

# Introduction to Treex

## Modular NLP Framework

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on New Developments in Computational Linguistics  
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# Outline

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- Motivation, Treex origin (TectoMT)
- Layers of language description
- Treex architecture
- Treex internals
- Overview of tools and applications
- Conclusion and examples

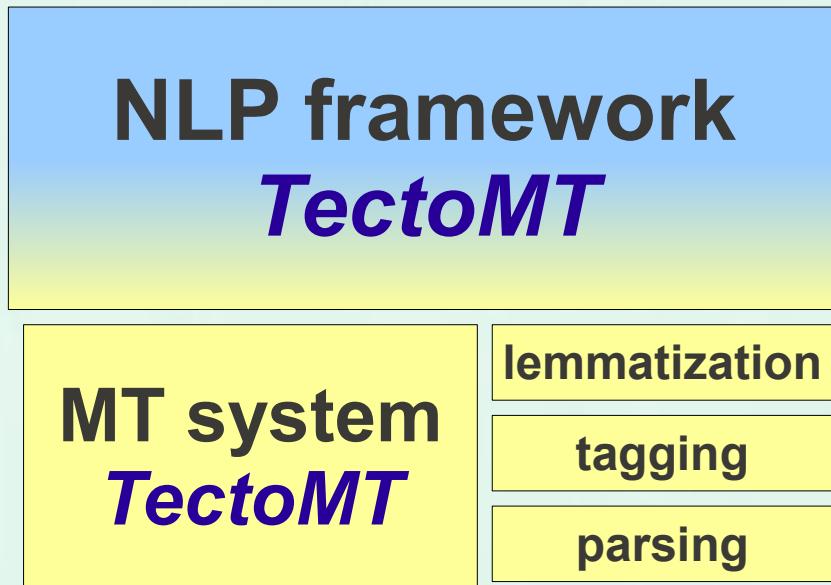
# Motivation

## 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 origin (TectoMT)

2005 (Zdeněk Žabokrtský)



# Treex origin (TectoMT)

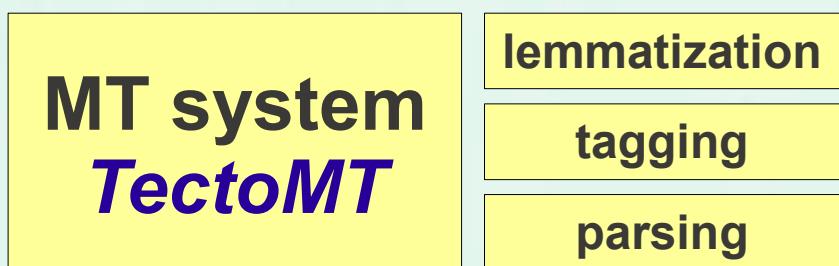
2005

...

2011



lemmatization  
tagging  
parsing



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

# Treex origin (TectoMT)

2005

...

2011

NLP framework  
*TectoMT*

MT system  
*TectoMT*

Now not only  
tectogrammatics  
and not only MT  
→ renamed

multi-purpose  
NLP framework  
*Treex*

MT system  
*TectoMT*

coreference

CzEng analysis

named entity r.

SMT preproc.

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alignment (word,tree)

etc.

# Treex origin (TectoMT)

2005

...

2011

NLP framework  
*TectoMT*

MT system  
*TectoMT*

redesigned and  
reimplemented

- ➡ easier to use
- ➡ more flexible

lemmatization

tagging

parsing

multi-purpose  
NLP framework  
*Treex*

MT system  
*TectoMT*

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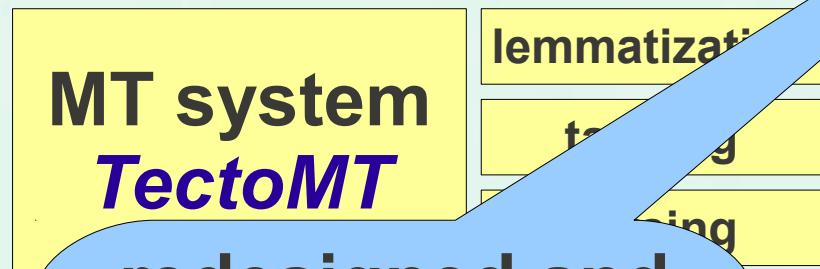
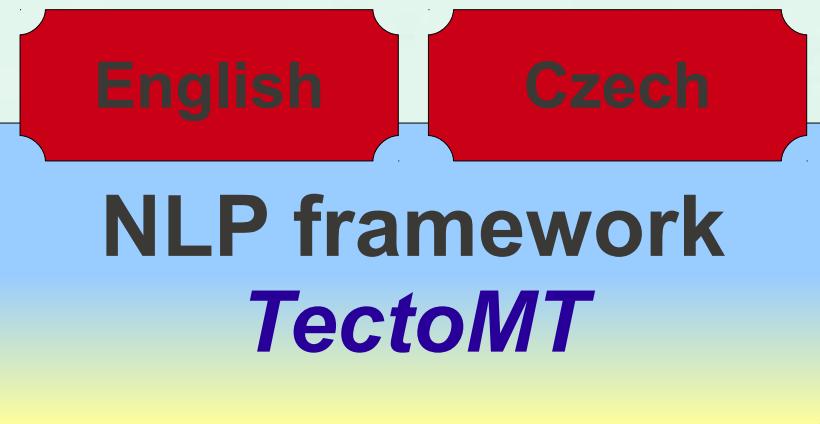
treebank conversions

alignment (word,tree)

etc.

# Treex origin (TectoMT)

2005



redesigned and  
reimplemented

- ➡ easier to use
- ➡ more flexible
- ➡ more langs

...



# Treex origin (TectoMT)

2005

English

Machine  
Translation  
Tool

- reimpl.
- easier to use
- more flexible
- more langs

**Special offer  
Call now and get  
one extra Treex  
for free**

English

Czech

Tamil

Framework

Esperanto

French

TectoMT

German

Arabic

Vietnamese

Hindi

name entry

alignment (word tree)

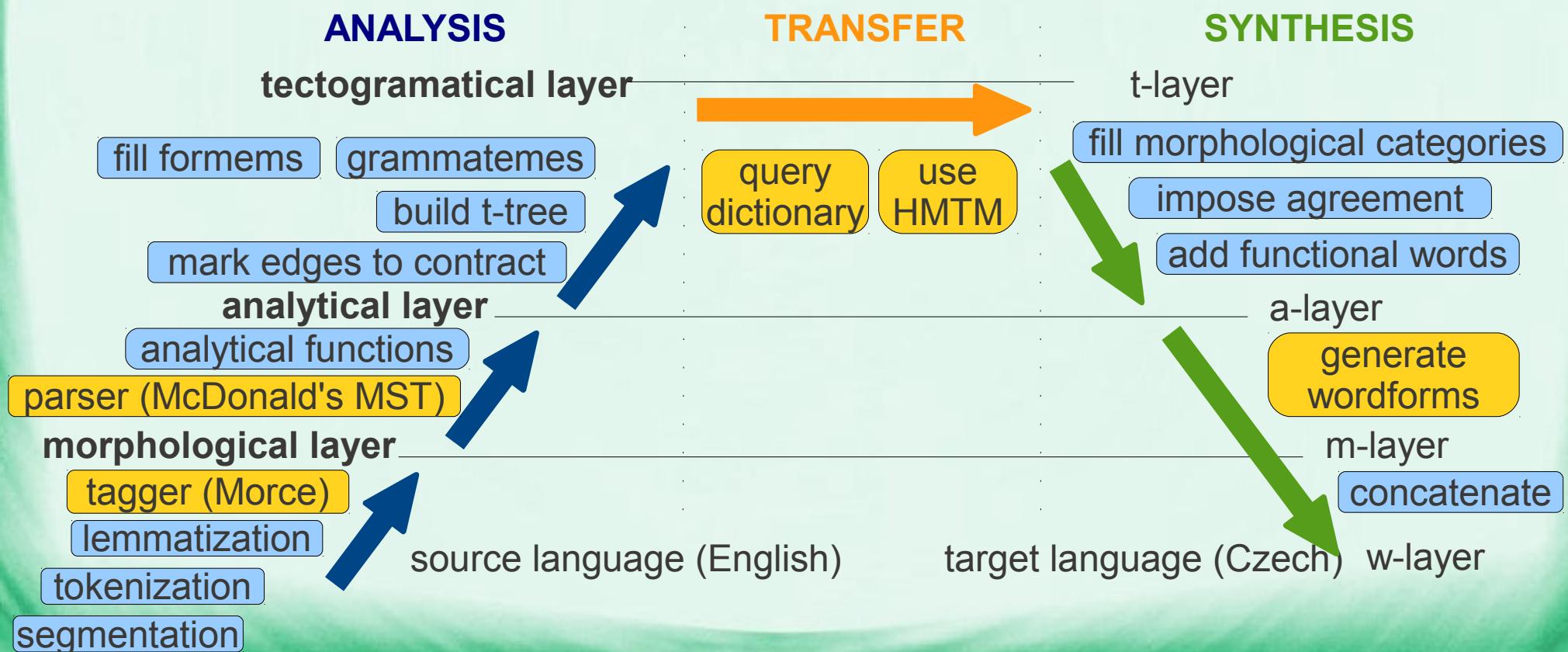
Urdu

Finish

# TectoMT

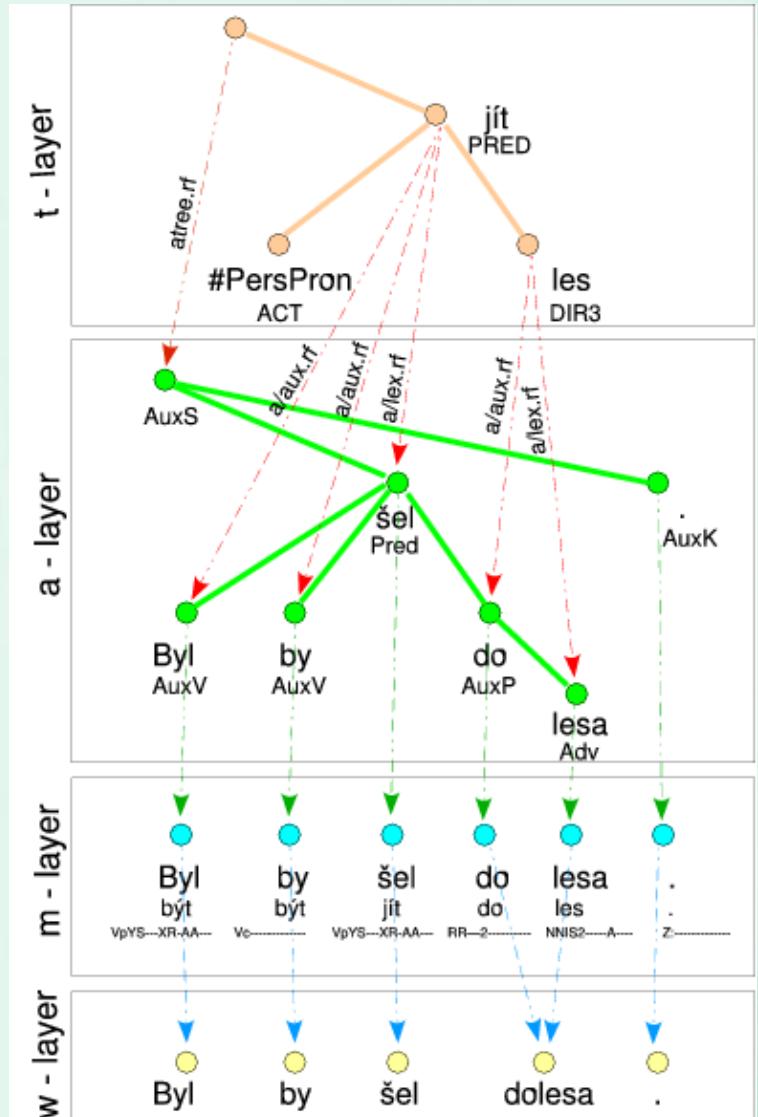
linguistically motivated MT system (English to Czech pilot)

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



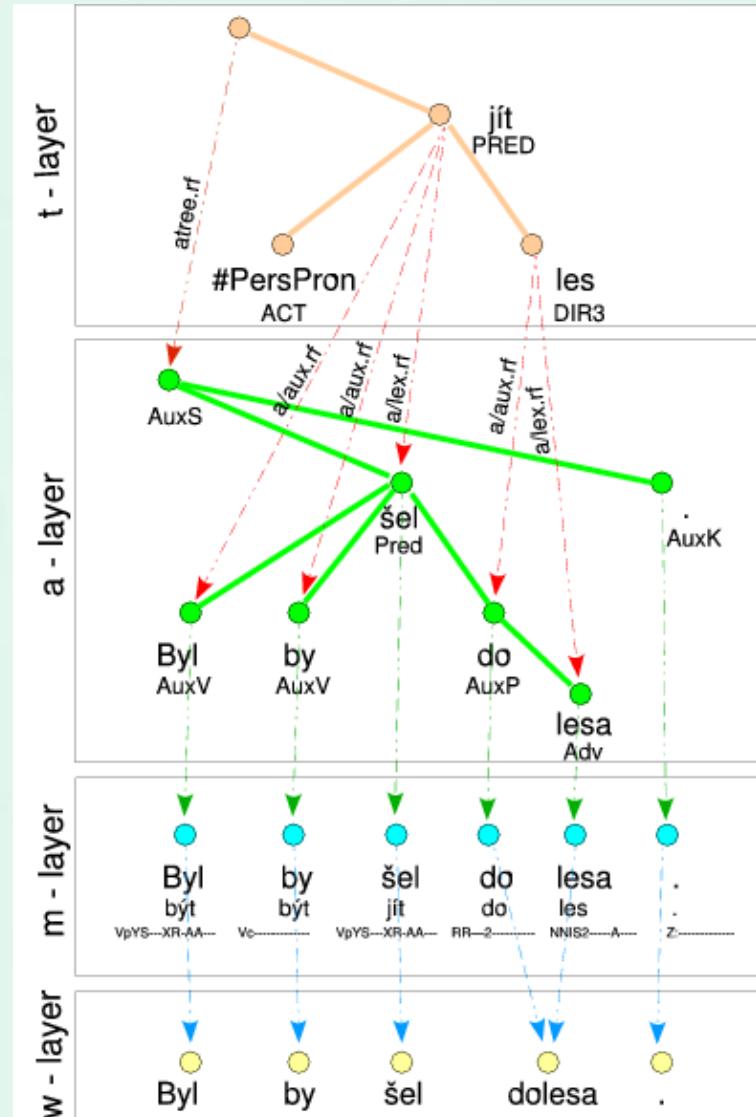
# 4 layers of language description implemented in Prague Dependency Treebank (PDT)

- **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)

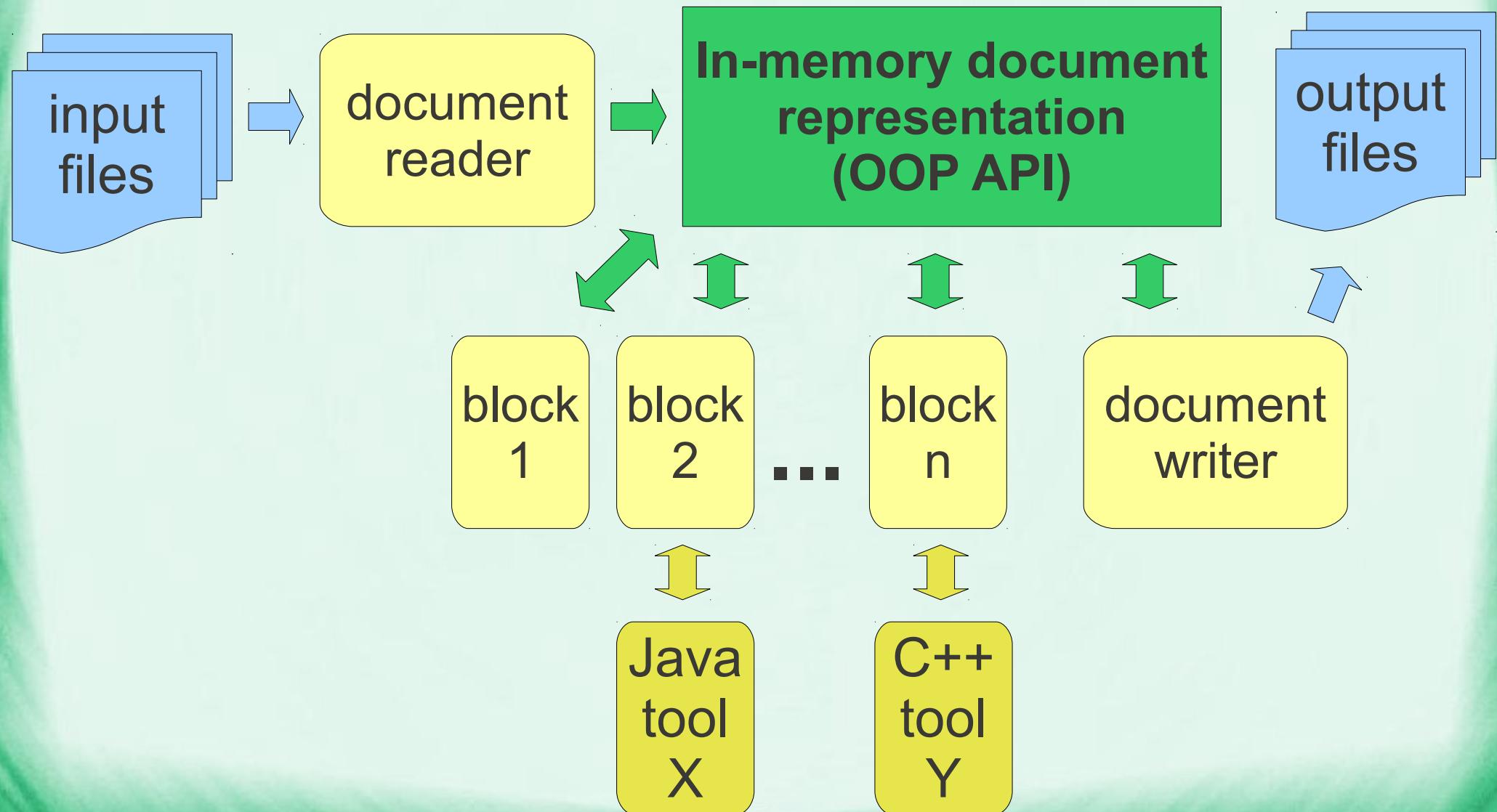
- **tectogrammatical layer**  
deep-syntactic dependency trees
  - abstraction from many language-specific phenomena
  - autosemantic (meaningful) words
    - ~ **nodes**
  - functional words (prepositions, auxiliaries)
    - ~ **attributes**
  - syntactic-semantic relations (dependencies)
    - ~ **edges**
  - added nodes (e.g. because of pro-drop)
  - ...



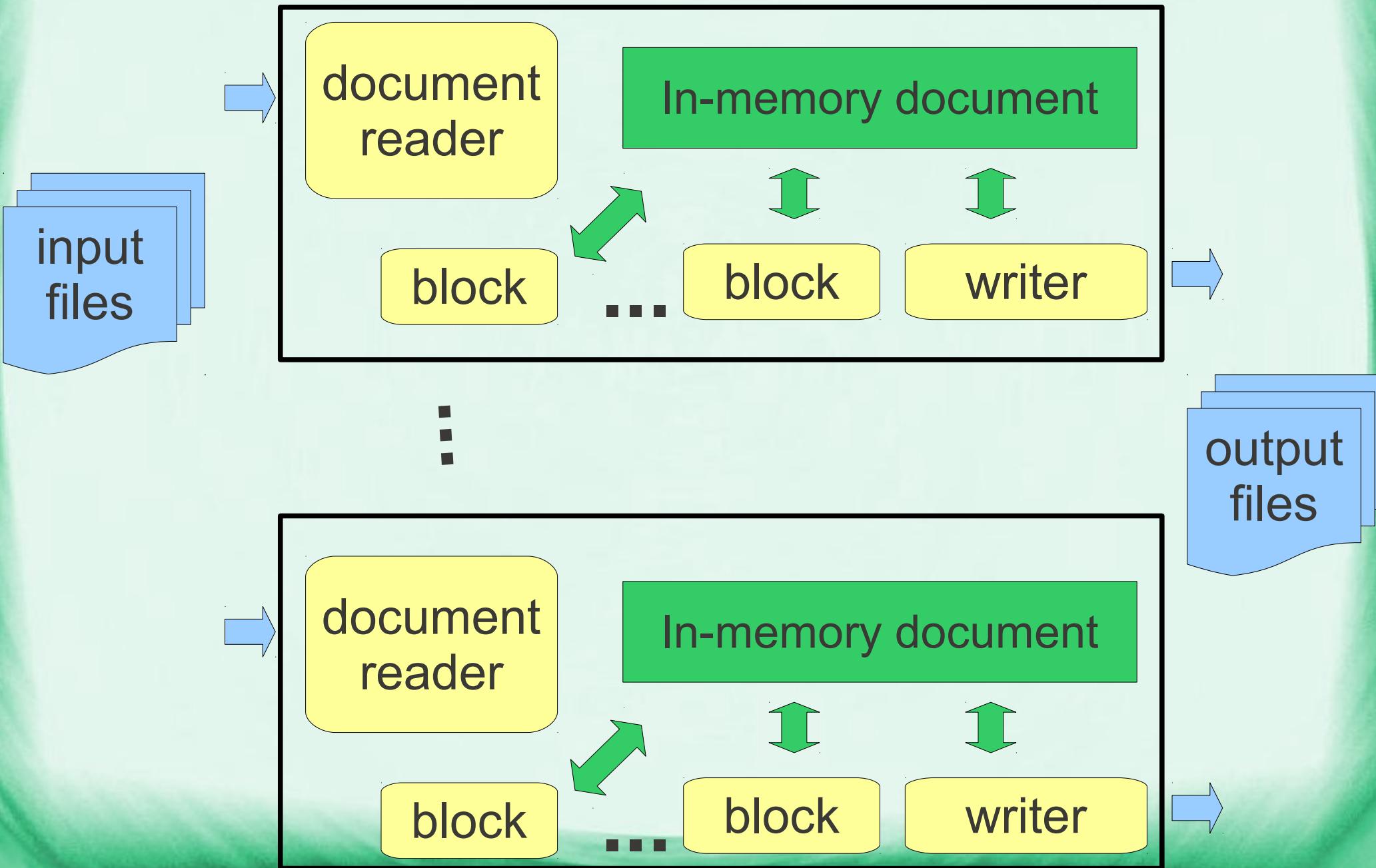
# layers of language description implemented in Treex

- 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 architecture parallelization (using SGE cluster)



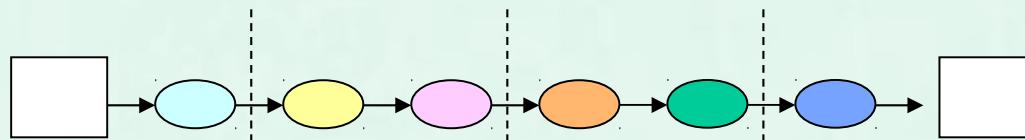
# Treex architecture processing units

- **block** – elementary processing unit in Treex
  - corresponding to a given NLP subtask
  - one Perl class, saved in one file
- **scenario** – a sequence of blocks
  - can be saved in plain text \*.scen 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**

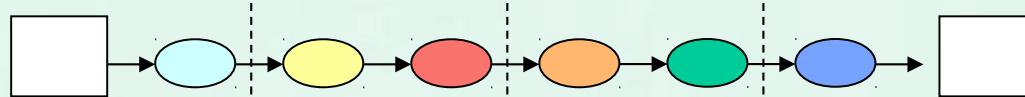
# Treex architecture processing units

Blocks can be easily substituted with an alternative solution.

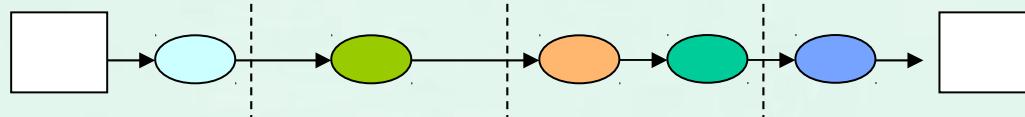
Scenario 1:



Scenario 2:



Scenario 3:



# TreeX architecture processing units

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`

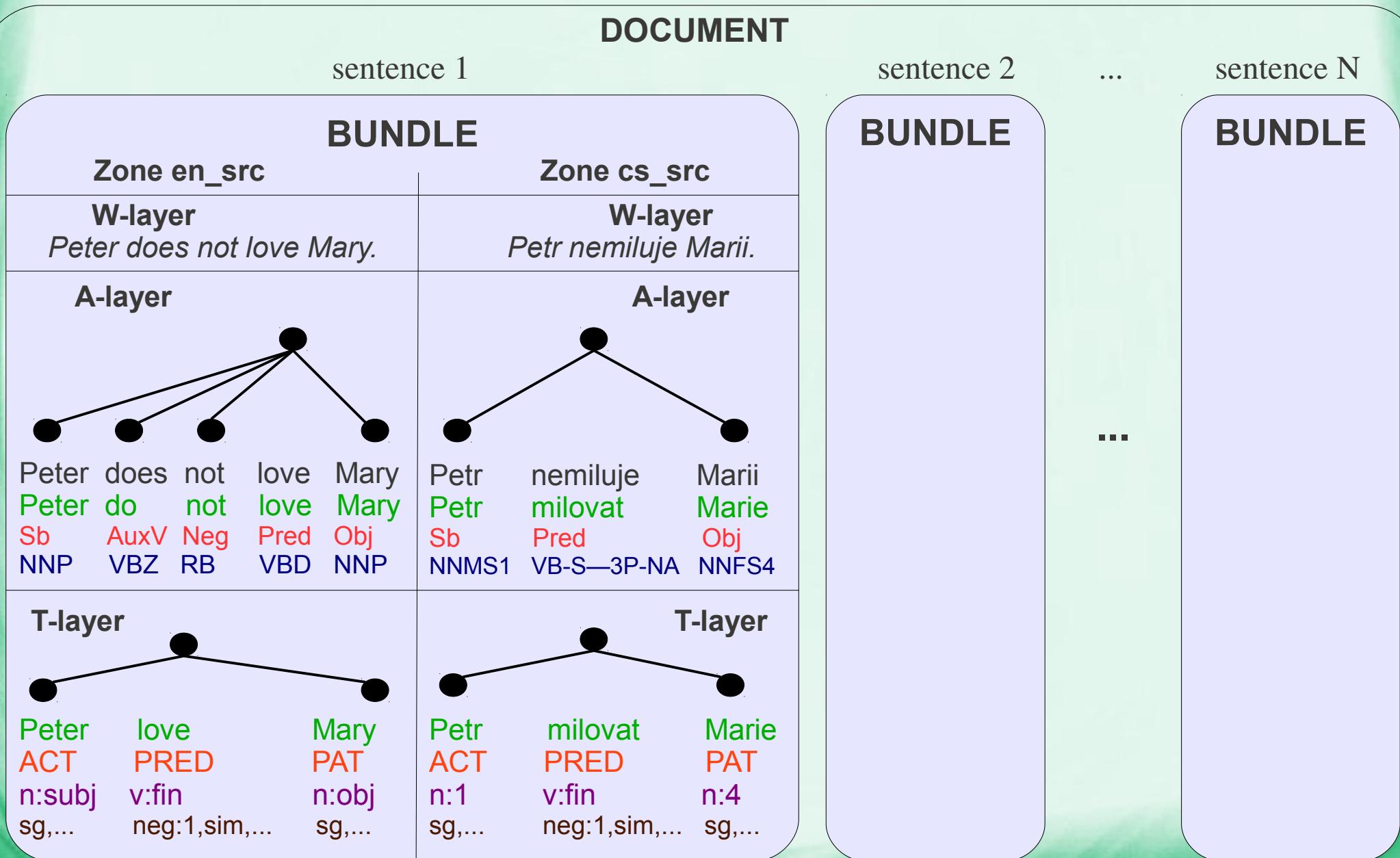
## Scenario B

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

# Treex architecture data units

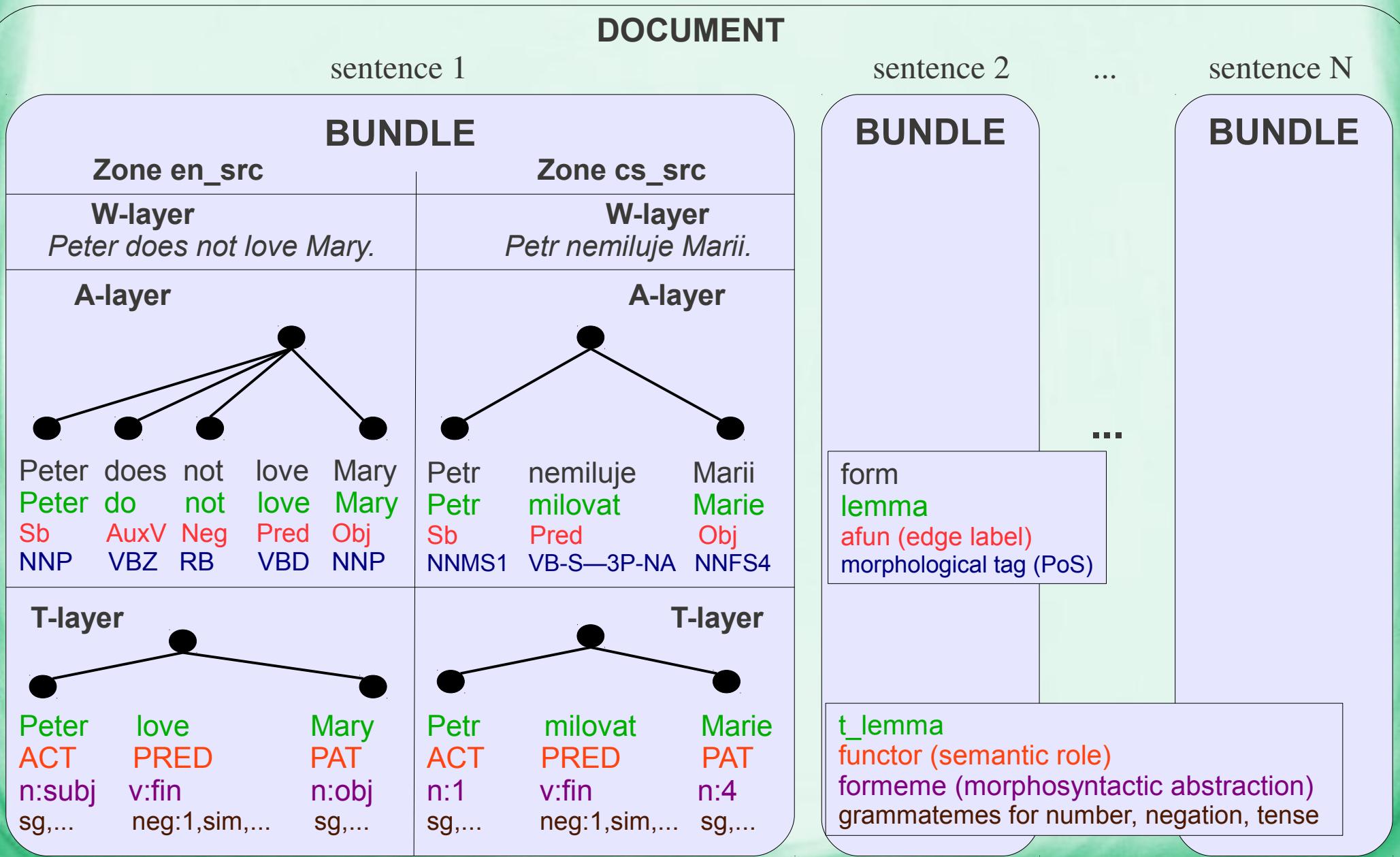
- **Document**
  - stored in one file
  - sequence of sentences
- **Bundle** (“bundle of trees”)
  - corresponds to one sentence
- **Zone**
  - one for each language (Arabic, Czech, English,...)
  - and optionally a variant (“selectors” src, trans, ref,...)
- **Tree**
  - layer of language description: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

# Treex architecture data units



# Treex architecture

## data units



# Treex architecture data units

## DOCUMENT

sentence 1

sentence 2

...

sentence N

### BUNDLE

#### Zone en\_src

##### W-layer

*Peter does not love Mary.*

##### A-layer

Peter	does	not	love	Mary
Sb	AuxV	Neg	Pred	Obj
NNP	VBD		VBD	NNP

#### Zone cs\_src

##### W-layer

*Petr nemiluje Marii.*

##### A-layer

Petr	nem	mild	Marii
Sb	NNMS1	Pred	Obj
NA	VB-S	NNFS4	NNFS4

##### T-layer

Peter	love	Mary
ACT	PRED	PAT
n:subj	v:fin	n:obj
sg,...	neg:1,sim,...	sg,...

Petr	milovat	Marie
ACT	PRED	PAT
n:1	v:fin	n:4
sg,...	neg:1,sim,...	sg,...

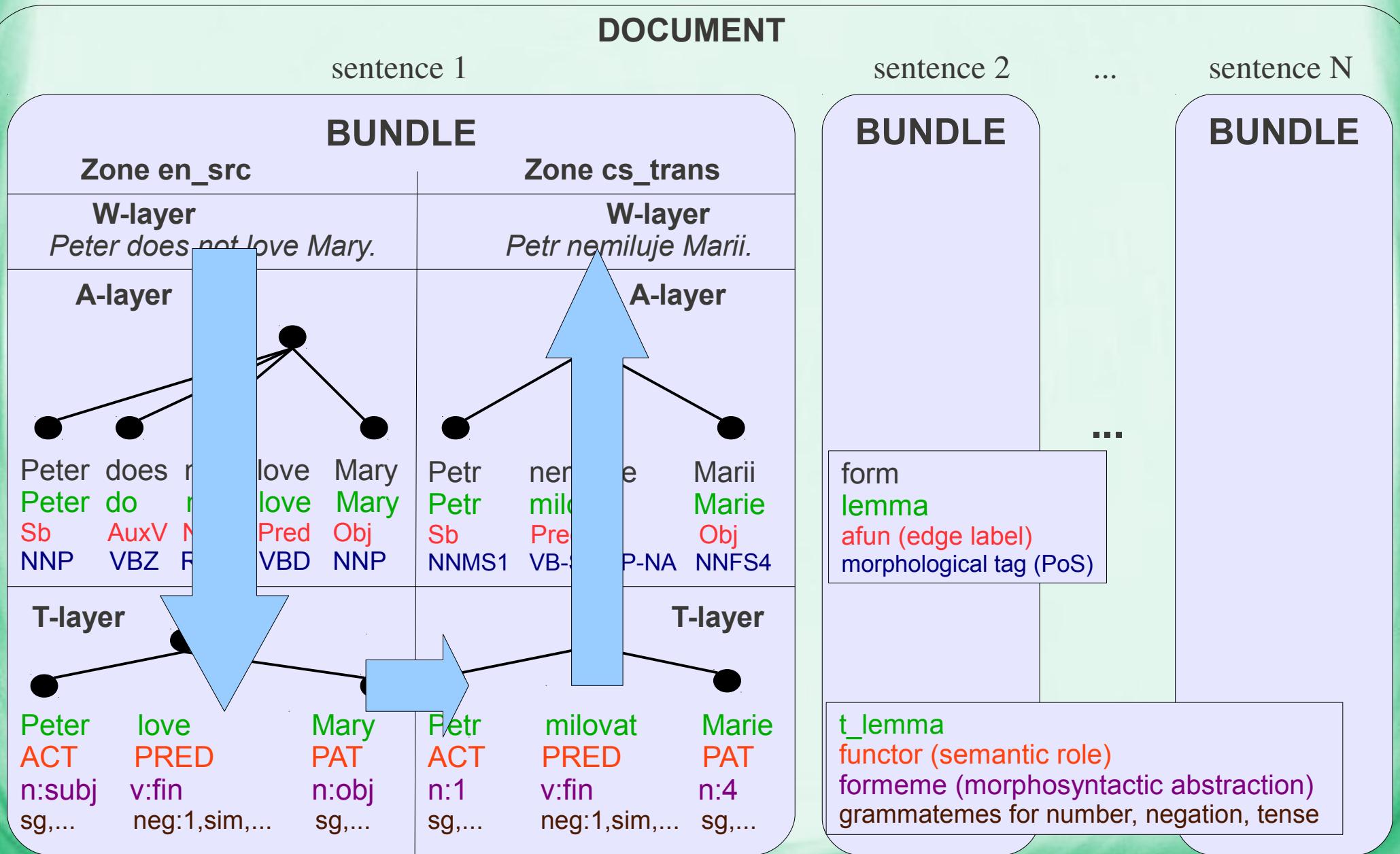
##### T-layer

### BUNDLE

form  
lemma  
afun (edge label)  
morphological tag (PoS)

t\_lemma  
functor (semantic role)  
formeme (morphosyntactic abstraction)  
grammatemes for number, negation, tense

# TreeX architecture data units

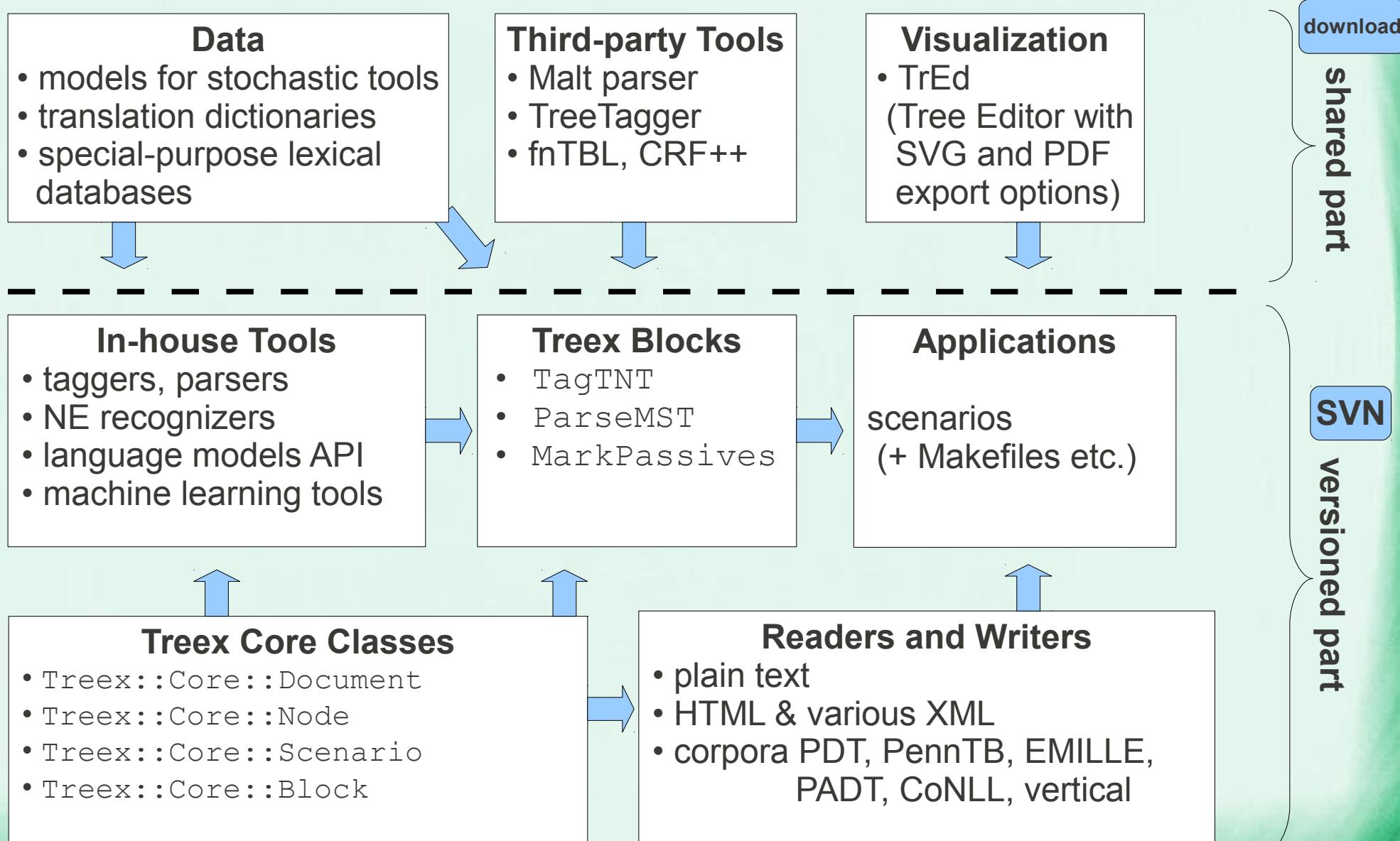


# Internals – Design decisions

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

# Internals – Components



# Internals – Statistics

- 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

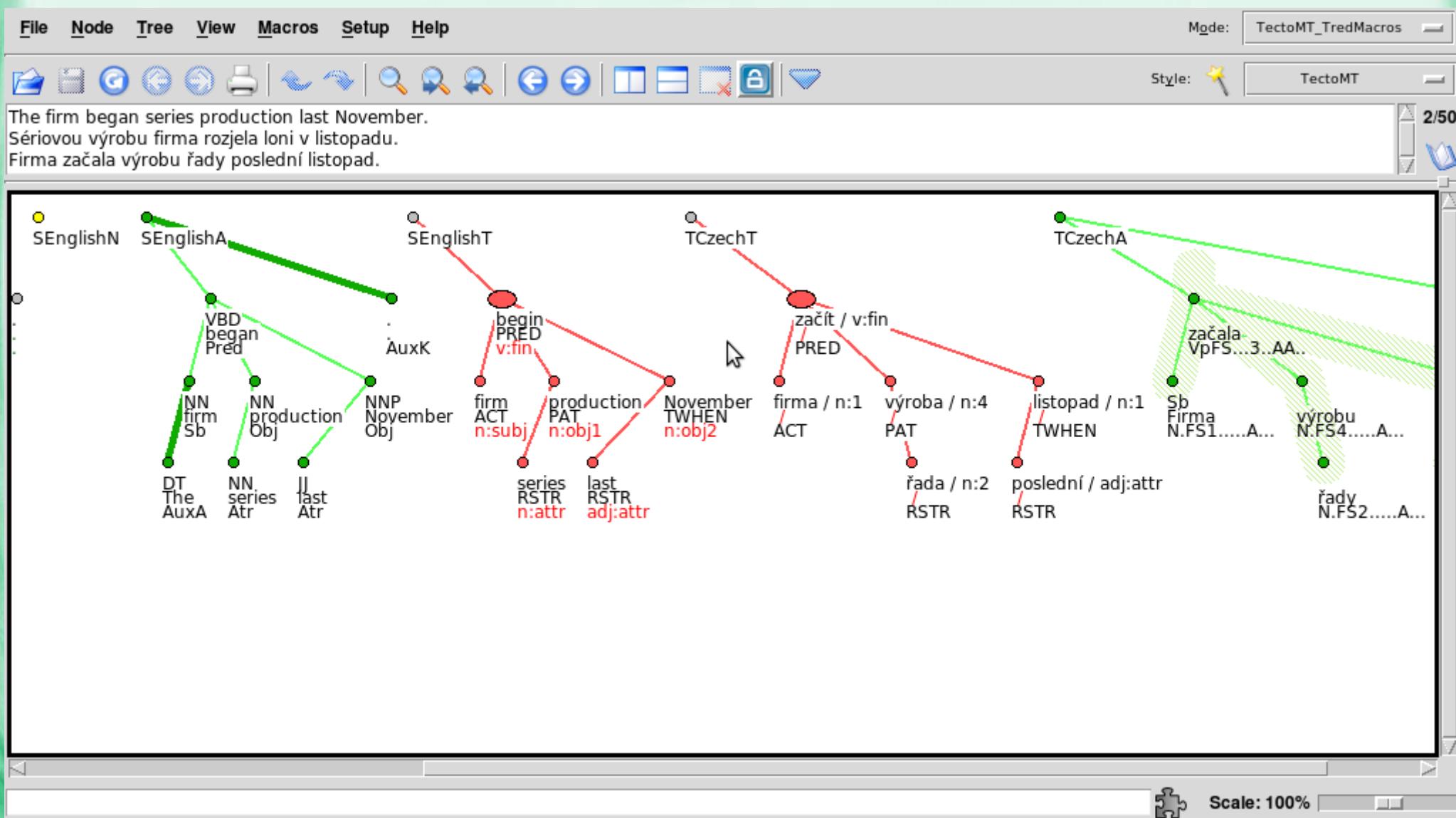
# Conclusion

## Treex main properties

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

# TrEd visualization

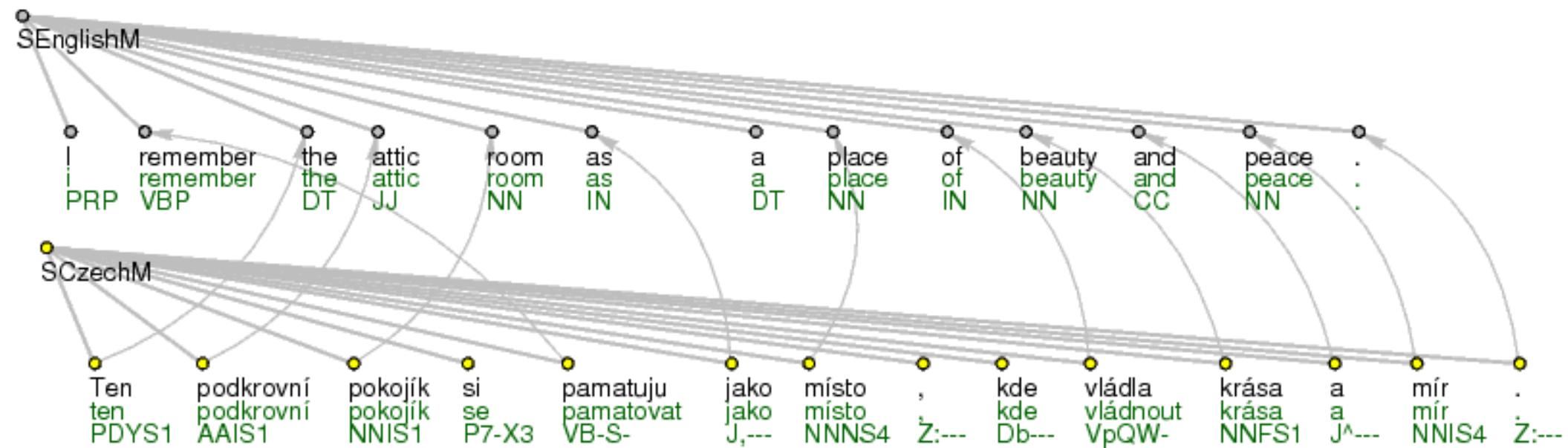
## translation



Scale: 100%

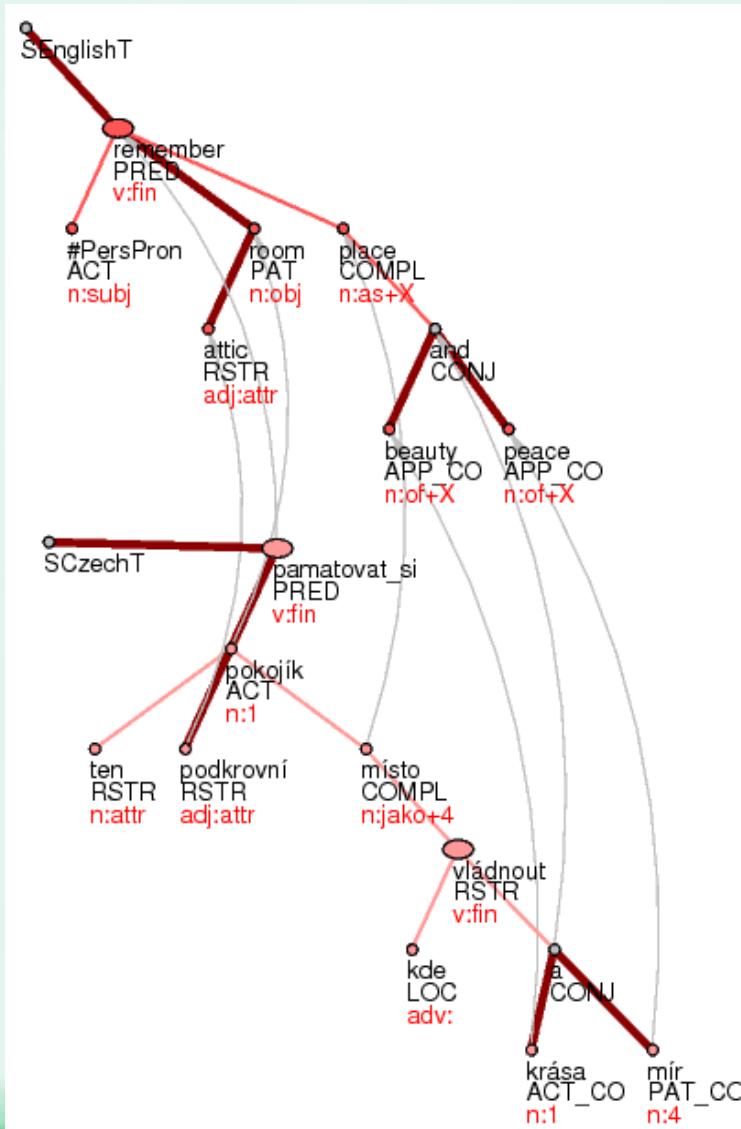
# TrEd visualization

word alignment on the morphological layer



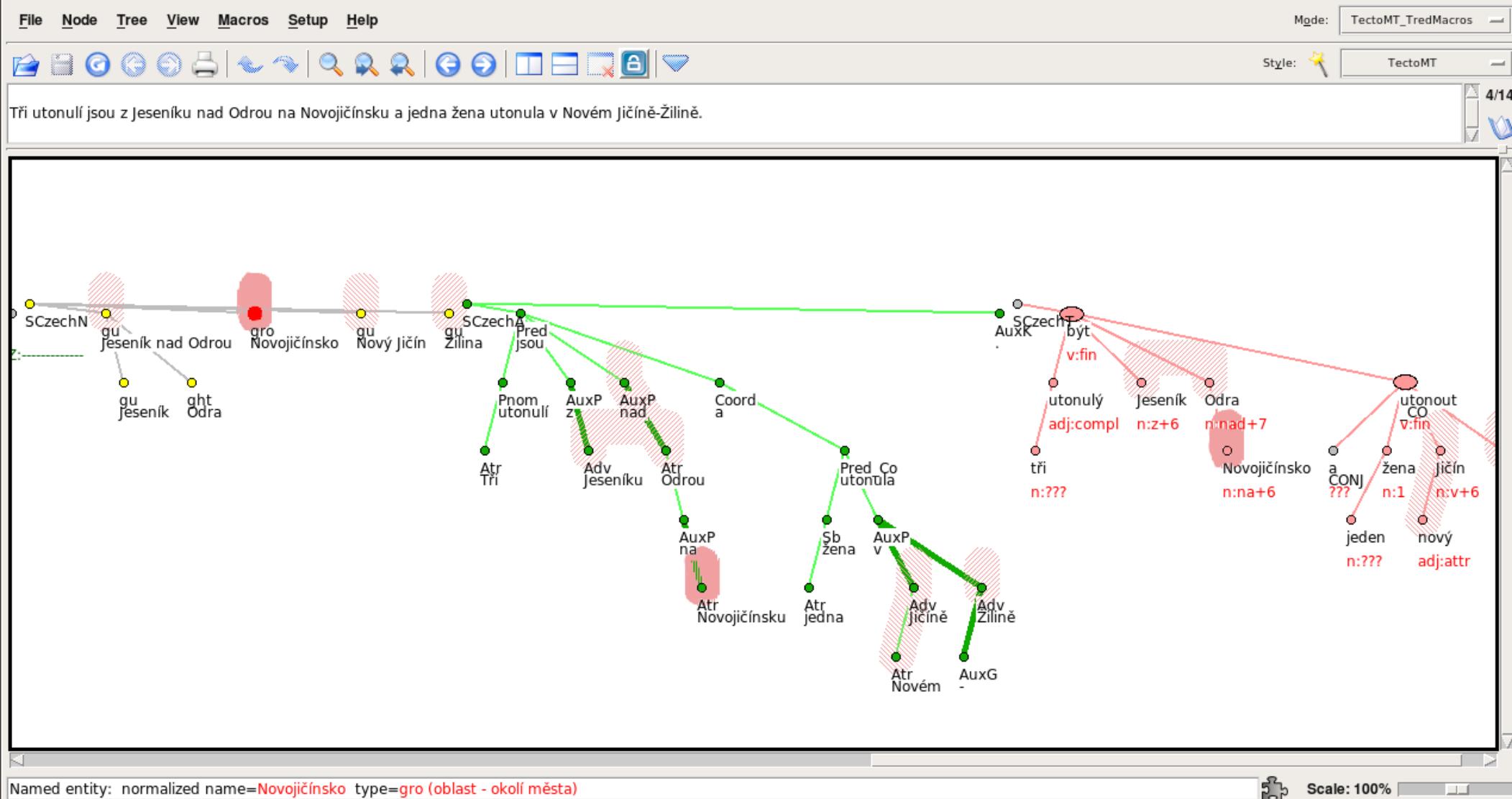
# TrEd visualization

word alignment on the tectogrammatical layer



# TrEd visualization

## named entities



# Block example – SVO to SOV code

```
package Tutorial::Solution::Svo2Sov;
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

Cooperation is welcomed.



<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/treex>

# Thank you

Treex is growing!



<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/treex>