

Word units in Oceanic languages

Kilu von Prince

Heinrich-Heine-Universität Düsseldorf

Oceanic languages are characterized by tight-knit predicate complex encoding person/number features of the subject (and sometimes the object), tense, aspect, mood, along with the verb root. Languages differ significantly, however, in terms of how these functions are distributed over word units. In my talk, I will focus on the two Oceanic languages Daakaka and Dalkalaen to explore morpho-syntactic and phonological correlates of word boundaries and the variability of mapping functions to word units within and between the two languages.