

Geometry-Aware Supertagging with Heterogeneous Dynamic Convolutions

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A composition calculus for
vector-based semantic
modelling with a localization
for Dutch

NWO 360-89-070, 2017-2023



**Utrecht
University**

Categorical Grammars 101

what are they?

A **family** of syntactic formalisms; each instance consists of:

- ▶ a **lexicon**
a map assigning *categories* to words: (quasi-)logical formulas (or ADTs)
- ▶ a small set of **inference rules**
ways to combine and reduce *expressions* based on their categories

Categorical Grammars 101

Many variations: TLG, ACG, CCG, ...(*CG)

common points

- ▶ **Lexicalized**
words come packed with their combinatorics
- ▶ **Formal**
proximal to logics, type theory & functional programming
- ▶ **Transparent**
neat syntax-semantics interface

Categorial Grammars 101

Many variations: TLG, ACG, CCG, ...(*CG)

divergences

different background logics \implies

- ▶ different linguistic aspects captured
e.g. surface order, non-local syntax, dependency relations
- ▶ different parsing complexity
- ▶ different computational semantics
- ▶ ...

Categorial Grammars 101

but! the **parsing pipeline** is always the same
given an input sentence:

1. Assign a category to each word
2. Build the syntactic derivation bottom-up
3. ???
4. Profit

Supertagging: the task

For some input sentence w_1, \dots, w_n find the category assignment c_1, \dots, c_n
s.t.

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{(c_1, \dots, c_n)} p(c_1, \dots, c_n \mid w_1, \dots, w_n)^*$$

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$$\operatorname{argmax}_{(c_1, \dots c_n)} p(c_1, \dots c_n \mid w_1, \dots w_n)^*$$

** In practice:*

build the best statistical model possible given current technology and available data

(pre-)history

$$p(t_1, \dots, t_n \mid w_1, \dots, w_n) \approx$$

- ▶ $\prod_i^n (t_i \mid w_i)$
co-occurrence-based statistical models (90s)
- ▶ $\prod_i^n (t_i \mid w_{i-\kappa} \dots w_{i+\kappa})$
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seq2seq (late 10s)

$$\square^{det}(n \multimap np) \quad n \quad * \quad np \quad \diamond^{obj} np \multimap \diamond^{su} np \multimap s_{sub}$$

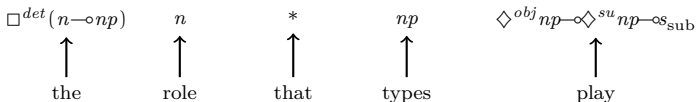
the role that types play

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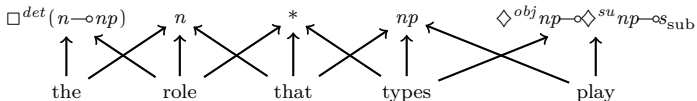


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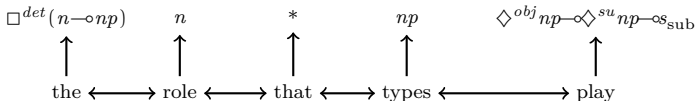
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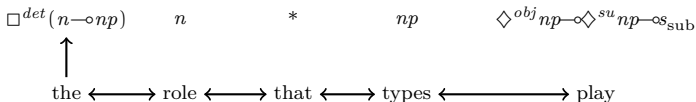


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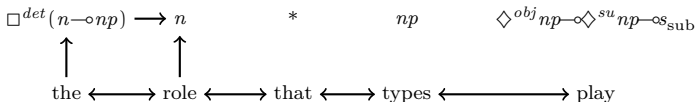


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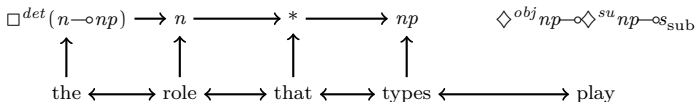


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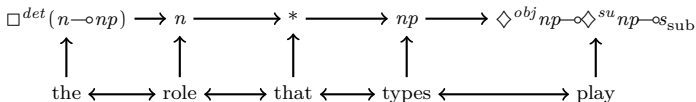


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what have we done?

- more arrows (=more context)
- auto-regression (price: temporal delay)
- what about the co-domain?

Intermezzo: the curse(?) of sparsity

The majority of unique categories in common datasets are **rare**

the “*fix*”: ignore rare categories

- ▶ small penalty in accuracy
- ▶ less so for coverage..
- ▶ meta: sparse grammars = bad

the **fix**: decompose categories & build them up during decoding

- ⚡ unlimited power generalization
- ▶ meta: sparse grammars = ok

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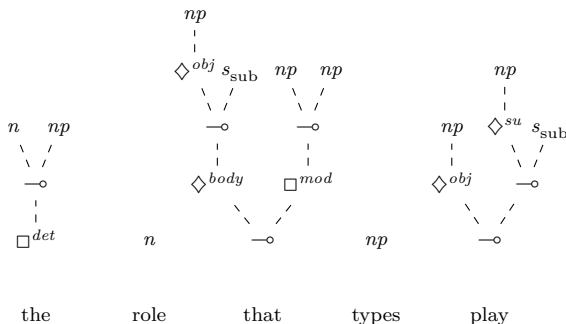
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Modern Times

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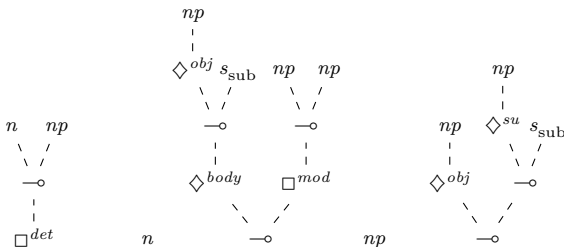
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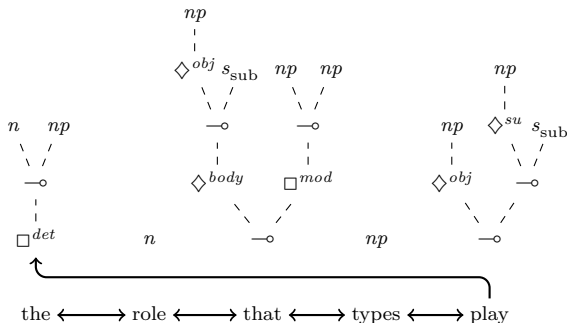


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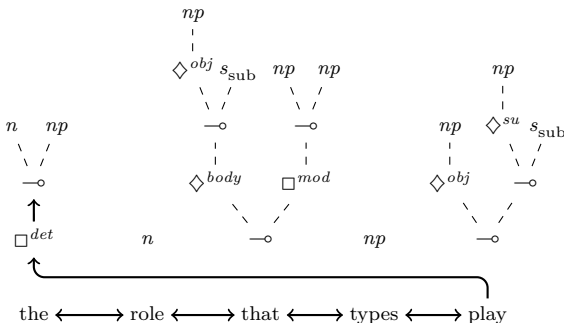
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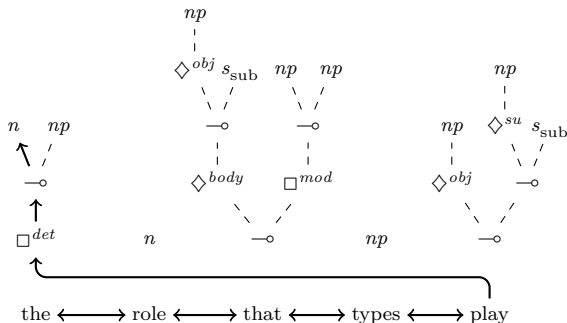
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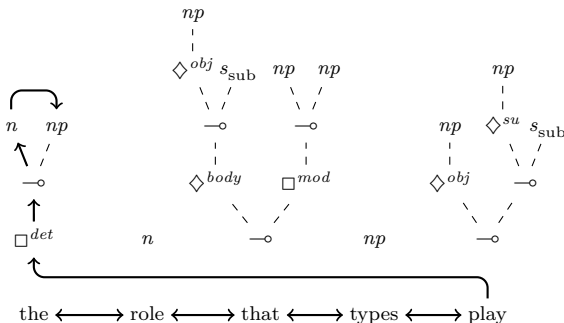
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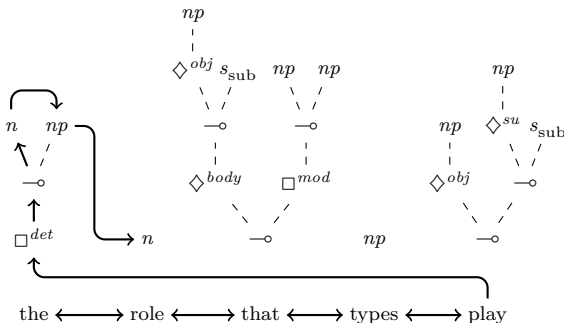
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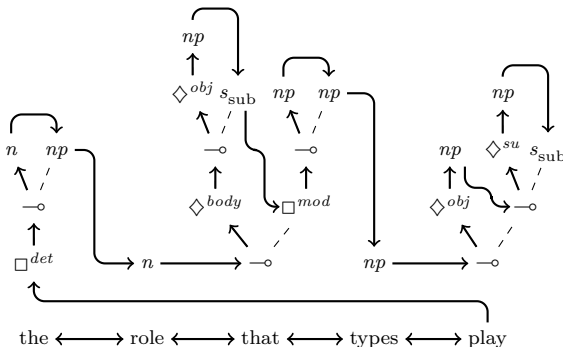
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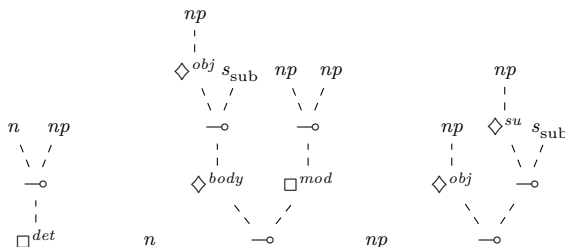
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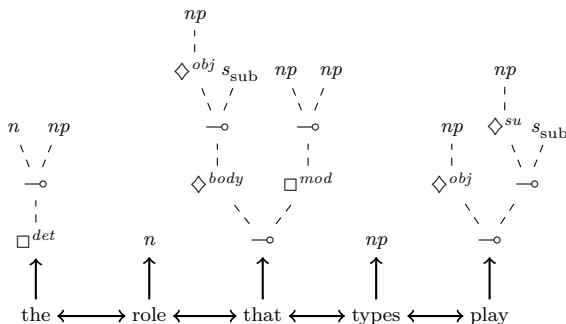


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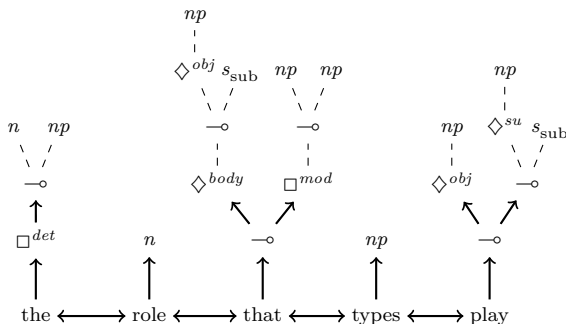
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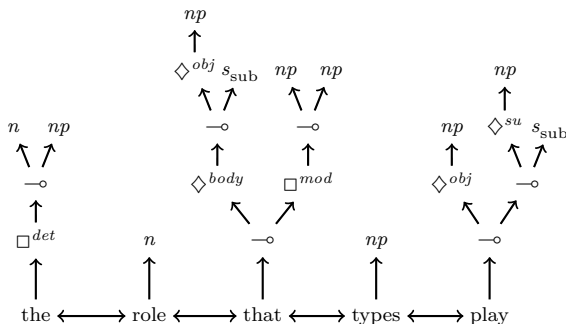
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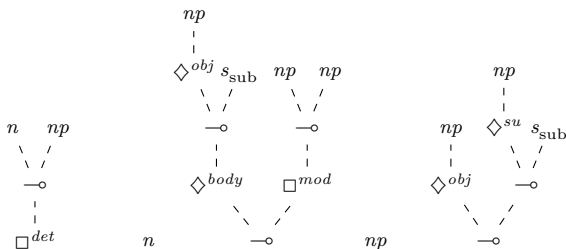
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Post-modernity

neither sequence nor tree but **sequence of trees**

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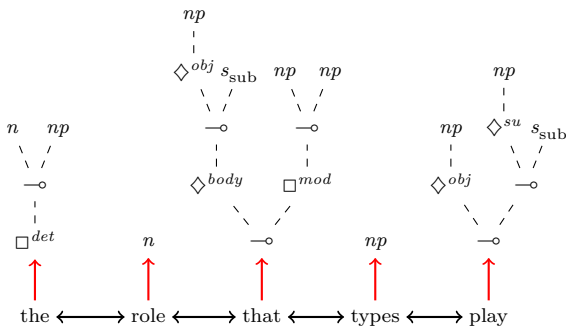
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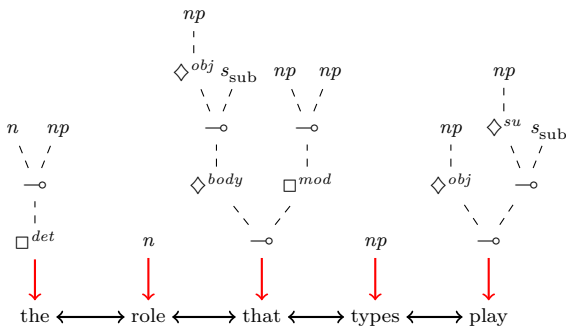


(predict)

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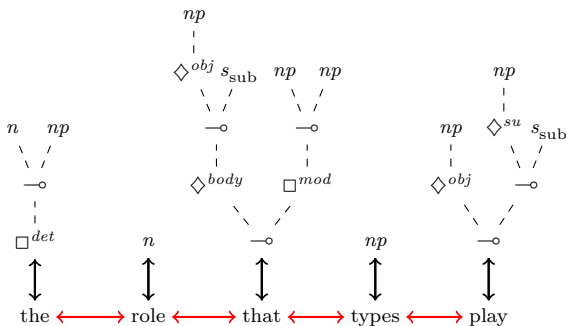


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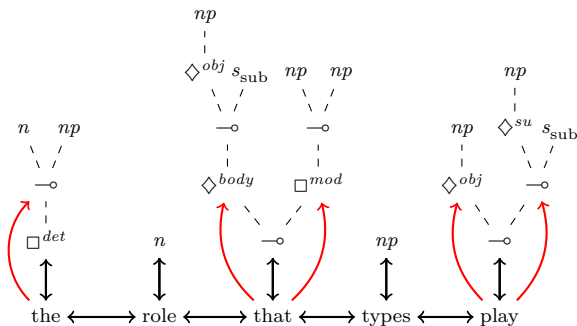


(contextualize)

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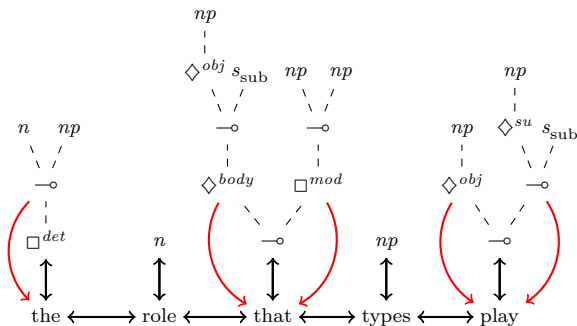


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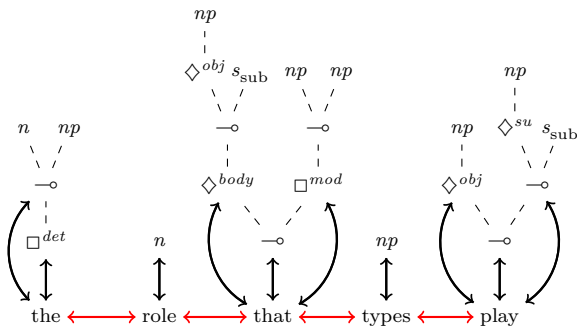


(feedback)

Post-modernity

neither sequence nor tree but **sequence of trees**

$$p(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m \mid w_1, \dots, w_n) \approx \prod_i^m (\sigma_i \mid \sigma_j : \text{depth}(\sigma_j) < \text{depth}(\sigma_i), w_1, \dots, w_n)$$

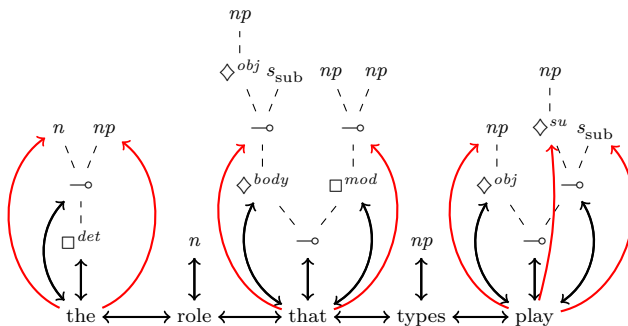


(contextualize)

Post-modernity

neither sequence nor tree but **sequence of trees**

$$p(\sigma_1, \dots, \sigma_m \mid w_1, \dots, w_n) \approx \prod_i^m (\sigma_i \mid \sigma_j : \text{depth}(\sigma_j) < \text{depth}(\sigma_i), w_1, \dots, w_n)$$



(predict)

Implementation: dynamic graph convolutions

1 decoding step per tree depth; 3 message-passing rounds per step

- ▶ *contextualize: states \rightarrow states*
universal transformer encoder w/ relative weights
(many-to-many, update states with neighborhood context)
- ▶ *predict: state \rightarrow nodes*
token classification w/ dynamic tree embeddings
(one-to-many, predict fringe nodes from current state)
- ▶ *feedback: nodes \rightarrow state*
heterogeneous graph attention
(many-to-one, update state with last predicted nodes)

Table with numbers

accuracy (%)

model	overall	frequent	uncommon	rare	unseen
<i>CCGbank</i> (Combinatory Categorical Grammar, en)					
Sequential RNN	95.10	95.48	65.76	26.02	0.00
Tree Recursive	96.09	96.44	68.10	37.40	3.03
Attentive Convolutions	96.25	96.64	71.04	—	—
<i>this work</i>	96.29	96.61	72.06	34.45	4.55
<i>CCGrebank</i> (ditto, improved version)					
Sequential RNN	94.44	94.93	66.90	27.41	1.23
Tree Recursive	94.70	95.11	68.86	36.76	4.94
<i>this work</i>	95.07	95.45	71.40	37.19	3.70
<i>TLGBank</i> (Lambek calculus & control modalities, fr)					
ELMo LSTM	93.20	95.10	75.19	25.85	—
<i>this work</i>	95.93	96.40	81.48	55.37	7.26
<i>Æthel</i> (van Benthem calculus & dependency modalities, nl)					
Sequential Transformer	83.67	84.55	64.70	50.58	24.55
<i>this work</i>	93.67	94.72	73.45	53.83	15.78

Color coded summary

<i>decoder</i>	seq2seq[<i>t</i>]	seq2seq[σ]	tree	dynamic graph
<i>codomain</i>	fixed	open	constrained	constrained
<i>context</i>	left	preorder (global)	ancestors (local)	levels (global)
<i>complexity</i>	# words	# symbols	tree depth	tree depth
<i>treeness</i>	ignored	implicit	explicit	explicit
<i>sequencess</i>	explicit	misaligned	ignored	explicit
<i>search?</i>	✓	✓	?	?

legend

- ▶ green = good
- ▶ yellow = meh
- ▶ red = bad

Take home messages

use hammers for nails only

sparsity.. a *friend*?

- ▶ more rare cats \implies better acquisition of rare cats
- ▶ cascading effect on performance

thanks!