

## **Manner deixis and complementizers**

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Crosslinguistically, complementizers have a variety of lexical sources (Kuteva et al. 2019). This fact has played a role in many of the recent synchronic approaches to complementizer meaning: the lexical source plays some role in the meaning or function of a complementizer, as argued for instance with *say*-complementizers and demonstrative complementizers (Lord 1973, Staps and Rooryck 2023, among many others). This talk will explore the relationship between manner demonstratives (e.g., *like that*, *thus*) and complementizers. The pathway from manner demonstrative to complementizer is well-documented in the typological literature, and the intuition is that “similarity” plays some role in why manner demonstratives are recruited to introduce subordinate clauses (Bryant and Bhadra 2020, Gentens and Boye 2024). We will focus on the multifunctionality of manner demonstratives/similatives/complementizers in Bantu languages, mainly using data from Nyala East, a Luyia language spoken in Western Kenya. We’ll look in-depth at the meaning components that are shared across these uses, showing that established semantic accounts of manner deixis, like those in Landman and Morzycki (2003) and Umbach and Gast (2014), extend to recent work on the syntax and semantics of clausal embedding (Kratzer 2006/Moulton 2009).