

Syntax 2 (20500/30500)/ Proseminar on wh-movement (43750)

Technica

Time/place: TuTh 10:30-11:50, Stuart 105

My email: merchant <at-sign> uchicago.edu

Course webpage: home.uchicago.edu/~merchant/teaching.html

My office hours: TuTh 12-2pm, Classics 305

Goals and course description:

This proseminar explores recent work on the nature of A'-dependencies in a wide variety of languages. Topics include wh-movement and nonmovement in interrogatives, relatives, and comparatives, partial wh-movement, wh-expletives, resumptivity, islands (selective and strong), reconstruction effects, intervention effects, and the nature of successive cyclic movement. The course will have a strong cross-linguistic aspect to it, examining data from Korean, Irish, Hungarian, Turkish, Tzotzil, Swahili, Chinese, Japanese, Greek, Slavic, Romance, and Germanic languages, Chamorro and other Austronesian languages, and varieties of Arabic, among others.

Classic readings: Ross 1967, Chomsky 1977, Rizzi 1991

Probable readings from the recent literature: Basilico 1996, Cheng 1997, Chung 1998, Richards 2001, Simpson 2000, McCloskey 2000, Bošković 1998, 2000, Bouma, Malouf, & Sag 2001, Pesetsky 2000, Grewendorf 2001, Chomsky 2001, and Aoun & Li 2001, Kennedy to appear.

Coursework:

Coursework will consist of reading and discussion of the assigned papers, one homework, writing a ca. 4-5 (double-spaced) page squib (which may contain gaps, as a paper outline, to be filled in later) on a topic related to this course (topic to be chosen in consultation with me by the end of week 5, squib due week 7), making a 15-20 minute presentation (with handout) of one of the readings, and submitting a final paper of 10-15 pp. based on the squib.

Evaluation:

Your evaluation for this course will be based on the above coursework as well as on class participation.

Readings:

[Rough weekly overview; readings may be added/dropped, and order may change slightly]

1. Adger ch. 9 Chomsky 1977
Morphosyntactic reflections of wh-movement: Irish and Chamorro: McCloskey, Chung
2. Adger ch. 10 Ross 1967 Relativized Minimality Rizzi 1991

3. [Homework 1 due] Multiple A'-movement languages, wh-in-situ languages: Richards chs 2-3, Beck and Kim
4. Richards chs 4-5, papers from Boeckx and Grohmann 2003
5. more Slavic: Bošković, Pesetsky, Grewendorf, Sabel
6. Relative clauses, resumptive pronouns, correlatives: Aoun and Li [1st draft, squib due]
7. Internally headed relatives: Basilico
8. Comparatives: Kennedy
9. wh-scope marking, partial wh-movement: Lutz et al
10. Other: Bouma et al, Simpson, Simpson and Bhattacharya

References

- Adger, David. 2003. *Core syntax*. OUP: Oxford.
- Aoun, Joseph and Yen-hui Audrey Li. 2004. *Essays on the representational and derivational nature of grammar: The diversity of wh-constructions*. MIT Press.
- Basilico, David. 1996. Head position and internally headed relative clauses. *Language* 72: 498-532.
- Beck, Sigrid and Shin-Sook Kim. 1997. On WH- and Operator Scope in Korean. *Journal of East Asian Linguistics* 6: 339-384.
- Bošković, Željko. 2002. On multiple wh-fronting. *Linguistic Inquiry* 33: 351-384.
- Boeckx, Cedric and Kleantes Grohmann (eds.). 2003. *Multiple wh-fronting*. John Benjamins: Amsterdam.
- Bouma, Gosse, Rob Malouf and Ivan Sag. 2001. Satisfying constraints on extraction and adjunction. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 19: 1-65.
- Cheng, Lisa. 1997. *On the typology of wh-questions*. Garland: New York.
- Chomsky, Noam. 1977. On wh-movement. In Peter Culicover, Thomas Wasow, and Adrian Akmajian (eds.), *Formal syntax*, 71-132. Academic Press: New York.
- Chung, Sandra. 1998. *The design of agreement: Evidence from Chamorro*. U of Chicago Press.
- Grewendorf, Günther. 2001. Multiple wh-fronting. *Linguistic Inquiry* 32: 87-122.
- Kennedy, Chris. 2002. Comparative Deletion and Optimality in Syntax. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 20:553-621.
- Lutz, Uli, Gereon Müller, and Arnim von Stechow (eds.). 2000. *Wh-scope marking*. John Benjamins: Amsterdam.
- McCloskey, James. 2000. Resumption, successive cyclicity, and the locality of operations. Ms., UCSC.
- Pesetsky, David. 2000. *Phrasal movement and its kin*. MIT Press.
- Richards, Norvin. 2001. *Movement in language: Interactions and architectures*. OUP: Oxford.
- Ross, John Robert [Haj]. 1986. *Infinite syntax!* Ablex: Norwood, NJ. Selections: pp. 70-77, 97-109, 118-134, 147-149, 224-236. Published version of *Constraints on variables in syntax*, 1967, PhD thesis, MIT.
- Rizzi, Luigi. 1991. *Relativized Minimality*. MIT Press
- Rudin, Catherine. 1988. On multiple questions and multiple WH fronting. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 6: 445-501.
- Simpson, Andrew. 2000. *Wh-movement and the theory of feature-checking*. John Benjamins: Amsterdam.
- Simpson, Andrew and Tanmoy Bhattacharya. 2003. Obligatory overt wh-movement in a wh-in-situ language. *Linguistic Inquiry* 34: 127-142.