



Der Sonderforschungsbereich 991 "Die Struktur von Repräsentationen in Sprache, Kognition und Wissenschaft" lädt herzlich ein zum Vortrag von

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***Determination Reanalyzed as Part of the Noun:
The Case of French-Based Creole Languages***

It is a striking feature of French-based Creole languages that there is a number of nouns for which the French determiner has been reanalyzed as part of the nominal stem. This way, a French noun phrase may result in a bare noun in the Creole, which may then be used with a postnominal determiner.

An example is the noun for moon in Haitian Creole (HC):

(1)

a.

French: la lune
 def moon
 'the moon'

b. HC: lalin nan
 moon def
 id.

Similarly, other types of determination like partitive, possessive or plural also give rise to reanalysis as a component of the noun; e.g., Creole *diri* 'rice' < French *du riz*.

In the creolist literature, this phenomenon has been referred to as etymological agglutination (cf. Baker (1984), Grant (1995)). Which nouns bear this reanalysis and which do not has been tried to explain by taking into account several factors of different nature (phonological, diachronic, historical, creolization). Although many of these factors certainly play a role in characterizing the

criteria for nouns to exhibit reanalysis of determination, I will argue that these asymmetries are only explicable by taking into account the lexical concept type of the nouns in question. Compare the above example, which involves an Individual Concept that undergoes reanalysis, to the Sortal Concept ‘dog’, which does not:

(2)

a.

French: le chien
 def dog
 ‘the dog’

b. HC: chen an
 dog def
 id.

The talk will therefore provide an explanation of the reanalysis of determination in terms of Löbner’s (2011) theory of Concept Types and Determination (CTD). Specifically, I focus on a correlation between the concept type of the noun that is involved in the reanalysis and the respective type of determination.

Studierende und andere Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen.