

S-selection and presupposition in quotational complementation

Jan Wiślicki

j.wislicki@uw.edu.pl

University of Warsaw

December 12, 2020



Contents

1 Introduction

2 Data

3 Analysis

4 Summary

References



No selection? Aims & scope.

- Standard selection of *wh*-features (Chomsky, 2015)

(1) I asked whether_{INTERROG} you were coming.



select [*wh*-]:INTERROG

(2) *I asked you were coming[↑].



No selection? Aims & scope.

- Standard selection of *wh*-features (Chomsky, 2015)

(4) I asked whether_{INTERROG} you were coming.

└──────────┘
↑
select [*wh*-]:INTERROG

(5) *I asked you were coming_↑.

- Quotation lies **outside the grammar proper?**

(6) I asked ‘You are coming_↑?’

No: Ginzburg and Cooper, 2014; Partee, 1973!



No selection? Aims & scope.

- Standard selection of *wh*-features (Chomsky, 2015)

(7) I asked whether^{INTERROG} you were coming.

└──────────┘
select [*wh*-]:INTERROG

(8) *I asked you were coming[↑].

- Quotation lies **outside the grammar proper?**

(9) I asked ‘You are coming[↑]?’

No: Ginzburg and Cooper, 2014; Partee, 1973!

- Aims:
 - No **standard C-/S-selection**.
 - S-selection of **presupposed properties**.
 - A verbs’ hierarchy reveals the **reportative character** of quot. compl.

Contents

① Introduction

② **Data**

③ Analysis

④ Summary

References

A more subtle selection: questions

(10) I asked ‘You are coming[↑]?’

(11) *bad* I asked ‘You are coming’.

--> some constraints!

- If not selection, then what?

① **What** makes *I asked ‘You are coming[↑]?’* fine?

② **How** bad are bad quotations?

* ungrammatical? --> *Peter said ‘gwłch’*

?? not interpretable (type mismatch)? --> *gwłch* has no type

infelicitous? --> ...?

A more subtle selection: questions

(13) I asked ‘You are coming[↑]?’

(14) *bad* I asked ‘You are coming’.

--> some constraints!

- If not selection, then what?

① **What** makes *I asked ‘You are coming[↑]?’* fine?

② **How** bad are bad quotations?

* ungrammatical? --> *Peter said ‘gwłch’*

?? not interpretable (type mismatch)? --> *gwłch* has no type

infelicitous? --> ...?

- *hey-wait-a-minute test* (Fintel, 2004; Maier, 2014)

Context: A and B are English speakers studying Japanese.

(15) A: Tanaka asked ‘Suzuki-ga kita’.

B: Hey, wait a minute, I didn’t know that’s a question. I thought it’s a declarative.

A more subtle selection: presupposition

(16) I asked ‘You were coming[↑]?’

PRESUPPOSITION: *You were coming*[↑] represents a question

Expected effects

- ✓ selection of presupposed properties
- blocking overtly manifested selection of formal features/properties

A more subtle selection: C in Japanese

[Saito, 2012; Saito and Haraguchi, 2012; Shimamura, 2018, 2019]

- Sequences of complementizers in Japanese:

- ka* question C $\dashrightarrow C_Q$
- to* reportative C $\dashrightarrow C_R$

- tazuneru* “ask”, indirect reports:

(17) Ima doko-ni iru *ka* tazuneta.

Now where-LOC to be C_Q asked

S/he asked where was I.

(18) Kokuseki-wa doko *ka to* tazuneta

nationality-TOP where $C_Q C_R$ asked

S/he asked what is your nationality.

(19) $\emptyset_Q C_R$ tazuneta \dashrightarrow */marginal

A more subtle selection: C in Japanese

	C_R +ask	'...' + C_R +ask	C_Q +ask	'...' + C_Q +ask	C_Q + C_R +ask	'...' + C_Q + C_R +ask
N	685	107	104	0	214	2

Table: Reported questions in Japanese (<https://chunagon.ninjal.ac.jp>)

A more subtle selection: C in Japanese

	C_R+ask	'...'+ C_R+ask	C_Q+ask	'...'+ C_Q+ask	C_Q+C_R+ask	'...'+ C_Q+C_R+ask
N	685	107	104	0	214	2

Table: Reported questions in Japanese (<https://chunagon.ninjal.ac.jp>)

Observation: Japanese *ask* and question complementizer

- i. indirect discourse --> *ask* **requires** question C over complements
 - ii. direct quotation --> *ask* **blocks** question C over quotes
- > selection of presupposed properties, not manifested overtly

Classes of matrix verbs

Grammatical patterns and quotation

- not just selection moved to pragmatics
- direct quotation is regulated by the type of matrix verb:
attitude–**irrealis**–**tenseless**

- ① scope of negation
- ② quotation split
- ③ content argument
- ④ semantic verb-report relation

Classes of matrix verbs

1 Negation: **attitude** vs **irrealis** vs **tenseless**

(20) Peter did not **say/claim**/... 'Alfred is not smart'.

~> **no** situation of uttering *Alfred is not smart*

(21) Peter did not **agree/decide** 'I need more time'

~> **there is** a situation of uttering *I need more time*

(22) Peter did not **finish** 'Hello'.

~> **there is** a situation of uttering *Hello* (not completed)

--> **complementation** vs **adjunction** (Griffiths, 2015) vs
predicate-argument (\approx verb-noun)

Classes of matrix verbs

2 Quotation split: **attitude** vs **irrealis**

(23) ‘Alfred’ he **said** ‘is a smart guy’.

(24) *‘Alfred’ he **did not say** ‘is a smart guy’.

(25) ✓‘Alfred’ he **did not agree** (**smile**,...) ‘is a smart guy’.

--> **irrealis** verbs (like **non-reportative**) are blind for splitting

Classes of matrix verbs

3a Content argument: **attitude** vs **irrealis** verbs

(26) He **announced** the following idea ‘The Earth is flat’.

(27) He **uttered** ✓ a string/# a word ‘gwłch’.

(28) *He **agreed** the idea ‘The Earth is flat’.

--> **irrealis** verbs block classification of complements by content arguments (Kratzer, 2006, 2016)

Classes of matrix verbs

3b Content argument: **attitude** vs **tenseless** verbs

(29) He **announced** the following idea ‘The Earth is flat’.

(30) He **finished/began** ‘I promise’.

↪ He finished [his talk,...] [by saying,...] ‘I promise’.

--> adjunction (\approx irrealis)

↪ He finished [writing,... [the string, sentence,...] ‘I...’].

--> nominalized event argument

--> tenseless verbs provide **nominalization of reportative events**
(Lohninger and Wurmbrand, to appear)

Classes of matrix verbs

4 Verb-report relation: **attitude** vs **irrealis** vs **tenseless**:

(31) I **asked** [✓]'You are coming ↑' / [#]'You are coming'.



presup.: QUEST ([+wh], intonation,...)

(32) I **agreed** [✓]'The green one' / [#]'Are you coming?'



presup.: expressing agreement

(33) I **finished** [✓]'I like you' / [✓]'The' / [✓]'Are you coming?'



S-select: reportative event argument

Summary

- ① More delicate formal relations:
 - (a) no overtly manifested C-/S-selection (Japanese)
 - (b) selection of presupposed properties (*ask*)

Summary

- ① More delicate formal relations:
 - (a) no overtly manifested C-/S-selection (Japanese)
 - (b) selection of presupposed properties (*ask*)

- ② Patterns for familiar categories of matrix verbs:
 - (a) **attitude** verbs (*say, claim, announce,...*)
 - i. **complementation** (presupposition, negation, quotation split)
 - ii. **content arguments** classifying the complement
 - (b) **irrealis** verbs (*agree, decide,...*)
 - i. **adjunction** (negation, quotation split)
 - ii. **no content arguments** classifying the complement
 - (c) **tenseless** verbs (*finish, begin, avoid,...*)
 - i. **predicate–argument** (nominalized reportive events)
 - ii. the effect of complements treated as **bare strings of symbols**

Contents

1 Introduction

2 Data

3 Analysis

4 Summary

References

Hierarchy of matrix verbs: indirect complements

- Wurmbrand and Lohninger, 2019:

attitude	⋈	irrealis	⋈	tenseless
least integrated	...	⋈ tense, subject,...	...	most integrated
most clausal	...	⋈ tense, subject,...	...	least independent

Hierarchy of matrix verbs: direct quotation

	attitude	irrealis	tenseless
quotation compl.	✓	✓/×	× > ✓
verb-quoted content	✓	weak	×
content argument	✓	×	embedded

say, ask \succ *reportative* agree, decide \succ *reportative* finish, avoid

Hierarchy of matrix verbs: direct quotation

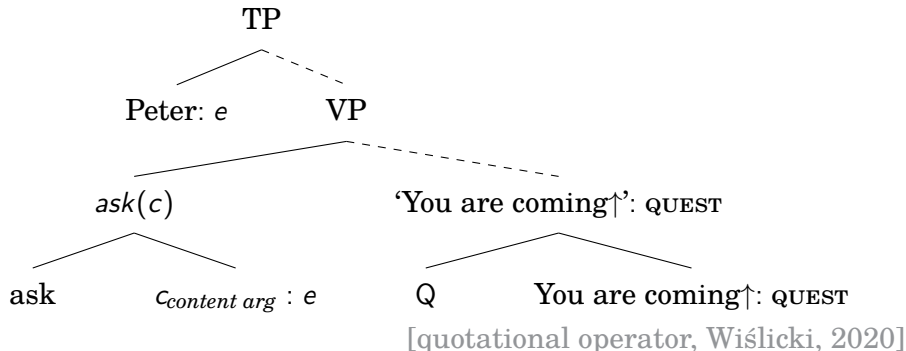
	attitude	irrealis	tenseless
quotation compl.	✓	✓/×	× > ✓
verb-quoted content	✓	weak	×
content argument	✓	×	embedded

say, ask $\succ_{reportative}$ agree, decide $\succ_{reportative}$ finish, avoid

- **attitude**: complementation + S-selection of presup. properties
- **irrealis**: adjunction + covert *say* (Grimshaw, 2015, a.o.)
- **tenseless**: predicate-argument (verb-noun) with covert *say*

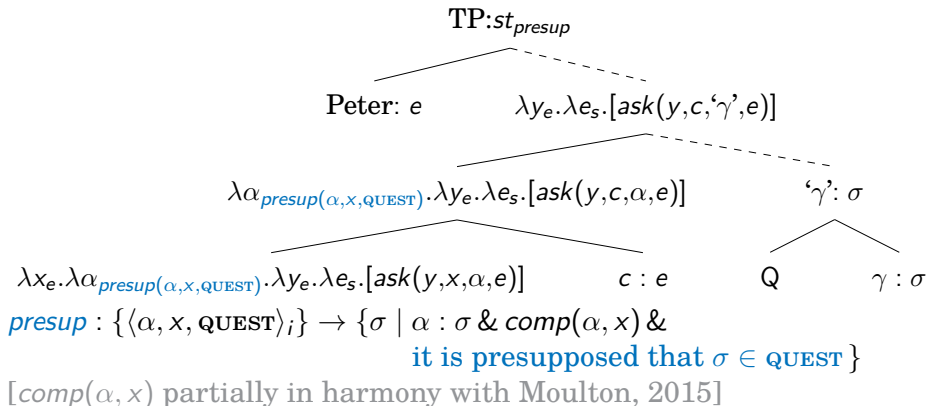
Attitude verbs

(34) Peter asked ‘You are coming[↑]’.



Attitude verbs

- S-selection of presupposed properties (dependent type)



Attitude verbs: consequences

① No standard C-/S-selection

- ✓ *He said 'gwłch'.*
- ✓ *He asked 'You are coming[↑]' / 'You[↑]'.*

② Selection of presupposed properties (dependent types)

- ✓ *He asked 'You are coming[↑]'.*
- # *He asked 'You are coming'.* [not simply ungrammatical]

③ content argument

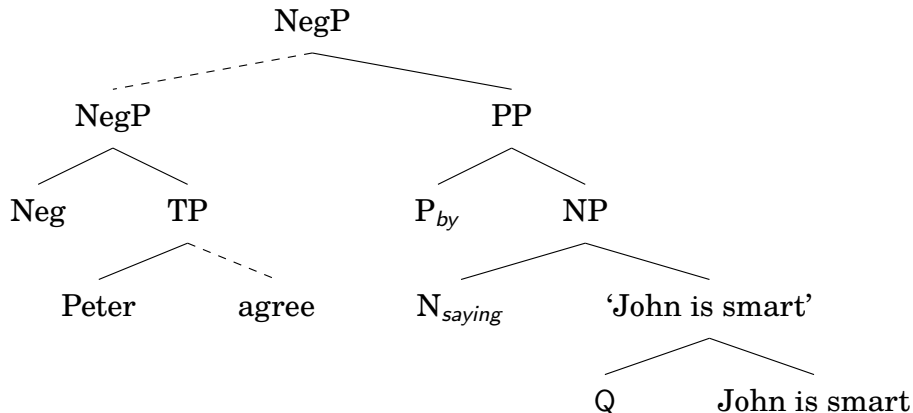
- *Peter asked the question / #the idea '...'* [partial constraint]

④ complementation

- *Peter didn't announce 'I'm coming'* [did not utter '...']

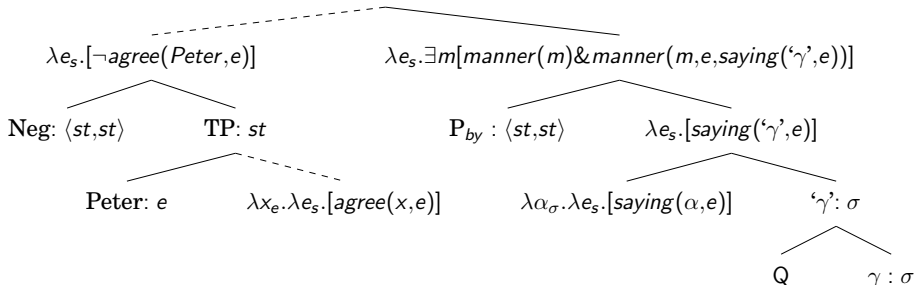
Irrealis verbs

(35) Peter did not agree 'John is smart'.



Irrealis verbs

- adjoined PP describing means/manner (Alexeyenko, 2015)

$$\lambda e_s. [\neg \text{agree}(\text{Peter}, e) \& \exists m [\text{manner}(m) \& \text{manner}(m, e, \text{saying}(\gamma', e))]]$$


Irrealis verbs: consequences

① No standard C-/S-selection

- ✓ *Peter agreed 'You'.*
- ✓ *Peter agreed 'John is smart'.*

② Adequacy regulated by an existentially closed *manner*

- # *Peter agreed 'Are you coming?'*
- ✓ *Peter agreed 'John is smart'.*

③ Weaker constraints

- # *Peter claimed 'You'.*
- ✓ *Peter agreed 'You'.*

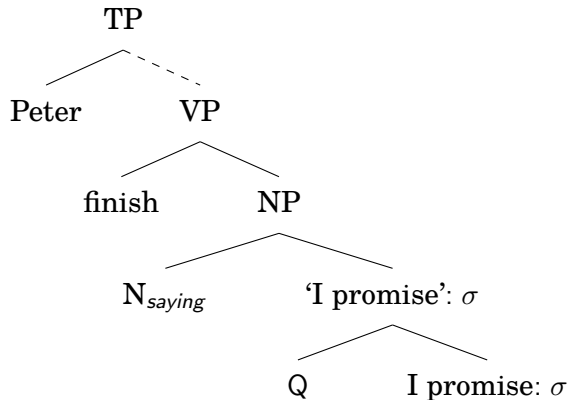
④ Adjunction

- ✓ *'John' he did not agree 'is smart'.*
- ✓ *He did not agree 'John is smart'.*

[blocked for attitude verbs]
[did utter '...']

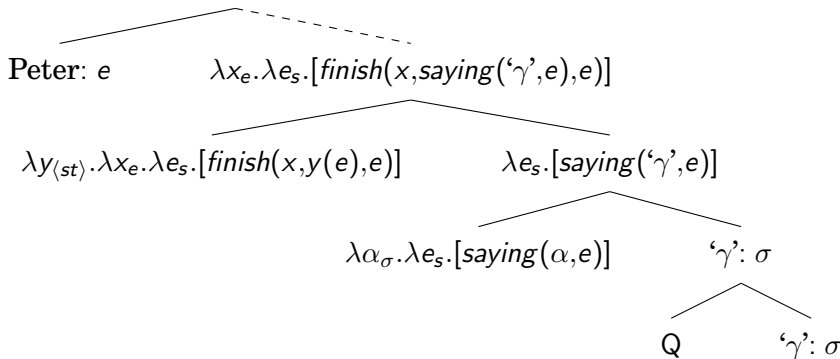
Tenseless verbs

(36) Peter finished/avoids 'I promise'.



Tenseless verbs

- a nominalized say-event

$$\lambda e_s.[finish(Peter, saying('γ', e), e)]$$


Tenseless verbs: consequences

- ① No content-related selection
 - ✓ Peter finished 'I hope'.
 - ✓ Peter finished 'the'.
- ② String-like treatment of quoted expression (*say*-event argument)
 - ✓ Peter finished 'gwłch'.
- ③ Predicate-argument effect
 - He didn't finish 'I hope'. \approx He didn't finish his breakfast.

Conclusion

- ➊ Direct quotation complementation is subject to the hierarchy of matrix verbs proposed by Wurmbrand and Lohninger, (2019)
- ➋ The hierarchy reveals the reportative character of complements

Conclusion

- ① Direct quotation complementation is subject to the hierarchy of matrix verbs proposed by Wurmbrand and Lohninger, (2019)
- ② The hierarchy reveals the reportative character of complements
 - **attitude** --> full reports
 - verb S-selects presupposed properties
 - content argument
 - complementation

Conclusion

- ① Direct quotation complementation is subject to the hierarchy of matrix verbs proposed by Wurmbrand and Lohninger, (2019)
- ② The hierarchy reveals the reportative character of complements
 - **attitude** --> full reports
 - verb S-selects presupposed properties
 - content argument
 - complementation
 - **irrealis** --> reportative description of means/manner
 - verb-manner adequacy relation
 - covert *say*-event
 - adjunction

Conclusion

- ① Direct quotation complementation is subject to the hierarchy of matrix verbs proposed by Wurmbrand and Lohninger, (2019)
- ② The hierarchy reveals the reportative character of complements
 - **attitude** --→ full reports
 - verb S-selects presupposed properties
 - content argument
 - complementation
 - **irrealis** --→ reportative description of means/manner
 - verb-manner adequacy relation
 - covert *say*-event
 - adjunction
 - **tenseless** --→ nominalized reportative events
 - string-like treatment of report
 - covert *say*-event
 - predicate-argument relation

Contents

① Introduction

② Data

③ Analysis

④ Summary

References

- Conclusion

- ① Quotation is subject to **grammatical relations** (Ginzburg and Cooper, 2014).
- ② Hierarchy of matrix verbs shows that **quotation is coherent with standard complementation**
- ③ The hierarchy is rigid even if it is **imposed by various relations and reveals different properties.**

- Conclusion

- ① Quotation is subject to **grammatical relations** (Ginzburg and Cooper, 2014).
- ② Hierarchy of matrix verbs shows that **quotation is coherent with standard complementation**
- ③ The hierarchy is rigid even if it is **imposed by various relations and reveals different properties**.

- Future prospects: **the category of reported speech**

- ① Integrating **direct and indirect** reports (Maier, 2020; Wiślicki, 2020).
- ② Does the hierarchy reveal gradations of more subtle properties (**reportative character for reported speech**)?

Alexeyenko, Sascha (2015). *The syntax and semantics of manner modification. adjectives and adverbs*. Osnabrück: University of Osnabrück: PhD thesis.

Chomsky, Noam (2015). “Problems of projection: extensions”. In: *Structures, Strategies and Beyond: Studies in honour of Adriana Belletti*.

Fintel, Kai von (2004). “Would You Believe It? The King of France is back!(Presuppositions and Truth-Value Intuitions)”. In: *Descriptions and Beyond*. New York: Oxford University Press, pp. 315–341.

Ginzburg, Jonathan and Robin Cooper (2014). “Quotation via dialogical interaction”. In: *Journal of Logic, Language and Information*.

Griffiths, James (2015). “Speaker and quote reduced parenthetical clauses”. In: *Parenthetical Verbs*.

Grimshaw, Jane (2015). “The light verbs say and SAY”. In: *Structures in the Mind: Essays on Language, Music, and Cognition in Honor of Ray Jackendoff*. Ed. by Ida Toivonen, Piroska Csúri, and Emile van der Zee. Cambridge, Massachusetts: MIT Press, pp. 79–100.

- Kratzer, Angelika (2006). “Decomposing Attitude Verbs (2006)”. In: *Handout, The Hebrew University of Jerusalem*.
- Kratzer, Angelika (2016). “Evidential Moods in Attitude & Speech Reports”. In: *Presentation, UConn Colloquium*.
- Lohninger, Magdalena and Susi Wurmbrand (to appear). “Typology of Complement Clauses”. In: *Handbook of clausal embedding*. Ed. by Anton Benz, Werner Frey, Manfred Krifka, Thomas McFadden, and Marzena Żygis. Oxford: Oxford University Press.
- Maier, Emar (2014). “Mixed quotation: The grammar of apparently transparent opacity”. In: *Semantics and Pragmatics*.
- Maier, Emar (2020). “Attributions of form and content: A discourse-structural account of reporting”. In: *MS*.
- Moulton, Keir (2015). “CPs: Copies and compositionality”. In: *Linguistic Inquiry* 46.2, pp. 305–342.
- Partee, Barbara H (1973). “The syntax and semantics of quotation”. In: *A Festschrift for Morris Hale*. Ed. by P. Kiparsky S. Anderson. New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, pp. 410–418.

Saito, Mamoru (2012). “Sentence Types and the Japanese Right Periphery”. In: *Discourse and Grammar: From Sentence Types to Lexical Categories*. Ed. by Thomas Ede Zimmermann Günther Grewendorf. Berlin: Walter de Gruyter, pp. 147–175.

Saito, Mamoru and Tomoko Haraguchi (2012). “Deriving the Cartography of the Japanese Right Periphery: The Case of Sentence-Final Discourse Particles”. In: *Iberia 4.2*, pp. 104–123.

Shimamura, Koji (2018). *The Theory of Quotative Complementation in Japanese Semanticsyntax*. University of Connecticut: PhD thesis.

Shimamura, Koji (2019). “The Hidden Syntax of Clausal Complementation in Japanese”. In: *Proceedings of GLOW in Asia XII and SICOOG 21*, pp. 369–388.

Wiślicki, Jan (2020). “Quotation as a modality”. In: *MS*.

Wurmbrand, Susi and Magdalena Lohninger (2019). “An implicational universal in complementation—Theoretical insights and empirical progress”. In: *Propositional Arguments in Cross-Linguistic Research: Theoretical and Empirical Issues*.