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Standard Modern Greek

Modern Greek Complementisers:

που $πως/\acute{ο}τι$ να $(και, \emptyset)$ (Italiot: ca; Anatolian Greek το; Pharasiot κι; Tsakonian, Italiot: participle)

να irrealis; που, πως/ότι realis.

Relative distribution of που vs. $\pi\omega\varsigma/\acute{o}\tau\iota$ in Contemporary Standard Modern Greek (CSMG):

e.g. Χαίρομαι που ήρθε/*Χαίρομαι πως ήρθε 'glad' Θυμάμαι που ήρθε/Θυμάμαι πως ήρθε 'remember' (Το) Ξέρω που ήρθε/Ξέρω πως ήρθε 'know' ??Λέω που ήρθε/Λέω πως ήρθε 'say' *Νομίζω που ήρθε/Νομίζω πως ήρθε 'think'

In CSMG, που obligatory for true factives (Kiparsky & Kiparsky 1971), $\pi\omega\varsigma$ /ότι for non-factive. Choice for semi-factives (που marked, $\pi\omega\varsigma$ /ότι unmarked).

Factors determining choice (very hard to extricate!):

- truth valuation/assertivity— $\pi\omega\varsigma/\delta\tau\iota$ makes a distinct complement (fact) assertion and matrix assertion; $\pi\upsilon\upsilon$ 'presupposes' truth of its (event) complement. (Christidis 1981; Svalberg 1992; Ginzburg & Kolliakou 1997 [1995])
- givenness/theme—πως/ότι-complement is foregrounded in discourse; που-complement is backgrounded/discourse theme (Kakouriotis 1982; Delveroudi, Tsamadou & Vassilaki 1994 [1993]; Varlokosta)

In general, distribution of $\pi o \nu$ in Standard Modern Greek characterised by competition with $\nu \alpha$; $\pi o \nu$ -clauses are realis/given, $\nu \alpha$ -clauses are irrealis.

Christidis (1986) and Papadopoulou (1994) posit metaphoricist grammaticalisation account:

όπου (stationary in space) \rightarrow που (given in discourse)

Semantic Factor Analysis

Need to posit vector space classifying complement-taking predicates, to allow distribution of $\pi o \nu$ to be classified objectively. Scheme after Ransom (1986).

SEMANTIC CLASS:	Emotive	e.g. χαίρομαι 'ε	glad'
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Physical/Cognitive e.g. ξέρω 'ki	now'

Asserted

Determined: Weakly e.g. νομίζω 'think'

Asserted

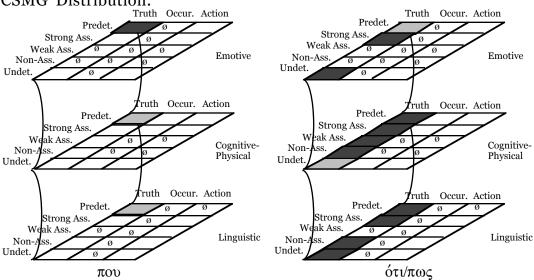
Undetermined: e.g. ελπίζω 'hope' Indeterminate: e.g. απορώ 'wonder'

INFORMATION Truth e.g. ξέρω 'know'

MODALITY: Future Truth e.g. προβλέπω 'predict'

Occurrence e.g. βλέπω 'see' Action e.g. αρχίζω 'begin'

CSMG Distribution:

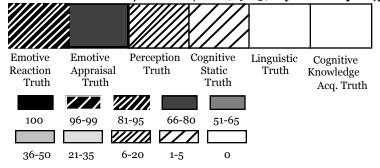


 $\pi o \nu$ near-obligatory for emotive predetermined truth (true factives)—though less so for subject complements (appraisals) than object complements (reactions);

- marked for cognitive/physical predetermined truth (semi-factives);
- marginal for linguistic predetermined truth;

• disallowed for any other evaluation or information modality.

Counts from Το Τρίτο Στεφάνι (1963) by Κώστας Ταχτσής:



Dialect Survey



Spread in Evaluation Modality

Weak assertive που (e.g. νομίζω που...) present in:

• Thracian, Western Macedonian, Corfiot, Livisiot, Italiot (1 instance)

Semi-Factive $\pi o \nu$ used in broader contexts (e.g. with false complements) in:

• Tsakonian, Thracian, Western Macedonian, Corfiot, Livisiot, Italiot

Spread in Semantic Class

Linguistic που (e.g. λέω που) present in:

• Thracian, Western Macedonian, Corfiot, Livisiot, Italiot (1 instance), (Tsakonian?)

Not restricted to given, topicalised contexts; appears with false complements

Proportion of Linguistic $\pi o v$ varies greatly even within Thracian:

• 100% in Kouvouklia (Bithynia), Saranda Ekklisies (corpus of 4!)

- 93% in Psichari (1886)
- 35% in Cavafy
- 43% in Lemnos
- 12% in Marmara

Inhomogeneity suggests lexical diffusion as underlying distribution; lexical diffusion then smoothed over in most dialects through analogical levelling.

Spread in Information Modality

Action που (e.g. καταφέρνω που) present in:

• Italiot (14 instances), (Corfiot?)
(Calque of Italian participle? sta mangiando > steo pu troo)

Seems: EVALUATION MODALITY > SEMANTIC CLASS > INFORMATION MODALITY

Corroboration: the divide between $\pi\omega\varsigma$ and $\nu\alpha$ primarily expresses Information Modality (fact vs. event), and is remarkably consistent in Modern Greek

Conversely:

που wholly absent in:

• Silliot, Mariupolitan

(e.g. Qουγιουμjής σεβινάς πολ'ύ, **όč**ι qαζάνjησι πολ'ύ παρά 'The goldsmith is very much pleased **that** he has gained much money'; Limbizmen **ot'** perasan n' dunja liγus piδija 'Regretting **that** they had traversed life without children')

• Cappadocian (but for Constantinopolitanisms in Delmeso schoolkids)

The relativiser $\pi o \nu$ itself is marginal in Silli and Cappadocia The relativiser $\tau o/\tau o \nu$ is prominent as a complementiser, but better explained as a Turcism

που vestigial in Pontic (possibly contingent reanalysis from ντο as relativiser/complementiser). 17% use in emotives—against 38% for πως!

Independent:

Tsakonia from others Italiot from others Livisiot from others Corfu from others

Thracian (including Bithynian) and Western Macedonian NOT contiguous

Dependent:

Mariupolitan & Silliot may represent Old Western Anatolian Pontic & Cappadocian represent Old (Eastern) Anatolian

External Influence:

Can explain Western Macedonian (< Macedonian Slavonic дека)
Probably doesn't explain Thracian (no comparable complementiser in Bulgarian)

Explains Anatolian usage of vto as nominaliser (circumstantial evidence that it calques Turkish personal participle) Explains Italiot usage of ca, but not pu

Not a useful explanation elsewhere

(Absence of Anatolian $\pi o v$ indicative of relative antiquity; ditto for absence of complementiser- $\pi \omega \varsigma$ in Cappadocian/Mariupolitan)

Extensions

Frequent expansion of $\pi o \nu$ at least into non-factivity (mirroring development of Hebrew *asher*: Givón 1991)

Reflective of general fractiousness of $\pi o \nu$ in Eastern Greek dialects—much less consistently factive than Western Greek (including CSMG)

Behaviour of $\pi o \nu$ across dialects (particularly Pontic) shows semantics inhere not in etymology, but paradigmatic opposition

Possibly indicates stronger analogical levelling in Western Greek under pressure of language contact (cf. Contossopoulos on verbal morphonology)

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