

慶應言語学コロキウム

On the Necessity of Labeling in Narrow Syntax – Exploring a Third Approach –

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日時：3月14日（土）13:00-18:30

会場：慶應義塾大学三田キャンパス東館ホール

参加費無料 申込不要（使用言語：日本語）

Although it seems to be undoubted that labels are necessary for interpretation at the interfaces (see Chomsky 1957 and his subsequent work until now), it is still controversial whether labels, or more specifically labeling is necessary for narrowly syntactic computation. In recent minimalist theorizing, bipolarization has emerged with respect to this issue, and there are two contradictory approaches to the necessity of labeling of syntactic objects (SOs) in narrow syntax (NS).

- (1) Hypothesis I (Chomsky 1995, 2000, 2007, 2008, Citoko 2011, Hornstein 2009, Ott 2012, Rizzi 2014)
Labeling of SOs is a prerequisite for applications of NS operations.
- (2) Hypothesis II (Chomsky 2013, 2014, Collins 2002, Narita 2014, Seely 2006)
Labeling of SOs is not a prerequisite for applications of NS operations.

The underlying rationale of Hypothesis I is that labeling is necessary for the derivation to proceed and for syntactic selection (c(ategorial)-selection) to take place. On the other hand, the underlying rationale of Hypothesis II is that “if labeling is a prerequisite for entering into computation, it would block many cases of EM, e.g., Merge (Z, {XP, YP}) = {Z, {XP, YP}}” (Chomsky 2013:43, note 30). As much as both hypotheses are understandable, the question is: Which is true? Then, assuming both hypotheses to be on the right track, I put forward Hypothesis III to reconcile Hypothesis I and Hypothesis II.

- (3) Hypothesis III
Labeling of SOs is a prerequisite for applications of NS operations except for Merge.

In this talk, I will explore Hypothesis III and claim: [1] Merge is free but Search is not free: labeling of SOs is unnecessary for Merge but necessary for Search, [2] [1] makes it possible to give a unified explanation for a number of different extraction phenomena that had so far been treated by separate constraints, in collaboration with the labeling theory developed by Chomsky (2013, 2014). To avoid any possible misunderstandings about what I mean by the term “Search,” notions like probe-goal search, labeling by minimal search, and $n = 2$ are discussed in favor of the theory of unconstrained Merge.

主催：慶應義塾大学言語文化研究所
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