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The root *kṛ* in Vedic

After the short presentation of its etymology (< PIE **(s?)k^uer-* and/or **(s)ker-*), the paper will offer a systematic survey of the various (main verb, light verb and auxiliary) uses of the Vedic root *kṛ* 'to make, do etc.', following the semantic approach of E. Schultze-Berndt (2008) concerning generalised actions verbs.

Kṛ is used as a full verb with the lexical meaning 'to create, prepare, produce etc.' and as a factitive copula in the *cvi*-construction (Balles 2006) and in connection with predicative nouns, adjectives and adverbs (Hoffman 1976). Special emphasis will be laid on its use as a light verb in various periphrastic constructions such as the periphrastic causative (Zehnder 2011) and, first of all, *N_{acc}+V* complex predicates either with or without the semantic feature of causativity. Along with *as* (and *bhū*), *kṛ* is also used as an auxiliary in the periphrastic perfect.

I will also point out some evidence in favour of the assumption of a grammaticalization process light verb → auxiliary in the history of the root *kṛ* (against the theoretical position of Butt 2010, according to whom light verbs do not give rise to auxiliaries).

References

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