Grup de Gramàtica Teòrica de la Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona
Institut Interuniversitari de Filologia Valenciana

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## Exclamatives at the Interfaces

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# Catalan Journal of Linguistics

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**Articles**

9-40 **Villalba, Xavier** (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona. Centre de Lingüística Teòrica)
Exclamatives: A Thematic Guide with Many Questions and Few Answers. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 9-40.

In this paper a snapshot is offered of the state of the art in the research on exclamatives, reviewing our current understanding of "classic" issues, like factivity, high degree, or the relationship between exclamatives and interrogatives, and highlighting new theoretical and empirical challenges, such as the contribution of exclamative sentences to a dynamic model of discourse or the placement of exclamative phrases in the left-periphery.

**Key words:** exclamative sentences, factivity, degree, widening.

41-90 **Castroviejo Miró, Elena** (J.W. Goethe Universität-Frankfurt)
Deconstructing Exclamations. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 41-90.

While it is still not widely accepted that exclamatives are a clause type, exclamations are intuitively considered a speech act comparable to assertions and questions. The purpose of this paper is to discuss the notion of *exclamation*. In particular, I compare the pragmatic properties of *wh*-exclamatives with the discourse distribution of other so-called *exclamations* and argue that they do not have a uniform way to update the Common Ground; by using a series of tests, I show that the sole thing they have in common is an emphatic intonation and a non-neutral attitude on the part of the speaker.

**Key words:** exclamations, exclamative sentences, speech acts, Common Ground.

91-116 **González Rodríguez, Raquel** (Universidad de Castilla-La Mancha)
Exclamative Wh-Phrases as Positive Polarity Items. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 91-116.

This paper studies the island effects induced by negation in exclamative sentences. In order to explain this phenomenon, I focus on the interaction between exclamative wh-phrases and negation, showing that negation can appear in exclamative sentences when the wh-phrase is not within the scope of negation; when the negative operator has wide scope, the sentence is ungrammatical. Assuming Szabolcsi and Zwarts's (1997) account of negative islands, I argue that the wh-phrase can have wide scope only when its domain is an unordered set, and not when it ranges over ordered sets. I argue that the inverse scope relation, where the wh-phrase is within the scope of negation, is always rejected, since wh-phrases are positive polarity items. I show that they are sensitive to downward-entailing contexts and propose that this is due to the fact that they widen a domain of quantification without strengthening the statement, in line with Kadmon and Landman's (1993) and Chierchia's (2004) analyses of negative polarity.

**Key words:** exclamative sentences, positive polarity, degree quantification, negative islands.

117-133 **Gutiérrez-Rexach, Javier** (The Ohio State University)
Spanish Root Exclamatives at the Syntax/Semantics Interface. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 117-133.

In this paper several aspects of the syntax and semantics of Spanish root exclamatives are analyzed. Assuming a multi-layered approach to the CP projection, it is argued that a degree feature is checked in the Focus layer and that the exclamative feature is checked in the Force layer. The former type of checking provides evidence for the hypothesis that focus-related features are checked in different phases of the syntactic computation. The apparent diversity of exclamative structures in Spanish corresponds to a tight set of derivational mechanisms and corresponding interpretive steps.

**Key words:** exclamative sentences, focus, degree, syntax/semantics interface.

135-156 **Mayol, Laia** (University of Pennsylvania)
Catalan "Déu n'hi do" and Conventional Implicatures in Exclamatives. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 135-156.

This paper presents a formal semantic analysis of the Catalan interjection 'Déu n'hi do' (DND, henceforth) and its interactions with exclamative sentences. The analysis of DND in a nutshell is that (1) it has the lexical meaning of weakening and not of intensification, contrary to previous approaches in the literature and (2) it changes the semantic type of the exclamative sentence it precedes,

turning a set of propositions into a proposition. Since DND-exclamatives can syntactically embed in more contexts than bare exclamatives, they provide evidence that part of the meaning of exclamatives is conveyed through a Conventional Implicature (CI). Finally, the syntactic distribution and semantic behavior of DND-clauses in embedded contexts can be explained by the interaction between the asserted and the CI meaning.

**Key words:** Exclamatives, Conventional Implicature, Levels of Meaning, Particles, Interjections.

157-199 **Haegeman, Liliane; Van de Velde, Danièle** (Université Charles de Gaulle, Lille III)
Pleonastic *tet* in the Lapscheure dialect. *Catalan Journal of Linguistics,* 2008, vol. 7, pp. 157-199.

The paper explores the semantic value and the distributional and formal properties of the element *tet* in West Flemish and assesses its main properties in both aspects. It is also shown that a proper analysis of *tet* shed further light on other apparently unrelated properties of German Languages, such as the properties of the *Vorfeld* and the position of the subject. After revising the possibilities of analysing this element as a contrastive, evaluative, or Focus marker of the CP domain, the authors reject this possibility by taking into consideration the fact that it is dependent on facts related to Case licensing of the subject, and propose to merge it in a FP projection belonging to the TP domain. Furthermore, the distribution of *tet* can be used as a milestone that permits new insights onto the distribution of lexical material in the Germanic *Vorfeld,* specifically on the controversial issue about the movement of the subject out of TP, which the authors argue has not to move in all cases.

**Key words:** Strong pronouns, CP layer, TP layer, Subject layer, Focus Marking, V2, Vorfeld properties.

201-203 Resums