

Foreword

This issue contains selected papers from the 2005 International Course and Conference on Role and Reference Grammar [RRG], held at the Academia Sinica in Taipei, Taiwan, on June 25-30, 2005. Conferences on RRG have been held annually since 1999; previous ones were held in the United States, Croatia, Spain, Brazil and Ireland. The 2005 conference was the first one to be held in Asia, and we are grateful to the Academia Sinica for its support. Holding the RRG meeting in Asia is highly appropriate, as there has been substantial work on Asian languages over the past 20 years in RRG, e.g. Mandarin, Korean, Japanese, Thai, Formosan languages, and Philippine languages (see the RRG bibliography at linguistics.buffalo.edu/research/rrg.html for references).

RRG started out from two basic questions: (i) what would linguistic theory look like if it were based on the analysis of languages with diverse structures such as Lakhota (a native language of North America), Tagalog, Dyirbal (an Australian Aboriginal language) and Barai (a language of Papua-New Guinea), rather than on the analysis of English?, and (ii) how can the interaction of syntax, semantics and pragmatics in different grammatical systems best be captured and explained? Accordingly, RRG has a strong typological orientation, and this is reflected in the languages analyzed in the papers included herein: Thai, Mandarin, Japanese, Tagalog, Amis, Oceanic languages, and Modern Irish. Moreover, as a comprehensive theory of the syntax-semantics interface, it provides a framework for the analysis of a wide range of phenomena, from verb semantics to voice to information structure to complex sentences, all of which are represented in this volume. This is the first published volume of selected papers from an RRG conference; proceedings from the 2004 Dublin conference are available on-line at the above URL. A unique feature of this volume is an introduction to RRG in Mandarin, written by Dr. Wu Jing-lan, who presented the introductory lectures on RRG at the course part of the meeting.

The 2005 International Course and Conference on Role and Reference Grammar was a great success, and this was in no small part due to the outstanding efforts of Dr. Elizabeth Zeitoun, the local organizer. I wish to express to her my thanks and the thanks of all of the participants. Thanks are due to Chun-yu Kuo for her editorial assistance, and to Zhi-xian Lin for redrawing most of the figures included in this volume.

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Abbreviations

The abbreviations used throughout this volume are as follows:

ABS:	Absolutive	EFF:	Effective marker
ACC:	Accusative	ERG:	Ergative
ADJ:	Adjective	EVD:	Evidential
ADV:	Adverb	EXCL:	Exclusive
AF:	Actor Focus	F:	Feminine
AFD:	Actual focus domain	FAC:	Factual
AGT:	Agent	FACT:	Factitive
ANAPH:	Anaphoric	FOC:	Focus
AO:	Aorist	FP:	Final particle
APP:	Applicative	FUT:	Future
ARG:	Argument	GEN:	Genitive
ART:	Article	HAB:	Habitual
ASP:	Aspect	HUM:	numeral classifier for humans
AV:	Agent/actor Voice	IF:	Instrument Focus
BF:	Beneficiary Focus	IMM:	Immediate
CAUS:	Causative	IMP:	Imperative
CF:	Circumstantial Focus	IMPERS:	Impersonal
CL:	Classifier	IMPF:	Imperfective
CLM:	Clause linkage marker	IN:	Inanimate
CLP:	Classificatory prefix	INA:	Instrument Applicative
CN:	Common noun	INCL:	Inclusive
CNV:	Converb	INGR:	Ingressive/Inchoative
COMP:	Complementizer	INT:	Intensifier
CONJ:	Conjunction	INTERJ:	Interjection
COP:	Copula	INV:	Instrument Voice
DAT:	Dative	IRR:	Irrealis
DECL:	Declarative	ITV:	Intransitive
DEF:	Definite	IU:	Information unit
DEG:	Degree modifier	LA:	Locative Applicative
DEICT:	Deictic	LDP:	Left-detached position
DEM:	Demonstrative	LF:	Locative Focus
DET:	Determiner	LIG:	Ligature
DIR:	Directional	LIN:	Linker
DIST:	Distant mood	LIN _{PF} :	Post-focal linker
DTV:	Ditransitive	LIN _{PT} :	Post-topical linker
DU:	Dual	LIT:	Literally
DUR:	Durative	LOC:	Locative
ED.POSS:	Edible possessive classifier	LSC:	Layered structure of the clause

LV:	Locative Voice	PRFT:	Perfect
M:	Masculine	PRO:	Pronoun
MI:	Mimetic	PROG:	Progressive
MOD:	Modifying	PROH:	Prohibitive
MULT:	Multiplicative	PSA:	Privileged syntactic argument
N:	Noun	PURP:	Purpose
NAV:	Non Agent Voice	PV:	Patient Voice
NCM:	Noun class marker	PvP:	Preverbal particle
NEG:	Negative	Q:	Question
NEU:	Neuter	QTY:	Quantity
NEUT:	Neutral	RDP:	Right-detached position
NMZ:	Nominalizer	REAL:	Realis
NOM:	Nominative	RED:	Reduplication
NP:	Noun Phrase	REFL:	Reflexive
NPAST:	Non-past	REL:	Relative marker
NS:	Non singular	REST:	Restrictive particle
NSPEC:	Non specific tense aspect marker	RRG:	Role and Reference Grammar
NSUBJ:	Non-subject	SEQ:	Sequential
NUC:	Nucleus	SG:	Singular
NUM:	Number	SIM:	Similative marker
O/OBJ:	Object	SP/DT:	Same privilege syntactic argument/different topic
OBL:	Oblique	SS:	Same subject
OPR:	Operator	STAT:	Stative
P:	Patient	SUBJ:	Subject
PART:	Particle	SUBV:	Substantive Verb
PASS:	Passive	TA:	Tense-Aspect
PAST:	Past Tense	TAM:	Tense-Aspect-Modality
PAUC:	Paucal	TOP:	Topic
PF:	Patient Focus	TR:	Transitive
PFD:	Potential focus domain	UV:	Undergoer Voice
PFT:	Perfective	V:	Verb
PL:	Plural	VA:	Verbal Adjective
POSS:	Possessive	VN:	Verbal Noun
POT:	Potential	VP:	Verb Phrase
PP:	Prepositional Phrase	=	cliticized
PPN:	Personal Proper noun	◊	infix
PPRT:	Pragmatic particle	1	First person
PRCS:	Pre-core slot	2	Second person
PRED:	Predicate	3	Third person
PREP:	Preposition		
PRES:	Present		
PREV:	Preverb		