

Guest Editors' Note

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This special issue of *Acta Linguistica Academica* has developed from selected papers presented at The 13th Conference on Syntax, Phonology, and Language Analysis (**SinFonIJA 13**). An annual international linguistics conference, SinFonIJA travels in the region of former Yugoslavia and Austria-Hungary and accepts abstracts from all areas of formal linguistics. SinFonIJA 13 was hosted by the Research Institute for Linguistics in Budapest (now Hungarian Research Centre for Linguistics) in September 2020. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the conference was held online, with talks and poster presentations delivered in real time.

In the fall of 2020, *Acta Linguistica Academica* accepted our proposal for two special collections. The present issue is the first one of these, focusing on contributions in syntax, morpho-syntax, and semantics. The second issue is scheduled to appear in 2022 (Volume 69, Issue 1) and will include papers on phonology, phonetics, syntax, and semantics.

Pavel Caha's article *Modeling declensions without declension features. The case of Russian* puts forth a novel analysis of declension classes. Current theories model declension classes by enriching roots with arbitrary features and applying contextual restrictions that make the various case endings sensitive to these features. Caha develops an account that dispenses with both of these tools. In the Nanosyntactic framework, he suggests that the roots and case endings of the different declension classes spell out syntactic phrases of various sizes, and this directly accounts for the possible and impossible root+ending combinations.

In the paper *On the internal structure of Serbian -(n)je nominalizations* **Predrag Kovačević** develops a novel analysis for a subgroup of deverbal nominals in Serbian derived from passive participles. He demonstrates that the licensing of various types of event modifiers correlates with the aspectual properties of the base, phonological faithfulness to the base, and semantic compositionality. To account for these correlations, the author proposes that nominals derived from secondary imperfectives include a full phasal VoiceP structure, while nominals derived from perfectives and primary imperfectives have smaller structures and can thus be subject to lexicalization.

Sebastian Wasak in his contribution *Agentive and non-agentive adjectival synthetic compounds in English* discusses synthetic *-en* compounds that are based on passive participles and divides them into two groups depending on the presence of an external argument. On the one hand, eventive (resultative) compounds can be used either as adjectives or verbal passives and exhibit agentive behavior. On the other hand, stative compounds behave syntactically as underived adjectives and lack an external argument projection.

Marcin Wągiel and Pavel Caha's paper *Complex simplex numerals* offers a cross-linguistic investigation of numerals in abstract/serial-counting and object-counting environments. The authors argue that object counting is semantically and syntactically more complex than (and, in fact, properly contains) abstract counting. Their analysis supports **Krifka's (1995)** view that

* Corresponding author. E-mail: irina.burukina@btk.elte.hu

classifier and non-classifier languages differ in their numerals. In languages like English numerals and classifiers are bundled together in the relevant sense, while in languages like Mandarin the lack of such bundling leads to separate lexicalizations for these elements.

Franc Lanko Marušič and Zheng Shen in their article *Gender agreement with exclusive disjunction in Slovenian* explore the nature of agreement strategies with coordinated NPs. They present novel experimental data on agreement with exclusively disjoined subjects and demonstrate that in Slovenian exclusive disjunction and conjunction exploit the same agreement strategies despite the semantic difference. They further put forward a set of gender resolution rules, arguing against the presence of default agreement with coordinated structures.

In *Evaluativity of degree achievements and verbal prefixes: Evidence from Czech morphology* **Mojmír Dočekal and Lucia Vlášková** consider the telicity behavior of degree achievements. They examine the interaction of degree achievements with the derivational morphology in Czech and demonstrate that the nature of the verbal prefix (which serves as a type shifter) influences the evaluative/non-evaluative interpretation more than the underlying scale does, thus challenging the commonly adopted scalar framework of [Kennedy and Levin \(2008\)](#).

Tamás Halm and Anna Huszár's article *Expletive negation in exclamatives – Evidence from Hungarian* develops a unified analysis for standard negation and expletive negation in Hungarian. They propose that standard negation involves merger of the negator *nem* in the extended TP. Expletive negation arises when the same negator is merged in the CP field (expletive negation in surprise negation sentences) or is adjoined to the T⁰ head (expletive negation in wh-exclamatives and *until*-clauses). In all cases, negation introduces a truth-reversal operation: on the level of propositions, presuppositions and implicatures, respectively.

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Irina Burukina*
Lena Borise
Éva Dékány

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