

Syntax Fest 2004
The format of dependency relations
 Bloomington, June 30, 2004

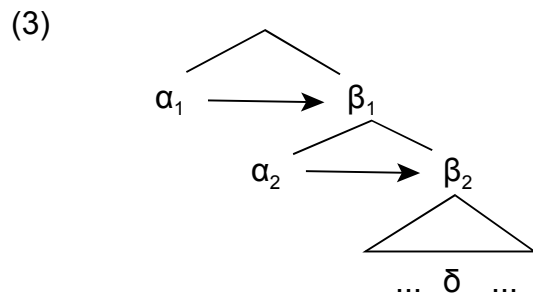
Structure

1. Syntax and morphology

- (1) Mirror Principle (Baker 1985)
 Features associated with functional heads closer to V are expressed by morphemes closer to the verb root.

- (2) AgrS-T-AgrO-V

a-li-ki-soma (Swahili)
 SM-PAST-OM-read



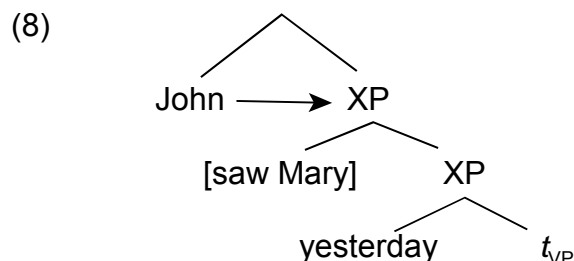
- (4) step 1: β acquires feature [2]
 step 2: β acquires feature [1]

unmarked spell-out on δ : [[[δ] 2] 1] (order irrelevant)

- (5) Position of δ not predicted by the system: no need for head movement to pick up affixes or to check features.

- (6) a. ...dat Jan Marie **kust** Dutch
 that John Mary kiss-3SG
 '..that John kisses Mary.'
 b. Jan **kust** Marie 'John kisses Mary.'
 c. **Kust** Jan Marie ? 'Does John kiss Mary?'

- (7) <kust> [Jan] [<kust> Marie <kust>]



(9) *The problem with AGR*
 AGR is just introduced in the system to keep the derivation going: no lexical semantics, no interpretation at LF -> it should not exist (Chomsky 1995).

(10) This also applies to the posited unvalued ϕ -features in T (or *v*).

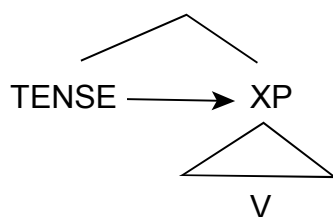
(11) Strong thesis: there are no uninterpretable features

(12) Question: are there functional heads at all?

(13) The only clear case: C (=P?)

(14) TENSE : evidence that it is a *head* revolves around morphology

(15)



tense is an operator, agreeing with its sister, assigning a feature spelled out on V (or some other term of XP)

(16) NEGATION: similar, but all we know is that it is an operator with a reflex on verb morphology

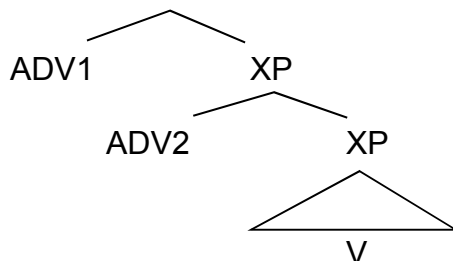
(17) ..da Valère dienen boek nie en-eet West Flemish
 that Valery that book not NEG-has

(18) Consequence: no need to assume that a verb inflected for agreement/tense/negation is very high in the structure

(19) Essentially removes motivation for remnant movement analyses of verb second (Hallman, Koopman & Szabolcsi, Müller, etc.; see Zwart 2003).

(20) [CP dat [TP [Jan Marie <kust>] kust [t]]]

(21) Similarly with adverb morphology (Cinque 1999)



Mirror principle effect follows as in (3)-(4).

(22) No need for various 'criteria' (wh-criterium, neg-criterium, etc.).

(23) Even clause typing may be inherited from an operator rather than a head.

- b. Ken-ne/*-s [doow en Marie] uch treffe ?
 can-PL/2SG you and Mary you:PL meet:INF
 'Can you and Mary meet ?'

Tegelen Dutch

3. Verb Second

- (34) a. Merge creates an ordered pair < α, β >
 b. β is the dependent
 c. dependency marked by (i) prosody
 (ii) agreement
 (iii) position -> linkers, V2
- (35) verb movement: syntax or phonology? (Chomsky 2001, Zwart 2001)

phonology

special movement properties

no interpretive effect

'second' position effect

involves only heads

syntax

sensitive to structure

triggered by syntactic operation

after second constituent

remnant movement?

- (36) phonology = conversion of morphemes into strings of phonemes

See *handout of CGSW19*.

References

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