

The use of TOO in gapping in Catalan Sign Language

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Introduction

Too and *also* are considered focus additive particles (Krifka 1998) and they are used to extend a predication to at least another alternative with respect to the element in focus.

In English, *too* and *also* can be found in different types of ellipsis (i.e., stripping, VPE), but not in gapping.

In Catalan Sign Language (LSC), the sign **TAMBÉ** has the function of:

- a conjunction in additive coordination (*and/and also*)
- a focus particle (*too/also*) found in ellipsis

➤ Surprisingly, in LSC, **TAMBÉ** with the function of *too* can be found in gapping.



Figure 1: TAMBÉ in LSC

Goals

- Look at the distribution of **TAMBÉ** in ellipsis in LSC by making a comparison with those of *too* and *also* in English.
- Determine the functions of **TAMBÉ** looking at cases of ellipsis in coordination in LSC.
- Propose a syntactic account that explains the availability of **TAMBÉ** with the function of *too* in LSC and the ungrammaticality of *too* in gapping in English.

Also vs too in English

Too

(1) Context sentence: Michael works on semantics and psycholinguistics.

FLORIAN works on semantics **TOO**.

☞ Presupposition: ⇒ someone else other than Florian works on semantics.

☞ *Too* indicates focus on the subject and it is related to contrastive topic

(Krifka 1998, Mayol & Castroviejo 2013).

❖ DISTRIBUTION IN ELLIPSIS

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|--|--|
| (3) a. John ate an apple and Mary ate an apple , too . | Stripping: <i>too</i> |
| a'. John ate an apple and also Mary. | |
| = John ate both an apple and Mary. | NP coordination |
| ≠ John ate an apple and Mary ate an apple. | Stripping: * <i>also</i> |
| b. *John ate an apple and Mary ate a pear, too . | Gapping: * <i>too</i> with anaphoric function |
| c. John ate an apple and Mary also ate a pear. | Gapping: <i>also</i> with additive function
(Mary ate both a pear and an apple) |

Also

(2) Context sentence: Michael works on semantics and psycholinguistics.

He **ALSO** works on PROSODY.

(Göbel 2016)

☞ Presupposition: ⇒ Michael works on something else other than prosody.

☞ *Also* indicates focus on the V(P).

Too:

- ☞ used in final position
- ☞ subject focus
- ☞ good in ellipsis
- ☞ bad in gapping

Also:

- ☞ used in medial position
- ☞ V(P) focus
- ☞ bad in ellipsis
- ☞ good in gapping
- ☞ additive function in conjunction

TAMBÉ in ellipsis in LSC: ALSO vs TOO

- | | |
|---|--|
| (4) a. MARC CAKE CL: bake, MARINA TAMBÉ . | Stripping (TAMBÉ = TOO) |
| 'Marc baked a cake and Marina, too .' | |
| a'. MARC CAKE THROW-TRASH, MARINA TAMBÉ , BUT PIZZA. | Stripping + adversative coord. (TAMBÉ = TOO) |
| 'Marc threw away a cake and Marina did so, too , but a pizza.' | |
| b. MARC CAKE CL: bake [TAMBÉ MARINA]. | NP coordination (TAMBÉ = AND/AND ALSO) |
| 'Marc baked a cake and (also) Marina.' | |
| c. JORDINA CAKE BUY, JORDI FRUIT TAMBÉ . | Gapping (TAMBÉ = TOO) |
| 'Jordina bought a cake and Jordi some fruit.' | |
| c'. ??MARC CAKE THROW-TRASH, TAMBÉ MARINA PIZZA. | |

TAMBÉ = TOO:

- ☞ used in final position
- ☞ subject focus
- ☞ good in stripping
- ☞ good in gapping
- ☞ anaphoric function

TAMBÉ = ALSO:

- ☞ used in medial position
- ☞ used as additive conjunction (*also/and also*)

Presuppositions and scope of too vs TOO in gapping

(5) MARC CAKE CL: bake, MARINA ~~CAKE CL~~: bake *(TOO).

'Marc baked a cake and Marina, **too**.'

- The subject is focalized: ⇒ somebody other than Marina baked a cake.

(6) JORDINA CAKE BUY, JORDI FRUIT ~~BUY~~ (TOO).

'Jordina bought a cake and Jordi some fruit.'

- The subject is focalized
- but the presupposition includes only the verb, not the whole TP:
- ⇒ Somebody other than Jordi bought something.

VS English *Jordina bought a cake and Jordi some fruit, **too**.

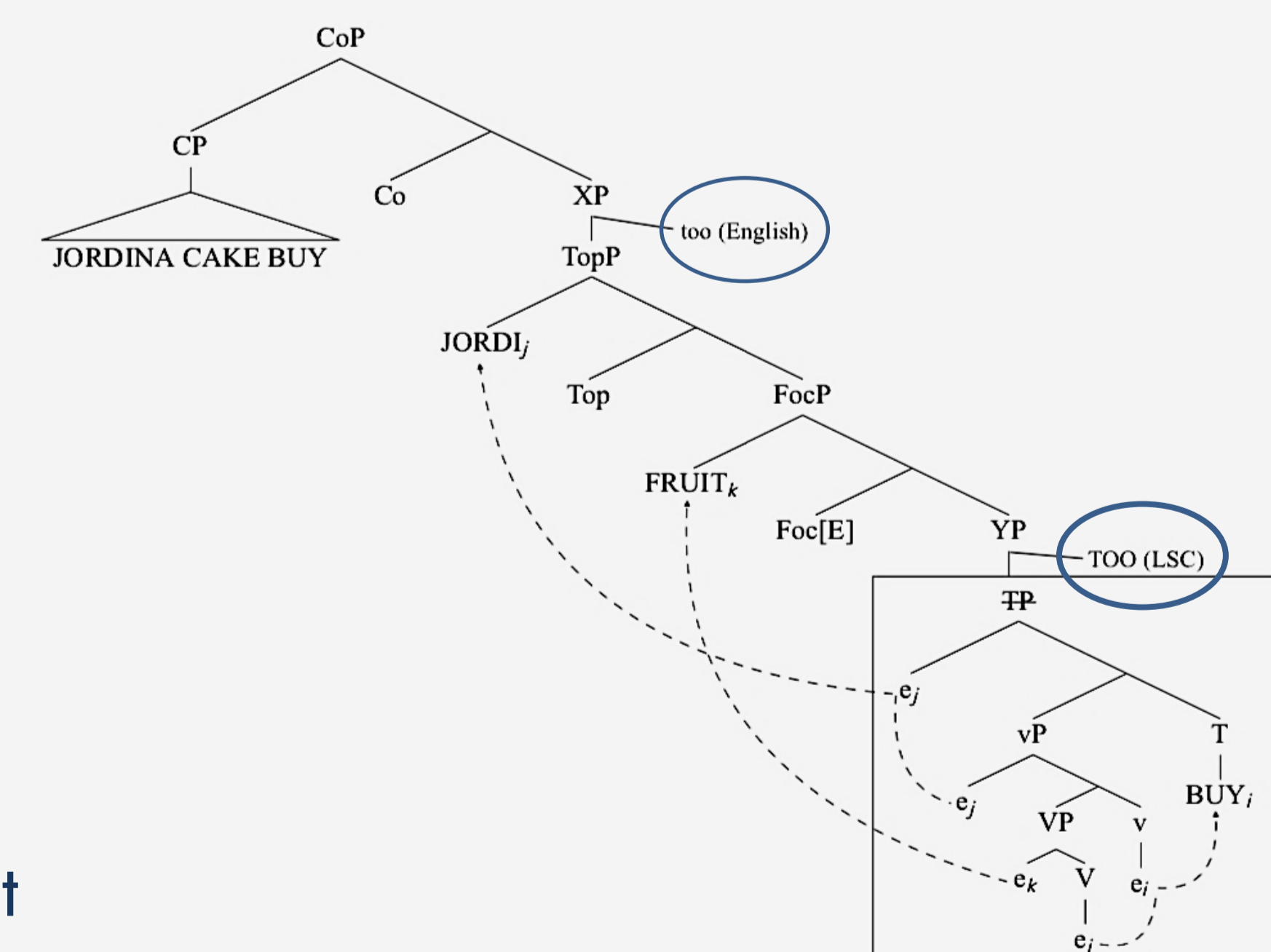
- ≠ Somebody other than Jordi bought something.

In syntactic terms, *too* puts the subject in focus, so it should occupy a high position in the syntactic structure.

- Assuming a deletion at PF approach for gapping in LSC (Zorzi 2018)

➤ **TOO** in LSC targets the deleted material in TP

➤ *Too* in English targets the whole second conjunct



Conclusions

➤ **TAMBÉ** in LSC can have the function of the additive conjunction *and/and also* and of the focus particles *also* and *too*.

➤ The felicity of **TOO** in LSC in gapping, unlike in English, might be explained by the syntactic position: **TOO** in LSC scopes over the deleted material in TP vs *too* in English scopes over the whole second conjunct.

References

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