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**THE SUBORDINATE CLAUSE OF TIME IN LIGHT OF
FUNCTIONAL-SEMANTIC CATEGORY OF TAXIS**

Oman Risaliyevich Isarov

Doctor of Philosophy, Associate Professor,
Foreign Languages Department,
Jizzakh Pedagogical Institute, Uzbekistan
e-mail: persistence80@mail.ru



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Abstract: The article is dedicated to the overall overview of taxis functional-semantic category theory and the analysis of the Subordinate Clause of Time as a syntactic central means of expressing both simultaneity/non-simultaneity (anteriority) taxis relations in the English language.

Keywords: Taxis, simultaneity/non-simultaneity, posteriority, anteriority, relation, correlation, subordinate clause of time, dependent/independent, predicate, action, utterance, dominant, order, functional-semantic field, field theory, functional grammar, temporal, integral time period, state.

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Introduction

General survey

Taxis (from Greek meaning structure, order, arrangement) is the tense correlation between actions (in the broad sense, including any types of predicates): simultaneity / nonsimultaneity, ceasing, the relations between the primary and secondary actions, etc. [The Great Encyclopedic Dictionary. Linguistics., p. 503].

R.O. Jakobson introduced the term taxis as "the Greek prototype" of Leonard Bloomfield's term order. Jakobson considered taxis to be one

of the categories which was not of the shifter type: "Taxis characterizes the narrated event without reference to the speech event" [Jakobson 1957: 4].

Y.S. Maslov stated that in many languages taxis is not a special grammatical category, but is united within one combined category either with tense or aspect. According to Y.S. Maslov, the concepts of simultaneity, anteriority and posteriority regularly appear as a result of interaction of aspectual forms, so in some languages the expression of the taxis relation could

be viewed as one of the most indispensable functions of the verb aspect. "In all cases where there are two or more verbal forms with aspectual semantics in the utterance, the corresponding aspectual meanings inevitably interact and acquire taxis indicators of "simultaneity" or "sequence in time" - "anteriority" and "posteriority"" [Maslov 1978: 8].

Within a speech act, the question is not about a separate action (state etc.), but about several actions, which are in some manner interrelated (chronologically, cause - effect, contrast relations, etc). These relations are reflected by specific relations between the predicates - relations which form the category of taxis. The term "taxis" was first suggested by R.O. Jakobson who defined it in the following way: "taxis characterizes the fact which is being referred to, concerning another fact which is being referred to, without any relation to the moment of reference" [Jakobson 1972: 14].

Depending upon the objective of the research, taxis can be regarded as a single field or a cluster of functional and semantic fields. The second option allows to consider the peculiarities of the semantics and structural organization of separate subsystems within the wide range of taxis relations in a more differentiated and explicit manner.

The study of taxis

Language phenomena included in the field of taxis have been largely studied and described in special research projects and general works

on functional grammar. However, separate elements and portions have not been connected into a single whole. Yet, for example, there is still no comprehensive and profound comparative-contrastive work on taxis in such different systems (non-related) languages like the English and Uzbek. Analysis of taxis relations from the point of view of field theory in functional grammar makes it possible to study taxis as an integral system.

We interpret taxis as a functional-semantic field formed by various language means (morphological, syntactical, and lexical), united by the function of expression of temporal relations between actions within an integral time period covering a complex of actions expressed in the utterance (actions in a broad sense, including states and relations, i.e., any representations of predicates). Taxis always includes an aspectual description [Maslov 1997] of actions correlated in time and can interact with casual-resultative, concessive-adversative, conditional, modal, and some other elements [Bondarko TFG 1997].

Relations of simultaneity / non-simultaneity (anteriority and posteriority) in combination with a certain aspectual characteristic of the given relation form the semantic dominants of taxis.

The Subordinate Clause of Time (SCT) as taxis operator (indicator)

The Subordinate Clause of Time (SCT) has been regarded by Russian linguists [A.V. Bondarko, V.S. Hrakovskiy] as an essential means

of expressing anteriority taxis relations. Proceeding from the outcomes of our analysis of the SCT, we can hazard a conjecture that it can also express simultaneity taxis relations.

Apart from the Participial and Infinitive Constructions (means of expressing the Implicit Taxis), the SCT is capable of serving as another central component of denoting simultaneity taxis relations in English.

For instance: I shall enter here some of my notes, as they may refresh my memory when I talk over my travels with Mina [Bram Stoker, Dracula]. This sentence exposes a simultaneity relation between the SCT and the SCC (Subordinate Clause of Cause). Taxis relations are expressed not only between principal and subordinate clauses, but also among more than two subordinate clauses. According to our research results, taxis relations may be identified among up to five subordinate clauses and, in its turn, each taxis relation that has been identified among subordinate clauses with regard to each other might have peculiar taxis relations towards principal clause as well.

For instance: This maybe so, for when the Magyars conquered the country in the eleventh century they found the Huns settled in it. I am writing up this part of the diary whilst I am waiting for the coach, which is, of course, late; and the crucifix is still round my neck. And as we drove by I could see the green grass under the trees spangled with the fallen

petals [Bram Stoker, Dracula].

In the following sentence different-time-order taxis relations are prevalent. For when in this context is virtually synonymous in its semantics with after. Of course, in this sort of contexts it's indispensable to take into account and proceed from what tenses are in interrelationship with each other. For example, the following sentence comprises the interrelationship of two past tense forms. Thus, the SCT expresses one or the other kind of taxis relations proceeding from morphological-temporal peculiarity of an expression given.

Exemplification: When Mr. Hiram b. Otis, the American Minister, bought Canterville Chase, every one told him he was doing a very foolish thing, as there was no doubt at all that the place was haunted [The Canterville Ghost-A Hylo-Idealistic Romance]. This feature usually exhibits itself when the SCT collaborates with the Past Perfect Tense in the same utterance.

For instance: When the owl had chirped over and over, she got more vigilant and conscious [from textbook]. The participation of the SCT in each taxis relation can be depicted by this formula: When SCT (subordinate clause of time)+MC (main clause)=Taxis (either simultaneity or different-time-order relations depending on the verb tenses applied). While she ironed she heard him coming downstairs [Thomas Hurdy, The Superstitious Man's Story]. In the above exemplified construction there are

trilateral simultaneity taxis relations at a time. Namely, there is a simultaneity taxis relation among those of heard relatively to ironed, coming relatively to heard, and through it (heard) relatively to ironed. Since, it's a rare linguistic phenomenon when two taxis relations are intentionally expressed at a time, undoubtedly, in such situations we don't urge that all taxis relations, among those actions available in a given sentence, are purposefully expressed. Merely one kind of taxis relation is commonly targeted even if it's encountered every now and then. The only thing we can assuredly proclaim, proceeding from the exemplified and analyzed sentences, is that an independent and a dependent taxis can cooperate to express just the same relation type.

No matter what tense comes in main clause after the whenever in SCT, it expresses the simultaneity taxis relation. We may formulate it a bit differently, i.e. no matter in what tense the action of main clause comes with the whenever in SCT, it expresses a simultaneous action which occurred at the same time with the action of main clause. Formula: Whenever in SCT+Main Clause in any Tense= Contemporaneity. Example: Whenever the grim Raven flag of the Vikings was seen on the horizon the villagers would abandon their homes and fields and rush inland, hoping to find a place of safety [Hugh Fraser, W.R. O'Donnel. Control and Create].

The use of SCT with a lexical

operator "as soon as (directly)" (though not always actualized): "Why should you do this?" she said reproachfully, as soon as they were along [Thomas Hurdy. Three Strangers]. In this line, the terminal point of as soon as they were and the starting point of said are intersected. As soon as she was comparatively well she spoke to him alone.

The use of SCT with a lexical operator "as": In and out amongst these green hills of what they call here the "Mittel Land" ran the road, losing itself as it swept round the grassy curve, or was shut out by the straggling ends of pine woods, which here and there ran down the hillsides like tongues of flame. One of my companions touched my arm as we swept round the base of hill and opened up the lofty, snow-covered peak a mountain, which seemed, as we wound on our serpentine way to be right before us. As we wound on our endless way, and the sun sank lower and lower behind us, the shadows of the evening began to creep round us. By the roadside were many crosses and as we swept by, my companions all crossed themselves? 1st+2nd+3rd are equal simultaneity relations. Here and there was a peasant man or woman kneeling before a shrine who did not even turn round as we approached, but seemed in the self-surrender of devotion to have neither eyes nor ears for the outer world-not underlined non-finite forms of the verb represent "implicit or unintentional taxis" position. As the

evening fell it began to get very cold, and the growing twilight seemed to merge into one dark mistiness the gloom of the trees, oak, beech, and pine, though in the valleys which ran deep between the spurs of the hills, as we ascended through the Pass, the dark firs stood out here and there against the background of late lying snow.

When it grew dark there seemed to be some excitement amongst the passengers and they kept speaking to him, one after the other, as though urging him to further speed. By this sentence, we have been a witness to a simultaneity relation expressed in participation of various means. Nevertheless, it should be stated that, even here the notion of "dominant taxis" is operating and in this case it is a SCT. It should be borne in mind that the notion of "dominant taxis" is equally applicable to a kind of taxis relation and to its expressive means either.

Conclusion

Concluding, in a language taxis, temporal and aspectual meanings are closely interrelated and appear as components of one complex semantic whole. Certain meanings of the action's passing and distribution in time are expressed by taxis categories of many languages, but in different languages these meanings are realized in different ways. The sphere of extension of taxis

is extremely wide but that does not make it universal. Taxis characterization is mandatory only for the utterances with verbal predicates. Taxis relations beyond these predicates are possible but not obligatory.

The semantic center of taxis and, at the same time, the center of formal means of expressing taxis relations is a verbal predicate. On the other hand, the elements of taxis can go beyond the borders of the predicate, spreading out to other parts of utterance. It refers, in particular, to adverbial modifiers. The predicative and adverbial modifier features of taxis relations combine in the structure of the predicative complex, which includes the predicate (the nucleus of the complex) and all elements of the utterance that characterize it. Other language means that participate in expressing taxis (except adverbial modifiers), particularly conjunctions and particles, also group around verb predicates and have direct relation to their characterization and system organization within the utterance. In any case, the verb predicate forms the center, the dominant of taxis relations.

To recapitulate, the SCT serves as an active syntactic central means (template, mould) of expressing both simultaneity and anteriority taxis relations in the English language.

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