

## The Maximalization of Events

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In this talk, I will explore maximalization strategies that govern the interpretation of perfective forms (verbs and verb `complexes') across different languages. Cross-linguistically speaking, perfectivity is a rather heterogeneous category, when it comes to its formal expression and there is also a great variation among languages in how they semantically delimit their perfective forms (Dahl 1985). This also raises the question of their relation to the semantic property of telicity (and specifically to (non) culminating uses of perfectives of accomplishments). Assuming that perfective forms uniformly introduce a maximization operator *MAXE* on events (originally proposed by Filip and Rothstein 2005, see also Filip 2008), there is a typology of *MAXE* operators in natural languages (Filip 2017), all of which share the requirement of selecting the maximal (contextually determined) stage (`stage' in the sense of Landman 1992, 2008) of a certain eventuality type *P*, at which they cease to develop (`cessation', see Altshuler 2014). The notion of culmination corresponds to a special case of maximalization when *P*-eventualities culminate, and so cease to develop, with respect to the inherent culmination condition, lexically specified by telic *P*s (accomplishments and some achievements), on which *MAXE* operates.