Syntax 2: Anaphora and wh-movement

Technical specs:

Time: TTh 10:30-11:50 Place: Ryerson 277
Office hours: Mondays 11am-1pm Office: Classics 305

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TA: Heidi Elston, hrelston@uchicago.edu, office Beecher 405 TuWed3-4pm

Overview

This course covers the fundamentals and recent understandings of unbounded dependency structures (wh-movement in all its varieties) and of the workings of anaphoric elements and the relations between them and their antecedents.

Topics to be covered:

- Anaphoric relations and constraints on them (configurational constraints and others)
- Binding theory ('syntactic' anaphora: pronominals, reflexives, reciprocals; coindexation and coreference)
- Other anaphora: Logophors and switch-reference
- Wh-movement (A'-movement)
- Islands
- Cross-linguistic applications: overt/covert/multiple, Logical Form, and theories of variation

Requirements

This class will be conducted largely like a research seminar. As such, the expectation is that all of the readings will be done prior to the classes for which they are assigned, and that the majority of the discussion will be determined by participant's interests and questions. Only few homeworks will be given, though I may ask for an occasional brief (1 page) summary of articles. You will be asked to present one of the assigned papers to the class as well. The approximate proportions of the tasks for this course with respect to the final evaluation are as follows:

- Overall participation in the class [10%]
- One page summar{y/ies} of readings, homeworks [20%]
- Presentation of paper [20%]
- Original research paper [50%]

The paper is due at 10:30am on Thursday June 6 in my office.

[Rough weekly overview; readings may be added, and dates may change]

1 Introduction, constraints on nominal expressions

Introduction

Linearity, hierarchicality, "{c/k}ommand" [Langacker 1969, Lasnik 1976]

2 The binding theory: configurational views

c-command [Reinhart 1981]

Knowledge of Language Binding Theory [Chomsky 1986: 160-177]

3 The binding theory: less and non-configurational views

O-command [Pollard and Sag 1994: Ch. 6] Reflexivity [Reinhart and Reuland 1993]

4 Anaphora in a crosslinguistic context

Long-distance anaphora [Koster and Reuland 1991: 1-25]

Logophors and switch-reference [Y. Huang 2000: 172-189, 278-291]

5 A'-movement

A'-movement and islands [Ross 1967, Chomsky 1977] Crossover (weak, strong)

6 A theory of islands: Subjacency, the ECP, and barriers

Barriers: Chomsky 1986 Hornstein and Weinberg 1995

7 Islands, continued: Relativized Minimality

Rizzi 1990

8 Covert and multiple A'-movement

Questions in multiple A'-movement languages [Rudin 1988] Questions in non-A'-movement languages [Richards 2001: ch 2]

Readings

[Reading packets are available for purchase in Classics 9; Rizzi 1990 is at the Seminary Co-op]

Packet 1: Anaphora

Chomsky, Noam. 1986. Knowledge of language. Praeger: New York. [Ch. 3: pp. 160-177]

Huang, Yan. 2000. Anaphora: A cross-linguistic study. OUP: Oxford.

Koster, Jan and Eric Reuland (eds.). 1991. Long-distance anaphora. Cambridge University Press: Cambridge.

Langacker, Ronald. 1969. On pronominalization and the chain of command. In Reibel and Schane (eds.) *Modern studies in English*, 160-186.

Lasnik, Howard. 1976. Remarks on coreference. Linguistic Analysis 2: 1-22.

Pollard, Carl and Ivan Sag. 1995. Head-driven phrase structure grammar. University of Chicago Press: Chicago.

Reinhart, Tanya. 1981. Definite NP anaphora and c-command domains. LI 12: 605-635.

Reinhart, Tanya and Eric Reuland. 1995. Reflexivity. LI 24: 657-720.

Packet 2: Wh-movement

Chomsky, Noam. 1977. On wh-movement. In P.Culicover, T. Wasow, and A. Akamajian (eds.), *Formal syntax*. Academic Press: New York.

Chomksy, Noam. 1986. Barriers. MIT Press: Cambridge, Mass.

Richards, Norvin. 2001. Movement in language: Interactions and architectures. Oxford University Press: Oxford.

[Rizzi, Luigi. 1990. Relativized Minimality. MIT Press: Cambridge, Mass.]

Ross, J.R. 1967. Constraints on variables in syntax. PhD thesis, MIT.

Rudin, Catherine. 1988. On multiple questions and multiple WH fronting. NLLT 6: 445-501.

Hornstein, Norbert and Amy Weinberg. 1995. The Empty Category Principle. In Gert Webelhuth (ed.), *Government and Binding Theory and the Minimalist Program*, 241-296. Blackwell: Oxford.