

INTRODUCTION

Double object constructions with different classes of verbs, "give", "send" and "show".

The theory on the basis of English data, predicts that different classes of verbs allow different argument order.

Verbs like "send" are predicted to prefer the order accusative-dative. Whereas, verbs like "give" and "show" are predicted to equally allow the two orders (accusative-dative) and (dative-accusative).

Research question: is there a correlation between the occurrence of verb types and the order of the arguments across verb classes in Croatian?

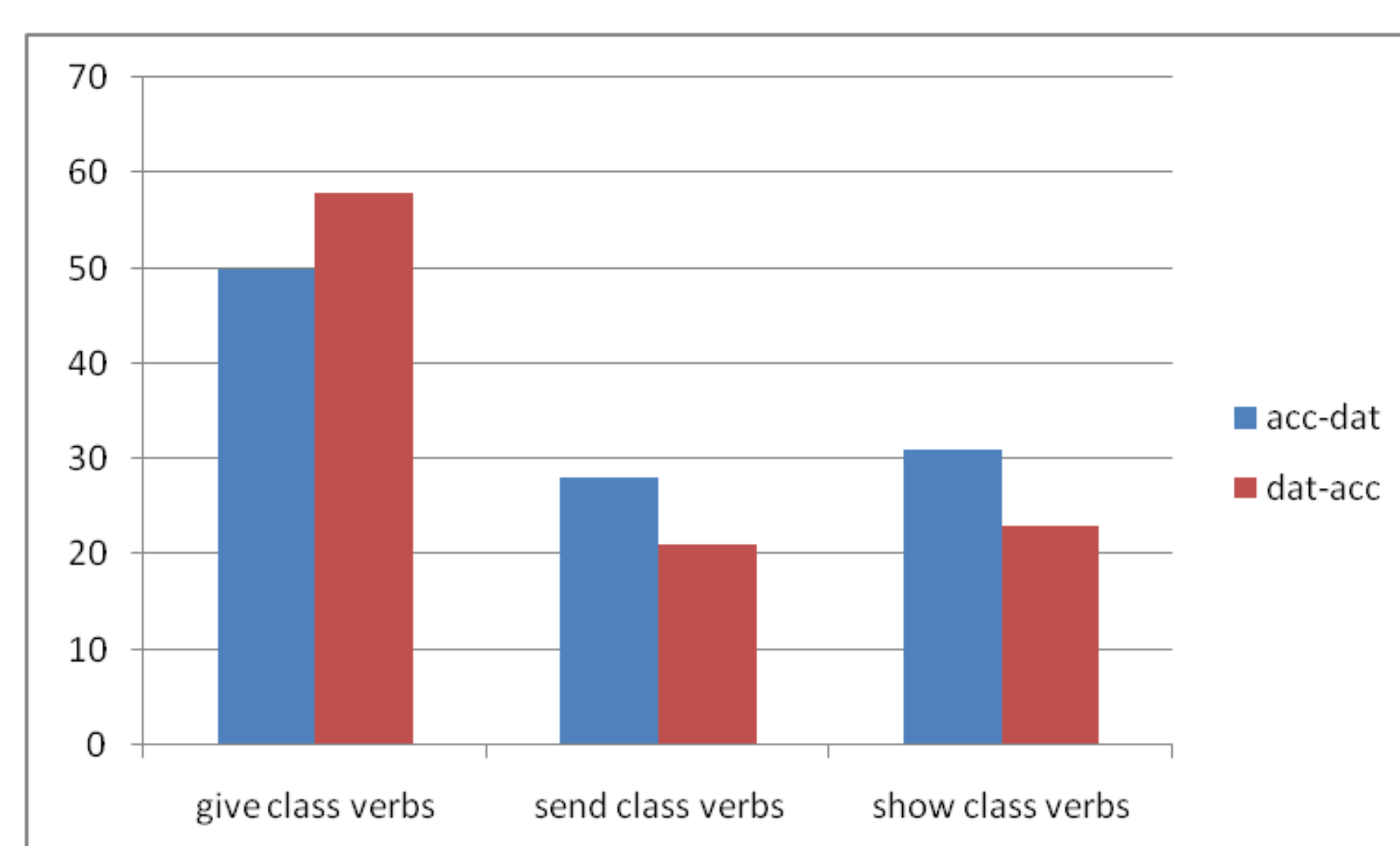
DATA AND METHODS

- corpus used: Croatian Web (hrWaC 2.2, RFTagger) searched with Sketch Engine which consists of 1,211,328,660 words

Verb type	Case pattern		Total
	accusative-dative	dative-accusative	
give class verbs	50	58	108
send class verbs	28	21	49
show class verbs	31	23	54
Total	109	102	211

- show, teach, send, deliver, tell, give
- Quantitative analysis based on CHI square test

ANALYSIS



Chi-Square	df	P
2.55	2	0.2794

Cramer's V = 0.1099

TO GO BEYOND

Does information structure influence argument order?

- Q: Što je Marko poslao svojoj majci?
What do Marko send.PAST his.DAT mother.DAT?
What did Marko send to his mother?
 - Marko je poslao pismo svojoj majci.
Marko do send.PAST a.letter.ACC his.DAT mother.DAT
Marko sent a letter to his mother.
 - # Marko je poslao svojoj majci. pismo
Marko do send.PAST his.DAT mother.DAT a.letter.ACC
Marko sent his mother a letter.
- Q: Kome je Marko poslao pismo?
Who do Marko send.PAST a. letter.ACC?
Who did Marko send a letter to?
 - Marko je poslao svojoj majci pismo.
Marko do send.PAST his.DAT mother.DAT a.letter.ACC
Marko sent his mother a letter.
 - # Marko je poslao pismo svojoj majci.
Marko do send.PAST a.letter.ACC his.DAT mother.DAT
Marko sent a letter to his mother.

CONCLUSION

The results for Croatian are that the relation between the case order and verb classes are insignificant.

- Interesting to reproduce the study with a parallel corpus
- Qualitative research - questionnaires, interviews involving native speakers

REFERENCES

Sketch Engine

CONTACT INFORMATION

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