

“The Syntax of Hittite *ma*-phrases”

Abstract: The exact nature of the clitic particle =*ma* in Hittite is debated. It is often translated with the conjunction "but," and considered as a marker of contrast. Yet, in other instances, it can be translated as "and." In addition, it is often identified as a topic or focus marker. In this talk, I analyze the syntax of this particle and the constituents it follows in order to determine its exact role in the information structure of Hittite. I also discuss the positions and functions adopted by this clitic over different stages of the Hittite language.