

THURSDAY INTERDISCIPLINARY COLLOQUIUM

Thursday 16/04/2026

16:15-17:45

Webb 103

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Back to the Base: Resumption in Hebrew without Movement

Resumptive pronouns (RPs) in Hebrew are productively used in relative clauses and other A-bar dependencies. In accusative and embedded nominative positions, they alternate with gaps, but in oblique and genitive positions they are obligatory. An influential proposal takes the former type of RPs to be base-generated and the latter type to be a residue of movement (“realizational RPs”); concomitantly, only the latter type is expected to display reconstruction effects. I argue that there are *no* realizational RPs in Hebrew – *all* RPs are base-generated alike. Furthermore, *all* RPs in the language display full reconstruction effects, even inside islands, a pattern observed across a range of Arabic dialects as well. Reconstruction is thus dissociated from movement, and is instead explained by NP-ellipsis inside the resumptive DP, now seen as an E-type pronoun. We discuss a range of syntactic and semantic discrepancies between RPs and gaps, which are inexplicable on the realizational view, but receive a natural account on the E-type analysis of RPs.

Click [here](#) to see the colloquium program.