



Agent-Oriented Manner Adverbials in German

A Frame-Based Analysis

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The work offers a new perspective on the semantics of agent-oriented manner adverbials, actions and intentionality. It proposes a treatment of these adverbials which accounts for their impact on the manner of the event as well as for their agent-orientation. The analysis is developed in a case study of German *sorgfältig* ('carefully') and *vorsichtig* ('cautiously') and makes use of the philosophical concept of *action-plans*. It is proposed that the modifier *sorgfältig* has impact on the given goal of the agent while *vorsichtig* introduces an additional goal of minimizing risk. The modification of the goal restricts the possible methods of realization of the action, i.e. the manner of action.

The analysis makes use of Goldman's Theory of Human Action and is spelled out in Düsseldorf Frame Theory, including extensions in the form of Cascade Theory and the semantic adaptation of models of intention from the philosophical literature. Altogether, the formalization involves a detailed representation of actions and plans, i.e. of intentionality, necessary to capture the complexity of a number of modification phenomena.

This series *Dissertations in Language and Cognition* explores issues of mental representation, linguistic structure and representation, and their interplay. The research presented in this series is grounded in the idea explored in the *Collaborative Research Center The structure of representations in language, cognition and science* (SFB 991) that there is a universal format for the representation of linguistic and cognitive concepts.

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