

Editorial

The editors are pleased to welcome you to the double issue of the ninth volume of FULL, an open access international journal providing a platform for linguistic research on modern and older Finno-Ugric or other Uralic languages and dialects. FULL publishes comparative research as well as research on single languages, including comparison of just Uralic languages or comparison across family lines. We encourage both formal linguistic submissions and empirically oriented contributions.

The present issue contains two research articles and two papers that describe corpora.

This first research article, written by Katalin É. Kiss, is titled *Accusative or possessive? The suffix of pronominal objects in Ob-Ugric*. The paper seeks an answer to the question why pronominal objects in Mansi and Northern Khanty are personal pronouns bearing a possessive agreement morpheme encoding the person and number of the given pronoun, and why the possessive suffix of these pronouns is identified as an accusative case marker in Mansi and Northern Khanty grammars. It is argued that pronouns bearing a possessive agreement morpheme are formally reflexive pronouns functioning as referentially independent, emphatic, strong pronouns. In Ob-Ugric, 1st and 2nd person pronominal objects used to be – and in some dialects, still are – barred from topic position by the Inverse Topicality Constraint, and, as focal elements, they are represented by strong pronouns. In Northern Khanty and Northern Mansi, the consistent possessive marking of 1st and 2nd person object pronouns has been analogically extended to 3rd person pronouns, as well. Since only subjects and familiar objects can be topicalized, oblique pronouns have also been barred from topic position, and therefore they also appear in their strong forms. Since 1st and 2nd person (and in some languages, 3rd person) object pronouns have been consistently represented by the possessive-marked strong forms, the possessive morphemes of these forms have come to be interpreted as object markers.

The second article, *Focus in Udmurt: Positions, contrastivity and exhaustivity* by Erika Asztalos, presents the results of three surveys examining the positions and the interpretation of foci in Udmurt. While confirming earlier findings according to which the most acceptable focus position is the immediately preverbal one, and that sentence-final focusing is also grammatical for a part of the speakers, the results indicate that foci, with some limitations, can also occur in some preverbal but not verb-adjacent positions. From the perspective of interpretation, none of the focus positions turned out to be obligatorily contrastive or necessarily exhaustive. The sentence-final focusing strategy is interpreted as a phenomenon induced by Russian influence and as a sign of the ongoing SOV-to-SVO change of Udmurt. The results also reveal considerable inter-speaker variation in focus position preferences.

The third contribution, *Web Corpora of Volga-Kama Uralic Languages* by Timofey Arkhangelskiy, reports on a total of 11 electronic corpora of five minority Uralic languages that belong, or are adjacent to, the Volga-Kama area, which has been characterized as comprising a Sprachbund. The corpora, available at <http://volgakama.web-corpora.net>, contain written and, in one case, spoken texts in Udmurt, Komi, Meadow Mari, Erzya and Moksha languages. The described resources are “web corpora” both in terms of their accessibility through a web-based query interface, and, in most cases, in terms of the medium: almost all texts come from web resources, such as digital newspapers and social media. The paper describes the corpora from the user’s perspective. The main focus is on the search capabilities and on certain research questions that can be studied with the help of these corpora.

The fourth paper in the volume, *The INEL Dolgan Corpus: Insights into an endangered language of Northern Eurasia* by Chris Lasse Däbritz, presents a description of the INEL Dolgan Corpus, which has been created between 2016 and 2019 within the INEL project at the Institute for Finno-Ugric/Uralic Studies of the University of Hamburg. The corpus aims to provide a digital research infrastructure for Dolgan, an indigenous language of Northern Siberia. Though Dolgan is a Turkic language, the corpus is relevant for researchers of Uralic languages both due to the close areal connections of Uralic with Dolgan on the Taymyr peninsula and on account of the fact that it is an example of electronic research infrastructure developed for an endangered language. After introducing Dolgan and the INEL project, the paper describes the INEL Dolgan Corpus in detail, focusing on its linguistic content, annotation layers and search possibilities. Finally, the author provides an outlook on how the corpus contributes to furthering research on this endangered language.

We take this opportunity to thank the anonymous reviewers who generously lent their time and expertise to FULL. Our publications can be freely accessed and downloaded without any need for prior registration. At the same time, those who register, or have already registered, are provided with the benefit of getting notified of new issues, calls, etc. via email. FULL welcomes manuscripts from all the main branches of linguistics, including phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics and pragmatics, employing a diachronic or synchronic perspective, as well as from first language acquisition and psycholinguistics. Whatever the theoretical or empirical orientation of the contributions may be, our leading principle is to maintain the highest international standards.

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