Chapter 1

Diachronic Syntax (Outline)

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Abstract goes here

1 Dimensions of Syntactic Change

- What changes: word order changes, emergence of periphrastic constructions such as passive

- How does it change: mechanisms of change (reanalysis/restructuring, analogy, grammaticalization)

- Why does it change: language-internal vs. language-external reasons

- Locus of syntactic change: language acquisition

- Models of syntactic change: general introduction

- Case studies of syntactic change are taken from the history of German

2 Modelling Variation: Role of Features

How are lexical features used in different frameworks to model diachronic (and synchronic) variation?

- Principles-and-Parameters approach (Ledgeway & Roberts 2017)

- Minimalism (Biberauer & Roberts 2017)

- LFG (Vincent 2001; Börjars & Vincent 2017)

- HPSG

3 Emergence of Passive Constructions

Grammaticalization of auxiliary verbs resulting in periphrastic verb forms; emergence of passive constructions in the history of German is chosen to exemplify this type of change (Eroms 1989; 2013; Glaser 2005; Demske-Neumann 1994)

3.1 Standard Passive

- *werden* + past participle attested since

- starts out as a predicative construction

- integration in the verbal paradigm throughout Middle High German

3.2 Modal Passive

- *sein* + ^{zu}infinitive attested since Old High German

- starts out as a predicative construction

- integration in the verbal paradigm throughout Early New High German

3.3 Dative Passive

- *kriegen, bekommen* + past participle attested since 17th century

3.4 Grammaticalization

4 Word Order Changes in the Verb Cluster

- Until the 15th century, the sequence of verbs at the right periphery is fairly free. (Ebert 1981; Härd 1981; Sapp 2011)

- Conventionalization of particular verb orders depends on the size of the verbal complex.

5 Left Periphery of Noun Phrases

Morphosyntactic changes affecting the left periphery of noun phrases in German; it will shown that all changes are due to a single change of a lexical feature (Demske 2001)

5.1 Genitive Phrases

- word order change from prenominal to postnominal

5.2 Possessive and Demonstrative Pronouns

- categorial change from adjectival to determinerlike element: possessive pronouns

- demonstrative pronoun *solch* 'such' is ambiguous between determiner and adjective in earlier stages, becomes demonstrative adjective

5.3 Modeling the change

6 Conclusion

Abbreviations

Acknowledgements

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