Chapter 3

Bound To Be? Bare and Partitive-Marked Noun Phrases in Romance Languages and the Emergence of Prominence-Conditioned Patterns

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1 Introduction

“Partitive” morphemes (e.g., adpositions, articles or case) and bare nouns in many languages are intuitively similar in denoting some kind of indefiniteness. In Romance languages, partitive-marked nouns and a class of bare nouns share a core context of occurrence and indefinite interpretation (Körner 1981; Stark 2005).\(^1\) Certain non-countable, substance- or abstract-denoting nouns may or must occur with a “partitive article” in some languages, but remain bare in other languages, as in French (1a) and Spanish (1b) respectively (see Section 2.4.4).\(^2\)

1. French
   \[
   \text{Je bois du café.} \\
   \text{1SG=drink.prs SG P.AM.SG coffee} \\
   \text{‘I drink coffee.’ (in general)}
   \]

2. Spanish
   \[
   \text{Bebo café.} \\
   \text{drink.prs.1SG coffee} \\
   \text{‘I drink coffee.’ (in general)}
   \]

The same morphological distinction extends to plural indefinites and hence to countable nouns (Section 2.4.4) (Carlier and Lamiroy 2014). For instance, the French indefinite plural may have a non-specific reading in (2a), while its Span-

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\(^1\) See Dobrovie-Sorin, this volume, for a comparison between French plural indefinites introduced by a “partitive article” and bare nouns across languages. Partitive-markers in some Germanic varieties are discussed in Strobel and Glaser, this volume.

\(^2\) An anonymous reviewer notes that (1a) has another interpretation: ‘I drink some of the coffee’ in the context of a specific receptacle of coffee. While this reading is available, it is not equivalent to the Spanish bare object clause in (1b).
ish counterpart is bare yet again (2b). The ensuing discussion applies to both countable and non-countable nouns in Romance languages.

(2) a. French
Je vois *(des) étudiantes dans le bâtiment.
1sg.sbj=see.prs.1sg PA.PL students in the building
‘I see (some) students in the building.’ (Stark 2007, 50)

b. Spanish
Veo (a) unos estudiantes en el edificio
see.prs.1sg DOM some students in the building
‘I see (some) students in the building.’ (Stark 2007, 50)

The term “partitive” has two major uses. Genuine partitive patterns denote part-whole relations between a referential whole and its part (“drink some of this coffee”), but they recurrently serve as diachronic sources for a second use of “partitive”, namely, parti-generic expressions. The latter refer to indefinite quantities—or subsets of a generic whole—and form part of the domain of indefiniteness (Luraghi 2012). The difference between both types of partitives lies in whether the superset whole is a referential entity or a whole genus (Ihsane 2005, 2008; Kabatek 2014; Koptjevskaja-Tamm 2009; Stark 2005).

Unlike partitive-marked nouns, bare nouns lack determiner morphology by definition (Diez 1844; Kabatek and Wall 2013; Stark 2009). However, bareness itself is a means of determination in its recurrent association with indefinite semantics.

Areally and phylogenetically, “partitive articles” (henceforth PA) are generally confined to some northern Romance varieties of France and Italy (Gallo-Romance, Italo-Dalmatian Raeto-Romance) (Körner 1981; Bossong 2008) with bare noun arguments more frequently used in southern Romance varieties. However, much of the fine-grained details remain debatable or unaddressed. The phylogenetic distribution of bare and partitive deserves careful scrutiny under a family-level comparison of all genealogical sub-branches of Romance.

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3 The differentially a-marked variant of which yields a specific reading (Stark 2007).
4 The exact semantic analysis of bare/partitive pairs as in (1) is not at issue. In the literature, they are analyzed as kind- or property-denoting nouns or as attributive or predicative expressions (cf. Beyssade 2011; Dobrovie-Sorin and Laca 2003).
5 The term linguistic variety relates to linguistic variation irrespective of its motivation, be it determined diatopically (across space), diaphasically (in register across socially-based contexts) or otherwise. Variety rather than language is also the unit of reference used in the synchronic comparative study (Section 4).
Additionally, the syntactic distribution of the PA across grammatical relations and clause types remains subject to debate, as does the range of noun classes with which the PA is obligatory (e.g., substance-denoting, plural countable nouns) (Luraghi 2012; Stark 2007).

To broaden the empirical basis and contribute to our understanding of the bare/partitive distinction, previous research has drawn a line between PA and similar structures. In adnominal syntax, Differential Object Marking (DOM) is one candidate for comparison (Section 2.2.1). The label of DOM describes the morphological marking of direct objects, often determined by their referential properties and pragmatic properties (Bossong 1982, 1985; Dalrymple and Nikolaeva 2011). Although the comparability of DOM to PA is far from unanimously accepted (cf. Bárány 2018; De Hoop and Malchukov 2008; Haspelmath 2018; Luraghi 2012, for implicit or explicit objections), they are often mentioned in tandem since they tend to mark referents on opposite ends of “prominence” or “individuation” scales, including such properties as definiteness (±definite), animacy (human > animate > inanimate) and countability (±countable). The higher a referent ranks in such properties, the more prominent it is (Hopper and Thompson 1980; Aissen 2003). While the PA and bare nouns mark typically non-prominent referents, DOM tends to mark prominent referents (Seržant and Witzlack-Makarevich 2018). Unlike indefinite-referring (and non-specific, mass- or plural-denoting) PA, patterns of dative-syncretic DOM in several southern Romance varieties apply at least to inherently definite direct object referents such as personal pronouns or proper names (3) (Rohlfs 1971; Iemmolo 2010).

(3) Spanish

\[ Le_3 = veo 3_{\text{SG.ACC}} = \text{see.PRS.1SG} \quad \text{DOM} \quad \text{Jesus Soria} \]

‘I see Jesús Soria.’ (Española 2016a, Oral, 24/04/1999; henceforth CREA)

In those languages, direct objects that denote non-countable, indefinite referents most often remain bare, as in Spanish (1b).

In fact, DOM and PA serve as major typological determinants in Körner’s (1987) typological distinction between two syntactic types in Romance languages. They are broadly indicative of a northern/southern divide with a number of grammatical correlates (Section 2.2.1).

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6 “Inherence” is similar to the Animacy scale used earlier in analyzing Differential Subject Marking in ergative languages (cf. Bossong 1985; Silverstein 1976).
While Körner’s approach to the typological distinction was met with criticism, it is true that there is some distributional relation between PA and DOM (Bossong 2008). Therefore, when accounting for the bare/PA distinction, it may be informative to identify the distribution of both PA/bare nouns and DOM and their grammatical correlates, as well as other seemingly prominence-conditioned phenomena. I focus on such phenomena in the Romance clitic systems. To illustrate this, consider Spanish example (2) again (Spanish le, veo a Jesús Soria, ‘I see Jesus Soria’). There, the proper name direct object that is marked by a dative-syncretic DOM is coreferential with a dative-syncretic accusative clitic, le, instead of the expected accusative lo (hence it is known as leísmo). This pattern is observed in some Ibero-Romance languages, but not in northern Romance varieties (Fernández-Ordóñez 2001).

Diachronic studies on the bare/partitive distinction describe the shift from article-less Latin to Romance and the grammaticalization of both PA and bare nouns (Carlier and Lamiroy 2014; Kabatek 2013; Section 2.1). However, such descriptions cannot reveal why PAS grammaticalized in some languages but not others. Bossong (2008) makes a similar observation on DOM and argues that while pathways of grammaticalization are “universally available” (they are observed time and again in different languages), not all languages follow them. This is the classic problem of the initiation of language change. Why did the emergent property of PA grammaticalize in one language at a certain time but not another? This question becomes even more intriguing in view of the loss of adnominal partitives in some Old Romance varieties (e.g., Old Neapolitan, Old Portuguese) (Ledgeway 2012, 84; Rohlfs 1968, 115–119) and the emergence of DOM in some of them.

The aim of this paper is twofold: (i) to shed light on the distribution of the Romance bare/PA-marked nouns and (ii) to test how variation and change in Romance adnominal syntax (bare/PA and DOM) relates to variation and change in seemingly prominence-conditioned clitics.

I address the following questions:

i. What is the synchronic distribution of PA and bare nouns in Romance languages?

ii. How and when did PA and bare nouns and functionally-related phenomena emerge in Spanish and French?

I approach question (i) using a family-level representative sample of Romance languages (Appendix 2) (Section 4) and question (ii) using a comparative diachronic study in Spanish and French (Section 5).

My synchronic study corroborates previous observations on the distribution of PA in northern Romance, while providing empirical breadth with data from 22 languages from all sub-branches of Romance. A second result concerns the
possible co-occurrence of PA, bare nouns and DOM in individual languages. Most importantly, there appears to be a negative relationship between the grammaticalization of PAS and that of DOM. To generalize, the greater the range of noun classes and syntactic structures in which PA becomes obligatory, the less extensive the use of DOM in the same language, if any. Similarly, languages with DOM rarely ever show PAS.

Based on the synchronic study, some languages show neither PA nor DOM, but only other seemingly prominence-conditioned clitics. This leaves open the question of whether such languages have never grammaticalized PA or have lost it. If this question is resolved, it may shed some light on the processes that led to the current distribution of bare and PA in Romance languages.

In the diachronic part of this study, I examine the case study of Medieval Spanish and French (12th–16th centuries) (Section 5). We already know that French has a PA, while Spanish does not. Did Spanish ever lose a PA or did it never grammaticalize? By conducting a diachronic study on the emergence of PA and related structures in adnominal and clitic morphology (e.g., DOM, partitive clitics, leísmo), we may be able to answer this question and shed light on their current distribution. My main findings are that:

i. Medieval French gradually grammaticalized PA patterns between the 11th and 16th centuries.

ii. Spanish showed some variation between bare nouns and PA with substance-denoting nouns between the 13th and the 16th centuries.

iii. Medieval Spanish gradually grammaticalized DOM between the 13th and the 16th centuries.

iv. The Medieval French corpus showed no use of DOM.

v. Partitive clitics grammaticalized in Old French (11th–13th century) and are relatively frequent throughout the corpus (11th–16th centuries).

vi. In Old Spanish, both leísmo and genuine partitive pronouns are documented, though partitive pronouns are relatively infrequent.

This paper corroborates previous findings regarding the distribution of PA and bare nouns in Romance languages (Körner 1981; Stark 2007), while adding empirical breath based on a representative family-wide sample and several related phenomena. The historical analysis of Spanish and French shows that prominence-conditioned clitics grammaticalized before PA and DOM. It also reveals stark differences in variation and change to the relative frequency of third person clitics in both language throughout the period. I will argue that these results, raise the possibility that all else being equal, early variation in

7 Gerards and Stark, this volume, also discuss this issue.
the relative frequency of clitics—including prominence-conditioned tokens—
could affect the tendency of a language to grammaticalize PA or not (and then
possibly grammaticalize DOM).

This paper is organized as follows. Section 2 reviews the theoretical and
empirical background regarding the bare/partitive distinction (Section 2.1) and
its place in a system of prominence-based nominal classification broadly con-
strued (Section 2.2). Section 3 lays out the main questions addressed and an
overview of the two studies conducted to answer them. Sections 4 and 5 report
the methods, result and discussion of the synchronic and diachronic study
respectively. Section 6 concludes with a general discussion.

2 Theoretical and Empirical Background

2.1 “Partitive Articles” and Bare Nouns

As mentioned in Section 1, the term “partitive” refers to syntactic structures that
denote part-whole relations between a referential entity-denoting whole and
its part, and which may grammaticalize into morphemes that mark part-whole
relation between whole genera and their parts (“drink some of this coffee” as
opposed to “drink some coffee”) (see Section 1) (Kabatek 2014; Koptjevskaja-
Tamm 2009; Luraghi 2012). As they grammaticalize, such “partitive articles”
(PAS) in Romance languages are used more frequently and may become oblig-
atory markers of indefiniteness. For instance, the juxtaposition of the ablative
preposition de and the definite article in Old Italian (4a) can only have a genu-
ine partitive reading. However, in contemporary Italian, such partitive phrases
may also have an indefinite, parti-generic reading (4b).8

(4) a. Old Italian

\[
\text{Ela mancà del pomo qe li de' un serpente.}
\]

‘She ate of the apple that a snake gave her.’ (Uguccione da Lodi, early
13th century, cited in: Luraghi 2012, 15)

8 The availability and distribution of “partitive articles” varies in regional varieties of Italian and
Italo-Romance languages (see Giusti, this volume, for a detailed account). For a discussion on
the problematic position of Italian in the bare/partitive typology, see Stark (2007).
b. Modern Italian

\[
\text{Ho bevuto della \text{birra}}
\]

\text{have.PRS.1SG drink.PTCP PA.F.SG beer}

\text{‘I drank some beer.’ (Storto 2003, 317)}

Bare nouns simply lack determiner morphology so they appear in their bare form and are often referentially similar to \text{pa}-marked nouns.

In terms of their synchronic distribution, it is known that \text{pas} occur in northern Romance varieties, but not in southern Romance varieties (Körner 1981; Bossong 2008). However, the details of their syntactic distribution in individual languages (across grammatical relations and clause type) remain debatable and so do the details of their occurrence and distribution in lesser studied Romance languages.

Several studies focused on the grammaticalization of the \text{pa} and the “negative grammaticalization” of bare nouns (Carlier and Lamiroy 2014; Kabatek 2013). Grammaticalization is a process of language change that yields new grammatical structures from lexical or grammatical sources (Boye and Harder 2012; Meillet 1912). As linguistic units grammaticalize, they shift from pragmatic conditioning to semantic and finally syntactic conditioning. As grammaticalizing units become entrenched (Langacker 1987), their meaning often undergoes generalization and abstraction from lexically-informative to grammatically-informative, a process known as “semantic bleach” (Bybee 2006; Sweetser 1988). The change in partitive phrases in some languages from denoting parts of specific, referential entities to parts of generic and abstract whole is an example of grammaticalization.\(^9\)

Carlier (2007) and Carlier and Lamiroy (2014) note that the \text{pa} emerged in the shift between Old French (11th–13th centuries) and Middle French (14th–17th centuries). Its grammaticalization process originates in the inheritance of the Latin preposition \text{de} into Old French as a syncretic marker of source (spatial and non-spatial) and genuine partition of determinate wholes (“eat from this bread”) (Shift 1 and 2 in Figure 3.1). Only in Middle French is it extended to the marking of indefinite groups of individual (“aggregate plurals”) (example 2a): French \text{je vois *(des) étudiants dans le bâtiment, ‘I see (some) students in the building.’}. At this point it enters the paradigm of articles, and gradually extends to be used with indefinite substance-denoting nouns and finally abstract-denoting nouns in the 16th century.

\(^9\) Although Campbell (2000) deconstructs grammaticalization to nothing more than the sum of other “atoms of language change”, understanding the process remains useful in shedding diachronic light on emergent morpho-syntactic properties.
Spatial source > non-spatial source (Shift 1) > genuine partition (Shift 2) > indefinite aggregate plural (Shift 3) > indefinite substance-denotation > indefinite abstract denotation (Shift 4)

Figure 3.1 Grammaticalization of the “partitive article” in French

Stages 1 and 2: The Latin ablative preposition *de* extends from spatial source marking to marking other source-like adjuncts (e.g., lineage, temporal meanings). Then, it is extended to denoting genuine partition of a contextually defined partition set. This process starts with objects of consumption verbs (‘drink,’ ‘eat’) with which *de* extends from adjunct-marking to marking of argument. This state is inherited to Old Romance, including Old Italian (4a) and Old French (5).

(5) Old French

\[ Dunc \ but \ del \ vin, \ qui \ l'_i=ad \ el \]

so \ drink.PST.3SG of.the \ wine \ REL.SBJ 3SG.ACC=have.PRS.3SG \ the \ champ \ trouvé \]

field \ find.PTCP

‘So he who found the wine in the field drank from it.’ (Guilli, 25, v. 524, 12th century, ms. 13th century Cédille, 2016; henceforth BFM)

Stage 3: Once *de*-based morphemes extend to marking arguments, the *PA* extends beyond the class of consumption verbs at the expense of previously accepted bare noun contexts, e.g., in marking indefinite groups of individuals (aggregate plurals) (see example 2a).

Stage 4: *PAs* obligatorily mark substance-, kind-denoting nouns before abstract nouns in 16th century Middle French. Earlier variation in marking abstract-denoting nouns is observed in the 15th century.

In line with this grammaticalization process, while genuine partitive phrases are specificity-restricted in that their partitioned whole must be specific, full-fledged *PA* marks non-specific plural indefinites before its extension to non-specific, non-countable and abstract nouns.10

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10 For a discussion of *PA* marked specific plural indefinites in French, see Ihsane, this volume.
To account for the occurrence of this shift in northern Romance, but not in southern Romance, the authors indicate that word order tendencies appear to correlate with the grammaticalization or not of certain morphemes, including the PA. Their account appears to hold, but there may be other typological factors which correlate with the grammaticalization and resultant distribution of PA and bare nouns.

Stark (2005) focuses on four languages, two from southern Romance (Spanish and Romanian) and two from northern Romance (Italian and French). She proposes that in the shift from Latin to Romance, a system of nominal classification was lost, obscuring the cognitively and communicatively important distinction between “contoured”, individual-denoting nouns and “non-contoured” substance-denoting nouns. As part of this change, languages that have all but lost the Latin neuter gender (e.g., French and Italian) found “functional compensation” in the emergence of PA.

Assuming with Stark that nominal classification is central to the bare/PA distinction, Section 2.2 lays out in more detail what I mean by nominal classification and its relation to referential properties of nouns in terms of prominence.

2.2 Nominal Classification and Prominence

Nominal classification systems generally share the primary function of classifying referents into semantically coherent groups (Fedden and Corbett 2017; Senft 2007), indicative of physical properties or degree of prominence, based on number, animacy or shape (Aikhenvald 2017; Seifart 2010), also known as individuation (Hopper and Thompson 1980). In addition to their classifying function, nominal classification systems also have other secondary functions, such as tracking the reference of nouns and other referential terms (Greenberg 1978, 78). This function comes “for free” since classification to distinct groups that indicate semantic and grammatical properties narrows down the set of alternative referents.

In the typological literature, prominence is a cluster concept based on several pragmatic and referential scales (Aissen 2003; Seržant and Witzlack-Makarevich 2018; Haspelmath 2019). For instance, Haspelmath’s (2018, 5) definition of prominence (A) combines both referential (A.i) and discourse-based properties of referents (A.ii).

A. Scales of Referential and Discourse Prominence

(i) Inherent prominence
a. Person: 1st, 2nd > 3rd
b. Nominality: person form (free/bound) > full nominal
c. Animacy: human (> animal) > inanimate
(ii) Discourse prominence
   a. Specificity: definite (>specific indefinite) > nonspecific indefinite
   b. Givenness: discourse-given > discourse-new
   c. Focus: background > focus

This view of prominence as a cluster of scales that are essentially extra-grammatical and pre-theoretical (Haspelmath 2010) (e.g., phrased in terms of semantic scales) is couched in usage-based approaches whereby grammatical categories are by and large emergent properties of language (Haspelmath 2015). Hence the desideratum of distinguishing language-specific descriptive concepts from comparative concepts with the aim of facilitating cross-linguistic comparison with a single extra-grammatical yardstick.

Prominence thus construed can be used in considering the Romance PA in its grammaticalization (Carlier and Lamiroy 2014) and resultant distribution (Stark 2005). Addressing the emergence of the PA, Carlier and Lamiroy demonstrate that the genuine partitive of Old French exclusively applies to the partition of a definite, specific whole that is typically a substance-denoting, inanimate object of consumption verbs (e.g., Old French del vin ‘of the wine’ in example (4), Section 2.1). With the advent of the PA in Middle French, the definiteness restriction is relaxed, and PA-marking extends to wholes that are not identifiable to the addressee, including non-specific indefinites. Then, the animacy scale comes into play as the PA extends to the partition of indefinite plurals, including groups of human- and animate-denoting nouns. At this point, restrictions on specificity of the partitioned whole are relaxed, paving the way for the PA to extend to non-specific indefinite and inanimate, substance-denoting nouns in the 16th century. This restriction still affects the distribution of partitive phrases in Spanish where PA did not grammaticalize and partitive morphology applies to specific genuine partitives, not to non-specific parti-generic expressions. This is one way in which Stark’s (2005) distributional observation that northern Romance languages tend to mark non-prominent arguments with PAs, while southern Romance languages tend to use bare nouns in the same contexts may be couched in terms of prominence scales.

Other syntactic phenomena that were previously described in terms of prominence or some of its component referential/pragmatic scales were also studied to some extent in relation to PA. This includes DOM (Section 2.2.1) and several clitic patterns in Romance and beyond, generally known as Differential Object Indexing (Section 2.2.2).
2.2.1 Differential Object Marking

Differential Object Marking (DOM) designates the morphological marking of direct objects based on grammatical conditions, often related to referential and pragmatic properties of arguments (Bossong 1982, 1985; Dalrymple and Nikolaeva 2011; see Section 1). These properties make their referents more prominent (and accordingly more frequently marked as direct objects, see Haspelmath 2018) or less so. Accordingly, both DOM and PA are sometimes considered as means of prominence-conditioned nominal classification (Stark 2005; Seržant and Witzlack-Makarevich 2018). Whether both are different types of DOM is a different question (see Luraghi 2012, for objections).

We have already seen that DOM tends to apply to prominent referents (e.g., specific, human-denoting) but not to non-prominent referents (e.g., non-specific, substance-denoting, Section 1). In Romance languages, we may distinguish two general types of DOM systems (Iemmolo 2010):

a. “Incipient DOM” is restricted to the most topical referents. It minimally marks free personal pronouns but may extend to proper names and kinship terms.

b. “Established DOM” systems extend DOM to become optional or even obligatory with a greater range of common nouns, typically including definite and specific-indefinite human-denoting objects.

To illustrate this, incipient DOM may mark dislocated pronominal object topics as in La Speza (Liguria, northern Italy) (5), though the marking of human-denoting common nouns is largely excluded in northern Italian varieties (Iemmolo 2010, 246).

(6) Italian (La Speza, Liguria)

A te vogio vede subeto
DOM 2 SG want.PRS.1SG see quickly

‘I want to see YOU quickly.’ (University of Padua, 2011 Syntactic Atlas of Italy, Questionnaire 1:75)

In Peninsular Spanish today, definite human-denoting common noun objects must be marked with DOM, illustrating an established DOM system (Cuétara Priede and Company Company 2014). However, this is the result of grammaticalization from an earlier, incipient DOM system of Old Spanish (13th–14th centuries), which marked personal pronouns, proper names and kinship terms (Meier 1948; Von Heusinger and Kaiser 2005). This restriction was gradually relaxed, and the percentage of marked human-denoting common noun object increased from 42% to 57% (13th–20th centuries) (Cuétara Priede and Company Company 2014). We may mark the 16th century as the cut-off point.
Free personal pronouns > Proper name > Kinship terms (singular before plural) > Definite human common nouns > Indefinite human common nouns (preferably specific) > Animate referents > Inanimate referents

Figure 3.2: Cline of topicality-worthiness/prominence

Based on Hill and Tasmowski 2008; Iemmolo 2010

between incipient and established DOM in Spanish when human-denoting common noun objects hit the 50% mark.

To illustrate a system that represents an intermediate stage in the shift from incipient to established DOM, Western Asturian obligatorily marks left-dislocated pronominal object with DOM (7a), but definite common nouns such as see el médico (‘the doctor’) are only optionally marked in situ (7b) (i.e., in their expected post-verbal position in Subject-Verb-Object clauses, see the Asturian grammar of the Asturian Academy, Asturiana 2001, henceforth ALA). Therefore, the western Asturian DOM extends beyond incipient DOM in some northern Italian varieties, but it is less grammaticalized than that of Spanish, in which such object referents must receive DOM.

(7) Western Asturian

a. A min tráxo=me en coche.
   DOM 1SG traject.PST.3SG=1SG.ACC in car
   ‘(S)he gave me a ride.’ (ALA, 352)

b. Baxó a buscar el/al médico pa moi
   descend.PST.1SG ALL search.INF the/DOM.the doctor for my
   ma.
   mother
   ‘I went down to look for the doctor for my mother.’ (ALL=allative-
   syncretic purpose marker) (ALA, 352)

It appears that the gradual extension of DOM from the most prominent personal pronouns (Meier 1948) to the obligatory marking of prominent common nouns is conditioned by the prominence scale of Focus (background/topic > focus) (Iemmolo 2010; Section 2.2). This process follows the topicality cline so that definite, human- and animate-denoting nouns are marked before specific indefinites (Figure. 2).

Since DOM typically almost never applies to non-specific referents nor, more importantly, to non-countable or abstract nouns, it is starkly different from
the PA in terms of the prominence of marked nouns (Stark 2005, 134). But why should languages mark prominence in this way in the first place? One explanation is that prominence-conditioned morpho-syntax as in DOM is a low-frequency phenomenon in the sense that languages tend to more robust or “more special” adnominal marking of nouns whose referential properties are infrequently associated with certain semantic roles (Haspelmath 2018). Haspelmath argues that this frequency effect on grammatical coding can be explained based on predictability and coding efficiency (i.e., the less predictable associations tend to be marked, as in the case of DOM, cf. Hawkins 2012).

Does a language necessarily primarily mark only one type of prominence throughout its history? At least one example is known of a language that has lost an adnominal partitive in its history and saw the emergence of DOM (e.g., Neapolitan, see Ledgeway 2012, 84). While this is not necessarily a causal relation, some diachronic relation between them may be possible.

Although PA and DOM do not necessarily share properties such as syntactic distribution and grammatical category (cf. De Hoop and Malchukov 2008; Luraghi 2012, for objections). They both contribute to referential and pragmatic classification of noun phrases, that is, to their classification based on prominence. In Romance languages, both adnominal markers (PA and DOM) are also negatively related in terms of their cross-linguistic distribution in Romance languages (Bossong 2008; Stark 2005). Therefore, when studying the distribution of PA and its grammaticalization, it may be informative to also observe the distribution and grammaticalization of DOM.

2.2.2 Differential Cliticization (Differential Object Indexing)

Similarly to PA and DOM, Differential Object Cliticization, better known as Differential Object Indexing (henceforth DOI) provides semantic and grammatical information on referents using bound person morphemes (e.g., clitics, affixes). Previous studies have already drawn a semantic line between the Romance PA and partitive clitics (Bossong 2008; Ihsane 2013; Pinchon 1972), which may also corefer with non-prominent expressions (e.g., inanimate, indeterminate substance-denoting nouns and quantificational expressions). However, DOI differs from PA or DOM in its main function, namely, to support the referential tracking of topical objects (cf. Schikowski and Iemmolo 2015). In example (8), the partitive clitic en purportedly facilitates reference-
tracking of a substance-denoting object (French la sangria, ‘sangria’) in topic-marking left-dislocation.

(8) French
La sangria, en fait t’as découvert en Espagne. Il en a bu vraiment tous les jours

‘In fact, you discovered Sangria in Spain. He practically drank (of it) every day.’ (G. Icor, S. Schwarz 2009, Bruxelles, Etienne, Jouin-Chadron, Lascar and Teston-Bonnard 2016; henceforth CLAPI)

As a reference-tracking grammatical device, such clitics perform a function long associated with nominal classification systems (Greenberg 1978). This alone favors the joint research on PA and partitive clitics among other DO1 patterns on grounds of their commonalities with nominal classification.

Another DO1 pattern of interest to non-prominence classification involves certain uses of the locative clitic in Romance languages. The French locative y primarily corefers with spatial goals, but it also tends to cliticize other types of mostly non-human referents (Pinchon 1972). Hence its similarity to partitive clitics in the tendency to cliticize referents of lesser prominence down the topicality cline (Figure 3.2, Section 2.2). Such uses are documented in Old Spanish (Sánchez Lancis 1992) where nouns that denote locations or a group of humans in the same institution may be y-cliticized as indirect objects. It is the non-prominence of institution or group-denoting ‘the abbey and monastery’ (example (9)) that conditions its locative- rather than the expected dative-cliticization, whereas dative-cliticized referents are typically prominent individual entities, capable of receiving property.

(9) Old Spanish
Toda esta por nombrada heredat do io al conuiento et al monesterio et do y mio cuerpo

‘I give all of this great property to the abbey and monastery […], and I give it/them my body.’ (Sánchez Lancis 1992, 803)
This distinction resonates the conceptual distinction between “contoured” individuals and “non-contoured” mass-denotation (Stark 2005) or individuated and non-individuated referents (Hopper and Thompson 1980).

There are distributional reasons to examine such cliticizations when studying the bare/PA distribution. Although the occurrence of partitive clitics does not necessarily imply that of locative clitics or vice-versa (Benincà and Poletto 2005), both clitics occur in several mostly northern Romance languages, which also make the continuum in which we find PAS and related structures are found (Bossong 2008).

Yet another DOI pattern of interest is found in system of Spanish leísta varieties, in which a dative-syncretic clitic is used when cliticizing human- or masculine-denoting direct objects (Echenique Elizondo 1981; Fernández-Ordóñez 2001). We have already seen this in non-standard Spanish with dative-syncretic le being corefrential with a proper name (example (2), Section 1) repeated below as (10)).

(10) Spanish

\[ Le_3 \text{ACC=see.PRS.1SG DOM Jesus Soria} \]

‘I see Jesús Soria.’ (Española, 2016a Oral, 24/04/1999)

Distributionally, leísimo is found in Ibero-Romance languages of the southern Italian group, but not in northern Romance nor in other southern Romance phylogenetic branches (Fernández-Ordóñez 2001, 25–26).

The semantic contribution of leísimo clitics is similar to that of dative-syncretic DOM in Romance languages (Bossong 1991; Fernández-Ordóñez 2001, 23). Moreover, Bossong (1991, 155) claims more strongly that leísimo in northern Peninsular Spanish results from an analogical change due to dative-syncretic DOM. At any rate, the co-occurrence of dative-syncretic accusative in both adnominal and pronominal or clitic systems is attested in non-standard Spanish varieties with leísimo and DOM (8). For these reasons, it may prove instructive to consider leísimo along with the abovementioned DOI patterns when attempting to account for the distribution of PA and DOM.

Due to the commonalities in prominence-conditioning between the above-mentioned DOI patterns—partitive, locative and dative-syncretic clitics—and their adnominal counterparts (PA and DOM) and in view of their current dis-

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12 Such examples with proper name direct objects may be considered ungrammatical (Llorente and Mondéja 1974, 36), but they are at least marginally acceptable (Gabriel and Rinke 2010, 68; Matthias Heinz, personal communication, 2017).
tribution in Romance languages, I add them to the typological toolkit in this study on the bare/PA distinction.

2.2.3 Two Hypothetical Avenues for the Grammaticalization and Distribution of Prominence-Conditioned Patterns in Adnominal Marking and Clitic Systems

Bossong (1991, 155) proposes that DOM affected the emergence of leismo by analogy. If this holds, we should expect that DOM will have grammaticalized earlier. Since DOM and PA may be considered conceptually similar and negatively related in their distribution, it is possible that a similar precedence relation characterizes PA and adverbial clitics.

However, a different hypothesis emerges from Haspelmath’s (2004) study of cross-linguistic variation in the morphology of certain object sequences across languages (e.g., Italian *lelo ‘it to him/her’ > glielo). Haspelmath makes two main arguments: that such variation is also determined in part by referential properties of arguments (i.e., similarly to prominence-conditioned PA and DOM) and that it is found in bound forms (clitics from a Romance perspective) earlier and more frequently than in free (pro)nouns (adnominal marking in the current paper). But why should changes in clitics precede the grammaticalization of similar structures in adnominal markers? Haspelmath’s account relies on frequency effects in grammaticalization and the “more grammaticalized status” of clitics to begin with. This seemingly circular argument can be broken down as follows. The high frequency of a class of bound pronouns favors the earlier grammaticalization of such morpho-syntactic variation in bound pronouns relative to free pronouns and an open class of common nouns, most members of which are relatively infrequent. Since the relative token frequency of individual closed class clitics is higher than that of individual members in the open class of common nouns and since their collocation patterns in recurrent syntactic positions are more frequent (cf. Diessel and Hilpert 2016), they are likely to grammaticalize earlier.

If the diachronic Romance data on prominence-conditioned structures follow Haspelmath’s proposal, we should expect to find that clitics grammaticalize the relevant patterns before adnominal markers do.

13 For a review of such clitic clusters in Romance, see Pescarini (2005).
14 Arguments are considered “free” if they may be used contrastively and occur alone as a complete utterance, see Haspelmath (2013).
3 Proposal and Methods

In this paper, I report the results of two studies that aim to answer two main questions:

i. What is the synchronic distribution of PA and bare nouns in Romance languages?

ii. How and when did PA and bare nouns and similarly motivated structures emerge in Spanish and French?

In addressing the distributional question, I conduct a comparative study based on a representative sample of languages from all phylogenetic sub-branches of the Romance family with the aim of extending the empirical panorama of previous broad observations regarding PA. In view of the conceptual and distributional relation between PA and other adnominal and clitic structures (DOM and DOI) (Section 2), I test their co-occurrence patterns. More specifically, I intend to consider whether PA may co-occur with incipient DOM or established DOM (Section 2.2.1) to achieve a higher resolution in this synchronic study relative to previous studies (Körner 1981; Bossong 2008). Additionally, I include clitics involved in prominence-conditioned indexing (DOI) to assess whether individual languages show a single tendency in prominence-conditioned structures across both systems of adnominal marking (PA/DOM) and cliticization or not.

The purpose of the diachronic study is to examine the grammaticalization of prominence-conditioned patterns in adnominal marking and cliticization in Medieval Spanish and French. I choose to focus on these languages as they are known to present different tendencies in prominence-conditioned patterns, the former showing DOM and leísmo, the latter—PA and adverbial clitics (partitive, locative).

In studying their grammaticalization, I use two measures. I use data on variation in relative frequency of clitics per century as an indication of their part in ongoing grammaticalization processes (cf. Enrique-Arias and Bouzouita 2013; Haspelmath 2004). This is similar to the use that Enrique-Arias and Bouzouita (2013), among others, make of diachronic frequency data as a reflection of grammaticalization. The process of semantic bleaching in grammaticalization (Section 2.1)—that is, the shift from referential, idiosyncratic meanings to more abstract grammatical meaning—often results in concomitant relaxation of restriction on usage contexts and higher frequency of linguistic expressions involved in grammaticalization.15 Additionally, I use an exploratory cor-

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15 It is possible to cast doubt on the accuracy of the term “bleach” as indicative of some sort
pus study aimed to assess the date of grammaticalization based on the earliest occurrence of the investigated structures between the 12th and the 16th centuries. This methodology is aimed to replicate previous results on the grammaticalization of PA and DOM (Sections 2.2.1–2.2.2) and add data on related clitics.

Why should this part of the study be qualitative? This is partly due to the fact that prominence-conditioned patterns are a low-frequency phenomenon (Hapkelmath 2018; Section 2.2.1). For example, unambiguous cases of a PA comprise only about 3% (16/547) out of all post-verbal du and de la occurrences in the Base de Français Médieval corpus (BFM) (the alternative is not a PA but the preposition de juxtaposed with the singular definite article, see Italian example (3)). Similar figures emerge in the first 1,000 tokens out of 5,685 tokens of proclitic en in Medieval French. Consequently, corpora that are not tagged accurately or richly enough for the present purposes hinder any attempt to consider all and only relevant collocations.

Despite these limitations, using the frequency data as indicative of ongoing grammaticalization processes and the textual occurrence data in order to date the grammaticalization of PA and DOM, I aim to test whether the evidence supports the diachronic precedence of adnominal markers (Bossong 1991) or that of clitics (Hapkelmath 2004; Section 4).

Finally, according to Hapkelmath’s (2004) prediction that clitics undergo grammaticalization earlier and more frequently than free adnominal morphemes (Section 2.2.3), only some of the logical possibilities of co-occurrence are predicted to occur across languages (Table 3.1).

One prediction is that such clitics may occur without similarly motivated adnominal markers (possibilities (a–c)). Both adverbial and leísmo cliticization are expected to co-occur (c) before the differentiation in prominence-conditioned tendencies to cliticizing either high or low-prominence referents. However, if the tendency to one type of prominence is entrenched in the clitic systems before its analogical transfer to the adnominal domain, we should expect for the PA to occur with incipient DOM, but not with established DOM (e, g).

Disregarding contact-induced changes, other logically possible co-occurrence patterns are hypothesized not to occur in the natural drift of grammaticalization (Table 3.2). Languages with a PA or DOM (incipient or established) but no prominence-conditioned cliticization (a–c) and languages that grammaticalize both PAS and an established DOM (irrespective of cliticization patterns) are excluded by hypothesis (d-f). So are also excluded languages of semantic loss (cf. Sweetser 1988; Von Fintel 1995), but the resulting effects on frequency of collocations stands (Diessel and Hilpert 2016).
**Table 3.1** Predicted co-occurrence patterns of prominence-conditioned cliticization and nominal classifiers

| Cliticization patterns | Nominal classifiers |
|------------------------|---------------------|
|                        | Partitive | Locative | *leísmo* | Partitive | Incipient DOM | Established DOM |
| Partitive | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Locative | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| *leísmo* | | | | | |
| Partitive article | | | | | |

(a) ✓ ✓
(b) ✓ ✓
(c) ✓ ✓ ✓
(d) ✓ ✓ ✓
(e) ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
(f) ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
(g) ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

**Table 3.2** Hypothetically unpredicted co-occurrence patterns of prominence-conditioned cliticization and nominal classifiers

| Cliticization patterns | Nominal classifiers |
|------------------------|---------------------|
|                        | Partitive | Locative | *leísmo* | Partitive | Incipient DOM | Established DOM |
| Partitive | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| Locative | ✓ | ✓ | | | |
| *leísmo* | | | | | |
| Partitive article | | | | | |

(a) ✓
(b) ✓
(c) ✓
(d) ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓
(e) ✓ ✓ ✓
(f) ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓ ✓

That grammaticalize PAS or DOM and retain both types of prominence-conditioned cliticization (f). Typological congruency in prominence-conditioned patterns follows from the expectation that grammaticalization of prominence-conditioned tendencies (to morphologically mark either prominent or non-prominent referents) in one subsystem will be transferred to the other (adnominal or clitic system) due, in part, to frequency effects on the process (Diessel and Hilpert 2016).
The emergence of prominence-conditioned patterns

Table 3.3 Genealogical coverage of European Romance varieties sample

| Sampled varieties | Eastern | Italo-Western | Southern |
|-------------------|---------|---------------|----------|
| Branch size       | 2       | 16<sup>a</sup> | 2        |
| Percentage sampled<sup>b</sup> | 50%     | 50%           | 40%      |

<sup>a</sup> 16 in terms of *Ethnologue’s* language records. However, my sample of the Italo-Western branch counts 18 varieties with the inclusion of non-standard varieties, which *Ethnologue* subsumes under their respective language-groups, namely Gascon (Occitan), Valencian (Catalan) and Vallader (Raeto-Romance, Switzerland).

<sup>b</sup> Concerning the percentage of sampled varieties, data for Southern Romance (Sardinian and Corsican) is problematic: while Sardinian dialects are represented by 4 language entries, Corsican dialects receive only 1 language entry in *Ethnologue*, which disregards its recognized sub-classification. Two major dialect groups are identified in Corsican: Cismonticu, influenced by Tuscan and Pumonticu, influenced by southern Italian and Sicilian varieties.

4 Synchronic Study: The Distribution of Prominence-Conditioned Patterns

In a representative sample of 22 languages from all sub-branches of Romance (Section 4.1), based on secondary sources (grammars and published papers), I tested each language for the occurrence of pa<sub>a</sub>, dom and clitics associated with prominence-conditioned patterns (*leísmo*, partitive, locative).

4.1 Methods

The genealogically representative sample of 22 languages (but 23 varieties, see Appendix 2) from all sub-branches of Romance is based on the genealogical classification of European Romance languages in the *Ethnologue* database of world languages (Lewis, Simons and Fennig 2015). For this convenience sample, I sampled two languages from each sub-branch: standard and non-standard or national and regional pairs, based on the assumption that such pairs may differ morpho-syntactically due to the bias of language planning in standard varieties (Auer 2004). The distribution of varieties is captured in Table 3.3.

The synchronic typology is based on grammars—mostly from the past two decades—and completed with data from published papers and available corpora (Appendix 2), with which I coded each variety for the occurrence of adnominal morphemes (pa<sub>a</sub>, dom), previously associated with prominence-conditioned marking as *grosso modo* nominal classification devices (Section 2) and clitics that associate with similar functions (*leísmo*, partitive and locative clitics).
By identifying their co-occurrence patterns in European Romance languages, I aim to test the predictions that follow from the hypothesized precedence of clitics over adnominal marking of free (pro)nouns in grammaticalization (Haspelmath 2004; Section 3).

### 4.2 Results

Most generally, 60.86% (14/23) of the sample total show incipient or established DOM (Section 2.2.1) as opposed to 21.74% (5/23) that show PAS (Appendix 1).

In terms of areal distribution, PAS generally occur in the northern Romance area, while DOM occurs in the southern Romance area. However, PAS and incipient DOM co-occur in some northern varieties of the Gallo-Romance and Italo-Dalmatian branches (Appendix 2). Strikingly, none of the sampled languages features both PA and established DOM (Table 3.4).

The co-distribution of PAS and DOM with adverbial clitics (partitive and locative) is not uniform across varieties (Figure 3.4).

All PA-languages show both adverbial clitics. However, only 50% of languages with bare nouns (= no PA) and DOM show such clitics. 80% of languages with neither PA nor DOM lack these clitics (one such language shows the partitive clitic only).

Grouping all varieties according to these co-occurrence patterns (Table 3.5), PAS always occur with both clitics, whereas incipient DOM and neither adnominal marker vary in this respect.\(^\text{16}\)

\(^{16}\) Ladin (Raeto-Romance, Switzerland) is the one variety in the sample with only the partitive clitic.
Table 3.4 Co-occurrence of “partitive articles” and Differential Object Marking

| Partitive article | Differential Object Marking |
|-------------------|-----------------------------|
| Extant            | None                        | Incipient | Established |
| Inexistant        | 5^a                         | 1^b       | 0            |
|                   | 5^c                         | 7^d       | 5^e          |

a Emilian, Ligurian, French, Italian, Arpitan (another term for Francoprovençal used elsewhere in the volume).
b Italian (northern varieties).
c Asturian (Eastern), Extremaduran, Provencal, Istro-Romanian, Ladin.
d Portuguese, Galician, Aragonese, Vallader, Asturian (Western), Gascon, Corsican.
e Spanish, Catalan (Central, Valencian), Daco-Romanian, Sicilian.

Figure 3.4 Co-distribution of nominal classification strategies and partitive/locative clitics

4.3 Discussion

This comparative overview precludes the strong hypothesis of mutual exclusion between PA and DOM (pace Körner 1981), which do co-occur in individual languages to some extent. Although none of the sampled languages features both full-fledged PA and established DOM, some languages feature PA and incipient DOM (e.g., some northern Italian varieties) or established DOM with a partitive clitic. At face value, this appears to suggest an implicational relation: if a language has locative clitics, it also has a partitive clitic (but not vice-versa). However, this is possibly a contact-induced pattern due to borrowing of the partitive clitic from northern Italian varieties (Stark 2015). Therefore, it does not affect the validity of previous generalizations about the non-implicational relation between locative and partitive clitics (Benincà and Poletto 2005).
limited use of PA, such as Corsican, an established DOM language (Neuburger and Stark 2014), in which the PA is limited to a number of recurrent idiosyncratic expressions (Franchi 2003; Section 3.1), possibly due to long-term contact with northern Romance (e.g., French). This is suggestive of a weaker version of Körner’s hypothesis, namely, that there is a negative relation between PA and DOM. The negative relation and typological gap (i.e., PA/established DOM) align with previous observations that languages with PA and DOM tend to differ in certain syntactic properties which arguably favor the emergence of PA in northern Romance (e.g., word order variation and the retention of morphological reflexes of neuter gender, see Carlier and Lamiro 2014; Stark 2005).

The gap of a language with both full-fledged PA and established DOM could be accidental in principle. However, it accords with the predictions proposed at the outset (Section 3). Specifically, I hypothesized that as one type of prominence-conditioned adnominal marking becomes obligatory with a greater range of referents, so the grammaticalization of its counterpart in the same language is expected to become less likely. For instance, in the natural drift of grammaticalization, DOM is expected to remain incipient in PA languages.

Some languages show only leísmo or adverbial clitics, but neither PA nor DOM. For instance, eastern Asturian (Ibero-Romance) shows leísmo without DOM and Provençal Occitan (Gallo-Romance) shows partitive cliticization without PA. In this they differ from their genealogically-related neighbours: western Asturian features both leísmo and incipient DOM and northern and central varieties of Occitan also show PA.17 The hypothesized precedence of clitics in grammaticalization predicts that prominence-conditioned adnominal markers imply the occurrence of such clitics (Section 3). However, one of the sampled languages, Vallader (Raeto-Romance, Switzerland), counters this expectation with its DOM but seemingly no dedicated prominence-conditioned clitics.

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17 In north-central Occitan PA may show full-fledged article morphology, but more frequently it surfaces as invariable de (Bossong 2008).
Another prediction was for languages with both prominence-conditioned adnominal phrases and clitics to be typologically consistent in marking and cliticizing referents of similar prominence (either high or low). Disregarding contact-induced changes, this expectation follows from the precedence of clitics hypothesis (Section 3). While it holds in most cases as a tendency, it fails as a universal generalization since some DOM languages of southern Romance (e.g., Sicilian, Sardinian) feature adverbial clitics. This fact also means that the occurrence of DOM does not imply the non-occurrence of adverbials nor does it imply the occurrence of leísmo. However, one such implication holds: if a language has a PA, then it also has adverbial clitics.

Setting aside language contact, this distribution is amenable to two kinds of diachronic accounts. Following Bossong’s (1991, 155) precedence of DOM proposal, if extended to PA, then DOM and PA would have emerged before functionally similar clitics, but such adnominal markers would also be first to be lost. Alternately, the relevant cliticization patterns grammaticalize earlier (following Haspelmath 2004). In that case, the lack of similar adnominal markers results not from their posterior loss, but from their non-grammaticalization in the first place.

Section 5.2 presents the diachronic study in Spanish and French, two languages with typologically consistent adnominal and clitic patterns that represent opposite poles of prominence on the continuum. This may shed light on the precedence of either clitics or adnominal markers in two “well-behaved” languages.

5 Diachronic Study: The Grammaticalization of Prominence-Conditioned Patterns

The synchronic study (Section 4) focused on the co-occurrence patterns of several prominence-conditioned adnominal markers and related clitics. In the following diachronic study, I aim to describe central topics in their grammaticalization in Spanish and French as representatives of two poles of typologically inverse prominence-conditioned patterns.

This study concerns Medieval Spanish and French (12th–16th centuries) using two measures. First, I observed the relative frequency of third person pronouns—the diachronic source of the Romance clitics—which I later set against the dating of grammaticalization of the PA and DOM (Section 2).18

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18 Since the pronouns are not yet cliticized and bound to the verb in a fixed position during this period (Fontana 1993), I refer to them as pronouns rather than clitics.
Additionally, I tried to replicate this dating using corpora queries in order to find examples from the first century of occurrence of each prominence-conditioned pattern.

5.1 Methods
For the quantitative measure of the relative frequency of third person pronouns, I used data from the OlDes corpus of Old Spanish (N=22,063,434) (Sánchez-Marco, Bofías, Bassaganyas, Chandía and Fontana, n.d.; henceforth OlDes) and the Base de Français Médiéval corpus of Medieval French (N=3,550,000) (Cédille 2016; henceforth BFM).

In this part of the study, the investigated pronouns are the dative and adverbials (partitive and locative) (Section 2.2.2) in addition to accusative and the reflexive-syncretic pronouns (e.g., French le and se).\footnote{Although the accusative and reflexive bound pronouns are not reviewed in the prominence-conditioned patterns (Section 4), they are included to allow for a comprehensive view of the changes, which reveals yet another difference between Spanish and French in this period.} To allow for comparison of relative frequency within language per century and across both languages, frequency data on third person pronouns were normalized for the number of tokens per 1 million words in each century.

In the “qualitative” textual occurrence data, I used a review of examples from 500-year corpora (12th–16th centuries) in order to try and replicate previous proposals regarding the date of grammaticalization of PA (Section 2.1) and DOM (2.2.1).\footnote{For quantitative measures in the grammaticalization of DOM and “partitive article”, see Carlier and Lamiroy (2014); Cuétara Priede and Company Company (2014).}

5.2 Results
Section 5.2.1 presents the ratio of each third person pronoun out of all third person pronoun tokens per 1 million words per century in Medieval Spanish (Figure 3.5) and Medieval French (Figure 3.6). Section 5.2.2 reviews the emergence of prominence-conditioned patterns based on a series of examples.

5.2.1 Variation in Relative Frequency of Third Person Pronouns
Beginning with adverbial pronouns, both locative and partitive are infrequent in Spanish (less than 5% of all pronouns throughout the period) and disappear by the end of the 16th, whereas in French, they are relatively frequent. In fact, between the 14th and the 15th centuries the French locative gains the most in relative frequency at the expense of the dative. This change contrasts with
a sharp increases in the relative frequency of the Old Spanish dative between the 15th and the 16th centuries.

Finally, while the reflexive-syncretic *se* increases in Spanish and stabilizes at about 55%, its Medieval French counterpart remains rather stable at about 30%. Its frequency in French relative to the other clitics increases only slightly between the 14th and the 15th centuries (an increase of less than 3%), while the dative and accusative pronouns decrease in frequency. The Spanish third person accusative between the 15th and the 16th centuries sees a previously constant decrease in relative frequency coming to a halt. When this change occurs, Spanish partitive decreases in frequency before its demise in the 16th century.
Qualitative Morphosyntactic Data

This section covers representative examples of the major prominence-conditioned patterns (Section 3) in order to evaluate the chronology of their emergence and grammaticalization in Medieval Spanish and French.

Prominence-conditioned pronominalization is incipiently attested in both languages at an early stage. The 13th century Spanish corpus attests to the occurrence of the partitive pronoun in a genuine partitive meaning (11a) and leísmo (11b).

(11) Old Spanish

a. *et si oro o argento quisiera meter en apreciadura...
and if gold or silver wish.impf.3sg put.inf in evaluation
tomen ende la diezma parte
take.prs.3sg of.it the tenth part
‘and if you wished to evaluate gold or silver, they would take one tenth of it.’ (Corpus Diacrónico del Español, anonymous, 1242–1275, Española 2016b; henceforth corde)

b. *El fijo es hecho dela semiente del padre por
the son be.prs.3sg make.ptcp of.the sperm of.the father for
eso le=ama de tan grande amor su padre
this 3sg.acc=love.prs.3sg of so big love his father
‘The son is made of the sperm of the father. For this, the father loves him so.’ (1293, CORDE 2016)

In (11a) the pronoun *ende corefers with the indefinite, substance-denoting *oro o argento (*gold or silver*) and marks genuine partition of a given quantity of material. In (11b) from the same period, the dative-syncretic accusative *le* is coreferential with *el fijo* (*the son*), a definite, kinship-denoting noun.

Adnominal markers pattern similarly. Both incipient dom and an incipient form of partitive determination are documented in Old Spanish. DOM in early Old Spanish (13th–14th centuries) applies to human-denoting personal pronouns (12a), proper names (12b) and kinship terms (12c).

(12) Old Spanish

a. *Conosco a vos
know.prs.3sg dom 2pl(.hon)
‘I know you.’ (1321; Corde 2016)
b. *Tu amas a Leucotoe sola*

2SG.SBJ love.PRS.3SG DOM Leucotoe only

‘You love Leucote only.’ (Alfonso X 1275; CORDE 2016)

c. *Yo vos amo verdaderamenete como padre*

1SG.SBJ 2PL.OBJ love.PRS.1SG truly as father

ama a sus hijos

love.PRS.3SG DOM 3PL.POSS sons

‘I love you truly like a father loves his sons.’ (1300–1305; CORDE 2016)

An incipient form of partitive determination is also attested in Old Spanish with substance-denoting direct objects varying between unmarked and partitive phrases (13).

(13) **Old Spanish**

*non deue mandar el jugador que*

NEG need.PRS.3SG ask.INF the judge COMP

*ge=la=den d-el pan o d-el vino*

3SG.DAT=3SG.ACC=give.PRS.SBJV.3PL of-the bread or of-the wine

‘The judge need not ask that they give him/her bread or wine.’ (13th century, OLDES)

The results of the diachronic study in Spanish are summarized below (Table 3.6).21

In Old French, similarly to Old Spanish, the clitic *en* (cognate with Old Spanish *ende*) occurs in ablative uses (i.e., referring to spatial sources, e.g., Old French *s’=en*i=issent, ‘went out of there’) (14a) and in reference to quantitative expressions, such as to parts of a group of distinct entities. (e.g., Old French *dis mile en=ot, ‘ten thousand of them he had’) (14b) (note that (14b) is a continuation of (14a)).

(14) **Old French**

a. *Par cele port* _i_ *issi li rois o lui*

through this door exit.PST.3SG the king APUD 3SG

*s’=en*i=issent mil borjoi* _s_

3(PL.REFL)=ABL=exit.PST.3PL thousand citizens

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21 See Gerards and Stark, this volume, for an analysis of nominal phrases with a “partitive article” in (Old) Spanish as bare partitives, that is, Quantifier Phrases with zero Q°.
Table 3.6  Clitic and (pro)nominal prominence-conditioned patterns in Medieval Spanish

| Period          | Cliticization | Free (pro)nominal marking |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------------------|
|                 | Low | High | Incipient DOM | Established DOM | Partitive article |
| 12th–13th centuries | ✓   | ✓    | ✓             | –              | (✓)              |
| 14th–15th centuries | ✓   | ✓    | ✓             | –              | (✓)\(^a\)        |
| 16th century        | –   | ✓    | –             | ✓              | –                |

\(^a\) A stage 1 partitive pattern (cf. Carlier and Lamiroy 2014) alternates with bare nouns (cf. Section 2.4.4).

‘The king went out through this door. A thousand citizens around him went out of there …’ (\textit{apud}=apudlocative)\(^{22}\) (Thebes2, p. 65 v. 8136, 13th century Cédille 2016; henceforth BFM)

b. \textit{Et quant il fu hors en la plaigne dis Mile en=ot en sa compaigne thousand of.it=have.prs.3sg in 3sg.poss company ‘... and when he was out in the plain, ten thousand of them accompanied him.’ (Thebes2, p. 65 v. 8136, 13th century, BFM)

Additionally, Old French \textit{en} in the 13th century may carry genuine partitive meanings, referring to a part of determinate quantities of substance. In example (15), \textit{en} corefers with \textit{dou mortel fruit} (‘of the deadly fruit’) as the direct object of \textit{menjar} (‘to eat’) and the ‘give’-verb \textit{donner}. However, the direct object of \textit{cueillir} (‘to gather’) is accusative-cliticized (discussed in Section 5.3).

(15) Old French

\begin{verbatim}
Il li=fist son desloial talent mener
3m.sg.sbj 3sg.dat=make.pst.3sg 3sg.poss disloyal desire lead.1nf
a ce que ele cueilli [dou mortel fruit], de all this comp 3f.sg.sbj gather.pst.3sg from. the deadly fruit of
\end{verbatim}

\(^{22}\) Apudlocative: marking the spatial relations of proximity (e.g., English ‘nearby’) or more specifically ‘at the (habitual) sphere of’ (e.g., French \textit{chez}).
As early as the 11th century Old French, preverbal adverbial *en/an* occurs collocated with the consumption verbs such as *mangier* (‘eat’) (16a–b) with the resulting parti-generic interpretation, such as referring to some part of the classes of wolf, pork, dog (16b) or to an indeterminate quantity of an indeterminate non-singular, human-denoting whole (e.g., ‘hostages’) (16c).

(16) Old French

a. *et li=apareilla l’en char et poisson, mes and 3SG.DAT=prepared the=person meat and fish but il n’=en menja oncques 3M.SG.SBJ NEG=PART eat.PST.3SG at.all ‘And they prepared meat and fish for him, but he did not eat any of it.’ (qgtaal_cm, p. 203d, 13th century, BFM)

b. *N’=en mangerunt ne lu ne porc ne chen. NEG=PART eat.FUT.3PL NEG wolf NEG pork NEG dog ‘They would not eat neither wolf nor pork nor dog.’ (roland, 138, v. 1751, 11th century, BFM)

c. *S’il voelt ostages, il en avrat if=3M.SG.SBJ want.PRS.3SG hostages 3M.SG.SBJ PART have.FUT.3SG par veir by truth ‘I he wants hostages, he will have (some) indeed.’ (roland, 30, v. 87, 11th century, BFM)

Is this the only prominence-conditioned cliticization in Old French? No. The Old French locative clitic *i* may cliticize referentially non-prominent indirect objects, such as institutions composed of groups of humans (e.g., monasteries in (17a)). Unlike the locative, the Old French dative *li* cliticizes prominent referents, such as human-denoting singular third person (17b).
(17) Old French

a. *Il avint qu’=ele fonda et estora [une abeie de nonnains] et it happen.pst.3sg comp=3sg.f found.pst.3sg and establish.pst.3sg an abbey of nuns and *i=donna assés viles bones et riches dat.(loc)=give.pst.3sg much estates good and rich

‘It happened that she established an abbey of sisters and gave it/them many a good and rich estates.’ (SBath1, 31, 1250–1300, BFM)

b. *Après *li cuens *Loeis demanda un autre roiague et afterwards the king Lewis ask.pst.3sg a other kingdom and on *li=donna they 3sg.dat=give.pst.3sg

‘Afterwards, King Lewis asked for another kingdom and they gave him.’ (clari, p. 105, 1300, BFM)

In the domain of adnominal marking, consider the collocation of the consumption verb *boire* (‘drink’) and its direct object *vin* (‘wine’). While the direct object may remain morphologically unmarked in early Middle French (*boire vin vermelle*, ‘drinking red wine’) (18a), the second half of the 15th century attests to its marking by the juxtaposition of *de* and the definite determiner (*boire del vin claret*, ‘drink some clary wine’) (18b).

(18) Middle French

a. *c’est signe de boire vin vermelle* dem=be.pres.3sg sign of drink.inf wine red

‘It’s a sign of drinking red wine.’ (quenouilles2, p. 91, 1396, BFM)

b. *apportez a nous un foitz a boire du vin* bring.imp.2pl dat 1pl a time all drink.inf pa.m.sg wine claret clary

‘Bring us, one time, some clary wine to drink.’ (Maniere 1396, 12, ca. 1480, BFM)

Note that only example (18b), in which the PA occurs, is in the imperative (i.e., a non-indicative) clause. In a similar vein, the abstract-denoting *pacience* (‘patience’) remains unmarked in indicative clauses (19a), but it is marked with the preposition *de* under negation (19b) (the latter, though not a case of PA, may prove relevant, see Section 5.3).
(19) Middle French

a. *En tous leurs affaires et nécessitez et adversitez* in all 3PL.POSS affairs and needs and difficulties *doivent avoir pacience* must.PR.S.3PL have.INF patience

‘In all their doing, needs and difficulties, they must have patience.’ (jouvencel2, 79, 15th century, BFM)

b. *Finablement ne peut le roy avoir de pacience* finally NEG can.PR.S.3SG the king have.INF of patience

‘Finally, the king could not have patience.’ (commyn2, 122, 15th century, BFM)

Example (20) from the 13th century shows what appears to be a PA in the absence of any phorically mentioned definite referent for *du vin* (‘wine’).

(20) Old French

*Cascun nuit, quant il se=choucheroit,*

every night when 3M.SG.SBJ 3(SG.REFL.)=go.to.bed.IMP.3SG

*qu’=ele le=servist du vin*

COMP=3F.SG.SBJ 3M.SG.ACC=serve.PST.3SG PA.M.SG wine

‘Every night, when he went to sleep, she served him some wine.’ (SBath1, 2, 13th century, 13th century, BFM)

Finally, to consider the possible co-occurrence of partitive patterns and incipient DOM in Medieval French, similarly to those observed in Old Spanish (cf. examples (18)–(19)), I searched the BFM corpus for DOM patterns, but found none.

The results of the diachronic study in French are summarized below (Table 3.7).

5.3 Discussion

Based on findings of the diachronic study, the clitic systems of Medieval Spanish and French grammaticalized prominence-conditioned patterns in the 11th–14th century before the full-fledged grammaticalization of PAs in French and DOM in Spanish down opposite poles of prominence (14th–16th centuries).

While *leísmo* occurs as early as 13th century Spanish alongside incipient DOM (in line with Eberenz 2008), established DOM grammaticalized only in the 16th century (in line with Cuétara Priede and Company Company 2014; Von Heusinger and Kaiser 2005). Similarly, Old French (11th–13th centuries) already
features prominence-conditioned adverbial clitics, such as a partitive clitic in its parti-generic use with no PA, which only grammaticalized in Middle French (14th–17th centuries). While Old Spanish features a partitive pronoun ende, currently available examples only attest to a genuine partitive use.

Relating these findings to the relative frequency of third person pronouns, both languages show starkly different patterns. Concerning the dative clitics in both languages, the Spanish dative fluctuates somewhat before its major increase (18 %) in relative frequency between the 15th and 16th centuries, while the French dative decreases in frequency between the 14th and he 15th centuries concomitantly with a major increase in the relative frequency of the locative. Note that in both cases, it is a clitic associated with the same prominence-tendency of an emergent adnominal marker in the language, Spanish DOM and French PA, that sees its relative frequency increase.

If we consider the adverbial pronouns, their relative frequency remains extremely low in Medieval Spanish before their eventual demise in the 16th century. In Medieval French both adverbial pronouns remain rather frequent throughout the whole period. In fact, its locative clitic increases in relative frequency the most between the 14th and the 15th centuries, that is, during the period in which the PA emerges.

Regarding the relation between the French partitive clitics and the emergence of the PA, we have seen that Old French en in the 13th century may carry genuine partitive meanings, referring to a part of determinate quantities of substance. This possibility appears similar to stage 2 in the grammaticalization of adnominal PAS (e.g., as described in Carlier and Lamiroy 2014) (Section 2.1) and predates it in its occurrence. This was illustrated in example (15), where en corefers with dou mortel fruit (‘of the deadly fruit’) as the direct object.

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### Table 3.7  Clitic and (pro)nominal prominence-conditioned patterns in Medieval French

| Period               | Cliticization | Free (pro)nominal marking |
|----------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
|                      | Low           | High                      | Incipient | Established | Partitive |
| 12th–13th centuries  | ✓             | –                         | –         | –           | –         |
| 14th–15th centuries  | ✓             | –                         | –         | –           | (✓)\(a\) |
| 16th century         | ✓             | –                         | –         | –           | ✓         |

\(a\)  The 15th century sees the emergence of a de-based plural indefinite article, but not a singular “partitive article” (cf. Carlier and Lamiroy 2014; Section 2.4.4).
of *menjar* (‘to eat’) and the ‘give’-verb *donner*. However, the direct object of *cueillir* (‘to gather’) remained accusative-cliticized. One way of explaining this difference is that it parallels the grammaticalization of the “partitive article” in the domain of free nominal marking, which emerges with consumption verbs whose objects denote parts of a determinate substance (cf. Carlier and Lamiroy 2014).

Against this analysis, one may argue the structure of example (15) is underlingly *a ce dou mortel fruit que ele cueilli* (‘that (part) of the deadly fruit which she took’). Given such a scrambling analysis, the accusative clitic to the verb *cueillir* refers to the head *ce*, which, in turn, heads a relative clause that is interpreted referentially as ‘that part’, a definite, identifiable entity. Then the referential property of ‘that part’ as an identifiable entity accounts for its accusative rather than partitive-cliticization. However, I propose a different solution that does not require to assume such scrambling, namely, that *ce* heads a relative clause that denotes not an entity, but the predicated event of gathering some of the deadly fruit. In Old French, the expression *mener a ce que* may be interpreted as ‘lead to (the event) that’ or ‘cause that’. With this analysis in mind, where *ce* does not refer to ‘that part’, the following accusative clitic corefers anaphorically with *dou mortel fruit* (‘of the deadly fruit’). In fact, the same expression occurs later in the same text in reference to the same event. In example (21) *ce* cannot refer to that part which was gathered, but only to the event of gathering some (indeterminate quantity) of the deadly fruit.

(21) Old French

```
3M.SG.SBJ fist do.PST.3SG 3SG.POSS disloyal desire lead.INF ALL this
ce =il =fist
3M.SG.SBJ 3SG.DAT=make.PST.3SG gather.INF of.the deadly
fruit de l’arbre
fruit of the=tree
```

He led her disloyal desire lead to this, that he made her gather from the deadly fruit.’ (Qgraal_cm p. 210b, BFM)

Note that only 8 out of 8,031 occurrences of preverbal adverbial *en/an* in the tagged BFM corpus involve the verb *mangier* (‘eat’) and only 10 tokens involve the verb *boire* (‘drink’). Since adnominal *pa* appears to emerge in collocations with consumption verbs (e.g., ‘eat’, ‘drink’), this rarity is of diachronic importance. It accords with the designation of partitive and DOM morphosyntax as low-frequency phenomena (Haspelmath 2018; Hawkins 2012; Seržant and Wizlack-Makarevich 2018). However, despite the rarity of such uses of *en,*
they occur in Old French as early as the 11th century (16a), similarly to en-cliticization of indeterminate quantitative expressions (16c), centuries before the emergence of adnominal PA in French (Section 2.1). In both cases, the interpretation is parti-generic, referring to some part of the classes of wolf, pork, dog (16a) and hostages (16c).

With respect to the diachrony of adnominal markers, the findings largely accord with previous dating of their emergence. An incipient form of an adnominal partitive is attested in Old Spanish (e.g., with substance-denoting direct objects varying between bare and partitive phrases, de-marked in juxtaposition to a definite article (13) and this simultaneously with the occurrence of incipient dom (Eberenz 2008)). In French, however, dom does not occur in any form during that period and the PA grammaticalizes only during the Middle French period (14th–17th centuries). This corroborates previous research indicating the absence of dom in Medieval French (Fagard and Mardale 2014). Its absence in the Medieval French corpus aligns with the lack of dedicated high-prominence Differential Object Indexing (i.e., “Differential Cliticization”). However, two notes are in place regarding the grammaticalization of PA and dom in Medieval French and its relation to areal distinctions between northern and southern varieties.

While Carlier and Lamiroy (2014) date the grammaticalization of the French PA, marking indeterminate substance-denoting nouns to the 16th century, they note that such uses first occur in the 13th century. They designate such early tokens as “exploratory expressions” (Harris and Campbell 1995, 72) that vary with similar structures where they do not occur. Only once grammaticalized, are they analyzed as heralding the forthcoming grammatical change. This can be illustrated with a 13th century example from the BFM corpus (22) in which an apparent case of PA marks the direct object du vin (‘wine’), which appears to lack any phorically mentioned referent that would make it definite.

(22) Old French

*Cascun nuit, quant il se=choucheroit,

every night when 3M.SG.SBJ 3(SG.REFL)=go.to.bed.IMPF.3SG
qui’ele le=servist du vin
COMP=3F.SG.SBJ 3M.SG.ACC=serve.PST.3SG PA.M.SG wine

‘Every night, when he went to sleep, she served him some wine.’ (SBath, 2, 13th century, 13th century, BFM)

This apparent counterexample to the 16th century dating can be explained out as an exploratory expression. However, its occurrence in a 13th century text of Picard origin (northern France) is expected to the extent that PA is known to
occur in northern Romance varieties (Section 2.1 and Section 4). While it may very well be an exploratory expression, only quantitative analysis will allow us to evaluate its frequency at the regional level and follow its dialectal spread.

In testing the extension of PA to indefinite, substance-denoting and abstract nouns, two examples revealed a possible difference between indicative and non-indicative clauses (18)–(19); the latter may have seen the PA emerge earlier. Although _de_-marked direct objects under negation do not illustrate PA in the narrow sense, it may prove fruitful to consider the relation between the two.\(^{23}\) For instance, Tuten et al. (2016) argue that indefinite, mass-denoting and plural-denoting nouns in Aragonese (Ibero-Romance) occur with a PA, but they illustrate this with a _de_-phrase under the scope of negation (23).

\[(\text{23}) \text{ Aragonese} \]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{ya} & \quad \text{no} \quad \text{ne} & = \text{b}'ha & \text{de} \quad \text{lupos}?
\text{already} & \quad \text{NEG} \quad \text{NE} & = \text{LOC} = \text{have.PRS.3SG} \quad \text{of} \quad \text{wolves}
\text{‘Are there no wolves anymore?’} & \text{(Nagore Lain 1986, 111)}
\end{align*}\]

The effects of negation on the use of determiners across languages (Miestamo 2014) may also come into play in the grammaticalization pathway of the PA in the form of earlier marking under negation than in indicative clauses (17)–(18).

To consider whether Medieval French featured DOM in this period, let us consider apparent contradictions to its purported lack. When a perception verb like _voi_ (‘to see’) takes an infinitive clause complement, the latter is sometimes found marked with the preposition _a_ (Fagard and Mardale 2014). The verb _voi_ takes _a ma mere plorer_ (‘my mother cry’) as a complement clause in example (24).\(^{24}\)

\[(\text{24}) \text{ Old French} \]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{Je} & \quad \text{voi} \quad \text{a} \quad \text{ma} \quad \text{mere} \quad \text{plorer}
\text{1SG.SBJ} & \quad \text{see.PRS.1SG} \quad \text{ALL} \quad \text{my} \quad \text{mother} \quad \text{cry.INF}
\text{‘I see my mother cry.’} & \text{(Bourciez 1946, 374, cited in: Fagard and Mardale 2014)}
\end{align*}\]

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\(^{23}\) Dobrovie-Sorin, this volume, discusses such negative contexts in comparison with bare nouns.

\(^{24}\) Fagard and Mardale (2014) do note the occurrence of DOM in 16th French authors of Gascon origin. However, this is amenable to a contact explanation in line with an incipient DOM pattern in Gascon Occitan.
Regardless of whether this is analyzed as DOM which applies to whole complement clauses (*a ma mere plorer*) or as case of Differential Subject Marking (*a ma mere*), in which the subject of an infinitive complement clause is *a*-marked as if it were the object of the matrix clause in accusative-cum-infinitive clauses, Old French does not feature traditional DOM. Moreover, my review of the BFM corpus shows that such exceptional marking of complement clauses is far from obligatory even within specific noun classes. For instance, while kinship terms are among the first classes to be marked in traditional DOM (Section 2.2.1), not all kinship terms are *a*-marked in embedded subject position in Medieval French. Compare the marked ‘my mother’ in (24) and the unmarked ‘my dear son’ in (25) where the complement clause is *mon chier fil devant mes iex mourir* (‘my dear son die in front of my eyes’).

(25) Old French

```
Je voi mon chier fil devant mes iex mourir
```

To summarize, patterns akin to full-fledged PA and DOM rarely if ever occur in Medieval Spanish and French, respectively. However, their DOI counterparts, *leísmo* in Spanish and adverbial clitics in French, occur early in the history of both languages. Both languages grammaticalize their respective adnominal markers by the 16th century. Concomitantly with the emergence of established DOM (13th–16th centuries) (Cuétara Priede and Company Company 2014; Von Heusinger and Kaiser 2005), Spanish sees its seldom used partitive *de*-phrases marking—substance-denoting direct objects (Eberenz 2008)—fall out of use by the 17th century (Harris-Northall 2005). This process of demise and emergence in the system of adnominal markers in Spanish is simultaneous with similar effects in the pronoun system with the decrease in adverbial pronouns to the point of oblivion and the increase in dative between the 15th and 16th century. In French, the partitive and locative clitics remain rather frequent and the frequency of the locative increases by the 16th century (as that of the dative decreases). Although this study cannot tell how much of these changes is due to prominence-conditioned clitic patterns, it is possible to note a general trend: changes in the relative frequency of pronouns take starkly different forms from the early outset of Medieval Spanish and French. This trend continues at least until 16th century Spanish and French grammaticalize DOM and PA, respectively (i.e., adnominal markers that align with their early tendency in prominence-conditioned clitics).
Towards a Comprehensive Account: Prominence-Conditioned Morpho-syntax and the Romance Bare/Partitive Distinction

This study produced several descriptive generalizations concerning the system of prominence-conditioned classification in Romance:

1. Full-fledged PA precludes established DOM.
2. Prominence-conditioned clitics grammaticalized before PA and DOM in Spanish and French.
3. Medieval Spanish and French differ in their diachronic variation in the relative frequency of clitics.

The apparent synchronic gap of no language with both established DOM and a full-fledged PA means that no language makes both PA and DOM obligatory to the full range of potentially-marked noun phrases. This negative relation between DOM and PA is reflected diachronically in the case study of Spanish and French. As Spanish shifts from an incipient to an established DOM system (13th–16th centuries), its partitive morphemes, the pronoun *ende* and partitive-marking *de*-phrases decrease and fall out of use. In Medieval French, on the other hand, neither DOM nor *leísmo*-type clitics are found, and the PA grammaticalizes in the same period of time (14th–16th centuries). This negative relation between PA and DOM might be related to other trends in the broader system of prominence-conditioned adnominal marking and cliticization.

In the case study of Medieval Spanish and French, prominence-conditioned clitic patterns grammaticalized before their adnominal counterparts. This aligns with the Haspelmath’s (2004) proposal that certain grammaticalization processes occur in clitics (among other bound forms) earlier and more frequently than in free (pro)nouns since the difference in relative token frequency of individual members in a closed class (e.g., of clitics) is higher than that of individual members in the open class of common nouns. Consequently, their collocation patterns in recurrent syntactic positions are more frequent. The frequency of recurrent collocations is one factor that favors grammaticalization processes (Diesel and Hilpert 2016). As part of this tendency, the higher the relative frequency of a candidate for grammaticalization in some class (e.g., clitics, common nouns) in some collocation (e.g., preverbally in the case of preverbal clitics), the more likely it is to grammaticalize. In Medieval Spanish and French, the relative frequency of third person pronouns is different to begin with in the 12th century (Section 5.2.1) and the variation continues and becomes clearer throughout the period covered in this study. It is currently impossible to tell the effect that prominence-conditioned clitic patterns themselves have had on the overall frequency of clitics. However, the trend is one in which the higher relative frequency of certain clitics to begin with (the Span-
ish dative and French adverbial clitics) and the early occurrence of opposite
tendencies in prominence-conditioned cliticization from the earliest stages
precede a similar grammaticalization in adnominal marking. The early pro-
cess in the clitic systems, as reflected in the extremely low relative frequency
of adverbial clitics and use of leísmo in Spanish, culminates with a typologi-
cal differentiation: while some languages tend to use “special morphosyntactic
devices” for prominent referents, others tend to use them for non-prominent
referents.

This shift of such a tendency from clitic to adnominal marking, as illus-
trated with comparative diachronic data from two languages, might be partly
explained by frequency effects in grammaticalization. The relative frequency of
clitics as compared to the open class of nouns makes them more prone to gram-
maticalization in the first place (Haspelmath 2004). All else being equal, the
more frequently prominence-conditioned cliticization is used, the more likely
it becomes for its gradual shift to adnominal marking (if any) to take on the
same trend. However, this alone cannot explain the lesser marking of the oppo-
site prominence category (e.g., referentially non-prominent nouns that remain
bare in a DOM language). Here it may prove fruitful to consider the possible
effects of language processing on cross-linguistic variation and the tendency
to morphologically reduce some but not all members of different subsystems
(e.g., number-marking, prominence-marking, cf. Hawkins 2012). This approach
is driven by constraints on language change that affect synchronic grammars
(Haspelmath 2019). By hypothesis, this may add to the precedence of clitics
hypothesis to explain the negative relation between PA and DOM, and conse-
quently the bare noun/PA distribution. However, further research is required
to determine whether more evidence can be adduced that supports such an
account.

While the diachronic data comes from languages at opposite poles of
prominence-marking continuum, the synchronic study reveals several lan-
guages that combine both tendencies to some extent. At face value, some of
these may challenge the precedence of clitics hypothesis (e.g., Catalan with
adverbial clitics and a pervasive pattern of established DOM in non-standard
varieties, see Escandell-Vidal 2009; Rigau 1982). However, the precedence of
clitics is most probably not the only factor that determines the distribution
of bare nouns and PA, among other phenomena of prominence-conditioned
morpho-syntax. Other factors may include long-term contact with other lan-
guages (Escandell-Vidal 2009), word order typology (Carlier and Lamiroy 2014)
and general factors in language processing (Hawkins 2012).

Further research is required to determine the contribution of individual fac-
tors and the place of the clitic system in this process.
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Appendixes

Appendix 1. Distribution of Partitive Article and Differential Object Marking per Genealogical Group

![Figure 3.7 Distribution of DOM patterns per genealogical subgroup](image-url)
FIGURE 3.8 Distribution of partitive article patterns per genealogical subgroup

Appendix 2

TABLE 3.8 Distribution of Prominence-Conditioned Adnominal Patterns in European Romance

| (Pro)nominal marking | Low-prominence | Differential Object Marking |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------------------|
|                      | Partitive article | De-plural indefinites | Exists? | Pronouns | Proper term | Kinship term | Human |
| Daco-Romanian        | ✓              | ✓                    | ✓       | ✓        | ✓          | ✓            | ✓     |
| Istro-Romanian       |                |                      |         |          |            |              |        |
| Italian              | ✓              | ✓                    | ✓       | ✓        |            |              | ✓     |
| Sicilian             |                |                      | ✓       | ✓        | ✓          | ✓            | ✓     |
| Emilian              | ✓              | ✓                    |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| Ligurian             | ✓              |                      |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| French               | ✓              | ✓                    |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| Arpitan              | ✓              | ✓                    |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| Ladin                |                |                      |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| Vallader             | ✓              | ✓                    |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
| Catalan (Central)    | ✓              | ✓                    | ✓       | ✓        | ✓          | ✓            | ✓     |
| Valencian            | ✓              | ✓                    |         |          |            |              | ✓     |
Table 3.8 Distribution of Prominence-Conditioned Adnominal Patterns (cont.)

| (Pro)nominal marking | Low-prominence | Differential Object Marking |
|----------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|
|                      | Partitive      | De-plural indefinites       | Exists? | Pronouns | Proper | Kinship term | Human |
| Provençal            | ✓✓             | ✓                           | ✓       | ✓       | ✓✓    | ✓✓           | ✓✓   |
| Gascon               | ✓              | ✓                           | ✓       | ✓       | ✓✓    | ✓✓           | ✓    |
| Asturian (western, eastern) | ✓              | ✓                           | ✓       | ✓       | ✓✓    | ✓✓           | ✓    |
| Extremaduran         | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Spanish              | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Galician             | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Portuguese           | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Aragonese            | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Corsican             | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |
| Campidanese          | ✓              |                             |         |         |       |              |      |

Table 3.9 Distribution of Prominence-Conditioned Clitics in European Romance

| Clitics                | Partitive | Locative | Leísmo | References                                                                 |
|------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Daco-Romanian          |           |          |        | (Corneliscu 2000; Hill 2013; David 2014)                                  |
| Istro-Romanian         |           |          |        | (Zegrean 2012)                                                            |
| Italian                | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Genesini 2017; Lemmolo 2010)                                             |
| Sicilian               | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Messina 2007)                                                            |
| Emilian                | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Ferretti 2007)                                                           |
| Ligurian               | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Costa 1993)                                                              |
| French                 | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Bruxelles et al. 2016)                                                  |
| Arpitan                | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Arpitana 2011)                                                          |
| Ladin                  | ✓         |          |        | (Chiocchetti 2001; Stark 2015)                                            |
| Vallader               |           |          |        | (Caduff, Caprez and Darms 2009; Tschärner 2013; Acadèmia Valenciana de la Llengua 2006; Escandell-Vidal 2009) |
| Catalan (Central)      | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Acadèmia Valenciana de la Llengua 2006)                                  |
| Valencian              | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Acadèmia Valenciana de la Llengua 2006; Escandell-Vidal 2009)             |
| Provençal              | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Mistral and Ronjat 1979)                                                 |
| Gascon                 | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Rohlfs 1971, 321)                                                       |
| Clitics                              | Partitive | Locative | Leísmo | References                                      |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|----------|--------|------------------------------------------------|
| Asturian (western, eastern)         | ✓         |          |        | (Asturiana 2001)                                |
| Extremaduran                        |           |          |        | (Quiles Casas 2006)                             |
| Spanish                             | ✓ (✓)     |          |        | (Eberenz 2008; Fernández-Ordóñez 2001)          |
| Galician                            | ✓         |          |        | (Cidrás Escáneo 2006; Humanidades 2015)         |
| Portuguese                          |           |          |        | (Schwenter 2014)                                |
| Aragonese                           | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Plaza Boya 1990)                               |
| Corsican                            | ✓         |          |        | (Batti 2009; Neuburger and Stark 2014)           |
| Campidanese                         | ✓         | ✓        |        | (Holtus 1988; Mondo-Sardegna 2014)              |

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