1 Overview

- There are two different ways in which one constituent can project over another.
- The two kinds of structures differ ways that seem independent of each other (see sec. 4).

Proposal

By treating movement and adjunction as related in a novel way, we derive the seemingly independent differences as results of a single underlying distinction.

There will be three primitive operations: insert, merge and spellout. “Movement” and “adjunction” are names for certain combinations of these.

2 Rethinking (structures built by) Merge and Move

Consider the derivation of the following sentence, immediately before the raising of ‘John’.

(1) Which city does John seem to like pictures of?

(2) a. Brutus [stabb[ed Caesar]]
   b. [stabb, (is what) Brutus did]
   c. Stab Caesar, (is what) Brutus did

The ability of an adjunct to be attached counter-cyclically is an instance of the same pattern, inserting the adjunct during the construction of a YP into which the host has re-merged.

The ability of an XP-adjunct to be “outside” the modified XP is the ability of the adjunct to be inserted during the construction of the YP of which XP is the complement.

4 Empirical Properties of Adjunction

- Adjuncts are “either inside or outside” maximal projections.
- Movement and adjunction are “Movement” and “adjunction” are names for certain combinations of these.
- The ability of an adjunct to be attached counter-cyclically is an instance of the same pattern, inserting the adjunct during the construction of a YP into which the host has re-merged.

5 Explanations for the Properties of Adjuncts

The ability of an adjunct to be attached counter-cyclically is an instance of the same pattern, inserting the adjunct during the construction of a YP into which the host has re-merged.

Adjunct island effects can be subsumed under the same constraint as “freezing effects”.

References:


