

Syntax 380L
November 15, 2001

Binding Theory Assignment

due on 27th November

1: The following data is from Italian and focusses on binding theory within the Noun Phrase. We begin with the examples in (1).

- (1) a. La lettera a Maria di Gianni
Gianni's letter to Maria
- b. Il libro di Gianni su Maria
Gianni's book about Maria

In both (1a, b), *Gianni* could be the owner (possessor) of the letter or the agent of writing. These two structures can occur together as in (2).

- (2) La preziosa lettera di Leonardo agli Sforza del Museo Pallavicini
the valuable letter of Leonardo to the Sforza of the Pallavicini Museum
(the museum is the possessor)

You have to determine if the binding theory we have sketched in class is able to account for the remaining data. If you conclude that it is not, you have to provide an alternative account for the binding patterns seen. It may be useful to focus on the differences between agents within NPs and possessors within NPs. As we have seen above Italian uses *di* for both these functions.

- (3) a. La finta lettera di Gianni_i a se stesso_i
Gianni's false letter to himself
- b. La sua_i finta lettera a se stesso_i
His false letter to himself
- (4) a. il libro di Moravia_i su se stesso_i
Moravia's book about himself
- b. il suo_i libro su se stesso_i
his book about himself
- (5) a. *la sua_i lettera a lui_i
his letter to him
- b. *il suo_i libro su di lui_i
his book about him
- (6) a. *la sua_i lettera di Maria a se stesso_i
his(possessor) letter of Maria to himself
- b. la sua_i lettera di Maria a lui_i
his(possessor) letter of Maria to him
- (7) a. *il suo_i libro di Moravia su se stessa_i
her(possessor) book by Moravia about herself

- b. il suo_i libro di Moravia su di lei_i
her(possessor) book by Moravia about her
- (8) a. il suo raffronto di Maria con Gianni
his comparison of Maria with Gianni
- b. il suo_i raffronto di Maria con se stesso_i
his comparison of Maria with himself
- c. *il suo_i raffronto di Maria con lui_i
his comparison of Maria with him
- (9) Gianni_i mi mostrò la sua_i preziosa lettera di Leonardo agli Sforza
Gianni showed me his valuable letter by Leonardo to the Sforzas.
- (10) a. Gianni_i è il miglior giudice di suo_i padre
Gianni is the best judge of his father.
- b. Gianni_i è il miglior giudice di se stesso_i
Gianni is the best judge of himself.
- c. *Gianni_i è il suo_i miglior giudice
Gianni is his best judge.
- d. ?Gianni_i è il proprio_i miglior giudice
Gianni is self's best judge.
- (11) a. Reputo Gianni_i il miglior giudice di suo_i padre
I consider Gianni the best judge of his father.
- b. Reputo Gianni_i il miglior giudice di se stesso_i
I consider Gianni the best judge of himself.
- c. *Reputo Gianni_i il suo_i miglior giudice
I consider Gianni his best judge.
- d. Reputo Gianni_i il proprio_i miglior giudice
I consider Gianni self's best judge.
- (12) a. Gianni_i sembra il miglior giudice di suo_i padre
Gianni seems the best judge of his father.
- b. Gianni_i sembra il miglior giudice di se stesso_i
Gianni seems the best judge of himself.
- c. *Gianni_i sembra il suo_i miglior giudice
Gianni seems his best judge.
- d. Gianni_i sembra il proprio_i miglior giudice
Gianni seems self's best judge.

2. The following data illustrate the behavior of the anaphors *ton eafon tou* and *o idhios* in Modern Greek.

- (13) a. Egho_i idha **ton eafon mou**_i ston kathrefti
I saw myself in-the mirror
'I saw myself in the mirror.'

- b. *Egho_i idha **ton eafton tis**_i ston kathrefti
 I saw herself in-the mirror
- (14) a. O Yanis_i theli [i Maria_j na voithisi **ton eafton tis**_i]
 John wants Mary helps herself
 'John wants Mary to help herself.'
- b. *O Yanis_i theli [i Maria na voithisi **ton eafton tou**_i]
 John wants Mary helps himself
- (15) a. O Yanis_i theli [i Maria_j na voithisi **ton idhio**_{i/*j/*k}]
 John wants Mary helps himself
 'John_i wants Mary to help him_{i/*k}.'
- b. O Yanis_i theli i Maria na **ton**_{i/*j/k} voithisi
 John wants Mary him helps
 'John_i wants Mary to help him_{i/k}.'
- (16) a. *O Yanis_i pistevi oti **ton eafton tou**_{i/k} tha kerdhisi
 John believes that himself will win
 '*John_i believes that himself_{i/k} will win.'
- b. O Yanis_i pistevi oti **o idhios**_{i/*k} tha kerdhisi
 John believes that himself will win
 'John_i believes that he_{i/*k} will win.'
- (17) a. O Yanis_i theli o Kostas_j na voithisi **ton idhio**_{i/*j/*k}
 John wants Kostas helps himself
 'John_i wants Kostas_j to help him_{i/*j/*k}.'
- b. O Yanis_i theli o Kostas_j na voithisi **ton eafton tou**_{*i/j/*k}
 John wants Kostas helps himself
 'John_i wants Kostas_j to help himself_{*i/j/*k}.'
- (18) a. O Yanis_i aghapa **ton eafton tou**_{i/*j}
 John loves himself
 'John loves himself.'
- b. *O Yanis_i aghapa **ton idhio**_{*i/*j}
 John loves himself
- (19) a. O Yanis_i theli [PRO_i na katalavi **ton eafton tou**_i]
 John wants understand himself
 'John wants to understand himself.'
- b. *O Yanis_i theli [PRO_i na katalavi **ton idhios**_{i/j}]
 John wants understand himself
- (20) a. O Yanis_i theori [oti **o idhios**_i ine o kaliteros ipopsifios]
 John considers that himself is the best candidate
 'John_i considers that he_i is the best candidate.'

- b. O Yanis_i theori **ton eafton tou**_i ton kalitero ipopsifio
 John considers himself the best candidate
 John_i considers himself_i to be the best candidate.'
- c. *O Yanis_i theori [oti **ton eafton tou**_i ine o kaliteros ipopsifios]
 John considers that himself is the best candidate
- d. *O Yanis_i theori **o idhios**_{i/j} ton kalitero ipopsifio
 John considers himself the best candidate
- (21) a. O Yanis_i ipe ston Kosta_j [oti i Maria_k aghapa **ton idhio**_{i/j/*k/*l}]
 John said to Kosta that Mary loves himself
 'John_i told Kosta_j that Mary_k loves him_{i/j/*k/*l}.'
- b. O Yanis_i ipe stin Katerina_j [oti i Maria_k aghapa **ton idhio**_{i/*j/*k/*l}]
 John said to Katherina that Mary loves himself
 'John_i told Katherina_j that Mary_k loves him_{i/*j/*k/*l}.'
- c. O Yanis_i ipe stin Katerina_j [oti i Maria_k aghapa **tin idhia**_{*i/j/*k/*l}]
 John said to Katherina that Mary loves herself
 'John_i told Katherina_j that Mary_k loves her_{*i/j/*k/*l}.'

Discuss the binding properties of **ton eafton tou** and **o idhios**. Do their properties follow from the Binding Theory discussed in class? If not, what modifications need to be made in order to handle **ton eafton tou** and **o idhios**?