

QUANTIFICATION IN JAMAICAN CREOLE.  
THE SYNTAX AND SEMANTICS OF *EVRJ* ('EVERY')  
IN INTERACTION WITH INDEFINITES

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## ABSTRACT

Quantification in Jamaican Creole.  
The syntax and semantics of *evri* ('every')  
in interaction with indefinites.

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In this dissertation, I show that existing scopal accounts of the interpretative possibilities associated with quantificational interaction do not explain the empirical facts in Jamaican Creole (JC), as revealed by fieldwork which I conducted. Moreover, I show that the forms on which this study focuses, the JC universal *evri* and the indefinites *wan* and *som*, do not display the same behaviour as their English counterparts 'every', 'a(n)' and 'some'.

I suggest that the key to a unified solution for these phenomena lies in the expression of number in JC with the possibilities which event structure makes available. I argue for an articulated functional structure above the NP which houses the functions associated with the individuation of nouns and with number specification. These functions which, I show, derive the different interpretations of JC *evri* in interaction with indefinites, are not specific or restricted to this purpose. I show them to be necessary for any plural individual interpretation, and to apply also to the analysis of numeral NPs.

My proposed analysis means that there is no need to call on movement operations to account for the JC data. Instead, the interpretations are derived from the phrase structure and from event structure.

**KEYWORDS:** Quantificational interaction; scope; individuation; number specification; event structure