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## Case study in the genitive variation in Swedish - *s*-genitive vs. prepositional phrases

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The aim of the paper is to present a case study on the variation of two Swedish possessive constructions, i.e. the choice between the *s*-genitive and prepositional phrases, as in the following examples.

- (1) *taket på huset*  
*roof-DEF on house-DEF*  
'the roof of the house'
- (2) ? *husets tak*  
*house-DEF-s roof*  
? 'the house's roof'

Even though the two expressions may be used interchangeably in certain cases, the choice between the synthetic and the analytical construction depends on a number of constraints, such as animacy, definiteness or heaviness of an NP, which have proven to be decisive in the choice of the possessive in English. The aim of the study is to see to what extent the given three variables influence the choice of a possessive construction, therefore a multivariate analysis using a method of Logistic Regression is conducted. The study is based on the corpus of contemporary Swedish texts.

**References:** • Hinrichs, L/B. Szmrecsanyi (2007): Recent changes in the function and frequency of Standard English genitive constructions: a multivariate analysis of tagged corpora. In: *English Language and Linguistics* 11, 437-474. • Kreyer, R. (2003): Genitive and of-construction in modern written English: Processability and human involvement. In: *International Journal of Corpus Linguistics* 8, 169-207. • Rosenbach, A. (2008): Animacy and grammatical variation - Findings from English genitive variation. In: *Lingua* 118, 151-171.