

Verb Valency in Germanic

Diachronic analysis and reconstruction of protolinguistic scenario

7th Pavia Summer-School for Indo-European Linguistics

Pavia, September 7–12, 2026

AIMS and OBJECTIVES

The project's **overarching aim** is to map out and analyze the valency patterns of Germanic. This is done by selecting a number of representative language varieties within Germanic (= Gmc) and by tracing the evolution and variation of valency patterns for a selection of verb meanings, following the methodological gold standard set out by the **Valency Patterns Leipzig (ValPaL)** project.

The **overarching aim** of my project is made up of the following **objectives**:

- 1) To gather all elicited data in a digital resource;
- 2) To pursue a diachronic analysis of valency patterns within the history of single languages;
- 3) To carry out a synchronic analysis of valency patterns in the Germanic languages at different language stages;
- 4) To reconstruct valency patterns of Germanic in prehistoric times.

The project is contributes to the **Pavia Verbs Database (PaVeDa)** project.

CONFERENCES & WORKSHOPS

Perspectives on Germanic Syntax
(April 16 and 17, 2026).



Final workshop (May 19, 2026).

OTHER ANCILLARY ACTIVITIES & RELATED RESEARCH

Lectures on older Germanic languages (Perugia, Florence)

Co-organization of the 7th Pavia International Summer School for Indo-European Linguistics.

Guest Editor for NOWELE (special issue *Perspectives on Germanic Syntax*)

Germanic Trümmersprachen: A Handbook (edited with Carla Falluomini (Perugia), foreseen in 2027 as an OA publication).

DATASETS

East Germanic

Gothic (Zanchi & Tarsi 2021)

North Germanic

Old Swedish (Tarsi & Mazzieri 2026)

Modern Swedish (Mazzieri under revision)

Old Norse (Tarsi 2025)

West Germanic

Old High German (Bucci 2025)

Middle High German (Tarsi & Hornecker under revision)

Old English (Giarda 2025)

Middle English (Giarda 2025)

Dutch (Tarsi under revision)

Old Frisian (Tarsi under revision)

West Frisian (Tarsi under revision)

All raw data is uploaded to **ZENODO** and, when finalized, to the PaVeDa (and periodically updated until July 2027)

PUBLICATIONS

1. Tarsi, M. Forthc. Old Norse. Luraghi, Silvia, Guglielmo Inglese, Elisa Roma, Martina Giuliani & Lucrezia Carnesale (eds), Cross-linguistic and diachronic perspectives on valency patterns and alternations. Comparative Handbooks in Linguistics. Berlin / New York: De Gruyter.
2. Tarsi, M. & C. Zanchi. 2025. Basic valency orientation in Gothic. *Indogermanische Forschungen* 130. 257–283.
3. Zanchi, C. & M. Tarsi. 2021. Valency patterns and alternations in Gothic. Luraghi, Silvia and Elisa Roma (eds), *Valency over Time*, 31–87. Trends in Linguistics — Studies and Monographs 368. Berlin: de Gruyter.

In preparation

Tarsi, M., G. Bucci, H. Hornecker, R. Mazzieri & B. Romanazzi. *Verb Valency in Germanic: Looking back ↔ looking ahead*. (to be submitted early in 2027)

TEAM

Core team

Giacomo Bucci (Frankfurt)

Henrik Hornecker (HU Berlin)

Benedetta Romanazzi (Pavia)

Riccardo Mazzieri (MA Pavia 2026)

Consulting team

Stephen Laker (Kyushu)

Luisa Giacoma (Val d'Aosta)

Christoph Hössel (SAW Leipzig)

Former contributors: Chiara Zanchi (Pavia), Martina Giarda (PhD Pavia 2026).



UNIVERSITÀ
DI PAVIA



Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions
Research Fellowship Programme



Funded by the
European Union



LINGUIST
List