

Approaching the competition between strategies in Uralic subordination

It is widely known that Uralic languages make use of both finite and non-finite strategies in subordination but the distribution of strategies across languages depends on a variety of factors. In particular, in the western Uralic languages, which have been in a longer-term and more intense contact with Indo-European languages, finite strategies appeared earlier and now prevail in most contexts. The eastern Uralic languages have also developed finite strategies but their use still remains relatively limited. While these facts have received considerable attention among Uralicists, it seems that less is known about the competition of finite and non-finite strategies in the contexts where variation is observed. In my talk, I will discuss possible approaches to this topic and present some examples of variation where the choice can be conditioned by both structural and sociolinguistic factors.