

## Advising Meeting

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### Outline

- Discussion of Swedish Negative Indefinites

### Structure for Swedish NIs

#### Swedish expressions

- (1) There are three different expressions in Swedish that are identified as being associated with negative indefinites. These are divided into two pronouns and one determiner.
  - a. Pronouns
    - (i) *ingenting* 'nothing'
    - (ii) *ingen* 'no one, nobody, none'
  - b. Determiner
    - (i) *ingen* 'no'
- (2) We see that one of the clearest diagnostics between the pronouns and determiners is what sort of material they are allowed to appear in front of.
- (3) In the case of the determiner *ingen* it is only allowed to appear immediately proceeding nouns and adjectives.
  - a. Jag har *ingen* röd bil sett  
     I have no red car seen  
     'I haven't seen any car'
- (4) On the other hand, the pronouns are not seen in this exact same distribution. They are allowed to appear before determiners, adverbs, nouns, and prepositions.
  - a. Jag har *ingenting* sett.  
     I have nothing seen  
     'I haven't seen anything'
- (5) Using this will help in determining what type of element I have in each of the sentences.

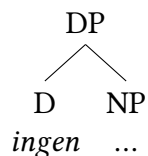
#### The syntactic and prosodic structures of NIs

- (6) For each of the expressions discussed in the previous section we can assume that there is only two syntactic structures that they potentially could correspond to.

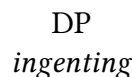
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<sup>0</sup>This is only true if the noun is part of a ditransitive construction. Additionally, I am not entirely sure if Swedish allows nouns to appear without a determiner. I will look into this to double check.

- a. Determiners



- ### b. Pronouns



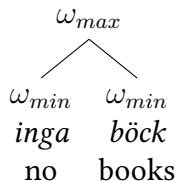
- (7) The two sets of syntactic structures are in line with most accounts that pronouns are simple heads of DPs with no NP complement whereas determiners are the heads of DPs which do have a NP complement.
- (8) For the prosodic structure that is assumed for the above expressions there are several reliable diagnostics proposed by Myrberg & Riad 2015.
- (9) According to Myrberg & Riad 2015, because we observe tonal accents on the NI pronouns we must assume that they are both minimal and maximal prosodic words.

- a. Prosodic structure for pronouns



- (10) Under their analysis the domain for tonal accent is that of the maximal prosodic word, whereas the domain for stress and syllabification is the minimal prosodic word.
  - a. Evidence for this comes from the incorporation of pronouns into words. In those cases, we see that prosodically weak pronouns that begin with a [h] word initially lose this segment under syllabification and whatever tonal distinction they had is erased and replaced by the tonal pattern of the host.
  - b. This same behavior is also observed in compounds that syllabification will eliminate certain segments and that whatever tonal accents the words had originally are replaced by the compound accent.
- (11) This compound accent is also used when the NI determiner is present it forms its own minimal  $\omega$  but combines with the noun to form a maximal  $\omega$ .

- a. Prosodic structure for determiners.



## Where next

- Develop an analysis of the syntactic and morphological similarities or lack thereof.
- Continue to process the data.

- I received a lot of really good feedback from the first Pre-290 presentation.
- I have several ideas of how to more effectively process the data quickly and still maintaining some amount of accuracy.
- Also received some questions concerning NegShifts interaction with other adverbs like *aldri* 'never' and the ordering of NegShift with respect to shifted object pronouns.
- This would involve reading Broekhuis 2020 as he has some good discussion on object shift and object scrambling. Which I would like to discuss next time if possible.

## References

- Broekhuis, Hans. 2020. The Unification of Object Shift and Object Scrambling. In Michael T. Putnam & B. Richard Page (eds.), *The Cambridge Handbook of Germanic Linguistics*, 1st edn., 413–435. Cambridge University Press. <https://doi.org/10.1017/9781108378291.019>.
- Myrberg, Sara & Tomas Riad. 2015. The prosodic hierarchy of Swedish. *Nordic Journal of Linguistics* 38(2). 115–147. <https://doi.org/10.1017/S0332586515000177>.