Today

Structure of the ADVP
  – Degree Words
  – Evidence for ADVP

• Syntax of Adverb Phrases
  – Positions

Reading: pp. 182-185
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

Like ADJ, Adverbs can be introduced by Degree words

Comparison: more/most, less/least

Intensity: too, very, so, quite…

Franz walks more quickly than Hans.
Sora ate her lunch too fast.
Nika speaks so quietly.
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

Can ADV introduce other ADV?

Franz walks *amazingly* quickly.
Sora ate her lunch *incredibly* fast.
Nika speaks *extremely* quietly.

No, these are also *Degree* words.
Here’s why…
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

...The meaning of an ‘-ly’ word shifts from *Manner* to *Degree* when it introduces ADV.

She sings *terribly* (= in a terrible manner) ADV.

She sings *terribly well* (= very) DEG.
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

... Also, manner adverbs cannot introduce other manner adverbs...

*She sings carefully terribly.
Structure of the ADVP

Phrase structure rule: \( \text{ADVP} \Rightarrow (\text{DEG}) \text{ ADV} \)

![Diagram showing the structure of ADVP with examples like very, quietly, extremely, softly, and well.](image-url)
Structure of the ADVP

She sings very quietly.

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S
   /\  
  NP  VP
   /\   /
  N V  ADVP
 /\   /
she sings very quietly
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LING 100 McGarrity
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

Evidence that a DEGREE word “goes with” an Adverb to form a phrase:

- WH-Movement
- Pronominalization
- Coordination
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

WH-movement

Charlie drives very carefully.
Charlie drives how carefully?

How carefully does Charlie drive___?
*How does Charlie drive ___ carefully ?

= how carefully is a constituent = ADVP
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

Pronominalization

Wh-proforms can also pronominalize for entire ADVP in a way that it often can’t for AP:

Ricky drives \([_{\text{ADVP}} \text{very fast}]\).

How does Ricky drive \(__\)? (very fast)

Charlotte is \([_{\text{AP}} \text{really nice}]\).

*What is Charlotte? (≠ really nice)
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

Coordination

The soprano sang softly.
The soprano sang very beautifully.
The soprano sang softly and very beautifully.

= [softly] and [very beautifully] are both ADVPs
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

“softly and very beautifully”

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ADVP
   /     \
  /      /  \nADVP  conj  ADVP
     /   /     \ 
ADV  and  DEG  ADV
   / \
softly and very beautifully
```
Syntax of the Adverb Phrase

The soprano sang \([_{\text{ADVP}} \text{ very} [\text{softly and beautifully}]\)].
Positions of the ADVP

There are *five* positions in the sentence where ADVPs can occur…
Positions of the ADVP

#1: Sentence-initially

Probably, we won’t eat the spinach. Unfortunately, we ate the spinach.
Positions of the ADVP

#2: Before the first AUX

We *most likely* will not eat the spinach.
We *certainly* are eating the spinach.
Positions of the ADVP

#3: After the first AUX

We will *seldom* eat spinach.
I am *never* eating spinach again.
Positions of the ADVP

#4: Before the main verb

We might have *begrudgingly* eaten spinach.
Popeye *willingly* eats spinach.
Positions of the ADVP

#5: Sentence-finally

He ate the spinach *quickly*.
We ate the spinach, *unfortunately*. 
Positions of the ADVP

S → (ADVP) NP (ADVP) (AUX) (ADVP) VP (ADVP) ??
Positions of the ADVP

Not all classes of adverbs can occur in all five positions…

♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV…
◆ The boy ◆ has ◆ been ◆ petting the dog.◆

*Gently the boy has been petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

*Gently the boy has been petting the dog.
*The boy gently has been petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV...
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

*Gently the boy has been petting the dog.
*The boy gently has been petting the dog.
The boy has gently been petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog. ♦

*Gently* the boy has been petting the dog.
*The boy* *gently* has been petting the dog.
The boy has *gently* been petting the dog.
The boy has been *gently* petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV...
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog. ♦

*Gently* the boy has been petting the dog.
*The boy* *gently* has been petting the dog.
The boy has *gently* been petting the dog.
The boy has been *gently* petting the dog.
The boy has been petting the dog *gently*. 
Positions of the ADVP

With a manner ADV…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Conclusion:
Manner ADV go best in positions 3, 4, 5 but not in positions 1, 2

WHY?
Positions of the ADVP

Manner ADV modify V; must branch from VP
Positions of the ADVP

Why can’t they go before first AUX?
Positions of the ADVP

Why can’t they go before first AUX?

Because branches cannot cross
Positions of the ADVP

ADV in positions 1,2 branch from S
Positions of the ADVP

ADV that branch from S…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Unfortunately, the boy… (attitude)
Positions of the ADVP

ADV that branch from S…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Unfortunately, the boy… (attitude)
The boy unfortunately has been petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

Attitude ADV are sentential ADV, modifying S

But can’t they appear in other positions, too?
Positions of the ADVP

ADV of diff. types may have the same linear positions, but they will have diff. structures
Positions of the ADVP

ADV that branch from S...
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Unfortunately, the boy… (attitude)
The boy unfortunately has been petting the dog.
The boy has unfortunately been petting the dog.
Positions of the ADVP

ADV that branch from S…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Unfortunately, the boy… (attitude)
The boy unfortunately has been petting the dog.
The boy has unfortunately been petting the dog.
The boy has been petting the dog, unfortunately.
Inaugural adverb flub

Roberts: “I will __ execute the office of the Pres. of the U.S. faithfully…”

Obama: “I will execute … (pause)…”

Roberts: “…faithfully…”

Obama: “I will execute the office of the POTUS faithfully…”

(From the US constitution: “…I will faithfully execute the office of the Pres. of the U.S. …”)
Inaugural adverb flub

“…I will (faithfully), execute the office of POTUS (2)…”
Positions of the ADVP

The waiter carried the coffee carefully.
Positions of the ADVP

The waiter carried the coffee carefully.
Positions of the ADVP

3 = the boy has unfortunately been…
4 = *…has been unfortunately petting…
5 = …been petting the dog, unfortunately
Positions of the ADVP

ADV that branch from S…
♦ The boy ♦ has ♦ been ♦ petting the dog.♦

Unfortunately, the boy… (attitude)
The boy unfortunately has been petting the dog.
The boy has unfortunately been petting the dog.
*The boy has been unfortunately petting the dog.