Discourse

Configurational

Languages

Edited by

Katalin É. Kiss

Discourse Configurational Languages

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Discourse Configurational Languages:

  Discourse Configurational Languages Katalin É Kiss,1995 Comprising eleven studies on languages with designated structural topic and focus positions this volume includes an introduction surveying the empirical and theoretical problems involved in the description of this language type Focusing on languages outside the traditional Indo European group the essays look at Chadic Somali Basque Catalan Old Romance Greek Hungarian Finnish Korean and Quechua The papers provide interesting new empirical data as well as a variety of means and alternatives of representing them structurally At the same time they address important theoretical questions in the framework of generative theory This is the first study to apply methods of comparative syntax to the study of topic and focus   **Why Agree? Why Move?** Shigeru Miyagawa,2009-10-30 An argument that not only do movement and agreement occur in every language they also work in tandem to imbue natural language with enormous expressive power An unusual property of human language is the existence of movement operations Modern syntactic theory from its inception has dealt with the puzzle of why movement should occur In this monograph Shigeru Miyagawa combines this question with another that of the occurrence of agreement systems Using data from a wide range of languages he argues that movement and agreement work in tandem to achieve a specific goal to imbue natural language with enormous expressive power Without movement and agreement he contends human language would be merely a shadow of itself with severe limitation on what can be expressed Miyagawa investigates a variety of languages including English Japanese Bantu languages Romance languages Finnish and Chinese He finds that every language manifests some kind of agreement some in the form of the familiar person number gender system and others in the form of what Katalin Kiss calls discourse configurational features such as topic and focus A key proposal of his argument is that the computational system in syntax deals with the wide range of agreement types uniformly as if there were just one system and an integral part of this computation turns out to be movement Why Agree Why Move is unique in proposing a unified system for movement and agreement across language groups that are vastly diverse Bantu languages East Asian languages Indo European languages and others   *Discourse Configurational Languages* Katalin É Kiss,2023   **Constituent Order in the Languages of Europe** Anna Siewierska,2010-12-14   Prosody and Focus in European Portuguese Sonia Frota,2014-01-21 This work is an investigation of the relation between prosodic structure intonational structure and some instances of focus realisation in European Portuguese EP The prosodic account has been developed within the relation based framework of prosodic hierarchy theory and the autosegmental metrical theory of intonational phonology The approach is both theoretical and laboratory phonology research Based on the analysis of various types of evidence i e Gandhi processes rhythmic intentional and boundary strength phenomena issues such as prosodic layering and the effect of branchingness and phrase length on prosodic phrasing are discussed Specifically I recursion in the form of restricted Compound Prosodic Domains is argued for Moreover the fact that the diverse manifestations of prosodic structure point to the same hierarchical

organization of the flow of speech into Fs and Is crucially assigns to the prosodic hierarchy a pivotal place in phrasal phonlogy Attention is paid furthermore to aspects of intonational structure like tonal association and alignment the characterization of leading and trailing tones and pitch accents structure It is argued that the HL accents of EP are real bitonal events whose features favour a hierarchical structured analysis of pitch accent structure With regard to focus it is shown that in EP focus is phonologically expressed by means of stress and accents effects and crucially not by means of phrasing effects And crucially not by means of phrasing effects Of particular importance is the selection of a special pitch accent to convey early or late focus and the implications it has or the standard positional account of prominence and the stress reversal analysis of prominence patterns Throughout the work the EP findings as well as the proposals set forth are discussed from a cross linguistic perspective with special reference to languages like English Dutch German different varieties of Italian and Bengali Also relevant to a general understanding of the prosodic reflexes of focus are languages like Hungarian Korean Basque and Wolof **Overt and Null Subjects in Bulgarian and in L1 Bulgarian-L2 German Interlanguage** Dobrinka Genevska-Hanke,2019-01-24 This book addresses the realization of pronominal subjects in Bulgarian and its implications for late near native competence of German as a second foreign language Since Bulgarian is under researched typological investigations were carried out prior to the empirical study of L2 subject use The book covers the adequate classification of Bulgarian ascertaining its pro drop nature and explores the possible impact of related cross linguistic differences on near native interlanguage grammars of speakers with the language combination L1 Bulgarian L2 German Although German is not pro drop it allows null topics and requires some obligatory null expletives so that null subject contexts superficially overlap for the two languages This is a source of interlanguage deficits if no proper differentiation between subject types is made **Structures of Focus and Grammatical Relations** Jorunn Hetland,Valéria Molnár,2013-02-06 The seven articles of this volume take up crucial aspects of information structure and grammatical form Special attention is paid to the definition of topic focus and contrast to the language specific devices for expressing different types of these information structural notions and to the typological characterisation of languages as to discourse configurationality The investigation of grammatical relations includes the interplay between syntactic functions morphological case and thematic structure and the study of the functional and formal complexity of passive in Germanic languages **The Syntax of Tuki** Edmond Biloa,2013-06-15 This monograph conducts a syntactic study of Tuki a Bantu language spoken in Cameroon from a cartographic perspective The following domains are meticulously explored The Complementizer Domain the Inflectional Domain and the Verbal Domain This study reveals that there is a relative phrase RelP located between ForceP and FocP Moreover a detailed analysis of an articulated IP provides the order of clausal functional heads that manifest aspectual morphology which is theoretically closely related to issues in adverbial syntax Additionally the language under study unveils a very rich structural make up of DP and the surface word orders attested in

this phrase can be accounted for in terms of snowballing movement operations along the lines previously sketched in the format of the Split DP Hypothesis Overall this cartographic analysis is bound to enrich our morphosyntactic knowledge of UG clausal architecture by demonstrating that its rich underlying structural skeleton is correlated by a wealthy surface structural and functional map Edmond Biloa is professor of Linguistics and Chair of the Department of African Languages and Linguistics at the University of Yaounde I in Cameroon Africa **Word Order and Information Structure in Makhuwa-Enahara** Jenneke Van der Wal,2009 This thesis investigates the grammar of Makhuwa Enahara a Bantu language spoken in the north of Mozambique The information structure is an influential factor in this language determining the word order and the use of special conjugations known as conjoint and disjoint verb forms The thesis consists of two parts The first part is a grammatical description of the language covering the basic properties in the phonology prosody and morphology of the nominal and verbal domain as well as an overview of the conjugational system The chapter also examines some syntactic issues such as relativisation and non verbal predication The second part is concerned with the question how syntax and information structure interact in Makhuwa Enahara The elements in a sentence are positioned before or after the verb on the basis of their information structure Elements in the preverbal domain are interpreted as more accessible functioning as topics The disjoint verb and elements in the postverbal domain form the comment The element immediately following the conjoint verb form is interpreted not just as new information but as exclusive meaning that the proposition holds for that referent and not for some other referents These data can be accounted for if insights from syntax and information structure are combined Two such approaches are discussed a cartographic model and an interface model Two interface rules are proposed to account for the interpretation of word order and the conjoint and disjoint verb forms in Makhuwa Enahara Archaism and Orality in Homeric Syntax Daphne Kleps,2009 Language Typology and Language Universals Martin Haspelmath,2001 No detailed description available for Language Typology and Language Universals 2 Teilband **Studies on the Syntax of Central Romance Languages** Olga Fullana,1998 The present volume contains a selection of the papers presented in the IIIrd Workshop on the Syntax of Central Romance Languages that was help in Girona on the 15th and 16 th of November 1996 The conference was organized ty the Departament de Filologia i Filosofia of the Universitat de Girona **Encyclopedia of Linguistics** Philipp Strazny,2005 Utilizing a historical and international approach this valuable two volume resource makes even the more complex linguistic issues understandable for the non specialized reader Containing over 500 alphabetically arranged entries and an expansive glossary by a team of international scholars the Encyclopedia of Linguistics explores the varied perspectives figures and methodologies that make up the field Cases and Thematic Roles Beatrice Primus,1999 This book is concerned with the mapping of thematic roles such as agent and patient onto syntactic cases such as nominative or ergative or onto structural relations It shows that cases and structural relations code different aspects of thematic structure The thematic determination of the structural relation of an argument is confined to its position

in the thematic structure of the predicate Case mapping is determined by the number of basic thematic concepts involved in this structure This fact and other facts presented in the book presuppose an approach to thematic roles that decomposes them into more basic concepts involving volitionality causation activity sentience possession etc and motivate the hypothesis that syntactic cases cannot be derived from structural relations in universal grammar The phenomena pertaining to relational typology that classifies languages into ergative accusative and active languages are shown to be restricted to case mapping The specific thematic determination of case mapping and the hierarchical organization of case systems explain not only the existence of these types of mapping but also the fact that ergative and active phenomena are typically case based The book provides a global cross linguistic perspective but German data recurrently serve as an illustration of the main theoretical assumptions   **Proceedings from the Parasessions of the Chicago Linguistic Society's ... Meeting** Chicago Linguistic Society. Meeting,2006   *Quantificational Dependencies* Sarah D. Kennelly,2004   *Encyclopedia of Language & Linguistics* E. K. Brown,2006   **Journal of African Languages and Linguistics** ,1999   *Linguistics* ,2003   **Journal of Pidgin and Creole Languages** ,1997

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