On Reducing Prosodic Categories to Phases

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Date: **February 2, 2021 (Tuesday)**
Time: **4:30pm - 6:15pm (Hong Kong Time, UTC +8)**
                  *Seminar will be conducted via ZOOM

Registration Deadline:
12:00nn of 31 January 2021 (Sunday) – Hong Kong Time
The Zoom Meeting details will be provided on 1 February 2021

Prior registration is required

Abstract

The syntax-phonology interface has a relatively long history (Selkirk,1984; Nespor and Vogel, 1986), with many discussions back and forth on how much prosody can be directly read off of syntax (Jun, 1998; Beckman and Pierrehumbert, 1986; Pierrehumbert and Beckman, 1988; Cheng and Downing, 2016). Match Theory has explored a strong version of the syntax-phonology interface in which all higher prosodic domains are mapped directly off of syntactic structure (Selkirk, 2009,2011; Elfner, 2015). More recently, an even stronger proposal has been made in which higher prosodic domains are mapped directly off of phase structure (Compton and Pittman, 2010; Newell, 2008; Newelland Scheer, 2017; Kratzer and Selkirk, 2007; Ershova, 2020; Weber,2020). I pursue this approach here, making a precise proposal on how phases map to prosodic domains and how to handle syntax prosody mismatches. I examine data from Korean, Mongolian, and Blackfoot in support of this claim. In brief, I examine bare nouns with and without case marking and show that caseless nouns have a different prosodic structure than case-marked nouns. The case-marked nouns are full KPs, hence phases, while the caseless nouns are nPs. The nP is a smaller phase and entails a lower prosodic category.

Speaker

Michael Barrie is a professor at Sogang University in Seoul, South Korea. He is interested in syntactic theory, the syntax-semantics interface, and the syntax-prosody interface. He has worked mostly on Iroquoian, Algonquian, and on Romance languages, but has also worked in English, Cantonese, Korean, Tagalog, and Nepali. He is interested in noun incorporation, pseudo noun incorporation, differential object marking, number, transitivity alternations, and control. In particular, he is interested in prosodically encoded grammatical concepts and how to model prosodic morphemes in addition to more traditional aspects of syntax and the syntax-semantics interface. He did his PhD at the University of Toronto and subsequently held post-docs at the University of British Columbia and the University of Ottawa before coming to Korea.

All are Welcome

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