



# Prague Dependency Treebank: Introduction – trees, dependency

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# NPFL075 Prague Dependency Treebank



Lectures:

Markéta Lopatková

Fri, S6, 14:00-15:30

Practical sessions:

Jiří Mírovský

Fri, SU1, 12:20-13:50

<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/course/npfl075>

Requirements:

- Homework (40%)
- Activity (10%)
- Final test (50%)

Assessment:

- excellent (= 1) ≥ 90%
- very good (= 2) ≥ 70%
- good (= 3) ≥ 50%

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# Prague Dependency Treebank



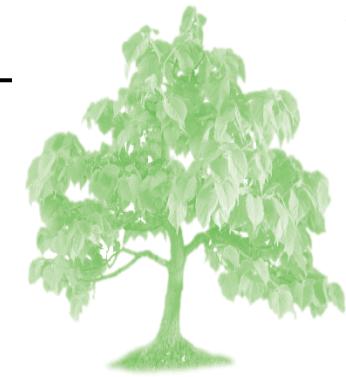
Collection of:

- linguistically annotated data (Czech)
- tools and data format(s)
- documentation

Another point of view:

- annotation scheme
- framework for annotation of different languages
- underlying linguistic theory (Functional Generative Description)

# Prague Dependency Treebank



Collection of:

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Another point of view:

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What about other/similar approaches:

- HamleDT
- Universal Dependencies

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# Outline of the lecture



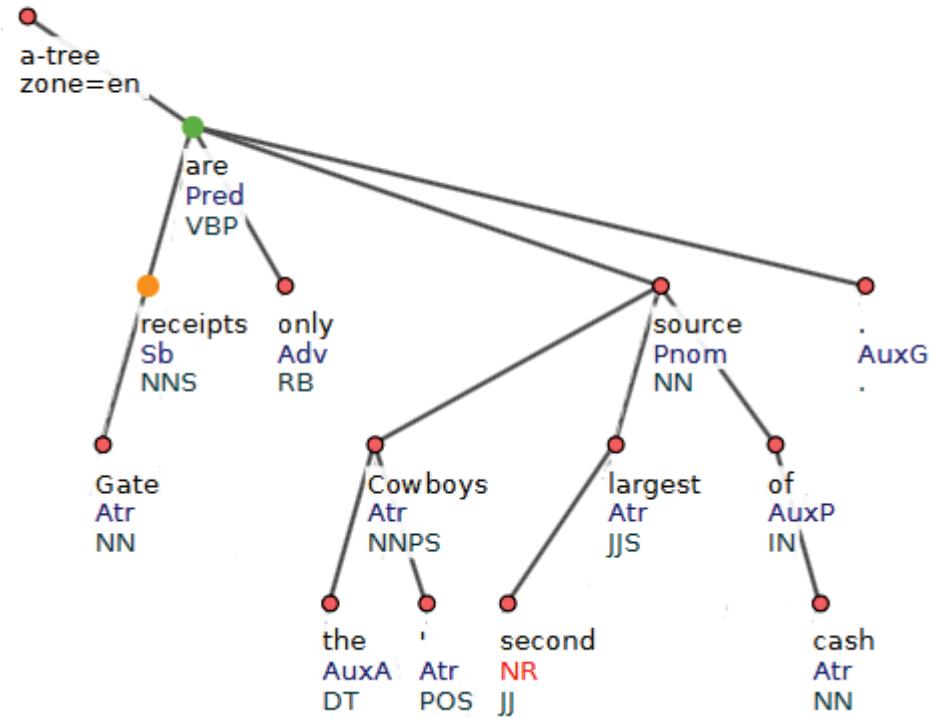
- trees (graph theory and data format)
- phrase structure trees and dependency trees
- dependency and non-dependency relations
- non-projectivity

# How to capture sentence structure?



wsj\_1411.treex.gz (64/108)

Gate receipts are only the Cowboys' second largest source of cash.



# Graph theory: tree



**tree** (graph theory):

definition:

- finite graph  $\langle N, E \rangle$ ,  $N \sim$  nodes/vertices,  $E \sim$  edges  $\{n_1, n_2\}$
- connected
- no cycles, no loops
- no more than 1 edge between any two different nodes

↔ (undirected) graph

any two nodes are connected by exactly one simple path

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**rooted tree**

- rooted  $\Rightarrow$  orientation (i.e., edges ordered pairs  $[n_1, n_2]$ )



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**rooted tree**

- rooted  $\Rightarrow$  orientation (i.e., edges ordered pairs  $[n_1, n_2]$ )

**directed tree** ... directed graph

- which would be tree
  - if the directions on the edges were ignored, or
  - **all edges are directed towards a particular node** ~ the **root**

# Data structure: tree



*tree as a data structure:*

- rooted tree (as in graph theory)
- all edges are directed from a particular node ~ the **root**

# Data structure: tree



## *tree as a data structure:*

- rooted tree (as in graph theory)
  - all edges are directed from a particular node ~ the **root**
- +
- (linear) ordering of nodes:  
the children of each node have a specific order

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# Data structure: tree (properties)



*tree as a data structure:*

- "tree-ordering" D ... partial ordering on nodes  
 $u \leq v \Leftrightarrow_{\text{def}}$  the unique path from the root to  $v$  passes through  $u$   
(weak ordering ~ reflexive, antisymmetric, transitive)
- "linear ordering" ... (partial) ordering on nodes  
(strong ordering ~ antireflexive, asymmetric, transitive)

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# Tree-based structures in CL



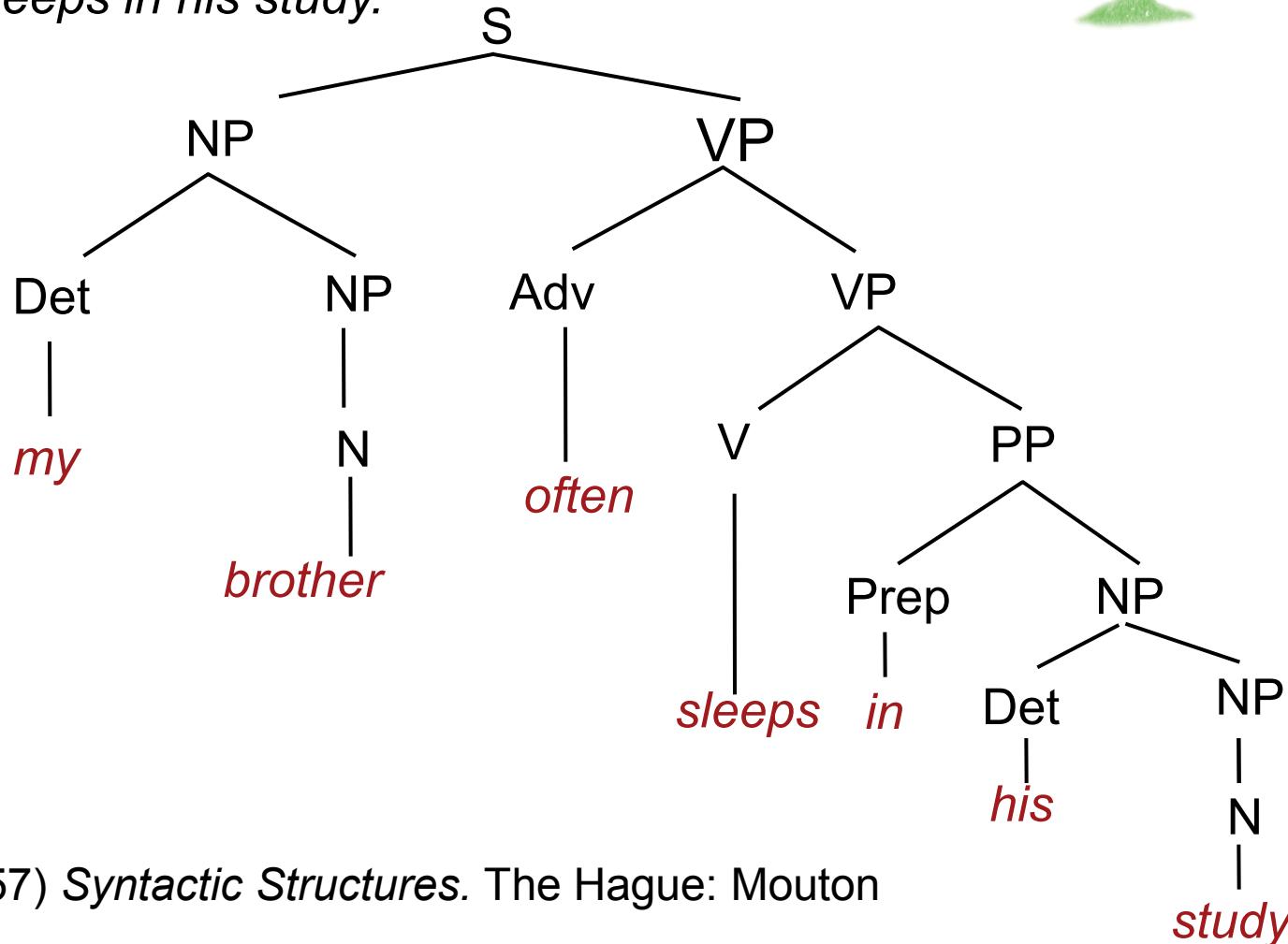
two types of tree-based structures in CL:

- phrase structure tree / constituent structure tree
- dependency tree



# Phrase structure tree

*My brother often sleeps in his study.*



Noam Chomsky (1957) *Syntactic Structures*. The Hague: Mouton

# Phrase structure tree (definition)



$$T = \langle N, D, Q, P, L \rangle$$

$\langle N, D \rangle$  ... ***rooted tree***

Q ... lexical and grammatical categories

L ... labeling function  $N \rightarrow Q$

D ... oriented edges (branches)

~ relation on lex. and gram. categories

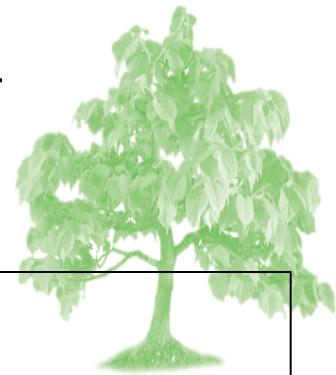
***dominance relation***

+

P ... relation on N ~ (partial strong linear ordering)

relation of ***precedence***

# Phrase structure tree (definition)



$$T = \langle N, D, Q, P, L \rangle$$

$\langle N, D \rangle$  ... ***rooted tree, directed***

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D ... oriented edges (branches)

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P ... relation on N ~ (partial strong linear ordering)  
relation of ***precedence***

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Relating dominance and precedence relations:

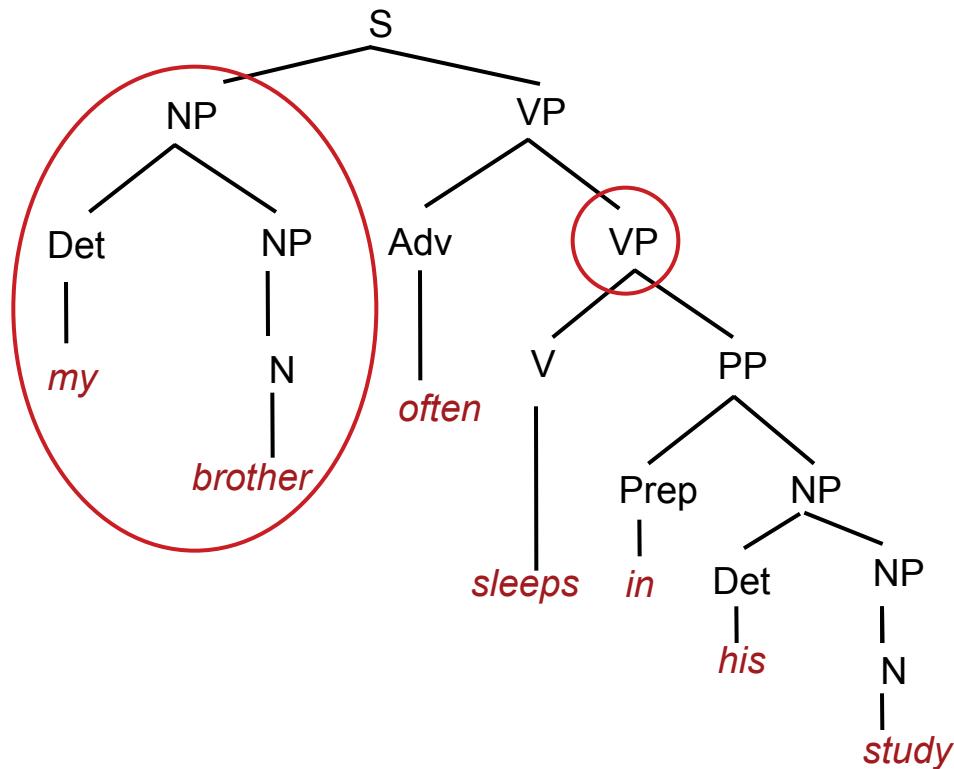
- ***exclusivity*** condition for D and P relations
- ***'nontangling'*** condition

# Phrase structure tree (relation P)



- **exclusivity** condition for D and P relations

$\forall x,y \in N \text{ holds: } ([x,y] \in P \vee [y,x] \in P) \Leftrightarrow ([x,y] \notin D \& [y,x] \notin D)$





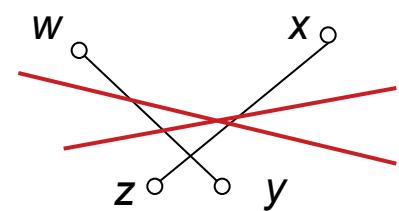
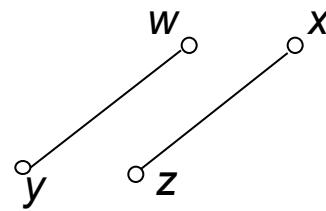
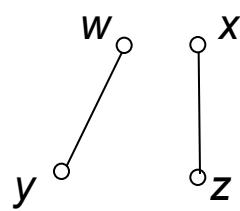
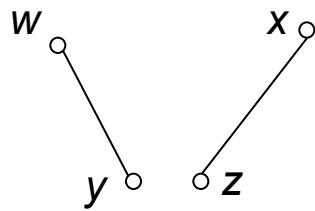
# Phrase structure tree (relation P)

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- ***'nontangling'*** condition

$\forall w, x, y, z \in N \text{ holds: } ([w, x] \in P \& [w, y] \in D \& [x, z] \in D) \Rightarrow ([y, z] \in P)$





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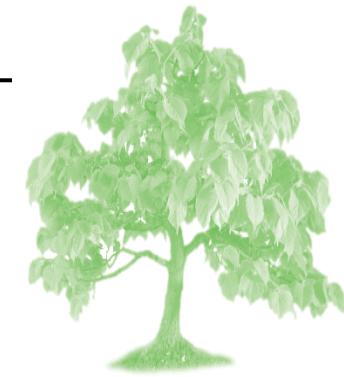
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$T = \langle N, D, Q, P, L \rangle$  phrase structure tree

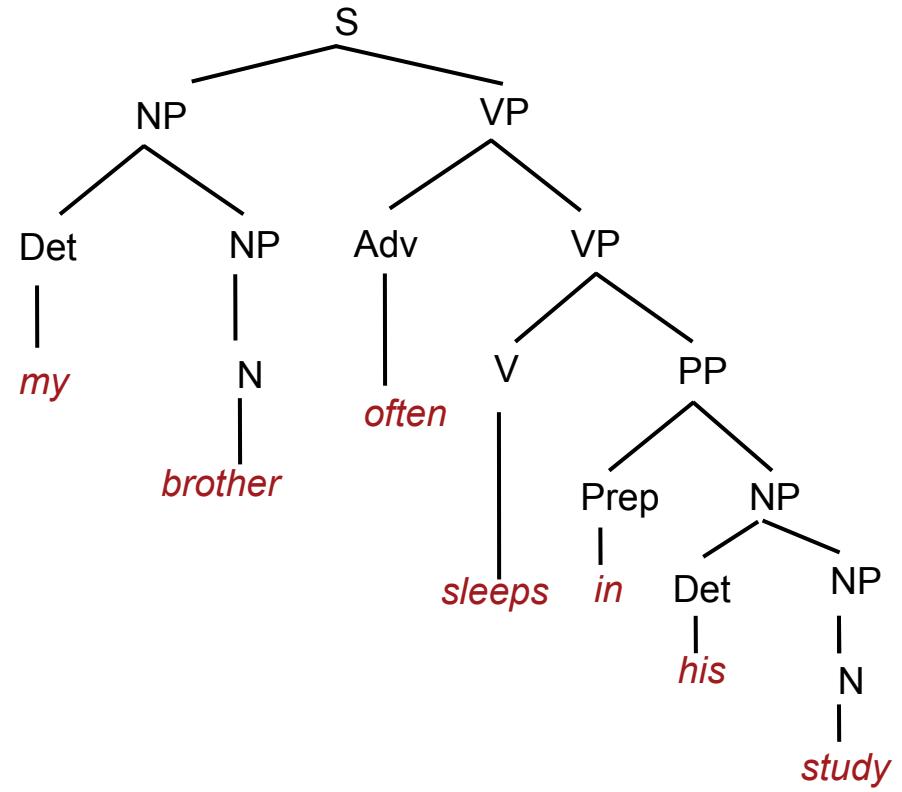
- $\forall x,y \in N$  siblings  $\Rightarrow [x,y] \in P$
- the set of its leaves is totally ordered by P



# Phrase structure tree

## Pros

- derivation history / ‘closeness’ of a complementation
- coordination, apposition
- CFG-like
- derivation of a grammar

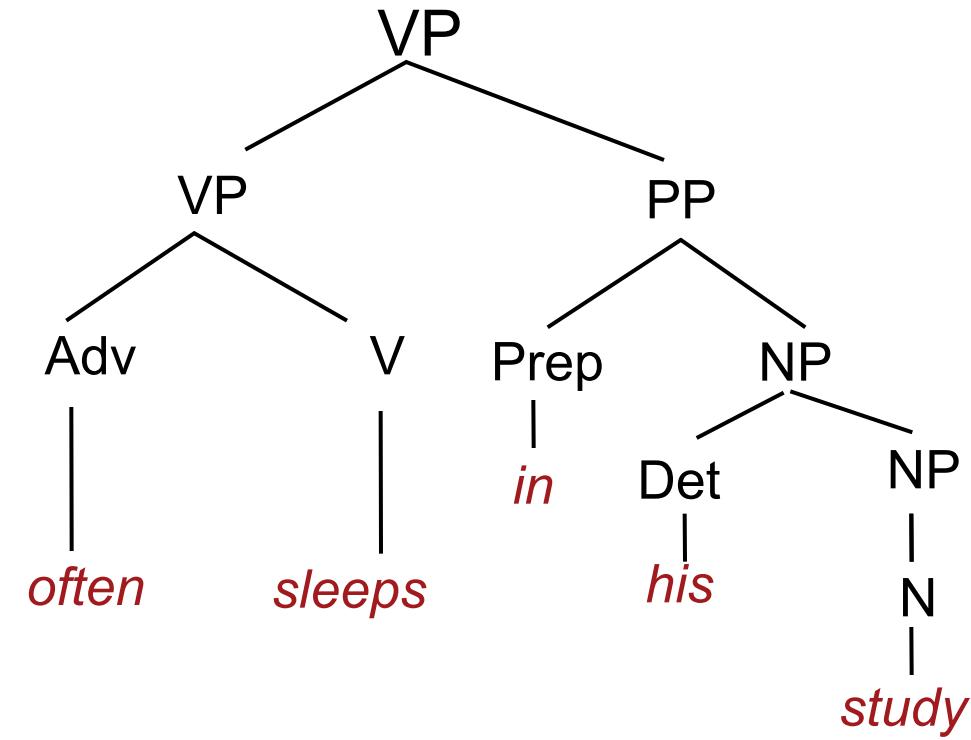


# Phrase structure tree

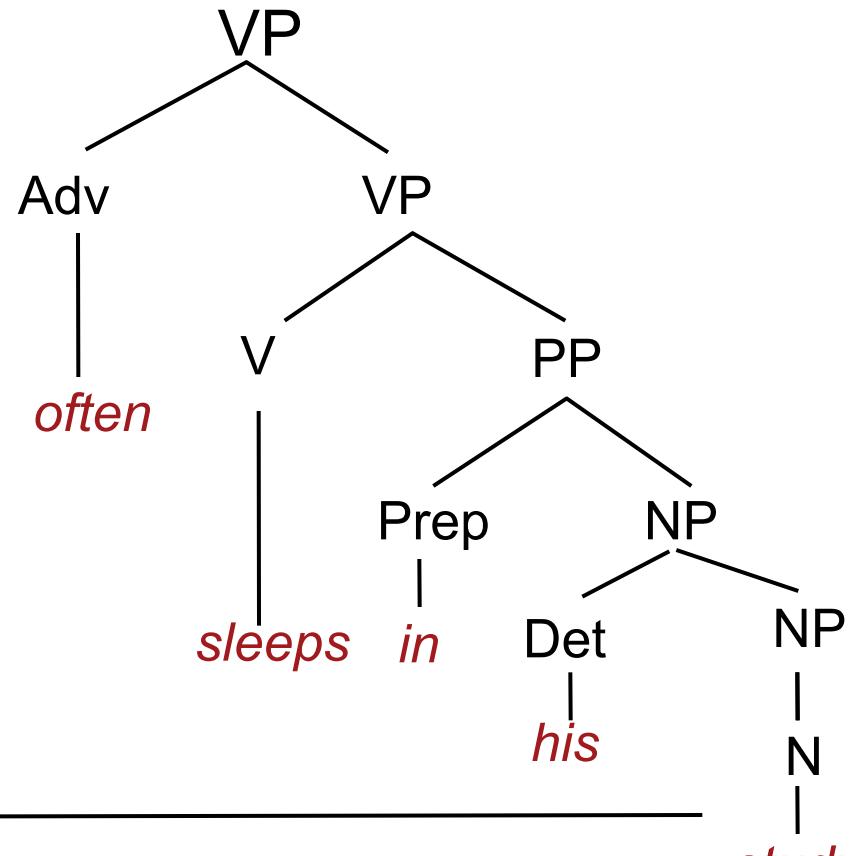


derivation history / 'closeness':

... *often sleeps in his study*



... *often sleeps in his study*



# Phrase structure tree



## Pros

- derivation history / ‘closeness’ of a complementation
- coordination, apposition
- CFG-like
- derivation of a grammar

## Contras

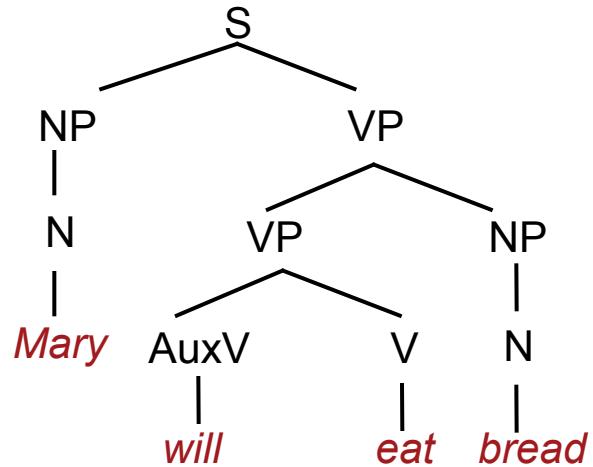
- complexity  
(number of non-terminal symbols)
- complement  
(‘two dependencies’)  
*přiběhl bos*  
[(he) arrived barefooted]
- **free word order**  
discontinuous ‘phrases’  
non-projectivity

# Phrase structure tree

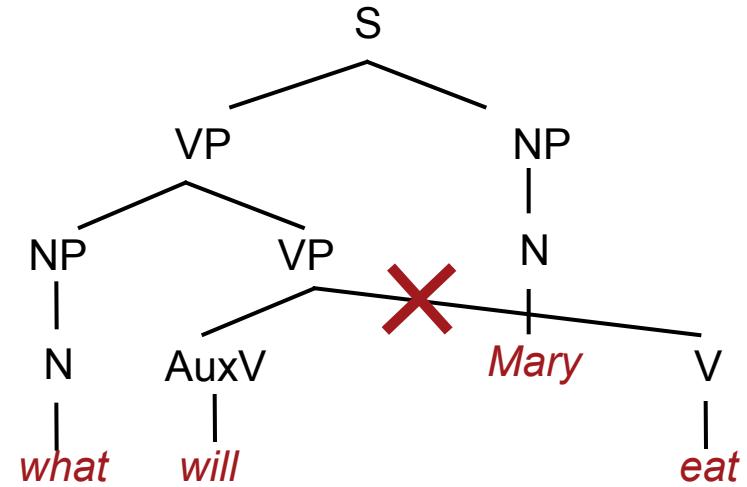


discontinuous ‘phrases’: solution for English

*Mary will eat bread.*

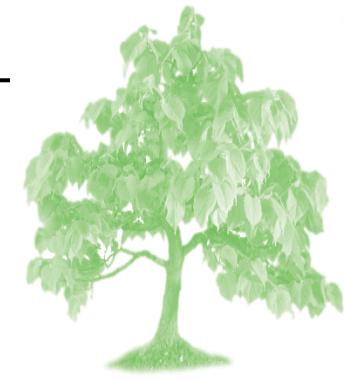


*What will Mary eat?*

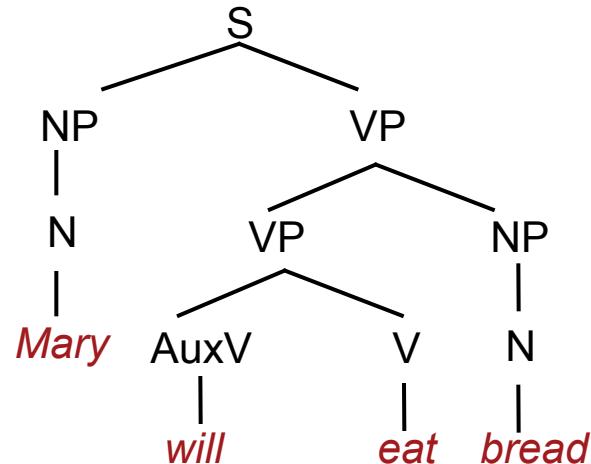


# Phrase structure tree

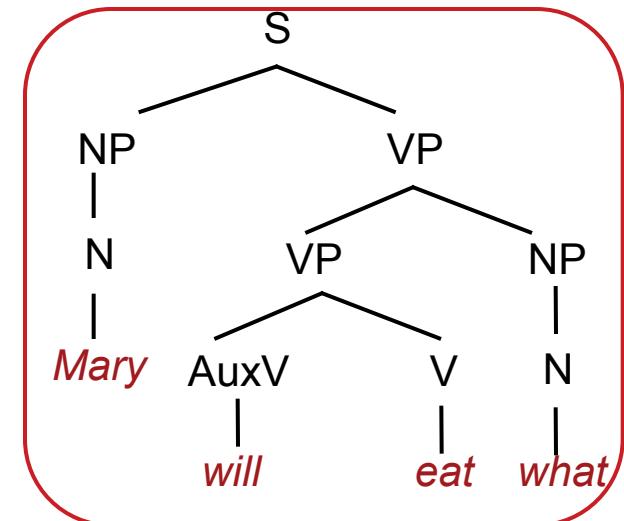
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*What will Mary eat?*

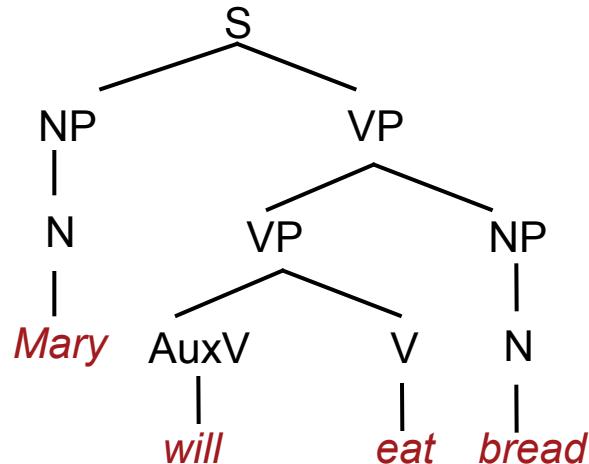


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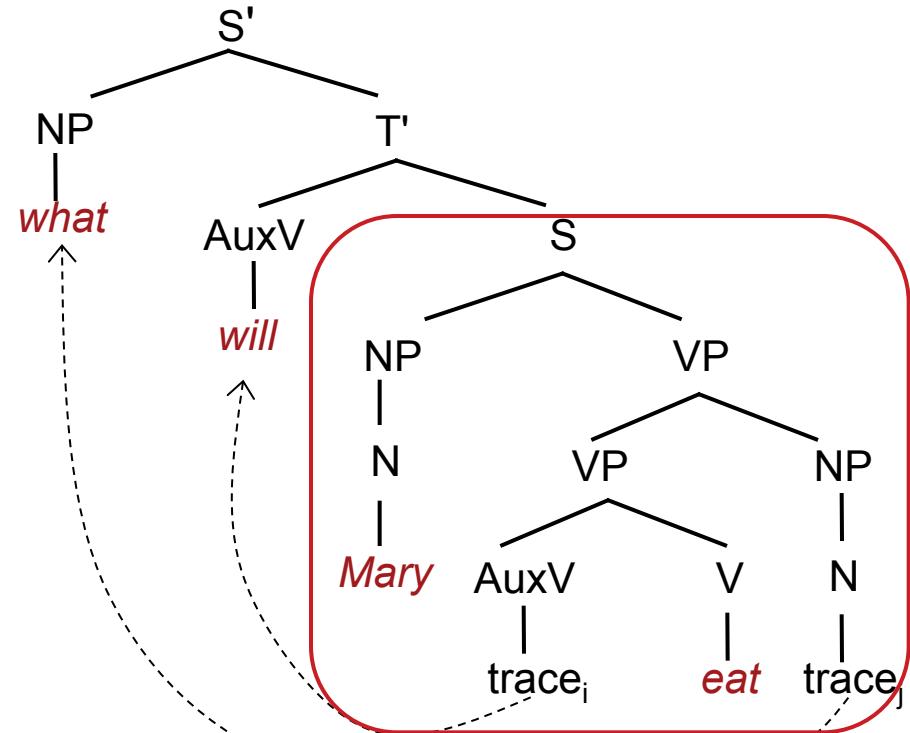


discontinuous ‘phrases’: solution for English

*Mary will eat bread.*



*What will Mary eat?*



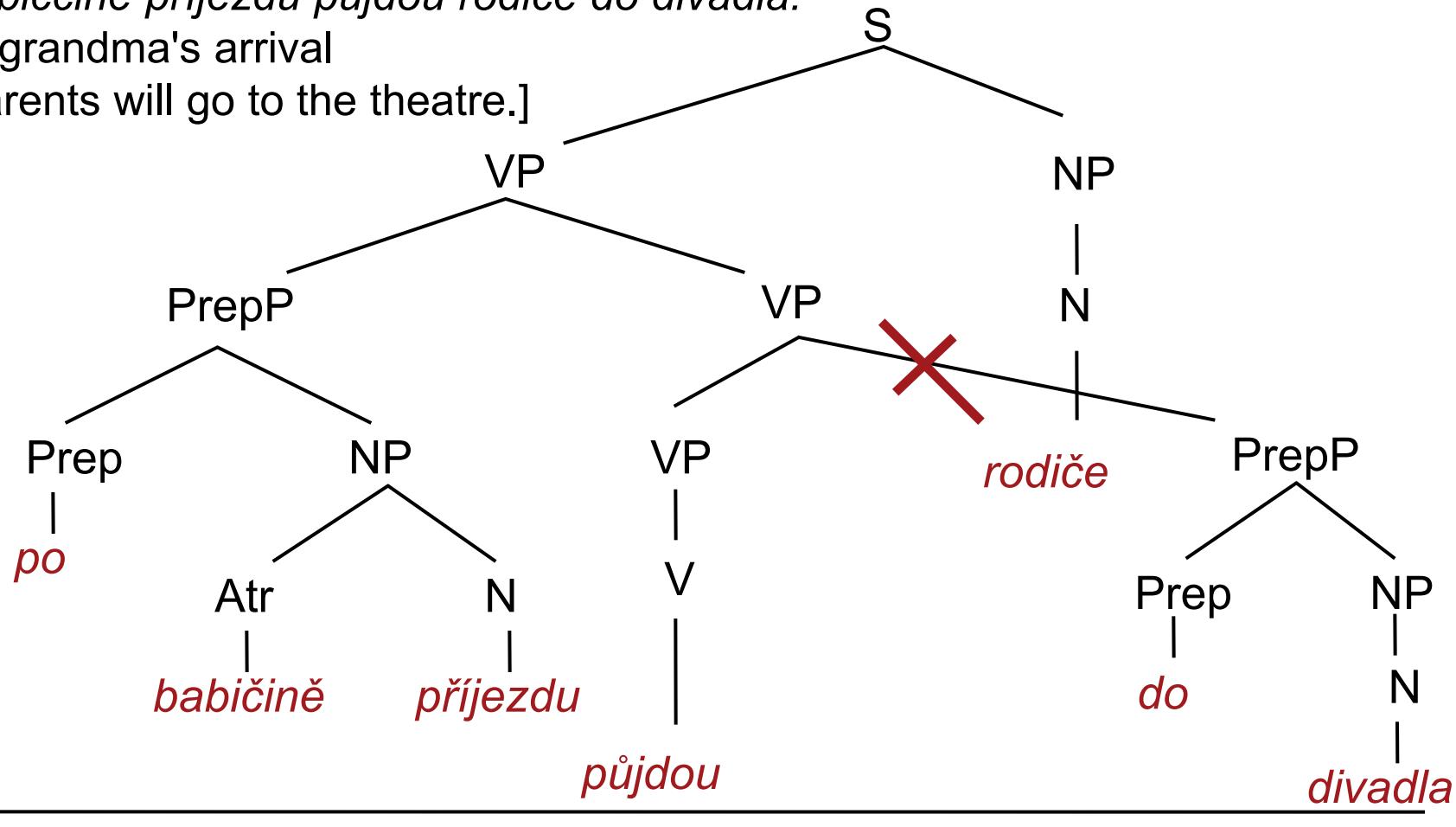


# Phrase structure tree

discontinuous 'phrases':

*Po babiččině příjezdu půjdou rodiče do divadla.*

[After grandma's arrival  
the parents will go to the theatre.]



# Corpora with phrase structure trees



- Penn Treebank (1995)  
Mitchel Marcus (1993) Computational Linguistics, vol. 19  
<http://www.cis.upenn.edu/~treebank/>  
Penn Arabic Treebank, Penn Chinese Treebank
- International English Treebank (ICE)  
<http://ice-corpora.net/ice/index.htm>
- Paris 7  
<http://www.llf.cnrs.fr/Gens/Abeille/French-Treebank-fr.php>
- Szeged Treebank 2.0  
[http://www.inf.u-szeged.hu/projectdirs/hlt/en/Szeged%20Treebank%202.0\\_en.html](http://www.inf.u-szeged.hu/projectdirs/hlt/en/Szeged%20Treebank%202.0_en.html)
- many many others

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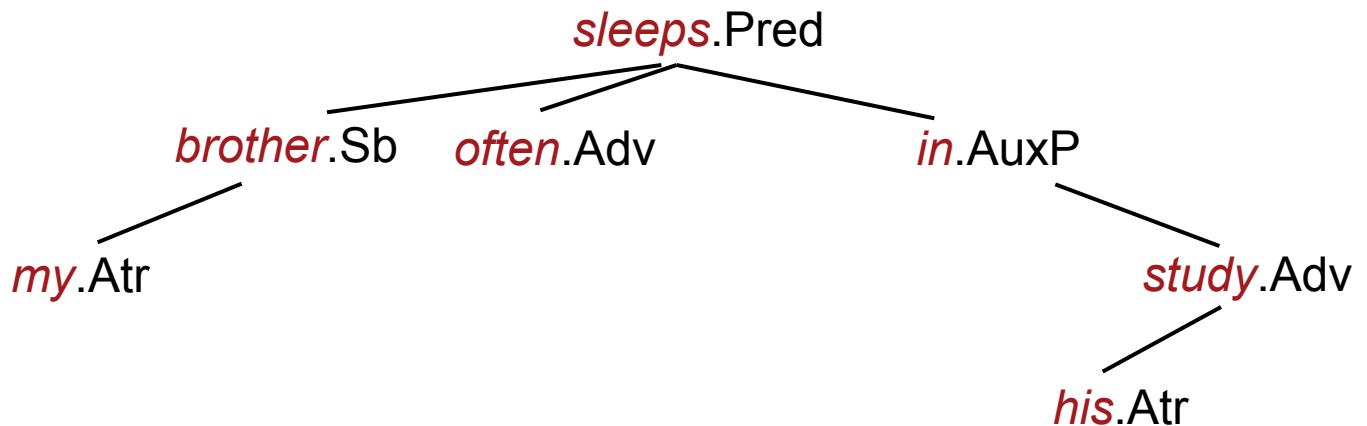
# Dependency tree



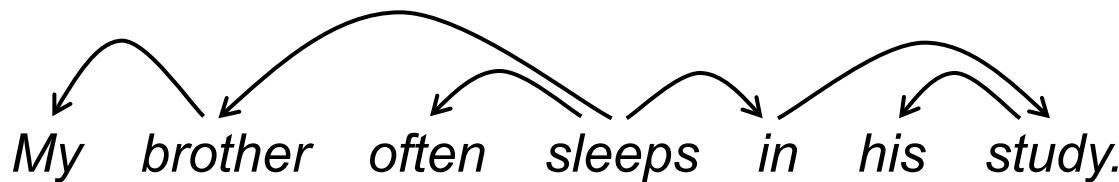


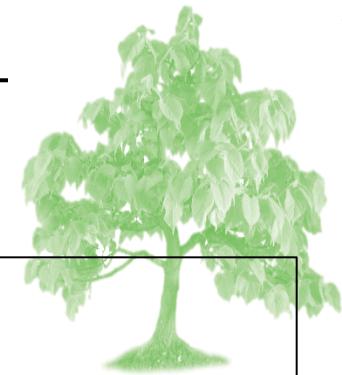
# Dependency tree

*My brother often sleeps in his study.*



Lucien Tesnière (1959) *Éléments de syntaxe structurale*. Editions Klincksieck.  
Igor Mel'čuk (1988) *Dependency Syntax: Theory and Practice*. State University of New York Press.





# Dependency tree (definition)

$$T = \langle N, D, Q, WO, L \rangle$$

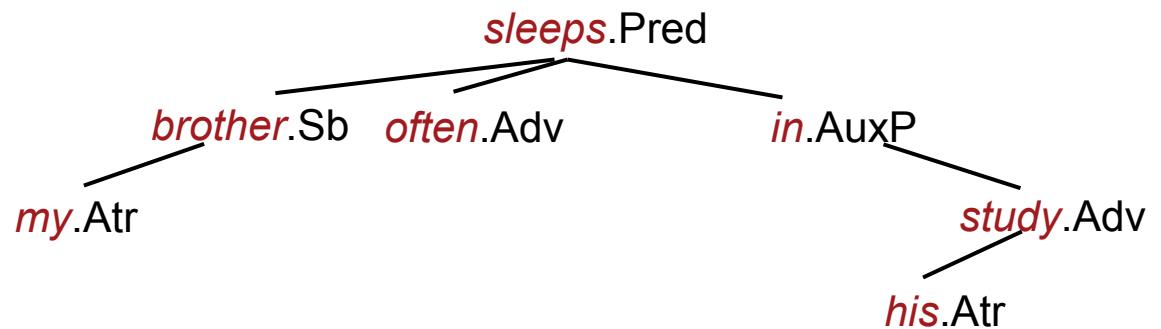
$\langle N, D \rangle$  ... **rooted tree, directed**

Q ... lexical and grammatical categories

L ... labeling function  $N \rightarrow Q$

D ... oriented edges ~ relation on lex. and gram. categories  
*'dependency' relation*

WO ... relation on N ~ (strong total ordering on N) ...  
*word order*





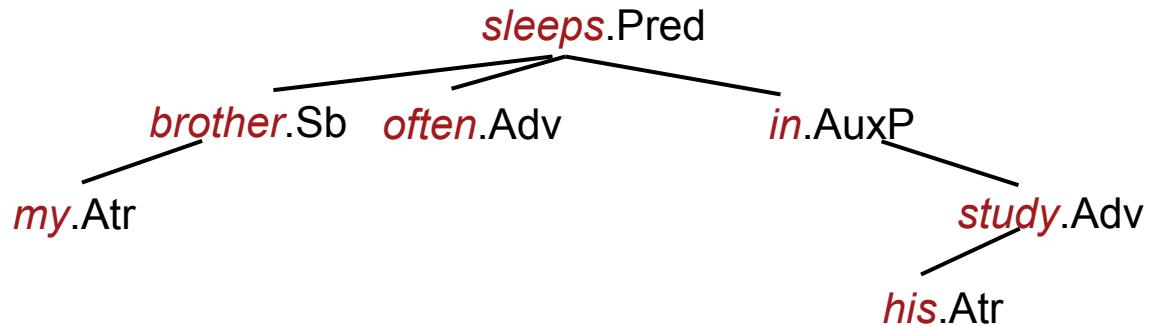
# Dependency tree

## Pros

- economical, clear  
(complex labels, 'word'~ node)
- free word order
- head of a phrase

## Contras

- no derivation history /  
'closeness'
- coordination, apposition
- complement



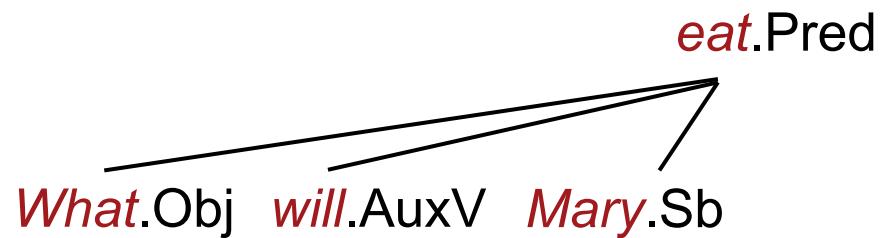
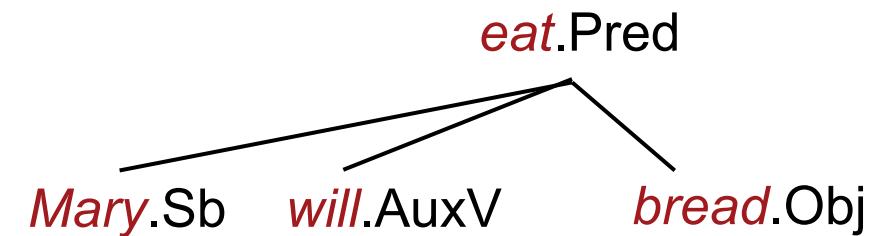
# Dependency tree

discontinuous ‘phrases’: no problem



*Mary will eat bread.*

*What will Mary eat?*

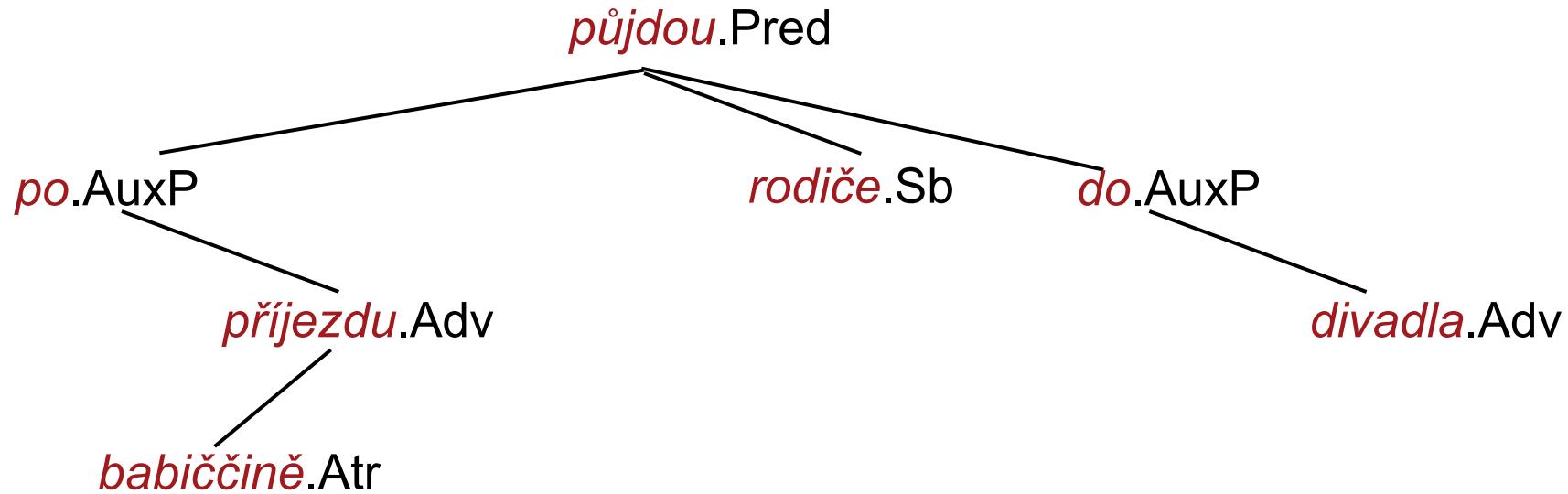




# Dependency tree

*Po babiččině příjezdu půjdou rodiče do divadla.*

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# Corpora with dependency trees



- PropBank (1995)  
<http://propbank.github.io/>
- family of Prague dependency treebanks: Czech, Arabic, English  
<http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/pdt.html>
- HamleDT project (from 2012)      <http://ufal.mff.cuni.cz/hamledt>
- Universal Dependencies      <http://universaldependencies.org/>
- Danish Dep. Treebank  
<http://mbkromann.github.io/copenhagen-dependency-treebank/>
- Finnish: Turku Dependency Treebank  
<http://bionlp.utu.fi/fintreebank.html>
- Negra corpus  
<http://www.coli.uni-saarland.de/projects/sfb378/negra-corpus/negra-corpus.html>
- TIGERCorpus  
<http://www.ims.uni-stuttgart.de/forschung/ressourcen/korpora/tiger.html/>
- SynTagRus Dependency Treebank for Russian

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# Dependency and non-dependency relations



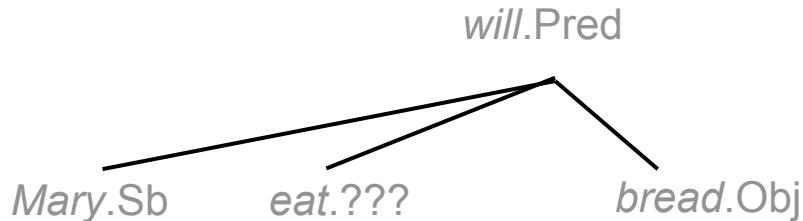


# Dependency and non-dependency relations

edges ~ ***dependency relations*** (prototypically)

- dependency relation: binary relation
- governing/modified unit (head) – dependent/modifying unit (modifier)
- long discussion, number of linguistic criteria
  - e.g., each complete subtree must be a “constituent”, i.e., it must allow for several constructions like topicalization, proform substitution, ....;

*Mary will eat bread..*



⇒ lexical verb should be a dependent

Topicalization:

*... and eat Mary certainly will.*

Proform substitution:

*Mary will do so. (do=eat)*

Answer fragment:

*What will Mary do? Eat.*

VP-ellipsis:

*Peter will eat and Mary will, too.*

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  - ... dependent member of the pair may be deleted while the distributional properties are preserved (→ correctness is preserved)

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  - ... dependent member of the pair may be deleted while the distributional properties are preserved (→ correctness is preserved)
    - endocentric constructions ... OK

malý stůl → stůl

small table → table

přišel včas → přišel

he came in time → he came

(přišel) velmi brzo → (přišel) brzo

(he came) very soon → (he came) soon



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    - endocentric constructions ... OK
    - exocentric constructions ... *principle of analogy* on word classes

*Prší.* [(It) rains.] ...  $\exists$  subjectless verbs

⇒ *Král zemřel.* [The king died.] ... a verb rather than a noun is the head

*The girl painted a bag.* → *The girl painted.* ...  $\exists$  objectless verbs

⇒ *The girl carried a bag* ... an object is considered as depending on a verb



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PLUS technical considerations

e.g.: prepositions are below nouns;  
auxiliary verbs are (typically) below content verbs



# Dependency and non-dependency relations

BUT also other relations:

**coordination** ... "multiplication" of a single syntactic position

- different referents
- coordination of sentence members / sentences

*My sister Mary and John came late.*

*Mary came in time but John was late.*

*I can't leave since it hasn't stopped raining yet.*

*Nemohu odejít, neboť ještě nepřestalo pršet.*

- coordination may be embedded

*nice and romantic towers and castles*

*krásné a romantické hradы a zámky*



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**apposition** ... "multiplication" of a single syntactic position

- identical referent

*Charles IV, Holy Roman Emperor*

*The Hobbit, or There and Back Again*



# Dependency and non-dependency relations

BUT also other relations:

*coordination* ... "multiplication" of a single syntactic position

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*apposition* ... "multiplication" of a single syntactic position

- identical referent

➡ necessary to enrich the data structure



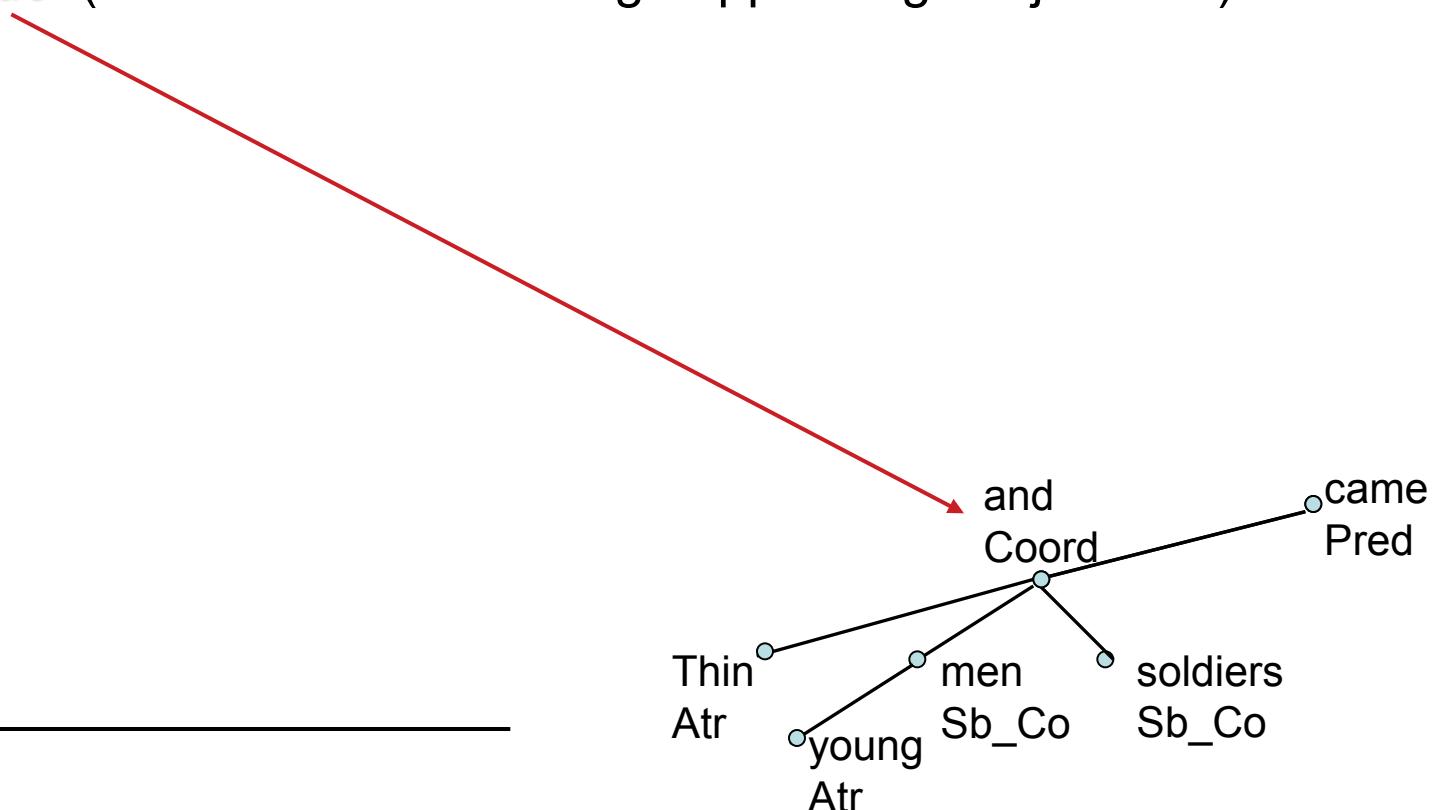
# Coordination/apposition in dependency trees

PDT 2.0:

*'connecting' constructions* ~ coordination, apposition (, OPER)

specific types of nodes and edges:

- *connecting node* (= node for coordinating / appositing conjunction)





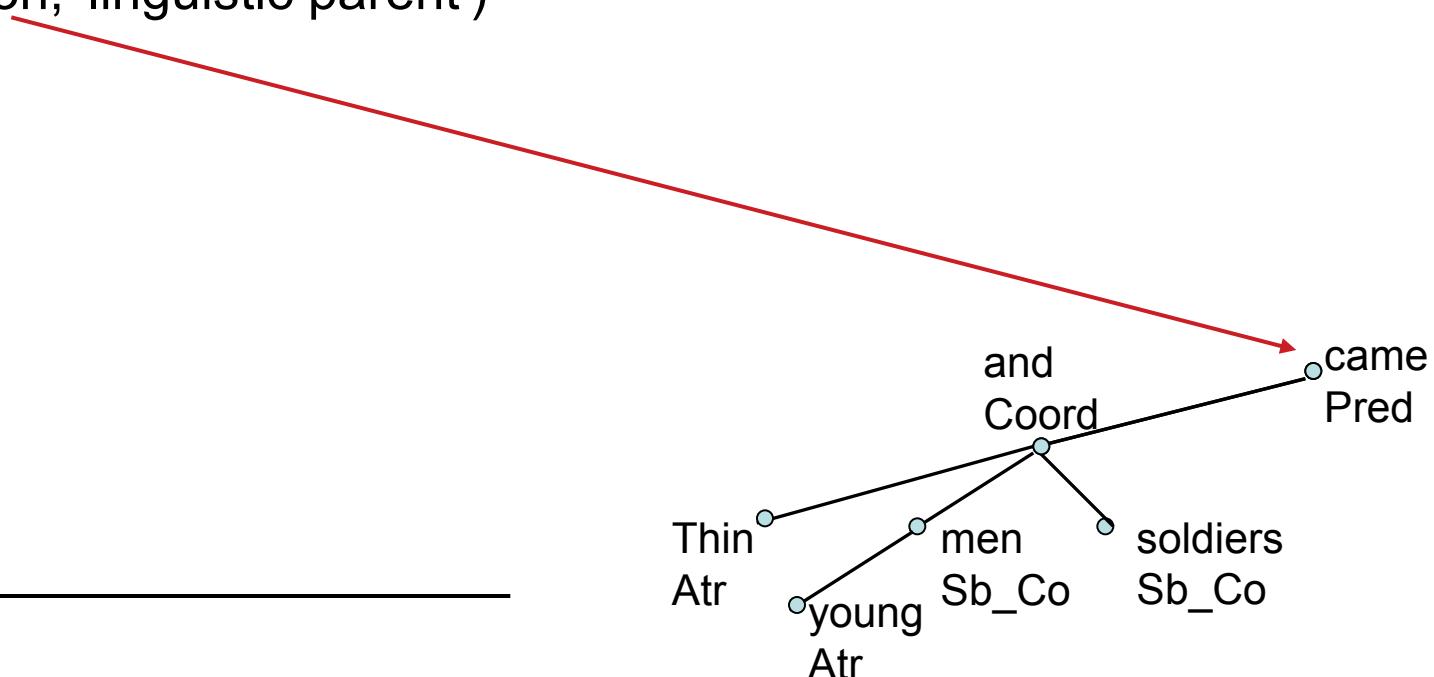
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- **effective parent** (= node for governing node, i.e. node modified by the whole construction, 'linguistic parent')





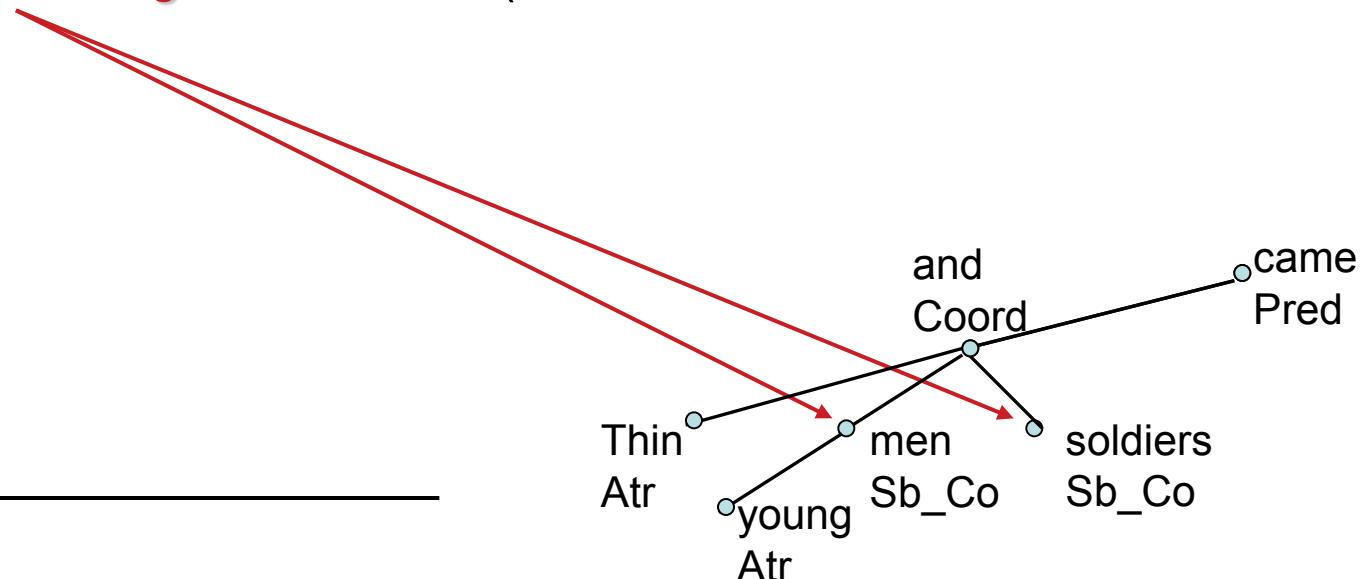
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- ***members of a connecting construction*** (= nodes that are coordinated / are in apposition)
  - `is_member`





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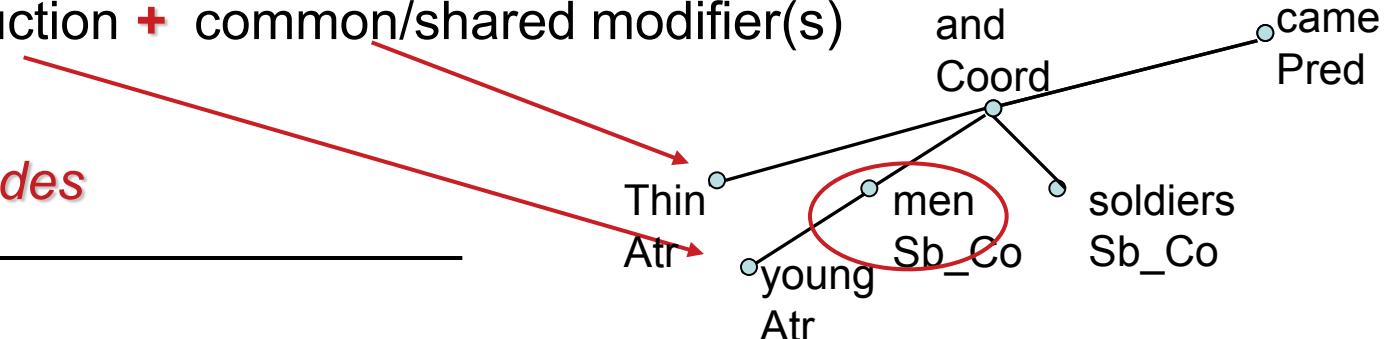
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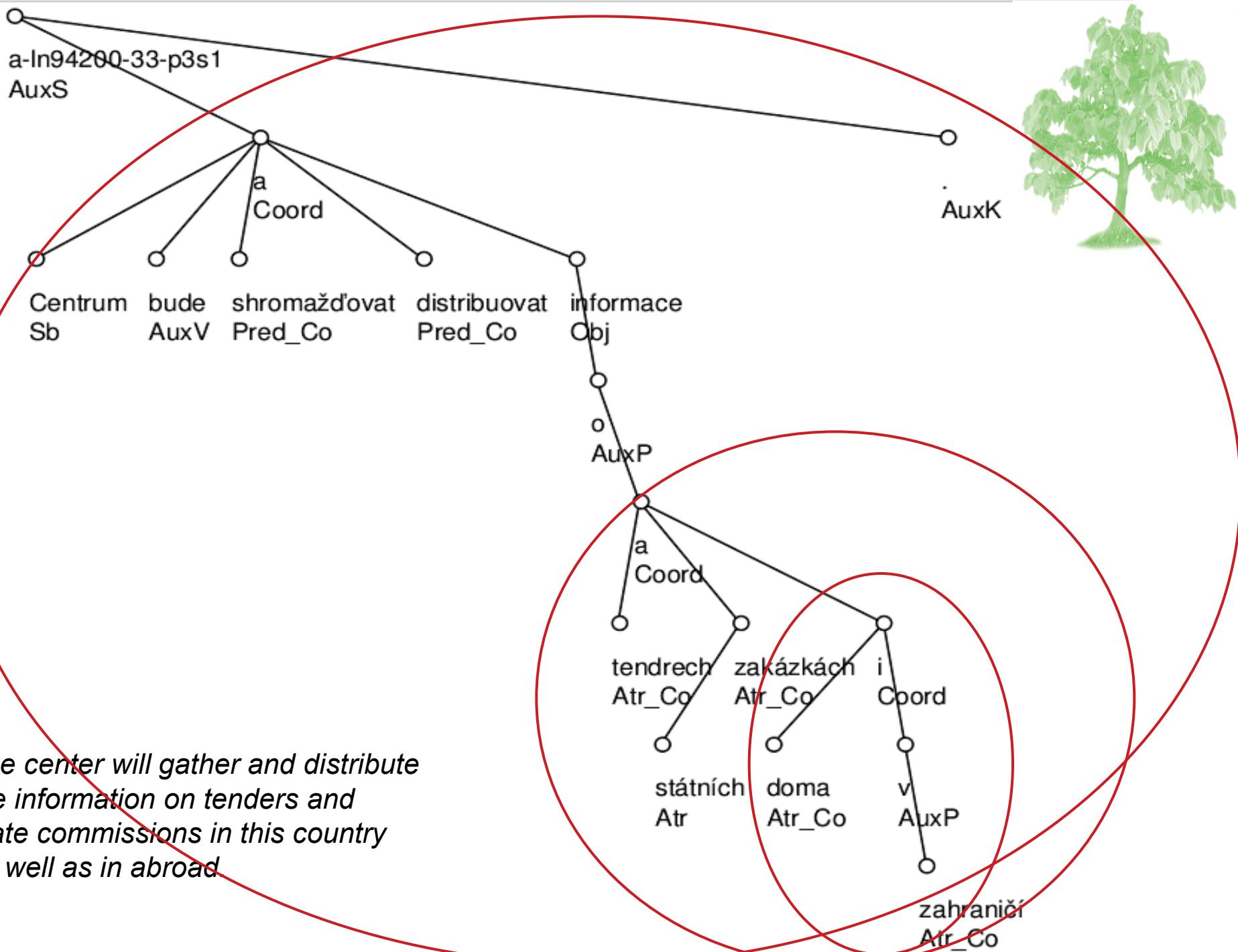
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- **members of a connecting construction** (= nodes that are coordinated / are in apposition)

- `is_member`

- **effective child(ren)** ... modification(s) of the individual member of the connecting construction + common/shared modifier(s)

- **'pass-through' nodes**





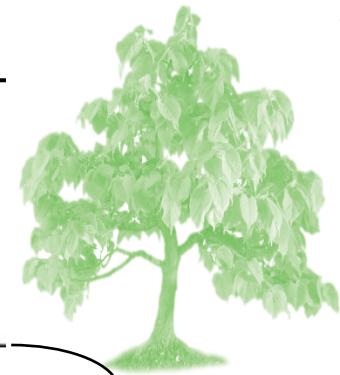


# Coordination/apposition in dependency trees

## PDT 2.0:

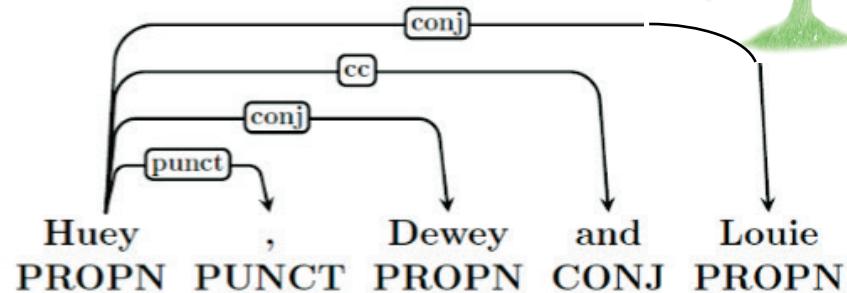
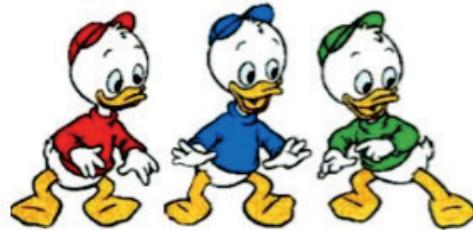
- embedded connecting constructions → recursivity
- *TrEd* (Tree Editor, Pajas):  
functions GetEChildren, GetEParents

# Coordination/apposition in dependency



## *Universal Dependencies:*

version 1  
(2014):

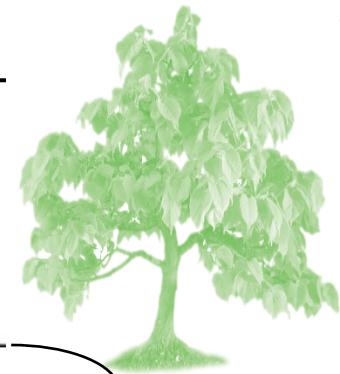


the first conjunct

- ~ the head of all following conjuncts
- ~ the head of any intervening coordinating conjunctions and punctuation

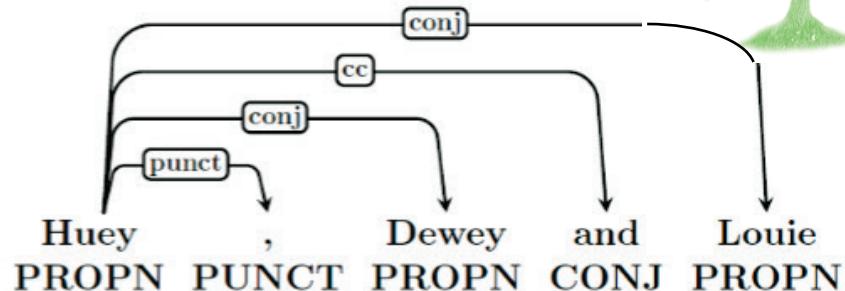
*(Slides stolen from Daniel Zeman)*

# Coordination/apposition in dependency



## *Universal Dependencies:*

version 1  
(2014):

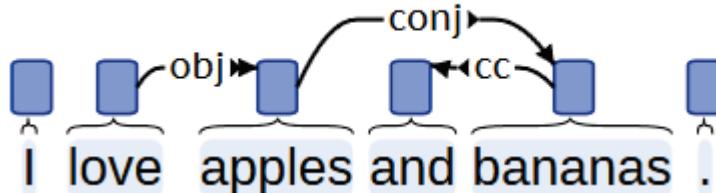


the first conjunct

*(Slides stolen from Daniel Zeman)*

- ~ the head of all following conjuncts
- ~ the head of any intervening coordinating conjunctions and punctuation

version 2  
(2016):



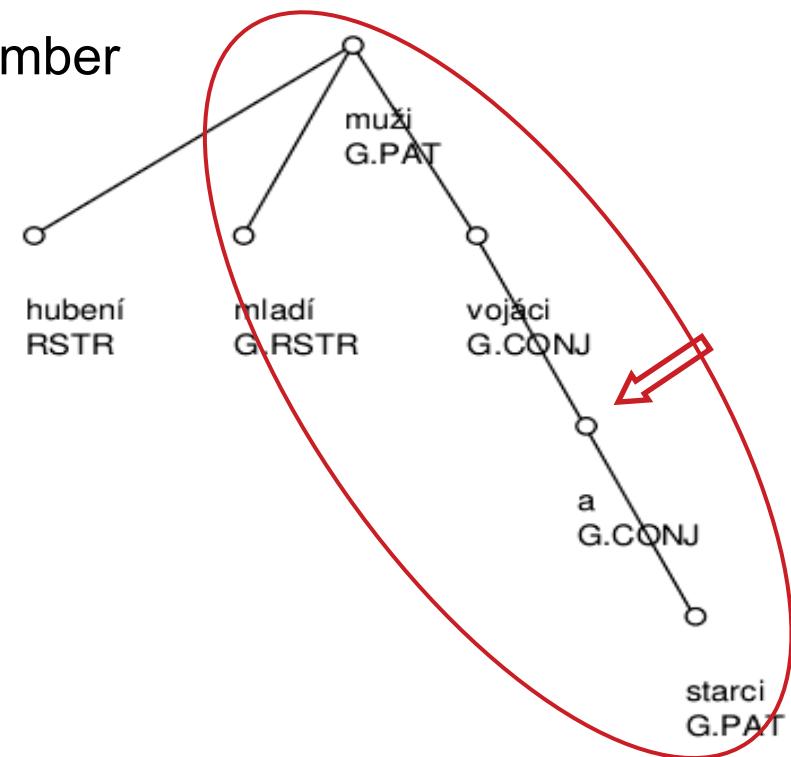
- the first conjunct ~ the head of all following conjuncts
- attach coordinating conjunctions and punctuation  
to the immediately succeeding conjunct (instead of the first)



# Coordination/apposition in dependency trees

Mel'čuk (1988):

- 'grouping' (G) ... treating the first conjunct as the head
- problem: shared modification  
vs. modification of a single member



*Hubení (( mladí muži ), vojáci a starci )*

[Thin young men, soldiers and old-men]

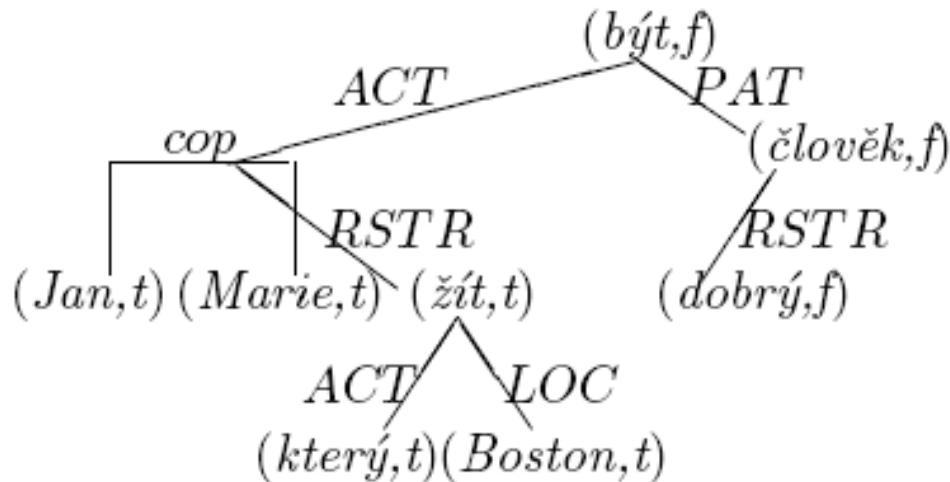


# Coordination/apposition in dependency trees

Petkevič (1995) ... formal representation of FGD

two types of brackets for tree linearization:

- < > for dependencies
- [ ] for coordination



$\langle [(Jan,t); (Marie,t)]_{cop} \ RSTR \langle \langle (který,t) \rangle_{ACT} \ (žít,t) \ LOC \langle (Boston,t) \rangle \rangle \rangle_{ACT} \ (být,f)$   
 $PAT \langle \langle (dobrý,f) \rangle_{RSTR} \ (člověk,f) \rangle$



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# Dependency and non-dependency relations

other non-dependency relations in PDT:

- technical root – effective root of a sentence
- syntactically unclear expressions  
rhematizers; sentence, linking and modal adverbial expressions, conjunction modifiers
- list structures  
names, foreign expressions
- phrasemes

