Record Nr. UNINA9910788821903321 Language change at the syntax-semantics interface / / edited by Chiara **Titolo** Gianollo, Agnes Jager, Doris Penka Pubbl/distr/stampa Berlin; ; Boston:,: De Gruyter Mouton,, [2015] ©2015 **ISBN** 3-11-035230-3 3-11-039492-8 Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (368 p.) Collana Trends in Linguistics. Studies and Monographs, , 1861-4302;; 278 Classificazione ET 750 417/.7 Disciplina Soggetti Linguistic change Indo-European languages - Syntax Semantics Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Description based upon print version of record. Note generali Includes bibliographical references and index. Nota di bibliografia Nota di contenuto Front matter -- Preface and acknowledgements -- Table of contents --1. Language change at the syntax-semantics interface. Perspectives and challenges -- 2. Semantic and formal features: Feature economy in language change -- 3. Linking syntax and semantics of adnominal possession in the history of German -- 4. Most historically -- 5. The "indefinite article" from cardinal to operator to expletive -- 6. The Greek Septuagint and language change at the syntax-semantics interface: from null to "pleonastic" object pronouns -- 7. The agreement of collective nouns in the history of Ancient Greek and German -- 8. Vedic local particles at the syntax semantics interface --9. Aspect shifts in Indo-Arvan and trajectories of semantic change --10. The development of conditional should in English -- 11. The Greek Jespersen's cycle: Renewal, stability and structural microelevation --Subject index Sommario/riassunto Bringing together diachronic research from a variety of perspectives, notably typology, formal syntax and semantics, this volume focuses on the interplay of syntactic and semantic factors in language change - an issue so far largely neglected both in (mostly lexical) historical

semantics as well as historical syntax, but recently brought into focus

by grammaticalization theory as well as Minimalist diachronic syntax. The contributions draw on data from numerous Indo-European languages including Vedic Sanskrit, Middle Indic, Greek as well as English and German, and discuss a range of phenomena such as change in negation markers, indefinite articles, quantifiers, modal verbs, argument structure among others. The papers analyze diachronic evidence in the light of contemporary syntactic and semantic theory, addressing the crucial question of how syntactic and semantic change are linked, and whether both are governed by similar constraints, principles and systematic mechanisms. The volume will appeal to scholars in historical linguistics and formal theories of syntax and semantics.