

Pragmatic Markers in Diachrony: Pathways, Patterns and Variation

[Prof. Dr. Natalia Filatkina](#) und [Dr. Daniela Kolbe-Hanna](#)

This project studies the dynamic processes of language variation and change that can be broadly described as conventionalization of pragmatic markers. The main focus lies on a set of words and phrases that have been used as pragmatic markers throughout the history of German and English. The term *pragmatic marker* is applied in a broader sense to single words as well as to multiword units used as interjections and/or discourse markers that fulfill a wide range of pragmatic and discourse functions (expression of emotions, commentary, structure and organization of text/discourse etc.). We will argue that the historical development is complex and takes several parallel routes, without following a unilinear course of conventionalization.

Konferenzbeiträge und Publikationen:

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