

Lec 16, 17

Paul Law paper On the Passive Existential Construction

Locative inversion paper: situates itself in context
 This: someone's wrong and here's why

L0 L1 L2 L3 L4

Lasnik was wrong

| Lasnik 1995 in Passive Existential Construction (PEC)

Axioms

Data

existential construction (EC) ↓ PEC
 Tokens: (1) a. are/*is b. a/*the ... (5)
 Empirical gen: agreement with DP associate
 associate is indefinite

Parsing hypothesis

| (12) There has been [yp a book [xp put on the table]]

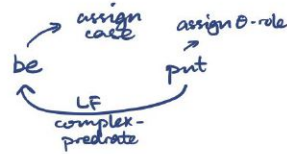
Null: Lasnik

Involve small clause (SM)

(6) ... [sc many books on the table]

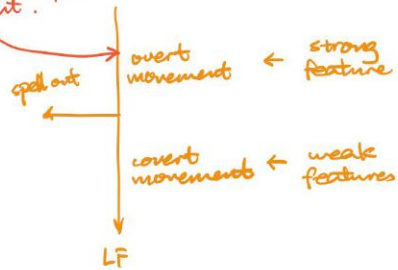
e.g. I painted [sc the fence red]

Abstract passive morphemes with strong formal feature



need check somewhere before spell out.

Later theory:



- Extraction facts ⊥
- Conceptual facts ⊥
- Abverbial distraction ⊥
- Binding ⊥

Alt: Law

RC (reduced relative clause)

↓ Simpler theory

There was a book that was put on the table.

There was a book put on the table. ← RC

- ✓
- ✓ - - -
- ✓
- ✓

Problem:

only has DP reading
 has both DP reading & event reading

"There was a book (*that was) put on the table and we saw it happen"
 "There was a carriage (*that was) rolled down the hill and we saw it happen"

Binding Theory

Basically, coindexing and coreference

← R-expressions
L_i said he_{i/j} was hired
↑
not coindexed

L_i hurt himself_i
↑
coindexed ← anaphors

L_i hurt him_{*i/j}

He_i hurt L_{*i/j}
GC

He_i said she knows L_{*i/j}

Theory: R-expression must be free
Anaphors must be bound viz not free
Pronoun must be free in GC