

Lowering from complex heads comes  
in two types and prosody knows this

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BCGL 14:

*Where syntax and phonology meet*  
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# Domain of prominence in Turkish

- In Turkish words, the default stress position is the final syllable.
- This is also the case in the Turkish verbal domain (TVD) **when focused**:

(1) A: Kim girmiş?  
'Who has entered?'

B: ZiyaretÇi |.  
visitor  
'The visitor.'

B': Ziyaretçi-LER |.  
visitor-PL  
'The visitors.'

(2) A: Biz ne yaptık?  
'What did we do?'

B: Gir-di-NiZ. |  
enter-PAST-2PL  
'(You) entered.'


- Domain of prominence equals a prosodic word ( $\omega$ ) in Turkish  
(Kabak & Vogel 2001, Göksel 2010, Kahnemuyipour & Kornfilt 2010, Güneş 2015, Shwayder 2015, a. o.)
- It seems from (2) that a TVD matches with a  $\omega$

# Domain of prominence in Turkish

- However, not all TVDs match to a single  $\omega$

(3) A: Biz ne yapmıştık?  
'What did we do?'

B: \* | Gir-miş -i-di-NiZ. |  
enter-PERF-COP-PAST-2PL  
'(You) had entered.'




B': | Gir-MİŞ | -i-di-niz. |  
enter-PERF -COP-PAST-2PL  
'(You) had entered.'

- In certain (often complex) TVDs, prominence is medial (non-final)
- Such TVDs are thus parsed into two  $\omega$ s.
  - Leftmost  $\omega$  is the domain of prominence, rightmost  $\omega$  is a post-nuclear  $\omega$ .

(For more on prominence related discussion in TVDs, see Sebüktekin 1984, van der Hulst & van de Weijer 1991, Kornfilt 1996, Kabak & Vogel 2001, Inkelas & Orgun 2003, Göksel 2010, Güneş 2020b, 2020c, among many others)


# Recap: The core issue

**Q:** Why are some TVDs parsed as single  $\omega$ s, while others are split into two  $\omega$ s?

(2) A: Biz ne yaptık?  
'What did we do?'  


B: | Gir-di-NiZ. |  
enter-PAST-2PL  
'(You) entered.'

VS.

(3) A: Biz ne yapmıştık?  
'What had we done?'  


B: | Gir-MİŞ | -i-di-niz. |  
enter-PERF -COP-PAST-2PL  
'(You) had entered.'

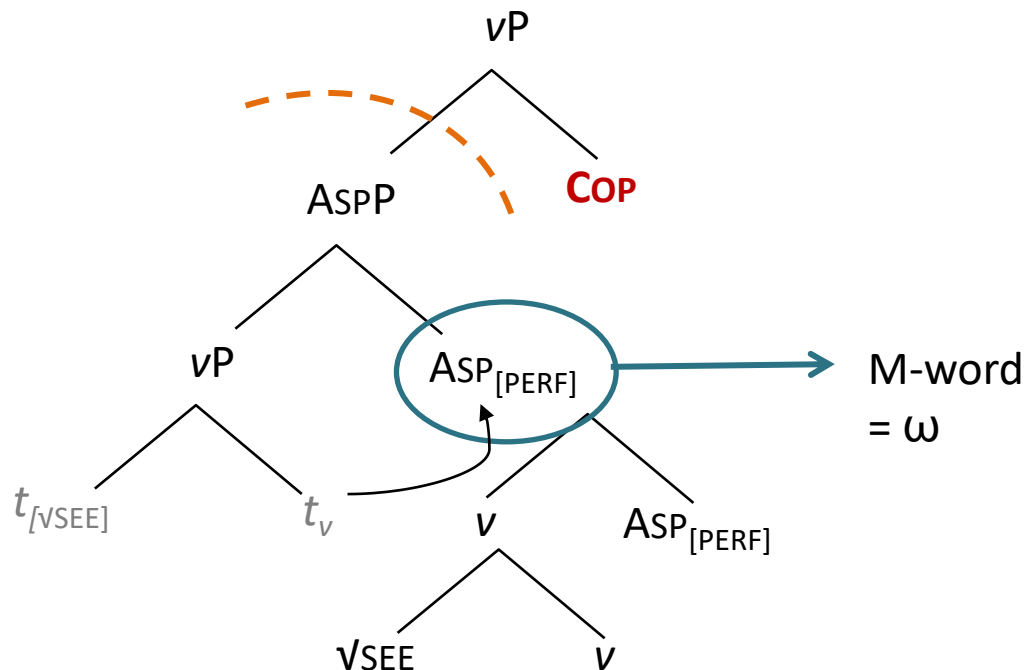
# Extant accounts

- The extant accounts share common assumptions
  - TDVs are formed via **roll-up head raising**
  - Head-raising into the copula is disallowed  
(e.g., Kelepir 2001, Kornfilt 1996, Newell 2008, Zanon 2014, Schwayder 2015;  
but see Göksel 1993)
- They differ in their assumptions about syntax-prosody mapping
  - Domain of prominence is a phasal Spell-out domain (Newell 2005)
  - Domain of prominence is an M-word (Schwayder 2015)

# Extant accounts

(4) | Gör-MÜŞ | -i-di. |  
see-PERF -COP-PAST  
'(She) has seen.'

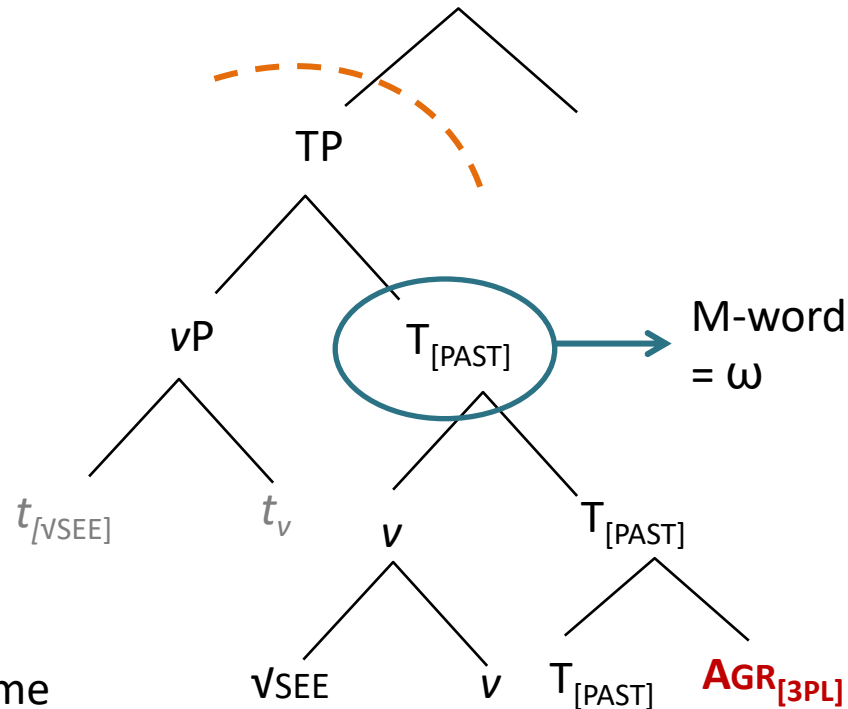
- ASPP is a spell-out domain
- ASP is an M-word



# Extant accounts

(5) | Gör-dü-LER. |  
see-PAST-3PL  
'(They) saw.'

- TP is a spell-out domain
- T is an M-word



**NB:** AGR attaches to T  
as a dissociated morpheme

(Embick 2015:65 and references therein)

# Novel data

Optional variable  $\omega$ -formation in the TVD



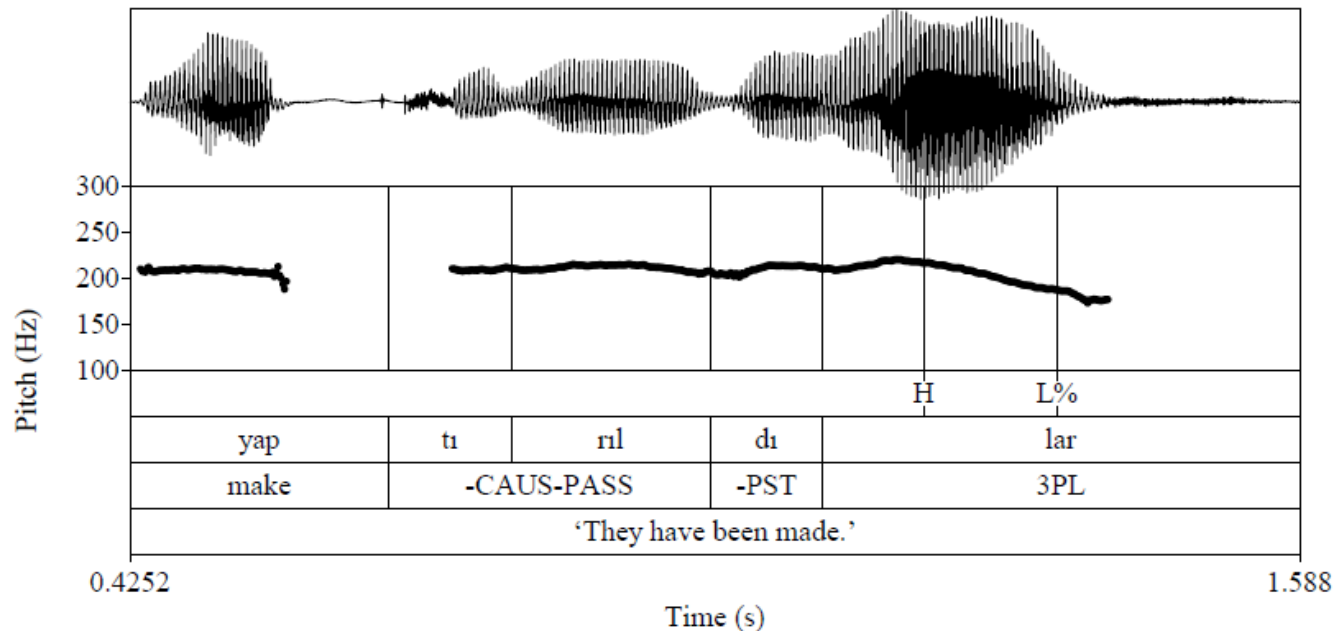
# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Final-AGR

- The size of the  $\omega$ s in TVDs is also **variable**
- Prominence domain may exclude or include the subject agreement (AGR)
- No semantic, pragmatic, or information structural import (Sebüktekin 1984, Göksel 2010, Güneş 2021a)

(6) [((Yap-tır-ıl-dı-lar) $_{\omega}$ ) $_{\phi}$ ] $_l$  (Güneş 2020b)

make-CAUS-PASS-PAST-3PL

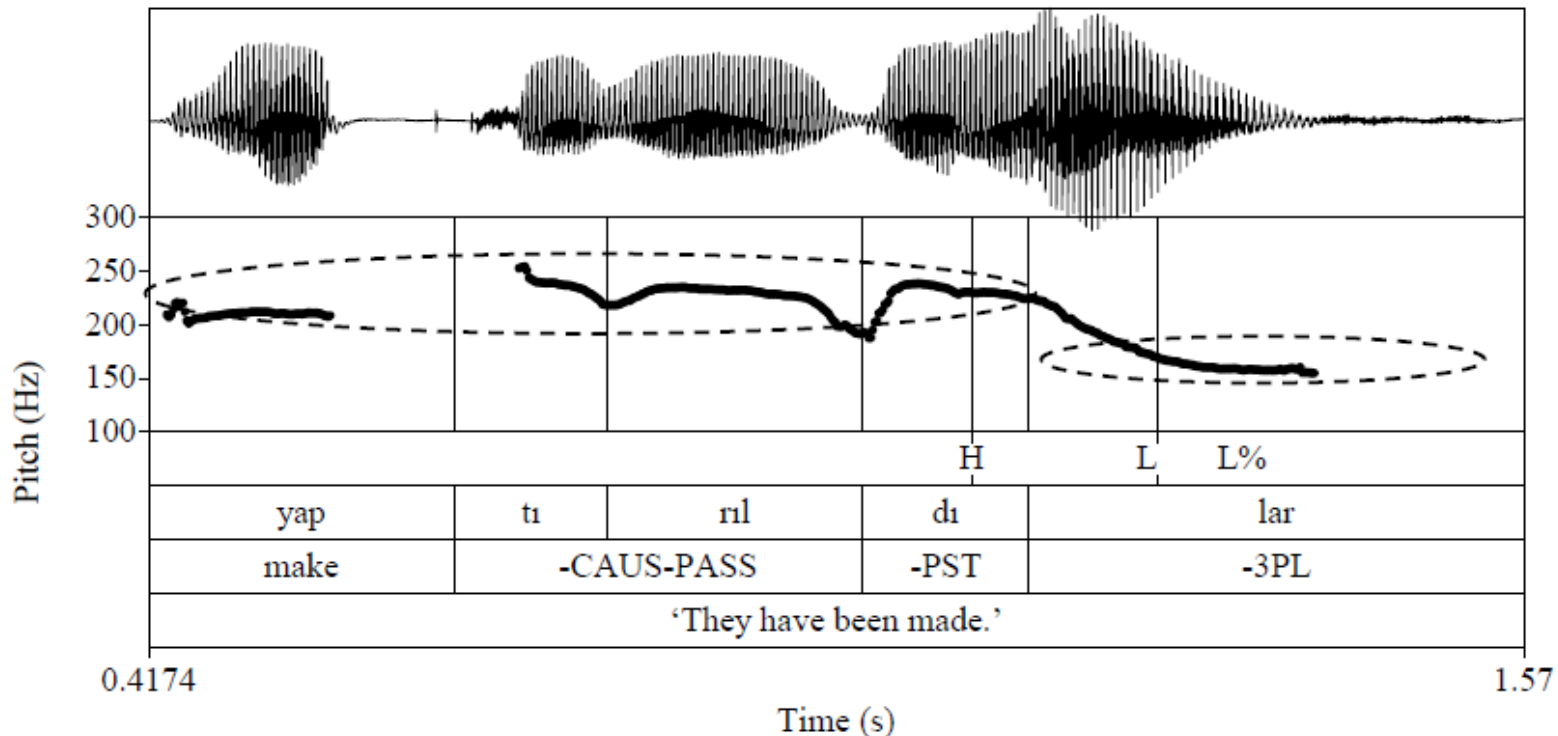
‘They have been made.’



# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Final-AGR

- TVDs with a single- $\omega$  may optionally be split into two  $\omega$ s

(7)  $[((\text{Yap-tır-ıl-dı})_{\omega} \quad (-\text{lar})_{\omega})_{\phi}]_{\iota}$  (Güneş 2020b)  
 make-CAUS-PASS-PAST -3PL  
 ‘They have been made.’



# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Medial-AGR

- The same optional variable sizing also applies in medial AGR contexts.

(8) A: Ziyaretçiler ne yapmışlardı?  
'What did the visitors do?'

B: | Gir-MİŞ | -ler-di. |  
enter-PERF-3PL-PAST  
'(They) had entered.'

B': | Gir-miş-LER | -di. |  
enter-PERF-3PL-PAST  
'(They) had entered.'

*But not the entire string!*

B'': \* | Gir-miş-ler-Dİ. |  
enter-PERF-3PL-PAST  
'(They) had entered.'

# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Medial-AGR

- (Split)  $\omega$ -formation possibilities with **medial-AGR** (Güneş 2020b)

		Singular	Plural	Gloss
AGR <sub>F</sub> in the 1 <sup>st</sup> $\omega$	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gör-dü- <b>m</b> ) $\omega$ (-se) $\omega$	(gör-dü- <b>k</b> ) $\omega$ (-se) $\omega$	see-PST-AGR-COND
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gör-dü- <b>n</b> ) $\omega$ (-se) $\omega$	(gör-dü- <b>nüz</b> ) $\omega$ (-se) $\omega$	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	N/A	(gör-dü- <b>ler</b> ) $\omega$ (-se) $\omega$	
AGR <sub>F</sub> in the 2 <sup>nd</sup> $\omega$	1 <sup>st</sup>	* <sup>[P]</sup> (gör-dü) $\omega$ (- <b>m</b> -se) $\omega$	* <sup>[P]</sup> (gör-dü) $\omega$ (- <b>k</b> -se) $\omega$	see-PST-AGR-COND
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	* <sup>[P]</sup> (gör-dü) $\omega$ (- <b>n</b> -se) $\omega$	(gör-dü) $\omega$ (- <b>nüz</b> -se) $\omega$	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	N/A	(gör-dü) $\omega$ (- <b>ler</b> -se) $\omega$	

# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Final-AGR

- (Split)  $\omega$ -formation possibilities with final-AGR (Güneş 2020b)

		Singular	Plural	Gloss
AGR <sub>F</sub> without split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-di- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di- <b>k</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-PST <sub>K</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-di- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-di- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-ce- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce- <b>z</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>RZ</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-ce- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-cek- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-ecek- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
AGR <sub>F</sub> with split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>k</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-PST <sub>K</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	1 <sup>st</sup>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>z</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>RZ</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-cek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
AGR <sub>C</sub> without split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	* (gel-eceğ- <b>im</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	* (gel-eceğ- <b>iz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
2 <sup>nd</sup>	* (gel-ecek- <b>sin</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	* (gel-ecek- <b>siniz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>		
AGR <sub>C</sub> with split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-ece) <sub>ω</sub> (ğ- <b>im</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ece) <sub>ω</sub> (ğ- <b>iz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>sin</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>siniz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>		

# Optional variable $\omega$ formation in TVDs: Final-AGR

- Variable  $\omega$ -formation **not** possible in some TVDs (Güneş 2020b)

		Singular	Plural	Gloss
AGR <sub>F</sub> without split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-di- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di- <b>k</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-PST <sub>K</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-di- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-di- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-ce- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce- <b>z</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>RZ</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-ce- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-cek- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-ecek- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
AGR <sub>F</sub> with split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>k</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-PST <sub>K</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	*[P] (gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-di) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	1 <sup>st</sup>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>m</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>z</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>RZ</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	*[P] (gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>n</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ce) <sub>ω</sub> ( <b>niz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-cek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
	3 <sup>rd</sup>	--	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>ler</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
AGR <sub>C</sub> without split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	* (gel-eceğ- <b>im</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	* (gel-eceğ- <b>iz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	* (gel-ecek- <b>sin</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	* (gel-ecek- <b>siniz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	
AGR <sub>C</sub> with split $\omega$ -formation	1 <sup>st</sup>	(gel-ece) <sub>ω</sub> (ğ- <b>im</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ece) <sub>ω</sub> (ğ- <b>iz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	come-FUT <sub>Z</sub> -AGR
	2 <sup>nd</sup>	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>sin</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	(gel-ecek) <sub>ω</sub> (- <b>siniz</b> ) <sub>ω</sub>	

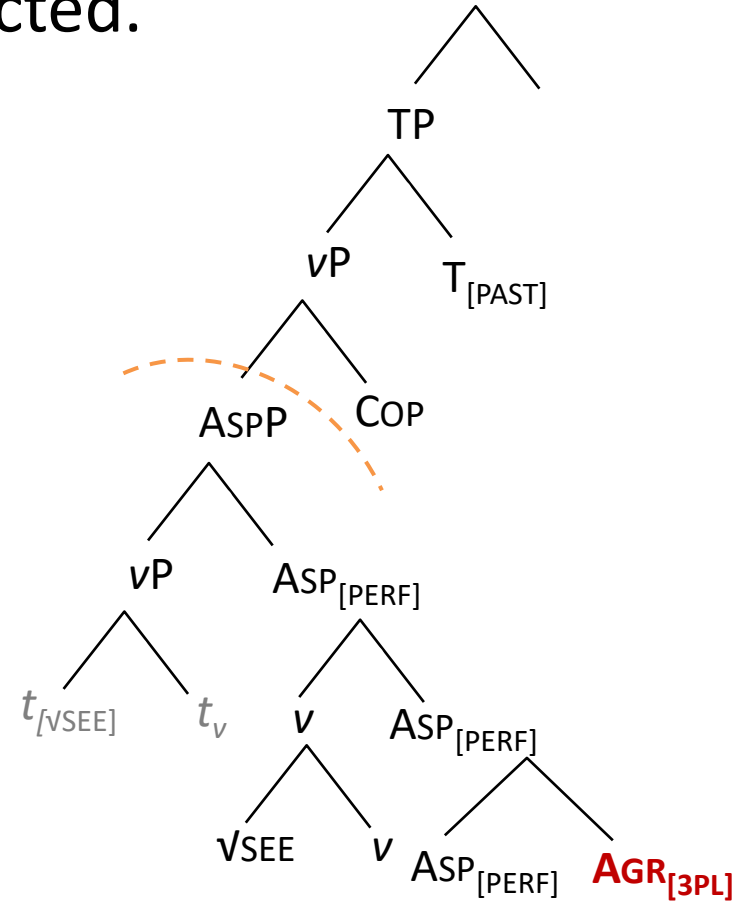
See Güneş (2020b)

Can extant analyses account  
for the novel data?

# Roll-up head raising accounts = not extendible

Variable parsing of AGR is not predicted.

- (9) a. | Gir-miş-LER | -di. |  
 enter-PERF-3PL-PAST  
 '(They) have entered.'
- Spell-out domain/M-word  
 =  
 prominence domain
- b. | Gir-MİŞ | | -ler | | -di. |  
 enter-PERF-3PL-PAST  
 '(They) have entered.'
- Spell-out domain /M-word  
 ≠  
 Prominence domain



- Because AGR is realized within the Spell-out domain, it is predicted to always be contained in the prominence domain.



**My proposal:  
Lowering of Asp and T**

# My proposal: Lowering

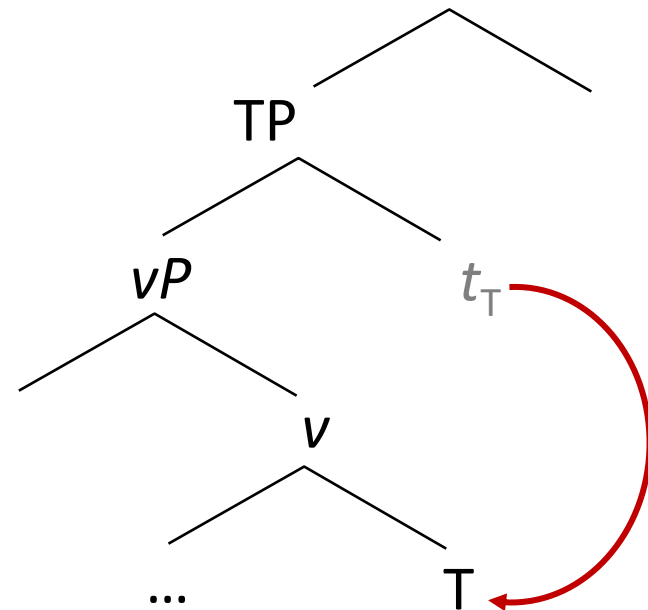
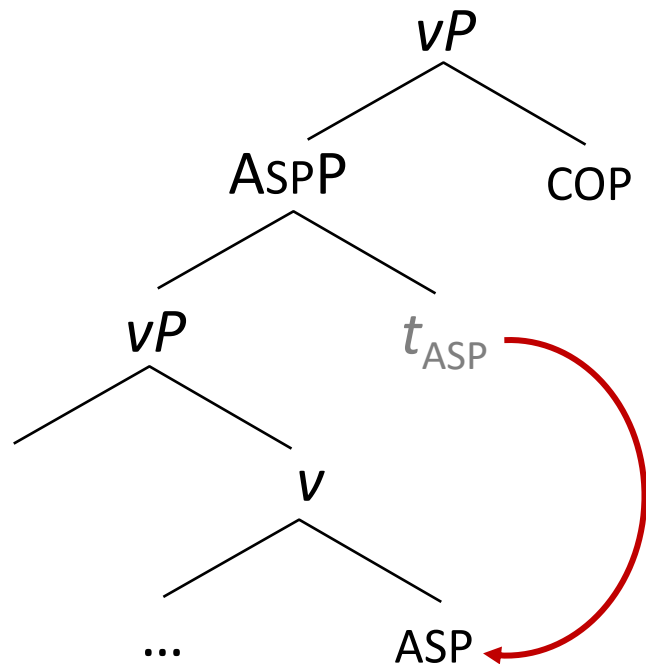
A hybrid account

- The deepest M-word matches with a prosodic word
- M-words may be derived via head **raising** PLUS **lowering**

**Q:** What lowers?

- I claim that ASP and T undergo lowering

(whenever there is a *v* – i.e., a cyclic complement; cf. Skinner 2009)

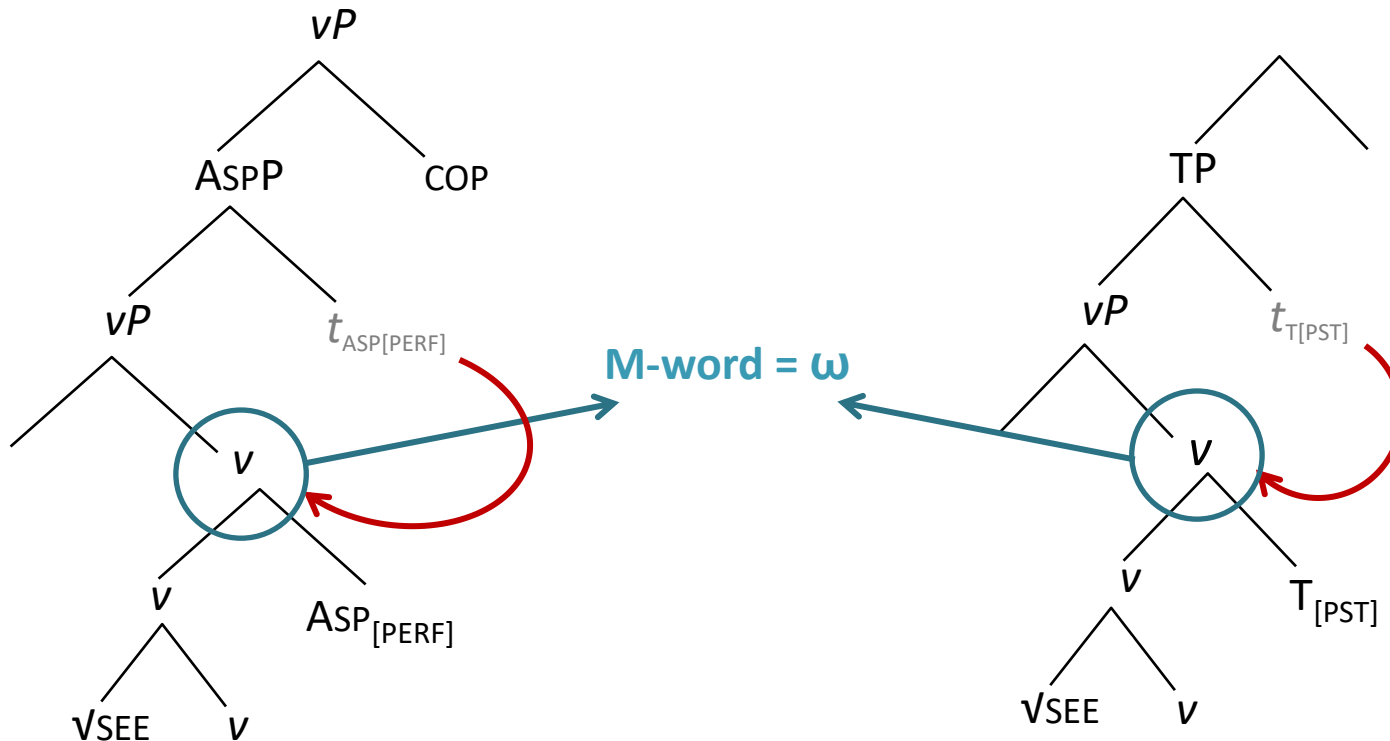


# My proposal: Lower then map into prosody

- The M-word that is generated after lowering =  $\omega$

(10) | Gör-MÜŞ | -i-di. |  
 see-PERF-COP-PAST  
 '(She) has seen.'

(11) | Gör-DÜ. |  
 see-PAST  
 '(She) saw.'



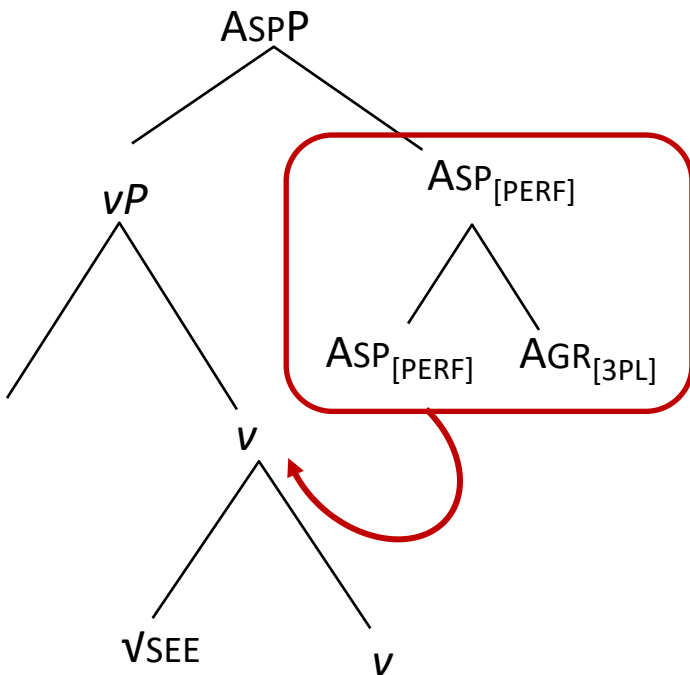
# My proposal: (Partial) Lowering

- The semantically vacuous variable parsing of AGR arises through optional **partial** lowering
  - A complex head can lower
    - (i) fully (lower the maximal head).
    - (ii) or partially (lower the terminal head).

# My proposal: (Partial) Lowering

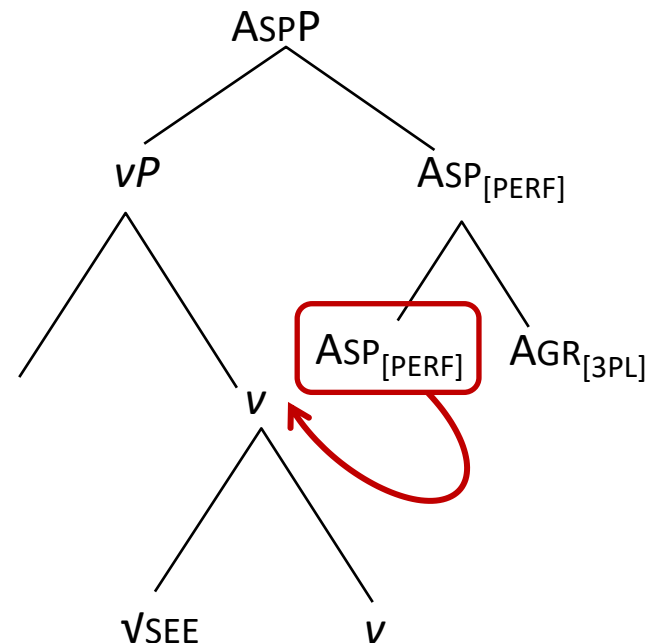
## Full lowering

- (12) | Gör-müş-LER | -i-di. |  
see-PERF-3PL-COP-PAST  
'(They) have seen.'



## Partial lowering

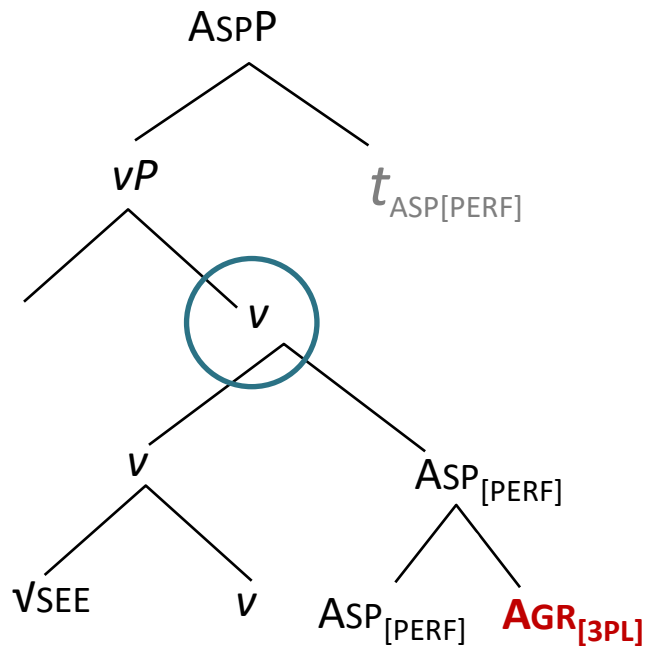
- (13) | Gör-MÜŞ | -ler-i-di. |  
see-PERF-3PL-COP-PAST  
'(They) have seen.'



# My proposal: (Partial) Lowering

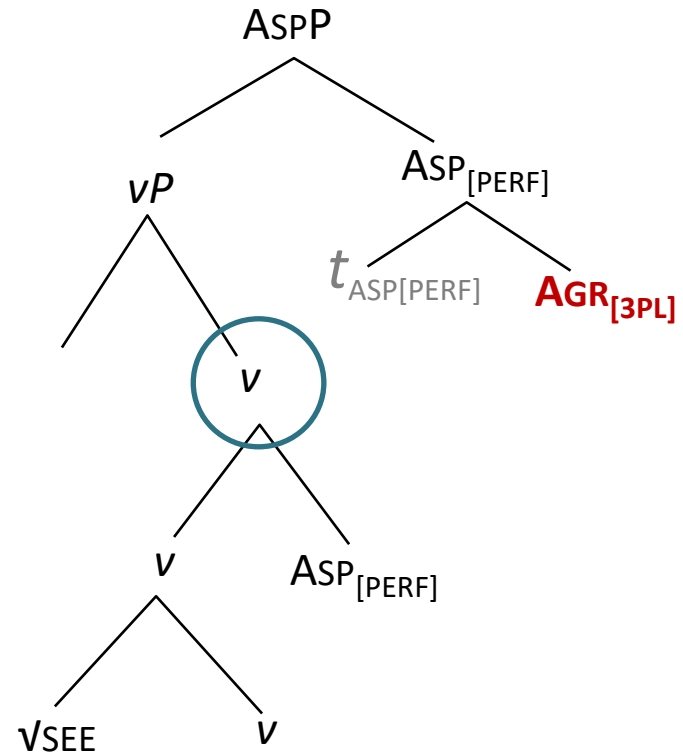
## Full lowering

- (12) | Gör-müş-LER | -i-di. |  
see-PERF-3PL-COP-PST  
'(They) have seen.'



## Partial lowering

- (13) | Gör-MÜŞ | -ler-i-di. |  
see-PERF-3PL-COP-PST  
'(They) have seen.'

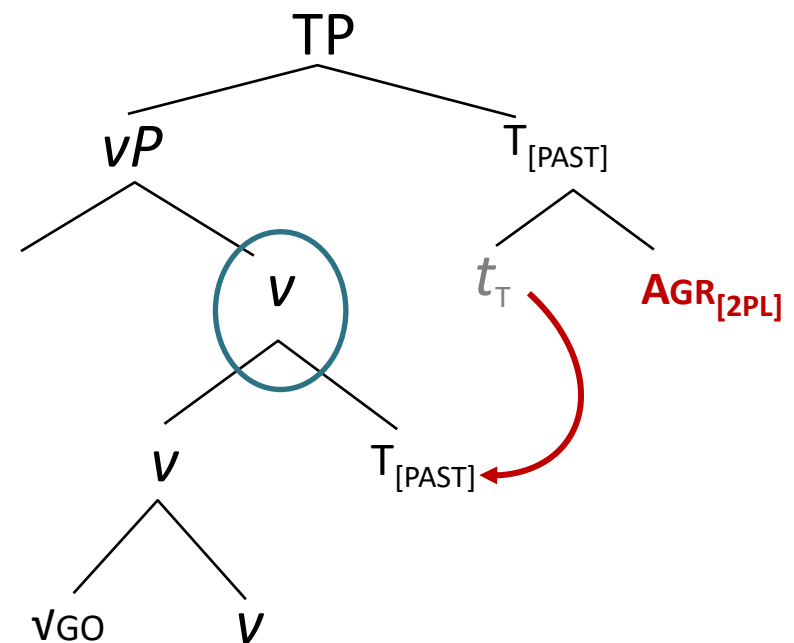
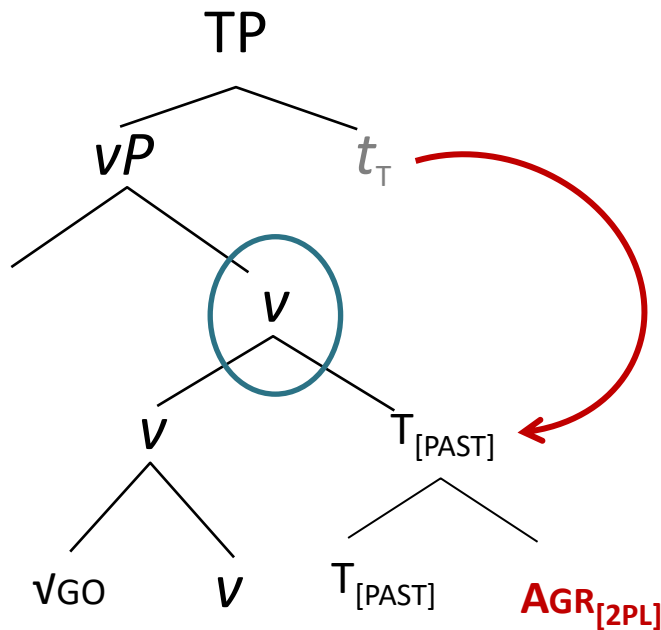


# My proposal: Correct further predictions

- Variable parsing is observed in the absence of copula

(14) a. Git-ti-NiZ.  
 go-PAST-2PL  
 '(You all) went.'


b. Git-Ti | -niz.  
 go-PAST-2PL  
 '(You all) went.'



## Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

- TVDs with three TAM morphemes are analyzed as having a tripartite structure on all extant analyses, including mine
- But prosodically, TVDs can maximally contain two  $\omega$ s

(15) [Gel-ecek] [-i-di] [-y-se-ler] morphosyntax

  
(Gel-eCEK) $\omega$  (-i-di -y-se-ler) $\omega$  prosody

come-FUT -COP-PST -COP-COND-3PL

'if it were the case that they would come.'



# Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

- [BinMax,  $\phi$ ]:
  - A prosodic grammar constraint that favours phonological phrases ( $\phi$ s) containing 1 or 2  $\omega$ s over  $\phi$ s containing 3 or more  $\omega$ s  
(see Itô & Mester 1992; Mester 1994; Hewitt 1994; Selkirk 2000; among others)
- [BinMax,  $\phi$ ] outranks the Match constraints in Turkish (Güneş 2015)
- The complex TVD case in (15) is a syntax-prosody mismatch generated through an interplay of prosodic grammar constraints
- If correct, this analysis supports the view that some syntax-prosody mismatches arise via the mediating influence of the prosodic grammar

# Conclusion

- In a complex head, lowering may target a maximal head (full lowering), or a terminal head (partial lowering)
- Lowering of or from complex heads results in prosodic variability in languages in which  $M\text{-word}=\omega$
- ASP and T lower in Turkish
- Some cases of syntax-prosody mismatches in the TVD may be accounted for by prosodic well-formedness constraints (i.e. BinMax).

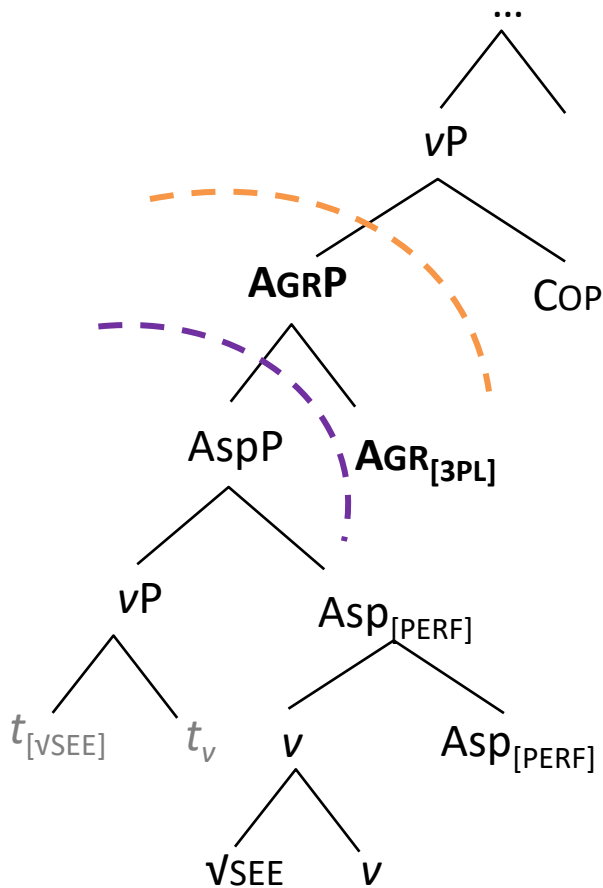
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# Appendix

# Phase or phase complement as the spell-out domain?

- If AGR realizes a phase head X, then one might postulate that either XP or the complement of XP is spelled-out



(16) a. Gir-miş-LER-di. → Phase =  $\omega$   
 enter-PERF-3PL-PST  
 '(They) have entered.'

b. Gir-MİŞ-ler-di. → Spell-out domain =  $\omega$   
 enter-PERF-3PL-PST  
 '(They) have entered.'

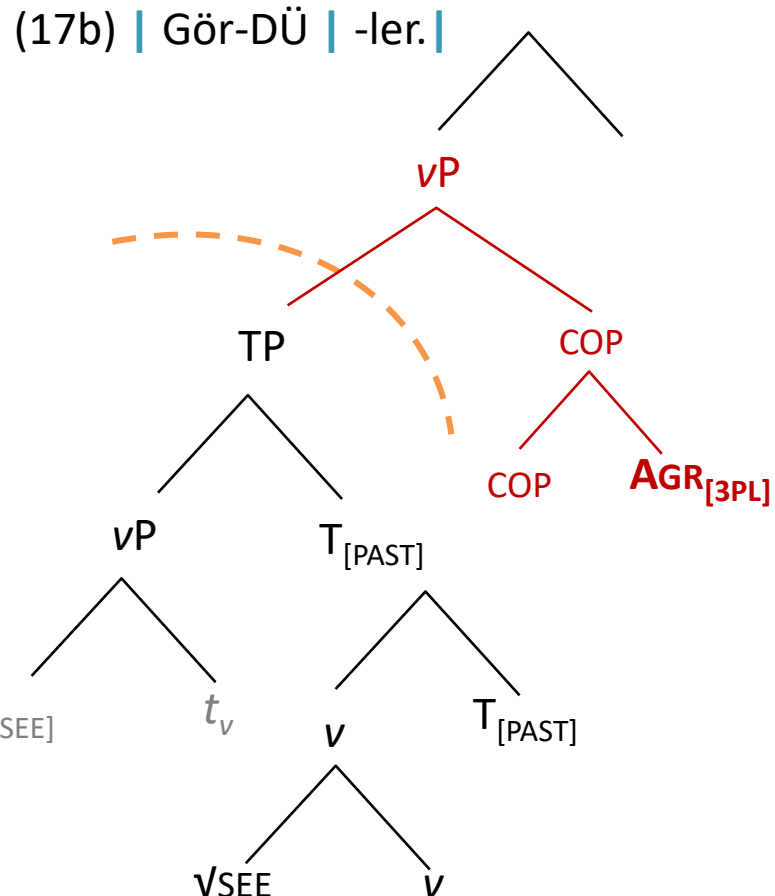
## Shortcomings

- AGR as phase head is not motivated
- Lose possibility of connecting M-words to  $\omega$  (unless one allows roll-up into phase heads)

# Optional null copula as a blocking head?

- One might entertain the existence of optional null copulas to derive some split- $\omega$  configurations

(17) a. | Gör-dü -LER. |  
 b. | Gör-DÜ | -ler. |  
 see-PAST -3PL  
 '(They) saw.'



## Shortcomings

- Alleged additional copula cannot be pronounced (\*gör-dü-i-ler)
- No conceptual motivation for additional copula

## Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

- The restriction to two  $\omega$ s per  $\phi$  is observed elsewhere in Turkish, e.g., in complex nominal expressions (Güneş 2015, 2020a)

(18) *Subject NP, broad focus context* (Güneş 2020)

[[<sub>NP</sub> [<sub>AP</sub> uzun] [<sub>N</sub> pelerimli]] [<sub>N</sub> kadın]]

long            caped            woman

- a. ((UZUN) $\omega$  (pelerimli kadın) $\omega$ ) $\phi$   
b. ((UZUN PELErINLi) $\omega$  (kadın) $\omega$ ) $\phi$   
c. ((UZUN PELErINLi KADIN) $\omega$ ) $\phi$   
d. \* ((UZUN) $\omega$  (PELErINLi) $\omega$  (KADIN) $\omega$ ) $\phi$

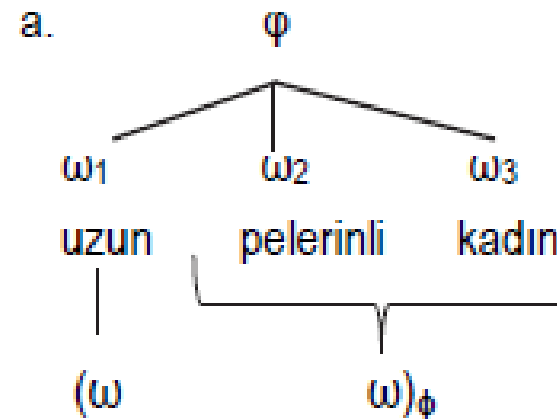
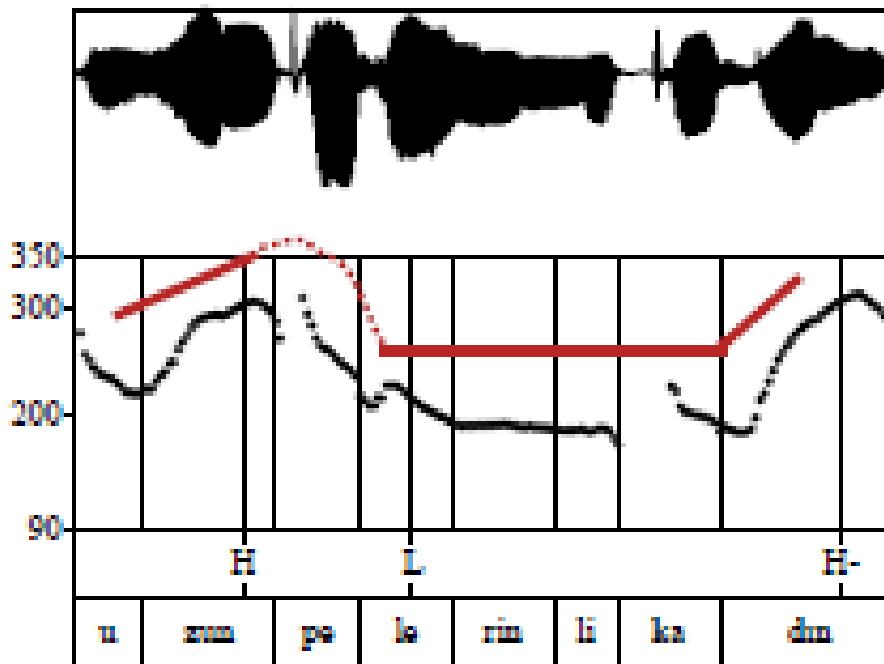
# Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

(18) *Subject NP, broad focus context* (Güneş 2020a)

[[<sub>NP</sub> [<sub>AP</sub> uzun] [<sub>N</sub> pelerinli]] [<sub>N</sub> kadın]]

long caped woman

a. ((UZUN)<sub>ω</sub> (pelerinli kadın)<sub>ω</sub>)<sub>φ</sub>





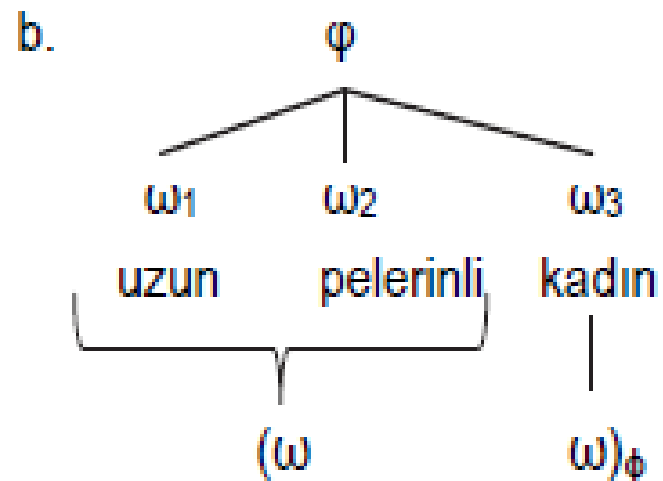
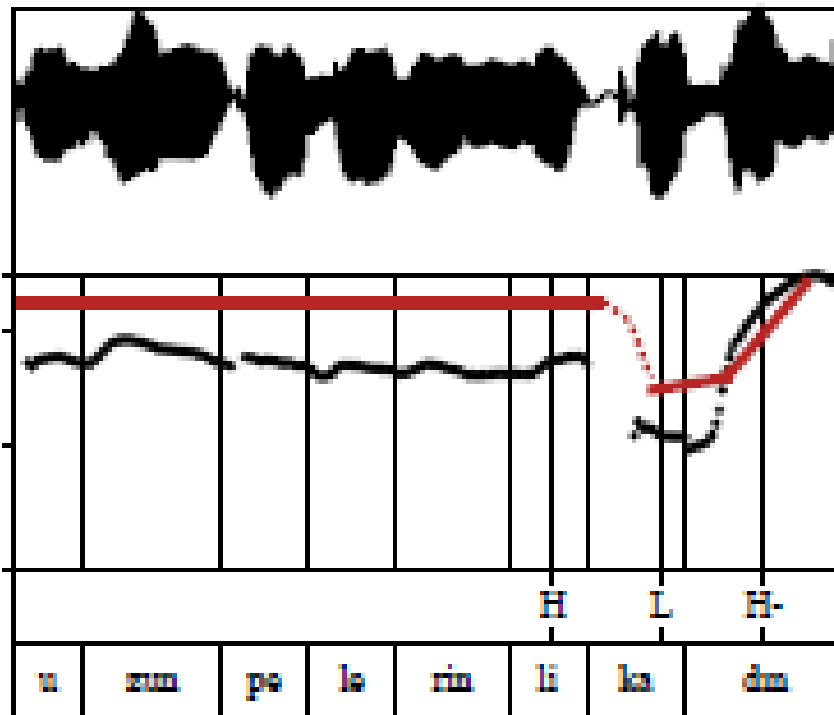
# Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

(18) *Subject NP, broad focus context* (Güneş 2020a)

[[<sub>NP</sub> [<sub>AP</sub> uzun] [<sub>N</sub> pelerinli]] [<sub>N</sub> kadın]]

long          caped          woman

b. ((UZUN PELELINLI)<sub>ω</sub> (kadın)<sub>φ</sub>)



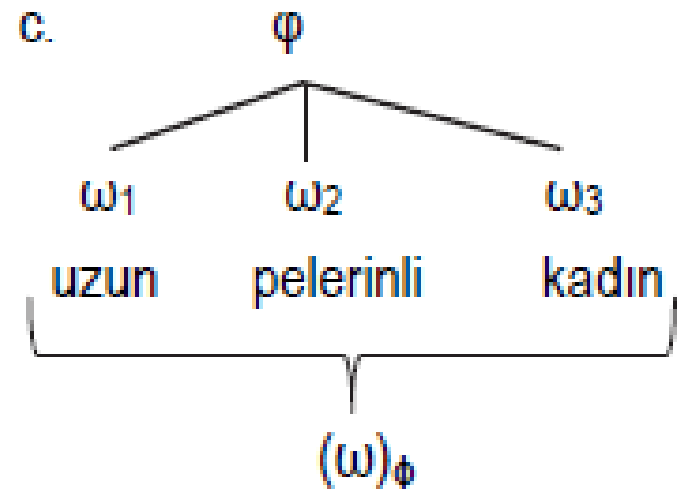
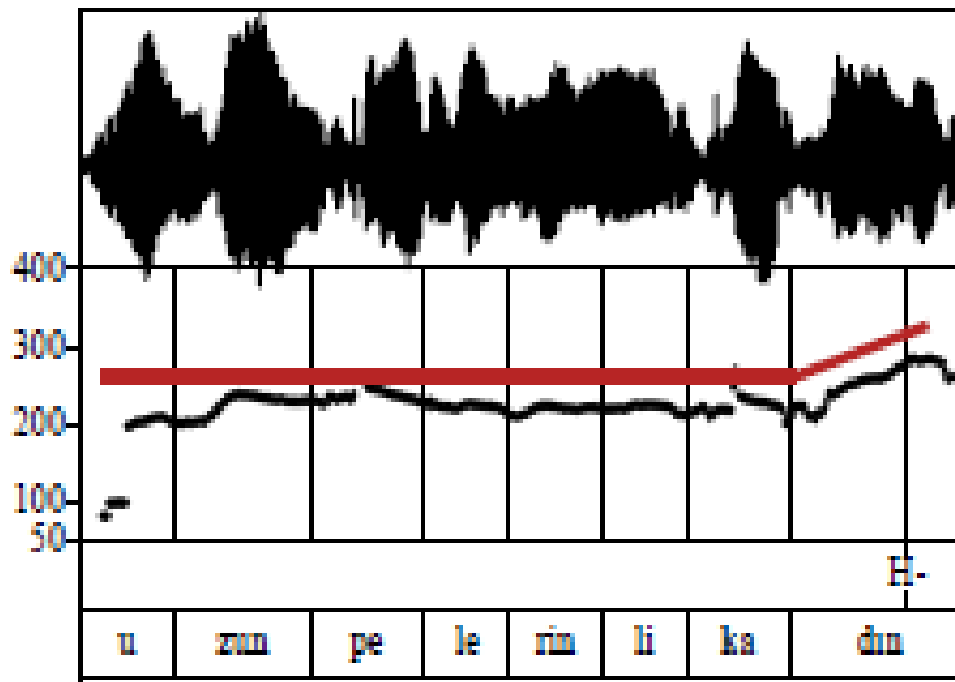
# Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

(18) *Subject NP, broad focus context* (Güneş 2020a)

[[<sub>NP</sub> [<sub>AP</sub> uzun] [<sub>N</sub> pelerinli]] [<sub>N</sub> kadın]]

long caped woman

c. ((UZUN PELERLİ KADIN)<sub>ω</sub>)<sub>φ</sub>



# Bonus: Syntax-prosody mismatches in TVDs

- Why not (19a or b)?

(19)	[Gel-ecek]	[-i-di]	[-y-se-ler]	morphosyntax
a.	* (Gel-ecek-i-Dİ ) <sub>ω</sub>		(-y-se-ler) <sub>ω</sub>	prosody
b.	* (Gel-ecek-i-di		-y-se-LER) <sub>ω</sub>	
	come-FUT	-COP-PST	-COP-COND-3PL	
	'if it were the case that they would come.'			

Göksel (2010) lexical specification account: copula refuses to bear nuclear stress.

BUT: (20) A: Öğrenci misiniz?

'Are you a student.'

B: (i-Dİ-M. )<sub>ω</sub>

COP-PAST-1SG

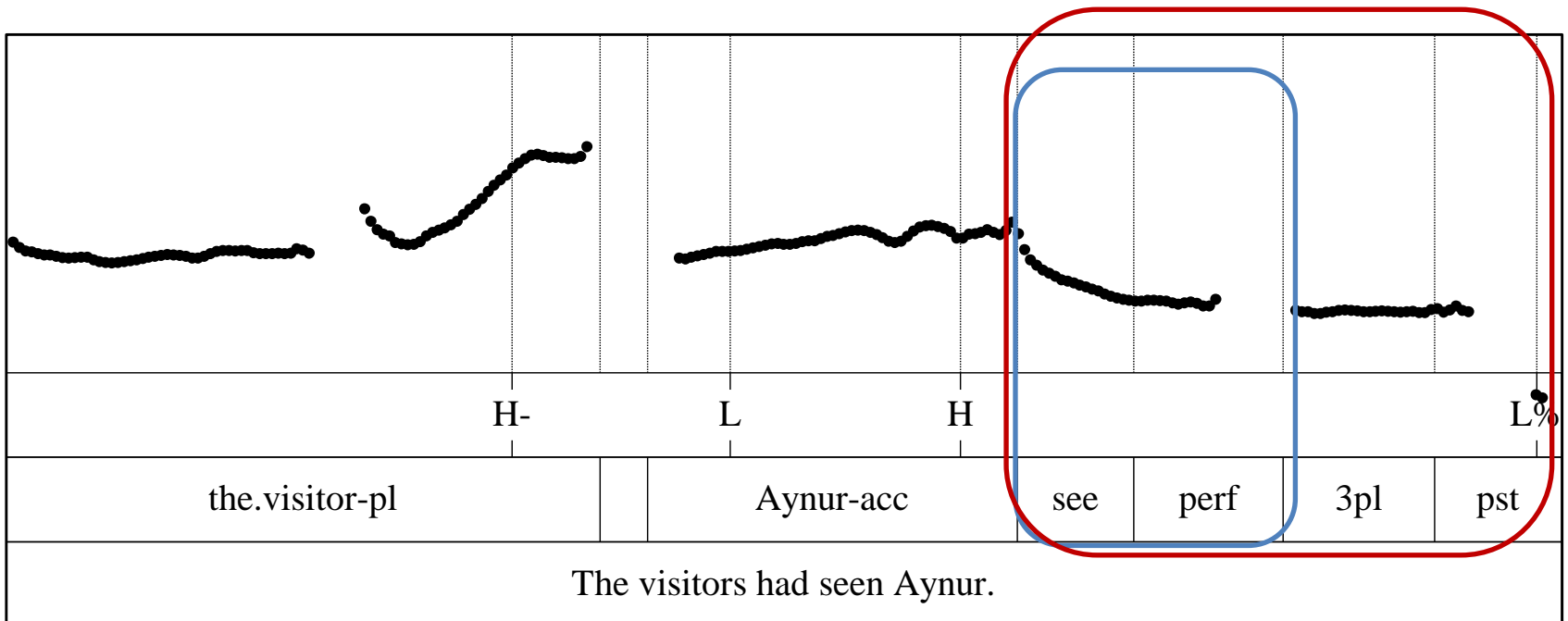
'I was.'

Nuclear Prominence on the deepest constituent:

The nuclear-<sub>ω</sub> corresponds to the syntactically deepest M-word in TVDs, which conforms to Cinque's (1993) nuclear stress assignment rule, Stress Deepest.

# M-word $\neq$ prosodic word

The participle form in the verbal complex does not correspond to a prosodic word/head when unfocused.



# Head movement versus lowering

- **The timing of the agreement**
- The parser applies either before or after the agreement shows up
- Case and agreement on the nominal spine do **not** show the same optional parsing that we observe on verbs.

(20) (Okul-u)      vs.      \* (Okul)u  
school-ACC      school-ACC  
'the school'      'the school'

(21) (Sev-en-ler-imiz)      vs.      \* (Sev-en-ler)imiz  
love-REL-PL-1POSS      love-REL-PL-1POSS  
'those who love us'      'those who love us'

# TVD and its morphological make-up

“Medial” prominence placement on TVDs is a well-studied phenomenon of Turkish.

(Sebüktekin 1984, van der Hulst & van de Weijer 1991, Kornfilt 1996, Kabak & Vogel 2001, Inkelas & Orgun 2003, Göksel 2010, among many others).

Medial prominence (hence split  $\omega$ -formation) is observed in TVDs with particular morphemes (*‘prestressing morphemes’* Göksel & Kerlake 2005).

e.g.:	-Epistemic copula	(-DIr),
	-Copula	(-y, i, $\emptyset$ )
	-Conditional marker	(-(y)sA)
	-Polar question particle	(-ml)
	...	

# Splitting the TVD in prosody

(23) A: Had the visitors seen Bill?

B:  $[((\text{gör-müş})_{\omega\text{-NP}} (-\text{ler-}\emptyset\text{-di})_{\omega})_{\varphi}]_{\text{L-F}}$

see-PERF                      -3PL-COP-PAST

Lit: 'Had seen.'

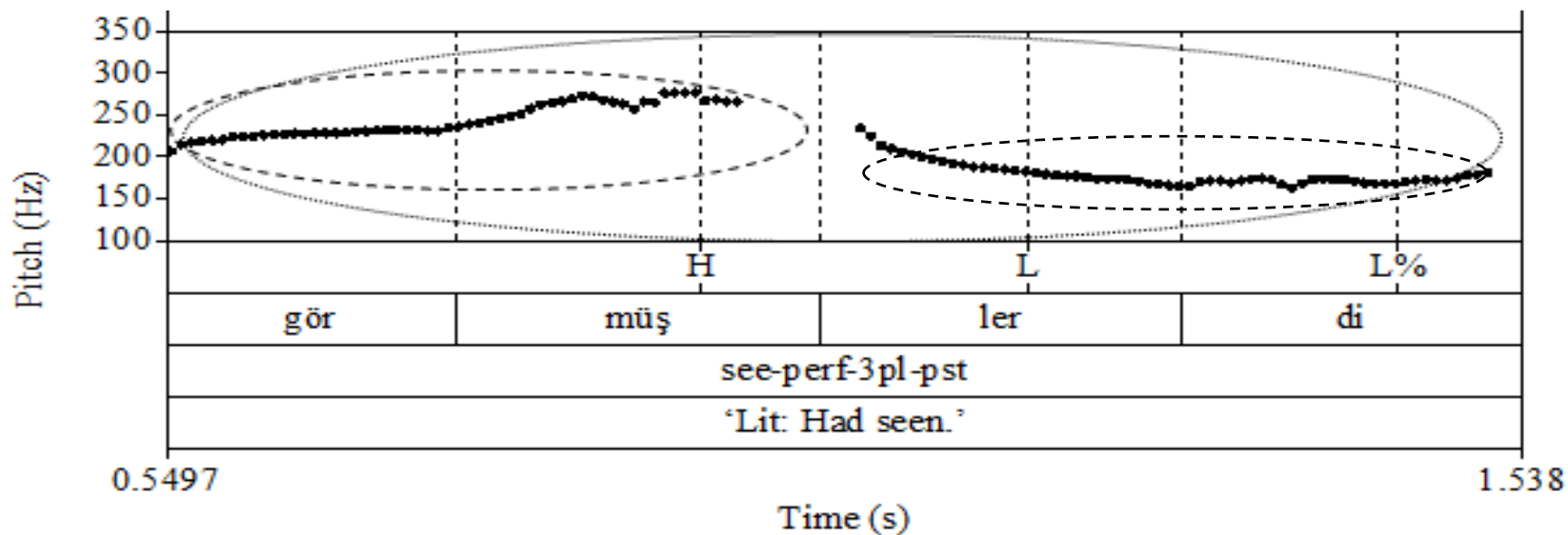


Figure 2. F0 of an elliptical declarative clause in verb-new context (SÖV<sub>F</sub>)