

The goal of this workshop is to explore some questions raised during our previous workshops in Hermosillo (Mexico). Specific topics for the October 2011 workshop include the link between finiteness and nominalization and changes in finiteness, i.e. the process of re-finitization and de-finitization.

Among the issues to be addressed are these:

Finiteness belongs to the grammar of inter-clausal connectivity; it may be defined as “the systematic grammatical means used to express the degree of integration of a clause into its immediate clausal environment” (Givón 1990: 853). The syntactic dependence of the clause - its finiteness – is thus used to code the thematic dependence of an event/state on its discourse context. What do we really mean by dependence? Are non-finite clauses always dependent? If so, in what sense? Syntactic or semantic dependence? (Nikolaeva 2007)

Finiteness and nominalization are generally described as correlated (Givón 2001, Bisang 2001). For example, a highly nominalized clause is an indicator of a low degree of finiteness. How do these finiteness and nominalization interact? Does nominalization function as an indicator of finiteness, and if so, how? Which properties are taken as distinctive for finiteness and non-finiteness – tense, modality, aspect, subject/object agreement, voice, encoding of verbal argument, or others?

From a functional perspective, finiteness is a property of the clause and is generally characterized as a scalar phenomenon (Givón 2001). However, formal theories and some functional approaches take finiteness to be a discrete, binary phenomenon (Bisang 2007). How and why do different grammatical theories represent finiteness?

Finiteness as a property of the clause is a complex, multi-featured, and scalar phenomenon that may change. How is finiteness subject to change? In what direction might the change go? What are the syntactic environments in which re-finitization or de-finitization occur, and how and why does this happen? With which other features are re-finitization and de-finitization correlated?

References

- Bisang, W. 2001. Finite vs. non finite languages. In *The world atlas of language structures*, M. Haspelmath *et al.* (eds.), 1400-1413. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Bisang, W. 2007. Categories that make finiteness: discreteness from a functional perspective and some of its repercussions. In *Finiteness. Theoretical Empirical Foundations*, I. Nikolaeva (ed.), 115-137. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Givón, T. 1990. *Syntax. A Functional-Typological Introduction. Vol. II*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Givón, T. 2001. *Syntax. An Introduction. Vol. II*. Amsterdam: John Benjamins Publishing Company.
- Nikolaeva, I. (ed.). 2007. *Finiteness. Theoretical Empirical Foundations*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

Workshop Organizers

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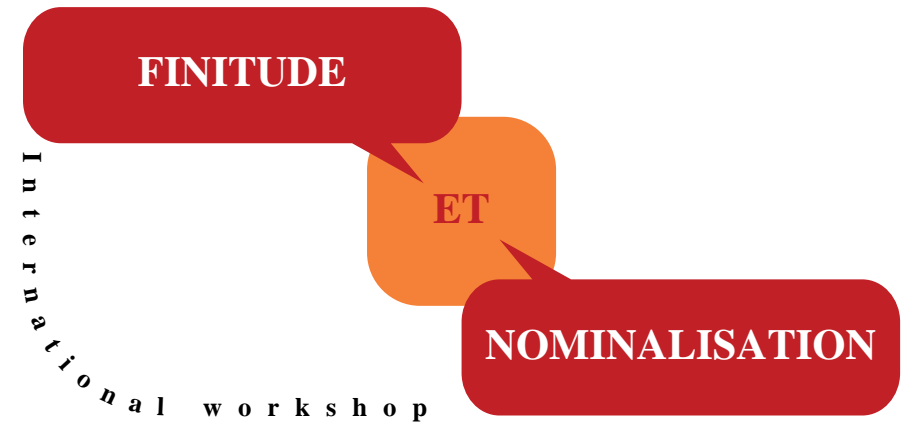
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Programme International de Coopération Scientifique
« Complexité syntaxique et diversité typologique »

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CNRS & Universidad de Sonora



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Mercredi 12 octobre

9h00 *Bienvenue*

9h30 T. GIVÓN
Nominalization and re-finitization

10h30 *Pause café*

11h00 Valentín PERALTA RAMÍREZ
Las cláusulas dependientes con predicados no finitos: los desiderativos y su restricción aspectual y de persona en el nawat de Pajapan

11h45 Martine VANHOVE
The nominalizer –a in Beja (Cushitic)

12h30 *Pause déjeuner*

14h30 Claire MOYSE-FAURIE
Referential markers in Oceanic nominalized constructions

15h15 Albert ÁLVAREZ GONZÁLEZ
Rasgos de finitud y nominalización en las cláusulas adverbiales de la lengua yaqui

16h00 Stéphane ROBERT
The various uses of the Null tense in Wolof: Scalarity in connectivity and dependency

16h45 *Pause café*

17h15 Marianne MITHUN
Interactions between finiteness and nominalization

18h15 *Cocktail de bienvenue*

Jeudi 13 octobre

9h30 Masayoshi SHIBATANI
Toward the functional definitions of clauses and sentences

10h30 *Pause café*

11h00 Fidencio BRICEÑO CHEL
Cláusulas finitas y nominalización en maya yucateco

11h45 Zarina ESTRADA FERNÁNDEZ
Finiteness and non-finiteness in Pima Bajo: a scalar phenomenon

12h30 *Pause déjeuner*

14h30 Sophie VASSILAKI
A propos des complétives nominalisées du grec moderne

15h15 Claudine CHAMOREAU
Non-finiteness and chain-medial clauses in Purepecha

16h00 *Pause café*

16h30 Walter BISANG
Finiteness and nominalization — convergence and divergence

Vendredi 14 octobre

9h30 Bernd HEINE
On imperatives and nonfiniteness: Some crosslinguistic observations

10h30 *Pause café*

11h00 Enrique PALANCAR
Where nominalization ends and derivation begins

11h45 Françoise ROSE
Lexical nominalizations VS clause nominalizations: two extremes on the finiteness scale

12h30 Francesc QUEIXALÓS
Prédicats dé-rhématisés en sikvani (et en tupi-guarani)

13h15 *Clôture*

Des idées
pour vos soirées

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