

INTRODUCTION

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This volume contains the proceedings of BIDE 2005, the second International Conference of Students in Linguistics, held in June 2005 at the University of Deusto, Bilbao. Its first edition, BIDE 2004, received a warm welcome from the international linguistic community and this paved the way for a second edition under the same basic premise: bring together young scientists to the University of Deusto, a Basque center of linguistic research, thus boosting research and cooperation. In the same spirit as BIDE 2004, BIDE 2005 was organized and run by a group of former Deusto students, who are currently pursuing their linguistic careers in different international institutions.

It is not accidental that this International Conference of Students in Linguistics takes place at the University of Deusto in Bilbao, since this University plays an instrumental role in the formation of linguists. There is a long tradition of Deusto faculty members encouraging and helping their students to pursue graduate degrees in linguistics at some of the best universities. This tradition is best illustrated by the plenary speaker of BIDE 2005, Ricardo Etxepare. Professor Etxepare obtained his doctorate from the University of Maryland, under the supervision of a former Deusto student, Professor Juan Uriagereka.

Ricardo Etxepare's excellence in research is proven by his current position at the 'Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS)', where he holds the title of *permanent main researcher*, since October 2000. Etxepare belongs to a handful of linguists whose interests and research focus mainly on two languages, namely Spanish and Basque, but also on some other Romance languages such as French. It is relevant to note here that Rikardo Etxepare has contributed to the recently published 'A Grammar of Basque' (2003, Hualde and Ortiz de Urbina (eds.)) with several chapters on syntax. This grammar has become an influential publication, filling a gap in the field. Consequently, Etxepare's contribution places him as one of the few experts in the area of Basque linguistics worldwide. Furthermore, his broad and exceptional work in Basque is comparable to his great and varied work on Hispanic Linguistics. Professor Etxepare is one of the most active and productive scholars both in Hispanic and Basque linguistics and his publications can be found in some of the most prestigious journals such as *Probus* and the *International Journal of Basque Linguistics (ASJU)*.

Professor Etxepare belongs to the second generation of Basque linguists that succeeded in getting their Ph.D.s from an overseas university. They were motivated, on the one hand, by professors from the University of Deusto and on the other hand, by the experiences of previous students from the Basque Country, who successfully finished their studies abroad. Etxepare is a very valuable member of the linguistic community in the Basque Country, and he has been a keystone in the formation of new students not only from the Basque Country but also from France and Spain. His regular one-semester courses at the University of the Basque Country have always inspired students due to his excellence in teaching, his dedication to the students and his enthusiasm for linguistics. Undoubtedly, Rikardo Etxepare is responsible for the new generation of promising linguists in the Basque Country. Moreover, he is a constant reference for students from different parts of the world, and this is reflected in the fact that he is a member of several dissertation committees inside and outside the Basque Country.

The presence of Rikardo Etxepare in BIDE 2005 has added to the conference's richness by allowing participants not only to learn about Etxepare's latest research but also to discuss their own research with him. In fact, BIDE has emerged as an important forum for students in linguistics, where they can meet scholars with similar interests and get feedback from their peers and professors. Several BIDE attendees have been able to develop some of the new ideas obtained at the conference into papers and dissertation chapters.

BIDE offers a unique opportunity in Spain for international students with an interest in generative linguistics. The linguistic tradition in the Basque Country has greatly benefited from this line of research. However, there was a need to create an international conference within this community, where students could share their work. BIDE has filled this void and has attracted not only generativists but also researchers from other frameworks. For this reason, BIDE plays a pivotal role in helping build ties between the Basque linguistic community and researchers in other parts of the world, and also in creating a bond among the different linguists in the Basque region and Spain. This is especially useful for students and young scientists who are beginning to create their circle of collaborators and connections. For example, BIDE has helped the professional research group HiTT develop and work towards its objective of organizing events for the discussion of current linguistic developments.

HiTT (Hizkuntzalaritza Teorikorako Taldea) or *the Basque Research Group of Theoretical Linguistics*, is a group of language researchers in different disciplines, among them, syntax, semantics, phonology, phonetics, pragmatics and sign language. The researchers in this group are affiliated with the University of Deusto (Bilbao), the University of the Basque Country (Vitoria-Gasteiz, Bilbao and San Sebastian), and Le Centre Nationale de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS, France). It should be noted that valuable members of HiTT belong to the organizing committee of BIDE as it is the case of Jon Franco, Jon Ortiz de Urbina and Susana Huidobro. Similarly, Rikardo Etxepare, the invited speaker in BIDE 2005, is part of this group. These researchers have been involved in several HiTT projects, such as 'The architecture of language: Multidirectional architecture of the linguistic interfaces', 'Methodological foundations for the development of a Basque-Spanish tutor for computer-assisted teaching', and 'The structures of events: Tense and aspect and phrase structure', among others. HiTT members have also collaborated in the organization of different

events such as the 14th Conference of the Student Organization of Linguistics in Europe, the course *Giza Hizkuntzaren Natura* (Human Language Nature), and the 7th LEHIA International Workshop in Linguistics.

Papers in this volume

The articles in these volume are selected papers based on presentations given at BIDE 2005. As in the previous edition, a diverse range of linguistic subfields and topics are represented in this selection: syntax, semantics, phonology, computational linguistics and language acquisition. Here, an overview of the volume's contents is presented, together with a brief description of each paper and its relevance within current linguistic research.

The first paper is Etxepare's "Aspects of Quotative Constructions in Iberian Spanish", where the author observes that in colloquial speech, main declarative clauses in Iberian Spanish can be headed by an overt complementizer. His paper develops the idea that such structures in Spanish involve an extra speech eventuality, and that this speech eventuality is syntactically mapped into the structure of the sentence as a complex verbal predicate. This complex verbal predicate is composed of a light verb GO and an aspectual projection, which takes as complement an utterance denoting expression. This complex predicate is akin to what in other languages are called "*Quotative Verbs*", introducing direct or semi-direct speech (see Lord 1993, Güldemann 2001). Etxepare shows that this verbal predicate shares properties of Speech Act operators, in the sense of Krifka (2001), and of ordinary lexical verbs. Several types of evidence are brought to bear on issues related to these constructions, such as the semantic primitives involved in the quotative predication, and the syntactic configurations giving rise to the complex predicate.

Moving on to the phonology section of BIDE 2005, Huber's "On the interaction of velars and labials" presents data from a wide variety of languages to show a two-folded generalization. On the one hand, there is pervasive direct interaction between labials and velars to the exclusion of coronals. This interaction is exemplified through cases of changes where the elements involved are velars and labials. On the other hand, the motivation behind these phenomena is the presence of labiality in labials and the lack of any place specification in velars. Thus, the data discussed in this paper further support the view that velars lack place specification (Huber 2004), against standard views that consider coronal consonants as the placeless elements by default (Paradis and Prunet 1991). Huber's proposal that velars lack place information is developed within the formal framework of Government Phonology. One of the main contributions of Huber's paper is that his typology shows that the different phenomena where labials and velars interact are all in fact phonologically conditioned and absolutely regular, rather than unprincipled changes. On this basis, the paper sets up a new typology of the phenomena, which better captures the phonological conditions underlying them.

The area of computational linguistics is growing within the linguistics community. Several research programs take advantage of different computational tools to achieve their goals. An increasingly employed method is the use of corpora for linguistic analysis, i.e., corpus linguistics. Several papers in this volume look at different

ways in which corpora can be adapted to linguistic studies, and how these research tools can be most efficiently used. Another important area within computational linguistics is machine translation, which is explored in a paper by Gábor and Héja.

In “Consumer Corpus: towards linguistically searchable text”, Alcázar develops the possibility of using the Consumer corpus as a linguistic research tool. This corpus is built from a monthly online magazine published in Spain. The articles are originally written in Spanish and later translated to three other languages: Basque (a language isolate), Catalan and Galician (two Romance languages). The topics discussed in the magazine are related to consumers’ issues. Alcázar aims at making this corpus linguistically searchable, so that the search can be formulated in linguistic terms and at different levels of linguistic interest. The first step is sentence alignment, adopting Moore’s alignment tool (2002), which facilitates cross-linguistic comparison. The alignment allows for the possibility of comparing search results across the four languages of the corpus since the search results for a query in one language may be accompanied by its translations to the other three. Second, Alcázar has applied a part-of-speech tagging procedure to the Spanish portion of the corpus. The result is an annotated corpus that offers the advantage of searching for parallel words or constructions in four different languages.

In “Complements and Adjuncts in Machine Translation”, Gábor and Héja focus on automated syntactic analysis in relation to machine translation. The aim of the paper is to present a specific method for automatically differentiating between complements and adjuncts, with the purpose of building a Hungarian verbal argument structure database suited for machine translation. The authors examined Government and Binding theory (GB) and Lexical Functional Grammar (LFG) paying attention to their description of argument structure and their representation of surface argument structure. They find that neither the GB nor the LFG treatment of arguments and adjuncts proves satisfactory for Hungarian. The Hungarian surface order cannot be used for distinguishing complements and adjuncts. However, the rich morphological system can serve as a basis for the task at hand. Thus, rather than using configurational information, Gábor and Héja use morphology, namely case marking, as an indicator of the syntactic role. Their proposal is that not every occurrence of an NP with a case suffix is lexically subcategorized by a verb: some of them are added to the sentence by productive rules.

In “Extracting Information from Participial Structures”, Héja and Gábor aim at increasing the efficiency of a rule-based information extraction (IE) system by enhancing it with further grammatical knowledge. The NewsPro IE system was developed and tested on a corpus of short business news. In this IE system, the sentence’s event is identified through the main verb. The arguments and adjuncts of the main verb are correlated with the participants and circumstances of the event. The authors’ goal is to extract the information within NPs formed with non-finite verbs, such as participles. Thus, they propose a rule-based system to transform participle structures into sentences with a finite verb. The main challenge is to differentiate between participle structures that result in ill-formed finite sentences and those that do not. The authors’ solution is based on the fact that there is an adjective/participle homonymy in Hungarian. Consequently, those transformations that contain adjectives produce ill-formed sentences, and the structures containing participles render grammatical fi-

nite forms. Consequently, it is necessary to distinguish between adjectives and participles. Héja and Gábor show that the following three criteria are sufficient to make the right classification: It is a participle if (1) at least one of the base verb's complements is present, (2) at least one of the base verb's adjuncts is present, and (3) at least a preverb is present.

Two papers explore different aspects in first and second language acquisition, supporting their conclusions with experimental data. Huarte studies syntactic competence in first language learners, while Yanguas argues for a new model of second language acquisition that includes the role of motivation.

Huarte's "The acquisition of Basque ergative case" investigates an intriguing problem related to the acquisition of Basque and the ergative system in this language. This study focuses on the production and comprehension of the ergative case marker in Basque children. According to the literature, Basque children tend to omit the ergative case marker for a period of five months since they start producing case markers in general until they master the ergative case marking. 24 Basque bilingual children were under study. The results of this study show that comprehension of Basque case marking, more precisely, of the ergative case precedes the production of it.

In "A Look at Second Language Learners' Task Motivation", Yanguas studies the relationship between task motivation and linguistic variables in a written production task, following Dönyei's Process Model of motivation (Dönyei 2000, Dönyei & Ottó 1998). This model has proved to be successful in accounting for L2 performance in oral argumentative tasks and Yanguas adapts this model to L2 performance in written tasks. The linguistic variables are based on the model for measuring frequency, accuracy and complexity by Wolfe-Quintero et al. (1998). The author chooses to measure five linguistic complexity variables in the L2 learners' written task: number of words, number of t-units, proportion of error-free t-units, number of words per t-unit and lexical variety. He aims at answering two questions: (1) is there a correlation between task motivation scores and any of the five linguistic variables? and, since motivation tasks happen to divide the subjects of the experiment into two groups, (2) are there differences in performance in any of the five variable measurements across both groups? The results show that task motivation is in direct correlation with the linguistic variables investigated; also, the high motivation group outperforms the low motivation group.

The work on interfaces is nowadays of much importance for linguistic theory, and two papers presented at BIDE05 deal with the syntax-semantics interface. Irurtzun's "The Structure of Pair-List Answers" analyzes the properties of the answers to multiple-Wh questions. The author argues that in these constructions we find a split focal structure that leads towards having a pair of elements as being the actual focus at *logical form*. This analysis provides us with a natural understanding of the question-answer pairings since all the material that stands for a variable in the question is taken to be focal in nature. Thus, treating these answers as instances of split foci, we can dispense with the theoretical primitive of 'contrastive topic' and gain in understanding of the interface phenomena observed crosslinguistically.

Gallego and Irurtzun's "Consequences of Pair-Merge at the Interfaces" explores the semantic and syntactic nature of traditional VP modifiers. In the first part of this study, they find arguments in favor of adjuncts not having to undergo computational

licensing, as a consequence of their particular phrase structure status (that is, the thesis that they occupy a separate plane; cf. Chomsky 2004). The remainder of the paper concentrates on different semantic issues which concern adjuncts: adicity, theta-roles, licensing, and possible readings in adjunct clustering. Following Martin & Uriagereka (2000) and Uriagereka (2003), the authors adopt the idea that adjuncts display two types of readings, which they call Markovian and non-Markovian: under the former one, adjuncts are interpreted as independent predicates of the event (the traditional approach stemming from Davidson 1967), whereas under the latter one, adjuncts create a framing (scopal) effect which blocks the expected entailment patterns.

Within the subfield of syntax, Penka's and de Cuba's papers investigate two different aspects of negation, based on data from several languages. In "A Crosslinguistic perspective on n-words", Penka takes a new perspective on n-words by analyzing negative concord together with two different phenomena that n-words give rise to in non-negative concord languages, namely scope splitting in German and distributional restrictions in the Scandinavian languages. These three phenomena suggest that n-words should not be analyzed as negative quantifiers but rather as morpho-syntactic markers of sentential negation. The fact that n-words show negative concord indicates that they are semantically non-negative. That n-words refer to sentential negation is manifested in the phenomenon of scope splitting. The distributional restrictions of n-words in the Scandinavian languages confirm that n-words are subject to licensing conditions that are syntactic in nature. Penka's analysis is based on the assumption that n-words are semantically non-negative and must be licensed by a (possibly abstract) negation. According to her proposal, n-words are basically of the same nature cross-linguistically and variation between languages regarding their behavior are due to parametric variation. Previous analyses fail to give a unifying account to the three phenomena discussed by Penka. However, under the author's proposal, these three phenomena are all manifestations of the same underlying nature of n-words: n-words themselves are semantically non-negative and must be syntactically licensed by negation.

De Cuba's "Negative polarity licensing, factivity, and the CP field" investigates a pair of asymmetries between the sentential complements of what have been traditionally called *factive* and *non-factive* predicates in the literature: (a) the availability of non-local Negative Polarity Item (NPI) licensing in sentences embedded under negated non-factives, but not under negated factives; and (b) the presupposition of truth in sentences embedded under factives, but not under non-factives. De Cuba argues that these asymmetries are the result of a syntactic difference in the CP field of sentential complements selected by the different classes of predicates. The article's main proposal is that there is an extra syntactic projection in the CP field that is associated with non-factive verbs like *believe*. This projection is not present under factive verbs like *regret*. The extra projection houses an operator that licenses NPIs when embedded under a matrix negative verb or negated non-factive predicate. In addition to licensing NPIs, this operator is necessary to separate the speaker from responsibility for the truth content of the embedded sentence. de Cuba provides cross-linguistic evidence from English, Basque, Mainland Scandinavian and Hungarian that this extra structure is optional, therefore, the (non-)factivity resides not in the lexical se-

manatics of the matrix predicates, but in whether or not the operator structure is selected.

Currently, there is an active group of researchers studying the syntax of Hebrew. This line of investigation is represented in this volume by two papers that analyze different syntactic structures in Hebrew and their consequences for grammatical theory in general. In “Adjectival Passives and Adjectival Decausatives in Hebrew”, Meltzer goes over a well-known distinction between adjectival and verbal passives in Hebrew claiming that a closer look at this distinction is needed. The author’s revision of the facts reveals that Hebrew adjectival passives have to be divided into two groups: on the one hand, *adjective passives* and on the other hand, *adjective decausatives*. This division is based on their interpretation: while in adjective passives there is an implicit argument in their interpretation, in adjective decausatives the external argument of the transitive verb is not part of its semantics, behaving in this respect as unaccusative verbs. Therefore, Meltzer proposes that there is a parallelism between the divisions of adjectival passives and the verbal system. Meltzer’s main proposal is then that the operations that form these adjectives are the same as the operations that form unaccusative and passive verbs. The novelty of this analysis is that no additional operations need to be stipulated in order to account for passive formation.

In “Argument Mapping and Extraction”, Preminger proposes a unified account for argument mapping and islandhood in the verbal domain. Furthermore, his proposal brings new light to the notion of external argument, as well as to the interaction between case and argument mapping. Preminger begins by examining external arguments and, focusing on object-experiencer verbs, claims that no existing framework correctly predicts which argument and when will be external. Similarly, there is no explanation as to what is special about external arguments’ syntactic mapping. Preminger further shows that some internal arguments behave syntactically as external. To address these issues, the author proposes a system in which both types of syntactic merger assumed in minimalist syntax (*set-merge* and *pair-merge*; Chomsky 2004) are used for the merger of verbal arguments. The type of merger determines the islandhood of the argument at its base position. In addition, he argues that the interaction of *pair-merge* and accusative case determines which (if any) of the arguments will be external. Choice of the type of merger is governed by the feature composition of the thematic role assigned to an argument, using the thematic feature system developed by Reinhart (2000). This approach has clear empirical advantages, when compared to existing frameworks. In addition, it provides answers for previously unresolved questions about argument externality.

BIDE 2005 has attracted a number of researchers working on Romance languages. For instance, the following two papers look at the nominal phrase structure in Spanish and Romanian, respectively. In “Prenominal and postnominal demonstratives in Spanish: A [\pm Deictic] approach”, Taboada presents an analysis for pronominal and postnominal demonstratives in Spanish that accounts for the difference in meaning and in structure between these two constructions. Her proposal also explains the complementary distribution of the article and the demonstrative in pronominal positions. Taking as a starting point Bernstein’s (1997) observation that the postnominal constructions have a deictic meaning that the pronominal

ones lack, Taboada argues that the presence of a feature [+deictic] in Dem^o triggers the raising of the demonstrative to D^o, in order to check the [+Ref] feature present in this position. The postnominal demonstrative is marked [-deictic], and this prevents it from moving, and forces the appearance of the expletive article in D^o as a last resort operation. The author claims that the two features, [± deictic] and [± Referential] must be related, since the presence of the [± deictic] feature can check the [+Ref] one, and it is decisive for the appearance of the expletive article or the movement of the demonstrative. Taboada further extends her proposal to other constructions containing a demonstrative: Postnominal demonstratives without an article and postnominal demonstratives with a place adverb can be captured with the [±Deictic] approach.

Mardale's study on "Case Marking and Prepositional Marking" analyzes the alternation between DPs morphologically marked for Genitive and PPs headed by the preposition *DE* in Romanian. Previous studies have given a unitary approach to this alternation, based on ideas about semantic similarity and free substitution of one construction by the other. However, the author proposes to treat them differently, due to a number of constraints that suggest that both types of constructions behave differently with respect to the nature of their second argument. The author shows a correlation between syntactic categories (DP versus NP), case-marking (morphological versus prepositional) and semantic type (<e> versus <e, t>).

Gallego presents another paper on Romance languages. "Phase Theory, Case, and Relative Clauses" puts forward a minimalist analysis of Spanish relative clauses that builds on Pesetsky & Torrego's (2001, 2004) claim that Case is an unvalued tense feature. Assuming Kayne's (1994) head-raising analysis of relative clauses, the paper focuses on two well-known restrictions of Romance: a) relative pronouns must be introduced by prepositions (e.g., *El chico *(con) quien habló* 'The boy (to) who(m) he talked (to)'), and b) relative clauses do not allow so-called "complementizer deletion" (e.g., *El chico *(que) vi* 'The boy (that) I saw'). The author reviews (and rejects) Bianchi's (1999) *Left Peripheral account*, and argues for a *T-to-C analysis* (see Pesetsky & Torrego 2001) consistent with the well-grounded and old intuition within the GB literature that subjects show A-bar properties in Romance. In particular, entertaining Pesetsky & Torrego's (2001) hypothesis that the Case feature of subjects can be used for checking purposes in the CP, Gallego argues that Romance behaves differently because nominative Case is assigned within the v*P phase: if correct, that explains why the Case feature of subjects becomes computationally inert when the CP cycle is activated.

A fruitful approach to linguistics involves cross-linguistic comparison in order to obtain analyses with explanatory power. This approach has been adopted by several of the papers included in this volume to explain phenomena such as clitic syncretism, the behavior of adjectives and proper nouns, and *en*-prefixation.

Pescarini's "Types of syncretism in the clitic systems of Romance" discusses the hypothesis according to which every clitic system has an elsewhere item, i.e., a non-specific clitic. This elsewhere clitic can be inserted in those cases where more specific items are ruled out the Subset Principle (Halle & Marantz 1993). The author presents data from different Italo-Romance varieties to support his thesis. Synthetic clusters, or contextual syncretisms, are sequences of clitics with a mismatch between

their morphological form and their syntactic functions. In these syncretisms, two identical clitics cannot occur together due to an OCP markedness constraint. Pescarini claims that the Subset Principle explains which clitic will be inserted to satisfy the OCP constraint, namely the elsewhere clitic given that it is the least specific in the system. Assuming Pescarini's claim that the elsewhere clitic is the best candidate for syncretism, then this predicts a relation between the process of contextual syncretism and that of absolute syncretism within a clitic system. This implies that the same clitic is involved in both types of syncretism. In fact, the author's typology shows that in all the reported varieties the clitic used in contextual and absolute syncretism is the same. Finally, Pescarini points out to some cases where the process of absolute syncretism does not involve the elsewhere clitic. In these cases, the author claims that the inserted clitic is in fact the result of a phonological development that led to homophony between two historically distinct clitics.

Giurgea's "Adjectives and Proper Nouns in Romance and English", examines the relationship between determiners and proper nouns in English and Romanian. The author describes the contrasts between English and Romance languages with respect to nominal structures containing proper nouns (PN), when adjectival restrictive modifications apply. In English the same structure, i.e., Adj+N, is used for common and proper nouns, and when the structure is restricted, *the* is inserted before the adjective. In Romance languages PN+*the*+Adj type of constructions are preferred, obligatorily in the case of Romanian. In order to account for this contrast, Giurgea proposes that Romance language use the PN + *the* + Adj type of construction with a particular type of restrictive modification, involving a selection of PNs with a familiarity condition. Moreover, in Romanian, this selection is obligatory due to morphological reasons. The analysis of the structure falls directly from a semantic rule of proper noun to common noun conversion, from which all the properties of the construction derive.

Padrosa's article entitled "Argument Structure and Morphology: the Case of *en*-Prefixation Revisited" examines a number of *en*-prefixed words in Catalan and English. She claims that they also follow the Right-hand Head Rule (RHR, Williams 1981), unlike previous analyses that considered them counterexamples to this rule. She proposes that adjective and noun conversion to verb is motivated by an *en*-suffix attachment, which occurs before prefixation, thus not violating RHR. Furthermore, Padrosa claims that the *en*-prefixation is responsible for the [-c-m] role in the case of *en*+N Vs with a locative meaning. Differences between Catalan and English are then accounted for by the use of the prefix: Catalan requires the presence of the prefix in order to account for locative Vs and English does not require it any longer, which is explained by the disassociation of the [-c-m] role from the prefix and its re-association with its base N.

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