A diachronic corpus-driven study of the expression of possibility in Luganda (Bantu, JE15)

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ONLINE SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

Supplementary Material 1: Brief overview of definitions and typologies for modality as found in the literature

In agreement with Lyons (1977: 452), Palmer (1986: 14-15) attempts to define modality in terms of the expression of "the speaker's attitude or opinion" or as referring to "all the non-propositional elements of a sentence", or still, as being "concerned with the status of the proposition that describes the event" (Palmer 2001: 1). As pointed out by Nuyts (2006: 6), however, this definition is very broad and it even includes categories like tense and aspect. For that reason, Nuyts (2006: 1) proposes a narrower definition of modality, where the notion refers to a semantic subfield within the wider TAM domain. Bybee *et al.* (1994: 176) apply a diachronic aspect to Palmer's definition: following Bybee (1985), they suggest that a real understanding of modality would emerge from a study of a set of "diachronically related functions". Hence they define modality as the "grammaticization of speakers' (subjective) attitudes and opinions" (Bybee *et al.* 1994: 176). On the other hand, Traugott & Dasher (2001: 50) define modality in terms of the "relativization of the validity of sentence meanings to a set of possible worlds" or the expression of "a perspective that considers the possibility of things being otherwise than they are" (see also Kiefer 1994: 2515). We stick to Nuyts (2006) because it is narrower.

Supplementary Material 2: Raw frequency facts that underlie Figures 5, 6, 9, 10, 13 and 14

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 5 (expressed as occurrences per 10,000 words)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
Lexical	0	0	0	0	0	0.4	0.4	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lexical+	0.8	1	3.2	0	1.8	0.8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
P-In DyPo	4.8	3.1	5.3	4.4	9.3	4.2	1.7	2.6	0.4	1.5	2.6	0.2	0.2
P-Im DyPo	2	1.4	2.8	5.8	3.1	1.7	3.5	0.4	0.1	0.3	0.2	0.2	0.2
Sit DyPo	0.8	1	1.8	9.2	5.3	5.8	7	1.6	1.7	2.8	4.7	2	2.4
DePo	0.5	3.1	1.8	5.8	2.7	3.7	18.7	2.9	2.2	1.6	1.9	3.1	3.9
EPo	2.3	1	1.1	7.3	7.1	7.1	9.1	4.4	2	5.4	7.3	7.8	9.2
SUM	**11.2**	**10.6**	**16**	**32.5**	**29.3**	**23.7**	**40.4**	**11.9**	**6.4**	**11.6**	**16.7**	**13.3**	**15.9**

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 6 (expressed as relative frequencies)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
Lexical	0	0	0	0	0	1.7	1	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
Lexical+	7.1	9.4	20.0	0	6.1	3.4	0	0	0	0	0	0.0	0
P-In DyPo	42.9	29.2	33.1	13.5	31.7	17.7	4.2	21.8	6.3	12.9	15.6	1.5	1.3
P-Im DyPo	17.9	13.2	17.5	17.8	10.6	7.2	8.7	3.4	1.6	2.6	1.2	1.5	1.3
Sit DyPo	7.1	9.4	11.3	28.3	18.1	24.5	17.3	13.4	26.6	24.1	28.1	15.0	15.1
DePo	4.5	29.2	11.3	17.8	9.2	15.6	46.3	24.4	34.4	13.8	11.4	23.3	24.5
EPo	20.5	9.4	6.9	22.5	24.2	30	22.5	37	31.3	46.6	43.7	58.6	57.9
SUM	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 9 (expressed as occurrences per 10,000 words)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
Lexical	1.26	0.1	0.53	0.21	0.68	1	0.73	0.96	0.6	1.35	1.96	0.69	0.76
P-In DyPo	0	0.1	0.18	0.35	1.09	2.82	2.66	2.32	1.67	2.58	2.31	4.14	5.29
P-Im DyPo	0.25	0.13	0	0.48	1.43	1.5	4.11	2.73	7.53	1.84	5.16	6.56	7.18
Sit DyPo	0	0	0	0.35	1.16	2.16	3.75	3.01	0.6	3.81	2.84	15.19	12.84
DePo	0	0	0	0	0	0	0.12	0	0.36	0	0	5.18	3.78
SUM	**1.51**	**0.33**	**0.71**	**1.39**	**4.36**	**7.48**	**11.37**	**9.02**	**10.76**	**9.58**	**12.27**	**31.76**	**29.85**

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 10 (expressed as relative frequencies)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
Lexical	83.4	30.3	74.6	15.1	15.6	13.4	6.4	10.6	5.6	14.1	16.0	2.2	2.5
P-In DyPo	0.0	30.3	25.4	25.2	25.0	37.7	23.4	25.7	15.5	26.9	18.8	13.0	17.7
P-Im DyPo	16.6	39.4	0.0	34.5	32.8	20.1	36.1	30.3	70.0	19.2	42.1	20.7	24.1
Sit DyPo	0.0	0.0	0.0	25.2	26.6	28.9	33.0	33.4	5.6	39.8	23.1	47.8	43.0
DePo	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.1	0.0	3.3	0.0	0.0	16.3	12.7
SUM	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 13 (expressed as occurrences per 10,000 words)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
CF	8.6	2.4	3	2.8	8.5	6.0	3.5	3.8	3.6	3	6.4	2	0.9
CF&DeNe	0	0	0.4	0	0.0	0.0	0	0.2	0	0.7	0.7	0.6	1.2
DeNe	2	1.3	0.8	4.1	4.4	7.0	5.4	3.6	1	5.2	2.8	2.9	4.6
EPo	0	0	0	0	0.0	0.7	0.2	0.5	0	1.5	0.5	1.6	1.5
HYP	1	0	1.2	3.3	2.5	7	2.9	2.4	0.7	1.2	0.7	1.3	1.7
SUM	**11.6**	**3.7**	**5.4**	**10.2**	**15.4**	**20.7**	**12**	**10.5**	**5.3**	**11.6**	**11.1**	**8.4**	**9.9**

Raw frequency facts that underlie Figure 14 (expressed as relative frequencies)

Meaning	1890s	1900s	1910s	1920s	1930s	1940s	1950s	1960s	1970s	1980s	1990s	2000s	2010s
CF	74.1	64.9	55.6	27.5	55.2	29.0	29.2	36.2	67.9	25.9	57.7	23.8	9.1
CF&DeNe	0.0	0.0	7.4	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1.9	0.0	6.0	6.3	7.1	12.1
DeNe	17.2	35.1	14.8	40.2	28.6	33.8	45.0	34.3	18.9	44.8	25.2	34.5	46.5
EPo	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	3.4	1.7	4.8	0.0	12.9	4.5	19.0	15.2
HYP	8.6	0.0	22.2	32.4	16.2	33.8	24.2	22.9	13.2	10.3	6.3	15.5	17.2
SUM	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**	**100**

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