**Case-marking in adverbial clauses: prepositions and logical relations in Romance**

Although case has traditionally been regarded as a system expressing relations between nominal elements, case-markers also appear at clause edges, or attached to verbs, linking events together (Aikhenvald 2008; van Gijn 2019). In Romance languages, case relations are typically expressed through prepositions as opposed to affixal marking. The same preposition can appear before nominal elements as well as introduce subordinate clauses (i.e. Italian *Questo regalo è* ***per*** *te* “This gift is for you” vs *Mangio* ***per****ché ho fame* “I eat because I'm hungry”). In Italian, French, Spanish, Portuguese and Romanian, a group of prepositions related to Latin *per* and *pro* display a pattern of syncretism which is reflected in their uses as subordinators. I argue that this is evidence for the fact that these prepositions, although appearing in different environments, encode the same type of relations, and that these relations are path-like in nature. The pattern of syncretism suggests that these prepositions could be spelling out different portions of the same functional sequence, and it appears to align with Pantcheva's (2011) universal hierarchy of paths (route>source>goal). The nanosytactic approach (Starke 2009 et seq.; Caha 2009) proves to be a useful tool to shed light on this puzzle.