

Workshop

Workshop on transcategoriality

Université de Rouen, April 27, 2015

Transcategoriality in the sense of the term used here concerns doublets of linguistic expressions belonging each to a different plane of linguistic organization. Such different planes relate on the one hand to the morphosyntactic structure within a sentence, and on the other hand to the structure of linguistic discourse beyond the sentence (Do-Hurinville, Dao & Hancil 2015).

Transcategoriality may involve single words, but it may also involve more complex forms of linguistic expressions. Morphosyntactic manifestations of it appear to be due mainly to effects of grammaticalization (e.g., Robert 2003). For example, when a lexical verb gives rise to a marker of tense or aspect, or an adposition to a conjunction of clause subordination, the result may be that there are two largely or entirely identical linguistic forms having different functions and belonging to different structures within a sentence. Discourse-related manifestations of transcategoriality tend to involve cooptation (Kaltenböck et al. 2011) and can be seen, for example, in the presence of discourse markers or comment clauses, which serve the organization of texts and, hence, are not strictly a part of sentence structure, but essentially the same expressions can also occur as adverbs, main clauses, etc. which are part of the structure of a sentence. Questions to be looked into in the workshop include in particular the following:

- (1) Is transcategoriality a cross-linguistically significant phenomenon?
- (2) What types of it can be distinguished?
- (3) How do sentence-based and discourse-based forms of transcategoriality differ from one another formally and functionally?
- (4) How can transcategoriality be explained?

References

Robert, Stéphane 2003. Vers une typologie de la transcategorialité. In Robert (éd.), *Perspectives synchroniques sur la grammaticalisation, Afrique et Langage 5* (Louvain-Paris, Peeters): 255-270.

Kaltenböck, Gunther, Bernd Heine & Tania Kuteva. 2011. On thetical grammar. *Studies in Language* 35, 4: 848–893.

Do-Hurinville, Thành, Huy Linh Dao & Sylvie Hancil 2015. *La transcategorialité à travers les langues*. University of Rouen, Typescript.

Abstracts not exceeding 500 words are to be submitted anonymously no later than 31 August 2015 to Sylvie Hancil (smhhtiki@hotmail.com). Notification of acceptance will be given no later than 30 September 2015. A4 pdf format, including references. Specify in the body of your message that you apply to the workshop.

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