

**PROBLEMS IN ADJUNCT CARTOGRAPHY:
A CASE STUDY**

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**FACULTY OF LANGUAGES AND LINGUISTICS
UNIVERSITY OF MALAYA
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**PROBLEMS IN ADJUNCT CARTOGRAPHY:
A CASE STUDY**

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ORIGINAL LITERARY WORK DECLARATION

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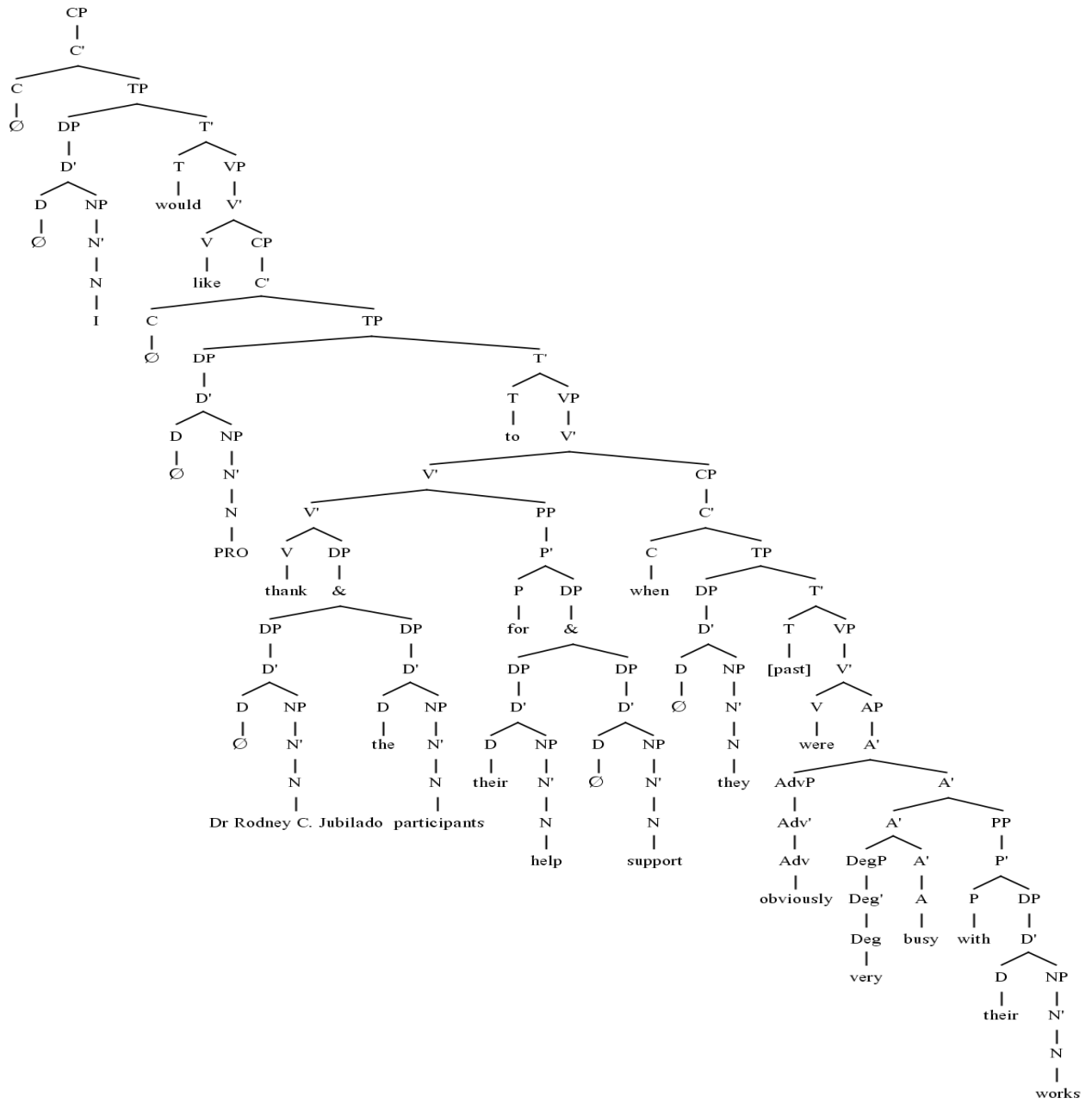
ABSTRACT

Beginning students of syntax may find that tree diagram drawing is a daunting task. Problems in tree diagram drawing are common when they are given exercises in cartography drawing; the three problems facing these students are: (1) unable to differentiate a complement from an adjunct and thus treat both as the same syntactic element; (2) not sensitive that for an ambiguous clause, there are two possible adjunction operations where an XP can be adjoined to a V' and N'; thus they are unable to disambiguate an ambiguous clause by producing two cartographies with different internal structures; (3) not sensitive to the two possible adjunction operations when a head X is preceded and followed by an adjunct where either one can be adjoined first depending on the interpretations given to the clause. This research report attempts to explore if postgraduate students who have been exposed to the X-bar theory and practices in producing cartographies manage to overcome the problems (1), (2), (3) after they studied the syntax of English. An instrument which consists of phrases and clauses was designed and tested on the participants who studied *TXGB 6303 Structure of English*. The purpose of the study is to examine whether the participants have the three problems mentioned above. The results show that indeed the participants have the three problems. Examining the corpus of tree diagrams produced, it is found that the participants clearly do not have a strong understanding of the X-bar theory; they are unable to produce viable cartographies based on the three phrase structure rules which are the backbones of the theory.

ABSTRAK

Pelajar yang baru mempelajari sintaksis mungkin mendapati bahawa melukis rajah pohon merupakan satu tugas yang menggentarkan. Kesukaran dalam melukis rajah pohon adalah biasa apabila mereka diberikan tugas melukis kartografi; tiga masalah yang dihadapi pelajar-pelajar ini ialah: (1) tidak berupaya membezakan komplemen daripada adjung dan ekor itu menganggap kedua-keduanya sebagai satu elemen sintaksis yang sama; (2) tidak sensitif bahawa bagi satu klausa yang taksa, terdapatnya dua kemungkinan operasi adjung di mana sesuatu XP boleh digabungkan pada ‘kata kerja berpalang’ dan ‘kata nama berpalang’; oleh itu, mereka tidak berupaya untuk menyahtaksakan klausa yang taksa dengan menghasilkan dua katografi yang mempunyai struktur dalaman yang berbeza; (3) tidak sensitif terhadap dua kemungkinan operasi adjung apabila sesuatu inti X didahului dan diikuti oleh adjung di mana salah satu daripadanya boleh digabungkan dahulu bergantung kepada tafsiran yang diberikan pada klausa itu. Laporan penyelidikan ini mencuba untuk menerokai sama ada pascasiswazah yang telah didedahkan dengan teori X-berpalang dan latihan dalam penghasilan katografi berupaya untuk mengatasi masalah-masalah (1), (2), (3) setelah mempelajari sintaksis bahasa Inggeris. Satu instrumen yang mengandungi frasa-frasa dan klausa-klausa telah direka dan diuji pada subjek-subjek kajian yang telah mempelajari *TXGB 6303 Structure of English*. Tujuan kajian ini adalah untuk mengkaji sama ada subjek-subjek kajian mempunyai tiga masalah tersebut. Meneliti korpus rajah pohon yang telah dihasilkan, didapati bahawa subjek-subjek kajian dengan jelasnya tidak mempunyai pemahaman yang mendalam terhadap teori X-berpalang; mereka tidak berupaya untuk menghasilkan kartografi yang memadai berdasarkan tiga rumus struktur yang merupakan tulang belakang teori tersebut.

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LIST OF SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS

A	Adjective
A'	A-bar
$\bar{A}$	A-bar
$\overline{\overline{A}}$	A-double-bar
AP	Adjective phrase
Adv	Adverb
Adv'	A-bar
AdvP	Adverb Phrase
C	Complementizer
C'	C-bar
CP	Complementizer Phrase
D	Determiner
D'	D-bar
DP	Determiner Phrase
N	Noun
N'	N-bar
$\bar{N}$	N-bar
$\overline{\overline{N}}$	N-double-bar
NP	Noun Phrase
P	Preposition
P'	P-bar
PP	Prepositional Phrase

S	Sentence
spec	Specifier
T	Tense
TP	Tense Phrase
v	(light) verb
v'	v-bar
V	(lexical) Verb
V'	V-bar
$\bar{V}$	V-bar
$\bar{\bar{V}}$	V-double-bar
vP	(light) verb Phrase
V	(lexical) Verb
VP	(lexical) Verb Phrase
X'	X-bar
$\bar{x}$	X-bar
$\bar{\bar{x}}$	X-double-bar

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