

FORMAS NUEVAS O NUEVAS FORMAS: VARIABLE ADJECTIVE POSITION IN CONTEMPORARY VENEZUELAN SPANISH

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INTRODUCTION

GOALS OF THE PROJECT

- Examine the role that phonology and semantics play on a syntactic variable, exemplified by adjective position variability in Spanish.
- Explore the role that lexical frequency plays on the variable structure, considering recent theoretical (Bybee, 2006, 2008; Haspelmath, 2014) and empirical contributions (Díaz-Campos & Zahler, 2018; Solon, Linford, & Geeslin, 2018).
- Contribute the first corpus-based analysis of the variable structure that considers (i) lexical frequency effects (with a focus on relative frequency) and (ii) statistical models that account for individual speaker and lexical item variability.

THE VARIABLE STRUCTURE

- I. (a) *Sí, hizo un mal negocio, o algo así.*
(b) *Yo he hecho dos negocios malos.*

- (a) “Yes, he made a bad business deal, or something like that”.
(b) “I have made two bad business deals”.

Corpus de Referencia del Español Actual (CREA, 2008)

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