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Encoding aspectuality in Germanic languages – Empirical and theoretical approaches
Workshop at the 43rd Annual Conference of the DGfS 2021
(February 24–26, 2021, in Freiburg/Germany)

Workshop description: In recent years, there has been an increasing interest in exploring aspectuality from a diachronic, diatopic, or typological perspective (e.g. Breed et al. 2017, Weber 2017, Kinn et al. 2018). The workshop aims at bringing together researchers with different theoretical backgrounds focusing on aspectuality in Germanic languages. While other Indo-European languages inherited a whole set of grammatical aspect forms, the verbal systems of the early Germanic languages were poorly stocked. With the passage of time, the Germanic languages developed different means to express aspectual functions (e.g. *ing*-progressive in English, *aan-het*- and *zitten-te*-progressive in Dutch, *sitter-och*- and *håller-på-att*-progressive in Swedish as well as double perfect constructions in German substandard varieties).

The broad objective of this workshop is to perform an inventory of aspectual forms in Germanic languages and dialects. The workshop is intended as a forum to compare and discuss the emergence, development, and the areal distribution of aspectual forms on the basis of empirical research. Questions to be discussed include – but are not limited to – the following:

- How is aspectuality encoded in Germanic languages and dialects, e.g. by means of derivational, inflectional, or syntactic forms?
- How did forms that may indicate aspectuality emerge and develop diachronically?
- Which aspectual meanings are differentiated in individual Germanic languages and which aspectual oppositions can be identified (e.g. habitual, continuous, progressive, or perfective meanings)?
- How are the aspectual meanings intertwined with temporal, modal, or evidential meanings?
- Do the aspectual forms show specific areal distributions? Are there languages or varieties that are more prone to encode aspectuality than others?
- Which empirical methods are suitable to study aspectuality? Which criteria serve to identify particular aspectual functions?

Keynote speakers:
Frank Brisard (University of Antwerp, Belgium)
Torodd Kinn (University of Bergen, Norway)

Abstract submission
We invite submissions for 20-minute oral presentations (+ 10 minutes discussion) in English. Abstracts should not exceed 250 words, and contain a max. number of 5 references. Please submit your anonymous abstract via EasyChair until **September 15, 2020:**
https://easychair.org/my/conference?conf=dgfs2021ag5
Please note also: A limited number of travel grants of up to 500 Euro are available for accepted contributions by DGfS members without/with low income.

References: Breed, Adri, Frank Brisard & Ben Verhoeven. 2017. Periphrastic Progressive Constructions in Dutch and Afrikaans: A Contrastive Analysis. Journal of Germanic Linguistics 29(4). 305–378. | Kinn, Torodd, Kristian Blensenius & Peter Andersson. 2018. Posture, location, and activity in Mainland Scandinavian pseudocoordinations. CogniTextes 18. 1–38. | Weber, Thilo. 2017. Die TUN-Periphrase im Niederdeutschen. Funktionale und formale Aspekte. Tübingen.