

# Parsing of natural language sentences to syntactic and semantic graph representations

Abschlussvortrag zum Forschungsprojekt

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# Overview

Graph Representations

Corpora

Parsing Techniques

Parser

## Graph Representations

Corpora

Parsing Techniques

Parser

**Semantic:** AMR, UCCA, dependency graphs

**Syntactic:** Constituency tree derived, Use of syntactic information

Graph Representations

Corpora

AMR, UCCA, SemEval-2014/-2015:  
dependency graphs, Penn Tree-  
bank, TIGER Corpus

Parsing Techniques

Parser

# Overview

Graph Representations

Corpora

Parsing Techniques

Parser

Maximum Subgraph  
Transition-Based  
Synchronous HRG

Graph Representations

Corpora

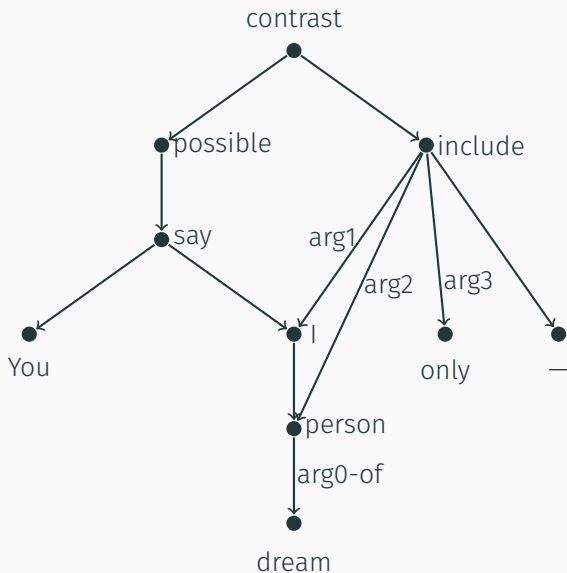
Parsing Techniques

Parser

# Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR) [Ban+13]



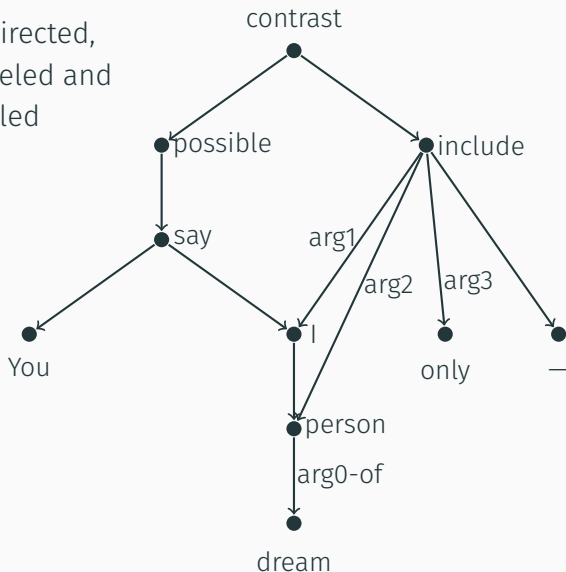
# Abstract Meaning Representation (AMR) [Ban+13]





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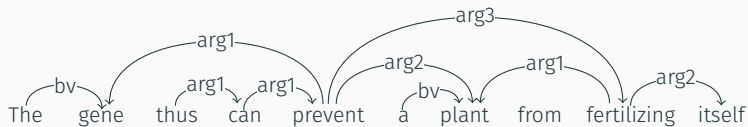
rooted, directed,  
edge-labeled and  
leaf-labeled



# Tree Definition

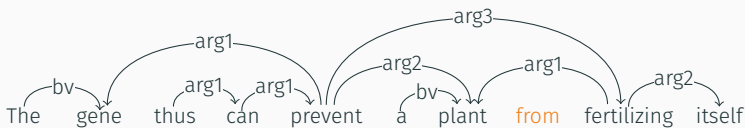
A **tree** is a directed graph  $G = (V, A)$  that has a vertex  $r$ , named root, such that every vertex  $v \in V$  is reachable from  $r$  via a unique directed path. [KJ15; KO16]

# Dependency Graph [KJ15]



# Dependency Graph [KJ15]

unconnected

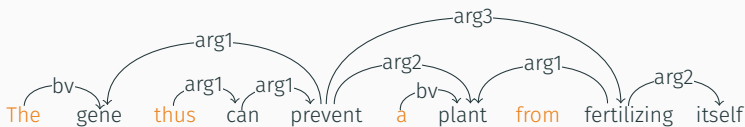


Connectedness:

There exists an undirected path between every two pairs of vertices. Nodes with in- and out-degree zero are called singletons. [KO16]

# Dependency Graph [KJ15]

unconnected, multi-rooted

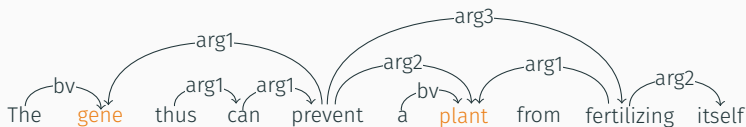


Top nodes:

Nodes of in-degree zero, a graph's equivalent to the unique root in a tree. [KO16]

# Dependency Graph [KJ15]

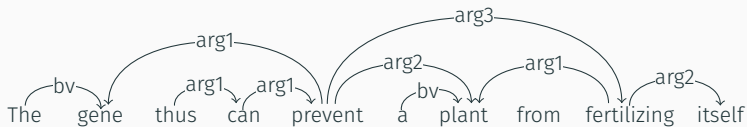
unconnected, multi-rooted, **reentrancy**



**Reentrant nodes:**

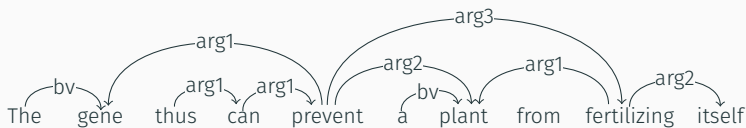
Nodes with in-degree greater than one. [WXP15; DCS17; BB17]

# Dependency Graph - Noncrossing [KJ15]



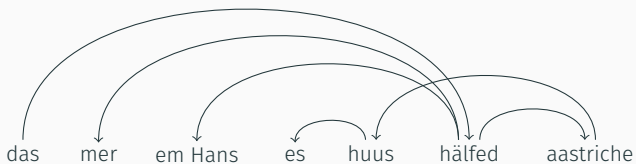
## Dependency Graph - Noncrossing [KJ15]

Coverage ranges from 48% to 78% for various graph banks (CCGbank, Prague Semantic Dependencies, etc.). [KJ15; SCW17]

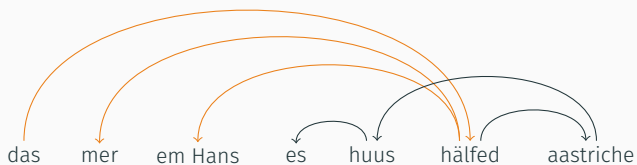




## Dependency Graph - 1-Endpoint-Crossing [PKM13]

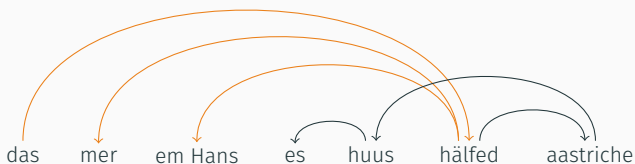


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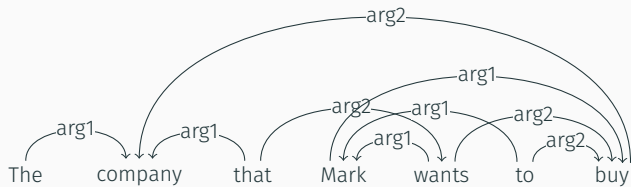


## Dependency Graph - 1-Endpoint-Crossing [PKM13]

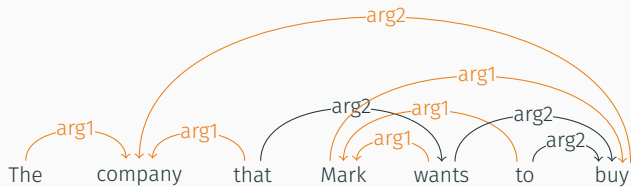
Account for 95.7 – 97.7% of the dependency structures that are used in [Cao+17].



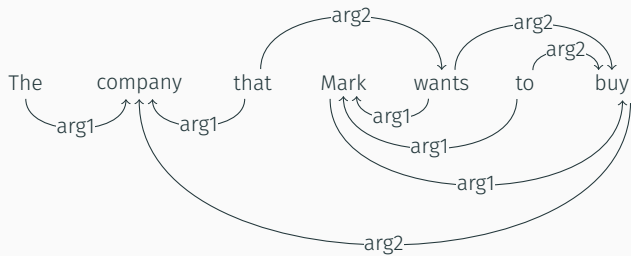
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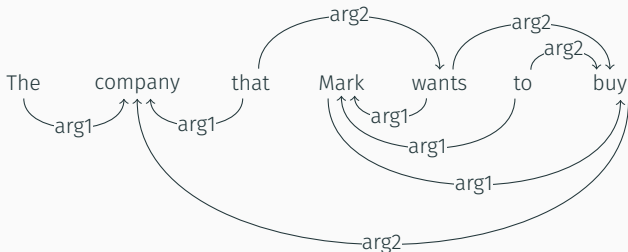
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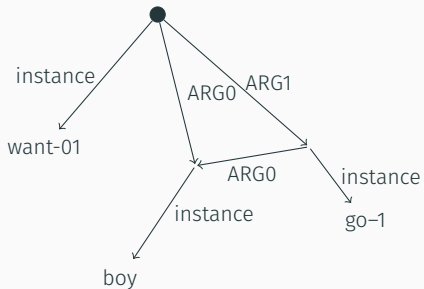
Coverage with respect to different page numbers:

PN	coverage
1	48 – 78%
2	20 – 49%
3	0.3 – 1.7%



# Evaluation Metric - AMR Representations

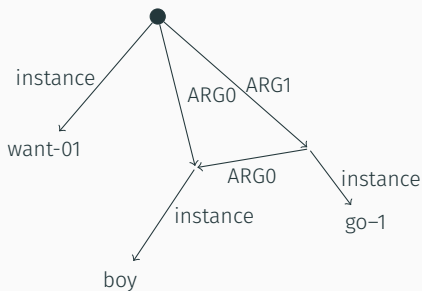
## AMR graph





# Evaluation Metric - AMR Representations

## AMR graph

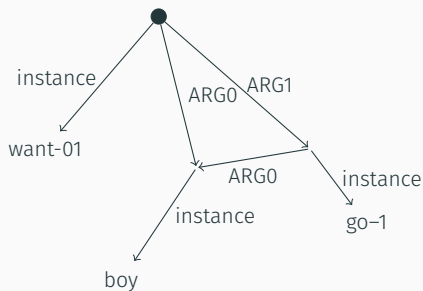


## PENMAN notation

```
(w / want-01  
  :arg0 (b / boy)  
  :arg1 (g / go-01)  
        :arg0 b)
```

# Evaluation Metric - AMR Representations

## AMR graph



## logic format

```
instance(a, want-01) ∧  
instance(b, boy) ∧  
instance(c, go-01) ∧  
ARG0(a, b) ∧  
ARG1(a, c) ∧  
ARG0(c, b)
```

## Evaluation Metric - Smatch [CK13]

The boy wants the football

```
instance(x, want-01) ^  
instance(y, boy) ^  
instance(z, football) ^  
ARG0(x, y) ^  
ARG1(x, z)
```

The boy wants to go

```
instance(a, want-01) ^  
instance(b, boy) ^  
instance(c, go-01) ^  
ARG0(a, b) ^  
ARG1(a, c) ^  
ARG0(c, b)
```

## Evaluation Metric - Smatch [CK13]

The boy wants the football

```
instance(x, want-01) ∧  
instance(y, boy) ∧  
instance(z, football) ∧  
ARG0(x, y) ∧  
ARG1(x, z)
```

The boy wants to go

```
instance(a, want-01) ∧  
instance(b, boy) ∧  
instance(c, go-01) ∧  
ARG0(a, b) ∧  
ARG1(a, c) ∧  
ARG0(c, b)
```

inter-annotator agreement study:

Smatch score ranges from 0.79 to 0.83.

## Maximum Subgraph

“all pairs” approach [BM06] - Consider all possible (weighted) arcs and find the maximum spanning connected subgraph.

## Transition-based

“stepwise” approach [BM06] - Build the graph step by step by applying transitions to the current configuration.

## Synchronous Hyperedge Replacement Grammar (SHRG)

HRGs as “an intuitive generalization of context free grammars (CFGs) from strings to hypergraphs.” [Jon+12; Hab92]

## Maximum Subgraph - Problem Definition[SCW17]

- Input** directed, weighted graph  $G = (V, A)$  (complete)
- Implicit** sentence  $s$ , class of graphs  $\mathcal{G}$
- Output** subgraph  $G' = (V, A' \subseteq A)$  with maximum total weight such that  $G'$  belongs to  $\mathcal{G}$

$$G'(s) = \arg \max_{H \in \mathcal{G}(s, G)} \sum_{p \in H} \text{SCOREPART}(s, p)$$

- Example** if class of graphs  $\mathcal{G}$  is the class of all trees, Maximum Subgraph = Maximum Spanning Tree

$$G'(s) = \arg \max_{H \in \mathcal{G}(s, G)} \sum_{p \in H} \text{SCOREPART}(s, p)$$

**Global learning**     Optimize entire graph score, not only single arc attachments.

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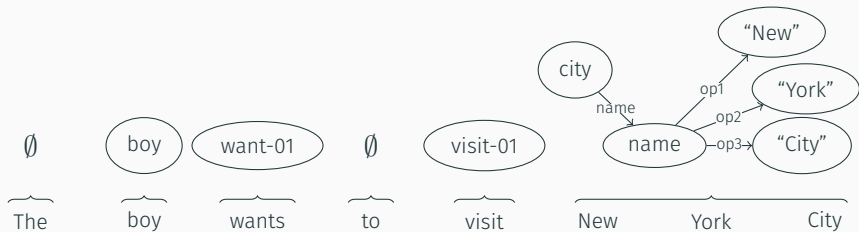
**Local features**      Restricted to a limited number of arcs (to keep inference and learning tractable).

First published AMR parser. It solves the task by means of two phases:

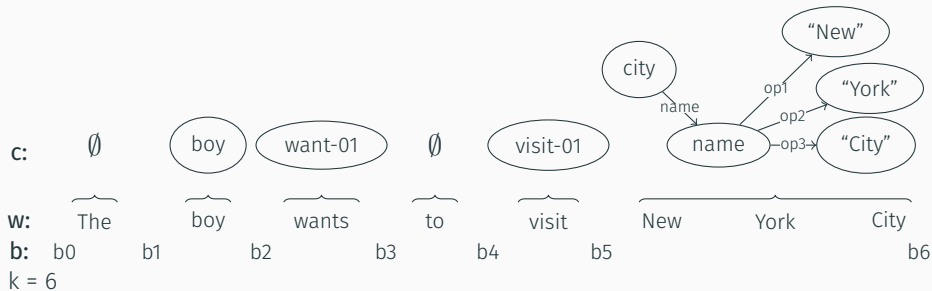
**Concept identification:** Match spans of words to concept graph fragments.

**Relation identification:** Find the maximum spanning connected subgraph over those graph fragments.

# JAMR - Concept Identification Phase [Fla+14]



# JAMR - Concept Identification Phase [Fla+14]



$$\text{score}(\mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}; \theta) = \sum_{i=1}^k \theta^\top \mathbf{f}(\mathbf{w}_{b_{i-1}:b_i}, b_{i-1}, b_i, c_i)$$

Solve by dynamic programming:  $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ .

## 1. Initialization:

Include all edges and vertices given by the concept identification phase.

## 2. Pre-processing:

Reduce the set of edges considered to one edge per pair of nodes: Either the edge given by the first phase or the highest scoring one.

## 3. Core algorithm:

First, add all positive edges and then greedily add the least negative edge that connects two components until the graph is connected.

## Transition-Based - Transition System [WXP15]

A transition system for parsing is a tuple  $S = (S, T, s_0, S_t)$  where

- $S$  is a set of parsing **states** (configurations).
- $T$  is a set of parsing **actions** (transitions), each of which is a function  $t : S \rightarrow S$ .
- $s_0$  is an **initialization function**, mapping each input sentence  $w$  to an **initial state**.
- $S_t \subseteq S$  is a set of **terminal states**.

# Transition-Based - Parsing Algorithm [WXP15]

**Input:** sentence  $w = w_0 \dots w_n$

**Output:** parsed graph  $G$

1:  $s \leftarrow s_0(w)$

2: **while**  $s \notin S_t$  **do**

3:      $\mathcal{T} \leftarrow$  all possible actions according to  $s$

4:      $bestT \leftarrow \arg \max_{t \in \mathcal{T}} score(t, s)$

5:      $s \leftarrow$  apply  $bestT$  to  $s$

6: **end while**

7: **return**  $G$

$$bestT \leftarrow \arg \max_{t \in \mathcal{T}} score(t, s)$$



**Local learning** Optimization only for single transitions, not transition sequences.

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**Global features** Features may be based on whole graph built so far/entire transition history.

# Transition-Based AMR Parser [WXP15]

Idea: Use similarities between an AMR and the dependency structure of a sentence.

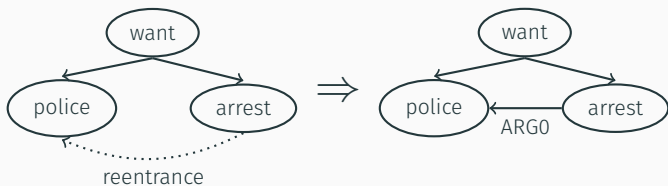
Two-stage framework:

- 1) **dependency parser** to generate dependency tree for the sentence
- 2) **transition-based** algorithm to transform dependency tree to an AMR graph

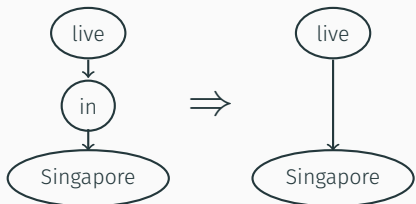
The dependency parser can be trained on a much larger data set.

# Transition-Based AMR Parser - Transition Actions [WXP15]

## REENTRANCE action



## REPLACE-HEAD action



- graph structures are of growing relevance to much NLP research
- provide common terminology and transparent statistics for different (collections of) graphs
- propose to establish **shared community resource**:  
[https://aclweb.org/aclwiki/Graph\\_Parsing\\_\(State\\_of\\_the\\_Art\)](https://aclweb.org/aclwiki/Graph_Parsing_(State_of_the_Art))



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Annegret Habel. *Hyperedge Replacement: Grammars and Languages*. Vol. 643. Lecture Notes in Computer Science. Springer, 1992.



Bevan Jones, Jacob Andreas, Daniel Bauer, Karl Moritz Hermann, and Kevin Knight. “Semantics-Based Machine Translation with Hyperedge Replacement Grammars”. In: *COLING 2012, 24th International Conference on Computational Linguistics, Proceedings of the Conference: Technical Papers, 8-15 December 2012, Mumbai, India*. 2012, pp. 1359–1376. URL: <http://aclweb.org/anthology/C/C12/C12-1083.pdf>.



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Weiwei Sun, Junjie Cao, and Xiaojun Wan. “Semantic Dependency Parsing via Book Embedding”. In: *Proceedings of the 55th Annual Meeting of the Association for Computational Linguistics, ACL 2017, Vancouver, Canada, July 30 - August 4, Volume 1: Long Papers*. 2017, pp. 828–838. DOI: [10.18653/v1/P17-1077](https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/P17-1077). URL: <https://doi.org/10.18653/v1/P17-1077>.





Chuan Wang, Nianwen Xue, and Sameer Pradhan. “A Transition-based Algorithm for AMR Parsing”. In: *NAACL HLT 2015, The 2015 Conference of the North American Chapter of the Association for Computational Linguistics: Human Language Technologies, Denver, Colorado, USA, May 31 - June 5, 2015*. 2015, pp. 366–375. URL: <http://aclweb.org/anthology/N/N15/N15-1040.pdf>.