

The workshop proposal

for ISLE 4

The 4th Conference

of the International Society for the Linguistics of English

Poznań, 18-21.09.2016

1. The workshop title: “New Horizons in Ellipsis in English: Its Syntax, Semantic and Language Processing”
2. The names of organizer(s)
Organizing committee:
 - Co-Chair: Gui-Sun Moon (Hansung University, South Korean)
sunmoon@hansung.ac.kr
Myung-Kwan Park (Dongguk University, South Korea)
parkmk@dgu.edu
 - Secretaries: Jong Un Park (Dongguk University , South, Korea)
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Jung-A Shin (Dongguk University, South Korea)
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3. The outline of the workshop, presenting, but not limited to, its raison d'être, main themes, and aims;

Our workshop on ellipsis, titled “New Horizons in Ellipsis in English: Its Syntax, Semantics and Language Processing” aims to provide a venue for researchers to share their works on a wide range of ellipsis phenomena (such as VP ellipsis, sluicing, fragment answers, sprouting, etc.) from not only a syntactic and semantic perspective but also viewpoints maintained by researchers working in other linguistic subfields like pragmatics and language processing. Because of the logistical issue, however, we are likely to limit the discussion in the workshop to center around two major topics—repair by ellipsis and voice mismatch. The ultimate goal of this workshop is to enhance our understanding of the nature of ellipsis, raising the awareness of a recent move that favors an integrated approach to ellipsis both in the sentence level and beyond it.

In the last two decades, the majority of studies in ellipsis have centered on discovering structural conditions for licensing ellipsis in the syntax proper (e.g., Lobeck 1995, Saito and Murasugi 1990). Beginning in the early 2000s, however, the syntax-centered view on ellipsis has been challenged in several ways. First, pointing out that there is more than a structure that matters in ellipsis, different versions of semantic licensing condition for ellipsis have been put forth (e.g., Merchant 2001, Fox and Lasnik 2003, Barros 2014, Weir 2014). Second, recent works have reported a large amount of novel empirical data which point toward a claim that the structural identity condition is not rigorous enough to capture much of those data: for example, such cases as variability in voice mismatch in VP ellipsis and sprouting are not easy to handle in terms of the syntactic isomorphism (e.g., Merchant 2004, Chung, McCloskey and Ladusaw 2011, Thoms 2013); and some studies in island repair even argue that the ellipsis site may have a different source from a structurally identical antecedent (Craenenbroeck 2013, Barros 2014, Barros, Lipták and Thoms 2014; contra Lasnik 1999 and Merchant 2001).

Furthermore, by observing that the licensing and recovery of an elided part in sluicing and fragments is argued to be correlated with the type of its correlate, whether overt or implicit, in the antecedent, it has been suggested that in order to provide a proper analysis of those data, not only syntax and semantics but also pragmatics and information structure should be taken into consideration (e.g., Merchant 2008, Craenenbroeck 2013, Thoms 2013, Barros et al. 2014, Griffiths and Lipták 2014)). Finally, psycholinguistic studies have started flourishing with an aim to examine whether there exists a structure in the ellipsis site; among such works is Xing, Grove and Merchant (2014) where a reading time experiment was executed, showing that there is a priming effect detected in the structure right after the VP ellipsis site, the result in favor of the view that the ellipsis site may have a syntactic structure.

Against this backdrop, our workshop plans on soliciting proposals about various ellipsis phenomena such as VP ellipsis, sluicing, sprouting, and fragments, etc., addressing the following (but not limited to) issues:

- (1) In what level should isomorphism be satisfied for ellipsis licensing—in syntax, semantics pragmatics and/or beyond any of them?
- (2) How does the type of a correlate in the antecedent affect the variability in island repair, as well as the licensing and recovery of VP ellipsis and fragment answers?
- (3) What implications does the variability of voice mismatch bring about on the syntax and semantics of ellipsis?
- (4) What do reading time or eye tracking experiments of voice mismatch and island repair imply on the existence of a structure in the ellipsis site?
- (5) Others ...

In order to encourage submissions of proposals and attract attentions, we are planning to invite Lipták and Barros as two keynote speakers for the workshop.

4. A general bibliography:

- Barros, Matthew, Patrick Elliott and Gary Thoms. 2014. There is no island repair. Ms., Edinburgh/UCL/Rutgers.
- Bock, J. Kathryn. 1986. Syntactic persistence in language production. *Cognitive Psychology*, 18.3, 355-387.
- Bock, Kathryn, and Zenzi M. Griffin. 2000. The persistence of structural priming: Transient activation or implicit learning? *Journal of Experimental Psychology: General*, 129.2, 177-192.
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- Culicover, Peter and Ray Jackendoff. 2005. *Simpler Syntax*. Oxford and New York: Oxford University Press.
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Ms., Tübingen.

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- Ginzburg, Jonathan and Ivan Sag. 2000. *Interrogative Investigation: The Form, Meaning and Use of English Interrogatives*. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications.
- Kehler, Andrew. 2002. *Coherence, Reference, and the Theory of Grammar*. CSLI, Stanford.
- Kertz, Laura. 2014. Verb phrase ellipsis: The view from information structure. *Language* 89.3, 390-428.
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- Merchant, Jason. 2001. *The Syntax of Silence*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Merchant, Jason. 2004. Fragments and ellipsis. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 27, 661-738.
- Merchant, Jason. 2007. Three kinds of ellipsis. Ms., University of Chicago.
- Merchant, Jason. 2008. An asymmetry in voice mismatches between VP-ellipsis and pseudogapping. *Linguistic Inquiry* 39, 169-179.
- Merchant, Jason. 2008. Variable island repair under ellipsis. In K. Johnson (ed.), *Topics in Ellipsis*, 132-153. New York: Cambridge University Press.
- Noppene, Uta, and Cathy J. Price. 2004. An fMRI study of syntactic adaptation. *Journal of Cognitive Neuroscience*, 16.4, 702-713.
- Pickering, Martin J., and Victor S. Ferreira. 2008. Structural priming: a critical review. *Psychological Bulletin*, 134.3, 427-459.
- Rizzi, Luigi. 1997. The fine structure of the left periphery. In L. Haegeman (ed.), *Elements of Grammar*, 281-337. Kluwer: Dordrecht.
- Rizzi, Luigi, ed. 2004. *The cartography of syntactic structures*. Vol. 2, *The Structure of CP and IP*. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Ross, J. Robert. 1967. Constraints on variables in syntax. Ph.D. dissertation, MIT, Cambridge, MA.
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- Saito, Mamoru, and Keiko Murasugi. 1990. N' deletion in Japanese: A preliminary study. *Japanese/Korean Linguistics* 1, 285-301.
- Tancredi, C. 1992. Deletion, Deaccenting, and Presupposition. Ph.D. dissertation, MIT, Cambridge, MA.
- Thoms, Garry. 2013. Lexical mismatches in ellipsis and the identity condition. In S. Keine and S. Sloggett (eds.), *Proceedings of NELS 42*, 559-572. Amherst, MA: GLSA Publications.
- Xing, Grove, and Merchant. 2014. Ms., University of Chicago.
- Yoshida, Masaya, Jiyeon Lee, and Michael Walsh Dickey. 2013. The island (in) sensitivity of sluicing and sprouting. In Sprouse J. and Hornstein, N. (eds), *Experimental Syntax and Island Effects*. NY: Cambridge University Press.

5. Estimates of the likely number of talks that the workshop :

The likely number of talks depends on which option, half day or whole day, is accepted by the ISLE. If it is a half day, then the workshop will have 2 invited talks, 6 paper presentations, and 10 posters. If it is a whole day, then the workshop will have 2 invited talks, 14 paper presentations, and 10 posters. Tentative schedule is added in the next page

We expect the workshop to have 40-50 participants.

6. An outline of the procedure for selecting papers and participants (including the list of participants if already known):

We will set two committees in motion: Workshop Organizing Committee and Paper Selection Committee.

Organizing Committee

- Chair: Gui-Sun Moon (Hangsung University, South Korea)
- Secretary General: Jong-Un Park (Dongguk University, South Korea), Jeong-Ah Shin (Dongguk University, South Korea)
- Members: to be added

Paper Selection Committee

- Co-Chair: Sun-Woong Kim (Kwangwoon University, South Korea), Myung-Kwan Park (Dongguk University, South Korea)
- Referees will include the major members of the editorial boards of two linguistic societies of South Korea: the Korean Association for the Study of English Language and Linguistics (KASELL) and the Korean Circle of Generative Grammar (KGGC).

Selection Procedure and Guidelines

The CFP will be announced via the Linguist List at <http://linguistlist.org/callconf/submit1.cfm> right after receiving approval of the workshop by the ISLE 4 Committee.

Evaluation guidelines will be as follows:

- (1) Originality of the content: whether the abstract provides a set of new data and proposes a novel solution or alternatives to the research problems.
- (2) Knowledge about the previous literature: whether the abstract has a thorough understanding of the previous work on the research problems, and has correct citations.
- (3) Overall organization: whether the abstract has an appropriate build-up of the sections and has a suitable use of research methods.
- (4) Adequacy of argumentation: whether the abstract keeps a reasonable quality of argumentation and has a logical flow towards conclusions.

The details of the list of participants and invited speakers will be decided no later than the end of March 2016.

7. List of equipment needed for presentation: projector, white board

8. Format of the workshop:

Following the pattern of the main conference each paper is assigned twenty minutes for presentation plus ten minutes for discussion.