

INDEXICAL SHIFTING AS PRONOMINAL BINDING

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Aim: On the basis of *Shift-Together Constraint*, whereby all indexicals within a speech-context domain must pick up reference from the same context, indexical shifting has been argued to arise by overwriting of a parameter of the semantic evaluation sequence (Anand & Nevins, 2004; Anand, 2006). Investigating the indexical shifting patterns in three different languages, namely (a variety of) Turkish, Zazaki and Kurmanji, where certain Shift Together violations are grammatical, this study argues that Shift Together is not a universal fact about indexical shift. Crucially, the impossible Shift Together violations in these languages are always the ones where an unshifted pronoun intervenes between the shifted pronoun and its antecedent. In this way, they resemble the cases of pronoun binding that are ruled out by the *De Re* Blocking Effect, itself a reflex of a rule of binding locality. As such, the current study proposes that the *De Se* LF of indexical shifting may also arise via binding in the syntax.

Data: It has been previously discussed that indexical shifting is an indirect discourse phenomena rather than being simply a matter of quotation in Turkish (Şener & Şener 2011, Özyıldız 2013) and in Zazaki (Anand & Nevins 2004). This study investigates the same phenomena in a variety of Turkish, a different dialect of Zazaki (Mutki Zazaki-MZ) and in Kurmanji Kurdish (specifically Muş Kurmanji-MK) arguing that indexicals shift in these three languages unless an unshifted pronoun intervenes between the shifted pronoun and its antecedent. First, the following examples indicate that indexical shifting is not quotation in these languages because negation in the matrix clause can license the NPI in the embedded clause (1), a *wh-element* in the embedded clause can scope into the matrix clause and receive matrix question interpretation (2) and A'-extraction is possible out of complements of matrix verb with shifted indexicals although it is not licit in cases of direct quotation (3).

- (1) a. *İnan* [kimse-yi gör-dü-m] de-me-di. (Turkish)
 İnan anyone-ACC see-PST-1SG say-NEG-PST-3SG
 'İnan_i didn't say that he_i saw anyone.'
- b. *Kemal ni-va* [mi dük-es di.] (MZ)
 Kemal NEG-say.PST.3SG 1SG.OBL anyone see.PST.3SG
 'Kemal_i didn't say that he_i saw anyone.'
- c. *Rojbîn-ê ne-got* [ku min kes-î dît.] (MK)
 Rojbîn-OBL NEG-say.PST.3SG that 1SG.OBL anyone-OBL see.PST.3SG
 'Rojbîn_i didn't say that she_i saw anyone.'
- (2) a. *İnan Ayşe'ye* [ben-i nereye ata-dı-lar] de-di? (Turkish)
 İnan Ayşe-DAT 1SG-ACC where appoint-PST-3PL say-PST-3SG
 'Where did İnan_i say to Ayşe that they appointed me/him_i?'
- b. *Kemal Leyla-ra va* [(e) to ber-a kudîe?] (MZ)
 Kemal Leyla-to say.PST.3SG 1SG.DIR 2SG.OBL take-1SG where
 'Where did Kemal_i say to Leyla_i that he_i would take her_i?'
- (3) *Jinika*_i [ku Rojbîn got min t_i dîtîye] pir ecêb e (MK)
 woman-EZ.F that Rojbîn say.PST.3SG 1SG.OBL t saw very strange COP.3SG
 'The woman that Rojbîn_i said she_i saw was strange/scary.'

Anand & Nevins (2004) propose the Shift Together Constraint (STC) based on the behavior of indexical shift in Slave and Standard Zazaki. According to the STC, all indexicals within a speech context domain must pick up their referents from the same context, thus all indexicals either get their reference from the utterance context or they all have their referents from the reported speech context. However, the data from (a variety of) Turkish, MZ and MK (4) demonstrate that indexical shifting in these languages are three-way ambiguous whereby the first two readings ((i) and (ii)) obey STC hence acceptable as predicted while the third reading is an apparent violation of STC but it is acceptable. On the other hand, the fourth reading (iv) violates STC and is, unsurprisingly, disallowed.

(4) a. Tunç Ayşe'ye [ben sen-i nereye götür-eceğ-im demiş? (Turkish)
 Tunç Ayşe-DAT 1SG.NOM 2SG-ACC where take-FUT-1SG say-PST.3SG
 Where did Tunç_i say to Ayşe_j that ... (i) I would take you?

- (ii) he_i would take her_j?
 (iii) he_i would take you?
 (iv) *I would take her_j?

b. Kemal Leyla-ra va [to mi kudi di?] (MZ)
 Kemal Leyla-to say.PST.3SG 2SG.OBL 1SG.OBL where see.PST.3SG

'Where did Kemal_i say to Leyla_j that ...

- (i) you would saw me?
 (ii) she_j would saw him_j?
 (iii) she_j would saw me?
 (iv) *I would saw him_i?

c. Rojbîn-ê ji Sidar ra got (ku) ez ji te hez di-k-im
 Rojbîn-OBL P Sidar Part. said (that) 1SG.DIR P 2SG.OBL love do.PRS-1SG

'Rojbin_i said to Sidar_j that ...

- (i) I love you
 (ii) she_i loves him_j?
 (iii) she_i loves me?
 (iv) *I love him_j?

Discussion and Analysis: The patterns in (4) bear strong resemblance to *De Re* Blocking Effect (Anand 2006), which states that no obligatory *de se* anaphor can be c-commanded by a *de re* counterpart. This accounts for the asymmetry between the 1st person pronouns in (5), from Lakoff (1972). The only possible interpretation is the one in which the object pronoun is interpreted *de re* (as George), and the subject *de se* (as Brigitte). The opposite interpretation is ruled out.

(5) [George:] I dreamt I was Brigitte Bardot and I kissed me.

a. In the dream Brigitte kisses George.

b. #In the dream, George kisses Brigitte.

Crucial to Anand's explanation is the notion of binding locality. Anand proposes that the underlying motivation for binding locality is the same as the underlying cause of the *De Re* Blocking Effect – obligatory *de se* pronouns (e.g. *me* in (5)) are marked for binding by an operator, and it is this binding operation that cannot be intervened.

Clauses with indexical shift can only express *de se* attitudes (Schlenker 1999, Messick 2016). As seen in (4), they also exhibit the same constraint observed for *De Re* Blocking Effect, in that obligatory *de se* pronouns (i.e. shifted pronouns) are bound by operators in syntax, and this operator-variable relationship is subject to intervention, as other binding relations. The binding relation is schematized in (6), using English words.

(6) Hasan λ_x [I_x saw] said.



(7) * Hasan λ_x [you [me_x where take]] said.



In (7), an unbound (and so unshifted) indexical pronoun intervenes between the bound (shifted) indexical and its antecedent, and the result is ungrammaticality. This is the configuration found in the unavailable reading (iv) of (4). We further discuss the predictions of this analysis, its advantages over Deal (2012, 2016), which fails to capture the role of the hierarchy among pronominal arguments since Deal contends that shifting patterns are the result of hierarchy among operators in CP.

Selected References

- Anand, Pranav, & Andrew Nevins. 2004. Shifty operators in changing contexts. In *Proceedings of Semantics and Linguistic Theory XIV*, ed. Robert B. Young, 20–37. CLC Publications. Özyıldız, Deniz. 2013. When I is not me: A preliminary case study of shifted indexicals in Turkish. Manuscript. Şener, Nilüfer Gültekin, & Serkan Şener. 2011. Null subjects and Indexicality in Turkish and Uyghur. In *Proceedings of the 7th Workshop on Altaic Formal Linguistics (WAFL7)*, 269–284.