

Where pointing matters: English and Korean demonstratives

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DEMONSTRATIVE DESCRIPTIONS

(*that F*): traditional focus on ‘deictic’ uses [Kaplan 1977]

- (1) (Pointing at Gullfoss) That→ waterfall is beautiful.
 - a. Identification depends on immediate context
 - b. Rigidly denotes entity (like names, unlike pronouns)

Many ‘non-name-like’ uses identified since then:

[discourse anaphoric] I met a girl. That girl...
[bound] Every time I met a girl, I asked that girl...
[generic] That which rolls faster gathers no moss. [Elbourne’13]
[QI] Every king cherished that cleric who crowned him. [King’08]
[emotive] How’s that toe? [Lakoff’74]
[presentational] There was this traveling salesman, and he...

Accounting for these different uses:

- Distinguishing DEM (demonst.) vs. DEF (definites), and vs. PER (personal pronouns) [Roberts’02, Wolter 2006]
But PER/DEM not always distinct (e.g. Korean, ASL)
- Analyzing non-deictic use within DEM [Nowak 2014]

Our distinction: **ANAPHORIC vs. EXOPHORIC**

Anaphoric: Referring to previously-established (familiar) entity

Exophoric: Introducing a new referent with demonstration (*that*→)

Cuts across PER vs. DEM distinction.

- (2) a. Every time I met a girl, I talked to {her, that girl}.
b. I like {her→, that girl→} but not {her→, that girl→}.
c. Look at {her→, that girl→}!

Semantic effects.

1. **Bound reading disappears** with an exophor.

- (3) Every time I met a girl, I talked to {her→, that girl→}.

2. **Emotive reading disappears** with an exophor.

- (4) How’s that→ toe?

Forms cross-linguistically: [Ahn 2017]

	ANAPHORIC	EXOPHORIC
English	<i>that F, she</i>	<i>that F→, she→</i>
Korean	<i>ku</i>	<i>ce→</i>
Romanian	short DEM	long DEM→
ASL	IX _a	IX _{ref}

ANAPHORIC vs. EXOPHORIC in ENGLISH

Experimental goal: Determine relationship between anaphoricity and pointing in English personal pronouns and demonstratives

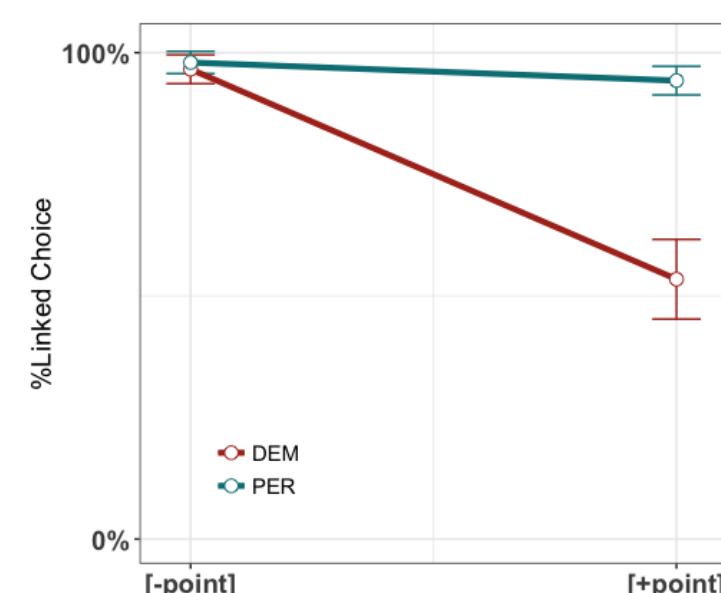


- (5) One woman is my friend.
 - a. She plays soccer. [-that, -point]
 - b. She→ plays soccer. [-that, +point]
 - c. That woman plays soccer. [+that, -point]
 - d. That→ woman plays soccer. [+that, +point]



Would the hearer link and [Aidan’s friend]?

- Anaphoric reading: **YES, pick soccer player 100%**
- Exophoric reading: **NO, pick soccer player at chance/50%**



Results:

Which woman is Aidan’s friend?

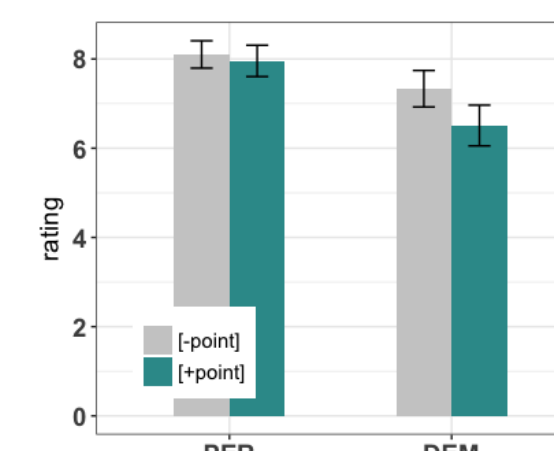
(n=50; 14 items; 4 fillers; GLMM)

Interaction of [±that] and [±point]

100% [-that -pt]; chance [+that +pt]

Naturalness ratings: (n=40; out of 0-10)

- Test items generally rated highly
- Felicity decreased with decreasing linked reference (↓ discourse coherence)



Role of → in English is different for PER vs. DEM:

1. For PER (both *she/it*), → can play supplemental role
- Potential connection with work on *depictive* co-speech gestures as supplemental (Ebert & Ebert 2014, see also Schlenker 2017)
2. For DEM, → breaks possibility for anaphoric reference, only exophoric reading available
- → necessary and sufficient for exophoric reading.

Future work: Strong bias for anaphoric readings by design, but with an exophoric bias, PER→ should look like DEM→.

ANAPHORIC vs. EXOPHORIC in KOREAN

Experimental goal: Determine relationship between anaphoricity and pointing in Korean demonstratives *ku* and *ce*

- *ku* is used as a 3sg pronoun *ku*: he, she; *ku-tul*: they

- (6) *wusan hana-nun kocangnasss-upnita.*

umbrella one-TOP broken-DECL

‘One umbrella is broken.’

a. *ce wusan-un kemunsayk-ipnita.*

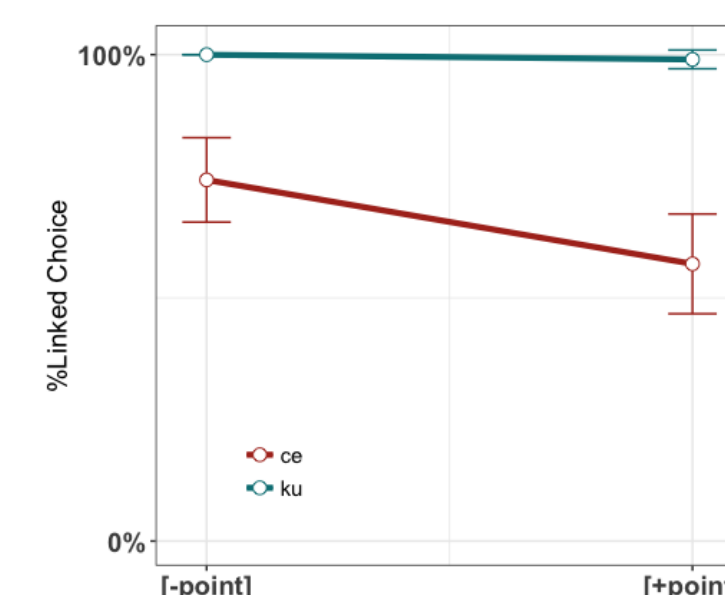
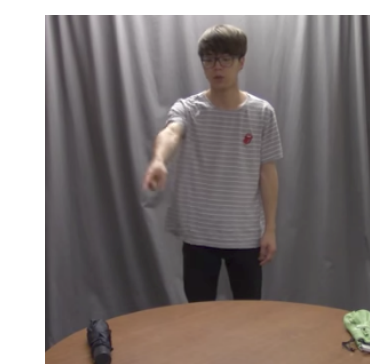
umbrella-TOP black-COP-DECL

‘that umbrella is black.’ [-ku, -pt]

b. *ce→ wusan-un...* [-ku, +pt]

c. *ku wusan-un...* [+ku, -pt]

d. *ku→ wusan-un...* [+ku, +pt]



Results: (n=37; 13 items, 5 fillers)

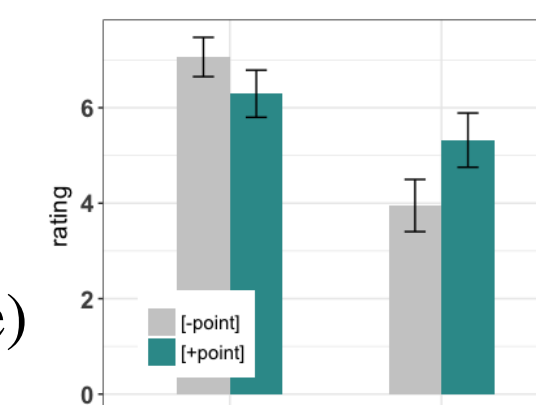
Main effect of [±ku]

ku: 100% linked

ce < 100% linked

Naturalness ratings: (n=23; out of 0-6):

- Lowest for *ce* without →
- Lower for exophoric (↓ discourse coherence)



Role of → in Korean is secondary to morphology:

1. *ku* necessarily keeps anaphoric link, even with →
2. *ce* lacks anaphoric reading altogether, only exophoric

WHAT IS EXOPHORICITY?

- Like an indefinite (Novelty Condition; Heim 1982)
But must introduce AND refer at the same time.
- Possible implementation:
 - eDP Projection above wDP & sDP (Schwarz 2009; Cheng et al. 2017)
 - Adds to the assignment function [j/y], where j is the pointee (Abstract over indices by movement to eDP)
- Possible to locate exophors within broader category NOVEL:
 - Familiar:** [anaphora], [bound], [emotive]
 - Novel:** [exophoric], [QI], [generic], [presentational]

Ahn 2017. Definite and demonstrative descriptions: a micro-typology. GLOW in Asia. Cheng, Heycock, Zamparelli 2017. Two levels of definiteness. GLOW in Asia. Ebert, Ebert 2014. Gestures, demonstratives, and the attributive/referential distinction. SPE 7. Elbourne 2013. Definite descriptions. Heim 1982. The semantics of definite and indefinite noun phrases. Kaplan 1977. Demonstratives. King 2008. Complex demonstratives, QI uses, and direct reference. Philosophical Review. Lakoff 1974. Remarks on this and that. CLS vol 10. Nowak 2014. Demonstratives without rigidity or ambiguity. L&P37. Roberts 2002. Demonstratives as definites. Information sharing: Reference and presupposition in language generation and interpretation. Schwarz 2009. Two types of definites in natural language. UMass Amherst Thesis. Schlenker 2017. Gesture projection and cosuppositions, ms, NYU. Wolter 2006. That’s that: the semantics and pragmatics of demonstrative noun phrases. UCSC Thesis.