המחלקה לספרויות זרות ובלשנות, תשפ"ב 2022-23

Name of the course: Is DP universal? The determiner phrase in languages with and without articles
Lecturer name: David Erschler
Course number: 132.1.0460
Office hours: Monday, 11:00 – 12:00

Short course description (5-10 lines) with key words at the end of the paragraph

The assumption that noun phrases project an additional layer, the determiner phrase (DP), has been standard in the generative literature for the last 30 years. The motivation and evidence for this conjecture initially came from languages with obligatory articles, primarily English. Yet many languages of the world lack articles altogether. Is it legitimate to posit the DP in such languages? This question has been debated in the literature recently. In this seminar, we will examine the arguments in favor of the DP, and see whether they are applicable to languages that lack articles. We will explore the consequences positing of the DP entails for a wide range of phenomena in grammar.

Key words: syntax, typology, determiner, determiner phrase, article

Course requirements:
Attendance required   yes
1. Active participation in class discussion   10%
2. Presentation   20%
3. Final paper   70%

Academic Honesty

- The final paper has to be written by you on your own.
- You cannot submit the same paper to several different courses.
- If you are quoting anything or presenting somebody else's ideas, you should clearly indicate that this is the case. If it is a direct quotation, you should put it in the quotation marks (""), and indicate the source, say, Kim & Smith (2008: 12). If you are presenting somebody else's ideas, but you are doing that in your own words, you should still clearly indicate the source. (Something like, *as Kim & Smith (2008) proposed, ...*) Failing to do so counts as plagiarism.
- For the university guidelines on academic honesty, please consult Section 4 of the following document: https://in.bgu.ac.il/acadsec/doclib2/plagiarism_eng.pdf

Topics to be covered:

1. Nominal phrases in the languages of the world.
1. Basic properties of the DP in languages with overt articles. Parallels between the DP, the TP and the CP.
2. Arguments against positing the DP in languages with overt articles.
3. The DP in languages without articles: pro and contra.
4. Functional structure below D.
5. The DP and ellipsis in noun phrases.
6. Multiple exponence of definiteness and the structure of the DP.

Tentative Schedule

Week 1: Introduction: Course overview & logistics. The typological terrain to cover: Nominal phrases in the languages of the world.
Reading: Dryer (2007); Becker (2018); Sportiche et al. (2014) Section 5.2.

Week 2. DP structure: The state of the art.
Reading: Punske (2014)

Week 3: Arguments in favor of DP. Basic properties of the DP. Parallels between the DP, the TP, and the CP.
Reading: Abney (1987); Larson (2020).

Week 4. Arguments against positing the DP in languages with articles.
Reading: Bruening (2009; 2020).

Week 5. Counterarguments to Bruening. The necessity of functional projections within the nominal phrase.
Reading: Preminger (2020); Ritter (1992).

Week 6. Fine structure of the DP. n^0 head. Mass and count nouns.
Reading: De Belder (2011).

Week 7. Languages without articles. Bošković's proposal about NP and DP-languages.
Reading: Bošković (2009).

Week 8-9. Evidence for the existence of the DP in languages without articles.
Reading: Pereltsvaig (2013); Manlove (2015).

Week 10. Position of numerals and classifiers in the DP.
Reading: Danon (2012).

Week 11. DP-internal ellipsis.
Reading: Corver & Van Coppen (2011); Lipták & Saab (2016).

Week 12. Multiple exponence of definiteness in DPs.
Reading: Danon (2008).

Week 13. Reserve.

Readings

All the readings will be posted on the course site.

Abney, Steven Paul. 1987. The English Noun Phrase in Its Sentential Aspect. Doctoral Dissertation, Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Distributed by MIT Working Papers in Linguistics, Cambridge, Mass.

Becker, Laura. 2018. *Articles in the world's languages*: Universität Leipzig dissertation.

Belder, Marijke de. 2011. A morphosyntactic decomposition of countability. *The Journal of Comparative Germanic Linguistics* 14(3): 173–202.

Bernstein, Judy. 2001. The DP Hypothesis: Identifying clausal properties in the nominal domain. In *The Handbook of Contemporary Syntactic Theory*, ed. M. Baltin and C. Collins, 536–561. Oxford: Blackwell.

Bošković, Željko. 2009. More on the no-DP analysis of article-less languages. *Studia Linguistica* 63,187-203.

Bruening, Benjamin. 2009. Selectional Asymmetries between CP and DP Suggest that the DP Hypothesis is Wrong. University of Pennsylvania Working Papers in Linguistics. Vol. 15 > Iss. 1

Bruening, Benjamin. 2020. The Head of the Nominal is N, Not D: N-to-D Movement, Hybrid Agreement, and Conventionalized Expressions. *Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics* 5(1): 15. 1--19.

Bruening, Benjamin. 2022. Hebrew Nominals Do Not Require Functional Structure above the NP. Glossa: A Journal of General Linguistics 7(1). DOI: [https://doi.org/10.16995/glossa.5763] .

Corver, Norbert & Marjo van Koppen. 2011. NP-ellipsis with adjectival remnants: a micro-comparative perspective. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 29: 371–421.

Danon, Gabi. 2008. Definiteness spreading in the Hebrew construct state. *Lingua* 118(7). 872–906.

Danon, Gabi. 2012. Two structures for numeral-noun constructions. Lingua 122:1282-1307.

Dryer, Matthew S. 2007. Noun phrase structure. In Language Typology and Syntactic Description, Volume 2: Complex Constructions, ed. T. Shopen, 151–205. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press, second edition.

Larson, Richard. 2019. The DP Hypothesis and (A)Symmetries Between DP and CP. *Linguistic Analysis*, 42 3-4.

Pereltsvaig, Asya. 2013. Noun Phrase Structure in Article-less Slavic Languages: DP or not DP? *Language and Linguistics Compass* 7/3: 201–219,

Preminger, Omer. 2020. Functional structure in the noun phrase: revisiting Hebrew nominals. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics* 5(1): 68.

Ritter, Elizabeth. 1991. Two functional categories in noun phrases: Evidence from Modern Hebrew. *Perspectives on Phrase Structure.* Syntax and Semantics 25. Academic Press. New York. 37–62.

Saab, Andrés & Anikó Lipták. 2016. Movement and deletion after syntax: Licensing by inflection reconsidered. *Studia Linguistica* 70(1): 66–108.