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As far as is known, all languages have ways of expressing modality, i.e., notions of possibility, necessity, contingency, etc. But this pervasive phenomenon has so far been the object of little systematic linguistic analysis. In fact, investigators do not even agree on the scope of the term modality. Very roughly speaking, two kinds of modality have been distinguished, namely epistemic and deontic. The former involves the speaker's judgment as to the degree of certainty of an event or state of affairs being referred to. Deontic modality, on the other hand, has to do with such notions as obligation, permissibility and necessity. However, as useful as this distinction is, little is known so far concerning the linguistic patterns which express those ideas. It is clear that the modality systems of a great many languages will need to be thoroughly scrutinized and compared before any conclusions can be drawn as to their place in 'universal grammar.'

The papers included in this volume of the Kansas Working Papers in Linguistics were written by graduate students at the University of Kansas for a seminar on modality taught by Professor Choon-Kyu Oh in the spring of 1979. They deal with a variety of topics bearing on modality and with a variety of languages and language families. It is our hope that these papers will stimulate comments from colleagues at other institutions.

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THE SUBJUNCTIVE IN SPANISH

J. Miguel Solano

Abstract: The various analyses for the subjunctive in Spanish that have been proposed can be classified into two major categories: syntactic and semantic. Syntactic analyses consist mainly of classifications of instances in which the subjunctive must be used. Semantic analyses try to give the underlying principle(s) that seem to govern the use of the subjunctive in Spanish. In this paper two examples of each major category are discussed, and a new semantic account in terms of conventional implicature is proposed. A single idea seems to account for most of the cases in which the subjunctive is used in Spanish.

Introduction

A native speaker of Spanish without a sophisticated knowledge of the subjunctive mood will, when asked about his criterion for choosing a subjunctive form of a verb instead of an indicative one, be able to say whether a sentence is right or wrong, but usually not be able to explain why. For the teacher of Spanish as a second or foreign language, whether or not he is a native speaker, it can be very helpful to have a good understanding of the subjunctive mood, because he will be in a better position to help his students than a teacher without such knowledge.

According to Spanish teachers the subjunctive is one of the most difficult parts of Spanish. Ever since Spanish became a target language for English-speaking students, the word "subjunctive" has caused "fear and trepidation in the hearts of the learners" (Zhou 1975, p. 323), and many learners consider it "the ghastly part of the grammar" (McKay 1976, p. 1).

In this paper I will discuss the different uses of the subjunctive in Spanish, and what they roughly correspond to in English. For this purpose I will examine various types of analyses that have been proposed for the subjunctive in order to determine their degree of success in describing its meaning and usage. I will offer an entirely different analysis that seems to account for the facts better than the analyses that have been proposed so far.

The subjunctive in English seems to be disappearing. The attitudes English speakers have toward this mood are contributing to its extinction: it is considered formal and pedantic, and teachers discourage its use by labeling it pretentious and artificial (McKay 1976, p. 11).

The subjunctive in Spanish, however, is an essential part of the grammar; it is used in all types of situations, and people do not have special attitudes that discourage its use; on the contrary, mastery of the subjunctive is one of the signs of good control of the language.

Descriptions of the subjunctive that various scholars have given can be divided into two major categories: syntactic and semantic. The former consists mainly of classifications to help the learner memorize those cases.
in which the subjunctive has to be used; the latter attempts to account for the use of the subjunctive in terms of semantic concepts such as presupposition and assertion.

Syntactic Descriptions

McKay's Account. McKay intends to enable the student to grasp the sense and to appreciate the use of the subjunctive in Spanish (McKay 1976, p. 4). He gives three characteristics of the subjunctive in Spanish: (1) It can be used to reflect the world of emotional responses, the ills, the melancholy, and the desires of everyday living, the doubts, judgments, suppositions, and contingencies of the human condition. (2) Its use is determined by the speaker's attitude. It reflects the speaker's feelings or opinions rather than his tested assurances. (3) It usually appears in subordinate constructions, a characteristic which is suggested by the name itself— the name subjunctive comes from Latin "subjungere" 'yoked under' (McKay, p. 11). However, the dominating verb does not always appear on the surface.

(1) Que lo haga Juan. 'Let Juan do it.'

The verb HAGA (subjunctive forms will be written in capital letters throughout the paper) can be thought of as embedded into a main clause as in

(2) Quiero que lo haga Juan. 'I want Juan to do it.'

(I-want that it DO Juan) (Lit.)

The list of situations that call for the subjunctive includes, according to McKay: commands, impersonal expressions, sentences that express emotion, persuasion, volition, denial, disbelief, uncertainty, indefiniteness, conditions contrary to fact, softened requests, polite statements, and sentences that include expressions like QUIERO 'perhaps', tal vez 'maybe', DEJAR 'I wish', I hope, if only', and COMO SI 'as if'.

Commands: It is true that commands are most frequently expressed in the subjunctive, but to say that commands are expressed in the subjunctive mood and nothing more represents an oversimplification. There are actually two other ways of expressing commands: one that uses an indicative form, and another that uses the imperative form of the verb. Although the imperative mood may be considered an intensification of the subjunctive mood (Gill-Man 1973, p. 145), there are surface differences that distinguish them, as (4-6) indicate.

(3) Venga a verme. 'Come early, do you hear!'

(4) VENGA. 'Come!' (Impersonal familiar singular for speakers who use tu 'you')

(5) VEN: 'Come!' (Impersonal familiar singular: for speakers who use vos 'you' (my case))

(6) VENGA! 'Come!' (Subjective form used with usted 'you' (singular formal)).

The plural form corresponding to these last three examples is the subjunctive form illustrated by (7), because the imperative VENDAN (completos) 'Come!' is considered very formal, and is almost never used. Gill-Man (1973, p. 145) also recognizes that the subjunctive form predominates in several countries of Latin America.

(7) VENDAN! 'Come!'
Indirect command: This type of sentence refers to commands embedded in a main clause.
(8) DÍGAME que DEJES el cigarro. 'Tell him to leave the cigarro.'
(9) le mandé que se AFIRMAC. 'I ordered him to shave himself.'
Sometimes the main clause is omitted, and the speaker's will is expressed in the subjunctive.
(10) Que nadie se ATREVÍA a decirme nada! 'Don't anybody dare to say anything to me.'
The constant repetition of this type of indirect command has resulted in idiomatic expressions like
(11) [Que] VIVA el Presidente. 'Long live the President.'
I think expressions of the type illustrated by (11) are more closely related to sentences indicating desire than to indirect commands. Que 'that' is optionally deletable in (12) but not in (10).
Imperative expressions: With sentences that contain impersonal expressions, the verb in the subordinate clause will be in the subjunctive as long as the subject of the embedded clause is not correlative with that of the main clause.
(12) Es mejor que se QUEMA callado. 'You'd better shut up.'
Other imperfetive expressions include me vale 'it's better', parece 'It seems', puede ser 'it may be', and vale la pena 'it's worthwhile'. When the sentence is completely imperfetive, an infinitive is used.
(13) Vale la pena ir. 'It is worthwhile to go.'
Emotion: Expressions in the main clause that have to do with strong feeling like anger, fear, desire, hope, joy, pleasure, regret, sorrow, surprise, etc. call for the subjunctive if there is no correlation between the two subjects. The idea involved in this case is that a sentiment expressed by the speaker concerns the actions of another. If there is no change of subject involved, an infinitive is used (but see (14) and (16) below).
(15) No me gusta que se CUENTEN sus problemas. 'I don't like her telling me her problems.'
(16) Me gusta contarle mis problemas. 'I like to tell her my problems.'
Doubt: Strong doubt as opposed to weak doubt is essential for using the subjunctive in the embedded clause. If the speaker wants to convey that his doubt is minimal, he may use the indicative. In a similar manner, with verbs of denial or disbelief, it is the speaker's attitude rather than the verb itself that determines the mood of the verb in the embedded clause.
(16) Dudo que nos VAYA a hacer falta. 'I doubt that I'll miss her.'
(17) Dudas que está lloviendo? ¿Avente a la ventisca? 'Do you doubt that it is raining? Look out the window!'
(18) No creo que Juan SEPA esto. 'I don't think Juan knows that much.'
(19) No creo que Juan lo saque. (Ind.) He does not believe that Juan knows it.
(20) El jueves negó que los abogados ESTUVIERAN involucrados en el asunto. 'The judge denied that the lawyers were involved in that scandal.'
The explanation in terms of weak versus strong doubt is not entirely satisfactory because for me, (17) does not involve doubt at all, at least for the speaker. In the comparison of my analysis with the others presented in this paper, I will offer a more convincing explanation (see page 93).

**Persuasion:** Verbs that express persuasion, permission, advice, inducement, and request call for the subjunctive if there is a change of subject.

(21) Me pidió que VENIERA. 'He asked me to come.'
(22) No le permití que SALIERA. 'I did not allow him to leave.'
(23) Me aconsejó que FUESE. 'He advised me to go.'
(24) Le propuse que nos CASEÁRANOS. 'I proposed marriage to her.'
(25) (her I-proposed that we get-married)

**Volition:** Verbs that imply an act of volition, choosing, or deciding are followed by a verb in the subjunctive if there is a change of subject.

(25) Prefiero que nos QUERÉRANOS aquí. 'I prefer that we remain here.'
(26) Insistí en que SEAMOS discretos. 'They insist that we be discrete.'

**Uncertainty:** A number of adverbial conjunctions in Spanish, by their very meaning, convey a sense of uncertainty or unlikeness about the action of the subordinate clause. These conjunctions refer to condition, manner, purpose, time, and concession.

(27) Le permite al niño que JUDEIR con cosas religiosas con tal de que no DEJE en paz. 'She lets the child play with dangerous things in order that he leave her alone.'
(28) Haré el trabajo como usted me lo dije SIEMPRE. (a) odiarlo. (b) 'I'll do the work whatever way you order me.'
(29) No vamos a cuanto COMO. 'We'll leave as soon as we can.'
(30) Aunque SEA Pea, es una buena muchacha. 'Even though she may be honesty, she's a nice girl.'

In (28) and (30) it is also possible to use the indicative.

**Indefiniteness:** When a subordinate clause refers back to someone or something imprecise, indefinite, undetermined, or nonexistent, the subjunctive is required.

(31) Hay alguien que quiere ofrecerse como voluntario. 'There is someone that wants to volunteer.'
(32) Hay alguien que QUIERA ofrecerse como voluntario? 'Is there anyone who might want to volunteer?'
(33) No hay nadie que QUIERA ofrecerse como voluntario. 'There isn't anyone willing to volunteer.'
(34) Busco un appart que me QUEDA bien. 'I'm looking for a coat that might fit me.'
(35) Busco un abrigo que no QUEDA bien. 'I'm looking for a coat that fits me.'

Supposedly (35) refers to something that exists and (34) refers to something that can be thought of as nonexistent, at least at the time of speaking but (35) would contradict this.

(36) Busco un abrigo que no QUEDA bien. 'I'm looking for a coat that fits me.'
Sentence (36) indicates that the cost exists, but it is not specified. The explanation for the choice of mood in terms of definiteness versus indefiniteness does not work either, as the following example also shows.

(37) Me llueve el abrigo que me QUERÍA bien. 'I'll take whatever name that might fill me.'

McKay's explanation in terms of definiteness versus indefiniteness is partly right. What must be recognized is that Spanish marks a distinction between definite versus indefinite by the article, and also a distinction between specific versus non-specific by the mood of the verb (specific is indicated by the indicative mood, and non-specific by the subjunctive). Examples (34-37) show a neat symmetry of this phenomenon.

Softened requests and polite statements: With auxiliary verbs like deber 'must', poder 'can', and querer 'to want' the past subjunctive can be used to soften a statement with politeness.

(38) QUIÑOBRAS proceder contra ella. 'We would like to sue her.'

(39) Deberías regresar sus consabidos. 'You should follow his advice.'

(40) Pregúntale amistad. 'Could you help me?'

The last two examples do not contain subjunctive forms according to the analysis of conditionals given below (p.76).

Solé and Solé's View: Solé and Solé (1977) go a little deeper into the analysis of the subjunctive in Spanish than McKay does. Not only do they give a nearly exhaustive list of situations in which the subjunctive is used, but they also try to give the underlying principles that seem to govern its use.

Causation of Behavior: According to Solé and Solé, the subjunctive is used when the governing notion is one of causation of behavior, i.e., when a speaker tries to influence the behavior of another to obtain a desired result. A similar idea was expressed by McKay (page 72 above), but in this case the idea is more general and includes, under different titles, most of the cases mentioned by McKay. Closely related to this idea of causation of behavior is the notion of something being hypothetical. Predicate nominals as in (41) (what McKay calls impersonal expressions, page 73 above) describe an event as hypothetical.

(41) Hay pocas posibilidades de que se REUVENDA. 'There is little possibility that he will get well.'

There must be a second subject different from the first one upon which the first can exercise influence. Otherwise an infinitive is used.

(42) Insistir en ir. 'He insisted on going.'

(43) Insistir en que VENIRAN. 'He insisted that they come.'

The notion of a change of subject makes sense for (42-43), but I don't think it makes sense for (41). Besides, there are cases in which it is possible to use a clause rather than an infinitive even if there is no change of subject.

(44) Dudo que lo PUEDA venir. 'I doubt that I can come.'
Furthermore, as Solé and Solé point out (1977, p. 161) verbs of believing, thinking, and saying generally take clauses even if no change of subject is involved.

(45) **Creo que está bien.** 'He thinks he is all right.'

Sentences (45-46) also show that an embedded clause does not always have a verb in the subjunctive. When the verb conveys non-hypothetical information, the indicative mood is used.

Emotion and personal inclination: The subjunctive is also used when the governing notion is causation of emotion or when it describes personal inclination. Verbs which convey anger, pleasure, surprise, regret, forgiveness, hope, fear, etc., always take the subjunctive when they occur in an embedded clause (Solé and Solé, p. 160). There are numerous exceptions to this statement that will also be discussed below.

The most common occurrence of the subjunctive as a causative of emotion is in four classes of various functions: subject, object, adverbial. Subject clauses may be extraposed to the end of the sentence as in

(47) **Me da envío que todo el SAUSA bien.** 'It makes me envious that everything turns out all right for him.'

(48) **Espero que ya HAYA llegado.** 'I hope he has arrived already.'

(49) **Bien por después un pasaje después de que hasendo.** 'We always take a walk after eating.'

(50) **Desde que COMIENDO frecuente un pasaje.** 'We'll take a walk after we eat.'

The last two examples indicate that the choice of mood in adverbial clauses depends on the factual or hypothetical nature of the event. If the adverbial clause expresses reality or goal it takes the subjunctive because the result is hypothetical.

(51) **Atracan vengo para que me AYUDEN con esta tarea.**

(Tomorrow I come so that you will help me with this task)

I'll come tomorrow so that you can help me with this assignment.'

**Conditional:** Conditional sentences deserve a section of their own because they are closely related to the subjunctive, especially in English.

There is a controversy among Spanish grammarians on how to treat the conditional. Some authors include it among the forms of the indicative (Ull-Navia, 1973), and still others consider it to be a transition between the two (Alonso, 1968, and De Val, 1966). De Val considers it to be closer to the subjunctive because of its meaning: both the conditional and the subjunctive are used to express eventually, condition, and affectivity (p. 160).

The conditional: Formerly it was treated as a separate mood in the grammar of the Spanish Royal Academy before its edition in 1973, in which it was included among the forms of the indicative mood. According to the 1973 grammar the conditional has a periphrastic origin: **amaría 'would love'** derives from **amar no (había) 'had to love'** (había is an indicative form), and it expresses future action in relation to the past.

Perhaps it is important to realize that "conditional" refers to the part that is normally translated in English by **would + Verb**, and its
most frequent use is in the consequent clause of a conditional sentence. (52) Si TUVIERA dinero compraría un coche.
(‘If I had money I would buy a car.’)

Gili-Gaya (1973, pp. 167-173) claims that his reasons for considering the conditional as one of the forms of the indicative are conclusive. As evidence he offers the following argument: equivalences between the forms ería and era caused some authors to consider the conditional a subjunctive form. To convince oneself that there are no differences in mood that might separate the conditional from the others of the indicative, all one has to do is use a verb of possibility, necessity or desire in a sentence such as

(53) Dijo que cantaría. ‘He said that he would sing.’
as opposed to

(54) Le mandé que cantase. ‘He ordered her to sing.’

The subordinate verb in (53) refers to future action with respect to the past. The embedded verbs in (53-54) are not interchangeable when dijo refers to a verb of saying.

The conditional also expresses probability referring to either the past or the future.

(55) Verían como las 10 p.m. (Probabilmente eran las 10.)
(‘It would be about 10.’)

(56) Vería interesante a Ir a lo que va a decir.
(‘It would be interesting to hear what he is going to say.’)

We can express present probability with the future.

(57) Verán las seis. ‘It’s probably six o’clock.’

(‘It-will-be six’)

Past possibility can be expressed with the future perfect.

(58) Habrá salido ya. ‘They will have left already.’

With the conditional we can express what Gili-Gaya calls ‘imperfect possibility’ (p. 165) referring to the past, the present, or the future, as shown in (55), (56) above, and (59) below.

(59) El Presidente Carter estaría dispuesto a hablar con Castro.
(‘President Carter would be willing to talk to Castro.’)

(59) may mean that he is willing to do so right now. By using the conditional the speaker does not assert the truth of the statement. According to Gili-Gaya (Footnote 6, p. 165) this limited use of the conditional represents a literal translation from English or French, which does not violate the normal uses of the conditional.

From the same meaning of probability or possibility is derived the concessive use of the conditional in Spanish.

(60) Vería mal de cara, pero tenía buenas intenciones.
(‘She may have had an ugly face, but she had beautiful legs.’)

The use of the conditional as an indicator of politeness or modesty derives from the imperfect aspect of haber which entered its composition.

(61) Me gustaría conversar con usted. ‘I would like to talk to you.’

With verbs like querer ‘to want’, deber ‘must’, and poder ‘can’, according to Gili-Gaya, the conditional, the preterite imperfect indicative, and the preterite imperfect subjunctive can be used without
changing the time relation.

(62) "Debería tener un poco de vergüenza."
DEBERÍA
Debería
"I should be a little ashamed."
For me and for the people I consulted, debería has a slightly different meaning. It implies stronger obligation than deseya and DEBERÍA.

(63) QUISIERA que me auxilíaran.
Quisiera
Quisiera?
"I would like you to go with me."
Instead of quisiera I use me gustaría 'I would like', and querría in this sentence means 'I wanted'. Therefore, for me, there may be a change of time involved in these forms. Both QUISIERA and querría may be used in response to the question 'Qué se te ofrece? 'What do you need?', but querría sounds more appropriate as a response to the question 'Querías? 'What did you want?'.

(64) Juan (podría) salir mejor en sus estudios.
Podría
Podría
"Juan could do better in his studies."
In this case podría, in a sentence out of context such as (64), is immediately associated with past ability, rather than possibility.

The equivalence between -ra and -ría, which we notice in (62) - (64), is explained by the sense of doubt conveyed by both forms, the doubt expressed by the subjunctive form being stronger than the doubt expressed by the indicative form. A similar difference in degree of doubt is shown in

(65) Tal vez (a) TENGAS que trabajar. 'You might have to work.'
Tengas
Tengas
"Maybe you have to work."
in which the present indicative (tendrás, 'you have') expresses a lesser degree of doubt.

These efforts to justify the inclusion of the conditional among the forms of the indicative may conflict with the traditional definitions of this mood. If the indicative also conveys doubt, it can no longer be considered the mood of 'black and white, of fact, assertion, certainty' Banks (1975, p. 97) or "reality" Royal Academy, (p. 76). In the discussion below we will find a satisfactory explanation for sentences such as (65).

The -ra form of the imperfect subjunctive replacing the conditional -ría in the consequent clause of a conditional sentence is felt to be archaic by Costa Rican speakers except in a few fixed expressions,

(66) SI QUIERAS decir, COMPRARA una casa. (arcaic)
"If I had money, I would buy a house.

(67) ''Huyó" que (QUIERAS) criar yo t. e. (AMARA ?).
"Even if there were no heaven I would love you.''

In (67) just the opposite to (66) is true. The expected form in -ría sounds strange to me. The reason may be that (67) is part of a famous old prayer, and this fact may have contributed to the preservation of a
form which has changed in other contexts. One could also try to find an explanation in terms of different kinds of conditionals. Pollock (1976) talks about four kinds of conditionals: "simple", "even (if)", "necessitation", and "might be". It could be proposed that (67) is different because it belongs to the "even (if)" conditional, but (68) does not support this possibility.


'Even if there were no heaven I would behave.'

The conditional sometimes expresses a proposition in which the condition is not overtly expressed. A husband planning a future course of action with his wife might say

(69) Nos tratafamos, yo me quedará en la casa y haré el cielo.

'You would work, I would stay home and do the housework.'

According to Gili-Gaya, the equivalence between -ra and ira in the consequent clause can be explained easily if we keep in mind that -ra is in that case an indicative form which happens to have survived. As proof of this, Gili-Gaya mentions the failure of -se (a subjunctive form which has not shifted to another mood) to appear in that context (p. 112).

(70) Si [QUIEREF] nos lo [dirf]

'If he wanted he would tell us.'

In this analysis of conditional sentences we can see clearly that the conditional is generally used in the consequent, while the subjunctive is used in the antecedent. There can be a choice of mood in the consequent (according to the analysis given in this section), but in the antecedent only subjunctive forms may be used.

(71) Si [HUBIEREAS] llegado a tiempo te [HUBIERAMOS] invitado a cenar.

'If you have come early we would have invited you to dinner.'

For me, the -ra form in the consequent of a simple conditional is not acceptable.

(72) Si [QUIERES] bien tiempo [SALIERA]

'If the weather were nice, I would go out.'

But in the perfect conditional, the subjunctive form, even the -se form, sounds better than the conditional form (see (11) above). We can also observe in this example that -se can be used in the consequent clause. The grammar of the Royal Academy mentions (1974, p. 414, Note 5) that Cuervo (Note 99) explains this phenomenon as a case of parallelism. Just as -ra moved from the consequent to the antecedent, -se moved from the antecedent to the consequent.

Semantic Descriptions

Descriptions of the subjunctive like the ones presented in the section on syntactic descriptions can be useful for pedagogic purposes in the sense that the learner may associate the use of the subjunctive with
certain verbs or expressions. But the number of exceptions that can be
found makes one look for a more satisfactory explanation. In this
section, I will include three types of semantic descriptions: a) Rivero's
in terms of presupposition, b) Verreel and Hooper's in terms of assertion
and non-assertion, and c) mine in terms of conventional implicature.
Rivero's Account Rivero proposes a semantically based analysis of
the subjunctive. She states that "there are verbs which do not determine
the nature of their complementizer" (p. 305), but the choice of mood
in the complement structure is dependent on semantic factors which are in-
dependent of the verb. These semantic factors (presuppositions) are best
explained by the underlying structure attributed to the complement sen-
tence itself.

(73) ¿Si no cree que Juan (a) VINEBA.
   (b) vino
   a) 'She doesn't think that Juan came.'
   b) 'She doesn't believe that Juan came.'

With a verb in the subjunctive, the speaker of (73a) does not presuppose
the truth of the complement; his attitude is neutral, he simply re-
ports. With a verb in the indicative (73b), the speaker does presuppose
that the complement is true. These presuppositions remain constant in
questions.

(74) Cree usted que Juan (a) VINEBA
   (b) vino
   'Do you (a) think (b) believe'

Rivero's statement that there are verbs which do not determine the
nature of their complements may imply that there are also verbs that do
determine the nature of their complements. I think this is the case as
will be shown below.

Rivero also states that "when the verb is in the subjunctive there
is no presupposition made by the speaker" (p. 307). This holds for (73),
but not for

(75) Me duele que se HAYA muerto.

'I regret that he has died.'

In (75), it is presupposed that the person died, and we can see this in
that the presupposition remains constant under negation, and cannot be
contradicted.

(76) No me duele que se HAYA muerto.

'I don't regret that he has died.'

(77) Me duelo que se HAYA muerto, pero me acabo de enterar que
todavía no se ha muerto.' 'I regret that he has died, but I
have just been informed that he hasn't died yet.'

(78) No creo que Juan HAYA llegado, pero posiblemente hoy termina
mas temprano. 'I don't think Juan has arrived, but possibly
he finished earlier today.'

Verbs like comprobar 'understand', parecer 'seem', admitir 'admit',
algoritmo de 'be glad', confiar 'trust', desconfiar 'suspect', entender
'understand', esperar 'hope', sospechar 'suspect', casta de acuerdo
'agree', negar 'deny', suponer 'suppose', and temer 'be afraid' admit
either mood in affirmative statements.
I believe the reason is that if these verbs are used, it is because the speaker has some evidence for what s/he (he or she) is expressing. Otherwise s/he would not use them. Since the subjunctive, most of the time, expresses lack of evidence, it cannot be used with these verbs. However, Bolinger (1974, p. 465) says that verbo 'believe, think' can be used in the subjunctive in statements involving a negative or an affirmative embedded clause. The examples Bolinger cites are the following:

'I believe, Mr. Gordon, that the press in your country is not correctly informed about Dr. Fidel Castro.'

'Verbo 'believe, think' can be used in the subjunctive in statements involving a negative or an affirmative embedded clause. The examples Bolinger cites are the following:

'I believe, Mr. Gordon, that the press in your country is not correctly informed about Dr. Fidel Castro.'

It is possible to come up with an explanation for examples like these if one chooses to accept them. Certainly they do not represent the way people normally talk. As with many other cases, a sentence that sounds awkward initially can be made to sound acceptable by providing an appropriate context.

Bolinger's statement that "Spanish has no rules whereby the modes can be determined through features of dubitativeness, opaqueness, negation, or the like" (p. 465) gives the impression that it is possible to use almost any verb in any mood depending on the intentions of the speaker. Although in many cases the intentions of the speaker determine the choice of mood in the embedded clause, there are also clear cases in which only one mood is possible (76) only subjunctive, and (90) only indicative.

Syntactic differences between the two groups of verbs: Complements which involve a positive presupposition and which are formally marked by a verb in the Indicative block processes like Negation, Transportation, Negative Incorporation, and Subject Raising. An example of the first transformation is given below.

a) 'She believes she isn't pretty.'
   b) 'She doesn't believe that she's pretty.'
   c) 'She doesn't believe that she is pretty.'
These sentences might indicate that Negative Transportation has taken place in (b and c). However, by using arguments involving negative polarity (paleos de 'a word', gota de 'a drop of', en absoluto 'at all', and hasta 'until') we can see that the indicative and the subjunctive are not related as simply as the transformational account indicates. Consider the following.

(85a) a) No creo que seias nada en absoluto.
   b) El no creo que sejas nada.
   c) 'He doesn't believe that you know anything.'

He doesn't believe that you know anything.

In (85b) the negation supposedly originates in the embedded structure and is later raised by Negative Transportation. As the ungrammaticality of (85c) shows, the rule involved is not a mere raising transformation; a change of mood is also involved.

(85) a) No creo que se un bonita.
   b) No creo que se bonita. (Indicative)
   c) No creo que sea bonita. (Infinitive)

Equi-MF Deletion has applied in (85c), but which would be more likely the underlying structure, (85a) or (85b)? According to Rivero we can also test this by using negative polarity expressions.

(86) a) No creo que sea bonita en absoluto.
   b) 'He doesn't believe that she is pretty at all.'

'The doesn't believe that she is pretty at all.'

Since (86a and c) are grammatical, and (86b) is not, Rivero concludes that (86c) is related to (86a) rather than to (86b).

Semantic differences between the two groups of verbs: There are also semantic factors that differentiate both types of complementizers.

(87) a) No creo que se un bonita.
   b) 'He doesn't believe that he (a) might be the best!'

The glosses that Rivero (p. 320) gives for (87) are provided below.

(87) a) 'Is it true that your opinion happens to be that he is not the best?'

(87) b) 'I believe that he is the best, don't you agree with me?'

In (87b), the speaker presupposes that the complement clause is true, while in (87a), she remains neutral.

The difference in presupposition can be seen clearly in (88) = (89).

(88) Los que ESTAN aburridos, si es que hay alguien, pueden irse.
   (89) 'Those who are bored, in the event there are any, may leave.'

Is (88) 'The ones that are bored, if there is anybody, may leave.'

(89) 'Those who are bored, if there is anybody, may leave.'

(Indicative)

I proposed a difference to a few English native speakers without a sophisticated knowledge of the language, using 'might be' for (85) and 'are' for (89) having to find a difference similar to that expressed by the two forms in Spanish, but it did not work. Both sentences were considered acceptable, a fact which indicates that English has neutralised
indicative and subjunctive in this case, as in many other places. In Spanish, when a negative quantifier modifies a noun, the only possible mood in the relative clause is the subjunctive because if something is true, its existence cannot be negated (Rivero, p. 322).

(90) Nadie que (b) NOTE en sus cinco sentidos diria eso.
    (b) "sentirá"

'(nobody who be (sub) in his five senses say-would that)(lit)
Are we dealing with a case of homonymy? Homonymy refers to multiple ambiguity of phonological words (Kempson, 1977, p. 30). Rivero considers the possibility of proposing two lexical entries \( V_1 \) and \( V_2 \) for those verbs that may be followed by either mood. In this case the difference would be attributed to the matrix verb and not to the embedded sentence itself. An objection indicated by Rivero is that none of the verbs discussed in her paper can be clearly attributed to two different syntactic or semantic groups. There are some verbs that might make one consider the possibility of two lexical items. Sematicically decir 'to tell' can be classified as a verb of saying or as a verb of command, and syntactically it can take either mood in the complement

(91) Le digo que VENGA. 'I'm telling you to come.'
(92) Te digo que vienes. 'I'm telling you he's coming.'

The verb in (91) is a verb of command similar to the Verb in (93).

(93) Le ordeno que VENGA. 'I order you to come.'

When the verb in the embedded clause is in the subjunctive, the matrix cannot have a first person subject (Rivero, p. 323). Perhaps Rivero refers to a first person indirect object as in

(94) *(Yo) me (a) Digo que CANTÉ yo.
    (b) ordena
    'I (a) tell myself to sing.'
    (b) order

On the other hand, the verb in (95) is not subjected to the same restrictions because it is a verb of reporting.

(95) (Yo) me digo no mismo que (yo) estudio.

'I tell myself that I study.'

The different readings and their corresponding syntactic behavior would lead us to propose two lexical items decir 'tell/say' (Rivero, p. 324). Another verb that presents similar behavior is sentir 'feel be sorry'.

(96) Siento que me desmayen. 'I feel (notice) that she's fainting.'
(97) Siento que se DESMAYE. 'I'm sorry that she's fainting.'

Rivero considers that decir 'tell, order' and sentir 'feel, regret' belong to a reduced group of verbs for which the question of whether we are dealing with one or two verbs remains open. For Rivero, the majority of the verbs that she discusses do not behave like decir and sentir. There is some syntactic evidence for not assuming that the mood of the embedded verb is determined by the verb of the matrix sentence (p. 359). Lexical items with different readings cannot be deleted under mere identity conditions. If a verb can be followed by either the subjunctive or the indicative and we can delete the second occurrence of the matrix verb, we can safely conclude that we are dealing with a single lexical item. The difference in mood cannot be attributed to the matrix verb, but rather
to a difference in presupposition (Rivero, p. 326). That is exactly
the case with verbs like cree 'believe' and parecer 'seem'.
(98) No creo que Juan va a venir ni creo que VAYA a resolver el
problema. 'She doesn't believe that Juan is going to come
nor does she think that he is going to solve the problem.'
(99) No creo que Juan va a venir ni que VAYA a resolver el
problema. (with deletion of the second matrix verb)
In order to test a few more verbs to determine whether we are dealing
with one or two lexical items, it is important to add some comments by
Kempson (1977) about the ambiguity test: Anaphoric processes (e.g., do
too) require identity of meaning. If it is not possible to have crossed
interpretations between two readings, we can conclude that the word is
ambiguous, and therefore we should postulate two lexical items; otherwise
we are dealing with a case of vagueness rather than ambiguity. The
example that Kempson (p. 30) gives illustrates this reasoning clearly.
(100) I saw her duck and Bill did too.
This example can only mean that both persons either saw a duck or that
both saw a woman quickly lower her head. It cannot mean, for example,
that I saw a duck, and Bill saw her head smoothly.
By applying the ambiguity test, we can see that at least in the
case of sentir 'feel, be sorry' we have a case of ambiguity.
(101) Siento que esté perdiendo fuerza y siento que se está
desmayando. 'I feel that she's losing strength and I feel
that she is fainting.'
(102) Siento que esté perdiendo fuerza y que se está desmayando.
(103) Siento que se DESEME y siento que se GOLPE.
'I'm sorry that
she should faint and I'm sorry that she should hurt herself.'
(104) Siento que se DESMADE y que se GOLPÓ.
Whenever we have identity of form and identity of meaning deletion can
take place, but when no such identity exists deletion cannot take place.
(105) Siento que se desmayó y que se golpeó.
'I feel that she is fainting and that she should hurt herself.'
The following two cases involving admitir 'admit' and parecer 'seem' are
not so clear. In the case of admitir there is identity of form, but not
identity of meaning.
(106) Admití que VENIERA de noche y admitió que la MATA
He allowed him to come at night and he allowed him to
kill her.'
(107) Admitió que veniera de noche y que la mata.
Similarly
(108) Admitió que vino de noche y la mata. 'He admitted having
come at night and having killed her.
derives from the deletion of "admitió que" in the second conjunct which
was possible because there was identity of form and of meaning, but (109)
is not possible.
(109) *Admitió que [a) VENIERA] y que la [a) mata ]
[ b) vino [ o) MATA ]
are intended to mean "read matrix".
In the case of parecer 'seem' apparently we can have crossed in-
terpretations (see (113) below) between the two readings. As (110-111)
show, when the verbs are in the same mood, there is no problem in con-
joining the two sentences.

(110) A la enfermera le parece que el paciente está muy grave y a
mi también me parece que está muy grave. 'It seems to the
nurse that the patient is very sick, and it seems to me that
he is very sick, too.'

By a Mapping Transformation we can get (111) from (110)

(111) A la enfermera le parece que el paciente está muy grave y a
mi también.

Similarly, we can obtain (112) by combining two complex sentences that
contain a verb in the subjunctive in the embedded clause, and deleting the
second occurrence of the same verb.

(112) A la enfermera le parece lógico que el paciente ESTÉ muy
grave y a mi también. 'It seems logical to the nurse and to
me that the patient should be so sick.'

Since it is possible to have crossed interpretations between (111) and
(112) as in (113), we can conclude that parecer 'seem' is not ambiguous
but unspecified.

(113) A la enfermera le parece que el paciente está muy grave y a
mi me parece lógico (que lo ESTÉ).

But (113) can only be interpreted as deriving from another deletion of
ser 'be' as in

(114) A la enfermera le parece que el paciente está muy grave y a
mi me parece (que es) lógico (que lo ESTÉ).

'It seems to the nurse that the patient is very sick, and it
seems to me (that it is) logical (that he should be).'

Therefore, according to my analysis parecer 'seem' can be followed by the
subjunctive in affirmative statements only as a result of a transform-
ation that deletes ser 'be'.

I feel that the theory of homophonous lexical items deserves to be
investigated more thoroughly. It is possible that we simply have not
found the right tests. I think we have a good start in the few examples
discussed in this section.

If the difference in mood can not always be attributed to different
matrix verbs, there must be another explanation. Rivero considers that
the difference can be found in the underlying form of the sentences.
Semiantically the subjunctive is a report of the opinion of a person, and
no presupposition is involved. Syntactically the structural description
of a complex sentence with a verb in the subjunctive has the following
Prame Marker (Rivero, p. 332).

This structure can undergo Negative Transportation, Subject Pairing, Equi-
NP Deletion, and Negative Incorporation, and is subject to tense
restrictions as can be expected from a clause governed by the matrix verb. The underlying structure of an indicative complement is more complicated. Semantically, it involves a presupposition which is not claimed by the subject of the matrix verb, but is made by somebody else, who is not always explicitly mentioned. Syntactically it can not undergo the transformations mentioned above, and it is not subject to tense restrictions. All of these facts can be accounted for by assuming that the indicative complement originates as a conjunct (Rivero, p. 332). Thus a sentence like

(115) Admite que el doctor vino. 'He admits that the doctor came.'

derives from

(116) El doctor vino. Lo admite. 'The doctor came. He admits it.'

and has the following F-Marker

Terrel and Hooper's analysis. According to the semantic analysis presented by Terrel and Hooper (1979), the use of subjunctive or indicative forms corresponds directly to certain basic semantic factors such as truth value, presupposition, assertion, and anticipation. Rivero's analysis in terms of presupposition agrees with this view, but her entire analysis, according to Terrel and Hooper, is syntactic since she is concerned with the syntactic origin of both indicative and subjunctive embedded clauses (p. 459, footnote 3).

According to Terrel and Hooper's semantically-based analysis, when a speaker wants to convey some information about the truth of a proposition s/he chooses her/his syntactic structure accordingly. The mood of the embedded verb can be freely chosen, and thus carries meaning. Using the notions of presupposition and assertion, Terrel and Hooper classify sentences into 6 types according to the different attitudes which the speaker can adopt (p. 458).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SEMANTIC NOTION</th>
<th>TYPE</th>
<th>MOOD</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ASSERTION</td>
<td>1. Assertion</td>
<td>Indicative</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>2. Report</td>
<td>Ind.</td>
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<tr>
<td>PRESUPPOSITION</td>
<td>3. Mental Act</td>
<td>Subjunctive</td>
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<td></td>
<td>4. Comment</td>
<td>Sub.</td>
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<tr>
<td>NEITHER</td>
<td>5. Doubt</td>
<td>Sub.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6. Imperative</td>
<td>Sub.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The notions of presupposition and assertion are important for explaining embedded clauses. When the complement of a construction is presupposed to be true, the truth value remains, even if the sentence
las negadas (Kiparsky and Kiparsky, 1977, p. 351).

(127) ¿Me dicen que la campaña YA terminado. 'I'm glad that the campaign is over.'

(118) No me alegra que la campaña YA terminado. 'I'm not happy that the campaign is over.'

In both cases the speaker presupposes the complement to be true. Assertion is different from presupposition in this regard. The negation of an assertion affects the truth value of the embedded clause.

(119) És cierto que vino. 'It's true that he came.'

(120) No es cierto que VIERA. 'It isn't true that he came.'

Another difference between presupposition and assertion concerns the use of the phrase 'the fact that'. Complements which are presupposed can be introduced by 'the fact that', but those which are asserted can not.

(Kiparsky and Kiparsky, p. 347).

(121) El hecho de que la campaña YA terminado no tiene importancia. 'The fact that the campaign is over is not important.'

(122) 'Ando el hecho de que son tan 10. 'And I doubt the fact that it is 10.'

The examples above show that something cannot be both asserted and presupposed at the same time.

The examples that follow illustrate the different attitudes that a speaker can adopt.

Assertion: A speaker may qualify an assertion by embedding it in an assertive matrix sentence, in which case we obtain an indirect assertion.

(123) Me parece que él puede hacerlo. 'It seems to me that he can do it.'

Report: Another kind of indirect assertion consists of a cited assertion. Verbs like decir 'tell', decir 'tell', contestar 'answer', and escribir 'write' simply describe the way in which the 'intelligence' is acquired (Bolinger, 1970, p. 46).

(124) Leí que había tenido un accidente.

'Since the matrix phrase merely tells how the assertion was conveyed, or not conveyed in the case of a negative sentence, the negation does not deny the assertion.'

(125) No me contó que había tenido un accidente.

'He didn't tell me that he had had an accident.'

This example expresses that there was indeed an accident. If the speaker does not wish to make an assertion he can use an infinitive, as in:

(126) No mencionó haber tenido ningun accidente.

'He didn't mention having had any accident.'

Mental Act: The first type of presupposed complement describes a mental act. Verbs like dare 'want', hacer 'want', and tomar en consideración 'take into consideration' describe a mental act.

(127) El tonto se cuenta que ella estaba embarazada.

'We took into account the fact that she was pregnant.'

Comment: The second type of presupposed complement refers to a comment. A speaker may make various types of comments about propositions. There can be value judgements and subjective comments.

(128) En una lifetime que escribieron.

'It's too bad that it is raining.'
(132) Yo alegro de que el niño ya ESTÉ entrenado.

'I'm glad that the child is already trained.'

In both cases the proposition is presupposed to be true, but it is not asserted.

Doubt: Doubt represents one type of non-assertion.

(133) It's possible that he has already finished.

Imperative: Imperatives represent another type of non-assertion.

In this case the choice of mood is clear. Since imperative sentences are not assertions, we can not expect the indicative, except in the familiar positive command which Terrel and Hooper (cf. p. 48 above) regard as an exception (p. 486).

Imperative may also be qualified by embedding them into matrices of volition, assertion, or influence.

(134) Quiere que ALGUIEN no haya por qué preocuparse.

'I want you to know that there is nothing to worry about.'

Syntactic differences among these classes: Imperatives are differentiated from the other types of sentences discussed by Terrel and Hooper in their tense restrictions. There are tense restrictions after imperatives but not after the others.

(135) Quiere que me lo TRAIGA.

'I want you to bring it to me.'

(136) Quiere que se haga.

'They want that it be done.'

Sentences with presupposed complements are syntactically differentiated from the other types by the factoring processes discussed by Kiparsky and Kiparsky (cf. p. 57 above).

(137) Yo alegro de que ESTÉ bien.

'I'm glad about the fact that he's O.K.'

(138) Creo que ella loLastName.

'I think she read it.'

(139) Dudo que SEA inteligente.

'I doubt that she is intelligent.'

(140) No creo que sea inteligente.

'I don't doubt that she's intelligent.'

Terrel and Hooper (p. 486) summarize these and other differences in Chart I (shown overhead).

Ambiguous sentences: There are matrices (main verb) with two readings, and under each reading they fall into a different class. Furthermore, their syntactic behavior obeys the constraints of the class to which they belong. This might be another argument for proposing different lexical items which happen to be homophonous. To the examples mentioned above (pp. 44-85), we can add the following:

(141) Insisto en que no vengan.

'I insist that they are not coming.'

(142) Insisto en que no vengan.

'I insist on their not coming.'
### CHART I

**SEMANTIC CLASSIFICATION OF MATRICES AND SENTENCES**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>CRITERIA</th>
<th>RELIEF</th>
<th>REPORT</th>
<th>MENTAL</th>
<th>COMMENT</th>
<th>DOUBT</th>
<th>COMMAND</th>
<th>ACT</th>
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<td>PRESUPPOSED</td>
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<td>INDICATIVE</td>
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<td>NEGATION</td>
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<tr>
<td>USES el hecho de</td>
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(Ferrel and Hooper, p. 490)

(143) is intended to be a report and (142) a command. Tense restrictions apply to (142) but not to (143).

(141a) **insisto en que confirieran** [Past Ind.]

(141b) **vendrán** [Fut. Ind.]

(141b) **vendrán** [Cond. Ind.]

(142a) *insisto en que no VINTEN.* [Imperfect Subj.]

(142) does not even permit another subjunctive form.

The verb sentir 'feel, be sorry' (see also p. 84 above) can be assigned to different classes. As a verb of comment, it can take el hecho de, but not as a verb of reporting.

(143) **Siento el hecho que se DEMAYE.** 'I'm sorry about the fact that he faints.'

(144) **Siento el hecho que se desmaye.** 'I feel the fact that he faints.'

No creo 'believe (Neg)' (cf. p. 82 above) can be used as a verb of assertion and as a verb of doubt.

Ver 'to see' can be used to report or to assert the truth of a statement.

(145) **Ví que el niño estaba en el piso.** 'I saw that the baby was on the floor.'
(146) Vi que había estudiado mucho y le puse una A. "I saw that he had studied a lot and gave him an A."

If those sentences are negated, (146) remains a report, but (146) changes into a dubitative sentence which requires the subjunctive.

(147) No vi que el niño estuviera en el piso y me lo pareció en la mano. "I didn't see that the baby was on the floor and I stepped on his hand."

(148) No vi que HUBIERA estudiado mucho y por eso le puse una C. "I didn't see that he had studied much, and because of that I gave him a C."

I think ver 'to see' can also be used as a verb of command.

(149) Vista que la puerta ESTUVIERA cerrada? 'Did you make sure that the door was closed?'

If the indicative form (estaba) is used, the question would ask for confirmation of a report.

Some matrices can be used either as subjective comments or as imperative. In this case it is difficult to see the difference since the subjunctive is used in both; however we can see the difference if we use 'el hecho de', which can be used only if the sentence is a comment.

(150) (El hecho de) que te QUIERAS en las casas los domingos es muy importante porque así podrás pasar algún tiempo con tu familia. "The fact that you stay home on Sundays is very important because in that way you can spend some time with your family."

(151) Es muy importante que te QUIERAS en la casa el domingo porque todavía estás enferma. "It is very important for you to stay home next Sunday because you are still sick."

Finally, the matrix es imposible 'it's impossible' can be compatible with doubt or with command.

(152) Es imposible que PEUSURE ESTE noche (para cuando la reunión TERMINE va no habrá vuelos). "It's impossible for you to return tonight (by the time the meeting is over there won't be any flights)."

(153) Es imposible que PEUSURE ESTE noche (el contrato dice que tienes que pasar la noche allí). "It's impossible for you to return tonight (the contract says that you have to spend the night there)."

Analysis in terms of Conventional Implicature. It is possible to arrive at a different and perhaps more satisfactory account if we apply Grice's concept of conventional implicature (1975), as applied by Karttunen and Peters (1979).

There are three characteristics that identify conventional implicatures: (1) They are detachable—i.e., there is another way of saying the same thing without giving rise to the implicature; (2) They depend on how something is said, but rather on what is said—i.e., they depend on the meaning of the words themselves rather than on the context in which they are used; and (3) They are not cancellable—i.e., a speaker cannot deny something that is conventionally implicated without being contradictory.

We can illustrate these characteristics with an example given by Grice himself (p. 66).
(154) He's an Englishman; therefore he is brave.

The conclusion of being brave follows from his being Englishman, but the speaker has detached this conclusion by saying

(155) He is an Englishman, and he is brave.

The implication arises solely because of the conventional meaning of the word "therefore", and cannot be cancelled, as (156) shows:

(156) We is an Englishman; therefore he is brave, but we know that Englishmen are cowards.

Using this concept we can say that the indicative mood is used when the proposition (p) is believed to be true or false, and the subjunctive, in contrast, is used when the proposition is not believed to be true or false; or as it might be stated in more formal terms (extending Karttunen and Peters, p. 8):

 indicative p conventionally implicates that it is epistemically possible that p.
 subjunctive p conventionally implicates that it is epistemically possible that not p.

It is important to observe that the subjunctive implies that it is possible that not p—i.e., it does not exclude the possibility of p being true. This is important for the analysis of conditional sentences which do not as a rule presuppose that their antecedent is false (Karttunen and Peters, p. 5), as it has been commonly believed (Lahoff, 1970). A sentence like (157) is clearly counterfactual, but not (158).

(157) SI UNESTURAS estado aqüf, nada HUBIENA pasado.

'If you had been here, nothing would have happened.'

(158) SI UNESTURAS te pagariam onseguida.

'If you wanted they would pay you right away.'

The difference between the subjunctive and the indicative would be very clear if we could say that the indicative is used when the speaker is 100% sure that something is true or that something is false, while the subjunctive is used in all other cases, as we can see in the following examples, which represent modified versions of examples (34) - (37) above.

(159) Éstá buscando (él) abrigo que le queda.

'He's looking for a coat that fits him.'

(160) Éstá buscando (él) abrigo que no le quede para regalarlo.

'He's looking for a coat that does not fit him in order to give it away.'

(161) No está buscando (él) abrigo que le queda, sino un pantalón.

'He's not looking for a coat that fits him, but for a pair of pants.'

(162) Está buscando un abrigo que le QUEDA. 'He's looking for a coat that will fit him.'

(163) Está buscando un abrigo que no le QUEDA para hacer un regalo. (He's looking for a coat that not him fit (Okaj) to make a present for)
(164) **El abrigo que me QUÉE me lo dilo.**
(lit: the coat that me fit (Subj) me-benefactive it I-keep)

(165) **El abrigo que no me QUÉE lo boto.** 'I'll throw away whatever coat that does not fit me.'

In (159-161) the speaker is 100% sure that there is such a coat, and that is why he uses the indicative. In (162-165) the speaker indicates that such a coat may or may not exist (he is not 100% sure), and therefore he uses the subjunctive. Examples (159-165) also indicate that Spanish makes an overt difference between the de re and the de dicto reading as these concepts are defined by Allwood et al. (1977, p. 115). De re readings are marked by the indicative, while de dicto readings are marked by the subjunctive. For verbs that can be followed by either mood in affirmative statements (see page 50 above), we need a different type of explanation. The choice of mood seems to be determined by a greater or lesser degree of certainty. What we need is something like the following.

\[
\begin{array}{ll}
\text{Ind (p)} & \text{Subj (p)} \\
\text{(p)} & \text{(p)} = \text{not-p}
\end{array}
\]

Indicative (p) = chances of p being true = more than 50%.
Subjunctive (p) = chances of p being true = less than 50%.

(166) **Confío en que HAYSO diciendo la verdad.** 'I trust that he's telling the truth.'

(167) **Confío en que está diciendo la verdad.** 'I am confident that he's telling the truth.'

For a reason that will be explained shortly, (168) sounds strange if a first person subject is used, even if the complement clause refers to a known fact. It is as though we were dealing with idiomatic expressions.

(168) **Me alegro de que HAYAS pasado el examen.**
'I'm glad that you passed the exam.'

The attitude that the speaker adopts is also important in determining the use of the subjunctive. In (168) the speaker is simply commenting on the fact; he is not asserting it. This statement is supported by the fact that (168) is not normally used to inform but, rather, to comment on the information previously received. In other cases the speaker acts as if it were not the case that p. A person who is informed that somebody is saying that s/he is dishonest will probably say something like

(169) **Me importa un comino lo que DIDA.**
'I don't give a damn what he says.'

It may also be convenient to talk about two kinds of fact: bare fact and interpreted fact. In (170) we are dealing with a bare fact. We are using the fact to inform, while in (171) we are dealing with an interpreted fact in the sense that we are merely commenting on the fact.

(170) **Esté buscando un abrigo que le queda.**
'He's looking for a coat that fits him.'

(171) **Me alegro de que le QU'EE el abrigo.**
'I'm glad that the coat fits him.'
Therefore, in accounting for the use of the subjunctive in Spanish we not only have to consider the degree of certainty, but also how the speaker looks at the facts. It may be that p is true in the actual world, but the speaker looks at it from outside the actual world. The fact that we can expand (170) and (172) indicates that what matters is the speaker's knowledge or belief, rather than the knowledge or belief of the subject of the sentence.

(172) Ella (a) creo que (ella) no es bonita, pero yo sí, lo creo.

'She thinks that she's not beautiful, but I think she is.'

Comparison between this analysis and the others presented in this paper: In order to find out how this analysis compares to the ones presented above, it is necessary to look again at the examples that proved to be exceptions, or for which no satisfactory explanation was found.

McKay's cases that call for the use of the subjunctive can all be explained easily in this analysis.

A command expresses an action that has not occurred yet, i.e., it is not known to be true; therefore it is logically (for Spanish) expressed by the use of the subjunctive. A command in the indicative mood need not be considered a normal exception (see p. 72 above). (172) expresses that the speaker’s certainty that the heater is going to act as directed is over 50%, and that is why the command is felt as a reminder.

(173) Vámonos, Leopoldito, ¡oy!, ‘Come early, do you hear?’

In a sentence like (174), it seems to me that we must not talk about weak doubt (see p. 71 above) because the speaker is 100% sure that it is raining, since he is looking out the window, and can see that in fact it is raining.

(174) ¿Dónde está lloviendo? Asomate a la ventana.

'Do you doubt that it's raining? Look out the window.'

In (175a) I do not know what type of instruction you are going to give me. In (175b) I already know how I am supposed to act.

(175) Ha recibido el trabajo como usted me lo obró.

a) 'I'll do the work whatever way you order me.'

(b) 'I'll do the work as you say.'

In (176) the speaker expresses with (a) that the chances of considering her homely are over 50%, and therefore he considers her homely. He expresses with (b) that the possibilities are less than 50%, and therefore he does not commit himself to the truth of the proposition.

(176) Aunque (a) es (a) fea, es una buena muchacha.

(b) Sí.

a) 'Although she is homely, she's a good girl.'

b) 'Even though she may be homely, she's a good girl.'

The statement that impersonal expressions require the subjunctive if there is a change of subject (p. 73 above) is not entirely satisfactory because we can say:

(177) Es cierto que él dijo eso.

'It's true that he said that.'

In a similar manner we can explain McKay's examples involving persuasion, volition, uncertainty, requests, and polite statements.
A single concept can account for all those cases, and there is no need for such long classifications.

The same explanation holds for Golé and Golé's classification and their ideas of causation of behavior and hypothetical event. If something is intended to cause a certain behavior, it is hypothetical because it has not occurred yet, and therefore it is not known to be true. That is why the subjunctive is used.

In (79a) I do now know what the truth is, but I hope that person is being honest. In (79b) I know what the truth is and I hope that person is being honest.

(79)  Confió en que (a) ESTÉ (b) SÉ que la verdad.

a) 'I trust that he's telling the truth,'
b) 'I'm confident that he's telling the truth.'

A sentence like (178) expresses with (a) a proposition that needs to be accepted or rejected, and with (b) a report (to use Terrel and Hooper's terms) of known facts. It is felt as a type of complaint that the problem usually ends up the way it looks at the beginning and nothing is done about it.

(178) a) Opino que el problema no TIENE como sol.
   'I'm of the opinion that the problem should be left as it is.'
b) Opino que el problema generalmente DEJA como sol.
   'I'm of the opinion that the problem is usually left as it is found.'

We have seen that a semantic analysis gives more satisfactory explanations for the use of the subjunctive than a syntactic one. Since Terrel and Hooper consider Rivero's analysis to be syntactic (see p. 36 above) the analysis I am proposing in this section is to be preferred over hers.

I consider that I have given enough examples for which explanations in terms of conventional implicature seem to be obvious; therefore in the rest of this paper I will concentrate on special cases for which an explanation may not be immediately obvious.

Sentence (179) can either mean that he allowed his accomplice to visit him, or that he admitted that his accomplice visited him (the meaning that Rivero considers (p. 334).

(179) Admitió que la VISITAR el cómplice.

(he admitted that he visited the accomplice) (Lit)

The permission reading requires the use of the subjunctive because the event follows the permission. The second reading also requires the use of the subjunctive if the speaker wants to express doubt. The reading expressing doubt can occur in the following situation: A prisoner has confessed that he was visited by his accomplice, but the speaker is not certain that it really happened. It is possible that the prisoner was forced to confess.

Terrel and Hooper's types of sentences can also be explained easily in terms of conventional implicature. Assertion, report, and mental act all involve some evidence on the part of the speaker. On the other hand, comment, doubt, and imperative express lack of certainty. There seems to be a descending degree of certainty among the classes just mentioned, and
in the order just specified.

(180) Si gus 2 + 2 no 4. 'I know that 2 + 2 = 4.'
In this assertion I am 100% sure.

(181) Digo que mañana viene. 'He said that he's coming tomorrow.'
I am not 100% sure, but there is no reason to believe that he will not come.

(182) Se da cuenta que está en un gran jio.
'He realizes that he's in big trouble.'
The speaker knows that he is in trouble, or at least he considers that his chances of being in great trouble are over 50%.

(183) Convien que nos VAYAMOS ahora mismo.
'It's convenient for us to leave immediately.'
We have not left yet.

(184) Dudo que QUEIRA ir con nosotros. 'I doubt that he wants to go with us.'
I am almost sure that he does not want to go with us.

(185) ABRA la puerta! 'Open the door!'
There is no guarantee that the door will be opened.

As we have seen, an analysis in terms of conventional implicature can give explanations which are at least as satisfactory as those offered by Terrel and Hooper, who depend on six concepts which at most can be reduced to three general notions: assertion, presupposition, and neither one (p. 469). If both analyses are equally adequate, the simpler one is to be preferred (Chomsky, 1955, p. 223).

In this paper I have shown that the syntactic analyses that have been offered for the subjunctive in Spanish are not accurate. Besides, they are long and complicated. A simpler analysis based on a single concept gives the learner an idea of what underlies the use of the subjunctive in Spanish. The analysis in terms of conventional implicature accounts for most of the cases in which the subjunctive is used. Sentences like (185) above are exceptions to the analysis in terms of conventional implicature in the sense that a subjunctive form is used, even though we are dealing with a known fact. For sentences like these, we need a distinction between emotive and non-emotive like the one I propose in my thesis ([The Subjunctive in Spanish, section 3.3.2]).

Finally the question of whether or not we should talk about homonymous lexical items in Spanish still remains an open one. It seems to me that at least for pedagogical purposes, we should talk about two lexical items in those cases where a verb may be followed by a subjunctive or an indicative verb form.

Footnotes

1 These are the forms that Costa Rican speakers use with the pronoun vos 'you familiar'. We use vos instead of tío 'you familiar', which occurs in other dialects. The primary difference consists of stress: vos (TROAH) ; tío (TROAH) 'you have'

2 This is the only reference included in the grammar of the Royal Academy.
3 Bolinger says (footnote 10, p. 170) that he obtained those examples from a Col. Gordon T. Fish.

4 The ambiguity test is discussed in detail by Zwicky and Sadock (1975).

5 Searle's "true" and "interpreted" facts (1969, p. 10) do not have to do with what I am discussing here.

References


