

# Unsupervised Multilingual Grammar Induction



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MIT

- Languages exhibit variations in patterns of ambiguity
- Variations as natural supervision

בראשית ברא אלהים את השמים ואת הארץ  
في البدء خلق الله السموات والارض



Morphology:

acl 2008

POS tagging:

emnlp 2008

naacl 2009

Syntax:

acl 2009 (this talk)



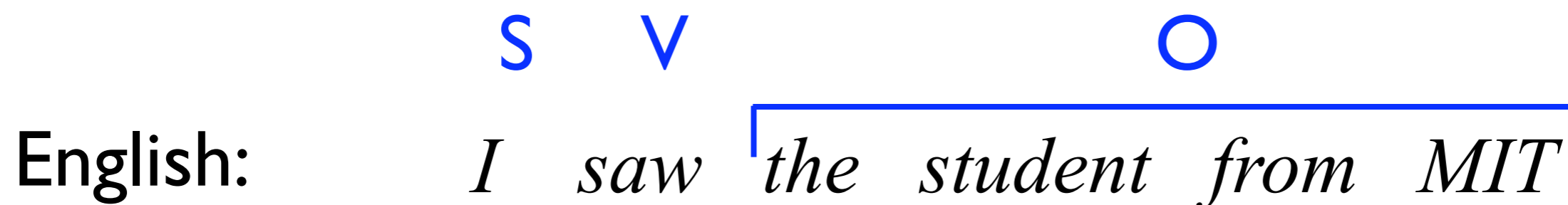
# Multilingual Cues

English: *I saw the student from MIT*

# Multilingual Cues

English: *I* *saw* *the student from MIT*

S V O

A diagram illustrating multilingual cues in a sentence. The sentence "I saw the student from MIT" is written in italics. Above the words, blue letters "S", "V", and "O" are placed above "I", "saw", and "the student from MIT" respectively. A blue bracket is drawn under "the student from MIT".

# Multilingual Cues

English: *I saw the student from MIT*

S V O

Urdu: *I MIT of student saw*

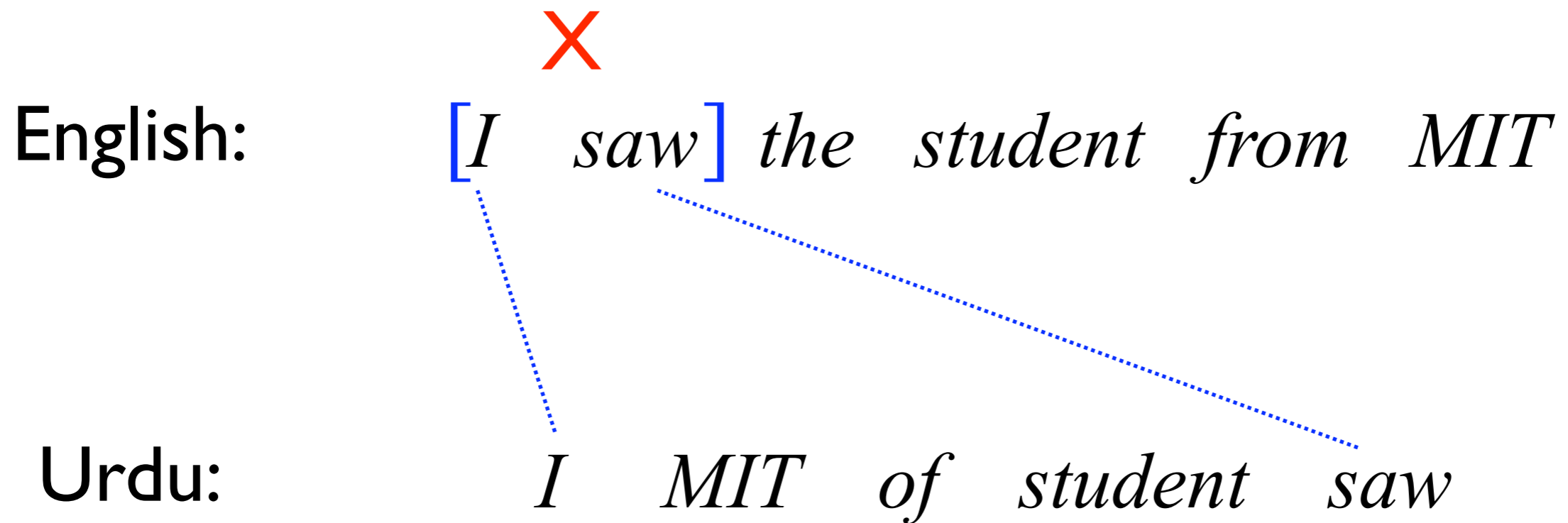
S O V

# Multilingual Cues

English:      *[I saw] the student from MIT*

Urdu:      *I MIT of student saw*

# Multilingual Cues





# Multilingual Cues

English: *I saw the student from MIT*

Urdu: *[I MIT] of student saw*  
?

# Multilingual Cues

English:

*I saw the student from MIT*

Urdu:

[*I MIT*] *of student saw*

X

# Multilingual Cues

English: *I saw the student [from MIT]*

Urdu: *I MIT of student saw*

# Multilingual Cues

?

English:

*I [saw the student [from MIT ]]*

Urdu:

*I MIT of student saw*

# Multilingual Cues

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English:

*I saw [the student [from MIT ]]*

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*I MIT of student saw*

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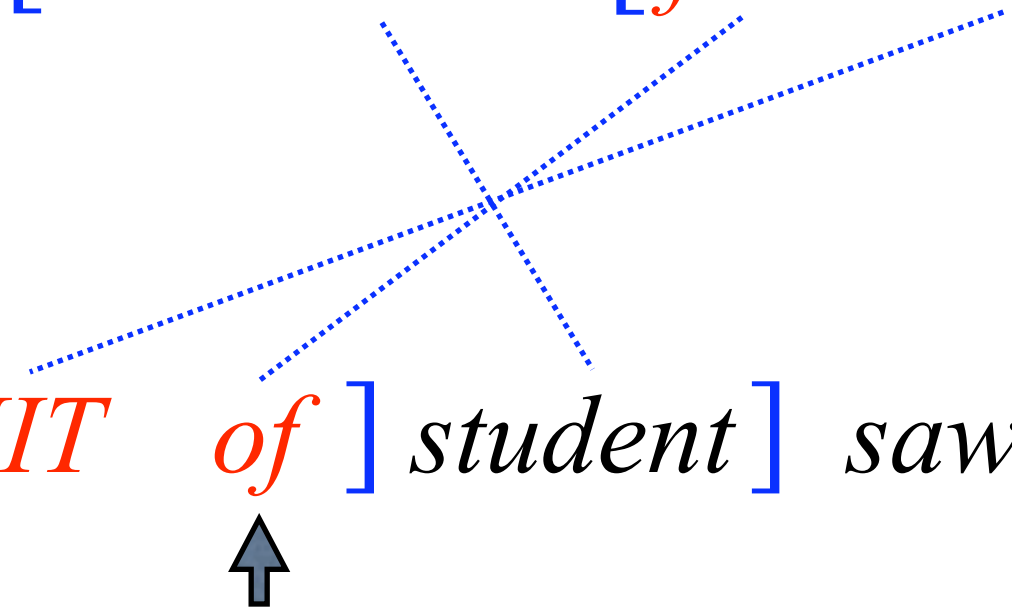
# Multilingual Cues

English:

*I saw [the student [from MIT]]*

Urdu:

*I [[MIT of] student] saw*





# Multilingual Cues

English: *I saw [the student [from MIT ]]*

Urdu: *I [[MIT of ] student ] saw*



Main idea: learn from systematic variations in *phrase order and expression*

# Key Technical Challenge

Represent shared cross-lingual syntactic structure

- *Linguistically plausible*
  - Allow full range of syntactic divergence and translational freedom
- *Computationally tractable*
  - Support probabilistic operations: argmax, marginalization, sampling

# Prior Representations

## Synchronous Grammars [Wu 1997; Melamed 2003; Chiang 2005; Smith&Smith 2004; Eisner 2005; Blunsom et al 2008]

- Employed for modeling phrase reordering in MT
- In basic form, isomorphic trees (up to sibling order)

## Node Matching [Burkett&Klein 2008]

- Ignores tree structure
- Marginalization is #P-complete

# Our Proposal

Probabilistic adaptation of *Unordered Tree*

*Alignment* [Jiang et al 1995]

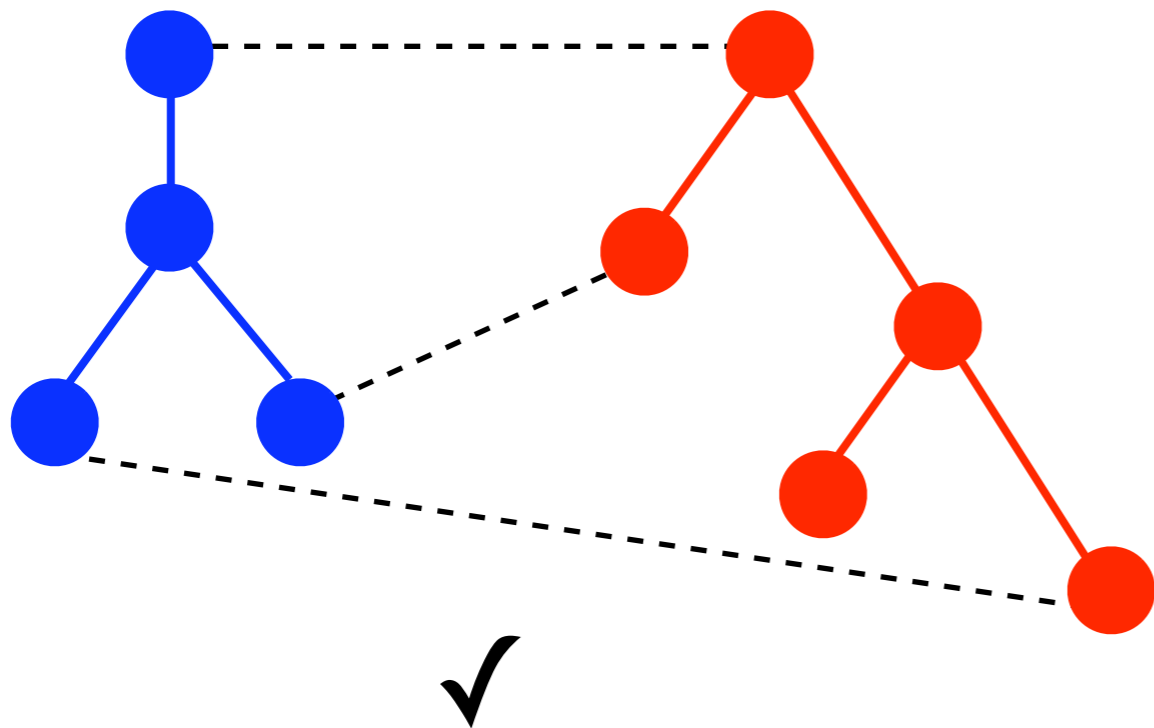
- Node alignments must respect tree structures
- Yet any number of nodes may remain *unaligned*
- Can marginalize and sample *all possible alignments* in linear time with dynamic program

For trees  $T_1$  and  $T_2$ , an *alignment*  $A$  is obtained in the following way:

1. Insert empty nodes into  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  and swap sibling order, until they are isomorphic
2. Overlay the resulting trees  $T_1'$  and  $T_2'$  to obtain  $A$

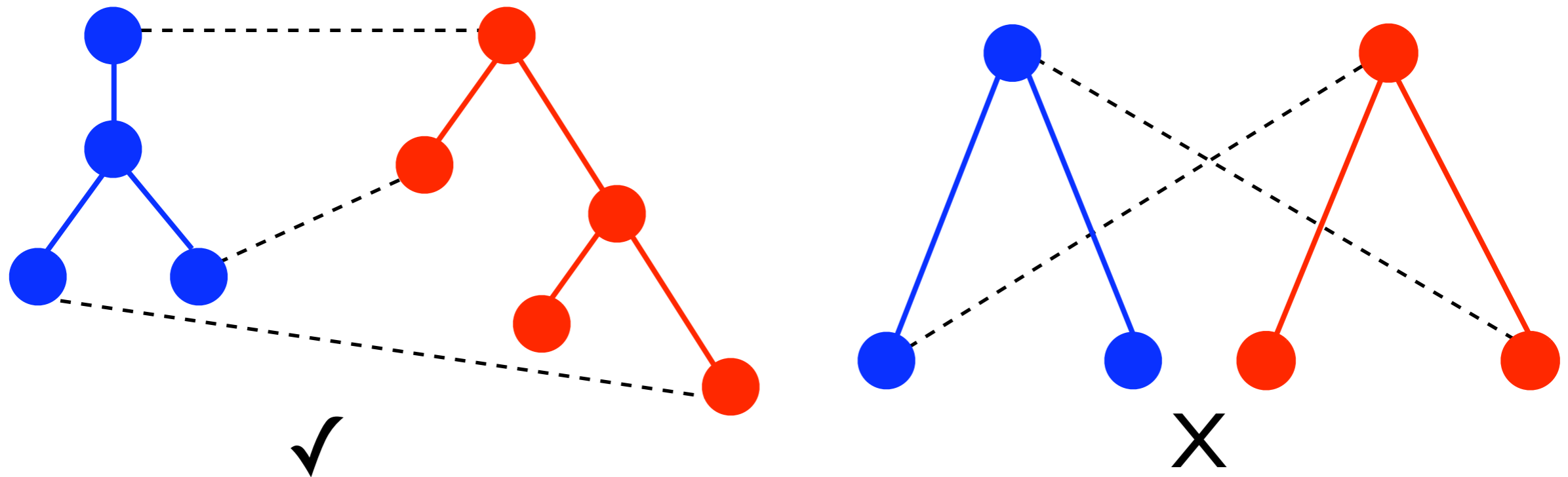
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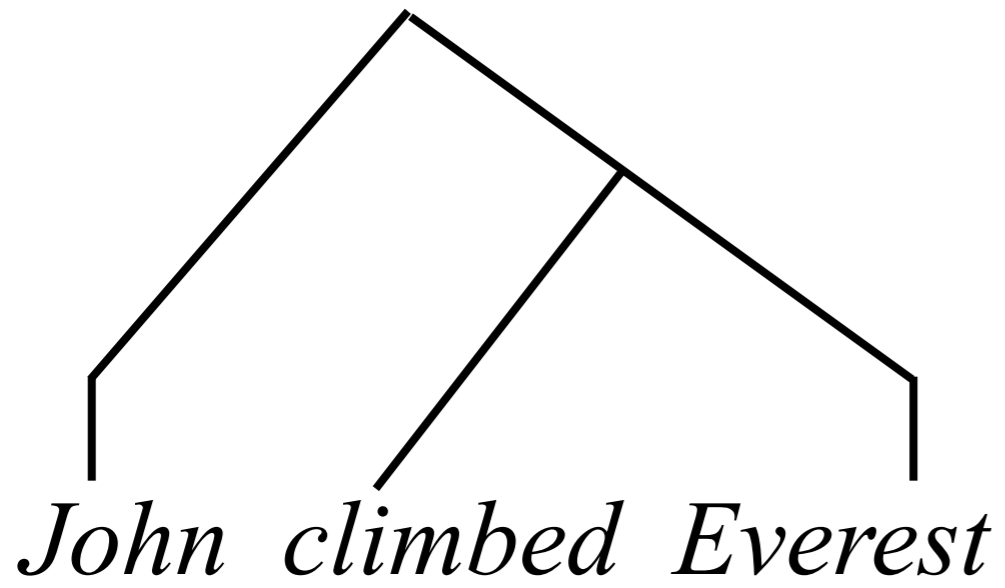
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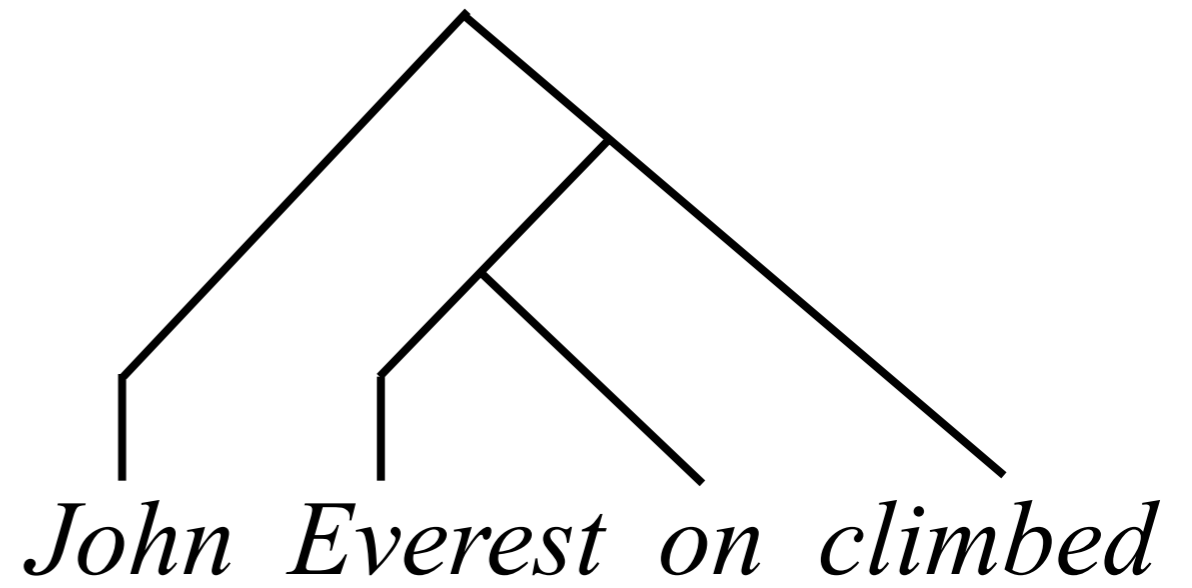
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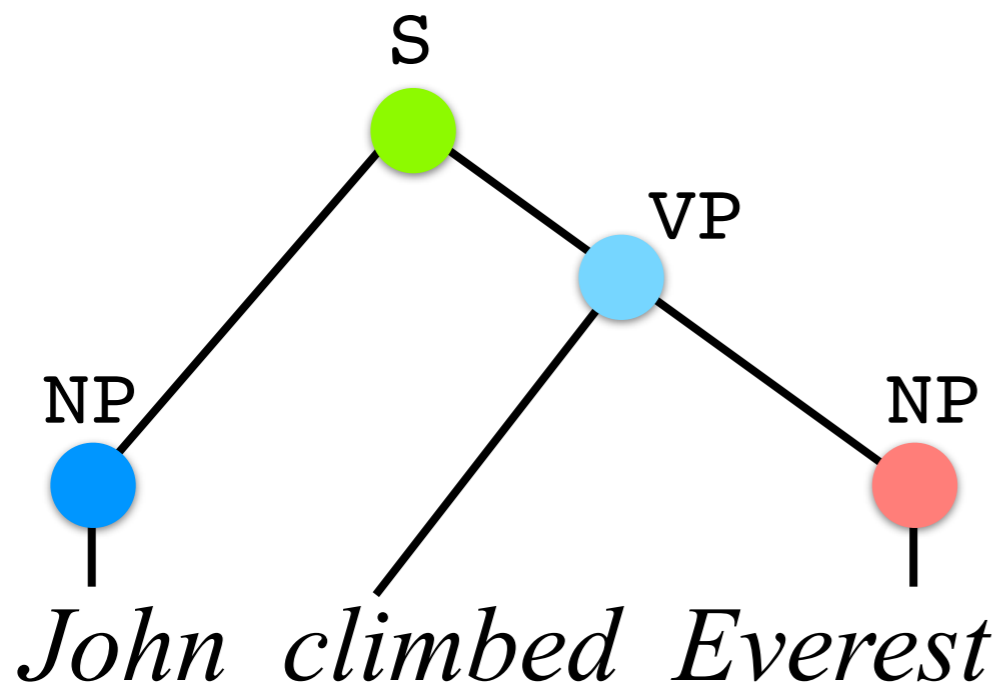


English

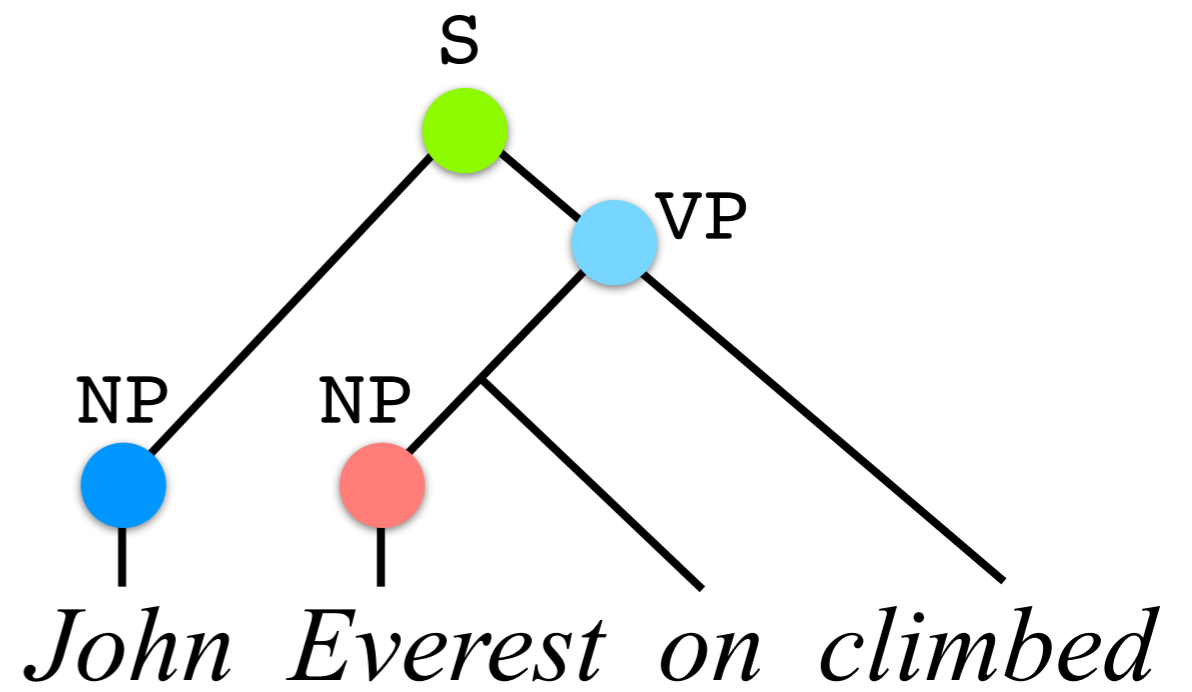


Urdu

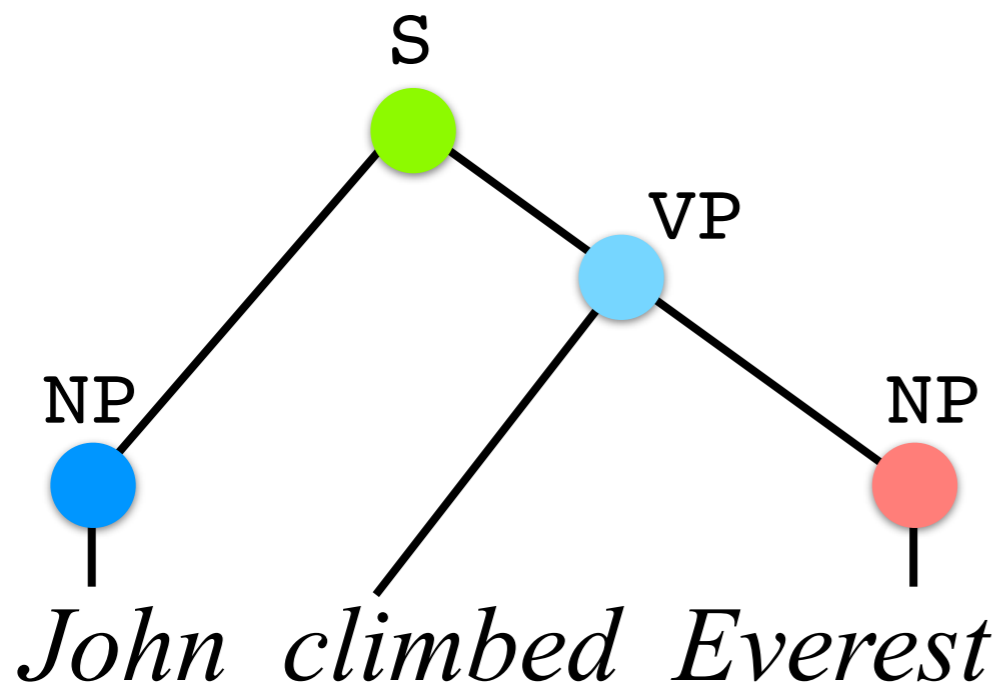




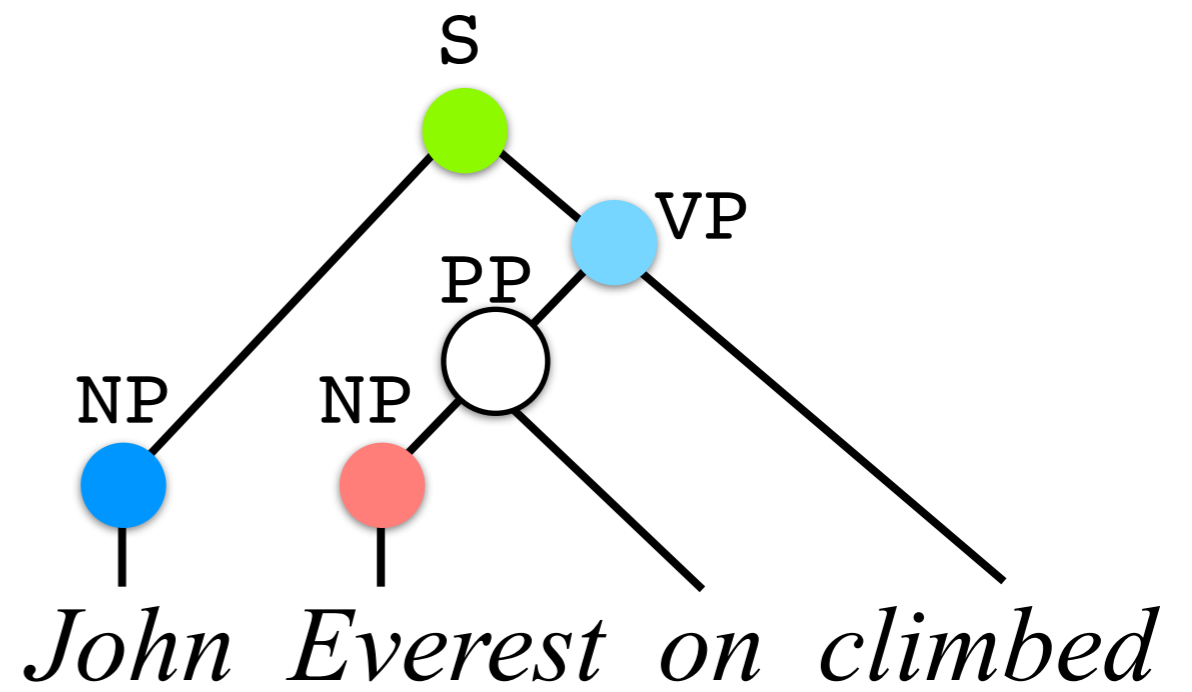
English



Urdu



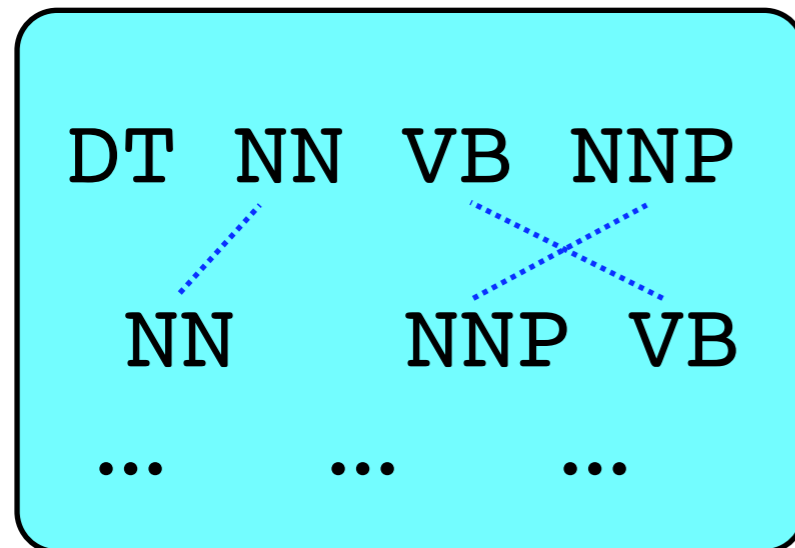
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Urdu

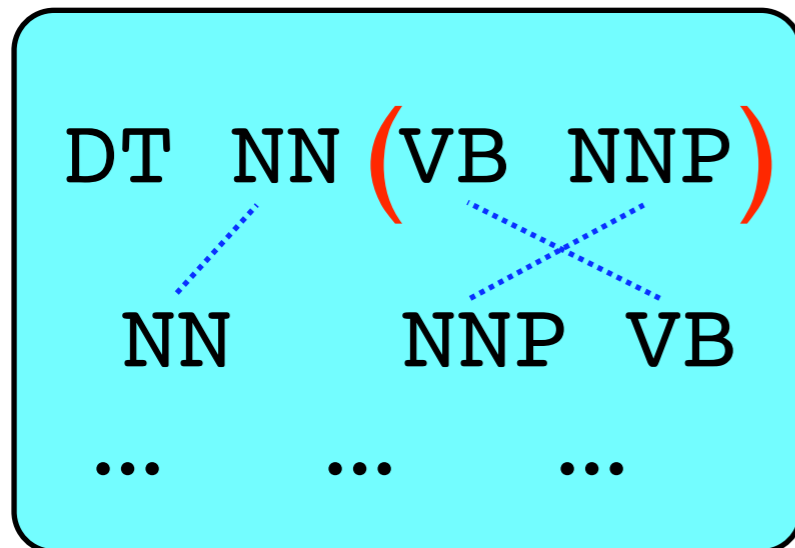
# A Generative Model

We observe:



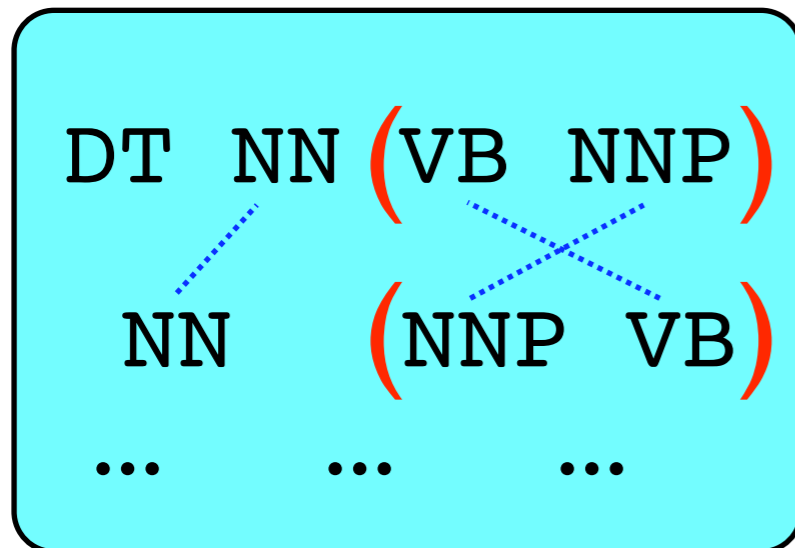
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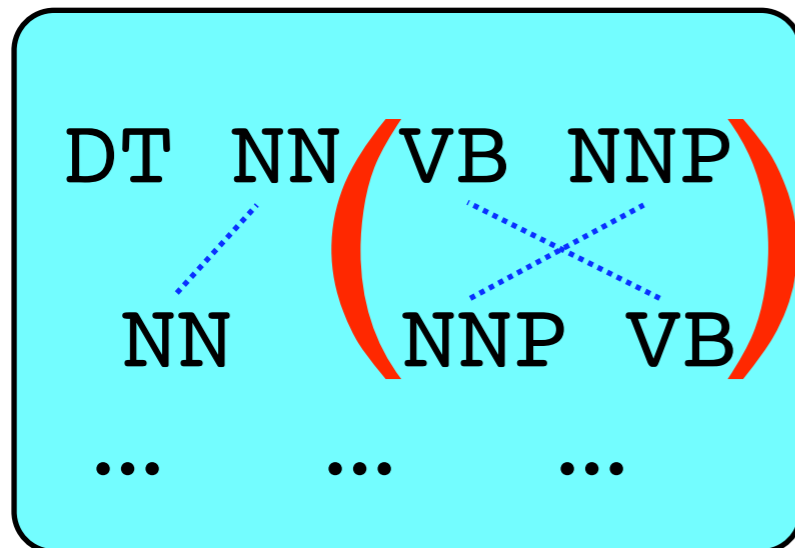
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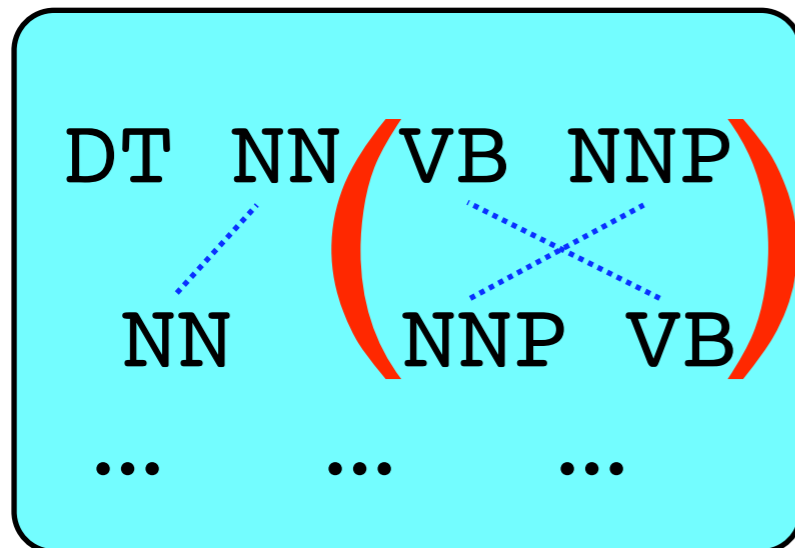
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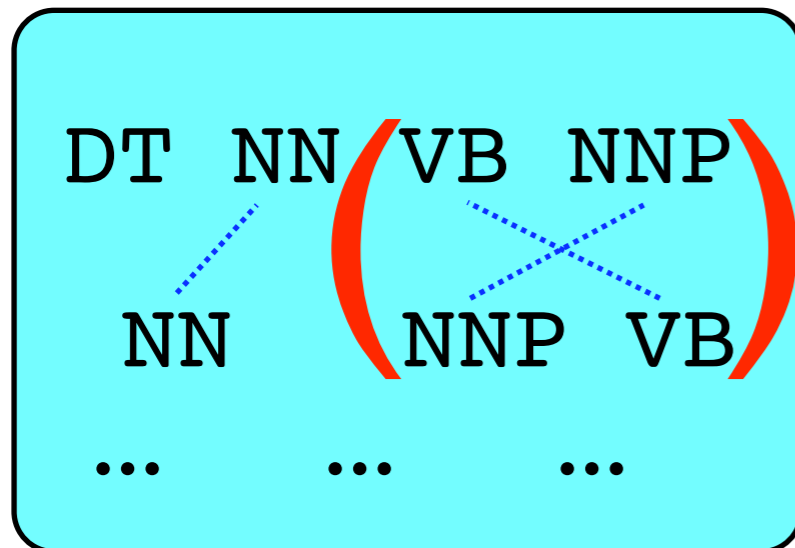


Hypothesize aligned trees  
that best explain:

- frequent POS sequence pairs
- lexical alignments

# A Generative Model

We observe:



Parameters to learn

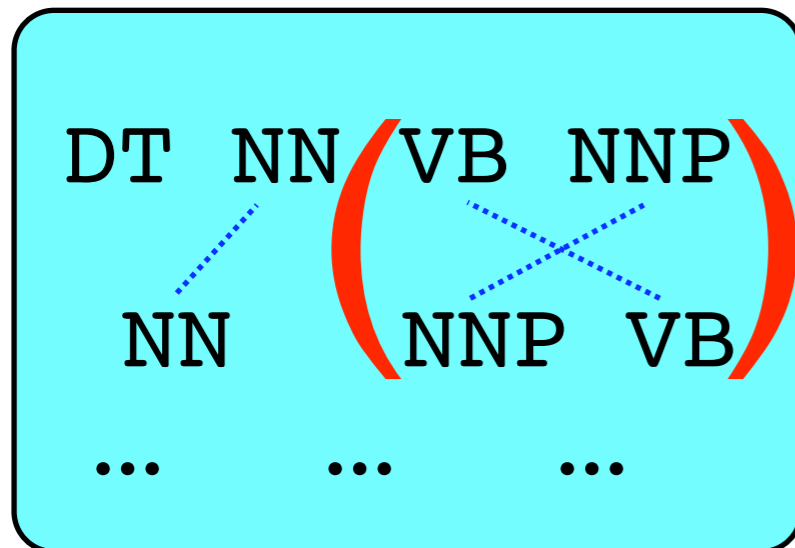
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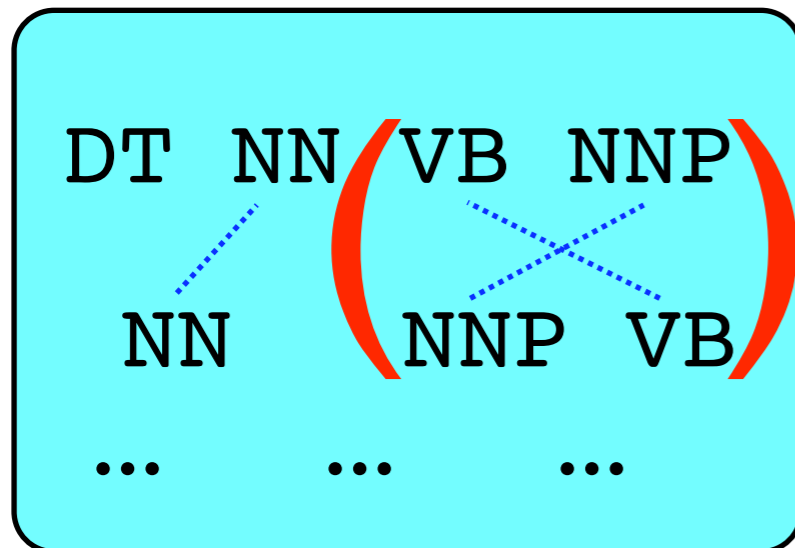
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## Parameters to learn

$\omega$  Probability of constituent pairs of *aligned* nodes

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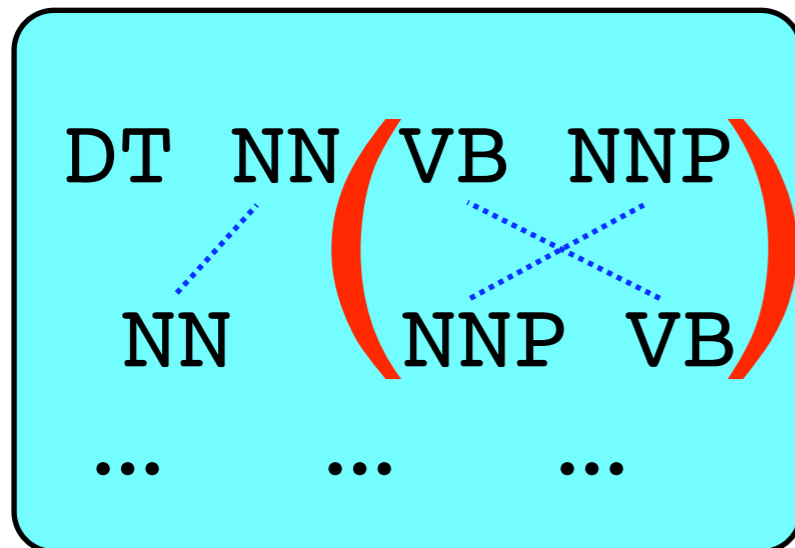
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$\phi^+$  Distribution on num. of word alignments between *aligned* nodes

$\phi^-$  Distribution on num. of word alignments between *unaligned* nodes

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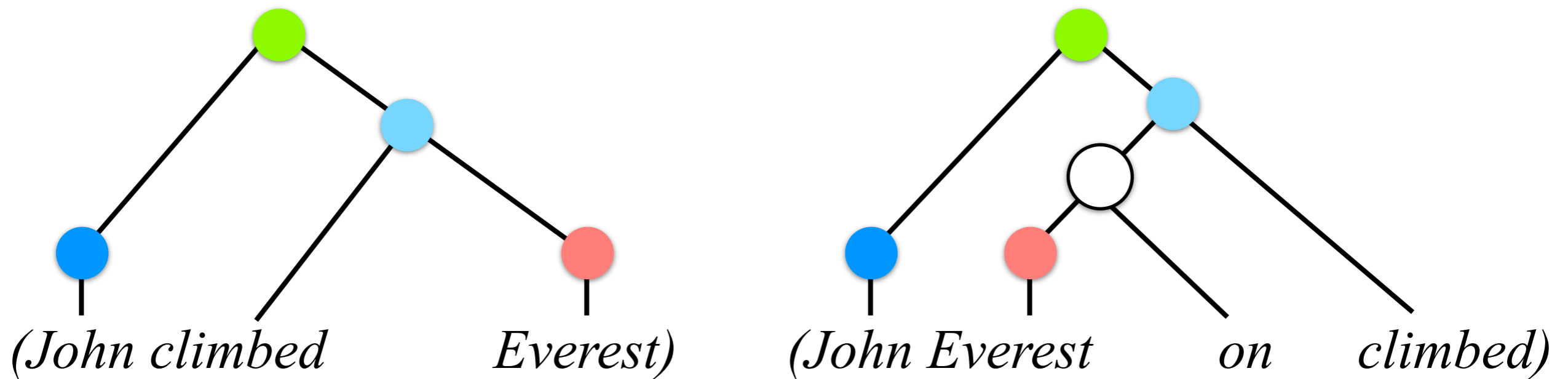
$\phi^+$  Distribution on num. of word alignments between *aligned* nodes

$\phi^-$  Distribution on num. of word alignments between *unaligned* nodes

(language-specific parameters for unaligned nodes [Klein&Manning 2002])

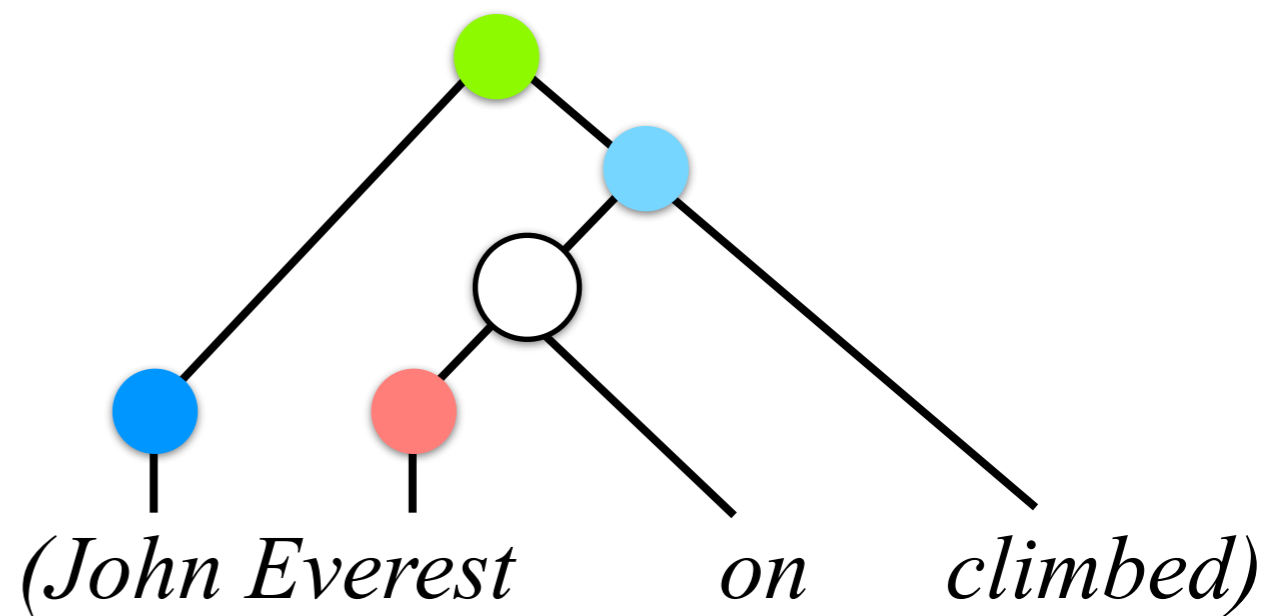
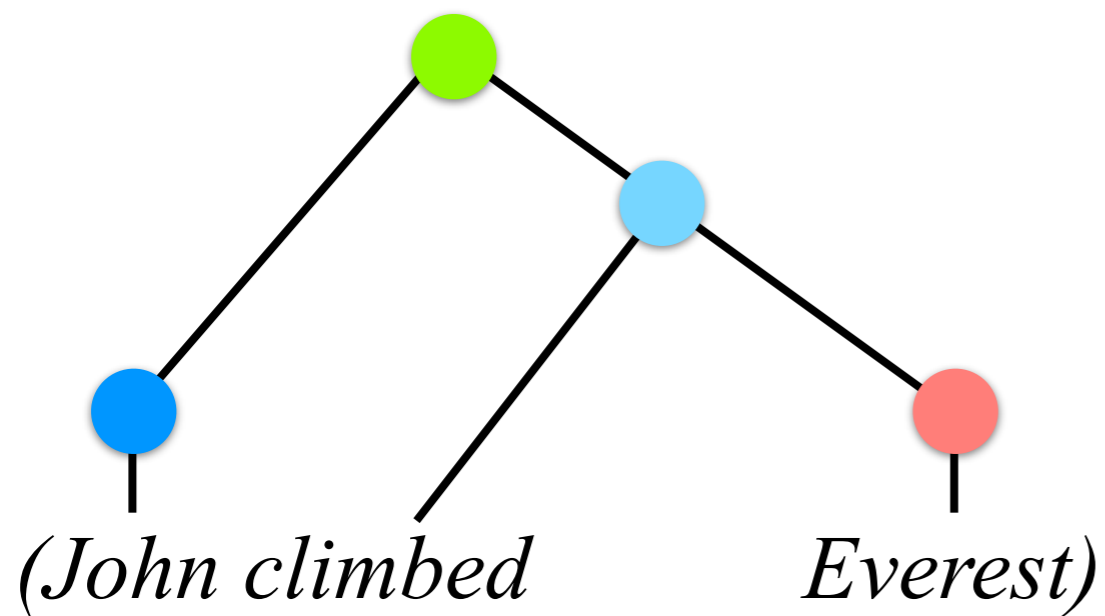
# Generative Story

Draw alignment tree *template*  $(T_1, T_2, A)$   
from uniform distribution:



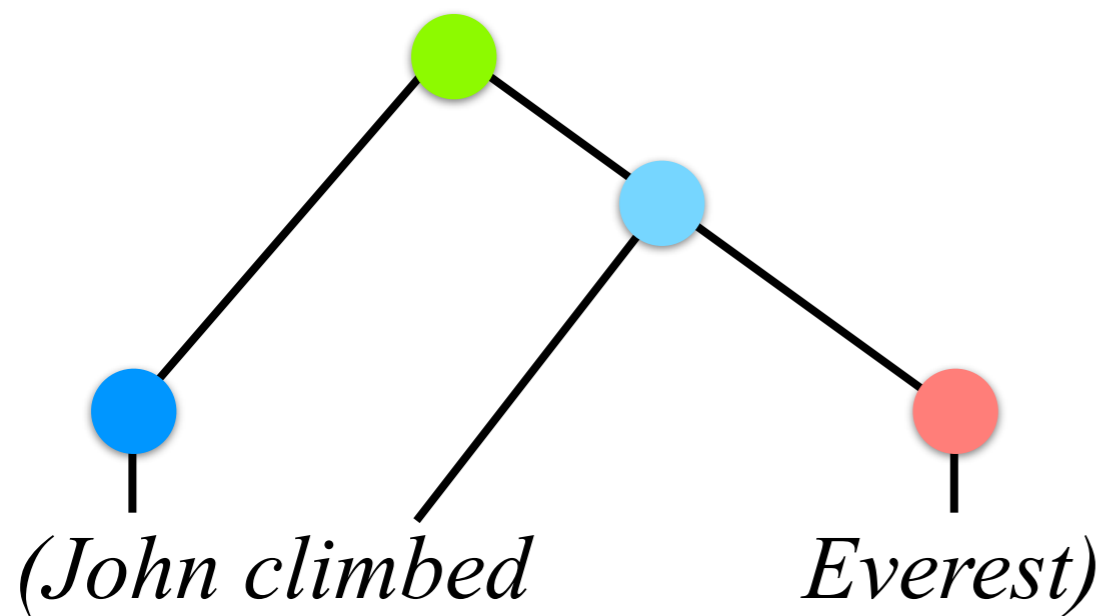
# Generative Story

For each *aligned* node pair, draw a *constituent pair* jointly from  $\omega$ :

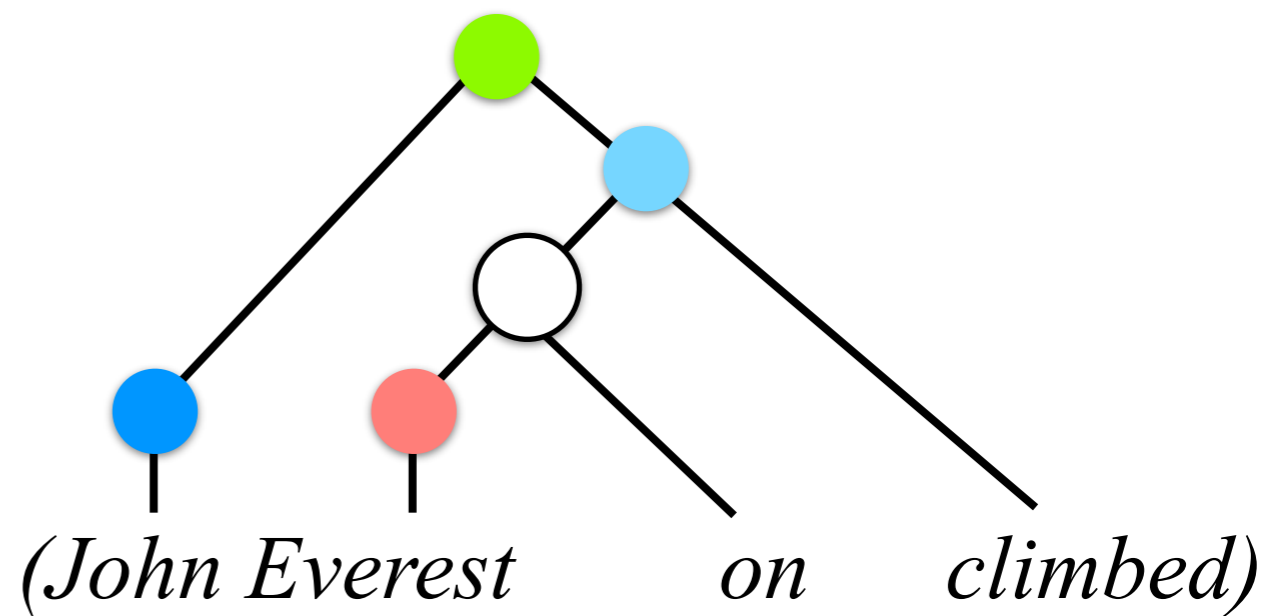


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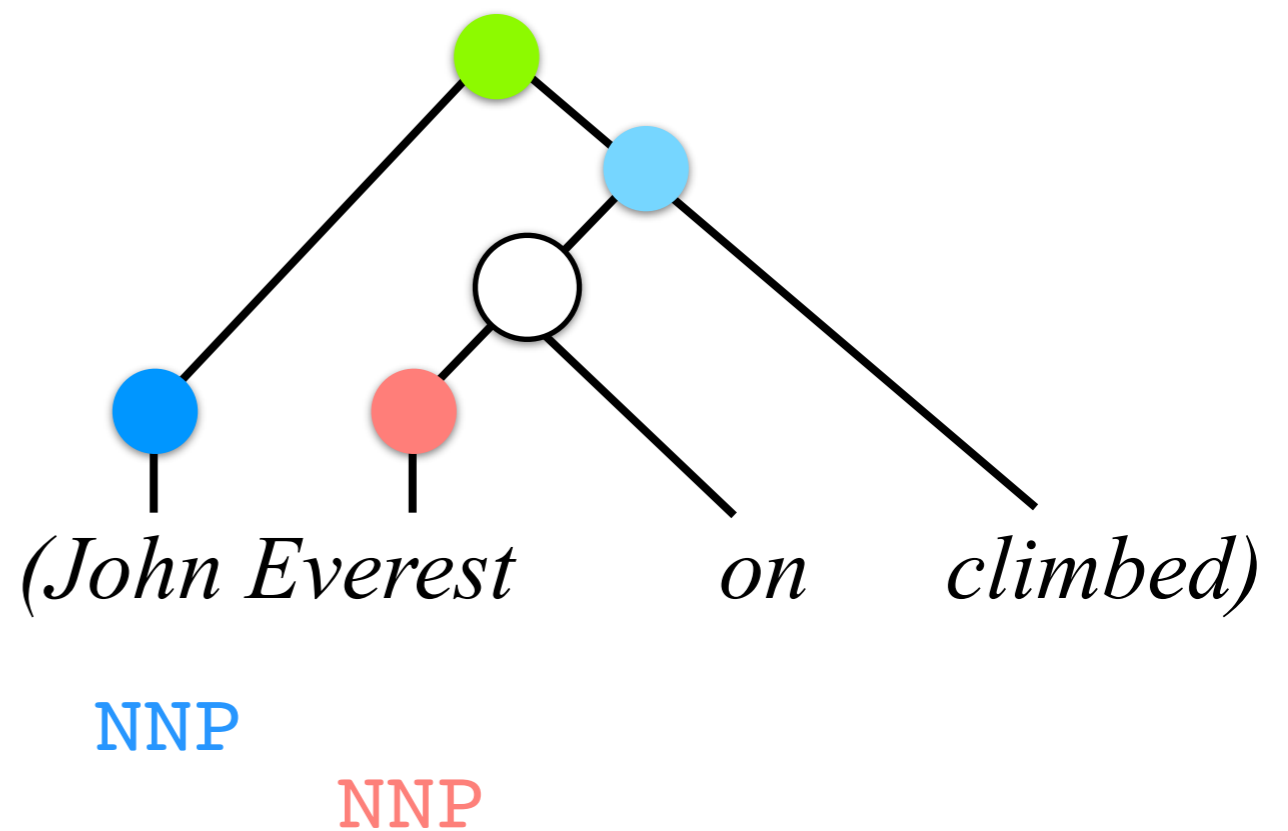
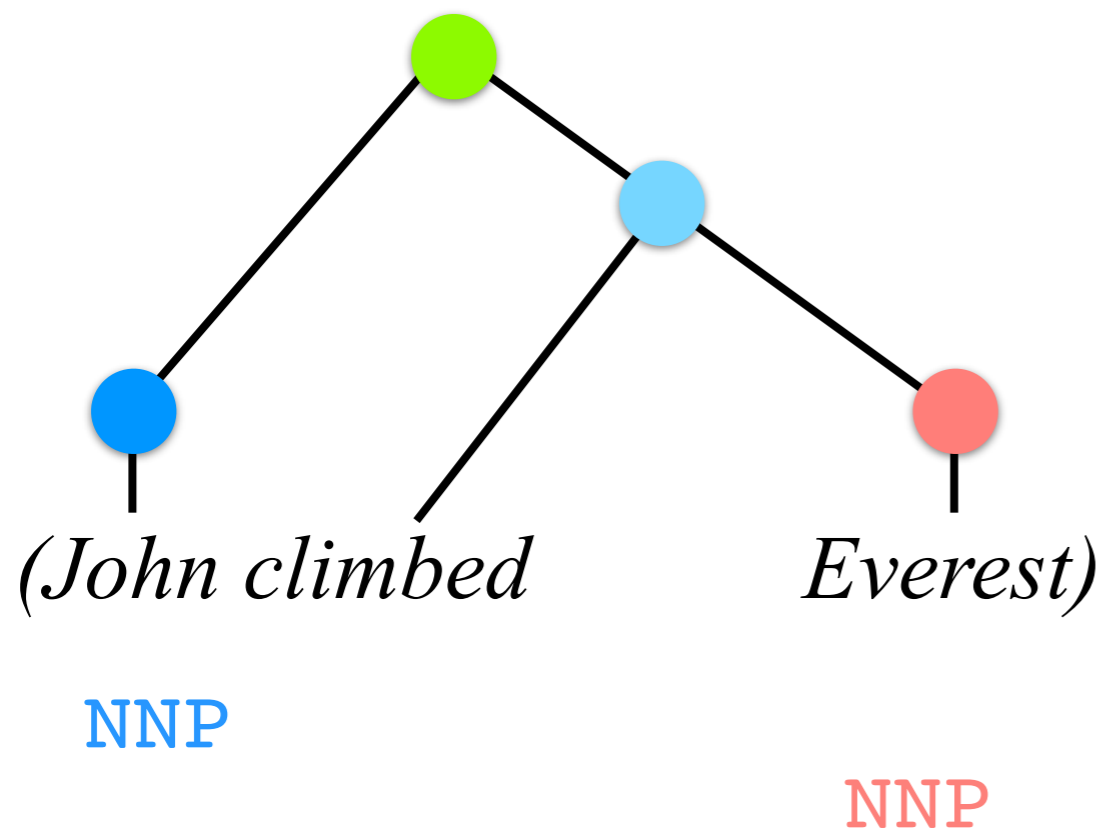
NNP



NNP

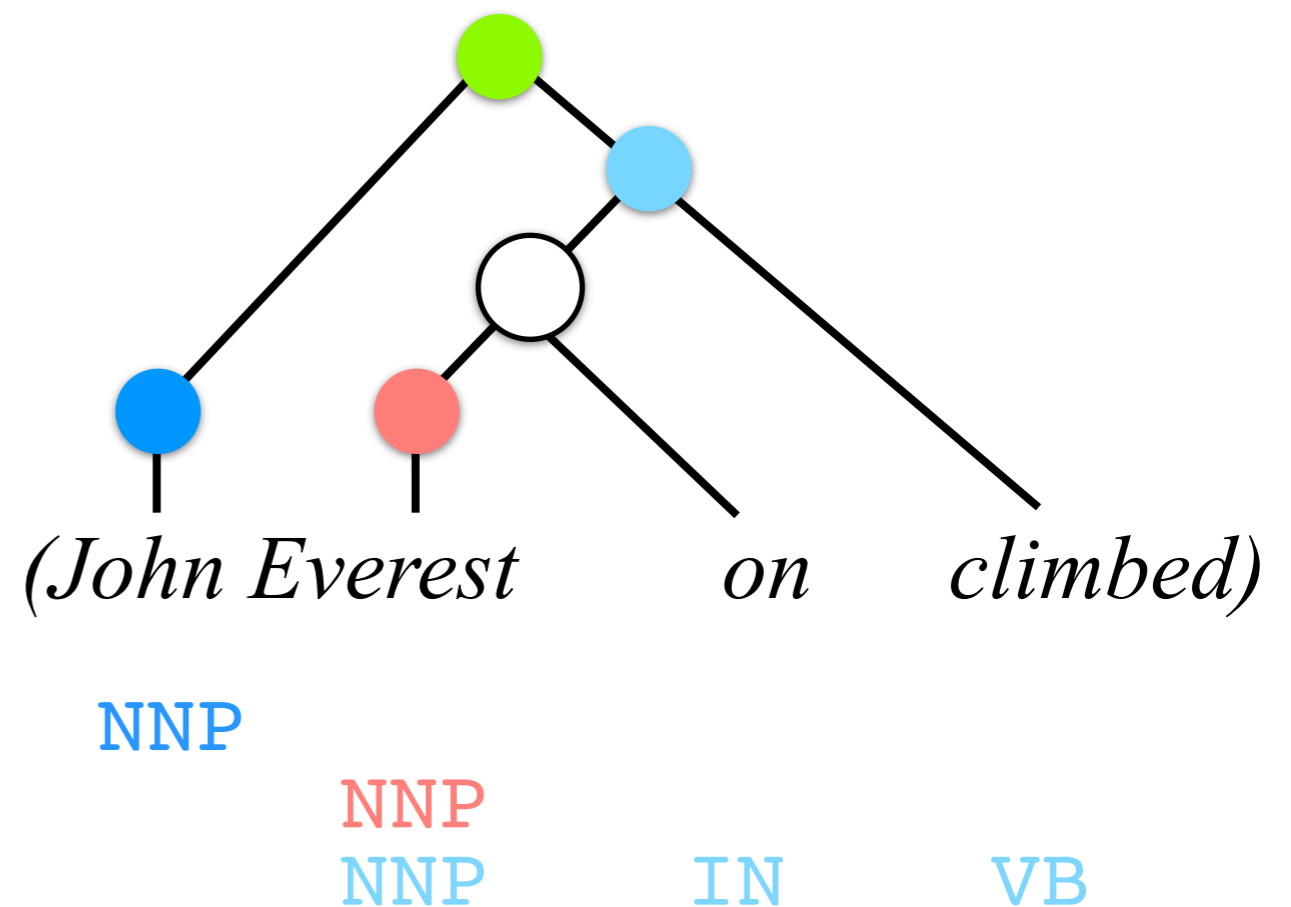
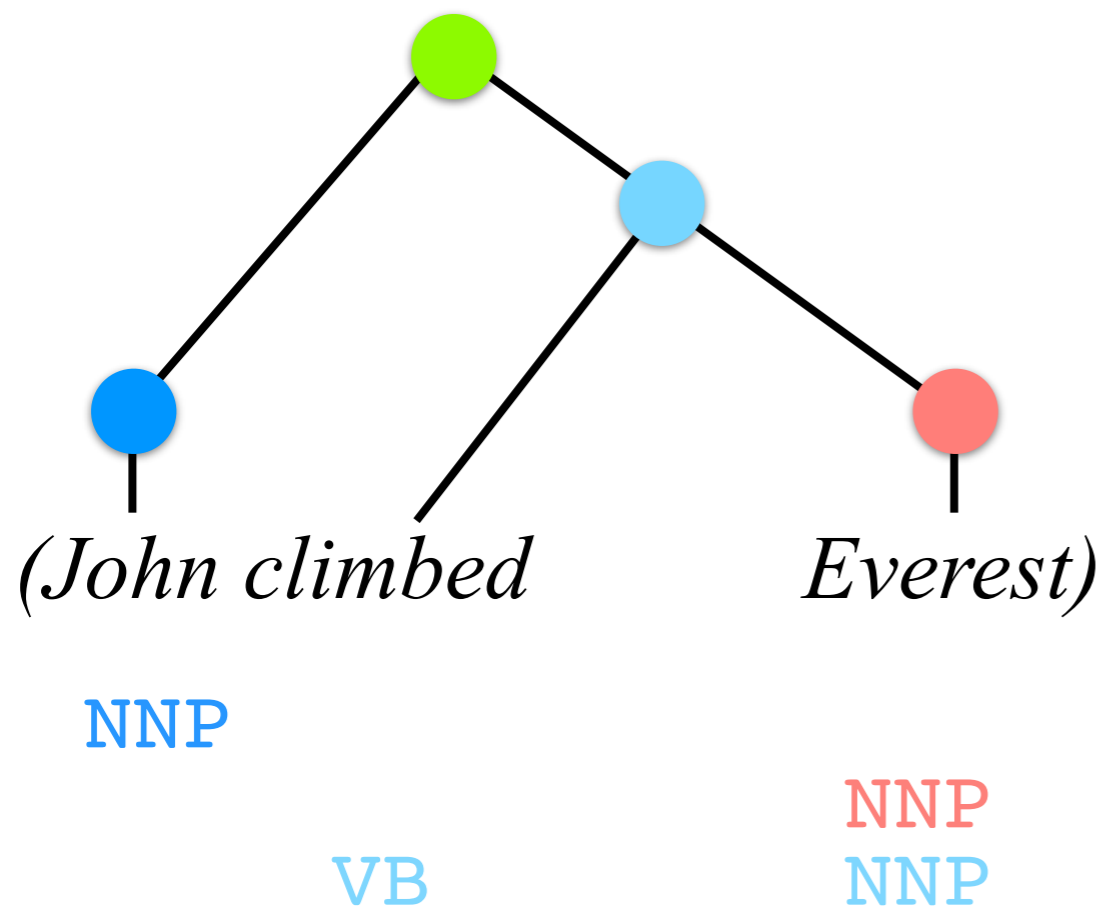
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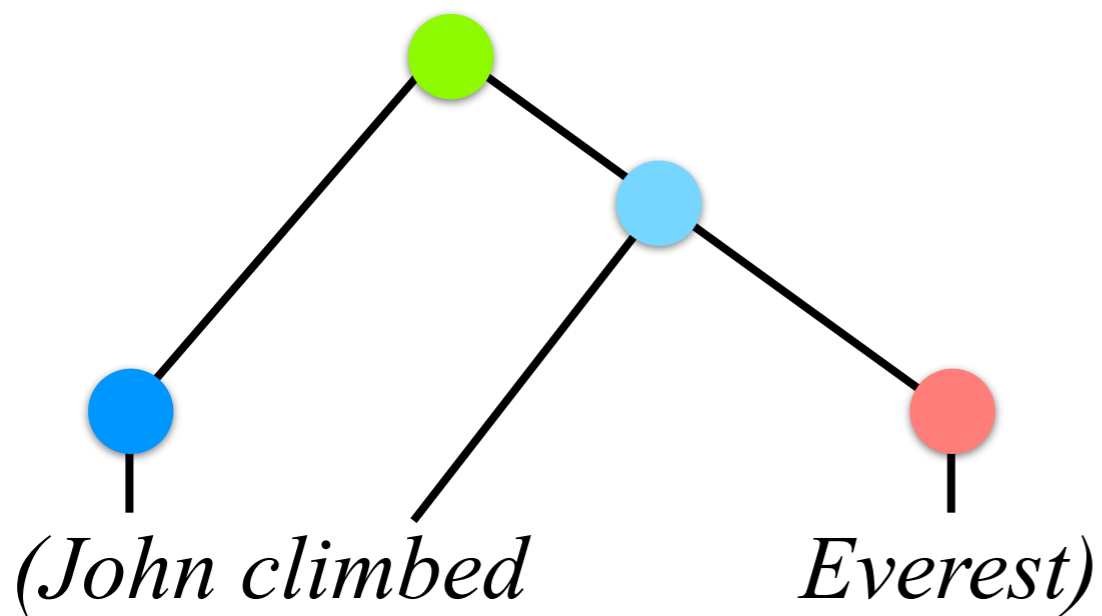
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For each *aligned* node pair, draw a *constituent pair* jointly from  $\omega$ :



NNP

VB

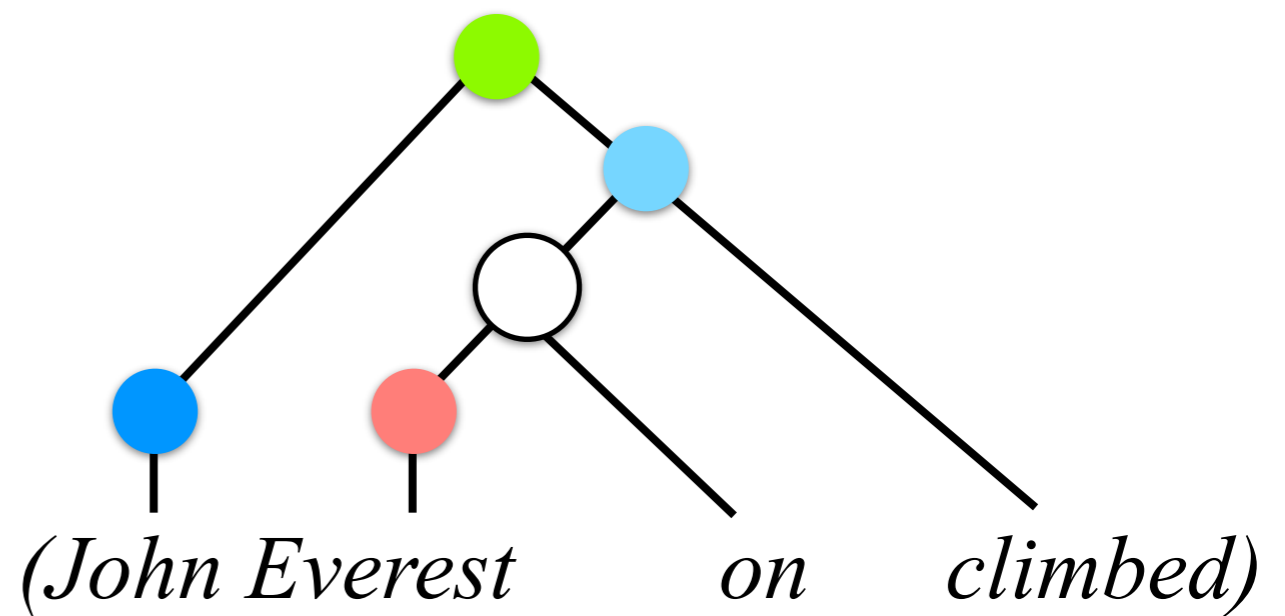
NNP

VB

NNP

NNP

NNP



NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

IN

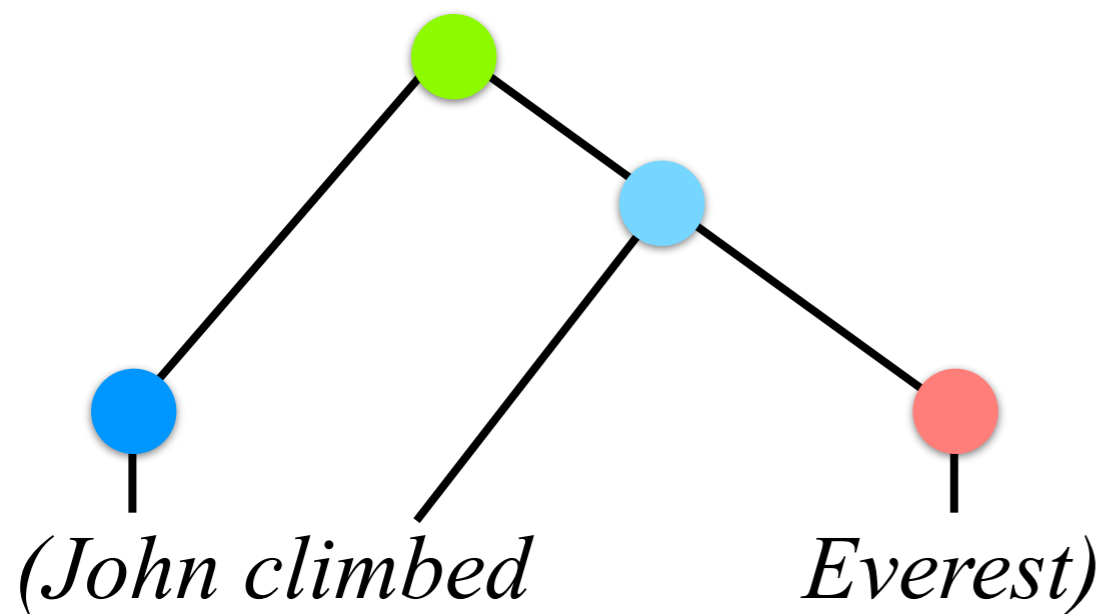
IN

VB

VB

# Generative Story

For each *unaligned* node, draw a *constituent* from language-specific parameters:



NNP

VB

NNP

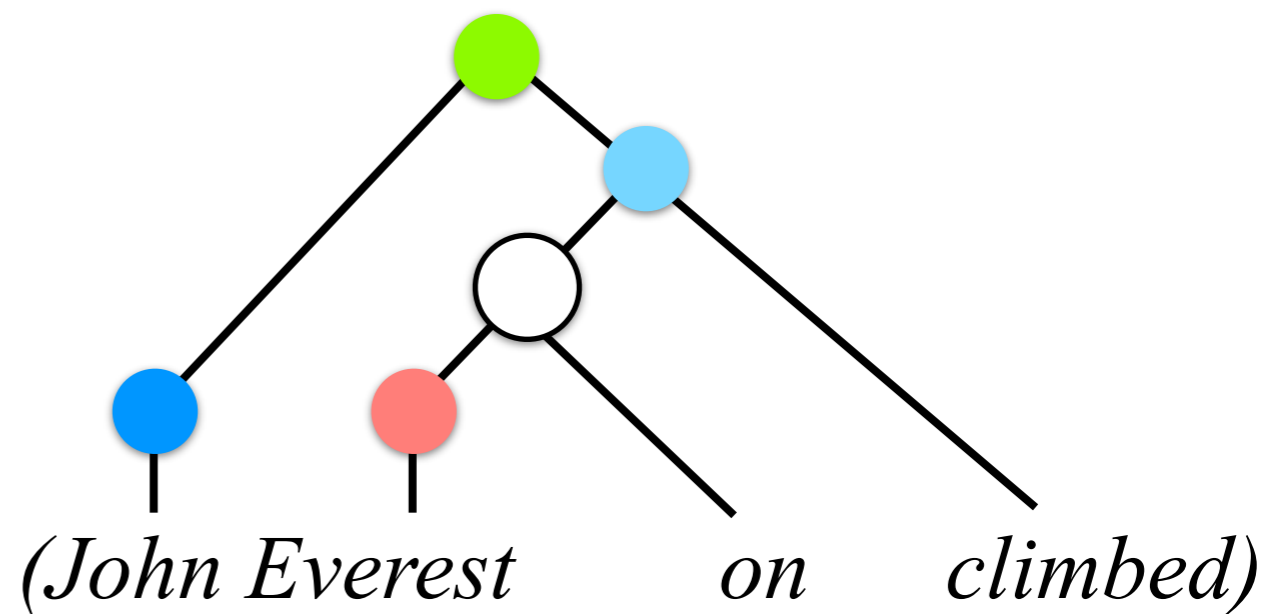
VB

Everest)

NNP

NNP

NNP



NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

IN

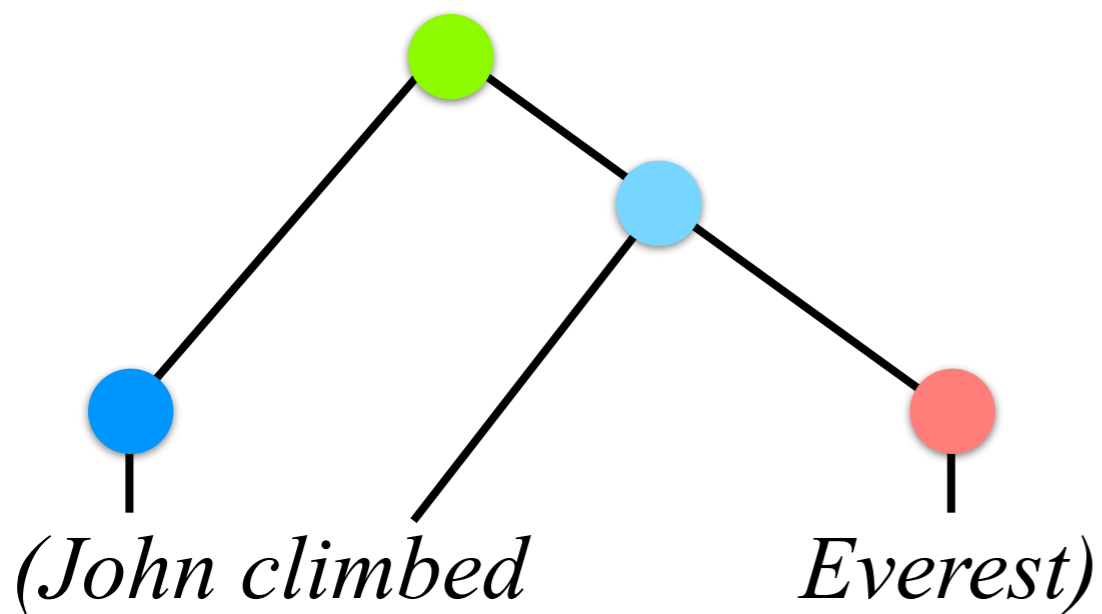
IN

VB

VB

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NNP

VB

NNP

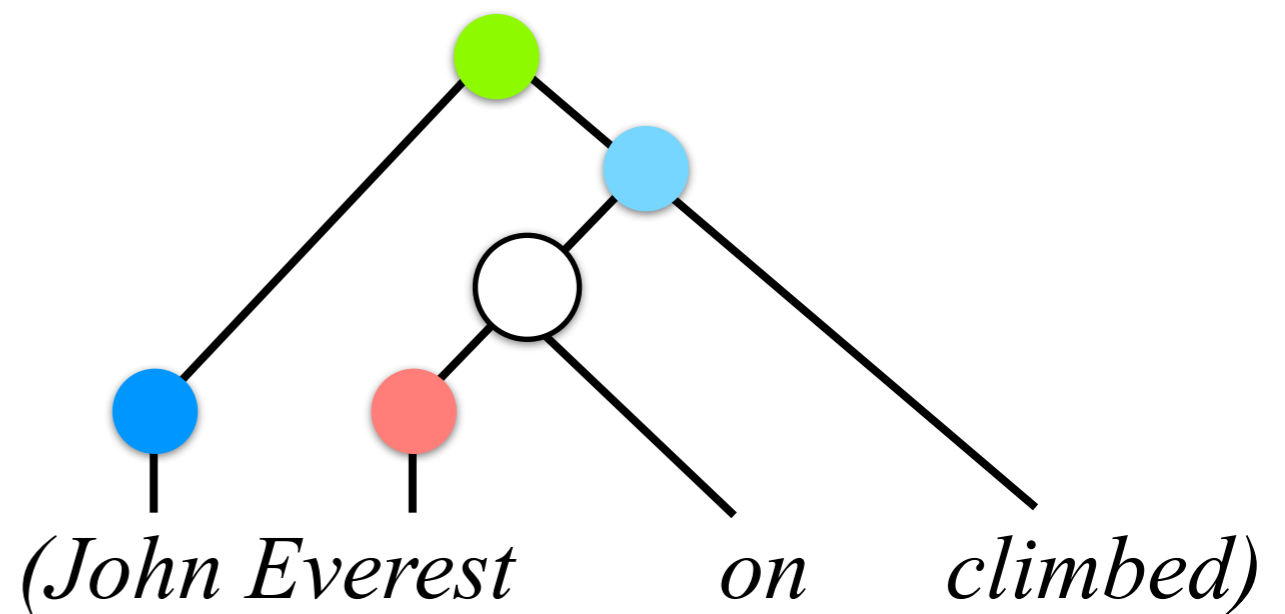
VB

Everest

NNP

NNP

NNP



NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

NNP

IN

IN

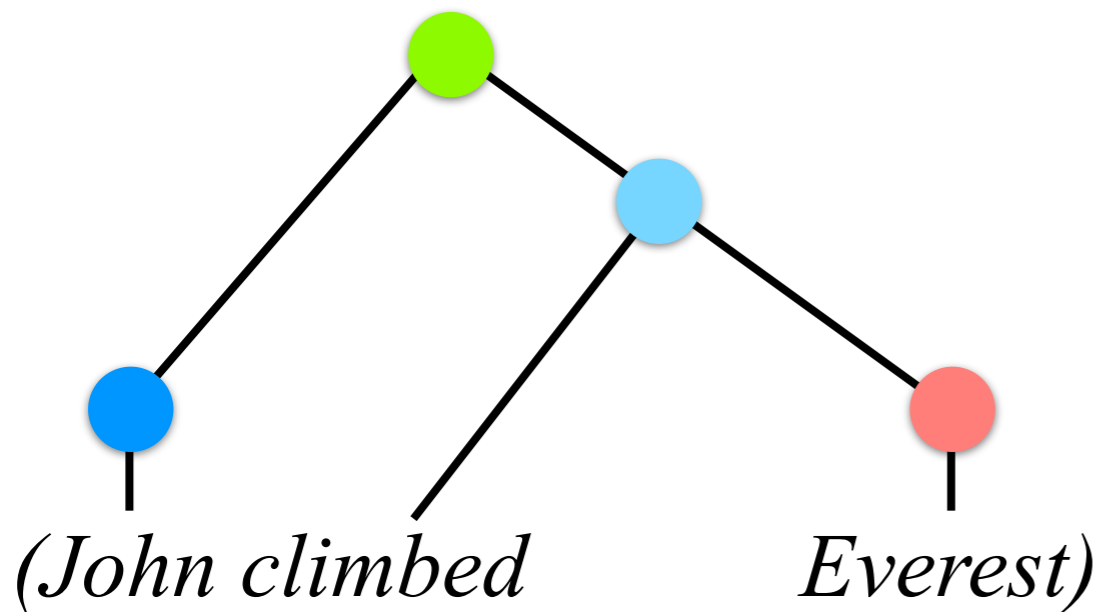
IN

VB

VB

# Generative Story

Draw word alignments between *aligned* and *unaligned* nodes according to  $\phi^+$  and  $\phi^-$ :



NNP

VB

NNP

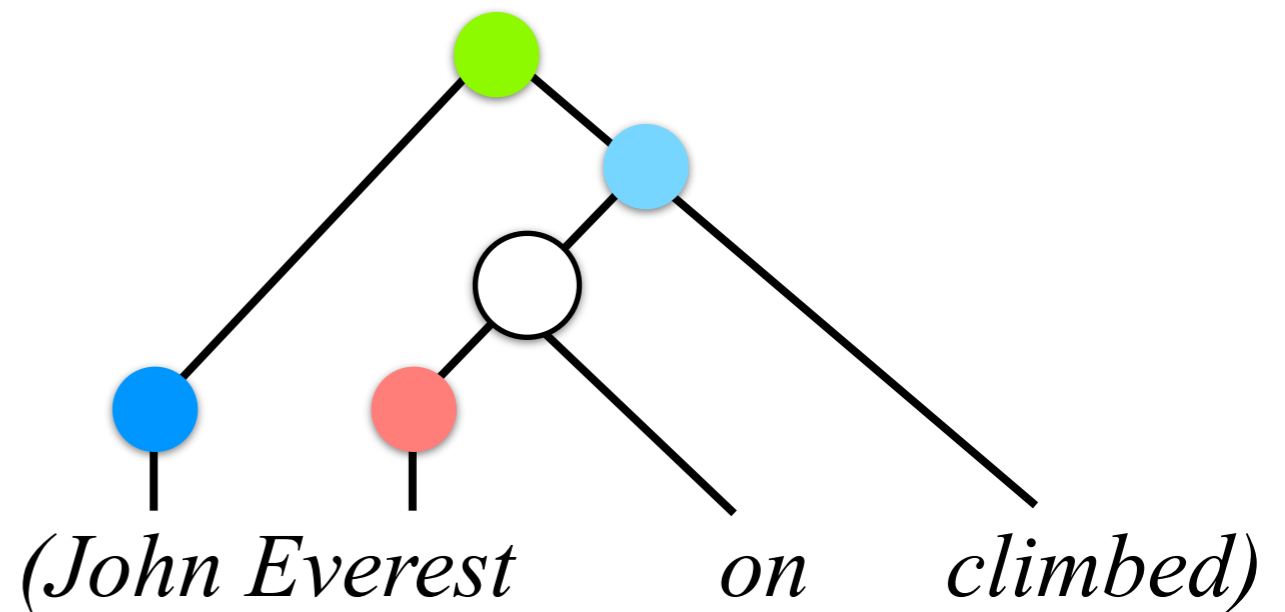
VB

Everest

NNP

NNP

NNP



NNP

NNP

IN

VB

NNP

NNP

IN

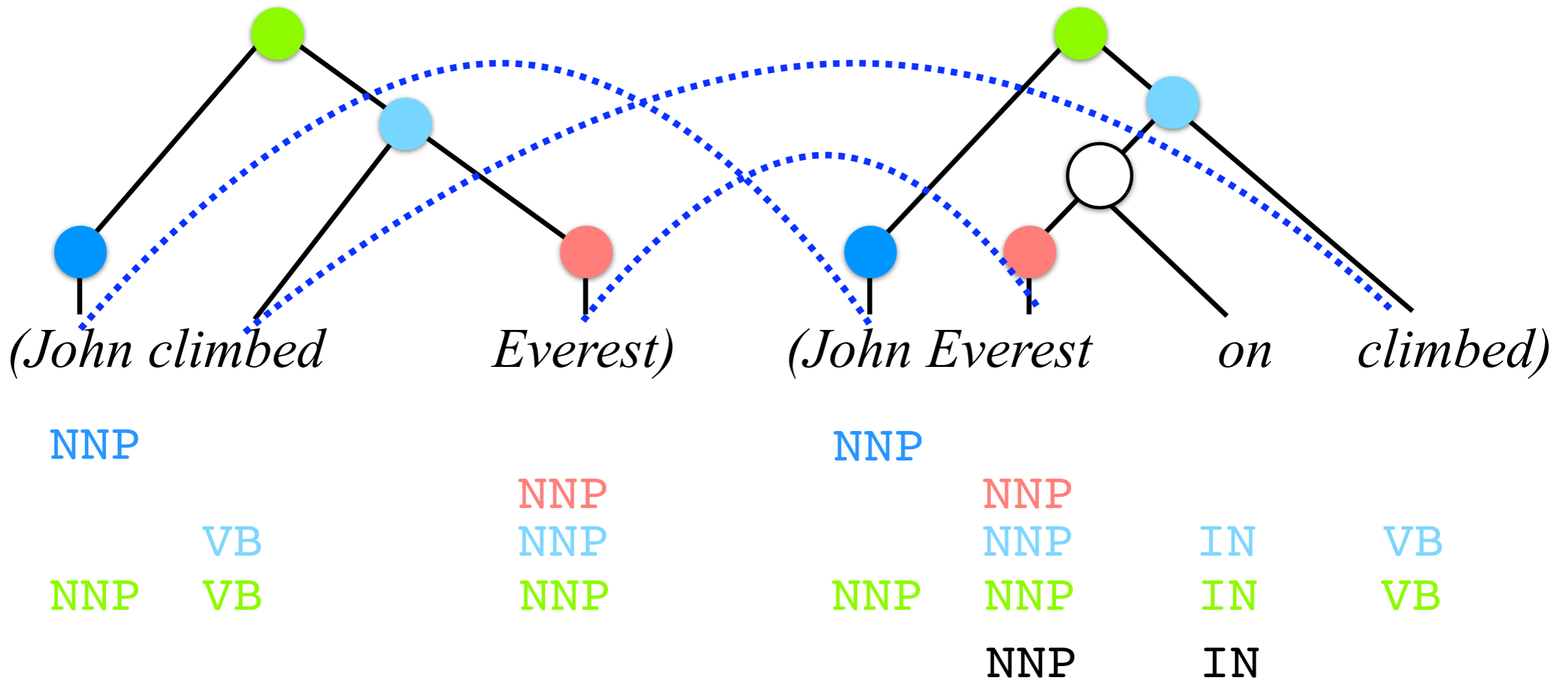
VB

NNP

IN

# Generative Story

Draw word alignments between *aligned* and *unaligned* nodes according to  $\phi^+$  and  $\phi^-$ :



# Inference: Gibbs Sampling

- Sample each aligned tree pair conditioned on others:

$$P \left( (T_1, T_2, A)_i \mid (\mathbf{T}_1, \mathbf{T}_2, \mathbf{A})_{-i} \right)$$

- Marginalize over all parameter values using standard closed forms (accumulated counts + hyperparameters)

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- Use *proposal distribution*  $Q$ , which assumes *no nodes are aligned*, to separately sample  $T_1^*, T_2^*$

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- Accept with probability:

$$\min \left\{ 1, \frac{P(T_1^*, T_2^*) Q(T_1, T_2)}{P(T_1, T_2) Q(T_1^*, T_2^*)} \right\} \text{ (Metropolis-Hastings)}$$

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- Conditionally sample tree alignment:  **$A|T_1, T_2$**

separately sample  $T_1^*, T_2^*$

# Sampling each Tree: Inside-Outside

- Recursively sample split-points from the top down
- Calculate probability of each split-point by marginalizing over all possible subtrees (“inside” table of inside-outside)

DT   NN      VB   IN   DT   JJ   NN  
*The boy ran through the haunted house*

computing  $P(T_1, T_2)$



need to marginalize over all possible alignments  $A$

---

computing  $P(T_1, T_2)$

$\Rightarrow$

need to marginalize over all possible alignments  $A$

- For  $n_1 \in T_1, n_2 \in T_2$  table  $D$  stores marginal probability of subtrees rooted at  $n_1, n_2$
- Bottom-up dynamic program computes  $D$  in time  $O(|T_1||T_2|)$

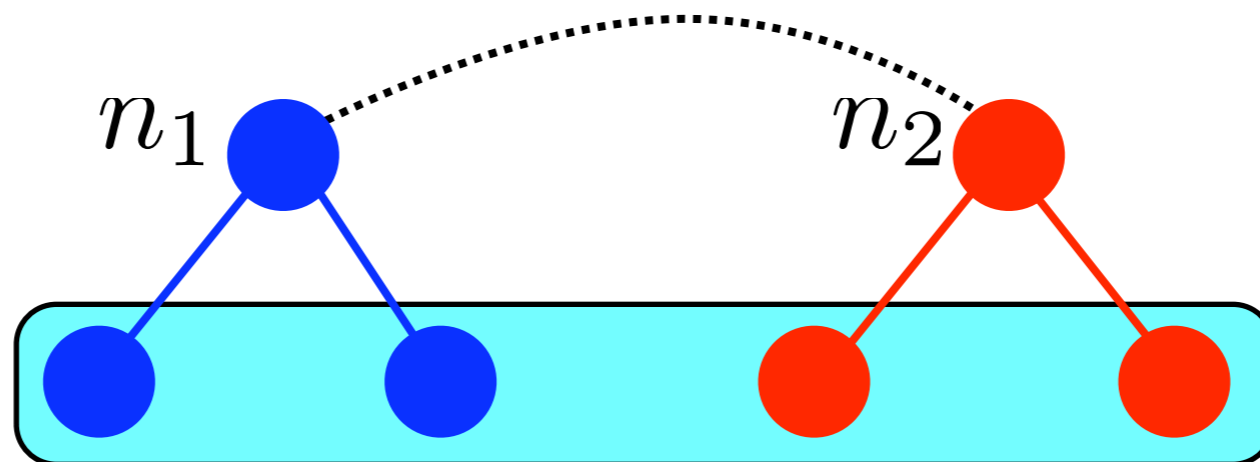
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case I:





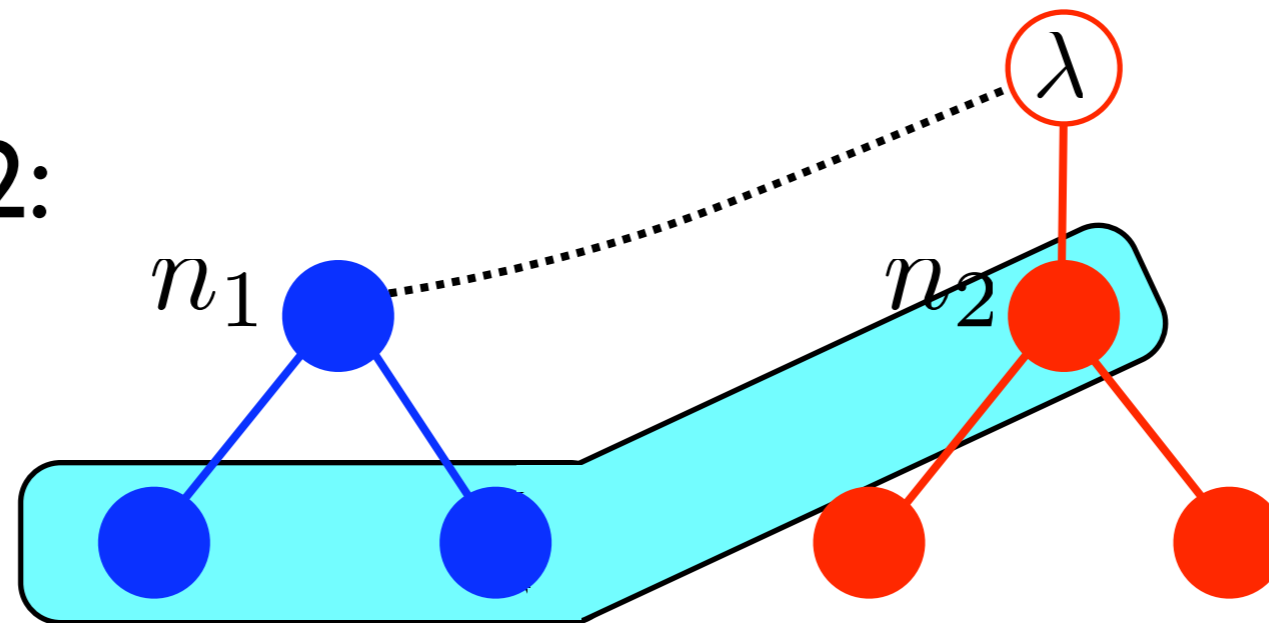
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case 2:



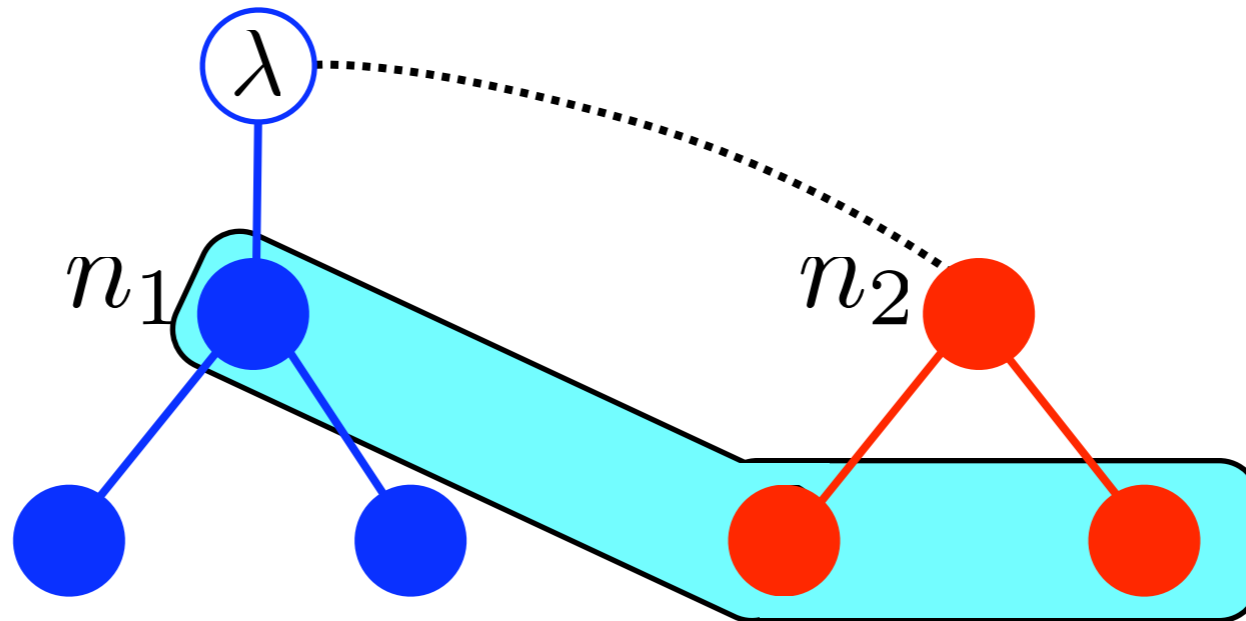
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case 3:



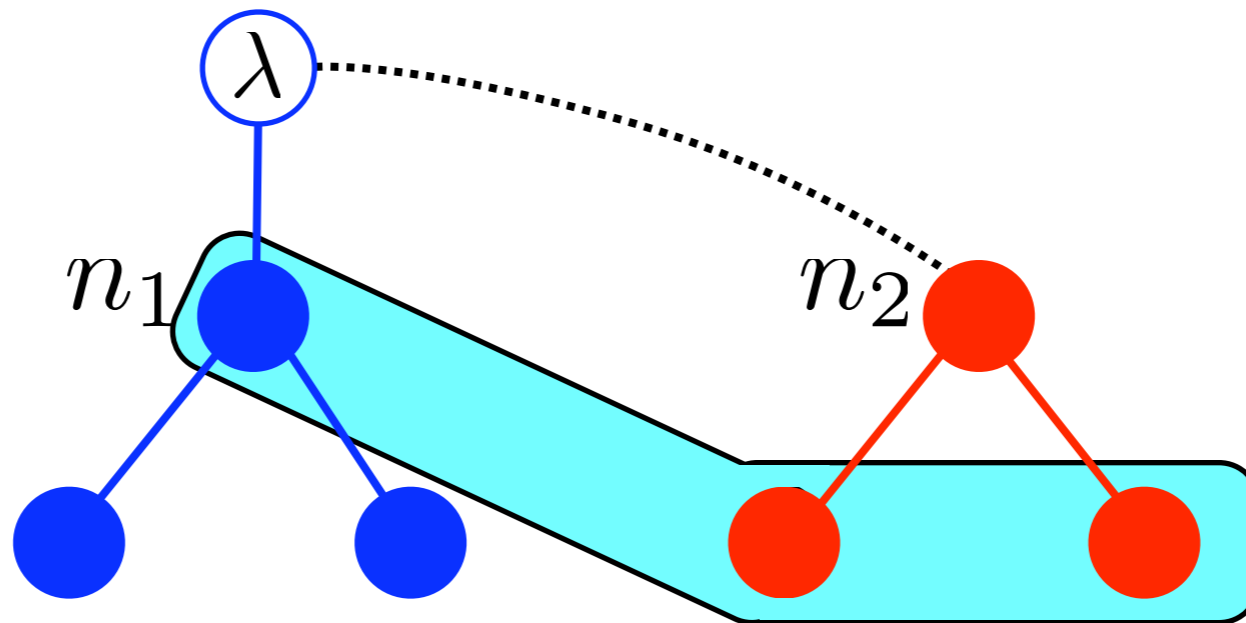
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case 3:



similar for sampling

$A|T_1, T_2$

# Experiments

Input: Bilingual POS sequences (w/ giza alignments)

Output: Binary tree bracketings

Evaluate: Bracket precision, recall, F-measure,  
on held-out *monolingual* test data.

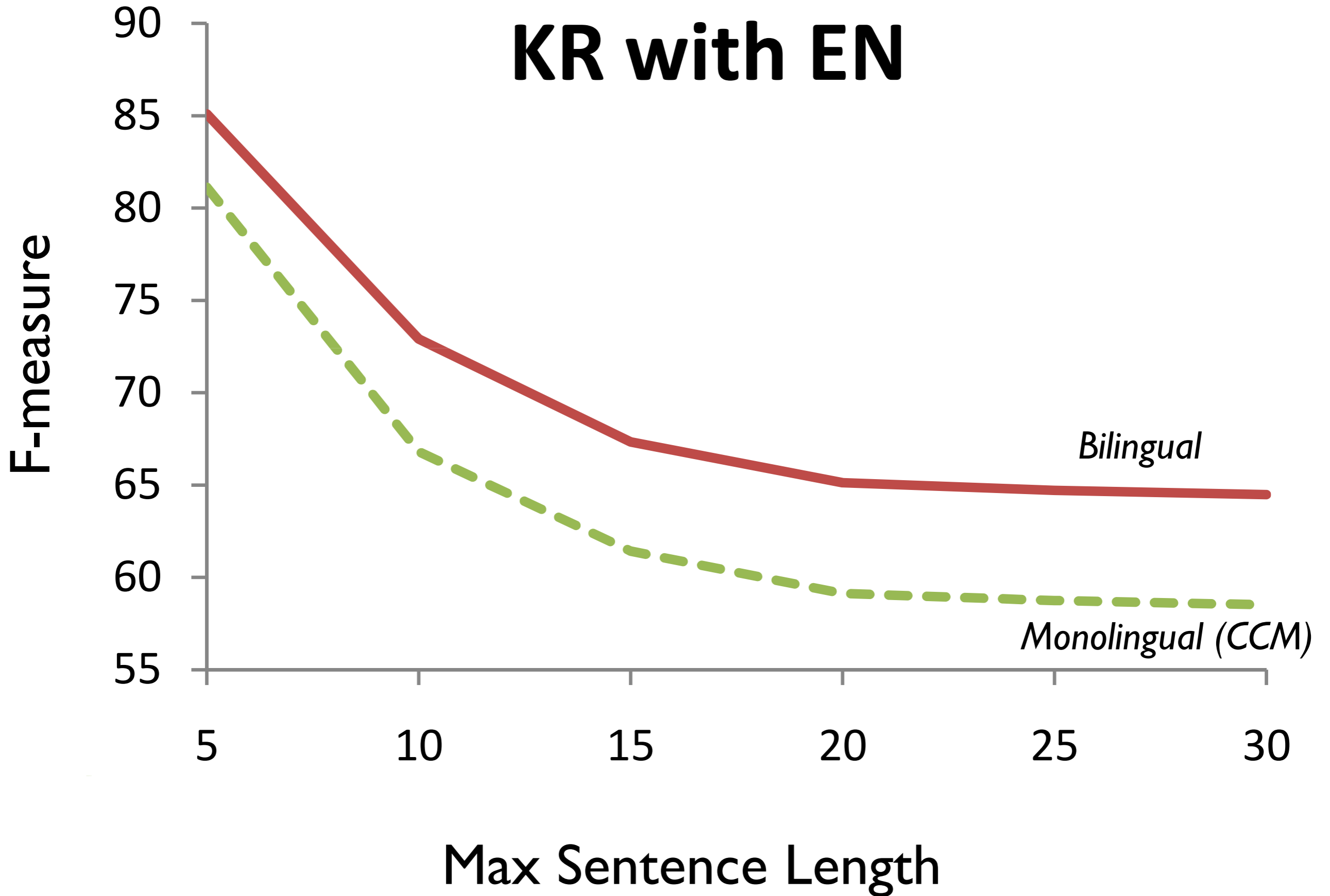
Baseline: (Bayesian) CCM [Klein & Manning 2002]

# Corpora

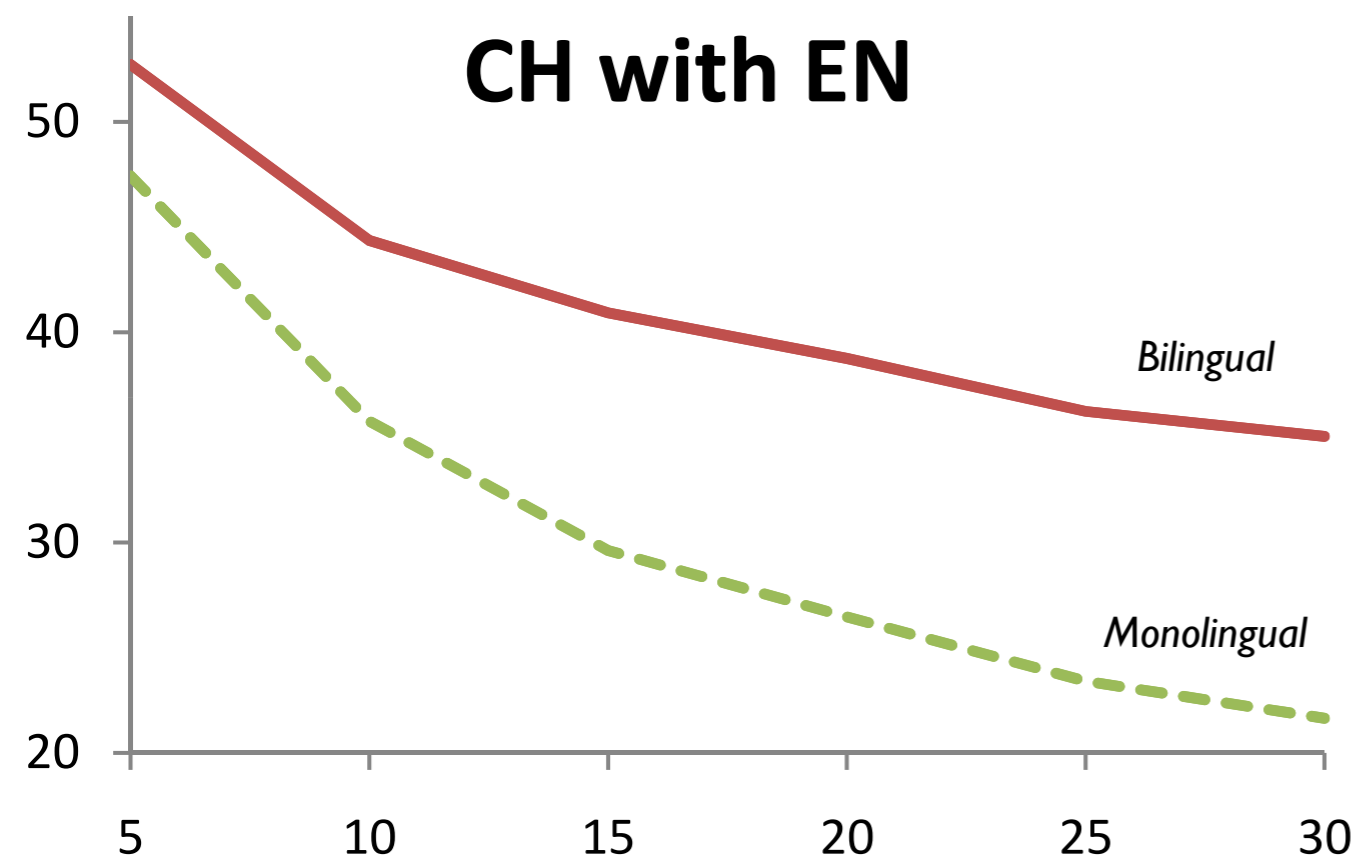
- Korean-English Treebank: 5,000 sentences
- Urdu translation of WSJ: 4,300 sentences
  - no Urdu gold brackets
- English-Chinese Treebank: 3,850 sentences

*Evaluate on various maximum sentence lengths (5 - 30)*

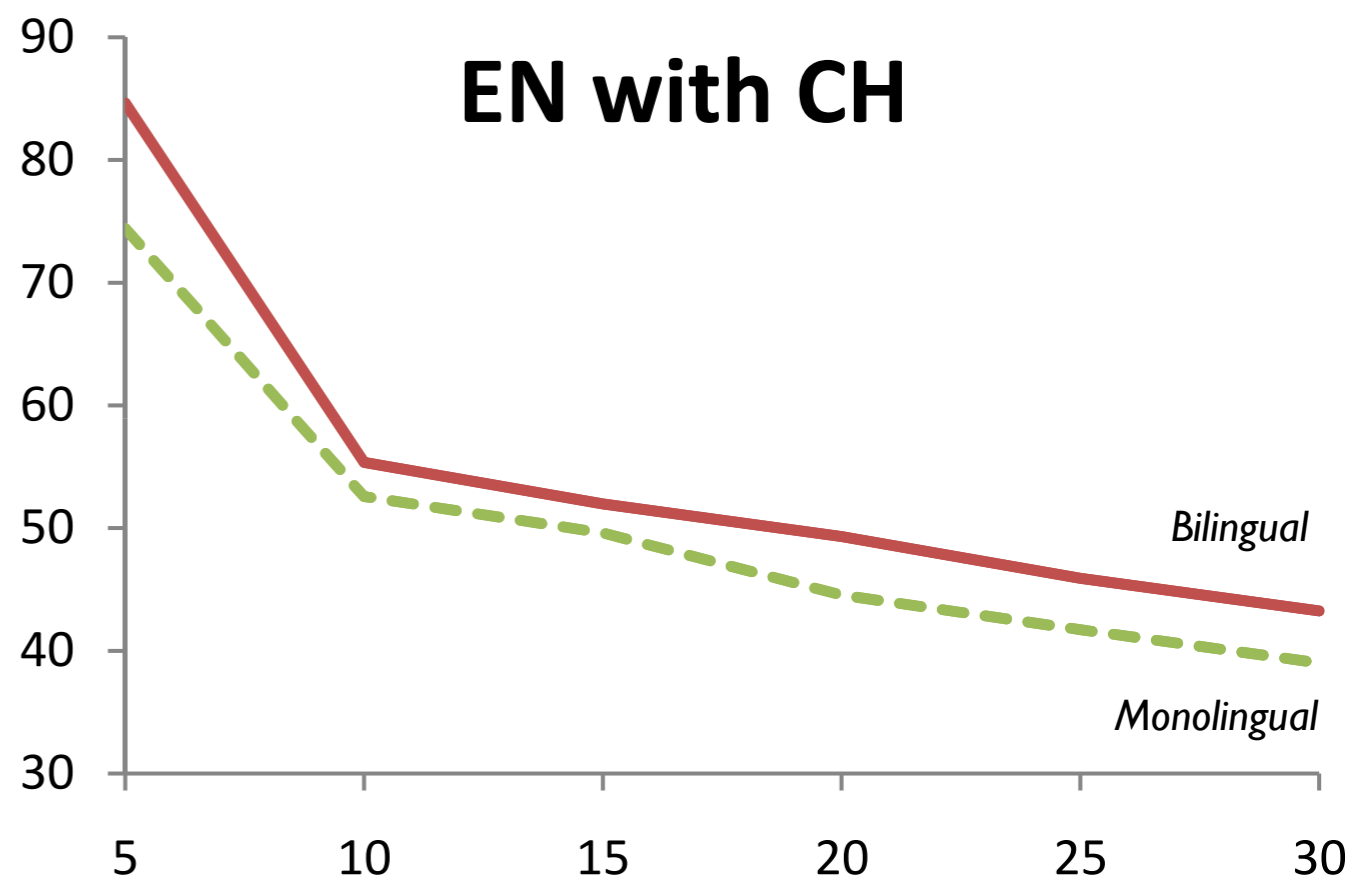
# KR with EN



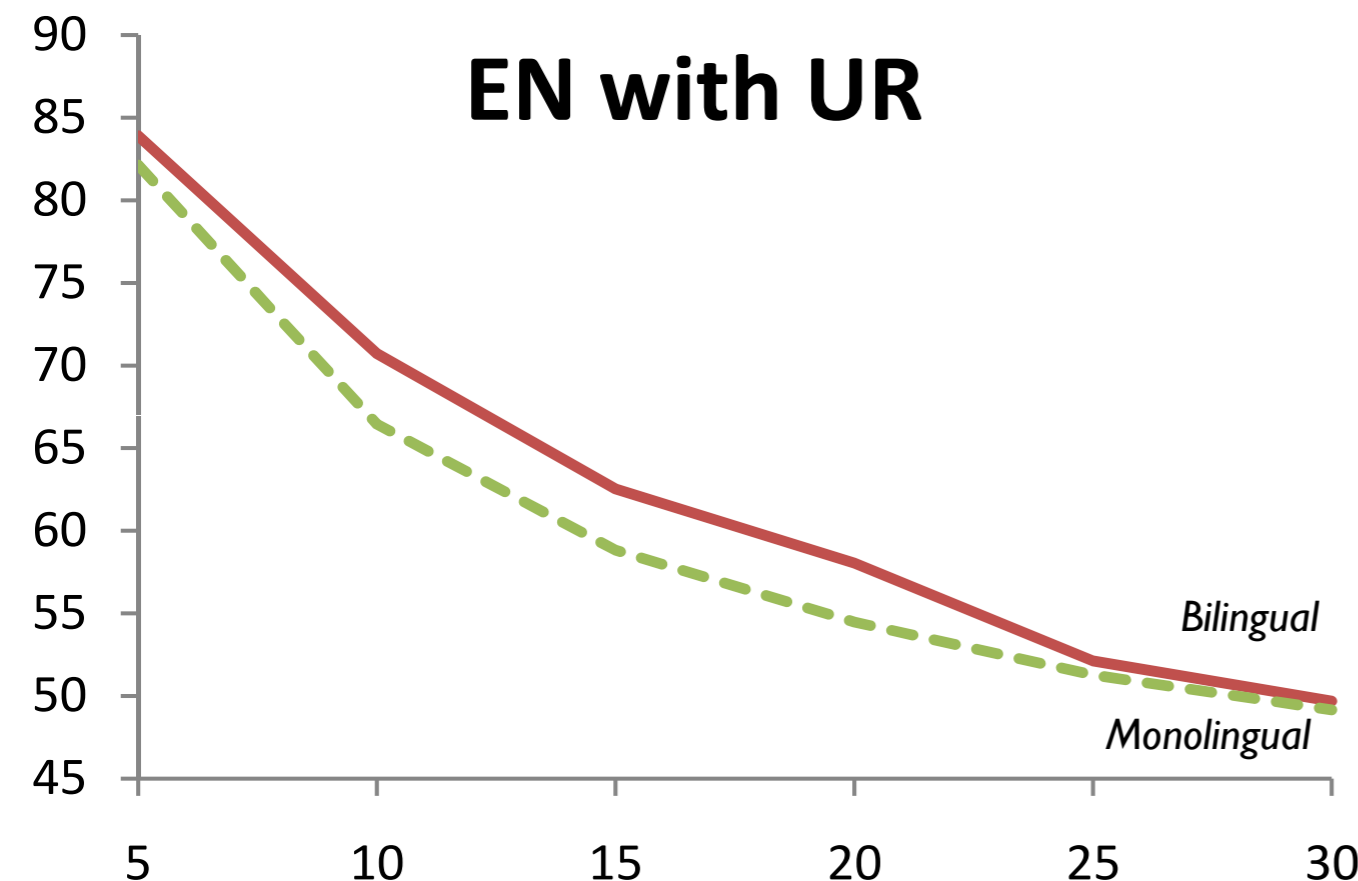
### CH with EN



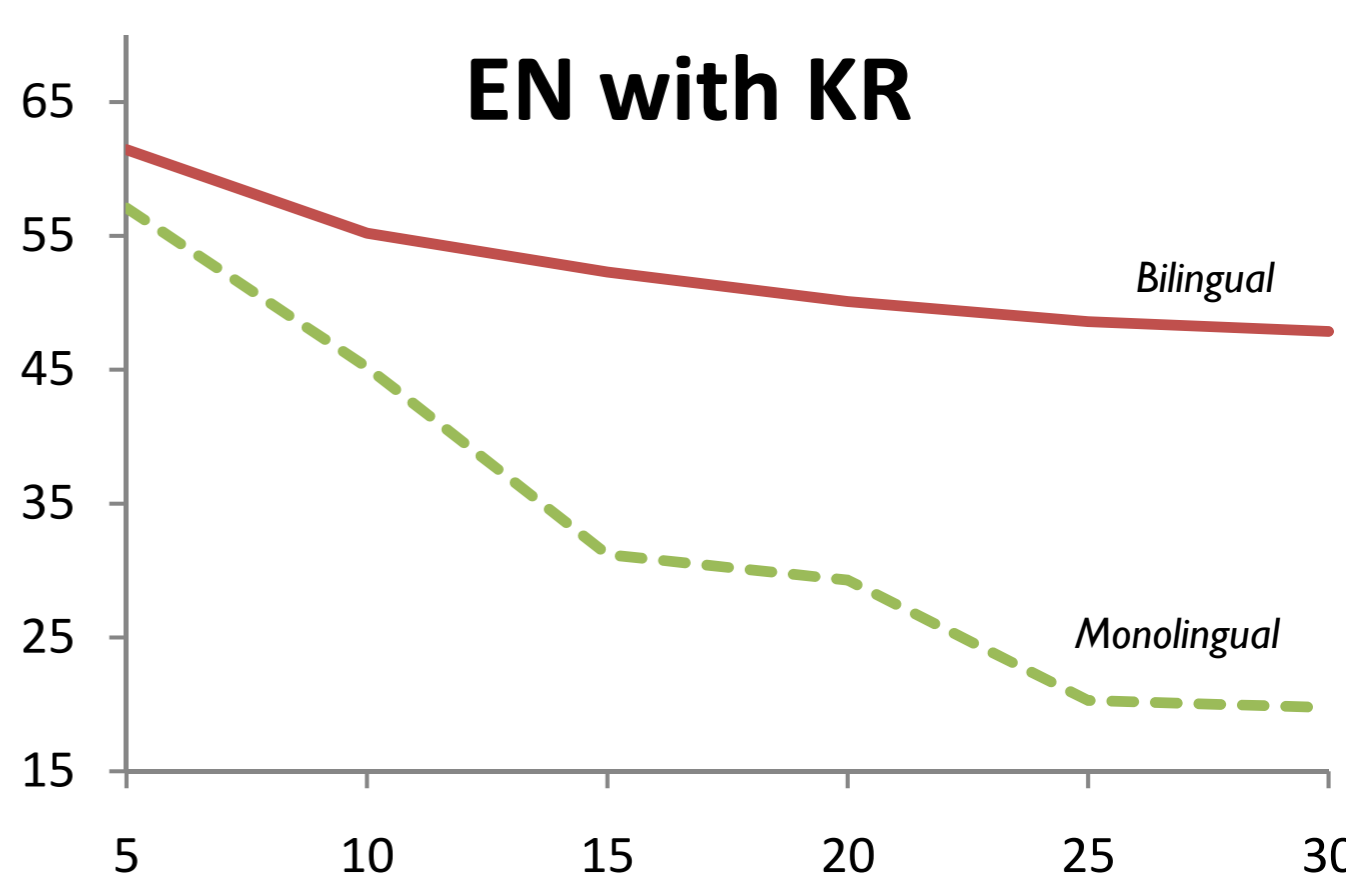
### EN with CH



### EN with UR



### EN with KR



# Results

- Average improvement across all scenarios:
  - Precision: +10
  - Recall: +8
  - F-measure: +9
- Average reduction in error relative to binary tree oracle: 19%



# Analysis

Percentage of tree  
nodes aligned

CH-EN	
UR-EN	
KR-EN	

# Analysis

Percentage of tree nodes aligned

CH-EN	71.6%
UR-EN	68.8%
KR-EN	60.2%

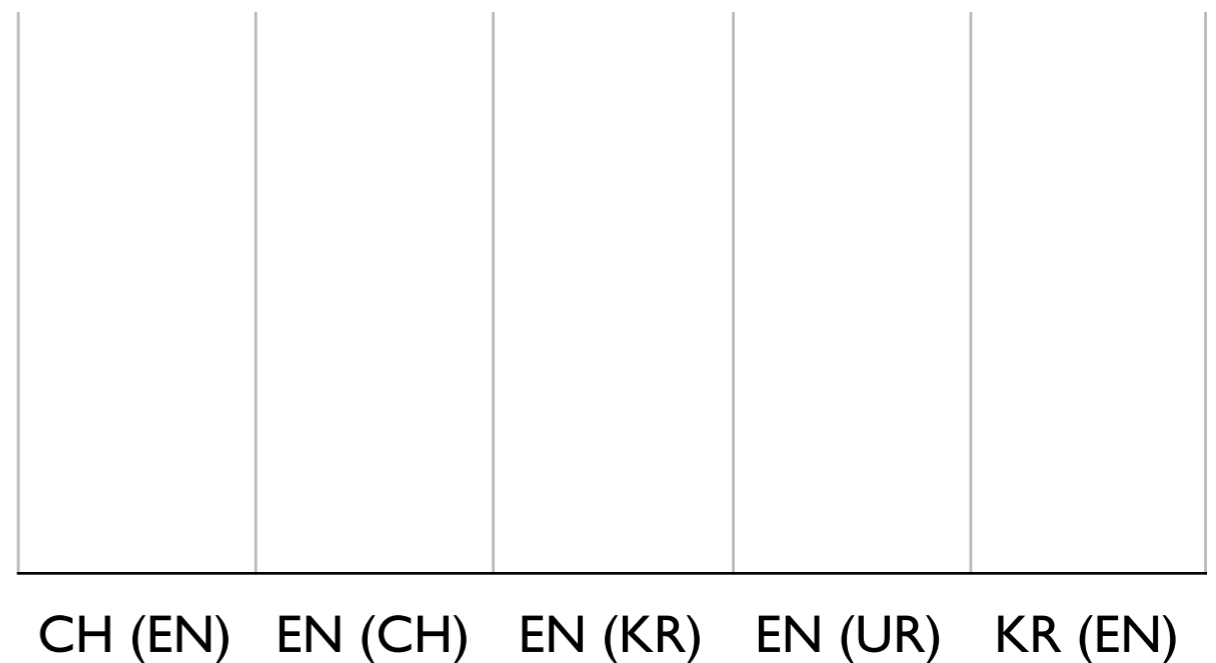
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Entropy of bracketed POS sequences

■ MONO ■ BI ■ GOLD



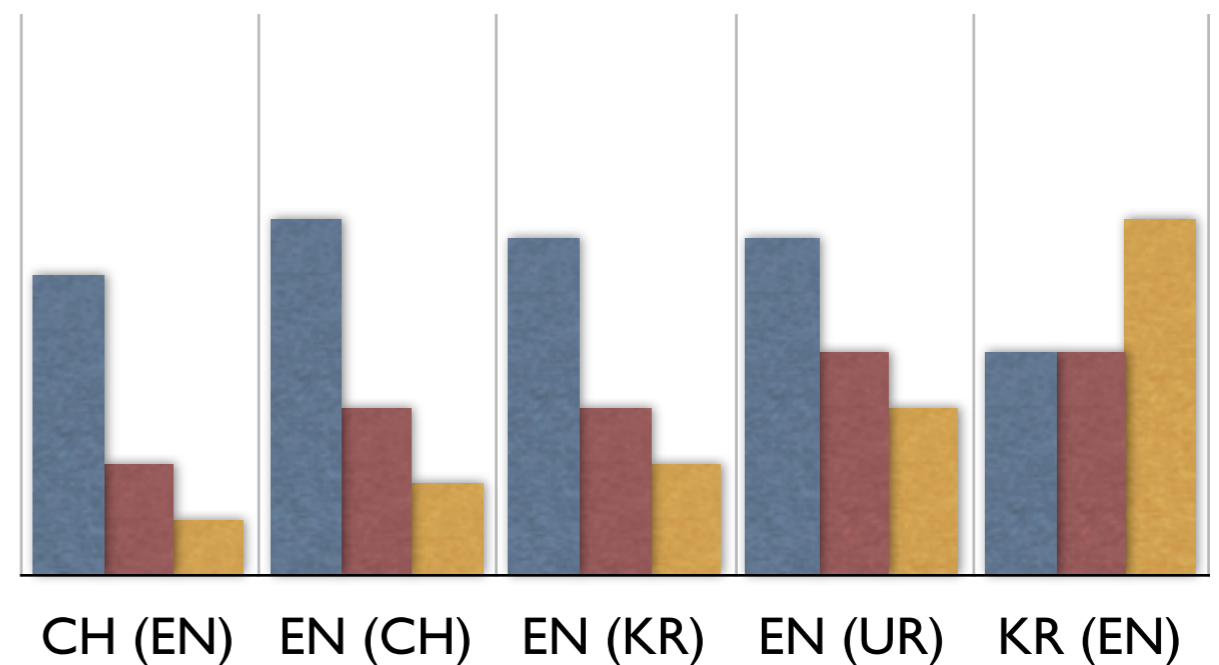
# Analysis

Percentage of tree nodes aligned

CH-EN	71.6%
UR-EN	68.8%
KR-EN	60.2%

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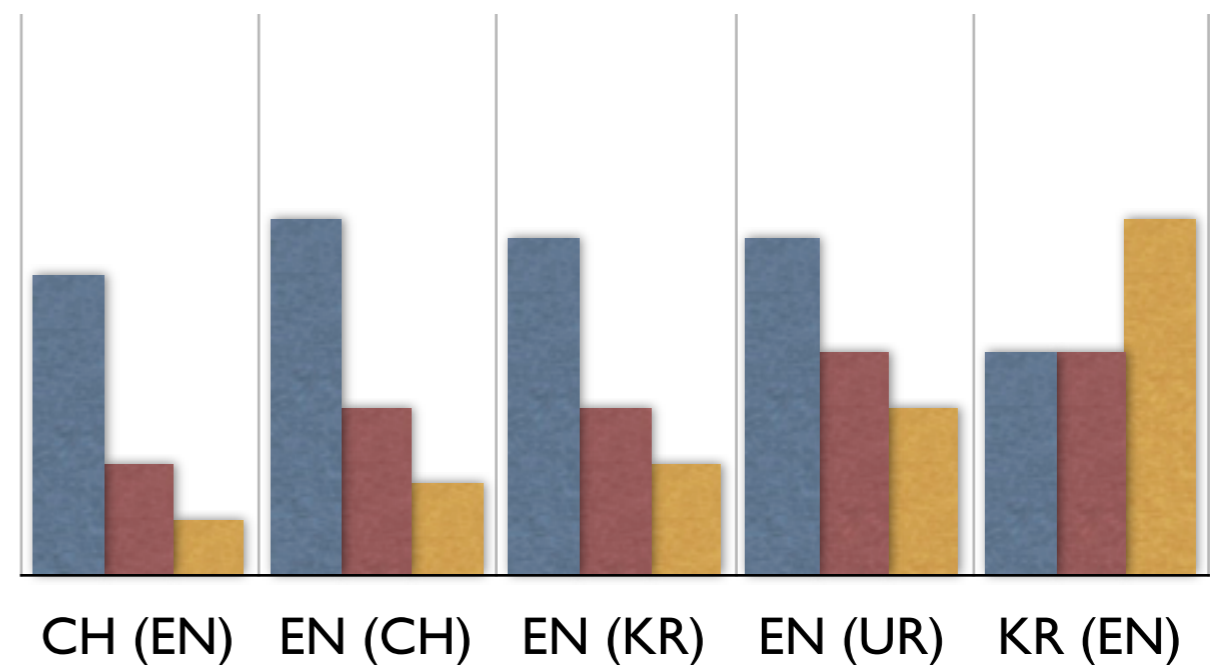
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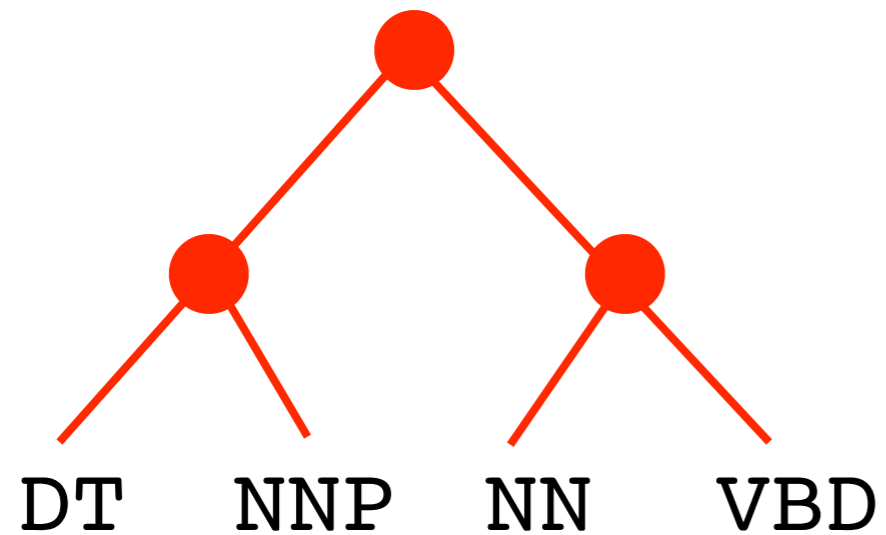


MONO	BI	GOLD
6.7	6.0	5.8

# *The FCC effort Collapsed*

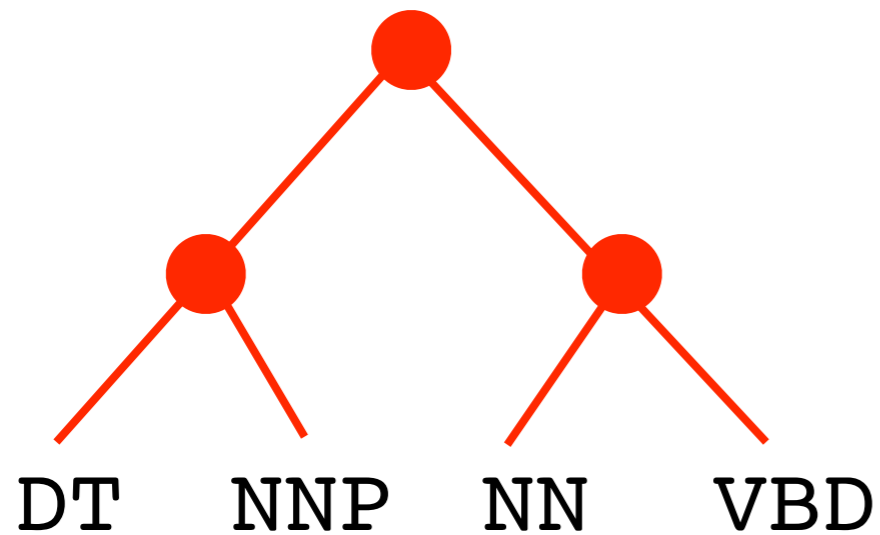
# *The FCC effort Collapsed*

*Monolingual X*

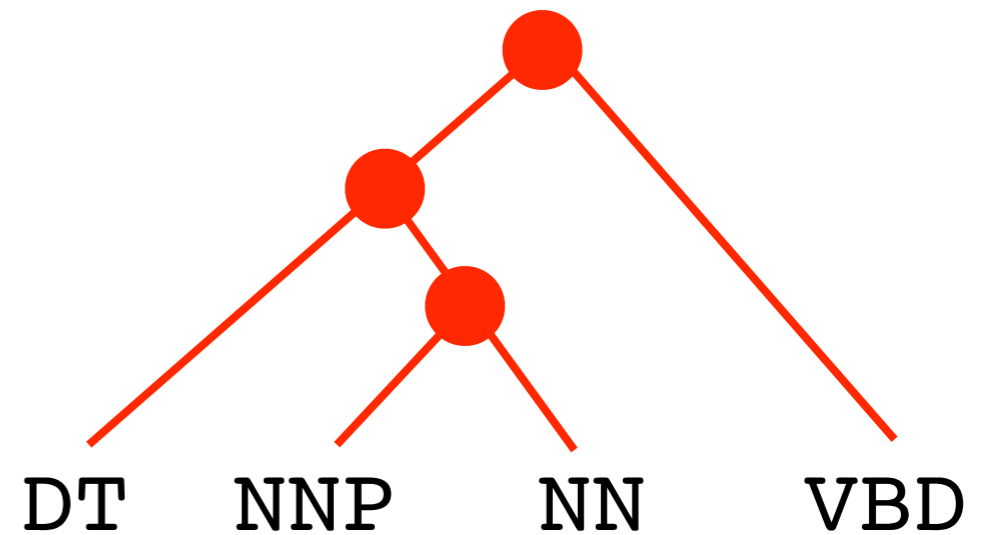


# *The FCC effort Collapsed*

*Monolingual* X



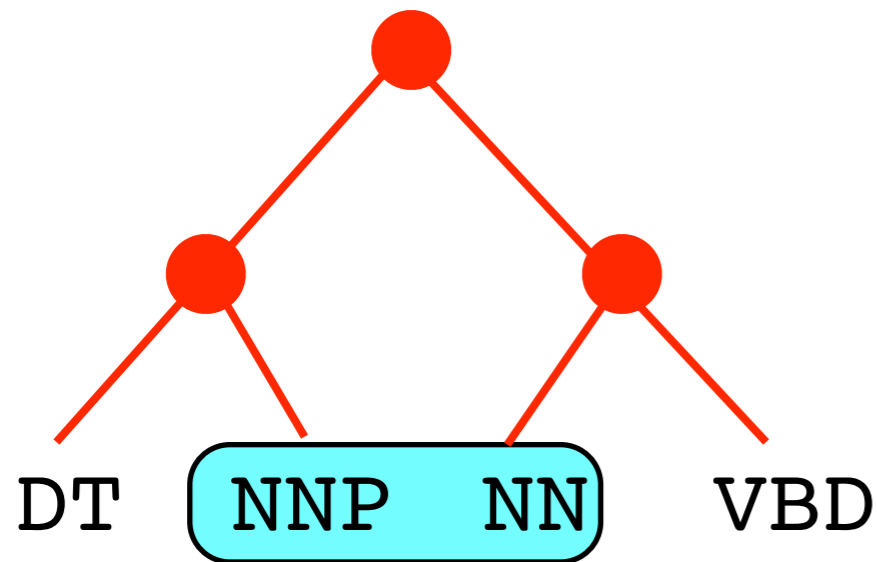
*Bilingual (EN-UR)* ✓



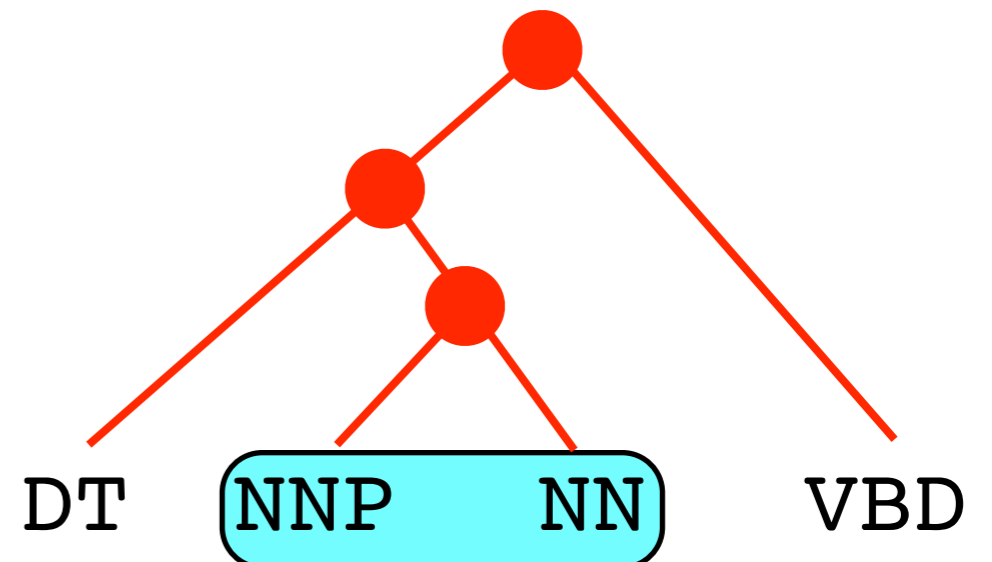


# The **FCC effort** Collapsed

Monolingual X



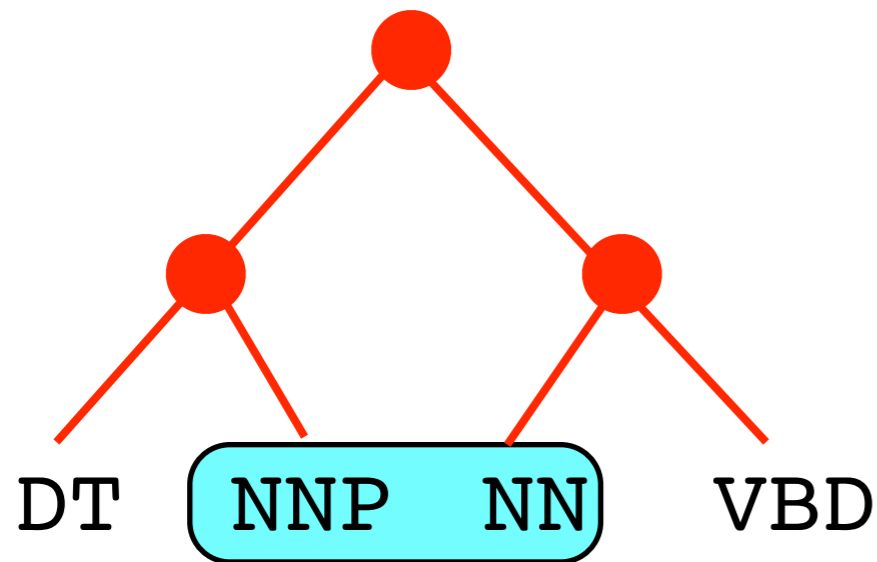
Bilingual (EN-UR) ✓



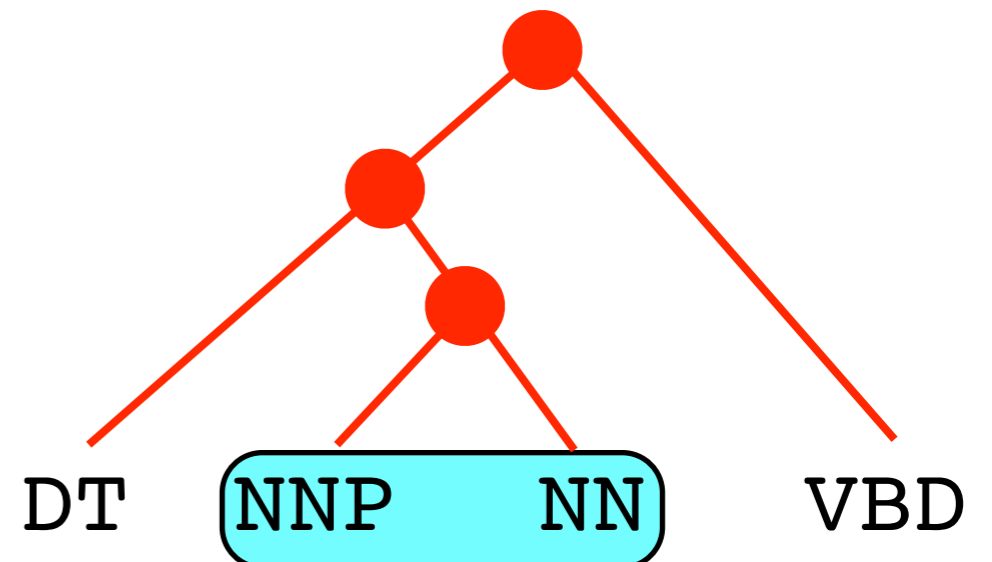
$$\Pr_{mono}(\text{NNP NN}) < \Pr_{bi}(\text{NNP NN})$$

# The **FCC effort** Collapsed

Monolingual X



Bilingual (EN-UR) ✓



$$Pr_{mono}(\text{NNP NN}) < Pr_{bi}(\text{NNP NN})$$

English:

NNP NN

Urdu:

NNP OF NN

# Conclusions

Key idea: Use bilingual cues to learn better unsupervised monolingual models of grammar

- Adapt *Tree Alignment* to probabilistic setting:
  - ▶ Discover partial shared structure
  - ▶ Allow language-specific divergence
  - ▶ Computationally tractable
- Achieve improved performance on five corpora, across all sentence lengths

**Thank you!**

# Analysis

Entropy of constituent tag sequences

Percentage of a tree node

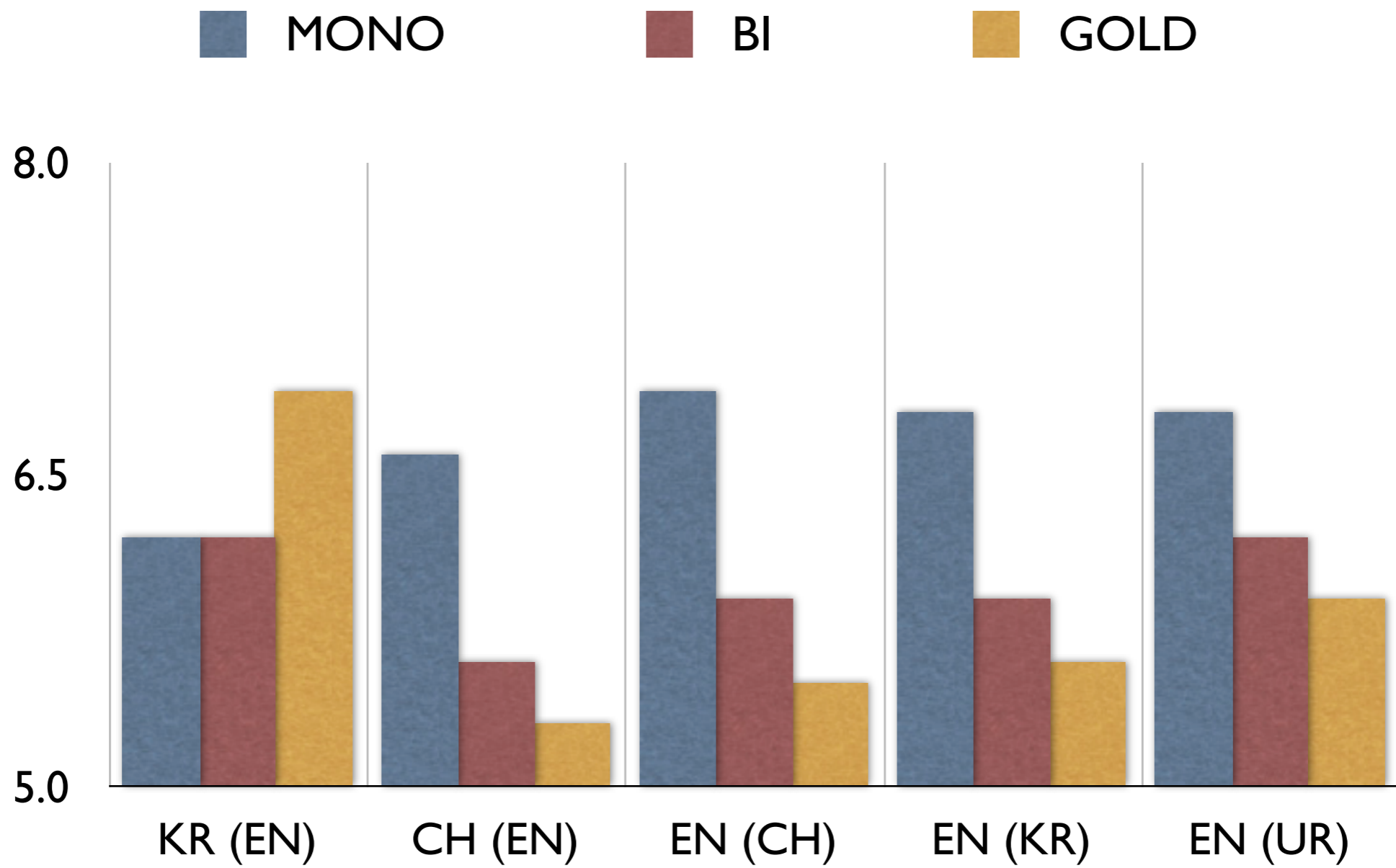
		<i>MONO</i>	<i>BI</i>	<i>GOLD</i>
	$CH_{EN}$	6.6	5.6	5.3
$CH-EN$	$EN_{CH}$	6.9	5.9	5.5
$UR-EN$	$KR_{EN}$	6.2	6.2	6.9
$KR-EN$	$EN_{KR}$	6.8	5.9	5.6
	$EN_{UR}$	6.8	6.2	5.9
	avg	6.7	6.0	5.8

# Analysis

Entropy of constituent tag sequences

Percentage of a tree node

			<i>MONO</i>	<i>BI</i>	<i>GOLD</i>
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$CH-EN$	71.	$EN_{CH}$	6.9	5.9	5.5
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		$EN_{UR}$	6.8	6.2	5.9
		avg	6.7	6.0	5.8



Morphology:  
acl 2008

POS tagging:  
emnlp 2008  
naacl 2009

Syntax:  
acl 2009 (this talk)





