Two templates for multiple VP-internal prefixation in Slavic

Rok Žaucer (University of Nova Gorica)

I will discuss argument structure in relation to resultativity and the case of Slavic verbal prefixation. The latter is widely assumed to cover two very distinct phenomena: 1) VP-internal resultative secondary predication; 2) VP-external aspectual/adverbial/measure modification (Svenonius 2004, Ramchand 2008, etc.). Together with its analysis of resultative prefixation, this approach predicts that in a verb with more than one prefix, only the stem-adjacent one is resultative, while the others must be VP-external modifiers. I will present some multiple-prefix constructions in which all prefixes show VP-internal characteristics, and discuss the challenge that they pose for the theory of resultative secondary predication. To capture such cases, I will propose two general templates, both containing VP-internal prefixes only: 1) a structure where a stacked prefix represents an independent result of a separate event; 2) a structure where a stacked prefix represents a modifier of the result headed by another prefix.