

Preface

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Pages vii–viii of

Wh-In Situ Licensing in Questions and Sluicing

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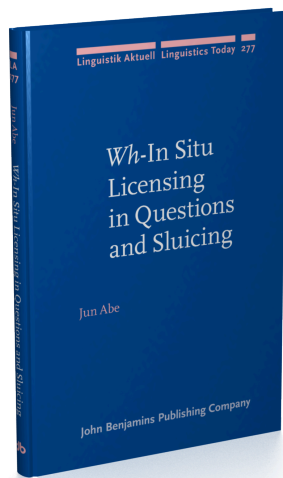
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Preface

Since Noam Chomsky published his book *Lectures on Government and Binding* in 1981, the two notions, government and binding, had been playing a central role in developing theories of universal grammar under the generative framework. After the rise of Minimalist Program, however, the notion of government was abolished completely due to its representational nature. On the other hand, the notion of binding has been around in the literature as a useful tool for capturing long dependences that do not show movement properties, despite the fact that it is just as representational as government. Aiming at resolving this apparently unwanted situation, Norbert Hornstein (2001, 2009) strongly advocates that rules of construal such as those regulating control and anaphoric dependencies should be reduced to the independently motivated operation Move. In my (2014a) book, I developed a movement theory of anaphora along this line of conception, which is basically a reformulation of James Higginbotham's linking theory. With this in background, this book aims to reconsider licensing of in-situ *wh*-phrases, for which I proposed in my (1993) Ph.D. thesis that binding plays a crucial role in licensing in-situ *wh*-arguments. Capitalizing on the Search and Float theory invented in my (2016c) book, I propose a mechanism of licensing in-situ *wh*-phrases without recourse to binding but rather with the independently motivated operations Search and internal Merge.

The book has another aim, which is concerned with sluicing, a clausal ellipsis with a *wh*-remnant. The most peculiar property of this ellipsis construction is that it is island insensitive, despite the fact that it appears to involve overt *wh*-movement and deletion of the following material. Addressing the question of why sluicing shows island insensitivity, I developed in my (2015a) book the so-called in-situ approach to sluicing, originally proposed by Hiroko Kimura (2007, 2010), according to which the *wh*-remnant of this construction stays in situ, so that it behaves just like in-situ *wh*-phrases. This book aims to give further support to this in-situ approach, thereby endorsing my main claim in my (2015a) book that "island repair by ellipsis" is a myth.

Part of the material reported in this book was presented at the following workshop and conferences: the 1st International Workshop on Basque-Japanese and Neighboring Languages, held at University of the Basque Country in 2015 (Chapter 5), the 19th Seoul International Conference on Generative Grammar, held

at Seoul National University in 2017 (Chapter 5), International Forum on Frontiers in Linguistics, held at Beijing Language and Culture University in 2018 (Chapter 2). I thank the audiences, especially Victor Pan, Myung-Kwan Park, Daiko Takahashi, Satoshi Tomioka, Myriam Uribe-Etxebarria for their invaluable feedback. I am also indebted to a reviewer of this book for his/her meticulous comments on the previous version, which led to considerable improvement. All remaining errors are solely my own.