

POLARITY AND CASE-LICENSING
THE CARTOGRAPHY OF THE INFLECTIONAL LAYER IN IRISH

Jim McCloskey
University of California, Santa Cruz

This paper examines a cluster of effects and puzzles having to do with the clause structure of Irish - the surface position of the inflected verb, the nature of ellipsis and the interaction between negation and disjunction among others. Out of this examination grows a particular way of looking at Case-licensing in finite and in nonfinite clauses, with implications for the optionality of Raising in this language and for the status of the EPP. The phase-defining heads are seen to have a crucial role in all of these interactions, much as suggested in Chomsky 2008 ('On Phases').