Introduction

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This volume is to honour Sebastian Löbner on the occasion of his 65th birthday. In his more than 30 years of professional life at the Heinrich-Heine-University Düsseldorf, he has substantially contributed to semantic theory, mainly to the semantics of nouns and verbs. With this book, we provide a collection of papers that were contributed by several of his colleagues and companions. It is composed so as to cover semantic and grammatical issues of nouns and noun phrases, verbs and sentences, and aspects of the combination of nouns and verbs.

1   A few nouns and verbs about Sebastian Löbner

After his A-levels ('Abitur') in Hinterzarten in 1968, Sebastian Löbner started to study mathematics as major and linguistics as minor at the University of Düsseldorf, where he graduated in 1975 with a diploma. The constant interaction with his linguistics professor and mentor Volker Beeh raised deeper interest for linguistics, especially for semantics. Sebastian Löbner combined his training in mathematics with that in linguistics when he started to study formal semantics, especially the work by Richard Montague. In 1976, he presented his "Einführung in die Montague Grammatik", which were to become a standard textbook for several generations of students of formal semantics in Germany. He further elaborated on the idea of the mathematical notion of functionality as a crucial aspect in natural language, especially as part of the lexical meanings of certain nouns which he later called *functional nouns*. In 1979, he finished his doctoral thesis titled "Intensionale Verben und Funktionalbegriffe. Untersuchung zur Syntax und Semantik von *wechseln* und den vergleichbaren Verben des Deutschen", in which he provided an analysis of verbs of change and their interaction with functional

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nouns in German. After that, Sebastian Löbner spent more than three years as assistant professor at the Department of German Literature and Culture, University of Tokyo.

After returning to Germany, he co-directed a project on quantifier semantics ("Quantoren im Deutschen") together with Dieter Wunderlich. The project ran from 1983 to 1986 and was financed by the German Science Foundation (DFG). In this project, Sebastian worked out central ideas that were later incorporated in his habilitation thesis "Wahr neben falsch", published in 1990. He obtained his *venia legendi* in 1989 and became a supernumerary professor in 1997. He was the Principle Investigator of the project "Verb meanings" in the collaborative research center "Theory of the lexicon" (CRC 282) at the University of Düsseldorf from 1991 to 2002. After Dieter Wunderlich retired in 2002, the chair of the Department of General Linguistics was vacant, and Sebastian Löbner acted as the interim chair until 2006. In these four years, he developed the first Bachelor's and Master's degree programme for General Linguistics in Düsseldorf. Furthermore, he developed the fundamental ideas for a DFG-financed Research Unit and brought together researchers from various disciplines to contribute to a proposal. The Research Unit "Functional Concepts and Frames" (FOR 600) commenced in 2005, with Sebastian Löbner as its speaker, and was prolonged for another three years in 2008. The topic of the Research Unit was functional nouns and their connection to the frame approach proposed by the psychologist Lawrence Barsalou. The ideas developed in the research group led to a proposal for an even larger interdisciplinary DFG-funded project cluster, that is, the CRC 991 "The Structure of Representations in Language, Cognition, and Science", again under Löbner's chair. The goal of the CRC, which started in summer 2011, is to develop a general frame theory of concepts, and for that aim, projects from linguistics, philosophy, psychology, German studies, Romance studies, and psychiatry contribute their research methods and perspectives.

Sebastian Löbner's research interests and publications[1] prove him to be a multifaceted semanticist. His main areas of research include the semantics of nouns and verbs, especially definiteness and aspect, as well as quantification. His most influential contributions are the phase quantification approach, the theory of concept types and determination (CTD), as well as his introductions to Montague Grammar and to semantics in general ("Understanding semantics"). He developed the idea of phase quantification, initially with respect to aspect on the basis

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[1] A list of Löbner's publications is provided at the end of this volume.

of German *noch* 'still', and subsequently extended it to other aspectual particles and further linguistic categories such as scalar adjectives and quantifiers. The principal idea of this approach is that semantic properties of certain expressions can be represented in phases, conceived of as segments on a scale connected by the concept of duality.

The theory of concept types and determination, which is based on his 1985 paper on definites, provides a systematic account of four types of nouns (sortal, individual, relational, and functional), four types of determination and the interaction between noun type and determination type. Löbner argues that the different noun types are lexically congruent with certain types of determination but incongruent with others. Incongruent uses are assumed to cause type shifts, which are manifest in the distribution of the various means of nominal determination.

The current focus of Sebastian Löbner's work lies on the connection of language and cognition. He considers frames (in the sense of Barsalou) as the general format of concepts in human cognition and conceives of the attributes in these frames as functional concepts. CTD on the one hand and the relation between frames and functional concepts on the other are being investigated more deeply in the CRC 991. Löbner is the Principle Investigator of the member projects *Conceptual shifts: typological evidence*, *Conceptual shifts: statistical evidence*, *Frames and nominal word formation*, and *Dimensional verbs*.

Besides his research it was always one of Sebastian's concerns to strengthen the role of semantics in the linguistics community. Together with Arnim von Stechow and Thomas Ede Zimmermann, he founded the Gesellschaft für Semantik (Association for Semantics), which aims at establishing a network between semanticists and other linguists. As a teacher, Sebastian often came up with innovative topics at the interface to media studies and cognitive science, thus delving deeper into the communication- and cognition-based dimensions of natural language. He supervised numerous Bachelor and Magister theses and still managed to give precise feedback to his students, all of which appreciated his friendly and helpful attitude. One of his most noticeable characteristics is his open-minded and caring nature. His door has always been open, in the literal sense (often revealing the sounds of jazz music), for students as well as for other linguists, especially young academics.

2   The contributions to this book

The papers collected in this book relate to individual aspects of Sebastian Löbner's research in the domains of noun and verb semantics, especially to conceptual noun types, tense and aspects semantics, granularity of verb meaning, and subcompositionality. We hope that the papers will serve as an inspiration for scholars working in semantics and related fields, just like many of the contributions were inspired by Sebastian's work.

In their contribution "Evidence for four basic noun types from a corpus-linguistic and a psycholinguistic perspective", Dorothea Brenner, Peter Indefrey, Christian Horn & Nicolas Kimm survey two complementing research methods, one involving statistics in text collection and the other a reaction time experiment. The overall aim is to test the distinction of four basic conceptual noun types as proposed by Löbner's theory of Concept Types and Determination. The results provide evidence for the lexical-semantic dimensions of relationality and uniqueness, which form the basis of the four basic nominal concept types.

"Type shifts and noun class changes under determination in Teop" by Ulrike Mosel is a study of the distribution of articles in the Austronesian language Teop. She distinguishes three classes of nouns, which she relates to Löbner's conceptual noun types. The mismatches between conceptual types and Teop noun classes are traced to the semantic feature [± human], which overrules the distinction between functional and relational nouns. Furthermore, the major type shifts between these classes, involving either a loss of uniqueness or the opposite, are shown. Mosel argues that the various noun classes and subclasses form a scale of individuation, with proper names representing the highest degree of individuality, and sortal nouns of the o-class the lowest.

Byong Rae Ryu ("Semantic constraints on multiple case marking in Korean") identifies 16 types of semantic relations between the referents of nominal phrases that he views as licensing conditions for identical case marking in Korean. He finds that all of these relations license double nominative patterns, while only ten license double accusative patterns. Formally, multiple case marking structures are analysed as case sharing between two consecutive NPs.

Michael Herweg ("Spatio-temporal modification and the determination of aspect – a phase-theoretical account") argues that the aspectual type of a sentence is determined by what he calls a Phase Array, which is an abstract constellation of phases defined over underlying ordered structures, such as (models of) time and space. Phase arrays allow to represent the fact that the aspectual type of verbs and

PPs and combinations thereof may be underspecified, leaving the determination of aspect on the sentence level to various elements of the context.

In "Glück auf, der Steiger kommt: a frame account of extensional and intensional *steigen*", Thomas Gamerschlag, Wilhelm Geuder & Wiebke Petersen look at three meaning variants of the German movement verb *steigen* 'rise': manner of motion, directed movement, and intensional. The authors present an analysis in terms of Barsalou frames, which enable them to represent the event structure and argument structure, as well as the correlations holding among subevents, manner, positions and the path of the theme argument. Intensional uses of *steigen* are explained as coming about by the interplay of the lexical representation of the verb and the semantic type of the nominal argument.

On the basis of case studies from English, French, German, and several Oceanic languages, Volker Gast, Ekkehard König & Claire Moyse-Faurie ("Comparative lexicology and the typology of event descriptions: a programmatic study") discuss semantic parameters for differentiating between the individual elements as well as the language-specific inventories of verb classes such as verbs of killing, cutting and eating. They take properties of thematic relations and properties of circumstantial relations as a starting point for describing the granularity of lexical distinctions. The study reveals striking similarities and contrasts between European languages and Oceanic languages on the one hand, but also between genealogically closely related languages on the other.

Anita Mittwoch ("The Purported Present Perfect Puzzle") discusses properties of the English present perfect and the English past perfect. She argues that the English past perfect is ambiguous and corresponds to either a past of perfect or to an iterated past. By contrast, the English present perfect is argued to be unambiguous (unlike its German counterpart), but found to yield different readings depending on its use as either experiential or resultative.

Ralf Naumann's paper "Phase quantification and frame theory" aims at capturing the contribution of phase quantifiers like *still* and *already* to the meaning of sentences by combining formal semantics and the cognition-based frame theory of meaning. The latter is seen as an extension of the former. Naumann's main concern is the development of a procedural semantics in the sense of Löbner (1987) and its formalisation.

In „She loves you, *-ja -ja -ja*: objective conjugation and pragmatic possession in Hungarian", Albert Ortmann & Doris Gerland argue for a common basis of two inflectional asymmetries in Hungarian: the subjective/objective verb agreement

split on the one hand, and an alienability split in possessor agreement on the other, both of which display an obvious morphological parallel. Upon analysing each of the two splits, the authors propose a common rationale, namely the expression of the presence or absence of a pragmatic component in the anchoring of the object and of the possessor, respectively.

Leon Stassen ("Black and white languages") suggests that languages tend to belong to one of only two types with opposite settings regarding five structurally independent typological parameters: (i) the order of verb and direct object, (ii) the use of the conjunction 'with' or 'and', the presence or absence (iii) of tense marking and (iv) of case marking, and (iv) the infinite construction for two clauses with different subjects. On the basis of their areal stratifications, Stassen shows that typological collocations and areal configurations of linguistic parameters tend to converge. The paper eventually challenges the view that language typology and areal linguistics should be kept apart and advocates the notion of macro-areas such as Eurasia and sub-Saharan Africa.

In his "Variations of double nominative in Korean and Japanese", Dieter Wunderlich describes the principles governing identical case marking in these two languages (as well as double accusative in the former). He stresses the similarities of double marking in both languages and hypothesises that the two systems did not emerge independently. Constituting a means to create information structure and complex sentences, possessor raising is a prerequisite of the double-nominative. Wunderlich suggests that some putatively universal principles ((i) each case domain contains the default case nominative, (ii) accusative is not available for stative verbs, and (iii) accusative is only assigned once in a given case domain) should be viewed as violable and ranked.

Adrian Czardybon & Jens Fleischhauer ("Definiteness and perfectivity in telic incremental theme predications") elucidate the respective meaning contributions of the definite article and the perfective aspect in indicating telicity in incremental theme predications. They argue that the definite article and perfective aspect, although their effects overlap, serve different semantic functions: The former has the effect of quantization with cumulative nouns, whereas the latter is used to express totality, which requires a quantized incremental theme. Evidence is provided by highlighting the non-redundant co-occurrence in the realization of telic incremental (not inherently quantized) theme predications in Upper Silesian and Bulgarian.

Anja Latrouite & Robert D. Van Valin, Jr. ("Referentiality and telicity in Tagalog and Lakhota") examine in how far noun phrase marking and verb marking interact to generate a telic or an atelic interpretation of incremental theme verbs in the Siouan language Lakhota and the Austronesian language Tagalog, each with a determiner system and rich verbal marking. They find that a referential undergoer does not necessarily give rise to a telic reading with such verbs and that factors like the uniqueness (in the sense of Löbner) of the undergoer argument and the voice of the verb may affect the interpretation of a verb as telic or atelic.

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