



Anna-Maria De Cesare holds a PhD in linguistics from the University of Geneva (2001) and is currently Assistant/Associate Professor of Italian linguistics at the University of Basel, as well as Professor of the Swiss National Science Foundation. A.-M. De Cesare's research focuses on the meaning, form and discourse functions of marked syntactic constructions (VS word order, clefts of different types) and function words (intensifiers, focus adverbs, deictics) in contemporary Italian and in a contrastive perspective with other languages (mainly French and German). She is also

interested in descriptive and theoretical text linguistics (her contributions in the field include the description of different written text types and of the particular form of text organization called thematic progression). A more detailed description of her academic profile, current research project and list of publications can be found at the following address:

<http://www.italianistik.unibas.ch/it/docenti/annamariadecesare.html>

Italian and French additive focus adverbs anche and aussi: information hierarchy and discourse functions

In the volume *La lingua nel testo, il testo nella lingua*, edited by Angela Ferrari in 2004, it has been proposed that the components of the language (lexicon, grammar, prosody) intrinsically codify different aspects of discourse organization: discourse segmentation and discourse hierarchy at different levels. It is a well known fact, for instance, that connectives, such as It. *perché, infatti, comunque, invece* etc., not only semantically codify specific textual relations (motivation, consequence, concession etc.), but also give instructions on the ways in which these relations ought to be constructed in the discourse.

This paper addresses the question of whether, how, and which text organizational aspects are codified by another, important class of discourse particles, namely the so-called focus particles or adverbs (Nølke 1983 for French; König 1991 for English and German; Ricca 1999 and Andorno 2000 for Italian). The analysis will be based on the prototypical focus adverbs in Italian and French: the additive adverbs *anche* and *aussi*. A cross-linguistic perspective is crucial for distinguishing what are potential stable properties of these items from aspects that are language specific. The discussion is based on authentic written and oral data, and our reference model of text and text organization is the one described in Ferrari et al. 2008, *Interfaccia lingua-testo. Natura e funzioni dell'articolazione informativa dell'enunciato*.