Do-support as spellout of split head chains

Karlos Arregi & Asia Pietraszko

karlos@uchicago.edu, joanna.pietraszko@uconn.edu



Analysis: do is inserted in split head chains

Heads in the clausal spine form a head chain

 $(1) \qquad [_{CP} \ C \ [_{TP} \ T \ [_{vP} \ v \ [_{VP} \ V \dots]$ (C is part of the head chain in V2 sentences)

A head chain is pronounced as **an inflected verb** in one of the positions (v in English, T in French, etc.) (The precise mechanism of head chain formation is orthogonal. Possibilities include agreement, Head Movement/Lowering, or a mirror-theoretic complementation line.)

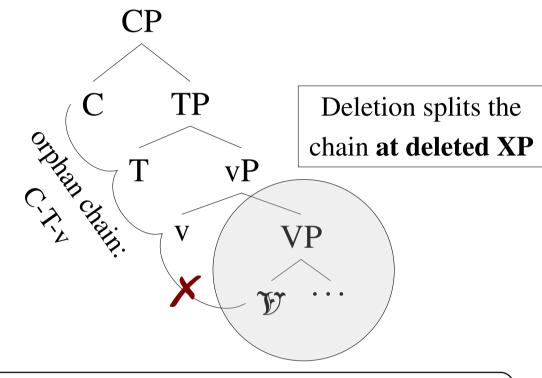
Parameter: Some languages require integrity of head chains

Proposal: In languages with special integrity conditions, head chains are built around a special V: \mathbb{Y}.

Disrupting the integrity of a \mathcal{V} -chain causes do-support

Standard view: *Do*-support is due to **blocking** of head chain formation. Our proposal: Head chains are fully formed but later split.

(2) **Split-by-deletion**

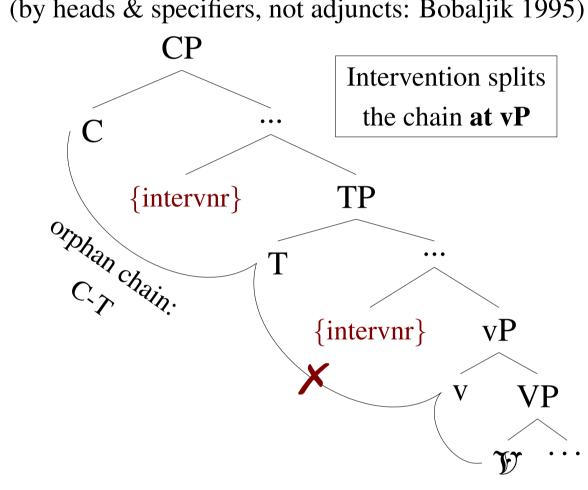


Orphan chain A head chain that becomes dissociated

from a lexical verb due to splitting

Split-by-intervention

(by heads & specifiers, not adjuncts: Bobaljik 1995)



Do is inserted in orphan chain and surfaces where the lexical verb would

Claims

- Do-support is not triggered by failure of some operation such as Head Movement or Lowering.
- Do-support is not triggered by idiosyncratic requirements of particular heads.

- Do-support is triggered by special integrity conditions on certain head chains.
- Variation in the surface position of do follows form independent parameters on verb position.

Do-support is not triggered by failure of Head Movement or Lowering

The traditional view

Chomsky 1957, Lasnik 1981, Halle & Marantz 1993, Bobaljik 1995, Embick & Noyer 2001:

- Do is inserted in stranded heads (typically T) as a Last Resort.
- A head is stranded if it's affixal yet cannot combine with V (via Head Movement or Lowering). WRONG PREDICTION: a language with V-to-T movement should not have do-support.

Monnese has both V-to-T movement and do-support (Benincà & Poletto 2004, Bjorkman 2011)

Both auxiliaries and lexical verbs move to T and precede adverbs:

- $(4) \quad 1 \quad \mathbf{\hat{a}}$ semper tsakolà he have.3sG always spoken
- semper he speak.3sG always 'He always speaks.'

 $[\text{TP T+have always} [\text{AuxP } < \text{have} > \dots]]$

[TP T+speak always [VP < speak> ...]]

 \rightarrow The affixal requirement of T is always satisfied by V-to-T.

In further T-to-C movement, do-support emerges:

Monnese has T-to-C

tſerkà which have.2sG -you searched out 'What have you chosen?'

T-to-C with lexical V triggers do-support majá? what do.2sG -you eat.INF

[CP C+T+have [TP subject < T+have]]

[CP C+**T+do** [TP subject $\langle T+? \rangle$...]]

⇒ A countercyclic effect: V-to-T seems to be precluded by T-to-C

'What do you eat?'

Monnese do-support arises due to Split-by-intervention

T-to-C: Split-by-intervention

Intervention splits the chain at vP

• CORRECT PREDICTION: The lexical verb is

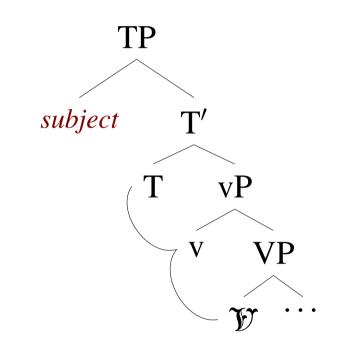
• The orphan chain is pronounced in C as do.

pronounced low, despite the normal V-to-T. tsàkola mia.

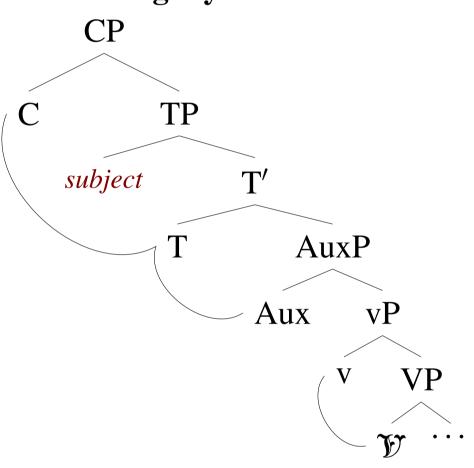
he speak.3sg not 'He doesn't speak'

mia majal '1 pom? do.2sG -you not eat.INF the apple 'Do you not eat the apple?'

(11) V-to-T: no intervention



(12) Aux: no integrity constraints



 \Rightarrow V-to-T movement does *not* preclude *do*-support (See also Bjorkman 2011)

Do-support is not triggered by idiosyncratic requirements of particular heads: Do can surface in C, T, v or in multiple positions, in a predictable way

Mainland Scandinavian (MSc): Do in C or v

Surface position of do follows from independent parameters determining surface position of verbs

Finite verb positions:

Verb position in V2 Verb position in non-V2

- (14) Om morgenen drikker Peter ofte kafe. in the morning drinks Peter often coffee 'Peter often drinks coffee in the morning.'
- Vi ved at Peter ofte drikker kaffe om morgenen. we know that Peter often drinks coffee in the morning 'We know that Peter often drinks coffee in the morning.'

(Danish examples; see den Besten 1983, Taraldsen 1985, Holmberg & Platzack 1995, Vikner 1995)

Do surfaces in those same positions under VP ellipsis & Split-by-deletion:

(16)VPE splits Do in V2 chain at VP Do in non-V2

- (17) Mona or Jasper washed the car, or rather ...
 - ... Mona **gjorde** Δ_{VP} Mona **did**
- '... Mona did.' (18) We are expected to go further. That said, it would be a great
 - disappointment, not a catastrophe, hvis vi ikke **gør** Δ_{VP}
 - if we not **do** "... if we don't."

(Danish examples; see Sailor 2009, 2018, Houser et al. 2011, Platzack 2012, Thoms 2012, Bentzen et al. 2013)

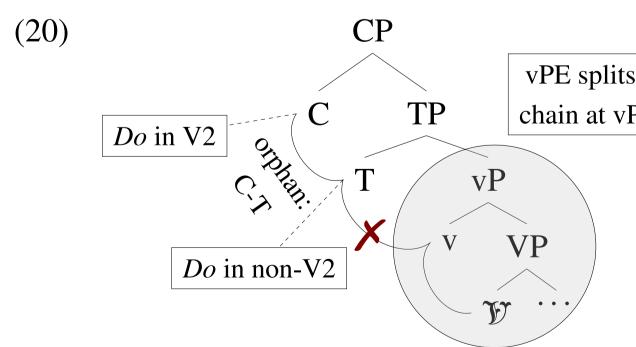
English: Do in C or T

Surface position of do follows from site of split

Verb typically surfaces in v:

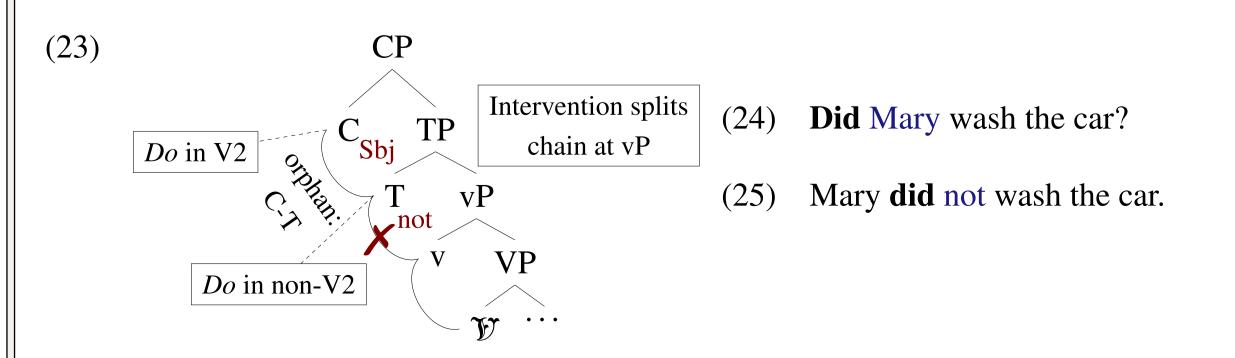
(19) Mary often **drinks** coffee.

With vP ellipsis & Split-by-deletion, do surfaces in C or T, since v is not in orphan chain:



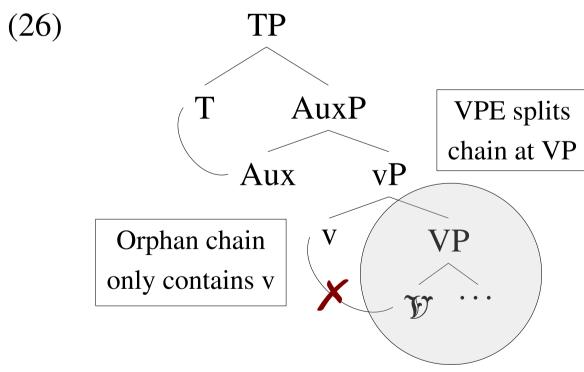
- (21) Sue washed the car. **Did** Mary $\Delta_{\nu P}$?
- (22) Sue washed the car, but Mary **did** not Δ_{vP}

With **Split-by-intervention**, *do* also surfaces in C or T:



VP ellipsis under auxiliaries: Do in v

VPE can result in *do* under auxiliaries:



MSc (Danish example):

I'm not looking for a new partner. Men hvis jeg havde **gjort** Δ_{VP} , ... but if I had done 'But if I had been ...

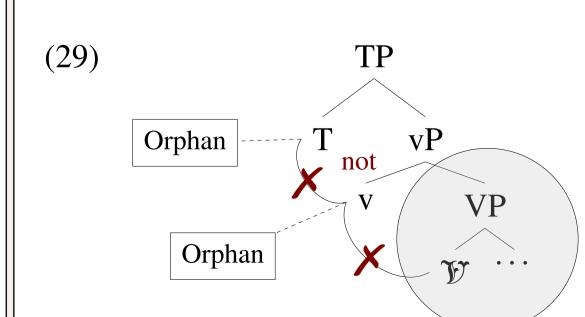
British English (BrE):

(28) Kim isn't running for office now, but she has **done** Δ_{VP} in the past.

(BrE do: Chalcraft 2006, Haddican 2007, Aelbrecht 2010, Baltin 2012, Thoms 2011, Thoms & Sailor 2018)

Do in both T and v in the same sentence

Double do in BrE (Chalcraft 2006): Split-by-deletion plus Split-by-intervention.



2 orphan chains \rightarrow 2 instances of do-support:

(30) John said he would help, but he **does**n't usually **do** Δ_{VP} .