Dependency in Linguistic Description

Igor Mel’čuk and Alain Polguère (eds.)
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<td>Θ</td>
<td>operation of linguistic union</td>
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The following writing conventions are adopted throughout the volume:

- semantic quotes (…) for meanings;
- *italics* for linguistic expressions;
- **boldface** for linguistic signs;
- **SMALL CAPITALS** for names of lexical units;
- *italics 14pts.* for terms on the first mention.
Foreword

Igor Mel’čuk and Alain Polguère

Many forewords are written in order to observe a nice and useful tradition, a kind of politeness ritual. We have nothing against this approach, but we want this foreword to be more than that: it has to help the readers of the volume to make their way through its four papers. These papers are highly technical and not easy to assimilate, so we decided to try to “chew” them first in order to facilitate their digestion for the assiduous reader. This is said in order to send the right signal: our foreword—rather than just a friendly gesture—is intended to be a pedagogical introduction to this interesting, promising and in fact crucial domain of modern linguistics, which is dependency syntax. We will proceed in three steps:

1. general considerations about dependency syntax, as conceived of in this volume;
2. presentation of the papers by Mel’čuk, Kahane, Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk, and Milićević;
3. background on the making of the present volume and acknowledgments.

1 Dependency syntax: general considerations

We will start with two assumptions shared by many practitioners of the dependency approach to syntax, not necessarily those working in the Meaning-Text framework:

A sentence has associated with it a formal object depicting its internal organization called the syntactic structure. (The sentence is taken in one particular sense; an ambiguous sentence can have different syntactic structures.)

The syntactic structure of a sentence is a set of lexical units of this sentence linked together by syntactic relations.

Based on these assumptions, we will first formulate the properties of dependency syntactic structures on which most, if not all, researchers agree (1.1). Then we will proceed with properties that are more Meaning-Text related (1.2).

1.1 Definitorial properties of dependency syntactic structures

The syntactic structure of a sentence, presented in terms of dependencies between its words, has the following four definitorial properties, which we will explain in turn:
1. connectedness of the syntactic structure;
2. directedness of syntactic relations;
3. strict hierarchical organization of the syntactic structure;
4. “meaningfulness” of syntactic relations.

1.1.1  *Connectedness of the syntactic structure*

The syntactic structure forms a united whole, that is, a continuous system of syntactic relations. Consequently, any lexical unit L₁ being part of a sentence is syntactically related to at least one other lexical unit L₂; no lexical unit in the sentence is left out of the syntactic structure.

Note that a string made up of two syntactically connected lexical units L₁ and L₂ is a *minimal phrase*: L₁—L₂, where the dash indicates a syntactic connection; for example: *very surprising, eat bananas, for life, and John*, etc. The notion of minimal phrase is generalized to obtain the notion of phrase, which is essential to any further discussion of syntax. Anticipating on what is said in Section 1.1.3, we can characterize a phrase as a projection of a syntactic subtree.

Formal consequence of this property: the syntactic structure is a connected graph.

1.1.2  *Directedness of syntactic relations*

Syntactic relations are directed. This formal property reflects the asymmetric nature of phrases; namely, one component of a minimal phrase dominates the other. This is shown by the fact that the ability of a phrase to be added to a lexical unit inside a sentence is controlled by one of its components. As a result, any phrase behaves rather like its dominant component, or *head*. For instance, *very surprising* behaves like the adjective *surprising* and not like the intensifier adverb *very*; in a sentence, it can replace an adjective but not an intensifier adverb:

(1)  
   a. *He had strong opinions. ~ He had very surprising opinions.*  
   b. *He had incredibly much money. ~ *He had very surprising much money.*

A syntactic relation must be directed in order to reflect this hierarchical organization of the phrase: L₁→L₂. The lexical unit L₁ is the (direct) syntactic *governor* of L₂, while L₂ is L₁’s syntactic *dependent*. As a result, the head of a phrase is its element that is the direct or indirect governor of all its other elements.

Formal consequence of this property: the syntactic structure is a directed connected graph.

1.1.3  *Strict hierarchical organization of the syntactic structure*

Each lexical unit in the syntactic structure has one and only one syntactic governor, except for one unit that does not have a governor at all. The non-governed unit is the *top node* of the syntactic structure—i.e., the *head* of the sentence. The unicity of the governor for each lexical unit and the presence of a head in each sentence is what is meant by *strict hierarchical organization*.

Postulating the unicity of the governor for each lexical unit is justified by linguistic facts. Namely, in prototypical cases, it is the governor that controls the linear position of
the dependent, which is ordered with respect to it. Thus, in very-surprising it is very
that is positioned before surprising rather than surprising after very. It is natural to sup-
pose that linear positioning is carried out with respect to a single reference point (before
it ~ after it); therefore, each lexical unit must have just one syntactic governor, which
controls its linear positioning.\footnote{1} As a result, there is one and only one lexical unit in
the sentence that must have no governor: this is the head of the sentence—i.e., the top node
of its syntactic structure.

Formal consequence of this property: the syntactic structure is an acyclic directed
connected graph, i.e., a hierarchized tree or, for short, a tree.

1.1.4 “Meaningfulness” of syntactic relations
It is not sufficient to indicate an oriented syntactic relation between two lexical units L₁
and L₂ in order to fully specify the corresponding phrase. A structure such as L₁→L₂
can correspond to two or more contrasting phrases. For instance, the structure
SEND→MARY is underspecified: it applies to both occurrences of sent Mary in sen-
tences (2) below, whereas these occurrences correspond to two semantically contrasting
phrases.

(2) a. Mother sent→Mary to the doctor.
    b. Mother sent→Mary 200$.

This shows the necessity to distinguish syntactic relations themselves according to
the exact nature of the phrase they participate in: \( r₁ \) for (2a) and \( r₂ \) for (2b). It is conve-
nient to use, instead of simple abstract distinguishers, more telling names based on
accepted labels for the dependent component of the phrase: direct-objectival for (2a) and
indirect-objectival for (2b), that is, SEND–direct-objectival→MARY and SEND–indirect-
objectival→MARY. Note that we use here adjectival labels applied to the dependency
itself, rather than to its dependent element (direct object, etc.). This is related to the fact
that our own approach focuses more on dependencies themselves (see 1.2 below).

A syntactic relation carries much more linguistic information than simply indicating
the hierarchical organization of the phrase. It is a bridge between the meaning of the
phrase and its actual surface form, including morphology and prosody. It is in this sense
that we call it meaningful—although a syntactic relation does not normally correspond
to a specific meaning. Generally speaking, a syntactic dependent of a given type can ful-
fill different, even contrasting, semantic roles. For instance, the syntactic subject of an
active verb can correspond to Agent, Patient or Location (to name just a few):

(3) a. The University hired 15 new professors last year.
    b. The University suffered a setback last year.
    c. The University hosted an important conference last year.

Syntactic relations do correspond to semantic roles (and vice versa) but these corre-
spondences are by no means direct or systematic.

\footnote{1}{In point of fact, the situation is more complex: in some cases a dependent can control the position
of the governor, as in PREP→N phrases—see Mel’čuk’s paper, p. 26; or consider second-position clitics,
which are positioned independently of their syntactic governor—see Miličević’s paper.}
Formal consequence of this property: the syntactic structure is a tree whose nodes are labeled with lexical units and whose arcs are labeled with the names of syntactic relations.

The above formal characterization of the syntactic structure can be illustrated by a simple example. The dependency syntactic structure of sentence (4) appears in (5). More precisely, the tree diagram in (5) represents the surface-syntactic structure of sentence (4); we will see in the next subsection that, in the Meaning-Text approach, this level of representation is distinguished from a deep-syntactic level.

(4) *Mary was pulling John’s leg* *(Mary was teasing John)*.

(5) ![Diagram](image)

**Comments**

1. The nodes of a syntactic structure are labeled with the lexical units of the language under analysis; their names are printed in small capitals and supplied with sense-distinguishing lexicographic numbers. In the above example, these numbers are borrowed from *Longman Dictionary of Contemporary English ONLINE*.

2. The names of syntactic relations, which label the branches of the tree, are meant to reflect the specific nature of the corresponding construction. These names are of two types:
   - Some are built on the dependent member. Thus, the dependent of the subjectival relation is the subject, and that of the possessive relation, a possessive complement.
   - Some other names are built on the governor member. For instance, the governor of the auxiliary relation is an auxiliary verb, and that of the prepositional relation is a preposition.

3. The suffix of the so-called Saxon Genitive (= -‘s) is a marker of a syntactic relation and therefore it does not appear in the syntactic structure (as all other agreement and government markers). The dependent member of the possessive relation is also characterized by its obligatory anteposition and its incompatibility with determiners.

1.2 **Syntactic dependencies, with more Meaning-Text flavor**

The specific contribution of the Meaning-Text approach to syntactic dependency can be summed up in four points: meaning-to-text perspective, emphasis on the description of
dependencies themselves, deep vs. surface distinction, and ban on linear order in syntactic structures.

1.2.1 Meaning-to-text perspective
In our approach, syntactic structures are considered within a meaning-to-text perspective. More precisely, a syntactic structure is conceived of as a convenient intermediate structure between a source, which is a semantic non-hierarchized network, and a target—a linearly ordered morphological string. It is this perspective that allows the researcher to lay bare the language rules that relate the semantic, syntactic and morphological structures and actually make up language as a device for expressing thoughts. This approach also seems to be more fruitful from a pedagogical point of view: it makes sense to teach people to speak a language, that is, to teach language structures in a text-production—rather than text-interpretation—setting. The meaning-to-text orientation does not of course preclude the elaboration of analytical procedures as well. On the contrary, the formal proximity of syntactic dependency structures (graphs consisting of connected lexical units) to semantic networks (graphs consisting of connected lexical meanings) makes the analysis even easier.

1.2.2 Emphasis on the description of dependencies
We put main emphasis on the description of syntactic dependency relations themselves, rather that on the sentence elements connected by them. Dependency relations are considered as information-carrying entities: each syntactic relation (subjectival, direct-objectival, auxiliary, prepositional, conjunctival, etc.) is treated as a linguistic unit in its own right. Means and techniques are developed in order to establish the inventories of syntactic relations for particular languages. (For French valence-controlled dependencies, see Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk’s paper in this volume.)

1.2.3 Deep vs. surface distinction
Two levels of syntactic dependency are distinguished: the deep-syntactic structure, closer to meaning, and the surface-syntactic structure, closer to the “physical” form of the sentence. For instance, sentence (4) above is associated to the following deep-syntactic structure:

\[
\text{\textasciitilde PULL THE LEG}^1_{\text{act, ind, past, progressive, non-perf}}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{I} \\
\text{MARY}
\end{array}
\quad \begin{array}{c}
\text{II} \\
\text{JOHN}
\end{array}
\]

This structure obviously contrasts with the surface-syntactic structure in (5) in that it presents explicitly only the hierarchization of the three full lexical units whose meanings are expressed in sentence (4). Unlike the surface-structure, it does not directly reflect all that is needed in order to properly linearize and morphologize all lexical units actually appearing in the sentence.

2. Though lexemes PULL and LEG appear in the sentence, their meanings are not expressed because they are no more than formal constituents of the lexical unit (the idiom) \text{\textasciitilde PULL THE LEG}^1.
We cannot justify here the deep vs. surface distinction at the syntactic level. Suffice it to indicate four aspects in which it is particularly useful: 1) handling mismatches between semantic and syntactic structures; 2) processing idioms, which are simplexes at the deep-syntactic level but complex structures at the surface level, see (4)-(6) above; 3) providing means for a systematic account of collocations and facilitating the choice of collocates at the surface-syntactic level (see Polguère 2000, for lexicalization in text generation); 4) ensuring an efficient description of syntactic paraphrasing (Žolkovskij & Mel’čuk 1967; Mel’čuk 1988; Miličević 2007).

1.2.4 Ban on linear order in syntactic structures

We proscribe linear order in syntactic structures because ordering is the main and universal means of expression of those structures; therefore, it is not part of them. A dependency syntactic structure of a sentence must contain all the information necessary to properly compute all possible word orders in the sentence. This task is taken, basically, by syntactic dependency relations. For each individual relation, syntactic rules indicate the ordering of its dependent element with respect to the governor.

It is impossible to conclude this section without mentioning the fact that dependency approach is in fierce competition with phrase-structure approach. The relation between the two viewpoints is touched upon in Mel’čuk’s and Kahane’s papers in this volume. Let us simply mention here that although phrase-structure is rejected as a means of representing the syntactic organization of the sentence, phrases themselves are indispensable, even in the strictest dependency approach. They appear at the deep-morphological level of the sentence representation and are treated as genuine linguistic units with particular linear order and prosody.

2 Presentation of the papers

The present volume is not a well-organized manual or systematically arranged anthology. It is a collection of four papers, each dealing with a specific aspect of dependency syntax, and arranged in a natural order:

- the first paper, by Mel’čuk, is a general theoretical discussion of the notion of dependency as applied to language;
- it is followed by Kahane’s paper, which broadens the theoretical perspective by presenting an example of a formal dependency grammar and an in-depth comparison with phrase structure grammar;
- the next paper, by Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk, presents the application of theoretical principles for establishing Surface-Syntactic relations in French—more specifically, valence-controlled (that is, actantial) ones;
- finally, Miličević considers a challenging word order problem for dependency approach: second position clitics in Serbian.

In a collection of this type, repetitions are unavoidable; we eliminated the most obvious and irritating ones, but by no means all of them—first, this would have resulted in

3. Of course, drawing a dependency tree on a page we have to somehow order its nodes; however, this order is chosen only for the readers’ convenience.
too deep a recasting of the volume and second, isn’t *Repetitio mater studiorum*? We also standardized the terminology and notations in all four papers, as well as the presentation of the references—which are kept separate for each paper.

Now we offer short abstracts of the four papers.

2.1 *Mel’čuk: a sketch of dependency theory*

Based on such basic notions as wordform, clause, semantic predicate, inflectional category, etc., the paper starts with a demonstration of the existence of three types of dependency relations between two wordforms in sentences of natural languages:

- semantic dependency between two wordform meanings: predicate → argument dependency;
- syntactic dependency between two wordforms as such: governor → dependent dependency, which controls the passive valence of the phrase (its potential governors), as well as the mutual linear positioning of its wordforms;
- morphological dependency between two wordforms, of which one controls the inflectional values (grammemes) of the other: controller → target dependency.

Fourteen cases of possible combinations of different types of dependency between two wordforms in a sentence are considered: for instance, Fr. *Lida semble heureuse* (**Lida seems happy**), where *Lida* depends on *heureuse* semantically, while there is no direct syntactic dependency between these two wordforms, and where morphologically *heureuse* depends on *Lida* for its singular and feminine gender. This discussion contributes to systematically distinguishing between different kinds of dependencies; a failure to do so has resulted on many an occasion in confusion and serious mistakes.

Concentrating on syntactic dependency, the author moves to propose three groups of criteria for establishing a syntactic dependency between two wordforms \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) in a sentence:

- Criteria A establish the presence of a syntactic link between \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \), based on determining their mutual linear arrangement and possible prosodic unity;
- Criteria B establish the direction of the syntactic link between \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \), based on the passive syntactic valence of the phrase \( w_1—w_2 \), its external morphological links, and its semantic content;
- Criteria C establish the specific type of the surface-syntactic relation \( r \) holding between \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \), based on the absence of semantic contrast, syntactic substitutability of the dependent subtree, and repeatability of \( r \).

The introduction of these criteria allows for a deeper characterization of syntactic dependency. Several particular problems related to syntactic dependency are analyzed (the top node in a syntactic structure, verbless sentences, zero verb forms, ellipses, etc.); an illustrative list of Surface-Syntactic relations for English is proposed: 52 surface-syntactic relations, of which 50 subordinate and 2 coordinate ones. The paper ends with a general overview of some residual problems.
2.2 Kahane: phrases in Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar

Kahane’s paper, unlike the other three papers in this volume (which are situated within the Meaning-Text approach), crosses theory boundaries. By examining the role played by phrases in the process of sentence building, it bridges the gap between dependency and phrase structure approach to syntax. More specifically, the paper offers a dependency interpretation of extraction phenomena as modeled within the Head-driven Phrase Structure approach, or HPSG (Pollard & Sag 1994). The focus on extraction is justified by the fact that so-called Complementizers and Relativizers have received great attention in phrase structure approaches, with analyses that are primarily based on phrases as specific syntactic entities. The paper offers an alternative—more precisely, lexicalist—modelling of extraction, where HPSG formalism is used to implement a purely dependency interpretation of this phenomenon. An interesting point developed by Kahane is the treatment of relative pronouns, for which double dependency is proposed: a relative pronoun is considered, as a pronoun, to be a dependent of the Main Verb of the relative clause, and at the same time, as a transferer, to be its governor.

The main thesis defended by Kahane is that the modeling of extraction belongs to the syntax-semantic interface, while phrases are entities of syntax proper (Gerdes & Kahane 2007). The paper claims that a lexical-based approach to extraction will therefore be sounder and more economical than a phrase-based one, and it supports this claim by offering precise, well-formalized analyses of specific syntactic structures. The use of HPSG formalism presents the advantage of a rigorous mathematical modeling of extraction, while demonstrating that this formalism can very well support a dependency approach to syntax.

2.3 Iordanskaja and Mel’čuk: valence-controlled surface-syntactic relations between a verb and its dependents in French

This paper is an elaborate exercise in the methodology of establishing surface-syntactic relations [= SSyntRels] for French—those that are controlled by the active syntactic valence of a verbal governor. The central idea is to fit the techniques for establishing SSyntRels in a language into the accepted theoretical and typological frame used for establishing the inventories of other linguistic units (e.g., phonemes and grammemes).

Sixteen relevant linguistic properties of possible actantial syntactic dependents of French verbs are put forward: being present in any full-fledged clause, being able to depend on the Main Verb only, etc. Based on the similarity of the dependents with respect to these properties, the classification of the verbal syntactic constructions of French is proposed. Three criteria for the specific types of SSyntRels are defined (these are Criteria C in Mel’čuk’s paper): absence of semantic contrast (known in linguistics as Minimal pair test), mutual substitutability (Substitution test), and repeatability (Cooccurrence test). The commonality of the syntactic properties of dependents, combined with the application of these criteria has resulted in a list of sixteen SSyntRels. For each SSyntRel described, the authors supply: 1) properties of this SSyntRel; 2) formal types of its dependents (prepositionless noun, a DE-infinitive, a subordinate clause, etc.); 3) linguistic comments and a justification (if need be) in the form of a comparison with other SSyntRels.
2.4 Milićević: Serbian second-position clitics in a dependency framework

This paper describes a known word order problem of Serbian syntax: linear placement of clitics. The problem, previously studied in phrase-structure approaches, is tackled here in terms of dependency representation.

A crucial distinction is stated between two major types of clitics: verb-hosted clitics, like those found in French, Spanish, etc., and second-position clitics, characteristic of Serbian. The latter include unstressed pronouns, auxiliaries and particles (boldfaced in Serb. *Gde li sam ih sreo?* lit. ‘Where on-Earth am them having-met?’ = ‘Where on Earth have I met them?’)

Two defining properties of second-position clitics are stated: 1) they cluster, i.e., are brought together in a rigidly specified linear sequence, which is linearly positioned as a whole, and 2) the clitic cluster must stand in the clause, roughly speaking, after the first appropriate constituent. A Meaning-Text type constituent is a string of wordforms representing the continuous projection of a dependency subtree and treated by word-order rules as a whole; such constituents appear in the Deep-Morphological Structure. Milićević establishes the syntactic and prosodic properties of constituents that allow/disallow a constituent to host the clitic cluster. According to these features, constituents are identified as non-hosts or potential hosts, the latter being subdivided into skippable vs. non-skippable hosts and insertable vs. non-insertable hosts.

Linear positioning of a clitic cluster is carried out as follows: first, establishing the linear order of all the constituents of the clause—except for the clitic cluster; second, processing of all the constituents to determine which ones can or must host the cluster.

Two special topics are introduced and discussed: 1) skipping of constituents when looking for a landing site for the clitic cluster (in fact, the cluster can end up after second, third, etc. constituent); 2) insertion of the cluster inside the hosting constituent.

3 Making of the volume

This volume is the fruit of an informal symposium held in a bucolic atmosphere of the French region of Auvergne, in the village of Saint Just, in 1999. A group of colleagues and friends, all working in Meaning-Text dependency approach, gathered there in order to exchange ideas about the use of the dependency formalism in theoretical as well as computational perspectives. The first sketches of the four papers were presented and discussed during the *Saint Just Symposium*. It took, however, many years to finalize the papers and prepare the volume for publication. Nevertheless, the results of the research reported here are not dated because, in spite of so much effort and many interesting achievements, dependency approach to syntax still does not receive enough attention.

This book is intended to partially fill the gap and thus contribute to linguistic dependency coming to the fore in linguistics.
In conclusion, we will pay a pleasant debt of gratitude and acknowledge the financial assistance of the Fonds québécois de la recherche sur la société et la culture (FQRSC), which supports the work of the Observatoire de linguistique Sens-Texte (OLST) at the Université de Montréal, and the Blaise Pascal research grant given to Igor Mel’čuk, through the Fondation de l’École Normale Supérieure (Paris) and the Région Île-de-France. Next, we would like to thank Danielle “Dan” Collignon for her contribution to the preparation of the manuscript. Last, but not least, we are eternally grateful to Mr. René Cussac, mayor of Saint Just (Cantal, France), who provided us with everything we needed (and more) for our little scientific gathering.

References


Dependency in Natural Language

*Igor Mel’čuk

*It depends!*

[the main principle of human science—and of human life]

**Introduction**

One of the most vital and, at the same time, the most visible characteristics of human speech is a very high degree of organization of utterances. (Nothing astonishing, if we remember that ‘information’ is, roughly speaking, ‘degree of organization’.) More specifically, all the units which constitute the utterance—let us limit ourselves here, for simplicity’s sake, to wordforms—are arranged by the speaker in well-specified configurations, according to numerous complicated rules. These rules make up the crucially important component of any language: namely, its syntax. Putting this in a different way, all wordforms within an utterance are always related or linked among themselves. This fact is obvious to any speaker, independently of his educational level or general knowledge.

Thus, in English, we have to say *I love you*, rather than *I you love*, as one does in Russian or French (*Ja tebja ljubljui/Je t’aime*), or *Love I you*, or *To-me you love* (still in the sense of ‘I love you!’), or *I loves you*, etc. It is clear that the position and the form of the pronouns *I* (*Rus. JA, Fr. JE*) and *YOU* (*TY, TU*) depend on the verb, while the form of the verb depends on *I* (*JA, JE*). To make a long story short, the wordforms in an utterance are linked by dependencies: one wordform depends on another for its linear position and its morphological form. That is how the concept of dependency appears in linguistics.

Just from this it becomes evident to what extent dependency is important for linguistic description. It is one of the most basic concepts of linguistics, situated on the same level of basiness as, say, the signified, the signifier, the syntactics, and the linguistic sign: to speak in a way that guarantees the transmission of information, the speaker has first to select necessary signs (the paradigmatic axis) and then to arrange the signs selected into linear sequence (the syntagmatic axis). The arrangement of signs on the syntagmatic axis—i.e., the signs’ temporal sequence—is controlled by dependencies between them. Thus, linguistic dependency merits an in-depth study, which I hope to offer in what follows.
Two important provisos:

First, not all the relations between wordforms in utterances are dependencies. For instance, the coreference relation between wordforms father and he in the sentence *When I saw my father, he was busy repairing the fence* (here, father and he refer to the same person) is not a dependency. This paper limits itself to dependency relations.

Second, dependency in language is of three major types: semantic vs. syntactic vs. morphological dependency. This is, however, not easily seen on the surface—hence the widespread confusion of these different types. The failure to distinguish them results in many an incongruous or outright false statement. I will keep the different types of linguistic dependency apart as strictly as possible.

The paper is divided into three parts:

• Part I supplies the introductory information: auxiliary notions, basic assumptions, and detailed illustrations of linguistic representations proposed.

• Part II discusses the three major types of linguistic dependency: semantic, syntactic and morphological. The definitions of these three types of dependency are formulated, after which the properties of each type are described in parallel, their subtypes are specified, and an overview of their fourteen combinations (possible between two wordforms in an utterance) is presented. Criteria for the presence, orientation and specific type of syntactic dependency relation between two given wordforms are proposed.

• Part III concentrates on syntactic dependency. Four current fallacies concerning syntactic dependency are analyzed, and eight case studies are given to illustrate the effect of our criteria for establishing syntactic dependencies. A cursory comparison with constituency representation follows; the cases in which “pure” syntactic dependency proves to be insufficient for the representation of the syntactic structure of a sentence are discussed.¹

PART I: PRELIMINARIES

1 Auxiliary notions

The logical analysis of the concept “dependency in language” requires the following fourteen underlying notions:²

1. *Utterance*: a speech segment that is sufficiently autonomous. An utterance can appear between two major pauses, it constitutes a prosodic unit, and its internal struc-
nature is governed by linguistic rules. It is also perceived by speakers as “something that exists in the language.” An utterance is a wordform, a phrase, a clause, or a sentence.

2. *Wordform*: a minimal utterance [= not containing other utterances]. In a prototypical case, it is a disambiguated word [= a lexeme] taken in a specific inflectional form; for instance, the verb *SPEAK* is a lexeme, while *speak, speaks, spoke, spoken*, etc. are its wordforms.¹ The wordform is the ultimate unit treated in this paper: only linguistic dependencies between wordforms are considered, but not those between wordform parts [= morphs and other signs of the morphological level] or between wordform configurations [= phrases or clauses].

3. *Phrase*: an utterance consisting of several wordforms (as a limiting case, it can be one wordform).⁴

4. *Clause*: a phrase that is syntactically organized in essential respects as a sentence. A clause can constitute a (simple) sentence by itself or be a constituent of a sentence. In languages of Standard Average European type, a clause always contains at least one finite (= tensed) verb.

5. *Sentence*: a maximal utterance, which is a complete communication unit. (Two or more sentences are a sequence of utterances.) The sentence constitutes the upper limit of analysis in this paper: only linguistic dependencies between wordforms within a sentence are considered. (For instance, anaphoric links between wordforms from different sentences are not dependencies and, therefore, are not considered.)

6-8. *Semantic predicate, semantic name, argument* of a predicate: the notions themselves and the way they are used in linguistics are borrowed from the language of predicate calculus. A (semantic) predicate is a “binding” meaning, which is incomplete without other meanings: it has open slots into which other meanings should be inserted. A meaning that is not a predicate is a (semantic) name. Predicates denote actions, activities, events, processes, states, properties, relations, localizations, quantities, etc.; their linguistic expressions can belong to any part of speech. Semantic names denote objects (including beings), substances, and points in time and space; their linguistic expressions are, mostly, nouns.

A meaning that is inserted into an open slot of a predicate is called its *argument*; the traditional notation for a predicate *P* and its argument *a* is *P*(... ; *a* ; ...). Thus, *Leo is sleeping* is represented as *SLEEP*(LEO). A predicate can have several arguments:

\[ P(a_1 ; a_2 ; a_3 ; ...) ; \]

e.g., the verb *SEND* takes three arguments:

\[ Leo \text{ sent a letter to Alan} = SEND(LEO ; LETTER ; ALAN). \]

The number and the nature of arguments of a predicate must be fully specified in its description in one way or another, e.g., by ordering or numbering the arguments,

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¹ In case of compounding or incorporation, a wordform may represent two or more lexemes. This complication is, however, irrelevant here.

² I allow myself, stretching the terminology a bit, to use the term *phrase* also for the structural representation of an actual phrase. Thus, I will speak of “the ADJ + N phrase,” meaning the set of phrases like *intelligent child, expensive houses, former minister, blue sky*, etc. This is simply a convenient abbreviation.
so that, e.g., HIT(LEO ; ALAN) ≠ HIT(ALAN ; LEO). A predicate with its arguments can itself be an argument of another predicate, this phenomenon being recursive:

Leo knows that Alan is in love with Helen = KNOW(LEO ; BE-IN-LOVE(ALAN ; HELEN));
I think that Leo knows that Alan is in love with Helen =
THINK(I ; KNOW(LEO ; BE-IN-LOVE(ALAN ; HELEN))); etc.

9-10. **Inflectional category**: a set of mutually opposed inflectional values, called **grammemes**, such that the selection of one of them is obligatory with lexemes of a particular class (e.g., in English, number for a noun, with grammemes 'SG' and 'PL'; or tense for a finite verb, with grammemes 'PRES', 'PAST', 'FUT').

11-13. **Syntactics**: one of the three components of a linguistic sign, in particular of a wordform. Syntactics specifies the cooccurrence of the sign that is not determined by its signified nor by its signer (i.e., more or less arbitrary cooccurrence). The syntactics of a sign is represented as a set of **syntactic features**, each of which has mutually exclusive values.

14. **Passive syntactic valence** of a lexeme/of a phrase: a set of syntactic roles which the lexeme/the phrase can take in larger constructions (maybe with some inflectional modifications). In other words, the passive syntactic valence of a lexeme/a phrase is its syntactic distribution. Passive syntactic valence is normally defined for major classes of lexemes, known as **parts of speech**. Thus, the passive syntactic valence of the English noun is as follows: 1) the syntactic subject of a finite verb, 2) the Dir(ect) O(bject) [= DirO]\(^5\) of a transitive verb, 3) the Indir(ect) O(bject) [= IndirO] of a verb that takes IndirOs (send *Father a letter*), 4) the complement of a copula, 5) the complement of a preposition, 6) the first member of a nominal compositive phrase (*computer program*), 7) an address, 8) a fronted topic, etc.\(^1\) (Raised numbers in square brackets refer to the endnotes, p. 95 ff.)

2 Basic assumptions

**Assumption 1: levels of sentence representation**

A sentence has different **representations** on four levels: semantic, syntactic, morphological, and phonological. (In what follows, the phonological representation will be left out, even if phonological dependency is considered in a number of works: thus, see Durand 1986, Anderson & Ewen 1987, and Árnason 1989.) Each representation reflects a set of such properties of the sentence that are of the same nature. The same is true of any non-minimal part of the sentence — e.g., the clause or the phrase.

A sentence representation is a set of formal objects called **structures**, each of which is responsible for a particular aspect of sentence organization at the given level. Thus:

- Sem(antic) R(representation) = (SemS(tructure); Sem-Comm(unicative)S; Sem-RhetoricalS; ReferentialS)
- D(eep)-Synt(actic) R = (DSyntS; DSynt-CommS; DSynt-Anaph(orical)S; DSynt-Pros(odic)S)
- S(urface)-SyntR = (SSyntS; SSynt-CommS; SSynt-AnaphS; SSynt-ProsS)
- DMorph(ological) R = (DMorphS; DMorph-ProsS)
- SMorphR = (SMorphS; SMorph-ProsS)

\(^5\) For abbreviations used in this paper, see p. xi of the volume.
Assumption 2: sentence structures
The kernel part of a sentence representation, called its central, or bearing, structure, appears formally as a labeled graph, whose vertices, or nodes, represent linguistic units of the corresponding level, and whose arcs represent relations between these units.

It is here that the notion of linguistic dependency comes into play: the major type of relation between linguistic units in a sentence structure is dependency.

Assumption 3: deep vs. surface distinction
On the syntactic and the morphological level the Deep and the Surface sublevels of the sentence structure are distinguished: the former is aimed at meaning and expresses explicitly all relevant semantic contrasts; the latter is aimed at form and expresses explicitly all relevant formal contrasts. (For more on the Deep vs. Surface distinction, see Mel’čuk 1988: 59-72.)

3 Illustrations of sentence structures:
Semantic, Syntactic, and Morphological Structures

In order to show the reader how linguistic dependencies work, sentence structures that use various types of dependency will be presented—before introducing the corresponding concepts formally. These illustrations will be referred to during subsequent discussions.

Consider the English sentence (1) and its structures at different levels (Figures 1-4):

(1) For decades, cocoa farming has escaped such problems by moving to new areas in the tropics.

The Semantic Structure [= SemS] of a sentence is a network whose nodes represent meanings and are labeled with semantemes (roughly, lexical meanings of the language in question); its arcs represent predicate-to-argument relations and are labeled with numbers identifying an argument with respect to its predicate. These arcs correspond to semantic dependencies, see Part II, 2, p. 10.

![Figure 1: The Semantic Structure of sentence (1)](image-url)
This SemS is simplified; thus, semantic grammemes—number for nouns, tense for verbs—are not indicated.

The Deep-Syntactic Structure \([= \text{DSyntS}]\) of a sentence is a tree whose nodes are labeled with the full lexemes of the sentence; the arcs of this tree, called *branches*, are labeled with names of universal *Deep-Syntactic Relations* \([= \text{DSyntRels}]\). Their number—across all languages—is 12:

- seven actantial DSyntRels: \(I, \ II, \ ... , \ VI\), plus a special DSyntRel to encode the Direct Speech: \(I_{\text{dir.speech}}\) which is, so to speak, a variant of the DSyntRel \(II\);
- two attributive DSyntRels: \(\text{ATTR}(\text{ibutive}), \text{ATTR}(\text{estive})\) [written, as the default case, \(\text{ATTR}\) and \(\text{ATTR}_{\text{qual(ificative)}}\)];
- two coordinative DSyntRels: \(\text{COORD}(\text{ative})\) and \(\text{QUASI-COORD}\) [the latter is used for the special construction where the following element elaborates on the preceding one, adding more information: \(\text{John was born in the USA, -QUASI-COORD -> in New York, -QUASI-COORD -> in Manhattan, -QUASI-COORD -> on 56th Street}\)];
- and appenditive, or extra-structural, DSyntRel: \(\text{APPEND}(\text{itive})\), which links to the Main Verb \([= \text{MV}]\) such “loose” elements as interjections, addresses, sentence adverbials.

DSyntRels are, of course, particular subtypes of syntactic dependency; see Part II, 4, p. 21/ff.

![Figure 2: The Deep-Syntactic Structure of sentence (1)](image)

The diagram in Figure 2 indicates the coreference link between the two occurrences of *FARMING* (by a dashed bi-directional arrow). This indication belongs to the Deep-Syntactic Anaphoric Structure, mentioned above (and not considered in this paper); a coreference link is not a dependency, and it does not interfere with genuine syntactic dependencies represented in the DSyntS.

The Surface-Syntactic Structure \([= \text{SSyntS}]\) of a sentence (see Figure 3, next page) is also a tree whose nodes are labeled with all the lexemes of the sentence (including all auxiliary and structural words). The arcs of this tree, also called *branches*, are labeled with names of language-specific *Surface-Syntactic Relations* \([= \text{SSyntRels}]\), each of which represents a particular construction of the language (their number, in an
average language, is somewhere between 50 and 100; see a list of SSyntRels of English in Part II, 4.8, p. 52). SSyntRels also are particular subtypes of syntactic dependency.

Figure 3: The Surface-Syntactic Structure of sentence (1)

The Deep-Morphological Structure [= DMorphS] of a sentence is the string of lexico-morphological representations of all its wordforms. Its arcs are, so to speak, degenerated: they specify only the strict linear ordering of wordforms ("w₁ immediately precedes w₂"), so that they need not be indicated explicitly. In sharp contrast to the SemS and the D-/S-SyntSs, the DMorphS of a sentence does not represent morphological dependencies between its wordforms: morphological dependencies are not explicitly presented in MorphSs because they are not universal (see Part II, 3.2, item f, p. 15). They are computed—by means of syntactic rules of the language—on the basis of syntactic dependencies, that is, from the SSyntS, transcoded into grammemes that appear in the DMorphS and expressed in the corresponding wordforms.⁶

⁶ The other structure of the DMorphR of a sentence is the Deep-Morphological Prosodic Structure [= DMorphProsS], which specifies the pauses, i.e., phonological phrases, as well as intonation contours, phrase and sentence stresses, etc. It is here that what are known as constituents—in the strict sense of the term—first appear. Cf. P. III, 4.1, p. 90ff, as well as Miličević’s paper in this volume, Section 4.3.2, p. 261ff.
Thus, the SemS of Figure 1 shows semantic dependencies between (the meanings of) the wordforms of sentence (1), while the DSyntS of Figure 2 and the SSyntS of Figure 3 show the Deep- and Surface-syntactic dependencies between the wordforms of (1); but morphological dependencies are not shown explicitly. Given the morphological poverty of English, there is only one case of morphological dependency in (1): the wordform *has* depends morphologically—for the singular and 3rd person—on *farming*. The Russian sentence (2), which is a close translation equivalent of (1), contains many examples of morphological dependency (its major types—agreement, government, and congruence—are considered in Part II, 3.3, p. 15ff):

\[(2)\] \begin{align*}
V \text{ tečenje desjatiletij kul’tura kakao ne znal\i such problem blagodarja rasprostraneniju na novye territorii v tropikax.}
\end{align*}

Here,

- *desjatiletij* [GEN] ‘decades’ depends for its case on *v tečenje* ‘during’ [government];
- *kul’tura* [NOM] ‘farming’ depends for its case on *[ne] znal\i* lit. ‘has-known’ [government];
- *znal\i* [SG, FEM] ‘has-known’ depends for its number and gender on *kul’tura* ‘farming’ [agreement];
- *takix* [PL, GEN] ‘such’ depends for its number and case on *problem* ‘problems’ [agreement]; etc.

In Russian, unlike English, almost all the wordforms of a sentence may be linked by morphological dependencies.

**PART II: THREE MAJOR TYPES OF LINGUISTIC DEPENDENCY**

1 **General remarks**

I will consider three major types of syntagmatic dependency relations between (specific occurrences of) wordforms in a sentence: semantic dependency \([= \text{Sem-D}]\), syntactic dependency \([= \text{Synt-D}]\), and morphological dependency \([= \text{Morph-D}]\), as distinguished in Mel’čuk 1964a, 1979: 13, 1981, 1988: 105-149 and developed in Nichols 1986. I will

\[\text{7 In point of fact, Sem-D holds between lexical meanings (of wordforms), i.e., between semantemes in the Semantic Structure—rather than between actual wordforms in an actual sentence. However, I have allowed myself this \textit{abus de langage} in order to be able to compare different Ds between wordforms, doing this in a parallel fashion.}\]
leave aside paradigmatic relations between wordforms, such as synonymy, antonymy or derivation, and syntagmatic relations of a different nature, such as:

— all kinds of lexical correspondences, e.g., between a word and a preposition it requires (INSIST — on, BORROW — from, CENTRAL — to), or between a noun and its classifier (e.g., in Vietnamese an animate noun takes the classifier CON and an inanimate noun, the classifier CÁI, with some exceptions—such as con sông ‘river’; in Indonesian, nouns take different classifiers according, roughly, to their semantic class: tiga helai kemeja lit. ‘three sheet shirt’ = ‘three shirts’ vs. tiga ekor ajam lit. ‘three tail chicken’ = ‘three chickens’ vs. tiga batang rokok lit. ‘three stick cigarette’ = ‘three cigarettes’, etc.; let it be emphasized that no morphology is involved in such lexical correspondences);

— the anaphoric relation (coreferentiality: between a pronoun and its antecedent or between two nouns sharing the same referent; lexical identity: between a pronoun of the type of THAT and its antecedent, as in my hat and that of my friend);

— the inclusion relation (between a phrase and its constituents);

— the ordering relation (between wordforms, phrases, and clauses);

— the communicative dominance relation (between semantic units in a semantic representation).

I will deal only with direct dependencies, without indicating this explicitly every time.

Dependency is by definition a non-symmetrical relation, of the same type as logical implication: one element implies in some sense the other, but, generally speaking, not vice versa. Therefore, dependency is denoted by an arrow: \( w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \) means that \( w_2 \) depends on \( w_1 \); \( w_1 \) is said to be the governor of \( w_2 \), and \( w_2 \) a dependent of \( w_1 \). Other terms used to designate the governor in a dependency relation include: head, regent, ruler; here, however, only the term governor will be used. The term head, extremely popular in the literature, has the following defect: it is natural to speak of the head of a phrase/clause/sentence, but the expression ‘the head of this wordform’ meaning ‘the governor of this wordform’ seems much less convenient. The concept of head is inherited from phrase-structure syntax and carries with it unnecessary connotations (implying constituency). Moreover, governor of phrase \( P \neq head of phrase \ P \); \( P \)’s governor is outside of \( P \), while \( P \)’s head is inside of \( P \), so that in (3) the head of the phrase \( P = abc \) is the unit \( b \), while \( P \)’s governor is the unit \( d \):

\[
\begin{array}{cc}
(3) & \\
& \text{d} & \text{a} & \text{c} & \text{b} & \text{c} \\
\end{array}
\]

Therefore, in this paper the term head is used only in the precise sense ‘the Synt-head of a phrase/clause/sentence’, never in the sense of the Synt-governor. (Cf. Hudson 1993a: 274-275, on the terminological problem with respect to the expressions head of a phrase vs. head of a wordform.)
An alternative term for dependent is satellite.

Because of its intermediate nature—it is “squeezed” between semantics and morphology, Synt- is the most difficult type of linguistic dependency to grasp. Therefore, it will be treated after Sem- and Morph-.

2 Semantic dependency

2.1 The concept of semantic dependency

As stated in Part I and illustrated in Figure 1, the meaning of a sentence can be represented using the formalism of the predicate calculus. We say that an argument of a predicate semantically depends on this predicate; for P(a) we write P-→a. As I have said, an argument of a predicate P can be another predicate P with its own arguments a₁, a₂, a₃, ...:

\[ P₁(P₂(a₁; a₂; a₃; ...)) \]

In this case, we write P₁-→P₂, P₂-→a₁, P₂-→a₂, P₂-→a₃, etc.

The arc between the predicate and its argument carries the number of the argument: P₁→a₁, P₂→a₂, etc. The meaning of the sentence Leo sent a letter to Alan can then be represented (leaving grammemes aside) as

\[ \text{Leo} \rightarrow \text{send} \rightarrow \text{letter} \rightarrow \text{Alan} \]

From this, we immediately obtain the definition of Sem- between wordforms w₁ and w₂ in an utterance.

Definition 1: Semantic dependency

The wordform w₂ is said to semantically depend on the wordform w₁ in the given utterance if and only if the meaning of w₁ is (or includes) a predicate and the meaning of w₂ is an argument of this predicate in this utterance: \( w₁(...) ; w₂ ; ... \).

I write, as convened above, \( w₁-→w₂ \).

A Sem-dependent of a wordform is called its Sem-actant.

2.2 The logical and linguistic properties of semantic dependency

a) Sem- is anti-symmetrical: \( w₁-→w₂ \) entails \( \neg(w₁-→w₂) \), i.e., \( w₁-→w₂ \). The predicative meaning of a wordform (or any other type of meaning) cannot be an
argument of the predicative meaning of another wordform and, at the same time, have the latter as its own argument.

b) Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) is anti-reflexive: \(* \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_0\), i.e., a meaning of a wordform cannot be its own argument. The anti-reflexivity of the Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) follows from its anti-symmetry.

c) Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) is, generally speaking, neither transitive, nor anti-transitive: in most cases, \(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_2\) and \(w_2 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3\) entails neither \(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3\), nor \(\neg(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3)\). Thus, from I saw \([= w_1]\) Alan’s \([= w_3]\) wife \([= w_2]\) it does not follow that I saw Alan as well, but it does not follow, either, that I did not (I could).

However, in some cases, i.e., for some predicates, Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) is transitive: with such predicates, \(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_2\) and \(w_2 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3\) entails \(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3\). A typical example is the predicate \([\text{to order}]\) in the sentence I order \([= w_1]\) him \([= w_3]\) to go \([= w_2]\),\(^8\) which has the following SemS:

Thus, the SemS may contain an undirected circuit (shown in boldface in the above diagram), but not a cycle, i.e., a directed circuit in which all the arrows point in the same direction.

Finally, in some other cases, Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) is anti-transitive:

\(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_2\) and \(w_2 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3\) entails \(\neg(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3)\).

Thus, in I wrote down \([= w_1]\) Alan’s \([= w_3]\) address \([= w_2]\), it is clear that \(\neg(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} w_3)\). Another example of the same type is I heard \([= w_1]\) that Alan \([= w_3]\) came \([= w_2]\) home.

d) Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\)s must be typed, or labeled: a Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) arc has to be supplied with a symbol identifying the corresponding argument. In the present approach, this is a purely distinctive number: it does not carry meaning by itself. Thus, an arc \(\rightarrow i \rightarrow\) expresses different semantic roles with different predicates. (The actual semantic role of an argument of the predicate ‘\(w\)’ is specified by the semantic decomposition of ‘\(w\)’. For instance, ‘\(X\) kills \(Y\)’ = ‘\(X\), by acting upon \(Y\), causes that \(Y\) dies’, which shows that \(X\) is the Agent and the Causer, while \(Y\) is the Undergoer.) In other approaches, the symbols on Sem-arcs can be meaningful: e.g., Agent, Perceiver, Beneficiary, etc. Since this does not affect my reasoning in any essential way, I will not deal with this issue here.

\(^8\) The English verb \textit{order} is such that if its meaning takes as its Sem-argument 2 the meaning ‘\(\text{go}\)’, which in turn has Sem-argument 1 ‘\(\text{he}\)’, then the meaning ‘\(\text{order}\)’ has to take ‘\(\text{he}\)’ as Sem-argument 3 (such verbs are known as “subject-to-object raising verbs”). This shows the transitivity of the Sem-\(\mathfrak{D}\) under consideration.
e) Sem-\( \bullet \) does not presuppose the uniqueness of the governor: a wordform can semantically depend simultaneously on many other wordforms, i.e., many different meanings can be predicated about one meaning at the same time:

\[
[a] \text{nice little hotel renowned [for its comfort] } \iff \text{ \graph}
\]

f) Sem-\( \bullet \) is universal in the following three respects: it is present in all languages; it appears in all sentences of a language; and it embraces all full wordforms of a sentence (this means that in a sentence, Sem-\( \bullet \)'s always form a connected structure, such that there is a Sem-"path" between any wordform and any other wordform). Cf. the Sem-\( \bullet \)'s in the SemS of Figure 1, p. 5.

3 Morphological dependency

3.1 The concept of morphological dependency

In many languages (but by no means in all!), a wordform \( w_2 \) in an utterance can take a particular morphological form, or inflect, under the impact of another wordform, \( w_1 \), of this utterance. Thus, in I am well vs. You are well the verb BE has different forms because of its subject [agreement, cf. 3.3, Definition 3, p. 16]. In German, with the preposition NACH (after/to) a noun is in the dative (nach dem Fest (after the feast)), but with WEGEN (because of) it is in the genitive (wegen des Fest+es (because-of the feast)) [government, cf. 3.3, Definition 4, p. 18]. Technically, in such cases a grammeme \( g \) of an inflectional category \( C \) of \( w_2 \) is determined by some properties of \( w_1 \). This leads to the following definition.

**Definition 2: Morphological dependency**

The wordform \( w_2 \) is said to **morphologically depend** on the wordform \( w_1 \) in the given utterance if and only if at least one grammeme of \( w_2 \) is selected depending on \( w_1 \).

I write \( w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2 \).

3.2 The logical and linguistic properties of morphological dependency

a) Morph-\( \bullet \) is, strictly speaking, anti-symmetrical. In most cases (agreement of an ADJ with an N, government of the case of an N by a V or a PREP, etc.),

\[
w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2 \text{ entails } \neg (w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2).
\]

However, in some cases, Morph-\( \bullet \) is, so to speak, quasi-symmetrical—or rather reciprocal: a wordform \( w_2 \) can be inflected, for the inflectional category \( C_1 \), as a func-
tion of the wordform $w_1$, and, at the same time, $w_1$ must be inflected, but for a different category $C_2$, as a function of $w_2$, so that $w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2$ entails $w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2$; as a result, $w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2$ obtains, with $C_1 \neq C_2$. This property does not contradict the antisymmetry of dependency in general, since the reciprocity of Morph- $w$ is possible only with respect to different Cs.

Examples

(4) Russian

\[
dva^+a \quad stol \quad +a \quad \text{‘two tables’}
\]

\[
two \text{MASC.NOM} \quad \text{table[MASC]} \quad \text{SG.GEN}
\]

The noun *stola* morphologically depends for its singular and genitive case on the numeral *dva*, while *dva* depends on *stola* for its masculine gender; cf., respectively, *pjar’ stol+ov* [PL.GEN] ‘five tables’ and *dvadcat’ odin stol+Ø* [SG.NOM] lit. ‘twenty-one table’, but *dva+e* [FEM.NOM] *krovati* ‘two beds’.

[Here and below, the grammemes of the wordform $w$ which are determined by the wordform $w’$, as well as their markers, are boldfaced.]

(5) Georgian

a. *Gogi+Ø* \quad m \quad +zrdi \quad +s \quad me

\[
\text{Gogi NOM} \quad \text{1SG.OBJ} \quad \text{bring.up} \quad \text{PRES.3SG.SUB} \quad \text{me-DAT}
\]

‘Gogi brings me up’. vs.

\[
\text{Gogi+Ø} \quad \text{gv} \quad +zrdi \quad +s \quad \tilde{c}ven
\]

‘Gogi brings us up’.

b. *Gogi+m* \quad ga \quad +m \quad +zard \quad +a \quad me

\[
\text{Gogi ERG} \quad \text{COMPL} \quad \text{1SG.OBJ} \quad \text{bring.up} \quad \text{AOR.3SG.SUB} \quad \text{me-NOM}
\]

‘Gogi brought me up’. vs.

\[
\text{Gogi+m} \quad \text{ga} \quad +gv \quad +zard \quad +a \quad \tilde{c}ven
\]

‘Gogi brought us up’.

[In Georgian, the forms of the nominative and the dative of the 1st/2nd person pronouns are homophonous; a transitive verb, when in the present, requires a nominative construction, with the Subject in the nominative and the Direct Object in the dative, while when it is in the aorist, an ergative construction appears: the Subject is in the ergative and the DirO in the nominative.]

Both Synt-actants depend morphologically on the verb for their case (which is imposed by the syntactic type of the verb and its tense: the present vs. the aorist), while the verb depends morphologically on the actants for its person/number (of the Subject and of the DirO).

b) Morph- $w$ is anti-reflexive: *

\[
\begin{array}{c}
morph \\
w
\end{array}
\]

i.e., the inflection of a wordform cannot be determined by the wordform itself.
However, the inflection of a wordform \( w \) can be conditioned by some properties of \( w \) itself, which is not a case of Morph-D.\(^9\) Thus, in Alutor, in the ergative construction of a transitive verb, the Subject \( w \) is in the instrumental if \( w \) is not a human proper name, and in the locative if it is:

\[(6) \text{Alutor (Chukchee-Kamchatkan family, Russia)}\]

a. \( \text{anpəŋə} +a \quad \emptyset +lוקר grepəqin +nin +\emptyset \quad qəlavul+\emptyset \)

\( \text{old.woman SG.INSTR 3SG.SUB went.to.see 3.OBJ SG.OBJ man SG.NOM} \)

‘[An] old woman went to see [her] man’.

b. \( \text{Miti} +\text{nak} \quad \emptyset +lוקר grepəqin +nin +\emptyset \quad qəlavul+\emptyset \)

\( \text{Miti SG.LOC 3SG.SUB went.to.see 3.OBJ SG.OBJ man SG.NOM} \)

‘Miti went to see [her] man’.

The case of the Subject is determined here by the verb—but conditionally, i.e., according to the indicated property of the subject noun.

Another example of a slightly different kind comes from Arabic:

\[(7) \text{Arabic}\]

\( \text{Jā .rafiq+u} \quad \text{vs.} \quad \text{Jā .rafiq+a} \quad \text{ab} +\text{i} \)

\( \text{oh friend NOM} \quad \text{oh friend ACC father ISG} \)

‘Oh, friend!’ vs. ‘Oh, friend of my father!’

The case of the address noun \( N \) is determined by the vocative particle \( J\A̱ \), but according to whether or not \( N \) has its own nominal Synt-dependent: if such a dependent is absent, \( N \) is in the nominative; if the dependent is present, \( N \) is in the accusative.

c) Morph-\( \Theta \) is neither transitive nor anti-transitive. In most cases, Morph-\( \Theta \) is anti-transitive:

\( w_1\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_2 \text{ and } w_2\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_3 \text{ entails } \neg(w_1\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_3). \)

Thus, in Rus. \( Ja \text{ vižu} \cdot [= w_1] \text{ krasivuju} \cdot [= w_3] \text{ knigu} \cdot [= w_2] \) ‘I see [a] beautiful book’ there is no direct Morph-\( \Theta \) between the verb and the adjective.

There are, however, cases where Morph-\( \Theta \) is transitive:

\( w_1\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_2 \text{ and } w_2\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_3 \text{ entails } w_1\text{-morph} \rightarrow w_3. \)

An example of a transitive Morph-\( \Theta \) (again, for different inflectional categories and different grammemes) is found in Russian:

\[(8) \text{Russian}\]

\( Ja \text{ zna +l +a ego molod+ym} \)

\( I \text{ know PAST FEM he-SG.MASC.ACC young SG.MASC.INSTR} \)

‘[I [a woman] knew him young’.

\( \text{vs.} \)

\(^9\) According to Definition 2, Morph-\( \Theta \) means the imposition of a grammeme. A wordform cannot impose a grammeme upon itself, but it can, by some of its properties, condition the choice between several grammemes imposed on it by a different wordform.
Here, ego/eë/ix \(= w_2 \) depends on znala \(= w_1 \) for its accusative case, while molodym/molodoj/molodymi \(= w_3 \) depends on ego/eë/ix for its number and gender, and on znala for its instrumental case.\(^{10}\)

d) Similarly to Sem-\(\mathfrak{A}\), Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) must be also typed (= labeled): if \(w_1 \rightarrow \text{morph} \rightarrow w_2\), then in order to fully specify this Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\), we have to indicate the inflectional category \(C(w_2)\) whose grammeme is imposed by \(w_1\). Thus, the labeling of Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\)s is meaningful rather than purely distinctive, as is the case with Sem-\(\mathfrak{A}\).

e) Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) does not presuppose the uniqueness of the governor: a wordform can morphologically depend simultaneously on several other wordforms—for different inflectional categories, of course. Cf. (8), where \(w_3\) depends morphologically on \(w_1\) and \(w_2\) at the same time (with transitivity of Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\)); another example of Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) with multiple governors (without transitivity of Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\)) is (9a), p. 17.

f) Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) is not universal: in many languages it is not present at all; in a language where it is present it is not present in all sentences; and in a sentence where it is present it is not necessarily present in every wordform. As a result, in a sentence Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\)s do not form, generally speaking, a connected structure: there are wordforms that are not morphologically linked to the rest of the sentence (this is the reason why the MorphS of a sentence is not explicitly specified).

### 3.3 The three major subtypes of morphological dependency

There are three major subtypes of Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\): agreement, government, and congruence (Mel’čuk 1993 and 2006: 31ff).\(^{11}\) Here are the corresponding definitions; in all of them the wordform \(w_2\) depends morphologically on the wordform \(w_1\) according to the inflectional category \(C_2\). The wordform \(w_1\) is called the controller, and the wordform \(w_2\), the target of the Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) in question. In the examples below, the controlling grammeme or syntactic feature of the controller is underlined, and the controlled grammeme and its marker in the target are boldfaced.

---

\(^{10}\) The Russian verb ZNAT’ \(\text{‘know’}\) is such that if it has a Morph-dependent \(w_2\) which has a Morph-dependent \(w_3\) of its own, then, under specific syntactic conditions (\(w_2\) is a DirO, etc.), \(w_3\) is a Morph-dependent of ZNAT’ as well. This shows the transitivity of the Morph-\(\mathfrak{D}\) under consideration.

\(^{11}\) For a different analysis of the corresponding notions (and a rich bibliography), see Schmidt & Lehfeldt 1995. — Recall that agreement and government were treated for a long time as types of SYNTACTIC dependency, which created confusion.
Definition 3: Agreement

The wordform $w_2$ is said to agree with the wordform $w_1$ in the inflectional category $C_2$ if and only if the following two conditions are simultaneously satisfied:

1. the wordform $w_2$ is not a substitute pronoun coreferential with $w_1$;
2. a grammeme $g_2 \in \text{w}_2$, such that $g_2 \in C_2$, is selected depending upon:
   (a) either the grammeme $g_1 \in \text{w}_1$, such that $g_1 \in C_1$ and $C_2$ is mirroring for $C_1$;
   (b) or the value $\gamma_1$ of a feature $\Sigma_1$ of the syntactics of $w_1$, this $\Sigma_1$ being one of the following three features of syntactics: agreement class, pronominal person, or pronominal number;
   (c) or some semantic components of $w_1$ or some properties of its referent.

Comments

1. Substitute, or anaphoric, pronouns are pronouns of the type HE, SHE, IT, THEY, and all the relative pronouns, which replace nouns. Thus, a substitute pronoun is always used instead of a noun, so it is really a PRO-noun. Substitute pronouns must be distinguished from personal pronouns of the type I, YOU, WE, which never replace a noun.

2. An inflectional category $C_2$ is said to be mirroring for the inflectional category $C_1$ if (roughly) $C_2$ exists in L exclusively to “reflect” $C_1$. Thus, adjectival number and adjectival case are mirroring for nominal number and nominal case. (The relation ‘to be mirroring for’ is, of course, by no means symmetrical: $C_1$ is not mirroring for $C_2$.)

3. The agreement class $A$ is (roughly) a subset of lexemes of the same part of speech (essentially, of nouns) such that in any context the following three conditions are simultaneously satisfied:

   1) if any two wordforms $w_i$ and $w_j$ of $A$ impose on a third wordform $w$ a grammeme of a category $C(w)$, they impose on $w$ the same grammeme $g \in C(w)$;

   2) if in an utterance a wordform $w$ of $A$ simultaneously imposes on different wordforms $w_i$ that morphologically depend on it a grammeme of a category $C(w_i)$, it imposes on all $w_i$ the same grammeme $g \in C(w_i)$;

   3) the grammeme $g$ is not imposed by anything except the wordforms of $A$.

Agreement class is a generalization of grammatical gender (as in Indo-European languages) and of nominal class (as in Bantu and Daghestanian). Agreement classes are defined in particular languages prior to and independently of the notion of agreement (Mel’čuk 1993: 323-324, 1996b: 206-211, 2006: 47ff).

4. Condition 1 of Definition 3 separates agreement from congruence, see below. Condition 2a foresees agreement with grammemes of the controller (e.g., agreement of an ADJ with an N in number and case). Condition 2b foresees agreement with features of the syntactics of the controller: e.g., agreement of an ADJ with an N in gender; or agreement of a V with a pronominal Synt-actant in person and number (the latter being
syntactic features of a pronoun). Condition 2c foresees what is known as semantic agreement (Rus. Naš+a vrač skazal+a ‘our[FEM] doctor [a woman] said[FEM]’, where, in spite of the fact that the noun VRAČ is masculine, the agreeing adjective and the verb are both in the feminine, because in this utterance VRAČ refers to a woman).

**Examples**

(9) a. Akhvakh (North-Caucasian, Daghestan, Russia; Boguslavskaja 1991: 11)

In Akhvakh, an adjective or a participle which is used as a restrictive modifier of a noun and, at the same time, has a complement or an actant of its own agrees both with this complement/actant (in nominal class, shown by Roman numerals) and the modified noun (again in nominal class); the first agreement is shown by a prefix, and the second by a suffix:

\[
\text{mina} \ +\overline{0} \quad b+\text{aši} \ +da \quad +\text{we} \quad \text{hek}^\text{w}a+\text{ssu}\text{λ}a
\]

head[III] SG.NOM III white ADJECT(ivizer) I man[I] SG.DAT

lit. `head white to-man’ = `to a white-haired man’

[\text{mina} `head’ is a complement of the adjective \text{aši} `white’; \text{mina baši} = `head-wise white’]

\[
\text{roča} \ +\overline{0} \quad b+\text{çēq} +\text{ida} \quad +\text{je} \quad \text{jaše} \ +\overline{0}
\]


lit. `book-bringing girl’ = `a girl who is bringing a book’

b. Old Georgian

A noun N₂ in the genitive that syntactically depends on another noun N₁ agrees with N₁ in case and thus gets the suffix of the second, “agreeing” case, cf.:

\[
\text{neb} +\overline{0} \quad +\text{ita} \quad \text{mrt} +\overline{0} +\text{isa} \quad +\text{ja} \quad \text{jaše} \ +\overline{0}
\]

will SG INSTR God SG GEN INSTR

lit. `by-[the-]will of-God’

\[
\text{darga} +a \quad \text{bargi} +\text{da} \quad \text{tun} +\overline{0} +\text{i} \quad \text{nara} +\text{ŋuni} \ +\text{y}
\]

man NOM chop NON-FUT tree ACC NON-FUT knife INSTR NON-FUT

(The man just chopped/is chopping the tree with a knife’.

vs.

\[
\text{darga} +a \quad \text{bargi} +\text{du} \quad \text{tun} +\overline{0} +\text{u} \quad \text{nara} +\text{ŋuni} \ +\text{wu}
\]

man NOM chop FUT tree ACC FUT knife INSTR FUT

(The man will chop the tree with a knife’.

vs.

\[
\text{darga} +a \quad \text{bargi} +\text{ara} \quad \text{tun} +\overline{0} +\text{ina} \quad \text{nara} +\text{ŋuni} \ +\text{na}
\]

man NOM chop PAST tree ACC PAST knife INSTR PAST

(The man (had) chopped the tree with a knife’.

For more examples of “exotic” agreement see Kibrik 1977 and Anderson 1992: 103-118.
Definition 4: Government

The wordform $w_2$ is said to be governed by the wordform $w_1$ with respect to an inflectional category $C_2$ if and only if one of the following two conditions is satisfied:

The grammeme $g_2 \in \{w_2\}$, such that $g_2 \in C_2$, is selected depending:

1. either upon a grammeme $g_1 \in \{w_1\}$, such that $g_1 \in C_1$ and $C_2$ is not mirroring for $C_1$;
2. or upon a value $\gamma_1$ of a feature $\Sigma_1$ of the syntactics of $w_1$, this $\Sigma_1$ being neither agreement class, nor pronominal person, nor pronominal number.

Comments

1. Condition 1 foresees government by a grammeme of the controller. These are exotic cases of government: e.g., the comparative that governs the case of the comparand (Rus. sil’n+ee smerti [GEN] ‘stronger than-death’) or the tense of the verb governing the case of its actants, see examples (10a-b).

2. Condition 2 foresees government by a feature of the syntactics of the controller; it separates such government from syntactics-induced agreement. These are normal cases of government: e.g., a verb or a preposition governing the grammatical case of an object/complement.

Examples

(10) a. Georgian

A transitive verb governs:

- in the present/imperfect, the nominative of the Subject and the dative of the DirO;
- in the aorist, the ergative of the Subject and the nominative of the DirO;
- in the perfect, the dative of the Subject and the nominative of the DirO.

However, the agreement of the verb does not change: it always agrees with its Subject and with its DirO (in person and number), if the latter is not of the 3rd person:

\[
\begin{align*}
Gogi + &Ø \quad ćeril +Ø +s \quad ćer +s \\
\text{Gogi NOM letter SG DAT write PRES.3SG.SUB} \\
\text{‘Gogi is-writing [a] letter’}. &\quad \text{vs.} \\
Gogi + &m \quad ćeril +Ø +i \quad da +ćer +a \\
\text{Gogi ERG letter SG NOM COMPL write AOR.3SG.SUB} \\
\text{‘Gogi wrote [a] letter’}. &\quad \text{vs.} \\
Gogi + &s \quad ćeril+Ø +i \quad da +u +ćer +i +a \\
\text{Gogi DAT letter SG NOM COMPL 3pers write PERF 3SG.SUB} \\
\text{‘Gogi (apparently) has-written [a] letter’}. &
\end{align*}
\]

[“COMPL” stands for “completive [aspect];” “3 pers(on)” in the last sentence denotes the grammeme ‘for the other’ of a special inflectional category of Georgian: the version, which signals the person for whose benefit the event in question takes place (this grammeme is obligatorily present in perfect forms). The Georgian perfect implies that the Speaker was not an eye-witness of the event referred to and does not vouch for the truth of what he is saying.]
b. Hindi

A transitive verb governs:

- in the present, the nominative of the Subject and the nominative/dative of the DirO (the dative seems here syntactically optional);
- in the perfect, the ergative of the Subject and the nominative/dative of the DirO.

But, unlike Georgian, the agreement of the verb changes depending on the tense: in the present, the verb agrees with the Subject, but in the perfect either it agrees with the DirO (if the DirO is in the nominative) or it takes the unmarked form of the 3rd person singular masculine (if the DirO is in the dative).

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Lərkə} & \quad +Ø & \text{kitab} & +Ø & \text{parh} & +tā & \text{hai} \\
\text{boy[MASC]-SG} & \quad \text{NOM} & \text{book[FEM]-SG} & \quad \text{NOM} & \text{read} & \text{IMPF.MASC} & \text{AUX.PRES.3SG} \\
\text{analys} & \text{tical present form}
\end{align*} \]


vs.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Lərke} & \quad +\text{ne} & \text{kitab} & +Ø & \text{parh} & +tā \\
\text{boy[MASC]-SG} & \quad \text{ERG} & \text{book[FEM]-SG} & \quad \text{NOM} & \text{read} & \text{PERF.FEM.3SG} \\
\text{‘[The] boy read [a] book’.}
\end{align*} \]

vs.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Lərkā} & \quad +\text{ne} & \text{Sitā} & +Ø & \text{dekh} & +tā \\
\text{boy[MASC]-PL} & \quad \text{ERG} & \text{Sītā[FEM]} & \quad \text{NOM} & \text{see} & \text{PERF.FEM.3SG} \\
\text{‘[The] boys saw Sītā’.}
\end{align*} \]

vs.

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Lərkīyō} & \quad +\text{ne} & \text{Sītā} & +\text{ko} & \text{dekh} & +tā \\
\text{girl[FEM]-PL} & \quad \text{ERG} & \text{Sītā[FEM]} & \quad \text{DAT} & \text{see} & \text{PERF.MASC.3SG} \\
\text{‘[The] girls saw Sītā’.}
\end{align*} \]

c. Russian

The infinitive in a special “impossibility” construction governs the dative of its semantic subject:

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Mn+e} & \quad \text{ètu} & \text{knig} & +u & \text{ne} & \text{pročest’} \\
\text{I} & \quad \text{DAT} & \text{this} & \text{book} & \text{SG.ACC} & \text{not} & \text{read-PERF.INF} \\
\text{‘I will not be able to read this book’.}
\end{align*} \]

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Alen+u} & \quad \text{tuda} & \text{ne} & \text{dojti} \\
\text{Alan} & \quad \text{SG.DAT} & \text{till.there} & \text{not reach.walking-PERF.INF} \\
\text{‘Alan will not be able to walk till there’}.
\end{align*} \]

d. Hungarian

When the subordinate conjunction HOGY ‘that’ syntactically depends on a verb of volition, it requires the imperative of the MV of the subordinate completive clause:

\[ \begin{align*}
\text{Az} & \quad +t & \text{akarta}, & \quad \text{hogy} & \text{lassan} & \text{jár} & +j \\
\text{this} & \quad \text{ACC} & \text{want-PAST.3SG.SUB.3SG.OBJ} & \text{that} & \text{slowly} & \text{walk} & \text{IMPER.2SG} \\
\text{lit.} & \text{‘[S/he] this wanted that [you-SG] slowly walk’}.
\end{align*} \]

It is impossible to define agreement and government in a simpler way—for instance, following the traditional view that agreement is a correspondence between the inflec-
tional form of a lexeme and the inflectional form of another lexeme, while government is a correspondence between the inflectional form of a lexeme and lexicographic properties of another lexeme. This viewpoint is simply wrong: many types of agreement involve lexicographic properties of the controller (gender, nominal class, animacy), and many types of government are determined by the inflectional form of the controller (cf., among others, examples (10a-b)).

**Definition 5: Congruence**

The wordform $w_2$ is said to be congruent with the wordform $w_1$ with respect to the inflectional category $C_2$ if and only if the following two conditions are simultaneously satisfied:

1) $w_2$ is a substitute pronoun coreferential with $w_1$;
2) a grammeme $g_2 \in w_2$, such that $g_2 \in C_2$, is selected depending on $w_1$.

**Comments**

1. Congruence is, so to speak, a particular case of agreement, namely, “agreement in absentia:” while genuine agreement obtains between an ADJ/a V and the N it combines with syntagmatically, congruence obtains between a substitute pronoun and the N it replaces. Agreement marks semantic and/or syntactic links within the borders of a clause, while congruence marks anaphoric links, basically outside the borders of a clause. For congruence, correspondence according to meaning (rather than according to grammatical properties of the controller) is especially typical. Recall that congruence is not a syntactic dependency, but a morphological one; therefore, the absence of its controller from the clause is not a problem.

2. Congruence presupposes the choice of a particular inflectional form of a given lexeme. Thus, in Spanish, the noun caballo [MASC] ‘horse, sg’ is replaced with the pronoun él ‘he’, the noun mosca [FEM] ‘fly, sg’ with the pronoun ella ‘she’, caballos ‘horse, pl’ with ellos, and moscas ‘fly, pl’ with ellas; this is congruence, since él, ella, ellos and ellas are forms of one lexeme (= ÉL), which is inflected for gender and number. (The same state of affairs obtains in any language in which substitute pronouns grammatically distinguish gender and/or number: Romance, Slavic, Semitic, Bantu languages.) However, the choice between different pronominal lexemes as a function of $w_1$ to be replaced is not congruence. Thus, in English, general or Alan is replaced by HE, sister or battleship, by SHE, and warning or [a] fly, by IT; but HE, SHE and IT are different lexemes rather than inflectional forms of the same lexeme—because English has no inflectional category of gender. The selection of the appropriate lexeme has to do with lexical correspondences, mentioned in Part II, 1, p. 9, not with congruence, since no Morph- is involved (no grammeme is imposed).

**Examples**

(11) a. French

Nous étudions un suffixe [MASC.sg] et deux alternances [FEM.pl]; nous traiterons celui-là [MASC.sg] immédiatement et celles-ci [FEM.pl], au chapitre suivant

‘We study a suffix and two alternations; we will deal with the former right away, and with the latter in the next chapter’.
The wordforms *celui* and *celles* are inflectional forms of the lexeme *celui* (‘that-one’), so that their choice illustrates congruence. (In contrast, the English wordforms *former* and *latter* belong to two different lexemes, and therefore their use is not related to congruence.)

b. Bushoong (Bantu, Democratic Republic of Congo)

Here, a noun is replaced by different inflectional forms of the same substitute pronoun lexeme -N 〈(s)he, it, they〉, namely—by the form of the corresponding nominal class:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Class</th>
<th>Form</th>
<th>Function</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>I</td>
<td><em>aa</em></td>
<td>+n replaces a noun of the class I;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>II</td>
<td><em>baa</em></td>
<td>+n replaces a noun of the class II;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>III</td>
<td><em>muu</em></td>
<td>+n replaces a noun of the class III;</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>IV</td>
<td><em>mii</em></td>
<td>+n replaces a noun of the class IV;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

To conclude the discussion of the three subtypes of Morph-ṇ, let me state three reasons that underlie the intuitive desire of a linguist to distinguish them (cf. also Part III, 6, p. 66):

1) A morphological reason: under agreement and congruence (which is a particular case of agreement) the target reflects some properties of the controller; under government, this cannot happen.

2) A semantic reason: under agreement the target is prototypically the Sem-governor of the controller, which is its Sem-actant; under government, on the contrary, the target is prototypically the Sem-actant of the controller, which is its Sem-governor; under congruence the target and the controller cannot be linked by a Sem-ṇ: they are coreferential.

3) A syntactic reason: under agreement the target can be or not be linked by a direct Synt-ṇ to the controller; under government the target is necessarily linked by a direct Synt-ṇ to the controller; under congruence the target and the controller cannot be linked by a Synt-ṇ.

4 Syntactic dependency

4.1 General remarks

Paraphrasing R. Jakobson, we can say that Sem-ṇ is directly related to meaning and therefore it is conceivable or understandable, while Morph-ṇ is directly related to (phonological) form and therefore it is perceivable. The Synt-ṇ is, however, not directly related either to meaning or to form; it is more abstract, more indirect than Sem-ṇ and Morph-ṇ, and, as a consequence, more questionable. Even its mere existence needs justification.

Syntactic dependency has been used to talk about the structure of sentences from Antiquity and throughout the Middle Ages to modern times. All respectable pre-20th century grammatical traditions in syntax have been based on it, as has much language
teaching. By the 8th century, Arab grammarians (e.g., Sibawaih, who died in 798) already distinguished the governor vs. the dependent in syntax and used this distinction when formulating rules for word order and inflection (Owens 1988: 79-81). One finds dependency trees as a means of describing sentence structure in German syntax books from the 19th century (Weber 1992: 13). In point of fact, constituency representation in syntax, i.e., what became known as phrase-structure, was first introduced—and that, almost exclusively in the domain of the English language!—in the early 20th century. The dependency approach [= D-approach] was properly presented for the first time in Tesnière 1959 (the first sketch of Tesnière’s theory appearing in Tesnière 1934). This profound treatise made syntactic dependency available for serious theorizing. Yet, due to the dominance of Chomskian Transformational-Generative Grammar—which uses, as its main syntactic tool, the phrase-structure representation (i.e., constituency)—the D-approach did not become popular in modern linguistics until the beginning of the 1980s.


NB: When speaking of the D-approach in what follows, I mean exclusively a dependency representation of the structure of sentences rather than a dependency grammar, i.e., a logical device consisting of rules that ensure the generation/parsing of sentences. The two notions are logically related, but should be kept distinct. (Cf. Hudson 1993a: 266-269 on the difference between syntactic heads in sentence structure and syntactic heads in grammar rules.)

4.2 The rationale for syntactic dependency

The notion of Synt-D is proper to Syntactic Structure [= SyntS]—a formal object used to depict the formal organization of a sentence in terms of its wordforms and their linear arrangement—as opposed to its meaning, which is the target of the Semantic
Structures [SemS]. Synt-\_\_\_s are building blocks of a SyntS, and so it will be useful to start with a brief characterization of the latter.

**Formal considerations**

The SyntS of a sentence is called upon to mediate between its SemS and its Morph(ological)S. The SemS is formalized as an arbitrary $n$-dimensional graph, i.e., a *network*, as we see in Figure 1, p. 5. The MorphS is a 1-dimensional (linear) graph, i.e., a *chain*, cf. Figure 4, p. 8. The SyntS constitutes a convenient bridge between the SemS and the MorphS: under text synthesis, that is, in the transition from meaning to text, the SyntS must be easily produced from the Sem-network and easily converted into the Morph-chain; under analysis, that is, in the transition from text to meaning, it must allow the inverse operations to be carried out also with sufficient ease. The simplest formal object that satisfies these requirements is a 2-dimensional (planar) graph—a *tree*. Networks are relatively easy to arborize, and trees are easy to linearize (text synthesis); vice versa, chains are relatively easy to arborize, and trees are easy to convert to networks (text analysis). In other words, the Synt-tree is the most convenient intermediary between the Sem-network and the Morph-chain. That is how the idea of SyntS as a dependency tree composed of lexemes is formally arrived at. If the SyntS is a tree, then any of its arcs, or branches, represents an anti-reflexive, anti-symmetrical and anti-transitive binary relation between lexemes—i.e., a Synt-\_\_\_ relation. This reasoning leads us to the notion of Synt-dependency as an order relation (see next page) and to the notion of dependency tree as an appropriate formalism for the representation of SyntSs (see the end of 4.4, Part II, p. 41).

What has just been said should not be construed as a proposal to consider the dependency tree as an artifact of the linguist, a figment of his imagination, having no claim to psychological reality. On the contrary, I think that the dependency tree is a reasonably good model of how sentences are organized in the brain of the speakers. The dependency tree is proposed here as an exclusive means for representing the SyntSs of sentences exactly because I believe that my brain is using it when I am writing these lines.

**Substantive considerations**

Now I will consider the problem of SyntS from another angle. Suppose we want to represent the SyntS of the sentence *Leo knows that Alan is in love with Helen*. There are exactly four types of linguistic means that this sentence uses to express its meaning: lexemes, order of lexemes (i.e., word order), prosody, and inflection. Note that:

- there do not exist other types of linguistic means that could be used to express meanings;
- these four types of linguistic means are used by all languages in all sentences—with the notable exception of inflection, which does not exist in quite a few languages and which, even in the languages where it does exist, does not appear in all sentences and on all wordforms;
- each of these means can be used either as a direct expression of meaning, i.e., in a semantic capacity, or without a direct relation to meaning—purely in order to
indicate links between wordforms in the sentence, i.e., in a syntactic capacity, see Table 1 below.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Linguistic means</th>
<th>used in semantic capacity</th>
<th>used in syntactic capacity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>lexical units</td>
<td>full words: for, decades, cocoa, farming, escape, the, when, etc.</td>
<td>empty words—e.g., governed prepositions and conjunctions: [depend] on, [to order] that ..., etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>word order</td>
<td>arrangements that mark communicative structure (Theme ~ Rheme, Given ~ New, etc.)</td>
<td>arrangements that mark syntactic constructions: N + N, PREP + N, ADJ + N, V + N [= DirO], etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>prosody</td>
<td>prosodies that mark question vs. assertion, focus, emphasis, ..., irony, threat, tenderness, etc.</td>
<td>prosodies that mark borders of linear constituents</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>inflection</td>
<td>number in nouns; aspect and tense in verbs</td>
<td>case in nouns; person and number in verbs; gender, number and case in adjectives (agreement and government inflectional categories)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Table 1: Linguistic expressive means and their possible uses

Non-lexical means used in syntactic capacity (shadowed cells in Table 1) should not appear in a SyntS: they are means used to express the SyntS, therefore they cannot be part of it. All of them appear closer to surface, in the DMorphS of the sentence, while the SyntS has to replace them with a formal simple homogeneous device. This device must be able to encode the future linear arrangement of wordforms, i.e., word order, in an explicit, clear and elegant way. Note that syntactic prosody applies to a previously ordered sequence of wordforms, and inflection is absent in many cases; therefore, these two linguistic means are secondary from the viewpoint of the SyntS. The SyntS has to tell us, first of all, where to position a wordform $w_2$: before or after another wordform $w_1$; then it must give us more details about mutual positions of different wordforms which have to be positioned on the same side of $w_1$. The most economical way to do this is using an anti-reflexive, anti-symmetrical and anti-transitive binary relation between the wordforms of the sentence—an order relation (in the logical sense of the term). This is nothing else but a Synt-$\alpha$; thus, we have once again, this time via substantive reasoning, come to the same conception of Synt-$\alpha$ relation.

As a bridge between the SemS and the DMorphS of a sentence, the D-/S-SyntS must encode all the relevant semantic contrasts that are expressed on the surface and all the relevant formal contrasts that carry meaning. Therefore, the specific Synt-$\alpha$ relations that are introduced for a particular language must be such that they satisfy this requirement.

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12 Lexical means used in syntactic capacity, i.e., what is known as structural, or empty, words, complicate the picture without affecting the essence of my reasoning: they do not appear in the DSyntS, but they are present in the SSyntS—since they are separate wordforms, and the SSyntS is supposed to represent all the wordforms actually found in the sentence. To keep my formulations as simple as possible I leave the lexical means used in syntactic capacity out of the discussion.
4.3 The concept of syntactic dependency

Let us emphasize that at the very beginning of the approach Synt was not, and is still not always, rigorously distinguished from Sem and Morph. Linguists would often talk about dependency tout court, aiming at Synt, but in actual fact taking in a mixture of the three.

Since Synt is an abstract formal concept, it is not as easy to define as Sem and Morph. Three groups of criteria for Synt have to be introduced; but first, let me emphasize that for simplicity’s sake I will be dealing exclusively with Surface-Syntactic [= SSynt-] dependency. The results can be easily generalized to cover Deep-Syntactic dependency as well.

To establish a SSynt relation between two wordforms in a sentence we need (at least) three groups of criteria:

- **A. Criteria for SSynt-connectedness of the two wordforms (i.e., criteria for the presence of a SSynt between them).**
- **B. Criteria for the SSynt-dominance between the two wordforms (i.e., criteria for the orientation of the SSynt between them).**
- **C. Criteria for the specific type of the given SSynt between the two wordforms (i.e., criteria for the type of the SSynt-relation between them; as will be shown, to ensure a proper representation of syntactic structure of utterances, we have to distinguish, in a particular language, many different specific types of Synt).**

These criteria are necessary, but unfortunately not sufficient. Thus, when establishing the specific types of SSynts in a particular language, the researcher has to invoke relevant linguistic properties of different dependents subsumed under the same SSynt-Rel (Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk 2000). While deciding on the presence and orientation of SSynt-dependencies some heuristic principles have to be recurred to (Part III, 1.1.1, p. 70). And more than anything else, reasoning by analogy remains the most necessary tool: the description, in terms of Synt, of a “dubious” phrase P1 should correspond to the SSynt-description adopted for the similar phrase P2 where the situation is clearer or outright obvious.

4.3.1 Criteria A: SSynt-connectedness
First, one has to know whether two particular wordforms in an utterance, \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \), are syntactically directly linked. To answer this question, we need Criteria A1 and A2.

**Criterion A1: Linear arrangement of wordforms**

Wordforms \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) considered in an utterance of language L have a direct Synt link between them only if the following condition is satisfied:

The linear position of \( w_1 \) or \( w_2 \) in this utterance must be specified with respect to the other.

**Comments**

1. In languages where word order is used semantically—among other things, to express communicative organization (the Rheme/Theme and the Given/New division,
Focalization, Emphasis, Contrast, etc.—Criterion A1 applies in a limited way: it has to be used only in communicatively neutral expressions, i.e., expressions without extractions, permutations or other communicative transformations of all kinds.

2. “The linear position of the wordform \(w_1\) is specified with respect to the wordform \(w_2\)” means that \(w_2\) either precedes \(w_1\), or follows it, or else can precede or follow it (optionally or under some conditions). Thus, if in a language, the manner adverbial can indiscriminately precede or follow the verb it modifies, we still formulate the possible positions of the adverbial with respect to the verb, rather than the other way around.

3. The wordform determining the linear position of the other is not necessarily its Synt-governor (cf. Criteria B). Thus, in the phrase \(\text{PREP} \rightarrow \text{N}\), it is the Synt-governor \(\text{PREP}\) that is positioned with respect to its Synt-dependent \(\text{N}\). Of course, to say that a \(\text{PREP}\) precedes the \(\text{N}\) it introduces is logically equivalent to saying that an \(\text{N}\) introduced by a \(\text{PREP}\) follows this \(\text{PREP}\). However, linguistically, these two statements are not equally acceptable: since a noun can appear without a preposition, while a preposition cannot appear without a noun, it is more natural to specify the place of the preposition with respect to the noun than the other way around. (The etymology itself of the word \text{preposition} is a witness to this intuition: it is an element that is \text{pre}-posed to the noun.)

4. In some exotic cases Criterion A1 has to be applied with caution. Thus, Serbian has the construction \(\text{V Aux} \rightarrow \text{V non-fin}\), which expresses the past or the future tense of the verb \(\text{V}\); here \(\text{V non-fin}\) is either a Past Participle in the compound past tense, or an Infinitive/a clause with the conjunction \(\text{DA}\) ‘that’ in the compound future tense. In this construction it is \(\text{V Aux}\) that is the SSynt-governor: \(\text{Ja sam} \rightarrow \text{pisao ‘I [MASC] have written’}, \text{Ti si} \rightarrow \text{pisala ‘You [FEM] have written’}, \text{Ja} \rightarrow \text{pisati or Ja} \rightarrow \text{da pišem ‘I will write’}, \text{etc.}\) However, the linear position of the \(\text{G(overnor)}\) \([= \text{V Aux}\]) is determined without any reference to its \(\text{D(ependent)}\) \([= \text{PPart/Inf/DA-clause}]: \text{V Aux}\) is a clitic, and Serbian clitics are placed as a cluster, roughly speaking, after the first linear constituent of the clause, whatever the syntactic class and syntactic role of this constituent (some more specific conditions apply; see Miličević’s paper in this volume). Nevertheless, before the clitics are placed where they belong, the \(\text{V Aux}\) clitic—the SSynt-head (= top node) of the clause—serves as the reference point for the linear placement of all the other clause elements, exactly in the same way as any other top node of a clause does. Therefore, even if one of the wordforms \(w_1\) and \(w_2\) is a clitic, Criterion A1 is still fully applicable (but \text{cum grano salis}).

**Criterion A2: Potential prosodic unity**

Wordforms \(w_1\) and \(w_2\) considered in a given utterance of language \(L\) have a direct Synt-\(\mathbb{N}\) link between them only if one of the following two conditions is satisfied:

1. Either \(w_1\) and \(w_2\) can form in \(L\) a special prosodic unit—a phrase [general case]: e.g., \(N + V, N + \text{ADJ}, V + N, \text{PREP} + N, \text{ADV} + \text{ADJ}, \text{NUM} + N, \text{etc.}\)
2. Or the wordforms \(w_1\) and \(w_2\) cannot form a phrase, but the wordforms \(w_1, w_2\) and a set of wordforms \(W\) can form a phrase such that:
   (a) in this phrase, \(w_1\) is the Synt-head
   (b) \(w_2\) and \(W\) also form a phrase in which \(w_2\) is the Synt-head [special case].
For instance, consider the phrase \( \text{escape} = [w_1] \text{ from } [= w_2] \text{ many problems } [= \text{ the set } W] \), in which \( \text{escape} \) is the Synt-head; \( \text{from many problems} \) is also a phrase, in which \( \text{from} \) is the Synt-head; therefore, we say that \( \text{escape and from} \) have a direct syntactic link: \( \text{escape–synt–from}. \) \(^{13}\) ("X–synt–Y" indicates a non-directed syntactic link between X and Y.)

Of course not every prosodic unit in an actual sentence is a phrase. The concept of phrase needs an elaborate definition, which is outside of my frame here, because it is a concept of the Deep-Morphological, rather than Syntactic, level. I take it to be one of my \textit{indefinibilia}, see Part I, \textit{1}, p. 2. However, a phrase must be perceived by speakers as existing in the language, whatever this means.

Criteria A1 and A2 must of course not contradict each other. For instance, in (1), \( \text{for has to be positioned before decades, and escaped after has, etc.}; \) therefore Criterion A1 indicates the presence of a Synt-\( \Phi \) in these pairs. Criterion A2 does not contradict this: in (1), \( \text{for decades is a phrase of English, and so is has escaped (but, e.g., *to new is not); therefore, in the expressions for decades and has escaped the wordforms can be linked by a Synt-\Phi.} \) Again in (1), \( \text{by moving is positioned after escaped, and by before moving (Criterion A1); escaped by moving is a phrase, with escape as the Synt-head, and so is by moving, where the preposition by is the Synt-head; therefore, by Criterion A2b, escaped and by can be linked by a Synt-\( \Phi \).} \) Both criteria are again satisfied.

For Criteria A to be satisfied, that is, for there to be \( w_1\text{–synt–}w_2 \), both Criterion A1 and Criterion A2 must be satisfied.

4.3.2 \textit{Criteria B: SSynt-dominance}

Next, in each pair of wordforms \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) that are syntactically directly linked in the utterance under consideration one of them syntactically dominates the other, i.e., is its Synt-governor. In the phrase \( w_1\text{–synt→}w_2 \) the Synt-governor is the wordform that determines—at least, to a greater extent than the other wordform (its Synt-dependent)—different properties of the phrase according to Criteria B1, B2 and B3.

\textbf{Criterion B1: The passive SSynt-valence of a phrase}

In the phrase \( w_1\text{–synt→}w_2 \), the wordform \( w_1 \) is the Synt-governor of \( w_2 \) if the following condition is satisfied:

The passive Synt-valence of the whole phrase is determined by the passive Synt-valence of \( w_1 \) to a greater extent than by that of \( w_2 \).

Then we have \( w_1\text{–synt→}w_2 \).

To put it differently, the passive Synt-valence of the phrase \( w_1\text{–synt→}w_2 \) is rather that of \( w_1 \) than that of \( w_2 \); the Synt-head of a phrase determines more than any other of

\(^{13}\) Here is a more complex case (brought to my attention by N. Pertsov): Rus. [\textit{k}] \text{ domu } [= w_1], \text{ cvet kryši kotorogo menja razdražaet} [razdražaet = w_2] \text{ [to the] house [the] color of [the] roof of which irritates me'}, where \( \text{cvet kryši kotorogo menja} \text{ is } W \). The wordforms \( w_1, w_2 \) and \( W \) constitute a grammatical phrase: \( \text{domu, cvet kryši kotorogo menja razdražaet, whose Synt-head is domu = w_1; w_2 and W also constitute a phrase: cvet kryši kotorogo menja razdražaet, whose Synt-head is razdražaet = w_2; therefore, domu and razdražaet are directly linked by a Synt-dependency: domu–synt–razdražaet.} \)
its elements all the external syntactic links of the phrase. (For passive Synt-valence, see Part I, 1, item 14, p. 4.)

Note that Criterion B1 does not require exact distributional equivalence between the Synt-head of a phrase and the whole phrase, as is the case in some similar approaches. For us, it is sufficient if, in the phrase \( w_1 \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} w_2 \), the wordform \( w_1 \) contributes to the passive Synt-valence of \( w_1 \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} w_2 \) more than \( w_2 \) does.

**Examples**

(12) a. The passive Synt-valence (= the distribution) of the phrase *for decades* is fully determined by the preposition; therefore, \( \text{for} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{decades} \).

b. Similarly, a phrase like *has escaped* or *does not escape* shows the distribution of, or plays the same Synt-role as, *has/does* (i.e., that of a finite, or tensed, verb) rather than that of the past participle *escaped* or the infinitive *escape*; therefore,

\[ \text{has} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{escaped}, \text{does} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{escape}. \]

c. The phrase *Sir Wanner* has the passive SSynt-valence of *Wanner*, not that of *Sir*:

\[ \text{I saw Sir Wanner.} \sim \text{I saw Wanner.} \sim \ast \text{I saw Sir;} \]

therefore, \( \text{Sir} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{Wanner} \).

By analogy with such nouns as *Sir* or *Mister* all other nouns possible in this construction (without article) are treated alike:

\[ \text{General} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{Wanner}, \text{Professor} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{Wanner}, \text{President} \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{Wanner}, \text{etc.}^{14} \]

Let us consider now a more difficult case where it is not immediately obvious what element in a construction is the Synt-governor.

(13) French

\[
\begin{array}{llll}
\text{un} & \text{drôle} & \text{de garçon} & \text{‘a strange boy’} \\
\text{a-SG.MASC} & \text{strange-SG.MASC} & \text{of boy[MASC]-SG} & \\
\text{une} & \text{drôle} & \text{de voiture} & \text{‘a strange car’} \\
\text{a-SG.FEM} & \text{strange-SG.FEM} & \text{of car[FEM]-SG} & \\
\text{ces} & \text{drôles} & \text{de garçons} & \text{‘these strange boys’} \\
\text{this-PL.MASC} & \text{strange-PL.MASC} & \text{of boy[MASC]-PL} & \\
\text{ces} & \text{drôles} & \text{de voitures} & \text{‘these strange cars’} \\
\text{this-PL.FEM} & \text{strange-PL.FEM} & \text{of car[FEM]-PL} & \\
\end{array}
\]

The passive Synt-valence of the phrase *drôle de garçon* (ADJ+de+N) is that of a noun and not that of an adjective; what should be taken as the Synt-head of the phrases in (13)?

---

14 But in *I saw the Pope John-Paul* (where the article with POPE is necessary) the Synt-s are different: since *I saw the Pope* is perfectly grammatical, we have *the Pope \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} \text{John-Paul}*. 
• Solution I: the noun (GARÇON, VOITURE) is the head. The internal SSynt-structure of the phrase is as follows:

\[
\text{drôle --- synt --- de garçon}
\]

We have then to treat DE not as a preposition, but as a special adjectival marker (homophonous with the preposition DE and depending on the adjective). The adjective agrees in gender and number with its Synt-governor, which is the rule in French.

• Solution II: the adjective (DRÔLE) is the head. The internal SSynt-structure of the phrase is as follows: \text{drôle---synt---de---synt---garçon}. We have then to admit that an adjective of such a type (French has a handful of those: DRÔLE, CHOUETTE, VACHE\textsuperscript{[3]}) has bizarre SSynt-properties: it can be the head of a noun phrase, while governing a DE-phrase and agreeing with the dependent noun of this DE-phrase, instead of with its own SSynt-governor.

Solution I requires the postulation of a special grammatical element, an adjectival marker DE, which does not exist in French elsewhere, i.e., outside of the construction under analysis. Solution II, on the contrary, requires only the admission of a special character of three French adjectives, which has to be admitted anyway (since even under Solution I, such a construction will be possible only with these adjectives). Moreover, the construction with an adjective that heads an NP while governing a DE-phrase and agreeing with the dependent noun does exist in French independently:

\[
\text{le plus intelligent---synt---des garçons 'the most intelligent of the boys'} \sim \\
\text{la plus intelligente---synt---des filles 'the most intelligent of the girls'}.
\]

This is an absolutely regular and completely productive construction. Therefore, Solution II has to be preferred. (As we see, the decision is again arrived at by analogy.)

Thus, the examples in (13) show that in more complicated cases one has to proceed with utmost caution. The main tool here is analogy with more normal (= more current, less restricted) constructions. We have to make decisions that will agree with accepted descriptions and try to relegate the eccentricities to restricted sets of phenomena, without allowing these eccentricities to spread on more normal areas of the language.

**Criterion B2: The morphological links between the elements of a phrase and its external context**

In the phrase \(w_1\text{---synt---}w_2\) in which the passive Synt-valence (of the whole phrase and of its elements) does not allow us to establish the Synt-governor, the wordform \(w_1\) is the Synt-governor of \(w_2\) if the following condition is satisfied:

It is \(w_1\) that controls the inflection of wordforms external to the phrase or \(w_1\)'s inflection is controlled by such wordforms.

Then we have \(w_1\text{---synt---}w_2\).

In the phrase \(w_1\text{---synt---}w_2\) the wordform \(w_1\) is called the **morphological contact point**.
Examples

(14) Russian

a. The phrase jubka-štany lit. ‘skirt-pants’ does not allow for the application of Criterion B1: both its members are nouns and have the same passive Syntvalence. But Criterion B2 singles out jubka as the Synt-governor: ět+a [SG.FEM] jubka-štany byl+i [SG.FEM] ‘this skirt-pants was ...’, where the external agreement is with jubka [FEM,SG], and not with štany [PL] (*ět+i jubka-štany byl+i ...); therefore, the phrase must be represented in the SSyntS as jubka–synt→štany.

b. In the phrase v štate Nebraska ‘in [the] state of Nebraska’, štat is declined regularly (štat+Ø, štat+a, štat+e, ...) in conformity with external context, while Nebraska remains in the nominative (v Nebrask+e, but *v štat+e Nebrask+e); thus, štat is here the morphological contact point, and it is again picked by Criterion B2 as the Synt-governor: štat–synt→Nebraska.

c. Similarly, in the phrase čudo-jabloko lit. ‘miracle-apple’, jabloko ‘apple’ is the Synt-governor, since it is declined according to the requirements of the external context, while čudo is invariable: čudo-jablok+a, čudo-jablok+u, ..., čudo-jablok+i, čudo-jablok+ami, ... Thus, we have čudo←synt→jabloko.


(15) German

In zweii Gläser Wein lit. ‘[two] glasses wine’, the Synt-governor is Gläser, which is the morphological contact point:

a. [zu diesen zwei] Gläser+n Wein lit. ‘[to these two] glasses wine’, where Gläsern is in the dative (-n), imposed by the preposition ZU.


Therefore, Gläser–synt→Wein.

By analogy, the same structure is accepted in the cases where the measure noun remains invariable:

c. drei Kilo→Brot ‘three kilos [of] bread’

vierzig Gramm→Fleisch ‘forty grams [of] meat’

(16) In Dutch, the situation is slightly different from that in German: here, the N_measure does not inflect under the impact of the external context (it has no case forms), but when in plural, it imposes plural agreement on the verb:

Twee glazen wijn zijn [PL] (*is [SG]) noodzakelijk ‘Two glasses [of] wine are necessary’; therefore, in Dutch we also have glazen–synt→wijn.
But in semantically equivalent phrases of Chinese, which has no inflection at all, the Synt-\textit{D}s are different, see (17b).

**Criterion B3: The semantic content of a phrase**

In the phrase $w_1 \text{--synt--} w_2$ in which neither the passive Synt-valence nor the morphology allows us to establish the Synt-governor, the wordform $w_1$ is the Synt-governor of $w_2$ if the following condition is satisfied:

The phrase means ‘a kind/an instance of $w_1$’ rather than ‘a kind/an instance of $w_2$’. Then we have $w_1 \text{--synt--} w_2$.

---

**Examples**

(17) a. In *jam sandwich*, the Synt-governor is *sandwich*, because “*jam sandwich* refers to a kind of sandwich, rather than to a kind of jam” (Hudson 1990: 98).

b. In Chinese, where no inflection exists, the phrase *shí bàng ròu* (‘ten pounds [of] meat’) consists of morphologically invariable wordforms. Here again, Criterion B3 applies: *shí bàng ròu* refers to an instance of meat, not to an instance of pounds, so *ròu* (‘meat’) is the Synt-governor:

$$shí \text{--synt--} bàng \text{--synt--} ròu.$$

One can say (with Zwicky 1993: 295-296) that in a two-word phrase the Synt-governor is the syntactic class determinant, or—if there is no such syntactic determinant—the morphological behavior determinant, or—in case both syntactic and morphological determinants are absent—the semantic content determinant. In one word (Bazell 1949: 11), the Synt-governor is more prominent than its Synt-dependent, namely more prominent syntactically, or else morphologically, or at least semantically.

Most approaches dealing with Synt-\textit{D}s presuppose concord between these properties, i.e., between Criteria B1-B3. In sharp contrast, the Meaning-Text Theory does not require such a concord. Only Criterion B1 is genuinely syntactic; B2 is morphological, and B3 semantic. And we know that the orientations of Sem-\textit{D}, Synt-\textit{D} and Morph-\textit{D} can differ (cf. 5, p. 58/ff); therefore, we must expect that these criteria will be in conflict more often than not. In fact, Criteria B1-B3 form a hierarchy: B1 > B2 > B3. Thus, if Criterion B1 is applicable, its indication is sufficient. Only if it is not applicable (because $w_1$ and $w_2$ are both of the same part of speech and thus have the same passive Synt-valence), Criterion B2 applies—but only in a language having inflection and only for $w_1$ and $w_2$ with different morphological properties. Otherwise, Criterion B3 applies. Therefore, these criteria are never applied together (= simultaneously) and, as a result, they cannot contradict each other. To put it in a slightly different form: I believe that, if we can use passive valence considerations, then the ability of Synt-governors to control the inflectional form of their Synt-dependents or to have their own inflectional form controlled by a Synt-dependent, as well as their ability to be or not to be semantically dominant should not be taken into account when deciding on the Synt-governor status of a wordform. Morphological and semantic properties of heads are, as already stated, freely distributed among Synt-governors and Synt-dependents, so that a consistent combination of these properties cannot be expected. Morphological and semantic properties should be recurred to only if syntactic properties fail.
For Criteria B to be satisfied, at least one of the Criteria B1-B3 must be satisfied, such that other Criteria B higher in the hierarchy are not applicable.


Criteria B1-B3 call for the following two important remarks.

First, Criteria B1-B3 are language-specific: if, in the phrase X–synt–Y of language L, these criteria pick X as the Synt-governor, i.e., if we have X–synt→Y, this will not necessarily be the case for a synonymous construction with similar parts of speech in some other language. Thus, Russian and German feature Nmeasure–synt→N, because Nmeasure is the morphological contact point (cf. [v pjati] kilogramm+ax kolbasy in (14d) and [zu diesen zweier] Gläser+n Wein in (15)); yet it does not follow that N syntactically depends on a quantifying Nmeasure in any language: in a language where the Nmeasure does not inflect under the impact of an external wordform and does not itself control the inflection of the quantified N, Criterion B3 picks this N as the Synt-governor: cf. (17b), where we have Nmeasure←synt–N in Chinese.

Second, Criteria B1-B3 are inherently insufficient: there are cases where all the three fail. This must happen where, in a phrase X–synt–Y, both X and Y are of the same part of speech, neither does inflect nor can impose different inflections, and both are semantically “equal.” Take, for example, a Russian phrase of the type včera utrom lit. “yesterday morning” or segodnja popozže lit. “today a-bit-later”. Both wordforms in such a phrase are adverbs, both have no morphology, and both denote a stretch of time; which one is the Synt-governor? Note that both are equally omissible: Alen priexal včera “Alan came yesterday” and Alen priexal utrom “Alan came in the morning”. In such cases, a more or less arbitrary solution imposes itself: in Russian, the preceding element will be taken as the Synt-governor, so that we have včera–synt→utrom, segodnja–synt→popozže. However, there could be semantic motivation for this solution, after all: ‘yesterday’ and ‘today’ are in a sense more important than ‘in the morning’ and ‘later’, since ‘yesterday’/‘today’ denotes a whole day, of which ‘in the morning’/‘later’ is but a part. Then Criterion B3 applies: ‘yesterday morning’ is a particular moment of yesterday, and ‘today later’ is a particular moment of today. We can also invoke a syntactic consideration: yesterday morning represents a kind of coordination, and in coordinate strings, the subsequent element depends on the preceding one.

An even more problematic case is that of compound numerals in languages where numerals are morphologically invariable themselves and do not govern special inflections of the quantified nouns. Take, for instance, Fr. soixante-neuf 69. Since both its components are numerals, Criterion B1 is not applicable (soixante and neuf have the same passive Synt-valence); since almost all French numerals have no morphology and do not affect the morphology of the noun quantified, Criterion B2 is not applicable,

---

15 Otherwise, numerals do not create problems. Thus, in Russian, in šest desjat tri 63 the Synt-head is tri, because in compound numerals the last numeral is the morphological contact point: šest desjat←tri stol+ə, but šest desjat←pjat 165 stol+ov and šest desjat←odin 61 stol+Ø. This means that Criterion B2 applies here and indicates the Synt-governor.
either; finally, their meanings are strictly of the same type (= numbers), so that neither Criterion B3 can be used. The only way open is then to reason by analogy. The compound numeral *soixante et un* lit. ‘60 and 1’ (and a few others with 1 as the last digit) would suggest the Synt-dominance *soixante*→*et*→*un*; by analogy with regular conjoined strings of the type *Alan*→*and*→*Leo* or *beautiful*→*and*→*intelligent*. But then consider two facts that contradict this solution:

- The numeral *UN* ‘one’ agrees in gender with the noun quantified: *vingt* et *un* [MASC] *garçons* ‘twenty-one boys’ vs. *vingt* et *une* [FEM] *filles* ‘twenty-one girls’; according to Criterion B2, it is *UN* that must be the Synt-head of the compound numeral.

- Take the ordinals, such as *soixante* et *unième* ‘sixty-first’ or *soixante-cinquième* ‘sixty-fifth’ (similarly, *soixante* et *onzième* lit. ‘60 and 11th’ = ‘71st’ et *quatre-vingt-onzième* lit. ‘80-11th’ = ‘91st’); here the Synt-governor is, according to Criterion B1, clearly the ordinal numeral *unième* ‘1st’, *cinquième* ‘5th’ and *onzième* ‘11th’, i.e., the last numeral in a compound ordinal:

\[
\begin{align*}
& \text{trois} \rightarrow \text{cent} \rightarrow \text{soixante} \rightarrow \text{cinquième} \rightarrow \text{365th}, \\
& \text{trois} \rightarrow \text{cent} \rightarrow \text{soixante} \rightarrow \text{et} \rightarrow \text{onzième} \rightarrow \text{371st}, \text{etc.}
\end{align*}
\]

Then, continuing our analogy and taking these two facts into account, we arrive at the same SSyntSs in compound cardinals:

\[
\begin{align*}
& \text{trois} \rightarrow \text{cent} \rightarrow \text{soixante} \rightarrow \text{cinq} \rightarrow \text{365}.
\end{align*}
\]

And, of course,

\[
\begin{align*}
& \text{trois} \rightarrow \text{cent} \rightarrow \text{soixante} \rightarrow \text{et} \rightarrow \text{un} \rightarrow \text{361}.
\end{align*}
\]

In a language like German, where some numerals are regularly linked by a conjunction (*und* ‘and’), this gives the following SSynt-structures:

\[
\begin{align*}
& \text{drei} \rightarrow \text{hundert} \rightarrow \text{fünf} \rightarrow \text{und} \rightarrow \text{sechzigster} \rightarrow \text{365th} \\
& \text{lit. ‘three hundred five and sixty’},
\end{align*}
\]

where *sechzigster* ‘sixtieth’ is clearly the Synt-head of the compound ordinal numeral; in a similar way, *drei*→*hundert*→*fünf*→*und*→*sechzig* →*365* lit. ‘three hundred five and sixty’.

It is possible that elements like ‘*and*’ (Fr. *et*, Ger. *und*) that appear within compound numerals should not be considered coordinate conjunctions; then the SyntSs shown above would look less exotic; cf. the Chukchee marker of compound numerals in (24c), p. 44.

4.3.3 **Criteria C: Labeled SSynt-dependencies**

For each pair of wordforms which are directly linked by a Synt-[A] (for \(w_1\rightarrow\text{synt} \rightarrow w_2\)), one has to know exactly which specific Synt-[A] links them. In order to represent successfully the SyntSs of utterances, we have to use different types of Synt-[A]. Thus, \(I\rightarrow\text{synt} \rightarrow \text{LOVE} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{YOU}\) does not distinguish between ‘I love you’ and ‘You love me’; [JOHN] \(I\rightarrow\text{synt} \rightarrow \text{SEND} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{YOU}\) can be implemented as *John sends me to you* or *John sends you to me*; etc. In all these and a host of similar cases, different types of Synt-[A]s, or different Surface-Syntactic Relations [= SSyntRelS] have to be distinguished:

\[
\begin{align*}
& I \rightarrow r_1 \rightarrow \text{LOVE} \rightarrow r_2 \rightarrow \text{YOU}, \quad \text{[JOHN]} I \rightarrow r_2 \rightarrow \text{SEND} \rightarrow r_3 \rightarrow \text{YOU}, \ldots
\end{align*}
\]

This means that SSyntRelS must be labeled, the label being meaningful (as is the case with Morph-[A]): the label \(r\) of a SSyntRel refers to a family of specific syntactic constructions which implement the SSyntRel \(r\) in the DMorphS of the sentence. Thus, consider the label “subj(eclival)” of a SSyntRel in Russian, i.e., the SSyntRel that appears in phrases of the type:

\[
V_{\text{fin}}[=w_1] \rightarrow \text{subj} \rightarrow N[=w_2]
\]
In phrases of the form $w_1 \rightarrow w_2$, the Synt- that links the two wordforms can be labeled $r$ (i.e., it can be the SSyntRel $r$) only if it satisfies the following three criteria: C1-C3. If at least one of Criteria C1-C3 is not satisfied, the presumed SSyntRel $r$ should be split in two (or more) SSyntRels.

Criteria C are exploited in Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk’s paper in this volume: it is shown that these formal SSynt-criteria go hand in hand with substantial requirements concerning SSynt-properties of the dependent members $w_j$ of the phrases under analysis. These $w_j$ must share enough relevant SSynt-properties in order for the phrases $w_i \rightarrow w_j$ to be described by one SSyntRel $r$. In other words,

Criteria C are applied only to phrases $w_i \rightarrow w_j$ such that the common SSynt-properties of $w_j$ make it reasonable to infer that the SSyntRel in question is $r$.

If the observable SSynt-properties of the dependent in $w_i \rightarrow w_j$ phrases do not warrant the same SSyntRel, the question of Criteria C does not even arise. Only if the researcher, based on SSynt-properties of $w_j$, wants to describe the target set of phrases by the same SSyntRel $r$, he has to use Criteria C in order to see whether they allow him to do so. Thus, the similarity of SSynt-properties of $w_j$ pushes one to describe the corresponding phrases by the same SSyntRel $r$, while Criteria C allow/disallow this.

**Criterion C1: Absence of semantic contrast**

Notation: $w(L)$ is a wordform of lexeme $L$ ($w_i$ and $w_j$ can be different or identical); $\oplus$ is the operation of linguistic union, which links signs, in particular—wordforms, according to their syntactics and general rules of $L$.

A SSyntRel $r$ must not describe two different phrases $w_1(L_1) \oplus w_2(L_2)$ and $w_3(L_1) \oplus w_4(L_2)$, where $L_1 \rightarrow r \rightarrow L_2$, which 1) contrast semantically and 2) differ formally only by some syntactic means of expression (i.e., by word order, syntactic prosody, or syntactic grammemes).

Criterion C1 corresponds to what is known in linguistics as the *minimal pair test*, which is used in phonology (two phones cannot be relegated to one phoneme if they are

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16 A SSyntRel is by no means a meaning; but a signified is not necessarily a meaning—it can be, for instance, a command to perform some modifications in the syntactics of a sign (as is the case with voices). I cannot, however, enter here in the discussion of the types of linguistic signifieds.
the only distinguishers of the signifiers of two semantically contrasting word-forms), morphology, and semantics.

Examples

(18) a. In Russian, the construction \textsc{desjat}’\textendash r\textendash dol\textdollar a\textendash r has two different implementations with different meanings:
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{desjat}’\textsc{dollarov} ‘10 dollars’ vs. \textit{dollarov desjat}’ ‘approximately 10 dollars’.
\end{itemize}
The formal difference between the two phrases is purely syntactic: word order. Therefore, the presumed SSyntRel \textsc{r} must be split in two different SSyntRels:
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsc{desjat’}\textendash \texttt{quantitative}\textendash \textsc{dollar}\textdollar a\textendash \textsc{r} ⇔ \textit{desjat}’\textsc{dollarov} \textsc{r}
  \item \textsc{desjat’}\textendash \texttt{approximate-quantitative}\textendash \textsc{dollar}\textdollar a\textendash \textsc{r} ⇔ \textit{dollarov desjat}’ \textsc{r}
\end{itemize}

b. In English, the construction \textsc{stars\textendash r}\textendash \textit{visible} also has two different implementations with different meanings (Quirk \textit{et al.} 1985: 419; cf. Mel’čuk \& Pertsov 1988: 136-137):
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textit{the visible stars} ‘stars that can be seen in principle’ vs. \textit{the stars visible} ‘stars that can be seen currently’.
\end{itemize}
The formal difference between the two phrases is again syntactic: word order. Therefore, there are two different SSyntRels as well:
\begin{itemize}
  \item \textsc{visible}\textendash \texttt{modificative}\textendash \textsc{stars} ⇔ \textit{the visible stars} \textsc{r}
  \item \textsc{visible}\textendash \texttt{post-modificative}\textendash \textsc{stars} ⇔ \textit{the stars visible} \textsc{r}
\end{itemize}
Cf. other pairs with the same semantic/formal contrast: \textit{navigable rivers} ~ \textit{rivers navigable}, \textit{a written word} ~ \textit{a word written}, \textit{a sitting figure} ~ \textit{the people sitting}, etc.

Criterion C2: Syntactic substitutability

The first formalization of the substitutability of syntactic subtrees as a means for establishing SSyntRels was proposed by the German researcher J. Kunze (Kunze 1972: 23; see also Kunze 1975: 5.3, p. 235ff): what is known as the \textit{Kunze property}. I start with presenting it here, in order to show that a weaker version of it must be preferred.

Let there be, in \textsc{L}, lexemes \textsc{L}(X), \textsc{L}(Y), ... of syntactic classes \textsc{X}, \textsc{Y}, ..., complete SSynt-configurations \textsc{A}(Z) and \textsc{A}(W) (i.e., subtrees having as their top nodes lexemes \textsc{L}(Z) and \textsc{L}(W)), and a SSyntRel \textsc{r}.

\textbf{Definition 6: The Kunze property}\n
A SSyntRel \textsc{r} has the Kunze property if and only if for any pair of SSynt-configurations \textsc{L}(X)\textendash \textsc{r}\textendash \textsc{A}(Z) and \textsc{L}(Y)\textendash \textsc{r}\textendash \textsc{A}(W), replacing \textsc{A}(Z) by \textsc{A}(W) and vice versa does not affect their syntactic well-formedness.

Note that violation of semantic/lexical constraints is not considered as syntactic ill-formedness. Thus, cf. \textit{inside the car}, but *\textit{inside Stuttgart} or \textit{according to Leo}, but *\textit{according to the car}; however, the starred phrases are considered as syntactically well-formed (\textsc{PREP} + \textsc{N} being a legitimate phrase of English).

For a SSyntRel that has the Kunze property, any of its potential D(ependent)s can be attached to any of its potential G(overnor)s (= all \textsc{Ds} of a SSyntRel are mutually substitutable in all SSyntSs \textit{salva correctione}). In Mel’čuk 1988: 142 it was required that any
SSyntRel in any $L$ has the Kunze property.¹⁷ Now, however, I think that the Kunze property is too rigid, since it does not allow for some desirable generalizations. For instance, it does not admit the same SSyntRel for nominal and infinitival SSynt-Subjects, as in the following French sentences:

(19) *La course*–r–*fatigue* lit. ‘The running tires’.
   *Courir*–r–*fatigue* lit. ‘To-run tires’.

Since not any verb in French takes an infinitive as its SSynt-Subject (*Pleuvoir m’a surprise* lit. ‘To-rain has caught me [somewhere]’), the SSyntRel $r$ in (19) does not possess the Kunze property: with $L(X) = \text{SURPRENDRE, } \Delta(Z) = \text{NP}$ (e.g., *La pluie*–r–*surprend*) and $L(Y) = \text{FATIGUER, } \Delta_{(W)} = \text{Infinitival Phrase} (*\text{Courir}–r–\text{fatigue}*)$, the replacement produces the syntactically ill-formed configuration *V inf–r–SURPRENDRE ‘catch N [somewhere].’ As a result, using the Kunze property leads to having two different SSynt-Rels for nominal and infinitival SSynt-Subjects (as stated in Kunze 1975: 279). But I think that in (19) the SSyntRel $r$ should not be split: all the SSynt-Subjects, whether nominal or infinitival, share a set of important unique properties, and it is preferable to describe all of them by the same SSyntRel.

Therefore, I propose to use the quasi-Kunze property, which is weaker: substitutability is required only in one direction and only by at least one particular subtree (which is not a substitute pronoun, since substitute pronouns—see Comment 1, p. 16—constitute a “secondary” syntactic class, being introduced by a transformational rule), rather than in both directions and by any subtree. (The concept of the quasi-Kunze property has been elaborated jointly with L. Iordanskaja; it is introduced in Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk 2000; see in this volume, p. 164ff. Another weaker version of the Kunze property was considered in Mel’čuk 1977: 261.)

**Definition 7: The Quasi-Kunze property**

A SSyntRel $r$ has the quasi-Kunze property if and only if there exists in $L$ a syntactic class ($\equiv$ part of speech) $X$, which is different from substitute pronouns and such that for any SSynt-configuration $L$–$r$–$\Delta_{(Y)}$, replacing $\Delta_{(Y)}$ by $\Delta_{(X)}$ (but not necessarily vice versa!) in any SSyntS does not affect its syntactic well-formedness.

The element $\Delta_{(X)}$ that passes with any $G$ of the SSyntRel $r$ is nothing else but the prototypical D of the SSyntRel $r$.

The SSyntRel $r$ in (19) possesses the quasi-Kunze property, since this $r$ has a prototypical D—a prepositionless noun: in French any finite verb admits a nominal SSynt-Subject.¹⁸ As a result, the SSyntRel $r$ is allowed: this is the subjectival SSyntRel.

¹⁷ A property similar to the Kunze property was used for the identification of SSyntRels in the METATAXIS system (see Schubert 1987: 10: “Interchangeable dependents are grouped in classes and the relations that are definitional for these classes are given names”).

¹⁸ The SSynt-Subject of impersonal verbs (PLEUVOIR ‘[to] rain’, NEIGER ‘[to] snow’, etc.)—the impersonal *Il*—is considered as a particular case of noun ($\equiv$ a pronominal noun, which is not a substitute pronoun). Note that with the Kunze property, SSynt-Subjects in *Il* [$\equiv$ Alan, i.e., a substitute pronoun] dort ‘He is sleeping’ and *Il pleut* ‘It is raining’ must be described by two different SSyntRels.
While in Definitions 6 and 7 the G is a particular lexeme, \( \Delta G \) is considered up to the syntactic class. Thus, for instance, different prepositions are not distinguished: the SSyntRel \( r \) in the phrases *insist*–\( r \rightarrow on *, supply*–\( r \rightarrow with and *compare*–\( r \rightarrow to has the quasi-Kunze property, because a PREP+N phrase can be substituted for the D of \( r \) with any of these verbs, provided the appropriate preposition is chosen according to the verb’s Government Pattern.

Criterion C2 can now be formulated as follows:

**Criterion C2**

*Any SSyntRel \( r \) must possess the quasi-Kunze property.*

Criterion C2 is a particular case of what is known in linguistics as the *substitution criterion*, or *substitution test*, except that here we deal with the substitution of sub-trees which have to hang on the same SSyntRel \( r \).

**Examples**

(20) a. In the Russian phrases *v*–\( r[?] \rightarrow Pariž* ‘to Paris’ and *čtoby*–\( r[?] \rightarrow čitat´ ‘in-order-to read’ the presumed SSyntRel \( r[?] \) does not possess the quasi-Kunze property:

\[
\ast čtoby–r[?]→Pariž, \ast v–r[?]→čitat´
\]

In other words, Russian has no prototypical D for this SSyntRel: no element can pass with both a preposition and a conjunction; therefore, there are two different SSyntRels:

\[
\begin{align*}
V–\text{prepositional} \rightarrow & \text{PARIŽ} \\
\text{ČTOBY}–\text{conjunctional-infinitival} \rightarrow & \text{ČITAT´}.
\end{align*}
\]

b. In the phrases *have*–\( r[?] \rightarrow been and *be*–\( r[?] \rightarrow going the presumed SSyntRel \( r \) does not possess the quasi-Kunze property:

\[
\ast \text{have}–r[?]→\text{going and } \ast \text{be}–r[?]→\text{been};
\]

therefore, there are two different SSyntRels:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{HAVE}–\text{perfect-analytical} \rightarrow & \text{BEEN} \\
\text{BE}–\text{progressive-analytical} \rightarrow & \text{GOING}.
\end{align*}
\]

**Criterion C3: Repeatability with the same Synt-governor**

Consider the possible number of occurrences of a given SSyntRel \( r \) with the same Governor. In this respect, any \( r \) of language \( L \) can be either non-repeatable or unlimitedly repeatable.

**Definition 8: Non-repeatable SSyntRel**

* A SSyntRel \( r \) is *non-repeatable* if and only if no more than one branch labeled \( r \) can start from any G(overnor).
In a given sentence of L, a G of a non-repeatable r can have only one D (= one clause element) of the corresponding type. For instance, actantial SSyntRelss whose Ds are marked by purely syntactic means (word order, prosody, inflection)—such as the subj and the dir(ect)-obj(ectival) SSyntRelss—are obligatorily non-repeatable: otherwise, they would violate Criterion C1, because their Ds would contrast semantically, while differing only in syntactic means. (Only actantial SSyntRelss whose Ds are marked by lexical means, that is, by different prepositions—such as the oblique-obj SSyntRel—can be repeatable.)

An important warning: In some languages, a clause element can be duplicated by what is called a resumptive clitic. Such is, for instance, the D of the dir-obj SSyntRel in Spanish, where we have the construction of the type (21a):

(21) a. Spanish

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{Alain} \\
\rightarrow \text{dir-obj} \\
\hline \\
A \text{Alain le} \rightarrow \text{dir-obj} \text{-veo todos los días} \\
\llit{To-Alan him [I] see every day} \\
\end{array}
\]

[A human DirO in Spanish is introduced by the preposition A ‘to’].

I do not consider pronominal duplication of a clause element as repeatability: such duplication has a grammaticized character and is “orthogonal” to the genuine cooccurrence of SSyntRelss, since the noun and the clitic that duplicates it are necessarily coreferential. In spite of expressions of the type (21a), the dir-obj SSyntRel is considered non-repeatable in Spanish. Similarly, in spite of (21b), the indir-obj SSyntRel is also considered non-repeatable in French:

b. French

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{mes enfants} \\
\rightarrow \text{indir-obj} \\
\hline \\
A \text{mes enfants, je leur} \rightarrow \text{indir-obj} \text{-permets tout} \\
\llit{To my children, I permit them everything} \\
\end{array}
\]

Here is another example of grammaticized duplication by clitic:

c. Albanian

(21) (i) Mësuesi u foli fëmijëve lit. ‘The-teacher to-them talked to-the-kids’,

where fëmijëve and u also are both IndirOs.

(ii) Njerëzit më përanë mua lit. ‘The-people me saw me’,

where mua and më are both DirOs.

In all such cases, the corresponding SSyntRel is considered non-repeatable.

**Definition 9: (Unlimitedly) repeatable SSyntRel**

A SSyntRel r is (unlimitedly) repeatable if and only if several branches labeled r can start from a G (with the exclusion of resumptive clitics).

For instance, the modificative and the circumstantial SSyntRelss in English are unlimitedly repeatable; so is the oblique-obj SSyntRel. For a repeatable SSyntRel r the number of branches labeled r that can start from a G in any particular case is theoretically unlimited, although in practice this number can be limited either by pragmatic considerations or by the lexicographic properties of concrete Gs, for instance, by their Government Pat-
tern—as is the case with the \texttt{obl-obj} SSyntRel; this number cannot be limited by any general syntactic factors.

In other words, a SSyntRel cannot be limitedly repeatable (without being constrained by Government Pattern of the G).

Now I can formulate Criterion C3:

**Criterion C3**

Any SSyntRel \texttt{r} must be unlimitedly repeatable or non-repeatable.

As is always the case, exceptions are possible. Thus, in English, the relative SSyntRel is non-repeatable: generally speaking, a noun cannot have more than one relative clause. There is, however, a contradicting phenomenon: two restrictive relative clauses with the same noun are possible under specific conditions in highly colloquial speech, cf. (22):

\begin{enumerate}
  \item \textit{A student [who comes to my class]}$_1$ [who broke the news to me]$_2$ left the building.
  \item \textit{We are in the room [I will never forget]}$_1$ [where she kissed me for the first time]$_2$.
\end{enumerate}

If we decide—in spite of their marginality—to consider such facts, they can be fully and exactly circumscribed. Therefore, they constitute a legitimate exception, which does not prevent us from declaring the relative SSyntRel non-repeatable in English. (This case has been brought to my attention by L. Iomdin.)

Criterion C3 corresponds roughly to the cooccurrence, or iteration, test, used in linguistics on all levels of analysis. Thus, in morphology, an element of a morphological category is either non-repeatable (tense or number in English or French) or unlimitedly repeatable (the causative in Turkish). When we see, for instance, just two possible repetitions—like nominal case suffixes in Basque or Georgian, we speak of two different case categories (semantic case vs. syntactic case; governed case vs. agreeing case).

**Example**

\begin{enumerate}
  \item (23) In Persian, we find extremely widespread expressions of the following type:
  \begin{enumerate}
    \item \textit{Ramin + rā–r [?]–kard–r [?]→bedār}
    \begin{itemize}
      \item Ramin \ DirO made awakening \texttt{[Noun]}
      \item lit. \texttt{[He/she/it] Ramin made [the] awakening, = 'He/she/it awoke Ramin.'}
    \end{itemize}
  \end{enumerate}

  These expressions are built on verbal collocations of the type \textit{bedār kard} \texttt{awakening make Y, = 'awake Y} or \textit{dars dad} lit. \texttt{lesson give Y, = 'teach Y}, which, although they seem to include a DirO, such as \textit{bedār or dars}, behave as transitive verbs and take—as a whole—a genuine DirO (the suffix \texttt{-rā} is an unmistakable marker of a DirO with typically transitive verbs meaning \texttt{kill', 'see', 'build', etc.}).

  The presumed SSyntRel \texttt{r [dir-ob(jectival)?] in such expressions would be limitedly repeatable—just twice, while no obvious naturally-looking conditions can be formu-
lated; at the same time, this phenomenon can by no means be treated as an exception. Therefore, there are two different SSyntRels:

\[
\text{RĀMĪN} \leftarrow \text{dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{KARD} \rightarrow \text{quasi-dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{BEDĀR}.
\]

The nominal element in verbal collocations of the above type is considered to be a Quasi-Direct Object. Here is another similar example (Lazard 1994: 93):

b. *Samāvar atēš kardand*

samovar fire do-PAST.3PL

lit. ['They] samovar fire did', = 'They lit the samovar'.

['fire do Y' = 'light (up) Y']

The SSyntS is here as in the previous example:

\[
\text{SAMĀVAR} \leftarrow \text{dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{KARD} \rightarrow \text{quasi-dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{ATEŚ}.
\]

A very similar situation exists in Korean (O'Grady 1991: 236):

c. *John+*i *enehak+*ul *kongpwu+*ul *hay+*ss +*ta*

SUBJ linguistics ACC study ACC do PAST DECL(arative)

lit. 'John linguistics study made', = 'John studied linguistics'.

['make study Y' = 'study Y']

"SUBJ" stands for "subjective case," known in traditional Korean grammar as nominative; however, this case is never used for naming, but has as its central function the marking of the syntactic Subject, so that it seems preferable to call it the subjective.19

The SSyntS of (23c) is again very much the same as before:

\[
\text{ENEHAK} \leftarrow \text{dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{HAY} \rightarrow \text{quasi-dir-obj} \rightarrow \text{KONGPWU}.
\]

For Criteria C to be satisfied, all three criteria C1-C3 must be satisfied.

The SSyntRels of a language form a systematic inventory, just like phonemes or grammemes. Criteria C1-C3 are part of a methodology for establishing SSyntRels’ inventories. Note that Criteria C1 and C2 are paradigmatic, while Criterion C3 is syntagmatic.[4]

Now we are ready for a definition of Synt-∅.

**Definition 10: Syntactic dependency**

The wordform \( w_2 \) is said to syntactically depend on the wordform \( w_1 \) via SSyntRel \( r \) in a particular utterance if the three groups of Criteria A, B and C are satisfied for this pair of wordforms and \( r \).

The syntactic dependency \( r \) between wordforms \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) will be written as \( w_1 \rightarrow r \rightarrow w_2 \).

---

19 Sentence (23c) can be put into the passive; then the DirO ENEHAK becomes the Subject, the Quasi-DirO KONGPWU is a Quasi-Subject, and JOHN (also in the subjective), a proleptic Theme:

\[
\text{John+i +i enehak +i kongpwu+ka +oss +ta}
\]

SUBJ linguistics SUBJ study SUBJ well be.done PAST DECL
4.4 The logical and linguistic properties of syntactic dependency

a) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) is anti-symmetrical:
\[ w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} w_2 \text{ entails } \neg(w_2 \xleftarrow{\text{synt}} w_1), \]
i.e., \( *w_1 \xleftarrow{\text{synt}} w_2 \).
This means that a wordform \( w_1 \) cannot be the Synt-governor of another wordform \( w_2 \) and simultaneously have \( w_2 \) as its own Synt-governor. This follows from our decision to use the dependency tree as the formalism for the representation of Synt-structures. Moreover, since most often \( w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} w_2 \) signals that \( w_2 \) is linearly positioned with respect to \( w_1 \), it is paradoxical to claim that at the same time \( w_1 \xleftarrow{\text{synt}} w_2 \), so that \( w_1 \) is linearly positioned with respect to \( w_2 \) (or vice versa—in case where \( w_1 \) is positioned with respect to \( w_2 \)).

b) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) is anti-reflexive: *.
This means that a wordform cannot be linearly positioned with respect to itself. As with Sem-\( \mathfrak{D} \), anti-reflexivity of Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) follows from its anti-symmetry.

c) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) is anti-transitive:
\[ w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} w_2 \text{ and } w_2 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} w_3 \text{ (in one sentence) entails } \neg(w_1 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} w_3). \]
Otherwise, the principle of the unique governor—see below, item e)—would be violated. This does not preclude, however, the presence of an indirect Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) between \( w_1 \) and \( w_3 \): \( w_3 \) is part of the Synt-subtree hanging from \( w_1 \).

d) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s must be distinctively labeled: to properly represent \textit{Mary loves John}, in the phrases \textit{Mary} \( \xleftarrow{\text{r}} \textit{love} \) and \textit{John} \( \xleftarrow{\text{r}} \textit{love} \) the SSyntRels \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \) must be different; otherwise the semantic contrast will not be preserved in the SSyntS. (The SSyntS \textit{Mary} \( \xrightarrow{\text{r}} \textit{loves} \xrightarrow{\text{r}} \textit{John} \) does not show who loves whom.)

e) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) presupposes the uniqueness of the governor: a wordform can syntactically depend only on one other wordform (or be independent, as is the top node of a SyntS).

f) Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) is universal in the following three respects: it is present in all languages; it appears in all sentences of a language; and it embraces all wordforms of a sentence (that is, for a sentence, Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s always form a connected structure—like Sem-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s, but unlike Morph-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s).

The logical properties of Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \) as defined above correspond to the fact that Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s between the wordforms of a sentence form a dependency tree: a connected graph in which 1) each node can directly depend only on one other node (= the uniqueness of the Synt-governor) and 2) one and only one node does not depend on anything—the \textit{top node}, or the \textit{root}, of the SSyntS (= the presence of the absolute head). The linear order of the nodes in the SSyntS is of course not explicitly specified; in this way, the \( \mathfrak{D} \)-description of the SSyntS consistently separates the SSynt-links between wordforms and the linear order of the latter. (Word order in a sentence is determined by its SSyntS; it is computed by syntactic rules of the language on the basis of Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s.)

Examples of Deep-Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s and Surface-Synt-\( \mathfrak{D} \)s, i.e., DSyntRels and SSyntRels, are given in Figures 2 and 3. For a detailed description of the SSyntRels of English, see Mel’čuk & Pertsov 1987: 85-156 (and 4.8 below), as well as Apresjan \textit{et al.} 1992: 71-
121; the inventories of SSyntRelS for Russian are found in Mel’čuk 1974: 221-235, and Apresjan et al. 1989, 1992: 204-208; for the inventories of SSyntRelS (≈ “dependent types”) for German, Danish, Polish, Bangla, Finnish, Hungarian, Japanese, and Esperanto, see Maxwell & Schubert 1989; a list of Synt-Ds, illustrated in English, is attached to Petkevič 1995. A sketch of syntactic word order rules based on Synt-Ds for Russian, see Mel’čuk 1967 and 1974: 260-302; see also Sgall et al. 1995 (for Czech and German).

4.5 Some non-definitorial properties of Governors and Dependents

Synt-governors and Synt-dependents have three important properties, which, however, cannot be taken as definitorial: some Synt-governors and some Synt-dependents in particular languages do not have them. Nevertheless, these properties are sufficiently characteristic of Synt-governors and Synt-dependents, so that they can be resorted to as convenient heuristic means. These properties are omissibility, cooccurrence control, and incorporability.

Omissibility
This is the most important non-definitorial property that distinguishes Synt-governors and Synt-dependents. Typically, in the configuration \(w_1 \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow w_2\), the Synt-dependent \(w_2\) can be omitted without affecting the Synt-correctness of the SSyntS (and without producing an ellipsis), while the Synt-governor \(w_1\) cannot. Such is the case in the constructions ADJ \(\rightarrow\) N, N \(\rightarrow\) N\(_{\text{gen}}\), V \(\rightarrow\) PREP + N, X \(\rightarrow\) Conj\(_{\text{coord}}\) + Y, and a few others. (Let it be emphasized that we speak here of omissibility in the Synt-structure, not in the actual sentence.) But this is not always the case:

- The Synt-dependent may be obligatory (= non-omissible): either in some contexts (e.g., the DET in a DET \(\rightarrow\) N construction), or always—as in exocentric constructions (e.g., the N in a PREP \(\rightarrow\) N construction). Cf., for instance, non-omissible adjectives in phrases like a man of various talents.

- The Synt-governor can be omissible: for example, 1) the Russian preposition OKOLO (‘about’) with a numeral phrase (okolo trëx tonn ‘about three tons’ is syntactically equivalent to tri tonny ‘three tons’) or the English prepositional configuration from - to, again with a numeral phrase (from three to six girls is syntactically equivalent to six girls); 2) the English subordinate conjunction THAT (John knows that Mary is in town is syntactically equivalent to John knows Mary is in town).

Cooccurrence (= Subcategorization) control
Typically, in the configuration \(w_1 \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow w_2\), it is the Synt-governor \(w_1\) that is subcategorized for by the Synt-governor \(w\) of the whole phrase (\(w \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow w_1\)). To put it differently, the lexicographic description of \(w\) must take into account some properties of \(w_1\), but not of \(w_2\). Thus, if a verb admits a noun as its actant, the lexicographic properties of the noun may be relevant (this verb admits only human nouns, or only mass nouns, etc.); but it is not the case that a verb admits as its actant a noun with a particular determiner—say, only with EVERY, or only with A/AN, etc.[5] This fact points to N as the Synt-governor in the constructions DET \(\rightarrow\) N or ADJ \(\rightarrow\) N. Similarly, in the construction CONJ\(_{\text{subord}}\) \(\rightarrow\) V\(_{\text{fin}}\) (... whether [he] comes; ... that [I am [here]]), it is CONJ\(_{\text{subord}}\) that determines the subcategorization of the MV in the matrix clause: some verbs take...
WHETHER, some others take THAT, etc.; but the verb of the subordinate clause is immaterial in this respect. Consequently, we have $V_{\text{matrix}} \rightarrow \text{CONJ}_{\text{subord}} \rightarrow V_{\text{fin}}$.

More generally, the Synt-governor $w_1$ tends to subcategorize for its Synt-dependent $w_2$ (i.e., $w_1$ tends to determine the choice of $w_2$): we say many—books, but much—noise, etc.; or else depend—on, but borrow—from, etc.

**Incorporability**

Typically, a language with incorporation manifests two phenomena concerning the orientation of Synt-governor $w_1$ in a configuration $w_1$–synt–$w_2$:

- **Internal incorporability.** If $w_2$ can be incorporated into $w_1$, and not the other way around, then $w_1$ is the Synt-governor of $w_2$; if $w_2$ has its own dependents, they can be incorporated together with it into $w_1$ or remain stranded in the sentence (as a function of the language and the context). Well-known examples include the incorporation of agents into the verb and of modifying adjectives into the modified noun. Cf., for instance (the incorporated stem is boldfaced):

  (24) a. Chukchee (Chukchee-Kamchatkan family, Russia)

  $n\bar{o} + tur + qine + te \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow kupre + te$  \(\text{with [a] new net}\)

  ADJ new 3SG SG.INSTR net SG.INSTR

  vs.

  $tur + kupre + te$  \(\text{with [a] new-net}\)

  new net SG.INSTR

  [Non-incorporated adjectives in Chukchee have a special prefix $n\bar{o}$-, marking them as adjectives, and a person/number suffix, here $-\text{qine}$; they agree with the modified noun in number and case.]

  - **External incorporability.** If $w_1$ (or both $w_1$ and $w_2$, but not $w_2$ alone) can be incorporated into the Synt-governor $w$ of the whole phrase, then $w_1$ is the Synt-governor of $w_2$; we can thus have $[w + w_1]$–synt–$w_2$, but not $*[w + w_2]$–synt–$w_1$. Again, if $w_2$ has its own dependents, they can be incorporated with it into $w$ or remain stranded. However, it seems impossible to have a Synt-dependent of $w_i$ incorporated, while $w_i$ itself is not (Allen et al. 1984):

  b. Southern Tiwa (Kiowa-Tanoan family, New Mexico, USA)

  $Wisi \ seuan + in \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow bi + m\bar{u}+ ban$  \(\text{I saw two men}\).

  two man PL 1SG see PAST

  vs.

  $Wisi \ bi + seuan + m\bar{u}+ ban$  \(\text{lit. Two I-man-saw}\).

  two 1SG man see PAST

  vs.

  $*Seuan + in \ bi + wisi + m\bar{u} + ban$  \(\text{I men two-saw}\).

  man PL 1SG two see PAST

  Thus, in the phrase $wisi \ seuanin$ ‘two men’ we have $wisi\sim seuanin$, because $seuanin$ can be incorporated alone into the verb, while $wisi$ alone cannot.
For a compound numeral, only the marker of compound numerals PAROL, meaning ‘extra, added’, is incorporated; other components of the numeral remain outside. (We see above that the noun stem lili is modified to lele in the form with incorporation: this is the effect of vowel harmony under the influence of the incorporated element.) Therefore, the marker parol is the Synt-head of the whole numeral, so that the SSynt-dependencies in a Chukchee compound numeral are as follows:

\[
\text{nireqqlikkin amprrootken parol+lele +γt} \quad \text{‘to forty-eight gloves'}
\]

\[
\text{forty eight extra glove PL.DAT}
\]

From a logical standpoint, incorporability could be a definitorial property of Synt-governors, if it weren’t for the restricted character of incorporation itself: it is far from being universal, since it is not found in a majority of languages. Therefore, it cannot be used as a general criterion for the orientation of Synt-\(\mathfrak{n}\).

Other non-definitorial properties of Synt-governors (listed as early as Pittman 1948) include class size (a Synt-governor belongs, as a rule, to a larger word-class than its dependent), versatility (a Synt-governor appears in a greater variety of syntactic environments), frequency (a particular Synt-governor is less frequent than a particular dependent), as well as some others. However, all of them are violated by many types of Synt-governors, so that they can be used as heuristic considerations only.

### 4.6 The absolute head of the Synt-Structure of a sentence

Since Synt-\(\mathfrak{n}\) presupposes uniqueness of the governor (no wordform in the sentence can depend syntactically on more than one other wordform), the SyntS of a sentence must have one absolute head, or a top node—a wordform which does not syntactically depend on anything and on which all the other wordforms of the sentence depend (directly or indirectly). Practically, in most versions of the \(\mathfrak{n}\)-approach known to me, in a complete clause/a complete sentence this role is filled by the finite, or tensed, verb—the MV (at least in languages that obligatorily have one in each complete clause/sentence, cf. below).\(^{20}\) Thus, in the DSyntS of Figure 2, p. 6, where any form of the MV, including multiword—analytical—forms, is represented by a single node, the top node of the sentence is the verb ESCAPE (in the finite form of the Present Perfect); in the SSyntS of Figure 3, where each wordform, including the auxiliaries, is represented by a

---

\(^{20}\) This view was held, at least in Europe, as early as in the 13th-14th centuries. Weber (1992: 13) speaks of Siger von Kortrijk, who preached the absolute dominance of the finite verb in a sentence around 1300. Cf. also the following remark by Nicolò Macchiavelli in 1516: “...dicono che chi considera bene le 8 parti de l’orazione ... troverà che quella che si chiama verbo è la catena e il nervo de la lingua;” quoted in Koch & Krefeld 1991: v. For objections to the status of the Main Verb as the Synt-head of the sentence, see Hewson 1992: 49-51; these objections are (again and again) due to the confusion of different types of \(\mathfrak{n}\) (semantic, syntactic, morphological, and communicative).
separate node, the top node is the auxiliary verb HAVE (in the finite form of the Present Indefinite). The choice of the MV as the Synt-head of the sentence is by no means arbitrary: the finite verb is, on Criteria B1-B3, the (direct or indirect) Synt-governor with respect to all other wordforms in the sentence, and in this way it ends up as the absolute head. Let us consider the application of Criteria B1-B3 to the MV of a sentence.

By Criterion B1, the finite verb is the governor of the subject, since the passive Synt-valence of the phrase Subject←synt-MV is determined by the verb: for a phrase to be insertable in the construction I know that ... (or any similar context), it has to contain a finite verb; with respect to the phrases Object←synt-MV or Circumstantial←synt-MV the syntactically dominant status of the verb is obvious (and has never been doubted). To this, two arguments can be added:

• In many languages, subjectless sentences exist (Chinese, Japanese, Lezgian): for instance, in the Lezgian sentence Meq’izva lit. ‘Cold-is’ = ‘It is cold’ no Synt-Subject is possible, even a zero one—the Lezgian verb shows no agreement, so that nothing would justify positing a zero dummy subject. Even in languages where the Subject is not omis-sible, such as English or French, the imperative sentence uses a finite verb, but has no overt Subject. In PRO-drop languages (Spanish, Polish, etc.), sentences without an overt Subject are quite typical (e.g., Sp. Está muy ocupado ‘He is very busy’ is a current example). Sentences without objects and circumstantials are even more widespread. However, languages that admit full sentences without the MV, or more precisely, without a Synt-predicate (which can be not a verb), are not known—at least, to me. Thus, the presence of the MV, or more generally, of a Synt-predicate, is the necessary and suffi-cient condition for the existence of a genuine sentence.

• The Sem-valence and the active Synt-valence of the MV determine the syntactic organization of the sentence/the clause. Thus, if the MV is SLEEP, only one Sem-actant is possible and, consequently, the clause allows only the Synt-Subject; with SEE, two Sem-actants and, consequently, a Synt-Subject and a DirO are necessary; KISS involves three Sem-actants (who kisses whom on what part of the body), but there can be two Synt-actants (the Synt-Subject and the DirO: either with the Possessor depending syntactically on the DirO or the body part being not mentioned) or three Synt-actants (the Synt-Subject, the DirO and an Oblique Object): Alan kissed Helen’s hand/Helen vs. Alan kissed Helen on the forehead.

Strictly speaking, we do not need to try Criteria B2 and B3, since Criterion B1 establishes the MV as the top node of a sentence/a clause beyond any doubt; however, I will do this here in order to show that in this case they all agree.

By Criterion B2, it is the finite verb that is the morphological contact point in a subordinate clause (minus the complementizer); for instance:

• In French, after the conjunction QUOIQUE ‘although’, the MV of the subordinate clause has to be in the subjunctive: quoiqu’il soit (*est) malade lit. ‘although he should-be ill’.

• In French and English, after the conjunction SI/IF the MV of the subordinate clause has to be in the present, even if it refers to the future: S’il vient (*viendra) demain ... /If he comes (*will come) tomorrow ...
If a clause is nominalized in order to be used in the Synt-Structure as a noun, it is its MV that actually undergoes the nominalization: \textit{After John arrived, ... ⇒ After John’ s arrival, ...}

And, finally, by Criterion B3 the whole sentence is semantically reducible to its MV rather than to its Synt-Subject; thus, ‘John works at IBM’ is more an instance of ‘work’ that an instance of ‘John’ or of ‘IBM’.

However, two complications arise in connection with the Main-Verb-as-the-Synt-Head-of-the-Sentence principle: zero verb forms and verbless sentences.

**Zero verb forms**
What is the top node of the SyntS of the Russian sentence (25a), which does not contain any overt verb at all?

(25) a. \textit{Leo moj drug} lit. ‘Leo my friend’ = ‘Leo is my friend’.

Our first clue is that as soon as this sentence is transposed into the past, the future, the subjunctive or the imperative, a wordform of the verb \textit{BYT} ‘be’ obligatorily appears:

b. \textit{Leo byl moim drugom} ‘Leo was my friend’.
\textit{Leo budet moim drugom} ‘Leo will-be my friend’.
\textit{Leo byl by moim drugom} ‘Leo would be my friend’.
\textit{Leo, bud’ moim drugom!} ‘Leo, be my friend!’

Since the sentence in (25a) stands in an obvious paradigmatic relation to the sentences in (25b), we conclude that the meaning \textit{PRESENT INDICATIVE} is expressed in (25a) by a zero wordform or, to put it differently, that the verb \textit{BYT} has a zero wordform in the present indicative. The SSyntS of (25a) looks then as follows:

c. 

\[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{BYT}^{\text{ind, pres}} \\
\text{subjectival} \\
\text{copular} \\
\text{modificative} \\
\text{LEO} \\
\text{DRUG}_{\text{sg}} \\
\text{MOJ}
\end{array}
\]

\textit{BYT}^{\text{ind, pres}} is expressed by an empty (= null) signifier on the SMorph-level only; thus it does not create a problem for the \textit{α}-Synt-structure of a sentence.


**Verbless sentences**
In quite a few languages, a full sentence does not have to include a finite verb. Thus, in Turkic languages, an equative or locative sentence in the present of the indicative (‘John is a doctor/John is Canadian/John is in the room’) does not admit a finite verb ‘be’; instead, the predicative noun or adjective is supplied with a predicative suffix, which thus marks its Synt-role. In Salishan languages (West Coast, Canada), in particular, in
Lushootseed, all types of full sentences are possible without a finite verb and—unlike Turkic—without any morphological marker of predicativity.

(26) a. Turkish[6]

\[ \text{Ingiliz} + \text{im} \]
\[ \text{English 1SG} \]

\[ \text{Askı} + \text{siniz} \]
\[ \text{soldier 2PL} \]

\[ \text{Ev} + \text{Ø} + \text{de} + \text{sin} \]
\[ \text{house SG LOC 2SG} \]

\[ \text{Çocuk} + \text{lar} + \text{Ø} \]
\[ \text{Ankara} + \text{da} + \text{dir} + \text{lar} \]
\[ \text{kid PL NOM Ankara LOC 3 PL} \]

b. Lushootseed (Beck 1997: 98ff; the syntactic predicate is boldfaced)

i. \[ \text{s} \text{uladxw} \]
\[ \text{ti} \text{i̱l} \]
\[ \text{litr. 'Salmon that', } = \text{‘That [is/was] a salmon'} \]
\[ \text{salmon that} \]

ii. \[ \text{sali} \]
\[ \text{ti} \text{ʔaʔ} \]
\[ \text{sqwigwac} \]
\[ \text{litr. 'Two this deer', } = \text{‘These deer [are/were] two'} \]
\[ \text{two this deer} \]

iii. \[ \text{dxwʔal} \]
\[ \text{t̩o hud t̩o s} \]
\[ \text{+xwʔil} \]
\[ \text{ʔo t̩o biac} \]
\[ \text{into the burning the NOMIN(alizer) fall of the meat} \]
\[ \text{litr. 'Into the fire [is/was] the fall(ing) of the meat', } = \text{‘The meat falls/fell into the fire'} \]

This situation is typical of other Salishan languages: any lexeme, whatever its part of speech, can be turned into the syntactic predicate, provided it is rhematic (in Salishan languages, the SyntS of a sentence very closely parallels its communicative structure). In such sentences, the top node of the SSyntS can really be anything. For instance, here is the SSyntS of (26b-iii); it has as its top node the preposition DXwʔAL meaning 'into':

c.
To take into account languages with verbless sentences, we have to generalize our Main-Verb-as-the-Head-of-the-Sentence principle. This is readily done:

The top node of the SyntS of a sentence is its main, or primary, Synt-Predicate, whatever its surface realization.

In the languages of what Whorf called the Standard Average European type, the Synt-predicate of a full-fledged clause is (almost) invariably a finite verb. However, even these languages have incomplete clauses of different types, in which the top node of the SyntS is not a finite verb, but a noun, an infinitive, or an adverb:

Best wishes to you and your family; Down with Saddam Hussein!; Yours sincerely.

Rus. Mne eščë domoj idtí lit. ‘To-me still home to-go’. = ‘I still have to go home’.

Fr. Et elle de rire lit. ‘And she to laugh’. = ‘She broke out laughing’.
   Heureusement qu’elle est venue! lit. ‘Luckily that she has come!’ = ‘Thank goodness she has come!’

Ger. ‘Ich kann wieder Farben unterscheiden’, so Charlotte Falk
   lit. ‘I can again colors distinguish,’ so Ch. Falk’. =
   ‘I can distinguish colors again,’ says/said Ch. Falk’.

Language-specific rules define the admissible top node for each of these minor sentence types.

4.7 The three major subtypes of syntactic dependencies

There are three major subtypes of Synt-\n\s, recognized universally: complementation, modification, and coordination (complementation and modification being particular cases of subordination). Specific subtypes of Synt-\ns, i.e., Deep and Surface SyntRels, introduced above, are distributed between these major subtypes.

Complementation, modification and coordination have been discussed for a long time (cf., e.g., Matthews 1981: 147-167, Lehmann 1985, Zwicky 1993), so here I simply formulate the corresponding definitions (Definitions 11-13). Note that on the SSynt-level there are several Synt-\ns to which the distinction of these three major subtypes of Synt-\n does not apply in a clear-cut way; we have to allow for some SSynt-\ns that belong to neither of these classes (is–r\textsubscript{i}→reading or from–r\textsubscript{j}→to [as in from two to five pounds]; in such a case, I will speak of ancillary SSyntRels). On the DSynt-level, however, the distinction between complementation, modification and coordination creates no problems.

In all of the following definitions, the wordform \textit{w\textsubscript{2}} depends syntactically on the wordform \textit{w\textsubscript{1}} in the given sentence: \textit{w\textsubscript{1}→synt→w\textsubscript{2}}.
Definitions 11-13 are approximate: they cover only the prototypical cases. In order to take into account all possible cases, I would have to add more conditions and thus make the definitions more complex; but in the present context, it does not seem worthwhile.

**Definition 11: Complementation**

The wordform $w_2$ is a complement, or a Synt-actant, of the wordform $w_1$ if $w_2$ is also a Sem-dependent of $w_1$:

![Complementation Diagram](image)

Complementation is controlled by the active valence of the Synt-governor. Formally, this means that the complements of the wordform $w$ must be specified in the lexical entry of $L(w)$, more precisely—in its Government Pattern. In other words, a complement of $w$ corresponds necessarily to a DSyntA($w$), the inverse being untrue: a DSyntA($w$) can be expressed, as we will see, by a modifier of $w$.

**Examples** (Synt-actants, or complements, are in boldface):

*He loves Helen; during [the] meeting; worth [a] trip; This must be [seen]; but [not] Helen.*

**Comment**

Definition 11 does not cover, for instance, the construction where a Synt-actant $w_2$ of the wordform $w_1$ depends semantically on a different wordform $w_3$ which also stands in a complementation relation to $w_1$; e.g., *He believed [=$w_1$] John [=$w_2$] to be [=$w_3$] sick.* Here, *John* is a DSynt-actant of *believe*, without being its Sem-actant, that is, without depending on *believe* semantically: ‘John’ is a SemA of ‘be’. (On the discrepancy between Sem- and DSynt-actants of the same lexeme, as well as on cases where a Sem-actant of $w$ is implemented as a modifier of $w$, see, e.g., Boguslavskij 1985: 10-19 and 1996: 23-43; cf. also Mel’čuk 2004.)

**Definition 12: Modification**

The wordform $w_2$ is a modifier, or a Synt-attribute, of the wordform $w_1$ if $w_2$ is a Sem-governor of $w_1$:

![Modification Diagram](image)

Modification is typically not controlled by the active Synt-valence of the Synt-governor: the modifiers of the wordform $w$ are, as a rule, not specified in the lexical entry of $L(w)$.

**Examples** (modifiers are in boldface):

*good friend; love passionately; only him; not serious; wrote in [Stuttgart]; wrote when [he was in Stuttgart].*
Comments

1. Definition 12 does not cover, for instance, the construction where a SSynt-modifier \( w_2 \) of the wordform \( w_1 \) depends semantically on it, since \( w_2 \) expresses one of \( w_1 \)’s Sem- and DSynt-actants: e.g., French \([= w_2] \) participation \([= w_1] \). Here, French depends both syntactically and semantically on participation, but in spite of this it is a SSynt-modifier of participation rather than its SSynt-actant (it is an adjective, and adjectives are modifiers by definition—because of their specific SSynt-behavior). Another similar example is a book \([= w_1] \) hard \([= w_2] \) to find: the adjective hard depends syntactically on book, but semantically bears on find; however, it is considered as a modifier of book.

The opposition “complementation ~ modification” underlies, in an obvious way, the problem of distinguishing between actants \( \approx \) complements, Ger. Ergänzungen, Rus. dopolnenija\(^21\)) and circumstantials \( \approx \) modifiers, Ger. Angaben, Rus. obstojatel’stva). This distinction, first introduced explicitly probably in Tesnière 1959, is discussed in Engel 1977: 98-103, 158-179, Somers 1984, 1987, and Helbig 1992: 75-98 (with rich bibliography); see also Mel’čuk 2004: 265-270.

2. Interestingly, as indicated in Bazell 1949: 7-9, some languages strongly prefer complementation, while some others stress modification. Thus, Turkic languages or Japanese formally mark the complements, using morphological government: in particular, they possess developed case systems. On the other hand, Bantu languages formally mark only modification: they actively use agreement and completely lack cases; even in complementation constructions, they make the Synt-governor (say, the verb) agree with its Objects, leaving the latter unmarked. Of course many languages mix the two techniques in different proportions. Thus, Classic and most Slavic languages richly mark both complementation (= government) and modification (= agreement).

Definition 13: Coordination

The wordform \( w_2 \) is a conjunct of the wordform \( w_1 \) if and only if the following two conditions are simultaneously satisfied:

1) Semantically neither of them depends on the other (= \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) are not directly related semantically), but both are (or at least can be) Sem-dependents of such a semanteme as ‘and’’, ‘or’, ‘but’, etc.: ‘\( w_1 \) ← sem– ‘and’ – sem → \( w_2 \)’.

2) Syntactically \( w_2 \) depends on \( w_1 \): \( w_1 \)–synt→\( w_2 \)

Comments

1. The coordination of \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) can be of two types:

* Either direct coordination, where \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) have a direct Synt-\( \Xi \) between them:

\[ w_1 \)–coord→\( w_2 \)

This coordination is called asyndetic (‘conjunctionless’).

Examples: Alan, Leo, Helen; eat, drink, sing, dance; [something] red, [not] white.

---

\(^21\) In modern linguistic literature, the terms arguments or terms (vs. non-arguments/non-terms) are also current for the corresponding concept. I prefer avoiding them in linguistics, to reserve their use for logic: arguments of a predicate, predicates vs. terms; see Mel’čuk 2004: 5-6.
• Or indirect coordination, where \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) are syntactically linked via a conjunction CONJ\(_{coord}\):

\[
w_1 \rightarrow \text{coord} \rightarrow \text{CONJ}_{coord} \rightarrow \text{conjunct} \rightarrow w_2.
\]

**Examples**: Alan and Helen; either Alan or Leo; eat and drink, but not sing and dance; red, but [not] white.

2. As the two preceding definitions, Definition 13 does not cover all cases of coordination. Thus, on the SSynt-level, formally coordinate structures can be used to express DSynt-subordination. For instance, in Russian we have izlovčil'sja i ukusil lit. '[he] managed and bit' = '[he] managed to bite', where the conjunct ukusil implements the DSynt-A II of izlovčil'sja (example from Boguslavskij 1996: 28-32); a similar English example: *Try and catch the train.*[7]

The above distinctions between the three major subtypes of Synt-\(\mathfrak{t}\)s are reflected in the DSynt-component of the Meaning-Text model by the three-pronged division of the DSyntRels:

actantial (I, II, \( II_{\text{dir.speech}} \), ..., VI) = complementation

vs.

attributive (ATTR, ATTR\(_{\text{qual}}\) and APPEND) = modification

vs.

coordinative (COORD and QUASI-COORD) = coordination;


The inclusion relations between the three major subtypes of Synt-\(\mathfrak{t}\) is shown in Figure 5 below:

![Figure 5: Major subtypes of syntactic dependency](image)

These subtypes of Synt-\(\mathfrak{t}\) were clearly distinguished by L. Bloomfield (1933: 194-198); I slightly change here Bloomfield’s formulations, without modifying his main idea:

• In a complementation phrase \( w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \) the passive Synt-valence of the whole phrase may be different from those of both of its elements, although it is determined by the passive Synt-valence of one of them, namely that of the Synt-head of the phrase; normally, the head requires the presence of the dependent(s): \( X \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{hits} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow Y \).

• In a modification phrase \( w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \) the passive Synt-valence of the whole phrase is the same as that of one of its elements, namely—that of its Synt-head; normally, the head does not require the presence of the dependent: \( \text{hits} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{severely} \).
• In a coordination phrase $w_1 \ldots w_2 \ldots \ldots w_n$ the passive Synt-valence of the whole phrase is the same as that of each of its elements (\textit{= conjuncts}):

\[ \text{read, } \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{write, } \text{synt} \rightarrow (\text{and}) \text{ count}. \]

The constructions manifesting the SyntRels of the first subtype, i.e., complementation, are called \textit{exocentric}; the constructions manifesting the SyntRels of the second and third subtypes, i.e., modification and coordination, are called \textit{endocentric}.

For the surface SyntS, a fourth major subtype of SSyntRel is needed—to link syntactically-induced wordforms (what are known as structural words, chunks of idioms, parts of compound numerals, etc.), which do not appear in the Deep-SyntS and cannot be covered by the dependencies of the three above-mentioned classes. As proposed at the beginning of this subsection, I will call these SSyntRels \textit{ancillary}, to emphasize their “subservient” character.

4.8 \textit{Syntactic dependencies of a language: SSynt-Relations of English}

In order to give the reader a better idea about SSyntRels, as they can be used in a description of a language, I cite here a tentative list of SSyntRels of English, taken—with some corrections and additions—from Mel’čuk & Pertsov 1987: 85-160. No claims are laid as to completeness of this list; its purpose is strictly illustrative.

In the examples, the SSynt-dependent is boldfaced; words not participating in the construction illustrated are included in brackets.

For a better surveyability of the list, the SSyntRels are grouped as follows:

• First, they are divided into subordinate and coordinate ones.

• Second, the subordinate SSyntRels are subdivided into two subsets:

  — clausal SSyntRels, or those that can hold between (the heads of) noun, verb, adjective, and adverb phrases (they can also appear within these phrases);

  — phrasal SSyntRels, or those that can hold only between the elements within phrases (never between phrases).

• Third, inside each subdivision, the line is drawn between valence-controlled SSyntRels (that necessarily embody complementation) and non-valence-controlled SSyntRels (that can be either modificative, or coordinative, or ancillary).
A Subordinate SSyntRels: 1-50

A.1 Clause-level (= clausal) SSyntRels: 1-21

A.1.1 Valence-controlled SSyntRels: Complementation (1-14)

A.1.1.1 Actantial SSyntRels: 1-11

1. Subjectival
   I ← subj – am [Russian]; Smoking ← subj – is [dangerous].
   That ← subj – [Alan comes] – is [clear].
   It ← subj – is [clear that Alan comes].

2. Quasi-Subjectival
   [It] is – [clear] – quasi-subj → that [Alan comes].

3. Direct-Objectival
   [She] sees → dir-obj → me; [to have] written → dir-obj → novels;
   [Helen] wants → dir-obj → Alan [to tickle her].
   prefer → dir-obj → staying [home];
   explain → [to him] – dir-obj → that [Alan was absent];
   make → dir-obj → it [possible to neutralize the consequences].

4. Quasi-Direct-Objectival
   make – [it possible] – quasi-dir-obj → to [neutralize the consequences].

5. Indirect-Objectival
   gives → indir-obj → Alan [some money];
   convince → [Alan] – indir-obj → that [he should work less].

6. Oblique-Objectival
   depends → obl-obj → on [Alan]; [much] respect → obl-obj → for [Alan];
   translation → obl-obj → from Lushootseed [into Polish];

7. Infinitival-Objectival
   can → inf-obj → read; want → inf-obj → to [read];
   [Helen] wants → [Alan] – inf-obj → to [tickle her].
   [her] desire → inf-obj → to [come].

8. Complete
   find – [this] – compl → easy; consider – [Alan] – compl → happy;

9. Copular
   be – copul → easy; be – [a] – copul → teacher;
   be – copul → without [a hat]; seem – copul → in [a difficult position].
10. Agentive
written→agent→by [Alan];
arrival→agent→of [Alan]
(NB: the phrase Alan’s arrival is described by a different SSyntRel: possessive SSyntRel, No. 24);
shooting→agent→of [the hunters: ‘the hunters shoot’];
[a] translation→agent→by [Alan];
[I like] for→agent→[my son to]→do [well in school] (that is, do→agent→for [son]).

11. Patientive
translation→patient→of [this text];
shooting→patient→of [the hunters: ‘the hunters are shot’].

A.1.1.2 Copredicative SSyntRels: 12–13

12. Subject-copredicative
[Alan] returned→subj-copr→rich.

13. Object-copredicative
[Alan] hammered–[the coin]→obj-copr→flat.

A.1.1.3 Comparative SSyntRel: 14

14. Comparative
older→compar→than [Leo]; [Alan loves Helen] more→compar→than [Leo];
more–[important]→compar→than [Leo]; as–[important]→compar→as [Leo].

A.1.2 Non-valence-controlled SSyntRels: Modification (15-21)

A.1.2.1 Absolutive SSyntRel: 15

15. Absolute-predicative
[His first] attempt–[a]→abs-pred→failure, [Alan ...].
[He went out, his] anger→abs-pred→gone.
[He went out, his] gun→abs-pred→in [his left hand].

A.1.2.2 Adverbial SSyntRels: 16-19

16. Adverbial
walk→adverb→fast; [will] write→next→adverb→week;
delve→adverb→deeply; [He] works→adverb→there (in [this office]).
[He] went→out,→his→adverb→gun→abs-pred→in [his left hand].
With→adverb→[her paper finished, Helen]→can [afford this trip].

17. Modificative-adverbial
[As always] elegant, ←mod-adverb→[Alan]→walked [away].

18. Appositive-adverbial
[An old] man, ←appos-adverb→[Alan]→works [less].
19. Attributive-adverbial
   Abroad, <- attr-adverb-[Alan] - works [less].

A.1.2.3 Sentential SSyntRels: 20-21

20. Parenthetical
   Oddly, <- parenth-[Alan] - works [less].
   As <- parenth-[we have known for some time, Alan] - works [less].
   To <- parenth-[give an example, I] - consider [now nominal suffixes].

21. Adjunctive
   OK, <- adjunct-[I] - agree.
   Helen, <- adjunct-[I] - agree.

A.2 Phrase-level (= phrasal) SSyntRels: 22-50

A.2.1 Any phrase SSyntRel: Modification (22)

22. Restrictive
   still <- restr-taller; most <- restr-frequent;
   not <- restr-here; [Alan has] just <- restr-arrived.

A.2.2 Noun Phrase SSyntRels: 23-37

A.2.2.1 Valence-controlled SSyntRel: Complementation (23)

23. Elective
   [the] poorest <- elect among [peasants]; [the] best <- [ones] - elect from [these boys];
   [the] most <- [successful student] - elect in [our class].

A.2.2.2 Mixed Type SSyntRels = Valence-controlled/Non-valence-controlled: Modification (24-25)

24. Possessive
   Alan’s <- poss-arrival; Alan’s <- poss-bed; Alan’s <- poss-organs; Alan’s <- poss-pleasure.

25. Composite
   man <- compos-[machine] - interaction; car <- compos-repair;
   noun <- compos-phrase; color <- compos-blind.

A.2.2.3 Non-valence-controlled SSyntRels: Modification (26-37)

26. Determinative
   my <- determ-bed, a <- determ-bed, those <- determ-beds.

27. Quantitative
   three <- quant-beds; [three <- num-junct-] thousand <- quant-people.

28. Modificative
29. Post-modificative
stars→*visible* (vs. *visible stars* above).

30. Descriptive-Modificative
[these] beds, descr-modif→*comfortable* [and not expensive], ...

31. Relative
[the] paper→*read* [yesterday]; the girl→*came* [first].

32. Descriptive-Relative
[this] paper, descr-relat→*read* [yesterday];
Alan, descr-relat→*loves* [her so much].

33. Appositive
*General*←appos→Wanner; [the] term←appos→‘suffix’.

34. Descriptive-Appositive
[This] term←descr-appos→‘suffix’ [will be considered later].
[You forget about] me, descr-appos→*mother*.
Alan descr-appos→*Powerful*;
you descr-appos→*children*, we descr-appos→*linguists*.

35. Sequential
*man*→*machine* [interaction]; *fifty*→*to* [seventy dollars].

36. Attributive
learners→*with* [different backgrounds]; dress→*of* [a beautiful color];
[a] man→*of* [the same]; age; years→*of* [war], [the] house→*of* [Alan].

37. Descriptive-Attributive
[Professor] Wanner descr-attr→*from* [Stuttgart, was also present].

A.2.3 Prepositional Phrase SSyntRels: 38-39

A.2.3.1 A valence-controlled SSyntRel (Complementation): (38)

38. Prepositional
in→*bed*, without→*of* [three hundred]→dollars.

A.2.3.2 A non-valence-controlled SSyntRel (Ancillary): (39)

39. Prepositional-ininitival
to→*to bed*.

A.2.4 Verb Phrase (= analytical form) SSyntRels (Ancillary): 40-42

40. Perfect-analytical
*has*→*written*, has→*been* [beaten].
41. Progressive-analytical
*was*→*writing*.

42. Passive-analytical
*was*→*written*.

A.2.5 Conjunction Phrase valence-controlled SSyntRel (Complementation): 43-46

43. Subordinate-Conjunctual
[Suppose] *that*→*comes*.

44. Coordinate-Conjunctual
[*Alan* *and*→*Helen*.

45. Comparative-Conjunctual
*than*→*Helen*; *as*→*always*; *as*→*for him*.

46. Absolute-Conjunctual
*If*→*pronoun*, [the grammatical subject may ...];
*while*→*in* [bed].

A.2.6 Word-like Phrase SSyntRel (Ancillary): 47-50

47. Verb-junctive
*give*→*up*, *bring*→*down*, *do*→*in*.

48. Numeral-junctive
*fifty*→*three*; *fifty*→*third*.

49. Binary-junctive
*if*→*then* ...; *the*→*the* [more ...];
*till*→*after*, *from*→*to* [...];
*either*→*or* [...].

50. Colligative
*[is] dealt*→*with* [stranded prepositions].

B. COORDINATE SSyntRel: 51-52

51. Coordinative
*Alan*→*and* [Leo]; *Alan*→*but* [not Leo];
*rich*→*intelligent*→*and* [beautiful].

22 For an argumentation in favor of the SSyntS Conj→MV, see Hudson 1987: 119-121.
52. Quasi-coordinative

[He was] abroad—quasi-coord→without—a penny—quasi-coord→in a desperate situation. [These moneys we keep hidden] under—a loose board—quasi-coord→under—the floor—quasi-coord→under—a chamber pot—quasi-coord→under my friend’s bed (T. Capote, “A Christmas Memory”).

Comment

As suggested above (4.7, Comment 1 after Definition 12, p. 50), some of the SSyntRel that belong to the modification class can be valence-controlled, so that their dependents correspond to DSynt-Actants of their governors:

\[
\text{my} \leftarrow \text{determ} \rightarrow \text{arrival} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{I} \leftarrow \text{I} \rightarrow \text{ARRIVAL}
\]

\[
\text{American} \leftarrow \text{modif} \rightarrow \text{participation} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{AMERICA} \leftarrow \text{I} \rightarrow \text{PARTICIPATION}
\]

\[
\text{treat} \rightarrow \text{[someone]} \rightarrow \text{adverb} \rightarrow \text{friendly} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{TREAT} \rightarrow \text{III} \rightarrow \text{FRIENDLY}
\]

\[
\text{income} \leftarrow \text{compos} \rightarrow \text{tax} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{INCOME} \leftarrow \text{II} \rightarrow \text{TAX}
\]

Similarly, the coordinative SSyntRel can be valence-controlled:

\[
\text{try} \rightarrow \text{coord} \rightarrow \text{and} \rightarrow \text{[come]} \quad \Leftrightarrow \quad \text{TRY} \rightarrow \text{II} \rightarrow \text{COME}
\]

In point of fact, the correlation between complementation and modification, as well as between complementation/modification and coordination on the DSynt- and SSynt-levels is complex and cannot be discussed here in depth.

5 Possible combinations of the three types of linguistic dependency

The three types of linguistic syntagmatic dependency that we are studying—semantic, syntactic, and morphological—are logically independent of each other, which means that they can co-occur in all possible combinations. Thus, two wordforms in a sentence can be related by a Sem-\( \bullet \) with no Synt-\( \bullet \) or Morph-\( \bullet \) between them (a); or they can have a Sem-\( \bullet \) and, at the same time, an inverse Synt-\( \bullet \), with still no Morph-\( \bullet \) (b); or there can be a Synt-\( \bullet \) with a Morph-\( \bullet \) having the same orientation, but no Sem-\( \bullet \) (c); etc.

\[
\text{(a) } \quad \text{w}_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} \text{w}_2 \quad \text{(b) } \quad \text{w}_1 \xrightarrow{\text{sem}} \text{w}_2 \quad \text{(c) } \quad \text{w}_1 \xrightarrow{\text{synt}} \text{w}_2 \xrightarrow{\text{morph}} \text{w}_2
\]

All in all, there are fourteen logically possible combinations of direct Sem-\( \bullet \), Synt-\( \bullet \) and Morph-\( \bullet \) between two wordforms, \( \text{w}_1 \) and \( \text{w}_2 \), of a sentence (cf. Mel’čuk 1964a, 1988: 118-128); all of them are actually found in languages and will be illustrated below.
CASE 1:  \[ w_1 \rightarrow w_2 \]  No syntagmatic dependency whatsoever between two wordforms.

Example

The wordforms \textit{cocoa} and \textit{new} in (1), p. 5.

CASE 2:  \[ w_1 \stackrel{\text{sem}}{\rightarrow} w_2 \]  Two wordforms are linked by a \textit{Sem-\#}, unsupported by any \textit{Synt-\#} or \textit{Morph-\#}.

Example

The wordforms \textit{farming} and \textit{problems} in (1) are semantically directly related—\textit{farming} depends on \textit{problems} (‘problems are for farming’), yet there is no \textit{Synt-\#} or \textit{Morph-\#} between them. Another example could be an expression of the type \textit{He drives me mad}, where we have \textit{mad-\textit{sem}→me}, while syntactically and morphologically \textit{me} and \textit{mad} are not linked.

CASE 3:  \[ w_1 \longrightarrow \text{synt} \longrightarrow w_2 \]  Two wordforms are linked by a \textit{Synt-\#}, but there is no \textit{Sem-\#} or \textit{Morph-\#} between them.

Examples

(27) a. In Japanese, a numeral or a quantitative adverb, while bearing semantically on the SSynt-Subject or the DirO as in ‘Five people were injured’ or ‘He reads many books’, and—for numerals—morphologically depending on it, depends syntactically on the verb, with which it has neither semantic nor morphological links, cf.:

i. \textit{Sono ziko +de keganin +ga go+nin deta}
   \textit{this accident LOC injured-people SUBJ(ective) five CLASS(ifier) emerged}
   lit. In this accident, injured-people five-ly\textit{–synt-emerged}, = ‘In this accident, five people were injured’.

ii. \textit{Nihongo+no hon+o takusan yomimasita}
   Japanese GEN book ACC many read-PAST
   lit. ‘Japanese-language books many-ly\textit{–synt-read}, = ‘[I] have read many Japanese books’.

For a detailed characterization of this Floating Quantifier construction and its relations to other numeral constructions in Japanese, see Kim 1995; cf. also Case 8, (31b).

b. In Russian, a numeral adverb of the type \textit{VDVOÊM} ‘being-two’, \textit{VTROÊM} ‘being-three’, etc. is used in a similar construction, where this adverb semantically bears on the SSynt-Subject of the clause, but has with it no syntactic or morphological link:

\textit{My sideli–[na beregu]–synt→včetverom}

lit. ‘We sat [on the-shore] being-four’.

The same holds about most of Floating Quantifiers of different types in various languages.
c. In English, French and many other languages, a measure noun used as a DirO depends syntactically on the verb, but does not have a semantic or morphological link with it (semantically the verb dominates the noun quantified):

\[ \text{John bought-[five-synt→kilos [of potatoes].} \]

Fr. \( \text{Jean a acheté-[cinq-synt→kilos [de pommes de terre].} \)

Cf. Case 9, example (32b).

d. Any conjoined elements that are morphologically invariable, as, e.g., Alan, Helen, Leo, are linked syntactically without any direct semantic or morphological link between them.

**Examples**

(28) a. In Tabassaran (Eastern Caucasian, Daghestan, Russia), the MV can agree with the 1st/2nd person Possessor of the Synt-Subject, the Possessor being not directly related to the verb semantically or syntactically, cf.:

\[ \text{Ič [w1] mudur učvuhna he+b+gnu+jič [w2]} \]

Our goat-kid[I] to-you left II left **1PL**

‘Our kid ran away to your place’.

Here the verb \( \text{hegnu ‘ran away, fled’} \) agrees in class with \( \text{mudur} \) (class II, the class-marking infix in the verb is \( \text{-b-} \)), but in person and number with \( \text{ič ‘our’} \).

The same type of agreement of the MV is characteristic, among others, of Chickasaw (Muscogean, USA), Wichita (Caddoan, USA), Tangut, and Maithili (Indian).

b. In Maasai (Nilotic, Kenya), an infinitive that semantically and syntactically depends on the MV agrees in number with the Synt-Subject of the MV (rather than with its own understood \( = \) semantic) Actor:

\[ \text{Átárétò olőgyáni / őlőgyána a +mők [w2] enáishó} \]

help-PERF.1SG.SUB.3.OBJ the-man-SG.NOM / the-man-PL.NOM INF.SG brew beer-SG.NOM


vs.

\[ \text{Kítaretò olőgyáni / őlőgyána áá a +mők [w2] enáishó} \]

help-PERF.1PL.SUB.3.OBJ the-man-SG.NOM / the-man-PL.NOM INF.PL brew beer-SG.NOM

‘[We] helped-the-man/the-men to-brew [PL] the-beer’.

[1] The Synt-Subject \text{w1—‘I’} in the first sentence and ‘we’ in the second—does not appear on the surface: Maasai is a Pro-Drop language.

2) The Maasai verbs, both transitive and intransitive, feature the ergative construction—with the DirO in the nominative and the Synt-Subject, which is not shown in the present example, in the oblique.

3) Acute and grave accent symbols stand, respectively, for high and low tones.

\[ \text{CASE 4: Two wordforms are linked by a Morph-} \text{-} \]

\[ \text{morph} \]

\[ \text{without any Sem-} \]

\[ \text{morph} \]

\[ \text{Synt-} \]

\[ \text{morph} \]
c. In Alutor, a transitive verb of perception on which syntactically depends a DirO clause can show object-agreement either with the Synt-Subject (i) or with the DirO (ii) of this clause (depending on the communicative role of the former and the latter):

i. $Qamav^+ + nak$ na $+ la^+ + tki^+ + nna^+ [w_2]$ 
   Qamav SG.LOC 3SG.SUB see PRES 2SG.OBJ
   $\gamma^+ + anna^+ [w_1]$ $\emptyset$ $+ k\delta^+ + ti + na$ $+ wwi$ $qura + wwi$
   youSG SG.INSTR 2SG.SUB harness PRES 3.OBJ PL reindeer PL
   lit. ‘Qamav sees-you you are-harnessing reindeer’. =
   ‘Qamav sees YÓU harnessing the reindeer’.

ii. $Qamav^+ + nak$ $\emptyset$ $+ la^+ + tki^+ + nina^+ + wwi [w_2]$ 
   Qamav SG.LOC 3SG.SUB see PRES 3.OBJ PL
   $\gamma^+ + anna^+ \emptyset$ $+ k\delta^+ + ti + na$ $+ wwi$ $qura + wwi [w_1]$ 
   youSG SG.INSTR 2SG.SUB harness PRES 3.OBJ PL reindeer PL
   lit. ‘Qamav sees-them you are-harnessing reindeer’. =
   ‘Qamav sees you harnessing the REINDÉER’.

The Alutor transitive verb enters in an ergative construction, with the Synt-Subject in the locative, if it is a human proper name, and in the instrumental otherwise (cf. (6), p. 14); $na$- is a 3sg subject marker if the DirO is neither of the 3rd person nor 1sg, and $\emptyset$- is a 3sg subject marker if the DirO is in the 3rd person or 1sg. A verb of perception can also agree with its DirO clause as a whole, showing 3sg object agreement; this case is, however, irrelevant in the present context.

Examples

(29) a. An adjective and the modified noun in ADJ + N phrase in a language where adjectives are invariable, cf. $new$ and $areas$ in (1).

b. In Lushootseed, a PREP + NUM phrase syntactically depends on the clause predicate (the nominal phrase boldfaced in the example), which is its Sem-dependent, and there is no Morph-$\Lambda$ between them:

$?\theta^w s + q^w \delta^b + q^w a^u f^l [w_2]$ $\delta^g^w \theta^w$ $\theta [w_1]$ $\emptyset^w$ $\theta^w$ $b\theta + s\delta l$?

poss dog dog pl at these two

lit. ‘They are’ dog-dog-possessor+s at (with-respect-to) these two’. =
   ‘[They] have two dogs’ (example of D. Beck).
Example

In a language where Clitic Raising exists, a clitic—in the SSytS—can semantically and morphologically depend on an infinitive, while there will be no direct Synt-dependency between them, the clitic being a Synt-dependent of a higher verb, which hosts it, cf.:


lit. ‘To-him [I] would-like to-be-able to-send this book’.

Semantically, *le* ‘to him’ depends as an actant on *enviar* ‘send’; its dative form is imposed by this verb, so that morphologically *le* also depends on *enviar*.

Examples

(31) a. An attributive or copredicative adjective and the Subject/the DirO in a language with adjectival agreement illustrate Case 8. The adjective shows agreement with the Subject/DirO, which is its Sem-dependent, and there is no direct Synt-link between them:

Fr. *Elle [w₂] semblait fatiguée [w₁] ‘She seemed tired’,*

where semantically *elle* depends on *fatiguée* [= *fatigué*(*elle*)], but morphologically *fatiguée* depends on *elle* for its singular and feminine; syntactically, the two are not directly related.

Similar examples: Fr. *Elle est rentrée heureuse ‘She returned happy’, Il buvait son thé froid/sa tisane froide ‘He drank his tea cold/his herbal tea cold’, etc.

For a detailed analysis of the copredicative construction, see Nichols 1978.

b. In Japanese, a numeral *w₁* can bear semantically on a noun *w₂* and morphologically depend on it (the form of the numeral—more precisely, its classifying suffix—is determined by the noun), while syntactically it depends on the verb (cf. Case 3, example (27a)):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Japanese word</th>
<th>English translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Uma +o ip +piki ← synt–tot +ta</td>
<td>‘[He] took one horse’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>horse ACC one CLASS(ifier) take PAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hagaki +o ip +pon ← synt–tot +ta</td>
<td>‘[He] took one postcard’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>postcard ACC one CLASS take PAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kippu +o iti +mai ← synt–tot +ta</td>
<td>‘[He] took one ticket’</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ticket ACC one CLASS take PAST</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Two wordforms are linked by a Synt-\textbf{D} and a Morph-\textbf{D}, oriented the same way, with no Sem-\textbf{D} between them.

**Examples**

(32) a. In Latin, the construction $ab \ [w_1] \ urbe \ [w_2] \ condita$ lit. ‘since [the] city founded’ = ‘since the founding of the city’, the preposition $ab$ ‘since’ syntactically and morphologically dominates the noun $urbe$, while semantically it bears on ‘conditio’ = ‘founding’.

b. A measure noun used as a DirO in a language with cases depends syntactically and morphologically on the verb, but does not have a direct semantic link with it:

Rus. $Ivan \ kupil \rightarrow tonnu \ kirpičej$ ‘Ivan bought a ton of bricks’.

Cf. Case 3, example (27c).

Two wordforms are linked by a Synt-\textbf{D} and a Morph-\textbf{D}, oriented the opposite ways, again with no Sem-\textbf{D} between them.

**Example**

A phasic or copular verb syntactically dominates its Synt-Subject, but morphologically depends on it (= agrees with it in person and number), while there is no Sem-\textbf{D} between this verb and its Subject, because the Subject semantically depends on the lexical verb, cf.:

(33) *The water $[w_2]$ begins $[w_1]$ to boil* or *The water seems to boil*,

where *water* syntactically depends on *begin/seem*, morphologically dominates it, and semantically depends on *boil*: ‘boil(‘water’).

Two wordforms are linked by all three types of dependency, oriented all the same way.

**Example**


Two wordforms are linked by all three types of dependency, with Sem-\textbf{D} and Morph-\textbf{D} oriented the same way, while Synt-\textbf{D} goes in the opposite direction.
Examples

(34) a. A postnominal modifier and the modified noun in a language having what is known as izafa construction. Cf. Persian daftar+e nav lit. 'workbook new', where nav [w1] bears semantically on daftar [w2] and imposes on it a special form (= the izafa suffix -e), while being syntactically its dependent.

b. A negative particle and the negated verb in a language where the negative particle [w1] requires a special form of the verb [w2]. Thus, in Arabic the particle lam 'NEG.COMPL.(etive).PAST' requires the jussive, while the particle lan 'NEG.COMPL.FUT' requires the subjunctive (la 'NEG.INCOMPL.(etive).PRES' is neutral in this respect):

\[
\begin{align*}
&ja+ktub+u  \quad '[\text{he] writes} \sim la \ ja+ktub+u \quad '[\text{He] does not write}. \quad \text{IND(ative)} \\
&\text{vs.} \\
&\emptyset+katab+a \quad '[\text{he wrote} \sim lam \ ja+ktub+\emptyset \quad '[\text{He] did not write}. \quad \text{JUSS(ive)} \\
&\text{vs.} \\
&sa+ja+ktub+u \quad '[\text{he will write} \sim lan \ ja+ktub+a \quad '[\text{He] will not write}. \quad \text{SUBJ(unctive)}
\end{align*}
\]

Semantically, the negative particle LAM/LAN bears on the verb and morphologically controls its form; but syntactically, it depends on the verb.

CASE 13: Two wordforms are linked by all three types of dependency, with Sem- and Synt- oriented the same way, while Morph- goes in the opposite direction.

Examples

(35) a. A verb [w1] and its nominal actant [w2] in a language with polypersonal agreement of the verb, but no nominal cases, such as, e.g., Abkhaz (West Caucasian, Georgia), where the MV agrees in nominal class and number with the SSynt-Subject, the DirO and IndirO:

\[
\begin{align*}
&\text{Sara Nad}š’a \quad i+t+\varsigma+t\text{eil} \quad a\text{šw}q\text{a} \\
&\text{I Nadsha it her I gave book}
\end{align*}
\]

'I gave Nadsha [a] book'.

In Abkhaz, nouns and pronouns have no case inflection themselves, but impose agreement on the verb, whose prefixes cross-reference all three SSynt-actants.

b. Agreement of the participle in an analytical verb form with the preposed DirO in French:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{les fleur +s que je t’ ai offert+es} \\
\text{the flower[FEM] PL that I to-you have given PL.FEM}
\end{align*}
\]

'the flowers that I have given to you',

where que 'that' semantically and syntactically depends on offertes 'given', but morphologically controls its gender and number (QUE gets its gender and number from its antecedent, FLEURS, so that, in final analysis, offertes is feminine and plural because of fleurs; yet, technically speaking, it agrees in gender and number with QUE).

In point of fact, the situation here is more complex, since que is an accusative form, imposed by the transitive verb offrir 'give'; so that que morphologically depends on
offertes at the same time that offertes morphologically depends on que. This is a case of reciprocal morphological dependency.

Two wordforms are linked by all three types of dependency, of which Synt- and Morph- are oriented the same way, but in the opposite direction with respect to Sem-.

Example

An agreeing adjective and the modified noun in a language with adjectival agreement (Slavic, Romance, Semitic, German, etc.), where the adjective bears semantically on the noun, but syntactically and morphologically depends on it.

Consistent distinction of the three major types of dependency allows for some elegant formulations, for instance:

• The adjective as a part of speech can be characterized in terms of Sem- vs. Synt- (see Beck 2002: 84):

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties</th>
<th>Syntactic role</th>
<th>Complement</th>
<th>Modifier</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Semantic</td>
<td>argument</td>
<td>predicate</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syntactic</td>
<td>obligatory and unique</td>
<td>optional and repeatable</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Morphological</td>
<td>government target</td>
<td>agreement target</td>
<td>government controller</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Prototypically, an adjective semantically dominates the noun on which it depends syntactically. (Morph- can go both ways or be absent altogether: cf. Cases 6, 12, and 14.)

Similarly, for the adverb (replacing “noun” with “verb or adjective”).

• Taking into account the three types of linguistic dependency, Zwicky (1993) presents the differences between complements and modifiers in a compact form:

The correlations stated in this table hold only in the most current, prototypical cases; as has been shown above, the syntactic and morphological properties of complements vs. modifiers can in principle be inverted. However, the semantic—definitorial—property is stable.

• In the literature, one finds heated debates concerning the split of head-related properties between different sentence elements, which presumably makes the identification of heads difficult and/or dubious: a given element seems to be the head in one respect, but the dependent in another one. However, if one distinguishes the three types of dependency and uses Criteria B1-B3 in the hierarchical way (p. 31), such a split is logically impossible. Thus, a Synt-head must be determined exclusively according to the properties of syntactic heads; it is irrelevant whether or not it has properties of Sem-
heads or Morph-heads (as the 14 combinations above show, in many cases a Synt-head does not have such properties).

6 Correlations between the three types of linguistic dependency

The three types of dependency are linked by the following correlations (these correlations hold only for prototypical cases of morphological agreement and government and are no more than tendencies).

Sem-∅ vs. Morph-∅
- Sem-governors morphologically agree with their Sem-dependents;
- Sem-governors morphologically govern their Sem-dependents.

This is the Keenan’s principle (Keenan 1974: 298-303 and 1978: 94-98); cf. Zwicky’s slogan: ‘Functors are agreement targets and government triggers’ (1993: 295).

Synt-∅ vs. Morph-∅
- If \( w_2 \) morphologically agrees with \( w_1 \), then \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) sometimes are, and sometimes are not, linked by a direct Synt-∅ (there also may be no Sem-∅ between \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \)).
- If \( w_2 \) is morphologically governed by \( w_1 \), then \( w_1 \) and \( w_2 \) are always linked by a direct Synt-∅; however, a Sem-∅ between them can be absent. (In fact, in some constructions, \( w_2 \) morphologically governed by \( w_1 \) depends syntactically not on \( w_1 \), but on the head of a verbal chain of Synt-∅s leading to \( w_1 \): \( w_2 \rightarrow w_1 \rightarrow ... \rightarrow w_j \rightarrow w_1 \). Such a chain is what is known as a nucleus: it consists of auxiliary, modal, phasal and similar verbs: something like \( N[\sim w_2] \) could have wanted to begin to \( V[\sim w_1] \); cf. (30).)

As can be seen in our review of theoretically possible cases, in the configuration \( w_1 \rightarrow_{\text{synt}} w_2 \), the Morph-∅s can go both ways: the Synt-governor can be either the controller or the target of a Morph-∅. The same holds with respect to linear position: rules for positioning can also go both ways, such that in some cases the linear position of the Synt-dependent \( w_2 \) must be stated with respect to its Synt-governor \( w_1 \) (ADJ→N, N→V, ADV→V, etc.), and in others the linear position of the Synt-governor \( w_1 \) must be stated with respect to its Synt-dependent \( w_2 \) (PREP→N, AUX→V, CONJ→V, etc.).

NB: The reference point for linear positioning of the one of two syntactically-linked elements X→synt→Y is the element which can appear without the other, the inverse being untrue. Thus, in ADJ→synt→N, N can appear without ADJ, but not vice versa, which means that ADJ is positioned with respect to N, its SSynt-governor. Similarly, for PREP→synt→N, N can be used without a PREP, but a PREP never appears without its N (except for some special cases, such as stranded prepositions in English); therefore, the position of PREP is stated with respect to N, its SSynt-dependent (cf. 4.3.1, Criterion A1, Comment 3, p. 26).
Sem-/Synt- vs. Morph-

Sem- and Synt- are global in that they embrace all the wordforms in a sentence; therefore, they are represented explicitly in the SemS and the D-/S-SyntS of the sentence. On the other hand, Morph- is not global in this sense: it does not necessarily embrace all the wordforms in a sentence (in addition, it is by no means present in all sentences and can be altogether absent from a language); therefore, no special structure is foreseen in which it would be explicitly represented: Morph-s are computed by syntactic rules of the language during the SSyntS ⇔ DMorphS transition and encoded in the DMorphS via corresponding grammemes.

PART III: SYNTACTIC DEPENDENCY

Among the three major types of linguistic dependency that we are studying, it is the Synt- that attracts the lion’s share of attention. It is, beyond any doubt, the most important type of dependency and, at the same time, the most controversial one. I will discuss the Synt- additionally, touching on the following three points:

— Some false dogmas on the subject of Synt- (1).
— Analysis of some constructions difficult for the attribution of Synt- (2).
— Advantages of Synt- (3).

1 Current fallacies concerning syntactic dependency

One finds in the literature references to several problems for the -approach as presented above; these can be grouped under four headings: so-called “double dependency,” “mutual dependency,” “no dependency,” and “insufficient dependency.” I will consider below examples of each in order to show that these are pseudo-problems, since they stem from the confusion of different types of dependency or from using unlabeled dependencies.

1.1 “Double dependency”

There are three typical cases where many see double syntactic dependency: relative pronouns, raisings, and subordination of coordinate expressions.

1.1.1 Relative pronouns
Analyzing the phrases of the type of the man whom we saw/the car which we saw, many linguists—for instance, Tesnière (1959: 560) and Hudson (1990: 117)—say that the relative pronoun syntactically depends both on the MV of the relative clause (here, saw) and on its own antecedent (here, man/car; in Figure 6 below this second Synt- is shown by a boldfaced branch). Since in this approach the relative pronoun is the Synt-
head of the relative clause, it syntactically governs the MV on which it, at the same
time, syntactically depends:

![Figure 6: The SSyntS of a relative clause according to Tesnière and Hudson](image)

Were it so, this would be a problem for the D-approach, since it would mean the viol-
lation of the uniqueness-of-Synt-governor principle, as well as the principle of the
absence of cycles in the Synt-structure. This would, in turn, destroy a clear understand-
ing of the substantive nature of Synt-\(\mathfrak{a}\), which is supposed to specify the linear posi-
tioning of one of its members with respect to the other—and nothing else.

However, the representation above is simply a result of confusion between different
types and/or levels of dependency. I think that in the SSyntS the relative pronoun
depends syntactically only on the MV of the relative clause, while standing in an ana-
phoric relation to its antecedent; and in many languages the relative pronoun also has a Morph-\(\mathfrak{a}\) with its antecedent (namely, congruence). This masks the fact that the Synt-
head of a relative clause is its finite MV, and by no means the relative pronoun: it is
only the presence of a finite verb in a clause that licenses the speaker to use this clause
as a relative, and it is this use that imposes the pronominalization of the relativized
clause element, which thus becomes a marker of relativization. Here is the SSyntS of a
relative clause as proposed in the Meaning-Text theory (the dashed bi-directional arrow
is part of SSynt-Anaphoric Structure):

![Figure 7: The SSyntS of a relative clause in Meaning-Text theory](image)

It is, however, obvious that the relative pronoun has indeed a double syntactic nature:
it is both a Synt-dependent of the MV of the relative and, at the same time, the marker
of the relative. This leads some researchers to split the relative pronoun into two
abstract lexical elements, one of which represents the Synt-head of the relative clause
(its MV depends on this element), while the other occupies its legitimate dependent
Synt-position with respect of the MV of the relative. Thus, Engel (1977: 234-235 [1988:
292-293]), following the proposal of Tesnière (1959: 561), represents the SSyntS of the
German relative clause *der Mann, der Birnen verkauft* ‘the man who sells pears’ by
splitting the relative pronoun DER ‘that’ [= ‘which/who’] into the relative marker part D-
and the pronominal anaphoric part -ER ‘he’, obtaining something like the man \textit{that he} [= der] sells pears and thus avoiding double dependency:

\begin{center}
\begin{tikzpicture}
  \node (Mann) at (0,0) {der Mann};
  \node (d) at (0,-1) {der};
  \node (verkaufen) at (1,-2) {verkaufen};
  \node (er) at (1,-3) {er};
  \node (Birnen) at (2,-4) {Birnen};
  \draw (Mann) -- (d);
  \draw (Mann) -- (verkaufen);
  \draw (d) -- (er);
  \draw (verkaufen) -- (er);
\end{tikzpicture}
\end{center}

Figure 8: The SSyntS of a relative clause according to Engel (1977)

Relative clauses with a separate expression of the relative marker and the pronominal anaphoric element (= resumptive pronoun) exist in many languages, for instance, in Arabic, Turkish, Albanian, Persian, Middle High German, Provençal, etc. (see, e.g., Suñer 1998). But this is exactly what proves that there is no need for such a \textit{tour de force} in English, French or German: here, the syntax of the relative clause is different. The double role of the relative pronoun in these languages is reflected on different levels of representation in terms of the three types of dependency plus the separate anaphoric relation. As far as the Synt-\textit{D} is concerned, the relative pronoun does not depend on its antecedent—it depends on the MV of the relative clause. To justify this statement, consider the following facts:

On the one hand, the relative pronoun does not syntactically depend on its antecedent because the antecedent of a relative pronoun and the pronoun itself cannot form a phrase; thus, *[a] man whom and *[a] car which are by no means phrases of English. See Criterion A2, Part II, 4.3, p. 26.

On the other hand, some properties of the relative pronoun clearly point to its syntactic role as a dependent within the relative. The most important in this respect is the fact that relativization may be restricted by the dependent Synt-role of the relative pronoun. For instance, in some languages relativization is possible only if the would-be relative pronoun is the Synt-Subject, or if it is the Synt-Subject or the DirO, or if it is the Synt-Subject, the DirO or the IndirO, etc. Thus, the specific type of the Synt-\textit{D} of the relative pronoun on the MV of the relative clause is crucial. To this, one could add, for instance, that the relative pronoun can be omitted in some languages (as in \textit{the man I saw} or \textit{the man I talk with}) without any effect on the relative; omissibility is a typical feature of Synt-dependents—although it happens to the Synt-heads as well (Part II, 4.5, p. 42). Also, in some languages, the relative clause is marked by a special form of the MV of the relative, without any relative pronoun (Bantu).

But my strongest arguments against the double dependency of a relative pronoun are as follows:

- Deep-Synt-Structure of the Relative Clause. In the DSyntS, the (future) relative clause has no relative pronoun at all—only its nominal source N is allowed to appear there. And this N syntactically depends of course only on the MV of its clause, being anaphorically related to its antecedent (as is the case with all substitute, i.e., anaphoric,
pronouns). When in the transition DSyntS $\Rightarrow$ SSyntS this N is replaced with the corresponding relative pronoun, what could be the reason to add another Synt-$\mathbf{a}$ between it and its antecedent? I can see none. This consideration can be formalized by the following heuristic principle:

“As-Little-DSynt$\Rightarrow$SSynt-Restructuring-as-Possible” Principle

When deciding on the SSyntS of a phrase/clause, the researcher should maintain for it the same orientation of syntactic $\mathbf{a}$s as in the DSyntS—except in cases of obvious necessity to reverse the dependencies, which have to be explicitly justified. (In other words, the default case must be that a DSynt-$\mathbf{a}$ remains a SSynt-$\mathbf{a}$.)

* SSynt-Structure of the Related Interrogative/Headless Relative Clause. The full-fledged sentence *Who wants a lift?* has the SSyntS with the top node WANT, and this is for me an important argument in favor of establishing the same top node in the corresponding relative [*the boy* *who wants a lift*—because I adopt another heuristic principle:

“Always-the-same-SSyntS” Principle

When deciding on the SSyntS of a phrase/clause P, the researcher should try to maintain for P always the same SSyntS no matter where this P appears in a larger formation.

Thus, the same phrase *who wants a lift* in a sentence of the type *Who wants a lift has to sign up*—this time, a headless relative—has the SSyntS with the finite verb as its top node. If I have accepted the MV as the head of an independent interrogative clause, I want this clause to have the same SSyntS also when it is used as a relative. If I have accepted the MV as the head of a normal relative clause, I prefer to treat the corresponding headless relative in the same way; and so forth. This means that in English, the finite, or tensed, verb has in its passive valence the role of the head of such phrases (= actually, full-fledged clauses) that can be used as equivalents of noun phrases—under specific conditions, such as the presence of relative pronouns.

The phrase *who wants a lift* is a partial syntactic equivalent of a noun phrase—it can be, e.g., a SSynt-Subject. The phrase *what Alan bought* in a sentence of the type *What Alan bought is important*—again, a headless relative—also has a finite verb as its top node: *Alan$\leftarrow$ bought$\leftarrow$ what*. It is also a partial syntactic equivalent of a noun phrase, since it can be the SSynt-Subject, or the DirO of the MV, or else depend on a preposition:

```
What Alan$\leftarrow$ bought$\leftarrow$ is important.
```

```
I like what Alan$\leftarrow$ bought.
```

```
For what Alan$\leftarrow$ bought [I could pay him $15$].
```
The phrase *whatever apples Alan bought* (Van Langendonck 1994: 256), which is as well syntactically equivalent to a noun phrase, has a similar SSyntS—in the sense that its top node is the finite verb *bought* and the WH-pronoun depends on it (in this case, indirectly): *whatever*←*apples*←*bought*→*Alan*. (The SSyntS of *whatever apples that Alan bought* is different, its SSynt-head being *APPLES*:

```
\[
\text{whatever} \leftarrow \text{apples that Alan} \leftarrow \text{bought}
\]
```

The situation is the same with indirect-interrogative pronouns, as in *I wonder whom you love* or *He asked what book Alan had brought*. Such a pronoun depends syntactically—directly or indirectly—only on the MV of the completive clause, although there is a direct Sem-*i* between the pronoun and the MV of the matrix clause:

```
I wonder-sem→whom ... and He asked-sem→what ...
```

(for more on the representation of indirect questions of this type, see Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999).

To conclude, let it be mentioned that in the *i*-descriptions of various languages (English, Danish, Esperanto, etc.) for a Machine Translation system (Schubert 1987: 100-102, Maxwell & Schubert 1989), the relative pronoun is treated as a Synt-dependerit of the MV of the relative clause.

1.1.2 *Raisings*

It is also said that in sentences of the type *He keeps talking*, the pronoun *he* depends both on *keeps* and *talking*, because it is the Subject of both (cf. Hudson 1988b: 194ff; the construction is even commonly known as Subject Raising). However, if Sem-*i* and Synt-*i* are distinguished, this reasoning does not apply: *he* is the syntactic Subject of *keeps* (HE controls the agreement of KEEP, is positioned with respect to KEEP, undergoes inversion with DO) but it is Sem-actant 1 of *talking* (this allows one to account easily for cooccurrence restrictions: *Something talks*, etc.). At the SSynt-level, there is no direct Synt-link between *he* and *talking*: *he talking* is not a phrase of English. The situation is slightly different with “meteorological” verbs: in *It keeps raining*, the impersonal pronoun *it* is the SSynt-subject of *keeps*, but it does not appear in the SemS nor in the DSyntS, since it is semantically empty. The impersonal *it* is inserted in the SSyntS by a special rule, based on the lexical entry for the verb *[to] RAIN*, so that the question of its semantic compatibility with the verb does not even arise (the verb *[to] RAIN* has no semantic actant).

1.1.3 *Subordination of coordinate expressions*

In sentences of the type *Alan reads books, newspapers and magazines*, the elements *newspapers* and *magazines* are often said to have two Synt-governors each: *newspapers* depends on *books* and on the verb *reads*, while *magazines* depends on *and* and again on the verb *reads*. Formally, then, the DSyntS of such a sentence must be as follows:
Duplicating Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\) are shown by bolder branches. This type of representation is discussed in detail on the basis of Russian data in Sannikov 1989: 32-41.

Whichever the advantages of this representation, it reflects again a confusion of different types of \(\mathfrak{s}\): in point of fact, duplicating branches show Morph-\(\mathfrak{s}\) (if any: \textit{Alan sees Helen and me (I)}) and Sem-\(\mathfrak{s}\); they do not have the same nature as the coordinate Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\), which—as all Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\)—essentially specify linear positioning of wordforms. (One of the disadvantages of a double-dependency representation is immediately clear: it presupposes the repeatability of actantial dependencies, which contradicts the postulate of uniqueness of each actant, widely shared by linguists of all schools of thought.) The intuition that I would like to capture in the case of coordinate, or conjoined, strings on the Surface-Synt-level is not that every element of a conjoined phrase depends in parallel on the same Synt-governor, but rather that a conjoined phrase as a whole depends on its Synt-governor via its Synt-head (= its first element, see 1.3 below).

1.2 “\textit{Mutual dependency}”

Fairly often, grammarians insist on mutual dependency between the MV of a clause and its SSynt-Subject. They say that even if it is the MV that represents the whole clause, the Subject controls the form of the verb (\textit{The cat is sleeping} vs. \textit{The cats are sleeping}); moreover, the Subject and the MV constitute a communicative unit consisting of a theme/topic and a rheme/comment. Again, such statements are due to confusion between different levels of dependency: the fact that the Subject depends on the MV syntactically does not prevent the MV from depending on its Subject morphologically. In many languages the MV agrees not only with the Subject but with the DirO (and sometimes with the IndirO) as well: cf. (35a) above, p. 64; this, however, does not belie the universally accepted syntactic status of objects as dependents of the MV.

1.3 “\textit{No dependency}”

While some linguists treat coordination by means of double dependencies (1.1 above), it is also frequently said (Matthews 1981: 196, Hudson 1988a: 314) that there is no Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\) at all within conjoined, or coordinate, expressions: in \textit{Leo and Alan came}, as well as in \textit{Leo or Alan will do it} nothing is the Synt-head. This viewpoint goes back to Tesnière 1959: 339ff.\[8\] Once again, Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\) is being confused with subordination (which is a particular case of Synt-\(\mathfrak{s}\)). \textit{Leo and Alan} is a phrase of English, and so is \textit{and Alan}, while *\textit{Leo and} is not (the fact that a pause is possible after \textit{AND}—as, for
instance, in *Leo and, || believe me or not, || Marga ...—does not impart to the expression *Leo and the status of a phrase; it still is not an utterance of English). The phrase *Leo and Alan has thus the passive Synt-valence of *Leo, and not that of *and Alan, the passive Synt-valence of the phrase *and Alan being determined by *and rather than by *Alan (the phrases such as ... *and Alan, ... or *Alan, ... but not *Alan etc. can be only conjoined constituents, and this property comes from the coordinate conjunction); therefore, the Synt-νs in *Leo and *Alan are as follows:

LEO→coordinative→AND→conjunctional→ALAN.

In a conjunctionless coordinate phrase such as *Leo, *Alan, *Helen the Synt-νs are

LEO→coordinative→ALAN→coordinative→HELEN.

The Synt-head of a conjoined phrase is, at least in English and similar languages, its first element (independently of the presence/absence of a coordinate conjunction). Note that in a number of languages, the first element in a coordinate string has some special properties. Thus, in some Bantu languages (for instance, Bafia), only the first verb in a coordinate string of verbs (stood up, drank his coffee, took the book and left) has a complete morphological marking, including tense; all the following verbs are in a special—conjunctive—form, which precludes the expression of tense. In Nias (Indonesia), in a string of coordinated nouns, only the first noun is inflected according to the external context, while all the others remain in the unmarked nominative; etc. For more on Synt-ν in connection with coordination, see 5 below; a concise review of possible solutions to the problem of η-description of coordination is presented in Schubert 1987: 104-119.23

1.4 “Insufficient dependency”

Many linguists have criticized the η-approach for its incapacity to express what they call the multilayer character of syntactic structure. Thus, in *Alan gives an apple to *Helen, *APPLE is somehow closer—syntactically, not linearly!—to *GIVE than is *HELEN; and *ALAN has the loosest link to the verb (external argument, as it is known in some approaches). Without going into a discussion of what this syntactic closeness really means, I can point out simply that all such distinctions are easily and naturally expressed via the names of D-/S-SyntRels:

Labeled SSyntRels guarantee the capacity of any η-description to state the closeness (or remoteness)—of course, in the structural sense—of any elements of the sentence.

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23 The solution Schubert himself prefers is to take as the head of a conjoined phrase the coordinate conjunction: LEO←AND→ALAN. But this solution is unacceptable for me; see 2.6 below, p. 80.
2 Syntactic dependency in action: Eight illustrative case studies

Let us consider several particular syntactic constructions and show how they are described using Synt-; I will mainly concentrate on the orientation of Synt-, i.e., on the problem of Synt-head. Since in some cases all theoretical arguments advanced in support of this or that viewpoint concerning the treatment of a given phrase in terms of Synt- seem inconclusive, I will try to argue based on the rules necessary to produce the construction in question within the framework of a stratificational multilevel semantically-oriented linguistic model (more specifically, the Meaning-Text Model). My goal is to show that the opposite decision concerning the choice of the Synt-governor entails a complexification of the processing rules.

2.1 Russian numeral phrases

In Russian, a numeral phrase NUM + N shows rather complex behavior:

— if the numeral does not end in ODIN ‘1’ and is in the nominative or the accusative, the noun is in the genitive and its number depends on the numeral (with DVA ‘2’, TRI ‘3’, and ČETYRE ‘4’ or any numeral that ends in these three—23, 32, 44, ..., 1452, etc.—the noun is in the singular, while with all other numerals it is in the plural);

— if the numeral ends in ODIN ‘1’ (e.g., 1231), no matter in what case it is, the number of the noun is singular;

— if the case of the numeral (other than ODIN ‘1’) is the nominative or the accusative, and if it is (or ends in) DVA, it agrees with the noun in gender; etc.

This complexity engendered much discussion concerning the orientation of Synt- in the NUM + N phrase; all logically possible solutions have actually been proposed (NUM←N; NUM→N; NUM↔N; in the nominative and the accusative it is NUM→N, in other cases NUM←N; etc.). In actual fact, the orientation of Synt- in Russian numeral phrases is always NUM←N, since the passive Synt-valence of the phrase is obviously that of N, and not that of NUM. What obscures the picture is again confounding the Synt- with variegated Morph- (Mel’čuk 1985: 59-102; for the opposite view—NUM→N, i.e., the numeral is the Synt-head,—see Corbett 1993).

To make my point clearer, I will describe the production of two phrases, one with a genuine numeral DVA ‘two’ and another one with a measure noun KUČA ‘heap, a lot’:

[On pročel] dva romana  ‘He read two novels’.
[On pročel] kuču romanov  ‘He read a-lot of-novels’.

In the SemS, both phrases have a similar representation, where quantification appears as any semantic modification would:
Or, using an obvious abbreviation:

In the SemS $\rightarrow$ DSyntS transition, the direct DSynt-link between ČITAT´ ‘read’ and ROMANY ‘novels’ is not necessarily preserved. Namely, if the quantifying expression is a noun, it becomes the DSynt-governor of ROMANY:

This is done because the DSyntS is a syntactic structure, so that it is supposed to reflect, in the most faithfull way possible, the syntactic organization of the sentence. And from the purely syntactic viewpoint, the constructions dva romana and kuča romanov are very different. (Cf. the As-little-DSynt$\Rightarrow$SSynt-restructuring-as-possible Principle, Section 1.1.1 of this part, p. 70.)

Under the DSyntS $\Rightarrow$ SSyntS transition, the NUM DVA remains subordinated to the quantified N, and the Nmeasure KUČA remains the SSynt-governor of the quantified N:

Syntactically, the phrase čitat´ kuču [romanov] ‘read a lot of [novels]’ behaves exactly as any other pair V(trans) $\rightarrow$ dir-obj $\rightarrow$ N: the N is positioned and inflected as any regular DirO should. (Among other things, the noun KUČA becomes the Synt-Subject under passivization: Byla pročitana kuča romanov ‘A lot of novels was read.’) On the other hand, kuča romanov behaves as any other pair N $\rightarrow$ compi $\rightarrow$ N does. Because of this, for čitat´ kuču romanov, the Synt-ď KUČA$\Rightarrow$ROMANY is justified by a considerable economy of rules, which otherwise would have to be doubled: special rules would be needed to describe the treatment of a quantifying modifier (= KUČA) that behaves as a DirO and another set of rules for the treatment of a DirO (= ROMANY) that behaves as an adnominal complement. But for čitat´ dva romana (= ROMANY) that behaves as an adnominal complement. But for čitat´ dva romana nothing justifies an inversion of the Synt-ď DVA$\leftarrow$ROMANY: the extremely complex rules that compute the inflection of the NUM,
of the quantified N and eventually of some depending adjectives (ět+i dva romana ‘these two novels’, dva interesn+jyx romana ‘two interesting novels’, etc.) remain the same, whichever element is taken to be the Synt-head in the phrase NUM + N (see these rules in Mel’čuk 1985: 162-210). Therefore, the overall simplicity of DSynt-rules requires to invert the Sem-Đ between NUM and N, that is, to have between them a Synt-Đ oriented in the opposite direction: ‘NUM–sem→N’, but NUM←synt–N (a more complex version of Case 14, p. 65). Ergo, on both the DSynt- and SSynt-levels, we have NUM←N.

The treatment proposed for čitat’ kuču romanov ‘read a lot of novels’ can be easily extended to cover all the constructions including quantifying expressions, in particular the measure phrase, as in Rus. vypit’ tri litra piva ‘have drunk three liters of beer’, Eng. have eaten ten dollars of bagels, Fr. faire deux heures de sieste lit. ‘have two hours of nap’, etc. In the SemS, a measure phrase is represented as a modifier of the noun quantified—in the same way as the synonymous expressions vypit’ pivo v količestve trëx litrov lit. ‘have drunk beer in quantity of three liters’, Eng. have eaten bagels for ten dollars, Fr. faire une sieste de deux heures lit. ‘have a nap of two hours’. It is on the level of Syntactic Structure (both Deep- and Surface-) that the inversion of dependency—Sem-Đ vs. Synt-Đ—takes place.

2.2 A Russian “approximation”-marking preposition

In the Russian phrase okolo pjati kilogramm ‘about five kilos’ the preposition OKOLO (lit. ‘close to’, here ‘approximately’) is the Synt-head of the phrase: without it, the numeral phrase has the exact distribution, i.e., the passive Synt-valence, of a noun, but with OKOLO the numeral phrase can only be used as the Synt-Subject or DirO. Thus, the phrase with okolo cannot be the complement of a preposition (*dlja okolo pjati kilogramm ‘for about five kilos’) or an IndirO (*raven okolo pjati kilogrammam ‘[is] equal to about five kilos’). Therefore, on the SSynt-level, we obtain the following structure:

OKOLO→KILOGRAMM→PJAT’.

This representation is buttressed by the complete identity in syntactic behavior of this okolo and all other genuine Russian prepositions; thus, all of them, together with the numeral, follow the noun quantified in the approximate-quantitative construction: dlja pjati kilogramm ‘for five kilos’ ~ kilogramm dlja pjati ‘for approximately five kilos’ and okolo pjati kilogramm ‘about five kilos’ ~ kilogramm okolo pjati ‘approximately about five kilos’. (In English about ‘approximately’ does not have the same properties: for about five kilos is OK; therefore, its SSynt-status is different: ABOUT←FIVE←KILOS.)

A similar construction exists in Latin:

(36) Latin

*Circa quingent+os Roman+orum cecid +erunt

around 500 ACC Roman PL.GEN fall-PERF 3PL

‘About 500 Romans fell’.

The preposition CIRCA governs the case (namely, the accusative) of QUINGENTI ‘500’, as all Latin prepositions do: it is the Synt-head of the phrase circa quingentos Romanorum, which is the Synt-Subject; however, CIRCA is omissible without any syntactic effect on the phrase.
In Russian, as in Latin, treating the preposition OKOLO/CIRCA as any other preposition, i.e., as the Synt-governor of the numeral phrase, allows us to avoid writing special syntactic rules to treat these syntactically quite ordinary prepositions, which are only semantically deviant (they manifest a kind of adverbial meaning: semantically, they are monoactantial—in contrast to genuine prepositions, which are biactantial).

2.3 Determiners as heads?

Several linguists argue that in the DET + N phrase the determiner is the Synt-head: thus, in English we should have THE→synt→N, ANY→synt→N, etc. (Hudson 1984, 1990: 271ff, Hewson 1991; cf. also Vennemann 1977: 270, 296). I cannot analyze their argumentation in depth, but within the framework expounded above, such a description is unacceptable, and this, for the following three reasons.

First, the passive Synt-valence of the phrase the dog is that of the noun dog, not of the article the. If in some syntactic positions DOG cannot appear without an article (or any other determiner), this happens because articles and the determiners in general are analytical exponents of grammemes of an inflectional category—namely, of the definiteness of the noun—and in these positions an English noun cannot be used without a marker of its definiteness, just as a Latin noun cannot be used without a case-number suffix. The expression *Dog is barking is ungrammatical, independently of the fact that its SSyntS is well-formed: the problem here is the incorrect grammatical form of the lexeme DOG, very much like the bad expression *The dogs is barking, where the SSyntS is also 100% correct, but the grammatical form is not. Ergo, the SSyntS is here the←synt→dog, any←synt→dog, etc.; cf. the phrase that (stupid) John, which has the distribution of John and not that of the determiner that, or Dogs are faithful, where the noun dogs appears without any overt determiner.

Second, it is necessary to reflect the parallelism in the syntactic behavior of such phrases as the dog, this dog and Alan’s dog; are we prepared to say that this and Alan’s are the SSynt-governors of dog?

Third, analytical exponents of grammemes of a lexeme in most cases syntactically depend on this lexeme—in the SSyntS, since they do not appear at all in the DSyntS (auxiliary verbs that express the grammemes of tense, mode, aspect or voice constitute an important exception, see below, 2.5). For instance, in Tagalog an analytical case marker of an N—that is, ang [NOM], ng [OBL] or sa [DAT]—syntactically depends on the noun, while the preposition (that syntactically dominates N) imposes the choice of the case: in the DSyntS, we have, for instance, PARA—for→synt→BABAE ‘woman’, and in the SSyntS, PARA→synt→BABAE→synt→SA, which gives para sa babae ‘for [the] woman’ (the preposition PARA requires the dative). In languages where the plural of a noun is expressed by a separate word (Dryer 1989), this plural exponent equally depends syntactically on the noun: Yapese (Austronesian) ea pi←synt→kaarroo neey ‘the PL car this’ = ‘these cars’ or Mixe (Mexico) he pi’ miš←synt→atHkš ‘the little boy PL = ‘the little boys’. Cf. also the Russian particle BY that expresses the subjunctive of a verb on which it depends: Ja poexal←synt→by ‘I would go’. In Hawaiian (and other Polynesian languages) all markers of the verb’s inflectional grammemes are analytical and syntactically depend on the verb:
Considering an analytical grammeme marker as a Synt-governor in the SSyntS would entail a restructuring of the DSyntS, where this marker does not appear at all; but why engage in something complex when one can easily do with something simple? Since the article is a particular case of an analytical grammeme marker, it should be considered a Synt-dependent of the noun. (The solution DET←synt→N is successfully defended in Van Langendonck 1994; for a different treatment of the DET + N phrase in Salishan, that is, DET←synt→N, see Beck 1997: 109-118.)

2.4 Romance clitics

Clitics in French (and in other Romance languages, where Clitic Raising exists) pose a special difficulty for a DSimulation-description: the clitic does not always syntactically depend on the same wordform on which its source [= the noun the clitic replaces] depends. Thus, compare (37a) with (37b), where the clitic changes Synt-governor vis-à-vis that of its source:

(37) a. Elle a été fidèle←synt→à Pierre ¹ 'She has been faithful to Peter'.

b. Elle lui←synt->a été fidèle lit. 'She to-him has been faithful'.

On the SSynt-level, where, under synthesis, clitics first appear (the DSynt-level admits only nominal sources of clitics-to-be), a clitic depends syntactically on its host word, with which it forms a possible prosodic unit, i.e., a phrase (as in Sp. lo ve lit. '[(s)he] it sees' or le da lit. '[(s)he] to-him/to-her gives') and with respect to which it is linearly positioned. In Romance languages, the host of a clitic in the SSyntS is not necessarily the same element on which the source of the clitic depends in the DSyntS. The "new," i.e., Surface-Syntactic, governor of the clitic is computed by special rules of the DSyntS ⇒ SSyntS transition. Roughly speaking, it is the Synt-head of a dependency chain (= a nucleus) on the last element of which the source of the clitic depends.²⁴

2.5 AUX + V phrases, English-style

What is the orientation of Synt-DSimulation in the phrase AUX + V in English (and similar languages), AUX←synt→V or AUX←synt→V? An AUX is an analytical exponent of a grammeme (or of several grammemes); according to what was said in Subsection 2.3, it should be considered the dependent of the lexical verb. However, an AUX greatly differs from analytical markers discussed above: while all of them are "lonely particles," an AUX is a verbal lexeme that has its own inflection and accepts its own syntactic dependents. Because of this, it requires a special discussion.

²⁴ Second-position clitics, as found, for instance, in Serbian are even more problematic; see J. Miličević’s paper in this volume, p. 235ff.
As before, my argumentation is based on the rules necessary to produce the phrase in question from a SemS. Suppose we want to have the sentence *Alan has slept*. Starting with a SemS

\[ \text{\textquoteleft Alan\textquoteright} \rightarrow \text{I} \rightarrow \text{\textquoteleft sleep\textquoteright} \]

(plus the indication of time), the semantic rules of Lexicalization and Arborization construct the DSyntS of the form

\[ \text{ALAN} \rightarrow \text{I} \rightarrow \text{SLEEP} \rightarrow \text{pres}, \text{non-progr}, \text{perf} \]

The analytical form of the verb is represented, at this level, as one node directly linked to the subject node by the DSyntRel \text{I}; thus, all lexical selection constraints (that may exist between the verb and its Synt-Subject) can be easily accounted for. In the SSyntS, the DSynt-node

\[ \circ \text{SLEEP} \rightarrow \text{ind}, \text{pres}, \text{non-progr}, \text{perf} \]

is expanded into the subtree

\[ \text{HAVE} \rightarrow \text{ind}, \text{pres} \rightarrow \text{perfect-analytical} \rightarrow \circ \text{SLEEP} \rightarrow \text{past.participle} \]

by the following Deep-Syntax rule:

\[ \text{L(V)} \rightarrow \text{ind}, \text{pres}, \text{perf} \circ \leftrightarrow \text{HAVE(V)} \rightarrow \text{ind}, \text{pres} \rightarrow \text{perfect-analytical} \rightarrow \circ \text{L(V)} \rightarrow \text{past.participle} \]

**NB:** This rule, as well as all similar rules describing analytical verbal forms, needs a set of conditions that foresee possible combinations of several analytically expressed grammemes.

From the purely logical viewpoint, we can take HAVE as the SSynt-head of the phrase AUX + V (as shown in our illustration) or as the SSynt-dependent: for this rule itself it makes no difference. But for all Surface-Syntax rules which have to compute the inflections on HAVE, linearly position AUX and V in the sentence and check the well-formedness of the SSyntS the difference is quite significant. If HAVE is considered to be the SSynt-head, all SSynt-rules that apply to any pair N \rightarrow \text{subj} – V will automatically apply to the auxiliary HAVE, as they do to any verb in the role of SSynt-head, including the non-auxiliary HAVE. More specifically, aspects under which an auxiliary (BE, DO and HAVE) must be treated as any full finite verb of English include:

- Agreement with the Subject (*I have written* vs. *He has written* as *I read* vs. *He reads*; including all complex cases of the type *The committee has/have*, etc.).

- Word order, in particular, inversion (*Have I written?* as *Can I write*?).

- Being the only verb in the clause ([*I know that*] *he has* as [*I know that*] *he works*; or in tags: *He has not gone*, *has he?* as *He works*, *doesn’t he?*).

- Carrying the grammemes of mood and tense.

- Parallelisms with the non-auxiliary BE, DO and HAVE (*He was astonished by John as He is astonished; He does work as He does his work; He has arrested John as He has John arrested; He has gone as He has to go*).
• Parallelisms with semi-auxiliaries such as GET (He got robbed), KEEP (He keeps going) or GOING TO (He is going to read), which have to be treated in a similar way to the genuine auxiliaries.

On the other hand, there are no idiosyncratic SSynt-properties of English auxiliaries that would require any specific rule to deal with them.

However, if the auxiliary HAVE (or BE, or DO) is not taken to be the SSynt-head of the AUX + V phrase, a bunch of additional rules have to be written to deal with a finite auxiliary verb which is not the SSynt-head of the clause, as well as with a non-finite verb form which is. There is no justification for such useless multiplication of entities; ergo, on the SSynt-level, we have AUX→V (which corresponds to Criterion B1). For more argumentation in favor of AUX→V, see Hudson 1987: 117-118 (English).

2.6 Conjoined nominal phrases N + CONJ + N

According to Criterion B1, in such a phrase as Alan and Helen the Synt-head is ALAN: the passive Synt-valence of the phrase is the same as that of the noun ALAN (rather than that of the phrase AND HELEN). Nevertheless, in many syntactic frameworks AND is considered the Synt-head of a coordinate string, ALAN and HELEN being its actants: ALAN←AND→HELEN (the same description is applied to all coordinate conjunctions: e.g., Schubert 1987: 104ff).

Once again, purely theoretical argumentation proved to be of little use here, so I will reason from the viewpoint of the rules that have to synthesize such strings.

If we take the conjunction to be the SSynt-head of the coordinate string we run into the following four difficulties.

• First, to be able to specify the linear order of conjuncts, which in many cases is significant, both Synt-DSs starting from CONJ have to carry different labels.
• Second, rules for the conjoined strings without a coordinate conjunction—such as Alan, Helen, Leo—must be completely different, or else a dummy artificial conjunction has to be added to the SyntS.
• Third, the linguistic rules that deal with the SSynt-Subject, the DirO, the IndirO, the complement of a preposition, the Prolepsis (= Fronted Topic), and the like—in one word, with an N—have to be repeated for the conjunction! And this will be sufficient only for the conjunction that links two nouns; for conjunctions linking lexemes of other parts of speech still other additional rules are needed. More than that: these rules must be extremely complex, since they have, e.g., to assign grammatical case to the conjunction and then percolate it to the nouns linked by the conjunction, etc.
• Fourth, must the conjunction be the Synt-head at the DSynt-level? Presumably so, since this is closer to its semantic role. Then all the selectional constraints acting between the verb and the conjoined nouns will not be easy to check—again an unnecessary complication.
In case we take the initial (= first) element of the conjoined phrase to be its Synt-head, no rules dealing with nouns, verbs, adjectives or adverbs have to be doubled and no additional rules are required (just specific rules for the conjunction and the second conjoined element), nor any dummy added. At the same time, absolutely nothing is lost. Why should then anyone want to add complexity without any visible gain? Ergo, on both the DSynt- and SSynt-levels, we have, respectively:

\[
X_1 \text{--COORD--CONJ--II--} X_2
\]

and

\[
X_1 \text{--coordinateive--CONJ--conjunctional--} X_2.
\]

2.7 Russian “exotic” coordination of interrogative/negative pronouns

In Russian, the interrogative and negative pronouns which bear different Deep-Syntactic relations to the governing verb are allowed to form a coordinate string in the Surface-Syntactic structure (in the Deep-SyntS there are no direct syntactic links between these elements: they are subordinated to the verb “in parallel”):

(38) a. Kto, komu i čem pomog?
   lit. ‘Who, to whom and with what helped?’

   b. Nikto, nikomu i ničem ne pomog
   lit. ‘Nobody, to nobody and with nothing not helped’.

To represent the phrase kto, komu i čem on the SSynt-level simply as all other coordinate phrases are represented, that is, as

\[
\text{kto--coord} \rightarrow \text{komu--coord} \rightarrow \text{i--conjunct} \rightarrow \text{čem},
\]

is insufficient. In a regular coordinate construction any Synt-dependent element plays with respect to the Synt-governor of the whole coordinate string the same Synt-role as its Synt-Governor itself. However, in this case, kto [NOM] is the Synt-Subject, but komu [DAT] is an IndirO and čem [INSTR] is another IndirO of the verb pomog ‘helped’; accordingly, all three pronouns are inflected differently. To account for this, it has been proposed (Sannikov 1989) to use double dependency, namely to add to the SyntS above the indication of the direct Synt- of each pronoun on the verb pomog (see above, Section 1.1.3 of this part, Figure 9, p. 72). But these added Synt- do not have the same substantive nature as the Synt- covering the coordination in this case: the added links are needed only to compute the Morph-s (under synthesis) and the Sem-s (under analysis). However, as we have seen, Morph-s and Sem-s can link two word-forms that do not have a direct Synt- between them. Therefore, it is preferable to introduce some special SSyntRel just for this very special construction: coord-subj, coord-dir-obj, coord-indir-obj, etc. Such SSyntRel indicate, in a natural way, the exotic character of this coordinate phrase and encode the actual SSynt-roles of its displaced elements.

A similar method can be used in comparative constructions (Savvina 1976). For instance, in Russian, the two comparative constructions in (39) have to be distinguished in their SSyntSs in the following way:

(39) a. [Ja ljublju Mašu bol’še,] čem--conjunct-subj→Vanja [NOM]

   ‘I love Masha more than Vanya [does]’.
Another possibility to represent the SSyntS of these constructions would be to consider the grammatical case of the SSynt-dependent in such coordinate or comparative strings as semantically meaningful and admit it into the SSyntS of these constructions; this is, however, too technical a point to be discussed here.

2.8 Elliptical constructions

How should one describe in the SSyntS common gappings of the type Alan went to Paris and Leo to Coruña? Since the expression and Leo to Coruña is not a normal phrase of English, it cannot, such as it is, be assigned a well-formed SSyntS. It is a “mutilated” expression, which has lost its top node, in this case a finite verb, and become a “non-canonical conjunct,” in Hudson’s (1988a: 305) terms. But even if deleted on the surface, the verb elided imposes on its SSynt-actants, where appropriate, government-induced inflection grammemes. Therefore, to represent the expression in question in terms of Synt-D, it is proposed to use in its SSyntS a node labeled with the elided verb—in this way the verb’s government is specified; the verb is, however, marked as being elided—in this way the verb is invisible to SSynt-to-DMorph-rules and will not appear in the DMorphS of the sentence. The ellipsis of the verb is shown in (40) by shading:

(40)

This is how the SSyntS of elliptical expressions—or, more precisely, of non-canonical conjuncts—looks in the Meaning-Text approach: the element to be elided is shown in the SSyntS, but with an explicit indication of its ellipsis (on ellipsis in the SSyntS, see also below, Item 5, p. 88).26

25 Note that, for instance, in English the situation is different, because of the impossibility of *I like her more than he:

I like her more than—who conjunct—does vs. I like her more than—conjunct—him.

For this construction, we do not need special conjunctional SSyntRels.

26 Alternatively, the representation of ellipsis could be relegated to a later stage—that is, to the DMorphS: the ellipsis would not be shown at all in the SSyntS, but in the DMorphS the elided element simply would not appear; the operation would be carried out by some SSyntS-to-DMorphS rules, which compute the possibility (or the necessity) of this ellipsis based on the SSyntS itself. For the time being, I do not see any logical objections to such a strategy. The reason for which I prefer to keep an explicit indication of ellipsis in the SSyntS of a sentence is my intuitive feeling that a complete sentence and a sentence with ellipsis are syntactically different and, therefore, this difference should be reflected at the SSynt-level. Under such an assumption, the ellipsis is specified by the DSyntS-to-SSyntS rules; SSynt-to-DMorphS-rules merely ensure its “mechanical” implementation.
3 Advantages of syntactic dependency

The remarks that follow are very sketchy and superficial: a systematic discussion of the advantages of the $\text{D}\text{D}$-approach and its comparison with the constituency, or $\text{C}\text{C}$-, approach would require another paper, perhaps longer than the present one. Still I think that these remarks can be useful, since at least they point in the right direction.

Let me begin with two general considerations. First, in a linguistic description that takes semantics into account seriously, the $\text{D}\text{D}$-approach in syntax imposes itself, since it ensures a much better fit of syntactic structure with semantic structure, where dependencies are universally recognized (most versions of predicate calculus language used in semantics are, in point of fact, $\text{D}\text{D}$-based). A lack of interest in semantics and the postulate that syntax is autonomous are main factors that have lead to the dominance of $\text{C}\text{C}$-representations in syntax. In a theory where the Synt-structure of a sentence is produced (roughly) from the Sem-structure of this sentence, this Sem-structure being written in terms of Sem-$\text{D}\text{D}$s, it is much more natural to see the Synt-structure as being based on Synt-$\text{D}\text{D}$s.

Second, a $\text{D}\text{D}$-representation with labeled SyntRels is formally more powerful than a “pure” $\text{C}\text{C}$-representation—in the sense that the former allows one to present all relevant syntactic details much better than the latter. As a result, linguists have been forced, practically from the beginning, to specify heads of the constituents as opposed to satellites (e.g., Pittman 1948) and the relations between them. But in a $\text{C}\text{C}$-representation, as soon as one starts marking heads and indicating types of SyntRels between heads and satellites, the heavy machinery of constituency—particularly, non-terminal nodes, numerous empty nodes, and artificial ordering of elements in the SyntS—becomes useless, because redundant: all these pieces of information can be easily computed, if and when needed, from the $\text{D}\text{D}$s specified. Because of this, most modern syntactic theories—such as Perlmutter’s Relational Grammar, Bresnan’s Lexical-Functional Grammar or Pollard and Sag’s Head-Driven Phrase-Structure Grammar—are moving fast in the direction of the $\text{D}\text{D}$-approach.

To these general considerations, one can add a number of specific ones. Namely, there are at least five important linguistic phenomena for the description of which Synt-$\text{D}\text{D}$ is really crucial: valence, voice, restricted lexical cooccurrence, word order, and ellipses of all types. (I am not implying that the $\text{C}\text{C}$-approach cannot handle them; but the $\text{D}\text{D}$-approach does it, I think, in a more natural and therefore more economical way.)

1) Valence—or, more precisely, active valence—is a property of lexemes: a lexeme opens slots for other lexemes that it “attracts” as its dependents. Linguistic valence is obviously a metaphor based on valence in chemistry: atoms have valences to link with other atoms and thus form molecules. In much the same way, a lexeme has semantic, syntactic and morphological valences to link with other lexemes. Lexemes $L_i$ that fill the valences of the lexeme $L$ depend on it, exactly in the sense in which dependency has been defined above. Actually, valence and dependency are related in a very direct way; cf. Baumgärtner 1970: 62ff, Eichinger & Eroms 1995 and also Agel et al. 2003. Active valence is of course not the only source of dependency: there is passive valence of lexemes as well; however, active valence shows the convenience of using Synt-$\text{D}\text{D}$ in an especially graphic way.
2) The inflectional category of voice is crucial to the understanding of semantics, syntax, and morphology. Voice grammemes mark the change of the basic diathesis of the verb, i.e., the correspondence between its semantic and syntactic actants (Mel’čuk 1997a and 2006: 189), or, to put it differently, between its Sem- and Synt-dependents. No wonder, then, that voice and voice-related categories are much better described in the \( D \)-approach. In particular, they have been the focus of research within the framework of Perlmutter’s Relational Grammar or Foley and Van Valin’s Function and Reference Grammar far more than in any \( C \)-based theory.

3) For a systematic description of restricted lexical cooccurrence, or of collocations, the apparatus of Lexical Functions is proposed (Żolkovskij & Mel’čuk 1967: 198-218, Mel’čuk 1974: 78ff, Mel’čuk 1996a). Each collocation is described as having the structure \( f(x) = y \), where \( f \) is a particular lexical function, \( x \) is a lexical unit which is the base of the collocation, and \( y \), a set of (more or less synonymous) lexical units each of which is the collocate; it expresses, contingent on \( x \), the meaning of \( f \). Here are a few examples:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Intensifier</th>
<th>Support Verb</th>
<th>Realization Verb</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>( \text{Magn(smoker)} ) = inveterate</td>
<td>( \text{Oper}_1(\text{favor}) = \text{do} )</td>
<td>( \text{Real}_1(\text{goal}) = \text{achieve} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \text{Magn(sleep)} ) = like a log</td>
<td>( \text{Oper}_2(\text{exam}) = \text{take, sit} )</td>
<td>( \text{Real}_2(\text{exam}) = \text{pass} )</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>( \text{Magn(hot)} ) = burning</td>
<td>( \text{Oper}_3(\text{order}) = \text{receive} )</td>
<td>( \text{Real}_3(\text{order}) = \text{execute} )</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The number of simple standard lexical functions is about 60, and they are universal. Their values, on the contrary, are of course language-dependent: they are specified, for each language and each lexical unit, in a special lexicon. Using them greatly facilitates lexicalization in the transition SemS ⇒ DSyntS ⇒ SSyntS, when the appropriate collocates have to be selected.

Now, as is easy to see, the lexical-functional dependency between the base lexeme of a collocation and the collocate lexeme is supported by a Synt-\( \alpha \) between them. Thus, \( \text{Magn(armed)} = \text{to the teeth} \), and \( \text{armed} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{to the teeth} \). Similarly, \( \text{Oper}_1(\text{visit}) = \text{pay} \), and \( \text{pay} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{visit} \), or \( \text{Real}_2(\text{exam}) = \text{pass} \), and \( \text{pass} \rightarrow \text{synt} \rightarrow \text{exam} \). For each lexical function, a particular Synt-\( \alpha \) between its base and the collocate is specified. Outside of Synt-\( \alpha \), there is no economical way to describe the collocations properly.

4) Synt-\( \alpha \) is especially convenient for the description of word order. Using Synt-\( \alpha \)s forces the linguist to separate strictly and consistently the hierarchical (= genuinely syntactic) order from the linear order, which is a surface means for the expression of the former. Thus, the main task of natural language syntax—linearizing a two-dimensional Synt-structure (explicitly formulated in Tesnière 1959: 19-20)—can be solved with much more ease with Synt-\( \alpha \)s than in any other way. The advantages of Synt-\( \alpha \)s for the description of word order can be resumed in three points:

- First, word order rules can be easily formulated in terms of positioning a Synt-dependent with respect to its Synt-governor (before or after it). Again, Tesnière (1959: 22-25, 32-33) stated this fact explicitly, dividing languages in centripetal (where a Synt-dependent precedes its Synt-governor) and centrifugal (where a Synt-dependent follows its Synt-governor); both can be so consistently or inconsistently. For some lan-
languages, this allows for very compact formulations; e.g., in Japanese all Synt-dependents precede their governors, in Welsh almost all Synt-dependents (the only exception being the article y) follow their governors (Hudson 1990: 105):

(41) a. Japanese [a consistently centripetal language]

\[
\text{Itiban takai siraga+de+no sensei+wa kono omosirokunai hon+o kai+ta} \\
\text{very tall gray-haired professor this boring book wrote}
\]

lit. ‘Very tall gray-haired professor this boring book wrote’.

b. Welsh [a consistently centrifugal language]

\[
\text{Ysgrifennodd athro tal iawn a gwallt llwyd ganddo y llyfr undonnog hwm} \\
wrote professor tall very and hair gray to-him the book boring this
\]

lit. ‘Wrote professor tall very and hair gray to-him the book boring this’.

But even in languages where the linear distribution of Synt-governors vs. Synt-dependents is not as clear-cut as in Japanese or Welsh, that is, in “inconsistent” languages, resorting to these notions helps to state the word-order rules. Thus, in Arabic the majority of Synt-dependents follow their governors, with the notable exception of the demonstratives and numerals; in Hungarian, the majority of Synt-dependents precede their governors, with the notable exception of the relative clause; etc. Such facts were discussed already in Trubetzkoy 1939 and practically used in numerous language manuals and descriptive grammars; cf. an outline of word-order typology in Xolodovič 1966. In this vein, a relatively complete description of word order in Synt-D terms (within simple clauses) was proposed for Russian (Mel’čuk 1967, 1974: 260-302).

- Second, Synt-D has allowed for the discovery (Hays 1960, Lecerf 1960) of an important property of word order in all languages, called projectivity. According to the property of projectivity, in most cases, if we supply a sentence with its SyntS written in terms of Synt-D and draw a perpendicular from each wordform to the node that represents it in the SyntS, then:
  - no branches of the SyntS intersect;
  - no branch intersects with a projection perpendicular.

Let me illustrate the phenomenon of projectivity with sentence (1), associating its surface form with its SSyntS (Figure 10, next page).

As one can easily see, the sentence appears as a projection of the SSyntS such that SSyntS’s branches cross neither each other nor the projection perpendiculars; hence the name “projectivity”.

An absolute majority of sentences in most languages are projective. Taking this fact into account ensures a more elegant formulation of word-order rules and greatly facilitates the analysis and synthesis of texts: with the exception of particular cases (see immediately below), only projective sentences must be produced from a given SSyntS, and only SSyntSs that guarantee projectivity must be associated with a given sentence.
However, projectivity can be systematically violated in many special cases, for instance:

1. English

\[
\textit{the most interesting paper in the collection}
\]

The culprit here is the superlative marker of the adjective; cf. the representation in a tree form, where intersections that create non-projectivity are shown:

2. French

\[
\textit{la fille dont je connais le père}
\]

lit. ‘the girl whose I know the father’ = ‘the girl whose father I know’
The culprit is the extracted relative pronoun *dont*:

![Diagram of the sentence structure]

3. Serbian

```plaintext
Verski mu je učitelj odvratio
```
lit. *'Of-faith to-him has [actually, 'is'] teacher answered'. =

*'The teacher of faith has answered to him'.

The culprits are two displaced clitics—a dative pronoun *mu* ‘to him’ and the auxiliary verb *je* ‘is’:

![Diagram of the sentence structure]

4. Latin

```plaintext
Ultima Cumaei venit iam carminis aetas
```
lit. *'Last Cumaeian comes now song’s age'. =

*'Now comes the last epoch of [the] Cumaeian song' [Vergil, *Eclogae*, IV.4].

Non-projectivity is provoked here by the fronting of two adjectival modifiers, *ultima* and *Cumaei*, a wide-spread phenomenon in Latin poetry:

![Diagram of the sentence structure]

I could indicate more constructions in different languages where non-projectivity is possible or even obligatory; all such cases must be isolated and specified in concrete linguistic descriptions. Now, while within the *n*-approach the representation of non-projective structures poses no problem whatsoever, the *c*-approach is unable to represent non-projective structures without some additional (and relatively clumsy) machinery, for instance, transformations. In this respect, the *n*-approach is again superior to its rival.
Third, the $\mathfrak{B}$-approach is much less rigid (than the $\mathfrak{C}$-approach) and has the inherent ability to accommodate easily what is known as non-configurationality and long-range dependencies. The perturbations introduced into the word order of a sentence by its Communicative Structure—Frontings, Extractions, Postponings, etc. plus all sorts of "displacements" in such languages as German or Russian—can wreak havoc on a $\mathfrak{C}$-structure, since even the closest-knit phrases can be torn apart and permuted. On the other hand, $\mathfrak{B}$-structure, without linearity and contiguity, is totally insensitive to such permutations: they happen in the linearized DMorphS of the sentence and do not at all affect the SSyntS. The reason is obvious—a strict and complete separation of hierarchical (= syntactic) and linear links in the $\mathfrak{B}$-approach. As a result, the $\mathfrak{B}$-approach does not know problems in representing discontinuities, which, in the literal sense of the word, simply do not exist in a $\mathfrak{B}$-structure. Thus, the sentence Which violins are these sonatas easy to play on? is assigned a natural SSynt-structure written in $\mathfrak{B}$-terms (Figure 11a, below). The linear break of the phrase on which violins is produced by a word-order rule that puts the phrase which violins in the first linear position in the sentence, i.e., extracts it (during the transition SSyntR $\Rightarrow$ DMorphR). Note that such an extraction is not possible for a similar SSyntS of Figure 11b: the result *Which sonatas are these violins easy to play on? is ungrammatical and can be precluded by imposing all the necessary conditions on the extraction rule. The SSyntS of Figure 11b can be only realized with the WH-word in situ: These violins are easy to play on WHICH sonatas? (See Hudson 1988b: 199ff and Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999 on the problem of extraction with a $\mathfrak{B}$-framework.)

5) As Nichols (1993) has shown, ellipses, i.e., constituent-reducing operations, can be conveniently characterized in terms of Synt-$\mathfrak{B}$. Thus, four languages studied by Nichols—Russian, Nunggubuyu (Australian), English, and Chechen-Ingush (North-Caucasian)—differ with respect to their preferences in the domain of constituent-reducing: Russian prefers to remove Synt-heads, Nunggubuyu does it more frequently with Synt-dependents, English removes both with equal ease, while Chechen-Ingush does neither (which means that it has few ellipses). Cf. (42):

![Figure 11: SSyntSs of sentences with and without extraction](image-url)
DEPENDENCY IN NATURAL LANGUAGE

(42) a. Russian

\[ A \text{ Maška emu po morde} \]

lit. ‘And Mashka to-him on the-mug’, =

‘And Mashka gave him a blow in the face’,

where the top node—a Synt-head, which is a verb meaning ‘hit’,—is elided.

b. Nunggubuyu

\[ Anāgugu nāgalimaŋ; nāgalimaŋ \]

lit. ‘[He] water fetched-for-him; fetched-for-him’, =

‘He fetched water for him, he did’,

where the top node—a verbal Synt-head meaning ‘fetch’—is repeated by the narrator for more expressivity, but with its dependent (‘water’) elided.

c. English

Leo is from Chernigovskij, and Alan from Paris,

where the top node—the Synt-head of the second conjunct clause (the verb BE)—is elided, or, more precisely, factored out;

or

Susan is fond of, while Marga looks askance at, profanity,

where the Synt-dependent of fond of is elided/factored out (Russian does not admit this type of dependent removal).

d. In Chechen-Ingush, the answer to the question ‘What did he give his son?’ must be Sowγγγγat dennad lit. ‘[He a] gift gave’, rather than simply *Sowγγγγat [a] gift, which is the norm in the above three languages: Chechen-Ingush does not tolerate the removal of Synt-heads. Even the sentence meaning ‘Good!/OK!’ must contain the verbal Synt-head: Dika du! lit. ‘Good is’.

All the five phenomena mentioned above—valence, voice, restricted lexical cooccurrence, word order, and ellipses—are in the focus of a trend in modern linguistics that Hudson (1990) aptly dubbed lexicalism: putting at the center of the linguistic description facts about lexical units rather than facts about syntactic constructions, so that the lexicon is at last deservedly given a place of honor in linguistic studies; cf. as well Hudson 1983, 1984 and Mel’čuk 1995b. Stressing the importance of the lexicon goes quite well with the -approach in syntax, because in this approach all the links are established between wordforms and based, in the final analysis, on their lexicographic properties.

4 Syntactic dependency and syntactic constituency

4.1 Syntactic constituency

To compare the D-approach in syntax to the C-approach (also known as the Phrase-Structure approach), one needs to make precise the concept of syntactic constituent. Let me first take the simplest, or “naive,” interpretation of constituent as a linearly ordered string of actual wordforms that shows a prosodic and semantic unity (i.e., a constituent ≈ an actual phrase) and consider constituency exclusively as based on contiguity. Such constituents are not syntactic units in the sense that the Synt-structure of a sentence cannot be described in terms of these formations: they are linear, prosodic and morphological implementations of (fragments of) the SSyntS, rather than part of it. The legitimate place of such constituents is in the Deep-Morphological structure of the sentence. (Cf. Langacker 1997 for a convincing discussion of the role constituency plays in language on the semantic and phonological levels, while it has no place on the syntactic level of sentence representation. According to Langacker, syntactic structure must ensure the correspondence between semantic and phonological constituents, especially in cases of unavoidable numerous and variegated mismatches, due to the strictly linear character of human speech, which has to convey utterly “non-linear” meaning. As a result, syntactic structure itself cannot be represented in terms of constituents.)

If, on the other hand, we consider the sophisticated concept of a constituent as a set of lexemes that go together, this set taken before linearization, prosodization and morphologization, then, in order for constituents to be able to carry relevant information about word order and inflection, each constituent has to have both its head and its constituent type specified. This means, more or less, indicating the type of the Synt-relation between the constituent’s elements. But no sooner is this done than we have a D-representation! Or, to be more precise: a sophisticated C-representation carries all D-information plus some other characteristics of the sentence represented. The question is then whether we need these extra data to be explicitly present in the Synt-structure of the sentence. The answer depends of course on our main theoretical postulates. I, for one, proceed from the postulate that every part of a linguistic representation must be as homogeneous and as compact as possible. In other words, phenomena of different nature should be represented in different components of the representation, so that a multilayered representation must be preferred over a unified one. If this postulate is accepted, then specifying the Synt-heads and the type of SyntReLS between the sentence elements makes all other attributes of the C-approach redundant and therefore superfluous—particularly, 1) non-terminal nodes and 2) the categorization of constituents in the SyntS.

- Non-terminal nodes indicate the Synt-constituents, but, as I have said, the constituents can be computed from the D-representation and are needed only on a closer-to-surface level—on the DMorph-level; therefore, they should not be present in the Synt-structure.

- The categorization of the elements of a Synt-structure, i.e., the syntactic class and other syntactic features of lexemes, should not be part of the SyntS, either: this is not syntactic, but lexicographic information; as such it should remain behind the scenes, in the lexicon’s entries for the lexemes involved.
So, if one follows the above postulate—that is, stops specifying non-terminal nodes and keeps lexicographic information in the lexicon, rather than in the SyntS, then nothing remains of the classical \textit{C}-approach in syntax.

To avoid misunderstandings, it would probably be worthwhile to formulate the following two provisos concerning the problem of constituency in the \textit{D}-approach.

1. The \textit{D}-approach does not negate the existence of constituents: constituents do of course exist and have the primary importance for any complete linguistic description. (I mean here constituents as real linguistic items—strings of wordforms with an appropriate prosody, not as formal abstract entities that are automatically specified by any dependency tree as projections of complete subtrees.) However, their place is not in the SyntS, but rather, as pointed out above, in the DMorphS of the sentence: in the SSyntS $\Rightarrow$ DMorphS transition, linearization is carried out in terms of constituents that have to be computed from the SSyntS; and prosodization affects the constituents after they have been linearized.

2. The \textit{D}-approach extensively uses standard subtrees (non-linearized and non-morphologized), which specify different constructions that behave identically from the viewpoint of surface syntax. Such are, for instance, \textit{ANUMP} or \textit{APPROX}—sources of the numeral and numeral-approximate phrases: \textit{three kilos} $\sim$ \textit{about/over three kilos} $\sim$ \textit{more than three kilos} $\sim$ \textit{from three to ten kilos} $\sim$ ... (Mel'čuk & Pertsov 1987: 487-489). Another example is \textit{DV}, or the verbal nucleus: a chain consisting of verbs and some special non-verbal elements allowing for particular operations in which it participates as a whole (Kahane & Mel'čuk 1999). However, first, standard subtrees are not constituents; and second, their place is not in the SyntS of a sentence, but in the syntactic rules of the linguistic model, which identifies them in the SyntS and processes them as specified.

4.2 \textit{Crossing syntactic dependency with syntactic constituency}

For many years, linguists have been talking about the integration of both approaches—that is, they have been looking for a hybrid between \textit{D}- and \textit{C}-representations to be used in syntax (e.g., Baumgärtner 1970 and Vennemann 1977). The incentive for such an integration comes primarily from the problems related to representing coordination in the \textit{D}-approach (see Section 5 of this part), as well as to some other linguistic phenomena such as:

- \textit{extraction} (I know \textit{which girl} you told my wife Alan was going out with, the extracted component being boldfaced; extraction happens under focusing, relativization, or interrogation);

- \textit{analytical forms} (verbal and nominal, i.e. AUX$\rightarrow$V and DET$\leftarrow$N: \textit{has been detected}; \textit{the book});

- \textit{idioms} and \textit{collocations} (among others, with what is known as \textit{light verbs}: \textit{make headway}, \textit{pay a visit}, \textit{launch an attack}, Ger. \textit{zur Aufführung bringen} lit. 'to-the-carrying-out bring' = 'carry out'), and the like.
The main idea is to introduce for any of these syntactic constructions a special type of subtree that is allowed to occupy as a whole one node of a dependency tree. In this way, the linguist tries to capture the intuition that such a set of wordforms depends on or governs other wordforms as a unit. The first full-fledged specific proposal for a mixed ι-ε-representation of this type—by means of what is known as syntactic groups—was advanced in Gladkij 1966, 1968 and 1985. A similar device is put forward in Lobin 1993: 42ff and 1995 (under the name of complex elements). The most recent move in this direction is, as far as I know, Kahane 1997, where the concept of bubble is introduced: a subset of nodes of a ι-tree which is allowed to be treated as a node, while having inside a completely specified ι-structure of its own, including other bubbles. It is natural that linguists feel the need for some formation of this type; but to what extent such a hybridization, or rather, extension or enrichment, of ι-trees is welcome remains to be seen.

In particular, using multistructural and multilevel representations (cf. I-3, p. 5) allows for elegant solutions of many problems that otherwise have to be treated via bubble-like entities. Thus, the difficulties of representation related to various extractions can be overcome in a natural way by recourse to the Communicative Structure (Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999). Similarly, the special character of AUX + V or DET + N phrases, as well as of idiomatic phrases (= idioms) such as with respect to or kick the bucket, is reflected by the fact that in the DSyntS all these phrases are represented each by one single node. Collocations are described, as pointed out in III-3, p. 84, in terms of lexical functions, and such a description makes explicit the specific character of the collocations. For instance, in the DSyntS, a phrase such as pay a visit or do a favor is represented as

\[ \text{Oper}_1 \circ \text{I} \rightarrow \circ \text{VISIT} \quad \text{or} \quad \text{Oper}_1 \circ \text{I} \rightarrow \circ \text{FAVOR} \]

Here, \text{Oper}_1 is the symbol of a lexical function which specifies for a deverbal noun the support verb that takes this noun as a DirO and links it to the subject; \text{Oper}_1’s values, as those of the other LFs, are given in the lexical entries for nouns:

\[ \text{Oper}_1(\text{VISIT}) = \text{pay} [\text{ART ~}] \]
\[ \text{Oper}_1(\text{FAVOR}) = \text{do} [\text{ART ~}] \]

For the time being, I believe that more progress is needed in the domain of the ι-approach to syntax before we can determine where and how to use this or that element of the ε-approach within the ι-framework. However, what is already clear is that a single ι-tree is not sufficient to represent all the information that might be necessary at the syntactic level. The linguistic model I propose uses two ι-trees—namely, the Deep- and Surface-SyntS; in addition, it has recourse to a separate Communicative Structure. And that is not all: in some specific cases, more special machinery is used (groupings, see immediately below).

5 Insufficiency of syntactic dependency: Coordination

If we agree to use two levels of representation for syntactic structures, that is, the DSyntS and SSyntS, plus Communicative Structures on both levels, then a pure ι-re-
presentation in syntax seems to be sufficient for all syntactic phenomena, except for one type of construction, and that is in the domain of coordination (cf. Hudson 1990: 97ff and Lobin 1993 on a special place coordination occupies with respect to Synt; see as well Stassen 2000 on the typology of coordination). The problem arises because the following situation is possible:

A wordform w “relates” either to a whole conjoined phrase or just to its Synt-head alone, such that the two constructions are morphologically, linearly or prosodically distinct and have different meanings; however, within the strict Synt-approach, both types of structure can be shown only by the direct Synt of w on the Synt-head of the conjoined phrase (the pure Synt-formalism does not allow for the dependency on a phrase as a whole). Consequently, one SSynt written in terms of Synt-s corresponds in such cases to two different meanings, which is not admissible.

Here are two examples:

(43) a. The SyntS old ← men → and → women expresses two meanings, that is
   — either a meaning that corresponds to a joint reading [the adjective bears on both nouns]:
     \( \{ \text{old} \ \{ \text{men} + \text{women} \} \} = \{ \text{old men} \ \text{and} \ \text{old women} \} \);  
   — or a meaning that corresponds to a disjoint reading [the adjective bears on one noun only]:
     \( \{ \text{old men} \} + \text{women} \) [the women are not necessarily old].

b. The SyntS [He is] not ← tall → and → fat also expresses two different meanings:
   — either \( \{ \text{he is} \} \ {\text{not}} \ {\text{tall + fat}} \) [joint reading: he is neither tall nor fat];
   — or \( \{ \text{he is} \} \ {\text{not}} \ {\text{tall}} \ {\text{+}} \ {\text{fat}} \) [disjoint reading: he is not tall and is fat].

In such cases, different surface implementations that formally distinguish intended meanings are in principle available (depending on the language and particular lexical means used; “||” stands for a pause):

in (43a), old men and women [without a pause] vs. old men || and women;

in (43 b), He is not || tall and fat vs. He is not tall || and fat.

The semantic contrast accompanied by a formal contrast requires that the semantic distinction be maintained in the SSyntS (cf. Criterion C1, p. 34). The only way to do so—sticking to pure Synt, that is, using exclusively Synt-formalism and without admitting multiple Synt-dependencies—seems to be to label differently the SSyntRel-s involved, i.e., to have in (43a) something like

\[
\text{old} \leftarrow \text{modif} \rightarrow \text{men} \rightarrow \text{and} \rightarrow \text{women} \quad \text{for the disjoint reading}
\]

and

\[
\text{old} \leftarrow \text{coord-modif} \rightarrow \text{men} \rightarrow \text{and} \rightarrow \text{women} \quad \text{for the joint reading}.
\]

---

\[27\] I take the negative particle NOT in this example to be a Synt-dependent of TALL rather than of BE; cf. He is, as everybody knows since the period when ..., not → tall and fat vs. He is ← not (isn’t), as everybody knows since the period when ..., tall and fat.
However, this solution is no good. First, it is not natural enough linguistically; among other things, it entails doubling all SSyntRelS that can link Synt-dependents to conjoined phrases. Second, it is not sufficient formally: it cannot help in the case of more than two conjuncts, such as in hungry men, and women, and children vs. {hungry {men and women}} and children. Therefore, a real alternative is to complement the pure \(\mathfrak{D}\)-approach with groupings—specification, within the SyntS, of the \(\mathfrak{D}\)-subtrees relevant in such cases (Mel’čuk 1974: 214-216, 1988: 28-33). For instance:

old\(\leftarrow\)modif–men\(\rightarrow\)and\(\rightarrow\)women (without grouping)

stands for the disjoint reading (‘old men’ and women’). However,

old\(\leftarrow\)modif–[men\(\rightarrow\)and\(\rightarrow\)women] (with a grouping indicated by square brackets)

corresponds to the joint reading (‘old men and old women’).

For (43b), we will also write two different SSyntSs:

\(\text{He is not}\leftarrow\text{restr–tall}\rightarrow\text{and}\rightarrow\text{fat}\) (for the disjoint reading: ‘He is {not tall} and fat’)

and

\(\text{He is not}\leftarrow\text{restr–[tall}\rightarrow\text{and}\rightarrow\text{fat]}\) (for the joint reading: ‘He is not {tall and fat}’).

Note that a grouping is not a constituent in the strict sense: there is no higher node to represent it as a whole (because a grouping is not a projection of a complete subtree), and it does not participate in \(\mathfrak{D}\)-links such as such (because in a consistent \(\mathfrak{D}\)-approach, only single nodes do; this is in contrast to the approach advanced in Kahane 1997, where a configuration of nodes in a dependency tree—a bubble—can be treated as a bona fide node). As we see in the example

old\(\leftarrow\)modif–[men\(\rightarrow\)and\(\rightarrow\)women],

the branch “modif” leaves the node men within the grouping, but not the grouping as such.[9]

I would like to mention two other syntactic phenomena where groupings in the SSyntS may be necessary.

• The first one is “layered,” or recursive, modification:

expensive \{Japanese cars\} vs. Japanese \{expensive cars\}

Here, the linear order of adjectives is not arbitrary: it reflects the successive, or stepwise, inclusion of sets of objects on which the modifiers bear, and is thus semantically relevant. (The problem is again created by quasi-coordination, i.e., by co-subordination.) Under the \(\mathfrak{D}\)-approach, both expressions have the same SSyntS:

As a result, a semantic difference is lost. It is not, however, clear to me whether this difference should be accounted for in the SSyntS as such (then groupings are needed) or rather in the Syntactic-Communicative or Referential Structure (and then groupings in the SSyntS are avoided). For the time being, I prefer the second solution; if it is adopted, either we have to introduce a special Sem-Communicative opposition, which will represent the order of (sub)set inclusions, or—and this seems more natural—we
have to use different referential indications (S. Kahane): in the first, but not the second, reading, the meaning ‘Japanese cars’ has a direct referent: a subset of (all) Japanese cars is characterized by the property of being expensive; the situation is inverse in the second reading: a subset of (all) expensive cars is characterized as being Japanese.

• The second phenomenon is modification of the type [a] typical American woman (*an American typical woman) or [a] former German minister (*a German former minister). These cases resemble the syntactic behavior of quantifiers, which also deserves a special study from the viewpoint of D-representation. However, it is possible to deal with the adjectives of the TYPICAL or FORMER type on the basis of their special lexico-graphic properties: they can be linked to their Synt-governor by the same SSyntRel as any other adjective, but their positioning is controlled by their lexicographic features. Therefore, in this case, groupings in the SSyntS are not necessary.

Acknowledgments

This paper was written in May-July 1998 during my stay in Germany under a Humboldt Foundation scholarship and has been reworked several times since. Its final version has profited a great deal from my joint work with L. Iordanskaja (Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk 2000): I have included in the present text several of our common results and findings. The paper has been read and commented upon by D. Beck, I. Bolshakov, N. Bröker, P. Hellwig, R. Hudson, L. Iomdin, L. Iordanskaja, S. Kahane, M. Kracht, H. Lobin, J. Miličević, E. Savvina, L. Wanner, and D. Weiss; N. Pertsov has caught several mistakes and incongruities at the very last moment. The remarks and objections of D. Beck and S. Kahane have been especially deep and constructive and have lead to many substantial changes in the text. I did my best to take into account all the suggestions of my friends and colleagues, and I am happy to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all of them, as well as to the Humboldt Foundation; the usual disclaimers apply, of course.

Endnotes

[1] (p. 4) The notion of passive Synt(actic)-valence cannot be reduced to that of part of speech. First, passive Synt-valence characterizes not only lexemes, but phrases as well, to which I think the notion of part of speech is not applicable. Second, and more importantly, the passive Synt-valence of a lexeme L is determined, generally speaking, by the part of speech of L only partially: syntactic features of L play here a crucial role. That is, two lexemes of the same part of speech may have different passive Synt-valences because of their syntactic features (= subcategorization). Thus, nouns like MONTH, WEEK or DAY may appear in the duration construction with a verb (work the whole month, travel day after day, etc.), in which other nouns are impossible; this fact is expressed by the syntactic feature value “temp” assigned to such nouns. For more on syntactic features, see Mel’čuk & Pertsov 1987: 471ff.

[2] (p. 29) Here are two more examples (for a detailed analysis of the construction in question, further examples and a bibliography, see Gaatone 1988):
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>gender</th>
<th>adjective</th>
<th>gender</th>
<th>noun</th>
<th>translation</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>un</td>
<td>vache</td>
<td>de</td>
<td>garçon</td>
<td>'an impressive boy'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a-SG.MASC</td>
<td>impressive-SG.MASC</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>boy[MASC]-SG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>une</td>
<td>vache</td>
<td>de</td>
<td>voiture</td>
<td>'an impressive car'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a-SG.FEM</td>
<td>impressive-SG.FEM</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>car[FEM]-SG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ce</td>
<td>chouette</td>
<td>de</td>
<td>garçon</td>
<td>'this nice boy'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this-SG.MASC</td>
<td>nice-SG.MASC</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>boy[MASC]-SG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>cette</td>
<td>chouette</td>
<td>de</td>
<td>voiture</td>
<td>'this nice car'</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>this-SG.FEM</td>
<td>nice-SG.FEM</td>
<td>of</td>
<td>car[FEM]-SG</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Some French expletive interjections can also appear, along with the above-mentioned adjectives, as the SSynt-head of this construction: *cette nom d’un chien* 'this darned machine', *cette bon sang de Julie* 'this bloody Julie', *ces sacré nom de Danois* 'these bloody Danes', *ma nom de Dieu de parole d’honneur* 'my damned word of honor', *ce putain de garçon* 'this bloody boy', etc., where the SSynt-head is boldfaced. The construction has the SSynts of the following form:

CE←synt–NOM D’UN CHIEN–synt→DE–synt→MACHINE

Note that the determiner agrees in gender and number with the qualified noun (in this case, MACHINE) rather than with its own Synt-governor—the head of the phrase (NOM D’UN CHIEN), which, unlike an adjective, cannot borrow the gender and number from the noun. A similar English construction (*a bitch of a problem*, *‘Ulysses’ is murder to read*, etc.) is analyzed in McCawley 1987.

Let it be emphasized that the construction illustrated in (13) is different from such constructions as *ce cochon de Polytte* 'this swine of Polytte', *l’imbécile de ton mari* 'the fool of your husband' or *ce fou de prof lit.* 'this madman of professor', where the head is a noun (it can be a nominalized adjective, but it is anyway a noun). In (13), the head adjective cannot be nominalized: *un drôle, un chouette*, etc.

---

[p. 38] It is sometimes claimed that even actantial SSyntRelS can be repeatable. The best-known example is probably the repeatability of the *dir-obj* SSyntRel in Kinyarwanda: it is said that in this language, a clause can have up to three DirOs of the same MV (Kimenyi 1980: 229; the presumed DirOs are boldfaced); cf.:

(i) *Umu+góre á+r +ũubak+i+iš +iřiś +a ábá+a+ana umu+gabe inzu*

Class I woman I PRES build CAUS BENEF CONT II children I man house

‘The woman, on behalf of the children, is making the man build the house’.

A detailed analysis of “repeated DirOs” in Kinyarwanda in Gary & Keenan 1977: 87-94 shows that indeed all of them possess the same relevant linguistic properties which set them off with respect to oblique objects: they passivize, reflexivize and relativize, they can be cross-referenced in the verb, etc. And yet, in our framework, all three of them cannot be considered DirOs, because they contrast semantically, that is, they violate our Criterion C1. The presumed *dir-obj* SSyntRel in Kinyarwanda has to be split into three different SSyntRelS, which are, so to speak, the subtypes of an abstract SSyntRel: the *dir-obj* SSyntRel, the *caus-dir-obj* SSyntRel and the *benef-dir-obj* SSyntRel. In this way, the commonality of their important properties is explicitly shown.
Similarly, in Sanskrit, two objects in the accusative (= “double accusatives”) cannot be both DirO$s$, either:

(ii) \( \text{Ta} \ yajam\text{\textam}_{\text{\textanam}} \ v\text{\textac} +a\text{\texty} +t\text{i} \)

\( \text{them-ACC} \ \text{sacrificer-ACC} \ \text{name CAUS IND.PRES.3SG} \)

\( \{\text{He}\} \text{ makes [the] sacrificer name them}. \)

\( \text{Ta} \) is a DirO, but \( yajam\text{\textanam} \) must be described by a different SSyntRel: the \text{caus-dir-obj} one.

In other languages (e.g., Latin, German and Serbian) the situation with double accusatives is even clearer:

(iii)

a. Lat. \text{Quis music+am [ACC]}\leftarrow ?–\text{docuit}–?\rightarrow \text{Epaminond+am [ACC]}?

\( \text{litr.} \{\text{Who taught Epaminondas music}\}\rightleftharpoons \{\text{Who taught music to Epaminondas}\}\}

or

\text{Me [ACC]}\leftarrow ?–\text{rogavit}–?\rightarrow \text{sententi+am [ACC]}

\( \text{litr.} \{\text{He asked me opinion}\}\rightleftharpoons \{\text{He asked me for my opinion}\}\}

b. Serb. \text{Ta slika m+e [ACC]}\leftarrow ?–\text{ko\text{\textsta}}–?\rightarrow \text{hiljad+u [ACC]} \text{dolara}

\( \text{litr.} \{\text{This painting costs me one thousand dollars}\}\)

c. Ger. \text{Was [ACC]}\leftarrow ?–\text{fragst [du]}–?\rightarrow \text{mich [ACC]}? \{\text{What are you asking me}\}\}

Neither of these sentences has two DirO$s$: the two accusatives do not display the same syntactic behavior. Thus, in (iii-b) \text{me} is omissible, while \text{hiljadu} is not: \( \text{Ta slika ko\text{\textsta} hiljadu dolara} \) vs. \( *\text{Ta slika me ko\text{\textsta}} \). This shows that \text{me} is here an IndirO, despite its accusative form. In (iii-c), only \text{mich} is the DirO, \text{was} being an OblO; etc. For double accusatives in German, see Wilkinson 1983.

For more on multiple objects in Latin, Ancient Greek and Modern Hebrew, see Lazard 1994: 89-96.

An interesting case of double accusatives is found in Korean (O’Grady 1991):

(iv) \text{Kay +ka John+ul son +ul mwul+ess +ta}

\( \text{dog SUBJ(ective) ACC hand ACC bite PAST DECL(arative)} \)

\( \{\text{The dog bit John’s hand}\}\)

There can even be multiple double accusatives:

(v) \text{John+i mwune+lul tali+lul kkuthwpwpwun+ul cokum+ul}

\( \text{SUBJ octopus ACC leg ACC endpart ACC bit ACC} \)

\( \text{cut PAST DECL} \)

\( \{\text{John cut the octopus on the end part of the leg a bit}\}\)

However, only the first one in such a chain of accusatives is a genuine DirO (O’Grady 1991: 74-75, 77-78); all the others show special behavior—thus, they cannot be linearly permuted with the DirO, cf. (iv) vs. \text{*Kay+ka son+ul John+ul mwulessta}. All the accusative nouns that follow the DirO are—from the semantic stand—elaborations introducing additional details (\( \approx \{\text{The dog bit John, more precisely, on the leg}\}\}); syntactically, they seem to be quasi-coordinate conjuncts similar to what we see in English \text{He lives in the USA, in New York, on Manhattan, on 47th Street, in a luxurious building.}
Along with Criteria C1-C3, the researcher can use the following heuristic test:

**Coordinability with one SSynt-governor**

Within a coordinated phrase $D_1 \xrightarrow{\text{coord}} D_2$ which is subordinated as a whole to a SSynt-governor $G$, each element must in principle be able to bear the same SSyntRel $r$ to $G$:

- if, in language $L$, $G \rightarrow D_1 \xrightarrow{\text{coord}} D_2$,
- then it is possible that $G \rightarrow D_1$ and $G \rightarrow D_2$.

**Examples**

(i) French

- a. *Il craint d’être découvert et que l’administration le punisse*  
  lit. ‘He fears to be discovered and that the administration punish him’.

- b. *Il veut partir et aussi que je parte avec lui*  
  lit. ‘He wants to leave and also that I leave with him’.

- c. *Le rendement augmente successivement et par degré*  
  lit. ‘The yield rises successively and by degrees’.

In (i), the boldfaced phrases stand in the same SSyntRel to the MV.

Unfortunately, this test cannot be raised to the rank of a genuine formal criterion: coordination—at any rate, in many languages—is strongly semantically motivated; therefore, in some cases, syntactically different clause elements can be coordinated, while in some other cases identical clause elements cannot. Here are a few examples.

**Coordination of different clause elements** (cf. Grevisse 1993: 371)

(ii) French

- a. *Elle vieillissait dans l’aisance et entourée de considération*  
  ‘She was aging in well-being and surrounded with consideration’.

- b. *augmentation successive et par degré* lit. ‘[a] rise successive and by degree’.

- c. *Je me demande si et sous quelles conditions on pourra régler le problème*  
  lit. ‘I ask myself whether and under what conditions it will be possible to solve the problem’.

(iii) (Defrancq 1998: 118-119)

- a. *Je me demande qui travaille et où* ‘I ask myself who is-working and where’.

- b. *Je me demande qui décide et quoi* ‘I ask myself who decides and what’.

(iv) *couper les cheveux très court et de façon à ce qu’ils ne lui tombent pas sur le front*  
‘cut the hair very short and in such a way that it would not fall on his forehead’.

Other examples can be drawn from Russian:

(v)

- a. *Èto otkrytie bylo sdelano v Anglii i angličaninom*  
  lit. ‘This discovery was made in England and by an Englishman’.

- b. *Ja govorju s poètom i o poète* lit. ‘I talk with a poet and about a poet’.

- c. *Nikto, nikomu i nikogda ne pomogaet* lit. ‘Nobody, to nobody and never helps’.
Impossible coordination of identical clause elements

(vi) French
a. *Ils étaient cinq et très blonds lit. ‘They were five and very blond’.
b. *des plats français et exquis ‘French and exquisite dishes’
c. *Tout le monde préfère le repos maintenant et partir plus tard ‘Everybody prefers the rest now and to leave later’.

Consequently, the result of coordination test can serve as an argument in favor of or against a particular solution (especially in less obvious cases); but the test as such cannot be accepted as a rigorous criterion. Cf. the discussion of the role coordination plays in establishing grammatical relations in Sag et al. 1985 (I am neither an authority on this subject nor trying to portray myself as one; Pat was awarded the prize and very upset about it; and the like) and Hudson 1988a.

[5] (p. 42) A particular syntactic or communicative role may require a noun in a particular inflectional form, for instance, ‘DEF(inite)’ or ‘INDEF(inite)’; thus, in French, the bold-faced quasi-subject in the construction Il est venu 10 étudiants lit. ‘It has come 10 students’, may be only indefinite. D. Beck pointed out to me another interesting example: in Lushootseed, the negative predicate X\(\hat{\text{w}}\)i? ‘be not’ requires its actant to be in the subjunctive and have the hypothetical determiner \(k\hat{\text{i}}\):
\[
\begin{align*}
x\hat{\text{w}} & \quad \hat{\text{i}} & \quad \text{be not} & \quad \text{DET} \\
\hat{\text{g}} & \quad +\text{ad} & \quad +s & \quad +5\text{ed} \\
\end{align*}
\]


Yet, I think, in all such cases the Synt-governor directly requires a particular form of its dependent—rather than the presence of a particular dependent of its dependent.

[6] (p. 47, (26a)) In Turkish, a zero copula cannot be postulated in the present based on paradigmatic considerations, as we have done for Russian. The main reason is that the forms in (26a) contain the marker of predicativity that precludes the use of the copula: in the past tense of the indicative, both the expression with the marker of predicativity but without copula and the expression with the copula \(I(-\text{mek})\) ‘be’ but without a marker of predicativity are possible (the latter being typical of colloquial speech, while the former is current in the written language):
\[
\begin{align*}
\text{Çocuk} & +\text{tu} & +m & \quad \text{and} & \quad \text{Çocuk} & +\text{di} & +m \\
\text{kid} & \quad \text{PAST} & \quad 1\text{SG} & & \text{kid} & \quad \text{be} & \quad \text{PAST} & \quad 1\text{SG} \\
\end{align*}
\]

both meaning ‘I was a kid’. Note that the verb \(I(-\text{mek})\) has no present tense.

[7] (p. 51) Languages also differ with respect to the meanings they allow to be coordinated. Cf. numerous examples of coordinate phrases in Latin which should be translated with subordinate phrases in French (Tesnière 1959: 315-316):

Lat. orare atque obscurare ‘pray and-also implore’ ~ Fr. prier instamment ‘pray insistently’
Lat. interdicit atque imperat ‘He forbids and-also orders’ ~
Fr. Il défend expressément ‘He forbids expressly’
Lat. diuellere ac distrahere ‘separate and-also tear-apart’ ~
Fr. séparer violamment ‘separate violently’
Lat. doctrina et ratio ‘teaching and method’ ~
Fr. un enseignement méthodique ‘a methodical teaching’
Lat. studium et aures ‘favor and ears’ ~ Fr. une oreille favorable ‘a favorable ear’
However, the study of the relationship between coordination and subordination falls outside the scope of this paper.

Tesnière distinguishes Fr. *jonction*, which is coordination, from Fr. *connexion*, which is subordination. In Tesnière’s trees (= *stemmas*) conjoined elements are linked horizontally, showing in this way their equal nature. Each of them is then subordinated to the same Synt-governor. Among other examples of how the coordination is represented, one finds in Tesnière 1959: 345 the following complex structure with parallel Synt-*s* between the elements of coordinate phrases which themselves are not linked by Synt-*s*:

Les maîtres, les pédagogues et les éducateurs donnent, répètent et ressassent des avis, des conseils et des avertissements aux écoliers, aux collégiens et aux lycéens

‘Teachers, pedagogues and educators give, repeat and trot out opinions, pieces of advice and warnings to the school kids, college students and high-school students’.

The structure proposed by Tesnière is as follows (only a part of it is represented here):

---

**Groupings in the θ-Syntax**

Three remarks concerning relevant aspects of groupings seem in order.

- Dependence on the head of a coordinate string vs. dependence on the whole string.

These two cases of dependency are distinguished in the proposed SSyntS with groupings by including into a grouping all “personal” (= disjoint) dependents of its head. Thus, for

‘old {{fat men} and women}’,

where ‘old’ bears on the whole conjoined string (= joint reading), but ‘fat’ on ‘men’ only (= disjoint reading), we write

\[
\text{old } \{\text{fat} \leftarrow \text{men} \rightarrow \text{and} \rightarrow \text{women}\}.
\]

- Dependence of the head of a coordinate string vs. dependence of the whole string.

Here again, groupings allow for efficient disambiguation. Let us consider the following French example (Abeillé 1997: 19): Paul rêvait d’*acheter et collectionner des pistolets anglais* ‘P. was dreaming of buying and collecting English pistols’. The boldfaced conjoined string of infinitives depends on the verb RÊVER ‘dream’ as a whole—it has a shared DirO *pistolets anglais* ‘English pistols’; therefore, the preposition DE that introduces the infinitive need not to be repeated (= joint reading). However, if the two conjoined infinitives do not depend as a whole on RÊVER, the
preposition has to be repeated: Paul rêvait de voyager et de collectionner des pistolets anglais (P. was dreaming of traveling and collecting English pistols) (*Paul rêvait de voyager et collectionner des pistolets anglais) (= disjoint reading). This difference is readily expressed using groupings: for the joint reading, we write rêvait→acheter→et→collectionner→des pistolets anglais, and for the disjoint one,
rêvait→voyager→et→collectionner→des pistolets anglais.

• Multiple coordinate conjunctions depending on the same Governor.

This is another problematic case for pure dependency. Thus, consider the expressions (i) - (ii), where both conjunctions—AND and OR—syntactically depend on the same noun (MEN, in this case):

(i) \{men and women\} or children

vs.

(ii) \{men or children\} and women

These expressions clearly have different meanings; however, in terms of pure dependency, both have the same SSyntS:

\[ \text{MAN}_{pl} \]
\[ \text{AND} \]
\[ \text{WOMAN}_{pl} \]
\[ \text{OR} \]
\[ \text{CHIL}_{pl} \]

We thus see that a pure-dependency SSyntS is unable to preserve the intended meaning in cases of such a type. In order to distinguish (i) and (ii) in the SSyntS, we need groupings—and there is no other way to achieve this goal:

(i') \{men \( \rightarrow \text{and} \rightarrow \text{women} \} \quad \text{or} \rightarrow \text{children} \\

(ii') \{men \( \rightarrow \text{or} \rightarrow \text{children} \} \quad \text{and} \rightarrow \text{women} \\

References


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On the Status of Phrases in Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar: Illustration by a Fully Lexical Treatment of Extraction

Sylvain Kahane

1 Introduction

The main goal of this paper is a better understanding of the way linguistic units combine to make sentences and particularly of the role of phrases in this process. We will compare two families of approaches that have often been opposed (Hudson 1980, Mel’čuk 1988): dependency grammars (DG) and phrase structure grammars (PSG). DGs and PSGs differ by the status they give to phrases: DGs models syntax only in terms of combination of words and dependencies between words, while PSGs models syntax in terms of phrases, namely grouping of words. Nevertheless, most of contemporary PSGs—and among them the Head-driven PSG (HPSG; Pollard & Sag 1987, 1994; Sag & Wasow 1999) and all the grammars based on the X-bar Theory (Jackendoff 1977)—are very near to DGs: specifying a head in each phrase makes a PSG more or less equivalent to a DG (Lecerf 1961, Padučeva 1964, Gaifman 1965). However, some differences remain that we will explore. An important question arises immediately: what exactly is the role played by phrases in PSGs if PSGs are strongly equivalent to grammars that do not consider phrases?

To try to understand the status of phrases in PSG and particularly in HPSG (probably the most developed formalism for PSGs), we will focus on extraction—a phenomenon whose treatment in previous HPSG presentations (Pollard & Sag 1994, Sag 1997, Bouma et al. 2001) does not fit into the dependency grammar framework. In these HPSG accounts of extraction, wh-words are considered simply as markers and the essence of the construction is attributed to the phrase corresponding to the whole (relative or interrogative) clause. We do not deny that extraction phenomena involve particular constructions (in the sense of Goldberg 1995), but we do not think that these constructions justify using specific phrase descriptions (schemata, in HPSG terms) for each of them. It is still possible (and even simpler and more economical) to associate the description of the particularities of these constructions to their lexical markers, that is, not to use phrasal descriptions (and even not to consider phrases) and to consider more complex lexical descriptions. We will show how to implement in the HPSG formalism a dependency analysis of extraction, that is, an analysis that does not use phrasal descriptions but only combination of words. We will see that this analysis is descriptively equivalent to traditional analyses (and incorporates all refinements of such analyses) while appearing significantly more elegant.
It is important to emphasize that this study focuses on the syntax-semantics interface. Phrases are components of syntax proper, that is, the ordering of words and their grouping in phrases (see Gerdes & Kahane 2007 for a new characterization of phrases based on these ideas). Not considering phrasal descriptions in the syntax-semantics interface is not just a game. We defend a lexicalist approach, where the structure of a sentence (and more generally of a whole text) is completely determined by the combination of structural descriptions associated to the minimal morphological, syntactic and semantic units, that is, morphemes, lexemes and lexical units—as well as prosodic units, not considered here (Kahane 2007). In what follows, for simplicity’s sake, we will not distinguish morphemes and lexical units, calling both words.

Our purpose is not to oppose HPSG and DG but, on the contrary, to show what both formalisms or theoretical frameworks can bring to each other. Our description of extraction does not fit “pure” DG, since it involves simultaneous combination of more than two words. We will show how the HPSG formalism allows us to model such phenomena in an elegant way. As a result, the HPSG presented here can be seen as a possible formalization of an extended DG.

The rest of the paper is structured as follows. Section 2 focuses on the core of the grammar (combinations of words with their actants and modifiers) and shows how to adjust an HPSG in order to simulate a DG. Section 3 discusses the treatment of complementizers and relativizers and the interpretation of the SLASH feature in DG terms. Section 4 is the main part of the paper; we propose a new description of extraction based on a double identity of wh-words and involving only word combinations. Section 5 is devoted to the status of phrases in HPSG; it also shows how the SLASH feature is linked to the underlying phrase structure adopted by HPSG.

This paper is addressed to people working in HPSG as well as those working in other frameworks, dependency grammars or not. For this reason, the presentation is more or less autonomous and does not really presuppose familiarity with HPSG or with DGs.

2 HPSG as a dependency grammar

In dependency grammars (Hays 1964, Mel’čuk 1988, Hudson 1990), a sentence is built directly by combining the words of the sentence, without resorting to strings of words such as phrases. The main conjecture of DGs is that combining the words of a sentence can be reduced to combining the words pairwise. Moreover, DGs assume that the combination of words is asymmetric: one word is the governor and the other is the dependent. The governor is roughly what is defined as syntactic head in PSG; the difference is that DGs consider only relations between words: a governor governs words, while a head heads a phrase. But if we take two words that form a phrase, the word that is the head of the phrase is the word that governs the other word. For instance, it is equivalent to say that apples is the head of the phrase big apples and that apples governs big in big apples.

In many respects, HPSG can be envisaged as a DG. Given that in most cases the description of a phrase is reduced to the description of its head, the combination of the
head of a phrase with a subphrase can be seen as the combination of two words: the head of the phrase and the head of the subphrase.

In HPSG, linguistic signs such as words are represented by feature structures. In this paper, focusing on the syntax-semantics interface, we do not mention features concerning phonology or word order. In order to be more understandable for HPSG users, we keep usual HPSG notations whenever possible.

Section 2.1 discusses the interpretation of HPSG word descriptions in terms of DGs; Section 2.2 links phrase descriptions and combination of words in a DG.

2.1 Word descriptions

The structural description of a word in a sentence is a typed-feature structure. All words are of type word, which is a subtype of the type grammatical-structure (abbreviated to gram-struc). The relation ‘isa’ is the relation of inheritance on types: for instance, a feature structure of type word inherits all the descriptions of its supertypes and is then the unification of the description attached to the type word and the descriptions of its supertypes, that is, gram-struc and feature-struc, see (2).

(1) gram-struc : [HEAD cat VAL bag(cat) DEP bag(cat)] isa feature-struc

(2) word : [VAL /ebag DEP ebag] isa gram-struc

(3) word = [HEAD cat VAL /ebag DEP ebag]

The value of the HEAD feature of word is the description of the word itself; this description is a feature structure of type cat, described in (4).

The VAL(ence) feature contains the valence (= subcategorization frame, or government pattern) of the word, i.e., a set of slots to be filled by the syntactic actants of the word.

Terminological remark: We use the term actant proposed by Tesnière (1959) rather than the term complement. In particular, actants include the subject. Contrary to Chomskyan tradition (partially adopted by HPSG), we do not particularly distinguish the subject from other actants. Of course the subject is the most salient actant and it can have contrastive properties that oppose it to other actants. But we believe that these properties do not justify a special status for the subject any more than the properties of the direct object justify a special status for it among complements. The case of infinitives

---

1 As said previously, we will not discuss a very important question concerning the units of the syntax-semantics interface. Clearly, words are not these units. Words are the units of syntax proper, while the units of the syntax-semantics interface are lexical and grammatical units (Kahane 2007), which can correspond to a group of words (idioms), as well as to a part of a word (went = GO ⊕ past).
is special: they do not realize their subject as their own syntactic actant but it can be realized somewhere else (for instance, as the subject of a raising verb). Therefore, the “subject” of an infinitive can be put in a special feature (we can call it, e.g., SUBJ or RAISING) whose behavior resembles that of SLASH rather than that of VAL. The same feature will be used for adjectives due to the parallelism between the constructions *Peter seems to sleep* and *Peter seems asleep*.

The value of VAL is a bag of feature structures of type cat(egory). A bag is a set whose elements can be repeated, that is, a list whose elements are not ordered. (HPSG uses lists traditionally. As we do not need order on the values of VAL and DEP, we think it is simpler to consider them as bags, but this is not a serious point.) The empty bag is noted ebag. The default value of VAL is empty. A default value is preceded by the symbol “/”. It can be changed by a further assignment of the value.

The DEP(endence) feature of a word contains the bag of its dependents. The DEP of a word is empty as long as this word has not combined with other words. When it combines with one of its actants, this actant fills an actant slot, that is, unifies with an element of VAL, which is then removed from VAL and put in DEP (see 2.2).

A cat is described as follows:

\[
\text{cat} : \begin{array}{c}
\text{FCT} \\
\text{POS} \\
\text{INFL} \\
\text{CONT}
\end{array} \begin{array}{c}
\text{syntrel} \\
\text{pos} \\
\ldots \\
\text{cont}
\end{array}
\]

The feature FCT indicates the syntactic function of the word. Its value is a subtype of the subtype syntrel: root, subj, dobj, iobj, obl, mod, etc.

The feature POS indicates the part of speech of the word. Its value is a subtype of the atomic type pos: verb-pos, noun-pos, adj-pos, adv-pos, etc.

The feature INFL contains information about the inflection of the word, such as mood and tense for verbs or number for nouns. This topic is not in the focus of this paper, and INFL will be mentioned only when necessary.

The feature CONT specifies the semantic content of the word. For the time being we just mention that CONT contains the list of the word’s semantic arguments as the value of the attribute ARGS:

\[
\text{cont} : \begin{array}{c}
\text{ARGS}
\end{array} \begin{array}{c}
\text{list(cont)}
\end{array}
\]

---

2 Bouma et al. 2001 introduces a feature DEPS (= dependents) for the dependents of a word. Contrary to their feature, our DEP feature is only filled when an element is removed from VAL and it does not contain slashed elements. Moreover, we prefer to use the term dependence (rather than dependents), which is more parallel to valence.

3 We make a distinction between syntactic functions and syntactic relations, depending on whether we are speaking about the syntactic function of a word (with respect to its governor) or the syntactic relation between two words. The edges of a dependency tree are labeled by syntactic relations.

4 In fact, we put in CONT only the semantic content of the radical. The semantic content brought by the inflection is put in INFL.
Note that we treat CONT as a head feature (see (12), p. 117), that is, the CONT value of a phrase is equal to the CONT value of its head word. But through ARGS, the CONT value of all words in a sentence points at other CONT values, giving us a graph, which is always connected. This graph is the semantic structure of sentences considered by Meaning-Text Theory (Zolkovskij & Mel’čuk 1967, Mel’čuk 1988); for semantic structures, see Mel’čuk in this volume, p. 5ff. In the HPSG tradition, the CONT value of a phrase is the set of the CONT values of its daughters. Nothing requires us to pass up and accumulate all the CONT values, just as the percolation of syntactic information is constrained by the Locality Principle (see Section 3.4).

We propose now some subtypes of the type word. Words are subdivided into act(ant) for noun and verb and modfr (= modifier) for adj(ective) and adv(erb). Modifiers are generally adjoined to their governor, which is their first semantic argument. They must contain in their description a description of their governor, which is the value of MOD. We also instantiate the feature MOD of actants by the atomic type none that cannot unify with a non-empty value. This ensures that actants cannot be used to modify another word (see mod-val-computation in Subsection 2.2).

(6) a. act : [HEAD [MOD none]] isa word
   b. noun : [HEAD [POS noun-pos]] isa act
   c. verb : [HEAD [POS verb-pos]] isa act
   d. transf-verb : [HEAD [CONT [ARGS \{∅ \}]] [FCT subj [POS noun-pos]] [FCT dobj [POS noun-pos]] [CONT ∅]] isa verb

(7) a. modfr : [HEAD [FCT mod] [CONT [ARGS \{∅ \}]]] isa word
   b. adj : [HEAD [POS adj-pos] [MOD [POS noun-pos]]] isa modfr
   c. adv : [HEAD [POS adv-pos] [MOD [POS verb-pos]]] isa modfr

---

5 Words of type verb are necessarily finite verbs. Our treatment of non-finite verbs will be explained in Section 3.1.
6 Warning: it is not the value of HEAD but the value of MOD that is the head of the potential phrase containing the modifiers.
7 We leave the question of determiners aside. They could be put in the VAL or INFL features of the noun, or in a special feature—see the SPR feature of Sag & Wasow (1999).
The word descriptions can be seen as subtrees of the dependency tree. These subtrees can be represented as proposed in Nasr 1995; see also Kahane 2001. In such a representation, see (8), a black node corresponds to the current node (= the HEAD value), while a white node corresponds to a requirement, either a syntactic actant (= an element of VAL value) or the governor (= the MOD value). In our diagrams we use the labels N, V, Adv and Adj for feature structures cat with [POS noun-pos], [POS verb-pos], etc.

(8) a. Dependency interpretation of transf-verb

![Diagram of transf-verb]

b. Dependency interpretation of adj

![Diagram of adj]

2.2 Combination of words

In this subsection we will see how word descriptions can be combined to produce a sentence and its representation (namely, its syntactic dependency tree). The exposition will be exemplified with sentence (9a) and its dependency tree (9b).

(9) a. Peter often eats red beans.

b. Dependency tree of (9a)

![Dependency tree of Peter often eats red beans]

The words of sentence (9a) have the following (partial) descriptions:

(10) a. eats : [HEAD [CONT eat-red]] isa transf-verb

b. Peter : [HEAD [CONT Peter-red]] isa noun

c. beans : [HEAD [CONT bean-red]] isa noun

d. red : [HEAD [CONT red-red]] isa adj

e. often : [HEAD [CONT often-red]] isa adv
HPSG comes from the phrase structure grammar tradition, which in turns comes from the Immediate Constituent Analysis (Bloomfield 1933). It does not combine words directly, but sets them into phrases. A new phrase is obtained by combination of two subphrases (or daughters) called the HEAD-DAUGHTER (= HDTR) and the NON-HEAD-DAUGHTER (= NHDTR). Phrases are subtypes of gram-struc like words. Compared to words, phrases have two additional features, one for each daughter:

\[
\text{(11) phrase : } \begin{bmatrix} \text{HDTR} & \text{gram-struc} \\ \text{NHDTR} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{gram-struc} \\ \text{VAL} \text{ ebag} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \text{ isa gram-struc}
\]

The core of a phrase description, as that of a word description, is given in the HEAD feature. HPSG is a Head-driven PSG, due to the fact that, in most cases, the description of a phrase comes directly from the description of its HEAD-DTR.\(^8\)

\[
\text{(12) Head Computation (Head Feature Principle)}
\]

\[
\text{hd-phrase : } \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \end{bmatrix} \text{ isa phrase}
\]

Given that the description of a phrase comes only from its head word, a phrase can be identified with its head word. To put it differently, the combination of two phrases can be interpreted as the combination of the two head words: inside the resulting phrase, one of these two head words becomes the HEAD-DAUGHTER (that is, the governor) and the other one the NON-HEAD-DAUGHTER (that is, the dependent). Let’s emphasize that only the HEAD values of a phrase and of its head word are identical; the other values (VAL and DEP) change when the word takes new dependents. In other terms, what is called a phrase in HPSG is the description of a word with the indication of the dependents it has combined with. In dependency terms, HPSG phrases are not real linguistic entities, but rather computational objects used to compute the dependency tree and to ensure that each word is saturated (that is, its whole valence is saturated).

Note that in HPSG it is essential that the NHDTR has an empty VALENCE when it combines with the HDTR—see (11). In dependency terms, this means that the dependency tree is built bottom up: a word can combine with its governor only if it has finished combining with its dependents.

In order to be more understandable for HPSG users we have kept the usual HPSG notations. In a more dependency style, we would prefer to use NODE instead of HEAD, GOVERNOR instead of HEAD-DAUGHTER and DEPENDENT instead of NON-HEAD-DAUGHTER. But there is another reason to maintain the usual HPSG notations: as said previously, HEAD does not correspond to the description of a single node but rather of a larger part of the dependency tree which generally contains only one node but can contain two or three nodes. This is the case for modifiers, which contain,

---

\(^8\) A boxed number (such as \(\square\)) indicates that two features share the same value. If these two features receive descriptions separately, these descriptions must be unified to give their common value. If the descriptions cannot be unified, the analysis fails.
in their HEAD value, the feature MOD describing their (potential) governor. We will see another case with complementizers in Section 3.

There are two major types of phrase structures (or combinations of words) according to whether the NHDTR (= dependent) is an actant or a modifier. These two types differ in the computation of the VALENCE: an actant NHDTR must be removed from the valence of the HDTR, while a modifier does not change its valence. We call them \textit{hd-act-phrase} and \textit{hd-mod-phrase}.

\begin{equation}
(13) \textbf{Valence Computation}
\end{equation}

\begin{enumerate}
\item \textit{hd-act-phrase}:
\begin{align*}
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{VAL} & \emptyset \\
\text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{VAL} & \emptyset \\
\text{NHDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \emptyset \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\text{isa} \textit{hd-phrase}
\end{enumerate}

\begin{enumerate}
\item \textit{hd-mod-phrase}:
\begin{align*}
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{VAL} & \emptyset \\
\text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \emptyset \\
\text{VAL} \emptyset \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\text{isa} \textit{hd-phrase}
\end{enumerate}

Notice that \textit{hd-mod-phrase} cannot be used with a nominal or verbal NHDTR, because it has an empty MOD value that cannot unify with the HEAD value of HDTR. On the contrary, an adjective or an adverb can express an actant, like the adjective \textit{French} in \textit{the French production} or the adverb \textit{here} in \textit{Peter came here}.

To conclude, we show the computation of the dependency tree with the DEP feature. The computation is quite easy: the NHDTR (= the dependent) must be added to the DEP bag of the HDTR (= the governor). We introduce the following additional constraint to \textit{hd-phrase}.

\begin{equation}
(14) \textbf{Dependency Computation}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\text{hd-phrase} \Rightarrow 
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{DEP} & \emptyset \oplus \emptyset \\
\text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{DEP} \emptyset \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}
\end{equation}

\begin{equation}
\text{NHDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} \emptyset \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{equation}

The feature FCT of each element of DEP is instantiated either directly in the description of the word when it is a modifier, or via the valence of its governor when it is an actant. This is due to the fact that an actant necessarily unifies with an element of the valence of its governor—see (13a).

---

\(^9\) The symbol \(\oplus\) designates the union of bags. It is preferred to the \(\cup\) symbol, which could be confused with unification. Union of bags differs from set union by the fact that all the occurrences of an element are counted: \(\{1,2\} \oplus \{1,3\} = \{1,1,2,3\}\). Note that in (13), \(\emptyset\) refers to a bag of \textit{cat} and \[\emptyset\] to a \textit{cat}, due to the definition of VAL and HEAD features—see (1).
Finally, after the unification of all the inherited constraints, we obtain for our two types of phrases the following structures:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(15) a. } \text{hd-act-phrase} & = \\
\text{HDTR} & = \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} [\text{HDTR}] \\
\text{VAL} [\text{VAL}] \\
\text{DEP} [\text{DEP}] \\
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{NHDTR} & = \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} [\text{NHDTR}] [\text{VAL}] \\
\text{VAL} [\text{ebag}] \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(15) b. } \text{hd-mod-phrase} & = \\
\text{HDTR} & = \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} [\text{HDTR}] \\
\text{VAL} [\text{VAL}] \\
\text{DEP} [\text{DEP}] \\
\end{bmatrix} \\
\text{NHDTR} & = \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} [\text{NHDTR}] [\text{MOD}] \\
\text{VAL} [\text{ebag}] \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\]

These two “phrases” can be interpreted in terms of combinations of words—where the word descriptions are represented as in (16):

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(16) a. Dependency interpretation of hd-act-phrase (15a)} & \\
\text{HDTR} & + \text{NHDTR} \\
\text{VAL} & \rightarrow \text{DEP}
\end{align*}
\]

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{(16) b. Dependency interpretation of hd-mod-phrase (15b)} & \\
\text{HDTR} & + \text{NHDTR} \\
\text{VAL} & \rightarrow \text{DEP}
\end{align*}
\]

As we can see, both ways of combining are based on the unification of a white node of one structure with a black node of the other. In fact, white and black colors of a node
correspond to VALENCE and DEPENDENCE. From this point of view, the potential governor (the MOD value) might be included in the valence. 10 Both word combination operations \textit{hd-act-phrase} and \textit{hd-mod-phrase} can be subsumed under a single word combination operation, illustrated in (17): a white node can be identified with a black node, which results in a black node.

\begin{equation}
(17) \textbf{Word Combination Operation}
\end{equation}

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>o +</th>
<th>•</th>
<th>•</th>
<th>→</th>
<th>•</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

A dependency grammar based on the above principles has been proposed by Nasr (1995) and extended by Kahane (2001). Such a grammar is inspired by Tree Adjoining Grammars (TAG; Joshi 1987), where each word is associated with an elementary structure, the greater structure being obtained by simple combinations of these elementary structures. But unlike TAG, which uses two different operations of combinations—substitution and adjoining, the proposed dependency grammar uses a single operation.

A unified treatment of actants and modifiers, comparable to our single operation (17), has been proposed by van Noord & Bouma (1994) (and improved in Bouma \textit{et al.} 2001). The idea is to add all the modifiers of a word in its VAL bag. This can be done by the recursive application of the following lexical rule: 11

\begin{equation}
(18) \textbf{Modifier Introduction Lexical Rule}
\end{equation}

\[
\text{word} \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \text{VAL} & \text{MOD} \end{bmatrix} \rightarrow \text{word} \begin{bmatrix} \text{VAL} \oplus \{ \text{MOD} \} \end{bmatrix}
\]

Now, the two ways of the VALENCE computation of (13) are subsumed under only \textit{hd-act-phrase} (13a). In case of head-modifier combination, an element \text{[MOD [ ... ]]} is removed from the VAL of the HDTR.

It is time for an example. In (19), we give the analysis of sentence (9a) \textit{Peter often eats red beans}. In this figure, an HDTR is placed vertically under its mother phrase. We use the abbreviation N for the feature structure \text{[HEAD [POS noun-pos]]} (and similarly V, Adj and Adv).

\begin{itemize}
\item \text{10} In the dependency tradition it is usual to include the governor in the valence. Mel’čuk (1988: 112, 145) distinguishes the active valence, that is, the specification of the potential dependents, from the passive valence, that is, the specification of the potential governor.
\item \text{11} Bouma \textit{et al.} 2001 introduces a special feature for the extended valence, which they call DEPS. Moreover, they propose a way to compute various possible values of DEPS without using lexical rules. Although their proposal is more elegant, it remains that a given word can have numerous elementary structures, which is not convenient either from a cognitive or computational point of view. Our dependency grammar avoids this problem.
\end{itemize}
(19) **Analysis of sentence (9a)**

The fact that the root of a sentence must be a finite verb is ensured by imposing the condition that a sentence must be a saturated phrase of subtype *sentence*:

(20) a. \( \text{sentence} : \text{HEAD} \left[ \begin{array}{c} \text{FCT root} \\ \text{POS verb-pos} \end{array} \right] \text{isa phrase} \)

b. *hd-act-sentence* isa *hd-act-phrase + sentence*

c. *hd-mod-sentence* isa *hd-mod-phrase + sentence*

Note that the order in which a word combines with its various dependents does not matter. For instance, in our example, the verb *eats* combines with the adverbial *often*, its subject *Peter* and then its direct object (*red* *beans*). In Chomskyan tradition, the subject is the last dependent of the verb to combine with it. This is justified by internal considerations of the theory relative to binding. Although traditional HPSGs continue to ensure that the subject is the last dependent to combine with the verb (putting it in a specific feature, SUBJ or SPR, that must be discharged after the rest of the valence), nothing in HPSG requires this, since binding is based on an obliqueness order of the syntactic relations (Pollard & Sag 1994: 248).\(^{12}\)

\(^{12}\) More exactly, Pollard & Sag (1994) do not use syntactic relations explicitly, but order the actants in **VALENCE** (called there the **SUBCAT** list) and use this order as obliqueness order.
Another reason to order the combination of a verb with its dependents is to avoid spurious ambiguities. Indeed, our grammar allows three phrase structures for the sentence (9a):

(21) a. ((Peter (often eats)) (red beans))
    b. (Peter ((often eats) (red beans)))
    c. (Peter (often (eats (red beans))))

But from the viewpoint of dependency grammar this does not matter because these three phrase structures give us the same dependency tree—presented in (9b).  

We will now see how the analysis (19) can be interpreted in terms of dependency grammar. The computation of the dependency tree comes from the DEP values of the maximal projection of each word. The maximal projection of a word is the highest phrase it heads. The computation of the dependency tree can be represented by using the representation we have proposed for word descriptions in (8) and for phrase descriptions in (16). The diagram in (22)—next page—is a copy of (19) where each feature structure is replaced with its representation in terms of dependency. The HPSG analysis in (19) now appears as a particular computation of the dependency tree, namely a bottom-up computation. The diagram in (22) can be read in this way: for instance, at the bottom of the figure we see the structures associated to *often* and *eats*, and just above the result of the combination of these two structures with the *hd-mod-phrase* schema. In these two lexical structures, the features $\Box$ have different values, but after the combination these two features share the same value, which is the unification of the two previous values.

3 Complementizers, relativizers and other transferers

Tesnière (1959), who is above all known to be the father of modern dependency theory, proposes an original classification of words that we will adopt here. Tesnière postulated that there are only four main parts of speech—verb, noun, adjective and adverb—with the following connections:

- verb actants are nouns;
- verb modifiers are adverbs;
- noun dependents (actants or modifiers) are adjectives;
- adjective and adverb dependents are adverbs.

---

13 A third reason to order the combination of a verb with its dependents concerns coordination. The argument is that the subject can be easily factorized, like in *Peter eats red beans and drinks water*. But this argument is not reliable, because it is also possible to factorize the direct object: *Peter likes, and Bill hates, red beans*. Moreover, the contrast between subject and object factorizations can be captured in a different way.
When a word of a part of speech other than adjective needs to modify a noun, it must be “transferred” into an adjective, that is, it must be introduced in the syntactic structure by a special word which masks it and makes it appear as an adjective for its governor. The transfer of nouns (into adjectives and adverbs) is carried out by prepositions.\textsuperscript{14}

In Section 3.1, we will see how Tesnière’s transfer can be formulated in HPSG. Section 3.2 will study relativizers and introduce the SLASH feature and the constraints on the computation of this feature. Section 3.3 proposes a simple solution of the that-trace effect in English and the qui-que alternation in French. Section 3.4 deals with the representation of transferers and the Locality Principle.

\textsuperscript{14} Tesnière’s terms for transfer and transferer are Fr. translation and translatif (in French, translation only means a translatory movement). The theory of transfer is implicit in the theory of the three ranks of Jespersen (1924).
3.1 Transferers

Transferers receive the common POS $t(\text{transfere})r$-pos. Alongside POS, we will introduce a new feature UPPOS (up part of speech) oriented upwards, that is, towards the governor. Plain words—verbs, nouns, adjectives and adverbs—have the same value for both POS and UPPOS:

(23) \textit{plain-word} : \begin{align*}
\text{HEAD} & \left[ \text{UPPOS} \begin{array}{c}
\text{POSS}\end{array} \right] \\
\text{POS} & \begin{array}{c}
\text{POSS}\end{array}
\end{align*}
is \textit{word}

The UPPOS of a transferer is the part of speech into which it transfers its actant: its value is of type \textit{main-pos}, which is a supertype for \textit{noun-pos}, \textit{verb-pos}, \textit{adj-pos} and \textit{adv-pos}. The actant of a transferer will be called the \textit{transferee}.

(24) \textit{transferer} : \begin{align*}
\text{HEAD} & \left[ \text{UPPOS} \begin{array}{c}
\text{main-pos} \\
\text{tr-pos}\end{array} \right] \\
\text{POS} & \begin{array}{c}
\text{tr-pos}\end{array}
\end{align*}
is \textit{word}

For instance, complementizers such as \textit{that}, \textit{if} or \textit{whether} are transferers of verb into noun:

(25) a. \textit{verb-transferer} : \begin{align*}
\text{VAL} & \left[ \text{UPPOS} \begin{array}{c}
\text{verb-pos}\end{array} \right]
\end{align*}
is \textit{transferer}

b. \textit{complementizer} : \begin{align*}
\text{HEAD} & \left[ \text{UPPOS} \begin{array}{c}
\text{noun-pos}\end{array} \right] \\
\text{POS} & \begin{array}{c}
\text{noun-pos}\end{array}
\end{align*}
is \textit{verb-transferer}

From a theoretical point of view, our feature UPPOS attributes a common property to a class of words, predicting that they are a natural class—that is, they should behave similarly in some respects. For instance, the subject of the verb \textit{annoy} can be a noun or a \textit{that}-clause, that is, a UPPOS \textit{noun-pos} (\textit{Peter’s departure} $<=$ \textit{That Peter leaves} > \textit{annoys me}).

(26) \textit{annoy} : \begin{align*}
\text{VAL} & \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{FCT subj} \\
\text{UPPOS noun-pos}\end{array} \right] \\
\text{FCT} & \begin{array}{c}
\text{dobj} \\
\text{UPPOS noun-pos}\end{array}
\end{align*}
is \textit{verb}

Note that among verbs only finite verbs are \textit{plain-word} and have UPPOS \textit{verb-pos}: infinitives and gerunds are UPPOS \textit{noun-pos} and participles are UPPOS \textit{adj-pos}, because they respectively alternate with nouns (27a-b) and adjectives (27c-e) and never with finite verbs.$^{15}$

---

$^{15}$ As proposed by Tesnière, the copula \textit{to be} in (27e) should be not considered as a plain word, but rather as a transferer of adjective into verb.
The noun-transferers are the prepositions. Prepositions can also take infinitives and gerunds as dependents. This is not surprising because these are verbs transferred into nouns.

3.2 Relativizers

Relativizers are transferers of verbs into adjectives. In other words, a relativizer introduces a clause that can modify a noun, that is, a relative clause:

(28) a. the guy that came yesterday
    b. the guy (that) you know
    c. the guy (that) you are talking to

Relativizers are obviously more complicated than complementizers because the noun modified by a relative clause needs to play a semantic role in this clause: it shares its semantic content with a slashed noun. The usual assumption is that the antecedent noun is coindexed with the gap (= the slashed noun); however, we do not think that indices are useful here. The use of indices comes from the Chomskyan tradition, where the gap is filled by a trace and traces are considered as some sort of pronouns without phonological realization. Although, following Sag & Fodor 1994, traces have been abandoned in HPSG’s analyses of extraction, coindexation has survived. Here we defend a more radical analysis, coming from the Meaning-Text framework (Žolkovskij & Mel’čuk 1967, Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999): the antecedent noun is the semantic argument of the governor of the gap. Formally, it means that the CONT values of the antecedent noun and the slashed noun are identical. So relativizers have the following description, where the BIND value must be discharged with a slashed element as explained below.\(^\text{16}\)

\[(29) \text{relativizer} : \begin{cases} \text{HEAD} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{UPPOS adj-pos} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{FCT} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{mod} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{MOD} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{N : [ ]} \end{bmatrix} \\ \text{BIND} & \begin{bmatrix} \text{N : [ ]} \end{bmatrix} \end{cases} \text{isa verb-transferer} \]

Slashed elements belong to the set of potential syntactic dependents of a word that are not realized as dependents of this word. For this reason, they are put outside of the VALENCE in a special bag called SLASH. The fact that VAL \(\oplus\) SLASH is equal to the bag of potential dependents can be expressed by an equation as in Bouma et al. 2001 or ensured by a lexical rule as traditionally done and proposed here. The lexical rule (30) states that each word description with a non-empty VAL can give a new word description where one of the elements of VAL has been moved into the special feature SLASH,

\(^{16}\) We use the abbreviated notation \(\text{N : [ ]}\) for the feature structure \(\begin{bmatrix} \text{POS noun-pos} \end{bmatrix}\).
which is discharged by a different process than the valence computation in (13). This lexical rule can be applied recursively.

(30) Slash Introduction Lexical Rule

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{word} & \\
\text{VAL} & \oplus \{ \text{E} \} & \rightarrow & \\
\text{SLASH} & \rightarrow & \text{word} & \\
\text{VAL} & \oplus \{ \text{E} \} & \rightarrow & \\
\text{SLASH} & \oplus \{ \text{E} \}
\end{align*}
\]

In (30), contrary to (15a), an element is removed from VAL without being added to DEP. In fact, a slashed element never appears in the DEP bag of its syntactic governor. We consider that the link between a slashed element and its governor, which we call a quasi-dependency, is not a true syntactic dependency (Kahane 2001). This is justified by two reasons. First, unlike true dependencies, quasi-dependencies do not obey the well-formedness rules of the dependency tree since they can form cycles (see (41), p. 131). Second, unlike true dependencies, quasi-dependencies do not intervene in the word order rules due to the fact that a slashed element is not realized in the projection of its governor. In our figures, a quasi-dependency is represented by a dashed arrow. Figure (31) proposes a dependency representation of the Slash Introduction Lexical Rule.

(31) Dependency interpretation of the lexical rule (30)

We will now study some constraints on extraction. Two types of constraints must be considered (a third type concerns only the wh-extraction and the pied-piping): the elements put into SLASH and the path followed by a slashed element.

Constraints on slashed elements. Not all elements of VALENCE can be slashed. For instance, in French, in contrast to English, the transferee of a preposition can never be slashed:

(32) *le type que tu parles à
the guy that you are-talking to

Therefore, we introduce a subtype gaprel of syntrel such that only a syntactic relation that is a subtype of gaprel allows for its dependent node to be slashed. For instance,

---

17 Combined with the Modifier Introduction Lexical Rule (18), the Slash Introduction Lexical Rule allows for modifiers to be slashed and extraction of modifiers to be handled. In the absence of the Modifier Introduction Lexical Rule, a second Slash Introduction Lexical Rule would be necessary.
the relation *transfer*, between a transferer and its transferee, will be a subtype of *gaprel* in English but not in French. This constraint on the type of slashed elements is captured by allowing the Slash Introduction Lexical Rule (30) to apply only to an element whose syntactic function is a subtype of *gaprel*. Note that we do not introduce a particular treatment for subjects and, contrary to Pollard & Sag (1994), we consider that subjects can be slashed and that the relation *subj* is a subtype of *gaprel*. We will return to subject extraction in the next subsection.

**Constraints on the path of a slashed element.** The SLASH value of a phrase is the union of the SLASH values of its daughters. Such a feature, which gathers the values of both daughters, is called a *foot feature* and contrasts with head features, such as HEAD, which only takes the value of the head daughter. If the HDTR has a non-empty BIND value and this value can be unified with an element of the SLASH value of the NHDTR, the BIND value is unloaded from the SLASH. Both properties are expressed by the following constraint:

(33) **Slash Computation**

\[
\text{phrase} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix}
\text{SLASH} & 1 \oplus 2 \\
\text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
\text{SLASH} & 1 \\
\text{BIND} & 2 \\
\text{NHDTR} & \text{SLASH} & 2 \oplus 3 \\
\end{bmatrix}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Nevertheless, there are well-known constraints on the path a slashed element can follow. These constraints have been first brought to the fore by Ross (1967) in terms of islands, that is, in terms of types of phrases that do not allow for a slashed element to escape.18 Here, following Kaplan & Zaenen’s (1989) LFG description of extraction, we prefer to use syntactic relations to control the path of slashed elements. For this, we define a subtype *liftrel* of *syntrel* such that only a syntactic relation that is a subtype of *liftrel* allows for a slashed element to lift (see Hudson 1990 for a DG description of extraction in terms of lifting, called there raising, and Kahane et al. 1998 for a polynomial processing). To put it differently, a word which does not have a syntactic function of type *liftrel* cannot allow for a slashed element to lift and hence must have an empty SLASH bag. This gives us the following constraint on *gram-struc* (where *nebag* is a supertype for all non empty bags):

(34) **Island Constraint**

\[
\begin{bmatrix}
\text{gram-struc} & \text{SLASH} & \text{nebag} \\
\end{bmatrix} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix}
\text{HEAD} & \text{FCT} \text{ liftrel} \\
\end{bmatrix}
\]

For instance, the subject island in (35a) is accounted for by the fact that the syntactic relation *subj* is not a subtype of *liftrel* (and therefore the slashed element cannot lift from the *that*-clause to the verb *annoys*). The possibility of extraction in the impersonal construction (35b) comes from the fact that here the *that*-clause is no longer subject (the

---

18 Ross’ description was formulated of course in terms of transformations and not in terms of slashed elements, but the ideas remain the same.
subject is the dummy it) but has another syntactic function we call quasi-subject and quasi-subject is a subtype of liftrel.

(35) a. *Who does that Peter loves annoy you? (⇐ That Peter loves her annoys you)
b. Who does it annoy you that Peter loves?

Moreover, lexical constraints can be easily added to the constraint (34): a particular lexical unit can require one of its actants to have an empty SLASH.

3.3 That-trace effect and French qui-que alternation

Following our hypothesis that a finite verb cannot be an actant of a verb without being transferred into a noun, we consider that, in that-less sentential clauses and in that-less relative clauses (as in (28)), there is a verb-transferer without phonological realization we call the null transferer.19 We will show how to encode the difference of behavior between that and the null transferer (thus solving the problem of the that-trace effect) and how to describe the qui-que alternation in French in a similar way.

As we will see, verb-transferers are sensitive to whether the subject of the verb they transfer is slashed. For this reason, we introduce on finite verbs a feature SUBJ that takes the value ‘+’ when the subject is in VAL and the value ‘−’ when it is in SLASH (the value must be assigned when applying the lexical rule (30) transferring VAL elements into SLASH).20

We can now easily encode the contrast between that and the null verb-transferer. First, the null complementizer cannot be used as subject (*Peter leaves annoys me vs. That Peter leaves annoys me). Second, the null relativizer does not allow for the subject of the verb it transfers to be slashed (*The man lives here is a student vs. The man that lives here is a student). Third, like the null relativizer, the that-complementizer does not allow for the subject of the verb it transfers to be slashed (*Who did Peter claim that left? vs. Who did Peter claim left?). This last phenomenon is known as that-trace effect.21 Note that the null relativizer is possible with a subject extraction as long as it is not the subject of the verb it transfers (The man Peter claims left is a student). The following constraints are sufficient to get the right properties:

---

19 Our analysis contrasts with earlier HPSG analyses, which tend to consider that a verb can subcategorize a clause and that that can be present but without major effect (see, for instance, Sag & Wasow 1999: 259).

20 Instead of introducing a special feature to control whether or not the subject is slashed, Bouma et al. 2001, following a recent trend in HPSG, proposes to retain a copy of the argument structure of a word (it is the value of ARG-ST) in its HEAD description. In such a case, it is possible to verify whether the subject (the first element of the list ARG-ST) is slashed or not—slashed elements being subtypes of a special type (gap-ss). Nevertheless, preserving the argument structure in the HEAD description of a word is a clear violation of the Locality Principle (see Section 3.4). It is preferable to single out the information on non-head daughters that is useful rather than to allow for the whole of the information on the dependence to be accessible (especially since, by recursivity, not only the dependence of a word but its whole projection is accessible).

21 See Pollard & Sag 1994: 171ff for a more sophisticated analysis, where subjects are never slashed, and for a comparison with the GB treatment.
(36) a. that-complementizer : \( \text{VAL} \{ [\text{SUBJ }+] \} \) isa complementizer

b. null-complementizer : \( \text{FCT} \sim \text{subj} \) isa complementizer

c. that-relativizer isa relativizer

d. null-relativizer : \( \text{VAL} \{ [\text{SUBJ }+] \} \) isa relativizer

French also has a verb-transferer which can be both a complementizer and a relativizer; this is a \( \text{qu} \)-word.\(^{22}\) It has two alternating forms: \( \text{qui} \) and \( \text{que} \). The traditional analysis says that \( \text{qui} \) is the subject relativizer in (37a), \( \text{que} \) is the object relativizer in (37b), and only \( \text{que} \) is a complementizer, as in (37c). But this analysis fails in case of subject extraction in a subordinated clause as in (37d), where the relativizer is \( \text{que} \) and the complementizer is \( \text{qui} \).

(37) a. le type qui vient
   ‘the guy that comes’

b. le type que tu regardes
   ‘the guy that you are watching’

c. Tu penses que Pierre vient.
   ‘You think that Peter comes’

d. le type que tu penses qui vient
   ‘the guy that you think (that) comes’

The solution (adapted from Moreau 1971) is very simple.\(^{23}\) The words \( \text{qui} \) and \( \text{que} \) are two forms of the same verb-transferer, and this transferer has the marked form \( \text{qui} \) when the verb it transfers has a slashed subject and the non-marked form \( \text{que} \) otherwise:

(38) a. qui-form-constraint : \( \text{VAL} \{ [\text{SUBJ }+] \} \)

b. que-form-constraint : \( \text{VAL} \{ [\text{SUBJ }+] \} \)

This gives us the right forms of the transferer. In (37a), the relativizer is \( \text{qui} \) because it transfers a verb with a slashed subject (which is discharged by the relativizer). In (37b), the relativizer is \( \text{que} \) because it transfers a verb with a canonical subject. In (37c), the complementizer is \( \text{que} \) because it transfers a verb with a canonical subject. And in (37d), the complementizer is \( \text{qui} \) because the verb it transfers (\( \text{vient} \) ‘comes’) has a slashed subject and the relativizer is \( \text{que} \) because the verb it transfers (\( \text{pense} \) ‘think’) has a canonical subject. The whole analysis of (37d) is given in (39); we use the abbreviated notation \( \uparrow \text{Adj} \) or \( \uparrow \text{N} \) for a verb transferer of UPPOS \( \text{adj-pos} \) or \( \text{noun-pos} \).

\(^{22}\) French \( \text{qu} \)-words (like English \( \text{wh} \)-words, German \( \text{w} \)-words, Italian \( \text{ch} \)-words, etc.) come from the Indo-European root \( *k\). Contrary to English, French has no verb-transferers of another family (such as English \( \text{that} \) or German \( \text{d} \)-words coming from the Indo-European root \( *\text{to} \)); French \( \text{qu} \)-words form a less homogeneous family than English \( \text{wh} \)-words, containing both pure verb-transferers and pronouns. See, for instance, Haspelmath 1997 or Le Goffic 2002.

\(^{23}\) The analysis of Moreau (1971), also sketched by Gross (1968: 124), has been adopted by Kayne (1974-75), to whom it is generally attributed. The contribution of Kayne is to defend the thesis that the relativizer and the complementizer \( \text{que} \) are the same word.
(39) **Analysis of the relative clause (37d)**

In (41), next page, we give an interpretation of (39) in terms of DG. The representation of the valence of *penses* ‘think’ is justified in the next subsection. The BIND feature of the relativizer is represented by a dashed arrow that must be unified with one of the dashed arrows of the SLASH bag. This arrow points to the antecedent noun, that is, the governor of the relative clause. This noun will be a semantic argument of the verb introducing the SLASH value (here, *vient* ‘comes’); this semantic argument has no syntactic counterpart in the clause.

### 3.4 Transferers and the Locality Principle

Whether a complementizer or a transferer in general is the head of the transferred group or not has been debated for a long time (see, for instance, Pollard & Sag 1994: 44). The reason is that many transferers have no meaning and only play a syntactic role—namely, the transfer of the transfeeree. For meaningless transferers, the meaning of the combination of the transferer and the transfeeree evidently comes from the transfeeree. Moreover, in some cases, government-related information passes through the transferer: for instance, among verbs that take a *that*-clause as complement, some require that the subordinated verb carries the indicative mood (as *know* in (40a)), while others require that it carries the subjunctive mood (as *demand* in (40b)).

(40) a. *I know that* Peter leaves today.
    b. *I demand that* Peter leave immediately.
(41) Dependency interpretation of (39)
HPSG incorporates the Locality Principle (Pollard & Sag 1987: 143-44 and 1994: 23), inherited from the Chomskyan tradition, which ensures that the HDTR cannot impose conditions on the internal structure of the NHDTR. This principle is implemented by the fact that VAL elements are only cat and not the whole gram-struc, that is, that VAL specifies only the HEAD of the NHDTR and not the whole NHDTR.

Therefore, if we want to pass information through the transferer to the transferee, we need to raise some features of the transferee into the HEAD of the phrase obtained by the transferer-transferee combination. One solution, adopted for a long time by HPSG, is to introduce a special combination schema (the traditional head-marker-phrase). Another solution, more or less equivalent, is to use the standard head-actant-phrase but to copy the whole transferee’s description into the transferer’s description. For that, we add a feature TRANSF into the HEAD value of a transferer, whose value is the transferee:

\[
\text{(42) transferer } \rightarrow \begin{cases} \text{HEAD} & \text{TRANSF} \\
\text{VAL} & \{\} \end{cases}
\]

This amounts more or less to treating the transferer and the transferee as co-heads.\(^{24}\) Note that in Pollard & Sag 1994 the main verb of the that-clause is treated as its head, while in Sag & Wasow 1999 it is the complementizer that. Nevertheless, both analyses are similar, due to the fact that in both cases information from the two daughters is raised to the mother. Tesnière himself also considered the transferee and the transferer more or less as co-heads. In his dependency trees, a transferer and its transferee are represented side by side in a bubble he calls the transfer nucleus (Fr. nucléus translatif), which occupies a node in the dependency tree (Tesnière 1959: 46, 56).

Now we can have the following description for demand:

\[
\text{(43) demand } : \begin{cases} \text{VAL} & \{\text{FCT subj} \\
\text{POS noun-pos} \} \\
\text{TRANSF} & \{\text{dobj} \\
\text{UPPOS noun-pos} \\
\text{INFL MOOD subj-mood} \} \end{cases} \text{ isa verb}
\]

In DG’s terms, in conformity with (43), the direct object valence slot of the verb demand is filled not with a single node, but with a piece of dependency tree composed of the complementizer and its transferee (see the representation for Fr. penses ‘think’ in Figure (41) above). Repeating the transferee description in the transferer HEAD bypasses the Locality Principle. If each word includes its dependents’ descriptions in its

\(^{24}\) Coordination is another phenomenon where several daughters, the conjuncts, are treated as co-heads. Coordination cannot be adequately dealt with in a pure dependency approach, although some propositions have been made—see, for instance, Mel’čuk’s paper (Part III, Section 1.3) in this volume. Even in very simple examples such as Peter and Mary are walking we see that the verb agrees with none of the words Peter, Mary or and but with the result of their combination. In this case, it seems better to clearly introduce a non-lexical node for the coordination as it is done in HPSG. Such analyses have been proposed in dependency frameworks by Petkevič (1995) and Kahane (1997). But contrary to phrase structure interpretations, such a non-lexical node corresponds only to the list of words concerned by the coordination, that is, conjuncts and coordinating conjunctions, and not to the whole coordination phrase.
own description, by recursivity, each word will have in its description the description of all the words it dominates, that is, the description of the whole dependency subtree it roots. But, as the repetition of a dependent’s description is confined to transferers, we avoid this problem and the Locality Principle is preserved. In fact, the problem is that locality cannot be limited to the direct dependents (and to the governor by way of MOD). It is necessary to allow a deeper control. That is the case for a verb such as *demand*, which constrains a dependent of one of its dependents.

### 4 Wh-extraction

We traditionally call *wh*-extraction an extraction involving a *wh*-word in English (or a similar word in another language). *Wh*-extraction contrasts with *that*-extraction with respect to pied-piping:

(44) a. the person [to whom] they dedicated the building

b. *the person [to that] they dedicated the building

Earlier HPSG analyses of *wh*-word extraction are particularly problematic from the viewpoint of DGs given that these analyses resort to phrasal descriptions. Section 4.1 presents a description of extraction based on HPSG analyses, but adapted to the notions and notations introduced in the previous sections. Section 4.2 proposes a new description entirely in terms of combinations of words, that is, without phrasal descriptions.

#### 4.1 An analysis of extraction based on earlier HPSG analyses

In earlier HPSG analyses (Pollard & Sag 1994; Sag 1997; Ginzburg & Sag 2000; Bouma et al. 2001), *wh*-words have rather simple descriptions: they are only distinguished from other pronouns by the fact they duplicate their semantic content in a special feature: REL for relative *wh*-words and QUE for interrogative *wh*-words. To be precise, in traditional HPSG analyses, it is the index rather than the whole semantic content which is duplicated, following the Chomskyan tradition, which, for a long time, did not really consider the meaning. The features REL and QUE are empty for other words.

(45) a. *wh-rel-word* : \[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{HEAD} \\
\text{REL} \\
\end{array}
\begin{array}{c}
\text{CONT} \\
\text{[]} \\
\end{array}
\text{isa word}
\]

b. *wh-int-word* : \[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{HEAD} \\
\text{QUE} \\
\end{array}
\begin{array}{c}
\text{CONT} \\
\text{[variable]} \\
\end{array}
\text{isa word}
\]

c. word ⇒ \[
\begin{array}{c}
\text{REL} \\
\text{QUE} \\
\end{array}
\begin{array}{c}
\text{/ none} \\
\text{/ none} \\
\end{array}
\]

---

25 It is possible to preserve some form of Locality Principle by only repeating a part of the dependents’ descriptions and to limit the depth of the dependency subtree copied in the governor’s description.

26 In the transformational analysis, the pied-piping is the fact that the *wh*-word which moves to the beginning of the clause carries along with it other words, much as the Pied Piper of Hamelin attracted rats and children to follow him.
Interrogative *wh*-words have a very particular semantic content we call *variable*. We will not discuss this meaning here (see Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999 for one approach).\(^{27}\) Nevertheless, we consider that it is this particular meaning which licenses interrogative clauses in some syntactic positions (the same meaning is introduced by the complementizers *if* and *whether*). On the contrary, relative *wh*-words have no proper semantic content, because their CONT value is the CONT value of the antecedent noun of the relative clause. The identification of the two values is realized by the percolation of REL. In the same way, the semantic value of an interrogative *wh*-word is lifted via QUE in order to license an interrogative clause:

(46) **Pied-Piping Computation**

\[
\begin{array}{c|c|c}
\text{REL} & 1 & + \\
\text{QUE} & 2 & + \\
\hline
\text{HDTR} & \text{REL} & 1 \\
& \text{QUE} & 2 \\
\hline
\text{NHDTR} & \text{REL} & 3 \\
& \text{QUE} & 4 \\
\end{array}
\]

The operation +, which appears above, is defined in (46) as follows: \(\text{none} + \text{none} = \text{none}\), \(\text{none} + […] = […]\). The combination of two non-empty values fails. In other words, only one non-empty value is allowed. We do not consider languages that authorize several extraposed *wh*-words.

All of the complexity of *wh*-extraction is concentrated in the final step of the analysis, the computation of the structure of the whole clause. Recent analyses of extraction in HPSG are based on phrasal descriptions of *wh-relative-clause* and *wh-interrogative-clause*. These two phrase descriptions inherit from two families of constraints: *head-filler-phrase* and *clause*. The *clause* description constrains the HDTR to be a clause, that is, a saturated verb.\(^{28}\) The *head-filler-phrase* constrains the NHDTR to be combined with an element of the SLASH of the HDTR, that is, to fill a gap. The *wh-rel-cl*, which inherits from both *clause* and *hd-fill-phrase*, constrains the NHDTR to have a non-empty REL that will be equal to the semantic content of the antecedent noun.

\(^{27}\) The so-called interrogative *wh*-words are not inherently interrogative and can be found in non-interrogative contexts:

(i) a. *She told me to whom they dedicated the building.*
    b. *I know to whom they dedicated the building.*
    c. *To whom they dedicated the building does not matter.*

An interrogative *wh*-word introduces an unspecified meaning similar to a free variable (in the mathematical sense). It is the context—the rising intonation in direct questions or the meaning of the governor verb in indirect questions—that requires to instantiate this variable and gives the interrogative interpretation.

\(^{28}\) Ginzburg & Sag (2000) consider different types of clauses for relatives and interrogatives. We do not retain this idea, which is an attempt to preserve the description of an interrogative clause as a *hd-phrase*. See our solution below.
The head-filler-phrase (abbreviated in *hd-fill-phrase*) is usually considered as a headed-phrase (defined in (12), p. 117). From this it follows, given the clause constraint, that *wh*-clauses are considered as clauses, that is, as phrases headed by a verb. This is not compatible with the Chomskyan Complementizer Phrase analysis of *wh*-clauses nor with Tesnière’s transfer theory, which predicts that an interrogative clause, which is a verb actant, must be UPPOS N and that a relative clause, which modifies a noun, must be UPPOS Adj. The analysis in Sag 1997 can be adapted to our theoretical framework by considering that *head-filler-phrase* is not a headed-phrase but a verb-transferred phrase:29

\[ (48) \quad \text{hd-fill-phrase} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \text{TRANSF} \end{bmatrix} \]

This alternative analysis is particularly adapted for the treatment of interrogative clauses.

We can now propose that the semantic content of a *wh-int-clause* comes from the *wh*-word:

\[ (49) \quad \text{wh-int-cl} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \text{UPPOS} & \text{noun-pos} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{isa clause + hd-fill-phrase} \]

The presence of a variable meaning allows for the right distribution of the interrogative clause. Moreover, as extensively argued by Kahane & Mel’čuk (1999: 37-40), the semantic content of the *wh*-word is the semantic argument of the verb governing the interrogative clause.

---

29 In the *head-filler-phrase*—see (47a)—the two subphrases are called HDTR and NHDTR, but these notations are not very significant here, because no one actually is a head daughter.
The variant of Sag’s (1997) analysis we have proposed brings us back to the analysis of relatives presented in Pollard & Sag 1994: 212, where \textit{wh-rel-clause} is obtained by the combination of the \textit{hd-fill-clause} with a null relativizer (with a substantial difference, given that the relativizer is not considered as a head in Pollard & Sag 1994). This analysis does not discharge a slashed element in the \textit{hd-fill-phrase}, but instead discharges it with the BIND feature of the null relativizer (which is the same null relativizer as in \textit{that}-less relatives). Such an analysis, inspired by Chomskyan analyses (see Sag 1997: 433, for a criticism), is not well motivated for languages that, unlike English, do not allow for the deletion of the relativizer.

Let us come to our point: what are the drawbacks of the above analysis?

First, this analysis uses complex \textit{ad hoc} phrasal descriptions. Much information is added via \textit{wh-rel-clause} and \textit{wh-int-clause}, but we do not know from which words it comes and why. Independently of the fact that such an approach is incompatible with a DG, we can suppose we have lost generalizations somewhere.

Second, we can observe that the semantic content of a \textit{wh}-clause does not come from the HDTR but from the \textit{wh}-word: the semantic content is lifted via the features REL or QUE and the distributional properties of the clause (the fact that the relative clause can modify a noun or the interrogative clause can be the object of an interrogative verb) are no longer controlled by the HDTR (the main verb of the clause).

In fact, consider the combination of the filler daughter and the head daughter, that is the rest of the relative clause. This combination depends:

- for the filler daughter, both on its head, which will govern the gap, and on the presence of a \textit{wh}-word in this phrase (which controls the distribution of the clause);
- for the head daughter, both on its head—that is, the main verb of the clause—and on the word that governs the gap—that is, the word that has introduced the content of the slash feature.

We will show that this phrase description involves four words and the simultaneous combination of two couples of words: the \textit{wh}-word with the main verb of the relative/interrogative clause and the governor of the gap with the head of the filler phrase.

4.2 \textit{A more lexical treatment of wh-extraction}

The treatment of \textit{wh}-extraction we propose is again based on an original idea of Tesnière, which has been successfully implemented in a dependency unification grammar based on Meaning-Text Theory (Kahane 1996, 1997, 2001), in TAG (Kahane et al. 2000) and in DTG, a TAG-related formalism (Candito & Kahane 1998).\textsuperscript{30}

\textsuperscript{30} Questions similar to those studied here arise in Lexicalized TAG. LTAG is a fully lexicalized grammar which does not use phrasal descriptions: all of the information must be attached to elementary structures (= word descriptions). In TAG traditional analyses, the ability of relative clauses to modify a noun (given by the \textit{wh-rel-clause} constraint in HPSG) is marked on the main verb of the relative clause (Kroch & Joshi 1986; Joshi 1987, XTAG 1995), significantly increasing the number of elementary structures associated with a verb entry. A simpler and more powerful analysis treating \textit{wh}-words as transferers, comparable to the analysis proposed here, is possible (Kahane et al. 2000).
(1959: 61) postulates that a \textit{wh}-word has two roles, a transferer role and a pronominal role, and it behaves as two words simultaneously. In Tesnière’s dependency trees, the \textit{wh}-word occupies two nodes. For instance, in (50b), the French relative pronoun \textit{qui} occupies two nodes called \textit{qu}- and \textit{qui}.\footnote{This relative pronoun \textit{qui} is a different word from the verb-transferer \textit{que}/\textit{qui} presented in Section 3.2. This \textit{qui} is [+human] and can be used only after a preposition.} The \textit{qu}- node of the pronoun \textit{qui} corresponds to the transferer role and is common to all French \textit{qu}-words (pronouns and pure transferers). In the same way, an English \textit{wh}-word occupies two nodes; all \textit{wh}-words have a common part \textit{wh}- which behaves as the pure transferer \textit{that}.

\begin{equation}
\begin{align*}
\text{(50) a. } & \text{la personne à qui je veux parler} \\
& \text{the person to whom I want to speak} \\
\text{b. Dependency tree à la Tesnière for (50a)}
\end{align*}
\end{equation}

In order to introduce two descriptions of nodes in the description of a \textit{wh}-pronoun, we add a feature SUPERHEAD (SRHD), whose value is a \textit{word}. The pronominal part of the \textit{wh}-word is associated to the core of word description (= the main HEAD feature), while the transferer part of the \textit{wh}-word is associated to the superhead (= the HEAD feature of SRHD). By default, a word has an empty SRHD.

\begin{equation}
\begin{align*}
\text{(51) a. } & \text{\textit{wh-word}} : \begin{bmatrix} \text{pronoun} \\ \text{SRHD} / \text{verb-transferer} \end{bmatrix} \text{ isa word} \\
\text{b. } & \text{\textit{word}} \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix} \text{SRHD /none} \end{bmatrix}
\end{align*}
\end{equation}

There are four subtypes of \textit{wh-word}: those corresponding to relative pronouns, to interrogative pronouns in indirect questions, to interrogative pronouns in direct questions and to pronouns in so-called headless relatives.\footnote{Headless relatives are traditionally described as relatives with an empty antecedent. There are good reasons to consider that they are more closely related to indirect interrogatives than relatives (Le Goffic 1993).} Only the two first subtypes are considered here:
It can be noted that the SUPERHEAD of *rel-wh-word* and that of *int-wh-word* are similar to relativizer and complementizer, respectively. The semantic cohesion between the relative or interrogative clause and the rest of the sentence is ensured by the *wh-word* and the meaning \[\overrightarrow{\mathbf{w}}\] which appears in the two-head descriptions of the word and hence will make the connection between the two parts of the sentence.

We will now show how the above description of *wh-words* can be interpreted in terms of dependency grammars. The two parts of a *wh-word* (the main HEAD and the HEAD of SRHD) correspond to two nodes in the dependency tree, as proposed by Tesnière. We give in Figures (53) graphical representations of *int-wh-word* and *rel-wh-word*. The dashed line linking two nodes indicates that these two nodes are two parts of the same word and must be merged at the morphological level.

Note that our analysis (and therefore Tesnière’s description of *wh-words*) does not imply that we consider a *wh-word* to be the merger of two words: a *wh-word* is well and truly a single word. We simply consider that a *wh-word* has two roles—transferer and pronoun—and it is why it occupies two positions in the dependency tree. Even these two positions are not very significant: what is important in our analysis is the fact that a *wh-word* is governed in two different ways; it is only because we impose on the dependency structure to be a tree (and each node of the structure to have at most one governor) that we need to associate the *wh-word* to two nodes. Note also that the constraints on extraction can be in a large part imputed to the double role of the *wh-word*: it is because a single word must both transfer the clause and fill a gap that the way between the head of the clause and the gap is not free. Ideally, the gap should be governed by the head of the transferred clause, allowing for the *wh-word* to fill its two roles directly, which would be not so far from the truth (as argued in Kahane 2001).

See Figure (53) for the graphical representation.
b. Dependency interpretation of rel-wh-word

Our analysis works in the following way. The feature SUPERHEAD merges the features QUE and REL of the earlier analyses.\(^{33}\) Like them, it is a foot feature:

\[(54)\]  
Superhead Computation  

\[
\begin{array}{c} 
\text{hd-phrase} \Rightarrow \\
\text{SRHD} [\text{N} \oplus \text{V}] \\
\text{HDTR} [\text{SRHD} [\text{N}]] \\
\text{NHDTR} [\text{SRHD} [\text{N}]] \\
\end{array}
\]

Only certain syntactic relations allow pied-piping. To control that, we define a subtype of syntrel called whrel. A word which does not have a syntactic function of type whrel cannot allow for SUPERHEAD to percolate and hence must have an empty SUPERHEAD. This gives us the following constraint on gram-struc:

\[(55)\]  
Pied-Piping Constraint  

\[
\begin{array}{c} 
\text{gram-struc} \Rightarrow \\
\text{SRHD } [\text{verb-transferrer}] \\
\text{HEA}
\end{array}
\]

To combine the filler phrase with the rest of the clause, we use a filler-gap-phrase. When this phrase is a hd-phrase, it gives the traditional hd-fill-phrase, which is still needed for topicalization. Like the traditional hd-fill-phrase, the fill-gap-phrase constrains the NHDTR to be combined with an element of HDTR|SLASH and thus to fill a gap.\(^{34}\)

\[(56)\]  
(a. fill-gap-phrase :  

\[
\begin{array}{c} 
\text{SLASH} [\text{N} \oplus \text{V}] \\
\text{HDTR} [\text{SLASH} [\text{N} \oplus \text{V}]] \\
\text{NHDTR} [\text{HEAD} [\text{V}]] \\
\text{SLASH} [\text{N}]
\end{array}
\]

b. hd-fill-phrase isa fill-gap-phrase + hd-phrase

\(^{33}\) Pollard & Sag (1994: 159) justify introducing two distinct features QUE and REL instead of a single wh-feature by the following contrast between interrogative and relative clauses:

(i) a. This is the farmer pictures of whom appeared in “Newsweek.”

b. *Pictures of whom appeared in “Newsweek.”

Whatever the reasons of this contrast, it can still be handled in our analysis given that rel-wh-word and int-wh-word have distinct SUPERHEAD values.

\(^{34}\) We continue to take the filler phrase as NHDTR, but it is clear that it is once again not very significant.
We introduce another subtype of *filler-gap-phrase* that we call *superhead-filler-phrase*, which is not headed by the HDTR but by the SUPERHEAD, see (57a). The SUPERHEAD takes the HDTR as transferee. Therefore, *srhd-fill-phrase* inherits from a Valence Computation schema comparable to the standard *hd-act-phrase* in (13a), this one involving SUPERHEAD and HDTR, rather than HDTR and NHDTR, see (57b).

\[(57)\] a. Alternative Head Computation (Head from Superhead)

\[
srhd-fill-phrase: \begin{bmatrix}
  \text{HEAD} & \text{none} \\
  \text{SRHD} & \text{none} \\
  \text{NHDTR} & \text{SRHD} \left[ \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \right]
\end{bmatrix}
\]

\[
\text{isa fill-gap-phrase}
\]

b. Alternative Valence Computation (Superhead-Head Combination)

\[
srhd-fill-phrase \Rightarrow \begin{bmatrix}
  \text{VAL} & \text{none} \\
  \text{HDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
    \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \\
    \text{VAL} & \text{ebag}
  \end{bmatrix} \\
  \text{NHDTR} & \text{SRHD} \left[ \text{VAL } \mathbb{1} \oplus \{\mathbb{2}\} \right]
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Let us explain what happens: the two parts of a *wh*-word act alternatively as heads. At the beginning, for the pied-piping, only the pronominal head is recognized and the SUPERHEAD is simply percolated (as a SLASH feature). At the last step, the SUPERHEAD becomes the head and the extracted phrase (= filler phrase) acts as a verb-transferer. The extracted phrase in a relative clause becomes equivalent to the relativizer \((29), \text{p. } 125:\)

\[(58)\] \[
\begin{bmatrix}
  \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \\
  \text{SRHD} \left[ \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \right]
\end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix}
  \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \\
  \text{BIND } \mathbb{2}
\end{bmatrix}
\]

The unification of the three constraints of *srhd-fill-phrase* gives us (59).

\[(59)\] \[
srhd-fill-phrase = \begin{bmatrix}
  \text{HEAD} & \text{none} \\
  \text{VAL} & \text{SLASH } \mathbb{6} \oplus \{\mathbb{5}\} \\
  \text{SLASH } \mathbb{6} \oplus \{\mathbb{5}\} & \text{SRHD} & \text{none} \\
  \text{HRDTR} & \begin{bmatrix}
    \text{HEAD } \mathbb{1} \\
    \text{VAL} & \text{ebag} \\
    \text{SLASH } \mathbb{6} \oplus \{\mathbb{5}\}
  \end{bmatrix} \\
  \text{NHDTR} & \text{SRHD} \left[ \text{VAL } \mathbb{6} \oplus \{\mathbb{5}\} \right]
\end{bmatrix}
\]

Given that SUPERHEAD is a verb-transferer, we obtain the equivalent of the *clause* constraint \((47b), \text{that is, that } \mathbb{6} = \text{ebag and } \mathbb{5} = \text{[UPPOS verb-pos]}. \text{We give only the last step of the computation involving the } srhd-fill-phrase.\)
From the DG point of view, the *srhd-fill-phrase* corresponds to two simultaneous combinations of words: the NHDTR’s SUPERHEAD with the HDTR and the NHDTR with an element of HDTR|SLASH:

(60) **Dependency interpretation of srhd-fill-phrase**

Let’s exemplify the *srhd-fill-phrase* with the computation of the French relative clause in (61). Its analysis is given in (62) and its dependency interpretation, in (63).

(61) *la personne à la mère de qui je veux que tu parles*  

the person to the mother of whom I want that you speak  

‘the person whose mother I want you to speak to’

To conclude, let us recapitulate our treatment of constraints on extraction and pied-piping. We have defined three subtypes of syntactic relations: *gaprel*, *slashrel* and *whrel*; *gaprels* allow for the dependent to be a gap, that is, the dependent to be slashed; *slashrels* allow the extraction, that is, a non-empty SLASH to percolate; and *whrels* allow the pied-piping, that is, a non-empty SUPERHEAD to percolate. For the major syntactic relations of English, we obtain the inheritance graph (64).

(62) **An example of srhd-fill-phrase**
This completes the presentation of our alternative treatment of extraction in HPSG. We hope that we have convinced the reader that this description using only the combination of word descriptions and no phrasal descriptions works at least as well as earlier approaches.

5 Status of phrases in the syntax-semantics interface of HPSG

In this paper, we have argued that, with no substantial modifications, the syntax-semantics interface of HPSG can be viewed as a true dependency grammar, that is, a grammar where all of the information about sentences comes from the information on words and
their combination.\footnote{As said previously (Footnote 1, p. 113), it would be better to handle lexical units and grammatical morphemes rather than words and to obtain word descriptions by combinations of lexeme and grammatical morpheme descriptions. This is another point, which cannot be discussed here; we think that the architecture of HPSG is not completely convenient, due to the fact that grammatical morphemes are dealt with by lexical rules and therefore are not considered as signs (and are not assigned to a feature structure combining by unification).} We have shown that even puzzling phenomena such as extraction can be described exclusively in terms of combinations of words. In such a grammar, no linguistic information is attached to objects other than words and in particular, no linguistic information is attached to objects such as phrases. (It is no longer the case in the syntax-phonology interface, where linearization and grouping for prosody are handled.)

Adopting our view of syntax, it can be said that syntactic phrases are simply the result of particular word combination procedures. Indeed, HPSG is based on a bottom-up process: HPSG allows for a word to combine with a dependent word only when this dependent has combined with all of its own dependents (and its VAL is empty). In other words, the underlying tree of an HPSG analysis is built from the leaves to the root. Such a procedure imposes the restriction that a word can combine with its governor only when its projection has been processed. Consequently, we claim that syntactic phrases are simply the result of a particular way of processing and that HPSG contains in itself this way of processing, which might be avoided.

A syntactic “representation” is always linked to processing. The syntactic dependency tree stores the information on how words combine with each other; a syntactic dependency testifies to the combination of two words and indicates which one is the HDTR (= governor) and which one is the NHDTR (= dependent). Nevertheless, a dependency tree is less procedural than a phrase structure tree: it does not store the information on the order in which words have been combined during the process. And we think that this last information is not relevant from a linguistic point of view.

We will now see that, even with a formalism such as HPSG, it is possible to use a strategy other than the bottom-up process. For instance, dealing with a sentence such as 

\begin{itemize}
  \item Peter wants to eat beans
\end{itemize}

we can begin with combining \textit{wants} and \textit{to eat}. For that, we must allow for a word (here \textit{wants}) to combine with a dependent (here \textit{to eat}) whose valence is not filled. This can be done with a schema such as (65).\footnote{It is not the first time one proposes to introduce such a schema in HPSG. See, for instance, the handling of auxiliaries by Hinrichs & Nakazawa (1994).}

\begin{equation}
(65) \text{hd-act-phrase} : \begin{cases}
  \text{VAL} & \emptyset \oplus \emptyset \\
  \text{HDTR} & \left[ \text{VAL} \emptyset \oplus \emptyset \right] \\
  \text{NHDTR} & \left[ \text{HEAD} \emptyset \right. \left. , \text{VAL} \emptyset \right]
\end{cases} \text{isa hd-phrase}
\end{equation}

Here we do not require the VAL(ENCE) of NHDTR to be empty; this valence is added to the valence of HDTR. This idea comes directly from categorial grammars (see the Forward Partial Combination rule in Ades & Steedman 1982: 527). The SLASH feature has been introduced to allow such a combination; we distinguish the VAL coming from HDTR from the VAL coming from NHDTR, which is put in SLASH. Such a
schema should be constrained in the same way as SLASH introduction and SLASH percolation are constrained. It could be useful for dealing with phenomena such as gapping (Peter wants to eat beans and Mary, spaghetti) or word order in languages such as German, where verbs can form a cluster, the order of their dependents being free (daß niemand Bohnen essen will ‘that nobody beans eat wants’ vs. daß Bohnen niemand essen will). 37

The use of phrases in syntactic structures has been argued for based on word order configurations. But in non-configurational languages such as Russian or German, observable groupings do not correspond to syntactic phrases (= projections of heads) and another structure must be invoked. For example, in the description of German, a structure other than phrase structure, the topological model, is used to compute word order (see Kathol 1995 for a formalization in HPSG and Donohue & Sag 1999 for an application to Warlpiri). We do not deny that it could be useful to introduce particular groupings to compute word order. But in any case, the introduction of a particular type of grouping must be assumed only for the treatment of word order and prosody.

We will conclude by showing that even the SLASH feature, which seems to be indispensable for the HPSG analysis of extraction, results from the underlying process presupposed by HPSG, which consists of combining words according to the traditional phrase structure. Consider the topicalized sentence in (66). In HPSG, following the traditional X-bar Theory, the sentence is obtained by a combination of words giving us the phrase structure indicated in (66a). 38

(66) a. [Sandy (I know [you said (Peter hates)])]
   b. [([(Sandy) I know] you said) Peter hates]

But it is also possible to obtain this sentence by a combination of words giving us the grouping in (66b). In this case, we must first combine Sandy and I know. We can allow that, but as Sandy is not a syntactic dependent of know, it will be added in a special feature we call VIS(ITOR). 39 A new visitor is introduced with the head-visitor-phrase. In this schema, NHDTTR|HEAD does not combine with HDTR|VAL but is simply added to the VIS(ITOR) bag:

(67) \( \begin{align*}
  &\text{VAL} \quad 0 \\
  &\text{VIS} \quad 0 \oplus \{3\} \\
  &\text{HDTR} \quad \begin{cases}
    \text{VAL} \quad 0 \\
    \text{VIS} \quad 0 \\
    \text{NHDTTR} \quad \text{HEAD} \quad 3
  \end{cases}
\end{align*} \) isa \( \text{hd-phrase} \)

37 Word order is actually never free. It can depend on factors such as information structure and be not constrained by purely syntactic properties such as the height of the complements Peter and Bohnen ‘beans’ in the dependency tree (contrary to Dutch, which is a closely related language).
38 X-bar Theory encodes, via the phrase structure and the c-command, the syntactic relations between words. But X-bar phrase structure is not useful for that in HPSG, where the syntactic relations between words are encoded in VAL and MOD. We hope that this point, extensively developed in Section 2, is absolutely clear to the reader.
39 Hudson (1990, 2000) uses a similar relation to link the main verb with an extracted phrase.
Next, the visitor is lifted to the verb governing the gap and fills the gap using the following schema *generalized-head-actant-phrase*:

\[
\begin{align*}
\text{VAL} & : \mathbb{E} \\
\text{VIS} & : \mathbb{E} \\
\text{HDTR} & : \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{VAL} \mathbb{E} \odot \mathbb{E} \\
\text{VIS} \mathbb{E} \odot \mathbb{E} \\
\end{array} \right] \\
\text{NHDTR} & : \left[ \begin{array}{c}
\text{HEAD} \mathbb{E} \\
\text{VAL} \mathbb{E} \odot \mathbb{E} \\
\end{array} \right]
\end{align*}
\]

\[(68) \text{ } g\text{-hd-fill-phrase} : \text{isa } hd\text{-phrase}\]

This schema generalizes *hd-act-phrase* (65). (It is equal to it when \(\mathbb{E} = \text{ebag}\) and \(\mathbb{F} = \text{ebag}\).) It allows us to lift visitors (if \(\mathbb{E} \neq \text{ebag}\)) and fill gaps (if \(\mathbb{F} \neq \text{ebag}\)). When *Sandy I know* and *you said* are combined, \(\mathbb{E} = \{\text{Sandy}\}\) and \(\mathbb{F} = \text{ebag}\); when *Sandy I know you said* and *Peter hates* are combined, \(\mathbb{E} = \text{ebag}\) and \(\mathbb{F} = \{\text{Sandy}\}\). The major lines of the VISITOR-like analysis of (66) are given in (69), next page.

The analysis in (69) has the advantage of allowing us to parse the sentence incrementally (that is, to build its dependency tree and its semantic structure as soon as possible) and therefore it is better motivated cognitively. Contrary to the SLASH analysis, no lexical rule (or an equivalent device) is needed to introduce the VISITOR. Finally, this analysis is compatible with the SUPERHEAD analysis presented in Section 4.2; it simply need to replace the *head-visitor-phrase* by a *superhead-visitor-phrase* where NHDTR|SRHD takes HDTR as actant (and NHDTR becomes a VISITOR).

SLASH and VISITOR are linked to two different word groupings corresponding to different processes in the combination of words: in one case, the gap is lifted up to the filler by way of SLASH, while in the other, the filler is lowered down to the gap by the way of VISITOR. Kahane (2001) proposes a formalization that subsumes these two analyses. This more generic formalization is less procedural and does not presuppose any particular word grouping. Such a formalism is associative, in the mathematical sense of the term: it allows for the dependency tree to be built in whatever direction, while in the traditional HPSG the dependency tree is necessary built bottom-up, that is, from the leaves to the root.40 The implementation of an associative analysis necessitates a serious revision of the foundations of HPSG.

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40 Rather than lift an element from the verb introducing the gap to the main verb, Kahane (2001) treats the extraction path—the string of verbs (or verb-equivalent forms)—as a syntactic unit (called a *verbal nucleus*).
6 Conclusion

For HPSG users, the main result of this paper is certainly the demonstration that, in the same way as the head-daughter-phrase can be interpreted as the combination of two words, the traditional head-filler-phrase (the schema of combination of a filler phrase and a clause with a gap) can be interpreted as a schema involving two simultaneous combinations of words where the two daughters act as heads, each one in a different combination. The filler phrase, by the way of the wh-word, controls the distribution of the clause (allowing it to be a relative or an interrogative clause and to modify a noun or to occupy an actantial position of an interrogative verb) and is thus the true head of the clause, but, simultaneously, it fills a gap in the clause and is thus governed by the clause. We have solved this problem by giving a double role to the wh-word, a pronominal role and a verb-transferer role. Contrary to earlier analyses of extraction in HPSG, we do not introduce special schemata for each type of extraction and we do not allow for direct introduction of linguistic information in a phrasal schema.

Our study proves that phrasal descriptions are not needed in the analysis of extraction and moreover that the recourse to phrasal descriptions masks what combinations of words are involved in extraction. From a theoretical point of view, we think that purely linguistic data might be introduced in word descriptions and that phrasal schemata might only encode how subphrases combine together. This gives us a fully lexicalist version of the syntax-semantics interface of HPSG, where the phrase structure simply
stores the way in which words have combined. As a consequence, phrases have lost any linguistic status. They are simply a result of a particular procedure of word combination, so that another procedure would give us another grouping of words. Of course, it is possible to give a theoretical status to the phrase structure considered by traditional HPSG and inherited from X-bar Theory: a phrase is the maximal projection of a word, that is, a word with all the phrases headed by its dependents. It is even easy to introduce other types of phrases by considering partial projection that involves only a part of the dependents (excluding, for example, the subject). What we say is that such a phrase structure is simply a by-product of the dependency structure and does not play any particular role other than a procedural one.

For DG users, the main result is a proposal of an implementation of a DG in the well-defined formalism of HPSG. To be exact, the grammar proposed here is not a genuine DG—it allows for a dependency structure that is not a true tree, which results of the double role of the *wh*-word. Such an analysis needs an extension of traditional DG formalisms and it is interesting to see that the formalism of HPSG allows elegant solutions.

For all, we hope that this paper proposes a better understanding of both HPSG and DG and particularly the way they model extraction.

**Acknowledgments**

I thank Mark Dras, Igor Mel’čuk, Piet Mertens, Alain Polguère and Jesse Tseng for many valuable comments on earlier versions of this paper.

**References**


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41 It is not exactly the case that all constructions, in the sense of Goldberg 1995, are lexically marked and in some case some linguistic material can not be easily associated to a particular word. It is the case of *that*-less relatives in English. But even in such cases, it seems preferable to introduce a “lexical” sign without phonological realization rather than introduce a specific phrasal schema.


Establishing an Inventory of Surface-Syntactic Relations: Valence-Controlled Surface-Syntactic Dependents of the Verb in French

Lidija Iordanskaja and Igor Mel’čuk

1 Introduction

The goal of the present paper is to sketch a general method for establishing an inventory of labeled Surface-Syntactic Relations [= SSyntRels] for a language $L$. More specifically, such a method must allow the researcher to determine the set of SSyntRels in $L$ and distribute relevant SSynt-constructions of $L$ among them, that is, decide by which SSyntRel a given SSynt-construction must be described. As a test case, we have chosen a particular subset of SSyntRels in French—all SSyntRels controlled by the active valence of the verb, i.e., by its Government Pattern. (The active valence of a verb is the set of all its complements, including the Subject—that is, of all its SSynt-Actants; the passive valence of a verb is the set of all constructions in which it can be used as a dependent.)

The research is carried out within the general framework of Meaning-Text theory (see, e.g., Mel’čuk 1974, 1988: 43-91, 1997). We take for granted the levels of linguistic representation assumed by the theory and the corresponding notions. (See, however, Mel’čuk’s text in this volume, p. 2ff.)

From a formal viewpoint, a SSyntRel $r$ is a particular type of syntactic dependency relation holding between two lexemes in a SSynt-Structure [= SSyntS], a G(overnor) and its D(ependent): $G$→$D$. A SSyntS formed by SSyntRels is a tree; it respects the following two principles: the unicity of the Synt-Governor (= no node can have more than one G) and the presence of the unique Synt-head, or top node, of the whole SSyntS (= there is one and only one node on which all other nodes depend, directly or indirectly).

From a linguistic viewpoint, the name $r$ of a SSyntRel specifies a family of SSynt-constructions of $L$ that feature sufficiently similar linguistic properties—i.e., they show “family resemblances.” A SSynt-construction represents a set of binary phrases (a binary phrase being, roughly, two wordforms linked by a direct SSynt-dependency) and is specified by indicating 1) its members—a pair of part-of-speech symbols, perhaps
with some additional syntactic features (such as “copula,” “transitive,” “anteposed,” etc.), supplied with corresponding inflectional markings, 2) their mutual linear order and 3) the direction of SSynt-dependency between them. Thus, the French construction “adjective — noun,” showing obligatory agreement of the adjective in g(ender) and n(umber) with the noun, appears as follows:

$$ADJ_{(antepos)g, n} + N_{(g)n}$$

Subscripts without parentheses stand for inflectional values; subscripts in parentheses represent syntactic features, specified in the corresponding lexical entry.

This construction represents such phrases as différends éléménts ‘different elements’ and belles fillettes ‘beautiful little.girls’. Note that $N_{(g)n} + ADJ_{(postpos)g,n}$—équation différentielle ‘differential equation’, gouvernement américain ‘American government’, etc.—is a different SSynt-construction of French, because of different word order.

The set of SSyntRels for $L$ must meet at least the following three formal requirements, which have to be satisfied in the SSyntS:

1. Ensure the preservation of all semantic contrasts which appear on the semantic level of utterance representation and are formally expressed on the surface, but which cannot be taken care of by other entities of the syntactic level (for instance, by the syntactic-communicative structure).

2. Ensure the appropriate substitutability (within a SSyntS) of the constructions described by a SSyntRel.

3. Ensure the appropriate combinability of the SSyntRels that share the same SSynt-Governor.

These requirements are, mutatis mutandis, the same as those underlying all -emic units, or X-emes, in natural language—e.g., phonemes and morphemes. Therefore, the family of constructions covered by one SSyntRel is, so to speak, a “constructioneme.” The elements of a constructioneme—concrete constructions—behave as all other allo-Xs do: they do not contrast semantically (requirement 1), and show the same regularities in their substitutability (requirement 2) and combinability (requirement 3).

The above requirements can be formalized as three criteria for postulating different SSyntRels in $L$. Such criteria are needed, in particular, because, in contrast to Deep-Syntactic Relations [= DSyntRels], the SSyntRels are not universal: the set of SSynt-Rels has to be established empirically, individually for each $L$, very much like the set of phonemes or of inflectional values, i.e., grammemes (e.g., tenses or grammatical cases). Consequently, one needs some principles on the basis on which different SSyntRels should be distinguished in $L$.

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3 When speaking of the properties of constructions, we mean, in point of fact, the properties of their lexical realizations: two constructions contrast semantically if it is possible to fill them with the same lexemes and obtain semantically different phrases. For more, see 2.2, Criterion 1, p. 162.

4 For one of the earliest theoretical characterizations of the notion of SSyntRel, see Apresjan et al. 1978: 255-265; it was developed and enriched in Apresjan et al. 1984-1985, No. 155: 4-11.
This paper is limited to a subset of the SSyntRels of French: it considers only the SSyntRels that are necessary for the description of the SSyntS of all verbal constructions in Modern French that involve the surface realizations of the verb’s DSynt-actants [= DSyntAs]. In other words, we will be dealing only with valence-controlled SSynt-Ds of a verb. Any type of valence-controlled SSynt- and the corresponding SSyntRel must be foreseen in the lexicographic description of the verb, i.e., in its Government Pattern. Thus, as stated at the beginning of the paper, the SSyntRels introduced below all correspond to the active valence of French verbs.

In the framework of dependency syntax, lists of labeled SSyntRels have been proposed for various languages: Russian (cf. Mel’čuk 1962: 47-87, 1963: 490-493, 1964: 20-24 and 1974: 221-235); English (Mel’čuk & Pertsov 1987: 85-156, Apresjan et al. 1989: 71-121); German, Polish, Danish, Bangla, Finnish, Hungarian, Japanese, and Esperanto (Maxwell & Schubert 1989); and French (Apresjan et al. 1984-1985, Isaac 1986, Candito 1999). If we feel the need to return to the task, this is because we find the following three drawbacks in previous attempts:

First, the decisions made with regard to specific SSyntRels were not systematically justified. Now we would like to supply the reasons for postulating this or that SSyntRel according to relevant linguistic properties of phrases under consideration and to the formal criteria for the differentiation of SSyntRels (introduced in Mel’čuk 1979: 99-143 and 1988: 141-144 and reworked in this volume, p. 25ff).

Second, SSyntRels were established for each language involved more or less in isolation from typological considerations and with no particular regard for the general theory of surface syntax. Now the time seems ripe for taking into account modern developments of syntactic theory and thus making the inventory of SSyntRels we are proposing theoretically “clean” and linguistically substantiated.

Third, in the Meaning-Text approach, verb-to-actant SSyntRels used to be too “semantic;” they were tailored to fit the DSyntRels (we mean, e.g., such SSyntRels as “1st completive,” “2nd completive,” etc., which were in one-to-one correspondence with DSyntRels). On the other hand, several other approaches known to us seem too formal: the SSyntRels are defined mostly by the distribution classes of their Ds. Now we would like to reconsider previous solutions under the angle of strict separation of levels—such that the SSyntRels be isolated based mainly on syntactic considerations, striking a necessary balance between the two extremes, excessive semanticism and excessive formalism.

The present paper belongs to the domain of linguistic research into what is known as grammatical relations and clause elements: the dependent member of a grammatical relation (in point of fact, a syntactic relation) is, roughly speaking, a clause element, so that the problem of distinguishing grammatical relations bears directly on clause elements and vice versa (for more, see below, Section 2.1). The corresponding literature is too vast to allow even a cursory review. We will limit ourselves to indicating just four publications of general character: Plank 1984, Dryer 1986, Hudson 1992, and Van Valin & LaPolla 1997: 242-309, where a rich bibliography can be found.

Speaking more specifically about French, the topic of establishing/distinguishing clause elements is here also well studied. Again, it is impossible for us to undertake a
survey of existing works. As our principal source of data we have made extensive use of
the classic reference book Grevisse 1993 [13th edition] and a monograph by P. Le Goff-
fic (1993). Also, we have drawn some additional data from Gross 1968 and 1975,
1999 is especially close to our own study: the author proposes a set of SSyntRels for
French and Italian, supplying for them syntactic justifications.)

Now we can state the goal of the paper in more precise terms:

To propose a method that would ensure a partition of the set of the syntactic con-
structions of French such that each subset obtained in this way

1) is sufficiently homogeneous—that is, all the constructions that belong to it
share a sufficient number of relevant linguistic properties;
and

2) is saturated—that is, it contains all and only the constructions that can be
brought together in accordance with some pre-established formal criteria (see
below, 2.2, p. 162ff, Criteria 1-3).

We want such a method to be satisfactory from the viewpoint of general linguistic
theory. More precisely:

• The method must produce a set of SSyntRels/clause elements for \( L \) such that it
would be typologically valid. For instance, consider the hierarchy of major nominal
clause elements established by Keenan & Comrie (1977), see below, p. 156; it is prefer-
able to obtain such SSyntRels/clause elements that satisfy this hierarchy. To meet the
requirement of typological plausibility, we need a good selection of relevant properties.

• The method must (more or less) correspond to the universally accepted methods for
establishing linguistic units at all levels. Criteria 1-3 constitute an attempt to ensure
such universality.

Given its methodological orientation, our paper does not present new facts about
French syntax. Our main tool—linguistic properties of clause elements—is not new,
either; everyone is using more or less the same set of properties. What is particular to
our approach is its systematicity. We have put systematicity above completeness or
even factual truth. Our linguistic data are of course incomplete, as is the list of proper-
ties we exploit. As a result, some of the solutions we propose might turn out wrong. Yet
we believe that a coherent general picture of what an inventory of SSyntRels in a lan-
guage must look like is, at least for the time being, quite crucial; one cannot success-
fully work out a host of details until the organization of the whole domain is made suffi-
ciently clear.

The structure of this paper is straightforward: Section 2 proposes a method for estab-
lishing an inventory of SSyntRels for a language and then Section 3 gives a partial list
of SSyntRels for French, which have been isolated following this method; Section 4
contains a synoptic overview of the SSyntRels proposed in the form of tables and a con-
densed discussion of the hierarchy of SSyntRels; Section 5 offers a short conclusion.


2 A method for establishing an inventory of SSyntRels for a language

When introducing SSyntRels for a language, a SSyntRel to be postulated must satisfy two types of requirements: a substantive, or linguistic, requirement; and a set of formal, or logical, requirements.

2.1 The substantive requirement to be satisfied by a SSyntRel

The relevant linguistic properties of SSyntRels, that is, of their Ds, are linked to the fact that SSyntRels are subject to three types of constraints.

- First, a SSyntRel is associated to the semantic role its D fulfills—via the corresponding DSynt-relation (which, in its turn, is related to a semantic role). Therefore, SSyntRels must be such as to allow our linguistic model to compute them in a convenient, straightforward way from the DSyntS.

- Second, SSyntRels are combined within the SSyntS, where they show a particular behavior with respect to each other (omissibility, cooccurrence, paraphrastic relations). Therefore, SSyntRels must be such as to allow for convenient verification of the well-formedness of the SSyntS.

- Third, SSyntRels are aimed at linearization, prosodization (punctuation, in written texts), and morphologization of the SSyntS. That is, a SSyntRel must ensure convenient computation of word order for its D, along with the appropriate syntactically-induced prosody/punctuation and syntactically-induced inflections (= agreement and government, cf. Mel’čuk 1993 and 2006: 31ff). As a result, the SSyntRels are constrained from “below” (= by the DSyntS), from “the side” (= by the SSyntS), and from “above” (= by the Deep-Morphological Structure [= DMorphS]). Therefore, all possible Ds of a SSyntRel must have identical or very similar linguistic properties with respect to these three types of constraints.

Each SSyntRel is thus characterized by some specific properties of its dependent member D. In conformity with what has just been said and following Keenan’s work (1976), we distinguish three types of such properties:

1) Syntactic-semantic properties (Keenan’s “semantic interpretation properties”): properties of Ds from the viewpoint of the correspondence to a deeper level of representation—in our case, to the DSynt-level (and further to the Sem-level).

2) Purely syntactic properties (Keenan’s “behavior/control properties”): properties of Ds from the viewpoint of the SSyntS.

3) Syntactic-morphological properties (Keenan’s “coding properties”): properties of Ds from the viewpoint of their expression in the DMorphS.

All these properties can be readily described as values of a set of parameters, relevant for a given language; cf. below.
Now, as we have already said, the D of a particular SSyntRel is nothing else but what is known in the traditional grammar as a clause element (cf., e.g., Quirk et al. 1991: 59ff): the D of the subjectival SSyntRel is the Subject, the D of the direct-objectival SSyntRel is the Direct Object [= DirO], and so on.\(^5\) Thus, establishing different SSyntRels boils down to defining different clause elements. For this task, we can avail ourselves of two interesting results obtained in syntactic typology:

- A clause element is defined by a bundle of linguistic properties of the above-mentioned types (Mel’čuk & Savvina 1974 [1978], Keenan 1976, Borg & Comrie 1984;\(^6\) cf. also Quirk et al. 1991: 723ff, where such definitions are supplied for main clause elements in English, Lazard 1994b: 101ff, with a list of relevant properties of subjects, mainly, but not exclusively, in French, as well as Bresnan 2001: 5-10, 94ff, 302ff and Dalrymple 2001: 8-44). Therefore, the labeled SSyntRel that corresponds to a particular clause element must be defined by the same bundle of properties. Consequently, SSyntRels will be “multifactor” (Keenan 1976: 323), or cluster, concepts.

- Clause elements form a hierarchy such that an element of a higher stand has some relevant properties which no lower element has—but not vice versa (Keenan & Comrie 1977: 66, 1979):\(^7\)

It is natural to require that the corresponding labeled SSyntRels of \(L\) form the same hierarchy. (At the end of the paper, we will briefly return to this hierarchy, known as Keenan-Comrie hierarchy: see p. 222.)

Taking into account these results, we have chosen for French the following sixteen linguistic properties, or parameters, relevant for the description of the valence-controlled SSyntRels (and, of course, of the corresponding clause elements) in the constructions that have a verb as the SSynt-head.

![Parameter List](image)

The properties on the list are parameters admitting some pre-established values; most of them admit just two values: yes (= the property in question is present) or no. For each property \(P\) we indicate the syntactic classes (roughly, parts of speech) to which \(P\) is applicable, except for the cases when \(P\) is applicable to all syntactic classes: the default case.

\(^5\) The main difference between a system of SSynRel in our approach and a system of traditional clause elements is that the former has to distinguish and, as a rule, does distinguish many more different SSynRel than the latter distinguishes different clause elements.

\(^6\) “... each identified grammatical relation represents a clustering of syntactic properties in the language, sufficient to justify the internal cohesion of the grammatical relation and to set it off from other grammatical relations” (Borg & Comrie 1984: 109).

\(^7\) Let it be emphasized that this hierarchy is not a hierarchy of concepts or classes, where each lower element shows all the properties of all higher elements, but not vice versa. Therefore, it is by no means an inheritance hierarchy.
Syntactic-semantic properties of Ds

1. Corresponding to a particular DSynt-actant (of the Governor).

The DSyntA(ctant)s of a verb correspond to its semantic actants and are numbered in the order of growing obliqueness. Roughly speaking, DSyntA I corresponds, for instance, to the semantic Causer, the Actor or the Perceiver, DSyntA II—to the Patient, DSyntA III—to the Beneficiary or the Instrument, etc. (For more on Deep- and Surface-Syntactic actants, see Mel’čuk 2004.)

Purely syntactic properties of Ds

2. Being obligatorily present in any full-fledged clause (of course alongside the Main Verb [= MV]).

To avoid a misunderstanding, let us emphasize that we really mean EVERY clause; thus, for instance, a Direct Object, even if it is obligatory with some verbs, is not found in every clause of French (because not every French clause contains a transitive verb that requires a Direct Object).

3. Being the dependent of the MV only (that is, being unable to depend on anything but a finite verb).

4. Being implicated in SSynt-promotion/demotion (applicable to nouns, infinitives and subordinate clauses).

5. Being the target of cliticization of a specific type.

6. Being the target of relativization (applicable to nouns).

7. Being the target of clefting (applicable to nouns and infinitives).

8. Being the controller/target of reflexivization (applicable to nouns).

9. Being the controller of the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction, namely imposing on it the SSynt-role of IndirO. (For more on the representation of the causative FAIRE-construction in French, see 3.1, No. 3, property 2, on p. 177.)

10. Being the controller of an actantial-attributive complement (applicable to nouns).

Syntactic-morphological properties of Ds

11. Being the target of non-specific morphological or lexical government.

We speak of non-specific government when a particular case form or a particular preposition is imposed on the D of a SSyntRel r by r itself—rather than by the lexical entry of its G, i.e., by the G’s Government Pattern. Cf., for instance, case forms of the clitics leACC vs. luiDAT and of the relative pronouns quiNOM vs. queACC as a function of the subordinating SSyntRel (subjectival, direct-objectival and indirect-objectival); or else the selection of PAR ‘by’ for the D of the agentive SSyntRel. (For non-specific government, see Mel’čuk 1993: 321-322 and 2006: 45-46.)
12. Being the target of morphological agreement (applicable to adjectives: *Alain le trouve intelligent* vs. *Alain la trouve intelligente* ‘Alain finds him/her intelligent’).

13. Being the controller of agreement of the MV.

14. Linear position with respect to G and/or to other $D_1(G)$ (not applicable to clitics and relative pronouns, whose ordering does not depend on the subordinating SSyntRel).

15. Impossibility of left dislocation.

In what follows, we deal only with “pure” left dislocation—namely, prosodic separation from the rest of the clause without use of a resumptive clitic. Note that the dislocated phrase must carry a mounting contour, contrary to fronted phrases characterized by a contrastive descending contour: *Rodin, vous aimez ?* lit. ‘Rodin, do you like?’, with a dislocated phrase, vs. *Douze ans elle avait, pas treize* lit. ‘Twelve years she had, not thirteen’, with a fronted phrase. (Thanks to C. Blanche-Benveniste for drawing our attention to this distinction.)

16. Particular prosody/punctuation (applicable to Direct Speech).\(^8\)

These properties logically correspond to distinctive features used in phonology (to identify the allophones of the same phoneme and to oppose different phonemes), as well as in morphology, syntax and semantics.

The above list was established empirically and by consulting relevant publications. It clearly could be developed into a logical calculus of possibilities, which would help us for a better coverage. At present, it is far from complete. Thus, we are aware that it lacks, for instance, the following properties:

- Typical question (*Qui?* ‘Who?’; *À qui?* ‘To whom?’, *Combien?* ‘How much?’; etc.).

- Pseudo-Clefting of the type *Ce que* CLAUSE\(^1\), *c’est que* CLAUSE\(^2\): *Ce qu’Alain cherche, c’est que tout soit en ordre* ‘What Alain is looking for is that everything be in order’ (Candito 1999: 264).

- Other types of pronominalization (*ce*, *cela*, *là-dessus*, etc.; Blanche-Benveniste 1975 and Eynde & Mertens 2003).

- Reaction to negation (*Alain ne lit pas de romans* ‘Alain does not read novels’, etc.; Abeillé 1997b: 23).

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\(^8\) Using distributional and transformational properties to characterize syntactic entities is by no means a novel idea. For instance, such an approach has been developed for French and applied for a detailed description of thousands of verbs by M. Gross and his collaborators (Gross 1968, 1975; Boons et al. 1976, Guillet & Leclère 1992). They use about a hundred properties to specify the government patterns and isolate useful semantico-syntactic classes of verbs. Since our goals are essentially different (we are interested in SSynt-roles of Dependents, rather than in classes of Governors), our set of relevant properties is also different. However, a few intersections occur: thus, “Antéposition des compléments prépositionnels” of Boons et al. 1976: 200-201 corresponds to our “Impossibility of left dislocation.”
• Control of anaphora (On les présentera les uns aux autres lit. ‘Someone them will introduce to each other’ vs. *On leur présentera les uns les autres lit. ‘Someone to them will introduce each other’; Abeillé 1997a: 25).

• Possible/impossible extraction (le garçon dont le père est en prison ‘the boy whose father is in jail’ ~ le garçon dont Alain connaît le père lit. ‘the boy whose Alain knows the father’ vs. *le garçon dont Alain plaît au père lit. ‘the boy whose Alain is-likable to the father’; Abeillé 1997a: 23).

• Right dislocation.

• Mutual ordering of codependents of the same governor.

• Possibility/impossibility of inserting a parenthetical.

Many additional relevant syntactic properties of the dependents of the French verb are found, in particular, in Gross 1968.

As the next important step, we have to introduce the notion of prototypical D of a given SSyntRel. Since we are working with four major parts of speech—N(ouns), V(erbs), A(djectives), and ADV(erbs), we will group the SSyntRels into four major prototypical-dependent classes: those whose prototypical D is a N, those with the prototypical D being a V in the infinitive, those having an A as their prototypical D, and, finally, those where the prototypical D is an ADV. To this, we add a fifth class with the D being a full utterance (for Direct Speech). As we will see below, within each class, the SSyntRels feature many similar properties, so that our grouping is justified. Now, what exactly is the prototypical D of a SSyntRel?

**Definition 1: Prototypical dependent of a given SSyntRel**

A prototypical D of a SSyntRel $r$ is a D of such a syntactic class (= part of speech) that this D can be used with any G(overnor) possible for $r$.

Thus, the prototypical D of the subjectival SSyntRel is a (prepositionless) noun. Although a D of this SSyntRel can be not only a noun, but also an infinitive and a subordinate clause (Fumer nuit à la santé lit. ‘To-smoke harms to the health’; Qu’Alain ne soit pas là nous inquiète lit. ‘That Alain should not be here bothers us’), any MV in French admits an N (or an impersonal pronoun) as its Subject.

The above 16 linguistic properties that characterize French SSyntRels constitute the maximal set; for a particular class of SSyntRels only a subset of these properties may be relevant—in conformity with the prototypical D of this class. Thus, if the prototypical D of a SSyntRel is an A, the property “Being the target of reflexivization” is simply not applicable: adjectives in French cannot be reflexivized. Therefore, when introducing a SSyntRel $r$, we characterize it according to the properties which are relevant for its prototypical D. We indicate first those properties—or combinations thereof—whose specified values accrue only to (all Ds of) this $r$ and which thus distinguish it from all the other SSyntRels of the same prototypical-dependent class: these are defining properties of $r$. Afterwards, we supply other relevant properties, which are, however, not
exclusive to (the Ds of) \( r \) within the same prototypical-dependent class: descriptive properties. (Lazard 1994b: 68-77 proposes a similar, although different, distinction between “prime” and “secondary” properties.)

The subdivision of SSyntRel into these five prototypical-dependent classes is similar to the subdivision of phonemes into vowels, consonants, and glides; or to the subdivision of inflectional categories into nominal, verbal, adjectival, and adverbial ones; or else to the subdivision of lexemes into semantic classes “action,” “event,” “substance,” etc.

Now we can formulate the substantive requirement a SSyntRel must satisfy:

**Similarity of Relevant Linguistic Properties**

Any D of a SSyntRel \( r \) 1) must share at least some defining properties with the prototypical D´ of \( r \) and 2) must not contradict any property of D´.

A D of \( r \) does not contradict a property P of \( r \) if either it has the same value of P as the prototypical D´ of \( r \) or P is not applicable to this D. Thus, if two Ds of a SSyntRel belong to different parts of speech, some of the properties of \( r \) may be simply inapplicable to one of them and so there is no contradiction.

Let us illustrate the above requirement with an example. The prototypical Direct Object, an N, has the following four defining properties:

1) It can be promoted to the Subject status by passivization (Property 4).

2) It can be replaced with a clitic in the accusative (Property 5).

3) It controls the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction: it does not admit the expression of the Secondary Actor as Direct Object (Property 9).

4) When preceding the MV—that is, when replaced with a clitic or a relative pronoun, it controls the number-gender agreement of the past participles in compound verb forms (Property 13).

Based on these properties, we can consider as Direct Objects not only nouns, but some infinitives as well (introduced by a preposition or prepositionless). Let us consider the infinitive in sentence (1):

(1) 

\[
\text{[Tout le monde] propose–dir-obj–de partir \text{ ‘Everybody proposes to leave’} }
\]

This infinitive has all four defining properties of the prototypical DirO: 1) *Partir* a été proposé par tout le monde ‘To leave was proposed by everybody’; 2) *Partir*: tout le monde le propose lit. ‘To leave, everybody proposes it’; 3) *Cela lui* *(le)* fait proposer de partir demain lit. ‘It makes to-him propose to leave tomorrow’; 4) *Partir*: tout le monde l’a proposé [MASC, SG] lit. ‘To leave, everybody has proposed it’. At the same time, this infinitive does not contradict any property of the prototypical DirO: for a given property, it either features the same value or the property is inapplicable to it. In French, an
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infinitive, whatever its syntactic role, cannot be the target/controller of reflexivization, but this does not prevent us from considering some infinitives as DirOs, along with nouns, which do control reflexivization and can be reflexivized.

The requirement of similarity of relevant properties calls for two important provisos. When checking the values of relevant properties for a given SSyntRel, one must always bear in mind the following two important facts about natural languages.

• If we say something true about a language, it is true everywhere—except for some particular cases, which must be explicitly identified. This happens, for instance, in all types of phraseologized expressions, where general rules and properties of the language can be suspended. Thus, in the notorious idiom kick the bucket the DirO bucket cannot be promoted to Subject—which is one of defining properties of DirOs (*The bucket was kicked, although the verb kick has the passive). However, being part of a phraseme and as a result losing many of its relevant properties does not in principle prevent a DirO from being a DirO. Thus, in the French phrasemes, more precisely, collocations, faire pipi ‘make peepee’, or faire dodo ‘be gone beddy-bye’, PIPi and DODO have almost none of the properties of DirOs—and yet in the causative FAIRE-construction they behave as DirOs, requiring that the SSynt-expression of the Secondary Actor be an IndirO: Alain lui (*le) fait faire pipi/dodo ‘Alain makes to-him go peepee/go beddy-bye’ (Morin 1980: 206). We observe quite a similar behavior of DirOs in many even more opaque phrasemes: lui (*le) faire plier bagage lit. ‘make to-him pack up and go’, lui (*le) faire rendre gorge lit. ‘make to-him give back ill-gotten gains’, lui (*le) faire tenir compte de cela lit. ‘make to-him take this into account’, etc. (Gaaton 1993: 40-41). In all such cases, the boldfaced noun has to be considered a DirO in order to ensure that the Secondary Actor in the causative construction is realized as an IndirO—in spite of the fact that inside the phraseme such a DirO lacks other typical properties of DirOs.

In the same vein, we find individual cases of impossible cliticization which run counter to our general statements. All such particular cases must of course be described in the lexical entries of the corresponding Governors, but we can safely ignore them in the process of establishing the set of SSyntRels of \( L \).

• In many cases, a given clause element seems to lack a relevant property which it should have. This happens because other factors of a completely different nature intervene. Thus, cliticization of a concrete phrase can be precluded by its semantic and communicative features (for instance, by its non-referentiality). The same holds for left dislocation. Again, such cases should be ignored when introducing SSyntRels of \( L \).

In cases in which, from the viewpoint of the above properties, the Ds of two presumed SSyntRels \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \) are sufficiently similar although not identical, we use three formal criteria (stated in Section 2.2 below)—in order to see whether \( r_1 \) and \( r_2 \) can be collapsed into one SSyntRel \( r \) or should be kept apart. For SSynt-constructions whose Ds manifest very dissimilar properties the question of a common SSyntRel does not even rise and the criteria need not to be recurred to.\(^9\)

\(^9\) Such is, for instance, the case for the synonymous French constructions implemented by the phrases l’aide canadienne ‘the Canadian aid’ and l’aide du Canada ‘the aid of Canada’. An agreeing adjectival modifier and a prepositional phrase are so dissimilar in their SSynt-properties that there is not the slightest temptation to describe them with the same SSyntRel. (Adjectival agreement and the presence of a preposition are among the most important syntactic properties in French.)
2.2 Formal requirements to be satisfied by a SSyntRel

Determining the set of SSynt-Relations in a language requires the use of three types of formal syntactic criteria: A. for SSynt-connectedness, B. for SSynt-dominance, and C. for the type of SSynt-Relations. All these criteria are described and discussed in Mel’čuk’s text in this volume: p. 25ff, so that the reader can be referred there. However, since the present paper aims specifically at establishing the types of some SSyntRels for French and therefore Criteria C1-C3 are extensively used, we reproduce their formulations in the present paper (as Criteria 1-3) and illustrate them with French data.

The application of Criteria 1-3 presupposes that the presence and the direction of SSynt-dependency between two lexemes under consideration is already established. Criteria 1-3 help the researcher to decide, for any pair of binary phrases of language \( L \) (and of course for the pair of corresponding constructions) whether both can be described by the same SSyntRel \( r \). These criteria formulate the requirements any SSyntRel must satisfy; if a presumed \( r \) does not satisfy at least one of them, it has to be split into \( r' \) and \( r'' \). If Criteria 1-3 do not require such a split, this by no means entails the acceptance of \( r \): \( r \) still can be undesirable because it does not satisfy the requirement of similarity of the relevant properties of the dependent members of the phrases in question. Thus, Criteria 1-3 state only necessary but not sufficient conditions for grouping several SSynt-constructions under the same SSyntRel.

As mentioned above, these criteria are a specific variation of the three basic criteria used in linguistics for all -emes: semantic contrast (= Minimal Pair Test), substitutability, and combinability.

**Criterion 1: Absence of semantic contrast**

Notations: \( w(L) \) is a wordform of lexeme \( L \) (\( w_i \) and \( w_j \) can be different or identical); \( \oplus \) is the operation of linguistic union, which links signs, in particular—wordforms, according to their syntactics (i.e., their combinatorial properties) and general rules of \( L \).

A SSyntRel must not describe two different phrases

\[
\begin{align*}
w_1(L_1) \oplus w_2(L_2) & \quad \text{and} \quad w_3(L_1) \oplus w_4(L_2), \quad \text{where} \quad L_1 \rightarrow L_2, \\
\end{align*}
\]

which 1) contrast semantically \([w_1(L_1) \oplus w_2(L_2)] \neq [w_3(L_1) \oplus w_4(L_2)]\) and 2) differ formally only by some syntactic means of expression (i.e., by word order, by syntactic prosody, or by syntactic grammemes).

**Examples**

1. Two French phrases \( Alain \leftarrow aime \) ... ‘Alain loves ...’ and ... \( aime \rightarrow Alain \) ‘... loves Alain’ contrast semantically and differ only by word order; therefore, they must be described by different SSyntRels (the subjectival SSyntRel in the first one, and the direct-objectival in the second). Cf. also the discussion of the quotative-objectival SSyntRel below, p. 219.

2. Consider the phrases \( semble \leftarrow fatigué \) and \( fatigué, \rightarrow semble \) in sentences (2a-b):
Can both be described by the same SSyntRel $r$? No, because $r$ would contradict Criterion 1: there is a semantic contrast—(2a) is not synonymous with (2b); and this contrast is expressed by purely syntactic means (word order and prosody).

Criterion 1 corresponds to what is known in linguistics as the *minimal pair test*, which is used in phonology (= two phones cannot be relegated to one phoneme if they are the only distinguishers of the signifiers of two semantically contrasting wordforms), morphology, and semantics.

**Criterion 2: SSynt-substitutability**

The first formalization of the SSynt-substitutability of syntactic subtrees as a means for establishing SSyntRels was proposed by J. Kunze: the so-called Kunze property; see this volume, p. 35. In actual fact, we need a weaker version of it: the quasi-Kunze property. Both notions are formulated and explained in Mel’čuk’s text (p. 36); however, we will partly repeat the discussion here (sometimes verbatim), since we propose to substantiate our decision to use the quasi-Kunze property with French data.

Let there be, in $L$, lexemes $L_{(X)}$, $L_{(Y)}$, ... of syntactic classes $X$, $Y$, ..., complete SSynt-configurations $\Delta_{(Z)}$ and $\Delta_{(W)}$ (i.e., subtrees having as their top nodes lexemes $L_{(Z)}$ and $L_{(W)}$), and a SSyntRel $r$.

**Definition 2: Kunze property**

A SSyntRel $r$ has the Kunze property if and only if for any pair of SSynt-configurations $L_{(X)}\rightarrow r \rightarrow \Delta_{(Z)}$ and $L_{(Y)}\rightarrow r \rightarrow \Delta_{(W)}$, replacing $\Delta_{(Z)}$ by $\Delta_{(W)}$ and vice versa does not affect their syntactic well-formedness.

This means that for a SSyntRel that has the Kunze property any of its potential Ds can be attached to any of its potential Gs (= all Ds of a SSyntRel are mutually substitutable in all SSyntSs *salva correctione*). We think, however, that the Kunze property is too rigid, since it does not allow for some desirable generalizations. For instance, it does not admit the same SSyntRel for nominal and infinitival Subjects, as in (3):

(3)  
\begin{align*}
  &a. \text{La course} \rightarrow \rightarrow \text{fatigue lit.} \quad \text{`The running tires'} \\
  &b. \text{Courir} \rightarrow \rightarrow \text{fatigue lit.} \quad \text{`To-run tires'}
\end{align*}

Since far from any finite verb in French can take an infinitive as its Subject (*Pleuvoir m’a surpris* lit. *To rain has caught me [somewhere]*), the SSyntRel $r$ in the phrases of (3) does not have the Kunze property: with $L_{(X)} = \text{SURPRENDRE} \quad \text{`catch N [somewhere]'}$, $\Delta_{(Z)} = \text{Noun Phrase [e.g., La pluie→r→surprend]}$ and $L_{(Y)} = \text{FATIGUER}$, $\Delta_{(W)} = \text{Infinitive Phrase [e.g., Courir→r→fatigue]}$, the replacement produces the syntactically ill-formed configuration $*V_{\text{inf}}\rightarrow r \rightarrow \text{SURPRENDRE}$. As a result, using the Kunze property leads to having in (3) two different SSyntRels: one for nominal and the other for infiniti-

---

10 A violation of semantic/lexical constraints is not considered as syntactic ill-formedness. Thus, cf. *inside the car vs. *inside Stuttgart or according to Leo vs. *according to the car; however, the starred phrases are considered as syntactically well-formed (PREP + N being a legitimate phrase of English).
tival Subjects (as stated in Kunze 1975: 279). But we think that this \( r \) should not be split: all the Subjects, whether nominal or infinitival, share a set of unique linguistic properties, and we prefer to describe all of them by the same SSyntRel.

Therefore, we propose to use the quasi-Kunze property, which is weaker: substitutability is required only in one direction and only at least by one particular subtree.

**Definition 3: The quasi-Kunze property**

A SSyntRel \( r \) has the quasi-Kunze property if and only if there exists in \( L \) a syntactic class (= part of speech) \( X \) which is different from substitute pronouns and such that for any SSynt-configuration \( L \rightarrow r \rightarrow \Delta(Y) \), replacing \( \Delta(Y) \) by \( \Delta(X) \) (but not necessarily vice versa!) in any SSyntS does not affect the syntactic well-formedness.

The element \( \Delta(X) \) that passes with any Governor of the SSyntRel \( r \) is nothing else but the prototypical D of the SSyntRel \( r \), which has been introduced above, Section 2.1, Definition 1, p. 159.

The SSyntRel \( r \) in (3) has the quasi-Kunze property, since \( r \) has a prototypical D: a prepositionless noun/(impersonal) pronoun—because in French any finite verb admits a nominal Subject.\(^{11} \)

As a result, the same SSyntRel \( r \) is allowed in (3a) and (3b): this is the subjectival SSyntRel.

Note that, while the G is a particular lexeme, the D is considered up to the syntactic class. Thus, for instance, different prepositions are not distinguished: the SSyntRel \( r \) in *insister–r→sur* ‘insist on’, *dépendre–r→de* ‘depend on’ and *comparer–r→avec* ‘compare with’ has the quasi-Kunze property (because a PREP + N phrase can be substituted for its D with any of these verbs, provided the appropriate preposition is chosen according to the verb’s Government Pattern).

Now we can formulate **Criterion 2**:

Any SSyntRel \( r \) must have the quasi-Kunze property.

Or, to put it differently:

Any SSyntRel must have a prototypical D.

**Examples**

1. Two French phrases *pouvoir respirer* ‘be-able to-breathe’ and *couper le bâton* ‘cut the stick’ cannot be described by the same SSyntRel \( r \), since French has no element that could be used as the D of this \( r \) with any modal and any transitive verb; that is, such a

\(^{11} \) The Subject of meteorological verbs (PLEUVOIR ‘[to] rain’, NEIGER ‘[to] snow’, etc.)—the impersonal *IL*—is considered as a particular case of noun (= a pronominal noun which is not a substitute pronoun). Note that with the Kunze property, Subjects in *Il [= Alain] dort* ‘He is sleeping’ and *Il pleut* ‘It is raining’ must be described by two different SSyntRelS.
SSyntRel would have no prototypical D (thus, *pouvoir→N and *couper→Vinf). Consequently, these two phrases require two different SSyntRel. For pouvoir→respirer we propose the infinitival-objectival SSyntRel, while for couper→[le]→bâton] of course the dir-obj SSyntRel should be used.

2. On the other hand, Criterion 2 does not forbid to use the dir-obj SSyntRel for the infinitives with such verbs as INTERDIRE ‘forbid’ or PRÉFÉRER ‘prefer’, cf. (4):

(4)  a. interdire–dir-obj→de partir ‘forbid to leave’
préférer–dir-obj→partir ‘prefer to leave’

Here, a substitution of the infinitive by a prototypical—nominal—DirO is possible:

b. interdire–[le]–dir-obj→départ ‘forbid the departure’
préférer–[le]–dir-obj→départ ‘prefer the departure’

With the Kunze property, the description shown in (4a) would not be allowed because of (4c):

c. couper–dir-obj–[le]→bâton ‘cut the stick’

but

*couper–dir-obj→de partir ‘cut to leave’

In other words, since there are many French transitive verbs that do not take infinitives as DirOs, as COUPER above, the Kunze property disallows us to treat an infinitive as DirO with every verb.

3. Nor does Criterion 2 forbid the use of the same cop(ular)-attr(ibutive)-compl(itive) SSyntRel to describe the phrases être→avec [sa mère] ‘be with his/her mother’ and sembler→malade ‘seem ill’: although *sembler→avec [sa mère] ‘seem with his/her mother’ is impossible, it suffices that the adjective, which is the prototypical D of the cop-attr-compl SSyntRel, passes with both Gs (être→malade ‘be ill’ and sembler→malade ‘seem ill’). Again, should we use the Kunze property, we would have to split the cop-attr-compl SSyntRel into at least two different SSyntRel.

NB: Criterion 2 should not be applied to the phrases that realize the SSynt-constructions which do not have direct DSynt-correlates because they are obtained from underlying DSynt-constructions by special rules (so to speak, transformations; for instance, to the construction of the type Il est venu trois étudiants lit. ‘It has come three students’ = ‘There came three students’).

Criterion 2 corresponds to what is known in linguistics as the substitution test. Linguistic units A and B that are mutually substitutable (optional distribution) or, at least, unilaterally substitutable (B can always be substituted by A, but not vice versa: inclusive distribution) are included—under some additional conditions—in one unit of a higher level. Thus, in phonology, two phones must be relegated to the same phoneme

12 The phrases [Il] le peut [la]. ‘[He] can it’ and [Il] le coupe ‘[He] cuts it’ do not constitute a counterexample: the two le seen here (they belong to two different lexemes) are substitute pronouns, which are explicitly excluded from consideration.
if one can be substituted by the other in any context \textit{salva significatione}. In morphology, the notions of gender and grammatical case are often defined as substitution classes (cf., e.g., Gladkij 1983). In this paper, we deal with substitution of SSynt-subtrees which depend, in a given SSyntS, on the same G via the same SSyntRel \(r\). Let it be emphasized that in principle mutual substitutability is neither necessary nor sufficient property of units belonging to the same \(-\)eme. On the one hand, allophones or allomorphs are, in a majority of cases, in complementary distribution—i.e., they are never substitutable; on the other hand, absolute synonyms, which are fully mutually substitutable, do not belong to one \(-\)eme. In our case, Criterion 2, as it is formulated, is a necessary condition for the unification of some constructions under one SSyntRel: it can forbid such unification. However, it is not sufficient: it does not impose the unification. For us, the possibility of substitution entails no more than the possibility of unification of several constructions, since a substantial difference in their linguistic properties may prevent us from unifying them under one SSyntRel. For instance, Le Goffic (1993: 169) mentions the fact that, with a phasal verb, the infinitive alternates, more or less freely, with an obvious DirO: \textit{commencer à travailler} ‘begin to work’ \(\approx\) \textit{commencer le travail} ‘begin the work’; he concludes that this infinitive is a DirO. We, however, do not believe that such an alternation is a decisive argument: it is typologically well-known that the same DSyntA can be expressed by different SSynt-elements. Thus, consider \textit{l’aide canadienne} ‘the Canadian aid’ \(\approx\) \textit{l’aide du Canada} ‘the aid of Canada’; here the adjective and the DE-phrase express both the same DSyntA (=1) of \textit{aide} ‘[the] aid’. Criterion 2 does not forbid subsuming these two constructions under the same SSyntRel, since the substitution of such a denominal adjective by the DE-phrase is always possible. However, the defining properties of the Ds in both constructions do not warrant such unification (cf. Footnote 9, p. 161).

**Criterion 3: Repeatability with the same SSynt-Governor**

In order to formulate Criterion 3 we need to define non-repeatable and repeatable SSyntRels.

\begin{center}
\textbf{A SSyntRel} \(r\) \textbf{is non-repeatable if and only if no more than one branch labeled} \(r\) \textbf{can start from any G.}
\end{center}

In other words, in \(L\), a G of a non-repeatable \(r\) can have, in a given SSyntS, only one D (= one clause element) of the corresponding type.

For instance, actantial SSyntRels whose Ds are marked by purely syntactic means (word order, prosody, inflection)—such as the \textit{subj} and the \textit{dir-obj} SSyntRels in French or in English—are obligatorily non-repeatable: otherwise, they would violate Criterion 1, because their Ds would contrast semantically, while differing only in syntactic means. (Actantial SSyntRels whose Ds are marked by lexical means, that is, by different prepositions—such as the \textit{oblique-objectival} SSyntRel—can be repeatable.)

In some languages, a clause element can be duplicated by a pronoun; as a rule, this pronoun is what is called a \textit{resumptive clitic}. Such is, for instance, the D of the \textit{dir-obj} SSyntRel in Spanish, where we have the construction of the type (5a):
We do not consider pronominal duplication of a clause element as repeatability, since such duplication has a (more or less) grammaticized character and is orthogonal to the genuine cooccurrence of SSyntRel. In spite of the expressions of the type (5a), the dir-obj SSyntRel is considered non-repeatable in Spanish. Similarly, in spite of (5b), the indir-obj SSyntRel is also non-repeatable in French:

A SSyntRel $r$ is unlimitedly repeatable—or, for short, repeatable—if and only if several branches labeled $r$ can start from a G such that their possible number is theoretically unlimited.

In practice, this number is limited by pragmatic considerations (interpretability by the addressee, etc.) or by the properties of particular Gs, as a rule—by their Government Pattern, as is the case with the obl-obj SSyntRel, cf. below, p. 196, Item 1. Thus, the modificative and the circumstantial SSyntRel in French and English are unlimitedly repeatable; so is the obl(ique)-obj(ectival) SSyntRel (although the actual number of possible OblOs is obviously controlled by the Government Pattern of the G).

**Criterion 3** runs as follows:

Any $r$ of language $L$ must be either non-repeatable or unlimitedly repeatable.

An equivalent formulation:

No SSyntRel can be limitedly repeatable, i.e., if it is repeatable, its repeatability cannot be constrained to a particular number by general syntactic factors.

**Examples**

1. To illustrate limited repeatability, consider the French sentence (6):

   (6) *Ils lisent tous ce roman très jeunes* ‘They read all this novel very young’.

If we try to describe the phrases *lisent→tous* and *lisent→jeunes* by the same SSyntRel $r$, it would be repeatable exactly two times, since no more non-actantial adjectives can be added to the construction in question as attributes of the MV, no matter what particular verb we take. Thus, $r$ is neither non-repeatable, nor unlimitedly repeatable, which is not allowed by Criterion 3. Therefore, we need here two different SSyntRel.
2. Another example:

(7) *Il est venu trois étudiants* lit. ‘It has come three students’.

One could think that both nominal Ds of the MV (the impersonal *il* and the noun *étudiants*) are Subjects, so that the phrases *il est venu* and *est venu trois étudiants* can be described by the same *subj* SSyntRel. (Some actually say so, treating *il* and *trois étudiants* as two Subjects in the same clause.) Criteria 1 and 2 do not prevent us from doing so: they are not applicable. (More specifically, Criterion 1 is not applicable, because the phrases *il est venu* ... and ... *est venu trois étudiants* cannot be contrasted semantically; and Criterion 2 is not applicable because the construction in question has been produced by a “transformational” rule, see above, p. 165.) However, Criterion 3 is not satisfied: the *subj* SSyntRel would be limitedly repeatable—again exactly two times, and this, not because of the Government Pattern of the MV. Therefore, we have to use here two different SSyntRelS:

\[
Il\leftarrow\text{subj}–\text{est}–[\text{venu}–\text{quasi-subj}–[\text{trois}–\text{étudiants}].
\]

This decision agrees quite well with our linguistic intuition, which is based on the following two considerations, a specific and a general one:

- The SSynt-properties of *il* and *trois étudiants* in this construction are very different; for details, see the properties of the *subj* SSyntRel (p. 170) vs. the properties of the *quasi-subj* SSyntRel (p. 174).

- One of the tenets of syntactic typology is the uniqueness of the Subject in a clause; we would like to retain this feature.

Criterion 3 corresponds roughly to the *cooccurrence test*, used in linguistics on all levels of analysis. Thus, two phones cannot be included in the same phoneme if one of them contradicts the general conditions for phonemic cooccurrence in *L*. In morphology, an element of a morphological category is either non-repeatable (tense or number in English or French) or unlimitedly repeatable (the causative in Turkish). When we see, for instance, just two possible repetitions—like nominal case suffixes in Basque or Georgian, we speak of two different case categories (semantic case vs. syntactic case; governed case vs. agreeing case; see Mel’čuk 2006: 110ff).

Criteria 1 and 2 are paradigmatic, while Criterion 3 is syntagmatic.

To sum up the discussion in Section 2:

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A SSyntRel is postulated for a particular family of SSynt-constructions $G_i \rightarrow D_j$ if and only if all these constructions

1) satisfy the requirement of the similarity of the relevant properties of their Ds and

2) satisfy Criteria 1-3.

---

The similarity of relevant properties, on the one hand, and the Criteria 1-3, on the other, play different roles:
— A sufficient similarity of properties of the constructions A and B argues for using the same SSyntRel r to describe them; more precisely, it recommends uniting A and B under the same r.

— Criteria 1-3 argue for not using the same SSyntRel r to describe A and B; more precisely, they forbid uniting A and B under the same r.

### 3 SSynt-Relations between a verb and its valence-controlled dependents

The theoretical principles discussed in Section 2 have been systematically applied to French data in the domain of valence-controlled verb dependents. In this section we present the results: a partial list of 16 SSyntRels of French, with some explanations and justifications.

A SSyntRel is designated by an adjective derived from the name of the SSynt-role of its D, that is, the name of the corresponding clause element. For instance, we call the SSyntRels linking John to have and children to have subjectival and direct-objectival:

\[\text{John} \rightarrow \text{subj(ectival)} \rightarrow \text{has} \rightarrow \text{dir(ect)} \rightarrow \text{obj(ectival)} \rightarrow \text{children},\]

because John is the Subject, and children, the Direct Object of the MV HAVE.

As stated above, the SSyntRels considered are grouped into five classes, according, roughly speaking, to the part of speech of their prototypical D:

- **Class I:** the prototypical D is an N (without or with a preposition);
- **Class II:** the prototypical D is a V in the infinitive (without or with a preposition);
- **Class III:** the prototypical D is an A;
- **Class IV:** the prototypical D is an adverbial (= an ADV, a prepositional phrase or a phrase introduced by the comparative conjunction COMME ‘as’);
- **Class V:** the prototypical D is a clause.

Each SSyntRel r is described in four steps:

- Relevant linguistic properties of r. (When a property is not applicable to all types of Ds of a given r, but only to some of them, we indicate its value for the prototypical D.)

- Formal types of the Ds of r.

- Justification of r: in non-obvious situations, we try to show that r cannot be collapsed with a different r’.

- Comments on difficult cases and interesting features of specific constructions (if any).
3.1 SSyntRels whose prototypical dependent is a noun

SUBJECTIVAL, OBJECTIVAL and AGENTIVE SSynt-Relations (1 - 7)

The order of the presentation of the SSyntRels in this group is in accordance with the syntactic hierarchy of the corresponding clause elements (see below, 4.1, p. 222).

1. Subjectival SSyntRel: G→subj→D

The prototypical D is a prepositionless noun. Any French verb can take an N (or an impersonal pronoun) as its Subject: cf. Me promener là-bas me tente ‘To go for a walk there tempts me’ ~ Que je me promène là-bas me tente ‘That I go for a walk there tempts me’ ~ Une promenade là-bas me tente ‘A walk there tempts me’; etc.

Properties

The dependent member of the subj SSyntRel is the Subject, which is the most privileged clause element directly depending on a verb in L. In French, the SSynt-privileges of the Subject are the following seven properties that accrue to Subjects only and thus may be considered defining properties:

1) Only the Subject corresponds to DSyntA I of the MV.

Exception

The Quasi-Subject, which is obtained by the Impersonalization DSynt-rule, also corresponds to DSyntA I of the MV, see below, No. 2, property 3, p. 174.

Note that:

— A Subject may correspond to no DSyntA at all, as the formal, or dummy, Surface Subject, i.e., the impersonal it, or the Surface Subject of an idiomatic expression of the type Quelle mouche l’a piqué? lit. ‘What fly bit him?’ = ‘What makes him so irritated?’.

Cf. as well Dans cette famille, la culotte a été portée par madame lit. ‘In this family, the pants have been worn by the lady’, where the Surface Subject CULOTTE is part of the idiom porter la culotte ‘wear the pants’ = ‘dominate’. This idiom is represented at the DSynt-level as one node; therefore, CULOTTE does not correspond to any DSyntA.

— The Agentive phrase that depends on the infinitive in the construction with FAIRE, SE FAIRE and SE VOIR corresponds to its DSyntA I: Il a fait écrire la lettre par la secrétaire lit. ‘He has made write the letter by the secretary’, or Il s’est fait renverser par un camion lit. ‘He has made himself hit by a truck’, No. 6, property 2, p. 193.

2) Only the Subject is obligatorily present in (the SSyntS of) any full-fledged clause.13 (Note that we consider here only clauses with a finite verb form as their SSynt-predicate; such clauses as Voilà Alain ‘Here is Alain’ or Heureusement [qu’il est là] lit. ‘Happily that he’s here’ do not have a Subject.)

3) Only the Subject can depend on nothing but the MV. This means that in no situation a clause element different from the finite verb—for instance, an infinitive or a participle—can govern a Subject.

13 We believe that in imperative sentences the Subject is present in the SSyntS (it controls the person and number of the verb), but does not appear on the surface.
Exception
The Quasi-Subject can also depend on nothing but the MV.

4) Only the Subject can be the target of demotion by passivization (to an Agentive phrase).

Let it be emphasized that this approximate formulation is used here for simplicity’s sake. In the Meaning-Text theory, a Subject, i.e., an element of the SSyntS, cannot be “moved.” What we mean here is as follows: “In French, only DSyntA I, which is to be implemented as a Subject, can be demoted by passivization, that is, become DSyntA II.”

5) Only the Subject can be the target of a particular non-specific morphological government—namely, if it is replaced by a clitic or a relative pronoun, the latter is in the nominative: Il NOM [= le vin] est bon ‘It [= the wine] is good’, [le pain] qui NOM nous nourrit ‘[the bread] which feeds us’, C’est partir qui NOM m’inquiète ‘It is to leave that bothers me’, C’est que Helen soit là qui NOM nous intéresse lit. ‘It is that Helen should be here that interests us’.

6) Only the Subject controls the agreement of the finite MV: Vous êtes chez vous ‘You are at home’, Alain et Helen sont chez eux ‘Alain and Helen are at home’; Travailler trop et boire beaucoup sont mauvais pour la santé ‘To work too much and drink a lot are bad for your health’.

Exception
With the Subject CE ‘this’ and the MV ÊTRE ‘be’, it is the Copular-Attributive Complement that controls the agreement of the MV, cf. Ce sont mes amis lit. ‘This are my friends’.

7) Among the valence-controlled dependents, only the Subject normally precedes the Main Verb.

Exception
A Subject may follow the MV in a set of well-defined constructions, such as interrogative inversion, inversion with the introduction of Direct Speech, Subject inversion in a relative clause, etc. Cf., e.g., Est-elle arrivée ? ‘Has she arrived’?; ... sans que se modifie le chiffre total des ventes lit. ‘without that modifies itself the total figure of sales’; Je me demande quand partira Alain lit. ‘I ask myself when will leave Alain’; « Me voilà ! » dit Alain ‘I am here’!, said Alain’; C’est là où Alain veut aller ‘It is there where Alain wants to-go’ ~ C’est là où veut aller Alain lit. ‘It is there where wants to-go Alain’; etc.

In addition, the Subject has seven more relevant (descriptive) properties:

8) The Subject can be the target of cliticization by a personal clitic: Est-elle venue ? ‘Has she come’?.

NB: In accordance with the proposal of Morin 1985: 794ff, we do not consider as the Subject the clitic that participates in the interrogative/exclamatory inversion in the presence of an explicit anteposed nominal Subject. Thus, in Alain a-t-il mangé ? lit. ‘Alain has he eaten’?, ALAIN is the Subject, but IL—or, more precisely, -t-il/-t-elle—is taken to be an interrogative/exclamatory marker that agrees with the

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14 “The MV agrees with the Subject” means that the form of the MV is determined as a function of the Subject, not that their relevant grammemes coincide. Thus, in Travailler deux jours et qu’on me paye le double me convient [= SG] parfaitement lit. ‘To work two days and that they pay me the double suits me perfectly’, the MV agrees with the conjointed Subject, just as it does in La plupart sont [= PL] heureux ‘The majority are happy’, although the number of the Subject and the number of the MV are different.
Subject or with the DirO, it depends on the MV via a special auxiliary SSyntRel. (If a nominal Subject is postposed to the MV, this marker cannot be used: *À quelle heure a-t-il mangé Alain? lit. At what hour has he eaten Alain?) On the contrary, in A-t-il mangé ? or Pléut-il ? ‘Does it rain?’, the clitic IL ‘he’/it is of course the Subject.

9) The Subject can be the target of relativization: J’aime ce livre, qui décrit les voyages d’Amundsen ‘I like this book, which describes Amundsen’s travels’.

10) The Subject can be the target of clefting: *C’est Helen qui veut partir ‘It is Helen who wants to leave’; C’est (de) partir le plus vite possible qui m’intéresse lit. ‘It is to leave as soon as possible that interests me’.

11) The Subject can be the controller of reflexivization: Alain se rase ‘Alain shaves himself’.

Exception
In the Impersonalization construction, it is the Quasi-Subject that controls reflexivization, rather than the Subject, No. 2, property 8, p. 174.

12) The Subject does not control the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction: since the Subject is present in any clause, it cannot be distinctive in this respect, so that this property is not applicable to Subjects.

13) The Subject can be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement: Cette nouvelle est considérée comme intéressante lit. ‘This piece of news is considered as interesting’.

14) The Subject cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Alain, est venu hier lit. ‘Alain, has come yesterday’.

Formal types of Subject
1. A prepositionless noun in the broad sense:
   a. A noun (including the subclass of stressed pronouns): Alain travaille ‘Alain is working’; Celui de mon père est plus grand ‘That of my father is bigger’.
   b. A SSynt-equivalent of a noun: a substantivized adjective (Le plus sage est de tout oublier ‘The wisest [thing to do] is to forget everything’), a headless relative (Qui veut y aller doit faire une demande lit. ‘Who wants to go there should make an application’) or a quantitative phrase of the type Beaucoup de livres ont été perdus ‘Many books have been lost’.
   c. The impersonal clitic IL or a personal clitic in the nominative: Il pleut ‘It rains’; Elle lit ‘She reads’.

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15 The reasons for this decision are based on the following examples (from Morin 1985), which we quote without discussion:
(i) Ces conclusions, ne voilà-t-il (*-elles) pas qu’elles sont caduques maintenant ? ‘These conclusions, is it not the case that they are obsolete now?’
(ii) Ne la voilà-t-elle (*-il) pas prisonnière de ses mensonges ? ‘Isn’t she a prisoner of her lies?’
(iii) Cela la gêne-t-il ?/ Cela la gêne-t-elle ? ‘Does this bother her?’
(iv) Cela te gêne-t-il ?/ Cela la gêne-t-elle ? ‘Does this bother you [SG, MASC/FEM]?’
(v) Comment Marie le trouve-t-il ? ‘How does Mary find him?’
2. An infinitive (with or without preposition): Courir fatigue Alain (‘To run tires Alain’);
De voir ça m’a bouleversé (‘To see this has upset me’); Se plaindre passe pour un signe de faiblesse (‘To complain is considered as a sign of weakness’).

3. A subordinate clause:
   a. A QUE-clause (with the MV in the subjunctive): Que Helen soit arrivée étonne Alain lit. (‘That Helen should have arrived amazes Alain’).
   b. A clause with an interrogative pronoun: Pourquoi Alain a dit cela reste un grand mystère (‘Why Alain has said this remains a great mystery’).

4. Direct Speech: « On doit partir le plus tôt possible » est la consigne que tout le monde comprend (‘We have to leave as soon as possible’) is the slogan that everyone understands.

Comments

1. Nominal Subjects and non-nominal Subjects show two types of differences:

   • Different behavior with respect to word order: thus, inversion rules do not apply to non-nominal Subjects (= formal types 2 - 4).

   • A nominal and a non-nominal Subjects are not easily coordinated with each other, even where semantics allows this coordination: *Courir et le travail physique fatiguent Alain* (‘To run and physical work tire Alain’). Such coordination, however, does not seem to be completely ungrammatical, and it is better in some cases: *Manger trop de fraises et la sieste sont mes deux péchés* (‘To eat too many strawberries and the siesta are my two sins’). Coordination of two different non-nominal constructions is possible without problems: *Travailler deux jours et qu’on me paye le double m’arrange* (‘To work two days and be paid the double suits me’).

   Facts of this type are irrelevant for SSyntRel as such; they must be taken care of in DSynt-rules (during the DSyntS ⇒ SSyntS transition).

2. An impersonal verb such as PLEUVOIR (‘[to] rain’), which governs the impersonal clitic il lit. ‘it’ as its SSynt-Subject, may in turn depend on a chain of modal, phasic etc. verbs: *Il commence à pleuvoir* (‘It begins to rain’), *Il risque de pleuvoir* lit. ‘It risks to rain’, *Il risque de commencer à pleuvoir* lit. ‘It risks to begin to rain’, *Il continue de tonner* (‘It continues to thunder’), *Il a cessé de neiger* (‘It ceased to snow’), etc.; the impersonal verb is then one of possible Objects of the last verb in the chain. As a result, the impersonal il lit. must percolate through the chain to its head, of which it becomes the SSynt-Subject: *Il*→→→→*subj–commence–obl-infin-obj*→→→→*à–preposit*→pleuvoir.

   This is a well-known phenomenon, related to the existence of a verbo-nominal dependency chain of the above type, called nucleus. (This formal notion was introduced by S. Kahane: Kahane 1997, 2000, Kahane & Mel’čuk 1999: 61ff.) A nucleus is thus transparent to the subjectival government of its dependent full verb.

2. Quasi-subjectival SSyntRel: G–quasi-subj→D

This SSyntRel has no prototypical D: the constructions covered by it do not have direct DSynt-correlates, being produced by a lexically restricted DSynt-rule of Impersonalization (cf. NB after the formulation of Criterion 2, p. 165).
Properties
The dependent member of the quasi-subj SSyntRel is the Quasi-Subject: an element that corresponds—in an impersonal construction—to DSyntA I of the MV, but is not the Subject, the Subject being the impersonal clitic Il ‘it’ or the demonstrative pronoun CELA/ÇA ‘this’ (Il est raconté beaucoup d’histoires bizarres lit. ‘It is [being] told many strange stories’; Cela m’étonne qu’Alain soit venu lit. ‘This amazes me that Alain should have come’). The Quasi-Subject is introduced, together with Il or CELA, in the SSyntS by the Impersonalization rule—under the control of communicative information. With some verbs the application of this rule is obligatory: Il semble qu’Alain soit venu ‘It seems that Alain has come’ ~ *Qu’Alain soit venu semble.

The Quasi-Subject has only two out of seven defining properties of the genuine Subject: the correspondence to DSyntA I of the MV and the ability to depend only on the MV; therefore, it can by no means be considered a Subject. In the French grammatical tradition, the Quasi-Subject is called sujet réel ‘real subject’, while the impersonal Il is sujet apparent ‘apparent subject’. These terms show the failure to distinguish the semantic and the syntactic levels: from the viewpoint of syntax, it is rather Il which is the “real” subject, while our Quasi-Subject is an “apparent” subject.

The Quasi-Subject has two defining properties:

1) The Quasi-Subject can be the target of clefting: C’est des étudiants qu’il est venu lit. ‘It is students that it has come’.

2) The Quasi-Subject is not obligatorily present in every full-fledged clause.

Its descriptive properties are:

3) The Quasi-Subject corresponds to DSyntA I of the MV, being the product of DSynt-rule of Impersonalization.

4) The Quasi-Subject can depend on nothing but the MV.[2]

5) The Quasi-Subject cannot be promoted/demoted.

6) A nominal Quasi-Subject can be the target of cliticization and is substitutable by the clitic en: Il en [= bâtiments de ce type] a été construit en France en 1970 lit. ‘It has been built thereof [= buildings of this type] in France in 1970’, Il en [= des coups] pleuvait lit. ‘It rained thereof [= blows]’, Il en [= des camions] arrive lit. ‘It is arriving thereof [= trucks]’.

7) The Quasi-Subject cannot be the target of relativization: toutes ces histoires *qu’il a été racontées lit. ‘all these stories that it has been told’.

8) The Quasi-Subject can be the controller of reflexivization: Tous les ans, à la même période, il se baigne dans le Gange des milliers de fidèles lit. ‘Every year, at the same period, there bathe themselves in the Ganges thousands of [the] faithful’.
9) The Quasi-Subject does not control the role of the Secondary Actor in the causative faire-construction: the Quasi-Subject is incompatible with the causative construction, so that this property is not applicable to it.

10) The Quasi-Subject cannot be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement: *Il est considéré de telles théories comme fort intéressantes lit. ‘It is considered such theories as very interesting’. (However, as C. Blanche-Benveniste points out, with some verbs this construction is possible: Il a été choisi quelques exemples comme représentatifs de l’ensemble lit. ‘It has been chosen a few examples as representative of the set’.)

11) The Quasi-Subject cannot be the target of non-specific morphological government. (Non-specific morphological government manifests itself in French only with personal clitics, which distinguish cases; however, the Quasi-Subject is not cliticizable by personal clitics.)

12) The Quasi-Subject cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

13) The Quasi-Subject always follows the MV.

14) The Quasi-Subject cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Des étudiants, il est venu lit. ‘Students, it has come’.

NB: A nominal Quasi-Subject has an additional important property: it must be indefinite or—for mass nouns—partitive (Il tombait de la neige lit. ‘It was falling of the snow’). Typical exceptions to this condition include phrases with possessive or demonstrative pronouns: Il pourrait encore venir ton frère, son copain et sa femme lit. ‘It could still come your brother, his pal and his wife’; S’il survenait encore ce même accident, voici ce qu’il faudrait faire lit. ‘If it happens again the same accident, here is what is to be done’.

**Formal types of Quasi-Subject**

1. An indefinite or partitive prepositionless noun (including indefinite and interrogative pronouns): Il pleuvait des coups lit. ‘It was raining blows’; Il risque d’être venu des gens lit. ‘It is possible that some people have come’; Il est tombé de la neige lit. ‘It has fallen of the snow’; Il est entré quelqu’un lit. ‘It has entered somebody’; Il est entré qui ? ~ Qui est-il entré ? lit. ‘Who has entered?’.

2. The clitic EN.

3. An infinitive of a normal (non-impersonal) verb with the preposition de: Cela fatigue Alain de courir lit. ‘This tires Alain to run’; Il n’est pas difficile de savoir quand Alain partira ‘It is not difficult to know when Alain will leave’.

4. A subordinate que-clause: Il semble qu’Alain est venu ‘It seems that Alain has come’; Il/Cela m’étonne qu’Alain soit venu lit. ‘It/This amazes me that Alain should have come’.
5. Direct Speech: *Il a été annoncé: «Restez tranquilles!»* ‘It has been announced: ‘Remain calm!’’.

**Comments**

1. Although the constructions listed above do not have a common prototypical D, this does not prevent us from subsuming all of them under the same SSyntRel. Criterion 2 is simply not applicable in this case: the constructions in question do not have direct DSynt-correlates, being produced by a lexically restricted DSynt-rule of Impersonalization.

2. G. Lazard (1994a) considers only nominal expressions, including EN, as possible Quasi-Subjects (*actant H*, in his terms). Actually, he describes these as something intermediate between Subjects and Direct Objects, with which they share several properties (Lazard 1994a: 9), but, in any rate, as a separate SSynt-role. We do the same thing, with the difference that we include under the label of quasi-subjectival SSyntRel three other constructions, which have not been considered by Lazard.

3. Nominal and non-nominal Quasi-Subjects show the following important difference: the presence of a nominal Subject with a given verb does by no means entail the possibility of the Impersonalization rule, which will produce a Quasi-Subject; only some existential verbs and all the verbs in the passive admit it. However, the presence of a non-nominal Subject with a verb automatically entails the possibility of the Impersonalization; as indicated above, in some cases, this is even obligatory.

4. Another important difference cuts across nominal and non-nominal Quasi-Subjects: some of them correlate with genuine Subjects possible on the surface while some others do not. For instance: *Il pleuvait des coups* ‘It rained blows’ ~ *Des coups pleuvaien*t ‘Blows rained’ or *Il fatigue Alain de courir* ‘It tires Alain to run’ ~ *Courir fatigue Alain* ‘To run tires Alain’; but *Il semble qu’Alain est venu* ‘It seems that Alain has come’ ~ *Qu’Alain est venu semble*.

**3. Direct-objectival SSyntRel: G–dir-obj→D**

The prototypical D is a prepositionless noun: cf. *Alain propose de partir* ‘Alain proposes to leave’ ~ *Alain propose le départ* ‘Alain proposes the departure’; *Alain sait quoi lui répondre* lit. ‘Alain knows what to answer to him’ ~ *Alain sait la réponse* ‘Alain knows the answer’; etc.

**Properties**

The dependent member of the dir-obj SSyntRel is the Direct Object [= DirO]. It is the second most privileged clause element depending on a verb in L. In French, the SSynt-privileges of the DirO are the following four defining properties:

1) Only the DirO can be the target of promotion (to Subject—by passivization).

**Exception**

In the Accusativus-Cum-Infinitivo construction, the promotion of the DirO is not accepted by some speakers in some contexts: *Helen a été vue sortir de l’immeuble* ‘Helen has been seen to go out of the building’ (Abeillé 1997b: 15).
If the verb governing a DirO is not passivizable as such, this property is taken to be not applicable. Thus, it is not applicable, for instance, in the case of *avoir ce livre* ‘have this book’, since *AVOIR* (in this sense) does not have the passive. The same holds for *comporter trois parties* ‘contain three parts’. (Many transitive verbs that do not passivize inside phrasemes are quoted in Gaatone 1993: 42-48: *donner lieu* ‘give rise’ ~ *Le lieu a été donné*; *prendre froid* ‘catch cold’ ~ *Le froid a été pris*; *faire le désespoir* (d’Alain) ‘make (Alain’s) despair’ ~ *Le désespoir a été fait*; *foutre le camp* ‘flee, get out of here’ ~ *Le camp a été foutu*; etc. On unpassivizable French transitive verbs, see also Leclère 1993.) But the case of *Alain a commencé à travailler* ‘Alain has begun to work’ vs. *(À) travailler a été commencé par Alain* ‘To work has been begun by Alain’ is different: here this property is applicable and not satisfied, since *COMMENCER*—in this sense!—has a passive: *Le travail a été commencé* ‘The work has been begun’. (As a result, à *V*\textsubscript{inf} with *COMMENCER* is not considered to be a DirO, cf. Comment 6 below, p. 185.)


In order to explain this property, we have to say a few words about the syntactic representation of the French causative construction *FAIRE* + *V* (*Alain fait dormir* Helen lit. ‘Alain makes sleep Helen’, *Alain fait lire un roman à Helen* lit. ‘Alain makes read a novel to Helen’ = ‘Alain makes Helen read a novel’). At the DSynt-level, it is represented as follows:

![Diagram of DSynt for FAIRE + V](image)

The causative *FAIRE* is considered to have three DSyntAs: its DSyntA I is the Primary Actor, or the Causer; the DSyntA II is the Secondary Actor, i.e., the demoted Actor of the lexical verb *V* (*Helen* in our examples); and the DSyntA III is the lexical verb itself (see also Comment 1, p. 203).

The SSynt-role of the corresponding clause elements depends on the transitivity of *V* and the presence of a DirO with this *V*.

- If *V* is intransitive or, being transitive, has no DirO, the Secondary Actor is realized as the DirO of *FAIRE*; cf.:

  (8)  
  a. Helen sort de sa chambre [= ObI\textsubscript{O} of *SORTIR*] ‘Helen goes out of her room’.
  vs.
  b. Alain fait sortir Helen [= DirO of *FAIRE* de sa chambre] [= ObI\textsubscript{O} of *SORTIR*] lit. ‘Alain makes go out Helen from her room’.

  *Alain la (*lui*) fait sortir de sa chambre
  lit. ‘Alain makes her go out from her room’.
c. Helen lit chaque soir (Helen reads every night).

vs.

d. Alain fait lire Helen (= DirO of FAIRE) chaque soir
   lit. (Alain makes read Helen every night).

Alain la (*lui) fait lire chaque soir lit. (Alain makes read her every night).

• If V is transitive and has an expressed DirO, the Secondary Actor is realized as an Indirect Object of FAIRE; cf.:

\[9\]

a. Alain fait lire le roman (= DirO of LIRE) à Helen (= IndirO of FAIRE) (*Helen)
   lit. (Alain makes read the novel to Helen).

Alain lui (*la) fait lire le roman
   lit. (Alain makes to her read the novel) = (Alain makes her read the novel).

Cf. also:

\[10\]

J’ai fait comprendre à Alain (= IndirO of FAIRE) (*Alain) que c’était inutile (= DirO of COMPRENDRE),
   lit. (I have made understand to Alain that this was useless).

Je lui (*l’)ai fait comprendre que c’était inutile,
   lit. (I have made understand to him that this was useless).

Thus, when we say that a DirO is the controller of the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor, we mean the following:

If the DirO of the lexical verb is present, the Secondary Actor in a causative construction must be realized as an IndirO of FAIRE, and in its absence, as a DirO of the latter.

3) Only the DirO can be the target of particular non-specific morphological government—the clitic/the relative pronoun replacing the corresponding noun is in the accusative: Je le ACC [le vin] bois (I drink it [= the wine]), [le pain] que ACC j’ai acheté (the bread that I have bought).

**Exceptions**
The Pseudo-DirO can also be replaced by an accusative clitic, see p. 190.

4) Only the DirO is the controller of the agreement of the past participle in compound forms of the MV in case the DirO precedes the participle (the DirO is the relative pronoun or a clitic): les lettres que j’ai écrites (the letters that I have written), Je les [les lettres] ai écrites (I have written them [= the letters]).

**Exceptions**
1. The past participle of inherently impersonal verbs does not agree with the DirO: les lettres qu’il m’a fallu (*fallues) lit. (the letters that it needed me), les chaleurs qu’il a fait (*faites) lit. (the heats that it made).

2. The DirO implemented by the clitic EN does not control the agreement of the past participle, so that we have Des lettres, j’en ai écrit (*écrites) dans ma vie lit. (Letters, I have written thereof in my life).
In addition, the DirO has ten descriptive properties:

5) The DirO corresponds exclusively to DSyntA II of the governing verb.

**Exception**
A DirO in an idiom [= full phraseme] of the type faire l’amour [avec qqn] ‘make love [with someone]’ or kick the bucket (cf. p. 161), where—under sentence production—the governing verb appears first only in the SSyntS (in the DSyntS, the whole idiom is represented as one node) and therefore has no DSyntAs.

In order to avoid cluttering our presentation with non-relevant details, we will not discuss a complication related to the DSynt-representation of constructions with an “internal” DirO, as in vivre sa vie ‘live one’s life’ or suer la sueur de tes nuits [Verlaine] ‘sweat the sweat of your nights’, where the verb receives—by a semantic rule—the DSyntA II that does not correspond to any of its SemAs.

6) The DirO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

7) The DirO does not obligatorily depend on the MV. (It can, unlike the Subject, depend on an infinitive or a present participle.)

8) The DirO can be the target of personal cliticization: Je les [= les conditions] considère ‘I consider them [= the conditions]’. Moreover, an indefinite or partitive DirO can be replaced with the clitic en: J’ai trouvé des livres ‘I have found books’ ~ J’en ai trouvé ‘I have found thereof’; Je mange du pain blanc ‘I eat white bread’ ~ J’en mange ‘I eat thereof’. A partitive DirO can be also replaced with the relative pronoun dont: Le pain, dont j’ai mangé à plusieurs reprises, est excellent ‘The bread, of which I have eaten several times, is excellent’.

9) The DirO can be the target of relativization: J’aime ce livre, que j’ai acheté à Paris ‘I love this book, which I have bought in Paris’.

10) The DirO can be the target of clefting: C’est ce livre que je veux lire ‘It is this book that I want to read’; C’est travailler la nuit que je déteste ‘It is to work at night that I hate’.

11) The DirO can be the controller/the target of reflexivization: Helen a forcé Alain à se raser ‘Helen has forced Alain to shave himself’; Helen a fait se raser Alain ‘Helen has made Alain to shave himself’.

12) The DirO can be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement: Il considère cette nouvelle comme intéressante ‘He considers this piece of news as interesting’.

13) The DirO follows the governing verb.

**Exception**
A DirO expressed by a quantifying pronoun tout ‘everything’ or rien ‘nothing’ can precede the governing verb: J’ai tout fait ‘I have done everything’; Il ne veut rien faire ‘He does not want to do anything’.
14) The DirO cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Les romans, Alain lit. ‘The novels, Alain reads’; ??Ce film, je préfère de loin à un roman lit. ‘This film, I strongly prefer to a novel’; ??Partir tôt, je préfère lit. ‘To leave early, I prefer’. (Recall that a dislocated phrase must carry a mounting contour, as indicated in 2.1, Property 15, p. 158.)

**Exception**

In colloquial speech a few verbs admit pure left dislocation of the DirO (without the resumptive clitic), cf. Ce film, j'ai aimé lit. ‘This film, I have loved’; Les mille-feuilles, Alain adore lit. ‘The mille feuilles, Alain adores’; Nager le matin, j'ai beaucoup aimé lit. ‘To swim in the morning, I have loved a lot’.

On some SSynt-properties of the DirO in French, see Gaatone 1998.

**Formal types of DirO**

1. A prepositionless noun in the broad sense:
   a. A noun (including the subclass of stressed pronouns): J'ai trouvé un livre ‘I have found a book’; Je trouve cela dangereux ‘I find this dangerous’; Je vois celui de mon père ‘I see that of my father’.
   b. A SSynt-equivalent of a noun, such as a headless relative (J'embrasse qui je veux ‘I kiss who I want’; Alain sait qui sa femme voit ‘Alain knows who his wife is seeing’; Alain chassera qui apparaîtra ‘Alain will chase who will appear’), a subordinate clause of the type Helen a invité tu ne devineras jamais qui ‘Helen has invited you will never guess who’, a quantitative phrase (Alain lit beaucoup de livres ‘Alain reads many books’), etc.
   c. A personal clitic in the accusative: Alain la trouvait partout ‘Alain was finding it everywhere’; Alain ne me quitte jamais ‘Alain never leaves me’.

2. A noun without article introduced by the preposition DE—with a negated transitive verb: Alain n’a pas trouvé de livre ‘Alain has not found a book’.


4. An infinitive:
   a. Without preposition or with the preposition À or DE: Alain préfère partir ‘Alain prefers to leave’; Alain propose de partir ‘Alain proposes to leave’; Tous les étudiants apprennent à parler chinois ‘All students learn to speak Chinese’.
   b. Governing an interrogative pronoun: Alain sait combien lui donner/à qui parler/qui inviter ‘Alain knows how much to give him/to whom to speak/whom to invite’.

5. A subordinate clause:
   a. Including a relative/interrogative pronoun: Alain sait quand son ami part ‘Alain knows when his friend is leaving’.
   b. Introduced by the conjunction QUE: Alain sait que Helen est là ‘Alain knows that Helen is here’.
   c. Introduced by the interrogative conjunction SI: Alain veut savoir si nous travaillons ce vendredi ‘Alain wants to know whether we work this Friday’.

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16 We owe this type of example to Y.-Ch. Morin.
Comments

1. A prepositionless noun that corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb is not necessarily a DirO: it may be an Oblique Object [= ObIO]. This is, for instance, the case of the noun that designates the topic of the discussion with the verbs PARLER ‘speak’ and CAUSER ‘chat’: parler politique ‘talk politics’ or causer argent lit. ‘chat money’ (cf. talk shop), cf. No. 7 below, Item 5, p. 196. The noun in question does not have three of the four defining properties of a DirO: it does not forbid the SSynt-implementation of the Secondary Actor in the causative construction as a DirO (Alain la/lui fait parler politique) and, since it does not allow either cliticization (*la parler) or relativization (*politique que nous parlions), it cannot be the target of non-specific morphological government and does not control the agreement of the past participle in compound verb forms (*politique qu’on a parlée). It does not passivize, either (*Politique a été parlée), but this is because the verbs PARLER and CAUSER do not have a genuine passive form.

2. Another controversial case is a prepositionless quantitative phrase that corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb of measure and designates the value of a parameter: coûter 300 euros ‘cost 300 euros’/toute une fortune ‘a whole fortune’/une somme rondelette ‘a nice little sum’, mesurer 4 mètres ‘measure 4 meters’ = ‘be 4 meters long’, etc. The traditional French grammar (e.g., Grevisse 1993: 1336) does not consider this phrase as a DirO; we agree, since this clause element violates two of DirO’s defining properties:— It allows the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction to be in the accusative if it is cliticized, which a genuine DirO does not allow: Ce régime la/lui [= Helen] fera peser 45 kilos ‘This diet will make her weigh 45 kilos’ [measure verbs do not readily admit the causative construction, so that this example is a bit far-fetched] vs. Ce régime lui (*la) fera perdre 5 kilos ‘This diet will make her lose 5 kilos’.
— It does not control the agreement of the past participle in compound verb forms: 300 euros que cette robe m’a coûté(*s) ‘300 euros that this dress has cost me’, la somme que cette robe m’a coûté(*e) ‘the sum that this dress has cost me’.

As for two other defining properties of the DirO, the picture is as follows:

• This construction does not passivize (*300 euros est/sont coûté(s) par cette robe), but then the verbs involved do not have passive forms.

• Although the accusative cliticization in this construction is not readily done (because of the inherent non-referentiality of the noun), it is possible: e.g., 300 euros ! Cette robe les coûte lit. ‘300 euros! This dress costs them’; Le sac les pèse, ses 15 kilos lit. ‘The bag weighs them, its 15 kilos’. In addition, the quantitative phrase admits of relativization via the accusative que: les 300 euros que cette robe m’a coûté/les grosses sommes que ces voitures m’ont coûté ‘the 300 euros that this dress has cost me/the big sums that these cars have cost me’ (but note the lack of agreement in the past participle!). Because of this, the quantitative phrase with measure verbs is fairly close to DirO, so that the distinction is really tenuous (especially if we take into account the fact that the agreement of the past participle with these verbs would be purely orthographic). However, in conformity with what has been said above we declare the quantitative phrase a special clause element, which we call Pseudo-Direct Object [= Pseudo-DirO], and the corresponding SSyntRel is pseudo-dir(ect)-obj(ectival); see No. 5, p. 190ff.

A similar, but actually different case is represented by sentence (11):
On the one hand, since the dir-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable in French, the quantitative phrase 300 euros cannot be a DirO—the DirO here is cette robe 'this dress'. On the other hand, unlike the Pseudo-DirO, the phrase 300 euros expresses DSyntA of PAYER 'pay' and does not admit cliticization. We consider the phrase 300 euros in (11) to be an Obli: it is substitutable by a prototypical Obli—a noun introduced by a preposition, cf. Nous avons payé cette robe avec les 300 euros d'Alain 'We have paid this dress with Alain’s 300 euros'.

3. The prepositionless noun which depends on the verb FALLOIR (Il faut des livres 'Books are needed'), on the meteorological verb FAIRE 'do' (Il fait une chaleur ! lit. 'It does a heat!' = 'It is very hot') or on the idiom IL Y AVOIR (Il y a des livres 'There are books') is considered a DirO, although this is a controversial DirO. Namely, the defining properties 1, 2 and 4 of the DirO are not applicable here: the corresponding verbs do not have the passive form, they cannot be used in the causative construction, and their past participles are invariable. However, the defining property 3 (= the accusative form of the clitic or of the relative pronoun) is satisfied: Il me les [= les médicaments] faut 'I need them [= the drugs]', la chaleur qu'il fait lit. 'the heat that it does', and les inondations qu'il y a eu lit. 'the floods that it there has had'. Moreover, the noun in question does not contradict the descriptive properties of the DirO: thus, it does not admit the pure left dislocation: *Ces outils, il me faut 'These tools, I need' or *Des inondations, il y a eu partout 'The floods, it there has everywhere', etc. We take all this to be sufficient for its status as a DirO, because we do not have much of a choice: the only other SSyntRel whose D admits the accusative form is the Pseudo-DirO (see No. 5, p. 190), but we cannot present our suspicious clause element as a Pseudo-DirO for the following two reasons:

- Control of attributive complements. The DirO controls attributive complements, actantial (On considère cette théorie fausse 'They consider this theory wrong'), as well as non-actantial (La soupe, je la mange très chaude 'The soup, I eat it very hot'), while the Pseudo-DirO does not (*La somme, cette robe la coûte rondelette lit. 'The sum, this dress costs it tidy'). In this respect, the element in question is closer to the DirO: it controls non-actantial attributive complements, although of a slightly different form—they must be preceded by an indefinite article, cf.: Des outils de constructions, il m'en faut des pas trop chers lit. 'Construction tools, I need thereof not too expensive'; Des inondations, il y en a eu des meurtrières lit. 'Floods, it thereof there had been deadly ones'; Des chaleurs, il en a fait des vraiment accablantes lit. 'Heats, it thereof has done really oppressive'.

- Treatment of the infinitive and the QUE-clause with FALLOIR (Il faut partir lit. 'It is-necessary to leave'; Il faut qu'il parte lit. 'It is-necessary that he leave'). Considering the suspicious clause element as a DirO, we open the way for this infinitive/QUE-clause to be described also as DirOs: they are substitutable by a prototypical nominal D, and many other French transitive verbs admit an infinitive/a QUE-clause as a DirO. Otherwise (i.e., if we decide that this element is a Pseudo-DirO), we meet with a serious

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17 In Nous avons payé 300 euros pour cette robe 'We have paid 300 euros for this dress' the phrase 300 euros is a DirO—here it corresponds to DSyntA II of PAYER and satisfies all the defining properties of DirOs.
problem: how to treat the QUE-clause with FALLOIR? We do not have a SSyntRel whose prototypical D is a completive clause; and it seems not natural to subsume it under the pseudo-dir-obj SSyntRel, since no other verb taking a Pseudo-DirO admits a QUE-clause.

4. The infinitive in a construction of the type préférer partir, apprendre à parler, proposer de partir, permettre/défendre de partir and savoir quand partir is considered a DirO since it satisfies all four defining properties of DirOs:

1) Passivization (in many cases, additional Impersonalization is required, as is typical of infinitives):

\[(12)\]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{a. } & \text{Tout le monde préfère partir} \rightarrow \text{Partir a été préféré par tout le monde} \\
& \text{‘Everybody prefers to leave’}. \\
\text{b. } & \text{Il s'appront à parler chinois} \rightarrow \text{Il est appris par eux à parler chinois} \\
& \text{‘They learn to speak Chinese’}. \\
\text{c. } & \text{Il a proposé de partir} \rightarrow \text{Il a été proposé par lui de partir} \\
& \text{‘He has proposed to leave’}. \\
\text{d. } & \text{Tout le monde sait quand partir} \rightarrow \text{Il est su de tout le monde quand partir} \\
& \text{‘Everybody knows when to leave’}.
\end{align*}\]

2) Control of the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction (Morin 1980: 206): the Secondary Actor cannot be realized as a DirO. Here are some relevant examples:

\[(13)\]
\[\begin{align*}
\text{a. } & \text{‘J'ai fait apprendre à parler chinois à Alain} \rightarrow \text{‘Il a été appris par lui à parler chinois} \\
& \text{‘I have made Alain learn to speak Chinese’}. \\
\text{b. } & \text{‘Cela fait proposer à Alain de partir} \rightarrow \text{‘Il a été proposé par lui de partir} \\
& \text{‘It makes Alain propose to leave’}. \\
\text{c. } & \text{‘J'ai fait promettre à Alain de partir} \rightarrow \text{‘Il a été promis par lui de partir} \\
& \text{‘I have made Alain promise to leave’}. \\
\end{align*}\]

However, for the infinitive with the verb PRÉFÉRER this property is not distinctive: if the Secondary Actor is a noun, the causative FAIRE-construction is impossible; but if it is expressed by a clitic both realizations (the accusative and the dative one) are possible, although judged awkward:

\[\begin{align*}
\text{d. } & \text{‘Cela fait préférer partir à Alain} \rightarrow \text{‘Il a été proposé par lui de partir} \\
& \text{‘It makes Alain prefer to leave’}. \\
\end{align*}\]

vs.

\[\begin{align*}
\text{\‘Cela lui fait préférer partir} \rightarrow \text{\‘Il a été proposé par lui de partir}.
\end{align*}\]
This makes the infinitive that depends on PRÉFÉRER “less” of a DirO.

3) Accusative cliticization (the infinitive is substitutable by the accusative “neuter” clitic LE):

(14)  
   a. Tout le monde préfère partir. ~ Tout le monde le préfère.  
   b. Ils apprennent à parler chinois. ~ Ils l’apprennent.  
   c. Il a proposé de partir. ~ Il l’a proposé.  
   d. Tout le monde sait quand partir. ~ Tout le monde le sait.

4) Control of the agreement of the past participle in compound verbal forms (masculine singular):

(15) Partir, tout le monde l’a préféré; Parler chinois, nos étudiants l’ont appris.

Moreover, this infinitive has the descriptive properties of the prototypical DirOs that are applicable to the verb: it corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb, follows the governing verb, admits clefting and cannot be the target of pure left dislocation.

Criterion 2 does not forbid us to consider the infinitive in these constructions a DirO since it is substitutable by the prototypical DirO—a noun: 
   Il préfère le départ (He prefers the departure), Il propose le départ (He proposes the departure), Il sait l’heure du départ (He knows the time of the departure).

5. However, Criterion 2 precludes treating the infinitival complement of the modal verbs POUVOIR ‘can’ and DEVOIR ‘must’ as a DirO, since it is not substitutable by a noun: 
   Alain peut/doit partir (Alain can/must leave) ~ *Alain peut/doit le départ (Alain can/must the departure).

This result can be (and sometimes is) questioned: would it not be more consistent to consider the infinitives with POUVOIR and DEVOIR as DirOs? We do not think so, because these infinitives do not share with the DirO enough defining properties. The first, the second and the fourth properties are not applicable: POUVOIR and DEVOIR have no passive forms; they do not readily admit the causative construction (*Alain lui/l’a fait pouvoir partir); and they do not participate in constructions in which agreement of the past participle can be observed. The third property is, so to speak, only partially satisfied: the infinitive with POUVOIR/DEVOIR can be cliticized via the accusative “neuter” clitic LE (Alain peut/doit partir (Alain can/must leave), ~ Alain le peut/le doit (Alain can/must it), but it is obsolete with DEVOIR. Thus, the SSynt-properties of the infinitive governed by POUVOIR/DEVOIR do not contradict Criterion 2. What is crucial is the fact that POUVOIR/DEVOIR do not accept nominal objects. Their DSyntA II inherently designates an action, a state, etc.; therefore, their prototypical D must be verbal rather than nominal, while the prototypical DirO is nominal—the name of an entity. As a result, the construction POUVOIR/DEVOIR → Vinf is described by the direct-infinitival-objectival SSyntRel (3.2, No. 8, p. 198).
The situation with the modal verb VOULOIR ‘want’ is different: with it, the infinitive is substitutable by a noun (Je veux ce départ ‘I want this departure’), so that Criterion 2 does not forbid us to treat it as a DirO. The infinitive that depends on VOULOIR admits as well limited passivization (Partir immédiatement est voulu par tous ‘To-leave immediately is wanted by everybody’) and the accusative cliticization— with the resulting control of past participle agreement (Alain a voulu partir ‘Alain has wanted to-leave’) ~ Alain l’a voulu ‘Alain has wanted it’). True, with respect to the FAIRE-construction, VOULOIR behaves like the semantically close PRÉFÉRER (see above)—that is, for VOULOIR this property is not distinctive. However, since the other three defining properties of DirOs are satisfied, the dependency of an infinitive on VOULOIR is described by the direct-objectival SSyntRel—like that with PRÉFÉRER (as well as with DÉSIRER ‘desire’ and SOUHAITER ‘wish’).

6. Not all infinitives that correspond to DSyntA II of the governing verb and are introduced by the preposition À or DE are DirOs: they can also be Oblique Objects as well as Direct-Infinitive Objects and Oblique-Infinitive Objects (see below, 3.2, Nos. 8-10, p. 198 ff). For instance, the infinitive with a phasal verb such as COMMENCER ‘begin’, CONTINUER ‘continue’, or CESSER ‘cease’ is not a DirO (contra Le Goffic 1993: 169). This is so because such an infinitive violates the defining properties of DirOs: it does not admit passivization (*À travailler a été commencé, *Il a été commencé à travailler),18 does not impose the realization of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction as IndirO (Alain la (*lui) fait commencer à travailler ‘Alain makes her begin to work’), and disallows cliticization with the “neuter” LE (*Alain l’[= à travailler]a commencé).

7. The direct reflexive clitic pronoun SE—even in genuinely reflexive verbs, such as SE LAVER ‘wash oneself’ or SE RASER ‘shave oneself’—is by no means a DirO, in sharp contrast to other personal clitics (me, te, le, ...): it does not correspond to DSyntA II of the governing verb, since this verb in the direct-reflexive voice has only DSyntA I. (In the DSyntS, a verbal form of this type is represented by one node and is supplied with the grammeme “dir-refl.”) Moreover, the clitic SE contradicts the only defining property of DirOs which is applicable to it: namely, SE does not impose the IndirO realization on the Secondary Actor in the causative construction (Elle fait se raser (*à Alain tous les jours/Elle le (*lui) fait se raser tous les jours ‘She makes Alain/him shave every day’). In the SSyntS, the lexeme SE is linked to its verb by a special auxiliary SSyntRel; its behavior is different from that of normal object clitics; cf., for instance:

(16) French

   a. *Helen fait le [= le roman] lire à Alain
      ‘Helen makes Alain read it [= the novel].’
      ~ Helen le [= le roman]
      fait lire à Alain.

   vs.

   b. Helen fait se raser Alain
      ‘Helen makes Alain shave himself.’
      ~ *Helen se [= Alain]
      fait raser Alain.

These facts fit nicely with a general typological consideration: a direct-reflexive verb like SE LAVER is by definition intransitive and cannot have a DirO. The inherent reflex-

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18 Phasal verbs themselves have passive forms: Le travail a été commencé ‘The work has been begun’, cf. p. 177.
ive se, as in se lever ‘rise’, se taire ‘keep silent’, etc., has even less reasons to be considered a DirO.

8. The quantitative adverb in such phrases as Il a mangé beaucoup (trop) (plus qu’elle) ‘He has eaten much (too much, more than she)’ is treated as a Circumstantial—rather than a DirO; for explanations and a justification, see 3.4, No. 14, p. 216.

9. In other approaches, other properties may be taken as defining for the DirO. Thus, M. Gross (1968: 27) defines DirO as the clause element that can be replaced by one of the clitics LE, LA, LES. This definition includes among DirOs, for instance, the attributive adjective with a copula: Alain est intéressant ‘Alain is interesting’ ~ Alain l’est, etc. Abeillé (1997b: 22-25) proposes the following two defining properties for the DirO in French: possibility of the quantitative en (Alain en a mangé trois lit. ʿAlain thereof has eaten three’) and possibility of the preposition de with negation (Alain n’a pas mangé de steak lit. ʿAlain has not eaten of steak’). We, however, cannot use them as defining properties:

   • On the one hand, they a priori exclude from DirOs what we believe should be considered as such: the infinitive and the completive clause that satisfy our defining properties.

   • On the other hand, they include among DirOs what we believe should not be considered as such: the Quasi-Subject (otherwise, one is forced to admit the existence of a DirO with typically intransitive verbs, which is typologically implausible).

However, Abeillé’s properties isolate the central subclass of DirOs: nominal referential DirOs. Thus, only such a DirO, as shown in Abeillé (1997b: 29-30), precludes the otherwise possible inversion of the Subject in a relative clause: *C’est là où lui rendront un hommage éclatant les chefs d’État lit. ʿIt is there where will pay to him a strong homage the chiefs of State’ vs. C’est là où lui rendront hommage les chefs d’État lit. ʿIt is there where will pay homage to him the chiefs of State’ and C’est là où souhaite aller Alain ‘It is there where wants to go Alain’.

4. Indirect-objectival SSyntRel: G.indir-obj→D
The prototypical D is a noun introduced by the preposition à.

Properties
The dependent member of the indir-obj SSyntRel is the Indirect Object [= IndirO]. It is the third most privileged clause element depending on a verb in L. In French, the SSynt-privilege of the IndirO is the following defining property:

1) The IndirO can be the target of non-specific morphological government—that is, if it is replaced with a clitic, this clitic is in the dative: Je lui_dat donne ce livre ‘I give this book to him’.

Other relevant properties are descriptive:

2) The IndirO corresponds to DSyntA II or III of the governing verb: Helen plaît à Alain [= DSyntA II] lit. ʿHelen pleases Alain’, Helen donne une poire à Alain [= DSyntA III] ʿHelen gives a pear to Alain’.
As is the case with the DirO, we will not discuss here in detail two complications related to the DSynt-representation of the following constructions with IndirOs:

- The IndirO expresses a raised Possessor of the Subject or of the DirO: La gorge lui brûlait lit. ‘The throat was burning to-him’; Alain lui a touché l’épaule lit. ‘Alain has touched the shoulder to-her’; Se fâcher avec Helen a gâché la vie à Alain lit. ‘To quarrel with Helen has spoiled the life to Alain’.

- The IndirO expresses a Beneficiary: Alain a acheté une glace à Helen lit. ‘Alain has bought an ice-cream to Helen’.

In both cases the governing verb receives—as a result of the application of a special semantic rule—an additional DSyntA (= III), which does not correspond to any of its SemAs.

3) The IndirO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

4) The IndirO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

5) The IndirO cannot be promoted/demoted.

**Exception**

With the verbs OBÉIR ‘obey’, DÉSOBEIR ‘disobey’ and PARDONNER ‘pardon’ the IndirO—which corresponds to DSyntA II of the verb—can be promoted to the Subject by passivization: Alain obéit à Helen lit. ‘Alain obeys to Helen’ ~ Helen est obéie d’Alain ‘Helen is obeyed by Alain’. Alain pardonne à Helen lit. ‘Alain pardons to Helen’ ~ Helen est pardonnée par Alain ‘Helen is pardoned by Alain’.

6) The IndirO can be the target of personal cliticization: Alain lui [= à Helen] envoie un cadeau ‘Alain sends a present to-her’.

7) The IndirO can be the target of relativization: le garçon à qui j’ai envoyé ce livre ‘the boy to whom I have sent this book’.

8) The IndirO can be the target of clefting: C’est à Alain que je donne mon texte à lire/que je fais lire mon texte lit. ‘It is to Alain that I give my text to read/that I make read my text’.

9) The IndirO can be the controller/the target of reflexivization: Helen a ordonné à Alain de se raser lit. ‘Helen has ordered Alain to shave himself’; Alain se [= à Alain] parle ‘Alain talks to himself’.

10) The IndirO cannot be the controller of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction (that is, the presence of an IndirO of the lexical verb does not impose the realization of the Secondary Actor as an IndirO of FAIRE: Alain le (*lui) [= le chien] fait obéir à son maître ‘Alain makes him [= the dog] obey his master’).

11) The IndirO cannot be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement.

12) The IndirO cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

13) The IndirO follows the governing verb.
14) The IndirO can be the target of left dislocation: À mes enfants, j’envoie des livres
‘To my children, I send books’.

Formal types of IndirO
a. A noun (including the subclass of stressed pronouns) with the preposition à: Alain a donné son livre à Helen ‘Alain has given his book to Helen’.

b. A phrase equivalent to a noun with preposition à: Alain donne son livre à qui le veut ‘Alain gives his book to who wants it’.

c. A personal clitic in the dative: Alain lui parle souvent ‘Alain often speaks to him/her’.

The indir-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

Justification
The IndirO plays quite a special role in French syntax:

• The IndirO can express the Beneficiary, which is represented at the DSynt-level as DSyntA III of the governing verb: Alain a fait un bon repas à Helen lit. ‘Alain has made a good meal to Helen’ ~ Alain lui a fait un bon repas lit. ‘Alain has made a good meal to her’.

• The IndirO can express the raised Possessor in the French possessive construction of the type Alain a lavé la tête à Helen lit. ‘Alain has washed the head to Helen’ ~ Alain lui a lavé la tête lit. ‘Alain has washed the head to her’, where the IndirO is a surface-syntactic realization of DSyntA I of DSyntA II of the governing verb (HELEN is DSyntA I of TÊTE ‘head’).

• The IndirO can express the Secondary Actor of the causative FAIRE-construction with a transitive verb having an expressed DirO: Alain fait lire le roman à Helen lit. ‘Alain makes read the novel to Helen’ ~ Alain lui fait lire le roman lit. ‘Alain makes read the novel to her’.

• The clitic IndirO can express DSyntA II of the verbs that govern the adjuncts DES-SUS ‘on ...’ and APRÈS ‘behind ...’: On lui a tiré dessus lit. ‘They to-him have fired on’ = ‘They have fired at him’ or Alain lui court après lit. ‘Alain to-her is-running after’ = ‘... is courting her’. (If DSyntA II is not cliticized, it is implemented as an OblO: On a tiré sur Alain ‘They have fired at Alain’ and Alain court après Helen lit. ‘Alain is-running after Helen’.)

The IndirO in French is typical of animate nouns only; its very existence is one of the manifestations of the syntactic feature of animacy.

These considerations enhance our decision to introduce the IndirO as a clause element different from the Oblique Object (No. 7, p. 194; in Justification 2, p. 196, it is shown that the IndirO and the OblO have different relevant properties). The traditional French grammar does not make this distinction, subsuming all prepositional nominal Ds of a verb which are its actants under the name of “complément d’objet indirect,” so that this term is much broader that our Indirect Object. (In general typological studies, the
IndirO is carefully distinguished from OblOs; cf., e.g., Comrie 1975: 4 and passim, Keenan & Comrie 1977, 1979. For a discussion of the opposition “DirO vs. IndirO” in a vast typological perspective, see Dryer 1986.)

Comments

1. In the Meaning-Text description of the SSynt-structure of French sentences, a non-subject pronominal clitic depends syntactically on its host—rather than on the clause element on which its source depends; see, for instance, Figure 1 below (the clitic and its source are encircled). The clitic is, so to speak, transferred from its genuine, i.e. DSynt-, Governor (= ENVOYER ‘send’) to its host (= the auxiliary AVOIR ‘have’)—retaining the same subordinating SSyntRel, in our case, the indir-obj; we do not posit here a new SSyntRel. This solution is adopted because the linear position of French clitics in general does not depend on the specific subordinating SSyntRel—it is determined by the nature of the clitic itself (a property which is orthogonal to the properties of SSyntRel). At the same time, the grammatical case of the clitic—the accusative vs. the dative—must be computed from (the name of) the subordinating SSyntRel, since the Government Pattern of the new G (i.e., of the host) should not contain the necessary information: thus, AVOIR by no means itself governs the dative. This fact constitutes another argument in favor of distinguishing the IndirO vs. the OblO.

2. Criterion 3 does not allow us to consider the so-called Dativus Ethicus of the type Ne me fais pas de bêtises ! lit. ‘Don’t do to-me stupidities!’ as a particular case of IndirO, since these two clause elements can be combined:

![Figure 1: A clitic and its host](image)

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19 The host of a clitic is the clause element that determines its linear position, that is, the wordform to which this clitic attaches linearly and prosodically (cf. Zwicky 1977).
(17) a. *Il te [= Dat. Ethic.] recite trois poèmes en trois minutes à qui veut l’écouter [= IndirO]*
lit. *He recites to-you three poems in three minutes to who wants listen to him*.

b. *Il te [= Dat. Ethic.] lui [= IndirO] fabriquera une table en vingt minutes*
lit. *He manufactures to-you to-him [= for him] a table in twenty minutes’* *(Leclère 1979: 134).*

Uniting the Dativus Ethicus and the IndirO under the same SSyntRel would create an r which would be limitedly repeatable (exactly two times, and that, without intervention of the Government Pattern of the verb).

3. Similarly to what has been said about the direct-reflexive SE, the indirect-reflexive SE—as in *S’ACHETER une maison* *(buy oneself a house*)—is not an IndirO: it does not correspond to any DSyntA of the governing verb. A verbal form of the type *S’acheter [qqch.] (buy [something] to-oneself), se préparer [qqch.] (prepare [something] to-oneself)* or *s’imaginer [qqch.] (imagine [something] to-oneself)*, is the form of the indirect-reflexive voice. This verbal form is represented in the DSyntS as one node supplied with the grammeme *(INDIR-REFL).* In the SSyntS, the indirect-reflexive SE is linked to the verb by the same auxiliary SSyntRel as the direct-reflexive SE (there is no need to distinguish the two SE, since they do not have different case forms).

5. **Pseudo-direct-objectival SSyntRel: G−pseudo-dir-obj→D**
The prototypical D is a prepositionless noun.

**Properties**
The dependent member of the *pseudo-dir-obj* SSyntRel is the Pseudo-Direct Object [= Pseudo-DirO]—the expression of the value of a parameter or of a property. It appears with verbs of measure—PESER *(weigh)*, COÛTER *(cost)*, etc.—and a few verbs of the type SENSIR *(smell [intrans.])*: *Ça coûte une fortune/300 euros* *(This costs a fortune/300 euros)*; *Ça sent le hareng* *(This smells of herring)*.

It is the fourth most privileged clause element depending on a verb in **L**. In French, the SSynt-privileges of the Pseudo-DirO—with respect to the Agent and to the Oblique Object—consist in that it shares more linguistically relevant properties with the DirO than the Agent or the Oblique Object. Namely, the Pseudo-DirO has the same type of cliticization and the same case government as the DirO.

The Pseudo-DirO is defined by the following combination of properties:

1) The Pseudo-DirO can be the target of personal cliticization: *Le poisson, la caisse le sent encore* lit. *(The fish, the box still smells of it)*; *Cette grosse somme, ma robe la coûte* lit. *(This big sum, my dress costs it)*; *La table les mesure, ses deux mètres* lit. *(The table measures them, its two meters).*

2) The Pseudo-DirO can be the target of non-specific morphological government—the clitic/the relative pronoun replacing the corresponding noun is in the accusative: *Cette robe la [= cette somme] coûte* *(This dress costs it [= this sum])*; *[la somme] que cette robe coûte* *([the sum] that this dress costs).*
3) The Pseudo-DirO cannot be promoted or demoted.

4) The Pseudo-DirO cannot be the controller of the past participle in compound forms.

The first two properties are shared with the DirO, but the second two oppose the Pseudo-DirO to the DirO.

The Pseudo-DirO’s descriptive properties are:

5) The Pseudo-DirO corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb.

6) The Pseudo-DirO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

7) The Pseudo-DirO does not depend exclusively on the MV.

8) The Pseudo-DirO can be the target of relativization: *Je trouverai les 300 euros que cette robe coûte* ‘I’ll find the 300 euros that this dress costs’; *On ne mangera pas ce hareng pourri que la caisse sent encore* ‘We will not eat this rotten herring of which the box still smells’.

9) The Pseudo-DirO can be the target of clefting: *C’est 300 dollars que cette robe coûte*, *Ça le (« lui ») [= le pain] fera sentir le hareng* ‘It is 300 dollars that this dress costs’, *C’est le hareng que le pain sent* ‘It is the herring that the bread smells of’.

10) The Pseudo-DirO cannot be the controller/the target of reflexivization.

11) The Pseudo-DirO does not impose the IndirO realization of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction: *Ça le (« lui ») [= le pain] fera sentir le hareng* ‘This will make it [= the bread] smell of herring’.

12) The Pseudo-DirO cannot be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement.

13) The Pseudo-DirO follows the governing verb.

14) The Pseudo-DirO cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *300 euros, la robe coûte* ‘300 euros, the dress costs’; *Le hareng, la caisse sent* ‘The herring, the box smells of’. *(300 euros, la robe coûte* can be grammatical—with a descending contour on *300 euros*; in this case, *300 euros* is not dislocated, but fronted.)

**Formal types of Pseudo-DirO**

a. A noun (particularly, a Num + N phrase): *Il pesait 60 kilos* ‘He weighed 60 kg’; *Ça sent le brûlé* lit. ‘It smells of [something] burnt’ *(rien ‘of nothing’/le hareng ‘of herring’).*

b. A phrase equivalent to a noun: *Ça va me coûter exactement ce que je veux* ‘It will cost me exactly what I want’.

c. A personal clitic in the accusative: *Cette robe la [= cette somme] coûte* ‘This dress costs it [= this sum]’.


Justification
The pseudo-dir-obj SSyntRel cannot be subsumed under the dir-obj or the obl-obj SSynt-Rels, which both have prepositionless nouns among their Ds, for the following reasons:

• A Pseudo-DirO contradicts two defining properties of a DirO—it does not control the Secondary Actor in the causative construction and the agreement of the participle in compound forms.

• A Pseudo-DirO is not substitutable by the prototypical OblO, i.e., a prepositional phrase (Criterion 2). Moreover, a Pseudo-DirO differs from an OblO with respect to cliticization: unlike an OblO, a Pseudo-DirO is replaceable by an accusative clitic.

Neither can the pseudo-dir-obj SSyntRel be subsumed under the pred-attr-compl SSyntRel (see below, 3.3, No. 13, p. 212: coûter cher lit. ‘cost expensive’, sentir bon ‘smell good’), which is semantically very close, since Criteria 2 and 3 do not allow us to collapse them:

• They do not have the same prototype (the prototypical D is N for the Pseudo-DirO and A for the PredAttrCo).

• A Pseudo-DirO and a PredAttrCo can appear as co-subordinates of the same verb: La cuisine sent bon le pain frais lit. ‘The kitchen smells good—fresh bread’. Therefore, the presumed “united” SSyntRel would not feature an admissible value of repeatability: it would be limitedly repeatable.

On the other hand, the pseudo-dir-obj SSyntRel covers two semantically different cases: real measures and perceptional parameters, which are distinguished, for instance, by different interrogative words: Ça mesure combien ? ‘This measures how-much?’ [— 2 mètres ‘2 meters’] vs. Ça sent quoi ? ‘This smells of-what?’ [— Le hareng ‘The herring’]. This can be an indication that we deal here with two different SSyntRel.

The pseudo-dir-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

6. Agentive SSyntRel: G→agentive→D
The prototypical D is a noun introduced by the preposition PAR or DE.

Properties
The dependent member of the agentive SSyntRel is the Agent. It is the fifth most privileged clause element depending on a verb: Helen a été reçue par son frère ‘Helen was received by her brother’; Alain fait lire le roman par Helen lit. ‘Alain makes read the novel by Helen’; Aimée de tout le monde, Helen ... ‘Loved by everybody, Helen ...’.

NB: The term Agent should not be construed as a semantic entity; the corresponding clause element does not necessarily denote people nor semantic agents. Thus, par la cérémonie is an Agent in Sa fureur a été changée en excessive amabilité par la cérémonie du matin ‘His fury has been changed into excessive amiability by the morning ceremony’.

In French, the SSynt-privileges of the Agent are the following two defining properties:
1) The Agent corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb in the passive form (it corresponds to the Subject of the active form of the verb) or to DSyntA I of the governing verb in the infinitive in a number of constructions (faire lire le roman par Helen [Agent of LIRE] lit. ‘make read the novel by Helen’; se faire voler par un mendiant lit. ‘make oneself rob by a beggar’, se voir refuser un contrat par le gouvernement lit. ‘see oneself refuse a contract by the government’, etc.).

2) The Agent is the target of non-specific lexical government: it is always introduced by the preposition PAR ‘by’ (with the exception of a handful of verbs which take an Agent with the preposition DE).

**NB:** When depending on a noun, the Agent corresponds to its DSyntA I and has more means of expression (une traduction par Alain ‘a translation by Alain’, l’arrivée d’Alain ‘Alain’s arrival’, une conversation entre amis ‘a conversation among friends’, etc.).

The Agent has the following descriptive properties:

3) The Agent is not obligatorily present in every clause.

4) The Agent does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

5) The Agent cannot be promoted/demoted.

6) The Agent can be the target of cliticization, but only if it is introduced by the preposition DE (the phrase PAR + N is not cliticizable in principle); the replacing clitic is EN: Il plaisait aux femmes; en fait, il en était adoré lit. ‘Women liked him; actually, he was adored thereby’.

7) The Agent can be the target of relativization: La femme par qui Alain est gâté est très belle ‘The woman by whom Alain is spoilt is very beautiful’; Les étudiants dont ce prof est tellement aimé ... ‘The students by whom this professor is loved so much ...’.

8) The Agent can be the target of clefting: C’est par Alain que Helen est gâtée ‘It is by Alain that Helen is [being] spoilt’.

9) The Agent cannot be the controller/the target of reflexivization.

10) The Agent cannot be the controller of the Secondary Actor in the causative FAIRE-construction (strictly speaking, this property is not applicable).

11) The Agent cannot be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement.

12) The Agent cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

13) The Agent follows the governing verb.

14) The Agent can be—in informal speech—the target of left dislocation: ‘Par Alain, ce travail sera fait vite et très bien’ lit. ‘By Alain, this job will be done fast and very well’.
Formal types of Agent

1. A noun (in the broad sense) introduced by the preposition PAR or DE:
   a. A noun (including the subclass of stressed pronouns): Aimée de tous ses amis/de nous, Helen ...
   (Loved by all her friends/by us, Helen ...).
   b. A phrase equivalent to a noun (e.g., a headless relative): Elle se laisse séduire par qui le veut
   (She lets herself to be seduced by who wants it).

2. The clitic EN: Il en était adoré lit. (He was adored thereby).

For considerations that justify the introduction of the agentive SSyntRel as different from the oblique-objectival SSyntRel, see below, No. 7, Justification 3, p. 197.

The agentive SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

7. Oblique-objectival SSyntRel: G–obl-obj→D
The prototypical D is a noun with a preposition.

Properties
The dependent member of the obl-obj SSyntRel is the Oblique Object [= OblO]. It is the least privileged clause element, which does not have defining properties: it is characterized rather negatively, by the opposition to other nominal objects.

The OblO’s descriptive properties:


2) The OblO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

3) The OblO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

4) The OblO cannot be promoted/demoted.

5) If the OblO is a noun introduced by the preposition À or DE, it can be the target of cliticization by Y (but not by lui!) or EN: J’y [= à ce projet] renonce lit. (I renounce thereto [= this project]); Ma décision en [= de ta présence] dépend (My decision depends thereon [= your presence]). With a few verbs, the OblO introduced by the preposition sur can also be cliticized by Y: J’y [= sur ta présence] compte beaucoup (I count much thereon [= your presence]).

6) The OblO can be the target of relativization: le principe sur lequel j’insiste ‘the principle on which I insist’; le principe dont ma décision dépend ‘the principle on which my decision depends’; Ces dix centimètres dont Alain la dépasse sont très importants ‘These 10 cm by which Alain exceeds her are very important’.

7) The OblO can be the target of clefting: C’est sur ce point que j’insiste ‘It is on this point that I insist’; C’est à construire la maison qu’Alain m’a aidé ‘It is to build the
house that Alain has helped me; C’est de dix centimètres qu’Alain la dépasse ‘It is by 10 cm that Alain exceeds her’.

8) The OblO cannot be the controller/the target of reflexivization (as opposed, for instance, to the DirO and the IndirO).

9) The OblO cannot be the controller of the Secondary Actor in the causative faire-construction.

10) The OblO cannot be the controller of an actantial-attributive complement.

11) The OblO cannot be the target of non-specific government (the clitics en and y do not have case, and the obl-obj SSyntRel does not impose a specific preposition).

12) The OblO cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

13) The OblO follows the governing verb.

14) The OblO can be the target of pure left dislocation: Sur ce point, j’insiste lit. ‘On this point, I insist’; À mourir si jeune, elle ne s’attendait pas lit. ‘To die so young, she did not expect’; De travailler le matin, Alain n’enrage pas lit. ‘To work in the morning, Alain is not angered by’.

NB: Some specific OblOs cannot be dislocated for purely semantico-communicative reasons: *En sanglots, Helen éclate ‘In sobs, Helen bursts out’; *De quelques mètres, Alain s’est approché ‘A few meters, Alain has approached’ (cf., however, De 3 mètres, Alain s’est approché de Helen; Danielle, c’était 5 mètres ‘3 meters, Alain has approached Helen; for Danielle, it was 5 meters’).

Formal types of OblO
1. A noun (in the broad sense) introduced by a preposition:
   b. A phrase equivalent to a noun (e.g., a headless relative or a quantitative phrase): Je me moque de qui viendra ‘I don’t care who is coming’.

2. The clitic en or y: J’en raffole ‘I am very keen thereon’, J’y pense ‘I think thereof’.

3. An infinitive introduced by a preposition: Alain a consenti à travailler ‘Alain has agreed to work’, Alain doute de pouvoir venir ‘Alain doubts that he can come’, Alain se passe de dormir ‘Alain can do without sleeping’.

4. A subordinate que-clause: douter que CLAUSE ‘doubt that ...’, prévenir [N] que CLAUSE ‘warn that ...’.
5. A prepositionless noun (with the verbs PARLER, CAUSER, ACHETER, VENDRE, PAYER, VOTER and a few others): parler politique (bébés) ‘talk politics (children)’, causer affaires ‘talk business’, vendre ses concombres 3 euros ‘sell one’s cucumbers 3 euros’, payer cette robe 300 euros ‘pay this dress 300 euros’, voter Mitterrand ‘vote for Mitterrand’.

NB: The obl-obj SSyntRel is repeatable (for instance, Leo a changé des marks en pesetas [= OblO] avec Marga [= OblO] ‘Leo has exchanged marks for pesetas with Marga’).

Justification
1. The constructions subsumed under the obl-obj SSyntRel satisfy all Criteria 1-3.
   — Criterion 1: no Ds of the obl-obj SSyntRel that can appear with the same G contrast semantically while differing only by some syntactic means. Thus, consider the case of dessiner au pinceau ‘draw with a brush’ vs. dessiner sur le pinceau ‘draw [something] on a brush’; here, au pinceau and sur le pinceau both are OblOs corresponding to different DSyntAs of DESSINER and they do contrast semantically. But these expressions do not contradict Criterion 1, because their difference is not in purely syntactic means: they are distinguished by prepositions, which are different lexemes.
   — Criterion 2: all Ds are either implemented by a prepositional phrase, or are substitutable by a prepositional phrase, as in parler politique ‘talk politics’ ~ parler de la politique ‘talk of the politics’; voter Mitterrand ~ voter pour Mitterrand ‘vote for M.’; douter qu’il part ‘doubt that he leaves’ ~ douter de son départ lit. ‘doubt of his departure’.
   — Criterion 3: the obl-obj SSyntRel is repeatable (the possible number of OblOs is specified by the governing verb), cf. Il m’invite au restaurant [= OblO] pour manger des moules [= OblO] ‘He invites me to a restaurant to eat mussels’; Il m’aide à construire la maison avec son argent [= OblO] ‘He helps me build the house with his money’; Alain loue sa voiture pour 3 mois à 20 euros par jour ‘Alain rents his car for 3 months 20 euros a day’.

2. Traditional French grammar, as we have said, does not distinguish the IndirO and the OblO. We, however, think that they should be separated: only the IndirO, but not the OblO, is replaceable with the personal dative clitic lui ‘to him/her/leur ‘to them’, controls reflexivization and can itself be reflexivized. Cf. such indicative examples as the following ones (Blanche-Benveniste 1975: 39-40):

   (18) a. Alain obéit à Helen [= IndirO] ‘Alain obeys Helen’.
      Alain lui obéit (*Alain obéit à elle).

   b. Alain renonce à Helen [= OblO] ‘Alain renounces Helen’.
      Alain renonce à elle (*Alain lui renonce).

The verbs téléphoner ‘telephone’ and appartenir ‘belong’ take the phrase à N as the IndirO, the verbs rêver ‘dream of N’ and réfléchir ‘think over [N]’—as an
Oblo. The verb servir ‘serve’ admits two à N-phrases: one as an IndirO, the other as an OblO, cf. Cela sert à Alain [= IndirO] au nettoyage [= OblO] des toilettes ‘This serves Alain for the cleaning of the toilet’; the first is cliticizable by lui, the second does not cliticize (moreover, the OblO of servir can be expressed by an infinitive: Cela sert à Alain à nettoyer les toilettes ‘This serves Alain to clean the toilet’). See also above, No. 4, p. 189.

3. Neither can the Agent be subsumed under the obl-obj SSyntRel:

   • The preposition that introduces an OblO is specified by the Government Pattern of the verb, while the choice of the basic preposition of the Agent—par—does not depend on the verb; it is imposed by the SSyntRel itself (this is a case of non-specific lexical government). As was already indicated—No. 6, Item 2, p. 193, this statement is true with the exception of a few verbs that require de.

   • In contrast to the OblO, left dislocation is problematic for the Agent:

     (19) a. Pour Alain [= OblO], une telle lettre a été écrite la semaine dernière
     ‘For Alain, such a letter has been written last week’.
     vs.
     Par Alain [= Agent], une telle lettre a été écrite la semaine dernière
     ‘By Alain, such a letter has been written last week’.

     This is of course a consequence of the Agent being a result of communicative demotion, while left dislocation is a means to express (among others) Focalized Topicalization, i.e., communicative promotion. The Agent’s demoted status is also seen in that the Agent discourages proleptization as well:
     b. Alain, cette lettre a été écrite pour lui [= OblO],
     lit. ‘Alain, this letter has been written for him’.
     vs.
     Alain, cette lettre a été écrite par lui [= Agent],
     lit. ‘Alain, this letter has been written by him’.

   • Criterion 3 does not allow us to collapse the Agent with the OblO: the obl-obj SSyntRel is repeatable, but the agentive SSyntRel is not (a Governor can have two, three, etc. OblOs—as a function of its Government Pattern, but there can be no more than one Agent per Governor).

Comment
In the expressions of the type parler politique, causer affaires and voter Mitterrand the D does not behave like a typical Oblo: it does not allow relativization, clefting or pure left dislocation. However, this is an extremely phraseologized construction (possible with just a few verbs), so that we need not require from these expressions to be fully similar to the prototype.
3.2 SSyntRel whose prototypical dependent is an infinitive

INFINITIVAL-OBJECTIVAL SSynt-Relations (8 - 10)

8. Direct-infinitival-objectival SSyntRel: G—dir-inf-obj→D

The prototypical D is a prepositionless infinitive.

Properties

The dependent member of the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel is the Direct-Infinitival Object [= DirInfO]—a prepositionless infinitive depending on the verbs pouvoir ‘can’, devoir ‘must’, savoir [nager] ‘know [how to swim]’, faillir [tomber] ‘almost [fall]’, daigner ‘deign’, ...

The dir-inf-obj SSyntRel has two defining properties:

1) The DirInfO can be the target of cliticization by the “neuter” LE, but not with any governing verb: Je peux/dois partir ‘I can/must leave’ ~ Je le peux/le dois ‘I can/must it’. Cf., however: Je sais nager ‘I know how to swim’ ~ *Je le sais; J’ai failli tomber ‘I almost fell’ ~ *Je l’ai failli; Il n’a pas daigné lire ce texte ‘He did not deign to read this text’ ~ *Il ne l’a pas daigné.

Although with SAVOIR, FAILLIR and DAIGNER the cliticization of the infinitive is impossible, we have decided to keep this infinitive in the DirInfO group, since it cannot be covered by any of the other Infinitival SSyntRel or by the dir-obj SSyntRel—in conformity with Criterion 2, and it seems counterintuitive to have for the governed infinitive of these three verbs a separate SSyntRel. On the other hand, the impossibility of cliticization of the governed infinitive is an individual property of the governing verb and has to be specified as a piece of lexicographic information in its Government Pattern.

NB: The impossible cliticization of the infinitive governed by the three above verbs does not contradict the first defining property of the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel (a contradiction would be a possible cliticization of a different type, e.g., by γ).21

2) In most cases, the DirInfO can be the target of left dislocation: Partir, je peux lit. ‘To leave, I can’; coll. Nager le crawl, je sais bien ‘To do the crawl, I know well’; Lire ce texte, il n’a pas même daigné lit. ‘To read this text, he has not even deigned’. With some verbs, however, left dislocation is infelicitous or impossible: *Partir, je dois lit. ‘To leave, I must’; *Tomber, il a failli à cause de sa nonchalance lit. ‘To fall, he almost did because of his carelessness’.

The dir-inf-obj SSyntRel has the following descriptive properties:

3) The DirInfO corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb.

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21 Our decision to subsume SAVOIR + Vinf under the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel is buttressed by the fact that the expression of the type *Je lui ferai savoir nager lit. ‘I will make to-him know how to swim’, although not ideal, is much better than *Je le ferai savoir nager. In this respect (= imposing the IndirO realization on the Secondary Actor of the FAIRE-construction), the Vinf with SAVOIR is thus closer to the nominal DirO.
4) The DirInfO is not obligatorily present in every clause (it is used only with a very small group of verbs).

5) The DirInfO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

6) The DirInfO cannot be implicated in promotion or demotion.

7) The DirInfO cannot be the target of clefting: *C’est partir que je peux ‘It is to leave that I can’.

8) The DirInfO cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

9) The DirInfO follows the governing verb.

The dir-inf-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

**Formal types of the DirInfO**

1. A prepositionless infinitive: pouvoir partir ‘be able to leave’.

2. The “neuter” LE clitic: Il le peut ‘He can it’.

**Justification**

This SSyntRel cannot be collapsed neither with the dir-obj SSyntRel, nor with the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel:

1) The DirInfO cannot be considered as a particular case of DirO, since it is not substitutable by the prototypical DirO—a noun (No. 3, Comment 5, p. 184).

2) The DirInfO cannot be considered as a particular case of CopredInfO (see below, No. 10, p. 201), since they feature different defining properties.


The prototypical D is an infinitive introduced by a preposition.

**Properties**

The dependent member of the obl-inf-obj SSyntRel is the Oblique-Infinitival Object [= OblInfO]—an infinitive introduced by a preposition: commencer à V_{inf} ‘begin’, continuer à/de V_{inf} ‘continue’, se dépêcher de V_{inf} ‘hurry’, réussir à V_{inf} ‘manage’, finir par V_{inf} ‘finish’, ... Exceptionally, the OblInfO can be a prepositionless infinitive: it happens only with the verbs PENSER ‘intend’ and CROIRE ‘believe’.

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22 However, the construction PENSER–r→que + CLAUSE is treated differently: we see here a different lexeme PENSER ‘think’, with which the QUE-clause is considered a DirO, since one can say Qu’il faut se préparer était pensé par tout le monde ‘That it is necessary to prepare oneself was thought by everybody’ and Ce qu’Alain a pensé, tout le monde le pense ‘What Alain has thought, everybody thinks it’. Even if this verb does not accept the prototypical DirO—a regular noun, it takes nouns featuring a pronominal character. Alain pense la même chose ‘Alain thinks the same thing’, without mentioning the demonstrative CELA/CE [QUE] or the negative RIEN ‘nothing’. The same reasoning applies to CROIRE–r→que + CLAUSE.
The obl-inf-obj SSyntRel does not have defining properties: within its group, it is characterized rather negatively, by opposition to other infinitival objects. (Let it be recalled that the same situation obtains with the obl-obj SSyntRel, No. 7, p. 194.)

The obl-inf-obj SSyntRel has the following descriptive properties:

1) The OblInfO corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb.

2) The OblInfO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

3) The OblInfO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

4) The OblInfO cannot be promoted/demoted.

5) The OblInfO cannot be the target of cliticization.

6) The OblInfO cannot be the target of clefting: *C’est à travailler que je commence lit. ‘It is to work that I begin’.

7) The OblInfO cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

8) The OblInfO follows the governing verb.

9) In most cases, the OblInfO cannot be the target of pure left dislocation (note that under left dislocation, an infinitive loses its preposition À, so that in the following examples this À is omitted): *Préparer le repas, Alain se dépêche lit. ‘To prepare the meal, Alain hurries’; ?Partir pour la France, Alain pense depuis trois mois lit. ‘To leave for France, Alain has been intending for three months’; ?Préparer le repas, Alain commencera dès demain lit. ‘To prepare the meal, Alain will begin tomorrow’. Cf., however, Faire un bon repas, Alain réussit toujours lit. ‘To make a good meal, Alain always manages’.

Formal types of the OblInfO

a. An infinitive with a preposition: Alain a fini par accepter lit. ‘Alain has finished by to accept’.

b. A prepositionless infinitive: Nous croyons avoir le droit de rester ‘We believe to have the right to stay’; Je pense partir ‘I intend to leave’.

The obl-inf-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

Justification

1. Strictly speaking, Criterion 2 does not allow us to subsume the constructions a and b under the same SSyntRel. However, since the problem is related just to two verbs—CROIRE and PENSER in the given senses, we decided to force the matters a bit, violating our own principles. The construction CROIRE/PENSER + V_inf cannot be subsumed under
the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel, because this would contradict the defining properties of the latter: the infinitive in the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel is not cliticizable by Y and admits left dislocation, while with CROIRE/PENSER it is replaceable with Y, but cannot be dislocated. At the same time, it satisfies the properties of the obl-inf-obj SSyntRel.

2. The obl-inf-obj SSyntRel cannot be collapsed with none of the following four SSyntRels: the dir-obj SSyntRel, the obl-obj SSyntRel, the dir-inf-obj SSyntRel, and the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel:

1) The OblInfO cannot be considered as a particular case of the DirO, since it is not substitutable by the prototypical DirO—a prepositionless noun (Criterion 2), even in the case of a prepositionless infinitive: Tout le monde pense partir ‘Everybody intends to leave’ ~ *Tout le monde pense le départ ‘Everybody intends the departure’. In addition, the OblInfO does not satisfy the defining properties of the DirO (*Tout le monde le [= partir] pense ‘Everybody thinks it’; *Partir est pensé par tout le monde ‘To leave is thought by everybody’, Cela le (=lui) fera penser partir ‘This will make intend to leave”).

2) The OblInfO cannot be considered as a particular case of OblO, because it is not substitutable by a prepositional noun phrase: Alain se hâte de partir ‘Alain hurries to leave’ ~ *Alain se hâte de/du départ ‘Alain hurries of the departure’. Moreover, the OblInfO and the OblO differ with respect to clefting: *C’est de partir [= an OblInfO] qu’Alain se hâte ‘It is to leave that Alain hurries’ ~ C’est à partir [= an OblO] qu’Alain a consenti ‘It is to leave that Alain has agreed”; cf. C’est au départ qu’Alain a consenti ‘It is to the departure that Alain has agreed’.

3) The OblInfO is different from the DirInfO with respect to cliticization and left dislocation: only the latter, but not the former, can be cliticized and admits pure left dislocation.

4) The OblInfO cannot be considered as a particular case of CopredInfO, since it contradicts the defining property of the latter (see immediately below).

The introduction of the last two infinitival objects—DirInfO and OblInfO—runs counter to the French grammatical tradition (cf. also Cundito 1999). The corresponding infinitives are generally collapsed with nominal objects, i.e., with the DirO and the OblO. We, however, find this practice unfortunate: our infinitival objects combine with the verbs whose corresponding DSyntA (= II) expresses essentially a semantic fact (an event, an action, a state, etc.) rather than a semantic name; therefore, their prototypical D must be verbal rather than nominal. The governing verbs in question have very special (“semi-grammatical”) meanings: modal, phasic, aspectual, etc. It is not for nothing that these verbs participate in paraphrases in which they become adverbial modifiers of the governed infinitive: Il continue à écrire ‘He continues to write’ = Il écrit toujours ‘He is still writing’; Il se hâte de sortir ‘He hurries to go out’ = Il sort en hâte ‘He goes out in a hurry”; Il hésite à répondre ‘He hesitates to answer’ = Il répond de façon hésitante ‘He answers in a hesitant way’.

The prototypical D is a prepositionless infinitive.
Properties
The dependent member of the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel is the Copredicative-Infinitival Object [= CopredInfO]—a prepositionless infinitive which depends on a verb of perception or else on FAIRE 'make', LAISSER 'let' or ENVOYER 'send'. This is the infinitive in the Accusativus Cum Infinitivo construction: Alain voit Helen traverser la rue 'Alain sees Helen cross the street'; Alain fait traverser la rue à Helen 'Alain makes cross the street to Helen'; Alain laisse Helen traverser la rue 'Alain lets Helen cross the street'; Alain envoie Helen chercher du vin 'Alain sends Helen to bring some wine'; Helen a été vue traverser la rue 'Helen has been seen to cross the street'. The traditional French—and, more generally, European—grammar does not have an established term for the dependent member of this SSyntRel. Le Goffic (1993: 275-276) considers it as the second direct object and proposes to call it “prédicat de l’objet;” this seems rather infelicitous, since the first direct object is not obligatorily present: Il entend chanter de vieilles chansons ‘He hears sing old songs’. Yet the infinitive in question does have a semantic link to the DirO—it is, so to speak, predicated about it. In this respect, this infinitive is similar to copredicative attributes such as I drink my coffee hot, to pound the metal flat, He prefers Helen slim, etc. It is for this reason that we decided to call the infinitive in the constructions of the Accusativus cum Infinitivo type copredicative-infinitival object.

The CopredInfO has the following defining property:

1) The CopredInfO corresponds to DSyntA III of the governing verb, whose DSyntA II is realized as a DirO (which may be absent); this DSyntA II is, at the same time, coreferential with DSyntA I of DSyntA III.23

Other relevant properties of the CopredInfO are:

2) The CopredInfO is not obligatorily present in every clause (it is used with a very small group of verbs).

3) The CopredInfO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

4) The CopredInfO cannot be implicated in promotion or demotion.

5) The CopredInfO cannot be the target of cliticization.

6) The CopredInfO cannot be the target of clefting: *C’est traverser le fleuve à la nage que j’ai vu Alain ‘It is to cross the river swimming that I have seen Alain’.

7) The CopredInfO cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

8) The CopredInfO follows the governing verb: Il voit Helen danser/Il voit danser Helen ‘He sees Helen dance’.

23 The latter fact explains why some researchers consider the DirO in this construction to be the Synt-Subject of the infinitive (e.g., Isaac 1986: 26-27). However, in French, it does not have any defining properties of the Subject (except for corresponding to DSyntA I), while it can be promoted to Subject and is replaceable by an accusative clitic, as all DirOs.
The CopredInfO cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Traverser le fleuve à la nage, j’ai vu Alain lit. ‘Cross the river swimming, I have seen Alain’ (in the correct sentence Traverser le fleuve à la nage, j’ai vu Alain le faire lit. ‘To cross the river swimming, I have seen Alain to do it’), the infinitival phrase is a Prolepse, not a dislocated CopredInfO); *Se lever très tôt, j’ai fait Alain lit. ‘Get up early, I have made Alain’.

NB: The copred-inf-obj SSyntRel has an additional important property: its G is a clitic-attracting verb. This means that this verb admits the raising of the clitic from (a dependent of) its CopredInfO: Il entend parler de leur voyage lit. ‘He hears speak of their trip’ ~ Il en entend parler lit. ‘He hears speak thereof’; J’enverrai prendre le livre ‘I’ll send to take the book’ ~ obsol. Je l’enverrai prendre ‘I’ll send to take it’; Cet air, je le laisse chanter lit. ‘This tune, I let sing it’.

The copred-inf-obj SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

Justification
Criteria 2 and 3 forbid us to collapse this SSyntRel either with the dir-obj SSyntRel or the obl-obj SSyntRel:
- The CopredInfO is substitutable neither by a prototypical DirO (= a noun) nor by a prototypical OblO (= a prepositional phrase).
- Collapsing the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel with the dir-obj SSyntRel or the obl-obj SSyntRel would violate the value of their repeatability (it would allow for just two DirOs or two CopredInfOs). At the same time, their relevant properties are different.

Comments
1. The causative construction FAIRE–copred-inf-obj→V_{inf} differs from other constructions covered by the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel in that it is characterized by a particular word order: it is so monolithic in this respect that only the reflexive SE of V_{inf}, a clitic governed by this V_{inf} (under very specific conditions: for instance, Cela la faisait me téléphoner tous les matins ‘This made her call me every morning’) or some adverbs and parentheticals can linearly separate FAIRE and the governed infinitive: *Alain fait Helen danser ‘Alain makes Helen dance’ vs. Alain laisse (voit) Helen danser ‘Alain lets (sees) Helen dance’ (Tasmowski-de Ryck 1984). Furthermore, DSyntA II of the causative construction (= the Secondary Actor) is expressed either by the DirO or by the IndirO of FAIRE—as a function of the presence of a DirO with the V_{inf}, however, other Accusativus-Cum-Infinitivo constructions also show this feature, even if less frequently: for instance, Il a laissé faire le travail à ses assistants lit. ‘He has let do the job to his assistants’. All other linguistic properties which have been selected in this paper as relevant to the establishment of SSyntRelS in French are shared by the causative FAIRE-construction and all the other Accusativus-Cum-Infinitivo constructions. We have therefore opted to subsume the causative FAIRE-construction under the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel and formulate additionally its individual properties (to be included in the lexicographic entry for the causative FAIRE)—rather than to create a special SSyntRel just for this construction.

2. The constructions with the semi-auxiliaries SE FAIRE and SE VOIR (Il s’est fait tuer ‘He’s got killed’; Il s’est vu refuser l’accès lit. ‘He has seen himself to refuse the access’ = ‘He was refused the access’) are also described via the copred-inf-obj SSyntRel: in spite of their semantic particularities, they have the same relevant syntactic properties.
As the preceding discussion has shown, the infinitive (prepositionless or introduced by a preposition) which depends on a verb can fulfill one of the following five SSynt-roles: a Direct Object, an Oblique Object, a Direct-Infinitival Object, an Oblique-Infinitival Object, and a Copredicative-Infinitival Object. Let us give examples of corresponding verbs:

\[ V_{\text{dir-obj}} \rightarrow V_{\inf}(\text{the infinitive is substitutable by the prototypical D of the dir-obj SSynt-Rel, i.e., a prepositionless noun}): \]

apprendre à [parler chinois] 'learn to [speak Chinese]'  
attendre de 'wait to' (cf. Être admis est attendu de plusieurs malades depuis longtemps lit. 'To be admitted is awaited by several patients for a long time' and Alain attend d’Être admis 'Alain awaits to be admitted' ~ Alain l’attend)  
chercher à 'try to' (cf. Alain cherche à convaincre ses opposants 'Alain seeks to convince his opponents' ~ Il le cherche. The verb CHERCHER 'try to achieve ...' (as opposed to CHERCHER 'look for') has no passive form)  
craindre de 'be afraid of'  
décider de 'decide to'  
demander à [Être admis] 'ask to [be admitted]'  
exiger de 'require to'  
jurer de [dire la vérité] 'swear to [tell the truth]'  
promettre de 'promise to'  
proposer de 'propose to'  
regretter de 'regret to', vouloir 'want', ...

\[ V_{\text{obl-obj}} \rightarrow V_{\inf}(\text{the infinitive is substitutable by the prototypical D of the obl-obj SSynt-Rel, i.e., a noun introduced by a preposition}): \]

consentir à 'agree to'  
se décider à 'bring oneself to'  
douter de [pouvoir venir] 'doubt to [be able to come]'  
inviter à 'invite to'  
obligier à 'oblige to'  
parler de [partir] 'talk of [leaving]'  
soupçonner de 'suspect of', ...

The verb RISQUER 'risk' represents an interesting case: it governs two infinitives, one as a DirO and the other as an OblO, cf. Tu risques d’avoir [= DirO] une contravention à te garer ici [= OblO] 'You risk a ticket if you park here'.

\[ V_{\text{dir-inf-obj}} \rightarrow V_{\inf}(\text{the infinitive is the prototypical D of this SSyntRel, and cliticization via “neuter” LE is possible): pouvoir ‘can’, devoir ‘must’, ...} \]

\[ V_{\text{obl-inf-obj}} \rightarrow V_{\inf}(\text{the infinitive is the prototypical D, but cliticization via “neuter” LE is impossible):} \]

commencer à/par 'begin to/by'  
continuer de 'continue to'  
se dépêcher de 'hurry to'
essayer de ‘attempt to’ (this ESSAYER means ‘attempt’; in essayer la nouvelle robe ‘try the new dress’ we have a different lexeme ESSAYER ‘test’)

se hâter de ‘hasten to’

hésiter à ‘hesitate to’

persister à ‘persist to’

réussir à ‘manage to’

tâcher de ‘attempt to’

tarder à ‘be long V-ing’
terminer par ‘finish by’, ...

V–copred-inf-obj→Vinf (the infinitive is the prototypical D; the Accusativus cum infinitivo construction): voir ‘see’, entendre ‘hear’, faire ‘make’, laisser ‘let’, ...

3.3 SSyntRel s whose prototypical dependent is an adjective

ATTRIBUTIVE-COMPLETIVE SSynt-Relations (11 - 13)

11. Copular-attributive-completive SSyntRel: G–cop-attr-compl→D

Properties

Its dependent member is the Copular-Attributive Complement [= CopAttrCo]. i.e., a clause element depending on a copular verb and corresponding to its DSyntA II: Il est malade ‘He is sick’, Elle reste directrice ‘She remains she-director’, Cet ensemble devient complet ‘This set becomes complete’, La maison fait très grande ‘The house does very big’ = ‘... gives the impression of being very big’.

The copular verbs form a small closed set: ÊTRE ‘be’, DEVENIR ‘become’, RESTER (malade) ‘remain (sick)’, DEMEURER (son ami) ‘remain (his friend)’, SEMBLER ‘seem’, PARAÎTRE ‘seem’, FAIRE (petit) ‘give the impression of (being small)’. A copula includes in its meaning the semantic component ‘be’ and has two DSyntAs which correspond to two SemAs of ‘be’; thus, a copula is inherently intransitive. (This is a provisory characterization; the exact definition of copular verbs requires a special study.) On the contrary, a verb such as TROUVER in Alain trouve Helen belle ‘Alain finds Helen beautiful’ or RENDRE in La robe rend Helen belle ‘The dress makes Helen beautiful’ is by no means a copula, since although it also includes the semantic component ‘be’, it has three DSyntAs and is transitive. As a result, the phrase trouver/rendre→belle ‘find/make beautiful’ is described by a different SSyntRel (= No. 12, actantial-attributive-completive, p. 208).

The CopAttrCo has the following two defining properties:

1) The CopAttrCo must be the target of subject agreement: it agrees obligatorily with the clause element that corresponds to DSyntA I of the governing copula: Il m’a ordonné d’être prête ‘He ordered me to be ready [FEM]’ (DSyntA I of ÊTRE is MOI [a woman]).

The agreement in question is either morphological (Alain est intelligent ‘Alain is intelligent [MASC]’ ~ Aline est intelligente ‘Aline is intelligent [FEM]’) or lexical-seman-
tic (Alain a été directeur ‘Alan has been he-director’ ~ Aline a été directrice ‘Aline has been she-director’).

2) The CopAttrCo can be the target of cliticization by the “neuter” le: Je ne semble pas intelligente, je le (*la) suis lit. ‘I don’t seem intelligent, I am it’; Elle n’est pas encore intelligente, elle le (*la) devient lit. ‘She is not yet intelligent, she is becoming it’; Je ne suis pas encore une cantatrice, je le (*la) deviens lit. ‘I am not yet a she-singer, I am becoming it’; Elle n’est pas encore la directrice, mais elle le (*la) deviendra lit. ‘She is not yet the she-director, but she will become it’.

Other properties of the CopAttrCo:

3) The CopAttrCo corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing copula.

4) The CopAttrCo is not obligatorily present in every clause.

5) The CopAttrCo does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

6) The CopAttrCo cannot be promoted/demoted.

7) If the CopAttrCo is a noun, it can be the target of relativization: Voilà l’homme que tu deviendras si tu n’es pas sage ‘Here is the man that you’ll become if you are not well-behaved’. (Cf. *Je déteste être malade, qu’Alain est toujours ‘I hate to be sick, which Alain always is’, where the CopAttrCo is an adjective.)

8) If the CopAttrCo is a noun, it can be the target of clefting, although the construction is deemed non-elegant (and the judgments of the speakers diverge): *C’est un grand linguiste qu’il deviendra ‘It is a great linguist that he will become’.

9) In a special case—with the Subject CE ‘this’ and the verb ÊTRE in the identifying sense—the CopAttrCo is the controller of the agreement of the MV: Ce sont mes amis lit. ‘This are my friends’.

10) The CopAttrCo linearly follows the governing verb.

Exceptions
The D precedes if 1) it is Tel ‘such’, cf. Tel était son ordre ‘Such was his order’; or if 2) it is focalized, cf. Plus dure sera la chute lit. ‘Harder will be the fall’.

11) The CopAttrCo cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Intelligent, il est peut-être lit. ‘Intelligent, he is maybe’; *Intelligent, il n’est pas encore, mais il le deviendra lit. ‘Intelligent, he isn’t as yet, but he will become it’; *Intelligent, il deviendra peut-être lit. ‘Intelligent, he will become maybe’; *Intelligent, il semble à tout le monde, sauf moi lit. ‘Intelligent, he seems to everybody, except me’.

Formal types of the CopAttrCo
We give here the maximal set of possibilities: the formal types of the CopAttrCo that depends on ÊTRE; with other copulas the CopAttrCo may lack some of these formal types (the respective possibilities are specified in the Government Pattern of the copula).
1. An adjective: *Il est gentil* ‘He is nice’.

2. A prepositionless noun: *Il est médecin* ‘He is a doctor’; *C’est une linguiste* [FEM] lit. ‘This is a she-linguist’.

3. A headless relative: *Elle sera qui elle veut être* ‘She will be who she wants to be’.

4. The “neuter” LE or a personal clitic: *Il l’est* lit. ‘He is it’.

5. A prepositional phrase: *Il est sans argent* ‘He is without money’.

6. A noun introduced by the conjunction COMME: *Il est comme les autres* ‘He is like others’.

7. A numeral: *Ils étaient cinq* ‘They were five’.

8. An adverb: *Il est debout (bien, mieux)* ‘He is standing up (well, better)’.

9. An infinitive:
   a. Without preposition: *Refuser serait l’offenser* ‘To refuse would be to insult him’; *Cette expérience semble condamner votre hypothèse* ‘This experiment seems to condemn your hypothesis’.
   b. Introduced by a preposition: *Notre but est de décrire la conjugaison* ‘Our goal is to describe the conjugation’.

10. A QUE-clause: *Son désir est qu’on le laisse tranquille* lit. ‘His desire is that they leave him alone’.

The cop-attr-compl SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

**Comment**

The verb ÊTRE admits several CopAttrCos—if they are implemented by adverbial or prepositional phrases; thus, in (20) we have three such phrases:

(20) a. *Alain était à Paris (là-bas) sans argent dans un état désespéré*  
   ‘Alain was in Paris (there) without money in a desperate state’.

However, this does not contradict our statement about the non-repeatability of the cop-attr-compl SSyntRel: it is not true that each of the three prepositional phrases depends directly on the copula ÊTRE, which would produce parallel, i.e., repeatable, dependencies of the same type. Were this the case, we would face a theoretically impossible situation: one DSynt-valence (= DSyntA II of ÊTRE) being implemented more than one time. It is only the leftmost of the prepositional phrases that depends on ÊTRE via the cop-attr-compl SSyntRel; each of the others depends on its predecessor via the quasi-coordinative SSyntRel:

b. ÊTRE—cop-attr-compl—À PARIS—quasi-coord—SANS ARGENT—quasi-coord—DANS UN ÉTAT ...
Similarly to the coordinative SSyntRel, the quasi-coordinative SSyntRel links the clause elements that fulfill the same semantic role, but without being really conjoined.

12. Actantial-attributive-completive SSyntRel: G–act-attr-compl→D

Properties
Its dependent member is the Actantial-Attributive Complement [= ActAttrCo], which bears semantically either a) on the Subject, or b) on the Direct Object:

a) Il s’appelle Alain lit. ‘He calls himself Alain’, Elle s’appelle Aline lit. ‘She calls herself Aline’; Cet ensemble est dit maximal lit. ‘This set is said maximal’; Aline est considérée intelligente lit. ‘Aline is considered intelligent [FEM]’; Élu directeur, Alain est parti en Espagne lit. ‘Elected he-director, Alain has left for Spain’.

b) On l’a appelé Alain lit. ‘They called him Alain’, On l’a appelée Aline lit. ‘They called her Aline’; On considère Aline intelligente lit. ‘They consider Aline intelligent [fem]’; On a élu Alain directeur lit. ‘They elected Alain he-director’; On l’a fait trop grosse lit. ‘They have made it too big [FEM]’; On l’a surnommé Le Barbu lit. ‘They nick-named him ‘The Bearded’.

The two defining properties of the ActAttrCo are:

1) The ActAttrCo must be the target of subject/object agreement. More precisely, it agrees obligatorily:
   • either with the Subject of the governing V, if this V has no DirO (in particular, if it is in the passive);
   • or with the nominal SSynt-governor of the governing V, if this V is in the form of past participle (= reduction of a clause with the passive: J’ai lu un roman, [qui a été] considéré par tout le monde fort intéressant [I have read the novel, [which has been] considered very interesting by everybody]);
   • or with the DirO of V, if it is present.
   The agreement in question is either morphological (intelligent ~ intelligente) or lexico-semantic (Alain a été nommé directeur lit. ‘Alain has been nominated he-director’ ~ Aline a été nommée directrice lit. ‘Aline has been nominated she-director’; On a nommé Alain directeur lit. ‘They have nominated Alain he-director’ ~ On a nommée Aline directrice lit. ‘They have nominated Aline she-director’).

2) The ActAttrCo cannot—in contrast to the CopAttrCo—be the target of cliticization: Il est considéré intelligent ‘He is considered intelligent’ ~ *Il l’est considéré ‘He is considered it’ vs. Il est intelligent ‘He is ill’ ~ Il l’est lit. ‘He is it’.

Other properties of the ActAttrCo:

3) The ActAttrCo corresponds to DSyntA II or III of the governing verb.

Verbs that take the ActAttrCo as their DSyntA II: s’appeler ‘be called’, s’annoncer ‘announce itself’, s’avérer ‘turn out to’, se percevoir ‘be perceived’, se présenter (comme ...) ‘appear (as ...)?, être dit ‘be said’, tomber (malade, amoureux) ‘fall (ill, in love)’, ...
Verbs that take the ActAttrCo as their DSyntA III: considérer `consider`, élire `elect`, nommer `nominate`, ... (Tout le monde considère Alain génial `Everybody considers Alain a genius` and Alain est considéré génial par tout le monde `Alain is considered a genius by everybody`).

4) The ActAttrCo is not obligatorily present in every clause.

5) The ActAttrCo does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

6) The ActAttrCo cannot be promoted/demoted.

7) The ActAttrCo cannot be the target of relativization: *Le directeur de l’usine, qu’Alain a été nommé (qu’on a nommé Alain) a beaucoup de moyens `The plant director, which Alain has been nominated (which they have nominated Alain), has many means`.

8) Even if the ActAttrCo is a noun, it cannot be the target of clefting: *C’est un grand linguiste qu’Alain est considéré lit. `This is a great linguist that Alain is considered`; *C’est un grand linguiste qu’on considère Alain lit. `This is a great linguist that they consider Alain`.

NB: If the ActAttrCo is an adjective, it admits of “concessive detachment:” Tout intelligent qu’Alain est, il ne le comprendra pas `However intelligent Alain is, he will not understand this`.

9) The ActAttrCo cannot be the controller the agreement of the MV.

10) The ActAttrCo linearly follows the governing verb.

11) The ActAttrCo cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Intelligent (Un grand linguiste), Alain est considéré (on considère Alain) `Intelligent (a great linguist), Alain is considered (they consider Alain)`.

Formal types of the ActAttrCo

1. An adjective or a participle: Helen est considérée intelligente `Helen is considered intelligent`; Helen, considérée intelligente par ses collègues, peut obtenir ce qu’elle veut `Helen, considered intelligent by her colleagues, can obtain what she wants`; Alain considère Helen intelligente `Alain considers Helen intelligent`; Alain regarde Helen traversant la rue `Alain watches Helen crossing the street`; Je voudrais voir cette affaire clarifiée `I would like to see this business clarified`.

2. A prepositionless noun: Il s’appelle Alain lit. `He calls himself Alain`; Alain est élu directeur lit. `Alain is elected he-director`; Alain nomme son fils Igor `Alain calls his son Igor`; On l’a bombardé président `He was suddenly thrust into the position of president`.

3. A noun or an adjective introduced by the conjunction COMME `as` or the preposition DE: Alain est proposé (On propose Alain) comme directeur `Alain is proposed (They propose Alain) as director`; Cette théorie est considérée (On considère cette théorie)
This theory is considered very interesting; Alain has called Helen a liar; Alain has labeled this newspaper as tendentious.

4. A noun introduced by the preposition \( \text{EN TANT QUE}, \) \( \text{À TITRE DE} \) or \( \text{POUR} \): *Alain est proposé* (On propose Alain) \( \text{en tant que (à titre de) directeur} \) *Alain is proposed* (They proposed Alain) as director; *On tient Alain (Alain est tenu) pour un génie* \( \text{lit. 'They hold Alain (Alain is held) for a genius'} \).

5. A prepositional phrase: *Elle croit Alain à Paris (sans argent)* \( \text{lit. 'She believes Alain in Paris (without money)'} \); *Je l’ai laissé sans un sous* \( \text{lit. 'I have left him without a cent'} \).

6. An adverb: *Helen croyait Alain dehors* \( \text{lit. 'Helen believed Alain outside'} \).

7. A relative clause: *Alain les voit qui traversent la rue* \( \text{lit. 'Alain sees them who are crossing the street'} \); *Ils étaient vus qui traversaient la rue* \( \text{lit. 'They were seen who were crossing the street'} \).

The types 5 and 6 appear only with the verb \( \text{CROIRE} \) *believe*, the type 7—with perception verbs.

The \( \text{act-attr-compl} \) SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

**Justification**

1. For the \( \text{act-attr-compl} \) SSyntRel Criterion 2 is satisfied only partially, that is, not for all governing verbs: some Ds indicated above are not substitutable by the prototypical ActAttrCo—an adjective. The ActAttrCo with the verbs \( \text{APPELER} \) *call*, \( \text{PROPOSER} \) *propose*, \( \text{ÉLIRE} \) *elect* and \( \text{NOMMER} \) *call/nominate* can only be a noun (*s’appeler Alain* \( \text{be called Alain} \); *être proposé comme directeur* \( \text{be proposed as director} \)); thus, we admit an ActAttrCo which is not substitutable by the prototype. Our decision is justified by the high degree of similarity of the syntactic behavior of this non-referential noun and all “normal” ActAttrCos and our unwillingness to postulate a separate SSyntRel just for these verbs otherwise.

On the other hand, we see an alternative solution: to posit a different \( \text{attr-compl} \) SSyntRel, because one of the \( \text{attr-compl} \) SSyntRels presupposes morphological agreement of the ActAttrCo (when the latter is an adjective), while the other does not.

2. We do not see other SSyntRels with which the \( \text{act-attr-compl} \) SSyntRel could be collapsed. Thus, the \( \text{act-attr-compl} \) SSyntRel is opposed to the \( \text{subject-copredicative} \) and the \( \text{object-copredicative} \) SSyntRels\(^{24}\) (Criterion 1):

\[
\text{(21) a.}
\]

\[
\text{Petit, Alain était considéré intelligent}
\]

\( \text{lit. 'Little [MASC], Alain was considered intelligent [MASC]'} \)

\(^{24}\) The \( \text{subject-copredicative} \) SSyntRel and the \( \text{object-copredicative} \) SSyntRel (see below) are not actantial and therefore not considered in this paper.
b.  

\[
\text{Petite, Alain la considérait intelligente}
\]

lit. ‘Little [FEM], Alain considered her intelligent [FEM]’

Comments
1. In some approaches, the distinction between the clause elements covered by the copular and the act-attr-compl SSyntRel is drawn in a different way. Thus, for English, Quirk et al. (1991: 728-729) distinguish Subject Complement, which includes complements of copulas and of the verbs of the type be considered or be called (because they bear semantically on the Subject), and Object Complement—for the cases of the type find [N] beautiful (because this complement bears on the Object). The same treatment is traditionally proposed for French: for instance, Le Goffic 1993 (passim) et Baylon & Fabre 1995: 198-199. Our decision to oppose Copular Complements to Actantial Complements (without distinction between Subject and Object Complements) is based on the following two considerations:

1) CopAttrCos and ActAttrCos differ in their relevant properties:

   • CopAttrCos, but not ActAttrCos, admit of cliticization: Il l’est lit. ‘He is it’ vs. *Il l’est considéré lit. ‘He is considered it’.

   • CopAttrCos admit of pure left dislocation, while ActAttrCos do not: Intelligent, il est lit. ‘Intelligent, he is’ vs. *Intelligent, il est considéré lit. ‘Intelligent, he is considered’/*Intelligent, on le considère lit. ‘Intelligent, they consider him’.

   • Unlike ActAttrCos, a CopAttrCo can control the agreement of the MV (with ÊTRE ‘be’): Ce sont mes amis lit. ‘This are my friends’.

2) Typologically, copular constructions have in syntax the pride of place—they are (near-)universal and have special properties in many languages; therefore, we prefer to keep them separate.

2. The distinction between Subject and Object Complements, as we have seen, is fully determined by the presence of a DirO (with the governing verb) and thus can be dispensed with. This means that we can do with one act-attr-compl SSyntRel.

3. An interesting case of ActAttrCo: an adjective bearing semantically on an infinitive which is introduced by the preposition DE (this infinitive is the DirO of the governing verb), for instance: Alain trouve plaisant de faire un cassoulet ‘Alain finds [it] pleasant to prepare a cassoulet’.

4. Similar to the cop-attr-compl SSyntRel, the act-attr-compl SSyntRel can also have seemingly multiple Ds expressed by prepositional phrases or adverbs:

(22) Helen croyait Alain à Paris sans argent dans un état désespéré
    ‘Helen believed Alain in Paris without money in a desperate state’.
These consecutive phrases are treated the same way as Ds of this type with the copula être (see above, No. 11, Comment, p. 207): only the first one is taken to be an ActAttrCo, while the others depend on their preceding neighbor via the quasi-coord SSyntRel:

CROIRE—[Alain]—cop-attr-compl→À PARIS—quasi-coord→SANS ARGENT—quasi-coord→DANS UN ÉTAT DÉSÉSPÉRÉ

13. Predicative-attributive-completive SSyntRel: G—pred-attr-compl—D
The prototypical—and the only possible D—is an adjective (masculine, singular).

Properties
Its dependent member is the Predicative-Attributive Complement [= PredAttrCo], which is possible with a number of verbs of the type SENTIR ‘smell’ [intrans], COUPER ‘cut’, COÛTER ‘cost’, CHANTER ‘sing’, RAPPORTER ‘yield, bring in’: Ça coûte cher [= II] lit. ‘This costs expensive’; Les draps sentent bon [= III] la menthe lit. ‘The bedsheet smell good the mint’; couper gros/menu [= III] la viande lit. ‘cut meat big/small’; Alain chante cet air juste [= III] lit. ‘Alain sings this tune correct’; Son entreprise rapporte gros [= II] lit. ‘His enterprise brings big’ = ‘... gives him a good return’; Il porte haut [= III] la tête ‘He carries the head high’ (see the list of such verbs in Le Goffic 1993: 367-368).

The PredAttrCo has one defining property:

1) The PredAttrCo is the target of non-specific government, namely, it is an adjective frozen in the masculine singular form: Les roses sentaient bon ‘The roses smelled good’.

Other properties:

2) The PredAttrCo corresponds to DSyntA II, III or IV (X vend Y à Z cher [= IV] lit. ‘X sells Y to Z expensive’) of the governing verb.

3) The PredAttrCo is not obligatorily present in every clause.

4) The PredAttrCo does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

5) The PredAttrCo cannot be promoted/demoted.

6) The PredAttrCo cannot be the target of cliticization: *Cette robe le [= cher] coûte ‘This dress costs it [= expensive]’; *Cette caisse le [= mauvais] sent ‘This box smells it [= bad]’.

7) The PredAttrCo cannot be the target of the agreement.

8) The PredAttrCo cannot be the controller of the agreement of the MV.

9) The PredAttrCo follows the governing verb; it precedes all other objects, including the DirO.
10) The PredAttrCo cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Bon, le pain sent ‘Good, the bread smells’.

The pred-attr-compl SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

3.4 SSyntRelS whose prototypical dependent is an adverbial expression

THE CIRCUMSTANTIAL and COMPARATIVE SSynt-Relations (14 - 15)

The two SSyntRelS below cover all Circumstantials and Comparative Expressions, including all free modifiers of verbs. However, in what follows we characterize them strictly within the limits of our data—that is, only those Circumstantials and Comparative Expressions which express DSyntAs of the verb.

14. Circumstantial SSyntRel: G-circum→D

The prototypical D is an adverb.

Properties

Its dependent member is a Circumstantial [= Circum]: an adverbial expression that specifies the place, the time, the duration of an action, the manner in which the action is carried out, etc. But what we are interested in here is a particular case of Circum: a Circum that expresses a DSyntA of the verb (cf. Adverbials in the role of compléments essentiels in Le Goffic 1993: 355). Some of these Circums—the Circums of place, of time and of manner—appear rather restrictedly, i.e., with a handful of verbs, such as HABITER à Paris ‘live in Paris’, VIVRE rue du Dahomey ‘live in Dahomey Street’, SE TROUVER là-bas ‘find oneself there’, ATTENDRE [N] demain ‘expect [N] tomorrow’, SE COMPORTER bien (de façon amicale, avec une générosité incroyable, royalement) ‘behave well (in a friendly manner, with an incredible generosity, royally)’, TRAITER [N] très bien (royalement) ‘treat [N] very well (royally)’, ÉVALUER [N] très haut ‘evaluate [N] very highly’, CARACTÉRISER [N] positivement ‘characterize [N] positively’, or RECEVOIR [N] amicalement ‘receive [N] friendly’, etc. Some other Circums—for instance, the Circums of measure—are more widespread (as an expression of a DSyntA: DSyntA II, most of the time): MANGER beaucoup ‘eat much/a lot’, LIRE plus qu’elle ‘read more than she’, BOIRE trop ‘drink too much’, etc.25

The circum SSyntRel has two defining properties:

1) If the Circum is a locative phrase, it can be the target of cliticization by EN or Y.

2) If the Circum is a noun phrase, it can be the target of relativization: la générosité avec laquelle Alain nous a reçus ‘the generosity with which Alain has received us’; la ville où Alain habite ‘the city where Alain lives’.

The descriptive properties of the Circum considered here are:

25 The Circum of Measure does not express DSyntA II with all transitive verbs; cf.:

(i) a. Ils ont beaucoup mangé (construit) ‘They have eaten (built) a lot’.

vs.

b. *Ils ont beaucoup préparé (coupé) ‘They have prepared (cut) a lot’.

This fact shows the DSynt-actantial role of the Circum of Measure in the sentences in (i-a).
3) The Circum corresponds to DSyntA II or III of the governing verb.

4) The Circum is not obligatorily present in every clause.

5) The Circum does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

6) The Circum cannot be promoted/demoted.

7) The Circum can be the target of clefting: *C’est très amicalement qu’Alain nous a reçus ‘It is very friendly that Alain has received us’.

8) The Circum (we speak only of Circums that express DSyntAs!) follows the governing verb.

9) The Circum cannot be the target of pure left dislocation: *Très amicalement, il s’est comporté envers son frère, pas envers moi ‘Very friendly, he has behaved with respect to his brother, not me’; ?*À Paris/Là-bas, il habite depuis longtemps ‘In Paris/ There, he has been living for a long time’.

Formal types of the Circum


3. The clitic y or en.

4. A prepositionless noun phrase:
   a. a proper name of a place in a city ([Alain habite] Place de la Concorde lit. ‘[Alain lives] Place de la Concorde’);
   b. a noun denoting a day or a date ([Noël tombe] un dimanche ‘[Christmas falls] on a Sunday’).

   Generally speaking, i.e., taking into account all Circums rather than only those that express the DSyntAs of the Governor, the circum SSyntRel is repeatable:

   (23)

   Alain s’est très bien–circum–comporté–circum–hier à l’école
   ‘Alain has behaved very well yesterday at school’.

Justification
1. The circum SSyntRel must be distinguished from the sentential-circumstantial SSyntRel in conformity with Criterion 1 (semantic contrast). Cf. (24):
2. The circum SSyntRel with a D implemented by a prepositional phrase must also be distinguished from the obl-obj SSyntRel. Although our relevant properties do not distinguish them, a linguistically valid distinction exists. As a rule, the preposition that introduces an ObI is uniquely determined by the governing verb: in its Government Pattern a specific preposition is indicated; the corresponding prepositional phrase cannot be attached to every verb. Thus, in *louer [une voiture] pour trois mois* ‘rent [a car] for three months’, the boldfaced phrase is an ObI (although, semantically, it could be considered a Circumstantial). With a Circum, the choice of the specific preposition is not imposed by the governing verb: cf. *aller à/vers/devant/derrière/dans/hors de l’école* (‘go to/towards/in front of/behind/in/outside of the school’); the corresponding prepositional phrase combines in principle with any semantically appropriate verb. Therefore, the three prepositional phrases in *aller de Montréal à Singapour par le Pacifique* ‘go from Montreal to Singapore via the Pacific’ are considered to be Circums. (Of course, this does not prevent these phrases to be DSyntSs of ALLER.)

More difficult is establishing the syntactic difference between *au concert* ‘to a concert’ [= ObI] and *au restaurant* ‘to a restaurant’ [= Circum] with the verb INVITER ‘invite’. In both cases, the preposition is not determined by the verb alone (*inviter au concert*/ *inviter au restaurant*), but the prepositional phrase easily combines with any verb (e.g., *mourir au concert*/*au restaurant* ‘die at a concert/in a restaurant’). However, a telling distinction can be found even here: *le restaurant où Alain m’a invitée* ‘the restaurant where Alain has invited me’ vs. *le concert où Alain m’a invitée* ‘the concert where Alain has invited me’ [correct expression: *le concert auquel Alain m’a invitée*], which shows that a locative Circum and an ObIO admit of different types of relativization. (Unfortunately, this test does not work for all verbs. Thus, *emmener au concert* ‘take to a concert’ is described by the obl-obj SSyntRel, similarly to *inviter au concert*, but the relativization with * où* is here quite natural: *le concert où Alain m’a emmenée*.)

A Circum expressed by a prepositionless noun of the type *tomber un dimanche* ‘fall on a Sunday’ cannot be considered an ObIO, because it is not replaceable with a prepositional phrase (the prototypical D of the obl-obj SSyntRel), but is replaceable with an adverb (the prototypical D of the circum SSyntRel): *Pâques tombe tard/tôt cette année* ‘Easter falls late/early this year’.

3. With some transitive verbs, the Circum of Measure expresses DSyntA II and therefore does not combine with an obvious DirO:
(25) *Il a beaucoup mangé la soupe lit. ‘He has much eaten the soup’.26

However, even in such cases, the Circum of Measure cannot be subsumed under the dir-
obj SSyntRel since it violates the defining properties of the latter:

- It does not readily passivize: *Trop a été mangé ‘Too much has been eaten’, *Plus que normal a été bu ‘More than normal has been drunk’.

- It does not impose the IndirO role on the Secondary Actor of the causative FAIRE-
construction: On le (*lui) fait manger beaucoup trop ‘They make him eat too much’.

The quantitative adverbs of the type BEAUCOUP, PEU, PLUS [que], TROP, etc. are not
considered traditionally as Circums of Measure; the only example found in Grevisse
1993: 476—allonger une robe de dix centimètres ‘lengthen a dress by 10 cm’—presents
in the point of fact an OblO (because in this phrase, the preposition DE is uniquely
determined by the verb). Le Goffic (1993: 234) notes the semantic relatedness between
quantitative adverbs and DirOis with some verbs, without, however, making his pro-
posal specific enough.

Comment
We by no means imply that one circum SSyntRel is sufficient for the description of the
French syntax. It is quite possible that several particular types of Circums should be dis-
tinguished based on purely SSynt-considerations. We, however, allow ourselves to
make abstraction from this problem, which is marginal within the present context.

15. Comparative SSyntRel: G-compar→D
The prototypical D is a nominal phrase introduced by the comparative conjunction
COMME ‘as’.

Properties
Its dependent member is a Comparate [= Compar]: a nominal phrase introduced by the
conjunction COMME ‘as’ [COMME→N] and expressing the comparison either with the
Subject or with the DirO of the governing verb V. Let it be reminded that here we con-
sider only a particular case of the Compar, namely, a Compar that expresses a DSyntA
of the verb; French has only a few verbs of the corresponding type, such as SE COM-
PORTER ‘behave’ or TRAITER ‘treat’: Alain s’est comporté comme un héros ‘Alain has
behaved as a hero’; Alain a traité Helen comme une reine ‘Alain has treated Helen as a
queen’.

The compar SSyntRel has two defining properties:

1) The Compar cannot be the target of cliticization.

2) The Compar cannot be the target of relativization.

The descriptive properties of the Compar considered here are:

26 The expression of the type Il a beaucoup mangé de soupe lit. ‘He has much eaten of soup’ represents the “split” of the phrase beaucoup de soupe ‘much soup’ (which is a DirO) rather than the combination of two codependents BEAUCOUP and SOUPE (cf. *Il a mangé de soupe).
3) The Compar corresponds to DSyntA II or III of the governing verb.

4) The Compar is not obligatorily present in every clause.

5) The Compar does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

6) The Compar cannot be promoted/demoted.

7) The Compar can be the target of clefting: C’est comme un ami qu’Alain nous a reçus lit. ‘It is as a he-friend that Alain has received us’; C’est comme une amie qu’Alain a reçu Helen lit. ‘It is as a she-friend that Alain has received Helen’.

8) The Compar follows the governing verb.

9) The Compar cannot be the target of left dislocation: *Comme un héros, Alain s’est comporté ‘As a hero, Alain has behaved’. (Comme un héros Alain s’est comporté pendant le voyage au Népal ‘As a hero Alain has behaved during the trip to Nepal’ is possible with a descending contour on the boldfaced phrase—as pointed out to us by C. Blanche-Benveniste; in this case, the phrase in question is a fronted Circumstantial.)

The comparative SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

Justification

1. Distinguishing the compar SSyntRel from the circum SSyntRel is motivated by the following three considerations:

   • They do not have the same prototype: the prototypical Circum is an adverb, while the prototypical Compar is a COMME-phrase (which is in fact the only possible expression of D). Therefore, Criterion 2 does not allow the unification.

   • They have diverging relevant properties: the Compar does not admit cliticization, relativization nor left dislocation, which are possible (even if partially) for the Circum.

   • Typologically, comparative constructions present a host of specific properties. They are related to coordination and, like the latter, are implicated in complex transformations irrelevant for simple Circums. Cf., for instance, J’aime Alain comme Helen ‘I love Alain as Helen’, which means either ‘I love Alain as I love Helen’ (Helen is parallel to Alain) or ‘I love Alain as Helen loves him’ (Helen is parallel to je).

2. Consider the significative opposition in (26):

   (26) a. Alain traite Helen comme un roi ‘Alain treats Helen as a king’.
       vs.
       b. Alain traite Helen comme une reine ‘Alain treats Helen as a queen’.
       Alain traite ses amis comme des rois ‘Alain treats his friends as kings’.

One can have the impression that (26) constitutes a clear case of application of Criterion 1 (= semantic contrast). However, in point of fact, the contrast here is not related to different syntactic means of expression: the derivational difference in gender (roi ‘king’ ~ reine ‘queen’) is lexical-semantic and the inflectional difference in number
(roi ‘king’ ~ rois ‘kings’) is semantic. Both differences are taken care of at the deeper level of representation (this is, so to speak, semantic agreement). Therefore, they should not have any impact on SSyntRel. As a result, we have no need to postulate two different SSyntRel (for instance, subj-compar vs. obj-compar).

3.5 SSyntRel whose prototypical dependent is Direct Speech

THE QUOTATIVE-OBJECTIVAL SSyntRel (16)

16. Quotative-objectival SSyntRel: G-quot-obj→D

Properties

Its dependent member is Direct Speech, or the Quotative Object [= QuotO]: « J’aime le poulet à l’estragon », annonça Alain (‘I love tarragon chicken,’ announced Alain); « Tu es déjà là ? », s’étonna Helen lit. (‘You are already here?’, became astonished Helen).

The QuotO has just one defining property:

1) The QuotO has special prosody/punctuation.

Other (descriptive) properties of the QuotO:

2) The QuotO corresponds to DSyntA II of the governing verb.

3) The QuotO is not obligatorily present in every clause.

4) The QuotO does not obligatorily depend on the MV.

5) The QuotO can be the target of promotion by passivization, with possible subsequent Impersonalization: Il a été annoncé : « Gardez vos places » lit. ‘It has been announced: ‘Remain in your seats’”; C’est alors que fut annoncé : « Gardez vos places » lit. ‘It is then that was announced: ‘Remain in your seats’”.

6) The QuotO imposes the IndirO realization of the Secondary Actor in the causative faire-construction, but—unlike the DirO—only with nominal phrases; with clitics, both realizations remain possible:

(27) a. Alain fait crier à Helen : « Nous sommes foutus ! »
   lit. ‘Alain makes to Helen shout: ‘We are finished!’” ~
   vs. Alain fait crier Helen : « Nous sommes foutus ! »
   lit. ‘Alain makes Helen shout: ‘We are finished!’”

b. Alain lui/la fait crier : « Nous sommes foutus ! »
   lit. ‘Alain makes to-her/her shout: ‘We are finished!’”

7) The QuotO can both follow and precede the MV (= a speech verb); in case it precedes the MV, it entails the inversion of the MV and the Subject: « Gardez vos places », a dit Alain lit. (‘Remain in your seats,’ has said Alain).
The quotative-objectival SSyntRel is non-repeatable.

**Justification**

The quot-obj SSyntRel cannot be subsumed under the dir-obj SSyntRel in conformity with Criterion 1 (semantic contrast):

(28) Alain me dit *trois mots* [= DirO] 'Alain says to me three words'.
vs.
Alain me dit : « *Trois mots* » [= QuotO] 'Alain says to me: ‘Three words’'.

Accordingly, a special quotative SSyntRel was proposed in Iordanskaja & Mel’čuk 1981.

On the DSynt-level, Direct Speech is taken to be a particular type of DSyntA II of the governing speech verb: namely DSyntA II_{dir-sp}. On the SSynt-level, the Direct Speech and the DirO are considered as two different expressions: 1) either an utterance (« *Trois mots* » (‘Three words’)), or else 2) a description of an utterance (*trois mots* ‘three words’) or of the content of an utterance (*qu’il veut manger un morceau* ‘that he wants to have a bite’). The DSyntRel II_{dir-sp} in the DSyntS indicates the presence of a literal reproduction of an utterance (no changes in it, in particular no paraphrasing, are possible). Thus, such a sentence as *[Alain]* dit : « *Je veux manger un morceau* » *[Alain]* says: ‘I want to have a bite’ receives the following DSyntS:

```
   DIRE
     /\  
    o II_{dir-sp} o
      /
     o
```

Je veux manger un morceau

However, as we have just seen, the SSynt-behavior of Direct Speech is very similar to that of the DirO: two of DirO’s defining properties (passivization and the control of the Secondary Actor in the FAIRE-construction) are shared by the QuotO, although in a weakened form. In addition, Indirect Speech, which is semantically and syntactically close enough to Direct Speech, is considered a DirO: *Alain dit–dir-obj–qu’il voulait manger un morceau* ‘Alain says that he wanted to have a bite’. It is thus not astonishing that grammarians hesitate in regard to syntactic representation of Direct Speech. Cross-linguistically, Direct Speech manifests as well this duality. Thus, in Georgian, the Subject of the Speech Verb + Direct Speech construction is in the ergative, what is expected of the Subject of a transitive verb—so that Direct Speech is treated in Georgian as a normal DirO: (29a). But in Chukchee, which also features an ergative construction, the Subject of a speech verb with Direct Speech is in the nominative, what is expected of the Subject of an intransitive verb; therefore, we see that in Chukchee Direct Speech is by no means a DirO: (29b).
4 The summary: Synoptic tables of French valence-controlled SSyntRel

To make the results of our description more surveyable, we will now offer four tables (for the first four classes of SSyntRel) which present, in a compact form, a characterization of the considered SSyntRel/the corresponding clause elements in terms of their relevant properties.

The value of a property is given according to the prototypical D’ of the SSyntRel in question; wherever it seems important to specify a different value for a non-prototypical D we do so, using a slash and indicating (in brackets) the part of speech of D. [?] means that the corresponding value is not stable—either speakers are not unanimous with respect to it, or it varies as a function of different governors. If a property is inapplicable to the prototype of it is indicated by a zero.

4.1 Subject, Objects, Agent: the prototypical dependent is a noun

The clause elements represented in the table below are ordered—from left to right—according to the number of positive values (of the properties) they feature: Subj has 13 positive values, DirO has 11, IndirO has 6, Pseudo-DirO 6, Agent 5, and OblO 4. The IndirO is put before the Pseudo-DirO, which has the same number of positive values, because the IndirO is linguistically closer to the preceding elements according to a more important property: reflexivization. (The Quasi-Subject is an exception: since it is the result of a transformation, it is not considered in the subsequent discussion; it is positioned in the rightmost column in order not to obscure the picture.) Interestingly, such ordering leads to a hierarchy: if a lower element features the positive value of a property, then either any higher element also does or the property is not applicable to it, but not vice versa. (Exception: the Pseudo-DirO precludes pure left dislocation while the higher IndirO does not.) And this hierarchy corresponds to the hierarchy of nominal clause elements mentioned on p. 156: the Keenan-Comrie Hierarchy (1977).

The Keenan-Comrie hierarchy was established using one parameter only: accessibility of a clause element for (a particular type of) relativization. However, it was shown that the same hierarchy obtains according to several other parameters: thus, an element higher in the hierarchy determines the syntactic role of the Causee (= the Secondary
Actor under causativization; Comrie 1975) while lower elements do not; the accessibility of clause elements for promotion via grammatical voices also corresponds to this hierarchy (if a lower element can be promoted, then all the higher elements necessarily can; Gary & Keenan 1977); the same hierarchy manifests itself in the ability of clause elements to control reflexive and reciprocal anaphora (Pollard & Sag 1992: 266) and to admit extraction (Abeillé 1997a: 23); etc. Now, our results confirm once again the validity of this hierarchy—based, however, not just on one parameter, but rather on a full set of parameters relevant in this framework.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of SSyntRels</th>
<th>Subj</th>
<th>DirO</th>
<th>IndirO</th>
<th>Pseudo-DirO</th>
<th>Agent</th>
<th>OblO</th>
<th>Quasi-Subj</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Corresponding DSyntA</td>
<td>I</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>II/III</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>I/II</td>
<td>any but I</td>
<td>I</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Obligatory presence</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dependence on the MV only</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Target of promotion/demotion</td>
<td>demotion</td>
<td>promotion</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Target of cliticization</td>
<td>Cl_{pers}</td>
<td>Cl_{pers}/EN/LEneu_[V_{inf}]</td>
<td>Cl_{pers}</td>
<td>Cl_{pers}</td>
<td>EN</td>
<td>EN, Y</td>
<td>EN [N]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Target of relativization</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Target of clefting</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Controller/Target of reflexivization</td>
<td>controller</td>
<td>controller/ target</td>
<td>controller/ target</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>controller</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Controller of the SSynt-role of the Secondary Actor</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Controller of actantial-attributive complements</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>[?–]</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Target of non-specific government</td>
<td>nominative</td>
<td>accusative</td>
<td>dative</td>
<td>accusative</td>
<td>PAR</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Controller of agreement of MV</td>
<td>finite verb</td>
<td>past participle</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13. Precedes MV</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14. Impossibility of pure left dislocation</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>[?–]</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Thick cell borders indicate the defining properties of the respective clause element.
Here is the hierarchy such as it results from our study:

Subject > DirO > IndirO > Pseudo-DirO > Agent > OblO

Note that it includes two more clause elements, which were not considered by Keenan and Comrie: the Pseudo-DirO (a kind of degenerate DirO) and the Agent. Two lower elements in the Keenan-Comrie hierarchy are omitted, since they do not belong to the verb active valence and therefore are outside our scope. To show how this hierarchy can play a role in the identification of nominal actantial clause elements, we present at the end of the paper the corresponding identification tree: see p. 228.

4.2 Infinitival Objects: the prototypical dependent is an infinitive

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of SSyntRels</th>
<th>DirInfO</th>
<th>OblInfO</th>
<th>CopredInfO</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Deep-Syntactic Actant</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>III</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Obligatory presence</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dependence on the MV only</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Target of promotion/demotion</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Target of cliticization</td>
<td>LE_{neutre}</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Target of clefting</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Control of agreement of the MV</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Precedes the MV</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Impossibility of left dislocation</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>[?] +</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

As one sees from this table, the three Infinitival Objects do not differ very much from each other. However, their distinctions, although not numerous, are rather important and seem to justify our differentiating them.
4.3 **Attributive Complements: the prototypical dependent is an adjective**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of SSyntRels</th>
<th>Clause elements</th>
<th>CopAttrCo</th>
<th>ActAttrCo</th>
<th>PredAttrCo</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Deep-Syntactic Actant</td>
<td>II</td>
<td>II/III</td>
<td>II/III/IV</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Obligatory presence</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dependence on the MV only</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Target of promotion/demotion</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Target of cliticization</td>
<td>LF&lt;sub&gt;neut&lt;/sub&gt;</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Target of relativization</td>
<td>0/+[N]</td>
<td>0/–[N]</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Target of clefting</td>
<td>0/[?]+[N]</td>
<td>0/–[N]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Target of non-specific government</td>
<td>accusative [N]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>masc, sg</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Target of agreement</td>
<td>subject agreement</td>
<td>subject/object agreement</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10. Control of agreement of the MV</td>
<td>0/+[N, with CE as Subj]</td>
<td>0/–[N]</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11. Precedes the MV</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12. Impossibility of left dislocation</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

4.4 **Valence-controlled Circumstantial/Comparates: the prototypical dependent is an adverb/a COMME-phrase**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Properties of SSyntRels</th>
<th>Clause elements</th>
<th>Circum</th>
<th>Compar</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Deep-Syntactic Actant</td>
<td>II/III</td>
<td>II/III</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Obligatory presence</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Dependence on the MV only</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Target of promotion/demotion</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Target of cliticization</td>
<td>Y, EN</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Target of relativization</td>
<td>0/+[N]</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7. Target of clefting</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8. Precedes the MV</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9. Impossibility of left dislocation</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>–</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Similarly to what has been just said about InfOs, our Circums and Compars are not very different with respect to the established list of relevant properties. This is due to the fact that we consider only a particular case—these clause elements as expression of DSyntAs of the governing verb. If we take into account the full range of possibilities open to the comparative construction in French, the differences would be more visible.

5 Conclusion

Put in a nutshell, the content of this paper is as follows: While working on the inventory of valence-controlled SSyntRels governed by a verb, we have tried to take into account the complex interaction between a SSyntRel, formal types, i.e., syntactic classes, of its dependents and individual lexemic features of its governor. In other words, we tackle the problem of an optimal distribution of linguistic information between these three types of linguistic entities. Our guiding principle has been to avoid both extreme semanticism and extreme formalism. We do not want to base the system of SSyntRels on their semantic functions nor on the syntactic distribution of their Ds; what we are looking for is a subtle equilibrium between both these aspects—such that it is in conformity with the lexicographic information contained in the lexical entries of the Gs. Cf. Ju. Apresjan’s insistence on the necessity of a perfect agreement between the grammar and the lexicon, “which must be tuned to each other” (Apresjan 1986: 57).

Our central tool in this endeavor is the prototypical Dependent of a given SSyntRel—an idea that is itself by no means new (it goes back to Jespersen and Tesnière and is shared by many others), but that has been applied to our material in a rigorous and systematic way. Non-prototypical dependents of a SSyntRel are determined based on their similarity with the prototype; we suggest a more precise interpretation of the notion of similarity, p. 160.

And last, but not least, as has been already said, we made a special effort to ensure the typological plausibility of the proposed system of SSyntRels.

Appendices

List of lexemes and constructions considered in the paper

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27 Technically speaking, to account for the special nature of different Ds of a SSyntRel, we do the following: For each relevant property of any SSyntRels, it is explicitly indicated to which syntactic classes this property is applicable. For instance, the property of specific linear placement (= precedes/follows the MV) is not applicable to clitics, whose linear position is not determined by their subordinating SSyntRel.
List of major clause elements with their possible SSynt-roles

Noun without preposition

An N can be:
1. Subject: No. 1, p. 172.
2. Quasi-Subject [*Il pleuvait des coups*]: No. 2, p. 175.
4. Pseudo-Direct Object [with some special verbs: *Il pesait 60 kg; Ça sent le hareng*]: No. 5, p. 191.
5. Oblique Object [*parler politique, payer cette robe 300 euros*; with some special verbs: *parler, causer, acheter, vendre, payer, voter*…]: No. 7, p. 196.
7. ActAttrCo [with some special verbs: *Il s’appelle Alain; Pierre est élu directeur*]: No. 12, p. 209.

Noun with preposition

A PREP + N can be:
2. Indirect Object [the preposition À: *Il a donné son livre à Marie*]: No. 4, p. 188.
3. Agent [the prepositions PAR and DE, with a passive form: *Elle a été reçue par son ami; Aimée de tout le monde, elle…*]: No. 6, p. 194.
5. CopAttrCo [with copulas: *Il est sans argent*]: No. 11, p. 207.
6. Circum [*On l’a trouvé au bord de la mer; se trouver à Montréal*]: No. 14, p. 214.

Clitic

A CL NOM can be:
1. Subject: No. 1, p. 172.

A CL ACC can be:

A CL DAT can be:
1. Indirect Object [*Je lui donne ce livre*]: No. 4, p. 188.

Impers. il can be:
1. Subject [*Il pleut*]: No. 1, p. 172.
EN can be: 1. Quasi-Subject [Il en [= des camions] arrive]: No. 2, p. 175.
3. Agent [Il en était adoré]: No. 6, p. 194.

Y can be: 1. Oblique Object [J'y pense]: No. 7, p. 195.

LE neutre can be: 1. DirInfO [Il le peut]: No. 8, p. 199.
2. CopAttrCo [Il l’est]: No. 11, p. 207.

Infinitive without preposition

A V_{INF} can be: 1. Subject [Courir fatigue Pierre]: No. 1, p. 173.
3. DirInfO [Il peut chanter]: No. 8, p. 199.
4. OblInfO [Je pense partir]: No. 9, p. 200.
5. CopredInfO [Il la voit traverser la rue; Il fait (laisse) Marie danser]: No. 10, p. 201.
6. CopAttrCo [Refuser serait l’offenser]: No. 11, p. 207.

Infinitive with a preposition

A PREP + V_{INF} can be: 1. Subject [De voir ça m’a bouleversé]: No. 1, p. 173.
2. Quasi-Subject [Il fatigue Pierre de courir]: No. 2, p. 175.
4. OblInfO [Il me conseille à travailler; Il se passe de dormir]: No. 7, p. 195.
5. OblInfO [Il a fini par accepter; commencer à parler; cesser de parler]: No. 9, p. 200.
6. CopAttrCo [Notre but est de décrire ...]: No. 11, p. 207.

Infinitive governing an interrogative pronoun

A WH + V_{INF} can be: 1. Direct Object [Il sait à qui parler]: No. 3, p. 180.

Adjective

An ADJ can be: 1. CopAttrCo [with copulas: Il est malade; Ils sont cinq]: No. 11, p. 207.
2. ActAttrCo [with some special verbs: Marie est considérée intelligente]: No. 12, p. 209.
Adverb

An ADV can be:
1. CopAttrCo [Il est debout]: No. 11, p. 207.

Conjunction COMME

COMME + N can be:
1. CopAttrCo [with copulas: Il est comme les autres]: No. 11, p. 207.
3. Compar [se comporter comme un héros; traiter Marie comme une reine]: No. 15, p. 216.

COMME + ADJ can be:
1. ActAttrCo [Cette théorie est considérée comme fort intéressante]: No. 12, p. 209.

Subordinate clause

QUE + PROP can be:
1. Subject [Que Marie soit venue étonne Pierre]: No. 1, p. 173.
2. Quasi-Subject [Il semble que Marie est venue]: No. 2, p. 175.
3. Direct Object [Il sait que Marie est venue]: No. 3, p. 180.
5. CopAttrCo [with copulas and some special verbs: Son désir est qu’on le laisse tranquille]: No. 7, p. 207.

WH + PROP can be:
1. Subject [Pourquoi Pierre a dit cela reste un mystère]: No. 1, p. 173.

SIinter + PROP can be:

Direct Speech

«PROP» can be:
1. Subject [« On va le faire demain » est son énoncé préféré]: No. 1, p. 173.
2. Quasi-Subject [Il a été annoncé « Restez tranquilles ! »]: No. 2, p. 176.
Main nominal actantial clause elements: identification tree

Acknowledgments

The research reported in this paper was financed by the following organizations: Fonds CRSH (grant No. 410-99-1076), Fonds FCAR (grant No. 99-ER-2741), and Fonds CRSNG/NSERC (grant No. OGPO200713).

The first draft has been read, criticized and commented upon by S. Kahane; its final shape owes a lot to his efforts. A. Polguère, with infinite patience and invariably good humor, with-stood our relentless interrogations concerning French data; long stimulating discussions with him substantially helped us on the starting—and the most difficult—stages of our research. The subsequent versions of the paper underwent the scrutiny of C. Blanche-Benveniste, S. Kahane, J. Milićević, A. Polguère, and L. Wanner; a major part of it was gone through by D. Beck and Y.-Ch. Morin. We did our best to take their remarks into account, and we are pleased to express here our heart-felt grat-
itude to all of them. All mistakes and drawbacks that remained are of course our responsibility.

Endnotes

[1] (p. 167) The construction *Mes enfants, je leur permets tout* is represented in a different way:

\[
\text{prolept} \quad \text{*Mes enfants, je leur--indir-obj--permets tout.}
\]

lit. ‘My children, I permit them everything’

Here, we see a special SSyntRel used for a Fronted Dislocated Topic, which can be called, in syntactic terms, a prolepsis.

[2] (p. 174) S. Kahane has indicated to us an example which can seem problematic in this respect:

(i) *Il devrait arriver trois personnes* lit. ‘It should arrive three people’.

If the Quasi-Subject in (i) is cliticized, the clitic attaches to *arriver* rather than to *devrait*:

(ii) *Il devrait en arriver trois* (*Il en devrait arriver trois*)

‘It should arrive three thereof’.

Does (ii) argue in favor of subordinating *trois personnes* to *arriver* and not to the MV *devrait*? We do not think so, because clitics show quite a specific syntactic behavior. In particular, they do not necessarily depend syntactically on the same element as their source; therefore, clitics are not relevant when determining the dependency of a non-clitic sentence element. As far as the clitic EN is concerned, many other similar cases are known when EN does not syntactically depend on the same element as its source. N. Ruwet (1972: 50-51) gives a whole series of corresponding examples:

(iii) *L’auteur de ce livre va devenir célèbre*

‘The author of this book will become famous’. ~

*L’auteur va en devenir célèbre* (*L’auteur en va devenir célèbre*).

*La solution de ce problème doit être simple*

‘The solution of this problem must be simple’. ~

*La solution doit en être simple* (*La solution en doit être simple*).

As we see, EN is put into a position where it has the infinitive as its host—much like the situation with EN what replaces the Quasi-Subject in (ii). (This is explainable by the fact that the verbs ALLER, DEVOIR, etc. are not clitic-attracting, see p. 203, NB.)


• As indicated in Morin 1980, the rule formulated here is, in point of fact, more complex. Thus, in some cases the Secondary Actor of a causative FAIRE-construction can appear as an IndirO of FAIRE in the absence of a DirO of the lexical verb: *Cela leur fait penser à leurs enfants* lit. ‘This makes to them think of their children’5. In some other cases, the Secondary Actor appears as a DirO even in the presence of a DirO of the lexical verb: *Cela la fait se poser de nombreuses questions* lit. ‘This
makes her ask of herself numerous questions. (Such “deviations” are possible only with clitics: *Cela fait penser à leurs enfants à tous les parents qui ... lit. ‘This makes think of their children to all parents who ...’ and *Cela fait se poser de nombreuses questions cette pauvre femme qui ... lit. ‘This makes ask of herself numerous questions this poor woman who ...’.)

• Similar facts concerning different SSynt-realizations of the Secondary Actor are observed in some other constructions with embedded infinitives, for instance, with LAISSER ‘let’ and VOIR ‘see’—as a function of word order:

(i)  Je laisse Alain lire le livre ‘I let Alain read the book’. ~
    Je laisse lire le livre à Alain lit. ‘I let read the book to Alain’.

(ii) Je vois Alain lire le livre ‘I see Alain read the book’. ~
     Je vois lire le livre à Alain lit. ‘I see read the book to Alain’.

• The property of imposing the SSynt-role of the IndirO on the Secondary Actor of the causative FAIRE-construction is shared by the Quotative Object, i.e., Direct Speech (Kayne 1977: 203): Alain fait dire à Helen/Alain lui fait dire : « J’ai tort. » lit. ‘Alain makes to Helen/to-her say: ‘I am wrong’’. At the same time, unlike the DirO, the QuotO systematically allows the Secondary Actor of the causative construction to be realized as a DirO as well: Alain la fait dire : « J’ai tort. » ‘Alain makes her say: ‘I am wrong’’—but again, only if this DirO is a clitic: *Alain fait dire Helen : « J’ai tort. » ‘Alain makes Helen say: ‘I am wrong’’.

References


Linear Placement of Serbian Clitics in a Syntactic Dependency Framework

Jasmina Miličević

1 Introduction

The paper describes linear placement of Serbian second-position clitics. The theoretical framework adopted is the Meaning-Text theory (Žolkovskij & Mel’čuk 1967, Mel’čuk 1974 and 1986, Steele (ed.) 1990, Kahane 2003), in particular the Meaning-Text dependency syntax approach (Mel’čuk & Pertsov 1987, Mel’čuk 1988, 2003 and this volume). Clitic placement is considered from the viewpoint of linguistic synthesis (i.e., in the direction from meaning to text).

A set of rules is proposed which allows for synthesizing Serbian sentences containing clitics, starting from their syntactic representations: 1) cliticization rules and 2) clitic linearization rules, the latter subdivided into clitic cluster building rules and rules for the positioning of the clitic cluster in the morphological representation of the sentence.

The paper is structured as follows. Section 2 presents clitics in general. Section 3 introduces basic facts about Serbian second-position clitics and their linear placement. Section 4 proposes a formalization of these facts by means of corresponding rules within a Meaning-Text linguistic model. Section 5—the Conclusion—offers an overview of second-position clitic placement in Serbian and briefly discusses the role of syntactic and prosodic factors in this operation. Clitic placement is viewed as a syntactic operation, crucially, albeit indirectly, driven by syntactic dependencies; the role of prosodic factors is recognized inasmuch as the prosodic features of sentence elements (≈ constituents) influence their capacity to host the clitics.

2 What are clitics?

A clitic is a prosodically deficient wordform, i.e., a wordform which does not inherently carry stress/tone and has to depend prosodically on a full-fledged [= stressed/intoned] wordform or a phrase in the sentence, called the host of this clitic.

A typical example of clitics are clitic forms of personal pronouns in Romance languages; the French sentence in (1) features a sequence of three such clitics (in boldface) leaning on their host, the auxiliary AVOIR ‘have’ (underlined).
(1) Fr. Je te l’ai déjà dit lit. ‘I to-you.sg this have already said’
    = ‘I have already told you this’.

In this paper I consider only the clitics which have special properties with respect to other
wordforms of a language, that is, clitic pronouns, verbs and particles (clitic prepositions and
conjunctions are left out). Special nature of these clitics is manifested in both their syntax and
morphology.

Syntactically, or more precisely, from the viewpoint of their linear placement, clitics
exhibit the following particularities: clustering, rigid ordering within the sentence—even
in the so-called free word-order languages, and sensitivity to prosody (these features
will be discussed and illustrated below in connection with Serbian clitics).

Morphonologically, clitics form a prosodic unit with the host and may phonologically
interact with it (allophonemic variation, sandhis, deletion, etc.), i.e., they display the
behavior typical of affixes. As a result, it is not always easy to determine whether we
are dealing with a clitic [= a wordform] or with an affix [= a part of a wordform]. Con-
sider, for instance, the following Serbian sentences featuring the 1sg future tense marker
ću ‘I will’:

(2) Serbian
   a. Radiću ć [I] work-INF FUT.1.SG \[= Radi+i+ti ću\]
      Cf. Croatian Raditi ću 〈Radit’ću〉[idem].
   b. Reci ću ć [I] tell-INF FUT.1.SG.

In (2a), ću phonologically interacts with its host—it provokes the truncation of the
infinitive ending -ti—and looks very much like an affix; in (2b), however, where it is
hosted by an infinitive that ends in -ći, no such interaction happens and ću behaves
rather as a (clitic) wordform. (For arguments in favor of treating Serbian future markers
as clitics, rather than as suffixes, see Milićević 1999: 249-251 and 2005.)

Because of their bizarre properties, resulting from this complex interaction of syn-
tax and morphology/morphonology, clitics represent an interesting area of research.

Clitics can be classified along several axes (two influential classifications of clitics
were proposed in Zwicky 1977 and Klavans 1995):

**According to the type of host**: adverbal clitic, as in (1), vs. second-position clitics,
as in (2) and (3).

(3) Serb. Ona ga je, nažalost, napustila lit. ‘She him is(Aux), regrettably, having-left’
    = ‘Unfortunately, she has left him’.

**According to the type of clisis** (= direction of attachment): enclitics (postclitics),
which follow the host, as in (2)-(4), vs. proclitics (preclitics), which precede the host, as
in (1) and (5), vs. endoclitics (meso- or intraclitics), which are inserted into the host; cf.

---

1 Cf. Spencer’s (1991: 358) expression schizophrenia on the part of the clitics and the title of a paper
on clitics by H.-H. Hock: *What is a nice word like you doing in a place like this?*
(6), where the pronominal indirect-object clitic *le* leans on the radical of the verbal wordform and precedes the inflectional suffix -ei ‘1sg’;

(4) Sp. *Quiero verte* lit. ‘[I] want to-see you3sg’ = ‘I want to see you’.

(5) Sp. *Te quiero ver* lit. ‘You3sg [I] want to-see’ = ‘I want to see you’.

(6) Peninsular Port. *Screverlehe* lit. ‘write+FUT+to-him/her+1.sg’ = ‘I will write to him/her’.

According to the domain of placement: clausal clitics, positioned within their clause, cf. (1)-(6), vs. phrasal clitics, positioned within their phrase, cf. (7).

(7) Lat. *Senatus populusque romanus* lit. ‘Senate people-and Roman’ = ‘The Senate and the people of Rome’.

According to the existence of a corresponding full [= stressed] wordform: clitic lexemes, containing only clitic forms, as in (7), vs. clitic wordforms, which co-exist within a lexeme with full wordforms. Clitic wordforms are further divided into inflectional clitics, cf. (1)-(6),2 and morphonological clitics, cf. (8), featuring the reduced forms of the English future auxiliary WILL and the personal pronoun THEY.

(8) *I’ll tell’em*.

The basic differences between adverbal clitics (as in Romance languages) and second-position clitics (as in Slavic) can be summarized as follows.

Syntactic class of clitics

Adverbal clitics are pronouns and particles (e.g., the negative NE and the reflexive SE in French, the interrogative particle TU in Quebec French), while second-position [= 2P] clitics are more heterogeneous—they include auxiliaries, pronouns and particles.

Host of clitics

Adverbal clitics are necessarily hosted by a verb, while 2P clitics attach to any appropriate constituent of their clause—typically, the one in the clause-initial position.

Syntactic governor of clitics

The host of an adverbal clitic (in the Deep-Morphological Structure of the clause) always corresponds to the governor of this clitic (in the Surface-Syntactic Structure).3 In contrast, the host of a 2P clitic and its syntactic governor do not necessarily correspond:

---

2 For a lexeme which contains both clitic and full forms, the opposition *‘clitic’ ~ ‘full’* is inflectional (since it opposes lexes of the same lexeme). This opposition corresponds to the category of tonicity (Mišićević 1999: 238). Thus, a clitic and the corresponding full form of a personal pronoun in Serbian have the same grammemes of number, gender and case, but different grammemes of tonicity.

3 On the other hand, the surface-syntactic governor of a clitic does not necessarily correspond to the governor of the source of this clitic in the Deep-Syntactic Structure of the clause. Thus, in the Deep-Syntactic Structure of (1) above, the sources of the clitics are governed by the lexical verb Dire ‘tell’ (the auxiliary does not exist at this level of representation).
in fact, if they do, this is purely coincidental. For instance, the sequence of clitics ga je in (3) is hosted by the personal pronoun ON(3p)fem, sg 'she', which, in the syntactic structure of (3), does not govern either of the clitics. In point of fact, this pronoun is governed itself by one of the clitics—the present-tense auxiliary je 'is', which is the top node of the corresponding Surface-Syntactic tree, that is, the head of its clause. (On the status of clitic auxiliaries as syntactic heads, see Miličević, to appear.)

Type of clisis

Adverbal clitics can be either proclitics, enclitics or endoclitics, depending on syntactic, communicative, stylistic, etc., conditions; cf. (4) and (5) above, where the pronoun te is a proclitic, respectively an enclitic. As for 2P clitics, they are always enclitics (but see the Conclusion, p. 271, for some conflicting evidence from Serbian).


3 Basic facts about Serbian clitics

In this section, I will discuss the forms of the clitics, the constitution of the clitic cluster and the options available for the linear positioning of the cluster within a clause.4

Before I proceed, a word of caution is in order. Grammaticality judgments of sentences containing clitics differ significantly among native speakers. This is due, among other things, to interferences between different variants (Croatian, Bosnian, Serbian) and styles (literary, journalistic, colloquial), featuring rather subtle differences in clitic placement, as well as to individual differences. I will try to stick to what can be called standard Serbian, but, some fellow speakers will no doubt disagree with some of my judgments (just as I found a number of examples of clitic placement in linguistic literature or in texts available on the WWW less than acceptable).

3.1 Forms of clitics

In Serbian, 2P clitics include:

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4 Some of the examples of Serbian sentences containing clitics cited in the paper are my own, others are taken from Serbian texts (novels, newspapers, WWW) or papers on Serbian clitics (in particular Browne 1974, Radanović-Kocić 1996 and Popović 1997). Sources of examples will not be specifically indicated in the text.
1) clitic forms of auxiliary verbs and copula/locative verbs: HTETI\(_{(\text{Aux})}\) \('\text{will}'\), BITI\(_{(\text{Aux})}\) \('\text{be}'\) and BITI\(_{(\text{Copula/Locative})}\) \('\text{be}'\);
2) clitic forms of personal pronouns (in the dative, genitive and accusative);
3) reflexive adjunct SE [= REFL], which is a voice marker and is also used to mark lexical reflexives (= inherently reflexive verbs);\(^5\)
4) interrogative particle LI\(_1\) [= INTERR] and emphatic particle LI\(_2\) [= EMPH].

All clitics except the reflexive SE and the emphatic particle LI\(_2\) have corresponding full forms; here are fragments of paradigms of a personal pronoun and of an auxiliary verb:

\[
\text{JA(Pron.Pers 1.sg)} \stackrel{\text{1}}{=} \text{I} = \ldots , \text{mi clitic, dat} \sim \text{mèni full, dat, me clitic, acc} \sim \text{mène full, acc, ...}
\]

\[
\text{BITI(Aux)} \stackrel{\text{1}}{=} \text{be} = \text{sam clitic, pres, 1, sg} \sim \text{jèsam full, pres, 1, sg, ... , je clitic, pres, 3, sg} \sim \text{jèste full, pres, 3, sg, ...}
\]

The auxiliaries in the negative do not have clitic forms, that is, they are always full (= stressed): nísam \('\text{I am not}'\), \ldots, níje \('\text{he/she/it is not}'\), etc.

The operation whereby a clitic form of a lexeme is chosen in the process of speaking is called \textit{cliticization}. In Serbian, cliticization is licensed by communicative and/or syntactic factors; thus, communicatively unmarked pronouns as direct dependents of a verb and auxiliaries must appear in a clitic form, while a pronoun functioning as a prepositional object is necessarily full; see p. 260, where a sample cliticization rule is provided.

There are instances of clitic incompatibility which prevent the cliticization; these will be illustrated in the next subsection.

### 3.2 Constitution of the clitic cluster

In order to be linearly positioned, all clitics of the same clause are gathered in a clitic cluster. There is one clitic cluster per clause, except in some cases involving the Main Verb [= MV] with an infinitive complement that has its own clitic dependents; then there can be two clusters in the clause (see immediately below).\(^7\) The clitic cluster cannot be interrupted by a non-clitic element.

The structure of the clitic cluster is specified by the following template:

\[
\text{L1 Aux <Cop, Loc> \# je ei PRONDAT PRON ACC GEN PRONGEN ACC REFL Aux <Cop, Loc> = je ei}
\]

\[
\begin{array}{ccc}
1 & 2 & 3 \\
4 & 5 & 6 \\
7 & & \\
\end{array}
\]

\(^5\) The reflexive adjunct behaves in the same way with respect to linear placement regardless of whether it marks voices (objectal reflexive, pronominal passive or subjectal suppressive—according to the typology of voices proposed in Mel’čuk 1993 and 2006: 181-263) or inherently reflexive verbs.

\(^6\) Serbian has four tonal accents: short-falling [\(^\sim\)], short-rising [\(^`\)], long-falling [\(^\wedge\)], and long-rising [\(^\acute{'}\)]; accent symbols do not appear in current texts.

\(^7\) In the Meaning-Text approach, an infinitive never heads a clause, since a clause is taken to be an expression that necessarily contains a finite verb; thus, in the present framework, we can speak only of infinitival phrases.
The forms of the auxiliary and the copula/locative verbs *BITI* ‘be’ (fully homophonous) are distributed in the following way: all the forms go into the position 2, except the 3sg form, *je* ‘is’, which must be placed in the position 7.

The forms of personal pronouns in the dative include pronouns functioning as indirect object of verbs (e.g., *DATI N*dat ‘give to N’) and oblique objects of adjectives (e.g., *VERAN N*dat ‘faithful to N’), which are inherent actants of verbal/adjectival lexemes (i.e., part of their Government Pattern), as well as the so-called Free Datives, Possessor’s Datives and Ethical Datives, which are not inherent actants of verbs. The latter, illustrated in (9a-c), will not be considered in this paper. Note only that the Ethical Dative clitics (but not the Free Dative and the Possessor’s Dative ones) can co-occur with the indirect-object datives, as shown in (9d). Thus, strictly speaking, the Ethical Dative clitic should be assigned a separate position in the clitic-cluster building template.

(9) a. *Jezik mu*[Free Dative] *je* bio sredstvo za ...
lit. ‘Language to-him is(Copula) having-been a means for ...’ = ‘To him (In his view) language was a means for ...’

b. *Kako ti*[Possessor’s Dative] *je otac?*
lit. ‘How to-you*sg* is(Copula) father?’ = ‘How is your father doing?’

c. *Kako si mi*[Ethical Dative]?
lit. ‘How are you*sg* to-me?’ = ‘How are you doing, sweety?’

d. *Nemoj mi*[Ethical Dative] *joj*[Indirect-Object Dative] *ga* oduzeti!
lit. ‘Do.not to-me to-her it take.away!’ = ‘Do not take it away from her on me!’

A 3p fem accusative pronominal clitic *je* ‘her’ has a variant *ju*, which has to be used before the homophonous pres 3sg auxiliary clitic *je* ‘is’(_Aux_) or the homophonous 3p fem gen pronominal clitic *je* ‘of-her’; cf.:

lit. ‘Who her is having-seen?’ = ‘Who saw her?’

b. *Ko ju*[cl, acc] *je* _cl, gen (*je*_cl, acc *je*_cl, gen) *lišava?*
lit. ‘Who her of-her (e.g. of freedom(N, fem)) is depriving?’ = ‘Who is depriving her of it?’

A 3p dative pronoun and a 1/2p accusative pronoun cannot co-occur if they are both in the clitic form—that is, clitic sequences meaning ‘me to him’, ‘you to them’; etc., are banned, cf.:

(11) a. *Ko *[mu] _3p*cl,dat *me* (_nas_) _1p*cl, acc *je* predstavio?
lit. ‘Who to-him me (us) is having-introduced?’ = ‘Who has introduced me (us) to him?’

vs.

b. *Ko *[mu] _3p*cl,dat *ga* (_ih_) _3p*cl, acc *je* predstavio?
lit. ‘Who to-him him (them) is having-introduced?’ = ‘Who has introduced him (them) to him?’

8 In fact, this is only a rough formulation of the constraint in question: some such sequences are not outright ungrammatical but I cannot enter into this problem here. For more on the incompatibility of dative and accusative clitics, see Miličević (2007: 108-109); for this phenomenon in Romance languages, see Miller & Monachesi (2003: 87ff).
The genitive and the accusative clitics (whose masculine and neuter forms are homophonous) have highly restricted and problematic co-occurrence: they co-occur only when used with a handful of verbs (e.g. OSLOBODITI ‘liberate/rescue/exonerate N of/from N’, LIŠITI ‘deprive N of N’, UDOSTOJITI ‘honor N with N’ and some of their combinations are unacceptable (homophonous sequences *ga+ga, *ih+ih, *je+je, as well as sequences *je+Clacc/gen). Furthermore, even the acceptable combinations are avoided, being rather difficult to process. Indeed, speakers tend to disagree about the mutual order of these clitics. I believe that this is so because, with the exception of two cases below, they can actually be used either in the “acc+gen” or in the order “gen+acc”.

The order “acc+gen” is obligatory in case of 3sg fem clitics: juacc+je gen vs. *je gen+je acc; cf. again (10b), as well as the unacceptability of Ko *je cl, gen ju cl, acc lišava?, having the same meaning as (10b).

The order “gen+acc” is obligatory if the genitive clitic functions as a complement of a quantity word of type MNOGO ‘many N gen’, NEKOLIKO ‘some N gen’, KOLIKO ‘how many N gen’, VEĆINA ‘majority N gen’, etc., which is itself the Subject of a verb having another complement in the accusative. (The genitive clitic, due to the semantics of its governor, is necessarily in the plural.) Thus, cliticization of the nouns in Koliko ljudi(N)gen je posetilo muzej(N)acc? lit. ‘How many of people is(Aux) having visited museum?’ = ‘How many people visited the museum?’ results in Koliko ih gen ga acc je posetilo? lit. ‘How many of them is(Aux) having visited?’ = ‘How many of them visited?’; the inverse order of the clitics being ungrammatical: Koliko *ga acc ih gen je posetilo? lit. ‘How many of them is(Aux) having seen?’

In all other cases, the order of these clitics is free (e.g., either ga acc+ih gen or ih gen+ga acc); however, the order “acc+gen” is somewhat easier to understand and may be considered as the default case.

(12) a. ACC+GEN
Lišili su ga [e.g., Petra(N, masc)sg, acc] ih [e.g., gradjanskih prava(N, neut)pl, gen] 
lit. ‘[They] deprived him [e.g., Peter] of them [e.g., civil rights].’

b. GEN+ACC
Lišili su ih [e.g., gradjanskih prava(N, neut)pl, gen] ga [e.g., Petra(N, masc)sg, acc]
[idem].

Situations of incompatible clitic co-occurrence are taken care of by special filter rules, which are beyond the scope of this paper (the interested reader can consult Milojević 2007).

The following clitic combinations are excluded by general syntactic rules of Serbian (the numbers refer to the positions in the clitic cluster building template above, p. 239;

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9 The free order of acc/gen clitic and the homophony of their masc/neut forms give rise to ambiguity. Thus, sequences of clitics in (12) can be also read the other way around, i.e., (12a) can be interpreted as ‘[They] deprived of it [e.g., the right to work] them [e.g., Peter and Marija]’, and (12b) as ‘[They] deprived them [e.g., Peter and Marija] of it [e.g., the right to work]’. 
positions 4 and 5 are taken as default positions for the accusative, respectively genitive, clitics):

- **2+7**, since there can be only one clitic auxiliary or copula/locative verb per clause;
- **4+6**, since Serbian has no reflexive verbs taking an accusative complement.\(^\text{10}\)

Combination 3+5 is restricted. There are no lexemes taking simultaneously a dative and a genitive complement, but the sequence “dat+acc” can appear if a verb which takes a dative indirect object has as its Subject a quantity word governing a genitive clitic (cf. above, the discussion of the relative order of the accusative and genitive clitics) or if it has a quantified Noun Phrase as its Direct Object. Here are the corresponding examples: *Većina mu\textsubscript{dat} ih\textsubscript{gen} se protivi* ‘Majority of-them to-it REFL opposes\textsubscript{(Vrefl)}’ = ‘A majority of them [e.g., of voters] is opposed to it [e.g., to this proposal]’ and *Daj joj\textsubscript{dat} ih\textsubscript{gen} pet* ‘Give to-her of-them five’ = ‘Give her [e.g., (to) Maria] five of them [e.g., of those books]’. (Otherwise, this combination is possible if the dative clitic is a Possessor’s Dative or an Ethical Dative, i.e., a non-inherent verbal complement; cf.: *Nema mi\textsubscript{dat} go\textsubscript{gen}* ‘There.is.not to-me of-him’ = ‘He is absent on me’, where *mi* is an Ethical Dative.)

Due to the above restrictions, the maximum number of clitics in a cluster is four for an interrogative sentence, three for an affirmative sentence and two for a negative sentence (minus LI clitics and the auxiliaries, which, as previously mentioned, are always stressed in the negative); for instance:

(13) a. *Kad li sam mu ga poslao?*

   1 2 3 4

   lit. ‘When EMPH am(Aux) to-him it having-sent?’ = ‘When on earth did I send it to him?’

b. *Juče sam mu ga poslao*

   2 3 4

   lit. ‘Yesterday am(Aux) to-him it having-sent’ = ‘I sent it to him yesterday’.

c. *Nisam(Aux) mu ga poslao*

   3 4

   lit. ‘Am-not to-him it having-sent’ = ‘I did not send it to him’.

If we take into account non-inherent dative complements, there can be up to five clitics in a cluster, as in the following one, including a Possessor’s Dative clitic: *Kako li su mu ga se [1+2+3+5+6] dokopali?* ‘How EMPH are\textsubscript{(Aux)} to-him it REFL [they] having-got\textsubscript{(Vrefl)}?’ = ‘How on earth did they manage to lay their hands on it (something belonging to him)?’. However, such extended clusters are rare.

If the MV of the clause has an infinitive complement, the infinitive’s own clitic dependents may in some cases stay within the infinitival phrase, where they form a separate clitic cluster, instead of being raised to the general clitic cluster of the clause; this is illustrated in (14a). In (14b), we see an instance of clitic *pseudo-climbing*: the

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\(^\text{10}\) Croatian has a voice, marked with SE, that does not exist in Serbian—the subjectless suppressive (Mel’čuk 2006: 203-204); verbs in this voice do take an accusative object. Thus, the combination 4+6 is possible in Croatian; cf.: *Redovito ih se kontrolira* regularly he-CL.MASC.PL.ACC REFL control-IND.PRES.3.SG lit. ‘Regularly [it] controls itself them’ = ‘They are regularly controlled’. 
accusative pronominal clitic te ‘you_{acc}', which depends syntactically on the infinitive videti ‘see', becomes part of the general clitic cluster of the clause.\footnote{In the Meaning-Text framework, climbing proper is raising to a higher governor in the syntactic tree (during the transition from the Deep- to the Surface-Syntactic Structure); e.g., Fr. J’ai vu Sylvain y aller lit. ‘I have seen Sylvain there go’ ⇒ ‘I have seen Sylvain go there’ [the adverbial clitic y ‘there’ depends on aller ‘go’, which in its turn depends on voir ‘see’, which depends on avoir ‘have’] ⇒ J’y ai vu aller Sylvain ‘I there have seen go Sylvain’ ⇒ ‘I have seen Sylvain go there’ [y depends on avoir]. This, however, does not happen in Serbian: in (14b) and (15a), the pronoun does not change its syntactic governor, only its position in the morphological string. That is why we cannot speak of the real clitic climbing but of something reminiscent of it—hence the qualifier pseudo-.}

\begin{enumerate}
\item[(14)] a. Lepo je(Copula) [videti te(Pron) ovde]Inf.Phrase
   lit. ‘Nice is to-see you_{sg} here’ = ‘It is nice is to see you here’.

\item[(14)] b. Lepo te(Pron) je(Copula) [videti ovde]Inf.Phrase
   lit. ‘Nice you_{sg} is to-see here’ = ‘It is nice is to see you here’.
\end{enumerate}

Clitic pseudo-climbing can be obligatory, optional or impossible, depending on the syntactic role of the infinitive within the clause. Roughly speaking, the situation is as follows. If the infinitive is an Object of the MV, its clitics must join those of the MV in the general clitic cluster of the clause; that is, pseudo-climbing is obligatory; cf. (15). However, if the infinitive is the Subject, pseudo-climbing is allowed/disallowed depending on the position on the infinitive within the clause: if the Subject infinitive is linearly the first constituent of the clause, pseudo-climbing is impossible and the clitics of the MV cannot join those of the infinitive, either; that is, two clitic clusters must be constructed; cf. (16). If the Subject infinitive is not clause-initial, pseudo-climbing is optional; this was already shown in (14).

\begin{enumerate}
\item[(15)] a. Oni su mi hteli [reči da …]Inf.Phrase
   lit. ‘They are(Aux) to-me having-wanted to-tell that …’ =
   ‘They wanted to tell me that …’
   \textit{vs.}

\item[(15)] b. *Oni su hteli [reči mi da …]Inf.Phrase
   lit. ‘They are(Aux) having-wanted to-tell to-me that …’ =
   ‘They wanted to tell me that …’
\end{enumerate}

\begin{enumerate}
\item[(16)] a. [Videti te(Pron) ovde]Inf.Phrase lepo je(Copula)
   lit. ‘To-see you_{sg} here nice is’ = ‘It is nice is to see you here’.
   \textit{vs.}

\item[(16)] b. *[Videti ovde]Inf.Phrase lepo te(Pron) je(Copula)
   lit. ‘To-see here nice you_{sg} is’ = ‘It is nice is to see you here’.

\item[(16)] c. *[Videti te(Pron) je(Copula) ovde]Inf.Phrase lepo
   lit. ‘To-see you_{sg} is here nice’ = ‘It is nice is to see you here’.
\end{enumerate}

Clitic pseudo-climbing will not be considered in this paper. However, evidence from clitic pseudo-climbing will be used in the Conclusion to substantiate the claim of the predominant role of syntactic factors in Serbian clitics linear placement. (Remarks on clitics pseudo-climbing in Serbian/Croatian, referred to as \textit{climbing}, can be found in Browne 1974: 122-123 and Progovac 2005: 146-147.)
3.3 Linear placement of the clitic cluster within a clause

As mentioned above, Serbian 2P clitics are linearly positioned within a clause with respect to a constituent—a wordform or a phrase—with the appropriate hosting capability, called a hosting constituent, or host.

3.3.1 Basic types of hosting constituents

There are two basic types of hosting constituents: 1) an absolute host, i.e., the actual host in all clauses (in which it appears), irrespective of its position within the clause, and 2) a potential host, i.e., the actual host in some clauses, depending on its properties and the structure of the clause. These two types of host are illustrated, respectively, in (17) and (18):

(17) a. \[Da\]_{abs.host} \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} samo znao!
   that_{(Conj)} am_{(Aux)} only having-known

   ‘If only I knew!’

b. \[Samo\] \[da\]_{abs.host} \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} znao!
   only that_{(Conj)} am_{(Aux)} having-known

   [idem]

c. Ali samo \[da\]_{abs.host} \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} znao!
   but only that_{(Conj)} am_{(Aux)} having-known

   ‘But if I only knew!’

(18) a. \[Tu\]_{host} \[su se\]_{cl.cluster} iznenada javila dva slučaja oboljenja
   there are REFL suddenly appear two cases of-illness
   ‘Two cases of illness have suddenly appeared there’.

b. \[Dva slučaja oboljenja\] \[tu\]_{host} \[su se\]_{cl.cluster} iznenada javila
   [idem].

c. \[Dva slučaja oboljenja\]_{host} \[su se\]_{cl.cluster} tu iznenada javila
   [idem].

d. \[Javila\]_{host} \[su se\]_{cl.cluster} tu iznenada dva slučaja oboljenja
   [idem].

In (17), the subordinate conjunction DA is the actual host in all clauses: no matter which position DA occupies within the clause, the clitic cluster must follow it; otherwise, the result is ungrammatical: *Samo \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} \[da\]_{abs.host} znao!, *Ali \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} \[da\]_{abs.host} samo znao!, *Znao \[sam\]_{cl.cluster} \[da\]_{abs.host} samo! (In clauses without the absolute host the constituents SAMO, ALI and ZNATI can host the

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12 I will be relying on an intuitive understanding of the notion of constituent until Section 4.3.2, p. 261, where it will be characterized. For the time being, note that constituents in the Meaning-Text approach, although they “physically” most often correspond to those used in the phrase-structure approach to syntax, are conceptually quite different: Meaning-Text constituents are not part of the syntactic representation of the sentence; rather, they are created and exploited by linearization rules in the process of mapping unordered syntactic trees onto fully ordered morphological strings.
clitics.) In (18), however, the deictic adverb TU is the actual host only in (18a-b); in (18a), it must host the cluster, in (18b), it may, but not need, host it—cf. (18c-d)—and in (18d) it cannot host it: *[Javila] tu[host] [su se][cl.cluster] iznenada dva slučaja oboljenja.

Accordingly, two types of clitic placement are distinguished: fixed (= grammaticalized) placement and variable placement (cf. Popović 1997: 289). In addition, a special placement option, available both in fixed and variable placement, must be considered—the insertion of the clitic cluster into a hosting constituent.

3.3.2 Fixed placement
The cluster is placed after the absolute hosting constituent.

Absolute hosts are of the following types: 1) subordinate conjunctions, such as DA ‘that’, NEKA ‘that’, PRE NEGÒ ŠTO ‘before’, POŠTO ‘after’, AKO ‘if’, etc.;13 2) WH-words and constituents of the form “WH-word+X” (cf. clause introducers of Browne 1975). These two types of host are illustrated, respectively, in (19) and (20).

   lit. ‘Not [I] want (Conj) to-you.sg REFLEX complain’ = ‘I do not want to complain to you’.

   b. Ali [tek (odmah) pošto][abs.host] se odselio u Kanadu, ...
   lit. ‘But as soon as (immediately) after (Conj) REFLEX he having-moved (Reflexive) to Canada, ...’ = ‘But as soon as he moved to Canada, ...’

   c. [Neka][abs.host] ti je sa srećom!
   lit. ‘That (Conj) to-you.sg is (Copula) with luck!’ = ‘May you have luck!’

   d. Sve [neka][abs.host] je prokleto!
   lit. ‘Everything that (Conj) is (Copula) damned!’ = ‘Damn everything!’

In (19a), we see the conjunction DA introducing a completive clause, and in (19b), the conjunction POŠTO introducing a temporal subordinate clause. In (19c-d), the conjunction NEKA is used in a special type of subordinate clause that might be called “optative;” the use of the conjunction DA in another special type of subordinate clause, expressing a counterfactual, is illustrated in (17) above.

(20) a. [Kad][abs.host] je kod kuće, ...
   lit. ‘When [he/she] is (Copula) at home, ...’ = ‘When he/she is at home, ...’

   b. Kod kuće [kad][abs.host] je, ...
   [idem]

   c. Ne znam [zašto (kako, gde)][abs.host] su nestali
   lit. ‘Not [I] know why (how, where) they are (Aux) having-disappeared’ = ‘I do not know why (how, where) they disappeared’.

---

13 Some coordinate conjunctions are absolute hosts as well; cf. Popović (1997: 297ff).
Thus, in the fixed placement, the syntactic class of a constituent is the only factor relevant for determining its hosting capability.14

3.3.3 Variable placement

The clitic cluster is placed after a (potential) hosting constituent—so as not to violate the skipping conditions (see below).

The hosting constituent may be of any syntactic class, but must satisfy some specific requirements, having to do with 1) its syntactic role/composition, 2) its communicative markedness (e.g., focalization, contrastiveness), and 3) its prosodic heaviness [= the number of stresses it carries].

Some hosting constituents are illustrated in (21):

(21) a. [Moj drug Marko][host] će doći sutra
   lit. ‘My friend Marko FUT.3.SG to-come tomorrow’ = ‘My friend Marko will come tomorrow’. 
   or
   Moj drug Marko [doći][host] će sutra
   [idem].

b. [Sutra ujutru][host] ćemo ići u Beograd
   lit. ‘Tomorrow morning FUT.1.PL to-go to Belgrade’ = ‘Tomorrow morning we will go to Belgrade’.
   or
   Sutra ujutru [ići][host] ćemo u Beograd
   [idem].

c. [Sapiru][host] je jezik sredstvo ...
   lit. ‘For-Sapir language is(Copula) a means …’ = ‘For Sapir language is a means …’
   or
   Sapiru [jezik][host] je sredstvo ...
   [idem]

d. [NAGRADU][host] je dobio Marko
   lit. ‘Award-ACC.SG having-got is(Aux) Marko-NOM.SG’ = ‘It is an award that Marko got’.

---

14 When there are two (or more) absolute hosts in the clause, the situation is as follows. If both hosts are WH-words, the cluster is positioned after the first; cf.: [Ko][abs.host-1] je [koga][abs.host-2] tužio? ‘Who is(Aux) Whom having-sued?’ = ‘Who sued whom?’; otherwise, it is positioned after the second, cf.: Devojka [koja][abs.host-1] kao da [kao da][abs.host-2] je bila … ‘Girl who as if is(Aux) having-been …’ = ‘The girl who seemed to be …’
or

\textit{NAGRADU [dobio][host] je Marko [idem].}

e. \textit{[Ali][host] je neizvesno kako ...}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{But is(Copula) uncertain how...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{But it is uncertain how...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}

or

\textit{Ali [neizvesno][host] je kako ... [idem]}

f. \textit{[Jer][host] je prijateljstvo za mene ...}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{For is(Copula) friendship for me...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{For friendship is for me...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}

or

\textit{Jer [prijateljstvo][host] je za mene ...}

Three necessary properties of a (potential) hosting constituent are as follows; all of them must be satisfied at the same time:

1) It is NOT a constituent set off from the rest of the clause by an obligatory pause/pauses. Such pauses can be induced either by the constituent’s syntactic role (e.g., a parenthetical, a non-restrictive apposition) or its communicative role (e.g. a circumstantial expressing a communicative specifier\textsuperscript{15}). Pause-inducing constituents can be characterized as \textit{+detached}; this characterization, which represents a prosodic generalization over syntactic/communicative properties of constituents, can then be used to determine the hosting capability thereof.

2) It is NOT a completive clause functioning as the Syntactic Subject of the MV.

3) It is NOT a \textit{V_{non-fin}} if hosting a cluster containing the interrogative particle LI\textsubscript{1}.

The constituents which do not have these properties are incapable of hosting the clitic cluster, i.e., they are non-hosting constituents; cf.:

(22) a. \textit{*[Moj drug, Marko,]NP with Non-Restr.Appos = +detached \textit{če doći sutra}}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{My friend, Marko, FUT.3.SG to-come tomorrow} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{My friend, Marko, will come tomorrow} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}.

b. \textit{*[Poslednjih dana,]Comm.Specifier = +detached \textit{svo dovedi neobične pojave ...}}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{In-recent days, [we] are(Copula) witnesses of-unusual phenomenon ...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{Lately, we are observing an unusual phenomenon...} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}.

c. \textit{*[Da dodje]Completive.Clause, Subject se nije usudio}}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{That(Conj)comes REFL not.is having-dared} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{To come he didn’t dare} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}.

d. \textit{*[Video]Verb, non-fin \textit{li si ga}Cluster containing LI \textit{whether}?}}
\text{lit.} \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{See-ACT.PART.SG.MASC whether be(Aux) him?} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle} = \textquotesingle\textquotesingle\textit{Have yousg seen him?} \text{\textquotesingle\textquotesingle}

\textsuperscript{15} A communicative specifier is an element of the Communicative Structure of the sentence (see below, p. 256), namely the one outside the communicative core (Theme and Rheme); roughly speaking, it specifies a circumstance of the event(s) constituting the communicative core.
Compare (22a), where an NP containing a non-restrictive apposition (= a +detached constituent) is unfit to host the clitic cluster, with (21a), where an NP containing a restrictive apposition (= a -detached constituent) functions as host.

To express the meaning intended in (22d), it is necessary to reconstruct the sentence, by using either the full form of the interrogative particle (= DA LI) or the full form of the auxiliary; cf., respectively, Da li_[host] si ga video? and Jes[i]_[host] li ga video?

Skipping

There can be more than one hosting constituent in the clause. In such a case, some of them can be ignored when looking for the landing site for the clitic cluster; that is, they may be skipped (term introduced in Halpern 1995). A hosting constituent which can be skipped is called a skippable host. For instance, the initial constituent in each of the sentences in (21) is a skippable host.

A skippable host has one of the following properties:

1) It is a prosodically heavy constituent, i.e., a constituent containing more than one stressed wordform, such as [Moj drug Marko] in (21a) and [Sutra ujutru] in (21b); a constituent of this type is assigned the feature +heavy.

2) It is a communicatively marked constituent, i.e., a constituent expressing focalization of the Theme or the Rheme, contrast or emphasis, to which the feature +contrastive is assigned, and it is not (the lexical part of) the MV. Two such constituents are the Free Dative [Sapiru] in (21c), functioning as the focalized Theme of the sentence (which is expressed by fronting), and the direct object NP [NAGRADU] in (21d), appearing in the role of the focalized Rheme (which is expressed by a particular prosodic contour, symbolized here by capital letters). The MV, even if marked as +contrastive, cannot be skipped; cf.: *DOBIO [nagradu]_[host] je Marko lit. ‘Having-got award-ACC.SG is(Aux) Marko-NOM.SG = ‘Marko did get the award’.16

3) It is a lexically marked item, such as the conjunctions ALI ‘but’ in (21e) and JER ‘for’ = ‘because’ in (21f).

16 The condition 2, which states that a contrastive constituent can be skipped as long as it does not function as the MV of the clause is actually not quite correct, for at least the following two reasons. First, some +contrastive subjects seem more difficult to skip than others; thus, *SAPIR (‘ON) jezik je smatrao sredstvom ... ‘SAPIR (HE) language is(Aux) having-considered as a means ...’ = ‘It was Sapir (he) who considered language as a means ...’ is unacceptable, but NAGRADA dodeljena je Marku ‘AWARD having-been-given is(Aux) to-Marko’ = ‘It is an award that was given to Marko’ is not. The same observation holds for circumstantials; cf. the ungrammatical *SUTRA oni će doći ‘TOMORROW they will come’ vs. the acceptable SUTRA knjigu mi donesi ‘TOMORROW book-ACC.SG to-me bring-IMPER.2.SG = ‘Bring me the book TOMORROW’. An intriguing situation, since we are dealing here with the same circumstantial. What this could mean is that global word order within the clause or properties of other constituents may be a factor in determining conditions for the skipping of contrastive constituents. Second, examples of skipped -heavy and -contrastive constituents can be found (through a Google search); cf. *Nekada to je bilo normalno ‘Once that is (Copula) having-been normal’ = ‘At one time, this was considered normal’ is (note that nekada the is NOT followed by a pause here!). For the time being, I am unable to make this condition more precise.
Skipping can be repeatable; this is shown in (23), where the first three constituents are skippable hosts (by virtue of being +heavy) and have actually been skipped; the cluster thus appears after the fourth constituent of the clause.

(23) [U tim okolnostima] [ideje Čomskog] [dalju razradu] [doživele] su u delu njegovih sledbenika...

lit. 'In those circumstances ideas of-Chomsky further elaboration having-experienced are,(Aux) in work of-his followers ...}' = 'Under those circumstances, Chomsky’s ideas were further elaborated in the work of his followers ...'

Skipping is always optional, with preferences; see immediately below.

A hosting constituent which cannot be skipped is called non-skippable host. A non-skippable host has the following properties:

It is -heavy AND is either -contrastive or the lexical part of the MV (but see note 16, p. 248).

The initial constituents in (24) are non-skippable hosts.

(24) a. *[Marko].heavy, -contrastive doći će sutra
lit. 'Marko to-come FUT.3.SG tomorrow' = 'Marko will come tomorrow'.

b. *[Možda].heavy, -contrastive doći će sutra
lit. 'Maybe to-come FUT.3.SG/FUT 3.PL tomorrow' = 'Maybe he/they will come tomorrow'.

c. *[DOĆI].heavy, +contrastive, Lex.part of the MV Marko će (, kad ti kažem)
lit. 'To-come Marko FUT.3.SG (, when you3g [I] tell)' = 'Marko WILL come (I assure you)'.

Preferences for skipping

As indicated above, skippable hosts are either heavy constituents or contrastive ones. Let me take them in turn.

Heaviness of a constituent is a gradient: the more stressed wordforms a constituent contains, the heavier it is. Thus, moj prijatelj 'my friend' is less heavy than takvo interesovanje lingvistike za matematiku 'such interest of the linguistics for the mathematics', which is, in its turn, less heavy than svima onima koji žele da se podrobnije upoznaju sa najnovijim dostignućima generativne gramatike 'to all those who want to get more closely acquainted with the latest achievements of the generative grammar'.

The heavier a constituent is, the more preferable it is to skip it. Thus, for the first constituent above, the skipping preference is rather low, for the second one it is relatively high, while for the third one this preference is very high, verging of obligatoriness.

Here is a more developed illustration of skipping preferences for heavy constituents:
When it comes to preferences for the skipping of contrastive constituents, the situation is less clear, since with these constituents several interacting factors that may impede or favor the skipping are at play; these factors, which include context, style and global word order, require a more careful study.

**Clause-final position**

With the exception of non-raised infinitive clitics (i.e., the clitics which have not undergone pseudo-climbing out of the infinitival phrase; cf. p. 243), which can be clause-final, Serbian clitics tend to stay away from the right edge of the clause (cf. Browne 1974: 120, Radanović-Kocić 1996: 438, Popović 1997: 333).
Clitics can be placed clause-finally under specific communicative and/or stylistic conditions, into which I cannot delve here:\(^{17}\) Sentences in (26) illustrate the clause-final placement of the copula/the auxiliary BITI ‘be’:\n
(26) a. *Razlozi ovoj pojavi višestruki su\n    lit. ‘Causes to-this phenomenon multiple are’\n    ‘This phenomenon has multiple causes’.\n
b. *Svi pokušani načini obmanuli su\n    lit. ‘All attempted ways having-failed are’\n    ‘Everything that has been tried has failed’.\n
Otherwise, they are in the clause-final position only if 1) this cannot be avoided and 2) the preceding non-host is of a particular type.

(27) a. *[Moj drug Marko] [skippable host] posetio me je (odsutan je)\n    lit. ‘My friend Marko having-visited me is (absent)’\n    ‘My friend Marko visited me (is absent)’.\n
b. *[Nažalost,] [non-host] posetio me je (odsutan je)\n    lit. ‘Regrettably, having-visited me is (absent)’\n    ‘Unfortunately, he visited me (is absent)’.

c. *[Moj drug, Marko,] [non-host] posetio me je (odsutan je)\n    lit. ‘My friend, Marko, having-visited me is (absent)’\n    ‘My friend, Marko, visited me (is absent)’.\n
Sentence (27a) illustrates the illicit skipping of an otherwise skippable host, leaving the cluster clause-final; cf. correct sentences *[Moj drug Marko] [skippable host] posetio me je (odsutan je od juče) ‘My friend Marko visited me yesterday (has been absent since yesterday)’, where the skipping of the same constituent is permitted since it does not have the effect of placing the clitics at the very end of the clause. In order to avoid the undesirable result illustrated in (27a), two strategies are available: do not skip or insert (see below).

In (27b) and (27c) the clause-initial constituent is a non-host—because it induces a pause after itself—and the only available position for the cluster is clause-final. However, the effect of placing the cluster clause-finally in different in these two cases. The non-host in (27b) is a sentential adverb and the sentence is perfect. In (27c), the non-host is an NP containing a restrictive apposition and the result is less felicitous: a better way to express the meaning of sentence (27c), which is highly marked (it signals the surprise on the part of the speaker) is Moj drag, Marko, — on me je posetio (on je odsutan) ‘My friend, Marko, he visited me (he is absent)’; that is, a reformulation is preferable.

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\(^{17}\) It seems that the copula clitic is more easily accepted in the clause-final position than the auxiliary clitic. Also, there may be a difference in behavior of the copula in case a state vs. a property is predicated (e.g., *be absent* vs. *be smart*; cf. the ESTAR ~ SER opposition in Spanish): in the former case, the clause-final position seems more acceptable.
3.3.4 Special placement: insertion into a host

The cluster placed after a special type of host, called insertable host, can be inserted into this host—after the host’s first stressed word; cf.:

\[(28) \quad [\text{Moj me je drug Marko}]_{\text{[insertable host]}} \text{posetio juče}\]

lit. ‘My friend Marko visited yesterday’ = ‘My friend Marko visited me yesterday’.

Remarks

1. Insertion of the clitic cluster into a constituent is distinct from disruption of a constituent by another constituent, under the impact of the communicative structure. Compare Koliko vam je godina? ‘How many to-youpl is(Copula) years?’ = ‘How old are you?’ (insertion of two clitics into the constituent Koliko godina) with Koliko vi imate godina? ‘How many youpl have years?’ = ‘How old are you?’ (disruption of the same constituent by two full fledged-wordforms, each forming a constituent in its own right).

2. In older language or in literary style, examples of insertion not after the first stressed wordform of the constituent can be found. (According to examples in Čavar 1999: 158, this is still possible in modern Croatian.)

There are two cases of insertion: optional and obligatory. Optional insertion concerns all clusters and all hosting constituents—absolute and potential—of the required syntactic composition, while the obligatory insertion concerns only the clusters containing the copula BITI ‘be’ and the hosting constituents in a specific syntactic role, namely, those implementing the predicative-attributive construction.

Optional insertion

The insertable host is a +heavy constituent; it can be a subordinate or a coordinate phrase.

1) Insertion into a subordinate phrase

The insertable host is of the form “Premodifier+X(+Postmodifier)”; this can be either an absolute host, as in (29a-b), or a potential host, as in (29c-g).

\[(29) \quad \text{a. } [\text{Kojim je putem}] \text{došao}\]

lit. ‘By-which is(Aux) way [he] having-come?’ = ‘By which way has he come?’

\[\text{b. } [\text{Koje su boje}] \text{gradski autobusi u Beogradu}\]

lit. ‘Of-which is(Copula) color city buses in Belgrade?’ = ‘What color are the city buses in Belgrade?’

\[\text{c. } [\text{Suviše je malo}] \text{živeo}\]

lit. ‘Too is(Aux) shortly having-lived’ = ‘His life was too short’.

\[\text{d. } [\text{Mnogo su veći uspeh}] \text{na tom polju imali blumfildovci}\]

lit. ‘Much are(Aux) bigger success in that field having-had Bloomfieldians’ = ‘The proponents of Bloomfield’s approach were much more successful in that field’.
e. [U tom se smislu može govoriti o ...]
lit. ‘In that REFⅣ sense can to-speak of ...’ = ‘In that sense one can speak of ...’
f. [Svi su studenti elektrotehnički] učestvovali u protestu
lit. ‘All are(Aux) students of-electrical-engineering having-participated in protest’ = ‘All students of electrical engineering participated in the protest’.
g. [Te su ideje Čomskog] dalju razradu doživele u ...
lit. ‘Those are(Aux) ideas of-Chomsky further elaboration having-experienced in ...’ = ‘Those ideas of Chomsky were further elaborated in ...’

vs.

(30) a. *[Studenti su elektrotehnički] učestvovali u protestu
lit. ‘Students are(Aux) of-electrical-engineering having-participated in protest’ = ‘students of electrical engineering participated in the protest’.
b. *[Ideje su Čomskog] dalju razradu doživele u ...
lit. ‘Those ideas of Chomsky were further elaborated in ...’ = ‘Those ideas of Chomsky were further elaborated in ...’

2) Insertion into a coordinate phrase
The insertable host is a constituent of the form “X+Z(Coord.Conj)+Y”.

(31) a. [Tudja je i neprijatna] ta kuća
lit. ‘Alien is(Copula) and unpleasant that house’ = ‘That house is alien and unpleasant’.
b. [Tiho su ali živo] razgovarali
lit. ‘In-low-voice [they] are(Aux) but lively having-talked’ = ‘They were talking in a low voice but lively’.

Obligatory insertion

(32) a. [Studenti su elektrotehnički] od 2003
lit. ‘Students are(Copula) of-electrical-engineering since 2003’ = ‘They have been students of electrical engineering since 2003’.
b. *[Studenti elektrotehnički] su od 2003
[idem].

Compare the ungrammatical (32b) with a correct [Studenti elektrotehnički] Subject su(Copula) od 2003 na čelu protesta ‘Students of-electrical-engineering are since 2003 at-head of protest’ = ‘Students of electrical engineering have been spearheading the protest since 2003’, where the NP Studenti elektrotehnički functions as the Subject of the clause and can be followed by the clitic.

Some speakers (myself included) would prefer to avoid the ungrammatical result in (32b) not by resorting to insertion, as in (32a), but rather by realizing the pronominal subject ONI ‘they’, dropped in both sentences of (32), and use it as the host of the copula (in spite of the fact that pronominal subjects are normally dropped under neutral
communicative conditions): Oni su [studenti elektrotehnike] Predicative Attribute od 2003. This tendency to avoid insertion indicates that this placement option is losing ground in Serbian. However, it is still fairly frequently used in some styles, especially in the language of the press.

Preferences for insertion

Insertion preferences will be given only for subordinate phrases. The relevant factors are syntactic composition of the insertable host, its prosodic heaviness and communicative markedness. The number of clitics in the cluster does not seem to be relevant.

1) Syntactic Composition

Insertion into a constituent of the form “Premodifier+X”, in the order of decreasing preference: Adv+Adj/Adv+Adv, Adj+N, N+N.

Insertion into a constituent of the form “Premodifier+X+Postmodifier” is disfavored, especially if the postmodifier is a noun complement in the genitive. Thus, [Te su ideje Čomskog] ... lit. ‘Those are, ideas of-Chomsky ...’ is worse than [Te ideje Čomskog] su ... lit. ‘Those ideas of-Chomsky are ...’, etc.

2) Prosodic Heaviness

Insertion into a very heavy constituent is avoided (here we have the same preferences as for skipping of a very heavy constituent). However, the insertion into such a constituent can be forced, as it were, if this is the only way to avoid putting the cluster clause-finally; cf. (33). Thus, the non-final position constraint is stronger than the present one.

(33) Protiv smo dijaloga velikih na štetu trećih zemalja
lit. ‘Against [we] are of-dialog of-big [ones] on detriment of third countries’ = ‘We are against the dialog of big powers at the expense of third countries’.

3) Communicative Markedness

Insertion into a constituent whose first stressed wordform carries a communicative load is preferred. Two such cases will be indicated.

- The constituent’s first word is interrogative (a subset of obligatory hosts)

For instance, [Čiji je drug] došao? lit. ‘Whose friend having-come?’ = ‘Whose friend came?’ is better than [Čiji drug] je došao? lit. ‘Whose friend is having-come?’ In a WH-question, the interrogative pronoun expresses the focal part of the Rheme, even though it is not prosodically or otherwise marked (in this connection, see Browne 1976 and Halpern 1995: 86).

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18 For instance, sentences such as [Lav je Tolstoj] NP veliki ruski pisac lit. ‘Leo is Tolstoy [a] great Russian writer’, where the cluster is inserted into a complex proper name, are now obsolete, but were not uncommon in older language.
The constituent’s first word is contrastive

For instance, \([MOJ \ je \ drug] \ došao \ lit. \ 'MY \ is(Aux) \ friend \ having-come' = \ 'It \ is \ MY \ friend \ who \ came'\), where the modifier \(MOJ\) expresses the contrastive focus of the sentence, is better than \([MOJ \ drug] \ je \ došao \ lit. \ 'MY \ friend \ is(Aux) \ having-come'\). However, preferences are equal for \([Moj \ je \ DRUG] \ došao \ lit. \ 'My \ is(Aux) \ FRIEND \ having-come' = \ 'It \ is \ my \ FRIEND \ who \ came'\) and \([Moj \ DRUG] \ je \ došao \ lit. \ 'My \ FRIEND \ is(Aux) \ having-come'\), since in both sentences it is the second wordform of the insertable constituent (rather than the first) that expresses the contrastive focus.

To sum up, a description of the linear placement of Serbian second-position clitics has to account for the following thee operations: 1) the cliticization, 2) the construction of the clitic cluster, and 3) the linear placement of the cluster within the clause, the latter operation involving, in its turn, a) the identification of hosting constituent(s) and b) the choice of the actual host, with possible insertion into the host. Before going on to formally describe these operations in the Meaning-Text framework, the following remark is in order.

As it should be clear from the preceding discussion, the term second position \([= 2P]\) used to describe the placement of Serbian clitics is just a conventional label. In point of fact, 2P is the default position for the cluster in clauses with no absolute hosts, in the sense that the cluster can always be placed after the first hosting constituent. But the first hosting constituent is not necessarily the first constituent of the clause; cf., for instance, examples (22a-c), where the first hosting constituent is the second one in the clause. And even if it is the first constituent, it sometimes can be skipped; cf., for instance, examples (21).

4 Serbian second-position clitics in the Meaning-Text framework

Meaning-Text Theory \([= \text{MTT}]\) considers language to be a set of rules establishing a correspondence between any given meaning and all synonymous texts which implement it (and vice versa). MTT proposes to describe this correspondence by means of functional models of languages, called Meaning-Text Models.

A Meaning-Text Model (of a language) is a synthesis-oriented, semantics-driven, dependency-based stratificational model. It presupposes seven levels of representation of utterances—semantic, deep/surface syntactic, deep/surface morphological, deep/surface phonological—and consists of six sets of rules \([= \text{modules}]\) that establish correspondences between representations of adjacent levels.

Clitic placement rules are part of the Surface-Syntactic module, which maps a Surface-Syntactic Representation (of a sentence) to the corresponding Deep-Morphological Representation(s).
4.1 The input for the clitic placement operation: SSyntR

The Surface-Syntactic Representation [= SSyntR] of a sentence is a set of four structures: the Surface-Syntactic Structure [= SSyntS], the Surface-Syntactic Communicative Structure [= SSynt-CommS], the Surface-Syntactic Anaphoric Structure [= SSynt-AnaphS] and the Surface-Syntactic Prosodic Structure [= SSynt-ProsS].

The SSyntS, the basic structure of the SSyntR, is a linearly unordered dependency tree. The nodes of this tree are labeled with actual lexemes of the sentence subscripted with meaning-bearing inflectional values (in Serbian, grammemes of nominal number and of verbal voice, mood and tense); its branches are labeled with names of surface-syntactic dependency relations [= SSyntRel], which are language-specific. Surface-syntactic relations in Russian and English, are described, respectively, in Mel’čuk (1974: 237-260) and Mel’čuk & Pertsov (1987: 212-440); see also Mel’čuk in this volume, Subsection 4.8, p. 52. An inventory of surface-syntactic actantial relations in French can be found in Iordanskaja and Mel’čuk (2000) and in their paper in the present volume.

Serbian clitics appear in the following SSynt-roles:19

- \( V(\text{Aux})/(\text{Copula}/\text{Locative}) \) is the top node of the SSyntS of a clause.
- Pronouns depend on a lexical verb via the following SSyntRel’s: direct-objectival (accusative/genitive pronouns), indirect-objectival (dative pronouns) and oblique-objectival (genitive pronouns); pronouns governed by an adjective are linked to it via the oblique-objectival SSyntRel and those governed by a quantifying lexeme of type \( \text{MNNOGO ‘a-lot’} \), \( \text{KOLIKO ‘how-much/how-many’} \), etc. (only genitive pronouns) are linked to it via the completive SSyntRel.
- The reflexive adjunct \( SE \) depends on a lexical verb via the auxiliary-reflexive SSyntRel.
- The interrogative particle \( LI_1 \) depends on the top node (a lexical verb or an auxiliary), while the emphatic particle \( LI_2 \) depends on the lexeme which it “emphasizes”—both via the adverbial SSyntRel.

SSynt-CommS consist of markers of mutually exclusive values of communicative oppositions (Mel’čuk 2001), such as Thematization (Theme ~ Rheme ~ Specifier), Giveness (Given ~ New), Focalization (Focalized ~ Non-Focalized), Perspective (Foregrounded ~ Backgrounded ~ Neutral), etc., characterizing subtrees of the SSyntS. (In other frameworks, the communicative organization of sentences is known as Functional Sentence Perspective, Information Structure or Information Packaging; see, for instance, Sgall et al. 1986, Lambrecht 1994 and Chafe 1994.) The SSynt-CommS plays a crucial role in the linearization and prosodization of the dependency tree, in particular in languages with the so-called free word order, such as Serbian (for more on this, see below).

The SSynt-AnaphS specifies co-referential links between appropriate nodes of the SSyntS.

The SSynt-ProsS consists of a set of markers of meaning-bearing prosodies: declarative, interrogative, exclamative; ironic, pathetic, etc.

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19 We should speak rather of the sources of the clitics, since the cliticization has yet to be performed.
Let there be the following sentences, each featuring the same cluster, consisting of two clitics—su (be)_{(Aux)}^{IND.PRES.3.PL} se REFL:

(34) a. Poslednjih dana, [javila]_{[host]} su se u njihovim kućama dva slučaja oboljenja
   lit. ‘In-last days, having-appeared are_{(Aux)}^{REFL} in their houses two cases of illness’ =
   ‘Recently, in their households there have been two cases of illness’.

   b. Poslednjih dana, u njihovim kućama [javila]_{[host]} su dva slučaja oboljenja
      [idem].

   c. Poslednjih dana, [u njihovim kućama]_{[host]} su se javila dva slučaja oboljenja
      [idem].

   d. Poslednjih dana, [u njihovim su se kućama]_{[host]} javila dva slučaja oboljenja
      [idem].

Sentences in (34) are propositionally synonymous (i.e., they express the same Semantic Structure). They also feature the same communicative orientation: they are all-rhematic sentences (i.e., not having the Theme) reporting on a particular state of affairs, namely the existence of an illness at a specific place and time.\(^{20}\)

The SSyntR of sentences in (34) is as follows:

Neutral declarative prosody

The identical underlying communicative orientation of the four sentences in (34) is reflected in the (almost) identical linear order of their full-fledged (= non-clitic) elements. In all sentences, the SSynt-Subject NP \textit{dva slučaja oboljenja} is close-final due to the fact that it expresses the Rhematic Focus (in a Serbian declarative sentence, the sen-

\(^{20}\) The Rheme ~ Theme division of a sentence can be tested by finding an underlying question for it, i.e., a question to which this sentence can be an appropriate answer. Each of the sentences in (34) can be an appropriate answer to the underlying question \textit{What is going on?}, used to elicit all-rhematic sentences.
tence element expressing the most informative part of the rHEME is realized close-
finally). The circumstantial poslednjih dana is realized in the clause-initial position due
to the communicative feature Foregrounded characterizing the corresponding SSynt-sub-
tree (foregrounding of a sentence element signals its psychological prominence for the
Speaker). The MV javila and the circumstantial u njihovim kućama are not additionally
marked for communicative features, so that their linear position is allowed to vary.21

As for the order of the clitic elements (with respect to the non-clitic ones), it is not
free—it does not depend on the communicative choices of the Speaker but is contingent
upon the previously selected order of full-fledged sentence elements.

4.2 The output of the clitic placement operation: DMorphR

The Deep-Morphological Representation [= DMorphR] of a sentence is a set of two
structures: the Deep-Morphological Structure [= DMorphS] and the Deep-Morphologi-
cal Prosodic Structure [= DMorph-ProsS].

The DMorphS, the basic structure of the DMorphR, is a fully ordered string of mor-
phological representations of all wordforms of this sentence, i.e., the names of the
corresponding lexemes subscripted with all relevant inflectional values (= both the
semantic grammemes, carried over from the surface-syntactic level, and the syntactic
grammemes—those of agreement/government and tonicity). For the sentences with
clitics, the DMorphS contains the clitic cluster placed in the appropriate position.

DMorph-ProsS consists of a set of markers of all pauses and prosodies (= both the
semantically and the syntactically induced ones). These are not, however, the final sen-
tence prosodies: in the transition towards the phonological structure, some
phonologically conditioned rephrasing may happen.

From the SSyntR above, the rules of the surface-syntactic module will produce the
four DMorphRs below. (The clitic cluster is boxed; the syntactic grammemes are in
boldface. The only element of DMorph-ProsS represented are the pauses: “||” stands for
a longer pause and “|” for a shorter one.)

DMorphR of (34a)

\[
\text{POSLEDNJI}_{masc, \text{pl, gen}} \text{DAN}_{\text{pl, gen}} || \text{JAVITI}_{\text{part, act, neut, pl}} \text{BITI}_{\text{ind, pres, 3, pl, cl}} \text{SE} \text{U NJIHOV}_{\text{fem, pl, loc}} \text{KUĆA}_{\text{pl, loc}} | \text{DVA}_{\text{masc, nom}} \text{SLUČAJ}_{\text{sg, gen}} \text{OBOLJENJE}_{\text{sg, gen}}
\]
Linear placement of 2P clitics poses an interesting problem for a dependency framework. Clitics positioning is determined not only by syntactic dependencies and the communicative structure as it is the case for full-fledged words. Normally, a dependent member of a SSynt-relation is placed with respect to its governor (and perhaps its co dependents), taking into account the relevant communicative information. Not the clitics. Here, some additional factors—in particular, the prosodic properties of sentence elements (= constituents)—are at play. As we have seen, such prosodic properties of a constituent as heaviness (= the number of stressed wordforms it contains) and its capacity to induce a pause/pauses are relevant to the identification of clitic-hosting constituents. This fact indicates the existence of an involved relationship between dependency structure and prosody in the clitic placement. The study of this relationship occupies an important place in the literature on 2P clitics; indeed, the role of prosodic factors in clitic placement has been given increasingly more prominence, so much so that looking for a prosodic account has become the hottest point. This question will be briefly addressed in the Conclusion, where I will argue, on the basis of evidence adduced in the paper, that in Serbian 2P clitics linear placement syntactic factors play a decisive role.

4.3 Rules required to carry out the SSyntR-to-DMorphR mapping

The three major types of rules of the SSynt-module are: 1) morphologization rules, further divided into government rules (e.g. case assignment), agreement rules and cliticization rules; 2) linearization rules; 3) prosodization rules.

All these rules, except cliticization rules, are needed to synthesize not only sentences containing clitics, but all sentences. Thus, case-assignment rules assign case to all nominals, i.e., nouns and pronouns (both clitic and full), etc.

I will discuss here only cliticization and linearization rules, leaving prosodization rules aside (but see the Conclusion).

The rules are either of the form $X_{[\text{level } n]} \Leftrightarrow Y_{[\text{level } n+1]} \mid C$, where $X$ and $Y$ are fragments of representations of adjacent levels and $C$ the conditions under which the correspondence holds, or else they have the form of logical implication: if $X$, then $Y$. 

DMorphR of (34b)

POSLEDNJI\textit{ masc, pl, gen} DAN\textit{ pl, gen} | U NJIHOV\textit{ fem, pl, loc} KUČA\textit{ pl, loc} | JAVITI\textit{ part, act, neut, pl} BITI\textit{ ind, pres, 3, pl, cl} Ć | DVA\textit{ masc, nom} SLUČAJ\textit{ sg, gen} OBOLJENJE\textit{ sg, gen}

DMorphR of (34c)

POSLEDNJI\textit{ masc, pl, gen} DAN\textit{ pl, gen} | U NJIHOV\textit{ fem, pl, loc} KUČA\textit{ pl, loc} | BITI\textit{ ind, pres, 3, pl, cl} SE | JAVITI\textit{ part, act, neut, pl} DVA\textit{ masc, nom} SLUČAJ\textit{ sg, gen} OBOLJENJE\textit{ sg, gen}

DMorphR of (34d)

POSLEDNJI\textit{ masc, pl, gen} DAN\textit{ pl, gen} | U NJIHOV\textit{ fem, pl, loc} BITI\textit{ ind, pres, 3, pl, cl} SE KUČA\textit{ pl, loc} | JAVITI\textit{ part, act, neut, pl} DVA\textit{ masc, nom} SLUČAJ\textit{ sg, gen} OBOLJENJE\textit{ sg, gen}
4.3.1 Cliticization rules
These rules assign the grammeme 'CLITIC' to all lexemes in the SSyntS which have to be cliticized. Which lexemes will be cliticized is determined by the rules themselves. In most cases, cliticization in Serbian is obligatory; however, it can be prevented by communicative or syntactic factors.

There are cliticization rules for auxiliary verbs, personal pronouns, and the interrogative particle LI1. (Recall that the emphatic particle LI2 and the reflexive adjunct SE are clitic lexemes, having the feature “clitic” in their syntactics.) A sample cliticization rule, which takes care of the cliticization of personal pronouns, follows. (The shadowing indicates the context of the application of the rule.)

**Illustration of the conditions**

1) If a pronoun in the SSyntS is communicatively marked (as, say, emphatic or contrastive), it will be assigned the grammeme 'FULL' (by a different rule) and will eventually surface in the full form; cf.:

(35) Video sam njega (*ga) (a ne njegovog brata)
    lit. *Having-seen am(Aux) he-FULL.MASC.SG.ACC (*he-CL.MASC.SG.ACC) (and not his brother) = *I saw HIM (and not his brother) = *I saw him (not his brother).

2) Pronouns used in coordination are always full, cf.:

(36) Video sam njega (*ga) i nju (*je)
    lit. *Having-seen am(Aux) he-FULL.MASC.SG.ACC (*he-CL.MASC.SG.ACC)
    and she-FULL.FEM.SG.ACC (*she-CL.FEM.SG.ACC) = *I saw both him and her.

**Remarks**

1. If \( r = \) subjectival or prepositional, \( L_2 \) is not cliticized; in other words, a pronoun appearing in the role of the SSynt-subject is always full, and so is a pronoun functioning as a prepositional object; this latter case is illustrated in (37):

(37) To sam čuo od njega (*ga)
   *\( \text{That am(Aux) having-heard from(Prep) he-FULL.MASC.SG.GEN (*he-CL.MASC.SG.GEN)} = *\text{I heard that from him}.\)

---

22 Syntactics is a component of a linguistic sign (along with the signified and the signifier); it contains the information about the combinatorial properties of the sign (e.g., part of speech, declension/conjugation group, Government Pattern, collocations).
2. Cliticization of L2 can lead to situations of impossible/dubious clitic co-occurrence (involving specific combinations of dat/acc and gen/acc clitics, cf. p. 240); in such cases, the present rule has to operate in conjunction with filter rules, mentioned above, p. 241, which ban or allow the cliticization, as appropriate.

Similar conditions—namely, neutral communicative marking—apply to the cliticization of the auxiliaries. In the case of our sample sentences (34a-d), p. 257, the auxiliary will be assigned the grammeme 'CLITIC', since it is communicatively unmarked.

4.3.2 Linearization rules
Linearization rules determine the actual linear order of words in the sentence, based on syntactic, communicative and prosodic information in the SSyntR.

Elements of a Serbian sentence (= constituents) can be linearly arranged in several different ways, depending on complex conditions—above all communicative, but also syntactic and lexical ones. Moreover, as we have seen, the clitic cluster is positioned after an appropriate constituent; this means that all constituents have to be built and linearized before we can proceed with the linearization of the clitics. For this reason, the linearization in Serbian (and other languages with 2P clitics) is, I believe, best viewed as a two-stage operation: linearization of non-clitic elements and linearization of clitic elements. But, before describing these operations, I have to say a few words on the notion of constituent in the Meaning-Text approach.

As already mentioned, MTT constituents are conceptually different from constituents used in the phrase-structure approach to syntax—so much so that, in order to avoid confusion, it would probably be better not to call them constituents at all. However, given the fact that the term constituent has become so familiar in studies of 2P clitic placement, I find it difficult to dispense with.

The phrase-structure representation—at least in its classical form—tries to represent together syntactic hierarchy (i.e., syntactic relations) and word order (= constituency) of sentence elements; see, for instance, Jackendoff 1977. The MTT approach separates these two aspects of sentence organization very sharply. A dependency-based syntactic representation, such as the one I have been using in this paper, has as its basic structure a linearly non-ordered tree, which reflects only the hierarchy of sentence elements; word order (viz. constituents), as a means of expressing this hierarchy, cannot be part of the syntactic structure. Basic information on dependency representation can be found in Mel’čuk 1988: 12-42 and in this volume, p. 1ff; for a comparison between the phrase-structure and dependency formalisms see, for instance, Hudson 1980 and Rambow & Joshi 1997.

Under the present view, constituents are entities used for the task of computing word-order and prosody of the sentence from its SSyntS; they are sentence-building blocks, created and exploited by linearization rules, and their sole purpose is to serve as “intermediaries” between the syntactic tree and the morphological string. Being the output of linearization rules, constituents can be visualized only at the morphological level.

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23 This is the viewpoint of I. Mel’čuk, who consistently uses the term group instead of constituent; cf., for instance, the discussion of word-order rules for Russian in Mel’čuk 1974: 268ff.
of representation—in particular in an intermediate representation, called the partial DMorphR (see below).

I am not in a position to offer a rigorous definition of the notion of MTT constituent and must limit myself to a rather crude characterization thereof. For a recent attempt at theorizing this notion within the MTT approach, albeit from an “unorthodox” MTT perspective, see Gerdes & Kahane 2007.

An MTT constituent is a string of (fully ordered) wordforms which corresponds to a SSynt-subtree, i.e., is its continuous projection, and behaves as a whole from the viewpoint of linearization and prosodization (= the string is moved around and prosodized as a whole).

In other words, a constituent is a string of wordforms which underlies a single prosodic group [= a phrase]; prosodic groups are computed based on such constituents.

One important case, not covered by the above characterization involves conjunctions in Serbian. Since in this language conjunctions are capable of hosting the clitic cluster (cf. examples in Section 3.3, p. 244), a SSynt-subtree headed by a conjunction does not project into a single constituent; rather, the conjunction (perhaps with an adverbial dependent) forms a constituent in its own right.

Following Melčuk (1974: 268-300), two basic subtypes of constituent will be distinguished: an initial constituent, which is a string made up of wordforms linked by local SSynt-relations, and a final constituent, a string made up of initial constituents whose heads are linked by semi-local SSynt-relations, such that it is a dependent of the MV (i.e., the absolute head of the clause).24

For instance, the initial and the final constituents for the sentence Sutra dolazi Marko, moj prijatelj iz Beograda lit. (Tomorrow comes Marko, my friend from Belgrade) = (“Marko, a friend of mine from Belgrade, is coming tomorrow) are as follows:

Initial constituents:

Final constituents:
[SUTRA]AdvP, [DOLAZI]VP, [MARKO] [MOJ PRIJATELJ] [IZ BEOGRADA]NP

An initial and a final constituent can coincide (just as, say, a sentence can coincide with a clause); this is the case with the AdvP and the VP above.

A final constituent corresponds to what is traditionally called a sentence element (subject, predicate, object, circumstantial, etc.). It is the final constituents that are relevant for the placement of clitics.

24 A SSynt-relation between two lexemes L1 and L2 is local if the mutual order of L1 and L2 can be determined without reference to other lexemes making up the sentence. L1 and L2 are linked by a semi-local SSynt-relation if determining their mutual order has to take into account their relations with other lexemes, namely with their co-dependents. There exists a third type of SSynt-relations—global SSynt-relations, which hold between the heads of final constituents and are used, together with the communicative/prosodic information, to determine the order of final constituents within a clause.
Let us now go back to the operation of linearization.

**Linearization of non-clitic elements**


1) Constituent building rules

These rules map subtrees of a SSyntS onto corresponding constituents, and determine linear order of wordforms within each constituent. Here we have local and semi-local linearization rules, which work recursively, building first the initial and then the final constituents of the clause. Dependencies have a crucial role in this process; the impact of the communicative structure is much less significant.

Here are the final constituents for sentences (34):

1. \[\text{POSLEDNJImasc, pl, gen DANpl, gen}]_{\text{NP}} \text{+heavy}\]
2. \[\text{U NJIHOVfem, pl, loc KUĆApI, loc}]_{\text{PP}} \text{+heavy}\]
3. \[\text{DVAmasc, nom SLUČAJsg, nom}]_{\text{NP}} \text{[OBOLJENJEsg, gen}]_{\text{NP}} \text{+heavy, +detached}\]
4. \[\text{JAVITIpart, act, pl, neut}]_{\text{VP}}\]

Each final constituent is supplied with features which reflect its syntactic, communicative and prosodic properties relevant to clitic placement, i.e., to determining its hosting capability. (More generally, these features are needed to compute the prosodic structure of the sentence, i.e., they are assigned to constituents in all sentences, not only in those containing clitics.) These are the three features—\text{±heavy}, \text{±detached} and \text{±contrastive}—that have been used during the discussion in Section 3.3.3; for their more detailed characterization see immediately below.

Constituents 1, 2 and 3 above are assigned the feature \text{+heavy} (since each contains more than one stressed wordform), and constituent 3 is additionally assigned the feature \text{+detached} (since it corresponds to a SSynt-subtree communicatively marked as Foregrounded; cf. the SSyntR of our sample sentences, p. 257). Constituent 4, for which the values of all three features are negative, bears no explicit marking.

2) Rules for linear arrangement of constituents

These are global linearization rules, which determine the order of final constituents within the clause (and the order of clauses within the sentence); here, the communicative factors play a crucial role. Thus, in Serbian, fronting of a constituent is a way of expressing a specific communicative role, namely the Focalization of the Rheme; a constituent placed clause-finally expresses the focal part of the Rheme; etc.

For communicative factors determining the linear ordering of sentence elements in the case of our sample sentences, see p. 257.
The result of this stage of linearization is a Partial DMorphR of the sentence—a sequence of constituents (supplied with relevant features), plus a set of clitics that have yet to be ordered and linearly positioned in their turn.25

Here is the Partial DMorphS of (34b-d):

[POSLEDNJImasc, pl, gen DANpl, gen]+heavy, +detached [U NJIHOVfem, pl, loc KUĆApl, loc]+heavy [JAVITIpart, act, pl, neut] [DVAmasc, nom SLUČAJs, gen OBOLJENJEsg, gen]+heavy
+
{BITIind, pres, 3, pl, cl SE}

**Linearization of clitics**

Here, again, two sets of rules are needed: rules which build the clitic cluster and rules which position the cluster into the Partial DMorphR of the clause.

1) Clitic cluster building rules

These rules build the clitic cluster according to the clitic cluster building template, p. 239; more precisely, they assign the appropriate position in the cluster to all the lexemes in the SSyntS which meet the conditions for cliticization (as determined by cliticization rules; cf. one such rule above, p. 260) or are lexically marked as clitics.

The two clitic cluster building rules involved in the construction of the cluster we see in sentences (34) follow.

1. (a) BITI(V) clitic, not [pres, 3, sg] → 2; (b) BITI(V) clitic, pres, 3, sg → 7
2. SE(Refl Adjunct, clitic) → 6

The rule 1 contains two subrules: the subrule (1a) assigns position 2 in the cluster to all clitic forms of BITI(Aux)/(Copula/Locative) ‘be’, except the 3sg.pres clitic [= je ‘is’], and the subrule (1b) assigns position 7 to the 3sg.pres clitic form of BITI(Aux)/(Copula/Locative) ‘be’. The Rule 2 assigns position 6 to the Reflexive Clitic Adjunct SE.

In our case, since the form of the auxiliary is not pres, 3, sg, the order of the two clitics is 2+6.

2) Clitic cluster linear positioning rules

The rules which position the clitic cluster within the clause are of three types: host-identifying rules; clitic cluster placement rules proper, including insertion rules; and preference rules for skipping and insertion. In addition, there is a rule which bans the clitics from being placed in the clause-final position, when this is required.

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25 The Partial DMorphR is an intermediate representation, obtained as the output of a subset of SSynt-rules before the transition towards the DMorphR is completed. Unlike other representations used by a Meaning-Text model, the Partial DMorphR is not a representation of a real sentence. I cannot provide here a justification for introducing it, apart from its obvious usefulness for the description of 2P clitics placement. For a discussion of representation levels presupposed by a Meaning-Text model, see, for instance, Mel’čuk 2000: 28-41.
2a) Host-identifying rules

These rules identify, among the constituents in the Partial DMorphR of a clause, those which are fit to host the clitic cluster. The rules will not be stated formally.\(^{26}\)

As previously mentioned, there are two major types of hosting constituents: absolute hosts (involved in fixed placement) and potential hosts (involved in variable placement). Absolute hosts are simply given by a list, while potential hosts are identified using features \(\pm heavy\), \(\pm detached\) and \(\pm contrastive\), representing (partial) generalizations over prosodic, syntactic and communicative properties of constituents.

The feature \(\pm heavy\) is assigned to a constituent containing more than one stressed wordforms (cf. Zec & Inkelas 1990: 373ff), which identifies it as skippable host; cf., for instance, examples (21a-b), p. 246, and (25), p. 250.

The feature \(\pm detached\) is assigned to a constituent inducing a pause (after itself or both before and after), which identifies it as a non-host. Such a constituent either fulfils a specific syntactic role (an address, a parenthetical, a constituent containing a non-restrictive apposition, a detached modifier, a converbal phrase, etc.) or has been made communicatively prominent by the Speaker (e.g., a circumstantial expressing a communicative specifier, a sentential adverb, autonomous circumstantial, etc.); thus, the prosodic break(s) induced by the constituent appear(s) as a marker of its syntactic/communicative role. Cf. examples (22), p. 247, and the following ones:

(38) a. \([\text{Umoran.}],_{\text{Detached.modifier}} = \pm detached = \text{non-host} \ zaspao je odmah\)
   lit. ‘Tired, having-fallen.asleep is\(_{(\text{Aux})}\) immediately\(^3\) = ‘Tired, he fell asleep immediately’.

b. \([\text{Vraćajući se kući.}],_{\text{Converbal.phrase}} = \pm detached = \text{non-host} sreo je Marko\)
   lit. ‘Returning home, having-met is\(_{(\text{Aux})}\) Marko’ = ‘On his way home, he met Marko’.

c. \([\text{Marija.}],_{\text{Address}} = \pm detached = \text{non-host} \ volim te\)
   lit. ‘Marija, [I] love you\(_{(\text{Aux})}\)’ = ‘Marija, I love you’.

d. \([\text{Posle tri dana.}],_{\text{Autonomous.circumstantial}} = \pm detached = \text{non-host} \ odustali su\)
   lit. ‘After three days, having-given.up are\(_{(\text{Aux})}\)’ = ‘After three days, they gave up’.

e. \([\text{Nažalost.}],_{\text{Sentential.adverb}} = \pm detached = \text{non-host} \ odustali su\)
   lit. ‘Regrettably, having-given.up are\(_{(\text{Aux})}\)’ = ‘Unfortunately, they gave up’.

Compare (38d), where the constituent \(\text{Posle tri dana}\) has the role of an autonomous circumstantial (i.e., is \(\pm detached\) and thus a non-host), with the sentence \(\text{Posle tri dana su odustali}\), where the same constituent functions as a non-autonomous circumstantial (i.e., is \(-detached\) and thus a possible host).

The feature \(\pm contrastive\) is assigned to a constituent expressing a positive value of one of such communicative oppositions as Focalization (of the Theme/the Rheme) or

\(^{26}\) Here is an example of a formal statement of such rules: \(C_{\text{heavy}} \rightarrow\) skippable host; \(C_{\text{heavy}}\) of the form “Premodifier\(\pm X+(\text{Postmodifier})\)” \(\rightarrow\) insertable host; etc.
Emphasis. A constituent of this type carries a particular prosodic contour and is, in most cases, a skippable host; cf. examples (21), p. 246, and the following:

(39) \[\text{Čamil}\] Focalized Theme = +contrastive = skippable host \text{svi su znali}  
  lit. \text{Ćamil-SG.ACC all are(Aux) having-known} = \text{‘As for Ćamil, everybody knew him’}.

A constituent which is neither of these, i.e., for which the values of all three features are negative, is, again in most cases, a non-skippable host; cf. (24a-b), p. 249, and the following:

(40) *\[\text{Ćamil}\] non skippable host \text{bio je brat sultana} \ldots  
  lit. \text{Ćamil having-been is(Copula) brother of sultan \ldots} =  
  \text{‘Ćamil was the brother of the sultan \ldots’}

In some cases, these features are not sufficient to determine the hosting capability of a constituent: the syntactic role or the syntactic class of a constituent can override them.

First, although a contrastive constituent is normally a skippable host, a contrastive verb is a non-skippable host; cf. (24c) and the following example:

(41) *\[\text{IZNAJMILI}\] +contrastive, Verb = non skippable host \text{kuću su (a ne kupili)}  
  lit. \text{Having-rented house are(Aux) (and not having-bought)} =  
  \text{‘They RENTED a house (rather than bought one)’}.

Second, even though constituents bearing the unmarked values of the three features above are normally non-skippable hosts, there are some exceptions. This is the case, for instance, of coordinate conjunctions \text{JER} \text{ ‘for = because’} and \text{ALI} \text{ ‘but’}, which are skippable hosts; cf. examples (21e-f), p. 247. Items such as these have to be specified by a list or else be lexically marked for their hosting capability.

A subset of clitic-hosting constituents—those marked as \text{+heavy}—have to be additionally marked for insertability. This is done as a function of their syntactic composition (possible for constituents of the form “Premodifier+X(=Postmodifier)” or “X+Z(Coord.Conj)+Y”) or their syntactic role (obligatory for constituents in the role of the Predicative Attribute); such constituents are assigned features “Insert” and “Insert!” respectively (‘!’ means ‘obligatory’).

(42) a. *\[\text{Ideje su Ćomskog}\] +heavy, not “Premodifier+X” = not Insert bile \ldots  
  lit. \text{Ideas are(Aux) of-Chomsky having-been \ldots} = \text{‘Chomsky’s ideas were ...’}  
  vs. \[\text{Te su ideje Ćomskog}\] +heavy, “Premodifier+X” = Insert bile \ldots  
  lit. \text{These are(Aux) ideas of-Chomsky having-been \ldots} = \text{‘These ideas of Chomsky were ...’}

b. *\[\text{Sasvim jasan}\] +heavy, Pred.Attr = Insert! \text{mi je njegov stav}  
  lit. \text{Completely clear to-me is(Aux) his position.} = \text{‘His position is completely clear to me’}  
  vs. \[\text{Njegov stav}\] +heavy, not Pred.Attr = not Insert! \text{mi je sasvim jasan}  
  lit. \text{His position to-me is(Aux) completely clear.} = \text{‘His position is completely clear to me’}.  


Examples in (42) illustrate only potential hosts which are insertable. Absolute hosts can be insertable, too; see p. 252 ff for examples and discussion.

The result of the application of host-identifying rules to the Partial DMorphR of sentences (34b-d) is as follows:

\[
\text{POSTLEDNJImasc, pl, gen DANpl, gen} \text{non-host}
\]
\[
\text{U NJIHOVfem, pl, loc KUĆapl, loc} \text{host, skip, insert}
\]
\[
\text{JAVITIpart, act, pl, neut} \text{host, non-skip}
\]
\[
\text{DVA masc, nom SLUČAJsg, gen OBOLJENJEsg, gen} \text{host, skip, insert}
\]

Since in this Partial DMorphR there are no absolute hosts, variable placement applies. The initial constituent, bearing the feature +detached, is identified as a non-host. The second one, a +heavy constituent of the form “Premodifier+X”, is a skippable and insertable host. The third one, a -heavy constituent and the MV of the clause, is a non-skippable host. The fourth constituent is, just like the second one, a +heavy constituent of the form “Premodifier+X”, so it is a skippable and insertable host. This gives us a total of three logically possible landing sites for the clitic cluster, one of which—after [DVA-masc, nom SLUČAJsg, gen OBOLJENJEsg, gen]—must be discarded by the next set of rules.

2b) Clitic cluster linear placement rules

Basic Rules

1. If, in a clause, there is a constituent C identified as the absolute host, CHOST!,
   then the clitic cluster is placed after it.
2. If no CHOST! is present,
   then the clitic cluster is placed a) after the first C of its clause identified as a non-skippable host, C HOST, NON-SKIP, or b) after any C identified as C HOST and preceding the first non-skippable host C HOST, NON-SKIP.

Additional conditions for clusters containing the interrogative clitic particle LI1.

1. If the clitic cluster contains the interrogative particle LI1,
   then it cannot be hosted by a non-finite verb.
2. If the clitic cluster contains the LI1 and its host is not a verb,
   then the style of the utterance is literary or dated.

For an illustration of the first condition, see (22d), p. 247, and (43a). The second condition is illustrated in (43b).

(43) a. *[Doći] li je želeo?
   lit. ‘To-come whether is(Aux) having-wanted?’ = ‘Did he want to come?’

   b. literary/dated [Marka] li čekas?
   lit. ‘Marko-SG.ACC [yousg] whether wait?’ = ‘Are you waiting for Marko?’

In the Partial SMorphR above, there are two possible landing sites for the clitic cluster: either after the second constituent (a skippable host) or after the third one (a non-skippable host). The first possible landing site is used in the sentence (34b) and the sec-
ond one in the sentences (34c)-(34d), with, in the case of the sentence (34d), the subsequent insertion.

No-clause-final position rule

**If**, in a clause, there exists a non-final position available for the clitic cluster, **then** the cluster should not be placed in the clause-final position.

The above rule is approximate: as we have seen (p. 251), some sentences with the cluster placed clause-finally are fine, but such cases need to be studied more carefully before the rule can be made more precise.

This rule does not apply in the case of sentences (34b-d); see examples (27), p. 251, for an illustration of cases where it is relevant.

2c) Insertion rules

The insertion of the clitic cluster into a hosting constituent means that the cluster is put after the first stressed wordform of this constituent.

1. **If** a cluster is positioned after a constituent $C_{\text{INSERT}}$ **and** contains a clitic form of the copula BITI ‘be’, **then** it must be inserted into this constituent.
2. **If** a cluster is positioned after a constituent $C_{\text{INSERT}}$, **then** it can be inserted into it.

See Section 3.3.4, p. 252ff, for examples of insertion.

In our case, there is one insertable host: $U$ njihovim kućama, [poslednjih su se dana] javila... (If the first constituent were not detached, it would be insertable: [U njihovim su se kućama] poslednjih dana javila...); the insertion is optional, since the cluster does not contain the clitic form of the copula and the hosting constituent is not marked as “Insert!” (i.e., does not have the syntactic role of the predicative attribute).

3) Preference rules for the placement of the clitic cluster

These rules select the actual landing site for the clitic cluster, if two or more possible landing sites have been identified in the Partial DMorphR of the clause. More specifically, they take care of the following two operations: 1) skipping of an optional host, and 2) optional insertion of the cluster into an insertable host.

Preferences for optional skipping

Only a rule for skipping heavy constituents will be given. (Contrastive constituents can be skipped, too, as shown in (21c-d), p. 246, and (40), p. 266, but I still haven’t worked out the skipping conditions that apply to them.)
Preference rule for skipping of heavy constituents

If the skippable host $C_{\text{HOST.SKIP}}$ is relatively heavy (= contains more than three stressed wordforms), then the skipping of $C_{\text{HOST.SKIP}}$ is preferred.

See Section 3.3.3, p. 250 for examples of preferred skipping.

In our case, there is only one skippable host that actually can be skipped: the second constituent of the clause. Since this is not a relatively heavy constituent, skipping preference is not strong; thus, sentence (34b), with skipping, and sentence (34d), without skipping, are equally good (p. 257).

Optional skipping of a host must not interfere with the No-clause-final-position rule (cf. 2b, p. 268). Thus, if the constituent preceding the clause-final one is a skippable host, it nevertheless should not be skipped; see example (27a), p. 251.

Preferences for optional insertion

Only a preference rule for optional insertion of the clitic cluster into a subordinate phrase will be given (insertion into a coordinate phrase being ignored).

Preference rule for optional insertion

1. If the constituent $C_{\text{INSERT}}$ after which the clitic cluster is positioned a) is of the form “Interrogative Premodifier+X” or b) carries communicative load, then prefer the insertion.
2. If the constituent $C_{\text{INSERT}}$ after which the clitic cluster is positioned a) is of the form “Interrogative Premodifier+X+Postmodifier” or b) is relatively heavy, then avoid the insertion.

See p. 254 for examples and discussion.

With our sample sentences, there is no strong preference for insertion or against it; thus, sentence (34c), without insertion, and sentence (34d), with insertion, are equally good.

5 Conclusion

The overall picture of Serbian 2P clitics placement emerging from the present description is as follows. Unlike full-fledged words, Serbian 2P clitics are not linearly positioned with respect to their syntactic governors. That is, the host of a clitic in the morphological structure of a clause need not (and often does not) correspond to the governor of this clitic in the syntactic structure. Understandably enough, since all the clitics of the same clause are linearly positioned together, as a cluster, while in the syntactic structure they have different governors or are governors themselves (a finite auxiliary verb is considered to be the syntactic head of its clause). This, however, does not mean that syntactic dependencies are not relevant for Serbian 2P clitic placement. Even
though they are not explicitly mentioned in the clitic cluster building and positioning rules, syntactic dependencies, together with the communicative oppositions, play a crucial role in determining constituents and their properties necessary for clitic placement. In fact, syntactic dependencies and communicative oppositions underlie all the properties of constituents to which clitic placement is sensitive, including also their prosodic properties; thus, a prosodic break induced by a constituent or its prosodic contour is a marker of this constituent’s specific syntactic/communicative role, and the prosodic heaviness of a constituent a consequence of its syntactic composition. The present account of Serbian 2P clitics placement is, then, in terms of the previously mentioned syntax vs. prosody debate raging in recent literature on the topic, 27 unambiguously a syntactic one.

This is not to say that certain generalizations in terms of prosody are not possible. In point of fact, many different syntactic/communicative underlying factors can be reduced to the same prosodic expression; this is what I tried to model by the features ±heavy, ±detached and ±contrastive, used to determine the hosting capability of constituents. However, these features are not sufficient for the task: first, they play no role in the fixed clitic placement, where only syntactic considerations are relevant (namely, the syntactic class of a constituent), and, second, they can be overridden by syntactic factors in the variable placement. Here are some cases in which, in the variable clitic placement, syntax “tramps” prosody.

1) Skipping of a contrastive constituent can be precluded by its syntactic role; such is the case of a contrastive constituent functioning as the Main Verb of the clause; cf. example (41), p. 266.
2) Insertion of the clitic cluster into a constituent is allowed/disallowed or obligatory as a function of its syntactic role and its syntactic composition; cf., respectively, examples (29) and (30), p. 252ff.
3) There is a syntactic constraint on hosts of clusters containing the interrogative particle LI1: the host of such clusters cannot be a non-finite verb; cf. examples (22d) and (43a), p. 247 and p. 267.
4) Clitic pseudo-climbing (cf. p. 242) is allowed/disallowed by syntactic factors: the syntactic role of the infinitival phrase.
5) Some items have to be lexically marked for their hosting capability, irrespective of their characterization in terms of the above features; cf. examples (21e-f), p. 247.

Furthermore, there are instances of violation of prosodic constraints in clitic placement that indicate that in this operation syntactic factors have precedence over prosodic

27 A paradigmatic example of a syntactic account of Serbian/Croatian clitic placement is Progovac 1996, where clitic landing sites are defined in terms of a structural position (Complementizer) in the syntagmatic tree to which clitics are moved (from their base-generated positions) by syntactic rules. Halpern 1995 is basically a syntactic account as well, but makes use of some prosodic factors: 2P placement (= after the first phrase) is treated as a syntactic operation, while 2W placement (= after the first word, corresponds to my insertion) is described as a result of “prosodic inversion” between the clitics and their host. A typical prosodic account can be found in Radanović-Kocić 1988 and 1996, where the landing sites for the clitics are defined in terms of prosodic units of the sentence: clitics are placed after the first phonological phrase (= first phonological word or phrase) of their intonational phrase. Bošković 1995 and Hock 1996 contain similar proposals. For a review of syntactically- vs. prosodically-minded literature on clitic placement in Serbian/Croatian, see Čavar 1999: 117-185.
ones. That is, in some contexts, Serbian clitics, which by all accounts should be ENclitics, actually behave as PROclitics. Consider, for example, the following sentence:

(44)  Ideje Čomskog su ga inspirisale
lit. ‘Ideas of Chomsky are him having-inspired’ = ‘Chomsky’s ideas inspired him’.

The clitics are positioned after the first constituent, and this is the only possible landing site for them. (Although heavy, the initial constituent cannot be skipped, since this would put the clitics in an illegitimate clause-final position; this constituent is not insertable, either, as it does not have the required syntactic composition.) Thus, the clitics must be placed after the first constituent and should form a prosodic unit with it. However, if a small pause is automatically made after this constituent, the clitics, which are syntactically enclitics, prosodically procliticize to the following constituent.

Also, the language of the press has a tendency to put the clitics after a constituent in the role of a non-restrictive apposition or a parenthetical, even though such a constituent is obligatorily followed by a pause; thus, sentences such as the following one, stigmatized by the normative grammar (cf., for instance, Klajn 2000), are common occurrence in newspapers:

(45)  Jedan od glavnih optuženih, pored J. Obradovića, je smenjeni predsednik kragujevačke opštine
lit. ‘One of principal persons-charged, besides J. Obradović, is sacked mayor of Kragujevac municipality’ = ‘The sacked mayor of the municipality of Kragujevac is one of the principal persons charged, along with J. Obradović’.

Here, the clitic copula je ‘is’ is actually pronounced as a proclitic to the following phrase. (According to the norm, only jèste, i.e., the full form of the copula, is admitted in this position.)

As a final example, consider the difference in the placement of the clitic cluster in the following sentences:

(46)  a. Poslednjih dana su se javila dva slučaja oboljenja
[-detached] [+detached]
lit. ‘In last days are REFL in their houses, having-appeared two cases of illness’ = ‘Recently, in their households there have been two cases of illness’.

---

28 This fact was noted in Popović 1997: 313: “In speech the so-called enclitics appear after internal pauses (pronounced as proclitics or with a separate accent)” [translation mine—JM]. Cf. also the following Czech example (Toman 1986: 125): Czech, coll. Ten doktor, co mu důvěřuješ, se neholi ‘The doctor that you trust REFL not-shaves’ = ‘The doctor, whom you trust, does not shave’. According to Toman, “[... ] the phenomenon just described is accounted for naturally once we regard Czech clitics as prosodically neutral and as having the direction of clisis determined locally within particular prosodic context” (ibid.: 127). It should be noted, however, that the parallel with Czech does not hold quite well, since in standard Czech, but not in standard Serbian, clitics can occupy the clause-initial position, where their proclitic status is obvious. (In Serbian, examples of clitics in the clause-initial position are found only in colloquial speech; cf. coll. Si normalan? ‘Are normal?’, coll. Sam ti rek’o! ‘Am to-yousg having-told!’ = ‘Haven’t I told you so!’)
In last days are (Aux) REFL, in their houses having-appeared two cases of illness = Recently, in their households there have been two cases of illness.

Since in (46a), the pause after the circumstantial poslednjih dana is not induced by this constituent, but rather by the following parenthetical, u njihovim kućama, the circumstantial can host the clitic cluster. In (46b), however, the pause after poslednjih dana is induced by the circumstantial itself, so it cannot host the clitics. This means that, in order to properly position the clitics in the morphological string, it is not sufficient to know just where the pauses are—it is necessary to make reference to the specific constituents which induce them (which is done in the present description by means of the three features specifying the relevant properties of constituents).

The evidence adduced above suggests that the crucial role in Serbian 2P clitics placement is played by syntactic dependencies and communicative oppositions—they are expressed, among other things, by prosodies, but cannot be completely reduced to prosodies.

Acknowledgments

I would like to thank the following people for their insightful comments on preliminary versions of the paper: Wayles Browne, Lidija Iordanskaja, Sylvain Kahane, Igor Melčuk and Alain Polguère. I am especially indebted to Wayles Browne and Igor Melčuk.

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