

Directionalized Locatives¹

The limits of Contrast

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- When locative PPs are used with motion verbs in English they are often ambiguous between:

- Located motion
- Directed motion

- (1)
- | | | |
|----|--|-------------------|
| a. | Anna ran between the pylons ... | |
| | (i) for an hour. | (Located Motion) |
| | (ii) on her way to the endzone. | (Directionalized) |
| b. | Jakub walked behind the shed ... | |
| | (i) for an hour. | (Located Motion) |
| | (ii) which hid him from our view for a moment. | (Directionalized) |
| c. | Berit swerved in front of cyclists ... | |
| | (i) for a kilometer. | (Located Motion) |
| | (ii) causing them to brake suddenly. | (Directionalized) |
| d. | Rick ran under the awning ... | |
| | (i) for his warm-up. | (Located Motion) |
| | (ii) as soon as he saw lightning. | (Directionalized) |

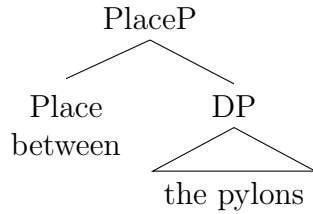
- The directed motion interpretation of locatives are called directionalized locatives (Dir-Locs)
- Other languages, such as Standard French, do not show this ambiguity.

- (2) *La bouteille flottait sous le pont.*
The bottle floated under the bridge. (located motion/*directionalized)

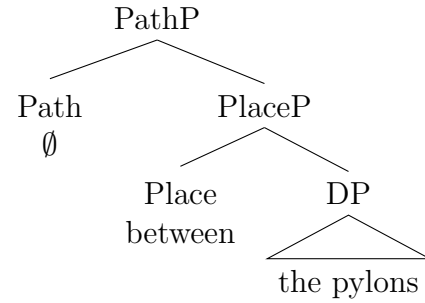
- Svenonius (2010) analyses the ambiguity as an lexical ambiguity between a PlaceP (=Located Motion) and a PathP (=Directionalized Locative).
- Under this analysis, the locative prepositions inherently project PlacePs.
- Directional prepositions (*e.g.*, into, through, across) project PathPs, which embed PlacePs.
- Dir-Locs are PlacePs in a null-headed PathP.

¹Based on a general paper written under the supervision of Elizabeth Cowper

(3) a. [_{PlaceP}Between the pylons]



b. [_{PathP}Between the pylons]



- This syntactic analysis is adapted from a semantic analysis of the phenomenon by Zwarts and Winter (2000) who, in turn, credit Jackendoff (1983).
- It also makes the crosslinguistic variation easy to account for:
 - English bundles Path with P.
 - French bundles Path with V.
 - *[Manner Path] (see Acedo-Matellán and Mateu 2013, for one such account)

1 One argument against the Contrastive analysis: *halfway*-modification

- *halfway* modifies gradable predicates and *prefers* a Path interpretation of the predicate it modifies. (Bochnak 2013)
- Consider the interpretation of unambiguous directional and locative PPs under modification by *halfway*

(4) Directionals

- Alma jogged halfway to the store.
“There is a path **p** that extends from some start-point and to *the store*. Alma traversed half of **p** in a jogging manner.”
- Henk drove halfway through the woods.
“There is a path **p** that extends from one edge of *the forest* to the opposite end of *the forest*. Henk traversed half of **p** in a driving manner.”

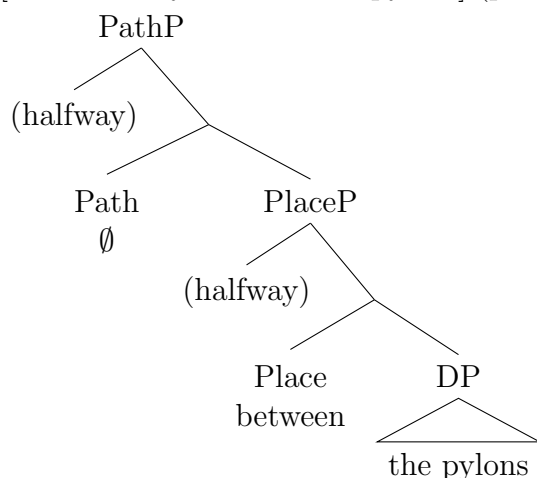
(5) Locatives

- The goalie stood halfway between the posts.
“The goalie stood in a spot, such that each of the posts was equidistant to her.”
- The dog was halfway inside the house.
“Half of the dog is inside the house, while the other half is not.”

- If Dir-Locs have a structure like the one in (3-b), we expect two possible structural positions for *halfway*:

- Spec-PathP, giving an interpretation like those in (4).
- Spec-PlaceP, giving an interpretation like those in (5).

- (6) a. [_{PathP} halfway between the pylons] (predicted by Svenonius’ (2010) analysis)



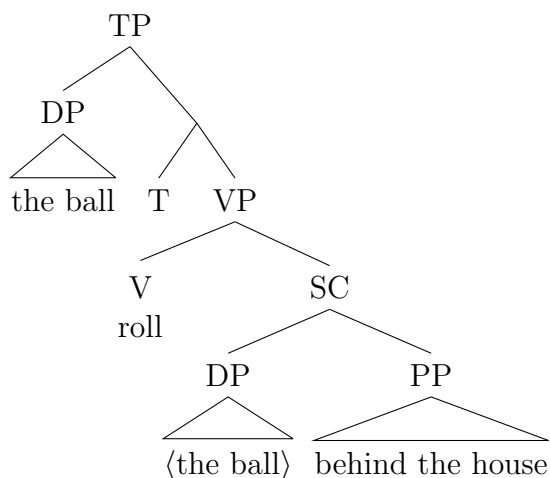
- b. $\llbracket_{\text{PathP}} \text{ halfway between the pylons} \rrbracket =$
 (i) “halfway TO between the pylons” (Spec-PathP)
 (ii) “TO halfway between the pylons” (Spec-PlaceP)

- We systematically do not get the Spec-PathP interpretation with *halfway*-modified Dir-Locs.

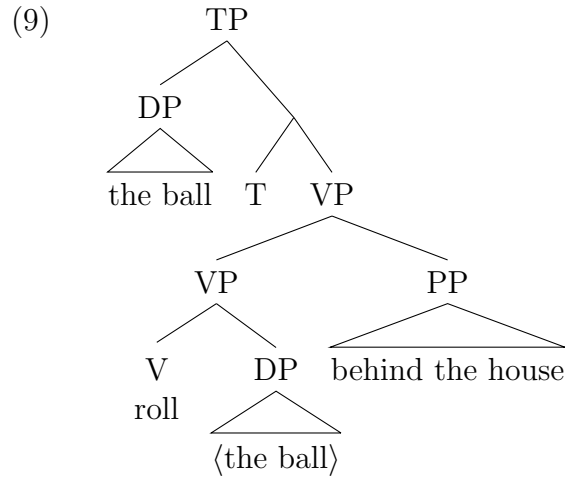
- (7) a. Brigid ran halfway between the pylons.
 \approx “TO halfway between the pylons” (Spec-PlaceP, cf. (5-a))
 \neq “halfway TO between the pylons” (Spec-PathP)
 b. The ball rolled halfway behind the shed.
 \approx “TO halfway behind the shed” (Spec-PlaceP, cf. (5-b))
 \neq “halfway TO behind the shed” (Spec-PathP)

- The analysis that fits the facts of Dir-Locs better is a Resultative Small Clause Analysis (cf. Kratzer 2004, for adjectival resultatives).

- (8) **Directionalized Locatives as Resultative Small Clauses**



- The located motion interpretation arises when the PP adjoins to the VP.



- An account of Directionalized locatives that depends on a lexical contrast is untenable.
- Instead we have a structural account.
- There is still a place for contrast in further accounts of this phenomenon:
 - Features to motivate raising from the resultative small clause.
 - AdjP Resultatives vs PP resultatives
 - English vs. Std French.

References

- Acedo-Matellán, Víctor and Jaume Mateu (2013). “Satellite-framed Latin vs. verb-framed Romance: A syntactic approach”. In: *International Journal of Latin and Romance Linguistics* 25.2, pp. 227–265.
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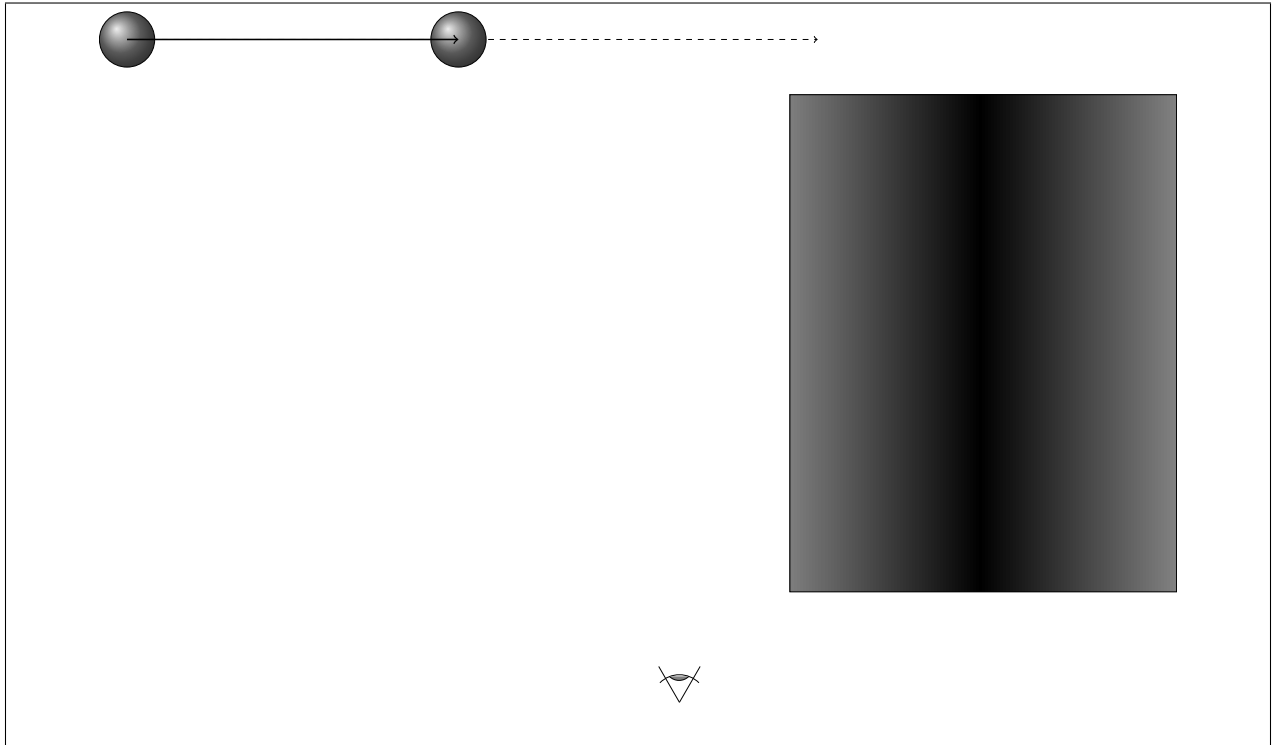


Figure 1: The ball rolled halfway TO behind the shed. The interpretation we do not get from (7-b)

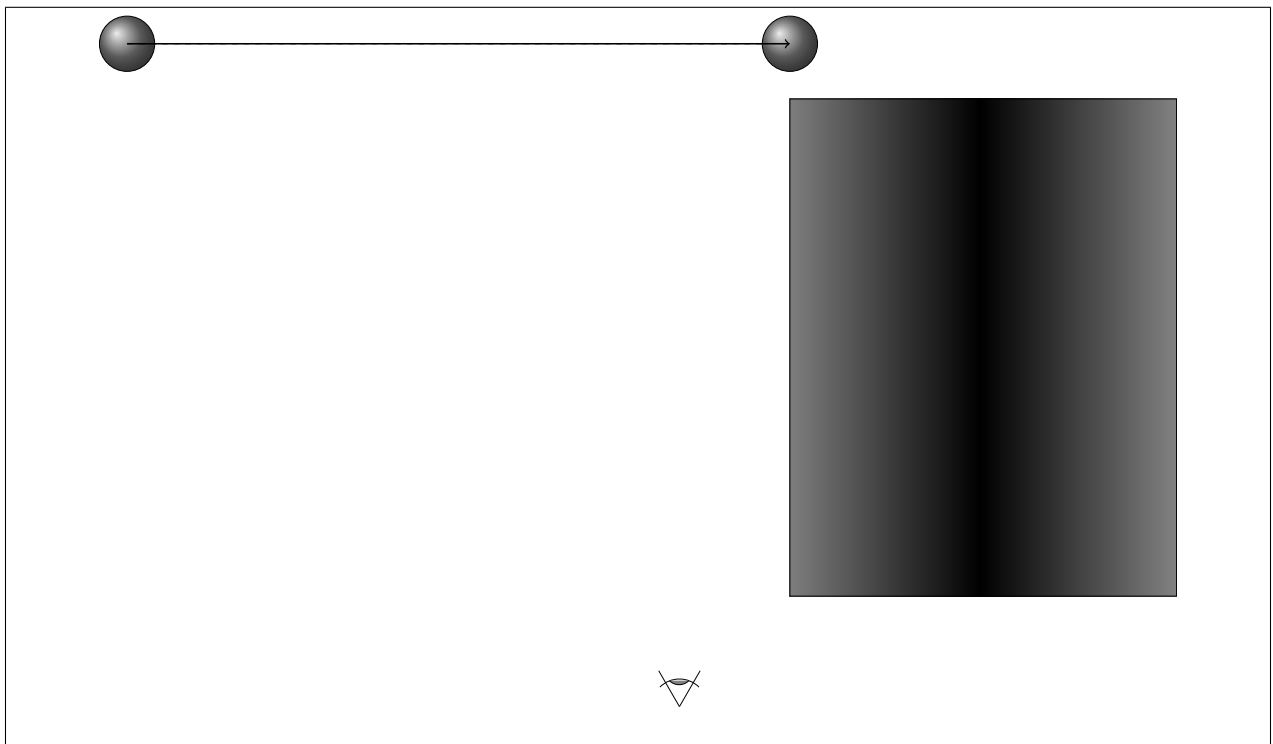


Figure 2: The ball rolled TO halfway behind the shed. The interpretation we do get from (7-b)