**Talk of SFB632(Information Structure): Project A1**

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Morphosyntax deverbaler Nominalisierungen im Deutschen und Englischen

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Nominalizations have always been a matter of debate in the history of linguistics. The first descriptive works on derivative morphology (Henzen 1947, Marchand 1960, Fleischer 1969) used the different patterns of nominalizations to illustrate the concept of morphological productivity. In the early years of transformational grammar (Chomsky 1957), nominalizations were viewed as ideal illustrations of the power of syntactic transformations; a prototypical work of that time is Lees 1960, who assumed that nominalizations are created by sentence-reduction. The late sixties were dominated by quarrels between "lexicalists" and "transformationalists" (Lakoff 1965, McCawley 1968); lexicalists regarded nominalizations as part of the lexicon, transformationalists explained them with syntactic transformations. A new approach to nominalizations was possible with the rise and development of X-bar syntax and with Chomsky's seminal paper "Remarks on nominalization" (Chomsky 1970): even strict lexicalists analyzed the internal structure of nominalizations then with X-bar syntax, but postulated restrictions arising from the demands of the lexicon, cf. Jackendoff 1975, Aronoff 1976, Williams 1981.

In this talk, I will show that nearly all recent approaches to nominalizations can be subsumed under either the Lees-1960-approach or the Chomsky-1970-approach. Lees explained the notion that nominalizations seem to be derived from verbs, inheriting also the verbs' complements, by postulating a proper sentence inside the NP. This approach is continued in current [DP[NP[VP]]] theories of nominalizations (Siloni 1997, Borer 2004), which do not posit a whole sentence as part of the nominalization, but a (hidden) VP. - Chomsky took a different route, proposing that a common abstract syntactic notation, X-bar-theory, could represent both the structure of sentences and the structure of nominalizations. Chomsky's approach to nominalizations is continued in recent Distributed Morphology accounts (Alexiadou 2001, van Hout and Roeper 1997), where "lexical categories" like verbs and nouns are viewed as a combination of category neutral roots plus functional layers F. I will concentrate on German and English deverbal nouns and present my version of a semantically driven Distributed Morphology account. Empirically, results of reaction time experiments with DMDX involving German deverbal -ung-nouns will play an important role.