



Extending Parametric Comparison

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1. Project overview

The project

- ▶ Basic goal is to develop a database of parameter values in the form of a “parametric grid” (see Table A below);
- ▶ 76 clausal parameters for 40 languages;
- ▶ Combined with Longobardi’s (2018) 91-parameter nominal database, this will give a total of 166 clausal and nominal parameters (Longobardi et al have data on 77 languages altogether);
- ▶ The database can then be used for theoretical, historical and computational investigations.

The basic idea (highly simplified): morphosyntactic features

- ▶ is number marked in nominals in L?
(English: YES; Japanese: NO)
- ▶ is there a system of articles in nominals in L?
(English: YES; Japanese: NO)
- ▶ is there a system of classifiers in nominals in L?
(English: NO; Japanese: YES)

The basic idea (highly simplified): word order

- ▶ Possessor > Possessee

John's sister

John-no imooto-ga (Japanese)

- ▶ Possessee > Possessor

la soeur de Jean (French)

chwaer Siôn (Welsh)

A real example (from Longobardi et al 2013:5)

- ▶ P4: NP over D separates languages in which most elements normally associated with the D-area, such as “articles” or, in some languages, demonstratives and numerals, surface phrase-initially in the DP (e.g. Indo-European languages) from languages wherein they occur in absolute phrase-final position (e.g. Basque); this is taken to be a signal that the whole complement of D raises to some position to the left of D.
- ▶ [D NumP] P4-, e.g. English
- ▶ [NumP D (NumP)] P4+, e.g. Basque

TABLE A				Sic	It	Sp	Fr	Ptg	Rm	Grk
1	FGM	± gramm. morphology		FGM	+	+	+	+	+	+
2	FGP	± gramm. person	+FGM	FGP	+	+	+	+	+	+
3	FGN	± gramm. number	+FGP	FGN	+	+	+	+	+	+
4	GCO	± gramm. collective	¬+FGN	GCO	0	0	0	0	0	0
5	FGG	± gramm. gender	+FGP	FGG	+	+	+	+	+	+
6	NOD	± NP over D	+FGP	NOD	-	-	-	-	-	-
7	FSN	± feature spread to N	+FGN or +GCO, -NOD	FSN	+	+	+	+	+	+
8	FNN	± numb. on N	+FSN	FNN	+	+	+	-	+	+
9	CGB	± gramm. boundedness		CGB	-	-	-	-	-	-
10	FIN	± free incorporation	+CGB	FIN	0	0	0	0	0	0
11	DGR	± gramm. article	+FGP	DGR	+	+	+	+	+	+
12	CGR	± strong article	-CGB, +DGR, ¬-FNN	CGR	+	+	+	0	+	+
13	NSD	± strong person	(+FGN, ¬+FSN) or +DGR	NSD	+	+	+	+	+	+
14	DPQ	± free null partitive Q	+FNN, ¬+CGB	DPQ	-	-	-	0	-	-
15	DCN	± article-checking N	(+FGN, ¬+FSN) or +DGR	DCN	-	-	-	-	+	-
16	DOR	± def on relatives	+DGR	DOR	-	-	-	-	-	-
17	DIN	± D-controlled infl. on N	+FSN	DIN	-	-	-	-	-	-
18	CPS	± plural spread from cardinals	+FSN, ¬+GCO	CPS	+	+	+	+	+	+
19	NPA	± numerical (partial) atomizer	+FGN, +CGB	NPA	0	0	0	0	0	0
20	BAT	± atomizer	+NPA, -DGR	BAT	0	0	0	0	0	0

Calculating distances

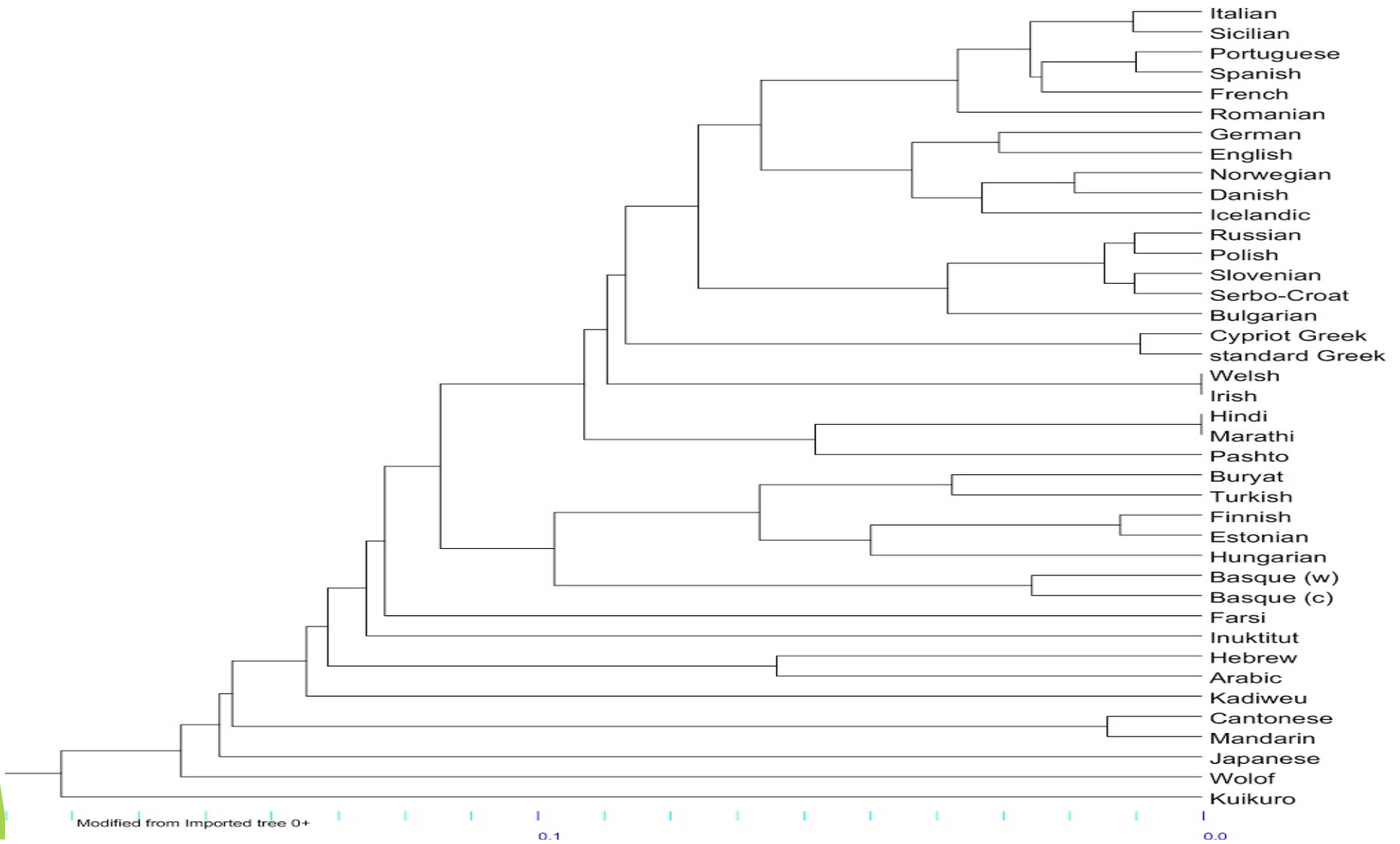
- ▶ The distance between two languages (X, Y) is δ ($0 \leq \delta \leq 1$) determined by the Jaccard formula for the ordered pair $\langle i, d \rangle$ (where i = the number of identities in parameter values and d = the number of differences)

$$\frac{i}{i + d}$$

- ▶ Apply phylogenetic software to produce the optimum tree representing the syntactic distance between each pair of languages in the sample.
- ▶ Next three slides:
 - ▶ distances for all the language pairs in Table A;
 - ▶ zoomed-in portion of this table;
 - ▶ KITSCH tree for the parametric distances (Longobardi et al 2015).

	Ka	Ku	Sic	It	Sp	Fr	Ptg	Rm	Grk	CyG	E	D	Da	Ice	Nor	Blg	SC	Slo	Po	Rus	Ir	Wel	Ma	Hi	Far	Pas	Man	Can	Inu	Jap	Ar	Heb	Hu	Est	Fin	Tur	Bur	cB	wB	Wo	
Ka	0	0.406	0.276	0.233	0.233	0.267	0.233	0.226	0.3	0.3	0.3	0.267	0.233	0.233	0.233	0.233	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.276	0.286	0.314	0.314	0.438	0.367	0.526	0.526	0.29	0.625	0.379	0.276	0.306	0.29	0.294	0.342	0.394	0.417	0.375	0.455	
Ku	0.406	0	0.297	0.324	0.351	0.361	0.324	0.342	0.368	0.368	0.342	0.342	0.316	0.368	0.316	0.378	0.369	0.369	0.369	0.369	0.361	0.361	0.3	0.3	0.361	0.275	0.414	0.414	0.312	0.481	0.368	0.417	0.343	0.297	0.297	0.306	0.351	0.324	0.382	0.571	
Sic	0.276	0.297	0	0.0208	0.0833	0.0652	0.0625	0.087	0.17	0.17	0.159	0.111	0.111	0.178	0.133	0.128	0.175	0.175	0.15	0.175	0.209	0.214	0.162	0.162	0.333	0.216	0.375	0.375	0.276	0.304	0.273	0.262	0.225	0.243	0.25	0.333	0.371	0.229	0.229	0.312	
It	0.233	0.324	0.0208	0	0.06	0.0417	0.04	0.0625	0.184	0.163	0.152	0.106	0.106	0.17	0.128	0.143	0.167	0.19	0.167	0.19	0.233	0.238	0.158	0.158	0.333	0.211	0.36	0.36	0.276	0.304	0.273	0.262	0.214	0.231	0.237	0.324	0.361	0.222	0.222	0.312	
Sp	0.233	0.351	0.0833	0.06	0	0.0625	0.02	0.0612	0.22	0.2	0.174	0.128	0.128	0.17	0.149	0.14	0.14	0.163	0.14	0.163	0.205	0.209	0.184	0.184	0.361	0.237	0.4	0.4	0.267	0.25	0.267	0.279	0.262	0.256	0.263	0.363	0.389	0.222	0.222	0.344	
Fr	0.267	0.361	0.0652	0.0417	0.0625	0	0.0417	0.109	0.234	0.213	0.182	0.133	0.133	0.156	0.156	0.17	0.195	0.22	0.195	0.22	0.22	0.225	0.184	0.184	0.361	0.243	0.36	0.36	0.31	0.304	0.31	0.3	0.238	0.237	0.243	0.363	0.389	0.222	0.222	0.312	
Ptg	0.233	0.324	0.0625	0.04	0.02	0.0417	0	0.0833	0.224	0.204	0.152	0.106	0.106	0.149	0.128	0.163	0.167	0.19	0.167	0.19	0.209	0.214	0.158	0.158	0.333	0.211	0.36	0.36	0.276	0.304	0.295	0.286	0.238	0.231	0.237	0.324	0.361	0.194	0.194	0.312	
Rm	0.226	0.342	0.087	0.0625	0.0612	0.109	0.0833	0	0.184	0.163	0.174	0.174	0.104	0.163	0.122	0.118	0.143	0.167	0.167	0.167	0.227	0.233	0.158	0.158	0.333	0.211	0.36	0.36	0.29	0.208	0.224	0.244	0.286	0.231	0.282	0.371	0.361	0.229	0.229	0.344	
Grk	0.3	0.368	0.17	0.184	0.22	0.234	0.224	0.184	0	0.0185	0.208	0.204	0.208	0.22	0.188	0.2	0.156	0.133	0.133	0.133	0.227	0.233	0.225	0.225	0.324	0.275	0.37	0.37	0.267	0.375	0.239	0.295	0.256	0.286	0.275	0.343	0.333	0.378	0.378	0.242	
CyG	0.3	0.368	0.17	0.163	0.2	0.213	0.204	0.163	0.0185	0	0.188	0.188	0.22	0.167	0.22	0.133	0.156	0.156	0.156	0.227	0.233	0.225	0.225	0.324	0.275	0.37	0.37	0.267	0.375	0.239	0.295	0.233	0.262	0.25	0.343	0.333	0.351	0.351	0.242		
E	0.3	0.342	0.159	0.152	0.174	0.182	0.152	0.174	0.208	0.188	0	0.0612	0.0816	0.122	0.0816	0.122	0.0816	0.208	0.182	0.205	0.205	0.14	0.143	0.244	0.244	0.216	0.146	0.25	0.25	0.333	0.36	0.31	0.25	0.233	0.214	0.22	0.222	0.231	0.229	0.229	0.294
D	0.267	0.342	0.111	0.106	0.128	0.133	0.106	0.174	0.204	0.184	0.0612	0	0.0816	0.0862	0.0816	0.167	0.128	0.149	0.149	0.17	0.193	0.163	0.225	0.225	0.27	0.175	0.286	0.286	0.31	0.375	0.31	0.25	0.238	0.22	0.229	0.289	0.257	0.257	0.294		
Da	0.233	0.316	0.111	0.106	0.128	0.133	0.106	0.104	0.208	0.188	0.0816	0.0816	0	0.08	0.0385	0.14	0.14	0.163	0.163	0.163	0.205	0.209	0.171	0.171	0.297	0.171	0.214	0.214	0.3	0.32	0.273	0.214	0.233	0.171	0.2	0.278	0.289	0.2	0.2	0.303	
Ice	0.233	0.368	0.178	0.17	0.17	0.156	0.149	0.163	0.22	0.2	0.122	0.0682	0.08	0	0.0688	0.12	0.087	0.109	0.13	0.13	0.133	0.136	0.15	0.15	0.243	0.15	0.286	0.286	0.276	0.282	0.25	0.19	0.238	0.171	0.175	0.257	0.289	0.229	0.229	0.235	
Nor	0.233	0.316	0.133	0.128	0.149	0.156	0.128	0.122	0.188	0.167	0.0816	0.0816	0.0385	0.0688	0	0.137	0.14	0.163	0.163	0.163	0.205	0.209	0.171	0.171	0.297	0.171	0.214	0.214	0.3	0.32	0.273	0.214	0.233	0.171	0.2	0.278	0.289	0.2	0.2	0.303	
Blg	0.233	0.378	0.128	0.143	0.14	0.17	0.163	0.118	0.2	0.22	0.208	0.167	0.14	0.12	0.137	0	0.0809	0.0882	0.0809	0.0882	0.205	0.209	0.175	0.175	0.333	0.175	0.333	0.333	0.258	0.24	0.239	0.205	0.233	0.22	0.225	0.278	0.316	0.257	0.257	0.375	
SC	0.226	0.389	0.175	0.167	0.14	0.195	0.167	0.143	0.156	0.133	0.182	0.128	0.14	0.087	0.14	0.0809	0	0.0204	0.0612	0.0408	0.154	0.158	0.195	0.195	0.237	0.195	0.321	0.321	0.226	0.308	0.211	0.222	0.237	0.19	0.171	0.25	0.308	0.242	0.242	0.267	
Slo	0.226	0.359	0.175	0.19	0.163	0.22	0.19	0.167	0.133	0.156	0.205	0.149	0.163	0.109	0.163	0.0682	0.0204	0	0.0408	0.0204	0.154	0.158	0.195	0.195	0.237	0.195	0.321	0.321	0.226	0.308	0.211	0.222	0.263	0.214	0.195	0.25	0.308	0.273	0.273	0.267	
Po	0.226	0.389	0.15	0.167	0.14	0.152	0.167	0.167	0.133	0.156	0.205	0.149	0.163	0.13	0.163	0.0809	0.0612	0.0408	0	0.0204	0.154	0.158	0.195	0.195	0.237	0.195	0.321	0.321	0.226	0.308	0.211	0.222	0.263	0.214	0.195	0.25	0.308	0.273	0.273	0.267	
Rus	0.226	0.389	0.175	0.19	0.163	0.22	0.19	0.167	0.133	0.156	0.205	0.149	0.163	0.13	0.163	0.0882	0.0408	0.0204	0	0.0204	0.154	0.158	0.195	0.195	0.237	0.195	0.321	0.321	0.226	0.308	0.211	0.222	0.263	0.214	0.195	0.25	0.308	0.273	0.273	0.267	
Ir	0.276	0.361	0.209	0.233	0.205	0.22	0.209	0.227	0.227	0.227	0.14	0.159	0.205	0.133	0.205	0.205	0.154	0.154	0.154	0	0	0.25	0.25	0.257	0.194	0.435	0.435	0.357	0.304	0.262	0.214	0.297	0.257	0.265	0.323	0.333	0.312	0.281	0.323		
Wel	0.286	0.361	0.214	0.238	0.209	0.225	0.214	0.233	0.233	0.233	0.143	0.163	0.209	0.136	0.209	0.209	0.158	0.158	0.158	0	0	0.257	0.257	0.235	0.171	0.435	0.435	0.37	0.304	0.268	0.22	0.278	0.235	0.242	0.3	0.312	0.312	0.281	0.323		
Ma	0.314	0.3	0.162	0.158	0.184	0.184	0.158	0.158	0.225	0.225	0.244	0.225	0.171	0.15	0.171	0.175	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.25	0.257	0	0	0.262	0.116	0.25	0.25	0.206	0.269	0.278	0.324	0.2	0.175	0.211	0.214	0.256	0.206	0.206	0.258		
Hi	0.314	0.3	0.162	0.158	0.184	0.184	0.158	0.158	0.225	0.225	0.244	0.225	0.171	0.15	0.171	0.175	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.25	0.257	0	0	0.262	0.116	0.25	0.25	0.206	0.269	0.278	0.324	0.2	0.175	0.211	0.214	0.256	0.206	0.206	0.258		
Far	0.438	0.361	0.333	0.333	0.361	0.361	0.333	0.333	0.324	0.324	0.216	0.27	0.297	0.243	0.297	0.333	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.237	0.257	0.235	0.262	0.262	0	0.184	0.259	0.259	0.323	0.36	0.389	0.382	0.222	0.194	0.206	0.167	0.189	0.281	0.344	0.281	
Pas	0.367	0.275	0.216	0.211	0.237	0.243	0.211	0.211	0.275	0.275	0.146	0.175	0.171	0.15	0.171	0.175	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.195	0.194	0.171	0.116	0.116	0.184	0	0.258	0.258	0.258	0.222	0.333	0.324	0.167	0.15	0.184	0.136	0.15	0.152	0.152	0.357	
Man	0.526	0.414	0.375	0.36	0.4	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.25	0.296	0.214	0.296	0.214	0.333	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.435	0.435	0.25	0.25	0.259	0.258	0	0.0206	0.429	0.333	0.522	0.571	0.24	0.259	0.32	0.231	0.241	0.231	0.269	0.304
Can	0.526	0.414	0.375	0.36	0.4	0.36	0.36	0.36	0.37	0.37	0.25	0.296	0.214	0.296	0.214	0.333	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.321	0.435	0.435	0.25	0.25	0.259	0.258	0.0206	0	0.429	0.333	0.522	0.571	0.24	0.259	0.32	0.231	0.241	0.231	0.269	0.304
Inu	0.29	0.312	0.276	0.276	0.267	0.31	0.276	0.29	0.267	0.267	0.333	0.31	0.3	0.276	0.3	0.258	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.226	0.367	0.37	0.206	0.206	0.323	0.258	0.429	0.429	0	0.348	0.323	0.31	0.229	0.226	0.206	0.189	0.206	0.259	0.333	0.4	
Jap	0.625	0.481	0.304	0.304	0.25	0.304	0.304	0.288	0.375	0.375	0.36	0.375	0.32	0.292	0.32	0.24	0.308	0.308	0.308	0.308	0.304	0.304	0.259	0.259	0.36	0.222	0.333	0.333	0.348	0	0.348	0.476	0.381	0.304	0.364	0.364	0.375	0.2	0.24	0.381	
Ar	0.379	0.368	0.273	0.273																																					

	Ka	Ku	Sic	It	Sp	Fr	Ptg	Rm	Grk	CyG	E	D	Da
Ka	0	0,406	0,276	0,233	0,233	0,267	0,233	0,226	0,3	0,3	0,3	0,267	0,233
Ku	0,406	0	0,297	0,324	0,351	0,361	0,324	0,342	0,368	0,368	0,342	0,342	0,316
Sic	0,276	0,297	0	0,0208	0,0833	0,0652	0,0625	0,087	0,17	0,17	0,159	0,111	0,111
It	0,233	0,324	0,0208	0	0,06	0,0417	0,04	0,0625	0,184	0,163	0,152	0,106	0,106
Sp	0,233	0,351	0,0833	0,06	0	0,0625	0,02	0,0612	0,22	0,2	0,174	0,128	0,128
Fr	0,267	0,361	0,0652	0,0417	0,0625	0	0,0417	0,109	0,234	0,213	0,182	0,133	0,133
Ptg	0,233	0,324	0,0625	0,04	0,02	0,0417	0	0,0833	0,224	0,204	0,152	0,106	0,106
Rm	0,226	0,342	0,087	0,0625	0,0612	0,109	0,0833	0	0,184	0,163	0,174	0,174	0,104
Grk	0,3	0,368	0,17	0,184	0,22	0,234	0,224	0,184	0	0,0185	0,208	0,204	0,208
CyG	0,3	0,368	0,17	0,163	0,2	0,213	0,204	0,163	0,0185	0	0,188	0,184	0,188
E	0,3	0,342	0,159	0,152	0,174	0,182	0,152	0,174	0,208	0,188	0	0,0612	0,0816
D	0,267	0,342	0,111	0,106	0,128	0,133	0,106	0,174	0,204	0,184	0,0612	0	0,0816
Da	0,233	0,316	0,111	0,106	0,128	0,133	0,106	0,104	0,208	0,188	0,0816	0,0816	0



Advantages compared to lexically based reconstruction

- ▶ **discreteness:** the values of a parameter do not form a continuum or cline of any kind
- ▶ **binarity:** a maximally simple range of possibilities
- ▶ **finiteness:** the number of parameters is finite
- ▶ **no uncertainty of comparanda:** we are in principle always sure when we are comparing like with like (Guardiano & Longobardi 2003:4)

Theoretical/learnability issues

- ▶ **Parameter expressions (Clark & Roberts 1993):**

The expression of a parameter P is any string S of language L such that P must be set to determinate value in order for S to be grammatical in L .

- ▶ P-expressions represent simple existential statements concerning superficial simple properties of strings, e.g.:

 - P4+: articles final in DP.

- ▶ What kinds of P-expression are needed? Are there defaults?

Two really big questions

- ▶ **Theoretical:** implicational relations among parameters/parameter hierarchies/parameter types (macro/meso/micro; Biberauer & Roberts 2017, Biberauer 2017, 2018, Roberts 2019). Also the question of markedness.
- ▶ **Historical:** can we go back further than traditional comparative reconstruction?

“the source of the Uralo-Altaic relation must be more ancient and stronger than those reflected in ... phonetic/phonemic exchanges”

(Ceolin et al, forthcoming)

2. Defining the parameters

Goal

- ▶ To **extend** the list of parameters in EP(N) into a (broadly parallel) list of parameters for EP(V)

Criteria

Three (overlapping) sources of inspiration for EP(V) parameters:

- ▶ Parallels to the EP(N) parameters listed in the Appendix to Longobardi et al. (2013) (“L13”)
- ▶ Parameters drawn from Roberts (2019)
- ▶ Parameters accounting for salient patterns of variation in WALs (Haspelmath et al. 2005, Dryer & Haspelmath 2013)

Notational note

- ▶ L13's parameters are labelled $p_1, p_2, p_3 \dots$
- ▶ These are relabelled here as $P_N1, P_N2, P_N3 \dots$
 - ▶ keeping the numeric part unchanged
- ▶ Our new parameters are labelled $P_V1, P_V2, P_V3 \dots$
 - ▶ P_Nn is parallel to P_Vn in some cases, but not consistently

L13 parallels

- ▶ Parameters P_V1 to P_V50 are mostly proposed as parallel (to varying extents) to parameters in the range P_N1 to P_N51
 - ▶ P_V75 and P_V76 are tentative parallels for P_N54 and P_N55 , but see later
- ▶ Many parameters in the P_V51 to P_V74 range operate along similar lines to L13's parameters, but they don't constitute direct parallels

L13 parallels

- ▶ Very close parallels between P_N1 - P_N3 and P_V1 - P_V3
 - ▶ P_N1/P_V1 Grammaticalised Person
 - ▶ P_N2/P_V2 Grammaticalised Number
 - ▶ P_N3/P_V3 Grammaticalised Gender
- ▶ But considered distinct
 - ▶ English: + P_N3 (*himself/herself*), - P_V3 (no gender agreement on verbs)

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N4 : NP over D
- ▶ P_V4 - P_V7 : roll-up options in CP
 - ▶ P_V4 TP over C
 - ▶ P_V5 vP over T
 - ▶ P_V6 VP over v
 - ▶ P_V7 Object over V

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N5 to P_N19 : *grammaticalisation* and *locus of realisation* of various features within DP (e.g. definiteness, boundedness ...)
- ▶ This set is paralleled in a broad sense by P_V8 to P_V21
 - ▶ More specific parallels can be identified between many pairs of parameters in the two sets

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_V8 φ -feature checking on V
- ▶ P_V9 φ -feature spread to V

- ▶ P_V10 Grammaticalised Tense
- ▶ P_V11 Strong Tense
- ▶ P_V12 Tense-checking V
- ▶ P_V13 Tense spread to V

L13 parallels

- ▶ English is +P_V8: φ -features are realised (sometimes) on V (*V checks φ -features*)
 - ▶ [Lucy T_{3sg} [work-s_{3sg}]]
- ▶ A +P_V9 language would mark φ -features on both T and V simultaneously (*φ -features spread to V*)
 - ▶ “Lucy does works”

L13 parallels

- ▶ Contemporary French may be a +P_V13 language: tense realised on both T and V in the *passé composé* (“tense spreading”):
 - ▶ *Lucie a travaill-é* “Lucie worked”
 ↑ ↑
 PAST PAST
 - ▶ (English periphrastic perfect *Lucy has worked* however shows *aspect* spreading)

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_v14 Grammaticalised Aspect
- ▶ P_v15 Strong Aspect
- ▶ P_v16 Aspect-checking V
- ▶ P_v17 Aspect spread to V
- ▶ P_v18 Grammaticalised Mood
- ▶ P_v19 Strong Mood
- ▶ P_v20 Mood-checking V
- ▶ P_v21 Mood spread to V

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_v11 Strong Tense, P_v15 Strong Aspect, P_v19 Strong Mood concern *movement*: strong heads trigger V movement (unless filled by an auxiliary)
- ▶ Different degrees of V movement as described by Schifano (2015, 2018) for Romance

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N10 Free null partitive Q
 - ▶ P_N14 Definiteness on relatives
 - ▶ P_N20 Null-N licensing article

 - ▶ P_N22 Feature spread to structured APs
 - ▶ P_N23 Feature spread to predicate APs

 - ▶ P_N24 D-controlled inflection on A
- ▶ P_V22 Null prohibitive (Italian *non fumare*)
 - ▶ P_V23 TMA on complement clauses (Irish *go/gur*)
 - ▶ P_V24 VP-ellipsis licensing (*Lucy has gone but Harry hasn't*)

 - ▶ P_V25 φ -feature spread to “structured” Adverbs
 - ▶ P_V26 φ -feature spread to participles
 - ▶ P_V27 φ -feature spread restricted to passive participles

 - ▶ P_V28 Aux-controlled agreement on participles

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N26 Relative extraposition
- ▶ P_N29 Free genitive
- ▶ P_V29 Complement clause extraposition
- ▶ P_V30 Free subject
- ▶ P_V31 VP over subject [=> many V-initial orders]

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N29 - P_N41 concern *genitives* and *possessives* (i.e. possessive determiners: *my*, *our* etc.)
- ▶ A parallel for genitives is identified in *arguments of the clause generally*
- ▶ A parallel for possessives is identified in *subject clitics*

L13 parallels

- ▶ Argument parameters: based on the ergative parameter hierarchy of Sheehan (2017) (presented in Roberts 2019)
 - ▶ P_v32 Theta-related case from v (ergativity generally)
 - ▶ P_v33 Generalised theta-related case from v (split-S)
 - ▶ P_v34 Restricted theta-related case from v (fluid-S)
 - ▶ P_v35 Extraction of ergatives (syntactic ergativity)
 - ▶ P_v36 High absolutive

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_V38 Secondary agreement
 - ▶ Object agreement, ergative agreement
 - ▶ Rough parallel to P_N33 Genitive features spread to N: “Argument features spread to V”
- ▶ P_V40 Marking of transitivity
 - ▶ Rough parallel to P_N41 Poss^o-checking N (i.e. marking of N in the presence of a genitive): marking of number of arguments on V

L13 parallels

► Chol:

tyi i-jats'-ä-yoñ

PRFV A3-hit-TV-B1

“she hit me”

L13 parallels

Also note:

- ▶ P_v37 Case-Agreement Dependency (after M. Baker 2008)
 - ▶ Case/agreement split ergativity and other patterns (Bantu locative subjects)
- ▶ P_v39 Noun Incorporation
 - ▶ cf. the “Polysynthesis Parameter”, M. Baker 1995
 - ▶ Mohawk: *ra-wir-a-núhwe*’-s he-baby-Ø-like “he likes babies”

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_V41 Subject clitic distinct from agreement
 - ▶ (Subject clitic *without* agreement: +P_V1/2/3, -P_V8, -P_V9, -P_V41: φ -features grammaticalised but not spread/checked on V)
- ▶ P_V42 Subject clitic enclisis
 - ▶ Some Lombard varieties:
an lisi-v mai di livar
SCL=not read=SCL.2PL never of books
“You never read books”

L13 parallels

- ▶ P_N42 - P_N51 : various further parameters relating to movement
- ▶ Parallels:
 - ▶ P_V43 Tense on Modal
 - ▶ P_V43 Aspect raising
 - ▶ P_V44 Voice raising
 - ▶ P_V45 Strong v
 - ▶ P_V46 Strong C
 - ▶ P_V48 vP over Voice
 - ▶ P_V49 EPP on T
 - ▶ P_V50 EPP on C

L13 parallels

- ▶ Some parameters cover more specific subcases of the parallels proposed
 - ▶ P_V71 Grammaticalised bounded aspect
 - ▶ P_V72 Grammaticalised progressive
 - ▶ P_V73 Aspect spread to V restricted to perfects
 - ▶ French: *Lucie travaille, Lucie a travaillé* (-P_V72, +P_V73)
 - ▶ English: *Lucy is working, Lucy has worked* (+P_V72, -P_V73)

L13 parallels

- ▶ Adjective Phrase parameters:
 - ▶ P_v54 Definiteness on APs
 - ▶ P_v55 Grammaticalised AP marker
- ▶ Possible parallels:
 - ▶ P_v75 Tense on AdvPs
 - ▶ P_v76 Grammaticalised AdvP marker
 - ▶ Are these ever actually positively instantiated?

L13 parallels

- ▶ For a number of L13's parameters, no parallels were identified
 - ▶ e.g. P_N21 Structured APs: does the language have a class of adjective phrases with fixed ordering according to a universal sequence?
 - ▶ Whilst one class of adverb phrases indeed shows fixed ordering according to a universal sequence (Cinque 1999), their existence does not appear to be subject to cross-linguistic variation

L13 parallels

▶ Other EP(N) parameters without obvious EP(V) parallels:

- ▶ P_N25 DP over relatives
- ▶ P_N27 Free reduced relatives
- ▶ P_N28 N raising with obligatory pied-piping
- ▶ P_N32 GenO
- ▶ P_N35 Adjectival possessives
- ▶ P_N37 Clitic possessives
- ▶ P_N38 N-feature spread to pronominal possessives
- ▶ P_N39 N-feature spread to free genitive
- ▶ P_N52 Free MOD
- ▶ P_N53 Class MOD
- ▶ P_N56 Consistency Principle

PHUG and WALS

- ▶ The parallels identified leave several salient parameters of variation within EP(V) unaccounted for
- ▶ Thus they are supplemented with various additional parameters drawn from / inspired by:
 - ▶ the parameter hierarchies in Roberts (2019)
 - ▶ some salient patterns of variation described in WALS

Following Roberts (2019)

- ▶ Nb. some of the PHUG parameters *do* have parallels already identified
 - ▶ movement parameters (roll-up, head movement), alignment parameters
- ▶ Null subject parameters excluded as seem to cross-cut nominal/clausal domains (though cf. P_v30 Free subject)

Following Roberts (2019)

▶ Passives:

- ▶ P_V51 Grammaticalised Passive
- ▶ P_V52 Generalised Passive (German *es wurde getanzt*)
- ▶ P_V53 Restricted Passive (Hebrew **yehune* “be pleased”)
- ▶ P_V54 *By*-phrase

Following Roberts (2019)

- ▶ Ditransitives (after Sheehan 2017)
 - ▶ P_V55 Dative Case
 - ▶ P_V56 Obligatory Dative Case
 - ▶ P_V57 Extended Dative Case
 - ▶ P_V58 Theme over Goal
 - ▶ P_V59 Ditransitive Theme Passivisation

Following Roberts (2019)

- ▶ Causatives (after Sheehan 2017)
 - ▶ P_V60 Theta-related case in causatives
 - ▶ e.g. French *faire-infinitif*
 - ▶ + P_V61 Causative-checking V
 - ▶ e.g. Japanese *tabe-sase-rare-ta* eat-CAUS-PASS-PAST)
- ▶ *Wh*-movement
 - ▶ P_V64 *Wh*-movement (after Huang 1982)

Following Roberts (2019)

▶ Negation

- ▶ P_v65 Minimal negator
- ▶ P_v66 Neg-checking
 - ▶ *I haven't gone*
- ▶ P_v67 Multiple negation
 - ▶ *I didn't do nothing*
- ▶ P_v68 Neg-spreading
 - ▶ French *ne ... pas*

Following WALS

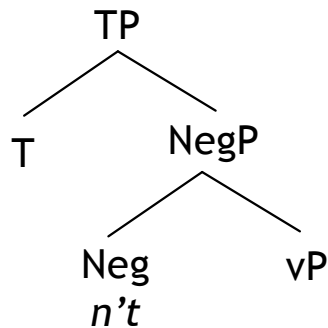
- ▶ P_v62 Imperative-checking V
 - ▶ e.g. Limbu *lps-ε?* sleep-IMP “sleep!”
- ▶ P_v63 Q-checking V
 - ▶ e.g. Hunzib *eł'e-čó-y* go-PRES.1/2-Q “are you going?”
- ▶ P_v69 Grammaticalisation of Past
- ▶ P_v70 Grammaticalisation of Future
- ▶ P_v74 Grammaticalisation of Evidentiality

Problems

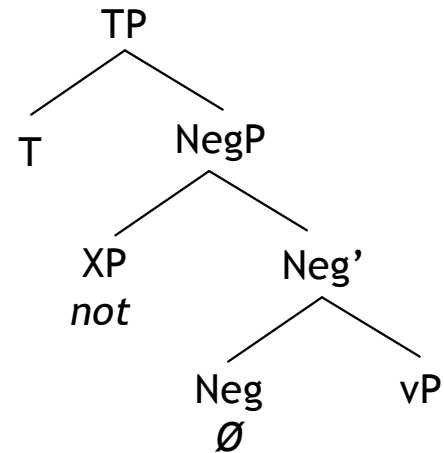
- ▶ For some of these, the identification of clear diagnostics is not straightforward
 - ▶ $P_{\vee 65}$: can the status of a negator as a maximal/minimal projection always be identified?

Problems

Minimal



Maximal



- ▶ diagnostics: affix/clitic status or V-movement blocking => minimal
- ▶ but what about free negators where sufficient V-movement doesn't occur anyway?

Problems

- ▶ P_v48: Roberts (2019) gives an argument for vP over Voice in English, but not clear how easy this will be to identify cross-linguistically
- ▶ P_v70: does English have a grammaticalised Future? what about German? (cf. Comrie 1985)
 - ▶ *I will go; I go tomorrow*
 - ▶ *Ich werde gehen; ich gehe*
- ▶ P_v74: what counts as “evidentiality”? what doesn’t? (cf. Aikhenvald 2005, 2018)

The diagnostic questions

- ▶ Survey aimed at (primarily) syntactically trained native speakers for the purpose of data collection on parameter values
- ▶ For each parameter: a simple yes/no question and further clarification points

The diagnostic questions: examples

Parameter	Diagnostic(s)
P _V 1 (VGP) Grammaticalised Person in EP(V)	<p>Does the language show agreement for person within the clause?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Person agreement (1st/2nd/3rd) on verbs/auxiliaries/participles, or person-expressing subject clitics● Exclude person-marking on (non-clitic) anaphors and person concord with adjectives● Number and gender treated separately (see below)
P _V 4 (TOC) TP over C	<p>Is C final in CP?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">● Complementisers follow all core clausal material (excluding right-dislocated and extraposed material)

3. Parametric variation observed

P_{V1} (VGP) Grammaticalised Person in EP(V):
Does the language show agreement for person within the clause?

P_{V2} (VGN) Grammaticalised Number in EP(V):
Does the language show agreement for number within the clause?

P_{V3} (VGG) Grammaticalised Gender in EP(V):
Does the language show agreement for gender (or noun class) within the clause?

	CONDITION	FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _{V1}	Respectively Person/Number/Gender agreement on verbs/auxiliaries/particip les.	+	+	+
P _{V2}		+	+	+
P _{V3}		+	-	+

- a) Maria è partita
- b) Marie est partie

} Gender agreement on the participle

- c) Mary has left

} Lack of Gender agreement on the participle

- ▶ P_V7: (OOV) Object over Verb: Does the direct object precede the verb?

	FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 7	-	-	-

[Subj.P Elle [TP mange [VP la pomme]]]

[Subj.P She [VP eats the apple]]]

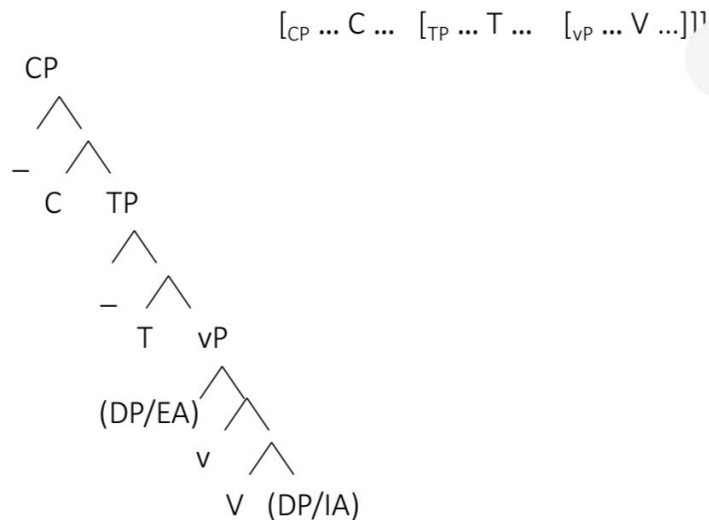
[Subj.P Lei [TP mangia [VP la mela]]]

- ▶ P_V7 entails the negative values for P_V4-P_V6 (0-)

P _V 4 (TOC) TP over C:	Is C final in CP?
P _V 5: (VOT) vP over T	Do tensed elements follow other elements (excluding complementisers, right-dislocated/extraposed material)?
P _V 6: (VOV) VP over v	Does VP move over v?

- ▶ **FOFC**: If a phrase α is head-initial, then the phrase β immediately dominating α is head-initial. If α is head-final, β can be head-final or head-initial. (Holmberg 2000)

- ▶ Since in French, English and Italian the object always follows the verb, VP is head-initial. Therefore, according to FOFC, this phrase can only be governed by a head-initial phrase.



- vP immediately dominates VP. Since VP is head-initial, vP has to be head-initial as well because of FOFC.
- Thus, P_v6 (VP over v) has to be -
- VP can't move over vP, otherwise we should assume that vP is head-final.
- TP immediately dominated vP. Since vP is head-initial, TP has to be initial as well because of FOFC.
- Thus, P_v5 (vP over T) has to be -
- TP can't move over vP, otherwise we should assume that TP is head-final.
- CP immediately dominates TP. Since TP is head-initial, CP has to be head-initial as well because of FOFC.
- Thus, P_v4 (TP over C) is -
- C can't be final in CP.

TENSE/ASPECT/MOOD

	FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 10 (GRT) Grammaticalised Tense	+	+	+
P _V 11 (STT) Strong Tense	0+	0-	+
P _V 12 (TCV) Tense-checking V	+	-	+
P _V 13 (TSV) Tense spread to V	-	-	-

	FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 14 (GRA) Grammaticalised Aspect	+	+	+
P _V 15 (STA) Strong Aspect	+	-	+
P _V 16 (ACV) Aspect-checking V	-	-	-
P _V 17 (ASV) Aspect spread to V	+	+	+

	FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 18 (GRM) Grammaticalised Mood	+	+	+
P _V 19 (STM) Strong Mood	+	0-	-
P _V 20 (MCV) Mood-checking V	+	-	+
P _V 21 (MSV) Mood spread to V	-	-	-

CHECKING vs SPREAD:

- ▶ Checking is + if tense/aspect/mood are sometimes marked only on V and sometimes on an auxiliary or particle.

Tense Marking:

IT: I ragazzi parlavano

FR: Le garçons parlaient

IT: I ragazzi avevano parlato

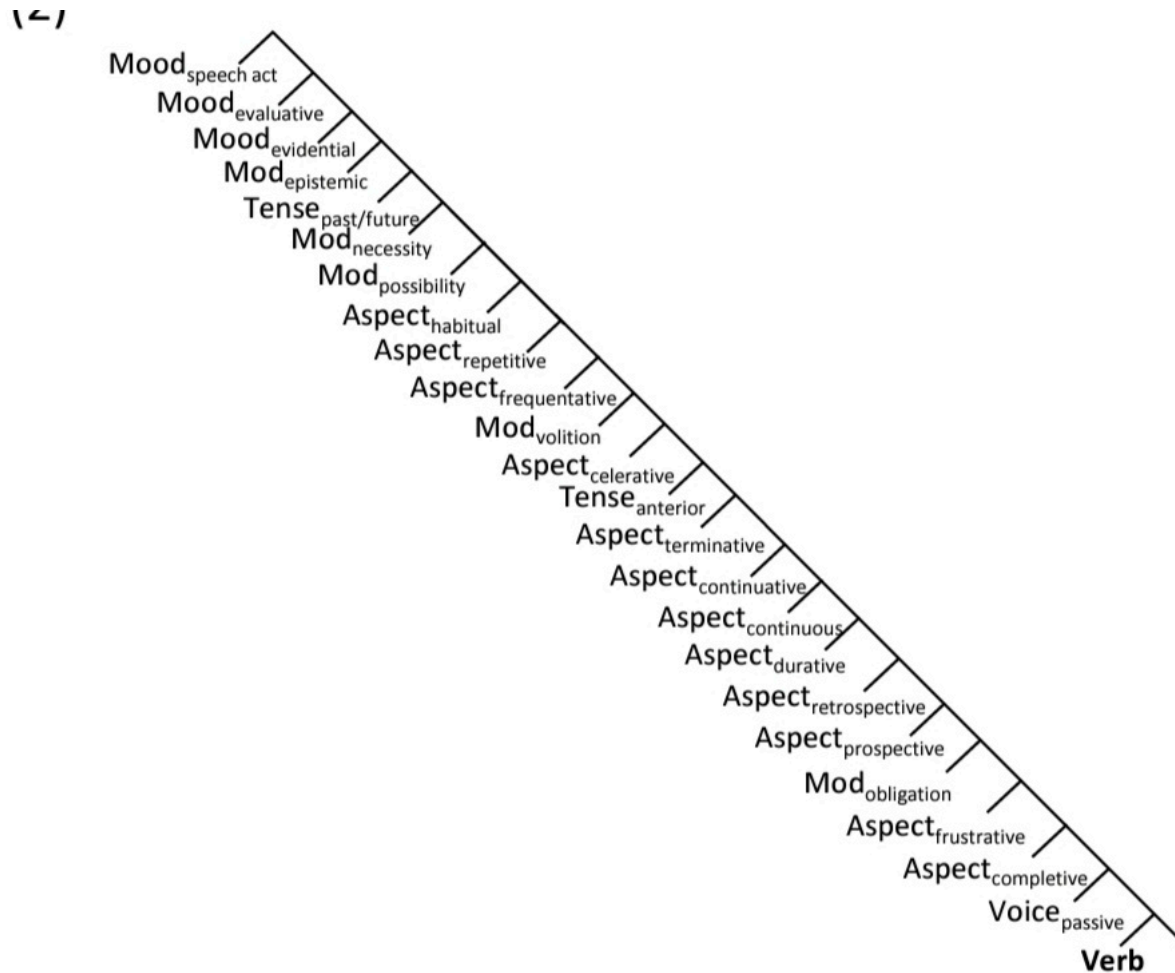
FR: Le garçons avaient parlé

IT: I ragazzi hanno parlato

FR: Les garçons ont parlé

- ▶ Spread is + if marking at once of tense/aspect/mood on both lexical V and additionally on a higher auxiliary/particle/clitic.

G. Cinque (1999)



STRONG [Mood [Tense [Aspect]]]

- ▶ If verb-movement to Mood[°] is allowed in a language, verb-movement to Tense[°] and Aspect[°] is entailed.
- ▶ If verb-movement to Tense[°] is allowed in a language, verb-movement to Aspect[°] is entailed.
- ▶ If verb-movement to Aspect[°] is not allowed in a language, any other movement to a higher functional projections are disallowed.

► P_V11(Strong Tense): Does the lexical verb move to T?

- Overt movement of lexical verbs to T in finite declarative main clauses.
- V precedes adverbs like *already* and potentially some types of negation and floated quantifiers, and internal arguments (in particular direct objects) follow these.
- V is likely to show relatively “rich” person/number inflection.
- This movement may be blocked by auxiliaries, where these are not generally present.
- Assume that Strong Mood (P_V19) entails Strong Tense (Head Movement Constraint).

[_{SubjP} Tu [_{TP} travailles [_{T_{AntP}} déjà]]]	* Tu déjà travailles
[_{SubjP} Tu [_{TP} lavori [_{T_{AntP}} di già]]]	?? Tu di già lavori
[_{SubjP} You ... [_{T_{AntP}} already [_{V_p} work]]]	* You work already

► P_V7 (Strong Aspect): Does the lexical verb move to Aspect?

- Verb precedes adverbs like *completely* and *well*.
- If no additional movement to Tense, verb follows adverbs like *already* and *always*.
- Assume that Strong Tense (P_V11) and Strong Mood (P_V19) entail Strong Aspect (Head Movement Constraint).

[SubjP Je [AspP crois [AspCompIP complètement [PP à ta sœur]]]]

[SubjP Io [AspP credo [AspCompIP completamente [PP a tua sorella]]]]]

[SubjP I [AspCompP completely [VP believe [PP in your sister]]]]]

* Je complètement crois à ta sœur

* Io completamente credo a tua sorella

* I believe completely in your sister

► P_V19(Strong Mood): Does the lexical verb move to a high Mood head?

- Verb precedes adverbs like *probably*

[SubjP Elle [_{MoodP} mange [_{ModEpP} probablement ... [_{PP}à la maison]]]]

[SubjP Lei [_{ModEpP} probabilmente [_{TP} mangia [_{PP} a casa]

[SubjP She [_{ModEpP} probably [_{VP} eats [_{PP} at home]]]]

* Elle probablement manges à la maison

?? Lei mangia probabilmente a casa

* She eats probably at home

► P_V15 (Strong Aspect)

- It is + in French, indeed the verb always precedes adverbs like «completement»
- It is + in Italian, indeed the verb always precedes adverbs like «completamente»
- It is - in English, indeed the verb always follows adverbs like «completely»

► P_V19 (Strong Mood):

- It is + in French, indeed verb always precedes adverbs like «probablement».
- It is - in Italian, indeed the verb always follows adverbs like «probabilmente».
- It is 0- in English as verb-movement to Aspect.P, located in a lower position of the IP, is disallowed.

► P_V11 (Strong Tense)

- It is 0+ as verb movement to Mood.P, located in a higher position, of the IP is allowed
- It is + in Italian, indeed the verb always precedes adverbs like «di già»
- It is 0- in English as verb-movement to Aspect.P, located in a lower position of the IP, is disallowed.

		FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 26 (FPT) Φ-feature spread to participles	Do participles (if present) ever inflect for number and/or gender?	+	-	+
P _V 27 (FPP) Φ-feature spread restricted to passive participles	Is participle agreement restricted to the passive construction?	-	0-	-
P _V 28 (PAI) Aux-controlled agreement on participles	Does the nature of agreement on participles depend on the nature or form of the auxiliary?	+	0-	+

- P_V26/P_V27:

IT: Le ragazze sono partite-*f.pl.*

FR: Les filles sont parties-*f.pl.*

EN: The girls have left -
unmarked

- P_V28:

IT: Le ragazze sono partite-*f.pl.*
Le ragazze hanno parlato-*unmarked*

FR: Les filles sont parties-*f.pl.*
Les filles ont parlé-*unmarked*

EN: The girls have left-*unmarked*
The girls have spoken-*unmarked*

		FRENCH	ENGLISH	ITALIAN
P _V 30 (SFR) Free Subject	Does the language allow “free subjects”?	+	-	+
P _V 31 (VOS) VP over subject	Is the subject generally expressed to the right of the core predicate?	-	-	-

- As for P_V30, the respective values for English and Italian are more straightforward than the value for French:

- The positive value in French is due to *Stylistic-Inversion* structures:

Quand partira *ton ami*?
When will leave your friend?

- In Italian the inverted subject is also used in declarative clauses, despite being endowed with some specific informational structure features (Belletti 1999)

Partirà domani *il mio amico*
Will leave tomorrow the my friend.

- As for P_V31 a positive setting of this parameter would give rise to surface VOS or OVS orders. Although VOS order occurs in Italian and French in some specific structures, this is not the most basic order. This accounts for the negative value of this parameter in all th three languages at issue.

Standard Italian and Florentine variety



- ▶ Tuscan Italian is traditionally divided into four main sub-areas (Ledgeway 2016)
 - a) Florentine
 - b) Western Tuscan (Elbano-Pisan-Lucchese-Pistoiese)
 - c) Eastern Tuscan (Aretino - Chainaiolo)
 - d) Southern Tuscan (Senese - Grossetano)
- ▶ They represent a distinct linguistic area generally considered to be structurally more conservative than other Italo-Romance areas. (Ledgeway 2016)
- ▶ Application of the PCM to the Florentine variety.
- ▶ The expectation is that the majority of parameters values will coincide with St. Italian.
- ▶ Nonetheless, the fact that some parametric differences do exist gives a chance to extent the list of parameters expressed by the PCM.

		ITALIAN	FLORENTINE
P _v 41 (SCL) Subject clitic distinct from agreement	Does the language make use of both subject clitics and subject agreement, occurring together?	-	+

1sg	(lo) (e) parlo
2sg	(Te) tu parli
3sg. masc	(Lui) e parla
3sg. fem	(Lei) la parla
1pl	(Noi) si parla
2pl	(Voi) vu parlate
3pl. masc	(Loro) e parlano
3pl. fem Suner 1992	(Loro) le parlano
Neuter	gli

► The term (Subject) Clitic is used to refer to a relatively reduced (subject) morpheme which depends phonologically and/or syntactically on some other linguistic unit [...], often analyzed as syntactic heads [...] and which pronominalizes a subject. (Poletto and Tortora 2000)

► Not a clear-cut way to determine the status of subject clitics in Florentine.

► From Poletto's (2000) classification, we can assume that:

[_{LDP} inv. SCL_i [_{CP} dei. SCL [_{FP} T_i [_{IP} [_{Neg.P} Neg [_{Numb.P} Numb. SCL [_{Hear.P} Person SCL [_{Speak.P} VB [TP]]]]]]]]]]]

- 3sg. fem and 3pl. fem SCL are *Number* clitics.
- 2sg SCL is a *Person* clitic
- «E» cannot work as an *Invariable* clitic as suggested by Poletto (2000)

- ▶ Subject clitic and subject agreement occur together with SV order for the majority of persons.
- ▶ But it does not occur with the 1pl person, with all types of verbs

(Noi) si vede
(We) SCL sees-3sg

* (Noi) si vediamo
(We) SCL see-1pl

(Noi) si telefona
(We) SCL telephones-3sg

* (Noi) si telefoniamo
(We) SCL telephone-1pl

(Noi) si parte
(We) SCL leaves-3sg

* (Noi) si partiamo
(We) SCL leave-1pl

- ▶ This phenomenon is not restricted to Florentine variety, but is widespread in all Tuscan Italian varieties.
- ▶ This phenomenon shows that subject clitic and subject agreement do not co-occur systematically for all persons in the paradigm.
- ▶ This phenomenon predicts the possibility of widening the list of parameters related to the VP and TP domain.

- ▶ As observed by Brandi and Cordin (1989), subject clitic and subject agreement do not co-occur with VS order, when the subject is a third person singular or plural subject.

Gl'è venuto delle ragazze
SCL is come-*unmarked* some girls

Gl'è venuto la Maria
SCL is come-*unmarked* the Mary

Gl'ha telefonato delle ragazze
SCL has phoned some girls

- ▶ Moreover, it is not observed an agreeing clitic as in case of SV order, but the neuter SCL.
- ▶ This phenomenon is a further suggestion in favour of new sub-parameters within the PCM framework.
- ▶ However, the lack of subject agreement in VS structures is not systematic in all Florentine varieties spoken in the area around Florence.
- ▶ There is research in progress aimed to observe the level of acceptability with respect to different «degrees» of agreement between the subject and the verb in case of post-verbal subject structures.

► *Methodology:*

- Grammaticality judgment task adopting a 5-point Likert Scale.
- The dependent variable is the choice of the informants.
- The independent variables are two ternary factors, producing 9 conditions.
 1. *Type of Verb:* Transitive - Unergative - Unaccusative
 2. *Type of Subject:* Fem.sg - Fem.pl - Masc.pl
- For each condition either two, or three or four sentence trials have been created expressing different levels of agreements.
- All sentences have been introduced by a context.
- Three types of verbs have been considered as some differences depending on this factor may be found.
- As for the subject types, masculine-singular subject have not been considered as they produce a default value of agreement on both the auxiliary and the clitic. As a matter of fact the status of 3sg-masc SCL has not been well-determined yet, so we can't say that «e» stands for the agreeing SCL.

► **Condition A:** sentence(s) with a transitive verb and a singular feminine subject.

1. Gl'ha conosciuto la ragazza
SCL has known the girl

Subject agreement on the auxiliary + neuter clitic

2. L'ha conosciuto la ragazza
SCL has known the girl

Subject agreement on the auxiliary + agreeing clitic

► **Condition C:** sentence(s) with a transitive verb and a plural feminine subject.

1. Gl'ha conosciuto le ragazze
SCL has known the girl

Lack of subject agreement on the auxiliary + neuter clitic

2. Gl'hanno conosciuto le ragazze
SCL have known the girls

Subject agreement on the auxiliary + neuter clitic

3. L'hanno conosciuta le ragazze
SCL has known the girls

Subject agreement on the auxiliary + agreeing clitic

► Despite providing contexts, (A.2) and (C.3) may be misleading as «l'» is an object clitic in St. Italian.

► **Condition F:** sentence(s) with unaccusative verb and a plural feminine subject:

1. Gl'è venuto delle ragazze
SCL is come-unmarked some girls

Lack of subject agreement on the auxiliary and of object agreement on the participle + neuter clitic

2. Gl'è venute delle ragazze
SCL is come-*fem.pl* some girls

Object agreement, but lack of subject agreement + neuter clitic

3. Gli sono venute delle ragazze
SCL are come-*fem.pl* some girls

Object and subject agreement + neuter clitic

4. Le sono venute delle ragazze
SCL are come-*fem.pl* some girls

Object and subject agreement + agreeing clitic

► As for the structure with unergative verbs, I always considered verbs that do not take an indirect object argument, otherwise the Florentine subject clitic «gli» could be interpreted as an indirect object clitic.

► E.g: gl'ha telefonato la ragazza
SCL has telephoned the girl

This sentence may be interpreted as «ha telefonato la ragazza a lui»
has telephoned the girl to

► E.g gl'ha partecipato la ragazza
SCL has joined the girl

him
This sentence can't be interpreted as «ha partecipato la ragazza a lui»
has joined the girl to him

► *Results:*

The expected results may reveal different levels of acceptability, strictly correlated to the area where the respective informant come from.

► *Discussion:*

If different levels of acceptability result, we will further investigate on how this non-systematicity can be accounted for by the PCM. In particular, whether it is necessary to add some new (sub)-parameters in order to express the relative phenomenon.

If the acceptability judgements confirm the results obtained by Brandi and Cordin, we will definitely have to assume at least one (sub)-parameter expressing the lack of subject agreement in case of post-verbal subject.

4. Conclusion

Conclusion

A synthesis of:

- ▶ syntactic theory (what the parameters actually are);
- ▶ historical linguistics (computing historical relations);
- ▶ psycholinguistics (implications of relations);
- ▶ computational methods (phylogenetic tree-optimisation).

Conclusion

We should “take advantage of the combined insights of the two major scientific revolutions in linguistics, those which gave rise respectively to the historical-comparative paradigm during the XIX century and the ‘synchronic-cognitive’ paradigm in the XX” (Longobardi 2003:5).

Thank you for listening!

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