

<http://bit.ly/AhnUniVie>

SEMANTICS-PROSODY (MIS)ALIGNMENT AND THE ROLE OF SYNTAX

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CRAIG SAILOR (UNIVERSITY OF TROMSØ)

- ▶ **Prosodic Focus (P-Focus)**: a PF feature, which directly corresponds to focus realization in phonetics
- ▶ **Semantic Focus (S-Focus)**: an LF feature, which directly corresponds to focus alternatives in the interpretation
- ▶ **Syntactic focus marking (F-marking)**: Syntactic focus marking, which marks a constituent with a grammatical F-feature

Generalization on Aligning P-Focus and S-Focus (GAPS)

For a given **F-marked XP** in the syntax D_Σ , there is a **S-Focus domain** in the semantics D_λ and **P-Focus domain** in the prosody D_φ .

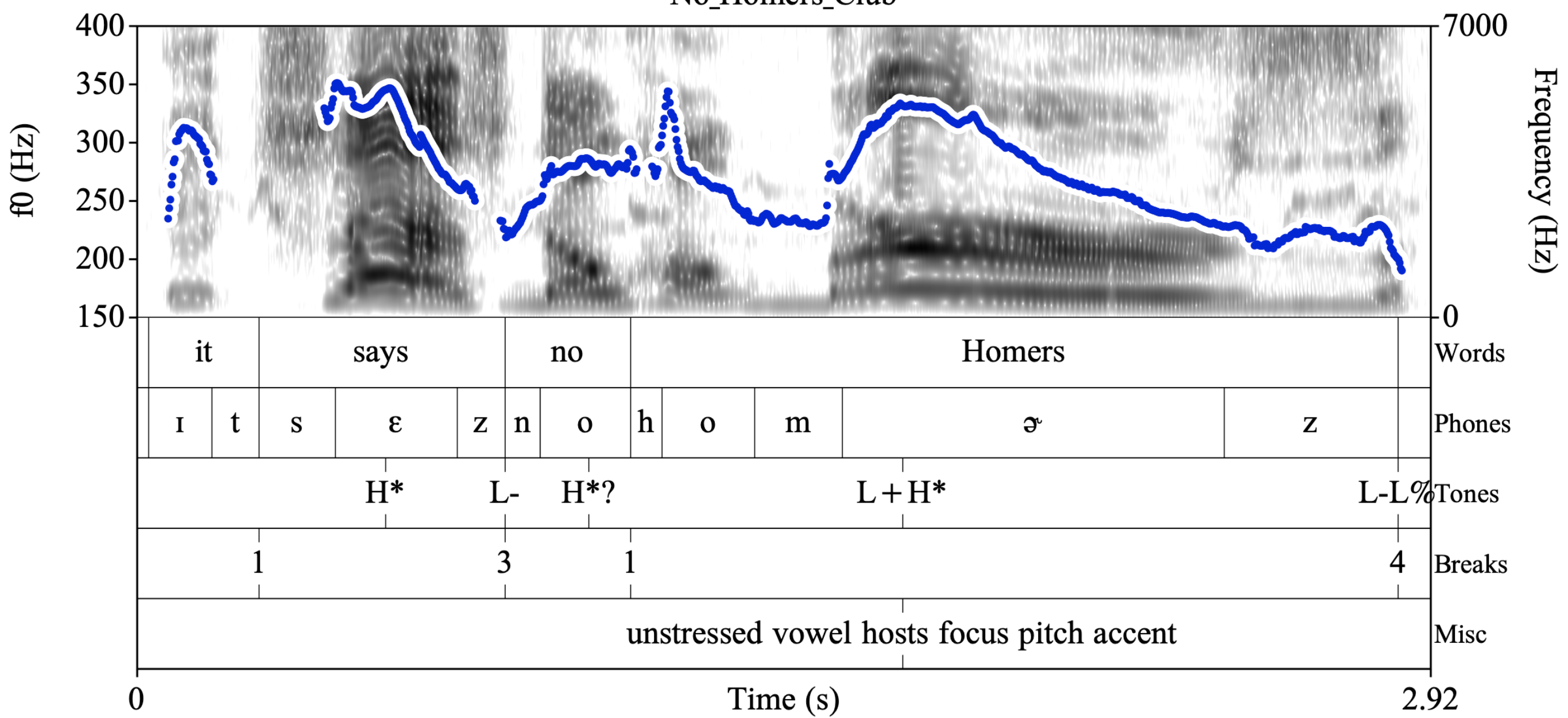
These align in that **D_φ occurs within D_λ**

(more precisely: D_φ occurs within the phonological structure that corresponds to D_λ ; i.e., the spell-out of D_Σ)



The Simpsons, S6 Ep12

No_Homers_Club



Generalization on Aligning P-Focus and S-Focus (GAPS)

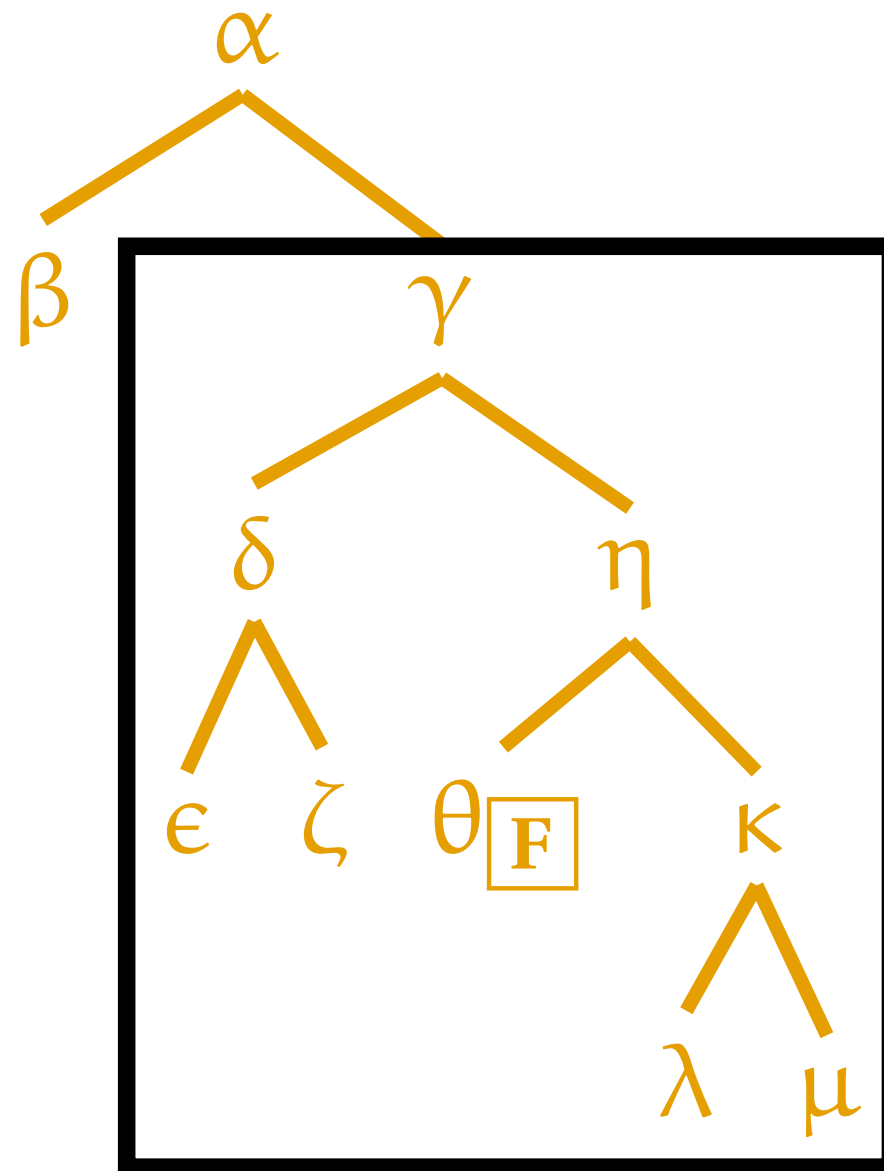
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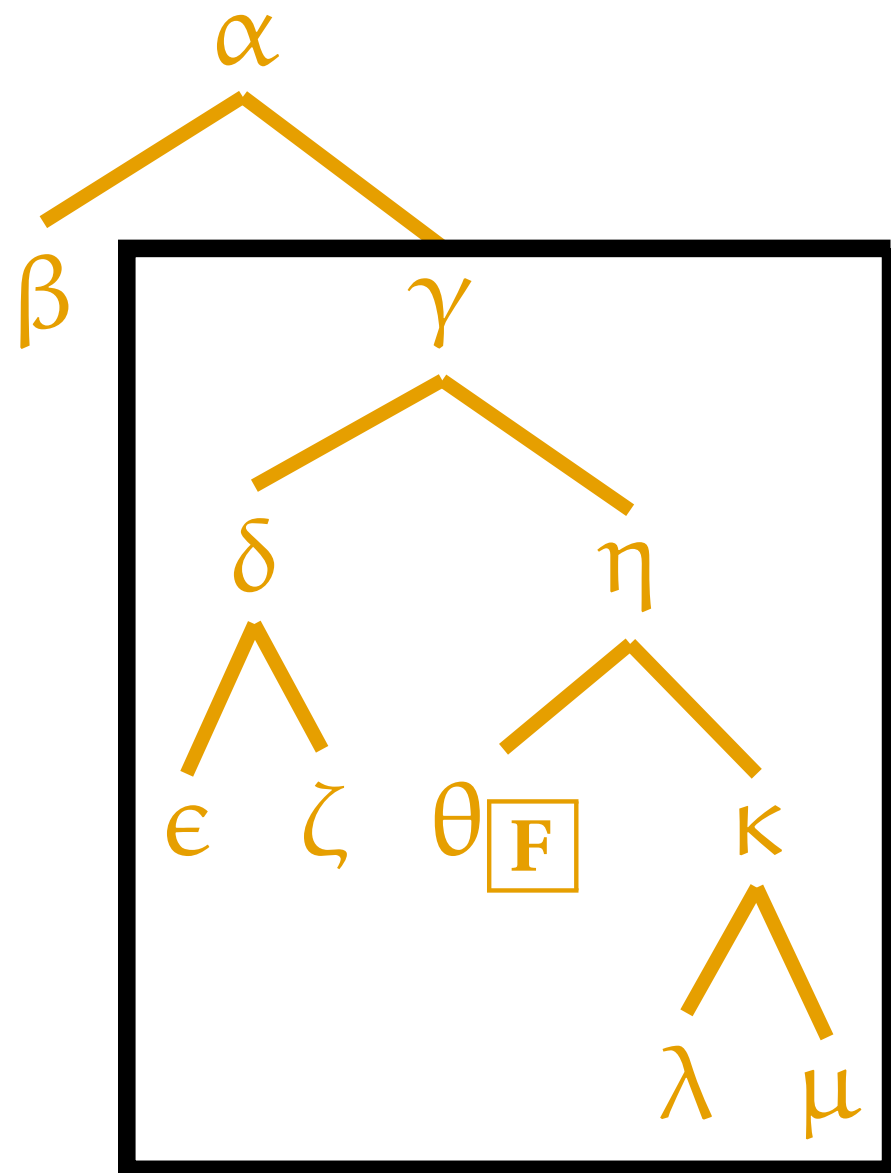
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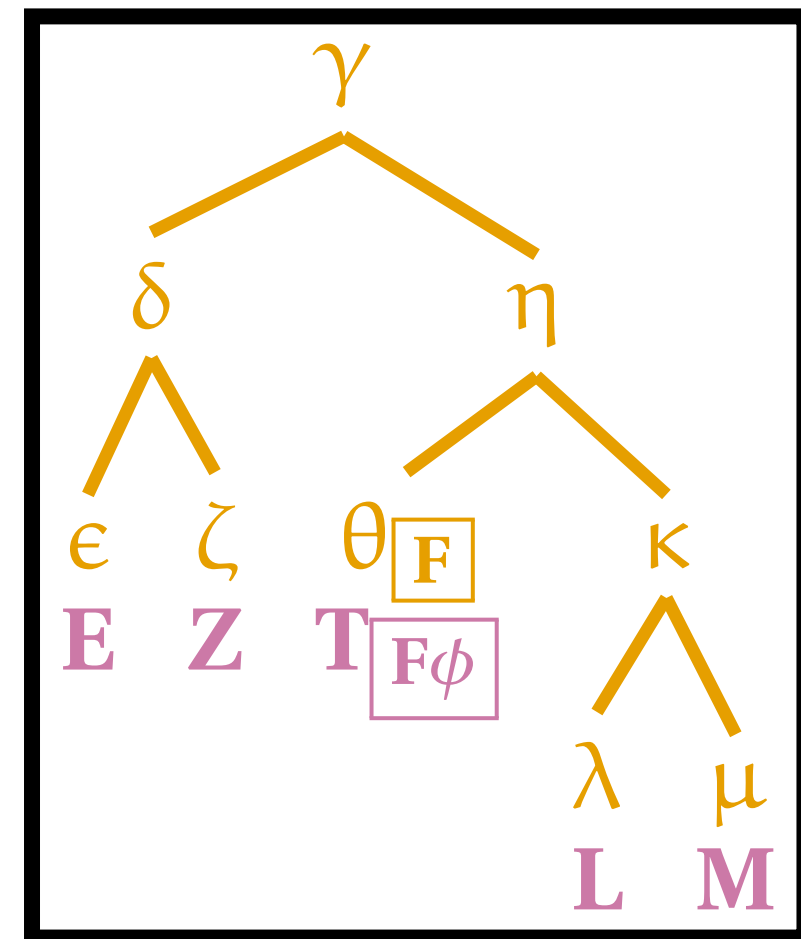
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AFTER SYNTAX



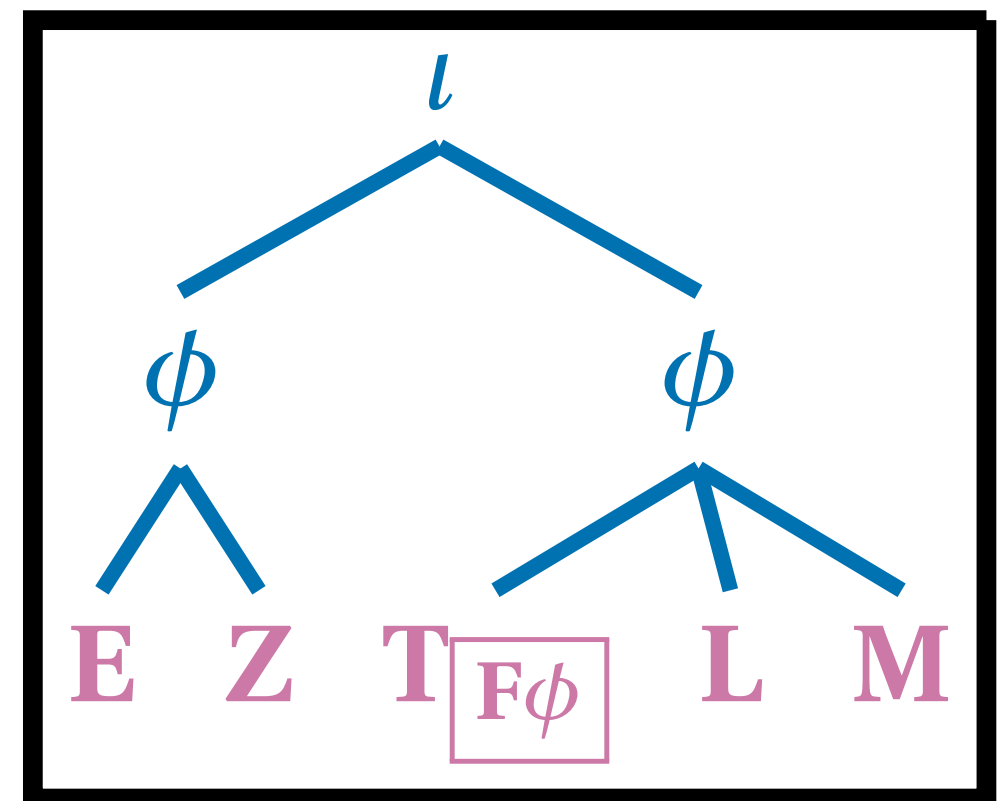
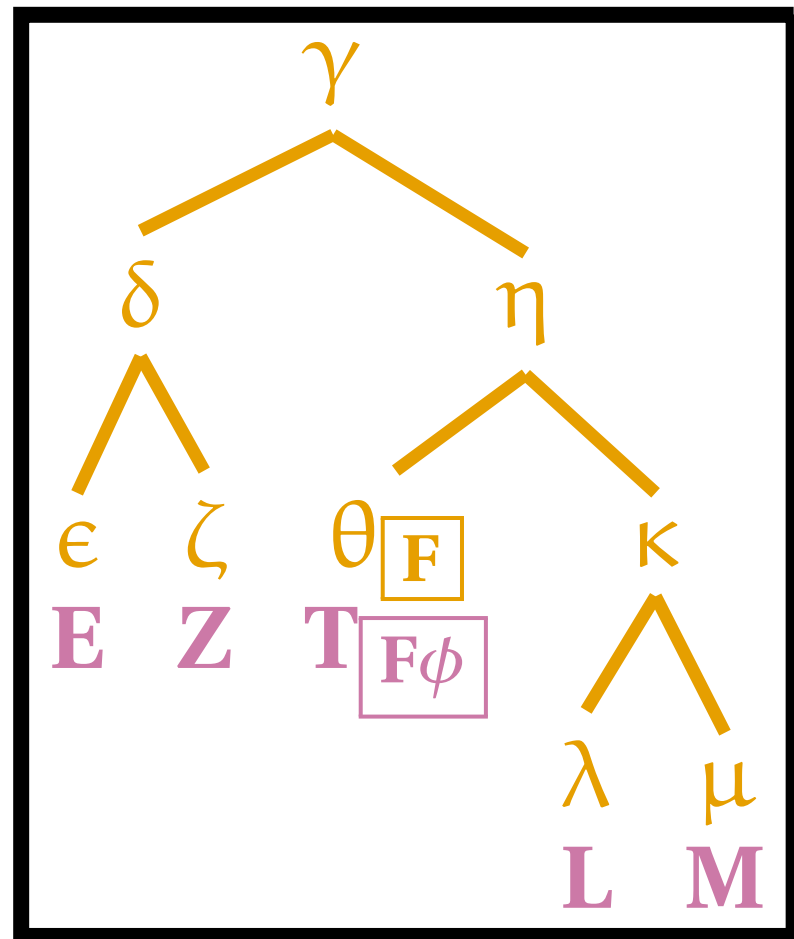


AFTER VOCAB.INS.



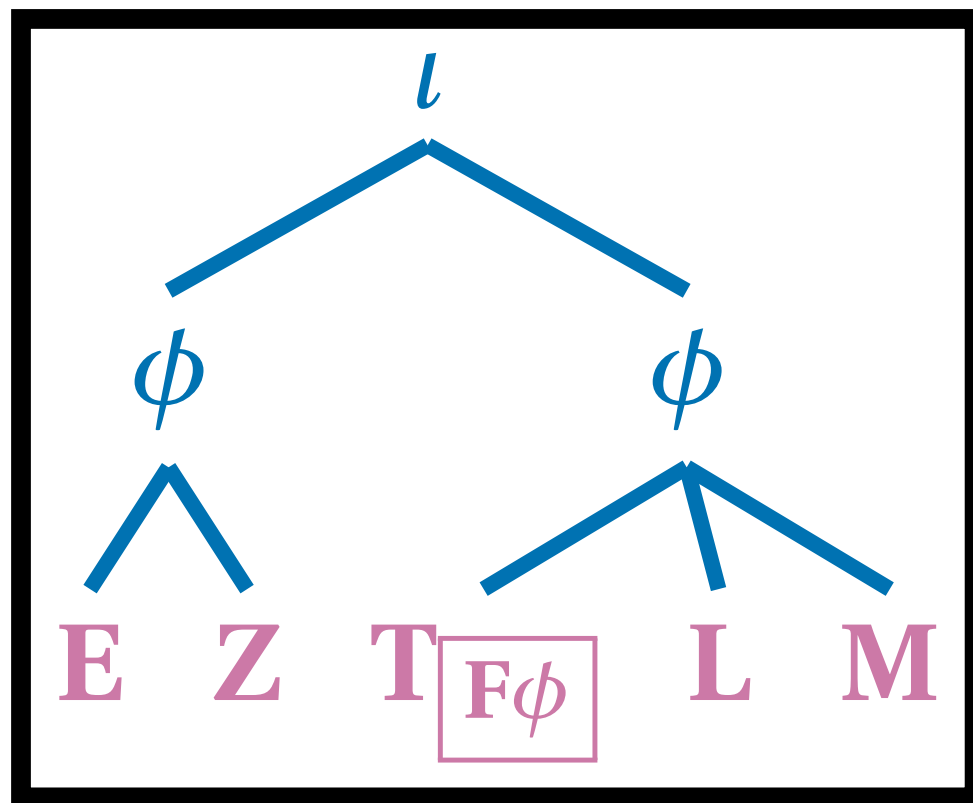
FIND VOCAB. ITEMS
THAT MATCH
SYN. FEATURES IN CONTEXT

AFTER "SCAFFOLDING"



MATCH PHRASE,
ETC.

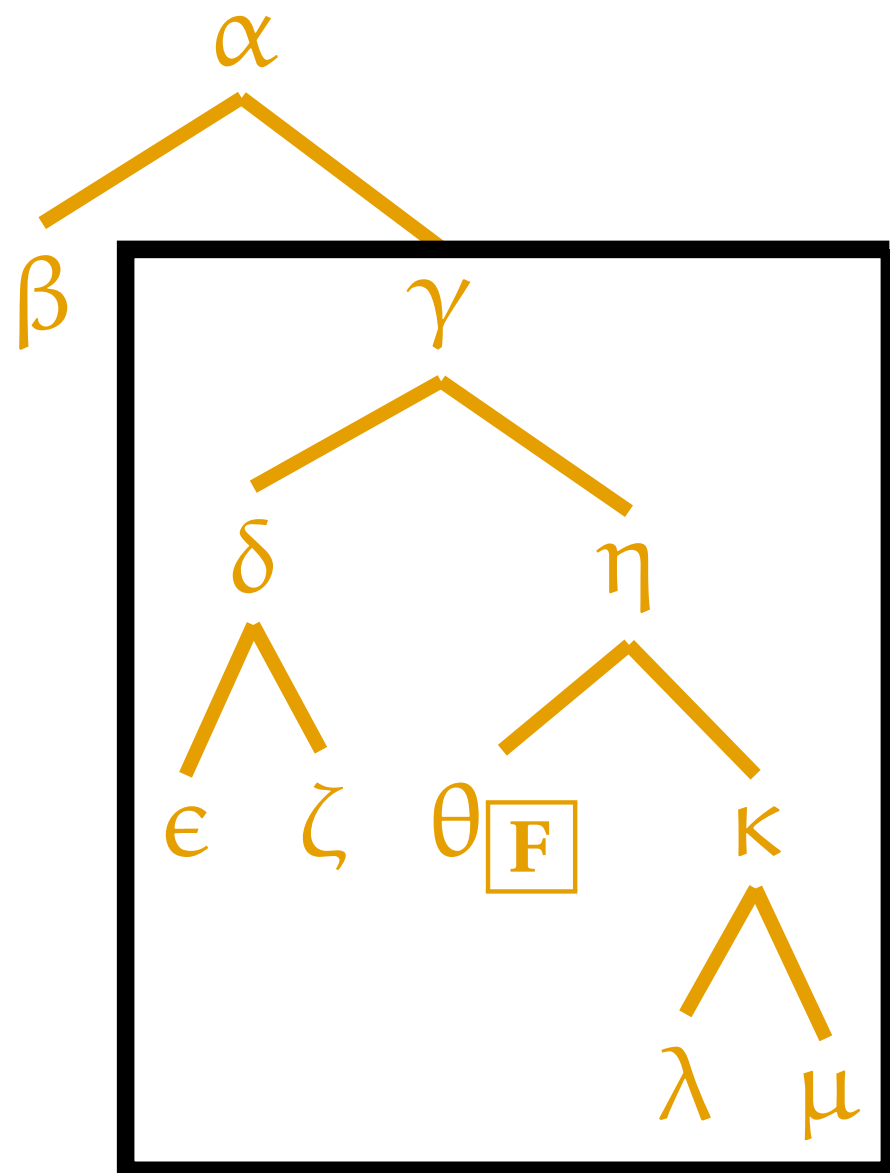
AFTER PHONOLOGY



/ɛl/

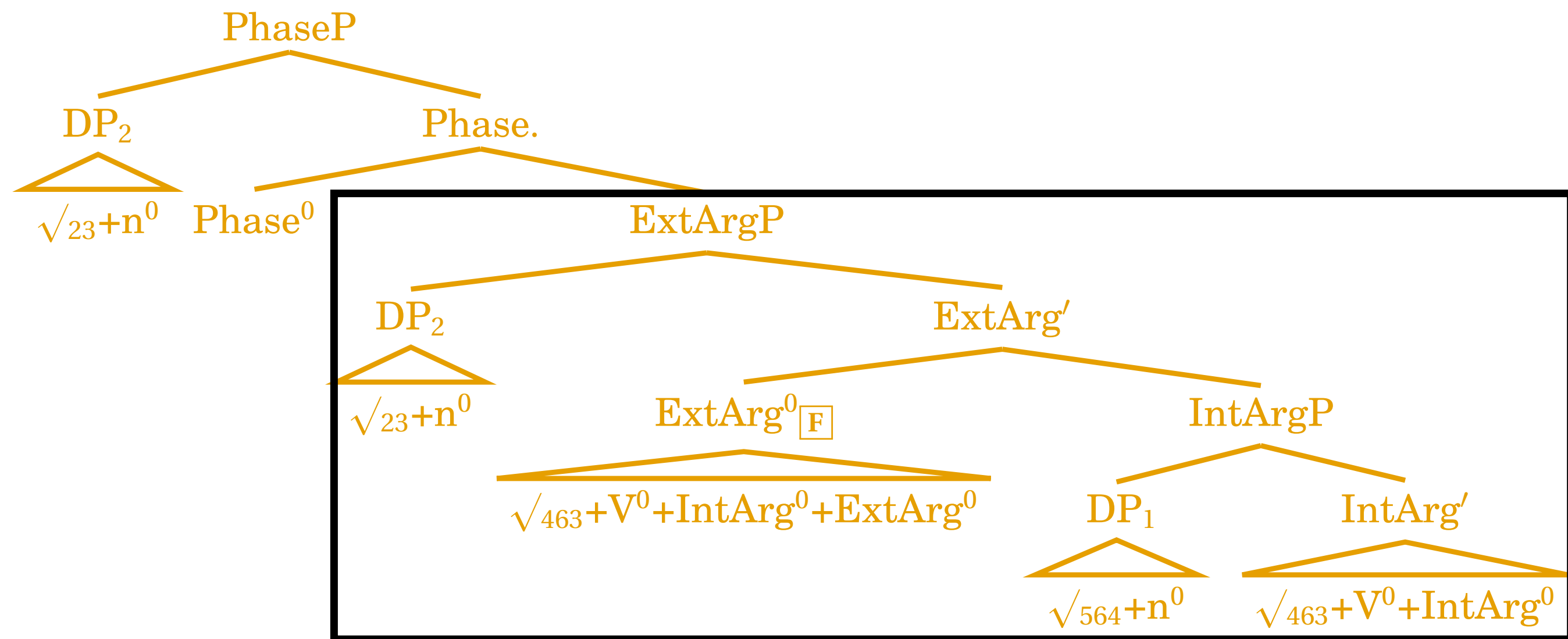
PF-INTERNAL
COMPUTATION

AFTER SEMANTICS

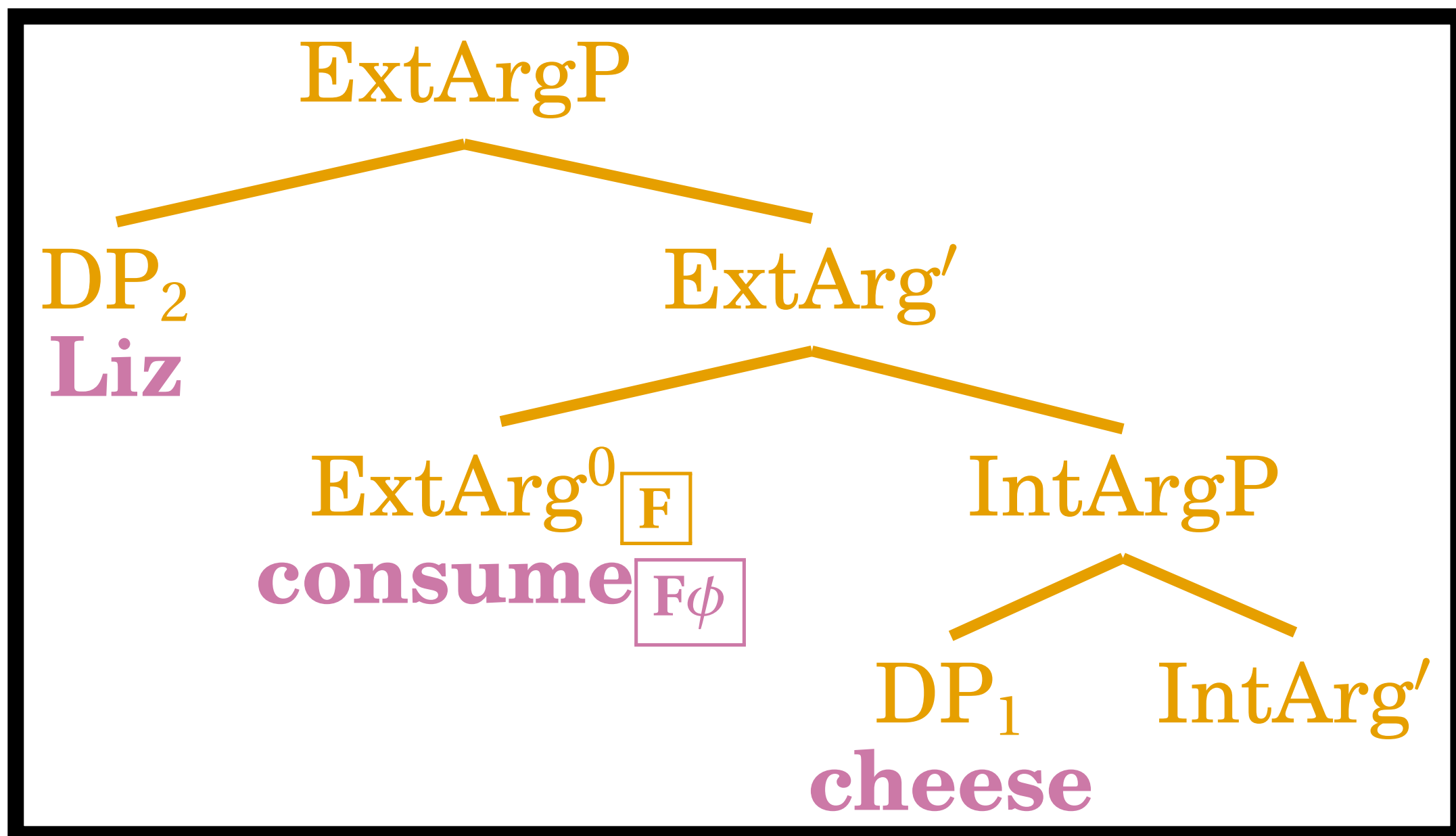

$$\begin{array}{l} [[\gamma]]^o \\ [[\gamma]]^f \end{array}$$

LF-INTERNAL
COMPUTATION

AFTER SYNTAX

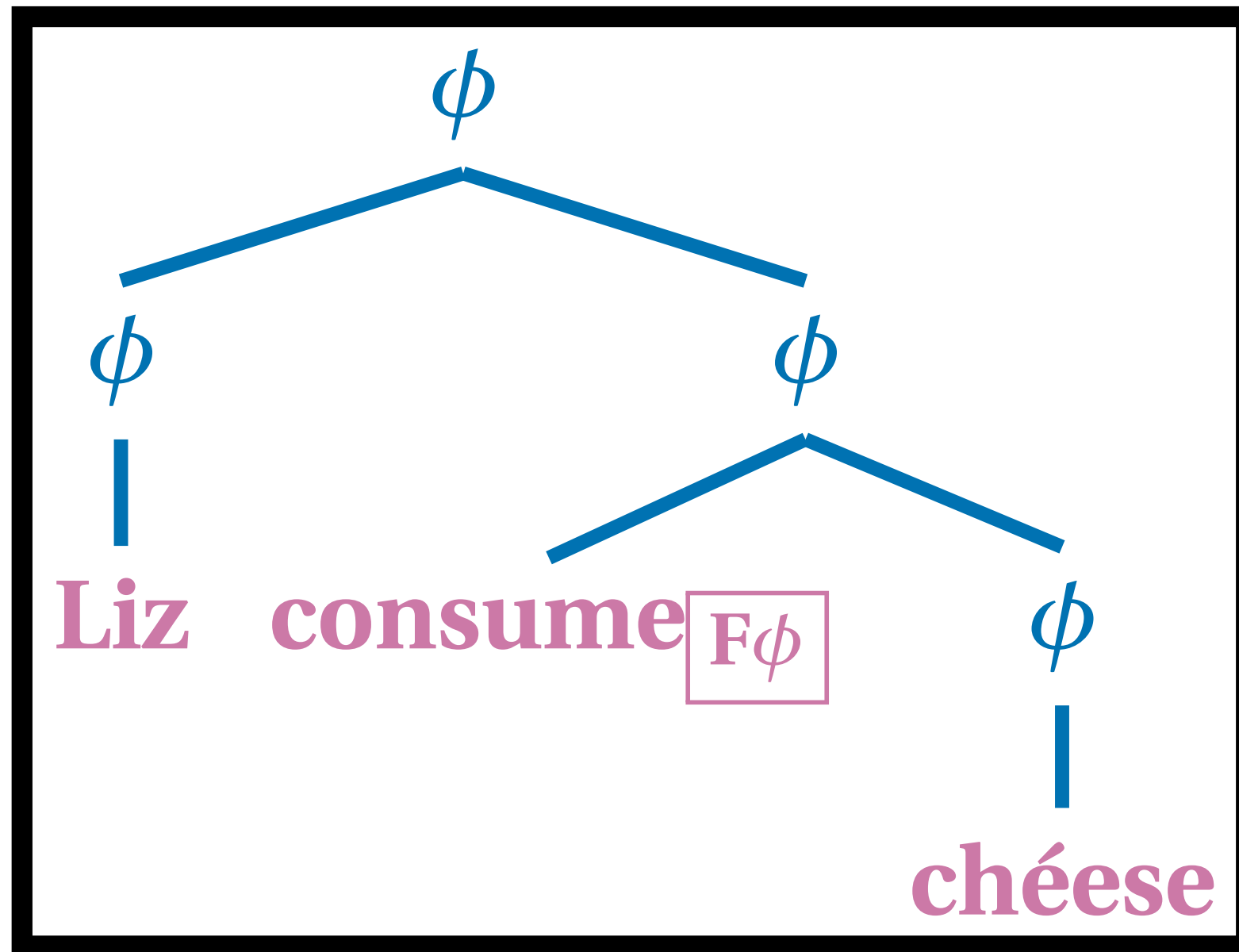


"Liz will CONSUME cheese"

AFTER VOCAB.INS.

"Liz will CONSUME cheese"

AFTER SCAFFOLDING



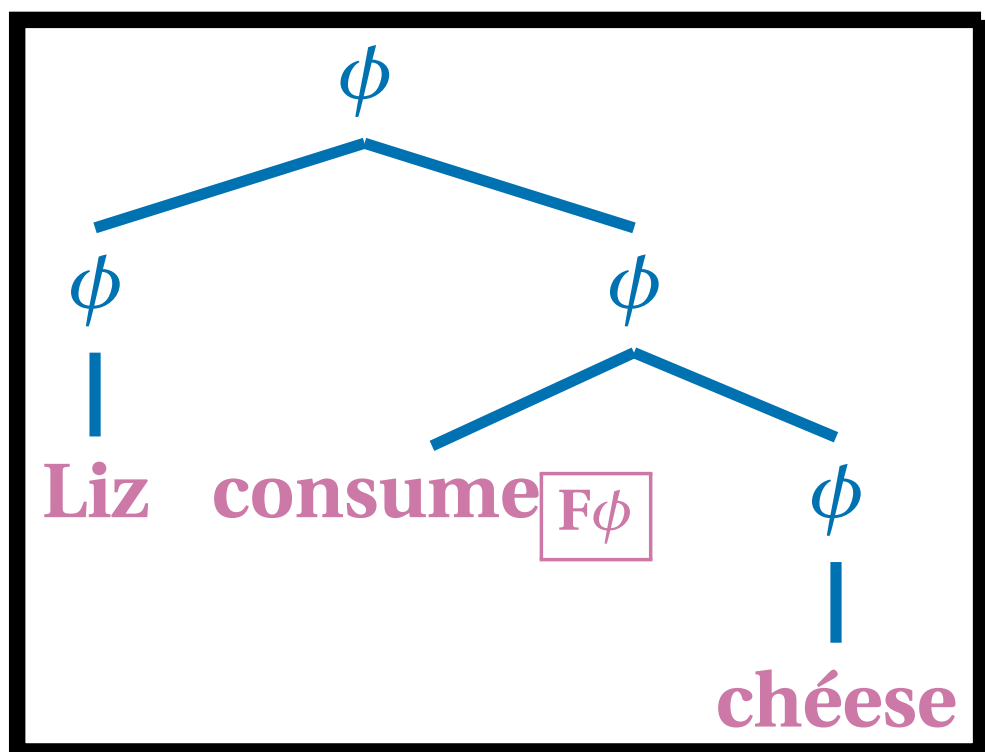
"Liz will CONSUME cheese"

AFTER PHONOLOGY

L+H*

$\phi(\phi(liz)\phi(kən'súm\ tʃiz))$

"Liz will CONSUME cheese"



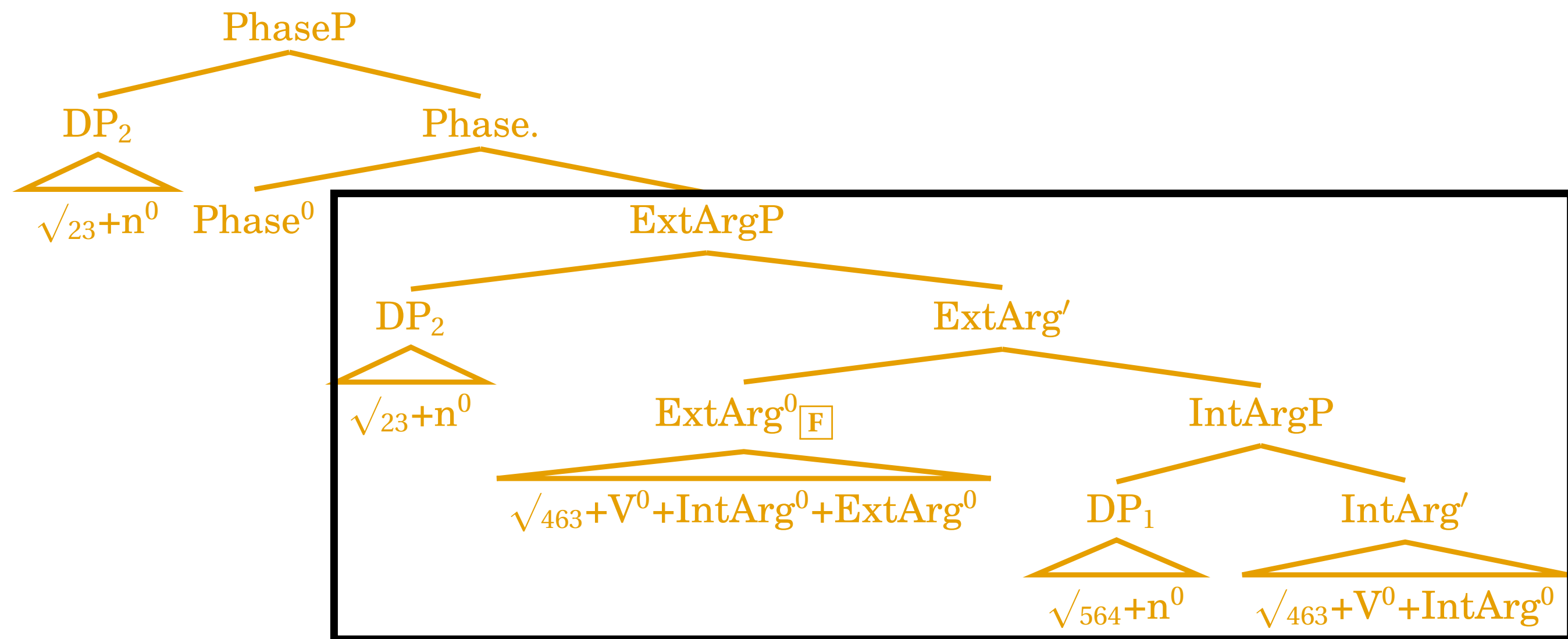
L+H*

$\phi(\phi(liz) \phi(kən'súm tʃiz))$

FOCUS ALIGNMENT,
DEPHRASING,
DEACCENTING,
...

"Liz will CONSUME cheese"

AFTER SYNTAX



"Liz will CONSUME cheese"

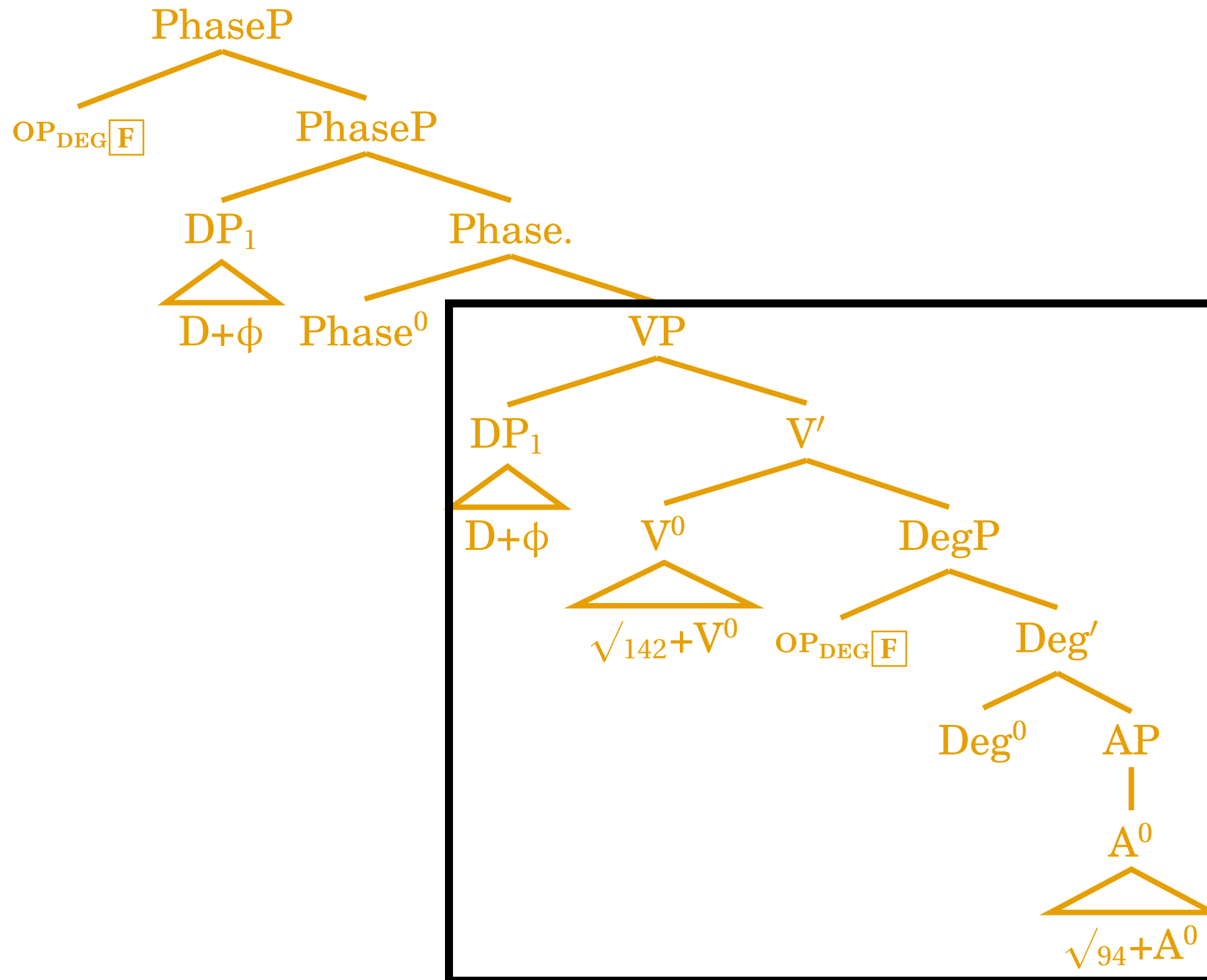
AFTER SEMANTICS

$[[\text{ExtArgP}]]^o$:
 $\lambda e. [\sqrt{463} + v^0](e) \ \& \ \text{THEME}([DP_1], e) \ \& \ \text{AGENT}([DP_2], e)$

$[[\text{ExtArgP}]]^f$:
 $\lambda P \lambda e. P(e) \ \& \ \text{THEME}([DP_1], e) \ \& \ \text{AGENT}([DP_2], e)$

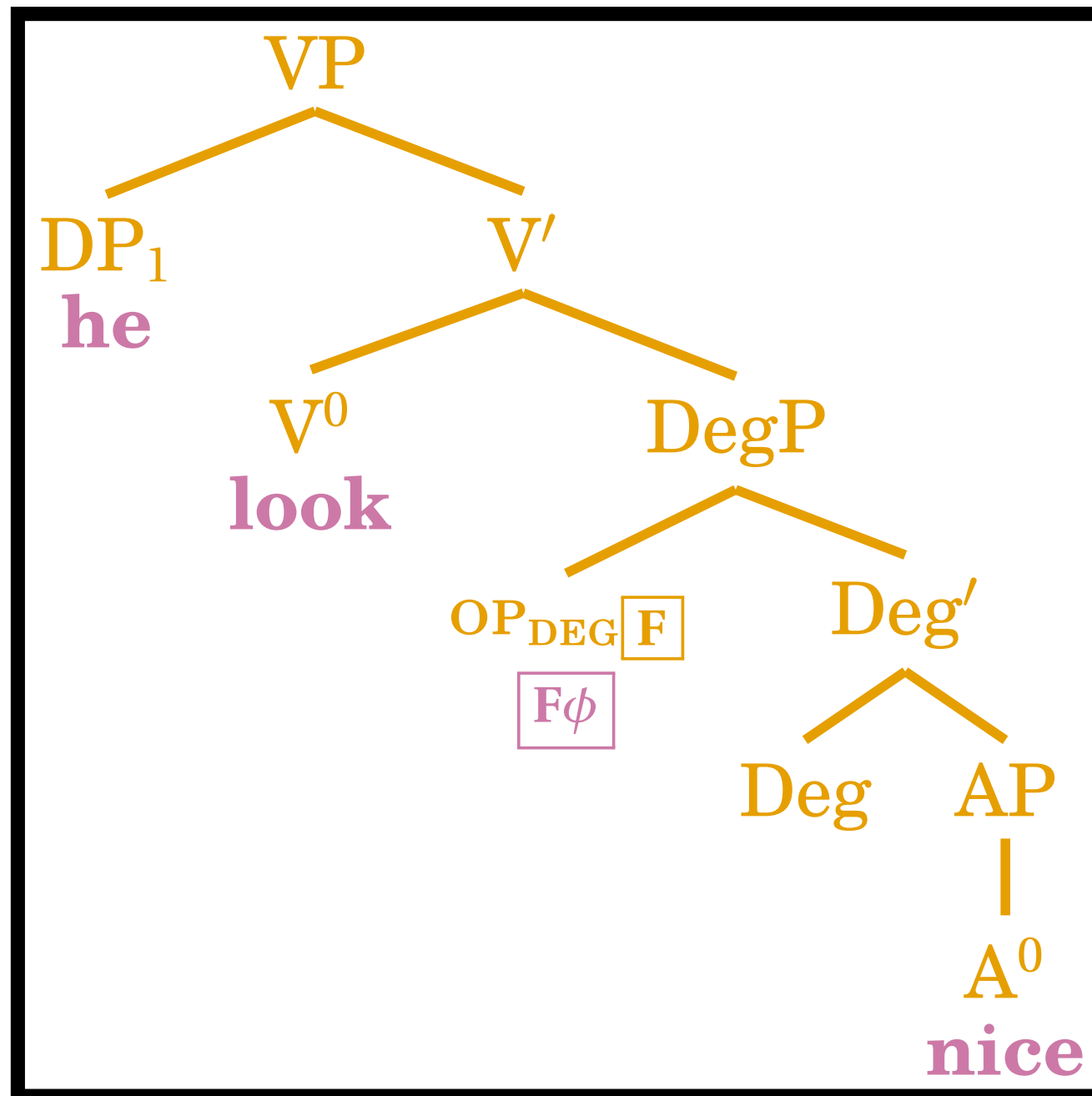
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AFTER SYNTAX



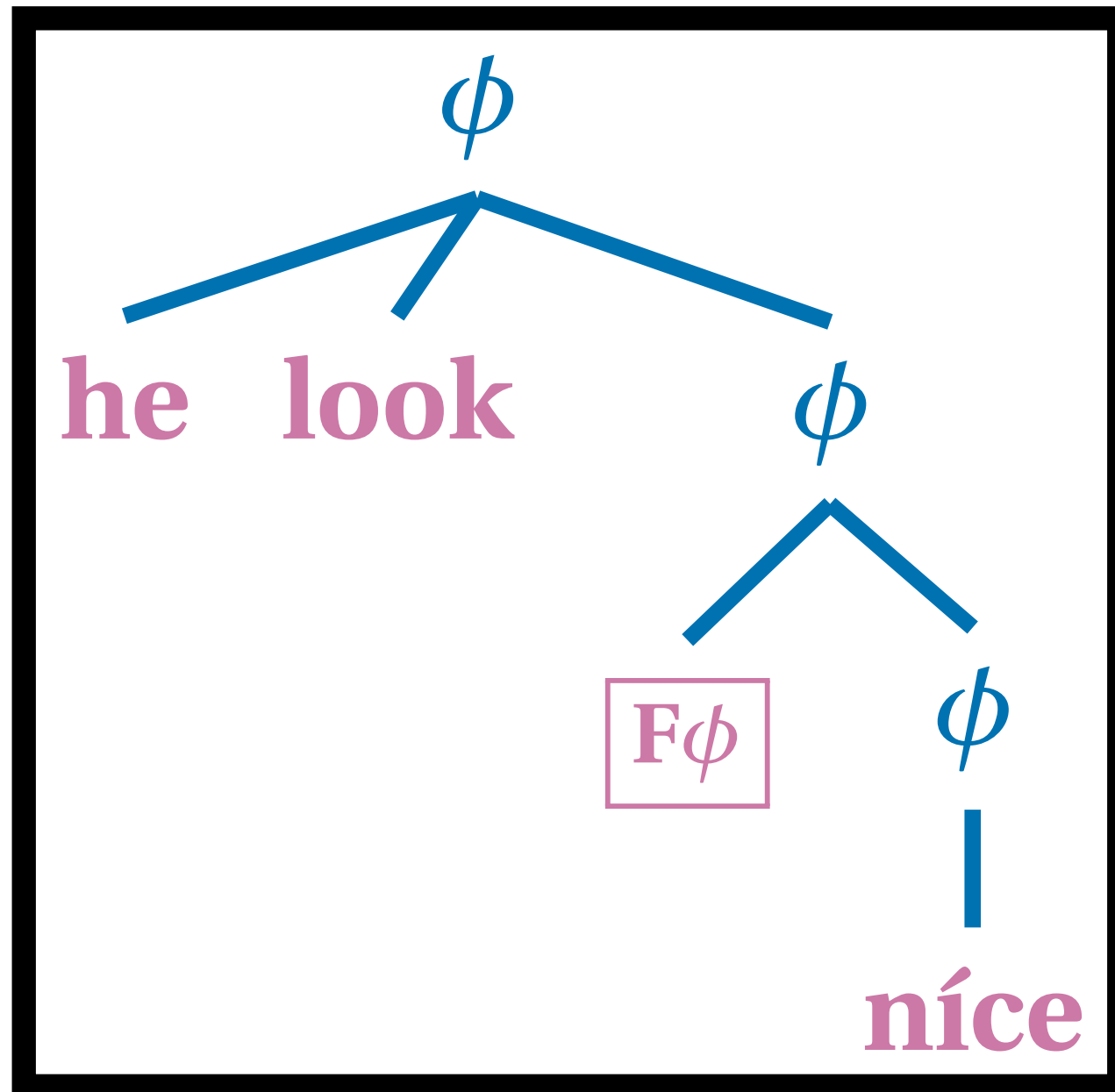
"boy does he look NICE"

AFTER VOCAB.INS.



"boy does he look NICE"

AFTER SCAFFOLDING



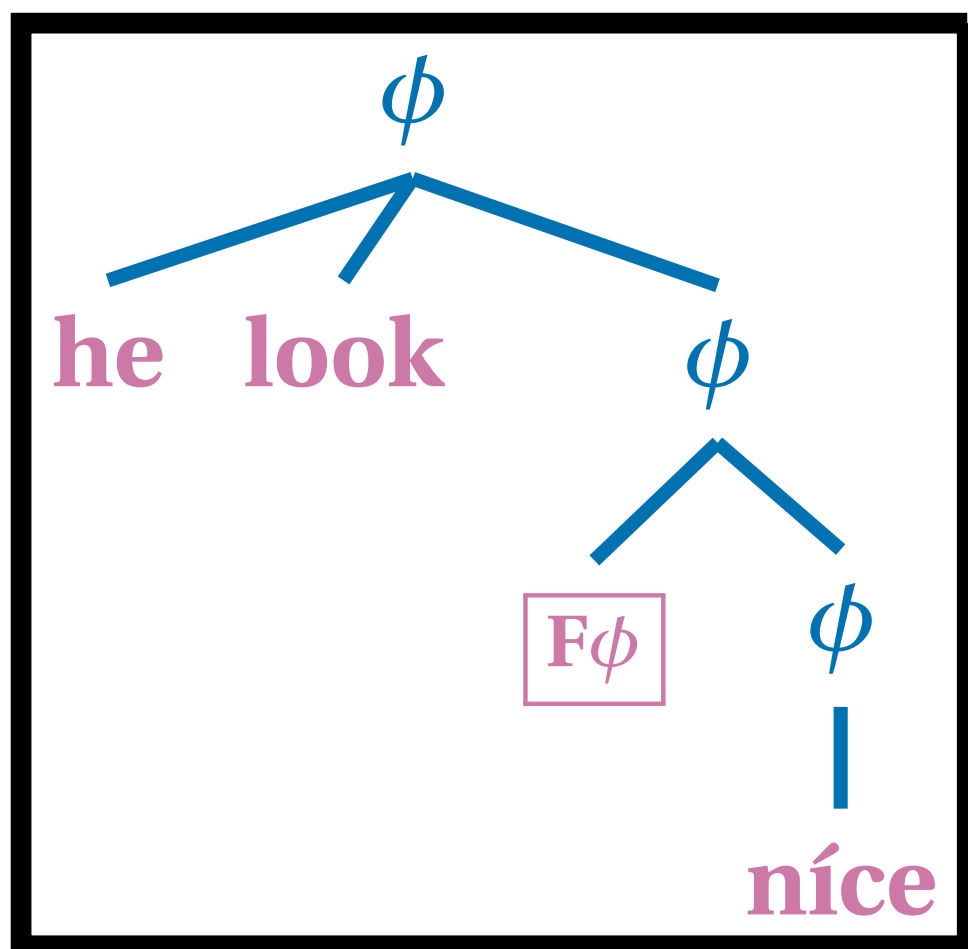
"boy does he look NICE"

AFTER PHONOLOGY

L+H*

$\phi(\phi(\text{hi lʊk } \phi(\text{'nájs })))$

"boy does he look NICE"



L+H*

$\phi(\phi(\text{hi lʊk } \phi(\text{'náj s })))$

MINSIZE VIOLATION,
FOCUS ALIGNMENT,

...

"boy does he look NICE"

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