X-IPFV.INF 'Enough X-ing (for you)!'	Dovol'n-o žalov-a-t'-sja! enough-ADV complain-IPFV-INF-MED 'Enough complaining!'
344	Xvat-it (PronPers-2.Dat) VP-Ipfv.Inf! be_enough.PFV-FUT.3SG you-DAT X-IPFV.INF 'Enough X-ing (for you)! That will do!'	Xvat-it rug-a-t'-sja! be_enough.pfv-fut.3sG fight-IPFV-INF-MED 'Enough fighting! It will do!'
1247	xoroš-Ø VP-Ipfv.Inf! good-sg.masc.short X-IPFV.INF 'Quit X-ing! Cut it out!'	Èj, naverxu! Xoroš-Ø pryg-a-t'! hey upstairs good-sg.masc.short jump-IPFV-INF 'Hey, up there! Stop jumping!'

- Morphologically, we see very different predicates: xoroš is a short form of an adjective meaning 'good', dovol'no is an adverb, and xvatit in is a verb.
- However, synchronically, they are frozen forms that suggest their morphological status only in terms of the suffixes they contain.

A family of prohibitive constructions with predicates quantifying an activity



In cases like this it is more fruitful to focus on horizontal relationships between cxns. Strong horizontal relationships and semantic similarity guarantee family status.

Summing up so far

- The Russian Construction is a large-scale resource aiming to represent a major portion of the grammar of Russian.
- Priority is given to multi-word expressions with open slots.
- Not just a list but a structured inventory
- Construction building is a challenging process of constant change (due to bottom-up structuring of the network)
- Open-source code facilitates portability to other languages (construction resources for Hill Mari, Persian, and Italian are on the way).

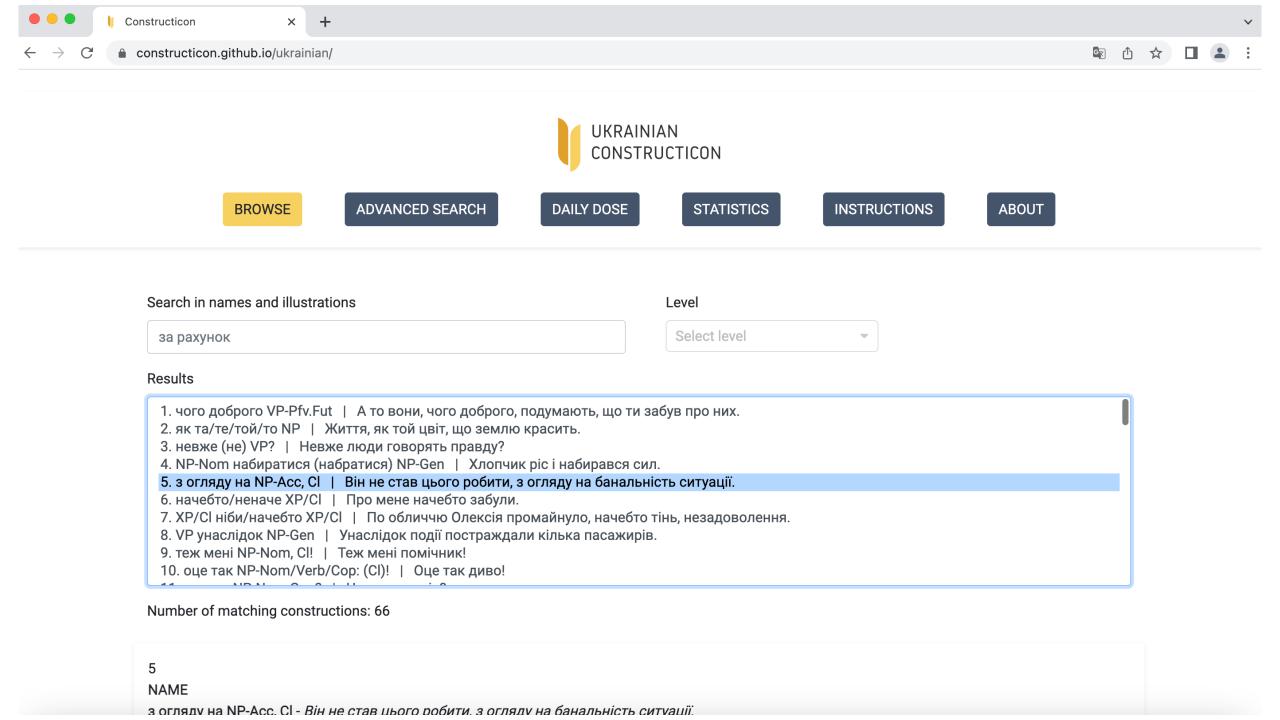
3. The Ukrainian Constructicon (February-August 2023)

A construct-i-con resource for Ukrainian

- a repository of multi-word Ukrainian grammatical constructions
 - ✓ Open access & free
 - ✓ Digital
 - ✓ Searchable database
 - ✓ Research-based
 - ✓ Dictionary-like



https://constructicon.github.io/ukrainian/



Our team



Zoia Butenko

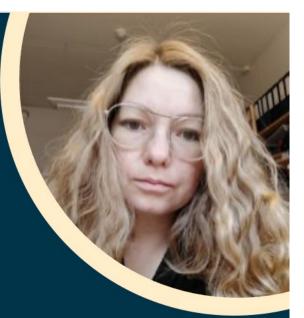


Yuliia Palii



Cognitive Linguistics: Empirical Approaches to Russian

Laura Janda



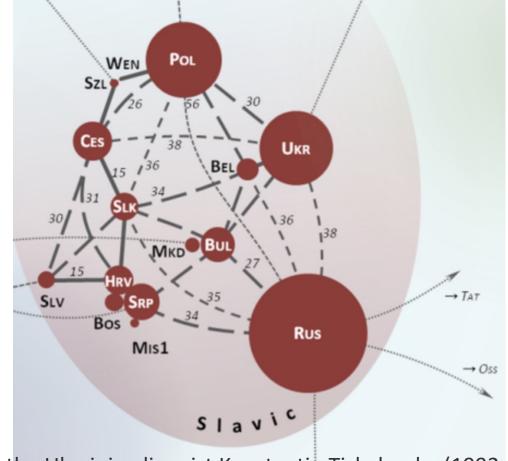
Anna Endresen



Valentina Zhukova

Research question: Ukrainian vs. Russian How similar and different are the two languages in terms of cxns?

- Ukrainian and Russian are known to be rather similar in terms of grammar (Shevelov 1993, Timberlake 1993), but different in terms of vocabulary.
- In **lexicon** Ukrainian and Russian differ by 38% (cf. 25% for Dutch and German) (Bilaniuk 2005, Bilaniuk and Melnyk 2008).
- «These languages are typologically close (as, e.g., Dutch and German), but to what extent their syntactic properties overlap is an open question.» (Mykhaylyk 2011: 236).



The Slavic cluster of the Indo-European lexical distance as defined by the Ukrainian linguist Konstantin Tishchenko (1992-1997) and adapted by Stephan F. Steinbach (2015, https://alternativetransport.wordpress.com/2015/05/05/34/).

Research question: Ukrainian vs. Russian How similar and different are the two languages in terms of cxns?

- 1. What constructions are language-specific for Ukrainian without Russian equivalents? What proportion of the whole do language-specific constructions comprise?
- 2. What fine-grained differences distinguish seemingly similar constructions that exist in both Ukrainian and Russian?
- 3. What constructions are equivalent in Ukrainian and Russian and how can their existence be explained in terms of shared linguistic heritage, language contact, and borrowings?

Interim results

Data

- 70 cxns are fully described, illustrated, annonated, and openly available;
- Over 300 cxn candidates to add

Interface

- We have repurposed the programming code created by Radovan Bast
 - available on GitHub Pages at https://constructicon.github.io/russian/ under an open access license
- Adaptation of the code for the Ukrainian Construction was done by Zoia Butenko
 - The code is open access and transferable for building comparable resources
 - Fully-fledged functioning interface focuses on user-friendly design, self-intuitive functional architecture, and presence of instructions where necessary
 - Launched in August 2023



Collecting construction candidates via conducting cross-linguistic comparisons

- first 200 constructions (about 10% of the total 2,200 cxns) from the Russian Constructicon (https://constructicon.github.io/russian/)
- Analyzed whether they have any equivalent cxns in Ukrainian
- Used parallel corpora
- Outcome:
 - 33 No equivalent in Ukrainian and a different cxn is used 16,5%
 - 105 «Full» equivalent in Ukrainian (same structure, same lexical anchor) 52,5%
 - 62 Partial equivalent in Ukrainian (different subtypes here depending on different lexical anchor, optional elements, different structure, etc.) 31%
- 208 cxn candidates for the Ukrainian Construction

Ukrainian cxns that have equivalents in Russian

čoho dobrohoof-what-of-good VP

A vony, **čoho dobroho,** poduma-juť, ščo ty zab-uv pro n-yx.

And they-NOM, of-what-of-good think-PFV.FUT that you-NOM forget-PFV about they-GEN.

'Chances are that they will think that you have forgotten about them.'

čego dobrogoVP

of-what-of-good

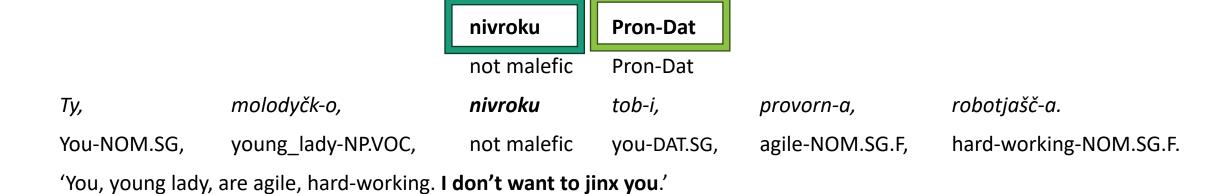
VP

Čego dobrogo, zastav-jat men-ja myt' posud-u.

Of-what-of-good make- PFV.FUT me-ACC wash-INF dish-PL.ACC.

'Chances are that they will make me wash the dishes.'

Ukrainian-specific cxns that lack Russian equivalent



Ukrainian cxns that have synonymous but not equivalent cxns in Russian

U K R A I N I A N

(NP-Dat) ne vartoVP-Ipfv.Infnot worthVP-Iprv...Ne vartozhaduvatyproNot worthmention-INFaboutthey-Acc.

'It is not worth mentioning / One should not mention them.'

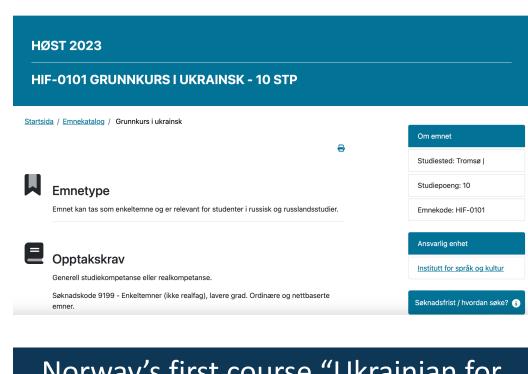
A grammaticalized adverbial related to the German werten 'to evaluate, to value smth', English worth, from Germanic probably via Polish

R U S S I A N (NP-Dat) ne stoitVP-Ipfv.Infnot worthVP-Ipfv.InfNe stoitrazgovarivat'sNot worthspeak-INFwith he-INS.'It is not worth talking / One should not talk to him.'

A grammaticalized form 3.Sg.Pres. of the Slavic verb *stoit'* 'cost' Lit. 'It does not cost to X'

Summing up on UkrCon: The contribution

- The project promotes the Ukrainian language as an object of linguistic investigation and L2 learning
- The emerging sub-field of multilingual constructicography
- Facilitates our understanding of constructional equivalency (that forms a continuum rather than rigid clear-cut categories)



Norway's first course "Ukrainian for beginners", open to all students

4. Pedagogical application

 Construction-based approach to language learning and teaching (Ellis 2013, De Knop & Gilquin 2016, Boas 2022) argues that

"language learning consists of the learning of constructions" and therefore "language teaching should consist of the teaching of constructions."

(Herbst 2016: 41)

• How to implement the constructionbased approach to Language Pedagogy?

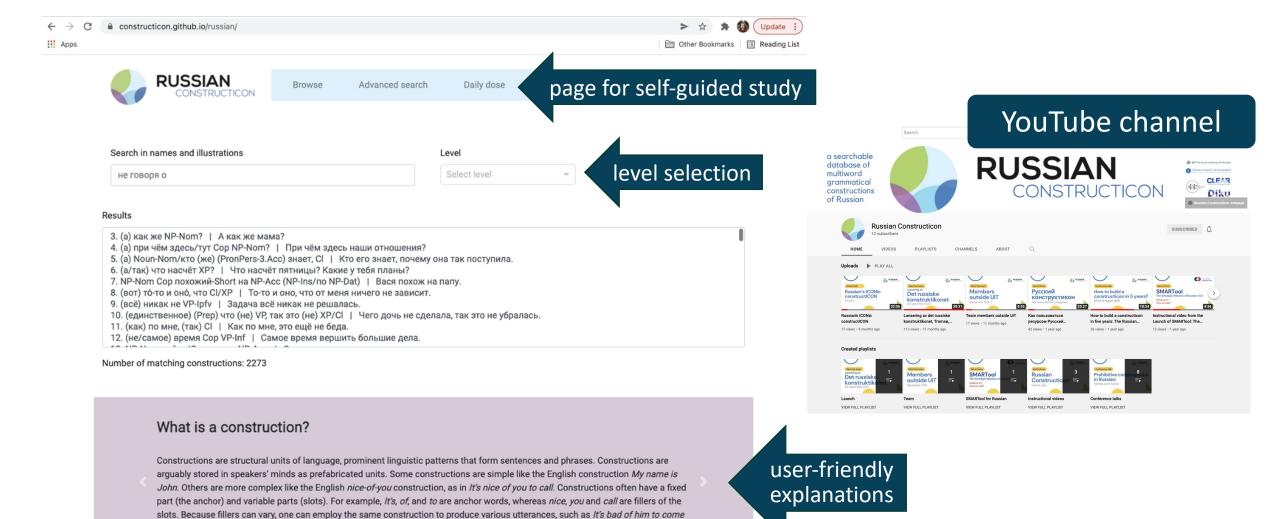
How to get students to engage with the construction?

How to bridge the gap between a construction and L2 learners?



Accommodations within RusCon

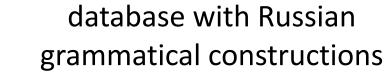
late or It's sweet of them to ask.



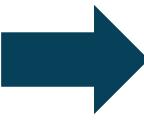
Beyond the RusCon: new resource (2022)







https://constructicon.github.io/russian/



practical exercises for students learning Russian

https://constructicon.github.io/construxercise-rus/

The focus on **57** highly frequent and widely encountered **discourse constructions 12 lessons** with over **150 practical exercises**

Accomodated for **online** and **offline work**

The team:
both faculty
members
and students



Lessons

Functions

About

студентам и преподавателям русского языка как иностранного более 150 упражнений, которые значительно улучшают навыки говорения и письма. В упражнениях отрабатываются стратегические группы русских конструкций (частотных моделей построения предложений и фраз), которые организуют текст и помогают достичь складности речи на уровне носителей языка.

Construxercise! tilbyr studenter og lærere i russisk som fremmedspråk over 150 øvelser som betydelig forbedrer taleog skriveferdighetene. Øvelsene retter seg mot de strategiske gruppene av russiske konstruksjoner (frekvente mønstre for å lage setninger og fraser) som er avgjørende når det gjelder oppbygning av setninger og tekster, og bidrar til å oppnå flytende tale på morsmålsnivå.

Construxercise! offers learners and teachers of Russian over 150 exercises that significantly strengthen text production skills. The exercises target strategic sets of Russian constructions (prominent patterns of sentence and phrase structures) that organize the flow of speech and help to achieve native-like fluency in speaking and writing.











Conclusions

- We advocate a construction-based approach to learning and teaching L2 Russian
- Constructions are "shortcuts" for language learning
- The focus is on highly frequent and widely encountered constructions
- Equip students with ready-to-use communicative units presented in the shape of clear sentence structures and phrase patterns.
- The exercises encourage combining cxns into strategic sets, or templates, that make the task of generating any text, oral or written, much easier.