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A functional approach to differential indexing: combining perspectives from typology and corpus linguistics

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Stellingen

behorend bij het proefschrift “A functional approach to differential indexing – Combining perspectives from typology and corpus linguistics”

1. Differential indexing is often associated to factors such as animacy, identifiability or topicality across different languages. However, the exact manifestation of these factors has to be viewed language-specifically (this thesis).
2. Unlike other coding splits, differential indexing cannot be explained in terms of efficiency (this thesis).
3. The evaluation of systematic corpus annotation is necessary to investigate and do justice to the intricacies of marking splits (this thesis).
4. Differential indexing is not just about the absence/presence of marking, but variable index placement should be considered as an instance of the phenomenon as well (this thesis).
5. There are language features which have traditionally been conceived of as categorical, but whose investigation would benefit from approaching them in terms of gradience.
6. Linguists should be aware of the fact that the term “optionality” can mean different things in different accounts.
7. Linguistics is an empirical science, and should present itself as such.
8. Linguistics resembles a garden with multiple paths and it is sometimes hard to decide which one to follow.
9. The educational value of manga and anime is immense, for children as well as adults.
10. Being a post-doc has quite a few similarities with being the youngest of five children.