

Luigi Talamo

Personal information

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Education

- 2016 **PhD in Linguistics ('Scienze Linguistiche')**, *University of Bergamo and University of Pavia (Italy)*, PhD defended on 29 May 2017, jury's final judgement: excellent.
- 2010 **MA in Linguistics ('Scienze Linguistiche')**, *University of Turin (Italy)*, *Summa cum laude, special mention.*
- 2007 **BA in Humanities ('Lettere')**, *University of Turin (Italy)*, *Summa cum laude, special mention.*

Doctoral dissertation

title *Nominalizations of property concepts: Evidence from Italian*

advisors Prof. Sonia Cristofaro (supervisor), prof. Anna Giacalone Ramat, prof. Pierluigi Cuzzolin

jury Prof. Michela Cennamo (chair), prof. Mario Squartini, prof. Andrea Scala

topics Lexical categories, Morpho-syntax, Linguistic Typology

summary The dissertation deals with the nominalizations of property concepts, or, in more traditional terms, with de-adjectival nouns; the issue has received so far little attention in the literature and, while focusing on a single language, is investigated from a typological perspective. The study is couched within Croft's Radical Construction Grammar, in which de-adjectival nouns are conceived as constructions of property concepts with referential function. The first part of the dissertation is dedicated to an overview of the functional-typological literature on parts of speech, nominal and adjectival classes, and nominalizations. The second part is a case-study on Italian de-adjectival nouns, which moves from the analysis of the nominalizations of twenty basic Italian adjectives, for instance, *cattivo* 'bad, nasty' -> *cattiveria* 'nastiness', *il cattivo* 'the bad'; the case-study features thousands of occurrences of Italian de-adjectival nouns, which are found in a large journalistic corpus of contemporary Italian, the LA REPUBBLICA corpus, and are classified for morpho-syntactic and semantic properties such as definiteness, argument structure, possessive and attributive relations, number, gender and animacy of the referents. The framework of Radical Construction Grammar is integrated with Malchukov's proposals on mixed lexical categories, leading to the analysis of property nominalizations through scales of substantivization and de-adjectivalization, the latter akin to Malchukov's original scale of de-verbalization. The result is a continuum of patterns of nominalizations, whose formal features range from adjectives to nouns, and which unveil the existence of several semantic categories varying from abstract qualities to concrete bearers of properties.

Research interests

Typological linguistics	Nominal categories, lexical and grammatical nominalizations, parts of speech, mixed lexical categories.
Corpus linguistics	Corpus building for linguistic enquiries, development of corpus query tools, schemata for the morphological, semantic and pragmatic annotation of corpora.
Morphology	Affix ordering, stem and affix allomorphy, morpho-semantics. Construction morphology.
Computational linguistics	Information theoretic measures. Treebanks and (universal) parsing. Finite state transducers for morphological parsing and generation of complex forms. Distributional semantics.

Professional Appointments

November 2019–June 2022	Post doc researcher , <i>Saarland University</i> , Saarbrücken (Germany).
supervisor	Prof. Annemarie Verkerk
summary	In preparation of a grant proposal for the DFG (Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft), we have been building a parallel corpus of prosaic fiction, CIEP, and conducting on it several typological researches (word order, information structure) using information-theoretic measures. CIEP currently features 15 Indo-European languages and is annotated at several linguistic layers using Universal Dependency models; by the end of my appointment, we plan to include 30 Indo-European languages and 10 non-Indo-European languages. Other side projects I have been working on are: a phylogenetic study of negative existentials in more than 100 Indo-European languages and corpus-based contrastive studies on scientific languages, again using information-theoretic measures.
June 2018–January 2019	Scholarship researcher (Borsa di ricerca) , <i>University of Cagliari</i> , Cagliari (Italy).
title	Development of an annotation and query system for an Early Modern Sardinian (17 and 18th century) corpus (<i>Elaborazione di un sistema di annotazione e interrogazione per un corpus di sardo moderno (XVII-XVIII sec.)</i>)
supervisor	Prof. Nicoletta Puddu
summary	Funded by the Autonomous Region of Sardinia, the scholarship has involved the building of a corpus starting from the digitization and annotation of a dozen of 17th and 18th century manuscripts. In order to preserve the philological and linguistic features of the manuscripts, which present an interesting mixture of Early Modern Sardinian, Modern Catalan and Chancery Latin, the texts are inserted in a web-based software called TEITOK. The collection of texts, aptly named 'Early Modern Sardinian corpus', is one of the few examples of historical corpora of a minority language.
June 2011–December 2013	Research grant (Assegno di ricerca) , <i>Scuola Normale Superiore</i> , Pisa (Italy).
title	Analysis of the inflectional and derivational morphology and the prosodical properties of the lexicon of the CoLFIS database (<i>Analisi della morfologia flessiva e derivazionale e delle proprietà prosodiche del lessico della banca-dati CoLFIS</i>)
supervisor	Prof. Pier Marco Bertinetto

summary Funded by an Italian government grant (FIRB), the research focused on the enhancement of one of the first Italian corpus, CoLFIS, which was created in 1995 with psycholinguistic purposes. Using automatical tools, the whole corpus was re-tagged for parts of speech and fully lemmatized; it was then re-encoded in the Open Corpus Workbench, preserving its original metadata. A morphological annotation schema, which accounts for word-formation process ordering as well as for morphotactic and morphosemantic transparency, was devised in order to manually annotate more than 10,000 Italian derivatives; the plausibility of the annotation was tested in series of psycholinguistic experiments and a web-based interface, available at the <http://derivatario.sns.it>, was developed in order to interact with the database.

Publications

Books

1. Luigi Talamo. *Nominalization of Property Concepts: Evidence from Italian*. Bergamo University Press (ISBN: 978-88-97413-32-5, DOI: 10.6092/978-88-97413-32-5), 2018

Journal Articles

2. Luigi Talamo and Chiara Celata. Toward a morphological analysis of the Italian lexicon: developing tools for a corpus-based approach. *Quaderni del Laboratorio di Linguistica*, 10(1), 2011

3. Stela Manova and Luigi Talamo. On the significance of the corpus size in affix-order research. *SKASE Journal of Theoretical Linguistics. A Festschrift for Pavol Stekauer*, 3(12):369–397, 2015

4. Luigi Talamo, Chiara Celata, and Pier Marco Bertinetto. derIvaTario: a lexicon of annotated Italian derivatives. *Word Structure*, 9(1):72–102, 2016

5. Shahar Shirtz, Luigi Talamo, and Annemarie Verkerk. The evolutionary dynamics of negative existentials in Indo-European. *Frontiers in Communication*, 6:131, 2021

6. Natalia Levshina, Savithry Namboodiripad, Marc Allasonnière-Tang, Mathew A Kramer, Luigi Talamo, Annemarie Verkerk, Gabriela Wilmoth, Sasha Garrido Rodriguez, Timothy Gupton, Evan Kidd, Zoey Liu, Chiara Naccarato, Rachel Nordlinger, Anastasia Panova, and Natalia Stoyanova. Why we need a gradient approach to word order. *Linguistics*, x(xx):xx–xx, submitted

7. Luigi Talamo and Annemarie Verkerk. Nominal heads and modifiers in modern European languages: a token-based typology of word order. *Italian Journal of Linguistics*, x(xx):xx–xx, in review

Book Chapters

8. Luigi Talamo. Suffix combinations in Italian: selectional restrictions and processing constraints. In Stela Manova, editor, *Affix Ordering Across Languages and Frameworks*, pages 175–204. Oxford University Press, 2015

9. Chiara Fedriani, Chiara Ghezzi, and Luigi Talamo. Exploring linguistic representations of identity through the DiSCIS corpus: evidence from Directive acts in Plautus and Goldoni. In Piera Molinelli, editor, *Language and identity in multilingual mediterranean settings: Challenges for historical sociolinguistics*. De Gruyter Mouton, 2017

Conference Proceedings

10. Pier Marco Bertinetto, Chiara Celata, and Luigi Talamo. Morphotactic effects on the processing of Italian derivatives. In *Proceedings of the NetWordS Final Conference on Word Knowledge and Word Usage: Representations and Processes in the Mental Lexicon*, Pisa, Italy, March 30 - April 1, 2015., pages 109–111, 2015

11. Nicoletta Puddu and Luigi Talamo. EModSar: A Corpus of Early Modern Sardinian Texts. In *Atti del IX Convegno Annuale dell'Associazione per l'Informatica Umanistica e la Cultura Digitale (AIUCD)*, Milan, Italy, January 15 - 17, 2020, pages 210–215, 2020

Awards and Honors

- 2011 Faculty award for the best dissertation in the academic year 2009-2010. (University of Turin, Italy)
- 2007 Industrial association award (*Premio Optime*) for the best dissertation. (Industrial association of Turin, Italy)

Grants and Fellowships

- 2016 *PhD exchange student* grant (Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong)
- 2014-2016 PhD grant (University of Bergamo and University of Pavia, Italy)
- 2012-2013 Internal grant for the project “Testing the psycholinguistic plausibility of derlvaTario”. (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy)
- 2010 PhD grant (declined). (Scuola Normale Superiore, Pisa, Italy)

Invited Talks

1. Luigi Talamo. La polisemia del nome d'agente. (Polysemy in agent noun). One lesson for graduate students (prof. Nicola Grandi). Bologna, February, 2013
2. Luigi Talamo. Introduzione alla creazione e all'interrogazione di corpora linguistici. (Corpus linguistics development and building: an introduction). Two lessons for graduate students (prof. Nicoletta Puddu). Cagliari, November, 2015
3. Luigi Talamo. 'derlvaTario': un lessico morfologico basato su CoLFIS ('derlvaTario': a morphological lexicon based on CoLFIS). Presente e futuro di un corpus dell'italiano. CoLFIS e oltre. Accademia della Crusca (Firenze), 14 December, 2015
4. Luigi Talamo. A constructional approach to the Italian parts-of-speech system. Lecture delivered on the occasion of the Week of Italian Language in the World. Hong Kong Polytechnic University, October, 2016
5. Luigi Talamo. Linguistica dei corpora: una breve introduzione. (Corpus linguistics: a brief introduction). Two lessons for graduate students (prof. Nicoletta Puddu). Cagliari, December, 2017
6. Luigi Talamo. Linguistica dei corpora e uso di ELAN. (Corpus Linguistics and Introduction to ELAN). Five lessons for graduate students (prof. Antonietta Marra). Cagliari, May, 2019
7. Luigi Talamo and Annemarie Verkerk. Parallel corpora meet linguistic typology: Past and future case- studies. Colloquium in honour of Erich Steiner. Universität des Saarlandes, 31st January, 2020

Conference Activity

Conference organization

- 4-5 April 2019 Historical corpora and Variation (Scientific and Organizing committee, University of Cagliari)
- 28-30 September 2015 Linguistic representations of identity. Sociolinguistic models and historical linguistics (Organizing committee, University of Bergamo)

Papers presented (peer-reviewed)

1. Luigi Talamo. Complexity-Based Ordering in Italian: some new data. *Advances in affix order research*. Vienna, 15-16 January, 2011
2. Luigi Talamo. Affix ordering in Italian: a psycholinguistic approach. Eighth Mediterranean Morphology Meeting (poster presentation). Cagliari, 14-16 September, 2011
3. Luigi Talamo and Chiara Celata. How to deal with morphotactic and morphosemantic transparency in the morphological annotation of an Italian corpus. (poster presentation). Fifteenth International Morphology Meeting. Vienna, 9-12 February, 2012
4. Luigi Talamo. Modeling morphosemantics: the polysemy of quality nouns. *New territories in word-formation*. Sofia, 30-31 May, 2013
5. Luigi Talamo. La polisemia del nome deaggettivale italiano. (Polysemy in Italian de-adjectival noun). SIT/TRIPLE 2014 Winter School (poster). Roma, 17-21 February, 2014
6. Luigi Talamo. Categorie derivazionali e polisemia nei nomi deaggettivali italiani. (Derivational categories and polysemy in Italian de-adjectival nouns). 'Morfologia: lavori in corso', 48th SLI International Conference. Udine, 25-27 September, 2014
7. Pier Marco Bertinetto, Chiara Celata, and Luigi Talamo. Morphotactic effects on the processing of Italian derivatives. (poster presentation). *Word knowledge and word usage. Representations and Processes in the Mental Lexicon*. Final NetWordS Conference. Pisa, 30 March - 1 April, 2015
8. Luigi Talamo. References of properties: Contemporary Italian de-Adjectival Nouns. 49th SLE Conference (poster). Naples, 31 August - 3 September, 2016
9. Luigi Talamo and Pier Marco Bertinetto. derIvaTario: an interactive tool for the study of Italian derivational morphology. 49th SLE Conference. Naples, 31 August - 3 September, 2016
10. Giacomo Spinelli, Cristina Burani, Luciana Forti, Silvia Micheli, Simone Sulpizio, Luigi Talamo, and Maximiliano Wilson. Towards a morphological database of Italian. *Giornata di Linguistica Sperimentale e Computazionale*. Padova, 23 February, 2018
11. Nicoletta Puddu, Elena Maccioni, Giulia Murgia, and Luigi Talamo. Designing and annotating the Early Modern Sardinian Corpus. *Historical Corpora and Variation*. Cagliari, 4 - 5 April, 2019

12. Annemarie Verkerk, Luigi Talamo, and Shahar Shirtz. How cyclic is the negative existential cycle in Indo-European? 53rd SLE Conference. On-line, 26 August 1 September, 2020

13. Luigi Talamo and Annemarie Verkerk. Rigid vs. free word order in modern Indo-European languages: an information theoretic measure of the relative position of selected syntactic relations in a multilingual, parallel corpus of literary fiction . 53rd SLE Conference. On-line, 26 August 1 September, 2020

14. Luigi Talamo, Stefania Degaetano-Ortlieb, Katrin Menzel, Ekaterina Lapshinova-Koltunski, Yuri Bizzoni, Tania Avgustinova, and Annemarie Verkerk. Surprisal and information structure of human referents across syntactic roles: evidence from European languages. 54th SLE Conference. On-line, 30 August 3 September, 2021

15. Luigi Talamo. Using parallel corpora for researching patterns of grammatical variation: the case of nominal word order in European languages. Using Corpora in Contrastive and Translation Studies Conference (6th edition). Bertinoro (Italy), 9-11 September, 2021

Teaching Experience

- April–July 2021 **Lecturer (Undergraduate: 3+2 ECTS course in Linguistic Typology)**, *Saarland University*, Saarbrücken (Germany).
- Oct 2020 –Feb 2021 **Lecturer (Graduate: 5 ECTS seminar in Corpus Linguistics)**, *Saarland University*, Saarbrücken (Germany).
- April–July 2020 **Lecturer (Undergraduate: 3+2 ECTS course in Linguistic Typology)**, *Saarland University*, Saarbrücken (Germany).
- February–May 2017 **Instructor (Undergraduate: Linguistics)**, *University of Bergamo*, Bergamo (Italy).
- February–May 2017 **Five seminar lectures (Graduate: Sociolinguistics)**, *University of Bergamo*, Bergamo (Italy).
- 2014–2015 **Instructor (Undergraduate: Linguistics)**, *University of Bergamo*, Bergamo (Italy).

Research experience

- 2009 **Internship**, *Loquendo (now Nuance)*, Turin (Italy).
- title Implementation of the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) in a text-to-speech system (*Implementazione dell'alfabeto fonetico internazionale (IPA) nel sistema di sintesi vocale*)
- advisors Dr. Morena Danieli, Dr. Davide Bonardo
- summary The International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) is implemented in the company's text-to-speech (TTS) system by using the native support to Unicode encoding (UTF-8). Combining phonetic and programming (C) skills, Unicode phonetic symbols are linked to the phonemes synthesized by the TTS system. The contribution is documented in Loquendo TTS 7.8 changelog, August 2009.

IT Skills

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|-------------------|------------------------------------|-----------|--|
| Operating Systems | Unix (different flavours), Windows | Languages | PHP, Python, C (fundamentals), Perl (fundamentals) |
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Script & Mark-up languages	HTML/Css, Bash Script, L ^A T _E X, XML	Corpus Linguistics tools	Open bench/Query, TreeTagger, Stuttgart State Transducer, Gate, Brat, TEITOK	Workbench/Query, Schmid's Finite State Transducer, Brat, Office
Statistical software	R	Database	MySQL	
Virtualization software	QEMU/Kvm, VMWare, VirtualBox, Docker	Other software	Vim, Unix tools, Office	

Languages

Italian	Native speaker
English	C1
French	A2

Professional Memberships

Member of the Società Linguistica Italiana since 2014

Member of the Societas Linguistica Europea since 2016

Member of the Association for Linguistic Typology since 2020