24.902 Problem set #11
[DueWednesday, November 26]

This is a straightforward exercise. If you've followed the material this week, it should be easy to do, freeing some time up for thinking about your squib.

For each sentence below:

A. Draw a tree. Though each sentence is bad, the reason is never violation of basic rules of phrase structure or movement, so it should be possible to draw reasonable trees.

   Show in your tree, using appropriate arrows, any instance of movement, so it is always clear where moved elements came from.

   Make sure you include any instances of PRO, appropriately indexed where relevant.

B. For each anaphor, pronoun or r-expression that I have labeled with the index i, state which principle of Binding Theory applies to that element, and how that principle is satisfied or violated.   For each anaphor and pronoun , be sure to state what its Binding Domain is and *why*.

C. Each of the sentences is starred. If it is starred for a non-Binding Domain reason, give that reason, with any relevant supporting details.

(1)   *The mechanic told him$_i$ that Tom$_i$'s car needs a new muffler.

(2)   *Mary$_i$ thinks that herself$_i$ should get some rest.

(3)   *Her$_i$ friends persuaded her$_i$ to enter her$_i$ in the contest.

(4)   *Himself$_i$'s remarks bothered Tom$_i$.

(5)   *They$_i$ think that each other$_i$'s remarks about them$_i$ were insulting.

(6)   *Whose pictures of himself$_i$ did Mary tell Tom$_i$'s mother to burn?

(7)   *I wonder whose pictures of them$_i$ that the kids$_i$ bought.

(8)   *We interviewed the clients who Mary$_i$ said are likely to criticize herself$_i$.

***Extra credit*:**

The following is a famous pair of sentences in which it appears to be better for the pronoun to precede its antecedent than to follow it. In fact, with a bit of thought about the structures involved and the meaning of the sentences, our Binding Theory can explain these judgments. *Hint*: it might be possible to interpret (9b) in such a way that the star disappears (holding the indexing constant), though this is not the most likely interpretation.

(9)   a. Realizing that he$_i$ is unpopular bothered Oscar$_i$.
         b. *Realizing that Oscar$_i$ is unpopular bothered him$_i$.