

Evidential markers and quotation

Evidentiality is commonly known as the encoding of an utterance by the indication of the “source of the information” contained in the proposition (cf. Aikhenvald 2004:3), i.e. “the kind of evidence a person has for making factual claims” (Anderson 1982:273). A subtype of the category of evidentiality, namely indirect evidentiality, is concerned with directly and indirectly reported information, general hearsay and all kinds of reference to the collective knowledge of a speech community (like oral history, fairy tales, sayings, myths etc.).

Evidentiality can be grammatically encoded, e.g. by particles or morphological suffixes, but it can also be expressed by lexical or other functional elements like adverbs or discourse markers. A particular type of an evidential marker, namely an adverb derived from a form of the verb ‘to say’, is found in many languages and varieties, e.g. in Modern Greek, in Croatian, in Macedonian (cf. also Wiemer & Plungian 2008)). However, this talk will be concerned with Romance data, as (1) and (2) from Latin-American Spanish and from Sardinian:

- (1) Sp. *sí, sí, dizque* estamos progresando, *dizque*
yes yes SAYSTHAT we-are progressing SAYSTHAT
‘yes, yes, it is said, we are making progress, people say’
(Company Company 2006:108)
- (2) Srd. *Nachi* muliere tua s’ est illierada?! – *Nachi!*
SAYSTHAT wife your REFL is liberated SAYSTHAT
‘It is said that your wife gave birth?! – They say so!’ (Puddu 2000)

The relevant markers, Latin-American Spanish *dizque* and Sardinian *nachi*, are both derived from the third person singular present tense form of the verb ‘to say’ plus an integrated complementiser (i.e. originally *dice que* and *narat chi*); in what follows the marker will be labeled SAYSTHAT.

It is also well-known within research on evidentiality that indirect evidentiality can be further subclassified into second hand knowledge, where the provider of the reported information is known, third hand knowledge, with no indication of the exact source of information, and folklore or generic knowledge (cf. Willett 1988 and Palmer 2001). Moreover, reported knowledge can be integrated in the discourse in different ways: It can be reported by literal reproduction in a direct quotation, it can be reported via indirect discourse, or it can be reported by just conveying the general meaning of what was said. This distinction cuts across the three categories of indirect discourse; nevertheless direct quotation is, of course, most often found with second hand knowledge. Interestingly, in some of the Romance languages and varieties which have the SAYSTHAT marker this evidential marker can also be used to mark direct quotation, although the incorporated complementiser of its origin contradicts such a use in direct quotation. In fact, the presence of the complementiser would point more towards a use restricted to indirect discourse, but cf. (3) and (4):

- (3) Srd. “Eh!” *nachi* Gesù Crilthu “tando bi benzo abberu, azzetto s’ invitu.”
eh SAYSTHAT Jesus Christ “then there I-come really I-accept the invitation
‘Eh!’, says Jesus Christ, “then I really come, I accept the invitation.”
(AdS 1996)
- (4) Sp. Y ella ahí, ... Empieza: “Hola. Shht shht shht” *Dizque*: “Hola. Shht shht shht”
and she there she-starts “Hi. Shht shht shht” SAYSTHAT “Hi. Shht shht shht”
‘And she there, she starts “Hi. Shht shht shht” she says “Hi. Shht shht shht”’
(Travis 2006:1279)

Parallel to the SAYSTHAT marker, in the Romance varieties under discussion, there is also a SAYS marker, i.e. an adverb without integrated complementiser, which can encode varying types of reported evidentiality. For colloquial Italian, for example (but this is probably not the

case in Spanish), Cruschina (2011:106f) claims that a distinction can be made between *dice che* for indirect speech and hearsay, cf. (5), and (invariable) *dice*, used for direct quotation, cf. (6) (where the first person pronoun is a sign of quoted discourse):

- (5)It. *Dice che* era un bell' uomo e...
 SAYS THAT he-was a nice man and
 'apparently he was a nice man and ...' (Lucio Dalla, vgl. a. Cruschina 2011)
- (6)It. *Dice* ... c' era una ragazza m' ha detto *dice* guarda io...
 SAYS there was a girl me she-has said SAYS look I
 'SAYS, there was a girl she said to me, SAYS look I...' (Lorenzetti 2002:211)

The latter example is even more interesting since the SAYS marker here is used as a kind of reinforcement to the fully inflected lexical verb of saying *ha detto* (i.e. it is not used as a reportative evidential for the speech event). Similar phenomena are also found in Latin-American Spanish with the SAYS THAT marker, cf. (7) from Mexican Spanish:

- (5)Sp. Entrando a la hacienda *dizque* pregunta cuál es el patrón
 going-in to the hacienda SAYS THAT he-asks who is the owner
 'as he goes into the hacienda he SAYS THAT asks who the owner is' (Olbertz 2006:83)

Taking these data as a starting point, the main aim of this paper is to present a general view on evidential markers of the type SAYS THAT or SAYS in Romance, to offer a fine-grained taxonomy concerning their semantic and pragmatic features, and to elaborate on the crosslinguistic variation concerning these features in order to come to a better understanding of how quotation and evidential marking (and hybrid manifestations of both) can be integrated into discourse.

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