

# **Numeral-noun combinations and the hidden partitive hypothesis revisited**

Artemis Alexiadou (Humboldt University of Berlin)

In this talk, I will revisit the idea that the structure of numeral-noun combinations contains a hidden partitive by looking at 'superfluous' partitive marking in e.g., child language (French) in comparison to data from a variety of languages, where partitives and numeral-noun combinations are similar. The non-canonical realization in child language is a so-called commission error, where children produce more material than adults

Such patterns support an analysis of numeral-noun combinations as hidden partitives, assuming, as in Sauerland, Alexiadou & Guasti (2021), that errors in the process of acquisition provide evidence for an underlying conceptual representation which the adult grammar in certain languages leaves unpronounced. I will discuss implications for the syntax of numerals both from a diachronic and a synchronic perspective.