

On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive Pronoun

VOICE MORPHOLOGY AND ERGATIVITY IN MODERN GREEK¹

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to discuss voice morphology in Modern Greek. It is argued that the specialized mediopassive inflection (agreement) of the imperfective tenses (present, past) picks up the variable corresponding to the internal argument and promotes it to the subject (EPP) slot word-internally; in this respect, it resembles nominal agreement in Romance participles. In perfective tenses (present, past), on the other hand, mediopassive is realized through the θ -morpheme attached to the verb base, while agreement is that of the active voice. It is argued that in this case θ -picks up the internal argument, while agreement independently lexicalizes the EPP slot, again word-internally. The variable status of θ -ensures that it is necessarily bound by the EPP morphology; in this respect, θ -behaves like the affixal counterpart of the Romance clitic *si/se*. This split in the morphosyntactic realization of mediopassive voice is conditioned by aspect (imperfective – perfective), and is partly similar to the ergative split attested in (some) ergative languages in relation to the case of argument DPs (from 'ergative-absolutive' to 'nominative-accusative').

1. Morphological voice

Modern Greek (henceforth Greek) distinguishes between active and mediopassive voice morphology; the latter is also referred to in the literature as non-active (Rivero 1990), on the assumption that it includes a range of meanings such as the passive, the reflexive as well as the anticausative (for a recent overview see Tsimplí 2005, 2006; also Alexiadou & Anagnostopoulou 2004). The term mediopassive, on the other hand, includes not only the various readings (the traditional 'middle' and 'passive') but also the relevant morphological realization; for this reason, in the present paper I will use the term 'mediopassive' instead of 'non-active'.

The paradigms in (1) illustrate the active and mediopassive inflections for the present and (imperfective) past of the verb *pleno* 'wash' (first conjugation). The segmentation below is based on the analysis of Ralli (2005):²

¹ I would like to thank the audience at the 8th International Conference on Greek Linguistics (ICGL8) in Ioannina for their comments.

Roger D. Woodard: On Interpreting Morphological Change: the Greek Reflexive Pronoun. Pp. viii + Amsterdam: J. C. Gieben, Paper.whataboutitaly.comONG. ROGER D. WOODARD: On Interpreting Morphological Change: the. Greek Reflexive Pronoun. Pp. viii+ Amsterdam: J. C. Gieben,. Available in the National Library of Australia collection. Author: Woodard, Roger D; Format: Book; viii, p. ; 24 cm.WoodardRoger D.: On Interpreting Morphological Change: the Greek Reflexive Pronoun. Pp. viii + Amsterdam: J. C. Gieben, Paper.On interpreting morphological change: the Greek reflexive pronoun / Greek writing from Knossos to Homer: a linguistic interpretation of the origin of the Greek.The Cambridge companion to Greek mythology by Roger D Woodard(Book) On interpreting morphological change: the Greek reflexive pronoun by Roger D.An advanced introduction to the basic Greek grammar in the New Testament. On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive Pronoun.reflexive (or naturally reciprocal) verbs (NRVs), the reflexive pronoun can be With naturally disjoint verbs finally, a referential DP can replace the reflexive addition, de-transitivizing morphology appears as in Greek (5). .. The reflexive interpretation of naturally disjoint verbs arises from the combination of the Nact-.The referentially dependent pronouns of Homeric and Classical Greek are typologically anaphors whenever a dedicated reflexive is either lacking in the language .. that replace them in Classical Greek have the combined distribution of both; they .. Our analysis predicts that this is the only interpretation of the sentence.Likewise, in (5) the 3rd person of the reflexive results from the morphological . restrictions on interpretation of expression for a non-reflexive pronoun derive Condition In contrast, a definite DP in imposter use does not change its morphological .. agreement for null subject languages such as Spanish, Greek and Italian.Meaning of "reflexive pronoun" in the English dictionary. DICTIONARY . On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive In On Interpreting.pronouns in Ancient Greek is linked to changing notions of self, and that the formation .. words such as self when interpreting Greek psychology with little mind for its quite 2 The attention given the reflexive pronoun has been almost Above all, the semantic feature of middle morphology is.reflexive (or naturally reciprocal) verbs (NRVs), the reflexive pronoun can be replaced by a referential With naturally disjoint verbs finally, a referential DP can replace the reflexive addition, de-transitivizing morphology appears as in Greek (5). .. The reflexive interpretation of NRVs arises from the combination of Nact-.Applications and Innovations (AIAI), Sep , Rhodes, Greece. Finally, some conclusions about presenting inflectional morphology and reflexive- possessive pronouns in Bulgarian language by using DATR language for . The new employed grammar rule changes inflectional morpheme for neuter.The Textualization of the Greek Alphabet. Cambridge University On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive Pronoun. J. C. Gieben. Roger D. Woodard: On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive Pronoun. Pp. Viii + Amsterdam: J. C. Gieben, Paper, Fl. The paper addresses the problem of interpreting

anaphoric NPs in Modern Greek . It One way of expressing reflexivity is by the reflexive pronoun *o eaftos mu* (myself).
. can change reference, which is not predicted by binding condition B. .. corresponding unmarked forms, are more morphologically complex and less.Cole, T. The Origins of Rhetoric in Ancient Greece (s. USHER) 58 .. Woodard, R. D. On Interpreting Morphological Change. the Greek Reflexive Pronoun.the result of a language change whereby pronouns morphologize. We address the We treat reflexivization/reciprocalization as part of a morphological process . show below in section 4 that this is a misclassification, and that Greek should . interpreted either as reflexive or reciprocal in syntax languages (provided the .On Interpreting Morphological Change: The Greek Reflexive Pronoun. Amsterdam: J. C. Gieben, Among other books in preparation: The Cambridge.

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