

Universal Dependencies

Sara Stymne



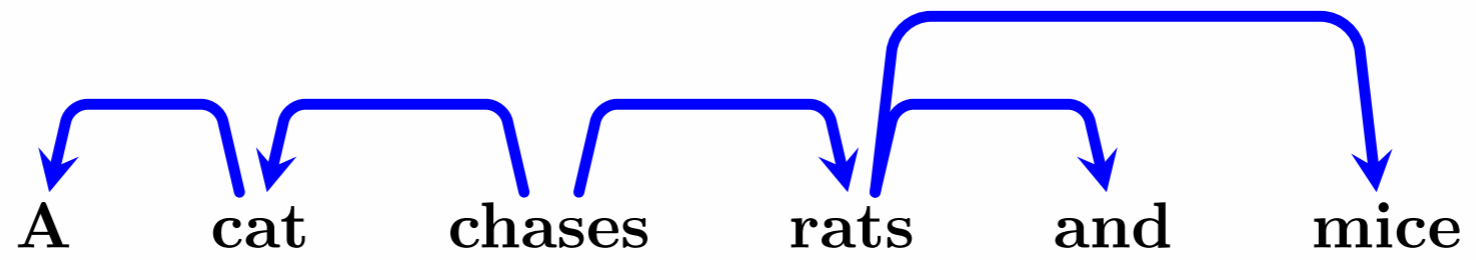
Introduction

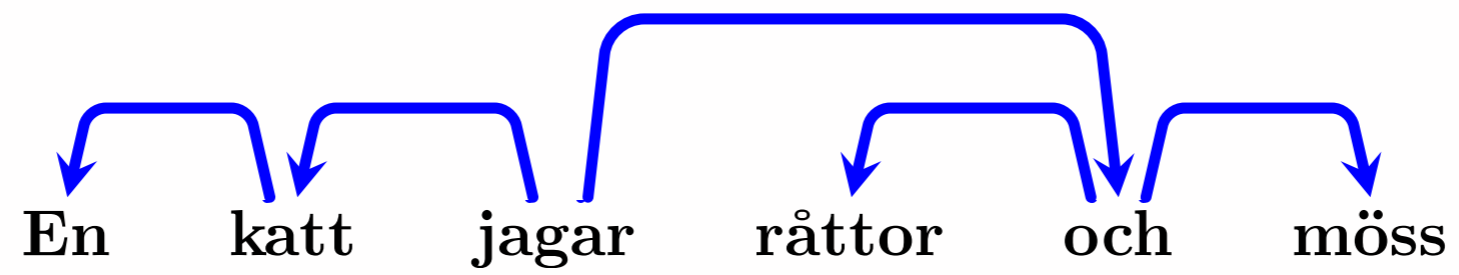
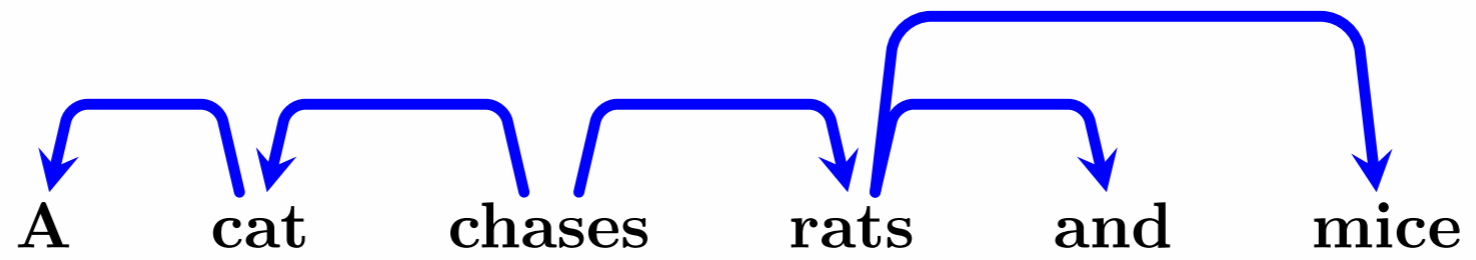
Growing interest in multilingual and cross-lingual NLP

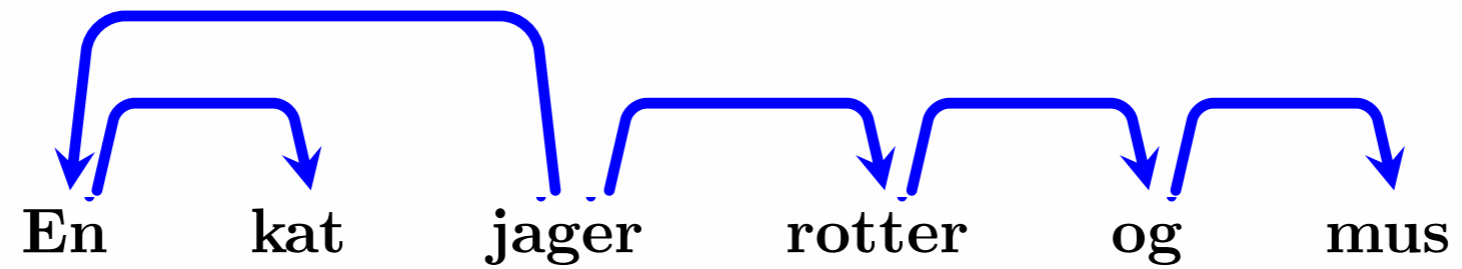
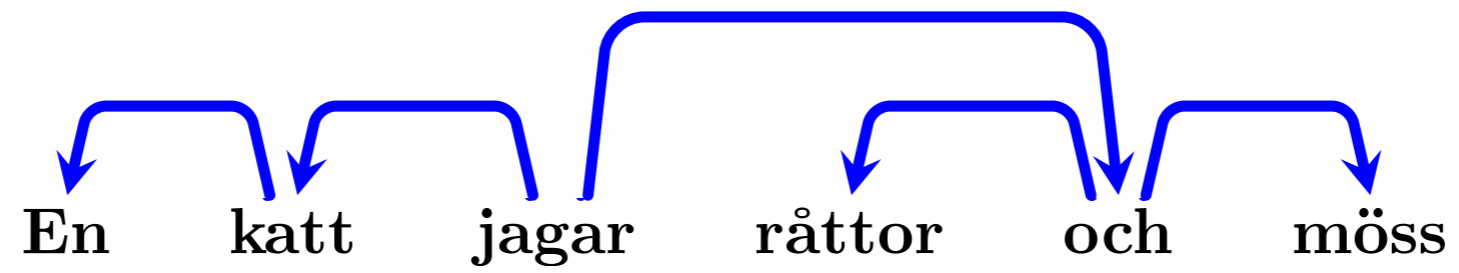
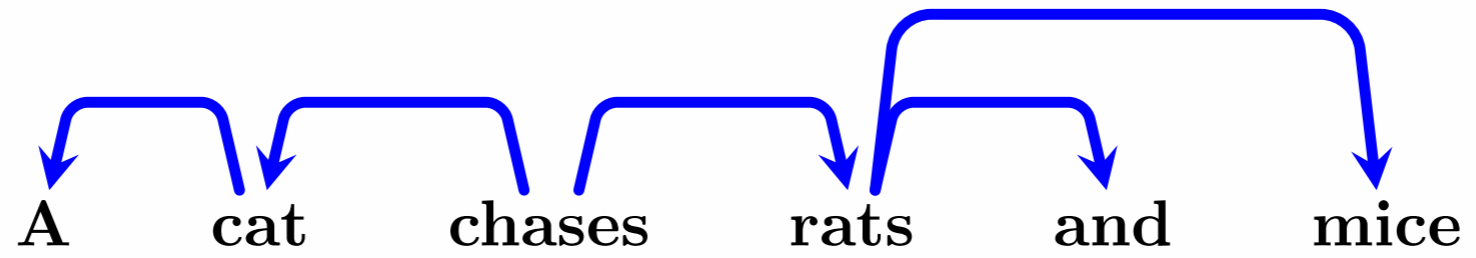
- Multilingual evaluation campaigns to test generality of approaches
- Cross-lingual learning to support low-resource languages

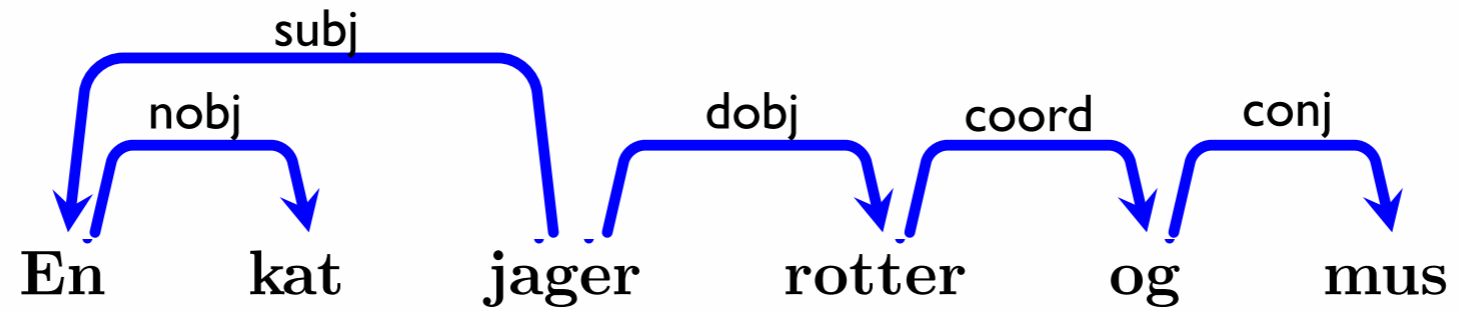
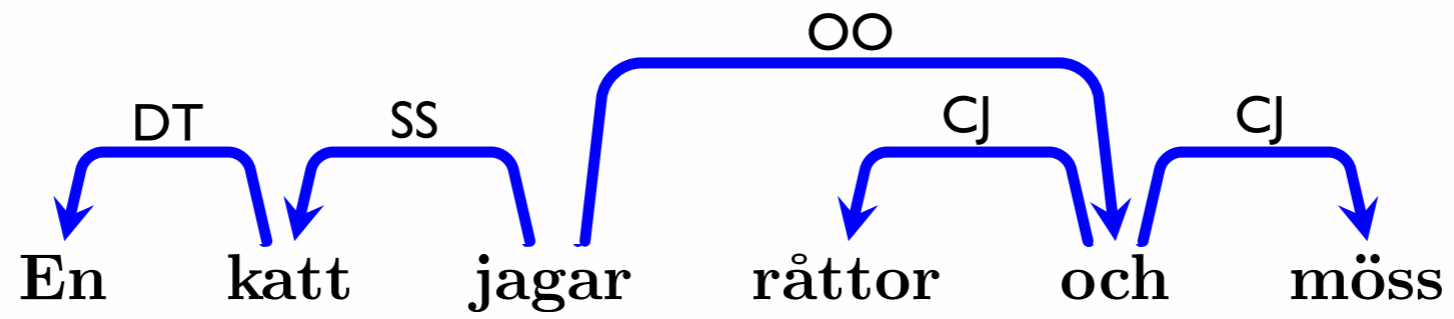
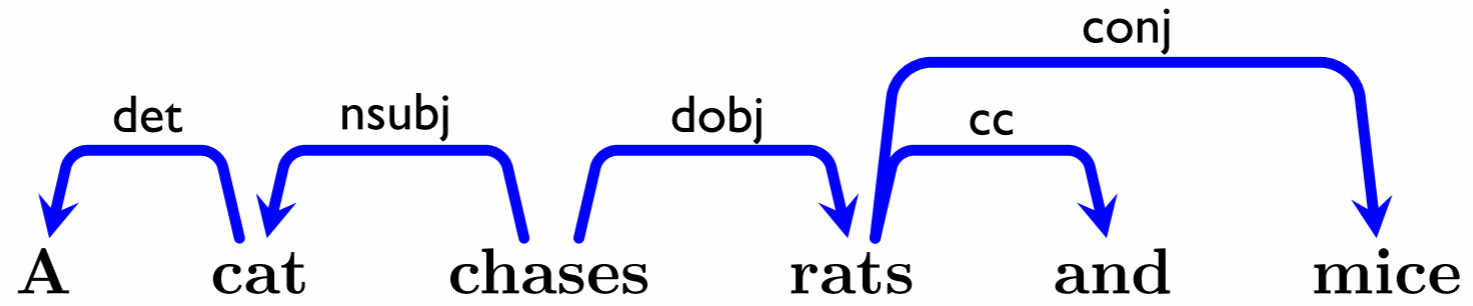
Growing awareness of methodological problems

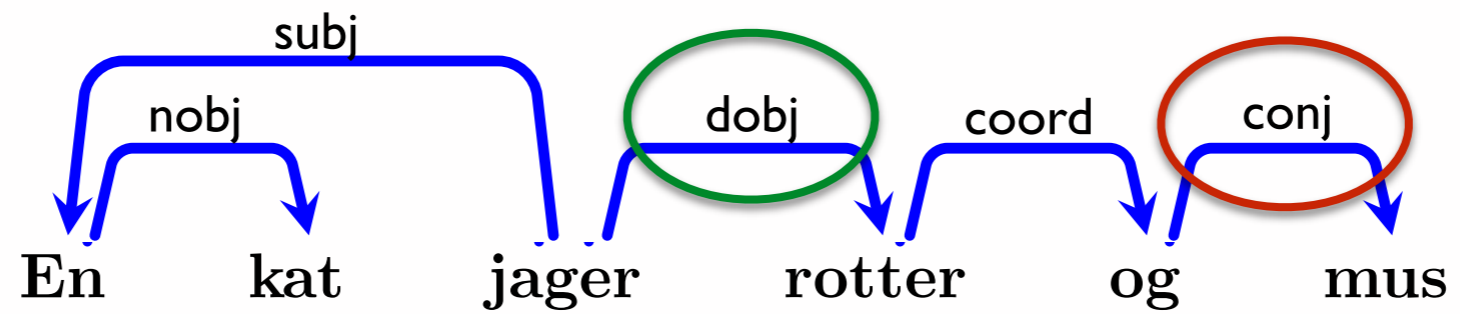
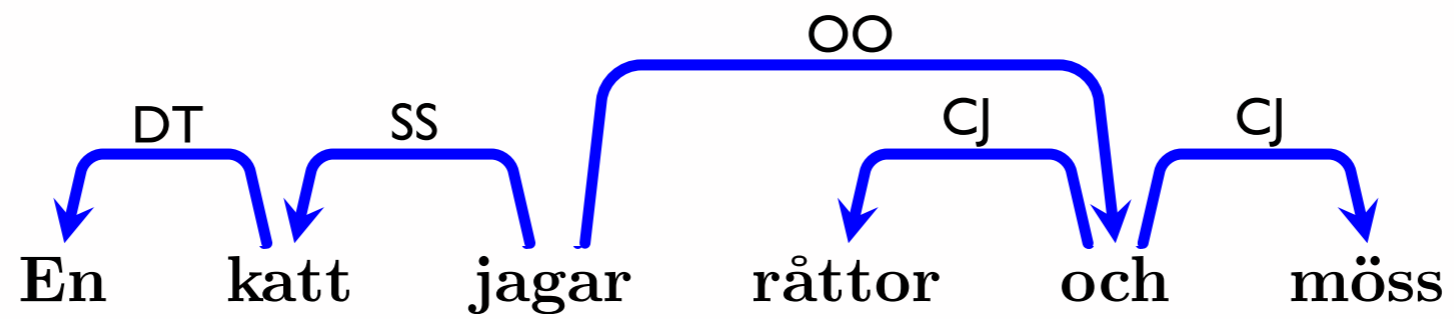
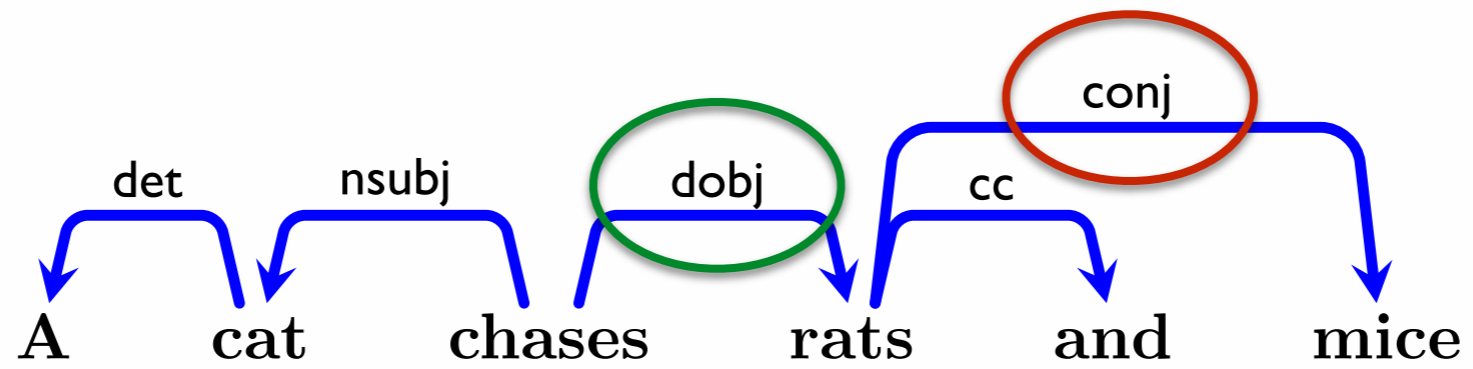
- Current NLP relies heavily on annotation
- Annotation guidelines vary across languages











Why is this a problem?

- Hard to compare empirical results across languages
- Hard to usefully do cross-lingual structure transfer
- Hard to evaluate cross-lingual learning
- Hard to build and maintain multilingual systems
- Hard to make comparative linguistic studies
- Hard to validate linguistic typology
- Hard to make progress towards a universal parser

Universal Dependencies v2: A Multilingual Treebank Collection

Joakim Nivre, Marie-Catherine de Marneffe, Filip Ginter

Yoav Goldberg, Jan Hajic, Christopher D. Manning

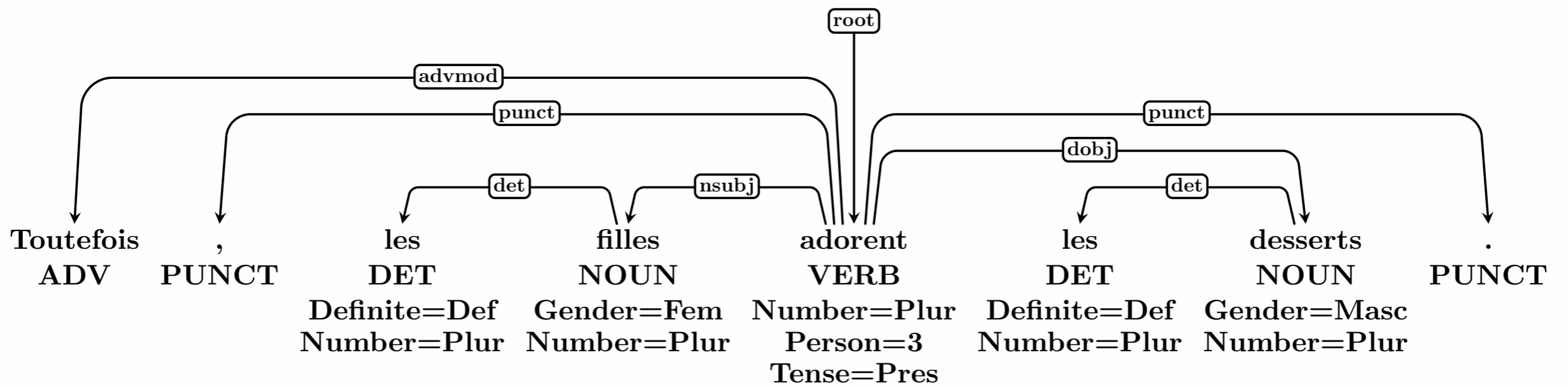
Ryan McDonald, Slav Petrov, Sampo Pyysalo

Natalia Silveira, Reut Tsarfaty, Daniel Zeman and many others



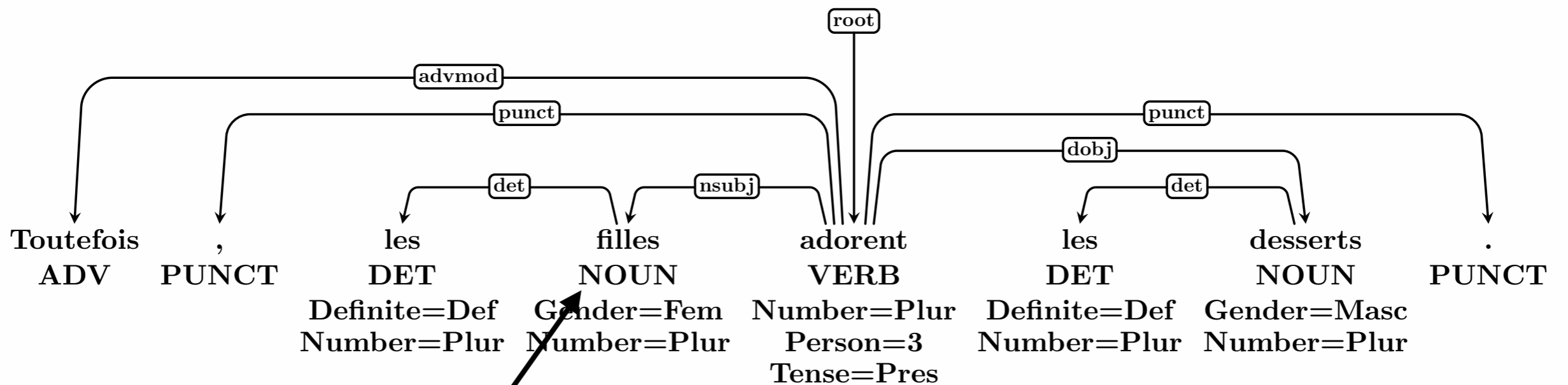
Universal Dependencies

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Universal Dependencies

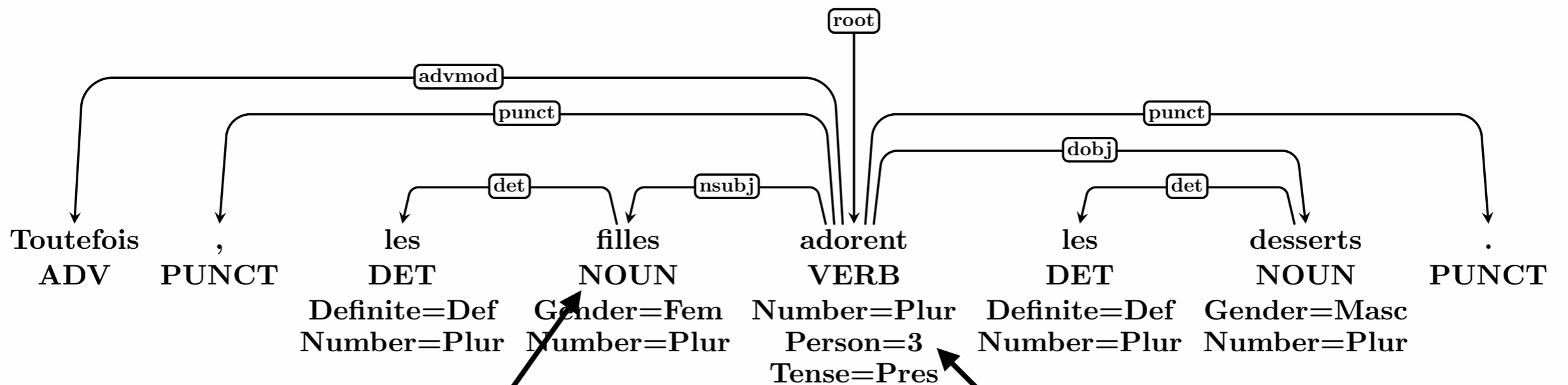
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Part-of-speech tags 

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Part-of-speech tags 

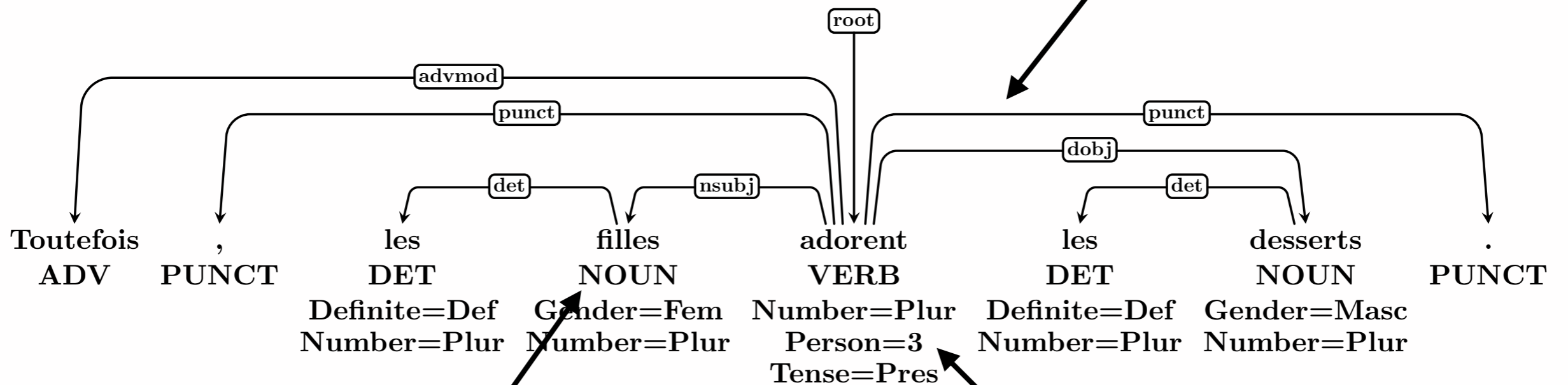
Morphological features 

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Dependency relations



Part-of-speech tags 

Morphological features 

The UD Philosophy

Maximize parallelism – but don't overdo it

- Don't annotate the same thing in different ways
- Don't make different things look the same
- Don't annotate things that are not there

Universal taxonomy with language-specific elaboration

- Languages select from a universal pool of categories
- Allow language-specific extensions

Morphology

Toutefois , les filles adorent les desserts .

Morphology

Toutefois , les filles adorent les desserts .
toutefois , le fille adorer le dessert .

- Lemma representing the semantic content of the word

Morphology

Toutefois	,	les	filles	adorent	les	desserts	.
toutefois	,	le	fille	adorer	le	dessert	.
ADV	PUNCT	DET	NOUN	VERB	DET	NOUN	PUNCT

- Lemma representing the semantic content of the word
- Part-of-speech tag representing the abstract lexical category associated with the word

Morphology

	Open	Closed	Other	
Toutefois ,	ADJ	ADP	PUNCT	desserts .
toutefois ,	ADV	AUX	SYM	dessert .
ADV PUNCT	INTJ	CONJ	X	NOUN PUNCT
	NOUN	DET		
	PROPN	NUM		
	VERB	PART		
		PRON		
		SCONJ		

- Lemma representation of the word
- Part-of-speech tag representing the abstract lexical category associated with the word

Morphology

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toutefois	,	le	fille	adorer	le	dessert	.
ADV	PUNCT	DET	NOUN	VERB	DET	NOUN	PUNCT
		Definite=Def Number=Plur	Gender=Fem Number=Plur	Number=Plur Person=3 Tense=Pres	Definite=Def Number=Plur	Gender=Masc Number=Plur	

- Lemma representing the semantic content of the word
- Part-of-speech tag representing the abstract lexical category associated with the word
- Features representing lexical and grammatical properties associated with the lemma or the particular word form

Morphology

Toutefois	,	les	filles	adorent	les	desserts	.
toutefois	,	le	fille	adorer	le	dessert	.
ADV	PUNCT	DET	NOUN	VERB	DET	NOUN	PUNCT
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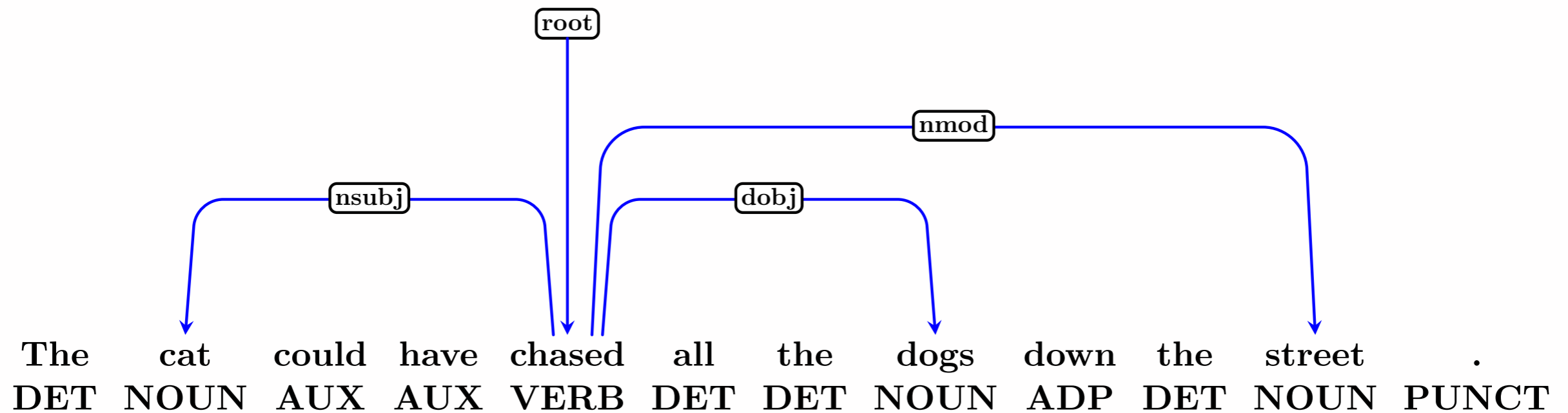
Lexicalism

- Basic annotation units are words
- Morphological analysis through features, not segmentation
- Clitics and contractions are segmented if required by syntax

Syntax

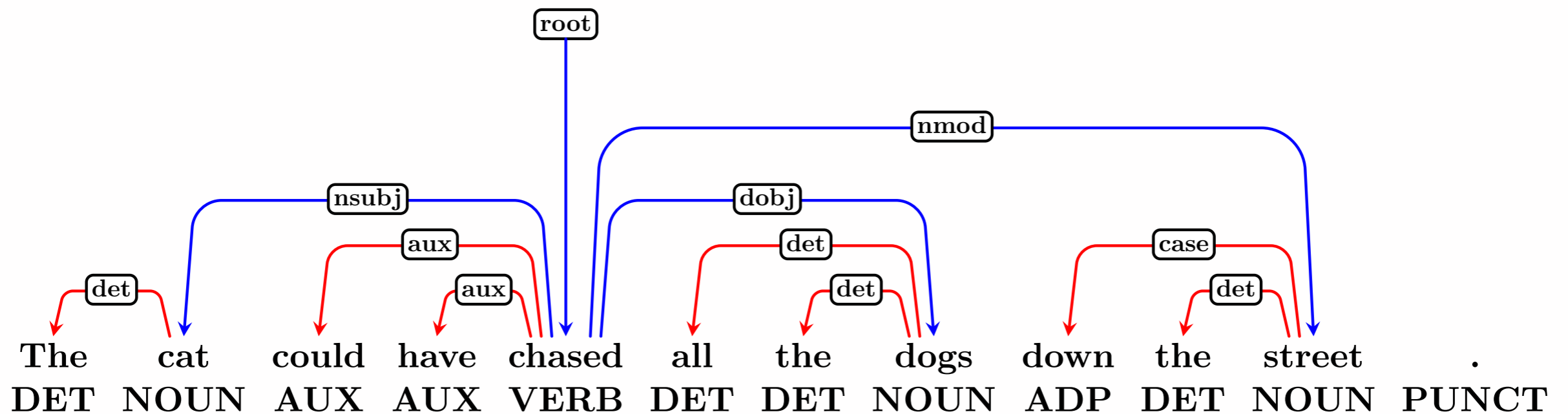
The cat could have chased all the dogs down the street .
DET NOUN AUX AUX VERB DET DET NOUN ADP DET NOUN PUNCT

Syntax



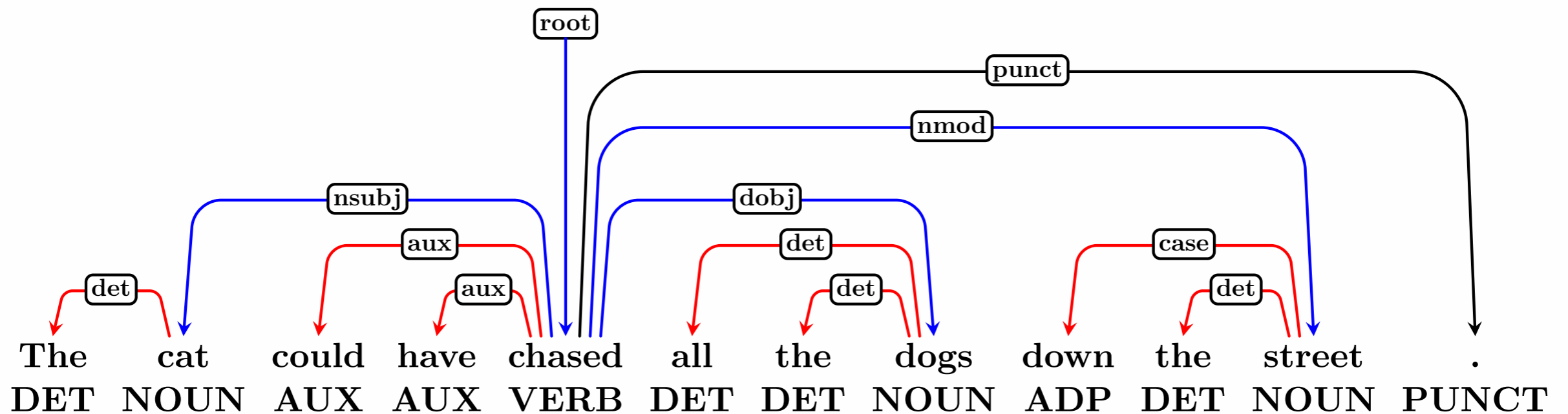
- Content words are related by dependency relations

Syntax

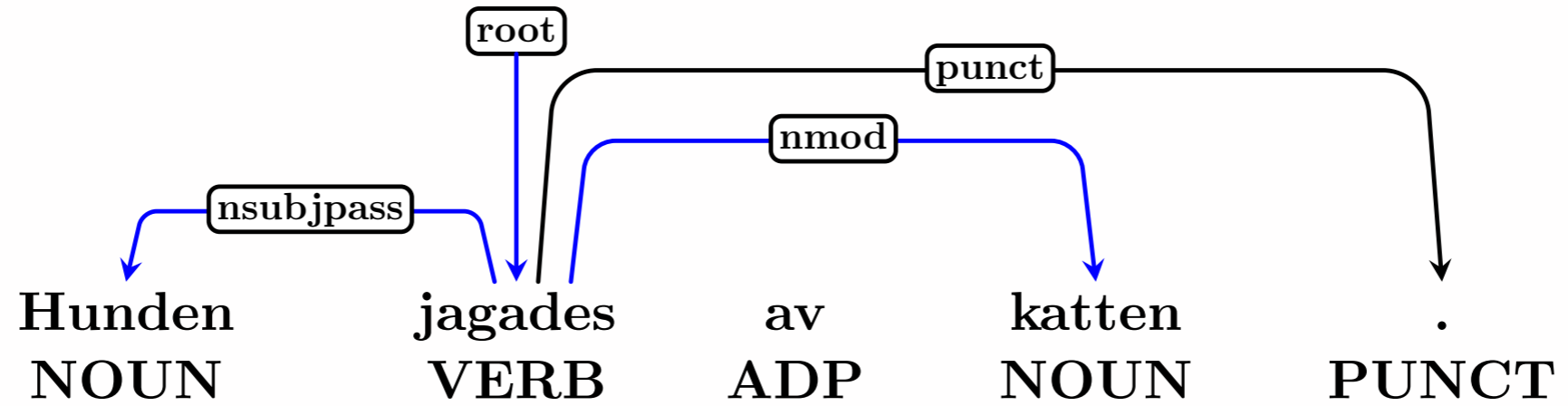
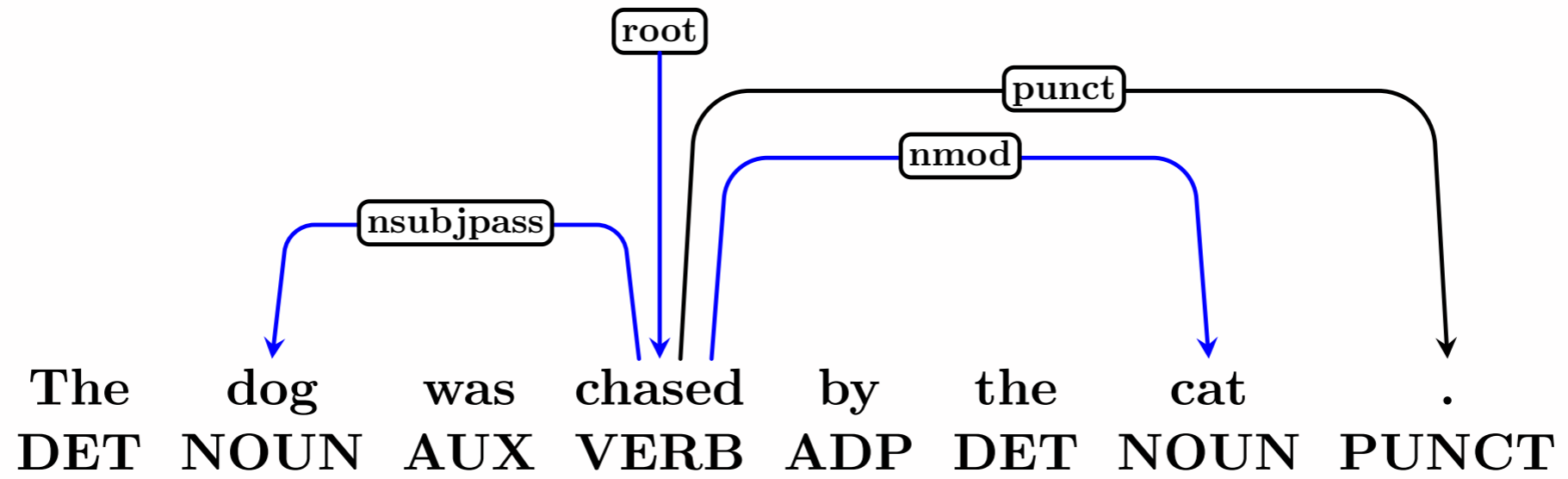


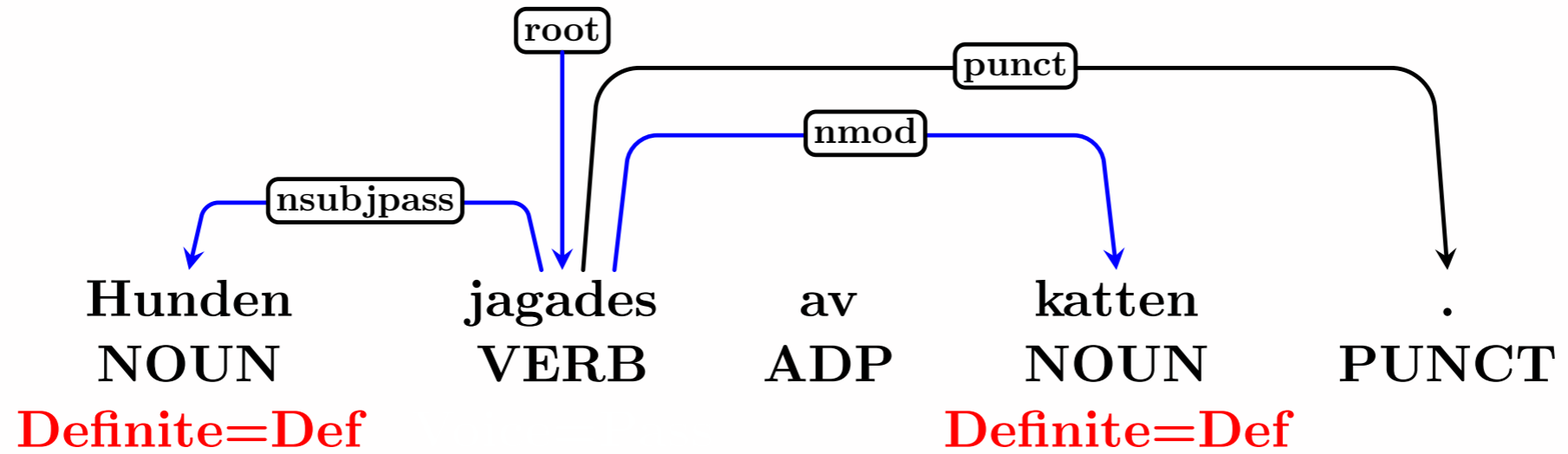
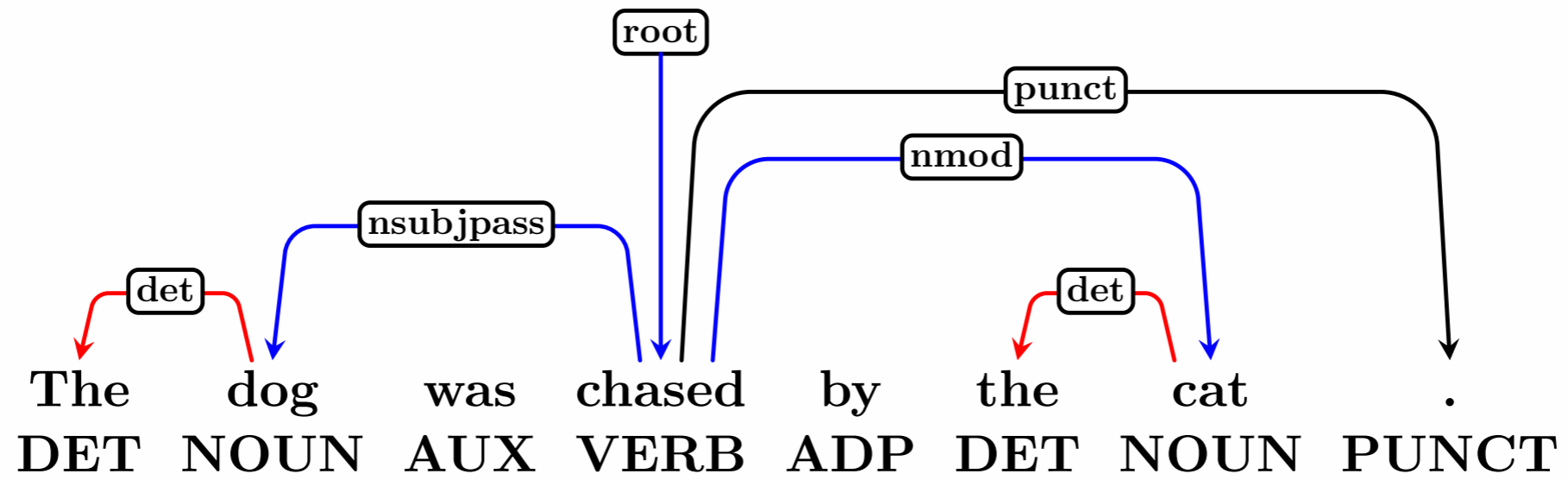
- Content words are related by dependency relations
- Function words attach to the content word they modify

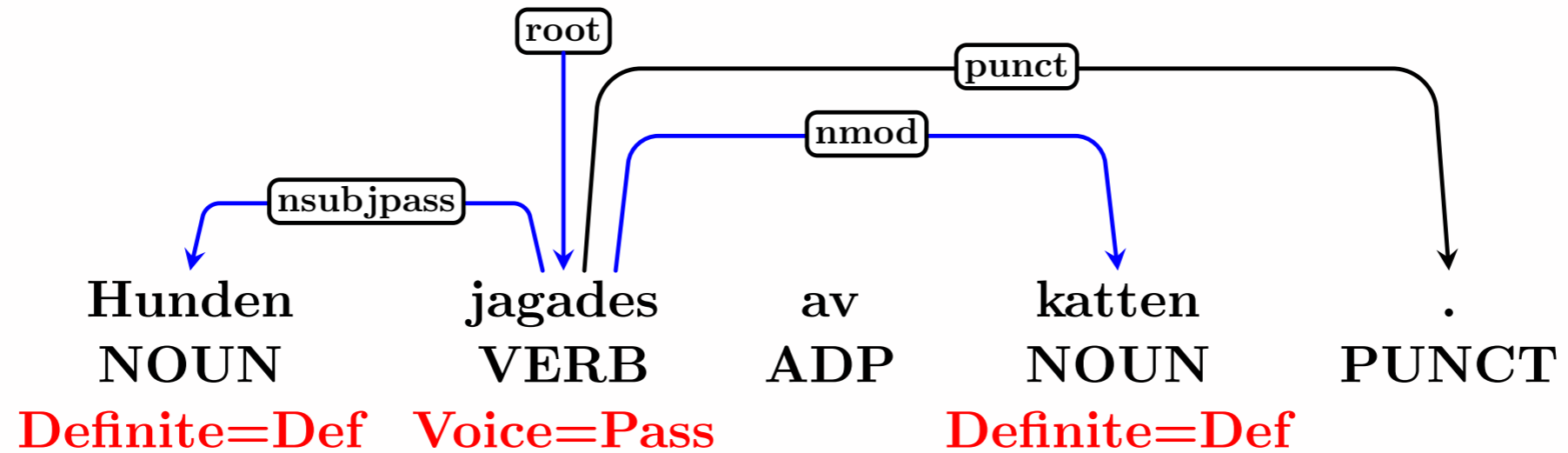
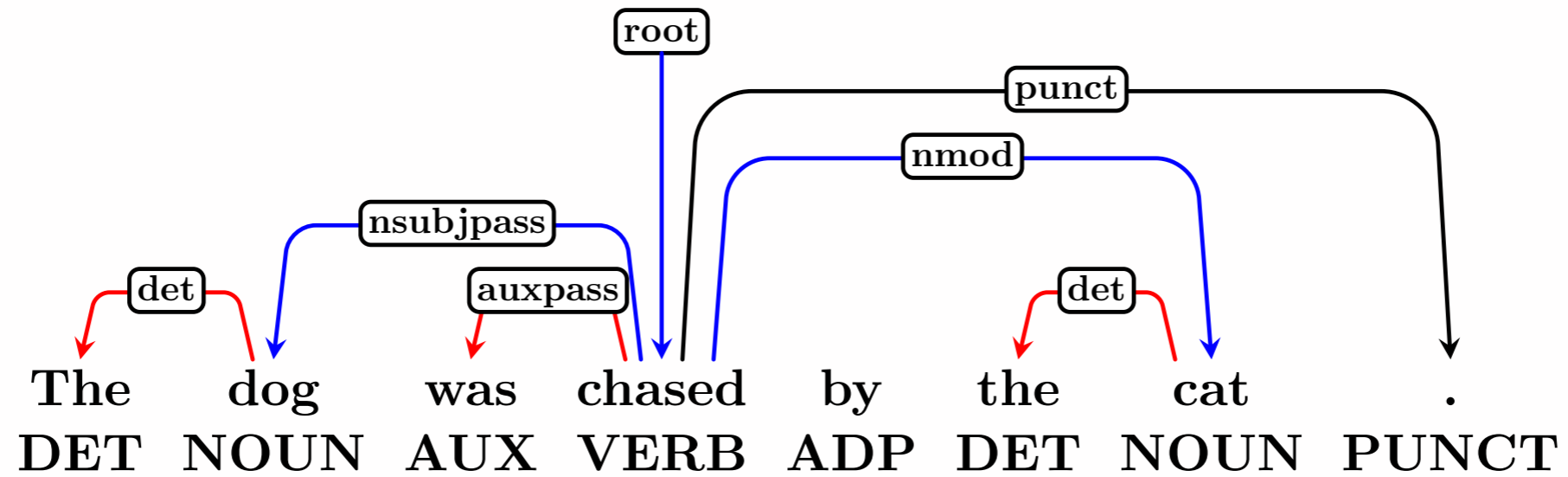
Syntax

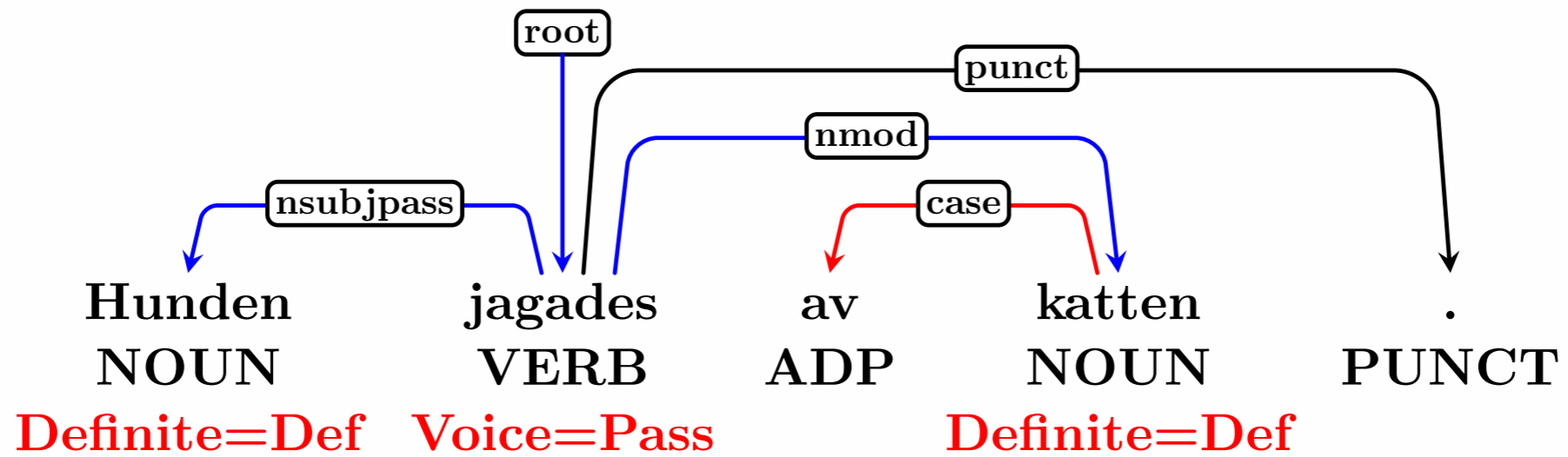
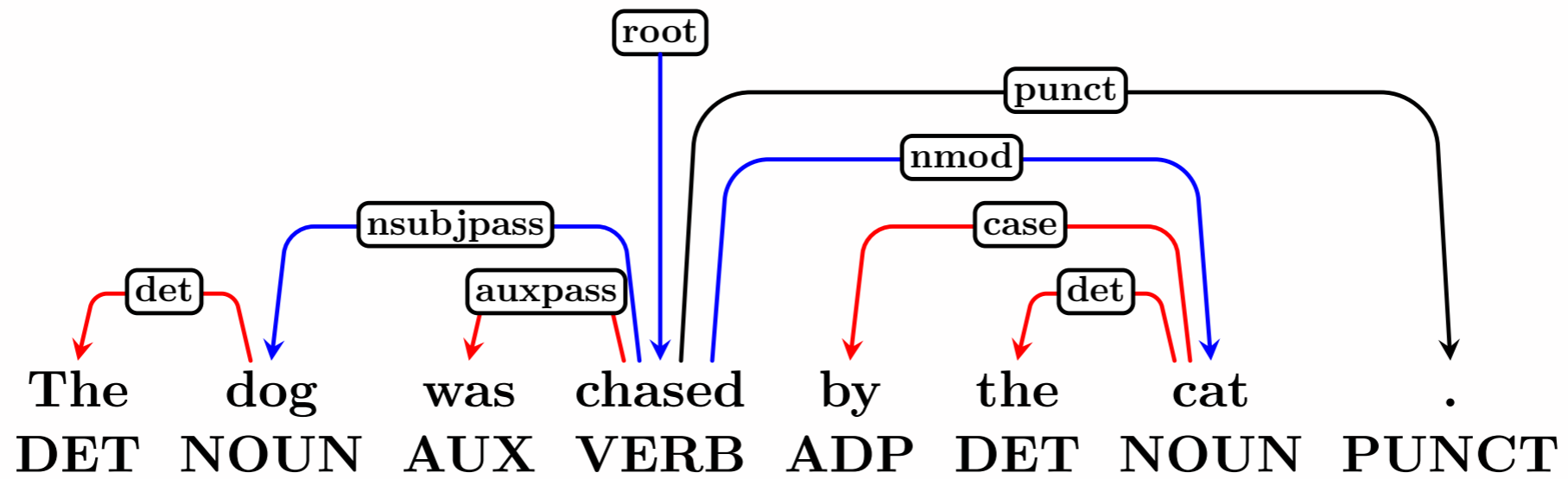


- Content words are related by dependency relations
- Function words attach to the content word they modify
- Punctuation attach to head of phrase or clause









Dependency Relations

Taxonomy of 40 universal grammatical relations

- Three types of structures: nominals, clauses, modifiers
- Core arguments vs. other dependents (**not** complements vs. adjuncts)

A two-level architecture

- Universal: broad categories to allow cross-linguistic comparison
- Language-specific: subtypes to capture language-specific phenomena

Universal	Subtype
acl	acl:relcl
compound	compound:prt
nmod	nmod:poss

Release v2

102 treebanks

61 languages

145 contributors



<http://universaldependencies.org>

UD Treebanks

Language	Count	Treebank	UD	UD	UD	UD	UD	UD
Amharic	-		-	?	-			
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Manual annotation/ validation:

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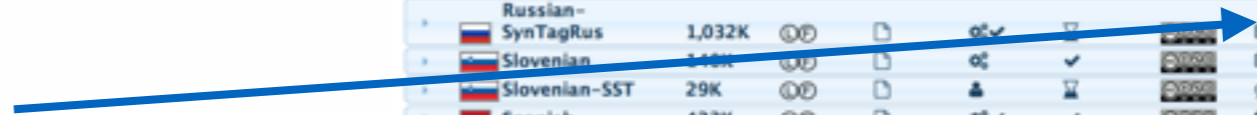
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Genres:

bible, blog, fiction, grammar examples,
legal text, medical text, news, non-fiction,
reviews, spoken, social, web, wikipedia

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Portuguese-BR	298K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Romanian	145K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Russian	99K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Russian-SynTagRus	1,032K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Slovenian	148K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Slovenian-SST	29K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Spanish	423K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Spanish-AnCora	547K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Swedish	96K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Swedish-LinES	79K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Tamil	8K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Turkish	56K	UD	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD
Ukrainian	-	-	-	o	✓	UD	UD	UD



Release v2

102 treebanks

61 languages

145 contributors



<http://universaldependencies.org>

Size:

< 1K to 1,5M tokens

Annotation:

lemmas (83), features (94)

Language-specific guidelines:

complete

Manual

validation

complete

Genres:

bible, blank, fiction, grammar examples, legal text, medical text, news, non-fiction, reviews, spoken, social, web, wikipedia

UD Treebanks

Language	Size	Treebank	POS	UD	UD	UD	UD	UD	UD
Amharic	-		-	?	-				
Ancient Greek	244K	UD		UD	✓				
Ancient Greek-PROIEL	206K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Arabic	242K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Basque	121K	UD		UD	✓				
Bulgarian	156K	UD		UD	✓				
Catalan	530K	UD		UD	✓				
Chinese	123K	UD		UD	✓				
Croatian	87K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Czech	1,503K	UD		UD	✓				
Czech-CAC	493K	UD		UD	✓				
Czech-CLTT	35K	UD		UD	✓				
Danish	100K	UD		UD	✓				
Dutch	209K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Dutch-LassySmall	98K	UD	-	UD	✓				
English	254K	UD		UD	✓				
English-ESL	97K	UD		UD	✓				
English-LinES	82K	UD		UD	✓				
Estonian	234K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Finnish	181K	UD		UD	✓				
Finnish-FTB	159K	UD	-	UD	✓				
French	390K	UD		UD	✓				
Galician	138K	UD		UD	✓				
German	293K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Gothic	56K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Greek	59K	UD		UD	✓				
Hebrew	115K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Hindi	351K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Hungarian	42K	UD		UD	✓				
Indonesian	121K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Irish	23K	UD		UD	✓				
Italian	252K	UD		UD	✓				
Japanese-KTC	267K	UD		UD	✓				
Kazakh	4K	UD		UD	✓				
Korean	-		-						
Latin	47K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Latin-ITTB	291K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Latin-PROIEL	165K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Latvian	20K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Norwegian	311K	UD		UD	✓				
Old Church Slavonic	57K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Persian	151K	UD		UD	✓				
Polish	83K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Portuguese	226K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Portuguese-BR	298K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Romanian	145K	UD		UD	✓				
Russian	99K	UD		UD	✓				
Russian-SynTagRus	1,032K	UD		UD	✓				
Slovenian	148K	UD		UD	✓				
Slovenian-SST	29K	UD		UD	✓				
Spanish	423K	UD		UD	✓				
Spanish-AnCora	547K	UD		UD	✓				
Swedish	96K	UD		UD	✓				
Swedish-LinES	79K	UD		UD	✓				
Tamil	8K	UD	-	UD	✓				
Turkish	56K	UD		UD	✓				
Ukrainian	-		-	UD	✓				

Over 50% of the world's native speakers

Release v2

102 treebanks

61 languages

145 contributors



<http://universaldependencies.org>

Size:

< 1K to 1,5M tokens

Annotation:

lemmas (83), features (94)

Language-specific guidelines:

complete (14), partial (34)

Manual annotation/ validation:

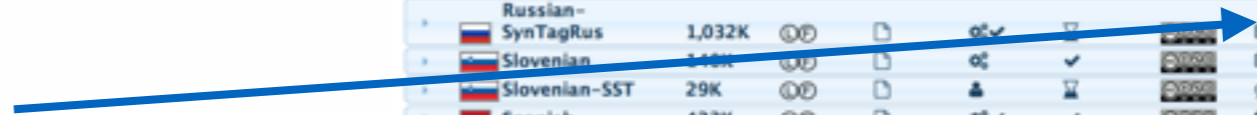
complete (34), partial (31)

Genres:

bible, blog, fiction, grammar examples,
legal text, medical text, news, non-fiction,
reviews, spoken, social, web, wikipedia

UD Treebanks

Language	Size	Treebank	POS	UD	UD	UD	UD	UD
Amharic	-			?				
Ancient Greek	244K							
Ancient Greek-PROIEL	206K							
Arabic	242K							
Basque	121K							
Bulgarian	156K							
Catalan	530K							
Chinese	123K							
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Czech	1,503K							
Czech-CAC	493K							
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Galician	138K							
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Greek	59K							
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Italian	252K							
Japanese-KTC	267K							
Kazakh	4K							
Korean	-							
Latin	47K							
Latin-ITTB	291K							
Latin-PROIEL	165K							
Latvian	20K							
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Spanish-AnCora	547K							
Swedish	96K							
Swedish-LinES	79K							
Tamil	8K							
Turkish	56K							
Ukrainian	-							



Research Problems (examples)

- Annotation
 - Produce guidelines and/or annotation for language X
 - Study the annotation of construction Y across languages
- Parsing
 - Develop and/or evaluate a parser for language X
 - Study cross-lingual transfer learning and/or annotation projection
- Typology
 - Study word order patterns in language X
 - Compare the realisation of construction Y across languages
- Applications
 - Investigate UD-based features for your favorite NLP problem

Questions?