Incorporation as a repair mechanism: Evidence from the Turkana DP

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Turkana (Eastern Nilotic; Kenya) shows a pattern where non-nominal modifiers incorporate into the head noun prenominally, while they appear unbound postnominally. In this talk, I develop a two-step analysis with (i.) regular phrasal movement of the modifier to SpecDP followed by (ii.) incorporation of the non-nominal modifier from the specifier into the D head. To the best of my knowledge, this adds a novel repair mechanism to the growing body of syntactic repairs (e.g. Collins 2001, Grimshaw 2013). The data discussed in this talk come from fieldwork with three Turkana speakers in Kenya.