



WIENER  
SPRACHGESELLSCHAFT

Die Wiener Sprachgesellschaft lädt zu folgendem Vortrag herzlich ein:

**Dr. FRANK SODE**

Goethe-Universität Frankfurt, Institut für Linguistik

## **A Neo-Heimian account of argument-related conditionals in desire reports**

**Abstract:** In this talk I discuss three puzzles relating to the interpretation of conditional morphology in desire reports: (i) the unshifted interpretation of X-marked desire predicates in expressions of unattainable wishes, as discussed in von Stechow & Iatridou (2017, 2020); (ii) “non-logical” interpretations of if -clauses in constructions with predicates like glad, good, like etc., as discussed in Williams (1974) and Pesetsky (1991); (iii) apparent gaps in the neg-raising patterns of X-marked desire predicates. The main empirical focus will be on data from English and German. I claim that these puzzles have a unified solution if we assume (i) that in all puzzling cases conditionals are present at the syntax-semantics interface, thus explaining similarities in outer appearance to conditionals; (ii) that the corresponding conditional modals do not receive their usual interpretation as adverbial modifiers but are interpreted as the thematic arguments of an underlying gradable predicate resulting in the observed truth conditions. I call this treatment of conditionals at the syntax-semantics interface “Neo-Heimian” since the conceptual idea for the interpretation of restricted conditional modals as arguments is already present in Heim (1992), as I will argue.

**Zeit:** Dienstag, 28. 06. 2022, 18.30h

**Ort:** Seminarraum 3, Sensengasse 3a, 1. OG.

Kontakt: [wsg.sprachwissenschaft@univie.ac.at](mailto:wsg.sprachwissenschaft@univie.ac.at);  
<http://www.univie.ac.at/indogermanistik/wsg>