
Quotation marking by similarity expressions

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This paper starts from the well-accepted *demonstration theory* of quotation by Clark & Gerrig (1990) claiming that quotations are demonstrations depicting a person's utterance. Following Clark & Gerrig, the sentence *Mary said, "I am in Cologne."* means that Mary uttered something which is depicted by the sentence *I am in Cologne*, where depiction requires similarity – Mary's utterance must be similar to the sentence *I am in Cologne* with respect to selected aspects.

The paper focusses on quotation marking in German by the use of *so* 'so/as' and *wie* 'as/how/like', as in (1) and (2), see Pittner & Frey (2023). Note that in both cases it is the matrix clause presenting the quotation while the quotation marking is some kind of a modification. This is different in constructions with a subordinated quote, as in (3).

(1) *Hans kommt, so (sagt) Otto, morgen nach Berlin.*

(2) *Hans kommt, wie Otto sagt, morgen nach Berlin.*

'Hans will come, as/like Otto says, to Berlin tomorrow.'

(3) *Otto sagt, Hans kommt morgen nach Berlin*

'Otto says that Hans will come to Berlin tomorrow.'

It is argued in Umbach & Gust (2014) and subsequent papers that *so* as well as *wie* express similarity: *wie* is (among other uses) a preposition denoting a similarity relation – *eine Stadt wie Berlin* 'a city like Berlin' – and *so* is a demonstrative pronoun combining deixis and similarity – *so eine Stadt* 'a city like this'. When applying the similarity interpretation of *so* and *wie*, the quotation markings in (1) and (2) do exactly what is predicted by Clark & Gerrig's demonstration theory of quotation: The quote in the matrix clause is required to be similar to an utterance. The use of similarity expressions to mark quotation is observed across languages, in European languages like English, Spanish, Polish, and Finnish (Gentens & Boye 2024), but also in African languages (Güldemann 2008).

References. Clark & Gerrig (1990). Quotations as demonstrations. *Language* 66(4), 764-805. • Gentens & Boye (2024). Manner and clause linkage. Special Issue in *Linguistics*. • Güldemann (2008). *Quotative indexes in African languages*. Berlin: De Gruyter. • Pittner & Frey (2023). German *wie*-comment and reporting clauses. A comparison with *so*-parentheticals. In Jędrzejowski, Ł. & C. Umbach (eds), *Non-interrogative subordinate wh-clauses*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 328-364. • Umbach & Gust (2014). Similarity demonstratives. *Lingua* 149, 74–93. • Umbach, C., S. Hinterwimmer & H. Gust (2021). German *wie*-complements: manners, methods and events in progress. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory* 40(1), 307-343.