# What's your name, what's your title

## On the morphosyntax of Czech academic degrees

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Masaryk University (Brno)

GuidoFest
Brussels, 4 June 2024

# Outline

Intro

The main intuition

Polish

Constituent lexicalisation

Taking stock

Conclusions

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# Marking Academic Degrees in Czech

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(4) The main generalisations

a. higher titles may contain lower ones, never the other way round

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(4) The main generalisations

a. higher titles may contain lower ones, never the other way round
b. However, it is unpredictable which title *replaces/overrides* the previous one, and which one *stacks on top of* the previous one

# POS-CMPR-SPRL (Bobaljik 2012)

(5) a. higher degrees may contain lower ones, not the other way round

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b. it is unpredictable which degree *overrides* the previous one, and which one *stacks*

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(6) Persian (Parvaneh Danesh, p.c.)
a. bolænd
tall

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(6) Persian (Parvaneh Danesh, p.c.)

a. bolænd
tall

b. bolænd -tær
tall CMPR

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(6) Persian (Parvaneh Danesh, p.c.)

a. bolænd
tall

b. bolænd -tær
tall CMPR

c. bolænd -tær -in
tall CMPR SPRL

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(6) Persian (Parvaneh Danesh, p.c.)

a. bolænd
tall

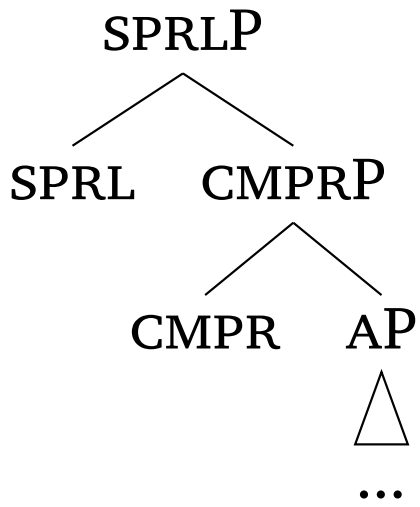
b. bolænd -tær
tall CMPR

c. bolænd -tær -in
tall CMPR SPRL

(7) English

a. fast
b. fast -er
c. fast -est

(8)



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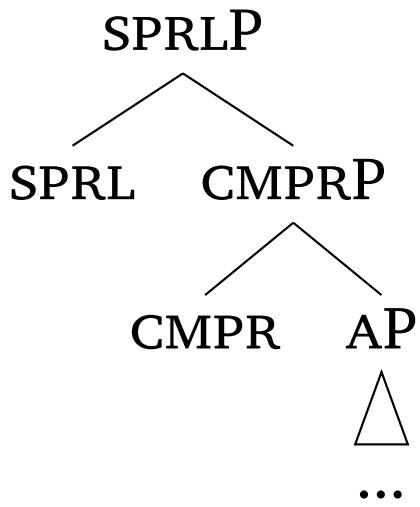
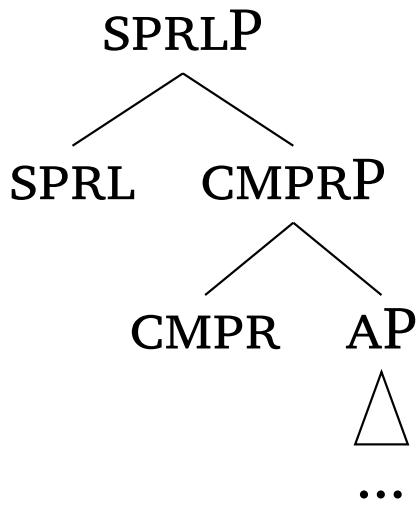



(9) Table I: The lexicalisation table

| ADJ | CMPR | SPRL |
|---|---|---|
| bolænd | | |
| bolænd | tær | |
| bolænd | tær | in |

(8)

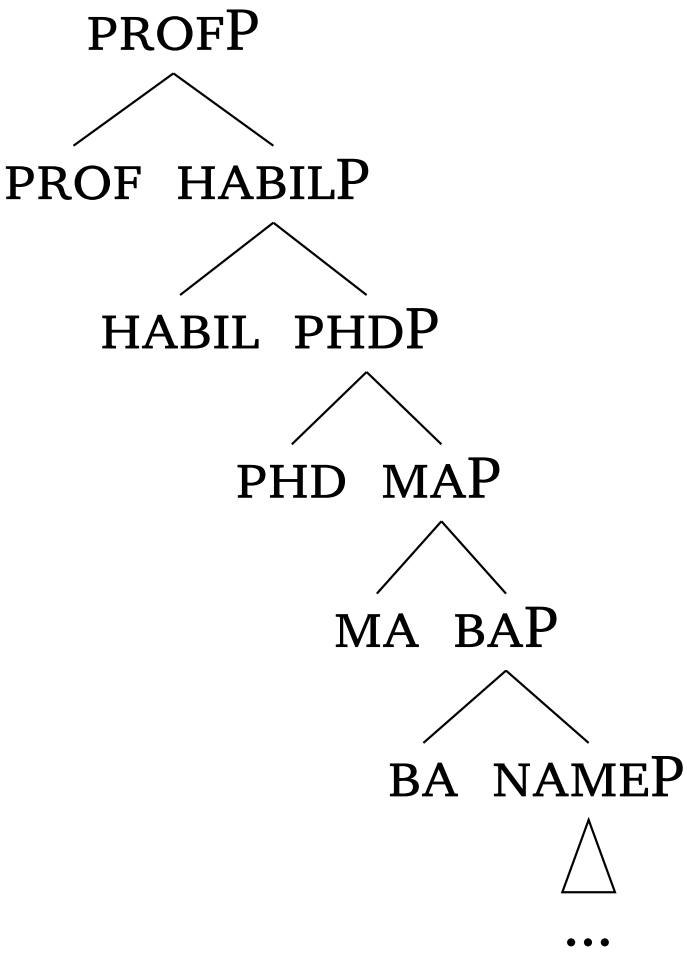



(9) Table I: The lexicalisation table

| ADJ | CMPR | SPRL |
|---|---|---|
| bolænd | | |
| bolænd | tær | |
| bolænd | tær | in |

(10) Czech

| ADJ | CMPR | SPRL |
|---|---|---|
| fast | | |
| fast | er | |
| fast | est | |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PROF HABILP
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PHD MAP
MA BAP
BA NAMEP
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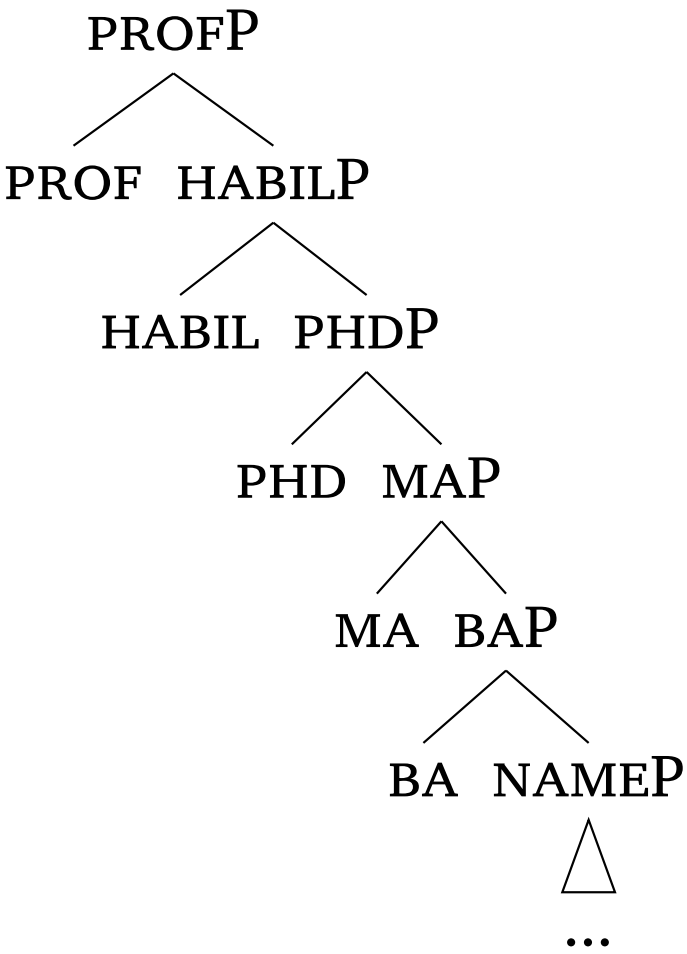


Czech

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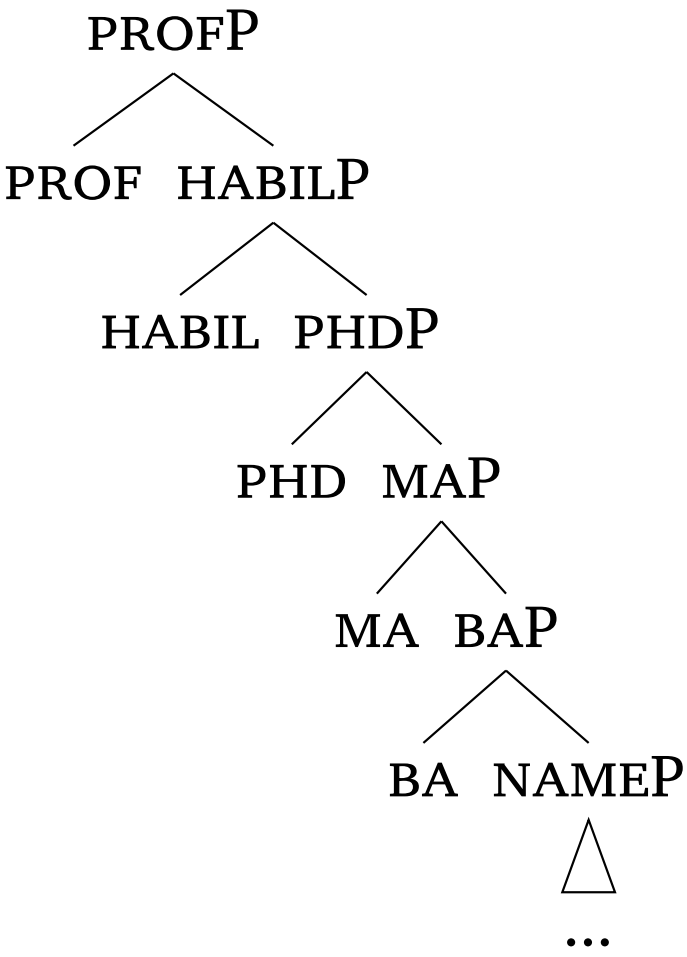
Polish

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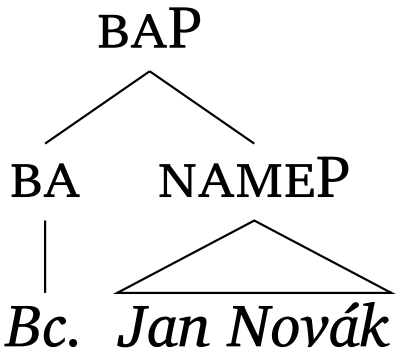


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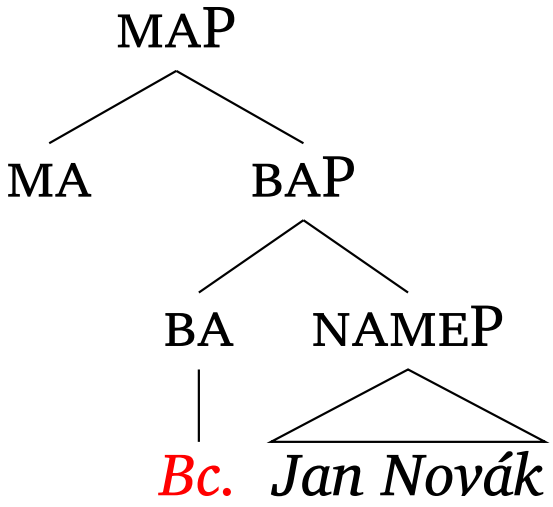


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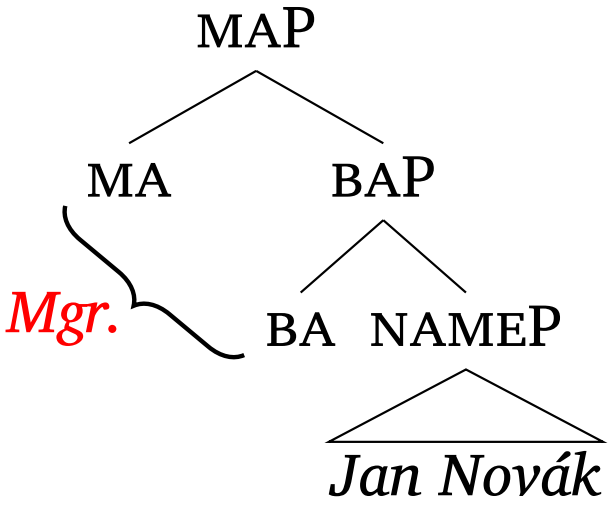


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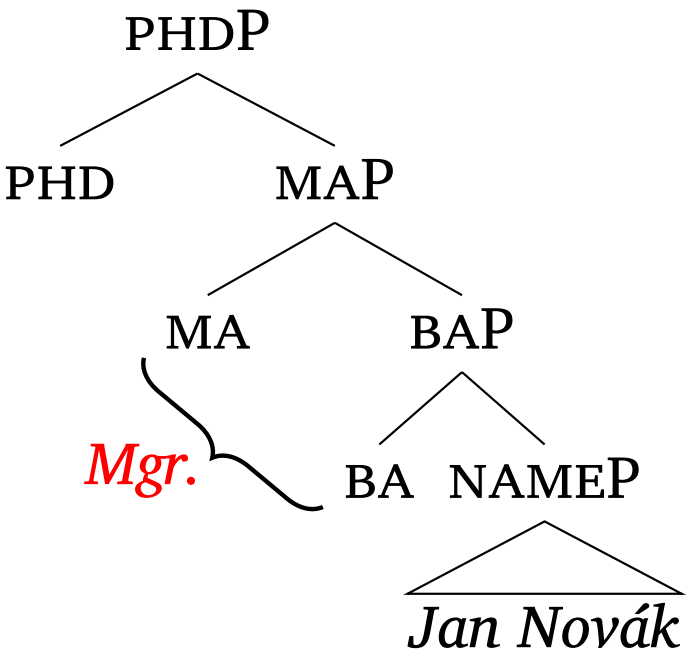


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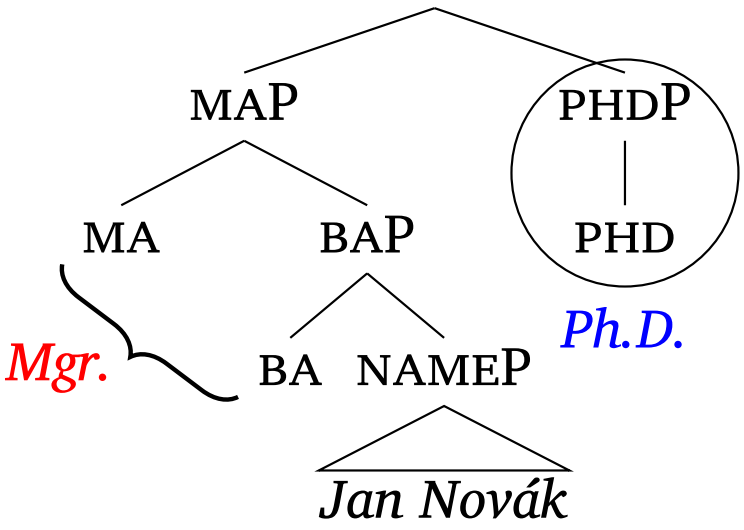


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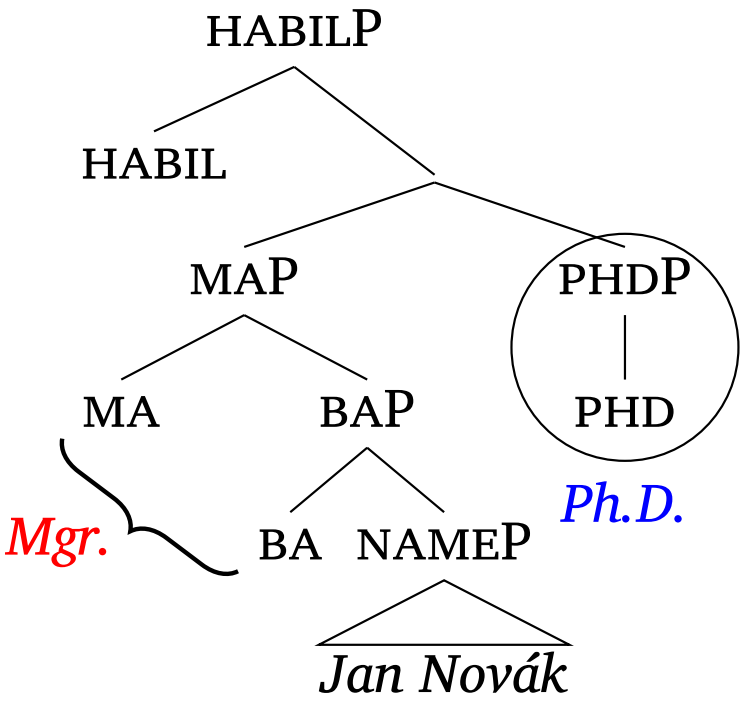


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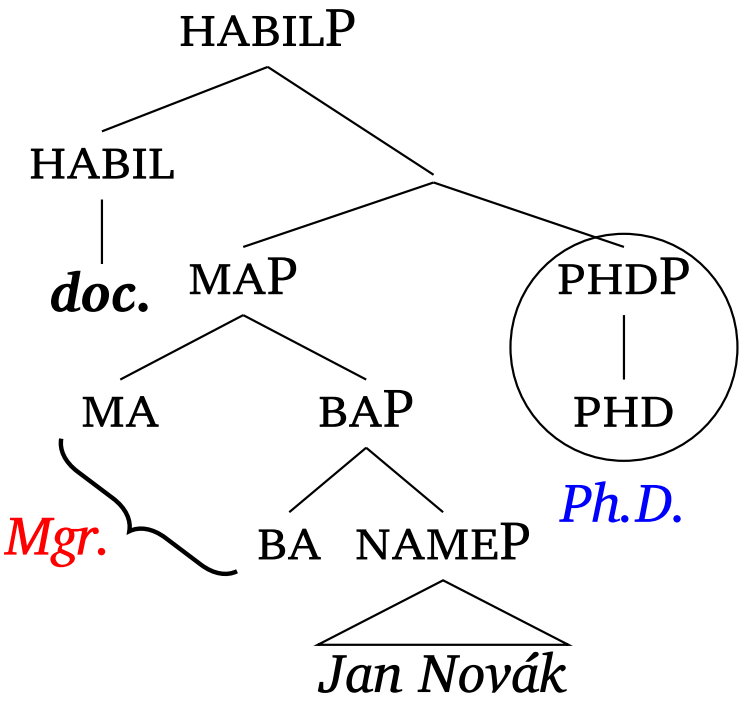


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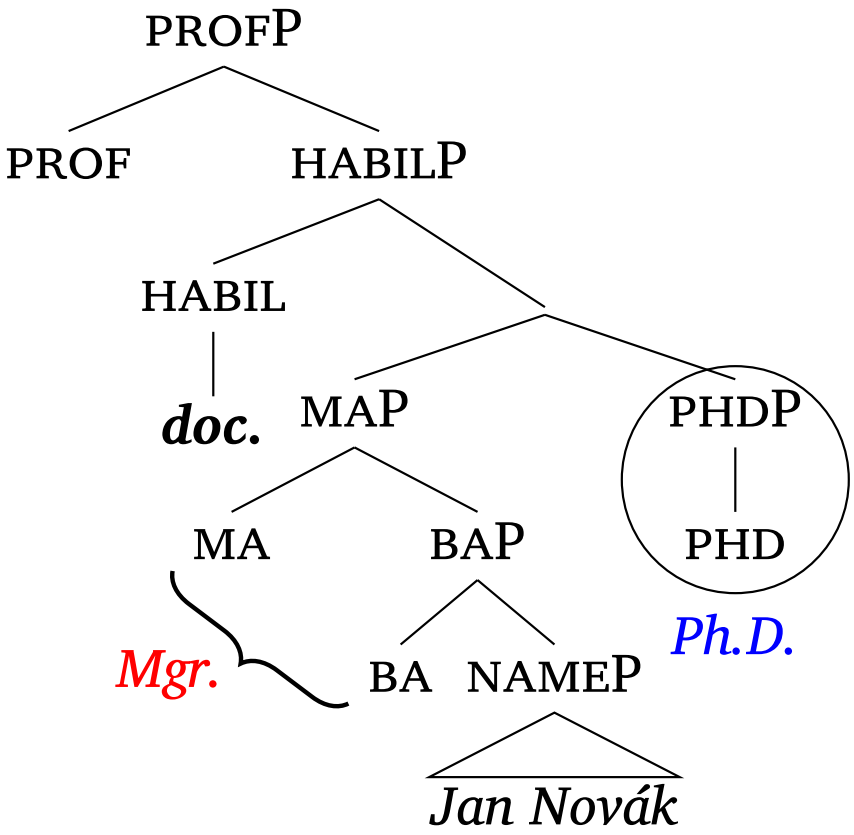


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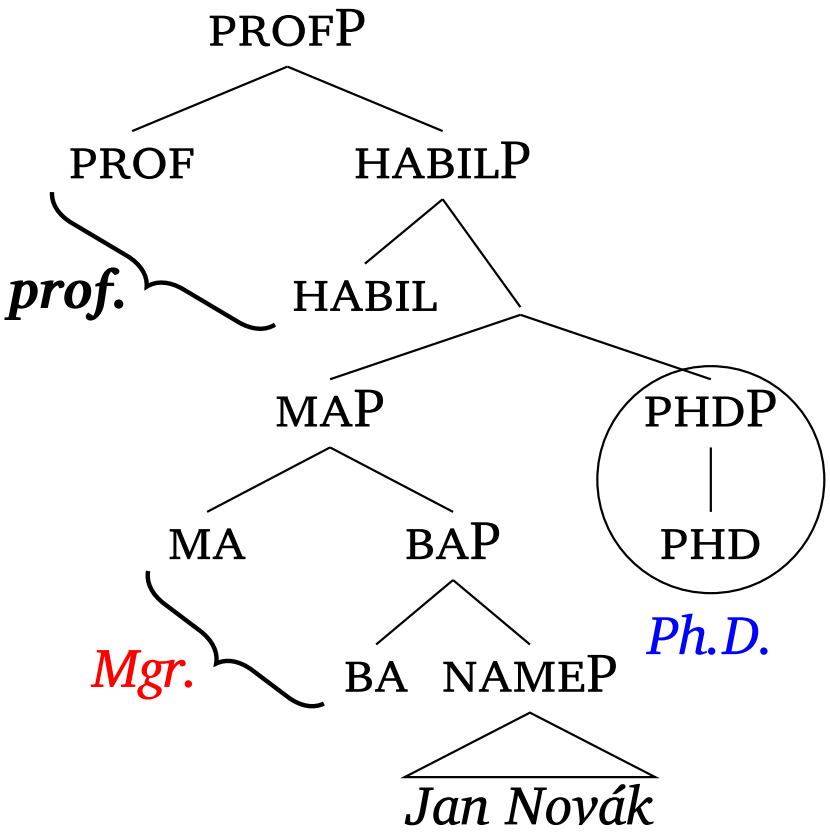


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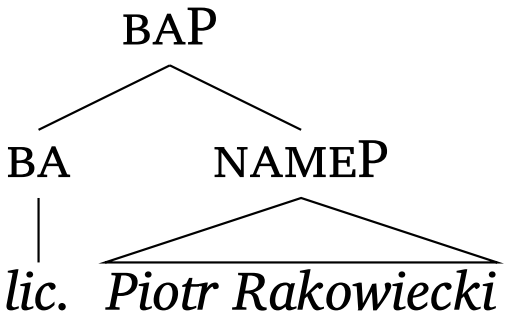


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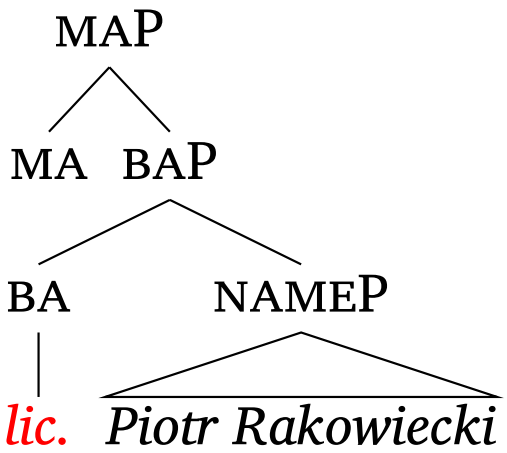


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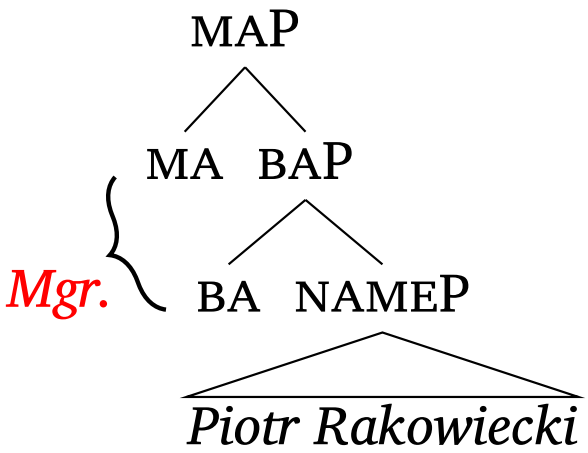


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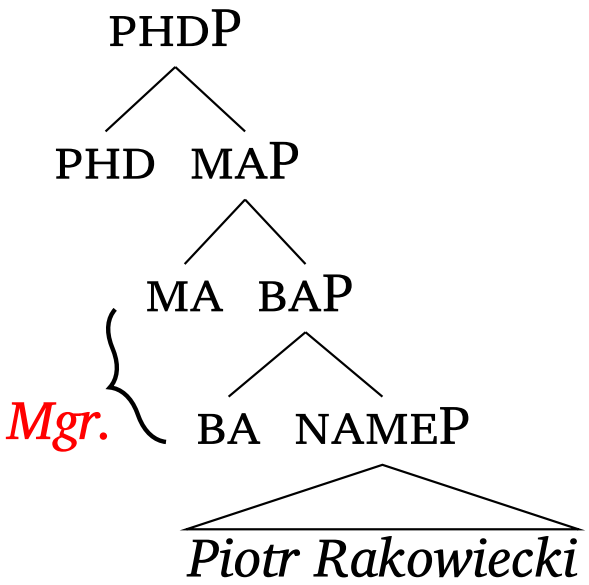


Czech

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| | | | Mgr. | | JN |
| | | PhD | Mgr. | | JN |
| | doc | PhD | Mgr. | | JN |
| prof | | PhD | Mgr. | | JN |

Polish

| PROF | HABIL | PHD | MA | BA | NAME |
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| | | | | lic | JN |
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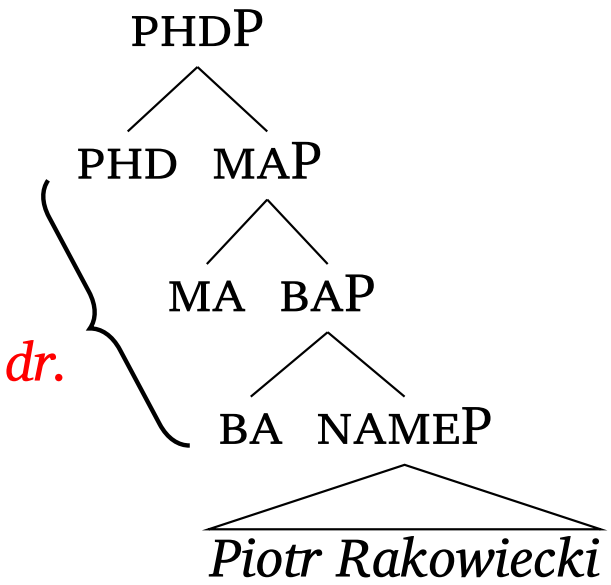


Czech

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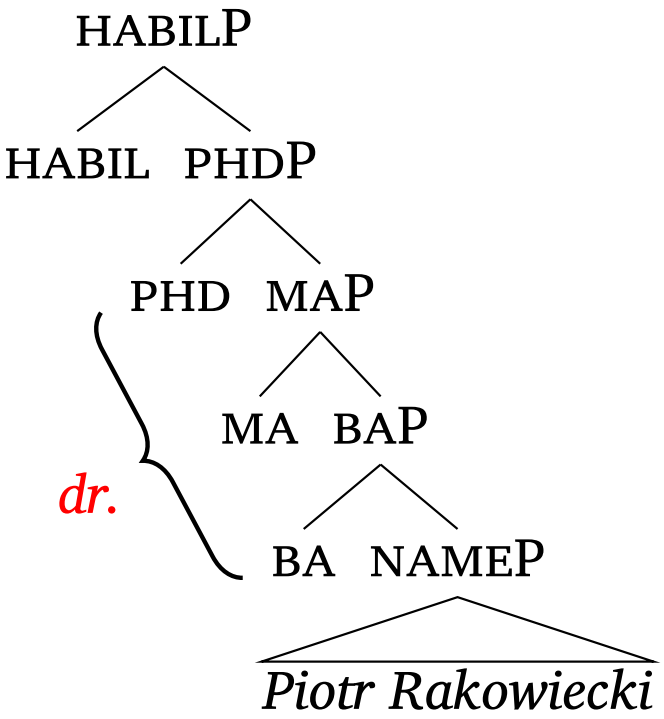


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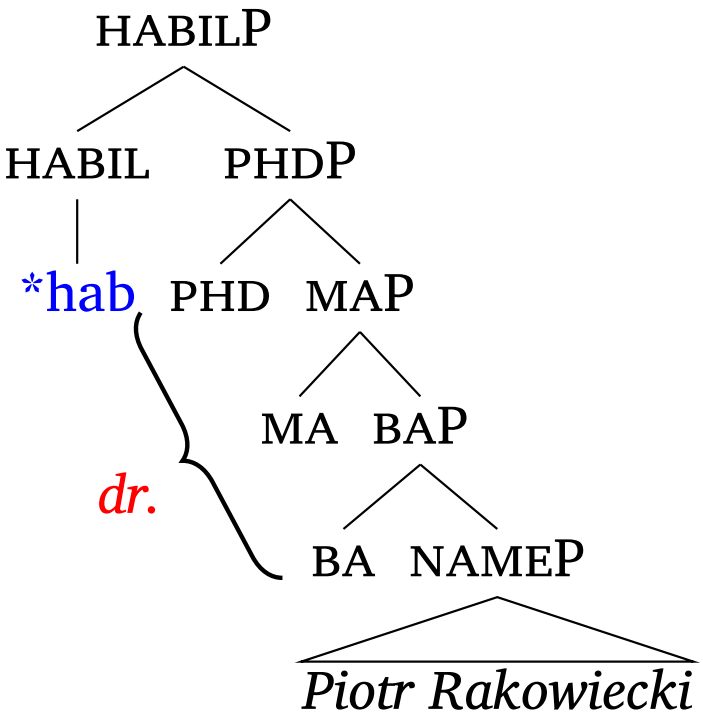


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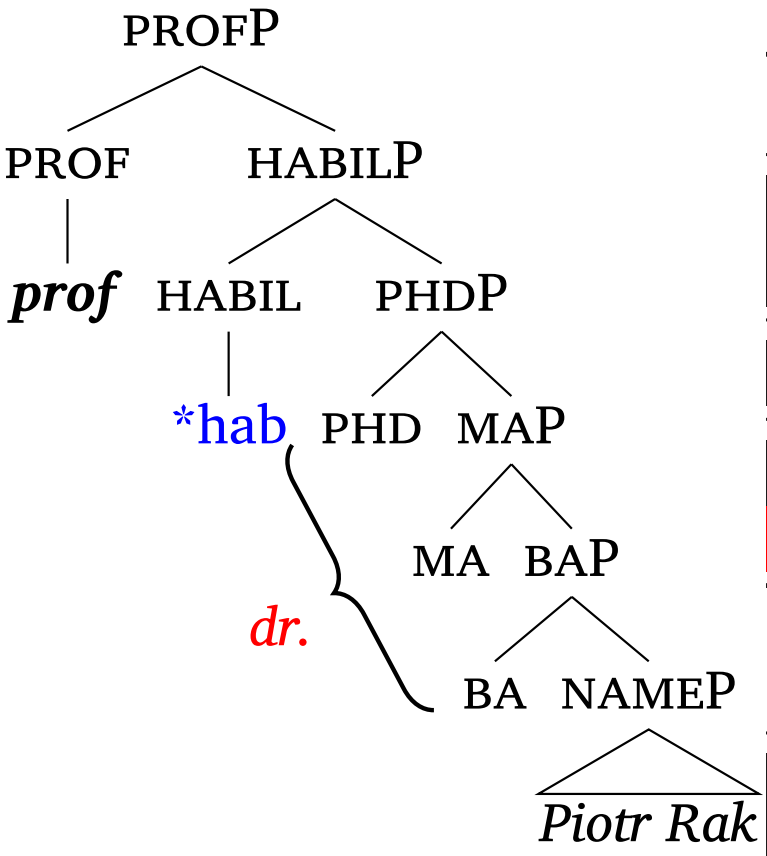


Czech

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# Outline

Intro

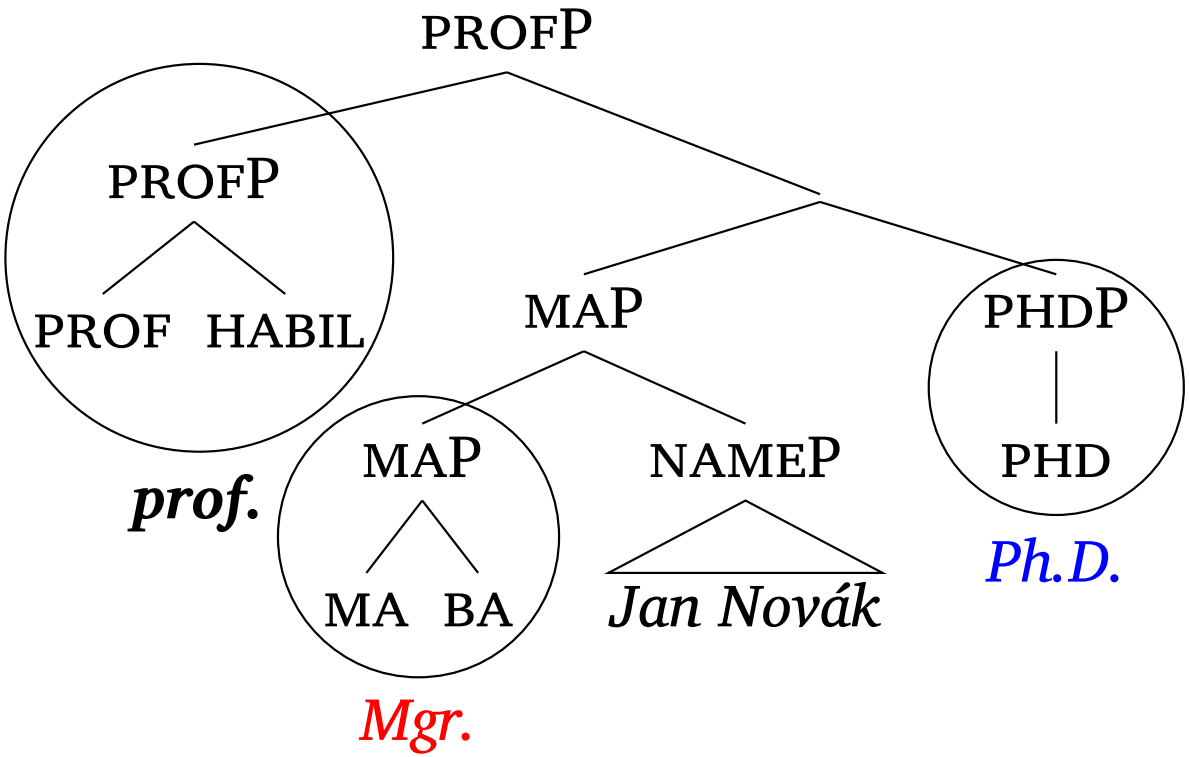
The main intuition

Polish

Constituent lexicalisation

Taking stock

Conclusions


PROFP
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PROF HABIL
prof.
MAP
MAP
MA BA
Mgr.
NAMEP
Jan Novák
PHDP
PHD
Ph.D.

# Field of Study

(11) Czech

a. Bc. Jan Novák (∼ bachelor)

# Field of Study

(11) Czech

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b. Ing. Jan Novák (Engineer, ∼ master in technical sciences, economy, agriculture, forestry)

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(12) Czech

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(12) Czech

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b. Mgr. Jan Novák (∼ master)
c. MUDr. Jan Novák (∼ medical doctor )

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d. MUDr. Jan Novák, Ph.D. (~ PhD)

(13) The dr. titles

a. MU**Dr**. (medicinae universae doctor, medicine)

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d. MUDr. Jan Novák, Ph.D. (∼ PhD)

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d. MUDr. Jan Novák, Ph.D. (∼ PhD)

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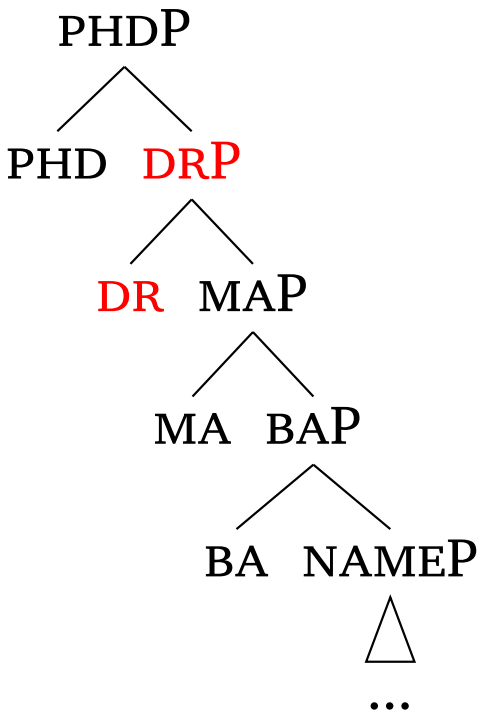
c. Ph**Dr**. (philosophiae doctor, humanities)
d. RN**Dr**. (rerum naturalium doctor, natural sciences)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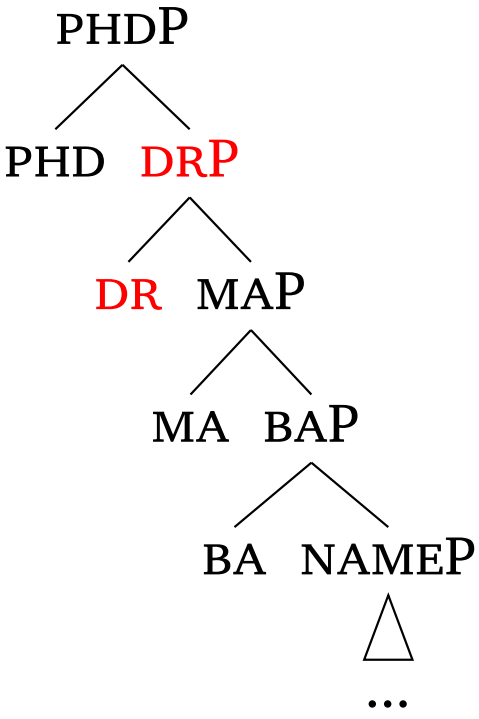
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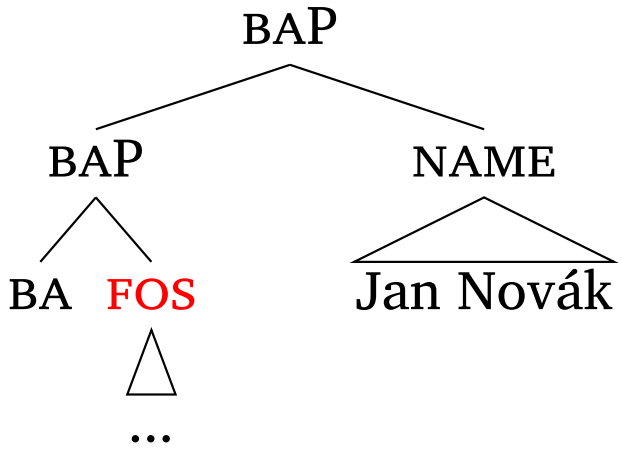
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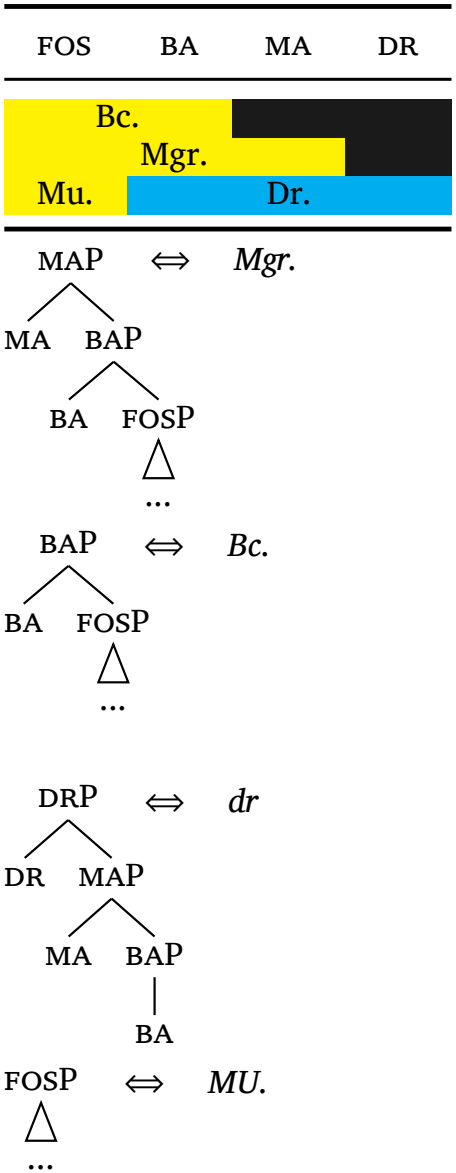


(14) Merge F

a. lexicalise FP
b. Evacuate closest, lexicalise FP
c. Pied-pipe, lexicalise FP
d. Backtrack

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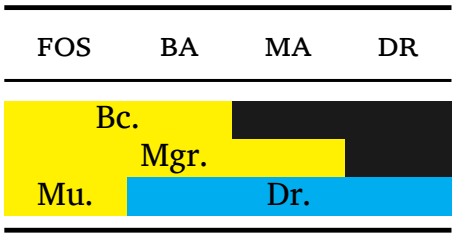


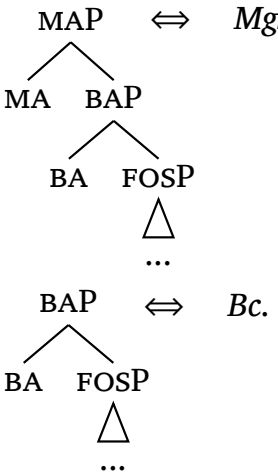


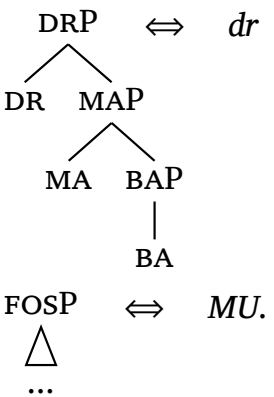

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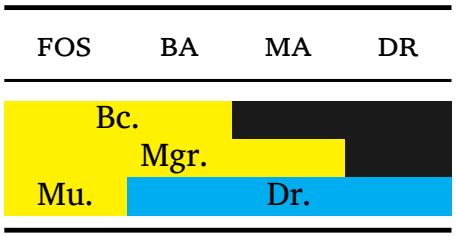


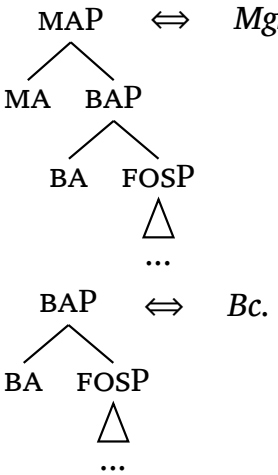


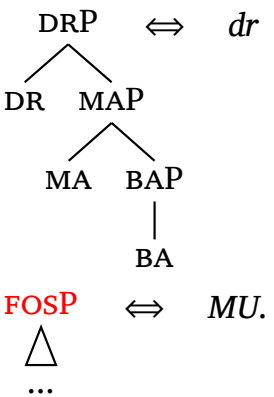

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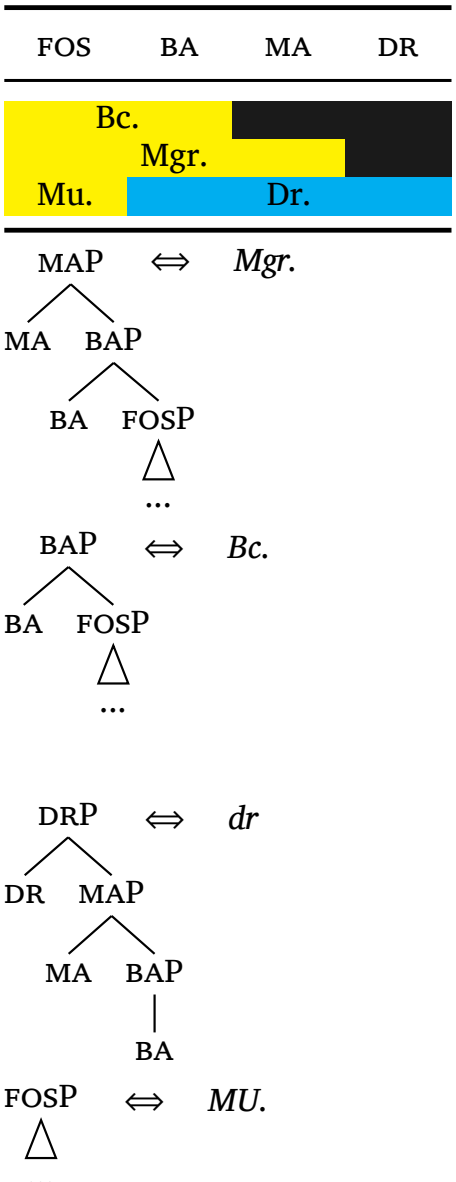


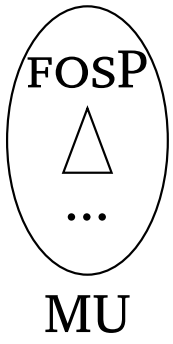


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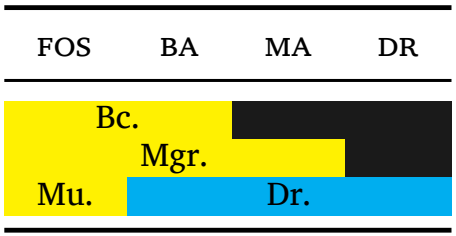


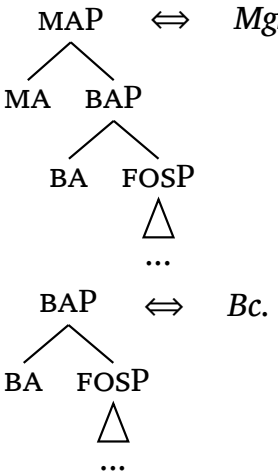


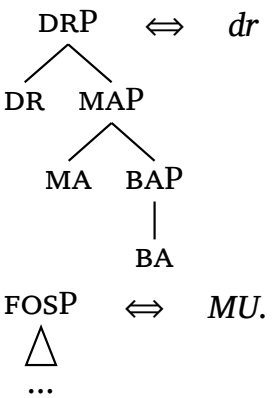


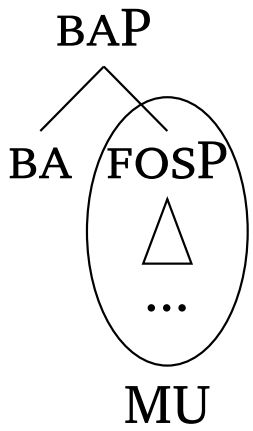


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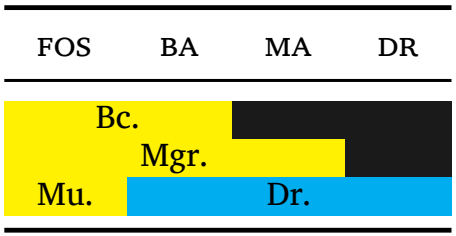


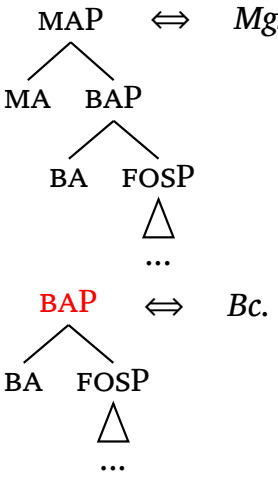


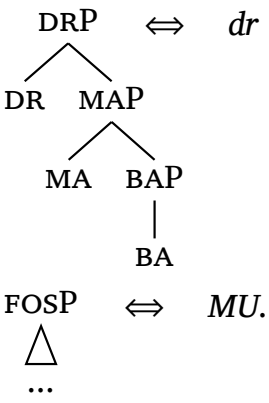


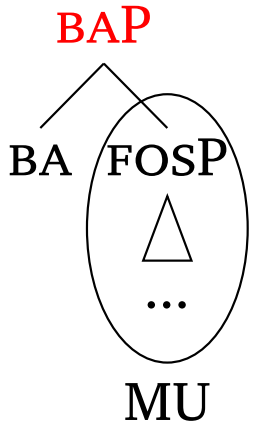


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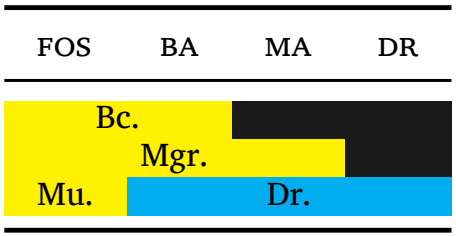


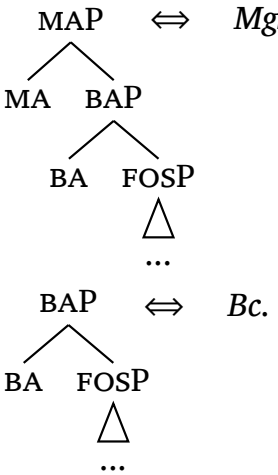


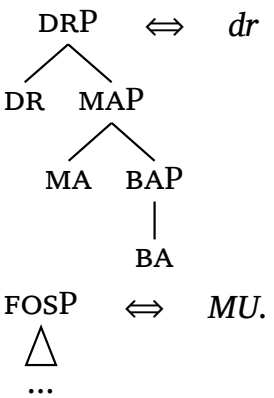


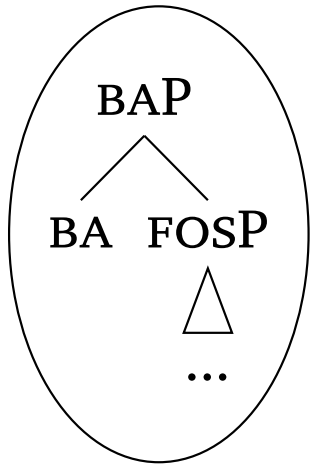


Bc.

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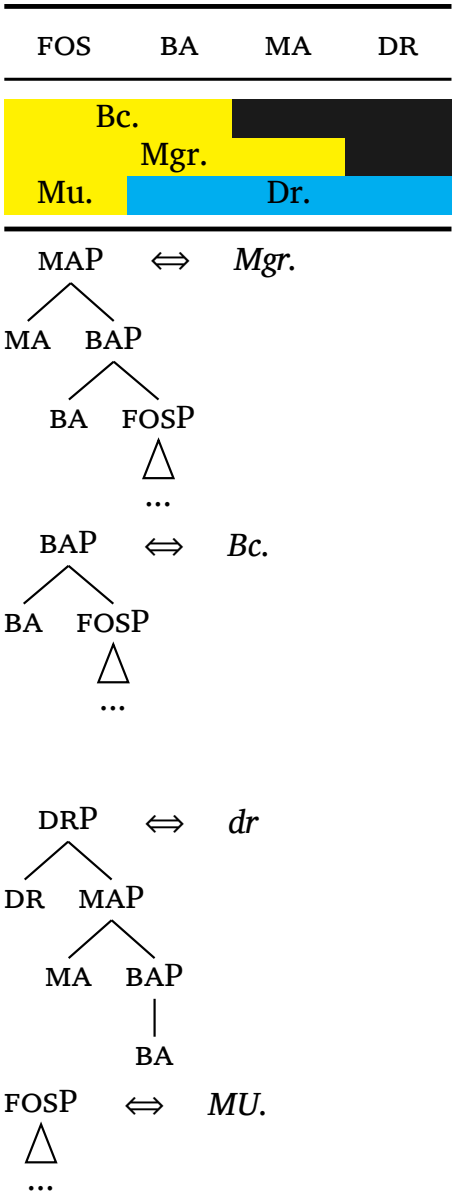


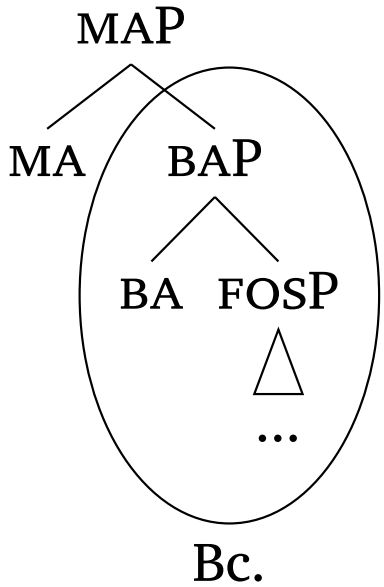


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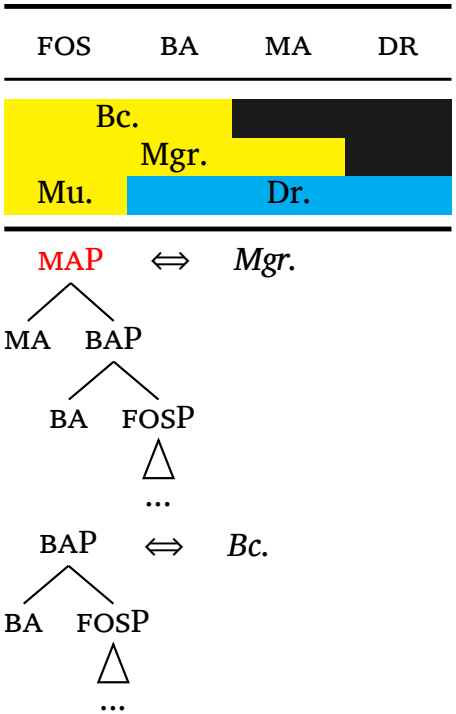


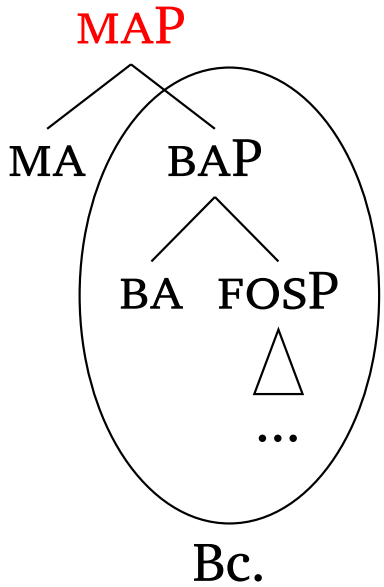


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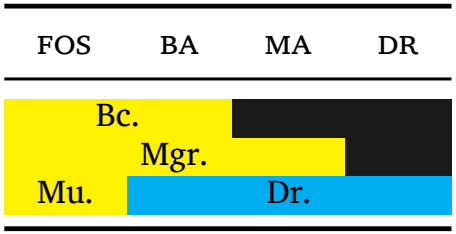


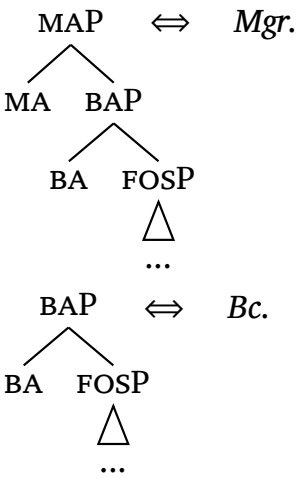


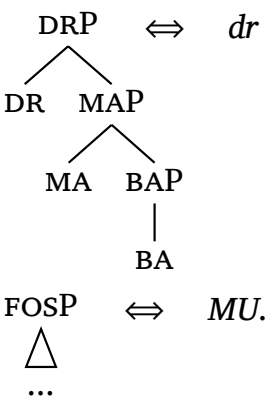


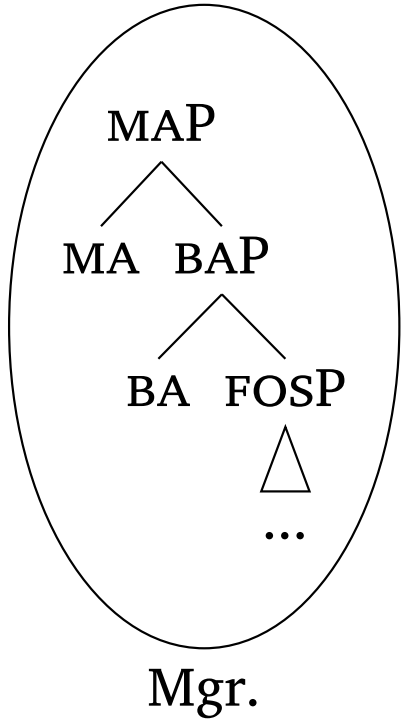


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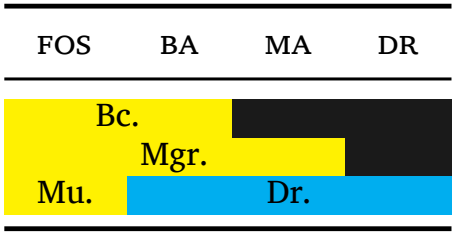


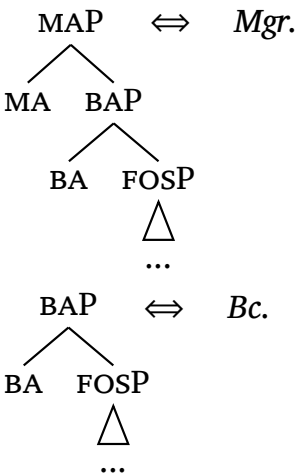


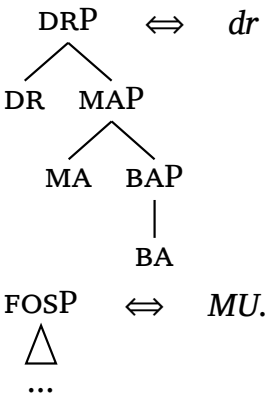


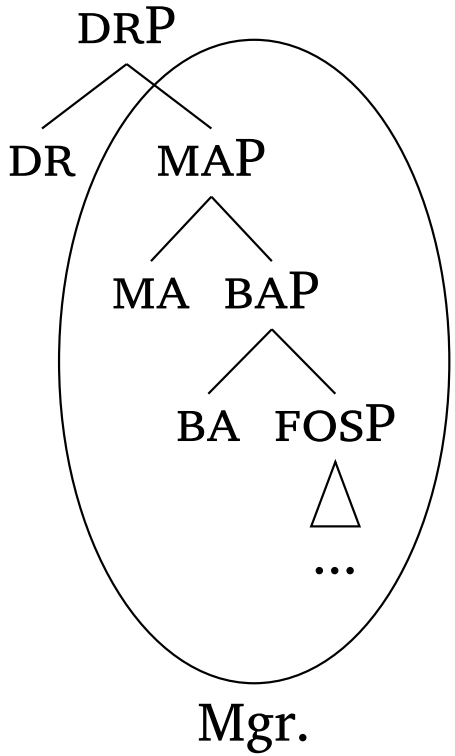


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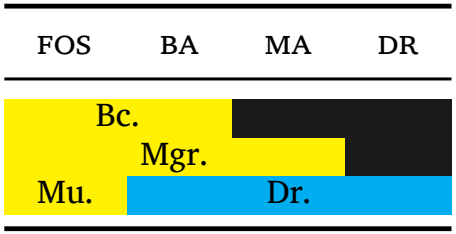


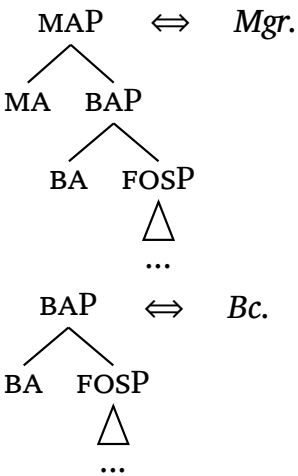


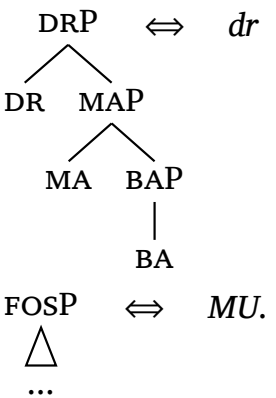


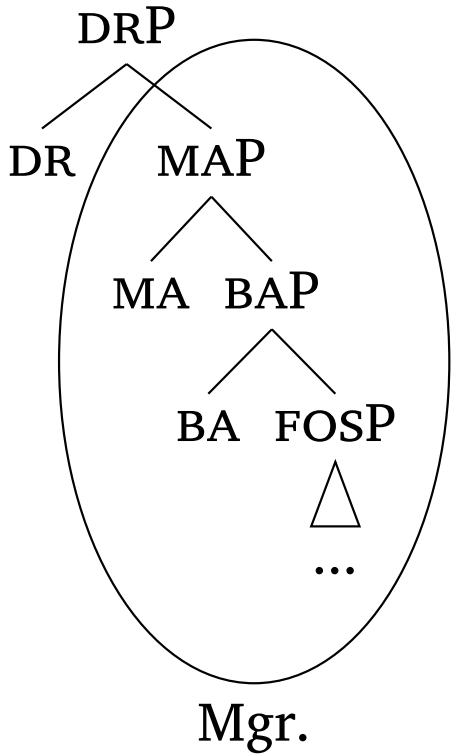


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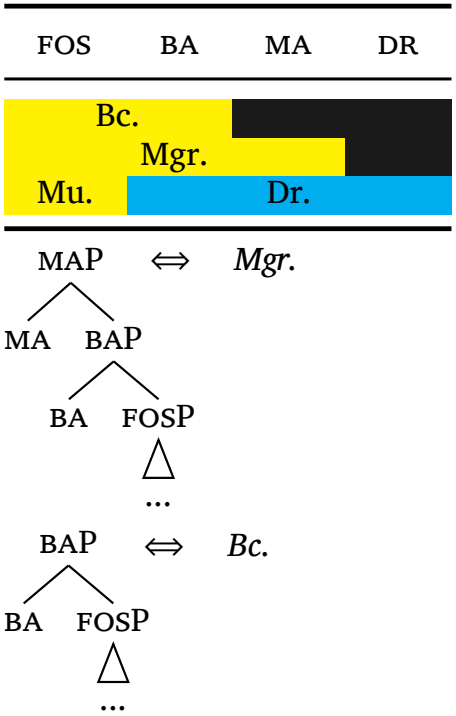


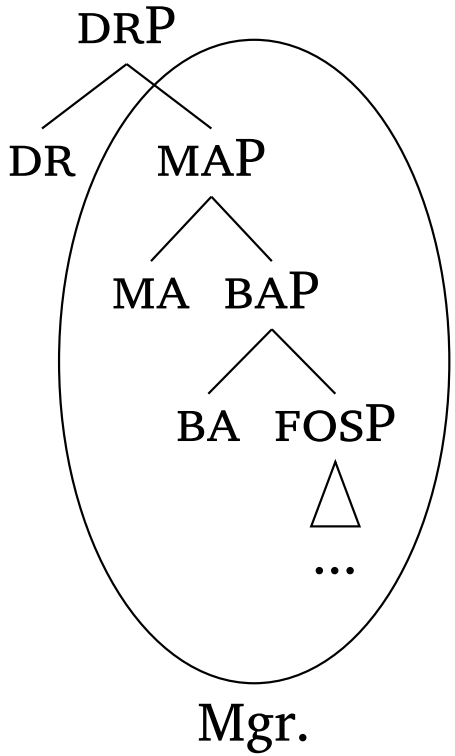


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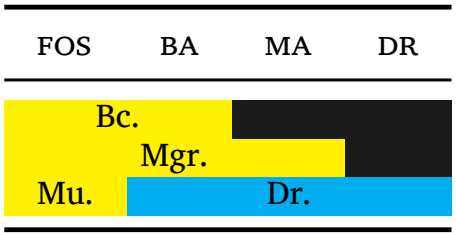


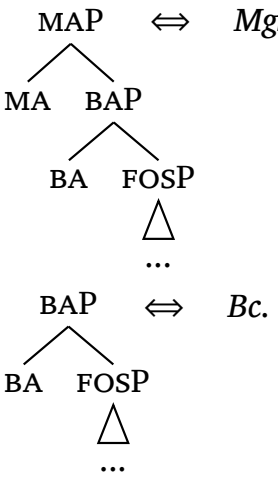


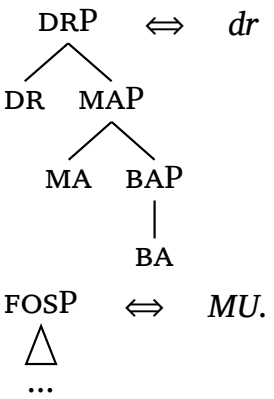


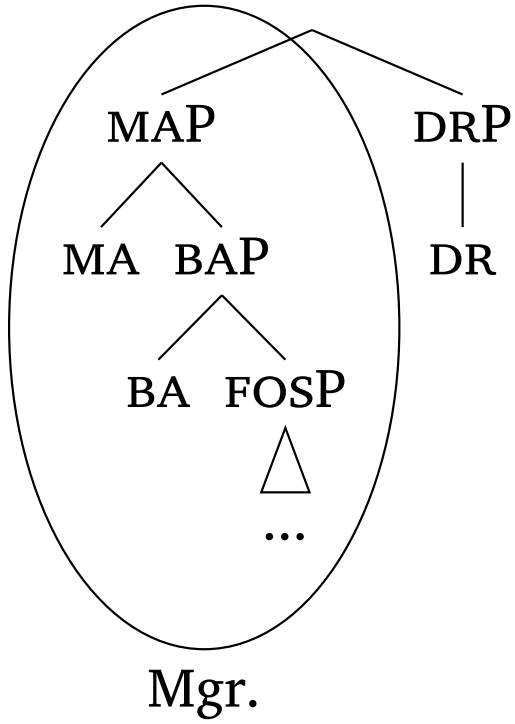


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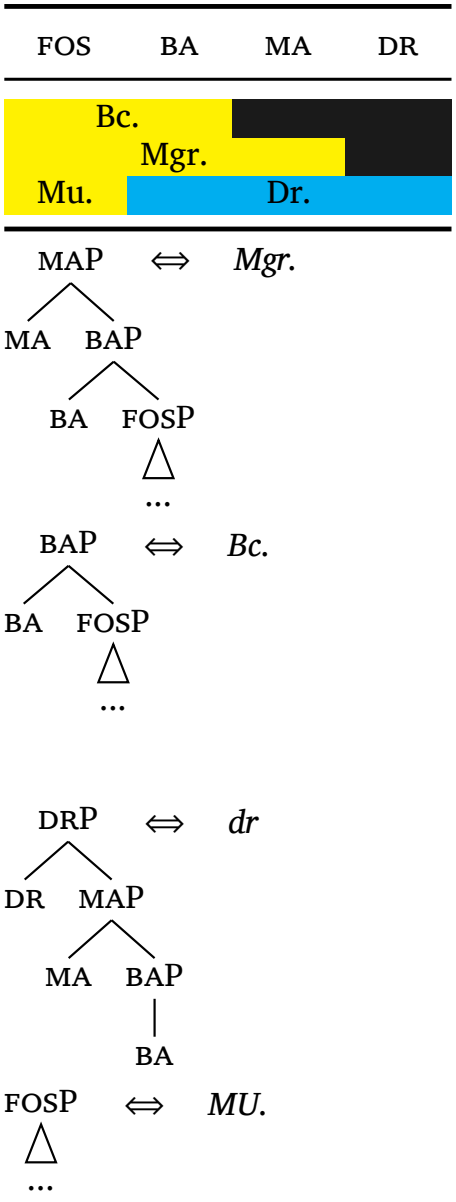


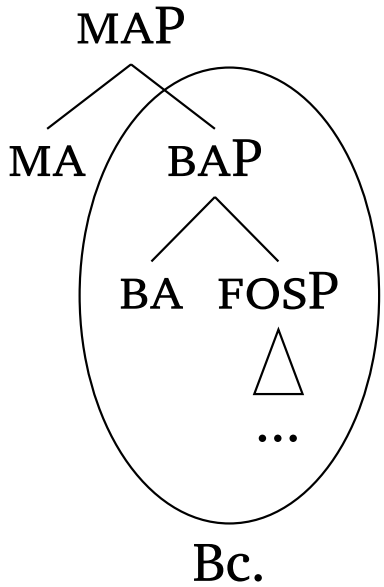


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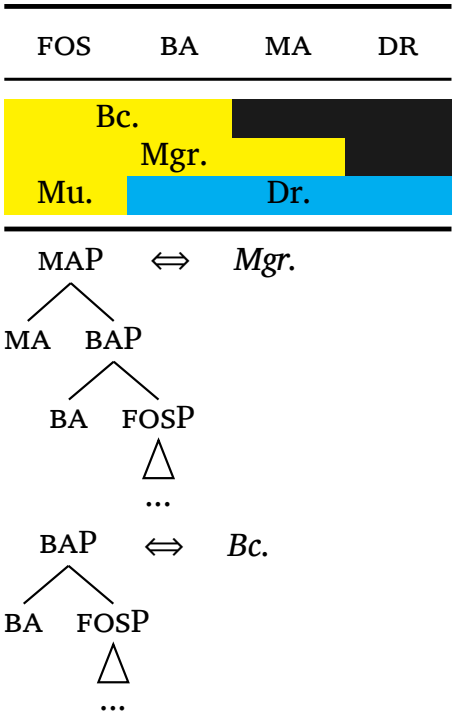


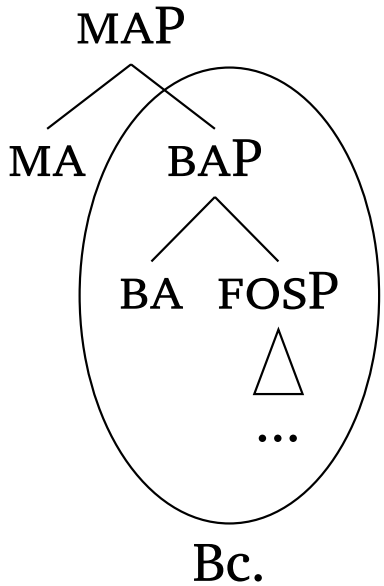


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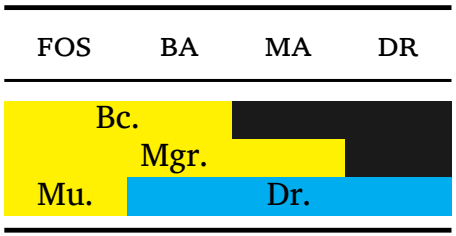


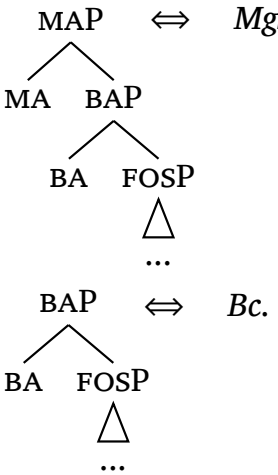


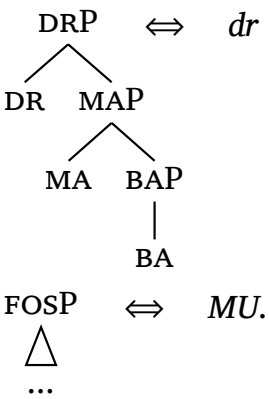


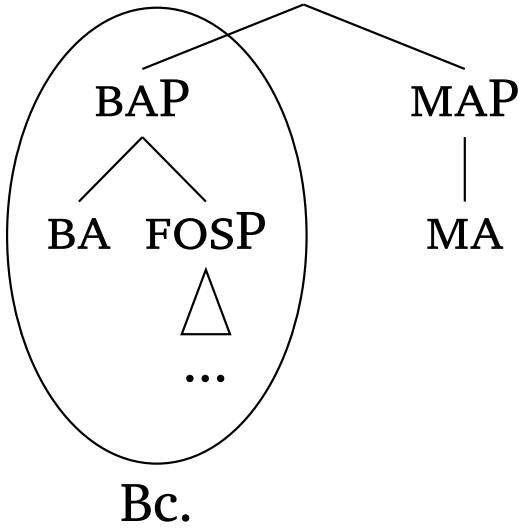


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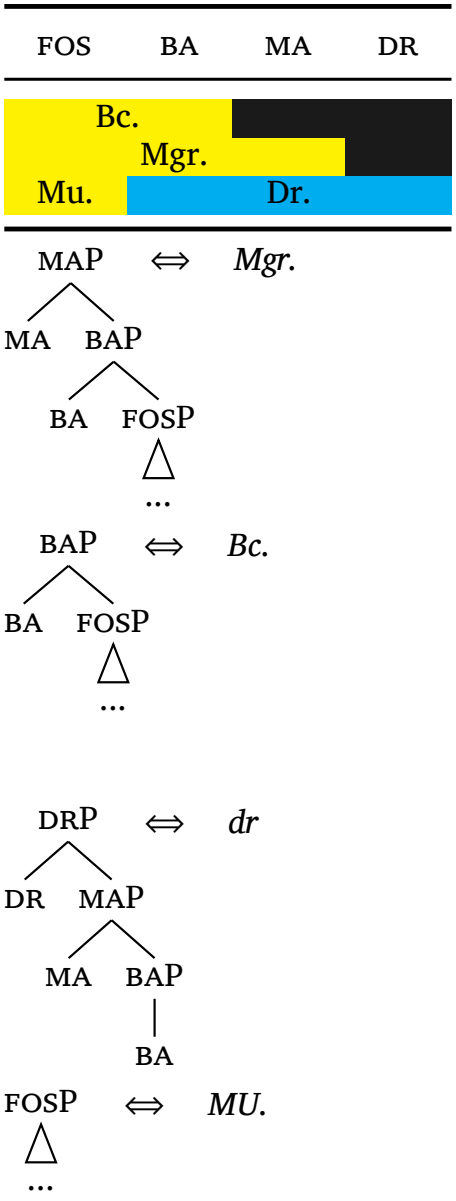


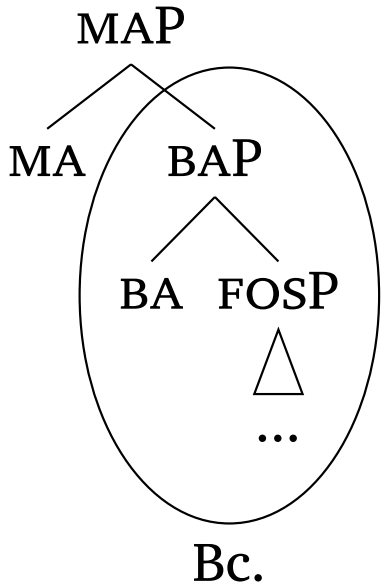


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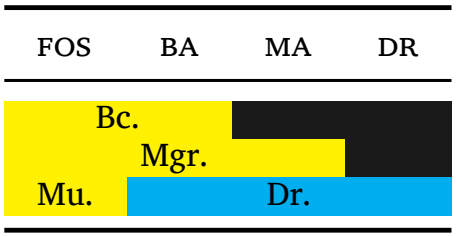


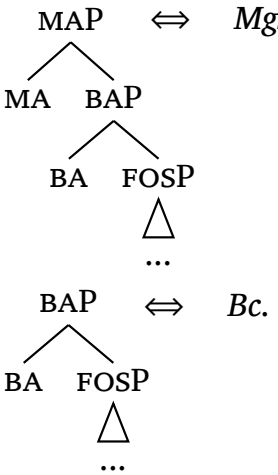


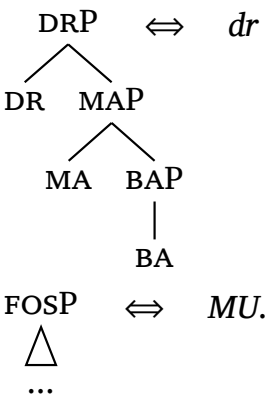


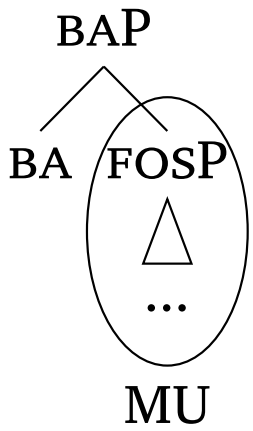


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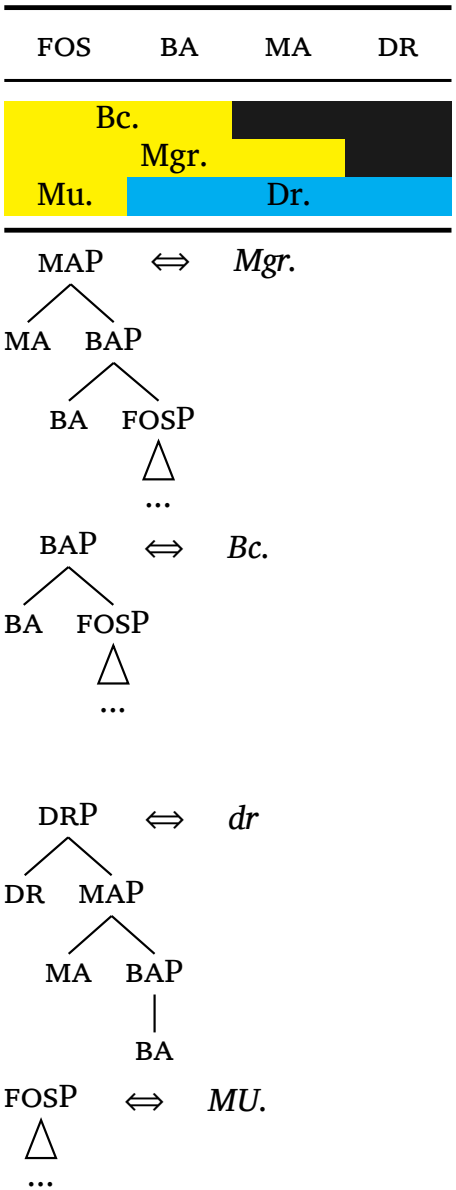


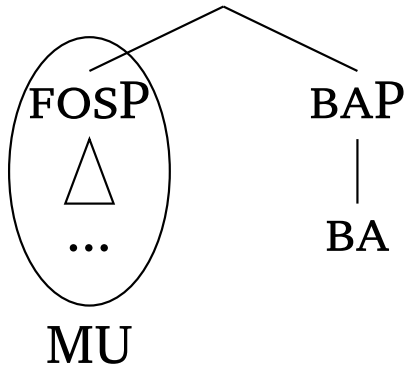


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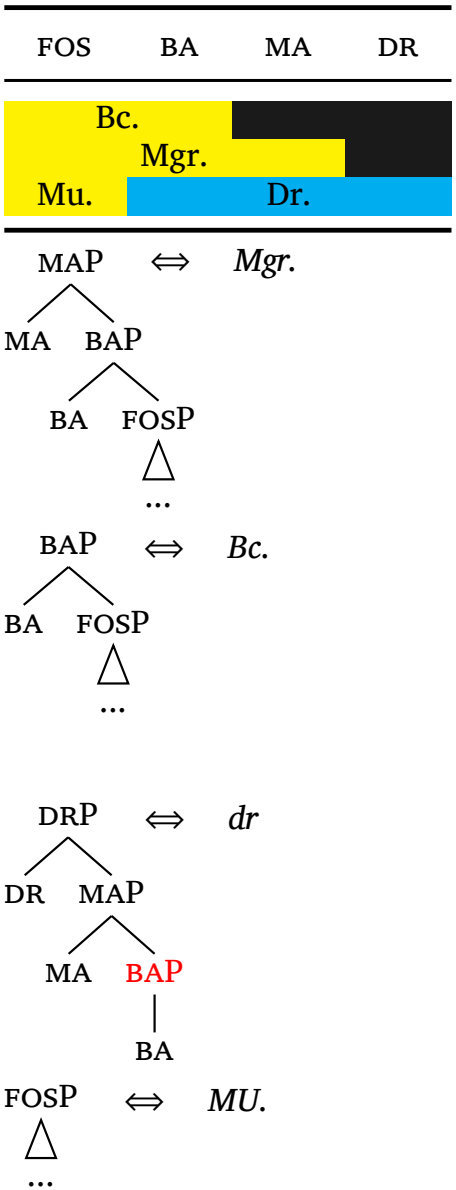


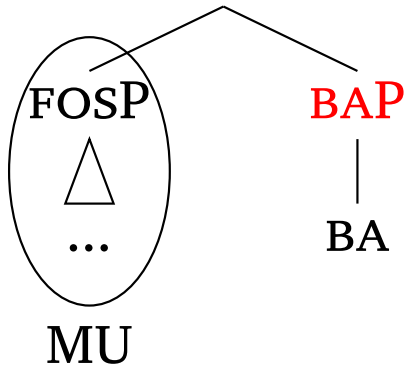


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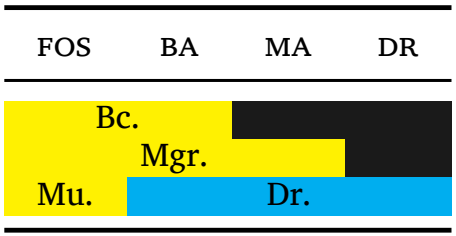


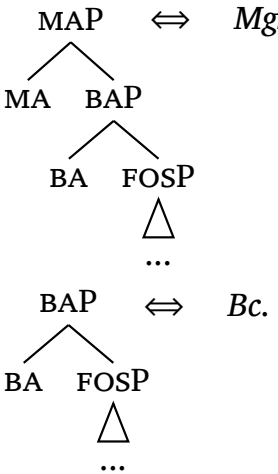


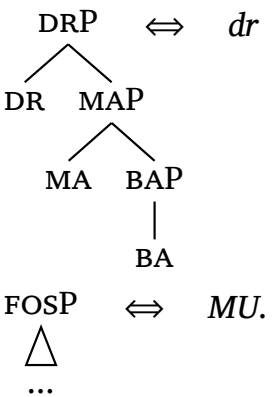


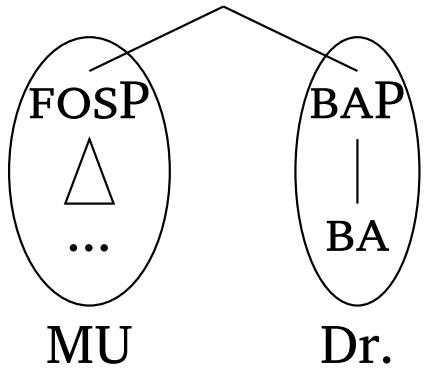


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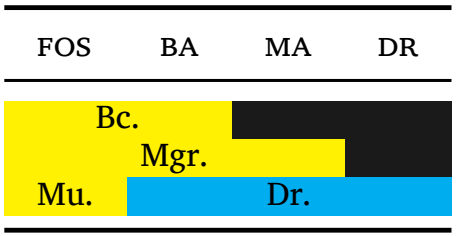


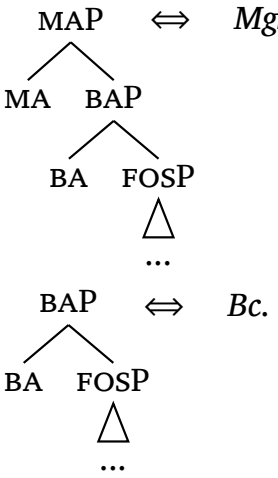


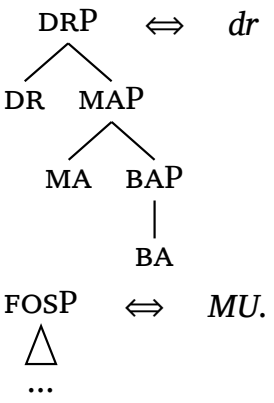


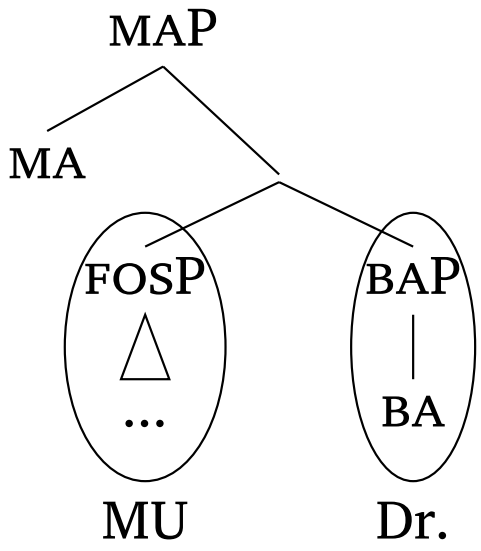


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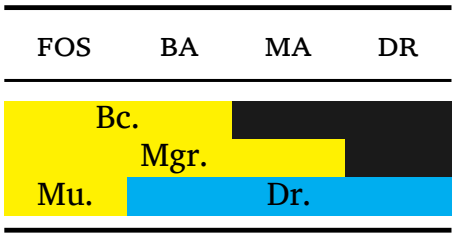


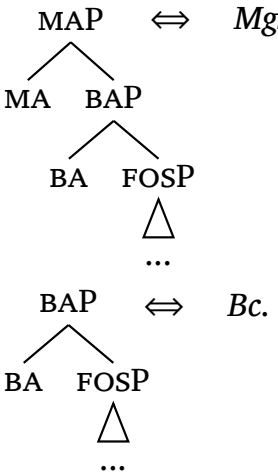


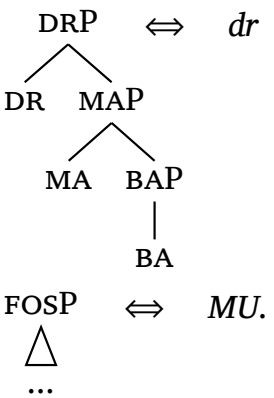


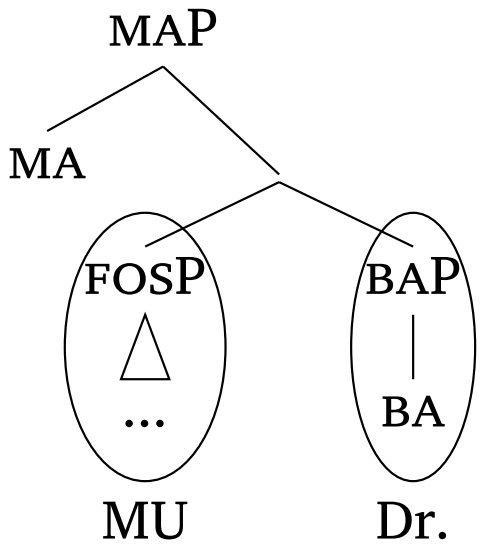


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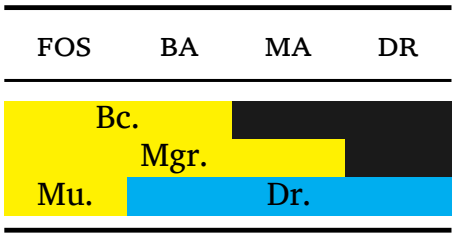


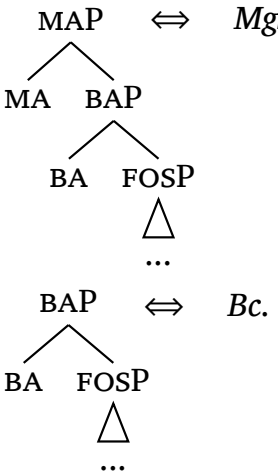


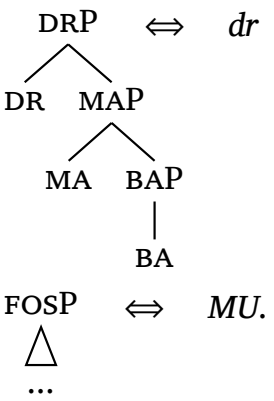


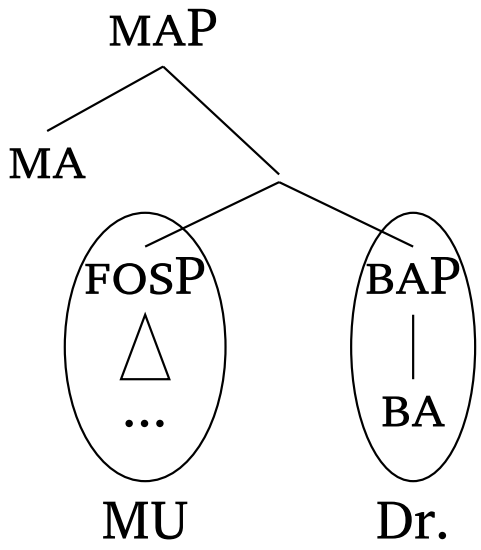


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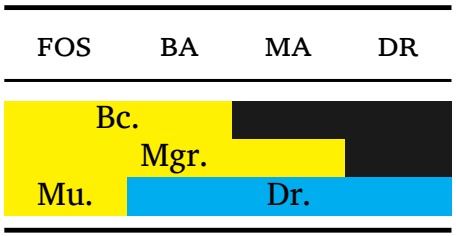


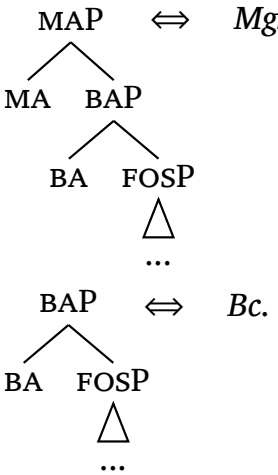


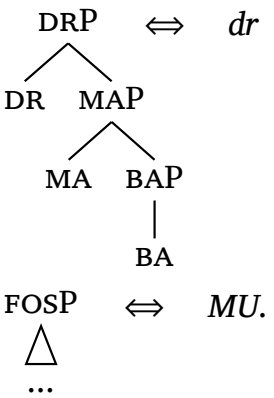


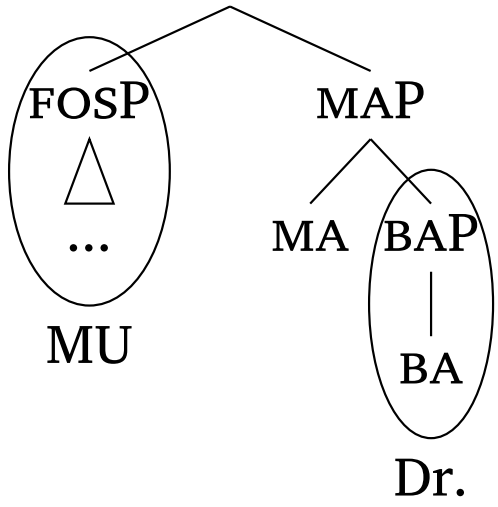


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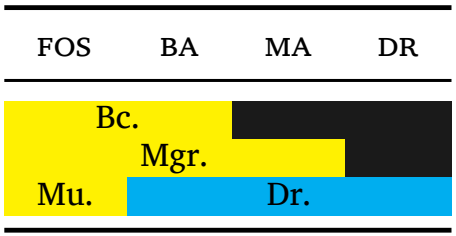


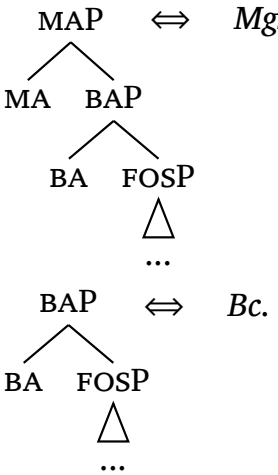


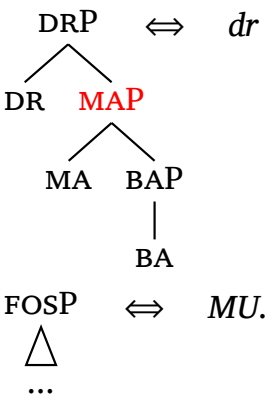


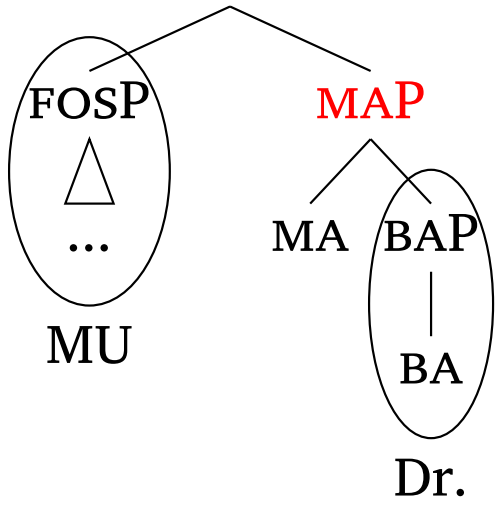


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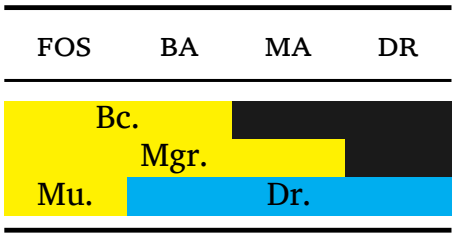


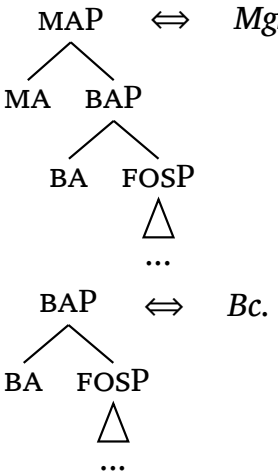


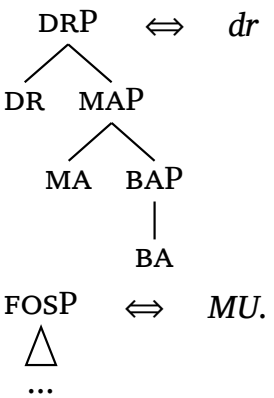


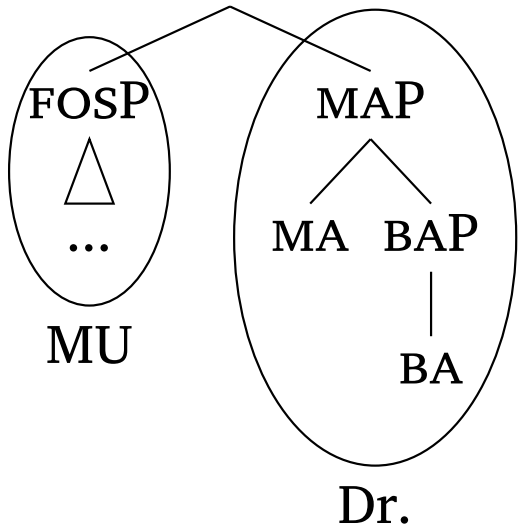


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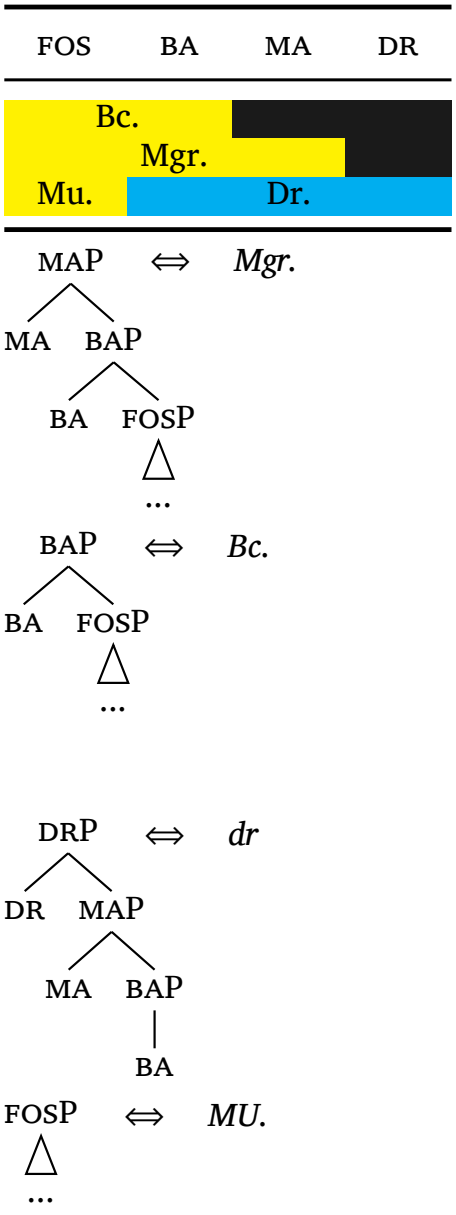


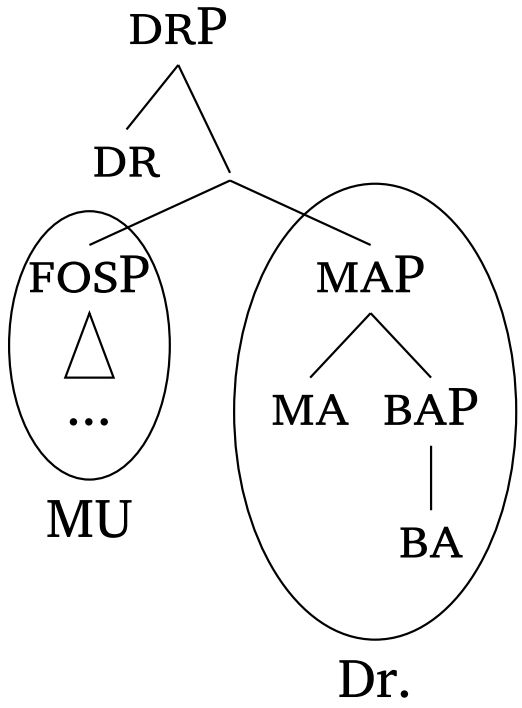


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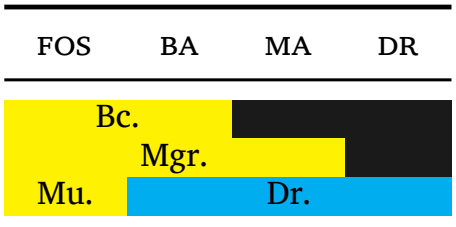


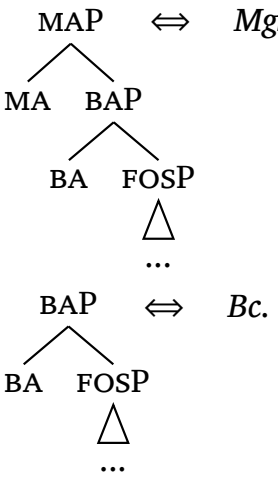


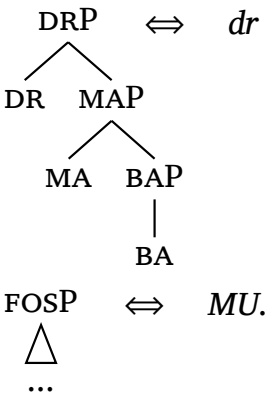


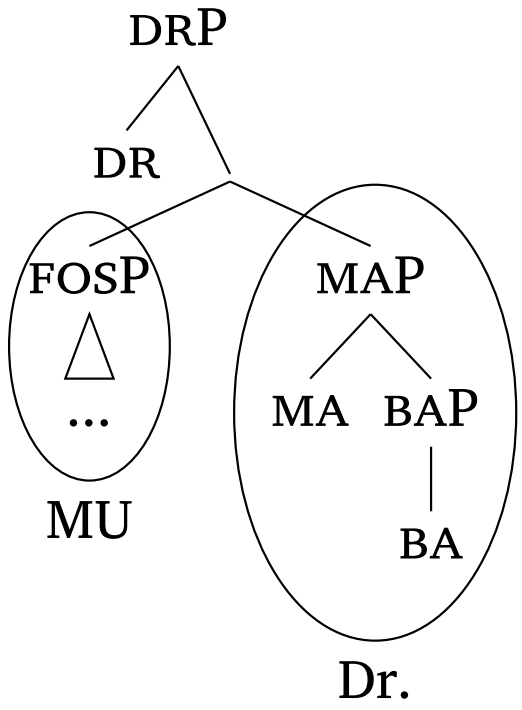


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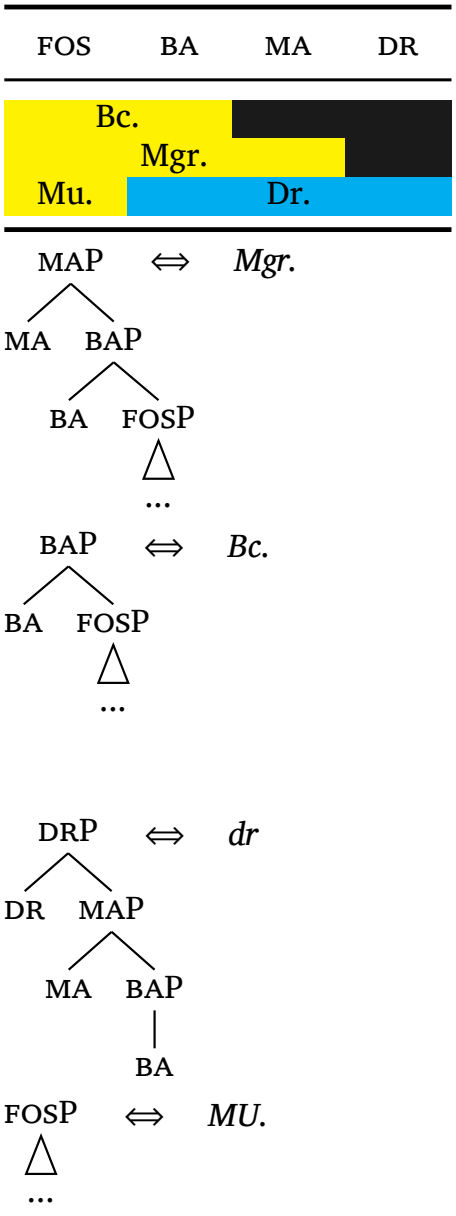


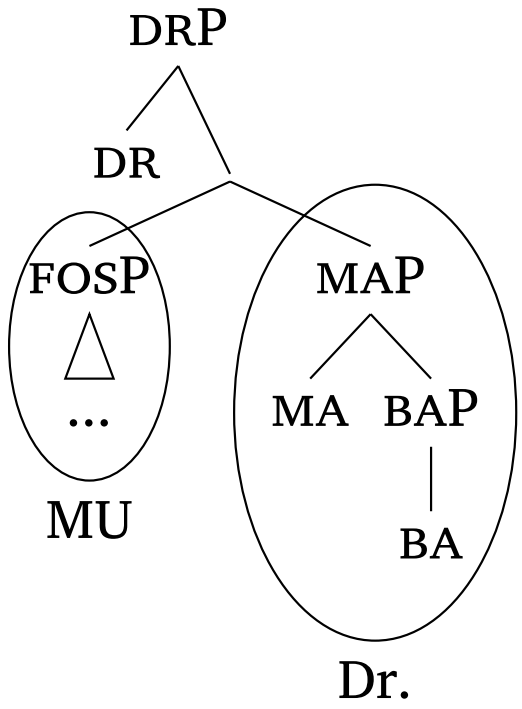


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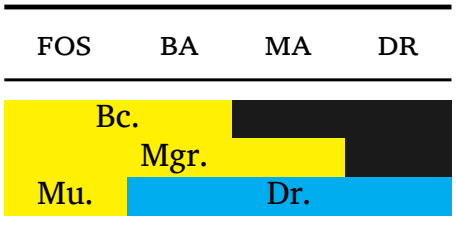


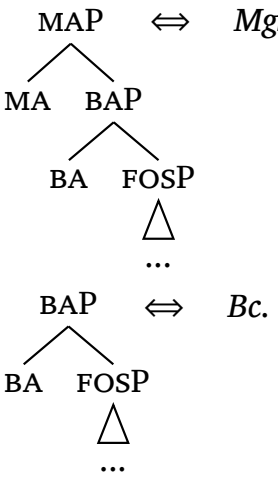


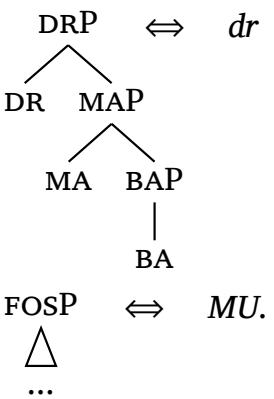


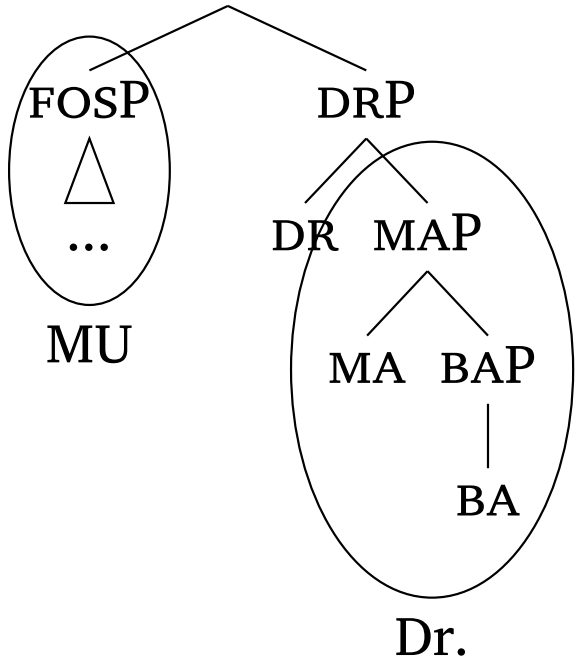


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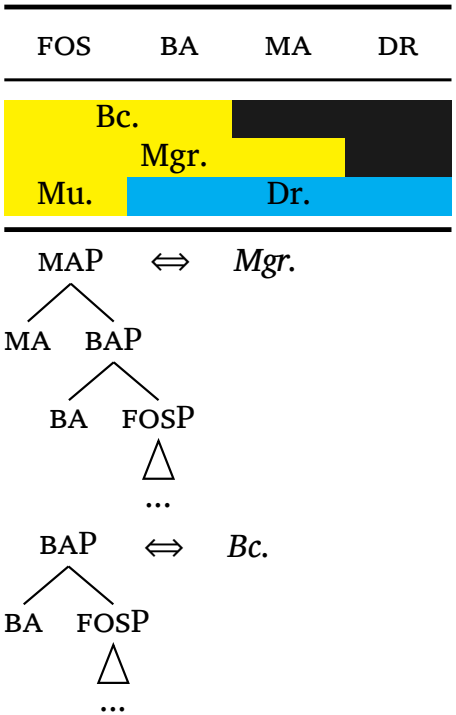


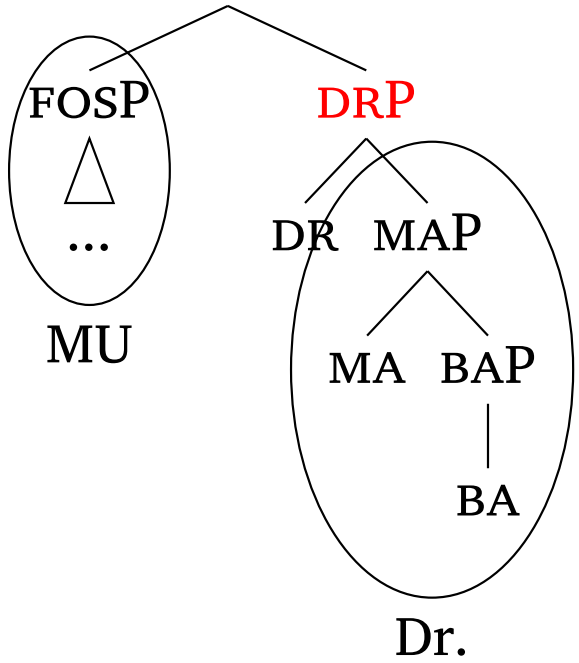


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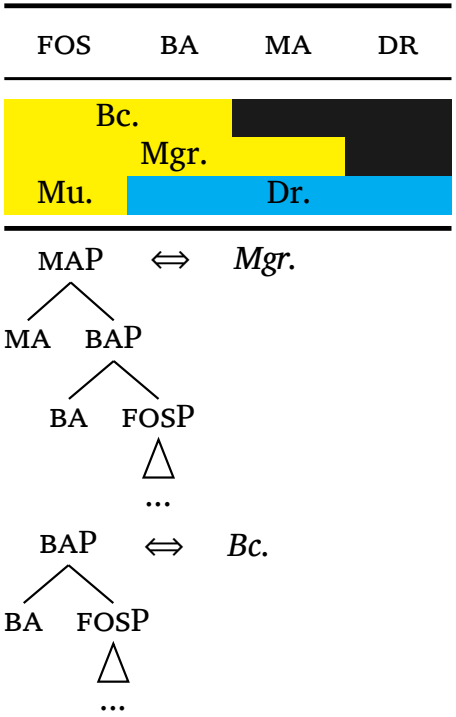


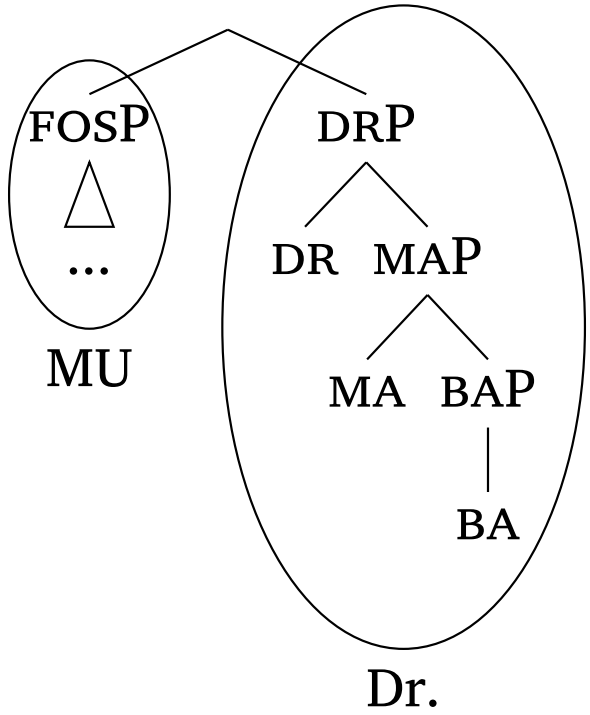


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Intro

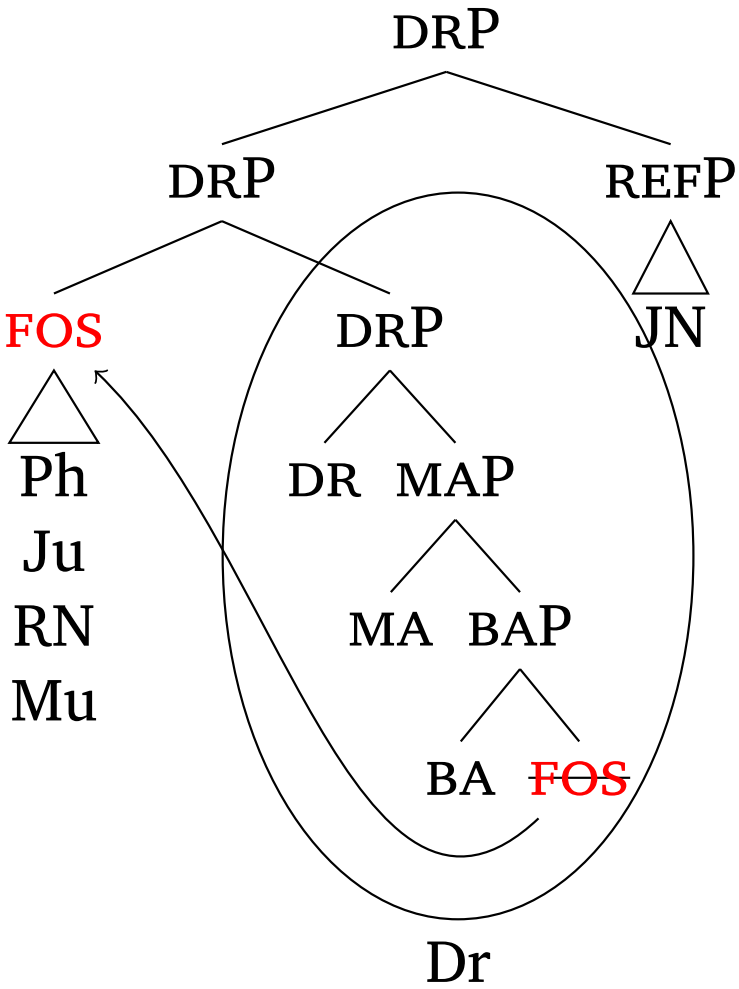
The main intuition

Polish

Constituent lexicalisation

Taking stock

Conclusions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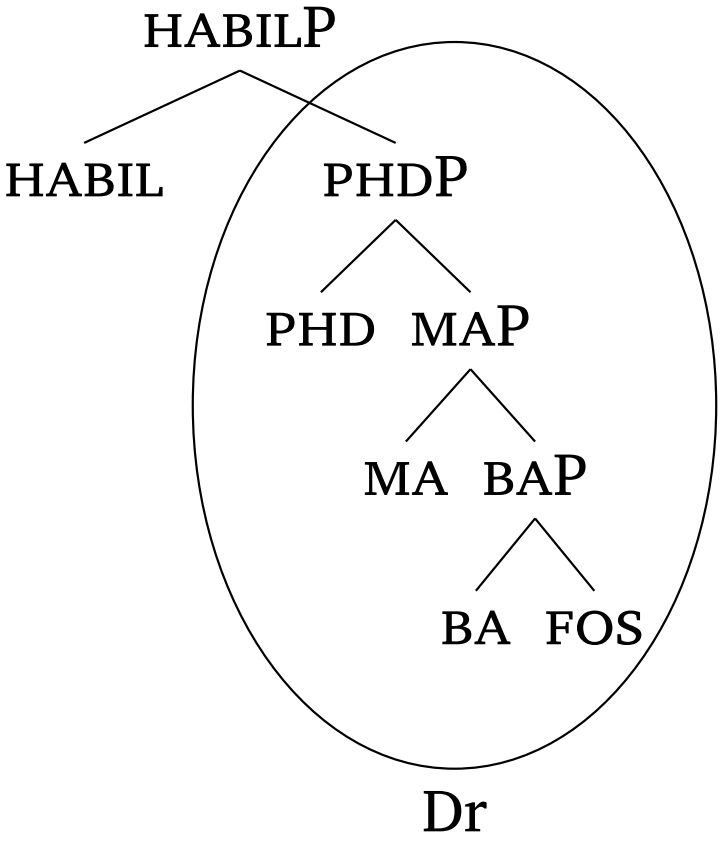
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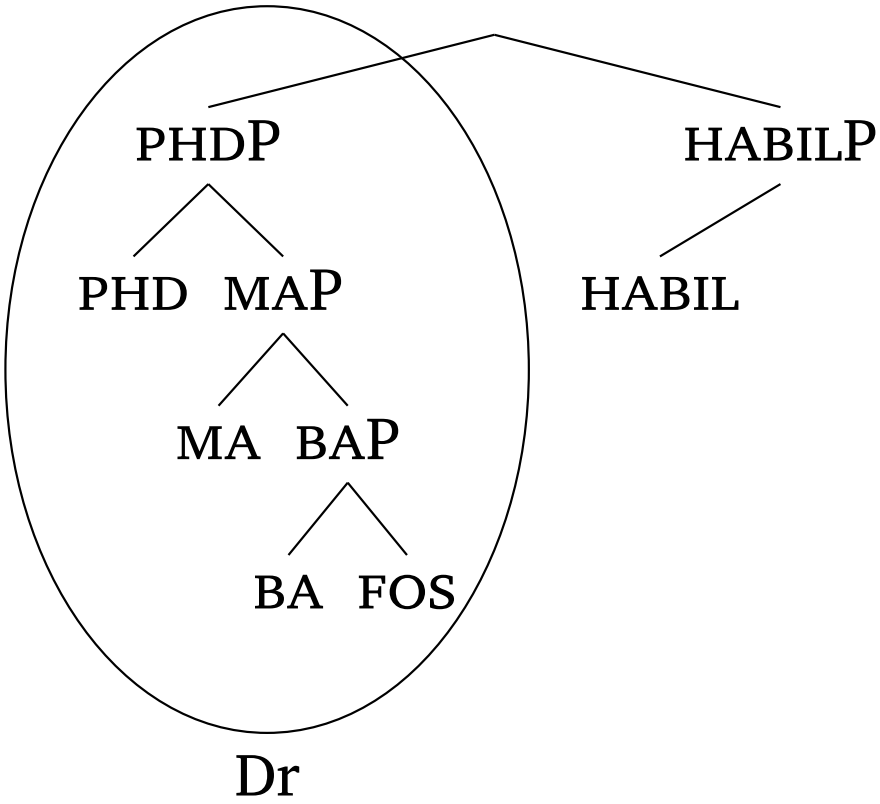
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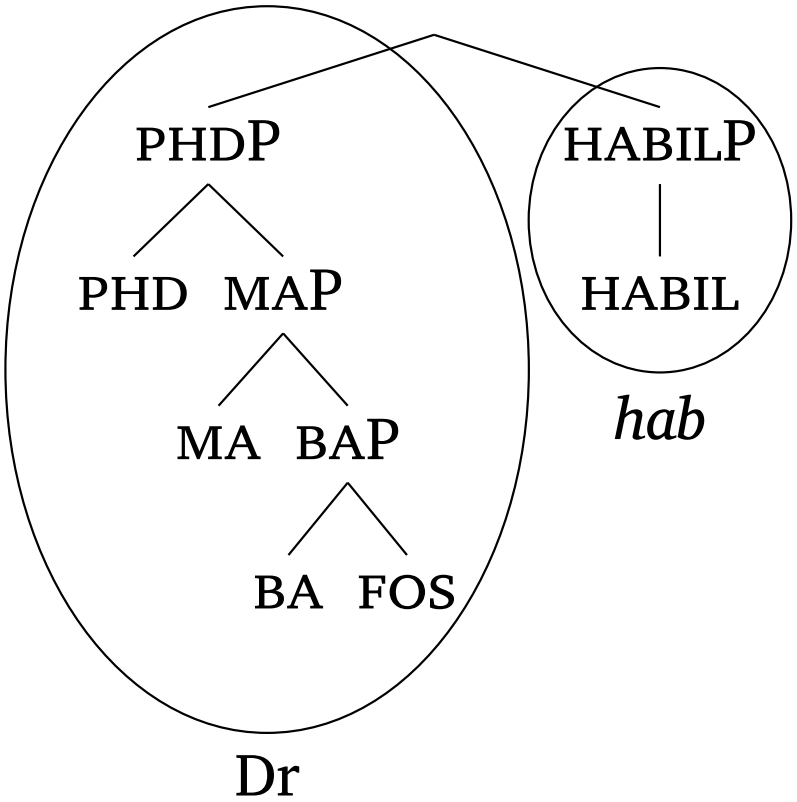
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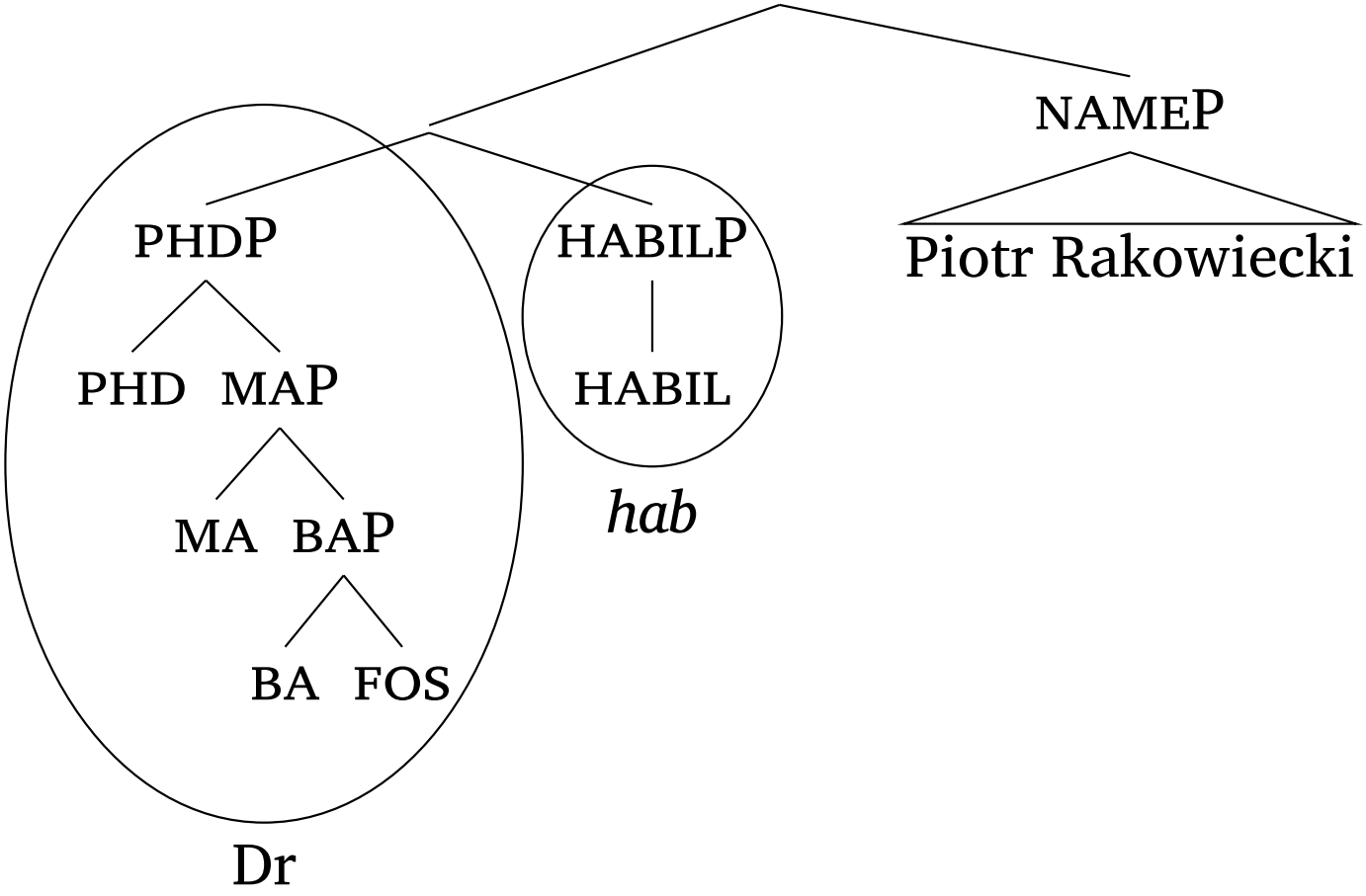
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- People have noticed that professor titles etc. behave as special grammatical elements, classifiers of sorts
- These have a rich internal structure
- Various degrees seem to be hierarchically arranged over the field-of-study projection
- Differences between different degree markers can be modelled by phrasal spellout

# References