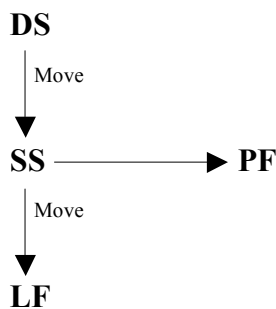


September 12, 2006

CLASS 2: ARCHITECTURAL ISSUES

PROPERTIES OF GB

(1) *The GB T-Model of the Grammar*



(2) John **persuaded** Harry to kiss Mary.

(3) a. John **seems** to like Mary.
 b. It **seems** that John likes Mary.

- **Case** is assigned (Case Theory)
- some **binding** properties (Binding Theory)
- null **operators**, parts of **ECP**, **Subjacency**
 [LF & PF mostly interpretive components]

(4) *Projection Principle*

All information present at one level of representation must be present at higher levels.

[= every movement leaves behind a trace *t*; primarily captures syntactic DS – SS – LF]

(5) *Extended Projection Principle*

All clauses must have subjects.

[= SpecIP must be filled]

(6) *Empty Category Principle (ECP)*

All traces must be properly governed.

[= a licensing requirement on *t* / *ec*]

On top of these principles, GB has a very simple **transformational component**:

(7) *Bind*

Freely assign an index to any DP.

[e.g. DP-1_i ... DP-2_{i/j} ... DP-3_{i/j/k}]

(8) *Move α*

Move anything anywhere anytime.

[= leaves behind *t* of form [_X *e*]]

GB was also made up of several modules. The **modular component** includes:

- Case Theory, Theta Theory, Binding Theory, ECP, Subjacency, X'-Theory, Control Theory

(9) *Government* (preliminary version)

α governs β iff:

- (i) α c-commands β and
- (ii) β c-commands α .

[c-command ~ “dominated by sister”]

NB: Especially chapters 2-3 and 8 (in HNG) illustrate (i) how pervasive government was in GB theory and (ii) how it can be replaced by other ways of capturing the relevant data and analyses.

RETHINKING S-STRUCTURE

SS is a purely theory-internal level. That is, it doesn't follow from “*(virtual) conceptual necessity*” (*VCN*) nor is it relevant for or required by what we might call *Bare Output Conditions (BOCs)* or *Interface Conditions (ICs)*. Additionally, economy considerations should favour a theory that has less levels of representation, if possible. — So: **Why SS?**

Case Theory (Case-assignment must take place after DS but before LF/PF — hence at SS)

- (10) **He** was seen. (11) **He** seems to be likely to win.
- (12) a. I met the man [**OP_i** that Mary believed t_i to be a genius] *Visibility Condition:*
 b. *I met the man [**OP_i** that it was believed t_i to be a genius] *θ-role/Case-marking*
- (13) a. ***Mary** to leave would be terrible. (14) a. [IP Δ was + Infl_{NOM} [VP seen **he**_{NOM}]]
 b. *It was seen **them**. b. [IP **he**_{NOM} was + Infl_{NOM} [VP seen t]]
 c. *John loves **they**. (15) There is **a cat** on the mat.

Binding Theory (Principle C, for example, cannot apply at DS, but at least at SS)

- (16) a. ***He_i** greeted Mary [after **John_i** walked in].
 b. [After **John_i** walked in], **he_i** greeted Mary.
- (17) **Who** ate **what**? (approach to the pair-list reading)
- (18) a. Which picture that **Harry_i** bought did **he_i** like?
 b. ***He_i** liked this picture that **Harry_i** bought.
 c. *Which man said **he_i** liked which picture that **Harry_i** bought?
- (19) a. Which portrait **that Harry likes** did he buy?
 b. Which portrait did he buy **that Harry likes**?

Question: **What moves?** (Phrase, Head, Feature...?) Example: *Wh*-movement...

Overt vs. Covert Operations (LFs must be uniform, output structures need not)

The core of **parametric variation**: Overt movement in one language, covert in another...

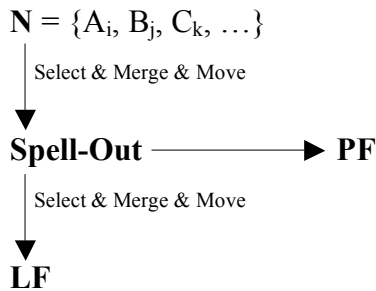
- (20) a. **What** did Bill buy? (21) a. John **often** drinks wine.
 b. Bill mai-le **shenme**? (Mandarin) b. Jean bois **souvent** de vin. (French)
- (22) a. **Who** gave *what to whom*? (23) a. ***Who what to whom** gave?
 b. ***Koj** dade *kakvo na kogo*? b. **Koj kakvo na kogo** dade? (Bulgarian)

Consider also *wh*-question formation in **Brazilian Portuguese** (overt vs null C, F-strength).

The “function” of splitting the derivation can be built into Spell-Out, F-strength, checking.

THE PICTURE SO FAR

(33) *A Minimalist T-Model*



NB: Only LF and PF can be argued to follow from “(virtual) conceptual necessity” (VCN) — DS and SS can’t, and neither are they relevant for or required by Bare Output Conditions (BOCs) / Interface Conditions (ICs). Additionally, economy considerations should favour two over four levels...

(34) *Inclusiveness Condition*

The LF object λ must be built only from the formal features [FF] of the lexical items LIs part of the initial and unique numeration N for a given linguistic expression.

(35) *Uniformity Condition*

The operations available in the covert component (the derivation from Spell-Out to LF) must be the same ones available in overt syntax (the derivation from N to Spell-Out).

(36) *Extension Condition* (preliminary version)

Overt applications of Merge and Move can only target root syntactic objects.

(37) *Procrastinate*

Features are checked only if they have to; features are thus checked as late as possible:

- (i) weak features are checked covertly (after Spell-Out, at LF);
- (ii) strong features must be checked overtly (prior to Spell-Out).

(38) *Theta-Role Assignment Principle (TRAP)*

θ -roles can only be assigned under a Merge operation.

REFERENCES

I already indicated some works that deal with GB in the form of textbook introductions. A shorter text (but, or hence, highly relevant and good) is Cheryl **Black**’s manuscript which is downloadable online.

Other **introductory** books from the reserve/short-term loan shelf are (in order of sophistication):

- Cook**, V.J. and M. **Newson**. 1996. *Chomsky’s Universal Grammar*. Oxford: Blackwell [2nd ed.]
- Radford**, A. 1988. *Transformational Grammar*. Cambridge: CUP.
- Carnie**, A. 2002. *Syntax*. Oxford: Blackwell.
- Culicover**, P.W. 1997. *Principles and Parameters: An Introduction to Syntactic Theory*. Oxford: OUP.
- Haegeman**, L. 1994. *Introduction to Government & Binding Theory*. Oxford: Blackwell [2nd ed.].
- Poole**, G. 2002. *Syntactic Theory*. London: Palgrave Macmillan.

Lastly, from the same list, this is a collection of relevant **overviews** of particular GB aspects/concepts:

- Webelhuth**, G. (ed.). 1998. *Government and Binding Theory and the Minimalist Program*. Oxford: Blackwell.