

ties of nominals (e.g. externalization of arguments/ target of honorification), and verbal morphology must be focused along with V that indicates that the elided nominals have marked properties (e.g. having undergone externalization/ target of honorification).

5. Conclusion

This paper discussed the properties of VP-focus pseudocleft sentences in Japanese. I have shown that VP-focus constitutes a vP phase in a broad sense. I have also argued that the presuppositional clause of pseudocleft sentences is a question based on the occurrence of a topic marker in the presuppositional clause. Finally, it is demonstrated that the presuppositional clause and the focus phrase are subject to the same parallelism constraint on ellipsis.

References

- Akmajian, Adrian. 1979. *Aspects of the Grammar of Focus in English*. New York: Garland.
- Cho, Sungdai, John Whitman and Yuko Yanagida. 2008. Multiple Focus Clefts in Japanese and Korean. *Proceedings from the Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society* 44.1: 61-77.
- den Dikken, Marcel, André Meinunger and Chris Wilder. 2000. Pseudoclefts and Ellipsis. *Studia Linguistica* 54.1: 41-89.
- Harwood, William. 2014. Being Progressive is Just a Phase: Celebrating the Uniqueness of Progressive Aspect under Phase-based Analysis. *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 33.2: 523-573.
- Heggie, Lorie A. 1988. *The Syntax of Copular Structures*. PhD dissertation, University of Southern California.
- Heycock, Caroline and Anthony Kroch. 1997. Pseudocleft Connectedness: Implication for the LF Interface Level. *Linguistic Inquiry* 30: 365-397.
- Higgins, Francis Roger. 1979. *The Pseudo-cleft Construction in English*. New York: Garland.
- Hiraiwa, Ken and Shinichiro Ishihara. 2012. Syntactic Metamorphosis: Clefts, Sluicing and In-Situ Focus in Japanese. *Syntax* 15.2: 142-180.
- Meinunger, André. 1998. A Monoclausal Structure for (Pseudo-)cleft Sentences. *Proceedings of the North-Eastern Linguistic Society* 28: 280-300.
- Merchant, Jason. 2004. Fragments and Ellipsis. *Linguistics and Philosophy* 27: 661-738.
- Merchant, Jason. 2013. Voice and Ellipsis. *Linguistic Inquiry* 44.1: 77-108.
- Rizzi, Luigi. 1997. The Fine Structure of the Left Periphery. In Haegeman, Liliane (ed.) *Elements of Grammar*. Dordrecht: Kluwer, 281-337.
- Ross, John R. 1972. Act. In Davidson, Donald and Gilbert Harman (eds.), *Semantics of Natural Language*. Dordrecht: Reidel, 70-126.
- Ross, Haj. 2000. The Frozenness of Pseudoclefts – Towards an Inequality-based Syntax. *Proceedings from the Annual Meeting of the Chicago Linguistic Society* 36.1: 385-426.
- Sharvit, Yael. 1999. Connectivity in Specificational Sentences. *Natural Language Semantics* 7.3: 299-339.
- Shlenker, Philippe. 2003. Clausal Equations (A Note on the Connectivity Problem). *Natural Language and Linguistic Theory* 21.1: 157-214.