Clause complexity

- There are two systemic dimensions when interpretating **clause complexity**

- One is the system of **interdependency**, or 'tactic' system, **parataxis** and **hypotaxis**, which is general to all complexes – word, group, phrase and clause alike.

- The other is the **logico-semantic system** of **expansion** and **projection**, which is specific to clause combining.

Interdependency

- A typical clause complex is a mixture of paratactic and hypotactic sequences.

- In parataxis, elements are of equal status. Each element could stand as a functioning whole. The relations can be logically (in general) symmetrical (*salt and pepper, pepper and salt*) or transitive (*salt and pepper, pepper and mustard, salt and mustard*).

- Hypotactic relationships are elements of unequal status. The dominant element (primary) is free, the dependent (secondary) of course is not. The relations are in general logically non-symmetrical (*I breathe when I sleep ≠ I sleep when I breathe*) or non-transitive (*I fret when I have to drive slowly + I have to drive slowly when it's been raining ≠ I fret when it's been raining*)

Logico-semantic relations

- Clause expansion is subdivided into elaboration, extension and enhancement
- **Elaboration**: one clause expands another by elaborating on it, restating it in other words, specifying it in greater detail, commenting or exemplifying it.
- Examples of clause connectors of elaborated, paratactic clauses: *and, in other words, i.e., for example, e.g., to be precise, viz., or (rather), that is to say, for instance, in particular, in fact, actually, indeed, at least.*
- Examples of clause connectors of elaborated, hypotactic clauses: *which, when, where.*

Logico-semantic relations

- **Extension**: one clause expands another by extending beyond it, adding some new element, giving an exception to it, or offering an alternative.

- Examples of clause connectors of extended, paratactic clauses: (*both....) and; not only ... but also, (neither...) nor, (and) yet; but, but not, not... but only, except, (either...) or (else)*

- Examples of clause connectors of extended, hypotactic clauses: *whereas, while, except that, as well as, without, instead of*

Logico-semantic relations

- **Enhancement**: one clause expands another by embellishing around it, qualifying it with some circumstantial feature of time, place, cause or condition.

- Examples of clause connectors of enhanced, paratactic clauses: then, so, for, but, yet, still, meanwhile, at that time, in that case / way, therefore, however, nevertheless

- Examples of clause connectors of enhanced, hypotactic clauses: because (of), as, in case, while, before, since, after, provided that

Logico-semantic relations

- Projection is subdivided into locution and idea.
- **Locution**: one clause is projected through another, which presents it as a locution, a construction of wording.
- Example of clause relations of locution &, parataxis: *He said: "I don't like coke very much."*
- Example of clause relations of locution &, hypotaxis: *He said that he doesn't like coke very much.*

Logico-semantic relations

- Projection is subdivided into locution and idea.

- **Idea**: one clause is projected through another, which presents it as an idea, a construction of meaning.

- Example of clause relations idea & parataxis: *He thinks: "I will never like coke"*

- Example of clause relations idea & hypotaxis: *He decided that he will never be able to like coke.*

	PARATACTIC	HYPOTACTIC
EXPANSION		
elaboration	John didn't wait; 1 he ran away. =2	John ran away, α which surprised everyone. =β
extension	John ran away, 1 and Fred stayed behind. +2	John ran away, α whereas Fred stayed behind. +β
enhancement	John was scared, 1 so he ran away. x2	John ran away, α because he was scared. xβ
PROJECTION		
locution	John said: 1 'I'm running away' "2	John said α he was running away. "β
idea	John thought to himself: 1 'I'll run away' '2	John thought α he would run away. 'β

Although Alice has told the world	that her value for N is 175,828,273,	she has not revealed her value for p and q,	so only she has the special information	required to decrypt her own messages.
α	=β			
		α	α	= β
+β				
1			x2	

Alice's choice of N effectively becomes her public encryption key	and she could print it on her business card	post it on the internet	or publish it in a public-key directory along with everybody value of N
1	1	+2	+3
	+2		

(Analysis by Schneider & Wirth, *Above the clause. Clause complexity*, term paper, department of linguistics and literary studies, TUD, SS 2005)