# Wholesale Late Merger in A'-movement: evidence from preposition stranding

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#### **Abstract**

To account for several asymmetries between A- and A'-movement, Takahashi & Hulsey (2009) generalize the late merge option (Lebeaux 1988, Chomsky 1995) as *Wholesale Late Merger* (WLM). In particular, allowing NP to merge with a head D as late as (but no later than) its case position explains why A'- but not A-movement displays Principle C reconstruction effects. This paper claims that WLM is also responsible for pervasive asymmetries within the class of A'-extractions. The evidence comes from restrictions on English preposition stranding. I document a correlation between a preposition's complementation properties and its ability to be stranded: prepositions that disallow pronominal complements can only be stranded by a subset of A'-extractions. I argue that the extractions allowing pronoun-rejecting prepositions to be stranded disallow WLM, while those that disallow the stranding allow (and require) WLM.

June 2014

#### 1 Introduction

It is well-known that A- and A'-movement differ according to the reconstruction properties that they exhibit. For example, while both types of movement allow reconstructed bound variable readings, Principle C reconstruction effects are usually obligatory for A'-movement but absent in A-movement<sup>1</sup>. As noted by many authors (e.g. Sauerland 1998, Fox 1999), this pattern poses a challenge for existing theories of movement: while it appears that A'-movement must leave behind a contentful copy, A-movement can act as if it leaves behind a contentless trace.

Takahashi (2006) and Takahashi & Hulsey (2009) argue that this asymmetry arises as a consequence of the possibility for limited countercyclic Merge, known as *Late Merge* (Lebeaux 1988, Chomsky 1993). Building on work by Fox (2002), they propose that late merge is possible whenever an output representation can be interpreted by the semantics (as is the case for the latemerged relative clauses posited by Lebeaux and Chomsky). It is therefore possible for NPs to merge countercyclically to their head Ds, as the result is semantically interpretable (see T&H 2009 for details). They name this optional operation *Wholesale Late Merger*, or WLM.

An additional proposal, that WLM is constrained by the Case Filter (applying to NP as well as DP), explains the differences in A vs. A' reconstruction properties. Since A-movement is movement to a case position, an NP can merge with its head D in the derived position, and bleed Principle C. Because A'-movement is generally movement to a non-case position, this option is not available. In short, independent differences between A- and A'-movement control the applicability of WLM, which in turn leads to distinct patterns of reconstruction effects.

Since WLM offers a principled reason for the reconstruction contrast between A- and A'-movement, it can be seen as an independent argument for the somewhat controversial proposal that Late Merge is possible in the first place (cf. Chomsky 2004). The present paper strengthens this argument by offering an independent set of arguments for WLM itself (see also Bhatt & Pancheva 2004, 2007; Nikolaeva 2014). I argue that WLM not only explains the well-known contrasts between A- and A'-extractions investigated by Takahashi (2006) and Takahashi & Hulsey (2009), but is also responsible for lesser-known but pervasive differences *within* the class of A'-extractions: in particular, a set of asymmetries in English preposition stranding (P-stranding). In §2, I document a correlation between two seemingly independent facts about prepositions (Ps): their ability to take a pronominal complement, and their ability to be stranded (see Postal 1998 for closely related work focusing on similar constraints on movement out of

other antipronominal contexts). A preposition that cannot take a pronominal complement, like temporal *in* (1), allows us to distinguish two types of A'-extraction: those allowing a pronoun-rejecting preposition to be stranded (e.g. *wh*-movement, restrictive relatives; 2a,b), and those forbidding a pronoun-rejecting preposition from being stranded (e.g. topicalization, *tough*-movement; 2c,d).

## (1) Temporal *in* is pronoun-rejecting

- a. \*I went swimming in December, and John went swimming in it, too.
- b. \*I will be arriving in five days, and John will be arriving in them, too.

# (2) Stranding temporal *in*: severely restricted<sup>2</sup>

a. Which month did John go swimming in? (wh-movement)

b. The month that John went swimming in was very cold. (rest. relative)

c. \*December, John went swimming in. (topicalization)

d. \*December is tough to swim in. (tough-movement)

By contrast, a preposition that takes a pronominal complement, like locative *in* (3), can be stranded by any type of A'-extraction (4).

### (3) Locative *in* is pronoun-accepting

- a. Michelle's cat hid in the cardboard box, and my cat hid in it too.
- b. I stored my cereal in the pantry, and Chris stored his cereal in it too.

# (4) Stranding locative *in*: no restrictions

a. Which box did Michelle's cat hide in? (wh-movement)

b. The box that Michelle's cat hid in was made of cardboard. (rest. relative)

c. That cardboard box, Michelle's cat hid in. (topicalization)

d. Cardboard boxes are easy for cats to hide in. (tough-movement)

I propose that these two types of A'-extraction differ according to whether or not WLM applies. An extraction like *wh*-movement, which can strand a pronoun-rejecting P, leaves behind

a fully constructed copy. An extraction like topicalization, which cannot strand a pronoun-rejecting P, leaves behind only a determiner; the rest of the DP merges after movement. In §7, I attribute these differences to interactions among the Case Filter, a violable constraint favoring WLM, and restrictions on the timing of countercyclic merger (see also Sauerland 1998: 2.2).

Assuming that pronouns are bare determiners (e.g. Postal 1966, Abney 1987), I argue that the link between a preposition's ability to take a pronominal complement and its ability to be stranded is structural. I propose that a pronoun-rejecting preposition requires its complement to contain a certain kind of DP: temporal *in*, for example, requires its complement DP to contain an NP denoting an interval of time (§3). Because a pronominal DP do not contain an NP, it is an unacceptable complement for a preposition like temporal *in*. The base position of extractions like topicalization likewise lacks an NP, explaining the inability of these extractions to strand pronoun-rejecting prepositions.

I provide further support for the proposed analysis by showing that it correctly predicts contrasts not only among extractions, but also contrasts internal to individual extractions. For example, P-stranding with *wh*-pronouns, but not full *wh*-phrases, is sensitive to whether or not a given preposition is pronoun-rejecting (§8). Contrasts of this kind show that the (in)ability to strand pronoun-rejecting prepositions should not be linked to intrinsic properties of individual extractions (cf. Postal 1998): all that matters is the structural configuration of the gap site.

#### 2 P-stranding asymmetries

This section focuses on P-stranding asymmetries in temporal (§2.1) and locative (§2.2) PPs. I show that if a given preposition cannot accept a pronoun as its complement, it can be stranded by only a subset of A'-extractions (see Postal 1998 for similar phenomena).

#### 2.1 Temporals

It is possible to divide temporal DPs into two classes. There are *interval* DPs, referring to points or spans in time (e.g. *Monday*, *the last five hours*). There are also *event* DPs, referring to events that occupy certain portions of time (e.g. *John's party*, *Sue's talk*). A basic difference between these two types of temporal DPs is that while an interval DP is defined by their location and extent along a timeline, an event DP is defined by other properties. Some further examples of intervals and events are in (5).

#### (5) Interval vs. event DPs

- a. *Intervals*: Monday, 5:00, Christmas, Chris's youth, Mary's birthday...
- b. Events: John's party, Sue's talk, Mary's progress meeting, Christmas dinner...

In temporal PPs, interval and event DPs differ in a fundamental way: an event but not an interval complement to P can be pronominalized with it (6, 7).

# (6) Event DP complements: 'it

- a. I left after John's party and Mary left after it, too.
- b. I left before Christmas dinner and John left before it, too.

# (7) Interval DP complements: \*it<sup>3</sup>

- a. \*I left after 5:00 and Mary left after it, too.
- b. \*My family eats lamb on Easter, and John's family eats lamb on it, too<sup>4</sup>.

An appealing but ultimately flawed analysis of (6, 7) could claim that an interval DP, unlike an event DP, has some property that renders it unable to be pronominalized. If this were the case, the split between the event and interval complements to P in (6, 7) would not be surprising: if an interval complement cannot be pronominalized in general, then its behavior in a PP does not require an independent explanation. Note however that *June*, an interval, can be pronominalized as a subject (8a) or as the complement of *spend* (8b)<sup>5</sup>, but not the complement of *in* (8c).

#### (8) Interval DPs can be pronominalized

- a. I spent June at the pool. It is my favorite month.
- b. I spent June at the pool, but John spent it in his office.
- c. \*John visited his family in June, and Mary visited her family in it, too.

The contrast between (8a, b) and (8c) shows that the potential for a given DP to be pronominalized is, at least in part, dependent on the head that selects for it. An interval can be pronominalized as the complement to *spend*, for example, because *spend* accepts a pronominal

complement. An interval cannot be pronominalized as the complement to temporal in because temporal in does not accept a pronominal complement<sup>6</sup>.

The pronominalization contrasts in (6, 7), then, do not point to a difference between event and interval DPs per se, but rather a difference between the prepositions that select for them. A preposition selecting for an event DP is a *pronoun-accepting* preposition (a  $P_A$ ): it can accept either a pronoun or a lexical noun as its complement. A preposition selecting for an interval DP, by contrast, is a *pronoun-rejecting* preposition (a  $P_R$ ): it accepts a lexical noun, but not a pronoun, as its complement. Examples of pronoun-accepting and pronoun-rejecting temporal Ps are given in (9). Note that many prepositions in English, like *before* and *after* in (9), have both  $P_A$  and  $P_R$  uses.

# (9) Pronoun-accepting Ps (P<sub>A</sub>s) vs. pronoun-rejecting temporal Ps (P<sub>R</sub>s)

P <sub>A</sub> s	$P_{R}s$
during (e.g. during the movie)	on (e.g. on Christmas)
after (e.g. after John's talk)	in (e.g. in three hours)
before (e.g. before Sue's party)	after (e.g. after 5:00)

P<sub>AS</sub> are the group of prepositions that can be stranded under any type of A'-extraction; representative examples with the P<sub>AS</sub> before (10) and after (11) follow.

# (10) Stranding before (P<sub>A</sub>)

a. Which act does our band play before? (wh-movement)

b. The act we're playing before will be really good. (restrictive relative)

c. That band's set, we're playing before. (topicalization)

d. That band's set will be tough to leave before. (tough-movement)

#### (11) Stranding after (P<sub>A</sub>)

a. Which talk are we leaving after? (wh-movement)

b. The talk we're leaving after should be really good. (restrictive relative)

c. John's talk, we're leaving after. (topicalization)

d. John's talk will be easy to leave after. (tough-movement)

 $P_Rs$  are the group of prepositions that can be stranded in only a subset of these extractions. I illustrate with the  $P_Rs$  on (12) and in (13).

(12) Stranding on (P<sub>R</sub>): severely constrained<sup>7</sup>

a. Which holiday do people eat lamb on? (wh-movement)

b. The holiday that most people eat lamb on is Easter. (restrictive relative)

c. \*Easter, we ate lamb on. (topicalization)

d. \*Easter is easy to eat lamb on. (tough-movement)

(13) Stranding in (a P<sub>R</sub>): severely constrained

a. Which month do people usually swim in? (wh-movement)

b. The month that most people swim in is June. (restrictive relative)

c. \*June, we swam in. (topicalization)

d. \*June is easy to swim in. (tough-movement)

The contrasts in (10, 11) vs. (12, 13) document a correlation between the ability of a given preposition P to take a pronominal complement, and the ability of that P to be stranded. Some A'-extractions allow a P<sub>R</sub> to be stranded, but others do not. Following Postal (1998)'s divisions among extractions, based on observations of other antipronominal contexts<sup>8</sup>, I refer to an extraction allowing a P<sub>R</sub> to be stranded as an *A-type extraction* (not to be confused with A-movement). An extraction forbidding a P<sub>R</sub> from being stranded is a *B-type extraction*. The full partition is given in (14), and examples are provided in (15-16). Throughout the rest of the paper, I use *wh*-movement and restrictive relatives as representative examples of A-types, and topicalization and *tough*-movement as examples of B-types.

(14) Partition of extractions

A-type extractions	B-type extractions	
(stranding P is always okay)	(if P is a P <sub>R</sub> , don't strand it)	
wh-movement	appositive relatives	
restrictive relatives	negative inversion	
infinitival relatives	topicalization	
free relatives	parasitic gap formation	
	tough-movement	
	gapped degree phrases	

		tough-movement
		gapped degree phrases
PA	after (We left after the a	afternoon session, and John left after it too
a.	wh-movement	(A)
	Which session did you le	eave after?
b.	restrictive relative	(A)
	The session that we left	after was very boring.
c.	infinitival relative	(A)
	I hear that the session to	leave after is the afternoon one.
d.	free relative	(A)
	Whatever session we lef	after was very boring.
e.	appositive relative	(B)
	The afternoon session, w	hich we left after, was very boring.
f.	topicalization	(B)
	The afternoon session, w	re decided to leave after.
g.	parasitic gaps	(B)
	Which session did you th	nink was boring without leaving after?
h.	tough-movement	(B)
	The afternoon session w	ill be tough to leave after.
i.	gapped degree phrase	(B)

The afternoon session will hopefully be too interesting to leave after.

(16)	P <sub>R</sub> : on (*I go to class on Mondays, and Audrey goes to class on them			
	a.	wh-movement	(A)	
		Which days do you go to	class on?	
	b.	restrictive relative	(A)	
		The days that I go to class	ss on are Mondays and Wednesdays.	
	c.	infinitival relative	(A)	
		The best days to go to cl	ass on are Tuesdays.	
	d.	free relative	(A)	
		Whatever days you went	to class on, you weren't at school for very long.	
	e.	appositive relative	(B)	
		*Mondays, which Audre	y goes to class on, are always cold.	
	f.	topicalization	(B)	
		*Mondays, Audrey always goes to class on.		
	g.	negative inversion	(B)	
		*Not a single weekday d	o I ever go to class on.	
	h.	tough-movement	(B)	
		*Mondays are tough to g	go to class on.	
	i.	gapped degree phrase	(B)	
		*Mondays are too cold to	o go to class on.	

The partition in (14) makes explicit an implicational generalization. A  $P_A$  can be stranded under A-type and B-type extractions, but a  $P_R$  can only be stranded under A-types. Therefore any P that can be stranded under a B-type extraction must also be able to be stranded under all A-type extractions, but not vice versa:

# (17) Generalizing over extractions

If a given preposition P can be stranded by a B-type extraction, that P can also be stranded by all A-type extractions.

A counterexample to the generalization in (17) would be a preposition that could be stranded by a B-type extraction (e.g. topicalization) but not an A-type extraction (e.g. *wh*-movement). To the best of my knowledge, such a preposition does not exist.

#### 2.2 Locatives

Similar to temporal DPs, we can divide locative DPs into two classes. There are *location* DPs, which refer to points or regions of space (e.g. *the second balcony, the fourth floor*). There are also *entity* DPs, referring to physical entities that occupy certain portions of space (e.g. *the box, the car*). Like the difference between an interval and an event (temporal) DP, the difference between a location and an entity (locative) DPs is semantic. A location DP like *the fourth floor* is defined by its spatial coordinates, while an entity DP like *the box* are defined by other properties. Further examples of location and entity DPs follow (18).

#### (18) Location vs. entity DPs

- a. Locations: the ground floor, the fourth floor, 10,000 feet, the sky...
- b. *Entities*: the box, the car, the forest, the hut, the television, the car...

The distinction between an entity and a location DP is seen clearly in locative PPs. A prepositions that selects for an entity complement is pronoun-accepting (19), while a preposition selecting a location complement is pronoun-rejecting (20).

# (19) Entity DP complement > 'it

- a. I ate dinner on the wooden table and John ate dinner on it, too.
- b. I climbed to the summit of the mountain and John climbed to it, too.

# (20) Location DP complement $> *it^9$

- a. \*I ate dinner on the fourth floor and John ate dinner on it, too.
- b. \*My airplane climbed to 10,000 feet and John's airplane climbed to them, too.

Note that the sentences in (20) are only ungrammatical under the location readings of *the* fourth floor and 10,000 feet. (20a) is grammatical if John ate dinner on the surface of some floor,

which happens to be fourth in some series of floors; (20b) is grammatical if 10,000 feet is a visible destination that can be climbed to, like the top of a mountain. In other words, (20a-b) are grammatical if the DP is treated as an entity. This is consistent with the generalization that an entity DP can be pronominalized as P's complement, but a location DP cannot be.

The stranding facts parallel the observations concerning temporals in  $\S 2.1$ . A preposition selecting for an entity DP can be stranded under any type of A'-extraction; examples are given with in (21) and on (22), in their  $P_A$  uses.

# (21) Stranding in (a P<sub>A</sub>)

a.	Which box was the	e cat hiding in?	(A)
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b. The box that the cat was hiding in is brown. (A)

c. Michelle's box, the cat likes to hide in. (B)

d. Michelle's box is easy for the cat to hide in. (B)

# (22) Stranding on (a P<sub>A</sub>)

<b>(</b>
1)

b. The table that Colleen danced on is gone now. (A)

c. The coffee table, Colleen danced on last night. (B)

d. The coffee table was tough to dance on. (B)

A preposition selecting for a location DP, however, can only be stranded under A-type extractions. I illustrate with to (23) and on (24), in their  $P_R$  uses.

# (23) Stranding to (a $P_R$ ; \* = lack of a location reading)

a.	What height did the plane fly to?	(A)
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b. The height that the plane flew to was 10,000 feet. (A)

c. \*10,000 feet, the plane flew to. (B)

d. \*10,000 feet is tough to fly to. (B)

(24) Stranding on (a  $P_R$ ; \* = lack of a location reading)

- a. Which floor did we find cake on? (A)
- b. The floor that we found cake on was deserted. (A)
- c. \*The fourth floor, we found cake on. (B)
- d. \*The fourth floor is easy to find cake on. (B)

Place names, a type of locative DP, are ambiguous between locations and entities. A place name like *Boston* can be interpreted in two ways: as an abstract set of coordinates, or as a physical entity, as Chomsky (1999: 42) notes: "if London is reduced to dust, it ... can be re-built elsewhere and still be the same city." We can say that London was reduced to dust because place names, in one sense, refer to a collection of entities that occupy specific points in space. We can also say that London can be rebuilt elsewhere because, in another sense, place names refer to a set of abstract coordinates, not dependent on their physical contents.

To the extent that a place name can be pronominalized as the complement of a preposition, the entity reading is preferred (25).

# (25) Pronominalizing place names

- a. I traveled to France, and John traveled to it too. (\*location, 'entity)
- b. I at lunch on the Charles River. John at lunch on it too. (\*location, 'entity)

The first conjunct in (25b) has a location reading under which I sat on the banks of the Charles River, near the water, and ate my lunch. This reading is absent in the second conjunct: the only licit interpretation here is one in which John sat on the surface of the Charles River and ate his lunch. In other words, the sentence is only licit if the Charles River is treated as an entity.

In (26), we see that the location reading of *on the Charles River* is preserved when *on* is stranded by A-type extractions (26a-b), but not by B-type extractions (26c-d).

(26) Place names and stranding (\* = lack of a location reading)

a. Which river in Boston did you eat lunch on? (A)

b. The river that we ate lunch on was the Charles. (A)

c. \*The Charles River, we ate lunch on. (B)

d. \*The Charles River is easy to eat lunch on. (B)

The lack of an available location reading in (24c,d) is consistent with the generalization that a preposition selecting a location DP cannot be stranded by B-types<sup>10</sup>.

#### 2.3 Summary

The previous two subsections demonstrate a link between two things: (1) whether or not a preposition P can accept a pronoun as its complement, and (2) whether or not that P can be stranded by B-type extractions. The relevant generalizations are as follows. If P is pronoun-accepting, then P can be stranded by both A-type and B-type extractions.

(27) If '[P pronoun], then 'A-type and 'B-type.

If P is pronoun-rejecting, P can be stranded under A-type extractions only.

(28) If \*[P pronoun], then 'A-type but \*B-type.

Although the empirical focus of this paper concerns temporal and locative PPs, the generalizations in (27-28) hold more widely. In (29), for example, instrumental *with* is a  $P_A$ , and can be stranded under both A-type and B-type extractions. In (30), by contrast, circumstantial *under* is a  $P_R$ , and can be stranded under A-type extractions only<sup>11</sup>.

(29) Anthony eats his oatmeal with (that spoon / it).

a. Which spoon does Anthony eat his oatmeal with? (A)

b. The spoon that Anthony eats his oatmeal with is large. (A)

c. That spoon in the sink, Anthony eats his oatmeal with. (B)

d. Large spoons are easy to eat oatmeal with. (B)

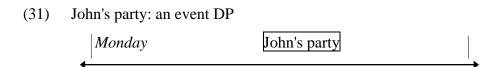
- (30) David will only celebrate under (a restricted set of circumstances / \*them).
  - a. What set of circumstances will David celebrate under? (A)
  - b. The set of circumstances that David celebrates under are unknown. (A)
  - c. \*That set of circumstances, David celebrates under. (B)
  - d. \*That set of circumstances is easy to celebrate under. (B)

The remainder of the paper seeks to explain why some prepositions are  $P_R$ s, and why this should have anything at all to do with their potential to be stranded.

# 3 On antipronominal contexts

In §2, we established that temporal and locative DP complements to P can be divided into two classes, according to their ability to be pronominalized with *it* (or *them*). As the complement to a temporal preposition, an event but not an interval DP can be pronominalized. As the complement to a locative preposition, an entity but not a location DP can be pronominalized.

Interval and location DPs – the types of DPs that cannot be pronominalized as P's complement – are *coordinate-denoting* DPs. A coordinate-denoting DP is a predicate ranging over either spatial or temporal dimensions; such a DP is defined by the amount of time or space that it occupies. Events and entities – the types of DPs that can be pronominalized as P's complement – are *concrete* DPs, in the sense that they are predicates ranging over entities that occupy certain portions of temporal or spatial dimensions. The particular type of space that a concrete DP occupies determines whether it is treated as a locative or a temporal, but it is defined by properties other than its spatial coordinates. The event DP *John's party*, in (31), illustrates: John's party takes up a portion of Monday, but its length does not define it.



Prepositions selecting for coordinate-denoting DPs are P<sub>R</sub>s. They can take lexical nouns, but not pronouns, as their complements. Prepositions that select for concrete DPs are P<sub>A</sub>s. They can take either pronouns or lexical nouns as their complements.

What does it mean, though, for a preposition to be pronoun-rejecting? What is the relevant difference between a pronoun and a coordinate-denoting DP, such that a preposition can discriminate between the two? One potentially relevant difference is that pronouns and lexical nouns are not members of the same syntactic category: pronouns are determiners that do not have an NP complement (Postal 1966, Abney 1987, also Uriagereka 1995), while lexical nouns are Ns. The first argument for this difference in category membership comes from the fact that pronouns and determiners are in complementary distribution (32a), but lexical nouns and determiners are not (32b, c).

- (32) Pronouns and determiners are in complementary distribution (Abney 1987: 281).
  - a. \*[The she that I talked to] was nice.
  - b. [The Mary that I talked to] was nice.
  - c. [The woman that I talked to] was nice.

The fact that determiners are in complementary distribution with pronouns (but not lexical nouns) suggests that pronouns (but not lexical nouns) have the same structural position as determiners. Further evidence for this comes from the fact that pronouns can act as overt determiners under certain circumstances, e.g. we religious ones (see Postal 1966<sup>12</sup>).

If the analysis of pronouns as determiners is on the right track, then a pronoun and a phrasal DPs are structurally distinct: a phrasal DP like *the box* contains an NP, but a pronoun like *it* does not. Returning to the properties of  $P_Rs$ , the basic proposal here is that a  $P_R$  is a preposition requiring its complement DP to contain something more than just a bare D. In essence, it appears that the complement of a  $P_R$  must contain an NP. But when we look more closely at the selectional restrictions of  $P_Rs$  like temporal *in* and *on*, it becomes clear that it isn't just any sort of NP that a  $P_R$  requires: it's a certain semantic type of NP. In the examples below, we see that temporal *in* (33) and *on* (34) require interval DP complements, and forbid event DP complements.

#### (33) Interval-selecting in

a. I'll be there in five hours. ('interval DP)

b. \*I'll be there in John's party. (\*event DP)

## (34) Interval-selecting 'on'

a. I'll be there on Monday. ('interval DP)

b. \*I'll be there on Sue's talk. (\*event DP)

The only situation in which (33b) and (34b) are marginally acceptable is one in which the speaker is using *John's party* and *Sue's talk* to denote units of time – in other words, if the DPs are treated as intervals. Thus we cannot simply say that a  $P_R$  is a preposition requiring its complement to contain an NP, because sentences like (33b) and (34b), where a temporal  $P_R$  takes an event complement, are ungrammatical.

Understanding why the complements of temporal  $P_Rs$  are restricted to intervals requires us to find a property of intervals that both events and pronouns lack. Following Kayne (2005a), I propose that an interval DP contains a nominal category abbreviated here as TIME. TIME can be either null (as in *December the 25th* (DAY)) or pronounced (as in *the MONTH of June, Avery's wedding DAY, etc.*), and this TIME element is what lends the DP its intervalic denotation. For evidence that TIME resides in N, consider the alternation in (35)<sup>13</sup>.

#### (35) TIME is a noun

- a. the twenty-fifth (DAY) of December
- b. December twenty-fifth (DAY)

In (35a), we see that the null DAY acts as a noun, as it has a determiner, an ordinal modifier, and a PP modifier. (35b) is derivationally related to (35a): *December* has moved into a position structurally higher than D and lost its preposition (perhaps because *December* is now in Spec, DP, and no longer needs the case assigned by *of*). Note that even though pronouncing the TIME element in (35b) is marginally acceptable at best, the presence of the ordinal modifier *twenty-fifth* strongly suggests that something occupies N.

We can say something similar for location DPs. Following Kayne (2005b), I propose that a location DP contains the noun PLACE. Like TIME, PLACE can be either null (as in *Boston (CITY)*) or overt (as in *the Charles RIVER, New York CITY*). PLACE lends a locative DP a location denotation by signifying that the DP occupies a span of coordinates along a spatial

plane. Some evidence that PLACE occupies N comes from the alternation in (36), structurally identical to the alternation in (35).

#### (36) PLACE as a noun

- a. the CITY of New York
- b. New York CITY<sup>14</sup>

Returning now to P-stranding, we can say that an interval-selecting temporal  $P_R$  is a preposition that requires its complement to contain TIME, and a location-selecting locative  $P_R$  is a preposition that requires its complement to contain PLACE. Presumably this is a semantic requirement, as there is no reason to believe that an interval DP that contains TIME is syntactically distinct from an event DP that does not. Though I will not develop an explicit proposal regarding the interpretation of these structures, note that the version of semantic selection I appeal to here requires that the selectional properties of a  $P_R$  be satisfied *at the time when its complement is merged*. This in turn lends support to models of the syntax-semantics interface in which a given structure is interpreted as it is built: more specifically, after each syntactic operation (see Epstein & Seely 2002, and references there).

In sum, we can now argue that a preposition requiring its complement to contain either TIME or PLACE is a *coordinate-selecting* P. When a coordinate-selecting P takes a pronominal complement, its need for a TIME or PLACE element is not met. This is because a pronominal DP does not contain an NP, and therefore cannot possibly contain TIME or PLACE<sup>15</sup>.

#### 4 Linking complementation and stranding

We can now re-characterize the link between complementation and stranding in light of the previous section. A temporal or locative  $P_R$ , whose semantics require its complement to contain TIME or PLACE, can be stranded only under A-type extractions. A temporal or locative  $P_A$ , which does not require its complement to contain TIME or PLACE, can be stranded under both A-type and B-type extractions.

The question, then, is this: how can we distinguish the A-type extractions from the B-type extractions in a way that allows us to capitalize on the specific needs of  $P_Rs$ ?

I propose that the A-type and B-type extractions differ in their sensitivity to the selectional restrictions of stranded prepositions because they leave behind copies of different sizes. A-type extractions (e.g. wh-movement, restrictive relatives) leave behind fully constructed copies (see Chomsky 1993, 1995). A-type extractions can strand  $P_R$ s because the copy in the base position can contain an NP. If the copy in the base position can contain an NP, it can contain TIME or PLACE, and the selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s can be satisfied (37).

## (37) A-type extractions leave full copies

- a. [Which day of the month] did you eat lamb on<sub>R</sub> [which day of the month]?
- b. [Which city] are we eating lunch in<sub>R</sub> [which city]?

B-type extractions, by contrast, leave behind something smaller than a full DP – crucially, something that does not contain an NP. Because TIME and PLACE reside within the NP, the selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s cannot be satisfied (38).

#### (38) B-type extractions do not leave NPs.

- a. \*No holiday will I ever eat lamb on<sub>R</sub>  $t^{16}$ .
- b. \*The fourth floor is fun to eat dinner on<sub>R</sub> t.

The proposed link between complementation and stranding, then, is structural. The reasons why a  $P_R$  cannot take a pronoun as its complement, or be stranded under B-type extractions, are one and the same. Neither of these configurations allows P's complement to contain an N, where TIME and PLACE reside<sup>17</sup>.

To make sense of this idea, we need to allow for the possibility that some A'-extractions leave behind full copies, while others do not. This is where the theory of Wholesale Late Merger (WLM; Takahashi 2006, Takahashi & Hulsey 2009) comes in. In short, WLM proposes that certain extractions (i.e. A-movement constructions) permit countercyclic merger of NPs to their head Ds, while other extractions (i.e. *wh*-movement) do not. I first provide some necessary background on WLM (§5), and then extend the theory to account for the differences among A'-extractions discussed here (§6-7).

#### 5 Wholesale late merger

As noted in the introduction, WLM addresses a well-known problem for the copy theory of movement (see Chomsky 1993, 1995): extractions appear to differ in whether or not they leave a contentful copy behind. Takahashi (2006) and Takahashi & Hulsey (2009) (hereafter T±H) focus on the difference between A- and A'-movement: this basic distinction will be the focus of this section's discussion, though later there will be reason to look more closely at differences within the class of A'-extractions.

The presence of reconstructed bound variable readings in both A- and A'-movement suggests that both types of movement can leave behind a full copy. In the examples below (39), the QP *every professor* binds the variable *his*, suggesting that a copy of the variable is c-commanded by the QP at LF.

- (39) Reconstructed bound variable readings (T&H 2009: 391, 390)
  - a. Someone from his; class seems to [every professor]; to be a genius. (A)
  - b. Which of his; students did [every professor]; talk to? (A')

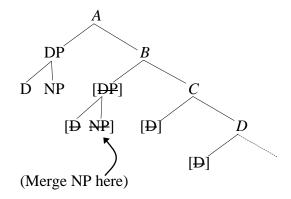
The data in (39) show that leaving a full copy behind is at least optional for A- and A'-movement. But is it obligatory? For A'-movement, Principle C reconstruction effects suggest that the answer is yes. As shown in (40a), sentences where an R-expression in the moving NP is c-commanded by a coindexed pronoun at LF are ungrammatical. For A-movement, however, the answer appears to be no: Principle C reconstruction effects are absent (40b).

- (40) Principle C: A- vs. A'-movement
  - a. \*[Which corner of John<sub>i</sub>'s room] was he<sub>i</sub> sitting in? (T&H 2009: 391; A')
  - b. [John<sub>i</sub>'s mother] seems to him<sub>i</sub> to be wonderful. (Lebeaux 1998: 23; A)

The A-movement facts pose a problem for the copy theory of movement. While it appears that A'-extractions must always leave a copy behind, A-extractions do so only optionally. The presence of reconstructed bound variable readings for A-extractions suggests that leaving a full copy in the base position is a possibility, but the absence of Principle C effects suggests that leaving a full copy behind is not obligatory.

To solve this problem, T±H propose that it is possible for an NP to countercyclically merge with its head D (see 41). Their proposal builds on work by Fox (2002), who proposes that late merge is possible whenever the output representation is semantically interpretable. Fox's (2002) proposal differs from Lebeaux's (1988, 1998) theory of late merge because it does not limit the operation to adjunct phrases. It allows an NP to merge late with its head D, because the result is interpretable (see T±H for details).

#### (41) Application of WLM



In the diagram above, the bare D is externally merged in Position D. It then moves to Position C, and again to Position B. Position B is the site of WLM: here, the NP merges with its head D. The entire DP then moves to Position A, where it is pronounced.

(41) shows how WLM allows for A-extractions to bleed Principle C. If an NP containing an R-expression does not merge with D until D is outside the c-command domain of a co-indexed nominal, Principle C effects will be absent.

The simple mechanism of WLM, however, does not yet allow us to explain why the reconstruction properties of A- and A'-movement should differ. Why, for example, is it possible for A-movement to bleed Principle C through WLM, while this option is not available to A'-movement? In other words: if we grant that WLM is an option available to the grammar, what constrains it?

T±H's answer to this question is that WLM is constrained by the Case Filter. To move towards an explanation of the differences between A- and A'-movement, T±H advocate an approach in which "DPs as a whole demand Case because both determiners and nouns, which

constitute DPs, must receive case" (T&H 2009: 401)<sup>18</sup>. Thus WLM is blocked when an NP would merge outside the domain of its case-assigner.

The appeal to Case allows T±H to capture the difference between A- and A'-movement. A-movement, which is movement from a non-case to a case position, permits the application of WLM (though cf. Nikolaeva 2014: 5 for a discussion of reconstruction effects in Russian scrambling, a form of A-movement to a non-case position). This means that a restrictor NP can merge outside of the c-command domain of a coindexed nominal. In (42), Principle C is bled because there is no R-expression in the base position.

## (42) WLM permitted in A-movement ((38b) from T&H 2009: 402)

- a. [The corner of John<sub>i</sub>'s room] seems to him<sub>i</sub> [the] to be very dusty.
- b. [Every argument that John<sub>i</sub> is a genius] seems to him<sub>i</sub> [every] to be flawless.

A'-movement, by contrast, is movement from a case to a non-case position. T±H propose that WLM is blocked in this context because the NP must merge in the base position to get case. In the examples in (43), Principle C effects are present because *he* c-commands *John* at LF.

#### (43) WLM blocked in A'-movement

- a. \*[Which corner of John<sub>i</sub>'s room] was he<sub>i</sub> sitting in [which corner...]?
- b. \*[Which proof that John<sub>i</sub> is a genius] did he<sub>i</sub> believe [which proof...]?

In sum, the reconstruction properties of A- and A'-movement differ because the two types of movement place differing restrictions on the application of WLM. A-movement permits WLM because an NP can merge outside of its base position and still receive case. A'-movement blocks WLM because the NP must merge in its base position to receive case. What is important to keep in mind is that, depending on the extraction in question, the size of copy that a DP leaves behind can differ.

#### 6 Relating WLM to P-stranding

Although the only A'-extraction that T±H consider is *wh*-movement, they implicitly assume that all varieties of A'-movement exhibit Principle C effects. Looking more broadly across the variety

of A'-extractions discussed in relation to P-stranding, we see that this assumption is mostly well-founded. A representative sample of A'-extractions displaying Principle C effects is in (44).

#### (44) Principle C effects in A'-movement

- a. wh-movement
  - \*Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal did she<sub>i</sub> reject?
- b. restrictive relative
  - \*The student whose criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal she<sub>i</sub> rejected...
- c. appositive relative
  - \*That student, whose criticism of Maryi's proposal shei rejected...
- d. negative inversion
  - \*Not a single criticism of Maryi's proposal has shei ever rejected.
- e. topicalization
  - \*The harsh criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal, she<sub>i</sub> rejected.

Parasitic gaps (45a), *tough*-movement (45b), and gapped degree phrases (45c) behave differently, however: like A-extractions, Principle C effects are absent.

#### (45) Principle C effects absent

- a. Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal did John endorse after she<sub>i</sub> rejected?
- b. The criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal is hard for her<sub>i</sub> to accept.
- c. The criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal is too harsh for her<sub>i</sub> to believe.

Crossing the presence/absence of Principle C effects with a given extraction's ability to strand  $P_Rs$  yields the table in (46). We can now distinguish among three different types of extractions. The A-type extractions (e.g. *wh*-movement) are extractions that exhibit Principle C effects and permit stranding of  $P_Rs$ . The  $P_1$ -type extractions (e.g. topicalization) exhibit Principle C effects, but ban stranding of  $P_Rs$ . The  $P_2$ -type extractions (e.g. *tough*-movement) bleed Principle C and ban stranding of  $P_Rs$ .

# (46) Principle C effects vs. stranding

	Principle C: Present	Principle C: Absent
√[P <sub>R</sub> t]	A-type extractions  wh-movement restrictive relatives infinitival relatives free relatives	
*[P <sub>R</sub> t]	B <sub>1</sub> -type extractions topicalization negative inversion appositive relatives	B <sub>2</sub> -type extractions  tough-movement gapped degree phrases parasitic gap formation

If we allow for the possibility that WLM can occur in A-movement and A'-movement alike, WLM can help us understand why A-type, B<sub>1</sub>-type, and B<sub>2</sub>-type extractions differ according to the properties in (46). I sketch this analysis below.

For A-type extractions (e.g. *wh*-movement), the NP must merge maximally early, in the base position. Thus in (47a) the pronoun *she* c-commands *Mary* at LF, and Principle C reconstruction effects result. Because merging the NP in the base position means that a full copy is left behind, a P<sub>R</sub> can be stranded (47b): because the preposition's complement can contain an NP, it can contain TIME or PLACE.

#### (47) Properties of A-types (here: *wh*-movement)

- a. \*Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal did she<sub>i</sub> reject [which criticism...]?
- b. Which holiday does your family eat lamb on<sub>R</sub> [which holiday]?

In the  $B_1$ -type extractions (e.g. topicalization), WLM must occur early, but not too early. We know from the presence of Principle C effects (48a) that the site of WLM cannot be maximally late, as in A-movement, because the R-expression *Mary* must be merged within the c-command domain of the coindexed pronoun *she*. We also know from the ban on stranding  $P_Rs$  (48b) that WLM is not blocked entirely: the fact that  $B_1$ -type extractions are sensitive to the distinction

between P<sub>A</sub>s and P<sub>R</sub>s suggests that their base positions do not contain NPs. Thus the site of WLM must be above the base position, but within the c-command domain of a coindexed pronoun.

- (48) Properties of B<sub>1</sub>-types (here: topicalization)
  - a. \*The latest criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal, she<sub>i</sub> rejected t.
  - b. \*Easter, I would never eat lamb on<sub>R</sub> t.

The analysis of  $B_2$ -type extractions adopted here (see §8.1 for some justification) assumes that all  $B_2$ -type extractions involve movement of a null operator (see e.g. Chomsky 1977, 1981 for *tough*-movement; Brillman (2014) for gapped degree phrases; Nissenbaum 2000 and references there for parasitic gaps). Because null operators do not contain lexical material, this analysis correctly predicts that Principle C effects are absent (49a) and that  $P_R$ s cannot be stranded (49b). The selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s can't be satisfied because their complements do not contain TIME or PLACE<sup>19</sup>.

- (49) Properties of B<sub>2</sub>-types (here: *tough*-movement)
  - a. The criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal is tough for her<sub>i</sub> to accept  $[\phi]$ .
  - b. \*Easter is easy to eat lamb on<sub>R</sub>  $[\phi]$ .

It is important to note that there is no extraction that can both bleed Principle C and strand a  $P_R$ . This gap is significant, and predicted from a WLM-style analysis of the patterns in (46). An extraction that can bleed Principle C is by definition an extraction with no NP in the base position. An extraction that can strand  $P_R$ s is by definition an extraction where the NP must merge in the base position, in order to satisfy the selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s. A WLM-style analysis of this type of extraction is impossible, because it is a contradiction: the NP needs to merge both very late (to bleed Principle C) and very early (to strand  $P_R$ s).

#### 7 Deriving the patterns

What we need, at this point, is an explanation for why WLM is tightly constrained in B<sub>1</sub>-type extractions and blocked in A-types. What motivates WLM, and why does its application vary across A'-extractions?

The logic of the facts we have observed suggests that WLM is not just an option, but rather a violable preference. This principle lies at the heart of the proposal developed here. I claim, furthermore, that WLM is constrained in A-type and B<sub>1</sub>-type extractions because there are conflicting constraints that take priority over the preference for WLM. Following T±H, one such conflicting constraint is the Case Filter. To model this, we need two constraints: one requiring NPs to receive case (GetCase, defined in 50), and one enforcing the general preference for WLM (Latemerge, defined in 51).

- (50) GETCASE: one \* if NP is caseless.
- (51) LATEMERGE: if NP is merged at x, one \* for each possible merge site that c-commands x.

The presence of Principle C reconstruction effects in A'-movement shows that GETCASE >> LATEMERGE: it is more important for an NP to receive case than it is for that NP to be merged as late as possible. The interaction between GETCASE and LATEMERGE is modeled schematically in (52); the tableau should be read from top down. A boxed letter (here, C) indicates the case-assigning position, and x indicates the site where the NP is merged. I assume that successive cyclic movement occurs from positions D to A. Note that the constraints and tableaux in this section are presented as a way of formalizing and visualizing the pressures governing the application and location of WLM. Presumably, there are deeper reasons why these constraints exist, as well as reasons why they interact in the way that they do.

### (52) GETCASE >> LATEMERGE

	a. A	b. A	> c. A	d. A
	$X \longrightarrow B$	$\nearrow$ B	$\nearrow$ B	$\nearrow$ B
	$\overline{\mathbb{C}}$	$\mathbf{x}$ $\mathbf{C}$	$\overline{\mathbb{C}}$	$\overline{\mathbb{C}}$
	$\overline{}$ D	$\overline{}$ D	$X \subset D$	$\overline{}$ D
				X
GETCASE	*!	*!		
LATEMERGE		* (A)	** (A, B)	***! (A, B, C)

Both (52a) and (52b) incur fatal violations of GETCASE because the NP is merged above C, the last position where case can be assigned. The decision between (52c) and (52d) is made by

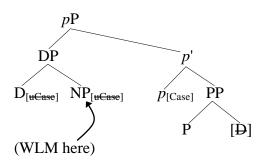
LATEMERGE. (52d) incurs three violations of LATEMERGE, as there are three potential landing sites (A, B, and C) that c-command D, the location where the NP is merged. (52c) incurs only two violations of LATEMERGE, as there are two potential merge sites (A and B) that c-command the site of WLM. Between (52c) and (52d), (52c) best satisfies the general preference for WLM, and is selected as optimal.

This analysis predicts that, all else being equal, *WLM will occur at the latest possible step in the derivation at which an NP can receive case.* §7.1 discusses case assignment in PPs, and show that the schematic analysis sketched in (52) is sufficient to derive the properties of B<sub>1</sub>-type extractions. In §7.2, I suggest that the moving DP in A-type extractions is embedded within an additional layer of functional structure, Cable's (2007, 2010) QP (see also Hagstrom 1998), and propose that WLM is blocked in these extractions because it would be in a sense, *too* countercyclic. While WLM is by definition a countercyclic operation, there are constraints on just how countercyclic it can be (see also Tada 1993: 63-70, Sauerland 1998: 2.2).

# 7.1 Deriving $B_1$ -type extractions

Recall that, in order to derive both the P-stranding and reconstruction properties of B-types, it must be the case that the site of WLM in these extractions is very low – but not maximally low, as a B-type extraction cannot strand a  $P_R$ . One possible way to achieve this balance is to assume that PPs have a pP shell, and that p is what assigns case to P's complement. Arguments for a little p projection have been made by a number of different authors, on a number of different grounds (see van Riemsdijk 1990; Manninen 2003: 117 and references there; Ramchand & Svenonius 2004; Svenonius 2003, 2008, 2010; Levinson 2011; Oxford 2011; and many others). In A'movement, assuming that pP is a phase (see e.g. Abels 2003), the last possible landing site where an NP would be able to receive case is Spec, pP<sup>20</sup>. The analysis sketched in §7 then predicts that, for A'-movement out of pP, WLM should take place in Spec, p<sup>21</sup>. This is because Spec, p is the last possible landing site at which an NP can receive case (53).

## (53) WLM in Spec, pP



This simple proposal is sufficient to derive the Principle C and P-stranding facts for  $B_1$ -type extractions. No conceivable pronoun can intervene between the complement of P and Spec, pP. Thus Principle C effects are present, just as if the NP were merged in the base position. But because what is left in the base position is just a determiner, P's complement does not contain an NP, and a  $P_R$  cannot be stranded.

An obvious question arises here: if case considerations can force NP to merge with D earlier than otherwise required, why can't the selectional restrictions of a P<sub>R</sub> have a similar effect, requiring NP to merge with D in its base position? The answer, I believe, lies in the differing nature of the Case Filter and the selectional requirements of particular lexical items. The requirement for an NP to receive case is syntactic, but the requirement for a P<sub>R</sub> to have a TIME-or PLACE-containing complement is semantic. A P<sub>R</sub> demands a DP complement endowed with a certain kind of meaning, not a certain structural configuration: there is no obvious reason to believe that an interval and an event DP, for example, are structurally distinct. It seems that while the grammar can regulate interactions among purely syntactic constraints, it cannot regulate interactions among syntactic constraints and those that interface with the semantics.

This statement, though, will ultimately, need to be qualified. While it is impossible to overrule WLM in order to satisfy the selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s, it is possible to overrule WLM to bind a variable, as suggested by the possibility of bound variable readings in Amovement (§5). This suggests that some semantic constraints, but not others, can overrule syntactic ones. I do not have an explanation for why this partition exists, but it is worth noting that the same asymmetry – that variable binding is different and more important than other semantic constraints – shows up in work by Fox  $(1998)^{22}$ .

#### 7.2 Deriving A-type extractions

A-type extractions pose an interesting problem for the current analysis. The fact that A-type extractions permit a  $P_R$  to be stranded, as seen in (54), suggests that some factor blocks WLM entirely. For a  $P_R$ 's selectional restrictions to be satisfied, the NP must merge as part of P's complement.

## (54) A-type extractions can strand P<sub>R</sub>s

- a. Which floor are we eating dinner on<sub>R</sub> [which floor]?
- b. Which month did you vacation in<sub>R</sub> [which month]?

To explain why the examples in (54) are good, we must identify another constraint, specific to A-type extractions, that overrides the preference for WLM. To identify this constraint, we need to find some property that the A-types share. More than this, it must also be some property that all B-types lack.

One possibility is that the moving DP in A-type extractions is embedded within an additional layer of structure: a QP, in Cable's (2007, 2010) sense. Though the bulk of Cable's (2007, 2010) discussion focuses on wh-movement, he notes that restrictive relatives, free relatives, and wh-movement in English abide by similar constraints, and posits that the moving constituents in these extractions are embedded within a larger QP shell<sup>23</sup>. He speculates (2007: 369-375) that a Q-based analysis could be extended to all other types of A'-extraction. My proposal is more restrictive: the moving DP in the A-type A'-extractions, but not the B-types, are embedded within a QP shell.

Some evidence that this is a promising line of analysis comes from a difference in acceptable pied-piping size between the A-type extractions and appositive relatives (a B-type extraction). English is an example of what Cable terms a *limited pied-piping* language: in *wh*-movement, very little material can be pied-piped along with the *wh*-phrase. This limitation is illustrated in (55). The sentence in (55a), where the *wh*-phrase is embedded within a larger DP, is much less acceptable than (55b), where it is not.

# (55) Pied piping in wh-movement<sup>24</sup>

- a. ??Pictures of who do you display in your home?
- b. Who do you display pictures of in your home?

Cable (2007: 279) argues that restrictions on pied-piping size, as in (55), are due to the fact that Q-wh agreement is obligatory in limited pied-piping languages (like English). In these languages, lexical categories, like N, cannot intervene between Q and a wh-word. This restriction on pied piping size also holds for restrictive relatives (56): compare ungrammatical (56a) to grammatical (56b).

# (56) Limited pied piping in restrictive relatives

- a. \*The scientist pictures of whom I display in my home won a Nobel Prize.
- b. The scientist who I display pictures of in my home won a Nobel prize.

Appositive relatives and other B-type extractions, however, allow what Heck (2004) terms 'massive pied piping' (see also Bresnan 1976, Emonds 1976, Jackendoff 1977, and other more recent work cited by Cable 2007: 341). While pied piping in *wh*-movement and other A-types is limited, pied piping in B-types is not. Examples of massive pied piping in appositive relatives (57a) and negative inversion (57b) follow; in (57b), I assume that the negative phrase *no famous scientist* is targeted for movement, and *pictures of* is pied-piped along with it.

#### (57) Massive pied piping in B-types

a. appositive relative

Marie Curie, pictures of whom I display in my home, won a Nobel Prize.

b. *negative inversion* 

Pictures of no famous scientist would I ever display in my home.

The grammatical sentences in (57) blatantly violate Q-wh agreement. Rather than trying to explain why the A-type extractions appear to require Q-wh agreement and the B-types do not, it is perhaps simpler to say that the moving DP in the A-types, but not the B-types, is embedded within a QP shell (though see Heck 2004, 2008 and Cable 2007: 341-348 for alternatives). Under

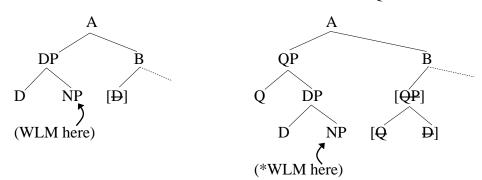
this account, massive pied piping and apparent violations of Q-wh agreement can occur in B-types because there is no Q; movement and apparent pied piping in these extractions must then happen for other reasons.

Why, though, would the presence of a QP shell block WLM? In line with Tada's (1993: 63-70) modification of Lebeaux's (1988) theory of late merge, I propose that WLM cannot apply in A-type extractions because it would be *too* countercyclic. WLM is permitted when the NP merges to the daughter of the current root node, but banned when its application would modify the internal structure of an embedded constituent. For a demonstration, see (58). In (58a), WLM is permitted because the NP merges with D, the daughter of the current root node. In (58b), WLM is forbidden, because the NP merges inside a DP embedded within a QP; here, the application of WLM modifies the internal structure of an embedded constituent.

## (58) WLM in A-types is too countercyclic

a. VWLM inside DP

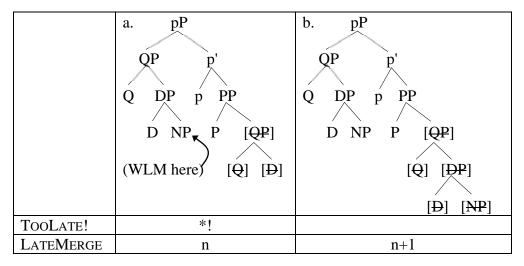
b. \*WLM inside QP.



The proposed restriction on WLM bears a striking resemblance to restrictions on late adjunction described by Sauerland (1998: 2.2). Sauerland shows, in brief, that there is an ordering effect among relative clauses, predicted by Tada's (1993: 63-70) modification of Lebeaux's (1988) proposal. While it is possible to force reconstruction of an inner modifier without forcing reconstruction of an outer modifier, the reverse is not possible: forcing reconstruction of an outer modifier forces reconstruction of an inner modifier as well<sup>25</sup>. This suggests that it is impossible for an inner modifier to merge countercyclically between a noun and another modifier; that is, the inner modifier must merge derivationally prior to the outer modifier. Late merge of the inner modifier is forbidden for the same general reason that WLM within a OP is bad (58b): both modify the structure of an embedded constituent.

Returning to P-stranding, the A-type extractions show us that the constraint penalizing excessive countercyclicity (TooLate!) dominates LateMerge. WLM is blocked when it would result in a violation of TooLate! (59).

#### (59) TOOLATE! >> LATEMERGE



Candidate (59a), where WLM applies, incurs a violation of TooLATE!: NP merges with D, which is not the daughter of the current root node. Even though candidate (59b), where WLM is blocked, incurs more violations of LATEMERGE, it is selected as optimal. NP must merge with the head D before the DP merges with Q; otherwise, the derivation fatally violates TooLATE!<sup>26</sup>.

This modification to the analysis allows us to derive the Principle C and stranding properties of A-type extractions. WLM is blocked due to the presence of a QP shell, so the NP merges in the base position. Because A-type extractions leave behind a full copy, Principle C effects are present<sup>27</sup>, and  $P_{RS}$  can be stranded.

#### 8 Further support: B<sub>2</sub>-type extractions, and more pronouns

The analysis proposed in  $\S 7$  claims that the link between a P's selectional restrictions and its potential to be stranded is structural. Interval and location  $P_R s$  reject all DP complements, pronounced or not, that do not contain TIME or PLACE. This approach makes a prediction: if P's complement does not contain an NP for other reasons, stranding a  $P_R$  should be impossible, regardless of the extraction in question.

Here I verify this prediction with evidence from two domains. §8.1 returns to the properties of  $B_2$ -type extractions, and argue that their behavior is best explained as the result of null operator movement. Because P's complement never contains an NP, a  $P_R$  cannot be stranded. §8.2 shows that the analysis correctly predicts contrasts *within* extractions. When *wh*-movement involves movement of *wh*-pronouns, *wh*-movement acts like a B-type extraction: it is sensitive to whether or not a given P is pronoun-rejecting.

# 8.1 B<sub>2</sub>-types and null operators

If we assume that the  $B_2$ -type extractions (*tough*-movement, gapped degree phrases, and parasitic gaps) are structurally similar – that is, they all involve movement of a null operator – then the fact that they bleed Principle C and cannot strand  $P_R$ s is predicted by the current analysis. Null operators do not contain lexical material (i.e. NPs), so there is nothing in their structure that could satisfy the selectional restrictions of  $P_R$ s, or drive a Principle C effect. But the assumption that these three extractions all involve null operator movement is not universally accepted. Below I briefly sketch the basis of the controversy, and provide some evidence in favor of the null operator style analyses.

While it is common to assume that parasitic gaps involve movement of a null operator or some other null pronominal element (see Nissenbaum 2000: 24-29 for an overview), the analysis of *tough*-movement, and gapped degree phrases, is more controversial. The existence of defective intervention effects (see Hartman 2009, also Brillman 2014) and the presence of reconstructed bound variable readings support an improper movement analysis, in which the moving constituent originates in the embedded clause. The absence of scope reconstruction from the TC subject into the embedded clause (see Postal 1974, Epstein 1989, Fleisher 2013) and the absence of Principle C effects, however, supports an account where the DP originates in the matrix clause, like Chomsky's (1977, 1981) null operator analysis.

It is beyond the scope of this paper to provide a conclusive argument for either improper movement or null operators, nor do I attempt to further differentiate within these two classes of analyses. When we look at interactions between the  $B_2$ -type extractions and wh-movement, however, some evidence for a null operator analysis of the  $B_2$ -type extractions emerges. Stranding  $P_Rs$  using a combination of wh-movement and a  $B_2$ -type extraction is impossible (60a,

61a) and these extractions bleed Principle C (60b, 61b). In short, hybrids of A-type and B<sub>2</sub>-type extractions behave like B<sub>2</sub>-types.

- (60) Hybrid type 1: *tough* and *wh*-movement
  - a. \*Which holiday is easy to eat lamb on?(cf. Which holiday did we eat lamb on?)
  - b. Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal is hard for her<sub>i</sub> to accept?
     (cf. \*Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal did she<sub>i</sub> reject?)
- (61) Hybrid type 2: GDPs and wh-movement
  - a. \*Which holiday is too joyous to eat lamb on?(cf. Which holiday did we eat lamb on?)
  - b. Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal is too harsh for her<sub>i</sub> to accept? (cf. \*Which criticism of Mary<sub>i</sub>'s proposal did she<sub>i</sub> reject?)

These differences between the hybrid extractions and *wh*-movement are predicted by the null operator analysis. If the matrix subject never occupies any position in the embedded clause, then it follows that P<sub>R</sub>s cannot be stranded, because their complements cannot contain TIME or PLACE. Similarly, in (60b, 61b) Principle C is bled because *Mary* is never within the c-command domain of co-indexed *she*.

An improper movement style analysis, where the QP originates in the embedded clause, would face some problems in accounting for (60-61). Because the hybrid extractions are *wh*-interrogatives, I assume that the fronted DP is embedded within a QP shell. An analysis assuming that the QP originates in the embedded clause would need to explain why it is apparently acceptable for excessively late WLM to occur in the hybrid extractions, but not in pure *wh*-movement.

#### 8.2 Wh-pronouns

We saw in  $\S 8.1$  that if a given extraction never allows a  $P_R$  to have a complement containing TIME or PLACE, that extraction will never allow  $P_R s$  to be stranded. The analysis outlined in  $\S 7$ , in turn, suggests that the ability to strand  $P_R s$  is linked to the structural configuration of the

gap, not to the extraction that creates it. Given this, we would expect, under certain conditions, to find contrasts within extractions. Extractions that are in principle capable of leaving behind full copies should be sensitive to  $P_{RS}$  if the full copy is pronoun-sized (i.e., a D).

One way to assess this prediction is to compare the behavior of wh-movement with wh-pronouns and full wh-phrases. It is a plausible assumption that wh-pronouns like who and what do not contain NPs, like their non-wh counterparts her and it. Wh-movement with wh-pronouns should then be sensitive to whether or not a preposition is a  $P_A$  or a  $P_R$ , while wh-movement with full wh-phrases should not discriminate. This is because A-type extractions leave behind a full copy, but the full copy of a wh-pronoun does not contain an NP, and therefore cannot contain TIME or PLACE.

This prediction holds. The examples in (62) show that movement of both wh-pronouns and wh-phrases is grammatical when stranding a  $P_A$ ; the examples in (63) show that movement of wh-phrases is grammatical when stranding a  $P_R$ , but movement of wh-pronouns is not.

### (62) Stranding a P<sub>A</sub>

- a. My family eats dinner on the green table. John's family eats dinner on it too.
- b. What table does your family eat dinner on?
- c. What does your family eat dinner on?

#### (63) Stranding a $P_R$

- a. \*My family eats turkey on Thanksgiving. John's family eats turkey on it too.
- b. What holiday does your family eat turkey on?
- c. \*What does your family eat turkey on?

Note that the status of (63c) is not due to a restriction on movement: in a multiple question, the phrasal DP *which holiday* but not the pronoun *what* is not an acceptable complement to the temporal  $P_R$  *on*, as predicted:

#### (64) What vs. which holiday in a multiple question

- a. Which person thinks that John's family eats turkey on which holiday?
- b. \*Which person thinks that John's family eats turkey on what?

In addition, the ungrammaticality of (63c) cannot be attributed to a more general restriction on the types of DPs that *wh*-pronouns can replace. *Thanksgiving* can be pronominalized with *it* when it is the complement of *celebrate* (65a). In this context, movement of both *wh*-pronouns and *wh*-phrases is permitted (65b-c).

#### (65) Interval DPs and wh-pronouns

- a. My family celebrates Thanksgiving, and John's family celebrates it too.
- b. Which holiday does your family celebrate?
- c. What does your family celebrate?

The analysis proposed in §7 bears some resemblance to Postal's (1998) account of antipronominal contexts, but the contrasts in (62-63) reveal that the WLM-style analysis makes accurate predictions that Postal's (1998) analysis does not. Postal proposes that certain extractions are sensitive to antipronominal contexts because they leave behind null resumptive pronouns. Because his account proposes that extractions themselves are linked to certain types of null categories, it is unable to predict contrasts within extractions, like the contrast between wh-pronouns and wh-phrases documented in (62-63). Under an analysis where the ability to strand a P<sub>R</sub> is not linked to intrinsic properties of individual extractions, however, but to the structural configuration of the gap, the pattern in (62-63) falls out. The ability to strand a temporal or locative P<sub>R</sub> depends entirely on whether or not its complement contains TIME or PLACE. Specific extractions only appear to play a role because their independent properties (e.g. presence of a QP shell) regulate the application and location of WLM.

#### 9 Conclusion

The P-stranding asymmetries and Principle C facts discussed in this paper demonstrate a need to divide A'-extractions into two major groups. I have argued that the differences between these groups arise because they place differing constraints on the application of WLM. The A-type extractions leave behind fully constructed copies, as the application of WLM is blocked. The B-type extractions do not leave behind fully constructed copies, either because WLM is required (B<sub>1</sub>-type extractions) or because the extractions in question involve null operator movement (B<sub>2</sub>-type extractions). The extractions that leave behind fully constructed copies (A-types) can strand

pronoun-rejecting prepositions; the extractions that do not leave behind fully constructed copies (B-types) cannot.

More broadly, all English A'-extractions have the capability to strand prepositions, but differing properties of individual extractions lead to distinct constraints on which Ps can be stranded. Thus while it is true that all A'-extractions share the same set of basic properties (e.g. Chomsky 1977, 1981, 1982; Pesetsky 1982; Engdahl 1983), asymmetries within a single property can point to subtle, but fundamental, differences among them.

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Special thanks to David Pesetsky, Adam Albright, Sabine Iatridou, Chris O'Brien, Norvin Richards, Donca Steriade, Coppe van Urk, and audiences at MIT Ling-Lunch and ECO-5 2014 for helpful feedback and moral support.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Various principled exceptions to this statement do, of course, exist. For example, Principle C can be bled in A'-movement when the relevant R-expression is contained within an adjunct that has undergone Late Merge (Lebeaux 1988, Chomsky 1995). Principle C effects can be present in A-movement when the moving constituent is forced to reconstruct for other reasons, i.e. for scope (Fox 1999).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> The majority of speakers consulted find these contrasts extremely sharp, but some speakers find them subtler (or they detect the contrasts for some but not all predicates or extraction types). I have not found a pattern to this variation, and leave it as a matter for further investigation.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> It is possible to replace a temporal PP with then, i.e. My family eats turkey on Thanksgiving, and John's family eats turkey then, too. I assume that then is a sort of pro-PP that conflates a temporal P with a nominal whose reference is salient in the discourse. Note that *then* (a pro-PP) can refer to intervals but it (a pro-DP cannot). Why then and it should differ in this way has yet to be determined; in this paper, my interest lies solely in constraints on pronominalizing the DP.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>4</sup> Replacing *Thanksgiving* with a demonstrative, *this* or *that*, is similarly ungrammatical (\*My family eats Turkey on Thanksgiving, and John's family eats turkey on that, too.). Thus the inability of it to replace an interval complement to P also cannot be attributed to its status as a weak pronoun (see Cardinaletti & Starke 1994). For an interesting case where the weak vs. strong status of a pronoun does figure into a preposition's complementation properties, see Zribi-Hertz (1984) on French.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> Some other verbs that allow interval complements are *waste*, *kill*, *use*, and *celebrate*.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> It is worth asking whether or not there are other structural positions that display the same interval vs. event pronominalization asymmetry. To the best of my knowledge, there aren't. We saw in (8) that both object and subject intervals can be pronominalized.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> Note that pied-piping can rescue these sentences: compare not a single holiday will I ever eat lamb on to the more acceptable on not a single holiday will I ever eat lamb.

- <sup>10</sup> The V+P combination *live in* is a counterexample to the generalizations established here. It is impossible to pronominalize *Boston*, for example, as the complement of *in* (\**I live in Boston, and John lives in it, too*), but stranding *in* with B-type extractions, for most speakers, is possible (*Boston is easy to live in.*). This is an isolated counterexample, and its status may have more to do with properties of *live in*, yet to be defined.
- <sup>11</sup> See Kuroda (1968: 256), and examples from Ross (1967: 113) attributed to Kuroda (1964), for more examples of problems with pronominalization in other kinds of PPs.
- <sup>12</sup> Others argue that examples like *we religious ones* should be analyzed as appositive modifiers to a pronominal head. See Delorme & Dougherty (1972), and Pesetsky (1978) for a criticism.
- <sup>13</sup> For temporals, I assume that *day, month*, and other interval-denoting nouns are sub-species of TIME. Similarly, for locatives, I assume that *city, state*, and other place-denoting nouns are sub-species of PLACE.
- <sup>14</sup> An interesting difference between the temporal example in (35b) and the locative example in (36b) is that the presence of *the* is grammatical in the former (*December 25th* vs. *December the 25th*), but not in the latter (*New York City* vs. \**New York the city*). It is also worth noting using 'the' in temporal DPs is impossible for holidays named by their dates (*July 4th* vs. \**July the 4th*). The factors governing the distribution of *the* are interesting but tangential, and will not be explored further.
- <sup>15</sup> Although the only types of PPs I discuss in this section and in what follows are locative and temporal PPs, I anticipate that the analysis proposed here could extend to circumstantial and other types of PPs (see §2.3).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Postal (1998) shows that some A'-extractions are sensitive to other antipronominal contexts (name positions, change-of-color environments, etc.). His partition differs in several ways from mine; potential reasons for these differences are not explored here.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Like temporal PPs and *then*, it is possible to replace locative PPs (or at least, part of them; see Svenonius 2008 for some discussion) with *there*. Thus *I ate dinner on the fourth floor and John ate dinner there, too* is grammatical. Similar to *then*, I assume *there* to be a pro-PP that takes as its antecedent a locative PP. Why *there* but not *it* can refer to locations is unclear; I do not address this difference further.

- <sup>19</sup> An alternative is to assume an improper movement analysis of *tough*-movement and GDPs (e.g. Brody 1993, Hornstein 2000, Hicks 2003) and say that WLM occurs maximally late (this idea due to Norvin Richards, p.c.). Data in §8.1, however, poses some problems for this analysis. <sup>20</sup> This analysis then implies that case can be assigned in a specifier-head relationship, after WLM takes place: movement to the case-assigner can precede case assignment. In the diagram in (53) I assume the following sequence of operations: *p* agrees with D, D moves to Spec *p*P, NP is merged to D, and then both parts of the DP–the D and the NP receive case together. This is not equivalent to a claim that case must be assigned in a Spec, head relationship; all that is necessary is that it can be.
- Note that positing a pP shell makes it possible for a DP to move successive cyclically through spec, pP without violating Abel's (2003) stranding generalization.
- <sup>22</sup> The relevant examples are ones in which inverse scope is generally impossible for reasons of Scope Economy and parallelism, but permitted when necessary to bind a variable. The following contrast, from Fox 1998: 39, demonstrates:
- (i) a. Someone in the audience knows the capital of every country. The person who was invited to talk about it does too. (*someone* > *every*, *every* > *someone*)
  - b. Someone in the audience knows the capital of every country. The person who was invited to talk about these countries does too. (*someone* > *every*, \**every* > *someone*).

In (ia), the inverse scope reading is licensed by the necessity for the pronoun *it* (in the second sentence) to be bound by *every country* (in the first). In (ib), the inverse scope reading is

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> I use *t* to denote that what is left behind is less than a full copy; exactly what is left behind will be discussed later.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> The idea that some extraction sites behave like pronouns because they are, in some sense, pronouns, builds on previous work drawing the same conclusion, such as Perlmutter 1972, Cinque 1990, and Postal 1998. While the idea has antecedents, the proposed formalization is novel. See §8.2 for a brief comparison with Postal 1998.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> Some support for the idea that both determiners and nouns receive case comes from many Indo-European languages, i.e. Greek (Ancient (Smyth 1956) and Modern (Sabine Iatridou, p.c.)), where determiners and nouns bear case morphology.

impossible when there is no need to bind a variable. See Fox 1998, especially pp. 37-45, for more discussion.

- (i) a. [Which computer  $\underline{compatible \ with \ his_j}$  that  $Mary_k \ knew \ how \ to \ use]_i \ did \ she_k \ tell$  every  $boy_j$  to  $buy \ t_i$ ?
  - b. [Which computer compatible with  $Mary_k$ 's <u>that  $he_i$  knew how to use</u>]<sub>i</sub> did she<sub>k</sub> tell every boy<sub>i</sub> to buy  $t_i$ ?

In (ia), the inner relative clause (underlined) must merge at t<sub>i</sub> for *every boy* to bind *his*. It is not necessary for the outer relative clause (*that Mary knew how to use*) to merge at t<sub>i</sub>, so a Principle C violation is avoided through late adjunction. In (ib), however, reconstruction of the outer modifier is forced: the underlined clause must merge at t<sub>i</sub> for *every boy* to bind *his*. The fact that a Principle C violation is present in (iib) suggests that if an outer modifier is forced to reconstruct to bind a variable, the inner modifier must reconstruct as well. See Sauerland 1998: 2.2 for more examples and discussion.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> The Qs involved in wh-questions and restrictive relatives are presumably different kinds of Q. For example, Cable dubs the wh-variety  $Q_Q$  and the relative variety  $Q_{REL}$ . What matters here is only the presence of the extra layer of structure.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> Some speakers report that the contrast in (55) is not strong. What's important is that there *is* a contrast in (55), and that it disappears for the corresponding sentences with appositive relatives. Note also that in the most natural pronunciation of (55a), the *wh*-word is focused ('pictures of *who...*?') as if it were a *wh*-in-situ question ('you displayed pictures of *who...*?'). Without focusing the *wh*-word, as is usual for *wh*-questions with movement, (55a) is much less natural.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> Compare, for example, (ia) and (ib) (from Sauerland 1998: 52):

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> The restriction imposed by TooLATE! also explains why WLM does not appear to occur within stationary DPs, which would incorrectly obviate standard Principle C effects (thanks to David Pesetsky, p.c., for this observation). As proposed earlier, it is impossible for WLM to occur when D is not the daughter of the current root node. This is necessarily the situation when we try to apply WLM within stationary DPs: once the DP merges with a phrasal head, WLM is blocked. Therefore, for DPs that do not move, the NP must merge maximally early.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>27</sup> This analysis makes the false prediction that all movement of wh-phrases (and other elements in the same category), not only A-extractions to A'-positions, should exhibit reconstruction

effects. This is not the case: when A-movement is followed by *wh*-movement, Principle C is bled (e.g. Which of John<sub>i</sub>'s siblings seems to him<sub>i</sub> to be smart?). We can solve this problem by allowing for the possibility that Q, like NP, prefers to merge late, and making by two additional claims. First, the moving DP in an A-type A'-extraction must be embedded within a QP shell, because Q is targeted for movement in these extractions (see argumentation in Cable 2007, 2010). On the other hand, I propose that the moving DP in A-movement need not be embedded within a QP shell. The result is that while Q prefers to be merged late, it must be merged *immediately prior* to the first step of A'-movement. This allows for the possibility that WLM is impossible in an A-type A'-extraction, but possible when A-movement feeds A'-movement. I acknowledge, also, that there are other factors contributing to whether or not Principle C effects are present in A-type A'-extractions (e.g. depth of the embedded R-expression, whether the DP containing the R-expression is referential or non-referential; cf. Huang 1993, Heycock 1995), but I leave a full discussion and analysis of these cases to future work.