

## Sequence Analysis in Linguistics and Social Theory

*Thursday, 29 October 2020*

10:15 **Welcome**

10:30 **Susanne Günthner** (Münster)

Aspekte der sequenziellen Organisation von Personenreferenzen in translokaler computer-vermittelter Kommunikation

12:00 **Lunch break**

13:00 **Hubert Knoblauch** (Berlin)

The social theory of action sequences

14:30 **Antonia Krummheuer** (Aalborg)

The analysis of artificial/hybrid sequences? How analyzing human-computer interaction challenged and innovated the field of conversation analysis

16:00 **End of first day**

*Friday, 30 October 2020*

09:30 **Jens Loenhoff** (Duisburg-Essen)

Explikation, Vergegenständlichung und die Formvorlagen des Handelns im Kontext von Sequenzialität und Sequenzanalyse

11:00 **Andreas Franzmann** (Siegburg & Frankfurt am Main)

Zur historischen Entstehung der Sequenzanalyse in der Objektiven Hermeneutik

12:30 **Lunch break**

13:30 **Lorenza Mondada** (Basel)

Responding and adjusting: the temporality and sequentiality of talk and embodied action

15:00 **Benjamin Wagener** (Halle)

The sequence analysis of the Documentary Method, its historical development, and its relation to the simultaneous structure of visual data

16:30 **End of conference**

## Abstracts

### **Susanne Günthner (Münster)**

*Aspekte der sequenziellen Organisation von Personenreferenzen in translokaler computer-vermittelter Kommunikation: Die sequenzielle Ko-Produktion „alternativer“ Selbst- und Fremdreferenzen in deutschen und chinesischen WhatsApp- und WeChat-Interaktionen*

Auf der Grundlage von medial-vermittelten Interaktionen wird veranschaulicht, wie Sequenzialität, und damit die zeitlich dynamisch verlaufende Abfolge kommunikativer Handlungen, die dialogische Konstitution von Beziehungsformationen prägt. In diesen schriftbasierten, computer-vermittelten Dialogen setzen chinesische wie auch deutsche TeilnehmerInnen immer wieder nominale Selbst- und Fremdreferenzen zur Konstruktion eines translokales WIR ein und konstituieren so gemeinsame Familien- bzw. Paaridentitäten. Diese „alternativen Selbst- und Fremd-Referenzformen“ (jenseits der deiktischen Pronomina „ich“ und „du“; bzw. 我 und 你) zur Bezugnahme auf SprecherIn und AdressatIn erweisen sich insofern als sequenziell relevant, als sie Erwartungen an die lokal distanten KommunikationspartnerInnen in Richtung einer korrespondierenden Fortsetzung im Folgeturn aufbauen.

Der Beitrag widmet sich somit Aspekten sequenzanalytischer Praktiken der Personenreferenz und Ausprägungen interaktiver Dynamiken in deutschen und chinesischen Chat-Interaktionen. Anhand dieser Personenreferenz-bezogenen „tie-signs“ (Goffman 1971) wird nicht nur ersichtlich, wie über den Austausch markierter Praktiken der Personenreferenz Reziprozität und „soziales Miteinander“ hergestellt werden, sondern auch wie sequenzielle Ko-Produktionen die Interaktionsabläufe koordinieren (Schegloff 2007): „Die Verbindungen und Interpretationen sind nicht einfach im ‚Sinn‘ der Äußerung angelegt; sie werden vielmehr in der Art, wie die Äußerung gemacht wird, reflektiert. [...] Wie Redezüge verstanden werden, wird in den Methoden angezeigt, mit denen sie erzeugt werden“ (so Garfinkel; zitiert in Knoblauch 2000: 175).

### **Literatur**

Goffman, Erving (1971): *Relations in public: Microstudies of the public order*. New York.

Knoblauch, Hubert (2000): Theorie der Sequenz. Gespräch, Körper und kommunikative Konstruktion. In: Schrott, A./C. Strosetzki (Hrsg.): *Gelungene Gespräche als Praxis der Gemeinschaftsbildung*. Berlin/Boston, de Gruyter: 167-182.

Schegloff, Emanuel A. (2007): *Sequence Organization in Interaction. A Primer in Conversation Analysis I*. Cambridge, Cambridge University Press.

### **Jens Loenhoff (Duisburg-Essen)**

*Explikation, Vergegenständlichung und die Formvorlagen des Handelns im Kontext von Sequenzialität und Sequenzanalyse*

Die sequenzanalytischen Verfahren korrespondierende Kritik an der objektivistischen und strukturalistischen Rückführung des Handelns auf vorgeblich Sinn und soziale Orientierung garantierende transsubjektive und transsituative Ordnungen oszilliert zwischen einem

entfesselten Kontextualismus und dem eher stillschweigenden Zugeständnis der Inanspruchnahme von Strukturmomenten und Formvorlagen, die dieser Interaktion einerseits vorausliegen und andererseits aber auch durch die situative Auslegung verändert werden. Der Beitrag versteht sich als Diskussionsanregung hinsichtlich der mit dieser Doppelseitigkeit verbundenen theoretischen Reflexion der Handlungskoordination und der dieser erwachsenden kontexttranszendierenden Lösungen des Problems der Reduktion von Kontingenz.

### **Hubert Knoblauch (Berlin)**

*The social theory of action sequences*

Both hermeneutical sequence analysis and ethnomethodological conversation analysis have proven to be fruitful methodologies for empirically understanding the mechanisms of human communication processes in real-world action contexts. Like all methodologies, they imply theoretical presuppositions that so far have only been elaborated to a limited extent. Against the background of a series of intensive empirical studies and methodological considerations on audiovisual sequence analysis we have undertaken, I would like to propose such an elaboration with this contribution, which attempts to sketch the general features of the action sequence as a basic element of social theory.

Action sequences form the central empirical starting point for an understanding of the communicative construction of reality. Sequences in the sense of the above-mentioned lines of research can not only theoretically allow reconstructing the generation of social structures; if we conceive of communicative action in the sense of communicative constructivism as something which is intrinsically linked to objectivations, then we can also explain the constitution of the transsituative stability and resilience of structures as well as materialized institutions which is so important to understanding society.

### **Antonia Krummheuer (Aalborg)**

*The analysis of artificial/hybrid sequences? How analyzing human-computer interaction challenged and innovated the field of conversation analysis*

Since Suchman's prominent study "plans and situated actions" in 1987, several studies showed how conversation analysis (CA) can inform human-computer interaction (HCI) on a very concrete interactional level. While still a minority in HCI, CA can be identified as a "legitimate" approach of the field nowadays.

This talk shifts the perspective, turning to the field of CA. How does the sequential analysis of HCI challenge and innovate CA's theoretical and methodological assumptions? Traditionally, CA explored the sequential unfolding of talk-in-interaction between human participants. How are hybrid or "artificial" interaction with computational conversation partners explored by CA research?

Within the CA community, we can differentiate two approaches to HCI. One approach aims for understanding "artificial sequences", that is the interactive structures and functions of HCI often combined with questions of the social and interactive status of the technical

conversation partner. The other approach aims for informing the design of “artificial sequences” in HCI based on CA’s theoretical and analytical insights on interaction and/or HCI. Both approaches paved the way for a discussion of whether CA application to HCI neglects basic theoretical assumptions of the situated achievement of intersubjective understanding. At the same time, the new field of application opened up for a more complex understanding of the various forms and means of interaction, that is the materialized ways of conversation and the inclusion of non-human conversation partners.

### **Andreas Franzmann (Siegburg & Frankfurt am Main)**

*Zur historischen Entstehung der Sequenzanalyse in der Objektiven Hermeneutik*

Die Sequenzanalyse als methodisches Verfahren der Datenauswertung geht hervor aus den konkreten Umständen des Forschungsprojektes „Elternhaus und Schule“, das von Ulrich Oevermann und Kollegen Anfang der 1970er Jahre geleitet wurde. Der Vortrag erläutert die konkreten Umstände, Forschungsfragen, Datenerhebung, technische Probleme und ordnet sie in den historischen Kontext ein. Was „Sequenzanalyse“ in ihrer Systematik ist, soll dann anhand eines einschlägigen Beispiels erläutert werden.

### **Lorenza Mondada (Basel)**

*Responding and adjusting : the temporality and sequentiality of talk and embodied action*

Time is a crucial dimension of action in interaction as recognized by ethnomethodology, conversation analysis and interactional linguistics (Rawls, 2005; Deppermann & Streeck 2018, Auer 2009). Social interaction unfolds moment by moment, in emergent and incremental ways, contingent on contextual events and on the responses of various co-participants. Sequential organization is built on time – and this talk explores some of the conceptual and analytical issues characterizing their relationships. Sequential time is not merely linearly ordered but retrospectively-prospectively oriented, and relies on successive as well as simultaneous relationships. Sequential organization (as a broader notion than sequence organization, cf. Schegloff 2007) characterizes units of action at different levels of complexity: the emergence and projections of a turn beginning, the moment-by-moment progression of a turn-at-talk, the expansion of an embodied movement or of a multimodally formatted action, the succession of actions within a sequence, as well as larger activities. Whereas the study of talk has emphasized the successivity and linearity of its sequential organization (Schegloff 2007), the study of embodied action in interaction has pinpointed its complex temporality, characterized by simultaneously unfolding multimodal resources – such as language, sounds, gestures, gaze, facial expressions, body postures, body movements, etc. (Goodwin 2017, Streeck, Goodwin, LeBaron 2011, Deppermann ed 2013).

The talk discusses various forms of sequential organization by focusing on the timing of responses to a previous turn / action. It contrasts the successivity of responses in talk, following a first turn, with more complex forms of successivity – “simultaneous successivities” (Mondada, 2018) – in bodily actions. This leads to a conception of sequentiality that includes, besides responses clearly located in second position, early responses as well as forms of micro-sequentiality in which continuous adjustments are produced simultaneously to an ongoing action.

## **Benjamin Wagener (Halle)**

*The sequence analysis of the Documentary Method, its historical development, and its relation to the simultaneous structure of visual data*

Inspired by the work of Karl Mannheim and ethnomethodology, the documentary method as an approach for analyzing qualitative data was first developed in the 1980s. With his draft on the “documentary method of interpretation”, Karl Mannheim presented the first comprehensive argument for a particular approach to observation in the social sciences. Harold Garfinkel understood it as a method that is “prominent in and characteristic of both social-scientific and daily-life procedures for deciding sensibility and warrant”. Ralf Bohnsack then began to develop the documentary method as both a methodology for qualitative research and a method for practical empirical inquiry. Originally, the documentary method was used in the context of group discussions and the analysis of talk, but it was soon adopted for the interpretation of interviews and other forms of text and, subsequently, for pictures and videos. Based on Mannheim’s distinction between “communicative and conjunctive knowledge”, the analysis attempts to go beyond the explicit meaning in social interaction and targets its implicit or tacit dimension, which is grounded in collective (“conjunctive”) experience. Whereas both text and picture are considered as self-referential systems, the implicit meaning of a single utterance or action is analyzed by its relation to the context of the other sequentially (in texts) or simultaneously (in pictures) occurring utterances and actions. Focusing on the sequential analysis, the paper will describe the historical development of the documentary method. Additionally, the comparison of the sequential dimension and the simultaneous dimension in video analysis will outline the sequential analysis’ methodological implications and specifics.