

Syntactic isomorphism and non-isomorphism under ellipsis

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Rooth (1992) and Fiengo and May (1994) argue that elliptical structures are subject to both a semantic and a syntactic parallelism requirement. Pseudosluicing, where an elliptical cleft takes a non-cleft as its antecedent, pose a problem for the idea that there is a syntactic parallelism requirement. In this talk, we will look at Spanish data (building on the analysis of Rodrigues et al. 2008) to show that syntactic parallelism is the default case, and can be overridden only under very specific circumstances. Specifically, syntactic parallelism can be obviated if, by doing so, we create a stronger (more informative) statement with respect to the antecedent clause.