

The semantics of Aspect

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- **Inner aspect**
 - *aka* lexical / predicational / situation aspect, Aktionsart ('Western' terminology)
 - (a)telic, (non-)resultative, (non-)change-of-state, (non-)atomic ... (non-)durative ... static/dynamic ...

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- **Outer aspect**
 - *aka* grammatical / morphological / viewpoint aspect
 - (Im)perfective (e.g. Slavic), (Non-)Progressive (e.g. English, Spanish), Aorist vs. Imperfect (e.g. Bulgarian, French, Spanish), (Perfect) ...

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NB: Perfective ≠ Perfect (Imperfect ≠ Imperfective)

Aspect in this course

- **Inner aspect:**

- Classification of event types into simple (monoeventive) and complex (bieventive) ones; sub-classifications of these (~ Vendler classes)
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vs. Tense: Relation between reference/topic time and speech/utterance time

Aspect in this course

- Syntactic background assumption, e.g. (1):

(1) [T(ense)P [Mod(al)P [Asp(ect)P [VP]]]]

(Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria 2014)

- VP: Inner Aspect
- AspP: Outer Aspect

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(Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria 2014)

- VP: Inner Aspect
 - AspP: Outer Aspect
- THU & FRI: Particular focus on ...
 - Russian as a case study (with some comparison to Czech)
 - **How do aspectual verbal morphemes (prefixes, suffixes), adverbials, finiteness and other elements in the sentence combine compositionally leading to particular aspectual interpretations of events at the sentence and ultimately discourse level?**

Course topics

- **Introduction:** Lexical vs. grammatical aspect, aspect vs. tense, syntactic background assumptions (Reichenbach 1947; Klein 1995; Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria 2000, 2014; Filip 2011, etc.)
- **Inner aspect:** Vendler classes, (a)telicity, aspectual composition (Vendler 1957; Verkuyl 1972, 1993, 2005; Bach 1981, 1986; Krifka 1989a, 1992, 1998; Ramchand 1997; Hay et al. 1999; Kennedy & Levin 2008; Kennedy 2012; Filip 1999; Rothstein 2004; Zwarts 2005; Caudal & Nicolas 2005; Piñón 2008, etc.)
- **Outer aspect** (Smith 1991/97; Kamp & Reyle 1993; Portner 1998, 2011; de Swart 1998, 2012; Filip 1999, 2003; Alexiadou et al. 2003, etc.)
- **Inner and outer aspect in Russian** (Schoorlemmer 1995; Klein 1995; Mehlig 1996; Borik 2002, 2006; Gehrke 2002, 2003, 2005, 2008a, b, 2019; Paslawska & von Stechow 2003a; Grønn 2004, 2015; Romanova 2007; Altshuler 2012; Tatevosov 2015, etc.)
- **Cross-Slavic variation in outer aspect:** Russian vs. Czech (Stunová 1993; Kresnin 2000; Dickey 2000, 2015; Gehrke 2002, 2003, 2008b; Dickey & Kresnin 2009; Fehrmann et al. 2010; Alvestad 2014; Arregui et al. 2014, etc.)

Inner aspect

Vendler (1957)

- Aspectual classes: “the particular way in which [a] verb [in its dominant use] presupposes and involves the notion of time”
 - **States, activities, accomplishments, achievements**
 - Durative vs. non-durative: ACT/ACC vs. STA/ACH
 - Set terminal point vs. no set terminal point [~ telic vs. atelic]:
ACC/ACH vs. STA/ACT

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[Standard assumption: Classification of predicates (VPs), not of verbs]
 [Debatable whether this is really about ‘time’]

Vendler (1957): States

- e.g. *have/possess/desire/want sth., (dis)like/love/hate/rule/dominate sb./sth., know/believe things, be married/present/absent/healthy/ill*
- **no process** going on in time
 - **non-unique, indefinite time instants**
 - incompatible with *deliberately, carefully* [→ no intentionality]
 - qualities
 - I can say 'I have seen it' as soon as I can say 'I see it'.

Vendler (1957): Activities

e.g. *run, walk, swim, push, pull*

- **process** going on in time / successive phases following one another in time
- **non-unique, indefinite time periods**
- **no 'set terminal point'** [→ *atelic*]
- **homogeneous**: any part of the process is of the same nature as the whole

Vendler (1957): Accomplishments

e.g. *paint a picture, make a chair, build a house, write/read a novel, deliver a sermon, give/attend a class, play a game of chess, grow up, recover from illness, get ready for sth.*

- **process** going on in time / successive phases following one another in time
- **unique, definite time periods**
- **'set terminal point'** [→ telic]
- **not homogeneous**: proceed towards a terminus which is logically necessary to their being what they are

Vendler (1957): Achievements

e.g. *recognise/realise/spot/identify sth., lose/find an object, reach the summit, win the race, cross the border, start/stop/resume sth., be born, die*

- **no process** going on in time
- **unique, definite time instants**
- can be predicated only for single moments of time
- Present tense is almost exclusively used as historic present or as indicating immediate future.
- can be voluntary (*start/stop running*) or involuntary (*recognising*)

Vendler (1957)

- **(In)compatibility with the Progressive**

(2) - What are you doing?

a. - I am running / writing / working. ACT

- I am writing a letter / painting a picture. ACC

b. - #I am recognising. ACH

- #I am loving my brother. STA

→ PROG is only compatible with 'processes going on in time'

Vendler (1957)

- ACT vs. ACC: **(no) 'set terminal point' [(a)telic]**

- (3)
- | | | |
|----|---|-----|
| a. | If someone stops running, he ran. | ACT |
| | #He finished running / pushing a cart. | |
| b. | If someone stops running a mile, he did not run a mile. | ACC |
| | He finished running a mile / drawing a circle. | |

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- (3) a. If someone stops running, he ran. ACT
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- b. If someone stops running a mile, he did not run a mile. ACC
 He finished running a mile / drawing a circle.
- (4) a. For how long did he push the cart? ACT
 #How long did it take to push the cart?
- b. #For how long did he draw the circle? ACC
 How long did it take to draw the circle?
 He did it in twenty seconds.
 It took him twenty seconds.

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- (5) If it is true that someone has been running for half an hour, then it must be true that he has been running for every period within that half-hour. ACT

Vendler (1957): Interaction with temporal expressions

- ACH vs. STA

- (6)
- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| a. | At what time did you reach the top? | ACH |
| | At what moment did you spot the plane? | |
| b. | For how long did you love her? | STA |
| | How long did you believe in the stork? | |

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 (not the finding, but searching went on during those 5 minutes)

Vendler (1957)

- **Habits:** Occupations, dispositions, abilities etc.
 - Derived states (generic states)
 - (in opposition to 'specific' states, i.e. STA)

- (8)
- a. He smokes.
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[in English: Simple present tense to describe habits / simple past: habits in the past ...]

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cp. *be married*
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- *see, hear*
 - STA: *I am seeing. / I saw him running.
 - ACH: spotting sense: I spotted him running. [**inchoative**]
 - ACC: I am seeing *Carmen* on TV.

Other classifications

- Discourse: **states** (temporal overlap) vs. **events** (temporal progression, R-time movement) (e.g. Kamp & Reyle 1993; Lascarides & Asher 1993)

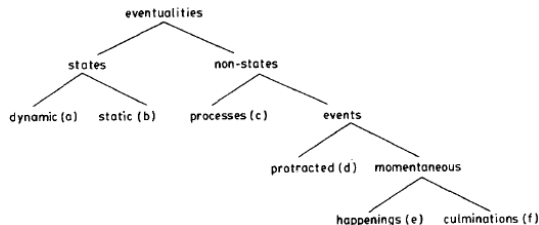
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- **states, processes** [\sim ACT] , **events** [\sim ACC & ACH] (e.g. Bach 1981, 1986; Verkuyl 1993; de Swart 1998)
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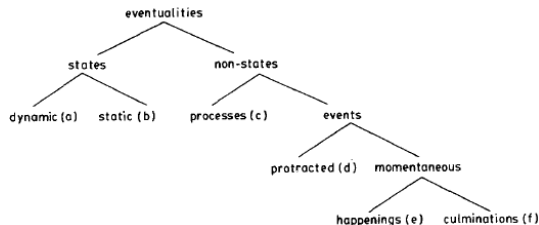
Bach (1981, 1986):



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(NB: One-component theories)

Additional classes

- **Semelfactives:** *sneeze, knock, jump*
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- (9) a. IPF *stučat'* 'knock (iteratively)'
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- **Degree achievements:** *rise, fall, cool, lengthen, straighten*

(Dowty 1979) (see also Krifka 1998; Hay et al. 1999; Kennedy & Levin 2008, i.a.)

- Gradual, relative change of state
- Variable behaviour wrt telicity tests

Some standard telicity tests

- **(In)compatibility with for/in-adverbials**

(10) **Atelic predicates**

- | | | |
|----|--|-----|
| a. | She pushed the cart {for/#in} two hours. | ACT |
| b. | She ruled the country {for/#in} two years. | STA |

(11) **Telic predicates**

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| a. | She drew the circle {#for/in} two hours. | ACC |
| b. | She recognised her mistake {#for/in} one second. | ACH |

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NB: ACH + *in*-adv (e.g. (11-b)) is sometimes taken to involve (**additive coercion** (reinterpretation), adding a preparatory process (e.g. Moens & Steedman 1987; Rothstein 2004; Bott 2013))

Some standard telicity tests

- **Imperfective Paradox** (Dowty 1979)

- (12)
- | | | | | |
|----|------------------------------|---|-------------------------|-----|
| a. | She was running. | → | She ran. | ACT |
| b. | She was crossing the road. | ↯ | She crossed the road. | ACC |
| | She was reaching the summit. | ↯ | She reached the summit. | ACH |

(not applicable to states, since they are incompatible with PROG)

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- **Finish** requires a telic predicate as a complement.
- ...

Potential problems with the in/for-adv test

- **Coercion / Reinterpretation**

- (13)
- a. In ten minutes, she knew the answer.
 - b. She ran in 2 hours.
 - c. She discovered fleas on her dog for two hours.
 - d. For 20 years she read a chapter before going to bed.

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- **Inchoative / ingressive**: adds a temporal onset to a state or an activity (13-a,b)
- **Delimitative**: Temporal boundedness of an atelic event (needs stronger context) (13-b)
- **Iterative**: with telic predicates (13-c,d)

(Different scope of temporal adverbs)

Moens & Steedman (1987)

- Event nucleus:

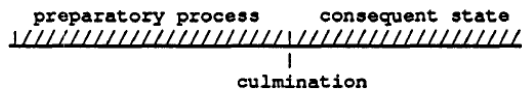


Figure 3

Moens & Steedman (1987)

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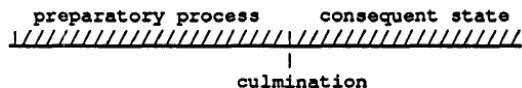


Figure 3

- Aspectual classes:

	EVENTS		STATES
	atomic	extended	
+conseq	Harry left early At six, John arrived	Sue built a sandcastle The ice melted completely	John knows French He was in the kitchen
-conseq	Sandra hiccupped Paul winked	Max worked in the garden Alice played the piano	

Figure 1

Moens & Steedman (1987)

- Coercion routes:

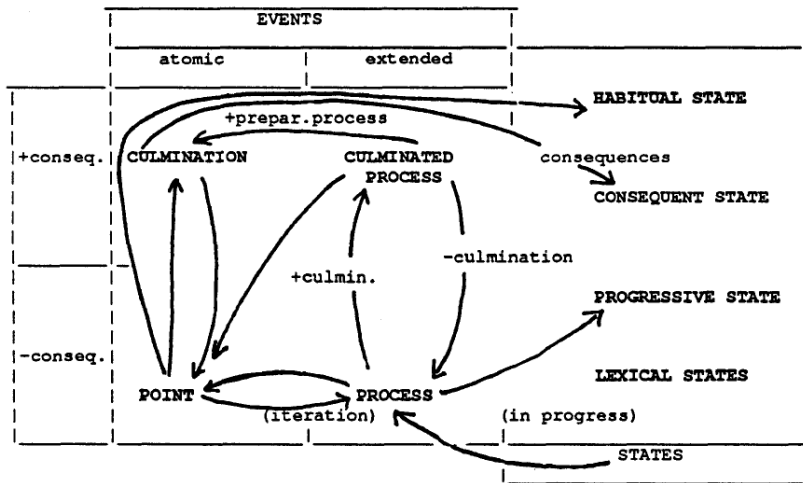


Figure 2

Potential problems with the in/for-adv test

- **Additional sensitivity to outer aspect**

- e.g. PROG on telic predicates: behaviour like atelic predicates (14)

(14) She was eating the cake for ten minutes/#in ten minutes.

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- In languages without morphological outer aspect simple tenses can receive both perfective and imperfective interpretations so that both adverbials can be ok; e.g. German (15)

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- (Issues of markedness)

How to capture the property of (a)telicity

- Vendler:
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 - ACCs are not homogeneous: “proceed towards a terminus which is logically necessary to their being what they are”

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Reformulated in terms of events (Champollion 2010):

$$(16) \quad \forall e[\text{[[walk]]}(e) \rightarrow \forall i[i < \text{runtime}(e) \rightarrow \exists e'[\text{[[walk]]}(e') \wedge e' < e \wedge i = \text{runtime}(e')]]]]$$

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- The first moments of a *walk*-event are not describable by *walk* (see also discussion in Dowty 1979) → Different solutions:
 - Subinterval property only for states (e.g. Maienborn 2007)
 - It is a matter of granularity (most other people)
- Bennett & Partee's initial use in the definition of PROG:

(17) [PROG ϕ] is true at interval I iff there exists an interval I' such that $I \subset I'$, I is not a final subinterval of I' , and ϕ is true at I' .

→ Generates the imperfective paradox (cf. Dowty 1979)
 (common solution: modalisation; we will get back to this when we talk about outer aspect)

Parallels between events and objects

- Taylor (1977):
 - ACTs like *fall*, *blush*: like homogeneous mass nouns (e.g. *gold*)
 - **divisible**
 - ACTs like *walk*: like heterogeneous mass nouns (e.g. *fruitcake*)
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- Mourelatos (1978): (Non-)Countability (18)
 - (18)
 - a. fall asleep three times
 - b. Vesuvius erupted three times
 - There were three eruptions of Vesuvius

 - (19)
 - a. run (*)three times
 - b. Onlookers shoved and screamed
 - There was shoving and screaming

Parallels between events and objects

- Bach (1981, 1986):

- (20)
- a. **much** wine / he did not sleep **much**
 - b. **many/three** books / he arrived **many/three times**

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 - John ate the sandwich bit by bit for an hour, but still didn't finish it.

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- a. Much missionary was eaten at the festival.
 b. John ate the sandwich bit by bit for an hour, but still didn't finish it.

- (22) **Universal Packager**: non-count→count (not predictable)

- a. After two beers he began to feel better. → portion
 He prefers Tuscan wines. → kind
 b. John ran in an hour. → *began to* OR *a certain distance*

(‘universal sorter’ in Bunt 1981)

Parallels between events and objects

- Bach (1981, 1986): mereological approach (similar to Krifka; see below)
 - Mereology (Link 1983; Sharvy 1980): Part-of relation \leq , sum \oplus / \sqcup
 - Mass nouns, processes: Non-atomic join semilattice → **additive**
 - Count nouns, events: Atomic join semilattice, (23), → **antisubdivisible**

(23) (from Nouwen 2016)

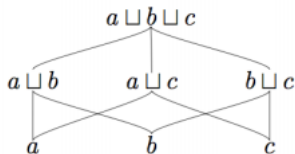


Figure 1.1 A depiction of the complete atomic join semi-lattice with a , b and c as the atomic elements. The arcs represent the \leq relation.

Aspectual composition

Theoretical approaches to (a)telicity

- **Scale structure approaches**

e.g. Krifka (1989a, 1992, 1998); Hay et al. (1999); Kennedy & Levin (2008); Kennedy (2012); Caudal & Nicolas (2005); Piñón (2008); Beavers (2008)
(Verkuyl 1972, 1993, 2005)

- **Event structure approaches**

e.g. von Stechow (1996); Rappaport Hovav & Levin (1998); Levin & Rappaport Hovav (2006); Rappaport Hovav & Levin (2010); Rothstein (2004); Beck (2005)
(without events: Dowty 1979)

- **Syntactic approaches**

e.g. Pustejovsky (1991); Travis (2000); Borer (2005); Arsenijević (2006); Ramchand (2008) (Verkuyl 1972, 1993, 2005)

The scale structure approach in a nutshell

- A complement of the verb, e.g. the internal argument, provides (part of) a scale (a linearly ordered structure).
- Properties of the scale determine whether the event is telic (with a closed scale or a scale with an upper bound) or atelic (an open scale, a scale with no upper bound, or no scale):

- (24)
- a. She ate (for/*in an hour).
 - b. She ate the apple (*for/in an hour).
 - c. She ate apples (for/*in an hour).

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- This approach draws direct parallels to the literature on scale structures underlying adjectives (literature on degrees).

Event-object homomorphism

- Properties of (some) internal arguments influence the interpretation of the event as (a)telic (25-a):
 - Gradual/successive patient (Krifka 1986, 1989a, 1992)
 - **Incremental Themes** (Dowty 1991)

(25) a. She ate (apples) for/#in two hours.
 b. She ate an/the apple / three apples in/#for two hours.

(26) a. He hit a/the dog / (three) dogs for/#in two hours.
 b. He pushed a/the cart / (three) carts for/#in two hours.

→ Extent of the object delimits the (temporal) extent of the event

Verkuyl (1972, 1993)

- **terminative** [+T] vs. **durative** [-T]
 - Verbs: [\pm ADD-TO] [additive ~ dynamic]
 - Arguments: [\pm SQA] (specified quantity of A)
- Division states, processes, events

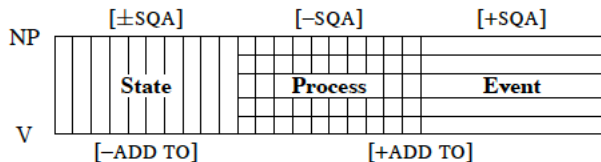


Figure 2: Construal of three aspectual classes

from Verkuyl (2005)

Verkuyl (1972, 1993)

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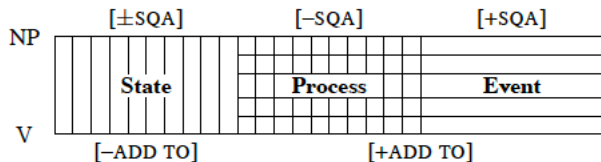


Figure 2: Construal of three aspectual classes

from Verkuyl (2005)

This is independent of the thematic relations involved

- e.g. *push* ~ *give pushes to*

Verkuyl (2005)

- Subject-object asymmetries, inner vs. outer aspect

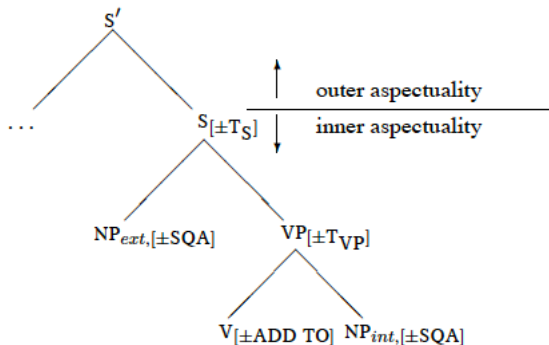


Figure 1: Aspectual composition

(Krifka 1986, 1989a, 1992)

- 2 properties (for both objects and events):

(27) **Cumulative:**

$$CM(P) \leftrightarrow \forall x, y [P(x) \wedge P(y) \rightarrow P(x \oplus y)] \wedge \exists x, y [P(x) \wedge P(y) \wedge \neg x = y]$$

e.g. *soup, apples // eat (soup/apples)*

(28) **Quantized:** $QUA(P) \leftrightarrow \forall x, y [P(x) \wedge P(y) \rightarrow \neg x < y]$

e.g. *an/two/a bowl of apple(s) // eat an/two/a bowl of apple(s) / eat for two hours*

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- Mapping from (sub)objects to (sub)events (Germ., Engl. etc.)
- Mapping from (sub)events to (sub)objects (Russ., Chin. etc. / Finnish partitive ...)
- uniqueness of events/objects; measure functions ...

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- Krifka (1998): Extension to incremental paths, property scales

(Krifka 1989b)

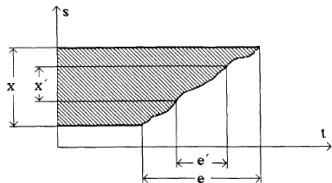


Abbildung 5: Übertragung der Referenzweise

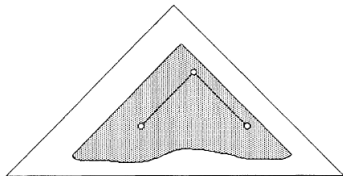


Abbildung 3a: Kumulative Extension

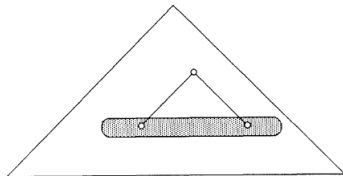


Abbildung 3b: Gequantelte Extension

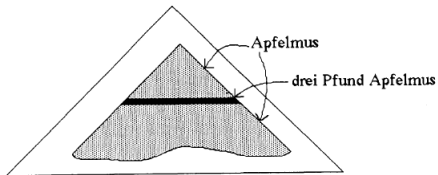


Abbildung 4: Gequantelte Teilextension

Krifka (1989a): Different thematic roles

- Depending on which properties hold:
 - SUM: summativity of the object relation → cumulativity of the object gets mapped onto the event
 - GRAD: graduality [incrementality] → quantizedness of the object gets mapped onto the event
 - UNI-E: unique event

	SUM	GRAD	UNI-E	
write a letter	X	X	X	gradual effected patient
eat an apple	X	X	X	gradual consumed patient
read a letter	X	X	–	gradual patient
touch a cat	X	–	–	affected patient
see a horse	X	–	–	stimulus

(Krifka 1989b): Mapping from (sub)events to (sub)objects

Czech:

- (29) a. Ota pil vino.
 Ota.NOM drank.IPF wine.ACC
 'Ota drank **wine**.'
- b. Ota vypil vino.
 Ota.NOM drank.PF wine.ACC
 'Ota drank **the wine**.'

[NB: oversimplified view]

Generalised 'measuring out' in Krifka (1998)

(see also Jackendoff 1996; Ramchand 1997) ('measuring out': Tenny 1987, 1994)

- **Homomorphism between the event and a scale**
 - Incremental verbs: Extent/volume of an object
(see also Kennedy 2012, i.a.)

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- Directed motion events: Spatial path (30-a)
(see also Zwarts 2005, 2006; Winter 2006; Gehrke 2008b, i.a.)

- (30)
- a. He pushed the cart to the store in two hours.
 - b. He pushed the cart down the river / towards the store /
to stores for two hours.

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- Degree achievements: Scalar adjectival property (31-b)
(see also Hay et al. 1999; Kennedy & Levin 2008; Kearns 2007, i.a.)

- (31)
- The sky darkened in(/for) an hour.
 - The gap widened (in/)for ten minutes.
 - The soup cooled (by) 17 degrees in/#for 30 minutes.

E.g. degree achievements

Hay et al. (1999); Kennedy & Levin (2008):

- With **deadjectival degree achievements**, the telos is the standard associated with the underlying adjective.

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(32) The soup cooled for/in an hour.

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(32) The soup cooled for/in an hour.

- (33)
- a. The tailor almost lengthened the pants.
 - b. The teacher almost lengthened the exam.

(examples from Hay et al. 1999)

Degree achievements

(Hay et al. 1999; Kennedy & Levin 2008)

- (34) a. The tailor almost lengthened the pants.
b. The teacher almost lengthened the exam.
- Depending on the standard degree on the underlying scale in the context, such degree achievements can be atelic or telic.
 - Telic (34-a): Pants usually come with some standard bounded length.
 - Atelic (34-b): Exams can be of any random length.

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(A)telicity diagnostics with *almost*:

- Ambiguity in the telic example a.: (i) the entire eventuality almost took place, *or* (ii) the pants almost became long
- No ambiguity in the atelic example b.: only reading (i)

Aspectual classes and scale structure

- Levin & Rappaport Hovav (2006); Rappaport Hovav & Levin (2010):
 - **Result verbs** lexicalise a change of state along a uni-dimensional scale. [\sim ACC/ACH]
 - **Manner verbs** do not lexicalise such a uni-dimensional scale, but refer to change in various dimensions. [\sim ACT]
- Beavers (2008):
 - **Two-point scales** [\sim ACH]
 - **Scales with more intervals** [\sim ACC]

Degree modification in the verbal domain

Degree modifiers to diagnose scale properties

Analogy to adjectival scale structures (e.g. Rotstein & Winter 2004; Kennedy & McNally 2005)

- Caudal & Nicolas (2005):
 - **Quantity scales** (with incremental theme verbs, diagnosed by, e.g., *partially* in *Yannig ate the cake partially*)
 - **Intensity scales** (accessed by *perfectly*, *extremely*)

→ Bochnak (2013): Two readings of *half* (35)

(35) John half ate the apple.

a. John ate half of the apple.

eventive

b. What John did, can only halfway be described as an apple-eating eventuality.

evaluative

- Kearns (2007): **Standard telos** (associated with non-maximal degrees) vs. **maximum telos**

→ Fleischhauer (2013): change-of-state verbs + *very* (German, Russian)

Event structure approaches

Dowty's (1979) proposal to decompose predicates, reformulated in event semantic terms

- An event (the **macroevent**) can be structurally complex and decomposable into **subevents**.
- Subevents are associated with CAUSE, DO or BECOME, or related notions such as preparatory phase, initiating state, process, transition, culmination, consequent or result state and the like.

Dowty (1979)

- **States** (36) (e.g. *John knows the answer.*)

$$(36) \quad \pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n).$$

- **Activities** (37) (e.g. *John is walking.*)

$$(37) \quad \text{DO}(\alpha_1, [\pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)]).$$

- **Achievements** (38) (z.B. *John discovered the solution.*)

$$(38) \quad \text{BECOME}[\pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)].$$

- **Accomplishments** (39) (e.g. *John broke the window.*)

$$(39) \quad \text{DO}(\alpha_1, [\pi_n(\alpha_1, \dots, \alpha_n)]) \text{CAUSE}[\text{BECOME } \rho_m(\beta_1, \dots, \beta_n)]].$$

Dowty (1979) on DO, CAUSE, BECOME

- (40) $\Box[\text{DO}(\alpha, \phi) \leftrightarrow \phi \wedge \phi$ is under the immediate control of the agent (an individual denoted by α)]. (Dowty 1979, 118)

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- (41) $[\text{BECOME } \phi]$ is true at I iff there is an interval J containing the initial bound of I such that $\neg\phi$ is true at J and there is an interval K containing the final bound of I such that ϕ is true at K . (Dowty 1979, 140)

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(Dowty 1979, 140)

- (42) a. $[\phi$ **cause** $\psi]$ is true iff
- (i) ϕ is a causal factor for ψ , and
 - (ii) for all other ϕ' such that ϕ' is also a causal factor for ψ , some $\neg\phi$ -world is as similar or more similar to the actual world than any $\neg\phi'$ -world is.
- b. ϕ **depends causally on** ψ iff ϕ , ψ and $\neg\phi \Box\rightarrow \neg\psi$ are all true.
- c. ϕ is a **causal factor** for ψ iff there is a series of sentences $\phi, \phi_1, \dots, \phi_n, \psi$ (for $n \geq 0$) such that each member of the series depends causally on the previous member.

(after Lewis 1973)

Dowty (1979) on accomplishments

- Lexical (43) vs. syntactic ACCs, e.g. resultatives (44)

(43) John kills Bill.

[[*John does something*] CAUSE [BECOME \neg [*Bill is alive*]]]

(44) He sweeps the floor clean.

[[*He sweeps the floor*] CAUSE [BECOME [*the floor is clean*]]]

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- More examples for syntactic ACCs:

- Motion verbs + [some] PPs [in some languages] (45-a)
- *put*-verbs + PP-complements (45-b)
- More resultatives (Dowty: *factitive (adjective of result)*) (45-c); (45-d)
- Particle verbs in English [and other languages] (45-e)

- (45)
- walk, swim, fly to NP; drive, carry, push NP to NP
 - put, place, set NP in(to) NP; put NP to sleep
 - hammer NP flat, wipe NP clean, wiggle NP loose
 - drive NP to drink, read oneself to sleep, drink NP under the table
 - take NP out, chase NP away; sit down, dry out

Dowty (1979): telicity

- Defined in terms of the **subinterval property** (Bennett & Partee 1972)
 - (Atelic) states (46), ACTs (47): true at subintervals
 - (Telic) ACCs, ACHs: not true at subintervals (48)

- (46) If α is a **stative predicate**, then $\alpha(x)$ is true at an interval I just in case $\alpha(x)$ is true at all moments within I .
- (47) If α is an **activity** verb, then if $\alpha(x)$ is true at I , then $\alpha(x)$ is true for all subintervals of I which are larger than a moment.
- (48) If α is an **accomplishment/achievement** verb, then if $\alpha(x)$ is true at I , then $\alpha(x)$ is false at all subintervals of I .

Parsons (1990)

- Problem with Dowty's (1979) treatment of DO, CAUSE, BECOME as sentence operators:
 - There is no evidence that the cases under discussion are bisentential:
no scope ambiguities, always direct causation
 - Instead: bieventive

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 - There is no evidence that the cases under discussion are bisentential: no scope ambiguities, always direct causation
→ Instead: bieventive
- **Causatives:**

- (49) a. Mary flew the kite.
 b. $(\exists e)[\text{Agent}(e, \text{Mary}) \ \& \ \text{Cul}(e) \ \& \ (\exists e')[\text{Flying}(e') \ \& \ \text{Cul}(e') \ \& \ \text{Theme}(e', \text{Kite}) \ \& \ \text{CAUSE}(e, e')]]$.

(49) entails (50)

- (50) a. The kite flies.
 b. $(\exists e')[\text{Flying}(e') \ \& \ \text{Cul}(e') \ \& \ \text{Theme}(e', \text{Kite})]$.

Parsons (1990) on inchoatives

- BECOME relates an event and its target state - two postulates:
 - $\text{BECOME}(e, s) \rightarrow [\text{Theme}(e, x) = \text{Theme}(s, x)]$.
 - $\text{BECOME}(e, s) \ \& \ \text{Cul}(e, t) \rightarrow \text{Hold}(s, t) \ \& \ \neg(\exists t')[t' < t \ \& \ \text{Hold}(s, t')]$.

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- BECOME relates an event and its target state - two postulates:
 - $\text{BECOME}(e, s) \rightarrow [\text{Theme}(e, x) = \text{Theme}(s, x)]$.
 - $\text{BECOME}(e, s) \ \& \ \text{Cul}(e, t) \rightarrow \text{Hold}(s, t) \ \& \ \neg(\exists t')[t' < t \ \& \ \text{Hold}(s, t')]$.
- (51)
- a. x closes the door tight.
 - b. $(\exists e)[\text{Cul}(e) \ \& \ \text{Agent}(e, x) \ \& \ (\exists e')[\text{Cul}(e') \ \& \ \text{Theme}(e', \text{door}) \ \& \ \text{CAUSE}(e, e') \ \& \ (\exists s)[\text{Being-closed}(s) \ \& \ \text{Theme}(s, \text{door}) \ \& \ \text{Hold}(s) \ \& \ \text{BECOME}(e', s) \ \& \ \text{Being-Tight}(s)]]]]$.

Event-structural ambiguities

Event structure approaches handle ambiguities of adverbial modifiers in terms of structural (scope) instead of lexical ambiguity.

- Adverbs like *quickly*, *rudely*, *clumsily*, *again*, *almost* or temporal *for*-adverbials can have more than one reading, depending on the verbal predicate they combine with.

(See also Dowty 1979; Pustejovsky 1991; von Stechow 1996; Eckardt 1998; Ernst 1998; Rapp & von Stechow 1999; Kratzer 2004; Beck 2005, among others)

E.g. von Stechow (1996) on 'again'

(as discussed in Beck 2005)

- (52) Clyde cleans his boots again.
- a. ... and Clyde has cleaned his boots before. *repetitive*
 - b. ... and his boots were clean before. *restitutive*

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- a. ... and Clyde has cleaned his boots before. *repetitive*
- b. ... and his boots were clean before. *restitutive*
- (53) $[[\text{again}]] (P_{\langle i,t \rangle})(e) = 1$ iff $P(e) \& \exists e' [e' < e \& P(e')]$
 $= 0$ iff $\neg P(e) \& \exists e' [e' < e \& P(e')]$
 undefined otherwise.

Lexical accomplishments (von Stechow, Beck)

(54) Sally opened the door.

- Lexical entries:

(55) a. $\text{open}_{TV} = \text{open}_{Adj} + \text{BECOME} + \text{CAUSE}$

b. $[\emptyset_V] \rightarrow \lambda p \lambda x \lambda e. \exists P [P_e(x) \& \exists e' [\text{BECOME}_{e'}(p) \& \text{CAUSE}(e')(e)]]$

(56) a. $[[\text{CAUSE}]](e')(e) = 1$ iff e' occurred, e occurred and if e hadn't occurred then e' wouldn't have occurred

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- Syntax and Semantics of (54):

(57) a. $[_{VP} \text{ Sally } [_{\emptyset_V} [_{SC} \text{ open}_{Adj} [\text{the door}]]]]$

$> [_{VP} \text{ Sally } [[\emptyset + \text{open}_{Adj}]_V [_{SC} t[\text{the door}]]]]$

b. $\lambda e. \exists P [P_e(\text{Sally}) \& \exists e' [\text{BECOME}_{e'}(\lambda e^*. \text{open}_e * (\text{the_door})) \& \text{CAUSE}(e')(e)]]$

→ There was an action of Sally's which caused the door to become open.

Beck (2005): 'again' with syntactically derived ACCs

e.g. *Sally hammered the metal flat again.*

- **Repetitive reading:**

- (58) a. $[_{VP}[\text{the metal}][1[_{VP}[_{VP} \text{Sally}[_{V'}t_1[_{V'} \text{hammered}[_{SC}PRO_1 \text{flat}]]]] \text{again}]]]$
 b. $\lambda e''. \text{again}_{e''} \lambda e. \text{hammer}_e(\text{the_metal})(y)$
 $\& \exists e' [\text{BECOME}_{e'}(\lambda e^*. \text{flat}_{e^*}(\text{the_metal})) \& \text{CAUSE}(e')(e)]$

→ Once more, Sally's hammering the metal caused it to become flat.

- **Restitutive reading:**

- (59) a. $[_{VP}[\text{the metal}][1[_{VP} \text{Sally}[_{V'}t_1[_{V'} \text{hammered}[_{SC}[_{SC}PRO_1 \text{flat}]]] \text{again}]]]]]$
 b. $\lambda e. \text{hammer}_e(\text{the_metal})(y)$
 $\& \exists e' [\text{BECOME}_{e'}(\lambda e''. \text{again}_{e''}(\lambda e^*. \text{flat}_{e^*}(\text{the_metal})) \& \text{CAUSE}(e')(e)]$

→ Sally's hammering the metal caused it to become once more flat.

Rothstein (2004)

- Verbs denote sets of events of a particular event type
- Event types: lexical aspectual classes
 - Classes as constraints on how events can be individuated
 - E.g. the event structure of a given verbal predicate can be augmented, e.g. by secondary resultative predication

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(60) STA: $\lambda e.P(e)$

(61) ACT: $\lambda e.(DO(P))(e)$

(62) ACH: $\lambda e.(BECOME(P))(e)$

(63) ACC:
 $\lambda y \lambda e. \exists e_1, e_2 [e =^S (e_1 \sqcup e_2)$
 $\wedge \text{ACTIVITY}_{\langle x \rangle}(e_1) \wedge \text{Ag}(e_1) = x \wedge \text{Th}(e_1) = y$
 $\wedge \text{BECOME}_{\langle y \rangle}(e_2) \wedge \text{Arg}(e_2) = \text{Th}(e_1)$
 $\wedge \text{INCR}(e_1, e_2, C(e_2))]$

Rothstein (2004)

- (64) Let e be a BECOME event.
 An **incremental chain** $C(e)$ is a set of parts of e such that:
1. the smallest event in $C(e)$ is the initial bound of e
 2. for every e_1, e_2 in $C(e)$ $e_1 \sqsubseteq e_2$ or $e_2 \sqsubseteq e_1$
 3. $e \in C(e)$

(65) **Incremental relations**

Let e_1 be an activity, e_2 be a BECOME event, and $C(e_2)$ be an incremental chain defined on e_2 .

$\text{INCR}(e_1, e_2, C(e_2))$ (e_1 is incrementally related to e_2 with respect to the chain $C(e_2)$) iff:

there is a contextually available one-one function μ from $C(e_2)$ onto $\text{PART}(e_1)$ (the set of parts of e_1) such that:
 for every $e \in C(e_2)$: $\tau(e) = \tau(\mu(e))$.

Rothstein (2004): Telicity

- Atelic predicates are S-cumulative:

(66) X is **S-cumulative** iff:

$$\exists e \exists e' [X(e) \wedge X(e') \wedge \neg e \sqsubseteq e' \wedge \forall e \forall e' [X(e) \wedge X(e') \wedge R(e, e') \rightarrow X^S(e \sqcup e')]]$$

(X is S-cumulative if it is not a singleton predicate, and if for any two elements x and y in X which stand in the appropriate relation, the singular element which is formed out of the sum of x and y is also in X.)

- (67) **The telicity principle:** A VP is telic if it denotes a set of events X which is atomic, or which is a pluralisation of an atomic set (i.e. if the criterion for individuating an atomic event in X are fully recoverable).

Rothstein (2004)

- ACCs & ACHs: definite changes
 - An event of change from $\neg\phi$ to ϕ is a minimal event of change (ACHs)
 - ACC: extended event of change from ψ to ϕ , whereby ψ implies $\neg\phi$
 - This change takes place during an interval that is long enough to get from ψ to ϕ and that is kept together by an incremental chain.
- Such events are telic if no other factors interfere (e.g. mass nouns, bare plurals)
- Only when it is already lexically specified that the verb is made up of atomic segments, properties of the internal argument can affect telicity.

Syntactic decomposition of event predicates

- Commonly in terms of VP shells, each shell introducing a subevent that is semantically related in some way to the other subevent
 - States, activities: one VP
 - Accomplishments, achievements (changes of states): at least two VPs

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 - init(iator)P , proc(ess)P , res(ult)P
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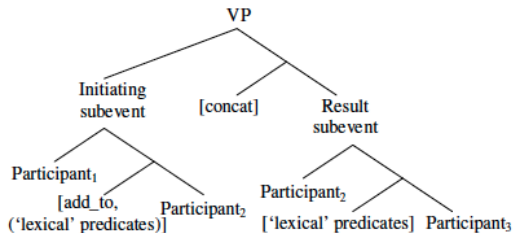
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Arguments in Arsenijević (2006) that you need at most two projections:

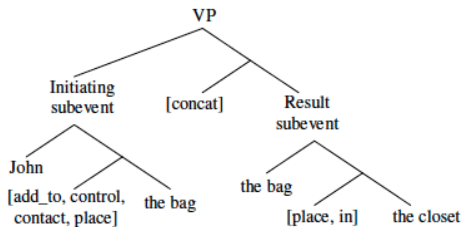
- Undergoer and resultee are never distinct
- All you need to model is the change of state (prestate vs. poststate)

Arsenijević (2006)

(3) The telic template



(4) An example for the template: 'John put the bag into the closet.'



(from Arsenijević 2006, 238f.)

Interim summary

- **What we have done so far:**

- Inner vs. outer aspect

Inner aspect:

- Vendler classes (sta, act, acc, ach) and other classes
- (A)telicity
- Aspectual composition
- Scale structure
- Event structure
- Event decomposition in syntax and semantics

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- **Where we are heading now:** Outer aspect

- Aspect and Tense as relations between times (Reichenbach, Klein)
- Aspectual operators and coercion (de Swart)
- Syntactic implementation of pronominal approach to Aspect and Tense (Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria)
- The Progressive and imperfectivity more generally
- Aspect in Russian (THU)

Outer Aspect

Some cross-linguistic observations

- Where **Imperfective** plays a role:
 - Imperfective (e.g. Slavic)
 - Imperfect (e.g. Bulgarian, Ancient Greek)
e.g. French imparfait, Spanish imperfecto
 - Progressive (e.g. English, Spanish)
- Where **Perfective** plays a role:
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e.g. French passé simple (& passé composé), Spanish indefinido
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Note again: **Perfective** ≠ **Perfect**

Distinction between form and meaning

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Tense and Aspect

- **Reichenbach (1947):**
 - **E**(vent Time), **R**(eference Time), **S**(peech Time)
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 - Tenses: Relation between S and R
- Reformulation in terms of **temporal intervals**, rather than points
e.g. Klein (1994, 1995):
 - Situation Time (TSit / **T-SIT**)
 - Assertion Time (**T-AST**; 1995) / Topic Time (TT; 1994)
 - Utterance Time (**TU**)

Klein (1994, 1995)

- **Tenses:**

- Present: TU INCL T-AST
- Past: TU AFTER T-AST
- Future: TU BEFORE T-AST

- **Aspects:**

- Imperfective: T-AST INCL T-SIT
- Perfective: T-AST AT T-SIT
- Perfect: T-AST AFTER T-SIT
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Klein (1994, 1995)

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- Perfect: T-AST AFTER T-SIT
- Prospective: T-AST BEFORE T-SIT (ex. in (68))

(68) When I got home yesterday, Mary called and said she would arrive soon.

Event semantic implementation

e.g. **Paslawska & von Stechow (2003b)**:

- (69)
- a. **Perfective:**
INCLUDES = $\lambda P.\lambda t.\exists e.\tau(e) \subseteq t \& P(e)$, P of type vt
 - b. **Perfect:**
POST = $\lambda P.\lambda t.\exists e.\tau(e) < t \& P(e)$
 - c. **Imperfective:**
INCLUDED = $\lambda P.\lambda t.\exists e.t \subseteq \tau(e) \& P(e)$

- $\tau(e)$: temporal trace of the event (see also Krifka 1998)
~ event time (Klein's T-SIT)
- t ~ reference time (Klein's T-AST)
- (This should further be modalised, to avoid the imperfective paradox)

de Swart (1998): Aspect and coercion

(70) [Tense [Aspect* [eventuality description]]]

- Kleene star ^{*}: zero, one or more aspectual operations possible

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 - States: homogeneous, stative
 - Processes: homogeneous, dynamic
 - Events: quantized, dynamic
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 - Domain of eventualities $\varepsilon = S \cup P \cup E$
- **Aspectual operations**:
 - e.g. PROG, PERF, several coercion operators
 - Eventuality description modifiers
 - Can turn an eventuality of one type into another type

(NB: One-component approach to aspect)

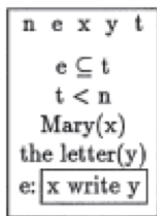
Background on DRT

- **D(iscourse) R(epresentation) T(heory)** (Kamp & Reyle 1993)
 - **DRS**(tructure)s to keep track of d(iscourse) r(eferent)s
 - **drs** for individuals ($x, y, z \dots$), events ($e_1, e_2 \dots$), states ($s_1, s_2 \dots$), times ($t_1, t_2 \dots$; incl. n for 'now')
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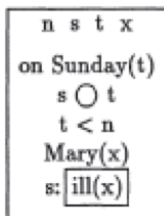
(71) Mary wrote the letter. (simple past of an event)



- \subseteq : temporal inclusion
- $<$: temporal precedence

Background on DRT

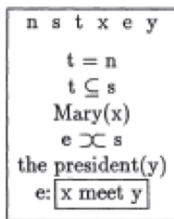
- (72) Mary was ill on Sunday. (simple past of a state + temporal adverbial)



- \circ : temporal overlap

Background on DRT

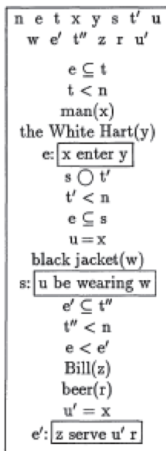
(73) Mary has met the president. (present perfect of an event)



- $e \supseteq s$: e abuts s

Background on DRT

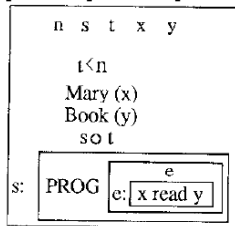
- (74) A man entered the White Hart. He wore a black jacket. Bill served him a beer.



Back to de Swart (1998)

- PROG:
 - Introduces a state that is somehow retrieved from the eventuality description provided by the VP (more on this later)
 - Box notation to capture the modal semantics of PROG (again, more on this later): The VP event is introduced in the box only, this dr is not accessible higher up (in the described world)

- (75) a. Mary was reading a book.
 b. [PAST [PROG [Mary read a book]]]



de Swart (1998) on coercion

- **Input requirements of aspectual and (some) temporal operators**
 - PROG: dynamic eventualities
 - *for*-adverbials: homogeneous eventualities
 - *in*-adverbials: events (quantized eventualities)

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 - *in*-adverbials: events (quantized eventualities)
 - **aspectually sensitive past tenses** in French (and other languages):
 - passé simple [aorist]: events
 - imparfait [imperfect]: homogeneous eventualities

de Swart (1998) on coercion

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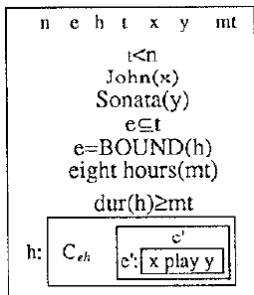
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(context determines the exact interpretation of the coercion)

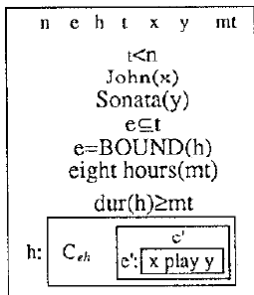
de Swart (1998) on coercion

- (76) a. John played the sonata for eight hours.
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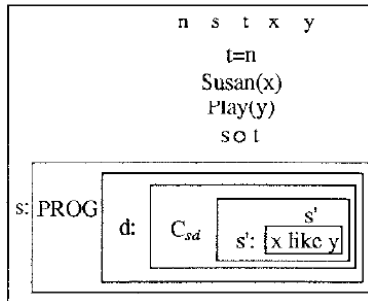
- (76) a. John played the sonata for eight hours.
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→ Most likely interpretation of the coercion in this context: iterative

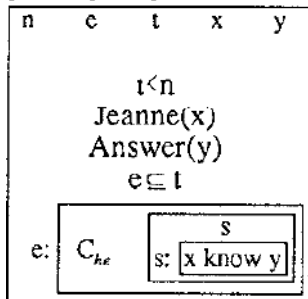
de Swart (1998) on coercion

- (77) a. Susan is liking this play.
 b. [PRES [PROG [C_{sd} [Susan like this play]]]]



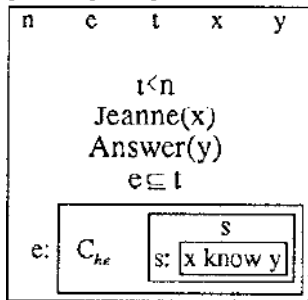
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- (78) a. (Soudain,) Jeanne sut la réponse.
Suddenly Jeanne knew.PS the answer
- b. [PAST [C_{he} [Jeanne know the answer]]]]



de Swart (1998) on coercion

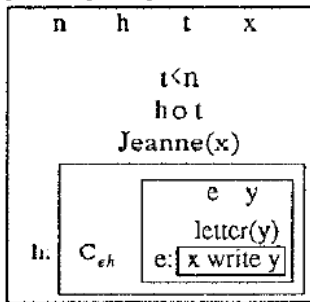
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→ Most likely interpretation of the coercion in this context: inchoative

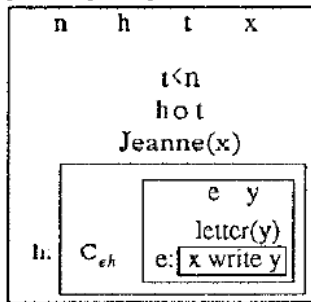
de Swart (1998) on coercion

- (79) a. Jeanne écrivait une lettre.
 Jeanne wrote.IMP a letter
- b. [PAST [C_{eh} [Jeanne write a letter]]]]



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- (79) a. Jeanne écrivait une lettre.
 Jeanne wrote.IMP a letter
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→ Most likely interpretation of the coercion in this context: durative

Analogies between tenses and pronouns

(more general)

- Partee (1973): Some structural analogies between tenses and pronouns in English (see also Partee 1984)
- Kratzer (1998): More structural analogies between pronouns and tenses

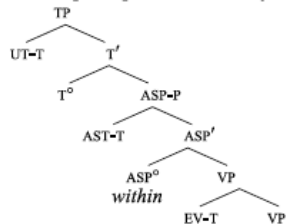
Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria (2014)

Syntactic implementation

(building on Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria 2000)

(see also Zagana 1990; Stowell 1995)

General architecture:



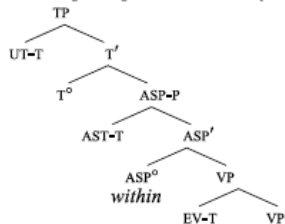
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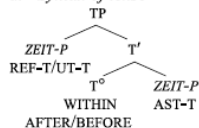
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General architecture:



Parallel between Tense, Aspect, temporal adverbials:

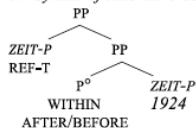
a. *Syntax of tense*



b. *Syntax of aspect*



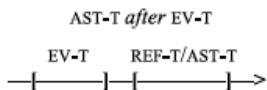
c. *Syntax of time adverbs*



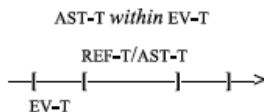
Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria (2014)

Aspects:

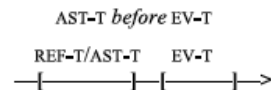
a. *Retrospective*



b. *Progressive*



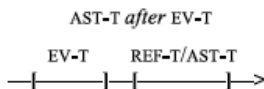
c. *Prospective*



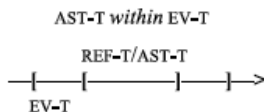
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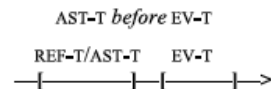
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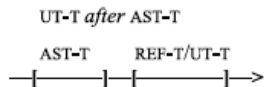


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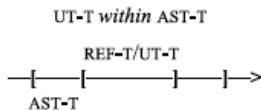


Tenses:

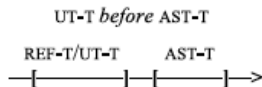
a. *Past*



b. *Present*



c. *Future*



Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria (2014)

- Including French/Spanish (im)perfective past
 - Imparfait / Imperfecto
 - Passé (simple or composé) / Indefinido
- Do not express (BEFORE/WITHIN/AFTER) relations between E and R

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 → Do not express (BEFORE/WITHIN/AFTER) relations between E and R
- Instead: **Temporal anaphora between E and R**, resolved via either
 - **Binding** → Imperfective,
 - or **Coreference/covaluation** → Perfective.

(building on Reinhart 2000)

Binding vs. coreference/covaluation

(Reinhart 2000)

- (80)
- a. Amina_i [*t*_i loves her father]
 - b. Amina λx [*x* loves *y*'s father]
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(*y*/her = Amina)

binding

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 - d. Only Amina λx [*x* loves *y*'s father]
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Back to Demirdache & Uribe-Etxebarria (2014)

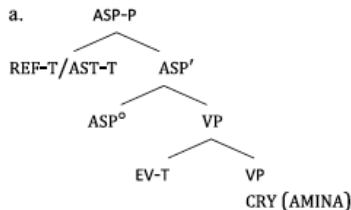
- **Coreference/covaluation** → Perfective
 - E and R are assigned the same semantic value
 - The maximal time interval defining the running time of the described event
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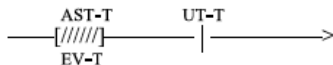
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for *Amina cried*_{PF}:

Temporal coreference/covaluation:



b. AST-T = EV-T



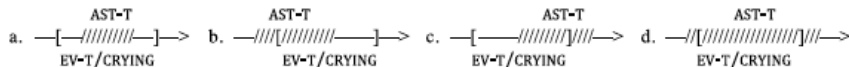
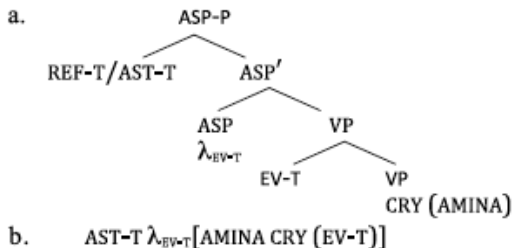
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- for *Amina cried*_{IPF}:

Temporal binding



The English Progressive

- Recall:
 - Not good with [most] states [exception: interval / dynamic states]
 - Not so good with achievements, unless there is additive coercion (which adds a preparatory process)
 - Imperfective paradox with accomplishments
 - Only expresses the process meaning, never habituality

Incompatibility of PROG with states

- e.g. Katz (1995, 2000, et seq.):
 - PROG maps properties of events onto properties of times
 - PROG can only apply once
 - States: properties of times, not of events (cf. Maienborn 2007)
 - States are incompatible with PROG

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 - States: properties of times, not of events (cf. Maienborn 2007)
 - States are incompatible with PROG
- Many other approaches:
 - States also have event arguments (e.g. Landman 2000; Parsons 2000; Mittwoch 2005)
 - PROG requires input with 'stages' → states and achievements are not good inputs (e.g. Landman 1992; Rothstein 2004)

The imperfective paradox (Dowty 1979)

- (82) **with atelic predicates: no paradox**
- a. Carla was standing in the corner. STA
→ Carla stood in the corner.
 - b. Branko was sleeping. ACT
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- (84) Vanja was crossing the road when a truck hit him.

Two kinds of solutions

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- **Modal semantics of PROG** (e.g. Dowty 1979; Landman 1992; Portner 1998)
 - Truth in inertia worlds (Dowty 1979, 148):

(85) **Inertia Worlds:** are exactly like the given world up to the time in question and in which the future course of events after this time develops in ways most compatible with the past course of events.
 $\text{Inr}(I, w) =$ set of inertia worlds for w and interval I .

(86) $[\text{Prog } \phi]$ is true at $\langle I, w \rangle$ iff for some interval I' s.th. $I \subset I'$ and I is not a final subinterval for I' , and for all w' such that $w' \in \text{Inr}(I, w)$, ϕ is true at $\langle I', w' \rangle$.

(recall 'subinterval property' in Bennett & Partee 1972)

Some problems with Dowty's inertia worlds

(e.g. Vlach 1981; Asher 1992; Landman 1992; Bonomi 1997; Portner 1998)

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- The bus was travelling down the road in / as well.
- But somehow we ignore this oncoming bus when we utter the first part in (88).

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→ What can we ignore and what is relevant?

- Relevance of the type of event described
- Relevance of the perspective
- (Default semantics in Asher 1992)
- (Closeness relation among worlds, Landman 1992)

• ...

(see Portner 2011, for general discussion)

e.g. Landman (1992)

- PROG relates events:

(89) Mary was building a house.

a. *build a house* \rightsquigarrow

$$\lambda x. \lambda e. \exists y [\mathbf{house}(y) \wedge \mathbf{build}(e) \wedge \text{AGENT}(e) = x \wedge \text{THEME}(e) = y]$$

b. *ing(VP)* $\rightsquigarrow \lambda x. \lambda e. \text{PROG}(e, \text{VP}(x))$

c. *Mary was building a house* $\rightsquigarrow \exists e'. t(e') < \text{now}$

$$\wedge \text{PROG}(e'. \lambda e \exists y [\mathbf{house}(y) \wedge \mathbf{build}(e) \wedge \text{AGENT}(e) = m \wedge \text{THEME}(e) = y])$$

- Events can have parts and stages (more specific than parts).
 - Process stages
 - Planning stages
- Continuation branches

e.g. Altshuler (2012): PROG vs. Russian IPF

- building on Landman (1992), except for (iv):

- (90)
- a. $\text{PROG} \rightsquigarrow \lambda P \lambda e' \exists e \exists w [\text{STAGE}(e', e, w^*, w.P)]$
 - b. $[[\text{STAGE}(e', e, w^*, w.P)]]^{M,g} = 1$ iff (i)-(iv) holds:
 - (i) the history of $g(w)$ is the same as the history of $g(w^*)$ up to and including $\tau(g(e'))$
 - (ii) $g(w)$ is a reasonable option for $g(e')$ in $g(w^*)$
 - (iii) $[[P]]^{M,g}(e, w) = 1$
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- Russian IPF: Difference only in the last conjunct:

- (91)
- $\text{IPF}_{RUSS} \rightsquigarrow \lambda P \lambda e' \exists e \exists w [\text{STAGE}(e', e, w^*, w.P)]$
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PROG vs. (more general) IPF

- Unified meaning with modal semantics:
 - Different IPF meanings due to different choices of modal accessibility relation (Cipria & Roberts 2000)
 - Similar approaches: Ferreira (2005, 2016); Deo (2009, 2015)
e.g. Ferreira: PROG requires singular events, HAB plural events, more general IPF can apply to either
 - (cp. Bonomi 1997)
- Syntactic explanation:
 - Distinct, phonologically null operators for different IPF meanings (Hacquard 2006)
 - ...

(see Portner 2011, for general discussion)

Aspect in Russian

Roadmap

- Aspect morphology: Verbal prefixes and suffixes
- (Im)perfectivity diagnostics
- IPF and PF readings/uses (“particular meanings”)
- (A)telicity diagnostics → (Im)perfectivity ≠ (A)telicity
- Internal vs. external prefixes
- Tatevosov’s (2011, 2015) arguments against prefixes and suffixes as (I)PF markers
- Klein’s (1995) proposal for the semantics of Russian (I)PF
- Differences in aspect usage: Russian vs. Czech (separate handout)
- Problem for a uniform IPF semantics: Factual IPF readings (FR; separate slides)

Russian aspect morphology

(see Gehrke 2008b, and ref.s therein)

- **Simple verbs:** Most are IPF, a few are PF:

- (92)
- a. ipf. *spat'* 'to sleep'
ipf. *pisat'* 'to write'
 - b. pf. *dat'* 'to give'

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- **Prefixed verbs** are PF, if there is no further suffix:

- (93)
- pf. *po-spat'* 'to sleep'
 - pf. *po-pisat'* 'to write (for a while)'
 - pf. *na-pisat'* 'to write (up)' (lit. on-write)
 - pf. *pod-pisat'* 'to sign' (lit. under-write)
 - pf. *iz-dat'* 'to edit' (lit. out-give)

Russian aspect morphology

- A subset of the prefixed verbs and the few simple PF verbs can undergo **secondary imperfectivisation**:

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- Limited **stacking of prefixes** (more common in South Slavic):

- (95) e.g. Russian:
ipf. *vy-da-va-t'* > pf. *po-vy-da-va-t'* 'to hand out, distribute'

- (96) e.g. Czech:
pf. *od-stoupit* > pf. *po-od-stoupit* 'to step aside (a bit)'

Aspectual pairs

- **Every Russian (Slavic) verb form is either IPF or PF**
 - Identical lexical meaning can be expressed by IPF and by PF verb forms
 - Common assumption: Many verb(form)s come in **aspectual pairs**

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- Aspectual pairs derived by prefixes from simple IPFs:

- (97)
- | | | |
|----|---|------------|
| a. | ipf. <i>pit'</i> > pf. <i>vy-pit'</i> | 'to drink' |
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- Aspectual pairs derived by suffixes from (mostly prefixed) PFs
 - **S(econdary) I(mperfective)s** [descriptive term]

- (98) a. pf. *pro-dat'* > ipf. *pro-da-va-t'* 'to sell' (lit. through-give)
 b. pf. *ot-kryt'* > ipf. *ot-kry-va-t'* 'to discover, open' (lit. from-cover)
 c. pf. *dat'* > ipf. *da-va-t'* 'to give'

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- (Suppletive pairs that - at least from a synchronic point of view - are not morphologically transparent)

Some diagnostics for (im)perfectivity

- PF is incompatible with phase verbs (e.g. Filip 1999; Borik 2002, 2006)

- (99)
- On načal pisat' pis'mo.
he began.PF write.IPF letter.ACC
'He began writing a / the letter.'
 - *On načal na-pisat' pis'mo.
he began.PF ON-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On načal po-pisat' (pis'mo).
he began.PF PO-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On načal dat' ženščine knigu.
he began.PF give.PF woman.DAT book.ACC

Some diagnostics for (im)perfectivity

- Only IPFs derive periphrastic future forms (e.g. Schoorlemmer 1995; Filip 1999)

- (100)
- On budet pisat' pis'mo.
he will write.IPF letter.ACC
'He will write a / the letter.'
 - *On budet na-pisat' pis'mo.
he will ON-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On budet po-pisat' pis'mo.
he will PO-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On budet dat' ženščine knigu.
he will give.PF woman.DAT book.ACC

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he will ON-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On budet po-pisat' pis'mo.
he will PO-write.PF letter.ACC
 - *On budet dat' ženščine knigu.
he will give.PF woman.DAT book.ACC

- Further diagnostics:

- Only IPFs can form present participles (active and passive) (e.g. Schoorlemmer 1995; Borik 2002) (but there are exceptions; this is specific for Russian)
- PF present tense forms never refer to the ongoing present but get a future reference. (again: there are exceptions; in South Slavic: modal)

A side note on Tense in Russian

- Synthetic forms for **present** and **past** for IPF and PF
 - Past: (former) I-participle, which agrees with the subject in gender and number; no auxiliary (unlike, e.g., Czech)
 - PF present tense forms never refer to the ongoing present but usually get a future reference (unlike, e.g., South Slavic: modal)
- Analytical forms for **future**: *budu* etc. + infinitive; only for IPF

e.g. I.FEM READ books.ACC:

- (101) a. IPF/SI PRES: Ja {čitaju / pro-čit-yv-aju} knigi.
 b. PF PRES: Ja {pro-/po-}čitaju knigi.
- (102) a. IPF/SI PST: Ja {čitala / pro-čit-yv-ala} knigi.
 b. PF PST: Ja {pro-/po-}čitala knigi.
- (103) a. IPF/SI FUT: Ja budu {čitat' / pro-čit-yv-at'} knigi.
 b. *PF FUT: *Ja budu {pro-/po-}čitat' knigi.

Particular meanings [readings] of the Russian IPF

(from Zaliznjak & Šmelev 2000, 21-26)

- **'Actual process'**: process or state that holds at the point of reference

(104) Kogda ja vo-šel, moja žena **na-kry-va-la** na stol.
 when I IN-walked.PF, my wife ON-covered-SI on table.ACC
 'When I entered, my wife was setting the table.'

- **'Habitual, repetitive'**: any kind of repetition of an event (in the broad sense)

(105) Každyj den', pri-xodja s raboty, on **ot-kry-va-et** okno.
 every day, TO-walking.SI off work.GEN, he FROM-covers-SI window
 'Every day when he returns from work, he opens the window.'

→ 'Canonical IPF meanings'

Particular meanings [readings] of the Russian IPF

(from Zaliznjak & Šmelev 2000, 21-26)

- **'General-factual'**: focus is on the fact that some event took place (but not whether it is in its process, completed or the like)

(106) Zimnij Dvorec **stroil** Rastrelli.
 winter-.ACC palace.ACC built.IPF Rastrelli
 'The Winter Palace [= Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg] was
 built by Rastrelli.'

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Two subtypes (terms of Grønn 2004) (cp. Padučeva 1996):

- **Presuppositional**: The event is already given in the context; e.g. (106)
- **Existential**: There was at least one such event; e.g. (107) (from Grønn 2004)

(107) Ne bylo somnenij, što ja prežde **vstrečal** ee.
 not was.NEU doubts.GEN that I before met.SI her
 'There was no doubt that I had met her before.'

Particular meanings [readings] of the Russian PF

(from Zaliznjak & Šmelev 2000, 19ff.)

- **'Concrete fact'**: single event that took place in the past or is expected to take place in the future

(108) Ivan **u-exal** za granicu i **po-stupil** v
 John AWAY-drove.PF behind border.ACC and ON-stepped.PF in
 universitet.
 university.ACC
 'John went abroad and entered university.'

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(from Zaliznjak & Šmelev 2000, 19ff.)

- **'Vivid-exemplifying'**: habitual event presented as single exemplifying event (habituality has to be marked contextually)

(109) U nego takaja privyčka - kak **vernetsja** s raboty,
 at him such.NOM habit.NOM - how returns.PF off work.GEN,
 srazu **ot-kroet** okno.
 immediately FROM-covers.PF window.ACC
 'He has this habit - as soon as he returns from work, he immediately opens the window.'

- **'Potential'**: specifying intellectual or physical ability

(110) On **rešit** ljubuju zadaču.
 he solves.PF random.ACC task.ACC
 'He can solve any task.'

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→ More marked uses of PF

(note also: PF PRES forms without 'future' meaning)

Telicity tests: PF \neq telic

- (111)
- a. On ot-kryl okno *(za) dve minuty.
 he FROM-covered.PF window.ACC *(in) two minutes
 'He opened a/the window in / *for two minutes.'
- b. On u-bil svoju ženu *(za) dve minuty.
 he AWAY-hit.PF his.ACC wife.ACC *(in) two minutes
 'He killed his wife in / *for two minutes.'
- c. On dal ženščine knigu *(za) dve minuty.
 he gave.PF woman.DAT book.ACC *(in) two minutes
 'He gave a/the woman a/the book in / *for two minutes.'

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 he gave.PF woman.DAT book.ACC *(in) two minutes
 'He gave a/the woman a/the book in / *for two minutes.'
- (112) a. On pro-spal (*za) dva dnja.
 he PRO-slept.PF (*in) two days
- b. On po-pisal knigu (*za) dva dnja.
 he PO-wrote.PF book/ACC (*in) two days

The in/for-adverbial test in Russian (Slavic)

- Recall the problem we face with this telicity test:
 - The adverbials are additionally sensitive to (I)PF.
 - Filip (2000, 2003): This is a test for (I)PF
- Given (112) (repeated in (113)), however, this cannot be true. (These verb forms pass the tests for PF outlined before.)

- (113)
- a. On pro-spal (*za) dva dnja.
 he PRO-slept.PF (*in) two days
- b. On po-pisal knigu (*za) dva dnja.
 he PO-wrote.PF book/ACC (*in) two days

Another telicity test for Russian

- **Progressive test** in Borik (2002, 2006)
(adaptation of the imperfective paradox)

(114) Kogda po-zvonila mama, Petja **iskal** knigu.
when called.PF mom, Peter looked-for.IPF book.ACC

→ Petja uže **iskal** (ètu) knigu.
Peter already looked-for.IPF this.ACC book.ACC

(115) Kogda po-zvonila mama, Petja **čital** knigu.
when called.PF mom, Peter read.IPF book.ACC

→ Petja uže **pro-čital** (ètu) knigu.
Peter already THROUGH-read.PF this.ACC book.ACC

(A)telicity ≠ (im)perfectivity

(see Borik 2002, 2006; Gehrke 2008b)

- **There are PFs that behave like atelic predicates:**

(116) On po-pisal dva časa / *za dva časa.
 he PO-wrote.PF two hours / in two hours
 'He wrote (was writing) for two hours / *in two hours.'

(A)telicity ≠ (im)perfectivity

(see Borik 2002, 2006; Gehrke 2008b)

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(116) On po-pisal dva časa / *za dva časa.
 he PO-wrote.PF two hours / in two hours
 'He wrote (was writing) for two hours / *in two hours.'

- **There are IPFs that (can) behave like telic predicates:**

(117) On pere-pis-yva-l celuju stat'ju za dva časa.
 he re-wrote.SI whole.ACC article.ACC in two hours
 'He re-wrote a/the whole article (i.e. by changing it) in two hours.' (e.g. habitually)

Prefixes

(see Gehrke 2008b, for further discussion and references)

- **Do not 'mark' PF:**
 - Not all PFs have prefixes (e.g. *dat'* 'give').
 - SIs are IPF and (usually) contain a prefix.
 - Stacking prefixes (see also Filip 2000)

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- SIs are IPF and (usually) contain a prefix.
- Stacking prefixes (see also Filip 2000)
- Some IPFs also seem to have prefixes, e.g. (118).

- (118)
- nad-zirat'* 'to super-vise' (lit. 'above-watch'; cp. German *über-wachen*)
 - protivo-stojat'* 'to re-sist' (lit. 'against-stand'; cp. German *wider-stehen*)
 - vy-gljadet'* 'to look like' (lit. 'out-see'; cp. German *aus-sehen*)
 - so-čuvstvovat'* 'to sym-pathise' (lit. 'with-feel'; cp. German *mit-fühlen*)

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- **Do not ‘mark’ telicity:** There are VPs with prefixed (and even PF) verbs that behave like atelic predicates (see previous slides).

Internal and external prefixes

- Di Sciullo & Slabakova (2005) on Bulgarian:
 - External prefixes must precede internal ones, the reverse order is ungrammatical.
 - Internal prefixes can affect the argument structure, external prefixes never do.
 - External prefixes do not alter the aspectual class of the verb they attach to; internal prefixes do, since they signal telicity.
 - Only internal prefixes impose a specific reading on internal argument DPs.
 - Only external prefixes can be iterated and co-occur.

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 - Only external prefixes can be iterated and co-occur.
- Aka lexical vs. superlexical prefixes (Babko-Malaya 1999, on Russian) (see also Romanova 2004, 2007; Ramchand 2004; Svenonius 2004)
- Application to various Slavic languages, e.g. other papers in Nordlyd Vol 32, No 2 (2004); Arsenijević (2006); Jabłńska (2007); Žaucer (2009); Biskup (2017)

Internal and external prefixes in Russian

(Gehrke 2003, 2005, 2008a, b)

	internal prefixes	external prefixes
Argument structure effects	✓	*
SIs	✓	(*)
Event nominals and participles	✓	*
Infinitival subjects	✓	*
Stacking	*	✓

Internal prefixes

(Gehrke 2003, 2005, 2008a, b)

- Bring in their own semantics, often idiosyncratic → derive new lexical items which can derive further SIs (with the same lexical meaning)
- Form a constituting part of the event structure
→ **telicity/result state markers?**

- (119)
- u-bit* 'kill' (lit.: away-hit) > SI *u-bi-va-t*'
 - u-mere-t* 'die' > SI *u-mira-t*'
 - pri-exat* 'arrive (driving)' (lit.: to-drive) > SI *pri-ezžat*'
 - na-jti* 'find' (lit.: on-go) > SI *na-xodit*'

Internal prefixes

(Gehrke 2003, 2005, 2008a, b)

- More debatable: **'empty prefixes'** (120)
 - Traditional view: Derive PF aspectual partner, just double some meaning that is already part of the IPF verb meaning [mostly with incremental theme verbs]

- (120)
- s''est'* 'OFF-eat'
 - na-pisat'*, *na-risovat'* etc. 'ON-write', 'ON-paint'
 - vy-pit'* 'OUT-drink'
 - pro-čitat'* 'THROUGH-read'

- Less clear that they bring in their own semantics or affect the argument structure
- Still: Such VPs are telic, optional internal arguments become obligatory

External prefixes in Russian

(Gehrke 2003, 2005, 2008a, b)

(Slavistics literature: **Aktionsart prefixes**)

- Are outside the VP, not part of the event structure
- No nominalisations, past participles, infinitival subjects with externally prefixed verbs

External prefixes in Russian

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(Slavistics literature: **Aktionsart prefixes**)

- Are outside the VP, not part of the event structure
- No nominalisations, past participles, infinitival subjects with externally prefixed verbs
- One group: mark temporal bounds on otherwise unbounded events (either on atelic events, (121), or on pluralities of telic events)
→ **PF markers?**

- (121)
- INGRESSIVE *za-*: *On vstal i zapel pesnju*. 'He stood up and sang (started singing) a song.'
 - DELIMITATIVE *po-*: *Ona poela tort*. 'She ate cake (for a while).'
 - PERDURATIVE *pro-*: *Oni prosideli tam celyj den*'. 'They sat there all day.'

- (122) (SEMELFACTIVE perfectivising suffix *-nu-*: *prygat'-prygnut'* 'jump' etc.)

External prefixes in Russian

(Gehrke 2003, 2005, 2008a, b)

- Another group: ‘quantificational prefixes’; or (at least for Russian): mark bounded event pluralities (with plural internal arguments):

- (123) a. CUMULATIVE *na-* (see later slides)
 b. DISTRIBUTIVE *po-*, e.g. (124) (from Mehlig 1996)

- (124) Igor' nemnogo **po-vy-da-va-l** knigi i
 Igor' a bit PO-OUT-give-SI-PST.PF books.ACC and
 zakryl biblioteku.
 closed.PF library.ACC
 ‘Igor’ handed out books for a while and (then) closed the library.’

(on Russian prefixes more generally see Isačenko 1962)

External prefixes in Czech

(some more general remarks on Czech prefixes in Filip 1999, 2003)

- Comparison to Russian first group (**temporal delimiters**):
 - No ingressive *za-* in Czech (see also Ivančev 1961)
 - Unlike Russian *po-*, Czech *po-* ~ ‘a bit’ is not restricted to temporal interpretations, e.g. (125) (from Kundera, *Žert*; see Gehrke 2002, for discussion):

(125) Pak holička **po-od-stoupila** [...]

then hairdresser.FEM.NOM PO-AWAY-stepped.PF

‘Then the hairdresser stepped (a bit) away ...’

External prefixes in Czech: Součková (2004)

- [Second group:] truly **quantificational** (possibly unlike Russian) (126)

- (126)
- Petr na-pekl koláče.
Petr _{NA}-baked cakes
'Petr baked a lot of cakes.'
 - Ester svou výpověď' po-z-měnila.
Ester her testimony _{PO}-changed
'Ester changed her testimony a little.'

Součková (2004):

- These prefixes are internal, because they denote extensive measure functions on events (cp. Filip 2003) → telic events (cp. Žaucer 2009, for similar claim about Slovenian)

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Součková (2004):

- These prefixes are internal, because they denote extensive measure functions on events (cp. Filip 2003) → telic events (cp. Žaucer 2009, for similar claim about Slovenian)
- *po-* in (126) is distinct from the (external) delimitative *po-* 'for a while', e.g. (127), which merely provides a temporal bound.

- (127) Jakub o tom po-přemýšlel.
Jakub about it PO-thought

Proposal in Gehrke (2008b)

- **Internal prefixes** (Russian and Czech):
 - Are of category P, head a PredP in complement to the VP, form a complex predicate with the verb they attach to
 - Mark the upper bounds of incremental chains of BECOME events (in the sense of Rothstein 2004)
- Are necessarily part of telic VPs (ACCS and ACHs)

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 - Russian: base-generated in Spec, AspP; signal that T-AST is a definite time moment within the event (following Ramchand 2004).
- Ramchand's (2004) semantics for some Russian external prefixes:

- (128)
- $[[za-]] = \lambda P \lambda t [P(t) \& t \text{ occurs at the onset of the temporal trace}]$
 - $[[po-]] = \lambda P \lambda t [P(t) \& t \text{ is a specific moment a short way into the temporal trace}]$

Tatevosov (2015): Main claims

- **Russian aspect is not lexical.** As in English and lots of other languages, semantic aspects appear in the functional domain of a clause.
- **Russian “aspectual morphology” is never interpreted as rendering semantic aspects in the position where it is merged.** (This does not mean that it is not interpreted at all; all it means that its semantic contribution, if any, is to be found elsewhere.)
- **Aspectual operators are phonologically silent.**

[NB: One-component approach]

Tatevosov (2011)

Testing different possible theories for PF and [internal] prefixes:

(129) **Aspect-low theory**

- a. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots [Fi-1P \dots [VP \dots [V \mathbf{PF} \textit{pro}\check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$
- b. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots [Fi-1P \dots [XP \dots \mathbf{PF} \textit{pro-} \dots [V \check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$

(according to Tatevosov: Filip 2000; Ramchand 2004; Svenonius 2004)

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(130) Aspect-high theory

- a. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots \mathbf{PF} [Fi-1P \dots [VP \dots [V \textit{pro}\check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$
 b. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots \mathbf{PF} [Fi-1P \dots [XP \dots \textit{pro-} \dots [V \check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$

(according to Tatevosov: Verkuyl 1999; Paslawska & von Stechow 2003b; Grønn & von Stechow 2010)

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- a. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots [Fi-1P \dots [VP \dots [v \mathbf{PF} \textit{pro}\check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$
 b. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots [Fi-1P \dots [XP \dots \mathbf{PF} \textit{pro-} \dots [v \check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$

(according to Tatevosov: Filip 2000; Ramchand 2004; Svenonius 2004)

(130) Aspect-high theory

- a. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots \mathbf{PF} [Fi-1P \dots [VP \dots [v \textit{pro}\check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$
 b. $[CP \dots [Fi+1P \dots [FiP \dots \mathbf{PF} [Fi-1P \dots [XP \dots \textit{pro-} \dots [v \check{c}ita-]]]]]]]$

(according to Tatevosov: Verkuyl 1999; Paslawska & von Stechow 2003b; Grønn & von Stechow 2010)

(e.g. analysed as a concord phenomenon in Arsenijević 2010)

Tatevosov (2011)

Testing different possible theories for PF and [internal] prefixes:

(129) Aspect-low theory

- a. $[CP \dots [F_{i+1}P \dots [F_iP \dots [F_{i-1}P \dots [VP \dots [V \mathbf{PF} \textit{pročita-}]]]]]]]$
 b. $[CP \dots [F_{i+1}P \dots [F_iP \dots [F_{i-1}P \dots [XP \dots \mathbf{PF} \textit{pro-} \dots [V \check{\textit{čita-}]]]]]]]$

(according to Tatevosov: Filip 2000; Ramchand 2004; Svenonius 2004)

(130) Aspect-high theory

- a. $[CP \dots [F_{i+1}P \dots [F_iP \dots \mathbf{PF} [F_{i-1}P \dots [VP \dots [V \textit{pročita-}]]]]]]]$
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(according to Tatevosov: Verkuyl 1999; Paslawska & von Stechow 2003b; Grønn & von Stechow 2010)

(e.g. analysed as a concord phenomenon in Arsenijević 2010)

- **a.-options:** prefixation in the lexicon
- **b. options:** prefixation in the syntax

Tatevosov (2011)

Arguments for an Aspect-high theory:

- Argument supporting deverbal nominals:
 - Do not contain AspP (project up to vP) but contain [internal] prefixes
 - Do not show perfectivity effects

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(131) [... [... **PF** ... [... external prefix ... [... internal prefix ...]]]]

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(extension to external prefixes in some 2013 handout, leading to (131))

(131) [... [... **PF** ... [... external prefix ... [... internal prefix ...]]]]

Background assumption: **only one semantic aspect per clause** (unlike, e.g., de Swart 1998)

Tatevosov (2015)

What does this mean for the SI-suffix? Again, 2 options:

(132) **-yva-** as an IPF operator:

[*FP* ... IPF yva ... [*VP* ... [... pro-čita ... [...]]]]

(133) **-yva-** is lower, not an IPF operator:

[*FP* ... IPF ... [... yva ... [... pro-čita ... [...]]]]

Tatevosov (2015)

What does this mean for the SI-suffix? Again, 2 options:

(132) **-yva-** as an IPF operator:

[_{FP} ... IPF yva ... [_{vP} ... [... pro-čita ... [...]]]

(133) **-yva-** is lower, not an IPF operator:

[_{FP} ... IPF ... [... yva ... [... pro-čita ... [...]]]

(Under (133) and the previous assumptions, both prefixes and suffixes would be merged low, which does not mean that they are interpreted there; it only means that they are NOT interpreted as (I)PF)

Tatevosov (2015)

- **Arguments for -vya- not being an IPF operator:**
 - Some [external] prefixes can apply to SIs, e.g. (134).
 - Such verb forms are PF.
- There has to be a PF above this.

(134) ‘Selectionally restricted’ external prefixes on *otkryvat*^{ipf} ‘open’:

- | | | |
|----|--|--------------|
| a. | pere- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t’ | DISTRIBUTIVE |
| b. | za- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t’ | INGRESSIVE |
| c. | na- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t’ | CUMULATIVE |
| d. | po- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t’ | DISTRIBUTIVE |
| e. | po- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t’ | DELIMITATIVE |

Tatevosov (2015)

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a.	pere- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t'	DISTRIBUTIVE
b.	za- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t'	INGRESSIVE
c.	na- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t'	CUMULATIVE
d.	po- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t'	DISTRIBUTIVE
e.	po- [[ot-kry] ^{pf} -va] ^{ipf} -t'	DELIMITATIVE

- Arguments for -yva- being inside vP
 - e.g. subject-object asymmetries with the *pere_{dist}* → v is above -yva-
- (Arguments for IPF outside vP)

Klein (1995) about Russian Aspect

- (**Tense** relates utterance time TU and assertion time T-AST)
- Distinction between **1-state verbs** (~ STA, ACT) and **2-state verbs** (~ ACC, ACH) (though not quite, because he also includes externally-prefixed verbs)

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 - The state of 1-state verbs
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- (135)
- a. PF: T-AST OVL T-SS & T-AST OVL T-TS
 - b. IPF: T-AST OVL T-DS & T-AST NOT OVL T-TS

cp. Klein (1995) about English

DS for English: T-SS

- Perfect: T-AST AFTER T-DS
- Progressive: T-AST IN T-DS
- Simple: T-AST OVL T-DS AND T-AST OVL POSTTIME OF T-DS

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