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## Chain reduction is non-cyclic: Obligatory doubling in adjacent vPs in Alemannic

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David Diem<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Universität Konstanz

david.diem@uni-konstanz.de

This talk proposes an explicit account of the morpho-syntactic generation of so-called doublets in Alemannic (2): Descriptively, doublets are shortened infinitives of lexical verbs; they must occur when (and only when) such a lexical verb takes a bare verbal (i.e., infinitival) complement. I assume that such constructions consist of two adjacent verb phrases, which in turn each consist of an acategorial root (henceforth *r*) embedded in a verbalizing functional phrase *vP*. The relevant domain of cyclicity are phases, which *vP* is (Chomsky 2000; Chomsky 2001). I show that a copy theory of movement (Chomsky 1993; Nunes 1995) predicts the distribution and morphology of doublets: Following a two-step (i.e. copy-theoretic) mechanism of movement, all copies are still present at spellout. At PF, then, assume the chain reduction algorithm in (1).

(1)

- a. A set of structurally adjacent phrases of the same category, plus any root phrases within them, are an extended projection.
- b. In each extended projection, delete the lowest copy of a moved head.

(2) *Ob si laa \*(la) abstimme*

- [vP2 [v2 laa] [rP2 [r2 la] [vP1 [v1 abstimme] [rP1 [r1 ~~abstimm~~]]]]]

Crucially, the deletion of copies defined in (1) is complete after deletion of *r1*, and therefore, *r2* survives. A root, this lower copy bears neither inflection nor morphological verbalness, leading to the realization of what look like shortened infinitives: Doublets. The important theoretical consequence: The deletion algorithm is non-cyclic. It applies to the full (multi-phasal / multi-*vP*) construction.

**Selected References:** • Chomsky, Noam. 1993. A Minimalist Program for Linguistic Theory. MIT Press. • ~ 2000. Minimalist Inquiries: The framework. MIT Press. • ~ 2001. Derivation by Phase. MIT Press. • Nunes, Jairo. 1995. The copy theory of movement and linearization of chains in the Minimalist Program. PhD thesis. U of Maryland