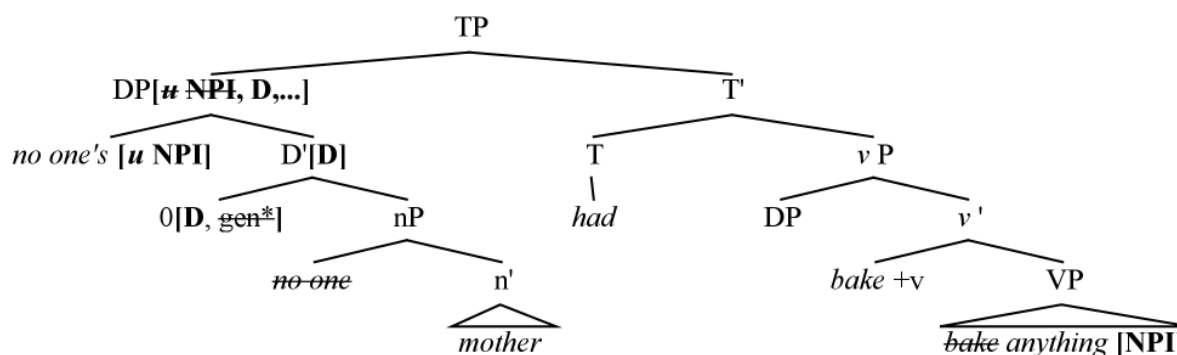


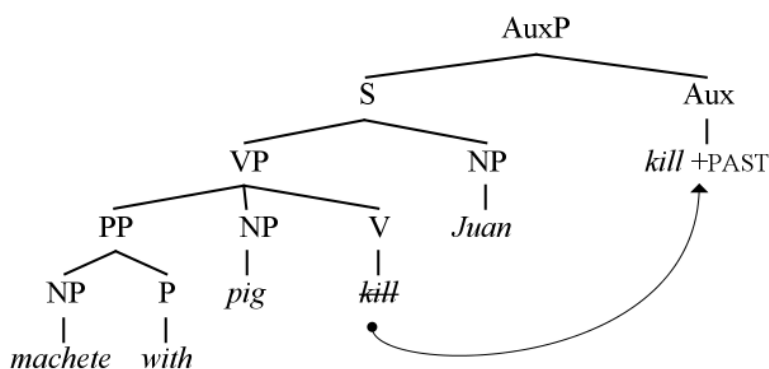
Session Notes 8½ (May 24th)

This is a brief roundup of the second time we met without Iwo (and Michael P:?) being there. If I remember it correctly, it was quite a ‘short’ (i.e. 2-3 h) session, due to illnesses and sultriness.

One issue we couldn’t solve back then, and neither the last time around, was exercise 4 (p. 152), on the NPI Generalization: why is *No one’s mother had baked anything* good although the NPI-licenser *no one* does not c-command the NPI *anything* for being in [Spec,DP]? There are two solutions as to NPI-licensing that seems to violate c-command as we know it: first, an account appealing to an independent post-syntactic morphological level (cf. Distributed Morphology) where a condition of linear precedence is established, rather than hierarchical c-command (e.g. Acquaviva 2002); second, an extended definition of c-command as to yield super-c-command (wicked!) (cf. Barrie 2006:78f.), which not only allows the head of a given XP to asymmetrically c-command another element, but also the Spec of that head, on the assumption that the features of both the head X and its Spec – but not of the Compl! – percolate (‘sickern’) to XP (cf. Cowper (1987) for feature percolation).



Another question (by Richie) concerned whether object-initial languages (OSV/OVS) exist, and if yes, how many. According to Derbyshire & Pullum (1981), there exist twelve (potential) object-initial languages. Baker (2001) puts this into perspective, only assuming one or two that can be rather certainly classified as object-initial. Here’s one example of the mirror-Welsh OSV language Warao from Baker (2001:138). Unfortunately, his book being written for the interested layman, the phrase structure is crassly simplified.



What I remember beyond these two aspects is that we went through the Session Notes no. 8, in which I anew expressed my dissatisfaction with Adger’s implementation of feature valuation/Agree/probe-goal theory.