

RELATIVE STRUCTURES (AND OTHER STRONG ISLANDS) REDUCED TO RELABELING

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In this talk we will start by slightly revising the theory of relativization proposed by Donati & Cecchetto (2011), in which relative structures of various types are all reduced to cases of relabeling by a lexical item that moves and “nominalises” the structure (this item is a WH-D in free relatives, a bare noun in full relatives and a non-WH D in pseudorelatives). We will then deal with the question of why relative structures are strong islands and propose a theory of successive cyclic movement that makes it incompatible with the relabeling movement that defines relativization. Finally, we will extend this account of the strong island-hood of relative clauses to other strong islands, including *when*-clauses and *if*-clauses and, if the time allows, we will discuss other strong islands that require a different approach.

References

Donati, C. & C. Cecchetto. 2011. Relabeling Heads: A Unified Account for Relativization Structures. *Linguistic Inquiry* 42: 519-560.