FOREWORD

This book collects thirteen peer reviewed articles authored by past, current and future doctoral students in linguistics at the University of Geneva. It is a collection of papers which seeks to reflect the wealth of the ongoing research carried out by the junior scholars of the department of linguistics.

We encouraged submissions from all the subfields currently represented in Geneva, and the result is a volume that addresses multiple subjects, organized in a continuum that spans from semantics and pragmatics (K. Lohiniva, D. Blunier, B. Zuo, M. Petrosyan) to theoretical and experimental syntax (F. Berthelot, T. Socanac, C. Bonan, B. Samimi, M. Pallottino, F. Mirdamadi, E. Stanford & H. Delage, K. Martini) including a joint-work addressing the interface relation between discourse-pragmatic and syntax (H. Jivanyan & G. Samo). The volume is organized as follows:

The first paper authored by **Karoliina Lohiniva** provides supporting evidence for the claim that direct objects c-command indirect objects in ditransitive structures in Finnish. The data come from functional fragment answers, whose availability is shown to depend not only on the underlying structural relationship between the two objects, but also on the type of variable involved. Lohiniva is a doctoral student in formal semantics working on the syntax and semantics of additivity in Finnish.

The second paper by **David Blunier** develops and defends the proposal that free indirect discourse (FID) involves a form of context shift. This approach allows us to account for two puzzles in the study of FID: i) their shifting properties and ii) the *de se* interpretation they trigger. Blunier is a graduate student currently enrolled in the *Certificate of Specialisation in Linguistics*.

Baiyao Zuo is a post-doctoral student affiliated to the School of Foreign Languages, East China Normal University. She completed her PhD in Geneva in 2017 with a dissertation in pragmatics on non-canonical uses of negation in Mandarin Chinese. In her paper Zuo argues that Mandarine *shì* is not itself a mark of metalinguistic negation, but a morphosyntactic item whose insertion is required in order to obtain the mentioned metalinguistic interpretation.

Marina Petrosyan is currently a PhD student in pragmatics. She analyses juxtaposed verb constructions in Armenian that contain the basic motion verbs *come* and *go* from a semantic-pragmatic perspective. Petrossian's analysis focuses on how the degree of subjectivity varies across languages by comparing the above-mentioned constructions in Armenian to their French literary translations.

The fifth paper, by **Hasmik Jivanyan** and **Giuseppe Samo,** provides an analysis of various usages of the French connective *parce que* ('because') at the syntax and discourse-pragmatics interface. The authors first revisit the traditional subordinating vs. paratactic distinction of *parce que* in terms of meaning. They then evaluate the impact of certain syntactic modifications (clefting, clausal-initial position) on the interpretation of the conveyed causal relation. Finally, they provide a formal syntactic model, adopting the Generative Grammar framework, of the constraints on the syntactic modifications imposed by the previously identified type of causal relations. Jivanyan and Samo's paper bridges the two parts in which this volume is ideally parted. Jivanyan is a PhD student in discourse pragmatics, while Samo is working on a PhD in syntax.

Frédérique Berthelot's paper opens the half of the volume devoted to syntax and its subfields. In 2017, Berthelot completed her PhD dissertation on the syntax of subject constituents in French. Her paper shows that Romance *wh* pronouns (*lequel* and cognates) cannot introduce a restrictive relative unless they pied-pipe a preposition, whereas English *wh* pronouns are not similarly constrained. She suggests the contrast is better captured if one considers that *wh* pronouns are structurally deficient in Romance but not in English.

In 2017, **Tomislav Socanac** defended his dissertation in syntax on subjunctive complements in Slavic languages. In his paper Socanac illustrates that Balkan subjunctives present distributive properties that the traditional approach to Subjunctive mood, based on the realis/irrealis distinction, cannot capture. Thus, he accounts for these uncanonical instances of subjunctive predicates in terms of syntactic selection, showing that subjunctive clausal complements in Balkan are the default option in embedded environment.

The eighth paper, by **Caterina Bonan**, presents data on the morphosyntax of declarative and interrogative clefts in contemporary oral French and Trevigiano, a Venetan dialect. On the basis of systematic comparisons between the two languages, she claims that in the variety of French under consideration *c'est* ('it is') is actually a crystallized copula, / se /, construed with a null expletive. Consequently, she argues that Belletti's (2015) cartographic analysis of clefts can be greatly simplified for the varieties in question. Bonan is currently writing a dissertation on the syntax of 'optional insituness' in Northern Italian Dialects.

The paper by **Bahareh Samimi**, the ninth paper of the volume, shows that the word order of Korean-English codeswitching interrogatives deviates from the unmarked word order of the two languages to comply with the Double-Switch Constraint, forming in this sense a "new language". Successively, she argues in favour of a pre-existing analysis of wh in situ. Samimi is currently completing a *Certificate of Spécialisation in linguistics.*

Margherita Pallottino's paper discusses the categorial status and the syntax of the object marker *fi* in Tunisian Arabic. Her analysis shows that this marker, whose presence is mandatory in certain aspectually marked transitive sentences, e.g. progressive contexts, is best analysed as a grammaticalized preposition. The marker is shown to be semantically vacuous but syntactically functional since it retains the ability to Case-license the following noun phrase. Pallottino is a doctoral student in theoretical syntax, her thesis focuses on the syntax of Tunisian Arabic.

Farhad Mirdamadi is a doctoral student in psycholinguistics working on the intervention effects of non-local dependencies in Persian. His paper illustrates that RA-marked direct objects in Persian are not subject to superiority effects since they can freely precede constituents whose trace dominates the object-position at deep structure.

The twelfth paper is the first of two papers in experimental syntax. Authored by **Emily Stanford** and **Hélène Delage** this article presents a study assessing how children with specific learning disorders comprehend structures with and without syntactic intervention and examines how comprehension relates to working memory capacity. Stanford, supervised by Delage, is currently writing a dissertation in psycholinguistics that investigates the influence of working memory training on complex syntax in children with syntactic deficits.

The thirteenth and conclusive paper is **Karen Martini**'s. Martini is a doctoral student in theoretical and experimental syntax working on the acquisition of subject and object relatives in Italian and French. Her paper presents some data from a recent study on the elicited production of relative clauses in 3 to 9 year-old Italian-speaking children. Martini's study shows that children properly master the syntax and the discourse related properties of Italian pre- and post-verbal subjects and of short and long passives from very early on.

The selection of papers presented above results from a single blind peer review process, one or two rounds, preceded by a preliminary screening carried out by fellow PhD and postdoc students. The double effort of the contributors serving as both authors and reviewers was invaluable. We thank each and every one of them for the enthusiasm and care they put into these tasks. Our gratitude also goes to the final reviewers for their precious time and support.

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Caterina, Hasmik and Margherita