

Brussels lectures

[Handout](#). 76 pages' worth!

Title: Interpreting Roots

Abstract: In the Distributed Morphology approach to word structure, acategorical roots are the repository of arbitrary lexical content, so-called Encyclopedic content. As such, they must be the source of information about features like boundedness, part-whole structure, and divisibility that enters into the computation of event and argument structure. At the same time, they must be the source of information about idiomatic interpretation in certain structural and lexical contexts.

In this series of lectures, I'll present my current best understanding of how these factors interact with functional structure to produce the constellation of interpretive properties that we see below the vP domain, situating the technical treatment within the Distributed Morphology framework. Below I list an approximate schedule of topics, with links to some relevant background reading; I'll try to make the lectures self-contained and accessible even without the background material, however, and will probably not touch on every paper I list below.

Day 1: Roots and argument structure

Harley, H. and Rolf Noyer (2000) "Licensing in the non-lexicalist lexicon", Bert Peeters, ed., *The Lexicon/Encyclopaedia Interface*, 349-374, Amsterdam:Elsevier Press.

<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/PDFs/HarleyNoyer2000.pdf>

Harley, H. (2005) "How do verbs get their names? Denominal verbs, Manner Incorporation and the ontology of verb roots in English," in Nomi Erteschik-Shir and Tova Rapoport, eds., *The Syntax of Aspect*, 42-64. Oxford: Oxford University Press.

<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/MexicoCity2009/2005OntologyOfRoots.pdf>

Folli, R. and H. Harley (2006) "On the licensing of causatives of directed motion: Waltzing Matilda all over" *Studia Linguistica* 60.2 1-35.

<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/PDF/WaltzingMatildaFinal.pdf>

Harley, H. (2008) "The bipartite structure of verbs cross-linguistically, or, Why Mary can't exhibit John her paintings." In *Conferências do V Congresso Internacional da Associação Brasileira*

de Linguística, ed. by Thais Crist—faro Silva and Heliana Mello. Belo Horizonte, Brazil: ABRALIN and FALE/UFMG, pp 45-84.
<http://ling.auf.net/lingBuzz/000435>

Day 2: Idiomatic domains

Marantz, A. 1997. "No Escape from Syntax: Don't Try Morphological Analysis in the Privacy of Your Own Lexicon," in A. Dimitriadis, L. Siegel, et al., eds., University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics, Vol. 4.2, Proceedings of the 21st Annual Penn Linguistics Colloquium, pp. 201-225.
<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/Oxford/Marantz.pdf>

Kratzer, A. 1996. Severing the external argument from its verb.
<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/Oxford/Kratzer.pdf>

Marantz, A. 2001. Words and things.
<http://web.mit.edu/marantz/Public/EALING/WordsWCCFL.pdf>

Arad, Maya. 2003. Locality constraints on the interpretation of roots: The case of Hebrew denominal verbs. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 21.4, 737-778.
<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/PDF/AradDenominalVs.pdf>

Day 3: Idioms, individuation and compositionality (note: The McGinnis-Glasbey exchanges are all very short papers)

Harley, H. (forthcoming). Lexical decomposition in modern generative grammar. In *Handbook of Compositionality*, edited by Wolfram Hinzen, Markus Werning and Edouard Machery. Oxford: OUP.
<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/MexicoCity2009/HarleyLexicalDecompositionRevised.pdf>

McGinnis, M. 2002. On the systematic aspect of idioms. *Linguistic Inquiry* 33.4, 665-672
<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/Oxford/McGinnis.pdf>

Glasbey, S. R. (2003) "Let's paint the town red for a few hours: Composition of aspect in idioms." In A. M. Wallington ed., *Proceedings of the ACL workshop The Lexicon and Figurative Language*, ACL 2003, Sapporo, Japan.
<http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/~srg/Papers/idiom-aspect.pdf>

McGinnis 2005. Painting the wall red for a few hours: A reply to Glasbey

(2003).

Snippets 10, 9-10.

<http://www.ledonline.it/snippets/allegati/snippets10003.pdf>

Glasbey, Sheila. 2005. Aspectual composition in idioms.

<http://www.cs.bham.ac.uk/~srg/Papers/idioms-paper.pdf>

Folli, R. and H. Harley (2007) 'Causation, obligation and argument structure: On the nature of little v,' Linguistic Inquiry 38.2, 197-238

<http://dingo.sbs.arizona.edu/~hharley/courses/MexicoCity2009/2007ItalianCausativesLIFolliHarley.pdf>