## Linear Grammar Basics

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#### Linear Grammar Overview

- A linear grammar (LG) for a language is a sequent-style ND system that recursively defines a set of ordered triples called **signs**, each of which is taken to represent an expression of the language.
- Signs are notated in the form

where

- -a: A, is a typed term of the higher-order pheno theory, called the **pheno**
- -B is a formula of the linear tecto theory, called the **tecto**
- $-\ c:C$  is a typed term of the higher-order semantic theory, called the semantics

## LG Architecture

In its simplest form, an LG consists of:

- Two kinds of **axioms**:
  - logical axioms, also called traces
  - nonlogical axioms, called lexical entries
- Two rule schemas:
  - Modus Ponens
  - Hypothetical Proof
  - A (very) few more rules will be added in due course.

Before considering the precise form of the axioms and rules, we need to discuss the form of LG sequents.

## LG Sequents

- A sign is called **hypothetical** provided its pheno and semantics are both variables.
- An LG sequent is an ordered pair whose first component, the **context**, is a finite multiset of hypothetical signs; and whose second component, the **statement**, is a sign.
- The hypothetical sign occurrences in the context are called the **hypothe**ses or assumptions of the sequent.
- We require that no two hypotheses have the same pheno variable or the same semantic variable.
- So the contexts are actually just finite sets.

*Note:* we omit pheno and semantic types when they can be inferred from the corresponding terms.

#### The Trace Axiom Schema

Full form:

$$s:s; B; z: C \vdash s:s; B; z: C$$

Short form (when types of variables are known):

$$s; B; z \vdash s; B; z$$

*Note:* The pheno is required to be of type s. This is not logically necessary, but is empirically motivated.

#### Two Lexical Entries to Get Started

 $\vdash$  it; It; \* (dummy pronoun *it*)

 $\vdash \lambda_s . s \cdot \text{rained}; \text{It} \multimap \text{S}; \lambda_o . \text{rain} : \text{T} \rightarrow \text{p}$ 

#### The Two LG Rule Schemas (Full Form)

• Modus Ponens

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f: A \rightarrow D; B \multimap E; g: C \rightarrow F}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash f \ a: D; E; g \ c: F} \frac{\Delta \vdash a: A; B; c: C}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash f \ a: D; E; g \ c: F}$$

• Hypothetical Proof

$$\frac{\Gamma, x: A; B; z: C \vdash d: D; E; f: F}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda_x. d: A \to D; B \multimap E; \lambda_z. f: C \to F}$$

## The Two LG Rule Schemata (Short Form)

These forms are used when the types of the terms are known.

• Modus Ponens

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f; B \multimap E; g \quad \Delta \vdash a; B; c}{\Gamma, \Delta \vdash f \; a; E; g \; c}$$

• Hypothetical Proof

$$\frac{\Gamma, x; B; z \vdash d; E; f}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda_x.d; B \multimap E; \lambda_z.f}$$

## An LG Proof

Unsimplified:

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \vdash \lambda_s.s \cdot \text{rained}; \text{It} \multimap \text{S}; \lambda_o.\text{rain} & \vdash \text{it}; \text{It}; * \\ \hline & \vdash (\lambda_s.s \cdot \text{rained}) \text{ it}; \text{S}; (\lambda_o.\text{rain}) * \end{array}$$

Simplified:

$$\frac{\vdash \lambda_s.s \cdot \text{rained}; \text{It} \multimap \text{S}; \lambda_o.\text{rain}}{\vdash \text{it} \cdot \text{rained}; \text{S}; \text{rain}} \qquad \vdash \text{it}; \text{It}; *$$

We use provable equalities (most often, rule  $(\beta)$ ) of the pheno and semantic theories to simplify terms in intermediate conclusions before using them as premisses for later rule instances.

#### More Lexical Entries

- $\vdash$  pedro; NP; p
- $\vdash$  chiqita; NP; c
- $\vdash \mathrm{maria;NP}; \mathsf{m}$
- $\vdash \lambda_s.s \cdot \text{brayed}; \text{NP} \multimap S; \text{bray}$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{beat} \cdot t; \text{NP} \multimap \text{NP} \multimap \text{S}; \text{beat}$
- $\vdash \lambda_{stu} \cdot s \cdot \text{gave} \cdot t \cdot u; \text{NP} \multimap \text{NP} \multimap \text{NP} \multimap \text{S}; \text{give}$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot believed \cdot t; NP \multimap \bar{S} \multimap S; believe$

*Note:* The finite verb entries are written to combine the verb first with the subject, then with the complements (the reverse of how things are traditionally done!)

## Still More Lexical Entries

- $\vdash$  donkey; N; donkey
- $\vdash$  farmer; N; farmer
- $\vdash \lambda_s.\text{that} \cdot s; S \multimap \bar{S}; \lambda_p.p \text{ (complementizer that)}$
- $\vdash \lambda_{fs} \cdot s \cdot \text{that} \cdot (f \mathbf{e}); (NP \multimap S) \multimap N \multimap N; \text{that} (relativizer that)$
- $\vdash \lambda_{sf}.f \text{ (every } \cdot s); N \multimap QP; every}$
- $\vdash \lambda_{sf}.f \text{ (some } \cdot s); N \multimap QP; \text{some}$
- 'QP' (for 'quantified NP') abbreviates (NP  $\multimap$  S)  $\multimap$  S.
- The motivation for giving these expressions a 'raised' tecto type is semantic and will be explained in due course.

#### Another LG Proof

$$\frac{\vdash \lambda_s.s \cdot \text{brayed}; \text{NP} \multimap \text{S}; \text{bray} \qquad \vdash \text{chiqita}; \text{NP}; \text{c}}{\vdash \text{chiqita} \cdot \text{brayed}; \text{S}; \text{bray c}}$$

#### Yet Another LG Proof



Note that we had to shrink this to tiny to fit it on the slide!

## The Same Proof with Semantics Omitted

Alternatively, if we are not concerned about semantics, we can sometimes overcome the space problem by omitting the semantics components of the signs:

This approach has its limits.

#### An Oversized LG Proof



Another Solution to the Space Problem

[1] [2]  $\vdash pedro \cdot believed \cdot that \cdot chiquita \cdot brayed; S; believe p (bray c)$ 

#### Starting to Get Real: English 'NPs'

- To get started, we assumed tectos NP (for names) and It (for dummy *it*), but this is too simple.
- Even if we consider only third person singular noun phrases, we still must account for these facts:
  - Besides dummy *it*, there is also dummy *there*, which has a completely different distribution
  - Names and NPs formed by combining a determiner with a common noun occur both as subject and as object of verb or preposition.
  - The same is true of the dummy pronouns.
  - But, except for nonhuman *it*, definite pronouns have different forms, of which some (*he*, *she*) can't be objects and others (*her*, *him*) can't be subjects.
  - Only a few verbs, e.g. be and seem, allow dummy subjects; and only a few, e.g. believe, allow dummy objects.

#### Are Features Necessary?

- In most syntactic frameworks (CCG, HPSG, LFG, MP) problems of this kind are addressed through the use of **features**, also called **attributes**.
- For example, in HPSG, NPs specify values for the features CASE and NFORM.
- But in a framework (such as LG) based on proof theory, it's unclear what 'features' would be: logical formulas aren't usually thought of as having 'features'.
- We'll use a different approach due to Lambek (1999) in the context of his framework called **pregroup grammar**.
- Pregroup grammar is based on classical **bilinear** logic, but Lambek's idea works just as well with linear logic.

#### Preordering the Basic Tectos (1/2)

- Lambek proposed *preordering* the basic syntactic types.
- The basic intuition is that if  $A \leq B$ , then any sign with tecto A can also be considered as a sign with tecto B.
- In this case we say A is a (tecto) subtype of B.
- For example: we would like to say that the tecto of 'NPs' which can serve as both subjects and objects (which we will call Neu, for 'neutral') is a subtype of the tecto of 'NPs' that can serve as subjects (which we will call Nom, for 'nominative').

## Preordering the Basic Tectos (2/2)

- In the grammar, we directly assert certain inequalities, such as Neu  $\leq$  Nom, and then define  $\leq$  to be the smallest preorder (reflexive transitive relation) on basic tectos that includes all the asserted inequalities.
- Then we revise the Trace axiom schema to the following more general form (the original schema corresponds to the instances where B = B'):

Trace Axiom Schema (Generalized):

$$x; B; z \vdash x; B'; z \text{ (for } B \leq B')$$

#### Three Derived Rule Schemas

These schemas (schematized over  $B \leq B'$ ) are very useful for shortening LG proofs. (Their derivations are left as exercises.)

• Derived Rule Schema 1

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a; B; c}{\Gamma \vdash a; B'; c} \text{D1}$$

• Derived Rule Schema 2

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f; B' \multimap A; g}{\Gamma \vdash f; B \multimap A; g} D2$$

• Derived Rule Schema 3

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f; A \multimap B; g}{\Gamma \vdash f; A \multimap B'; g} D3$$

#### Preordering Basic Tectos to Analyze English Case

- For now we only consider sentences with finite verbs.
- Later we'll elaborate our approach to handle issues about 'unrealized' subjects of nonfinite verb forms (base forms, infinitives, and participles) and of nonverbal 'predicative' expressions (predicative NPs, APs, and PPs).
- First we discard the tecto NP and replace it with:
  - Nom ('NPs' that can be subjects of finite verbs)
  - Acc ('NPs' that can be objects of verbs or prepositions)
  - Neu ('NPs' that can be either)
- Next, we assert the inequalities
  - $\ \mathrm{Neu} \leq \mathrm{Nom}$
  - Neu  $\leq$  Acc
- Finally, we revise the lexicon correspondingly (next slide).

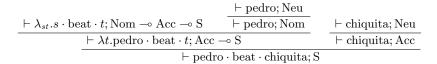
#### Lexicon Revised and Expanded to Analyze Case

(Semantics omitted since it is not relevant.)

- $\vdash$  pedro; Neu
- ⊢ chiqita; Neu
- $\vdash$  maria; Neu
- $\vdash$  she; Nom
- $\vdash$  he; Nom
- $\vdash$  him; Acc
- $\vdash$  her; Acc
- $\vdash \lambda_s \cdot s \cdot brayed; Nom \multimap S$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{beat} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap \text{Acc} \multimap S$
- $\vdash \lambda_{stu} \cdot s \cdot gave \cdot t \cdot u; Nom \multimap Acc \multimap Acc \multimap S$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{believed} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap \bar{\mathbf{S}} \multimap \mathbf{S}$

#### How Neutral 'NPs' Get Case

This derivation uses Derived Rule Schema 1 twice:



## How Quantified 'NPs' Get Case

- Remember that N (common noun) is a basic tecto, e.g.
  - $\vdash$  donkey; N
  - $\vdash$  farmer; N
- Then, since QP's like a donkey or every farmer share with names the ability to serve as either subjects or objects, we revise the definition of QP from (NP − S) − S to (Neu − S) − S.
- Then we can derive, e.g.

$$\frac{\vdash \lambda_s. \mathbf{a} \cdot s; \mathbf{N} \multimap \mathbf{QP}}{\vdash \mathbf{a} \cdot \operatorname{donkey}; \mathbf{QP}}$$

- To use QPs as subjects or objects, it becomes necessary to show that a QP can 'become' an  $(Nom \multimap S) \multimap S$  or an  $(Acc \multimap S) \multimap S$ .
- This is left as an exercise.

#### Attributive Adjectives

- We distinguish between **attributive** adjectives, which modify nouns, and **predicative** adjectives, which are usually introduced by a copula (form of the auxiliary verb *be*) or other 'linking' verbs (such as *become*).
- Although many adjectives appear both ways, some (such as *asleep*) can only be predicative, while others (such as *former*) can only be attributive.
- Adapting the usual categorial analysis of modifiers, we analyze attributive adjectives as having tectotype N → N:
  - $\vdash \lambda_s$ .lazy  $\cdot s$ ; N  $\multimap$  N
  - $\vdash \lambda_s$ .former  $\cdot s$ ; N  $\multimap$  N
- Then we can analyze common noun phrases like:

$$\frac{\vdash \lambda_s.\text{lazy} \cdot s; \text{N} \multimap \text{N} \quad \vdash \text{donkey}; \text{N}}{\vdash \text{lazy} \cdot \text{donkey}; \text{N}}$$

## **Predicative Adjectives**

- As a first approximation, we analyze predicative adjectives with a new basic tectotype PrdA:
  - $\vdash$  lazy; PrdA

 $\vdash$  asleep; PrdA

• We can't do anything with these yet, but we are about to fix that.

#### Introducing Existential Be

- We distinguish between **existential** be, as in there is a donkey, and **pred**icational be, as in Chiquita is lazy.
- Existential *be* requires a dummy *there* subject and a QP complement which is subject to certain semantic constraints (roughly, it must be indefinite):

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot is \cdot t$ ; There  $\multimap QP \multimap S$ 

• Optionally, existential *be* can take an additional 'predicative' complement, but we postpone consideration of those for the time being.

## Introducing Predicational Be

• As a first approximation, predicational *be* takes a noun phrase subject, which for finite forms of *be* must be nominative, and a predicative adjective complement (actually, there are several other options for complements of *be*, as we soon will see):

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot is \cdot t; Nom \multimap PrdA \multimap S$ 

- But there is a problem. Some PrdAs demand a dummy *it* subject, while most require a 'normal' nondummy subject:
  - 1. Chiquita/He/She is lazy/asleep.
  - 2. \* Chiquita/He/She is rainy.
  - 3. It is rainy.
  - 4. \* It is lazy/asleep. (where it is not referential)
- How does the copula know what kind of subject its predicative complement expects?

#### Predicative Adjectives 'Care' about their Subjects

- Even though a predicative adjective cannot directly take a subject, if a copula takes it as a complement, it 'tells' the copula what kind of subject to take.
- We analyze this by treating predicative adjectives **tectogrammatically** (and semantically) as functors, but phenogrammatically as just strings:

 $\vdash$  rainy; It  $\multimap$  PrdA

 $\vdash$  obvious :  $\bar{S} \multimap PrdA$ 

 $\vdash$  lazy : Nom  $\multimap$  PrdA

The 'Nom' in the last entry is not quite right, but it will take some development to see why.

• We will analyze nonfinite verb phrases (infinitivals, base-form verb phrases, and participial phrases) in essentially the same way, but with PrdA replaced by other basic tecto-types (Inf, Bse, Prp, Psp, and Pas).

#### Predicational Be, Take Two

• Now, we replace our old lexical entry for predicational is:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot is \cdot t; Nom \multimap PrdA \multimap S$ 

with the following **schema**:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot is \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}) \multimap S$ 

where A is a metavariable that ranges over tectos.

- This analysis corresponds to what is called **raising to subject (RTS)** in other frameworks.
- In essence, *is* says: 'I don't care what my subject is, as long as my complement is happy with it'.
- We can use the same trick to analyze other verbs (and nonverbal predicatives) traditionally analyzed in terms of RTS (e.g. modals and other auxiliaries, *seem*, *tend*, etc.).

## Problems with Raising (1/2)

- There are other problems, though: there are some verbs, traditionally called **raising to object (RTO)** verbs, that feel the same way about their object as RTS verbs feel about their subject, for example *considers*:
  - 1. Pedro considers it rainy.
  - 2. Pedro considers that Chiquita brays obvious.
  - 3. Pedro considers Chiquita/her/\*she lazy.
- For such verbs, if the object is a pronoun, it has to be accusative.

#### Problems with Raising (2/2)

- So if we try to analyze RTO on a par with RTS with a lexical entry like
  - $\vdash \lambda_{stu} \cdot s \cdot \text{considers} \cdot t \cdot u; \text{Nom} \multimap A \multimap (A \multimap \text{PrdA}) \multimap S$

it will interact badly with the lexical entry

 $\vdash$  lazy : Nom  $\multimap$  PrdA

to overgenerate things like

\* Pedro considers she lazy.

while failing to generate the correct

Pedro considers her lazy.

#### Fixing the Undergeneration Problem with Raising (1/2)

- The undergeneration problem arises with RTO because the lexical entries for predicative adjectives like *lazy* (and for nonfinite verbs like *bray*) are demanding Nom subjects.
- This works when the 'unrealized' subject is 'raised' to the subject of a finite verb (such as *is*), but not when it is 'raised' to object, where an **accusative** pronoun is needed.
- An easy fix would be to add a second entry with tecto type Acc → PrdA (and likewise for nonfinite verb forms).
- But we can avoid doubling up all these lexical entries if instead we eliminate all the Nom → PrdA entries and replace them with entries with tectotype PRO → PrdA, where PRO is a new basic tectotype ordered as follows:
  - Nom < PRO
  - Acc < PRO

## Fixing the Undergeneration Problem with Raising (2/2)

• Then in the lexicon we need only list

⊢ lazy; PRO ⊸ PrdA

• From this we can derive the signs needed as complements to *is* and *considers*, respectively, by Derived Rule Schema 2:

 $\vdash$  lazy; Nom  $\multimap$  PrdA

 $\vdash$  lazy; Acc  $\multimap$  PrdA

- Note that while Neu is **overspecified** between Nom and Acc, PRO is **underspecified** between Nom and Acc.
- Cf. Chomsky's PRO, which is supposed to occur in non-case-assigned positions such as subject of infinitive.
- And so (as in HPSG but unlike GB or MP), predicatives and nonfinite VPs don't actually 'have' subjects.

#### Fixing the Overgeneration Problem with Raising (1/2)

- As it stands, our analysis overgenerates:
  - 1. \* Pedro considers she lazy.
  - 2. \* Her is lazy.

because the As in the lexical schemas for *is* and *considers* can be instantiated (inter alia) as Nom or Acc.

- *is* doesn't care what its subject is as long as its complement is happy with it, and *considers* doesn't care what its object is as long as its complement is happy with it.
- But *is* should be insisting that if its subject is a (nondummy) NP, then it has to be nominative.
- And *considers* should be insisting that if its object is a (nondummy) NP, then it has to be accusative.
- We'll solve these problems by limiting the possible instantiations of the type variable A in the lexical entries, in different ways.

## Fixing the Overgeneration Problem with Raising (2/2)

- We add two new basic tectotypes NOM and ACC.
- NOMs are things that can be subjects of finite RTS verbs.
- ACCs are things that can be objects of RTO verbs.
- Next we add more tectotype inequalities:
  - Nom < NOM
  - It < NOM
  - There < NOM
  - Acc < ACC
  - It < ACC
  - There < ACC
- And finally, we revise the lexical schemas for *is* and *considers* as follows:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot is \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}) \multimap S (A \le \operatorname{NOM})$ 

 $\vdash \lambda_{stu} \cdot s \cdot \text{considers} \cdot t \cdot u; \text{Nom} \multimap A \multimap (A \multimap \text{PrdA}) \multimap S (A \leq \text{ACC})$ 

#### Subjects of Nonfinite Verbs (1/2)

- As we've seen, the type requirement for subjects of nonfinite verbs whose finite counterpart would require a Nom is PRO.
- And the type requirement for subjects of finite RTS verbs is NOM.
- But what is the type requirement for the subject of a nonfinite RTS verb, such as *be* or *to*? It is less constrained than objects of RTO verbs or subjects of finite RTS verbs, because no case requirement is imposed on it.
- We can handle this by positing a new tecto, called NP (because it plays a role analogous to that of NP-trace in GB theory), of which NOM, PRO, and ACC are subtypes.
- Then we write lexical schemas schematized over values of A which are subtypes of NP:

$$\vdash \lambda_s. \text{be} \cdot s; (A \multimap \text{PrdA}) \multimap A \multimap \text{Bse} (A \le \text{NP})$$

$$-\lambda_s.$$
to  $\cdot s; (A \multimap Bse) \multimap A \multimap Inf (A \le NP)$ 

#### Subjects of Nonfinite Verbs (2/2)

- Notice that in the preceding lexical entries, the tectos are written with the complements as the **intial** arguments and the subject (which cannot be taken directly as an argument) **last**.
- This same practice is followed for all nonfinite verbs (and complementtaking nonverbal predicatives). Compare:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{beats} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap \text{Acc} \multimap S$ 

 $\vdash \lambda_s.$ beat · s; Acc  $\multimap$  PRO  $\multimap$  Bse

• Although verbs (other than to) don't have infinitive forms, roughly that effect results from syntactic combination:

$$\frac{\lambda_{s}.\text{to} \cdot s; (A \multimap \text{Bse}) \multimap A \multimap \text{Inf}}{\lambda_{s}.\text{to} \cdot s; (\text{PRO} \multimap \text{Bse}) \multimap \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}} \vdash \text{bray}; \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Bse}}{\vdash \text{to} \cdot \text{bray}; \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}}$$

Here for expository purposes we pretend that instantiation of a schema is a unary rule (of course it isn't really.)

## **Introducing Predicatives**

- Besides predicative adjectives (A → PrdA), the existential copula that takes an additional complement besides the NP also allows three other kinds of complements: predicative PPs (A → PrdP), present participials (A → Prp), and passive participials (A → Pas).
- And the predicational copula allows all of these, as well as predicative NPs (A → PrdN),
- So we propose two new basic tectotypes PrdnN (non- nominal predicative) and Prd (predicative), and assert:

PrdA < PrdnN, PrdP < PrdnN, Prp < PrdnN, Pas < PrdnN, PrdN < Prd, and PrdnN < Prd.

• Then revise the schema for the predicational copula to:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \mathrm{is} \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap \mathrm{Prd}) \multimap \mathrm{S} \ (A \le \mathrm{NOM})$ 

• And revise the two-complement existential copula to:

 $\vdash \lambda_{stu} \cdot s \cdot is \cdot t \cdot u;$  There  $\multimap QP \multimap (PRO \multimap PrdnN) \multimap S$ 

## Two Problems with Predicatives

- So far we have said nothing about where predicative NPs and PPs come from.
- This leads into the topic of **nonlogical rules**, which we will come back to.

#### Introducing Nonlogical Rules (1/3)

- The last problem on Problem Set One showed that it is harder to analyze relative clauses (RCs) without relative pronouns or relativizers than RCs with them.
- Why? Because there is no overt expression responsible for converting a gappy sentence into a postnominal modifier.
- The usual solution is to posit an inaudible relative pronoun or relativizer along the following lines:

$$\vdash \lambda_{fs}.s \cdot (f \mathbf{e}); (\mathrm{Acc} \multimap \mathrm{S}) \multimap \mathrm{N} \multimap \mathrm{N}; \mathsf{that}$$

*Note:* This isn't quite right, since it disallows the relativization of embedded subjects within the RC.

• Such lexical entries are reminiscent of the 'null functional heads' of mainstream generative grammar.

#### Introducing Nonlogical Rules (2/3)

• Equivalently, we can posit a special-purpose nonschematic inference rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash f; \operatorname{Acc} \multimap \operatorname{S}; P}{\Gamma \vdash \lambda_s.s \cdot (f \ \mathbf{e}); \operatorname{N} \multimap \operatorname{N}; \lambda_Q.P \text{ that } Q}$$

- Such rules are called **nonlogical** because they are not included in the linear logic-based rule schemas already introduced.
- It turns out that the need for such rules arises often.
- The difference between logical and nonlogical rules seems to correspond closely to the distinction in mainstream generative grammar between 'core grammar' and the 'marked periphery'.

#### Introducing Nonlogical Rules (3/3)

• Notice that even though the null relativizer rule is nonlogical, its semantics is logical in a certain sense: its reference at any world w is definable without any nonlogical constants except @ itself:

 $\vdash \forall_w.\mathsf{that}@w = \lambda_{PQx}.(P \ x)@w \land (Q \ x)@w$ 

• As we'll see, nonlogical rules that arise in practice often (but not always) have this property. Why is this?

#### Where Do Predicative NPs Come From? (1/2)

• In order for sentences like *Chiquita is lazy* to get the right semantics, the predicational copula

$$\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot is \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap \operatorname{Prd}) \multimap S; \mathsf{prd} (A \le \operatorname{NOM})$$

must predicate its complement's meaning of its subject's meaning.

- And so its own meaning must be the **predication** combinator  $prd = _{def} \lambda_{xP} P x$ .
- But this won't work if the complement is an ordinary NP such as *Burrita*; we need a 'version' of *Burrita* (or any other NP that could occur postcopularly) that has tecto PrdN and a property meaning, in the present case  $\lambda_x . x$  exteq b, where exteq :  $e \rightarrow e \rightarrow p$  is subject to the meaning postulate:

 $\vdash \forall_{xyw}.(x \text{ exteq } y)@w \leftrightarrow (x@w = y@w)$ 

#### Where Do Predicative NPs Come From? (2/2)

- It will come as no surprise that there are two logically equivalent ways to manage this:
  - 1. a nonlogical rule:

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash a; \operatorname{Acc}; b}{\Gamma \vdash a; \operatorname{PRO} \multimap \operatorname{PrdN}; \lambda_x.x \text{ exteq } b}$$

2. a lexical entry:

 $\vdash \lambda_s.s; Acc \multimap PRO \multimap PrdN; exteq$ 

• Either way we can derive:

 $\vdash$  chiquita · is · burrita; S; c exteq b

#### Three Kinds of Prepositional Phrases

The term 'prepositional phrase' is used for (at least) three different kinds of expressions in English:

- 1. Pedro depends on Chiquita. (semantically vacuous)
- 2. On Chiquita is Pepito's favorite place to be. (refers to a location (spatiotemporal region))
- 3. Pepito is on Chiquita. (predicates being at a location)

## Semantically Vacuous Prepositions

• PPs with specific semantically vacuous prepositions can be subcategorized for by verbs, e.g.

 $\vdash \lambda_s.depend \cdot s; On \multimap PRO \multimap Bse; \lambda_{yx}.depend x y$ 

• We analyze them as having different tectotypes, e.g. On, By, For, With, etc., with the meaning of the PP determined by the prepositional object:

 $\frac{\vdash \lambda_s. \text{on} \cdot s; \text{Acc} \multimap \text{On}; \lambda_x. x \qquad \vdash \text{chiquita}; \text{Acc}; \mathsf{c}}{\vdash \text{on} \cdot \text{chiquita}; \text{On}; \mathsf{c}}$ 

• Is there any reason to consider different semantically vacuous prepositions as subtypes of a common tecto?

#### Nonpredicative Locative Prepositions

- Some prepositions combine with an Acc to form an expression which refers to, or perhaps existentially quantifies over, (a) certain location(s) associated with the entity denoted by that Acc.
- Let us call such expressions **locatives** (Loc) and such prepositions **nonpredicative locative** prepositions.
- Something to think about: how should Loc fit into our ordering of basic tectos?
- Assuming locations are certain kinds of entities, the meaning of a locative preposition is a function that maps entities to an associated (quantifer over) location(s), so that e.g. (on c) denotes the 'on Chiquita' location.
- So we have lexical entries like:

 $\vdash \lambda_s. \text{on} \cdot s; \text{Acc} \multimap \text{Loc}; \text{on}$ 

## Prepositions that Predicate Location (1/2)

- Many prepositions, here analyzed with tecto Acc PrdP, predicate:
  - 1. This present is **for** you.
  - 2. This book is **about** bats.
  - 3. Your argument is **without** merit.
- Among these are ones that predicate location of the subject denotation at a location associated with the denotation of the prepositional object:
  - 1. Pepito is on Chiquita.
  - 2. Chiquita is behind Pedro.
  - 3. Pedro is beside Maria.
- Let's call these predicative locative prepositions.

## Prepositions that Predicate Location (2/2)

- Clearly the location at which a predicative locative PP locates the subject is the **same** as the one denoted by the corresponding nonpredicative locative PP. E.g.:
- *Pepito is on Chiquita* predicates of Pepito *being at* the location denoted by the nonpredicative PP *on Chiquita*
- We can analyze this correspondence with a nonlogical rule

$$\frac{\Gamma \vdash s; \operatorname{Loc}; l}{\Gamma \vdash s; \operatorname{PRO} \to \operatorname{PrdP}; \lambda_x.x \text{ at } l}$$

or the equivalent lexical entry:

 $\vdash \lambda_s.s; \text{Loc} \multimap \text{PRO} \multimap \text{PrdP}; \lambda_{lx}.x \text{ at } l$ 

- Be careful not to confuse the locative **at** with the constant @ denoting the being-true-at relation!
- Note that this rule is nonlogical in a strong, semantic sense, because its meaning contribution involves the nonlogical constant at.

#### More about Nonlogical Rules

- More examples: rules that turn
  - plural and mass N's into Neu's
  - predicatives into 'absolutive' sentence modifiers
  - nonnominal predicatives into postnominal modifiers (so-called 'reduced relatives')
- Do languages have lots of nonlogical rules, or just a few?
- Are nonlogical rules which are semantically logical the norm or are they exceptional?
- What is the range of possible non-logical meanings for nonlogical rules?

#### Control (1/5)

- We saw that PRO is used for the unrealized subject of nonfinite verbals and predicatives where the subject 'plays a semantic role' (and so dummy subjects are disallowed).
- If such an expression is the complement of
  - a RTO verb, then the PRO is 'identified with' the upstairs Acc object (here indicated informally by subscripts)

[consider her<sub>1</sub> [PRO<sub>1</sub> conservative]]

- a finite RTS verb, then the PRO is 'identified with' the upstairs Nom subject
  - $[he_1 \text{ seems } [PRO_1 \text{ conservative}]]$
- a nonfinite RTS verb or predicative, then the PRO is 'identified with' the upstairs PRO subject.
  - $[PRO_1 \text{ be } [PRO_1 \text{ conservative}]]$
- In all these cases, the upstairs object or subject identified with the PRO complement subject *plays no semantic role with respect to the upstairs verbal/predicative*.

## Control (2/5)

- But expressions with a PRO subject requirement are not always complements of raising verbs. For example, they can themselves be subjects, as in *to err is human*. Here the property of being human is being predicated of another property, the property of erring.
- Such expressions can also be complements of a verb (or predicative), which (in a sense to be made precise) 'identifies' the unrealized downstairs subject *semantically* with one of its own arguments (either the subject or the object) which *does* play a semantic role upstairs.

## Control (3/5)

- Examples:
  - 1. Chiquita tried to sing.
  - 2. Pedro persuaded Chiquita to sing.
- Verbs like these are often analyzed as describing a relation between one or two entities and a proposition about one of those entities (in the examples above, the proposition about Chiquita that she sings).
- That entity (here, Chiquita), or the corresponding upstairs argument position (subject of *tried* or object of *persuaded*), is said to *control* the PRO subject of the complement.
- In such cases the higher verb is called a **control** verb (and likewise for predicatives).

#### Control (4/5)

- Control verbs are also called **equi** verbs because in early TG they were analyzed by a transformation ('equi-NP deletion') that deleted the complement subject (which was assumed to be identical with the controller).
- By comparison, raising verbs in TG were analyzed by a different transformation ('raising') that moved the complement subject to a higher position in the tree.

#### Control (5/5)

• In LG, the analysis of control makes no tectogrammatical connection between the complement subject and the controller, instead handling the connection semantically:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot \text{tries} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap (\text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}) \multimap S; \lambda_{xP} \cdot \text{try} x (P x)$ 

 $\vdash \lambda_{stu}.s$ ·persuaded· $t \cdot u$ ; Nom  $\multimap$  Acc  $\multimap$  (PRO  $\multimap$  Inf)  $\multimap$  S;  $\lambda_{xyP}$ .persuade x y (P y)

• Alternatively, control verb meanings can be treated as relations between one or two entities and a *property*:

 $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{tries} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap (\text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}) \multimap S; \lambda_{xP}.\text{try } x P$ 

 $\vdash \lambda_{stu}.s$ ·persuaded· $t \cdot u$ ; Nom  $\multimap$  Acc  $\multimap$  (PRO  $\multimap$  Inf)  $\multimap$  S;  $\lambda_{xuP}$ .persuade x y P

with the relationship between the controller the property captured via nonlogical axioms ('meaning postulates') of the semantic theory.

## Tough-Movement (1/2)

Paradigms like the following have troubled generative grammarians since the mid 1960s:

a. It is easy (for Mary) to please John.

b. John<sub>i</sub> is easy (for Mary) to please  $t_i$ .

- The two sentences mean the same thing: that pleasing John is something that one (or Mary) has an easy time doing.
- It's the (b) version that has been troublesome, because the object of the infinitive, indicated by t, seems to have moved to the subject position of the finite sentence.
- But the syntactic relationship, indicated by coindexation, between the object "trace" and the subject doesn't fall straightforwardly under recognized rule types in the mainstream generative grammar tradition.

## Tough-Movement (2/2)

• As expressed by Hicks (2009), citing Holmberg (2000):

'Within previous principles-and-parameters models, TCs [tough constructions] have remained "unexplained and in principle unexplainable" because of incompatability with constraints on  $\theta$ -role assignment, locality, and Case.'

 Hicks, building on a notion of "smuggling" introduced by Collins (2005), proposes a phase-based minimalist analysis in terms of "A-moving a constituent out of a 'complex' null operator that has already undergone Āmovement."

#### GB Theory's 'Empty Categories' (1/2)

- GB (early 1980's) posited four kinds of EC's
  - (little) pro, essentially inuadible definite pronouns, not relevant for the present discussion
  - trace (aka 'syntactic variable')
  - NP-trace
  - (big) PRO
- These last three figured, respectively, in the analysis of:
  - wh-movement, later subsumed under Ā-movement (wh-questions, relative clauses, topicalization, clefts, pseudoclefts, etc.)
  - NP-movement, later called A-movement (passive, raising)
  - control

#### GB Theory's 'Empty Categories' (2/2)

- The theoretical assumptions about how these three kinds of empty elements worked never seemed to add up to a consistent story about TCs.
- In LG we have counterparts of all three.
- In due course we'll see how LG fares in accounting for TCs.
- First a glance at how the GB EC's were supposed to work.

#### Wh-Movement/A-Movement

Something moves, possibly long-distance, from a Case-assigned,  $\theta$ -role-assigned A-position to an  $\bar{A}$  position:

- 1. Who<sub>i</sub> [t<sub>i</sub> came]?
- 2. Who<sub>i</sub> did [Mary see  $t_i$ ]?
- 3. Who<sub>i</sub> did [Mary say [John saw  $t_i$ ]]? (long-distance)
- 4. \* Who<sub>i</sub> [t<sub>i</sub> rained]? (launch site is non- $\theta$ )
- 5. \* Who<sub>i</sub> did [John try [ $t_i$  to come]]? (launch site is non-Case)
- 6. \* Mary told John<sub>i</sub> [she liked  $t_i$ ]. (landing site is an A-position)

A = argument (subject or object)

- $\bar{\mathbf{A}} = \mathrm{nonargument}$
- $[\ldots]$  = sentence boundary

#### NP-Movement/A-Movement

Something moves from a non-Case, A-position to a superjacent, non- $\theta$ , A-position:

- 1. John<sub>i</sub> seems  $[n_i$  to be happy].
- 2. It i seems  $[n_i \text{ to be raining}]$ .
- 3. \* John<sub>i</sub> seems  $[n_i \text{ is happy}]$ . (launch site is Case-assigned)
- 4. \* John\_i seems [Mary believes [n\_i to be happy]]. (landing site is not superjacent)
- 5. \* It<sub>i</sub> tries [ $n_i$  to be raining]. (landing site is  $\theta$ -assigned)
- 6. \* Who<sub>i</sub> does [John seem [ $n_i$  to be happy]]? (landing site is an  $\bar{A}$ -position)

## Control

An EC in a  $\theta$ -assigned non-Case position is an aphoric to something in a superjacent A-position:

- 1. Mary<sub>i</sub> tries [PRO<sub>i</sub> to be happy].
- 2. \*  $Mary_i/it_i$  tries [PRO<sub>i</sub> to rain]. (EC is in a non- $\theta$  position.)
- 3. \* John tries [Mary to like  $PRO_i$ ]. (EC is in a Case position)
- 4. \* Mary<sub>i</sub> tries [John believes [PRO<sub>i</sub> to be happy]]. (landing site is not superjacent)
- 5. \* Who<sub>i</sub> did [John try [PRO<sub>i</sub> to be happy]]? (landing site is an  $\bar{A}$ -position)

#### What's Tough about Tough-'Movement'

- Like A-movement, the launch site is a  $\theta$ -assigned Case position, and it can be long-distance:
  - a. John<sub>i</sub> is easy for Mary [to please  $t_i$ ].
  - b. John<sub>i</sub> is easy for Mary [to get other people [to distrust  $t_i$ ]].
- Like A-movement, the landing site is a non- $\theta$  A-position.
- Like Control, the 'antecedent' of the EC must be 'referential', i.e. it can't be a dummy or an idiom chunk:
  - a. John is easy to believe to be incompetent.
  - b. \* It is easy to believe to be raining.
  - c. \* There is easy to believe to be a largest prime number.
  - d.  $\ast$  The shit is easy to believe to have hit the fan. (no idiomatic interpretation)

#### Basic Tectos Involved in Analysis of TCs (1/2)

Nom (nominative, e.g. he, she)

Acc (accusative, e.g. him, her)

For (nonpredicative for-phrase, e.g. for Mary)

- It ('dummy pronoun' *it*)
- S (finite clause)
- Inf (infinitive clause)
- Bse (base clause)

Prd (predicative clause)

PrdA (adjectival predicative clause)

## Basic Tectos Involved in Analysis of TCs (2/2)

- Neu (case-neutral, e.g. John, Mary)
- PRO (LG counterpart of GB's PRO)

Used for subject of nonfinite verbs and predicatives that assign a semantic role to the subject, e.g. nonfinite *please* 

• NP (LG counterpart of GB's NP-trace)

Used for subject of nonfinite verbs and predicatives that don't assign a semantic role to the subject, e.g. nonfinite *seem*, infinitive *to* 

• NOM (generalized nominatives)

Used for subject of finite verbs that don't assign a semantic role to the subject, e.g. *seems*, *is* 

• ACC (generalized accusatives)

Used for objects of verbs that don't assign a semantic role to the object, e.g. infinite-complement-*believe* 

## **Review of Basic Tecto Ordering**

Neu < Nom Neu < Acc Nom < PRO Acc < PRO Nom < NOM Acc < ACC It < NOM It < ACC NOM < NP ACC < NP PRO < NP PrdA < Prd Some Nonlogical Constants for Lexical Semantics

 $\vdash$  j : e (John)  $\vdash$  m : e (Mary)

 $\vdash \mathsf{rain} : p$ 

 $\vdash$  please : p<sub>2</sub>

(The first argument is pleasing and the second argument experiences the pleasure.)

 $\vdash \mathsf{easy}: e \to p_1 \to p$ 

(The first argument is the one who has an easy time of it, and the second argument is the 'piece of cake'.

#### Lexical Entries

- $\vdash$  it; It; \* (dummy pronoun *it*)
- $\vdash john; Neu; j$
- $\vdash$  mary; Neu; m
- $\vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \text{pleases} \cdot t; \text{Nom} \multimap \text{Acc} \multimap \text{S}; \text{please}$
- $\vdash \lambda_t.$ please · t; Acc  $\multimap$  PRO  $\multimap$  Bse;  $\lambda_{yx}.$ please  $x \ y$
- $\vdash \lambda_t . \text{to} \cdot t; (A \multimap Bse) \multimap A \multimap Inf; \lambda_P . P (A \le NP, P : B \to p)$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st} \cdot s \cdot is \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap Prd) \multimap S; \lambda_{xP} \cdot P x (A \le NOM, x : B, P : B \to p)$
- $\vdash \lambda_t.$ for  $\cdot t$ ; Acc  $\multimap$  For;  $\lambda_x.x$
- $\vdash \lambda_{st}.easy \cdot s \cdot t$ ; For  $\multimap$  (PRO  $\multimap$  Inf)  $\multimap$  It  $\multimap$  PrdA;  $\lambda_{xPo}.easy x P$
- $\vdash \lambda_{sf}.\text{easy} \cdot s \cdot (f \ \mathbf{e}); \text{For} \multimap (\text{Acc} \multimap \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}) \multimap \text{PRO} \multimap \text{PrdA};$  $\lambda_{xrv}.\text{easy} \ x \ (r \ y)$

## How Neutral Expressions Get Case



## Nonpredicative "Prepositional" Phrases

Here and henceforth, leaves with overbars were already proved as lemmas in earlier derivations.

$$\frac{\vdash \lambda_t.\text{for} \cdot t; \text{Acc} \multimap \text{For}; \lambda_x.x \qquad \vdash \text{mary}; \text{Acc}; \mathsf{m}}{\vdash \text{for} \cdot \text{mary}; \text{For}; \mathsf{m}}$$

In the absence of clear empirical support for calling nonpredicative For-phrases 'prepositional', we just treat For as a basic tecto.

#### A Base Phrase

$$\vdash \lambda_t. \text{please} \cdot t; \text{Acc} \multimap \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Bse}; \lambda_{yx}. \text{please } x \ y \qquad \vdash \text{john}; \text{Acc}; \text{j}$$
$$\vdash \text{please} \cdot \text{john}; \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Bse}; \lambda_x. \text{please } x \text{ j}$$

#### An Infinitive Phrase

[1:]

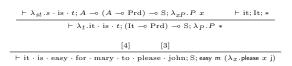
```
 \begin{array}{c|c} \vdash \lambda_t. \text{to} \cdot t; (A \multimap \text{Bse}) \multimap A \multimap \text{Inf}; \lambda_P.P & \hline & \vdash \text{please} \cdot \text{john}; \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Bse}; \lambda_x. \text{please} x \text{ j} \\ & & \vdash \text{to} \cdot \text{please} \cdot \text{john}; \text{PRO} \multimap \text{Inf}; \lambda_x. \text{please} x \text{ j} \end{array}
```

- Here A (two occurrences) in the to schema was instantiated as PRO (and B in P : B → p as e). This is legitimate because the schematization is over A ≤ NP, and in fact PRO ≤ NP.
- This is an instance of (the LG counterpart of ) Raising, in this case of PRO from the base-form complement *please John* to the infinite phrase.
- There is no *sign* of tectotype PRO that 'raises'!

## An Impersonal Predicative Phrase

- This is just like a Control construction, e.g. Mary tries to please John, which means try m ( $\lambda_x$ .please x j) ...
- Except that the controller is the For-phrase, rather than the subject (which is only a dummy)
- This uses the semantics for Control where the infinitive complement is analyzed as a property rather than a proposition.

# 



- Here A in is is instantiated as It (and B in x : B as T, so  $P : T \to p$ ).
- This is another case of 'Raising', in this case of the unrealized It subject of *easy for Mary to please John*.
- In no sense was the sign *it* ever in the predicative phrase.

## A Gappy Infinitive Phrase

- The object trace, which is withdrawn in the last proof step, captures the sense in which '*Tough*-Movement' works like an Ā (long-distance) dependency.
- The  $\lambda_s$  and  $\lambda_y$  in the pheno and semantics of the conclusion are prefigured by the empty operator binding the trace in Chomsky's (1977) analysis of this same construction:

 $[\mathsf{john}_i \mathsf{ is easy } O_i[\mathsf{PRO to please } t_i]]$ 

• Unlike Hicks' analysis, there is nothing 'complex' about the operator that binds the trace (it is just  $\lambda$ ), and no sense in which anything ever 'moves out' of it.

## A Personal Predicative Phrase

```
[7:] \\ \vdash \lambda_{sf} \cdot \operatorname{easy} \cdot s \cdot (f \ \mathbf{e}); \operatorname{For} \multimap (\operatorname{Acc} \multimap \operatorname{InfP}) \multimap \operatorname{PRO} \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}; \lambda_{xRy} \cdot \operatorname{easy} x (R \ y) \qquad \vdash \operatorname{for} \cdot \operatorname{mary}; \operatorname{For}; \mathsf{m} \\ \vdash \lambda_{f} \cdot \operatorname{easy} \cdot \operatorname{for} \cdot \operatorname{mary} \cdot (f \ \mathbf{e}); (\operatorname{Acc} \multimap \operatorname{InfP}) \multimap \operatorname{PRO} \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}; \lambda_{Ry} \cdot \operatorname{easy} m \ (R \ y) \\ [8:] \\ [8:] \\ \hline \begin{array}{c} [7] \quad [6] \\ \vdash \operatorname{easy} \cdot \operatorname{for} \cdot \operatorname{mary} \cdot \operatorname{to} \cdot \operatorname{please}; \operatorname{PRO} \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}; \lambda_{y} \cdot \operatorname{easy} m \ (\lambda_{x} \cdot \operatorname{please} x \ y) \\ \vdash \operatorname{easy} \cdot \operatorname{for} \cdot \operatorname{mary} \cdot \operatorname{to} \cdot \operatorname{please}; \operatorname{Nom} \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}; \lambda_{y} \cdot \operatorname{easy} m \ (\lambda_{x} \cdot \operatorname{please} x \ y) \\ \vdash \operatorname{easy} \cdot \operatorname{for} \cdot \operatorname{mary} \cdot \operatorname{to} \cdot \operatorname{please}; \operatorname{Nom} \multimap \operatorname{PrdA}; \lambda_{y} \cdot \operatorname{easy} m \ (\lambda_{x} \cdot \operatorname{please} x \ y) \end{array} D2 \\ D3 \end{array}
```

• Here 'InfP' abbreviates PRO — Inf.

John is easy for Mary to please

 $\begin{array}{c|c} \vdash \lambda_{st}.s \cdot \mathrm{is} \cdot t; A \multimap (A \multimap \mathrm{Prd}) \multimap \mathrm{S}; \lambda_{xP}.P \ x & \vdash \mathrm{john}; \mathrm{Nom}; \mathrm{j} \\ \hline \\ \vdash \lambda_t.\mathrm{john} \cdot \mathrm{is} \cdot t; (\mathrm{Nom} \multimap \mathrm{Prd}) \multimap \mathrm{S}; \lambda_P.P \ \mathrm{j} \\ \hline \\ \hline \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c|c} [9] & \vdash \mathrm{easy} \cdot \mathrm{for} \cdot \mathrm{mary} \cdot \mathrm{to} \cdot \mathrm{please}; \mathrm{Nom} \multimap \mathrm{Prd}; \lambda_y.\mathrm{easy} \ \mathrm{m} \ (\lambda_x.\mathrm{please} \ x \ y) \\ \hline \\ \hline \end{array}$   $\begin{array}{c|c} \vdash \mathrm{John} \cdot \mathrm{is} \cdot \mathrm{easy} \cdot \mathrm{for} \cdot \mathrm{mary} \cdot \mathrm{to} \cdot \mathrm{please}; \mathrm{S}; \mathrm{easy} \ \mathrm{m} \ (\lambda_x.\mathrm{please} \ x \ \mathrm{j}) \\ \hline \end{array}$ 

- Here A in *is* is instantiated as Nom.
- This is another instance of 'Raising', in this case of the unrealized Nom subject of the predicative phrase *easy for Mary to please* to the sentence.
- But John was never actually in the predicative phrase!
- *Tough*-constructions are unproblematic for LG.