

Argument Structure for the 21st century

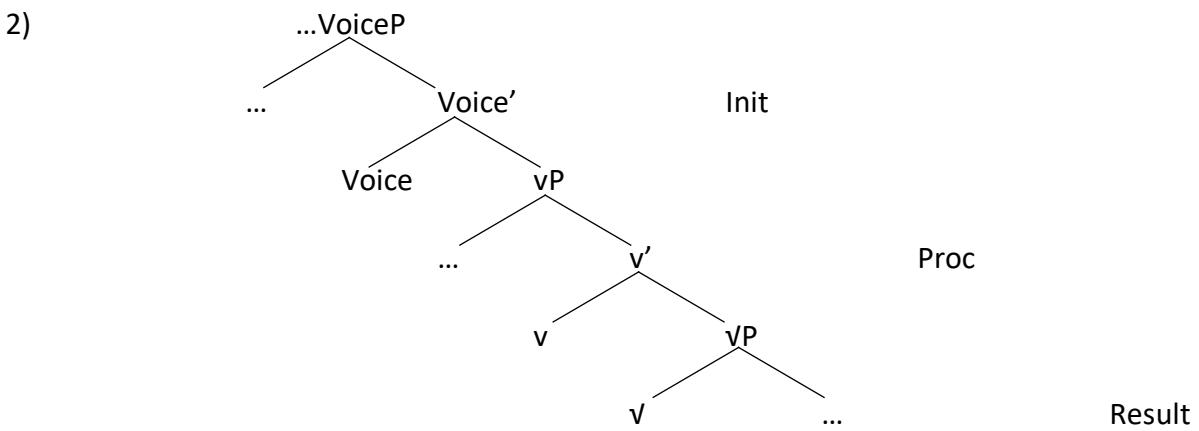
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September 30, 2020

1. From the 20th to the 21st century

- 1) a. Theta roles, theta hierarchy
b. VP, IP, CP
 (→ Configurationally determined grammatical roles)
c. Argument structure operations in lexicon
d. Mapping



How did we get here, syntactically speaking?

- Ditransitive verbs (Larson 1988)
 - Unergative/unaccusative & bare phrase structure (Chomsky 1994, Hale & Keyser 1993)
 - Causative/inchoative alternations (...)
 - Agentless idioms (Kratzer 1994, 1996)
 - Result state modification, readings of *again* adjuncts (...), von Stechow 1996)

→ Some hypotheses about the composition of events:

- vP is where the dynamic event argument is introduced
 - VP introduces a stative eventuality
 - VoiceP introduces the external argument and relates it to the eventuality of the vP

→ Some hypotheses about the syntax/morphology interface

- Heads have the potential to contribute a morph to a verb form
 - Locality to V correlates with potential for irregularity, (un)productivity

2. Morphosyntax of argument structure

- Analyses invoking different sizes of embedded constituents e.g. TP vs CP
- Wurmbrand (1998, 2001) on restructuring infinitives: TP vs vP vs VP

2.1 Greek participles

(Alexiadou and Anagnostopoulou 2008, Anagnostopoulou & Samioti 2014)

3) <u>-tos</u>	<u>-menos</u>	<u>-menos</u>
<u>characteristic state ppls</u>	<u>target-state ppls</u>	<u>resultant-state ppls</u>
no prior event	prior event	prior event
ok in creation complement	not in creation complement	not in creation complement
no manner mod	result oriented mod	result oriented mod
no agent-oriented mod	no agent-oriented mod	agent-oriented mod
no by-phrases	no by-phrases	by-phases
[[VP] Asp]	[[[VP] v] Asp]	[[[[VP] v] Voice] Asp]

4) I porta	chtistike	anix-t-i/*anig-men-i
The door.nom build.Nact.3sg		open-Tos-agr/open-Men-agr
"The door was built open/*opened."		
<u>-tos ability ppls</u>	<u>-tos 'worth'-compound ppls</u>	<u>-tos negated ppls</u>
agent-oriented mod	implicated agent	-opposite of -menos
by-phrases	no by-phrases,	-no by-phrase
	no agent-oriented mod	-no manner mod
[[[VP] v] Voice _{Middle}] Asp]	??	-no agent-oriented
		-regular
		??

(Alexiadou 2018)

-menos: Perfect of result, event implications: embeds v/Voice

-tos: characteristic state (embeds v/v), ability passive (embeds middle Voice), negated (...v?)

2.2 Applicative typologies: English vs Spanish vs Hiaki

(Pylkkänen 2002, 2008, Cuervo 2002, Harley 2013)

- Applicatives introduce an unselected object/goal argument
- External argument > Applied argument > Selected object

- Decomposed vP makes syntactic analysis of applicatives possible, via argument-introducing Appl head (McGinnis 1998, 2001; Pylkkänen 2002)

→ [DP_{Agent} [Voice' ... [DP_{Applied} [Appl' ... [DP_{Theme} ...]]]]]

*[DP_{Applied} [Appl' Appl [vP DP_{Agent} [v' V...]]]]

5) Academic American English:

- a. Pat baked (Tracy) a cake. creation verbs
- b. Pat broke (*Tracy) the radio change-of-state transitive verbs
- c. Pat held (*Tracy) the suitcase stative transitive verbs
- d. Pat danced (*Tracy) unergative verbs

6) Spanish:

- a. Valeria le diseño una pollera a Adreína
Valeria CL.DAT.SG designed a skirt DAT Adreína
“Valeria designed Adreína a skirt.” *creation*
- b. Pablo le rompió la radio de la vecina a Valeria
Pablo CL.DAT.SG broke the radio of the neighbor DAT Valeria
“Pablo broke the neighbor’s radio on Valeria” *CoS transitive*
- c. Pablo le sostuvo la valija a Andreína
Pablo CL.DAT.SG held the suitcase DAT Andreína
“Pablo held the bag for Andreína” *stative transitive*
- d. *Pablo les bailó a los invitados
Pablo CL.DAT.PL danced DAT the guests
“Pablo danced for the guests.” *unergative*

7) Hiaki

- a. Maria Jose-ta panim ho'o-ria-k
Maria Jose-acc bread make-APPL-pfv
“Maria made bread for Jose.”
- b. Simo Maria-ta maso-ta mea-ria-k
Simon Maria-ACC deer-acc kill.sg-APPL-pfv
“Simon killed the deer on/for Maria.”
- c. Ume pascolam ume uusim yi'i-ria-n
The pascolas the children dance-APPL-p.impf
“The pascolas were dancing for the children.”

→ Low applicative: [DP [Voice [v [v [DP [Appl DP]]]]]] created DPs

→ Middle applicative: [DP [Voice [v [DP [Appl [V DP]]]]]] transitive results

→ High applicative: [DP [Voice [DP [Appl [v [V (DP)]]]]]] unergative activities

→ Predicts position of applied argument in hierarchy ($DP_{Agent} > DP_{AppI} > DP_{Theme}$), no need for mapping theories

→ Predicts applicatives will always participate in single event within VoiceP

2.3 Morphological causative typologies: Japanese vs Turkish (Miyagawa 1994, 1996, Harley 2008, Key 2013)

$[DP_{Causer} \dots [(DP_{Agent}) \dots [DP_{Theme} \dots]]]$

→ Biclausal morphological causatives in Japanese

8) Adverbial control: 2 subjects

Taroo-wa arui-te Hanako-o ik-ase-ta
Taroo-Top walk-te Hanako-acc go-sase-pst
Readings: 'Taro made Hanako go, walking.'
'Taro, walking, made Hanako go.' (Harley 2008: 30)

9) Binding condition B: 2 domains

a. Toru_i-wa Kitahara_j-ni kare_i*/*_j-o syookai si-ta.
Toru-TOP Kitahara-DAT he-ACC introduction do-PST
'Toru introduced him to Kitahara.'

b. Toru_i-wa [Kitahara_j-ni kare_i*_j-o syookai s]-ase-ta.
Toru-TOP Kitahara-DAT he-ACC introduction do-CAUS-PAST
'Toru made Kitahara introduce him.'(Horvath & Siloni 2011)

10) Coordination of embedded clause:

Hanako-ga [[Masao-ni uti-o soozisuru]-ka
Hanako-NOM Masao-DAT house-ACC clean-or

[hey-a-dai-o haraw]]-ase-ru kotoni si-ta
room-rent-ACC pay- CAUS-INF that to.do-PAST

'Hanako decided to make Masao clean the house or pay room rent.'
Reading: -(s)ase scopes over 'or'; Masao has a choice. (Kuroda 2003: 455)

→ Monoclausal morphological causatives in Turkish (Key 2013)

11) Adverbial control: One subject

Tarkan_iHakan-aj Mehmet-i bil-erek_i*_j döv-dür-dü.
Tarkan Hakan-DAT Mehmet-ACC know-PART beat-CAUS-PAST
'Tarkan made Hakan beat Mehmet on purpose/knowingly.'

(*bil-erek*, 'knowingly', only controlled by Tarkan, not Hakan)

12) Binding condition B: One domain

- a. Hakan_i on-u_{*i} döv-dü
 Hakan 3SG.ACC beat-PST
 'Hakan beat him.'
- b. Tarkan_i Hakan-a_j on-u_{*i/*j} döv-dür-dü
 Tarkan Hakan-DAT 3SG beat-CAUS-PST
 'Tarkan made Hakan beat him.'

13) No coordination of caused events

- *Hakan Mahmut-a ev-i temiz-le- veya kira
Hakan Mahmut-DAT house-ACC clean-v- or rent

öde-t-me-ye karar ver-di.
pay-CAUS-NOM-DAT decision give-PAST
Intended: 'Hakan decided to make Mahmut clean the house or pay rent.'

→ Biclausal productive morphological causatives: [VoiceP [Caus [VoiceP [vP [VP]]]]]s
-Causee required, core argument
-Two eventualities

→ Monoclausal productive morphological causatives: [VoiceP [Caus [vP [VP]]]]
-Causee implicit or adjoined
-One eventuality

(→ Lexical causatives: [Caus [VP]])

3. New horizons

- Minimalist, monotonic view of productive valence-changing morphology possible
(→ Including a monotonic account of valence-reducing morphology)
→ No generative lexicon, no mapping theory
→ Potentially unified view of argument introduction via a few varieties of functional heads (P, Appl, Voice), (Wood & Marantz 2015)
→ Neo-Davidsonian, radically minimal theory of argument interpretation possible
→ Clear structural, semantic and morphological predictions for different hypotheses
→ Can clearly ask questions about the semantic contributions of roots vs structure (Levin &/or Rappaport (..), Levinson 2007, 2014, Beavers & Koontz-Garboden 2020, Yu, Smith &/or Ausensi 2019, 2020)
→ Productive subfield!