

**Affix-order constraints in Path coding:  
About satellites, adpositions and the gradience of categories**  
Category: Oral

This talk deals with the typology of space, and more specifically with the typology of “satellites” (Talmy, 2000), originally introduced through the example of English verb particles but including also preverbs (as those of Germanic and Slavic languages). This talk focuses on this category of preverbs in a situation of multiple prefixation of spatial preverbs, and means to demonstrate that they do not all have the same functional status and do not all function as satellites.

This demonstration relies on an original case study of some typologically-revisited data from an ancient language: a system of multiple Path preverbs in Homeric Greek. It is in direct continuation of a work-in-progress presented at the *Berkeley Workshop on Affix Ordering*, an elaborated version of which was part of my PhD dissertation<sup>1</sup> in 2008. The data was collected through an exhaustive inventory of the 98 occurrences of multiple Path-preverb constructions found in the *Iliad* and the *Odyssey*, via the *Perseus Digital Library*.

I showed in my PhD dissertation that multiple preverbation in Homeric Greek may involve up to three preverbs, as illustrated in examples (1)-(2):

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| <p>(1) eis-ana-ago:<br/> <b>PV3/to-PV1/up-lead</b><br/>         ‘Lead up to’<br/>         Direction-Orientation-V</p> | <p>(2) ek-hupo-ana-istemi<br/> <b>PV3/out-PV2/under-PV1/up-start</b><br/>         ‘Start up from under’<br/>         Direction-Location-Orientation-V</p> |
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Through the perspective of typological affix-ordering studies (Greenberg, 1963; Bybee, 1985), I also demonstrated that this “string” of Path preverbs on the verb stem involves a semantically-based fixed order, according to the type and portion of Path expressed in the Motion event – as illustrated in (3):

(3)	<b>PV3- Direction</b>	<b>PV2- Location</b>	<b>PV1- Orientation or Median</b>	<b>VERB STEM</b>
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My analysis demonstrates that there are three different kinds of preverbs, based on their position and more crucially on the morphosyntactic interaction of the whole multiple Path-preverb construction with the oblique argument that codes the Ground. I will show how these three types of preverbs are organized along a functional continuum [ adpositional function > applicative function > satellite function ], and how only the preverb closest to the verb stem behaves as a *bona fide* “satellite”. Such an analysis involves a refined morphosyntactic study of these constructions, but most importantly a systematic analysis of their grammaticalization processes.

<sup>1</sup>For the sake of anonymity, the references of those works are not included in this abstract.

REFERENCES:

Bybee, J. L. 1985. *Morphology. A study of the relation between meaning and form*. John Benjamins.  
 Greenberg, J. 1963. "Some universals of grammar with particular reference to the order of meaningful elements".  
 In J. Greenberg (ed.), *Universals of Language*. MIT Press.  
 Talmy, L. 2000. *Toward a cognitive semantics*, 2 vol. Bradford Books.