Morpho-Syntactic Changes in Formosan Languages

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【Abstract】

The aim of my talk will be to examine certain morpho-syntactic changes in Formosan languages. Among others, I will discuss:

(1) the reconstruction of *pa-ka- in PAN (Zeitoun and Huang 2000) and its replacement in a number of languages (e.g. Thao, Kanakanavu, Saaroa, Tona and Maga Rukai),

(2) the reconstruction of the coordinator *la in Proto-Rukai and its replacement by mani in Mantauran Rukai, as well as its incidence on the verb of saying,

(3) the grammaticalization of certain auxiliaries in Atayal as aspect markers and

(4) the grammaticalization of certain verbs in Saisiyat as interclausal elements and/or aspect markers.