

NOW AND THEN: WHAT WE KNOW IN 2015 THAT WE DIDN'T KNOW IN 1998

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Retrospect

17 years! can't possibility be complete, therefore selective
incl. people named

WALS

initial presentation by Gil, Haspelmath; then Dryer, Bibiko
needed, cf. intuitive/anecdotal claims
we showed it can be done
wide use made of it (e.g. Ladd & Dediu)
my work on typicality
South America ("remote Amazonia")

Language contact:

LWT (Haspelmath, Tadmor)

establishment of Leipzig basic vocabulary list
some insights from fringes of project
e.g. Tadmor on Thai/Malay borrow only basic as is all know
unusual distributions, e.g. Bezhta from Avar
noun 23.1%, verbs 6.0%, adjectives 29.6%

APiCS (Haspelmath, Michaelis)

extreme instance of language contact
earlier claims often based on very limited samples
possibility of detailed comparison of PC and sub/superstrate (from WALS)
much of grammar from substrate
relevant to super-, substrate, universals hypotheses
e.g. relexification (Lefebvre)
but some properties, e.g. word order, from sub- & superstrate

Grammatical borrowing (esp. Seifart)

paradigm as strong evidence of genealogical affiliation
but borrowing of paradigm
Uchur Evenki hypothetical < Sakha (earlier work)
Seifart borrowing preferentially in paradigm

Genealogical: ASJP (Wichmann)

possibility of working with very limited word list (ca 40)
but validating results with comparative method
successes: Totozoquean (Totonacan + Mixe-Zoquean)
Chitimacha-Totozoquean (incl. 'corn' > Caddoan)

Typological studies of particular constructions

Coordination

Haspelmath edited volume provides basic framework
incl. restrictions, e.g. no $[co A] B$, rare $A [B co]$

Ditransitives (with Haspelmath, Malchukov)

questionnaire setting out framework (cf. Nedjalkov)
functional explanations for generalizations
topicworthiness of $R > T$ (indexing, passive)
"suppletion" for person of R
but e.g. Huichol shape of T

Valency classes (with Malchukov, Haspelmath, Hartmann)

correlation formal and semantic classes?
hardest project, Bezhta idiosyncratic
also for printer

Rarissima and limits on variation

root deletion in Akabea (with Zamponi)
reciprocals and reflexives in Tsezic (with Forker, Khalilova)
'ourselves/each other hit us'

Documentation of endangered languages

emphasized by me from start
still significant contributions, e.g. grammars of un-/little described languages
most major parts of the world
some areas thick coverage, e.g.
Indonesia, incl. Manokwari
South America, esp. grammars
(also researchers from Australia, NL, Argentina)
Tsezic, incl. dictionaries (Khalilov)
some areas pioneering, e.g. Andamans (Abbi, Kumar)
fortunate to have DoBeS, ELDP - latter to continue

Phonetics essential component of this work

not my own forte, though some phonology
still input, e.g. Tungusic ATR VH (Aralova) and Siberia as area
(some Mongolic, Chukotian, Middle Korean)
Great ape vocalization project (Grawunder)

Language necessities

- elaborations (tone, clicks, arbitrary inflectional morphology)
- development of complexity
- absolute necessities, e.g. distinguish core participants?
Gil on Riau Indonesian

Hunter-gatherer languages

- work with Cysouw
 - my hypothesis on numerals, not validated
 - but: arm \neq hand; hand = finger (cf. Brown)
 - no adpositions; if so, postpositions
 - generally head-final, incl. GN
 - though pref no dom order clausal
 - avoid SVO
- upcoming Khoesan workshop (Güldemann)

Child language acquisition: verb & noun (Stoll)

- English noun acquired before verb
- Mandarin verb acquired before noun
- Chintang high verb : noun ratio
- complex verb morphology
- to ca age 3 more nouns
- but more verbs once acquire complex verb morphology

Languages and genes

- starting point: geneticists and Greenberg; linguists & Boas
- Pääbo's work on Finnish
- Azerbaijan (Stoneking, Nasidze)
- Heggarty/Barbieri on Aymara and Uro around Lake Titicaca
- Pakendorf - much more complex, e.g. Sakha & Tungusic
- Anglo-Saxons & Celts ("British DNA", not our institute)
- until next paper!
- gender differentiation, not through massive migration
- virilocal bride exchange
- men as outside communicators

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