

An apparent vehicle change phenomenon in the absence of ellipsis
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In this on-going joint work with Alex Drummond (McGill University), we explore analyses of so-called strict readings of reflexives as in the sentence *Yoko defended herself better than the lawyer did*, where the intended interpretation is the one in which Yoko did a better job in defending herself than the lawyer did in defending Yoko. In a so-called vehicle change analysis of such a sentence (Fiengo & May 1994), *herself* is replaced with *her* in the elided phrase. According to Bhatt & Takahashi (2011), phrasal comparatives in Japanese and Hindi-Urdu have non-ellipsis derivations. We would then expect strict readings of reflexives to be unavailable in these constructions. The unexpected availability of such readings (Kishida 2012) provides support for an analysis where a reflexive is bound locally after undergoing short QR to VP (Hestvik 1995, Heim 1993), as a vehicle change analysis is not possible in the absence of ellipsis.