

Predication and edge effects

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Abstract This paper investigates the properties of syntactic edges, with special attention being paid to two central issues in cyclic syntax: the domain and the nature of cyclicity. This paper argues for the premise that *predication* domains form a Spell-out domain, and that Spell-out results in *order preservation* of the predication domain. It is shown that elements externally merged at the edge of a predication domain observe a special ordering restriction, the *Edge Generalization*. The ordering restriction is explained by the interaction of two premises of cyclic syntax, coupled with a theory of probe-goal Search. Empirical evidence for the proposal comes from various sub-extraction phenomena out of edges of predication domains in Korean and Japanese. In particular, the interactions between floating numeral quantifier constructions and (primary and secondary) predication constructions are closely examined. The current proposal poses some interesting challenges to the proposition-based-phase system: it argues against the claim that only strong phases undergo Spell-out, and that edges are spelled out separately from the complement. The proposal also has some implications for the structure and typology of resultative and depictive predicates, and for the finer-grained structure of VP including aspectual adverbs and small clause complements.

Keywords Cyclic spell-out · Cyclic linearization · Edge generalization · Floating quantifiers · Predication · Small clauses · Secondary predicates

1 Introduction

The properties of syntactic edges have been widely discussed in the recent development of syntactic theory. Assuming that certain units of syntax interact with interfaces

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