Introduction <small>by Thomas Herbst</small>

1 Overall purpose of the patternbank

The aim of the Erlangen valency patternbank is to provide a tool for linguistic research in the areas of valency, complementation, semantic roles or construction grammar.

The patternbank lists all valency patterns that were identified for the verbs, adjectives and nouns contained in the *Valency Dictionary of English*. In its present format, it allows researchers to find

→ a complete list of the valency patterns of English verbs (active and passive), adjectives and nouns on the basis of the VDE
→ for each valency pattern a list of all lexical units given in the VDE as occurring in that pattern
→ for each word all valency patterns indicated in VDE.

2 Coverage

At present the patternbank is confined to the words and patterns given in the VDE, which provides a valency description of 511 verbs, 544 adjectives and 274 nouns. These words were chosen on the basis of three criteria: (a) the complexity of their valency properties, (b) their frequency in the language and (c) usefulness for foreign learners of English.

It is important to note that verbs that show no valency patterns apart from the following mono- or divalent patterns are not included: NP + VHC$_{act}$, NP + VHC$_{act}$ + NP and NP + VHC$_{act}$ + ADV. So verbs such as bake or rain are not included in the patternbank at this stage.

The patternbank will continually be expanded to include lexical items and valency patterns not covered by the VDE.

3 Corpus basis

The information contained in the VDE is based on an analysis of the COBUILD corpus. All the major patterns listed in the VDE or the patternbank are thus the result of corpus research.

There are three major exceptions to this, where statements contained in the VDE are based on the intuition of the native speaker editors of the VDE because in many cases there was not sufficient corpus evidence to be found:

→ statements about non-NP-subjects such as [that_CL]-, [V-ing] or [to_INF] etc.
→ statements about subpatterns of the type [about_wh_CL] and [about_wh_to_INF]
→ statements concerning passivization.

These types of information must thus be treated as being less reliable.

4 Access to different types of information

The patternbank provides the following types of information:

Lists of valency patterns

The patternbank contains active verb patterns, passive verb patterns, adjective patterns, noun patterns. They can be sorted in the following ways:

- strictly alphabetically
- according to the number of lexemes for which the pattern is given in VDE
- according to the number of lexical units (as units of form and one meaning in the sense of Cruse 1986) for which the pattern is given in VDE
- according to first postverbal complement

- according to quantitative valency or not

Search options concerning subjects:

Verb patterns can be shown with two different degrees of specification for subjects:

- subject – it - there
  In this mode, patterns in which only impersonal *it* and *there* can occur as subjects are distinguished from all others. The notion subject is to be interpreted to mean that an NP is always possible but other subjects such as *that_CL* or *to_INF* might also occur.
- full range of subjects identified in VDE (often based on native speaker intuition > 3).

Search options concerning lexically specified patterns:

In a number of cases patterns seem to be lexically restricted to a very small number of items. A pattern such as NP + VHC$_{act}$ + NP + Adj: open/shut is given as a subpattern of NP + VHC$_{act}$ + NP + Adj, for example. They can thus be treated as instances of the more general pattern or analysed as idiomatic.

Valency patterns containing a particular complement

Valency patterns can be accessed in the following ways:

- through the "search by pattern" function
- by typing in or choosing a particular complement contained in the pattern

Lexical units occurring in the valency patterns

For each pattern, all the lexical units for which this pattern is given in the VDE are listed.

The letters and glosses refer to the sense distinctions made in VDE. (We regret that for copyright reasons it is not possible to give the full sense description and the examples provided in VDE).

Valency patterns occurring with particular lexemes

The patterns occurring with a particular lexeme can be identified by

→ clicking on a word listed under a pattern
→ carrying out a word search

5 Theoretical framework

5.1 Valency

The overall framework on which the patternbank is based is that of valency theory as it is widely used in German linguistics (Helbig 1991; Herbst/Schüller 2008).

The basic ideas of the approach can be summarized as follows:

▪ A lexical unit has the property of **valency** if it opens up one or more valency slots which can or must be realised by a complement
▪ At the formal level, valency slots will be described in terms of the complements which can fill them. A **complement** is any formal realisation of a valency slot - for instance, a phrase or a clause.
▪ At the semantic level, valency slots can be characterized in terms of **participants** or **participant roles**, which characterize the semantic function of the comple ment in the clause.
▪ With respect to **optionality**, valency slots will be characterized as to whether a slot must or can be realised by a complement.
▪ **Adjuncts** are not part of the valency description. (Herbst/Schüller 2008: 108)

5.2 Valency patterns

Valency patterns comprise a valency carrier (verb, adjective etc.) and its complements.

Patterns of verbs comprise three different types of elements:

subject complement unit:	verbal head complex:	predicate complement units:
valency complement functioning as the subject of a clause	the valency carrier and its pre-heads (auxiliary verbs)	all valency complements occurring in the predicate
NP	+ VHC$_{act}$	+ AdjP
NP	+ VHC$_{pass}$	+ NP (+ by NP)

Although the elements are given in linear order, the order in which they occur in actual sentences can differ from the one indicated depending on whether they occur in a declarative-'statement'-construction as in (1), a 'question'-construction as in (2) or (3) or a construction involving thematic fronting as in (3), for instance:

(1)$_{BNC}$

Valency pattern: NP + VHC$_{act}$ + NP		Sentence type: declarative-'statement'-construction
Robyn	*was*	*naturally optimistic..*
SCU: NP	VHC$_{act}$	PCU: NP

(2)_{BNC}	Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + AdjP		Sentence type: *yes-no*-'question'-construction
	Are	*you*	*any wiser?*
	VHC_{act}	SCU: NP	PCU: AdjP

(3)_{BNC}	Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + AdjP		Sentence type: interrogative-'question'-construction
	How old	*are*	*you?*
	PCU: AdjP	VHC_{act}	SCU: NP

(4)_{BNC}	Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + NP + to_NP			Sentence type: declarative-'statement'-construction
	To these	*I*	*added*	*the delicious fragrance of sweet violets*
	PCU2: to_NP	SCU: NP	VHC_{act}	PCU1: NP

(5)_{BNC}	Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + NP + to_NP			Sentence type: declarative-'statement'-construction
	A "useless" lot	*he*	*called*	*them*
	PCU2: NP	SCU: NP	VHC_{act}	PCU1: NP

Subject complement units do not have to be realized in certain sentences types such as the imperative-'directive'-construction:

(6)_{NW}	Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + NP + NP		Sentence type: imperative-'directive'-construction
	Send	*me*	*your manuscript*
	VHC_{act}	PCU1: NP	PCU2: NP

The (by NP) element in passive patterns is optional (as indicated by the brackets). XXX

5.3 Formal description of complements

In order to enable researchers with different research backgrounds to make use of the patternbank, the patterns are described in terms of surface-oriented formal categories such as NP (noun phrase), V-ing (V-ing-clause), that_CL etc.

The aim is to provide a description which is as theory-neutral as possible. Terms such as object are deliberately being avoided since they are used in different ways in different frameworks (covering either only noun phrases or noun phrases and other formal categories such as *that*-clauses or *to*-infinitives; being defined on the basis of criteria that are purely formal (as by Aarts and Aarts 1982/1988), that are primarily semantic (as in cognitive linguistics) or a mixture of formal and semantic criteria (as in CGEL 1985).

There may be differences of opinion concerning the question of whether a sequence of elements should be analysed as one complement [NP_to_INF] or two [NP] [to_INF] in cases such as the following:

(7)_{VDE}   *Timber producers want the developed world to pay more for wood products in order to finance reforestation.*

5.4 Subclassification of valency patterns - semantic description

One consequence of stating valency patterns in terms of formal categories is that constructions which one would quite obviously want to distinguish are subsumed under the same valency pattern. Thus, for example, both (7) and (8) can be seen as representing the same pattern.

(8)_{NW}   *You will write me a reference then?*
(9)_{SW}   *I wouldn't call myself a structuralist*

The valency pattern NP + VHC_{act} + NP + NP thus subsumes constructions which are distinguished in grammars such as the *Comprehensive Grammar of the English Language* (1985) as ditransitive and complex transitive (representing the clause types SVOO and SVOC) or in construction grammar as ditransitive and a construction of the type Subj V Obj PRED (Goldberg 2006: 21).

Within the valency model outlined by Herbst and Schüller (2008), the difference between sentences such as (8) and (9) would be accounted for in terms of participant roles (which can take the form of verb specific or more general roles).

Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + NP + NP			
You AGENT	*will write*	*me* BEN/REC	*a reference ...* ÆFFECTED
I AGENT	*wouldn't call*	*myself* ÆFFECTED	*a structuralist* PREDICATIVE

(8)_{NW} refers to first data row; (9)_{SW} refers to second data row.

The description provided in the VDE goes beyond that possible in terms of participant roles and provides an adhoc description of semantic features of the complements, lexical lists of possible complements and indication of the meaning of the pattern.

persuade   *verb*

	Active: 2/3	Passive: 1/3	General: 0		III cont	[to-INF]	T1
I	[N]_A / [by N]					[that-CL]	T2
	[V-ing]_A	D	T1–4			[into N/V-ing]	T3
	[that-CL]_A	D	T1.3			[of N]	T4
II obl	[N]_P	D	T1–5			[out of N]	T5

Z   He did not want to seem to be using emotional pressure to *persuade*. (only if clear from context)

D   + N_P   But the AAFSW went directly to the then Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, with their findings. He was *persuaded*. (only if clear from context) • Try and *persuade* her, Laura. I believe it's very important. (only if clear from context)

T1   + N_P + to-INF   She wished she'd been able to *persuade* Alfred to go for a walk with her after breakfast. • An inspired and effective pressure group, the Naples '99 Foundation, has *persuaded* manufacturers, newspapers, hotel groups, you name it, to fund restoration of decayed monuments. • Miss Melville was beginning to feel hungry herself, but nothing would *persuade* her to eat in this place. • Ludwig Erhard (like Konrad Adenauer) believed that this concession, financially costly for the Federal Republic, might *persuade* General de Gaulle to adopt a more friendly attitude towards European integration. • What else but hate had *persuaded* Caroline to go back that last time?

T2   + N_P + (that)-CL   Women's suffrage groups and other women's organizations lobbied hard to *persuade* MPs that women should no longer be treated as their husband's appendages. • He *persuaded* her she'd learn seamanship a lot faster if she sailed with him. • Telephone calls and letters failed to *persuade* her that she must be mistaken, so Sainsbury's arranged for a representative from John West to visit her at home.

T3   + N_P + into N/V-ing   He is a practising vegetarian – but just sometimes can be *persuaded* into a juicy steak. • Mr Tomlinson called for more spending to *persuade* brighter scientists into becoming teachers.

T4   + N_P + of N   Mr Major will go to the House of Commons Treasury Select Committee on Wednesday, to *persuade* MPs of the merits of his scheme

T5   + N_P + out of N   After leaving Vickers, Sir David was *persuaded* out of retirement to join Inchcape.

A person or something such as an argument or a fact[I] can persuade a person[II]
(i)   to do something[III], i.e. make them do it.
(ii)   that something is the case[III], i.e. make them believe that it is true.
(iii)   into or out of something or doing something[III], i.e. make them do or stop doing it.
(iv)   of the need, advantage, benefit, etc. of sth.[III], i.e. make them believe in it.

5.5 Obligatoriness and optionality of pattern elements

In a valency description, one can distinguish between three types of valency slots:

- Obligatory valency slots have to be filled whenever the valency carrier is used.
- Optional valency slots can be realized by a complement.
- Contextually optional valency slots need not be realized if the referent of the participant can be identified in the context of the utterance.

This classification is similar to the distinctions made by Goldberg (2006: 39) or Fillmore (2007). It has a more lexical orientation, however, since it does not take active clauses as primary[1] and since it combines necessity at the level of valency with the levels of communicative necessity (arising from the context) and of structural necessity (arising from the constructions with which the valency pattern is combined) (Herbst/Schüller 2008: 111-113).

The pattern presentation in the patternbank does not explicitly indicate optionality of complements with the two exceptions pointed out above (> 5.2): (a) by_NPs are marked as optional in the case of most passive patterns (b) all subject complement units can be optional in certain sentence types

Otherwise the optionality of a complement is indicated by the fact that two patterns are given - one containing the optional complement, the other one not. Thus the optionality of the complement realized by *a newspaper* in

(10)$_{BNC}$ *He was reading a newspaper*

can be deduced from the fact that for *read* (word search) the following patterns are given:

NP + VHC$_{act}$ + NP   *He was reading a newspaper.*
NP + VHC$_{act}$ *He was reading.*

5.6 Related patterns

Since the patternbank represents valency patterns and does not - like VDE - provide a complement inventory which identifies the different valency slots of a valency carrier as such, it does not explicitly indicate related patterns.

In the case of passives, the use of different colours indicates which verbs taking a particular active pattern also show passive patterns; in other cases the information can be obtained through the pattern list given in a word search. In some cases, the information provided by

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[1] For active clauses, Goldberg's (2006: 39) description of profiled roles as those that "are obligatorily expressed, or, if unexpressed, must receive a definite interpretation" correspond to obligatory and contextually-optional complements; but Goldberg (2006: 40) points out that the passive, for instance, "insures that a normally profiled role (e.g. agent) be optionally expressed in an oblique by-phrase." It is for this reason that complement slots that can be realized by a subject-NP of a passivizable verb would not be classified as obligatory at the level of valency. See also Herbst (2007).

the patternbank falls behind that of the VDE: so the ergative character of the *ring* is not made sufficiently clear by listing the patterns:

NP + VHC_{act} + NP   *Somebody rang a bell.*
NP + VHC_{act}   *The doorbell rang. Somebody rang a bell.*

5.7 Valency patterns - participant structures - valency constructions

The model of syntactic analysis proposed by Herbst and Schüller (2008), which combines elements of valency theory and construction grammar, distinguishes between three different types of patterning in this area:

➢   Valency patterns represent patterns of valency complements, i.e. formal categories.

Valency pattern: NP + VHC_{act} + NP + NP			
You	*will write*	*me*	*a reference ...*
I	*wouldn't call*	*myself*	*a structuralist*

(8)_{NW} — second row; (9)_{SW} — third row.

➢   Participant structures or participant patterns are recurrent configurations of particular participant roles.

Participant structure: AGENT + ÆFFECTED + PREDICATIVE			
I NP	*wouldn't call*	*myself* NP	*a structuralist* AdjP
Record companies NP	*consider*	*this support* NP	*quite economic ...* AdjP

(9)_{SW}; (11)_{BNC}.

➢   Valency constructions are patterns of form-meaning-pairings in the sense of construction grammar, i.e. patterns of complements expressing the same participant roles.

Valency construction: NP AGENT + VHC_{act} + NP ÆFFECTED + NP PREDICATIVE			
I	*wouldn't call*	*myself*	*a structuralist*
A great detective	*might have considered*	*this*	*an astounding coincidence ...*

(9)_{SW}; (12)_{BNC}.

Valency construction: NP AGENT + VHC_{act} + NP ÆFFECTED + AdjP PREDICATIVE			
Record companies	*consider*	*this support*	*quite economic ...*
We	*call*	*that*	*unfair.*

(11)_{BNC}; (13)_{BNC}.

Valency constructions are similar to the argument structure constructions as defined by Goldberg (1995, 2006): one important difference is that valency constructions are based on purely formal categories such as NP or to_INF, whereas argument structure constructions are often described in terms of categories such as object ot PRED that are less specific and entail a semantic component (> 5.4).

5.8 Valency as an item-specific property of lexical units - constructemes

Valency is seen as a property of lexical units. Empirical research on valency shows that the valency patterns of lexical units do not seem to be generally predictable from their meanings, although some generalizations can no doubt be made.

One way of capturing the generalizations about the meanings of patterns and the idiosyncratic specific character of the occurrence of particular patterns with particular verbs is the notion of constructeme. A constructeme can be defined as the set of all valency constructions that share the same participant structures.

Thus a participant structure agent - æffected - judgement can be expressed by a number of different valency patterns. The corresponding constructeme could be described in the following form:

AGENT		ÆFFECTED	JUDGEMENT		consider	judge	call	count	regard	think	look	see	view
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	NP		+	+	+	+		+			
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	AdjP		+	+	+			+			
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	to_INF		+	+							
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	as_NP		+	+		+	+			+	+
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	as_AdjP		+	+		+	+			+	+
NP	VHC$_{act}$	of_NP	as_NP							+			
NP	VHC$_{act}$	of_NP	as_AdjP							+			
NP	VHC$_{act}$	upon_NP	as_NP								+		
NP	VHC$_{act}$	upon_NP	as_AdjP								+		
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	with_NP						+			+	+
NP	VHC$_{act}$	NP	PP						+			+	+

ÆFFECTED		JUDGEMENT	(AGENT)	consider	judge	call	count	regard	think	look	see	view
NP	VHC$_{pass}$	NP	by_NP	+	+	+	+		+			
NP	VHC$_{pass}$	AdjP	by_NP	+	+	+			+			
NP	VHC$_{pass}$	to_INF	by_NP	+	+				+		+	
NP	VHC$_{pass}$	as_NP	by_NP	+	+		+	+			+	+
NP	VHC$_{pass}$	as_AdjP	by_NP	+	+		+	+			+	+
NP	VHC$_{pass\_}$of	as_NP	by_NP						+			
NP	VHC$_{pass\_}$of	as_AdjP	by_NP						+			
NP	VHC$_{pass\_}$upon	as_NP	by_NP							+		
NP	VHC$_{pass\_}$upon	as_AdjP	by_NP							+		
NP	*VHC$_{pass}$*	*with_NP*	*by_NP*					+			+	+
NP	*VHC$_{pass}$*	*PP*	*by_NP*					+			+	+

Different researchers will differ in their views as to which valency constructions should be seen as sufficiently similar in meaning to be subsumed under one constructeme. Construction grammarians in particular may find it appropriate to put more emphasis on the differences in meaning between various valency constructions (see, however, the notion of families of subconstructions of argument structure constructions (Goldberg/Jackendoff 2004)).

We hope that the patternbank will contribute to further empirical research on these questions.

6 Uses of the patternbank

6.1 The patternbank and the VDE

Users of the patternbank must be aware of the fact that the valency patterns indicated do not provide a full description of the valency properties of the respective valency carriers.

This is in line with the aim of providing a relatively theory-neutral database which can be taken as a starting point for research within different linguistic frameworks.

A more comprehensive description of the valency properties of the words contained in the patternbank can be found in the *Valency Dictionary of English* (2004). This concerns in particular the following aspects:

> ➢ a semantic description of the lexical units taken as valency carriers and a description of the semantic and lexical-collocational properties of the complements

> **A person or something such as an argument or a fact[I] can persuade a person[II]**
> (i)   **to do something[III]**, i.e. make them do it.
> (ii)   **that something is the case[III]**, i.e. make them believe that it is true.
> (iii) **into or out of something or doing something[III]**, i.e. make them do or stop doing it.
> (iv)   **of the need, advantage, benefit, etc. of sth.[III]**, i.e. make them believe in it.

➤ the relation of the complements in different patterns of the same valency carrier in terms of identifying valency slots in a complement inventory

land *verb*

A	'arrive'					C	'end up'			
	Active: 1/3	Passive: 1/3	General: 0				Active: 2/3	Passive: 1/3		
I	[N]A / [by N] *AGENT*		M	D1–2	T3	I	[N]A / [by N]			
II	[N]P *ÆFFECTED*			D1	T3		[V-ing]A			T1.3
	[N]A			D2	T3		[to-INF]A			T1.3
III	[ADV]P-prep			D2	T3		[that-CL]A			T1.3
B	'succeed'					II obl	[N]P			T1.3
	Active: 2/3	Passive: 1/3					[N]A		D2	
I	[N]A / [by N]					III obl	[ADV]P-prep		D2	T3
	[V-ing]A			D1			[in N]			T3
	[that-CL]A			D1		Further uses				
II obl	[N]P			D1	T3		[with N]			T2
III	[ADV]				T3					

M   A When the plane *landed* the pilot jumped out.
D1   + NP
     A He *landed* his machine with surgical precision and taxied to the small hangar-cum-control building.

B On graduating, he *landed* a traineeship with the Westminster Press, the classic route into newspaper journalism. • The fish didn't fight very much, it just wallowed around on the surface and I *landed* it easily. • The American

➤ the degree of obligatoriness and optionality of valency

persuade *verb*

	Active: 2/3	Passive: 1/3	General: 0			III cont	[to-INF]		T1
I	[N]A / [by N]						[that-CL]		T2
	[V-ing]A		D	T1–4			[into N/V-ing]		T3
	[that-CL]A		D	T1.3			[of N]		T4
II obl	[N]P		D	T1–5			[out of N]		T5

Z   He did not want to seem to be using emotional pressure to *persuade*. (only if clear from context)
D   + NP   But the AAFSW went directly to the then Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, with their findings. He was *persuaded*. (only if clear from context) • Try and *persuade* her, Laura. I believe it's very important. (only if clear from context)
T1   + NP + to-INF   She wished she'd been able to *persuade* Alfred to go for a walk with

T2   + NP + (that)-CL   Women's suffrage groups and other women's organizations lobbied hard to *persuade* MPs that women should no longer be treated as their husband's appendages. • He *persuaded* her she'd learn seamanship a lot faster if she sailed with him. • Telephone calls and letters failed to *persuade* her that she must be mistaken, so Sainsbury's arranged for a representative from John West to visit her at home.

➤ examples

persuade   *verb*

	Active: 2/3	Passive: 1/3	General: 0		III cont	[to-INF]	T1
I	[N]$_A$ / [by N]					[that-CL]	T2
	[V-ing]$_A$	D	T1–4			[into N/V-ing]	T3
	[that-CL]$_A$	D	T1.3			[of N]	T4
II obl	[N]$_P$	D	T1–5			[out of N]	T5

Z   He did not want to seem to be using emotional pressure to *persuade*. (only if clear from context)

D   **+ N$_P$**   But the AAFSW went directly to the then Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, with their findings. He was *persuaded*. (only if clear from context) • Try and *persuade* her, Laura. I believe it's very important. (only if clear from context)

T1   **+ N$_P$ + to-INF**   She wished she'd been able to *persuade* Alfred to go for a walk with

T2   **+ N$_P$ + (that)-CL**   Women's suffrage groups and other women's organizations lobbied hard to *persuade* MPs that women should no longer be treated as their husband's appendages. • He *persuaded* her she'd learn seamanship a lot faster if she sailed with him. • Telephone calls and letters failed to *persuade* her that she must be mistaken, so Sainsbury's arranged for a representative from John West to visit her at home.

> frequency information

D1   **+ N$_P$**
A   Can you *suggest* anyone who could alter the length of my dress for me? • So can you supply any helpful information or *suggest* any books that might provide aid?
B   These figures *suggest* a difficulty that runs deeper than mere recession. • The girl's hurt look *suggests* vulnerability. • Only recently, a medical report has *suggested* a link between childhood leukaemia and exposure to radiation through working at Sellafield.

D2   **+ V-ing$_P$**
A   The Council members *suggest* appointing a task force to study the problem. • It is with reluctance that I *suggest* spending more on it.

D3   **+ (that)-CL$_{P(it)}$** *(> 30 %)*
A   He *suggested* that there should be an intermediary stage with the national parliaments having a final say on the time to move ahead. •

impressions are justified. • And I am quite unable to *suggest* who might have been driving the Ferrari.

D5   **+ wh to-INF$_{P(it)}$**
A   Can you *suggest* how to proceed?

D6   **QUOTE$_{P(it)}$ / SENTENCE$_{P(it)}$**
A   "Try again on Monday," he *suggested*. • Perhaps, he *suggested* tentatively, they should send for Dr Band.
B   'They might be doing the dishes,' David *suggested* after a moment. • It could also cost Mr Major's party votes, he *suggested*. • So in a sense, I would *suggest*, Greene is trying to be tremendously honest and not superficial.

D7   **+ so/not/otherwise**
B   The evidence *suggests* otherwise. • "Natural" it might be to educate girls and boys side-by-side but are both sexes equally well served by the system? Statistics would *suggest* not. • Are the education dreams of all three major politi-

> statements about minimum and maximum valency in active and passive as well as general uses

persuade   *verb*

	Active: 2 / 3	**Passive: 1 / 3**	**General: 0**		III cont [to-INF]	T1
I	[N]_A / [by N]				[that-CL]	T2
	[V-ing]_A	D	T1–4		[into N/V-ing]	T3
	[that-CL]_A	D	T1.3		[of N]	T4
II obl	[N]_P	D	T1–5		[out of N]	T5

Z   He did not want to seem to be using emotional pressure to *persuade*. (only if clear from context)

D   **+ N_P**   But the AAFSW went directly to the then Secretary of State, Cyrus Vance, with their findings. He was *persuaded*. (only if clear from context) ● Try and *persuade* her, Laura. I believe it's very important. (only if clear from context)

T1   **+ N_P + to-INF**   She wished she'd been able to *persuade* Alfred to go for a walk with

T2   **+ N_P + (that)-CL**   Women's suffrage groups and other women's organizations lobbied hard to *persuade* MPs that women should no longer be treated as their husband's appendages. ● He *persuaded* her she'd learn seamanship a lot faster if she sailed with him. ● Telephone calls and letters failed to *persuade* her that she must be mistaken, so Sainsbury's arranged for a representative from John West to visit her at home.

6.2 Research questions

The patternbank is intended as a tool for further research into the nature of valency phenomena. It is intended as a database that provides a starting point for future empirical research.

One of the most intriguing issues for future research is the question as to what extent valency properties are item-specific properties of particular lexical units and to what extent generalizations about the relationship between lexical meaning and pattern use can be made.

In this respect, the patternbank can be used to investigate some relatively obvious and pressing research questions such as

- whether all verbs occurring in a valency pattern have semantic properties in common,
- to what extent all occurrences of a valency pattern can be matched with the same participant structure,
- to what extent all the verbs occuring in a particular valency pattern could be seen as taking the same argument structure construction,
- which other valency patterns the verbs occurring in one pattern take and which conclusions can be drawn from this about the nature of patterning.

6.3 Future prospects

The patternbank is not be seen as a static database but as an ongoing research project. At present, it is restricted to the information contained in the VDE, which was compiled on the basis of the COBUILD corpus.

The patternbank will be expanded in two ways:

- Further words will be included, in particular highly frequent verbs with simple valency structures.

- The data of the patternbank will need to be revised. This concerns in particular the addition of valency patterns that were missed in the compilation of the VDE. Furthermore the perspective of the data opened up by the patternbank provides an opportunity for a critical reanalysis in some cases because obviously decisions taken in the compilation of an EFL dictionary may be based on different criteria (such as usefulness for the user) than those appropriate for other research purposes.

We invite users of the patternbank to comment on the approach under patternbank@uni-erlangen.de. We would very much welcome corpus evidence for patterns that ought to be added for the lexical items covered (with authentic example and corpus source, if possible).

7 References

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BNC: British National Corpus
NW: *Nice Work* by David Lodge
SW: *Small World* by David Lodge
VDE: Valency Dictionary of English