



Einladung zu zwei Vorträgen

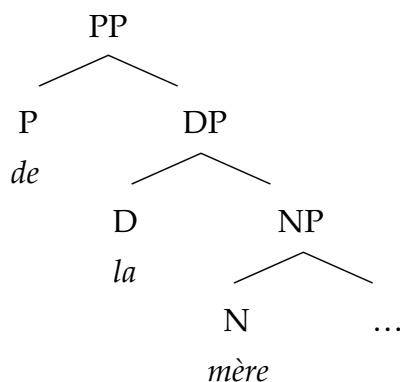
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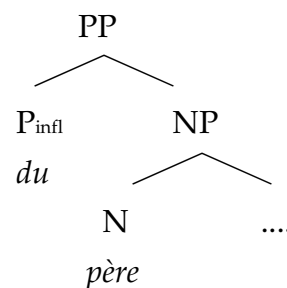
French preposition-determiner portmanteaux with mass nouns

It has been put forward in the literature that the non-amalgamated form *de la* behaves differently from the amalgamated form *du* (< *de + le*) with respect to coordination. According to Cabredo Hofherr (2012) and others, *de la mère et la fille* 'of the mother and the daughter' is fine, whereas **du père et le fils* 'of the father and the son' (vs. *du père et du fils*) is ungrammatical. Based on this observation it has been argued that in the feminine the preposition and the determiner are transparent for syntax, i.e. there are two separate heads (cf. (1a)), but not in the masculine (cf. (1b)) where *du* is analysed as one inflected preposition (cf. e.g. Cabredo Hofherr 2012).

(1) a. non-amalgamated form



b. amalgamated form





Romanisches Seminar

I will discuss several proposals which try to cope with this difference between the non-amalgamated and the amalgamated form and I will show that they all have problems to explain the non-amalgamated form *de la* in mass noun constructions (cf. (2b)). As shown by Abeillé et al. (2003), *de la* is transparent for coordination only in those cases where it is oblique (cf. (2b)), whereas it is intransparent (just like *du*) in the non-oblique cases:

- (2) a. *J'ai besoin [de [la/cette farine et la/cette levure]] pour mon gâteau.* (wide scope)
b. *Pour ce gâteau, il faut de la farine et *(de) la levure.* (narrow scope)

I assume that (2a) belongs to the “biclausal” structure in (3a), while (2b) represents an example of the “monoclausal” structure in (3b) (cf. Selkirk 1977, Falco & Zamparelli 2019).

- (3) a. [DP D/Num ... of [DP... Noun]]
b. [DP [DP/MeasureP a dozen/number/lot] (of) NP]

I will argue that in (3b) *du* as well as *de la* are cumulative exponents for several functional heads within the DP and propose an analysis based on the notion of spanning (cf. Svenonius 2012).

Donnerstag, 6. Februar 2020, 14:00-15:00 Uhr
Seminarraum D 31, Zürichbergstr. 8, 8032 Zürich

Dozierende, Studierende und weitere Interessierte sind herzlich eingeladen.

Prof. Dr. Elisabeth Stark

Prof. Dr. Tatiana Crivelli, Seminarvorsteherin