

The pseudo-partitive construction in Sardinian

Guido Mensching
Georg-August-Universität Göttingen

The traditional philological literature on Sardinian claims that Sardinian has a partitive construction, which has sometimes been attributed to Catalan influence. Under closer examination the construction at issue turns out to be an NP-split construction with CLLD or CLRD, of the same type that we can also find in Italian and French. It is thus unclear whether this construction is due to Italian or Catalan influence or if it is a structure inherited from Vulgar Latin. In the talk, I will show the syntactic distribution of the Sardinian “pseudo-partitive construction” and compare it to the similar structures in the languages mentioned. I will claim that Romance languages that have a clitic derived from Latin INDE have the tendency to develop the “pseudo-partitive construction”. The talk will finish with some considerations on the syntactic structure of the construction at issue within the Minimalist Program.