

I. Introduction

1. Ali **be** Maryam ketâb neshun=dâd,
Ali to Maryam book show=gave
'Ali showed book(s) to Maryam'
- a. ... vali Ahmad [~~be Maryam ketâb~~] neshun=na-dâd.
- b. ... vali Ahmad [~~be Maryam ketâb neshun~~]=na-dâd.
but Ahmad to Maryam book show=NEG-gave
- c. ... vali Ahmad [~~be Maryam~~] majalle neshun=na-dâd.
but Ahmad to Maryam magazine show=NEG-gave
- d. ... vali Ahmad **be** Mahsa [~~ketâb~~] neshun=na-dâd.
but Ahmad to Mahsa book show=NEG-gave

Two approaches to account for these examples:

2. a. Argument Ellipsis (AE) b. Verb-stranding VP Ellipsis (VVPE)



Questions:

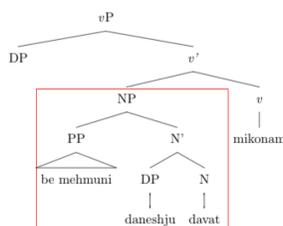
- What are the characteristics of AE?
- What are the characteristics of VVPE?
- Which approach can account for Persian data?

II. Previous Analyses

VVPE

Toosarvandani (2009):

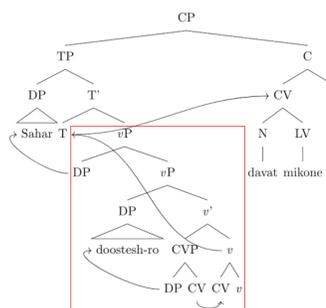
- Adopts Folli, Harley and Karimi (2005) CP structure
- Light verb (LV) originates in v, and its complement is elided
- Non-Verbal element (NV) takes the internal argument(s) as its complement
- Predicts that NV must be elided (this cannot account for the examples 1a, 1c, 1d)



VVPE

Shafiei (2015, 2016)

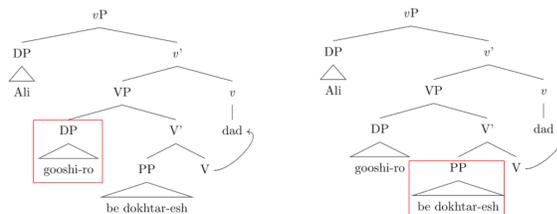
- Adapts Megerdooian (2001, 2012) CP structure
- NV and LV form a single head
- LV moves out of the vP, to C
- LV can pied pipe or strand the NV
- The vP undergoes elision
- Predicts that internal arguments must be elided
- Cannot account for examples 1c, 1d



AE

Rasekhi (2014, 2016)

- Arguments can be elided independently
- Predicts we can have DP, PP, AP ellipsis
- The verb licenses the ellipsis of given argument(s)



The Puzzle:

- Do we have AE or VVPE in Persian?
- Diagnostics for VVPE versus AE
 - V to T movement
 - Adverb Interpretation
 - Verbal Identity
 - Extraction

III. Diagnostics

i. V to T movement (Goldberg 2005) (Tree 2b)

ii. Verbal Identity

6. John bought a book, Mary did (~~buy a book~~) too.
7. bâ deqqat livân-hâ-ro be Ali **dâd-am**, az in-ke bâ deqqat [~~livân-hâ-ro~~]
with care glass-PL-ACC to Ali gave-1SG, from this-that with care glass-PL-ACC
na-gereft tajjob kard-am.
NEG-took/3SG surprise did-1SG
'I carefully gave the glasses to Ali, (but) the fact that he didn't take (the glasses) carefully surprised me.'

iii. Extraction:

8. Jason will eat shrimp, but squid, I know he won't [eat <squid>] (Schuyler, 2002)
9. Rostam PIRAN-O otu=na-zade, vali SHALVAR-O midoonam ke <shalvar-o> zad-e.
Rostam shirt-ACC iron=neg-hit.3SG, but pants-ACC know.1SG that pants-acc hit-3SG
'Rostam didn't iron the shirts, but the pants, I know he did.' (Toosarvandani 2009:21)

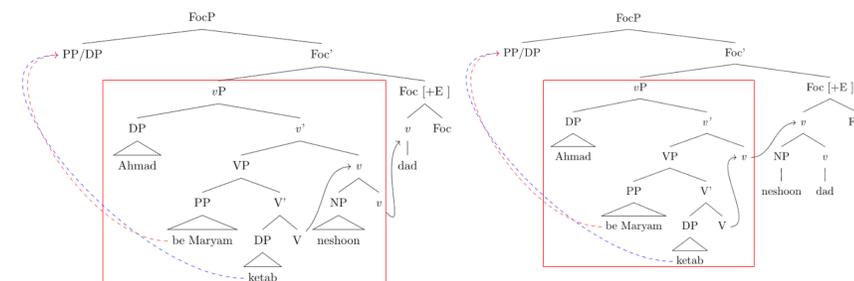
iv. Adverb Interpretation:

10. Alan had chopped up the garlic carefully. Heather had (~~chopped up the garlic carefully~~) as well. (Goldberg 2005:90)
11. Maryam ketâb-â-ro bâ deqqat xund, vali Ali na-xund.
Maryam book-PL-ACC with care read, but Ali NEG-read
'Maryam read the books carefully, but Ali didn't.'

Criterion	AE	VVPE	Persian	Toosarvandani	Shafiei	Rasekhi
a. V to T Movement	No	Yes	No	No	Yes	No
b. Verbal Identity	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	No
c. Extraction	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	?	No
d. Adverb Interpretation	No	Yes	?	No	Yes	No

IV. Proposal

- VVPE can account for all types of structures, in which internal argument(s) and nonverbal element (NV) are elided.
 - Adopting Kahnemuyipour (2001), we propose that there is FocP above vP in the TP level. Evidence for this comes from verbal identity (7) and contrastive interpretation of the extracted element (9).
 - The verb moves to the Focus head and is stranded there.
 - The verb carries an E feature (Merchant 2001), which licenses the elision of its complement, vP.
- Verbal Structure:
 - Following Megerdooian (2012) and Shafiei (2016), we propose that LV and NV element form a constituent, which takes the internal argument(s) as its complement(s).
 - Either the DP or the PP can move to [Spec, FocP] in the cases when they carry contrastive focus feature.



Claims:

- **V to T movement:**
 - In VVPE, verb must move out of vP; however, it does not need to move to T.
- **Verbal-identity requirement:**
 - In VVPE, verbs can be either identical or semantically contrastive.
- **Predictions:**
 - In languages like English, in which T is filled by an auxiliary, such as *do* or infinitival *to*, VVPE cannot occur.
 - In languages like Persian, in which there is no such elements occupying T, VVPE can occur.

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