

## 6. The Translatory Situation: The MDG Verb (-Root)

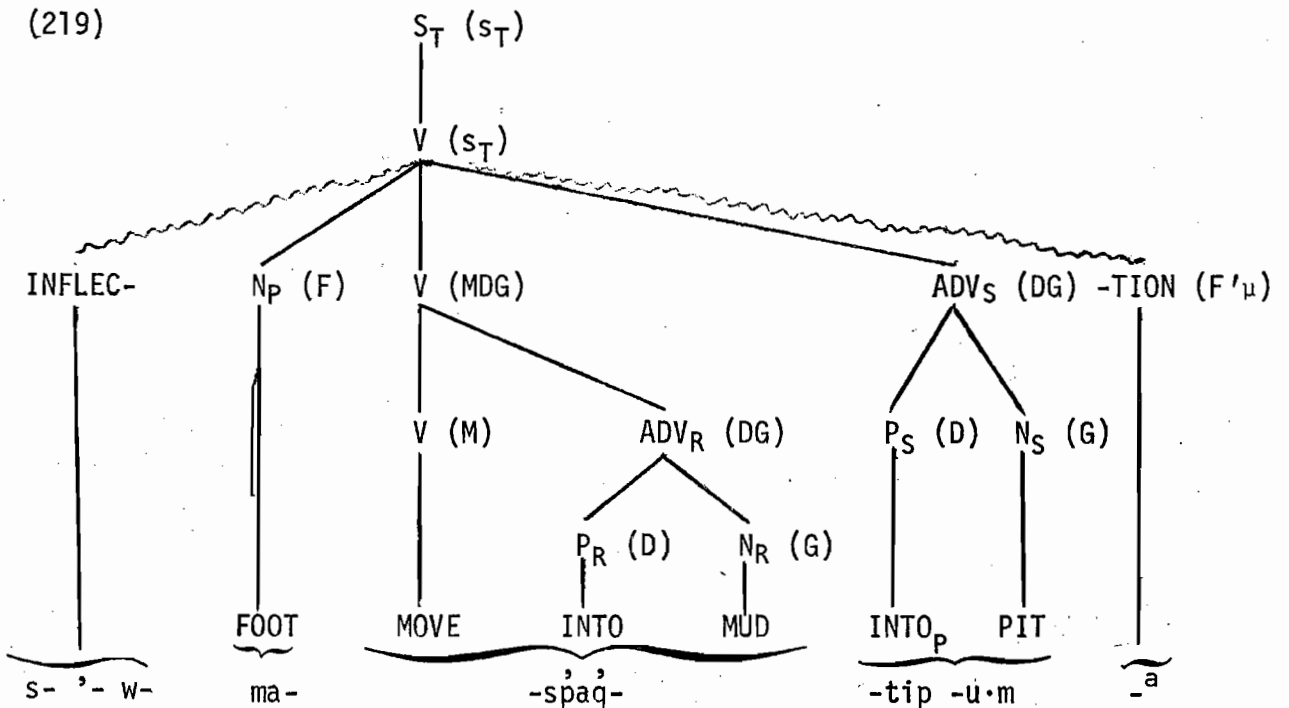
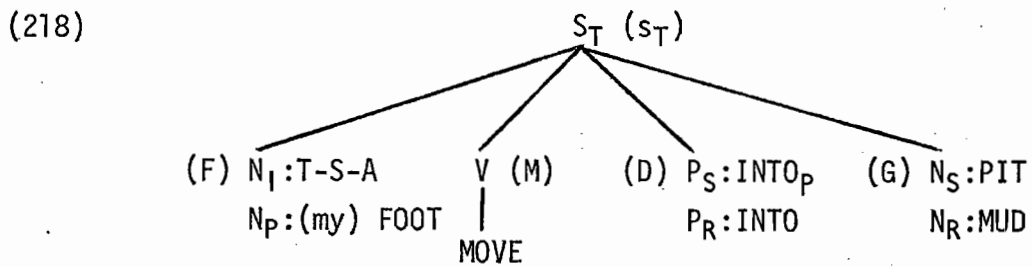
In section 3.1 we presented for an underlying translatory structure in Atsugewi that subderivation which led to the appearance in a sentential-verb of the 'FIGURE+MOTIVE-specifying' or 'FM root'. We now introduce a new root-forming subderivation; by its operation a bathic DIRECTIONAL prepositional and a bathic GROUND noun -- both earmarked for participation in this subderivation -- cojoin, onto the conjunction is inserted a non-surface-appearing vadic adverb, the adverb adjoins the bathic MOTIVE verb, and onto the adjunction is inserted a vadic root. This new type of root arising in this manner will be termed a *MOTIVE+DIRECTIONAL+GROUND-specifying root*, or, abbreviatedly, an *MDG root*.

A sentential-verb with an MDG root, like one with an FM root, may be autic, causative, effective, or adventive and contains a prefix which may be F, G, *FC* or *BC*. When its prefix is one of the latter three, the sentential-verb, it can be seen, contains no specification for FIGURE other than that provided by the inflectional affix-set. Whereas the FM root had to be followed in the sentential-verb by a DG suffix, the MDG root does not have to be, and, in fact, most often is not, so followed. When one does appear, a DG suffix provides a specification of the DIRECTIONAL and GROUND which is concurrent with and independent of that provided by the MDG root.

For a concrete illustration, the underlying translatory structure in (218), which contains bathic DIRECTIONAL and GROUND forms earmarked (as indicated by the subscript 'R' for participation in the MDG root subderivation and concurrently forms earmarked (as indicated by the

subscript 's') for participation in the DG suffix subderivation, derives into the MDG root-containing sentential-verb in (219), which for clarity is shown with most insertions delayed until this stage.\*

\* In this sentential-verb the inflectional affix-set, which gives 'I' as subject, arises by the same PART-WHOLE transformation described for English in the footnote to (205b).



The derived meaning of the MDG root appearing in (219) may be represented by three alternative formulations:

- (220) -s<sup>h</sup>paq- (a) '(for something) to move into mud'  
 (b) '(for something) to move-amud'  
 (c) '(for something) to enmud'

The whole sentential-verb, i.e.,

- (221) /s- ' - w- ma- s<sup>h</sup>paq -tip -u·m -<sup>a</sup>/ = [s<sup>h</sup>ma·s<sup>h</sup>paqt<sup>h</sup>pù·ma],

may be literally translated as

- (222a) ' { my foot  
 { I with my foot } moved into mud down into a pit-in-the-ground',

may be renderedly translated as

- (222b) '(I)-foot-enmudded-apit'

and has as one casual translation

- (222c) 'I stepped into a deep mud-hole'.

In section 15 of Part III appear examples for this and one other MDG root.

Homologous with Atsugewi MDG roots are a number of English 'MDG verbs', e.g., *box*, the derived MDG meaning of which may be represented autically as in (223):

- (223) to box (a) '(for something) to move into a Box'  
 (b) '(for something) to move-aBox'  
 (c) '(for something) to enBox'

Unlike Atsugewi, such an English verb must in general appear with an independent FIGURAL expression, but, again homologously, it need not be followed by a DG phrase, and if one does appear its specifications for the DIRECTIONAL and GROUND are independent from those of the verb. Thus, in the effective sentence in (224), *I* is the AGENT, *the cans* is the FIGURE, *eboxed* is the effected MDG verb, and in parentheses is the optional, specificationally-independent DG phrase:

(224) I <sub>e</sub>boxed the cans (into number three cardboard cartons).