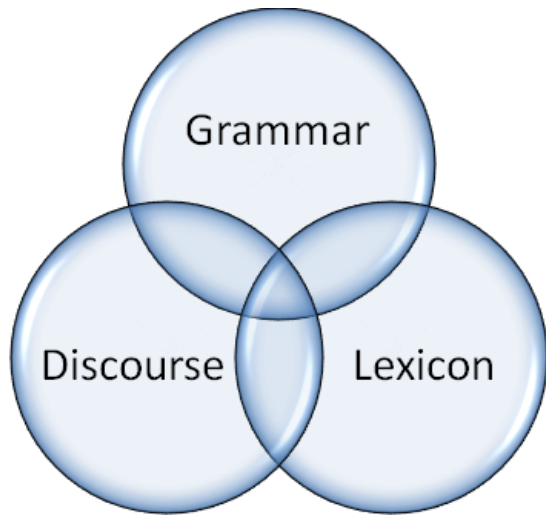## Contact

http://clustersofchange.com/

info@clustersofchange.com

Clusters of Change

Muriel Norde, Humboldt-University of Berlin
Karin Beijering, University of Antwerp
Chris Ebert, Humboldt-University of Berlin

Overview

It has long been recognized that many instances of change that have been discussed within the framework of grammaticalization studies notoriously defy categorization, for instance because they share properties of grammaticalization and lexicalization (Brinton & Traugott 2005: 111ff.), or because they share some properties of grammaticalization, but not all of them, as in the case of discourse markers (e.g. Ocampo 2006).

In order to avoid these classification issues, we will argue that it is more useful to reduce grammaticalization and related changes to their 'main mechanisms' (formal reanalysis and semantic reinterpretation), 'primitive changes' (micro-changes on the levels of phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and / or discourse), and 'side effects' (e.g. obligatorification or layering). In grammaticalization and related changes, formal reanalysis and semantic reinterpretation tend to coincide with different sets of primitive changes. Primitive changes will be defined as ternary parameters with the values reduction, expansion or zero, and it will be seen that they tend to cluster in different ways.

Some of these clusters may coincide with changes traditionally labelled 'grammaticalization', 'degrammaticalization', or 'lexicalization', but changes may also cluster in alternative ways. This novel approach to composite changes we term the 'clustering approach' and we aim to show that this model of analysis allows for a more fine-grained account of composite changes than definition-based taxonomies.

The database

The *Clusters of Change* database provides data from a wide range of research on grammaticalization.

The database can be accessed through the website http://clustersofchange.com/

Search

The database can be searched for values of parameters, languages, part-of-speech input and output and side effects. Results of the search can be displayed as standalone or in a cluster (This function is currently in a beta test stage.).

Submit

Registered users can also insert data from case studies through the interface pictured on the right side.

For submitting a language change item choose a label and enter a short description in the field below. Select the values for every mandatory parameter and enter an optional example for better understanding. Intersubjectifity is the only optional parameter. If there is or was a bridging context for your language change item, tick the box before saving.

Furthermore a reference is needed and your contact information (name and mail adress choosen for registration) will be published alongside with the language change item.

All submissions are checked by the administrators to ensure the reliability of the data.

Submitting a language change item

Language change

Label	Label
Description	Description

Mandatory Parameters

morphological compositionality — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

morphosyntactic properties — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

phonological substance — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

semantic compositionality — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

semantic substance — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

syntactic autonomy — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

syntactic variability — ○ decrease ● equal ○ increase — Example

Optional Parameters

(inter)subjectivity — ○ decrease ○ equal ○ increase ● not applicable — Example

Side effects

Side effects — ☐ bridging context

Metadata

Language	▼
Part of speech: input	▼
Morphological status: input	▼
Part of speech: output	▼
Morphological status: output	▼
References	References

Submitted language change item

Label	-lich
Description	Shift from Old High German noun lîh 'body' to Modern German derivational suffix -lich, e.g. löslich 'resolvable' [able to do X], königlich 'kinglike' [like X], bläulich 'bluish' [weakening of X], gänzlich 'completely' [intensifying of X]
Accepted	**Accepted** by: Muriel Norde

Parameters

Parameter	Example	Decrease	Equal	Increase
morphological compositionality			✓	
morphosyntactic properties		✓		
phonological substance	Shortening of the vowel	✓		
semantic compositionality			✓	
semantic substance		✓		
syntactic autonomy		✓		
syntactic variability		✓		
(inter)subjectivity				

Side Effects

Metadata

Language	German
POS Input	Noun
Morphological status input	free
POS Output	Affix: derivational
Morphological status output	bound

Contact

Name	testuser
Email	
References	Szczepaniak, Renata. 2011. Grammatikalisierung im Deutschen. Eine Einführung [Grammaticalization in German.