

Clitic climbing in complement taking predicates in Serbian and Croatian: A study on semantic clause integration¹

Clitic climbing CC can be defined as a “process found in sentences in which the object of the complement predicate is realized by means of a pronominal clitic appearing in the matrix clause” (Słodowicz 2008: 152). The movement of the clitic pronoun is possible, because there is no syntactic boundary between matrix and complement clause which can be interpreted as a high degree of event integration. CC has been described for Czech by Junghanns (2002), but there are very few studies on Serbian/Croatian. Stjepanović (2004: 179f) gives the following example:

- (1) *Milan ga, mora / želi [vidjeti t_i].* vs. **Milan mora / želi [vidjeti ga].*
Milan him must /wants see.INF Milan must /wants see.INF him

As there is a complete lack of empirical studies on CC in Serbian and Croatian we will present some preliminary results of corpus driven studies based on the huge tagged corpus hrWaC 2.0. We will test select predicates (raising vs. control) and compare the behaviour of the infinitive and the subjunctive (da-construction).

References

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