

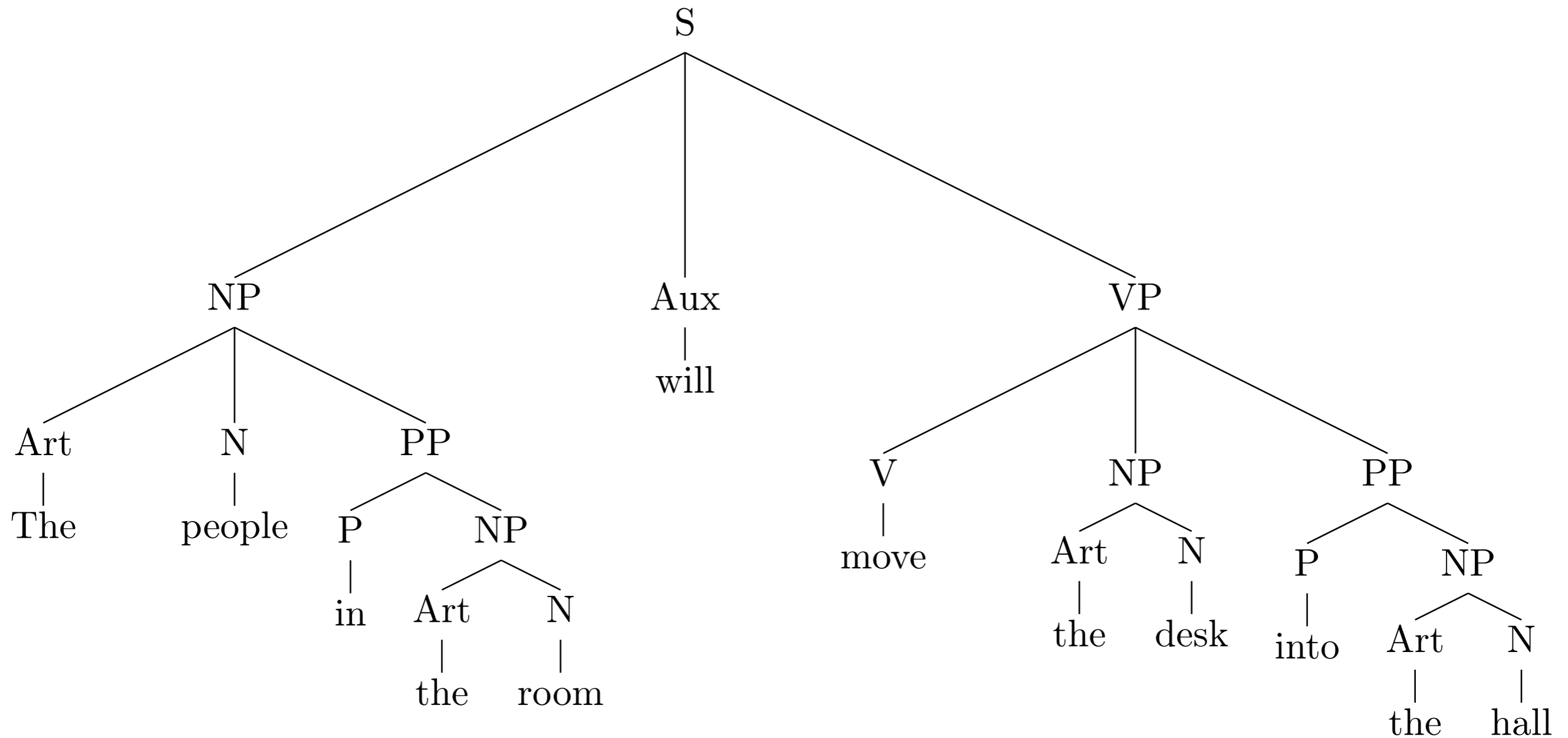
# LING 201: Introduction to Linguistics

EMU  
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# Agenda

- Assignments for today
- Syntax
  - Auxiliaries
  - Determiners
- New assignments

# Assignments



# Assignments

- Daughter nodes of VP
- Sister nodes of PP within the subject NP
- Phrase structure rules in 70:

$S \rightarrow NP \text{ Aux } VP$

$NP \rightarrow (\text{Art}) N (\text{PP})$

$VP \rightarrow V (\text{NP})$

$PP \rightarrow P NP$

# Assignments

- Does the sequence the room will move represent a single constituent in tree 5.1?
- Placement of *so*:
  - You have *so* not got to see this.
  - That is *so* not my motto.
  - “*So* consistently follows the auxiliary verb, unless negation occurs and the negative particle is contracted onto the auxiliary. In this case, *so* precedes the auxiliary. In sentences without an auxiliary verb, however, *so* occurs before the verb. (Kuha 2004)



# Functional Categories

- Verb: *want*
  - subject-less infinitival *to*-complement:  
*I want [ to go home ]*
  - infinitive with a subject:  
*I want [ **you** to keep quite ]*
  - noun expression:  
*I want [ lots of money ]*

# Functional Categories

- Auxiliaries (Aux)
  - Historically presumably verbs
  - Synchronically differ from verbs
    - Verbs take specific complements
    - Aux take verb expressions as complements



# Auxiliaries

- **Semantic function:**
  - mark grammatical properties
    - *tense, aspect, voice, mood, modality*
- **Syntactic selection properties:**
  - Verb expression complements

# Auxiliaries

He *has/had* [ gone ]

She *is/was* [ staying at home ]

He *is/was* [ seen regularly by the doctor ]

He really *does/did* [ say a lot ]

You *can/could* [ help ]

The *may/might* [ come back ]

He *will/would* [ get upset ]

I *shall/should* [ return ]

You *must* [ finish your assignment ]

# Auxiliaries

- Perfective: *have*
- Imperfective/progressive: *be*
- Dummy/meaningless: *do*
- Modal: *can, could, may, might, will, would, shall, should, must*
- Function also as **verbs**: *have, do*

# Auxiliaries

- Syntactic properties:
- Auxiliaries can undergo *inversion*:

*Can* **you** speak Japanese?

*Do* **you** smoke?

*Is* **it** right?

# Auxiliaries

- Syntactic properties:
  - Verbs cannot undergo *inversion*:
    - \* *Intends* **he** to come?
    - \* *Saw* **you** the mayor?
    - \* *Plays* **he** the piano?

# Auxiliaries

- Syntactic properties:
- Verbs cannot undergo *inversion*, instead *do*-support is required:

*Does **he** intend to come?*

*Did **you** see the mayor?*

*Does **he** play the piano?*

# Auxiliaries

- Negation:
- Auxiliaries can be directly negated by a following *not*, which can contract to *n't*:

John *could not/couldn't* come to the party.

I *do not/don't* like her much.

He *is not/isn't* working very hard.

They *have not/haven't* finished.

# Auxiliaries

- Negation:
  - Verbs cannot be directly negated by a following *not, /n't*:
    - \* They *like not/liken't* me.
    - \* I see *not/seen't* the point.
    - \* You *came not/camen't*.



# Auxiliaries

- Negation:
- Verbs cannot be directly negated by a following *not, /n't*, *do*-support is required:

*They do not/don't like me.*

*I do not/don't see the point.*

*You did not/didn't come.*

# Negation

- Scope of negation:

They like [ **not** me ], but you.

I see [ **not** the point ], but the line.

John decided [ **not** to stay ]

- Here, negation does not have scope over the whole proposition/predicate, but the noun expression or infinitival complement!

# Auxiliaries

- Tag-questions:
  - Auxiliaries can appear in sentence final tags:

You *don't* like her, *do* you?

He *won't* win, *will* he?

She *isn't* working, *is* she?

He *can't* spell, *can* he?

# Auxiliaries

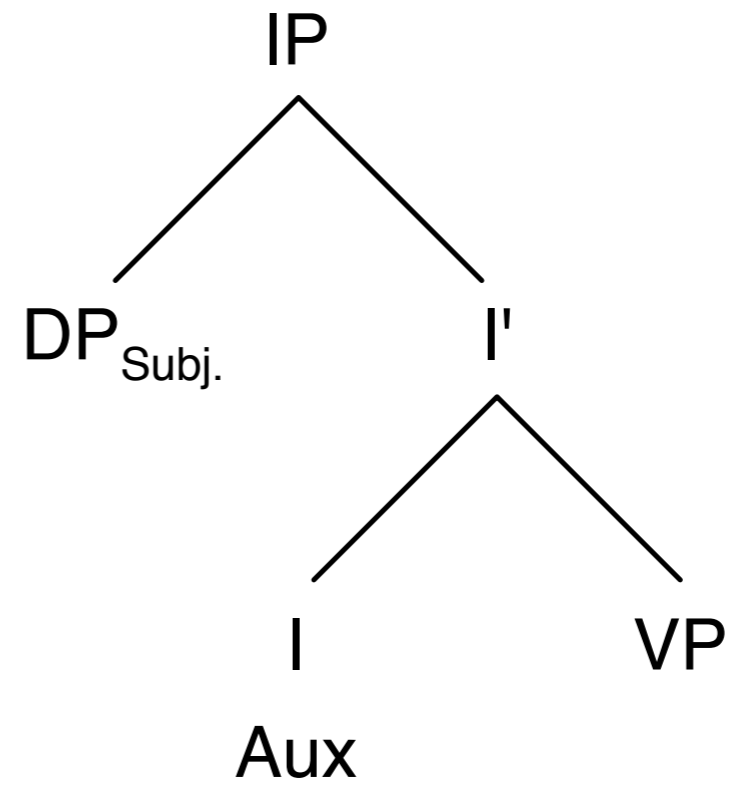
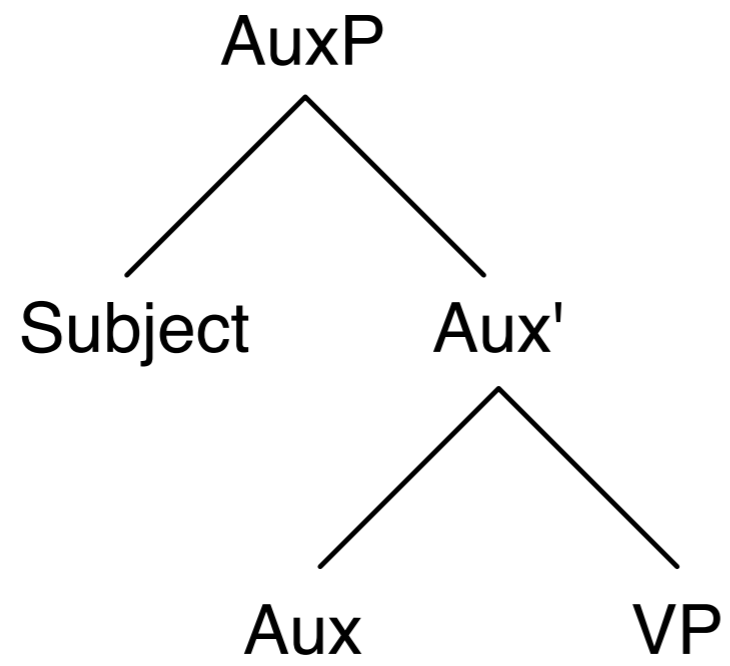
- Tag-questions:
- Verbs cannot be used in tags, they require the use of *do*-tags:

You like her, *do*/\**like* you?

They want one, *do*/\**want* they?

# Auxiliaries

- Conclusion:
  - Auxiliaries constitute a different category from verbs.
- Syntactic properties:
  - Possible assumption: Auxiliaries are heads that take VP complements.



# Particles

- Infinitive particle: *to*
- Selects an infinitival verbal complement
  - I wonder whether *to* [ go home ]
  - Many people want the government *to* [ change course ]
  - We don't intend *to* [ surrender ]
- What kind of category is *to*?

# *to*

- Preposition *to*:
- Selects a determiner phrase complement:

He stayed *to* [ the end of the film ]

Why don't you come *to* [ the point ]

He went *to* [ the police ]



# *to*

- Possible assumption: It could be a preposition in both cases.
- It selects an infinitival VP, or
- a DP complement.
- What are the differences between the prepositional and the infinitival *to*?

# *to*

- Prepositions, in particular the preposition *to*, have intrinsic semantic content.

- *to*: “as far as”

- The semantic content of prepositions can be modified by intensifiers:

He stayed *right to* the end of the film.

Why don't you come *straight to* the point?

He went *straight to* the police.

# *to*

- The dummy functor infinitival *to* lacks descriptive content, thus cannot be intensified:
  - \* I wonder whether *right/straight* **to** go home.
  - \* Many people want the government *right/straight* **to** change course.
  - \* We don't intend *right/straight* **to** surrender.

# *to*

- Selected category type:
  - Preposition *to* and other prepositions: DP and specific gerundive forms
  - Infinitival *to*: verbal complement

I intend **to** resign/\***to** resignation.

She waited for John **to** arrive/\***to** arrival.

Try **to** decide/\***to** decision.

# *to*

- Preposition *to* and other prepositions license only gerundive verb forms (which might be argued to be nominal in nature):

I am **against** *capitulating*/*\*capitulate*.

Try and do it **without** *complaining*/*\*complain*.

Think carefully **before** *deciding*/*\*decide*.

# *to*

- Infinitival *to* does not license gerundive verb forms:

I want **to** *go*/*\*going* there.

You must try **to** *work*/*\*working* harder.

You managed **to** *upset*/*\*upsetting* them.

# *to*

- Infinitival *to* licenses ellipsis, the preposition **to** does not:

Do you want *to* go **to** the cinema?

No, I don't really want *to*.

\* No, I don't really want *to* go **to**.

- Infinitival *to* and prepositional **to** are two different categories. But, what category is infinitival *to*?

# *to*

- Distributional regularities:
- Auxiliaries and infinitival *to* occupy the same position:

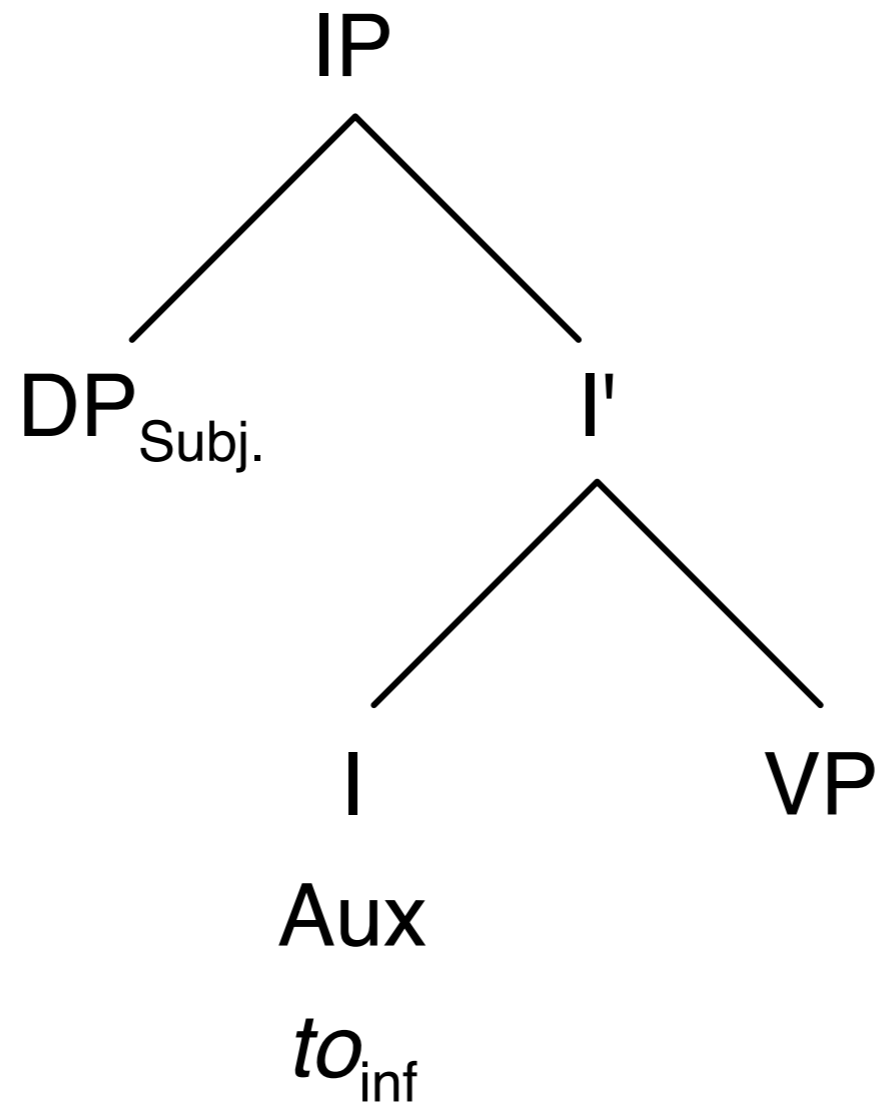
It's vital [ that John *should* show an interest ]

It's vital [ for John *to* show an interest ]



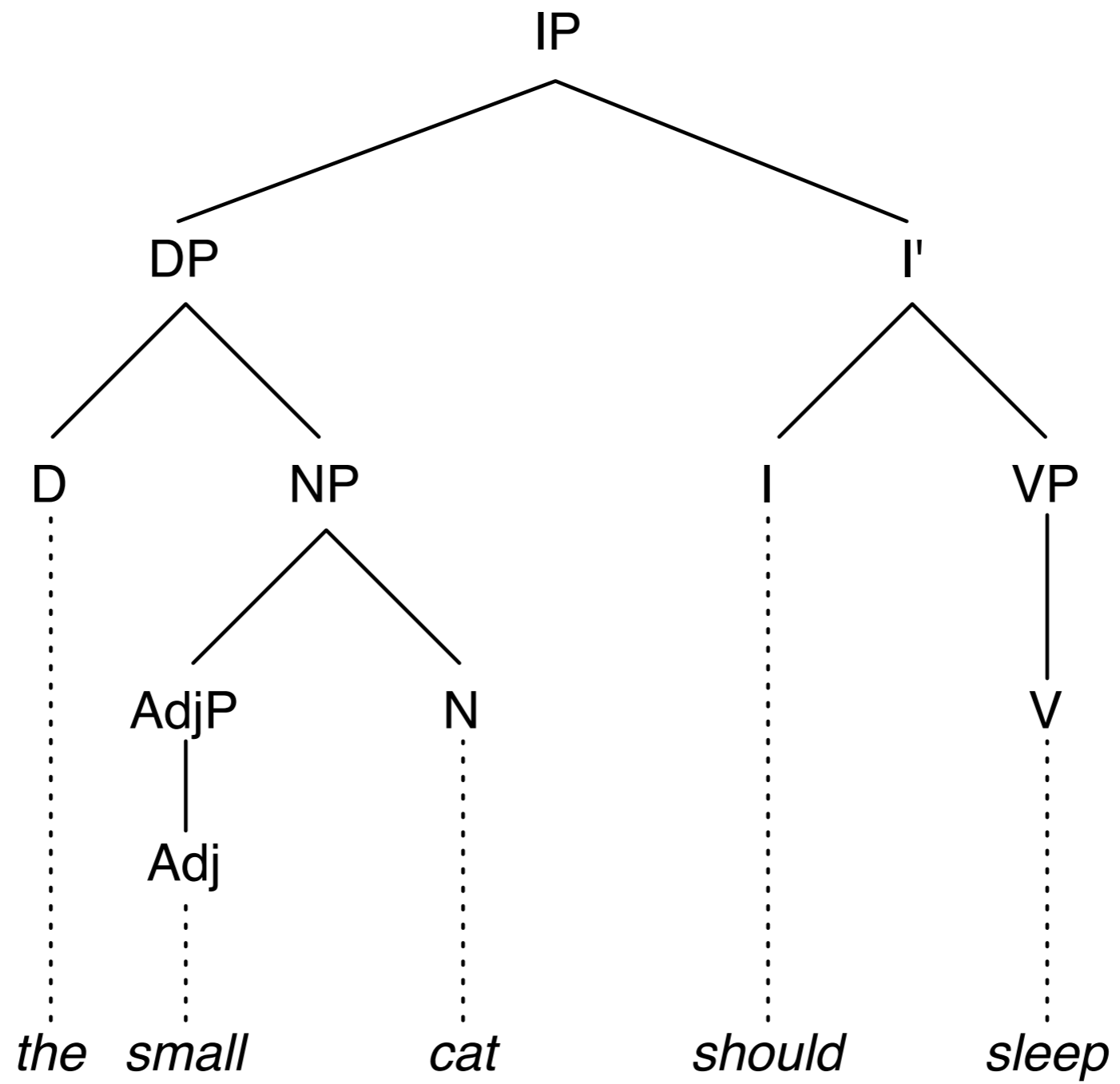
# *to*

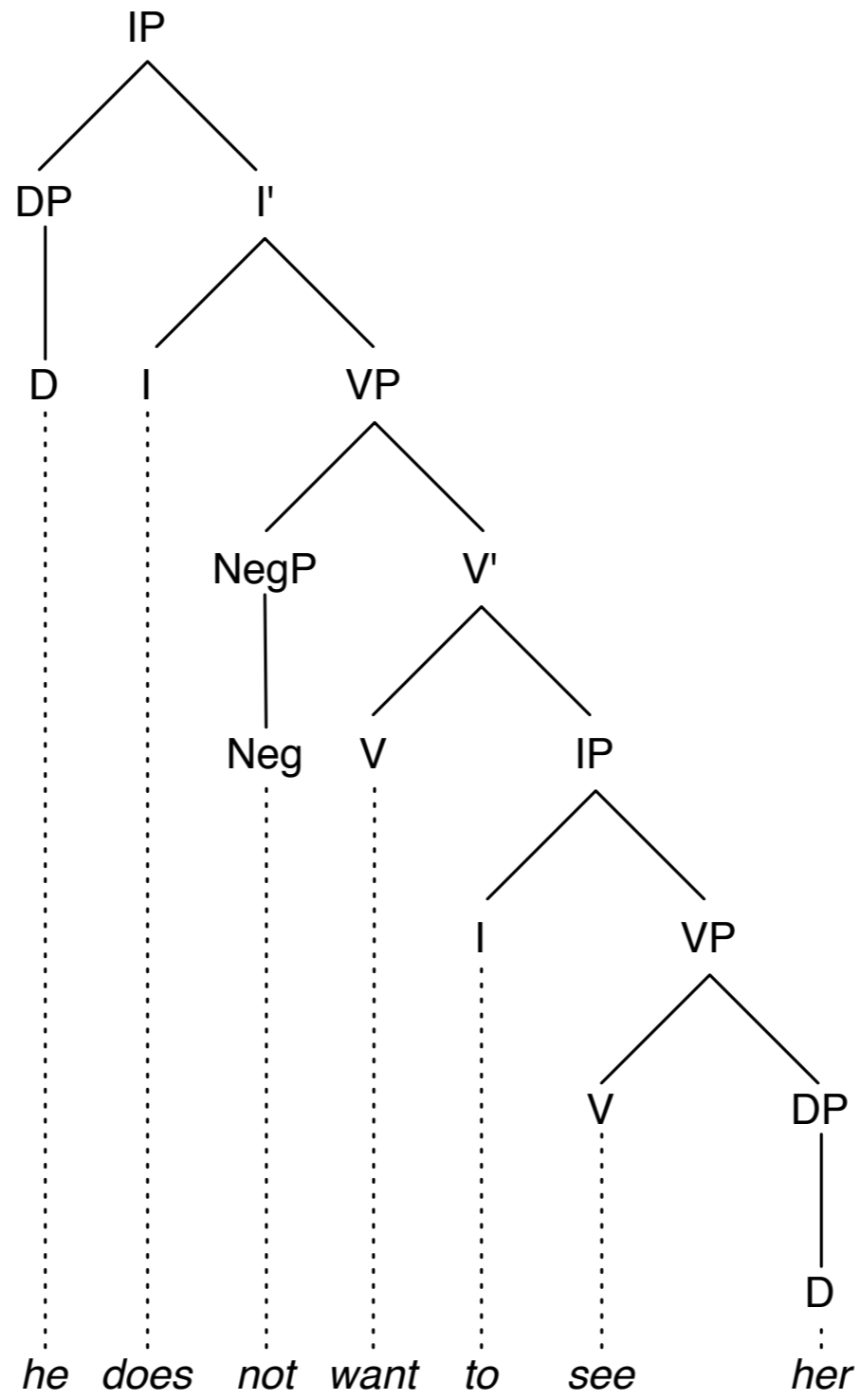
- Distributional regularities:
  - *Should* and infinitival *to* select both an infinitival verbal complement.
  - Similar auxiliaries and infinitival *to* are in complementary distribution.
- Conclusion: Auxiliaries and infinitival *to* occupy the same syntactic position.



# Inflection

- The syntactic position is assumed to be **Inflection (Infl or I)**:
  - Auxiliaries inflect for tense/agreement
  - Infinitival to inflects for infinitive
  - **I** carries the inflectional features (e.g. agreement with the subject, the main verb)





Pause

# Functional Categories

- Some words have:
  - idiosyncratic descriptive content
  - variation across items, not across classes
- Classes:
  - verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and prepositions

# Functional Categories

- Some words have:
  - functional content
  - grammatical functions
- Example:
  - determiner (D or Det)
    - determine the referential or quantificational properties of noun expressions



# Determiners

- Determiners in **bold**, noun expressions in *italic*:
  1. I bought **a** *new battery* from **the** *local garage*.
  2. I prefer **this** *painting* to **that** *photo*.
  3. **My** *studio apartment* is no bigger than **your** *garage*.
  4. **All** *good comedians* tell **some** *bad joke*.

# Determiners

- Referential Det:
  - Introduce referring expressions, which refer to a specific concept or entity which is assumed to be known to the hearer.
  - e.g. *the, this, that, my*

# Determiners

- Quantifying Det or Quantifier:
  - Denote quantity.
  - e.g. *all, some*

# Determiners

- Syntactic position:
  - prenominal
  - Adjectives also occur in a prenominal position.
  - Do determiners have the same categorial status of adjectives?

# Determiners

- Syntactic differences between Det and Adj:
- Adjectives can be recursively stacked in front of the modified noun:
  - *men, handsome men, dark handsome men, tall dark handsome men, sensitive tall dark handsome men, intelligent sensitive tall dark handsome men, ...*

# Determiners

- Syntactic differences between Det and Adj:
- Determiners **cannot** be recursively stacked in front of the modified noun:
  - *the car, \*a my car, \*that the car, \*that his the car, \*a that car, ...*

# Determiners

- Syntactic differences between Det and Adj:
  - Det and Adj can co-occur within one NP, obeying strict placement constraints:
    - my** *nice new* clothes
    - \* *nice* **my** *new* clothes
    - \* *nice new* **my** clothes
  - Det precedes all Adj!

# Determiners

- Syntactic differences between Det and Adj:
- Determiners form a distinct **distributional class** from adjectives.



# Determiners

- Syntactic differences between Det and Adj:
- Dialogue scenario:
  - What are you looking for?
  - *\*Chair; \*Comfortable chair; **A** chair; **Another** chair; **This** chair; **My** chair*

# Determiners

- Nouns
  - countable: *chair*
    - \**chair*; \**big chair*; *one chair*; *the chair*
  - uncountable: *furniture*
    - *furniture*; *nice furniture*; *the furniture*; ...

# Determiners

- Singular count nouns (e.g. *chair*)
  - require a pre-modifying determiner (e.g. *a, the, another, this, my*)
- Thus:
  - This provides further evidence for the hypothesis that determiners in English belong to a different category from adjectives.

# Determiners

1. Can you pass me **a** *chair/\*chairs/\*furniture*?
2. He doesn't have **much** *furniture/\*chair/\*chairs* of his own.
3. He bought **several** *chairs/\*furniture* in the sale.
4. Do we need **more** *furniture/chairs/\*chair*?

# Determiners

- Determiners tend to be restricted to modifying nouns with specific *number/countability* properties:
  - *a*: single count noun
  - *much*: (singular) mass noun
  - *several*: plural count noun
  - *more*: plural count noun, or a (singular) mass noun

# Determiners

1. We need a **nice, simple, comfortable, modern** *chair*.
2. We need some **nice, simple, comfortable, modern** *chairs*.
3. We need some **nice, simple, comfortable, modern** *furniture*.

# Determiners

- Adjectives, i.e. typical adjectives, can generally be used to modify all three types of nouns.
- Note: *the* can modify all count and non-count nouns as well...
- Reasonable assumption:
  - Adjectives = lexical
  - Determiners = functional

# Determiners

1. a **thoughtful** friend/?cat/??fish/???pan/!problem

2. **a/the/another/this/my** friend/cat/fish/pan/problem

- *thoughtful*: descriptive content is such that it is compatible with an expression which denotes a rational entity
- Adjectives seem to have descriptive content...
- but Det just require a grammatical category with specific morpho-syntactic features



# Determiners

- **All** (*guests*) are welcome.
- **Many** (*miners*) died in the accident.
- **Several** (*protesters*) were arrested.
- **Each** (*son*) was envious of the other.
- I don't have **any** (*cigarettes*).
- I prefer **this** (*book*).
- Are you going to buy **those** (*items*)?

# Determiners

- Most determiners can be used:
  - prenominal: *Look at **that** car!*
  - pronominal: *Look at **that**!*
- The dual use of these elements is further support for the hypothesis that they represent a class on their own.

# Determiners

- Some determiners cannot be used pronominally:

*Don't touch **the** glass!*

\* *Don't touch **the**!*

***Every** student failed.*

\* ***Every** failed.*

# Determiners

- There are determiners that can be used only prenominally.
- Are there determiners that can be used only pronominally?

# Pronouns

- Personal pronouns:
  - *I, me, we, us, you, he, him, she, her, it, they, them*
  - Do not denote people, but
  - encode the grammatical property of *person*

# Pronouns

- *I, me, we, us*: 1st person
  - reference includes the person speaking
- *you*: 2nd person
  - reference includes the addressee, excludes the speaker
- *he, him, she, her, it, they, them*: 3rd person
  - reference excludes speaker and addressee

# Pronouns

- Personal pronouns inflect for nominative/objective case, while nouns do not.
- ***John*** admires ***Mary***.
- ***Mary*** admires ***John***.
- ***He***/***\*Him*** admires ***her***/***\*she***.
- ***She***/***\*Her*** admires ***him***/***\*he***.

# Pronouns

- Personal pronouns are functors, they lack descriptive content.
- Example:
  - *dog*: denotes a specific type of animal.
  - *they*: does not denote any specific type of entity, its reference is determined from the linguistic or nonlinguistic context.



# Pronouns

- They encode sets of grammatical properties:
  - *person, number, gender, case*
- What grammatical category do they belong to?

# Pronouns

- Some argue: Personal pronouns are determiners.
- Advantage:
  - Some specific constructions receive a unitary analyzes...

# Pronouns

1. **We** *psychologists* don't trust **you** *linguists*.

2. We don't trust *you*.

- The personal pronouns in 1. modify the nouns, as do determiners like *the*.
- Determiners and personal pronouns are in **complementary distribution**.

# Pronouns

- 1st and 2nd person pronouns can be used prenominally and pronominally, while 3rd person pronouns are exclusively used pronominally.

\* ***they*** boys

# Determiners

- It is plausible to assume that personal pronouns in English are determiners as well, given evidence mainly from their:
  - distributional properties
  - lack of descriptive content

# Exercise

The nasty cat did not like to drink cold milk.

All cats like to chase mice.

# Assignment

- Draw the tree diagram for the following noun phrases:
  - the weather in England
  - John's uncle in England
  - John's uncle in England's company
  - Peter did not call Mary.
  - the big cats and the small dogs