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## **Argument structure, alignment and auxiliaries between Latin and Romance. A diachronic syntactic account**

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## Stellingen

behorend bij het proefschrift

### Argument structure, alignment and auxiliaries between Latin and Romance A diachronic syntactic account

van

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1. The Latin clausal system regularly displays a morphological opposition between structures with an agentive subject (A/S<sub>A</sub>) and with a non-agentive one (S<sub>O</sub>), both in the *infectum* and in the *perfectum* paradigm. The Latin clausal system is characterized by an active/inactive alignment contrast.
2. The occurrence of *-r* morphology and of periphrastic perfects in Latin always reflects an inactive syntactic configuration, the sentential subject of which carries a non-agentive semantic role.
3. Deponent verbs are not a case of syntax-morphology mismatch. Their syntactic and semantic properties relate to the inactive domain. The occurrence of inactive morphology on these verbs reflects their characteristics.
4. *v* is not a single head, but a field, which encodes the properties of different verbal items. When not combined with the active functional head Voice, it encodes inactive constructions.
5. Both HABERE 'to have' and ESSE 'to be' function as auxiliaries in Latin and occur in a number of periphrastic constructions, like perfective, possessive and deontic periphrases.
6. The changes concerning deponent verbs were crucial for the development of Romance periphrastic perfect forms and, in particular, for the emergence of the periphrasis formed by HABERE + Past Participle.
7. The synchronic variation of Romance auxiliary selection can be understood as mirroring a diachronic path. Every attested pattern reflects a different stage of this change.
8. The development of Latin perfective, possessive and deontic periphrases can be analysed as a consequence of alignment changes. Numerous Latin inactive periphrases disappeared during the transition to Romance because of the rise of the nominative/accusative alignment.
9. Syntactic reanalysis is one of the main factors at the basis of language change.
10. *Similia vocibus esse ac syllabis confitemur, dissimilia esse partibus orationis videmus* (M.T. Varro, *De lingua latina* X, 7)