

# PARAMETRIC HIERARCHIES & IMPLICATIONS IN CONJUNCTION SYSTEMS

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## OVERVIEW

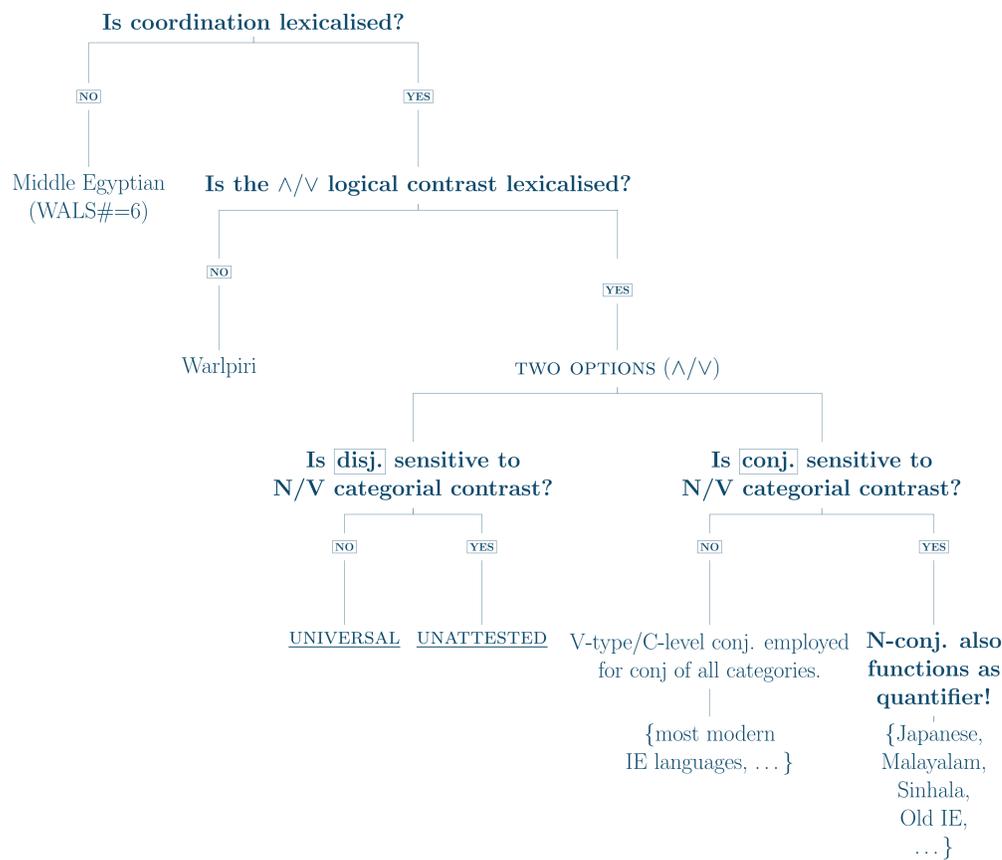
Building on Mitrović (2014) and Mitrović & Sauerland (2016a,b), this paper extends and applies an implicational parameter, *qua* generalisation (1), to a cross-linguistic set of indigenous languages so as to capture a more abstract view of the universal make-up of conjunction systems.

## A TYPOLOGICAL GENERALISATION

- (1) i. Nominal conjunctions MAY HAVE non-conjunctive meanings.  
 ii. Verbal conjunctions MAY NOT HAVE non-conjunctive meanings.

## A PARAMETRISATION OF CONJUNCTION SYSTEMS

- We propose a working hierarchical parametrisation so as to programmatically envisage a bridge between the typological (Haspelmath 2004), phylogenetic (Longobardi & Guardiano 2009, Longobardi 2014) and theoretical (Biberauer & Roberts 2015), *int. al.* linguistics.



## CORRELATING NOMINAL CONJUNCTION AND QUANTIFICATION

- Nominal- and Verbal-conjunction ( $\wedge_N \sim \wedge_V$ ) versus conjunction and (universal) quantification ( $\wedge \sim \forall$ ), based on Gil (2011):

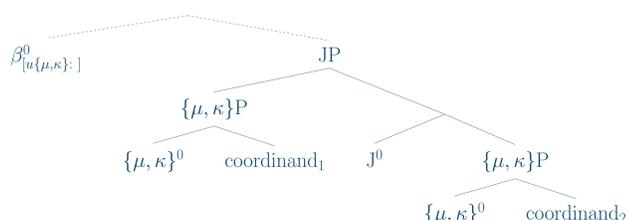
	$\wedge = \forall$	$\wedge \neq \forall$
$\wedge_V = \wedge_N$	22	16
$\wedge_V \neq \wedge_N$	15	6

- See Mitrović & Sauerland (2016a,b) for details.

## TOWARDS A BASIS FOR AN EXPLANANDUM: AN ARTICULATED JUNCTION SYSTEM (Mitrović 2014)

- Following den Dikken (2006), *int. al.*, we take there to exist a generalised Junctional layer.
- We employ  $\mu$  as a category to refer to markers of nominal conjunction/ $\forall$ -quantification cross-linguistically.
- We employ  $\kappa$  as a category to refer to markers of disjunction/ $\exists$ -quantification cross-linguistically.

- (2) A JP structure for coordination:



## SUPERPARTICLES AS GRAMMATICAL ATOMS OF LOGICAL EXPRESSION

The parametric implication of the conjunction system is related to **superparticles**—multifunctional markers of logical expression.

### The $\mu$ -series

- (3) a. Bill **mo** Mary **mo**  
 B  $\mu$  M  $\mu$   
 '(both) Bill and Mary.'  
 b. Mary **mo**  
 M  $\mu$   
 'also Mary'  
 c. dare **mo**  
 who  $\mu$   
 'every-/any-one'

### The $\kappa$ -series

- (4) a. Bill **ka** Mary **ka**  
 B  $\kappa$  M  $\kappa$   
 '(either) Bill or Mary.'  
 b. wakaru **ka**  
 understand  $\kappa$   
 'Do you understand?'  
 c. dare **ka**  
 who  $\kappa$   
 'someone'

## TRIADIC CONJUNCTION

- There are languages which express conjunction of **two** arguments (conjuncts) using **three** morphemes (we dub this 'triadic conjunction').
- In triadic conjunctions, the medial morpheme is optional.
- Provided below is a sample of evidence for this from three genetically unrelated languages (or, families):
  - South-Eastern variety of Macedonian, also confirmed for Bulgarian by some speakers (Slavonic, IE).
  - Hungarian (Ugro-Finnic)
  - Avar (NE Caucasian)
- This typological pattern is explained by the articulated Junction system.

### Macedonian

- (5) i Roska i i Ivan  
 $\mu$  R  $\mu$  J M  $\mu$   
 "Both Roska and also Ivan."

### Hungarian

- (6) Kati **is és** Mari **is**  
 K  $\mu$  J M  $\mu$   
 '(Both) Kate and Mary'

### Avar

- (7) keto **gi va** h've **gi**  
 cat  $\mu$  J dog  $\mu$   
 '(Both) cat and dog'

## MONADIC QUANTIFICATION UNIVERSALLY IMPLIED FROM CONJUNCTION STRUCTURE

- The core result is the empirical observation of 'triadic conjunction' and the predictive power of deriving quantificational 'subsets' from the conjunction structure.

### #1: $\mu$ as conjunction

- (8) Ravzam **gi** Umukusum **gi**  
 R  $\mu$  (J) U  $\mu$   
 'Ravzat and Umukusum'  
 (Alekscev and Ataev, 2007: 105)

### #1: $\mu$ as quantifier

- (9) Dida [g'yeb **gi**] l'ala  
 I know  $\mu$  this  
 'I even know this'  
 • (cf. Japanese)

## TYPOLOGICAL & THEORETICAL QUESTIONS

- Why are there no categorially sensitive disjunction markers?
- Why is asyndetic (null) disjunction so very rare (cf. Middle Egyptian)?
- Why is there no triadic disjunction?
- What parameter cluster is required for a macro-parametric phylogenetic image of the conjunction hierarchy to emerge?

## Selected References

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