
(Un)expected secondary content in Finnish: Additives and scalars

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This research investigates the meaning of focus-sensitive additive and scalar clitics and particles in Finnish. Additives and scalars are crosslinguistically regarded as contributing presuppositional/non-at-issue information, which is often viewed as ‘secondary information.’ In Finnish, additive and scalar particles (*myös* ‘too/also’ and *jopa_{pos}/edes_{neg}* ‘even’) show parallel patterns with different parts-of-speech, but the meaning contribution of additive and scalar clitics (*-kin/-kAAn*; positive/negative) differ strikingly depending on whether they are attached to nouns/adjectives vs. verbs. On nouns and adjectives, the clitic [*-kin/-kAAn*] has an additive *too/also*-meaning and a scalar *even*-meaning. Strikingly, when the clitic occurs on verbs, it can make reference to the entire event (unlike scalar particles *jopa/edes*, which, when associated with focused verbs, provide information about the verb likelihood, not the whole event). Moreover, with verb-modifying clitics the likelihood scale is not ordered as it is with noun-modifying clitics.

I propose an analysis for noun-attached clitics, identify differences between verb- and noun-attached clitics, and propose a possible source for these differences. I suggest that differences in the non-at-issue meaning conveyed by noun-attached vs. verb-attached clitics stem from verb-attached clitics providing secondary information not about the verb but rather about the entire event. Furthermore, the verb/noun asymmetry poses some challenges for traditional analyses of *even* which derive its behavior from likelihood scales (see also Greenberg, to appear), but are in line with approaches emphasizing the discourse management function of additive/scalar expressions (e.g. Zimmermann 2014).

References: • Greenberg, Y. to appear. A novel problem for the likelihood-based semantics of *even*. *Semantics and Pragmatics*. • Zimmermann, M. 2014. Conventional vs Free Association with Focus. Talk at *Focus Sensitivity from a Cross-Linguistic Perspective*.