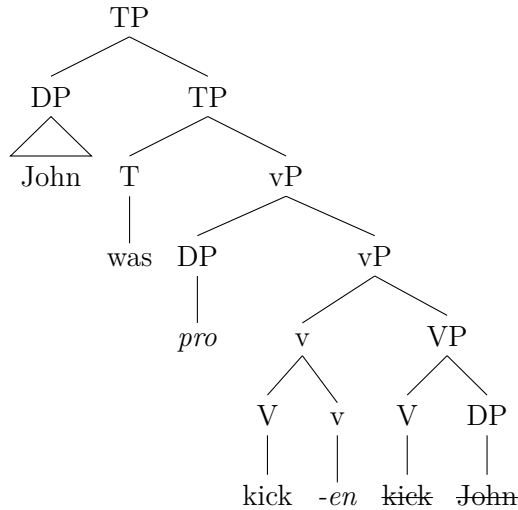


The structure is meant to look something like this:



The problematic bit is the *pro* in **Spec**-vP. It is motivated by evidence that the implicit argument in a passive construction can control:

*The ship was  $pro_i$  sunk  $PRO_i$  to collect the insurance* (Bhatt and Pancheva 2006)

Whoever sunk the ship also intended to collect the insurance; this fact is presumably accounted for in the usual way - binding of a lower PRO by a higher argument, leading to coreference.

The trouble is that the *pro*, as a D category, should intervene in any attempts to raise the object to subject position.

The account that (Hornstein and Polinsky 2010) give is not too controversial: in addition to absorbing the external  $\theta$ -role (and subsequently also **ACC**), passive-*v* also admits of an additional **Spec**, and *John* makes its way to this position on its way to T. When T is **Merged**, it is at least equidistant with *pro* and hence visible to the **Probe**.