

Operation labeling algorithm within Xamtanga sentences

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Abstract - The objective of this article was to look at the operation of Labeling Algorithm within Xamtanga sentences. A descriptive research design was used to examine research objective. The proposed sentences were gathered from Xamtanga college lecturers (3 males, 1 female) who teach the intended language. By expert sampling, 11 sentences were chosen, prearranged and portrayed. The method of data analysis working in this research was Labeling Algorithm {XP, YP}. Thus, results designated that simple sentences in Xamtanga have barely single Verbal heads. On the other hand, compound, complex and compound complex sentence structures have more than one verbal heads. Regarding sentences appearances, Syntactic Object representations they enclose were dissimilar. Alternatively, every sentence types share Syntactic Object representations like Noun Phrase (NP), Verb Phrase (VP), Determiner Phrases (DP), Prepositional phrase (PP), Tense Phrase (TP), Adverbial Phrase (ADVP) and Adjectival Phrase (AP). Lastly, the study suggested that additional research on how {XP, H} and {X, Y} employed to explain Xamtanga sentences.

Keywords: labeling algorithm, {XP, YP}, sentence, xamtanga

1. Introduction

Agaw is a division of the Cushitic macro-family and branch of the bigger phylum normally called Afroasiatic. According to Desalegn (2016) the Agaw people are one of the Cushitic races and the oldest ethnic groups in Ethiopia and Eritrea. They are earliest inhabitants of the Northern and Central highlands of today's Ethiopia and Eritrea. Agaw were either forced out of their original settlements and formed a number of scattered enclaves, or assimilated with Semitic people and adopted their culture.

The current Agaw people can be classified into four grouping. Northern Agaw is Blin. They live in Eritrea, in and around Keren in Anseba zone. The Southern Agaw includes Awgni. The ethnic group of southern Agaw is Awi live in Central Gojjam in north western Ethiopia (Tsegaye, 2013). Most speakers of the Awñi language live in the Awi Zone Amhara Region, but there are also communities speaking the language in various areas of Metekele Zone of the Binshangul-Gumuz Region. Awñi is not the official working language in Awi Administrative Zone of Amhara Region (Esubalew, 2015). Western Agaw includes Qemant (ethnic name), who live around Gonder, of the Amhara regional state, north of Lake Tana and West of Takkeze. The Western Agaw Kemantney is the original language of the Kemantney people of Semen Gondar Zone, Ethiopia. According to Semalgn (2015), the Kimant are the original inhabitants of the north central Ethiopia. Their historical land stretched from north of Lake Tana, the origin of Abay River (Blue Nile), to North West rural areas around Gonder town.

The Eastern Agaw people, the focus of the current research live around the Simien mountainous highlands of northern Ethiopia are known as the Xamir. Currently, they are living around the Wage Xamir Zone, sandwiched between the Southern part of Tigrinya and the Amharic speaking people. The language the Xamir people speak is called Xamtanga although their language is also known as Agawinya, Khamtanga, Simt'anga and Xamtanga. As noted by Darmon (2012) there are at least five dialects of Xamtanga: Sak'wät'ä (South East), S'agibği (East), Ziq'älä (Central), Sämen (West) and Abirgälle (North). Languages in the surrounding area are Amharic, Afar and Tigrigna. Xamtanga is used in schools and is known by most of the people, although some also speak Amharic. The Xamir people are agriculturalists and produce primarily wheat and sorghum (Teshome, 2015).

The Xamtanga is one of the least researched languages found in Ethiopia (Desalegn, 2016). The Eastern Agaw speakers are bilingual; speaking both Xamtanga and Semitic languages (Amharic and Tigrinya). The official language of the region is Amharic. Xamtanga heritable cultural legacies have mainly existed in the memories of tradition bearers. Thus, it can naturally be considered on the verge of extinction. There has been a high acculturation process between Xamir, Tigrai and Amhara tribalism and there is the probability that the Xamtanga language will soon be extinct. Research (Teshome, 2015) approved that Xamtanga is a little documented Central Cushitic language spoken by over 200, 000 native speakers in the northern part of Ethiopia; but there has been little research on the language. In order to preserve information on the Xamtanga language, operation of Labeling Algorithm in Xamtanga sentences will be studied. Therefore, the focus of this research is to fill this

gap by conducting an in-depth analysis on Operation Labeling Algorithm within Xamtanga sentences classified by their structure. Thus, the objective of the study is applying Labeling Algorithm to examine syntactic object representations found in Xamtanga sentence structures.

Syntax studies sentences and their structure, through investigating the arrangement of words and the relationship among words in a sentence. Particularly, Miller (2008) recognizes how words are sequenced to construct phrases, how phrases are joined to assemble clauses or longer phrases, and how clauses are combined to build sentences. The negligible component of syntactic structure is a word that grammatically interrelated with other such units, structuring constructions on various levels. The study of syntactical structures attempts to provide set of rules that will correctly predict the possible combinations of words, which form grammatical sentences (Cinque, 2010). Researchers use visual displays of hierarchical order to describe exactly how structural relations between lexical items or words, and the way they are sequenced in a sentence contribute to the reader or listener's interpretation. Thus, the job of researchers who map syntax is to discover and formulate rules or principles that tell us how words are combined to form grammatical phrases and sentences within and across language. Generative syntax is the word to identify when the findings are accounted that typify the structure of sentences which native speakers that are grammatically accurate sentences. As part of the process phrases are examined to help identify their hierarchy within a sentence, facilitating mapping of the language (Ott, 2011; Thráinsson, 2007).

A phrase is an element of structure typically containing more than one word, but lacking the subject-predicate structure usually found in a clause. It is a syntactic unit which typically consists of more than one word and is intermediate between word and clause level in sentences. In a phrase, words go together to form a single syntactic entity which can be moved 'around' and also substituted by another word (Carnie, 2013; Marques, 2011). Phrase structure is the basic unit of syntactic analysis, which is easier to see the parts of (phrases) and subparts (parts of speech) of the phrase in a tree. According to Richards (2010) syntactic tree allow to observe at a momentary look the hierarchical structure of Phrase. Structure dependency is worried with the hierarchical structure, usually revealed in syntactic examination by means of tree diagrams (Pullum, 2011). Therefore, relations between any given pair of nodes contained in the same phrase marker are dominance and precedence. The relation that can be appearing between nodes in p-marker is dominance. A single node exhaustively dominates sets of nodes. Therefore, exhaustive dominance holds between a set of daughter nodes and their mother node. When the mother nodes dominate the entire set, it can be said that the mother node exhaustively dominates the rest (Sag, 2010a). Where one node contains another, the containing node is mother and the contained node is the daughter. A mother node contains several daughters, where these are said to be sisters to each other (Sag, 2010b).

Labeling Algorithm is just minimal search, presumably appropriating a third factor principle, as in agree and other operations. The relevant information about SO will be provided by a single designated element within it: a computational atom, to first approximation a lexical item LI, a head. This LI should provide the label found by LA, when the algorithm can apply. Chomsky (2013a) supposes that a label is necessary for explanation at the interfaces, and that labels are assigned by a minimal

investigation, algorithm LA will be applying to [a Syntactic Object] an SO (like other operations, at the phase level). The output of the Labeling Algorithm is thus needed at the CI interface for interpretation; it licenses some Syntactic Objects (SOs) so that they can be interpreted at the interfaces. It applies at the Phase level like other operations, except External Merge that is needed to form the structure (Narita, 2011).

Syntactic object SO to be interpreted, some information is necessary about it. Thus, labeling is the process of providing that information. It is part of the procedure of forming a syntactic object SO. A fixed labeling algorithm (LA) licenses SOs so that they can be interpreted at the interfaces, operating at the phase level along with other operations (Chomsky, 2013). Chomsky (2014a) further explains that the identical labeling is required at CI and for the procedures of externalization; it must take place at the phase level, as part of the Transfer operation.

The operation Merge in minimalism has been taken, whether implicitly or explicitly, to include two self-determining tasks: one is to merge two syntactic objects (SOs) and the other to establish which one of the two combined SOs to project or to become the label of the resultant structure (Ishii, 2017). According to Chomsky (2013) labeling is a part of the procedure of forming a syntactic object SO. In order to examine syntactic objects in systematic way, Chomsky (2013) developed the model $SO = \{XP, YP\}$. In this model the identification of such a unique head is problematic because the structure contains two heads that are equally embedded, that the head X of XP and the head Y of YP. Consequently, LA cannot unambiguously determine which of the two heads should become the label of the structure (Blümel, 2017; Mizuguchi, 2016b; Rizzi, 2016; Saito, 2016; Shim, 2018; Rizzi, 2015a, 2015b). Furthermore, Chomsky (2013, 2015) discusses the following two scenarios where a unique label can nonetheless be identified in seemingly unlabelable $\{XP, YP\}$ structures as in:

- a. $\{XP \dots \{\alpha \langle XP \rangle, YP\}\}$
- b. $\{\beta XP [F], YP [F]\}$, where [F] of XP matches with that of YP.

In the position $\{XP \dots \{\alpha \langle XP \rangle, YP\}\}$ α of (a) is a reproduction (of the moved XP).

In this regard, Chomsky (2013) claims that the head of YP is explicitly identified as the label of α on the assumption that copies such as $\langle XP \rangle$ are indistinguishable to LA (i.e. copies are unspecified to be inappropriate for labeling purposes). Concerning the second scenario $\{\beta XP [F], YP [F]\}$, where [F] of XP matches by means of YP, the apparently unlabelable structure of $\{XP, YP\}$ can nevertheless be unambiguously labeled. Thus, the two phrases in (b) share a feature indicated as [F]. Chomsky (2013: 45) adds the following with respect to the labelability of a feature shared by X and Y “Searching $\{XP, YP\}$, LA finds the same most prominent element [i.e. a feature] [...] can take that to be the label of α [$\alpha = \{XP, YP\}$].”

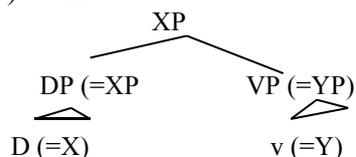
Chomsky (2015) proposes to parameterize the strength of T regarding labeling: T in English-type non-natural languages, with weak agreement, is too “weak” to serve as a label, hence there must be an overt subject in SPEC-T to label the SPEC-TP as $\langle \varphi, \varphi \rangle$ by the agreeing features.

It has been widely discussed in the literature that natural language syntax and action grammar are parallel in that both involve hierarchical structures of some sort (Pulvermüller, 2014; Stout 2010; Arbib, 2012; Knott, 2012; Moro, 2014). When a Determiner Phrase and a TP are merged, they agree with each other, so that the

common agreement feature can supply its label to the merged phrase, and solve the POP (Chomsky, 2013). In Xamtanga, specific morphemes unambiguously characterize nouns, verbs, adjectives, and adverbs. These are for example, more prominent in Xamtanga, with some exceptions. For instance, the morphemic suffixes added at Nouns are Determiners and they form Determiner Phrases. The constituent marked by agreement morphology is licensed to project that agreement feature as the label of its mother node, and that agreement morphology to result from agreement with its sister. Saito's (2016) proposal about case morphology as a solution the POP, suggests that agreement and case morphology mirror each other as different solutions to the POP. If this is true, it suggests that agreement and case morphology are reflexes of each other and two different ways to resolve a POP.

Proposal

Based on Chomsky's (2013) supposition $SO = \{XP, YP\}$, neither a head. Here minimal search is ambiguous locating the heads X, Y of ZP, YP respectively. This creates the problem of Xamtanga sentence structure projections. To find solution in current research, LA defines labeling through modifying SO (by raising XP) so that there is only one visible head in the case of simple sentence structure. If, say, XP rises, then the result will be the structure with two copies of XP (Chomsky, 2013, 2014; Elly, 2015) as in:

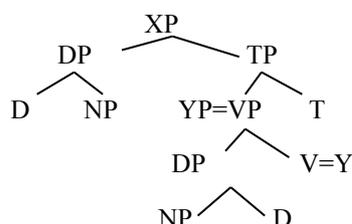


In the above model, the Labelling Algorithm notices YP, other than XP, which is the lower division of a broken constituent, a sequence consisting of a succession of copies headed by the structurally most significant element. It is necessary that a grouping be assigned, and the alternative is predetermined to be $Y=v$, the verbal head of the sentence, obviously the preferred ending (Narita, 2015).

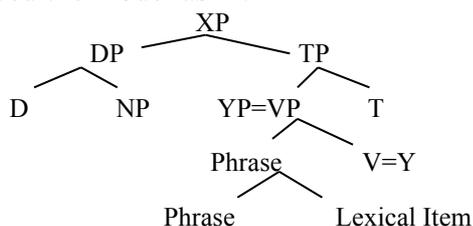
In terms of internal merge of a WH phrase, Xamtanga does not allow complementizers (C) like *that*, *if*, *whatever*, etc. As a result, the position of CP occupies the label of Determiner Phrase (DP). Moreover, the subject (including interrogative case) must be visible in $\{DP, TP\}$ positions (Davies & Dubinsky, 2009). Cinque (2014), Hartman (2011), Leu (2014) and Roberts (2010) studies showed that sentential components such as focus, complementizers, sentence-final particles, tense, characteristic, topic, and determiners, conformity morphemes and verbs found in embedded clause are not really the head of that phrase, which ought to rather taken to be quiet. Moreover, Xamtanga discards Syntactic Object movements as a syntactic process, because they by no means have semantic effects.

Thus, I will assume, following Chomsky (2013, 2013a, 2013b, 2014, 2014a, 2014b, 2015), Rizzi (2016) and Shlonsky and Rizzi, (2015) is that syntactic trees must be uniformly labeled at the interfaces. Labels tell the interfaces what kind of syntactic objects they are. Hence, consistent labeling can be a consequence of interpretive principles, which may need labels to be properly interpreting structure. The other postulation that I will make use of Chomsky (2013) is that the labeller of a category created by Merge is $\{XP, YP\}$ case, defined by LA that modifies SO by raising XP so that there is only one visible head Y for the entire sentence structure (Adger, 2016; Elly, 2015; Rizzi, 2015a). Y represents the main verb that is found at the end of sentence

structure. On the other hand, auxiliary verbs might occur at the end of sentence structure. In this case, they correspond to T position and just help the main Verb that comes before it. T in Xamtanga is too weak to serve as a label, Throughout the analysis, XP, CP, DP, TP, VP etc, are used for expository convenience (Adger, 2016; Chomsky, 2014; Mizuguchi, 2017a).



What proceeding tree notifies us is that; merge joined two Syntactic Objects, for instance, DP and TP to outline a set {DP, TP} from them. These generate an innovative Syntactic Object XP, which is dissimilar from its constituents. Hence, only YP is visible to the Labeling Algorithm and the structure is labeled as V, that is verbal, the desired outcome. This model applies only in simple sentence structure. In the case of compound, complex and compound complex sentence structure, there exists at least two verbal heads. In order to display syntactic object representations, I developed the model as in:



2. Method

The research design used in this study was descriptive and involved gathering data which describe the syntactic object representation of Xamtanga language structural based sentences. Expert sampling was used to capture knowledge rooted in a particular form of expertise in Xamtanga. Therefore, 4 lectures in Sekota College of teachers' education (three males and one female) who teach Xamtanga were involved in computer assist telephone interview. Through this sampling based on layout, the length of data, meaning and structural simplicity as simple to display, 11 anticipated sentences were chosen for analysis. The method of data analysis employed was collection, systematic classification and description supported by the use of syntactical trees to aid the reader in understanding the structure of phrases in the Xamtanga language.

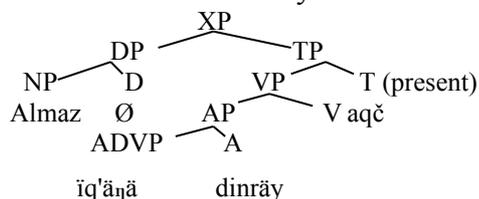
3. Results and Discussion

Simple Sentence

A simple sentence consists of one independent clause. Comprising a subject and a predicate, this short and independent syntactic entity intends to convey a complete

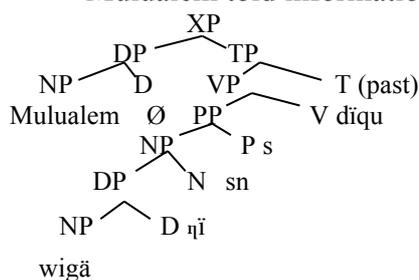
idea. Xamtanga is SOV language; it may have a modifier besides a subject, object, and verb.

- (1). Almaz ĩq'äŋä dinräy aqč
 Almaz extremely fat became
 'Almaz became extremely fat'



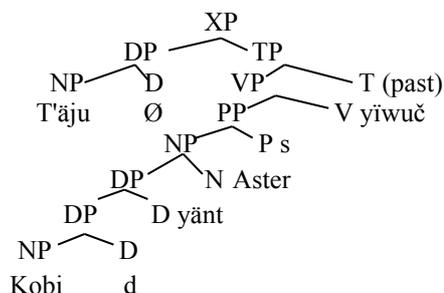
What (1) portrays is that *Almaz ĩq'äŋä dinräy aqč* is a simple sentence. The subject of the sentence is *Almaz*. The head of the overall sentence structure is the verb *aqč*. It is true that *ĩq'äŋä dinräy* is the part of the VP *ĩq'äŋä dinräy aqč* (compliment of the verb *aqč*), it is equally true that *ĩq'äŋä dinräy* is itself a phrase, namely, an Adjective Phrase (AP).

- (2). Muluaŋem wigä ŋĭsŋs dĭqu
 Muluaŋem information for his sister told
 'Muluaŋem told information for his sister'



In the aforementioned structure (2), the Prepositional Phrase *wigä ŋĭsŋs* goes with the following the Verb Phrase *dĭqu* to form the Verb Phrase [*wigä ŋĭsŋs dĭqu*]. The genitive marker, [-s] was attached within the Noun *ŋĭsn*. The subject of the sentence is the Noun *Muluaŋem* and the head is the verb *dĭqu*.

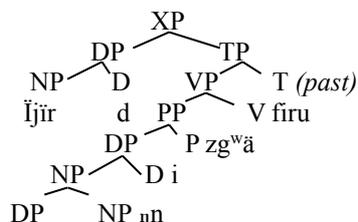
- (3). T'aju kobidyänt Asters yĭwuč
 T'aju the pen for Aster gave
 'T'aju gave the pen for Aster'



In (3) *T'aju* is the subject of the sentence. The Verb *yĭwuč* is the head of the sentence. The head *yĭwuč* conjoin with immediately with Prepositional Phrase

[*kobidyänt Asters*]. It is the immediate complement for the head verb. The Noun Phrase *kobid* and the Determiner *yänt* conjoined to form Determiner Phrase [*kobid yänt*]. The Determiner Phrase also conjoined with *Aster* to form Noun Phrase.

- (4). İjird ηηnizg^{wä} firu
 The man of the house went
 ‘The man went to his house’

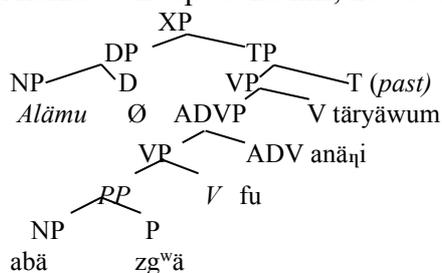


What example (4) notifies that *ijird* is the subject of the sentence. The Prepositional Phrase ηηnizg^{wä} is a secondary part of the sentence, which modifies the head verb *firu*. It completes its meaning indicating the phenomenon affected by the action of the predicate.

Compound sentence

Compound sentences in Xamtanga contain two or more independent clauses linked by coordinating conjunctions (like *inäηi/however*). Coordination suggests that the balance of equal weight between the two clauses as in:

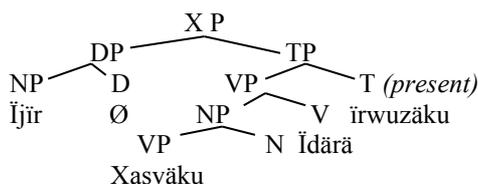
- (5). Alämu abäzg^{wä} fu; anäηi täryäwum
 Alämu to the hill went up; however, didn't come
 ‘Alämu went up to the hill; however, he didn't come’



Under the analysis in (5) *Alämu ibä zg^{wä} fu, anäηi täryäwum* is a compound sentence which contains two independent clauses such as *Alämu ibä zg^{wä} fu* and *anäηi täryäwum*. Semicolon joins these independent clauses. The conjunctive adverb *anäηi* was used to join two independent clauses together. Each node under the tree has their linear and hierarchical relationship.

- (6). İjir xasväku; İdärä irwuzäku

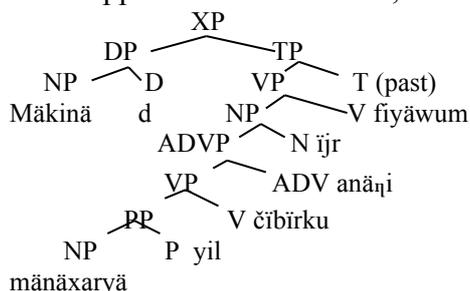
Man proposes, God disposes
 ‘Man proposes, God disposes’



Compound sentences like (6) may not require conjunction. In that case, syntactic structure of *ijir xasvaku; idara irwuzaku* consists of S_1 *ijir irwuzaku* and S_2 , *idara xasvaku*. In terms of relation, the mother XP node immediately dominates DP and TP daughters. Thus, DP precedes TP Node.

(7). *Makinad manaxaryayil cibirku; anani ijr fiyawum*

Car at bus station stopped, however no one got off
 'The car stopped at the bus station; however, no one got off'

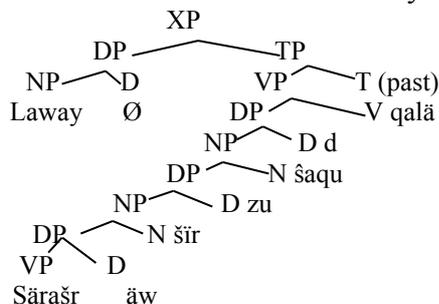


In accordance with (7), the independent sentence element (represented by the *XP*) consists of two constituents: Sentence (S_1) *makinad manaxaryayil cibirku* and another Sentence (S_2) *anani ijr fiyawum*. Sentence S_1 in turn contains the subject Determiner Phrase *makinad* and the Verb Phrase *manaxaryayil cibirku*. This Verb Phrase in turn encloses Prepositional Phrase (*manaxaryayil*) and the Verb Phrase *cibirku*. Similarly, S_2 contains bare Noun Phrase (since it was stated in S_2), and the Verb Phrase *anani ijr fiyawum*. This Phrase is further broken down into three bits: Adverb Phrase *anani*, the Noun *ijr*, and the Verb *fiyawum*.

A Complex Sentence

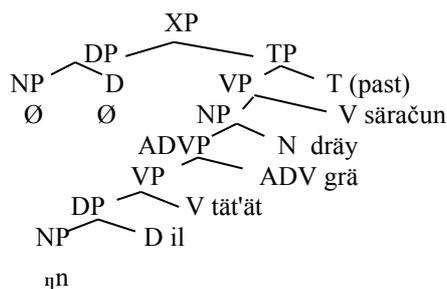
A complex sentence in Xamtanga contains at least one independent clause and at least one dependent clause. Dependent clauses in the intended language can refer to the subject, the sequence or the causal elements of the independent clause.

(8). *Laway sarašraw širzu šaqud qalä*
 Laway cooked shiro wot here it is
 'The shiro wot which Laway cooked is here'



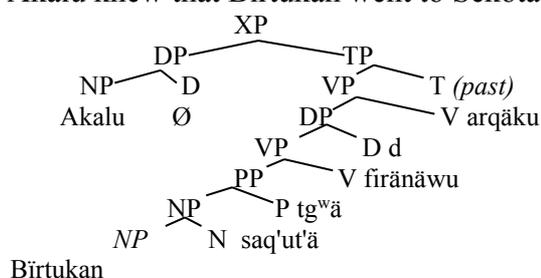
The resulting structure in (8) shows that a complex sentence contains one independent clause [*qalā*] and one dependent clause [*Laway srašīrāw šīrzu šaqud*]. Dependent clause *Laway srašīrāw* comes first. It modifies the Determiner Phrase *šīrzu šaqud*. Noun *šaqud* has the complement *šīrzu*. *Šīrzu šaqud qalā* is independent clause and it carries the main meaning. The main clause comprises the subject *Laway*, the Verbal predicate *qalā* and the complement clause *Laway srašīrāw*.

- (9). *Ḥnil tāt'āt grā drāy sāračun*
House I came after dinner cooked
 'I cooked my dinner after I came to my house'



In the foregoing tree, *ḥnil tāt'āt grā drāy sāračun* is complex sentences. The Verb Phrase consists of Noun Phrase *ḥnil tāt'āt grā drāy*. It serves as the complement of the sentence. The Adverb Phrase is bounded by Prepositional Phrase *ḥnil tāt'āt*. The subject of the entire sentence structure is empty. Moreover, the Verb Phrase (VP) was built from complement Noun Phrase (*drāy*) immediately followed by a Verb (*sāračun*) where *drāy sāračun* is an independent clause.

- (10). *Akalu Birtukan saq'ut'ātḡwā firānāwud arqāku*
Akalu Birtukan to Sekota went knew
 'Akalu knew that Birtukan went to Sekota'

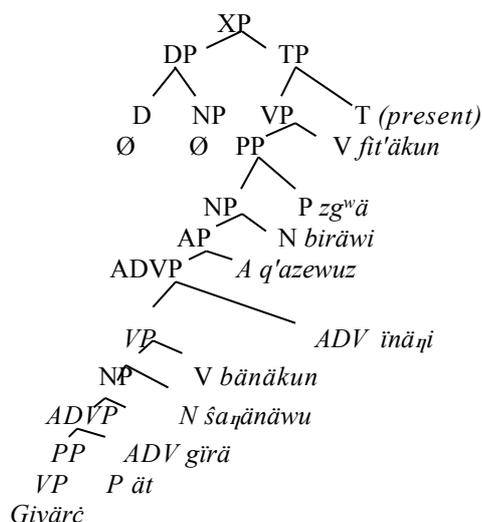


(10) Tells us that, *Akalu* is the subject of the entire sentence structure. *Birtukan saq'ut'ātḡwā firānāwud arqāku* is the Verb Phrase that contains the head *arqāku* and the prepositional Phrase *Birtukan saq'ut'ātḡwā*. The head *arqāku* is transitive verb.

A Compound-Complex Sentence

A compound-complex sentence has at least two independent clauses and at least one dependent Clause.

- (11). *Givārcāt girā šaḥānāwu bānākun; anāḥi q'azewuz birāwizḡwā fit'ākun*
 'After graduation, I will travel; I had to go to the office soon'



As stated in the above tree *givärcät girä šaḥänäwu bänäkun; anäḥi q'azewuz biräwizg'ä fit'äkun* is a compound-complex sentence. It is the combination of two independent clauses *givärcätgis girä šaḥänäwu bänäkun* and *inäḥi q'azewuz biräwizg'ä fit'äkun*.

On the subject of discussion, the current study in Xamtanga allowed the hypothesis it pursued that each lately shaped SO by Merge have to hold label. The marker of SO is compressed through the process of Labeling Algorithm (LA). Comparable to Chomsky's supposition, the consequence from current research demonstrated that Syntactic Object {XP, YP}, neither a head afterward negligible search is doubtful, judgment both the head X of XP and the head Y of YP. So as to resolve this imprecision, LA defines labeling from ending to closing stages through modifying SO (by raising XP). As a result, there is only one noticeable head. Contrasting to Chomsky (2013, 2014, and 2015) and Adger (2016), compound, complex and compound complex sentences, have at list two verbal heads. Within this dissimilarity, then the Labeling Algorithm sees YP, which is the inferior division of a alternating component, a succession consists of a chain of copies headed by structurally most important element.

Similar to Shlonsky and Luigi (2015) research finding, the main premise in the current study was that syntactic trees were continually labeled at the interfaces. Therefore, standard labeling can be a invention of interpretive standards, which might involve labels to be correctly interpreting structure. The subsequent premise that the current research used Chomsky's study (2015) was that, the labeler of a cluster shaped by Merge was {XP, YP} case, defined by LA that adapts SO by raising XP. As opposed to Chomsky (2015) in Xamtanga complementizers, aspect, sentence-final particles, tense, topic, focuses and agreement morphemes and determiners are not really the head of that phrase. Similar to Cinque's (2014) and Hartman's (2011) research result, Xamtanga discards Syntactic Object movements as a syntactic process, because they never have semantic results.

4. Conclusion

Minimalist Labelling Algorithms [XP, YP] is problematic, which rely on structural irregularity to make out the intended label. At this instant, minimal search is uncertain to locate the heads X, Y of ZP, YP in the equivalent method. To resolve the notation problem, LA defines labeling through adjusting Syntactic Object by raising XP; as a result there were one and above noticeable verbal heads in different sentence structures. Subsequently the Labelling Algorithm perceives YP, but not XP, which is the lower partition of an alternating component, a sequence consisting of a succession of copies headed by the structurally most significant constituent. It is necessary that a grouping be allocated, and the alternative is predetermined to be Y=v, the verbal head of the sentence, obviously the preferred result in Xamtanga Syntactic Object demonstration. Syntactic Object representations originated in sentence structures include: Noun Phrase (NP), Determiner Phrase (DP), Prepositional phrase (PP), Verb Phrase (VP), Tense Phrase (TP), Adjectival Phrase (AP) and Adverbial Phrase (ADVP).

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