



VIEWPOINTS

Talks in Linguistics

A CATEGORY NEUTRAL SIMULATIVE PLURAL: EVIDENCE FROM TURKISH

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3:30pm

513 Lattimore Hall

Presented by: Solveiga Armoskaite

Co-Written by: Solveiga Armoskaite & Aysegul Kutlu

PROBLEM Consider this **m**-reduplication pattern of colloquial Turkish:

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| (1) bulut m -ulut
cloud m-cloud
'clouds and the like' | (2) güzel m -üzel
good m-good
'good and the like' |
| (3) yazmak m -azmak
write m-write
'to write and the like' | (4) bütün m -ütün
all m-all
'all or whatever' |

QUESTIONS

What is **m**-reduplication? How to account for its syntax and semantics?

PROPOSALS

I We argue that **m**-reduplication in Turkish is a case of simulative plural (cf. Daniel & Moravcsik 2005). This simulative is crosslinguistically unique in that it applies across categories (cf. Nakanashi & Ritter, 2008; Kaneko 2013; among others).

II The semantics of **m**-reduplication is best captured as group feature (adapting Kratzer 2009):

- For N, $[[m-]]^c = \lambda x: x \text{ entity. group } (x)(c)$
- For V, $[[m-]]^c = \lambda x: x \text{ event. group } (x)(c)$
- For A, $[[m-]]^c = \lambda x: x \text{ property. group } (x)(c)$

III The syntax of **m**-reduplication is best captured as a phrase level modifier. The distribution of **m**-reduplication is conditioned by its semantics. **M**-reduplicated nouns (i) have collective interpretation while distributive interpretations are prohibited; (ii) are ungrammatical with precise quantity denoting measure phrases. **M**-reduplicated verbs (i) favor conditional environments; (ii) need special conditions to allow for Tense (Neg or embedded CP); (iii) cannot co-occur with either an evidential marker or committed future. **M**-reduplicated adjectives are ungrammatical with (i) superlative degree; (ii) precision denoting adverbials.