

# **Parameters of Microvariation in the Clausal Domain: A Pan-Romance View**

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# 1. Introduction: Parameters and (Micro)Variation

- Dimensions of (micro)variation lie in properties of individual functional heads (Ledgeway & Roberts 2017)
- Build on insights of the Borer-Chomsky Conjecture (cf. Baker 2008:353)
  - locus of parametric variation in (functional) lexicon (e.g., D, T,  $\nu$ , C, Neg)
  - (PF-)lexicalization of features of individual functional heads (Borer 1984; Chomsky 1995)

# 1. Introduction: Parameters and (Micro)Variation

- Role of comparative syntax: powerful tool to understand how and why languages vary (Ledgeway in press)
  - highly homogeneous grammars from single family: linguistic differences otherwise quite minimal ⇒ pinpoint what precisely may vary and linguistic mechanisms and processes involved
  - microvariation read both ‘horizontally’ (⇒ synchronic variation through space) and ‘vertically’ (⇒ different stages of diachronic variation through time), bridging often unhelpful division between synchronic and diachronic approaches

# 1. Introduction: Parameters and (Micro)Variation

- Aims of talk:

- Key examples of morphosyntactic variation in clausal domain from Romance family
- Derive differences from independent distinctions in functional heads of sentential core: T–*v*



- Phenomena not previously considered to be related follow from single parametric choice
- Feature values not set in isolation: parameters = interrelated network of implicational relationships

# 1. Introduction: Parameters and (Micro)Variation

- Draw typological distinction between northern and southern Romance (La Fauci 1994; 1997; Zamboni 1998; 2000; Ledgeway 2012:ch.7)

(i) **Northern România:**

French (*langue d'oil* varieties)  
Occitan, Gascon (*langue d'oc* varieties)  
Francoprovençal varieties  
Raeto-Romance varieties  
Northern Italian dialects (NIDs)  
Italian-Tuscan

(ii) **Southern România:**

Central-Southern Italian dialects (C/SIDs)  
Ibero-Romance: Galician, Portuguese, Spanish, Catalan  
†Dalmatian  
Daco-Romance: Romanian, Istro-Romanian, Aromanian, Megleno-Romanian

## 2. Verb-Movement (V-Mvt)

- Ability of T to attract V

i) North: V probed by T  $\Rightarrow$  V moves to HAS: **V+Adv:** (2a-b)

ii) South: V not probed by T, but remains in  $vP \Rightarrow$  V moves to LAS: **Adv+V:** (2c-d)

	[TP	High Adv	Low Adv [vP	[VP	V...	]]]
(2) a	Il <u>connaît</u>	<b>peut-être</b> * <u>connaît</u>	déjà	* <u>connaît</u>	la	recette(Fr.)
b	Lui * <u>conosce</u>	<b>forse</b>	già	? <u>conosce</u>	la	ricetta (It.)
c	El * <u>știe</u>	<b>poate</b>	deja	<u>știe</u>	rețeta	(Ro.)
d	Él * <u>conozca</u>	<b>tal vez</b>	ya	<u>conozca</u>	la	receta (Sp.)
	he know.3SG perhaps	know.3SG	already	know.3SG	the recipe(.DEF)	
	'Perhaps he already knows the recipe.'					

(Ledgeway 2009; 2012; 2020a; 2022; Ledgeway & Lombardi 2005; 2014; Schifano 2015; 2018; Ledgeway & Schifano 2022:§21.2.3; 2023; Costea & Ledgeway 2024)

## 2. Verb-Movement

- More examples of high V-mvt languages:

(3) I n' vinrè probâbe nin dusc-à volà. (La Gleize, Wallon)  
he NEG come.FUT.3SG probably NEG as.far.as here  
'He probably won't come as far as here.'

(4) Carlamuso se met vite lou mourre d' ourse. (Provençal Occ.)  
Carlamuso REFL= put.3SG quickly the muzzle of bear  
'Carlamuso quickly puts on the bear's muzzle.'

(5) La sua miè la cuzina minga el risot. (Milanese)  
the his wife SCL.FSG cook.3SG NEG the risotto  
'His wife doesn't cook the risotto.'

## 2. Verb-Movement

- More examples of low V-mvt languages:

(6) Sa mujjeri **mancu** i cucina, i vrùcculi. (Mussomeli, Sicily)  
his wife NEG them= cook.3SG the broccoli  
'His wife doesn't cook broccoli.'

(7) Maria **encara** recorda aquell dia. (Valencian Cat.)  
Maria still remember.3SG that day  
'Maria still remembers that day.'

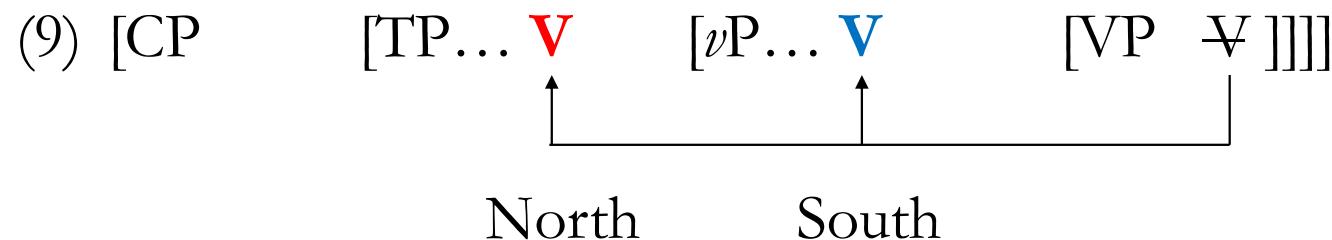
(8) O convidado **já** comeu. (EuPt.)  
the guest already eat.PFV.PST.3SG  
'The guest has already eaten/already ate.'

## 2. Verb-Movement

- Summary:

➤ Northern Romance varieties: V moves high to T

➤ Southern Romance varieties: V remains low in *v*



### 3. T-Domain

#### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- Overt reflexes of V-to-C Mvt (Poletto & Tortora 2016:779-81):
  - (simple/complex) verb-subject inversion  
(cf. Eng. *You can go* > ***Can you can go?***)
  - complementary distribution of verb and complementizers  
(cf. Eng. ***If he were here/Were he were here...***)

### **3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)**

- Constrained V-to-C Mvt = synchronic residue of medieval generalized V2 (cf. Rizzi & Roberts 1989; Rizzi 1990; Ledgeway 2015; 2020b; Wolfe 2018)
- V-to-C Mvt licensed in restricted set of non-veridical polarity contexts tied to specific illocutionary forces:
  - i) Interrogative
  - ii) Exclamative
  - iii) Optative
  - iv) Exhortative/Jussive
  - v) Concessive
  - vi) Hypothetical
  - vii) Disjunctive...

### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- Widespread in northern Romance:

(Cf. Poletto 2000:chs 3,5; Munaro 2004; 2010; Manzini & Savoia 2005,I:384-87;  
Benincà, Parry & Pescarini 2016:200)

- (10) a **Vient-elle?** (Fr.; interrogative)  
come.3SG=she  
'Is she coming?'
- b **Puisse-t-elle réussir!** (Fr.; optative)  
may.PRS.SBJV.3SG=she succeed.INF  
'May she succeed!'
- c **Est-elle intelligente!** (Fr.; exclamative)  
be.3SG=she intelligent  
'How intelligent she is!'

### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- (11) a **Ven-lo** stasèira teu pari? (Rueglio, Piedmont; interrogative)  
come.3SG=SCL.3MSG this.evening your father  
'Is your father coming this evening?'
- b **Fusse-lo** rivà! (Scorzè, Veneto; optative)  
be.PST.SBJV.3SG=he arrived  
'I wish he had come!'
- c **Telefonasse-lo** almanco! (Padua; jussive/exhortative)  
telephone.PST.SBJV.3SG=SCL.3MSG at.least  
'He should at least ring!'

- (12) a **Sedi-al** puar o **sedi-al** sior (Friulian; disjunctive)  
be.PRS.SBJV.3SG=SCL.3MSG poor or be.PRS.SBJV.3SG=SCL.3MSG rich  
'Whether he's poor or rich'
- b **'rue-l** la 'mama? (Fassano, Ladin; interrogative)  
arrive.3SG=SCL.3SG the mother  
'Is the mother arriving?'

### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- Absence in southern Romance:

- (13) a      **Ca**      venanu? (Cosenza, Calabria.; interrogative)  
          that    come.3PL  
          ‘Are they coming?’
- b      **Ca**      su      bbieddri! (Cosenza, Calabria.; exclamative)  
          that    be.3PL handsome  
          ‘How beautiful they are!’
- c      **Chi**      vò      scattà! (Cosenza, Calabria.; optative)  
          that    want.2SG    burst.INF  
          ‘May you keel over!’

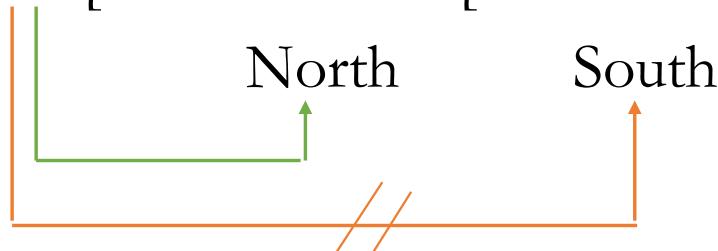
### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- (14) a      **Que** la      preparin                        ells! (Cat.; jussive)  
          that it=    prepare.PRS.SBJV.3PL they!  
          ‘Let them prepare it!’
- b      **Oxalá** não venha                                amanhã! (Pt.; optative)  
          OPT.PRT NEG come.PRS.SBJV.3SG                tomorrow  
          ‘I wish (s)he wouldn’t come tomorrow!’
- c      ¡Cuán      rápido **que** habla      Bruno! (Sp.; exclamative)  
          how.much quick that speak.3SG Bruno  
          ‘How quickly Bruno speaks!’
- e      Fiecare **să**      aleagă                                o carte! (Ro.; jussive/exhortative)  
          each      IRR.PRT choose.SBJV.3SG a book  
          ‘Let/May everyone choose a book!’

### 3.1 V-to-C Movement (V-to-C Mvt)

- Availability of V-(to-T-)C mvt (= residual V2): ability of T to probe V
  - V in T-domain visible to probing C° head
  - V in  $\nu$ -domain not visible to probing C° head (cf. inversion in history of English; Biberauer & Roberts 2012; 2017)

(15) [CP C° [TP... V # [νP... V [VP V]]]] (# = phase boundary)



## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

- Negation in Romance: evidence for Jespersen's Cycle (cf. Willis, Lucas & Breitbarth 2013)

(cf. also Zanuttini 1997; Parry 1997; 2013; Manzini & Savoia 2005, III: 127-55; Poletto 2008; 2016a,b; Garzonio & Poletto 2009; 2018)

(i) Preverbal / Stage I: It., CIDs/SIDs, north-eastern  
It. dialects, Ligurian, eastern Romansh, Cat., EuPt, Sp, Ro.

- (16) a **Nu**    ïnt̪eleg. (Ro.)  
NEG understand.1SG  
'I don't understand.'

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

(ii) Discontinuous / Stage II: many NIDs, standard  
(written/formal) French, Gascon

(16) b A **n** dorum **briza.** (Modena)

SCL NEG sleep.1SG NEG

‘I won’t sleep.’

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

(iii) Postverbal / Stage III: many north-western Italian dialects, western/central Romansh, spoken French, Occitan, Aragonese, northern Catalan dialects

- (16) c Elle viendra                    **pas.** (spoken Fr.)  
she come.FUT.3SG NEG  
'She won't come.'

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

- Linking postverbal negators & verb movement (cf. Ledgeway & Schifano 2023):
  - i) Preverbal negators (Stage I): varieties low or high V-Mvt
  - ii) Non-emphatic postverbal negators (Stages II-III): varieties with high V-Mvt

Table 1: Verb-movement & negation typologies (from Ledgeway & Schifano 2023)

Negation V-movement	Stage I	Stages II-III
High	northern regional Italian, NIDs (e.g. Teolese)	French, Occitan, Gascon, W/C Rmsh, Arag. NCat., northern regional Italian, NIDs (e.g. Milanese)
Low	European Portuguese, southern regional Italian, SIDs, Romanian, Spanish, Catalan	*

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

17 If a variety is at Stages II-III, it necessarily exhibits high verb-movement.

- Conclusion:

- Postverbal negator licensed by V raising through its associated head
- Jespersen's Cycle tied to height of V-mvt

(18) a [TP... NEG [NegP [\***NEG**] [vP... V [VP V]]]] (Stage I)



b [TP... NEG V [NegP [**NEG**] V [vP... V [VP V]]]] (Stages II-III)



## **3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III**

- Diachronic predictions (cf. Ledgeway and Schifano 2023)
  - (i) earlier Stage I negation phases compatible with low V-mvt
  - (ii) no early Stage II-III varieties with low V-mvt
- Predictions tested and confirmed against selection of early Romance texts:
  - French, Occitan, Francoprovençal, Bolognese, Milanese, Pavese
  - Examination of embedded clauses (root clauses = V2)

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

- Evidence from old French:

➤ *La Mort le Roi Artu* (1274)

(19) a Sacie kil **ne** ceuauce fors ke de nuit (152a)

know.SBJV.2PL that=he NEG ride.3SG except that of night

‘Take note that he only rides at night’

b sil **onques** le pensa (151b)

if.he ever it.ACC= think.PFV.PST.3SG

‘if he ever thought of it’

## 3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III

➤ *Le Second Sermont* (1555)

- (20) a les Papistes [...], lesquels **ne** se peuuēt tenir à ceste doctrine (C4r)  
the papists who NEG REFL= can.3PL hold.INF to this doctrine  
'the Papists [...] who are unable to hold themselves to this doctrine'
- b la porte nous est close, tellement que nous **ne** pouuons **pas** venir pour  
the door us= be.3SG closed so.much that we NEG can.1PL NEG come.INF for  
le prier. (C8r)  
him= pray.INF  
'the door is closed to us, such that we cannot come to pray to him.'
- c pource qu' ils imaginoyēt que Dieu cōtinuast **tousiours**  
for.this that they imagine.IPFV.PST.3PL that God continue.PST.SBJV.3SG always  
ce train (D2r)  
this course  
'because they imagined that God would always continue along this course'

## **3.2 Postverbal Negation: Jespersen's Stages II-III**

- Conclusion:

Strong empirical correlation between V-movement and Stages II-III of Jespersen's Cycle in Romance

### 3.3 Subject Clitics

- Distribution of subject clitics (cf. Poletto 2000; Manzini & Savoia 2005,I; Poletto & Tortora 2016):
  - Northern Romance: Fr., NOcc., Rae-R., NIDs & NTsc.
  - Southern Romance: absent

### 3.3 Subject Clitics

Table 2: Subject clitics and null subject parameter SLEEP/SPEAK (cf. Roberts 2010)

Florentine scl [+agr] V [+agr] redundant pro-drop	French scl [+agr] V [-agr] non-pro-drop	Como scl [-agr] V [+agr] partly redund. pro-drop	Carrara scl [-agr] V [-agr] complementary pro-drop	Catalan V [+agr]	Naples V [-agr]
(e) dormo	je dors /dɔʁ/	'dormi	a 'dɔrmə	parlo	'parlə
tu dormi	tu dors /dɔʁ/	ta 'dormat	t 'dɔrmə	parles	'parlə
e/la dorme	il/elle dort /dɔʁ/	al/la 'dorma	i/al 'dɔrmə	parla	'parlə
si dorme	nous dormons	dor'mum	a dur'min	parlem	par'lammə
vu dormite	vous dormez	dor'muf	dur'mit	parleu	par'latə
e/le dormano	ils/elles dorment	'dorman	i/al 'dɔrmənə	parlen	'parlənə

### 3.3 Subject Clitics

- Related to T movement? Strong/weak D-feature (= phi-features) on T
  - Conclusion:
    - (i) T-head in northern Romance carries strong V and D features
    - (ii) T-head in southern Romance carries weak V and D features
- (21) a [TP... T [+V, +D] [vP... [VP V]]] (northern Romance)
- b [TP... T [-V,-D] [vP... [VP V]]] (southern Romance)

## 3.4 Active-Stative Auxiliary Selection

- Perfective auxiliary selection (cf. Manzini & Savoia 2005, II-III; Ledgeway 2012:ch. 7; 2019; Loporcaro 2016):
  - North: active-stative split: A/S<sub>A</sub> (⇒ HAVE) vs S<sub>O</sub> (⇒ BE)

- (22) a **Avètz** fach bon viatge? (Lengadocien Occ.)  
have.2PL made good trip  
'Did you have a good journey?'
- b **Soi** vengut amb los amics. (Lengadocien Occ.)  
be.1SG come with the friends  
'I have come with friends.'

## 3.4 Active-Stative Auxiliary Selection

➤ North: active-stative split: A/S<sub>A</sub> (⇒ HAVE) vs S<sub>O</sub> (⇒ BE)

- (23) a **a'on** ve'du de bie 'fjores. (Fassano, Rae-R.)  
have.1PL seen of beautiful flowers  
'We have seen some beautiful flowers.'

- b se no te **'foſes** ve'ju da me... (Fassano, Rae-R.)  
if NEG you be.IPFV.SBJV.2SG come by me  
'If you hadn't come to me...'

## 3.4 Active-Stative Auxiliary Selection

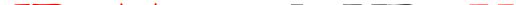
➤ South:

- (i) generalization of single auxiliary (24a-b)
- (ii) person split: [ $\pm$ discourse participants] (24c)

- (24) a **He** /**Has** /**Ha** comido/ venido. (Sp.)  
have.1SG have.2SG have.3SG eaten come
- b **sɔŋgə/si** /**ɛ** maj'nɛ:tə/mə'nu:tə. (Pescocostanzo, Molise)  
be.1SG be.2SG be.3SG eaten come
- c **So** / **Si** / **A** magnate / minute. (Arielli, eastern Abruzzo)  
be.1SG be.2SG have.3 eaten come  
'I have/you have/(s)he has eaten/come.'

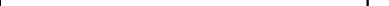
## 3.4 Active-Stative Auxiliary Selection

- Structural condition on auxiliary selection: (cf. Perlmutter 1978; Burzio 1986):
   
 $\Rightarrow$  Auxiliary BE selected whenever (Spec)T indexed with V,(DP)

(25) [TP **NP** T... [ $\nu$ -VP V **NP**]]  


- (Auxiliary) verbs raise to T in North  $\Rightarrow$  hence sensitive to A/S<sub>A</sub> vs S<sub>O</sub> distinction (cf. PIC)

(26) [TP NP V<sub>Aux</sub>... [v-VP ~~V~~<sub>Aux</sub> (~~NP~~)]] (northern Romance)



## 4. $v$ -Domain

### 4.1 Auxiliary Selection

- Southern Romance: (auxiliary) verbs don't raise to T (cf. PIC)  $\Rightarrow$ 
  - i) No active-stative effects on Aux: T and V not co-indexed (cf. 24a-c)
  - ii) Aux in  $v$  sensitive to subject features in Spec $v$ P (24c; cf. D'Alessandro & Roberts 2010)

(27) [TP ... [ $v$ P [SUBJ]  $v_{\text{Aux}}$  [VP V<sub>PtP</sub> ( $\Theta$ BJ) ]]]  


## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- Active-stative participle agreement (Rohlf 1969:116; Smith 1991; Loporcaro 1998:64-78; 2016:§49.2.3; Manzini & Savoia 2005, II:§5.1 )
  - North: restricted to (raised) unaccusative subjects ( $S_O$ ) and raised clitic objects ( $O_{CL}$ )

- (28) a      Tina    è      **caduta/\*-o**    [Tina]. (It.)  
Tina.F be.3SG fall.FSG/MSG Tina.F  
'Tina has fallen.'
- b      Ho      **perso/\*-a**    la      bicicletta. (It.)  
have.1SG lost.MSG/FSG the.FSG bicycle.F  
'I've lost my bike.'
- c      L'      ho      \***persa/\*-o**    [la].  
it= have.1SG lost.FSG/MSG it.FSG  
'I've lost it.'

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

➤ South: preserved with (raised) unaccusative subjects ( $S_O$ ) & *in situ* objects ( $O_{(CL)}$ )

- (29) a Li tre su già **ssuti/-\*u** [hi—tre]. (Scorrano, Lecce)  
the.MPL three be.3PL already exited.MPL/MSG the.MPL three  
'The three of them have gone out.'
- b Aggiu **nnutti/\*-u** ddo pani. (Scorrano, Lecce)  
have.1SG brought.MPL/MSG two loaves.M  
'I've brought two loaves of bread.'
- c L' aggiu **nutti/\*-u** [hi]. (Scorrano, Lecce)  
them= have.1SG brought.MPL/MSG them  
'I've brought them.'

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- (Participial) V-movement and the PIC (cf. Kayne 1989; D'Alessandro & Roberts 2008):
  - i) North: high, PtP can only probe nominals in higher phase (=  $S_O$ ,  $O_{CL}$ )
  - ii) South: low(er), PtP can probe *in situ* nominals in lower phase (raised  $S_O/O_{CL}$  pass through SpecPtP)

(30) a [TP ( $S_O/O_{CL}$ ) Aux +**PtP**...#[ $vP$  ~~PtP~~ [VP ~~PtP~~ **Obj**]]] (northern Romance)



b [TP ( $S_O/O_{CL}$ ) Aux ...      #[ $vP$  **PtP** [VP ~~PtP~~ **Obj**]]] (southern Romance)



## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- Apparent counterexamples:

➤ Romanian, Ibero-Romance: low V-mvt, but no active PtP Agr

(31)	Ieri	am	<b>mâncat(*e)</b>	merele.	(Ro.)
	yesterday	have.1SG	eaten.MSG(FPL)	apples.F.DEF.FPL	
‘Yesterday I ate the apples.’					

(32)	a	Había	<b>escrito(/*-a)</b>	la	<b>carta.</b> (Sp.)
	b	Havia	<b>escrit(*-a)</b>	la	<b>carta.</b> (Cat.)
	c	Tinha	<b>escrito(/*-a)</b>	a	<b>carta.</b> (Pt.)
have.IPFV.PST.3SG written.MSG(/FSG) the.FSG letter.					
‘S/he had written the letter.’					

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- Adjacency of Aux + PtP in Romanian and Ibero-Romance:
  - i) PtP raises to high position adjacent to Aux (cf. Schifano 2015, 2018)
  - ii) PtP placed outside of local Agr configuration with *in situ* Object

(33)	a Au	(* <b>mereu</b> )	<u>lucrat</u>	<b>mereu</b>	pământul.	(Ro.)
	b Han	(* <b>siempre</b> )	<u>trabajado</u>	<b>siempre</b>	la tierra.	(Sp.)
	c Han	(* <b>sempre</b> )	<u>treballat</u>	<b>sempre</b>	la terra.	(Cat.)
	d Têm	(* <b>sempre</b> )	<u>trabalhado</u>	<b>sempre</b>	a terra.	(Pt.)
		have.3PL	always	worked	always (the) land(.DEF)	
						‘They’ve always worked/been continuously working the land.’

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- French vs Occitan: high V-mvt  $\Rightarrow$  no *in situ* active PtP Agr

(34) a Avez-vous pris(\*es) des photos? (Fr)  
have.2PL=you taken.MSG of.the.PL photos.F

b Avètz presas de fotòs? (Lengadocien Occ.)  
have.2PL taken.FPL of photos.F  
‘Have you taken some photos?’

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- No strict adjacency of Aux + PtP (cf. 35):
  - i) PtP follows low VP-adverbs (cf. Cinque 1999)
  - ii) Occitan PtP remains within  $\nu$ -VP  $\Rightarrow$  in local configuration with *in situ* object

(35) a Avètz **plan** dormit? (Lgd. Occ.)

have.2PL well slept

‘Have you slept well?’

b Avèm **pas encara** enviadas de cartas postalas als amics. (Lgd. Occ.)

have.1PL not still sent.FPL of cards.F postal.FPL to.the friends

‘We’ve not yet sent our friends any post cards.’

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

- Conclusion: microvariation in setting of V-movement parameter

i) Consistent behaviour (mesoparameter):

- Italian, NIDs: all verbs raise to T (cf. 28a-c)
- SIDs: all verbs raise to  $\nu$  (cf. 29a-c)

ii) Inconsistent behaviour (microparameter; cf. Roberts 2019:409f.):

- Occitan: finite V  $\Rightarrow$  T vs non-finite (active) participial V  $\Rightarrow$   $\nu$
- Ro, Ibero-Ro.: finite V  $\Rightarrow$   $\nu$  vs non-finite (active) participial V  $\Rightarrow$  higher

## 4.2 Active Participle Agreement

iii) French:

- PtP follows low VP-adverbs (cf. 36), so low Mvt of active PtP but absence of *in situ* agreement (cf. 34a)

(36) Vous avez **bien** / **déjà** / **toujours** /**tant** **dormi**. (Fr.)  
you.2PL have.2PL well already always so.much slept  
'You've already/always slept well/so much.'

- Non-prescriptive French: loss/erosion of morphological rule (cf. Loporcaro 2010; 2016:806)

(34) a Avez-vous **pris** des photos? (Fr)  
have.2PL=you taken.MSG of.the.PL photos.F

## 4.3 Differential Object Marking (DOM)

- Distribution of DOM:

➤ North: no distinction btw different classes of in/animate specific direct objects

- (37) u minga vist **la tuza / la cros** (Milanese)  
have.1SG NEG seen the girl the cross  
'I didn't see the girl / the cross'

➤ South: distinction btw different classes of in/animate specific direct objects

- (38) Unn aju vist' **a ra guaglionà / (\*a r) a cruce.** (Calabrian)  
NEG have.1SG seen DOM the girl DOM the cross  
'I didn't see the girl / the cross.'

## 4.3 Differential Object Marking (DOM)

- DOM licensed by object shift to Spec $\nu$ P (Torrego 1998; Ledgeway 2000; 2022; Peverini-Benson 2004; Andriani 2011; 2015; López 2012; 2016; Cornilescu 2020; Tigău 2021)

(39) [TP... [ $\nu$ P [**DOM-Obj**] V [VP V Obj]]]



- Ability of D-feature on  $\nu$  to probe Obj-V,DP (structural acc.):
  - i) Not in North:  $\nu$  inert
  - ii) Only in South:  
⇒ internal variation for person, number, (pro)nominal, animacy, specificity

## 4.3 Differential Object Marking (DOM)

➤ 4 broad splits (Ledgeway 2018, 2022, 2023a,b,c):

- (40) a 'camenu **a** **m'mi** / **a** **t'ti** / (\***a**) **'issu**. (Borbona, Lazio; 1/2 vs 3 person split)  
call.3PL DOM me DOM you.SG DOM him  
'They call me/you/him.'
- b No **l'** escolten **a** **ella** / (\***a**) **la** **Maria**. (Cat.; pronominal/nominal split)  
NEG her=listen.3PL DOM her DOM the Maria  
'They're not listening to her/Maria.'
- c Amus vistu **a** **Juanne** / (\***a**) **sos** **sordatos**. (Sardinian; D-/DP-split)  
have.1PL seen DOM Gianni DOM the soldiers  
'We saw Gianni/the soldiers.'
- d Veo **a** **ti** / **a** **Juan/al** **abogado** / (\***a**) **la** **rata**. (Sp.; [±an., ±spec.] split)  
see.1SG DOM you DOM Juan DOM.the lawyer DOM the rat  
'I can see you/Juan/the lawyer/the rat.'

## 4.3 Differential Object Marking (DOM)

- Differential subject and object marking: implicational correlation btw distribution of SCLs and DOM
  - i) Strong V-feature on T  $\Rightarrow$  strong D-feature on T (= subject clitics)
  - ii) Strong V-feature on  $v$   $\Rightarrow$  strong D-feature on  $v$  (= DOM)  
(Cf. strong Head and Edge features on C in V2 varieties)

## 4.3 Differential Subject and Object Marking

- North: dedicated marking of subject via grammaticalization of dedicated preverbal SpecTP subject position
  - ⇒ Reversal in pro-drop in French, some (northern) Occitan varieties
  - ⇒ Spell-out of strong D-feature through (partial/complete) system of subject clitics in Fr., NIDs, Raeto-Romance, northern Occitan (cf. Table 2)
  - ⇒ SVO word order

- (41) a **Les enfants** buvaient                  du        lait. (Fr.)  
the children drink.IPFV.PST.3PL some milk  
‘The children were drinking some milk.’
- b **Madamo** fa        sa    touleto. (Occ.)  
Madame do.3SG her toilette  
‘Madame is getting ready.’

## 4.3 Differential Subject and Object Marking

- South: differential marking of (subset of) objects via grammaticalized pseudo-preposition (*a, ma/me, ana, pe*)
  - ⇒ Strong D-checking mechanism on *v* (= object shift?)
  - ⇒ V\$O word order (with assumption that preverbal subjects = clitic left-dislocated)

- (42) a A obținut **o prietenă de-a mea** o bursă. (Ro.)  
has obtained a friend of mine a grant  
'A friend of mine obtained a grant.'
- b Se comieron **los niños todo el pastel.** (Sp.)  
self= ate the children all the cake  
'The children ate the whole cake.'

## 4.3 Differential Subject and Object Marking

- Conclusion: complementary distribution of:
    - i) **SVO** and subject clitics: northern Romance (active T)
    - ii) **VSO** and DOM: southern Romance (active *v*)
- Cf. complementary distribution in Occitan varieties:
- ⇒ Subject clitics (and loss of pro-drop): northern varieties  
(Oliviéri & Sauzet 2016:338-40)
- ⇒ DOM: southern varieties (Rohlf 1971:320f.; Ledgeway 2022)

## 5. Summary & Conclusions

- Previously unconnected properties of clausal syntax
  - ⇒ fall out from parameter setting of T/ν
  - Value of studying comparative syntax ⇒ variation through space
  - Consequences for diachronic change ⇒ variation through time (cf. Ledgeway in press)
  - Morphosyntactically robust northern-southern Romance divide
- Summary: (i) T-head in northern Romance carries strong V and D features  
(ii) ν-head in southern Romance carries strong V and D features

(43) a [TP... T [+V, +D] [νP ν [−V, −D] [VP V ]]] (northern Romance)

b [TP... T [−V, −D] [νP ν [+V, +D] [VP V ]]] (southern Romance)

## 5. Summary & Conclusions

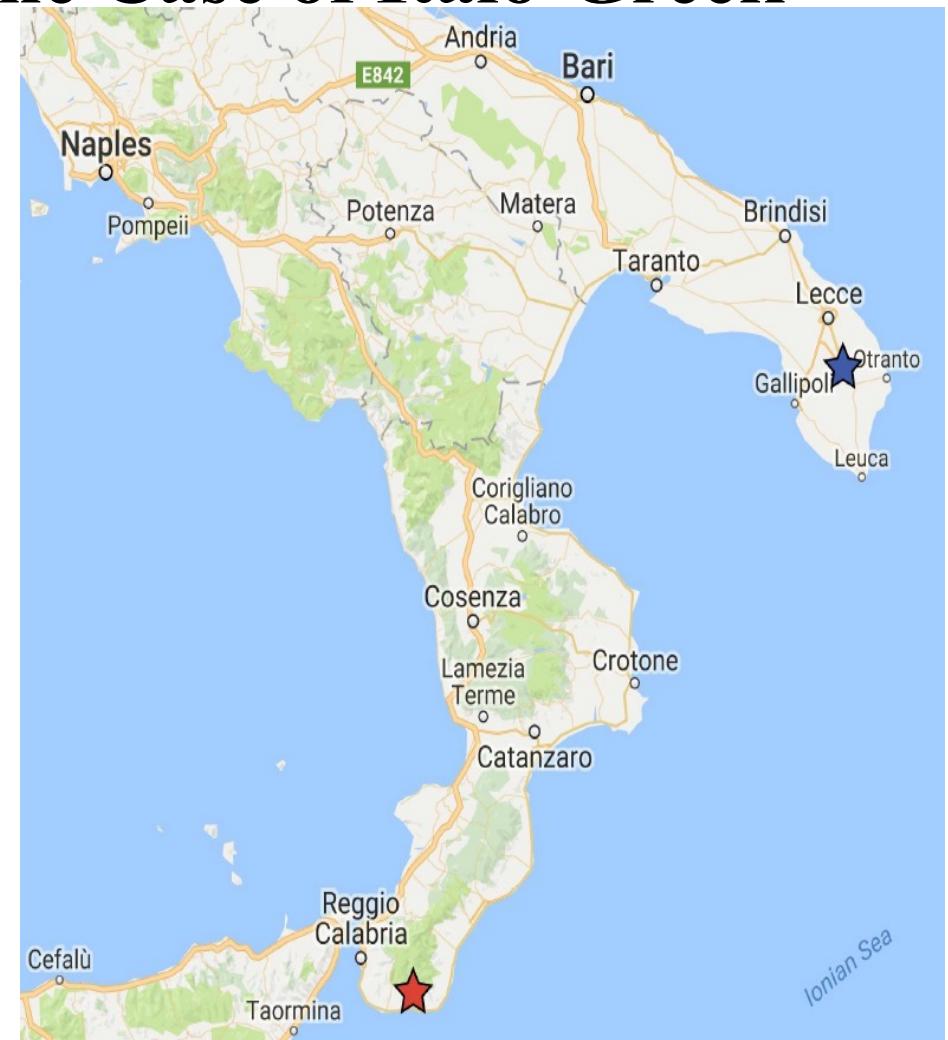
- Parameters don't operate in isolation:
- North: T probes V ⇒
  - i) Order V + Adv<sub>(HAS/)LAS</sub> (cf. 2a-b, 3-5)
  - ii) Non-veridical V-to-C mvt (i.e. verb-subject inversion, cf. 10-12)
  - iii) Stage II and III negation (cf. 16b-c)
  - iv) SCLs (Table 2)/Dedicated preverbal subject position (⇒ SVO, cf. 41a-b)
  - v) Active-stative perfective auxiliary selection (cf. 22-23)
  - vi) Absence of participle agreement with *in situ* objects (cf. 28b)

## 5. Summary & Conclusions

- South:  $v$  probes V  $\Rightarrow$ 
  - i) Order Adv<sub>HAS/LAS</sub> + V (cf. 2c-d, 6-8)
  - ii) Absence of V-to-C mvt (cf. 13-14)
  - iii) Stage I negation (cf. 16a)
  - iv) Generalized or person-driven perfective auxiliation (cf. 24a-c)
  - v) Active participle agreement with *in situ* objects (cf. 29b)
  - vi) DOM (38, 40, no dedicated preverbal subject position  $\Rightarrow$  VSO, cf. 42a-b)

## 5.1 Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Verb movement and language contact:
  - Leverhulme-funded project *Fading Voices in Southern Italy: Investigating Language Contact in Magna Graecia*  
(<https://greekromanceproject.wordpress.com>)
  - Southern Italo-Romance & Italo-Greek  
(Ledgeway, Schifano & Silvestri in prep.)
    - ⇒ Calabria: Calabrese + Greko
    - ⇒ Salento: Salentino + Griko



## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Modern Greek: high V-mvt to T (Rivero 1994; Rivero & Terzi 1995; Alexiadou & Anagnostopoulou 1998; Anagnostopoulou 2013)

- (44) a Dhen se íksera **akómi.** (SMG)  
NEG you.SG.ACC= know.IPFV.PST.1SG yet  
'I didn't know you yet.'
- b Klótsise **dhínata** ena pedhí mia bala. (SMG)  
kick.PFV.PST.3SG strongly a child a ball  
'A child kicked the ball hard.'

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Italo-Greek: low(er) V-mvt to *v* (Ledgeaway 2013)

- (45) a **Akomí** éxi pekkáti ya tsaforétsi. (Greko)  
still have.2SG sins for confess.INF  
'You still have sins to confess.'
- b O rígase **sírma** éstile kráddzonda ton Ěánni. (Greko)  
the king at.once send.PFV.PST.3SG call.N-FIN the Gianni  
'The king sent at once for Gianni.'
- c To checci **panta** o finni na diavi. (Griko)  
the small.one always it= let.2SG IRR.PRT pass.SBJV.3SG  
'He always lets the young child go by.'
- d I mana **già** to zzéri tutto ccunto. (Griko)  
the mother already it= know.3SG this story  
'Mum already knows this story.'

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Calabrese & Salentino: low V-mvt to  $\nu$

(46) a Gianni **mancu** / **sempi/amalappena** fumava. (Cal.)

Gianni not.even always hardly                    smoke.IPFV.PST.3SG

‘Gianni didn’t even smoke // Gianni always/hardly smoked.’

b L’ Anna **già** / **ncora/quasi** u sapìa. (Sal.)

the Anna already still    almost it= know.IPFV.PST.3SG

‘Anna already / still / almost knew.’

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Prediction: if Italo-Greek low(er) V-mvt grammar, then other properties expected to cluster

➤ Absence of V-to-C mvt

- (47) a **Ti** mènome ettù? (Griko; interrogative)  
that stay.1PL here  
'Shall we stay here?'
- b **Ti** ène magno o iglio! (Greko; exclamative)  
that be.3SG beautiful the sun  
'How beautiful the sun is!'
- c **Na** sói prandestí! (Greko; optative)  
IRR.PRT can.SBJV.3SG marry.INF.N-ACT  
'I wish (s)he could get married!'
- d **Pu na** se fai o diàvolo! (Griko; jussive)  
that IRR.PRT you.SG.ACC= eat.SBJV.3SG the devil  
'May the devil swallow you up!'

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

➤ Stage I negation

(48) a      **Den**    me        gapài. (Greko)

NEG    me.ACC= love.2SG

‘You don’t love me.’

b      **En’**    izzèro        ti        cami. (Griko)

NEG    know.1SG    what    do.INF

‘I don’t know what to do.’

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

➤ Generalized (cf. 49a) or person-driven (cf. 49b) perfective auxiliation

(49) a **Ime / Ise / Ene** grammēna / pāmena. (Calimera: BE)  
be.1SG be.2SG be.3SG write.N-FIN go.N-FIN

b **Ime / Ise / Ehi** grammēna/ ndevemmena. (Castrignano: BE (1/2) vs HAVE (3))  
be.1SG be.2SG have.3SG write.N-FIN exit.N-FIN  
'I/you/(s)he has written/gone (out).'

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- Active participle agreement with *in situ objects*: non-agreeing *-meno* > agreeing *-meno*

- (50) a      Tin      èxo      **pulimèni** (Greko)  
it.FSG= have.1SG   sell.N-FIN.FSG  
‘I’ve sold it.’
- b      Ìkhete      **grammeni**      cindi   kartolina. (Greko)  
have.PST.2PL   write.N-FIN.FSG   that.F   postcard.F  
‘You had written that postcard.’

## 5. Summary & Conclusions: The Case of Italo-Greek

- No DOM (morphological case system), but VSO (no dedicated preverbal subject position)

- (51) a      Éspaša            **egò** ton            dráko. (Greko)  
kill.PFV.PST.1SG I the.ACC dragon  
‘I killed the dragon.’
- b      Meràzane            **e**            **ladri**    poddà turnìscia. (Griko)  
divide.IPFV.PST.3PL the.NOM thieves many coins  
‘The thieves were sharing out lots of money.’

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- (Non)-uniform distribution of Head and Edge features and markedness

Table 3: (Non-)uniform distribution of H(ead) & E(dge) features on T and  $\nu$

Type	T H E	$\nu$ H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLs)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S,)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V +D	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIIt.	SVO(, SCLs), DOM
4	-V +D	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, SCLs, DOM
5	+V -D	-V +D	2	Gascon	VSO, DOM
6	-V +D	+V -D	2	Brazilian Portuguese	SVO

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- Type 3: DOM in North

Type	T H E	v H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLs)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S,)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V <b>+D</b>	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NI.	SVO(, SCLs), <b>DOM</b>
4	-V +D	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, SCLs, DOM
5	+V -D	-V +D	2	Gascon	VSO, DOM
6	-V +D	+V -D	2	Brazilian Portuguese	SVO

➤ Diatopic distribution:

- (regional) French (esp. south – cf. contact?): (52a)
- Gascon / southern Occitan: (52b-c)
- (northern) Italian, some northern Italian dialects (cf. contact?): (52d-e)
- Romansh: (52f)

➤ Structural distribution at incipient stages (cf. Rohlf 1971:324; Fagard & Mardale 2014:§§4.2-3; Singh 2019; in prep.; Ledgeway 2022, in press a)

⇒ heads rather than phrasal categories (viz. pronouns)

⇒ peripheral positions (C1LD, C1RD, focus) rather than *in situ*

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- (52) a On        doit        pas    te        voir        à        **toi**. (Fr., Aquitaine)  
one        must.3SG    NEG    you.SG= see.INF    DOM    you.SG  
'We don't have to see you.'
- b **Ena    ero**,    se        l'        ai        visto? (Gsc., Ustou)  
DOM    her        INT    her=    have.2SG    seen  
'Have you seen her?'
- c Vos saludi    **a    totes** /Me'n vau    quèrre    (\***a**)    **lo    medecin**. (Lgd. Occ.)  
you=greet.1SG    DOM    all        leave.1SG    search.INF    DOM    the    doctor  
'I greet you all / I'm going to fetch the doctor.'
- d **A    me**, mi    hanno    invitato / Hanno    invitato (\***a**)    **me**. (NIt.)  
DOM    me    me= have.3PL    invited    have.3PL    invited    DOM    me  
'As for me, they invited me / They invited me.'
- e **a    'mi / 'ti    / \*ly**    a        m / t        / l        'famən. (Viguzzolo, Pie.)  
DOM    me    you.SG    him    SCL=    me= you.SG=    him= call.3PL  
'They'll call me/you/him.'
- f **A    tai**    vögl        eu        spusar. (Rsh.)  
DOM    you        want.1SG    I        marry.INF  
'I want to marry YOU'

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- Type 3: DOM in North

Type	T H E	<i>v</i> H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLS)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V <b>+D</b>	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIIt.	SVO(, SCLS), <b>DOM</b>
4	-V +D	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, SCLS, DOM
5	+V -D	-V +D	2	Gascon	VSO, DOM
6	-V +D	+V -D	2	Brazilian Portuguese	SVO

- D-feature on *v*:

- automatically associated ‘for free’ in V-to-*v* Mvt varieties (Types 2, 4)
- selected as marked option in V-to-T Mvt varieties (Type 3; cf. 52a-f)
  - ⇒ role of exogenous factors
    - Gascon/southern Occitan on southwestern regional French
    - Southern Italo-Romance on northern Italian and standard Italian

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- Type 4: Hybrid case of Triestino

Type	T H E	v H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLs)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V +D	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIIt.	SVO(, SCLs), DOM
4	-V <b>+D</b>	+V +D	1	Triestino	<b>SVO, SCLs</b> , DOM
5	+V -D	-V +D	2	Gascon	VSO, DOM
6	-V +D	+V -D	2	Brazilian Portuguese	SVO

- i) Subject clitics
- ii) Low V-mvt & Cl Adv interpolation (Paoli 2008; cf. Ledgeway & Lombardi 2005)
- iii) Stage I negation
- iv) DOM of 1<sup>st</sup>/2<sup>nd</sup> person pronouns (Rohlf 1969:8, 1971:314 n.1, 331)

(53) a **I** se ncora lava col cadin. (Trs.)

SCL.3PL self= still wash.3 with.the bowl

‘They still wash using a bowl.’

b **No** stéme lassar fora a mi! (Trs.)

NEG stand.IMP.2PL=me leave.INF outside DOM me

‘Don’t leave me outside!’

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- Triestino as halfway case between North and South (cf. Slovene contact):
  - T: [−V, +D] (cf. North) ⇒ SVO, SCLs (cf. 53a-b)
  - $\nu$ : [+V, +D] (cf. South) ⇒ low V-mvt, Stage I Neg, DOM (cf. 53a-b)
- ⇒ Non-uniform mapping/association between Head and Edge features

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (time permitting!)

- Type 5: Gascon

Type	T H E	<i>v</i> H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLS)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S,)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V +D	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIIt.	SVO(, SCLS), DOM
4	-V +D	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, SCLS, DOM
5	+V <b>-D</b>	-V <b>+D</b>	2	Gascon	<b>VSO, DOM</b>
6	-V +D	+V -D	2	Brazilian Portuguese	SVO

- Gascon (Bouzet 1963:35f.; Ledgeway 2020b:83f.; cf. role of contact with Basque):

- T : [+V, **-D**] (marked edge feature) ⇒ VSO (54a; **S(que)VO** = left-peripheral)
- *v* : [-V, **+D**] (marked edge feature) ⇒ DOM (54b)

- 54 a Qu' a hèyt **tou** **pay** ua bestiessa. (Gsc., Béarn)  
*que* have.3SG done your father a stupidity  
 ‘Your father did a silly thing.’
- b Qu' ha bist **a** **Pyrot**. (Gsc., Barèges)  
*que* have.3SG seen DOM Pierrot  
 ‘He has seen Pierrot.’

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (time permitting!)

- Type 6: Brazilian Portuguese

Type	T H E	<i>v</i> H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLS)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S,)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V +D	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIt.	SVO(, SCLS), DOM
4	-V +D	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, SCLS, DOM
5	+V -D	-V +D	2	Gascon	VSO, DOM
6	-V <b>+D</b>	+V <b>-D</b>	2	Brazilian Portuguese	<b>SVO</b>

- Brazilian Portuguese (Dubert & Galves 2016:427-30; cf. role of contact from indigenous languages)
  - T : [-V, **+D**] (marked edge feature) ⇒ **SVO** (55a; Duarte & Figueiredo Silva 2016:§3)
  - *v* : [+V, **-D**] (marked edge feature) ⇒ **no DOM** (55b; Thomas 1969:256; Teyssier 1984:97)

55 a **João** chegou /Chegou **o João.** (BrPt./EuPt.)  
 João arrive.PST.PFV.3SG arrive.PST.PFV.3SG the João  
 ‘João has arrived.’ (= thetic sentence)

b Conheço **ele** / **a ele.** (BrPt./EuPt.)  
 know.1SG him DOM him  
 ‘I know him.’

## 6. A Final Note on Head and Edge Features (Time permitting!)

- Role of contact in Types 3-6

⇒ non-uniform distribution of Head and Edge features & markedness

Type	T H E	<i>v</i> H E	Marked E[F]	Variety	Surface Edge Features
1	+V +D	-V -D	0	Northern Romance	SVO(, SCLs)
2	-V -D	+V +D	0	Southern Romance	(S,)VSO, DOM
3	+V +D	-V <b>+D</b>	1	reg. Fr., SOcc., NIDs, Rsh, NIIt.	SVO(, SCLs), <b>DOM</b>
4	-V <b>+D</b>	+V +D	1	Triestino	SVO, <b>SCLs</b> , DOM
5	+V <b>-D</b>	-V <b>+D</b>	2	Gascon	<b>VSO</b> , <b>DOM</b>
6	-V <b>+D</b>	+V <b>-D</b>	2	Brazilian Portuguese	<b>SVO</b>

# Thank You!

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