

# **19th International Postgraduate Linguistics Conference on Language Variation and Change**

University of Manchester & University of Salford

*16th -17th September 2010*



## ***Conference Programme & Abstracts***

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## 19th International Postgraduate Linguistics Conference

*University of Manchester and University of Salford*

### PROGRAMME

#### DAY 1: 16/09/10

9:00            **Registration, Roscoe Building 1.009**

9:50            **Welcome and Announcements, Roscoe Building 1.009**

#### SESSION 1

	<i>Roscoe 1.001</i> PHONETICS /PHONOLOGY AND SYNTAX Chair: Elke Philburn	<i>Roscoe 1.007</i> SOCIOLINGUISTICS/ATTITUDES TOWARDS LANGUAGES Chair: Marije van Hattum
10:00	<b>Bruna Karla Pereira</b> <i>(Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil / University of Cambridge, UK)</i> ‘Is Brazilian Portuguese ‘lá’ in Spec,IP?’	<b>Joana Aguiar</b> <i>(Centre for Humanistic Studies, University of Minho, Portugal)</i> ‘Coordinate structures and education.’
10:30	<b>Emanuela Buizza</b> <i>(University of Leeds, UK)</i> ‘Lenition of /t/ in spontaneous RP English’	<b>Laura Paterson</b> <i>(Loughborough University, Leicestershire, UK)</i> ‘No Language Variation, No Change: Eighteenth Century Grammar in Twenty-First Century Classrooms’
11:00	<b>Chien Yufu</b> <i>(National Chengchi University, Taiwan)</i> ‘The Production and Perception of Voiceless Retroflex and Dental Sibilants in Taiwan Mandarin’	<b>Yi-Ling Chung</b> <i>(National Chung Cheng University, Taiwan)</i> ‘Testing Duration Effect in Southern Min-accented Mandarin’

11:30            **Coffee Break, Roscoe 1.009**

12:00            **KEYNOTE 1: PROF David Denison: ‘The noun-adjective boundary: Recent change and category theory’, Roscoe 1.008, Chair: Marije van Hattum**

13:00            Lunch Break, *Roscoe 1.009*

## SESSION 2

	Roscoe 1.001 TYPOLOGY Chair: Aurelie Cauchard	Roscoe 1.007 SYNTAX Chair: Rebekka Ott
14:00	<b>Dorothea Hoffmann</b> ( <i>University of Manchester, UK</i> ) ‘The way to go: on the distribution of path in motion descriptions in Jaminjung and Kriol’	<b>Issa Abdel Razaq</b> ( <i>Queen Mary, University of London, UK</i> ) ‘Variation in Wh-in-situ in Arabic’
14:30	<b>Rachel Nye</b> ( <i>Ghent University, Belgium</i> ) ‘The categorial status of Dutch and English declarative hoe-/how-complement clauses’	<del>Cancelled talk</del>
15:00	<b>Larysa Nikolayeva</b> ( <i>Majan University College, Oman</i> ) ‘Universal nature of a kinship term’	<b>Chiarung Tsou<sup>1</sup> &amp; Shuanfan Huang<sup>2,1</sup></b> ( <i>National Taiwan University, Taiwan and Yuanze University</i> ) ‘Multiple functions of the case marker <i>ka</i> in Truku and Seediq discourse’

15:30 **Coffee Break**, *Roscoe Building 1.009*

16:00 **KEYNOTE 2:** Dr Oliver Bond: ‘**Variation in Negation Systems: A multidimensional-scaling approach**’, *Roscoe Building 1.008*, Chair: *Dorothea Hoffmann*

17:00 **FILM VIEWING:** ‘**The Linguists**’, *Roscoe Building 1.008*

19:00 **Conference Dinner** at ‘The Petra’

**DAY 2: 17/09/10**9:00 **Welcome and Announcements**, *Roscoe Building 1.009***SESSION 3**

	<i>Roscoe 1.001</i> SYNTAX / MORPHOSYNTAX Chair: Yannis Kostopoulos	<i>Roscoe 1.007</i> SOCIOPHONOLOGY/SOCIOLINGUISTICS Chair: Jonathan Morris
9:30	<b>Rebekka Ott</b> ( <i>University of Manchester</i> ) 'Same but different: The Postmodifier Hyperbaton in Republican Latin'	<b>Nicholas Flynn</b> ( <i>University of York, UK</i> ) "Nottingham just go [prɒplɛ]" – happy Variation among Nottingham Adolescents'
10:00	<b>Ursula Stangel</b> ( <i>LMU Munich, Germany</i> ) 'Reflexives, Personal Pronouns and Case in Bavarian'	<b>Ebtesam Alothman</b> ( <i>University of Manchester, UK</i> ) 'Computer Mediated Communication: New Varieties of Language'
10:30	<b>Hannah Gibson</b> ( <i>SOAS, University of London, UK</i> ) 'Futures past and present: head-finality in Langi'	<del>Cancelled Talk</del>
11:00	<b>Dan Ponsford</b> ( <i>Lancaster University, UK</i> ) 'Remodelling of Lingala ba on French les'	<b>Iwan Rees</b> ( <i>Aberystwyth University, UK</i> ) 'Standard and Dialect: The younger and the older generations of Ardudwy'

11:30 Coffee Break, *Roscoe Building 1.009*12:00 **KEYNOTE 3: Dr Paul Rowlett: 'Syntactic variation in French: diglossia and language change'**, *Roscoe Building 1.008*, Chair: Fabrizio Gallai13:00 Lunch Break, *Roscoe 1.009*

## Session 4

	<i>Roscoe 1.001</i> SEMANTICS/PRAGMATICS Chair: Dorothea Hoffmann	<i>Roscoe 1.007</i> MORPHOLOGY/LANGUAGE CONTACT Chair: Adam Gargani
14:00	<b>Suzie Holdsworth</b> ( <i>Sheffield University, UK</i> ) 'The Institutional European Citizen: A Synchronic Analysis of Cross-lingual Spatial Deixis'	<b>Didem Koban</b> ( <i>Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey</i> ) 'Subject pronoun variation and continuity of reference in Turkish in Turkey and in New York City - Language contact and change'
14:30	<b>Thomas Hoelbeek</b> ( <i>Vrije Universiteit Brussel, Belgium</i> ) 'The use of French 'à travers (de)' and 'au travers de' for describing a movement along a curved surface: peripheral membership or anomaly?'	<b>Summaira Sarfraz</b> ( <i>FAST- NU, Lahore Campus, Pakistan</i> ) 'English Language Contact in Pakistani Context- A Possibility of an Emergence of a New Language'
15:00	<b>Ruba Khamam</b> ( <i>University of Leeds, UK</i> ) 'A Contrastive Study of British English and Syrian Arabic Speakers' Linguistic Choices and Politeness Orientation in Requests' Strategies'	<del><b>Cancelled Talk</b></del>

15:30 Coffee Break, *Roscoe Building 1.009*

16:00 **WORKSHOP:** Christopher M. Tancock, M.Phil: '**An Introduction to Publishing in Academic Journals: History, Best Practice and Quality Measurement**', *Roscoe 1.008*

17:30 Wine Reception and Closing, *Roscoe 1.009*

## Coordinate structures and education

JOANA AGUIAR, CENTRE FOR HUMANISTIC STUDIES  
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The structure of coordinate constructions in Portuguese has long been a topic for discussion (Peres, 1997; Colaço, 2005; Matos, 2005; Peres & Mascarenhas, 2006; Chaves, 2007; Mória, 2008; among many others), but there is a lack of sociolinguistic studies in this field.

The aim of this work is to analyse the use of coordinate structures in written texts and to understand how texts written by people with different education levels differ. For this research we analysed 24 texts written by 12 Portuguese European informants. All the individuals are between 20-45 years old and are stratified according to sex and education (undergraduate studies/12<sup>th</sup> grade). Only addition, alternative, and contrast relations were considered in the analysis. The statistical measure used was Chi-Square test (significance level of  $p < 0.05$ ).

The results show that there are significant differences in the distribution of addition, alternative and contrast nexus and type of conjunction. Although male vs. female results differ in some aspects, these differences are due to the level of education, rather than gender. Thus, the percentage of additive connections is lower (68.0% versus 82.3%) in the informants with 12th grade, whilst alternative and contrast connections are inferior in the informants with BA/MA (8.5% and 9.2%, respectively). These lower values in BA/MA informants may be related to the possibility of expressing these logical-semantic relations through subordinate structures. The comparison of these values with the results obtained by Shiffrin (1987) and Macaulay (2006) reveal that the different values for conjunction types may be influenced by the individual style and the text typology.

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## Computer Mediated Communication: New Varieties of Language

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Najdi Arabic, a variety of Arabic spoken in the Arabian Peninsula, does not have a standard official orthography and it is only used in informal oral communication. This non-standard variety is sometimes used in traditional written genres such as poetry, plays, prose pieces and humorous newspaper columns, but never in everyday written communication or formal writing. With the rapid growth of internet and technology and with the development of Computer-mediated Communication (CMC), Najdi Arabic is nowadays widely used in online text-based communications.

The aim of my PhD is to provide an initial insight into this new area of study by looking at the ways that Najdi Arabic is used in synchronous CMC. More specifically, my thesis aims at identifying the innovative ways employed by Najdi users of internet to represent the orthography of their non-standard dialect in IRC rooms and see how these practices are similar to and different from the ones outlined in earlier works that investigated the online transcription of languages of non-Roman based writing systems. Moreover, the thesis aims to analyze the linguistic features of Najdi Arabic found in synchronous online communication and present a systematic explanation of the way they differ from the features of spoken Najdi Arabic. These aims are in accordance with computer-mediated communication research that collectively has proved that the Internet is changing the way we use language (Crystal, 2006).

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## Variation in negation systems: A multidimensional-scaling approach (Keynote)

OLIVER BOND

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Semantic maps are graphic representations of the contextual and conventionalised meaning relationships underlying the multi-functionality of grammatical constructions. In typology, they are used as a visual aid to convey information about potentially universal semantic networks underlying recurrent form-to-meaning correspondences attested crosslinguistically. For some (e.g. Kemmer 1993, Croft 2001, Croft & Poole 2008), the universal network (or ‘conceptual space’) created using the semantic map method is proposed to reflect the cognitive arrangement of these concepts in the speakers’ mind. For others, semantic maps are primarily representations of potential pathways for grammatical change over time (van der Auwera 2008). Despite their increasing prominence in typology, the traditional ‘by hand’ method for creating semantic maps does not provide a metric for deciding how similar different grammatical meanings/functions are, nor a means for determining the threshold of reliability for a particular geometric configuration of related meanings.

Multidimensional scaling (MDS) is a statistical technique that can be used to provide a mathematical basis for computing the degree of similarity between related grammatical functions of a linguistic expression. In the graphic output of an MDS analysis, similar grammatical functions are geometrically closer together on the graph (i.e. are closer in conceptual space) than those that are less closely related. MDS analyses can be carried out using large data sets and have the benefit of being statistically testable using goodness-to-fit tests. For this reason, MDS is a useful tool for investigating variation and change in semantic/pragmatic functions of grammatical constructions using a mathematical methodology.

In this paper I examine variation in the multi-functionality of strategies for expressing linguistic negation. Using a corpus of data from a stratified sample of genetically and areally diverse languages, I begin by delimiting a broadly construed domain of linguistic negation. I then examine variation across the sample in terms of the functional domains covered by negative strategies that meet the requirements of the broad definition. From a purely functional perspective I examine which analytic primitives are important for mapping out negation systems using the classical semantic map method (Haspelmath 2003) and explore how this can be exploited to determine distance matrices used for the creation of a statistically tested ‘second generation’ semantic map using MDS.

Data from the sample demonstrates that in the domain of negation, functional splits underlying the formal manifestation of negation are sometimes determined on grounds that are independent of the grammatical distinctions made in affirmative constructions, indicating that conceptual network uncovered can not be convincingly explained purely through reference to corresponding affirmative constructions.

The graph resulting from the MDS analysis can be used to make predictions about what types of negation systems are expected to be possible, as well as those that should not be permitted. It demonstrates which of the prominent grammatical functions commonly attested in negation systems are most closely related, and which are semantically or pragmatically distant. It also provides information on possible pathways of grammatical change overtime, providing potentially fruitful departure points for related diachronic research.

## Lenition of /t/ in spontaneous RP English

EMANUELA BUIZZA, UNIVERSITY OF LEEDS

The lenition of voiceless alveolar plosives has been studied in several varieties of English, including the accents spoken in Liverpool (Watson, 2007), Middlesbrough and Dublin (Jones and Llamas, 2008), Newcastle (Foulkes and Docherty, 1999), London (Wells, 1982; Tollfree, 1999), Australia (Jones and McDougall, 2009) and in American English (Lavoie, 2002). The phenomenon has been noted in RP English too (see Simpson, 2001 and Shockey, 2003), but a detailed and systematic phonetic analysis of lenited /t/s has not been carried out yet.

This study aims to establish, firstly, what the range of variation in the realisation of /t/ in spontaneous speech is and, secondly, whether variants are categorically or gradiently related. To address these questions a data set of approximately 1000 tokens from 20 RP speakers was collected through BBC radio podcasts. Auditory and acoustic analyses were carried out, including measurements of duration, amplitude of frication, and spectral moments analysis.

This paper reports the results of the analysis and comparison of three main variants: aspirated, affricated, and fricated plosives, as well as their distribution across phonological contexts. Moreover, findings suggest that in the fricated category several different variants can be identified, from partially fricated – presenting spectral discontinuity with a visible hold and release phase – to fully fricated plosives – showing uniform frication throughout their duration.

The identification of a significant number of voiceless alveolar plosives realised without a complete closure raises the question of their similarity to the homorganic fricative /s/. The comparison of the acoustic properties of /s/ and fully fricated /t/ shows that the two obstruents maintain their contrast.

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## Testing Duration Effect in Southern Min-accented Mandarin

YI-LING CHUNG

GRADUATE INSTITUTE OF LINGUISTICS, CHUNG CHENG UNIVERSITY,  
TAIWAN

Although Tajima et al. (1997) argued that 'segment duration' plays an important role in perceiving a foreign accent; they tested native English vs. Chinese-accented English. English and Chinese are so different that their results showed 'duration' really plays a role. But that doesn't mean 'duration' is always a crucial factor in perceiving an accented speech. How about two similar languages or dialects as L1 & L2? The purpose of this study to test whether segment duration is the most crucial factor in perceiving a foreign or dialect accent, called duration effect. Particular, we test whether two similar languages or dialects as L1 and L2 (i.e. Southern Min vs. Mandarin in this study) also have duration effect or not.

Short Chinese phrases spoken by a S. Min accented speaker are modified, using Praat's function precise manipulation duration, so as to align the duration of acoustic segments with tokens of the same phrases spoken by a native Mandarin speaker. Similarly, the native speaker's productions are modified to match the durational patterns of the S. Min-accented speaker. Intelligibility of these stimuli is measured as accuracy rate.

After temporal correction, the listeners' accuracy rate is increased to 67% from 53% for S. Min-accented phrases. However, for native productions, even though after temporal distortion to correspond to the S. Min accent's timing, the accuracy rate is still consistent with 100%. On the other hand, overall, S. Min-accented phrases would cost listeners longer reaction time than native phrases. And both of phrases modified by segment duration would take longer reaction time than original phrases.

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## **The noun-adjective boundary: Recent change and category theory (keynote)**

*DAVID DENISON, THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER*

I start from some questions about morphosyntactic categories (= word classes), such as whether or not they are fundamental – axiomatically given – in linguistic theory, and whether they are Aristotelian or prototypical in structure. My main concerns are diachronic, however. What does it mean for a word to change class? – as many clearly do. Such changes are normally regarded as ‘catastrophic’, and examples are given from the history of English. But must all such changes be instantaneous? I will argue that they need not be.

The argument proceeds via a consideration of tests of category membership, and the relations between syntax, morphology and semantics. Are these domains treated alike in linguistics? Should they be? Lexicology routinely accepts gradual change and uncertain cases. It is not eccentric to regard word class membership as a matter of degree. But syntactic analysis in most mainstream approaches, especially those with a structuralist basis, permits neither uncertainty nor gradience: a structure is unequivocal, the words –indeed every node in the structure – are each assigned to one and only one class.

Where there is uncertainty of word class assignment and/ or of constituent structure, I borrow from semantics the distinction between **AMBIGUOUS** and **EQUIVOCAL** cases. Sometimes we must indeed choose between different syntactic analyses, and only one of the possible analyses can be valid at one time, as when two different meanings can be encoded in the same ambiguous string. But sometimes there is no need to choose and indeed no principled way of choosing: such strings are equivocal.

My data come from recent and current change in English (though if there is time I may also present some German data). I will concentrate here on the boundary between the classes Noun and Adjective and offer a series of case studies of words in transition from N to A. The data are sometimes surprising, but what is important is their interpretation. I argue that a linguistic description which takes categories as (a) fixed and (b) central to the analysis may therefore be misguided.

**“Nottingham just go [prɔplɛ]” –  
*happy* Variation among Nottingham Adolescents**

*NICHOLAS FLYNN, UNIVERSITY OF YORK*

This paper examines the differing realisations of the *happy* vowel in the speech of Nottingham adolescents.

The *happy* vowel has traditionally been reported as patterning with the KIT lexical set, with phonetic realisation [ɪ] (e.g. Wells 1982). Descriptions of the Nottingham accent have indicated that the *happy* vowel in this area may be even more open than KIT approaching the / ε / of DRESS (Trudgill 1999 ; Wells 1982). However, accounts of *happy* have also noted a growing trend for the use of a closer, fronter vowel [i:], equating to the FLEECE lexical set (Trudgill 1999 ; Wells 1982). This tendency, known as ‘*happy*-tensing’, has been documented as spreading rapidly northwards from southern origins (Hughes et al 2005 ; Trudgill 1999), and has already been observed in Midlands areas (Beal 2008 ; Docherty & Foulkes 1999 ; Hughes et al 2005). Studies of *happy* have found non-tensed variants to occur in higher frequencies in the speech of lower socioeconomic groups (Beal 2008 ; Docherty & Foulkes 1999 ; Stoddart et al 1999 ; Watts 2006).

I present data from adolescent speakers from two socioeconomically-differing areas of Nottingham collected via sociolinguistic interviews. I show that female WC speakers, display use of a hyper-lax variant, heard to be more open than KIT. Through the examination of instrumental measurement of formant frequencies, I demonstrate that such variants can be as open as (and in some cases, even more open than) speakers’ respective DRESS vowels, supporting descriptions in the literature of the local Nottingham accent.

In addition, results indicate the existence of *happy*-tensing in the locality, with speakers from the MC area the highest users. I consider gender and social class differences in variant usage, noting that in the MC area where *happy*-tensing is well-established, male and female variant distribution is more similar than in the WC area.

## Futures past and present: head-finality in Kirangi

HANNAH GIBSON (HANA@SOAS.AC.UK)  
SOAS, UNIVERSITY OF LONDON

The Bantu language Kirangi has come to the attention of linguists due to a number of features it exhibits which are considered atypical for Bantu languages. The most striking of these features, and the focus of the present study, is the object-verb characteristics Kirangi exhibits in the form of infinitive-auxiliary order attested in the future tense. This can be seen in (1) below where the infinitive *kudoma* ‘to go’ precedes the grammaticalized auxiliary *-ri* which is inflected for first person singular *ndi-*.

- 1) ku-dom-a ndi-ri na luul-wii noo kwaan-a namaha  
 INF-go-FV 1<sup>st</sup>sg-COP CONN 11.mountains-LOC COP catch-FV 10.termites  
 ‘I will go to the mountains to catch termites’

This marked infinitive-auxiliary order is not only atypical in the context of East African Bantu languages, but also contradicts Greenberg’s (1966:84) universal that verb-object languages exhibit auxiliary-infinitive order. Kirangi has been in sustained contact with non-Bantu languages primarily the Cushitic languages Iraqw, Burunge and Alagwa, and it has been proposed that this atypical word order may result from contact with these languages (Mous 2000, Nurse 2000, Stegen 2002, Dunham 2005). Alternatively it has been proposed that this marked order may be the result of internal developments, representing a process of grammaticalization (Heine p.c. cited in Nurse 2000). The current paper examines possible routes of change and the origin of the infinitive-auxiliary order in Kirangi, examining its formal properties in light of contact-induced or a grammaticalization account.

## The use of French ‘à travers (de)’ and ‘au travers de’ for describing a movement along a curved surface: peripheral membership or anomaly?

THOMAS HOELBEEK, VRIJE UNIVERSITEIT BRUSSEL

Prototype theory describes categories as open classes with indefinite margins, in that the different members of a category bear a varying resemblance to the prototypical ‘core’. It follows that so-called ‘peripheral members’ have little in common with the core. In some cases, though, the term ‘anomaly’ seems to be more appropriate for characterizing a clearly marginal use.

When studying the history of the French prepositions ‘à travers (de)’ and ‘au travers de’, I noticed that they were used, on very rare occasions, for describing the movement of an entity (the ‘figure’) along the surface of a *curved* reference entity (the ‘ground’). This particular use (I only found examples dating back to the 16th Century) shares features with the very frequent case where the figure moves along a *flat* ground. Since the exceptional use became almost immediately obsolescent, one may wonder whether prototype theory offers a plausible explanation for its emergence. By comparing the relevant attestations with the semantically closest ones from the same period, I show that they should be viewed as anomalous side steps that did not involve any real extension of the category

## The way to go. On the distribution of Path in Motion Descriptions in Jaminjung and Kriol

DOROTHEA HOFFMANN  
THE UNIVERSITY OF MANCHESTER

This paper deals with the distribution of path in motion events in two Australian languages, namely Jaminjung, a highly endangered Non-Pama-Nyungan Language and Kriol, an English-lexified Creole both spoken in the Victoria River area in the Northern Territory.

The concept of path is obligatory in any motion description (Slobin, 1996). However, languages differ regarding the degree of detailed path description in discourse (Ibarretxe-Antunano, 2009). This paper aims to present a thorough analysis of the path element in the two above mentioned languages by firstly looking at the verb-phrase itself and the number of accompanying grounds as in example (1).

- 1) *buru -biya*      *yirr- angga*      *kul* *-bina*      *janggagu*  
return =NOW      1PL.EXCL- go.PRS      school -ALL      up  
'let's go back, up to the school!'
- (ES08\_A13\_01tt.045)

Secondly, complex phrases are taken into account. Such constructions as (2) are extremely rare in Jaminjung and a trajectory is never included in a single verb phrase in discourse, however possible if prompted. These restrictions, can also be accounted for by Bohnemeyer et al.'s (2007) approach of a typology of motion event segmentation which classifies languages according to their ability to include source and/or goal and/or trajectory into a single motion event clause.

- 2) *<tharrei>-ngunyi=biyang*      *bunburr*      *bu-rrara-m*  
there-ABL-NOW      take.off.multiply      3PL-come-PRS
- langiny*      *yina-ngunyi*      *ngiya-bina=biyang*  
wood      DIST-ABL      here-ALL-NOW  
'from there they come out, from these trees to here'
- (ES97\_A03\_01\_102/103)

Finally, motion event granularity looking across clauses identifies the frequency of path complements mentioned in discourse independent of the availability of complex clauses.

This paper aims to further investigate the distribution of path in Jaminjung using a number of Frog Story narrations (Mayer, 1969) as well as natural narratives by different speakers. Additionally, Kriol equivalents will be analysed and comparisons between the two languages drawn.

## **The Institutional European Citizen: A synchronic analysis of cross-lingual spatial deixis**

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The notion of European citizenship, first introduced by the Maastricht Treaty on European Union of 1992, is an increasingly important element in key institutional discourses. From the *Area of Freedom, Security and Justice, serving the citizen* of the Treaty of Amsterdam to the introduction of the *Citizen's Initiative* and the institutional reform embodied by the Lisbon Treaty, the desire to engage, empower and animate citizens as legitimate European actors within an institutional framework has continued to gain momentum.

However, the EU's institutional discourses are written in many different language versions and it is at this multilingual interface that narratives of European citizenship and citizen identity demonstrate their linguistic variance. Only by examining these variances as *cross-lingual pragmatic variances* (differences in inference embedded both lexically and syntactically in individual language grammars) can we evaluate the semiotic effect on the institutional identity of the European citizen.

Drawing on the areas of pragmatics, functional discourse grammar, (critical) discourse analysis, comparative linguistics and translation studies, the presentation will explore how *synchronic variance in conceptual spatial deixis* may be expressed through the lexical choice and syntactic structure of individual language versions. It will then be argued that such cross-lingual variance can be shown to influence the discursive identity of the European citizen within the institutional and political narrative. Moreover, all discourses within the EU institutional process ultimately affect further institutional discourses within the lifecycle of a particular debate or policy area (i.e. a Commission Communication is often addressed to and discussed by both the European Parliament and the Council). Therefore, the narrative positioning of the European citizen in any one institutional document should be considered within the wider process of forming a common institutional notion of citizenship, a crucial next step in European integration.

The data used for analysis and discussion will be excerpts of citizen and citizenship narrative taken from a key 2009 European Commission Communication to the European Parliament and the Council proposing *An Area of Freedom, Security and Justice serving the citizen*. The language versions to be included in the analysis will be those of the 'Big Three' - English, French and German - and the minority language of Dutch.

## A Contrastive Study of British English and Syrian Arabic Speakers' Linguistic Choices and Politeness Orientation in Requests' Strategies.

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For many decades in the field of pragmatics, researchers have debated around Brown and Levinson's (1987) influential work on politeness. In their work, they propose that in everyday interaction people use politeness strategies to avoid face threatening acts such as requests. However, in spite of the richness of research on requests they triggered in a variety of languages, we still lack empirical research on Arabic.

Recognizing this challenge, this study is concerned with probing the realization patterns of requests in Syrian Arabic and British English in order to shed light on the direction of politeness in both the Syrian and the British cultures. To this end, data were collected by means of a discourse completion test and follow-up interviews. The methodological framework is based on a combination of Blum-Kulka et al's (1989) model and Brown & Levinson's variables of politeness (1987).

By means of carrying out intercultural and cross-cultural analysis, the study draws on the similarities and differences in both cultures' linguistic behaviour in the course of performing requests. This paper aims to provide evidence against Brown and Levinson's claim of universality for their theory in which requests are considered to be intrinsically negative politeness strategies as preliminary results show that Syrian requests employ positive politeness strategies. Further, this study not only embraces the relational view of politeness but also reinforces the findings of (Locher & Watts 2005, Spencer-Oatley 2005, Arundale 2006) who argue that Brown and Levinson's politeness strategies need to be reviewed as possible realizations of relational work.

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**Subject Personal Pronoun Variation and Continuity of Reference in Turkish in  
Turkey and in New York City  
Language contact and change**

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The purpose of this study is to examine the use of subject personal pronouns (SPP) and continuity of reference in the Turkish spoken in Turkey and in New York City from a variationist perspective. Whereas the variable use of SPPs in Turkish has been extensively analyzed in many studies conducted in Europe, it has received much less attention in the U.S. This study has as one of its aims replicating the study conducted by Otheguy, Zentella and Livert (2007) where the influence of different social and linguistic variables on the expression of Spanish SPPs was examined across Latin American and Caribbean immigrant generations in New York. The present study examines the influence of continuity of reference on the expression of Turkish SPPs in the speech of 20 adult speakers living in Turkey (TT) and 20 living in New York (TNY). Data analysis involved bivariate and multivariate regression analyses. The results of the bivariate analysis showed that TNY used overt pronouns at a significantly higher rate in the different-reference environment than in the same-reference environment and that the difference between the two types of linguistic environments has diminished among TNY. The results of the multivariate regression analyses revealed that continuity of reference accounts for the most variance in the use of the pronouns for both TT and TNY. These findings are consistent with those obtained in the Spanish study and provide clear support for an English contact hypothesis when the increased use of overt SPPs among TNY and the diminished role of switched reference in making decisions regarding the choice between nulls and overt SPPs among all New Yorkers are taken into consideration.

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## Universal nature of a kinship term

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The current study explores the universal features of the kinship term *mother*. The semantic sets of the term mentioned were compared in forty languages of ten different families. Linguistic methods and interdisciplinary approaches were used to prove/disprove the universal character of the lexical item under analysis. The study results show the influence of non-linguistic factors on word meaning.

Typological research is one of the most challenging, arguable and interesting fields of modern linguistics. It needs a special care when applied to semantics in general and to such a specific layer of a language as kinship terms requiring taking into account numerous extralinguistic factors like peoples' cultural life, their social organization, traditions, customs and family structure which influence the formation of word meaning.

Absence of terms for the notion 'mother' in some cultures can be explained by the peculiarities of each language (e.g. the absence of the category of sex in Malagasy or special marital form by Nivkh, which is the reason for the existence of only one word for naming the mother and her sisters), which influence the individual character of semantic sets structure. All that causes striking qualitative and quantitative differences of this lexical layer of the languages in question.

The material analyzed allows us to state that existence of the kinship term 'mother' in all languages is only a statistical universal, which means that it can be found in most languages of the world but not obligatory all.

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## The categorial status of Dutch and English declarative *hoe/how*-complement clauses

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English *how* has a non-interrogative, non-manner use, where it appears able to replace *that* as a declarative complementiser (1). Legate (2010) analyses English clauses introduced by complementiser-like *how* (henceforth CLHCs) as definite DPs, in part as they are interpreted factively, but primarily due to their distribution: they can be complements of prepositions and coordinate with DPs. Specifically she proposes that CLHCs resemble free relatives with a null D head.

(1) I've never told her that/how he didn't help me.

In this paper, I assess the evidence Legate presents in favour of a DP analysis for English CLHCs and demonstrate that it is not conclusive in determining their categorial status. Whilst CLHCs and DPs do share certain properties, these are invariably also shared by other types of constituents e.g. declarative or interrogative CPs. I then turn to Dutch, a language showing clear distributional differences between CPs, DPs and free relatives, and show that once again the status of CLHCs is not entirely clear-cut. Overall, however, CLHC show a greater number of CP-like properties than DP-like properties. For instance, Dutch DP complements must appear in the middlefield, whilst clausal complements cannot. Conversely, clausal complements occur in extraposed position, whilst DPs cannot. If CLHCs were DPs, they may be expected to show the same behaviour. However, data from a pilot study of Dutch native speakers shows that examples with a CLHC in extraposed position (2a) are accepted, whilst examples with a CLHC in the middlefield (2b) are rejected or deemed strongly degraded.

- (2) a. *Ik heb nooit vergeten [hoe hij me niet geholpen heeft].*  
 I have never forgotten how he me not helped has.  
 b. ??/\* *Ik heb [hoe hij me niet geholpen heeft] nooit vergeten.*  
 'I've never forgotten how he didn't help me.'

CLHCs also pattern differently to DPs in failing to occur as clausal subjects and in their relative ordering with PP complements. Having discussed the results of such tests, I suggest that an analysis of CLHCs as bare CPs may in fact be better able to account for their distribution, as proposed by Caponigro (2002) for free relatives which occur in positions from which DPs are excluded.

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## Same but different: The Postmodifier Hyperbaton in Republican Latin

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The placement of Latin adjectives has troubled classical scholars and linguists alike. In Latin as in the Romance languages, adjectives (Adj) may either precede or follow their head noun (N). However, Latin is a flexible word order language (see Dryer 2008): modifier and head are frequently separated by a phrase-alien element (X) and thus form discontinuous noun phrases (NPs).

Discontinuous NPs come in two different forms, i.e. premodifier hyperbaton Adj X N and postmodifier N X Adj. Within a typological approach to Latin NPs Lehmann (1991) proposed that the position of the Latin adjective correlates with the level of syntactic dependency between adjective and noun: premodifiers are tightly bonded to their heads while postmodifiers and their heads are loosely bonded. However, Lehmann's paper does not include an analysis of the interplay of discontinuity and syntactic bondedness.

The aim of this paper is to investigate syntactic bondedness in discontinuous NPs in Republican Latin. With the help of an analysis of three semantic adjective classes, I will try to shed light on the semantic and syntactic features of the postmodifier hyperbaton. The focus will lie on the diachronic development of these factors using a corpus that consists of both verse and prose texts of the Republican period (ca. 250 BC - 27 BC). In this paper I will argue that we have to revise Lehmann's description of the syntactic bond between adjective and head noun since the factors involved in the placement of adjectives are more complex than suggested by Lehmann.

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## No Language Variation, No Change: Eighteenth Century Grammar in Twenty-First Century Classrooms

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In this paper I examine the history of language prescriptions and show that the notion of ‘correct’ English today is still heavily influenced by ‘rules’ set out in the eighteenth century. I discuss one of the most famous examples of what I shall term traditional grammatical prescriptivism in the work of Robert Lowth Bishop of London (1762). Lowth set out to “lay down ‘rules’ of good usage” (Aitchison, 2001:9) and prescribed language norms based on his own “preconceived notions” of what represented ‘correct’ language (2001:12), despite the fact that, although educated, he had no formal linguistic training. Yet rules prescribed in texts such as Lowth’s, such as ‘do not start a sentence with a conjunction’, are still learned by today’s students, suggesting an unbroken line between language prescriptions of the eighteenth century and modern day grammatical norms. This is despite descriptive linguistic analysis, and developments in syntactic theory, which have shown that there is no reason why a sentence ending in a preposition is incorrect or ungrammatical, as the human brain processes it without complication.

Therefore, having illustrated that modern students are certainly aware of some of these eighteenth century norms by providing results from a questionnaire given to literature undergraduates, I attempt to ascertain where students are learning these rules of grammar, through an analysis of modern grammar textbooks.

**Keywords:** Grammar, prescriptivism, resistance to change, textbooks.

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## Is Brazilian Portuguese ‘lá’ in Spec,IP?

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This paper aims at developing a synchronic investigation on the syntactic changes undergone by Brazilian Portuguese (BP) ‘lá’ in: (1) O trem vem (de) **lá**. *The train comes (from) there. The train comes from that side*; (2) **Lá** vem o trem. *There come-3rdSing the train. The train is coming there*; (3) **Lá ê/é/iñ/em** vem o trem. *There ê/é/iñ/em come-3rdSing the train. The train is coming there*. In contrast to (1), ‘lá’ in (2) and (3) seems to be weakened in its source locative meaning, as it surfaces in preverbal position and without a source preposition. As a result, ‘lá’ cannot be neither the source argument of ‘vir’ (*to come*) nor the goal argument of this verb which requires ‘aqui/cá’ (*here*) instead of ‘lá’. Nascimento & Kato (1995), Butthers (2009) and others suggest that ‘lá’ in (2) is the overt counterpart of a null subject in Spec,IP. If this is true, ‘lá’, which is a referential lexical item in (1), is grammaticalized into a functional expletive in Spec,IP (2). Nevertheless, as pointed out by Sheehan (2009, 254-5), even though “in some dialects of Romance overt ‘expletives’ are attested [...] many [...] do not occupy a position in Spec,IP but rather are merged in the CP-periphery”. We hypothesize that this is the case with ‘lá’. Firstly, ‘lá’ (2) is not compatible with ‘aqui’ (*here*) or ‘aí’ (*there-2ndP*): (2) a. Lá vem o trem lá/\*aqui/\*aí. This means that ‘lá’ still supports deictic locative content, though not source content. As such, it can not be considered an expletive. Secondly, ‘lá’ (3) can be followed by ê/é/iñ/em which are slightly different regional pronunciations of the same meaningless phonetic bundle in contemporary BP. We presume that these enclitic forms are retentions from Old Portuguese *ende* < Latin *inde* which means ‘from there’ (SANCHÉZ LANCIS, 2001). Therefore, we suggest that ‘lá’ is merged directly in Spec,TopP in order to emphasize a locative meaning absent from ê/é/iñ/em, rather than in Spec,IP in order to check EPP features. Briefly, we assume that ‘lá’ undergoes a path of *grammaticalization* (ROBERTS; ROUSSOU, 2003) which consists in being reanalyzed into a functional specifier in the CP-domain rather than in IP.

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## Remodelling of Lingala *ba* on French *les*

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Lingala *ba* marks nouns as plural. In this use it is like other Lingala noun prefixes and like cognate morphemes in other Bantu languages. But it is also used to mark larger units as plural, including noun-noun compounds and French noun-adjective or adjective-noun sequences. In this respect *ba* is untypical of Bantu noun prefixes.

I argue that the expansion of the scope of *ba*, from noun prefix to phrasal clitic, is due to the incorporation into Lingala of French elements. I argue in fact that *ba* has been remodelled on French *les*. The two are in complementary distribution and share phonological, positional and host-type characteristics. Each consists of a monomoraic syllable, occurs at the beginning of a nominal phrase, and attaches to items of various types—nouns, adjectives, numerals, degree modifiers. Examples (from internet discussion-groups) are (1) and (2).

- (1) a. *ba* hommes de DIEU  
b. *les* hommes de DIEU
- (2) a. *ba* vrais autochtones congolais  
b. *les* vrais autochtones congolais

I suggest that French phrasal structures initially entered Lingala as unanalysed fixed phrases, treated by non-literate, non-French-speaking Congolese people as simple nouns, and that later on, patterns introduced this way became productive when used by literate French speakers. However, I also argue that the potential for using *ba* with phrasal scope was already present before the advent of French, though rarely exploited.

In developing from a bound prefix to a clitic, *ba* has undergone *antimorphologization* in terms of Idiatov (2008:159-60).

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## Variation in Wh-in-situ in Arabic

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A number of modern Arabic dialects employ more than one strategy in the formation of wh-interrogatives. In Lebanese Arabic and Iraqi Arabic, wh-interrogatives are formed by either wh-movement or wh-in-situ. However, unlike wh-movement, wh-in-situ in these languages is not uniform. Consider the following examples.

- (1) a. \*ʃtarayte ʃu mbeerih (Lebanese)  
bought.2sf what yesterday  
'What did you buy yesterday?'
- b. Mona shtarət sheno? (Iraqi)  
Mona bought what  
'What did Mona buy?'
- (2) a. ʃeft miin mbeerih? (Lebanese)  
saw.2sm who yesterday  
'Who did you see yesterday?'
- b. Mona shaafat meno? (Iraqi)  
Mona saw who  
'Who did Mona see?'

The data in these examples present two problems. The first problem lies in the contrast between (1a) and (1b) where the Lebanese argument wh-phrase *ʃu* 'what' is not permitted in-situ (1a), unlike its Iraqi counterpart *sheno* 'what' in (1b). The second problem lies in the contrast between the two argument wh-phrases *ʃu* 'what' and *miin* 'who' in Lebanese, as shown (1a) and (2a). These contrasts are interesting and provide an insight into the mechanism(s) of wh-in-situ in Arabic. This paper argues that wh-in-situ in these languages cannot be simply attributed to (macro-)parametric variation. To capture this variation, the paper argues for a micro-parametric approach to wh-in-situ which distinguishes each wh-expression in terms of its morphological, syntactic and semantic properties. I demonstrate that certain Arabic wh-expressions are syntactically more complex than what is standardly assumed and show that such complexity is responsible for their (in)ability to occur in-situ. The analysis has implications for the study of wh-in-situ, particularly, for the current debate concerning the variation observed in (the types of wh-in-situ in) wh-in-situ languages.

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## Standard and Dialect in Welsh: The younger and the older generations of Ardudwy

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In my paper, I will focus on the linguistic situation of one Welsh dialect in North-West Wales, emphasizing parallelisms and differences between the older generation, many of whom have rarely travelled, and the younger, more mobile, population.

In my MPhil thesis, I looked at lexical variation in the dialect of Ardudwy, comparing the usage and frequency of a range of words employed by the older and the younger speakers. My presentation will draw on the empirical data collected for my MPhil to assess linguistic developments, such as standardisation, in the dialect. Factors which appear to be relevant to these developments, such as the effects of bilingual education and broadcasting in Welsh, will be considered.

It became clear in this work, however, that change was not confined to lexical usage, but also appeared to affect phonological features of the dialect, with for instance palatalisation of prevocalic velar consonants, and the raising and fronting of low vowels, being more frequent and widespread in the speech of the older generation than in the speech of young people.

I am now in my PhD following up these phonological developments in much greater detail. This year, my work has focussed so far on a detailed phonological analysis of the speech of the older generation in Ardudwy, and even within this group, considerable variation has been identified. It is intended to extend analysis and comparison to younger generations in Ardudwy, and comparable age groups in adjoining districts. This will allow for a clear view of generational change, and establish whether this is confined to one district only or part of a general picture extending over a wider area.

It is hoped that my paper, which will draw on some of the work completed for my PhD, in conjunction with the data acquired for my MPhil, will be relevant to those interested in language change and variation in other contexts.

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## **Syntactic variation in French: diglossia and language change (keynote)**

*DR PAUL ROWLETT, SALFORD UNIVERSITY*

In this talk I shall (a) review the history of the study of syntactic variation in French, (b) briefly comment on the use of the Internet in variationist syntactic research, and then (c) consider the notion that syntactic variation in modern metropolitan French can best be captured within the framework of diglossia. I review the particular approach adopted by Benjamin Massot in a recent Paris 8 PhD thesis, and suggest that Massot's model needs to be fine-tuned to account for cases where one and the same surface form is generated by two distinct grammars but has a different status in each.

## **English Language Contact in Pakistani Context- A Possibility of an Emergence of a New Language**

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The paper aims to look into the shape of English language in Pakistan in the light of its contact with Urdu language. The paper addresses the main issues related to language contact which lead to borrowing, and contact-induced changes. Since Pakistan is a country of bilinguals, the influence of its mother tongue on other languages especially English becomes crucial in this context. For the purpose of study, the English text samples of university students who are non native speakers of English language were examined. It has been observed that the interference of mother tongue does effect the written expression of the non native speakers. Due to strong contact of the mother tongue with English language, the cognitive process of the non native speakers of English goes through the process of interlanguage and produces errors repeatedly in English writing which are deemed as leading to their acceptance as correct forms rather an error. The study has shown that the immense exposure to technology and the wide use of internet reinforce this intervention of mother tongue while the convenience in comprehension of English language gives it a new shape. The results show that the strong language contact in the case of Urdu language indicate the tendency towards the new emergence of a language over a period of time.

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## Reflexives, Personal Pronouns and Case in Bavarian

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The aim of the paper is to explore and explain some interesting phenomena concerning the morphological and syntactic structure of Bavarian reflexives, in particular reflexives in some Bavarian varieties in Austria. First I will give a brief sketch of the phenomena in question and their embedding in larger fields, i.e. case syntax and semantics, language contact with Slavic languages, and the syntax of personal pronouns in German and Bavarian. The characteristics of Bavarian reflexives contrasted with the use of reflexives in standard German can be divided into paradigmatic (see examples (01) and (02)) and syntagmatic particularities (see examples (04) and (05)).

- (1) *si* not only for 3rd person but also for 1PL in some varieties (e.g. Viennese)  
*gem-ma si An füm anschaun*  
 go-1PL REFL IDEF movie watch  
 'Let's go and watch a movie.'
- (2) PERSPRON instead of REF.DAT (e.g. South Bavarian: Carinthian)  
*si hot Irn ane Firther gekhaft*  
 she AUX 3SG.DAT.F INDEF:PL skirt:PL buy:PP  
 'She has bought (herself) some skirts. (cf. Berndt 1912: 3)
- (3) middle-like REFL  
*i gäh Mi so schwààr*  
 1SG walk.1SG 1SG.AKK so hard:ADV  
 'I can hardly walk. (cf. Merkle [1975] 2005: 135)
- (04) lexicalised REFL.DAT  
*mia hom=ma si do wos gsehn*  
 1PL.NOM AUX=1PL.NOM REFL there something see:PP  
 'We have seen there something for us.'

The general aim is to show how the research on specific dialectal phenomena, in our case syntactic dialectal phenomena, can contribute to theoretical questions and accounts. For this reason, I would like to present my findings on the status of reflexives within the paradigm of personal pronouns to demonstrate that the investigation of dialectal syntax is not only interesting and productive for dialectology but also for theoretical and historical syntax.

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## Multiple functions of the case marker *ka* in Truku and Seediq discourse

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A grammatical feature that distinguishes two Atayalic languages Seediq and Truku from other Formosan languages is that in Seediq and Truku there are two types of transitive clauses, one type being NAV clauses (PV, LV and CV), another type transitive AV clauses. AV clauses in other Formosan languages are always intransitive, and extended intransitive clauses (EIC) take a patient-like argument marked by oblique case, but there is no oblique case in either Seediq or Truku and thus no EIC clause type. Moreover, AV and NAV in Seediq or Truku do not show a strong correlation respectively with high and low discourse transitivity since lexical patients in NAV are not significantly more referential and/or definite than those in AV clauses (Table1).

However, a feature that distinguishes Seediq from Truku is that the ‘nominative’ case marker *ka* in conversational data in Seediq, but not in Truku, can be demonstrated to function more like a pragmatic marker than a nominative case marker as is commonly assumed in the literature (Holmer 1996; Chang 2000; Tsukida, 2005). The purpose of the present study is to show how *ka* differs grammatically in the two languages based on an examination of both conversational and narrative data in our corpus. While the nominative case marker is expected to show up in a sentence which syntactically requires a subject, our corpus data show clearly that the occurrence of *ka* is highly constrained in Seediq discourse: the preferred strategy in Seediq conversation is to leave the subject unmarked with *ka*. In AV clauses, 98% of the sentences are unmarked, and in NAV clauses, the percentage stands at 87%. When *ka* does appear, it occurs primarily in contexts where the discourse function is to highlight the *ka*-marked argument, as in equational and cleft sentences. On the contrary, in Truku, 87.42% of the subjects of AV clauses are *ka*-marked, and 87.06% of the subjects of Non-Agent Voice clauses are *ka*-marked (Table 2). There are also other notable differences. The relativizer *ka* and the complementizer *ka* (Tsukida, 2009) are observed in Truku, but not in Seediq data. It is worth stressing that the Atayalic languages are in general characterized by frequent and a pragmatically constrained omission of both the nominative and oblique case markers, a process that might in the end lead to a more impoverished set of case markers, and a consequent restructuring of grammatical relations in the languages.

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## Data

Table 1 focus and definiteness of lexical patients in Conversation and Narratives in Seediq and Truku:

	Seediq	Truku
AV [+definite]	66%	48%
AV [-definite]	33%	52%
NAV [+definite]	69%	57%
NAV [-definite]	31%	43%

Table 2 Behavior of *ka*-marking in conversation in Seediq and Truku:

	Seediq		Truku	
	AV	NAV	AV	NAV
conversation[+ ka]	2%	13%	87.42%	87.06%
conversation [-ka]	98%	87%	12.58%	12.94%

## Equationals:

## Seediq

1.    teru           ka    rawa  -na           heya  
       three           KA   basket-3SG.GEN   s/he  
       ‘His baskets are three; He has three baskets.’ (Huang et al., 1999: 64)

## Truku

2.    Hana ..    hai    mniq <M taidong M>    <J kamigocho J>,  
       HAI   EXIST   Taidong           paper.factory  
       ..    <J sionin J>   hiya           ka    Masa-mu  
       Manager    there           KA   PN-1SG.GEN

‘(He) (worked) in a paper factory in Taidong, didn’t he? (and) my Masa was a manager’ (Dialogue 1:396-98)

## Cleft sentences:

## Seediq

3.    puq-un-na           Walis ka    ido    nii  
       eat-PV-3SG.GEN   Walis KA   rice   Dem.  
       ‘it is Walis who ate the rice’ (Huang et al., 1999: 68)

## Truku

4.    isu           ka    stma-un=nami           kingal ruwan sapah hini.  
       2SG.NEUKA   rely.on-PV=1PL.NOM   one   inside house here  
       ‘it is you whom we rely on in our house’ (fieldnotes)

## The Production and Perception of Voiceless Retroflex and Dental Sibilants in Taiwan Mandarin

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The study focused on the realizations of voiceless retroflex and dental sibilants in Taiwan Mandarin. In this research, the data in chatting and reading condition were examined acoustically first and then the perception of voiceless retroflex and dental sibilants of Taiwan Mandarin speakers was investigated. This study included two experiments. In experiment one, the spontaneous speech in the chatting condition and the experimental data in reading condition were collected. All tokens of voiceless retroflex and dental sibilants were labeled, and the mean frequency of each token was measured to investigate the realizations of retroflexion of those sibilants. In experiment two, six linguistically naïve Taiwan Mandarin speakers were recruited. The identification task was conducted to investigate Taiwan Mandarin speakers' perceptual boundary between voiceless retroflex and dental sibilants. The Results of the experiment one displayed that dental sibilants almost remained intact in both reading and chatting conditions, while retroflex sibilants would become less retroflexed in the chatting condition. The results supported the viewpoint that retroflexion appeared in the self-conscious style of speech. The results of the experiment two showed that Taiwan Mandarin speakers' perceptual boundary between voiceless retroflex and dental sibilants was around 8500Hz of M1 values. When the M1 values of the sibilants were over 8500Hz, the sibilants would be categorized as dental sounds; when below 8000Hz, the sibilants would be heard as dental sounds. Our results further implied that retroflex sibilants were still distinguished from dental sibilants in Taiwan Mandarin from the production or reception points of view.

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