

LING 696G
Computational Linguistics
Seminar

Lecture 3

2/15/04

Administrivia

- New location for class
 - Douglass 102 (Conference Room)

Case Theory

- Examples taken from (Lasnik & Uriagereka, 1988)
- 1.4.1 *Configurations of Case Assignment*
 - (17) John is likely [t to be here]
 - (18) It is likely [that John is here]
 - (19) *It is likely [John to be here]

Case Filter

- Configurations of Case Assignment:
 - Subjects of finite clauses: nominative Case
 - Direct objects of verbs: accusative Case
 - Objects of prepositions: oblique Case
- Case Filter:
 - (20) At S-structure, every lexical NP needs Case

PAPPI Implementation

- Case Filter:

- `caseFilter in_all_configurations X where lexicalNP(X) then assignedCase(X).`
- `assignedCase(X) :- X has_feature case(C), assigned(C).`
- `lexicalNP(X) :- cat(X,np), \+ ec(X).`

Case Theory

- 1.4.2 *Exceptional Case Marking*
 - (21) I am eager for John to be here
 - (22) *I am eager John to be here
 - (23) I am eager *e* to be here
 - Complementizer *for* is an Exceptional Case Marker (ECM)

Case Theory

- Another configuration of ECM:
 - (24) a. I believe John to be here
 - (24) b. I believe John is here
 - (25) *I believe sincerely John to be here
 - (27) a. I sincerely believe John
 - (27) b. *I believe sincerely John
 - Verb *believe* is an Exceptional Case Marker
 - S-bar deletion takes place for (24a)

Theta Criterion

- 1.5.1 *Classes of Clausal Complements*
 - (30) a. I wanted it to rain
 - (30) b. *I persuaded it to rain
 - (30) c. I wanted the bus to arrive on time
 - (30) d. *I persuaded the bus to arrive on time
 - Lexical difference:
 - Verb *want* selects for *state of affairs/event*
 - Verb *persuade* selects for *target* and *event*
 - Expletive *it* cannot take a theta role
 - (31) I persuaded John that he should leave

Theta Criterion

- 1.5.1 *Classes of Clausal Complements*
 - (33) a. I tried to leave
 - (33) b. *I tried John to leave
 - (33) c. *I tried it to rain
 - (33) d. *I tried the bus to leave
 - Verb *try* takes a sentential complement only
- Compare with *believe*, which also takes a sentential complement only:
 - (34) a. I believe John to be here
 - (34) b. I believe that John is here
 - (34) c. I believe John to be a pathological liar
- Difference is that *believe* is an Exceptional Case Marker (ECM) and *try* isn't

Case Theory

- Verb *want* is an optional Exceptional Case Marker:
 - (35) a. I want *e* to be clever
 - (35) b. *I believe *e* to be clever
 - Verb *believe* is an obligatory Case marker

Passivization

- 1.5.2 Exceptional Passivization
 - (36) a. John was persuaded to leave
 - (36) b. John was believed to be clever
 - (36) c. *John was wanted to leave
 - (36a) is an example of “core” passivization, involving the direct object
 - (36b) is an example of exceptional passivization, involving the embedded subject

Raising and ECM

- (37) a. John is likely to park here
 - (37) b. *John is illegal to park here
 - (38) a. *It is likely for John to park here
 - (38) b. It is illegal for John to park here
- PAPPi lexicon:
 - `lex(likely, a, [grid([], [proposition]), ecm(oblig), noCasemark(+)]).`
 - `lex(illegal, a, [grid([], [proposition]), noCasemark(+)]).`

Exceptional Passivization

- (39) a. *I believe for John to be here
- (39) b. John is believed to be here
- (39) c. ?I want for John to be here
- (39) d. John is wanted to be here
- (40)*John was tried [*t* to win the race]

Interaction of Theta and Case Theory

- (41) a. John is likely to win
- (41) b. *e* is likely John to win
 - (D-structure)
- (41) c. It is likely that John will win
- (41) d. *It is likely John to win
 - (Raising forced by Case)

Simple Passivization

- 1.5.3 *Passive*
 - (42) John was arrested
 - (43) *They arrested
 - (44) a. *e* was arrested (D-structure)
 - (44) b. John was arrested *t*
 - (45) *It was arrested John
 - (46) They arrested John
 - (47) *It arrested John
 - (48) John was arrested by the police

Simple Passivization

- Differences between active and passive verbs:
 - Passive verbs lose their ability to assign Case to their direct objects
 - The subject theta-role may be omitted for passives

Exceptional Passivization

- Passive verbs lose the ability to exceptionally Case mark as well:
 - (49) a. I believe John to be intelligent
 - (49) b. *It was believed John to be intelligent
 - (49) c. John was believed *t* to be intelligent