

# Subjects

*Partly based on Koenenman & Zeiljstra (2017)*

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# Extended Projection Principle

EPP: Every sentence has a subject.

## Passive

- (1) John killed Bill.
- (2) Bill **was** killed (by John).
- (3) They **were** killed (by John).

## The expletive *it*

(4) It rains/snows.

## Back to Passive

- ▶ Which argument to drop when passivizing?
- ▶ Which argument to “promote” to SUBJ?

## Back to Passive

- ▶ Which argument to drop when passivizing?
- ▶ Which argument to “promote” to SUBJ?
- ▶  $\Theta$ -hierarchy: AGENT > RECIPIENT > THEME/PATIENT > GOAL

- (5) a. John gave Mary the book.  
b. Mary was given the book.  
c. \*The book was given Mary.
- (6) a. John gave the book to Mary.  
b. The book was given to Mary.  
c. \*Mary was given the book to.

## Unexpressed subjects

- (7) John seems to win the race.
- (8) John hopes to win the race.



## Unexpressed subjects

- (7) John seems to win the race.
- (8) John hopes to win the race.
  
- (9) It seems that John wins the race.
- (10) \*It hopes that John wins the race.

## Unexpressed subjects

John       seems       to       win       the       race.

John       hopes       PRO       to       win       the       race.







