SECOND CALL FOR PAPERS

International Conference

Metalinguistic Markers: Emergence, Discourse, Variation

8ᵗʰ-9ᵗʰ June 2022

"Alexandru Ioan Cuza" University of Iași (hybrid or online, depending on the pandemic conditions)

Since Rey-Debove's seminal studies (1978) on metalanguage, autonymic connotation and metalinguistic verbs, Authier-Revuz's research (e.g. 1995) on autonymic modalization and what she calls the "boucles réflexives du dire", or even the work of Steuckardt and Niklas-Salminen (dirs) (2005) on gloss markers, metalinguistic markers have been the subject of ongoing research in linguistics. Indeed, the metalinguistic activities that these markers refer to are an essential feature of language functioning. These activities are various operations such as reformulating, defining, naming, designating, terminological borrowing, correcting, approximating, exemplifying, or the so-called "modalisation du dire en discours second".

Within the framework of our research project, "metalinguistic markers" are considered in a very broad sense as referring to the different illustrations of the reflexivity of natural languages, manifested by what Authier-Revuz calls « non-coïncidences du dire », whether they are phrases concerning language use (metalinguistic markers, in a narrow sense), the act of saying (meta-enunciative markers) or even discourse itself (metadiscursive markers).

Among these metalinguistic phrases, those being formed with a saying verb have been and continue to be accounted for in several works dealing with the study of these phrases, in a single language (see, for instance, Rouanne & Anscombre, 2016; Gómez-Jordana & Anscombre (eds), 2015; Modicom, 2020) or in several languages, within a comparative or a non-comparative perspective (cf., for example, Lansari, 2020; Camus *et al.* (dirs), 2020; Petraş (ed.), 2019). Metalinguistic markers have been especially considered in relation to the operations they mark, such as reformulating (cf., for example, Gülich & Kotschi, 1983; LeBot *et al.* (dirs), 2008) or approximating (cf., for example, Mihatsch, 2010; Berbinski, 2019).

Whether they are lexemes or phrasemes, including parenthetic constructions, or even "metadiscursive comments", markers or particles, these phrases present various degrees of lexicalization and grammaticalization / pragmaticalization, this property being reflected in the approaches dealing with their emergence (see, for example, Dostie, 2004; Vincent and Martel, 2001). More broadly, studying the way in which these expressions evolved provides elements that shed light on the relationship between lexicon, grammar and discourse (Dostie and Lefeuvre (dirs), 2017).

The conference organized by the team of the research project "Metalinguistic Markers between Lexicon, Grammar and Discourse. A Diachronic Approach" intends to question, among other things, the semantic-pragmatic functioning of metalinguistic markers in different types of discourse, their relationship to variation, as well as the mechanisms of their emergence, using oral and / or written corpora. Papers may concern one particular language or propose contrastive approaches involving two or more languages. More specifically, the works of the conference aim to provide answers to questions such as: what are the properties of the lexemes that are likely to form metalinguistic markers? How could the existence of similar syntactic configurations in different languages be explained? What are the points of resemblance/dissemblance of the mechanisms involved in their emergence in various languages? Could some universal grammaticalization models, common to several languages, be set up? What are the processes involved in the translation of these markers from one language to another? Could the translation process lead to the emergence of some new markers in the target language?, etc.

Contributions related but not limited to the following research areas and topics are welcome:

- metalinguistic markers and types of discourse (literary, scientific, journalistic, didactic, etc.). Papers should aim at establishing connections between a particular phrase and a specific type of discourse and at identifying, where appropriate, the textual / discursive environments that trigger the emergence of a particular metadiscursive expression (cf., for example, the "opaque words" of Niklas-Salminen, 2010). Comparisons may be carried out between different types of discourse from the point of view of the use of metalinguistic markers;

- diachronic approach of metalinguistic markers. Apart from the mechanisms of their emergence in a given language, the discussion will focus on the changes in use or frequency that metalinguistic markers can undergo in diachrony (cf., for example, Opperman-Marsaux, 2016; Steuckardt, 2015);

- metalinguistic markers and variation. Papers could also focus on identifying factors of variation (regional, situational, social) in the use of the markers, in both written and oral discourse;

- metalinguistic markers and language acquisition. Comparisons can be made between the metalinguistic operations accomplished by means of the various markers studied in different types of discourse and the metalinguistic activities involved in the process of acquisition of a given language (cf., for example, Gombert, 1990; Gomila, 2011).

Languages of communication: French and English.

Keynote speakers:

Wiltrud Mihatsch, University of Tübingen
Laurence Rouanne, Complutense University of Madrid

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Guidelines for contributors

Contributors are invited to submit an abstract (in French or English) of about one page, references included. The authors' names and affiliations should be mentioned. Abstracts should be sent by April 1st, 2022 to petrasac@yahoo.com and cristina.petras@uaic.ro.

A selection of the papers presented at the conference will be published by an international publisher.

Deadlines

December 10, 2021 – first call for papers
January 20 2022 – second call for papers
April 1st, 2022 – abstract submission deadline
April 15, 2022 – notification to contributors
June 8-9, 2022 – conference

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