

Causation and Reflexivity in Kannada

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1. Introduction¹

Standard conceptions of the lexicon-syntax interface assume that morphologically complex words are constructed in the lexicon and then serve as the atomic objects for syntactic computation. On this view, morphologically complex words are the terminal nodes in a syntactic phrase-marker, their internal structure invisible to syntactic operations. The argument-taking properties of words can be altered by rules which apply inside the lexicon, often with a concomitant morphophonological change, but these properties cannot be affected by syntactic operations. In this paper, I explore an alternative grammatical architecture in which morphology applies to the output of the syntactic component (cf. Halle and Marantz 1993; Marantz 1997). Morphologically complex words, on this view, reflect properties of syntactic structure, which includes argument-structure information.

The argument proceeds from an examination of Kannada "valency-changing" morphology, revealing that lexical properties alone cannot explain the distribution of the reflexive and causative morphemes. The analysis builds upon the conclusion of Lidz 1996 that the Kannada "verbal reflexive" is best understood with respect to its relationship to causativity and not as a marker of semantic reflexivity. Moreover, given certain independently motivated assumptions about the representation of anaphora, Kannada reflexive morphology provides an

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argument that the morphological component takes syntactic representations as input and hence that morphological structure is an interpretation of syntactic structure, not the input to it. The resultant theory is one in which the morphological component determines, after some amount of syntactic computation, how a given syntactic representation should be pronounced. Simply put, lexical insertion applies late in the derivation, possibly at LF. The so-called reflexive morpheme argues strongly for a morphological component which is postsyntactic because it is only after certain syntactic operations have applied that the environment for the insertion of this morpheme is met. A theory in which morphologically complex words are constructed prior to syntax cannot explain the distribution of this morpheme. Thus, we need a grammatical architecture in which morphology takes articulated clausal structures as input.

2. Jerry Fodor Meets Panini

Examination of change of state (COS) verbs in Kannada reveals a complementarity between lexical and morphological causativity. If a COS verb occurs with causative morphology in its transitive use, then it does not have a morphologically unmarked transitive use:²

- 1) a. barf-u karg-i-tu
ice-NOM melt-PST-3SN
'The ice melted.'
- b. * surya barf-annu karg-i-tu
sun ice-ACC melt-PST-3SN
'The sun melted the ice.'
- c. surya barf-annu karag-is-i-tu
sun ice-ACC melt-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The sun melted the ice.'

² All Kannada data was collected between 1994 and 1997. The following abbreviations are used in the glosses: 1 =1st person, 2 =2nd person, 3 =3rd person, ACC = Accusative, CAUS = Causative, DAT = Dative, F = Feminine, INSTR = Instrumental, M = Masculine, N = Neuter, NOM = Nominative, NPST = Nonpast, PL = Plural, PP = Participle, PRED = Predicate, PST = Past, REFL = Reflexive, s = Singular. Capital letters in the transcription represent retroflex consonants. The transcription scheme is that of Sridhar 1990.

- 2) a. neer kud-i-tu
water boil-PST-3SN
'The water boiled.'
- b. * naan-u neer-annu kud-id-e
I-NOM water-ACC boil-PST-1S
'I boiled the water.'
- c. naan-u neer-annu kud-is-id-e
I-NOM water-ACC boil-CAUS-PST-1S
'I boiled the water.'
- 3) a. kaar-u tukk-i-tu
car-NOM rust-PST-3SN
'The car rusted.'
- b. * maLey-u kaar-annu tukk-i-tu
rain-NOM car-ACC rust-PST-3SN
'The rain rusted the car.'
- c. maLey-u kaar-annu tukk-is-i-tu
rain-NOM car-ACC rust-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The rain rusted the car.'
- 4) a. hoov-u udur-i-tu
flower-NOM wilt-PST-3SN
'The flower wilted.'
- b. * gaaliy-u hoov-annu udur-i-tu
wind-NOM flower-ACC wilt-PST-3SN
'The wind wilted the flower.'
- c. gaaliy-u hoov-annu udur-is-i-tu
wind-NOM flower-ACC wilt-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The wind wilted the flower.'

Conversely, if a COS verb has a morphologically unmarked transitive use, it does not have a morphological causative with only two arguments.³

³ I should note that the (c) cases in (5-8) represent grammatical strings. What is ruled out in these cases is an interpretation with only two arguments. The grammatical interpretation of the (c) cases would have a null pronoun as one of the arguments and hence an interpretation like "I made someone verb..."

- 5) a. baagil-u tere-d-itu
door-NOM open-PST-3SN
'The door opened.'
- b. gaaliy-u baagil-annu tere-d-itu
wind-NOM door-ACC open-PST-3SN
'The wind opened the door.'
- c. * gaaliy-u baagil-annu terey-is-i-tu
wind-NOM door-ACC open-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The wind opened the door.'
- d. gaaliyu raSmiiy-inda baagl-annu terey-is-i-tu
wind-NOM Rashmi-INSTR door-ACC open-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The wind made Rashmi open the door.'
- 6) a. baagil-u much-i-tu
door-NOM close-PST-3SN
'The door closed.'
- b. gaaliy-u baagil-annu much-i-tu
wind-NOM door-ACC close-PST-3SN
'The wind closed the door.'
- c. * gaaliyu baagil-annu much-is-i-tu
wind-NOM door-ACC close-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The wind closed the door.'
- d. gaaliyu raSmiiy-inda baagil-annu much-is-i-tu
wind-NOM Rashmi-INSTR door-ACC open-CAUS-PST-3SN
'The wind made Rashmi close the door.'
- 7) a. vataga wad-i-tu
glass break-PST-3SN
'The glass broke.'
- b. naan-u vatag-annu wada-d-e
I-NOM glass-ACC break-PST-1S
'I broke the glass.'
- c. * naan-u vatag-annu wad-is-id-e
I-NOM glass-ACC break-CAUS-PST-1S
'I broke the glass.'

- d. naan-u raSmi-yinda vatag-annu wad-is-id-e
I-NOM Rashmi-INSTR glass-ACC break-CAUS-PST-1S
'I made Rashmi break the glass.'
- 8) a. hoov-u bele-d-itu
flower-NOM grow-PST-3SN
'The flower grew.'
- b. naan-u hoov-annu bele-d-e
I-NOM flower-ACC grow-PST-1S
'I grew the flower.'
- c. * naan-u hoov-annu bel-is-id-e
I-NOM flower-ACC grow-CAUS-PST-1S
'I grew the flower.'
- d. naan-u raSmi-yinda hoovannu bel-is-id-e
I-NOM Rashmi-INSTR flower-ACC grow-CAUS-PST-1S
'I made Rashmi grow the flower.'

I will refer to the verbs in (1-4) as lexically non-causative and the verbs in (5-8) as lexically causative.

Note that there is no problem with causativizing the intransitive variant of the lexically causative verbs periphrastically, indicating that the problem with the (c) cases in (5-8) is not semantic in nature:

- 9) a. gaaLiy-u baagil-annu tere-vante maad-i-tu
wind-NOM door-ACC open-PRED do-PST-3SN
'The wind made the door open.'
- b. gaaLiy-u baagil-annu muchi-vante maad-i-tu
wind-NOM door-ACC close-PRED do-PST-3SN
'The wind made the door close.'
- c. naan-u vatag-annu wadu-vante maad-id-e
I-NOM glass-ACC break-PRED do-PST-1S
'I made the glass break.'
- d. naan-u hoov-annu belu-vante maad-id-e
I-NOM flower-ACC grow-PRED do-PST-1S
'I made the flower grow.'

A lexical analysis of the complementarity between lexical and morphological causativization would take the following line of argumentation. The lexically causative verbs are underlyingly transitive while the lexically non-causative verbs are underlyingly intransitive. Adding the causative morpheme to a transitive root creates a ditransitive verb while adding it to an intransitive root creates a transitive verb. Such a solution is problematic, however, because the lexically causative verbs also have an intransitive use. There is nothing in such an analysis to prevent adding the causative morpheme to the intransitive variant of the underlyingly transitive roots. These facts do have a straightforward explanation in the Elsewhere Condition (Panini's Theorem, Kiparsky 1973; cf. Aronoff 1976), however. While all COS verbs alternate between a transitive and an intransitive use, some are marked as lexically causative. The lexical expression of causativity takes precedence over the rule-driven morphological expression. Verbs like 'open' are optionally 'cause-open' in the lexicon and so the morphological expression of causativity is blocked by the more specific lexical form. We defer formal analysis of these facts until section 4.

3. Against a Lexical Analysis

A curious property of COS verbs, from the perspective of the previous section, is that both the lexically causative and the lexically non-causative verbs have an anticausative use, marked by the verbal reflexive morpheme⁴:

- 10) a. baagil-u tere-du-koND-itu
 door-NOM open-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
 'The door opened.'

⁴ The term "morpheme" will be used in a slightly nonstandard way in this paper. In general, "morpheme" will be used to mean "piece of morphology" and not the more standard "minimal sign". The reason for this bit of terminological unorthodoxy is that it is standardly assumed that the forms that I will be referring to as morphemes are minimal signs, i.e., pairings between form and meaning. Since it will be shown below that these pieces of morphology are not minimal signs, we might be led to change the way we refer to these elements midway through the paper, which would only lead to confusion. See Aronoff 1976 for the origin of the idea in generative grammar that morphemes are not minimal signs.

- b. baagil-u much-i-koND-itu
door-NOM close-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The door closed.'
- c. vata wad-a-koND-itu
glass break-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The glass broke.'
- d. hoov-u bel-a-koND-itu
flower-NOM grow-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The flower grew.'
- 11) a. barf-u karag-i-koND-itu
ice-NOM melt-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The ice melted.'
- b. neer kud-i-koND-itu
water boil-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The water boiled.'
- c. karr-u tukk-i-koND-itu
car-NOM rust-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The car rusted.'
- d. hoov-u udur-i-koND-itu
flower-NOM wilt-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'The flower wilted.'

These differ from the bare intransitives in allowing dative-marked causal adjuncts:

- 12) a. gaal-ige baagil-u tere-du-koND-itu
wind-DAT door-NOM open-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'Because of the wind, the door opened.'
- b. gaal-ige hoov-u udur-i-koND-itu
wind-DAT flower-NOM wilt-PP-REFL.PST-3SN
'Because of the wind, the flower wilted.'
- 13) a. * gaal-ige baagil-u terey-i-tu
wind-DAT door-NOM open-PST-3SN
- b. * gaal-ige hoov-u udur-i-tu
wind-DAT flower-NOM wilt-PST-3SN

The facts in (12-13) suggest that the presence of the anticausative/reflexive morpheme indicates the simultaneous presence and absence of a causer, that is, the presence of a causer which is not syntactically realized by an argument NP. When the causer is expressed in an adjunct marked with dative case, the reflexive morpheme is obligatory. The reflexive morpheme cannot occur if the causer is expressed in subject position, i.e., with nominative case, however:

- 14) * gaali-yu hoov-annu udur-i-koND-itu
wind-NOM flower-ACC wilt-PP-REFL.PST-3SN

Thus, the presence of the verbal reflexive on COS verbs indicates that the causer is excluded from subject position, although this role is present and can be identified by certain adjuncts (Lidz 1996).

We might explain the fact that the lexically causative COS verbs have an anticausative use by saying that the verbal reflexive 'absorbs' the external theta-role. However, there are two reasons to think that such an analysis is on the wrong track. First, if the external theta-role is absorbed by the verbal reflexive, then we are left with the question of why the verbal reflexive is not required on all intransitive uses of lexically causative verbs. In order to follow the absorption analysis, we will need two accounts of argument absorption, one for the bare intransitives and another for the reflexive-marked intransitives. Second, the fact that the lexically non-causative verbs also have an anticausative use demonstrates that the presence of the verbal reflexive does not depend on the lexical representation of the verb. If it is true that the lexically non-causative verbs are underlyingly monadic (as demonstrated above), then there is no argument for the verbal reflexive to have absorbed in (11).

The puzzle we are left with is that the 'valency-altering' properties of the verbal reflexive are not sensitive to the lexical properties of the verb to which it attaches. When it attaches to an underlyingly transitive verb, it suppresses the external role, but when it attaches to an

underlyingly intransitive verb, it adds a 'suppressed' role, i.e., a role that is entailed by the sentence but which cannot be realized by an argument NP. To give the verbal reflexive a uniform function, we might say that it only attaches to intransitive roots, always adding a suppressed role. On this view, the lexically causative verbs have two entries, one transitive and one intransitive, and the verbal reflexive only attaches to the intransitive variant. But if the verbal reflexive has access to the intransitive entry of such verbs, we should expect the causative to have access to this entry as well. In other words, we predict, on this view, that the lexically causative verbs have a morphologically causative transitive use, as in (15):

- 15) a. * gaaliy-u baagil-annu terey-is-i-tu
 wind-NOM door-ACC open-CAUS-PST-3SN
 'The wind opened the door.'
- b. . * naan-u vatag-annu wad-is-id-e
 I-NOM glass-ACC break-CAUS-PST-1S
 'I broke the glass.'

But, we have seen that sentences like (15) are ungrammatical with a two-argument interpretation. A lexical analysis of the valency altering morphology of Kannada leads to a paradox: we need the intransitive entry of a lexically causative verb to be available to reflexive morphology but not to causative morphology.

4. A Solution

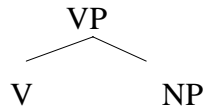
The solution to this problem must have two properties. It must explain the complementarity between lexical and morphological causatives and it must explain the fact that anticausative morphology is not dependent on lexical causativity.

4.1 vP

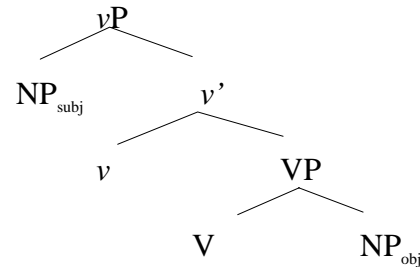
I will assume without argument that causativity/transitivity is syntactically represented as a 'causative' light verb (Chomsky 1995; Hale and Keyser 1993; Johnson 1991; Kratzer 1994 inter

alia; cf. McCawley 1968).⁵ Lexical roots are unaccusative; external arguments are licensed by the causative light-verb.⁶

16) a. unaccusative:



b. transitive (and unergative):



The [v [VP]] configuration in (16b) entails a relation between two events where one is a proper subpart of the other. This is commonly referred to as 'causation'. External arguments, from this perspective, are arguments not of the main verb but of the light-verb. Because the configuration entails a complex event structure, the external argument identifies that entity which is responsible for the transition between sub-events, i.e., the agent/causer (Hale and Keyser 1993).

The idea that external arguments are not arguments of the root verb but of the light-verb is in accordance with Marantz's observation that the interpretation of an external argument often depends on the composition of the verb and the internal argument (Marantz 1984, ex.2.19):

- 17) a. throw a baseball
 b. throw support behind a candidate
 c. throw a boxing match

⁵ The representation of causativity here differs from that of McCawley 1968 in being only a single event. That is, the generative semantics proposal was one in which there was no way to distinguish a single causative event from bi-eventive causation (cf. Fodor 1970). The representation also differs from that of Hale and Keyser (1993) in not distinguishing lexical syntax from surface syntax. The decomposition in Hale and Keyser's approach is inside the lexicon, while here it is in the syntactic representation. See Harley 1996 for elaboration.

⁶ I follow Hale and Keyser (1993) and Chomsky (1995) in the claim that unergatives are covert transitives, though this is by no means necessary. Given this schema for licensing external arguments, it is possible that unergatives are simply Vs with no arguments of their own. Bare Phrase-structure considerations lead to the covert transitive proposal as a way to distinguish unaccusatives from unergatives (given VP-internal subjects), however if external arguments are licensed by v , then the difference between unergatives and unaccusatives can be entirely within VP (i.e., not vP). On this view, vP would be required with unergative roots because of the EPP. If it were not generated, there would be nothing to check EPP features in TP. Exploration of this possibility would take us beyond the scope of this paper, but the proposal seems reasonable at first blush.

- d. throw a party
 - e. throw a fit
- 18)
- a. kill a cockroach
 - b. kill a conversation
 - c. kill an evening watching TV
 - d. kill a bottle
 - e. kill an audience

Because the event denoted by vP includes the VP as a subevent, it follows that interpretation of the NP in [spec, vP] depends on properties of the VP (cf. Kratzer 1994; Marantz 1997).

4.2 Causative

Given the hypothesis that causation is represented in vP , it is natural to assume that the causative morpheme in sentences like (19) is the spell-out of v .

- 19) surya barf-annu karag-is-i-tu
 sun ice-ACC melt-CAUS-PST-3SN
 'The sun melted the ice.'

- 20) $v \rightarrow [-isu-]$ /
- ```

 graph TD
 vProj["v(Proj)"] --- VP["VP"]
 vProj --- v["v"]
 VP --- NP["NP"]
 VP --- V["V"]
 V --- verb["√verb⁷"]
 verb --- blank["___"]

```

This rule states that  $v$  is pronounced as the causative morpheme.  $v(Proj)$  indicates that the category formed when  $v$  merges with VP is  $v$ . In other words, the rule requires only that  $v$  projects. The rule does not state the level of projection of the node immediately dominating  $v$ ; it could be  $v'$  or  $vP$ .

If (20) is the correct rule for insertion of the causative morpheme, we have to ask what blocks this rule from applying in the case of lexically causative verbs:

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<sup>7</sup> The symbol  $\sqrt{\quad}$  is used to indicate the root form of the verb, following the notation of Pesetsky 1995.

- 21) \* gaaliy-u baagil-annu terey-is-i-tu  
 wind-NOM door-ACC open-CAUS-PST-3SN  
 'The wind opened the door.'

As noted above, the analysis should have the character of the Elsewhere Condition: when two rules are in competition, the more specific rule takes precedence. We need a rule which states that causative head is not pronounced in the environment of lexically causative verbs. Such a rule is given in (22):<sup>8</sup>

- 22)  $v \rightarrow [\emptyset] /$
- 

All of the so-called lexical causatives can fill the V position in this rule. These verbs are morphologically marked as not taking a causative affix in the environment of  $v$ . This rule is more specific than the rule in (20) because it identifies the particular class of verbs in the construction and so the application of (22) will block application of (20).

### 4.3 The Verbal Reflexive: Monadic Causativity

It is possible to generate a 'causative' light-verb without an NP in its specifier, giving us the configuration in (23).

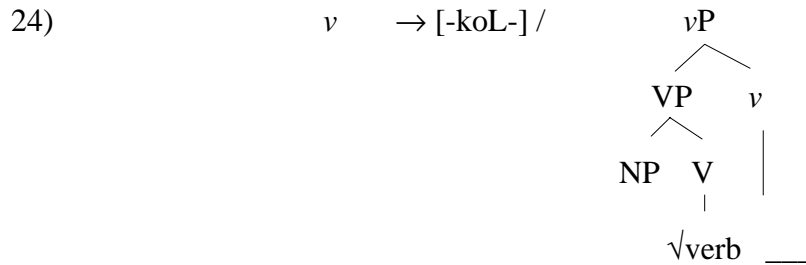
- 23)
- 

Because the 'causative' interpretation is due to the complex nature of the event composed of  $v$ -VP, we do not require an NP to realize the 'agent' theta-role in order for the entire event to

be construed as causative. It is simply the relation between verbs that creates the causative role. In this sense, the 'agent' role is not actually assigned by any syntactic mechanism to the [spec, vP]. Rather, causation implicates a causer and an NP found in this position is free to be interpreted as such. If there is no NP in that position, as in (23), then the event is still construed as causative.

If the verbal reflexive were the morphological spell-out of *v* in (23), we would have an explanation of the interpretive properties of the anticausative COS verbs. We saw above that the anticausative verbs indicate the simultaneous presence and absence of a causer. This is precisely what is expected of the structure in (23), which is causative because of its complex event structure but monadic because only one argument position is generated. In other words, anticausativity is better thought of in this context as monadic causativity. The actual cause of such an event can be identified by an adjunct, as illustrated in (12), although such an adjunct is not assigned the role of causer through any syntactic mechanism.<sup>9</sup>

We therefore posit the following morphological rule stating when the verbal reflexive is inserted:



<sup>8</sup> An alternative is to have a rule which states that the lexically causative verbs are pronounced unaffixed even in the context of the rule in (20). I will follow the rule in the text for purposes of presentation, though nothing hinges on the precise formulation.

<sup>9</sup> The analysis suggests that even the NP which occurs in [spec, vP] is not assigned its semantic role by any syntactic mechanism, but rather is interpreted in accordance with the semantic requirements of the structure. If this turns out to be true, then we will have fully severed the external argument from the verb syntactically, though certain verbs will still require an external argument in order to satisfy the principle of Full Interpretation. Also see Harley and Noyer (1998).

The rule in (24) states that  $v$  is pronounced as the verbal reflexive just in case there is no specifier of  $vP$ .<sup>10</sup> This rule is more specific than the rule in (20) because it requires that  $v$  be immediately dominated by  $vP$ , while (20) specifies only that  $v$  be immediately dominated by a projection of  $v$ . Thus, if  $vP$  has no specifier, then it will be pronounced as the verbal reflexive; if it has a specifier, it will be pronounced as the causative. This rule is also more specific than the rule for lexical causatives in (22). The rule in (22) applies when a certain class of verbs are in the complement to  $v$ , independent of what immediately dominates  $v$ . Since the rule in (24) applies only if  $v$  is immediately dominated by  $vP$  it is more specific than (22) and so blocks application of (22).

Because causative and reflexive morphology are interpretive, i.e., they reflect syntactic structure rather than provide an input to it, we predict the impossibility of embedding the verbal reflexive under the causative. (25) illustrates a verb which has a reflexive-marked intransitive as well as a bare intransitive. The bare intransitive can be morphologically causativized, as in (26b), but the reflexive-marked intransitive cannot, as in (26a). Both variants can be causativized periphrastically, as in (27).

- 25) a. raaju kuLit-i-koND-a  
 Raaju sit-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Raaju sat down.'
- b. raaju kuLi-t-a  
 Raaju sit-PST-3SM  
 'Raaju sat down.'
- 26) a. \* raajuv-annu kuliti-koLL-is-id-e  
 Raaju-ACC sit-REFL-CAUSE-1S  
 'I made raaju sit down.'

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<sup>10</sup> Why a morpheme would be sensitive to the presence or absence of a specifier in the projection of some head is a much deeper issue than I am prepared to address at this point. See Embick 1997 for a related proposal.

- b. raajuv-annu kulit-is-id-e  
Raaju-ACC sit-CAUS-PST-1S  
'I made raaju sit down.'
- 27) a. raajuv-annu kuliti-koLL-uvante maaD-id-e  
Raaju-ACC sit-REFL-PRED make-PST-1S  
'I made raaju sit down.'
- b. raajv-annu kuliti-vante maad-id-e  
Raaju-ACC sit-PRED make-PST-1S  
'I made Raaju sit down.'

An analysis in which the causative morpheme attaches to any monadic predicate will not be able to explain the inability of the reflexive to be embedded under the causative in these contexts. However, in a theory in which morphology interprets syntactic structure, these facts are straightforwardly accounted for. The two morphemes are correctly predicted to be in complementary distribution in these cases because the causative morpheme and the reflexive morpheme are in competition for the same syntactic position.<sup>11</sup> More precisely, these morphemes are allomorphs of the syntactic category  $\nu$  and so cannot cooccur.

#### 4.3.1 Monadic Causativity and Semantic Reflexivity

In the previous section we demonstrated that the verbal reflexive morpheme occurs on what we called monadic causatives, that is, in structures that are causative because of  $\nu$  but have only one argument position. This hypothesis would appear to be disconfirmed by examples like (28), in which the verbal reflexive occurs but two syntactic arguments are present, i.e., the subject and the anaphor in object position.<sup>12</sup>

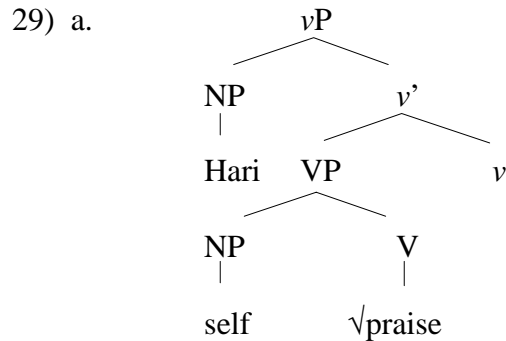
- 28) hari tann-annu hogaL-i-koND-a  
Hari self-ACC praise-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
'Hari praised himself.'

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<sup>11</sup> But see section 4.3.1.1.

<sup>12</sup> This fact also argues against an analysis of the verbal reflexive in which this morpheme is the external argument incorporated into the verb, as suggested by Kayne (among others) for Romance reflexive clitics. Both the external argument and the internal argument are syntactically present as full NPs bearing case, providing evidence that no argument incorporation has occurred.

A sentence like (28) will have the structure (29) when the external argument is first merged into the structure.

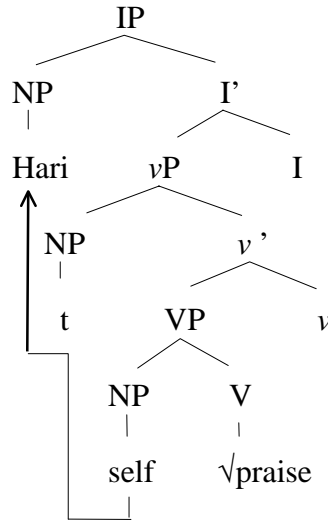


This structure is one in which the  $vP$  has a specifier and so we expect the verbal reflexive not to occur. In this section, I will argue that the relevant structure exists late in the derivation although it does not exist at all points throughout the derivation. It follows from this that the rule in (24) stating the environment for insertion of the verbal reflexive does not apply until the environment is met, possibly at LF. Thus, we have an argument for the application of morphology after some amount of syntactic structure has been built and manipulated, and possibly for the application of morphology after the entire syntactic derivation is complete.

Lidz (1997) and Lidz and Idsardi (1998) argue that whenever two NPs are semantically covalued, they must be connected in the syntax by a chain (cf. Reinhart and Reuland 1993; Reuland 1996). Two categories are semantically covalued if their reference is determined through the same entity in the discourse. We unify movement, control and anaphora under the chain relation, capturing the intuition that all of these structures involve two categories being interpreted with respect to the same entity in the model. On this view, the sentence in (28) will have a representation like (30), where the chain formed by raising the subject to [spec, IP] is fused with the chain connecting [spec,  $vP$ ] with the anaphor in object position. The part of the

chain connecting [spec, IP] with [spec,  $\nu$ P] is formed via movement, while the part connecting [spec,  $\nu$ P] to the object is formed via the anaphora relation.<sup>13</sup>

30)



I further assume that intermediate traces delete at LF, i.e., in the covert syntax (Lasnik and Saito 1992; Chomsky 1995). Chomsky (1995) argues that intermediate traces of A-movement must be invisible at LF. The conclusion is forced by cases of successive cyclic A-movement like (31). In such cases, chains are formed which do not have their case features checked.

(31) we are likely [t3 to be asked [t2 to [t1 build airplanes]]]

- (32) a. CH1 = <t2, t1>  
 b. CH2 = <t3, t1>  
 c. CH3 = <we, t1>

While CH3 has its Case feature checked, CH2 and CH1 do not (assuming the traces to be copies of all of the features of the moved NP). The solution to this problem is to eliminate CH1 and CH2 entirely. Since these objects have [-interpretable] features (i.e, the case features), the heads

<sup>13</sup> The fact that the Kannada anaphor *tannu* disallows a coargument antecedent in the absence of *-koLLu* provides further support for the idea that chain-formation is obligatory under semantic covaluation. See Lidz (to appear) for arguments that *tannu* does not obey principle B, despite claims in the literature to the contrary (e.g., Amritavalli 1984).

of these chains are deleted (i.e., made invisible to the LF component). The base position, *t*<sub>1</sub>, cannot likewise be deleted however, since it is this position which bears the theta-role.

Similar reasoning applies to (30), with the chains in (33).

- (33) a. CH1= <*t*, self>  
b. CH2= <Hari, self>

The trace in CH1 bears the [-interpretable] nominative case feature of the subject.<sup>14</sup> We can therefore delete the trace, eliminating the chain CH1. This case differs from the raising case, however, in the deletion of the position to which the 'agent' theta-role is assigned. We assume that every chain must have one theta-role in order to be a legitimate object. As noted above, deletion of *t*<sub>1</sub> in (31) would result in a chain with no theta-roles. In (30), however, deletion of the subject trace leaves the chain with one theta-role remaining and so deletion is possible.

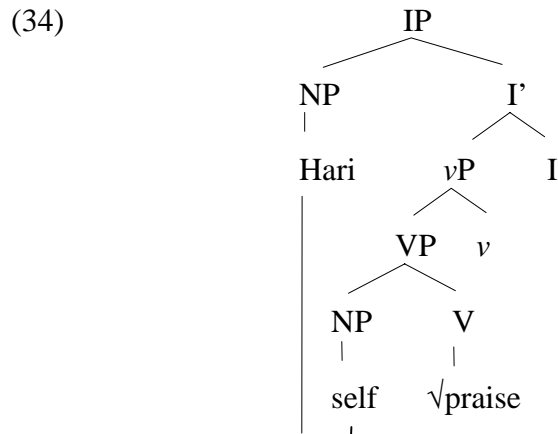
Deletion of the base position of the subject entails that the subject receives the agent theta-role differently from how it would receive this role in the normal case. While this may seem problematic, it is not. We observed above that the agent theta-role is a consequence of the complex event structure entailed by the *v*-VP configuration and that this role is available for interpretation even without an NP in [spec, *v*P]. Given that the trace in [spec, *v*P] is deleted, we are left with the question of how the agent role is assigned. In particular, we can ask why (28) is not interpreted as an anticausative. The answer to this question comes from the interpretive properties of a chain with two independent lexical items in it. The chain itself entails that there is a relation between two objects, although these objects are semantically covalued. So, in order to best satisfy the interpretive properties of the chain (indicating a relation between two covalued objects with only one theta role) and the interpretive properties of the *v*-VP configuration

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<sup>14</sup> I assume that the accusative case feature on the object is checked by raising it to *v*, without pied-piping the entire NP, along the lines of Chomsky 1995.

(indicating an agentive relation) we give the agentive properties to the chain bearing the object theta role. In other words, given a convergent syntactic derivation the semantic component evaluates the output of that derivation in a way consistent with Full Interpretation. In this case, the agent properties entailed by the configuration merge with the relational properties entailed by a chain with multiple lexical items. We return to this issue in Section 4.3.2.2.

At this point we have argued that in a sentence like (28), we have a chain between the subject and object position and that the base position of the subject deletes at LF. This yields the structure (34):



This structure is one in which the verbal reflexive can be inserted, although in previous stages of the derivation the environment for insertion of this morpheme was not met. Deletion of the intermediate trace in [spec, vP] of (30) makes this position invisible to LF. The node that was  $v'$  is now vP, assuming that maximal projection is contextually defined (Fukui and Speas 1986; Chomsky 1995) and that there is no nonbranching projection. To illustrate, let us consider the set-theoretic representation of the relevant portions of (30):

- 35) a.  $\{I, \{\{I, \{\{v, \{\{v, \{VP, v\}\}, Hari\}\}, I\}\}, Hari\}\} = IP$   
 b.  $\{v, \{VP, v\}\} = v'$   
 c.  $\{v, \{\{v, \{VP, v\}\}, Hari\}\} = vP$

Deleting the trace of *Hari* from (30), erases the fact that *Hari* merged with  $v'$  in the course of the derivation. Thus,  $v'$  becomes  $vP$ . After deletion of the subject trace, we have the representation (36), where the piece of the structure that was  $v'$  in (35) is now  $vP$ , i.e., the maximal category with the label  $v$ :

- 36) a.  $\{I, \{\{I, \{\{v, \{VP, v\}\}, I\}\}, Hari\}\} = IP$   
 b.  $\{v, \{VP, v\}\} = vP$

Because we now have a maximal projection of  $v$  which does not have a specifier, the conditioning environment for insertion of the verbal reflexive is met. On the surface an example like (28) would appear to be a counterexample to the rule in (24). The S-structure representation of (28), given in (30), does not contain the environment required for (24) to apply and so we might expect the verbal reflexive not to be possible. The structure of the sentence after the deletion of intermediate traces (34), however, does contain the structure required for (24) to apply. Given that (24) does apply, we can conclude that it is only after the deletion of intermediate traces that the morphological rule applies. Hence, morphological insertion applies late in the syntactic derivation. (28) is therefore not a counterexample to the rule in (24) provided that this rule applies late, i.e., after the deletion of intermediate traces.<sup>15</sup>

We demonstrated above that reflexive-marked intransitives could not be embedded under causative. The same reasoning applies if a semantically reflexive predicate is embedded under causative. We predict that such a structure will not give rise to the verbal reflexive.

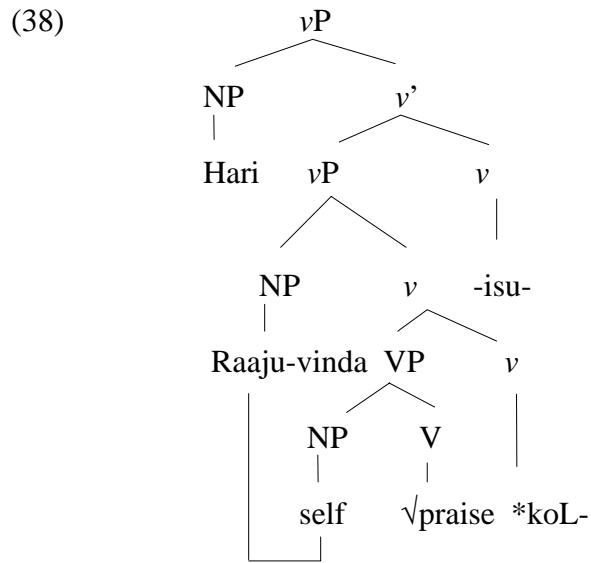
- (37) a. \* hari raaju-vinda awannu-taane hogaL-i-koLL-is-id-a  
 Hari Raaju-INSTR he-ACC-self praise-PP-REFL-CAUS-PST-3SM  
 'Hari made Raaju praise himself.'

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<sup>15</sup> The simplest version of this theory would be one in which lexical insertion takes place after the entire computation is complete, i.e., at LF. This would give us a theory in which LF is seen only as the level of syntactic representation that interfaces with the conceptual-intentional system and not as the level which reflects covert operations. In other words, on this theory there is no covert syntax in the usual sense. An alternative description of this analysis is that all syntax is covert and that it is only at LF (now equivalent to PF) that words enter into the representation. This conclusion is supported by Lidz and Idsardi (1998) and Lidz (1999).

- b. hari raaju-vinda awannu-taane hogaL-is-id-a  
 Hari Raaju-INSTR he-ACC-self praise-CAUSE-PST-3SM  
 'Hari made Raaju praise himself.'
- c. hari raaju-vinda tann-annu hogaL-i-koLL-uvante maad-id-a  
 Hari Raaju-INSTR self-ACC praise-REFL-PRED make-PST-3SM  
 'Hari made Raaju praise himself.'

We assume that the representation of (37a-b) is (38):



*Raaju*, bearing the inherent instrumental case, does not move to get case and so we do not generate the configuration which licenses *-koL*. [spec, vP] is filled at LF.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>16</sup> One might expect that scrambling of the causee out of [spec, vP] in (38) would lead to deletion of the base position of the causee since that element would still be connected to the anaphor by a chain. This would predict that the reflexive morpheme would occur in such a sentence. This prediction is not borne out:

- (i) \* Raaju-vinda Hari aw-annu-taane hogaL-i-koLL-is-id-a  
 Raaju-INSTR Hari he-ACC-self praise-PP-REFL-CAUS-PST-3SM  
 intended: 'It was Raaju that Hari made praise himself.'

However, scrambling in Kannada is A-bar movement (Chandrashekar 1992). If we assume that chains can only be fused if they are of the same type (i.e., A or A-bar), then we do not expect the trace of the causee to delete in (i) and hence, we do not predict that the reflexive morpheme should surface when the causee is scrambled. See also Chomsky 1995:302ff.

### 4.3.1.1 When Causative and Reflexive Co-occur

The complementarity between the causative and reflexive is not total, however. The causative morpheme can be embedded under the reflexive morpheme, as in (39)<sup>17</sup>

- 39)            hari raaju-vinda    tann-annu hogaL-isi-koLL-utt-aane  
              Hari Raaju-INSTR self-ACC    praise-CAUS-REFL-NPST-3SM  
              'Hari makes Raaju praise him.'

(39) is problematic because we have said that the causative and reflexive morphemes are allomorphs; they are alternative pronunciations of the same head. If this is so, we expect them never to cooccur. It was their allomorphy which explained their complementarity above.

The most straightforward way of dealing with sentences like (39) is to say that there are two causative heads and so the co-occurrence of causative and reflexive is not surprising. On this view, the structure of (39) is (40) (after deletion of the subject trace from the specifier of the higher vP):

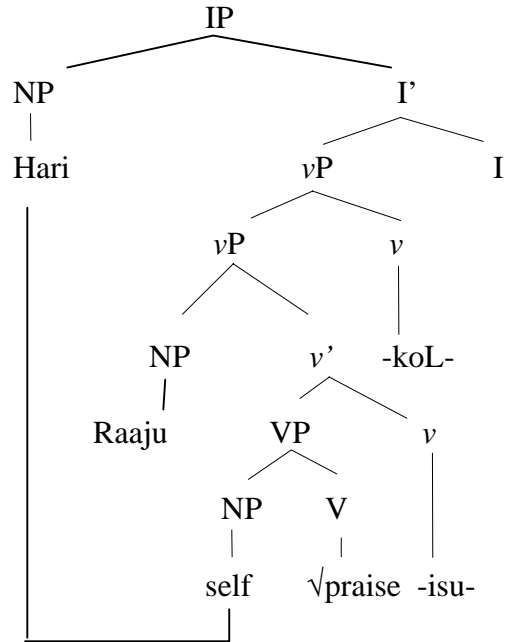
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<sup>17</sup> An additional case of causative and reflexive occurring together involves dative-subject verbs. There is a productive way of turning such a verb into a nominative subject verb by adding both the causative and reflexive to it (Amritavalli 1990):

- (i)            Hari-ge    jvara            ban-t-u  
              hari-DAT fever-NOM    come.PST-3SN  
              'Hari got a fever.'
- (ii)            Hari jvara-vannu bar-isi-koND-a  
              Hari fever-ACC    come-CAUS-REFL.PST-3SM  
              'Hari got a fever.'

I will leave this construction aside, as I have nothing informative to say about it.

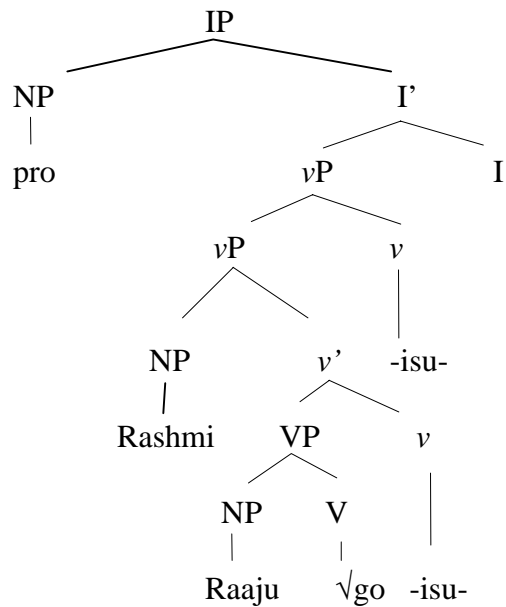
40)



Such an approach is supported by the fact that multiple causative morphemes can occur, as for example, in (41), with the structure (42):

- 41) raSmi-yinda raaju-vannu hoog-is-is-id-e  
 Rashmi-INSTR Raaju-ACC go-CAUS-CAUS-PST-1S  
 'I made Rashmi make Raaju go.'

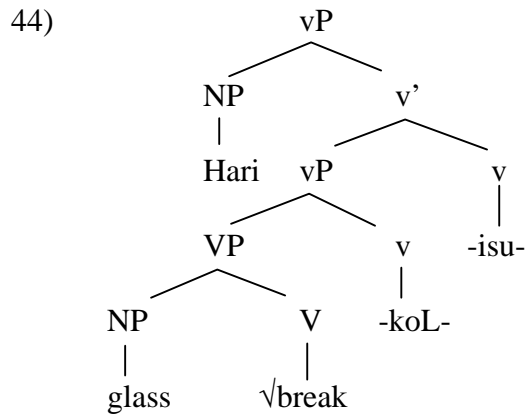
42)



However, allowing multiple causative heads leads to the prediction that the reflexive morpheme could occur in an embedded vP, provided that that vP did not have a specifier.

The prediction is not borne out. (43), with the hypothesized structure (44), does not occur.

- 43) \* hari vatag-annu vad-i-koLL-is-id-a  
 Hari glass-ACC break-PP-REFL-CAUS-PST-3SM  
 'Hari made the glass break.'



So, the appropriate generalization is that the causative morpheme can occur inside of another causative morpheme or inside of the reflexive morpheme. However, the reflexive morpheme cannot occur inside of the causative morpheme. The fact that the causative and reflexive differ in this way might lead us to abandon the hypothesis that the causative and reflexive morphemes are allomorphs of the same syntactic head.

An alternative to the allomorphy approach is that the reflexive morpheme heads a projection higher in the tree than the causative head. On this view, the partial complementarity between causative and reflexive would have to be explained by some additional principles, leaving the observations about the causative interpretation of reflexive-marked COS verbs unexplained. This position is potentially supported by the fact that the form of the verb-root in a causative construction is different from the form of the verb-root in a reflexive construction. The

verb-root appears in its base form when the causative is attached to it, whereas the verb-root appears in its past participle form when the reflexive is attached to it:

- 45) a. **tindu**-koLL-utt-aane  
eat.PP-REFL-NPST-3SM  
'He eats himself.'
- b. **tinn**-is-utt-aane  
eat-CAUS-NPST-3SM  
'He causes someone to eat something.'

Aspectual auxiliaries also attach to the participle form of the verb, suggesting that they are at the same syntactic height as the reflexive and at a different syntactic height than the causative.

- 46) a. **tindu**-biD-utt-aane  
eat.PP-COMPL-NPST-3SM  
'He eats something up.'
- b. **tindu**-nooD-utt-aane  
eat.PP-EXP-NPST-3SM  
'He tries to eat.'

In the next section, I will show that, despite initial appearances, the causative and reflexive do occur at the same height of the tree and that the reflexive occurs at a different height than aspectual auxiliaries do. Hence, the lack of total complementarity between the causative and reflexive morphemes must be explained by factors consistent with the hypothesis that the causative and reflexive are alternative spell-outs of the same head.

#### 4.3.1.1.1 Emphatic Verb Formation

Kannada exhibits a rule of emphatic verb formation whereby a verb occurs in its past participle form, followed by the emphatic morpheme, the verb root (repeated), tense and agreement (Aronoff and Sridhar 1984, Amritavalli 1998). This is illustrated in (47):

- 47) a. bar-utt-aane  
 come-NPST-3SM  
 ‘He comes.’
- b. band-ee-bar-utt-aane  
 come.PP-EMPH-come-NPST-3SM  
 ‘He will too come.’

In the following examples, we see that causative and reflexive participate in emphatic verb formation in the same way and that they differ from aspectual auxiliaries.

In forming the emphatic from a reflexive verb, the reflexive morpheme can occur with the root either outside (48b) or inside (48c) of the emphatic morpheme. However, it cannot stand alone after the emphatic morpheme as the sole support of tense and agreement (48d):

- 48) a. raSmi tann-annu hogaL-i-koND-aLu  
 Rashmi self-ACC praise-PP-REFL.PST-3SF  
 ‘Rashmi praised herself.’
- b. ...hogaL-iy-ee-hogaL-i-koND-aLu  
 ...praise-PP-EMPH-praise-PP-REFL.PST-3SF  
 ‘...did too praise herself.’
- c. ...hogaL-i-koND-ee-hogaL-i-koND-aLu  
 ...praise-PP-REFL.PP-EMPH-praise-PP-REFL.PST-3SF  
 ‘...did too praise herself.’
- d. \* ...hogaL-iy-ee-koND-aLu  
 ...praise-PP-EMPH-REFL.PST-3SF  
 ‘...did too praise herself.’

The causative shows the same pattern. It can occur with the root either outside (49b) or inside (49c) of the emphatic morpheme, but it cannot stand alone after the emphatic morpheme as the sole support of tense and agreement (49d).

- 49) a. raSmi hari-yinda angi-yannu kad-is-id-aLu  
 Rashmi Hari-INSTR shirt-ACC steal-CAUS-PST-3SF  
 ‘Rashmi made Hari steal the shirt.’

- b. ...kad-d-ee-kad-is-id-aLu  
...steal-PP-EMPH-steal-CAUS-PST-3SF  
'...did too make steal.'
- c. ...kad-is-iy-ee-kad-is-id-aLu  
...steal-CAUS-PP-EMPH-steal-CAUS-PST-3SF  
'...did too make steal.'
- d. \* ...kad-d-ee-is-id-aLu  
...steal-PP-EMPH-CAUS-PST-3SF  
'...did too make steal.'

The completive and experimentive auxiliaries, however, show a different pattern. Unlike the causative and reflexive morphemes, these forms cannot occur with the root inside of the emphatic morpheme (50c/51c). Moreover, they can occur as the sole support of tense and agreement after the emphatic morpheme (50d/51d).

- 50) a. raSmi ad-annu tindu-biTT-aLu  
Rashmi it-ACC eat-COMPL.PST-3SF  
'Rashmi ate it up.'
- b. ...tind-ee-tindu-biTT-aLu  
...eat.PP-EMPH-eat.PP-COMPL.PST-3SF  
'...did too eat up.'
- c. \* ...tindu-biTT-ee-tindu-biTT-aLu  
...eat.PP-COMPL.PP-EMPH-eat.PP-COMPL.PST-3SF  
'...did too eat up.'
- d. ...tind-ee-biTT-aLu  
...eat.PP-EMPH-COMPL.PST-3SF  
'...did to eat up.'
- 51) a. raSmi ad-annu tindu-nooD-id-aLu  
Rashmi it-ACC eat.PP-EXP-PST-3SF  
'Rashmi tried to eat it.'
- b. ...tind-ee-tindu-nooD-id-aLu  
...eat.PP-EMPH-eat.PP-EXP-PST-3SF  
'...did too try to eat.'

- c. \* ...tindu-nooD-ee-tindu-nooD-id-aLu  
 ...eat.PP-EXP.PP-EMPH-eat.PP-EXP-PST-3SF  
 ‘...did too try to eat.’
- d. ...tind-ee-nooD-id-aLu  
 ...eat.PP-EMPH-EXP-PST-3SF  
 ‘..did too try to eat.’

So, we see that the completive and experimentive auxiliaries pattern together but differently from the causative and reflexive. Although all nonroot verbal extensions can occur outside of the emphatic morpheme when the root is repeated, there are two differences between the two types of verbal extension. First, the causative and reflexive can occur with the root inside of the emphatic morpheme, whereas the completive and experimentive cannot. Second, the completive and experimentive can occur outside of the emphatic without repeating the root, whereas the causative and reflexive cannot. We can conclude from this evidence that the morphosyntax treats the causative and reflexive equally. The reflexive occurs in the same position as the causative and does not occur in the same position as aspectual auxiliaries.<sup>18</sup> This conclusion, however, leaves us with the same mystery we started this section with. If the causative and reflexive are alternative pronunciations of the same head, why is it that the reflexive morpheme cannot occur inside of a causative morpheme while embedding a causative inside another causative is possible?

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<sup>18</sup> We are still left with the question of why the causative takes a bare root whereas the reflexive takes a past participle. Given that we have no reason to think that the reflexive is in a different position than the causative is, we conclude that the choice of verb form that occurs as the complement to a given head is determined morphophonologically and does not directly reflect the syntactic structure. The precise characterization of the rules choosing a root vs. a participle will be left for future research.

#### 4.3.1.1.2 The Structure of $\nu$ P

The current problem centers around the following contrast. A causative morpheme can occur inside of another causative morpheme, but a reflexive morpheme cannot occur inside of a causative morpheme.

- 52) a. raSmIy-inda raaju-vannu hoog-is-is-id-e  
Rashmi-INSTR Raaju-ACC go-CAUS-CAUS-PST-1S  
'I made Rashmi make Raaju go.'
- b. \* hari vatag-annu vad-i-koLL-is-id-a  
Hari glass-ACC break-PP-REFL-CAUS-PST-3SM  
'Hari made the glass break.'

Maintaining the idea that the causative and reflexive are allomorphs, we will pursue the idea that the ungrammaticality of (52b) is due to the morphological rules determining the pronunciation of certain syntactic structures. On this view, there is nothing wrong with the structure that (52b) corresponds to. The morphological rules are stated in such a way as to not insert the reflexive morpheme in that structure. In other words, (52b) is ungrammatical not because its structure is ill-formed, but because it does not represent a possible pronunciation of that structure.

We saw in section 4.2 that (52b) is blocked morphologically if we assume that there is only one layer of  $\nu$ P. In other words, if the structure of (52b) is (53), then there is only one  $\nu$  head and so only one allomorph of  $\nu$  (REFL or CAUS) can occur.

- 53) [ <sub>$\nu$ P</sub> Hari [ <sub>$\nu$</sub>  [ <sub>$\nu$ P</sub> glass break]  $\nu$ ]]

Now, if allomorphy is what blocks (52b) from occurring, then it should also block (52a). Since (52a) is grammatical, then we must assume that it is possible to generate two layers of  $\nu$ P. In other words, the structure of (52a) must be (54).

- 54) [ <sub>$\nu$ P</sub> Rashmi [ <sub>$\nu$</sub>  [ <sub>$\nu$ P</sub> Raaju [ <sub>$\nu$</sub>  [ <sub>$\nu$ P</sub> go]  $\nu$ ]]  $\nu$ ]]

But, if the existence of two levels of  $vP$  is what allows (52a) to occur, then two levels of  $vP$  ought to allow (52b) as well. In order to maintain the hypothesis that the causative and reflexive morphemes are allomorphs, we must find a way to make the rule determining which to insert sensitive to whatever property distinguishes (52a) from (52b).

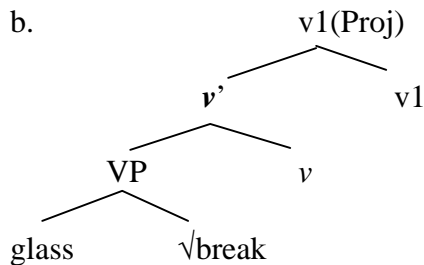
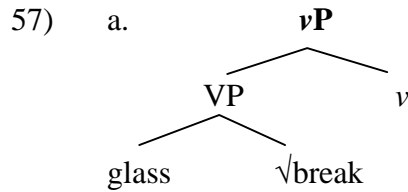
The appropriate generalization seems to be that the reflexive morpheme occurs only when domain of adding argument structure material is closed. In other words, adding arguments via the causative morpheme is not possible once the reflexive morpheme has been added. So, given the hypothesis that the structure triggering the insertion of the reflexive morpheme is minimally different from the structure triggering the insertion of the causative, we are led to conclude that that minimal difference must be responsible for the domain closing property that we observe.

Now, we have stated that the difference between the environment conditioning the reflexive and the environment conditioning the causative lies in whether the node immediately dominating  $vP$  is maximal. This is illustrated in (55):



If this is the right analysis, then that leads us to the conclusion that embedding a structure like (55b) under an additional layer of  $vP$  makes the node immediately dominating  $v$  nonmaximal. In other words, all connected projections of the category  $v$ , even if they are projections of separate  $v$  heads, count as a single extended projection. In other words, if we take the structure associated with (56), given in (57a), and embed that under an additional causative head, as in (57b), the  $vP$  node of (57a) is no longer maximal in (57b):

56) vata wad-i-koND-itu  
 glass break-pp-refl.pst-3sn  
 'The glass broke.'



By embedding (57a) inside a projection of an additional  $v$  head, we take away the maximal character of  $vP$  and hence bleed the environment for the insertion of the reflexive morpheme. Given our morphological realization rules, we then predict that  $v$  in (57b) is not pronounced. However, we also predict that  $v1$ , being sufficiently far away from the lexical root, will be pronounced as CAUS. Thus, a structure like (57b) should be realized as:

58) Hari vatag-annu wad-is-id-a  
 Hari glass-acc break-caus-pst-3sm  
 'Hari made someone break the glass.'

The prediction is borne out. It is important to note also that this string of morphemes is only interpretable as a double causative and not as a single causative event (cf. 5c-8c). This fact falls out from the analysis just given because this string necessarily involves two projections of  $v$ .

We can conclude on the basis of this section that strings of the form CAUS-REFL do not interfere with the hypothesis that CAUS and REFL are allomorphs any more than strings of the form CAUS-CAUS interfere with the hypothesis that the causative morpheme is an expression of

causativity. In other words, the existence of CAUS-REFL is not problematic assuming that multiple layers of *v* can occur. Rather, the lack of strings of the form REFL-CAUS appears to be problematic on a view in which multiple *vs* can occur. However, the unavailability of these strings is explained by the hypothesis that multiple projections of *v* are treated as a single projection by the morphological component.

### 4.3.2 Interpreting *v*P with no specifier.

In section 4.3.1 we claimed that the agent theta-role in a semantically reflexive sentence is not assigned by any syntactic mechanism. Instead, this role is entailed by the [*v* [VP]] configuration and can be assigned to anything in the sentence which could plausibly fill it. There are several reasons to believe this to be the right analysis. I will examine these in turn.

#### 4.3.2.1 Roll

The verb *uruLu-* (*roll*) allows either an animate or inanimate subject. Either of these is possible with or without the verbal reflexive on the intransitive variant:

- (59) a. huDuganu beTTada meeLe uruL-id-a  
 boy-NOM hill over roll-PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill.'
- b. huDuganu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-koND-a  
 boy-NOM hill over roll-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill.'
- (60) a. chenDu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-tu  
 ball-NOM hill over roll-PST-3SN  
 'The ball rolled down the hill.'
- b. chenDu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-koND-i-tu  
 ball-NOM hill over roll-PP-REFL.PST-3SN  
 'The ball rolled down the hill.'

If the subject is animate, then the verbal reflexive is incompatible with an accidental interpretation, i.e., the interpretation in which the cause of the event is external to the element undergoing a change (cf. example (12) ff.):

- (61) a. huDuganu tann-iche-yinda-lee beTTada meeLe uruL-id-a  
 boy-NOM self-will-INSTR-EMPH hill over roll-PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill deliberately.'
- b. huDuganu tann-iche-yinda-lee beTTada meeLe uruL-i-koND-a  
 boy-NOM self-will-INSTR-EMPH hill over roll-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill deliberately.'
- c. aaghaata-dinda huDuganu beTTada meeLe uruL-id-a  
 accident-INSTR boy-NOM hill over roll-PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill accidentally.'
- d. \* aaghaata-dinda huDuganu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-koND-a  
 accident-INSTR boy-NOM hill over roll-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'The boy rolled down the hill accidentally.'

However, if the subject is inanimate, the verbal reflexive is required on the externally caused interpretation, as indicated by the presence of the dative adjunct:

- (62) a. gaaL-ige chenDu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-koND-i-tu  
 wind-DAT ball hill over roll-PP-REFL.PST-3SN  
 'Because of the wind, the ball rolled down the hill.'
- b. \* gaaL-ige chenDu beTTada meeLe uruL-i-tu  
 wind-DAT ball hill over roll-PST-3SN  
 'Because of the wind, the ball rolled down the hill.'

So this means that the causative interpretation depends on the animacy of the subject. If the subject is animate, the subject itself must be interpreted as the causer when the reflexive morpheme is present, but if the subject is inanimate and the verb is reflexive-marked, some other external cause is required. These facts follow from an analysis in which the agent/causer theta-role is not assigned syntactically but is determined by interpretive principles operating on the structure. Because the animate NP is a possible causer of a rolling event, it is interpreted as the

causer in the reflexive-marked variant even though it is syntactically assigned the theme theta-role. On the other hand, the inanimate NP cannot be interpreted as the cause of a rolling event and so some other, external, element is interpreted as causer.

#### 4.3.2.2 Externally Caused Transitives: Alienating the Inalienable

I noted above that intransitive verbs marked with the verbal reflexive were interpreted as though there were some external cause responsible for the event. I described such sentences as monadic causatives, capturing both their causative event structure and their monadic status. We find similar interpretations of transitive sentences marked with the verbal reflexive (Lidz 1996):

- 63) a. hari kannu-gaL-annu tere-d-a  
 Hari eye-PL-ACC open-PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his eyes.'
- b. hari kannu-gaL-annu tere-du-koND-a  
 Hari eye-PL-ACC open-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his eyes.'
- 64) a. hari tale-yannu eTT-id-a  
 Hari head-ACC lift-PST-3SM  
 'Hari lifted his head.'
- b. hari tale-yannu eTT-i-koND-a  
 Hari head-ACC lift-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari lifted his head.'

The reflexive-marked variants of these sentences differ from the bare transitives in the way that the action denoted by the verb was performed. (63a) describes a normal action of eye-opening, that is, one in which internal properties of the eye muscles are responsible for the actual lifting of the eyelids. (63b), on the other hand, describes a situation in which Hari uses his hands to open his eyes. Similarly, (64a) describes Hari lifting his head in the normal way that heads are lifted, i.e., through the muscles of the head and neck. (64b), on the other hand, would be used to describe a situation in which Hari's head has been cut off and his body reaches down and lifts the

detached head from the floor. In sum, the subject in the reflexive-marked sentences in (63-64) seems to be interpreted simultaneously as though it were connected to the object via the inalienable possession relation and as though it were an independent causer. The inalienable possession relation is attenuated in the reflexive-marked variants of these sentences.<sup>19</sup> Support for this conclusion comes from instrumental phrases, which are only licensed in these sentences when the verb is reflexive-marked:

- (65) a. \* hari kai-gaL-inda kannu-gaL-annu tere-d-a  
 Hari hand-PL-INSTR eye-PL-ACC open-PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his eyes with his hands.'
- b. hari kai-gaL-inda kannu-gaL-annu tere-du-koND-a  
 Hari hand-PL-INSTR eye-PL-ACC open-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his eyes with his hands.'
- (66) a. \* hari kai-gaL-inda tale-yannu eTT-id-a  
 Hari hand-PL-INSTR head-ACC lift-PST-3SM  
 'Hari lifted his head with his hands.'
- b. hari kai-gaL-inda tale-yannu eTT-i-koND-a  
 Hari hand-PL-INSTR head-ACC lift-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari lifted his head with his hands.'

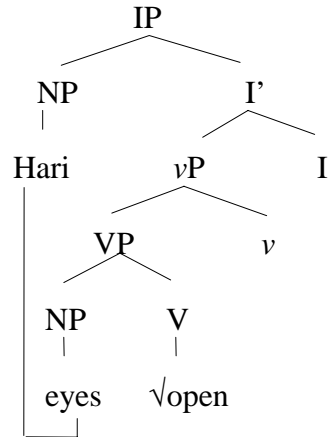
The analysis of the verbal reflexive proposed above requires that there is no [spec, vP] in the (b) examples of (63-64). Given that these are transitive structures, we must assign these sentences the same representation assigned to the reflexive example in (28). A chain is formed between the subject and object, resulting in deletion of the subject trace. The LF representation for (63b) is:

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<sup>19</sup> The non-reflexive variants are actually unspecified as to who possesses the body part. In other words, (63a) can also describe a situation in which Hari opens someone else's eyes. An explicit genitive can distinguish these:

- (i) Hari tann-a kannu-gaL-annu tere-d-a  
 Hari self-GEN eye-PL-ACC open-PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his own eyes.'
- (ii) Hari awan-a kannugaL-annu tere-d-a  
 Hari he-GEN eye-PL-ACC open-PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his (someone else's) eyes.'

(67)



Two questions arise from this structure. First, is it justifiable to form a chain between the subject and object in these cases? Second, why do we interpret the predicate in such an unusual way in these cases?

In order to answer the first question, we must first look at the Near-reflexivity cases discussed in Lidz (1996, 1997a). We find a difference in interpretation of reflexive sentences which differ in the choice of anaphor used:<sup>20</sup>

- (68) a. hari tann-annu hoDe-du-koND-a  
Hari self-ACC hit-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
'Hari hit himself.'
- b. hari tann-annu-taane hoDe-du-koND-a  
Hari self-ACC-self hit-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
'Hari hit himself.'

Imagine a situation in which Hari is a famous person and that a statue of him has been erected in a museum. When he gets to the museum to see the unveiling of the statue, he finds the statue appalling and becomes angry. Now, one of two things can happen. In one scenario, he is so upset with himself for allowing such a horrible statue to be built that he begins to hit himself,

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<sup>20</sup> There is some variation with respect to the cooccurrence of the complex anaphor with the verbal reflexive. For some speakers, it is possible to have the complex anaphor without the verbal reflexive while for others the verbal reflexive is required no matter what form of anaphor is used. I put aside discussion of the first set of speakers for the purposes of this paper.

bemoaning his stupidity. In a second scenario, he is so angry with the statue-builders that he begins to hit the statue in an attempt to destroy it. The simplex anaphor in (68a) is only compatible with the first interpretation, i.e., the one in which Hari is both the hitter and hittee. The complex anaphor in (68b) is compatible with either interpretation.

Lidz (1996, 1997a) argues that this difference in interpretations is due to the semantic properties of the anaphor. The simplex anaphor requires complete identity with its antecedent, while the complex anaphor can pick out an entity which is representationally related to its antecedent. Thus, the representation for (68a) is (69a), while the representation for (68b) is (69b):

- (69) a.  $\lambda x$  [hit (x, x)] (Hari)  
 b.  $\lambda x$  [hit (x, f(x))] (Hari)

The morphologically complex anaphor denotes a function which takes the antecedent as input and returns something which is representationally related to that antecedent. I call this function the “Near-reflexive” function. For the analysis being developed here, the simplex anaphor is connected to the antecedent by a chain because together they pick out a single entity. The complex anaphor is connected to the antecedent by a chain because the interpretation of both NPs is determined by making reference to a single entity.

We can view a reflexive-marked transitive like (63b), repeated here as (70), as an instance of Near-reflexivity.

- 70) hari kannu-gaL-annu tere-du-koND-a  
 Hari eye-PL-ACC open-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari opened his eyes.'

The subject and the inalienably possessed object are semantically covalued; the interpretation of both NPs is determined by making reference to a single entity, i.e., Hari.<sup>21</sup> A chain can therefore be formed between the subject and object, as in (67). The chain, which bears only the object theta-role, requires that *Hari* and *kannugaLannu* (eyes) together identify a single entity (Hari) and at the same time identify two independent entities. The fact that there are two NPs with lexical content in the chain entails that two entities are semantically identified. At the same time, the chain itself imposes the interpretation that these two NPs are alternative expressions of the same entity. The externally caused interpretation of (70) comes from a combination of the interpretive properties of the *v*-VP configuration and the interpretive properties of the chain. The *v*-VP configuration requires a causative interpretation, as we have seen. The causative role can now be identified with the chain bearing the object role because this chain picks out two entities (Hari and his eyes), even though these entities are semantically covalued. Thus, Hari is interpreted independently as though he were the cause of the event and the affected entity in the event.

Further evidence for a nonstructural account of the assignment of the 'agent' theta-role comes from reflexive-marked transitive sentences without a body-part as an argument. In such cases, the causer role is fully externalized. For example, (71a) has the interpretation that Hari acted on his shirt, causing it to tear in the normal causative fashion, while the reflexive-marked (71b) has the interpretation that something external to Hari caused the shirt to tear, perhaps if the shirt got caught on a nail:

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<sup>21</sup> Semantic covaluation requires more than a simple semantic dependence. Rather, both NPs must ultimately lead to the same entity. A representation of Hari ultimately picks out Hari. Thus, a sentence like "Hari opened his book," does not involve semantic covaluation. While it is true that the referent of "his book" is determined by making reference to Hari (at least on the bound variable interpretation of the pronoun), the book is what is ultimately referred to, not Hari. Therefore, such an example does not involve Near-reflexivity or semantic covaluation.

- (71) a. Hari angiy-annu har-id-a  
 Hari shirt-ACC tear-PST-3SM  
 'Hari tore his shirt'
- b. Hari angiyannu hari-du-koND-a  
 Hari shirt-ACC tear-PP-REFL.PST-3SM  
 'Hari got his shirt torn'

This fact provides further support for the idea that the identification of the external causer depends on the nature of the NPs involved and not solely on syntactic structure. If the two NPs in a chain can be interpreted as an agentive individual, as when the tail of the chain is a metonymic (i.e., body part) representation of the subject, then the subject NP is construed as the external causer. On the other hand, if the chain cannot be interpreted agentively, as when the tail of the chain is less directly construable as the object denoted by the head of the chain, then a separate external cause is required. That is, in (71b) we cannot construe the shirt as a part of Hari and so we construe Hari and the shirt together as the affected entity, forcing the causer role to be interpreted as something outside the sentence.

## 5. Conclusions

In this paper I have argued that a theory of morphology-syntax interactions in which morphological material is determined on the basis of syntactic representations can explain the distribution of causative and reflexive morphemes in Kannada better than a theory in which morphological material serves as the atomic units of syntactic representation. In particular, I have shown that the causative and reflexive morphemes are alternative spell-outs of a light-verb implicated in sentences with complex event structures. The causative morpheme spells out this head if it has a specifier while the reflexive morpheme spells out this head if it has no specifier. I have further shown that some potential counterexamples to these claims can be accounted for if we adopt a theory of anaphora which requires that semantically covalued NPs are connected by a

chain in the syntax (Lidz 1997). Under this analysis, it is only after the syntactic derivation has proceeded considerably that the ‘causative’ head has no specifier, conditioning insertion of the reflexive morpheme. The analysis leads us to the conclusion that morphological insertion applies late in the syntactic derivation and is sensitive to properties of clausal structure. In other words, syntax provides the input to the morphological component, morphology does not provide the input to syntax.

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