EGG Intro to Syntax. PART 2

Handout 3:

(a) DP (b) MOVEMENT

August 8, 2018

Review

1) 3 kinds of tree relations:

a. Head + complement(s) $X' \rightarrow X^0 YP \text{ (direction = lang. specifc)}$

b. Adjunct $XP \rightarrow [XP \text{ adjunct}]$ or

 $XP \rightarrow [adjunct XP]$

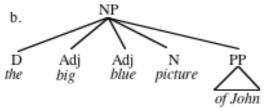
c. The Specifier position: $XP \rightarrow Spec X'$

(1)a and (1)c can be done with features for selection (like transitive verbs)

(1)b (adjunction) is free like the wind.

- Phrase Structure of NPs (about to become DPs...)
- 2) [the big blue picture of John]
- 3) old 1957 style:

a. NP --> (Det) (Adj*)
$$N^0$$
 (PP)



- 4) X'-theory style:
 - a. NP--> (Det) N'

N' --> AdjP N' (optional Adjective adjoined to the Left)

 $N' --> N' PP_{mod}$ (optional PP_{mod} adjoined to the Right)

 $N' --> N^0 (PP_{arg})$

→ NB: in X'-theory, adjectives had to be adjoined to N', so that they fit between Det and N

b. NP

the Adj N'

big Adj N'

blue N

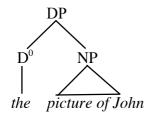
picture PP

- 5) **The DP hypothesis**: (Abney 1987)
- All NPs are actually DPs! D^0 (Det) = the head of "DP", a functional "shell" around NP

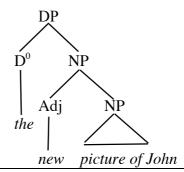
 \mathbf{D}^{0} as a head: --complementary distribution (*The this man.)

--agreement in D (in some languages, like Hungarian)

6) a. standard DP



b. DP with adjective



7) Types of D (elements with [+D] feature)

a. articles (a / some; the)

- b. demonstratives (*this*, *that*, ... = [+proximal], [+distal])
- c. quantifiers (every, some,...)
- d. possessives: his, her, our, my, self's (in many languages)

e. pronouns

f. proper names (?)

• Pronouns (and maybe proper names) are heads of DP:

8) a. * The happy he. b. *His she with green hair c. *A Mary d. ??A happy Bob Dylan

• Feature agreement between D⁰ and NP:

9) a. I received a letter.

- b. I received the letter.
- c. * I received letter. [Count]

- 10) a. *I bought a cement.
- b. I bought the cement
- c. I bought cement. [Mass]

- 11) a. The books are boring.
- b. *A books are boring.
- c. Books are boring. [Plural]

12) Possible values of different heads of English DP:

a. *a* is [+Count]; [+Sg]

So (10)a and (11)b are out.

b. Ø is [+pl] and/or [+mass]

So (9)c is out.

- c. *the* is [+Definite]
- d. 's (requires an overt Spec)

13) Advantages of DP hypothesis:

- a. allows pronouns and demonstratives to be heads
- b. allows for feature agreement between Determiners and NPs
- → c. allows adjectives to be adjoined to NP (not N') (see tree) (so now we can eliminate N'-level adjuncts: adjectives adjoin to NP, *one* now replaces NP!)
- 14) a. [pp John's quick destruction of the spaceship] startled the aliens.
 - b. *[John's destruction the spaceship] startled the aliens.
 - c. *[John quickly destruction of the spaceship] startled the aliens.
- (14)b is out because *destruction* is a Noun and Nouns do not take direct objects (don't assign case)
- (14)c is out because destruction is a Noun and adverbs (quickly) do not modify Nouns

Paradox: Some elements have both DP and VP behavior:

- 15) [1John's [2 quickly destroying the spaceship]] startled the aliens.
- (15) is a paradox:

A. the inside part ([2...]) is vP because *destroying* is V (assigns case, is modified by an adverb) BUT B. the outside part [1...] is DP (it's the subject of the sentence), has a possessor etc.

Abney can solve this problem! $[_{DP}[_{VP}...]]$ In this construction, D^0 selects a vP complement

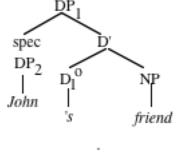
Appendix: The apostrophe S construction (the "Saxon genitive")

- 16) a. [Putin's new law]
- b. *[the Putin's new law]
- c. [[the man]'s new law]

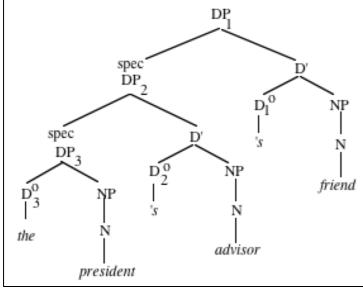
- a. Basic DP: (w/ article) 17)
 - spec all Ď the pictures

DP

b. Possessive DP:



18) DP with complex determiner: [the president's advisor's friend]



Handout 4: Movement!

There are 3 kinds of movement:

i. "head-movement" ii. Subject movement iii. WH-movement

I. Head movement

Head movement Type 1: Verb Movement $(V^o \rightarrow T^o)$

English:

19) a. The President often sees Mary. b. *The President sees often Mary.

French:

20) a. Le président voit b.*Le président souvent voit Marie. souvent Marie. the president sees often the president often Mary Mary sees

• Where are adverbs in the tree? (Are English and French adverbs attached in the same place?)		
**English has affix hopping ; French has verb raising ** (Pollock 1989)		
> T ^o)		
Head movement Type 2. To raising to Co. $(T^o \rightarrow C^o)$		
→ C°)		
→ C ₀)		
→ C ₀)		
• So we can see that modals raise out of TP (across the subject).		
→ Some cool evidence that this movement laves a GAP or TRACE:		
→ C°)		
→ C°)		
• Remember, English main verbs do NOT move to T! So if we only allow elements in To to raise to Co, then we <i>predict</i> that English main verbs <i>cannot</i> : (true!)		
$\xrightarrow{0} T_0 \to C_0$		
• But to form a question we MUST have a T ⁰ element to move to C ⁰ , right? So, we create one when needed! (<i>do</i>):		
→ C ₀)		
• And we predict that French verbs can raise to Co:		
> T°)		
→ T° → C°)		