Multi-categorial multiple right dislocation in Chinese A cross-framework study

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Overview



- Introduction
- More about data
- 3 Literature review
 - Minimalism
 - LFG
 - Dynamic Syntax
- A new analysis
- Summary





A common syntactic pattern in the colloquial register of many languages:

- (1) a. He_i 's really smart, $John_i$ (is). (Kayne 1994)
 - b. Der_i war viel zu schön, $[der Tag]_i$. [German] it was much too wonderful the day (Altmann 1981)
 - c. Il_i a mangé la soupe, $Jean_i$. [French] he has eaten the soup Jean (Lambrecht 1981)
 - d. Lo_i porto domani, [il dol $ce]_i$. it bring.1sG tomorrow the dessert

'I'll bring it tomorrow, the dessert.' (Benincà 1988)

Pretheoretical umbrella term: Right Dislocation (RD)

General consensus: for discourse-related purposes



[Italian]



A subtype of RD that has received little attention—that involving multiple RD-ed units (MRD).

- (2) a. He_i gave them i to his sister, $Peter_i$, [the keys] i. (Averintseva-Klisch 2009)
 - b. $Il_i \ la_j \ lui_k \ a \ donn\'ee, \`a \ Jean_k, \ [son \ p\`ere]_i, \ [sa \ moto]_j.$ [French] he it to.him has given to Jean his dad his motorbike 'He gave it to him, to Jean, his dad, his motorbike.' (Calve 1985)
 - c. Maria gli_i lo_j ha portato, [il dolce]_j, a Gianni_i. [Italian]
 Maria to.him it has brought the dessert to Gianni

 'Maria brought it to him, the dessert, to Gianni.' (Sun 2022)

In familiar European languages, MRD is a straightforward extension of SRD (single RD).





An even more special and less discussed pattern: **multi-categorial multiple RD (MMRD)**. It occurs naturally in some Chinese dialects, especially in casual and relaxed speech.

(3) [Ni shangyihuir mai-di ne]_i gao-de np **lie**, [Dongying Mandarin] you last.time buy-REL NMLZ put-at where SFP

wo wen, ne nai_i.

I ask the milk

'Where you put that which you bought last time, I asked, the milk.' \approx 'I was asking where you had put the milk you bought last time.' (in answer to the question 'What did you ask just now?')

P Dongying Mandarin: a subvariety of Northern Mandarin Chinese





More examples of MMRD:

- (4) a. Chao caihuar chi ae, wo ji ni, jin shangwu. stir-fry cauliflower eat SFP I for you this noon 'Stir-fry cauliflower, I for you, this noon.' ≈ 'I will stir-fry cauliflower for you for lunch today.'
 - b. Zaezae-zhou ae, dei, mae yunqi lai, haoshi-zhou.
 save-STA SFP must DISP luck LAI carefully-STA
 'Save up, must, (good) luck, carefully.'
 ≈ 'We must carefully save up our good luck.'

[Dongying Mandarin]



Basic characteristics of MMRD in Chinese:

- RD-ed units highly versatile in syntactic category/constituency
- mostly no coreferential term (aka correlate) in main clause
- typically very incomplete main clause

Intuitively, MMRD happens when speakers are not bothering organizing language but just outputting whatever comes to mind first. It is a kind of "disorganized" speech systematically allowed by Chinese syntax but a **minor sentence type** from a typological perspective.

Potential licensing factors: isolating, radical pro drop, regional feature(?)
(The larger region Dongying is located in: Shandong—well-known for inversion-laden speech)

A popular joke in China: People from Shandong love inversion. 😂



Plan



In this study, I will

- review previous approaches to RD in three frameworks (Minimalism, LFG, Dynamic Syntax)
- conclude that MMRD is a challenge for all of them
- propose a new analysis integrating useful ideas from previous studies

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MMRD shows free word order:

- (5) a. Chao caihuar chi **ae**, wo ji ni, jin shangwu. stir-fry cauliflower eat SFP I for you this noon 'Stir-fry cauliflower, I for you, this noon.' (= 4a)
 - b. Chao caihuar chi ae, jin shangwu, wo ji ni. stir-fry cauliflower eat SFP this noon I for you 'Stir-fry cauliflower, this noon, I for you.'

No preference; depends on which RD-ed unit comes to mind first.

[Dongying Mandarin]



Another example:

- (6) a. Zaezae-zhou **ae**, dei, mae yunqi lai, haoshi-zhou. save-sta SFP must DISP luck LAI carefully-sta 'Save up, must, (good) luck, carefully.'(= 4b)
 - b. Zaezae-zhou ae, dei, haoshi-zhou, mae yunqi lai. save-sta sfp must carefully-sta disp luck lai 'Save up, must, carefully, (good) luck.'
 - c. Zaezae-zhou ae, mae yunqi lai, dei, haoshi-zhou. save-sta SFP DISP luck LAI must carefully-sta 'Save up, (good) luck, must, carefully.'
 - d. ... All permutations work!

[Dongying Mandarin]



MMRD is not tied to any particular illocutionary force (i.e., sentence type in the narrow sense).

(7) [Shangyihuir mai-di ne] $_i$ gao-de np lie, last.time buy-REL NMLZ put-at where SFP

(interrogative)

ni, ne nai_i? you the milk

'Where (you_j) put that which (you) bought last time, you_j , the milk?'

 \approx 'Where did you put the milk you bought last time?'



More examples:

- (8) Chao caihuar chi **bae**, ngen ji ngae, jin shangwu! (imperative) stir-fry cauliflower eat SFP you for me this noon 'Stir-fry cauliflower, you for me, this noon!' ≈ 'Stir-fry cauliflower for me for lunch today, please!'
 - Zaezae-zhou ninhae, renge dai, mae yungi lai, yizuer! (exclamatory) others will DISP luck LAI altogether save-sta SFP 'Save up, she/he will, (good) luck, altogether!'
 - ≈ 'She/he is going to save up all her/his good luck! (surprised and amused tone)'



Some further examples... this phenomenon is pretty common!

- (9) a. Gae-bu-liao liae, shp ye, zhe yi mer. [Dongying Mandarin] do-not-RES SFP anything also this one period 'Can no longer do, anything, this period of time.' ≈ 'One can't do anything anymore these days (due to COVID-19).'
 - b. Bu niaehur ae, zhe sie diaefen, yi dar ye.
 not sticky SFP this CL.PL starch one bit also
 'Not sticky, this starch, even a bit.'
 ≈ 'This bag of starch isn't sticky at all (i.e., is of poor quality).'

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RD usually analyzed in one of two ways:

Both have been applied to Chinese (S)RD—e.g., Sun (2022) applies them to inversion-like RD and argument RD, respectively.



Two types of SRD in Chinese:

(10) a. Shang feiji le, wo kuai.
get.on plane SFP I soon

'Get on the plane, I (will) soon.'
≈ 'I'll get on the plane soon.' (inversion-like SRD)

[Standard Mandarin]

b. Mali mai [e]_i le ba, baozhi_i.
 Mary buy PRO SFP SFP newspaper
 'Probably Mary bought (it), the newspaper.' (argument SRD)

(Sun 2022)

Argument SRD is like the common European pattern, modulo the null pronoun.





Sun's (2022) analysis:

- (11) a. Inversion-like SRD: focus fronting $[F_{CCP} | I_{eP} t_i shang feiji le]_j [F_{CC'} Foc [I_{eP} wo_i [I'] I [I_{ASPP} kuai [I_{ASP'} ASP t_j]]]]]]$ 'Get on the plane, I (will) soon.'
 - b. **Argument SRD: coordination-plus-ellipsis** (à la Ott & de Vries 2016) $[P_{CP_1} \ mali \ mai \ pro_i \ le \ ba \] [P_{CP_2} \ baozhi_i \ Probably Mary bought (it), the newspaper.'$

A special "colon coordinator" in (11b): Koster's (2000) specifying coordination

(11a) more flexible: does not require the RD-ed (i.e., stranded) string to be a constituent Limitation: one-round-per-clause (hence inapplicable to MMRD)



Ott & de Vries's (2016) schema:

(12)
$$[_{CP_1}...correlate_i...]$$
 (:) $[_{CP_2} dXP_i \frac{[...t_i...]}{[...t_i...]}]$

Two types of (S)RD:

- Colon coordination (in syntax): backgrounding (BRD)
- Direct juxtaposition (in discourse): afterthought (ARD) focus-like

O&V's focus is on European languages, so their two types do not include focus fronting.

(13) Ich habe heute [einen Star] $_i$ getroffen: [den John Travolta] $_i$! [German] I have today a.Acc star met the.Acc John Travolta 'I met a star today: John Travolta!' (ARD) (Ott & de Vries 2016)

(The ":" here is a punctuation mark, not the colon coordinator.)





Ott & de Vries's (2016) derivations:

(14) a.
$$[P_{CP_1}] = [CP_1] + [P_1] = [CP_2] = [CP_2] = [P_1] = [P_2] = [P_2$$

b. $[_{CP_1}$ ich habe heute einen Star getroffen] (ARD) $[_{CP_2}$ [den John Travolta]. Acc_i [habe ich t_i getroffen]]

In general, the coordination-plus-ellipsis approach cannot handle inversion-like RD in Chinese. Because the dXP (i.e., the RD-ed unit) in (14) must always be a constituent.





As for MRD: usually mentioned in passing (and only the European pattern)

- Yip (2025): a special case of BRD, with multiple conjuncts [[CP₁: CP₂]: CP₃]
- Sun (2022): also a multi-conjunct account, but in a different direction [CP₁: [CP₂: CP₃]]
- ② seems more plausible: CP₁ c-commands all other CPs, serving as the "antecedent" triggering repetition-based ellipsis. But both are designed for BRD, inapplicable to the inversion-like RD. That is, they are meant for (15a) but not (15b).
- (15) a. 'Maria brought it_i to him_j, the dessert_i, to Gianni_j.' (A'-movement in CP_2/CP_3 + ellipsis)
 - b. 'Save up, must, DISP luck LAI, carefully.' ('must': head; 'DISP luck LAI': nonconstituent)

Discourse-driven A'-movement can only target constituents of certain phrasal categories!





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- having to manipulate n + 1 CPs when there are n RD-ed units
- ellipsis only at PF, syntax/LF still dealing with full-fledged CPs



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Besides, still restricted to the familiar European pattern:

- ellipsis in $CP_{i\geq 2}$ still relies on A'-movement of RD-ed units
- so only possible for certain phrasal constituents (i.e., Ott & de Vries's dXP)



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Better: coordinating just enough structure, ellipsis without A'-movement (Such resource-awareness **is** seen in previous studies, though not in minimalist ones...)



LFG



Kalbertodt (2019): the only LFG-based work dedicated to RD to my knowledge

- Empirical focus on German, so only about the coreferential pattern in European languages
- Not directly useful for our task at hand (MMRD)

But it shows us how RD can be handled by LFG.

Two types of RD: true RD (=BRD) vs. afterthought (=ARD)

(16) a. Ich hab ihn_i gesehen, [den Peter]_i. (BRD)

[German]

- I have him seen the Peter
- b. Ich hab ihn_i gesehen. [Den Peter]_i. (ARD)
 - I have him seen the Peter

(Kalbertodt 2019)

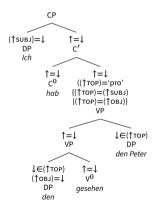
Same string, different intonation: BRD deaccented, ARD nuclear accent



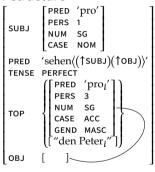


(17) Ich hab ihn_i gesehen, den Peter_i. 'I have seen him, Peter.' (BRD)

a. c-structure



b. f-structure



Kalbertodt's analysis:

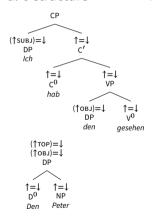
- c-structure: VP-adjunct
- part of main clause
- f-structure: topic function
- correlate den also topic

But RD is a root phenomenon... (e.g., Cann et al. 2005)

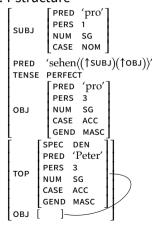


(18) Ich hab ihn; gesehen. Den Peter;. 'I have seen him. Peter.' (ARD)

a. c-structure



b. f-structure



Kalbertodt's analysis:

- separate c-structure (DP)
- called an "orphan"
- not part of main clause
- f-structure: object & topic

This analysis is "lite" in display. There is unshown elided structure. (economy constraint in LFG)



LFG



In sum, what Kalbertodt (2019) proposes is

- a monoclausal structure for BRD
- a biclausal structure for ARD > similar in spirit to Ott & de Vries analysis

Useful ideas:

- adjunction for structure-building
- "lite" biclausal syntax

Limitation: designed for the familiar pattern in European languages

- coreferentiality-based
- only phrasal constituent RD-ed units

Hence, cannot be applied to inversion-like RD in Chinese, let alone MMRD.





Different from Minimalism/LFG, Dynamic Syntax (DS) directly reflects **time-linear parsing**.

Cann et al. (2005):

- Knowing a language is knowing how to parse it.
- Production = parsing, except that the speaker has in mind what they want to say.

DS is still considered a model of linguistic competence—it is just more connected to a general theory of performance.

DS has a built-in **resource-awareness**, which is well reflected in its treatment of RD.



I review three DS-based analyses:

- 2 for BRD (Cann et al. 2005, Wu 2005)
- 1 for ARD (Chatzikyriakidis 2016)

All still designed for familiar European patterns, so inapplicable to MMRD. (Wu 2005 studies Chinese but only considers the familiar European BRD pattern)

Nevertheless, we may still draw inspiration from these DS studies.



Cann et al. (2005): only consider pronoun doubling (the most familiar BRD pattern)

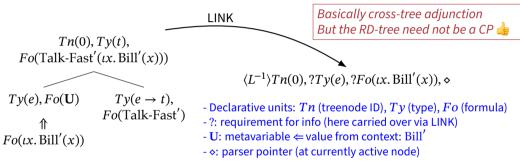
(19) He_i talks too fast, [the new secretary]_i.

Analysis:

- RD-ed unit = background topic (recapitulation effect)
- modeled by a pair of trees (of semantic types t and e)
- the two trees connected by a LINK arrow
- all part of the DS machinery



(20) He_i talks too fast, [the new secretary]_i. (Cann et al. 2005)



Main tree: main clause (address 0, type *t*)

LINKed tree: RD-ed unit (address 'reversely linked to Tn(0)', required info $Bill'_{(e)}$)

These ?-requirements can only be fulfilled by a term that refers to Bill.





Wu (2005): applies Cann et al.'s analysis to Chinese BRD (with a null pronoun)

(21) a. [e]_i jianghua hao kuai ya, Lisi_i.

PRO talk so fast SFP Lisi

'(He) talks so fast, Lisi.'

 $Fo(\iota x. Lisi'(x))$

b. Tn(0), Ty(t), $Fo(Talk-Fast'(\iota x. Lisi'(x)))$ $Ty(e), Fo(U) \qquad Ty(e \to t),$ Fo(Talk-Fast')

[Standard Mandarin]

Wu directly displays the completed parse (with ?-requirements fulfilled)

 $\langle L^{-1}\rangle Tn(0), Tv(e), Fo(\iota x. Lisi'(x))$



Chatzikyriakidis (2016): takes both BRD and ARD into account

- BRD: same analysis as in Cann et al. (2005) and Wu (2005) → I skip this
- ARD: analyzed as clarification answers to implicit questions

```
(22) Ton<sub>i</sub> htipise o Giorgos, [ton Giani]<sub>i</sub>. [Greek] him.acc hit the George the.acc John.acc 'George hit him, John.' (ARD)
```

(Chatzikyriakidis uses "," to indicate a "period intonation" associated with afterthoughts.)

Interpretive effect: 'George hit him. You want to ask who George hit? George hit John.' Implemented via two trees: main tree, implicit question tree (in context) (i) Parse main clause. (ii) Parse afterthought. (iii) Make implicit question. (iv) Substitution.





(23) a. Implicit question

$$Ty(t),$$
 $Fo(\text{Hit}'(Wh_{\text{MALE}})(\text{George}'))$
 $Ty(e), \quad Ty(e \to t),$
 $Fo(\text{George}') \quad Fo(\text{Hit}'(Wh_{\text{MALE}}))$
 $Ty(e), \quad Ty(e \to (e \to t)),$
 $Fo(Wh_{\text{MALE}}) \quad Fo(\text{Hit}')$

b. Substitution 'George hit John.'

$$Ty(t)$$
,
 $Fo(\text{Hit'}(\text{John'})(\text{George'}))$
 $Ty(e)$, $Ty(e \to t)$,
 $Fo(\text{George'})$ $Fo(\text{Hit'}(\text{John'}))$
 $Ty(e)$, $Ty(e \to (e \to t))$,
 $Fo(\text{John'})$ $Fo(\text{Hit'})$

- Clearly brings out the clarification function of ARD
- ☑ RD-ed unit treated as is (here DP), without superfluous structure (CP)
- ✓ Can be extended to MRD (with multiple implicit Os)



(adapted from Chatzikyriakidis 2016)

Dynamic Syntax



Multiple ARD in Chatzikyriakidis's (2016) analysis:

```
(24) Ton_i ida_m [ ton Giorgo]_{im} xtes. [Greek] him.Acc saw.1sg the.Acc George.Acc yesterday 'I saw him, George, yesterday.' (two metavariables: 'who', 'when')
```

Interpretive effect: 'I saw him. You want to ask who I saw? I saw George. You also want to ask when I saw George? I saw George yesterday.'

Limitations:

- Only works for constituent RD (since each DS tree must have a well-defined type)
- Relies on a relatively complete main clause (left-to-right parsing feeds on lexical content)

Thus, the DS analysis (despite its truly lite design) cannot be applied to Chinese MMRD either.



Interim summary



Having reviewed how RD is analyzed in three theoretical frameworks, I conclud that MMRD is a challenge for all of them. Nevertheless, previous studies contain some useful ideas.

Table: Useful ideas from previous studies

Idea	Framework	Advantage	Problem
Focus fronting	Minimalism	can derive inversion-like, nonconstituent RD	limited to SRD
Coord.+ellipsis	Minimalism	can derive MRD	limited to constituent RD, resource-demanding
Lite multi-tree syn.	DS (LFG)	resource-aware, MRD	limited to constituent RD

Next, I try to combine these previous ideas in a new minimalist analysis. (I choose Minimalism as the framework to keep using focus fronting.)



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Proposal:

- Inheriting basic minimalist settings so that focus fronting can normally proceed
- Using multi-workspace derivation to implement lite multi-tree syntax in Minimalism

The reason why the original coordination-plus-ellipsis approach (Ott & de Vries 2016) is resource-demanding is because it manipulates full-fledged CPs. There is no such requirement in multi-workspace derivation. The content of a side workspace may well be a vP, DP, etc.



Workspace-level theorizing is increasingly prominent in current Minimalism. The notion of workspace (WS) has also been incorporated into the latest definition of Merge:

(25)
$$Merge(P, Q, WS) = WS' = (\{P, Q\}, ...)$$
 (Chomsky et al. 2023)

Multi-workspace derivation has long been used in practice (though not often explicitly said).

- Zwart (2011): "layered derivation" for complex non-complements (e.g., subjects)
- Fowlie (2013): "multiple multiple spellout" for tree satellites (i.e., specifiers and adjuncts)
- (26) [The man] kicked the ball. (Zwart 2011)

The subject is merged onto the tree spine as a whole (in Spec-TP), so it must be pre-derived in a separate layer/workspace.





An MMRD example:

Zaezae-zhou ae, dei, mae yungi lai, haoshi-zhou. (27)[Dongying Mandarin] SFP must DISP luck LAI carefully-STA (= 4b)save-sta 'Save up, must, (good) luck, carefully.' \approx 'We must carefully save up our good luck.'

We can derive this sentence using three workspaces, with just enough structure.

- a. WS₁ (main, RD₁): $[F_{OCCP}]_{VP}$ zaezae-zhou pro₀ $]_k$ $[F_{OCC}]_k$ Foc t_i $]]_i$ $[F_{OCCP}]_k$ $[G_{COUNDE}]_{VP}$ (28) $\operatorname{pro}_{S}[I' [I dei] t_k]_i [\operatorname{Ground'} \operatorname{Ground} t_i]]]]$ (à la Sun 2022)
 - b. WS_2 (RD₂): $[_{VP} pro_S [_{V'} [_{V} mae]] [_{ApplP} yunqi_o [_{Appl'} [_{Appl} lai]] [_{VP} zaezae-zhou t_o]]]]]]$
 - c. WS₃ (RD₃): $\left[V_P \left[AdV_P haoshi-zhou \right] \right] \left[V_P pro_S \left[V_P v \right] V_P \frac{zaezae-zhou}{v} pro_O \right] \right] \right]$

I analyze the disposal [*mae* DP; *lai* V t;] 'lit. hold DP come V it' as a vP-ApplP-VP structure for now.



Next, we coordinate the three workspaces, but

- not by discourse juxtaposition since the workspaces should be joined before the interfaces
 - recall that we are positing just enough structure rather than full CPs
- nor by a CoP (or :P) in phrasal syntax since it encodes more asymmetry than desirable
 - we do not want [WS₁ : [WS₂ : [WS₃ : WS₄]]] (à la Sun 2022)
 - because in MMRD only the main clause is fixed in position, while the RD-ed units can be freely reordered (i.e., no evidence for structural asymmetry)
 - so we want something like [WS₁ > {WS₂, WS₃, WS₄}] instead (where ">" means 'structurally above / more prominent than')

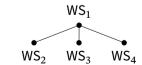




$$[WS_1 > \{WS_2, WS_3, WS_4\}]$$

Set Merge cannot yield this structure (in a binary-branching setting) but (multi-dimensional) **Pair Merge** can (cf. Song 2024).

- Let WS₁ pair-merge with WS_{i≥2} separately, each on a different plane. (see Chomsky 2004 et seq. and especially Chomsky 2019)
- Get $\{\langle WS_1, WS_2 \rangle, \langle WS_1, WS_3 \rangle, \langle WS_1, WS_4 \rangle\}$.
- Order-theoretically, this is equivalent to $\langle WS_1, \{WS_2, WS_3, WS_4\} \rangle$.
- Both 1 and 2 describe the same partial order, as in the following Hasse diagram:



This is not a normal scenario but occurs when speakers are too "lazy" to assemble several ideas into a single syntactic object, hence the "disorganized" nature of MMRD.





Corresponding to this "loose coordination" in syntax, we can let the workspaces' contents be only **loosely conjoined** in semantics too:

- not by the boolean \land since not all workspaces have type-t values in our lite setting
- a generic disjoined union (aka coproduct) operation ⊕ is more suitable
 [WS₁] ⊕ [WS₂] ⊕ [WS₃] ⊕ [WS₄]
- (29) Zaezae-zhou ae, dei, mae yunqi lai, haoshi-zhou. [Dongying Mandarin] save-STA SFP must DISP luck LAI carefully-STA (= 4b) 'Save up, must, (good) luck, carefully.' ≈ 'We must carefully save up our good luck.'

Interpretive effect (more pedantically): '[ws, Save up (sth.), we must]; [ws, saving luck]; [ws, carefully saving (sth.)].'





We can take a step further and give the cross-workspace information integration a formal protocol—using a process calculus such as the **session calculus** (Yoshida & Gheri 2020). Process calculi are used in computer science to model concurrent processes and distributed systems (see, e.g., Sangiorgi & Walker 2001, Wadler 2014). Some established process calculi:

- CCS (Calculus of Communicating Systems)
- CSP (Communicating Sequential Processes)
- π -calculus
- session calculus

Process calculi are to concurrency what the λ -calculus is to functions (Milner 1990).

Next, I use a simplified version of the **synchronous multiparty session calculus** in Yoshida & Gheri (2020) to demonstrate how cross-workspace information integration can be protocolized.





In session-based modeling of concurrency, a communication **session** between **participants** p, q, \dots consists of a structured sequence of message-passing interactions as **processes** P, Q, \dots

(30) $p \triangleleft P = !c\langle m \rangle.?d(x).0$ (The process P of participant p: send a message m via channel c, receive any message via channel d and assign it to variable x, and terminate.)

(See paper version for more detail.)

Note the slight notational similarity to Dynamic Syntax.



We can view the cross-workspace information integration in an MMRD sentence as a session:

- Each workspace is a participant.
- Each Pair Merge step establishes a communication channel.
- The integrated information is ultimately fed to the C-I system (also viewed as a participant).

In our running example: $[WS_1]$ Save up, must, $[WS_2]$ (good) luck, $[WS_3]$ carefully.

- (31) a. $WS_2 \triangleleft P_{WS_2} = !a\langle \llbracket WS_2 \rrbracket \rangle$.0 (WS₂ sends its content as a message via channel a and terminates.)
 - b. $WS_3 \triangleleft P_{WS_3} = !b \langle [WS_3] \rangle$.0 (WS₃ sends its content as a message via channel b and terminates.)
 - c. $WS_1 \triangleleft P_{WS_1} = ?a(x).?b(y).!s(\llbracket WS_1 \rrbracket \oplus x \oplus y \rangle.0$ (WS_1 receives two messages via channels a and b and assigns them to x and y, loosely conjoins the received messages with its own content, sends the coproduct via channel s, and terminates.)
 - **d.** CI $\triangleleft P_{CI} = ?s(z).0$ (CI receives a message via channel s, assigns it to z, and terminates.)



Overview



- Introduction
- More about data
- Literature review
 - Minimalism
 - LFG
 - Dynamic Syntax
- 4 new analysis
- Summary



Summary



My analysis of Chinese MMRD is as follows:

(32) Zaezae-zhou ae, dei, mae yunqi lai, haoshi-zhou. save-sta sfp must DISP luck LAI carefully-sta [ws] Save up, must], [ws] (good) luck], [ws] carefully].

[Dongying Mandarin] (= 4b)

Syntax: Derived in three workspaces with just enough structure, loosely joined by Pair Merge.

PF: Main clause fixed in position, RD-ed units flexible in ordering.

LF: Three parallel (i.e., concurrent) thoughts, loosely conjoined in interpretation.

Session: A protocolization of cross-workspace information integration.



Summary



Overall result: A principled combination of ideas from previous studies.

Table: New uses of ideas from previous studies

Idea	Framework	Advantage	New use
Focus fronting	Minimalism	can derive inversion-like, nonconstituent RD	for main clause & 1st RD-ed unit (flexibly chosen)
Coord.+ellipsis	Minimalism	can derive MRD	for n th ($n \ge 2$) RD-ed unit, WS-level Pair Merge, in-situ ellipsis w/o A'-movement
Lite multi-tree syn.	DS (LFG)	resource-aware, MRD	lite multi-WS syntax (with just enough structure in each WS)

Thank you!



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