

On lexical marking in Romance dialects: person and space deixis.

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It has already been noted that the lexicalization of functional features is much more frequent in non-standard varieties than in standard languages (for Romance languages, see Ledgeway 2012; for European varieties see Edisyn http://www.dialectsyntax.org/wiki/About_Edisyn). Two different strategies have been identified: one is "lexical marking", which consists in the spelling out of a grammatical feature on a head category (Ledgeway 2012); the other one is "doubling", that is the splitting of a grammatical element in two (or more) parts (Poletto 2006).

In Italian dialects the spelling out of grammatical features is frequent and often regards morphological features that are realized by clitics. These represent the overt realizations on the verb of: a) case for subjects (Brandi/Cordin 1989; Manzini/Savoia 2005); b) case for direct objects (Ledgeway 2009); c) case for dative objects (Cordin 1993); d) gender and number agreement (Ledgeway 2012); e) aspect (Tortora 2002; Cordin 2011). Also non-morphological features are lexicalized in complementizers (Ledgeway 2009), in negations (Zanuttini 1997; Poletto pdf w.d.), and in interrogatives (Munaro 1999).

In my work I focus on some less explored phenomena which are related to the lexicalization of deictic features in Northern Italian dialects. More specifically, I analyse three cases:

- a) I and II personal pronoun objects (Benincà and Poletto 2005): the explicit realization of a given feature is illustrated in the following example: *el me scolta mi* 'he listens to me' vs. **el scolta mi*;
- b) demonstrative pronouns and adjectives: they co-occur with a deictic adverb (*sto chi* 'this one here', *quel li* 'that one there' (Grassi 2009; Brugé 2002);
- c) prepositional phrases expressing location (state or motion): a locative adverb always co-occurs with the prepositional phrase (*su en antana* 'up to the attic', *zò en cantina* 'down to the cellar', *fora en piazza* 'out in the square', *su a Montagne* 'up to Montagne (Prandi 2015; Irsara 2015).

When discussing these three cases, I intend to address the following questions: which features exactly are spelled out in the examined cases of

personal and spatial deixis? What do the three cases have in common? Are these types of overt features similar to those that involve overt morphological features such as case and gender? The answers to these questions can add a tile to the mosaic of feature visibility strategies adopted in different linguistic varieties.

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