

University of California, Santa Barbara

A semantic typology of lexical flexibility

A dissertation submitted in partial satisfaction of the requirements for the degree Doctor of  
Philosophy in Linguistics

by

Daniel W. Hieber

Committee in Charge:

Professor Marianne Mithun, Chair

Professor Benard Comrie

Professor Stefan Th. Gries

Professor William Croft (University of New Mexico)

June 2020

The dissertation of Daniel W. Hieber is approved.

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Bernard Comrie

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Stefan Th. Gries

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William Croft

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Marianne Mithun, Committee Chair

June 2020

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by

Daniel W. Hieber

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The source code, data, and accompanying scripts for this thesis are available on GitHub:

<https://github.com/dwhieb/dissertation>

## Dedication

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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## CURRICULUM VITAE

Daniel W. Hieber

## EDUCATION

June 2020	Ph.D. in Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
March 2016	M.A. in Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
June 2008	B.A. in Linguistics & Philosophy, The College of William & Mary (magna cum laude)

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2018–2019	Editor, Custom Language Products, Rosetta Stone
2015–2017	Teaching Assistant, Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
2014–2015	Research Assistant (under Prof. Carol Genetti), Department of Linguistics, University of California, Santa Barbara
2011–2013	Associate Researcher, Research Labs, Rosetta Stone
2008–2011	Editor, Endangered Languages Program, Rosetta Stone
2007–2008	Intern, Endangered Languages Program, Rosetta Stone
2006	Spanish Instructor, Nielsen Builders
2004–2006	Lab Assistant, Language Lab, The College of William & Mary
2003–2004	Latin Instructor, Bridgewater Home School Unit

## PUBLICATIONS

2019	The Chitimacha language: A history. In Nathalie Dajko & Shana Walton (eds.), <i>Languages in Louisiana: Community &amp; culture</i> (America's Third Coast Series). University Press of Mississippi.
2019	Semantic alignment in Chitimacha. <i>International Journal of American Linguistics</i> 85(3): 313–363. DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1086/703239">10.1086/703239</a>
2018	Category genesis in Chitimacha: A constructional approach. In Kristel Van Goethem, Muriel Norde, Evie Coussé, & Gudrun Vanderbauwhede (eds.), <i>Category change from a constructional perspective</i> (Constructional Approaches to Language 20), 15–46. John Benjamins. DOI: <a href="https://doi.org/10.1075/cal.20.02hie">10.1075/cal.20.02hie</a>

- 2016 *The cohesive function of prosody in Ékegusií (Kisii) narratives: A functional-typological approach*. M.A. thesis, University of California, Santa Barbara.
- 2013 On linguistics, language, and our times: A linguist's narrative reviewed. *Linguistic Typology* 17(2): 291–321. Review article of *I am a linguist* by R. M. W. Dixon (Brill, 2010). DOI:[10.13140/RG.2.2.13238.96329](https://doi.org/10.13140/RG.2.2.13238.96329)
- 2013 (with Sharon Hargus & Edward Vajda, eds.) *Working papers in Athabaskan (Dene) languages 2012*. Alaska Native Language Center Working Papers 11. ANLC.

## AWARDS

- 2019 SSILA Best Student Presentation Award
- 2015 National Science Foundation (NSF) Graduate Student Research Fellowship (GRFP)
- 2015 2<sup>nd</sup> place, University of California Grad Slam
- 2015 Winner, University of California, Santa Barbara Grad Slam
- 2013 Chancellor's Fellowship, University of California, Santa Barbara
- 2006 Boren Scholarship, National Security Education Program (NSEP)

## FIELDS OF STUDY

Major Fields: Linguistic Typology, Language Documentation & Description, Language Revitalization, Prosody, Discourse, Language Change, Language Contact, Digital Linguistics, Corpus Linguistics

Linguistic Typology with Professor Bernard Comrie & Professor Marianne Mithun

Language Documentation & Description with Professor Eric Campbell, Professor Carol Genetti, & Professor Marianne Mithun

Language Revitalization with Professor Carol Genetti

Prosody with Professor Carol Genetti, Professor Matthew Gordon, & Professor Marianne Mithun

Discourse with Professor Patricia Clancy, Professor John W. DuBois, Professor Carol Genetti, & Professor Marianne Mithun

Language Change with Professor Marianne Mithun

Language Contact with Professor Marianne Mithun

Digital Linguistics with Professor Eric Campbell & Professor Stefan Th. Gries

Corpus Linguistics with Professor Eric Campbell, Professor John W. DuBois, & Professor  
Stefan Th. Gries



# ABSTRACT

A semantic typology of lexical flexibility

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Daniel W. Hieber

The abstract should include 1) a brief statement of the problem; 2) a description of the methods and procedures used to gather data or study the problem; 3) a condensed summary of the findings. The abstract should be double-spaced. The recommended length is 1–2 pages.

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# List of Abbreviations

The following table provides the meaning of each abbreviation used in interlinear glossed examples throughout this thesis.

SUBJ	subject
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# A Note on Linguistic Conventions

It is well known that the world's languages realize widely different sets of morphosyntactic categories (Whaley 1997: 58, Haspelmath 2007). Moreover, even when these categories bear the same name, they may differ drastically in their behavior (Dixon 2010: 9). It is the subject of much debate whether these language-specific categories can be mapped onto each other or compared in any useful way (Croft 2003: 13–19, Haspelmath 2010a,b, Newmeyer 2010, Hieber 2013: 308–310, Croft 2014, Plank 2016). Recognizing these difficulties, I have made no attempt to standardize the linguistic terminology in the interlinear glossed examples throughout this thesis. I have, however, standardized the abbreviations used to refer to those terms. For example, even though one researcher may abbreviate Subject as SUBJ and another researcher abbreviate it as SUB, I nonetheless gloss all Subject morphemes in this thesis as SUBJ.

It has become an increasingly common convention in typological studies to label language-specific constructions with initial capital letters (e.g. the English Subject construction), while terms that refer to language-general or semantic/functional concepts (e.g. the crosslinguistic notion of subject) are given in lowercase (Haspelmath 2010a: 674, Croft 2014: 535). I also follow this capitalization convention in this thesis.

# Chapter 1

## Introduction

## Chapter 2

### Background



## **Chapter 3**

### **Data & Methods**

# Chapter 4

## Results

## **Chapter 5**

## **Conclusion**

# References

## SOURCES OF LITERATURE

The references listed in this section are literature on the topic of this thesis that have been cited in the text.

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