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# Revisiting unselected embedded questions in the light of Classical Greek wh-clauses 

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#### Abstract

This paper addresses the issue of the questions embedded under predicates normally selecting for propositions like know (unselected embedded questions UEQ). This problem was handled in Adger and Quer (Adger, David \& Josep Quer. 2001. The syntax and semantics of unselected embedded questions. Language 77. 107-133) and Öhl (Öhl, Peter. 2007. Unselected embedded interrogatives in German and English : S-selection as dependency formation. Linguistische Berichte 212. 403-438). Both articles notice a difference between yes/no- and wh-questions. The distribution of the latter seems to be less restricted. However data from Classical Greek shed new light on the matter. Classical Greek uses two sets of wh-items in what looks like embedded questions ( $h$ - and $t$-). It is shown that $h$-clauses do not denote questions but propositions. The selection mismatch arises with $t$-clauses. They denote questions and have the same distribution as yes/no-questions. Moreover Classical Greek provides new evidence in favor of 1) the sensitivity of the UEQ to the polarity of the environment, building on Giannakidou's (Giannakidou, Anastasia. 1998. Polarity sensitivity as (non) veridical dependency. Amsterdam \& Philadelphia: John Benjamins) definition of nonveridicality; 2) the presence of a determiner on top of the UEQ as proposed in Adger and Quer (2001). The article argues nevertheless that the sensitivity is not due to the determiner, but to an operator going along with UEQs. It is shown that the determiner is a type-shifter turning the question into a proposition and thus repairing the apparent selection mismatch.


Keywords: wh-clauses, unselected embedded questions, left periphery, typeshifting, resolutive predicates, Classical Greek

[^0]
## 1 Introduction

Predicates like clear or know in English, dêlos 'clear' or oîda 'know' in Classical Greek ${ }^{1}$ normally select for that/hóti-clauses (1), ${ }^{2}$ consensually denoting propositions (see Uegaki 2011, though).
(1) Dêlon hóti pántes kérdous hének' adikoûsin. Clear that all gain for they-do-wrong 'It is self-evident that it is always for the sake of gain that men do wrong.' (Is.21.6)

However, we also find these predicates in examples like (2), ${ }^{3}$ where they are associated with wh-clauses, possibly denoting questions. Given their properties in (1), this association should result in a syntactic and semantic mismatch. They are however perfectly acceptable. Note that Classical Greek, contrary to English, has two different wh-paradigms in (a) and (b), an alternation which will be a key to the solution to the issue. ${ }^{4}$
(2) a. Prìn dêlon eînai tí poiếsousin hoi álloi stratiôtai, before clear be wh-ACc.N.SG do the other soldiers sunélexe tò hautoû stráteuma. he-gathered the own army 'Before it was clear what the rest of the soldiers would do, he gathered together his own troops.'
(X.A.1.4.13)

[^1]```
b. Kaì tóte dêlon egéneto hoû héneka hoi Thrâkes
    and then clear became wh-GEN.N.SG for the Thracians
    tàs alōpekâs epì taîs kefalaîs foroûsi.
    the fox-skin-cap on the head wear
    'lit. Then it became clear to what end the Thracians wear fox-skin caps
    on their heads.' (Perseus modified)
    (X.A.7.4.4)
```

This mismatch is actually reminiscent of what we find in the literature about sentences like (3a), where the mismatch is between the resolutive ${ }^{5}$ predicate know and the if-clause, denoting a question. In contrast, this mismatch does not arise with interrogative verbs like ask, which selects for interrogative clauses be it a wh- or a yes/no-question as in (3b). This mismatch is known as the "Unselected Embedded Question" (henceforth UEQ) issue (with respect to "Selected Embedded Questions" SEQ, Adger and Quer [2001]). ${ }^{6}$
(3) a. I don't know if Vyasa wrote the Mahabharata.
b. He asked me if Vyasa wrote the Mahabharata.

In the present paper, I shall show that the UEQ issue not only arises for yes/noquestions (as previously argued), but also for wh-questions, on the basis of Classical Greek and its several wh-paradigms. I adduce new evidence for a two-layered CP domain in UEQs (as in Adger and Quer [2001]), but I show that the lower, not the higher layer is responsible for the (nonveridical) sensitivity, thus confirming Giannakidou's (1999) finding on the Modern Greek complementizer system, and highlighting how the system is robust diachronically, through its different avatars. The higher layer is present both in yes/no- and in whquestions and contains a type-shifter that turns them into propositions, thus solving the mismatch.

The article is organized as follows: In Section 2, I present more deeply the UEQ issue and the Classical Greek data. I prove that Classical Greek possesses the same alternation due to (non)veridicality as English between if- and that-clauses

[^2]not only between ei 'if'- and hóti 'that'-clauses but also, crucially, between two types of wh-clauses (tís and hós). In Section 3, I show that we need both Öhl's (2007) idea that UEQs do not always show up with an interrogative (Q) operator, and Adger and Quer's (2001) additional operator $\Delta$ on top of the structure. However, we have to change the semantics of the latter and give up the Quantifier Raising idea to uniformly explain wh- and yes/no-UEQs. In Section 4, I proceed to an examination of the syntax of wh-UEQs in Classical Greek. The idiosyncratic diagnostics of Prolepsis and extraction properties point towards the presence of an operator on top of wh-UEQs (as well as on top of yes/no-UEQs). Section 5 focuses on the semantics of this operator. It is propositional and veridical in nature. It turns the question into a (true) proposition, thus solving the UEQ puzzle. Section 6 draws some conclusions from the study.

## 2 Wh- vs. yes/no-unselected embedded questions

### 2.1 Apparent asymmetry

At first sight, as argued by Adger and Quer (2001) and Öhl (2007), wh- and yes/ no-UEQs are licensed in different contexts. In English, we notice the contrast in (4a) vs. b-c.
(4) a. ?Rama knows if Sita has been kidnapped.
b. Rama does not know if Sita has been kidnapped.
c. Does Rama know if Sita has been kidnapped?

A yes/no-embedded question is clumsy after know in a positive declarative sentence (4a), but it is natural when the sentence is negated or questioned (4b-c). This suggests that resolutive verbs require special conditions in order to embed questions, contrary to interrogative verbs: (5a) with ask contrasts with (4a) in being perfectly acceptable.
(5) a. Rama asked Dasharatha if Sita had been kidnapped.
b. Rama did not ask Dasharatha if Sita had been kidnapped.
c. Did Rama ask Dasharatha if Sita had been kidnapped?

These special conditions, argue Adger and Quer (2001), building on Giannakidou's (1998) definition of Nonveridicality, are the same as those of

Negative Polarity Items (NPI) ${ }^{7}$ licensing, as proved by the extension of the licensing to other contexts such as antecedents of conditionals. ${ }^{8,9}$ Besides, that-clauses do not display such a behavior and are not sensitive to the polarity of the environment (see [6]), perhaps because the proposition 'Vyasa did not write the Ramayana' is presupposed and the clause that denotes it therefore escapes the scope of the negation.

## (6) a. He knows that Vyasa did not write the Ramayana.

b. He doesn't know that Vyasa did not write the Ramayana.

Here we also assume with Giannakidou $(1998,1999)$ that NPIs are licensed in nonveridical environments, because the operators we will meet form a subset of her list. A simplified version of (non)veridicality is given in (7).
(7) (Relativized) (non)veridicality

Let c be a context
(i) A propositional operator Op is veridical iff it holds that:
$\llbracket O p \mathrm{p} \rrbracket_{\mathrm{c}}=1 \rightarrow \llbracket \mathrm{p} \rrbracket=1$ in some individual's epistemic model $\mathrm{M}(\mathrm{x}) \in \mathrm{c}$;
Otherwise, Op is nonveridical
(ii) Epistemic models are: belief models $M_{B}(x)$, dream models $M_{D}(x)$, models of reported conversation $\mathrm{M}_{\mathrm{RC}}(\mathrm{x})$, and nothing else.

A priori nothing prevents the contrast between know and ask in yes/no-question embedding from carrying over to wh-question embedding. A wh-UEQ is acceptable

[^3]9 The $i f$-clause in (4a) sounds more acceptable than ever in (iv) in fn. 8. According to my informants, this seems to be due to a "rescue" process that consists in de-accenting the ifclause, i. e. in focalizing the matrix verb. This option is apparently not available to ever. For reasons of space, we cannot delve into this matter here.
in negative and interrogative contexts ( $8 \mathrm{~b}-\mathrm{c}$ ), as expected, but surprisingly, in positive declarative contexts, too: (8a) is acceptable along with sentences displaying ask in (9).
(8) a. Rama knew who had kidnapped Sita.
b. Rama did not know who had kidnapped Sita.
c. Did Rama know who had kidnapped Sita?
(9) a. Rama asked who had kidnapped Sita.
b. Rama did not ask who had kidnapped Sita.
c. Did Rama ask who had kidnapped Sita?.

In the next section, we shall see that Classical Greek partially functions like English in limiting the environments where ei 'if'clauses can appear to nonveridical ones, while it allows for wh-clauses to show up in veridical environments. However, Classical Greek differs from English in that only one of its two wh-paradigms is licit in these environments.

### 2.2 Data: UEQ licensing in Classical Greek

Classical Greek provides us with data different from what the previous accounts usually give. In this section, we shall have a look at what the Classical Greek data look like in a lot of detail. We must first investigate if nonveridicality is the relevant criterion for the usage of yes/no-UEQs in Classical Greek, before examining the distribution of the two wh-items tís and hós in wh-questions.

### 2.2.1 Yes/no-questions

In the corpus, ei 'if'-clauses with resolutive predicates show up in the scope of the following operators: Negation (10); interrogation (Pl. Grg. 492e); possibility modal (Pl. R. 463b); future (11); imperative (Pl. Grg. 515e).
(10) Ouk oîd' ei pốpote hếsthēn hoútōs hốsper nuní. not I-know if ever I-had-enjoyed thus like now
'I doubt [lit. don't know] if there has ever been a conversation that gave me such delight as this present one.'
(Pl.Grg. 458d)
(11) Ei kaì pâsin éreske taûta

If even to.all pleased that
toîs állois présbesin, autík’ eísesthe.
to.the other ambassadors right.away you.will.know
'You will learn [lit. know] presently whether his conduct was agreeable to his colleagues.'
(D. 19.157)

Along with that-clauses, hóti 'that'-clauses ${ }^{10}$ do not encounter such restrictions. They appear in veridical (12) as well as in nonveridical contexts, in the very specific cases where they scope over the nonveridical operator, that is when the proposition they denote is presupposed by the speaker ([13], D. 18.195). ${ }^{11}$
(12) Oîda hóti hépsontai polloi tôn néōn.
I.know that will.follow numerous of.the young
'I know that many of the young men will follow.'
(X.A.4.1.27)
(13) Ouk oîstha hóti esthíō mèn kaì pínō kaì katheúdō not you-know that I-eat ptc and I-drink and I-sleep oud' hotioûn nûn hédion è tóte hóte pénēs ên. not-even whatever now more.pleasant than then when poor I-was 'You are not aware [lit. you don't know] that it gives me not one whit more pleasure to eat and drink and sleep now than it did when I was poor.' (X.C.8.3.40)

All this is confirmed by the figures found in the corpus defined in fn. 2 and presented in Tables 1, 2 and 3.

Table 1 gives the figures and the distribution among contexts for ei-clauses, Table 2 for hóti-clauses. We ran a Fisher's exact test on the basis of Table 3. The

[^4]Table 1: Number of ei-clauses with respect to the context where they appear.

difference in distribution that we observe turns out to be highly significant ( $p<0.0001$ ), showing that each type of subordinate clause does not distribute independently of the veridical status of the context. In particular, there is a strong link between ei-clauses and nonveridical contexts.

At first glance, this is surprising. The question denotation of ei-clauses should prevent them from appearing under resolutive predicates, but should not constrain the polarity of the environment in which they appear. This means that they have an additional property that makes them fit for nonveridical, but not for veridical environments.

As said above, nonveridical environments are contexts where NPIs are licensed. Furthermore ei-clauses license NPIs, too: See (10), where pốpote 'ever' is an NPI (as well as ever in the translation). This comes as no surprise

12 For an account for why prín/before should count as nonveridical, see Sánchez Valencia et al. (1993).

Table 2: Number of hóti-clauses with respect to the context where they appear.

|  | Contexts | Number of hóti-clauses | Example |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | prín 'before' | 0 |  |
|  | ísōs 'maybe' | 5 | D. 20.75 |
|  | Antecedent of conditional | 53 | X.A.7.7.14 |
|  | Focalization | 1 | D.1.16 |
|  | Future | 78 | Pl.Prt.359b |
|  | Imperative | 113 | Pl.Grg.453a |
|  | Interrogation | 35 | D.18.195 |
|  | Modality | 138 | X.C.8.1.5 |
|  | Negation | 62 | (13) |
|  | Total nonveridical contexts | 485 (28,5\%) |  |
|  |  | 1216 (71,5\%) | (12) |
| Total |  | 1701 (100\%) |  |

Table 3: The distribution of hóti- and ei-clauses according to the veridicality of the context.

|  | hóti-clauses | ei-clauses | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Veridical contexts | 1216 | 1 | 1217 |
| Nonveridical contexts | 485 | 52 | 537 |
| Total | 1701 | 53 | 1754 |

since ei-clauses denote yes/no-questions, which are famously known for licensing NPIs due to their unfixed truth value. There is a large consensus on this point in the literature on polarity items, although the reason why it is so is explained by quite different means, be it by acquaintance with negation, implicature, nonveridicality (Klima 1964; Ladusaw 1979: chap. VIII; Giannakidou 1998: 130-31, among many others). But our account only hinges upon yes/noquestions being NPI-licenser, not on the analysis given to this phenomenon.

Note however that not every direct yes/no-question licenses NPIs. For a yes/noquestion to license NPIs it has to be endowed with a Q(uestion) operator. This is evident from the following examples from Progovac (1994:76-77), the (a) examples
featuring subject-auxiliary inversion, whereas the (b) examples ${ }^{13}$ have the same order as declarative sentences:
(14) a. Did he complain about his salary?
b. He complained about his salary?
(15) a. Did he complain about anything?
b. ?*He complained about anything?

Both questions in (14) qualify as yes/no-questions, since both can be answered with yes or no. However, they do not entertain the same relation with these answers. While (14a) is an information-seeking question, with an interrogative illocutionary force, (14b) is rather a confirmation question and strongly implies that the answer is yes. Answering no would be felt as a correction to a presupposition. This suggests that yes/no-questions without subject-auxiliary inversion have a positive assertive illocutionary force, and therefore are veridical contexts (see already Ladusaw [1979: 152]). This can be verified by inserting an NPI as in the examples under (15). Anything is only acceptable in the interrogative/subject-auxiliary inversion question (a).

We can assume that this type of questions involves a Q(uestion) operator (Grimshaw 1977; Weerman 1989; Öhl 2007) or a specific Operator Op (Progovac 1994) that is responsible for both the subject-auxiliary inversion and the interrogative illocutionary force. If this proposal is on the right track, Q or Op is what gives an unfixed truth value to the question and therefore licenses NPIs.

Recall now that ei- (and if-) interrogative clauses are also NPI-licensers (ex. 10). Because of this property I claim that they are the embedded reflexes of direct questions of type (a) in (14) and (15), and not of type (b). ${ }^{14}$ Hence they involve a Q operator that needs to be activated, be it through selection by an interrogative verb, ${ }^{15}$ or licensing by a nonveridical operator. This kind of licensing is reminiscent of the following contrast noted in Progovac (1994: 20):

13 They require a specific intonation to be acceptable according to Progovac (1994).
14 The reason why the (b) type does not seem to be able to be embedded remains obscure to me. This is a matter for future research.
15 Here is an example of an NPI (pou 'anywhere') in an ei-clause embedded under an interrogative verb:
erōtâ autoùs eí pou ésthēntai állou strateúmatos óntos Hellēnikoû he.asks them if anywhere they.feel another army to.be Greek
'He asked them whether they had heard of another army anywhere, a Greek army.' (X.A.6.310)
a. ${ }^{*}$ I forgot anything.
b. I forgot [CP Op that anyone dropped by].

Both sentences display forget and an NPI, but in the first (agrammatical) case it is the direct object of the verb, while in the second (grammatical) case it is in a subordinate clause that is the object of the verb. She takes it to mean that forget is not an NPI-licenser per se. The licenser is rather an operator in the CP domain of the embedded clause. However this Op does not have a free distribution. It has to be licensed/selected itself. This is the role that forget plays, much like ouk, which licenses the ei-clause, which in turn licenses the NPI pópote in (10).

To sum up, this overview of the Classical Greek data presents us with the same distribution as in English. The relevant criterion for yes/no-question embedding under Classical Greek resolutive predicates is therefore nonveridicality. Importantly this distinction is due to the Q(uestion) operator of the yes/ no-interrogative. Let us now turn to wh-clauses.

### 2.2.2 Classical Greek wh-clauses embedded by resolutive predicates and their licensing

Classical Greek is interesting in that, contrary to English, it displays pairs of examples with wh-items that seem to mimic the that/if; hóti/ei alternation in (4) vs. (6); (10) and (11) vs. (12) and (13). This is illustrated by (2a-b) and (17a-b).
a. Îsōs oúpō oîstha tí $\frac{\text { ón }}{\text { maybe }} \frac{\text { légō }}{\text { not.yet you-know wh-ACC.N.SG }}$ I-mean
'You may not know yet what I mean.'
(Pl. Grg. 500a)
b. Eí tis humôn eis Pheràs afîktai, if someone among-you to Pherae has-come oîde hò légō. he-knows wh-ACC.N.SG I-mean 'Any of you who have been to Pherae knows what I mean.' (Perseus modified) (D.19.158)

The two items translated as 'what' belong to two different paradigms: $h$ - and $t$-. In (2b) and (17b), hò belongs to the paradigm of the wh-item hós, henceforth $h$ paradigm. In (2a) and (17a), tí belongs to the paradigm of the wh-item tís, henceforth $t$-paradigm. Note that the morpheme $t(i)$ - has an allomorph, $p(o)$-,
as in 'how' pôs (cf. the English allomorphy: the morpheme 'wh' mostly takes the form wh-, but $h$ - in how). Diachronically, $t$-, $p$-, wh- and $h$ - are all cognate.

Interestingly, the distribution of $t$ - and $h$ - is not random. Indeed, in (2a) the predicate dêlon '(it is) clear' is under the scope of prín "before", in (17a), the matrix verb oistha 'you know' is under the scope of a negation and a modal adverb ísōs 'maybe'. The acquaintance of $t$ - with negative contexts is already noted in Kühner and Gerth (1904: 439). Interestingly, Wakker (1999) extends it to interrogative and modal contexts. Note that, on the contrary, dêlon and oîde in (2b) and (17b) are free from such environments. Such a contrast is worth examining since it is reminiscent of the licensing of if- and ei-clauses by nonveridical operators, in opposition to that- and hóti-clauses. A closer look at the corpus defined in fn. 1 provides us with further pairs like (18). In (18a), tís is in an intensional (modal) context, in (18b), hós is in a positive context. The verb introducing the subordinate clause is itself in the scope of epithumô 'desire', a variant of 'want.'
(18) a. epithumô akoûsai tí éstin hekáteron.

I-desire hear wh-NOM.N.SG is each
'I desire to hear what each of them (justice and injustice) is.' (Pl. R. 358b)
b. Hò egố fēmi tè̀n rētorikèn eînai akếkoas. wh-ACC.N.SG I I-say the rhetoric be you-have-heard 'Well now, you have heard what I state rhetoric to be.' (Pl. Grg. 465d)

Along with negation and intensional modal operators, the other contexts where tís-clauses show up are provided in Table 4. All these contexts are nonveridical, Except for focalization, of which (19) is an example: mè mónon ... allà kaì ('not only ... but also') focalizes on the wh-clauses.
(19) hōs mè̄ toûto mónon ennoôntai tí peísontai
so.that not this only they.think-SUBJ wh-ACC.N.SG they.will.suffer allà kaì tí poiếsousi but also wh-ACC.N.SG they.will.do
'so that they shall be thinking, not merely of what they are to suffer, but likewise of what they are going to do,'
(X.A.3.1.41)

I leave to future research the question of why focalization licenses UEQs in Classical Greek and what its relation to nonveridicality is. An anonymous

Table 4: Number of tis-clauses with respect to the context where they appear.

|  | Contexts | Number of <br> tís-clauses | Example |
| :--- | :--- | ---: | :--- |

reviewer suggests that "Focalization brings in alternatives, and the focused alternative is true while the non-focused ones are not (by implicature), hence a nonveridical structure is created."

Table 5 gives the distribution of hós-clauses in the same corpus.
If we compare Tables 4 and 5 with Tables 1 and 2, we can see that tís and hós have the same distribution as ei and hóti, respectively. We ran a Fisher's exact test of significance on the basis of Table 6. The difference in distribution that we observe turns out to be highly significant ( $p<0.0001$ ), showing that each type of subordinate clause does not distribute independently of the veridical status of the context. In particular, there is a strong link between tís-clauses and nonveridical contexts.

We have independent evidence for this necessity for tís-clauses to show up in nonveridical environments (if not selected). The first piece of evidence comes

[^5]Table 5: Number of hós-clauses with respect to the context where they appear.

|  | Contexts | Number of hósclauses | Example |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
|  | prín 'before' | 2 | Pl.R.532b1 |
|  | isoōs 'maybe' | 1 | X.A.5.1.11 |
|  | Antecedent of conditional | 7 | Pl.Prt.342b5 |
|  | Focalization | 0 | 0 |
|  | Future | 26 | X.C.3.3.36 |
|  | Imperative | 18 | X.A.7.3.25 |
|  | Interrogation | 10 | Pl.Prt.312b7 |
|  | Modality | 21 | D. 21.24 |
|  | Negation | 7 | Pl.Grg.479b3 |
|  | Total nonveridical contexts |  | 92 (43\%) |
|  |  | 123 (57\%) | (2b), (17b), (18b) |
| Total |  |  | 215 (100\%) |

Table 6: The distribution of hós- and tís-clauses according to the veridicality of the context.

|  | hós-clauses | tís-clauses | Total |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Veridical contexts | 123 | 13 | 136 |
| Nonveridical contexts | 92 | 365 | 457 |
| Total | 215 | 378 | 593 |

from hóstis. ${ }^{17}$ Hóstis is a term that heads either free relatives of the wh-ever type, or headed relatives, but in the latter case only in nonveridical environments (Faure 2015), as illustrated in (20) where hótou (hóstis in the genitive) is in the scope of oud' 'not'.
(20) $\frac{\text { Oud' }}{\text { not }}$ ésti súmmakhos

[^6]meth' hótou tis iồn epì tè̀n tô dikaio boếtheian sốzoit' án. with whom one going against the the justice help save ptc 'There is no ally with whose aid the champion of justice could escape destruction.'
(Pl.R.496d)
Put otherwise hóstis-clauses display the features of both Free Choice Items (FCIs) and NPIs, much like any in English. ${ }^{18}$ Most interestingly, as an embedded-interrogativeheading term, tís can freely be substituted for hóstis (Faure 2010, 2014b). Due to the properties of the latter we have just pointed out, this is only possible if the context can host hóstis, i. e. is nonveridical, which is borne out. The other option would be that embedded interrogatives are FCI, which they are not, since they do not have universal quantificational force, but rather existential, if any (Karttunen 1977).

Another piece of evidence comes from cross-linguistic data. In a (2007) paper, Guerzoni and Sharvit point out the following contrast between (21) and (22) displaying sentences with an embedded interrogative and the NPI any:
(21) a. Claire wonders which students have any books on Negative Polarity.
b. Claire does not know which students have any books on Negative Polarity.

## (22) \% Claire knows which students have any books on Negative Polarity.

The point is the conditions under which any can be licensed in an embedded (wh-) interrogative. We see that as in Classical Greek interrogatives embedded under know in a nonveridical context (21b) with negation pattern with those embedded under an interrogative verb like wonder (21a), while embedding under know in veridical contexts poses problems of acceptability for a part of the community of speakers (signaled by \%). Consequently the distribution of $w h$-interrogatives that can host an NPI in English is the same as that we observed for tis-clauses in Classical Greek.

Hence we may hypothesize that tís-clauses are limited to nonveridical environments for the same reason as ei-clauses: They are endowed with an $\mathrm{Op} / \mathrm{Q}$ operator that requires selection or licensing and can in turn license NPIs. This is confirmed by examples like (23). This sentence features an NPI in the embedded clause, "intensive" pote, ${ }^{19}$ whose licensing must be validated

[^7]from the outside by the licensing of $O p / Q$, much like what we saw for ei-clause in Section 2.2.1. The external licenser is here the imperative mood of eipè 'tell'.
(23) Eipè tís poth' hē dúnamís estin.
tell what NPI-ptc the function is
'Tell us what really is the function (of rhetoric).'
(Pl.Grg.460a)

As pointed out by an anonymous reviewer, this behavior of tís-clauses may be due to tís being a dependent variable in the sense of Giannakidou and Quer (2013) (for a recent version): Tís cannot introduce a discourse referent nor get a value from the context. "Its distribution will be constrained in contexts where there is an operator it can be bound by, and be in the scope of" (p. 127). In our case the nonveridical operator could be responsible at the same time for the quantifier binding of tís and of its licensing. That wh-items in questions can be bound from the outside is well-known since Berman (1994). Be that as it may, the dependent variable hypothesis will have to be confirmed by further research on tís.

To sum up, tís-clauses are sensitive to the same environments as yes/noindirect questions (ei-clauses), i. e. are found after interrogative verbs or resolutive predicates in nonveridical contexts, and the $t$-wh-paradigm is found elsewhere only in direct questions. This means that they are questions like ei-clauses. Recall that this denotation is at odds with the selection property of the resolutive verbs and that this mismatch is the focus of this paper. The situation of hós-clauses is quite different as we will see in the next section.

### 2.2.3 Hós-clauses

Crucially, hós-clauses are insensitive to the veridical status of their environment; the $h$-wh-paradigm is not used in direct questions, but it appears in relative clauses; hós-clauses never appear with interrogative verbs in my corpus, but are limited to resolutive predicates. The latter point is crucial in that it ensures us that the distribution of hós-clauses exactly mirrors that of hóti-clauses.

A reviewer suggest an alternative solution. Let us assume that interrogative predicates could simply not select for DPs. Since hós-clauses are free relatives, they could be DPs, which would prevent them from appearing with interrogative predicates. But I shall not retain this suggestion, since some interrogative verbs do select for DPs along with CPs as shown by example (24), where the DP tàs toútou dóxas 'his opinions,' arguably a concealed question, is the direct object of
anerōtô 'ask.' Still, (an)erōtô excludes hós-clauses. This exclusion is then not due to the c-selection of interrogative verbs.
(24) mè tàs toútou dóxas anerōtônta not the of.him opinions asking lit. 'not asking his opinions.' 'instead of questioning him on his opinions.' (Pl.Men.84d)

All these elements show that hós-clauses are not interrogative in nature and cannot denote questions. ${ }^{20}$ This conclusion is very important, since it means that the question of the association of hós-clauses with resolutive predicates is independent from the UEQ issue that is the topic of this paper. As we shall see in Section 4.1, hós-clauses are endowed with a veridical feature, which prevents them from occurring with interrogative predicates.

### 2.3 Intermediate summary

To sum up, we saw a clear relation between the appearance of tis-clauses and nonveridical contexts, while hós-clauses escape such a restriction. On one hand that-, hóti- and hós-clauses have the same distribution. Hós-clauses are not questions. On the other hand, if, ei- and tís-clauses pattern together. They have two properties: They behave like NPIs and they are questions. As we saw, the latter explains the former. They share a [+ Q(uestion)] complementizer that is licensed in nonveridical contexts (more on this in Section 4). ${ }^{21}$

Consequently, only if, ei- and tís-clauses, and not hós-clauses are UEQs, when appearing with resolutive predicates. The parallel between if, ei- and tísclauses suggests that the same solution should be proposed for both yes/no- and wh-UEQs in Classical Greek, building on the fact that the interaction between nonveridicality and the Q operator responsible for their question-denotation is cause of the restrictions on their distribution. In the next section we will try to explain the behavior of Classical Greek UEQs in the light of Adger and Quer

[^8](2001) and Öhl (2007). We shall see that we need to amend their proposal to capture all the data.

## 3 Previous approaches to wh-UEQs

Two kinds of approaches have been put forth to account for the UEQ issue. The first one seeks an explanation on the side of the subordinate clause (Adger and Quer 2001), the second one suggests that the solution is rather on the side of the embedding predicate, in cooperation with the nonveridical operator (Öhl 2007). We will examine each in turn and see whether they can account for Classical Greek data, in the light of the previous results, namely that yes/no(ei)- and wh (tis)-clauses call for a uniform explanation.

### 3.1 Adger and Quer (2001)

Let us first review Adger and Quer's (2001) analysis and see how it could be extended to Classical Greek data. We shall see that there are many objections to this extension.

Adger and Quer's (2001) approach is twofold. They address the polarity sensitivity of UEQs before handling the type-mismatch. To treat the first part of the problem, they start from the data under (25). They point out that extraction out of a question embedded under an interrogative verb (b) is way better than with a resolutive predicate (a).
(25) a. *What did no one admit if John had stolen?
b. ?What did no one ask if John had stolen?

From this opposition, they drew the conclusion that extraction is made difficult in the latter case because the clause is preceded by an article-like operator, which they note $\Delta$. They take $\Delta$ to be a polar determiner, and then sensitive to nonveridical operators. That is why, according to them, UEQs are only used in NPI-licensing environments. I shall come back to this claim in Section 4.5, retaining the idea of an operator albeit endowed with other properties.

Second, they propose that $i$-UEQs are interpreted through a mechanism of Quantifier Raising (QR) solving the type-mismatch. Crucially, if-UEQs must remain in the scope of the nonveridical operator that licenses the $\Delta$ operator
that is on top on them. They then assume that they are adjoined to vP and not to IP, and cannot be topicalized, either.

The authors do not mean to extend this account to wh-UEQs. They only make a few remarks on whether, which behaves differently from if as shown by the following examples:
(26) a. \#If there's life on Mars, no one admits.
b. Whether there's life on Mars, no one admits.

Contrary to the if-clause, the whether-clause can be fronted and can escape the scope of the negation, which means that it need not be in the scope of the negation (no one), i.e. need not be licensed, and is then not polar. This is because "wh-elements are not restricted in the same way as FCIs with respect to their distribution" (p. 120). These remarks suggest that wh-UEQs might have to receive an explanation different from that proposed for yes/no-UEQs, ${ }^{22}$ but we are not in a position to assess what it could be since it was not the authors' goal to account for wh-UEQs in the first place.

Let us see now how Adger and Quer's analysis could account for Classical Greek (both yes/no- and wh-)-UEQs. We shall see that there are elements preventing this account from applying to them straightforwardly. First we saw that ei- and tís-clauses behave exactly the same, and then call for the same explanation. That would preclude extractions from tís-clauses, because of a $\Delta$ operator on top of them, as in the English example (25b). However, we do have examples of extractions out of subordinate interrogatives, as in (27), where the wh-term hósa is the object of egígnōsken 'he knew’ and is extracted out of the wh-UEQ hópōs egígnōsken (more on this in Section 4.6).
(27) [hósa mè faneròs ên [hópōs egígnōsken hósat] whatever-ACC.N.PL not visible was how he.knew oudèn thaumastòn hupèr toútōn perì autoû paragnônai toùs dikastás nothing surprising about it on him err the judges lit. '(regarding) what ${ }_{i}$ he was not clear how he knew $\mathrm{it}_{\mathrm{i}}$, ....'
'In pronouncing on opinions of his that were unknown to them it is not surprising that the jury erred.'
(X.M.1.1.17)

[^9]Second, we do not need to attribute the polarity sensitivity to an operator on top of the structure of the Classical Greek interrogatives, since the NPI-distribution can be accounted for otherwise (recall from Sections 2.2 and 2.3 that it is the [+Q] C that requires licensing). Eckardt (2007) also adduces arguments against Adger and Quer's claim for English:
this claim [that there is a silent polar $\Delta$ ] contradicts everything that we know about the genesis of polarity sensitive items at present. In the initial stage, it is vital for the element to be able to carry stress in order to give rise to an emphatic statement. It is unclear how a phonologically null element could enter this development (p. 452).

Third, we have evidence that neither ei- nor tís-clauses have to stay in vP, which casts doubt on the QR-side of the explanation. ${ }^{23}$ Look at (28) where the clause eautòn hóstis esti is fronted (arguably topicalized) in a CP position above the IP headed by enómizon 'I thought'.

## (28) Eautòn hóstis estì <br> self-ACC.3sG wh-NOM.M.SG is <br> pánta tina FOC enómizon ánthrōpon eidénai <br> each one I-think-PST man know-INF <br> 'I thought that everybody knows who and what he himself is.' <br> (X.A.7.2.21)

Classical Greek clearly differs from English, which precludes UEQ-topicalization: see the data given by Adger and Quer (2001: 114, here example [26a]) (but Classical Greek patterns with German, see Öhl [2007: 419]). That the interrogative clause is not base-generated in this high position is shown by the reflexive eautòn, which must be bound by the DP pánta tina ánthrōpon at some point in the derivation, arguably when the clause was below it. We

23 I have other reservations about this idea. It is not clear to me how Adger and Quer's approach to QR would coexist with Lahiri's (2002). Lahiri (2002) resorts to a QR process for wh-UEQs as well, but predicts it to be available exactly in contexts where the Quantificational Variability Effect is available (Berman 1994), that is in veridical (i), but not in nonveridical contexts (ii), i. e. he gives the opposite pattern to Adger and Quer (2001) for yes/no-questions.
(i) I know for the most part which students came to the party.
(ii) ${ }^{*}$ I don't know for the most part which students came to the party.

However, there are too many technicalities in these accounts to give a complete comparison here.
need a kind of reconstruction anyway to make the licensing of ei/tis-clauses effective. ${ }^{24}$

Adger and Quer's proposal is then not transferable to Classical Greek as such. More generally, Classical Greek and English may differ in their extraction possibilities independently of the UEQ issue, ${ }^{25}$ since in Classical Greek, both ei 'if' and wh-clauses can escape the scope of the nonveridical operator (see [29] for an example of $e$ i-clause escaping the scope of the negation ouk). ${ }^{26}$
(29) Ei khrémath' héxei tosaûta hósa sù dídōs è kai álla If money he.will.have as.much as you give or even other pollaplásia toútōn, ouk àn ékhoimi eipeîn. more than.that not ptc I.am.able to.say
'Whether he will have as much money as you are ready to give me or even many times as much, I could not say.'
(X.C.5.2.12)

However, despite the criticism I raised, I claim that Adger and Quer's intuition that there is an extra layer in UEQs that explains their distribution is correct for Classical Greek too, as we shall see in Section 4.

## 3.2 Öhl (2007)

To explain UEQs, Öhl (2007) proposes that it is the matrix verb that optionally incorporates a polarity sensitive head $\pi$ so that it becomes a question-selector rather than a proposition-selector. It is the complex $\pi+\mathrm{V}$ that requires nonveridical licensing. However, I shall not retain his hypothesis for three reasons.

24 As pointed out in Neubarth (2006: 136-138), this is possible for CPs, but not for VPs as shown by the following contrast:
(i) ${ }^{*}[V P \text { Buy any books }]_{i}$, she didn't $t_{i}$.
(ii) That John ever slept is impossible.

Any is not licensed in the fronted VP in (i), but ever is in the that-CP in (ii). Neubarth advocates that this is possible because a CP can host an Op or has a Neg feature that licenses, much like what I proposed in Section 2.2.
25 It is beyond the scope of this paper to explain the contrast in (26). This may be a phenomenon independent from the UEQ issue. Perhaps English is more restrictive than Classical Greek with respect to clause fronting. See also fn. 44.
26 The extraction in (29) cannot be attributed to the absence of 'whether' (as opposed to 'if') in Classical Greek, since this language also has a 'whether'-type of clauses (póteron).

First, I fail to see how an object that is formed in the syntax, i. e. after the lexical selection, can set a subcategorizing frame within syntax.

Second, it faces the issue of the asymmetry between yes/no- and wh-UEQs we presented in Section 2.1. Öhl has to explain why wh-clauses seem to be possible in English even in the absence of a nonveridical operator, i. e. when the matrix verb cannot become a question-selector (as in example [8a], as opposed to example [4a]). He points out that complement wh-clauses also show up with predicates that do not allow for yes/no-questions like be surprised in (30).

## (30) I'm surprised by who came.

According to him, this means that the wh-feature and the interrogative feature Q he argues for in yes/no-questions are two separate objects and do not need appear together. ${ }^{27}$ If wh- and Q appear together, we have a wh-question, but not otherwise, a claim I agree with (see Sections 2.2.2 and 2.2.3, where it is shown that $h$ -wh-clauses in Classical Greek are not questions). However he further states that "Wh-clauses selected by predicates not selecting Q do not contain Q" (p. 433). This means that no wh-clause with resolutive predicates contains Q , i.e. there are no such thing as wh-UEQs. But why would the if-clause in (3a) be a question and not the who-clause in (8b)? Furthermore we saw extensively that this is not true for Classical Greek, where wh-clauses with a Q operator are spelt out as tis-clauses and do present the distribution of yes/no-UEQs, i. e. are wh-UEQs. ${ }^{28}$

There is a third reason why Öhl's idea cannot be retained. It comes from coordination schemes like what we find in the following example: Note that in this example, the ti-clause cannot be a direct question uttered by the speaker. That would make the utterance a coordination of an injunction and a question. In the context, it clearly denotes the answer required from the hearer and is subordinated to endeíxē 'show'.
(31) Mè̀ hēmîn mónon endeíxē tô lógō
not to-us only show-SBJV.2SG by-the discourse

[^10]hóti dikaiosúnē adikías kreîtton, allà tí poioûsa that justice than-injustice better but wh-ACC.N.SG doing hekatéra tòn ékhonta autè di’ hautèn each the having she thanks-to herself hē mèn kakón hē dè agathón estin. one ptc bad the-other ptc good is 'Do not merely show us by argument that justice is superior to injustice, but [make clear to us] ${ }^{29}$ what each in and of itself does to its possessor, whereby the one is evil and the other good.'
(Pl.R.367b2)

In (31), the main verb endeíxē introduces two complement clauses. A tís-clause is coordinated with a hóti- ('that')clause, which denotes a proposition, not a question. If we assume that coordination only puts together constituents that have the same type, ${ }^{30}$ the tís-clause denotes a proposition, and endeíxe is not made a question-selector as expected under Öhl's hypothesis. Note that even if we posit a left node raising or an ellipsis on the basis of an original sentence like mè endeíxē hóti..., allà [endeíxē] tí... 'do not show that..., but show what...,' Öhl's account will not work. Endeíxē would be turned into a question-selector and a mismatch will arise with the hóti-proposition-denoting clause, unless we want to say that there is no polarity sensitive head $\pi$ that is incorporated in the first endeíx $\bar{e}$ while there is one in the second. ${ }^{31}$ But would that not prevent Left Node Raising or Ellipsis from happening, since the two endeíxe would not be the same in that case ${ }^{32}$ ? Not necessarily, if this kind of ellipsis is a PF-only phenomenon. However, the forward deletion we have here crucially involves both syntactic and phonological features (contrary to backward deletion, see Wilder 1997, among others). In view of these facts, it seems simpler to assume that endeíx $\bar{e}$ has a uniform selection property in this example, i.e. is a proposition-selector and is not turned into a question-selector.

[^11]
### 3.3 Intermediate summary

In this section we have reviewed Adger and Quer's (2001) and Öhl's (2007) approaches. From Öhl (2007), we keep the idea that the interrogative Q and the [wh]-features are not identifiable with one another, thus predicting the distinction between $t$-wh-clauses (where both Q and [wh] are present) and $h$-wh-clauses (where only [wh] is present). However we still have to find out why wh-clauses behave the way they do since the claim that the embedding verb becomes a question-selecting verb encounters too many objections. From Adger and Quer (2001) we retain the idea that there is an operator on top of UEQs. However, it need not be polar, since we showed that, at least for Classical Greek, it is the interrogative clause itself that requires licensing. Moreover their QR idea does not account for Classical Greek $t$-wh-UEQs. In the next section, we will delve more deeply into the syntax of UEQs to confirm the presence of an operator that is located above the interrogative clause. The following section will be devoted to its semantics.

## 4 The syntax of wh-UEQ in the light of Prolepsis

In this section, we explore the syntax of the CP-domain. I show that UEQs but not SEQs have a split-CP. An additional CP-layer is responsible for the UEQs' behavior.

### 4.1 Syntactic distribution

Here I take a closer look at how the four items we studied in the previous sections (ei, hóti, tís and hós) interact with each other syntactically. I will adduce evidence that ei and tís are lower than hóti and hós. Their properties are summarized in Table 7.

Table 7: Properties of ei, hóti, tís and hós.

|  | + Nonveridically licensed | - Nonveridically licensed |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
|  | + Embedding under interrogative verbs | - Embedding under interrogative verbs |
| Head | Ei | hóti |
| Phrase | Tís | hós |

Table 7 suggests that there are two pairs tís + ei and hós + hóti, which we are going to examine in turn, before comparing them.

First, the phrasal nature of tís and the semantic characteristics it shares with ei (nonveridical licensing) suggest that it could be hosted in the specifier of a silent version of ei. Let us call it $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{t}}{ }^{\circ}$ ( $t$ - as in $t$-ís). Crosslinguistically, this is confirmed by data from non-standard Dutch (32), where the interrogative whitem (here hoe) shows up with the interrogative complementizer (of) (in the following examples the relevant elements are in bold). ${ }^{33}$
(32) Hij weet [hoe [of [je dat moet doen]]]
he knows how if you this must do 'He knows how you must do this.' (Bayer 2004: ex. 16)

Surprisingly enough, we also have examples like (33), where dat 'that' appears below both the $w h$-item and of.
(33) Ze weet [wie [of [dat [hij had willen opbellen]]]]
she knows who if that he had wanted call 'she knows who he wanted to call.'
(Bayer 2004: ex. 17)

However, in this example dat can be analyzed as a "pure subordinator" (Bayer [2004: 66], henceforth dat1) rather than the declarative/veridical subordinator dat (henceforth dat2) that we have with verbs meaning 'tell' or 'know' and that is the equivalent of the Classical Greek hóti, to which I return directly. Evidence that dat1 is a pure subordinator comes from (34) where it shows up with an interrogative verb (an option that is not available to hóti in Classical Greek).
(34) Ik vraag me af [of [dat [Ajax de volgende ronde haalt]]] I ask me PRT if that Ajax the next round reaches 'I wonder whether Ajax will make it to the next round.'
(Bayer 2004: ex. 14)

Let us propose tentatively that dat1 is in the Fin projection of Rizzi's (1997) splitCP domain I will review below.

33 Confirmation comes from (i) (from van Craenenbroeck 2010), where the whP is in Spec, of and the sentence has a generic reading. In this case, hóstis (a variant of tís, see Section 2.2.2 and fn. 17) would be used in Classical Greek.
(i) Wat of op tafel ligt is voor jou What if on table lies is for you

Second, the same rationale applies to hós and hóti. Hós could be hosted in the specifier of a silent version of hóti. Let us call this functional head $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ ( $h$ - as in $h$-ós). ${ }^{34}$ Note moreover that hóti and hós-complement clauses have the same distribution and are limited to factive and veridical predicates, and to declarative speech-act predicates (de Boel 1980; Faure 2014a). This means that hóti-, hós- (and then $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\mathrm{o}}$-) clauses denote true propositions, ${ }^{35}$ which is in line with the results in 2.2.

All this is reminiscent of recent work on complementation. For example Baunaz (2015), shows that French has three C que. Two of them have veridical properties (like hóti/ $C_{h}{ }^{\circ}$ and dat2), whereas the third one is related to nonveridicality (like $e i / C_{t}{ }^{\circ}$ and of+dat1). This proposal of three complementizers extends to Modern Greek, which spells them out differently (pou, óti, na) and, interestingly, orders them from veridical (high in the structure) to nonveridical (low in the structure, see already Roussou 2000; Giannakidou 2009 among many others). The way these complementizers live together is under examination in the next sections. In particular we will see that they can be stacked, the veridical preceding the nonveridical one.

### 4.2 The structure of the CP domain

Putting things together, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{t}}{ }^{\circ}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ seem to project each its own phrase. We have to understand how these two projections are organized. I will proceed in two steps, first reviewing the split-CP hypothesis across languages and second examining the arguments for transferring these analyses to our case.

Let us first review crosslinguistic data, starting with Rizzi’s (1997, 2001) analysis of Italian sentences recalled under (35), (36). In (35), the topic phrase cannot appear above the complementizer che (although a lower position is available), while in (36), it can appear above se. Rizzi claims that this is due to a split CP-domain, whose simplified mapping is as in (37).

34 Confirmation comes from (ii) (compare with (i) in fn. 33) (from van Craenenbroeck 2010), where the whP is in Spec, dat and the sentence has a specific reading. In this case, hós would be used in Classical Greek. Dat must then be dat2 here.
(ii) Wat dat op tafel ligt is voor jou

What that on table lies is for you
35 Possibly turned into assertion to match the selection of speech-act predicates. For an explanation of the semantic mismatch between speech-act predicates and clauses denoting true propositions, the reader is referred to Égré (2008).
(35) Maria crede (*il tuo libro $_{T O P}$ ) che, il tuo libro ${ }_{\text {TOP }}$, lo potrà

Maria believes your book that your book it will-be-able leggere.
to-read
'Maria thinks that your book, she will be able to read it.'
(36) Non so, a Gianni $_{\text {top }}$, se avrebbero potuto dirgli la verità. not I-know to Gianni if they-could-have tell-him the truth 'I don't know to Gianni if they could have said the truth.'
(37) [(Illocutionary)-ForceP (che) [TopicP [Int(errogative)P (se) [Fin ...

Rizzi also points towards Spanish data where the quotative marker que cooccurs with and appears above the interrogative marker si as in (38a) adapted from Lahiri (2002). This co-occurrence extends, in the same order, to wh-questions, as in (38b), a common sentence according to my informants.
(38) a. Me preguntaron (que) si tus amigos ya te visitaron en me they.asked that if your friends already you visited in Granada.
Granada
'They asked me if your friends had already visited you in Granada.'
b. Me preguntaron (que) quién vino.
me they.asked that who came
'They asked me who came.'
Note that (35) to (38) give us arguments for the split-CP hypothesis, but I am not claiming that che/que in these examples is to be equated with Classical Greek hóti. That is not possible due to their distribution: che appear with a verb meaning 'think,' que with a verb 'ask,' two options that are excluded for hóti/ $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$. I just adduced them to ground the split-CP hypothesis. It is beyond the scope of this paper to check whether Classical Greek possesses such a Force or quotative marker. What I am going to claim is that Classical Greek does have complementizer stacking, so that we will end up with the following mapping of the Classical Greek CP domain. ${ }^{36}$

36 Whether there are other projections like Topic and/or FocusPs between $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ and $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{t}}{ }^{\circ}$ need not concern us here.

To sum up, the higher projection has veridical properties (see the distribution above), the lower projection has nonveridical characteristics (taking here the shape of interrogation). They seem complementary. Moreover, we have clues that they can be both present at the same time in certain circumstances, namely in the case of $t$-UEQs. This is what is under examination in the next section, thanks to 1) the phenomenon of prolepsis ('anticipation'), 2) the extraction properties of UEQs, 3) the stacking of whPs.

### 4.3 Proleptic topicalization

In a Classical Greek sentence with a CP-complement like (39), the DP that should be the subject of the verb of the embedded clause is either at the border between the matrix and the embedded clause or higher up in the matrix. It bears the case assigned by the matrix verb to its object.
(39) édei autòn hóti méson ékhoi toû Persikoû strateúmatos. he-knew $\operatorname{him}_{\mathrm{i}}$ that middle $\mathrm{he}_{\mathrm{i}}$-had of-the Persian army 'He knew that he (the King) held the center of the Persian army.' (X.A.1.8.21-22)

Thus, in (39), there is above the complementizer hóti a pronoun autón in the accusative case that does not play any semantic role with respect to the matrix verb. It looks like an anticipation (in Greek a prolepsis) of the subject of the embedded clause with which it is coreferent. ${ }^{37}$ Note that Panhuis (1984) showed that the DP in the prolepsis is a topic. ${ }^{38}$

Importantly, tís- and ei-clauses accept this phenomenon (the relevant phrase is underlined in [40], [41a], which requires [41b] as an intermediate step not to be counter-cyclic), but not hós-clauses (nothing can ever show up above hós):

[^12](40) Ou eí tis oîden tè̀n dikaiosúnēn tí estin, NEG if someone knows the justice-ACC wh-NOM.N.SG is euthéōs díkaiós estin.
at.once fair is
'Knowing what Justice is does not make someone fair' (my translation)
(Arist. Magna Moralia, 1.1.27.2)
(41) a. Toùs Héllenas oudén pō safès légetai ei hépontai. the Greeks not yet clear is-said if they-follow
'As for the Greeks, it is not said clearly whether they will follow.' (my translation) (X.C.2.1.5)
b. Oudén pō safès légetai toùs Héllenas ei hépontai.

This means that (2a) would admit (42a) as an equivalent (with a different information structure), whereas (42b), the counterpart of (2b) with a proleptic phrase is not attested and probably ungrammatical.
(42) a. Prìn dêlon eînai toùs állous stratiốtas tí poiésousin before clear be the other soldiers-ACC wh-ACC.N.SG will.do sunélexe tò hautoû stráteuma. he.gathered the own army 'Before it was clear what the rest of the soldiers would do, he gathered together his own troops.'
b. *Kaì tote dêlon egéneto tous Thrâkas hoû héneka and then clear became the Thracians-ACC wh-GEN.N.SG for tàs alōpekâs epì taîs kefalaîs foroûsi. the fox-skin-cap on the head wear 'Then it became clear to what end the Thracians wear fox-skin caps on their heads.'
(Perseus modified)

We have 25 examples of Prolepses with tís-clauses (total of tís-clauses in the Corpus: $485^{39}$ ), but no example with hós-clauses.

39 This number includes the 378 presented in Table 4 plus the 107 with interrogative verbs.

### 4.4 Consequence 1: Some Classical Greek clauses involve an extra functional head

The co-occurrence of proleptic and tís-phrases proves that there are at least two projections in the CP-domain of Classical Greek wh-UEQs. We may hypothesize that the upper projection in Figure $1\left(\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}} \mathrm{P}\right)$ is the same as that hosting the proleptic phrase (recall that tís occupies Spec, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{t}}$ ).


Figure 1: The structure of the left periphery of the Classical Greek clause.

This is borne out by the interactions Prolepsis entertains with the two items we posited can be located in $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}} \mathrm{P}$, that is hósPs and hóti. The occurrence of proleptic phrases with tísPs, but not with hósPs confirms 1) that tísPs and hósPs are not in the same projection, 2) that in $h$-wh-clauses there is no upper position available for (topic) proleptic phrases. Consequently, hósPs and (topic) proleptic phrases may compete for the same position at the top of the embedded clause. Interpretively, proleptic topic phrases are definite. Definiteness implies presupposition, which means that they are endowed with a feature cognate to the veridical feature of hósPs. This would explain why they are hosted in the same projection.

This means that in the sequence proleptic phrase + hóti, the proleptic phrase is in Spec, hóti. Put otherwise, hóti plays, among others, the role of a topic head. A piece of evidence is that, in some languages, complementizers can spell out topic heads. Portuguese is one of them:
(43) Acho que amanha $\tilde{a}_{T O P}$ que a $\underline{A n a}_{T O P}$ I.think that tomorrow that the Ana
que vai conseguir acabar o trabalho. that will manage to.finish the assignment 'I think tomorrow Ana will manage to finish the assignment.'

Portuguese has the option of displaying a C que between each topic as in (43). ${ }^{00,41}$ Note that Spec, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}$ may also function as an escape hatch to an upper position in the matrix as in (41).

### 4.5 Consequence 2: Wh-UEQs, but not $S(e l e c t e d) E Q s$ involve $C_{h} P$

The previous analysis makes the prediction that when prolepsis is possible, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}} \mathrm{P}$ is present, but not otherwise. Interestingly, only resolutive predicates, not interrogatives display prolepses, and hence embed clauses whose left periphery is as in Figure 1. On the other hand, under interrogative predicates, the structure of SEQ would be as in Figure 2.


Figure 2: The structure of the left periphery of SEQ.

As shown in Table 8, this mirrors the distribution of hóti and hós, but also of UEQs. Table 9 shows the strong link between resolutive predicates and Prolepsis in the corpus defined in fn. 1: on 25 examples in my corpus, 15 are found with resolutive predicates and none with interrogative predicates. The verb skopô 'examine’ is puzzling. Semantically, it belongs to the class of examination predicates, a class close to interrogative predicates. Unexpectedly, it is favorable to the prolepsis phenomenon. However, we may be dealing here with a third, independent class of question-embedding predicates, for examination verbs in Classical Greek are remarkable in that they select (apparently freely) for a DP or

[^13]Table 8: Distribution of ei, hóti, tís, hós and Prolepsis with resolutive and interrogative predicates.

|  | Resolutive predicates | Interrogative predicates |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| ei | $\vee$ | $\vee$ |
| tís | $\vee$ | $\vee$ |
| hóti | $\vee$ | x |
| hós | $\vee$ | x |
| prolepsis | $\vee$ | x |

Table 9: Relations between Prolepsis and resolutive predicates. ${ }^{42}$

|  | Corpus defined in Footnote 2 | Embedded <br> questions | Embedded questions <br> with prolepsis | Rate |
| :--- | ---: | ---: | ---: | ---: |
| Resolutivehorô 'see/    <br> understand'    <br> oîda 'know'    <br> légō 'say'    <br> bouleúomai 'wonder    <br> about'    <br> erōtô 'ask' 27 5 $18.5 \%$ <br> Interrogative 109 7 $6.4 \%$ <br> skopéō 'examine' 79 3 $3.8 \%$ | 32 | 0 | $0 \%$ |  |

a PP along with CP. Moreover, the process of examination tends to create or recreate the answer to the question, rather than looking for a preexisting one. This class definitely requires further research.

An anonymous reviewer brings up an alternative hypothesis to that advocated here: hós-clauses and proleptic phrases would be excluded with interrogative predicates because they are DPs and these verbs would not be able to casemark them appropriately. However, as already noted, erōtô 'ask' does accept DPs (see example [24]), but still excludes Prolepsis. Moreover, the co-occurrence of a proleptic DP and tís suggests that there are two projections. It would be surprising that they are hosted in the same projection since they have antagonistic features. ${ }^{43}$ The extraction properties of UEQs also argue for a CP with two layers.

42 The total is 465 and not 485 (see fn. 40 ), because we excluded rare verbs.
43 That would additionally require that we accept doubly-filled CPs contrary to the more common one-head-one-specifier hypothesis. Examples like tís tína timâ ('lit. who whom honors', Pl. Phdr. 259c) do have two fronted wh-items, but they are of the same ( $t$-)type. That never happens with $h$-wh-items.

### 4.6 Extraction properties

We already noticed that UEQs allow for extraction on the basis of example (27), repeated here for convenience.
(27) [hósa mè̀ faneròs ên [hópōs egígnōsken hósa]] whatever not visible was how he.knew oudèn thaumastòn hupèr toútōn perì autoû paragnônai toùs dikastás nothing surprising about it on him err the judges lit. '(regarding) what ${ }_{\mathrm{i}}$ he was not clear how he knew $\mathrm{it}_{\mathrm{i}}$, ....'
'In pronouncing on opinions of his that were unknown to them it is not surprising that the jury erred.'
(X.M.1.1.17)

In this example, the wh-item hósa is extracted out of the $t$-wh-UEQ hópōs egígnōsken. Note that we do not observe any minimality effect, as could be expected. Crucially, hósa belongs the $h$-paradigm, and (hó)pōs to the $t$-paradigm. This means that hósa cannot transit through Spec, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{t}}$, with which it does not share any feature (and whose specifier is already filled, anyway). We have to posit another escape hatch, that, I argue, is Spec, $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}$. Note that we do not have examples of extraction of $t$-wh-items in the corpus (nor outside of it to my knowledge), whose extraction is predicted to be blocked in this configuration.

### 4.7 Relative and interrogative stacking

Finally, Classical Greek has the property of embedding a direct speech act in an appositive relative $h$-wh-clause (Kühner and Gerth 1904: 434-435). This happens with a wh-question as in (44).
(44) Horô stibádas hôn tí soi méta?
I.see bed.of.straw-PL h-wh-GEN.F.PL t-wh-ACC.N.SG for.you with
Lit. 'I see a bed of straw which ${ }_{i}$ what for you (is going to happen) with
'Inich ${ }^{\text {? }}$ ?
'I see a bed of straw, but what do you have to do with it?'
(E.Hel.798)

Note that in this case the $h$-whP always comes before the $t$-whP, as expected under my hypothesis.

### 4.8 Intermediate summary

In this section, we saw that ( $t$-wh-)UEQ (but not SEQ, crucially) are compatible with an idiosyncratic type of topicalization: Prolepsis, and with extraction of $h$-wh-items (but not of $t$-wh-items), and can have a $h$-whP on top of them. These phenomena target a projection higher than that hosting the interrogative $t$-term. This shows that in yes/no- and wh-UEQs another functional head is active, which I dubbed $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}{ }^{44}$ Crucially, all this does not mean that $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ is polar. The prevention from extractions is only syntactic. What is polar and requires licensing, is the (if, ei, or $t$-) interrogative clause, because of its [Q] C, as extensively argued for in Section 2. Therefore, although the presence of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}$ is now firmly grounded, its role has remained unclear so far and is under scrutiny in the next section.

## 5 A type-shifting account for wh-UEQs

Recall that wh-clauses with resolutive predicates in Classical Greek come in two guises: $h$-wh-clauses and $t$-wh-clauses. The first guise is a sort of free relative that has undergone a process, possibly related to a concealed question/concealed proposition process, which need not concern us here (see Sections 2.2.3 and Faure 2011). What we are focusing on now is the second type, which is really a type of UEQ, since tís in a bona fide interrogative wh-item.

We saw that it parallels the distribution of yes/no-UEQ well-attested across languages, including Classical Greek and its ei('if')-clauses. In this language, yes/no-questions and $t$-wh-questions are licensed only in nonveridical contexts while hóti(= that)-clauses and $h$-wh-questions are not subject to such a constraint (see Section 2.2). We saw that the uniformity of yes/no- and wh-questions were a challenge to both existing accounts for UEQs, namely Adger and Quer (2001) and Öhl (2007) (Section 3).

From the previous section, we learned that UEQs are preceded by another operator $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$, sometimes spelt out as hóti (a veridical complementizer, Section 4.1). In the present section, I would like to address the role of this operator. We shall see that it makes UEQs possible.

With resolutive predicates, the counterpart of ei- and $t$-wh-clauses in modern languages can be substituted for the DP "the answer," but not "the question" as

[^14]in (45)..$^{45}$ On the other hand, interrogative verbs show the opposite pattern (46). This suggests that the if- and interrogative wh-clauses always denote questions, ${ }^{46}$ whereas the sequence $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{0}+i f$ - or interrogative wh-clause denotes a true proposition since embedded under resolutive predicates, which are factive or veridical (Ginzburg 1995; Égré 2008).
(45) a. ?Rama knows if Sita has been kidnapped. $\rightarrow$ Rama knows the answer/ \#the question.
b. Rama does not know if Sita has been kidnapped. $\rightarrow$ Rama does not know the answer/\#the question.
c. Does Rama know if Sita has been kidnapped? $\rightarrow$ Does Rama know the answer/\#the question?
(46) He asked me if Vyasa wrote the Mahabharata. $\rightarrow$ He asked me the question/ \#the answer.

My Classical Greek corpus does not present us with such data, but we have a clue that Classical Greek $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}+e i$ - or $t$-wh-clauses also denote true propositions, since they can be coordinated with hóti(that)-clauses, which we know denote true propositions (See example [31] and how it is analyzed in Section 3.2). If $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}+$ $e i$ - or $t$-wh-interrogatives denote true propositions with resolutive predicates, this means that ei- and $t$-wh-clauses have undergone a type-shifting operation. Given the presence of a functional head $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$, also spelt out as hóti, ${ }^{47}$ heading true-proposition-denoting clauses, I take it to be responsible for this type-shifting. This operation is cognate to what Groenendijk and Stokhof (1984) proposed to account for the various denotations of interrogative clauses, especially when they are embedded under extensional (=resolutive) predicates (vs. intensional [= interrogative] predicates). The meaning of the operator is as in (47) if we assume a Groenendijk and Stokhof (1984) semantics for questions, where questions denote a proposition abstract, that is are of type<s,<s, $た \overbrace{-}^{48}$

[^15]Let us apply it to example (17a), repeated here for convenience and see how it works. (48) gives the relevant steps of the derivation (see Figure 3),
(17) a. Ísōs oúpō oîstha tí légō. maybe not.yet you-know wh-ACC.N.SG I-mean 'You may not know yet what I mean.' (Pl. Grg. 500a)
[48] DERIVATION


Where $s$ is the speaker.


Figure 3: The structure of the wh-UEQ tí légō in (17a).

To sum up, in this section, we saw that $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ is a type-shifting operator turning questions into (true) propositions, thus solving the type-mismatch of the UEQ.

## 6 Concluding remarks

In this article, we were presented with the mismatch of (resolutive) predicates semantically selecting for propositions but syntactically also showing up with apparently question-denoting clauses. This issue exists both for yes/no- and wh-questions, but it has been taken care of in the previous literature mostly for yes/no-questions, certainly because it is covert for wh-clauses in most languages. Nevertheless Classical Greek gives us a clue that wh-questions could replicate the yes/no-question case because one of its wh-paradigm follows exactly the distribution of yes/no-question (in Greek and in English).

To account for the parallelism of the two types of questions, a new proposal was made. First, interrogative-like clauses that appear in veridical contexts are not interrogative, and then not UEQs. Second, actual yes/no- and wh-UEQs need to be licensed by nonveridical operators to show up with resolutive predicates. This is due to the complementizer $C_{t}$, which is shared by them and sensitive to these contexts.

Third, the entailments presented in Section 5 showed that these clauses actually denote propositions and not questions in resolutive environments. This goes along with the presence of a veridical operator at the top of the structure. It was proposed that this operator turns the question denoted by the interrogative into a true proposition. Thus, no selection mismatch arises as supposed at first glance.

Interestingly, Giannakidou's and Roussou's works adduce Modern Greek data that support this view of a veridical operator that is high and a nonveridical operator that is low. The steadiness of the pattern across time is noteworthy.

Finally, the English and Dutch data under (21-22) and in fn. 33, 34 and 44 show that the empirical coverage of our proposal is probably larger. In fact, part of the tests provided by Turnbull-Sailor (2007) point towards a division of English wh-items into two categories that could mimic the Classical Greek partition in $h$ - and $t$-wh-paradigms. More research is needed in this direction.

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[^1]:    1 I will consider as Classical Greek Attic Greek spoken in the fifth and fourth Centuries BCE. This study was run on a corpus made of Plato's Respublica, Protagoras, and Gorgias, Xenophon's Cyropaedia and Anabasis, and Demosthenes' first 21 speeches. Other authors have also been considered: Aeschylus, Sophocles, Euripides, Aristophanes, Menandrus, Isocrates, Lysias and Aristotle. Works are abbreviated as in Liddell et al. (1996).
    2 When necessary, I gloss the examples according to the Leipzig glossing rules. Here are the glosses specific to Greek: AOR = aoriste (a past tense), OPT = optative (a mood). Unless mentioned, translations are taken from the Perseus website http://www.perseus.tufts.edu. Finally, I adopt the transliteration system of Giannakis (2014).
    3 In the examples, the relevant operators are underlined, the predicates and the interrogativeintroducing terms are in bold.
    4 This alternation has been known for a long time (see the reference grammar Kühner and Gerth [1904: 438]).

[^2]:    5 Know/oîda are taken here as representatives of a larger class of predicates, which are in relation with the proposition that is the answer to the question, rather than with the question itself. That is why these predicates are dubbed by Ginzburg (1995) 'resolutive' (a terminology I shall adopt here), and by Lahiri (2002) 'responsive' predicates. They are opposed to interrogative predicates like ask, which are in relation with a question.
    6 Recently, "UEQ" was used to designate another type of embedded questions, whose hallmark is apparently the absence of embedding term in Japanese and Korean (Kim and Tomioka 2014). It is not related to the data we are concerned with here.

[^3]:    7 Polarity items are items sensitive to the positive or negative orientation of the environment where they show up. They need to be "licensed." More on this below.
    8 For example the NPI ever is licensed only when in the scope of such operators in (i) through (iii), but not outside (iv) and (v):
    (i) We didn't ever go to London.
    (Adger and Quer 2001: ex. 18)
    (ii) Did we ever go to London?
    (iii) If you ever went to London, you might have enjoyed it.
    (iv) *We ever went to London.
    (Adger and Quer 2001: ex. 19)
    (v) *We ever didn't go to London.
    (Adger and Quer 2001: ex. 20)

[^4]:    10 Here I consider only hóti-clauses. There are other types that I leave aside but that behave the same way as hóti-clauses with respect to the issue under discussion: Participial and hōs-clauses (Kühner and Gerth 1904: § 481, 482, remark1; § 550). Óti still exists in Modern Greek. Although its span is a little larger, it retains most of its properties (see Giannakidou 2009, among many of her works).
    11 I shall not elaborate on this type of pragmatic presupposition with respect to semantic presupposition. The reader is referred to Sæbø (2007) for further clarification.

[^5]:    16 Hópē belongs to the hóstis-paradigm (see below and fn. 18). Over thirteen exceptions, only two present the $t$-paradigm. Moreover, the exceptions are all cases of 'how' and 'where' questions. We leave this matter to future research.

[^6]:    17 Morphologically, hóstis is composed of hós and the indefinite tis, but the morpheme $h$ - is not active in this item (the reason for that will not be explored here for space reasons), maybe under the influence of the indefinite.

[^7]:    18 The question whether these two usages can be reconciled, as proposed for any in Kadmon and Landman (1993) is addressed in Faure (2015).
    19 Liddell et al. (1996: s.u.), here translated as really. It literally means 'at any time'/'ever’. Ou ... pote (negation + pote) means never.

[^8]:    20 As already noticed in reference grammars, as in Smyth (1956: 601, § 2668).
    21 Elsewhere (i. e. outside UEQ contexts), I assume that the nonveridical environment necessary for interrogative-clauses is provided by the interrogative force. It is hosted in Force, above the interrogative $C$ in direct questions and contributed by the embedding verb in selected embedded questions. Another view would be that they do not need licensing when they are selected.

[^9]:    22 But, since wh-interrogatives do denote questions as well, how is the mismatch repaired in that case? See Lahiri (2002), who also defends the idea of repair via QR , but for wh-clauses.

[^10]:    27 The idea of an absence of Q rests on the exclusion of whether-clauses after surprisepredicates. However, that does not hold anymore, if we accept Abels’ (2007) proof that they do embed questions, but that whether-embedding under surprise is ruled out for independent reasons, i. e. because it is not usable in a non-contradictory way. Thanks to the reviewer who brought this reference to my attention.
    28 Actually, nothing in Öhl's analysis prevents the co-occurrence of a wh- and a Q feature with resolutive predicates, provided that both are licensed, by focalization and nonveridicality respectively, as he himself admits commenting on his example (100). Assessing Öhl's hypothesis that focalization is what licenses the wh-feature is beyond the scope of this paper.

[^11]:    29 I put this part between brackets because it is added by Paul Shorey, the translator, to make the sentence clearer in English, but it is not in the original text.
    30 Note that the coordination argument better works for semantics than for syntax, since two constituents of two different categories can be coordinated, like the DP vegetables and the CP whatever appeals to her in "Mary eats vegetables and whatever appeals to her," provided that both denote something edible.
    31 Order does not matter (pace Öhl 2007), since we also find the reverse ordering: interrogative ... hóti-clause as in Pl. R. 373e.
    32 Identity is a condition necessary for ellipsis, since it involves some kind of anaphora (see Merchant To appear for a review of the positions on this matter).

[^12]:    37 The different analyses of how the prolepsis structure is derived are reviewed in Faure (2010). Let us thus assume that the DP either originates in the embedded clause or is base-generated in its left periphery before moving up in the matrix. Both solutions have their difficulties, but it suffices here to note that there is a hosting site for the DP in the left periphery of the clause.
    38 Actually, there is another type of topicalization where the topicalized DP bears a case assigned in the embedded clause (see E. Bac. 173-174). In this case, the topicalized XP is not necessarily the subject of the embedded verb; it is even not necessarily a DP. Here I will focus on proleptic DPs, leaving aside the other types of topicalized phrases, which may land lower than proleptic DPs.

[^13]:    40 Borrowed from Mascarenhas (to appear: ex. 1). See for many other languages Bayer (2004), Ledgeway (2005).
    41 The relation between clause-typing and topicality is to be clarified though I cannot take up this issue here. Still, analyzing topics would prove more useful if one could map precisely the different types of topics (frame setting/aboutness topics, frame topics, contrastive topics, familiar/continuous topics, see Lambrecht 1994) onto the split CP field (Benincà and Poletto 2004; Frascarelli and Hinterhölz [2007] are attempts in this direction). If these topics do not appear in free order, as is likely, that would make strong predictions.

[^14]:    44 Adger and Quer's contrast presented in (26) may be explained in the same manner, since $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ would make the if-clause an island for extraction of wh-interrogative items like what in this example. A complete re-examination of the English data is required to check this hypothesis.

[^15]:    45 For the relation of resolutive predicates to the answer to the question and the substitutiontest, see Groenendijk and Stokhof (1984), Ginzburg (1995), and Égré and Spector (2015).
    46 As argued for in Adger and Quer (2001).
    47 Recall that the impossibility of Prolepsis seen in 4.5 shows that this head is absent in clauses embedded under interrogative verbs. This is in line with the possibility of extraction in English, as shown in examples (25) ( $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$ being absent, the clause is not an island).
    48 An anonymous reviewer points out that the overt version of $\mathrm{C}_{\mathrm{h}}{ }^{\circ}$, hóti-synchronically contains the definite article ho (masculine, nominative), which makes it reasonable to assume an iotas.

