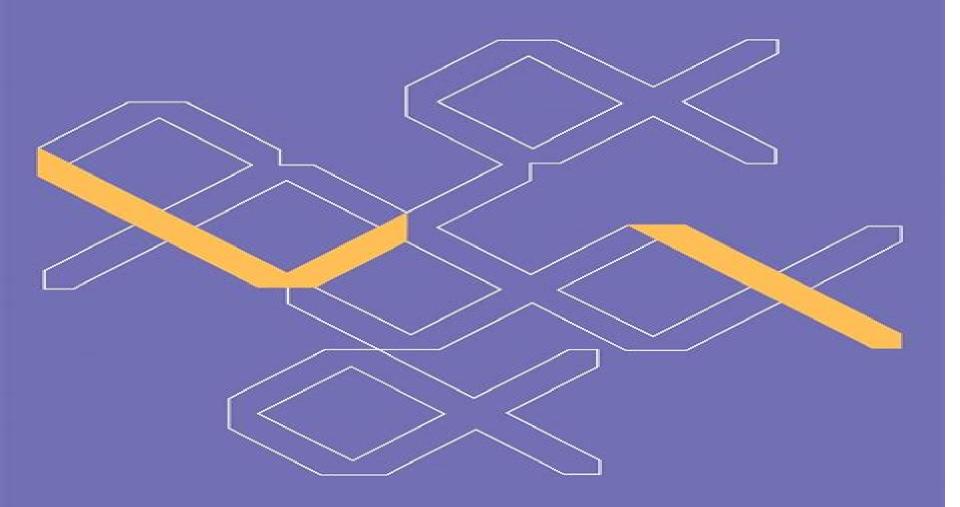
# **Provocative Syntax**

# Phil Branigan



# **Provocative Syntax Linguistic Inquiry Monographs**

**Sam Wolfe** 

### **Provocative Syntax Linguistic Inquiry Monographs:**

Provocative Syntax Phil Branigan, 2011 A new theory of syntactic movement within a Chomskyan framework Chomsky showed that no description of natural language syntax would be adequate without some notion of movement operations in a syntactic derivation It now seems likely that such movement transformations are formally simple operations in which a single phrase is displaced from its original position within a phrase marker but after more than fifty years of generative theorizing the mechanics of syntactic movement are still murky and controversial In Provocative Syntax Phil Branigan examines the forces that drive syntactic movement and offers a new synthetic model of the basic movement operation by reassembling in a novel way isolated ideas that have been suggested elsewhere in the literature The unifying concept is the operation of provocation which occurs in the course of feature valuation when certain probes seek a value for their unvalued features by identifying a goal Provocation forces the generation of a copy of the goal the copy originates outside the original phrase marker and must then be introduced into it In this approach movement is not forced by the need for extra positions extra positions are generated because movement is taking place After presenting the central proposal and showing its implementation in the analyses of various familiar cases of syntactic movement Branigan demonstrates the effects of provocation in a variety of inversion constructions examines interactions between head and phrasal provocation within the left periphery of Germanic embedded clauses and describes the details of chain formation and successive cyclic movement in a provocation model Essays on the Representational and Derivational Nature of Grammar Joseph Aoun, Yen-hui Audrey Li,2003 An empirical study of wh interrogatives and relative constructions and theoretical investigation of chain formation in Syntactic Change in French Sam Wolfe, 2021 This book provides the most comprehensive and detailed formal grammar account to date of the evolution of French syntax It covers syntactic variation and change across all periods of French and in standard and non standard varieties and explores phenomena such as subject positions and null subjects verb movement Verb Second in Medieval Romance Sam Wolfe, 2019 This volume provides the first book object placement and negation length study of the controversial topic of Verb Second and related properties in a range of Medieval Romance varieties The findings have widespread implications for the understanding of both the key typological property of Verb Second and the development of Latin into the modern Romance languages Journal of Linguistics ,2014 **Agreement and Its Failures** Omer Preminger, 2014-09-12 A novel proposal regarding predicate argument agreement that combines detailed empirical investigation with rigorous theoretical discussion In this book Omer Preminger investigates how the obligatory nature of predicate argument agreement is enforced by the grammar Preminger argues that an empirically adequate theory of predicate argument agreement requires recourse to an operation whose obligatoriness is a grammatical primitive not reducible to representational properties but whose successful culmination is not enforced by the grammar Preminger's argument counters contemporary approaches that find the obligatoriness of predicate argument agreement enforced through representational means The most prominent of these is Chomsky's interpretability based proposal in which the obligatoriness of predicate argument agreement is enforced through derivational time bombs Preminger presents an empirical argument against contemporary approaches that seek to derive the obligatory nature of predicate argument agreement exclusively from derivational time bombs He offers instead an alternative account based on the notion of obligatory operations better suited to the facts The crucial data involves utterances that inescapably involve attempted but failed agreement and are nonetheless fully grammatical Preminger combines a detailed empirical investigation of agreement phenomena in the Kichean Mayan languages Zulu Bantu Basque Icelandic and French with an extensive and rigorous theoretical exploration of the far reaching consequences of these data The result is a novel proposal that has profound implications for the formalism that the theory of grammar uses to derive obligatory processes and properties *Ideologies in Action* Alexandra Mystra Jaffe, 1999 In Ideologies in Action Alexandra Jaffe explores the complex interrelationship between linguistic ideologies and practices on the French island of Corsica This detailed exploration of the ideological and political underpinnings of three decades of language planning raises fundamental questions about what it means to save a minority language and the way in which specific cultural political and ideological contexts shape the success and failures of linguistic engineering efforts This book contributes to a growing literature on language ideology and will be of interest to anthropologists political scientists and linguists interested in the practical and theoretical dimensions of language contact minority language literacy bilingual education and language shift **Probes and Their Horizons** Stefan Keine, 2020-02-25 A comprehensive theory of selective opacity effects configurations in which syntactic domains are opaque to some processes but transparent to others within a Minimalist framework In this book Stefan Keine investigates in detail selective opacity configurations in which syntactic domains are opaque to some processes but transparent to others and develops a comprehensive theory of these syntactic configurations within a contemporary Minimalist framework Although such configurations have traditionally been analyzed in terms of restrictions on possible sequences of movement steps Keine finds that analogous restrictions govern long distance dependencies that do not involve movement He argues that the phenomenon is more widespread and abstract than previously assumed He proposes a new approach to such effects according to which probes that initiate the operation Agree are subject to horizons which terminate their searches Selective opacity effects raise important questions about the nature of locality in natural language the representation of movement type asymmetries correlations between clause structure and locality and possible interactions between syntactic dependencies With a focus on in depth case studies of Hindi Urdu and German Keine offers detailed investigations of movement dependencies long distance agreement wh dependencies the A A distinction restructuring freezing effects successive cyclicity and phase theory Keine's account offers a thorough understanding of selective opacity and the systematic overarching generalizations to which it is subject Voice and V Julie Anne Legate, 2014-10-31 An investigation of the syntactic structure of voice and v using Acehnese Malayo Polynesian as

the empirical starting point In Voice and v Julie Anne Legate investigates the syntactic structure of voice using Acehnese as the empirical starting point A central claim is that voice is encoded in a functional projection VoiceP which is distinct from and higher than vP Legate further claims that VoiceP may be associated with phi features that semantically restrict the external argument position but do not saturate it Through minor variations in the properties of VoiceP Legate explains a wide range of non-canonical voice constructions including agent agreeing passives grammatical object passives impersonals object voice constructions and applicative voice in causatives Her analysis draws on data from a typologically diverse set of languages not only Malayo Polynesian but also Celtic Scandinavian and Slavic Voice and v provides a detailed investigation into the syntactic structure of an understudied Malayo Polynesian language and thereby reveals important insights for the theoretical analysis of voice and the verb phrase Moreover the work applies and broadens these insights to a range of related passive like constructions crosslinguistically Voice and v thus joins a handful of model volumes that enlist typological depth and breadth to further our development of modern linguistic theory A Two-Tiered Theory of Control Idan Landau, 2015-05-01 A theory of control equally grounded in syntax and semantics that argues that obligatory control is achieved either through predication or through logophoric anchoring This book revives and reinterprets a persistent intuition running through much of the classical work that the unitary appearance of Obligatory Control into complements conceals an underlying duality of structure and mechanism Idan Landau argues that control complements divide into two types In attitude contexts control is established by logophoric anchoring while non attitude contexts it boils down to predication The distinction is also syntactically represented Logophoric complements are constructed as a second tier above predicative complements The theory derives the obligatory de se reading of PRO as a special kind of de re attitude without ascribing any inherent feature to PRO At the same time it provides a principled explanation based on feature transmission for the agreement properties of PRO which are stipulated on competing semantic accounts Finally it derives a striking universal asymmetry the fact that agreement on the embedded verb blocks control in attitude contexts but not in non attitude contexts This book is unique in being firmly grounded in both the formal semantic and the syntactic studies of control offering an integrated view that will appeal to scholars in both areas By bringing to bear current sophisticated grammatical analyses it offers new insights into the classical problems of control theory

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