

## **Introduction**

This is volume fourteen of the series *Approaches to Hungarian*, which contains papers, listed alphabetically by author, from the 11<sup>th</sup> International Conference on the Structure of Hungarian (ICSH11), held on August 29-31, 2013. ICSH11 was organized by Pázmány Péter Catholic University and the Research Institute for Linguistics of the Hungarian Academy of Sciences, and was held at the Piliscsaba Campus of the former. Of the presentations delivered at the conference, the present selection is comprised by 11 papers, addressing issues in the syntax, morphosyntax, phonetics, phonology, and the syntax-semantics interface of Hungarian.

**Gábor Alberti, Judit Farkas, and Veronika Szabó** argue against the generally accepted view that the Hungarian noun phrase is head-final. They demonstrate that the source of this mistake is the constituency test employed. It has so far been assumed that a string of words forms a constituent if and only if it can be focused. As shown by them, it is the focus constituent of the Hungarian sentence that has to be head-final, in accordance with the head-final constraint of Williams (1982) and the weight condition of Hinterhölzl (2010). Noun phrases in positions other than the focus slot do accept posthead complements.

**András Bárány**'s paper proposes an explanation of the lack of agreement with first and second person objects based on the theory of Cyclic Agree by Béjar & Rezac (2009). It is claimed that Cyclic Agree

gives rise to an Inverse Agreement system in Hungarian, in which the verb shows intransitive agreement in cases where the object has equally or more highly specified features than the subject. All personal pronouns are argued to trigger agreement in person and number, with inverse ones not spelled out due to the interaction of Cyclic Agree and the feature specifications of Hungarian personal pronouns.

**Zsuzsanna B ark anyi and Zolt an G. Kiss** investigate acoustic properties of voicing assimilation in Hungarian and Slovak, paying special attention to the position before the sonorant consonants /m/ and /l/. Based on the acoustic analysis of /t/–/d/ and /s/–/z/-final monosyllabic words tested experimentally in three different types of positions, the authors present evidence that regressive voicing assimilation, including pre-sonorant voicing and final devoicing in Slovak, is close to be a categorical and phonologised process in both languages. It is found that although utterance-final obstruents in Hungarian preserve their laryngeal contrast, contrast preservation is less robust in the case of fricatives than in the case of stops. Sonorants are shown not to form an intermediate category between voiced obstruents and voiceless obstruents, as found for other languages.

** va D ek any and Veronika Heged us** study variation in the syntactic positions of Hungarian case assigning adpositions. It is proposed that case assigning Ps that must be postpositional and cannot strand or be stranded by their complement are in the Place or Path head (depending on their semantics). Case assigning Ps that may be P-stranded and may serve as

verbal particles, on the other hand, are merged in the higher *p* head. A subset of these Ps also allow the prepositional use; these are argued to move from *p* to a higher head within the extended PP. It is shown that when case assigning Ps are used without an overt complement, they still have a semantic complement: the deictic center of the discourse. This complement is argued to be present in the syntax, too, in the form of a silent *here/there*.

**Marcel den Dikken** argues that in possessive noun phrases the possessor is a predicate and the possessum is the subject of predication. A syntactic relationship is established between them by a Relator head. In alienably possessed noun phrases, the Relator's specifier is the possessum and its complement is the possessor, while in inalienably possessed noun phrases the Relator's specifier is the possessor and its complement is the possessum. It is shown that when there is a morphological alienability split in Hungarian, alienable possession triggers the *-ja/je* possessedness marker on the possessum, while inalienable possession triggers the *-a/e* possessedness marker. In these morphological splits, *-a/e* is analyzed as an affixal spurious article lexicalizing the Relator, while *-j* is argued to lexicalize a Linker head that enables Predicate Inversion in alienably possessed noun phrases.

**Mária Gósy and Péter Siptár's** article examines the phonetic properties of /a:/, the lowest Hungarian vowel. It is shown that while in terms of vowel harmony and its phonological properties /a:/ is a back vowel, phonetically it is articulated in the centre of the oral cavity by males and in

the front of the oral cavity by females. It is argued that if /a:/ is phonologically reclassified as a front vowel, then the rules of Hungarian vowel harmony become too complex. The paper concludes that /a:/ should be phonologically classified as a low back unrounded vowel, and the distance between the phonetic properties and the phonological properties of /a:/ should be allowed to increase. This means that in the analysis of this vowel, increased abstractness is preferred over increased complexity.

**Tamás Halm**'s paper aims to answer the question of how a telicizing–perfectivizing verbal particle can license a free choice item in the Hungarian sentence; how free choice and aspect are related. It is argued that Hungarian sentences containing a verbal particle and a free choice item are interpreted as generics/habituals, which is due to the free choice phrase (analyzed as a dependent indefinite) being bound (and thus, licensed) by a silent generic operator carried by the verbal particle. Genericity in Hungarian is shown to be primarily a pragmatic phenomenon.

**Anikó Lipták**'s article demonstrates on the basis of novel data from Hungarian that contrary to received opinion, the clausal deletion operation of sluicing is possible inside (both headed and headless) relative clauses, stranding the relative pronoun as a remnant. According to the analysis, relative sluicing is possible in languages in which relative pronouns and interrogative *wh*-constituents are targeted by the same kind of movement and in which relative pronouns are capable of bearing major stress. Thus,

the proposed account throws new light on the syntactic and prosodic licensing of sluicing and ellipsis in general.

**Valéria Molnár**'s paper aims to account for the language-specific differences w.r.t cataphoric propositional pronoun insertion (CPPI) in Hungarian and German. In Hungarian CPPI occurs in complex sentences with assertive matrix verbs but not with factives, whereas in German it is the other way round. The author argues that the explanation of the attested mirror pattern requires that in addition to the predicate type, different discourse semantic-levels must also be taken into consideration (cf. the Predicationality Hypothesis). The analysis is carried out in a minimal and modular framework. It is proposed that CPPI is possible only if the embedded CP has an edge feature, and this feature may be associated with different discourse-semantic contents in different languages. The relevant associate of the edge feature in Hungarian is predicationality, while in German it is evaluability (a concept including both predicational and non-predicational cases). A further constraint in German, however, restricts CPPI to non-predicational clauses, i.e. presupposed clauses without a ForceP, which rules out CPPI with assertives.

Revisiting the role of anaphors in the configurationality debate on Hungarian, **György Rákosi**'s article examines the internal structure of verb phrases projected by two-place unaccusative psych verbs, in particular, stative object experiencer verbs and dative experiencer verbs. It is shown that once syntactically non-relevant factors are filtered out, a particular type

of symmetry emerges between the two internal arguments of these verb types, inasmuch as each can c-command the other. Converging with independent work on other languages, it is concluded that the two internal arguments of these psych verbs can be merged in two distinct base orders. This free base hierarchy is shown to be a straightforward consequence of Reinhart's Theta System.

**Irene Vogel, Angeliki Athanasopoulou and Nadya Pincus** investigate whether vowel length plays a major role in the phonetic marking of two types of prosodic prominence: word-level main prominence (primary stress) and sentence-level focal main prominence. In its strong form, the Functional Load Hypothesis (FLH) predicts that, since vowel length is contrastive in the language at the phonemic level, vowel duration will not be the main cue to either word- or sentence-level main prominence. Based on their production experiment, the authors demonstrate that this prediction is indeed borne out. In particular, it is mean fundamental frequency (F0), rather than vowel duration, that is found to be the strongest cue both for word-level prominence and focal prominence, albeit showing a different pattern at each level.

Since the first ICSH, conference papers have appeared in the *Approaches to Hungarian* series. Papers from ICSH1 (held in Bloomington, Indiana in 1992) were published in volume four of the series, from ICSH2 (held in Szeged in 1994) in volume five, from ICSH3 (held in Amsterdam in 1996) in volume six, from ICSH4 (held in Pécs in 1998) in volume seven,

from ICSH5 (held in Budapest in 2001) in volume eight, from ICSH6 (held in Düsseldorf in 2002) in volume nine, from ICSH7 (held in Veszprém in 2005) in volume ten, from ICSH8 (held in New York in 2007) in volume eleven, from ICSH9 (held in Debrecen in 2009) in volume twelve, and from ICSH10 (held in Lund in 2011) in volume thirteen.

The conference program of ICSH11 is available at <http://icsh11.nyud.hu/program.html>. Not all presenters wished to publish their papers in this volume. Of the thirty four papers and posters presented, sixteen were received for consideration. Each abstract submitted for presentation at ICSH11 and manuscript for publication in this volume were evaluated by multiple external reviewers. We wish to express our gratitude to the external reviewers of the abstracts and manuscripts submitted, and to those who provided invaluable assistance in running the conference.

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the Editors