

Course overview

WEEK 1: locality in the history of Chomskyan generative grammar

- the A-over-A condition of Chomsky (1964)
- Ross's (1967) island conditions (CNPC, Sentential Subject Constraint, Coordinate Structure Constraint, Left Branch Condition, Right Roof Constraint (*avant la lettre*))
- the Tensed-S Condition or Propositional Island Condition (PIC)
- the Subjacency Condition and cyclic/bounding nodes; from 'Conditions on transformations' (Chomsky 1973) via 'On *wh*-movement' (Chomsky 1977) to *LGB* (Chomsky 1981)
- *Barriers* (Chomsky 1986) as the epitome of generative locality theory

WEEK 2: from GB to minimalism

- (anti-)locality and the Vacuous Movement Hypothesis (Chomsky 1986, Den Dikken 2006b)
- types of A'-dependencies: movement *vs* binding, and island sensitivity (Cinque 1990)
- the *phase* (Chomsky 2000–2004)
- the (alleged) evidence that *vP* is a phase but *TP* is not a phase (Legate 2003)
- phase extension (Den Dikken 2006a)

WEEK 3: successive-cyclicity

- the Phase Impenetrability Condition, and the role of 'edges' (Chomsky 2000–2004)
- cyclic linearisation, and escape hatching as an artifact thereof (Fox & Pesetsky 2004)
- is a stopover in SpecCP *ever* necessary under extraction from embedded clauses? — the view from Tree Adjoining Grammar (TAG) (Frank 2002, 2005)
- if yes, is a stopover in SpecCP *always* necessary under extraction from embedded clauses? (Rackowski & Richards 2005 on Tagalog, Den Dikken 2005 on Hungarian)
- overview of the major findings, and concluding remarks

NB this course focuses on locality of Agree and Move/Attract; it will not address in any detail the locality conditions on binding (developed from the NIC and the SSC into the Binding Principles of *LGB*) or control, even though these conditions may turn out to be (partially) reducible to the locality conditions on Agree and Move/Attract (cf. Hornstein's work on control as movement, and Chomsky's suggestion in *MPLT*, building on Pica's work, that anaphoric dependencies are movement dependencies; see also Kayne's movement-based analysis of pronominal anaphora)

References

Seminal works in the history of locality theory

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On locality in minimalist syntax

- Chomsky, Noam. 1995. *The Minimalist Program*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
- Chomsky, Noam. 2000. Minimalist inquiries: The framework. In R. Martin, D. Michaels & J. Uriagereka (eds), *Step by Step*. Cambridge, MA: MIT Press.
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- Lasnik, Howard & Juan Uriagereka. 2005. *A Course in Minimalist Syntax. Foundations and Prospects*. Oxford: Blackwell [chapter 3, and sections 7.4 and 7.6 of chapter 7].

Specific topics

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- Dikken, Marcel den. 2006b. Vacuous movement in focus — On the syntax of highest-subject *wh*-questions and relative clauses. Paper presented at the 29th GLOW Colloquium, Barcelona; ms., CUNY Graduate Center.
- Fox, Danny & David Pesetsky. 2004. Cyclic linearization of syntactic structure. Ms., MIT; to appear in *Theoretical Linguistics*, special issue on Object Shift, ed. Katalin É. Kiss.
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- Frank, Robert. 2006. Phase theory and Tree Adjoining Grammar. *Lingua*.
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- Polinsky, Maria & Eric Potsdam. 2001. Long-distance agreement and topic in Tsez. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 19. 583–646.
- Rackowski, Andrea & Norvin Richards. 2005. Phase edge and extraction: a Tagalog case study. *Linguistic Inquiry*.
- Szabolcsi, Anna & Marcel den Dikken. 2003. Islands. In L. Cheng & R. Sybesma (eds), *The Second State-of-the-Article Book*. Berlin: Mouton de Gruyter.