Basic categories in multi layered grammatical annotation

Mathilde Hennig
Justus-Liebig-Universität Gießen
mathilde.hennig@germanistik.uni-giessen.de

The paper presents reflections on the interplay of a multi layered grammatical annotation of New High German texts and the research on basic grammatical desiderata in this period of German language history, based on the annotations of Kajuk (= Kasseler Junktionskorpus) and the annotations in the project “Basic Syntactic Structures of New High German – about the grammatical foundation of a New High German reference corpus” (carried out in Gießen and Kassel, funded by the German Research Foundation as a long term project). The paper argues towards the use of the possibilities of modern multi layered annotation by annotating atomic basic categories on various layers of annotation. The advantage of annotating atomic basic categories (as opposed to hybrid tags that merge several informations) is, that while using a corpus for grammatical analysis on different research questions, the combination of categories can be choosen freely. Thus the corpus can not only be used for different research questions, it also becomes compatible with different theoretical interests. Although the annotation of basic atomic categories obviously requires profound grammatical analysis, it provides the possibility to divide the process of annotation and analysis with regard to theoretical and empirical delicate fields of research such as German Felderstruktur or elliptical structures. The paper gives examples for this taken from Kajuk and also provides an outlook on the annotation methods used in the new project on the grammar of New High German.

References: • Kajuk = http://www1.uni-giessen.de/kajuk/index.htm; https://korpling.german.hu-berlin.de/annis3/ • grammatical foundation of a New High German reference corpus = shortly via https://www.uni-giessen.de/fbz/fb05/germanistik/absprache/sprachtheorie/team/hennig/forschung