Routes to insubordination: A typological perspective

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The literature on insubordination has focused on the one hand on the possible functions of insubordinated clauses, and, on the other hand, on particular types of insubordinate clauses attested in individual languages. Comparatively less attention has been devoted to what types of subordinate clauses exactly (e.g. particular types of complement, adverbial, or relative clauses) can develop into insubordinate clauses, and through what mechanisms. The paper addresses this issue in a typological perspective, by discussing extensive cross-linguistic evidence about different types of insubordinated clauses found in different languages and language families and their attested or presumable diachronic development. Particular attention will be devoted to the following research questions:

- Are there any types of subordinate clauses that become insubordinated more often than others? And are there any types of subordinate clauses that never become insubordinated?
- Are there any types of insubordinated clauses (e.g. declarative as opposed to non-declarative) that are significantly rarer than others?
- What are the exact mechanisms that lead speakers to omit main clauses in different types of processes leading to insubordination?
- Are there any constructions (such as for example formally coordinate clauses used independently) that have not been considered in the literature on insubordination so far, but could be related to insubordination?