



# Workshop on **modification** (with & without **modifiers**)

Modification is a process we often resort to, but which we have little understanding of. It has been identified with the particular mode of composition that amounts to intersection (as in Heim & Kratzer's 1998 predicate modification). But then, predicate modifiers have also been treated since Siegel (1976) as properties of properties. And in the literature, we also see it used in a rather intuitive manner in expressions such as "adverbial modification" or "degree modifier", where the term here seems to be closer to the concept of predication instead of the set-theoretic notion of intersection. In fact, intersection and predicate modification happen to be opposite ways of analyzing constructions, as in the case of relational adjectives (McNally & Boleda 2004) or Larson's (1998) "beautiful dancer".

Much effort has been made lately to understand what modification is, especially when it comes to adjectives, adverbs and relative clauses (see e.g. Kennedy & McNally 2008 and the workshop "Adjectives and Relative Clauses" held in Venice in 2010). The purpose of this workshop is to work along the same lines and perhaps extend this picture by looking at new cases of modification and considering psycholinguistic as well as theoretical approaches and methodologies.

## Organizers

Research Group "Linguistics and Cognitive Science"  
(LyCC-ILLA-CCHS-CSIC)

Elena Castroviejo  
Violeta Demonte  
Carmen Gallar  
Dongsik Lim  
Isabel Oltra Massuet  
Isabel Pérez Jiménez  
Juan Romeu

## Program

### Thursday, 15 December 2011

9:00-9:30  
Registration

9:30-9:45  
Welcoming remarks

9:45-10:45  
Invited speaker  
Louise McNally (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)  
Distributional modifiers

10:45-11:25  
Berit Gehrke (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)  
Event-related modification with adjectival passives

11:25-11:50  
Coffee break

11:50-12:30  
Thomas Ernst (University of Massachusetts, Amherst & Dartmouth College)  
Modification of state predicates

12:30-13:10  
M. Teresa Espinal (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona) & Ía Navarro (Universidad de Sonora)  
Fake arguments: Nouns and clitics as event modifiers

13:10-13:50  
Mike Oliver (Johns Hopkins University)  
Interpretation as Optimization: Constitutive Material Adjectives

13:50-15:30  
Lunch

15:30-16:10  
Andreea Cristina Nicolae & Greg Scontras (Harvard University)  
Saturating Syntax: Linkers and Modification in Tagalog

16:10-16:40  
Coffee break

16:40-17:20  
Fabienne Martin (Universität Stuttgart)  
Decomposing (non)restrictivity. Evaluative modifiers in post-head positions

17:20-18:00  
Carla Umbach (Universität Osnabrück)  
Modification by similarity - the meaning of the German demonstrative so

### Friday, 16 December 2011

10:00-11:00  
Invited speaker  
Christopher Potts (Stanford University)  
Veridicality and (parenthetical) attitude predications

11:00-11:40  
Lidia Bogatyreva (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)  
Weak case modifiers: Russian instrumental nominals as a counterpart of bare nominals in Romance

11:40-12:10  
Coffee break

12:10-12:50  
Ai Matsui (Michigan State University)  
Transforming Manner Adverbs into Subject-Oriented Adverbs: An Evidence from Japanese

12:50-13:30  
Jens Fleischhauer (Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf)  
Modification vs. Quantification: Evidence for the distinction based on verb gradation

13:30-15:00  
Lunch

15:00-15:40  
Andrea Beltrama & M. Ryan Bochnak (University of Chicago)  
Intensification without degrees cross-linguistically

15:40-16:20  
Sveta Krasikova (Universität Konstanz) & Lucas Champolion (Universität Tübingen)  
Two 'many' modifiers

16:20-17:00  
Coffee break

17:00-18:00  
Invited speaker  
Marcin Morzycki (Michigan State University)  
Degrees and state kinds

## Alternate

Boban Arsenijevic (Universitat Pompeu Fabra)  
Aspectual concord and aspectual relativization: verb prefixation in Serbo-Croatian