

## Distance-Marking Correspondence (oral/poster)

This paper posits a rule of correlation between word order and morphology, i.e. Distance-Marking Correspondence, which states that everything else being equal, the further away a dependent is from its head, the more it needs an overt grammatical marker which indicates the semantic relationship between the two units. In what follows, the relevant head and its dependent are underlined and the relevant marker is in bold.

- (1) a. He drives slow(-ly).  
b. He drives his car slow?(-ly).  
c. He drives his car into the garage slow\*(ly).

The obligation for the adverbial marker -ly increases with the distance between *slow* and *drives*. Mandarin has the similar cases:

- (2) a. *Ta zai tushuguan renzhen(-de) zhao ziliao.* (Mandarin)  
he in library cautious-ly search data  
'He is cautiously searching data in the library.'  
b. *Ta renzhen\*(-de) zai tushuguan zhao ziliao.*

In (2), when the adjective *renzhen* 'cautious', which serving as an adverbial, is adjacent to the verb, the adverbial marker -de is optional, otherwise it is obligatory.

- (3) a. to climb (**up**) the mountain. b. to climb steadily **\*(up)** the mountain.  
(4) a. *women jinhou duoduo* *yong dianhua lianxi* (Mandarin)  
we future more via telephone contact  
'Let's contact more via telephone in the future.'  
b. *women jinhou **\*(yong)** dianhua duoduo lianxi*  
we future via telephone more contact

In (3-4), the prepositions are optional when the relevant dependents are adjacent to the head verb, otherwise they are obligatory.

- (5) a. to provide somebody **with** something. b. to provide something **for** somebody.  
(6) a. to load the hay **onto** the truck. b. to load the truck **with** the hay.  
(7) a. I took three years **of** Chinese. b. I took Chinese **for** three years.

In (5-7), the dependents adjacent to the verbs do not need a preposition, while the dependents separated from the verbs must take a preposition.

- (8) a. He was my lover **\*(for)** 20 years. b. He was 20 years my lover.

Above, *for* can be dropped when *20 years* is adjacent to the verb *was*.

Below, the drop of complementizer *that* is also related to the distance between *Mary will win* and the verb *believes*.

- (9) a. John believes (**that**) Mary will win.  
b. John believes wholeheartedly **\*(that)** Mary will win.  
c. **\*(That)** Mary will win, John believes wholeheartedly.

The rule of correspondence is also applicable to NP internal structure.

- (10) a. *zhege jianzhuwu shijie youming.* (Mandarin)  
this building world famous  
'This building is world-famous.'  
b. *zhege jianzhuwu zai shijie shang hen youming.*  
this building at world LOC very famous  
'This building is very famous in the world.'

Above, a circumposition *zai...shang* 'in' is added as *shijie* 'world' is separated by *hen* 'very'.

In the phenomenon observed above, several factors may be involved, however, the distance between the head and its dependents is clearly an important one among them.

More data from several different languages will be provided in the paper.

The relevant overt markers included agreement, case markers, applicative markers, etc.