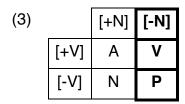
Ezafe, PP and the Nature of Nominalization

Richard Larson (Stony Brook University) and Vida Samian (CalState Fresno)

In the talk we argue that the English VP/NP structures in (1a-d) have exact counterparts in the i(ranian)Persian PP/NP structures in (2a-d), where P_1 - P_3 are three different classes of iPersian Ps and where -Ez is the so-called "Ezafe" morpheme.

| (1) | a. John | [vp destroy the evidence] | "Pure VP" |
|-----|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| | b. John -'s | [NP destroying the evidence] | Nominalized VP |
| | c. John -'s | [NP destroying of the evidence] | Nominalized V |
| | d. John -'s | [NP destruction of the evidence] | Deverbal N |
| | | | |
| (2) | a. NP | [PP P1 NP] | "Pure PP" |
| • • | b. NP -Ez | [NP P ₂ NP] | Nominalized PP |
| | c. NP -Ez | [NP P2 -Ez NP] | Nominalized P |
| | d. NP -Ez | [NP P3 -Ez NP] | "Deprepositional" N |

The notion "nominalization" is thus shown to be relevant to <u>both</u> of the lexical categories identified by Chomsky (1972) as [-N] (3):



"Syntactically Nominalizable Categories"

As we show, capturing this relationship entails:

- Establishing a common syntactic function for English -'s/of and iPersian -Ez
 Samiian 1983,1994; Kirimi and Brame 1986/2012; Samiian and Larson 2018)
- Positing a shared cross-categorial structure for VP-PP (Jackendoff 1973; van Riemsdijk 1990; Svenonius 2003).
- Abandoning traditional Nominalization for a more general "split-feature" view of category specification.