



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

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***What kind of meaning can be packaged in
a root?
Insights from change of state verbs***

A general question going back to foundational work by Talmy (1972) is what kinds of meanings can be packaged together into a single morphological root, and what consequences this packaging has for the nature of morphology and syntax, both language internal and crosslinguistic. In recent literature, one way in which this agenda has played out is in the claim (found prominently in Distributed Morphology; Embick 2004, Arad 2005, i.a.) that meanings that *can* be introduced by functional projections (e.g., causative and change of state meaning) are only ever so introduced and are never encoded in the meanings of roots. In this talk, I explore the kinds of entailments packaged together in the roots of change of state (COS) verbs, showing on the basis of morphological, syntactic, and semantic evidence that there are two classes of morphological roots. There are those that are purely state denoting (e.g., the roots of deadjectival COS verbs like *redden*) and those that encode a change (e.g., the roots of Levin's 1993 break-type verbs). I consider several possible analyses of this contrast, both lexicalist and non-lexicalist, and discuss their attributes and consequences for the nature of the syntax/semantics interface.

Studierende und andere Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen.