

Examples of adposition/subordinator homonymy (examples a illustrate the adposition function, examples b the subordinator one).

dolakhali newari (Genetti, 1991, p.227)

(1a) cotan-**na** pol-ju
spoon-**INSTR** hit-3sg:PAST
He hit it with a spoon.

(1b) chē-ku yer-**na** wā ām-e naku moŋ-an coŋ-gu.
house-LOC come-**when** EMPH he-GEN cheek swell-PART stay-3SG:PASTHAB
When he came to the house his cheek was swollen.

émérillon (Rose, 2003, p. 529)

(2a) a-o-tal ɪtʃɪ pe-l¹-**upi** sinamari-poli.
1SG-go-FUT there road-RELN-**on** Sinamary-near
I will go there on the road near Sinamary.

(2b) sə tapiʔil o-tui-l-**upi**-we, wāiwī-kom sə-we o-tui-ŋ.
big tapir 3-become-RELN-**while**-too girl-PL big-too 3-become-PL
As the tapir was growing (getting bigger), the girls were growing too.

(3a) awak^wəl-a-l-aʔil o-kel-o o-iba-l-**ehe**.
man-a-RELN-son 3-sleep-CONT 3-pet-RELN-**with**
The boy (son of the man) is sleeping with his pet.

(3b) awak^wəl o-kiɟe-l-**ehe**, ka-wi o-wag.
man 3-be.scared-RELN-**because** wasp-ABL 3-wander
Because the man is scared, he wanders away from the wasps.

fon (Lefebvre et Brousseau, 2002, p. 173 et 302)

(4a) Kòkú xò àsóń **nú** Àsíbá.
Koku buy crab **for** Asiba.
Koku bought crab for Asiba.

(4b) Ajwá wà àzó ó **nú** Bàyí ní m̀ àkwé.
Ajwa do work DEF **for** Bayi SUB find money
Ajwa did the work in order that Bayi has money.

Questionnaire

For each case of homonymy between an adposition and a subordinator in the language,

- 1) What is the form (unique or slightly different) and the meanings of the morpheme in both functions?
- 2) Does the language clearly tell what is the diachronic link between the adposition and the subordinator or what is their common origin?

¹ In Tupi-Guarani languages, some words (nouns, verbs or postpositions) systematically take a « relational marker »).

- 3) On the syntactic level, is the clause introduced by the subordinator a finite clause? a nominalization? another structure with both verbal and nominal properties?
How is it comparable to other subordinate clauses, nominalizations and nominal phrases of the language?
- 4) On the semantic level, what is the relation between the meaning(s) of the adpositions and the meaning(s) of the subordinator? Is there a semantic extension from one domain to another (i.e. from spatial to temporal, from concrete to abstract...)
- 5) In cases of reanalysis, is there any clue in the language of what could have "provoked" or helped such a reanalysis, for example the loss of an older type of subordinators or a general reanalysis of nominal elements into verbal elements?