

Contre le point de vue « macro-variation » sur les résomptions Against the “macro-variation” perspective on resumption

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Abstract: This article examines resumptive pronouns within the framework of generative grammar. A traditional point of view based on macro-variation argues that typologically, there are two types of languages: those that only use resumptive pronouns as a last resort to save sentences from the potential violation of locality constraints and those that only use resumptive pronouns as a general strategy to form an A'-dependency. I will examine the derivation of two types of A'-dependencies: relative clauses and left-dislocation (LD) structures. Mandarin Chinese shows that the same language can very well use both strategies with regard to resumptive pronouns and therefore the macro-variation perspective cannot be defended.

Key words: resumptive pronoun, A'-dependency, Agree, Move, generative syntax, Mandarin Chinese.