After more than a quarter of a century’s research (Andrews 1976, Thráinsson 1979, Bernóudsson 1982, Zeaenen et al. 1985, Sigurðsson 1989, 1991-2, 1996, in press a, b, c, Jónsson 1996, Boeckx 2000, Chomsky 2001, and many others), the problem of quirky subjects and quirky agreement haven’t really received any standard solution within generative syntax. Theoretically, it is still a puzzle that Icelandic quirky subjects behave syntactically like ordinary subjects, while they have morphological properties that are typical of non-subjects:

(1) a. Henni höfðu líkað athugasemdir.
   her.DAT had.3pl liked comments.the.NOM
   ‘She had liked the comments.’

   b. Ég mundi telja [henni líka svona athugasemdir].
   I would.1SG believe her.DAT like such comments.NOM
   ‘I would believe her to like such comments.’

The easy way out is of course to stipulate that quirky subjects are assigned invisible structural case on top of their inherent case (Belletti 1988 and many others), but that ‘shortcut’ is empirically refuted by the straightforward fact that quirky subjects do not interfere with or ‘absorb’ nominative case, as seen in (1) (Faroese and Tamil, very interestingly, behaving differently). Moreover, ‘low nominatives’, morphologically unrelated to tense, are abundantly attested in many languages (Sigurðsson 1989, Menching 2000 and many others), (1b) illustrating but one of many types.

Interestingly, however, quirky subjects do interfere with person matching:

(2) Henni líkuðu her. / *Henni líkuðð þið. / *Henni líkuðum við.
   her liked.3PL they / her liked.2PL you / her liked.1PL we

On the basis of these and related facts I argue:

A. Structural case is interpretable hence vP-internally licensed.
B. Case is not even indirectly related to vP-external NP-movement.
C. Two ‘high’ NP-movements must be distinguished, one driven by Person and a still higher one driven by Fin(iteness), Fin being the ‘mysterious’ EPP feature.

That the ‘EPP position’ is higher than and distinct from the ‘NP-movement position’ is supported by two phenomena that have, much like quirky subjects, been unresolved mysteries in for a quarter of a century (Thráinsson 1979, Maling 1980, Platzack 1987, Magnússon 1990, Holmberg 2000, and many others):

- the SUBJECT GAP CONDITION on Stylistic Fronting
- the FIRST POSITION CONSTRAINT, FPC, on both expletive það ‘there/it’ insertion and Stylistic Fronting

The present analysis has radical consequences for our understanding of clausal architecture and the nature of syntactic computation. If time permits, some of these consequences will be discussed.