The co-expression of motion and non-motion events
Syntax of the World's Languages – Adjacent workshop

Since Talmy (1985) suggested his ground-breaking typology of the expression of motion events, many authors have suggested refinements and adjustments (Matsumoto 2003; Slobin 2004; Croft et al. 2010; Fortis et al. 2011; Grinevald 2011; to name only a few). Many notably highlight the rarity of purely verb- or satellite-framed languages, i.e. languages which would exclusively encode Path information in the verb or in the satellite.

Based on data from a sample of diverse and mostly lesser described languages, Fortis & al. (2011) emphasize 1) the importance of taking into account all the constructions available in a language (thus matching Croft & al. 2011 in categorizing constructions rather than language types); 2) the existence of four possible loci – the verb (called head, partially following Matsumoto 2003), satellites (excluding adnominals, also originally excluded in Talmy (1985) but not in his revised version (2000)), the noun, and adnominals (which subsume prepositions and case markers, see Papahagi 2011); 3) the necessity to take into account constructions which combine 'a-motional' verbs with elements expressing Path such as the adnominals expressing the loci of a Path, as illustrated in (1).

(1) *Sedgwick often clanked **into** town in sabre and spurs **from** the cavalry camp.*

While English seems to restrict motion constructions with a-motional verbs to emission verbs (Levin & Rappaport Hovav 1995, 190ff.), some languages have elaborate grammatical systems of what has come to be known as the category of 'associated motion' morphemes (Koch 1984; Wilkins 1991). Ese'eja (Takanan, of Bolivia) is such a language, with a complex system of 'associated motion' suffixes, illustrated in (2) and (3)b:

(2) *Ka'a-**nana**-kue!*
    close-**DO&LEAVE**-IMP

    '¡Close <u>before you leave</u>!'

(3) a. *Mahoya ekuana   poki-ani   besa-a.*
        then   1INCL.ABS   go-PRS   bathe-PURP_WITH_MOTION
        'Then we go to the spring to bathe….'

    b. *Ekuana   tajataja-**ña**-'i(o)-ani.*
        1INCL.ABS   do_laundry-**ARRIVE&DO**-TEL-PRS
        '<u>When we arrive</u> (at the spring), we do our laundry.'

To be noted is that the main role of associated motion morphemes such as *-nana* and *ña* is not to encode only spatial motion information, as is often given by lexical verbs like *poki-* 'to go' in (3a). They have a crucial discursive role, which is to localize (non-motion) events within space (and time) echoing spatial information given elsewhere in the discourse by fully lexical verbs. They do this in the way lexical items like *yesterday*, *then*, *afterwards*, *yet*, *still*, etc. echo tense and aspect information given by tense markers (Cf. Wilkins 1991:251).

Complex associated motion systems were first identified in Australian languages (Koch 1984; Wilkins 1991) but have turned out to also be well represented in Amazonian languages, such as the complex systems of (Pano)Takanan families (Guillaume 2006; 2013; Forthc.; Vuillermet 2013) and the less complex systems of southwestern Amazonia (Guillaume 2011). However, this specific grammatical category which allows speakers to productively intertwine motion and non-motion events remains uncommon cross-linguistically.

Therefore, the goal of this workshop is to explore not only associated motion systems, but the various strategies attested cross-linguistically to associate motion events to non-motion events. Our original interest was limited to associated motion morphemes; in order to study their discourse use, we designed a stimulus "A hunting story", a wordless story combining motion and non-motion subevents (Vuillermet and Desnoyers 2013, available on request). This stimulus turned out to be good to capture the general diversity of modes of expression of combinations of (a)motion: it has so far been successfully used on/with a half dozen of languages (mostly Amazonian with no specific associated motion category), and it put forward varied strategies for co-expressing motion and non-motion events, such as SVCs, clause chaining or coordination.

The workshop will address the question of how languages deal with the linguistic co-expression of a motion and a non-motion event, seeking to cover all strategies: lexical, morpho-syntactic, syntactic constructions, including multiclausal strategies (in contrast with the works previously mentioned). The participants will not necessarily have used the stimulus mentioned above, but are welcome to do so. The workshop aims at bringing together specialists of typologically diverse languages to discuss the following questions:

- Do languages use only one strategy, or more than one, for the co-expression of motion & non-motion events? Do languages with similar typological profiles display the same strategies?

- If a language has more than one strategy, what are the reasons for the use of one over the other?

  - Intra vs interspeaker variation?

  - Pragmatics?

  - Speech style / genre?

  - Syntactic constraints (e.g. co-referential subjects)

- How grammaticalized / conventionalized is the strategy used? Is it used elsewhere in the grammar / in other situations, i.e. for the co-expression of non-motion events (e.g. serial verbs or clause chaining)?

Submission procedure

We invite you to submit abstracts in English or Spanish of up to 300 words (excluding examples and references) related to the topic outlined above for 20-minute talks (plus10 min.discussion). The abstract should be submitted as an anonymous email attachment to the organizers of the workshop:
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April 1st, 2016: Deadline for abstract submission
April 20th, 2016: Notification of acceptance
August 17-19th, 2016: SWL conference
August 20th, 2016: Adjacent workshops

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