

«Studies on Interface Conditions: Anti-Locality in Grammar»  
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Anti-locality, in the sense used here, provides a perspective on locality conditions imposed on movement dependencies that pays close attention to a possible lower bound on distance. In essence, it is encapsulated by the Anti-Locality Hypothesis stated in (1), which will be picked up from a quasi-historical vantage point, put in perspective throughout, and embellished with a presentation of more recent theoretical and empirical work pertaining to it.

- (1) Anti-Locality Hypothesis (Grohmann 2003b: 26)  
Movement must not be too local.

This take on (anti-)locality did not emerge from a vacuum, however. Several studies from Connecticut have tackled the problem over the years. On the one hand, a dissertation written just a little later than my own approach dealt with ‘too-close’ relations in syntax under the same name (Abels 2003), but for a somewhat different purpose and within quite a different set of theoretical assumptions. In addition, there are several obvious precursors in work from the mid 1990s that was never, as far as I am aware of, pursued any further (such as Bošković 1994, Murasugi & Saito 1995, Ishii 1997, and especially Saito & Murasugi 1999, going back to a 1993 manuscript, the earliest such discussion in the current context).

I will first localize the idea of ‘anti-locality’ with respect to both the current understanding of the notion and its roots in generative theorizing. This will lead to an exposition of the Anti-Locality Hypothesis (1) in the context of a structural tripartition through so-called Prolific Domains and, subsequently, to the notion of Copy Spell-Out as a ‘repair strategy’ to void an anti-locality violation that would arise otherwise. This will finally be related to the conceptual underpinnings of Prolific Domains, and a specific explanation of the Anti-Locality Hypothesis, stemming from interface conditions on the derivation and the computational system at large.

Particular emphasis will be put on the notion of Interface Condition (IC) and the role ICs play in the narrow-syntactic component, as well as post-syntactically, in particular within an elaborate PF-branch of the computational system, where multiple Spell-Out (Uriagereka 1999, also going back to an earlier, widely circulated manuscript and subsequently picked up in Chomsky 2000) is just one important ingredient. The Anti-Locality Hypothesis, if roughly correct as outlined here (where several technical implementations will be offered), has clear implications for the architecture of the grammar. Some of these will be presented from two structurally/derivationally different positions, within Phase Theory (Chomsky 2000 et seq.) and within the framework of Prolific Domains (Grohmann 2000 et seq.).