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Typology of bizarre ellipsis varieties

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TYPOLOGY
OF BIZARRE ELLIPSIS VARIETIES

A Dissertation Presented

By

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In memory of my brother Ilya Erschler (1960-2018)

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ABSTRACT

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This dissertation deals with the typology and analysis of several types of ellipsis that have received little or no attention so far in the literature. The theoretical goal of the dissertation is to propose analyses of sluicing and gapping that will be able to account for cross-linguistic variation in this domain.

While the overall approach of the dissertation is typological, a particular focus is made upon data from Russian, Georgian (the South Caucasian language family), as well as Digor and Iron Ossetic (Iranian; Indo-European).

In the analysis of ellipsis, I follow extensive earlier literature in assuming that it is constituents that undergo deletion. The material that survives deletion is evacuated via movement at an earlier stage of derivation. As was proposed by Merchant (2001) building on Lobeck (1995), deletion is licensed by a dedicated

feature, E. In the original formulation, the E-feature is hosted by the head whose complement is to be deleted. However, Aelbrecht (2010) has shown that to make the account empirically adequate, one must allow two separate heads to be involved in the licensing: the head X^0 whose complement ZP is to be deleted and some higher head L^0. Somewhat modifying the original proposal of Aelbrecht's, I place the licensing E-feature on the higher head, L^0, and make it agree with the X^0 whose complement ZP is to be deleted.

I apply this formalism to two case studies to explore how it allows to derive the observed cross-linguistic variation. I will illustrate here the relevant constructions with schematic pseudo-English sentences.

The first case study deals with GAPPING – an ellipsis variety that removes the finite verb (together with the auxiliary, if there is one in the clause). Typically, gapping occurs in coordinations: *Mary keeps a dragon, and John a unicorn*. Languages vary in that whether the gapping site, i.e. the clause with a missing verb, and the antecedent may be separated by a CP boundary: **Mary keeps a dragon, and rumor has it [that John a unicorn]*. While sharply ungrammatical in English, the translational equivalent of this sentence in Russian or Georgian is fully acceptable. In chapter 4, I demonstrate that this construction is present in a number of languages; and show that licensing by agreement can account for this variation in a principled manner. I connect the presence or absence of embeddable gaps in a given language with the locus of the licensing feature. If only the $\&^0$ head is able to host the E-feature, we obtain English-like gapping. On the other hand, if the E-feature can be hosted in the left periphery of the clause that contains the gap, say, by Top^0 head, we obtain the pattern gapping that

is observed in Russian or Georgian. I show that predictions of this analysis are consistent with observed facts.

The second case study deals with a generalization of sluicing to alternative and polar questions. Recall that regular sluicing is a construction where only the wh-phrase is retained from an (embedded) wh-question: *Mary caught something, but I don't know what animal*. In this dissertation, I explore constructions of the following type. For alternative questions, it is **Mary caught something, but I don't know whether a dragon or a unicorn.* The intended meaning is: 'Mary caught something, but I don't know whether she caught a dragon or a unicorn.'. I call such a construction an Alt-sluice. For polar questions, I consider constructions of the type **Mary caught something, but I don't know whether a dragon.* The intended meaning is 'Mary caught something, but I don't know whether she caught a dragon.' I call these Pol-sluices. I show that Alt- and Pol-sluices share all basic properties with regular sluices. I demonstrate that the following implicational universal holds.

- If a given language allows Pol-sluicing, it allows Alt-sluicing.

- If a given language allows Alt-sluicing, it allows regular sluicing.

I verify this universal against a sample of about 60 languages, and propose an analysis of embedded questions that, together with the licensing by agreement approach, derives this universal. Specifically, I propose that the left periphery of an embedded question hosts a hierarchy of heads, [Q_{WH} [Q_{ALT} [Q_{POL} ...]...]. The head Q_{POL} is merged in all questions; Q_{ALT} is merged on top of Q_{POL} in alternative questions; and Q_{WH} is merged on top of Q_{ALT} in wh-questions. I show that the agreement-based approach derives the universal if we assume that the E-feature can be only hosted by a Q head of one type

in a given language. If the hosting head is Q_{WH}, we obtain a language like English, where only regular sluicing is possible. If the hosting head is Q_{ALT}, sluicing will be possible in alternative questions as well. Finally, if it is Q_{POL}, sluicing will be possible in all the three types of questions.

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

ABL	Ablative
ACC	Accusative
AGR	Agreement
ALL	Allative
AOR	Aorist
ASP	Aspect
AUX	Auxiliary
CL	Clitic
COM	Comitative
COMP	Complementizer
COP	Copula
CTR	Contrastive
CVB	Converb
DAT	Dative
DEF	Definite
DYN	Dynamic
EMP	Emphatic
ERG	Ergative
F	Feminine
FOC	Focus marker
FUT	Future
GEN	Genitive

HAB	Habitual
IND	Indicative
INF	Infinitive
INS	Instrumental
INT	Interrogative
IPF	Imperfective
IRR	Irrealis
LAT	Lative
LOC	Locative
M	Masculine
NEG	Negation
NOM	Nominative
NMZ	Nominalizer
OBL	Oblique
PF	Perfective
PL	Plural
PREP	Prepositional
PRS	Present
PRT	Particle
PRTC	Participle
PRV	Preverb
PST	Past
Q	Interrogative

QUOT	Quotative
REL	Relativizer
S	Subject
SG	Singular
SM	Subject marker
SUP	Superessive
TAM	Tense-Aspect-Mood
TOP	Topic

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Ellipsis

A comprehensive formal definition of ellipsis is difficult, and perhaps impossible, to give. To quote van Craenenbroeck & Merchant (to appear), "Ellipsis phenomena – or deletions, in traditional generative terms – involve a number of cases where otherwise expected material goes missing under some conditions". A formalization of "going missing" is non-trivial and admittedly theory-dependent. This dissertation, along with much of the current generative research on ellipsis, will focus on cases when it can be demonstrated that the unpronounced material was present at some earlier stage of derivation.

Since the late 1960s, especially since the seminal dissertation Ross (1967), the study of ellipsis has occupied the center stage in generative syntax. Until the late 1990s – early 2000s, however, only very few languages were systematically investigated, with English data playing a disproportionately large role in theoretical arguments. This has led, on the one hand, to the increasing sophistication of proposed analyses, but, on the other hand, it has restricted the range of commonly addressed ellipsis phenomena to those typical of English. A closer look at ellipsis in lesser-studied languages immediately reveals a plethora of ellipsis varieties that have been almost completely overlooked in the theoretical literature so far.

In this dissertation, I use data from a range of less commonly analyzed languages to argue for a specific theoretical approach to ellipsis. I will test this

approach against two ellipsis varieties, neither of which is attested in English: verb deletion in embedded clauses (which I will call "embedded gapping"), and ellipsis in embedded polar and alternative questions (which I will call "Pol-sluicing" and "Alt-sluicing", respectively).

In the rest of this introduction, I overview the main ideas and findings of the dissertation in more detail.

1.2 Derivation of Ellipsis

I follow extensive earlier literature in assuming that it is constituents that undergo deletion. The material that survives deletion is evacuated via movement at an earlier stage of derivation. As was proposed by Merchant (2001) building on Lobeck (1995), deletion is licensed by a dedicated feature, E. In the original formulation, the E-feature is hosted by the head whose complement is to be deleted. However, Aelbrecht (2010) has argued persuasively that to make the account empirically adequate, one must allow two separate heads to be involved in the licensing: the head X^0 whose complement ZP is to be deleted and some higher head L^0. Somewhat modifying the original proposal of Aelbrecht's, I place the licensing feature on the higher head, L^0 in (100), and make it agree with the X^0 whose complement ZP is to be deleted.

(1)

```
            LP
          /    \
      L⁰[E]     …
        |        XP
        |       /  \
        |          X'
        |         /  \
        |   →X⁰      ZP
        |_____↑   △
```

L⁰[E] ... XP ... X' ... X⁰ ... ZP

A key novel ingredient that I introduce that an E-feature of a given type can be hosted by different heads in different languages. I propose that the variation in the locus of the feature is one of the main sources of observable cross-linguistic variation in the realm of ellipsis.

1.3 Case study 1: Gapping

Under gapping, the lexical verb and the auxiliary, if there is any, are missing, but the sentence would remain grammatical should they be reconstructed. This is illustrated by the English sentence in (2a), and the Russian and Dutch ones in (2 b-c).

(2)   a.   Some will eat beans, and others ~~will eat~~ rice.

        b.   Russian
            Vasja pʲjot vodku   a   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~   samogon
            Vasya drinks vodka.ACC   CTR   Oleg   drinks moonshine.ACC
            'Vasya drinks vodka and Oleg moonshine.'

c.   Dutch
Karel   schrijft   met   een   potlood   en
K.   writes   with   a   pencil   and
John   ~~schrijft~~ met   een   pen
J.   writes   with   a   pen
'Karel writes with a pencil and John with a pen.' Neijt (1979: 19)

One of the key observations about gapping has been that in the languages examined in the earlier literature a gapping site cannot be embedded while its antecedent is located in a superordinate clause, Hankamer (1979) and the subsequent literature. This is illustrated in (3a) for English and in (3b) for Dutch. This property has been taken as one of defining properties of gapping, Johnson (2014).

(3)   a.   *Some ate mussels, and she claims that others ~~ate~~ shrimp.
             Johnson (2009)

       b.   Dutch
             *Peter houdt van   bananen,   en   ik   denk
             Peter likes of   bananas   and   I   think
             dat   Jessica van   peren.
             COMP   J.   of   pears
             *'Peter likes bananas and I think that Jessica pears.'
             Aelbrecht (2007)

In the recent years, however, a number of counterexamples have been discovered to this generalization. Embedded gapping is illustrated in (4). It is worth noting that in both sentences in (4), a complementizer is present in the clause that hosts gapping, which shows that it's indeed an embedded clause rather than a direct quotation.

(4)   a.   Georgian
             ia   svams čais   da   vpikrob   [**rom** uča   ɣwinos]
             Ia   drinks tea   and   I.think   COMP Ucha   wine
             'Ia drinks tea and I think that Ucha (drinks) wine.'

b.	Russian
Vasja p'jot   samogon   i   mne   kažetsja
Vasya drinks moonshine.ACC   and   I.DAT seems
[**što**   Oleg   vodku]
COMP   Oleg   vodka.ACC
'Vasya drinks moonshine and it seems to me that Oleg (drinks) vodka.'

Applied to gapping, the idea that I explore is that languages vary in where the E-feature is situated that is responsible for gapping. In languages such as English or Dutch that mostly restrict gapping to coordinations, the E-feature is hosted by $\&^0$ – I will call this "high" licensing of gapping (5).

(5)

agreement

Now, if the gapping site is *embedded* in a finite clause and the E-feature is hosted on $\&^0$, agreement fails to occur for locality reasons (6). Consequently, embedded gapping in such languages is predicted to be ungrammatical.

(6)   a.

$$\&P$$

Tree diagram:
- &P branches into XP$_1$ and &'
- &' branches into &^{0}[E] and TP
- TP ... VP
- VP branches into V^0 and CP
- CP branches into C'
- C' branches into C^0 and ... XP$_2$
- A dotted line connects &^{0}[E] down to XP$_2$ with an ✕ marked

failed agreement

b.   *Mary drinks tea and I think [that John ~~drinks~~ coffee]

To account for embedded gapping in the languages where it can occur in islands, I propose that the E-feature is hosted in such languages in the left periphery of the gapping clause itself, say, by Top^0, as schematized in (7).

6

(7)

```
                        TopP
                        /\
                      Top'
                      /   \
              Top⁰[E]        FocP
                |           /\
                |          ↑   ....
                |          |    TP
                |          |    /\
                |          |   ...
                |          |    YP
                |          |   /\
                |_____|__Y⁰      XP̶
                                     /\
         agreement         |        DP    V
                           |       
                           |_____|
```

We immediately rule in embedded gapping, as agreement is no longer impeded by locality.

Let us summarize the predictions our system makes for various types of languages. The relevant parameters are the locus of the E-feature, the size of the left periphery in the hosting clause, and the ability of the material to be deleted to move out of an embedded clause.

The size of the left periphery plays a role because the left periphery must provide a landing site for the movement of the remnant that feeds deletion.

Table 1 presents the resulting typology. Table 2 gives a list of languages that realize each of the resultings types. It is worth noting that there is considerable inter-speaker variation when judgments about embedded gapping are concerned.

Table 1. Parameters of variation and predictions

Height of E-feature	Size of left periphery	Movement out of embedded clause	Gapping in embedded non-islands	Gapping in islands	Type of Language
High (&^{0})	Irrelevant	Impossible	*	*	I
High (&^{0})	Large	Possible	ok	*	I a
Low (Top^0)	Large	Irrelevant	ok	ok	II

Table 2. Languages representing the types.

Type I	English; Dutch; German; Serbian; Slovenian.
Type Ia	Persian as described by Farudi (2013); Complementizerless clauses in English and Dutch
Type II	Russian; Georgian; Svan; Digor Ossetic; Iron Ossetic; Polish; Spanish, Hebrew

For some of the languages that exhibit embedded gapping of some sort, more data are necessary to assign them to one of the classes. This concerns Hungarian, Hindi (for speakers who allow embedded gapping), Eastern Armenian, Finnish, and Albanian.

Another, completely independent, parameter of variation is the extent to which polarity, tense, aspect, and modality should coincide between the antecedent and the gap. What controls the effects of this type is the size of the deleted constituent, Merchant (2013).

1.4 Sluicing in Wh- and Non-Wh-Questions

Among the major empirical breakthroughs of the 20th century linguistics there were the discovery of implicational universals by Greenberg, and, within a fairly different intellectual tradition, Ross' (1967, 1969, 1970) discovery of a wealth of new syntactic phenomena. In the course of the last two decades, these approaches have been fruitfully combined in a quest to find, and explain, implicational universals connecting newly discovered syntactic phenomena, see, e.g., Baker (2005, 2008, 2015); Bošković (2009); Harbour (2016), and Woolford (1999, 2006). In this dissertation, I implement this research program in the domain of embedded questions and ellipsis. Specifically, I formulate, and propose a derivation of, an implicational universal that predicts a relation between sluicing in embedded wh-questions, alternative questions, and polar questions in a given language.

Let us call *Pol-sluicing* the construction exemplified in (8a) and *Alt-sluicing* the construction exemplified in (8b). Although severely ungrammatical in English, crosslinguistically they fare quite well.

(8)   Pseudo-English
   a.   Mary cooked something, but I don't know *whether rice*.
        Intended reading: 'Mary cooked something, but I don't know whether it is rice that she cooked.'

   b.   Mary cooked something, but I don't know *whether rice or beans*.
        Intended reading: 'Mary cooked something, but I don't know whether she cooked rice or whether she cooked beans.'

The cross-linguistic data I have collected (currently, the sample comprises about 60 languages) support the following implicational universal.

(a) **Pol ⇒ Alt**
If a language allows Pol-sluicing, it will allow Alt-sluicing.

(b) **Alt ⇒ Wh**
If a language allows Alt-sluicing, it will also allow regular sluicing.

I propose a derivation for Alt- and Pol-sluices from which this universal naturally follows. The derivation is again couched in the framework of agreement-based deletion licensing. An abridged earlier version of this chapter with a different analysis appeared as Erschler (2017).

1.5 Languages of the study

While large language samples are used here whenever possible, the bulk of the data come from Russian and from several head-final languages of the Caucasus: Georgian, a member of the South Caucasian family; as well as Digor Ossetic, and Iron Ossetic, Iranian languages closely related to each other and rather distantly to the other Iranian languages.

For an overview of the South Caucasian languages, a small language family autochthonously only spoken in the Caucasus, see Boeder (2005). The Ossetic languages, although Indo-European and therefore genetically unrelated to the South

Caucasian, show nevertheless some typological similarities to the latter due to extensive contacts, see Erschler (2012a) and Erschler (to appear).

1.6 Roadmap

- Chapter 2 lays out the general empirical landscape of ellipsis inasmuch as it is relevant for the treatmet of the case studies addressed later in the work.

- Chapter 3 introduces the theoretical framework of this dissertation. It motivates the deletion-based approach to ellipsis and presents agreement-based ellipsis licensing, a key technical ingredient of the case studies in Chapters 4 and 5.

- Chapter 4 applies the framework introduced in Chapter 3 to a cross-linguistic study of gapping.

- Chapter 5 addresses typology of sluicing.

CHAPTER 2

THE LANDSCAPE OF ELLIPSIS

2.1 Introduction

The purpose of this chapter is to overview several major types of ellipsis often discussed in the literature and to introduce the relevant terminology and notation. Although the theoretical validity of the respective taxonomic categories is not necessarily clear, they nevertheless can serve as a source for convenient, even if not theoretically valid, labels to use in a discussion of ellipsis.

Throughout this dissertation, I will indicate ellipsis with the strikethrough. When translating elliptic constructions that are ungrammatical or nearly ungrammatical in English, I will sometimes use the strikethrough in a grammatical English translation, as illustrated in the Avar multiple sluicing example in (9).

(9)　　Avar (Northeast Caucasian)
　　　　kinalgo　　　łimalaz　　　co-co　　　žo　　　　b-aq͡χ:ana
　　　　all　　　　　kids.ERG[1]　one-one　　thing(III[2])　III-draw.PST
　　　　amma dida　łala-ro　　　łic:a　　　š:i-žo　　~~b-aq͡χ:ana~~
　　　　but　I.SUP　know-NEG　　who.ERG　　what-thing　III-draw.PST
　　　　'All the kids drew something, but I don't know who ~~drew~~ what.'

---

[1] Glosses: ABL ablative; ACC accusative; AGR agreement; ALL allative; AOR aorist; COM comitative; COMP complementizer; COP copula; CTR contrastive topic; CVB converb; DAT dative; DEF definite; DYN dynamic; EMP emphatic; ERG ergative; GEN genitive; HAB habitual; INF infinitive; INS instrumental; IPF imperfective; LAT lative; LOC locative; NEG negation; NOM nominative; OBL oblique; NMZ nominalizer; PF perfective; PL plural; PRT particle; PRTC participle; PRV preverb; PST past; Q interrogative; QUOT quotative; S subject; SUP superessive; TOP topic.

[2] Roman numerals are used to gloss genders (also called noun classes) in Northeast Caucasian languages.

To specify the terminology, I will refer to the clause where a part is deleted as an ELLIPSIS SITE. The lexical material that is present in the ellipsis site will be called REMNANTS. The lexical material in the antecedent that corresponds to a given remnant will be called the CORRELATE of that remnant. In (9), *łic:a š:i-žo* ~~*b-aq̂x̂:ana*~~ 'who drew what' is the ellipsis site, *łic:a* who.ERG and *š:i-žo* what.thing are the remnants, whose correlates are *kinalgo łimalaz* 'all kids.ERG' and *co-co žo* 'one-one thing', respectively.

2.2. Taxonomy of ellipses

It is a daunting task to provide a comprehensive taxonomy of ellipses, and this section only addresses the varieties more commonly discussed in the theoretical literature. For recent state-of-the-art overviews of research on ellipsis see Merchant (2013) and Merchant & van Craenenbroeck (2013). Sometimes, constructions resembling ellipsis do not actually involve unpronounced syntactic structure. Some such instances are illustrated below in (17) and (18) in Section 2.3. For a systematic overview of the properties used to diagnose the cases of true ellipsis and the reasoning behind these diagnostics, see Merchant (2013, to appear).

2.2.1 Ellipsis within the noun phrase

The head noun may go missing in a noun phrase[3], stranding the rest of it.

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[3] For the time being, I stay agnostic as to whether all the languages under consideration project a DP; many of them lack overt articles.

(10) a. Mary is holding a black tulip, and Sue **a yellow one.**

      b. The cat ate Mary's tulip, and the dog **Sue's**.

Completely descriptively, a stranded piece of an NP may be morphologically marked in different ways. First, it may appear with its regular morphology (i.e. the morphology that would be used in the presence of an overt head noun) and without a proform for the missing head noun like *Sue's* in (10b) and *rooie* 'red' in (11). Second, it can be marked with some morphology which would be absent without ellipsis. Third, it may appear together with a noun proform, such as *one* in the English sentence in (10a).

(11) Dutch
      Ik   heb   een   groen-e   fiets   en   jij   **een   rooi-e**
      I   have a   green-AGR bike   and you   a   read-AGR
      ~~fiets~~.
      bike
      'I have a green bike, and you a red **one**.' Corver & Van Coppen (2009)   Dutch

Dutch illustrates the strategy of using special morphology: for non-agreeing nouns, the agreement marker emerges on the adjective under ellipsis. For instance, regularly, the noun *konijn* 'rabbit' does not trigger agreement with an adjective in an indefinite DP.

(12) Dutch
      een   wit-(*e)   konijn
      a   white-AGR   rabbit   Dutch

However, to license deletion, the stranded adjective must bear agreement morphology, notice the agreement marker *-e* on the adjective *zwart-e* 'black' in (13).

(13)   Dutch
Jan   heeft [een **wit**   konijn]   gekocht   en   Marie heeft
Jan   has   a   white rabbit   bought   and   Marie has
[een   zwart-**e**   ~~konijn~~]   gekocht
a   black-AGR   ~~rabbit~~   bought
'Jan bought a white rabbit and Marie bought a black one.'
Corver & Van Coppen (2011: 374)

Furthermore, the marking strategy used in the language may depend on what is stranded: a possessor, an adjective, a quantifier, etc. For instance, this is so in English:

(14)   a.   Jill rides an old bike, and John repairs a new **one**.

b.   Jill rides Jim's bike, and John repairs Jun's (***one**).

An additional challenge is to determine whether an incomplete noun phrase is actually a result of ellipsis, see the discussion in Saab (to appear) and in van Craenenbroeck & Merchant (to appear). Deletion of the head noun is not easy to distinguish from situations when a stranded modifier gets converted into a noun.

2.2.2 Argument omission

I will mostly leave out argument omission, although the topic played a prominent role in the early studies of ergativity in the Northeast Caucasian languages (by Alexander Kibrik and his co-authors), and is relatively often discussed in grammars: this

phenomenon is very hard to tell apart from occurrences of phonologically null

arguments, see a discussion of this point in the case of Tsakhur in Testelets (1999).

That said, argument drop is very frequent in many languages of the Caucasus, even in

those that lack any overt agreement. In the Aghul sentence in (15a), both the subject

and the object are dropped in the main clause 'he tied it to a goat' and in the

dependent clause 'having brought the baby back', while in the Iron Ossetic sentence

in (15b), the direct object 'letter' is missing in the second conjunct. The missing

arguments are denoted here by *e*. I stay agnostic as to the nature of this phenomenon

or phenomena, *cf.* a discussion in Takahashi (2008) of analytic possibilities and

challenges to them in the case of similar phenomena in Japanese.

(15)　a.　　Aghul (Lezgic, Northeast Caucasian), Maysak (2014: 130)
　　　　　e_1　　　e_2　　　waχ.a-n　　　χaw　　e_1　　sa　　c'ен.ala-l　　e_2
　　　　　　　　　　　　　　　carry.PF-GEN　　back　　　　　one　　goat-SUP
　　　　　alart:u-naw
　　　　　tie.PF-AOR
　　　　　'(The shepherd₁) carried (the baby₂) back and tied (it) to a goat.'

　　　b.　　Iron Ossetic
　　　　　ɐž　　p'išmo нɐma　　　nə-ffəš-ton　　　šošlan=ta
　　　　　I　　letter　not.yet　　PRV-write-PST.1SG　　Soslan=CTR
　　　　　e　　nə-ffəš-ta
　　　　　　　PRV-write-PST.3SG
　　　　　'I haven't yet written a letter, and Soslan has written ~~a letter~~.'

Another phenomenon that creates a semblance of argument ellipsis is V-stranding

verb phrase ellipsis[4], see e.g. Goldberg (2005) and Gribanova (2013). Under this type

of ellipsis, the verb evacuates from the VP, after which the VP is deleted. Tests used

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[4] Admittedly, the existence of verb-stranding VPE is not undisputed, see Erteschik-Shir, Ibnbari & Taube (2013) and Landau (2018).

to detect V-stranding VPE are rather subtle and fall beyond the scope of the current chapter.

2.2.3 Verb phrase ellipsis

The prototypical verb phrase ellipsis (VPE) is attested in English (16): descriptively, an entire verb phrase is deleted in such cases, and what surfaces is only an appropriate form of the auxiliary or the infinitival *to*, bolded in the examples in (16). In terms of structure, the vP is deleted, while T^0, the head of the tense phrase is spelled out.

(16) a. Elves don't practice necromancy and trolls **do** ~~practice necromancy~~.

      b. The elf has written a novel and the troll **has**n't ~~written a novel~~.

      c. I wanted to pet the porcupine but the keeper didn't allow me **to** ~~pet the porcupine~~.

VPE in this narrow sense is very rare cross-linguistically, and much effort has been made to discover phenomena where deletion of the VP or vP is involved in languages other than English. Here, I list several phenomena that have been argued in the literature to involve VP or vP deletion.

VPE should not be confused with pragmatically controlled absence of a VP complement, where no hidden syntactic structure is detectable (17), see the discussion in Hankamer & Sag (1976) and Shopen (1972).

(17)   [Indulgent father feeds baby chocolate bar for dinner.]
        Mother: I don't approve.
        Hankamer & Sag (1976: 411)

The same holds for *do it* or *do so* anaphora (18): see the discussion in Hankamer &

Sag (1976) for the former, and in Houser (2010) for the latter.

(18)   Steve has eaten an apple, and . . . [5]
        a.   John has done it, too.

        b.   John has done so, too.   Houser (2010: 1).

2.2.3.1 Modal complement ellipsis

One relatively crosslinguistically common phenomenon is modal complement ellipsis

(19): in (19a), the complement of *kan* 'can' is missing, and in (19b), the complement

of *want*. The name of this ellipsis variety is self-explanatory. This phenomenon is

essentially identical to VPE, as has been recently argued by Aelbrecht (2012) on the

basis of Dutch data.

(19)   a.   Dutch Aelbrecht (2012: 1)
                Roos   wil   Jelle   wel   helpen maar   ze   kan   niet
                Roos   wants   Jelle   PRT   to.help but   she   can   NEG
                'Roos wants to help Jelle, but she can't.'

        b.   Mag Wildwood wants to read Fred's story, and I also want to.
                Johnson (2001)

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[5] The VPE counterpart of these sentences will be

(i)   Steve has eaten an apple, and John **has**, too.

As we will see below in Chapter 2, there are reasons to postulate the exstistence of silent structure in null modal complements.

2.2.4 Gapping, pseudogapping, subgapping, and right node raising

Gapping, Pseudogapping, and Right Node Raising (RNR) are theoretically distinct phenomena that are not necessarily easy to tell apart empirically in head final languages. This motivates treating them in a single subsection here.

2.2.4.1 Gapping

Gapping in English is illustrated in (20). Under gapping, the lexical verb is deleted, together with the auxiliary if there is one in the clause. The correlate and the elided verb do not need to match in number and person and, accordingly, in the phonological form. In English, the correlate must precede the elided verb.

(20) a.   Mary drinks coffee and the kids/you ~~drink~~ tea.

  b.   Mary was drinking coffee and the kids/you ~~were drinking~~ tea.

In some languages, a similar process can proceed backwards, as illustrated in (21) for Dutch embedded clauses.

(21)   Dutch Neijt (1979: 16)
Max   zei   dat   Jan   ~~at~~   een   appel en   Peter een   peer
Max   said   that   Jan   ate   an   apple and   Peter a   pear
at
ate
'Max said that Jan ~~ate~~ an apple and Peter ate a pear.'

We will discuss backward gapping in more detail in Sections 3.5.5 and 3.10.1 of Chapter 3.

Negation under gapping is claimed, since Siegel (1984), to be able to have two different scopes. Suppose that the negative marker is in the first conjunct, and the conjunction is of the form ~Q & P. Under the "wide scope", the reading is "it is not the case that the situation P & Q takes place (P and Q are parts of the same situation). Under the "distributed scope", the reading is "it is not the case that P takes place and it is not the case the Q takes place. P and Q are independent situations". The wide scope reading is hard to impossible to get in many languages other than English (see a discussion in Winkler (2005) and Repp (2013) for German), and I will largely disregard it in this work. *Mutatis mutandis*, all this is also applicable to modals in the first conjunct.

Now, to obtain distributed scope readings, languages vary as to whether negation may be gapped alongside with the verb, Repp (2009). While this is possible and, indeed, obligatory in Russian (22a), Dutch (22b) and German require negation to be retained in the gapping clause.

(22) a. Russian
maša   ne   pila   moloko   a   vasʲa (*ne) pivo
Masha NEG   drank milk   CTR Vasya NEG   beer
'Masha didn't drink milk, and Vasya didn't drink beer.'

b. Dutch
Joop   heeft de   vis   niet   opgegeten
Joop   has   the   fish   not   eaten.up
en   Jaap   het   vlees *(niet)
and   Jaap   the   meat   not
'Joop hasn't finished the fish, and Jaap the meat.

In English and some other well studied languages, the clause with gapping cannot be

embedded separately from its antecedent (23a), and this was widely believed to be

one of the fundamental properties of gapping. However, it has recently been shown

by Farudi (2013) that in Persian, gapping can occur in embedded clauses (23b).

(23) a. *Alfonse stole the emeralds and I think (that) Mugsy ~~stole~~ the pearls.
          Hankamer (1979: 19).

b. Persian, Farudi (2013: 76)
Mæhsa   in   ketab-ro   dust dar-e   va   Minu
Mahsa   this   book-ACC   like have-3SG   and   Minu
mi-dun-e   [ke   maman-eš   un   ketab-ro]
IPF-know-3SG COMP mother-3SG that book-ACC
'Mahsa likes this book and Minu knows that her mother (likes)
that book.'

In chapter 3, we will systematically address the cross-linguistic behavior of gapping

and analyses of gapping in the literature.

2.2.4.2 Pseudogapping

Another construction akin to gapping is *pseudogapping*, for a detailed discussion see e.g. Gengel (2013), Thoms (2016), and references there. Pseudogapping occurs in tenses that require an auxiliary, such as the English future or progressive. Under pseudogapping, the lexical verb is deleted while the auxiliary in the appropriate morphological form is retained (24). Pseudogapping differs from verb phrase ellipsis in that all syntactic material in the vP other than the lexical verb may be retained, and from gapping, in that the auxiliary is retained, while under gapping both the lexical verb and the auxiliary, if present, must be deleted. Not all speakers of English accept pseudogapping sentences.

(24)   I'm not citing their analysis so much as I **am** ~~citing~~ their data. Levin (1986:12) via Gengel (2013: 10).

Pseudogapping is rare cross-linguistically, and so far has been mostly discussed in the literature on the basis of English data. Gengel (2013) reports that pseudogapping is grammatical in Norwegian and Danish[6], as well as in Icelandic, and, possibly, in European Portuguese and French. Analyses of pseudogapping proposed in the literature are similar to those of gapping, see an overview in Gengel (2013).

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[6] But not in Swedish.

2.2.4.3 Subgapping

Subgapping is, in a sense, a mirror image of pseudogapping: under subgapping, the auxiliary or modal is deleted in the second conjunct while the main verb is retained. Subgapping has been described in English (25 a-b), German (25c), and Dutch (25d), see Lechner (2004: 106) and references there. It is possible in Russian as well, (25e). It is apparently unknown at present how widespread the phenomenon is cross-linguistically.

(25) a. John is sewing, and Bill ~~is~~ knitting. Lechner (2004: 106)

b. John can't go out, and Mary ~~can't~~ stay at home. Frazier (2015)

c. German
Ich   muss   ausgehen   und   du   ~~musst~~ zuhause
I   must   go.out   and   you   must   home
bleiben
stay
'I must go out, and you (must) stay home.'

d. Dutch
Ik   heb   de   haring   opgegeten,
I   have   DEF   herring   eaten.up
en   jij   ~~heeft~~ het   bier   opgedronken
and   you   have   DEF   beer   drunk.up
'I have eaten the herring and you (have) drunk the beer.'

e. Russian
klara budet pet^j   a   roza   ~~budet~~ tancevat^j
Clara will   sing   CTR   Rosa   will   dance
'Clara will sing and Rosa dance.'

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2.2.4.4 Right node raising

Right Node Raising (RNR) involves arguments or adjuncts in English (26). In such constructions, the rightmost constituent (26a), or, more generally, the rightmost string, which need not be a constituent (26b), belongs in some sense to both clauses. Not all the analyses of RNR posit deletion[7], the strikethrough is only used in (26) for expository purposes.

(26) a.   Mary caught ~~a porcupine~~ and Sue petted, a porcupine.

     b.   Mary baked ~~20 cakes in less than an hour~~, and George frosted
           20 cakes in less than an hour.   (Abbott 1976 *via* Citko 2017)

For backward gapping, especially in rigidly verb-final languages, it has been often claimed in the literature (starting from Hankamer 1979) that backward gapping should be considered right node raising.

2.2.5 Ellipsis in comparative constructions

As argued in detail in Lechner (2004), a gapping-like phenomenon occurs in comparative constructions in English, German, and Dutch.

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[7] For an overview of proposed analyses and respective references, see Citko (2017). These include string-based deletion at the PF, rightward across the board movement of the remnant, and multidominance (i.e. positing a structure where the remnant belongs to both conjuncts at once). As argued in Barros & Vicente (2013) and Chaves (2014), RNR-like phenomena do not allow for a uniform analysis.

(27)   Cats like fish more [than rabbits ~~like~~ kale].

Accordingly, it is natural to examine comparatives in a given language to check whether some kind of ellipsis is involved in their formation.

2.2.6 Stripping

Stripping, or *bare argument ellipsis*, is a construction where only one of the constituents of a clause survives. The remnant is typically accompanied by a focus marking morpheme or word, as the subject *Mr. Hyde* is accompanied by *too* in (28a). Sentences where the second conjunct contains negation, instead of a focus marker, such as in (28b) are also analyzed as stripping in the literature. Konietzko (2016) provides a state of the art overview of approaches to stripping. Most analyses assume that stripping has a clausal source in which the remnant undergoes some kind of fronting while the rest of the clause gets deleted.

(28)   a.   Dr. Jekyll lived in London and Mr. Hyde ~~lived in London~~ too.

        b.   Dana speaks Danish but not Dani.

While English disallows stripping to be separated from its antecedent by a clause boundary, this constraint does not hold cross-linguistically[8], as the Russian sentence in (29) illustrates. The embedded stripping remnant in (29) is 'hedgehogs too'.

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[8] The putative German examples of embedded stripping in Konietzko (2016) all involve embedded polar questions, and instantiate what is called here Pol-sluicing, see section 5.2.8. As Wurmbrand (2017) and Weir (2014) show, in English and German stripping can occur in an embedded clause

(29) Russian
      etot   kot   boitsja myšej   i   ja   dumaju
      this   cat   fears mice.GEN   and   I   I.think
      [što   ~~on~~ ~~boitsja~~ ježej   tože]
      COMP   he   fears hedgehogs.GEN   too
      'This cat fears mice and I think that ~~it fears~~ hedgehogs too.'

Stripping is sometimes claimed to be a variety of gapping involving only one remnant.
As data from the languages of the Caucasus show, however, stripping and gapping
have different crosslinguistic distributions.

2.2.7 Ellipses involving negation

Some types of ellipsis require negation to be present in the clause. A construction
similar to gapping and stripping was called *pseudostripping* in Depiante (2000) and,
perhaps more felicitously, *y/n ellipsis* by Kolokonte (2008), and *polar ellipsis* by
Gribanova (2013). In this construction, the antecedent lacks negation, while the
ellipsis site lacks a VP, as illustrated by the Spanish sentence in (30a) and the Greek
sentence in (30b).

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provided no complementizer is used. Wurmbrand argues at length that sentences such as in (i) indeed
involve clause embedding despite the absence of a complementizer.

(i)   German
        Leo   spricht Englisch und   Kai   behauptet   (*daß) Lina   auch
        Leo   speaks English and   Kai   claims   (*that) Lina   also
        'Leo speaks English and Kai claims (*that) Lina, too'

(30) a.   Kolokonte (2008: 8) Spanish
              Juan   leyó   el   libro   pero   María   no
              Juan   reads the   book   but   Maria   NEG
              'Juan reads the book but Maria doesn't.'

      b.   Kolokonte (2008: 1) Greek
              o   Petros   latrevi ti   θalasa
              the   Petros.NOM   loves   the   sea.ACC
              ala   i   Maria   ohi
              but   the   Maria.NOM   NEG
              'Peter loves the sea but Maria doesn't.'

Negative contrast ellipsis (31), a term coined by Kolokonte (2008), is fairly similar to

stripping: (31) differs from the stripping example in (28b) only by the absence of a

conjunction. It is not clear whether the two constructions can be consistently told

apart cross-linguistically.

(31)   Dana speaks Danish not Dani.

In terms of analysis, y/n stripping and negative contrast ellipsis are similar to

stripping, although existent analyses differ in where negation should be placed in the

structure.

2.2.8 Sluicing

2.2.8.1 Classical Sluicing

Sluicing is a type of ellipsis that deletes everything but the wh-phrase in an embedded wh-question. The wh-phrase usually has a correlate in the antecedent clause: either an indefinite (32a-b), or a DP the wh-phrase contrasts with (32c).

(32)   a.   John cooks something, but I don't know what ~~John cooks~~.

       b.   I have read this somewhere, but I forget where ~~I have read this~~.

       c.   John owns five DOGS, but I don't know how many CATS ~~John owns~~.

Sluicing can also occur when no overt correlate exists in the antecedent (33). This phenomenon was given the name of *sprouting* by Chung et al (1995).

(33)   a.   The cat is eating but I don't know *what* ~~the cat is eating~~.

       b.   The baby is crying but I don't know *why* ~~the baby is crying~~

       Arguments in favor of ellipsis-based analysis of sluicing advanced by Ross (1969/2012) and Merchant (2001) include case connectivity effects: if the correlate in the antecedent is assigned a specific morphological case, this case should be matched by the remnant wh-phrase, as happens with 'someone' and 'who' in (34), which both carry the dative marking.

(34) German Ross (1969/2012)
Er   will   jemandem   schmeicheln, aber   sie   wissen nicht
he   wants someone.DAT flatter.INF   but   they   know not
wem/*wer/*wen.
who.DAT/who.NOM/who.ACC
'He wants to flatter someone, but they don't know who.'

As was noticed already by Ross (1969/2012), sluicing amnesties, or appears to amnesty, island violations. This is illustrated in (35) for a relative clause island: while movement of wh-phrase from the NP complement is impossible in an embedded question without ellipsis (35a), the corresponding sluice is grammatical (35b). The sentences are from Lasnik (2001).

(35) a.   *Every linguist$_i$ met a philosopher who criticized some of his$_i$ work, but I'm not sure [how much of his$_i$ work]$_k$ [every linguist met a philosopher who criticized t$_k$]

b.   Every linguist$_i$ met a philosopher who criticized some of his$_i$ work, but I'm not sure [how much of his$_i$ work]$_k$ ~~[every linguist met a philosopher who criticized t$_k$]~~

Not all islands are amnestied under sluicing. Accounts for the nature of this phenomenon vary, see e.g. Merchant (2001); Barros et al (2014); and Griffiths & Lipták (2014). Merchant (2001) and Barros et al (2014) argue that the islands that can be amnestied under sluicing are exactly those where a source can be constructed that does not involve island violations. For (35b), for example, this will be something like (36).

(36) Every linguist$_i$ met a philosopher who criticized some of his$_i$ work, but I'm not sure [how much of his$_i$ work]$_k$ ~~[she criticized t$_k$]~~

2.2.8.2 Pseudosluicing

A superficially similar construction, called pseudosluicing by Merchant (2001) involves a copular sentence as the source of a sluice, compare (32 a-b) with (37 a-b).

(37) a. John cooks something, but I don't know what ~~it is~~.

  b. I have read this somewhere, but I forget where ~~it was~~.

In most languages with sufficiently rich case marking, the presence or absence of case connectivity effects usually allows one to tell apart sluices and pseudo-sluices: typically, in copular constructions, the pivot DP cannot bear a non-default case. Accordingly, the sentence in (38), where the wh-phrase must stand in the nominative, cannot serve as a source for (34), where it must stand in the dative.

(38) German
Er will jemandem schmeicheln, aber sie wissennicht
he   wants someone.DAT flatter.INF but they know not
wer/*wem/*wen   es ist
who.NOM/*who.DAT/*who.ACC it is
'He wants to flatter someone, but they don't know who it is.'

However, it has been argued that some languages allow case-marked DPs in copular constructions, see e.g. the discussion in Gribanova & Manetta (2016) and references there. One such language is Japanese: in (39), the source of what looks like a sluice (and was analyzed as such in Takahashi (1994)), *dare-o ka* who-ACC Q, is actually a copular sentence, Abe (2015); Nishiyama et al. (1996).

(39) Japanese; Abe (2015: 66-67)
      minna-wa   [John-ga   dareka-o   aisiteiru   to]   itta   ga
      everyone-TOP John-NOM   someone-ACC   love   COMP   said   but
      boku-wa   [dare-o   ~~da~~   ka]   wakara-nai
      I-TOP   who-ACC   COP   Q   know-NEG
      'Everyone said the John loved someone, but I don't know who (John loved).'

2.2.8.3 Generalizations of Sluicing beyond Wh-questions

An ellipsis variety similar to sluicing can occur in other types of embedded questions and, more widely, in embedded clauses with focus, van Craenenbroeck & Lipták (2006). Under this type of ellipsis, only the focus survives.

(40) a.   Sluicing in an alternative question
              (Der) Hans   hat   jemandem   geschmeichelt,   aber   ich
              DEF   Hans   has   someone.DAT   flatter.PRTC   but   I
              weiß   nicht   ob   **(dem)**   **Uwe**   **oder**
              know.PRS.1SG   NEG   Q   DEF.DAT   U.   or
              (dem)   **Jan** ~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt   hat~~.
              DEF.DAT   J.   DEF   Hans   flatter.PRTC   has
              'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe or Jan
              (that Hans flattered).'   German

      b.   sluicing in a polar question[9]
              ?(Der) Hans   hat   jemandem   geschmeichelt,
              DEF   Hans   has   someone.DAT   flatter.PRTC
              aber   ich   weiß   nicht   ob   **(dem)**   **Uwe**
              but   I   know.PRS.1SG   NEG   Q   DEF.DAT   U.
              ~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt hat.~~
              'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe
              (that Hans flattered).'   German

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[9] Speakers of German vary in their judgments about Pol-sluicing.

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c.   sluicing in a relative clause
     Kornél az-t   a   lány-t   hívta   meg
     Kornél that-ACC DEF   girl-ACC   invited   PRV
     akit   **Zoltán** ~~hívott~~   ~~meg~~
     REL.who.ACC Zoltán invited   PRV
     'The girl who Kornél invited was the one who Zoltán did.' Hungarian
     van Craenenboeck & Lipták (2006)

Erschler (2017) proposed an implicational universal connecting the presence of different types of sluicing in a given language: if a language allows sluicing in polar questions, it will allow sluicing in alternative questions and wh-questions, and if it allows sluicing in alternative questions, it will allow sluicing in wh-questions. We will discuss this in more detail in Chapter 4.

2.2.9 Fragments

Languages vary in that whether they allow fragments as questions and answers. By fragments, utterances smaller than a clause are meant here. For instance, '*When?*', '*Coffee or tea?*', '*Why not?*' or '*Why today?*' are fragment questions, while '*This Sunday*', '*Both*', and '*Because reasons*' are fragment answers. Fragments are not necessarily constituents, but not any language freely allows non-constituents as fragment answers or questions. At least some fragments result from ellipsis in full clauses, although there is no consensus so far about their derivation. Merchant (2004; 2008) and much of the ensuing research argue for exceptional[10] focus movement of the

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[10] That is, ungrammatical in the absence of ellipsis.

remnants followed by deletion, while Abe (2016) proposed an *in situ* derivation of fragments, see also Griffiths & Lipták (2014) and Weir (2014).

CHAPTER 3

THE THEORETICAL FRAMEWORK

The purpose of this chapter is to outline the framework in which the theoretical discussion will proceed in the next chapters. For recent overviews of the literature on ellipsis, see van Craenenbroeck & Merchant (2013), Merchant (to appear), and other chapters in van Craenenbroeck & Temmerman (to appear), which this chapter does not aspire to supplant.

3.1. Accounts of ellipsis

Available approaches to ellipsis can be roughly subdivided into several types. In NON-STRUCTURAL APPROACHES, to use the term of Merchant (to appear), no more structure is posited in an elliptical sentence than what is actually pronounced. The representatives of this approach include e.g. Ginzburg & Sag (2000) and Culicover & Jackendoff (2005). The dynamic syntax treatment of ellipsis in Kempson et al (2015) and Kempson et al (2016) can also be included in this group.

STRUCTURAL approaches, on the other hand, assume the existence of some silent material in the ellipsis site. This structure can be realized either as dedicated phonologically null elements that are interpreted at the LF or as regular syntactic structure that remains unpronounced. The null anaphor approach is implemented, for instance, in Hardt (1993) for Verb Phrase Ellipsis in English, in Lobeck (1995) for

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a wide variety of ellipses, in López (2000) for sluicing, NP ellipsis and VP ellipsis, and in Tang (2001) who proposed this way of analyzing Gapping in Mandarin Chinese. Proposals that ellipsis sites contain articulate syntactic structure, more or less the same as would have existed in the absence of ellipsis, but which remains silent begin with Ross (1967, 1969). It is this approach that will be taken up in the present study. An approach that is similar in spirit, but somewhat different in technical implementation posits LF copying of the missing structure from the antecedent, Chung et al (1995).

These approaches are not mutually exclusive: it is clear that instances of "deep anaphora" exist, i.e. ellipses that do not need an overt linguistic antecedent, Hankamer & Sag (1976), an observation which favors positing null elements. Furthermore, some fragment utterances may truly lack any additional structure, see the discussion and references in Merchant (2010; 2016). It can also be the case that both deletion and anaphoric lexical items may be involved in some types of ellipsis, see e.g. Authier (2011) and Baltin (2012).

In this study, I adopt the approach that assumes a rich unpronounced structure. Below, I address some properties of ellipsis that motivate this choice. For a more detailed discussion, see e.g. Authier (2011), İnce (2012); Merchant (2013; 2016), and references there.

First and foremost, various connectivity effects between the antecedent and the gapping site are easily accountable for by the deletion approach. For instance, under sluicing, the case of the wh remnant must match that of its correlate. In the absence of hidden structure, we need to posit a rather rich idiosyncratic set of case

assignment rules (under surface-true approaches) or of null anaphors (under null anaphor approaches). Essentially, every type of a verb in a given language will require a separate null anaphor to ensure correct case assignment. This phenomenon is illustrated in (41) with examples from Ross (1969: 253): in German, the verb *schmeicheln* 'to flatter' assigns the dative to its complement, while *loben* 'to praise' assigns the accusative. Accordingly, the sluice in (41a) must stand in the dative, and in (41b), in the accusative.

(41) German

  a. Hans hat jemand**em** geschmeichelt, aber ich
    Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC but I
    weiß nicht **wem/** ***wer/** ***wen**
    I.know NEG who.DAT who.NOM / who.ACC
    'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know who.'

  b. Hans hat jemand**en** gelobt aber ich
    Hans has someone.ACC praise.PRTC but I
    weiß nicht **wen/** ***wer/** ***wem**
    I.know NEG who.ACC who.NOM /who.DAT
    'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know who.'

Furthermore, in languages that show Tense-Aspect-Mood based case marking splits, such as Georgian, the case marking of the remnant should be the one corresponding to the verb in the antecedent. In the present, the subject of a transitive verb stands in the nominative, and the direct object, in the dative; while in the aorist, the respective cases are the ergative and the nominative. Accordingly, the remnant in (42a) stands in the dative, and in (42b), in the nominative.

(42)   Georgian
    a.   ia   **raɣacas**   amzadebs   magram   ar   vici
          Ia.NOM something.DAT   cooks   but   NEG   I.know
          ras   /***ra**
          what.DAT   what.NOM
          'Ia is cooking something, but I don't know what.'

    b.   ia-m   **raɣaca**   moamzada   magram   ar   vici
          Ia.ERG something.NOM   cooked   but   NEG   I.know
          ra   /***ras**
          what.NOM   what. DAT
          'Ia has cooked something, but I don't know what.'

An additional argument in favor of a rich underlying structure is the fact that ellipsis

sites can be extracted out of, as illustrated for the English VP ellipsis[11] in (43a-c) and

the Modal Complement ellipsis in French in (43d). A further discussion of extraction

from ellipsis sites can be found in Aelbrecht (2012).

(43)   Merchant (2013)
    a.   Which films did he refuse to see, and which films did he agree *(to)?

    b.   Which films did he refuse to see, and which films did he agree to
          [VP see t]?

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[11] Admittedly, VPE is somewhat different in its properties from all other ellipsis varieties in English, for instance, it allows a voice mismatch between the antecedent and the ellipsis site, Johnson (2001); Merchant (2013). However, this property appears to be English-specific. In Russian, VPE does not allow voice mismatches (i a), but extraction is still possible out of it (i b).

(i)   Russian
    a.   *stat^{j}ja   pisalas^j vasej
          article.NOM   was.being.written   Vasya.INS
          i   maša   <tože> budet   <tože>   [VP~~pisat^j~~   ~~stat^{j}ju~~]
          and   Masha.NOM   too   will   too   write.INF   article.ACC
          'An article was being written by Vasya and Masha will (be writing an article) too.'
          (intended)

    b.   ja   znaju   [kakie   stat^{j}ji]$_i$ maša   uže   napisalat_i,
          I   know   which   papers   Masha   already   wrote
          a   kakie   tol^{j}ko   budet   [VP~~pisat^j~~   ~~t$_{kakie}$~~]
          CTR   which   only   will   write.INF t_{which}
          'I know which articles she already wrote, and which ones she's only going to.'

   c. I know which books she READ, and which she DIDN'T.
      Merchant (2008: 140)

   d. French, Authier (2011: 177)
      (Speaker admiring a guitar collection)

Je	me	demande	lesquelles	on	peut	toucher
I	me	wonder	which-ones	one	can	touch

et	lesquelles	on	peut	pas.
and	which-ones	one	can	not

      'I wonder which ones you can touch, and which ones you can't.'

Additionally, ellipsis sites give rise to the "missing antecedent effects". As was first observed by Grinder and Postal (1971), pronouns may refer to, or be bound by, the material contained in an ellipsis site[12]. In (44), 'it' refers to the camel that Sue rode. In (44a), the sentence involves ellipsis where the pronoun can find an antecedent, whereas in (44b) this is impossible, although the sentence implies that Sue has ridden some camel.

(44) a. I never managed to ride a camel, but Sue did ~~manage to ride a camel~~$_i$, and it$_i$ was the two humped variety. Hankamer & Sag (1976)

   b. I never managed to ride a camel, unlike Sue. *It had two humps.
      Kyle Johnson, p.c.

Let us see how the tests described above apply to a given ellipsis variety, Modal Complement Ellipsis in Russian. Modals in Russian allow the complement to be phonologically null (45). To the best of my knowledge, this ellipsis variety in

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[12] The status of this diagnostic is disputed, however: Hardt (1993) observed that the English 'do so' anaphora can give rise to the missing antecedent effect (i), although no hidden syntactic structure is assumed to exist in this case.

(i) Jerry wouldn't read a book by Babel, but Meryl has done so and it was pretty good.

See Johnson (2001) and Frazier (2010) for more discussion.

Russian has not been addressed in the generative literature, although see McShane (2005) for many examples of ellipsis of this type. Let us show how the tests described above allow one to conclude that the phonologically null complement is actually a full-fledged infinitival clause, although unpronounced.

(45) a. vas^ja naučil svoju košku tancevat^j a pet^ja ne **možet**
Vasya taught self's cat dance.INF CTR[13] Petya NEG can
~~naučit^j~~ ~~svoju~~ ~~košku~~ ~~tancevat^j~~
teach.INF self's cat dance.INF
'Vasya has taught his cat to dance, and Petya can't (teach his cat to dance).'

b. oni razveli konspiraciju, vot ja i rešil
they established conspiracy so I FOC decided
što nam tože **nado** ~~razvesti~~ ~~konspiraciju~~
COMP we.DAT too necessary establish.INF conspiracy
'They've gotten a conspiracy going, so I figure we should, too.'
McShane (2005: 148)

First, pronouns may refer to, or be bound by[14], the contents of the ellipsis site: in (46a), the pronoun *ta* 'that one (feminine)' refers to Petya's cat. Speakers vary in their preferences for *ta* and *ona* 'she' in this context, but this is not directly relevant for us: either pronoun has an antecedent of some kind in the ellipsis site. On the other hand, in (46b), where the modal has an overt complement *etogo sdelat^j* 'do this', anaphora is impossible, although 'do this' can mean 'teach Petya's cat to dance'.

---

[13] The coordinator *a* (glossed CTR) is used to coordinate contrasting clauses. Informally speaking, it's midway between *i* 'and', which cannot coordinate contrasting clauses, unlike its English counterpart, and *no* 'but'.

[14] The difference between coreference and binding is irrelevant for my present purposes: in any case, there is an entity in the ellipsis to establish some relation with.

(46) a.   vas^ja naučil svoju košku tancevat^j   a   pet^ja ne   možet
          Vasya taught self's cat dance.INF   CTR   Petya NEG   can
          ~~naučit^j~~   ~~svoju~~ ~~košku_i~~ ~~tancevat^j~~
          teach.INF   self's cat   dance.INF
          potomu   što   ta_i   pl^juševaja
          because   that.one.F of.plush.F
          'Vasya has taught his cat to dance, and Petya can't (teach his cat to
          dance) because it is a stuffed one.'

      b.   vas^ja naučil svoju košku tancevat^j   a   pet^ja ne   možet
          Vasya taught self's cat dance.INF   CTR   Petya NEG   can
          etogo   sdelat^j (*potomu   što   ta   pl^juševaja)
          this.GEN   do.INF because   that.one.F   of.plush.F
          'Vasya has taught his cat to dance, and Petya can't do so, because
          it (Petya's cat) is a stuffed one.' (intended)

Furthermore, the null complement of a modal can be extracted from: in (47), *kakoj*

'which' must be extracted from the ellipsis site.

(47) vas^ja rasskazal   kakoj   on   možet napisat^j
      Vasya told   which.M.ACC he   can   write.INF
      t_{kakoj}   roman
      t_{which}   novel.ACC
      a   pet^ja (rasskazal)   kakoj   ne   možet
      CTR   Petya told   which.M.ACC NEG   can
      ~~napisat^j~~   ~~t_{kakoj}~~   ~~roman~~
      write.INF   t_{which} novel
      'Vasya told (us) what kind of novel he can write, and Petya told us what
      kind (of novel) he can't (write).'

Finally, the extracted material must carry the case marking determined by the elided

verb. While in (47) the case *kakoj* 'which' stands in is the accusative (which is

syncretic with the nominative for masculine inanimates in Russian), in (48) the verb

'to make use of' assigns the instrumental to its complement. Accordingly, the

extracted wh-word *kakimi* carries the instrumental marking.

(48) vas^ja rasskazal   kakimi   on   možet pol^jzovat^js^ja t$_{kakimi}$
Vasya told   which.PL.INS he   can   use   t$_{which}$
priborami   a   pet^ja (rasskazal) kakimi   ne   možet
device.PL.INS CTR   Petya told   which.PL.INS NEG   can
~~pol^jzovat^js^ja~~ ~~t$_{kakimi}$~~ ~~priborami~~
use   t$_{which}$ device.PL.INS
'Vasya told (us) what kind of devices he can use, and Petya told us what kind
(of devices) he can't (use).'

The question now is how to integrate the idea about the unpronounced structure in

an ellipsis site into minimalist syntax.

3.2. Move and Delete approach to ellipsis

The general approach to be pursued in this dissertation is that ellipsis involves

movement and deletion: remnants-to-be move out of the ellipsis site, while their host

constituent gets "deleted". The idea that movement may precede deletion provides a

uniform treatment for instances of obvious deletion of constituents and ostensible

non-constituent deletion, see e.g. the discussion in Craig & Sailor (2014).

For the purposes of the discussion in chapters 3 and 4, deletion will be

understood as non-insertion of the respective phonological exponents. I assume the

Y-model of syntax, in which narrow syntax operates with feature bundles that possess

meaning but lack phonological form. The phonological exponents from the

Vocabulary are inserted after the results of the computation are sent off to the LF.

Under ellipsis, insertion does not occur in the respective constituent.

The move and delete approach is schematized in (49): the evacuated remnant,

DP, moves into Spec YP, where YP is some higher projection, while ZP is deleted. In

general, of course, more than one remnant can move out of an ellipsis site, and they may land in the specifiers of different heads.

(49)

```
              YP
            /    \
          DP      …
          ↑        XP
          |      /    \
          |    X⁰      Z̶P̶
          |          /    \
          |                t_DP
          |_____|
```

Evidence for movement being implicated in the remnant formation comes from the fact that some restrictions on remnant formation parallel those on movement. For instance, as Merchant (2001; 2004) observed, the inability to extract DPs from PPs correlates with the inability of bare DPs in ellipsis remnants to be correlates to the respective PPs. This observation has received the name of Preposition Stranding Generalization. In English, where DPs can be extracted out of PPs (or, in other words, prepositions can be stranded), it is possible to use bare wh-phrases as sluices and fragment answers, when the respective correlate of the sluice, or the wh-phrase in the question, are the complements of PPs. This is shown in (50) for English wh-questions (50a), sluices (50b), and fragment answers (50c). These data can be replicated for Mainland Scandinavian languages, which also exhibit preposition stranding, Merchant (2001; 2004).

(50) a.   Who was he talking with t~who~? Merchant (2001: 92)

b.   Peter was talking with someone, but I don't know (with) who.
       Merchant (2001: 92)

c.   Q: Who was Peter talking with t~who~?
       A: Mary.   Merchant (2004: 685)

On the other hand, in languages that prohibit extraction out of PPs, it is impossible for

PPs in the antecedent to have bare DPs as correlating remnants, as is illustrated in

(51) for Russian.

(51)   Russian
       a.   *(s)   kem   ty   razgovarivaeš   (*s)?
            with   who.INS   you   you.talk   with
            'Who are you talking with?'

       b.   maša s   kem-to   razgovarivaet
            Masha with   who.IDF.INS   talks
            no   ja   ne   znaju   *(s)   kem
            but   I   NEG   know   with   who.INS
            'Masha is talking with someone, but I don't know with who.'

       c.   A: s   kem   maša   razgovarivaet?
                  with   who.INS   Masha talks
            B: *(s)   vasej
                  with   Vasya.INS
            'Who is Masha talking with? – With Vasya.'

Moreover, in languages where extraction is possible from some PPs, and impossible

from others, it is only the former type that can be stranded in fragment answers, as

was shown by İnce (2012) for Turkish.

Admittedly, some exceptions have been found to this generalization, see

Almeida & Yoshida (2007) for Brazilian Portuguese, for which an explanation is

proposed for why the P-stranding generalization is violated by Rodrigues et al (2009). Furthermore, violations of the P-stranding generalization in Serbo-Croatian were discovered and explained by Stjepanović (2006). No such explanation is currently known for Emirati Arabic, Leung (2014), and Polish, Sag & Nykiel (2011).

However, problematically for the movement approach, sluicing and some fragment answers evade some islands, as was first discovered by Ross (1969). For instance, in (52) this is illustrated for relative clauses. While the sluice in (52a) is grammatical, wh-movement from a relative clause is not (52b).

(52)　　　　Merchant (2001)
　　　a.　　They want to hire someone who speaks a Balkan language, but I don't remember which.

　　　b.　　*I don't remember which (Balkan language) they want to hire someone who speaks t_which.

Possible explanations of this phenomenon include, on one hand, a hypothesis that goes back to Ross (1969) that island constraints are PF phenomena that are destroyed by ellipsis. This might be the case either because ellipsis deletes some abstract diacritic that renders extraction from islands ungrammatical, see e.g. Fox & Lasnik (2003), or because linearization of trees works in such a way that structures with material extracted out of islands are non-linearizable, whereas ellipsis removes contradictions in the linearization conditions, Richards (1997) and Fox & Pesetsky (2005).

On the other hand, a proposal has been advanced in Merchant (2001) that no islands are implicated in (many) seemingly island-evading ellipses: rather, an

alternative non-isomorphic source without an island is available in all such cases. For

instance, a putative source[15] for (52a) can be as shown in (53).

(53)   They want to hire someone$_i$ who speaks a Balkan language, but I don't
       remember which Balkan dialect they$_i$ should speak.

For a sustained argument in favor of a non-isomorphic source approach, see Barros

et al (2014). A crucial observation that they make is that some islands cannot be

ameliorated by sluicing, and this happens precisely if no alternative source can be

---

[15] It might seem more natural to propose a copular source for this sluice (i), i.e. to treat it as pseudo-sluicing in terms of Merchant (2001).

(i)   They want to hire someone$_i$ who speaks a Balkan language, but I don't
      remember which Balkan language it is.

While the evidence against such a move in English is rather subtle, Merchant (2001), the argument becomes much more straightforwar once we take into account languages with a richer morphological case system, such as Russian or German. It is easy to show then that the copular source will not work: the wh-phrase in a copular clause will obligatorily stand in the nominative, as it is the case for *kakoj jazyk* 'which language' in (ii a), whereas the sluice must bear the marking required by the verb in the antecedent – for Russian, that would be the preposition *na* 'on' (ii b). See German data of the same type in Barros et al (2014).

(ii)   Russian
     a.   oni   xot^{j}at vz^{j}at^j na   rabotu kovo-nibud^j kto=by   govoril
            they   want   take.INF on   work   someone   who=IRR   spoke
            na   balkanskom   jazyke   no   ja   ne   pomn^{j}u
            on   Balkan.PREP   language.PREP   but   I   NEG   remember
            kakoj   eto   jazyk
            which.nom   FOC   language.NOM
            'They want to hire someone$_i$ who speaks a Balkan language, but I don't remember
            which language it is.'

     b.   oni   xot^{j}at vz^{j}at^j na   rabotu kovo-nibud^j kto=by   govoril
            they   want   take.INF on   work   someone   who=IRR   spoke
            na   balkanskom   jazyke   no   ja   ne   pomn^{j}u
            on   Balkan.PREP   language.PREP   but   I   NEG   remember
            na   kakom   jazyke
            on   which.PREP   language.PREP
            'They want to hire someone who speaks a Balkan language, but I don't remember
            which Balkan language.'

Sometimes, however, it is reasonable to posit an underlying cleft structure for what superficially looks like sluicing, van Craenenbroeck (2010b).

constructed which would not involve an island. Contrastive sluices in English, i.e. ones where the antecedent of the sluice is a contrastively interpreted definite DP (54a) rather than an indefinite, are known to obey islands (54b).

(54) a.   I know that they fired JOHN, but I don't know who ELSE.

      b.   ?*Sandy asked if they fired JOHN, but I don't know who ELSE ~~she asked if they fired t~~. Barros et al (2014: 23)

A non-isomorphic source with the needed reading ('who else it was that Sandy asked if they fired them') is unavailable in this case, and accordingly no island repair is observed. For more empirical evidence against the PF level island amelioration approach, see Marušič & Zaučer (2013).

      An alternative to the move-and-delete approach to ellipsis has been advanced in Abe & Tancredi (2013); Weir (2014); Abe (2015; 2016); and Ott & Struckmeier (2018). While technical details somewhat differ, all these works propose that the remnants stay in situ and are marked for non-deletion (55). This approach faces some empirical problems: for one, it is not clear how this approach would capture the difference between island-repairing and non-island repairing varieties of sluicing. Furthermore, under in situ approaches, we need to have a dedicated separate mechanism for avoiding deletion. One natural way to proceed is to identify the would-be remnants is to assume that they are the material that can remain prosodically prominent under deaccenting. However, the classes of material that may remain prosodically prominent and that can serve as remnants under ellipsis do not coincide.

For instance, English adjectives may remain prosodically prominent, but may not serve as remnants.

(55)

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\text{XP} \\
\diagdown \\
\text{X}^0 \quad \text{ZP } \textit{marked for deletion} \\
\diagdown \\
\text{DP}_{\textit{marked for pronunciation}}
\end{array}
$$

A clear advantage of the move and delete approach is that it does not need to introduce separate mechanisms of deletion and of escaping deletion. A clear disadvantage is that some of the movements that have to be posited under this approach are impossible in the absence of ellipsis, which makes analyses that rely on such movements barely falsifiable.

3.3. Licensing ellipsis: E-features

It can be shown that for deletion to be licensed both some degree of syntactic identity and semantic identity is required, see a.o. Sag (1976); Williams (1977); Kehler 2002 (though see Frazier and Clifton 2006 for critical discussion), Chung 2006, 2013, Chung et al. 2010, van Craenenbroeck 2010a, and Merchant 2013. Seemingly, the need to track a semantic condition creates a paradox with respect to modularity: LF doesn't know that something remains unpronounced; PF doesn't care about interpretation.

A solution was proposed by Merchant (2001), building upon Lobeck (1995): Let us posit a dedicated E-feature that instructs the computational system to override

the regular semantic and phonological computation. This E-feature is merged with the head whose complement is to be deleted.

- *Syntax*: a diacritic E-feature on some head (host)
- *Phonology*: the complement of the host head is null.
- *Semantics*: compute the usual semantics of the complement **and** evaluate an additional semantic identity condition between the ellipsis site and the antecedent.

In the original approach of Merchant's, the additional semantic condition was E-givenness, but it can conceivably be something else, e.g., it can be based on the equivalence of Questions Under Discussion in the sense of Ginzburg (1994) and Roberts (2012), see e.g. AnderBois (2011, 2014); Barros (2014); Weir (2014, 2017); and Kotek and Barros (2018). An early version of the latter condition, with D-linkedness instead of QUD-matching, and implementation of ellipsis as a pro-form, was formulated in López (2000). The general scheme is illustrated in (56): the feature on the head X^0 licenses deletion of its complement ZP.

(56)

```
              YP
           ╱     ╲
        DP        …
        │↑          XP
        │        ╱      ╲
        │     X⁰[E]      Z̶P̶
        │              ╱    ╲
        │                    t_DP
        └────────────────┘
```

Note that the E feature is placed on the head X whose complement is to be deleted rather than somewhere on the phrase ZP itself. The reason for this is that it is not

enough to specify which constituent is to be deleted: for instance, the constituent deleted under sluicing is a TP, which is the complement of the interrogative C^0. If our system had placed the licensing feature on the TP, we would predict TP deletion to be possible in many environments where it isn't (57).

(57)　a.　*Mary wondered whether pigs can fly, although it's not obvious
　　　　　　[CP that [TP ~~pigs can fly~~]]

　　　b.　*Mary claimed that pigs can fly, but I wonder [CP whether
　　　　　　[~~TP pigs can fly~~]]

Likewise, in Dutch, infinitival VPs can be elided when they are complements of modals (58a), but not when complements of regular auxiliaries (58b), Aelbrecht (2012: 2-3).

(58)　　　Dutch
　　　a.　Jessica wil　niet　gaan　werken　　morgen
　　　　　Jessica wants NEG　go.INF work.INF　tomorrow
　　　　　maar　ze　　moet　~~gaan　werken　　morgen~~
　　　　　but　she　must　go.INF work.INF　tomorrow
　　　　　'Jessica doesn't want to go to work tomorrow, but she has to.'

　　　b.　Herman　　kan　niet　zingen　　vanavond　maar
　　　　　Herman　　can　NEG　sing.INF　tonight　　but
　　　　　Marlies　　zal　*(zingen　　vanavond)
　　　　　Marlies　　will　sing.INF　tonight
　　　　　'Herman can't sing tonight, but Marlies will.'

To apply the scheme in (56) to specific ellipsis varieties, sluicing is licensed by an E-feature situated on C^0, (59 a-b), and VP ellipsis, on T^0, (59 c-d), both based on Merchant (2013: 86). For the purposes of exposition, the clause structure is simplified.

(59) a. Someone murdered Joe, but we don't know who.

b.
```
            CP
          /    \
      whoᵢ      C'
              /    \
          C⁰[E]    T̶P̶
                  /    \
                 ⟋_____⟍
                 tᵢ murdered Joe
```

c. Abby didn't see Joe, but Ben did.

d.
```
            TP
          /    \
       Ben      T'
              /    \
          T⁰[E]    V̶P̶
            |     /    \
           did  ⟋_____⟍
                 see Joe
```

For modal complement ellipsis, in Russian and elsewhere, the licensing feature is arguably situated on the modal (60). The tree is simplified: I gloss over the existence of the NegP in the structure, as it is irrelevant for our present purposes.

(60) a.
Petʲa	pošol	v	magazin	[potomu	što	vasʲa	ne
Petya	went	to	store	because		Vasya	NEG

možet	p̶o̶j̶t̶i̶	v̶	m̶a̶g̶a̶z̶i̶n̶]				
can	go.INF	to	store				

'Petya went to the store because Vasya can't (go to the store).'

b.

```
                    CP
              ┌──────┴────────┐
             C⁰              TP
              │         ┌──────┴─────┐
           because    Vasya         T'
                              ┌──────┴──────┐
                             T⁰           ModP
                                     ┌──────┴──────┐
                                  Mod⁰[E]         v̶P̶
                                     │          ╱‾‾‾‾╲
                                   can't      go.INF to store
```

3.4. Licensing by agreement

To account for a wider range of phenomena, Aelbrecht (2010) argued that an additional technical ingredient has to be introduced, namely, agreement[16]. In some instances of ellipsis, the presence of more than one head is necessary for ellipsis to occur. One example of such situations, although it was not considered by Aelbrecht herself, see the discussion in Aelbrecht (2010: 91-94), is gapping in English and Dutch, where the presence of a coordinating head is necessary while the complement of a much lower head is deleted. See a more detailed discussion in the next chapter.

To illustrate Aelbrecht's proposal with one of her own examples, in English, Verb Phrase Ellipsis can only be licensed by finite form of the auxiliary *have*, *be*, dummy *do* or a modal, or the infinitival marker *to*, (see Sag 1976, Williams 1977; Zagona 1982, 1988a, 1988b; Martin 1996; Lobeck 1993, 1995; Johnson 2001). Accordingly, non-finite forms of 'have' and 'be' do not license ellipsis, (61 a-b)

---

[16] A forerunner of this proposal is Merchant (2003), where it is essentially proposed that the E-feature responsible for stripping agrees with the conjunction.

Aelbrecht (2012: 15). However, when a licit VPE licenser is situated above these non-finite forms, ellipsis becomes possible (61c).

(61)   a.   *I hadn't thought about it, but I recall Max having.

       b.   *I hadn't been thinking about it, but I recall Morgan having been.

       c.   I hadn't been thinking about that. – Well, you should have been [~~thinking about that~~].

Aelbrecht concludes from the contrast between (61 a) and (61b) that 'should' is able to license VP deletion long-distance. The idea of Aelbrecht was to encode the dependence of ellipsis on two different heads by an agreement relationship between these heads.

Specifically, let X^0 be the head whose complement is to be deleted and L^0 the head necessary for the deletion to be licensed. Let us place the feature on one of them and make them agree (62). The E-feature will license the deletion of the complement of the lower head, if the agreement has taken place. In a way of speaking, complete non-pronouncement of syntactic structure is in this view an extreme manifestation of agreement morphology.

(62)

The E-feature, thus, includes the information about which head upstairs the head X^0 has to agree with. A predecessor of this idea is Merchant's (2003) analysis of stripping. He proposed that the E feature that licenses stripping includes an uninterpretable feature [uConj] that forces the head hosting the E-feature to agree with a conjunction.

In what follows, I will slightly modify Aelbrecht's proposal: I will place the feature on the higher head and make it agree with the lower one (63). Now, it will be the category of the head X^0 that will be part of the information encoded in E. I take the E-feature to be uninterpretable, and the matching interpretable feature to be the category of X^0 (or, equivalently, of the XP it projects). I assume that this agreement operation satisfies some locality conditions, at the very least that it cannot cross a CP boundary; and a relativized minimality condition, namely, that the agreement will proceed with the closest head of the given type.

More typically, agreement is discussed between a head and a phrase, see e.g. Chomsky (2000, 2001); Zeijlstra (2012); Preminger (2013, 2014). As far as I am able to tell, nothing changes in the predictions if we assume that the head L^0 agrees with the entire XP rather than X^0, with non-pronouncement of the complement as the morphological manisfestation of agreement. Given this, the agreement operation proposed here is not substantially different from the standard Chomskyan Agree.

(63)

```
              LP
            /    \
         L⁰[E]    …
          |        XP
          |       /   \
          |          X'
          |         /   \
          |_____→ X⁰    ZP
                          △
```

However, this modification requires a minor revision of the contents of the feature.

Specifically, it will have to be as follows:

- *Syntax*: a diacritic E feature on some head (host) and the information about the type of the head X^0 it agrees with.
- *Phonology*: the complement of the head X^0 the host head L^0 agrees with is null.
- *Semantics*: compute the usual semantics of the complement of X^0 **and** evaluate an additional semantic identity condition between the ellipsis site and the antecedent.

3.5. Conclusion

The approach outlined above strives to account for the properties of ellipsis using only the properties of E-features and the properties of movement in a given language. The latter obviously need to be accounted for anyway, independently of ellipsis. In the next chapters I will explore how this approach accounts for the cross-linguistic variation in the properties of gapping and sluicing.

To recapitulate, the technical assumptions used in this work are the following. Ellipsis sites possess rich unpronounced structure, more or less identical to that in "complete" utterances. Ellipsis is derived by movement of the remnants out of the

host constituent and deletion of this constituent. Only complements of certain heads are deleted. Deletion is triggered by agreement between the head whose complement is deleted and some higher licensing head.

In this chapter, I provided some arguments in favor of all these assumptions. The main thrust of the case studies below is that the approach based on these assumptions is versatile enough to address the breadth of cross-linguistic variation in this domain.

CHAPTER 4

GAPPING

4.1. Introduction

In this chapter, I will explore how the approach outlined in Chapter 2 applies to
GAPPING. Recall that under gapping, the lexical verb and the auxiliary, if there is any,
are missing, but the sentence would remain grammatical should they be
reconstructed. This is illustrated by the English sentence in (64a), and the Russian
and Dutch ones in (64 b-c). In more commonly studied cases, this construction occurs
in coordinations.

(64)   a.   Some will eat beans, and others ~~will eat~~ rice.

      b.   Russian
              Vasja   pʲjot   vodku   a   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~   samogon
              Vasya   drinks   vodka.ACC   CTR   Oleg   drinks   moonshine.ACC
              'Vasya drinks vodka and Oleg moonshine.'

      c.   Dutch
              Karel   schrijft   met   een   potlood   en
              K.   writes   with a   pencil   and
              John   ~~schrijft~~ met   een   pen
              J.   writes   with a   pen
              'Karel writes with a pencil and John with a pen.' Neijt (1979: 19)

The first example of the construction later to be named gapping was introduced in
the generative literature already in Gleitman (1965) when discussing "certain
conjunctions of nonconstituent sequences of constituents". Systematic study of

gapping, and the use of the term gapping itself, begins[17] with Ross (1967), and especially with Ross (1970).

Although several early works on gapping, starting with Ross (1970), were typologically oriented (see e.g. Koutsoudas 1971; Maling 1972; Pulte 1971; 1973; and Rosenbaum 1977), most research in the following decades focused on English and a few other better studied languages. The situation only changed in the 2000s, when a broader range of languages came to be addressed.

In earlier literature, e.g. Lobeck (1995), the tendency was to treat gapping as a *sui generis* phenomenon distinct from ellipsis. Tellingly, the title of Lappin & Benmamoun (eds.) (1999) is *Fragments. Studies in Ellipsis and Gapping*, with ellipsis and gapping listed separately. However, as we will see later, the arguments for setting gapping apart from other ellipsis varieties are not cross-linguistically robust.

One of the key observations that motivated non-ellipsis treatments of gapping has been that in the languages examined in the earlier literature a gapping site cannot be embedded while its antecedent is located in a superordinate clause, Hankamer (1979) and the subsequent literature. This is illustrated in (65a) for English and in (65b) for Dutch. This property has been taken as one of defining properties of gapping, Johnson (2014).

(65)   a.   *Some ate mussels, and she claims that others ~~ate~~ shrimp.
                Johnson (2009)

---

[17] I thank Barbara Partee, Haj Ross, and Robin Lakoff for a discussion of this point.

b.	Dutch
	*Peter houdt van	bananen,	en	ik	denk
	Peter	likes	of	bananas	and	I	think
	dat	Jessica van	peren.
	COMP	J.	of	pears
	*'Peter likes bananas and I think that Jessica pears.'
	Aelbrecht (2007)

In the recent years, however, a number of counterexamples have been discovered to this generalization. The languages where it has been shown not to be fulfilled include Mandarin Chinese[18], Tang (2001); Wei (2011); Persian, Farudi (2013) (66a); Spanish, Jung (2016) and Fernández-Sánchez (2016) (66b); Korean, Jung (2016); and Polish, Fernández-Sánchez (2016). At least for some speakers, embedding a gapping site is possible in Hindi-Urdu as well, Farudi (2013); Kush (2016).

(66)	a.	Persian, Farudi (2013)
		Mahsā in	ketāb-ro	dust	dār-e	va
		Mahsa this	book-ACC	like	have-3SG	and
		Minu	mi-dun-e	[**ke**	māmān-eš	un	ketāb-ro]
		Minu	IPF-know-3SG	COMP	mother-3SG	that	book-ACC
		'Mahsa likes this book and Minu knows that her mother (likes) that book.'

	b.	Spanish, Fernández-Sánchez (2016)
		Alfonso	robó las	esmeraldas	y	creo	[**que**	Mugsy
		Alfonso	stole the	emeralds	and	I.think	COMP	M.
		~~robó~~	las	perlas]
		stole	the	pearls
		'Alfonso stole the emeralds and I think that Mugsy (stole) the pearls.'

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[18] However, it remains a matter of discussion whether the gapping-like construction in Mandarin should be analyzed as regular gapping, given some idiosyncratic constraints it is subject to.

As I will argue below, such constructions should be treated on par with the regular gapping, which occurs in coordinate structures. In this chapter, I will call such a construction *embedded gapping*[19]. I will provide further evidence that (contrary to what has been assumed in the literature) embedded gapping is not very uncommon cross-linguistically.

I will show that the move and delete approach, together with agreement mediated deletion licensing can capture the crucial facts about gapping and successfully describe the cross-linguistic variation in this domain. In this sense, this work continues İnce (2009) who worked out the move & delete approach for gapping in Turkish and English, and Gengel (2013) who addressed English in this framework. Neither author, however, addressed cross-linguistic variation in embeddability of gapping. I contend that the approach adopted in this study is able adequately to treat this phenomenon.

This chapter is organized as follows. In Section 3.2, I overview empirical properties of gapping, both as they were summarized in the earlier literature and as they appear to be according to more recent studies. In Section 3.3, I address earlier minimalist accounts of gapping, and argue that ones not based on movement and deletion are unable to correctly account for the observed variation in embeddability of gapping. In Section 3.4, I lay out my proposal, and in Section 3.5, I discuss predictions it makes for languages with a low locus of the E-feature. In Section 3.6, I

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[19] No confusion should arise with the situations when both the antecedent and the gapping site are situated within the same embedded clause (i).

(i)   I think [that Mary drinks tea and John ~~drinks~~ coffee]

investigate the size of the constituent that is deleted under gapping, and in Section 3.7, cross-linguistic variation in the size of conjuncts, when gapping occurs in a coordinated structure. I use the observations from these two sections to provide a more detailed explicit account of gapping in Russian, Ossetic and Georgian in Section 3.8. In Section 3.9, I discuss and reject several potential alternative analyses. Finally, in Sections 3.10 I address some remaining open questions.

4.2. Empirical properties of gapping

In this section, I address descriptive generalizations about gapping as they are reported in the literature and discuss their cross-linguistic validity.

4.2.1 Presence of gapping in a given language

To repeat, I will use the naïve definition of gapping as a construction where the lexical verb and auxiliaries go missing. Gapping, taken in this broad sense, is extremely common cross-linguistically, although not universally present, Koutsoudas (1971); Carrera Hernández (2007). Carrera Hernández (2007) reports that gapping in coordinations[20] is impossible in Swahili, Bahasa Indonesia, Yoruba, Wolof, Thai, and Mandarin Chinese. The latter observation is apparently incorrect, Wei (2001); Tang

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[20] The state of affairs with gapping outside of coordinations in these languages is unknown, and, admittedly, it is much harder to verify.

(2011); Ai (2014). Rennison (1997) reports that gapping in coordinations is impossible in Koromfe (Gur).

My own data indicate that gapping is impossible in Kalmuck (Mongolic). This is illustrated for forward gapping in (67a) and for backward gapping in (67b). The reason to claim that Kalmuck lacks backward gapping is that in sentences such as illustrated in (67b), the verb in the second conjunct obligatorily shows plural agreement. Whatever the correct analysis of this sentence, it cannot be verb deletion in the first conjunct[21], as it becomes ungrammatical if the verb in the first conjunct is restored, while the the verb in the second conjunct retains the plural morphology.

(67)   Kalmuck
    a.   badəm toturʁo   idʒana
          Badma rice   is.eating
          caʁan   bodncəg   *(idʒana)
          Tsaghan   potato   is.eating
          'Badma is eating rice, and Tsaghan potatoes.'

    b.   badəm toturʁo   caʁan   bodncəg
          Badma rice   Tsaghan   potato
          idʒacxana/*idʒana
          they.are.eating[22]/*is.eating
          'Badma (is eating) rice, and Tsaghan is eating potatoes.' (intended)

The pattern in (67) is replicable, for instance, in Kannada (Dravidian): forward gapping is impossible, while what resembles backward gapping requires plural

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[21] See a discussion of backward gapping and Right Node Raising in Section 4.5.5.

[22] More accurately, this might be the pluractional form, rather a form with the plural agreement. This is, however, immaterial for my purposes, as the pluractional form would be impossible in the second conjunct taken on its own.

agreement on the verb in the second conjunct, Sridhar (1990: 109). Accordingly, Kannada lacks gapping in coordinations.

Carrera Hernández (2007: 2128) writes that her analysis predicts that gapping will only be possible in a given language, if the same lexical item is used there to coordinate constituents of any category. Irrespective of the validity of the analysis it is based upon, it would be interesting to check this generalization for a larger sample of languages[23].

4.2.2 Properties of gapping according to previous literature

The early literature on gapping arrived at a number of descriptive generalizations about gapping which were thought to distinguish it from other types of ellipsis. These properties were summarized in Lobeck (1995: 21), who calls other types of ellipsis (namely, Verb Phrase Ellipsis, sluicing, and N' deletion) just "ellipsis". They are given

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[23] The Russian (and Polish) contrastive coordinator *a* may provide a counterexample, depending on the correct analysis of sentences where it ostensibly coordinates DPs. In such sentences, one of the DPs must bear constituent negation: **ne** *puškin* 'not Pushkin' in (i a) and **nie** *Jana* 'not Jan' in (i b). It is plausible that such sentences involve ellipsis, in which case they serve as a counterexample to Carrera Hernández' generalization.

(I)   a.   Russian

mumu	napisal	**ne**	puškin	**a**	turgenev
Mumu.acc	wrote	NEG	Pushkin	CTR	Turgenev

'It is not Pushkin but rather Turgenev who wrote Mumu.'

    b.   Polish

dokument	dotyczy	**nie**	Jana,	**a**	Janusza
document	concerns	NEG	Jan.ACC	CTR	Janusz.ACC
Kobylańskiego					
Kobylański.ACC					

'The document concerns not Jan but rather Janusz Kobylański.'
http://wiadomosci.gazeta.pl/wiadomosci/1,114873,2618332.html
accessed on 04.22.2018.

in (68) and (69), Lobeck's (40) and (41). By 'gap' and 'ellipsis' she means the

respective missing material.

(68)   Gapping
       a. A gap must be flanked by lexical material.
       b. A gap must occur in a coordinate, but not subordinate clause separate from
       that containing its antecedent.
       c. A gap cannot precede its antecedent.
       d. A gap need not be a phrase.

(69) Ellipsis
       a. An ellipsis can be phrase-final.
       b. An ellipsis can occur in a coordinate or a subordinate clause
       separate from that containing its antecedent.
       c. An ellipsis can precede its antecedent under certain conditions.
       d. An ellipsis must be a phrase.

None of these properties of gapping are actually cross-linguistically robust. Head-

final languages, such as Turkish or Ossetic, allow forward gapping with the verb

naturally recoverable at the end of the clause[24] (70 a-b). The same is true for SOV

sentences in Russian (70c).

(70)   a.   Turkish, İnce (2009)
               Burak kütüphane-ye gitti,   Mustafa   (da)   hastane-ye   ~~gitti~~
               Burak library-DAT went Mustafa   also   hospital-DAT went
               'Burak went to the library and Mustafa to the hospital.'

       b.   Iron Ossetic
               šošlan χetɐg-mɐ   činəg ratta maχar=ta   žawər-mɐ   ~~činəg~~
               Soslan Xetag-ALL   book   gave   Maxar=CTR   Zaur-ALL   book
               ~~ratta~~
               gave
               'Soslan gave Xetag a book, and Maxar (gave) Zaur (a book).'

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[24] Although in non rigidly verb-final Ossetic and Russian, the conclusion about the position of the gap
relies on the assumption that the word orders match in the antecedent and the gapping site.

c. Russian

Vasja	vodku	pʲjot	a	Oleg	samogon	~~pʲjot~~
Vasya	vodka.ACC	drinks	CTR	Oleg	moonshine.ACC	drinks

'Vasya drinks vodka and Oleg moonshine.'

As we have seen already in Section 3.1, gaps in some languages may occur in subordinate clauses. Besides the languages mentioned there, embedded gapping is possible in Russian, Digor and Iron Ossetic; Georgian; Svan; Polish; Hebrew; Finnish[25]; Hungarian[26]; Albanian[27]; and Romanian[28]. This is illustrated for Georgian, Iron Ossetic, Russian[29], Albanian, Finnish, Hebrew, Polish, Romanian, and Hindi in (71).

It is worth noting that in all the sentences in (66) and (71), a complementizer is present in the clause that hosts gapping, which shows that it is indeed an embedded clause rather than a direct quotation (and that the matrix verb is not a parenthetical).

(71)   Georgian

a.

ia	svams	čais	da	vpikrob	[**rom**	uča	~~svams~~
Ia	drinks	tea	and	I.think	COMP	Ucha	drinks

ɣwinos]
wine
'Ia drinks tea and I think that Ucha (drinks) wine.'

---

b.   manana   amzadebs   saciv-s   da   vpikrob
        Manana   cooks   sacivi-DAT   and   I.think
        [**rom** nino ~~amzadebs~~ ɣom-s]
        that   Nino   cooks   grits-DAT
        'Manana cooks satsivi and I think that Nino (cooks) grits.'

c.   k'at'a-m   tevz-i   moip'ara   da   več'vob
        cat-ERG   fish-NOM   stole   and   I.suspect
        [**rom** dzaɣl-ma   xorc-i   ~~moip'ara~~]
        that   dog-ERG   meat-NOM   stole
        'The cat stole the fish and I suspect that the dog (stole) the meat.'

        Iron Ossetic
d.   žawər basəmdta   saj   ɐmɐ=mɐm   aftɐ   kɐšə
        Zaur   drank   tea   and=I.ALL   so   looks
        [**səma** čermen=ta   ~~basəmdta~~   k'ofi]
        COMP   Chermen=CTR drank   coffee
        'Zaur drank tea and I think that Chermen (drank) coffee.'

e.   ɐž   nɐ=qug-ɐn   baχɐrən   kodton   nɐ=fəd=ta
        I   our=cow-DAT eat.INF   I.did   our=father=CTR
        žaχta   [**sɐmej**   alinɐ nɐ=bɐχ-ɐn   ~~baχɐrən~~   ~~kɐna~~]
        said   COMP   Alina our=horse-DAT   eat.INF   do.SUB.FUT.3SG
        'I fed the cow and our father told Alina to feed the horse., lit. 'that she feed the horse.'

f.   Russian
        Vasja   pʲjot   samogon   i   mne   kažetsja
        Vasya drinks moonshine.ACC   and   I.DAT seems
        [**što**   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~   vodku]
        COMP   Oleg   drins vodka.ACC
        'Vasya drinks moonshine and it seems to me that Oleg (drinks) vodka.'

g.   Albanian
        Ana   pi   çaj   dhe   mendoj   [**se** Eva   kafe]
        Anna   drinks tea   and   I.think   COMP   Eva   coffee
        'Anna drinks tea and I think that Eva coffee.'

h.   Finnish
        Tarja juo   kahvia ja   luulen [**että** Pekka ~~juo~~   teetä]
        Tarja   drinks coffee and   I.think COMP   Pekka drinks tea
        'Tarja drinks coffee and I think that Pekka (drinks) tea.'

i. Hebrew
rina oxelet tapuxim ve=ani xošev [**še**=gal ~~oxel~~
Rina eats apples and=I think COMP=gal eats
rak agasim]
only pears
'Rina eats apples and I think that Gal only (eats) pears.'

j. Polish
?Piotr mieszka na Pradzie,
Piotr lives on Praga
a slyszalem, że Jan ~~mieszka~~ na Gocławiu.
CTR I.heard COMP Jan lives on Gocław
'Piotr lives in Praga, and I heard that Jan (lives) in Gocław.'

k. Romanian
Maria bea cafea şi cred [**că** Ion ~~bea~~ ceai]
Maria drinks coffee and I.think COMP Ion drinks tea
'Mary drinks tea and I think that John (drinks) coffee.'

l. Hindi, Kush (2016)[30]
Raam Sita=ko kitaab de-gaa aur mujhe
Ram Sita=ERG book give-FUT.M.3SG and me.OBL
lag-taa hai [**ki** Mahesh Rina=ko
strike-IMPF.M.SG aux.PRES.3SG COMP Mahesh Rina=OBJ
~~kitaab de-gaa~~
book give-FUT.M.3SG
'Ram gave a book to Sita and it seems to me that Mahesh
(gave a book) to Rina.'

As for directionality of gapping, an ongoing discussion, starting with Ross (1970) exists as to whether instances of backward gapping represent the same phenomenon as forward gapping, the most recent contribution being Citko's (2018) discussion of this phenomenon in Polish. She concludes that ostensible backward gapping in Polish is Right Node Raising. I will address this point in more detail in Section 3.5.5.

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[30] Kush (2016) reports that 3 out of the 9 speakers he consulted find such sentences acceptable.

Finally, as for the ability of gapping to delete non-constituents, this point becomes moot under any move-and-delete analysis. Gapping is not different in this respect from any other type of ellipsis with some material moved out of the deletion site.

4.2.3 Cross-linguistic properties of gapping

The upshot of the discussion in Section 3.2.2 is that gapping, when examined in a larger variety of languages, appears to be not different in principle from other types of ellipsis. It is natural to inquire about cross-linguistically robust properties of gapping.

Much of the discussion in this section will be illustrated with examples from Russian, Ossetic, and Georgian. The first generative account of gapping in Russian is Hermann (1984 (*non vidi*); 1985). Some properties of the Russian gapping were also addressed in McShane (2005); Kazenin (2010); and Agafonova (2011). To the best of my knowledge, gapping in Georgian and Ossetic has not been systematically discussed in the literature so far.

4.2.3.1 Contrast and choice of conjunctions

As first explicitly noticed by Kuno (1976), remnants under gapping must contrast with their correlates in the antecedent. In languages where contrast can be

morphologically marked, such marking typically surfaces under gapping. Let us illustrate this point with examples from Russian, Ossetic, and Georgian.

In Russian, gapping is impossible with the plain coordinating conjunction *i* 'and', but rather the contrastive conjunction *a* is required (72a). However, when a co-ordinator is present in both conjuncts, gapping is fully grammatical; the repeated coordinator is *i* in (72b) and *to* in (72c). I stay agnostic with respect to the correct analysis of the coordinator *to*. One possible approach has been advanced in Esipova (2017), who proposes that the ostensible coordinators *to ... to* are actually contrastive topics, which is consonant with the observation that gapping requires a contrast relationship between the conjuncts. The overall meaning of such coordinations is that the events described in each conjunct alternate in time.

(72)   Russian
   a.   Vasja pʲjot vodku   a/*i   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~
         Vasya drinks vodka.ACC   CTR/and   Oleg   drinks
         samogon
         moonshine.ACC
         'Vasya drinks vodka and Oleg moonshine.' (intended)

   b.   **i**   Vasja pʲjot vodku   **i**   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~
         and   Vasya drinks vodka.ACC   and   Oleg   drinks
         samogon
         moonshine.ACC
         'Both drink: Vasya vodka and Oleg moonshine.'

   c.   **to**   Vasja pʲjot vodku   **to**   Oleg   ~~pʲjot~~
         TO   Vasya drinks vodka.ACC   TO   Oleg   drinks
         samogon
         moonshine.ACC
         'Vasya would drink some vodka, and then Oleg some moonshine.'

In Russian disjunctions, morphological marking of contrast is impossible. Gapping, however, is possible under an appropriate prosody in disjunctions in this language. It is more felicitous either as an answer to a question[31] (73c) or in an embedded question (73d) than in out of the blue statements (73a) or matrix questions (73b). Like in the case of conjunctions, it drastically improves if the coordinator is repeated (73e). It is not clear whether *to* in *to=li* has the same meaning as *to* in (72c)[32], but this is immaterial for my present purposes.

(73)   Russian

    a.   #vas^ja požarit   rybu   ili   pet^ja ~~požarit~~   kotlety

#vas^ja	požarit	rybu	ili	pet^ja	~~požarit~~	kotlety
Vasya	will.fry	fish	or	Petya	will.fry	burgers

'Vasya will fry fish or Petya burgers.'

    b.   #vas^ja požarit   rybu   ili   pet^ja ~~požarit~~   kotlety?

#vas^ja	požarit	rybu	ili	pet^ja	~~požarit~~	kotlety?
Vasya	will.fry	fish	or	Petya	will.fry	burgers

'Will Vasya fry fish or Petya burgers?'

    c.   Q:

što	my	budemjest^j	na	užin?
what	we	will eat	for	dinner

'What will we have for dinner?'

        A:

vas^ja	požarit	rybu	ili	pet^ja	kotlety
Vasya	will.fry	fish	or	Petya	burgers

'Vasya will fry fish or Petya burgers.'

    d.

ja	ne=znaju	[vas^ja	požarit	rybu	ili	pet^ja
I	neg=I.know	Vasya	will.fry	fish	or	Petya

~~požarit~~	kotlety]
will.fry	burgers

'I don't know whether Vasya will fry fish or Petya burgers.'

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[31] The fact that certain types of gapping improve when they occur as answers has also been noted for Mandarin Chinese, see Ai (2014: 126) and references there. See also a discussion of the respective English facts in Section 4.9.2.

[32] Esipova (2017) suggests that it does.

e. **to=li** Vasja pʲjot vodku   **to=li** Oleg ~~pʲjot~~
    TO=Q Vasya drinks vodka.ACC   TO=Q Oleg drinks
    samogon
    moonshine.ACC
    'Either Vasya drinks vodka or Oleg moonshine.'

In Ossetic, if two conjuncts contrast, the first XP in the second clause has to be overtly marked as a contrastive topic by the enclitic *=ta* (Iron Ossetic)/*=ba* (Digor Ossetic). The presence of this marking is a necessary prerequisite for gapping in coordinations. The conjuncts are usually coordinated asyndetically (74a). The Iron Ossetic sentences in (74b-c) show that gapping is impossible without contrast marking with overt coordinators – *ɐmɐ* 'and' in (74b), and *fɐlɐ* 'but' in (74c).

(74)   Iron Ossetic
    a.   šošlan fəččən   baχordta   χetɐg=**ta**   wɐlibɐχ
         Soslan meat.pie   ate   Xetag=CTR   cheese.pie
         ~~baχordta~~
         ate
         'Soslan ate a meat pie and Xetag a cheese pie.'

    b.   *šošlan   fəččən   baχordta   **ɐmɐ**   χetɐg   wɐlibɐχ
         Soslan   meat.pie   ate   and   Xetag   cheese.pie
         ~~baχordta~~
         ate
         'Soslan ate a meat pie and Xetag a cheese pie.'

    c.   *šošlan   fəččən   baχordta   **fɐlɐ**   χetɐg   wɐlibɐχ
         Soslan   meat.pie   ate   but   Xetag   cheese.pie
         ~~baχordta~~
         ate
         'Soslan ate a meat pie but Xetag a cheese pie.'

The conjunctions *ɐmɐ* (Iron)/ *ɐma* (Digor) 'and' are altogether incompatible with contrast between the conjuncts, and, accordingly, with the presence of *=ta/=ba* (75).

(75) Iron Ossetic
     *šošlan   fəččən   baχordta   ɐmɐ   χetɐg=ta
     Soslan   meat.pie   ate   and   Xetag=CTR
     araq   banažta
     arak   drank
     'Soslan ate the meatpie whereas Khetag drank the araq.' (intended)

Consequently, sentences with gapping with both the contrast marking and these conjunctions will still be ungrammatical (76a). For *fele/fal* 'but', some speakers allow the contrastive marking and gapping (76b).

(76) Iron Ossetic
     a.   *šošlan   fəččən   baχordta   ɐmɐ   χetɐg=ta
            Soslan   meat.pie   ate   and   Xetag=CTR
            wɐlibɐχ   ~~baχordta~~
            cheese.pie   ate
            'Soslan ate a meat pie and Xetag a cheese pie.' (intended)

     b.   šošlan fəččən   baχordta   felɐ   χetɐg=ta   wɐlibɐχ
            Soslan meat.pie   ate   but   Xetag=CTR   cheese.pie
            'Soslan ate a meat pie but Xetag a cheese pie.'

In Ossetic disjunctions, contrast is possible between the disjuncts, but using contrast-marking enclitics is not. The reasons for the latter are unclear at present. Gapping, however, is possible in disjunctions, both in affirmative (77a) and interrogative (77b) sentences.

(77) Digor Ossetic
     a.   ?soslan   ɐ=madɐ   fɐjjidta
            soslan   3SG=mother saw
            kenɐ   zɛrina ɐ=fidɐ   ~~fɐjjidta~~
            or   Zarina 3SG=father   saw
            'Soslan saw his father or Zarina her mother.'

b.   mɛdinɛ   fezonɛg   baχwardta
         Madina   grilled.meat   ate
         ɛvi   čermen(*=ba)   wɛlibɛχ   ~~baχwardta~~?
         Q.or   Chermen(=CTR)   cheese.pie   ate
         'Did Madina eat grilled meat or Chermen a cheese pie?'

Turning now to Georgian, in this language the antecedent and the gapping site are normally coordinated asyndetically with the contrastive topic marker =*k'i* present in the second conjunct (78 a-b). However, conjunctions *da* 'and' or *magram/mara* 'but' are also judged possible to some extent (78 c-d).

(78)   Georgian
     a.   gia-m   šeč'ama   xača'p'ur-i   rezo-m   k'i
           Gia-ERG   ate   kachapuri-NOM   Rezo-ERG   CTR
           mč'ad-i
           mchadi-NOM
           'Gia ate a *khachapuri[33]* and Rezo a *mchadi[34]*.'

     b.   manana   c'ers   kalm-it   guram-i   k'i   pank'r-it
           Manana   writes pen-INS   Guram-NOM   CTR   pencil-INS
           'Manana writes with a pen and Guram with a pencil.'

     c.   giam   šeč'ama   xač'ap'uri   da   iam(*=ki)   mč'adi
           Gia   ate   khachapuri   and   Ia(=CTR)   mchadi
           'Gia ate a khachapuri, and Ia a mchadi.'

     d.   ?giam šeč'ama   xač'ap'uri   mara iam(*=ki)   mč'adi
           Gia   ate   khachapuri   but   Ia(=CTR)   mchadi
           'Gia ate a khachapuri, but Ia a mchadi.'

In Georgian disjunctions, no matter whether questions or assertions, gapping is impossible (79).

(79)   a.   *giam šeč'ama   xač'ap'uri   an   iam(=ki)   mč'adi
           Gia   ate   khachapuri   or   Ia(=CTR)   mchadi
           'Gia ate a khachapuri, or Ia a mchadi.' (intended)

---

[33] Cheese pie.
[34] Cornbread.

b.   *giam šeč'ama   xač'ap'uri   tu   iam(=ki)   mč'adi?
         Gia   ate   khachapuri   Q.or   Ia(=CTR)   mchadi
         'Did Gia eat a khachapuri, or Ia a mchadi?' (intended)

Besides the effects of contrast, it is not fully clear at present what governs the possibility, or felicity of gapping with a given conjunction or disjunction marker in a given language.

4.2.3.2 Parallelism between the antecedent and the gapping site

As other types of ellipsis, gapping imposes certain parallelism requirements on the antecedents and respective ellipsis sites. The parallelism effects include matching of the orders, and matching of the case marking, between the correlates and the respective remnants.

    The orders of the remnants and of the correlates are strongly preferred to be identical: the Russian sentence in (80a), where the order of the correlates *nosorogi* 'rhinos.NOM' and *begemotov* 'of hippos' matches that of the remnants *slony* 'elephants.NOM' and *myšej* 'of mice' can be uttered out of the blue, while the sentence in (80b), where the order of the remnants is opposite to that of the correlates, is only acceptable as a correction. In (80), identical subscripts indicate matching remnants and correlates.

(80)   Russian

a.   nosorogi$_i$ bojatsa   begemotov$_k$ a   slony$_i$
       rhinos.NOM   fear   hippos.GEN CTR elephants.NOM
       ~~bojatsa~~   myšej$_k$
       fear   mice.GEN
       'Rhinos fear hippos, and elephants mice.

b.   A: nosorogi$_i$ bojats^{j}a   myšej$_j$
              rhinos.NOM   fear   mice.ACC
              'Rhinos fear mice.'
        B: ?(net) NOSOROGI$_I$ bojatsa   BEGEMOTOV$_k$ a   MYŠEJ$_k$
              no   rhinos.NOM fear   hippos.GEN CTR mice
              ~~bojatsa~~   SLONY$_i$
              fear   elephants.NOM
              '(No), it is rhinos who fear hippos, and who fear mice,
              are elephants.'

Similar generalizations hold for Ossetic and Georgian. See analogous observations for German in Konietzko & Winkler (2010: 1441). For Swedish, Teleman et al (1999: 974) report that differences in the order of remnants and correlates between the antecedent and the gap are possible, although dispreferred, as the contrast between (81 a) and (81b) illustrates.

(81)   Swedish

a.   Boken   hade Sven visat för   Lena och   bilen
       the.book   had   Sven shown to   Lena and   the.car
       ~~hade   Sven   visat~~ för   Per
       had   Sven shown to   Per
       'Sven showed Lena a book, and Per, a car.'

b.   ?För   Lena hade Sven visat boken   och   bilen
       to   Lena had   Sven shown the.book   and   the.car
       ~~hade   Sven   visat~~ för   Per
       had   Sven shown to   Per
       Idem

Move-and-delete approaches to ellipsis, including the proposal to be advanced here, do not predict obligatory order matching. I ascribe the preference for it to a greater ease of parsing under the matching order.

Furthermore, respective remnants must match in morphological case with their correlates. In the antecedent in (82), the verb 'to like' assigns the dative to its experiencer (in these sentences, Oleg) and the nominative to the stimulus – in these sentences, *samogon* 'moonshine'. Accordingly, the remnants (*Vasya* and *vodka*) must be marked, respectively, with the dative and the nominative as well (82a).

(82)   Russian
   a.   oleg-u   nravits^ja   samogon   a   vas-e
         Oleg-DAT   likes   moonshine   CTR   Vasya-DAT
         vodka
         vodka-NOM
         'Oleg likes moonshine, and Vasya, vodka.'

   b.   *olegu   nravits^ja   samogon   a   vas^ja
         Oleg-DAT   likes   moonshine   CTR   Vasya-NOM
         vodku
         vodka-ACC
         Idem (intended)

In principle, the case marking pattern in (82b) could be obtained if a verb with a similar meaning, *l^jubit^j* 'to love', had been gapped in the second conjunct. However, it is impossible to reconstruct it without an overt antecedent.

It is probably appropriate to mention here that the literature sometimes reproduces the claim of Jackendoff's (1971) that English limits the number of remnants under gapping. This generalization is actually incorrect for English, nor have I been able to find a similar constraint in any of the languages under discussion, see Boone (2014) to the same effect.

4.2.3.3 Tense, aspect, and mood

In most of the languages I have data about, the antecedent and the gapping site must match in tense, aspect, and mood. To illustrate the obligatory match in tense, the antecedent and the gapping site in the Russian sentence in (83a) contain temporal adverbials 'yesterday' and 'tomorrow' that ensure a mismatch in tense.

To ensure a mismatch in aspect in (83b), a *for*-adverbial *mes^{j}ac* 'for a month' and an *in*-adverbial *za nedel^{j}u* 'in a week' are used. For-adverbials, i.e. the translations of the English *for*-phrases in the sense of Vendler (1967), are only compatible in Russian with imperfective verbs, and in-adverbials, with perfective ones[35]. It should be noted that the counterparts of (83 a-b) without ellipsis are grammatical. A similar observation has been made for Polish by Citko (2018: 24) and for German, by Repp (2009).

(83)　　　Russian
　　a.　*vas^{j}a dežuril　　včera　　　a　　pet^{j}a
　　　　Vasya was.on.duty yesterday　CTR　Petya
　　　　~~budet　dežurit^j~~　zavtra
　　　　will　be.on.duty　　tomorrow
　　　　'Vasya was on duty yesterday, and Petya (will be on duty) tomorrow.'

　　b.　*vas^{j}a pisal　　　stat^{j}ju mes^{j}ac　　a　　pet^{j}a ~~napisal~~
　　　　Vasya wrote.IPF　　article for.month　CTR　Petya wrote.IPF
　　　　recenziju　　za　　nedel^{j}u
　　　　review　　　in　　week
　　　　'Vasya had been writing the article for a month, and Petya (wrote) the review in a week.'

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[35] For-adverbials in Russian are marked with the accusative, while in-adverbials with the preposition *za* 'behind'.

Tense matching is also required in Farsi, Farudi (2013); Moroccan Arabic (my field data); Turkish, İnce (2009), and German, Repp (2009).

In Georgian, however, the situation is more complex. Georgian tense-aspect-mood paradigms are divided into three series, Harris (1981; 1985), Boeder (2005). Within each of the series, the subject and the direct object of a transitive verb receive the same case marking: the nominative and the dative in the 1st series, the ergative and the nominative in the 2nd series, and the dative (for the subject) and the nominative (for the direct object) in the 3rd series.

Now, tense mismatches are possible, at least for some speakers, if the verbs in the two conjuncts belong to the same series (84 a-b) and impossible, if they belong to different series (84 c-d). In (84 a-b), the tenses in the two conjuncts are the imperfect and the future, both of the 1st series, and in (84 c-d), the aorist (the 2nd series), and the future (the 1st series). The sentence in (84d) involves an intransitive verb, whose arguments bear the same case marking in the 1st and the 2nd series, which shows that the source of degradedness does not lie (only) in the case mismatch between the remnants and their correlates.

(84)   Georgian
    a.   ia   dɣes   xač'ap'urs   gamoacxobda
          Ia.NOM today   khachapuri.DAT   cook.IPF
          Nino   k'i   xwal   mč'ads   ~~gamoacxobs~~
          Nino.NOM   CTR   tomorrow   cornbread.DAT   cook.FUT
          'Ia baked a khachapuri today and Nino (will bake) a mchadi tomorrow.'

b.   ia   gušin   berlin=ši   čaprindeboda nino   k'i
       Ia.NOM yesterday   Berlin=to   fly.IPF   Nino.nom   CTR
       xval   p'ariz=ši   ~~čaprindeba~~
       tomorrow   Paris=to   fly.FUT
       'Ia flew to Berlin yesterday, and Nino (will) fly to Paris tomorrow.'

c.   *iam   dɣes   xač'ap'uri   gamoacxo   nino=k'i
       Ia.ERG today khachapuri.NOM   bake.AOR   Nino.NOM=CTR
       xval   mč'ads   ~~gamoacxobs~~
       tomorrow   mchadi.DAT   bake.FUT
       'Ia baked a khachapuri today, and Nino (will bake) a mchadi
       tomorrow.' (intended)

d.   *ia   gušin   berlin=ši   čaprinda   nino   k'i
       Ia.NOM yesterday   Berlin=to   fly.AOR   Nino.nom   CTR
       xval   p'ariz=ši   ~~čaprindeba~~
       tomorrow   Paris=to   fly.FUT
       'Ia flew to Berlin yesterday, and Nino (will) fly to Paris tomorrow.'
       (intended

Tense mismatches are allowed in Ossetic as well, as illustrated for Iron Ossetic

in (85).

(85)   Iron Ossetic
       žnon   səkolamɐ   sədtɐn χetɐg=ta   rajšom   čermen-mɐ
       yesterday   Chikola.ALL   I.went Khetag=CTR   tomorrow   Cermen-ALL
       'Yesterday I went to Chikola, and Khetag (will go) tomorrow to Chermen.'

On the other hand, the antecedent and the gapping site must still match in aspect even

in Ossetic. Like in the case of Russian, this can be checked using duration adverbials:

for-adverbials do not bear overt case marking, while in-adverbials are marked with

the allative. In the ungrammatical sentence in (86), an in-adverbial 'in 2 days' in the

antecedent contrasts with the for-adverbial 'for one day' in the gapping site. Without

ellipsis, (86) would have been grammatical.

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(86) Digor Ossetic
      *zawur   duwɐ bonemɐ   χɐʥarɐ   niχχursta
      Zaur   2   day.ALL   house   painted.PF
      χetɐg=ba   jew   bon   ~~χɐʥarɐ~~   ~~χursta~~
      Khetag=CTR 1   day   house   painted.IPF
      'Zaur painted the house in two days, and Khetag (painted the house)
      for one day.'

Alternatively, the sentence in (86) can be made grammatical by changing the case
marking on the adverbial *jew bon* 'one day' in the second conjunct. If it is marked with
the allative (*jew bon-mɐ*), the gapping site will receive a perfective interpretation,
matching that of the antecedent.

To illustrate the requirement to match in modality, consider the Russian
sentence in (87). The non-indicative mood is marked in Russian by the enclitic =*by*,
while the verb stands in the morphological past, Bailyn (2012); Timberlake (2012).
When the antecedent is in the irrealis, the enclitic =*by* cannot be retained in the
ellipsis site (87). In principle, that could have allowed the indicative interpretation of
the gap. The would-be reading of (87) is 'Vasya would have bought a goat, and Petya
did buy a cow.' In actuality, such a reading is not available.

(87) Russian
      vasʲa by   kupil   kozu a   petʲa (*by) korovu
      Vasya IRR   bought   goat CTR   Petya IRR   cow
      available reading: 'Vasya would buy a goat and Petya would buy a cow.'
      unavailable reading: 'Vasya would buy a goat and Petya bought a cow.'

For Ossetic, mismatches in modality are possible. Although it is difficult to
come up with a coordination example where a mismatch in modality would be a priori
plausible, such contexts are possible with embedded gapping (88). Here, the finite

verb *kodton* do.PST.1SG in the antecedent 'I fed the cow' is in the indicative, while in the gap, the future subjunctive form *kena* do.SUB.FUT.3SG must be reconstructed[36].

(88) Iron Ossetic
    ɐž   nɐ=qug-ɐn   baχɐrən   kodton   nɐ=fəd=ta
    I   our=cow-DAT eat.INF   I.did   our=father=CTR
    žaχta sɐmɐj alinɐ nɐ=bɐχ-ɐn   ~~baχɐrən~~   ~~kɐna~~
    said   COMP Alina our=horse-dat   eat.INF   do.SUB.FUT.3SG
    'I fed the cow and our father told Alina to feed the horse., lit. 'that she feed the horse.'

4.2.3.4 Voice

I know of no examples of gapping where the voice of the antecedent and the gapping clause would not match.

4.2.3.5 Polarity

By polarity, I mean the presence or absence of morphologially expressed negation in a given clause. Polarity mismatches between the antecedent and the ellipsis site are possible in gapping, but conditions under which they are possible vary across languages.

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[36] This TAM form is required by the presence of the complementizer *sɐmɐj*.

In the absence of n-words[37], the gapping site and the antecedent must match in polarity in Russian[38]: if negation is present in the antecedent, it will be obligatory reconstructed in the ellipsis site (89).

(89)   Russian
        vas^{j}a ne   p^{j}jot vodku a   pet^{j}a samogon
        Vasya NEG   drinks vodka CTR   Petya moonshine
        available reading: 'Vasya doesn't drink vodka and Petya doesn't drink moonshine.[39]'
        unavailable reading: 'Vasya doesn't drink vodka and Petya drinks moonshine.'

The point about the scope of negation holds for Ossetic[40] as well, (90). Negation in these sentences there has separate scopes in both conjuncts: the English translations of the sentences in (90) represent the only readings these sentences have.

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[37] N-words are nominal and adverbial items that appear in Negative Concord (and Negative Spread) structures. The term is due to Laka (1990). A convenient technical definition of n-words was formulated by Giannakidou (2006). "An expression α is an n-word iff: (a) α can be used in structures containing sentential negation or another α-expression yielding a reading equivalent to one logical negation; and (b) α can provide a negative fragment answer."

[38] Negation in Russian is expressed by a verb proclitic *ne*. Russian is a strict Negative Concord language: for n-words to be licensed, overt negation must be present in the clause (i).

(i)   Russian
        nikto   nikogda *(ne)   videl   nikakix jedinorogov
        no.one never   NEG   saw   none   unicorns
        'No one has ever seen any unicorns.'

[39] See Section 4.6 for a discussion of the absence of the wide scope reading of negation in this kind of construction in Russian.

[40] Digor and Iron Ossetic are Strict Negative Spread languages, Erschler & Volk (2011), Erschler (to appear). (Modality-dependent) negative markers are proclitics to the verb (i a), n-words are incompatible with negative markers, but can occur in any number in a clause (i b), where they obligatorily form a cluster immediately preceding the verb.

(i)   Digor Ossetic
        a.   soslan **ne**=rbacudɐj
                Soslan NEG=arrived
                'Soslan didn't arrive.'

(90)   Digor Ossetic

    a.   ɐχsarɐ   tikistɐ ne=warzuj   azɐmɐt=ba   kujtɐ
        Akhsara   cats   NEG=loves   Azamat=CTR   dogs
        'Akhsara doesn't like cats, and Azamat (doesn't like) dogs.'

    b.   ruslan ɐmdzɐvgitɐ   nekɐd kɐsuj
        Ruslan poems   never reads
        χetɐg=ba   radzurdtɐ
        Khetag=CTR   stories
        'Ruslan never reads poems, and Khetag (never reads) stories.'

In Russian, the negation marker *ne=* or the negative polarity particle[41] *net* cannot occur in a gapping site (91), no matter whether the first conjunct is negative (91a) or positive (91b).

(91)   Russian

    a.   *vasʲa ne   pʲjot vodku a   petʲa ne/net   samogon
        Vasya NEG   drinks vodka CTR   Petya NEG/no   moonshine
        intended: 'Vasya doesn't drink vodka and Petya doesn't drink moonshine.'

    b.   *vasʲa pʲjot vodku a   petʲa ne/net   samogon
        Vasya drinks vodka CTR   Petya NEG/no   moonshine
        intended: 'Vasya drinks vodka and Petya doesn't drink moonshine.'

Using n-words as remnants or the correlates of remnants, it is possible to coerce a polarity mismatch (92) both in Russian and Ossetic. Such sentences in

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    b.   **ne-ke**   **ne-kɐd**   (*nɐ)=adtɐj   mars-bɐl
        NEG-who   NEG-when   NEG=was   Mars-SUP
        'No one has ever been on Mars.' (negative concord, actual reading)
        *'Everyone has been on Mars some time.' (double negation, impossible reading)

[41] The polarity particle *net* must occur sentence finally, Gribanova (2017). We will discuss later the import of this fact for the analysis of gapping in Russian.

Russian, however, are sometimes degraded[42]. In particular, the sentence in (92a) becomes much worse without *tol'ko* 'only' modifying the direct object *samogon* 'moonshine'. Note that given that Ossetic exhibits Strict Negative Spread, the presence of the n-word *nekɐd* 'never' ensures that the gapping site in (92b) must be of negative polarity.

(92)   a.   Russian

?vasʲa	ne	pʲjot	ničevo	a	petʲa	tolʲko	samogon
Vasya	NEG	drinks	nothing	CTR	Petya	only	moonshine

'Vasya doesn't drink anything, and Petya only drinks moonshine.'
??'Vasya doesn't drink anything, and Petya doesn't drink only moonshine.'

      b.   Digor Ossetic

soslan	mɐdinɐbɐl	ɐwwɐnduj	χetɐg=ba
Soslan	Madina.SUP	believes	Khetag=CTR

ɐppundɐr	nekɐbɐl
at.all	nobody.SUP

'Soslan believes Madina, and Khetag believes no one at all.'

In German, a polarity mismatch is reported possible by Repp (2009: 94) for clauses conjoined with *aber* 'but', provided appropriate prosody.

(93)   German

Carl	hat	meine	Katze	nicht	genommen
Carl	has	my	cat	NEG	taken

aber	Harry	~~hat~~	meinen	Hamster	~~genommen~~
but	Harry	has	my.ACC	hamster	taken

'Carl didn't take my cat, but Harry took my hamster.'

---

[42] In Polish, polarity mismatches under (forward) gapping are reported fully grammatical by Citko (2018: 9).

To conclude, given that polarity mismatches are possible in a variety of languages, any typologically viable theory of gapping must allow for such a mismatch.

4.2.4 Summary

To recapitulate the discussion of this section, we have seen that gapping always involves contrast; furthermore, the gapping site and the antecedent must match in the properties that are determined sufficiently low in the tree, such as the case marking of the remnants or the voice of the verb. The higher the feature is in the tree, the more likely it is that in some language a mismatch will be allowed between the antecedent and the gap. Furthermore, languages differ in whether a gapping site may be embedded while its antecedent is situated in a superordinate clause, or in another embedded clause.

Any analysis of gapping must ideally be able to predict or, at the very least, should not *a priori* rule out, the patterns of cross-linguistic variation outlined above. With this in view, let us discuss (some of) the analyses of gapping advanced in the recent literature.

4.3. Analyses in previous literature

In this section, I overview a number of extant analyses of gapping and show that they fail to account for the properties of embeddable gapping. For reasons of space, I

largely gloss over non-minimalist analyses of ellipsis[43]. For a detailed overview of recent minimalist approaches to gapping see also Jung (2016).

One type of analysis that I am going to discuss proposes that an appearance of ellipsis under gapping is created in such cases by some kind of ACROSS-THE-BOARD MOVEMENT, Johnson (2009); Agbayani & Zoerner (2004). In a similar spirit, Winkler (2005) and Repp (2009) explore different variants of sidewards movement – an operation proposed by Nunes (2004).

A different type of approach, going back to Williams (1997) posits that AN LF COPYING PROCESS supplies the missing structure in a gapping site.

Finally, several recent works (including İnce 2009; Gengel 2013; Boone 2014; Weir 2014; Fernández-Sánchez 2016; Wurmbrand 2017) apply different variants of the MOVE AND DELETE APPROACH to what we call here embedded gapping, and, in some of these works, to matrix gapping as well.

4.3.1 Across the Board movement analyses

Johnson (2009) analyzes gapping in English as a result of vP coordination under a shared TP and across the board movement of the two VPs. The sentence in (94a) is thus parsed as in (94b). For the sake of simplicity, I am not showing the movements of the subject of the first conjunct, *some*, out of the first vP where it is assumed to be

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[43] These include early generative analyses, such as e.g. Ross (1970) and Jackendoff (1971), and analyses within radically different theoretical frameworks, e.g. that of Categorial Grammar, Steedman (1990); van Zonnenveld (1991); Kubota & Levine (2015; 2016), a.o.

base-generated, and the movement of the remnants *beans* and *rice* out of the respective VPs.

(94) a.   Some will eat beans, and others rice

    b.   [TP some
        [TP will [vP eat   [vP[vP [vP beans [v⁰ [vP tvP] & [vP others [vP rice [v⁰ [vP tvP]]

For arguments against the ATB analysis of gapping in English, I refer the reader to Ince (2009), Vicente (2010), Toosarvandani (2016), and Potter et al (2017). One prediction that ATB accounts definitely make is that gapping must be tied to the presence of coordination. As we will see in Section 3.5.2, gapping may occur without coordination in some of the languages under discussion.

As for sidewards movement based analyses, including Agbayani & Zoerner (2004); Winkler (2005); and Repp (2009), it is not fully clear what locality conditions sidewards movement is subject to[44]. If it cannot proceed out of an embedded CP, this type of analysis automatically rules out embedded gapping. If it can, embedded gapping appears to be predicted by this type of account to be possible in English or Dutch.

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[44] The same objection is applicable to ATB accounts.

4.3.2 LF copying type analyses

Several proposals, starting with Williams (1997), posit an array of null categories (which in the case of gapping correspond to the missing verb) and a dedicated rule, or a family of rules, that essentially instruct to copy the contents of the antecedent to the null element.

At LF, the semantic contents of the antecedent are then copied to the null category. However, the very format of this rule does not allow for ellipsis in embedded structures: the relation between the null heads is assumed to be subject to the relativized minimality condition, and thus an intervening matrix verb would interrupt it. It is not immediately clear how to generalize this type of proposal so that it would account for the cross-linguistic variation in the embeddability of gapping, and I will not explore this possibility in the current chapter.

Carrera Hernández (2007) *a priori* excludes backward gapping from consideration (although, as far as I am able to tell, her analysis is directly applicable to backward gapping in matrix clauses). More critically to our current purposes, her analysis appeals to a special direct relation between the antecedent and the gapping site, which she calls dependency. This is a *sui generis* concept introduced in Koster (1987) and Neeleman & Van de Koot (2002). Besides other conditions, it must obey locality, for which reason this analysis automatically rules out embedded gapping. It is possible, of course, to investigate whether the theory of dependency could be modified to relax the locality conditions, however, this is not a goal I am going to pursue in this chapter.

4.3.3 Move & Delete analyses

A number of accounts, including Jayaseelan (1990); Lasnik (1999); Johnson (2000); Coppock (2001); Lin (2002); Baltin (2003); Takahashi (2004), Vanden Wyngaerd (2007), Ince (2009), and Gengel (2013) assume that the material that survives gapping moves out of the constituent to be deleted, and then ellipsis proceeds, as schematically shown in (95). The nature of the evacuating movement varies across the proposals. The size of the deleted constituent may vary across languages. While for English it is typically assumed to be the VP or the vP, it can in principle be significantly larger. For instance, Ai (2014) proposes that in Mandarin Chinese, the entire IP gets deleted.

(95)   Some will eat beans and [others rice [~~XP~~ ~~will~~ [~~vP~~ [~~VP~~ ~~eat~~ ~~t~~rice]]]

Some of the accounts of this type, e.g. Aelbrecht (2007), Gengel (2013), and Farudi (2013), explicitly use the feature-based approach to ellipsis licensing. Boone (2014) and Fernández-Sánchez (2016) analyze the phenomenon I call "embedded gapping" as "embedded fragments", i.e. something separate from the usual matrix gapping.

4.3.4 Summary

To recapitulate the discussion of this section, for ATB / sidewards movement and LF copying analyses alike, a further elaboration of the theory is required to determine whether they can correctly treat embedding phenomena. On the other hand, as I will argue in the next section, move-and-delete approaches can be straightforwardly modified to capture the cross-linguistic variation.

4.4. Proposal

In this section, I lay out my proposal. I first discuss the creation of the remnant (Section 4.4.1) and then proceed to develop the key novel ingredient of the proposal, the hypothesis that the E-feature may be hosted by different heads in different languages. I first show that the standard English facts can be captured by the assumption that the E-feature is hosted by the coordinating head $\&^0$ (Section 4.4.2), and then discuss how languages with such a location of E-feature may still allow embedded gapping (Section 4.4.3). In Section 4.4.4, I advance the proposal that in many languages that allow embedded gapping, the E-feature is actually hosted in the left periphery of the clause that contains the gap.

4.4.1 Creating the remnant

To create the remnant, the material that survives gapping moves out of the constituent to be deleted into the specifiers of some left peripheral projections, FP in

(96). For the sake of simplicity, I only show the movement of one constituent. The remnant XP then undergoes deletion. This part of the proposal is fairly uncontroversial. It builds on the proposals discussed in section 3.3, and essentially goes back to Merchant's (2004) analysis of fragments.

For the time being, I stay agnostic as to the precise size of that constituent, but I assume that it is at least a VP. I use XP to denote it in (96). It is possible that languages vary with respect to the size of the XP: for English, the consensus is that it is a vP, Coppock (2001), Lin (2001), Johnson (2009), Toosarvandani (2016), Potter et al (2017) a.o., however, as I will argue in Section 3.6, it might be actually significantly larger.

(96)

At this point, we can observe that this approach makes an immediate prediction about the possibility of gapping in a given clause. Namely, gapping will be impossible in a given clause if its left periphery is not large enough to host the remnants. If the left periphery in embedded clauses in a given language is not rich enough, movement out

of the VP will fail and embedded gapping will not be observable, as has been argued

for Turkish by İnce (2009). Fernández-Sánchez (2016) proposed an empirical

generalization that in Polish and Spanish, only non-factive matrix verbs may host

embedded gapping[45] (embedded fragments in his terms). He connected it to the

proposal of de Cuba & McDonald (2013) that the complements of non-factives have a

richer left periphery. Even if this proposal is true for Polish and Sanish, the restriction

on the the type of matrix verbs does not hold cross-linguistically. For instance, in

Russian, a wide variety of verbs, including factive ones, can easily host gapping, (97).

(97)　　　Russian
　　　　　Attitude verbs

a.　　etrurija　　　navernjaka　　vyigraet　　u　　　finikii,　　　no
　　　Etruria　　　definitely　　will.win　　at　　Phoenicia　　but
　　　ja　**somnevajus**ʲ što　　gallija　~~vyigraet~~　u　　　likii
　　　I　　I.doubt　　　COMP　Gallia　will.win　　at　　Lycia
　　　'Etruria will certainly defeat Phoenicia, but I doubt that Gallia
　　　(will defeat) Lycia.'

b.　　etrurija　　　navernjaka　　vyigraet　　u　　　finikii　　　i
　　　Etruria　　　definitely　　will.win　　at　　Phoenicia　　but
　　　ja　**bojus**ʲ što　　gallija　~~vyigraet~~　u　　　likii
　　　I　　I.fear　COMP　Gallia　will.win　　　at　　Lycia
　　　'Etruria will certainly defeat Phoenicia, and I am afraid that Gallia
　　　(will defeat) Lycia.'

　　　Factive verbs

c.　　elam　včera　　　vyigralu　　finikii　　　i　　　ja
　　　Elam　yesterday　won　　at　　Phoenicia　　and　　I
　　　tolʲko=što　**uznal**　što　　gallija　~~vyigrala~~　u　　likii
　　　just　　　I.learned　COMP　Gallia　won　　　at　　Lycia
　　　'Elam yesterday defeated Phoenicia and I've just learned that Gallia
　　　(defeated) Lycia.'

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[45] However, as Jung (2016: 84) demonstrates, this generalization has exceptions.

d. krasnyje lapti konešno vyigrali u nadira
red bast.shoes of.course won at Nadir
no ty **zabyl** što zaborostoitel^j ~~vyigral~~u jauzy
but you forgot COMP Zaborostroitel won at Yauza
'The Krasnye Lapti of course defeated the Nadir, but you've forgotten
that the Zaborostroitel defeated the Yauza.'

e. krasnyje lapti ne mogut vyigrat^j u nadira
red bast.shoes NEG can win.INF at Nadir
i ja teper^j **ponjal** što zaborostoitel^j ~~ne~~
and I now understood COMP Zaborostroitel NEG
~~možet vyigrat^j~~ u jauzy tože
can win.INF at Yauza too
'The Krasnye Lapti cannot defeat the Nadir, and now I've realized that
the Zaborostroitel cannot defeat the Yauza either.'

f. krasnyje lapti ne mogut vyigrat^j u nadira
red bast.shoes NEG can win.INF at Nadir
i Vas^ja **objasnil** što zaborostoitel^j ~~ne~~ ~~možet~~
and Vasya explained COMP Zaborostroitel NEG can
~~vyigrat^j~~ u jauzy tože
win.INF at Yauza too
'The Krasnye Lapti cannot defeat the Nadir, and Vasya has explained
that the Zaborostroitel cannot defeat the Yauza either.'

The move and delete analysis of gapping is naturally equipped to track cross-linguistic and language-internal variation that is due to variation in the sizes of the left periphery across languages or clauses within a given language. For clauses with insufficiently large left periphery, the move & delete approach successfully predicts ungrammaticality of gaps hosted by such clauses. It remains to be seen, however, whether ellipsis licensing can be implemented in a satisfactory manner in such an account. This will be taken up in the sections to follow.

To provide evidence in favor of silent structure in gapping sites, and consequently in favor of the current proposal, consider the tests for deleted structure discussed above in Section 3.2.1. Their application to gapping yields the following

outcomes. First, the necessity of extraction is built into the move-and-delete approach, so this point is rather moot. As we have seen in Section 2.3.2, case connectivity effects obtain for gapping, but they are predicted by ATB movement aproaches as well. In Russian, anaphora is possible to the content of the gapping site[46] (98).

(98) Russian
(Vasya and Masha each own a cat.)

vas^ja	naučil	svoju	košku	latyni	a	maša	drevnegrečeskomu
Vasya	taught	self's	cat	Latin	CTR	Masha	Ancient.Greek
i	ona	teper^j	čitaet	po	nočam	platona	
and	she	now	reads	at	nights	Plato	

'Vasya taught his cat Latin, and Masha (taught her cat) Ancient Greek, and now it reads Plato at night.'

Furthermore, ATB extraction is possible out of gapping sites as well (assuming a raising analysis of relative clauses) (99).

(99) Russian

vot	kniga	kotoruju	maša	rekomendovala	daše
here	book	which	Masha	recommended.F	Dasha.DAT
a	kol^ja	~~rekomendoval~~	tole		
CTR	Kolya	recommended.M	Tolya.DAT		

'Here is a book that Masha recommended to Dasha, and Kolya to Tolya.'

These facts serve as evidence in favor of some silent structure in the gapping site.

---

[46] Many English speakers find it hard or impossible to get the sloppy reading in sentences such as in (i). At present, I don't have an explanation for this. However, the absence of sloppy reading cannot be taken as an argument *against* the presence of silent structure, Merchant (2001).

(i) (John and Mary each own a cat.) John has taught his cat Latin, and Mary, Greek, so now it reads Plato.

A prediction of the current account of gapping that is not borne out is that English gapping should allow preposition stranding, given that DPs may move out of PPs in English. This is not the case, see e.g. Jayaseelan (1990), Lasnik & Saito (1991), and Abe & Hoshi (1997). However, the absence of P-stranding is problematic for any account of gapping[47], unless one posits that remnants are evacuated from the constituent to be deleted by rightward movement, as Jayaseelan (1990) and Lasnik & Saito (1991) did; or unless one makes some additional special assumptions about the nature of P-stranding in English, as Abe & Hoshi (1997) do. The reason why the evacuating movement is unlikely to be directed rightwards is that the class of remnants under gapping in English is much wider than the class of items that can undergo Heavy NP Shift, the prototypical rightward movement. Accordingly, I do not take this non-prediction to be fatal for the current proposal.

4.4.2 Licensing deletion: E-feature on $\&^0$

Let us now proceed to the second technical ingredient of the proposal, the implementation of deletion licensing. To repeat, I have slightly modified the proposal of Aelbrecht (2010). Namely, I place the licensing E-feature on the higher head, L^0 in (100), and make it agree with the X^0 whose complement is to be deleted, while in

---

[47] Pseudo-gapping does not countenance P-stranding either (i a), the only exception is complex verbs (i b), i.e. those that can passivize (i c).

(i)   a.   *John stood near Mary and Bill should ~~stand near~~ Susan.

        b.   John spoke to Bill and Mary should **Susan.** Thoms (2016: 288)

        c.   Bill was spoken to.

Aelbrecht's proposal, the E-feature is hosted by X^0, and (upward) agreement is with L^0.

(100)

```
              LP
            ╱    ╲
       L⁰[E]      …
         │         XP
         │       ╱    ╲
         │         X'
         │       ╱    ╲
         └────→X⁰      Z̶P̶
                       △
```

The key idea that I explore is that languages vary in where the E-feature is situated that is responsible for gapping. In languages such as English or Dutch that mostly restrict gapping to coordinations, the E-feature is hosted by $\&^0$ – I will call this "high" licensing of gapping (101).

(101) a.

```
              &P
            ╱    ╲
       XP₁       &'
              ╱     ╲
          &⁰[E]      …
            │         YP₂
            │       ╱    ╲
            │    Y⁰      X̶P̶₂̶
            └────┘
          agreement
```

   b.   Mary drinks tea and John d̶r̶i̶n̶k̶s̶ coffee

Now, if the gapping site is *embedded* in a finite clause and the E-feature is hosted on $\&^0$, agreement fails to occur for locality reasons (102). I assume that agreement

cannot normally cross a CP boundary[48], see e.g. Bhatt & Keine (2017). Consequently,

embedded gapping in such languages is predicted to be ungrammatical.

(102) a.

```
                      &P
              ┌────────┴────────┐
            XP₁               &'
                        ┌──────┴──────┐
                      &⁰[E]          TP
                        │            …
                        │            VP
                        │      ┌──────┴──────┐
                        │     V⁰            CP
                        │              ┌─────┴─────┐
                        │                         C'
                        │                    ┌─────┴─────┐
                        │                   C⁰          …
                        │                              XP₂
                        └──────────┬──────────────────┘
                                   ✕
                            failed agreement
```

b. *Mary drinks tea and I think [that John ~~drinks~~ coffee]

c. Dutch
    *Peter houdt van   bananen,   en   ik   denk
    Peter likes of   bananas   and   I   think
    dat   Jessica van   peren.
    COMP   J.   of   pears
    'Peter likes bananas and I think that Jessica (likes) pears.'
    Aelbrecht (2007)

This analysis correctly predicts that gapping will still be possible in embedded clauses

when the antecedent is situated in the same embedded clause, even if a given

---

[48] As for finer locality properties of this agreement operation, it is likely that they vary across languages, as it is the case for more familiar types of agreement, see the discussion in Bhatt & Keine (2017) and the references there.

language disallows embedded gapping in our sense: the licensing feature will still be able to be hosted by $\&^0$. This is illustrated in (103a) for English, and in (103b) for Dutch.

(103) a.   I think [that Mary drinks tea and you ~~drink~~ coffee]

     b.   Dutch

Ik	denk	dat	[Jan	koffie	drinkt	en	jullie	thee
I	think	COMP	Jan	coffee	drinks	and	you	tea

~~drinken~~]
drink
'I think that Jan drinks coffee, and you, tea.'

The languages that belong to this type include English, German, Dutch, Serbian, and Slovenian.

Let us explore some further predictions made by this account. First, trivially, gapping will be impossible in the absence of coordination (104), given that the licensing feature can only sit on $\&^0$.

(104) a.   *Mary drank whisky   while/because   John   rum.

     b.   Dutch

*Mary	dronk	whisky	terwijl/omdat	John	rum
Mary	drank	whisky	while/because	John	rum

~~dronk~~
drank
Idem

     c.   German

*Jan	trinkt	Kaffee	weil/wann	Heike	Tee	~~trinkt~~
Jan	drinks	coffee	because/when	Heike	tea	drinks

'Jan drinks coffee because/when Heike (drinks) tea.' (intended)

d.   Serbian

*Dragan	pije	kafu	zato što	/dok
Dragan	drinks	coffee	because	/while
Dragana	~~pije~~	čaj		
Dragana	drinks	tea		

'Dragan drinks coffee because/while Dragana (drinks) tea.' (intended)

e.   Slovenian[49]

*Janez	pije	čaj	če/ker	Vid	~~pije~~	kavo
Janez	drinks	tea	if/because	Vid	drinks	coffee

'Janez drinks tea, if/because Vid (drinks) coffee.' (intended)

Second, assuming the now standard assymmetric structure for coordination, Munn (1993), Johannessen (1998), and the later literature, and that agreement may only proceed downwards (105a), we predict that languages with the E-feature of $\&^0$ will not allow backward gapping (105 b-c).

(105) a.

failed agreement

b.   *Mary ~~drank~~ whiskey and John drank rum.

---

[49] With *medtem ko* 'while' gapping is judged ungrammatical on the temporal reading, and possible on the contrastive reading, when 'while' is used in the meaning of 'whereas'.

(i)   Slovenian

Janez	pije	čaj,	medtem ko	Vid	~~pije~~	kavo
Janez	drinks	tea	while	Vid	drinks	coffee

available reading 'Janez drinks tea, whereas Vid (drinks) coffee'
unavailable reading 'Janez drinks tea, in the time when Vid (drinks) coffee.'

Possibly, the two readings correspond to different clause structures. As it is often the case with gapping, there is some inter-speaker variation in judgments here.

c. Dutch
*Mary ~~dronk~~ whiskey een John dronk rum.
Mary drank whiskey and John drank rum

d. Slovenian
*Janez ~~pije~~ čaj Vid pa ~~pije~~ kavo
Janez drinks tea Vid CTR drinks coffee

While this prediction is borne out in all the cases of languages with the E-feature on &[0] known to me[50], investigation of a much larger language sample is needed to assert its cross-linguistic validity. It is natural to inquire about how stable this prediction is with respect to changes in theoretical assumptions. This concerns, first, the asymmetric structure of coordinations, and, second, the directionality of agreement.

If one opts for a symmetric structure of coordination (106), the prediction about the directionality of gapping will no longer follow: even with the licensing feature on &[0], agreement should in principle be possible with either of the conjuncts.

(106)
&P
XP$_1$ & XP$_2$

---

[50] Dutch and German manifest what looks like backward gapping in embedded clauses (i). However, the properties of this construction are very different from those of forward gapping, and, as for instance Zwart (2011) extensively argues for Dutch, this construction should be analyzed as RNR.

(i) Dutch
... dat Tasman Tasmanië en Cook de Cook-eilanden
COMP Tasman Tasmania and Cook the Cook.islands
ontdekte
discover.PST.SG
'... that Tasman discovered Tasmania, and Cook, the Cook Islands.' Zwart (2011: 138).

A less clear case is Persian, as discussed by Farudi (2013), who nevertheless arrives at the conclusion that what looks like backward gapping in Persian is not derived in the same manner as forward gapping.

In this sense, if the generalization that languages with the E-feature on $\&^0$ disallow backward gapping should prove cross-linguistically valid, this will serve as an additional argument in favor of the asymmetric structure, albeit a rather indirect one.

As for the directionality of Agree, the current prediction appears to be stable with respect to the variation among the proposals advanced so far in the literature, except to one possible setting: Cyclic Agree whose default direction is upward.

Let us explore how, and whether, the predictions of the current account vary with respect to the assumptions regarding the directionality of agreement. Proposals about the directionality of Agree include strictly downward Agree, see e.g. Chomsky (2000, 2001); Epstein & Seely (2006), Bošković (2007), and Preminger & Polinsky (2015), which is adopted here, strictly upward Agree, Wurmbrand (2012); Zeijlstra (2013) Bjorkman & Zeijlstra (2014), and various versions of cyclic Agree, where agreement can change direction if no appropriate goal is found under the default direction, see e.g. Béjar & Rezac (2009) and Preminger (2015).

If we were to revert to strictly upward Agree, as was envisioned in the original proposal of Aelbrecht (2010), we would have needed to relocate the E-feature to the sister of the constituent to be deleted and make it agree with $\&^0$. The prediction will remain the same, however: the first conjunct is higher in the structure than $\&^0$ and deletion within it will not be licensed (107a). On the other hand, if the E-feature is located in the second conjunct, upward agreement can proceed; and thus forward gapping is licensed (107b).

(107) a.

&P
 ┌──────────────┴──────────────┐
XP₁   &'
 ┌──────┴──────┐   ┌─────┴──────┐
          Y⁰[E]   ZP₁   &⁰   XP₂

failed agreement

b.

&P
 ┌────────┴────────┐
XP₁   &'
          ┌────────┴────────┐
          &⁰   XP₂
                      ┌──────┴──────┐
                    Y⁰[E]   ~~ZP₂~~

agreement

Cyclic Agree whose default direction is downwards does not yield any new predictions either: the coordinator with the E-feature is always higher than the second conjunct (101), so no need arises to probe into the first conjunct. The only problematic setting is Cyclic Agree whose default direction is upwards. In that case, downward agreement as shown in (107a) will be possible after the goal will have found no appropriate higher probe.

We will discuss more predictions the current account makes for languages of this type in Section 3.5 when comparing them with languages with a low location of the E-feature.

4.4.3 Embedded gapping with the E-feature on $\&^0$

We have seen in the preceding section that embedded gapping is normally impossible in a language that hosts the E-feature on $\&^0$. Nevertheless, languages with a high locus of the E-feature can still allow embedded gapping under certain conditions. Those include, first, the ability of agreement to reach into (some) embedded clauses, and, second, the ability of the constituent to be deleted to move out of its embedded clause to become accessible to agreement. In this section, I address several case studies where one of these possibilities might obtain.

Temmerman (2013)[51], Weir (2014), and Wurmbrand (2017) observed that fragments can be embedded in Dutch and English under certain matrix verbs if an overt complementizer is absent (108). They primarily looked at stripping, but their arguments are replicable for gapping as well.

(108) a.   Dutch
       Q: Wie   wint   de   wedstrijd?
             who   wins   the   game
       A: ik   zou   denken   (***dat**) hij
             I   should think   COMP   he
       'I should think him.' Temmerman (2013: 248)

   b.   Jane loves to study rocks, and John says (***that**) geography too.
           Wurmbrand (2017)

They provide extensive evidence that fragment clauses are really embedded in these types of sentences (rather than, say, being quotations).

---

[51] In which she followed Barbiers (2000; 2002).

These data are replicable in the case of gapping, as illustrated in (109a) for Dutch. For English, the judgments are delicate, but as Wurmbrand (2017) reports, a contrast exists for many speakers between the versions with and without an overt complementizer (109 b-c).

(109) a.　　Dutch
　　　　　　A:　　Wie　　heeft　het　　waar　gekocht?
　　　　　　　　　who　　has　　it　　　where　bought
　　　　　　　　　'Who bought it where?'
　　　　　　B:　　?Ik　　zou　　denken　　　(*dat) Saskia in　　　Amsterdam
　　　　　　　　　I　　　should think　　　COMP　Saskia in　　　Amsterdam
　　　　　　　　　'I should think Sakia (bought it) in Amsterdam.'

　　　　b.　　*Some will eat mussels and she claims **that** others ~~will eat~~ shrimp.

　　　　c.　　%Some will eat mussels and she claims others ~~will eat~~ shrimp.

Under the approach that I am developing here, this can be interpreted in one of the following ways. One possibility is that complementizerless embedded clauses in English and Dutch are transparent for the agreement implicated in deletion licensing (110), and furthermore, the relativized minimality condition on agreement is relaxed to allow agreement to bypass the matrix VP and reach into the complement CP. Accordingly, deletion is licensed in these cases.

(110) a.　　　… and she claims others ~~will eat~~ shrimp

b.

```
                    &P
              ╱          ╲
          XP₁              &'
                      ╱         ╲
                  &⁰[E]           TP
                    │              …
                    │              VP
                    │          ╱        ╲
                    │        V⁰           CP
                    │                 ╱        ╲
                    │               C⁰          C'
                    │                       ╱        ╲
                    │                     C⁰            …
                    │                     Ø            XP₂
                    └──────────────────────────────────┘
```

agreement

However, it is undesirable to relax the locality properties of agreement in this manner. Should it be able to freely reach into C^0-less complements and to violate relativized minimality, we would predict sentences such as illustrated in (111) to be grammatical.

(111) *Mary made John study semantics and[E] Sue made Sam ~~study~~ phonology

Another way to reconcile the approach advocated here and the work of Temmerman's (2013) and of Wurmbrand's (2017) is to assume that, in the case of an impoverished left periphery, the constituent to be deleted can move out of the embedded clause and thus become visible to the high E-feature. Given the observation of Weir's (2014) that "embedded fragments" in English tend to be embedded under bridge verbs, and the observation of Barbiers (2000; 2002) that fragments can be

embedded only under a small number of matrix verbs in Dutch, this possibility is plausible.

Now, languages may vary as to whether (some) CPs are transparent for movement. Farudi (2013) proposed that instances of embedded gapping in Persian arise due to the fact that the vP can move out of the CP in this language to become accessible to agreement and be deleted.

In (112), I show an implementation of Farudi's proposal in the framework adopted in this dissertation. Let XP denote the extended projection of the vP that is targeted by the licensing agreement in Persian. Assume, for the sake of concreteness, that the vP is the complement of the XP. To become visible for agreement, XP needs move out of the embedded CP into the specifier of some projection YP sufficiently high in the root clause – it must be higher than the root XP in order to obviate the relativized minimality condition. I leave aside the question about what triggers the respective movement of the XP.

Once the XP reaches Spec YP in the matrix clause, it becomes visible to agreement that licensed deletion of the vP, and gapping obtains.

(112)

```
                          &P
                     ┌─────┴─────┐
                   XP₁           &'
                           ┌──────┴──────┐
                         &⁰[E]           YP
                           │        ┌─────┴─────┐
                    ┌──│──→XP       Y'
                    │   │    ┌──┴──┐        ...
                    │   X⁰   vP         TP
                    │                    ...
                    │                    VP
                    │                ┌────┴────┐
                    │               V⁰        CP
                    │                     ┌────┴────┐
                    │                    C⁰        ...
                    │                              t_XP
                    └──────────────────────────────┘
```

An immediate prediction for languages with a high location of E-feature and movement of vPs out of CPs, is that gaps will not be embeddable in islands. This is reported to be borne out for Persian, Farudi (2013). However, this analysis will not work for languages that (a) exhibit embedded gapping, but either (b) do not allow movement out of finite clauses or (c) allow embed gaps in standard islands. Such languages do indeed exist. For example, neither Ossetic, nor Georgian, nor Svan allow movement out of finite clauses, Harris (1981); Erschler (2012, 2014, 2015). However, if we allow the licensing feature to be hosted *lower* than on $\&^0$ we will be able to derive the facts in these languages.

4.4.4 Low licensing of deletion: E-feature on Top^0

To account for embedded gapping in the languages where it can occur in islands, I propose that the E-feature is hosted in such languages in the left periphery of the gapping clause itself, say, by Top^0, as schematized in (113).

(113)

```
            TopP
            /  \
              Top'
              /  \
        Top⁰[E]    FocP
          |        /  \
          |       ↑   ....
          |       |    TP
          |       |    / \
          |       |   ...
          |       |    YP
          |       |   /  \
          └───────────Y⁰    X̶P̶
            agreement  |    /  \
                       |  DP    V
                       └────────┘
```

We immediately rule in embedded gapping, as agreement is no longer impeded by locality.

I posit that the E-feature is hosted by the Topic head for the sake of concreteness. It is possible to imagine that the E-feature can be hosted in some other location in the left periphery, for instance, if the contrastive topic is not granted a projection of its own. It is not clear whether different choices of location of the E-feature high in the left periphery lead to testable different predictions.

Gengel (2013: 163) argues that the E-feature for English gapping is hosted by Foc^0. This account would predict embedded gapping grammatical for English; and is untenable as such. Her motivation was that the head carrying the E-feature must be the sister of the constituent to be deleted. Once we allow deletion licensing to be mediated by agreement, we overcome this problem. Recast in our terms, the Foc projection would need to agree with the coordinator, which is separated from it by a CP boundary. Accordingly, the agreement would fail.

4.5. Predictions

The current analysis makes a number of correct predictions for languages with low placement of the gapping-licensing feature. Although some of the examples below are somewhat marginal, they were nevertheless judged acceptable by a signifcant part of the speakers I have consulted.

4.5.1 Gaps in islands

First, as we have just seen, gapping in languages with the E feature on Top^0 is predicted to be **embeddable in islands**, given that the XP to be deleted does not need to move out of its ambient clause to agree with the E-feature, as schematized in (114a). This is illustrated in (114) for several types of islands. In (114 e-g), the

gapping site is embedded in a complex DP[52] in Georgian, Svan, Russian, Polish, Spanish, Hebrew, and Romanian, whereas in the Russian sentence in (114i), the gapping site 'that porcupines (hate) chipmunks' is embedded in a subject island.

(114) a.   Antecedent & [Matrix clause [CP   Top⁰[E]   ... V̶ ...]
                         ISLAND

              Complex NP island

b.   Georgian

učas	nino	uq'vars	da	momivida	xmebi
Ucha.DAT	Nino	loves	and	came.to.me	rumors

[rom	zuras	rusudani	u̶q̶'̶v̶a̶r̶s̶]
COMP	Zura.DAT	Rusudan	loves

'Ucha loves Nino, and rumors reached me that Zura (loves) Rusudan.'

c.   Svan

učas	nino	χalæt'	i	amqæd	helær
Ucha.DAT	Nino	loves	and	came.to.me	rumors

[ere:	zuras	ek'a	χ̶a̶l̶æ̶t̶]
COMP	Zura.DAT	Eka	loves

'Ucha loves Ia, and rumors reached me that Zura (loves) Eka.'

d.   Russian

Borʲa	lʲubit	Marinu,	no	do	menja	došli
Borya	loves	Marina.ACC	but	to	I.GEN	reached

sluxi,	[što	sama	Marina	l̶ʲ̶u̶b̶i̶t̶	Rajnera]
rumors	COMP	self	Marina	loves	Rainer.ACC

'Borya loves Marina, but rumors reached me that Marina herself (loves) Rainer.'

---

[52] If the proposal of Arsenijević (2009) is on the right track, complex DPs are actually a variety of relative clauses. However, given that any relative clauses are islands in these languages, the correct analysis of complex DPs is tangential to my present purposes.

e. Polish
Mój   dobry kolega z   równoległej klasy w   którym
my   good   friend from   parallel   class in   which
jestem zakochana   od   pół   roku   i   krążą
am   in.love   from   half   year   and   circulate
plotki,   [że   on   we   mnie   też   ~~jest   zakochany]~~
rumors   that   he   in   me   too   is   in.love
'My good comrade from a parallel class, whom I've been in love with
for half a year, and rumors circulate that he (is in love) with me too.'[53]

f. Spanish[54]
Juan   ama   a   Maria y   circulan
Juan   loves ACC   Mary   and   circulate
rumores   de   [que   Maria ~~ama~~   a   Juan   tambien]
rumors   of   that   Maria loves   ACC   Juan   too
'Juan loves Maria and rumors are circulating that Mary (loves) Juan
too.'

g. Hebrew
ran   nosea le-afula   ve=ješ   šmuot
Ran   travels to-Afula   and=exist   rumors
[še=gal   ~~nosea~~ le-arad]
COMP=Gal   travels to-Arad
'Ran is travelling to Afula and there are rumors that Gal (is travelling)
to Arad.'

h. Romanian
Ion   o   iubeşte   pe   Maria şi   circulă
Ion   F.CL.ACC   loves.3SG   ACC   Maria and   circulate
zvonuri   [că   şi   Maria ~~îl   iubeşte~~ pe   Ion]
rumors   COMP   and   Maria M.CL.ACC   loves ACC   Ion
'Ion loves Maria and rumors are circulating that Mary (loves) Ion
too.'

[53] https://www.wattpad.com/239063254-tajemnicza-polana-zawieszone-rozdzia%C5%82-iv
Acessed on June 17, 2018.
[54] Here and below, the judgments are from speakers of European Spanish.

i.   Subject Island (Russian)
      ?[što   jožiki   nenavidʲat   belok]   ogorčaet   menʲa
      COMP   hedgehogs   hate   squirrels.ACC   upsets   I.ACC
      a   [što   dikobrazy   ~~nenavidʲat~~   burundukov]
      CTR   COMP   porcupines   hate   chipmunks.ACC
      šokiruet   mojevo   druga
      shocks   my.ACC   friend.ACC
      '(The fact) that hedgehogs hate squirrels upsets me, and (the fact) that
      porcupines (hate) chipmunks shocks my friend.'

Moreover, given that in Georgian, Svan, and Ossetic movement is impossible out of
any finite clause, as we have seen in Section 3.4.3, any gapping site in an embedded
clause is automatically embedded in an island in these languages. Embedded gapping,
however, is possible in these languages, as we have already seen in (114) for Georgian
and Svan, and as (115) shows for Ossetic.

(115) a.   Digor Ossetic
            zawur   mɐdinɐn   dedengutɐ   ravardta   ɐma=mɐmɐ
            Zaur   Madina.DAT   flowers   gave   and=ALL.1SG
            wotɐ   kɐsuj   [cuma χetɐg=ba   agundɐn   k'anfettɐ
            so   seems   COMP   Khetag=CTR   Agunda.DAT   candy
            ~~ravardta~~]
            gave
            'Zaur gave Madina flowers, and it seems to me that Khetag (gave)
            Agunda candy.'

      b.   Iron Ossetic
            žawər   mɐdinejɐn   didindʒɐtɐ   radta   ɐmɐ=mɐm
            Zaur   Madina.DAT   flowers   gave   and=ALL.1SG
            aftɐ   kɐšə   [səma χetɐg=ta   agundɐjɐn   k'afettɐ
            so   seems   COMP   Khetag=CTR   Agunda.DAT   candy
            ~~radta~~]
            gave
            'Zaur gave Madina flowers, and it seems to me that Khetag (gave)
            Agunda candy.'

The same point can be made for relative clauses, which are islands in Russian

(116).

(116) Russian

ja	iš:u	tovo	[RCkto	risujet	slonov]
I	seek	that.ACC	who.NOM	draws	elephants
a	vasʲa	(iš:et) tovo	[RCkto	~~risujet~~	jedinorogov]
CTR	Vasya	seeks that.ACC	who.NOM	draws	unicorns

'I am looking for somebody who draws elephants, and Vasya (is looking)
for somebody who draws unicorns.'

Of course, in a given language, or even in a given type of island, gapping can be

impossible to embed for independent reasons – for instance, the processing cost of a

gapping site in an island might be too high.

4.5.2 Gapping in the absence of coordination

An additional prediction of the approach developed here concerns the connection

between gapping and coordination. If the licensing feature is not tied to $\&^0$ in a given

language, we predict gapping to be able to occur in the absence of coordination

(117a). In this picture, all that is needed for gapping to proceed[55] is to have an

antecedent for the E-feature to check the identity requirement against.

This again is borne out, as the sentences in (117 b-m) illustrate. In the Russian

sentence in (117b), the gapping site is embedded in the temporal adjunct clause 'after

Petya (painted) the ceiling'; in (117c), it is embedded in a reason adjunct, in (117d),

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[55] Of course, a given type of embedded clause in a given language with low licensing of gapping may
still fail to host gaps for independent reasons.

in a conditional, and in (117e), in a time clause. In the Digor Ossetic sentence in (117f) it is embedded in the (correlative) conditional 'if Madina (goes) to Dzinagha', and in the Georgian sentence in (117g), in a reason clause. Hebrew, Polish, and Svan sentences in (117 i-m) illustrate the same point.

(117) a. [Matrix clause   [$_{CP}$ Top^0[E]   ... V̶ ...]]
           Antecedent   *Gapping site*

           Russian
    b. vasja pokrasil   steny [posle togo kak   petya ~~pokrasil~~
        Vasya painted   walls after that   as   Petya painted
        potolok]
        ceiling
        'Vasya painted the walls after Petya (painted) the ceiling.'

    c. kol^{j}a ujexal v   abissiniju   tol^{j}ko potomu   što
        Kolya left.for in   Abyssinia   only   because
        an^{j}a ~~ujexala~~   v   pariž
        Anya   left.for   in   Paris
        'Kolya left for Abyssinia only because Anya (left) for Paris.'

    d. kol^{j}a pojedet   v   abissiniju   tol^{j}ko jesli
        Kolya will.go.to   in   Abyssinia   only   if
        an^{j}a ~~pojedet~~   v   pariž
        Anya   will.go.to   in   Paris
        'Kolya will go to Abyssinia only if Anya (will go) to Paris.'

    e. Vas^{j}a vsegdap^{j}jot samogon   [kogda   ostal^{j}nyje
        Vasya alwaysdrinks moonshine.ACC   when   others
        ~~p^{j}jut~~ vodku]
        drink vodka.ACC
        'Vasya always drinks moonshine when others (drink) vodka.'

    f. Digor Ossetic
        soslan čikola-mɐ   randɐ woʣej   [kɐd mɐdinɐ=ba
        Soslan Chikola-ALL   away be.FUT.3SG   if   Madina=CTR
        ʣinaʁa-mɐ] jewɐd
        Dzinagha-ALL then
        'Soslan will go to Chikola if Madina ~~will go~~ to Dzinagha.'

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g.	Georgian
?ias	sdzinavs	iat'ak'=ze	imit'om	rom
Ia.DAT	sleeps	floor=on	because
misi	švils	s̶d̶z̶i̶n̶a̶v̶s̶	sacol=ze
her	child.DAT	sleeps	bed=on
'Ia is sleeping on the floor, because her child is sleeping on the bed.'

h.	Hebrew
?tal	nosea	le-afula	k-še	gal	n̶o̶s̶e̶a̶/̶n̶o̶s̶a̶a̶t̶ le-arad
Tal	travels to-Afula	when	Gal	travels.M/F	to-Arad
'Tal travels to Afula when Gal (travels) to Arad.'

i.	?tal	nosea	le-afula	rak	im	gal
Tal	travels to-Afula	only	if	Gal
n̶o̶s̶e̶a̶/̶n̶o̶s̶a̶a̶t̶	le-arad
travels.M/F	to-Arad
'Tal travels to Afula when Gal (travels) to Arad.'

	Polish
j.	?Jan	zawsze	pije	wódkę [kiedy Piotr	p̶i̶j̶e̶	samogon]
Jan	always	drinks vodka	when	Piotr	drinks moonshine
'Jan always drinks vodka when Piotr (drinks) moonshine.'

k.	Jan	widzi	problem	tam,	gdzie Piotr	możliwość
Jan	sees	problem	there	where Piotr	opportunity
'Jan sees a problem where Piotr (sees) an opportunity.'

	Svan
l.	manana	anq'e k'ubdæ:rs	šomwæj
Manana.NOM	bakes kubdar.DAT	when.REL
nino	a̶n̶q̶'̶e̶ diærs
Nino.NOM	bakes bread.DAT
'Manana bakes a kubdar when Nino (bakes) bread.'

m.	?mananas	xewže p'ol=ži	edʒɣa
Manana.DAT	sleeps floor=on	COR
e:re	miča	bepšws	x̶e̶w̶ž̶e̶ laq'wra=ži
COMP	her	child.DAT	sleeps bed=on
'Manana sleeps on the floor, because her child (sleeps)
on the bed.'

Similar facts are reported for Spanish in Jung (2016). In (118 a-b) this is illustrated

for correlatives, and in (118c), for a conditional.

(118)   Spanish Jung (2016: 101)
    a.   Yo   encontraba   problemas   allí   donde
           I   found   problems   there   where
           Pedro   facilidades
           Pedro   easiness
           'I found problems where Pedro (found) easiness.'

    b.   Yo   llegue   a   mi   casa
           I   arrived   to   my   home
           antes   que   Pedro a   la   oficina
           before that   Pedro to   the   office
           'I came home before Pedro (came) to his office'

    c.   Si   yo   merezco   un   aplauso,
           if   I   deserve   a   applause
           tú   una   ovación.
           you   an   ovation
           'If I deserve a round of applause, you (deserve) an ovation'

In Romanian, gapping without coordination is rather restricted, but still sometimes

possible (119).

(119) Romanian
      ??Ion vede   o   problemă   unde Jim   ~~vede~~ o   oportunitate
      Ion   sees   ACC.F   problem   where Jim sees   ACC.F   opportunity
      'Ion sees a problem where Jim sees an opportunity.'

Moreover, in Russian[56], the antecedent of a gap may be situated in the fronted

embedded clause (120), while the gap itself is in the matrix clause.

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[56] Currently, I do not have parallel data from other languages of this type.

(120) ?[kogda   Vasʲa pʲjot vodku]   ostal'nyje   vsegda pʲjut vino
       when   Vasya drinks vodka   others   always drink wine
       'When Vasya drinks vodka, others always (drink) wine.'

4.5.3 The antecedent and the gap embedded under separate matrix verbs

An additional result of this approach is that the antecedent and the gap are predicted

to be **embeddable under separate coordinated matrix verbs** in languages with a

low locus of the E-feature, as schematized in (121a). Indeed, given that the E feature

is situated within the embedded clause that hosts the gap, the agreement relationship

is local, while checking the semantic condition necessary for ellipsis to be licensed

does not need to be clause-bound. In (121 b-c) the antecedent, 'that Rezo/Vasya

bathed an elephant' and the gapped clause, 'that Rezo/Petya (bathed) a hippo', are

hosted in different complement clauses. (121 e) illustrates the same phenomenon for

Iron Ossetic, note that embedded clauses there are finite, unlike their English

translations. Unfortunately, I do not have the respective data for Svan.

(121) a.   [Matrix1 [cp Antecedent]]   &   [Matrix2 [cp Top^0[E] ... V̶ ...]]
                                                                    Gapping site

       b.   me   darc'mnebuli var   [rom   rezo-m   sp'ilo
              I   sure   am   COMP   Rezo-ERG   elephant
              abanava]   čemi   coli=k'i   amt'k'icebs
              bathed   my   wife=CTR   claims
              [rom   guram-ma   behemot'i]
              COMP   Guram-ERG   hippo
              'I am sure that Rezo washed an elephant and my wife claims that
              Guram (washed) a hippo.'   Georgian

c. ja   uveren   [što   vasʲa pomyl   slona]
    I   sure   COMP   Vasya washed   elephant.ACC
    a   moja   žena   utverždajet [što   petʲa begemota]
    CTR   my   wife   claims   COMP   Petya hippo.ACC
    'I am sure that Vasya washed an elephant and my wife claims that
    Petya (washed) a hippo.'   Russian

d. [ciq'v-eb-s   rom   edʒavreben   dʒayr-eb-i]
    squirrel-PL-DAT   that   they.hate   hedgehog-PL-NOM
    aɣizianebs   davit-s
    annoys   David-DAT
    rezo-s   k'i   ak'virvebs   is   rom   dzaɣl-eb-s
    Rezo-DAT   surprises   it.NOM that   dog-PL-DAT
    ~~edʒavreben~~   k'at'-eb-i
    they.hate   cat-PL-NOM
    'That squirrels hate hedgehogs, annoys David, and that dogs (hate) cats,
    surprises Rezo.'   Georgian

e. Iron Ossetic
    alan   ɛχsa   ɛvɛrə [sɛmɛjjɛ=čəzgɛn   mašinɛ
    Alan   money saves COMP   his=daughter.DAT   car
    balχɛna]
    buy.SUB.FUT.3SG
    ažɛmɛt=ta   kredit rajšta [sɛmɛjjɛ=fərtɛn   qug
    Azamat=CTR   loan   took   COMP   his=son.DAT   cow
    ~~balχɛna~~]
    buy.SUB.FUT.3SG
    'Alan is saving money to buy a car for his daughter, and Azamat took
    a loan (to buy) a cow for his daughter.'

d. Polish
    ?Myślę,   że   Jan   wskaże   kandydaturę Marii,
    I.think   COMP   Jan   will.nominate candidacy   Maria.GEN
    a   mój   kolega   przekonuje,
    CTR   my   colleague   claims
    że   Marta wskaże   kandydaturę Piotra
    COMP   Marta will.nominate candidacy   Piotr.GEN
    'I think that Jan will nominate Maria, and my colleague claims
    that Marta (will nominate) Piotr.'

Spanish
e. ?Yo sé   [qué libro compró   María],
   I   know which book bought   María
   y   Pedro sabe [qué libro ~~compró~~   Juan]
   and Pedro knows which book bought   Juan
   'I know which book María bought, and Pedro knows which
   book Juan bought' Saab (2009).

f. Luis aseguró   que Juan compró   un   libro,
   Luis assured   that Juan bought   a   book
   y   yo   creo que María ~~compró~~   una revista
   and   I   think that María bought   a   magazine
   'Luis assured that John bought a book, and I think
   that Mary bought a magazine' Jung (2016)

g. Romanian
   Cred că   [Maria l-a   nominalizat pe   Ion]
   I.think COMP Mary   ACC.M.CL   nominated   ACC Ion
   şi   colegul   meu   susţine
   and   colleague.DEF mine claims
   că   [Peter ~~a nominalizat-o~~   pe   Martha]
   COMP [Peter ~~has nominated-F.CL.~~ACC   ACC   Martha]
   'I think that [Mary nominated John] and my colleague claims
    that [Peter ~~nominated~~ Martha].'

4.5.4 Directionality of ellipsis

As we have seen in Section 4.4.2, the current analysis predicts that in languages with

a high placement of the E-feature, only forward gapping can be possible. On the other

hand, in languages with a low placement of the E-feature, nothing under the current

account rules out languages where gapping would proceed in either direction.

This prediction is borne out in a certain sense. In some languages with a low

locus of the E-feature a backward deletion process is attested that at least closely

resembles gapping (and, as I will argue below, sometimes indeed is gapping). Among

the languages of my sample, this phenomenon is attested in Ossetic, Georgian, Polish,

and Svan. However, Russian[57], Spanish, Romanian, and Hebrew disallow backward

gapping (or, to stay agnostic about an analysis, backward verb deletion).

The sentences in (122) illustrate this phenomenon for Georgian, Svan, and

Iron Ossetic. Variants of sentences in (122) with forward gapping are all grammatical

as well.

(122) a. Georgian
           me   ~~viq'idi~~   xils   šen=k'i   iq'idi   ɣwinos
           I   I.will.buy   fruit   you.SG=CTR   you.will.buy wine
           'I (will buy) fruit and you will buy wine.'

       b. Svan
           mi   ~~xwiq'di~~   xils   si   xiq'di   ʁwinæls
           I   I.will.buy   fruit   you.SG you.will.buy wine
           'I (will buy) fruit and you will buy wine.'

           Iron Ossetic
       c. ɐž   fɘččən   ~~baχordton~~   maχar=ta   wɐlibɐχ
           I   meat.pie   eat.PST.1SG   Maxar=CTR   cheese.pie
           baχordta
           eat.PST.3SG
           'I (ate) a meat pie, and Maxar ate a cheese pie.'

       d. də   nɐ=mad-ə   ~~fen-ɐj~~
           you   our=mother-ACC   see-SUBJ.FUT.2SG
           ɐž=ta nɐ=fəd-ə   fen-on
           I=CTR our=father-ACC   see-SUBJ.FUT.1SG
           'You (are to see) our mother, and I am to see our father.'

A question arises of why low licensing languages fail to show uniform behavior

in this respect. One possibility is that the current analysis might be overpredicting.

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[57] There exist speakers of Russian that marginally allow backwards gapping. This is expected if the current analysis of gapping is on the right track and directionality of gapping is regulated by some independent process that may work differently for different speakers.

Backward gapping might never exist (for admittedly unclear reasons) and what looks like backward gapping is achieved by some other mechanism(s) than forward gapping. These mechanisms may or may not be available in given languages.

Another possibility is that some separate mechanisms are responsible for blocking backward ellipsis in low licensing languages. I will return to this possibility in Section 4.10.1, while here I will provide some arguments in favor of treating "backward gapping" in Georgian and Ossetic as real instances of gapping.

If one pursues the idea that backward gapping is never possible, a natural conjecture is that in the languages where backward verb deletion occurs, it is actually always an instance of Right Node Raising[58]. Citko (2018) makes this claim for Polish.

As we have already seen in Section 2.2.4, RNR is a class of phenomena that at least superficially resemble backwards gapping (123). Analyses of RNR proposed in the literature include string-based deletion, Hartmann (2000), multidominance (Wilder 1999; 2008; McCawley (1982); Citko (2011a,b; 2018); Bachrach & Katzir (2007; 2009); Gračanin-Yüksek (2007; 2013); Grosz (2015), a.o.), rightward ATB movement of the shared material, Sabbagh (2007), or a combination of several of these approaches, Barros & Vicente (2011).

(123) a.   Joss walked suddenly into _ , and Maria stormed quickly out of _,
              the dean's office.   Sabbagh (2007)

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[58] In particular, the consensus is that the semblance of backwards gapping in embedded clauses in German and Dutch (i) is actually due to RNR, see e.g. Vanden Wyngaerd (2007) and Zwart (2011).

(i)   Dutch
         dat   Jan   een   novelle   ~~las~~   en   Piet   een   roman   las
         COMP   Jan   a   short.story read   and   Piet   a   novel   read
         'that Jan read a short story, and Piet, a novel.' Vanden Wyngaerd (2007)

b.   Josh is likely to accept _, and Jamie is likely to reject _,
the controversial amendment.   Sabbagh (2007)

Given the wide variety of proposed analyses of RNR, and somewhat different

prediction that they make, it is rather hard to argue that a specific instance of

backward deletion is not RNR. What is possible is to discuss whether a specific

analysis can account for a specific variety of backward deletion. I will only address

here two such analyses: string-based PF deletion and one positing a multidominant

structure.

For string-based PF deletion accounts of RNR, it is natural to assume that the

deleted material and its antecedent exhibit full phonological matching. In this case,

gapping-like backward deletion where the antecedent and the missing verb do not

match in φ-features, and, consequently, in phonological form, cannot constitute RNR

in this sense. This is true for all the sentences in (122).

On the other hand, the multidominance-based analysis of Citko (2018) of RNR

in Polish countenances φ-feature mismatches under RNR[59]. Her analysis, however,

disallows polarity mismatches between the antecedent and the deletion site. Polarity

mismatches are indeed impossible in the case of backward deletion in Polish (124a),

while they are possible for forward gapping (124b). This allows Citko to conclude that

in Polish, backward deletion is a multidominant structure she posits for RNR.

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[59] In particular, the mismatch in honorific marking in Korean, used by Jung (2016) as a crucial piece of
evidence in favor of a gapping analysis of backward verb deletion in Korean, can be accounted for
under Citko's analysis. Likewise, φ-feature mismatches under backward gapping/RNR in Turkish,
whose possibility is reported by Ince (2009) are amenable to such a treatment.

(124) Polish, Citko (2018: 9)

   a. *Jan   nikogo   a   Piotr kogoś   zaprosił
       Jan   nobody   CTR   Peter someone   invited
       'Jan (invited) no one, and Peter invited someone.' (intended)

   b. Jan   zaprosił   kogoś   a   Piotr nikogo
       Jan   invited   someone   CTR   Peter nobody
       'Jan invited someone, and Peter no one.'

On the other hand, in Ossetic and Georgian[60], polarity mismatches are possible to some extent under backward gapping (125).

(125) a. Iron Ossetic
           ʔšošlan   nikɐmej   (fɐlɐ) χetɐg=ta   alan-ɐj   tɐršə
           soslan   nobody.ABL   but   Khetag=CTR   Alan.ABL   fears
           'Soslan (fears) no one, and Khetag fears Alan.'

       b. Georgian
           ʔia   arapers   manana   kʼi   xačʼapʼurs
           Ia   nothing.DAT Manana   CTR   khachapuri.DAT
           amzadebs
           cooks
           'Ia (is cooking) nothing, and Manana is cooking a khachapuri.'

It is not clear, however, whether Citko's analysis will rule out these mismatches, given that the clause structures in Polish, on one hand, and Ossetic in Georgian, on the other hand, are not necessarily identical.

Three further arguments can be marshalled against treating backward verb deletion in Ossetic and Georgian as Right Node Raising. None of these arguments is fully conclusive. However, together they lend some credibility to the idea that

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[60] Unfortunately, I do not have the respective data for Svan.

backward verb deletion in Ossetic and Georgian may be a real instance of backward gapping. I will present them here one by one.

First, one property of Right Node Raising that is shared by all extant accounts is that the missing constituent under RNR must be rightmost in its conjunct. This property is usually called the Right Edge Condition in the literature. However, this condition can be checked only if the word order is rigid in the clause where deletion occurred. Now, backward deletion is possible in Ossetic (126), and, as we have already seen in (122 a-b), in Georgian and Svan, when the verb in the second conjunct is non-final.

(126) Iron Ossetic
     šošlan didinʤətɐ ~~ratta~~ mɐdinɐjɐn (fɐlɐ) χetɐg=ta
     Soslan flowers gave Madian.DAT but Khetag=CTR
     činəg ratta fatimɐjɐn
     book gave Fatima.DAT
     'Soslan (gave) flowers to Madina, but Khetag gave a book to Fatima.'

This might indicate that the Right Edge Restriction is not satisfied in these cases, under the assumption that the word orders in the antecedent and the gapping site must be identical. Unfortunately, it is impossible to verify this assumption in this case.

Second, words can be split under RNR, but not under gapping, as illustrated for English in (127). However, the grammaticality of examples of this type depends on the ability of stranded morphemes to occur in isolation, and not only on the syntax of ellipsis *per se*.

(127) a. Carly is over- and Will underpaid. Johnson (2014)

b. *Carly is overpaid, and Will under-.

Counterparts of (127a) are impossible in the languages under discussion: verb prefixes cannot be shared between the conjuncts, as illustrated in (128). Here, I gloss the (directional) preverbs *a-*, *ɐrba-* (Iron Ossetic), *mi-*, and *ga-* (Georgian) and as 'hither', 'thither', and 'out'.

(128) a. Iron Ossetic
    *šošlan   a-   mɐdinɐ=ta ɐrba-sədi
    Soslan   thither- Madina=CTR hither-came
    'Soslan left and Madina arrived.' (intended)

b. Georgian[61]
    *ia mo-   rezo k'i ga-dis
    Ia hither- Rezo CTR out-goes
    'Ia is coming, and Rezo is leaving.' (intended)

The third, and the most weighty, argument against treating backward verb deletion in Georgian and Ossetic as RNR is that RNR sentences that involve DPs are ungrammatical in these languages[62]. In (129a), the intended shared DP is *k'randaš-ɐj* pencil-ABL 'with pencil'. In the Georgian sentences in (129 b-c), I use such shared DPs that do not trigger verb agreement. Only subjects, direct objects, and indirect objects

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[61] Georgian allows this type of construction for one pair of preverbs, *mi-* 'hither' and *mo-* 'thither'.

(i) Georgian
  gia mi-~~dis~~ ia=k'i mo-dis
  Gia hither-goes Ia=CTR thither-goes
  'Gia is coming and Ia is leaving.'

I owe this observation to Alice Harris, p.c.

[62] In Turkish, on the other hand, RNR is possible with argument DPs, Ince (2009).

trigger agreement in Georgian, Harris (1981). For agreeing DPs, what looks like RNR is to some extent possible, but it might be the case of null arguments in one of the conjuncts.

(129) a.   Iron Ossetic
               *alan fəššə mɐdinɐ=ta   nəv   kɐnə k'randašɐj
               Alan   writes Madina=CTR   picture   makes pencil.INS
               'Alan is writing, and Madina is drawing, with pencil.' (intended)

               Georgian
       b.   *giorgi cxovrobs   daviti k'i   čamovida   tbilis=ši
               Giorgi lives   David CTR   arrived   Tbilisi=LOC
               'Giorgi lives, and David arrived, in Tbilisi.' (intended)

       c.   *manana   c'ers nino k'i   xat'avs pankrit
               Manana   writes Nino CTR   draws   pencil.INS
               'Manana is writing, and Nino is drawing, with pencil.' (intended)

In this respect Ossetic and Georgian differ from Persian, where there are reasons to assume that what looks like backward gapping is actually RNR. As Farudi (2013) claims, RNR is independently attested in Persian, and φ-feature mismatches are dispreferred under the backward gapping in this language.

To conclude, there are reasons to think that Ossetic and Georgian indeed exhibit backward gapping. This lends credence to the idea that there must exist a separate mechanism that blocks backward gapping in those low licensing languages that do not allow it. We will resume this discussion in Section 3.10.1.

4.5.5 Summary

Let us summarize the predictions our system makes for various types of languages. The relevant parameters are the locus of the E-feature, the size of the left periphery in the hosting clause, and the ability of the material to be deleted to move out of an embedded clause. Table 3 presents the resulting typology. Table 4 gives a list of languages that realize each of the resulting types.

Table 3. Parameters of variation and predictions

Height of E-feature	Size of left periphery	Movement out of embedded clause	Gapping in embedded non-islands	Gapping in islands	Type of Language
High ($\&^0$)	Irrelevant	Impossible	*	*	I
High ($\&^0$)	Large	Possible	ok	*	I a
Low (Top^0)	Large	Irrelevant	ok	ok	II

Table 4. Languages representing the types.

Type I	English; Dutch; German; Serbian; Slovenian.
Type Ia	Persian as described by Farudi (2013); Complementizerless clauses in English and Dutch
Type II	Russian; Georgian; Digor Ossetic; Iron Ossetic; Polish; Spanish, Hebrew

For some of the languages that exhibit embedded gapping of some sort, more data are necessary to assign them to one of the classes. This concerns Hungarian, Svan, Hindi (for speakers who allow embedded gapping), Eastern Armenian, Finnish, and Albanian.

Another, completely independent, parameter of variation is the extent to which polarity, tense, aspect, and modality should coincide between the antecedent and the gap. What controls the effects of this type is the size of the deleted constituent, Merchant (2013), to which we now turn.

4.6. Size of the deleted constituent

The size of deleted constituent varies across languages (and sometimes across analyses of a single language). While for in English, it is typically assumed that it is a vP that gets deleted under gapping (see e.g. Gengel (2013: 164)) Citko (2015; 2018) argued that in Polish gapping, the deleted constituent is a TP. İnce (2009) argued that in Turkish, it is a CP. Direct evidence for the size of the deleted constituent in a given language is usually hard to come by.

An immediate estimate on the minimal possible size of the deleted constituent follows from the fact that the antecedent and the gapping site match in voice in all known cases, as was discussed in Section 3.2.34. Following the logic of Merchant (2013), this implies that the projection determining the voice of the clause is necessarily within the deleted constituent, i.e. the vP or the VoiceP, depending on one's theoretical persuasion. This estimate on the minimal size is valid for all

languages discussed so far. In specific languages, the deleted constituent can be much larger. Here, I will illustrate this point for Russian.

Some information about the size of the deleted constituent in Russian gapping can be gleaned from the behavior of the clitic irrealis marker =*by*, Timberlake (2004: 95). Sentences with =*by* in the gapping site are ungrammatical (130a). As controls, I provide the grammatical counterpart without =*by* in the second conjunct (130b), and the relatively acceptable counterpart without gapping (130c), where =*by* is present in both conjuncts. Additionally, =*by* can be doubled in the absence of coordination, when it is obvious that only one ModP is present in the clause (130c).

(130)   Russian
 a.   *vas^ja=**by**   vypil vodki a   pet^ja=**by**   ~~vypil~~ kon^jjaku
         Vasya=IRR   drank vodka CTR   Petya=IRR   drank brandy
         'Vasya would have had some vodka, and Petya some brandy.'
         (intended)

 b.   vas^ja=**by**   vypil vodki a   pet^ja ~~vypil~~ kon^jjaku
         Vasya=IRR   drank vodka CTR   Petya=drank brandy
         'Vasya would have had some vodka, and Petya some brandy.'

 c.   vas^ja=**by**   vypil vodki a   pet^ja=**by**   vypil kon^jjaku
         Vasya=IRR   drank vodka CTR   Petya=IRR   drank brandy
         Idem

 d.   ja=**by** ob   etom napisal=**by**
         I=IRR about this   wrote=IRR
         'I would have written about this.'

To interpret these facts, assume that the findings about the functional sequence above the vP are *grosso modo* applicable to Russian. That is to say, the order of the functional projections must be as shown in (131), see e.g. Rizzi & Cinque (2016) and references

there. I am abstracting away from the possible finer structure of the ModP and AspP, and do not include the PolP and NegP in the picture.

(131) [TP [ModP [AspP vP] ...]

Under these assumptions, it is natural to assume that *by* is base-generated in the ModP. As we have seen in the preceding section, the TP is present in both conjuncts in Russian. Therefore, we can conclude, under these assumptions, that the deleted constituent is at least the size of the ModP.

Furthermore, as we have already seen in Section 3.2.3, the antecedent and the ellipsis site must match in modality in Russian. The finite verb in irrealis clauses is morphologically identical to the past tense verb. However, a past tense antecedent does not license deletion in an irrealis clause. In (132), the verb 'to win' in the antecedent stands in the past indicative, whereas the complement clause is in the irrealis mood, as indicated by the irrealis complementizer *štoby*. Despite the perfect phonological match between the two verbs, gapping is not licensed in this situation.

(132) Russian
       *etrurija   včera   vyigrala   u   finikii   i   ja
       Etruria   yesterday win.PST.F   at   Phoenicia   and   I
       xoču štoby gallija ~~vyigrala~~   u   likii
       I.want COMP   Gallia win.IRR.F   u   likii
       'Etruria yesterday defeated Phoenicia and I want Gallia to defeat Lycia.'

Accordingly, the deleted constituent must be at least the size of the ModP under embedded gapping as well.

4.7. Size of conjuncts under gapping

In this section, I argue that under gapping in conjunctions, the size of conjunts can be fairly large, that is the conjuncts may be TPs or even CPs. This is the case both in language that allow embedded clauses and in those that do not. Some of these arguments have been already advanced in the earlier literature, but they have not been applied to Russian, Ossetic, and Georgian. Furthermore, a novel argument concerning the size of conjuncts under gapping in V2 languages is proposed here.

Strictly speaking, the question about the size of the conjuncts is orthogonal to our theoretical discussion: my proposal can in principle accommodate any size of conjuncts. However, a reasoning based on acquisition shows that it is natural to expect that a language that allows embedded gapping will exhibit a relatively large size of conjunct in usual gapping.

Namely, imagine a language learner that needs to figure out that embedded gaps are possible in their language. There is little direct positive evidence for embedded gapping, because such utterances are relatively rare. Acquisition of such a construction would be much easier, if the structures of embedded clauses and matrix conjuncts would be similar. Now, embedded gapping necessarily involves a large size of the left periphery in the hosting clause. So, acquisition of embedded gapping would be easier if in languages that allow embedded gapping, the conjuncts in matrix gapping would be also large, at least sometimes.

4.7.1 Methods of estimating the size of conjuncts

Two types of argument have been used in the literature to estimate the size of conjuncts under gapping.

To estimate the maximal possible size of conjuncts, the literature since Siegel (1984) has looked at the scope of scope-taking elements, such as negative markers, that are ostensibly situated in one of the conjuncts. Should such an element take scope over both conjuncts, the conclusion will be that it is situated above the conjunction in the syntax. A practical drawback of this method is that reliable scope judgments are typically very hard to elicit, especially from non-linguists.

To estimate the minimal size of conjuncts, one can investigate which elements can be hosted in each of the conjuncts. If the location of a given item in the structure is independently known (say, it is known that wh-movement in the language under discussion targets Spec CP), the conclusion is that the conjuncts are large enough to include the respective projection.

Applied to a given language, these tests can yield contradictory results. To accommodate the premise that scope-taking properties must be directly related to the position of the scope-taking element in syntax, such contradictions have been interpreted in the literature as evidence that the size of conjuncts under gapping may vary in a single language. This has been proposed for German in Repp (2009); English in Potter et al (2017); for French in Dagnac (2016); for Spanish in Centeno (2011) and Jung (2016); and for Korean in Jung (2016).

I will now first discuss the application of these tests to (presumably better studied) languages with high licensing of gapping, and then proceed to languages with low licensing of gapping.

4.7.2 Size of conjuncts in languages with high licensing of gapping

Since Siegel (1984), it has been standard to appeal to the scope of modals and of negation when arguing for a small size of conjuncts under gapping in English. Sentences such as in (133a) are claimed to be ambiguous in English, with readings shown in (133b), the wide scope of the modal, and in (133c), the narrow scope of the modal. The existence of the wide scope readings has been taken as evidence for the small size of conjuncts under gapping.

(133)   a.   Ward can't eat caviar and Sue, beans.

        b.   It is not possible (or desirable) for Ward to eat caviar and for Sue
                (simultaneously) to eat (merely) beans.

        c.   Ward can't eat caviar, and Sue can't eat beans.

However, as Hudson (1976) and Gengel (2013) noticed, some evidence exists that conjuncts in English can be of fairly large size. The evidence comes from the possibility of gapping in conjoined wh-questions[63] (134a) and clauses with a

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[63] Not all native speakers of English allow gapping in coordinated wh-questions. López & Winkler (2002) propose that in the second conjuncts of sentences of this type, wh-phrases are exceptionally hosted in the left periphery of the vP rather than in the CP. As Repp (2009) notes, their arguments do not go through for *why*, which is arguably base generated in Spec CP, see e.g. Shlonsky & Soare (2011). However, gapping is possible in English why-questions for some speakers (i).

topicalized DP (134b), although such examples are judged marginal to ungrammatical by many speakers. In both cases, the fronted material must be sufficiently high in the left periphery, and accordingly, both conjuncts must be the size of a CP.

(134) a.   What did John give Mary and what ~~did John give~~ Sue?

b.   In the room went Mary, and in the kitchen ~~went~~ John.

As has been extensively discussed in the literature, see e.g. Johnson (2009) and Potter et al (2017), the size of conjuncts under gapping affects the scope of modals and negation. Namely, the small size of conjuncts has been taken to be the reason of a phenomenon discovered by Siegel (1984) – in English, modals with negation have high scope under gapping. To illustrate this with an example, (135) only means that John can't simultaneously give Moby Dick to Mary and *The Nantucket Herald* to Sue. It does not rule out scenarios where John gives *Moby Dick* to Mary and *To Kill a Mockingbird* to Sue, or *The Alabama Daily* to Mary and *The Nantucket Herald* to Sue.

(135) John can't give *Moby Dick* to Mary and *The Nantucket Herald* to Sue.

Now, a prediction of the standard account is that the wide scope reading for modals and negation must not be available in gapped wh-questions. To the extent that such wh-questions are grammatical at all, this prediction is borne out. For instance, only the narrow scope reading is available in (136).

(i)   Why did John go by train and why Mary by car? Repp (2009: 34)

(136) ?Which book can't you give to Mary and which newspaper to John?

To verify this claim, examine possible answers to (136). Answers that presuppose the wide scope of the modal, e.g. "I can't give *Moby Dick* to Mary and, simultaneously, *The Nantucket Herald* to John", are judged infelicitous. On the hand, possible answers for (136) are of the type "I can't give *Moby Dick* or *To kill a Mockingbird* to Mary (no matter what I'm giving to J.); I can't give *The Nantucket Herald* or *The Alabama Daily* to John (no matter what I'm giving to M.), that is, they require the narrow scope of the modal.

The data about gapping with fronted constituents are replicable in other languages as well (137). I restrict myself to the facts about wh-questions, leaving open the possibility that argument scrambling may target lower positions in these languages. Remark that wh-movement is standardly assumed to target SpecCP, see e.g. Vikner (1995) for Swedish.

(137) a. Swedish   Teleman et al (1999: 973)

hos	**vem**	arbetar	Sven	och	**hos**	**vem**	~~arbetar~~
with	who	works	Sven	and	with	who	works

Anna?
Anna
'With who does Sven work and with who Anna?'

b. Dutch

met	**wie**	spreekt	Jan	en	**met**	**wie**
with	who	speaks	Jan	and	with	who

~~spreekt~~	Saskia?
speaks	Saskia

'With whom does Jan speak and with whom Saskia?'

Furthermore, for V2 languages[64] an additional argument can be marshalled in favor of large conjuncts under gapping. Although technical details vary significantly across analyses, the consensus is that in German, Dutch, and the Mainland Scandinavian languages the finite verb occupies C^0 in main clauses, while the preverbal XP is in SpecCP, see e.g. Vikner (1995) and Zwart (2011), at least in sentences where a constituent other than a subject is fronted, as illustrated in (138).

(138) a.   Danish   Vikner (1995: 39)
            [_CP[Denne   bog]   [_Char] Peter læst
            this   book   has   Peter read]
            'Peter read this book.'

     b.   Dutch Zwart (2011: 288)
            [_CP   In   1642 [_Cheeft]   Tasman   Nieuw Zeeland
                    In   1642 has   Tasman   New   Zealand
            ontdekt
            discovered]
            'In 1642, Tasman discovered New Zealand.'

     c.   Swedish
            I dag   talade hon   i   Uddevalla
            today   spoke she   in   Uddevalla
            'Today she spoke in Uddevalla[65].'

Now, these languages allow gapping with conjuncts where a non-subject XP is fronted (139).

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[64] All the Germanic languages I have data about disallow embedded gapping. Accordingly, I conclude that they locate the E-feature on $\&^0$.

[65] https://sverigesradio.se/sida/artikel.aspx?programid=125&artikel=3926333, accessed 05.24.2018.

(139) a.   Swedish   Teleman et al (1999: 973)
       med   Lena   talade Sven och   med   Nina   ~~talade~~ Per
       with Lena   spoke Sven, and   with Nina   spoke Per.
       'Sven spoke with Lena, and Per, with Nina.'

       b.   German   Konietzko & Winkler (2010: 1441)
       Die   Buddenbrooks   hat   Sandy gelesen
       the   Buddenbrooks   has   Sandy read
       und   Den   Zauberberg   ~~hat~~   Anna   ~~gelesen~~
       and   the   Magic.Mountain   has   Anna   read
       'Sandy read *the Buddenbrooks*, and Anna, *the Magic Mountain*.'

       c.   Dutch
       Vandaag   hebben   eekhoorns   de   rozen ontworteld
       today   have   squirrels   the   roses uprooted
       en   gisteren   chipmunks   de   tulpen
       and   yesterday   chipmunks   the   tulips
       'Today, squirrels uprooted the roses, and yesterday, chipmunks
       the tulips.'

It is natural to assume that the fronted constituent in the second conjunct, *med Nina*
'with Nina' in (139a) and *Den Zauberberg* 'the Magic Mountain' in (139b), moves to
SpecCP to maintain the word order parallelism. Accordingly, both conjuncts must be
CPs in these cases.

To recapitulate the discussion of this section, even languages with high
licensing of gapping, such as English, must allow a fairly large size of conjuncts. The
evidence presented here is based on the presence in both conjuncts of elements that
must be located high in the clause. A similar conclusion was made in Potter et al
(2017) who only examined scope facts in English.

4.7.3 Size of conjuncts in languages with low licensing of gapping

I will first present evidence that languages with low licensing of gapping allow large conjuncts under gapping, and then address a claim made about Russian by Agafonova (2011) that in this language, conjuncts can be small.

In the earlier literature, arguments for the large size of the conjuncts under matrix gapping were advanced for Persian by Farudi (2013); for Hungarian, this has been observed by Kiss (2012: 1030), and for Hindi-Urdu, by Kush (2016). As I will argue below in this section, in the languages of my sample, it is fairly clear that the conjuncts can be at least TPs.

I will use the evidence from the placement of sentential adverbials and some language-specific facts for which the judgments have proved to be quite robust. In all the languages of the sample, the conjuncts under gapping can host sentential adverbials, which cannot attach lower than to a TP. Therefore, the conjuncts in such cases must be at least TPs. Sentential adverbs can be hosted both under forward and backward gapping, so the estimate on the size of conjuncts is valid for both types of gapping. In the sentences in (140), the adverbials 'fortunately' and 'unfortunately' contrast.

(140) Iron Ossetic
  a. šošlan zul ɐrbaχašta tamu=ta **qəgagɐn** araq
    Soslan bread brought   Tamu=CTR unfortunately arak
    'Soslan brought bread, and Tamu unfortunately arak.'

  b. šošlan zul tamu=ta **qəgagɐn** araq ɐrbaχašta
    Soslan bread Tamu=CTR unfortunately arak brought
    'Soslan brought bread, and Tamu unfortunately arak.'

c.   šošlan **amondɐn**   zul   ɛrbaχašta   tamu=ta   **qəgagɛn**
       Soslan fortunately   bread brought   Tamu=CTR   unfortunately
       araq
       arak[66]
       'Soslan fortunately brought bread, and Tamu unfortunately arak.'

       Georgian
d.   gia-m   **sabednierod** ɣvino   moit'ana
       Gia-NOM   fortunately   wine.NOM   s/he.brought
       rezo-m=k'i   **saubedurod** č'ač'a
       Rezo-ERG=CTR   unfortunately   chacha.NOM
       'Fortunately, Gia brought wine, and Rezo, unfortunately, (brought) chacha[67].'

e.   rezo-m   **saubedurod** č'ač'a
       Rezo-ERG   unfortunately   chacha.NOM
       gia-m=k'i   **sabednierod** ɣvino   moit'ana
       Gia-NOM=CTR   fortunately   wine.NOM   s/he.brought
       'Rezo, unfortunately, (brought) chacha, and Gia, fortunately, brought wine.'

       Russian
f.   vasʲa   **k**   **sčastʲju**   prinʲos   vodku
       Vasya   to   happiness   brought   vodka
       a   petʲa   **k**   **sožaleniju**   samogon
       CTR   Petya   to   regret   moonshine
       'Vasya fortunately brought vodka and Petya unfortunately brought moonshine.'

In (better-studied) Russian, more arguments can be marshalled. The standard assumption about the clause structure in Russian is that the TP is dominated by the PolP that is responsible for the polarity of the clause (141), see e.g. Gribanova (2017) and references there. Here, the PolP hosts a silent interpretable operator, whereas the NegP hosts a morphologically overt negative marker that agrees with the operator in the PolP.

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[66] Corn moonshine.
[67] Georgian grape vodka.

(141)

```
              PolP
             /    \
                   TP
                  /  \
                     NegP
                    /    \
                        AspP
                       /    \
                           vP
                          /  \
                             VP
```

As we have already seen in Section 4.2.3.5, many speakers of Russian[68] allow a
polarity mismatch between the antecedent and the gap (142).

(142)   Russian
     a.   Antecedent: positive polarity; Gapping site: negative polarity
            maša   čitajet prusta a   vas^ja ~~ne~~   ~~čitajet~~ ničevo
            Masha reads Proust CTR   Vasya NEG   reads nothing
            'Masha reads Proust, and Vasya nothing.'

     b.   Antecedent: negative polarity; Gapping site: positive polarity
            maša ne   čitajet ničevo   a   vas^ja ~~čitajet~~ tol^jko prusta
            Masha NEG   reads nothing   CTR   Vasya reads only   Proust
            'Masha reads nothing, and Vasya only Proust.'

Accordingly, each coordinand in (142) must host a PolP of its own. The fact that
gapping is possible in wh-questions, illustrated in (137) above, implies that the
coordinands may even be CPs.

In Ossetic, an additional piece of evidence can be marshalled in favor of a large
size of conjuncts under gapping: the tense of the gapped verb and the antecedent do

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[68] Admittedly, not including the present writer.

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not have to match, which shows that the coordinands are at least TPs, (143). The adverbial *rajšom* 'tomorrow' in the gapping site is only compatible with the future or present[69], while the verb in the antecedent is in the past.

(143) Iron Ossetic

žnon	səkolamɐ	sədtɐn	χetɐg=ta	rajšom	čermen-mɐ
yesterday	Chikola.ALL	I.went	Khetag=CTR	tomorrow	Cermen-ALL

'Yesterday I went to Chikola, and Khetag (will go) tomorrow to Chermen.'

Similar facts were reported for Spanish[70] in Juliá (1987). The sentences in (144)are claimed to have the reading in which the conjuncts must have non-matching tenses. They also have the reading where the gapped verb is reconstructed in the past tense, but this other reading is irrelevant for our purposes.

(144)   Spanish

a.

Raquel	**enseñaba**	gramática	el	año	pasado
Raquel	taught	grammar	def	last	year
y	Ana	~~enseña~~	~~gramática~~	este	año
and	Ana	teaches	grammar	this	year

'Raquel taught grammar last year and Ana (teaches it) this year.'

b.

Ana	se	**fue**	ayer	y	yo	~~me~~	~~voy~~	hoy
Ana	herself	went	yesterday	and	I	myself	go	today

'Ana left yesterday and I'm leaving today.

However, a tense mismatch is impossible in Russian[71], as shown in (145).

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[69] The present can have future reference in Ossetic.

[70] Saab (2009) and Jung (2016), however, report that tense mismatch is impossible in Spanish gapping.

[71] As Tanya Philippova (p.c.) has observed, this restriction does not hold for comparatives in Russian. The same type of mismatch as in (145) is tolerated in (i). Note that it is impossible to reconstruct the present tense verb in the gapping site because of the adverbial 'yesterday'.

(i)   Russian

(145) Russian
*van^{j}a prygaet   sevodn^{j}a   a   pet^{j}a ~~prygal~~   včera
Vanya jumps   today   CTR   Petya jumped   yesterday
'Vanya is jumping today, and Petya (jumped) yesterday.' (intended)

Given the evidence we have seen that conjuncts can be sufficiently large in these languages, the reason why the tenses must be identical admittedly remains unclear. One way is to posit existence of a null T^0 in the gapping site that is anaphoric to the T^0 of the antecedent, as is done in the proposals of Williams (1997); Ackema & Szendrői (2002), Carrera Hernández (2007); and Reeve (2014). However, there is little independent motivation for such a theoretical move: for instance, many of the languages under discussion lack sequence of tense effects – a phenomenon where anaphoric T^0 elements are typically evoked for analysis, see e.g. Ogihara & Sharvit (2012) and references there.

An alternative analysis can run along the following lines. If the conjuncts are smaller than a TP, then they must be dominated by a shared TP, and the tense match will ensue automatically. If, on the other hand, the conjuncts are larger than a TP, the obligatoriness of the tense match indicates that the deleted constituent must be at least the size of a TP. This, following the logic of Merchant (2013), will ensure that the tenses of the conjuncts coincide. The account based on the size of the deleted constituent does not have to appeal to an additional theoretical ingredient lacking

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van^{j}a   prygaet sevodn^{j}a   vyše   čem   pet^{j}a ~~prygal~~ včera
Vanya   jumps   today   higher   than   Petya   jumped yesterday
'Vanya is jumping today higher than Petya (jumped) yesterday.'

independent motivation, an anaphoric T^0. On these grounds, such an account appears preferable.

To provide an additional argument in favor of large conjuncts, in Russian, Ossetic, and Georgian, the gapping and the antecedent may host contrasting temporal adverbials (146), which are 'today' and 'tomorrow' in (146a-c) and (146f), and 'often' and 'rare' in (146e) and (146g).

(146) Iron Ossetic
a. mɐdinɐ **žnon** šfəχta fəččən
  Madina yesterday cooked meat.pie
  zalinɐ=ta **abon**
  Zalina=CTR today
  'Madina cooked a meat pie yesterday, and Zalina today.'

b. mɐdinɐ **žnon** zalinɐ=ta **abon** fəččən
  Madina yesterday Zalina=CTR today meat.pie
  šfəχta
  cooked
  'Madina cooked a meat pie yesterday, and Zalina today.'

c. mɐdinɐ **žnon** fəččən šfəχta
  Madina yesterday meat.pie cooked
  zalinɐ=ta **abon** k'abuškaʤən
  Zalina=CTR today cabbage.pie
  'Madina yesterday cooked a meat pie, and Zalina today a cabbage pie.'

Georgian
d. manana-m **dɣes** gamoacxo xač'ap'ur-i
  Manana-ERG today baked khachapuri-NOM
  nino-m=k'i **gušin** namcxvar-i
  Nino-ERG=CTR yesterday cake-NOM
  'Manana baked a khachapuri today and Nino (baked) a cake
  yesterday.'

e. manana **xširad** uk'ravs p'anino=ze
  Manana.NOM often plays   piano=on
  nino=k'i **išviatad** pleit'a=ze
  Nino.NOM=CTR rarely   flute=on
  'Manana often plays piano, and Nino rarely flute.'

Russian

f.   vasja   pil   vodku   **včera**
        Vasya   drank.M   vodka   yesterday
        a   dunja ~~pila~~   konjak   **sevodnja**
        CTR   Dunya drank.F   brandy   today
        'Vasya drank vodka yesterday, and Dunya (drank) brandy today.'

g.   vasja   **často** pjot   vodku a   dunja **redko** ~~pjot~~   konjak
        Vasya often   drinks vodka CTR   Dunya rarely drinks brandy
        'Vasya often drinks vodka and Dunya rarely (drinks) brandy.'

Assuming that temporal adverbials attach no lower than the TP, Zubizarreta (1987); Sportiche (1988), a.o., this means that the TP is present in both coordinands. However, some evidence exists that in English temporal adverbials attach below the TP, namely, a clefted VP may host a temporal adverbial (147 a-b).

(147)   a.   Mary promised to give a talk tomorrow and give a talk **tomorrow** she will.

        b.   What Mary will do is give a talk **tomorrow**

To control for this, I have provided above the data about the sentential adverbials, as parallel sentences with sentential adverbials are ungrammatical.

(148)   a.   *Mary promised to certainly/fortunately give a talk and certainly/fortunately give a talk she will.

        b.   *What Mary will do is certainly/fortunately give a talk.

Yet another piece of evidence can be adduced in favor of large conjuncts in Russian. In this language, wh-phrases can be hosted under gapping: *kovo* 'who.GEN' in (149a) and *kogda* 'when' in (149b). It is standardly assumed that wh-movement in

Russian targets Spec CP, Bailyn (2012) or, at the lowest, Spec FocP, with the FocP

located above the TP, as was proposed Boskovic (1998), Stepanov (1998), and the

ensuing literature. No matter which analysis is correct, the grammaticality of the

sentences data in (149) implies that the size of the conjuncts can be larger than the

TP.

(149) Russian
    a.   **kovo**   bojatsja   nosorogi
        who.GEN   fear   rhinos.NOM
        a   **kovo**   ~~bojatsja~~   slony?
        CTR   who.GEN   fear   elephants.NOM
        'Who do rhinos fear and who elephants?'

    b.   **kogda** ty   pojedeš   v   piter
        when you   go   to   Petersburg
        a   **kogda** ~~ty   pojedeš~~   v   čuxlomu?
        CTR   when you   go   to   Chukhloma
        'When will you go to Petersburg and when to Chukhloma?'

The data in (149) are replicable for Georgian and Ossetic as well, however, less clarity

exists as to the locus of wh-phrases in these languages. For Georgian, Borise &

Polinsky (2018) claim that wh-phrases stay in situ, in which case data on gapping in

wh-questions do not bear upon the discussion.

    A question remains as to whether Russian allows smal conjuncts under

gapping. Agafonova (2011) has argued in favor of this possibility, but her argument

appears to be inconclusive. Her argument is based on the following two observations.

First, while binding from the first conjunct into the second is impossible in the

absence of gapping, it becomes at least marginally available when the verb is gapped

in the second conjuncts. The judgments in (150) are the ones reported by Agafonova,

I fail to see a contrast between (150a) and (150b).

(150)   Russian, Agafonova (2011: 48)
  a.   *ne   každyj mal^{j}čik$_i$ budet igrat^j v   kukly
        NEG   every boy   will   play.INF   in   dolls
        a   jevo$_i$ sestra budet igrat^j v   zv^{j}ozdnyje   vojny
        CTR   his   sister will   play.INF   in   star   wars
        'Not every boy$_i$ will play dolls and his$_i$ sister will play Star Wars.'

  b.   ne   každyj mal^{j}čik$_i$ budet igrat^j v   kukly
        NEG   every boy   will   play.INF   in   dolls
        a   jevo$_i$ sestra ~~budet igrat^j~~   v   zv^{j}ozdnyje   vojny
        CTR   his   sister will   play.INF   in   star   wars
        'Not every boy$_i$ will play dolls and his$_i$ sister Star Wars.'

This argument faces two issues: first, the binding pattern in (150b) is still quite

unusual. Russian distinguishes reflexive and non-reflexive possessive pronouns, and

only the non-reflexive one is possible in (150b). If the finite verb is restored, the

sentence with *svoj* 'self's' remains ungrammatical.

(151)   ne   každyj mal^{j}čik$_i$ budet igrat^j v   kukly
          NEG   every boy   will   play.INF   in   dolls
          a   jevo$_i$/*svoja   sestra ~~budet igrat^j~~
          CTR   his/self's   sister will   play.INF
          v   zv^{j}ozdnyje   vojny
          in   star   wars
          'Not every boy$_i$ will play dolls and his$_i$ sister Star Wars.'

In a regular binding configuration, only the reflexive possessive would have been

possible (152).

(152) Russian
ne   každyj mal^jčik   ljubit svoju/*jevo   sestru
NEG   every boy   loves   self's/his   sister.ACC
'Not every boy_i loves his_i sister.'

If what we have in (150b) is a regular syntactic binding configuration, with a DP in,
say, Spec TP binding DP in a vP, the ban on reflexive possessive appears puzzling.

The second issue with the argument based on the contrast between (150a)
and (150b) is that a pronoun can be co-construed with a quantifier across the clause
boundary as (153) shows. There, 'every hunter' in the matrix clause can be co-
construed with the possessive 'his' in the embedded finite clause.

(153) Russian
ne   každyj oxotnik_i   xočet [štoby jevo_i   sobaka
NEG   every hunter   wants COMP his   dog
zaščitila   dissertaciju]
defended   thesis
'Not every hunter_i wants his_i dog to defend a thesis.'

Accordingly, even if the contrast between (150a) and (150b) exists, it is not clear
whether it indicates that the conjuncts in (150b) are small.

To repeat, scope judgments about the scope of modals are extremely hard to
obtain in a cross-linguistic study[72]. Nevertheless, the second argument of Agafonova's
(2011) is based on the scope of modals.

---

[72] That said, in the judgment of the present writer the modal in (i) may only have the distributed reading.

(i)   vas^ja   ne=možet   jest^j   krasnuju   ikru   a   pet^ja   kabački
         Vasya   NEG=can   eat.INF   red   caviar   CTR   Petya   squash.
         'Vasya can't eat red caviar and Petya can't eat squash.'   Russian

The same holds for Digor Ossetic, (ii), in the judgment of my consultants.

(154) Russian, Agafonova (2011: 48)
odni   mogut jest^j ikru   a   drugie jest^j boby
one.PL can   eat.INF caviar.ACC   CTR   others eat.INF beans.ACC
'Some can eat caviar and others eat beans.'

Here, however, the wide reading of the modal seems to be actually a subcase of the narrow reading: if Petya and Vasya can eat their meals independently, it might so happen that they do so simultaneously. Moreover, here we deal with incomplete gapping: only the modal is deleted in the second conjunct of (154). Accordingly, the argument of Agafonova's (2011) in favor of small conjuncts in Russian is inconclusive at best.

4.8. Applying the analysis to specific languages

Let us utilize the observations from the preceding sections to provide an explicit analysis of gapping in several languages under consideration. Under the approach advanced here, to analyze gapping in a given language we need to specify the locus of the E-feature, the head it agrees with, and the size of the deleted constituent.

Among Russian, Ossetic, and Georgian, the overall clause architecture is best studied for Russian, and it is on this language that I will focus first. Recall that the clause structure proposed in the literature is (155).

(ii)   alan-ɐn   kafun   ne=nʁezuj   soslan-ɐn=ba   zarun   ~~ne=nʁezuj~~
        Alan-DAT   dance.INF   NEG=is.possible Soslan-DAT=CTR   sing.INF NEG=is.possible
        'Alan shouldn't dance and Soslan shouldn't sing.'

(155)

```
              ...
            TopP
          /      \
      Top⁰        ...
                    PolP
                   /    \
                  TP
                 /  \
               NegP
              /    \
            AspP
           /    \
          vP
         /  \
            VP
```

For Russian, I propose that what is deleted is the complement of the PolP, which is the TP. This immediately explains why tense and aspect must match between the antecedent and the gapping site, while the polarities do not have to.

Furthermore, left-peripheral positions demonstrably exist above the PolP, as illustrated in (156). Following Gribanova (2017), I assume that *net* 'no' occupies PolP. The remnants, *Marina* and *po-nemecki* 'in German', obligatorily precede *net*, and accordingly they must be situated in the left periphery abovethe PolP.

(156) a.   rajner po-russki   stixi pisal
         Rainer in.Russian   poems wrote
         a   literaturovedy   sčitajut   [što   marina
         CTR   literary.criticists   think   COMP Marina
         po-nemecki   net]
         in.German   no
         'Rainer wrote poetry in Russian, and literary criticists think that
         Marina didn't (write poetry) in German.'

b.

```
            ...
            CP
          /    \
        C⁰      Top
        što    /    \
          Marina    Top'
                   /    \
                Top⁰    FocP
                      /      \
               po-nemecki    Foc'
                            /    \
                         Foc⁰    PolP
                               /     \
                             net     T̶P̶
                                    /\
                                   /__\
```

Accordingly, for gapping, with or without stranded polar particles, I assume the general structure as shown in (157).

(157)

```
            ...
            CP
          /    \
        C⁰      Top
               /    \
                    Top'
                   /    \
              Top⁰[E]   FocP
                |      /    \
                |          Foc'
                |         /    \
                |      Foc⁰    PolP
                |            /     \
                |_____Pol⁰     T̶P̶
                                  /\
                    agreement    /__\
```

In Ossetic, on the other hand, to capture the possibility of tense and modality mismatches, (85) and (88), and assuming that the order in the functional sequence

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(131) is valid for Ossetic, it is natural to assume that what is deleted is the complement of Mod^0 rather than of Pol^0 (158). In the absence of overt auxiliaries in Ossetic, it is normally impossible to see that Pol^0 is not clause-final in respective ellipses.

(158) ...

```
                CP
              /    \
           C⁰       Top
                   /    \
                       Top'
                      /    \
                Top⁰[E]     FocP
                   |       /    \
                   |          Foc'
                   |         /    \
                   |      Foc⁰    PolP
                   |            /    \
                   |         Pol⁰     TP
                   |               /    \
                   |             T⁰      ModP
                   |                    /    \
                   |_____Mod⁰      AspP
                        agreement             △
```

In Georgian, an explicit analysis of gapping hinges on a yet non-existent analysis of the left periphery of the vP in this language. As we have seen in Section 4.2.3.3, Georgian allows TAM mismatches under gapping as long as the respective TAM forms belong to one and the same series. More work on the syntax of TAM in Georgian is necessary before a complete analysis of gapping becomes possible.

4.9. Potential alternative analyses

In this section, I discuss two potential alternative analyses of embeddable gapping. One of them proposes to treat it as pseudogapping, and the other posits null verbs in the ellipsis sites.

4.9.1 Gapping or pseudogapping

One possible objection to the analysis presented here is that the variety of ellipsis we consider is not gapping but rather some different kind of ellipsis. Specifically, one likely candidate is pseudogapping. Recall that in English, pseudogapping is a variety of ellipsis that deletes the lexical verb while stranding the auxiliary, e.g. *will* in the 2nd conjunct of (159).

(159)   John will bring wine to the party, and Mary will beer.   Thoms (2016)

In this narrow sense, pseudogapping is extremely rare cross-linguistically, but, in principle, this notion can be generalized to a cross-linguistically applicable one in the following manner:

   Pseudogapping is a type of ellipsis that deletes the lexical verb but keeps T^0.

Crucially, unlike true gapping, pseudogapping in English can be embedded (160).

(160) Mittie ate nattoo, and I thought that Sam had ~~eaten~~ rice. Gengel (2013: 14)

Then, perhaps what we have seen above are instances of pseudogapping with a null T^0? As we have seen, the conjuncts are indeed at least TPs, while it is hard to determine the precise size of the constituent that is targeted by ellipsis. If gapping in English is derived by a process similar to (113) (as argued by Jayaseelan (1990); Lasnik (1995, 1999a, 1999b); and Gengel (2013), a.o.), this becomes a purely terminological question.

However, a number of properties of pseudogapping in English, observed by Levin (1980) when comparing pseudogapping to VPE, do not generalize to our cases. Specifically, English pseudogapping

cannot be deeply embedded[73], (161a).
shows preference for same subjects, (161b)
cannot happen in infinitival clauses, (161c)
cannot go backwards, (161d).

(161) a. *Since tornadoes petrify Harold, I can't for the life of me figure out why he's so surprised about the fact that they do me, too.

  b. A: That thunderstorm bothered Millicent last night.
    B: ??Well, your stereo did me.
    B: I'm afraid my stereo did, too.

  c. *I wrote his papers, but I did not want to his dissertation.

  d. *I will a poem, and Mary wrote a novel.

---

[73] Not all speakers share this judgment.

This is not what occurs in the languages under consideration for the construction that is analyzed as gapping in this chapter. The only exception is the directionality of gapping, which usually only proceeds forwards even in languages where it can be embedded.

The sentences in (162) illustrate, mostly on the example of Russian, that gaps can be deeply embedded (162a); they may have non-matching subjects (162 b-c); and can involve infinitival clauses (162d).

(162) Deeply embedded gaps
a.   ?vas^ja l^jubit vodku a   jevo   drug   utverždajet [što   vas^ja
         Vasya likes   vodka CTR   his   friend claims   COMP   Vasya
         jemu   govoril   [što   vasina   žena   l^jubit vino]]
         he.DAT told   COMP   Vasya's   wife   likes   wine
         'Vasya likes vodka, and his friend claims that Vasy told him that
         Vasya's wife (likes) wine.'

Non-matching subjects
b.   A: vas^ja l^jubit vodku
                 Vasya likes   vodka
                 'Vasya likes vodka.'
         B: a   ja   samogon
                 CTR   I   moonshine
                 'And I moonshine.'   Russian

c.   A: rezos   adʒavrebs   sulguni
                 Rezo.DAT   hates   sulguni.NOM
                 'Rezo hates sulguni.'
         B: ninos=k'i   t'q'emali
                 Nino.DAT=CTR tkemali.NOM
                 'And Nino tkemali.'   Georgian

Infinitival clauses
d.   ja   napisal   vas^je   dissertaciju a   [napisat^j
         I   wrote   Vasya.DAT   thesis.ACC   CTR   write.INF
         pete   stat'ju]   (ja)   nje   xoču/otkazalsja
         Petya.DAT   article.ACC   I   NEG   I.want/refused
         'I wrote a thesis for Vasya, and I don't want/refused to (write) an

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article for Petya.'   Russian

Additionally, English pseudogapping allows tense mismatches (Kyle Johnson, p.c.)
(163).

(163) Tom ate tomatoes and he will onions too.

However, as we have already seen in Section 4.2.3.3, this is in general not what is
observed in our cases (164), except for Ossetic.

(164) a.   Russian
              *vas^ja sjel   pomidory   sevodn^ja
              Vasya ate   tomatoes   today
              a   pet^ja ~~sjest~~   ogurcy   zavtra
              CTR   Petya will.eat   cucumbers   tomorrow
              'Vasya ate the tomatoes today and Petya (will eat) the cucumbers
              tomorrow.'

       b.   Georgian
              *iam   dɣes   xač'ap'uri   gamoacxo   nino=k'i
              Ia.ERG today khachapuri.NOM   baked   Nino.NOM=CTR
              xval   mč'ads   ~~gamoacxobs~~
              tomorrow   mchadi.DAT   will.bake
              'Ia baked a khachapuri today, and Nino (will bake) a mchadi
              tomorrow.'

On the other hand, for clauses in morphological future, the only tense where Russian

uses an auxiliary[74], constructions similar to VPE and pseudogapping are possible to

some extent. Then tense mismatch becomes available for most speakers in the

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[74] The morphological future in Russian is formed for imperfective verbs by combining the future of the
verb 'to be' with the infinitive of the lexical verb, Timberlake (2004: 95). The verb 'to be' is the only
verb in Russian that has a non-analytic future form.

counterpart of VPE, (165a), and for some speakers in the counterpart of

pseudogapping (165b).

(165) a.   vasja myl   posudu   včera   a   petja

             Vasya washed   dishes   yesterday CTR Petya

             budet ~~mytʲ~~   zavtra

             be.FUT.3SG   wash.INF   tomorrow

             'Vasya did the dishes yesterday, and Petya will (do the dishes) tomorrow.'

      b.   vasja včera   myl   kuxnʲu   a   petja

             Vasya yesterday   washed   kitchen   CTR Petya

             zavtra   budet   ~~mytʲ~~   koridor

             tomorrow   be.FUT.3SG   wash.INF   corridor

             'Vasya washed (the floor in) the kitchen yesterday, and Petya will (wash the floor) in the corridor tomorrow.'

Accordingly, would-be pseudogapping with a null T^0 behaves differently from

pseudo-gapping with an overt T^0 in Russian. Furthermore, without a tense mismatch,

a would-be equivalent of pseudogapping in Russian is degraded (166).

(166) *?vasja   budet pisatʲ   stixi a   maša budet ~~pisatʲ~~

       Vasya   will write.INF   poems CTR   Masha will   write.INF

       romany

       novels

       'Vasya will write poems and Masha will novels.'

An additional property of the English pseudogapping is that it cannot be embedded

in islands, as is illustrated for the complex NP island in (167a) and for a relative clause

in (167b), both from Agbayani & Zoerner (2004: 206)[75]. On the other hand, as we

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[75] Not all speakers share these judgments, however.

have seen in Section 4.2.2, this is not true of embedded gapping in Russian, Georgian, and some other languages.

(167) a.   *Robin won't fascinate the children, but I believe [the claim
                [that she will ~~fascinate~~ the adults]].

        b.   *Robin can't speak French, but she has [a friend [who can
                ~~speak~~ Italian]].

For other languages of the sample, it is apparently impossible to come up with a precise counterpart of pseudogapping, given that they lack auxilliaries.

4.9.2 Deep or surface ellipsis?

An objection can be raised to the analysis advanced here that what looks like gapping in the languages under consideration is actually an instance of deep anaphora in the sense of Hankamer & Sag (1976): perhaps, no overt linguistic antecedent is necessary for this type of ellipsis to be licensed. In this case, the ability of a null proform to be embedded becomes rather unremarkable[76].

As McShane (2005: 158) shows, Russian indeed has several constructions that plausibly involve null verbs[77], however, these are restricted to verbs of motion (168a), speaking (168b); and hitting (168c).

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[76] This analysis was proposed for gapping in Mandarin Chinese by Tang (2001). See the arguments in Wei (2011) against this analysis.

[77] She opts for a theoretically idiosyncratic analysis, which can however be easily reformulated in the terms of Construction Grammar.

(168) a.   (entering the room)
       ja   na   minutku   Ø$_{motion}$
       I   for   minute
       'I've just stopped by for a minute.' McShane 2005: 160

   b.   (hearing a friend talk about somebody)
       ty   o   kom   Ø$_{speech}$?
       you   about   who
       'Who are you talking about?'

   c.   (watching a fight)
       a   zdorovo   oni   jevo   Ø$_{hitting}$
       CTR   intensely   they.NOM   he.ACC
       'And they really let him have it.' McShane (2005: 165)

However, embedded gapping in Russian is not restricted to verbs of these types.

Therefore, by controlling for the semantics of the gapped verb this objection can be

averted. No evidence for such null verbs is known in Ossetic or Georgian.

    Furthermore, the putative transitive null verb of hitting (note that in (168c)

the direct object *jevo* 'him' stands in the accusative) cannot have an antecedent that

lexically assigns a different case to its argument. For instance, the verb *vmazat^j* 'to hit'

assigns the dative to the hittee and accordingly the sentence in (169) with *vmazat^j* 'to

hit' in the antecedent and the accusative marked direct object in the gapping site is

ungrammatical.

(169) *vas^{j}a vmazal   pete   a   kol^{j}a Ø$_{hitting}$ tol^{j}u
       Vasya   hit   Petya.DAT   CTR   Kolya   Tolya.ACC
       'Vasya hit Petya, and Kolya Tolya.' (intended)

To make (169) grammatical, the case of the hittee needs to be changed to the dative,

but this suggests that regular gapping is implicated in forming the sentence (170).

(170) vas^ja vmazal pete a kol^ja ~~vmazal~~ tole

(170) vasʲa vmazal pete a kolʲa ~~vmazal~~ tole
Vasya hit Petya.DAT CTR Kolya hit Tolya.DAT
'Vasya hit Petya, and Kolya Tolya.'

Accordingly, positing dedicated null verbs is only able to account for a small subset of gapping-like structures in Russian.

4.10. Directions for further research

4.10.1 Standing Challenge: Directionality of Gapping

Ross (1970) advanced a conjecture that the directionality of gapping in a given language correlates with SVO vs. SOV word order. This holds true for Japanese and Korean. First problematic Quechua data were discovered by Pulte (1971; 1973). Furthermore, Ross' conjecture is not borne out by a larger language sample. Hungarian allows both SOV and SVO, gapping in both directions is preferable with the SOV order[78].

(171) Hungarian, András Bárány, p.c.
a. forward gapping, SOV
Mari téa-t iszik és Zsuzsa kávé-t
M. tea-ACC drinks and Zs. coffee-ACC
'Mari drinks tea and Zsuzsa coffee.'

b. backward gapping, SOV
Mari teá-t és Zsuzsa kavé-t iszik.
M. tea-ACC and Zs. coffee-ACC drinks
'Mary ~~drinks~~ tea and I believe that Zsuzsa drinks coffee.'

---

[78] Bartos (2001) calls this "a more permissive dialect" and focuses on the grammar of those speakers who only allow forward gapping.

c. embedded forward gapping, SOV

Mari téat iszik és azt hiszem
M. tea drinks and that.ACC I.believe
hogy Zsuzsa kávét
COMP Zs. coffee
'Mary drinks tea and I believe that Zsuzsa ~~drinks~~ coffee.'

Further counter-evidence comes from languages of the Caucasus. For instance, Dargwa (Northeast Caucasian) and Abaza (Northwest Caucasian) are both strictly SOV languages, and yet only allow forward gapping (my fieldwork data). Furthermore, SVO is a marked option in Rutul (Northeast Caucasian), which also only allows forward gapping. (172a) shows that forward gapping is possible in Rutul under the SOV order, while (172b) shows that backward gapping is not.

(172) Rutul

a. Musa-ra ubul ji\<w\>χ-ɨ-r-a
musa-ERG wolf \<III\>kill-PF-CVB-AUX
Ali-ra sik ~~ji\<w\>χ-ɨ-r-a~~
ali-ERG fox \<III\>kill-PF-CVB-AUX
'Musa killed a wolf, and Ali, a fox.'

b. *Musa-ra ubul ~~ji\<w\>χ-ɨ-r-a~~
musa-ERG wolf \<3\>kill-PF-CVB-AUX
Ali-ra sik ji\<w\>χ-ɨ-r-a
ali-ERG fox \<III\>kill-PF-CVB-AUX
'Musa killed a wolf, and Ali, a fox.'

On the other hand, in Russian and Romanian, the SOV order is possible, and still, only forward gapping is grammatical, *pace* Ross' (1970) claim about Russian.

The account I have proposed admittedly has no means to rule out backward gapping in a given language. I hypothesize that a separate mechanism is implicated in

determining the directionality of gapping. This is compatible with the observation of Bartos' about the two populations of Hungarian speakers: speakers may differ in whether they have acquired this conjectural mechanism. As we will see in the next chapter, directionality depends on the type of ellipsis: sluicing and its generalizations are universally able to go in both directions.

4.10.2 The role of semantic parallelism in licensing of gapping

The current analysis does not directly rule out configurations where the antecedent is situated in an embedded clause, and the gapping site in a root clause. Such sentences, however, are typically ungrammatical, as illustrated in (173) for English and Russian[79], see Toosarvandani (2016) for a discussion of English facts and more references.

(173) a.   English
             *She's said Peter has eaten his peas, and Sally ~~has eaten~~ her green
             beans, so now we can have dessert.
             Intended: 'She has said that Peter has eaten his peas; Sally
             has eaten her green beans.' (Johnson 2009:293)

      b.   Russian
             *što   petⁱa   lʲubit   makarony   podtverždaet maša
             COMP   Petya   likes   pasta   confirms   Masha
             a   vasʲa   ~~lʲubit~~   ris
             CTR   Vasya   likes   rice
             'Masha confirms that Petya likes pasta, and Vasya (likes) rice.'
             (intended)

---

[79] In the Russian example, the embedded clause that hosts the antecedent is fronted. This prevents the (uninteresting) parse where both the antecedent and the gapping site are embedded. I am not clear how to block the latter parse in English, and whether English speakers can in principle access the reading where the gapping site and the antecedent are separated by the clause boundary.

Locality considerations do not rule out the sentences in (173): the gapping site is accessible to agreement both in high- and low-licensing languages. The fact that the antecedent is embedded does not automatically make it invisible for the E-feature. Indeed, as we have seen in Section 4.5, the antecedent and the gapping site may be embedded under different matrix verbs, and accordingly an embedded antecedent must remain accessible in such a case.

I assume that the ungrammaticality of (173) is a consequence of how the semantic condition on matching with the antecedent is calculated. Recall that, on the LF, the E-feature checks a certain semantic condition on how the meanings of the antecedent and of the gapping site are related. I leave the nature of this condition for further research. It is already clear, however, that the ban on embedding a gap with a matrix antecedent and the ban on embedding an antedecent for a matrix gap are independent.

Finally, it is not clear whether the ban on sentences such as in (173) is cross-linguistically universal. Assuming that backward gapping in Korean is indeed gapping – that is, that it is derived by the same mechanism as gapping in other languages, Korean provides a counterexample to this generalization, as Jung (2016) showed.

(174) Korean, Jung (2016)
      [John-i   sakwa-lul   ~~mek/mek-ess-ko]~~,   kuliko na-nun
      John-NOM   apple-ACC   eat/eat-PAST-KO   and   I-TOP
      [Mary-ka   orange-lul   mek-ess-ta-ko]   sangkakha-e
      Mary-NOM   orange-ACC   eat-PAST-DEC-that   think-DEC
      'John ate an apple, and I think that Mary ate an orange'

4.10.3 Constructions similar to gapping

In many languages, constructions very similar to gapping may appear as fragment answers to wh-questions (175 a-b), and it is natural to seek an analysis that would be able to treat such constructions alongside with more prototypical instances of gapping.

(175) a. Eastern Armenian
           Q: ov   um   c'ec'ec?
                 who.NOM   who.DAT   beat.AOR.3SG
           A: aɾa-n   hajk-i-n   ~~c'ec'ec~~
                 Ara-DEF   Hayk-GEN-DEF beat.AOR.3SG
                 'Who beat up who? Ara ~~beat up~~ Hayk.'
      b. Russian
           Q: kto   kovo   ukusil?
                 who.NOM   who.ACC   bit
           A: koška   krysu
                 cat.NOM   rat.ACC
           'Who bit who?' 'The cat (bit) the rat.'

      c. German
           Q: Wer   hat   was   mitgebracht?
                 who   has   what brought
           A: Ich   ~~habe~~ den   Wein ~~mitgebracht~~
                 I   have   DEF   wine brought
           'Who brought what? I (brought) the wine.' Knobloch 2012: 22 German

Possibly, corrections belong to a similar class of phenomena. Some speakers of English allow gapping across the discourse in such cases. One might speculate that in corrections, a silent coordinator is present that is able to host a licensing feature. The dialog in (176), which is grammatical for speakers of this type, receives then the structure shown in (176). The silent *but* is understood to coordinate the utterance of A, *Did Sam go to the store?*, with the reply of B.

(176)   A: Did Sam go to the store?
          B: No, but[*silent*][E] Bill ~~went~~ to the market.

Furthermore, a construction very similar to gapping appears in comparatives (177). As Lechner (2004) argued on the basis of English and German data, the properties of this type of ellipsis are very similar to gapping.

(177) a.   Eastern Armenian
             suren-ə   avelišat   gajl=e   spanel kan   ara-n
             Suren-DEF   more   wolf=3SG   kill.PRT than Ara-DEF
             aʁves=e   ~~spanel~~
             fox=3SG   kill.PRT
             'Suren has killed more wolves than Ara did foxes.'

      b.   Russian
             vasja ubil   bol'še volkov   čem   petja   ~~ubil~~   lis
             Vasya killed more   wolf.PL.ACC than   Petya   killed   fox.PL.ACC
             'Vasya killed more wolves than Petya did foxes.' Russian

Remarkably, gapping is possible in comparatives even in languages that usually disallow embedded gapping, such as English or German, Lechner (2004). Eventually, the analysis of gapping proposed here has to be extended to these cases. I leave this for further research. Additionally, it remains to be seen whether subgapping – apparently, a fairly widespread phenomenon – can be accommodated by this type of analysis as well.

Finally, Reeve (2014) noticed that sentence-initial *if*-clauses in German can serve as antecedents for main clauses, despite the absence of coordination (178). These data are replicable in Dutch as well.

(178) German Reeve (2014:160)
　　　wenn　überhaupt　　irgendjemand　　irgendetwas gekauft　　　hatt
　　　if　　at.all　　　　anyone　　　　anything　　bought　　　has
　　　dann　Dirk　~~hat~~　einen　　　　Apfel　~~gekauft~~
　　　then　Dirk　has　　def.ACC　　　apple　bought
　　　'If anyone bought anything at all, then Dirk (bought) an apple.'

Tentatively, I hypothesize that German and Dutch license an Ans operator in the left periphery of the main clause in this case. It is not clear, however, at present why English is unable to do so.

4.11. Conclusion

In this chapter, I have used a naïve definition of gapping as a construction where the finite verb (and possibly, more subconstituents of the VP) are missing. I have explored the cross-linguistic properties of the construction thus defined.

Partly, the results of this discussion are purely destructive: we have seen that none of the basic properties thought to distinguish gapping from other ellipsis varieties are cross-linguistically robust.

On the constructive side, I have shown that movement and deletion can successfully derive many of the observed properties of gapping, without automatically ruling out those that it does not directly predict, such as variation in the directionality of deletion.

Chapter 5

Typology of Sluicing in Wh- and Non-Wh-Questions

In this chapter, I investigate ellipsis in various types of embedded questions from a cross-linguistic standpoint. I show that ellipsis in polar and alternative questions, in languages where it is grammatical, shares many common properties with sluicing, and accordingly I call these types of ellipsis Pol-sluicing and Alt-sluicing. I show that the presence of sluicing, Alt-sluicing, and Pol-sluicing in a given language is subject to a certain implicational universal and provide an analysis of these constructions that derives this universal. The analysis is based on the ideas that, first, ellipsis is triggered by an appropriate feature whose content gives rise to the observed hierarchy, and, second, that the head that carries the feature and licenses the ellipsis may undergo agreement with the head whose complement is elided. I explore two analytic possibilities: first, that the universal follows from the existence of a universal hierachy of interrogative C heads and the variation of the locus of the E-feature, and second, that the universal is due to systematic cross-linguistic variation in the content of the E-feature.
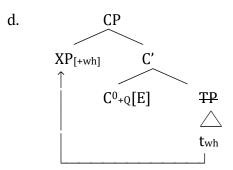
5.1. Introduction: Sluicing beyond English and wh-phrases

Among the major empirical breakthroughs of the 20th century linguistics there was the discovery of implicational universals by Greenberg, and, within a fairly different intellectual tradition, Ross' (1967, 1969, 1970) discovery of a wealth of new syntactic phenomena. In the course of the last two decades, these approaches have been

fruitfully combined in a quest to find, and explain, implicational universals connecting newly discovered syntactic phenomena, see, e.g., Baker (2005, 2008, 2015); Bošković (2009); Harbour (2016), and Woolford (1999, 2006). In this chapter, I implement this research program in the domain of embedded questions and ellipsis. Specifically, I propose and derive an implicational universal that predicts a relation between sluicing in embedded wh-questions, alternative questions, and polar questions in a given language.

Classical sluicing, as illustrated in (179), was discovered, and named, by Ross (1969/2012). Under the now widely accepted account of Merchant (2001) the wh-remnant first undergoes movement into Spec CP and then deletion of the complement of C is licensed by an appropriate feature [E] hosted by the interrogative C, (179d).

(179) a. Mary cooked something, but I don't know **what**.

b. A car is parked on the lawn, but we don't know **whose**.

c. The channel was 15 feet wide, but I don't know **how deep**.

d.

Very informally speaking, what is retained under sluicing, is the focus of a question. For languages such as English where wh-fronting and focus marking are independent phenomena, this is merely a simile, but for languages such as Hungarian (Van

Craenebroeck 2012: 42), Georgian[80] (Erschler 2015), Gungbe, Lipták & Aboh (2013),

or Persian, Toosarvandani (2008), where wh-phrases actually move into a focus

position, this is indeed an accurate statement. This intuition allows us to generalize

the notion of sluicing to other types of questions, see, for instance, Lipták & Aboh

(2013) for Gungbe; Erschler (2014) for Ossetic, and Shlomina (2016) for Russian.

This will result in sentences such as illustrated in (180). Let us call *Pol-sluicing*[81] the construction exemplified in (180a) and *Alt-sluicing* the construction

exemplified in (180b). Although severely ungrammatical in English,

crosslinguistically they fare quite well. The sentences in (180 c-d) illustrate that Pol-

sluicing and Alt-sluicing exist in Polish, (180 e-f) make the same point for German,

and (180g) illustrates Pol-sluicing in Gungbe.

(180)   Pseudo-English
   a.   Pol-sluicing
         Mary cooked something, but I don't know *whether[82] rice*.
         Intended reading: 'Mary cooked something, but I don't know whether
         it is rice that she cooked.'

   b.   Alt-sluicing
         Mary cooked something, but I don't know *whether rice or beans*.
         Intended reading: 'Mary cooked something, but I don't know
         whether she cooked rice or whether she cooked beans.'

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[80] In a recent paper, Borise & Polinsky (2018) argue that in Georgian, focused phrases, including wh-phrases, stay in situ, whereas the material that intervenes between these phrases and the verb undergoes phonologically motivated movement. It remains to be seen how their conclusions dovetail with ellipsis facts.

[81] Konietzko (2016) considers such constructions as instances of embedded stripping. However, as he notices himself, in many languages including German it is restricted to embedded questions. See a further discussion of the relationship between Pol-sluicing and embedded stripping in Section 5.4.2.1 below.

[82] If *whether* is replaced by *if*, the English sentences do not improve.

Polish (Stanisław Dunin-Horkawicz, p.c.)

c. Zosia coś ugotowała, ale nie wiem,
Zosia something she.cooked but NEG I.know
czy ryż.
whether rice
'Zosia cooked something, but I don't know whether (she cooked) rice.'

d. Zosia coś ugotowała, ale nie wiem,
Zosia something she.cooked but NEG I.know
(czy) ryż czy kasz-ę
whether rice whether porridge-ACC[83]
grzyczan-ą.
of.buckwheat-ACC
'Zosia cooked something, but I don't know whether (she cooked) rice or buckwheat.'

German

e. (Der) Hans hat jemandem geschmeichelt, aber ich
DEF Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC but I
weiß nicht ob **(dem) Uwe**
know.PRS.1SG NEG Q DEF.DAT U.
oder (dem) Jan
or DEF.DAT J.
~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt hat~~.
'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe or Jan (that Hans flattered).'

f. ?(Der) Hans hat jemandem geschmeichelt,
DEF Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC
aber ich weiß nicht ob **(dem) Uwe**
but I know.PRS.1SG NEG Q DEF.DAT U.
~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt hat~~.
'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe (that Hans flattered).'

Gungbe (Niger-Congo, Benin; Lipták & Aboh 2013)

g. mὲ ɖé wá àmɔn má nyɔ́n ὲn ní kofi
someone IND come but I.NEG know it if Kofi
wὲ
FOC
'Someone came, but I don't know if (it was) Kofi.'

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[83] Glosses: ABL ablative; ACC accusative; ALL allative; ASP aspect; AUX auxiliary; COMP complementizer; DAT dative; ERG ergative; FOC focus marker; GEN genitive; IND indicative; INST instrumental; INT interrogative; NEG negation; NOM nominative; Q interrogative particle; REL relativizer; SM subject marker.

There are several reasons to extend the term *sluicing* to these constructions: first, the embedded remnant in such a sentence is, roughly speaking, the focus of a polar or alternative question, and, second, as we will see later, when such constructions are grammatical, they satisfy the standard tests for sluicing.

An unexpected cross-linguistic connection exists between the three types of ellipsis. Namely, the following implicational universal holds:

(a) **Pol ⇒ Alt**
If a language allows Pol-sluicing, it will allow Alt-sluicing.

(b) **Alt ⇒ wh**
If a language allows Alt-sluicing, it will also allow regular sluicing.

In this chapter, I propose an analysis of sluicing in polar and alternative questions that derives this universal.

Some evidence exists that even in some languages where neither Alt-sluicing nor Pol-sluicing are grammatical, the former is still somewhat more acceptable than the latter (Seth Cable and Jeremy Hartman, p.c., for English, and Matti Miestamo, p.c., for Finnish).

The universal holds specifically for ellipsis in embedded questions. Languages that disallow embedded Alt-sluicing or Pol-sluicing often allow it in fragment questions, as illustrated by the contrast between (181a) and (181b). This might indicate that these constructions have derivations different from sluicing in embedded questions.

(181) Modern Greek

    a.   *i   ʝinaika mu   maʝirepse   kati   alla
        DEF   wife my   cooked   something   but
        ðen   ksero an   riʤi
        NEG   I.know whether   rice
        'My wife cooked something, but I don't know whether (it is) rice.'
        (intended)

    b.   A: i   ʝinaika mu   maʝirepse   kati
            DEF   wife my   cooked   something
            'My wife cooked something.'
        B: riʤi?
            rice?

To account for the universal described above, I will extend the analysis of Van Craenenbroeck and Lipták (2013). They proposed that if a language has sluicing and may move some material other than wh-phrases into the position where sluicing remnants are situated, then this material may serve as ellipsis remnants as well. As I will show later, however, their proposal needs to be refined. I will argue that generalized sluicing is fed by fronting of the remnant into the specifier of an appropriate head high in the clause and subsequent deletion of the complement of that head. The deletion is triggered by a feature whose content is responsible for the observed hierarchy.

    The fact that we need to deal here with embedded alternative questions introduces a complication for the E-feature based ellipsis licencing. As has been first shown by Han & Romero (2004) and confirmed by later research, in some languages alternative questions are obtained as disjunctions of polar questions. Consequently, the head that is responsible for question embedding and licensing of ellipsis is not a sister of the remnant: ellipsis proceeds in the daughters of the &P. To circumvent this

difficulty, I adopt a modification of Aelbrecht's (2010) agreement-based approach to ellipsis.

The rest of the chapter is organized as follows: in section 5.2, I provide reasons to treat ellipsis in polar questions and alternative questions as sluicing, namely, I show for a number of languages that the respective constructions satisfy the standard tests for sluicing. In section 5.3, I introduce the universal that connects the three types of sluicing and list the language sample this universal is based upon. In section 5.4, I argue that the ultimate reason for the universal must lie in the contents of the licensing feature rather than the (in)ability of remainders to front and overview environments where sluicing occurs, namely, embedded questions, root questions, and split questions. Later on, I only deal with embedded sluices. In section 5.5, I lay out the general scheme of the agreement-based approach to ellipsis. In Section 5.6, I present my proposal. In section 5.7, I discuss the syntax of embedded polar questions and alternative questions, and address the question of where the licensing feature is located. Section 5.8 concludes.

5.2. Why are Pol-sluicing and Alt-sluicing indeed related to sluicing?

In this section, I argue that ellipsis in polar and alternative questions is indeed similar to regular sluicing, although *a priori*, all the three types of ellipsis could be completely dissimilar to each other.

The reason to treat ellipsis in alternative and polar questions on par with the familiar wh-sluicing is that, when grammatical, Alt-sluicing and Pol-sluicing exhibit

all the standard properties of sluicing proposed in the literature, see e.g. Chung et al

(1995) and Merchant (2001). These standard properties include

- ✓ Connectivity effects between the sluice and the antecedent;
- ✓ Ability to be separated from the antecedent by a clause boundary;
- ✓ Ability to linearly precede the antecedent;
- ✓ Ability to ameliorate or amnesty island violations[84];
- ✓ "Sprouting": a sluice might exist without an overt antecedent.

It is natural to assume, therefore, that non-wh sluicing must be amenable to similar

treatment as regular sluicing. This idea has been advanced first by Van

Craenenbroeck & Lipták (2006, 2013).

Ideally, these properties need to be checked to each language of the sample.

Unfortunately, that is unrealistic at present, and, to illustrate the fact that all the

standard sluicing tests are satisfied by generalized sluicing, I only apply them to Pol-

sluicing in Russian and to Alt-sluicing in Georgian.

5.2.1 Pol-sluicing: Russian

Embedded polar questions in Russian are headed by the obligatory complementizer

=*li*, a 2nd position clitic. For reasons to analyze it as a complementizer, see King

(1995), Franks & King (2000), and also Bailyn (2012: 86). At this stage, however, this

issue is not really important for our discussion. This complementizer follows the

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[84] It is worth mentioning that, under a number of recent proposals, for instance, Marušič & Žaučer (2013) and Barros et al (2014) island amelioration under sluicing is spurious. Nevertheless, given that the phenomenon is observed virtually in all languages that exhibit classical sluicing, it remains valid as an empirical test.

clause-initial focus of the question, for instance, in (182a) it encliticizes to the verb *otravili* 'they.poisoned', in (182b) to the fronted direct object *Sokrata* Socrates.ACC, and in (182c) to the fronted adjunct *cikutoj* 'with hemlock'.

(182) a. ja   ne=znaju   otravili=li   sokrata   cikutoj
           I   NEG=I.know   they.poisoned=Q   Socrates.ACC   hemlock.INS
           'I don't know whether they poisoned Socrates with hemlock.'

       b. ja   ne=znaju   sokrata =li   otravili
           I   NEG=I.know   Socrates.ACC=Q   they.poisoned
           cikutoj
           hemlock.INS
           'I don't know whether it's Socrates who they poisoned with hemlock.'

       c. ja   ne=znaju   cikutoj =li   otravili
           I   NEG=I.know   hemlock.INS=Q   they.poisoned
           sokrata
           Socrates.ACC
           'I don't know whether it's with hemlock that they poisoned Socrates.'

Under Pol-sluicing, the fronted constituent and =*li* are retained, (183). The same example (183) illustrates that Pol-sluicing in Russian requires case matching between the antecedent and the remnant. In this sentence, both the remnant *cikutoj* 'with hemlock' and the correlate *čem-to* 'with something' stand in the instrumental, but the same situation obtains with all the other morphological cases of Russian, which are nominative, accusative, genitive, dative, and prepositional.

(183) sokrat-a   čemto   otravili   no=ja ne=znaju
       Socrates-ACC   something.INS they.poisoned   but=I NEG=I.know
       cikut-oj=li
       hemlock-**INS**=Q
       'They poisoned Socrates with something, but I don't know whether
       with hemlock.'

Russian does not allow preposition stranding. Accordingly[85], preposition drop is impossible in Pol-sluices. In (184), the correlate of the sluice is a PP, *iz-pod čevoto* 'of something'. In the sluice *iz-pod vina* 'of wine', the preposition *iz-pod* must be retained.

(184) diogen   žil   v=bočk-e   iz-pod čevoto
       Diogenes   lived   in=tub-PREP   of   something
       no=ja ne=znaju   ??(iz-pod)   vina=li
       but-I NEG=I.know   of   wine-GEN=Q
       'Diogenes lived in a tub (originally used) for something, but I don't know for what (it was used originally).'

Furthermore, the remnant under Pol-sluicing can precede its antecedent, as it is the case with regular sluicing, Merchant (2001). In (185a), the sluice *cikutoj=li* 'whether with hemlock' precedes the antecedent *sokrata čem-to otravili* 'they poisoned Socrates with something'. The example in (185b) illustrates the same phenomenon for regular sluicing.

(185) a. **cikut-oj=li**   ja   ne=znaju   no=sokrat-a
          hemlock-**INS**=Q   I   NEG=I.know   but=Socrates-ACC
          čemto   otravili
          something.**INS**   they.poisoned
          'Whether (it is) with hemlock, I don't know, but they poisoned Socrates with something.'

      b. **čem**   ja   ne=znaju   no=sokrat-a
          what-**INS**   I   NEG=I.know   but=Socrates-ACC
          čemto   otravili
          something.**INS** they.poisoned
          'What with, I don't know, but they poisoned Socrates with something.'

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[85] The generalization that languages without preposition stranding should disallow preposition drop under sluicing has been advanced in Merchant (2001). It has not been uncontested, see Almeida & Yoshida (2007) and Leung (2014).

This shows that, at least in Russian, Pol-sluicing is a type of ellipsis distinct from stripping. Stripping exists in Russian, (186a) but the remnant under stripping is unable to precede its antecedent, (186b):

(186) a. platon napisal   o   kazni   sokrata
          Plato   write.PST.SG.M about execution.PREP   Socrates.GEN
          i   ksenofont   tože
          and   Xenophon   too
          'Plato wrote about the execution of Socrates and Xenophon too.'

     b. *ksenofont (tože)[86]   i   platon napisal   o   kazni
         Xenophon   too   and Plato write.PST.SG.M about   execution
         sokrata
         Socrates
         '*Xenophon too and Plato wrote about the execution of Socrates.'

A Pol-sluicing remnant may be deeply embedded (187a), however, in Russian this is possible for remnants of stripping as well (187b).

(187) a. manul   obmanul   kovo-to   i   ja   dumaju
          Pallas'.cat deceived   who.ACC-IDF and   I   I.think
          što   ja   znaju ulana=li
          COMP   I   I.know uhlan.ACC=Q
          'The Pallas' cat deceived somebody and I think that I know whether
          (it deceived) the uhlan.'

     b. manul   obmanul   ulana   i   ja   dumaju
         Pallas'.cat deceived   uhlan.ACC   and   I   I.think
         [što   kulan   sčitaet   [što   ulara   tože]]
         COMP   onager   assumes   COMP   snowcock.ACC   too
         'The Pallas' cat deceived the uhlan and I think that the onager
         assumes that (the cat deceived) the snowcock too.'

---

[86] The presence or absense of 'too' does not affect grammaticality of this sentence.

Movement in Russian is subject to all the standard island constraints, see e.g. Zaliznjak & Paducheva (1979); Pesetsky (1982); and Testelec (2001). As is known since Ross (1969/2012), sluicing ameliorates island violations, and it is natural to expect this property from any generalization of sluicing. Pol-sluicing indeed ameliorates island violations, as an example consider extraction out of an NP[87].

(188) safo   utopilasʲ   ot=lʲubvi   k=kakomu=tojunoše
      Sappho   drowned.herself   from=love   to-what=IDF youth.DAT
      no=ja ne=pomnʲu   k=faonu=li
      but=I NEG=I.remember   to=Phaon.DAT=Q
      'Sappho drowned herself out of love to some youth, but I don't remember whether (she drowned herself out of love) to Phaon.'

The following pair of sentences show that an NP is indeed an island in Russian with respect to wh-movement, (189a) and scrambling, (189b):

(189) a.   *k=komu   safo   utopilasʲ   ot=lʲubvi?
            to=who.DAT   Sappho   she.drowned.herself from=love
            'Out of love to whom did Sappho drown herself?' (intended)

      b.   *k=faonu   safo   utopilasʲ   ot=lʲubvi
            to=Phaon.DAT Sappho   she.drowned from=love
            'Sappho drowned herself out of love to Phaon.' (intended)

Finally, sprouting, the presence of a sluice in the absence of an overt correlate is possible for Pol-sluicing (190).

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[87] For the purposes of the current discussion, the distinction between DPs and NPs is immaterial.

(190)　vasʲa　pʲjot　no　　ja　　ne　　znaju　vodku=li　　~~on　　pʲjot~~
　　　　Vasya　drinks　but　　I　　NEG　　I.know　vodka=q　　he　　drinks
　　　　'Vasya drinks but I don't know whether (he drinks) vodka.'

To recapitulate, Pol-sluicing in Russian exhibits all the properties that the regular

sluicing can be expected to.

5.2.2 Alt-sluicing: Georgian

Georgian embedded alternative questions do not carry an overt complementizer: the

interrogative complementizer *tu*, which is optional in embedded wh-questions

(191a) and obligatory in embedded polar questions (191b), is homophonous with the

interrogative 'or'.

(191)　Georgian Erschler (2015)
　　　a.　　rezo　　　　mixvda　　　<tu>　rat'om <*tu>　c'avida
　　　　　　Rezo.NOM　　s/he.realized　Q　　why　　Q　　　s/he.left
　　　　　　manana
　　　　　　Manana.NOM
　　　　　　'Rezo realized why Manana left.'

　　　b.　　ar　　vici　<*tu>　ciq'vebi　　　tu　　k'argad　　　daprinaven
　　　　　　NEG　I.know　Q　　squirrels　　Q　　well　they.would.fly
　　　　　　'I don't know whether squirrels fly well.'

In (192), *tu* occurs in an embedded alternative question.

(192) ar   vici   (*tu)   tamari   tu   manana   raɣacas
      NEG   I.192   Q.COMP Tamar.NOM   or.Q   Manana.NOM something.DAT
      amzadebs
      cooks
      'I don't know whether Tamar or Manana cooks something.'

Georgian allows Alt-sluicing – in (193a), 'Rusudan or Tamar' serves as a remnant –

but disallows Pol-sluicing, (193b).

(193) a.   tornik'e-m   viɣaca   ako   magram
               Thornike-ERG   somebody.NOM   praise.AOR.3SG   but
               ar   maxsovs   **rusudan-i   tu   tamar-i**
               NEG   I.remember   Rusudan-NOM   or.Q   Thamar-NOM
               'Thornike praised someone but I don't remember whether (he praised)
               Rusudan or Tamar.'

       b.   *tornik'e-m   viɣaca   ako   magram
               Thornike-ERG   somebody.NOM   praise.AOR.3SG   but
               ar   maxsovs   **tu   rusudan-i**
               NEG   I.remember   Q   Rusudan-NOM
               'Tornike praised someone but I don't remember whether (he praised)
               Rusudan.' (intended)

The same battery of tests that we used in the preceding section for Pol-sluicing in

Russian is applicable to Alt-sluicing in Georgian. Georgian has a rich case system

(nominative, ergative, dative, genitive, instrumental, and adverbial, Boeder (2005);

the vocative case by its nature does not occur in contexts of relevance to us). That

makes case matching under sluicing easy to illustrate. In (194a), the correlate *raɣac*

'something' stands in the nominative, and accordingly the sluice *p'ur-i tu q'vel-i* 'bread

or cheese' must stand in the nominative as well. In (194 b-c), the same effect is

illustrated for the genitive.

178

(194) a.   manana-m   gušin   raɣac   iq'ida,
          Manana-ERG   yesterday   something.NOM   s/he.bought
          magram   ar   mitxra   p'ur-i   tu   q'vel-i
          but   NEG   s/he.told.me bread-NOM   or.Q   cheese-NOM
          'Manana bought something yesterday, but she didn't tell me whether
          (she bought) bread or cheese.'

     b.   manana-s   viɣac-is   ešinia
          Manana-DAT   someone-GEN   fears
          magram   ar   vici dzaɣl-is   tu   gvel-is
          but   NEG   I.know dog-GEN   or   snake-GEN
          'Manana is afraid of something, but I don't know whether (she is afraid)
          of dogs or of snakes.'

     c.   tornik'e-m   c'aik'itxav   viɣac-is   leks-i
          Tornike-ERG   s/he.read   someone-GEN poem-NOM
          magram   ar   vici važa pšavela-s
          but   NEG   I.know Vazha Pshavela-GEN
          tu   nik'oloz   baratašvil-is
          or.Q   Nikoloz   Baratashvili-GEN
          'Tornike recited someone's poem, but I don't know wether (he recited
          a poem of) Vazha Pshavela's or Nikoloz Baratashvili's[88].'

Georgian Alt-sluices may be deeply embedded. In (195), the sluice 'Rusudan or

Tamar' is embedded under the verb *icis* 'knows', which in its turn is embedded under

mgonia 'it seems to me'.

(195) tornik'-em   viɣaca   ako   da   me   mgonia
      Tornike-ERG   someone.NOM s/he.praised and   I   seems.to.me
      [rom   manana-m   icis   [rusudani   tu   tamari]]
      COMP   Manana-ERG   knows Rusudan-NOM or   Tamar-NOM
      'Tornike praised someone, and it seems to me that Manana knows whether
      (he praised) Rusudan or Tamar.'

Normally, long distance movement is very restricted in Georgian, Harris (1981),

Erschler (2015), a property of the Georgian grammar that provides us with a wealth

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[88] Two major Georgian poets.

of islands. However, this does not affect the grammaticality of respective Alt-sluices: they are invariably grammatical. This unifies Alt-sluices with regular sluices, which ameliorate island violations in Georgian, Erschler (2015).

(196) a.   Complex NP constraint

mat	unda-t	rom	daikiraon	viɣac
they.ERG	want-PL	COMP	PRV-hire	someone.NOM

vin=c i-ci-s	ertert-i		k'avk'aziur-i	ena,
who=REL	knows some-NOM		Caucasian-NOM	language.NOM

magram	ar	vici	svanur-i	tu	megrul-i
but	NEG	1SG-know	Svan-NOM	or	Mingrelian-NOM

'They want to hire someone who knows one of the Caucasian languages, but I don't know whether Svan or Mingrelian.' (Supine)

b.

sapo-m	tav-i	moik'la	viɣac-is
Sapho-ERG	self-NOM	killed	someone-GEN

siq'varul-is=tvis	magram	ar	vici	paon-is=tvis
love-GEN=for	but	NEG	I.know	Phaon-GEN=for

tu	sopokles=tvis
or	Sophocles.GEN=for

'Sapho killed herself out of love to somebody, but I don't know whether (she did so) out of love to Phaon or to Sophocles.'

c.   Coordinate structure constraint

tornik'e-m	da-p'at'iž-a	uča	da	viɣac	sxva
Tornike-ERG	PRV-invite-AOR.3SG	Ucha	and	someone.NOM	other

magram	ar	vici	zurab-i	tu	gia
but	NEG	I.know	Zurab-NOM	or	Gia.NOM

'Tornike invited Ucha and someone else, but I don't know whether (he invited) Zurab or Gia.'

Adjunct constraint

d.

uča	kalak=ši	c'avida	sadac	misi	megobar-i
Ucha	city=LOC	went.to	where	his	friend-NOM

cxovrobs	magram	ar	vici	dato	tu	nik'o
lives	but	NEG	I.know	Dato	or	Niko

'Ucha went to the city where a friend of his lives, but I don't know whether Dato or Niko.'

		d.	uča	c'avida	q'vavilebis	saq'idlad	viɣaca
			Ucha	went	flowers.GEN	for.buying	some

gogo-s=tvis
girl-GEN=for

magram		ar	vici	nino-s=tvis	tu	rusudan=tvis
but		NEG	I.know	Nino-GEN=for	or	Rusudan=for

'Ucha went to buy flowers for some girl, but I don't know for Nino or for Rusudan.' (a non-finite purpose clause)

		e.	uča	c'avida	rom	viɣaca	gogostvis	q'vavileb-i
			Ucha	went	COMP	someone	girl-GEN=for	flowers-NOM

eq'ida	magram		ar	vici		ninos=tvis
bought	but		NEG	I.know		Nino-GEN=for

tu	rusudan=tvis
or	Rusudan.GEN=for

Idem (a finite purpose clause)

Besides Georgian (193b), other examples of languages that forbid Pol-sluicing but allow the other two types of sluicing are, for instance, Digor and Iron Ossetic. It was shown in Erschler (2014) that Alt-sluicing in Ossetic also exhibits all the properties considered here.

5.3. Relation between the 3 types of sluicing

A priori, different types of ellipsis in a given language do not need to be related in any way. This is spectacularly not the case for the varieties of sluicing under discussion. To repeat, the following implicational universal holds:

> (a) **Pol ⇒ Alt**
> If a language allows Pol-sluicing, it will allow Alt-sluicing.
>
> (b) **Alt ⇒ wh**
> If a language allows Alt-sluicing, it will also allow regular sluicing.

As of now, the universal has been verified on a sample of about 60 languages. They are listed in Table 5 below. The sample is neither genetically nor geographically balanced: all accessible languages were included.

A small questionnaire was used to gather these data. The speakers were provided with three sentences with complete embedded questions (i.e. ones where ellipsis was not applied) and were asked to translate them into their native language, and then variants with ellipsis were attempted – using schematic prompts in English or French, grammatical sentences with sluicing in Russian or Spanish, or, when attempts to get the desired response failed, constructed by myself on the basis of the unreduced sentences.

When the respective construction is grammatical in the native speaker's language, the ungrammaticality of English schematic prompts did not create significant difficulties. It should be added that a significant number of speakers consulted were professional linguists. Whenever possible, more sentences (with different types of sluices) were elicited.

Table 5 shows that languages break into four classes: Class I languages allow all the three types of sluicing, Class II languages, Pol-sluicing and wh-sluicing, Class III languages, only wh-sluicing, and Class IV languages, no sluicing at all.

Table 5. Types of generalized sluicing cross-linguistically

Language	Genetic Affiliation and Location	Pol-sluicing	Alt-sluicing	wh-sluicing
Class I				
Polish	Slavic, IE, Europe	✓	✓	✓
Russian	Slavic, IE, Europe	✓	✓	✓

Serbian	Slavic, IE, Europe	✓	✓	✓
Latvian	Baltic, IE, Europe	✓	✓	✓
Lithuanian	Baltic, IE, Europe	✓	✓	✓
Hebrew	Semitic, Afroasiatic, Israel	✓	✓	✓
Satmar Yiddish	Germanic, IE, US	✓	✓	✓
Hungarian	Uralic, Europe	✓	✓	✓
Romanian[89]	Romance, IE	✓	✓	✓
Tyvan	Turkic, South Siberia	✓	✓	✓
Yakut (Sakha)	Turkic, NE Siberia	✓	✓	✓
Turkish	Turkic, Turkey	✓	✓	✓
Noghay	Turkic, The North Caucasus	✓	✓	✓
Japanese	Isolate, Japan	✓	✓	✓
Lingala[90]	Bantu, Congo (Kinshasa)	✓	✓	✓
Spanish	Romance, IE, Spain	✓	✓	✓
German[91]	Germanic, IE	✓	✓	✓
Pokomchi	Mayan, Guatemala	✓	✓	✓
Bezhta	Northeast Caucasian, Russia	✓	✓	✓
Kunbarlang	Arnhem, Australia	✓	✓	✓
Moroccan Arabic	Semitic, Afroasiatic, Morocco	✓	✓	✓
Buli	Gur, Niger-Congo; Ghana	✓	✓	✓
Class II				
Hindi	Indoarian, IE, India	*	✓	✓
Persian	Iranian, IE, Iran	*	✓	✓
Ossetic	Iranian, IE, The Caucasus	*	✓	✓
Italian	Romance, IE, Italy	*	✓	✓
French	Romance, IE, France	*	✓	✓
Braz. Portuguese	Romance, IE, Brazil	*	✓	✓
Basque	Isolate, Spain	*	✓	✓
Slovenian	Slavic, IE	*	✓	✓
Albanian	Albanian, IE	*	✓	✓
Bulgarian	Slavic, IE	*?	✓	✓
Georgian	South Caucasian, The Caucasus	*	✓	✓
Svan	South Caucasian, The Caucasus	*	✓	✓
Kannada	Dravidian, South India	*	✓	✓
Syrian Arabic	Semitic, Afroasiatic, Syria	*	✓	✓

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[89] Todorescu & Hoyt (2012) report that what is Pol-sluicing in our terms is grammatical in Romanian. Sentences that show non-wh-sluicing are reported to be somewhat degraded compared to those with wh-sluicing.

[90] Data from Miller (2014).

[91] For some speakers of German, Pol-sluicing is ungrammatical. In this chapter, I use data from those who find it acceptable. All the speakers of German I have consulted find Alt-sluicing and wh-sluicing grammatical.

Its'ari Dargwa	Northeast Caucasian, Russia	*	✓	✓
Samoan	Austronesian, Samoa	*	✓	✓
Class III				
English	Germanic, IE	*	*	✓
Dutch	Germanic, IE	*	*	✓
West Frisian	Germanic, IE	*	*	✓
Danish	Germanic, IE	*	*	✓
Swedish	Germanic, Europe	*	*	✓
Icelandic	Germanic, IE	*	*	✓
Finnish	Uralic, Finland	*	*	✓
Modern Greek	IE, Greek	*	*	✓
Wolof (adjuncts)		*	*	✓
Class IV				
Amharic	Semitic, Ethiopia	*	*	*
Chechen	NE Caucasian, The Caucasus	*	*	*
Lezgian	NE Caucasian, The Caucasus	*	*	*
Kalmyk	Mongolic, Russia	*	*	*
Degema	Niger-Congo, Nigeria	*	*	*
Twi/Akan	Kwa, Niger-Congo, Ghana	*	*	*
Igbo	Igboid, Niger-Congo, Nigeria	*	*	*
Kaingang	Gê, Brazil	*	*	*
Mandarin	Sino-Tibetan, China	*	*	*
Khmer	Austroasiatic, Cambodia	*	*	*
Wolof (arguments)	Atlantic, Niger-Congo, Senegal	*	*	*
Chatino	Oto-Manguean, Mexico	*	*	*
Cochabamba Quechua	Quechuan, Bolivia	*	*	*

Additionally, two more languages, Adyghe (Northwest Caucasian) and Vietnamese, can be added to either the first or the fourth group, depending on the analysis of the morphemes found in sluicing-like sentences: if they are treated as "particles" or complementizers, the languages will belong to the first class; otherwise, if they are verb-like entities, these languages should be assigned to the fourth class.

To illustrate the pictures obtained in the languages of each of the four groups, in addition to the Polish and German sentences in (180), repeated here as (197), which illustrate the situation in languages of the first group, consider data from Digor

Ossetic, which allows wh-sluicing and Alt-sluicing, but not Pol-sluicing, Greek, which

only allows wh-sluicing, and Kaingang (Gê, Brazil), which does not allow any kind of

reduced embedded questions.

(197)   Polish (Stanisław Dunin-Horkawicz, p.c.)
  a.   Zosia coś   ugotowała, ale   nie   wiem,
        Zosia something   she.cooked but   NEG   I.know
        co.
        what
        'Zosia cooked something, but I don't know what.'

  b.   Zosia coś   ugotowała, ale   nie   wiem,
        Zosia something   she.cooked but   NEG   I.know
        (czy)   ryż   czy   kasz-ę
        whether   rice   whether   porridge-ACC[92]
        grzyczan-ą.
        of.buckwheat-ACC
        'Zosia cooked something, but I don't know whether (she cooked) rice
        or buckwheat.'

  c.   Zosia coś   ugotowała, ale   nie   wiem,
        Zosia something   she.cooked but   NEG   I.know
        czy   ryż.
        whether   rice
        'Zosia cooked something, but I don't know whether (she cooked) rice.'

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[92] Glosses: ABL ablative; ACC accusative; ALL allative; ASP aspect; AUX auxiliary; COMP complementizer; DAT dative; ERG ergative; FOC focus marker; GEN genitive; IND indicative; INST instrumental; INT interrogative; NEG negation; NOM nominative; Q interrogative particle; REL relativizer; SM subject marker;

German

d.   (Der) Hans hat jemandem geschmeichelt, aber ich
     DEF Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC but I
     weiß nicht **wem**
     know.PRS.1SG NEG who.DAT
     'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know who.'

e.   (Der) Hans hat jemandem geschmeichelt, aber ich
     DEF Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC but I
     weiß nicht ob **(dem)** **Uwe**
     know.PRS.1SG NEG Q DEF.DAT U.
     oder (dem) **Jan**
     or DEF.DAT J.
     ~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt hat~~.
     'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe or Jan
     (that Hans flattered).'

f.   ?(Der) Hans hat jemandem geschmeichelt,
     DEF Hans has someone.DAT flatter.PRTC
     aber ich weiß nicht ob **(dem)** **Uwe**
     but I know.PRS.1SG NEG Q DEF.DAT U.
     ~~(der) Hans geschmeichelt hat~~.
     'Hans flattered someone, but I don't know whether (it is) Uwe
     (that Hans flattered).'

(198)   Digor Ossetic

a.   Sluicing
     mɐdinɐ fid balχɐdta ɐma čidɐr iskodta
     Madina meat bought and something made
     fal nɐ=zonun či
     but NEG=I.know what
     'Madina bought meat and cooked something, but I don't know what.'

b.   Alt-sluicing
     soslan alan-i ɐma=ma kedɐr ɐrbaχudta
     S Alan-OBL and=more someone.OBL invited
     fal nɐ=zonun χetɐg-i ɐvi kermen-i
     but NEG=I.know Khetag-OBL Q.or Kermen-OBL
     'Soslan invited Alan and someone else, but I don't know whether
     (he invited) Khetag or Kermen.'

c. Embedded polar question: No sluicing
soslan kɐmɐdɐr   ɐnʁɐlmɐ   kɐsuj fal   nɐ=zonun
S.   someone.ALL waiting   looks   but   NEG=I.know
mɐdinɐ-mɐ   *(ɐnʁɐlmɐ   kɐsuj)
Madina-ALL   waiting   looks
'Soslan is waiting for somebody, but I don't know whether he is waiting for Madina.'

(199)   Modern Greek
    a.   i   jinaika mu   maɟirepse   kati   alla
          DEF   wife   my   cooked   something   but
          ðen   ksero ti
          NEG   I.know what
          'My wife cooked something, but I don't know what.'

    b.   Embedded alternative question: No sluicing
          i   jinaika mu   maɟirepse   kati   alla
          DEF   wife   my   cooked   something   but
          ðen   ksero an   *(maɟirepse) riʣi   i   fasolia
          NEG   I.know whether   cooked   rice   or   beans
          'My wife cooked something, but I don't know whether she cooked rice or beans.'

    c.   Embedded polar question: No sluicing
          i   jinaika mu   maɟirepse   kati   alla
          DEF   wife   my   cooked   something   but
          ðen   ksero an   *(maɟirepse) riʣi
          NEG   I.know whether   cooked   rice
          'My wife cooked something, but I don't know whether she cooked rice.'

(200)   Kaingang[93] (Gê, Brazil; Márcia Nascimento, p.c.)
    a.   Embedded wh-question
          mȳnh fi   tȳ   nén   ū   nénh hāra inh   pi
          mother   she SM   something   cook but   I   NEG
          fi   ne   *(nénhja)   kinhra nī
          she   what cook   ASP   know ASP
          'Mother cooked something but I don't know what she cooked.'

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[93] The Kaingang data are given in the standard orthography. The macron denotes nazalization.

b. Embedded alternative question

mȳnh	fi	tóg	nén	ū	nénh	hāra	inh	pi
mother	she	SM	something		cook	but	I	NEG

kinhra nī	aroj	ketūrūkȳ	regro	*(nénhja)	ti
know ASP	rice	or	beans cook	ASP	Q

'Mother cooked something but I don't know whether she cooked rice or beans.'

c. Embedded polar question

mȳnh	fi	tóg	nén	ū	nénh	hāra	inh	pi
mother	she	SM	something		cook	but	I	NEG

kinhra nī	aroj
know ASP	rice

'Mother cooked something but I don't know whether she cooked rice.'

Sluices that strand a bare 'whether' in the sentence-final position are, however, ungrammatical even in languages that allow Pol-sluicing, as illustrated for German and Polish in (201). Their ungrammaticality in English was first noticed in Ross (1969/2012).

(201) a. German

*Es	ist	möglich	daß	Paul	getanzt	hat
it	is	possible	COMP	Paul	danced	has

aber	ich	weiß	nicht	**ob**	~~er~~	~~getanzt~~	~~hat~~
but	I	know	NEG	whether	he	danced	has

'It is possible that Paul danced but I don't know whether (he danced)' (intended)

b. Polish

*Być	może	Janek	tańczył	s	kimś
be	may	Janek	danced	with	somebody

ale	nie	wiem	**czy**	~~Janek~~	~~tańczył~~
but	NEG	I.know	whether	Janek	danced

'Perhaps Janek danced with somebody, but I don't know whether (he danced).' (intended)

Plausibly, this is due to a prosodic requirement for 'whether'-like elements that prevents them from appearing utterance-finally. An alternative explanation could be that 'whether' needs to associate with an overt focus, which is missing from the sentences in in (201). However, in coordinations with wh-questions[94], stranded 'whether' sometimes fares quite well, as illustrated in (202). In such examples, 'whether' still does not associate with an overt focus, but it is no longer utterance-final.

(202) German
a.

Es	ist	möglich	daß	Paul	getanzt	hat
it	is	possible	COMP	Paul	danced	has

aber	ich	weiß	nicht	**ob**		**und**	**mit**	**wem**
but	I	know	NEG	whether		and	with	whom

~~er~~	~~getanzt~~	~~hat~~
he	danced	has

'It is possible that Paul danced but I don't know whether
and with whom (he danced)'

b.

Ich	bin	nicht	sicher	**ob**		**und**	**wann**
I	am	not	sure	whether		and	when

der	Wolf	das	Rottkäpchen		getroffen	hat
the	wolf	the	Red.riding.hood		met	has

'I'm not sure whether and when the wolf met Red Riding Hood.'

Polish
c.

Być	może	Janek	tańczył		s	kimś
be	may	Janek	danced		with	somebody

ale	nie	wiem	**czy**		**i**	**s**	**kim**
but	NEG	I.know	whether		and	with	whom

~~Janek~~	~~tańczył~~

'Perhaps Janek danced with somebody, but I don't know whether
and with whom (he danced).'

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[94] I owe the idea to consider such coordinations to Andreas Haida.

Remarkably, acceptability of such examples decreases if the order of a wh-sluice and a Pol-sluice is reversed, as shown by the contrast between (202c) and (203).

(203) Polish
    ?Być   może   jednorożce   gdzieś   żyją
    be   may   unicorns   somewhere   live
    ale   nie   wiem **gdzie** i   **czy**
    but   NEG   I.know where and   whether
    'Perhaps unicorns live somewhere, but I don't know where
    and whether (they live somewhere at all).'

How solid is the empirical evidence in favor of the proposed universal? Although, if taken to be representative of the genetic and areal diversity of the world's languages, the sample in Table 5 is admittedly very small, it still allows to argue that the observed universal is not spurious.

Indeed, it could have been the case that an implication of the form "X implies Y" holds just because the phenomenon Y is extremely common. For instance, "A language has sluicing if it has VP ellipsis" is in all likelihood a correct generalization, but an entirely spurious one because of the extreme typological rarity of the VPE. In our case, however, we see that quite a substantial number of diverse languages lack wh-sluicing, so the fact that the existence of Alt-sluicing implies wh-sluicing is unlikely to be epiphenomenal. Likewise, a substantial number of languages lack Alt-sluicing, so the fact that existence of Pol-sluicing implies existence of Alt-sluicing cannot be spurious either.

It is worth noting that fairly closely related language can exhibit different sluicing patterns: for instance, Dutch only allows wh-sluicing, while German also allows Alt-sluicing, and, for some speakers, even Pol-sluicing; Moroccan Arabic allows

all the three varieties of sluicing, and Syrian Arabic, only wh-sluicing and Alt-sluicing, and so on.

For German and Dutch, one natural conjecture might be that the differences between them lie in the richness of case morphology: morphology of Dutch is rather impoverished compared to that of German. However, if we bring Icelandic into the picture, the connection with morphology turns out to be not tenable: with case morphology even richer than in German, Icelandic still only allows wh-sluicing.

5.4. How to make sense of these facts?

The persistent parallels between generalized sluicing and regular sluicing that we have seen in Sections 5.2.1 and 5.2.2 suggest that the treatment of these phenomena should be essentially the same. Namely, the arguments developed for treating of sluicing as result of ellipsis, Ross (1969/2012), Merchant (2001), and the ensuing literature, are applicable to the two new varieties of generalized sluicing introduced here. Accordingly, generalized sluicing is a result of fronting of the remnant-to-be to some position high in the clause and feature-triggered deletion of the rest.

Languages may vary in what projection is involved in (regular) sluicing, that is, the projection whose specifier hosts the remnant and whose complement gets deleted. At least the interrogative CP and the FocP have appeared in analyses, see, e.g., Merchant (2001) for the former and Toosarvandani (2008) for the latter. Potentially, other projections might be implicated in yet unanalyzed languages.

Potentially, the differences in grammaticality between the three varieties of sluicing, and the universal we found, may result either from the varying availability of structures that feed the deletion, or on the variation in deletion licensing. As I am going to argue, the observed implication indeed has to do with deletion licensing.

5.4.1 Failure to front as an obstacle to sluicing

Indeed, in some languages fronting is impossible in embedded questions that would feed Pol-sluicing or Alt-sluicing. For instance, by default, polar questions in Finnish are verb-initial:

(204) ajoi=ko   Tarja illalla   kaupunkiin?
      went=Q   Tarja night.LOC[95] city.ALL
      'Did Tarja go to the city tonight?' (based on Holmberg (2013))

Still, in matrix polar questions the focus may be fronted.

(205) Finnish
            Tarja=ko   ajoi   illalla   kaupunkiin?
            Tarja=Q   went   night.LOC   city.ALL
            'Is it Tarja who went to the city tonight?'

In embedded polar questions focus fronting becomes impossible[96] (206a). Thus, the structure that would feed sluicing in polar questions is ungrammatical, and, if we

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[95] The case nomenclature in the Finnish glosses is simplified.
[96] When adjuncts rather than arguments are fronted, such sentences improve somewhat, Seppo Kittilä, p.c.

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expect that a feeding grammatical structure must exist in order for ellipsis to proceed, we would predict that ellipsis will not be grammatical either (206b).

(206)   Finnish
    a.   *En   tiedä Tarja=ko   ajoi   illalla   kaupunkiin
          NEG.1SG   know Tarja=Q   went   night.LOC   city.ALL
          'I don't know whether it's Tarja who went to the city.' (intended)

    b.   *   (...) en   tiedä Tarja=ko
                       NEG.1SG   know Tarja=Q
          '(...) I don't know whether (it's) Tarja.' (intended)

It should be noted, however, that non-existence of a construction that would feed ellipsis does not necessarily make the latter impossible, see the discussion in Merchant (2003) and Arregi (2010), which provides even a stronger motivation to discuss the licensing of deletion in the narrow sense. I am leaving aside proposals that no movement at all occurs in sluices, for instance, that of Abe (2015).

5.4.2 Failure to elide

Lack of fronting is definitely unable to explain for the entire extent of cross-linguistic variation: there are languages where fronting of would-be remnants is possible, while some varieties of generalized sluicing are still ungrammatical. This, for instance, is the case in Georgian and Ossetic as shown in (207).

The Georgian sentence in (207a) shows that the focus of an embedded polar question, the direct object *γom-s* 'grits' in this particular case, may be fronted in Georgian. Georgian has basic SOV order, see e.g. Borise & Polinsky (2018) and

references there, so the direct object must indeed be fronted in (207a). However, Pol-sluicing is still impossible in this sentence (207b). The same effect is illustrated in (207 c-d) for the adjunct *cxen-it* 'with a horse'. In the Iron Ossetic sentence in (207e) the direct object *fəččən* 'meat pie' is fronted – again, the basic word order in Ossetic is SOV, Erschler (2012a). As (207f) shows, Pol-sluicing is impossible here.

(207) Georgian
   a.   ar   vici   [ɣom-s   tu   amzadebs   manana]
        NEG   I.know grits-DAT   Q.COMP cooks   Manana
        'I don't know whether it's grits that Manana cooks/is cooking.'

   b.   *manana   raɣaca-s   amzadebs   magram
        Manana   something-DAT   cooks   but
        ar   vici   [ɣom-s   tu]   /[tu   ɣoms]
        NEG   I.know grits-DAT   Q.COMP
        'Manana is cooking something, but I don't know whether (she is cooking) grits.'

   c.   ar   vici   [cxen-it   tu   čadis uča]
        NEG   I.know horse-INS   Q.COMP goes   Ucha
        'I don't know whether Ucha is riding a horse.' (lit. 'goes with a horse')

   d.   *uča   rit   čadis magram   ar   vici
        Ucha   what.INS   goes   but   NEG   I.know
        <tu>   cxen-it   <tu>
        Q.COMP horse-INS   Q.COMP
        'Ucha is riding something, but I don't know whether (he's riding) a horse.' (intended)

   Iron Ossetic
   e.   nɐ=jɐ q^{w}ədə   kɛnən [fəččən   škodta   mɛdinɛ]
        NEG=it thought   I.do   meat.pie   s/he.did   Madina
        'I don't remember whether it's a meat pie that Madina made.'

   f.   *mɛdinɛ   sədɛr   škodta   fɛlɛ   nɐ=jɐ q^{w}ədə
        Madina   something   s/he.did   but   NEG=it thought
        kɛnən fəččən   ~~škodta~~
        I.do   meat.pie   s/he.did
        'Madina made something but I don't remember whether (she made) a meat pie.' (intended)

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Accordingly, we are bound to conclude that it is the deletion licensing that is ultimately responsible for the observed universal.

5.4.3 Role of embedding in sluicing

Ellipsis in questions is possible in a variety of environments. However, the universal is valid only for embedded questions. In this section, I describe possible environments for sluicing and discuss the reasons why the universal does not hold for non-embedded questions.

At least three instantiations of what looks like sluicing and generalized sluicing are known: FRAGMENT QUESTIONS (also often called ROOT SLUICES), (208a-c); EMBEDDED FRAGMENT QUESTIONS (208d-e), and parts of SPLIT QUESTIONS (the latter only serve as environment for generalized sluices), (208g-h). In this chapter, I will only discuss embedded fragment questions (as was done originally in Ross 1969/2012, and unlike Lasnik 2001 and Ginzburg & Sag 2000: 321). Unlike fragment answers, fragment questions, except wh-fragments, have received relatively little attention in the literature.

(208) Root sluices
a.   Who*?*   b.   Rice or beans?   c.   Rice*?*

Embedded sluices
Hebrew
d.   rina   bišla   mašehu   aval   ani   lo   jodea ma
      Rina   cooked   something   but   I   NEG   know what
      'Rina cooked something but I don't know what.'

  e. rina medaberet ejzo safa   zara
       Rina speaks   some language   foreign
       aval ani lo   jodea (im) jevanito   carfatit
       but I   NEG know Q Greek or   French
       'Rina speaks some foreign language, but I don't know whether (she speaks) Greek or French.'

  f. rina medaberet ejzo safa   balkanit
       Rina speaks   some language   Balkanian
       aval ani lo   jodea im jevanit
       but I   NEG know Q Greek
       'Rina speaks some Balkanian language, but I don't know whether (she speaks) Greek.'

Split questions
 g. Who broke this vase, **you or the cat**?

 h. What have you cooked, **rice**?

English and Dutch allow fragment Y/N and alternative questions as root clauses or parts of split questions, but disallow to embed them.

(209) English
   a. rice or beans?   b. rice*?*

   Dutch
   c. rijst of bonen?   d. rijst*?*

Like embedded sluices, these fragment questions cannot originate in clefts. One piece of evidence that shows this has to do with modification by 'even': it is possible in fragment questions, but not in clefts:

(210) English
     a.   rice or beans?   b. rice?

     Dutch

A:	Ik	heb	alles	op(gegeten)	B:	(*Is	het)	zelf	rijst?
	I	have	all	eaten.up		is	it	even	rice

     'I have eaten everything.'   'Even rice?'

But even root fragment questions are ungrammatical in some languages:

(211) Wolof (argument questions)
     a.   A: amnalu   samba di   lɛkk
                    there.exists.something   Samba AUX.3SG   eats
           B: lan   *(la)?
                 what   is
           A: 'Samba is eating something.' B: 'What is it? /*What?'

     b.   B: čɛːb   *(la)?
                 rice   is
           'Is it rice? / *Rice?'

     c.   B: čɛːb   *(la)   wala   arikɔ (la)?
                 rice   is   or   beans is
           'Is it rice or beans? / *Rice or beans?'

On the other hand, split questions are grammatical even in Wolof:

(212) Wolof
     a.   kan   mo: ñɛw   samba?
              who CLEFT.3SG   arrive Samba
              'Who arrived, Samba?'

     b.   lan   la   lɛkk čɛːb   wala ñɛbɛ?
              what CLEFT.3SG   eat   rice   or   bean
              'What did he eat, rice or beans?'

While the behavior of split questions is a puzzle that I have to leave for future

research, the difference between matrix and embedded sluices can be captured in the

following manner. To be felicitous, fragment questions need to be licensed by preceding discourse. I propose that a fragment question needs to carry an operator that is anaphoric to the preceding discourse, and that it is this operator that carries the ellipsis licensing feature.

As opposed to the sensitivity to whether or not the question is embedded[97], the nature of the embedding verb seems to be of lesser importance. For instance, deletion is NOT sensitive to the difference between selected and unselected questions in the sense of Adger & Quer (2001) and earlier literature. Unselected questions are ones embedded under predicates that may embed assertions as well, such as 'tell' or 'know', the sluicing matrix verb *par excellence*. Sentences in (213) are from examples (9) and (10) of Adger and Quer.

(213) a.   Embedded question
              The bartender told me who was drunk/whether I was drunk.

       b.   Embedded assertion
              The bartender told me that/∅ I was drunk.

It is easy to see that unselected embedded questions may undergo sluicing:

(214) a.   Tell me why.

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[97] Even for wh-questions in English, there is a difference between embedded and non-embedded questions. As an informal survey showed, for some speakers of English (of both British and US varieties) embedded questions with *how come* are degraded, with or without ellipsis.

b. Dutch

Saskia	bracht	iets	maar	ze	vertelde	mij
Saskia	brought	something	but	she	told	me

niet wat

not what

'Saskia brought something, but she didn't tell me what.'

Based on subtle contrasts in English, Catalan, and Basque, Adger & Quer (2001) propose that unselected embedded questions are headed by a D head (215).

(215)

The fact that the possibility of sluicing in a given embedded question is independent of whether it is selected or not, the locus of the licensing feature must be lower than the mediating D head in (215).

To summarize the discussion of this section, (generalized) sluicing is sensitive to whether or not the interrogative clause is embedded, but not to the nature of the selecting verb. It remains to be seen whether the varieties of fragment questions discussed in this section are amenable to a uniform treatment[98]. Moreover, nothing in the structure of questions in a given language allows us to predict whether different varieties of generalized sluicing will be grammatical there.

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[98] Cross-linguistically, there occur differences between matrix sluices and embedded sluices: for instance, in Japanese, the former, but not the latter are able to repair island violations, Hasegawa (2008).

5.5. Feature-triggered deletion

In this section I recall the overall approach to ellipsis licensing which I am going to use in my analysis, as it was laid out in Chapter 2. The key technical ingredients are using a dedicated feature that licenses ellipsis, and that the licensing may be mediated by agreement.

In the accounts of Lobeck (1995) and Merchant (2001) the licensing feature was placed on the head whose complement is to be deleted. Accordingly, in (216), where the application of this approach to standard wh-sluicing is illustrated, the remnant moves into Spec CP, whereas the feature [E] triggers deletion of the complement of C.

(216)

$$
\begin{array}{c}
\text{CP} \\
\diagdown \\
\text{XP}_{[+\text{wh}]} \quad \text{C}' \\
\uparrow \qquad \diagdown \\
\quad \text{C}^0{}_{[+\text{Q}]}[\text{E}] \quad \text{\sout{TP}} \\
\diagup\diagdown \\
\text{t}_{\text{wh}}
\end{array}
$$

Built into this approach is the assumption that the licensing feature, whatever its precise content, is optional; that is to say, the heads that are able to carry such features come in two varieties – with and without the ellipsis-triggering feature merged.

In the tree in (216) the feature is located on the sister of the material to be elided. As we will see in Section 5.7.2, this condition is not necessarily fulfilled in

alternative questions. However, as Aelbrecht (2010) has shown, deletion is sometimes licensed by a head which is somewhat higher in the clause than the ellipsis site. Her proposal is that the licensing feature is then located low, that is, on the head whose complement is to be deleted, but the low head must agree with the higher licensing head in order for the deletion to proceed.

(217)

Her motivation for replacing licensing directly by the head whose complement is deleted by agreement comes from situations when the licenser is non-adjacent to the ellipsis site. The basic illustrations are given in (218). In (218a), the licenser is *should*, and in (218b), *mag* 'may'. They are both separated from the respective ellipsis sites by extra material.

(218) a. I hadn't been thinking about that. -- Well, you **should** have been [thinking about that]. Aelbrecht (2010: 92)

  b. Dutch
Gisteren	mocht	Tyl	volgende	week	zijn	nieuwe	auto
yesterday	could	Tyl	next	week	his	new	car

gaan	halen,	en	vandaag	[ModP	**mag**	hij	[TP	pas
go.INF	retrieve.INF	and	today		may	he		only

over	een	maand	[TP [T'	zijn	nieuwe	auto	gaan	halen]
in	a	month		his	new	car	go.INF	retrieve.INF

'Yesterday Tyl was allowed to go get his new car next week and today he's only allowed to go get it in a month.' Aelbrecht (2010)

The original proposal of Aelbrecht's involves a non-standard technical ingredient: probing upwards. To repeat, I propose to do away with this and situate the feature on the licensing head and make it agree with the head whose complement is to be deleted (219).

(219)

LP
L⁰[E]
XP
X'
X⁰   ZP̶
agreement

Now, it will be the category of the head X⁰ that will be part of the information encoded in E. I take the E-feature to be uninterpretable, and the matching interpretable feature to be the category of X⁰ (or, equivalently, of the XP it projects). I assume that this agreement operation satisfies some locality conditions, at the very least that it cannot cross a CP boundary; and a relativized minimality condition, namely, that the agreement will proceed with the closest head of the given type.

To flesh out this approach, we need to determine the precise contents of the licensing feature, the nature of the head(s) that can host it, and the nature of the head(s) whose complements are elided under sluicing. I turn to these questions in the next section.

5.6. Deriving the universal

Once the general tenets of the feature-based approach to ellipsis are adopted, the explanation for the hierarchy one might pursue can be either syntactic or semantic in nature. In this section, I will discuss both possibilities, and opt for a syntactic explantation.

By a **SYNTACTIC EXPLANATION** I mean one where the observed effects derive from the variation in the locus of the E-feature. The semantic condition(s) that the E-feature verifies will be assumed to be constant across questions and languages.

On a **SEMANTIC EXPLANATION**, the contents of the feature, on the other hand, will be allowed to systematically vary cross-linguistically. The licensing feature will be sensitive to whether the embedded question is a polar question, an alternative question, or a wh-question. The variation in the locus of E-feature will not be assumed relevant.

A priori, a semantic explanation seems more attractive: it is easier to entertain the idea that the semantics of the relevant classes of questions is cross-linguistically uniform rather than the idea that it is so for their syntax. However, as we will see, it is rather difficult to come up with a purely semantic condition that will divide questions in the way relevant for sluicing licensing. This makes me opt for the syntactic explanation.

5.6.1 A syntactic explanation of the universal: a hierarchy of interrogative heads

I will first lay out the analysis I propose and then discuss the evidence in its favor and the challenges it faces. I will discuss the syntax of polar and alternative questions in more detail in Section 5.7 below.

Suppose that separate types of interrogative complementizers exist for different types of questions: Q_{WH} for wh-questions, Q_{ALT} for alternative questions, and Q_{POL} for polar questions. Furthermore, in polar questions, only Q_{POL} is merged (220a). In alternative questions, Q_{ALT} is merged on top of Q_{POL} (220b), and in wh-questions, Q_{WH} is merged on top of them both (220c).

(220) a.

$Q_{POL}P$
Q_{POL} ....

b.

$Q_{ALT}P$
Q_{ALT} $Q_{POL}P$
Q_{POL} ....

c.

$Q_{WH}P$
Q_{WH} $Q_{ALT}P$
Q_{ALT} $Q_{POL}P$
Q_{POL} ....

Now, I propose that languages can vary in the height of the location of the licensing feature: in a given language, it can only be hosted by a given type of Q. I will argue that this allows us to derive the universal.

For the sake of simplicity, assume that in a given language all would-be remnants move into the same position in the left periphery. Let SlP denote the respective projection. Furthermore, assume that the sequence of Q's is situated higher in the clause than the SlP.

Under this approach, the content of the E-feature will always be the same. Namely, let the E-feature be specified to agree with Sl^0, and check the semantic identity condition (which goes back to Merchant (2001)) discussed below in 5.6.2.1.

Now, if the E-feature is hosted in the given language by Q_{POL}, deletion in all the three types of question will be licensed, because Q_{POL} is merged in all the three types of questions. If it is hosted by Q_{ALT}, deletion will be only possible in alternative questions and wh-questions. Finally, if it is located on Q_{WH}, only the regular sluicing will be possible, because Q_{WH} is only merged in wh-questions. This is precisely the implicational hierarchy we are striving to derive.

This argument is independent of the nature of the SlP, as far as it is situated lower than the sequence of Q's (221). I will address the semantic import of the Qs later in this section.

(221)

```
                        QP
               ┌─────────┴─────────┐
            Q[E]                   ...
             │                    SlP
             │            ┌────────┴────────┐
             │        Remnant              Sl'
             │                      ┌───────┴───────┐
             └──────────────────Sl⁰              Z̶P̶
                   agreeement                    ╱‾╲
```

Thus, positing the hierarchy of heads (220) allows us to derive the implicational universal.

While a systematic exploration of semantics of the proposed heads is well beyond the scope of the current work, I will very briefly sketch here a possible approach to their semantics. I assume that Q_{POL} marks its complement as a question; Q_{ALT} performs the role of an alternative generator, while Q_{WH} contributes quantificational semantics in wh-questions. Insofar as generation of alternatives is involved in the calculation of semantics for polar questions, I assume that it is achieved by a separate mechanism than in alternative and wh-questions.

Another possible approach to the semantics of the proposed Q heads would be to place the interrogative operator above the sequence of Q's making them semantically vacuous.

Let us now turn to a possible alternative analysis, one that places the onus of explanation on the semantics of the licensing feature.

5.6.2 A semantic explanation of the universal: The Contents of the E-feature

On a purely semantic approach, the licensing feature must track the type of embedded question. Accordingly, the challenge is to provide semantic conditions that would distinguish polar questions, alternative questions, and wh-questions.

On this view, the semantic part of the E feature has two subcomponents, E_1 and E_2. The first component, E_1, is responsible for a semantic identity between the antecedent and the ellipsis site. The second one, E_2, controls for the type of the complement where ellipsis is to proceed. It is the makeup of this second subfeature that explains the universal on this approach.

5.6.2.1 Identity with the antecedent

As an identity condition to hold between the antecedent and the sluice, as in the proposal of Merchant (2001) and the ensuing literature, E-givenness condition should be imposed on the deleted material.

Recall that E-givennes is defined in the following manner, Merchant (2001: 14, 31): an expression φ is E-given, if it has a salient antecedent α, and modulo $\exists$-type shifting[99], the F-closures of φ and α entail each other. The F-closure of an expression φ is the result of replacement of all focus-marked parts of φ by $\exists$-bound variables of appropriate type, modulo $\exists$-type shifting.

---

[99] See Merchant (2001: 14). $\exists$-type shifting is an operation that raises expressions to type <t> and existentially binds unfilled arguments.

As has been argued recently, E-givenness might need to be replaced by a more sophisticated condition, see the discussion in AnderBois (2010) and Barros (2014). Their arguments are applicable to non-wh-sluicing as well, but here I have used the traditional condition for the sake of simplicity: the issue of how to correctly formulate the identity condition is orthogonal to our present purposes. Likewise, I do not consider application of the approach to fragment licensing based on the notion of the question under discussion, Weir (2014): cross-linguistic differences between the three types of questions do not seem to be able to be captured this way.

5.6.2.2 Conditions on the embedded question

In this section, I will show that the standard Hamblin-Karttunen semantics of a question does not divide embedded questions into the classes relevant for sluicing licensing.

A natural first move is to make the feature compute the standard Hamblin-Karttunen semantics of the complement. Informally speaking, the Hamblin-Karttunen semantics of a question identifies it with the set of propositions that can serve as answers to the question, for a formal definition see e.g. the discussion in Dayal (2016).

Under this view, polar questions are indistinguishable from alternative questions with the second alternative "or not". For a polar question, schematically, '*Is it the case that p?*', where *p* is a proposition, the propositions will be *p* and its negation. For an alternative question, schematically '*Is it the case that p or Is it not the case that*

p?' the set of alternatives will be the same. Likewise, a D-linked wh-question is indistinguishable from an alternative question, compare (222a) and (222b).

(222) a.   Which of the two pencils do you want?

b.   Do you want the red or the blue pencil?

However, sluicing treats Alt-questions and D-linked wh-questions as different. If a language allows Alt-sluicing, but disallows Pol-sluicing, it will allow sluicing in "or not" alternative questions, as illustrated in (223) for Ossetic and Georgian. See also Huddleston (1994) for a discussion of some relevant English facts[100].

(223)   Georgian
       a.   *uča   rit   čadis   magram   ar   vici
             Ucha   what.INS   goes   but   NEG   I.know
             <tu>   cxen-it   <tu>
             Q.COMP horse-INS   Q.COMP
             'Ucha is riding something, but I don't know whether (he's riding) a horse.' (intended)

       b.   uča   rit   čadis   magram   ar   vici
             Ucha   what.INS   goes   but   NEG   I.know
             cxen-it   tu   **ara**
             horse-INS   Q.or   NEG
             'Ucha is riding something, but I don't know whether (he's riding) a horse or not.'

---

[100] Furthermore, the difference that polar question and alternative question show with respect to sluicing, provides a new cross-linguistic argument in an old discussion (which mostly used English facts) about whether or not polar questions are reducible to alternative questions, see e.g. Bolinger (1978).

Iron Ossetic
c. *mɐdinɐ   səder   škodta   fɐlɐ   nɐ=jɐ qʷədə
    Madina   something s/he.did   but   NEG=it thought
    kɐnən fəččən
    I.do meat.pie
    'Madina made something but I don't remember whether (she made)
    a meat pie.' (intended)

d. mɐdinɐ   səder   škodta   fɐlɐ   nɐ=jɐ qʷədə
    Madina   something s/he.did   but   NEG=it thought
    kɐnən fəččən   **ɐvi   nɐ**
    I.do meat.pie   Q.or   NEG
    'Madina made something but I don't remember whether (she made)
    a meat pie.'

Likewise, if a language allows wh-sluicing, but disallows Alt-sluicing, it will still allow

sluicing in D-linked questions, as the English data in (224) illustrate.

(224) Context: Somebody broke the window. I reasonably suspect that it was Andy,
      Barry, or Chris.

    a. *One of the boys broke the window, but I don't know whether Andy,
        Barry, or Chris.

    b. One of the boys broke the window, but I don't know which one /
        which of the three.

Accordingly, even if it is possible to derive the universal from purely semantic

considerations, a more complex approach than the standard Hamblin-Karttunen

semantics is necessary to describe the relevant classes of questions. I leave this issue

for further research.

5.7. Syntax of questions

To fully implement the analysis of sluicing, we need to investigate the syntax of alternative and polar questions. Admittedly, we cannot directly verify that the syntax of questions, and of question embedding, is uniform across the sample, let alone across all the languages of the world – the task of checking this is unfortunately unrealistic. I will restrict the discussion here to case studies.

The discussion of syntax will follow the order of complexity of the structures: I will first treat polar questions and then proceed to discuss alternative questions.

5.7.1 Sluicing in polar questions

For sluicing in polar questions, I adopt Merchant's (2001) and Van Craenenbroeck & Lipták's (2006, 2013) theory (almost) wholesale: the focus of the question is fronted, and then the rest is deleted. The same idea has been recently implemented for Russian by Shlomina (2016). In a given language, the landing site need not be the specifier of C_QP – it well could be lower in the structure. This is fully compatible with the agreement-based approach to ellipsis adopted here, with deletion licensed by agreement between the interrogative complementizer and the head whose specifier is the sluicing remnant, as was shown in (221) repeated here as (225).

(225)

```
                    QP
            ┌────────┴────────┐
          Q[E]               ...
            │                SlP
            │          ┌──────┴──────┐
            │       Remnant         Sl'
            │                 ┌──────┴──────┐
            └─────────────────Sl⁰          Z̶P̶
                      agreeement          △
```

To work out such an analysis in a specific case, let us return to Pol-sluicing in Russian, whose properties we examined in Section 5.2.1. For the analysis of the Russian interrogative 2P clitic *li* as a complementizer, and the fronting as movement into its specifier, see Franks & King (2000). Note that Merchant's (2001: 62) Sluicing-COMP generalization is violated here. The latter claims that no non-operator material (in other words, nothing except wh-phrases) may appear in the Comp of a sluice. However, it is not clear how this generalization should be extended to generalized sluicing in the first place. Moreover, it is not infrequently violated even in the case of wh-sluicing, see, for instance, examples in Van Craenenbroeck (2010) and Marušič et al. (2015).

(226) a.   Non-reduced interrogative
        ja   ne=znaju   sofokl=li   napisal   elektru
        I   NEG=I.now   Sophocles=Q wrote   Electra
        'I don't know whether it's Sophocles who wrote *Electra*.'

b.

```
                          Q_polP
                       /          \
                 XP                Q_pol'
                  ↑              /        \
                  |            =li          IP
                  |                         △
                  |                        t_XP
                  |_____|
```

c.   A sluicing example
        kakoj-to   drevnij   grek napisal   elektru
        some   ancient   Greek wrote   Electra
        no   ja   ne   znaju sofokl=li
        but   I   NEG   I.know Sophocles=Q
        'Some ancient Greek wrote Electra, but I don't know whether
        Sophocles (wrote it).'

A natural question is whether Pol-sluicing is not a subvariety of the embedded stripping, i.e. stripping that proceeds in embedded questions[101]. The parallel between gapping and stripping is obvious. In both ellipsis varieties, the remnant is a single XP lacking interrogative force of its own that must be fronted before deletion, see analyses of embedded stripping (aka embedded fragments) in Merchant (2003), Wurmbrand (2013), Temmerman (2013), and Weir (2014). However, cross-linguistic distribution of Pol-sluicing and embedded non-interrogative stripping is not the same. In Georgian, for instance, as we have seen in Section 5.2.2, Pol-sluicing is ungrammatical. Embedded stripping, on the other hand, is fully possible in Georgian, see a detailed discussion of the latter construction in Erschler (2015), where it is

---

[101] This is what is assumed by Konietzko (2016).

compared with wh-sluicing in Georgian. In (227), the remnant is 'Manana', which is part of an embedded declarative.

(227) A: viɣaca   tevzs   amzadebs
            someone   fish.DAT   cooks
       B: vpikrob   [rom   manana   ~~tevzs   amzadebs~~]
            I.think   COMP   Manana   fish.DAT   cooks
            'A: Someone is cooking fish. B: I think that Manana (is doing so).'

Consequently, although the syntax of stripping and Pol-sluicing might be fairly similar, presence or absence of an interrogative complementizer considerably influences the syntax of ellipsis.

In terms of the approach adopted here, Pol-sluicing and stripping are licensed by different E-features. The E-feature responsible for sluicing may only be hosted by an interrogative complementizer. I must leave a systematic exploration of stripping long these lines to future research.

5.7.2 Sluicing in alternative questions

5.7.2.1 Derivation of alternative questions

I will only discuss here genuine alternative questions. "Disjunctive polar question" readings of a question with disjunction, illustrated in (228), (the term of Biezma & Rawlins (2012)), dealt with in much of the literature on alternative and polar questions, are not available for Alt-sluices. The reasons for this are unknown to me at present, in the rest of the chapter I will only deal with true alternative questions.

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(228) Do you belong to a tribe or a clan? [from the US visa application form]

A plausible analysis of alternative questions, Han & Romero (2004), (see also Gračanin-Yüksek (2016a, 2016b) and Uegaki (2014a, 2014b) for more case studies), proposes that they are obtained by disjunction of polar questions and ellipsis in the second disjunct, as schematically shown in (229). This is part of a large family of proposals invoking ellipsis to analyze a variety of syntactic phenomena: see, for instance, Merchant (2004) for fragment answers, Pérez-Jiménez & Moreno-Quibén (2012) for free exceptives; Ott (2014) for contrastive left dislocation, and Sailor & Thoms (2014) for non-constituent coordination. Another component of Han & Romero's proposal, which goes back to Larson (1985) and Schwarz (1999) is that an interrogative operator undergoes movement in alternative questions. This seems to be orthogonal to our purposes.

(229) [The cat caught a bird] or [[the cat caught] a mouse$_1$]?

For the sake of concreteness, I assume that the disjuncts in an alternative question are TPs and the interrogative complementizers discussed in 5.6.1 dominate the disjunction. Nothing changes substantially if they are actually somewhat smaller, say, vPs.

Together with Arregi (2010), I assume that the remnant, that is, the focus of a polar question, undergoes fronting prior to deletion.

(230) [The cat caught a bird] or [a mouse₁ ~~the cat caught t₁~~]?

To the best of my knowledge, the nature and location of the feature that would license this deletion has not been discussed in the literature so far. Deletion in the second disjunct of an alternative question appears to be universally available, even in languages that lack any kind of sluicing. As (231) illustrates, Wolof allows alternative questions with (ostensible) disjunction of a clause and a DP, *ñɛbɛ* 'bean' in (231a), but it disallows Alt-sluicing. In (231b), it is impossible to drop the copula *la* in the coordinands.

(231) Wolof

a. ndax čɛ:b lej lɛkk wala ñɛbɛ?
    Q rice AUX eat or bean
    'Does he eat rice or beans?'

b. amnalu   samba di lɛkk xamu
    there.exists.something   Samba AUX eat know.NEG.1SG
    ma ndax čɛ:b *(la) wala arikɔ (la)
    I Q rice is or bean is
    'Samba is eating something, but I don't know whether it is rice
    or beans.'

I conclude that formation of alternative questions is a separate process unrelated to Alt-sluicing. Provisionally, I propose that the feature that triggers, E_{ALT}, is hosted by the (interrogative) 'or'.

For the sake of concreteness, and to be consistent with the assumptions of Chapter 3, I use the asymmetric X-bar structure for coordination. Using the notation JP for the disjunction phrase, I follow Den Dikken (2006). I ignore here the possible

finer structure of the C_QP that was proposed in Section 5.6.1, as it is irrelevant for the purposes of the present discussion.

(232)

```
                         CQP
                   ┌──────┴──────┐
                 CQ⁰            JP
                          ┌──────┴──────┐
                        TP₁            J'
                         △       ┌──────┴──────┐
                              J⁰[EALT]        TP₂
                                       ┌───────┴───────┐
                                     FP₂             ZP₂
                                      ↑               △
                                      │              tFP2
                                      │               │
                                      └───────────────┘
```

The structure of an Alt-sluice then has to be as shown in (233). Deletion in the second conjunct is triggered by a feature on the disjunction J^0, whereas the deletion in the first conjunct is triggered by the sluicing feature E_{sl} hosted on the interrogative C. FP_i stand in (233) for the foci, i.e. the (ostensible) disjuncts of the resulting sluice *FP₁ or FP₂*.

(233)

```
                        C_QP
              ┌──────────┴──────────┐
          C⁰[E_sl]                   JP
              │          ┌───────────┴───────────┐
              │         XP₁                       J'
              │       ┌──┴──┐              ┌───────┴───────┐
              │     FP₁    F₁'          J⁰[E_ALT]         XP₂
              │      ↑    ┌──┴──┐                       ┌───┴───┐
              └─────┼──F⁰   Z̶P̶₁̶                      FP₂    Z̶P̶₂̶
        agreement   │       △                          ↑      │
                    │     t_FP1                         └──────┘
                    └───────────────┘
```

This picture, however, leaves an option for ellipsis to only proceed in the first conjunct (I thank Kyle Johnson for pointing out this problem to me). This would have occurred if the E_{ALT} feature were absent from the numeration on which the derivation is based. This option is not attested, as (234) illustrates: only ellipsis in the first disjunct is attempted there, stranding the focus *ris* 'rice'. Therefore, it needs to be ruled out somehow.

(234) Russian
    *maša što-to   svarila
    Masha something   boiled
    no   ja   ne=znaju   ris   m̶a̶š̶a̶ ̶ ̶s̶v̶a̶r̶i̶l̶a̶ t_rice
    but   I   NEG=know   rice   Masha boiled
    ili   maša svarila boby
    or   Masha boiled beans
    'Masha cooked something, but I don't know whether (Masha cooked) rice
    or Masha cooked beans.'

To rule out (234) it is enough to assume that fronting of the foci must proceed in both disjuncts. Observe that, in order for deletion in the first disjunct to proceed, the focus,

ris 'rice' in this case, must front. Ungrammaticality of (234) is due to the fact that the focus of the second disjunct, *boby* 'beans' did not front. If it fronts, the result will be grammatical, as (235) shows.

(235) Russian
     maša što-to   svarila
     Masha something   boiled
     no   ja   ne=znaju   ris   ~~maša svarila~~ t_{rice}
     but   I   NEG=know   rice   Masha boiled
     ili   boby maša svarila t_{beans}
     or   beans Masha boiled
     'Masha cooked something, but I don't know whether (Masha cooked) rice or Masha cooked beans.'

Finally, it should be mentioned that it might be the case that, in some languages, alternative questions indeed involve disjunction of the respective DPs rather than of larger constituents. This has been proposed for Sinhala by Slade (2011), and maybe also obtains in Tamil (Jyoti Iyer, p.c.) and Yoruba (Anna Howell, p.c.). As of now, I do not have data on any variety of sluicing in either of these languages, but, if it occurs, it can be straightforwardly accounted for following the scheme we used for wh-sluicing and Pol-sluicing.

5.8. Conclusions

On the descriptive level, my findings show that a phenomenon closely resembling sluicing in non-wh-questions is relatively common cross-linguistically, contrary to what is suggested by the English facts. On the other hand, my typological data show that the classical sluicing is less wide-spread than it might be expected to be on the

basis of data from more commonly studied languages: it is absent from quite a few languages of Africa, the Caucasus, East Asia, and Americas.

On the theoretical level, I have argued that examination of the case of sluicing shows that typological hierarchies can be an outcome of the structure of features in syntax. Furthermore, the discussion in this chapter shows that the fronting of the remnant in generalized sluicing and the deletion are not necessarily triggered by the same feature, contrary to was proposed in the work of Van Craenenbroeck and Lipták (2006, 2013).

Additionally, existence of non-trivial cross-linguistic variation among languages of the world in the realm of generalized sluicing militates against "non-structural" approaches to ellipsis, such as advocated in Culicover & Jackendoff (2005), Ginzburg & Sag (2000), and Sag & Nykiel (2011): if the only thing at stake were the semantic recoverability of the deleted material, we would not have expected to observe any variation: indeed, if it is possible to recover the deleted material in some languages, there is no reason to expect that this cannot occur in other languages.

As part of a bigger picture, the findings presented here show that a search for Greenbergian universals can go hand in hand with formal linguistic analysis. Moreover, phenomena well studied within the formal syntactic tradition but largely disregarded by typologists, as was illustrated here by sluicing, can provide material for fruitful typological research.

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