

## **Abstract**

As many other romance languages, European Portuguese presents, in real spoken contexts, different strategies for relative constructions, although only one of them is described in the grammars (pied-piping – gap strategy); the others are “officially ungrammatical” (resumptive pronoun and preposition chopping strategies) though frequent.

Through the observation of spoken corpus data, our aim is to describe the syntactic and discourse properties of these different strategies in this language, and to see how far these properties pattern with the ones described for other languages (according to the descriptions made by different authors), for instance, for the resumptive pronoun strategy, the specificity and definiteness properties of the relative head, or the interaction of relative constructions with discourse functions – old vs. new information.

The spoken corpus used in this research is the Portuguese sub-corpus of the project C-Oral-Rom (acronym for “Integrated reference corpora for spoken romance language; tools of analysis; standard linguistic measures for validation in HLT”). This sub-corpus is constituted by circa 320,000 words of formal and informal speech, with different text typological characteristics (monologues, dialogues and conversations; telephone man-man interactions; media and non-media formal texts) and has equivalent sub-corpora for French, Italian and Spanish, the four sub-corpora composing the C-Oral-Rom corpus.

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<sup>1</sup> *e-mail*: rita.veloso@clul.ul.pt