



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

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Mood Selection in Romance Complement Clauses

Attitude verbs in Spanish and, more generally, in Romance, select for a specific mood in their complement clause. With only a few exceptions in some Romance languages, the classification goes as follows. Verbs selecting indicative mood include doxastic verbs ('think', 'believe', 'know'), verbs of communication ('say', 'announce'), verbs of certainty ('be certain that...'), commitment ('promise'), fiction ('dream'), mental judgment ('guess', 'understand') and perception verbs ('see that...', 'hear that...'). This is illustrated in (1), where a positive sentence with 'believe' / 'know' is grammatical if its complement clause appears in the indicative and ungrammatical if it appears in the subjunctive (Villalta 2008). Verbs selecting subjunctive mood are desire verbs ('want', 'prefer', 'wish'), factive-emotive verbs ('regret', 'be glad that...'), modal verbs ('be possible', 'be necessary'), verbs of doubt ('to doubt'), directive verbs ('order', 'advise') and causative verbs ('to make somebody do something', 'to manage'). This is illustrated in (2), where a subjunctive complement clause is grammatical and an indicative complement clause leads to ungrammaticality (Villalta 2008).

- (1) **Sofía cree** / **sabe** que se ha-IND / *se haya-SUB planeado un picnic.
 Sofia believes / knows that SE has-IND / *has-SUB planned a picnic
 'Sofia believes / knows that a picnic has been planned.'
- (2) **Sofía quiere** que pro *planeas-IND / planees-SUB un picnic.
 Sofia wants that (you) *plan-IND / plan-SUB a picnic
 'Sofia wants you to plan a picnic.'

Researchers have tried to give a semantic analysis of mood selection in Romance, taking as the critical factor the intrinsic semantic characterization of the embedding verbs. The traditional idea relates mood selection in complement clauses to mood choice in conditionals: indicative is the

“realis” mood and thus signals that we are quantifying over worlds close to the actual one (cf. the indicative conditional in (3a)), whereas subjunctive is the “irrealis” mood and signals that we are quantifying over worlds that are already known to be impossible or at least are more distant from the actual one (cf. the subjunctive conditional in (3b)). Several problems have been raised against this idea, and a substantial body of literature has produced new semantic analyses in the recent years, such as Farkas (1992), Quer (1998, 2009), Giannakidou (1995), Giorgi and Pianesi (1997), and Villalta (2008).

- (3) a. Si Juan fue-IND ayer a la fiesta, la fiesta fue-IND divertida.
If Juan went-IND yesterday to the party, the party was-IND entertaining
'If Juan went to the party yesterday, the party was fun.'
- b. Si Juan hubiese-SUBJ ido ayer a la fiesta, la fiesta habría-COND
If Juan had-SUB gone yesterday to the party, the party would-have-COND
sido divertida.
been entertaining
'If Juan had gone to the party yesterday, the party would have been fun.'

The goal of the present paper is, first, to present problems remaining in some of the most recent analyses, namely in Giorgi and Pianesi (1997) and Villalta (2008), and, second, to tentatively advance a way of implementing the traditional idea that circumvents these new problems.

Studierende und andere Interessierte sind herzlich willkommen.