

26th Diachronic Generative Syntax conference (DiGS26)

University of Oxford

June, 23rd – June, 26th 2025



Day 1 - Taylor Institution (St Giles', Oxford OX1 3NA)

9:10 - 9:30 AM | Registration and Welcome

Workshop: *Investigating diachronic syntax with less-documented and unwritten languages: methods and theory*

9:30 - 10:30 AM | **Plenary: Jenneke van der Wal** – *The innovative diachrony of Bantu clefts*

10:30 - 11:10 AM | *Pronoun > Passive: The diachronic syntax of Javanese di=* (Mattie Wechsler, Gabriel H. Gilbert, Peter Gado)

11:10 - 11:30 AM | Coffee Break

11:30 - 12:10 PM | *On the evolution of subject clitic systems in contact environments the case of Bisiac* (Fernando Giacinti, Francesco Costantini)

12:10 - 12:50 PM | *The development of voice and verb alternations in Hawu* (Tamisha L Tan, Leah J Pappas)

12:50 - 1:50 PM | Lunch Break

1:50 - 2:30 PM | *Contact, Persistence, and Wh Relatives in Northern Iroquoian* (John Whitman)

2:30 - 3:10 PM | *Reconstructing changes in verbal synthesis without written records* (Bertollo Sabrina, Madaro Romano, Tomaselli Alessandra)

3:10 - 3:30 PM | **Coffee Break**

3:30 - 4:10 PM | *How is Slavic Kako (Un)like Romance Quomodo?* (Alberto Frasson)

4:10 - 4:50 PM | *Register & change in Latin conjunction marking* (Moreno Mitrović, Richard Waltereit, Uli Sauerland)

4:50 - 5:50 PM | **Round table on the legacy of the Penn Corpora**

6 PM | Reception at St Giles House ([16 St Giles', Oxford OX1 3JS](#))

Day 2 - Taylor Institution (St Giles', Oxford OX1 3NA)

9:10 - 10:10 AM | **Plenary: Ana Maria Martins – Expressive verb movement (when change is not loss)**

10:10 - 10:50 AM | *Phylogenies probe (the architecture of) grammar: head directionality parameters in IE* (Dimitris Michelioudakis, Natalia Chousou-Polydouri, Nikos Angelopoulos, Pantelis Chatzoudis, Elena Anagnostopoulou)

10:50 - 11:30 AM | *Syntactic history as history of systems* (Paola Crisma)

11:30 - 11:50 AM | **Coffee Break**

11:50 - 12:30 PM | *Towards Syntactic Economy: A Diachronic Case Study of Postverbal Preposition Ellipsis in Thai* (Piyapath T Spencer)

12:30 - 1:10 PM | *A paradigmatic approach to the historical development of Swedish negators* (Mikael Berger, Johan Brandtler, Eric Lander)

1:10 - 2:10 PM | **Lunch Break**

2:10 - 2:50 PM | *From negative affix to intensifier: The cross-categorial reanalysis of Irish an-* (Nicola D'Antuono)

2:50 - 3:30 PM | *A new analysis of Old Irish Verbal Syntax: a vP-remnant approach* (Nora Veronika Dehmke)

3:30 - 4:10 PM | *Much ado about the no-thing: a fresh synchronic and diachronic syntactic analysis of the Old Irish preverb no-* (Danny L. Bate)

4:10 - 5:10 PM | Coffee Break + Poster Session 1

P1. *When Istro-Romanian meets Croatian: the strange fate of the definite article* (Martin Maiden, Oana Uță Bărbulescu, Ștefania Costea)

P2. *Intervention effects with symmetrical passives in Ancient Greek* (Elena Anagnostopoulou, Morgan Macleod, Christina Sevdali)

P3. *Featural change in the Early New High German DP* (Elliott Evans, Christopher Sapp, and Rex A. Sprouse)

P4. *Revisiting Taraldsen's Generalization: A New Metric for Quantifying Syncretism* (Yiming Liang, Alexandra Simonenko)

P5. *The noun on the move: Rethinking N-raising from Latin to Modern Italian* (Sabrina Bertollo, Paola Crisma, Cristina Guardiano, Fae Hicks, Romano Madaro, Emanuela Sanfelici, Giuseppina Silvestri)

P6. *The Sequence Glosses in the Glosas Emilianenses and Old Spanish Syntax* (Michelle Troberg, John Whitman)

P7. *Welsh 'r-': Lessons on positive polarity and portmanteaux* (Frances Dowle)

P8. *The loss of null subjects in Old and early Middle English: the role of information structure* (Sarah Gordon)

P9. *Syncretism of 'give' & the emergence of functional heads* (Shangyan Pan)

5:10 - 5:50 PM | *'Go' as a modal raising verb: The emergence of an infinitival medio-passive in German* (Eric Fuß, Benjamin L. Sluckin)

5:50 - 6:30 PM | *Diachronic Perspectives on Adverbial w-Connectors in German* (Marco Coniglio, Alberto Valiera)

7 PM | Pub night – St Aldates Tavern ([108 St Aldate's, Oxford OX1 1BU](#))

Day 3 - Taylor Institution (St Giles', Oxford OX1 3NA)

9:10 - 10:10 AM | Plenary: Pierre Larrivé – title TBC

10:10 - 10:50 AM | *The steep path from OV to VO* (Jan Casalicchio; Francesco Costantini; Nicola D'Antuono; Gabriele Ganau; Fernando Giacinti; Emanuela Li Destri; Elena Marcati; Angelapia Massaro; Cecilia Poletto; Emanuela Sanfelici)

10:50 - 11:30 AM | *The loss of V2 and scrambling: testing the parallel phase hypothesis* (Francesco Pinzin, Tommaso Balsemin, Cecilia Poletto, Emanuela Sanfelici, Papa Hamatt Touré)

11:30 - 11:50 AM | Coffee Break

11:50 - 12:30 PM | *The rise and fall of complex subordinators* (Ferroni Sofia, Sanfelici Emanuela)

12:30 - 1:10 PM | "Ansonsten" 'otherwise' as a complementizer. Its origin, development and use – (Łukasz Jędrzejowski)

1:10 - 2:10 PM | Lunch Break

2:10 - 2:50 PM | *The emergence of English -ing-complements* (Marc Meisezahl, George Walkden)

2:50 - 3:30 PM | *Productivity and Syntactic Change: Verb-Subject Inversion in the History of English and the Influence of French* (Charles Yang, Carola Trips)

3:30 - 4:10 PM | *Diachronic I(earn)ability: Modelling acquisition of labile verbs in Middle English* (Carola Trips, Tom Rainsford, Jordan Kodner)

4:10 - 5:10 PM | Coffee Break + Poster Session 2

- P1.** *Relative clauses in the Germanic varieties in the Alps: some cues from the diachrony of Cimbrian and Timavese under the pressure of (Italo)Romance* (Bertollo Sabrina, Madaro Romano, Tomaselli Alessandra)
- P2.** *Morphosemantic reanalysis and the innovation of inalienable nominalisers across Meto* (Tamisha L. Tan)
- P3.** *Taxonomic Nouns across Languages and the diachrony of Romanian fel ‘kind’* (Carmen Dobrovie-Sorin, Ion Giurgea)
- P4.** *West Germanic verb cluster orders in an articulated TP framework.* (Christopher Sapp and Elliott Evans)
- P5.** *Indo-European and its closest relatives: is there any?* (Artioli A., Creanga C., Guardiano C., Longobardi G., Motta F., Sgarro A., Sorge G.,)
- P6.** *Historical Spanish no(n)nada and the role of the prepositional phrase* (Aaron Yamada)
- P7.** *Ancient Greek had passives after all. Revisiting the distribution of (non)-active morphology.* (Dimitris Michelioudakis, Georgios Kostopoulos, Elena Anagnostopoulou)
- P8.** *A comparative look at adverbial resumption in the diachrony of Scandinavian and German* (Nicholas Catasso, Christine Meklenborg)
- P9.** *Participle-object agreement in Old and Middle French: Resultativity rather than word order* (Espen Klavik Pettersen)

5:10 - 5:50 PM | *Definiteness, Demonstrative Pronouns, and the Absence of the Definite Article in Old Russian* (Tatyana Slobodchikoff)

5:50 - 6:30 PM | *The syntax of archaic and innovative relativisers in Old East Slavic* (Anna Fitiskina)

6:30 - 6:45 PM | Business Meeting

7.15 PM | Dinner at Trinity College ([Broad St, Oxford OX1 3BH](#)) – pre-registration required

Day 4 - Garden Room, Trinity College (Broad St, Oxford OX1 3BH)

9:30 - 10:10 AM | *Adjacency Matters for Contextual Allomorphy: New Evidence from Coptic* (Ruth Kramer, Chris Reintges)

10:10 - 10:50 AM | *Categorial Features and Syntactic Change: The Case of the Present Tense in Sason Arabic* (Faruk Akkus, Elabbas Benmamoun)

10:50 - 11:10 AM | **Coffee Break**

11:10 - 11:50 AM | *Diachronic change in dative clitics in non-Valencian Catalan* (Teresa Cabré, Cristina Real Puigdollers)

11:50 - 12:30 PM | *The rise of expressive negation in a proper noun: the case of Rita in Catalan* (Núria Bosch)

12:30 - 1:30 PM | **Plenary: Anne Breitbath** – *Continuity and change: Tying together some loose ends at the tail of Jespersen's Cycle*

1:30 PM | **Closing remarks**

Organising Committee:

Afra Pujol i Campeny

Marc Olivier-Loiseau

Anna Paradís