
Modal Merge and Minimal Move for Dislocation and Verb Clustering

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Abstract

Apparently non-related phenomena like wh-movement and Dutch verb clustering can be handled as bounded varieties of generalized composition in a categorial framework. This supports the unification of *merge* and *move* from an operational point of view. It abstracts away from hypothetical reasoning as an instrument of grammatical deduction.

Keywords: categorial grammar, minimalism, verb clustering, wh-movement

1 Introduction

Mankind¹ owes to Generative Grammar the discovery and subsequent theoretical exploitation of at least two phenomena in natural language: leftward dislocation or fronting (1.1), in particular wh-movement, and Dutch verb clustering (1.2), in particular cross-serial dependencies. Leftward dislocation typically creates non-local dependencies between a structural position at the left edge of a sentence and a structural position somewhere in the sentence's kernel. Verb clustering groups together a bunch of verbal heads, leaving a sequence of motherless arguments to these verbs.

1.1

Hier heb ik op gewacht
'here have I on waited'
This is what I waited for
Waar heb jij hem op laten wachten?
'where have you him for let wait'
What did you let him wait for

1.2

Geen geleerde heeft *haar mij deze stelling ooit uit laten leggen*
'No scholar has her me this proposition ever ex- let -plain'
No scholar has ever allowed her to explain this proposition to me

Leftward dislocation is considered to be common to all languages and to be steered and restricted by mechanisms that reside in the very core of human grammar. This one can learn from almost any study in generative linguistics in the last decades. The study of the nature of the non-local relation created by fronting feeds the whole grammatical enterprise.

¹Ton van der Wouden, Jeroen van de Weijer, Lisa Cheng, and an anonymous reviewer made valuable comments on earlier drafts. Maarten Hijzelendoorn co-constructed the DELILAH system. They all are innocent, though.

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Verb clustering and resulting forms of cross-serial dependencies are intrinsic to only some languages, and the processes underlying it from a generative point of view are almost epiphenomena of more fundamental choices one makes. See, for instance, [Zwart 1993], [Barbiers 1998] and [Den Dikken 1996] for diverging but minimalist-inspired analyses of the clustering phenomena in Dutch. One of the major parameters here is the basic order of objects and predicates.

The categorial grammar exploited in the parsing system DELILAH (<http://fonetiek-6.leidenuniv.nl/hijzlnr/delilah.html>) deals with both phenomena using a limited set of combinatory instruments, under very restricted modal variation. This grammar emanates from Generalized Composition by some restrictions and additions which are discussed in this paper. It subsequently reports on the way in which the DELILAH grammar syntactically captures leftward dislocation and verb clustering phenomena, thereby demonstrating that phenomena which seem to be separate in the theory of grammar, may be connected formally. The grammar formalism introduced here exploits a concept of categories as combinatorial agendas which is far from hostile to notions like *feature checking*, *merge* and *move* in the minimalist framework (cf. [Stabler 1996]). As a matter of fact, in the rules of generalized composition proposed below notions like *merge* and *move* explicitly converge. This approach therefore suggests that projecting minimalism on multimodality may play down any fundamental distinction between these two styles of structure building.

2 Merging Move

[Stabler 1996] formalizes the two structure building operations *move* and *merge* suggested in [Chomsky 1995]. In this formalization, they differ mainly as to their arity. *Merge* operates on two phrases, *move* on just one. Both are triggered by pairs of features, construed as a negative and a positive one. *Move* is overt or covert (or partial), the difference being whether or not phonological features are involved. Stabler tends to consider this distinction as derived but [Cheng *t.a.*] argues in favor of partial movement on independent grounds. [Vermaat 1999] projects Stabler's formalization on multimodal categorial grammar. She maps *merge* on functional application, and captures movement logically with hypothetical reasoning, deductively with abstraction and structurally with modalized reordering postulates. The latter process is typically induced by higher order types reflecting dislocation.

[Stabler 1996] observes instances of count invariancy in converging minimalist derivations. In the same vein, [Stabler 1999] appeals to proof net representations of these derivations, proof nets being resource sensitive construals of reasoning. In accordance with these analogies, [Vermaat 1999] translates the triggering feature pairs of minimalist operations in terms of indexed residuation.

The distinction between the operations *merge* and *move* is rather clear-cut in Stabler's formalization. It is obscured, however, in revisions of 'the minimalist program' emanating from exegeses of [Chomsky 1998]. Here we find more or less explicit reductions of *move* to *merge*. *Move* is reviewed as *merge* plus agree; the latter involves the determination of a local target for the cancellation of a special brand of features. Traces, the once proud markers of dislocation dependencies, are orphanized. Interestingly, [Chomsky 1998] recasts *merge* as an asymmetric operation, driven by 'probe'

and 'goal' mechanisms. This modelling reflects the emphasis in Stabler's analysis on the need for positive and negative feature pairs in both structure building rules.

If *merge* is the combinatorial engine of *move*, it is hard to see why *move* and *merge* should reflect dual operations like elimination and introduction in a categorial or deductive setting. Movement in its newest dress does not seem to be particular or distinct enough to be decorated with hypothetical reasoning as an exclusive asset. Either hypothetical reasoning is a viable move in every derivation of complex phrases - as was already immanent in [Montague 1973]'s approach to quantification - or it is obsolete in the account of linguistic phenomena. Of course, hypothetical reasoning remains an interesting mode of deduction, but grammar does not have to take resort to it in order to become relevant or adequate or faithful.

The system presented here treats *merge* and *move* phenomena as predictable varieties of one process of composing complex symbols. All structural positions are projected from the lexicon and are preserved and transferred in this process. Consequently, there are no structure building rules at all, but only resource sensitive compositional procedures steering unification: the ultimate licensing.

3 Categorial Grammar made context-sensitive

Categorial Grammar defines the set of phrases of a language by the closure of a set of lexical items with explicit combinatorial agendas under a fixed set of operations. It has been made relevant to the analysis of natural language by [Ades and Steedman 1983], [Hoeksema 1984], [Zwarts 1986] and [Moortgat 1988], among many others. Its logical dimensions have been exploited by [Lambek 1958], [Bar-Hillel *et al* 1960] and in various studies by Van Benthem (e.g. [Van Benthem 1991]) and Buszkowski (e.g. [Buszkowski 1984]). A comprehensive perspective on Categorial Grammar is offered by [Morrill 1994] and [Carpenter 1997]. The canonical forms in which the categorial approach materializes in our days include the Lambek calculus and its variations and extensions as well as Combinatory Categorial Grammar ([Steedman 1987], [Steedman 1996], [Steedman 2000]).

[Pentus 1992] first proved the longstanding conjecture that the Lambek calculus recognizes exactly the class of context-free languages. The rich variety of categorial combinations which the Lambek calculus offers does not push its recognizing capacity beyond the boundaries of context-free phrase structure grammar. This concerns in particular the status of the theorem of harmonious composition, which has the following grammatical effect:

3.1

a term $t1$ of category a/b ($a \backslash b$) and a term $t2$ of category b/c ($b \backslash c$) combine to form a term $t1+t2$ ($t2+t1$) of category a/c ($a \backslash c$)²

$$\begin{array}{l} a/b \quad b/c \Rightarrow a/c \\ b \backslash c \quad a \backslash b \Rightarrow a \backslash c \end{array}$$

This option combines two 'incomplete' or functional expressions into one, but does not, according to Pentus' proof, stretch recognizing power. This is reflected in the fact that for every context-free Lambek grammar G using harmonious composition

²The reader may notice that this paper uses the triple notation (head,direction,argument) for complex categories

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and SR - right argument stack (of the secondary category). Categories will appear in the following formats.

3.6

$head \setminus LeftArgList / RightArgList A$
 $head \setminus LeftArgList / [top | RestRightArgList]$
 $head \setminus [l_1 \dots l_m] / [r_1 \dots r_n]$

Appended stacks are written (*Upper + Lower*), such that $[a,b] + [c,d] = [a,b,c,d]$. Using the triple representation (3.6), the combinatory engine of DELILAH's grammar is stated as in (3.7), restyling 3.4 and 3.5.

3.7

EXTENDED GENERALIZED COMPOSITION

$prim \setminus PL / [sec PR]$	$sec \setminus SL / SR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus PL + SL / PR + SR$
$prim \setminus PL / [sec PR]$	$sec \setminus SL / SR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus SL + PL / PR + SR$
$prim \setminus PL / [sec PR]$	$sec \setminus SL / SR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus PL + SL / SR + PR$
$prim \setminus PL / [sec PR]$	$sec \setminus SL / SR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus PL + SL / SR + PR$
$sec \setminus SL / SR$	$prim \setminus [sec PL] / PR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus PL + SL / PR + SR$
$sec \setminus SL / SR$	$prim \setminus [sec PL] / PR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus SL + PL / PR + SR$
$sec \setminus SL / SR$	$prim \setminus [sec PL] / PR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus PL + SL / SR + PR$
$sec \setminus SL / SR$	$prim \setminus [sec PL] / PR$	\Rightarrow	$prim \setminus SL + PL / SR + PR$

Although the stacks are marked for direction and composition is sensitive to this marking, the arguments lists in one direction do not interfere with each other. They conserve their integrity under append.

This formalism gives rise to a family of parameters: languages are not indifferent with respect to the modes of composition captured here. They may be restricted to certain patterns of merging argument stacks, for the nature of a top element, for the emptiness of stacks, and so on. In the DELILAH grammar, these parameters are operationalized as *modes*, clusters of constraints on composition. Every argument in a stack of a (lexical) category is obligatorily equipped with such a fixed mode, determining the pre- end post-conditions of its cancellation. The mode at least specifies the way of merging the argument lists 'after' cancelling the argument. It can do so by requiring one or more list to be empty 'before' cancellation and/or by specifying the merge order of non-empty stacks. Thus, a mode m at an argument A in a category C constrains the composition of C and a (secondary) category headed by A by imposing conditions on A, the other category and the composition itself. m defines a partial map of pairs of categories onto categories. Moreover, the mode may be sensitive to the history of the input categories in the sense that they may require argument stacks to be affected (non-lexical) or affected (lexical) at cancellation. The number of modes is arguably finite. Still, languages will select just a subset of these to be operative in their grammar. The broad-coverage grammar of Dutch which DELILAH aims at, actually supports only about 10 different modes; some of these modes occur in both directions, some only in one. Clearly, this system ([Cremers 1993]) is cognate with the concept of indexed operators in multimodal categorial type logic ([Moortgat 1997]). In the next sections, some aspects of global and lexical parametrization for Dutch will be discussed.

In the DELILAH system, the grammar format is parsed in a deterministic shift-reduce fashion to obtain one analysis; the set of all possible analyses for adjuncts is obtained by backtracking.

The resulting logic is essentially non-lambekian in that the only engine of inference is Modus Ponens; hypothetical reasoning is not supported. The logic consists of the identity axiom and a finite set of modalized eliminations. Capitals A, B, C stand for nonempty sequences $\langle A_1, \dots, A_n \rangle$ of categories A_i ; capitals L, LL, R and RR stand for possibly empty lists of terms $y^{\wedge}j$, where y is a type and j a mode.

3.8

$$(id) \quad x \setminus L/R \vdash x \setminus L/R$$

$$(\setminus_i) \quad \frac{A \vdash \mathbf{y} \setminus L/R \quad B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus [\mathbf{y}^{\wedge}i \mid LL]/RR}{A, B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus L \oplus_i LL/R \oplus_i RR}$$

$$(/_j) \quad \frac{A \vdash \mathbf{y} \setminus L/R \quad B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus LL/[\mathbf{y}^{\wedge}j \mid RR]}{B, A \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus L \oplus_j LL/R \oplus_j RR}$$

For all modes i , $X \oplus_i [] = [] \oplus_i X = X$. For a given mode m , such that $X \oplus_m Y = \text{append}(Y, X) = [Y+X]$, (\setminus_m) might be as in (3.9), requiring the secondary category's left argument list SL to be empty; its righthand counterpart $(/_m)$ might be as in (3.10), requiring the secondary category's right argument list SR to be non-empty and the primary category's left argument list PL to be empty.

3.9

$$\frac{A \vdash \mathbf{y} \setminus []/R \quad B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus [\mathbf{y}^{\wedge}m \mid LL]/RR}{A, B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus LL/[RR + R]}$$

3.10

$$\frac{A \vdash \mathbf{y} \setminus L/[T \mid R] \quad B \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus []/[\mathbf{y}^{\wedge}m \mid RR]}{B, A \vdash \mathbf{x} \setminus L/[RR + [T \mid R]]}$$

Because of lacking operator introduction schemata, the system is not blessed with theorems like Lifting, Geach Division, Restructuring, Permutation and Exchange (cf. [Van Benthem 1991], [Moortgat 1997]). Its resource management, however, is as sensitive as in the lambekian calculi (cf. [Cremers 1993] where the present grammar format was - accidentally - introduced as 'minimal categorial grammar'). Modalized forms of disharmonious composition were introduced by [Moortgat and Oehrle 1994] in a lambekian context.

In the next sessions, the literals representing modes may be suppressed whenever the nature of a mode is topic of the argument.

4 Disharmony put to work

Given the format of extended generalized composition one can identify certain restrictions that languages may exploit. In particular, disharmonious instances of generalized composition can be held responsible for the patterns which arise from verb clustering and are known as crossing dependencies.

4.1

$$[s.. XP_1..XP_i..XP_j..XP_n \quad V_1..V_k..V_l..V_m..]$$

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If XP_i is licensed by V_k and XP_j is licensed by V_l and $i < j$ and $k < l$, string (4.1) contains crossing dependencies. This type of linking is operative in Dutch sentences like 1.2, repeated below.

4.2

Geen geleerde heeft *haar mij deze stelling ooit uit laten leggen*

‘No scholar has her me this proposition ever ex- let -plain’

No scholar has ever allowed her to explain this proposition to me

To the extent that crossing dependencies are productive, as they are in Dutch, they cannot be adequately captured by context-free grammars.

Let us assume - or just: observe, at the level of admissible strings - that in Dutch verbal complements are mainly right arguments and nominal complements are mainly left arguments. Now suppose we have two verbal categories adjacent to each other as in

4.3

$vp \backslash [np_1 np_2] / [vp]$ $vp \backslash [np_3] / []$

The indices on np are for differentiation purposes only. Applying extended generalized composition to 4.3 may result in one of two reductions:

4.4

$vp \backslash [np_1 np_2] / [vp]$ $vp \backslash [np_3] / []$ \Rightarrow $vp \backslash [np_1 np_2 np_3] / []$
 $vp \backslash [np_1 np_2] / [vp]$ $vp \backslash [np_3] / []$ \Rightarrow $vp \backslash [np_3 np_1 np_2] / []$

As the order in the stack inverts the linear order in the string, the second option reflects the pattern of a crossing dependency: the arguments licensed by the rightmost verb have to appear to the right of the arguments licensed by the leftmost verb, the primary category. Disharmonious composition - merging stacks in the direction that was not affected by the cancellation - in this particular mode adds weak and strong recognizing power to the grammar, as was shown in [Zinn 1993].

To get Dutch verb clustering patterns right, we need at least the following merger of left argument stacks for rightward cancellation in Dutch:

4.5

$prim \backslash PL / [sec | PR]$ $sec \backslash SL / SR$ \Rightarrow $prim \backslash (SL + PL) / (SR + PR)$
laten: $vp \backslash [np] / [vp]$ *gaan*: $vp \backslash [pp] / []$ \Rightarrow *laten gaan*: $vp \backslash [pp, np] / []$
‘let’ ‘go’ ‘let go’

Now let us have a look at long-distance dependencies, i.e. the relation between a dislocated element (in [Spec, CP]) and the position in which it is licensed. Under generalized composition, this relation is established if the grammar can cancel the dislocated element against the argument that marks the gap or the trace. This trace can only occur as a left argument. It is transported leftward by merging stacks under generalized composition, but it has to be ‘suppressed’ with respect to other leftward arguments involved in the composition. Consider the following configuration:

4.6

wh ... $prim \backslash PL / [sec | PR]$ $sec \backslash [wh] / SR$...

Clearly, for the secondary category to cancel its argument *wh* (its ‘gap’) against the dislocated *wh*, that argument has to be carried leftward by composition. Also one can

see that the argument stack PL has to be cancelled before the dislocated argument is: wh-elements are left peripheral, when dislocated. Consequently, (4.6) can be recognized iff in the new left stack the arguments of the primary category are stacked before the gap argument. For the sake of leftward dislocation we need, along merger mode (4.5), also

$$4.7 \\ prim \backslash PL / [sec | PR] \quad sec \backslash SL / SR \quad \Rightarrow \quad prim \backslash (PL + SL) / (SR + PR)$$

This merger mode might be restricted to cases where $SL = [wh]$, *i.e.* a left argument list containing only a dislocated argument. Applying composition in (4.6), then, yields as an intermediate step the category $prim \backslash (PL + [wh]) / (SR + PR)$.

Thus, disharmonious composition, as an instance of Generalized Composition, derives crossing dependencies as well as long-distance discontinuities. Languages will not, however, apply composition blindly. In particular, to the extent that composition derives discontinuity, composition will be restricted by local conditions, as indicated in (3.8)-(3.10).

It must be stated that some theoreticians have refuted disharmonious composition as a legitimate way of dealing with discontinuities, for instance, [Jacobson 1992] and [Carpenter 1997, p. 201ff]. Evidently, the effects of deriving disharmony depend on its categorial environment. Disharmony is known to induce ‘collapse of order’ ([Carpenter 1997]) and ‘damaging loss of control over the grammatical resources’ ([Moortgat 1997]), when it is adopted in Lambek categorial grammar, in which it cannot be derived. Under the present assumptions, however, every composition must be constrained as to the way of merging argument lists. Here, disharmony is just one of the options out of which one has to be specified for composition to take place. It is neither added to an independently motivated repertoire nor must it be additionally restricted. Disharmony is a specified well-defined move in the game of generalized composition. In the next section, it is shown that the patterns arising from verb clustering are steered by mechanisms which also compute islandhood.

5 Verb clustering patterns captured

Given Generalized Composition, verb clustering varieties can be described by lexically assigned restrictions on the argument stacks of the primary and secondary category at composition time. To facilitate comparison, the patterns are stated in terms of a left verb with a vp-head selecting a vp complement:

$$5.1 \\ vp \backslash PL / [vp | PR] \quad vp \backslash SL / SR \quad \Rightarrow \quad vp \backslash (SL + PL) / (SR + PR)$$

The following patterns must be available. It is assumed that argument stacks are marked for having been affected by a cancellation, but no such labels are specified here, for readability.

5.2

OBLIGATORY EXTRAPOSITION

SL is empty: the secondary category must be fully applied as to its left arguments; they cannot be taken over by the resulting category; no crossing dependencies can

arise

... *ontkennen* *mij te hebben gezien*
 $vp\backslash[]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[]/[]$ \Rightarrow $vp\backslash[]/[]$
 ‘deny me to have seen’

5.3

OBLIGATORY VERB RAISING

PL and SL are not yet affected in the derivation (but may be lexically empty); crossing dependencies arise when possible

... *laten* *geven*
 $vp\backslash[np]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[np, np]/[]$ \Rightarrow $vp\backslash[np, np, np]/[]$
 ‘let give’

... *laten* *slapen*
 $vp\backslash[np]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[]/[]$ \Rightarrow $vp\backslash[np]/[]$
 ‘let sleep’

5.4

INTERMEDIATE CLUSTERING, INCLUDING THIRD CONSTRUCTION

No absolute conditions on stacks are imposed; but if SL is not empty and some of its arguments are inherited by the resulting category under disharmonious composition, PL has to be unaffected hitherto; in that case, crossing dependencies arise

... *proberen* *een boek te geven*
 $vp\backslash[]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[np]/[]$ \Rightarrow $vp\backslash[np]/[]$
 ‘try a book to give’

... *proberen* *te geven*
 $vp\backslash[]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[np, np]/[]$ \Rightarrow $v\backslash[np, np]/[]$
 ‘try to give’

... *proberen* *haar een boek te geven*
 $vp\backslash[]/[vp]$ $vp\backslash[]/[]$ \Rightarrow $vp\backslash[]/[]$
 ‘try her a book to give’

The variety of composition is marked in the lexicon as a property of the vp -argument in the primary category’s right stack. For example: the argument of an extraposing verb is marked for cancellation against a category with an empty left stack only. The specification concerning affectedness of a stack at the Verb Raising variety is necessary: obligatory verb raising presupposes that neither the secondary nor the primary category consumed any left-hand side argument prior to the composition (for similar notions see [Houtman 1984]. The ‘calculus of affectedness’ is basically rather simple: lexical stacks are unaffected; a stack is affected *iff* one of its members has been cancelled; the merge of two unaffected stacks is unaffected.

Note that the third option (‘anything goes *salve* crossing dependencies’) also marks the way the argument of adverbials is cancelled. They will be categorized as automorphisms, e.g. $vp\backslash[]/[vp]$, and go along with any SL, as is argued by, e.g., [Zwart 1993] - from a generative point of view - and [Cremers 1993].

Furthermore, disharmony can be adapted for auxiliary inversion and *infinitivum-pro-participio* (*ipp*) phenomena by additional conditions on the right-hand stack of the secondary category. The first structure involves inversion of an auxiliary and the first (participle) verb of its complement. In the DELILAH grammar, this is dealt with by the requirement that the right-hand stack of the secondary category - headed by the

main verb of the complement - be unaffected. This requirement is lexically imposed upon the left *vp* argument of some auxiliaries. *Ipp*-effects follow from the requirement that the right-hand stack of the secondary category - the one associated with the infinitive - has been affected and is empty.

(5.5) and (5.6) provide, as an example, a lexical category for *willen* ‘to want’ and the instance of Generalized Composition dealing with the cancellation mode for its *vp*-argument. This instance of the composition rule is triggered by the mode $\wedge vr$ on the relevant argument of the primary category. These modes have effects comparable to the effects of modal operators in categorial type logics with hypothetical reasoning (cf. [Hepple 1990], [Moortgat 1997]).

5.5

willen: $vp \setminus [np] / [vp \wedge vr]$

5.6

$prim \setminus PL / [sec \wedge vr | PR] \quad sec \setminus SL / SR \Rightarrow prim \setminus (SL + PL) / (SR + PR)$
iff PL and SL are marked ‘hitherto unaffected’

Thus, DELILAH subsumes the full range of Dutch verbal combinatorics under conditions on the state of argument stacks at extended generalized composition. In fact, it describes verb clustering patterns and related phenomena by lexical stipulation in terms of the integrity of arguments: arguments (secondary categories) for Generalized Composition may, must or may not have fully cancelled their own argument stacks, i.e. may or may not be incomplete.

6 Leftward dislocation captured

The above view on the variety of verb clustering patterns in terms of completeness of arguments also applies to fronting. It is a well-known and extensively studied phenomenon that long-distance dependencies cannot cross some borderlines. If a constituent should not contain a gap created by left-peripheral dislocation without containing the dislocated element itself, it is called a (strong) island. To the extent that islands are arguments selected by other categories, we can mark arguments for islandhood. For instance, noun phrases in Dutch generally will be marked as islands. An *np* argument, then, can only be cancelled against a category with an *np* head, the left-hand argument stack of which is empty. On the other hand, the sentential complement of verbs like *zeggen* (‘to say’) may contain a (to be precise: one) free dislocated argument. This is also marked at the relevant argument in the lexical category of *zeggen*. Moreover, this argument will not accept cancellation against a secondary category whose left hand stack contains anything other than at most one argument marked for dislocation (mode: $\wedge d$). Here are some relevant lexical categories and the corresponding instances of extended generalized composition.

6.1

met (‘with’): $n \setminus [n] / [np \wedge isl]$
 $prim \setminus PL / [sec \wedge isl | PR] \quad sec \setminus [] / SR \Rightarrow prim \setminus PL / (SR + PR)$

6.2

zeggen (‘to say’): $vp \setminus [] / [s \wedge ni]$
 $prim \setminus PL / [sec \wedge ni | PR] \quad sec \setminus SL / SR \Rightarrow prim \setminus (PL + SL) / (SR + PR)$

iff $SL = []$ or $SL = [x^{\wedge}d]$ for some x

The combinatorics of long-distance dependencies are steered, again, by conditions on the state of argument stacks, imposed by lexical markings on arguments.

7 Unifying Verb Clustering and Leftward dislocation

The exposition above shows that extended generalized composition (3.7) offers, within the limits of a context-sensitive grammar, the instruments needed to describe the fine structure of both long distance dependencies and Dutch verb clustering. For this purpose, extended generalized composition makes the following devices available:

- two controlled forms of disharmonious composition
- two-valued parameters as for the emptiness of local argument stacks at merging time
- two-valued parameters as for the affectedness of local argument stacks at merging time.

In order to assure correct handling of the relevant configurations, these devices need only be effective in a strictly local fashion, to wit at the composition of two adjacent categories.

DELILAH parses the resulting grammar deterministically in a shift-reduce rhythm. From an instrumental point of view, then, there is no fundamental difference in the way verb clusters and long-distance dependencies are treated. The parametrization of extended generalized composition subsumes both phenomena.

(7.2) below holds - in a slightly impoverished and recoded format - one of the analyses DELILAH offers for the Dutch sentence

7.1

Wie zeg jij dat Henk de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven?

'Who say you that Henk the woman probably a puppet had want try to let give'

Whom do you think Henk had probably wanted to try to let give a puppet to the woman?

According to the analysis in (7.3), DELILAH derives, among others, the following semantic representation to this sentence, by abstraction, storage and conversion. Other representations exhibit alternative scopes.

7.2

? $X.person(X) \ \& \ \exists Y.puppet(Y) \ \& \ Pres.say(y, Prob.Past.Perf. \ want(h, try(h, cause(h, \iota Z.woman(Z) \ \& \ give(X, Y, Z))))))$

This representation reflects the analysis that the dislocated wh-element binds the object of *laten* or, equivalently, the subject of *geven*. The sentence also illustrates obligatory verb clustering, optional clustering and *ipp*. In the analysis, top-down indentation marks composition; every composition is binary; equal levels of indentation mark composition to the less indented category immediately above; the relevant

argument is in italics. At crucial compositions the relevant instance of extended generalized composition is referred to. Every occurrence of the (sub)stack which contains the gap-argument is underlined>. *NP* arguments are indexed afterwards, for transparency. Note that the dislocated wh-element *wie* is lexically equipped with a double category: one for the category it binds and the other a general operator on sentences. Note furthermore that the category for the adjunct *waarschijnlijk* is made transparent both for raising effects and for fronting by the same modality that accounts for the clustering properties of the verb *proberen* *proberen*.

7.3

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(/o) q \ []/[ ] wie zeg jij dat henk de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) q \ [ ]/[s^o] wie
(.) s \ [ ]/[ ] wie zeg jij dat henk de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) np \ [ ]/[ ] wie
(/d) s \ [np^d]/[ ] zeg jij dat henk de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(/ni) s \ [ ]/[s_vn^ni] zeg jij dat
(.) s \ [ ]/[s_sub^ni] zeg jij
(.) s \ [ ]/[np1^isl s_sub^ni] zeg
(.) np \ [ ]/[ ] jij
(.) s_sub \ [ ]/[s_vn^ni] dat
(/isl) s_vn \ [np^d]/[ ] henk de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) np \ [ ]/[ ] henk
(.) s_vn \ [np2^isl np^d]/[ ] de vrouw waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) np \ [ ]/[ ] de vrouw
(/tc) s_vn \ [np3^isl np2^isl np^d]/[ ] waarschijnlijk een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) s_vn \ [ ]/[s_vn^tc] waarschijnlijk
(.) s_vn \ [np3^isl np2^isl np^d]/[ ] een pop had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) np \ [ ]/[ ] een pop
(/ipp) s_vn \ [np4^isl np3^isl np2^isl np^d]/[ ] had willen proberen te laten geven
(.) s_vn \ [np2^isl]/[vp^ipp] had
(/vr) vp \ [np4^isl np3^isl np^d]/[ ] willen proberen te laten geven
(.) vp \ [ ]/[vp^vr] willen
(/tc) vp \ [np4^isl np3^isl np^d]/[ ] proberen te laten geven
(.) vp \ [ ]/[vp_t^tc] proberen
(/vr) vp_t \ [np4^isl np3^isl np^d]/[ ] te laten geven
(.) vp_t \ [ ]/[vp^vr] te
(/vr) vp \ [np4^isl np3^isl np^d]/[ ] laten geven
(.) vp \ [np^d]/[vp^vr] laten
(.) vp \ [np4^isl np3^isl]/[ ] geven
    
```

7.4

$$\begin{aligned}
 /_{vr}: p \backslash PL / [s^vr | PR] \quad s \backslash SL / SR &\Rightarrow p \backslash PL / (SR + PR) \\
 &\text{iff PL and SL are unaffected} \\
 /_{tc}: p \backslash PL / [s^tc | PR] \quad s \backslash SL / SR &\Rightarrow p \backslash (SL + PL) / (SR + PR) \\
 &\text{iff PL is unaffected} \\
 /_{ipp}: p \backslash PL / [s^ipp | PR] \quad s \backslash SL / SR &\Rightarrow p \backslash (SL + PL) / (SR + PR) \\
 &\text{iff PL, SL unaffected, SR affected} \\
 \backslash_d: s \backslash []/[] \quad p \backslash [s^d]/[] &\Rightarrow p \backslash []/[] \\
 /_o: p \backslash []/[s^o] \quad s \backslash []/[] &\Rightarrow p \backslash []/[] \\
 /_{isl}: p \backslash PL / [s^isl | PR] \quad s \backslash []/[] &\Rightarrow p \backslash PL / PR
 \end{aligned}$$

8 Conclusion

In DELILAH's grammar, the construals for fronting and verb clustering are shaped by the same instruments: simple computable constraints on the modes of composition, of the sort stated in (5.1) to (5.4). These constraints have two components. One

component is the mode for appending argument lists. Choosing an option here is commendatory, and the option chosen reflects the way-of-being of the discontinuities involved. This component of the constraint is *post*-compositional. It is an output constraint. The other component relates to the status of the argument list *prior* to the composition; the constraints in this component can be viewed as input conditions. Leftward dislocation and all modes of verb clustering in Dutch are captured by small range variations in input and output constraints on linear Generalized Composition. Consequently, there is a point of view from which dislocation and clustering converge. This point of view is essentially derivational. It abstracts away from hypothetical reasoning in grammatical deduction.

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