

Donnerstag
09.03.2017
13:45 – 14:45
B4 1, 0.23

The hidden life of V3: an overlooked word order option in Germanic “V2 languages”

Heike Wiese
Universität Potsdam
heike.wiese@uni-potsdam.de

In German examples as (2), there are two constituents, rather than one, occupying the “forefield” in front of the finite verb, in deviation of the Germanic V2 rule for root declaratives (Wiese 2013, *te Velde to appear*).

- (1) In diesen Forschergruppen die Kohärenz ist einfach so wahnsinnig
in these research.groups the coherence is simply so crazily
wichtig.
important
'In these research groups, coherence is just terribly important.'

Accordingly, such examples are typically starred as “ungrammatical” in discussions of word order options in Germanic languages. Yet, over the last years, similar data has been attested in a range of Germanic “V2” languages, indicating a systematic – if comparably low-frequency – option (Wiese 2009; *Walkden to appear*).

Based on corpus data and experimental evidence, I will show that what we find here is a genuine V3 option, distinct both from SVO and from patterns analysed as putative multiple forefields (Müller 2005; cf. also Winkler 2014). I will suggest that this might be a diachronically old pattern that never got lost, but got overlooked in analyses, underlining the importance of taking into account the whole gamut of language variation for grammatical theory, rather than only standard-close language use.

References: • Müller, S. (2005): Zur Analyse der scheinbar mehrfachen Vorfeldbesetzung. In: *Linguistische Berichte* 203, 29-62. • *te Velde, J.* (to appear): Temporal adverbs in the Kiezdeutsch left periphery: combining late merge with deaccentuation for V3. In: *Studia Linguistica*. • *Walkden, G.* (to appear): Language contact and V3 in Germanic varieties new and old. In: *Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics*. • Wiese, H. (2009). Grammatical innovation in multiethnic urban Europe. In: *Lingua* 119: 782-806. • Wiese, H. (2013): What can new urban dialects tell us about internal language dynamics? In: *Linguistische Berichte* SI 19, 208-245. • Winkler, J. (2014): *Verbdrittstellung im Deutschen*. Wiss. Verlag Berlin.