

Acknowledgements

Until recently, I was doubtful that it would ever be possible to study syntax (= the grammar). According to generative grammar, syntax is a study of mental representations, in particular, how they are generated, and feed into the other computational components of natural language, namely phonology and semantics. Most works on the syntax/semantics interface assume that all meanings associated with a given sentence, excluding presupposition, implicature, and metaphor, are generated directly through the compositional computation applied to an LF representation. Under this assumption, upon the discovery of an interpretation that cannot be accounted for by a given pair of existing syntactic and semantic theories, researchers typically seek a way to enrich either of the syntactic or semantic theory to accommodate the discovery. Such a practice appeared, and still appears to me, to be merely a sophisticated mental exercise, and it did not seem to be an activity to prove the existence of the grammar or to study its properties. In fact, nothing warrants that a given interpretation associated with a sentence is generated directly through LF compositional computation. In sum, I was left in darkness, wondering how we can convince ourselves of the existence of the grammar, and study its properties.

It was a series of Hajime Hoji's works that rescued me out of the darkness. His works convincingly demonstrate that if we pay attention to certain linguistic environments, the distribution of certain anaphoric relation, in particular what is normally called bound variable anaphora, is neatly described by c-command, a theoretical primitive (or a notion that is derivative of Merge, the operation that concatenates two elements) that has

to be adopted in any syntactic theory, but in some minimally different environments, the distribution remains idiosyncratic. It is also shown that a number of phenomena that are typical of syntax manifest only in the former environments. In other words, Hoji's works present two distinguished natural classes of linguistic environments, and only in one of them certain interpretations seem to reflect syntactic properties.

The work presented in this dissertation is inspired by Hoji's works. In fact, it aims to confirm Hoji's vision, so to speak, in the area of quantifier scope, and each chapter thereof points to one thesis that it is not always the case that a given scope interpretation emerges directly through LF compositional computation. Some critical readers may not accept what this thesis implies, namely, some scope interpretations are not solely based on LF compositional computation, especially because I only give speculative remarks as to how those interpretations come about. I however believe that this work convincingly demonstrate that there are two distinguished classes of scope interpretations, and only one of them reflects syntactic properties. I acknowledge that this work is merely the first step in my research project that aims to prove the existence of the grammar and study its property, and thus far from completion. But as the initial endeavor, I am happy about it.

Many people helped me complete this dissertation. First of all, I would like to thank my thesis committee members, Hajime Hoji, Barry Schein, Tim Stowell, Hagit Borer, and Audrey Li. As implied above, the works of Hajime inspired me to be a syntactician; hence, I owe my existence as a linguist to him. What he has done for me over the last seven years is beyond one's speech, and certainly beyond his duty as my academic advisor. He has spent countless amount of time discussing with me various linguistic issues. He has always been supportive; what he gave me was nothing but hope

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