

Locative-based expletives: Dutch *er(+P)* vs. German *da(+P)*

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In this talk I consider the distribution and nature of locative-based expletive(-like) such as English *there*, Dutch *er*, German *da* in two contexts, namely in potential subject-contexts (Spec,TP; *denn da ist eine ganze Generation, die arbeiten will*, corpus example) and second in correlate like object-clause structures (*weil ich mich darauf freue, dass wir uns in Bochum treffen*). I explore the question, to what extent these elements act as anaphoric/cataphoric proforms or rather as expletive forms, i.e. place holders for a specific syntactic position, drawing on parallel, subject vs. correlate *it*. Based on the analysis of the commonalities and differences in the distribution of these locative forms in the languages under discussion, I will discuss the concept of expletive forms and their analysis more generally.