

MSc Introduction to Syntax

Answers to exercises SK chapter 4

4.1 An Aristotelean predicate is a V' (V-bar). A Fregean predicate does not have any X-bar status, as it is a semantic concept, not a concept of syntactic structure. If you look at the things in syntax that *correspond* to a Fregean predicate, you will see that they can have bar level zero (heads), but also higher bar levels.

4.2

The tree in (1a) fails to account for the fact that you cannot replace *consumed* by *do so*, which should be possible if it were a V' (as it is in this tree):

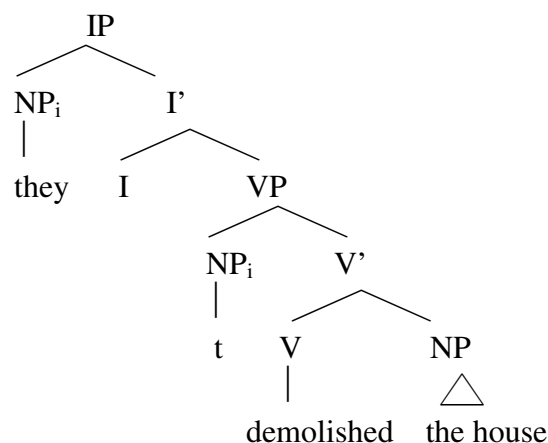
**Bertie consumed a dozen apples at one sitting and did so ten pears a day later*

The tree in (1b) cannot account for the fact that you can replace *mix his special concoction* by *do so* while leaving the *for*-phrase unaffected by this replacement, indicating that there is a V' constituent *mix his special concoction* that does not include *for Bertie*:

Jeeves will mix his special concoction for Bertie while Jones will do so for Charlie.

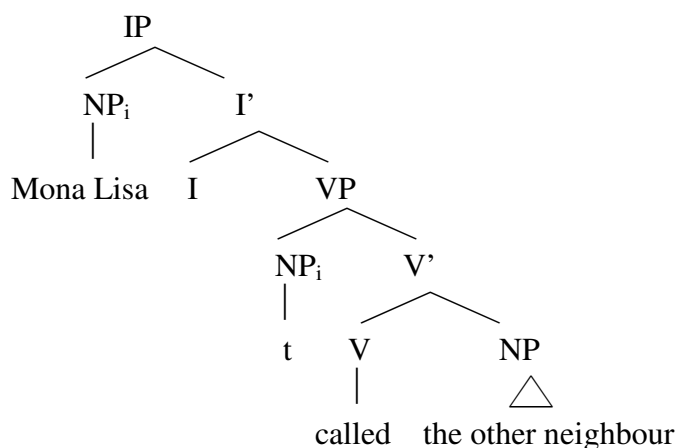
4.4

(1a)



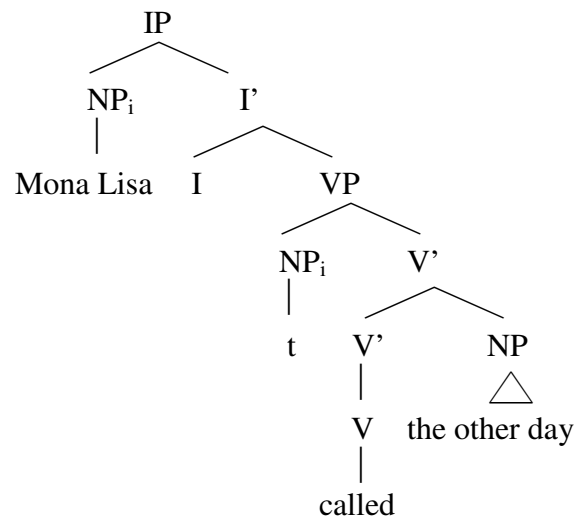
recursive nodes: none

(1b)



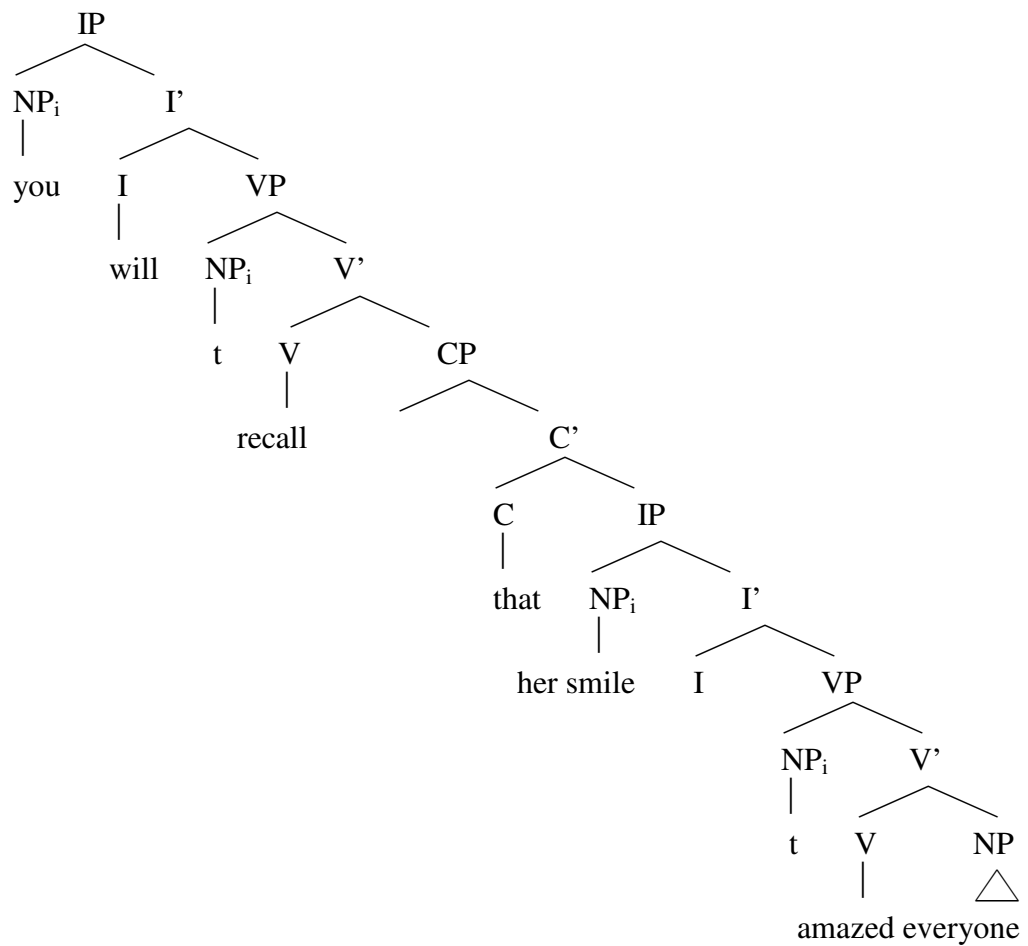
recursive nodes: none

(1c)



recursive nodes: the upper V'

(1d)



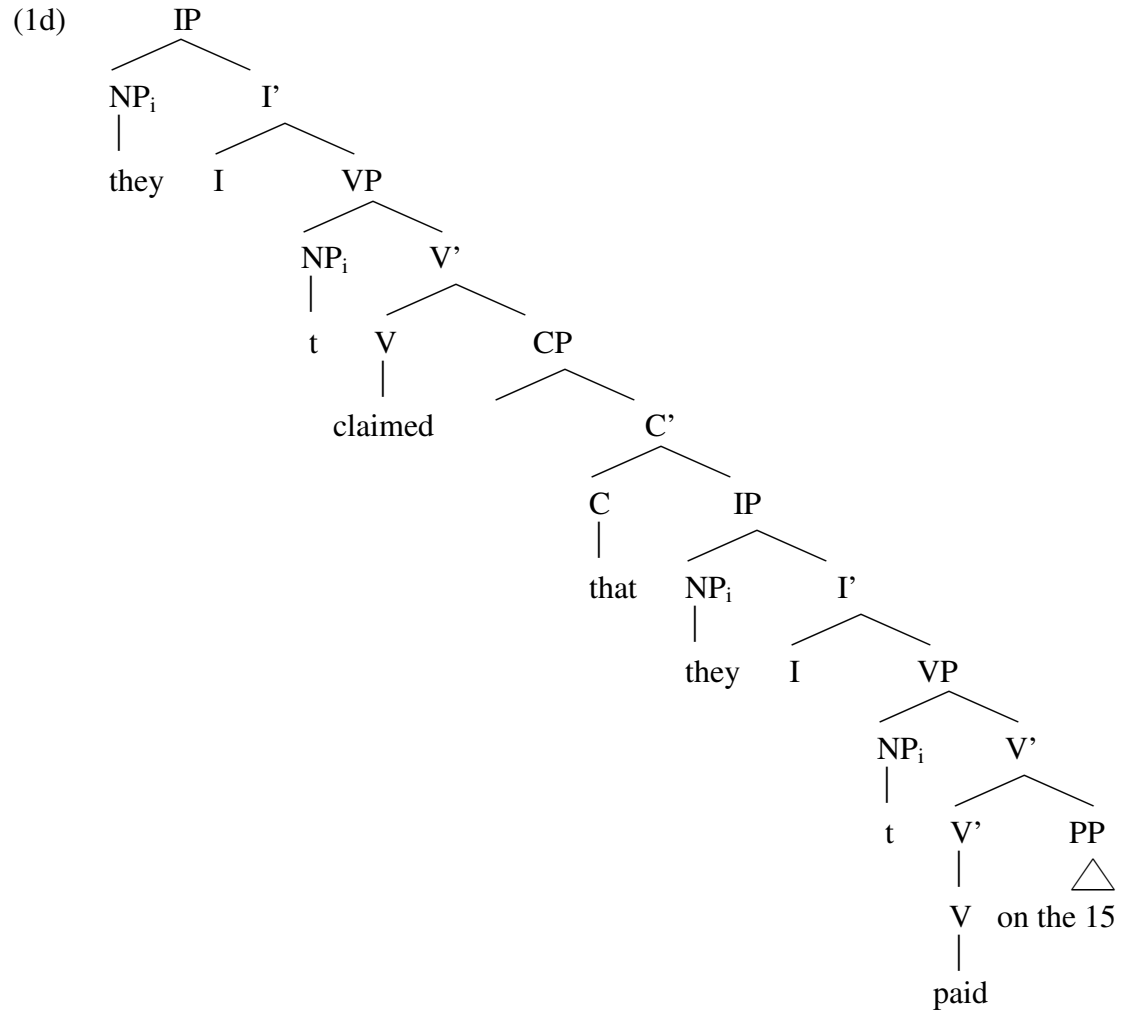
recursive nodes: the upper IP, the upper I', the upper VP, the upper V'

4.5

reading 1: They made a claim, namely that they had paid on the 15th.

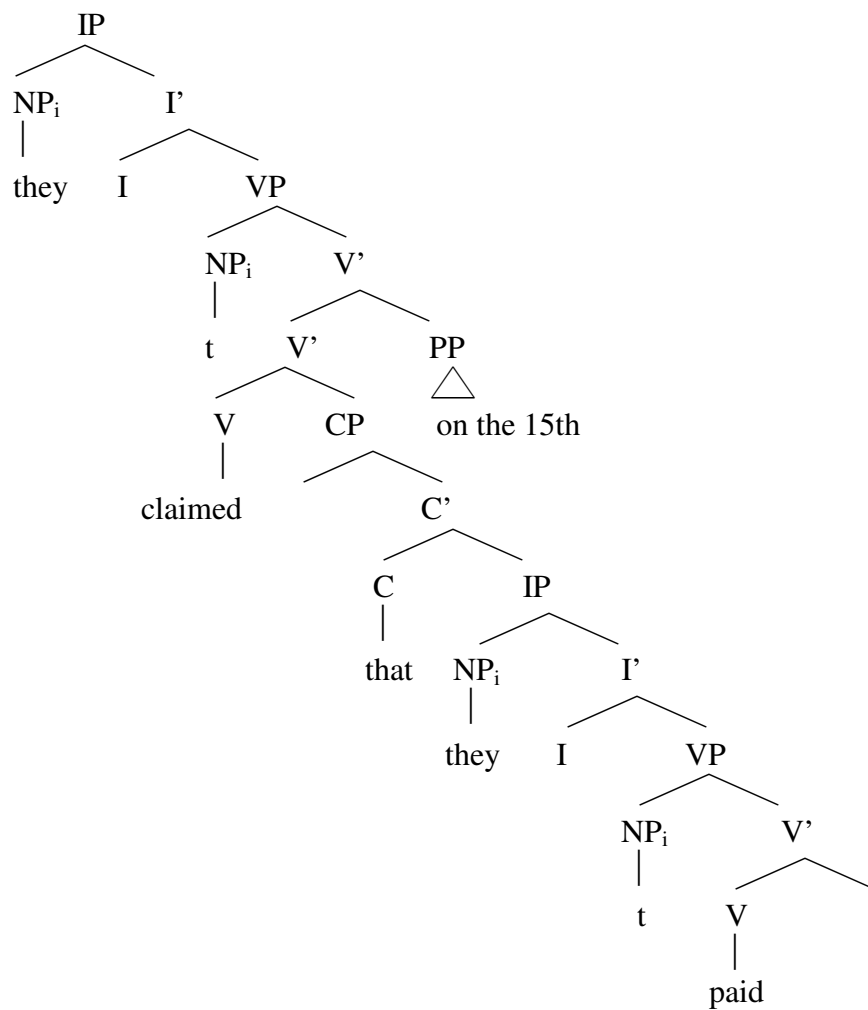
reading 2: They made a claim on the 15th, namely that they had paid.

Tree for reading 1:



recursive nodes: upper IP, upper I', upper VP, upper V', higher of the two V's in embedded clause.

Tree for reading 2:



Recursive nodes: the upper IP, the upper I', the upper VP, both V's in the higher clause.