

## Forms and Functions of Clause Combining

Eva Breindl / Gisella Ferraresi / Anna Volodina

Discourse structures can be analyzed as multi-dimensional entities in whose genesis various levels interact in numerous ways. A fundamental part in this process plays the specific semantic relations between the single discourse segments. In this respect, formal means like clause-combiners (connectors and connector-like expressions), prosody and syntax constitute bundles of features, which, in their turn, correlate to the properties of information structure and the interpretation of the discourse relation (cf. Pasch et al. 2003, Lang/Adamiková 2007). Thus e.g. the factor of (prosodic and syntactic) disintegration of an adverbial connector or a sentential adverbial is relevant for the interpretation of a discourse relation in most cases (cf. Lohnstein/Trissler (eds.) 2004), like for example in the distinction between the interpretation of a *when*-clause as irrelevance conditional (1a) and standard conditional (1b):

(1a) *Wenn du auch dagegen bist, ich gehe da nicht hin.*

(1b) *Wenn du auch dagegen bist, gehe ich da nicht hin.*

The workshop is centered on the following questions:

- How should the interaction between the single linguistic levels be modelled, and what patterns of influencing and what dependencies can be discerned in it?
- How do information structure and discourse relation interact?
- What part does prosody take: is it controlled by the topological properties of the construction, or can it itself control the interpretation?

The workshop invites synchronic and comparative studies, but also diachronic empirical contributions on the syntax and semantics of clause-combiners which provide historical explanations for the development of their forms and the restrictions on their use.

Lang, Ewald/Adamiková, Marcela (2007): The lexical content of connectors and its interplay with intonation. An interim balance on sentential connection in discourse. In: Späth, A. (Hg.): *Interfaces and Interface Conditions*. Berlin/New York: de Gruyter. 199-230.

Lohnstein, Horst / Trissler, Susanne (Hg.) (2004): *The Syntax and Semantics of the Left Periphery*. Berlin, New York: Mouton de Gruyter.

Pasch, Renate/Brauß, Ursula/Breindl, Eva/Waßner, Ulrich Hermann (2003): *Handbuch der deutschen Konnektoren*. Berlin/ New York: de Gruyter.