

Syntax: Verb Raising Problem

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Outline

- 1 Introduction
- 2 Elisabethan English
- 3 Have and Be
- 4 Conditional Inversion

More on verb raising

- 1 Elisabethan English
- 2 Have and Be

Basics

[From Radford 2000, pp. 128-130]

- 1 She shall not see me.
- 2 I will not think it.
- 3 Thou has not left the value of a cord.

- 4 Have I not heard the sea rage like an angry boar?
- 5 Didst thou not heard somebody?
- 6 Will you not dance?

Further data

[From Radford 2000, pp. 128-130]

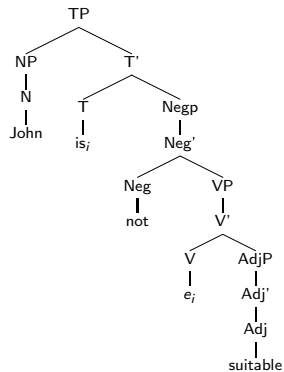
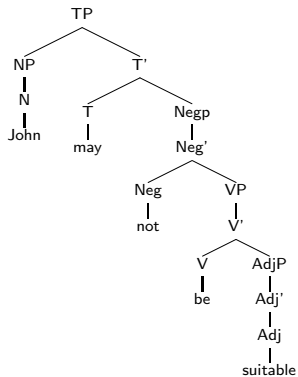
- 7 I care not for her.
- 8 He heard not that Julia
- 9 My master seeks not me.
- 10 I know not where to hide my head.

- 11 Saw you my master?
- 12 Speakest thou in sober meanings?
- 13 Know you not the cause?

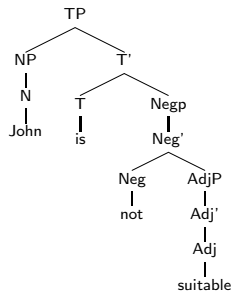
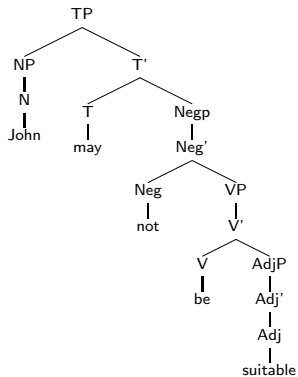
Verb raising in English

- 1 She may not be suitable.
- 2 She is not suitable.
- 3 She may not be enjoying syntax. [pragmatically anomalous, but syntactically fine.]
- 4 She is not enjoying syntax.
- 5 He may not have done it.
- 6 He has not done it.

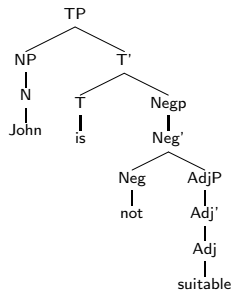
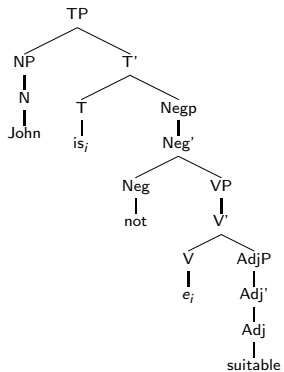
V → T Movement



No Movement



No Movement another look



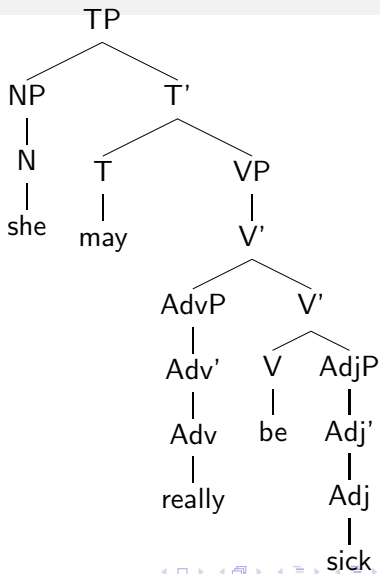
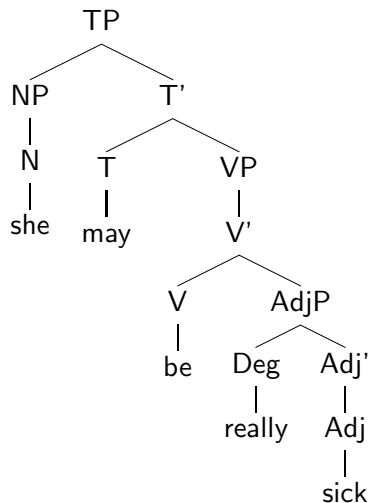
Really?

- 1 She may be really sick.
- 2 She may really be sick.
- 3 She is really sick.

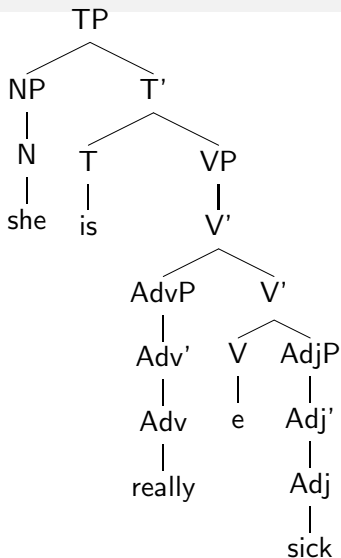
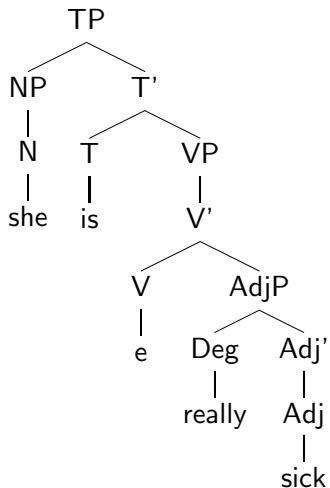
Questions

- a. Note the difference in meaning of (1) and (2). How do you explain in terms of syntactic modification relations?
- b. Draw trees for the two interpretations of (3), keeping in mind what you learned from (1) and (2), and assuming the movement analysis.
- c. Is there an argument for the movement analysis here?

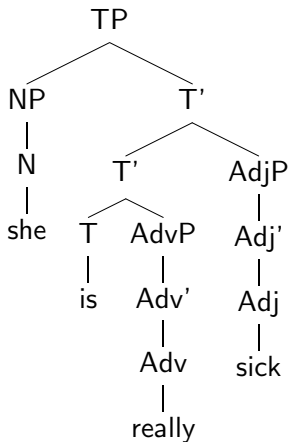
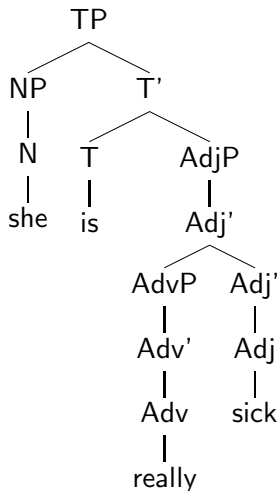
Really?



Really/be



Is this an argument for the movement analysis?



Basic facts: The part of speech of *if*

- 1 If we have the courage, we can change things.
- 2 I wonder $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if} \\ \text{whether} \end{array} \right\}$ we have the courage.
- 3 * Whether we have the courage, we can change things.
- 4 * We have the courage, we can change things.

Comp	Feature
$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{if} \\ \text{whether} \end{array} \right\}$	+ Q
if	+ Cond

Counterfactuals

- 5 If we had the courage, we could change things.
- 6 Had we the courage, we could change things.
- 7 * If had we the courage, we could change things.