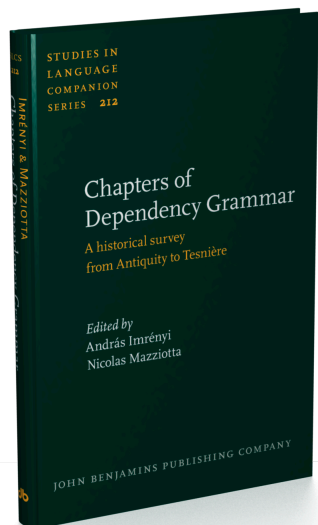


NEW BOOK INFORMATION

History of linguistics / Syntax



Chapters of Dependency Grammar

A historical survey from Antiquity to Tesnière

Edited by András Imrényi and Nicolas Mazziotta

Eszterházy Károly University, Eger / University of Liège

Was Tesnière the founding father of dependency grammar or merely a culmination point in its long history? Leaving no doubt that the latter position is correct, *Chapters of Dependency Grammar* tells the story of how dependency-oriented grammatical description developed from Antiquity up to the early 20th century. From Priscian's Rome to Dmitrievsky's Russia, from the French *Encyclopaedia* to Stephen W. Clark's school grammars in 19th century America, it is shown how the concept of dependencies (asymmetric word-to-word relations) surfaced again and again, assuming a central place in syntax. A particularly intriguing aspect of the storyline is that even without any direct contact or influence, authors were making key breakthroughs in similar directions. In the works of Sámuel Brassai, a Transylvanian polymath, and Franz Kern, a German grammarian, the first dependency trees appear in 1873 and 1883, respectively, predating Tesnière's stemmas by several decades.

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Table of contents

Aspects of the theory and history of dependency grammar

Nicolas Mazziotta and András Imrényi

Chapter 1. Syntactic relations in ancient and medieval grammatical theory

Anneli Luhtala

Chapter 2. The notion of dependency in Latin grammar in the Renaissance and the 17th century

Bernard Colombat

Chapter 3. How dependency syntax appeared in the French *Encyclopedia*: From Buffier (1709) to Beauzée (1765)

Sylvain Kahane

Chapter 4. Dependency in early sentence diagrams: Stephen W. Clark

Nicolas Mazziotta

Chapter 5. Sámuel Brassai in the history of dependency grammar

András Imrényi and Zsuzsa Vladár

Chapter 6. Franz Kern: An early dependency grammarian

Timothy Osborne

Chapter 7. Some aspects of dependency in Otto Jespersen's structural syntax

Lorenzo Cigana

Chapter 8. The Russian trail: Dmitrievsky, the little drama metaphor and dependency grammar

Patrick Sériot

Index nominum

Index rerum

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