

Lecture 7: Head Mobility

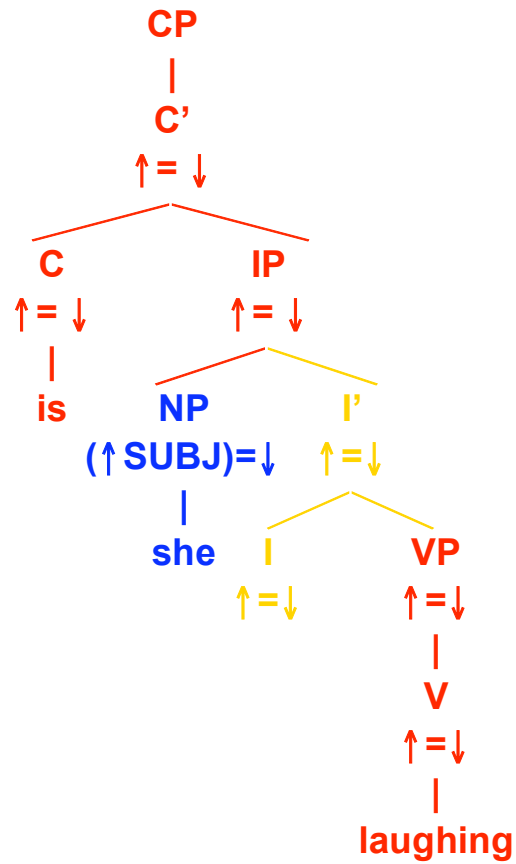
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Endocentricity: Every category has a head.

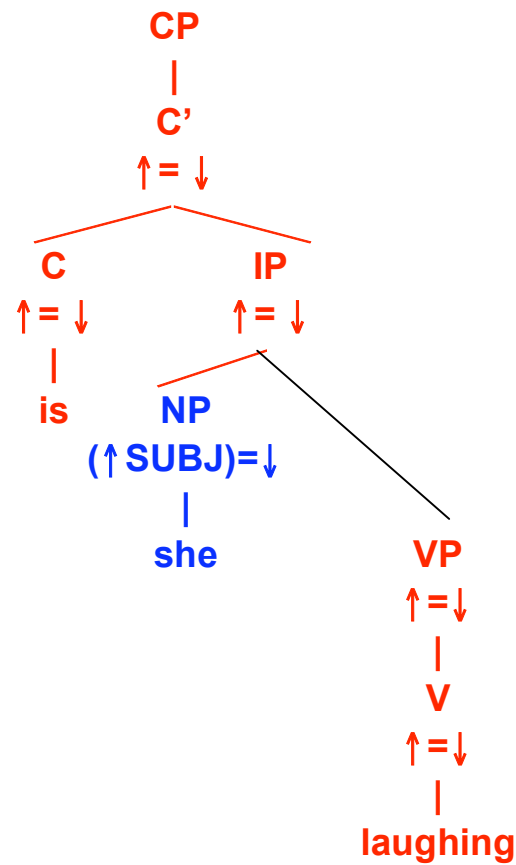
Head mobility (variable head positioning): Under certain conditions...

- the head I may appear outside the IP
- the head V may appear outside the VP

Why/When is this possible?



[PRED	'laugh<(↑SUBJ)>']
TENSE	PRES	
SUBJ	[PRED 'pro']	
	[NUM SG]	
	[PERS 3]	



[PRED	'laugh<(↑SUBJ)>'
TENSE	PRES
SUBJ	[PRED 'pro']
	[NUM SG]
	[PERS 3]
]

Note: now the IP lacks an I head, which violates X-bar principles. We will return to that issue shortly.

(i) German clauses with complementizers:

...**weil** Peter das Buch **kaufte**.

...*because Peter the book bought*

‘...because Peter bought the book.’

(ii) German clauses without complementizers:

Gestern **kaufte** Peter das Buch.

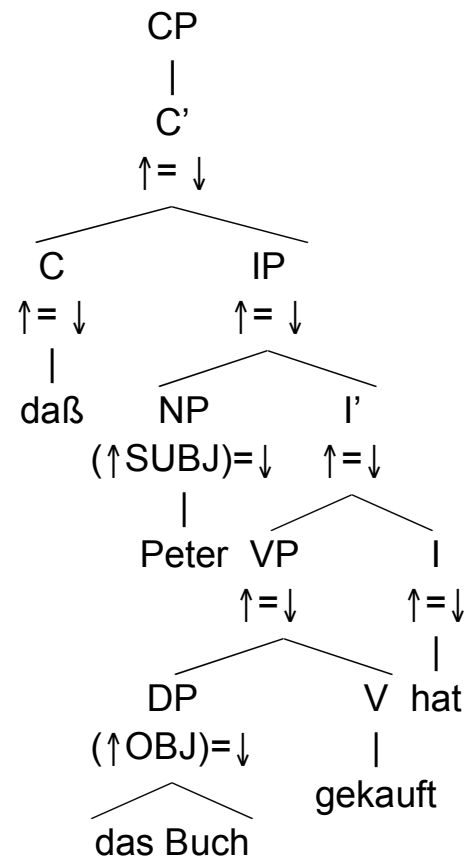
yesterday bought Peter the book

‘Yesterday Peter bought the book.’

Peter **kaufte** das Buch.

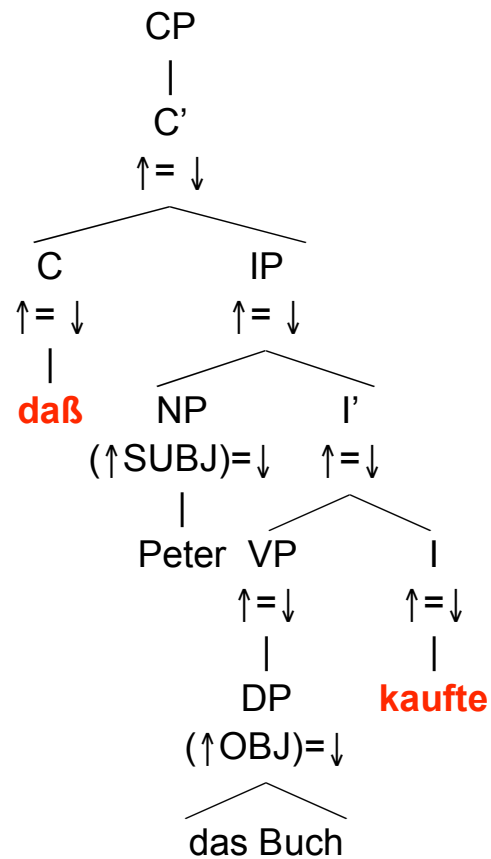
‘Peter bought the book.’

...daß Peter das Buch gekauft hat.



[PRED	'buy<(↑SUBJ)(↑OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[OBJ	[...'book'...]

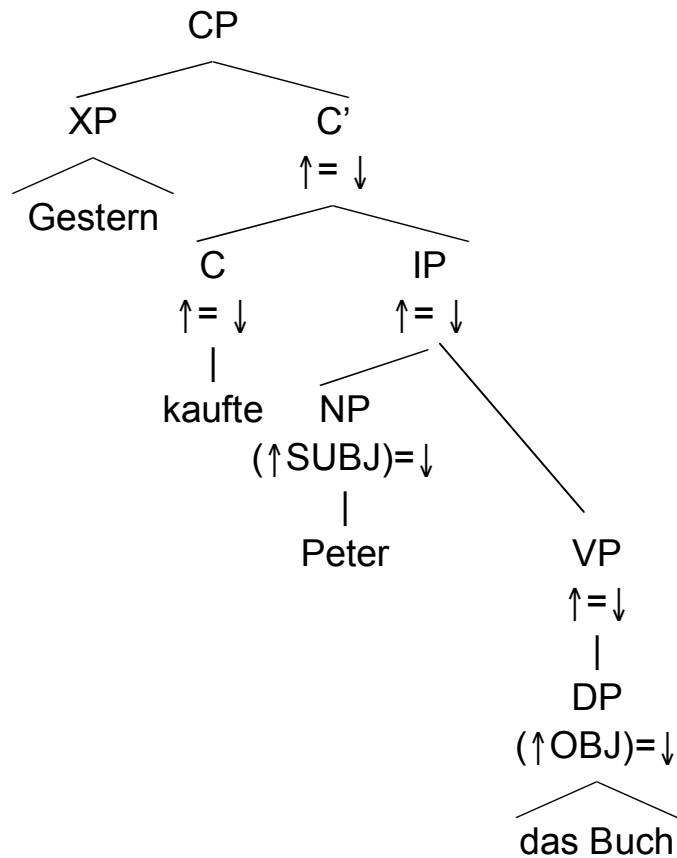
...daß Peter das Buch kaufte.



[PRED	'buy<(↑SUBJ)(↑OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[[
[OBJ	[...'book'...]
[[

Note: VP lacks a V!

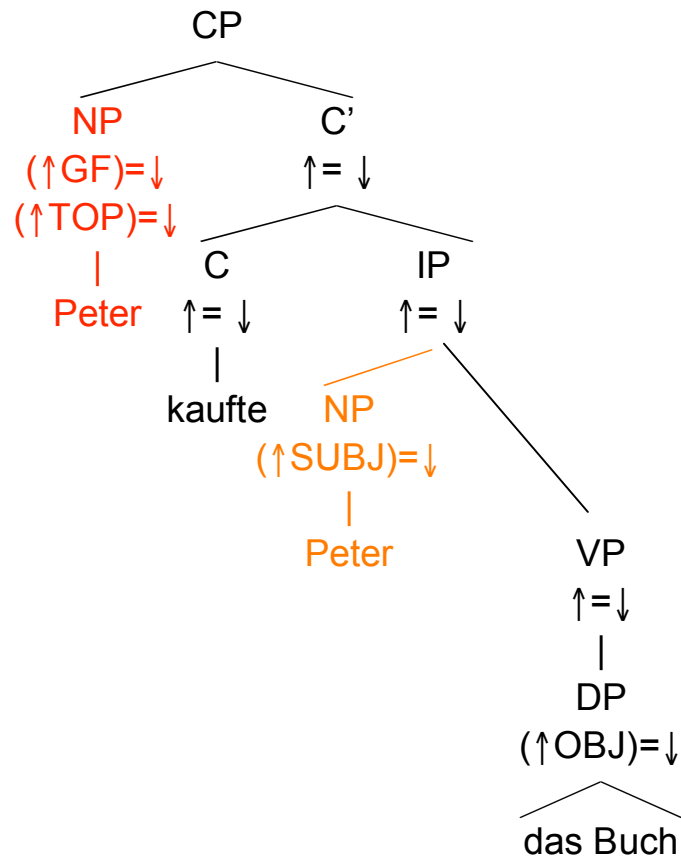
Gestern kaufte Peter das Buch.



[PRED	'buy<(↑SUBJ)(↑OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...
[OBJ	[...'book'...

**Note: The VP has no head V!
This violates Endocentricity: 'every category has a head'.**

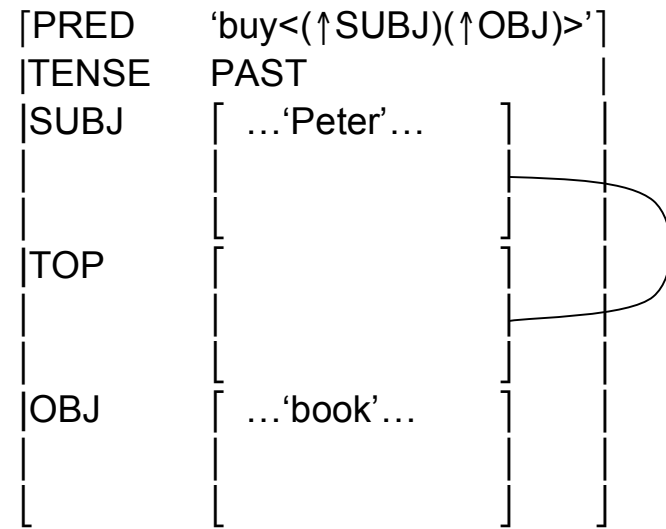
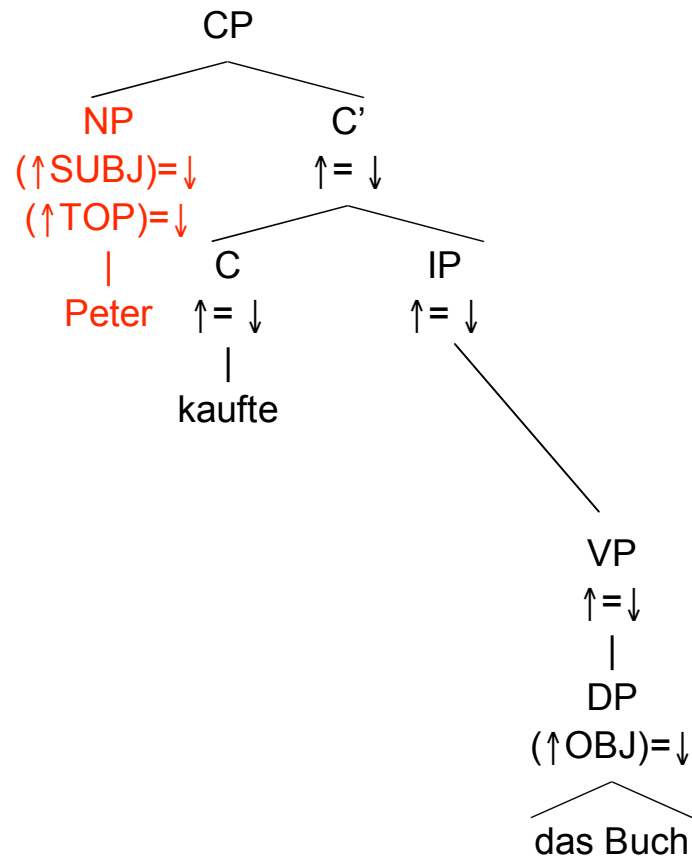
Peter kaufte das Buch.



[PRED	'buy<(\uparrow SUBJ)(\uparrow OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[OBJ	[...'book'...]

Topicalization

Peter kaufte das Buch.



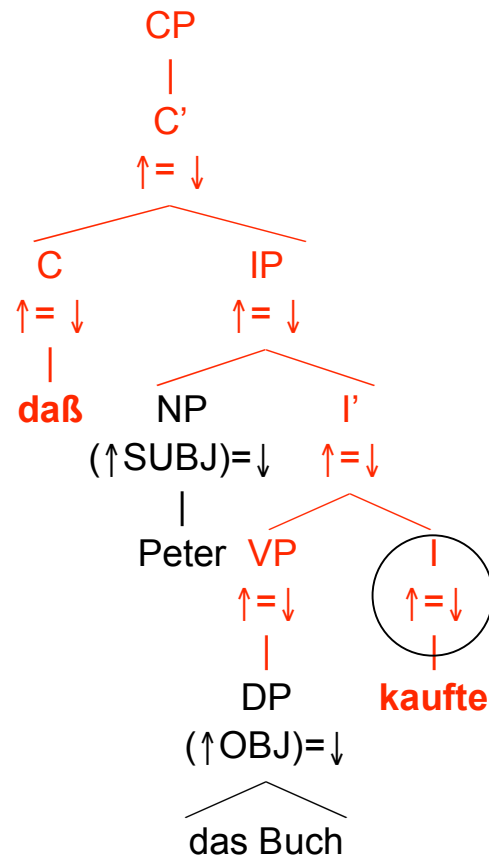
Topicalization

Revised version of endocentricity:

Endocentricity: Every lexical category has an **extended head**.

- The **f-structure domain** to which VP belongs = **the set of nodes that map to the same f-structure as the VP**
- Within that f-structure domain of VP, the closest node to VP that does not dominate VP is the VP's extended head.

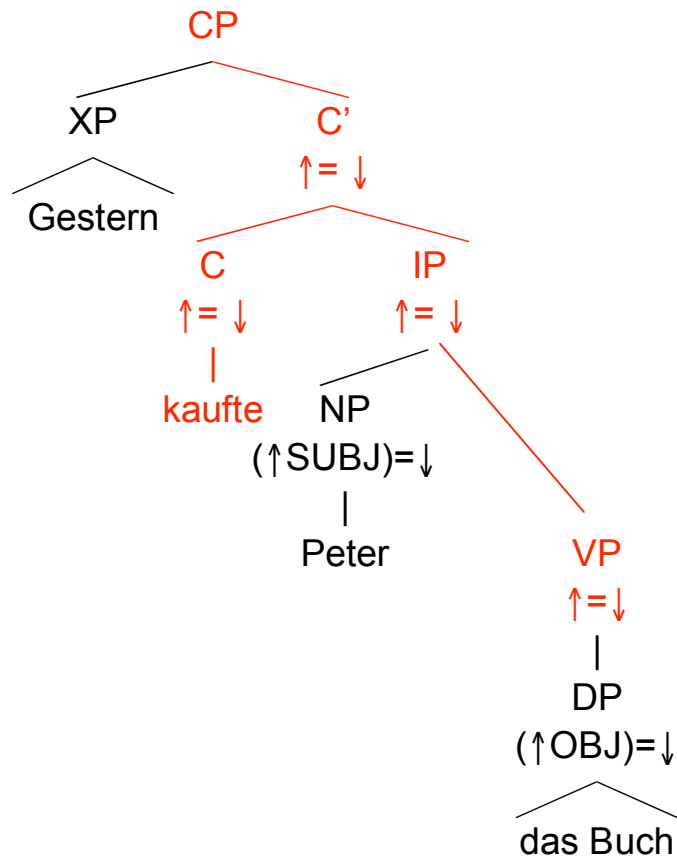
...daß Peter das Buch kaufte.



[PRED	'buy<(↑SUBJ)(↑OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[OBJ	[...'book'...]

⇐ Closest node in VP's f-structure domain that does not dominate VP

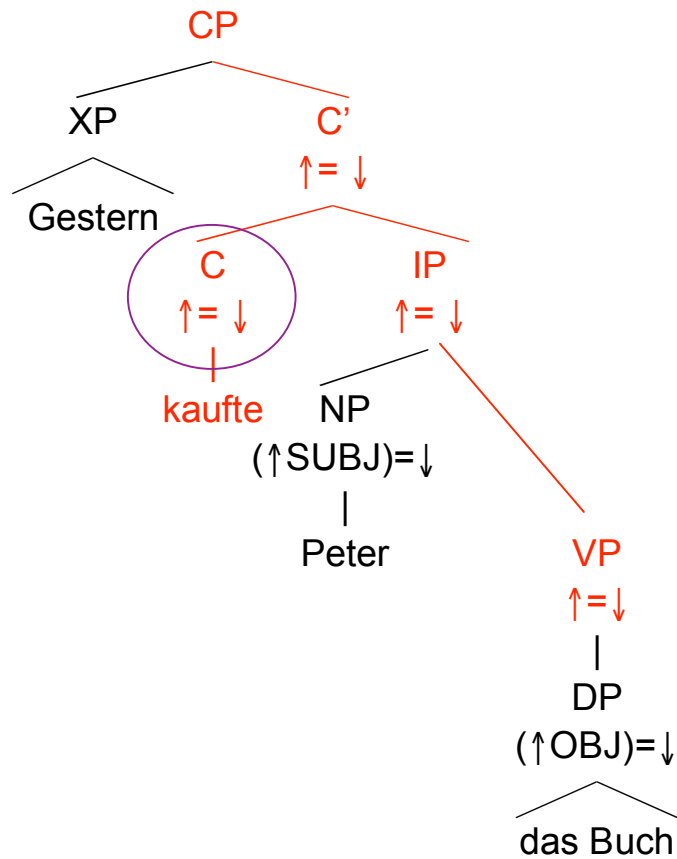
Gestern kaufte Peter das Buch.



[PRED	'buy<(\uparrow SUBJ)(\uparrow OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[OBJ	[...'book'...]

Which node is the Extended Head of VP?

Gestern kaufte Peter das Buch.



[PRED	'buy<(↑SUBJ)(↑OBJ)>']
[TENSE	PAST
[SUBJ	[...'Peter'...]
[OBJ	[...'book'...]

Which node is the Extended Head of VP?

Endocentricity: Every **lexical** category has an extended head.

Why limit to **lexical** categories?

Functional categories can be headless:

D-less DP's: [John's house]

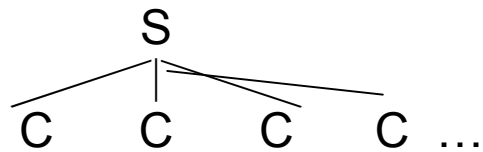
C-less CP: [I wonder who she is].

Endocentricity as a recoverability condition: the content of a functional head (e.g. the, that, if, ...) is easy to deduce from syntactic context. Small closed classes.

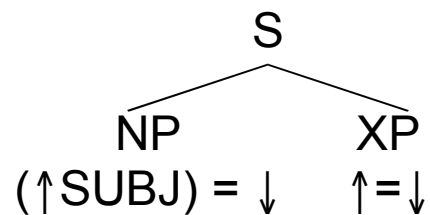
The category S (Sentence' or 'Small clause')

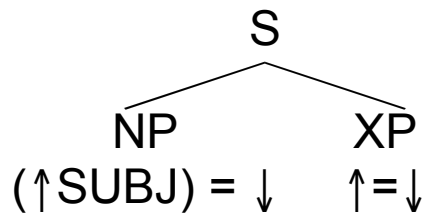
S is an inherently Exocentric (headless) category

Non-configurational S:



Configurational S:





Indonesian

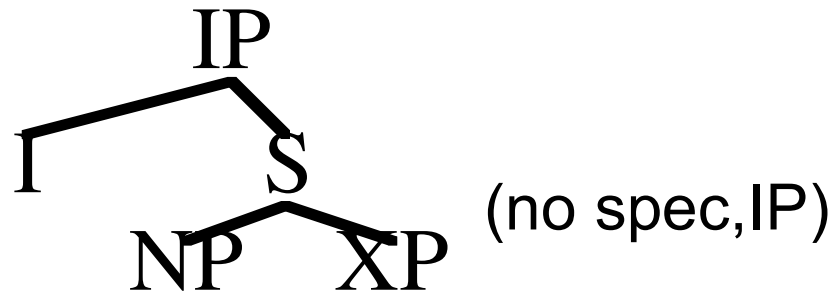
1. dia guru. NP
 (s)he teacher
 'she is a teacher'

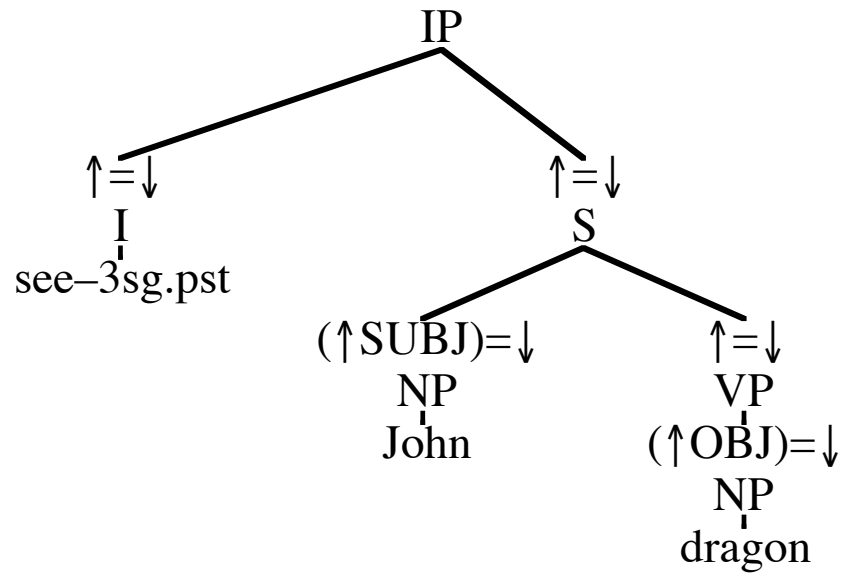
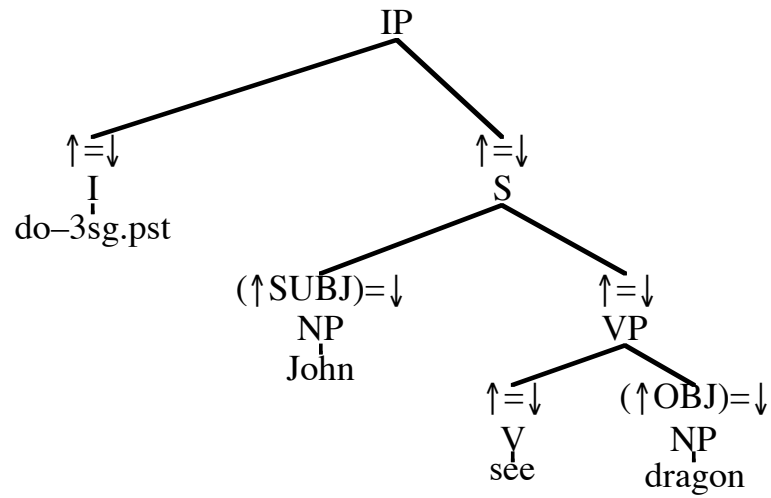
2. anak-nya lima. QP
 child-3SG five
 'He has five children.' (lit. 'His children are five.')

3. beban ini sungguh berat. AP
 load this really heavy
 'This load is really heavy.'

4. Kalung ini untuk ibu. PP
 necklace this for mother 'This necklace is for mother.'

ex. Welsh: Infl position outside S.





Distributed Exponence: separated c-s nodes map to a single f-s

like head mobility, except that both heads are filled.

West Flemish: agreement btwn C and V

English C and I must agree:

...for John to be so rude

...that John is[FINITE] so rude

Wambaya (Australian): TENSE marked on both V and I.
Overlapping values; not feature copying. V and I
together indicate TENSE.

V: -ba: uncertain of event (positive future; imperative)
Ø: certain (all else)

Aux[FUT]...V- Ø :
'immediate future' e.g. 'He's going to hit you!'

Aux[FUT]...V-ba :
'future' e.g. 'I'll spear this one'

	PAST (on Aux)	FUTURE (on Aux)	UNCERTAIN (on V)
future	–	+	+
immediate future	–	+	–