

The Agreement sequence for successive-cyclic movement in Tagalog and English

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Rackowski and Richards (to appear) offer an account of 'wh-agreement' in Tagalog which they try to generalize to deal with CED effects. The proposal is based on the idea behind Hiraiwa's (to appear) Multiple Agree, or Richards' (1998) Principle of Minimal Compliance; namely, that a Probe with potential Goals *a* and *b*, *a* closer than *b*, may in fact Agree with *b* as long as it also Agrees with *a*. For Rackowski and Richards, the potentially offending closer Goals are phases; ν Probes which would trigger wh-movement must Agree, not only with the wh-phrase, but with phases dominating the wh-phrase. These Agree relations have morphological consequences in Tagalog, where they are realized as so-called "wh-agreement" morphology. They also have syntactic consequences in a number of languages, in which clauses and DPs with which ν does not Agree (subjects, adjuncts) are opaque to extraction.

An additional argument for the approach is drawn from the distribution of Person-Case effects in Tagalog. If Rackowski and Richards are right, extraction from an embedded clause involves two Agree relations with ν , one between ν and the clause, and a second one between ν and the extracted phrase. Boeckx (2000) and Anagnostopoulou (2003) offer accounts of Bonet's (1991) Person-Case effect which link it to multiple Agreement relations; when a Probe Agrees with two DPs, the first Agree relation co-opts its ability to Agree for Person, forcing the second DP Agreed with to be 3rd person (i.e., to lack a Person feature, following much work in the morphological literature, e.g. Noyer 1992). On this approach to Person-Case effects, and on Rackowski and Richards' approach to long-distance extraction, we expect to find Person-Case effects in some instances of extraction but not in others. We see that these expectations are confirmed in Tagalog; time permitting, we will also see some supporting evidence from Itelmen, Basque, and Passamaquoddy.