# Defeasible identity constraints in TDL

Proposal: YADU backwards and forwards

- Lascarides and Copestake (1999) https://aclanthology.org/J99-1002
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- Priority for defeasible constraints

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  - Add as many default constraints as possible (there may be more than one result)
- YADU (Lascarides and Copestake, 1999):
  - Find generalisation of credulous default unification (giving one result)

### **Problem Statement**

```
Supertype

COMP
/1

DTR|COMP
/1

Subtype

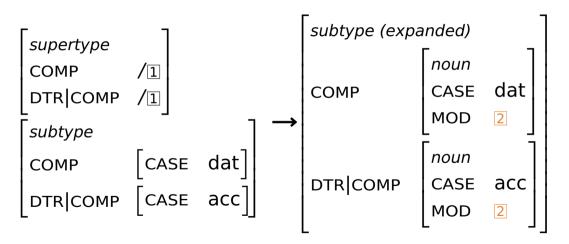
COMP

[CASE dat]

DTR|COMP

[CASE acc]
```

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### **Applying YADU**

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- Credulous default unification discards the identity constraint (it is incompatible)
- The "pushed down" identity combines something more specific and something less specific:
  - Existence of new feature path: more specific
  - Identity constraint on new path: less specific

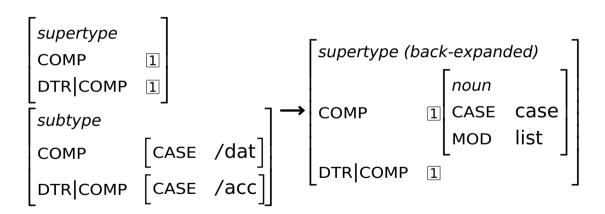
# Applying YADU "backwards"

```
Subtype

COMP [CASE /dat]

DTR|COMP [CASE /acc]
```

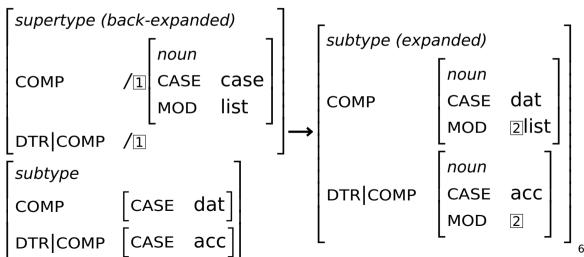
# Applying YADU "backwards"



### ... then YADU "forwards"

```
supertype (back-expanded)
 DTR COMP /1
 subtype
| subtype | CASE dat | DTR COMP | CASE acc |
```

### ... then YADU "forwards"



### Summary

- Proposal: YADU applied backwards, then forwards (YADUDAY? or UDAYADU?)
- Allows defeasible identity constraints to be expanded, without a completely new mechanism
- All features need to be expanded when rules are defined (unification during parsing is too late)