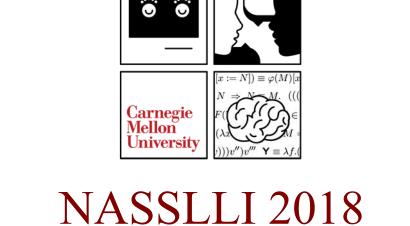


Demonstratives and (Non-)restrictive Relative Clauses in Mandarin Chinese

Yenan Sun & Jackie Yan-Ki Lai



Background

Chinese relative clauses (RC) can co-occur with demonstratives (Dem) and appear in **pre-/post-Dem** position.

☆ RC-Dem-Cl-N

post-Dem RC

☆ **Dem-**Cl-<u>RC</u>-N

[ying-le bisai de] **zhei/nei** wei xuesheng win-PERF game DE this/that CL student

appositive

zhei/nei wei [ying-le bisai de] xuesheng this/that CL win-PERF game DE student

'this/that student (,) who won the game'

Previous claims: whether a RC is restrictive or appositive (/nonrestrictive) is correlated with its position

Chao, Huang restrictive pre-Dem RC

Lv, Tsai appositive

restrictive

restrictive

restrictive

restrictive/appositive

Constant

restrictive

Problems

Problem 1: Chinese appositives are "integrated" (Cinque 2008, Constant 2011, Del Gobbo 2017); the tests which led to disagreement are actually for testing restrictives vs. non-integrated appositives (e.g. English)

(1) John congratulated {every student who won the game/*every student, who won the game}.

Problem 2: Different uses of demonstratives (Dissel 1999, Wolter 2004) have not been distinguished in the tests.

- **Deictic** use (or exophoric): extralinguistic demonstration to physical space
- Anaphoric use (or endophoric): anaphoric to previously-mentioned discourse referents (Roberts 2003, Jenks 2018):
- (2) you yi wei xuesheng ying-le bisai. zhei/nei wei xuesheng hen xingyun.
 - have one CL student win-PERF game this/that CL student very lucky
 - 'A student, won the game. This/That student, was very lucky.'

Main Claim

This paper argues for a correlation between different uses of Dems and restrictives/appositives distinction:

- Deictic use: the relative clauses which co-occur with the demonstratives can only be appositive;
- Anaphoric use: the relative clauses which co-occur with the demonstratives can be restrictive/appositive.

Test A: Non-deniability

Appositives as conventional implicatures are not suspendible with epistemic riders (Potts 2005, Constant 2011):

(3) a. #If a student won the game, then the student, [appositive who won the game] was lucky. b. If a student won the game, then the student [restrictive that won the game] was lucky.

(4) #The student, [appositive who won the game] was lucky, if he won the game. (the order is irrelevant)

If the result is "#" $\stackrel{\text{depositive}}{\longrightarrow}$ can only be appositive; If "\" => can be restrictive, but can also be appositive (blocked)

Results of Test A

- Deictic use

- (5) a. <pointing to Jackie> #zhei/nei wei [ying-le bisai de] xuesheng hen xingyun, ruguo ta ying-le bisai. this/that CL win-PERF game DE student very lucky if he win-PERF game
 - b. <pointing to Jackie> #[ying-le bisai de] zhei/nei wei xuesheng hen xingyun, ruguo ta ying-le bisai. win-PERF game DE this/that CL student very lucky if he win-PERF game
- 'This/that student, who won the game, was very lucky, if he won the game'
- => Both pre-Dem RCs and post-Dem RCs that co-occur with deictic demonstratives can only be appositive.

- Anaphoric use

- (6) a. ruguo you yi wei xuesheng ying-le bisai, zhei/nei wei [ying-le bisai de] xuesheng hen xingyun. have one CL student win-PERF game this/that CL win-PERF game DE student very lucky
- b. ruguo you yi wei xuesheng ying-le bisai, [ying-le bisai de] zhei/nei wei xuesheng hen xingyun. have one CL student win-PERF game win-PERF game DE this/that CL student very lucky 'If a student won the game, this/that student who won the game was very lucky'
- => Both pre-Dem RCs and post-Dem RCs that co-occur with anaphoric demonstratives can be restrictive. Must they be restrictive? \rightarrow Test B

Test B: Root-level adverbs (for anaphoric use)

Root-level adverbs "frankly" can only occur in appositives but not in restrictives (Emonds 1979):

(7) If a student won the game, the {student, who is frankly lucky/#student that is frankly lucky} must be excited.

Results of Test B

- (8) ruguo you yi wei xuesheng ying-le bisai,
- have one CL student win-PERF game
- a. zhei/nei wei [laoshishuo hen xingyun de] xuesheng yiding hen xingfen. this/that CL frankly very lucky DE student must very excited
- b. [laoshishuo hen xingyun de] zhei/nei wei xuesheng yiding hen xingfen. frankly very lucky DE this/that CL student must very excited
- 'If a student won the game, then this/that student, who is frankly very lucky, must be very excited.'
- => Both pre-Dem RCs and post-Dem RCs that co-occur with anaphoric demonstratives can be appositive.

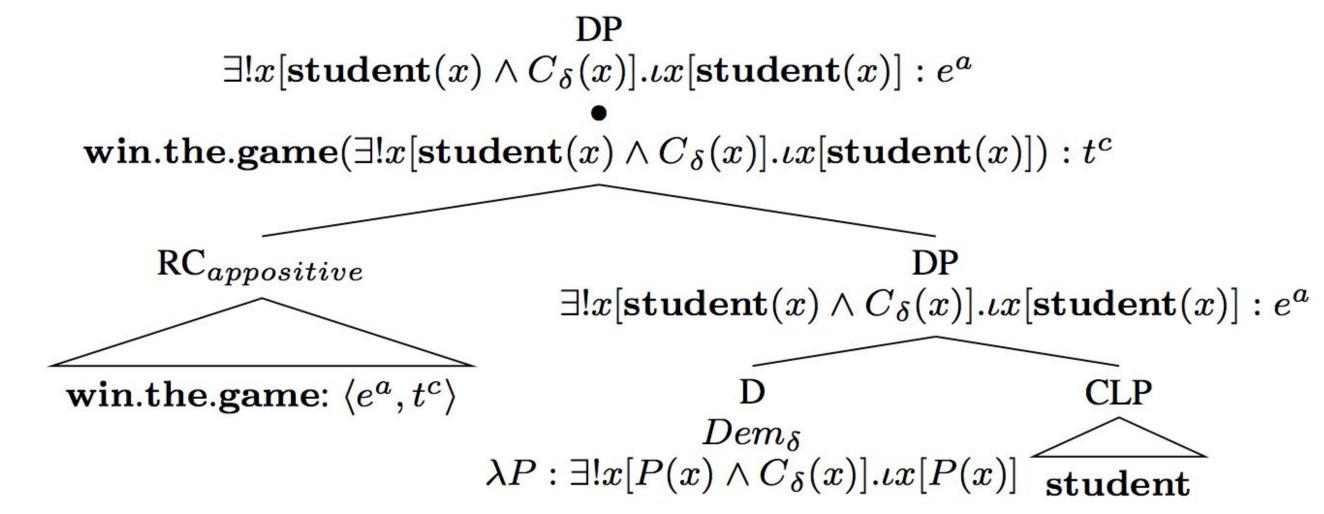
Analysis

Promotion/Raising Analysis of RCs (Anoun & Li 2003, Gobbo 2010, Lin & Tsai 2014):

(9) $\left[\sum_{DP} t_i \text{ ying-le bisai } \right]$ de $\left[\sum_{DP_i} \frac{1}{2} \right]$ this/that CL student win-PERF game DE

Deictic Dems (Dem_s)

- Presuppose the existence of a unique salient (due to demonstration: C_s) referent (Roberts 2002, 2003)
- RCs cannot further restrict a type e DP, thus can only be appositive (by CI application; Potts 2005) (10)

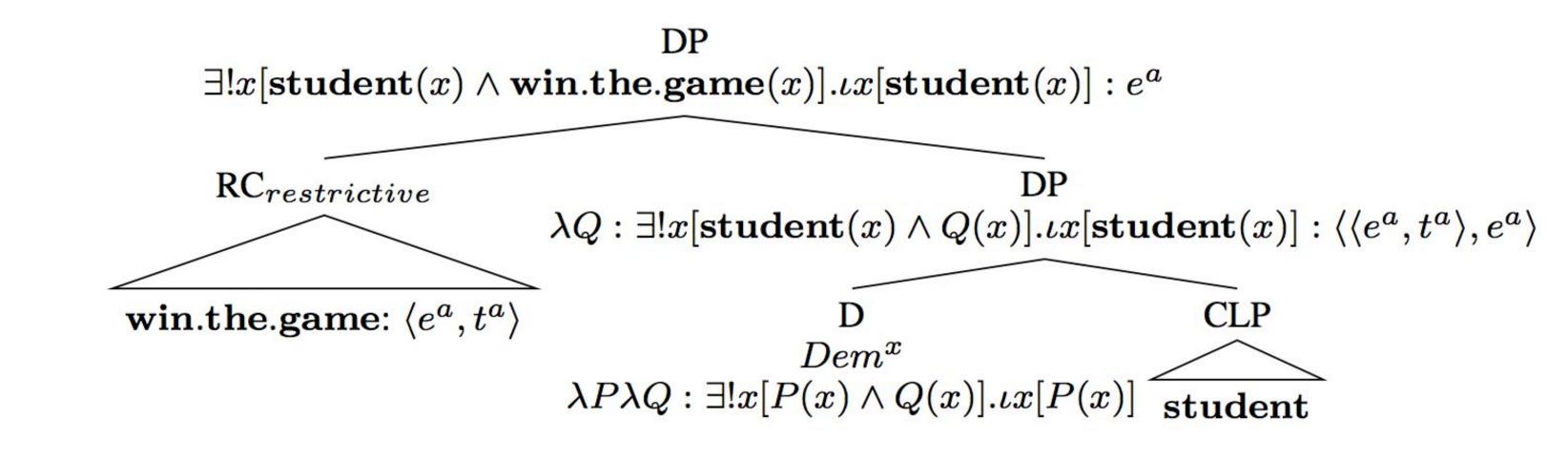


Anaphoric Dems (*Dem^x*)

(11)

With an extra argument slot for an indexical property (Schwarz 2009, Jenks 2018); if it is taken up by:

- the RC \Rightarrow Restrictive (as in (11))
- a referential index => then the RC => Appositive



Derive the linear order of post-Dem RCs: successive head movement to yield the Dem-CL sequence (Constant 2011), which has no semantic consequences. The X° complex can further move into a higher focus position: (12) $\begin{bmatrix} FP \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} F' \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} F' \end{bmatrix}$

Conclusions

The often-claimed correlation between pre-/post-Dem position and restrictive/appositive distinction of RCs is illusive; **Deictic/anaphoric** uses of demonstratives should be clarified when applying the tests.

Selected References: Jenks 2018. Articulated definiteness without articles; Del Gobbol 2017. More appositives in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in your Linguistics; Lin & Tsai 2014. Restricting Non-restrictive Relatives in Mandarin Chinese; Constant 2011. Re-diagnosing Appositivity. Del Gobbo 2010. On Chinese appositive relative clauses.