

Two domains of causatives

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1 Assumptions

- (1) Language distinguishes EVENTS, which I will represent e (cf. Davidson 1967, Barwise 1981, Parsons 1990, Landman 1991)
- (2) Events can be combined into larger events (cf. Kratzer 1996, Ramchand 2003); I refer to an event which is a subpart of a larger event as a SUBEVENT
- (3) An event must be anchored with respect to the discourse. This anchoring may occur through binding by aspectual and temporal operators, e.g.
 - a. ASPECT anchors the event to a reference time, and
 - b. TENSE anchors the reference time to the speech time (cf. Reichenbach 1947, Giorgi and Pianesi 1997)
- (4) Event structure is distinct from temporal structure (cf. Ramchand 2004); operators over events do not bind times, and operators over times do not bind events
- (5) An aspectual operator may bind an event variable, and may provide a temporal variable for further binding; multiple operators cannot bind the same event, so sequences of temporal and aspectual operators do not affect the event structure collectively, but sequentially, e.g. past of perfect of progressive.
- (6) The failure of temporal operators to combine with nouns or adjectives is due to the absence in nouns and adjectives of an unbound e
- (7) A verbalizing affix, which allows binding by temporal operators, provides e
- (8) A nominalizing or adjectivalizing affix on a verbal stem, which prevents binding by temporal operators, binds e

2 Hypothesis

- (9) Inner causatives are subevents of a single basic event; they do not embed any non-event structure (cf. Ramchand's 2003 INITIATOR)
- (10) Outer causatives are distinct events
 - a. Either they are verbalizers, attaching to something non-evental
 - b. or there is another way for two events to be linked without combining into a single event

3 Observations

- (11) There are limits to word meanings (McCawley 1971, McCawley 1973); for example the bracketed sequences below cannot correspond to words
 - a. Bert [kissed a girl who is allergic to] coconuts.
 - b. *Bert **flimped** coconuts.
 - c. John [lent his uncle and] Harry 5000 yen.
 - d. *John **thorked** Harry 5000 yen.
- (12) McCawley argued that this was because of syntactic constraints like the Complex NP Constraint and the Coordinate Structure Constraint.
- (13) Verbs very commonly lexicalize entailments about manner or result (cf. Gropen et al. 1994)

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