# Dependency Parsing and and Feature-based Parsing

Ling 571 — Deep Processing Techniques for NLP
October 24, 2022
Shane Steinert-Threlkeld

#### Announcements

- HW3 reference code available
  - Sym-linked from hw4 directory (example\_cky.py)
- HW4 notes on OOV: not necessary in base implementation; can be used as your improvement (for coverage)
- Mid-term feedback! <a href="https://forms.gle/UGwT2ZFPbNNCvAis8">https://forms.gle/UGwT2ZFPbNNCvAis8</a>
  - Link also in Canvas announcement

#### Noun Phrase of the Week

A friend is apparently making "brown butter toffee pretzel chocolate chunk cookies", if anyone needs a delicious and chaotic noun phrase example

https://twitter.com/EmmaSManning/status/1319750294666883075

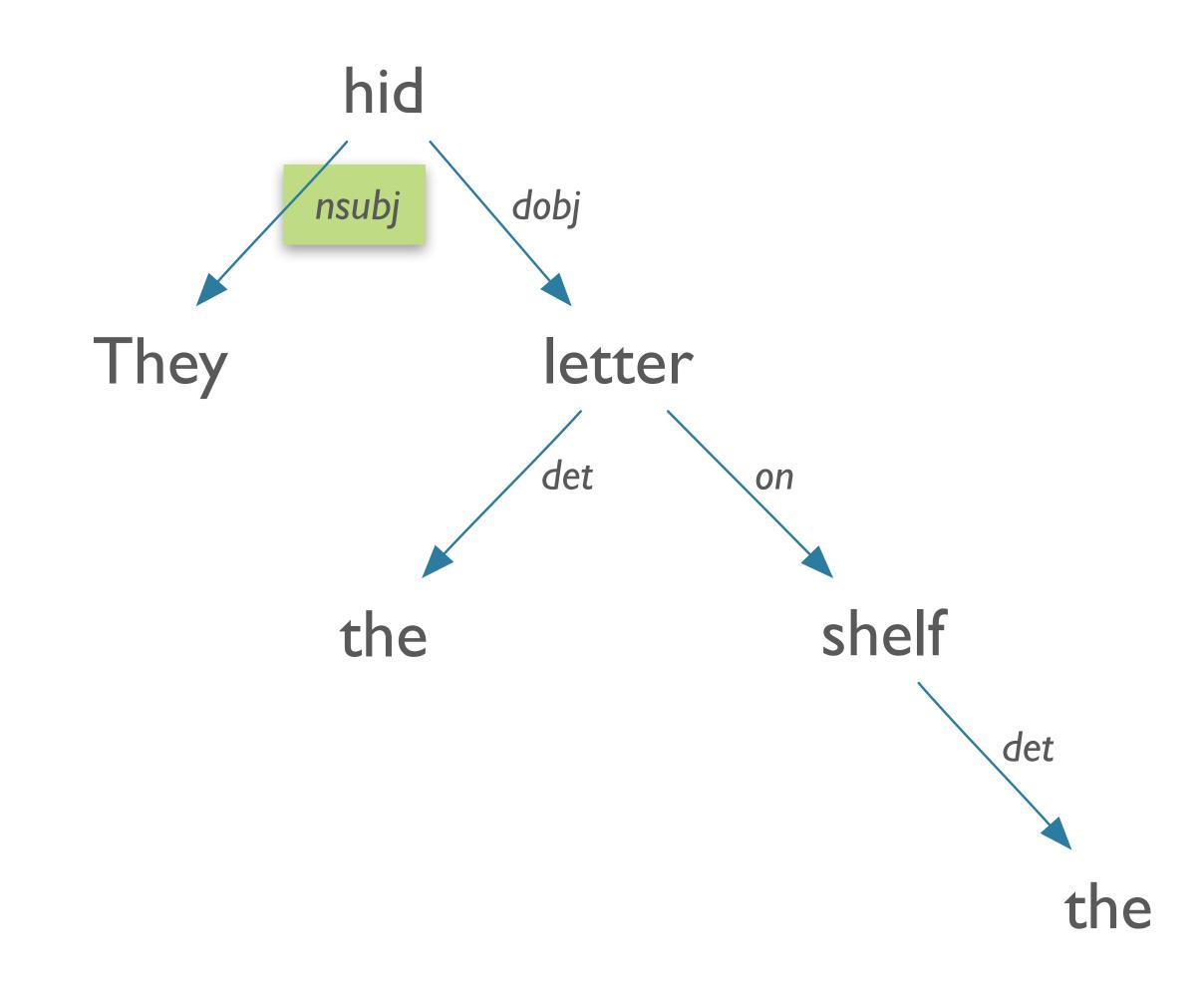
# Today

- Dependency Parsing
  - Transition-based Parsing
- Feature-based Parsing
  - Motivation
  - Features
  - Unification

## Dependency Parse Example:

They hid the letter on the shelf

Argument Dependencies		
Abbreviation	Description	
nsubj	nominal subject	
csubj	clausal subject	
dobj	direct object	
iobj	indirect object	
pobj	object of preposition	
Modifier Dependencies		
Modifier	Dependencies	
Modifier Abbreviation	Dependencies  Description	
Abbreviation	Description	
Abbreviation tmod	Description temporal modifier	



Parsing defined in terms of sequence of transitions

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- Alternative methods for learning/decoding
  - Most common model: Greedy classification-based approach
  - Very efficient: O(n)

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- Alternative methods for learning/decoding
  - Most common model: Greedy classification-based approach
  - Very efficient: O(n)
- Best-known implementations:
  - Nivre's MALTParser
    - Nivre et al (2006); Nivre & Hall (2007)

- A transition-based system for dependency parsing is:
  - A set of configurations C

- A transition-based system for dependency parsing is:
  - A set of configurations C
  - A set of transitions between configurations

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  - A set of transitions between configurations
  - A transition function between configurations
  - An initialization function (for  $C_0$ )
  - A set of terminal configurations ("end states")

## Configurations

- A configuration for a sentence x is the triple  $(\Sigma, B, A)$ :
- ullet is a stack with elements corresponding to the nodes (words + ROOT) in x
- ullet B (aka the buffer) is a list of nodes in x
- A is the set of dependency arcs in the analysis so far,
  - $(w_i, L, w_i)$ , where  $w_x$  is a node in x and L is a dependency label

#### Transitions

- Transitions convert one configuration to another
  - $C_i = t(C_i-1)$ , where t is the transition
- Dependency graph for a sent:
  - The set of arcs resulting from a sequence of transitions
- The parse of the sentence is that resulting from the initial state through the sequence of transitions to a legal terminal state

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- How can we determine sequence of transitions, given a parse?

- To parse a sentence, we need the sequence of transitions that derives it
- How can we determine sequence of transitions, given a parse?
- This is defining our *oracle* function:
  - How to take a parse and translate it into a series of transitions

- Many different oracles:
  - Nivre's arc-standard
  - Nivre's arc-eager
  - Non-projectivity with <u>Attardi's</u>
  - ...

- Many different oracles:
  - Nivre's arc-standard
  - Nivre's arc-eager
  - Non-projectivity with <u>Attardi's</u>
  - ...
- Generally:
  - Use oracle to identify gold transitions
  - Train classifier to predict best transition in new config

#### Nivre's Arc-Standard Oracle

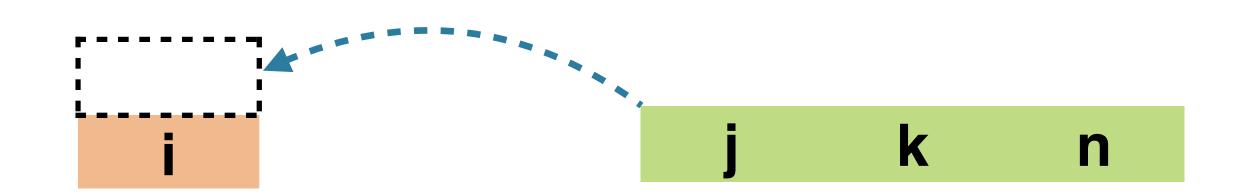
- Words:  $w_1, \dots, w_n$ 
  - $\boldsymbol{w}_0 = \mathrm{ROOT}$
- Initialization:
  - Stack =  $[w_0]$ ; Buffer =  $[w_1,...w_n]$ ; Arcs =  $\varnothing$
- Termination:
  - Stack =  $\sigma$ ; Buffer= []; Arcs = A
    - ullet for any  $\sigma$  and A

#### Nivre's Arc-Standard Oracle

- Transitions are one of three:
  - Shift
  - Left-Arc
  - Right-Arc

## Transitions: Shift

- Shift first element of buffer to top of stack.
  - $[i][j,k,n,...][] \rightarrow [i,j][k,n,...][]$



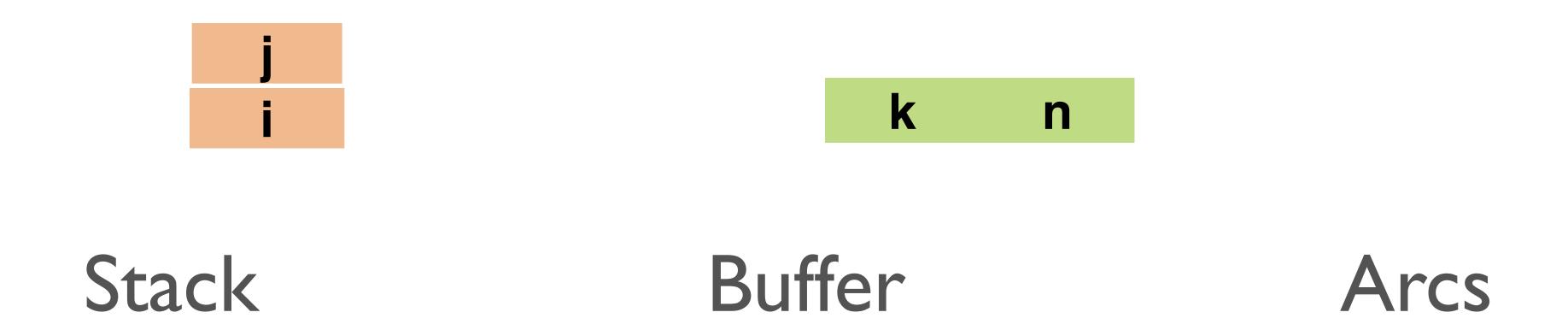
Stack

Buffer

Arcs

#### Transitions: Shift

- Shift first element of buffer to top of stack.
  - $[i][j,k,n,...][] \rightarrow [i,j][k,n,...][]$



## Transitions: Left-Arc

- Add arc from element at top of stack to second element on stack with dependency label I
  - Pop second element from stack.
  - $[i,j] [k,n,...] A \rightarrow [j] [k,n,...] A \cup [(j,l,i)]$



Stack

Buffer

k

Arcs

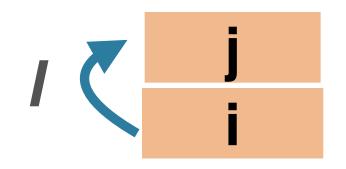
## Transitions: Left-Arc

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  - Pop second element from stack.
  - $[i,j] [k,n,...] A \rightarrow [j] [k,n,...] A \cup [(j,l,i)]$



## Transitions: Right-Arc

- Add arc from second element on stack to top element on stack with dependency label I
  - Pop top element from stack.
  - $[i,j] [k,n,...] A \rightarrow [j] [k,n,...] A \cup [(i,l,j)]$



k

Stack

Buffer

Arcs

## Transitions: Right-Arc

- Add arc from second element on stack to top element on stack with dependency label I
  - Pop top element from stack.
  - $[i,j] [k,n,...] A \rightarrow [j] [k,n,...] A \cup [(i,l,j)]$

i (i,l,j)

Stack Buffer Arcs

# Training Process

- Each step of the algorithm is a decision point between the three states
- We want to train a model to decide between the three options at each step
  - (Reduce to a classification problem)
- We start with:
  - A treebank
  - An oracle process for guiding the transitions
  - A discriminative learner to relate the transition to features of the current configuration

## Training Process, Formally:

```
(\Sigma, B, A)
```

- 1)  $c \leftarrow c_0(S)$
- 2) while c is not terminal
- 3)  $t \leftarrow o(c)$  # Choose the (o)ptimal transition for the config c
- 4)  $c \leftarrow t(c)$  # Move to the next configuration
- 5) return  $G_c$

## Testing Process, Formally:

```
(\Sigma, B, A)
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- 1)  $c \leftarrow c_0(S)$
- 2) while c is not terminal
- 3)  $t \leftarrow \lambda_c(c)$  # Choose the transition given model parameters at c
- 4)  $c \leftarrow t(c)$  # Move to the next configuration
- 5) return  $G_c$

## Representing Configurations with Features

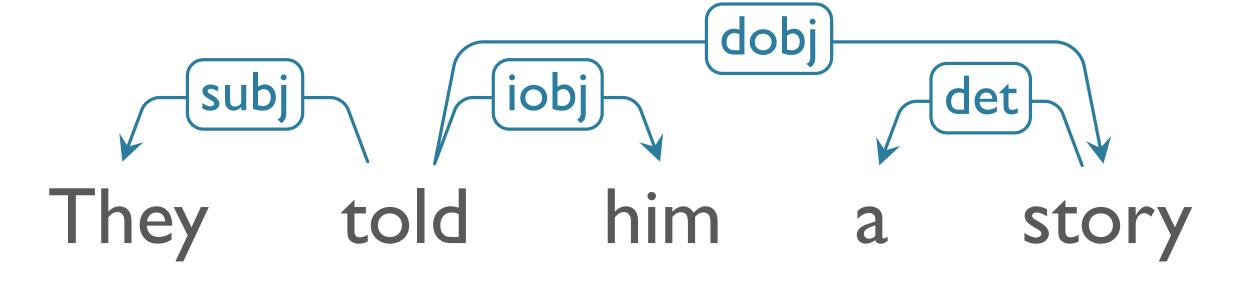
#### Address

- Locate a given word:
  - By position in stack
  - By position in buffer
  - By attachment to a word in buffer

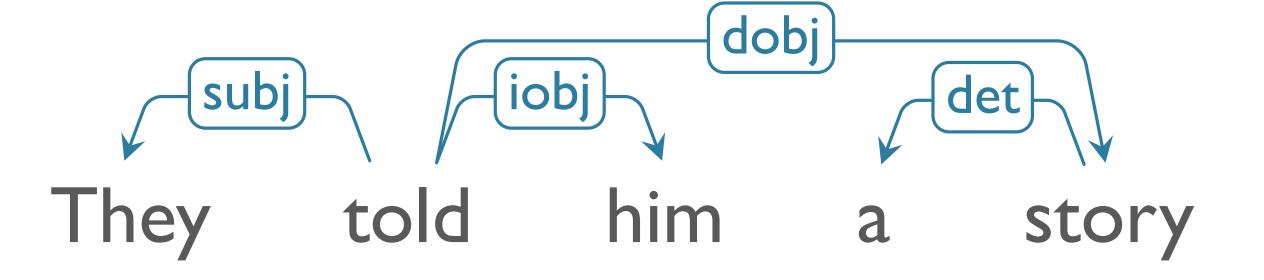
#### Attributes

- Identity of word
- lemma for word
- POS tag of word
- Dependency label for word ← conditioned on previous decisions!

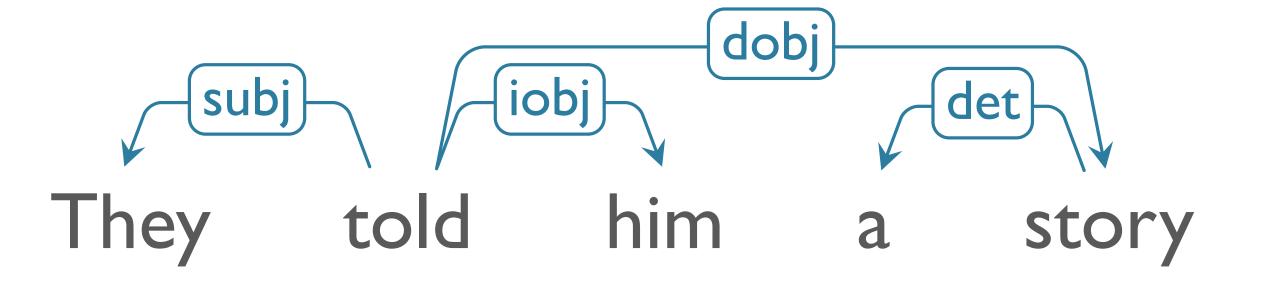
Action	Stack	Buffer
	[ROOT]	[They told him a story]



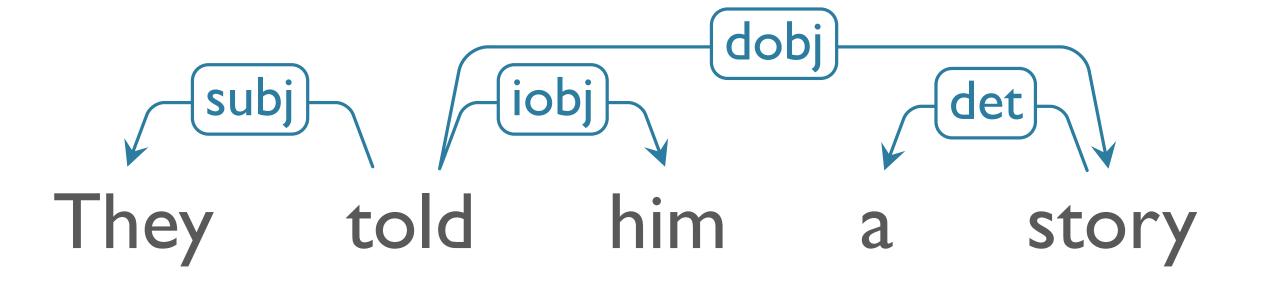
Action	Stack	Buffer
	[ROOT]	[They told him a story]
Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]



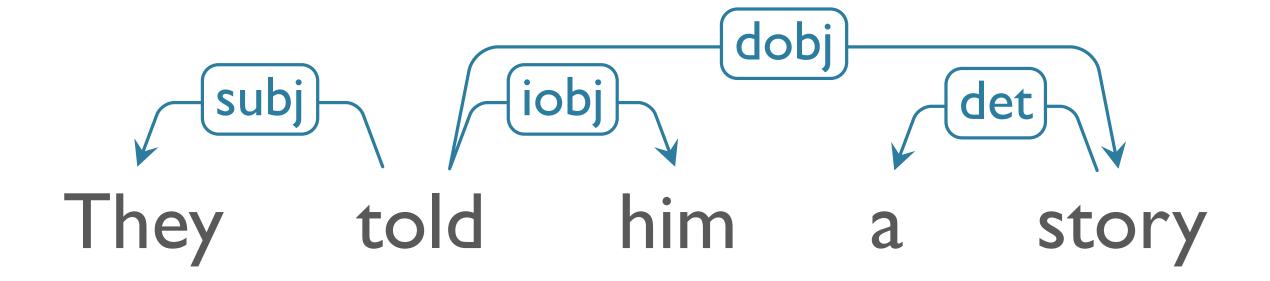
Action	Stack	Buffer
	[ROOT]	[They told him a story]
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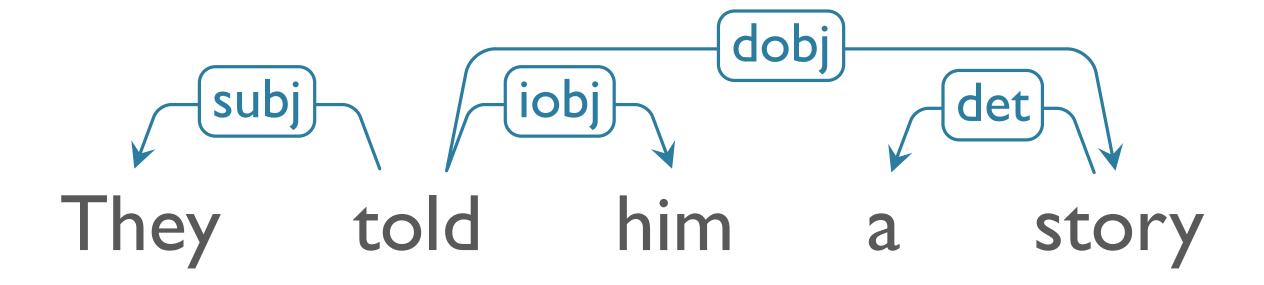
Action	Stack	Buffer
	[ROOT]	[They told him a story]
Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]
Shift	[ROOT, They, told]	[him a story]
Left-Arc (subj)	[ROOT, told]	[him a story]



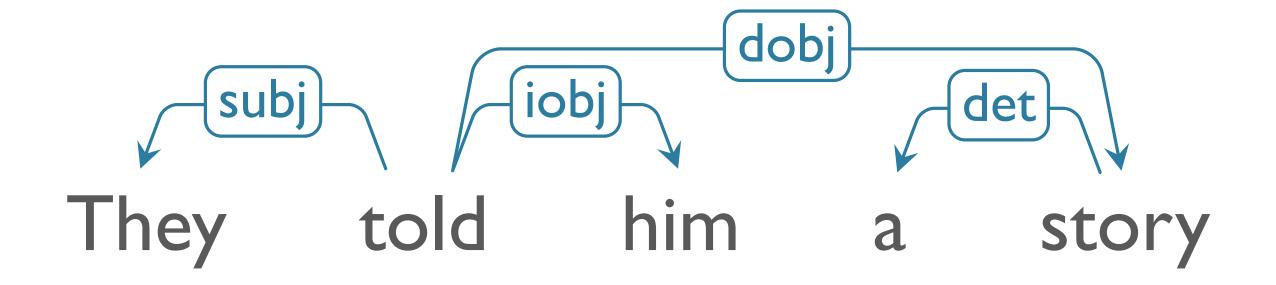
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Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]	
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Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]	



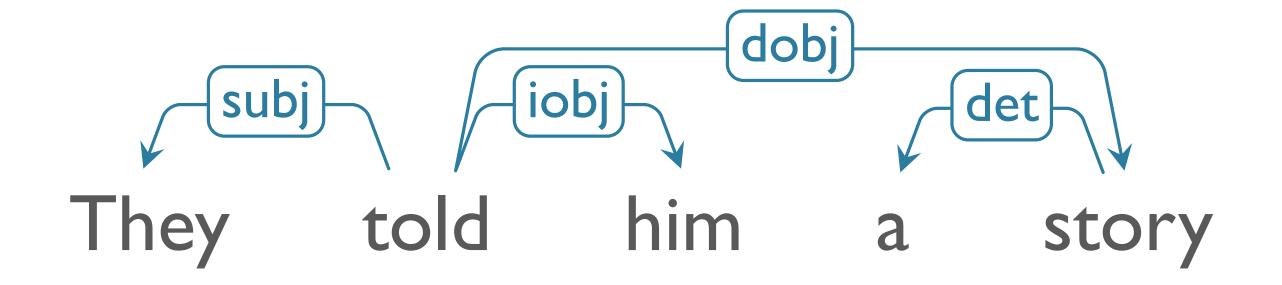
Action	Stack	Buffer	
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Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, They, told]	[him a story]	
Left-Arc (subj)	[ROOT, told]	[him a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]	
Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]	



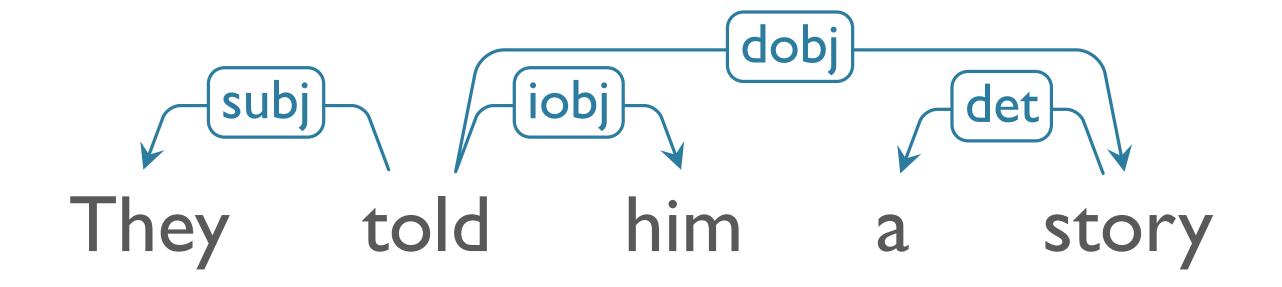
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Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]	
Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, a]	[story]	



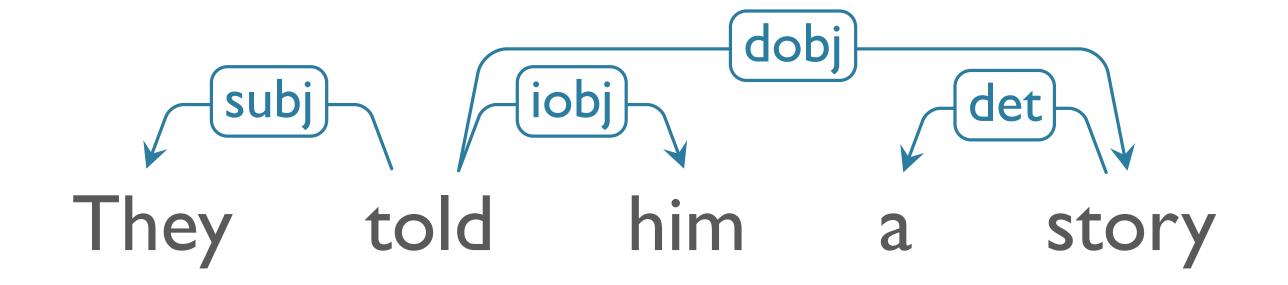
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Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, a]	[story]	
Shift	[ROOT,told, a, story]		



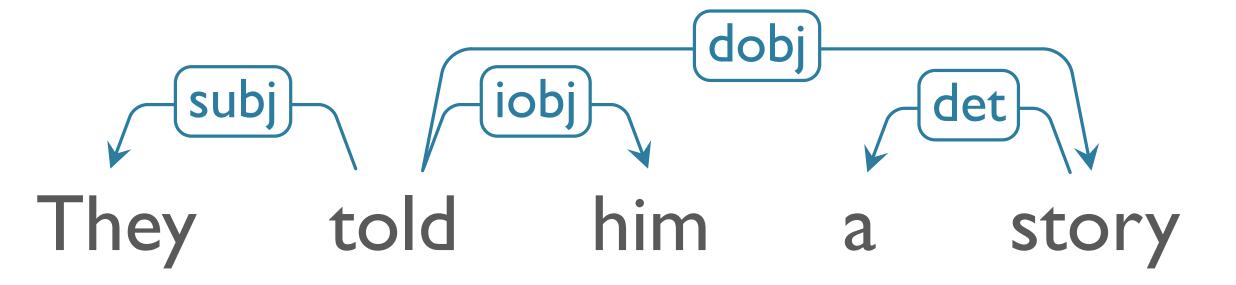
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Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]	
Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, a]	[story]	
Shift	[ROOT,told, a, story]		
Left-Arc (Det)	[ROOT, told, story]		



Action	Stack	Buffer	
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Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, They, told]	[him a story]	
Left-Arc (subj)	[ROOT, told]	[him a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]	
Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]	
Shift	[ROOT, told, a]	[story]	
Shift	[ROOT,told, a, story]		
Left-Arc (Det)	[ROOT, told, story]		
Right-Arc (dobj)	[ROOT, told]		



Action	Stack	Buffer		
	[ROOT]	[They told him a story]		
Shift	[ROOT, They]	[told him a story]		
Shift	[ROOT, They, told]	[him a story]		
Left-Arc (subj)	[ROOT, told]	[him a story]		
Shift	[ROOT, told, him]	[a story]		
Right-Arc (iobj)	[ROOT, told]	[a story]		
Shift	[ROOT, told, a]	[story]		
Shift	[ROOT,told, a, story]			
Left-Arc (Det)	[ROOT, told, story]			
Right-Arc (dobj)	[ROOT, told]			
Right-Arc (root)	[ROOT]			



# Transition-Based Parsing Summary

• Shift-Reduce [reduce = pop] paradigm, bottom-up approach

#### • Pros:

- Single pass, O(n) complexity
- Reduce parsing to classification problem; easy to introduce new features

#### • Cons:

- Only makes local decisions, may not find global optimum
- Does not handle non-projective trees without hacks
  - e.g. transforming nonprojective trees to projective in training data; reconverting after

## Other Notes

- ...is this a parser?
  - No, not really!
  - Transforms problem into sequence labeling task, of a sort.
    - e.g. (SH, LA, SH, RA, SH, SH, LA, RA)
    - Sequence score is sum of transition scores

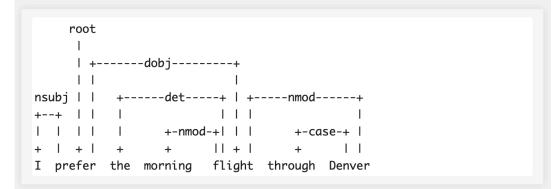
## Other Notes

- Classifier: Any
  - Originally, SVMs
  - Currently: NNs (LSTMs, pre-trained Transformer-based)
- State-of-the-art: UAS: 97.2%; LAS: 95.7%
  - http://nlpprogress.com/english/dependency\_parsing.html

#### **Dependency parsing**

Dependency parsing is the task of extracting a dependency parse of a sentence that represents its grammatical structure and defines the relationships between "head" words and words, which modify those heads.

Example:



Relations among the words are illustrated above the sentence with directed, labeled arcs from heads to dependents (+ indicates the dependent).

#### Penn Treebank

Models are evaluated on the Stanford Dependency conversion (v3.3.0) of the Penn Treebank with predicted POS-tags. Punctuation symbols are excluded from the evaluation. Evaluation metrics are unlabeled attachment score (UAS) and labeled attachment score (LAS). UAS does not consider the semantic relation (e.g. Subj) used to label the attachment between the head and the child, while LAS requires a semantic correct label for each attachment. Here, we also mention the predicted POS tagging accuracy.

Model	POS	UAS	LAS	Paper / Source	Code
HPSG Parser (Joint) + XLNet (Zhou and Zhao, 2019)	97.3	97.20	95.72	Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar Parsing on Penn Treebank	Official
HPSG Parser (Joint) + BERT (Zhou and Zhao, 2019)	97.3	97.00	95.43	Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar Parsing on Penn Treebank	Official
CVT + Multi-Task (Clark et al., 2018)	97.74	96.61	95.02	Semi-Supervised Sequence Modeling with Cross-View Training	Official
Graph-based parser with GNNs (Ji et al., 2019)	97.3	95.97	94.31	Graph-based Dependency Parsing with Graph Neural Networks	
Deep Biaffine (Dozat and Manning, 2017)	97.3	95.74	94.08	Deep Biaffine Attention for Neural Dependency Parsing	Official
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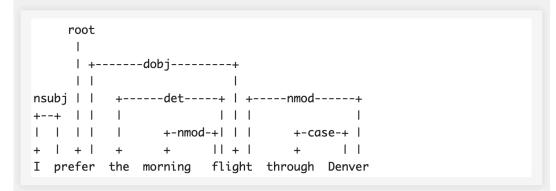
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Story time!

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The latest news from Google AI

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At Google, we spend a lot of time thinking about how computer systems can read and understand human language in order to process it in intelligent ways. Today, we are excited to share the fruits of our research with the broader community by releasing SyntaxNet, an open-source neural network framework implemented in TensorFlow that provides a foundation for Natural Language Understanding (NLU) systems. Our release includes all the code needed to train new SyntaxNet models on your own data, as well as Parsey McParseface, an English parser that we have trained for you and that you can use to analyze English text.

Parsey McParseface is built on powerful machine learning algorithms that learn to analyze the linguistic structure of language, and that can explain the functional role of each word in a given sentence. Because Parsey McParseface is the most accurate such model in the world, we hope that it will be useful to developers and researchers interested in automatic extraction of information, translation, and other core applications of NLU.

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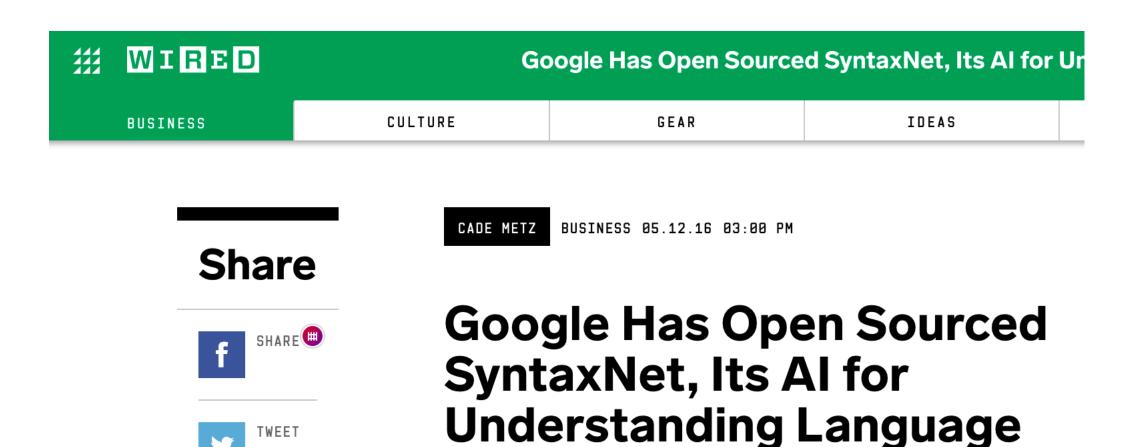
Don't laugh: Google's Parsey
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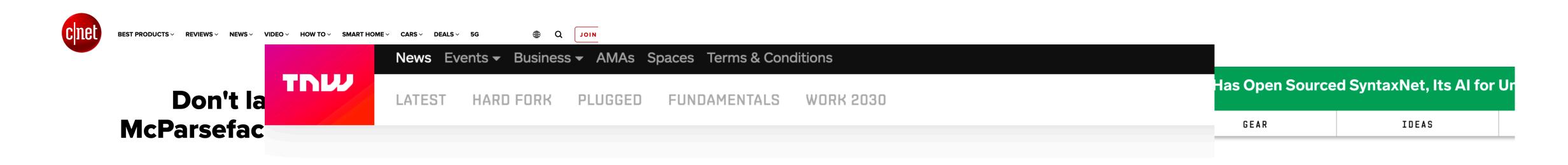


Google is giving away the tool it uses to understand language, Parsey McParseface

Okay, Google. Okay. We get it.

By Dieter Bohn | @backlon | May 12, 2016, 3:00pm EDT





GOOGLE TECH

## Google is given understand

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Google just open sourced something called 'Parsey McParseface,' and it could change Al forever

by NATE SWANNER — May 12, 2016 in DESIGN & DEV

Has Open Sourced Net, Its AI for tanding Language

SS 05.12.16 03:00 PM

#### **Globally Normalized Transition-Based Neural Networks**

Daniel Andor, Chris Alberti, David Weiss, Aliaksei Severyn,
Alessandro Presta, Kuzman Ganchev, Slav Petrov and Michael Collins\*

Google Inc

New York, NY

{andor,chrisalberti,djweiss,severyn,apresta,kuzman,slav,mjcollins}@google.com

#### **Abstract**

We introduce a globally normalized transition-based neural network model that achieves state-of-the-art part-of-speech tagging, dependency parsing and sentence compression results. Our model is a simple feed-forward neural network that operates on a task-specific transition system, yet achieves comparable or better accuracies than recurrent models. We discuss the importance of global as opposed to local normalization: a key insight is that the label bias problem implies that globally normalized models can be strictly more expressive than locally normalized models.

Chen and Manning (2014). We do not use any recurrence, but perform beam search for maintaining multiple hypotheses and introduce global normalization with a conditional random field (CRF) objective (Bottou et al., 1997; Le Cun et al., 1998; Lafferty et al., 2001; Collobert et al., 2011) to overcome the label bias problem that locally normalized models suffer from. Since we use beam inference, we approximate the partition function by summing over the elements in the beam, and use early updates (Collins and Roark, 2004; Zhou et al., 2015). We compute gradients based on this approximate global normalization and perform full backpropagation training of all neural network parameters based on the CRF loss.

In Section 3 we revisit the label bias problem and the implication that globally normalized mod-

Globally Normalized Transition-Based Neural Networks

Daniel Andor, Chris Alberti, David Weiss, Aliaksei Severyn,
Alessandro Presta, Kuzman Ganchev, Slav Petrov and Michael Collins\*
Google Inc
New York, NY

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Great paper

Many methodological lessons on how to improve transition-based dependency parsing

BUT: don't believe (or at least beware) the hype!

# Dependency Parsing: Summary

- Dependency Grammars:
  - Compactly represent pred—arg structure
  - Lexicalized, localized
  - Natural handling of flexible word order

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- Dependency Grammars:
  - Compactly represent pred—arg structure
  - Lexicalized, localized
  - Natural handling of flexible word order
- Dependency parsing:
  - Conversion to phrase structure trees
  - Graph-based parsing (MST), efficient non-proj  $\mathbf{O}(n^2)$
  - Transition-based parser
    - MALTparser: very efficient O(n)
      - Optimizes local decisions based on many rich features

## Roadmap

- Dependency Parsing
  - Transition-based Parsing
- Feature-based Parsing
  - Motivation
  - Features
  - Unification

# Feature-Based Parsing

## Constraints & Compactness

- $\bullet$  S  $\rightarrow$  NP VP
  - They run.
  - He runs.

## Constraints & Compactness

- $S \rightarrow NP VP$ 
  - They run.
  - He runs.
- But...
  - \*They runs
  - \* He run
  - \* He disappeared the flight
- Violate agreement (number/person), subcategorization -> over-generation

## Enforcing Constraints with CFG Rules

- Agreement
  - $S \rightarrow NP_{sg+3p} VP_{sg+3p}$
  - $S \rightarrow NP_{pl+3p} VP_{pl+3p}$

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- Agreement
  - $S \rightarrow NP_{sg+3p} VP_{sg+3p}$
  - $S \rightarrow NP_{pl+3p} VP_{pl+3p}$
- Subcategorization:
  - VP → V<sub>transitive</sub> NP
  - VP → V<sub>intransitive</sub>
  - VP → V<sub>ditransitive</sub> NP NP
- Explosive, and loses key generalizations

Need compact, general constraint

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- $S \rightarrow NP VP$  [iff NP and VP agree]
- How can we describe agreement & subcategory?
  - Decompose into elementary features that must be consistent
    - e.g. Agreement on number, person, gender, etc

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- How can we describe agreement & subcategory?
  - Decompose into elementary features that must be consistent
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- Augment CF rules with feature constraints
  - Develop mechanism to enforce consistency
  - Elegant, compact, rich representation

## Feature Representations

- Fundamentally Attribute-Value pairs
  - Values may be symbols or feature structures
  - Feature path: list of features in structure to value
  - "Reentrant feature structure" sharing a structure
- Represented as
  - Attribute-Value Matrix (AVM)
  - Directed Acyclic Graph (DAG)

# Attribute-Value Matrices (AVMs)

```
\begin{bmatrix} \mathsf{ATTRIBUTE}_1 \ \mathit{value}_1 \\ \mathsf{ATTRIBUTE}_2 \ \mathit{value}_2 \\ \vdots \\ \mathsf{ATTRIBUTE}_n \ \mathit{value}_n \end{bmatrix}
```

## AVIM Examples

(A) [NUMBER PL PERSON 3] (C) AGREEMENT [NUMBER PL PERSON 3]

(B) CAT NP
NUMBER PL
PERSON 3

**(D)** 

CAT S

HEAD

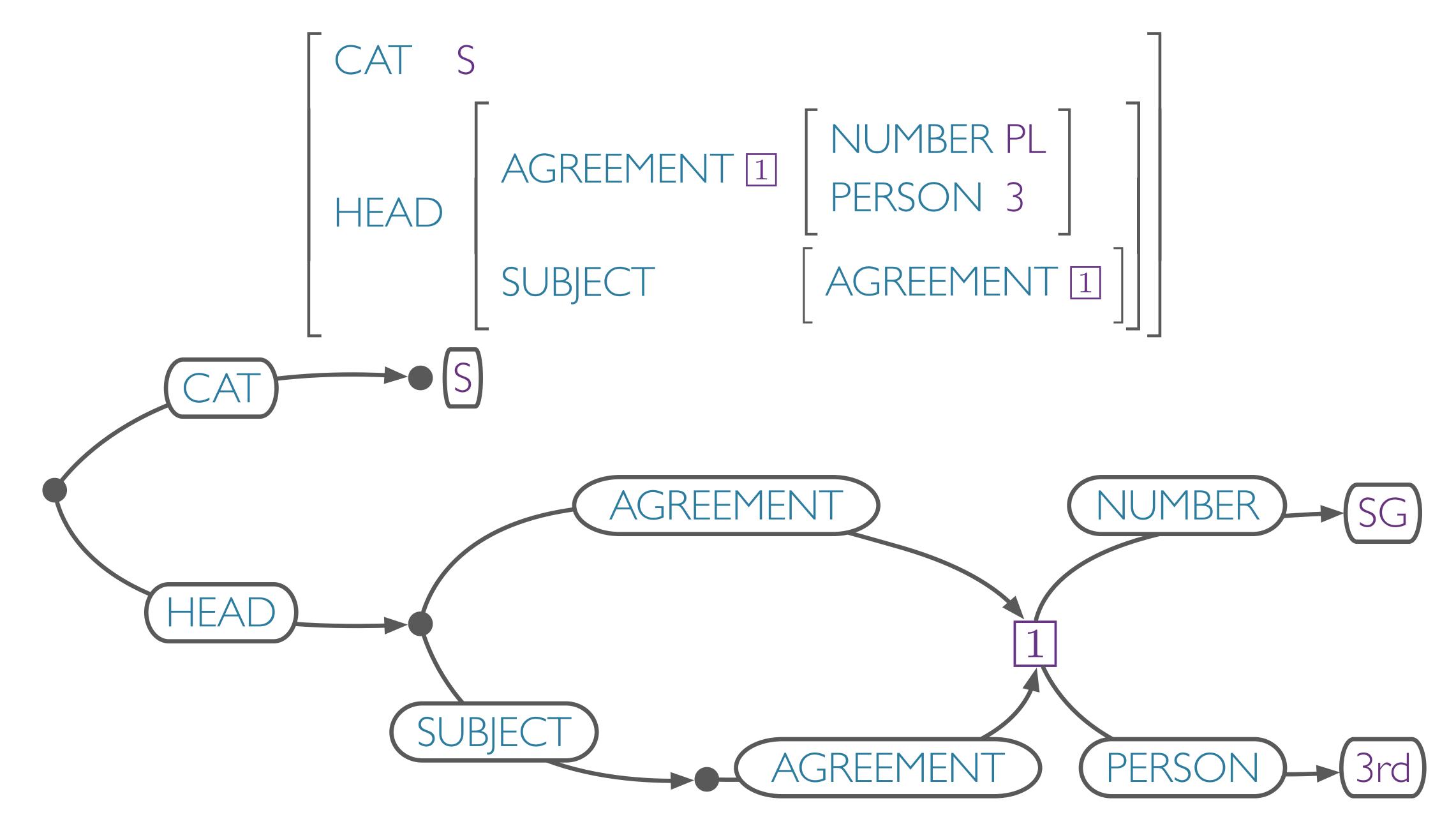
AGREEMENT 1 [NUMBER PL PERSON 3]

SUBJECT [AGREEMENT 1]

## AVIM vs. DAG

CAT NP
AGREEMENT [NUMBER PL]
PERSON 3 ]

AGREEMENT
PERSON 3 3 rd



## Using Feature Structures

- Feature Structures provide formalism to specify constraints
- ...but how to apply the constraints?
- Unification

- Two key roles:
  - Merge compatible feature structures
  - Reject incompatible feature structures

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- Result of unification incorporates constraints of both

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- Examples:

• 
$$A = \begin{bmatrix} NUMBER SG \end{bmatrix}$$

$$C = \begin{bmatrix} NUMBER SG \\ PERSON 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

$$B = \begin{bmatrix} PERSON 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

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• A subsumes C

- B subsumes C
- B & A don't subsume

Identical

Identical

Underspecified

```
\left[ \text{NUMBER SG} \right] \sqcup \left[ \right] = \left[ \text{NUMBER SG} \right]
```

Identical

- NUMBER SG | L NUMBER SG = NUMBER SG

• Different Specs 
$$\begin{bmatrix} NUMBER SG \end{bmatrix} \coprod \begin{bmatrix} PERSON 3 \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} NUMBER SG \\ PERSON 3 \end{bmatrix}$$

Identical

- NUMBER SG | L NUMBER SG = NUMBER SG

- Different Specs

  [NUMBER SG] L [PERSON 3] = NUMBER SG PERSON 3

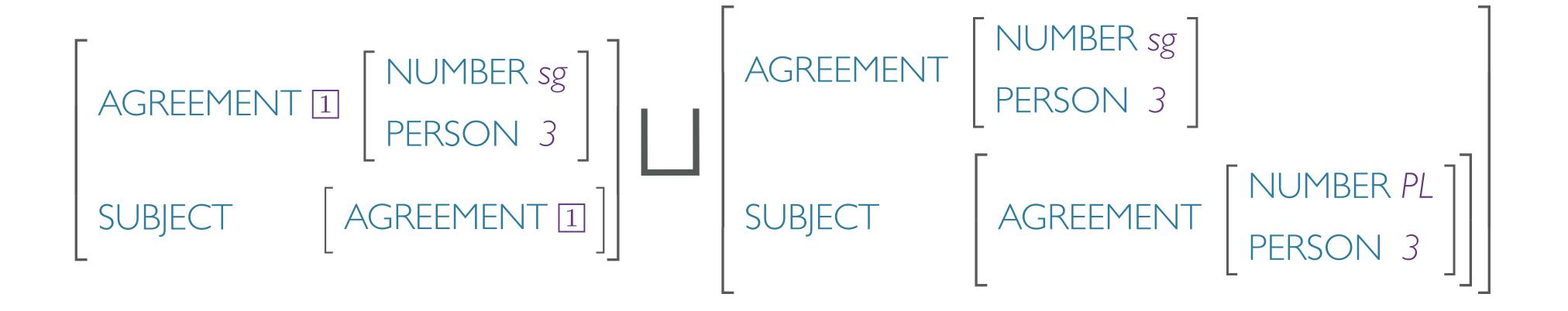
# Larger Unification Example

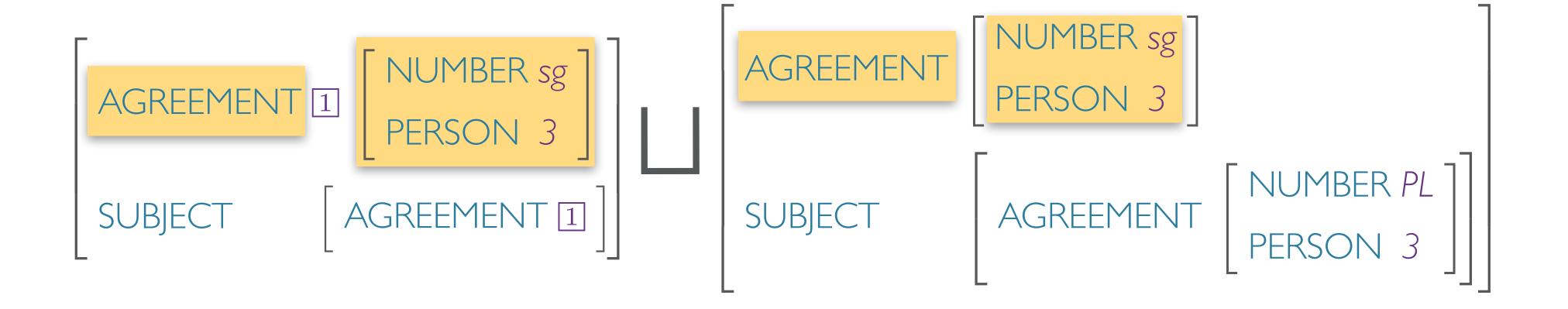
```
AGREEMENT I
SUBJECT AGREEMENT AGREEMENT PERSON 3
NUMBER SG
```

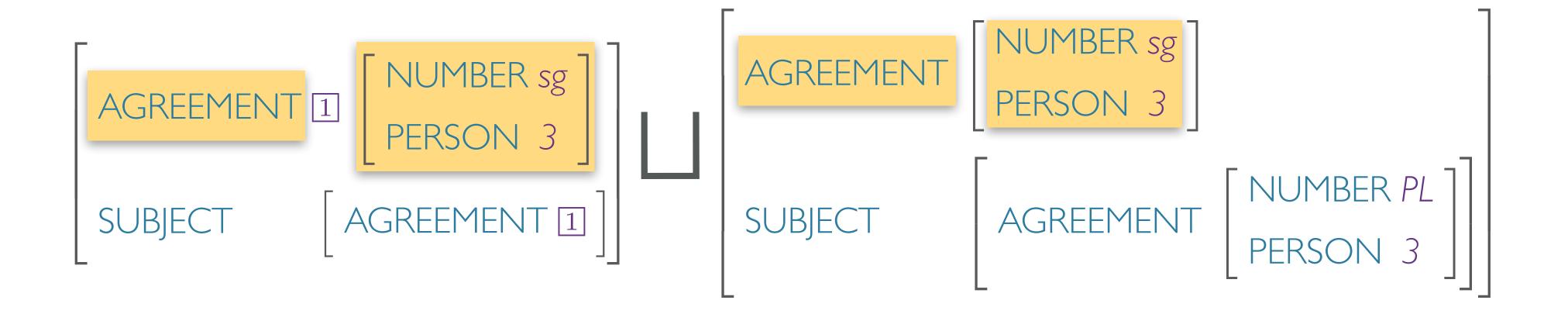
```
AGREEMENT 1

SUBJECT

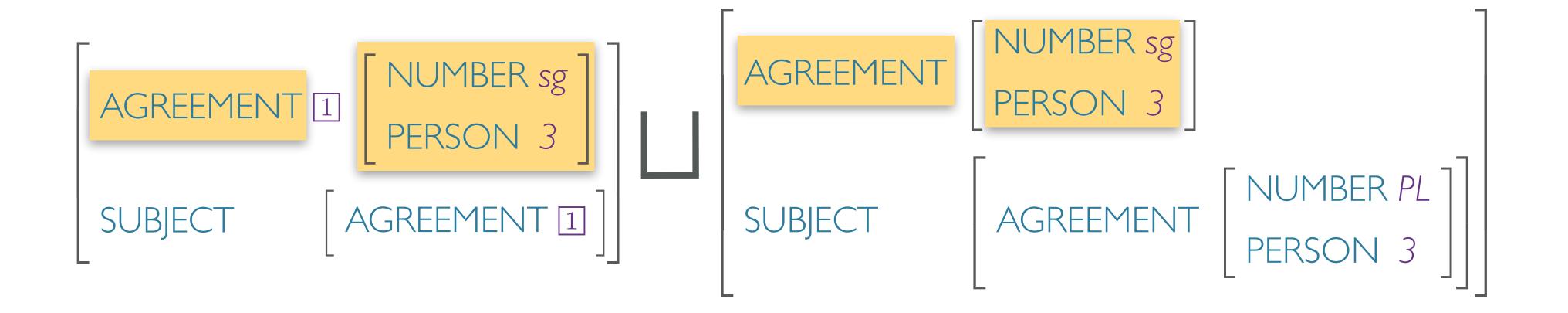
AGREEMENT 1 PERSON 3
NUMBER SG
```

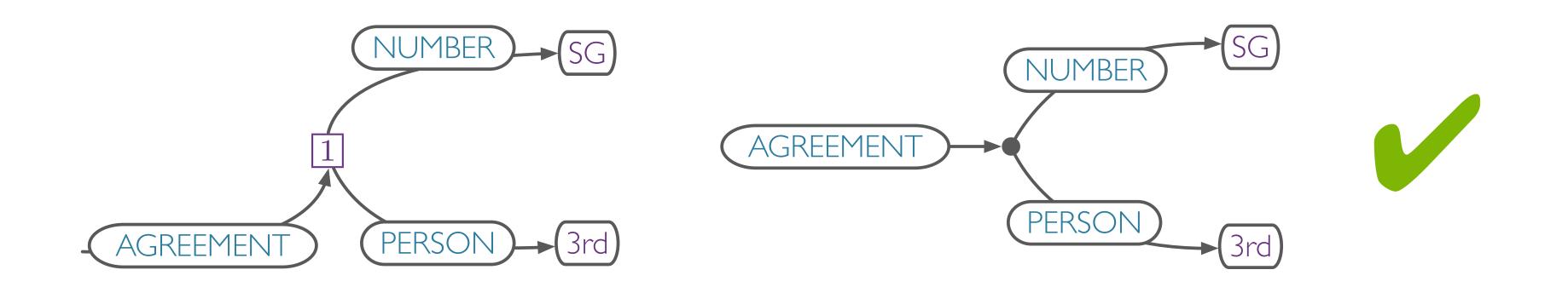


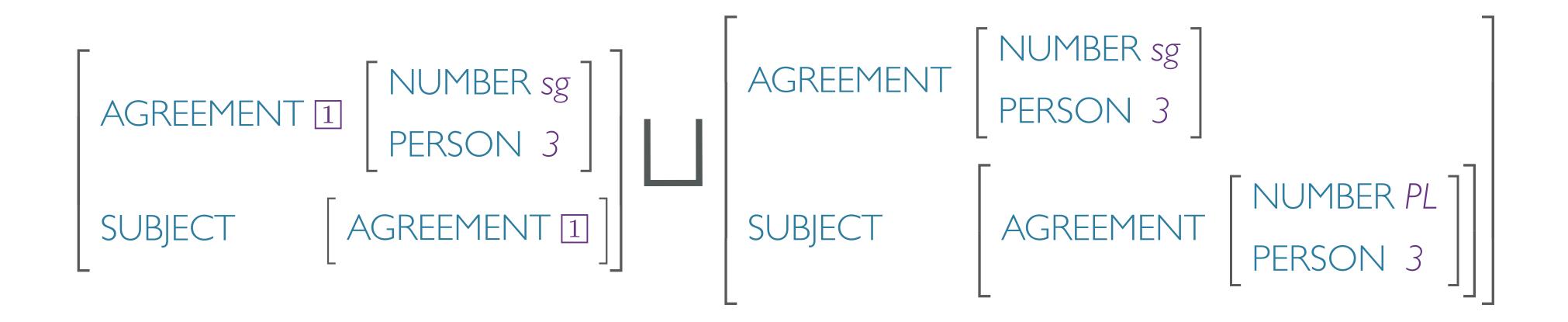


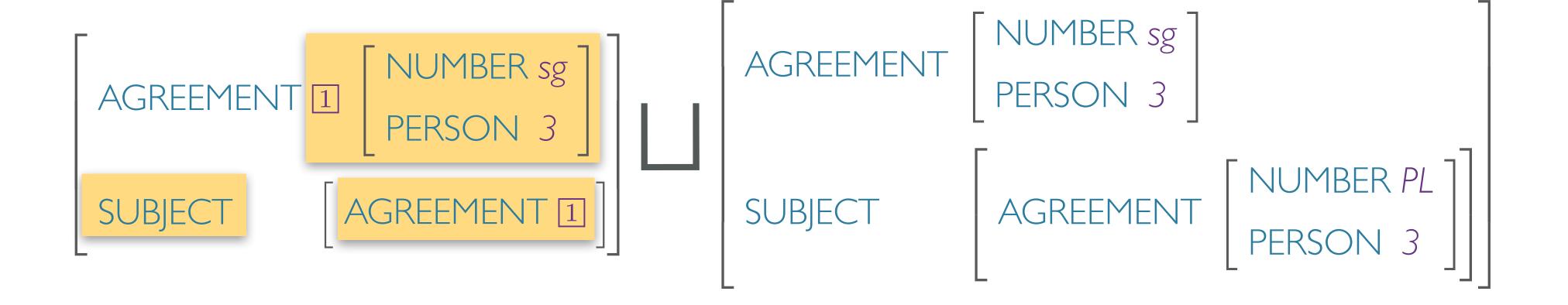


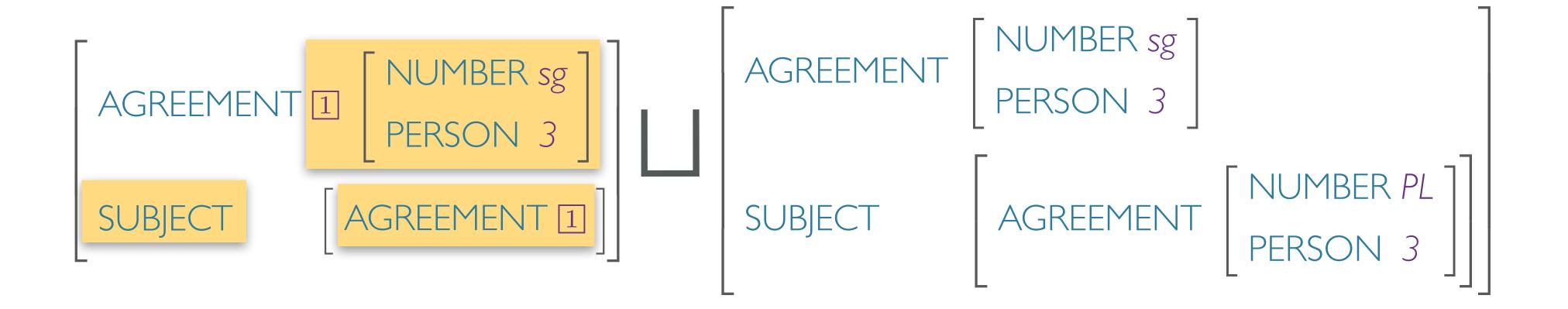


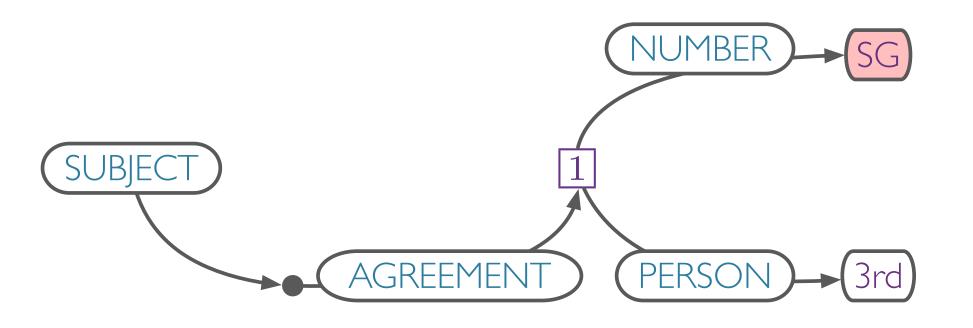


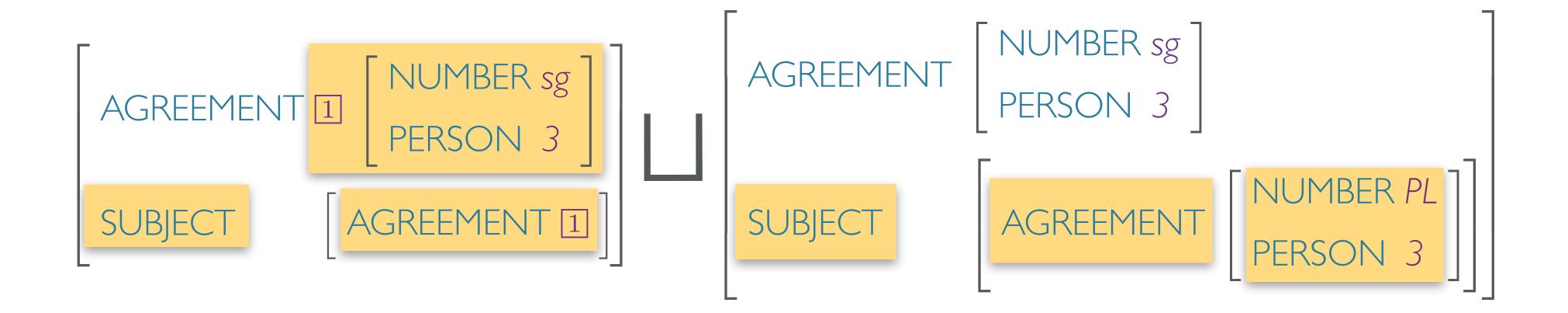


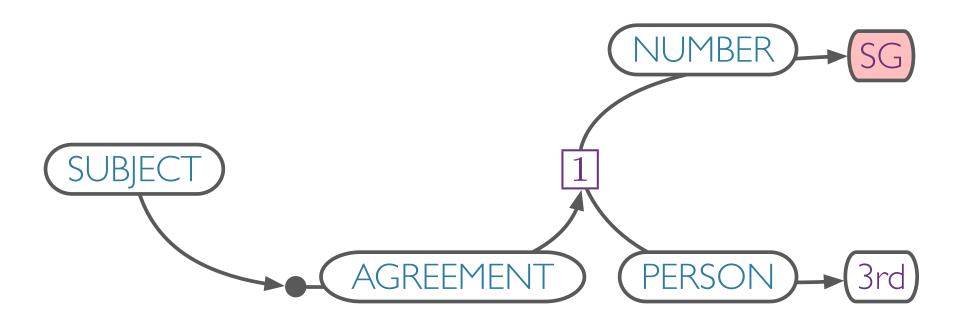


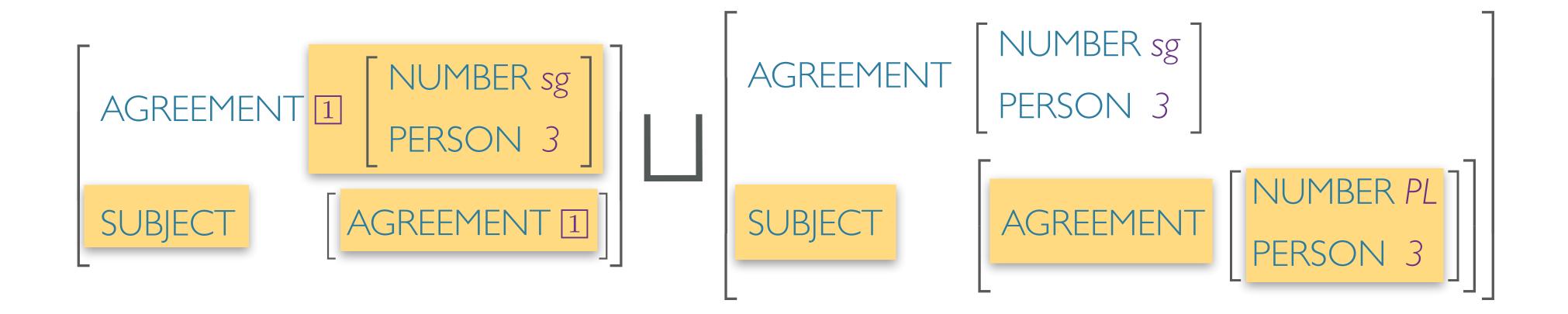


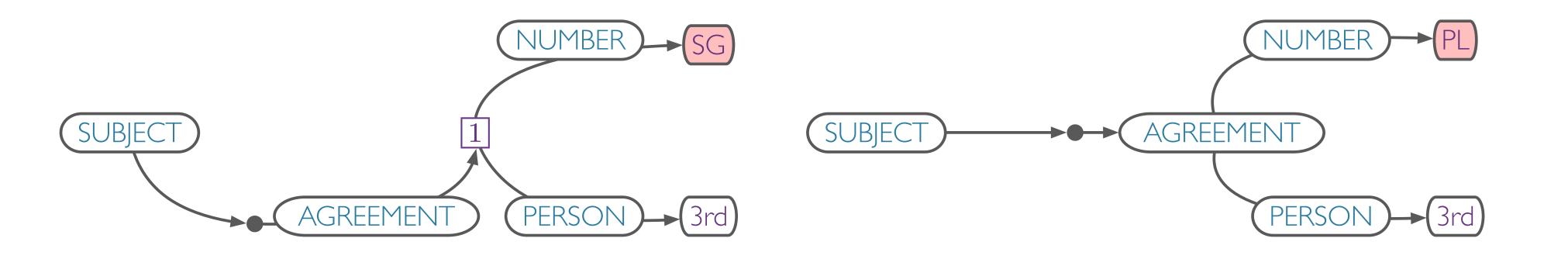


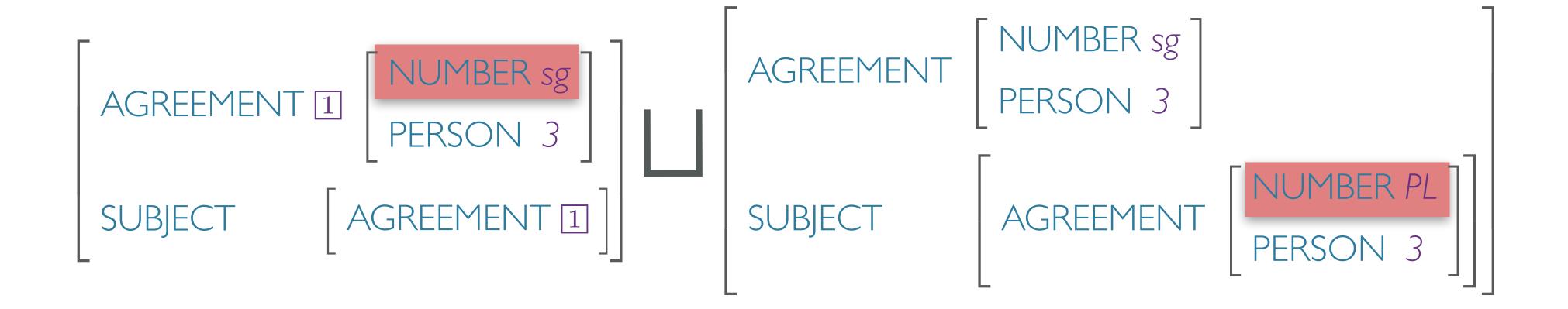


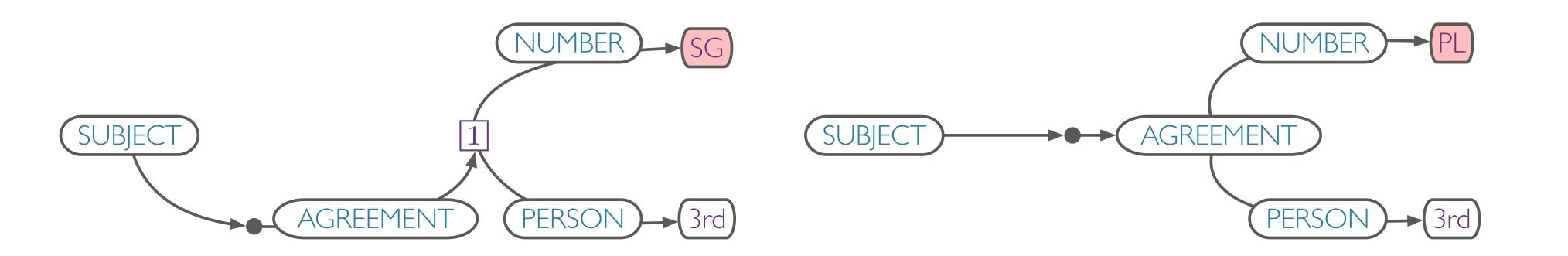


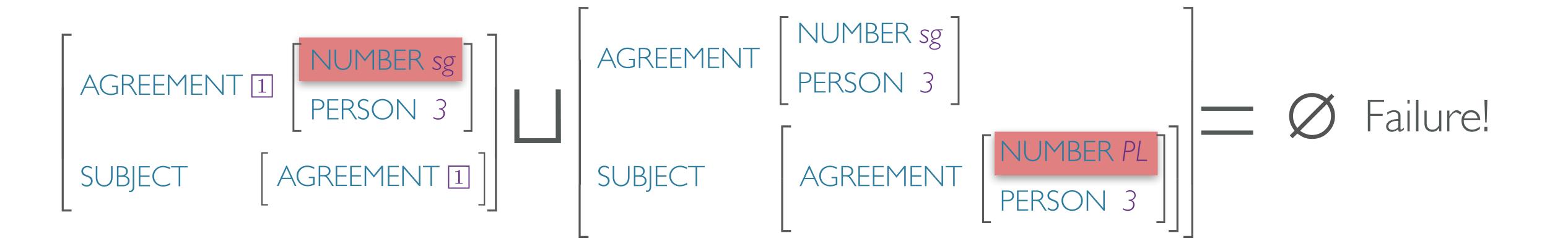


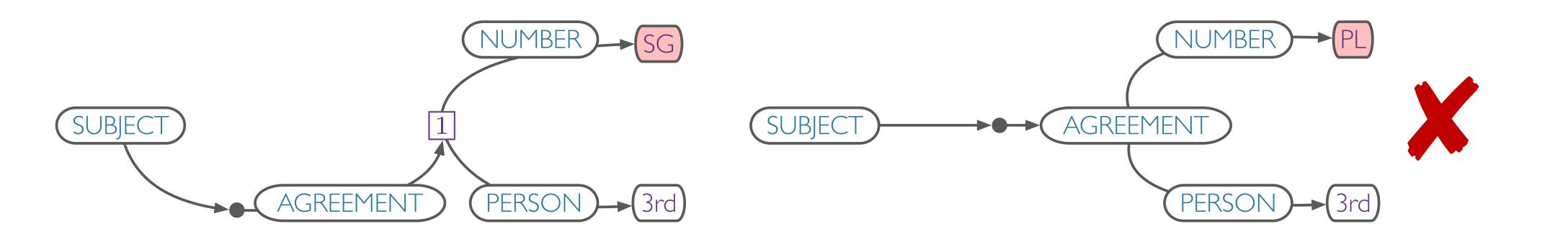












- $\beta \rightarrow \beta_1 \dots \beta_n$  {set of constraints}  $\langle \beta_i feature \ path \rangle = Atomic \ value \ | \langle \beta_j feature \ path \rangle$
- $PRON \rightarrow \text{'he'}$

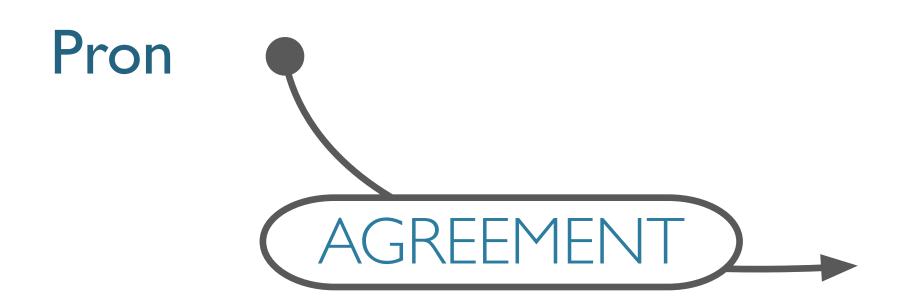
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 $\langle PRON$ 

Pron

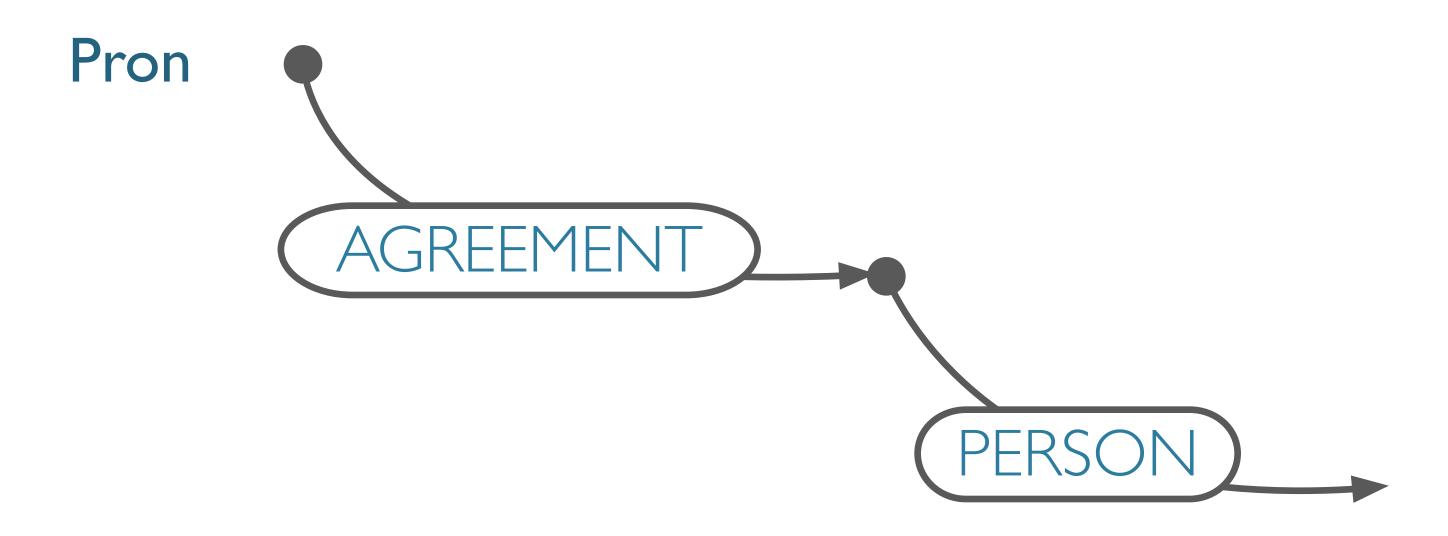
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PRON AGREEMENT



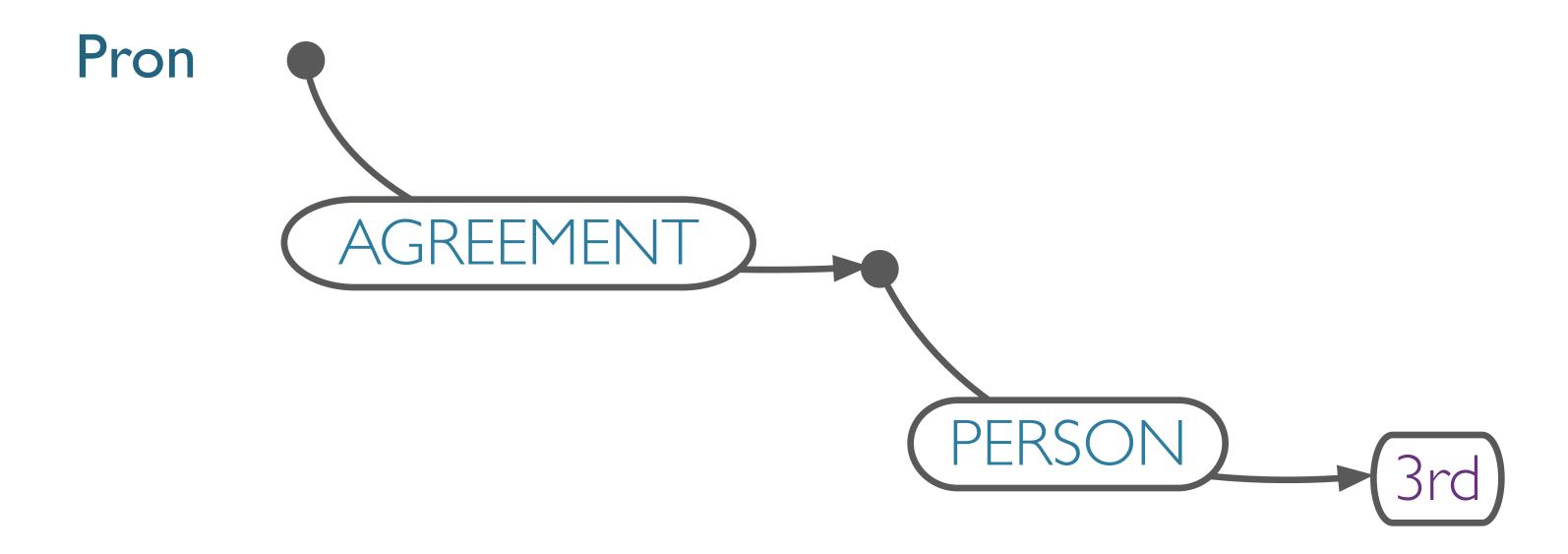
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(PRON AGREEMENT PERSON)



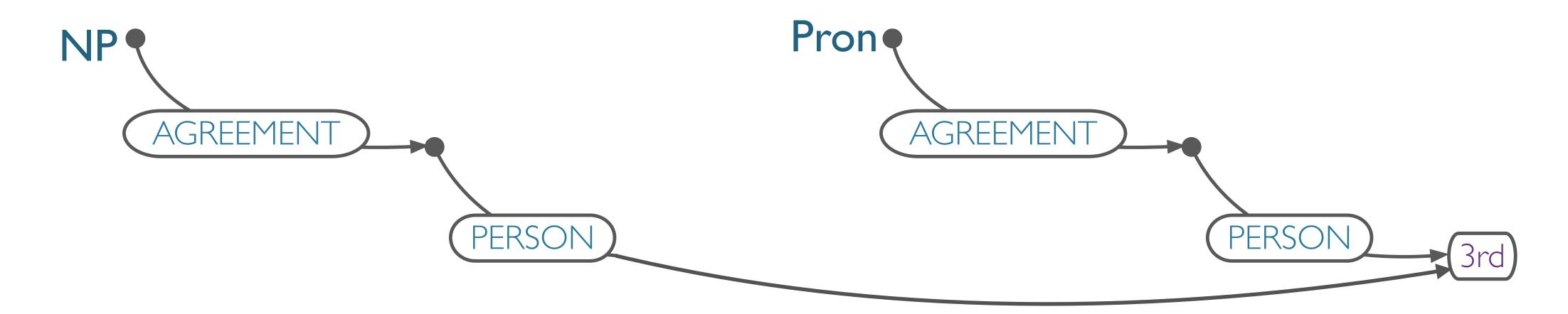
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 $\langle PRON | AGREEMENT | PERSON 
angle = 3rd$ 



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- $\bullet$   $NP \rightarrow PRON$

 $\langle NP | AGREEMENT | PERSON \rangle = \langle PRON | AGREEMENT | PERSON \rangle$ 



•  $\beta \rightarrow \beta_1 \dots \beta_n$  { $set\ of\ constraints$ }  $\langle \beta_i feature\ path \rangle = Atomic\ value\ |\ \langle \beta_j feature\ path \rangle$ 

 $\bullet$   $NP \rightarrow PRON$  $\langle NP | AGREEMENT | PERSON \rangle = \langle PRON | AGREEMENT | PERSON \rangle$ "unifiable" **Pron** NP **AGREEMENT AGREEMEN** PERSON PERSON

## Agreement with Heads and Features

```
\bullet \quad \beta \rightarrow \beta_1 \dots \beta_n
      \{set\ of\ constraints\} \langle \beta_i feature\ path \rangle = Atomic\ value\ |\ \langle \beta_i feature\ path \rangle
                                     S \rightarrow NP VP
            \langle NP | \text{AGREEMENT} \rangle = \langle VP | \text{AGREEMENT} \rangle
                                S \rightarrow Aux NP VP
           \langle \boldsymbol{Aux} | \operatorname{AGREEMENT} \rangle = \langle \boldsymbol{NP} | \operatorname{AGREEMENT} \rangle
                             NP \rightarrow Det Nominal
      \langle Det | \text{Agreement} \rangle = \langle Nominal | \text{Agreement} \rangle
      \langle NP | \text{Agreement} \rangle = \langle Nominal | \text{Agreement} \rangle
                                      Aux \rightarrow does
                 \langle \boldsymbol{A} \, \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{X} \, \text{AGREEMENT NUMBER} 
angle = \boldsymbol{s} \boldsymbol{q}
```

 $\langle \boldsymbol{A} \, \boldsymbol{U} \boldsymbol{X} \, \text{AGREEMENT PERSON} 
angle = \boldsymbol{3rd}$ 

```
Det \rightarrow this
\langle Det | 	ext{Agreement Number} 
angle = sq
                Det \rightarrow these
```

$$Verb 
ightharpoonup serve$$
  $\langle Verb | Agreement | Number 
angle = pl$ 

 $\langle Det \text{ AGREEMENT NUMBER} \rangle = pl$ 

$$Noun 
ightarrow flight$$
  $\langle Noun \ {
m Agreement \ Number} 
angle = sg$ 

## Simple Feature Grammars in NLTK

•  $S \rightarrow NP VP$ 

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## Simple Feature Grammars

•  $S \rightarrow NP[NUM=?n] VP[NUM=?n]$ • NP[NUM=?n] -> N[NUM=?n] NP[NUM=?n] -> PropN[NUM=?n] NP[NUM=?n] -> Det[NUM=?n] N[NUM=?n] Det[NUM=sg] -> 'this' | 'every' Det[NUM=pl] -> 'these' | 'all' • N[NUM=sg] -> 'dog' 'girl' 'car' 'child' • N[NUM=pl] -> 'dogs' | 'girls' | 'cars' | 'children'

## Parsing with Features

```
>>> cp = load_parser('grammars/book_grammars/
feat0.fcfg')
>>> for tree in cp.parse(tokens):
        print(tree)
(S[] (NP[NUM='sg'])
  (PropN[NUM='sg'] Kim))
    (VP[NUM='sg', TENSE='pres']
      (TV[NUM='sg', TENSE='pres'] likes)
      (NP[NUM='pl'] (N[NUM='pl'] children)))
```

## Feature Applications

- Subcategorization
  - Verb-Argument constraints
    - Number, type, characteristics of args
      - e.g. is the subject animate?
      - Also adjectives, nouns
- Long-distance dependencies
  - e.g. filler-gap relations in wh-questions
  - "Which flight do you want me to have the travel agent book?"

## Morphosyntactic Features

- Grammtical feature that influences morphological or syntactic behavior
  - English:
    - Number:
      - Dog, dogs
    - Person:
      - am; are; is
    - Case:
      - I / me; he / him; etc.

#### Semantic Features

- Grammatical features that influence semantic (meaning) behavior of associated units
- E.g.:
  - ?The rocks slept. ? Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.
- Many proposed:
  - Animacy: +/-
  - Human: +/-
  - Adult: +/-
  - Liquid: +/-

• The climber [hiked] [for six hours].

- The climber [hiked] [for six hours].
- The climber [hiked] [on Saturday].

- The climber [hiked] [for six hours].
- The climber [hiked] [on Saturday].
- The climber [reached the summit] [on Saturday].

- The climber [hiked] [for six hours].
- The climber [hiked] [on Saturday].
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- \*The climber [reached the summit] [for six hours].

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- Contrast:
  - Achievement (in an instant) vs activity (for a time)