

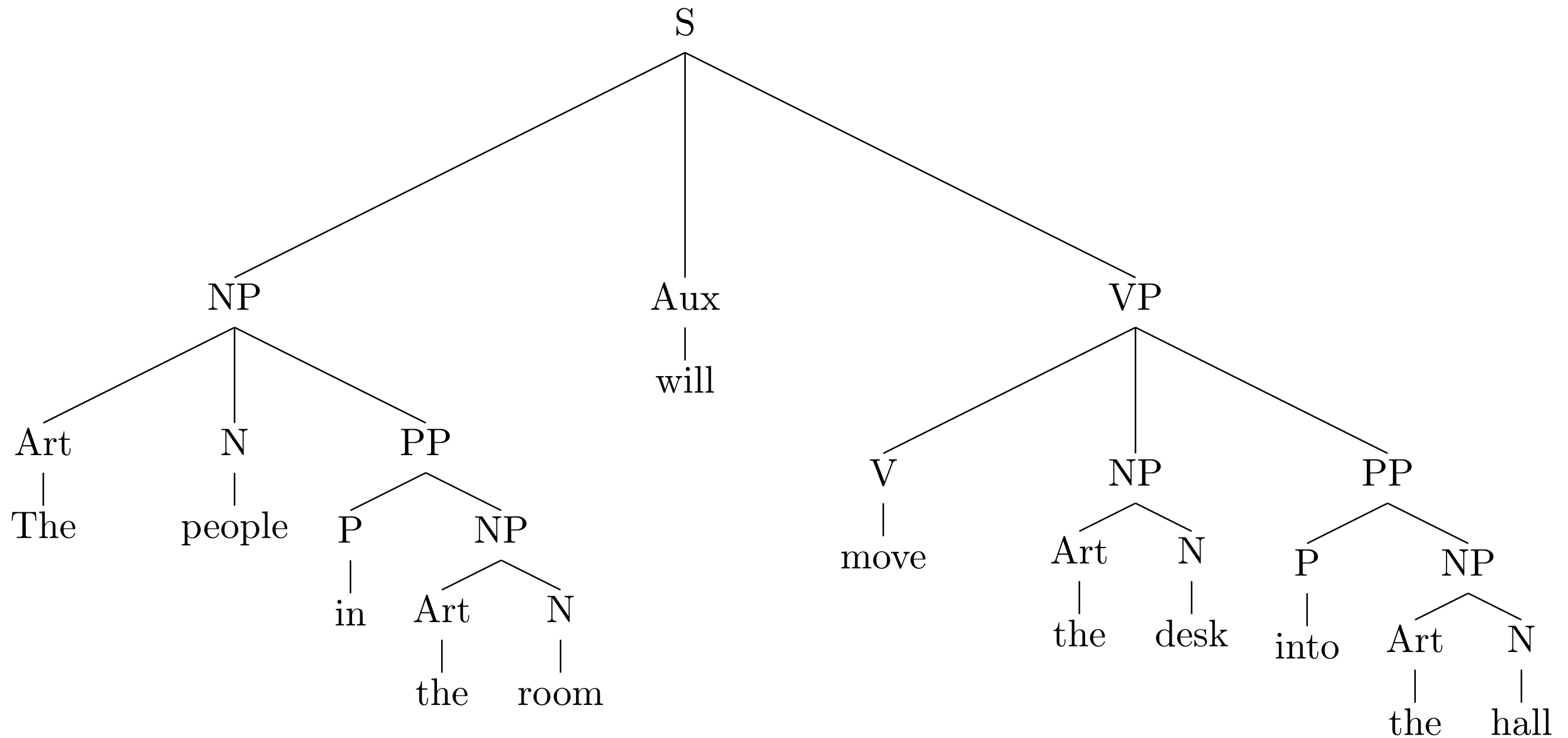
LING 201: Introduction to Linguistics

EMU
Fall 2011
D. Cavar

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

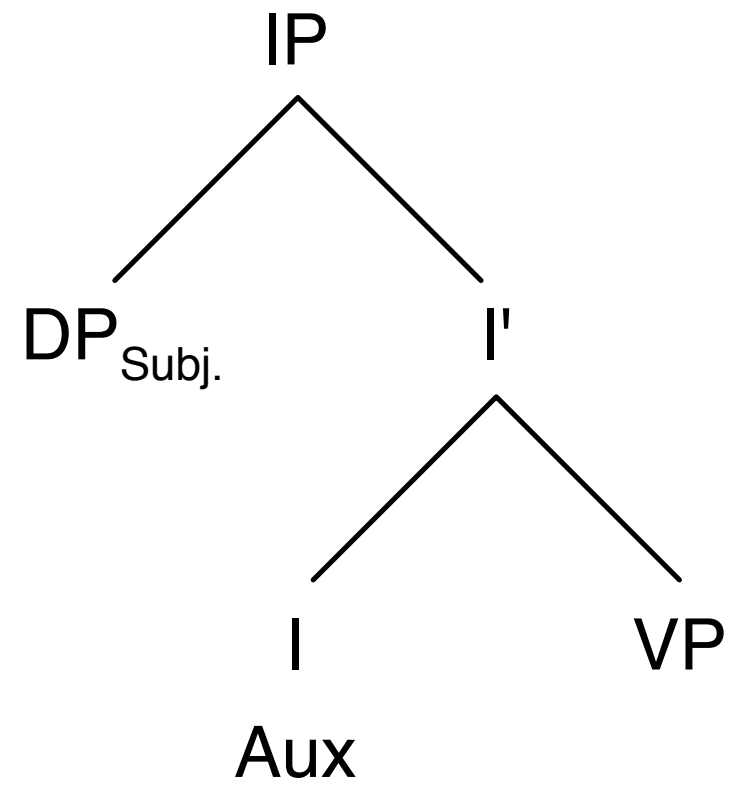
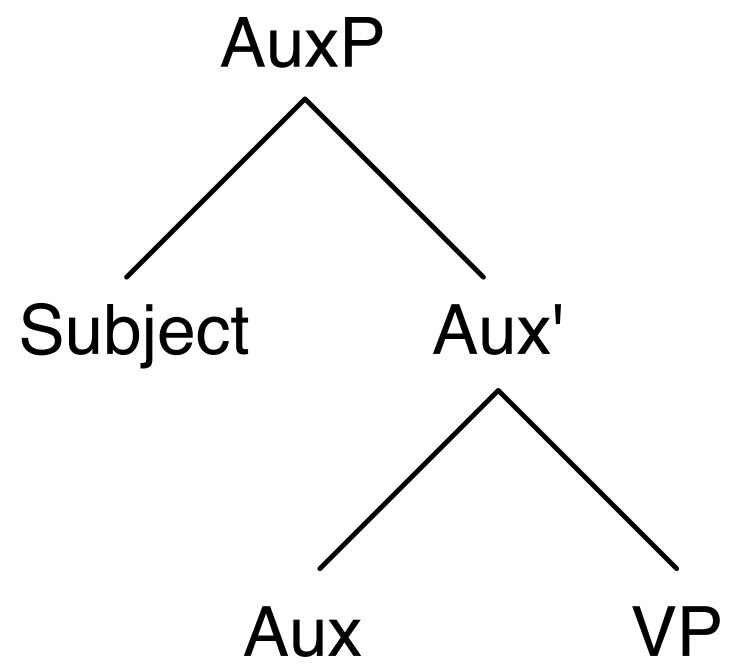
- Tag-questions:
- Verbs cannot be used in tags, they require the use of *do*-tags:

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

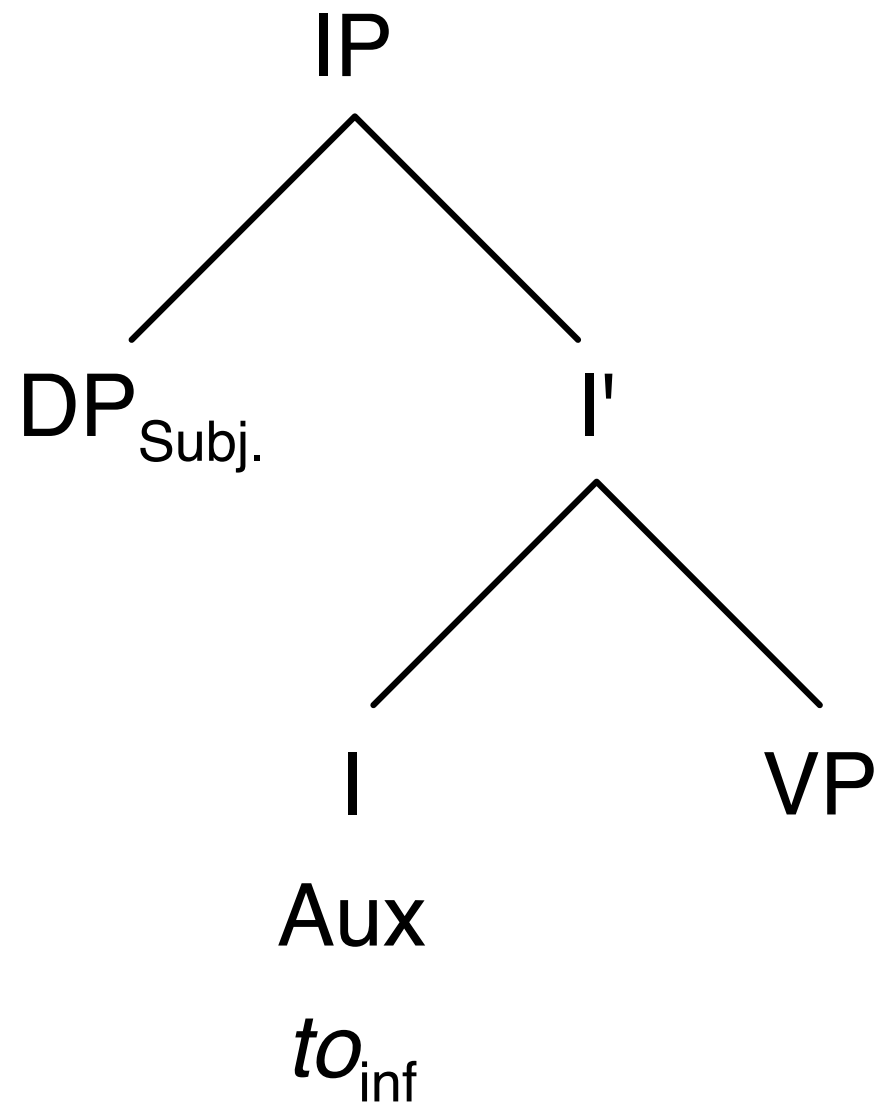
- Distributional regularities:
- Auxiliaries and infinitival *to* occupy the same position:

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

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

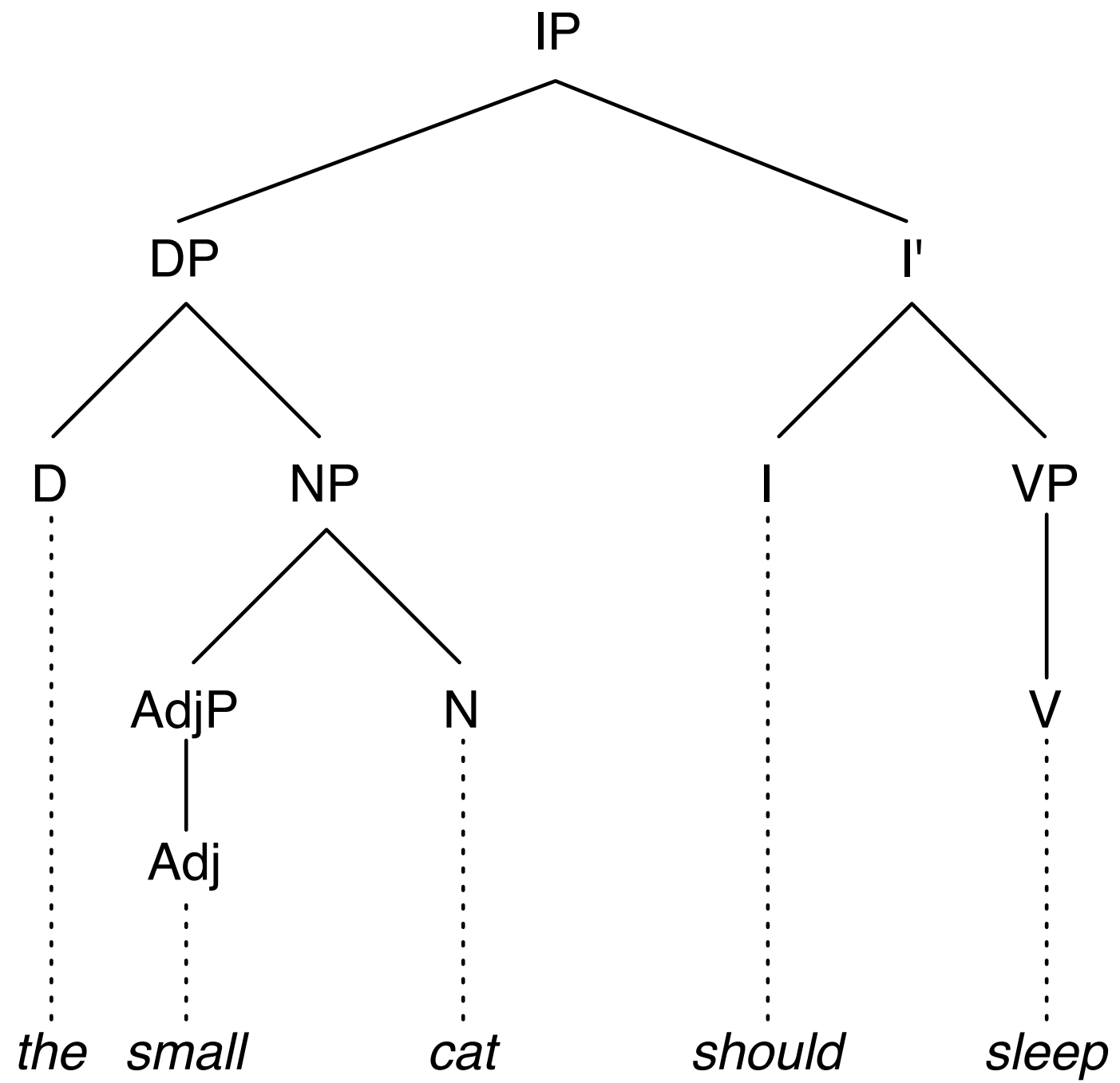
to

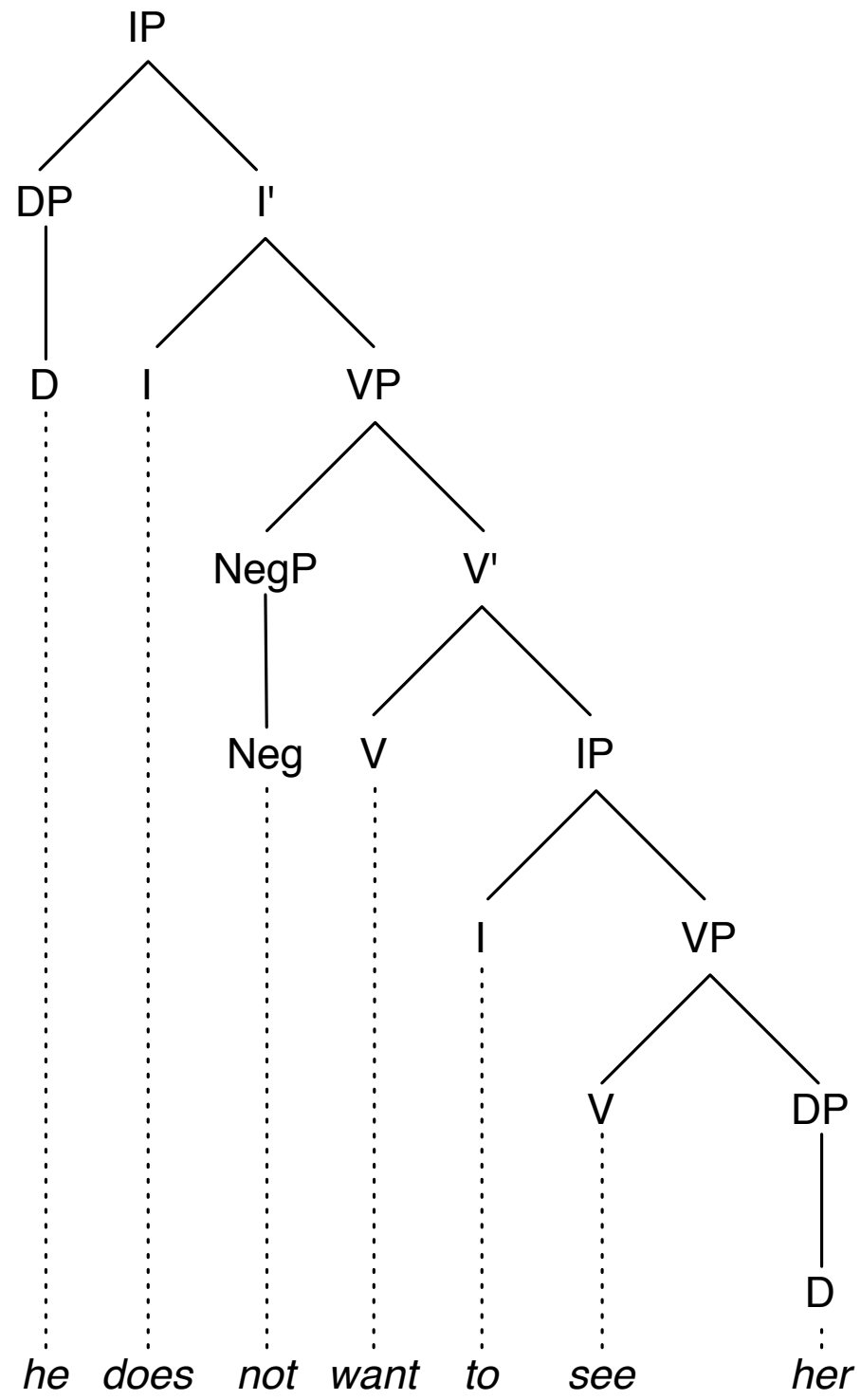
- Distributional regularities:
 - *Should* and infinitival *to* select both an infinitival verbal complement.
 - Similar auxiliaries and infinitival *to* are in complementary distribution.
- Conclusion: Auxiliaries and infinitival *to* occupy the same syntactic position.



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