Record Nr. UNINA9910811101503321 Frequency and the emergence of linguistic structure / / edited by Joan **Titolo** Bybee, Paul Hopper Pubbl/distr/stampa Amsterdam;; [Great Britain],: J. Benjamins, c2001 **ISBN** 1-282-16237-3 9786612162374 90-272-9803-3 Edizione [1st ed.] Descrizione fisica 1 online resource (502 pages) Typological studies in language, , 0167-7373;; v. 45 Collana Altri autori (Persone) BybeeJoan L HopperPaul J Disciplina 415 Soggetti Frequency (Linguistics) Grammar, Comparative and general Lingua di pubblicazione Inglese **Formato** Materiale a stampa Livello bibliografico Monografia Note generali Bibliographic Level Mode of Issuance: Monograph Nota di bibliografia Includes bibliographical references and indexes. Nota di contenuto FREQUENCY AND THE EMERGENCE OF LINGUISTIC STRUCTURE --Editorial page -- Title page -- LCC page -- Contents --Acknowledgements -- Introduction to frequency and the emergence of linguistic structure -- Part I: Patterns of Use -- Transitivity, clause

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Sommario/riassunto

A mainstay of functional linguistics has been the claim that linguistic elements and patterns that are frequently used in discourse become conventionalized as grammar. This book addresses the two issues that are basic to this claim: first, the question of what types of elements are frequently used in discourse and second, the question of how frequency of use affects cognitive representations. Reporting on evidence from natural conversation, diachronic change, variability, child language acquisition and psycholinguistic experimentation the original articles in this book support two major principles. First, the content of people's interactions consists of a preponderance of subjective, evaluative statements, dominated by the use of pronouns, copulas and intransitive clauses. Second, the frequency with which certain items and strings of items are used has a profound influence on the way language is broken up into chunks in memory storage, the way such chunks are related to other stored material and the ease with which they are accessed to produce new utterances.