Call for papers

Full title: **On the variation of adverbial clauses**

Date: 5–6 October 2023
Location: Göttingen, Germany
Organizers: Mailin Antomo, Andreas Blümel, Marco Coniglio & Łukasz Jędrzejowski
Contact person: Łukasz Jędrzejowski

Web site: http://www.lukasz-jedrzejowski.eu/adverbial-clauses-2/

Call deadline: 25 August 2023

Meeting description:

The different types of subordinate clauses – i.e. complement, relative, and adverbial clauses – differ not only in their internal structure, but also in how they attach to the main clause, and in particular, in how many subtypes they have. Adverbial clauses are particularly interesting in this respect. Causal clauses, for instance, are normally introduced by several complementizers in a single language (cf. *because*, *since*, *for* in English) and operate on the content, epistemic and speech act level (van Dijk 1977, Sweetser 1990, Frey 2016), giving rise to striking variation, lexical restrictions attributed to the individual complementizers, and their (non-)at-issue status (Antomo 2012, Scheffler 2008, 2013, Charnavel 2018, 2020, Liu 2021). The main goal of this conference is to investigate the diversity of adverbial clauses from a synchronic and diachronic point of view.

Recent work focuses on the syntax-prosody mapping, surveying several significant syntactic distinctions such as root – embedded, complement – subject – adverbial, in-situ – derived on the one hand, and their alignment to intonational phrases on the other, where distinctions like left – right play one crucial role (cf. Hamlaoui & Szendrői accepted). Hamlaoui & Szendrői likewise point out that pragmatic notions like Speech Act and information structural ones like topic appear to exhibit characteristic mappings to prosody, sometimes leading to a "lack of isomorphy between syntax and phonology" (p. 43) (cf. also Schenner & Sode 2004 on causal clauses mentioned above). If so, a complex network of orthogonal though related notions suggests itself at the syntax-phonology interface.

The main aim of this conference is to bring together recent theoretical investigations on adverbial clauses and contribute to a better understanding of their synchronic and diachronic variation. Due to the rich inventory of adverbial clauses, we furthermore hope to gain novel theoretical insights into how sentential adjuncts can be derived.

Topics for the conference include, but are not limited to, the following questions:

– How do adverbial clauses attach to the matrix clause? Do they involve a single structure-building operation (e.g. Pair-Merge) or are additional operations needed to capture the variation of adverbial clauses? Or indeed, can their characteristics be captured by reductionist approaches that seek to eliminate a distinction between symmetric and asymmetric structure-

building on conceptual and empirical grounds (Bode 2019, Kayne 1994, McInnerney to appear, under review, Nakashima to appear, Omune 2018, Oseki 2015)?

– Adverbial clauses have been analyzed as central, peripheral and non-integrated adjuncts (cf. Takami 1988, Ros 2005, Frey 2020, among many others). Should all these types be derived by a movement derivation (cf. Bhatt & Pancheva 2006 & Haegeman 2010, 2012, Kabiri & Darzi 2017, Chatzopulou 2021) or is the base-generation approach more suitable (cf. Frey 2023a,b,c)?

– Additionally, non-integrated adverbial clauses do not form a uniform class, as Frey (2023a) and Schönenberger & Haegeman (2023) illustrate. Where do their differences come from? Can we develop a unified account capturing all types of non-integrated adverbial clauses?

– Diachronically, it is interesting to examine how the different integration degrees of adverbial clauses are intertwined with the development of adverbial clauses, and what developmental paths are (im)possible when a particular adverbial clause type develops out of another. Some adverbial conjunctions fall out of use or are replaced by other conjunctions because the older ones are recruited to other adverbial domains (cf. König & van der Auwera 1988 and Jędrzejowski & Fleczoreck 2023), indicating a linguistic cycle in the sense claimed by van Gelderen (2011). How can we model such changes at the syntax-semantics interface?

– How does not-at-issue meaning of adverbial clauses emerge and how does it contribute to their variation? What role do presuppositions / implicatures play in the development of adverbial clauses?

At this conference we would like to address syntactic, semantic, and prosodic issues relating to the variation of adverbial clauses, including cross-linguistic patterns and case studies from less known languages.

The main conference will be preceded by a one-day thematic workshop. In 2023, we will revisit the theme of adverbial clauses in creole and pidgin languages.

Selected references

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Schönenberger, Manuela & Liliane Haegeman. 2023. English rationale 'since' and a reassessment of the typology of adverbial clauses. In *Micro- and Macro-variation of Causal Clauses. Synchronic and Diachronic Insights* ed. by Łukasz Jędrzejowski & Constanze Fleczoreck, 129–166. Amsterdam: John Benjamins.

Invited speakers (confirmed):

Werner Frey (formerly Leibniz-ZAS, Berlin)
Fatima Hamlaoui (University of Toronto)

Call for papers:

We invite submission of abstracts for 40-minute oral presentations (with additional 20 minutes for questions) on topics that address variation of adverbial clauses. These may include case studies, studies of trends, corpus results, as well as formal theories of particular adverbial clause types. We also welcome research at the interfaces with semantics and other areas, as long as the research makes a contribution to the area of adverbial clauses. Preference will be given to theoretically oriented papers and novel case studies.

We also invite abstracts for the pre-workshop on adverbial clauses in creole and pidgin languages.

Abstracts should be submitted in PDF format to adverbial-clauses@uni-koeln.de, with all non-standard fonts embedded. Abstracts should not exceed 2 pages, which includes the data. An additional third page may be used for references. Abstracts must be submitted in letter or A4 format with 1 inch or 2.5cm margins on all sides, single-spaced, and in a font no smaller than 11pt. Abstracts should be anonymous. Please make sure that PDF files do not have any identifying metadata. Submissions are limited to one individual and one joint abstract per author (or two joint abstracts per author).

Please submit abstracts to adverbial-clauses@uni-koeln.de no later than August 25, 2023.

Submission deadline: August 25, 2023, 23:59

Notification: September 1, 2023

For inquiries, please send an e-mail to adverbial-clauses@uni-koeln.de