Is it syntactic or pragmatic?
A hybrid analysis for LF-intervention effects

Ryoichiro Kobayashi
Sophia University/JSPS

The main aim of this study is to reconsider Tomioka’s (2007) pragmatic account of the LF-intervention effects (IE), and to claim that Polarity Sensitive Items (PSIs) are genuine syntactic interveners. I will examine the parallelism among PSIs in IE configurations, which is distinct from other interveners, and further claim that the study of IE should not be monolithic, but hybrid: Syntactic LF-interveners (PSIs), blocking scopal interactions/Pragmatic interveners, causing illegal information structures. The predictions will be borne out that PSIs actually cause IE in other contexts as well, which pragmatic accounts cannot explain (Funakoshi & Takahashi 2014). Such hybrid perspectives bring back enormous findings on IE (e.g. LF wh-movement) to the field of syntax, without relegating all of them to pragmatics.

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