

Advanced Syntax

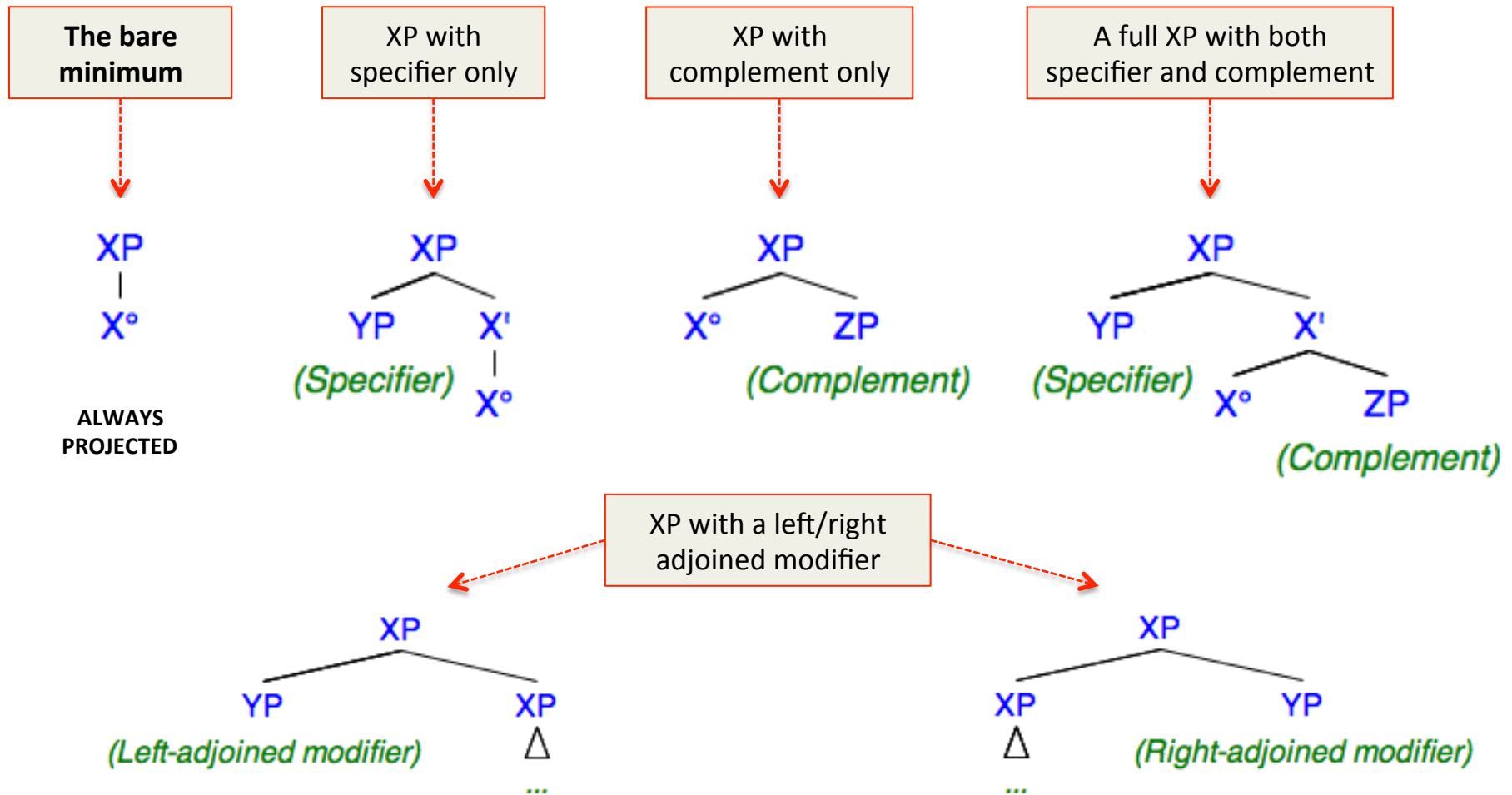
• Extra Exercises 2 •



Structure of IP and CP. Clause types. Complements and Adjuncts.
Subject and Object. V^o-to-I^o movement.

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Aarhus University
2016

The building blocks of X-bar structure



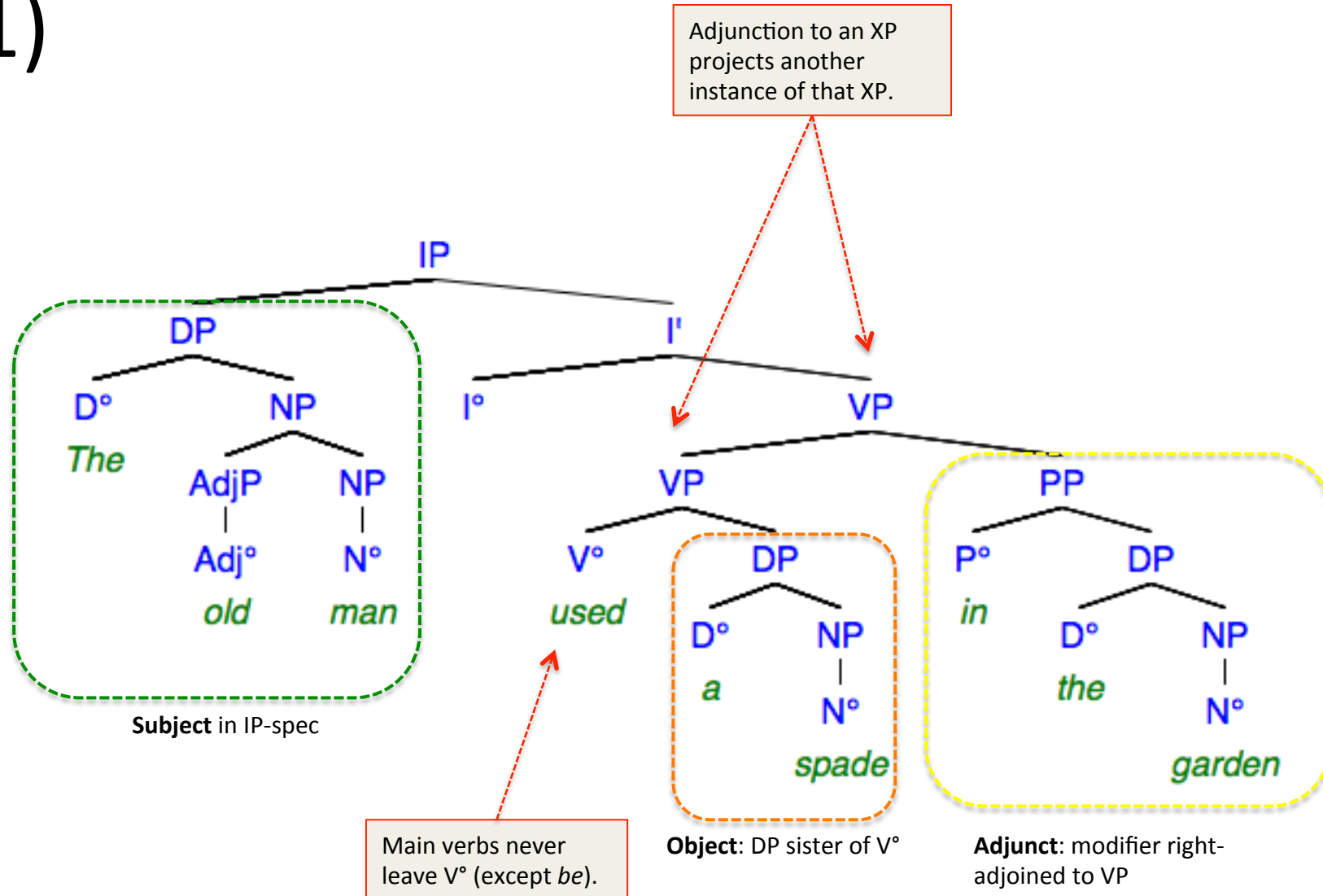
Draw the full tree structure of the following sentences:

- (1) The old man used a spade in the garden.
- (2) Aeroplanes flew over the city.
- (3) After a week, she had already spent her money.
- (4) Peter will not speak to me again.
- (5) He did not do this.
- (6) This is very painful.
- (7) I hope you can read.
- (8) They often saw me happy.
- (9) The teacher knows that you are trying hard.
- (10) Joe wonders if she can hear the music.
- (11) I want for him to become king.
- (12) We want them to listen.

ANSWERS

Trees drawn using Miles Shang's *Syntax Tree Generator* (<http://mshang.ca/syntaxtree/>)
Additional text, figures, lines and arrows added in *Microsoft PowerPoint*

(1)

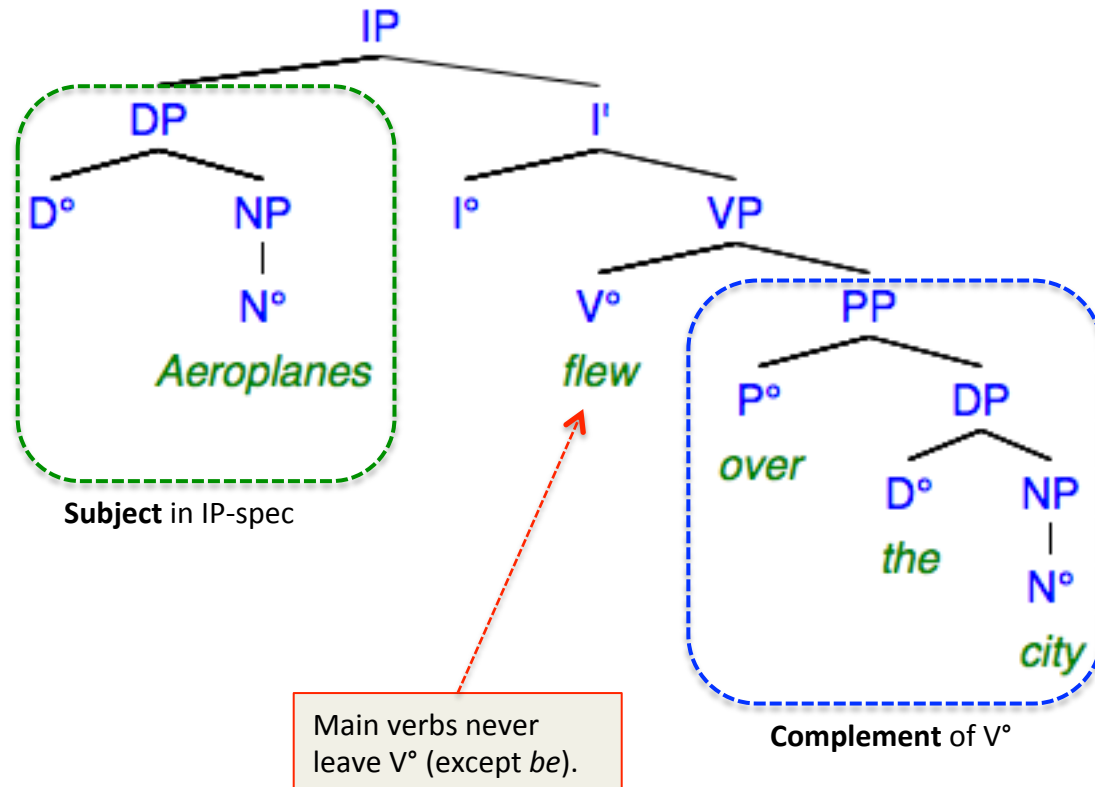


(2a)

The sentence is ambiguous. It has two different interpretations with different structures:

(2a) *Aeroplanes flew over the city – right across the sky.*

(2b) *Aeroplanes flew over the city – flying in around in circles right above the skyscrapers.*

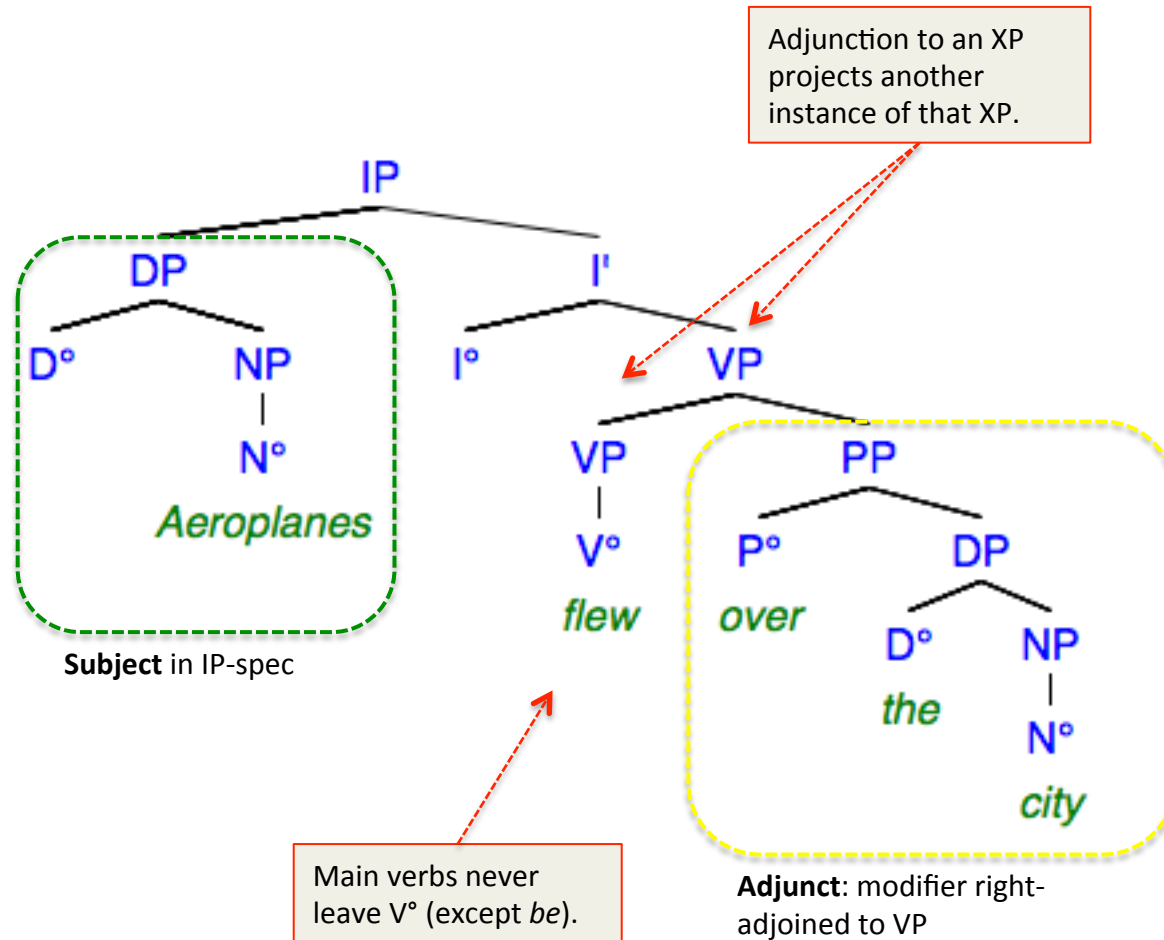


(2b)

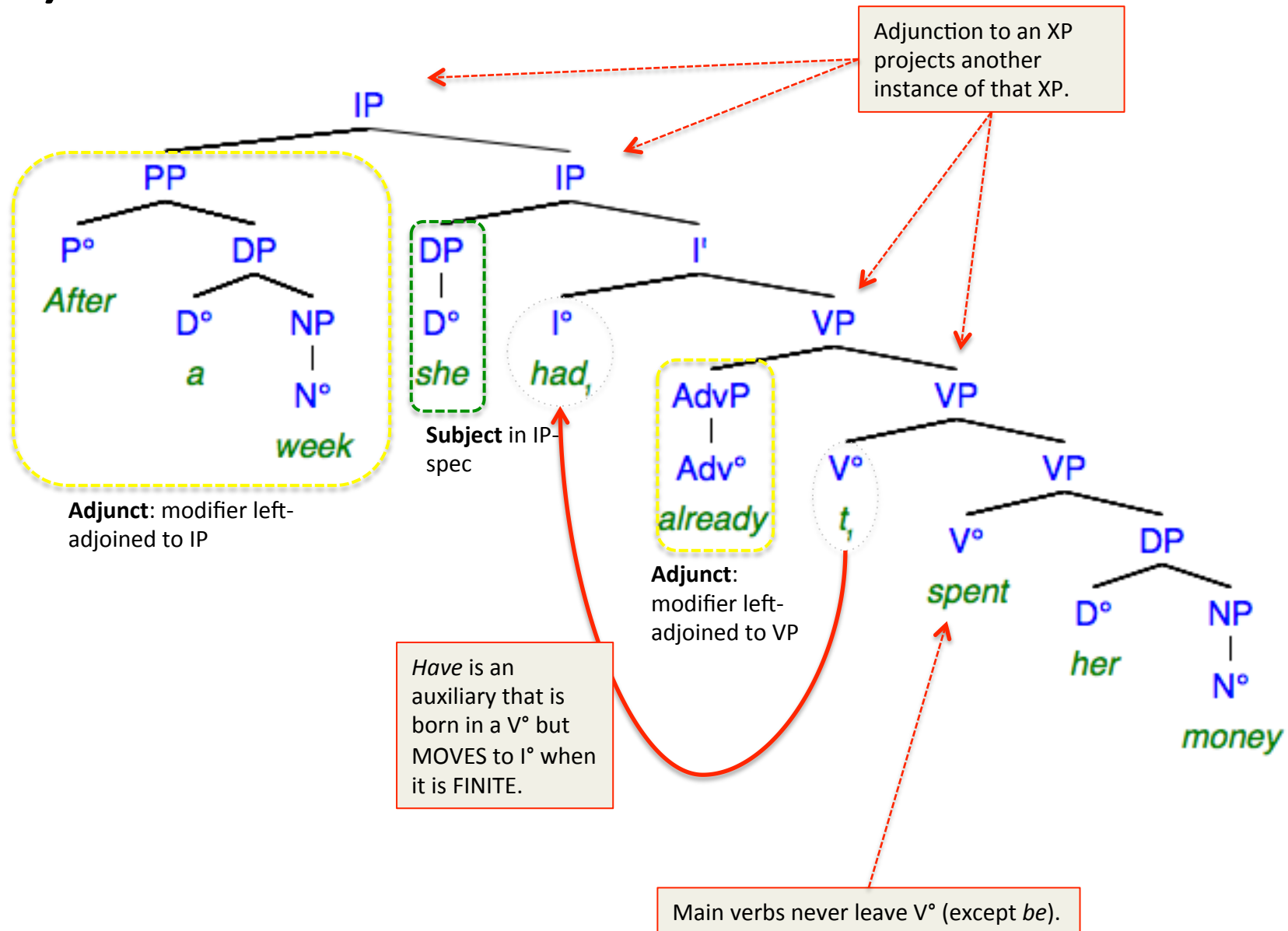
The sentence is ambiguous. It has two different interpretations with different structures:

(2a) *Aeroplanes flew over the city – right across the sky.*

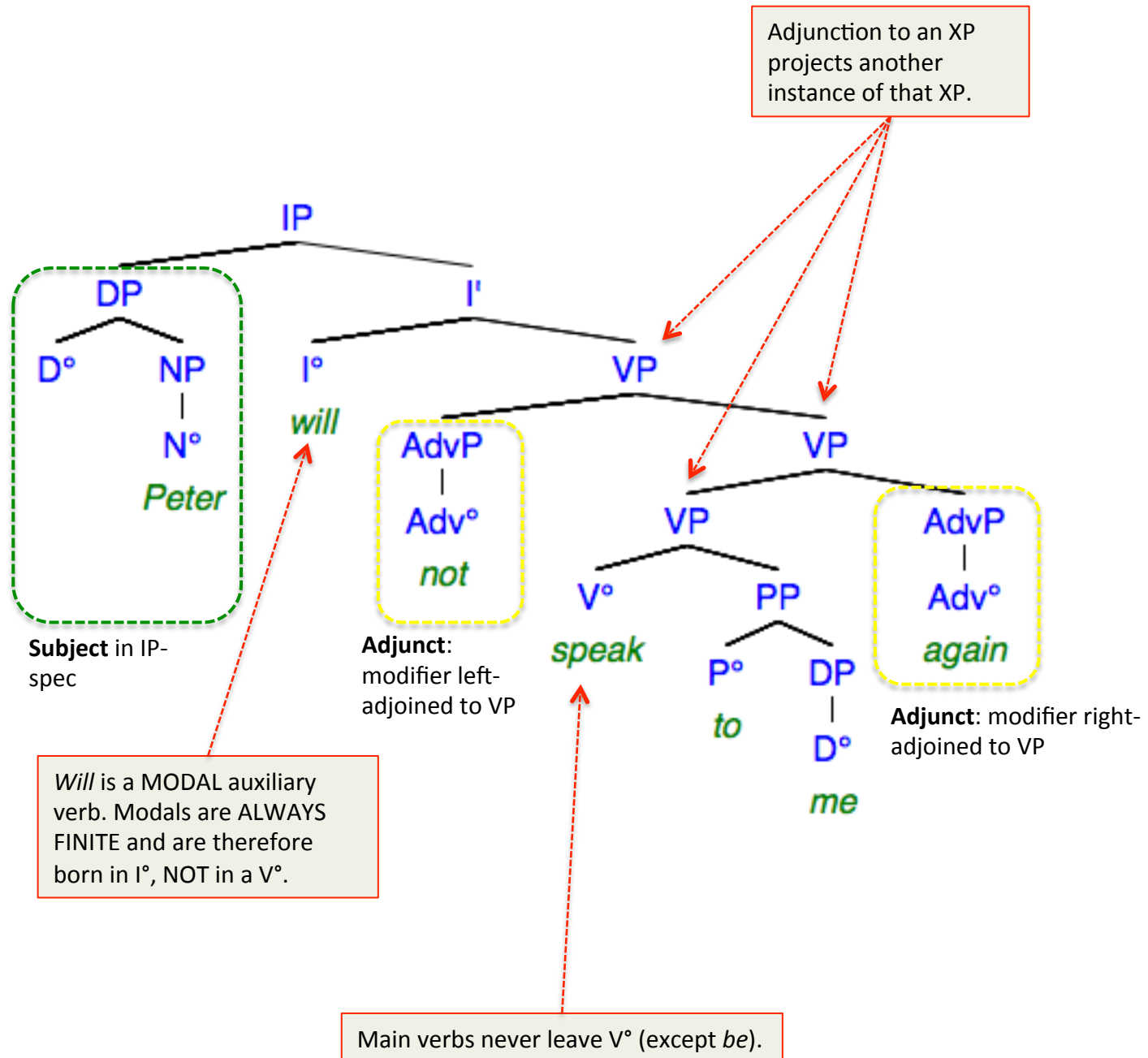
(2b) *Aeroplanes flew over the city – flying in around in circles right above the skyscrapers.*



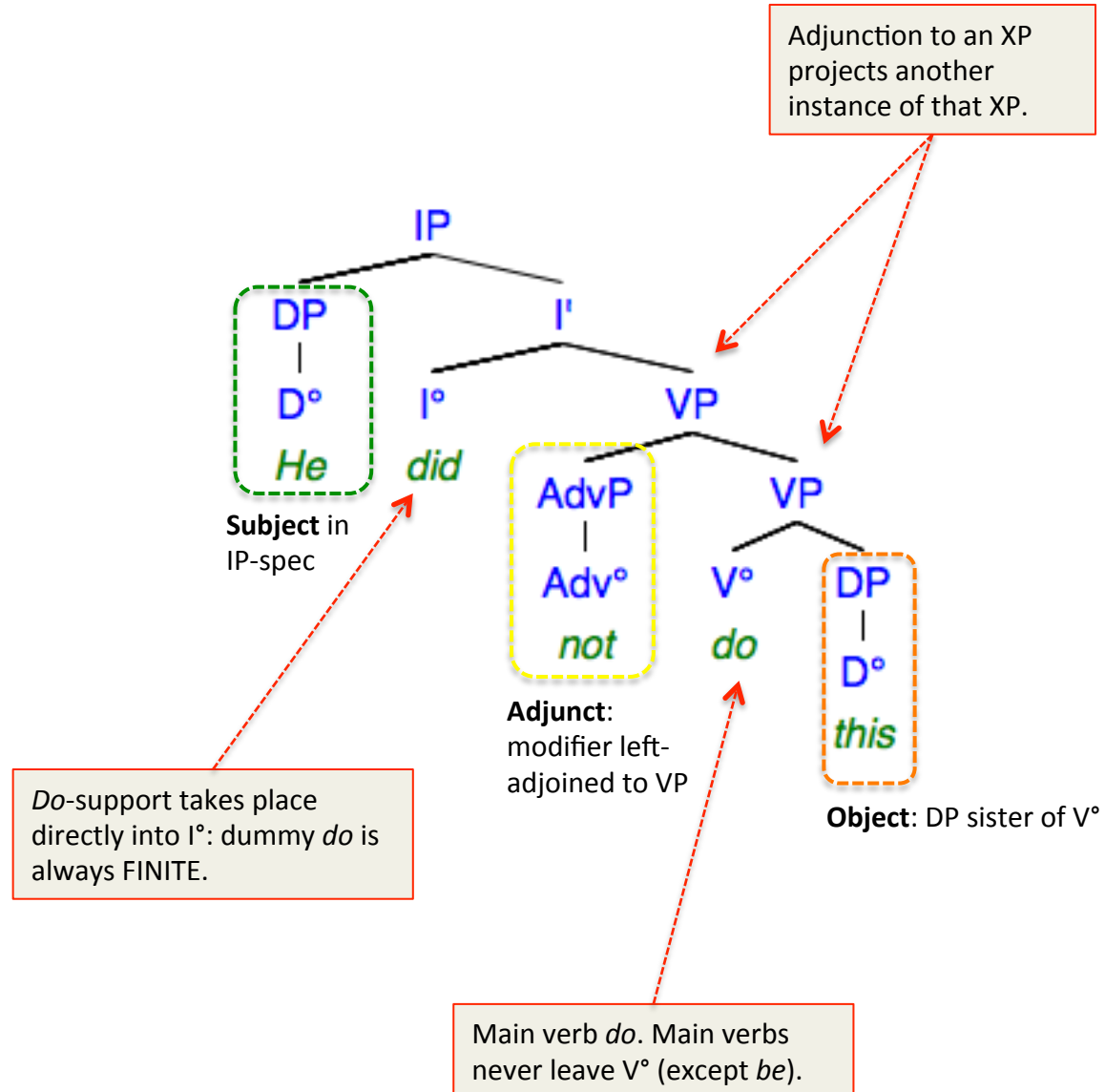
(3)



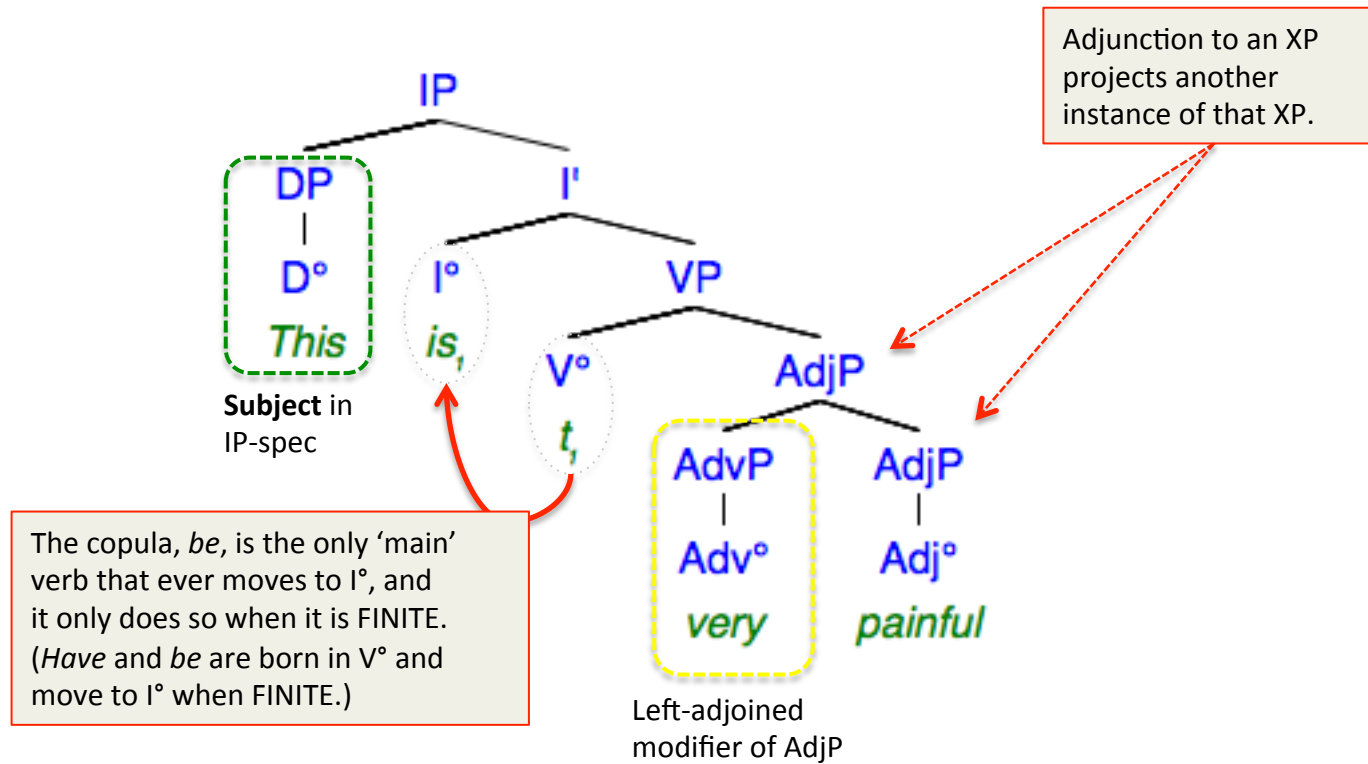
(4)



(5)

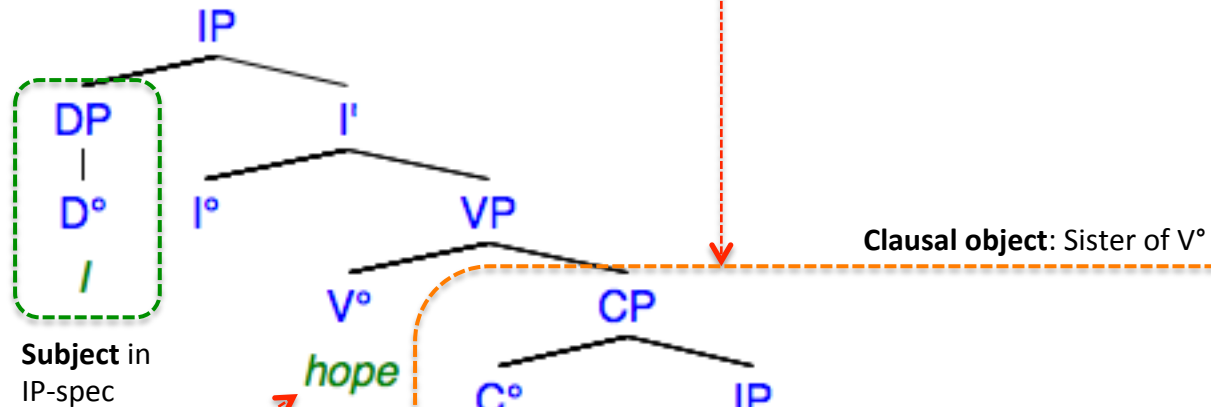


(6)



(7)

Embedded FINITE declarative clause: a CP headed by an empty C° (a silent version of *that*).



Main verbs never leave V° (except *be*).

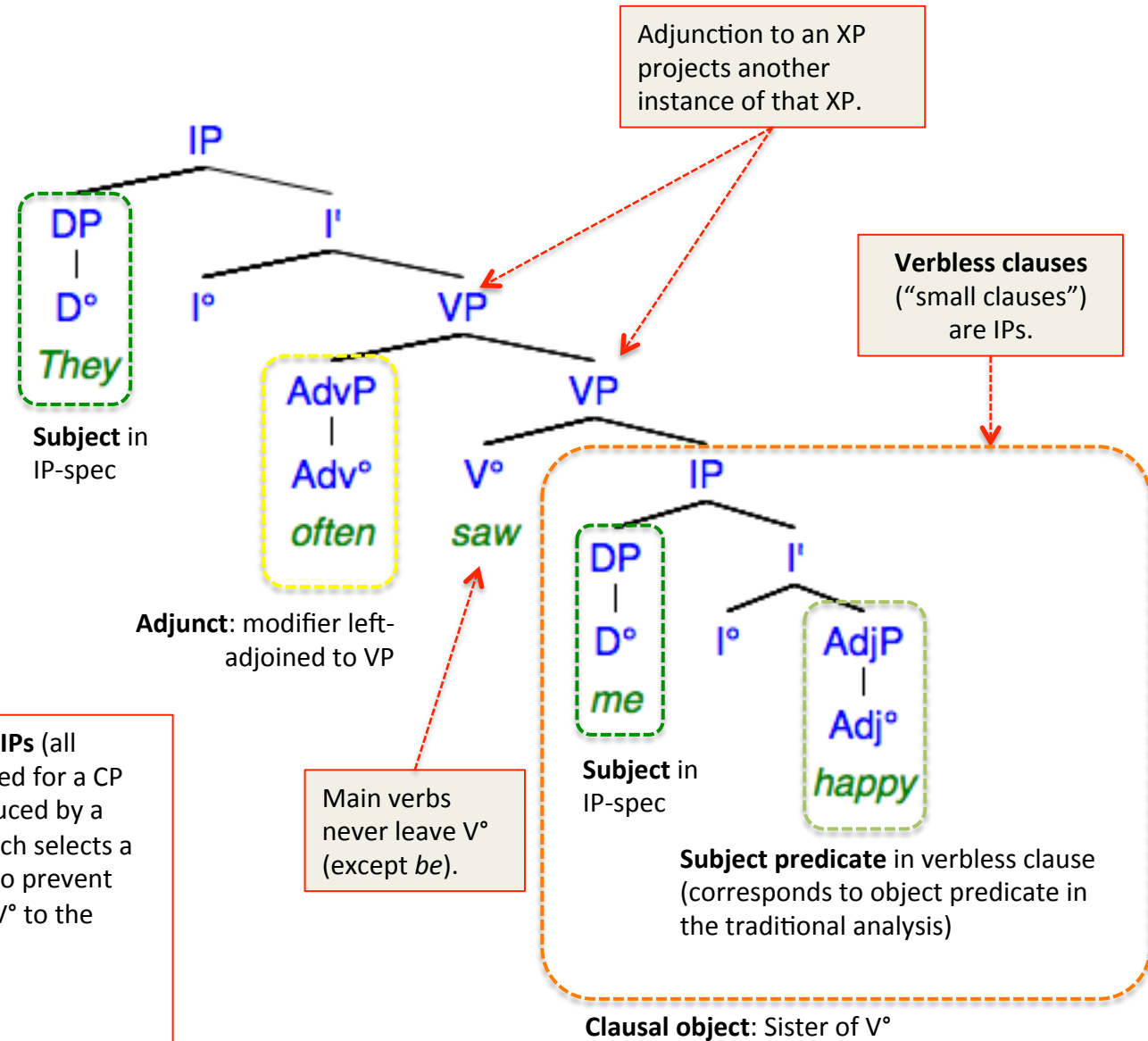
FINITE embedded clauses are **CPs**. When the embedded finite clause is in the object position (as the sister of V°), the **complementizer, C°**, can be realised either as *that* or as nothing.

I hope that you can read.
I hope you can read.

Can is a MODAL auxiliary verb. Modals are ALWAYS FINITE and are therefore born in I°, NOT in a V°.

Main verbs never leave V° (except *be*).

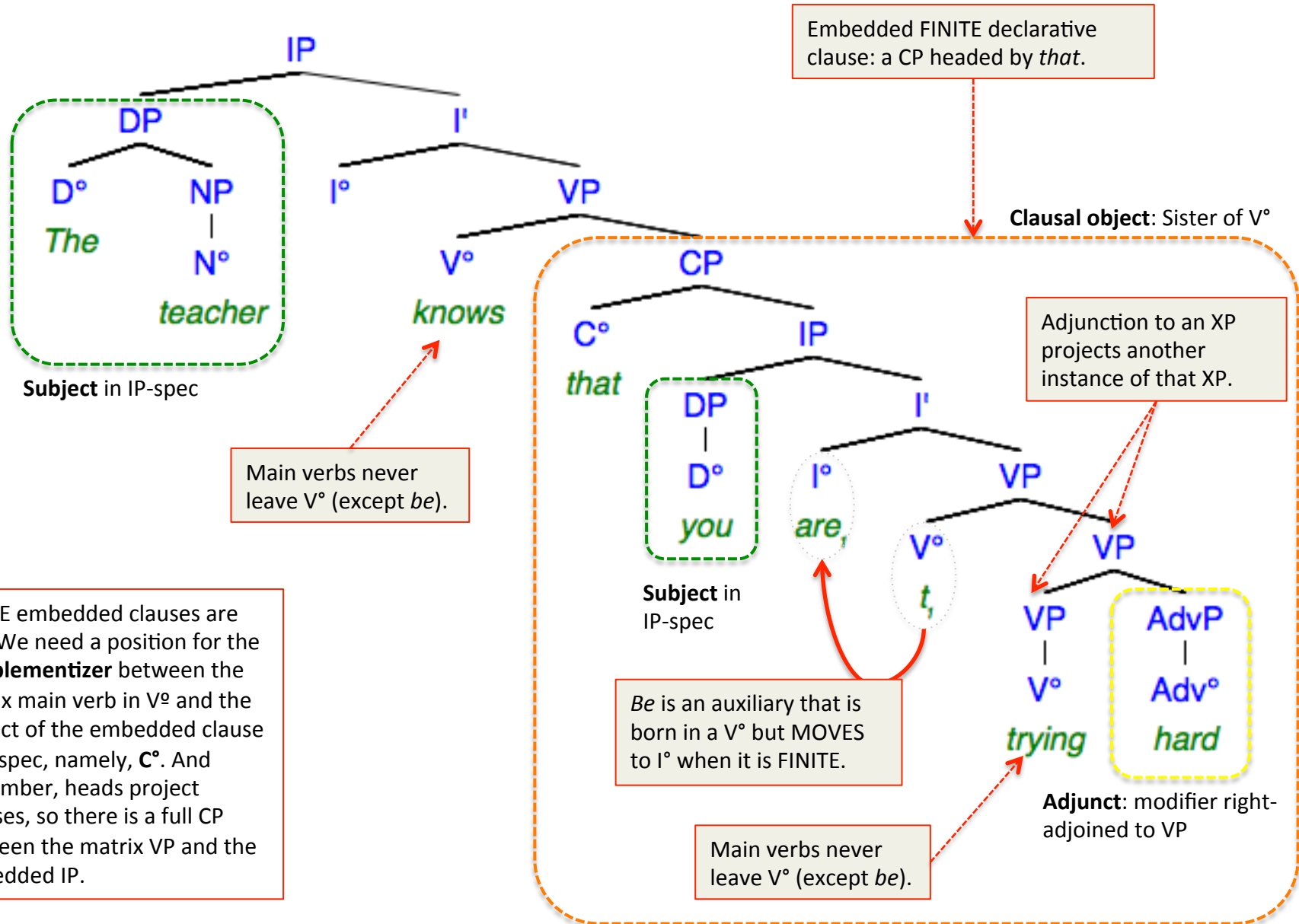
(8)



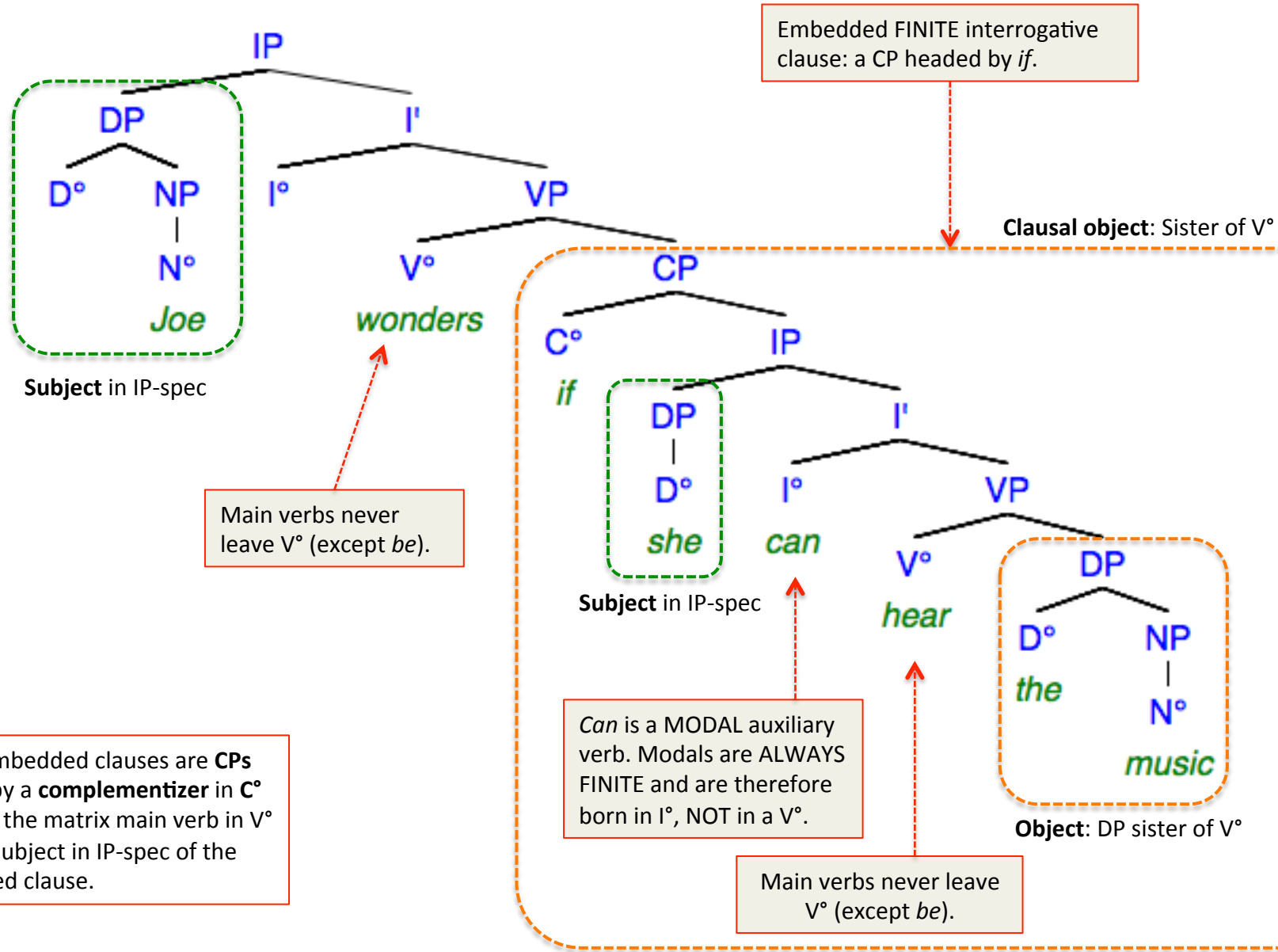
Verbless clauses ("small clauses") are IPs (all clauses are at least IPs). There is no need for a CP layer as small clauses are never introduced by a complementizer – not even by *for*, which selects a non-finite clause. (A CP-level would also prevent exceptional case marking (ECM) from V° to the embedded subject):

- *They often saw **that** me happy.
- *They often saw **for** me happy.
- They often saw me happy.

(9)

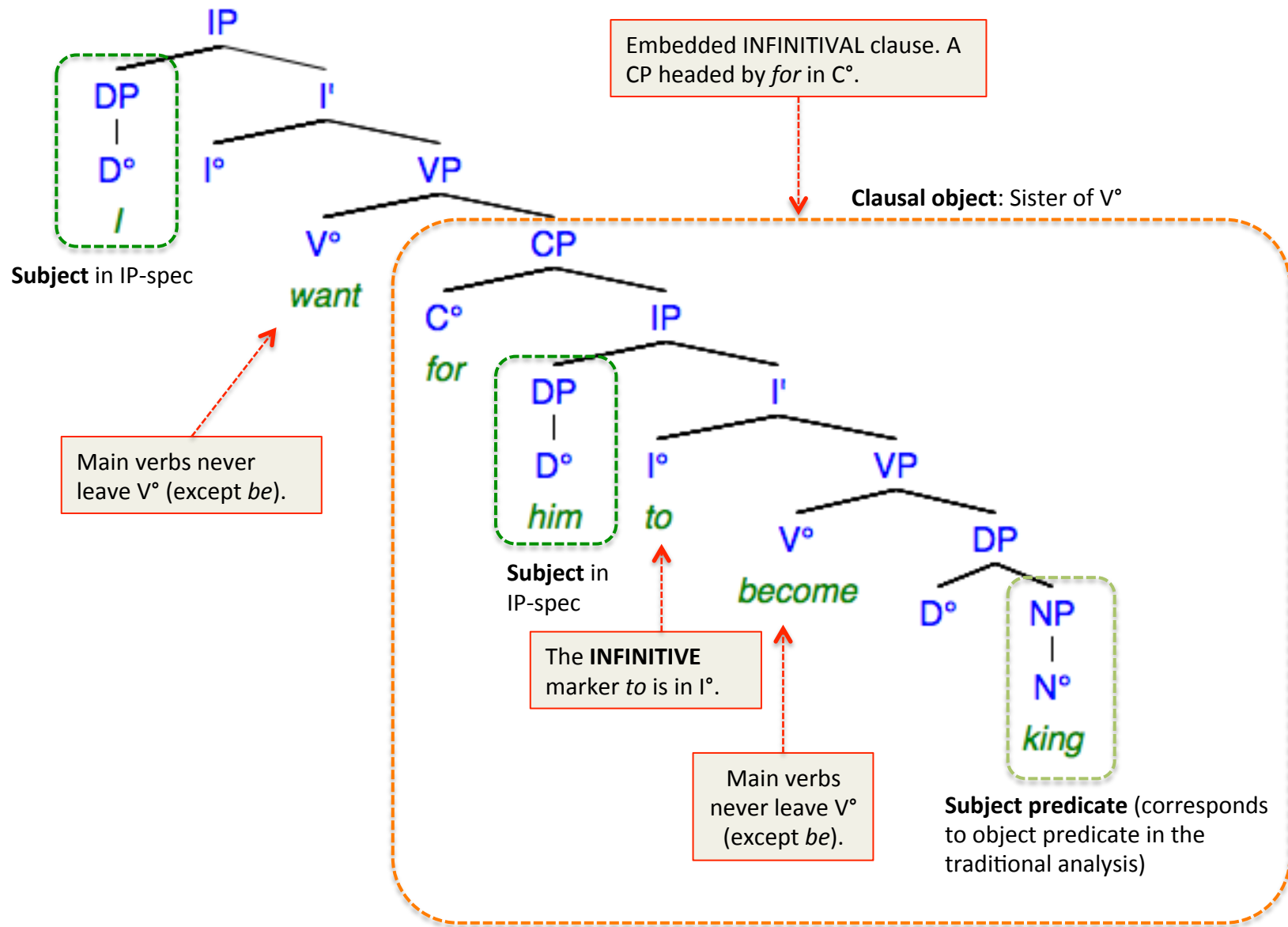


(10)



FINITE embedded clauses are **CPs** headed by a **complementizer** in **C°** between the matrix main verb in V° and the subject in IP-spec of the embedded clause.

(11)



(12)

