Quotative constructions with ba and s(åh)är

in spoken Swedish

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INTRODUCTION

In recent decades, a number of new quotative markers have emerged in (spoken) Swedish. Their main function is to signal a shift from reporting to reported speech (discourse organizational function). They can also express pragmatic functions (speaker- and hearer-oriented) (Hasund et al. 2012: 38).

The new Swedish signals of direct speech have been recruited from various semantic and lexical sources such as comparatives (liksom 'like', typ 'type'), demonstratives (så här 'such like this') and quantifiers (ba(ra) 'only, just').

• Development of **ba** as a quotative marker: adjective bar > (restrictive) focus adverb > focus marker > quotative marker

0137 å ja SÄger- NÄ- ja !VILL! verkligen inte; and I say - no, I really don't want to 0138 - HAN_ba- JO_JO_JOhe just- yes, you want

 Development of s(åh)är as a quotative marker: demonstrative adverb > focus marker > quotative marker

0155 → =bara för att ja KÄNde s är- JA kommer få en paNIKattack; just because I felt like (this)- I'm going to get a panic attack

Research questions

Which of the analyzed markers is more frequent?

What are the differences and similarities between the most important formal and pragmatic characteristics of the quotative markers ba and s(åh)är?

Which quotative constructions do **ba** and **s(åh)är** occur in?

DATA



13 YouTube-videos in Swedish (story time, total duration: 3:44:50)



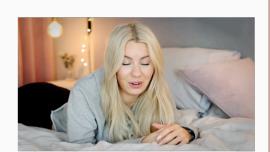
Content creators aged 19-30 years



Discussed topics: e.g. teen boys horseplay, panic attack, abortion, sexual harassment



GAT2 annotation conventions **FOLKER** transcription software





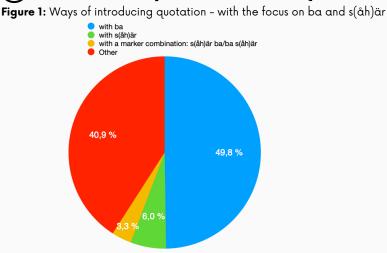
METHODOLOGY

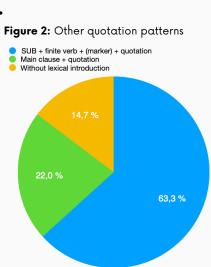
- Quantitative-qualitative analysis (Ziem/Lasch 2013)
- Interactional Construction Grammar (Imo 2007, 2015)
- Construction definition (Goldberg 2006):
 - any linguistic pattern whose form or function is not strictly predictable from its component parts or from other constructions,
 - patterns which are fully predictable as long as they occur with sufficient trequency.
- Construction a dynamic network of constructions with five different types of associations: taxonomic, sequential, symbolic, filler-slot, horizontal relations (Diessel 2019)

RESULTS

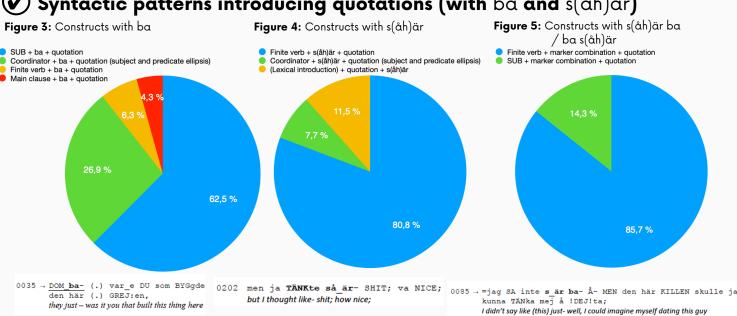
418 reportative constructs in the examined data



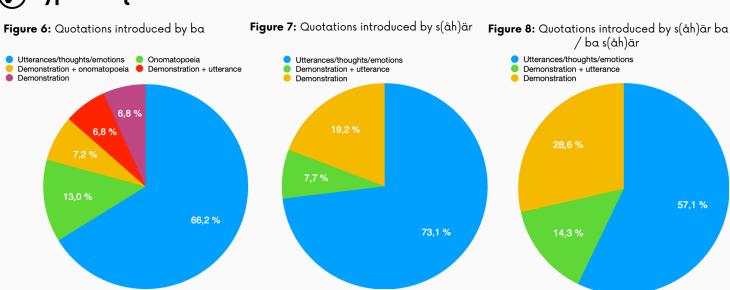




(v) Syntactic patterns introducing quotations (with ba and s(ah)ar)







Reportative constructions with ba(ra) and s(ah)ar - general constructional patterns s(åh)är

[[SUB] [Vfin] [ba] [quotation]]

[[SUB] [Vfin] [s(åh)är] [quotation]]

[[SUB] [ba] [quotation]]

[[SUB] [Vfin] ([marker]) [quotation]] [s(åh)är]

[[main clause] [ba] [quotation]]

Similarities and differences between ba and s(åh)är as quotatives **Similarities**

- discourse (as both focus and quotative marker)
- structural and pragmatic functions
- often phonetically reduced
- can occur in discourse marker clusters (probably with complementary functions)
- primarily speaker-oriented (however: **ba** - affective stance, **s(åh)är** - epistemic stance
- introduce different types of content (utterances, thoughts, actions)

Differences ullet pragmaticalized on the level of ullet ba as the most frequent quotative

marker

- contrary to s(åh)är, ba occurs mostly without (reporting) verbs
- semantic bleaching more prominent in case of **ba** (more neutral quotative)
- greater diversity of quotations introduced by ba
- s(åh)är as a hearer-orientated marker