

Notes on paths, feature projection, and T-binding

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Sometimes, one well-formed dependency "helps out" a dependency that would otherwise be ill-formed (Richards 1998, Grano & Lasnik 2018). This talk develops a theory of locality where we expect this sort of effect to exist for cases of apparent violations of a locality condition. The core intuition: locality is defined by the presence of a path of checked features between two elements in the tree; the introduction of additional checking features into the clause may render elements local that would not be in their absence. This accounts for a number of recalcitrant cases of long-distance A-scrambling, long-distance case assignment, and long-distance anaphora.