

## **“Towards a typology of auxiliary verb constructions, STAMP morphs and morphologically complex verb forms in Chadic languages”**

In this paper I discuss the typology of the complex predicate sub-type that has been called an auxiliary verb construction in the literature, primarily focusing on data from the Chadic language family. This adopts a panchronic, constructional-functional approach that views auxiliary verb constructions as a specific type of semantically determined complex predicate. The approach is panchronic insofar as it also addresses synchronically complex verb forms that are morphotactically or morphophonologically single words but that derive etymologically from auxiliary verb constructions. For some languages, particularly in subgroups of the West Chadic and Central/Biu-Mandara Chadic there is an intermediate structure where subject pronouns have fused with auxiliaries, the latter sometimes eroded to only a tone or projecting a floating tone, or indeed completely opaque in its synchronic realization. These structures have been called STAMP morphs. In some Chadic languages, these STAMP morphs have fused with lexical verbs to create complex series of prefixal conjugation.