

# Verbal and Nominal Components in German and Spanish Phrasemes (WG1)

Cerstin Mahlow

Institute for Natural Language Processing (IMS), University of Stuttgart

## Research Object

- Non-Fregian discontinuous multi-word expressions, i.e., phrasemes (usually within sentence boundaries)
- No fixed order of elements
- Often modified
- Literal use possible
- Low in frequency, but a common text feature

## Related Work

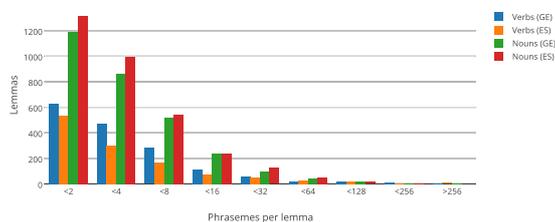
- Common set of nouns (somatisms) used in European phrasemes
- Equivalence relations explored for nouns, e.g., German–Hungarian [Hesky 1987], German–Swedish [Krohn 1994], German–Russian [Safina 2002]
- No in-depth research on verbal components

## Material

- 14'363 German phrasemes from [Duden11 2008]
- 16'875 Spanish phrasemes from [Seco et al. 2004]
- List of frequent nouns in phrasemes [Rajchstejn 1981]

## Activity of Components

Activity of nouns and verbs



## Semantic Categories of the 100 Most Frequent Components

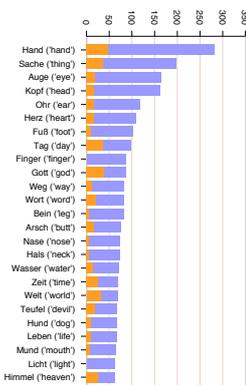
Semantic Category	German	Spanish
Somatisms (+ animals/humans)	38	34
Abstract words	24	46
Basic/simple elements of daily life	38	19

Table: Nouns

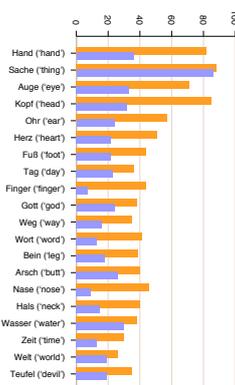
Semantic Category	German	Spanish
Give/get/possess something	33	7
Body-related action (eat, see)	17	14
Communicate	16	7
Abstract action (love, live)	15	29
Movement	12	19
Put something somewhere	10	4
Auxiliaries/modals	8	5

Table: Verbs

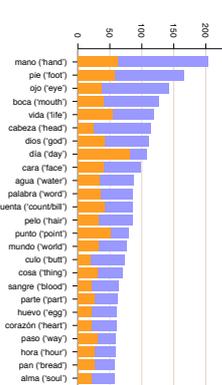
## Nouns



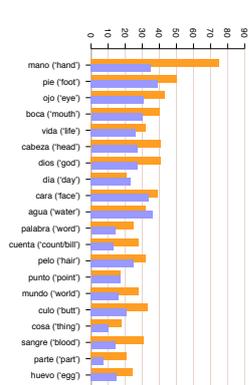
(a) Phrasemes per German noun



(b) Other nouns and verbs in phrasemes per German noun

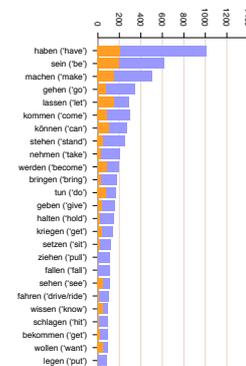


(c) Phrasemes per Spanish noun

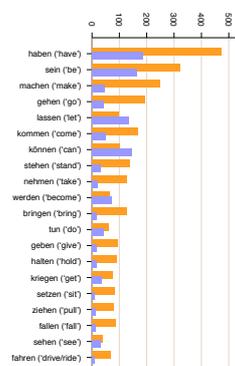


(d) Other nouns and verbs in phrasemes per Spanish noun

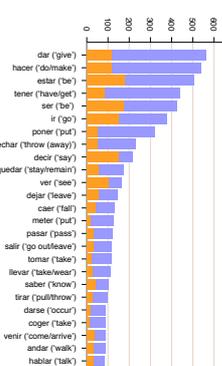
## Verbs



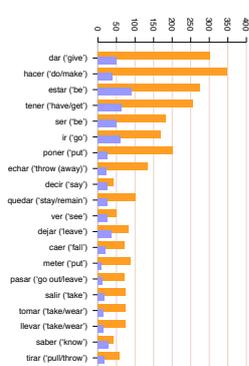
(e) Phrasemes per German verb



(f) Other verbs and nouns in phrasemes per German verb



(g) Phrasemes per Spanish verb



(h) Other verbs and nouns in phrasemes per Spanish verb

## References

Dudenredaktion (2008).  
Rechtswörterbuch: Wörterbuch der deutschen Rechts- und Verwaltungssprache.  
Manuel Seco, Olimpia Anóniz, and Gabino Ramos (2004).  
Diccionario Fraseológico Documentado del Español Actual. Locuciones y Modismos Españoles

Regina Hesky (1987).  
Phrasologie: Linguistische Grundlagen und kontrastive Modell deutsch – ungarisch.  
Karin Krohn (1994).  
Hend und Fust: Eine kontrastive Analyse von Phrasologismen in Deutschen und Schwedischen

Rimma Safina (2002).  
Komponentenanalyse der Phrasologismen. Kontrastive Untersuchung deutsch – russisch.  
Aleksandr D. Rajchstejn (1981).  
Tskay shchit po tsennosti sovremennogo nemeckogo yazyka voprosy frazeologicheskoy semyantiki