Treex: Modular NLP Framework

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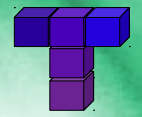
Outline



- Motivation, Treex vs. TectoMT
- Treex architecture
- Treex internals
- Future plans
- Conclusion and examples

Motivation

Treex

Goals of Treex

- elegant integration of in-house and third-party NLP tools
- modularity, reusability, cooperation
- ability to easily modify and add code in a full-fledged programming language (Perl)

Treex vs. TectoMT

Treex

2005 (Zdeněk Žabokrtský)

NLP framework
TectoMT

MT system
TectoMT

- **lemmatization**
- **tagging**
- **parsing**

Treex vs. TectoMT

Treex

2005 … 2011

NLP framework *TectoMT*

MT system *TectoMT*

- lemmatization
- tagging
- parsing

multi-purpose NLP framework *Treex*

MT system *TectoMT*

- lemmatization
- tagging
- parsing

- coreference
- PEDT preprocessing
- CzEng analysis
- treebank conversions
- named entity r.
- alignment (word,tree)
- SMT preproc.
- etc.

Treex vs. TectoMT

Treex

2005 … 2011

NLP framework *TectoMT*

MT system *TectoMT*

lemmatizati

Now not only **tecto**grammatics and not only **MT**

renamed

multi-purpose NLP framework *Treex*

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lemmatization

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lemmatizati

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redesigned and reimplemented

- easier to use
- more flexible

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- etc.

Treex vs. TectoMT

Treex

2005

English

Czech

NLP framework
TectoMT

MT system
TectoMT

redesigned and reimplemented
- easier to use
- more flexible
- more langs

...

English

Czech

Russian

Tamil

NLP framework

Polish

Esperanto

Spanish

French

German

Arabic

Vietnamese

Hindi

Urdu

Finish

*) Most of the listed languages are only drafts of anlysis made by students, not converted to Treex yet. The entire risk as to the quality and performance of the program is with you.

Treex vs. TectoMT

Treex

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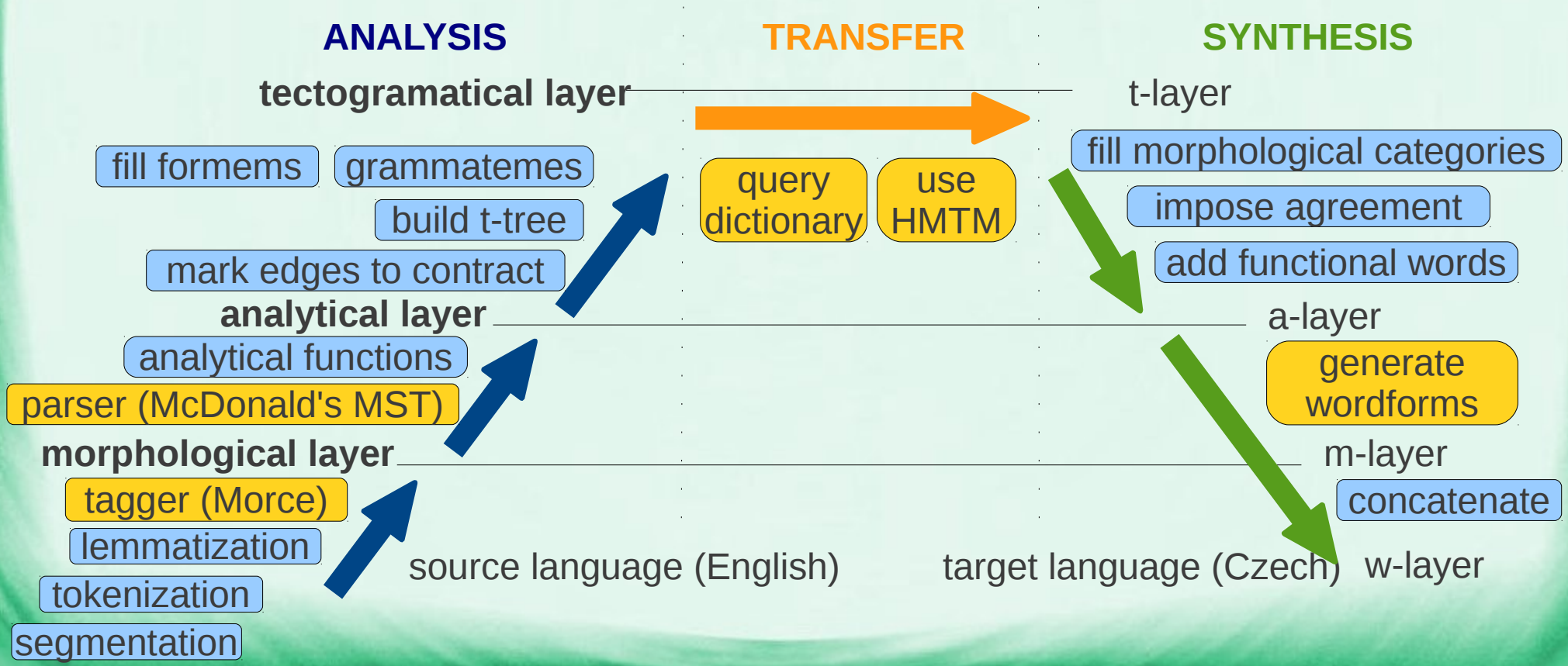
TectoMT

Treex

linguistically motivated MT system (English to Czech pilot)

- deep syntactic (tectogrammatical) transfer
- translation process divided to more than 90 “blocks“
- combining statistical and rule based blocks

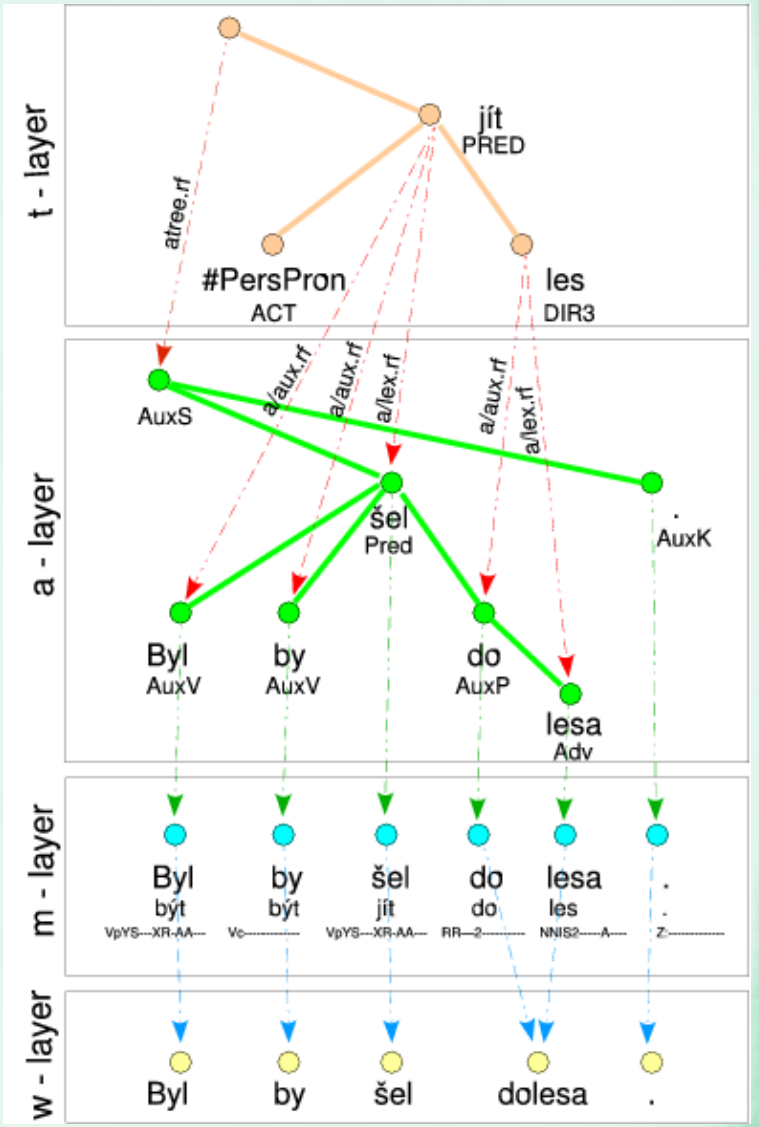


4 layers of language description

implemented in Prague Dependency Treebank (PDT)

Treex

- **tectogrammatical layer**
  deep-syntactic dependency trees
- **analytical layer**
  surface-syntactic dependency trees, labeled edges
- **morphological layer**
  lemma & POS tag for each word
- word layer
  raw (tokenized) text



4 layers of language description
implemented in Prague Dependency Treebank (PDT)

Treex

- **tectogrammatical layer**
  deep-syntactic dependency trees

- abstraction from many language-specific phenomena

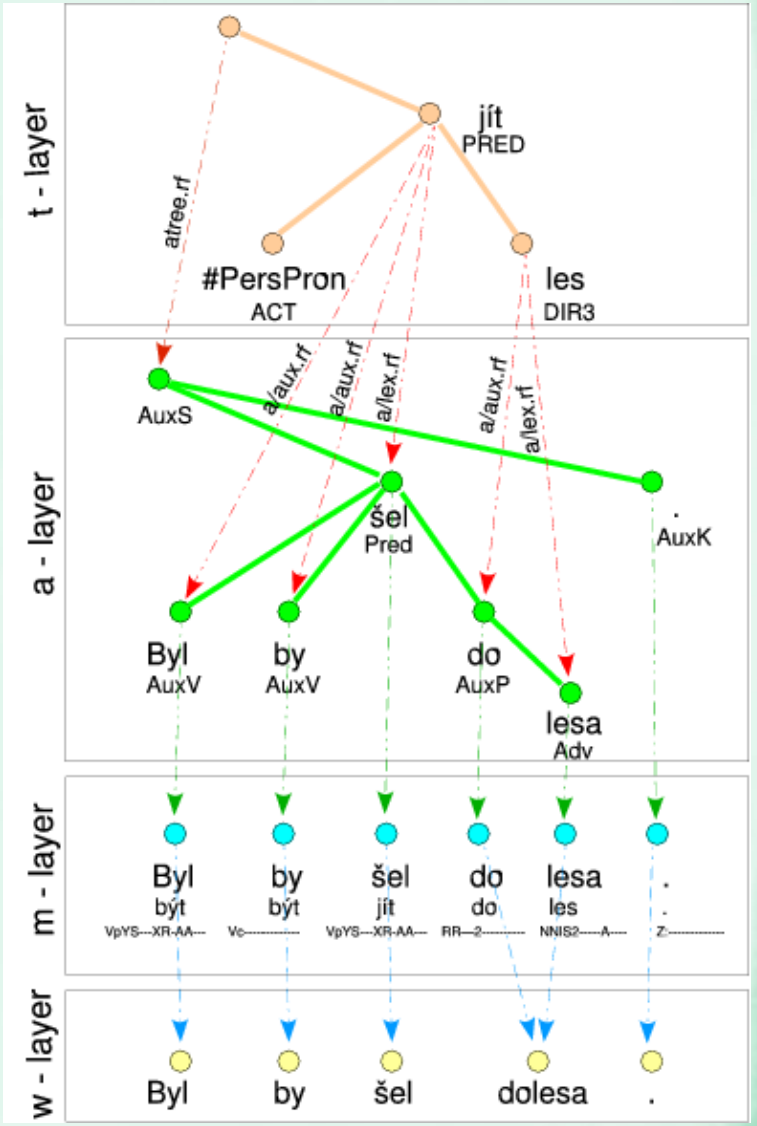
- autosemantic (meaningful) words
  ~ **nodes**

- functional words (prepositions, auxiliaries)
  ~ **attributes**

- syntactic-semantic relations (dependecies)
  ~ **edges**

- added nodes (e.g. becasue of pro-drop)

- ...



layers of language description
implemented in Treex

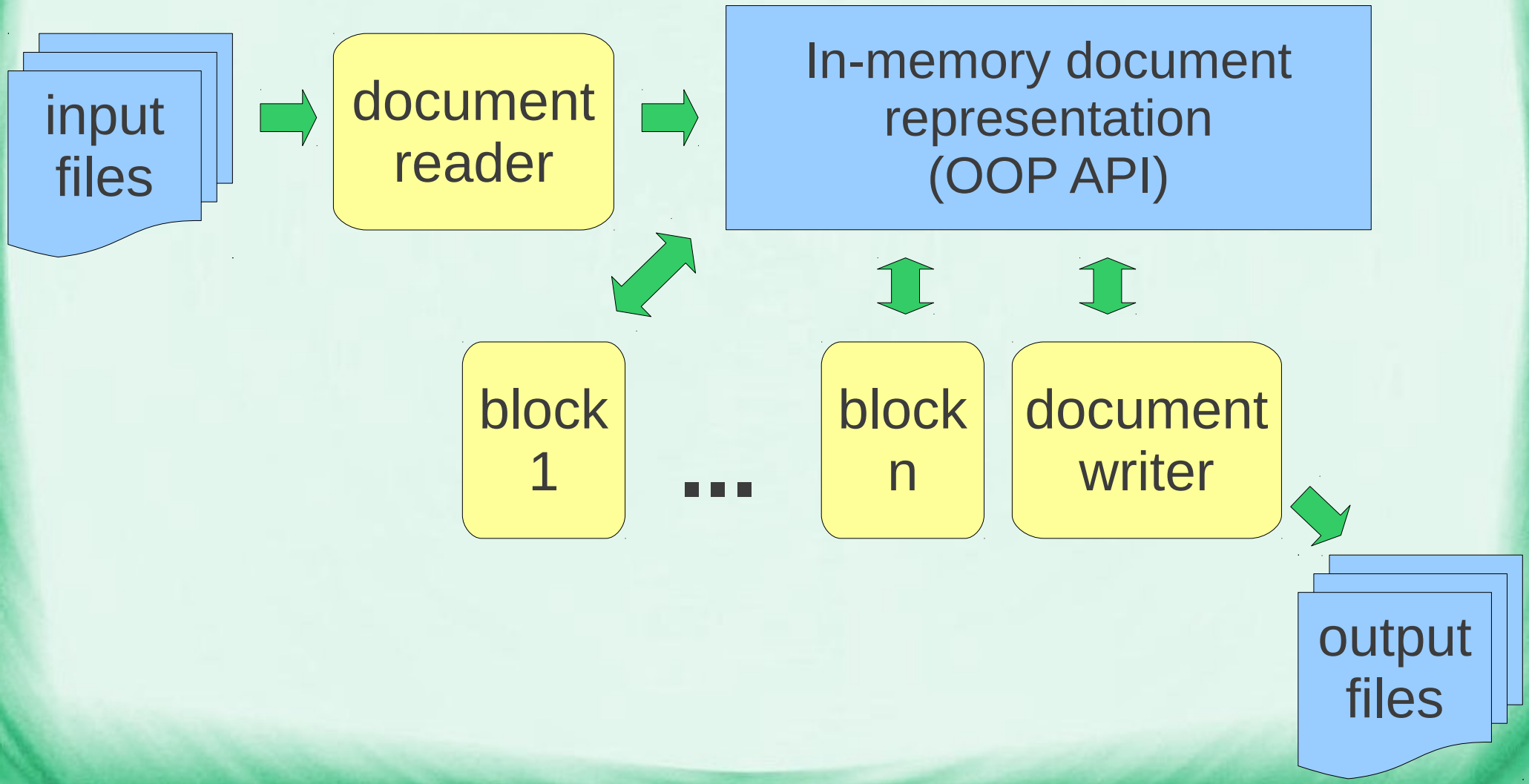
Treex

- Mostly backward compatible adaptations (adding attributes)
  - **formeme** (n:2, n:k+3, v:že+vfin, v:rc, adj:attr)
  - attributes for clauses, is_passive (→ diathesis),...
- is_member (for conjuncts on a-layer) is stored with prepositions

- All layers stored in **one file**
- A-layer and m-layer merged into one
- Two more layers:
  - P-layer phrase-structure trees
  - N-layer named entities

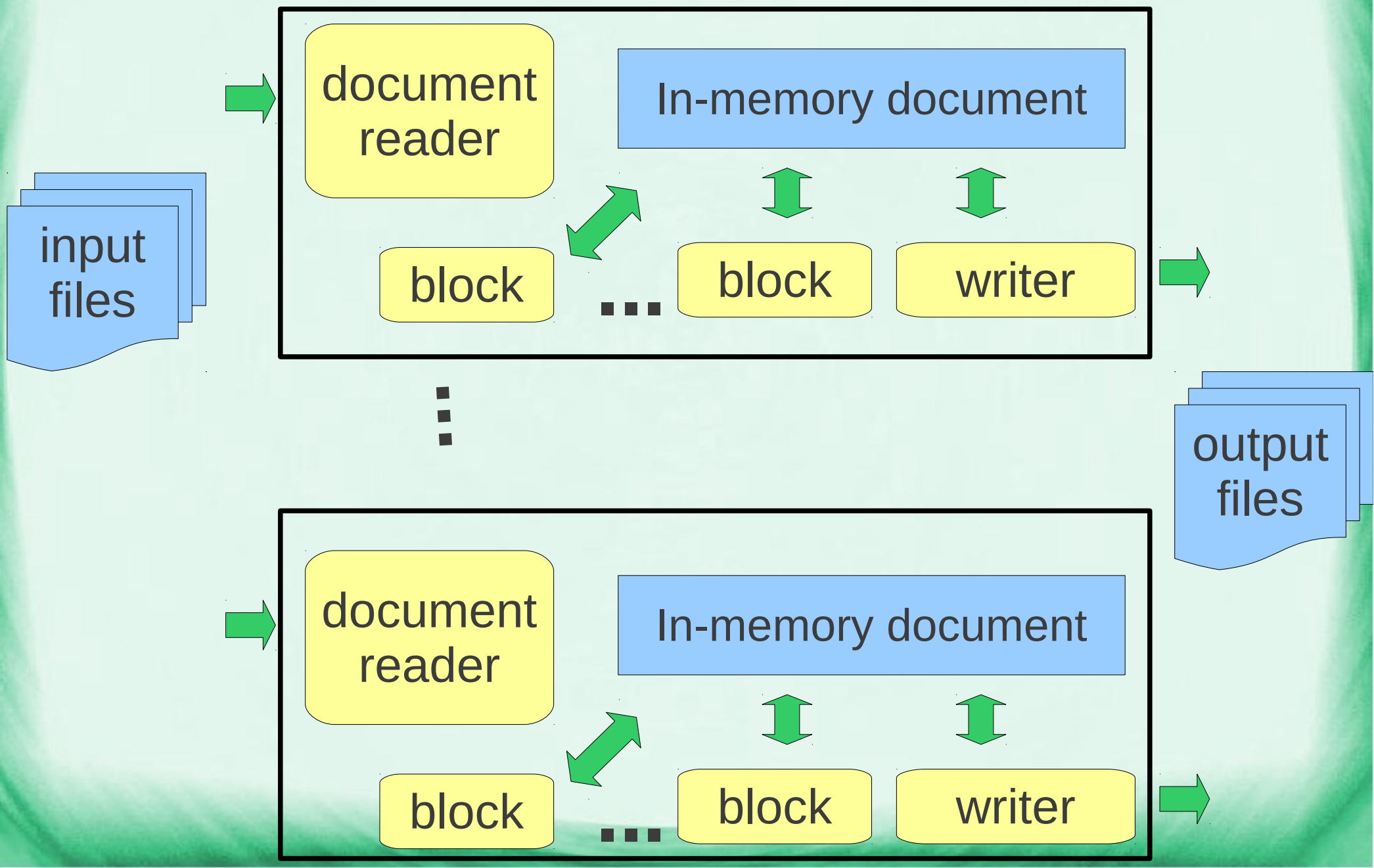
Treex architecture

Treex



Treex architecture
parallelization (using SGE cluster)

Treex



Treex architecture processing units

Treex

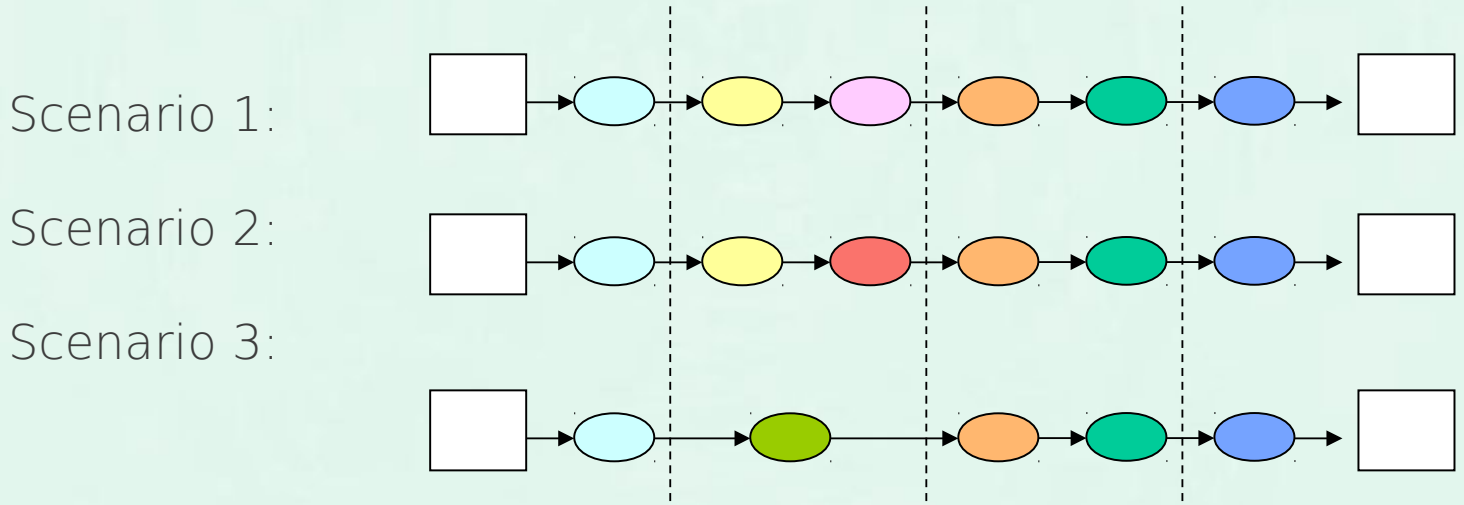
- **block** – elementary processing unit in Treex
  - corresponding to a given NLP subtask
  - one Perl class, saved in one file
- **scenario** – a sequence of blocks
  - saved in plain text files
  - just a list of the blocks' names and their parameters
- **application** – represents an end-to-end NLP task
  - described by a scenario that
    - starts with a **reader** (input conversion)
    - ends with a **writer** (output conversion)
  - Readers can split the input file into more in-memory docs.
  - There are readers&writers for a number of popular formats: plain text, CoNLL, PDT PML, Penn MRG, Tiger...

`*.treex.gz`

Treex architecture processing units

Treex

Blocks can be easily substituted with an alternative solution.



Treex architecture processing units

Treex

Blocks can be easily substituted with an alternative solution.

Scenario A

```
W2A::EN::Segment
W2A::EN::Tokenize
W2A::EN::TagMorce
W2A::EN::Lemmatize
W2A::EN::ParseMST
```

Scenario B

```
W2A::SegmentOnNewlines
W2A::EN::TagLinguaEn
W2A::EN::Lemmatize
W2A::EN::ParseMalt
```

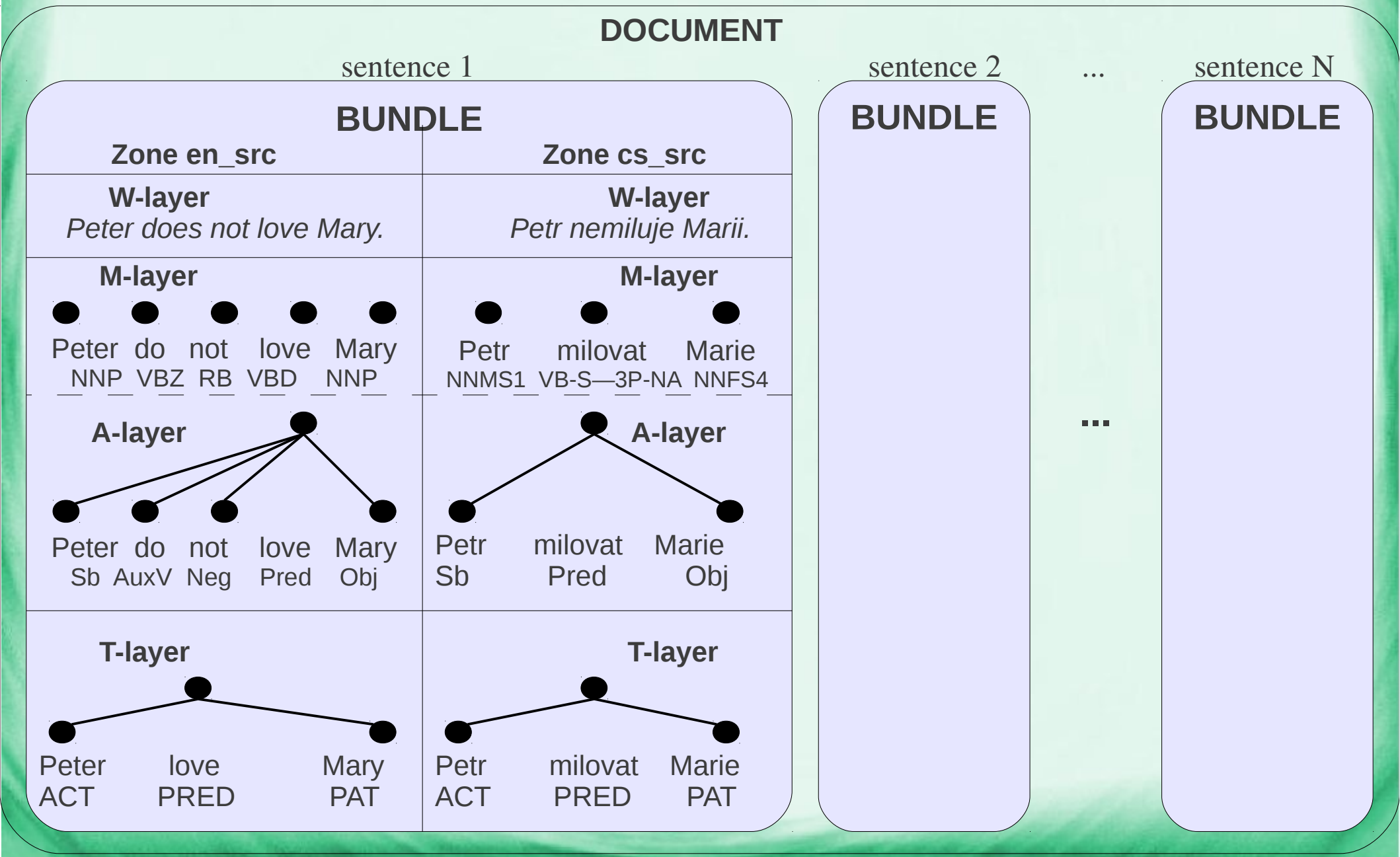
Treex architecture
data units

Treex

- **Document**
  - stored in one file
  - sequence of sentences
- **Bundle** (“bundle of trees”)
  - corresponds to one sentence
- **Zone**
  - one for each language (Arabic, Czech, English,...)
  - and optionally a variant (“selectors” src, trg, ref,...)
- **Tree**
  - layer of language description: A, T (plus P, N)
  - m-layer is stored with the a-layer in one tree

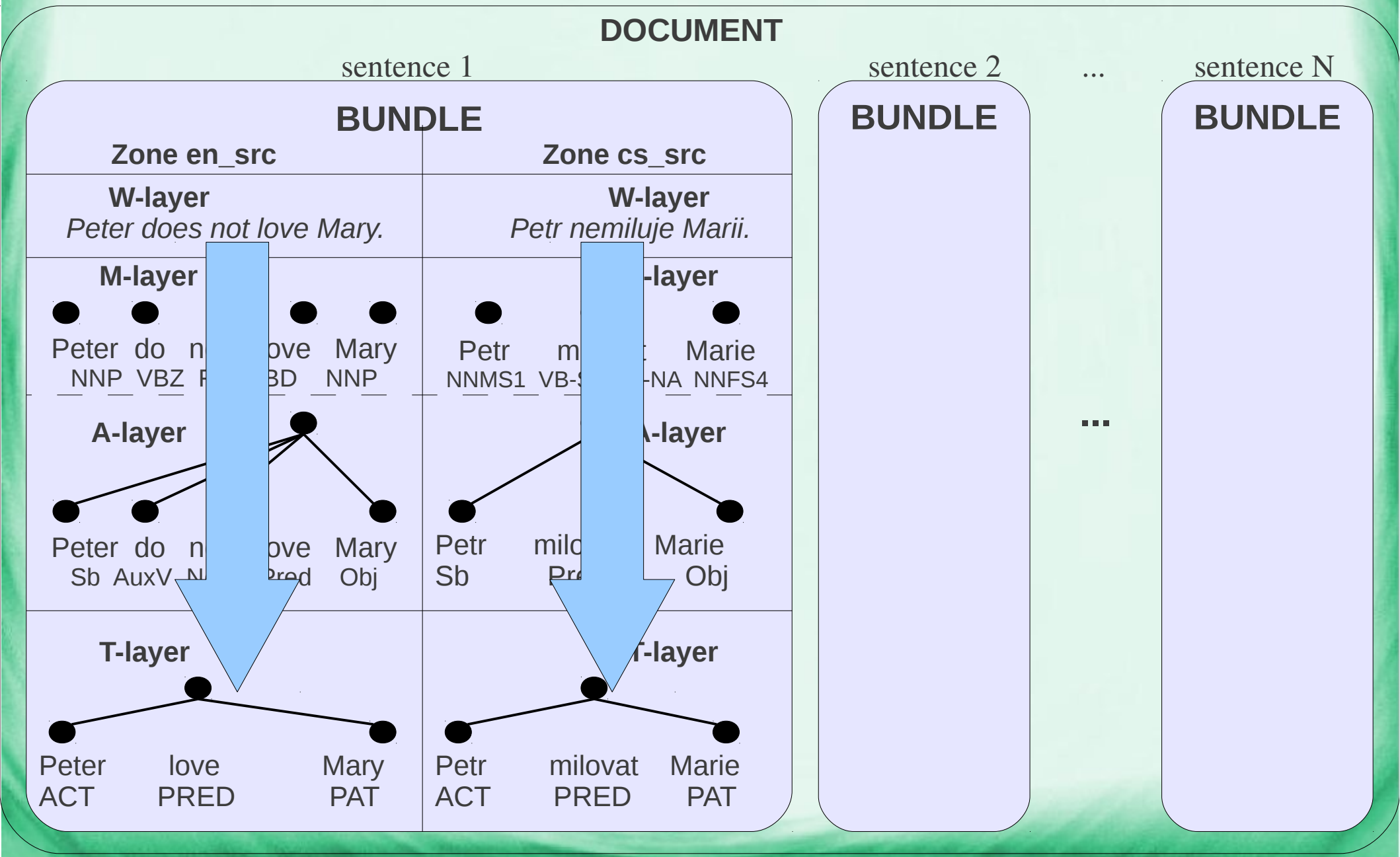
Treex architecture data units

Treex



Treex architecture data units

Treex



Treex architecture data units

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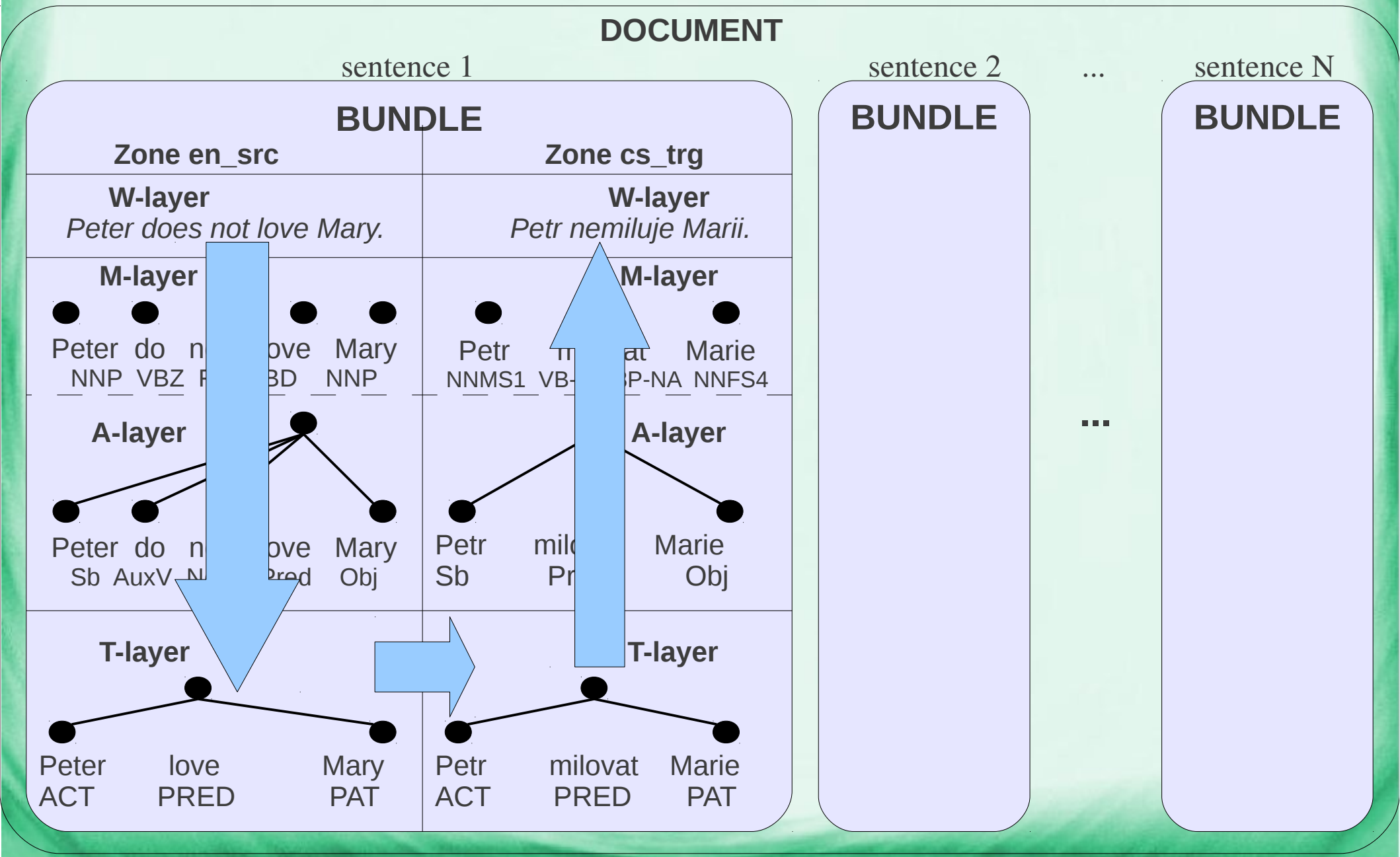


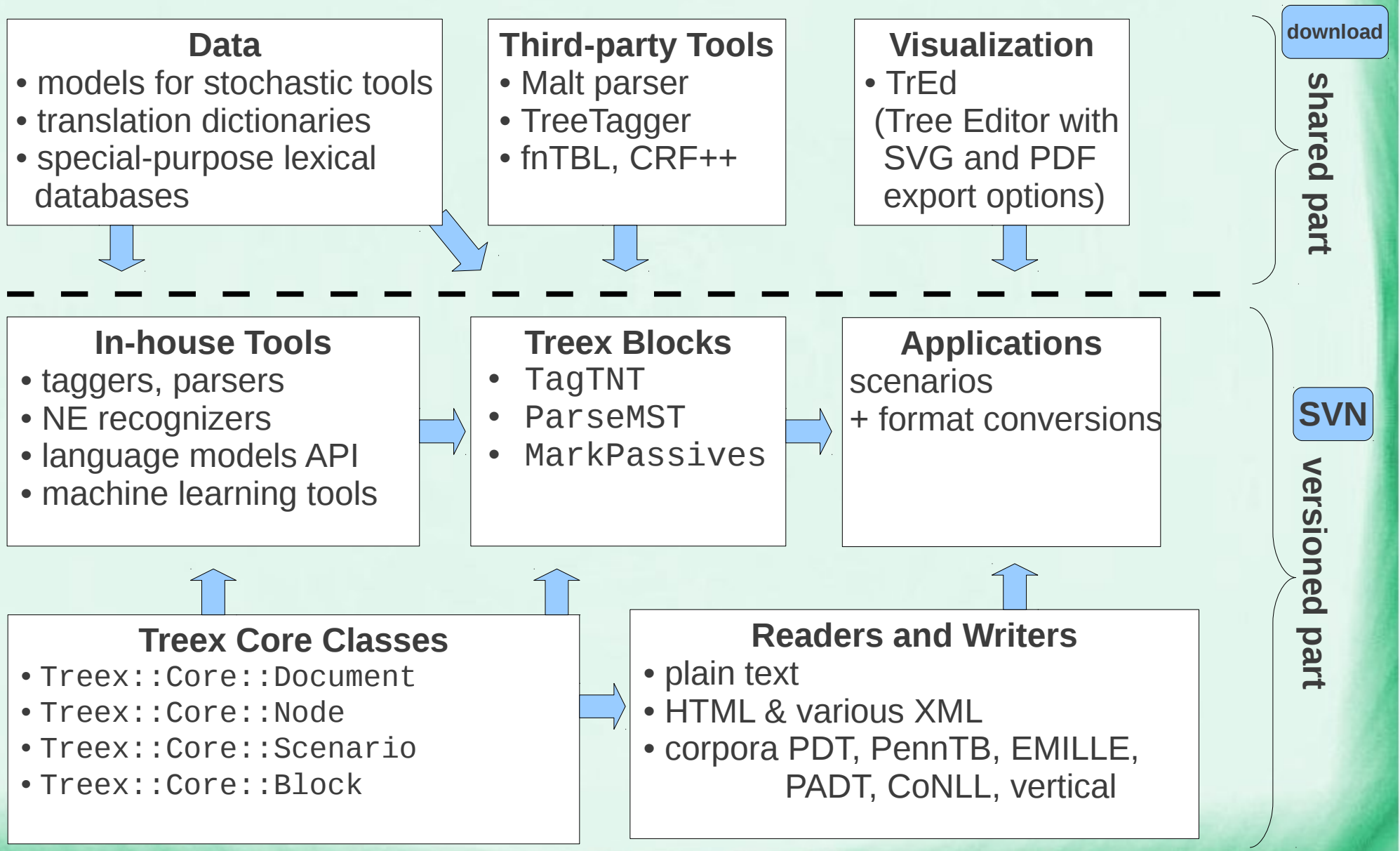
Internals – Design decisions

Treex

- Perl (wrappers for binaries, Java,...)
- Linux (some applications platform-independent)
- OOP (Moose)
- Open source (GNU GPL for the versioned part)
- Neutral w.r.t. methodology (statistical, rule-based)
- Multilingual
- Open standards (Unicode, XML)

Internals – Components

Treex



Internals – Statistics

Treex

- Developed since 2005, over ten developers
- Over 400 blocks (140 English, 120 Czech, 60 English-to-Czech, 30 other languages, 50 language independent)
- Taggers (5 English, 3 Czech, 1 German and Russian, Tamil)

  Parsers (Dep. 2 English, 3 Czech, 2 German; Const. 2 English)

  Named Entity Recognizers (2 Czech,1 English)
- Speed example: Best version of English-to-Czech MT

  1.2 seconds per sentence plus 90 seconds loading,

  with 20 computers in cluster: 2000 sentences in 4 min

Future plans

Treex

- CPAN release
  - `Treex::Core` done
  - `Treex::EN` soon
  - `Treex::CS`, `Treex::DE`,...

  } Tomáš Kraut
- Lot of “invisible” work (testing)
- Manual, tutorial, FAQ, demos
- Adding new document readers more easily
- Integrating more tools, more languages
- Web services? Alternative parallelization?

- Your applications, your requests...

Conclusion
Treex main properties

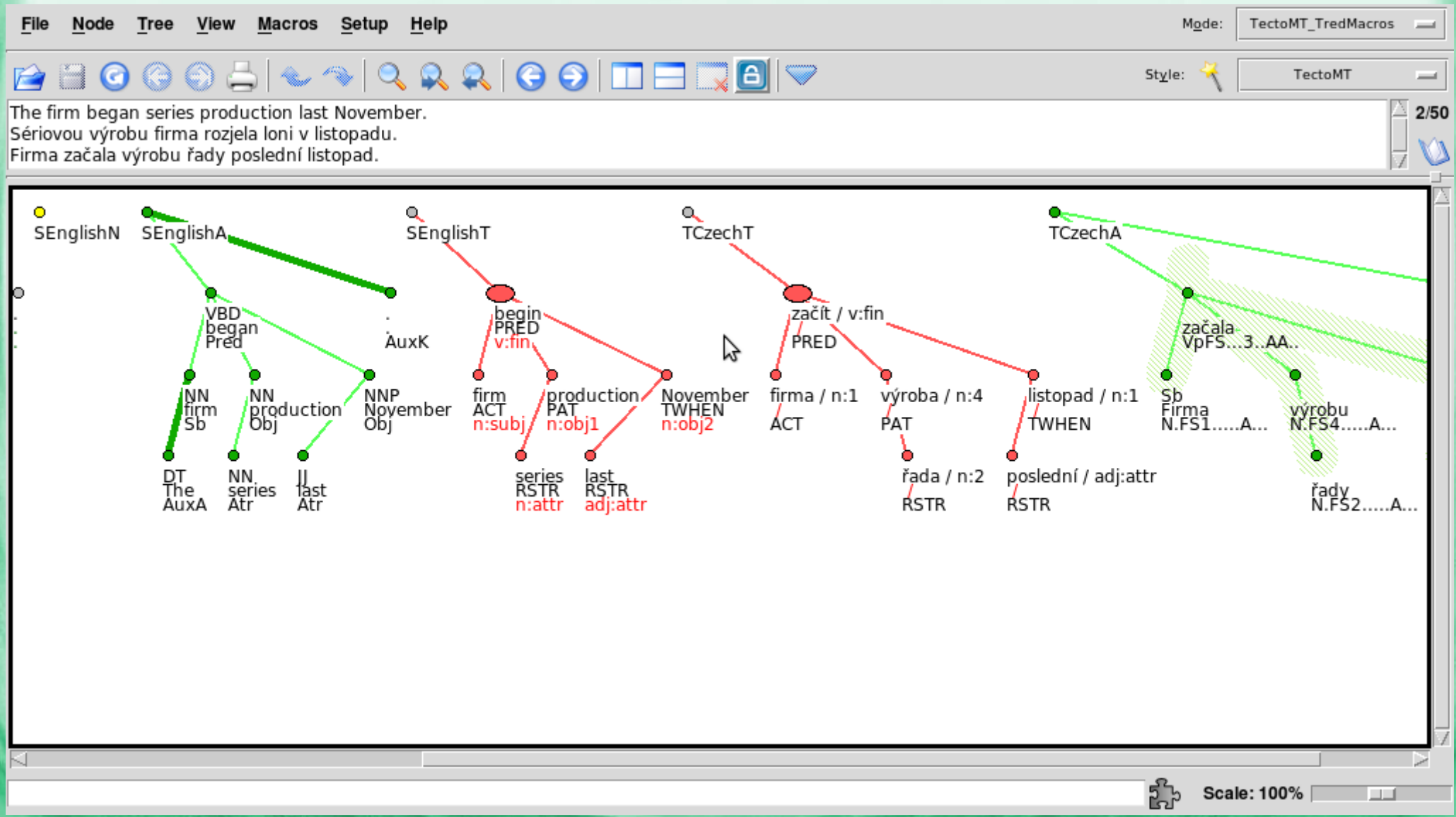
Treex

- emphasized efficient development, modular design and reusability
- stratificational approach to the language
- unified object-oriented interface for accessing data structures
- comfortable development

TrEd visualization

Treex

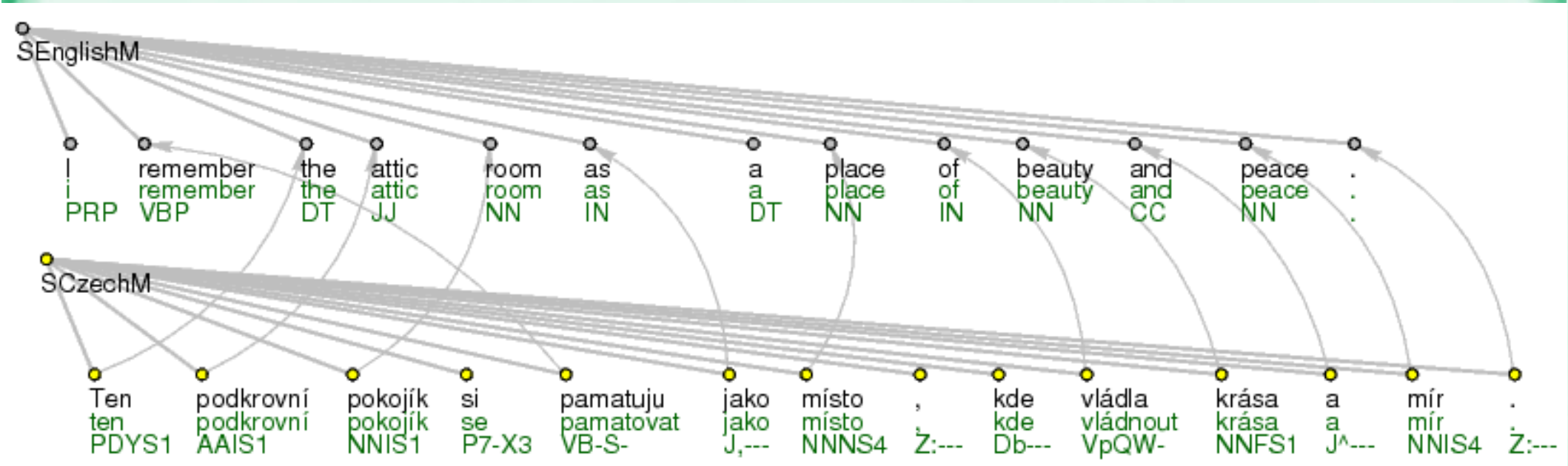
translation



TrEd visualization

Treex

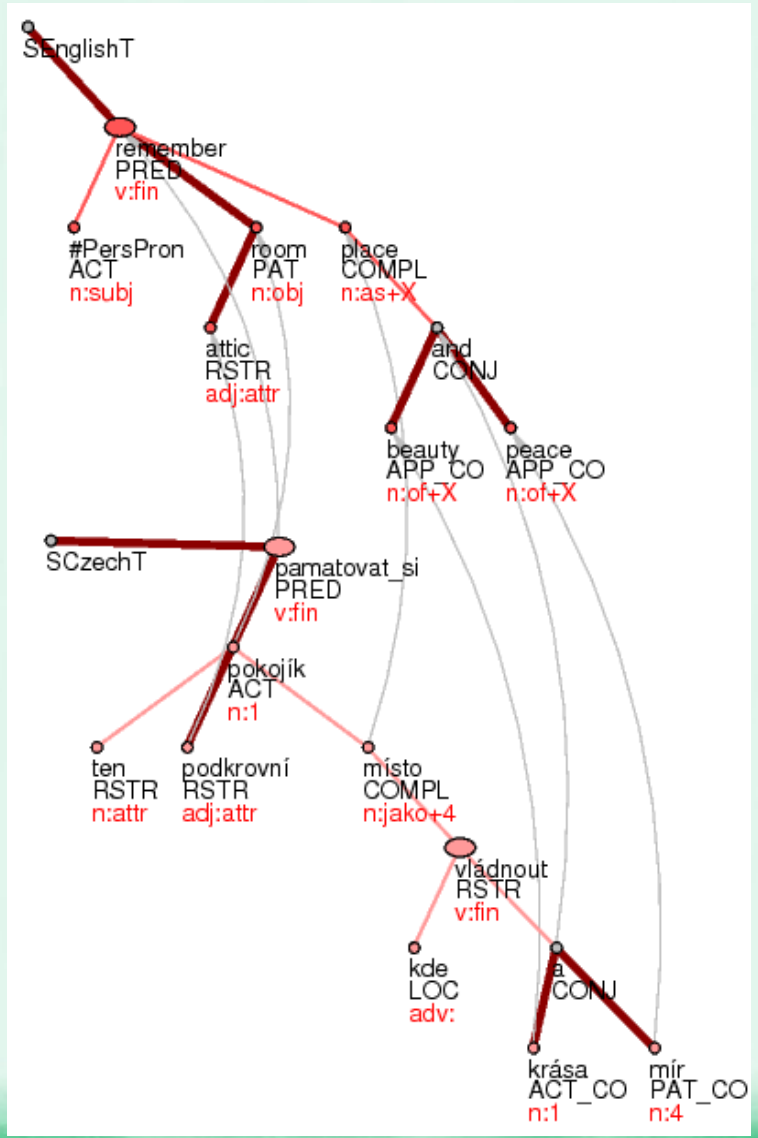
word alignment on the morphological layer



TrEd visualization

Treex

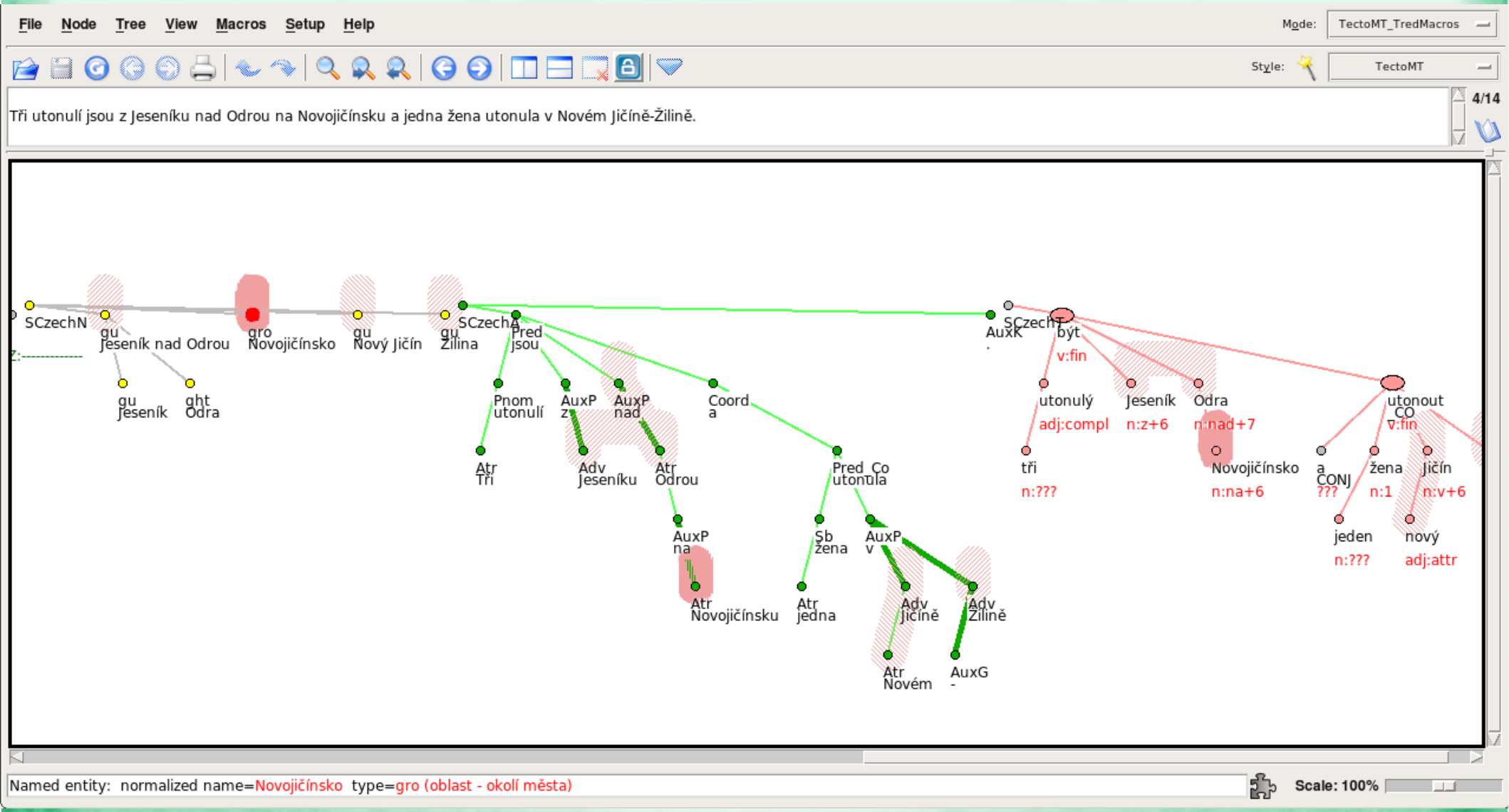
word alignment on the tectogrammatical layer



TrEd visualization

Treex

named entities



Block example – SVO to SOV code

Treex

```
package Tutorial::Svo2SovSolution;
use Moose;
use Treex::Core::Common;
extends 'Treex::Core::Block';

sub process_anode {
  my ( $self, $a_node ) = @_;
  if ( $a_node->tag =~ /^V/ ) {       # verb found
    foreach my $child ( $a_node->get_echildren() ) {
      if ( $child->afun eq 'Obj' ) {   # object found
        # Move the object and its subtree so it precedes the verb
        $child->shift_before_node($a_node);
      }
    }
  }
  return;
}
1;
```

Treex core
Treex convention
Perl keyword/convention

Thank you

Treex

Cooperation is welcomed.

http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/tectomt

Thank you

Treex

Treex is growing!

http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/tectomt