Syntax coming 1st in second position cliticization: analysis of sentence initial predicates
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The abstract proposes a uniform syntactic derivation of the second position auxiliary clitic (the copula) with sentence initial adjectival predicates, when 'second position' means the position following the 1st word of the sentence (thus, 1st word position)(2a). The analysis rests on two familiar analytical tools, complex predicate formation (denDikken 2006; Koopman&Szabolcsi 2000) and predicate inversion (Moro 1997), and thus dispenses with the less parsimonious analyses which derive second position at least partially in prosody (e.g. Halpern 1995; Diesing&Zec 2017). The analysis is concerned with the experimental data from Diesing&Zec (2017; 2011), which show that the clitic position following the 1st word has a different discourse effect with sentence initial predicates than sentence initial arguments (1-4). Whereas the 1st position is preferred in the neutral context (1) with initial predicates ((2a) as opposed to (2b)), with initial arguments, the same position is preferred when the context forces contrastive interpretation on the word preceding the clitic (3)((4a) as opposed to (4b)):

(1)   You must be well prepared.
(2a)   Veoma   je   važan   ovaj   zadatak.   (**1st word position**)
         very   be.PRS.3SG   important   this   task
         lit. 'This task is very important.'   (**predicate initial**)
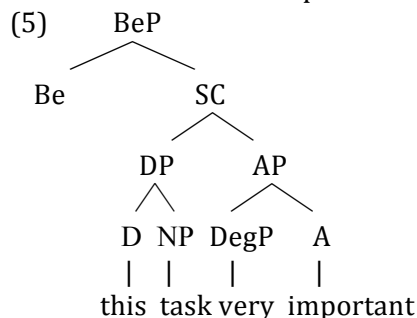(2b)   ???Veoma   važan   je   ovaj   zadatak.
         very   important   be.PRS.3SG   this   task
         Intended: 'This task is very important.'
(3)   John thinks that xeroxing research on clitics is important. But, I disagree.
(4a)   OVAJ   je   zadatak   veoma   važan.   (**1st word position**)
         very   important   be.PRS.3SG   this   task
         'THIS task is very important (and not xeroxing research on clitics!).' (**argument initial**)
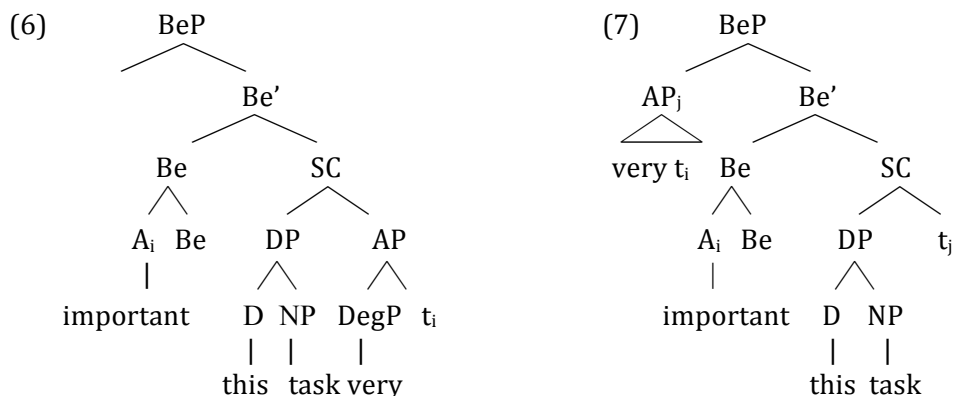(4b)   ???Ovaj   zadatak   je   veoma   važan.
         this   task   be.PRS.3SG   very   important
         Intended: 'THIS task is very important (and not xeroxing research on clitics!)'

While the syntactic derivation of the 1st word position with sentence initial predicates, has not been attempted, the 1st word position with sentence initial arguments has been derived vial left branch extraction (LBE) (Franks&Progovac 1994). While LBE is well motivated in the derivation of the 1st word position with fronted arguments (paralleling wh-movement, see Franks&Progovac 1994), applying the same operation in the derivation of (2a) predicts a wrong output, namely contrastive interpretation of *veoma* 'very'. Thus, the syntactic mechanism that splits (2a) cannot be LBE. The proposed analysis of (2a) starts with the constituency in (5), which shows a predicate construction in which the copula (Be) merges with a small clause (SC) complement (Stowell 1981) consisting of the subject *ovaj zadatak* 'this task' and a predicate *veoma važan* 'very important':

(5)   BeP
         /   \
       Be   SC
              /   \
            DP   AP
           / \   /   \
          D NP DegP   A
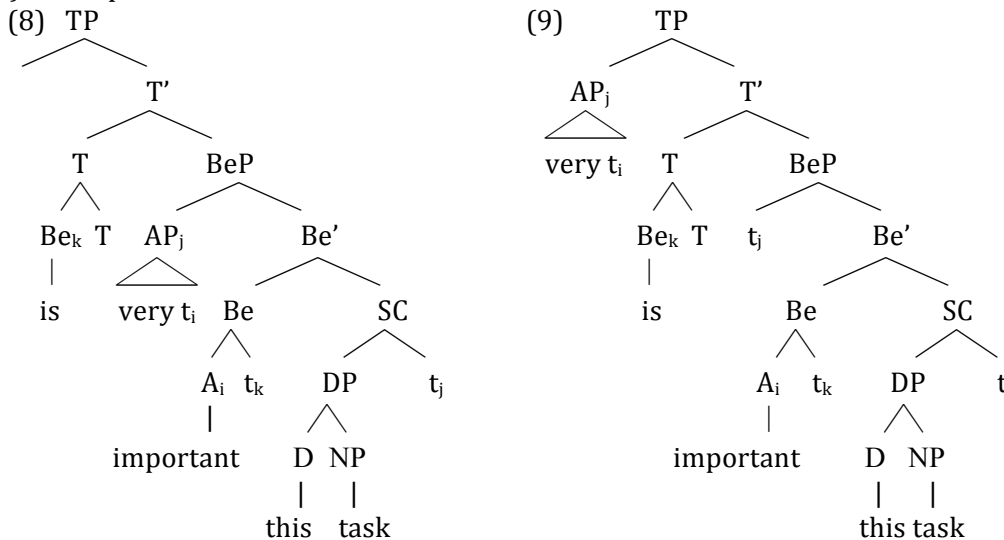 | | | |
        this task very important

Subsequent steps of the derivation following Be merging with SC as in (5) are as follows. A incorporates into Be forming a complex predicate (6). Once a head is merged with an XP, movement to its specifier ensues driven by the EPP on the head (Koopman&Szabolcsi 2000). This motivates

the movement of AP remnant to spec BeP (predicate inversion) as a step following complex predicate formation (7):

(6)
```
              BeP
               |
              Be'
             /    \
          Be        SC
        /   \      /   \
      Aᵢ  Be     DP      AP
      |         /  \    /  \
  important   D  NP DegP  tᵢ
              |  |   |
            this task very
```

(7)
```
              BeP
             /    \
          APⱼ       Be'
         /   \     /    \
    very tᵢ  Be      SC
            /  \    /   \
          Aᵢ  Be  DP     tⱼ
          |      /  \
      important D  NP
               |  |
             this task
```

Next, T merges with BeP, and Be incorporates into T where it checks person and tense features (8). Finally, T attracts the closest XP to its specifier which is the AP in spec BeP (9), and the derivation of (2a) is complete:

(8)
```
            TP
           /  \
             T'
            /   \
          T        BeP
         /  \     /    \
      Beₖ  T   APⱼ       Be'
      |      /   \      /    \
      is  very tᵢ Be      SC
                 /  \    /   \
               Aᵢ  tₖ  DP     tⱼ
               |      /  \
           important D  NP
                     |  |
                   this task
```

(9)
```
              TP
             /    \
          APⱼ       T'
         /   \     /   \
    very tᵢ  T        BeP
            /  \     /    \
         Beₖ  T   tⱼ       Be'
         |             /    \
         is          Be       SC
                    /  \     /   \
                  Aᵢ  tₖ   DP     tⱼ
                  |       /  \
              important  D  NP
                         |  |
                       this task
```

The next challenge for the complex predicate analysis is derivation of clitic position in other types of predicate constructions, such as constructions with prepositions, in which case the clitic can follow both the 2nd word of the sentence (11a) and the 1st word (11b) following a neutral context (10) (Diesing&Zec 2017):

(10)   The prices of strawberries are horrible!

(11a)	Protiv	svake	su	logike./(11b)	Protiv	su	svake	logike.
	against	every	be.PRS.3SG	logic	against	be.PRS.3PL	every	logic
	'They are against every logic.'				'They are against every logic.'			

The analysis of (11a-b) is to be determined, but the current analytical approach looks promising for these cases as well.

References: Diesing, M.& Zec, D. 2017. Getting in the first word: prosody and predicate initial sentences in Serbian. *Glossa: a journal of general linguistics.* 2(1): 24. 1-25. denDikken, M. 2006. *The syntax of predication, predicate inversion and copulas.* MIT. Franks, S.& Progovac, Lj. 1994. On the placement of Serbo-Croatian clitics. In: G. Folwer, H. Cooper& J.Ludwig(eds). *Proceedings of the 9th biennal conference on Balkan and South Slavic linguistics, literature and folklore.* Halpern, A. 1995. *On the placement and morphology of clitics.* Stanford, CA:CSLI publications. Koopman, H. & Szabolcsi, A. 2000. *Verbal complexes.*MIT. Moro, A. 1997. *The raising of predicates: predicative noun*

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