



**Der Sonderforschungsbereich 991 "Die Struktur von Repräsentationen in Sprache, Kognition und Wissenschaft" lädt herzlich ein zum Vortrag**

von

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## ***Embedded Root-Clause Phenomena: V2 in German and ERCP in Korean/Japanese***

Embedded Root Clause Phenomena (ERCP) in Germanic languages such as English and German are generally thought to be triggered by *assertive force* in complement clauses (Hooper and Thompson 1973). Hence complements with ERCP are assumed to be syntactically richer, containing ForceP, than complements without ERCP, lacking ForceP (Haegeman 2006; Bentzen et al. 2007). Yet why, among various kinds of illocutionary force, only assertive force is relevant to ERCP does not follow from any of the current theories, and it remains controversial whether the assertion-based hypothesis is empirically correct (Bentzen 2009; Wiklund et al. to appear, for Scandinavian languages).

In this paper, I offer a comparative study between typologically distant languages, Korean(/Japanese) and German, in order to examine what kind of universals and parameters exist in root phenomena. I propose that *assertive force* is indeed relevant, but it is *not*, in fact, the only source for triggering ERCP. The initial observation is that, according to the results of diagnostics, both ERCP in Korean(/Japanese) and V2 in German exhibit a striking parallel in assertion-driven ERCP. Crucially, however, I show that there is another kind of ERCP that is triggered by illocutionary force other than assertive force which reflects the evaluative attitude of a judge toward the content of complement. This case is instantiated by Korean in non-factive emotive or volitional predicates like 'fear' or 'hope', and perhaps also by Germanic V2 construction with volitional predicates like 'hope' which Meinunger (2006) classifies as a problematic case within the assertion theory. I furthermore show that ERCP is limited to complements encoding *non-presupposition*. Finally, I show that even in complements allowing for ERCP, *structural ambiguity* is observed between root-like and subordination-like complements in Korean, which could be understood along the lines of the optionality of V2 or non-V2 in German for similar matrix predicates.

The current analysis has two important implications: First, this analysis shows that the type of illocutionary force that triggers root property must be extended so as to comprise various types of ERCP. Second, the structural ambiguity for ERCP constructions in Korean allows the generalization that ERCP must be operative on syntax. This supports Haegeman's (2006) view of the necessity of the split CP structures (Rizzi 1997; Beninca and Poletto 2004), and in particular of ForceP for ERCP (contra Portner and Yabushita 1998's pragmatic account).