1 Practical issues

• part of MA-module 04-046-2016 (Syntax: nicht-lokale Prozesse) and IGRA08 (topics in syntax)
• credit requirements:
  – MA: ‘Projektarbeit’ = term paper (in one of the 3 courses)
  – PhD: no specific requirements (but your squib may be related to this course)
  – everyone who intends to take the course for credit is expected to present one article during the seminar
• regular attendance and preparation of the lectures is expected
• punctuality is appreciated
• no use of mobile phones during class
• required qualifications: solid background in formal syntax, see textbook: Adger (2003)
• the class does not presuppose any knowledge of German nor does it presuppose any knowledge about German syntax

2 Goals

• Understand which aspects of German syntax make it theoretically challenging
• Get a better understanding of a number of theoretically relevant phenomena and relate them to similar constructions in other languages
• develop a coherent formal fragment of German syntax during the semester

3 Background reading

• somewhat outdated: Grewendorf (1988), Stechow and Sternefeld (1988)
• classics: Drach (1937), Thiersch (1978)

4 Possible topics (suggestions welcome!)

• verbs that fail to undergo verb second, cf. Vikner (2005)
• The articulation of the clause structure: is there a separate TP projection or even a topic projection, cf. Sabel (2000), Frey (2004, 2006a), or does the entire middle field correspond to VP, cf. Haider (2010)?

• Triggers for movement to the prefield: Information structure or just formal fronting: Frey (2006a), Frey (2006b), Fanselow and Lenertová (2011)

• Cases where the prefield is doubly filled: Müller (2017)


• Scrambling: movement vs. base-generation (Heck and Himmelreich (2017), Fanselow (2001)? Markedness Müller (1999)

• Extraposition: syntax or PF? movement or base-generation? Büring and Hartmann (1997), Haider (1997)


• Extraction from verb second clauses: Reis (1995), Müller (2010)

• The verbal complex: complex heads Haider (2003), Wurmbrand (2007); IPP-effect Schmid (2005); the scandal construction Vogel (2009) etc.

• NP-splits: Ott (2015)

• Contrastive Left-dislocation: Ott (2014)

• Focus particles and modal particles: Büring and Hartmann (2001), Reis (2005), Meyer and Sauerland (2009), Struckmeier (2014), Bayer et al. (2016)

• OV vs. VO: Zwart (1994), Barbiers (2000)

• Special constructions, e.g. emphatic topicalization in Bavarian etc.

5 Program

• No class on Oct 31

• last class before Christmas on December 19, first in 2018 on January 9

10.10.2017 Intro1: topological model Martin
17.10.2017 Intro2: verb second, articulation of the clause structure (VP, TP etc.) Martin
07.11.2017 multiple pre-fields: Müller (2017) Christina
14.11.2017 Remnant movement (Müller 2015) Limor
09.01.2018 Left-dislocation: Ott (2014) Hyunjung
23.01.2018 focus particles: Reis (2005) Annika
References


