



Westfälische
Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

Arbeitsbereich
Linguistik

Modelling interlingual relationships on the basis of predicate-argument structures

Lea Cyrus

lea@uni-muenster.de

Arbeitsbereich Linguistik
University of Münster



Intralingual Relationship

The Parliament supported the plenary motion.

SUPPORT

ENT_SUPPORTING

ENT_SUPPORTED

| passivisation |

|

|

SUPPORT

ENT_SUPPORTING

ENT_SUPPORTED

The plenary motion was supported by the Parliament.



Interlingual Relationship

I refer to item 11 on the order of business.

REFER

ENT_REFERRING

ENTREFERRED_TO

|

|

|

SICH_BEZIEHEN

SICH_BEZIEHENDES

SICH_BEZIEHEN_AUF

Ich beziehe mich auf Punkt 11 des Arbeitsplans.

(1)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 4.2]



Overview

- Translation Shifts
- Data
- Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure
- Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation
- Conclusion



Overview

- Translation Shifts
- Data
- Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure
- Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation
- Conclusion



Translation Shifts

- ▶ J.-P. Vinay and J. Darbelnet: *Stylistique Comparée du Français et de l'Anglais*. Paris: Didier, 1958.
- ▶ J. C. Catford: *A Linguistic Theory of Translation*. Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1965.
- ▶ K. van Leuven-Zwart: *Translation and Original: Similarities and Dissimilarities, I*. Target 1:2, pp. 151–181, 1989.



Overview

- Translation Shifts
- **Data**
- Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure
- Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation
- Conclusion



Data

- Opus/Europarl Corpus (proceedings of the European Parliament in 11 languages)
- Sentence-aligned parallel corpora of language pairs

- Problem: source language?



Data – Determining the Source Language

- › **Language attribute:**

```
<SPEAKER ID="2" LANGUAGE="EN" NAME="Cox">
```

- › **No language attribute for original:**

```
<SPEAKER ID="2" NAME="Cox">
```

- › **No language attribute for non-members:**

```
<SPEAKER ID="1" NAME="President">
```

- › **Use alignment info to add language attribute for originals:**

```
<SPEAKER ID="2" LANGUAGE="EN" NAME="Cox">
```



Data – Excluding Non-Native Originals

- Problem: non-native originals

```
<SPEAKER ID="157" NAME="Verheugen">
```

- Match name attribute with speaker list to exclude non-natives
- Result: Native English originals, German translations



Overview

- › Translation Shifts
- › Data
- › **Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure**
- › Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation
- › Conclusion



Predicates

- › Represented by their citation form (e.g. EXPECT)
- › Assigned a class based on their syntactic form
(v, c, n, a, l)
- › Disambiguation of homonymous predicates
- › Common predicate group for related predicates
(shared argument types)
- › Predicate tags: *inf*, *imp*, *pv*, *pvp*



Arguments

- › Short intuitive role names (e.g. ENT_EXPECTING)
- › No semantic generalisations
- › Relative pronoun antecedents
- › Argument tags (`sc`, `oc`)
- › Inferred arguments (`ia`)



Overview

- Translation Shifts
- Data
- Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure
- **Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation**
- Conclusion



Shift Annotation

- Choose corresponding predicate-argument structures
- Align corresponding predicates and corresponding arguments
- Whenever there is a shift: explicit tag
 - Grammatical shifts
 - Semantic shifts
 - Structural shifts



Westfälische
Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

Arbeitsbereich
Linguistik

Grammatical Shifts

➤ Category change



Category Change

... misapprehension as to **what** was **expected** ...

EXPECT

| category change

ERWARTUNG

... Mißverständnis in bezug auf **unsere** gegenseitigen
Erwartungen ...

(2)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.3]



Grammatical Shifts

- Category change
- Number change



Number Change

... accompanied not just by a presentation and **elucidation** by
the **President of the Commission** ...

ELUCIDATION

| number change

ERLÄUTERUNG

... die sich nicht nur auf eine Präsentation und **Erläuterungen**
seitens des Präsidenten der Kommission beschränkt ...

(3)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 6.2]



Grammatical Shifts

- Category change
- Number change
- Definiteness change



Definiteness Change

... to speak on behalf of my group on a matter referred to in the Minutes.

ENT_REFERRED_TO

| definiteness change

GENANNTES

... zu der im Protokoll genannten Angelegenheit Stellung zu nehmen.

(4)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 4.1]



Grammatical Shifts

- › Category change
- › Number change
- › Definiteness change
- › Passivisation/De-passivisation



De-passivisation

It should not be **dramatised** into something more than that.

DRAMATISE

| de-passivisation

AUFBAUSCHEN

Wir sollten die ganze Sache nicht weiter **aufbauschen**.

(5)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.4]



Passivisation (Passive Paraphrase)

I should like to make it clear that **we have** the greatest confidence in and **respect** for Commissioner Monti.

HAVE_RESPECT

| passivisation

RESPEKT_GENIESSEN

Ich möchte klarstellen, daß wir größtes Vertrauen zu **Herrn Monti** haben, **der unseren** tiefsten **Respekt genießt**.



Grammatical Shifts

- › Category change
- › Number change
- › Definiteness change
- › Passivisation/De-passivisation
- › Pronominalisation/De-pronominalisation



De-pronominalisation

It should not be **dramatised** into something more than that.

ENT_DRAMATISED

| de-pronominalisation

AUFGEBAUSCHTES

Wir sollten die ganze Sache nicht weiter **aufbauschen**.

(5)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.4]



Westfälische
Wilhelms-Universität
Münster

Arbeitsbereich
Linguistik

Semantic Shifts

➤ Semantic Modification



Semantic Modification

... to **have** the Bourlanges report **on today's agenda**.

HAVE

| semantic modification

SETZEN

... **den Bericht Bourlanges auf die Tagesordnung zu setzen**.

(7)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 11.1]



Semantic Shifts

- Semantic Modification
- Explicitation/Generalisation



Generalisation

I do not want to **drag up** the issue of this building endlessly ...

ENT_DRAGGED_UP

| generalisation

HERUMREITEN_AUF

Ich will nicht endlos auf diesem Thema **herumreiten** ...

(8)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 13.3]



Explicitation

Mr von Wogau **said** ∅ we can look to the European Court.

ENT_SAID

| ~~explicitation~~

GESAGTES

Herr von Wogau **sagte** daß wir uns an den Europäischen
Gerichtshof wenden können.

(9)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 138.6]



Semantic Shifts

- Semantic Modification
- Explicitation/Generalisation
- Addition/Deletion



Addition

That is something for which I have a deep appreciation.

∅

| addition

DANKEN_WEM

Dafür bin ich Ihnen zutiefst dankbar.

(10)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.2]



Addition/Deletion

It should not be **dramatised** into something more than that.

ENT_DRAMATISED_INT0

| deletion

∅

∅

| addition

AUFBAUSCHENDES

Wir sollten die ganze Sache nicht weiter **aufbauschen**.

(5)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.4]



Semantic Shifts

- Semantic Modification
- Explicitation/Generalisation
- Addition/Deletion
- Mutation



Mutation

I hope that **we** will not **repeat** this unnecessary exercise ...

REPEAT	ENT_REPEATING	ENT_REPEATED	∅
mutation			addition
ERSPAREN	ERSPARENDES	ERSPARTES	ERSPAREN_WEM

Ich hoffe, daß **wir** ... **uns** diese überflüssige Übung künftig **ersparen** ...

(11)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 8.3]



Mutation

Whose responsibility is it when you are dealing with **a body that crosses so many frontiers?**

CROSS	ENT_CROSSED	ENT_CROSSING
mutation	mutation	
UMFASSEN	UMFASSTES	UMFASSENDES

Wer ist zuständig in **einem Gremium, das zahlreiche Länder umfaßt?**

(12)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 243.5]



Structural Shifts

- ▶ predicate-argument-structure element corresponds to non-predicate-argument-structure element (`non-pas`)



Non-pas

The first **is** the potential for renationalisation of competition policy.

ENTITY

| non-pas

Erstens **besteht** die Gefahr einer Renationalisierung der Wettbewerbspolitik.

(13)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 138.1]



Structural Shifts

- ▶ predicate-argument-structure element corresponds to non-predicate-argument-structure element (`non-pas`)
- ▶ Predicate split/predicate-argument merge



Predicate Split

... **this Parliament** ... can only really **have an effect** if...

HAVE_AN_EFFECT

| predicate split

ERREICHEN ERREICHTES

... **dieses Parlament, das** ... nur dann wirklich **etwas erreichen** kann, wenn...

(14)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 6.1]



Structural Shifts

- ▶ predicate-argument-structure element corresponds to non-predicate-argument-structure element (`non-pas`)
- ▶ Predicate split/predicate-argument merge
- ▶ Problem: major structural divergences



Problem: Major Structural Divergences I

...that **Irish companies** ... still have to **cross** **two sea masses** to reach the mainland European marketplace.

CROSS

| mutation/passiv. (?)

ENT_CROSSING

|

ENT_CROSSED

| cat. change | cross-pas

TRENNEN

GETRENNTES

TRENNENDES

TRENNEN_VON

...daß **irische Unternehmen** ... **vom kontinentaleuropäischen Markt** immerhin **durch zwei größere Meere** **getrennt** sind.

(15)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 158.2]



Problem: Major Structural Divergences I

...that **Irish companies** ... still have to cross two sea masses to **reach** the **mainland**
European marketplace.

REACH

| mutation/passiv. (?)

TRENNEN

ENT_REACHING

GETRENNTES

ENT_REACHED

TRENNEN_VON

| cat. change | cross-pas

TRENNENDES

...daß **irische Unternehmen** ... **vom kontinentaleuropäischen Markt** immerhin **durch**
zwei größere Meere **getrennt** sind.

(15)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 158.2]



Problem: Major Structural Divergences II

... a strategic debate **accompanied** not just by a presentation and elucidation by the President... , but also by a five-year programme ,...

ACCOMPANY

| mutation/de-pass.

ENT_ACCOMPANIED

|

ENT_ACCOMPANYING

| ??

SICH_BESCHRÄNKEN

SICH_BESCHRÄNKENDES

BESCHRÄNKT_AUF

...eine strategische Debatte ..., die **sich** nicht nur auf eine Präsentation und Erläuterungen seitens des Präsidenten ... **beschränkt**, sondern in der auch ein Fünfjahresprogramm vorgelegt wird.

(16)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 6.2]



Problem: Major Structural Divergences II

... a strategic debate **accompanied** not just by a presentation and elucidation by the President... , but also by a five-year programme ,...

ACCOMPANY	ENT_ACCOMPANIED	ENT_ACCOMPANYING
mutation	cross-pas (non-pas)	??
VORLEGEN	∅	VORGELEGTES

...eine strategische Debatte ..., die sich nicht nur auf eine Präsentation und Erläuterungen seitens des Präsidenten ... beschränkt, sondern in der auch ein Fünfjahresprogramm **vorgelegt** wird.

(16)

[Opus/Europarl (en): file ep-00-01-18.xml, sentence id 6.2]



Overview

- Translation Shifts
- Data
- Monolingual Annotation: Predicate-Argument Structure
- Interlingual Relationships: Alignment and Shift Annotation
- **Conclusion**



Conclusion

- Qualitative annotation project
 - monolingual annotation: predicate-argument structures
 - bilingual alignment of corresponding predicates and arguments
 - explicit annotation of shifts
- Works quite well for grammatical and most semantic shifts
- Problem: translation is creative process
→ structural shifts



**Westfälische
Wilhelms-Universität
Münster**

Arbeitsbereich
Linguistik

Thank you very much for your attention!