10.3   The MD Verb

It has been seen in Part I for English (and now in the Appendix for Russian) that, in the perhaps most typical, or characteristic, derivational pattern for a translatory structure, the MOTIVE verb conflates with a MANNER expression to yield a 'MOTIVE+MANNER-specifying' or 'Mm' verb. Thus, English (or Russian) has a whole system (using this term loosely here) of vadic verbs which -- as the result of conflation -- specify motion (and location) in various manners.

Similarly, it has been seen in Part I for Atsugewi that, in the perhaps most typical derivational pattern for a translatory structure, the MOTIVE verb conflates with a FIGURAL expression to yield a 'FIGURE+MOTIVE-specifying' or 'FM' verb-root. Thus, Atsugewi has a whole system of vadic verb-roots which -- as the result of conflation -- specify the motion (and location) of varous objects.

Now it will be shown for Spanish that, in the perhaps most typical derivational pattern for a translatory structure, the MOTIVE verb conflates with a copy from the DIRECTIONAL expression to yield a 'MOTIVE+DIRECTIONAL-specifying' or 'MD' verb, as sketched in (33).

(33)

(a)   [a POINT] MOVE   TO IN> [a SPHERE]

(b) $\implies$ [a POINT] <u>MOVE <TO IN</u>   <u>TO</u> (IN)> [a SPHERE]
                      entrar   a

Thus, Spanish has a whole system of verbs which -- as the result of

conflation -- specify motion in various directions. Any notion of MANNER -- which English specifies conflatedly in its Mm verb -- in Spanish is either established in the prior discursive context or is specified by an independent expression which is included -- often with some awkwardness -- in the sentence containing the MD verb. In (34), a number of Spanish's MD verbs are shown in autic sentences. In each sentence there is also shown a parenthesized MANNER expression -- viz., *flotando*-- which may be omitted, or included after the verb or at the end, in most cases with some awkwardness. Its inclusion renders the Spanish sentence informationally equivalent to the under-shown English translation, which, since this is intended as a colloquial sentence, contains an Mm verb -- viz., *floated*.

(34)

(a) la botella entró   a la cueva ⟮flotando⟯
     the bottle MOVEd-in to the cave ⟮floating⟯

          the bottle floated into the cave

(b) la botella salió   de la cueva ⟮flotando⟯
     the bottle MOVEd-out from the cave ⟮floating⟯

          the bottle floated out of the cave

(c) la botella pasó   por la piedra ⟮flotando⟯
     the bottle MOVEd-by past the rock ⟮floating⟯

          the bottle floated past the rock

(d) la botella pasó   por   el túbo ⟮flotando⟯
     the bottle MOVEd-through through the pipe ⟮floating⟯

          the bottle floated through the pipe

(e) el globo   subió   por   la chimenea ⟮flotando⟯
     the balloon MOVEd-up through the chimney ⟮floating⟯

          the balloon floated up the chimney

(f) el globo   bajó   por   la chimenea ⟮flotando⟯
     the balloon MOVEd-down through the chimney ⟮floating⟯

          the balloon floated down the chimney

(g) la botella se fué   de   la orilla (flotando)
     the bottle MOVEd-away from the bank (floating)

     the bottle floated away from the bank

(h) la botella volvió   a   la orilla (flotando)
     the bottle MOVEd-back to the bank (floating)

     the bottle floated back to the bank

(i) la botella le dió vuelta   a   la isla (flotando)
     the bottle [gave turn to it:] to the island (floating)
                MOVEd-around

     the bottle floated around the island

(j) la botella cruzó   el canal (flotando)
     the bottle MOVEd-across the canal (floating)

     the bottle floated across the canal

(k) la botella iba   por   el canal (flotando)
     the bottle MOVEd-along along the canal (floating)

     the bottle floated along the canal

(l) la botella andaba   por   el canal (flotando)
     the bottle MOVEd-about about the canal (floating)

     the bottle floated around the canal

(m)   <u>las dos botellas</u> <u>se juntaron</u> $\begin{pmatrix} \text{flotando} \\ \text{floating} \end{pmatrix}$
the two bottles   MOVEd-together$_a$

       the two bottles floated together

(n)   <u>las dos botellas</u> <u>se separaron</u> $\begin{pmatrix} \text{flotando} \\ \text{floating} \end{pmatrix}$
the two bottles   MOVEd-apart$_a$

       the two bottles floated apart

(It might be noted that the Spanish MD verbs in (k) and (l), i.e., those meaning 'MOVE-along' and 'MOVE-about', are quite parallel to Russian's determinate and indeterminate verb-pairs, except that the latter have a MANNER-specifying expression, such as 'floating', additionally con-flated within them. The use of *por* after the Spanish verbs is also quite parallel to the use of *po* after the Russian verbs.)

The same pattern-difference which distinguishes Spanish from English in sentences based on an autic structure also does so in sentences based on a self-effective structure.*

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* This structure, which for no good reason was not explicity treated in Part I, specifies that an entity, as AGENT, effects the motion of his own body, as FIGURE, and undergoes a derivation wherein *MOVE* gives rise to *GO*, as sketched in (i):

(i)

(a)   an ENTITY (A) EFFECT (ρ) TO (δ)

       it, that the ENTITY's BODY (F) MOVE (M) + 'DIRECTIONAL' + 'GROUND'

        [BY it, that the ENTITY WILL ON the ENTITY's BODY]

(b) $\Rightarrow$an ENTITY (A) $\underbrace{\text{eMOVE } (\rho\delta M) \text{ the ENTITY's BODY (F)}}_{\text{GO } (\rho\delta MF)}$

                + 'DIRECTIONAL' + 'GROUND'

(c) $\Rightarrow$an ENTITY (A) GO ($\rho\delta MF$) + 'DIRECTIONAL' + 'GROUND'

There are, of course, surface sentences in many languages which are based on the structure in (ib), before the conflation into *GO*. Compare, e.g., the following English '(b)' and '(c)' type sentence-pairs:

(ii)
(b)   he threw himself out the window
(c)   he jumped out the window

(b)   he dragged himself to work
(c)   he trudged to work

Thus, just as Spanish typically conflates a DIRECTIONAL expression with *MOVE*, as was sketched in (33), so does it also with *GO*:

(35)

(a)   [the 'AGENT'/a POINT] GO   TO IN> [a SPHERE]

(b) ⟹ [the 'AGENT'/a POINT] <u>GO <TO IN</u>   <u>TO</u> (IN)> [a SPHERE]
                                entrar   a

A few examples of paired Spanish and English self-effective sentences -- parallel to the autic sentence-pairs of (34) -- are now shown in (36).

(36)

(a)   el hombre entró   a   la casa   corriendo
        the man   WENT-in to the house running

        the man ran into the house

(b)   el hombre salió   de   la casa   corriendo
        the man   WENT-out from the house running

        the man ran out of the house

(c)   el hombre subió   (por \ las escaleras corriendo
        the man   WENT-up \along/ the stairs   running

        the man ran up the stairs

(d)   el hombre bajo   (por \ las escaleras corriendo
        the man   WENT-down\along/ the stairs   running

        the man ran down the stairs

(e)   el hombre llego   a   la casa   corriendo
        the man   WENT-INTO·ARRIVAL to the house running

        [here, English must resort to the Spanish pattern:]

        the man arrived at the house at a run

The Spanish pattern of conflating a DIRECTIONAL expression with the MOTIVE-specifying verb is again observable in sentences based on an effective structure containing $_eMOVE$. Several of the surface verbs which result from such conflation are shown tabularly in (37).

(37)

A poner F en G	A put F onto G
A meter F a G	A put F into G
A subir F a G	A put F up (on) to G
A juntar F_1 & F_2	A put F_1 & F_2 together
A quitar F de G	A take F off of G
A sacar F de G	A take F out of G
A bajar F de G	A take F down from G
A separar F_1 & F_2	A take F_1 & F_2 apart

The English *PUT* verb[*] may derive to the surface[**] without further conflating with any MANNER (or other) expression.

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[*] This verb can be considered a conflation from $_e$MOVE and a MANNER expression specifying that the motion of the FIGURE is effected by the motion of the AGENT's body-parts without the translatory motion of the AGENT's whole body. This latter notion is specified by the English *CARRY* verb ($\Longrightarrow$ *carry, bring, take*).

[**] The verb keys in the suppletive vadic forms *put, take, move,* and *pick*. The particular form keyed in is determined automatically:

    put in the presence of *TO*
        I put the ball into the box
        I put the plate up onto the shelf

    take in the presence of *FROM*
        I took the ball out of the box
        I took the plate down off of the shelf

    pick in the presence of *FROM* and *up*
        I picked the plate up off of the bench

    move in the presence of *ALONG* or *ALENGTH*
        I moved the toy car along the track
        I moved the lamp three feet back

However, it *may* further conflate, whereas the Spanish effective MD verbs may not. To give one example of this difference, English can say not only

        I took the wrapper off the package

but also

I tore the wrapper off the package

I peeled the wrapper off the package

I cut the wrapper off the package,

whereas Spanish is limited to

<u>quité</u>   <u>el papel</u>   <u>de</u>   <u>-l paquete</u>
I-$_e$MOVEd-off the paper from the package

    The whole issue of the difference between English and Spanish recalls the discussion in section 4.1 on the differential disposition of information-specification in languages. There it was shown that Atsugewi -- with its extensive verb complex (i.e., the sentential-verb) and the conflational and assatellational characteristics there-of -- can backgroundedly (and casually) pack in specifications for FIGURE, GROUND, INSTRUMENT,and several more semantic components, where English must make the same specifications foregroundedly (and some-times awkwardly) with independent expressions. As Atsugewi is to English, so English is to Spanish. For, English -- with its moderate-sized verb complex and the conflational and assatellational char-acteristics thereof -- can backgroundedly (and casually) pack in specifications for MANNER and several DIRECTIONALs, where Spanish must make the same specifications foregroundedly (and often awkwardly) with independent expressions. In some cases, in fact, the equivalent quantity of specifications *cannot* be made in a single sentence, so that a portion must either be omitted or established elsewhere in

the discursive context. As an example of this extreme situation, a rather ordinary English sentence like

The man ran back down into the cellar,

containing the backgrounded specifications for one MANNER and three DIRECTIONALs, has no Spanish informational-equivalent which is not impossibly awkward. The closest reasonable Spanish sentences specify at most two of these four components, as shown in (38) [here, the verb in the English translations is chosen so as to render the Spanish verb].

(38)

(a)   <u>el hombre</u> <u>corrió</u> <u>a</u> <u>-l sótano</u>
        the man   ran   to the cellar

        the man ran to the cellar

(b)   <u>el hombre</u> <u>volvió</u>   <u>a</u> <u>-l sótano</u> <u>corriendo</u>
        the man   WENT-back to the cellar running

        the man returned to the cellar at a run

(c)   <u>el hombre</u> <u>bajó</u>   <u>a</u> <u>-l sótano</u> <u>corriendo</u>
        the man   WENT-down to the cellar running

        the man descended to the cellar at a run

(d)   <u>el hombre</u> <u>entró</u>   <u>a</u> <u>-l sótano</u> <u>corriendo</u>
        the man   WENT-in to the cellar running

        the man entered the cellar at a run.

   The patterns of information-disposition for the languages we
have looked at are now summed up in the table in (39).

(39)

Language:	Characteristic Type of Information Backgrounded by:	
	Conflation with the MOTIVE Verb	Assatellation into the Verb Complex
Atsugewi	FIGURE (in the FM root)	FIGURE (in the F prefix) GROUND (in the DG suffix) INSTRUMENT (in the *FC* or *BC* prefix)
English	MANNER (in the Mm verb)	DIRECTIONALs (in the D satellites)
Spanish	DIRECTIONAL (in the MD verb)	----- [some MANNER expressions, e.g., *corriendo*, may be close-knit to the verb]

It is of course an interesting matter to inspect other languages for their characteristic pattern and perhaps to discern some additional patterns. As one particular note in this vein, it appears on the basis of casual inspection that French (all of Romance?), Hebrew, and Samoan are of the Spanish pattern and that Nez Percé is of a pattern distinct from the three discussed.