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Advanced topics in German syntax

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Introduction

- How would you derive the following sentence?

(1) Gelesen glaube ich, dass das Buch niemand hat.
read believe I that the book no.one has
'I believe that no one has read the book.'

1 The position of the verb, OV vs. VO

- The translational equivalent of John loves Mary yields an SVO sentence in German, but under marked discourse conditions, OVS is possible as well:

(2) a. Der Peter **liebt** den Hans
the.NOM Peter loves the.ACC John
'Peter loves John.'
b. Den Hans **liebt** der Peter.
the.ACC John loves the.NOM Peter
'Peter loves John.'

- if the V precedes the arguments, a yes-no-question obtains; the SU precedes the OBJ in the unmarked case, but the reverse ordering is possible as well, thus instantiating VSO and VOS:

(3) a. **liebt** der Peter den Hans?
loves the.NOM Peter the.ACC John
b. **liebt** den Hans der Peter?
loves the.ACC John the.NOM Peter
'Does Peter love John?'

? Propose a hypothesis how the two sentence types could be related

- in clauses introduced by a complementizer, the unmarked order is SOV, OSV is possible under certain discourse conditions; crucially, the V cannot occur between the two arguments:

(4) a. dass der Peter den Hans **liebt**
that the.NOM Peter the.ACC loves
b. dass den Hans der Peter **liebt**
that the.ACC John the.NOM Peter loves
'that Peter loves John.'
c. *dass der Peter **liebt** den Hans
that the.NOM Peter loves the.ACC John

- the three sentence types are termed
 - verb-second
 - verb-first
 - verb-final

- verb-second: the verb follows the first constituent, it need not be the linearly second element:

- (5)
- Er **liest** ein Buch
he reads a book
'He reads a book.'
 - Der Mann **liest** ...
the man reads
'the man reads ...'
 - Der Mann von meiner Schwester **liest** ...
the husband of my sister reads
'My sister's husband reads ...'
 - Der Mann von meiner Schwester, die ich nicht ausstehen kann, **liest** ...
the husband of my sister who I not stand can reads
'The husband of my sister, who I cannot stand, reads ...'

- if more than one constituent occurs before the verb, ungrammaticality results while the order subject>temporal adverbial is fine in sentences introduced by complementizers:

- (6)
- *Er heute **liest** ein Buch
he today reads a book
'He reads a book today.'
 - dass er heute ein Buch liest
that he today a book reads

- verb-final: does not mean that the verb is the last element of the sentence:

- (7)
- dass Peter ein Buch **liest** über Linguistik/das ihm nicht gefällt
that Peter a book reads about linguistics/that he.DAT not pleases
'that John reads a book about linguistics/which he does not like.'

- fundamental questions

- is the position of the verb related to the distinction main clause–subordinate clause?
- is the position of the verb related to illocutionary force (sentence mood)?
- are the three sentence types transformationally related?
- if yes, which is derived from which and how does one know?

1.1 Verb position and the main clause–subordinate clause relationship

- the traditional distinction main clause–subordinate clause is orthogonal to the different types of sentences

- main clauses

- (8)
- Peter liest ein Buch.
Peter reads a book
 - Liest Peter ein Buch?
reads Peter a book
 - Einmal in Ruhe ein Buch lesen!
once in calm a book read
'If only I could calmly read a book!'

– subordinate clauses:

- (9) a. (Ich hörte,) Peter habe ein Buch gelesen
I heard Peter has.SBJV a book read
'I heard that Peter had read a book'
- b. Trinkt Peter so weiter ...
drinks Peter so forth
'If Peter continues drinking like this ...'
- c. ... dass Peter ein Buch liest
that Peter a book reads
'that Peter reads a book'

1.2 Verb position and illocutionary force

• verb second: declaratives, questions, exclamatives

- (10) a. Peter liest ein Buch.
Peter reads a book
'Peter reads a book.'
- b. Peter liest ein Buch?
Peter reads a book?
'Does Peter read a book?'
- c. Der PETER liest aber laut!
the Peter reads but loudly
'Boy does Peter read loudly!'

• verb-first: imperatives, questions, exclamatives

- (11) a. Lies ein Buch!
read a book
'Read a book!'
- b. Liest er ein Buch?
reads he a book
'Does he read a book?'
- c. Läse er doch ein Buch!
read.SBJV he PRT a book
'If only he read a book!'

• verb-final: declaratives, questions, exclamatives

- (12) a. dass er ein Buch liest
that he a book reads
'that he reads a book'
- b. ob er wohl ein Buch reads?
if he PRT a book reads?
'(I wonder) if he reads a book?'
- c. dass er dieses Buch tatsächlich gelesen hat!
that he this book indeed read has
'That he indeed read this book!'

2 The relationship between V-final and V-second/V-first clauses

- 2 possibilities
 - unrelated (Construction Grammar)
 - derived from each other
 - * V-second/V-first from V-final
 - * V-final from V-second/V-first

✎ Compare the following pairs w.r.t. acceptability. Does this tell you something about the relationship between main and subordinate clauses?

- (13) a. Er hat ihm schon lange nicht mehr vertraut.
he has he.DAT PRT long not more trusted
'He hasn't trusted him for a long time.'
- b. Ihm hat er schon lange nicht mehr vertraut.
he.DAT has he PRT long not more trusted
- (14) a. dass er ihm schon lange nicht mehr vertraut hat.
that he he.DAT PRT long not more trusted has
'that he hasn't trusted him for a long time'
- b. dass ihm er schon lange nicht mehr vertraut hat.
that he.DAT he PRT long no longer trusted has
- (15) a. Leider hat er ihm nicht mehr vertraut.
unfortunately has he he.DAT no longer trusted
'Unfortunately, he hasn't trusted him anymore.'
- b. Leider hat ihm er nicht mehr vertraut.
unfortunately has he.DAT he no longer trusted

2.1 The topological model

2.1.1 The sentence bracket

- Observation 1: Once the predicate is complex, the verbal elements frame the sentence in V1- and V2-clauses:

- (16) a. Peter hat ein Buch gelesen.
Peter has a book read
'Peter read a book.'
- b. Hat Peter ein Buch gelesen?
has Peter a book read

→ the verbal elements form a bracket: left and right sentence bracket

- Observation 2: once a complementizer is present, we obtain verb-final order:

- (17) a. Peter liest das Buch →
Peter reads the book
- b. *dass Peter liest das Buch
that Peter reads the book
- c. dass Peter das Buch liest
that Peter the book reads

- Hypothesis: since the left sentence bracket is occupied by the complementizer, the verb has to go into the right sentence bracket (complementary distribution)
- complementizer and the verbs in the right sentence bracket also form a bracket

- Elements that occur in the left sentence bracket:
 - the finite verb
 - complementizers
 - relative particles like *wo* (cf. *der Mann, den wo ich gesehen hab* ‘the man who I saw’)

- Elements that occur in the right sentence bracket:
 - finite Verb in V-final clauses
 - (18) *dass Peter das Buch liest*
that Peter the book reads
 - non-finite verbs:
 - (19) *dass Peter das Buch lesen will*
that Peter the book read wants
‘that Peter wants to read the book’
 - separable particles of particle verbs
 - (20) *dass Peter mit dem Rauchen aufhörte*
that Peter with the smoking stops
‘that Peter stopped smoking’
 - the infinitival particle *zu* ‘to’
 - (21) *Peter versucht, das Buch [zu lesen]*
Peter tries the book to read
‘Peter tries to read the book.’

☞ evidence for the classification: position relative to other non-verbal elements:

- finite and non-finite verbs in the right bracket
 - finite complement clauses preferably follow the right bracket:
 - (22) a. *dass Peter (??dass Maria ihn liebt) glaubt, dass Maria ihn liebt*
that Peter that Mary him loves believes that Mary him loves
‘that Peter believes that Mary loves him.’
 - b. *dass Peter (??dass Maria ihn liebt) geglaubt hat, dass Maria ihn liebt*
that Peter that Mary him loves believed has that Mary him loves
 - c. *Peter hat (??dass Maria ihn liebt) geglaubt, dass Maria ihn liebt*
Peter has that Mary him loves believed that Mary him loves
 - nominal objects precede the right sentence bracket
 - (23) a. *dass Peter das Buch liest (*das Buch)*
that Peter the book reads the book
 - b. *dass Peter das Buch gelesen hat (*das Buch)*
that Peter the book read has the book
 - c. *Peter hat das Buch gelesen (*das Buch)*
Peter has the book read the book

- separable prefixes in the right sentence bracket
 - finite complement clauses follow the right bracket

(24) a. dass Peter (??dass er krank ist) feststellte, dass er krank ist
 that Peter that he ill is realized that he ill is

 b. Peter stellte (??dass er krank ist) fest, dass er krank ist
 Peter realized that he ill is prt that he ill is
 - nominal objects precede the right bracket

(25) a. dass Peter ein Problem feststellte (*ein Problem)
 that Peter a problem realized a problem

 b. Peter stellte ein Problem fest (*ein Problem)
 Peter realized a problem PRT a problem

2.1.2 The topological model: overview

- Basic (radical) idea: V2-, V1- and V-final clauses have a lot in common, are based on the same structure

prefield	LB	middle field	RB	postfield
Peter	hat	ein Buch	gelesen	über Linguistik
	hat	Peter ein Buch	gelesen	über Linguistik?
Peter	will	ein Buch	lesen	über Linguistik
	dass	Peter ein Buch	las	über Linguistik
	dass	Peter ein Buch	gelesen hat	über Linguistik
	dass	Peter ein Buch	lesen will	über Linguistik
Peter	liest	ein Buch		
	lies	ein Buch!		
Es	regnet			
	hör	endlich	auf	mit Jammern!
	wenn	das nur gut	geht!	
Peter	hat		gesagt	dass er kommt
	um	ein Buch	zu lesen	

2.1.3 Prefield

- occupied by exactly one constituent
 - constituent can have any grammatical relation (subject, object, adjunct etc.)
 - the constituent is prominent (topic/focus) if it is neither subject or a sentence/temporal adverbial
 - must be filled in declarative clauses: expletive *es* 'it'
- (26) a. *(Es) klappert die Mühle am rauschenden Bach.
 it clatters the mill at.the rushing brook
- b. dass (*es) die Mühle am rauschenden Bach klappert
 that it the mill at.the rushing brook clatters

- cannot be occupied by certain unstressed elements like the reflexive pronoun of inherently reflexive verbs, modal particles like *halt*, *eben*, the accusative object pronoun *es* 'it' as well as separable prefixes:

- (27)
- *Sich hat er nicht geschämt.
self has he not be.ashamed
 - *Halt ist Peter ein Säufer.
PRT is Peter a drunkard
'Well, Peter is a drunkard.'
 - *Es (das Kind) hat der Vater gesehen.
it the child has the.NOM father seen
'The father saw it.'
 - *Ab hat er ihn geholt.
PRT has he him fetch
'He picked him up.'

- Problem: multiply occupied prefields, cf. Müller (2005):

- (28)
- [Fast alles] [im Sitzen] bewältigte Joaquim Rodriguez auf dem Weg zum Gipfel.
almost everything in sitting managed J. R. on the way to.the top
'J.R. managed almost everything sitting on the way to the top.'
 - [Fahrern] [Epo] sollte man besser nicht geben.
cyclists epo should one rather not give
'One should rather not give Epo to cyclists.'

2.1.4 Middle field

- basically all elements of the clause can occur here except for those elements that occupy the sentence bracket (and the expletive *es*)
- need not be occupied
- contains an arbitrary number of constituents
- word order is very free (the following variants are not all equally neutral); unmarked order is often taken to be SU>IO>DO (controversial)

- (29)
- dass der Hans der Maria dieses Buch gestern gab.
that the.NOM John the.DAT Mary this.ACC book yesterday gave
'that John gave this book to Mary yesterday'
 - dass gestern der Hans der Maria dieses Buch gab
 - dass dieses Buch der Hans der Maria gestern gab
 - dass der Maria der Hans dieses Buch gestern gab
 - dass der Hans gestern der Maria dieses Buch gab

- order governed by grammatical, pragmatic and processing factors
- unmarked order of weak pronouns different from that of DPs; less variable

- (30) SU > DO > IO (er es ihr vs. *es ihr er/??er ihr es)

2.1.5 The postfield

- the following clauses occur obligatorily or at least preferably in the postfield:
 - *so-dass* clauses:
 - (31) a. Das Kind schlief, so dass die Eltern ausgehen konnten
the child was.asleep so that the parents go.out could
'The child was asleep so that the parents could go out.'
 - b. Das Kind hat (*/??so dass ...) geschlafen, so dass ...
the child has so that been.asleep so that
 - *dass*-complements of it seems:
 - (32) weil es (*dass die Grünen gewinnen) scheint, dass die Grünen gewinnen
because it that the greens win seems that the greens win
'because it seems that the Greens will win'
 - finite subject- and object clauses and adverbial clauses (unless they are in the prefield):
 - (33) a. Ich habe mich (??ob er kommt) gefragt, ob er kommt
I have me if he comes asked if he comes
'I wonder if he will come.'
 - b. Ich habe (??als Peter den Raum verließ) geweint, als Peter den Raum
I have when Peter the room left cried when Peter the room
verließ
left
'I cried when Peter left the room.'
- constituents that can optionally occur in the postfield:
 - non-finite complement clauses:
 - (34) Er hat versucht, ein Lied zu singen
he has tried a song to sing
'He tried to sing a song.'
 - relative clauses
 - (35) Er hat ein Buch {das ihm gefiel} gelesen, {das ihm gefiel}
he has a book which he.dat pleased read which he.dat pleased
'He read a book that he likes.'
 - PPs (but not NPs/DPs):
 - (36) a. Er hat ein Buch {über Linguistik} gelesen {über Linguistik}
he has a book about linguistics read about linguistics
'He read a book about linguistics.'
 - b. Er hat lange {mit Maria} geredet {mit Maria}
he has long with Mary talked with Mary
'He talked to Mary for a long time.'
 - adverbials
 - (37) weil ich {letztes Jahr} die Fahrprüfung bestanden habe {letztes Jahr}
because I last year the driving.test passed have last year
'because I passed the driving test last year'

2.1.6 A few exercises

- The following contrast discovered in Reis (1980) suggests that there is an ordering restriction causal adverb > modal adverb, but only in subordinate clauses:

- (38) a. dass Hans wegen des Tadels sorgfältig schreibt
 that John because the.GEN criticism carefully writes
 'that John writes carefully because of the criticism'
 b. *dass Hans sorgfältig wegen des Tadels schreibt
 that John carefully because the.GEN criticism writes

- (39) a. Hans schreibt wegen des Tadels sorgfältig.
 John writes because the.GEN criticism carefully
 'John writes carefully because of the criticism'
 b. Hans schreibt sorgfältig wegen des Tadels.
 John writes carefully because the.GEN criticism

– The following examples suggest a different explanation – which?

- (40) a. Hans hat wegen des Tadels sorgfältig geschrieben.
 John has because the.GEN criticism carefully written
 'John wrote carefully because of the criticism.'
 b. *Hans hat sorgfältig wegen des Tadels geschrieben.
 John has carefully because the.GEN criticism written

- (41) a. dass Hans sorgfältig schreibt wegen des Tadels
 that John carefully writes because the.GEN criticism
 'that John writes carefully because of the criticism'
 b. Hans hat sorgfältig geschrieben wegen des Tadels.
 John has carefully written because the.GEN criticism

- unstressed elements like modal particles, the accusative neuter pronoun *es* and reflexive *sich* preferably occur right after the left bracket (optionally after the SU):

- (42) a. Leider hat {sich/ es/ halt} der Peter zu selten gewaschen
 unfortunately has self it PRT the Peter too seldom washed
 'Unfortunately, Peter washed himself/it too seldom.'
 b. weil {sich/ es/ halt} der Peter zu selten gewaschen hat
 because self it PRT the Peter too seldom washed has

– how would one have to formulate these generalizations without reference to the topological model, i.e., without referring to the left bracket (but e.g. with reference to main vs. subordinate clause, V2- vs. V-final clause etc.)?

- Analyze the following sentences according to the topological model (if you don't know German, do it together with a German-speaking colleague):

- (43) a. Dass Peter gesagt hat zu dir, dass er sich fürchtete, als er hörte davon, habe ich jedem in aller Ausführlichkeit erzählt, der es hören wollte.
 b. Die Hoffnung, dass alles besser werden würde im nächsten Jahr, hätte diejenigen unter uns be?ügeln sollen, die in allem immer bloß das Schlechteste sehen, was man sich überhaupt vorstellen kann auf dieser Welt.

2.1.7 Limits of the topological model

- Why do the following examples show that the topological model is not sufficient?

- (44) a. Ein Buch zu lesen hat Peter versucht.
 a book to read has Peter tried
 'Peter tried to read a book.'
 (vgl. *Der Maria ein Buch hat Peter geschenkt)
- b. dass Peter hätte nach Berlin fahren sollen
 that Peter has to Berlin travel should
 'that Peter should have traveled to Berlin'
- (45) a. Ich habe die Gäste_i einander_i nicht vorgestellt.
 I have the.ACC guests each.other not introduced
 'I haven't introduced the guests to each.other.'
- b. *Ich habe einander_i die Gäste_i nicht vorgestellt.
 I have each.other the.ACC guests not introduced
- c. Einander_i habe ich die Gäste_i nicht vorgestellt.
 each.other have I the.ACC guests not introduced

3 Deriving V2-/V1-clauses from V-final clauses

- try to provide a surface-oriented analysis of the following example and describe the difficulties you encounter:

(46) Peter konfrontierte Maria_i mit sich_i.
 Peter confronted Mary with self
 'Peter confronted Mary with herself.'

- We have seen evidence that V1-/V2- and V-final clauses share large parts of the clause structure: the middle field, the right bracket and the postfield → This part is largely uncontested
- There is a long tradition that V1-/V2-clauses are derived from V-final clauses; for early implementations, cf. Drach (1937), Thiersch (1978), den Besten (1983); this is also largely uncontroversial
- two ingredients:
 - movement of the verb to a higher position
 - A'-movement of a phrase to a position above the verb
- but: there is disagreement in one important aspect:
 - on some approaches V2-/V1-clauses and V-final clauses are of the same (categorical) type, viz., CP: 'uniformity hypothesis';
 - because there are certain differences between V2-/V1-clauses and V-final clauses, others have argued in favor of the 'difference hypothesis', viz., they are not of the same type, cf. Reis (1985), Stechow and Sternefeld (1988), Sternefeld (2006), Müller (2010*a*)
- the different views correlate with different implementations of verb-second
 - the verb and the complementizer occupy (more or less) the same position, cf. also the topological model, where C and the finite verb occupy the same position; in more recent accounts, V2 involves V-to-C-movement, with head-adjunction
 - the landing site is a positional category, not a projection category, cf. Stechow and Sternefeld (1988), Sternefeld (2006); thus V2-clauses are more like VPs rather than CPs
 - V2 involves reprojection → V2-clauses are VPs/TPs, cf. Fanselow (2009), Müller (2010*a*)

3.1 Evidence for verb movement

3.1.1 Elements that form a semantic unit are merged together

- in V-final clauses, the verbal elements are adjacent

(47) a. dass Peter der Maria das Buch geschenkt hat
 that Peter the.DAT Mary the.ACC book given has
 b. Peter hat der Maria das Buch geschenkt
 Peter has the.DAT Mary the.ACC book given
 'Peter gave the book to Mary.'

- In V-final clauses, verb and particle are adjacent:

(48) a. dass Peter ein Auto aussucht
 that Peter a car selects
 'that Peter selects a car.'
 b. Peter sucht ein Auto aus
 Peter selects a car PRT

- In V-final clauses, verb and idiomatic NP are adjacent:

- (49) a. dass Peter gestern ins Gras biss
 that Peter yesterday in.the grass bit
 'that Peter died yesterday.'
 b. Peter biss gestern ins Gras.
 Peter bit yesterday in.the grass

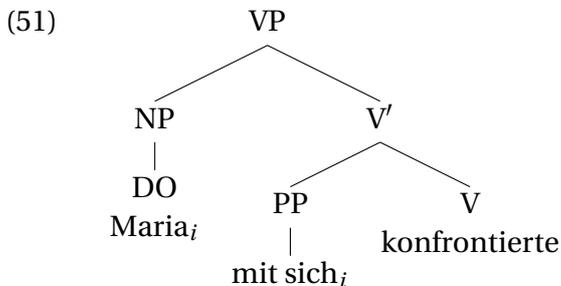
→ pattern makes sense if the V-final position is basic and the V2-position is derived

3.1.2 Hierarchy of arguments

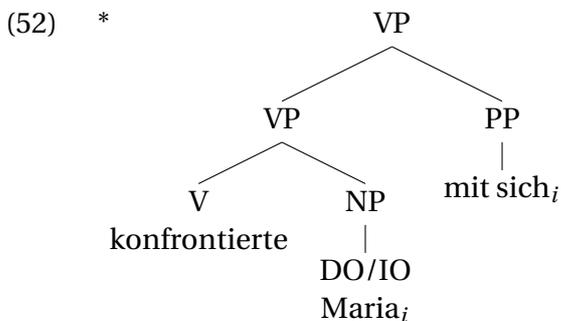
- The reflexivization facts in (50) show that the DO is structurally higher than the PP:

- (50) Peter konfrontierte Maria_i mit sich_i.
 Peter confronted Mary with self
 'Peter confronted Mary with herself.'

- this follows if this sentence is derived from a V-final structure (by moving the verb):



- but not if the V2-position is taken to be basic:



3.1.3 Verbs that fail to undergo V2

- certain verbs (mostly backformations) only occur in the V-final order, cf. *uraufführen* 'premiere':

- (53) a. dass sie das Stück uraufführten
 that they the play premiered
 b. *Sie uraufführten das Stück.
 c. *Sie führten das Stück urauf.
 d. *Sie aufführten das Stück ur.
 e. *Sie urführten das Stück auf.

- can be described if – for whatever reason – these verbs fail to undergo movement (the reverse seems more difficult to justify, i.e. that they would only be grammatical in their derived position)

3.2 Evidence for XP-movement to the prefield

3.2.1 Subcategorization

- questioned constituents bear the same case as constituents in the middle field:

(54) a. Wen hat Peter gesehen?
whom has Peter seen
b. Peter hat den Papst gesehen.
Peter has the.ACC pope seen
- in echo-questions, the *wh*-word occurs in the middle-field in the position of regular objects:

(55) Peter hat wen gesehen?
Peter has whom seen
- Once the *wh*-word is fronted, the position of the object can no longer be occupied:

(56) *Wen hat Peter den Papst gesehen?
whom has Peter the.ACC pope seen

→ makes sense if arguments are merged in the middle field and moved to the prefield

3.2.2 Reconstruction

- Constituents in the prefield are interpreted in a lower position:

(57) a. Sich selbst_i hat der Peter_i ein Buch geschenkt
self INTENS has the Peter a book given
'Peter gave himself a book.'
b. *Den Peter_i denk ich nicht, dass er_i mag.
the.acc Peter think I not that he likes
'Peter, I think he does not like.'

→ if only the surface position mattered, we would expect the reverse grammaticality judgments: (57-a) should be out (Condition C violation), while (57-b) should be fine
– (57) makes sense if constituents in the prefield originate in the middle field and can be interpreted there (by reconstruction/interpreting them before movement)

3.2.3 Expletive *es* 'it'

- The expletive *it* only occurs in the V2-order, never in the V-final order

(58) a. *(Es) klappert die Mühle am rauschenden Bach.
it clatters the mill at.the rushing brook
b. dass (*es) die Mühle am rauschenden Bach klappert
that it the mill at.the rushing brook clatters

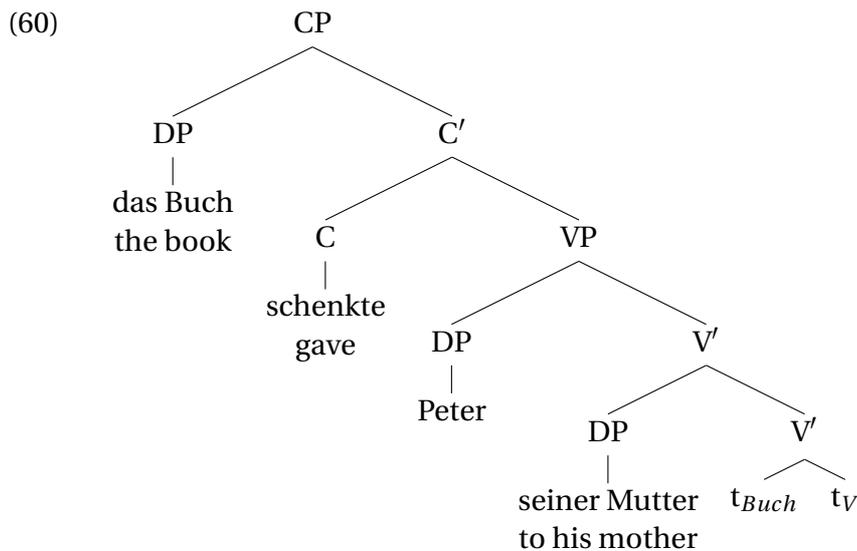
(59) a. *(Es) wurde wild getanzt
it became wildly danced
'There was wild dancing going on.'
b. dass (*es) wild getanzt wurde
that it wildly danced became

→ expletive = last resort to ensure that the prefield is occupied (under the reverse perspective, deletion of *es* would be obligatory, but one would wonder why it should be introduced in the first place)

3.3 Uniform or different?

3.3.1 Evidence for movement to C

- Standard assumption: V2-clauses involve two steps
 - movement is V-to-C-movement (perhaps via T): note that the elements that occur in the LB are all heads (if the landing site were a phrasal position, one would expect that larger constituents can land there)
 - XP-movement of an arbitrary constituent to SpecCP



- under the assumption that C has only 1 specifier, we can derive the V2-property (seems reasonable given that German is not a multiple wh-fronting language)
- note that for other heads, the 1-specifier restriction arguably does not hold in German: VP/vP (external argument + successive-cyclic movement)

3.3.1.1 Complementary distribution

- Observation: finite verb and a complementizer cannot co-occur at the beginning of the clause:

- (61)
- *dass liest Peter das Buch
that reads Peter the book
 - dass Peter das Buch liest
that Peter the book reads

- classical interpretation: they compete for the same position, but there is only space for one element
- presupposition: there is a requirement that this position be filled; in the absence of a complementizer, the verb has to move to fill the position (a PF requirement?)
- for criticism of applying the notion of complementary distribution in this context, cf. (Stechow and Sternefeld 1988: 402ff.)

3.3.1.2 *A putative problem*

- embedded questions, relative clauses and comparative clauses are V-final even though there is no overt complementizer (V2-versions of (62) are ungrammatical; (62-c) from Haider 1993: 91):

- (62) a. Ich frage mich, warum Peter nicht gekommen ist.
 I ask myself why Peter not come is
 'I wonder why Peter didn't come.'
- b. Ich suche den Mann, dem ich ein Buch geschenkt habe.
 I look.for the man who.DAT I a book given have
 'I am looking for the man who I gave a book to.'
- c. Es gibt mehr funktionale Köpfe, als man hören kann
 It gives more functional heads than one hear can
 'There are more functional heads than one can hear.'

- in the traditional topological model, it is concluded from this that the *wh*-word and the relative pronoun actually occupy the left bracket; but there are strong arguments against this:
 - *wh*-questions receive a non-uniform treatment: the *wh*-word is in the prefield in matrix questions but in the left bracket in embedded questions
 - *wh*-phrases and relative phrases can be complex:

- (63) a. Ich frage mich, [mit wessen neuem Auto] er fährt.
 I ask myself with whose new car he drives
 'I wonder whose new car he drives.'
- b. der Mann, [dessen kranke Mutter] ich besucht habe
 the man whose ill mother I visited have
 'the man whose ill mother I visited'

- while complementizers and finite verbs are heads, *wh*-questions and relative clauses involve full phrases → a non-uniform class of elements that occupy the left bracket
 - implies a non-uniform treatment among German varieties

3.3.1.3 *The solution comes from non-standard varieties*

- Observation: In some (Upper) German dialects we find a complementizer in embedded questions, relative clauses and comparatives

- (64) a. Ich frage mich, warum dass Peter nicht gekommen ist.
 I ask myself why that Peter not come is
 'I wonder why Peter didn't come.'
- b. der Mann, dem wo ich ein Buch geschenkt habe
 the man who.dat C I a book given have
 'the man who I give a book to'
- c. Es gibt mehr funktionale Köpfe als wie/was/dass man hören kann
 It gives more functional heads than how/what one hear can
 'There are more functional heads than one can hear.'

- if we assume that in St. German there is also a silent C present, we can uphold the analysis in terms of complementary distribution: since C is occupied no movement is necessary

- (65) a. Ich frage mich, warum \emptyset Peter nicht gekommen ist.
 b. Ich suche den Mann, dem \emptyset ich ein Buch geschenkt habe.
 c. Es gibt mehr funktionale Köpfe als \emptyset man hören kann

- the requirement about filling the 2nd position cannot be a PF-requirement (unless the complementizer is actually deleted and deletion occurs after movement: counter-feeding)
- once we postulate silent complementizers, one wonders why there are no silent complementizers in main clauses that block V2-movement ...

3.3.1.4 *Embedded verb second*

- Certain verbs can embed a V2-complement, while others cannot (cf. English complement clauses without *that*):

- (66) a. Ich {glaube, denke, vermute etc.}, Peter kommt auch
 I believe think suspect Peter comes too
 b. *Ich {will, leugne, bedauere etc.}, Peter kommt auch
 I want deny regret Peter comes too

- if V2 is related to the C-head (i.e. whether it attracts the verb or not), this property can be stated in terms of selection: the matrix verb selects a C-head of a certain type: selection is a local relationship between head and complement

3.3.1.5 *The positioning of weak elements high up in the middle field*

- unstressed elements like modal particles, the accusative neuter pronoun *es* and reflexive *sich* preferably occur right after the left bracket (optionally after the SU), cf. also (Haider 1993: 76):

- (67) a. Leider hat {sich/ es/ halt} der Peter zu selten gewaschen
 unfortunately has self it PRT the Peter too seldom washed
 'Unfortunately, Peter washed himself/it too seldom.'
 b. weil {sich/ es/ halt} der Peter zu selten gewaschen hat
 because self it PRT the Peter too seldom washed has

- of course, the facts can also be captured if one assumes that they have to occur after the highest overtly realized head of the clause/have to occur right above TP, cf. (Fanselow 2009: 88)

3.3.1.6 *Verum focus*

- stress on the finite verb in C/the complementizer has the same effect: focus on the truth value, cf. (Haider 1993: 76)

- (68) a. Ich behaupte aber, er WAR zu der Zeit nicht ihr Mann
 I claim though he was at that time not her husband
 'I claim though that he WASn't her husband at that time.'
 b. Ich behaupte aber, DASS er zu der Zeit nicht ihr Mann war
 I claim though that he at that time not her husband was

- note that stress on the V in the V-final order induces contrastive focus on tense/the verb meaning

3.3.2 Differences between V2- and V-final clauses

- most of them taken from (Stechow and Sternefeld 1988: 392ff.)
- asymmetries in the occupation of the prefield: a priori unexpected if both clause types belong to the same category
 - V2: topics, wh-words (only main clauses) (relative pronouns only residually in so-called V2-relatives: *Es gibt Bücher, die langweilen mich zu Tode*)
 - V-final: wh-words (embedded, residually main clauses), relative pronouns (topics in Bavarian emphatic topicalization: *An Mantl dass da Xaver kafft hot hot neamad glaubt*)
- extraction of an element in SpecCP of a V2-clause must not terminate in SpecCP of a V-final clause; a stopover in an intermediate V-final clause also leads to ungrammaticality, cf. Müller (2010a)

- (73)
- Was₁ meinst du, __₁ wird gleich geschehen?
what think you will soon happen
'What do you think will happen soon?'
 - *das Unglück, das₁ du meinst, __₁ wird gleich geschehen
the disaster which you think will soon happen
'the disaster which you think will happen soon'
 - *Ich weiss, was₁ du meinst, __₁ wird gleich geschehen
I know what you think will soon happen
'I know what you think will happen soon.'
 - *Wen glaubt er, dass du meinst, hat sie getroffen?
whom believes he that you think has she met
'Who does he believe that you think she met?'

- extraction from a V-final clause into SpecCP of a V2-clause is possible, though:

- (74) Wen₁ glaubst du, dass Hans __₁ geküsst hat?
whom believe you that John kissed has
'Who do you believe John kissed?'

- V-final and V2-clauses in the middle field: Only the former seem acceptable, cf. (Grewendorf 1988: 231)

- (75)
- Der Student hat mir, dass es regnet, zu spät mitgeteilt.
The student has me.DAT that it rains too late told
'The student told me too late that it was raining.'
 - ??Der Student hat mir, es regne, zu spät mitgeteilt.
The student has me.DAT it rains.cond too late told

- V-final CPs can be embedded under prepositional correlates while V2-CPs cannot:

- (76)
- Darauf, dass man ihn wählen würde, hatte er stark gehofft.
on.it that one him elect would had he strongly hoped
'I had hoped very much that one would elect him.'
 - *Darauf, man würde ihn wählen, hatte er stark gehofft
on.it one would him elect had he strongly hoped

- extraposed CPs are compatible with an *es*-correlate only in V-final order (*dass*-clauses more nominal?):

- (77) a. Sie hat (es) mir gesagt, dass er das Buch gekauft hat
 she has it me told that he the book bought has
 'She told me that he had bought the book.'
- b. Sie hat (*es) mir gesagt, er habe das Buch gekauft.
 She has it me told he have.cond the book bought

- prepositions that optionally select finite *dass*-clauses cannot select V2-clauses, cf. (Haider 1993: 78):

- (78) a. ohne dass ich davon gewusst habe
 without that I of.it known have
 'without me knowing about it'
- b. *ohne ich habe davon gewusst
 without I have of.it known

- V2- and V-final clauses cannot be coordinated, cf. (Grewendorf 1988: 211):

- (79) a. *Peter glaubt, dass er genug gearbeitet hat und er könne sich jetzt zur
 Peter thinks that he enough worked has and he can.cond self now to
 Ruhe setzen
 rest sit
 'Peter thinks that he has worked enough and can now retire.'
- b. *Peter glaubt, er habe genug gearbeitet und dass er sich jetzt zur Ruhe
 Peter believes he have.cond enough worked and that he self now to rest
 setzen könne
 sit can.cond
 'Peter believes (that) he has worked enough and can retire now.'

- embedded *wh*-questions require V-final order:

- (80) a. Sie sagte, wann sie ins Wirtshaus gehe
 she said when she in.the pub go.cond
 'She said when she would go to the pub.'
- b. *Sie sagte, wann gehe sie ins Wirtshaus.
 She said when go.cond she in.the pub

- In Bavarian, complementizers can inflect (Grewendorf 1988: 207):

- (81) a. I woass, ob-st/dass-st du a Spitzbua bi-st.
 I know if-2SG/that-2SG you a naughty.boy be-2SG
- b. I woass, ob-ts/dass-ds ihr Spitzbuam sei-ts
 I know if-2PL/that-2PL you naughty.boys be-2PL

– Interestingly, this inflect can also occur on *wh*-words in indirect questions

- (82) a. I woass, mit wem-st du im Kino warst.
 I know with he.DAT-2SG you.2SG in.the movie were
- b. I woass, warum-ts ihr wegganga seits.
 I know why-2PL you.2PL left are

- at first sight, this could be taken as an argument that the *wh*-word and the complementizer do occur in the same position (as assumed in some versions of the topological model)
- however, alternatively, one can assume that the inflection is indeed inserted into the C-node and then cliticizes onto the *wh*-word

3.3.2.1 Explanations for the asymmetries under the difference hypothesis

- difference in size: V2-clauses are bigger, include TopP
 - no topicalization in V-final: topics target a different position, which is included in V2- but not in V-final clauses (V-final clauses are smaller)
 - no extraction from SpecCP of V-final to SpecCP of V2: perhaps some kind of improper movement: If the prefield in V2-clauses is higher than SpecCP (cf. above), this would violate the Williams cycle
- difference in category: *dass*-clauses are nominal, V2-clauses are verbal
 - no V2-clauses in the middle-field: the middle field is the area where elements are status- (and case-)governed by the verb, while this does not hold for elements in the postfield; it has been argued that V2-clauses are not status-governed and therefore cannot occur in the middle-field (cf. Stechow and Sternefeld 1988: 398); however, V2-complement clauses are selected by the matrix verb (it seems), which would seem to involve government ...
 - the verbal status of V2-clauses could also account for its incompatibility with correlates and the prepositions that select finite complement clauses
- for some doubly-filled comp-based explanations that do not work for Southern varieties (and therefore are not general enough), see (Stechow and Sternefeld 1988: 395,398)
- for functional explanations, see (Stechow and Sternefeld 1988: 400f.)

3.3.2.2 Explanations based on the uniformity hypothesis

- The differences will have to be related to different feature contents of the C-head; this, of course, re-introduces the difference hypothesis via the backdoor

3.3.3 Alternatives to V-to-C-movement

- if V2-clauses are structurally/categorially different, how can this be derived?

3.3.3.1 Sternefeld (2006) C as a positional category

- C is a positional category, has no syntactic category feature, selects a VP
 - under V-final, C can be merged with a nominal element like *dass* ‘that’
 - under V2, a copy of the verb is merged with C (similar to inter-areal movement), the V+C-complex (which inherits the selectional feature) is then merged with VP
 - satisfies cyclicity/the extension condition (unlike classical head movement)
- essentially a categorial distinction: V-final = nominal, V2= verbal
- However, how you can assure that C will only have one specifier if it does not have a proper category feature, i.e., if it is actually a VP, how can you rule out multiple adjunction?

3.3.3.2 V2 as vP-first: Müller (2004)

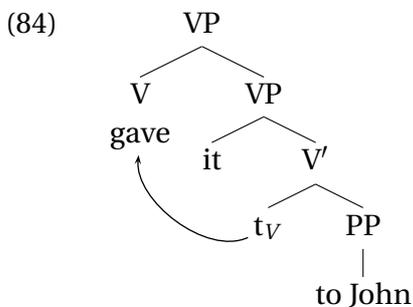
- Müller (2004): V2 as vP first: vP is emptied except for its head and whatever XP happens to be on the edge of vP, then, vP undergoes remnant mvt to SpecCP:

(83) [CP [vP Das Buch t_{Fritz} t_{VP} hat] [C' C [TP Fritz [T' [vP dasBuch gelesen] [T' t_{VP} T]]]]]

- the V2-property is essentially stipulated: exactly 1 verb and 1 edge element
- not really clear why C has to be empty
- what about T-related elements like sentential adverbs? The fact that they can occur in the prefield suggests that there must be remnant TP-movement, but normally, TPs do not move, see (Fanselow 2009: 97)

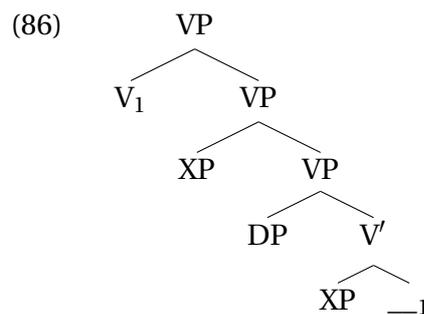
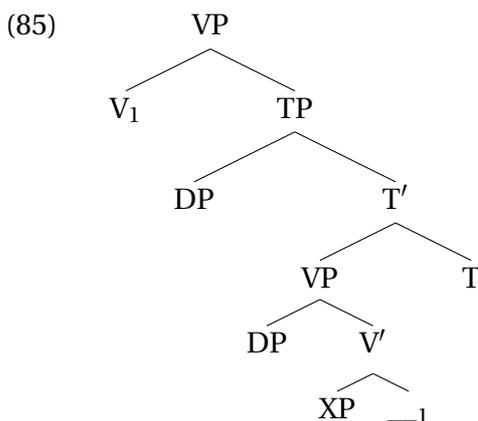
3.3.3.3 Reprojection: Fanselow (2009), Müller (2010a)

- Münchhausenbewegung: V moves and takes itself as a complement (Haider 2010)



→ possible advantage V-movement only necessary for ditransitives (but not transitives, unergatives and unaccusatives)

- V2-movement as reprojection: V takes a VP/TP as its complement, cf. Müller (2010a)



- implementation issues
 - implementation: V has an $uV/uT/[*F*]$ -feature (that needs to be checked under c-command); since there is nothing in V's c-command domain, it moves as a last resort and takes VP/TP as its complement and reprojects because it is the element with the selectional/movement inducing feature (crucial assumption: the V cannot check the feature on itself); in Fanselow's approach it's the T-head that reprojects (the verb itself is a V-T-complex); the movement-inducing feature is thus a Münchhausen feature
 - another feature needs to be added to ensure that there will be a specifier of V, this means that the verb may also bear a [uw]h]-feature to trigger wh-movement (unless wh-movement is not feature-driven, cf. Fanselow 2009: 111); one has to make sure that this feature is only checked after reprojection, e.g. by ordering them, see (Müller 2010a: 116)
 - these features are not inherent features but can optionally be added to finite verbs (can be linked to pragmatic properties such as independent assertion etc. that characterize V2-clauses)
 - to account for V-final clauses, we need to assume that complementizers like *dass* either have to select TPs so that a VP with reprojection is ruled out (Müller (2010b)) or a TP with an unchecked T-feature (Fanselow 2009: 108)
- possible advantages:
 - satisfies cyclicity
 - verbs like *uraufführen* that fail to undergo V2 may lack the relevant feature/cannot be assigned the relevant feature
 - it follows why verb movement never leads to complex heads (the verb does not adjoin)
 - it is likewise clear why the root C is always empty because under this approach there is no root C
- possible difficulties:
 - you have to ensure that reprojection takes place after the entire VP/TP has been built, otherwise, you will end up with more than one constituent before V (arguably, if reprojection applies to early, features of the root-head, e.g. T, will be unchecked, crashing the derivation)
 - reprojection violates the head-movement constraint (skips the intervening T-head in Müller's analysis), but it may be too strict anyway
 - if the V that is to undergo reprojection selects a clausal complement that contains a VP/TP, one has to ensure that the $[*F*]$ cannot be checked against it, see (Müller 2010a: 113f.)
 - since on many accounts VPs can have several specifiers in German, it is not fully clear how the V2-property can be derived
 - even worse, VP and TP are adjunction sites in German so that it is not clear how the V2-property can still be derived (for discussion, see Fanselow 2009: 110)
 - how does agreement/finiteness work in such a system? If the features are on T, how can they end up on V?
- how can the facts that suggest that complementizers and finite verbs occupy the same position captured under these approaches?
 - embedded verb second: certain verbs can select CPs and VPs/TPs
 - position of weak elements high up in the middle field: restated as: have to occur below the highest overtly realized head of the clause (Fanselow 2009: 88)
 - verum focus: obtains if the highest head of the clause is stressed

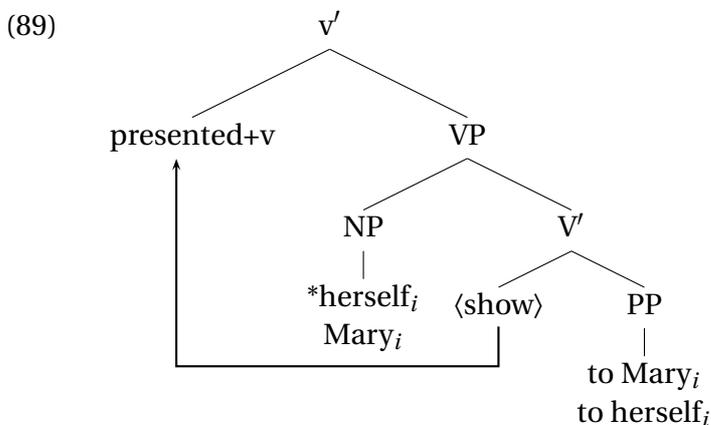
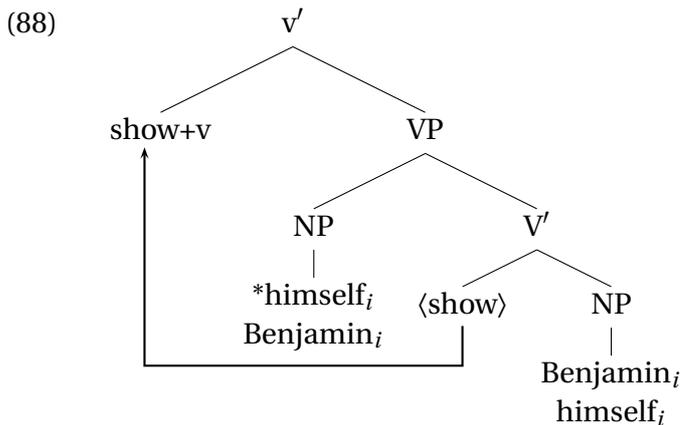
4 Articulation of the clause structure: vP/TP/TopP?

4.1 Functional structure in English

4.1.1 Evidence for vP

- with respect to word order, only ditransitives require a vP-shell and V-to-v-movement:

- (87) a. I presented Mary_i to herself_i.
 b. Emily showed Benjamin_i himself_i in the mirror



- coordination facts show that both arguments form a constituent to the exclusion of the verb:

- (90) a. Sam gave [the cloak to Lee] and [the magic chalice to Matthew].
 b. Benjamin gave [Lee the cloak] and [Nathan the chalice]

- DP-PP-construction: the verb can form idiomatic expressions with the PP to the exclusion of the DP: V is first merged with the PP:

- (91) a. Lasorda *sent* his starting pitcher *to the showers*. ('unter die Dusche schicken')
 b. Mary *took* Felix *to the cleaners* / *to task* / *into consideration*. ('übers Ohr Hauen od. bis aufs Hemd ausziehen/zur Brust nehmen/in Betracht ziehen')
 c. Felix *threw* Oscar *to the wolves*. ('den Wölfen zum Frass vorwerfen')
 d. Max *carries* such behavior *to extremes*. ('auf die Spitze treiben')

- 3 theory-internal arguments:
 - without a vP-shell, the structural difference between unergative and unaccusative verbs cannot be captured (under bare phrase structure, both arguments would be complements of V)
 - Burzio's generalization can be captured more easily with a vP: both properties (selecting an external argument and assigning accusative) are properties of the same head
 - the passive generalization can be captured straightforwardly if passive affects v (or, if passive involves a special kind of v):
 - * only verbs that select an external argument can be passivized (unergatives not in all languages)
 - * both the external argument and the accusative get lost in the passive (the case is not lost in all languages)

4.1.2 Evidence for TP

4.1.2.1 Evidence for a head-position

- modal verbs, auxiliaries and the dummy verb *do* occur in a structurally higher position than the finite lexical verb, cf. their position relative to negation or certain adverbials (note that they can also undergo T-to-C-movement, unlike lexical verbs):

- (92) a. John often eats fish.
 b. John will often eat fish.
 c. John has often eaten fish.

- (93) a. John does not eat fish. (*eats not fish)
 b. John will not eat fish.
 c. John has not eaten fish.

- the order is fixed in English:

- (94) T/(Mod) > (Neg) > (Perf) > (Prog) > v > V

- modal verbs and auxiliaries can move to T, lexical verbs cannot → belong to different categories
- modal verbs are in complementary distribution with each other → it is usually concluded from this that modal verbs belong to a separate category, viz. T (additional assumption: functional categories are not recursive, i.e. cannot embed a TP, only VP)

- (95) a. *John must should seek Mary.
 b. *Peter will can seek Mary.

- modal verbs cannot be embedded by verbs selecting non-finite forms:

- (96) a. *John hoped to can read it.
 b. *John has can/could understand it.

4.1.2.2 Evidence for a specifier position

- On the surface the subject is not adjacent to its predicate in many cases → must have been merged low (for theta-reasons) and later raised into a higher specifier:

(97) John₁ will have been ___₁ eating the pigs.

- quantifier float

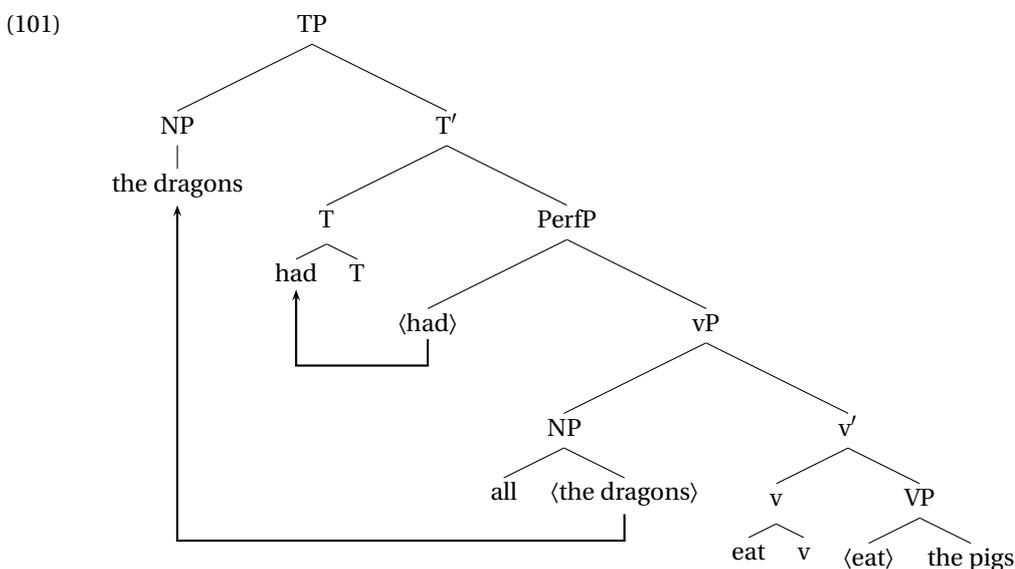
(98) a. [All the dragons] had eaten the pigs.

b. [Both the twins] might have been at the party.

(99) a. [The dragons] had [all] eaten the pigs.

b. [The twins] might have [both] been at the party.

(100) The dragons had all eaten the pigs.



- expletive constructions: the subject stays low in the presence of *there*, which occupies SpecTP:

(102) a. There are many fish in the sea.

b. There were people playing on the beach.

(103) a. Many fish are in the sea.

b. People were playing on the beach.

- coordinate structure constraint: apparently asymmetric ATB-subject extraction (from SpecTP and from within VP) in (104-a); unproblematic if the subject originates in VP, (104-b):

(104) a. [_{DP} the girls] will [[_{VP} write a book] and [_{VP} be awarded ___ a prize for it]]

b. [_{DP} the girls] will [[_{VP} ___ write a book] and [_{VP} be awarded ___ a prize for it]]

- no intermediate reconstruction with VP-movement, (105-b) (unlike DP-movement, (105-a)); makes sense if the moved VP contains a trace of the subject, cf. (105-c)

(105) a. [Which stories about each other_{*i/j*}] did they_{*i*} say the kids_{*j*} liked ___?

b. ... but [listen to each other_{**i/j*}], they_{*i*} say the kids_{*j*} won't ___.

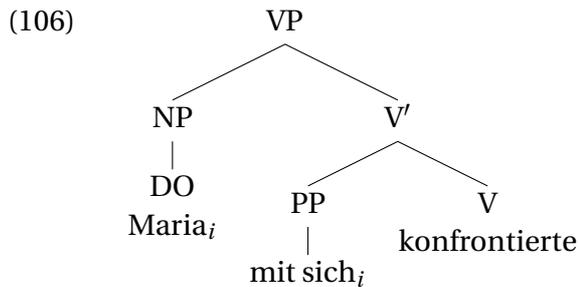
c. ... but [~~the kids~~_{*1*} listen to each other_{**i/j*}], they_{*i*} say [~~the kids~~_{*j*}]_{*1*} won't ___.

4.2 Functional structure in German

4.2.1 Evidence for vP

4.2.1.1 Evidence for a higher head-position?

- no necessity for VP-shell since
 - in V-final order the DO already c-commands the PP, V-movement thus not necessary to obtain the right word order:



- in V2-clauses, the verb does move, but to a higher position (and the DO as well in case it precedes the verb)
- coordination data are inconclusive: (107) suggests that, as in English, the objects form a constituent to the exclusion of the verb:

(107) dass Peter [den Hans mit seiner Vergangenheit] und [die Maria mit ihrer
 that Peter the.ACC John with his past and the Mary with her
 Zukunft] konfrontierte
 future confronted

- However, this may involve backward deletion of V in the first conjunct; evidence: backward deletion can affect more than just one verb:

(108) dass Peter [den Hans mit seiner ~~Zukunft~~ konfrontierte] und [die Maria
 that Peter the.ACC John with his future confronted and the Mary
 mit ihrer Zukunft] konfrontierte
 with her past confronted

→ coordination of two full VPs

- for evidence for verb movement, see the section on TP
- One might still postulate a vP for theory internal reasons, to capture
 - the difference between unergative and unaccusative verbs (but: is there any evidence internal to German that this corresponds to a specifier vs. object asymmetry? There are asymmetries, but perhaps they are only semantic)
 - to capture Burzio's generalization
 - to capture the passive generalization

4.2.1.2 Evidence for a higher specifier position?

- Is there any evidence that it is possible to topicalize VP without including a trace of the subject?

4.2.2 Evidence for TP

4.2.2.1 Evidence for a higher head position?

- modal/aux as a separate category?
 - Unlike in English, modal verbs in German are not in complementary distribution with each other and they can be embedded by verbs selecting non-finite complements:

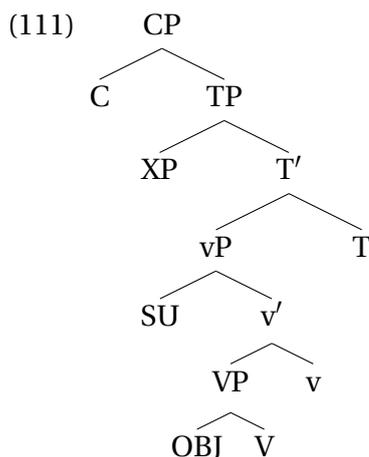
- (109) a. dass Hans das Buch lesen {können/wollen/dürfen} muss
 that John the book read.INF can.INF/want.INF/may.INF must.3SG
 ‘that John must be able to/want to/be allowed to read the book’
 b. dass Hans das Buch lesen {können/müssen/dürfen} will
 that John the book read.INF can.INF/must.INF/may.INF want.3SG
 ‘that John wants to be able to/have to/be allowed to read the book.’

- modal verbs can be embedded by verbs selecting non-finite forms:

- (110) a. dass er das Buch {wird/hat} lesen {müssen/können/dürfen}
 that he the book will.3SG/has.3SG read must.INF/can.INF/may.INF
 ‘that he will/has have to/had to/be able to/been able to/be allowed to/been allowed to read the book’
 b. Sie {glaubt/scheint} singen zu {dürfen/müssen/wollen}
 She believe.3SG/seem.3SG sing.INF to may.INF/must.INF/want.INF
 ‘She believes/seems that she may/must/want to sing.’

→ it is often concluded from this that modals, auxiliaries and verbs selecting non-finite forms all belong to the same category V (but see Wurmbrand 2001)

- additional verb positions? difficult to diagnose since v/T would be clause-final where relatively few constituents can occur ...:



- Aux/Mod in T? position of negation adverbials:

* English: negation and VP-adverbials can occur between V and aux:

- (112) a. Cindy has not read the book.
 b. Cindy has often embraced Mary.

* this is not the case in German:

- (113) a. *dass Cindy das Buch gelesen nicht hat
that C. the book read.PTCP not have.3SG
b. *dass Cindy das Buch gelesen häufig hat
that C. the book read.PTCP often have.3SG

* however, the ungrammaticality of (113) is arguably related to the fact that negation and adverbs like 'often' are normally left-adjoined to VP, cf. VP-topicalization:

- (114) a. [{häufig} gefehlt { *häufig}] hat er nicht.
frequently been.absent frequently have.3SG he not
'He has not frequently been absent.'
b. [{nicht} gefehlt { *nicht}] hat nur Hans.
not been.absent not have.3SG only John
'Only John has not been absent.'

– verbs that fail to undergo V2

* verbs that fail to undergo V2-movement can occur in V-last position, cf. Haider (1993)

* if there were movement to v/T one might expect V-final orders to be ungrammatical as well, contrary to fact:

- (115) a. *Sie uraufführten das Stück.
they premiered the play
b. dass sie das Stück uraufführten
that they the play premiered
c. um das Stück uraufzuführen
in.order.to the play premier.INF

* not a bad argument, but it could be that the only movement step that is blocked is movement to C (depends on what the movement restriction is due to, cf. Sabel 2000, Sternefeld 2006: 511–519)

– adjacency requirement

* material that is adjoined to VP follows the finite V in V-final clauses; if there were V-to-T-movement, one would expect that V follows the extraposed/right-adjoined material, contrary to fact (the particle cannot be stranded):

- (116) a. [angefangen **damit**] hat er noch nicht
begun it.with have.3SG he still not
'He hasn't begun with it yet.'
b. dass er **damit** anfing
that he it.with began
c. dass er anfing **damit**
that he began it.with
d. *dass er an _{t_V} **damit** fing
that he PRT it.with began

* however, right-adjunction is generally ungrammatical when the adjoined material occurs in the right bracket, i.e. even between non-finite verb and aux/modal:

- (117) *dass er angefangen **damit** hat
that he begun it.with have.3SG

→ there could be an independent requirement that the verbal elements in the right bracket be adjacent (prosodic? cf. Wurmbrand 2007)

- pro V-to-T-movement: no finite VP-topicalization
 - * if there weren't V-movement, it should be possible for the finite verb to undergo VP-topicalization, contrary to fact:

- (118) a. dass Peter ein Buch liest
 that Peter a book reads
 b. *[Peter ein Buch liest]₁ C __₁
 Peter a book reads

- * (118-b) is arguably out because V-to-C-movement has failed to apply
- * but topicalization of finite verbs remains bad in V-last sentences:

- (119) a. [ertrunken]₁ glaube ich nicht, dass er __₁ ist
 drowned believe I not that he is
 b. *[ertrinkt]₁ glaube ich nicht, dass er __₁
 drowns believe I not that he

- * (119-b) follows if V has moved to T so that it cannot be affected by VP-topicalization
- * alternatively, (119-b) is ungrammatical because an X', viz. T' has been topicalized; however, the examples do not improve if the SU is affected as well:

- (120) a. ?-??[jemand ertrunken] glaube ich nicht dass gestern __ ist
 someone drowned believe I not that yesterday is
 b. *[jemand ertrinkt] glaube ich nicht dass (heute) __
 someone drowns believe I not that today

- * however, topicalization of finite VPs is also ungrammatical in English (where there is no V-to-T-movement)

- examples with a multiply-filled prefield seem to require V-to-T-movement so that they can be reanalyzed as instances of remnant movement (Fanselow 2009: 94, fn.9)

- (121) [_{VP} [trocken] [durch den Regen] __₁] denke ich nicht dass du kommst₁
 dry through the rain think I not that you come
 'I don't think you'll get through the rain dry.'

- alternative: there is a T-head but it is never the target of a final movement step
 - problem : if T cannot be a final landing site of verb movement, V-to-C-movement requires a conspiracy of obligatory (V-to-v), V-to-T and T-to-C-movement (cf. Müller 2010a: 111)

4.2.2.2 Evidence for a separate specifier position?

- there is clear evidence that subjects can stay low, i.e. that they remain in VP/vP:

- VP-topicalization can affect transitive subjects:

- (122) [**Ein Aussenseiter** gewonnen] hat das Rennen noch nie.
 an outsider won has the race still not
 'An outsider has never won the race.'

- subjects can remain within the verbal complex:

- (123) dass gestern hätte **jemand** das Auto waschen sollen
 that yesterday have.SBJV someone the car wash.INF should
 'that someone should have washed the car yesterday'

- subjects can follow adverbials/modal particles that are assumed to mark the VP-boundary:

(124) dass vermutlich gestern wieder mal **jemand** den Tiger geküsst hat.
that probably yesterday once again someone the.ACC tiger kissed has
'that probably someone has once again kissed the tiger'
- however, it is less clear that higher subjects as in (125) occupy a designated subject position:

(125) dass **jemand** vermutlich gestern wieder mal den Tiger geküsst hat.
that someone probably yesterday once again the.ACC tiger kissed has

 - since German has free word order, it may also be the case that the subject is affected by whatever operation makes free word order possible, cf. (126) with a scrambled object:

(126) dass **den Tiger** vermutlich gestern wieder mal jemand geküsst hat
that the.ACC tiger probably yesterday once again someone kissed has
- some evidence in favor of a separate subject position: the SU is the only constituent that can precede weak pronouns without inducing markedness

(127) a. dass es ihr Peter gegeben hat
that it she.DAT Peter given has
b. dass Peter es ihr gegeben hat
that Peter it she.DAT given has

(128) a. ??dass das Buch er ihr geschenkt hat
that the book he she.DAT given has
b. dass er ihr das Buch geschenkt hat
that he she.DAT the book given has

(129) a. ??dass dem Peter er sie vorgestellt hat
that the.DAT Peter he she.ACC introduced has
b. dass er sie dem Peter vorgestellt hat
that he she.ACC the.DAT Peter introduced has

 - the pattern follows if weak pronouns occur at the edge of VP/vP (or in a designated specifier position), while the SU can optionally move to SpecTP

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