

### On the Syntax of Adverbial Clauses in Icelandic

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In general, adverbial clauses in Icelandic are resistant to argument and adjunct fronting, but there are noted exceptions to this. Rögnvaldsson and Thráinsson (1990:25) provide examples of non-subject fronting in adverbial clauses (1a) and Magnússon (1990:104,5-75,a) in (1b).

- (1) a. Þegar komið var til Reykjavíkur [...]
   
when arrived was to Reykjavík
   
b. fyrst hurðina getum við ekki opnað verðum við að brjóta gluggann
   
since door-the can we not open we to break window-the
   
'since we can't open the door, we will have to break the window.'

In addition, it has been shown that some adverbial clauses resist argument fronting (Wiklund, Hrafnbjargarson, Bentzen, and Hróarsdóttir 2007) whereas adjunct extraction from some subject initial V2 adverbial clauses in Icelandic is possible (Hrafnbjargarson, Bentzen, and Wiklund 2010). Further, Angantýsson 2011 has observed that a verb third order is possible in some adverbial clauses with pronominal subjects. Subjunctive mood plays a role in some adverbial clauses as in (2), a result clause in (2a), a purpose clause in (2b) but not in others.

- (2) a. Hann flýtti sér svo að hann kom ekki af seint.
   
He hurried self so that he came-IND not late
   
'He hurried, so he wasn't late.'
   
b. Hann flýtti sér svo að hann komi ekki af seint.
   
He hurried self so that he came-SUBJ not late
   
'He hurried so he wasn't late.'

The goal of this paper is to unify these observations and to provide a systematic overview and analysis of the the syntax of Icelandic adverbial clauses in terms of the whether they do or do not allow so-called main clause phenomena. The classification of adverbial clauses follows the typology of Haegeman (2012) where adverbial clauses are divided into two classes: central adverbial clauses that resist main clause phenomena and peripheral adverbial clauses that may permit such phenomena (XP-fronting etc.). In addition, the role of subjunctive mood, the possibility of stylistic fronting, extraction phenomena, and adjunct/argument fronting asymmetries are taken into account.

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