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Synchronic and Diachronic Perspectives on Contact Languages

MILES ALBERT

Crossing Linguistic Boundaries Bloomsbury Publishing
Existing accounts of Australian Aboriginal English do not investigate the significant degree of variation found across the continent. This book presents the first description of English spoken on Croker Island, Northern Territory, Australia, in terms of its history, linguistic features and connections to local Aboriginal languages. It demonstrates that English on Croker Island shows an extremely high degree of intra- and inter-speaker variation and embedding in a longstanding multilingual contact situation, both of which challenge existing models of variation and language contact. These results have significant ramifications for how variation is modelled, for our understanding of how postcolonial Englishes develop, as well as for the dynamics of complex contact situations. The book also puts English on Croker Island into a typological context of World Englishes by establishing a profile according to the parameters of the World Atlas of Varieties of English (WAVE). It is of interest to academics interested in Australian Aboriginal English, language contact, World Englishes and Australian Aboriginal languages.

New Trends and Methodologies in Applied English Language Research III Linguistic Insights

Synchronic corpus linguistics contains select papers from the sixteenth International Conference on English Language Research on Computerized Corpora (ICAME 16). The papers reflect the state of the art in the design, analysis, and annotation of corpora. Corpora new and old facilitate the description of single registers of English (e.g., London teenage English, business English) and of specific grammatical topics across registers (e.g., the grammatical flexibility of idioms), including variation studies (e.g., popular vs. technical registers of English). Other corpora permit the comparison of English to other languages (Norwegian, German, Swedish); of L1 English to L2 English; and of English as an original language to English in translation. A number of these papers emphasize pragmatics: indeed, among the papers on

spoken English is an assessment of corpora annotated for discourse analysis. Other papers describe different aspects of the automatic analysis of text. Two papers describe semantic analysis of large text corpora composed of news/business text. Automatic grammatical analysis is the subject of other papers: two evaluate existing automatic parsers and wordclass taggers, while two describe how annotated corpora are being used to develop two new and innovative automatic parsers.

Modality and Ellipsis Springer

Isabel Balteiro describes the three main problems that the word-formation process known as conversion presents, namely those related to its definition, its delimitation, and its directionality. The latter constitutes, however, the main focus of the study.

English Phonology and Phonological Theory John Benjamins Publishing

First published in 1992, *A Grammar of Old English, Volume 1: Phonology* was a landmark publication that in the intervening years has not been surpassed in its depth of scholarship and usefulness to the field. With the 2011 posthumous publication of Richard M. Hogg's *Volume 2: Morphology*, Volume 1 is again in print, now in paperback, so that scholars can own this complete work. Takes account of major developments both in the field of Old English studies and in linguistic theory. Takes full advantage of the Dictionary of Old English project at Toronto, and includes full cross-references to the DOE data. Fully utilizes work in phonemic and generative theory and related topics. Provides material crucial for future research both in diachronic and synchronic phonology and in historical sociolinguistics.

Synchronic Romance Linguistics Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co KG

This book presents an empirically-grounded sociolinguistic history of the English language in Hong Kong in the past 170 years. Using substantial sets of diachronic and synchronic data, it traces the changing status and functions of English in relation to spoken Cantonese, Mandarin and written Chinese in the key domains of government, education and business. The author tracks the rise of English-knowing bilingualism in the city's Chinese community and explores the evolutionary dynamics of Hong Kong English. He

also speculates on the future of English in the territory, particularly after 2047 when the 'one country, two systems' framework established by the Sino-British Joint Declaration is dismantled. Researchers and students working in the fields of sociolinguistics, English as a global language, world Englishes, applied linguistics and English-language education will find this book provides valuable information and insights about the uses and users of English in colonial and post-colonial Hong Kong. More generally, it makes a unique contribution to the literature on the diffusion and diversification of English worldwide.

Synchronic Corpus Linguistics Peter Lang GmbH, Internationaler Verlag Der Wissenschaften

Aspects of modality and ellipsis have become prominent in theoretical linguistics over the last years. What has remained under-investigated is the fact that modals tend to make excellent ellipsis licensors and, conversely, that many of the naturally occurring cases of ellipsis are licensed by modals. The book concentrates on the syntax of the modal auxiliaries with special focus on English and investigates the grammatical relationship with the process of ellipsis that interacts most relevantly with the modals in grammaticalized fashion by including a special emphasis on verb-phrase ellipsis. After a critical discussion of pertinent approaches in the two domains, the book focuses on establishing the connection between the two areas by essentially drawing on the history of English and on observable effects in modern grammars, which it puts into perspective with semantically grounded features on the modals involved. Two major generalizations are proposed in the monograph. The first generalization concerns the treatment of the interaction between modals and ellipsis as determined by the features located in the licensing modal heads. To this end, the syntactic effects of the main semantic factors are explored in detail in English and partial effects obtaining in other languages are discussed. The second generalization concerns the syntactic component involved in ellipsis licensing. It is suggested that ellipsis types with the distributional features of verb-phrase ellipsis are licensed by interpretable features of the licensing head. The two generalizations are intertwined with one another and derive a

series of further legitimate ellipsis licensors beyond the modals. The role of formal features that are interpretable is distinguished from agreement features, which are claimed not to be in charge of ellipsis licensing.

Synchronic English Linguistics Rodopi

Diachronic and Synchronic Aspects of Legal English is a brief guide to the past, present, and possible future of Legal English as a professional language. It is intended for a broad audience of readers interested in linguistics and in legal language as part of the spectrum of English for Special Purposes (ESP). The book uses simple words to explain the development and features of legal language to law students (especially L2 English speakers) and practicing lawyers, but also to non-academics interested in understanding the basis of the legal language that is part of our everyday lives. The book provides a brief introduction to the evolution of Legal English, from its origins to modern times, observing how it has changed lexically, structurally, and conceptually throughout the centuries, and a lexical and syntactic analysis of the contemporary legal register of the 21st century, in which Legal English has gone far beyond the borders of Great Britain. It also offers an introduction to the debate on the Plain English Movement's suggestions for simplified legal language, and an example of textual analysis of an authentic legal document, the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989), in order to identify the stylistic markers of Legal English that help achieve the communicative aims of the text. Furthermore, a balance between time-honoured legal expressions and a simplification of legal language is proposed as a challenge for professional English, to guarantee citizens' understanding of their rights and duties expressed through legislation.

Diachronic Clues to Synchronic Grammar Walter de Gruyter

This book offers a concise introduction to synchronic English linguistics. Following an introduction to language and linguistics as such, it provides detailed descriptions of the different language levels: phonetics and phonology, morphology, syntax, and meaning in language (comprising semantics and pragmatics). Furthermore, one chapter deals with constructional approaches to English grammar. The final chapter serves as an outlook on the application of linguistic theory in various domains of language use, including historical linguistics, dialectology, sociolinguistics, language acquisition and forensic linguistics. Every chapter

contains specific exercises that help to rehearse the key concepts introduced in this book.

Space in Languages of China Walter de Gruyter

This volume emphasizes a new line of thinking in generative grammar which acknowledges that certain synchronic properties of languages can only be fully understood if diachronic data is taken into consideration. The central topics addressed in this collection of papers are (1) a critical assessment of the hypothesis that certain apparently synchronic generalizations are actually the result of the mechanisms of language change, (2) an inquiry into how diachronic data can be used to evaluate and shape formal analyses of particular synchronic phenomena. Reviving the interest in diachronic explanations for synchronic data, the contributions provide novel and original diachronic accounts of phenomena that up to now have escaped a deeper synchronic explanation, including the nature of EPP features, gaps in the distribution of complementizer agreement, and counterexamples to the generalization that rich verbal inflection correlates with verb movement.

A Grammar of Old English, Volume 1 Nova Novinka

Pidgin has been defined with different criteria by various authors. Two of these criteria are social and structural. The social criterion is that a pidgin arises out of the need for a language as a means of communication when people who do not have a common language come together. The structural criterion is that a pidgin is comprised of reduced structures that evolve to serve as a means of communication. This book is devoted to a literature review on the definition and etymology of pidgin and creole. Definitions to acquaint the reader with these two concepts are presented, which will help to decide whether the language variety being discussed in this work is pidgin or creole, or if it is something entirely different.

Grammaticalization, Synchronic Variation, and Language Contact

Cambridge University Press

The focus of this volume is the interdependence of diachrony and synchrony in the investigation of syntactic structure. A diverse set of modern and ancient languages is investigated from this perspective, including Hittite, the Classical languages, Old Norse, Coptic, Bantu languages, Australian languages and Creoles. A variety of topics are covered, including TAM, diathesis, valency, case marking, cliticization, and grammaticalization. This volume

should be of interest to syntacticians, typologists, and historical linguists with an interest in syntax and morphology.

Creating and Digitizing Language Corpora John Benjamins Publishing

Dr Lass examines certain crucial issues in phonological and general linguistic theory through detailed studies of English phonetics, dialectology and language-history. He argues that contemporary 'standard' phonological theory is inhibited and misled by the related disadvantages of an artificially constrained formalism and a restricted database. He confronts theories of English phonology with a much wider range of material than is usual, drawing for example on Scots, Northern and North-Midland English, East Coast American dialects, and many others. Dr Lass offers solutions to many outstanding problems in the history of English. All the detailed discussions are informed by an overriding concern for the methodological and philosophical issues suggested by such problems. What kind of discipline is linguistics? What kinds of knowledge do its procedures yield and how are they validated?

Historical Linguistics John Benjamins Publishing

Although the grammatical expression of reciprocal (or 'mutual') situations in the languages of the world has received a surprising amount of attention in recent years, so far no comprehensive study specifically dealing with the historical development and synchronic structure of English reciprocal constructions has been published. This book takes into consideration insights from the three major research projects on reciprocity in the languages of the world as well as the rich literature on more specific aspects of reciprocity. Assuming a usage-based model of grammar, the development of the reciprocal strategies used in present-day English is described, with special attention paid to the periods following Middle English, where today's system began to take shape. The means of expressing reciprocity in today's English (e.g. the expressions each other and one another) are then analyzed as a system of competing constructions, the make-up and distribution of which can be related both to their history and subtle distinctions in meaning and use associated with the different constructions. Quantitative data from corpora of natural language provides evidence for the analyses put forward. Wherever possible, claims on the expression of reciprocity in present-day English are checked against what is known about the

grammar of reciprocity in other languages.

Subordination in English Gunter Narr Verlag

This book is the first collective volume specifically devoted to the multifaceted phenomenon of intensification, which has been traditionally regarded as related to the expression of degree, scaling a quality downwards or upwards. In spite of the large amount of studies on intensifiers, there is still a need for the characterization of intensification as a distinct functional category in the domain of modification. The eighteen papers of the volume contribute to this aim with a new approach (mainly corpus-based). They focus on intensification from different perspectives (both synchronic and diachronic) and theoretical frameworks, concern ancient languages (Hittite, Greek, Latin) and modern languages (mainly Italian, German, English, Kiswahili), and involve different levels of analysis. They also identify and examine different types of intensifiers, applied to different forms and structures, such as adverbs, adjectives, evaluative affixes, discourse markers, reduplication, exclamative clauses, coordination, prosodic elements, and shed light on issues which have not been extensively studied so far.

Diachronic English Linguistics Springer Science & Business Media

Breaking away from previously rigid descriptions of the linguistic system of the English language, *Crossing Linguistic Boundaries* explores fascinating case studies which refuse to fall neatly within the traditional definitions of linguistic domains and boundaries. Bringing together leading international scholars in English linguistics, this volume focusses on these controversies in relation to seeking to overcome the temporal and geographical limits of the English language. Approaching tensions in the areas of English phonology and phonetics, pragmatics, semantics, morphology and syntax, chapters discuss not only British and American English but also a wide variety of geographical variants. Containing synchronic and diachronic studies covering different periods in the history of English, *Crossing Linguistic Boundaries*

will appeal to anyone interested in linguistic variation in English.

Reciprocity in English Cambridge University Press

This book goes beyond the boundaries of a standard text, using controversial and compelling ideas to explore the relationship between fundamental concepts in historical linguistics. An original and engaging introduction to the subject of historical linguistics Presents controversial but compelling ideas in developing a clear understanding as to why historical linguistics has had significant success in some domains, such as phonological history, and why it is considerably less successful in others Explores the relationship between fundamental concepts in historical linguistics, topics such as 'language' and 'change', and corresponding notions in contemporary (synchronic) linguistic theory Features extensive discussion of traditional and theoretically-oriented historical work in the domains of phonology and syntax.

Diachronic and Synchronic Aspects of Legal English Cambridge Scholars Publishing

This volume comprises a selection of papers delivered at the Fourth ELC International Postgraduate Conference on Language and Cognition (ELC4). The eleven papers collected here pertain to different areas of linguistics as varied as diachronic linguistics, syntax, pragmatics or psycholinguistics.

Synchronic English Linguistics Wiley-Blackwell

Discusses all aspects of language change as a dynamic process against a background of the differing approaches of the structuralist, neogrammarian and transformational generative schools.

The Directionality of Conversion in English Wiley-Blackwell

Although the grammatical expression of reciprocal (or 'mutual') situations in the languages of the world has received a surprising amount of attention in recent years, so far no comprehensive study specifically dealing with the historical development and synchronic structure of English reciprocal constructions has been published. This book takes into consideration insights from the three major research projects on

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Synchronic and Diachronic Perspectives on Contact Languages Walter de Gruyter GmbH & Co KG

Space has long been a popular topic in linguistic research. Numerous books on the subject have been published over the past decade. However, none of these books were based on linguistic data from Chinese and expressions of space in Chinese have been largely neglected in past research. In this volume, not only Mandarin Chinese (the standard language) is investigated; several other dialects, as well as a minority language of China and Chinese Sign Language are studied. Cross-linguistic, synchronic and diachronic approaches are used to investigate phenomena related to space. The authors of this book present different points of view on the expression of space in language and related theoretical issues. As the contributing scholars argue, Chinese shares many common features with other languages, but also presents some particular properties. Space is a topic that is both classical and modern, of enduring interest. These studies of space give insight into not only general linguistics but also other domains such as anthropology and psychology.