## Comitative coordination in Q'anjob'al

Denis Paperno, UCLA

I argue that the cross-linguistic morpho-syntactic diversity of expressions for 'and' is reflected in a diversity of semantic interpretations: while Boolean 'and' extends from the sentential domain to other domains pointwise, sum formation extends from type **e** to the sentential case metaphorically. I argue that this difference explains contrasts between two conjunctions in Q'anjob'al (Mayan, Guatemala).

Q'anjob'al employs both a comitative marker yetoq 'with' that functions both as a preposition and as a conjunction, and specialized conjunctions k'al and i 'and':

(1) ch-w-ochej naq Xhun y-etoq / i / k'al naq Yakin INC-A1s-like 3MAN Xhun A3-with / and / and 3MAN Yakin 'I like Xhun and Yakin.'

Several kinds of arguments given by McNally (1993) for Russian, support that *and*- and *with*- conjunctions in Q'anjob'al differ in meaning. Conjunction i can combine properly quantificational (type ett) and other non-referential NPs, and thus has to have a crosscategorial Boolean semantics.

(2)	$\min$ an	ix	jujun	heb'	kuywom	окі	/ *y-etoq	jujun	heb'	ulawom
	big	woman	every	$\mathbf{P}\mathbf{L}$	student	$^{\rm OK}$ and	$/ *_{A3}$ -with	every	PL	guest
	'every s	student	and ev	very g	guest is fa	t' (lit.	'is a big wo	oman')		

Yetoq, restricted to referential NPs (type e), is interpreted simply as a sum/group forming operator. In many languages, *with*-coordination can conjoin only noun phrases but not sentences. But in

Q'anjob'al, yetoq 'with' can combine sentences and other kinds of phrases.

But in this function, comitative coordination is still different from *i*. Yetoq is not acceptable in most contexts where *i* 'and' can be used.<sup>1</sup>

*Yetoq* is only acceptable between clauses which contribute to a common topic, roughly paraphrased as *and in addition to that*. For *yetoq* to be used felicitously, the clauses it conjoins always have a common topic to which they make a joint contribution, compare:

- (3) a. x-kankan naq Xhun b'ay na <sup>OK</sup>i / \*y-etoq x-toq y-istil naq b'ay txomb'al COMP-stay 3MAN Xhun to house <sup>OK</sup>and / \*A3-with COMP-go A3-wife 3MAN to market 'Xhun stayed home and (\*in addition to that) his wife went to the market'
  - b. merwal ch-kus naq Xhun y-uj tol x-k'ayil naq masanil s-tumin y-etoq very INC-sad 3MAN Xhun A3-by that COMP-lose 3MAN all OWN-money A3-with x-kam masanil yawb'ejal naq COMP-die all crops 3MAN
    'Xhun is sad because he lost all his money and (<sup>OK</sup>in addition to that) his crops died.'
  - c. k'am tzetalyetal ch-w-aq'a y-etoq k'am maktxel b'ay ch-w-aq'a no what INC-A1s-give A3-with no who to INC-A1s-give
    'I have nothing to give and (<sup>OK</sup>in addition to that) nobody to give things to'

In (3-b), the common topic is Xhun's lack of luck. In (3-c), the common topic is that the speaker is unable to share. In both cases, the two clauses together elaborate on their shared topic.

I propose to formalize the property of *yetoq* to require a common topic from the clauses it conjoins by analyzing the sentential usage of *yetoq* as a metaphorical extension of group/sum formation. Assume that each clause can denote a minimal illocutionary act (Searle and Vanderveken, 1985); then

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Glosses for grammatical elements include: INC 'incompletive aspect', COMP 'completive aspect', 3MAN '3rd person classifier/pronoun for men', A3 '3rd person ergative agreement prefix', A1s '1st person singular ergative agreement prefix', OWN '3rd person emphatic possessive prefix'.

a comitative coordination of clauses denotes a sum of two illocutionary acts (e.g. two assertives), and this sum relates to the rest of the discourse as a unit.

Assume that clauses/utterances in discourse are connected with *rhetorical relations* such as *back-ground*, *motivation*, *conclusion*, etc. (Mann and Thompson, 1988). Intuitively, what I labeled above informally as "contributing to the same topic" can be represented as bearing the same (discourse) relation to the rest of the discourse structure, e.g. two (sub)utterances can be *elaborations* on the same preceding discourse. The role of *yetoq* then is to guarantee that the clauses it links stand in the same relation to the rest of the discourse. A natural implementation of this role, provided that *yetoq* otherwise denotes sum formation, is to assume that *yetoq* as a clausal linker forms a sum of two utterances. They, as a sum, are linked with a single discourse relation, schematically:



'Xhun lost money' 'His crops died'

I have argued that as a clausal coordinator *yetoq* maintains traces of the sum formation meaning, as in the NP conjunction, with its pragmatics of 'togetherness' (McNally, 1993). This analysis of *yetoq* supports the hypothesis that sentential and NP coordination can be related in different ways in different languages. While some coordinators like Q'anjob'al *i* and English *and* can be given an order-theoretic denotation (Keenan and Faltz, 1985; Rooth and Partee, 1983), where NP coordination is a pointwise extension of the clausal case, the sentential usage of *yetoq* is a (metaphorical) extension of its basic sum meaning from entities to discourse units.

## References

- Haspelmath, Martin. 2004. Coordinating constructions: An overview. In *Coordinating constructions*, ed. Martin Haspelmath, 3–39. John Benjamins.
- Keenan, Edward Louis, and Leonard M. Faltz. 1985. Boolean semantics for natural language. Synthese language library. D. Reidel Publishing Company.
- Mann, W., and S. Thompson. 1988. Rhetorical structure theory: Toward a functional theory of text organization. *Text* 8 (3): 243–281.
- McNally, Louise. 1993. Comitative coordination: A case study in group formation. *Natural Language* and Linguistic Theory 11 (2): 347–379.
- Rooth, Mats, and Barbara Hall Partee. 1983. Generalized conjunction and type ambiguity. In *Meaning, use, and interpretation of language*, eds. Rainer Bäuerle, Christoph Schwarze, and Arnim von Stechow, 361–383. Walter de Gruyter.
- Searle, John, and Daniel Vanderveken. 1985. Foundations of illocutionary logic. Cambridge, England: Cambridge University.

Stassen, Leon. 2000. AND-languages and WITH-languages. Linguistic Typology 4 (1): 1–54.