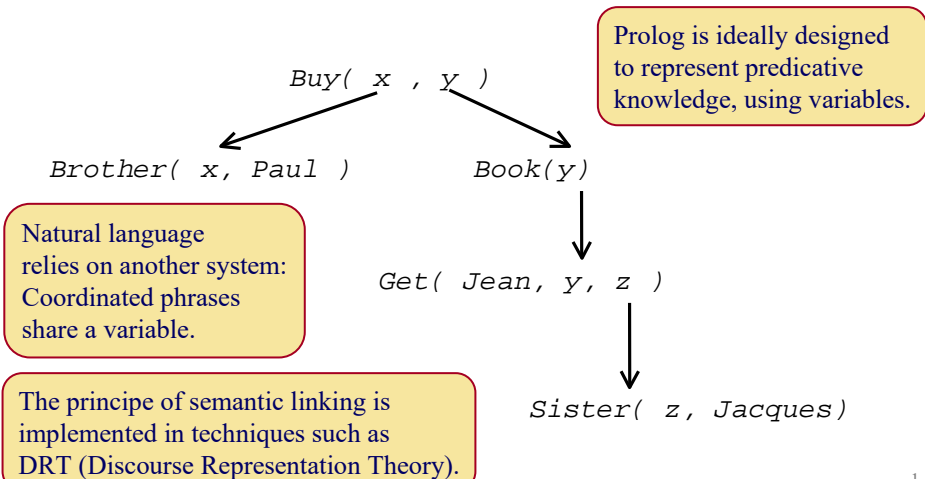


The principle of semantic linking

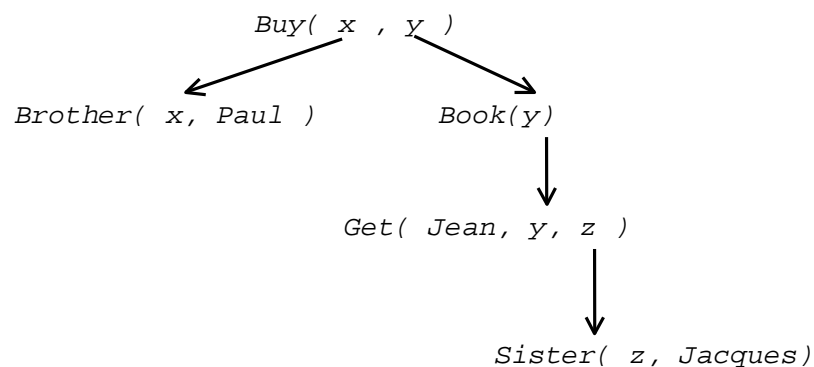
"Paul's brother bought a book that John had got from Jack's sister"



1

The principle of semantic linking

x bought y; x is Paul's brother; y is a book; John got y from z; z is Jack's sister. (1')

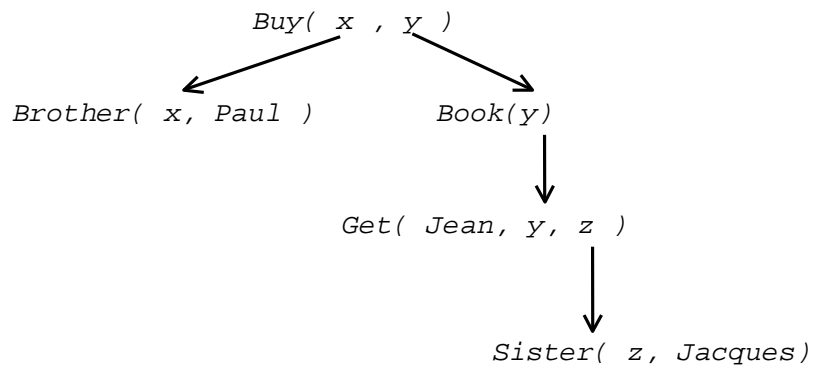


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2

The principle of semantic linking

z is Jack's sister; x bought y; John got y from z; x is Paul's sister; y is a book. (1'')

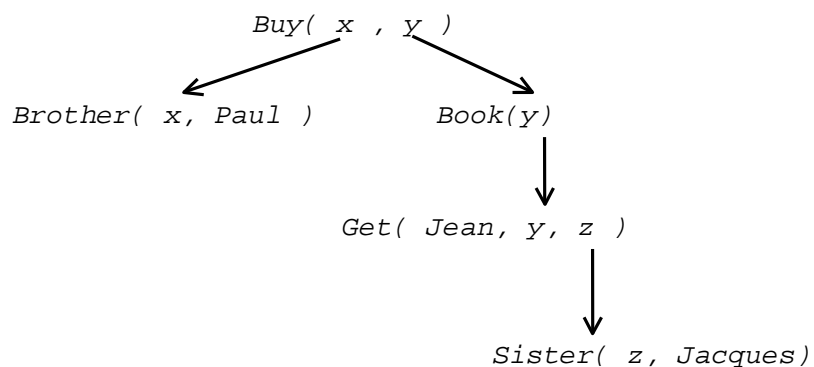


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3

The principle of semantic linking

Paul's brother bought something that John got from someone who is Jack's sister and that something is a book. (1''')

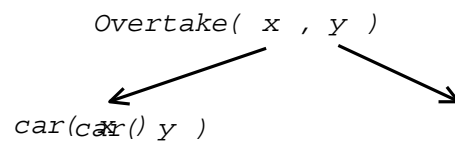


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4

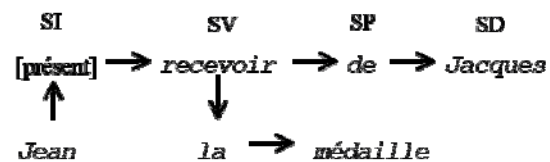
The principle of semantic linking

The overtaking of the car



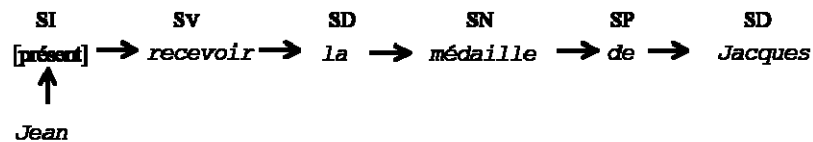
The principle of semantic linking

Jean reçoit la médaille de Jacques.



Coordinated phrases share a variable.

Recevoir(Jean,x,Jacques) & Médaille(x)

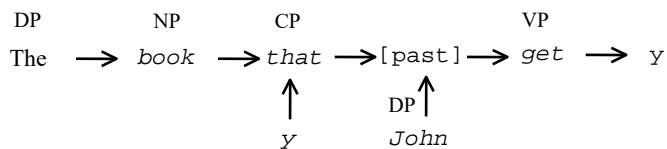


Recevoir(Jean,x,y) & Médaille(x) & Appartenir(x,Jacques)

The principle of semantic linking

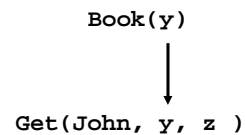
« The book that John got »

syntax



Syntactic movement brings phrases next to each other so that they can share a variable.

semantics



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7

Semantic recursion

Do you remember Paul?

He's got a girlfriend who had several brothers.

One of them was arrested for cocaine possession in 2004, remember?

He is the guy who's going to marry Johanna's daughter.

Semantic determination is recursive as well. Syntactic recursion can be seen as a way of expressing recursive determination.

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