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1.3 The corpus studied 1.4 The causative habban instances; 1.5 Previous studies; 2. Discussion; 2.1 Diachronic and dialectal breakdown; 2.2 Syntactic properties of causative habban constructions; 2.3 Semantic properties of causative habban constructions; 2.4 An analysis of the OE instances listed as causative in Section 1.3; 2.5 A hypothesis concerning the rise of causative habban; 2.6 The triggering of the grammaticalisation process: the rise of causative habban in the light of Diewald's context-sensitive grammaticalisation scenario; 3. Final remarks; References; Remembering (ge)munan
1. Introduction

Sommario/riassunto

The theory of language change has in recent years increased its explanatory repertoire by pointing out the role of language contact in determining which paths of development are entered and followed under specified conditions. In particular, language shifting - as unmonitored second language learning - is recognized as a powerful mechanism for introducing new verbal categories into language systems as well as leading to the loss of verbal categories from language systems. In this paper I will relate several of the most important structural changes and categorial differences in the verb systems
