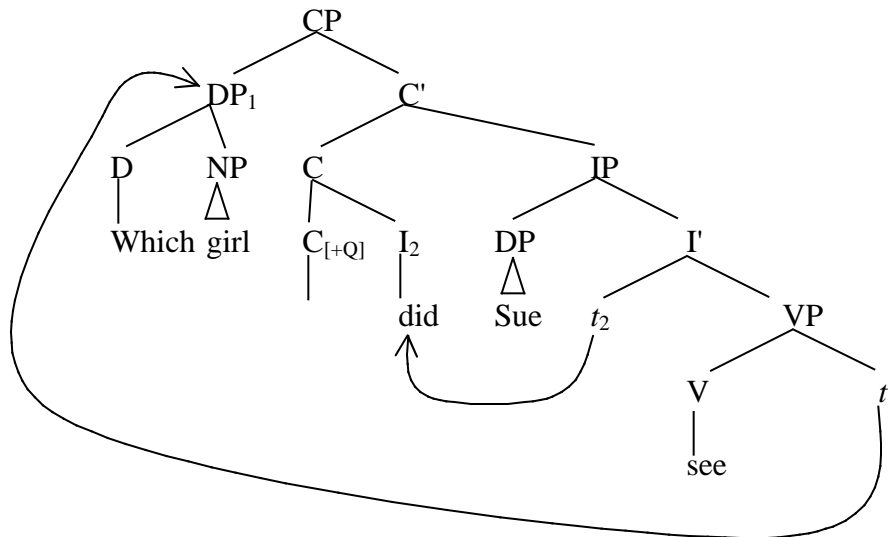


1 Back to German

1. Where do wh-phrases go in English?

- a. Sue saw that girl.
- b. Which girl did Sue see?

- they appear to the left of the Aux, which appears to the left of the S
- we know that in yes-no questions, I → C in English, giving Aux-S order
- we know from the Structure Preservation Constraint that a moving phrase (like "which girl") has to move to a phrasal position
- what phrasal position is available at the front of the sentence?



2. This makes sense because we know that C has something to do with questionhood in English already (from the yes-no questions).
3. Remember our generalizations about German from homework 1:

a) matrix clause finite verbs seem to head left-headed phrases

Hans geht den Fluss entlang
 Hans goes the river along
 "Hans goes along the river"

→ *geht* is finite, and appears after the subject and before the object PP

b) non-finite verbs (participial forms) seem to head right-headed phrases

Hans muss die Aufgaben lösen
Hans must the exercises do
"Hans must do the exercises"

Hans muss stolz auf seine Mutter sein
Hans must proud of his Mother be
"Hans must be proud of his mother"

Hans muss auf seine Mutter stolz sein.
Hans must of his Mother proud be
"Hans must be proud of his Mother"

→ *sein* and *lösen* are participial forms, and the finite verb, which agrees with its subject, in these clauses is the modal verb *muss*, 'must'.

c) In embedded clauses, both finite and non-finite verbs seem to head right-headed phrases

Ich glaube dass Hans die Aufgaben lösen muss
I think that Hans the exercises do must
"I think that Hans must do the exercises".

→ In the embedded clause here, *muss* is finite, but still appears at the end of the clause, rather than after the subject, as it did when it was in the matrix clause.

4. With the clause structure we have so far, plus one extra assumption, we could easily account for the facts in a) and b), and a number of you did so in the homework:

- German is like French in requiring V-to-I raising for finite verbs
- German is like French and English in being mostly left-headed
- German is unlike French and English in that VP is right-headed.

This accounts for everything in a) and b)

→ BUT, darnit, something's wrong: it doesn't account for the data in c)

→ the finite verb "muss", in the embedded clause, which we assumed raises to I, appears at the end of the clause.

→ Must we assume that I is left-headed in matrix clauses and right-headed in embedded clauses? (this was the solution that most of you proposed in your homeworks). Or is there something else going on here?

Luckily, there *is* something else going on in German. When we cast our data nets a little wider, we observe that all of the following are grammatical unembedded clauses in German:

5. Ich las schon letztes Jahr diesen Roman
 I read alreadylast year this book
- Ich habe schon letztes Jahr diesen Roman gelesen
 I have alreadylast year this book read
- Diesen Romanlas ich schon letztes Jahr
 This book read I alreadyletztes Jahr
- Diesen Romanhabe ich schon letztes Jahr gelesen
 This book have I alreadylast year read
- Schon letztes Jahr las ich diesen Roman
 Already last year read I this book
- Schon letztes Jahr habe ich diesen Roman gelesen
 Already last year have I this book read
- *habe ich Schon letztes Jahr diesen Roman gelesen
 have I already last year this book read
- *las ich schon letztes Jahr Diesen Roman
 read I already last year this book

- the subject *can* appear before the finite verb, but it doesn't have to
- when the subject doesn't appear before the finite verb, it appears *just after it*
- any other phrase, as well as the subject (but not just a head!) may appear before the finite verb
- the sentence is ungrammatical if *nothing* appears before the finite verb

6. What if in declarative clauses in German, V moves to I, and I moves to C, like in English questions?
 What if in declarative clauses in German, *non-wh-phrases* may move to Spec-CP?

These two assumptions will give us the V2 constraint.

- they, plus one more assumption, will *also* explain why finite verbs, as well as non-finite verbs, appear clause-finally in German in embedded clauses,
 What if we assume that VP *and* IP are always right-headed in German,
 while CP is always left headed?

7. Draw trees for the sentences in 5, with these assumptions in place.