



Die Wiener Sprachgesellschaft lädt ein
zu einem Vortrag
von

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Investigating diachrony of affixation in real time.

Ditropic clitics and prosodic jump in dialectal Indo-European

The talk deals with development of affixes out of originally independent words via an intermediary stage of clitics. Such an evolution is well-known from a range of Indo-European languages, where inherited local adverbs frequently develop into elements proclitically attached to case forms of nouns ('prepositions') and finite forms of verbs ('preverbs' or 'verbal prefixes'). I will argue that several problems in the historical phonology of prepositions and verbal prefixes in various Indo-European languages are best resolved by assuming an intermediary stage of 'ditropic' behaviour of cliticized adverbs. While pro- and enclitic words form a prosodic unit with the following or preceding word respectively, the so-called 'ditropic clitics' select as their prosodic host whatever stressed word happens to precede their syntactic host. The enclitic behaviour of forms that in the historically attested stages of Baltic, Germanic and Armenian yield proclitic prepositions and verbal prefixes is argued to explain their seemingly aberrant phonological developments. It is also assumed that later the mismatch between prosody and morphosyntax was resolved by a 'prosodic jump', i.e. realignment of the local adverbs by attaching them to their semantic hosts. The hypothesis of a ditropic phase makes the traditional assumption of additional phonological rules applying in dialectal Indo-European only to local adverbs unnecessary.

(der Vortrag wird in deutscher Sprache gehalten)

Zeit: Dienstag, 5. Juni 2018, 18 Uhr 30

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