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Remapping syntax–prosody mapping

The intonational phrase as the unit of discourse–prosody mapping

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Remapping syntax–prosody mapping

The intonational phrase as the unit of discourse–prosody mapping

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CROSSIN (Intonation at the crossroads), Leiden University, 2024-07-06

Main claims

- The mapping of syntactic clauses to intonational phrases (ι's) put forward in Match Theory (Selkirk 2011) is only apparent, hence should be eliminated from the syntax–prosody mapping.
- An alternative model assumes **two sources of ι-mapping** that are not related to clausehood.
 - Discourse–prosody mapping: Mapping of speech acts to ι's
 - Prosodic wellformedness: Prosodic promotion of φ's to ι's

Introduction: MatchClause

- Embedded clauses often fail to map to an ι.
- Two types of MatchClause (Selkirk 2011)
 - **Match(illocutionary clause, ι)**: a clause carrying an illocutionary force is mapped to an ι. — undominated constraint
 - **Match(standard clause, ι)**: Any clause is mapped to an ι — may be outranked by other constraints (See Ishihara 2022 for critical discussion of Selkirk 2009)
- Question: Is “clausehood” really relevant?**

Relevance of speech act

- ‘Root sentences’ (Downing 1970), ‘Comma Phrase’ (Potts 2005), ‘illocutionary clause’ (Selkirk 2011), ‘non-integrated dependent clause’ (Frey 2012, Frey & Meinunger 2019), ...
 - Syntactic independence (e.g., binding)
 - **Prosodic independence** (pauses, sentence stress) — separate ι's
 - **Discourse independence** (illocutionary force/speech act) — separate speech acts

Irrelevance of clausehood

- Elements that are outside the speech act of the main root clause may be a phrase or a clause.
 - Parentheticals (e.g., nominal apposition)
 - Discourse topics (*As for John, ...*)
 - Structural discourse markers (*First of all, ...*)

Source 1: discourse–prosody mapping

- Mapping of speech acts to ι's
 - **Match(speech act, ι) — MatchSA** (Güneş 2014, 2015, Truckenbrodt 2015, Ishihara 2022) A speech act is realized as an ι in the prosodic representation.
 - applies to clausal and non-clausal elements

Source 2: prosodic wellformedness

- prosodic promotion of a phonological phrase (φ) to an ι** caused by prosodic wellformedness.
 - Size constraints (e.g., BinMax) $(\varphi (\varphi \dots) (\varphi \dots) (\varphi \dots)) \rightarrow \{\iota (\varphi \dots) (\varphi \dots) (\varphi \dots)\}$
 - EqualSisters (Myrberg 2013) $\{\iota \{\iota \dots\} (\varphi \dots)\} \rightarrow \{\iota \{\iota \dots\} \{\iota \dots\}\}$
 - Stylistic promotion (Selkirk 2005) $\{\iota (\varphi \text{ Three mathematicians in ten}) (\varphi \text{ derive a lemma})\} \rightarrow \{\iota \{\iota \text{ Three mathematicians in ten}\} \{\iota \text{ derive a lemma}\}\}$
- Apparent clause–ι mapping can be explained.

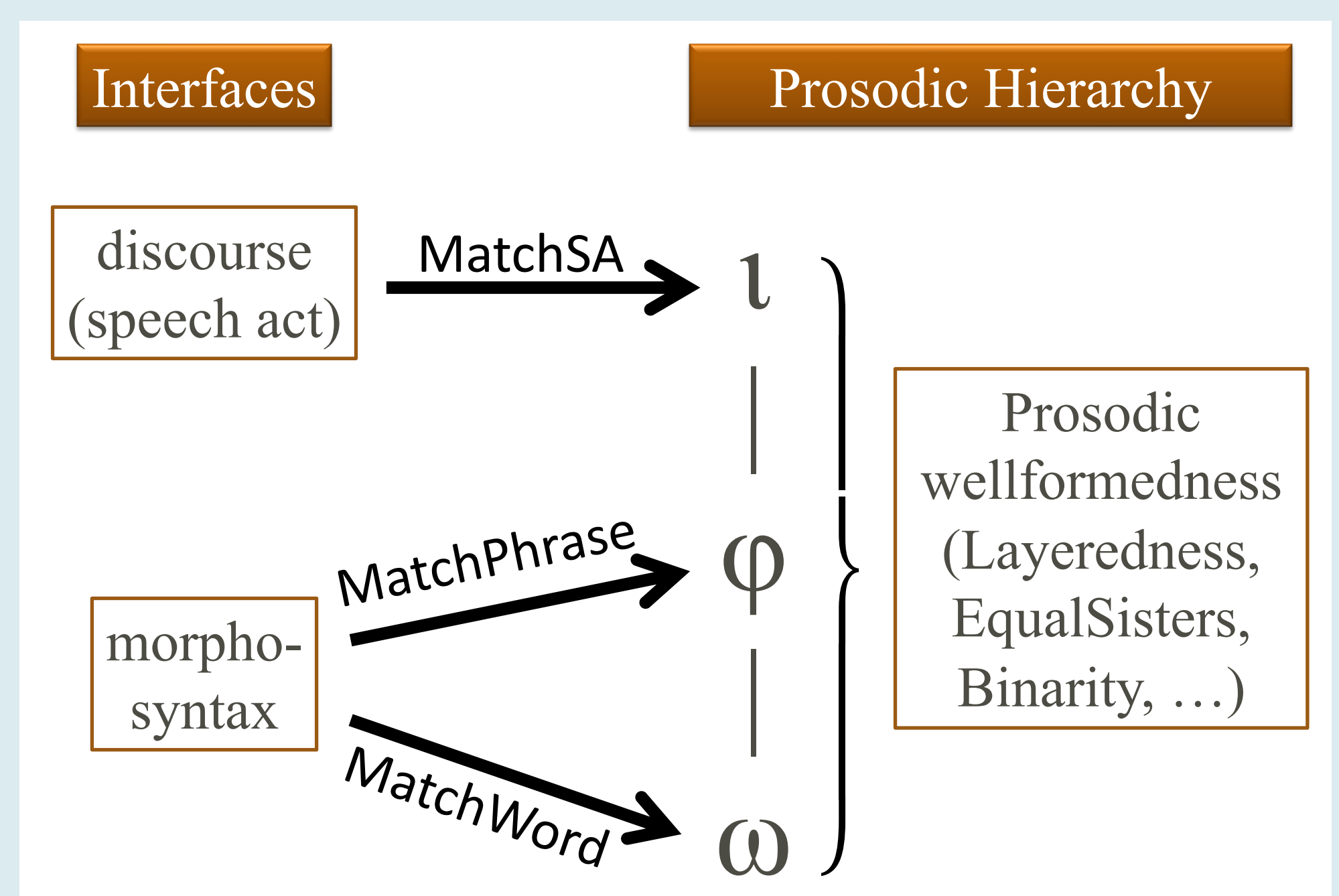


Fig. 1: Schematic illustration of the proposed architecture of grammar

Selected references

Frey, W. & Meinunger, A. 2019. Topic Marking and Illocutionary Force. In Molnar, V., et al. (eds.) *Architecture of Topic*. Güneş, G. 2014. Constraints on syntax-prosody correspondence: The case of clausal and subclausal parentheticals in Turkish. *Lingua*, 150:278–314. Ishihara, S. 2022. On the (lack of) correspondence between syntactic clauses and intonational phrases. In Kubozono, H., et al. (eds.) *Prosody and prosodic interfaces*. Truckenbrodt, H. 2015. Intonation phrases and speech acts. In Kluck, M., et al. (eds.) *Parenthesis and Ellipsis*.