Semantic Shifts

Porquerolles
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Semantic Shifts: From lexicon to grammar. Diachronic and typological perspectives

# Diachronic and typological perspectives on grammaticalization
## Walter de Mulder & Benjamin Fagard

In this course, we will look at a series of grammaticalization phenomena from a typological and diachronic perspective, albeit with a focus on French, Romance and European languages in general. Our aim is to show, on that basis, some universals or at least some universal tendencies of grammaticalization. Our topics include considerations on TAM markers (specifically the subjunctive), on demonstratives, on adpositions and on discourse markers.

**The French subjunctive mood in a typological context**

The French subjunctive is an enigma, from a synchronic, but also from a diachronic point of view, as the use of this mood has profoundly changed from Late Latin and Old French to Modern French, for instance in contexts after expressions of emotion. In this lecture, we aim to see to what extent typological approaches, originating, amongst others, in Bybee, Perkins and Pagliuca's standard work on the evolution of Tense, Aspect and Mood markers can inspire a new approach to the evolution of this mood.

Becker, M. (2014). Welten in Sprache. Zur Entwicklung der Kategorie «Modus» in romanischen Sprachen. Berlin / new York: de Gruyter.

Bybee, Joan L., Revere D. Perkins and William Pagliuca (1994). The Evolution of Grammar: Tense, Aspect and Modality in the Languages of the World. Chicago: University of Chicago Press.

Dahl, Östen (2000). Tense and Aspect systems in the languages of Europe. Berlin/New Yok: de Gruyter.

Nuyts, Jan & Van der Auwera, Johan, eds (2016). The Oxford Handbook of Modality and Mood. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Palmer, Frank (2001). Mood and modality. Cambridge, Cambridge UP. 2nd edition.

Timberlake, Alan (2007), Aspect, tense, mood. In: Timothy Shopen ed., Language typology and syntactic description. Volume 3. Grammatical Categories and the Lexicon. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, 280-233.

**Demonstratives**

From a typological point of view, French is a rather special language as far as demonstratives is concerned, as it has radically reduced the dimensions of distance etc. that are used in demonstrative systems in other languages of the world. We will propose an approach to the evolution of these demonstrative markers taking into account recent typological literature in order to determine what explains the position of French as compared to the demonstrative systems in other languages of the world.

Diessel, H. (1999). Demonstratives: Form, Function, and Grammaticalization. [Typological Studies in Language 42]. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Dixon R.M.W. (2003) Demonstratives: A cross-linguistic typology. Studies in Language 27(1):61-112.

Himmelmann, Nikolaus P. 1997. Deiktikon, Artikel, Nominalphrase: Zur Emergenz syntaktischer Struktur. Tübingen: Niemeyer (Linguistische Arbeiten 362), 330 pp.

Levinson, S. C., Cutfield, S., Dunn, M., Enfield, N. J., & Meira, S. (Eds.). (2018). Demonstratives in cross-linguistic perspective. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

## Discourse markers

Our aim in this lecture will be to identify preferential strategies in the signaling of a specific type of discourse relations, namely topic shifting. We will see that topic shift can be signaled in a variety of ways, e.g. with additives, digressives or syntactically free constructions, as well as, unexpectedly, continuity markers. We will also try to take into account possible areal effects in European languages, with a (shallow) diachronic analysis.

Detges, Ulrich, and Richard Waltereit. 2009. Diachronic pathways and pragmatic strategies: Different types of pragmatic particles from a diachronic point of view. In: Björn Hansen, Maj-Britt Mosegaard, and Jacqueline Visconti (eds.): Current trends in diachronic semantics and pragmatics. Bingley: Emerald, 43-61.

Fischer, Kerstin. 2006. Approaches to discourse particles. Amsterdam: Elsevier.

Fraser, B. (1999). What are discourse markers? Journal of Pragmatics. 31(7), 931-952.

Onodera, Noriko. 2011. The grammaticalization of discourse markers. In Heiko Narrog and Bernd Heine (eds.), The Oxford Handbook of Grammaticalization. Oxford: Oxford UP, 614-624.

## Adpositions

Our aim in this lecture will be to identify both typical and less typical grammaticalization chains leading to and from adpositions. We will show the importance of space in their formation (see e.g. Svorou 1994, Heine 1997, Fagard 2010), and see that they can grammaticalize into a whole array of grams, from determiners to complementizers.

Fagard, Benjamin. 2010. *Espace et grammaticalisation – L'évolution sémantique des prépositions dans les langues romanes*. Sarrebruck : Editions Universitaires Européennes.

Heine, Bernd. 1997. *Cognitive foundations of grammar*, New York – Oxford, Oxford University Press.

Soteria, Svorou. 1994. *The grammar of space*. Amsterdam / Philadelphia : J. Benjamins.