

# Wh-movement

*Partly based on Koenenman & Zeiljstra (2017)*

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COGS 532: Theoretical Linguistics  
METU, Informatics

Where to land?

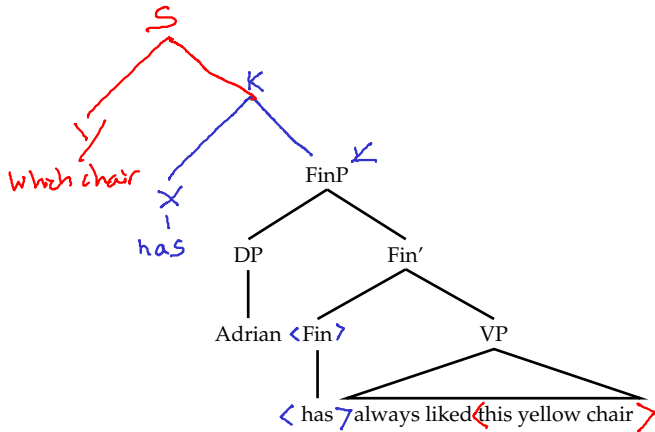
(1)

Which chair has Adrian always liked?

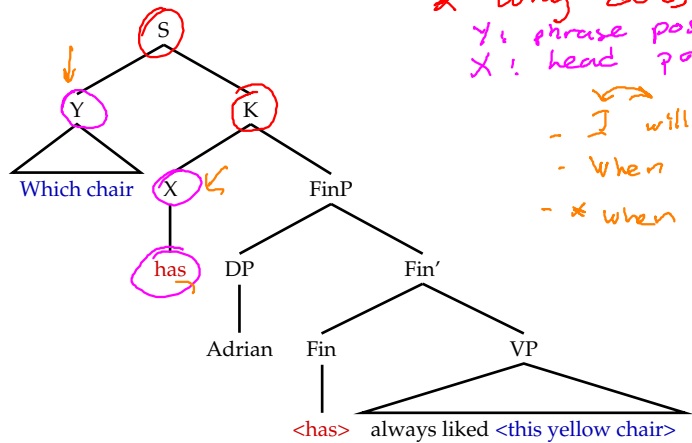
(2)

Adrian has always liked this yellow chair.

"Subject - auxiliary inversion"



# Head versus phrase positions

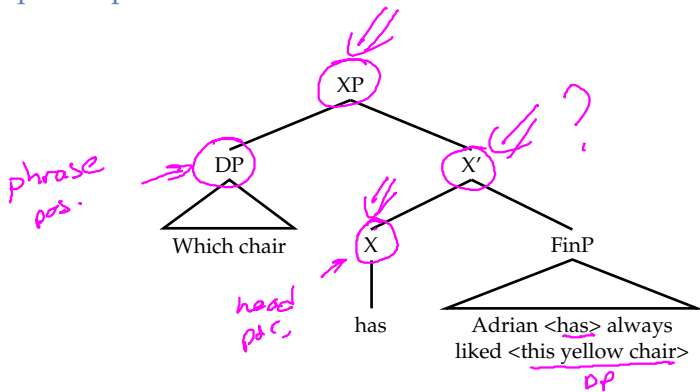


⇒ the nature of structural nodes.  
 ✗ why does movement occur?  
 Y: phrase position  
 X: head position

↖  
 - I will be leaving at 8pm.  
 - When will you be leaving?  
 - ✗ when will be you leaving?

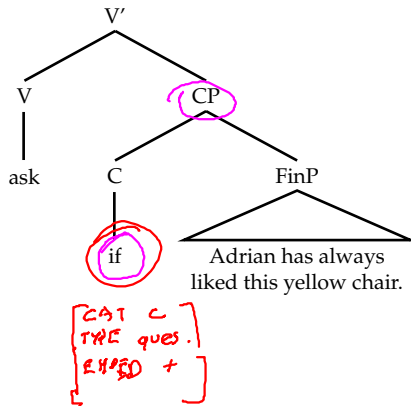
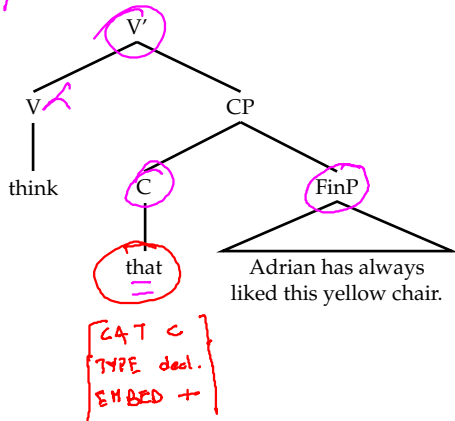


## Head versus phrase positions



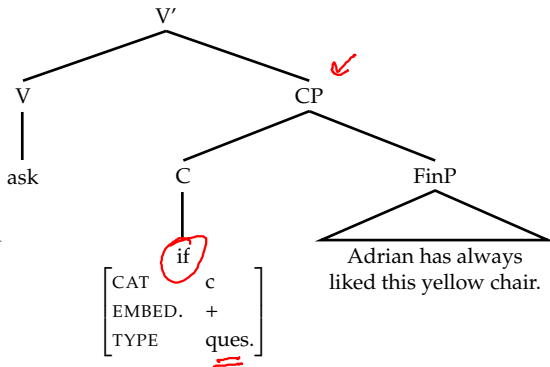
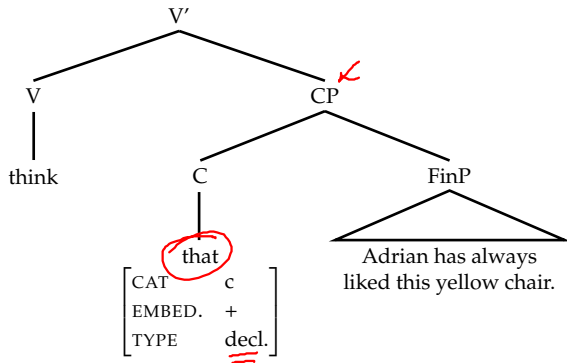
## A head position commanding FinP

- (3) a. I think that Adrian has always liked this yellow chair.  
 b. I asked if Adrian has always liked this yellow chair.

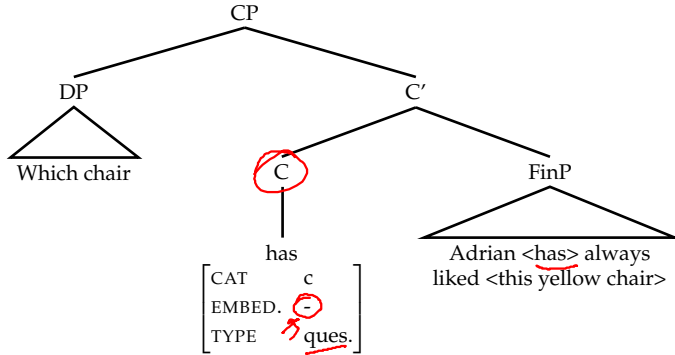


## A head position commanding FinP

- (4) a. I think that Adrian has always liked this yellow chair.  
b. I asked if Adrian has always liked this yellow chair.



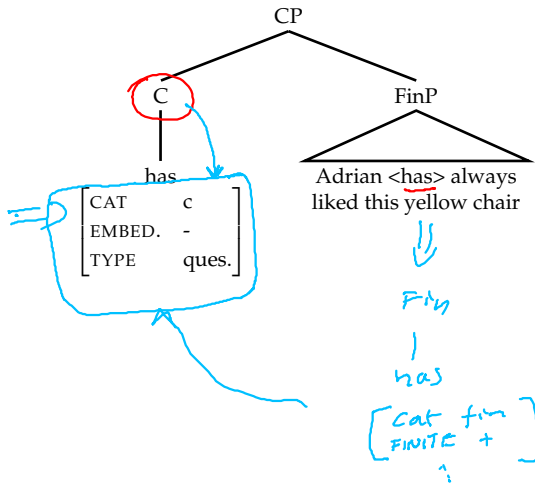
C = "clause-type"



Has A. always liked this y. chair?

## Simple yes/no questions

(5) Has Adrian always liked this chair?

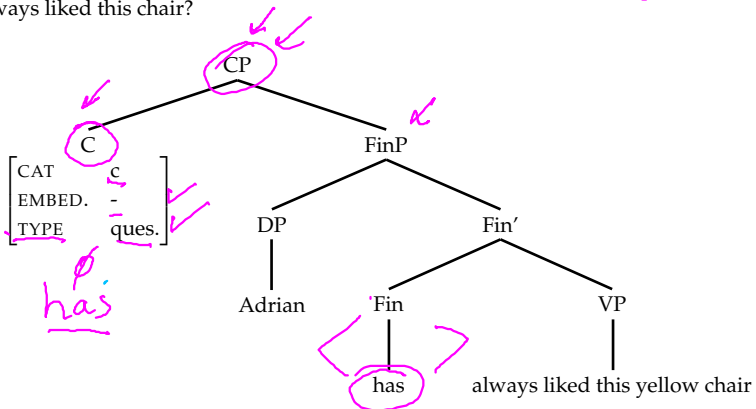




## Deriving a question

(6) Has Adrian always liked this chair?

*Adrian has always liked this chair?*



## Some predictions

- (7) a. \*I wonder has Adrian always liked this chair?  
b. \*I wonder which yellow chair has Adrian always liked?

[C/A  
Embed  
TYPE ques.]

Embed -  
cup

base landing site

CP

DP

C'

FinP

Fin'

VP

AdvP

V'

V

DP

Adrian

has

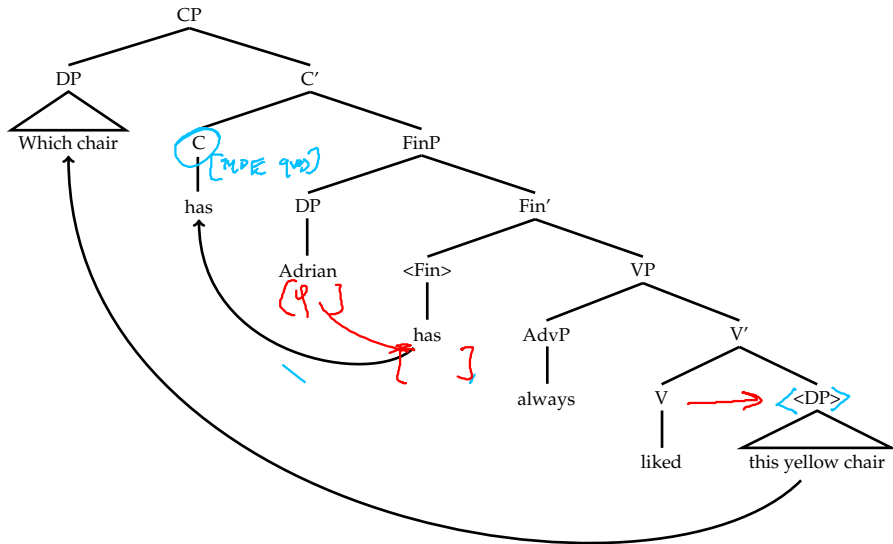
always

liked

this yellow chair

wh-movement

## Wh-phrase landing site



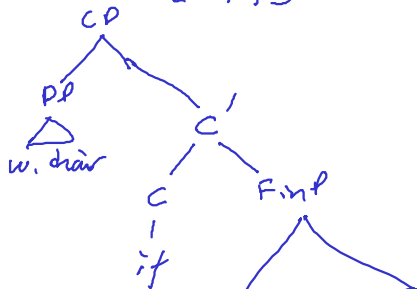
## Some open questions

(8) a. I wonder which yellow chair Adrian has always liked?

b. \*I wonder which yellow chair if Adrian has always liked?

↑ CP

[CAT C  
TIME q.  
EMB. +]



[CAT C  
EMB. +  
TIME q.]

no "if"

Q1: why (8a) is OK?

Q2: why (8b) is not OK?

Adrian has always liked  
<this yellow chair>.