Paul Isambert Allocataire-moniteur en linguistique

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Curriculum Vitae

Depuis	Allocataire-moniteur en linguistique à l'Université de Paris 3
septembre 2006	
2005-2006	Master 2 de sciences du langage à l'Université de Paris 3
	Mémoire: Un connecteur accommodant: "autrement"
	Direction: Michel Charolles
	Travail au Laboratoire d'Acoustique Musicale avec Danièle
	Dubois et Adrien Mamou-Mani:
	analyse d'un corpus à partir d'une expérience auprès de pianistes et d'accordeurs
	Professeur agrégé de français au lycée Langevin-Wallon à
	Champigny-sur-Marne (94)
	Mémoire d'IUFM sur L'accès à la langue en classe de seconde : la
	syntaxe complexe
2005	Agrégation de Lettres Modernes
2004	CAPES de Lettres Modernes
2002-2003	Maîtrise de Lettres Modernes, option Linguistique
	Française à l'Université de Paris 3
	Mémoire: Délimitation des unités syntaxiques dans le texte (Sylvie
	de Nerval)
	Direction : Pierre Le Goffic
2001-2002	Licence de Lettres Modernes à l'Université de Paris 3
1999-2001	Hypokhâgne et khâgne classiques au lycée Condorcet, Paris
1999	Bac littéraire au lycée François Ier, Le Havre

(2009...2010...2011...?)

Doctoral dissertation in progress : Description diachronique et synchronique du marqueur "autrement", advisor: Michel Charolles, Université de Paris 3.

Résumé / Abstract

(2008)

- a. "Topicality and discourse structure: evidence from the French marker autrement", 30. Jahrestagung der Deutschen Gesellschaft für Sprachwissenschaft, workshop on Topicality, February 27-29, Bamberg. Abstract
- b. Review of Aloni, Butler & Dekker (eds.), Questions in Dynamic Semantics, Elsevier 2007, Linguist List. html
- c. "Making discourse structure realistic", *Utterance interpretation and cognitive models II*, July 19-21, Brussels. **Abstract**
- d. Review of Detges & Waltereit (eds.), *The Paradox of Grammatical Change*, John Benjamins 2008, Linguist List. **html**

(2007)

"Autrement, un marqueur anaphorique d'altérité", in Actes des dixièmes Rencontres Jeunes Chercheurs de l'ED 268, Paris, 12 mai 2007.

Abstract / pdf

(2006)

Un connecteur accommodant : "autrement", mémoire de master 2, sous la direction de Michel Charolles, Université de Paris 3.

pdf

Autrement, un marqueur anaphorique d'altérité Abstract

The marker *autrement*, whose use ranges from the adverb of manner to the connective, works anaphorically. The selection of its antecedent is subject to various requirements, stemming for instance from discourse structure or focalisation, and doing so the complement (rather than the negation) of this antecedent is accommodated. In this complex operation, the subsequent context may resolve ambiguity. Thus, meaning and discourse structure are dynamically processed.

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Topicality and discourse structure: evidence from the French marker *autrement* Abstract

I investigate the organization of discourse structure, as revealed by the adverb autrement, which in one of its use works as a marker of topic shift (roughly equivalent to apart from that). Autrement is anaphoric and takes as its antecedent a 'topical' constituent, that is 'what is being talked about' in the current sentence or discourse (or any subpart of the latter), but also a framing adverbial, a topicalized phrase, or the subject. The idea advocated here is thus that discourse has a structural organization where topics are 'embedded': there is a general matter of discussion, divided into sub-matters, further distinguished according to adverbial specifications, and so on, down to the subject of the clause, which is a topic in the traditional sense of information structure. Although the notion of topic is a notoriously slippery one, there happens to be no satisfying discourse relation (whatever the theoretical framework) to describe two sentences connected by autrement, except that 'something has changed'. 'Topic' here is a rather vague notion, not necessarily amenable to formalization, working more or less as a mental address or anchor. But when autrement shows up, then we know that 'something has changed', and that what has changed is what we are talking about.

Making discourse structure realistic Abstract

Discourse structure and its organization with discourse relations have many arguments in their favor. But an important issue is concerned with large texts: how does such a large structure get processed? What I propose is that on a large scale, only the upper part of discourse structure is taken into account; more precisely, topics are remembered and organized. To use SDRT terminology, attaching a proposition to an existing discourse structure not only means that an adequate relation is found, but also that information is added to the overarching topic. If the current proposition is attached with a subordinating discourse relation, then this added information is straightforward (it is the proposition that plays the role of attachment site); but if the relation is coordinating, then such a topic has to be built. Such a mechanism has already been discussed. What I want to advocate is that those topics are the 'important part', and that everything below is 'skimmed'. An important question is: when does this happen? I propose that a substructure is pruned when it leaves the Right Frontier. Experimental data support this hypothesis: after the Right Frontier, subjects link words more easily to topics, although they're abstract entities, than to sentences of the text, while there's no such difference before the Right Frontier. This fact may be interpreted as the result of the 'skimming' process advocated here.