

*A Probabilistic Generative Model for an  
Intermediate Constituency-Dependency  
Representation*

Federico Sangati

Institute for Logic, Language and Computation  
University of Amsterdam

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# Outline

## 1 *TDS Representation*

Lucien Tesnière

Penn WSJ Treebank Conversion into TDS

Elements of TDS

## 2 *Parsing*

A 3-step generative model

Parsing through re-ranking

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## 3 *Conclusions*

# Lucien Tesnière

LUCIEN TESNIÈRE

## ÉLÉMENTS DE SYNTAXE STRUCTURALE

PREFACE DE  
JEAN FOURQUET  
PROFESSEUR A LA SORBONNE

*Ouvrage publié avec le concours  
du Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique*

PARIS  
LIBRAIRIE C. KLINCKSIECK  
1959

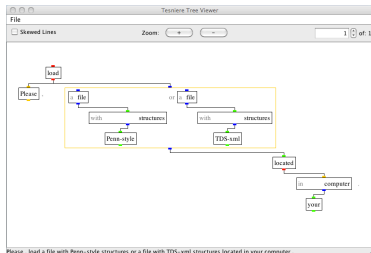


# Converting the Penn WSJ Treebank into TDS format

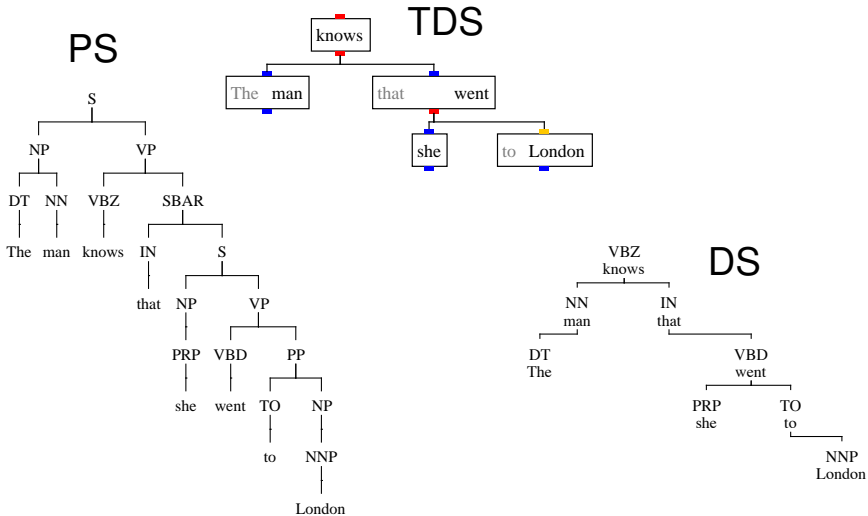


*Federico Sangati and Chiara Mazza.  
An English Dependency Treebank à la Tesnière.  
Proceedings TLT8, December 09.*

- Fully automatic (49208 sentences)
- Conversion and visualization publicly available at:  
`staff.science.uva.nl/~fsangati/TDS`



# Comparing with PS and DS



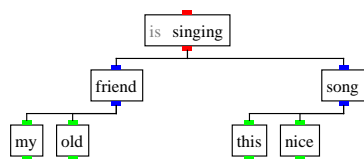
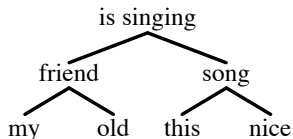
## Dependency Relations (Connexion)



1. — Les connexions structurales établissent entre les mots des rapports de **dépendance**. Chaque connexion unit en principe un terme **supérieur** à un terme **inférieur**.

7. — Là connexion est **indispensable** à l'expression de la pensée. Sans la connexion, nous ne saurions exprimer aucune pensée continue et nous ne pourrions qu'énoncer une succession d'images et d'idées isolées les unes des autres et sans lien entre elles<sup>1</sup>.

8. — C'est donc la connexion qui donne à la phrase son caractère **organique et vivant**, et qui en est comme le **principe vital**.

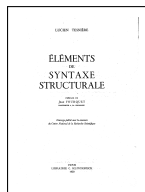


## Word types

All words are divided into two classes:

- **Content words:** nouns, verbs, adjectives, etc.
- **Functional words:** aux., determiners, prepositions, etc.

e.g. Snoopy is flying on the doghouse



2. — Les mots **pleins** sont ceux qui sont **chargés d'une fonction sémantique**, c'est-à-dire ceux dont la forme est associée directement à une idée, qu'elle a pour fonction de représenter et d'évoquer. Ainsi fr. *cheval*, all. *Pferd*, angl. *horse*, lat. *equus*, etc... sont des mots pleins, parce que leur forme, c'est-à-dire les phonèmes (ou les lettres) qui les composent suffisent à évoquer l'idée d'un cheval.

3. — Les mots **vides** sont ceux qui ne sont pas chargés d'une fonction sémantique. Ce sont de simples **outils grammaticaux**<sup>1</sup> dont le rôle est uniquement d'indiquer, de préciser ou de transformer la catégorie des mots pleins et de régler leurs rapports entre eux.

## Block of Words (Nucléus)

A *block* always includes a single content word and any number of functional words (possibly none).

e.g. Snoopy is flying on the doghouse



14. — Le nucléus est donc en dernière analyse l'entité syntaxique élémentaire, le matériau fondamental de la charpente structurale de la phrase, et en quelque sorte la **cellule** constitutive qui en fait un organisme vivant.





## Categories (Catégories)

Tesnière distinguishes four *block categories*: **nouns**, **adjectives**, **verbs**, **adverbs**.



2. — Nous adopterons les **représentations symboliques** suivantes :

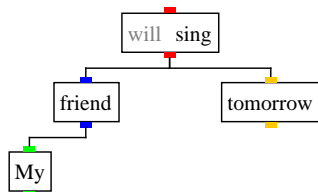
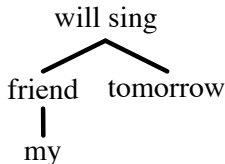
**O** = Substantif.

**A** = Adjectif.

**I** = Verbe.

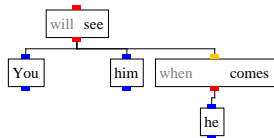
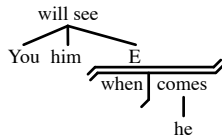
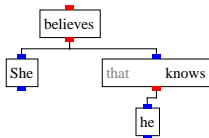
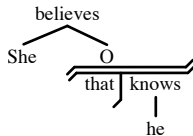
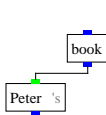
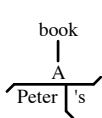
**E** = Adverbe.

3. — On notera que les quatre lettres adoptées correspondent aux terminaisons des quatre espèces de mots correspondantes en **espéranto** : **-o** pour le substantif, **-a** pour l'adjectif, **-i** pour l'infinitif, **-e** pour l'adverbe.



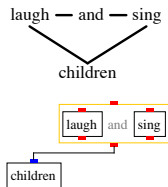
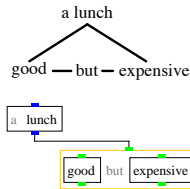
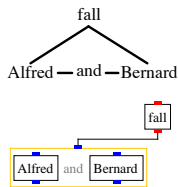
## Transference (Translation)

A **shifting process** which makes a block change from the original category of the content word, to another category, by means of zero or more functional words belonging to the same block, called **transferrers**.

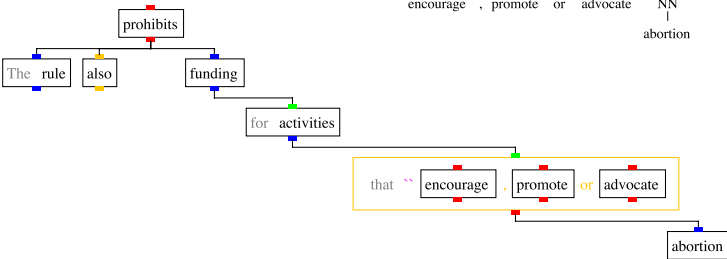
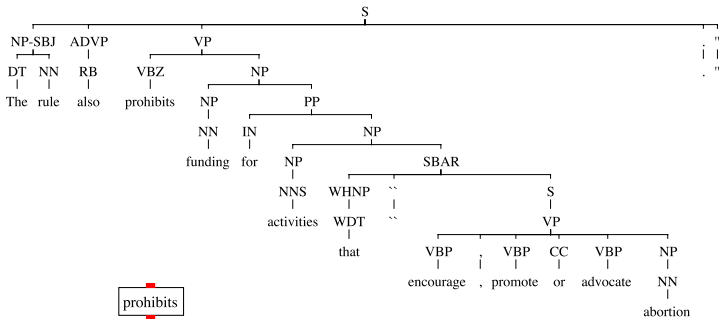


## *Junction (Jonction)*

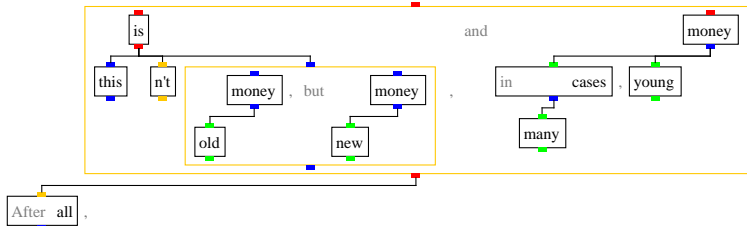
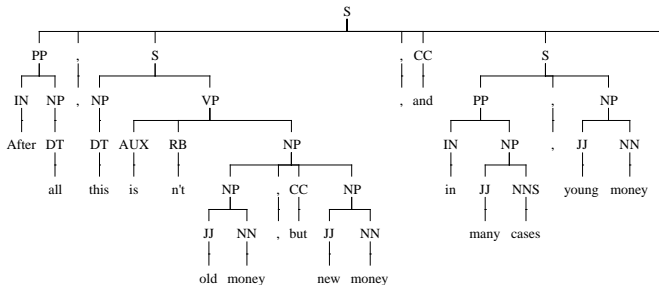
- It groups blocks, the **conjuncts**, into a unique block entity.
- The conjuncts are connected horizontally by means of **conjunctions** (possibly missing).



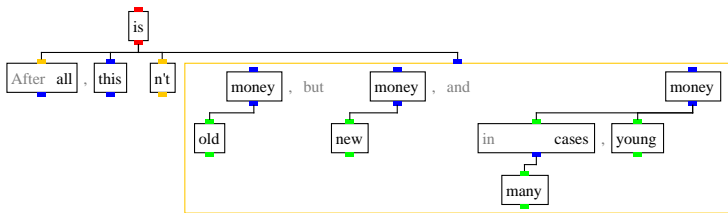
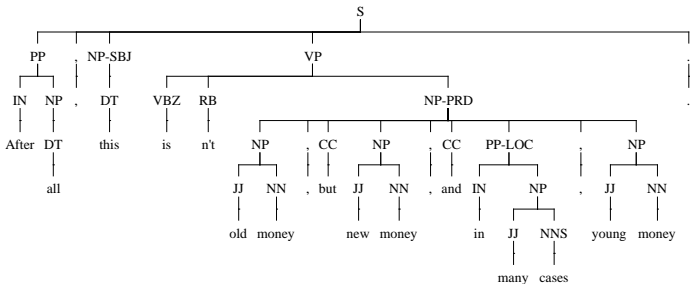
# Coordination : TDS vs. PS



# TDS vs. PS: Charniak's parser



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## *A 3-steps generative model*

A sentence structure is generated in three phases:

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- 1 **Generate** generic blocks (top-downs, left-right) specifying categories, and functional words.

$$P_G(S_G) = \prod_{B \in \text{dependentBlocks}(S)} P(B | \text{parent}(B), \text{direction}(B), \text{leftSibling}(B))$$



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$$P_F(S_F) = \prod_{B \in \text{standardBlocks}(S)} P(\text{cw}(B) | \text{cw}(\text{parent}(B)), \text{cats}(B), \text{fw}(B), \text{context}(B))$$

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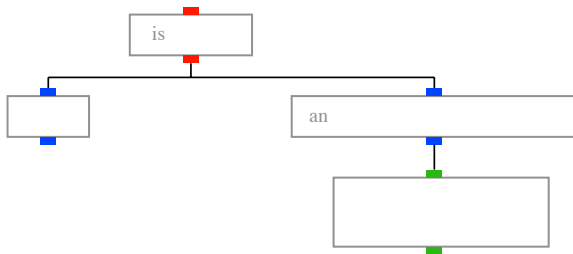
$$P(S) = P_G(S_G) \cdot P_E(S_E) \cdot P_F(S_F)$$

## *Generating a sentence*

Mary is singing an old and beautiful song

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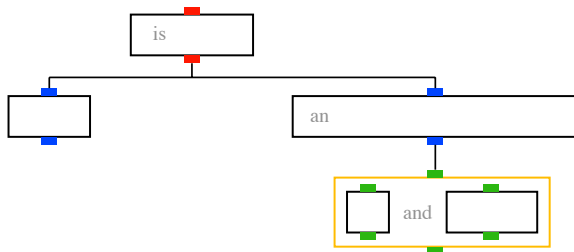
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(after 4 applications of GENERATE)

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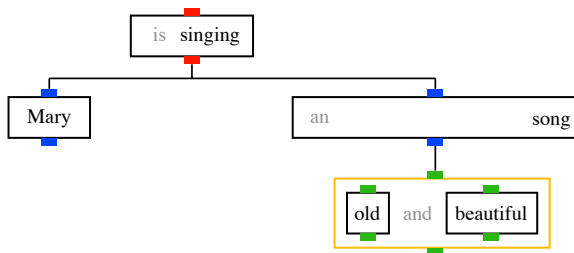
Mary is singing an old and beautiful song



(after 6 applications of EXPAND)

## Generating a sentence

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(after 5 applications of FILL)

## *Parsing through Re-ranking*

### *The Idea*

- An other parser provides k-best PS candidates.
- Convert them into TDS representation.
- Compute the prob. of each candidate.
- Select the one with max. probability (re-ranking).



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### *Motivation*

- Implement and compare different settings / models.
- Without implementing different full parsers.



*Federico Sangati, Willem Zuidema, and Rens Bod.  
A generative re-ranking model for dependency parsing.  
Proceedings IWPT 09.*

# *Evaluation metrics*

## *Standard Evaluations*

- **F-Score (F1)**
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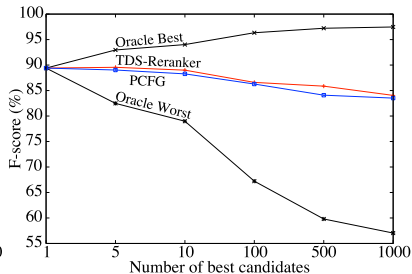
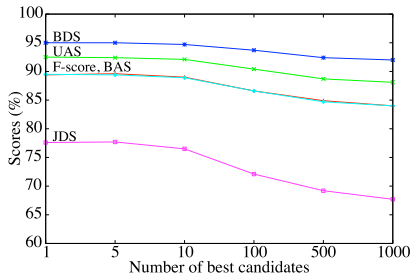
### *New Proposed Evaluations*

- **Block Detection Score (BDS)**: accuracy of detecting the correct boundaries of the blocks in the structure.
- **Block Attachment Score (BAS)**: accuracy of detecting the correct governing block of each block in the structure.
- **Junction Detection Score (JDS)** : accuracy of detecting the correct list of conjuncts composing each junction block in the structure.

## Results

- Corpus: **Penn WSJ** converted to TDS.
- Training/Test: sec 02-21 / sec 22
- k-best candidates: Charniak's Max-Ent parser.

	Beam	F1	UAS	Blocks Detection	Blocks Attach.	Junctions Detection
Charniak	$k = 1$	89.4	92.5	95.0	89.5	77.6
PCFG-reranker	$k = 5$	89.0	92.4	<b>95.1</b>	89.2	77.5
PCFG-reranker	$k = 1000$	83.5	88.4	92.9	83.6	71.8
TDS-reranker	$k = 5$	<b>89.6</b>	92.4	95.0	89.4	<b>77.7</b>
TDS-reranker	$k = 10$	89.0	92.1	94.7	88.9	76.5
TDS-reranker	$k = 100$	86.6	90.4	93.7	86.6	72.1
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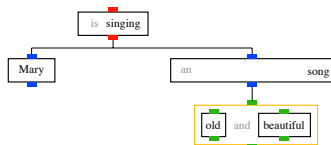


## *PoS-Tagging & Chunking*

- Previous 3 models do not take into account the linear order of words.
- Improve robustness: define **PoS tagging** and **Chunking** model.
- Both implemented as a tagging task with n-gram models (Buchholz 1999, Veenstra 1999).

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<b>Words</b>	Mary	is	singing	an	old	and	beautiful	song
<b>PoS-tags</b>	NNP	AUX	VBG	DT	JJ	CC	JJ	NN
<b>Chunk tags</b>	N	N	I	N	-N	C	N	+I

$$P_{PoS}(S_P) = \prod_{i=1}^{|sentenceLength|} P(word(i), pos(i) | word_{i-1}, pos_{i-1}, pos_{i-2})$$

$$P_{Chunk}(S_C) = \prod_{i=1}^{|sentenceLength|} P(chunk(i) | word_i, pos_i, pos_{i-1}, pos_{i-2}, pos_{i+1})$$

$$P(S) = P_G(S_G) \cdot P_E(S_E) \cdot P_F(S_F) \cdot P_{PoS}(S_P) \cdot P_{Chunk}(S_C)$$

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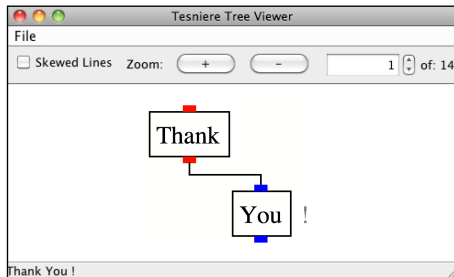
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## *Conclusions*

- Conversion of the Penn WSJ treebank into TDS.
- Probabilistic model to parse TDS structures.
- 3 New evaluation metrics.
- Improved robustness of the system after adding PoS-tagger & Chunker models.



Conversion and visualization tool available at:  
`staff.science.uva.nl/~fsangati/TDS`



`f.sangati@uva.nl`