The expression of motion in Russian.
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Variability in the expression of vertical (UP/DOWN) and horizontal (ACROSS) motion in Russian.

Signs of a split system and a parallel system of conflation in Russian

The study

- Subjects: 12 Russian adult L1 speakers
- Items: a series of cartoons showing:
  - different manners of motion (Hendriks & Hickmann 2011): climbing, running, swimming, crawling, biking, skating, sliding...
  - three Paths: upward motion ↑, downward motion ↓, boundary-crossing motion

Results

Choice of different constructions depending on the event type (SPLIT SYSTEM):
- hybrid verbs vs. Manner verbs (zabrat'sia/zabirat'sia vs. za-lezt' ‘climb’) with UP (PARALLEL system)
- predominant verb-framed constructions with DOWN (spustit'sia ‘descend’)
- satellite-framed constructions with ACROSS (<pere>Manner in the verb root>)

Manner-and-Path (MP) in hybrid verb roots:
- zabrat'sia/zabirat'sia ‘climb[PF/IPF] (onto)’
- bezhat’ ‘courir’, lezt’ ‘climb’ (simplex unidirectional verbs of motion)

Simplex multidirectional verbs of motion: katat'sia (na kon'kax) ‘skate’, begat’ ‘run’

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Neglected aspects of motion in Russian

Table 1: Semantic information encoded in verbs(a) and other devices(b) P = Path, M = Manner, PM = Manner-and-Path conflation (hybrid verbs), L = Location, 0 – No information encoded

Examples of stimuli, N=12 (Hendriks & Hickmann 2011)