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AGAINST OVERT PREDICATORS IN SLAVIC

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1. ISSUES INVOLVED

Is there a (syntactically or semantically required) mediator between the subject and the non-verbal predicate?

Is it required cross-linguistically?

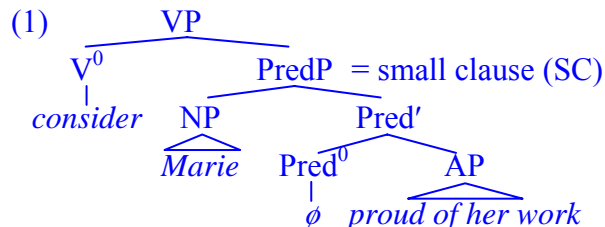
Some examples of “overt predicates” in Slavic and their analysis:

- *as*: a complementizer
- *for*: a preposition
- *in*: another preposition

Conclusion: **To a person with a hammer everything looks like a nail.** Occam’s razor can come in useful.

2. THE SYNTACTIC THEORY OF MEDIATED PREDICATION

Bowers 1993, 2001: APs, NPs and PPs do not denote predicates, but rather must be converted into predicates. The semantic function of Pred is therefore to create a predicate that could be combined with the subject.



Evidence:

- The constituent containing the predicate and not containing the subject of a small clause can be moved by wh-movement. This constituent (known as an X'-level) is supposed to be unmovable for theory-internal reasons (Svenonius 1994).
- The predicate of a small clause may receive a special predicative case (accusative in Arabic, dative in Hungarian, instrumental in Russian...). A functional head is assumed to be necessary to assign that case (Bailyn 2001, 2002, Bailyn and Citko 1999, Bailyn and Rubin 1991, etc.).
- Coordination of small clause predicates of apparently different lexical categories is possible, which suggests that they should belong to the same category – hence a functional head should be present in the small clause (Bowers 1993, 2001).

2.1. Support: overt predicates

In some languages a functional element appears between the subject and (some categories of) the predicate (Bowers 1993, 2001):

- (2) a. Mae Siôn *(yn) ddedwydd. Welsh (Rouveret 1996:128)
 is Siôn PRT happy
 Siôn is happy.

- b. Y mae Siôn yn feddyg.
PRT is Siôn PRT doctor
Siôn is a doctor.
- (3) a. Tha Calum ‘na thidsear. Scottish Gaelic (Adger and Ramchand 2003)
be-PRES Calum PRT=in-3MSG teacher
Calum is a teacher.
- b. Chunnaic mi Calum agus [e ‘na thidsear].
see-PAST I Calum and [him PRT=in-3MSG teacher]
I saw Calum while he was a teacher.
- (4) a. Èmèrí *(yé) mòsèmòsè. Edo (Baker 2003)
Mary PRT beautiful.A
Mary is beautiful.
- b. Úyì *(rè) òkhaèmwèn.
Uyi PRT chief.N
Uyi is a chief.
- (5) a. M-kango *(ndì) w-a u-kali. Chichewa (Baker 2003)
3-lion PRT 3-ASSOC 3-fierce
The lion is fierce.
- b. M-kango *(ndì) m-lenje.
3-lion PRT 1-hunter
The lion is a hunter.

Non-verbal predication must be mediated by a functional head $Pred^0$. The small clause is a projection of this head (PredP).

NB: Both Bowers 1993, 2001 and den Dikken 2006 take the extreme position, though for different reasons: every kind of predication must be mediated by a functional head. We will not address this complication here.

2.2. Question: Universal existence of overt predicators

Bowers 1993: in small clause complements like (6) *as* is, in fact, the lexicalization of the Pred operator (see also Emonds 1985 and Aarts 1992):

- (6) a. She regards this hypothesis as silly. English
b. They take him for a fool.

Further elaboration (Aarts 1992, Bailyn and Rubin 1991, Eide and Áfarli 1999, Bailyn 2001, 2002, den Dikken 2006): $Pred^0$ is universally available and projected. Overt instantiations of $Pred^0$ include *as*, *for*, *into* and their cross-linguistic equivalents:

- (7) a. My sčitaem ego svoim. Russian (Bailyn 2001)
we consider him-ACC self.POSS-INSTR
- b. My sčitaem ego kak svoego.
we consider him-ACC AS self.POSS-ACC
- c. My sčitaem ego za svoego.
we consider him-ACC FOR self.POSS-ACC
We consider him as one of us.

Our proposal: what looks like the preposition *za* ‘for’ and the complementizer *kao/kak* ‘as’ are, in fact, a preposition and a complementizer. *What you see is what you get.*

2.3. The definition of a small clause

There are two major classes of hypotheses associated with the notion of a “small clause”:

- (i) Semantic: small clauses are minimal units of non-verbal predication semantically corresponding to a proposition (or a state of affairs, as in Svenonius 1994; Wilder 1992, etc.)
- (ii) Syntactic: small clauses are constituents formed by the combination of two (non-verbal) maximal projections mediated or not by a special (functional) head Pred^0 . No special semantics is associated with a small clause (e.g., Bennis, Corver and den Dikken 1998: a small clause is assumed to be projected inside an NP)

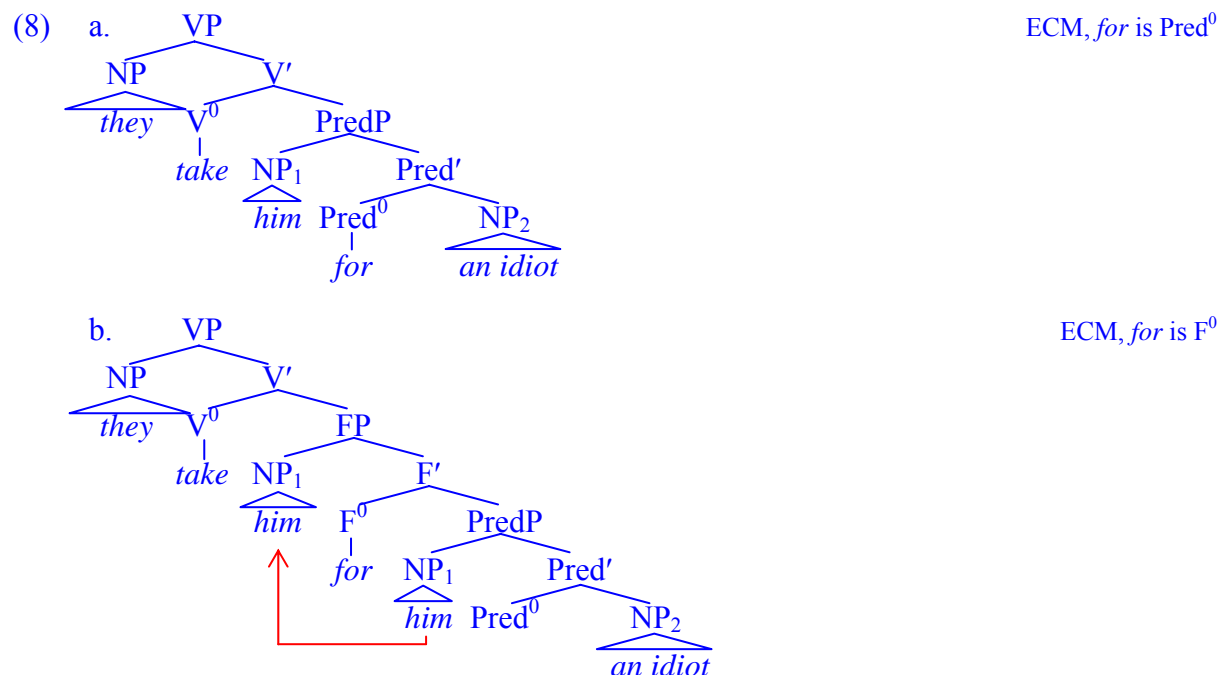
Against the purely syntactic definition of a small clause: its only prediction is that a small clause should be able to move as a constituent, which it does not do, either in English or in Slavic, presumably for independent reasons.

This is why we adhere to a more restricted hypothesis where a small clause corresponds to a proposition and contains a subject (type e or $\langle e, \langle e, t \rangle \rangle$) and a predicate (type $\langle e, t \rangle$, setting aside intensionality).

NB: For many authors the notion of a small clause also includes verbal predicates, as in ‘I heard **Callas** sing’. In Slavic linguistics such is usually not the case, possibly because such constructions are not grammatical in Slavic

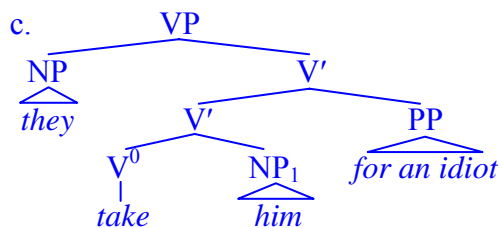
3. WHAT IS ‘FOR’ FOR?

Now-standard assumption: **a small clause is involved:**



NB: Not all entertained structural options are exemplified

More traditional assumption (ours, too): ***for*-PP is an adjunct:**



adjunct

Another possibility: the *for*-PP is a second argument of the verb (not to be discussed).

Assuming a small clause structure makes the following predictions:

- **Status of NP₁:** if the NP₁-*for*-NP₂ string is a small clause, NP₁ is its subject. If we are dealing with a single predicate, then the NP₁ is an object of the verb
- **The status of *for*:** under the analysis in (8a, b) *za* 'for' is either a Pred⁰ or some sort of C⁰: Under the single predicate analysis in (8c), it is a regular preposition. We expect prepositions to combine with NPs and to assign case.
- **Status of NP₂:** under the small clause analysis (8a) the complement of *za* 'for' is a semantic predicate (type ⟨e, t⟩)
- **Propositionality:** under a small clause analysis (8a, b) the main verb combines with a semantic proposition: (i) verbs that combine with *for* should also take other canonical realizations of propositions, i.e., more regular small clauses and CPs; (ii) conversely, verbs that normally take small clauses (verbs of change of state or intensional verbs) should combine with *for*.

Claims:

- *za* 'for' behaves like a preposition
- The NP₁-*for*-NP₂ string does not behave as a small clause.

3.1. Anaphor binding

In Slavic languages the subject orientation of reflexives is absolute, i.e., only the local subject can serve as a binder for a reflexive:

- (9) a. Tristram_j tvrdi [da [je Lorens_i video sebe_{i/*j}]]. Serbo-Croat
 Tristram claims that is Laurence saw self
*Tristram_j claims that Laurence_i saw himself_{i/*j}.*
- b. Tristram_i je Lorens_u_j pokazao sebe_{i/*j} u ogledalu.
 Tristram_i is Laurence_j-DAT showed self_{i/j} in mirror
*Tristram_i showed Laurence_j himself_{i/*j} in the mirror.*

Only a local subject can bind the reflexive.

Like the subjects of *that*-clauses in (9a) and (10a) and unlike the indirect object in (9b), the small clause subject in (10b) is a legitimate binder for the reflexive in the predicate in Serbo-Croat:

- (10) a. Tristram_j smatra da je Lorens_i ljut na sebe_{i/*j}. Serbo-Croat
 Tristram considers that is Laurence-NOM angry on self
*Tristram_j believes that Laurence_i is angry at himself_{i/*j}.*
- b. Tristram_j smatra Lorensa_i ljutim na sebe_{i/*j}.
 Tristram considers Laurence-ACC angry on self
*Tristram_j considers Laurence_i good/kind at himself_{i/*j}.*

- c. Tristram_j čini Lorensa_i nezadovoljnim sobom_{i/*j}.
Tristram makes Laurence-ACC dissatisfied self-INSTR
*Tristram_j makes Laurence_i dissatisfied with himself_{i/*j}.*

The same facts obtain for the possessive reflexive *svoj*.

NB: Russian does not permit small clause subjects to bind reflexives, so we restrict ourselves to Serbo-Croat.

- (11) a. Tristram_j je greškom zamenio Lorensa_i za sebe_{i/*j}. Serbo-Croat
Tristram AUX mistake-INSTR took Laurence-ACC for self
*Tristram_j mistook Laurence_i for himself_{i/*j}.*
b. Tristram_j je greškom zamenio Lorensa_i za svog_{i/*j} neprijatelja.
Tristram AUX mistake-INSTR took Laurence-ACC for self's enemy
*Tristram_j mistook Laurence_i for his_{i/*j} enemy.*

The inability of *Laurence* to bind the reflexive in either (11a) or (11b) clearly indicates that in (11) *Laurence* is an object of the matrix verb rather than a subject of a small clause.

3.2. The status of *za* ‘for’

Regular small clauses can have predicates of any lexical category:

- (12) a. Jane considers her friends [AP smart]/[PP in love]/[NP idiots].
b. My sčitaem ego [AP umnym]/ [PP vne sebja]/ [NP idiotom]. Russian
we consider him-ACC smart-POSS-INSTR/ beside self/ idiot-INSTR
We consider him smart/beside himself with anger/an idiot.

Putative *for*-small clauses can only have an NP predicate:

- (13) a. Oleg prinjal ego za vrača/ *francuzskogo. Russian
Oleg took him for doctor-ACC/ French-ACC
Oleg took him for a doctor.
b. Proglasili su ga za izdajnika/?/* za krivog. Serbo-Croat
proclaimed-PST-PL AUX him-CL for traitor-ACC/ for guilty-ACC
He was announced a traitor.

In other words, *za* ‘for’ behaves like a preposition.

NB: Some apparent exceptions in Bailyn 2001 actually involve NP-ellipsis, i.e., an omitted noun.

NB: In Dutch and French *for* can appear with APs (though not PPs) with the same set of verbs (cf. Starke 1995). However, the construction still behaves mysteriously.

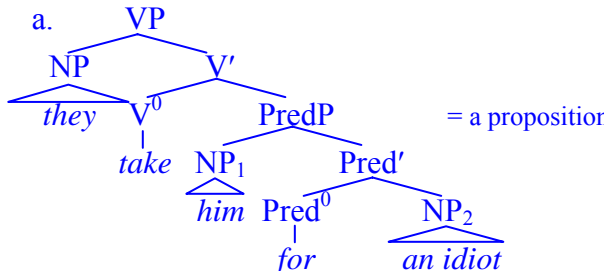
In addition, *za* ‘for’ assigns accusative case just like it does in its normal use as a preposition:

- (14) a. Prvi poljubac se uzima za godišnjicu. Serbo-Croat
first kiss SE take-3SG for anniversary date-ACC
The first kiss is counted as the anniversary date.
b. On može sojti za advokata. Russian
he-NOM can pass-INF for lawyer-ACC
He can pass for a lawyer.

Once again *za* ‘for’ behaves like a preposition.

3.3. The semantic status of the NP₁-*for*-NP₂ sequence

If (8a) is correct, the NP₁-*for*-NP₂ sequence must have the semantic type of a proposition:

- (8) a.  ECM, *for* is Pred⁰

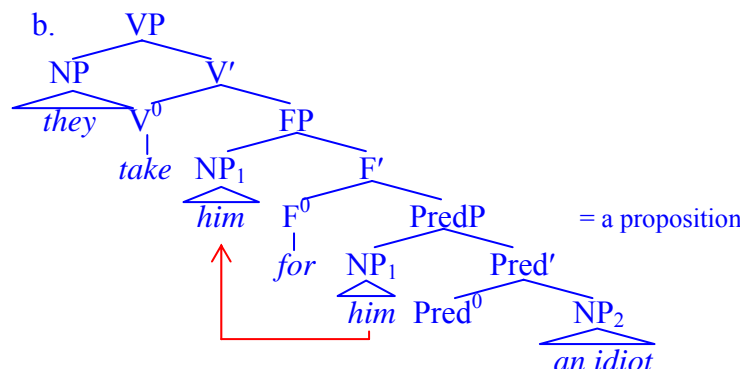
However, such sequences appear exactly with those verbs (*take*, *pass*, *mistake*, *count*, etc.) that are incompatible with regular small clauses:

- (15) a. *We took [him smart/an idiot/in love].
b. *He can pass [_i smart/an idiot/in love].
A.....

Conversely, verbs that normally take small clauses (intensional verbs or verbs of change of state) systematically do not appear with *for*-PPs:

- (16) a. Jane made/considered him (*for) an idiot.
b. He seems/became (*for) an idiot.

Possible hypothesis: it is precisely *za* ‘for’ that enables verbs like *take* and *pass* to take small clause complements and stops it from combining with intensional and change-of-state verbs that normally take small clause complements ⇒ (8b), cf. Starke 1995

- (8) b.  ECM, *for* is F⁰

If (8b) is correct, NP₂ must be a predicate.

3.4. The semantic status of NP₂

Regular small clauses consist of a subject and what is recognizable as a semantic predicate:

- (17) a. I consider [John **very stupid**/***each student**].
b. I expect [that sailor **off my ship/drun**/***every visitor** (by midnight)].
c. We feared [John **killed by the enemy/dead**/***some poor corpse**].

Whatever the semantic function of the putative Pred⁰, it can't combine with a quantified NP and return a predicate.

The putative Pred⁰ *za* ‘for’ can combine with a proper name, a pronoun or a quantified NP:

- (18) a. Tristram_i je u mraku greškom zamenio Lorensa_j za sebe_{i/*j}. SC
Tristram is in dark mistake-INSTR took Laurence-ACC for self
*Tristram_j took Laurence_i for himself_{i/*j} by accident in the dark.*

- b. Uzima me za nekog idiota.
take-3SG me for some idiot
He takes me for some stupid idiot.
- (19) Podopytnyj poočerėdno prinimal Lenu za kaŹduju devočku. Russian
experimental.subject one.by.one took Lena for every girl
The experimental subject look Lena for each of the girls, one by one.

Assuming some semantic uniformity of small clauses, *za* ‘for’ cannot be either Pred⁰ or F⁰ in an extended small clause.

3.5. Make it simple

What if the *for*-PP is an adjunct (an adverbial modifier)?

One of the standard meanings of *za* ‘for’ in Russian is ‘in exchange for, instead of, in place of’ (just like in English):

- (20) a. My nemalo zaplatili za ętu privilegiju. Russian
we not.little paid for this privilege
We paid a lot for this privilege.
- b. Ja zdes’ za direktora.
I here for director
I’m the director’s stand-in here.
- c. Kto ęto za vas sdelat’?
who this for you do-PRF-PRES-3SG
Who will do it for you?
- d. Imam ludaka za muŹa. Serbo-Croat
have-1SG fool for husband
I have an idiot for a husband.

In other words, in *take-for* constructions the intake becomes figurative (perceptual rather than physical) as a result of adverbial modification.

Adjuncts can be obligatory:

- (21) a. He worded the letter *(carefully).
b. We took the matter *(seriously).
c. They treated him *(shamefully).

The perceptual meaning becomes more directly linked to the prepositional adjunct with verbs *mistake* and *pass*.

3.6. What for?

In the Russian equivalent of *waß für* constructions, *za* ‘for’ does not assign case, even though it still requires an NP complement:

- (22) a. Čto za knigu ty kupila? Russian
what for book-ACC you-NOM bought
What kind of book did you buy?
- b. Čto ęto za kniga?
what this for book-NOM
What kind of book is this?

This construction (clearly different from those above) is absent from South Slavic.

3.7. Summary

The hypothesis that *za* ‘for’ introduces a small clause has nothing to recommend it and much to disprove it.

The alternative hypothesis, (8c), has numerous advantages:

- natural transition from the ordinary meanings of the verbs *take*, *pass* and *count*: just add a manner adverbial (cf. *seriously*, *lightly*, *for granted*; some adjuncts are obligatory, so no problem there)
- no modification of the argument structure or thematic grid is required
- *za* ‘for’ remains a preposition
- impossibility with proposition-taking verbs follows automatically

WYSIWYG. QED.

4. WHAT’S IN ‘IN’?

Bailyn 2002: Another candidate for an overt predator: *in* is the head of a small clause in the unusual construction in (23):

- (23) a. On rešil vybrat'sja v prezidenty. Russian
 he decided elect-INF-REFL in presidents-ACC=NOM
He decided to get elected as president.
- b. On sobral'sja v soldaty.
 he collected-REFL in soldiers.ACC=NOM
He decided to become a soldier.

Bailyn 2002: *v* ‘in’ here is extremely unusual in that it takes a nominative, obligatorily plural NP complement. This is an instance of case-absorption by Pred⁰.

Mel'čuk 1985:461-482, Franks and Pereltsvaig 2004: the case on the NP is accusative and it is realized as nominative (rather than the genitive that usually appears with animates) because the plural NP (denoting here the entire class or profession) is treated as inanimate.

NB: Mel'čuk 1985 provides other cases in Russian where morphological and syntactic (or semantic) animacy do not coincide, claiming that in this construction animacy is removed.

Mel'čuk 1985: mass nouns denoting the entire profession are possible with exactly the same set of verbs and the same meaning. With a first declension noun the case is clearly accusative:

- (24) On pošel/xočet v aviaciju. Russian
 he went/wants in aviation-ACC
He went/wants (to go) into aviation.

The same facts hold for Serbo-Croat:

- (25) a. Otišao je u penziju/penzionere. Serbo-Croat
 left AUX in retirement-ACC.SG/pensioner-ACC.PL
S/he retired/He become a pensioner.
- b. Želi u avijaciju/avijatičare.
 wants in aviation-ACC.SG/airline.pilot-ACC.PL
S/he wants (to go) into aviation/to become an airline pilot.

Mel'čuk 1985 observes that this construction involves a change-of-state meaning (*become X*).

NB: This is why the complement of the preposition appears in the accusative (directional) case. When it is made stative, the case becomes instrumental

There are parallel construction of persistence in state and discontinuation of the state, which behave as locatives:

- (26) a. On služil v soldatax.
he served in soldiers.LOC
He served as a soldier.
- b. Ego vygnali iz lětčikov.
him chased from pilots-GEN
He was kicked out of aviation.

Conclusion: *v* ‘in’ is a regular preposition introducing a directional complement of a motion verb.

WYSIWYG. QED.

5. WHAT DOES ‘AS’ FUNCTION AS?

In Russian and Serbo-Croat what otherwise looks like a complementizer or an adverbial wh-operator can appear followed by nothing more than an NP (just like in English):

- (27) a. Ja čuvstvuju sebja **kak inostranec.** Russian
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC as foreigner
I feel like a foreigner.
- b. Osećam se **kao pijana.** Serbo-Croat
feel-1SG REFL AS drunk-NOM
I feel drunk.

In Slavic languages the NP following *as* (NP₂) shows the same morphological case as the NP that it semantically combines with (NP₁).

This looks like case-agreement in small clauses (cf. Latin, Greek, Icelandic, etc.)

Aarts 1992, Bailyn and Rubin 1991, Bowers 1993, 2001, Bailyn 2001, 2002, etc.: *as* is Pred⁰ (an overt instantiation of the functional head of a small clause)

5.1. Dissimilarities

What follows *as* need not look like a predicate.

5.1.1. Oblique and prepositional *as*-XPs

There is no direct case restriction on the complement of *kao/kak* ‘as’:

- (28) a. Ona govorit so mnoj **kak rebenok.** Russian
she speak-PRES-3SG with me AS child-NOM
She speaks with me as a child does/as if she were a child.
- b. Ona govorit so mnoj **kak s kakim-nibud’ rebenkom.**
she speak-PRES-3SG with me AS with some.FC child-INSTR
She speaks with me as she does with a child/as if I were a child.
- c. Ona izbegaet menja **kak prokažennogo.**
she avoid-PRES-3SG me-ACC AS leper-ACC
She avoids me as if I were a leper.
- d. On ej vse prinosit **kak princeesse.**
he-NOM her-DAT everything bring-PRES-3SG AS princess-DAT
He brings her everything as if she were a princess.

- (29) a. Zaobilazi me kao propalicu. Serbo-Croat
avoid-PRES-3SG me-ACC AS bum-ACC
He avoids me as if I were a bum.
- b. Ona govori sa mnom kao sa detetom.
she speak-PRES-3SG with me AS with child-INSTR
She speaks with me as with a child/as if I were a child.
- c. On joj sve donosi kao princezi.
he her-DAT everything bring-PRES-3SG AS princess-DAT
He brings her everything as if she were a princess.

Regular small clauses only appear associated with subject and direct object positions.

5.1.2. Quantification

The NP following *kak/kao* ‘as’ can be quantified. Pejorative connotation surfaces as a result:

- (30) a. Ja čuvstvuju sebjā kak inostranec. Russian
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC as foreigner
I feel like a foreigner.
- b. Ja čuvstvuju sebjā kak kakoj-nibud’ inostranec.
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC as some foreigner
I feel like some stupid foreigner.

Predicates cannot be quantified (except in certain specific cases, cf. Partee 1986).

5.1.3. Referential NP₂

The NP following *kak/kao* ‘as’ (NP₂) can be a proper name or a deictic demonstrative:

- (31) a. Osećam se kao Štrumpfeta/Luka. Serbo-Croat
feel-PRES-1SG REFL.CL as Smurfette/Luke
I feel like Smurfette/Luke.
- b. Osećam se kao ova/ona budala.
I feel-PRES-1SG REFL.CL as this/that fool
I feel like this/that fool.

Predicates are not referential.

5.1.4. Non-constituents

What follows *kak/kao* ‘as’ may not even form a constituent:

- (32) a. Ona govori so mnoj kak odin rebenok s drugim. Rus
she speak-PRES-3SG with me AS one child-NOM with other-INSTR
She speaks with me like one child with another.
- b. Razgovara sa mnom kao psihijatar sa pacijentom SC
speak-PRES-3SG with me AS psychiatrist-NOM with patient-INSTR
She speaks with me like a psychiatrist with a patient

Regular small clauses cannot contain NPs of semantic types other than ⟨e, t⟩:

- (33) a. *My sčitaem ego Ljukom. Russian
we consider him Luke-INSTR

- b. *On kažetsja odnim mal'čikom.
he seems one-INSTR boy-INSTR

Whatever it is that *as* does, it can combine with a variety of semantic and syntactic elements. Such freedom is not expected of Pred⁰.

5.2. Clausal instances of *as*

The Russian *kak* ‘as, how’ seems to allow all the options that the English *as* does in its usage. The Serbo-Croat *kao* ‘as’ is somewhat more restricted (due to the presence of an alternative wh-item *kako* ‘how’), though it also appears in equatives:

- (34) a. Kak ty sebja čuvstvuješ?
how you self-ACC feel-PRES-2SG
How do you feel? Russian
b. Kak ona s toboj govoriť?
how she with you speak-PRES-3SG
How does she talk to you?
- (35) a. Èta gora takaja že vysokaja kak i ta.
this-F.SG mountain such JUST tall how AND that-F.SG
This mountain is as high as that one.
b. Ego ostavili zdes' kak načalnika.
him-ACC leave-PAST-PL here AS supervisor
He was left here as a supervisor.
- (36) Beo je kao sneg. Serbo-Croat
white-3SGMASC is-PRES-3SG AS snow
He is as white as snow.

Both in Russian and in Serbo-Croat *kao/kak* ‘as’ can introduce clausal complements:

- (37) a. Ja postuplju s vami kak postupajut s malen'kimi det'mi. Rus
I treat-PRF with you as treat-IMP-3PL with small children
I will treat you as they do small children.
b. Osećam se kao da sam pijana. Serbo-Croat
feel-1SG REFL AS COMP BE.PRES.1SG drunk-NOM
I feel as if I were drunk.

NPs introduced by *kak/kao* ‘as’ are interpreted as manner adjuncts, but can also acquire an idiomatic interpretation:

- (38) a. Radi kao singerica. Serbo-Croat
works-3SG AS Singer-NOM
He works like a Singer sawing machine/He works dilligently.
b. On rabotaet zdes' kak lošad'. Russian
he work-PRES-3SG here AS horse
He works here like a horse/He works a lot here.

Both in Russian and in Serbo-Croat *kao/kak* ‘as’ can introduce manner appositives:

- (39) a. On vedět sebja na redkost' naglo, kak inoj belyj v Afrike. Rus
he behaves SELF on rarity impudently as other white in Africa
He is behaving incredibly impudently, like some white people do in Africa.

- b. Ona govori sa mnom **polako kao sa detetom.** Serbo-Croat
she speak-PRES-3SG with me slowly AS with child-INSTR
She speaks with me slowly as with a child/as if I were a child.

Thus *kao/kak* ‘as’ looks like a wh-operator of manner here, which correlates with the more general interpretation of *kak* ‘as’ as a non-entity wh-operator.

5.3. Proposal

The simplest and most evident way of dealing with NPs preceded by *kak/kao* ‘as’ is via CP-ellipsis: the relevant NP is moved to the (right?) periphery of the clause and the rest of the clause is deleted:

- (40) a. Ja čuvstvuj se ~~se~~ ~~čuvstvuj se~~ kao što ~~čuvstvuj se~~ inostranec. Russian
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC as feel-PRES-3SG SELF-ACC foreigner
I feel like a foreigner (does).
- b. Zaobilaze me kao što ~~zaobilaze~~ propalicu. Serbo-Croat
avoid-PRES-3PL me-ACC AS COMP avoid-PRES-3PL bum-ACC
They avoid me like (one avoids) a bum.

We are glossing over the possibility of an alternative (subjunctive?) source for nominative NPs remnants, since a sentence like (41b) cannot be a source for other types of remnants.

- (41) a. Osećam se kao što se oseća gubitnik. Serbo-Croat
feel-1SG REFL AS COMP REFL feel-PRES-3SG loser-NOM
I feel as a loser feels.
- b. Osećam se kao da sam gubitnik.
feel-1SG REFL AS COMP BE.PRES.1SG loser-NOM
I feel as if I am a loser.

Such treatment immediately derives the case-matching effect.

Similar phenomena: gapping and comparative ellipsis.

- (42) a. Ja ljublju jabloki, a mama – gruši. Russian
I like apples and Mom pears
I like apples, and Mom does pears.
- b. Lena kupila takužu že doroguju knigu, kak i Vera.
Lena bought such-F.SG JUST expensive book how AND Vera
Lena bought as expensive a book as Vera did.

There is only one *kao/kak* ‘as’ and it always introduces propositional complements, which are interpreted as λ -abstracts of different sorts (depending on the size of the complement).

Advantages:

- Lack of restriction on the case and interpretation of the NP₂ is explained
- Discontinuous remnants explained
- Choice of lexeme explained
- Required ellipsis independently attested
- Unification over different-sized *as*-remnants

Disadvantage: we now have to work out the detailed semantics for *as*.

General hypothesis: *as* always indicates λ -abstraction over non-entities

NB: Matushansky 2010: *as* in comparison clauses (in equatives or with *as*) also correlates with λ -abstraction over properties.

What non-entity are we concerned with?

5.4. Small clause complements of *kak/kao* ‘as’

There exist examples where the NP following *kak/kao* ‘as’ does seem to be a predicate and alternates with instrumentals with the same meaning:

- (43) a. Ivan rabotaet zdes’ kak vrač. Russian
Ivan work-PRES-3SG here AS doctor
b. Ivan rabotaet zdes’ vračom.
Ivan work-PRES-3SG here doctor-INSTR
Ivan works here as a doctor (in the capacity of a doctor).
- (44) a. Ego ostavili zdes’ kak načalnika. Russian
him-ACC leave-PAST-PL here AS supervisor
b. Ego ostavili zdes’ načalnikom.
him-ACC leave-PAST-PL here supervisor-INSTR
He was left here as a supervisor (in the capacity of a supervisor).

This is about predicates of capacity (see Roy 2001, 2006, de Swart, Winter and Zwarts 2005 among many others). It is the only instrumental in Russian that can appear with the present tense null copula:

- (45) On zdes’ vračom.
he here doctor-INSTR
He is here in the capacity of a doctor.

As noted by de Swart et al. 2005, 2007, bare NP predicates can appear with **overt qualifiers**:

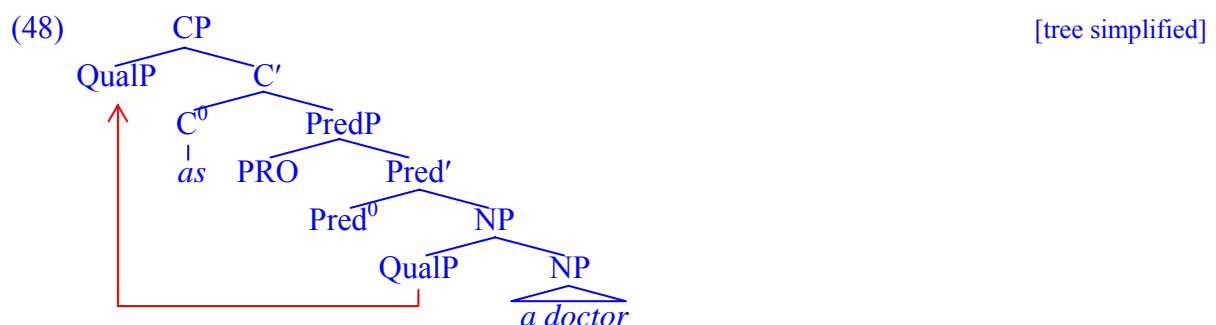
- (46) a. Jan en Sofie zijn leraar van beroep.
Jan and Sofie are teacher of profession
Jan and Sofie are teachers by profession.
b. Jan is Belg van nationaliteit/ christen van religie.
Jan is Belgian of nationality/ Christian of religion
Jan is of Belgian nationality/of the Christian faith.

Hypothesis: The fact that the relevant qualifiers are adverbial further supports our view that *as* always quantifies over non-entities: here, λ -abstraction over such capacity qualification.

The adjunct in (43a) could then have the meaning in (47a), with the whole sentence meaning approximated in (47b):

- (47) a. λx [x is a capacity of y and x is a doctor]
b. $\exists x$ [x is a capacity of Ivan and Ivan is a doctor in the capacity x and Ivan works here in the capacity x]

In other words the *kak/kao* ‘as’ adjunct involves the movement of a null operator over a PRO subject (controlled by the matrix argument that it shares the Case with):



NB: The exact syntactic position of the qualifier inside the small clause is unclear, but note that it cannot appear inside an argument NP.

Semantically this is very similar to the locatives in (49) ((49a) is from von Stechow 2001 who attributes it to David Lewis, p.c.):

- (49) a. Look at this pipe. It's square **in the ground** but it is round **in the first floor**.
b. He is wide **in the shoulders**.

Capacities are thus treated as subparts of the individual in question.

NB: This is a simplification, since “capacities” (a.k.a. *roles*) can be treated as separate individuals and even be named (Matushansky, work in progress). This aspect is, however, not relevant for our purposes here.

Hypothesis: the main predication functions as the capacity qualifier for the *as*-XP, and the *as*-XP supplies the role for the relevant argument.

The entire *as*-XP still functions as an adjunct to the main clause. Can it be a complement or an NP-modifier?

5.5. Remaining issues

As with *for*-PPs, *as*-XPs can be obligatory and/or alternate with instrumentals:

- (50) a. Pokazao se **kao dobar istraživač.** Serbo-Croat
showed-PART-SG REF.CL AS good-NOM researcher-NOM
b. Pokazao se **dobrim istraživačem.**
showed-PART-SG REF.CL good-INSTR researcher-INSTR
He proved himself to be a good researcher.
- (51) a. Ja čuvstviju se **kak inostranec.** Russian
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC as foreigner
b. Ja čuvstviju se **inostrancem.**
I feel-PRES-1SG SELF-ACC foreigner-INSTR
I feel like a foreigner.

The obligatory character is again unsurprising, given that some manner adjuncts (especially with verbs like *feel*) can be obligatory.

Alternation with instrumental is also expected – but only with the verbs that can take clausal complements as well.

These observations can account also for cases where XPs introduced by *kak/kao* ‘as’ seem to appear in the complement position:

- (52) a. Znam/poznajem ga **kao poštenog čoveka.** Serbo-Croat
know-PRES-1SG him-ACC AS honest-ACC man-ACC
I know him as an honest man.
- b. Ja znaju ego **kak porjadočnog človeka.** Russian
I know-PRES-1SG him-ACC AS decent-ACC man-ACC
I know him as a decent man.
- c. Vidim te **kao šefa instituta.** Serbo-Croat
see-PRES-1SG you-ACC AS head-ACC institute-GEN
I see you as a head of the institute/I expect you to become...

Contrary to the first impression, the phonological sequence “him as NP” does not form a small clause constituent here; the *as*-XP is still an adjunct.

- Our semantics does not allow an *as*-XP to function as a (primary) predicate.

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