

HUMBOLDT-UNIVERSITÄT ZU BERLIN



Unmarked word order in the psych domain: Contrasting Spanish & Korean

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Introduction

Psych verbs

verbs denoting a relation between two arguments, one argument bearing the theta role experiencer and the other stimulus

(1) love, fear, frighten

Experiencer (EXP)

animate individual affected by a psychological eventuality

Stimulus (STM)

+/- animate triggering the psychological state

- Psych verbs participate in a well-known alternation between STM and EXP:

(2) a. We_{EXP} puzzled over Sue's remarks_{STM}.

[ES]

b. Sue's remarks_{STM} puzzled us_{EXP}.

[EO]

(Landau, 2010)

- ES = Experiencer Subject
- EO = Experiencer Object

in the literature (Grimshaw 1990; Landau 2010; Reinhart 2002)

- ES structures show canonicity w.r.t. linearization:

(3) Peter_{NOM,EXP} liebt Maria_{ACC,STM}. ‘Peter loves Mary’

Canonical word order

“natural” linearization shown in transitive structures

(SUBJ_{NOM,AG} > OBJ_{ACC,PAT})

- Psych verbs in EO structures differ from canonical verbs (Arad 1998; Belletti and Rizzi 1988; Pesetsky 1995)
- EO (but not ES) verbs show exceptional syntactic properties (i.e. “psych effects”) w.r.t. linearization, binding, passivisation, extraction, etc. (see Verhoeven 2010; Verhoeven 2014; Temme and Verhoeven 2016)

- EO structures frequently appear with two case-marking patterns:

(4) Das Buch interessiert **Maria**_{EXP}. 'The book interests Mary' [EO_{ACC}]

(5) **Maria**_{EXP} gefällt das Buch. 'Mary likes the book' [EO_{DAT}]

- Case marking correlates with different linearization properties.

EO _{ACC} order:	STM	>	EXP	← unmarked word order (i.e. preferred word order)
	EXP	>	STM	
EO _{DAT} order:	STM	>	EXP	
	EXP	>	STM	← unmarked word order (i.e. preferred word order)

- in numerous languages: German (Primus 2004), German, Greek, Hungarian, Korean (Temme and Verhoeven 2016), Spanish (Gattei et al. 2015; Jiménez-Fernández and Rozwadowska 2017)

Research Questions

- How can we model ...
 - ... the alternation of the experiencer (EO vs. ES),
 - ... the case alternation in EO structures (ACC vs. DAT),
 - ... the different readings of the STM, and
 - ... the different linearization patterns (unmarked word orders) shown for the distinct configurations?
- In order to answer those questions:
 - Spanish (SVO) & Korean (SOV)
 - Examine linearization (i.e. unmarked word order) in terms of:
 - Case alternation
 - Event structure
 - Theta-roles
 - HPSG framework

Psych verbs: Spanish

EO class 1: *gustar* 'to like'

- stative and non-agentive (Landau 2010; Reinhart 2002)
- unmarked WO (cf. (6)): DAT-EXP > NOM-STM
- STM-role: SM

- (6) [A Clara]_{DAT} le gusta David/el reporte.
 to Clara CL.DAT like.PRS.3.SG David/the report
 'Clara likes David/the report.'

Subject Matter (SM)

Argument which provokes an emotional response in the EXP, but does not necessarily cause the emotion directly. (cf. Pesetsky, 1995)

EO class 1 & 3: *asustar* 'to frighten'

- stative: DAT structure (7a)
unmarked WO: DAT-EXP > NOM-SM
- eventive: ACC structure (7b)
unmarked WO: NOM-CSR > ACC-EXP (cf. Marín, 2011)

- (7) a. [A Clara]_{DAT} le asusta David/el reporte.
to Clara CL.DAT frighten.PRS.3.SG David/the report
'(Something about) David/the report frightens Clara.'
- b. David/el reporte (la) asusta [a Clara]_{ACC}.
David/the report CL.ACC frighten.PRS.3.SG to Clara
'David/the report frightens (directly) Clara.'

Causer (CSR)

direct causer of the emotion (cf. Pesetsky, 1995)

ES class 2 & 4: *amar* 'to love'

- stative: ACC and DAT structure (cf. (8a) & (8b))
- unmarked WO for ACC structure: NOM-EXP > ACC-TG (cf. (8a))
- unmarked WO for DAT structure: NOM-EXP > DAT-SM (cf. (8b))

- (8) a. David (lo) ama [a Pedro]_{ACC}.
 David CL.ACC love.PRS.3.SG to Peter
 'David loves Peter.'
- b. David (le) ama [a Pedro]_{DAT}.
 David CL.DAT love.PRS.3.SG to Peter
 'David loves (something about) Peter.'

Target (TG)

argument evaluated positively or negatively by the EXP (cf. Pesetsky, 1995)

ES class 2 & 4: *temer* 'to fear'

- stative: ACC and DAT structure (cf. (9a) & (9b))
- unmarked WO for ACC structure: NOM-EXP > ACC-TG (cf. (8a))
- unmarked WO for DAT structure: NOM-EXP > DAT-SM (cf. (8b))

- (9) a. David (lo) teme [a Pedro]_{ACC}.
 David CL.ACC fear.PRS.3.SG to Peter
 'David fears Peter.'
- b. David (le) teme [a Pedro]_{DAT}.
 David CL.DAT fear.PRS.3.SG to Peter
 'David fears (something about) Peter.'

Summary – Spanish

	type	θ role & case		eventuality	unmarked WO	class
		stm	exp			
<i>gustar</i>	EO	SM-NOM	DAT	state (-CoS)	EXP-DAT > SM-NOM	1
<i>asustar</i>	EO	SM-NOM	DAT	state (-CoS)	EXP-DAT > SM-NOM	1
		CSR-NOM	ACC	event (+CoS)	CSR-NOM > EXP-ACC	3
<i>amar</i>	ES	TG-ACC	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-ACC	2
		? SM-DAT	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > SM-DAT	4
<i>temer</i>	ES	? TG-ACC	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-ACC	2
		SM-DAT	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > SM-DAT	4

- We propose – at least for Spanish – a **fourfold** classification of psych verbs (in contrast to the threefold classification proposed e.g. in Belletti and Rizzi (1988))

- The data suggest that not only the EXP alternates w.r.t. case (in EO structures), but also that the STM **alternates w.r.t. case** (in **ES structures**)
- Asymmetry depends on the theta-role of the STM
 - In EO structures, EXP alternates between:
 - DAT: the STM is perceived as a SM and [-agentive]
 - ACC: the STM is perceived as a CSR and when [+animate] has volitionality (cf. Fábregas et al., 2017)
 - In ES structures, STM alternates between:
 - DAT (cf. (10)): perceived as SM, SM does not cause the emotion directly, and possibility of adding an extra argument (i.e. TG)

(10) Pedro le ama [a Clara]_{SM-DAT} ([las manos]_{TG-ACC}).
 Pedro CL.DAT love.PRS.3.SG to Clara the hands
 'Pedro loves Clara, the hands.'

- In ES structures, STM alternates between:
 - ACC (cf. (11)): perceived as TG (cf. Seres and Espinal 2018), TG is evaluated positively or negatively, and unavailability of adding an extra argument (i.e. **target violation**: no two TG in same structure)

(11) Pedro la ama [a Clara]_{TG-ACC} (*[las manos]_{TG-ACC}).
 Pedro CL.ACC love.PRS.3.SG to Clara the hands
 'Pedro loves Clara, the hands.'

HPSG & psych-verbs

- In HPSG the treatment of θ -roles is Davidsonian. (cf. Davidson, 1967; Koenig, 1999; Copestake et al., 2005; Müller, 2013)
- The meaning of a verb *to eat* could be represented as in (12).

$$(12) \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{PHON} \langle \textit{eat} \rangle \\ \text{CONT} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{IND} \quad \boxed{1} \textit{ event} \\ \text{RELS} \left\langle \begin{array}{l} \text{ARG0} \quad \boxed{1} \textit{ event} \\ \text{AG} \quad \textit{index} \\ \text{PAT} \quad \textit{index} \\ \textit{eat-rel} \end{array} \right\rangle \end{array} \right] \end{array} \right]$$

Problems

- As already mentioned, psych verbs bear two θ -roles: EXP and STM
- ... but the STM can behave in different ways w.r.t. the predication: target (TG) or subject matter (SM).
- Since we have ES psych verbs like *amar* 'love' and *temer* 'fear' that show case alternation w.r.t. the θ -role they bear (i.e. TG vs. SM), we need underspecification of θ -roles in order to account for that fact in Spanish.

Theta-roles

- We are proposing to treat θ -roles as **values** (and not as features).

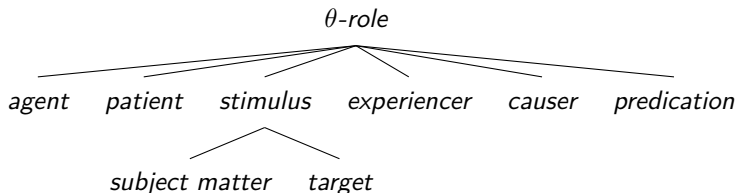


Figure: Type hierarchy for θ -role

Advantages:

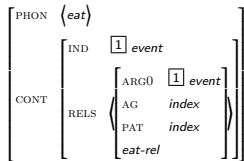
Underspecified θ -roles allow ...

- ... generalisations about θ -roles
 - Which θ -roles are similar or have something in common?
- ... generalisations about verb classes
 - Do we have verb classes alternating, e.g. in case, according to subtypes of θ -roles?
- In a further state of the theory, it is possible to define each θ -role by feature-value pairs, accounting for the commonalities and differences between them.
 - Do *agents* and (agentive) *causers* have similar qualities? And can we model that by means of inherited features?

Restructuring

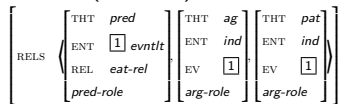
- Restructuring the RELS attribute (again...)
- We are proposing a **neo-davidsonian** (cf. Parsons, 1990) structure for the RELS attribute. (cf. Schäfer, 2008)

(13) *eat-rel*:



$\approx \lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \textit{eat}'(y)(x)(e)$

(14) *eat-rel* (for now)



\approx

$\lambda y \lambda x \lambda e. \textit{eat}'(e) \wedge \textit{ag}(x)(e) \wedge \textit{pat}(y)(e)$

- The value of REL is now related only to the actual predicate, and the predicate is not defined (anymore) in terms of its arguments.

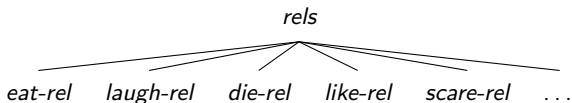


Figure: Type-hierarchy for *relations*

- With a NDA, it is possible to **manipulate the arguments** of a predicate, without having to assume a *new predicate*. This is useful for phenomena altering the semantic valence of predicates, without altering the core meaning of the predicate.

Analysis of Spanish psych verbs

- Solving the problems *lexically* (and not by means of syntactic structure)

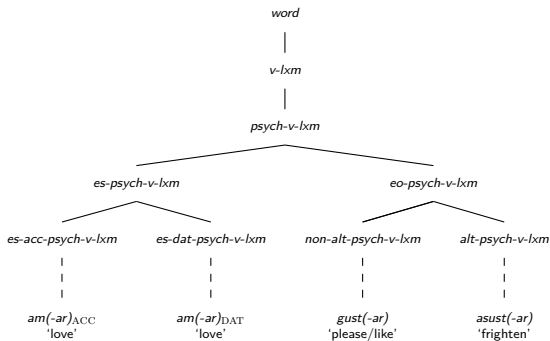
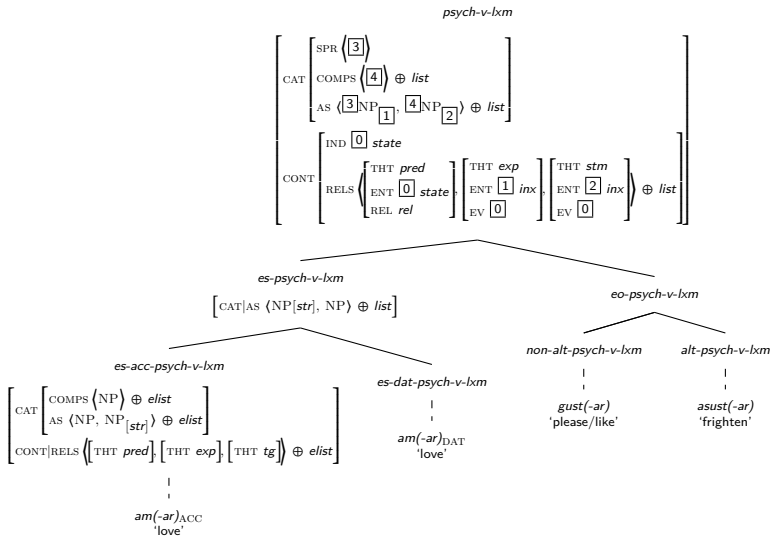
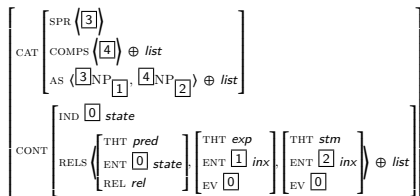


Figure: Psych-verb types in Spanish



psych-v-lxm



es-psych-v-lxm

$\left[\text{CAT} \mid \text{AS } \langle \text{NP}[\textit{str}], \text{NP} \rangle \oplus \text{list} \right]$

eo-psych-v-lxm

non-alt-psych-v-lxm

alt-psych-v-lxm

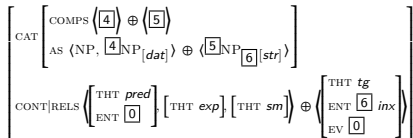
es-acc-psych-v-lxm

es-dat-psych-v-lxm

gust(-ar)
'please/like'

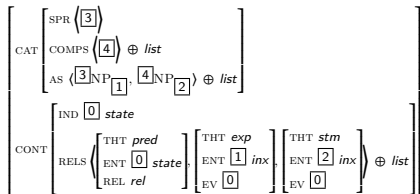
asust(-ar)
'frighten'

*am(-ar)*_{ACC}
'love'

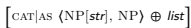


*am(-ar)*_{DAT}
'love'

psych-v-lxm



es-psych-v-lxm



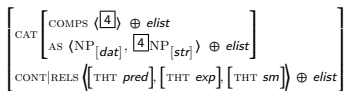
es-acc-psych-v-lxm

*am(-ar)*_{ACC}
'love'

es-dat-psych-v-lxm

*am(-ar)*_{DAT}
'love'

eo-psych-v-lxm



non-alt-psych-v-lxm

gust(-ar)
'please/like'

alt-psych-v-lxm

asust(-ar)
'frighten'

So far, what are accounting for with the inheritance hierarchy?

	type	θ role & case		eventuality	unmarked WO	class
		stm	exp			
<i>gustar</i>	EO	SM-NOM	DAT	state (-CoS)	EXP-DAT > SM-NOM	1
<i>asustar</i>	EO	SM-NOM	DAT	state (-CoS)	EXP-DAT > SM-NOM	1
		CSR-NOM	ACC	event (+CoS)	CSR-NOM > EXP-ACC	3
<i>amar</i>	ES	TG-ACC	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-ACC	2
		? SM-DAT	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > SM-DAT	4
<i>temer</i>	ES	? TG-ACC	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-ACC	2
		SM-DAT	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > SM-DAT	4

- For *asustar* 'to frighten' we need a rule changing the case of the EXP and the unmarked word order.

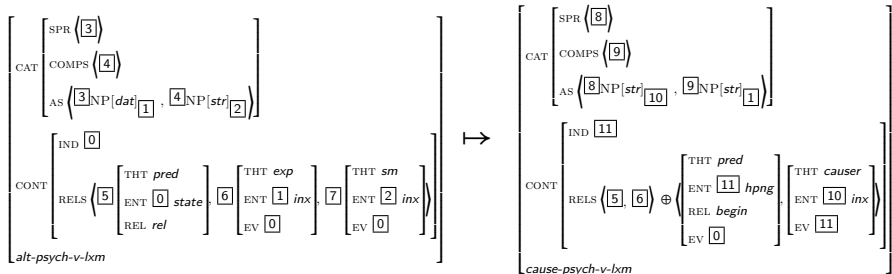


Figure: Lexical Rule: Case alternation for *alt-psych-v-lxm*

Psych verbs: Korean

AEP class 1: *mwusepta* 'scary'

- stative and non-agentive (Choi 2015; Lee and Shin 2007)
- WO freezing effect (cf. (15)): NOM-EXP > NOM-STM
- STM-role: SM

- (15) [Mina-ka/nun]_{EXP} [kongpho yenghwa/Minho-ka]_{SM} mwusep-ta.
 Mina-NOM/TOP horror movie/Minho-NOM scary-DECL
 'Mina is scared of horror movies/Minho.'

Agentive Experiencer Predicates (AEP)

Experiencer plays a role of agent in the experiential causing sub-event. (cf. Nam, 2015)

AEP class 2 *mwusepta* 'scary'

- stative and non-agentive
- free WO, but unmarked WO (cf. (16)): NOM-SM > DAT-EXP

(16) [kongpho yenghwa/Minho-ka/nun]_{SM} [Mina-eykey]_{EXP} mwusep-ta.
 horror movie/Minho-NOM/TOP Mina-DAT scary-DECL
 'The horror movie/Minho is scary to Mina.'

PEP class 3 *hwanata* 'get angry'

- inchoative (+change of state) (Choi 2015)
- WO freezing effect (cf. (17)): NOM-EXP > NOM-TG

(17) [Mina-ka/nun]_{EXP} [Minho/khun soli-ka]_{TG} hwana-n-ta.
 Mina-NOM/TOP Minho/big noise-NOM get.angry-PRS-DECL
 'Mina gets angry at Minho/the big noise.'

Patientive Experiencer Predicates (PEP)

Experiencer plays a role of patient or theme in the causing sub-event. (cf. Nam, 2015)

PEP class 4 *hwanata* 'get angry'

- inchoative (+change of state)
- free WO, but unmarked WO (cf. (18)): NOM-EXP > DAT-TG

(18) [Mina-ka/nun]_{EXP} [Minho-eykey/khun soli-ey]_{TG} hwana-n-ta.
 Mina-NOM/TOP Minho/big noise-DAT get.angry-PRS-DECL
 'Mina gets angry at Minho/the big noise.'

Summary – Korean

	type	θ role & case		eventuality	unmarked WO	class
		stm	exp			
<i>mwusepta</i>	AEP	SM-NOM	NOM	state (-CoS)	EXP-NOM > SM-NOM	1
		SM-NOM	DAT	state (-CoS)	SM-NOM > EXP-DAT	2
<i>hwanata</i>	PEP	TG-NOM	NOM	inch (+CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-NOM	3
		TG-DAT	NOM	inch (+CoS)	EXP-NOM > TG-DAT	4

- We propose a **fourfold** classification of psych verbs in Korean (in contrast to the different classifications in the literature, e.g. in Conceptual Semantics Kim 2008; Choi 2015 and Yang 1996).
- Building on Nam (2015) (i.e. AEP vs. PEP), we take his case alternations patterns between NOM and DAT and correlate that in terms of theta-role assignment.

- Data demonstrate double nominative structures are more limited in the psych domain, allowing an alternation between NOM and TOP as structural case assignment (Yoon 2004).
- As in Spanish, there is an alternation in case for both EXP and STM.
- Asymmetry in case marking depends on the theta-role of the STM, but not of sub-event causation (cf. Nam 2015).
 - AEP class (e.g. *mwusepta* 'scary') includes pure (gradable) adjectives that take SM as arguments.
 - PEP class (e.g. *hwanata* 'get angry') includes verbal inherently inchoative items with a BECOME operator (cf. Choi and Demirdache 2014), taking TG as arguments.

- Contrary to Spanish, Korean psych verbs do not allow for the co-occurrence of SM and TG in the same structure (cf. (19a) for class – *mwusepta* and (19b) for class – *hwanata*).

- (19) a. [Minho-ka]_{SM} [*sengkyek-ul]_{TG} Mina-eykey mwusep-ta.
 Minho-NOM character-ACC Mina-DAT scary-DECL
 ‘Minho his character is scary to Mina.’
- b. [Mina-ka]_{TG} [*sengkyek-ul]_{TG} Minho-eykey hwana-n-ta.
 Mina-NOM character-ACC Minho-DAT get.angry-PRS-DECL
 ‘Mina gets angry at Minho his character.’

Analysis of Korean psych verbs

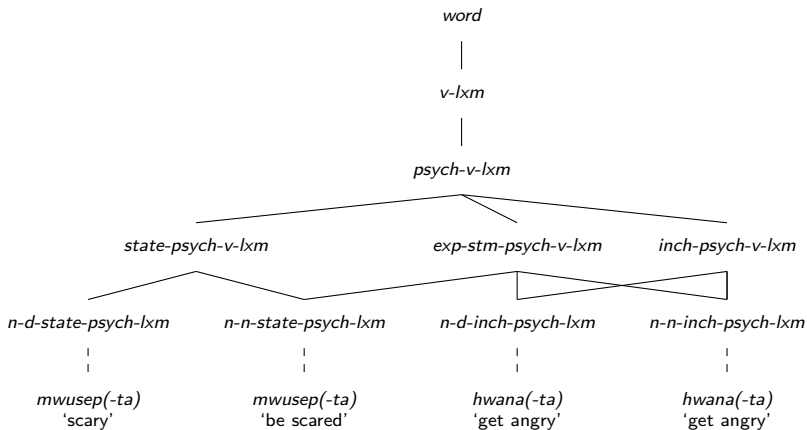
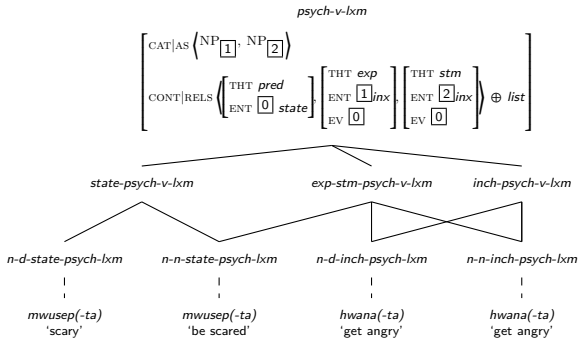
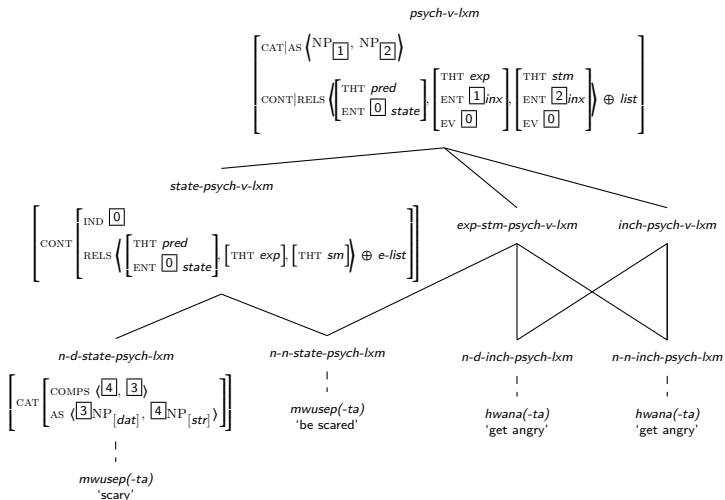
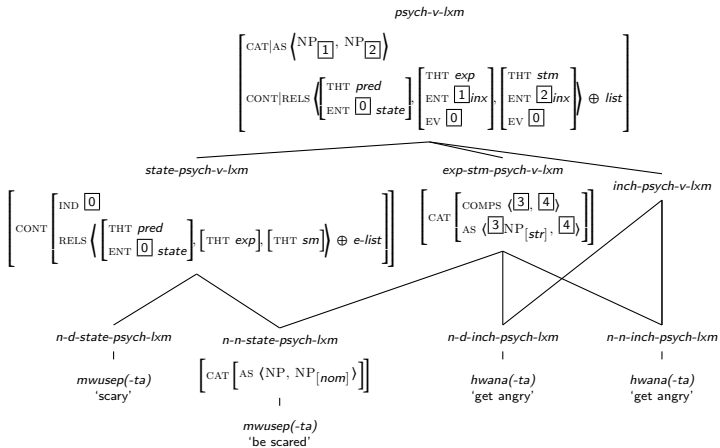
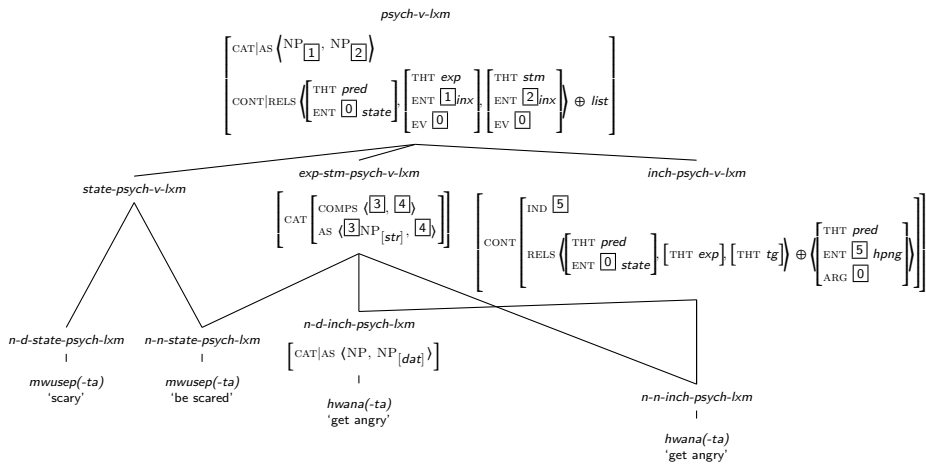


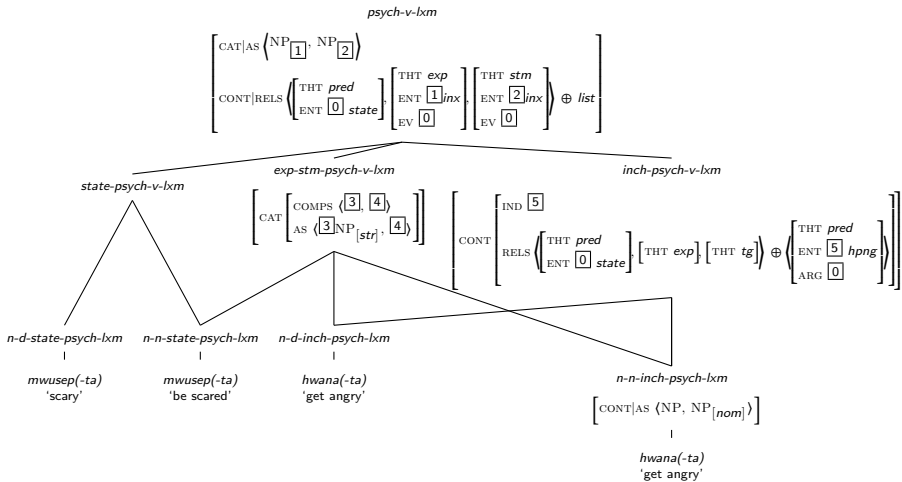
Figure: Psych-verb types in Korean











Conclusions

- A **fourfold** categorization of psych verbs for both Spanish and Korean fits better the data (contra the classic threefold view proposed e.g. by Belletti and Rizzi 1988).
- Not only the experiencer alternates in case marking between DAT and ACC for Spanish and NOM and DAT for Korean, but **also the stimulus** does (i.e. DAT and ACC for Spanish and NOM and DAT for Korean).
- Unmarked word order is the result of the interaction of **event(ualities)**, **theta-roles** and **case marking**, where:
 - For Spanish:
 - The class of EO DAT structure of *asustar* patterns as the EO DAT structure of *gustar* verbs. EXP-DAT > STM-NOM
 - EO ACC structure of *asustar* behaves in a canonical manner. i.e. STM-NOM > EXP-ACC
 - ES structures always front the experiencer alternating in case marking of the STM
 - ES STM-ACC constructions possess a target violation constrain: no two TG in same structure.

Conclusions

- For Korean:
 - The class of *mwusepta* (i.e. AEP in Nam 2015) alternates the EXP between NOM and DAT. SM-NOM > EXP-DAT
 - The class of *hwanata* (i.e. PEP in Nam 2015) alternates the STM between NOM and DAT. EXP-NOM > TG-DAT
 - Double nominative structures always front the experiencer: WO freezing effects.
 - Korean psych verbs do not admit the co-occurrence of a SM and a TG in the same structure.

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