

# Movement of Degree/Degree of Movement

by

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## ABSTRACT

In this project we examine the DP-internal behavior of degree operators contained in attributive extended APs, specifically degree fronting (*so sunny a day*) and degree right extraposition (*a day sunny enough*). We argue that both processes have to do with the scope of the degree operator, namely, that degree fronting is a diagnostic of clausal scope of the degree operator, while right extraposition is overt QR to the DP-internal landing site where a quantifier can be interpreted.

We first show that pre-determiner APs in Germanic languages (*so sunny a day*) are moved to [Spec, NumP] only if they contain a degree operator, i.e. an element that cannot be interpreted in situ. We will then show that the appearance of the adjectival projection in that position is due to pied-piping, and that different degree operators behave differently with respect to how much material is moved overtly (pied-piping).

We then turn to right extraposition. We will show that it can be differentiated from other cases traditionally denoted by the same term (e.g. *a professor proud of her children*). On the other hand, it has certain properties permitting to assimilate it to DP-extraposition to the right periphery of the vP (Heavy NP Shift) – it has new information status and permits stranding of the argument of the degree operator (*a more interesting problem than this*). These and similar factors suggest that right extraposition of degree-containing extended APs is overt QR of the degree operator accompanied by more or less pied-piping.

The overall picture seems to be that QR an overt movement processes examined for clausal projections exist in nominal projections as well and have similar properties.

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