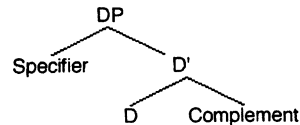


**Determiner Phrases in Secwepemctsin (Shuswap)**  
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SFU

The purpose of this paper is to provide an analysis of the structure of the determiner phrase (DP) in Secwepemctsin<sup>1</sup>. It builds on the work of Matthewson and Davis 1995, Demirdache et al 1994, Gardiner 1993, Gardiner et. al. 1993 on various properties associated with determiner phrases, and is intended as a contribution to the comparative picture of determiner phrases in Salish.

I assume a standard X-bar representation for the DP as shown in (1):

(1)



The determiner system in Secwepemctsin is discussed in (§1). In (§2), I turn to a discussion of the complements of D—in particular relative clauses (§2.1) and possessors (§2.2). Possessor scrambling is discussed in (§3) where I look at the interaction of possessors with quantifiers (§3.1), scrambling within PPs (§3.2), and scrambling out of clauses (§3.3). Demonstratives are discussed in (§4). Their interaction with possessors is discussed in (§4.1) and with quantifiers in (§4.2). The paper concludes (§5) with a summary of the findings.

## 1 Determiners

Determiners are obligatory on nominals in Secwepemctsin, including environments where determiners are not used in English. They appear on mass nouns (2), bare plurals (3) and on proper nouns (4-5):

(2) qwenén ken tek séwllkwe  
want I obl water  
'I want water.'

(3) re kenkékne m ec re íllen es te specpéq  
det bears exist det eat 3conj obl berries  
'Bears eat berries.'

<sup>1</sup>I would like to thank the many Secwépemc speakers who have helped me to understand their language. In particular, Mona Jules has been my primary language consultant in this research.

The data in this paper is given in the Secwépemc practical orthography. Note that 'ʔ'=[ʔ].

't'=[x], 'c'=[x], 'x'=[x], 'r'=[ʃ], and 'g'=[ŋ].

(4) m-wíwk-t-en re Mary  
compl-see-tr-1subj det Mary  
'I saw Mary.'

(5) m-wíwk-t-sem-s re Mary  
compl-see-tr-1subj det Mary  
'Mary saw me.'

As can be observed in (4-5), determiners do not distinguish subject and object case marking on overt nominals. Rather the determiner system distinguishes direct arguments (subjects and objects) from obliques, which are prepositional.<sup>2</sup> The determiners are given in (6):

(6) **Determiners**

	Referential		Non-refer.
	Visible	Non-vis.	
Direct Determiners	re	l	k
Obliques	te		tek

The direct determiners are marked for referentiality, distinguishing referential from non-referential arguments. In addition, referential determiners are marked for spatial deixis. Non-referential determiners are common in negatives (7) and in questions (8).

(7) ta7 k s-wi7-s  
neg det nom-name-3poss  
'He's not finished.'

(8) swétý ke 7-skwest  
who det 2poss-name  
'What is your name?'

Assuming the X-bar representation in (1) above, determiners are represented as the head of DP. The next section discusses the types of complements that D can select.

<sup>2</sup>As can be seen in (2) the non-referential oblique can be analysed as having internal structure, consisting of the oblique preposition *te* and the non-referential determiner *k*. Other instances involve fusion or a filter blocking combinations of prepositions and determiners. Constructions relevant to this property are given in (§3.2).

## 2 Complements

Determiners can select either NPs or clauses. The visible determiner /re-/ introduces direct nominal arguments (9) or dependent incomplete clauses (10):

(9) m-wíwk-t-en re Mary  
 compl-see-tr-1subj det Mary  
 'I saw Mary.'

(10) tk'mlúps re s-í7ék wen  
 kamloops det dir-go lconj  
 'I come from Kamloops.'

The non-visible determiner /l-/ can select either NPs that are not present (11) or headless relative clauses (12-13):

(11) m-7íllen-s l swewll  
 compl-eat-(tr)-3subj det fish  
 'He ate the fish.'

(12) m-wíwk-t-en l m-qwetséts  
 compl-see-tr-1subj det compl-leave  
 'I saw the one who left.'

(13) m-wíwk-t-en l xyum  
 compl-see-tr-1subj det big  
 'I saw the big one.'

Factive clauses may also be selected with the non-visible determiner<sup>3</sup>:

(14) tselxm-st-étn l m-qwetséts  
 know-tr-1subj det compl-leave  
 'I know the one who left.'  
 'I know that he left.'

The non-referential determiner also selects NPs or clauses:

<sup>3</sup>Factives can also be introduced with the oblique marker:

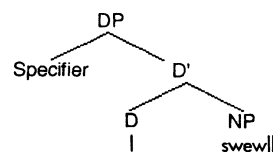
tselxm-st-étn te m-qwetséts  
 know-tr-1subj obl compl-leave  
 'I know that he left.'

(15) swéty k m-qwetséts k qé7tse-s  
 who det compl-leave det father-3poss  
 'Whose father left?'

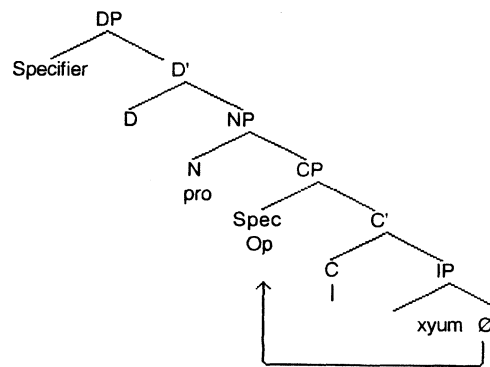
(16) thé7en k s-l7ek uc  
 where det dir-go 2conj  
 'Where do you come from?'

Clause (11) with a NP complement and (13) with a headless relative clause are shown in (17) and (18) respectively. Notice that in (18), I assume that empty operator movement has taken place.<sup>4</sup>

(17)



(18)



<sup>4</sup>Davis 1994, Davis et al. 1993 and Gardiner 1993 provide arguments in favor of empty operator movement. These are based on island effects and ergative agreement phenomena that is restricted to extraction environments.

## 2.1 Relative Clauses

Secwepemctsin has both headless and headed relative clauses. Headless relative clauses have been observed in (12-13) where they are introduced with the direct non-visible determiner. Headed relative clauses are introduced with the oblique:

- (19) yiri7 ri7 re núxwenxw te tselxem-st-és  
 that that det woman obl know-tr-3subj  
 'That's the woman that he knows.'

The head and its relative clause behave as a constituent in that they may be focussed, a position reserved for a single constituent.

- (20) re núxwenxw te tselxem-st-és lu7 l mqwetséts  
 det woman obl know-tr-3subj that det compl-leave  
 'It's the woman that he knows that left.'

It has been argued that St'at'imcét's has two types of headed relative clauses (Gardiner et al. 1993, Matthewson and Davis 1995): a head initial relative clause and a head final relative clause. Secwepemctsin lacks head final relative clauses. A head initial relative clause is given in (21). Notice that it also has a factive interpretation:

- (21) tselxem-st-éten re núxwenxw te mqwetséts  
 know-tr-1subj det woman obl compl-leave  
 'I know the woman who left.' (NP S)  
 'I know that the woman left.' (preposed NP)

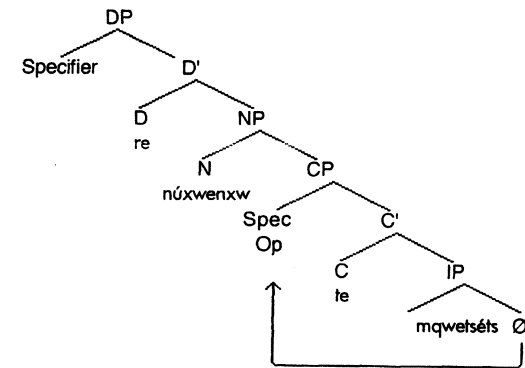
Example (22) appears to provide evidence of a head final relative clause.

- (22) tselxem-st-éten te m-qwetséts re núxwenxw  
 know-tr-1subj obl compl-leave det woman  
 \*'I know the woman who left.' (\*S NP)  
 'I know that the woman left.'

This construction is unlike the one in St'at'imcét's where the head generally does not take a determiner, and when it does, it takes the non-referential determiner. Secondly, notice that both the relative clause and factive interpretations are not available. The construction is only interpreted as a factive, and does not constitute a relative clause at all. This provides evidence that Secwepemctsin lacks the head final relative clause. The factive in (22) is the basic structure to which NP preposing has occurred in (21).

A representation of a headless relative clauses was given in (17-18) above. The headed relative clause (21) is represented in (23):

(23)



## 2.2 Possessors

In this section I discuss the behaviour of possessive constructions. Possessive phrases can be observed either following (24) or preceding (25) their head.

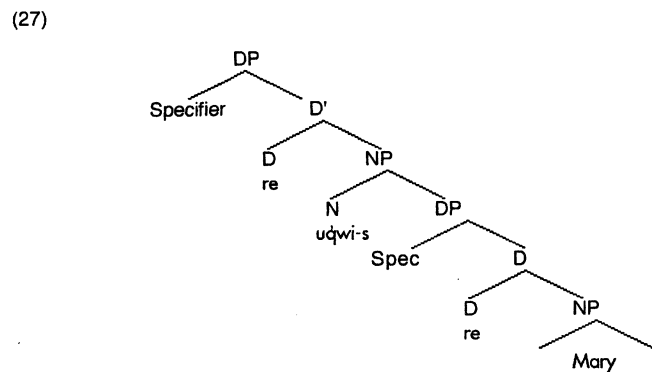
- (24) wíwk-t-en re tsitcw-s re uqwi-s re Mary  
 see-tr-1subj det house-3poss det sister-3poss det Mary  
 'I saw Mary's sister's house.'
- (25) wíwk-t-en re tsitcw-s re Mary re uqwi-s  
 see-tr-1subj det house-3poss det Mary det sister-3poss  
 'I saw Mary's sister's house.'

I assume that the head initial construction is basic with DP scrambling taking place in (25).<sup>5</sup> In instances of stacked possessors there is evidence of an adjacency requirement. The possessor must occur either right or left adjacent to the possessed DP (26).

<sup>5</sup>Some St'at'imcét's speakers only permit the head initial possessive construction (Matthewson and Davis 1995). I have not observed this restriction in Secwepemctsin.

- (26) wíwkten re tsitcws re uqwis re Mary  
 wíwkten re tsitcws re Mary re uqwis  
 wíwkten re Mary re uqwis re tsitcws  
 wíwkten re uqwis re Mary re tsitcws  
 \*wíwkten re Mary re tsitcws re uqwis  
 \*wíwkten re uqwis re tsitcws re Mary  
 'I saw Mary's sister's house.'

Possessive phrases are analysed as complements of the head N as shown in (27). As is common in head-initial languages, there is possessor agreement on the head in Secwepemctsin.



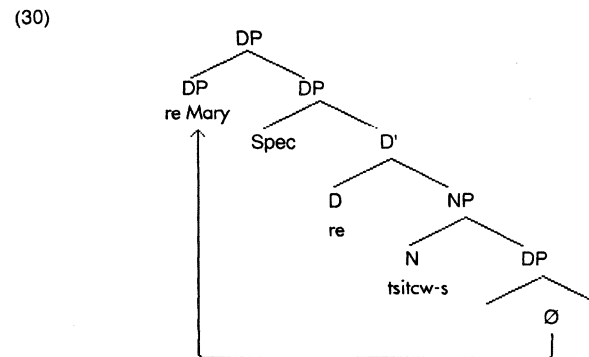
Possessor scrambling is discussed in the next section (§3).

### 3 Possessor Scrambling

As can be observed in the following pair, the possessor can occur either in base position following the head or scramble to precede the head:

- (28) wíwk-t-en re uqwi-s re Mary  
 see-tr-1subj det sister-3poss det Mary  
 'I saw Mary's sister.'
- (29) wíwk-t-en re Mary re uqwi-s  
 see-tr-1subj det Mary det sister-3poss  
 'I saw Mary's sister.'

I analyse (29) as involving possessor scrambling with DP adjunction as represented in (30).

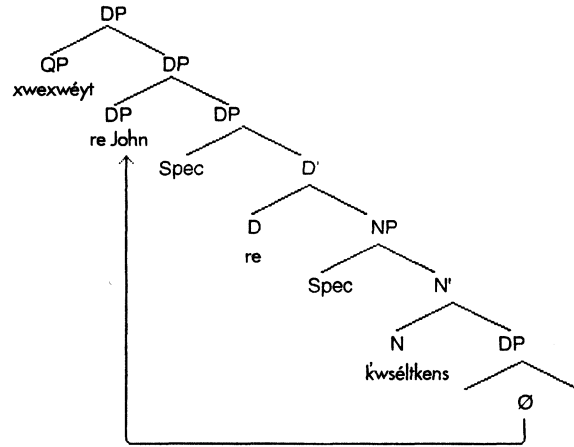


#### 3.1 Interaction with Strong Quantifiers

DP scrambling can be seen to interact with the strong quantifier /xwexwéyt/. While it is preferred to have the possessor adjacent to the head (31-32), the quantifier appears to be possible between the head and the possessor (33). This interaction provides evidence that both the quantifier and the possessor DP are adjoining to DP, as shown in (34).

- (31) m-t7é7y-en xwexwéyt re kwsélikten-s re John  
 compl-meet-1subj all det relative-3poss det John  
 'I met all John's relatives.'
- (32) m-t7é7y-en xwexwéyt re John re kwsélikten-s  
 compl-meet-1subj all det John det relative-3poss  
 'I met all John's relatives.'
- (33) ?m-t7é7y-en re John xwexwéyt re kwsélikten-s  
 compl-meet-1subj det John all det relative-3poss  
 'I met all John's relatives.'

(34)

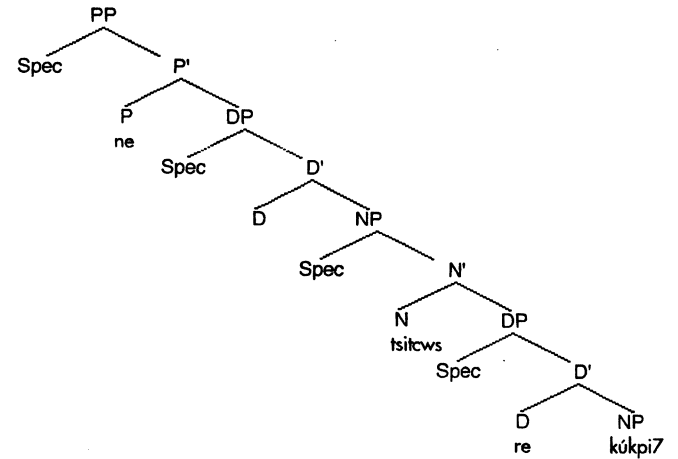


3.2 Scrambling within PPs

It can be observed that the scrambling operation is DP internal by looking at the behaviour of DP scrambling within PPs. A clause with a prepositional phrase containing a possessed DP is given in (35). Its representation is given in (36).

(35) me7 i7tc ken ne tsitcw-s re kúkpi7  
 exp sleep 1subj at house-3poss det chief  
 'I will be sleeping at the chief's house.'

(36)



When the possessor DP scrambles as shown in (37) it does so within the DP.

(37) me7 i7tc ken ne kúkpi7 re tsitcw-s  
 exp sleep 1subj at chief house-3poss  
 'I will be sleeping at the chief's house.'

That the scrambling operation is DP internal can be seen by the fact that the DP is inside of the prepositional head. Notice that the first member of the possessive construction loses its determiner. Another pair is provided in (38-39):

(38) me7 í7e7k ken te tsitcw-s re kúkpi7  
 exp go 1subj by house-3poss det chief  
 'I will be going by the chiefs house.'

(39) me7 í7e7k ken te kúkpi7 re tsitcw-s  
 exp go 1subj by chief det house-3poss  
 'I will be going by the chiefs house.'

### 3.3 Scrambling out of Clauses

In the previous section it was shown that possessor scrambling is strictly DP internal. This predicts that there will be no scrambling out of clauses. First, I show that possessors cannot scramble out of transitives. However, there is evidence that scrambling of DPs out of intransitives is possible.

A transitive construction is given in (40):

- (40) melce-nt-és re nts'e7sqéxe7-s re Mary re John  
 kick-tr-3subj det horse-3poss det Mary det John  
 'John kicked Mary's horse.'  
 'Mary's horse kicked John.'

While the entire possessive construction can be focussed, questioned or relativized, it is not possible to extract the possessor.

A focus construction is given in (41):

- (41) nts'e7sqéxe7-s re Mary lu7 l melce-nt-és re John  
 horse-3poss det Mary foc det kick-tr-3subj det John  
 'It's Mary horse that John kicked.'

It is not possible to scramble the possessor out of the DP:

- (42) Mary lu7 l melce-nt-és re nts'e7sqéxe7-s re John  
 Mary foc det kick-tr-3subj det horse-3poss det John  
 'It's Mary whose horse John kicked.'  
 'It's Mary that kicked John's horse.'

Possessives exhibit the same behaviour in wh-questions. The entire DP containing the possessor may be questioned (43), but the possessor cannot scramble out of the DP (44):

- (43) swéti7 k nts'e7sqéxe7-s k melcentés re John  
 who det horse-3poss det kick-tr-3subj det John  
 'Whose horse did John kick?'
- (44) \*swéti7 k melcentés k nts'e7sqéxe7s re John  
 who det kick-tr-3subj det horse det John  
 'Whose horse did John kick?'

Headed relative clauses also do not permit the scrambling of the possessor:

- (45) m-qwetséts re k7ce-s re núxwenxw te wíwk-t-en  
 compl-leave det mother-3poss det woman det see-tr-1subj  
 'The woman's mother who I saw, left.'

- (46) \*m-qwetséts re núxwenxw te wíwk-t-en re k7ce-s  
 compl-leave det woman det see-tr-1subj det mother-3poss  
 'The woman whose mother I saw left.'

Transitive constructions are problematic in general. First, notice that in (40) the possessor can only be associated with the object.<sup>6</sup> Second, the difficulty with scrambling possessors out of transitive objects may reside in the fact that there is a preferred strategy for possessive objects (under disjoint reference). This involves the use of the applicative /ci/ and possessor raising to object as shown in (47):

- (47) m-wíwk-ci-en re John te qé7tse-s  
 compl-see-appl-1subj det mother-3poss det woman  
 'I saw John's mother.'

In this construction it is expected that objects can extract and this is the case. Give the problem of ergative possessors and the disjoint reference strategy for possessors of objects<sup>7</sup>, it is best to turn to intransitive constructions to investigate whether possessors are able to scramble out of clauses.

While there are apparent examples of possessor scrambling in some intransitive constructions, many of these can be eliminated. Notice that in the pair (48-49), the possessor appears to scramble:

- (48) xyum re tsitcws re John  
 big house-3poss det John  
 'John's house is big.'
- (49) re John xyum re tsitcws  
 det John big house-3poss  
 'John's house is big.'

In Gardiner (1993) constructions like (49) with putative possessor scrambling are argued to be external topics. Under this analysis, the possessor has not scrambled at all, but rather is binding an empty pronoun.

A different analysis can eliminate the claim of possessor scrambling in wh-constructions:

- (50) swéti7 k tsitcw-s k xyum  
 who det house-3poss det big  
 'Whose house is big.'
- (51) swéti7 k xyum k tsitcw-s  
 who det big det house-3poss  
 'Whose house is big.'

<sup>6</sup>The inability to get both interpretations in (40) is unexpected and needs further research. There may be some constraint on ergative possessors or on 'heavy NPs'.

<sup>7</sup>Binding Condition C will block all coreferential constructions with an overt possessor in object position.

In Davis et al. (1993), and Gardiner (1993), wh-constructions are analysed as being base generated, involving empty operator movement in the dependent clause. Therefore, while there may be movement associated with the possessor in (51), it is an empty operator and not the wh-word that is moving.

A third type of construction, however, provides evidence that possessors can scramble when they behave as internal topics. The entire possessive construction can scramble to preverbal position in (52):

- (52) *thé7en re John re qé7tse-s k í7ek wes*  
 where det John det father-3poss det go 3conj  
 'Where is John's father going?'

It is also possible to scramble the possessor to preverbal position stranding the head:

- (53) *thé7en re John k í7ek wes re qé7tse-s*  
 where det John det go 3conj det father-3poss  
 'Where is John's father going?'

This construction provides evidence that the possessor can scramble when it behaves as an internal topic. More research is needed on scrambling in internal topic constructions.

#### 4 Demonstratives

In this section, I discuss the general properties of demonstratives. Then the interaction of demonstratives with possessors (§4.1) and quantifiers (§4.2) is discussed, in order to determine their syntactic status.

There are three common demonstratives, that mark spatial deixis in relation to the speaker:<sup>8</sup>

(54)

	Proximal	Medio-Prox.	Distal
Demonstratives	<i>ye7éne</i>	<i>yeréy</i>	<i>yeri7</i>

A DP containing a demonstrative is given in (55):

- (55) *xwent yeréy re nts'e7sqéxe7*  
 fast that det horse  
 'That horse is fast.'

<sup>8</sup>I have only investigated the visible demonstratives, shown in (54). There is another set of demonstratives used to mark non-visible deixis.

Demonstratives occur to the left of the direct determiner and may occur in positions where DPs occur:

- (56) *xwent yeréy*  
 fast that  
 'That one is fast.'

A reduced form of the visible distal demonstrative /ri7/ and the invisible one /lu7/ are very common:

- (57) *xwent ri7*  
 fast that  
 'That one is fast.'

- (58) *m-7íllen-s lu7*  
 compl-eat-3subj that  
 'He ate that.'

These reduced deictics appear to have grammaticized as focus particles:

- (59) *nwi7s ri7 re xwent*  
 3emph that det fast  
 'It's that one that is fast.'

- (60) *swewll lu7 l m-7íllen-s*  
 fish that det comp-eat-3subj  
 'It's fish that he ate.'

Finally demonstratives cannot occur as predicates:

- (61) *yeréy re nts'e7sqéxe7*  
 that det horse  
 'that horse'  
 '\*The horse is that.'

Next we need to look at the interaction of demonstratives with possessors and quantifiers in order to determine their syntactic status.

#### 4.1 Interaction of Possessors with Demonstratives

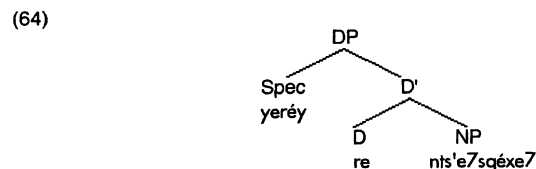
Demonstratives may introduce DPs that contain possessors:

- (62) *xwent yeréy re nts'e7sqéxe7-s re kúkpi7*  
 fast that det horse-3poss det chief  
 'That horse of the chief's is fast.'

The possessor in (62) is not able to scramble to a position preceding the head DP:

- (63) xwent yeréy re kúkpí7 re nts'e7sqéxe7-s  
 fast that det chief det horse-3poss  
 'That horse of the chief's is fast.'  
 'That chief's horse is fast.'

This construction provides evidence that the demonstrative occupies Spec of DP and that the possessor cannot adjoin to D':



Interestingly, when there is a demonstrative in specifier position, the possessor cannot scramble outside of the DP:

- (65) \*xwent re kúkpí7 yeréy re nts'e7sqéxe7-s  
 fast det chief that det horse-3poss  
 'That horse of the chief's is fast.'

However the possessor may occur as an external topic, binding an empty pronoun within the possessed DP:

- (66) re kúkpí7 xwent yeréy re nts'e7sqéxe7-s  
 det chief fast that det horse-3poss  
 'The chief, that horse of his is fast.'

#### 4.2 Interaction of Demonstratives and Quantifiers

Recall that possessors are able to intervene between strong quantifiers and the head as shown in (67):

- (67) m-i7é7y-en xwexwéyt re John re kwsélikten-s  
 compl-meet-1subj all det John det relative-3poss  
 'I met all John's relatives.'

This contrasts with (68) where the possessor cannot intervene between the specifier and the head:

- (68) xwent yeréy re kúkpí7 re nts'e7sqéxe7-s  
 fast that det chief det horse-3poss  
 'That horse of the chief's is fast.'  
 'That chief's horse is fast.'

That the strong quantifier is analysed as adjoined to DP and the demonstrative as Specifier of DP makes a prediction. The quantifier will not intervene between the specifier and its head. This prediction seems to be good with a small twist. Quantifiers can intervene but the determiner is oblique.

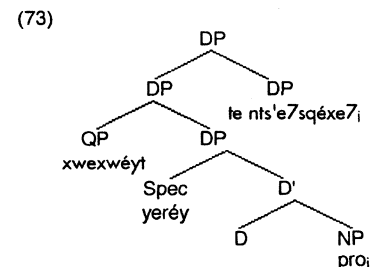
- (69) m-wi7 re n-s-pipqw xwexwéyt ri7 te speqwéltcw  
 compl-finish det 1poss-nom-look all those obl book  
 'I've stopped looking at all books.'

- (70) m-wi7 re n-s-pipqw ri7 xwexwéyt te speqwéltcw  
 compl-finish det 1poss-nom-look those all obl book  
 'I've stopped looking at all books.'

- (71) xwent xwexwéyt yeréy te nts'e7sqéxe7  
 fast all those obl horse  
 'All those horse's are fast.'

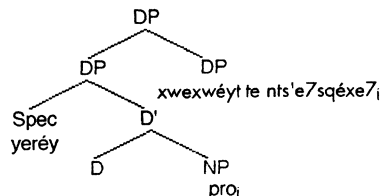
- (72) xwent yeréy xwexwéyt te nts'e7sqéxe7  
 fast those all obl horse  
 'All those horse's are fast.'

These constructions should be possible if the oblique is counted as evidence that there is a DP adjunct. Under this analysis, the strong quantifier and the demonstrative are in a projection with an empty pronoun. This predicts structures (73) and (74), for (71) and (72) respectively:





(74)



The structures in (73-74) correctly predict the order of the demonstrative and the quantifier. Future research will hopefully help to determine whether the right adjuncts are base generated or result from movement. The analysis also predicts that demonstratives in structures such as (74) ought to be able to scramble and this is the case.

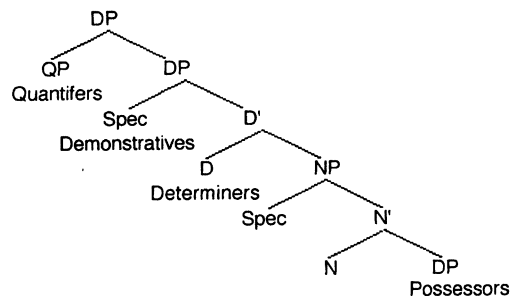
(75)  $\acute{q}up-st-és$              $ye7éne$              $te\ sukw'míh$   
 break-caus-3subj    this            obl knife  
 'He broke this knife.'

(76)  $ye7éne$              $\acute{q}up-st-és$              $te\ sukw'míh$   
 this            break-caus-3subj    obl knife  
 'He broke this knife.'

## 5 Conclusion

In this paper I have provided an analysis of the structure of determiner phrases in Secwepemctsin. The interaction of determiners, quantifiers, demonstratives and possessives provide evidence for the structure represented in (77):

(77)



17

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18

