79

Midterm exam

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LING 120B: Syntax I

Note: You may use the textbook (Radford 2004) and your class notes on this midterm exam. This test is not to be stored in a test bank.

1 *10 points*

Please answer the following comprehension questions.

✓(a) **What is the grammatical category of *chair* in the following sentence and how do we know?**

(1) Karen was elected to chair the panel.

"Chair" is a verb by the coordination test:
"Karen was elected to chair and educate the panel."

✓(b) **Based on the following data alone, what differentiates English and German, other than the identity of the words? (*Hint: The heads are underlined.*)**

(2) a. … [that [Fritz [should [have [eaten schnitzel]

b. … [*dass* [*Fritz* [*Schnitzel* *gegessen*] *haben*] *soll*]
that Fritz schnitzel eaten have should
'that Fritz should have eaten schnitzel'

It appears that German is a head-final language, as opposed to English, which is head-initial. The heads "gegessen", "haben" and "soll" all appear to the right of their respective arguments.

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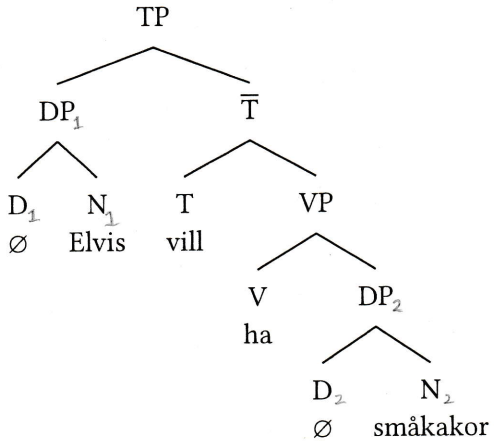
(c) **What is the distributional difference between PRO and *pro*? (*Hint: Pro-drop languages also have PRO, so the difference is not between pro-drop and non-pro-drop languages.*) Your answer does not need to be longer than one sentence.**

PRO tends to be controlled by the subject of the next highest clause and limited ~~to~~ infinitival clauses, while pro is not subject to such restrictions.

(d) **Please list all of the constituents in the following structure:**

(3)



TP ∅ Elvis vill ha ∅ småkakor
DP_1 ∅ Elvis
D_1 ∅
N_1 Elvis
$\bar{T}$ vill ha ∅ småkakor
T vill
VP ha ∅ småkakor
V ha
DP_2 ∅ småkakor
D_2 ∅
N_2 småkakor

(e) **Please also list all of the c–command relations in the above structure in (3).**

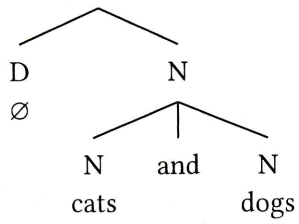
Note: The DP, D, and N's have been numbered for convenient reference. The numbers are not indices.

- The TP c-commands nothing.
- The DP_1 c-commands $\bar{T}$, T, VP, V, DP_2, D_2, N_2.
- The D_1 c-commands N_1.
- The $\bar{T}$ c-commands DP_1, D_1, N_1.
- The T c-commands VP, V, DP_2, D_2, N_2.
- The VP c-commands T.
- The V c-commands DP_2, D_2, N_2.
- The DP_2 c-commands V.
- The D_2 c-commands N_2.
- The N_2 c-commands D_2.
- The N_1 c-commands D_1.

2 *8 points*

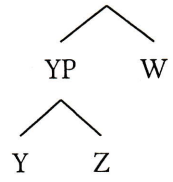
Please indicate what principle or condition is violated by each of the following structures:

(4) *



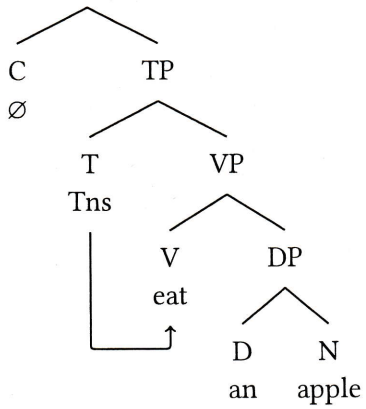
Binarity Principle ✓

(5) *



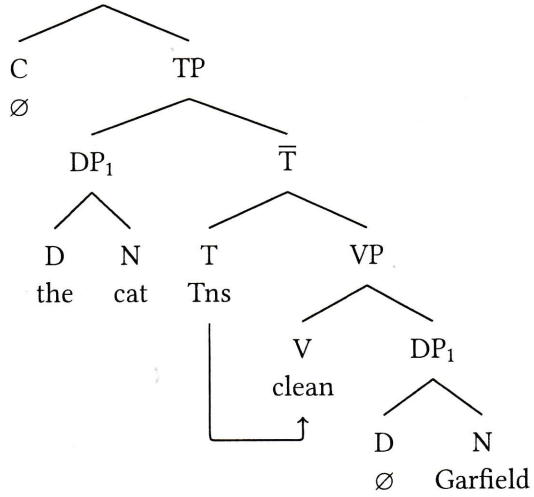
Headedness Principle ✓

(6) *



Extended Projection Principle ✓

(7) *



Binding Condition C ✓

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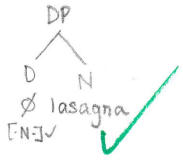
3	*20 points*

Please complete the following two tasks: (i) Show the **step-by-step derivation** for the sentence in (8), **including all of the features** (both 'bullet' and 'plus' features). (ii) Justify each constituent that you posit with a **constituency test** (e.g. coordination, substitution).

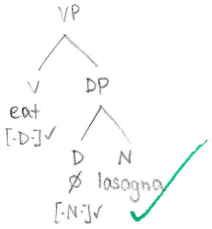
(8) The cat likes to eat lasagna.

Derivation:

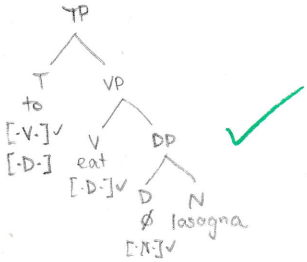
(i) merge (N, ∅) → DP
[·N·] of ∅D satisfied



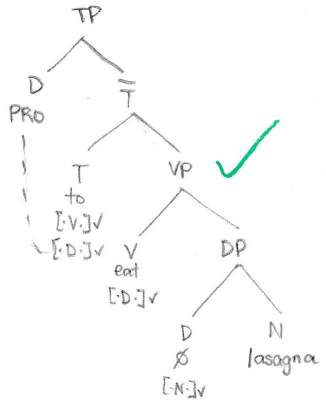
(ii) merge (DP, "eat") → VP
[·D·] of "eat" satisfied



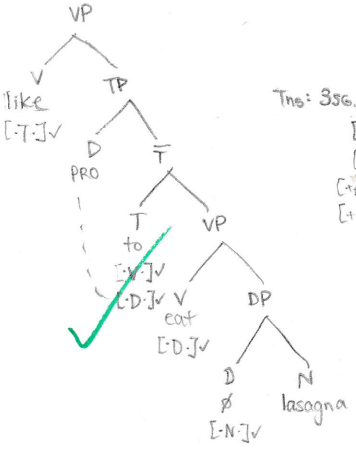
(iii) merge (VP, "to") → TP
[·V·] of "to" satisfied



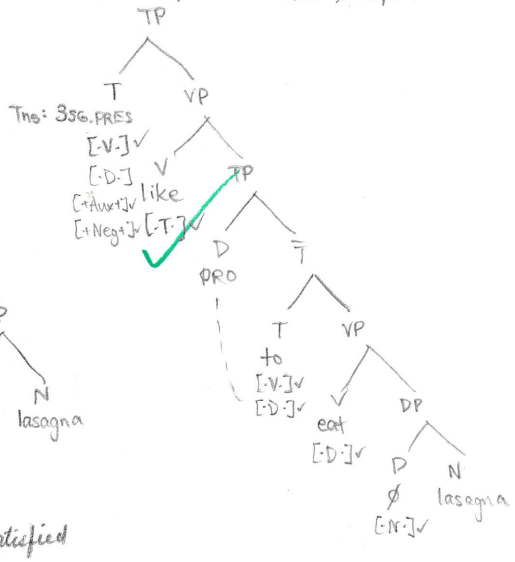
(iv) merge (TP, PRO) → TP
[·D·] of "to" satisfied



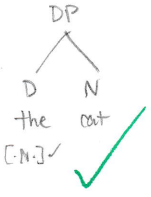
(v) merge (TP, "like") → VP
[·T·] of "like" satisfied



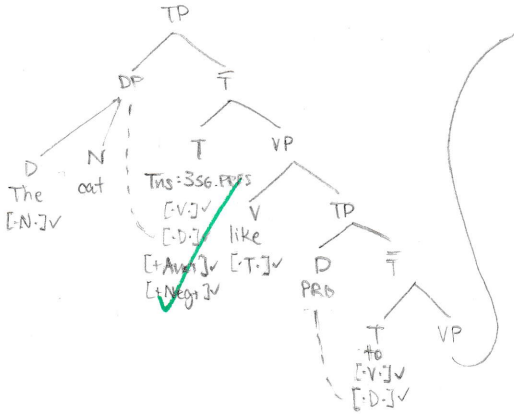
(vi) merge (VP, Tns: 3SG.PRES) → TP
[·V·] of Tns: 3SG.PRES satisfied

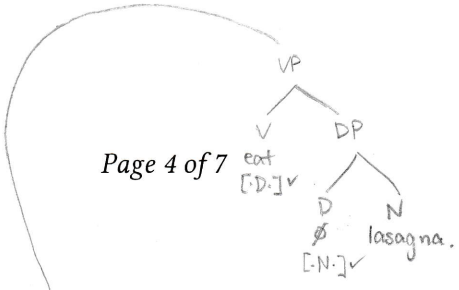


(vii) merge (N, "the") → DP
[·N·] of "the" satisfied



(viii) merge (TP, DP) → TP
[·D·] of Tns: 3SG.PRES satisfied





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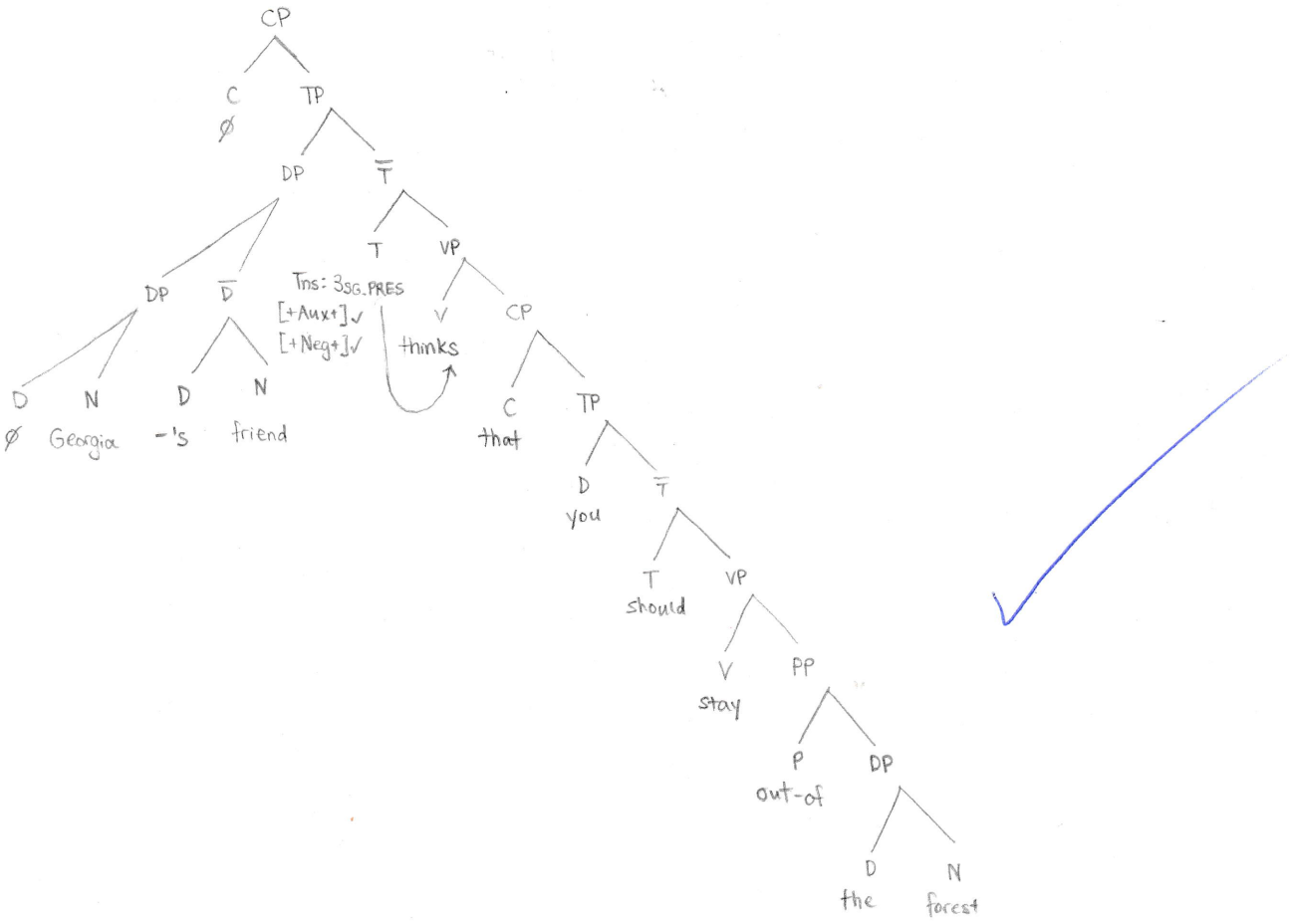
4	*16 points*

Please show the **final structure** for the sentence in (9); you only need to represent the **head-movement ('plus') features**. You do *not* need to represent the selection ('bullet') features, provide constituency tests, or show each derivational step. You may treat *out of* as a single undecomposable P head.

(9) Georgia's friend thinks that you should stay out-of the forest.



5	*16 points*

Please show the **final structure** for the sentence in (10); you only need to represent the **head-movement ('plus') features**. You do *not* need to represent the selection ('bullet') features, provide constituency tests, or show each derivational step.

(10) Aren't you planning to eat that piece of cake?

6	*10 points* ✓

Hindi-Urdu has two words indicating possession that correspond to English *his/her*: *apnaa* and *uskaa*. These two words have different distributions from one another, as shown in (11). Explain how the binding conditions account for the distribution of *apnaa* and *uskaa* in Hindi-Urdu. (Note that the different forms of these words in (11) are not relevant for the problem.)

(11) a. [*raam-ne*$_1$ [[*apnii*$_{1/*2}$ *kitaab*] *paṛh-ii*]]
Ram-ERG APNAA book read-PFV
'Ram read his book'

b. [*raam-ne*$_1$ [[*uskii*$_{*1/2}$ *kitaab*] *paṛh-ii*]]
Ram-ERG USKAA book read-PFV
'Ram read his book'

In (a), we can see that "apnii$_1$" is c-commanded by the co-indexed expression "raam-ne$_1$"; this satisfies Condition A (not Condition B). So "apnaa" should be a kind of reflexive anaphor subject to Condition A. Compare the similar English sentence "Ram read his own book."

In (b), we can see that "uskii$_2$" is c-commanded by the non-co-indexed expression "raam-ne$_1$"; this satisfies Condition B (not Condition A). So "uskii" should be a kind of ordinary pronoun subject to Condition B. Compare the similar English sentence "Ram read someone else's book."

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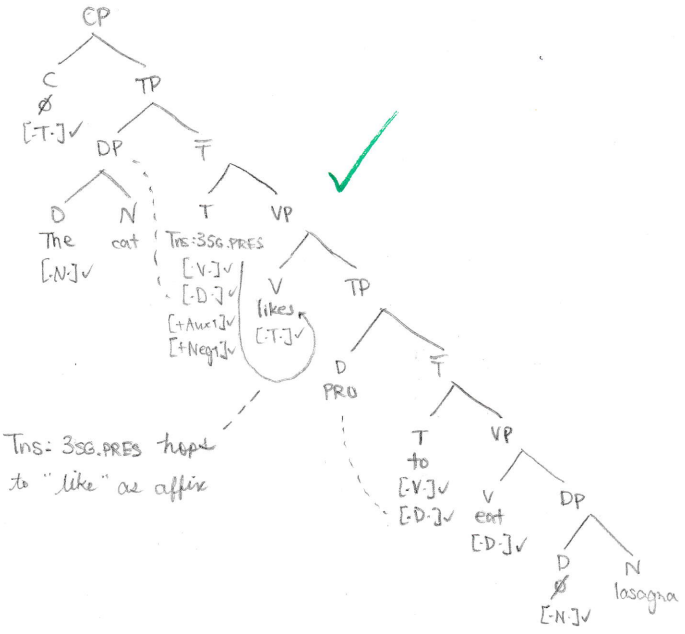
#3 continued

(ix) merge (TP, ∅) → CP
[·T·] of ∅C satisfied



(x) Tns: 3SG.PRES hops to "like" as affix

Constituency tests for each step of the derivation:

(i) The cat likes to eat lasagna and cake. ~~for N~~
The cat likes to eat lasagna and a cake. for DP ✓

(ii) The cat likes to eat lasagna and consume cake. for VP ✓

(iii/iv) The cat likes to eat lasagna and to consume cake. for TP/T̄ ✓

(v) The cat likes to eat lasagna and hates to eat vegetables. for VP ✓

(vi) The cat likes to eat lasagna and hated to eat vegetables. for TP

(vii) The cat and dog like to eat cake. for N
The cat and the dog like to eat cake. for DP ✓

(viii/ix) The cat likes to eat lasagna and the dog likes to eat cake. for CP/TP ✓