

1. Record Nr.	UNINA9910813836103321
Titolo	Grammaticalization - theory and data / / edited by Sylvie Hancil, University of Rouen ; Ekkehard Konig, Free University Berlin
Pubbl/distr/stampa	Amsterdam, Netherlands ; ; Philadelphia, Pennsylvania : , : John Benjamins Publishing Company, , 2014 ©2014
ISBN	90-272-6972-6
Descrizione fisica	1 online resource (301 p.)
Collana	Studies in Language Companion Series (SLCS)
Disciplina	415
Soggetti	Grammar, Comparative and general - Grammaticalization Linguistic change Computational linguistics
Lingua di pubblicazione	Inglese
Formato	Materiale a stampa
Livello bibliografico	Monografia
Note generali	Description based upon print version of record.
Nota di bibliografia	Includes bibliographical references at the end of each chapters and indexes.
Nota di contenuto	Grammaticalization - Theory and Data; Editorial page; Title page; LCC data; Table of contents; Acknowledgements ; Introduction; Part 1. General and theoretical issues; Part 2. Case studies; References; Acquisition-based and usage-based explanations of grammaticalisation; 1. Generative vs. functional approaches; 2. Integration: Performance and parametrisation; 3. Case examples; 3.1 Romance futures; 3.2 German perfect (cf. Ohl 2009a); 3.3 Remarks on the auxiliation of the copula; 4. Conclusion; References; Grammaticalization and explanation; 1. Introduction; 2. A background of consensus 3. Arguments against the explanatory potential of grammaticalization 4. In defense of the explanatory potential of grammaticalization; 5. Unidirectionality, the process question, and reductionism; Unidirectionality; Process vs. Processes; Reductionism; 6. Concluding remarks; References; The perfectivization of the English perfect; 1. Introduction; 2. The perfectivisation of the HAVE-perfect - prototypical grammaticalization?; 3. The changing perfect in English; a. HAVE-perfects with definite past time adverbials; b. Narrative HAVE-perfects 4. An increase in HAVE-perfect with past time adverbials?5. Which

English are we discussing?; 6. Conclusion; References; Explaining language structure; 1. Introduction; 2. Questions; 3. Reconstruction; 4. Conclusions; Acknowledgements; Abbreviations; References; Toward a constructional framework for research on language change; 1. Introduction; 2. The main features of the constructionalization model; 3. A constructional approach to grammaticalization; 4. A constructional approach to lexicalization; 5. Major similarities and differences between contentful and procedural constructionalization 6. The value added of a constructional approachData Bases; References; Grammaticalization of Polish mental predicate prefixes; 1. Introduction; 2. Grammaticalization; 3. Prefix semantics and its contribution to the meaning of the mental verb; 4. Classification of prefixes into pure perfectivizers and lexical prefixes: A case study on the verb *myslec* 'to think'; 5. Conclusions; References; More thoughts on the grammaticalization of personal pronouns; 1. Introduction; 2. Referential shifting from third to second person: Heine and Song (2010, 2011)

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#### Sommario/riassunto

Mulder and Thompson (2006, 2008) point out that the final hanging but ([X but]) developed from initial but (X [but Y]) through a sequence of formal reanalyses, and insightfully observe the functional and formal parallelism between the development of the hanging type of final but and the final particalization of the Japanese subordinator *-kedo*. The present article demonstrates that but (and and as well) can perform a terminal bracketing function and serve as functional subordinators in spoken American English, and that they behave like final particles when the sentences are truncated. Although

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