



אוניברסיטת בן-גוריון בנגב
הפקולטה למדעי הרוח והחברה
המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות

On the Expressions of (Morphosyntactic) Features

Formal features are employed in each component of grammar (i.e., Syntax, Semantics, Morphology, Phonology). However, they do not always syntactic manifestation. This course focuses mainly on Morphosyntactic Features that are responsible for triggering and constraining various syntactic operations. We will look into the different operations motivated by Morphosyntactic features (e.g., Selection, Licensing, Movement), compare them to other (non-syntactic) features, study their universality and consider their inner dependency and hierarchical order.

מה מביעות התכונות (המורפו-תחביריות) שלנו?

תכונות מורפו-תחביריות הן האחראיות להנעה ולמניעה של פעולות תחביריות שונות. קורס זה בוחן את ההבדל בין סוג זה של תכונות לתכונות פורמאליות אחרות אשר, למרות השפעתן האפשרית על מערכות הממשק האחרות (שהן המערכת הסמנטית, המערכת המורפולוגית והמערכת הפונולוגית), הן אינן רלוונטיות למערכת התחבירית. נלמד על השפעתן השונה של תכונות מורפו-תחביריות שונות על מגוון פעולות תחביריות, נבדוק מהו התוקף האוניברסלי של התכונות השונות ונחקור את המבנה ההיררכי ואת התלות המבנית שלהן.

3rd Year Elective, Fall & Spring Semesters, 2021-2022

Time: Tuesday 14:00-16:00

Pre-requisite

Introduction to Linguistics

Introduction to Syntax

Syntax A and B

Requirements and Grade

- Preparation for class, reading all required readings
- Perusal Reading Assignments and Quizzes: 20%
- Midterm assignment: 30%
- Final assignment: 50%

Contact

Zehavit Segal

Diller Building (74) Room 514

Office hours: by appointment

e-mail: segalze@post.bgu.ac.il

Program

*There might be some changes in the order or content depending on our progress. You will be notified of any change in our schedule well in advance.

1. Introduction –

- Features: Origin and motivation.
- Features in the interfacing components of grammar.
- Getting familiar with the terminology.

2. T (Infl) and ϕ -features

- Syntactic or Morphological?
- Feature Dependency.
- Feature Hierarchy and Typology.
- Mismatch in agreement.

3. DP and Case

- What is case?
- On Licensing and Abstract Case vs. M(morphological)-Case
- Universality – Do all DPs get case?

4. Roots and Verbal Patterns

- Features in the Lexicon.
- Selectional Features.
- Features in Morphology

5. Features on P

a. Licensing features and Coincidence Relations.

- Selectional features on Hebrew Ps.

6. Strong Features and Movement

- EPP and visibility.
- More about universality.

7. Conclusion.

References

- Adger, David and Peter Svenonius. 2011. Features in Minimalist Syntax. *The Oxford Handbook of Linguistic Minimalism*, ed. Cedric Boeckx. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 27–51
- Arad, Maya. 2005. *Roots and Patterns: Hebrew Morpho-Syntax* (Studies in natural language and linguistic theory). Dordrecht: Springer.
- Bobaljik, Jonathan David. 2006. Where's Φ ?. *Leiden Papers in Linguistics* 3.2, eds. Marjo van Koppen, Pepijn Hendriks, Frank Landsbergen, Mika Poss and Jenneke van der Wal. 1-23.
- Corbett, Greville G. 2006. *Agreement*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Corbett, Greville G. 2009. Universals and Features. *Universals of Language Today*. Dordrecht: Springer. 129–143

- Danon, Gabi. 2006. משלימים שמניים והשמטת מילות יחס. *Hebrew Linguistics* 58. 27-44.
- Danon, Gabi. 2010. The Definiteness Feature at the Syntax-Semantic Interface. *Features: Perspectives on a Key Notion in Linguistics*, eds. Anna Kibort and Greville G. Corbett. Oxford: Oxford University Press. 143-165.
- Hale, Ken. 1986. Notes on World View and Semantic Categories: Some Warlpiri Examples. *Features and Projections: Studies in Generative Grammar*, 25, eds. Pieter Muysken and Henk van Riemsdijk. Dordrecht: Foris. 233-254.
- Harley, Heidi and Elizabeth Ritter. 2002. Person and Number in Pronouns: A Feature-Geometric Analysis. *Language*, 78: 3. 482–526.
- Marantz, Alec. 1991. Case and Licensing. *Proceedings of ESCOL 91*. 234–253.
- Landau, Idan. 2002. (Un)interpretable Neg in Comp. *Linguistic Inquiry*, 33:3. 465-492.
- Landau, Idan. 2007. EPP Extensions. *Linguistic Inquiry*, 38:3. 485-523.
- Mittendorf, Ingo and Louisa Sadler. 2005. Numerals, Nouns and Number in Welsh NPs. *Proceedings of the LFG05 Conference*, eds. Miriam Butt and Tracy Holloway King. Norway: University of Bergen.
- Polinsky, Maria and Eric Potsdam. 2001. Long-Distance Agreement and Topic in Tsez. *Natural Language & Linguistic Theory*, 19. 583–646
- Ritter, Elizabeth. 2014. Featuring Animacy. *Nordlyd, Tromsø Working Papers in Language & Linguistics: Special Issue on Features*, 41:1, eds. Martin Krämer, Sandra-Iulia Ronai, and Peter Svenonius. Tromsø: University of Tromsø – The Arctic University of Norway. 103–124.
- Segal, Zehavit. 2020. *Placing and Detaching: The Different Directions of the Locative Alternation*. PhD Dissertation. Beer Sheva: Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.
- Segal, Zehavit, and Idan Landau. 2012. Clear from and Clear of: The Asymmetric Syntax of Detaching. *The Linguistic Review*, 29. 223-278.
- Smith, Peter W. 2017. The Syntax of Semantic Agreement in English. *Journal of Linguistics*, 53. 823-863.