C-command in processing of caki

Chung-hye Han (Simon Fraser University)

Korean long-distance anaphor *caki* typically gets its meaning from an antecedent in the same sentence. This anaphoric dependency between *caki* and its antecedent has been argued to be a relation of variable binding (Han & Stroshenko 2012). One of the arguments that have been used to support this proposal is that *caki*-binding is sensitive to c-command, requiring *caki* to be c-commanded by its antecedent. However, potential counterexamples can be found in the literature that show that *caki* need not be c-commanded by its antecedent (S.-Y. Kim 2000, O'Grady 1987). In English, even though bound variables allow non-c-commanding quantificational antecedents (Barker 2012), it has been shown that the processing profile of bound variables c-commanded by quantificational antecedents is different from the non-c-commanded bound variables (Kush et al. 2015, Cunning et al. 2015, Moulton & Han 2018). This talk presents data from an acceptability rating experiment and two self-paced reading experiments that suggest that *caki*-binding is sensitive to c-command in both off-line acceptability and on-line processing, providing experimental support for the bound-variable status of *caki*.