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Series Editors:	Shinichiro Ishihara Michaela Schmitz Universität Potsdam, SFB 632 Am Neuen Palais 10, D-14469 Potsdam ishihara@uni-potsdam.de; mschmitz@ling.uni-potsdam.de
	Anne Schwarz Humboldt-Universität zu Berlin, SFB 632 Sitz: Mohrenstr. 40-41 Unter den Linden 6, D-10099 Berlin anne.schwarz@rz.hu-berlin.de
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Preface ISIS 5

This volume contains research reports by six of the SFB projects.

Discussing *Quantificational Variability Effects* in sentences containing plural definites Cornelia Endriss and Stefan Hinterwimmer (project A2) explore the question of "Quantification over Individuals or Situations?". They introduce two constraints concerning the temporal location of situations that allow to convincingly distinguish frequency adverbs from adverbs of quantity.

Offering a new view on *nicht...sondern* ... (contrastive *not* ... *but* ...) in German, Elke Kasimir (project A5) accounts for several interesting properties, some also yielding special intonational requirements and exhaustivity effects.

New results from research into focus marking in Gùrùntùm, a Nigerian West Chadic language is presented by Katharina Hartmann and Malte Zimmermann (project B2). The authors point out some cross-linguistically remarkable features of the language's morphological focus-marking system including one for which the integration of a grounding mechanism beyond the sentence-level is suggested.

Svetlana Petrova (project B4) presents a novel approach to explaining word order variation in the early Germanic languages, presenting evidence for her claim that the identification of information-structural domains in a sentence is best achieved by taking into account the interaction between the pragmatic features of discourse referents and properties of discourse organization.

Michaela Schmitz, Barbara Höhle, Anja Müller, Jürgen Weissenborn (project C3) discuss their results of a study on when and how young German-learning children acquire the regularities which underlie Focus-to-Stress Alignment. Their findings provide evidence for a development from predominantly prosodically driven processing of the input to a processing with an increased interaction between prosodic, lexical and syntactic knowledge of the child.

An evaluation of the auditory stimuli material for testing the role of Information Structural properties on words in L2 processing is presented by Ruben van de Vijver, Anke Sennema and Anne Zimmer-Stahl (project C4). Their data shows that accents in English and German are expressed through an increased duration and higher F0, while syntactic or lexical means of marking focus (such as cleft and focus-sensitive adverb *only*) do not show these correlates.

We would like to thank the authors for contributing to this volume, hoping that their reports from different research perspectives add to the discussion on information structural principles and expressions in human language.

Shinichiro Ishihara Michaela Schmitz Anne Schwarz

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Quantificational Variability Effects with Plural Definites: Quantification over Individuals or Situations?^{*}

Cornelia Endriss & Stefan Hinterwimmer University of Potsdam; Humboldt University Berlin

In this paper we compare the behaviour of adverbs of frequency (de Swart 1993) like usually with the behaviour of adverbs of quantity like for the most part in sentences that contain plural definites. We show that sentences containing the former type of Q-adverb evidence that *Quantificational Variability Effects* (Berman 1991) come about as an indirect effect of quantification over situations: in order for quantificational variability readings to arise, these sentences have to obey two newly observed constraints that clearly set them apart from sentences containing corresponding quantificational DPs, and that can plausibly be explained under the assumption that quantification over (the atomic parts of) complex situations is involved. Concerning sentences with the latter type of Q-adverb, on the other hand, such evidence is lacking: with respect to the constraints just mentioned, they behave like sentences that contain corresponding quantificational DPs. We take this as evidence that Q-adverbs like for the most part do not quantify over the atomic parts of sum eventualities in the cases under discussion (as claimed by Nakanishi and Romero (2004)), but rather over the atomic parts of the respective sum individuals.

Adverbial Quantification, Situations, Tense Semantics, Adverbs of Frequency, Adverbs of Quantity

1 Introduction

Consider (1a) below, which has a prominent reading that can be paraphrased as in (1b):

^{*} Parts of this paper have been presented at *Sinn und Bedeutung 9* in Nijmegen and at the *Semantics Circle* at ZAS, Berlin. We would like to thank the audiences of both events as well as Sigrid Beck, Andreas Haida, Christian Krause, Manfred Krifka, Peter Staudacher, and Malte Zimmermann for discussion, valuable comments, and technical help.