

# A Finite-State Functional Grammar Architecture

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# PLAN

- New proposal and its context
- FS-Functional grammar
  - Output: dependency types
  - Input: Discourse Plans
  - FS-conversion
- Expressiveness/Complexity
- Conclusion

# Generativistic architectures

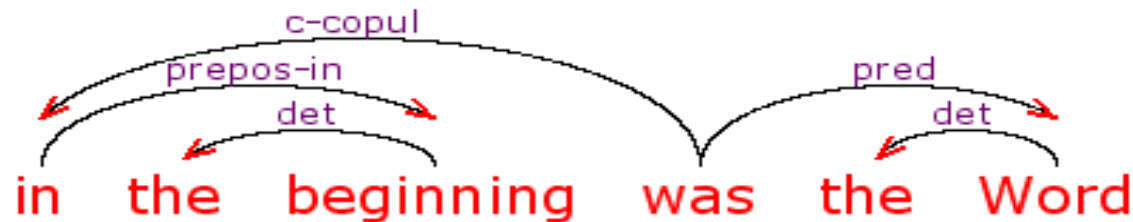
- **Chomskian** (enumerative and autonomous wrt semantics)
  - **Generative Semantics** [G.Lakoff, J.Ross, P.Postal, J.McCawley] (deep-structure  $\Rightarrow$  c-structure)
- **Meaning-Text Theory** [I.Mel'čuk] (multi-level, rule-based, meaning graphs  $\Rightarrow$  d-structure)
- **Prague Functional Generative Description** [P.Sgall, E.Hajičova et al., G-J.Kruijff] (tectogrammatical structure = abstract syntax + topic/focus articulation)  $\Rightarrow$  surface structure)

## FS Functional Grammar

- generates surface forms, their dependency types and the word order from underspecified meaning structures: **Discourse Plans** (DP) expressing speaker's intended view on predications,
- metaphor: "**Generate-While-Planning-the-Meaning**" : DP feasibility is determined through correctness of generated types and checked using an efficient type calculus

# Output: dependency types

Continuous dependencies (projective):



*in*  $\mapsto [c\text{-copul}/prepos\text{-}in]$ , *the*  $\mapsto [det]$ , *beginning*  $\mapsto [det \setminus prepos\text{-}in]$ ,  
*was*  $\mapsto [c\text{-copul} \setminus S/pred]$ , *Word*  $\mapsto [det \setminus pred]$

Discontinuous dependencies (non-projective):

EX: *Elle le lui a donné*



*elle*  $\mapsto [pred]$ ,  
*le*  $\mapsto [\#(\checkmark\text{ clit-dobj})] \checkmark\text{clit-dobj}$ , *lui*  $\mapsto [\#(\checkmark\text{ clit-iobj})] \checkmark\text{clit-iobj}$ ,  
*a*  $\mapsto [\#(\checkmark\text{ clit-iobj}) \setminus \#(\checkmark\text{ clit-iobj}) \setminus pred \setminus S/aux]$ ,  
*donné*  $\mapsto [aux] \checkmark\text{clit-iobj} \checkmark\text{clit-dobj}$

Dependency types are **1st order signature types** (like in pregroups) i.e. **not raisable !** (unlike in Lambek grammars and CCG [M.Steedman])

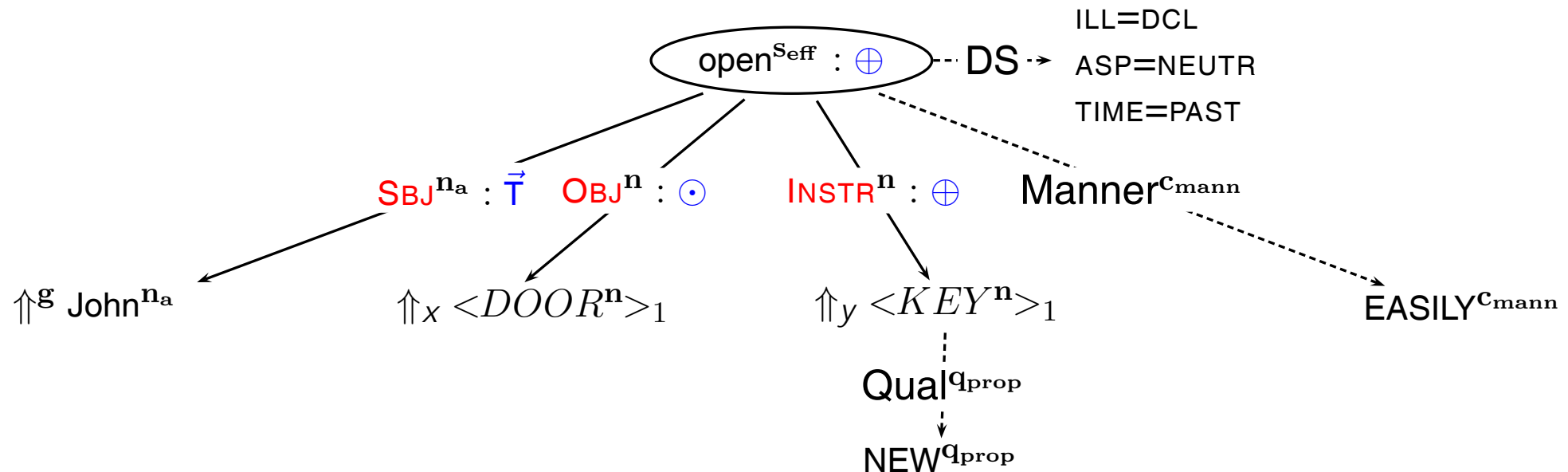


# Input: Discourse Plans

Influenced by: Functional Generative Description (functionality, communicative views), Frame semantics (multiple predications of one situation) and DRT (dynamic reference)

**Ditransitive construction:** *John easily opened the door with the new key*

Input DP  $\pi_1$ :



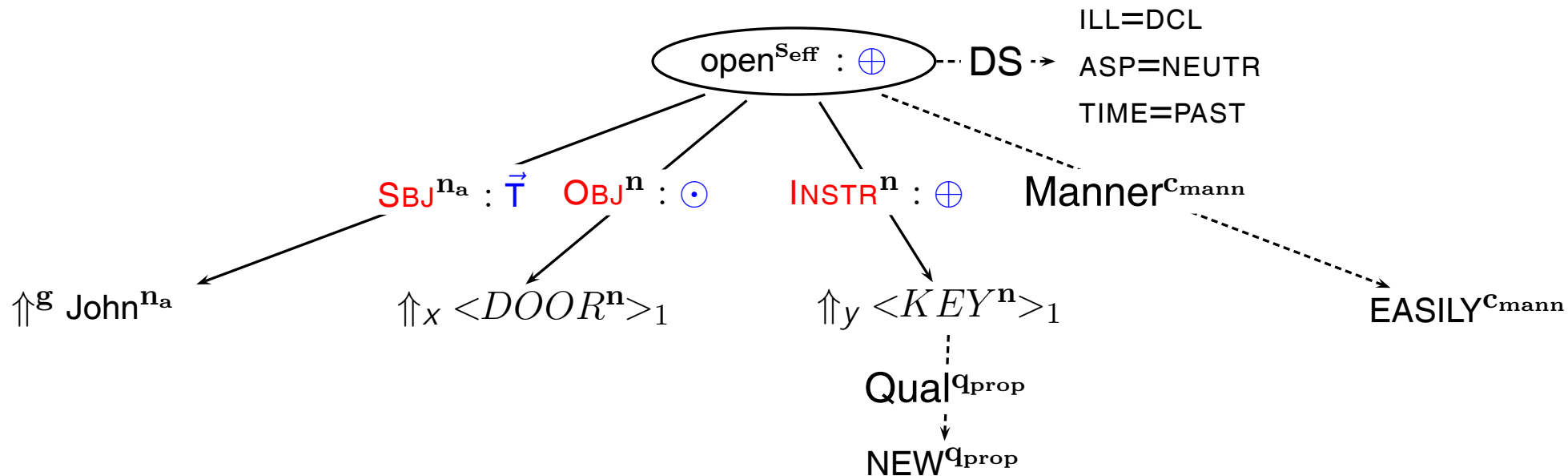
Output WO, forms and typing:

*John*  $\mapsto$  [pred] *easily*  $\mapsto$  [circ] *opened*  $\mapsto$  [circ \* \pred\ S/instr - obj/dobj]  
*the*  $\mapsto$  [det] *door*  $\mapsto$  [det\dobj] *with*  $\mapsto$  [instr - obj/prepos - with]  
*the*  $\mapsto$  [det] *new*  $\mapsto$  [modif] *key*  $\mapsto$  [modif \* \det\prepos - with]

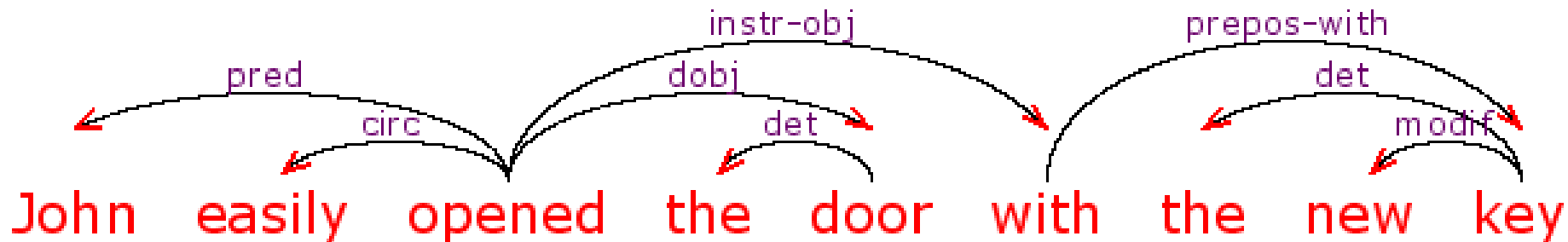
$\pi_1$  is feasible (the output typing is correct in this WO:  $T(\pi_1) \vdash S$ ).

# Generated dependency tree

Input DP  $\pi_1$ :



Output DT:

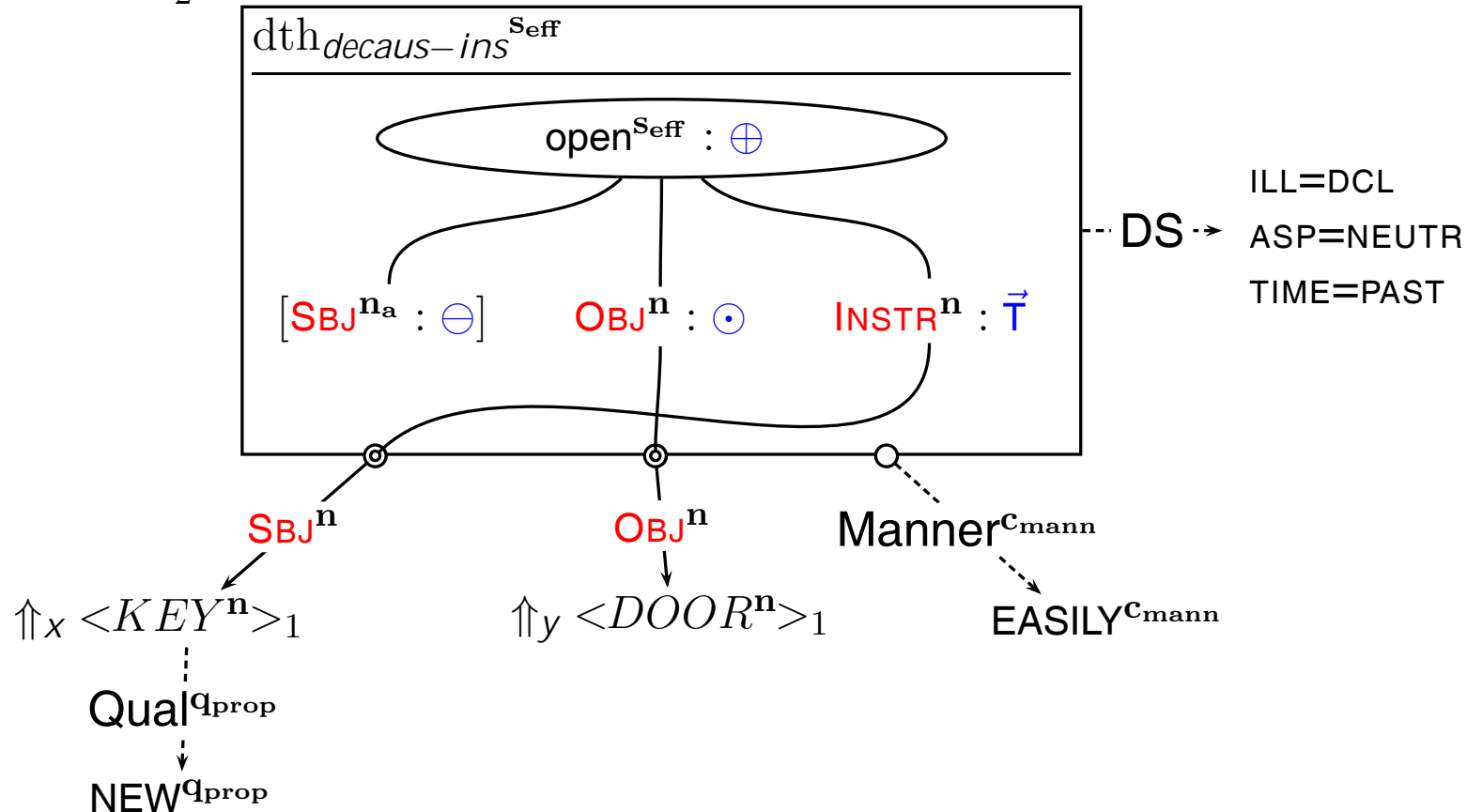


# Decausative object alternation

EX: *The new key easily opened the door*

Diathesis:  $\langle\langle \text{dth}_{\text{decaus-ins}}^{\text{Seff}} (\star_{\oplus}, \emptyset \leftrightarrow \text{SBJ}_{\ominus}, \text{SBJ} \leftrightarrow \text{INSTR}_{\vec{T}}, \text{OBJ} \leftrightarrow \text{OBJ}_{\odot})^{\text{Seff}} \rangle\rangle$

Input DP  $\pi_2$ :



Output WO, forms and typing:

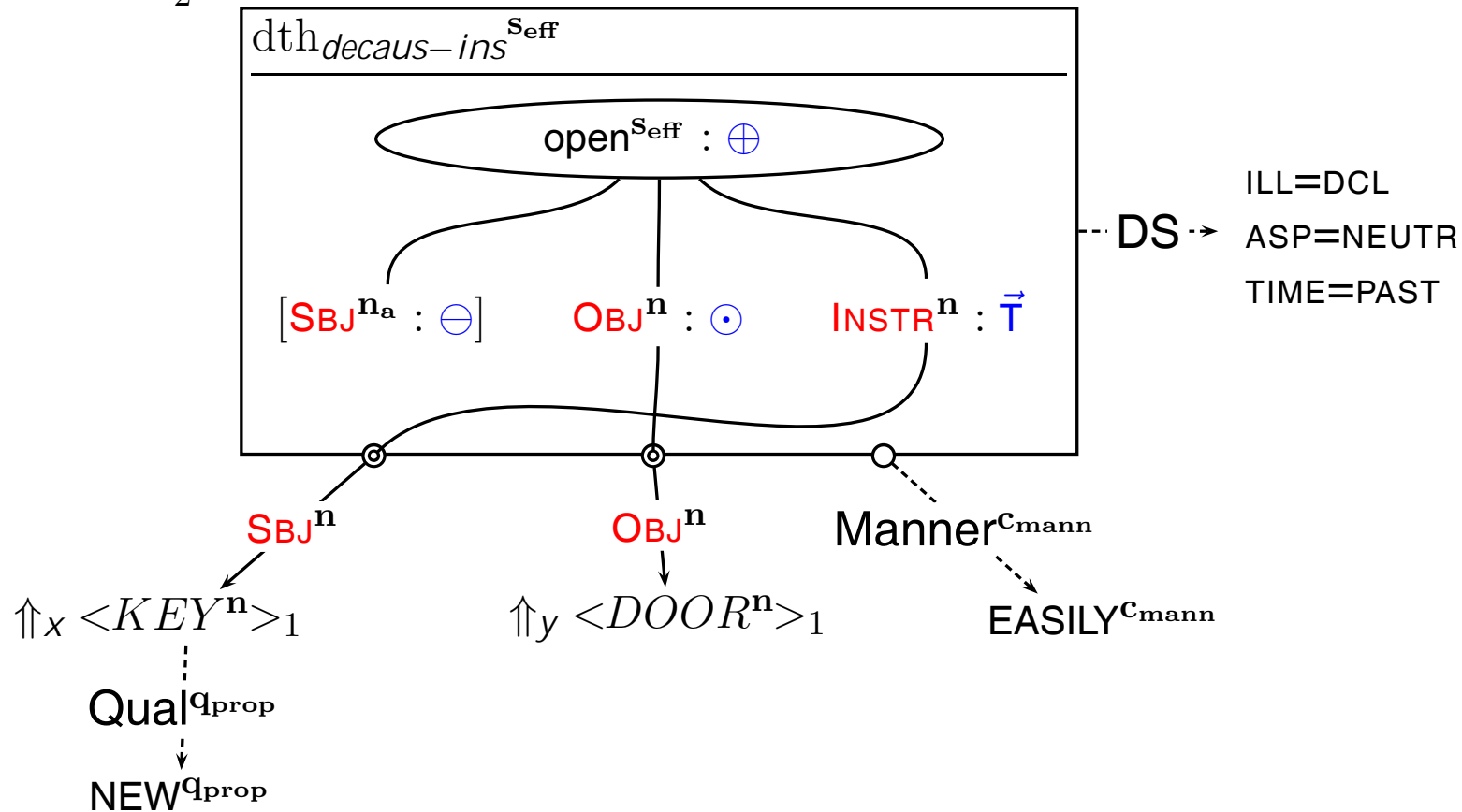
*The*  $\mapsto$  [det] *new*  $\mapsto$  [modif] *key*  $\mapsto$  [modif \* \det \pred] *easily*  $\mapsto$  [circ]  
*opened*  $\mapsto$  [circ \* \pred \S / dobj] *the*  $\mapsto$  [det] *door*  $\mapsto$  [det \ dobj]

$\pi_2$  is also feasible (the output typing and WO are correct:  $T(\pi_2) \vdash S$ ).

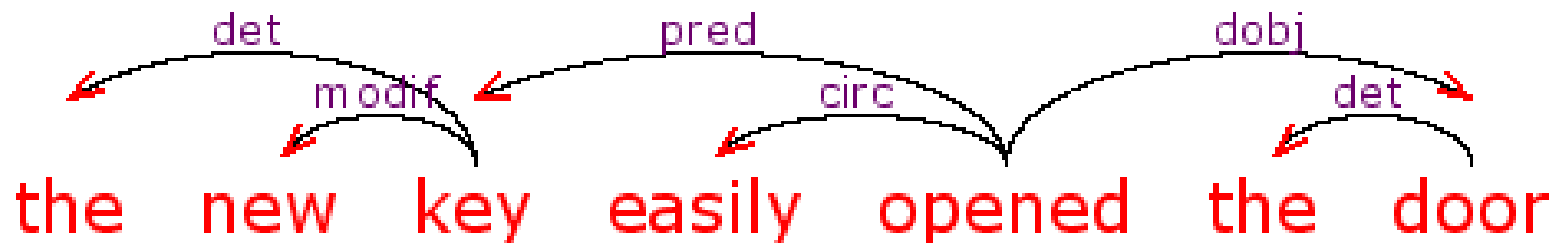


# Generated dependency tree

Input DP  $\pi_2$ :



Output DT:



# A mystery to unravel

**QU:** How can the WO be calculated from the DP? It often depends on arguments' scopes!

**RE** - At the **extra-situational** level, the DP are hierarchic (as the DRS).  
- At the **intra-situational** level, the argument scopes (and the WO) are uniquely identified through the fundamental **semantic prominence hierarchy of thematic roles** (e.g., **SBJ** > **OBJ** > **OBL**) and through the intended perspective, i.e. the arguments' communicative ranks.

**Scope principle**<sup>a</sup>: More prominent args overscope less prominent args

The communicative ranks are ordered by the **topicality order**:  $\vec{T}/O > \odot > \oplus$  Their canonical assignment to arguments matches their semantic prominence: **SBJ**: $(\vec{T} / O)$ , **OBJ**: $\odot$ , **OBL**: $\oplus$ .

Different assignments of ranks may change (through the corresponding **diathesis**) the args' scopes and the WO

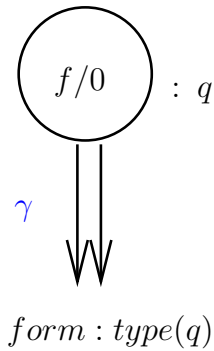
**EX:** The sentence (*Every linguist*)<sub>SBJ</sub> *knows* (*two languages*)<sub>OBJ</sub> may have only the  $\forall\exists$  reading.

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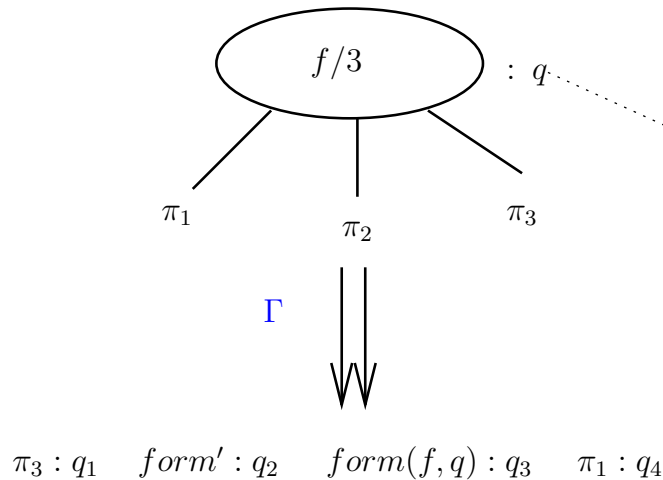
<sup>a</sup> The Scope Principle distinguishes the DP underspecification from that of the scope-abstracted underspecified semantics like Minimal Recursion Sem. [A.Copestake e al.], Hole semantics [J.Bos], etc.

# DFS-transducers applied to DP

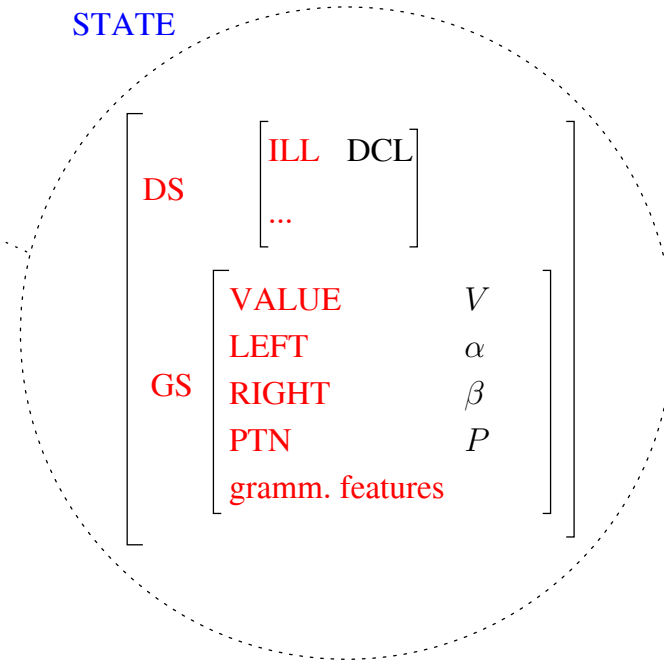
LEXICAL INTERPRETATION



TRANSITION



STATE



TYPE:  $[\alpha \setminus V / \beta]^P$

(top-down) DP-DS-converter  $T = (\Gamma, G)$ :

- $G$  is a CDG; its lexicon  $\lambda$  assigns to words finite sets of types
- $\Gamma$  is a DFS-transducer on DP coordinated with  $\lambda$ : the type  $type(q) = \gamma(f, q)$  assigned by  $\Gamma$  is one of those assigned by  $G$ :  $type(q) \in \lambda(f)$

Feasible DP  $\pi$  : that converted by  $T$  into a correctly typed sentence

$T(\pi) = f_1 \dots f_n : t_1 \dots t_n$  and  $t_1 \dots t_n \vdash_G S$ . So  $x = f_1 \dots f_n \in L(G)$  and there is a DS  $D$  extracted from the proof (denoted  $T(\pi, x, D)$ )

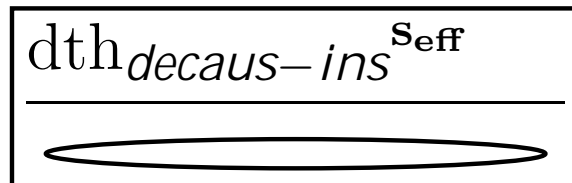
Language of  $T$  :  $L(T) = \{x \mid \exists \pi, D (T(\pi, x, D))\}$

# This is how it works:

For a DP  $\pi$  in a state  $q$  the **unique applicable transition** is determined through consecutive refinements of partial transitions **unified** with  $\pi$  and  $q$

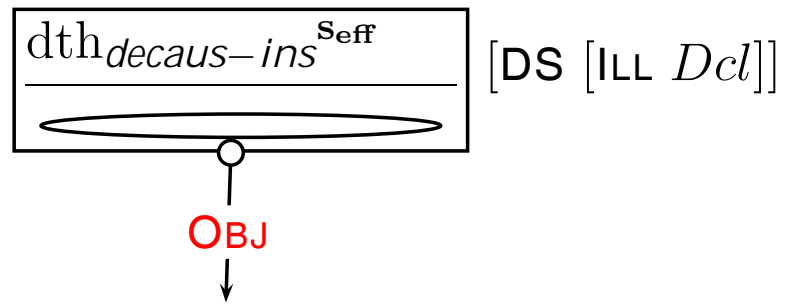
## Consecutive transition refinements:

Partial transition  $t_{decaus-ins}$ :



# First transition refinement

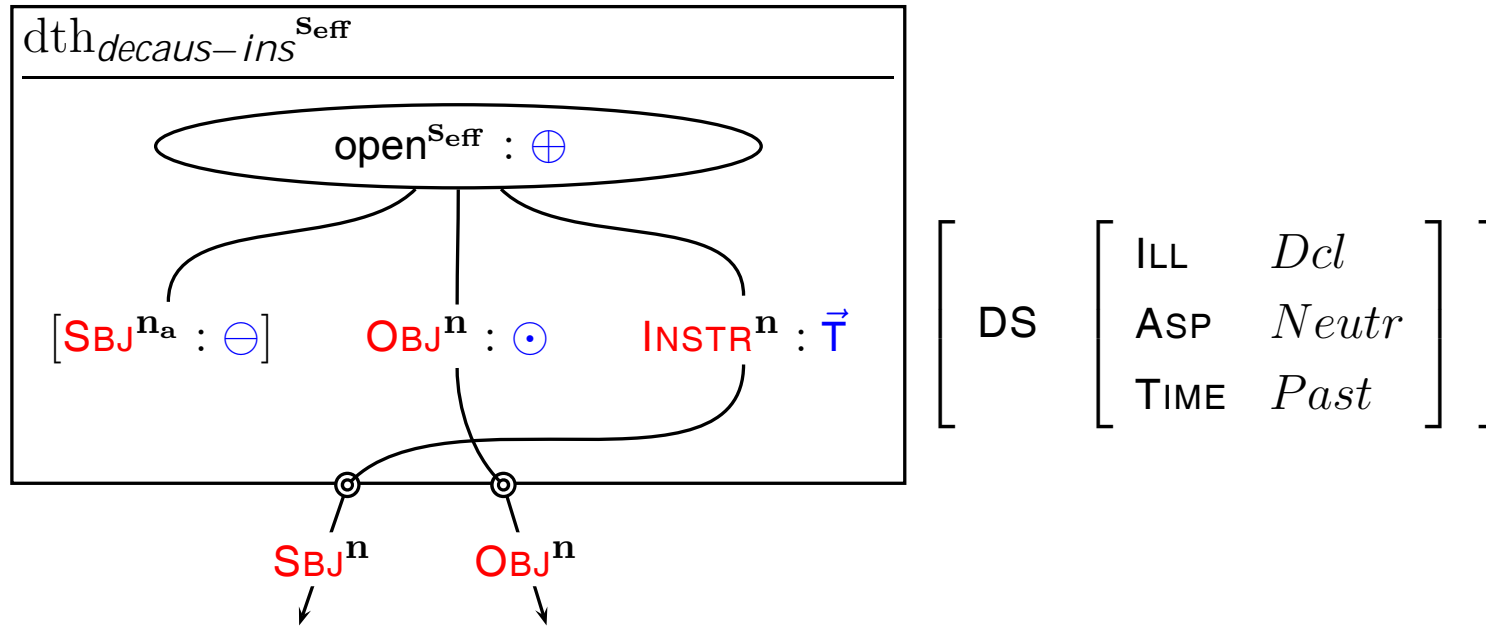
Partial transition  $t_{decaus-ins} \circ t_{(dcl,obj)}$  :



$\Rightarrow$  HEAD [GS [VALUE  $S$ ]]

# Second transition refinement

Partial transition  $t_{decaus-ins} \circ t_{(dcl,obj)} \circ t_{PN}$  :



⇒ **SBJ** [DS [VALUE *pred*]] <

(*form*(OPEN, *f*) = OPENED) *f* :

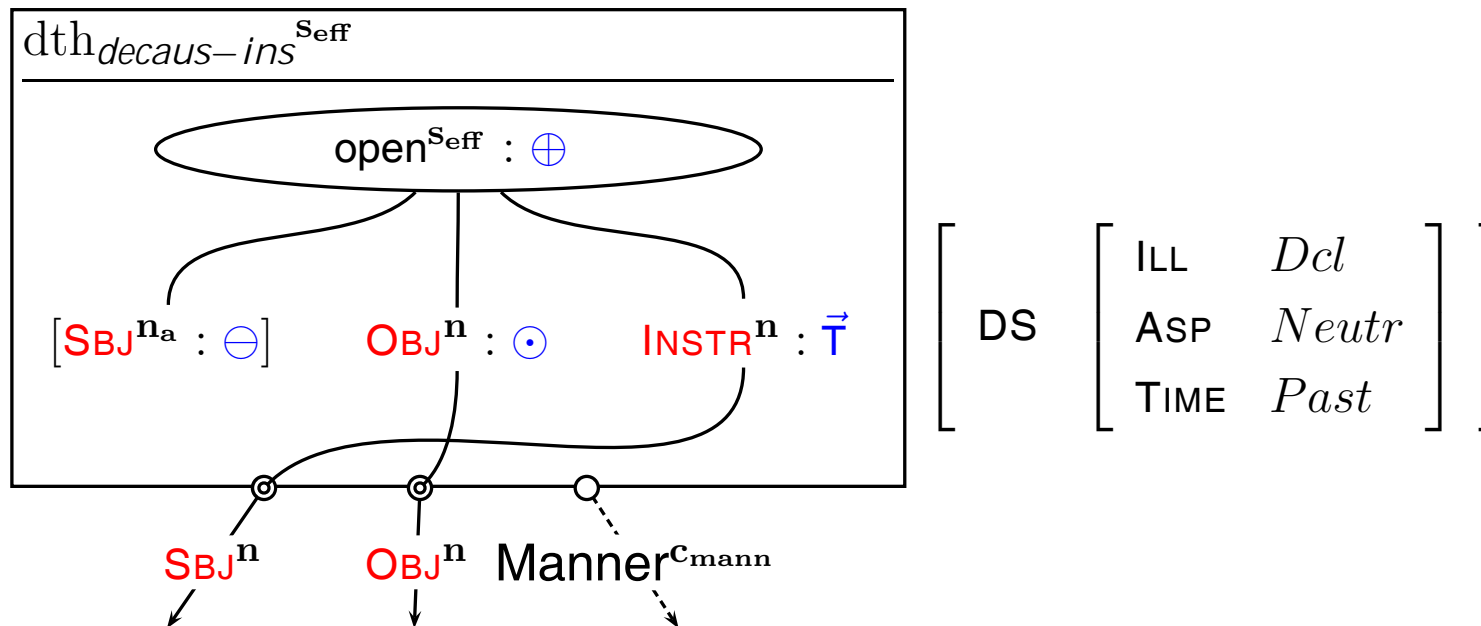
LEFT	<i>circ * \pred\</i>
RIGHT	<i>/circ * /dobj</i>
VALUE	<i>S</i>
TNS	<i>PastSimple</i>
GRCL	<i>V<sub>t</sub></i>

<

**OBJ** [GS [VALUE *dobj*]]

# Last refined transition $t_1$

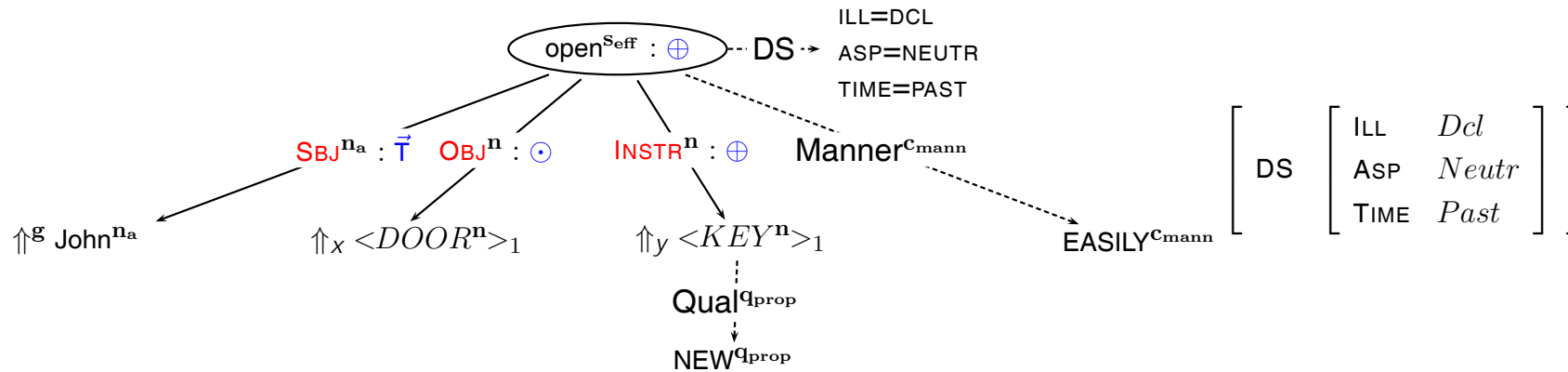
Transition  $t_1 = t_{decaus-ins} \circ t_{(dcl,obj)} \circ t_{PN} \circ t_{(PN,c_{mann})}$  :



**SBJ** [DS [VALUE *pred*]] < **MANNER** [GS [VALUE *circ*]] <

**OPENED** : [*circ* \* \pred\ S / *circ* \* / *dobj*] < **OBJ** [GS [VALUE *dobj*]]

# Transition application



$\uparrow_y \langle KEY^n \rangle_1$

Qual<sup>q<sub>prop</sub></sup> [DS [VALUE *pred*]] < EASILY : [GS [VALUE *dobj*]] <  
 ↓  
 NEW<sup>q<sub>prop</sub></sup>

OPENED : [*circ*\* \pred\ S/ *circ*\* / *dobj*] <  $\uparrow_x \langle DOOR^n \rangle_1$  [GS [VALUE *dobj*]]



# Expressiveness, complexity

**Projections.** *local* :  $\|C^P\|_l = C$  and *valency* :  $\|C^P\|_v = P$

**Projective dependency calculus**  $\vdash_c$  : rules  $\mathbf{L}^1, \mathbf{I}^1, \mathbf{\Omega}^1$ .

**TH** For a gCDG  $G = (W, \mathbf{C}, S, \delta)$  and  $x \in W^+$ ,  
 $x \in L(G)$  iff there is  $\Gamma \in \delta(x)$  such that:

1.  $\|\Gamma\|_l \vdash_c S$ ,
2.  $\|\Gamma\|_v$  is well-bracketed for every valency.

**CR** For every sequence of types  $\gamma$  with distinguished constituents (i.e. without elimination ambiguity), the provability  $\gamma \vdash S$  is resolved **in real time**  $|\gamma|$  **using one stack and  $v$  counters**, where  $v$  is the number of polarized valency names.

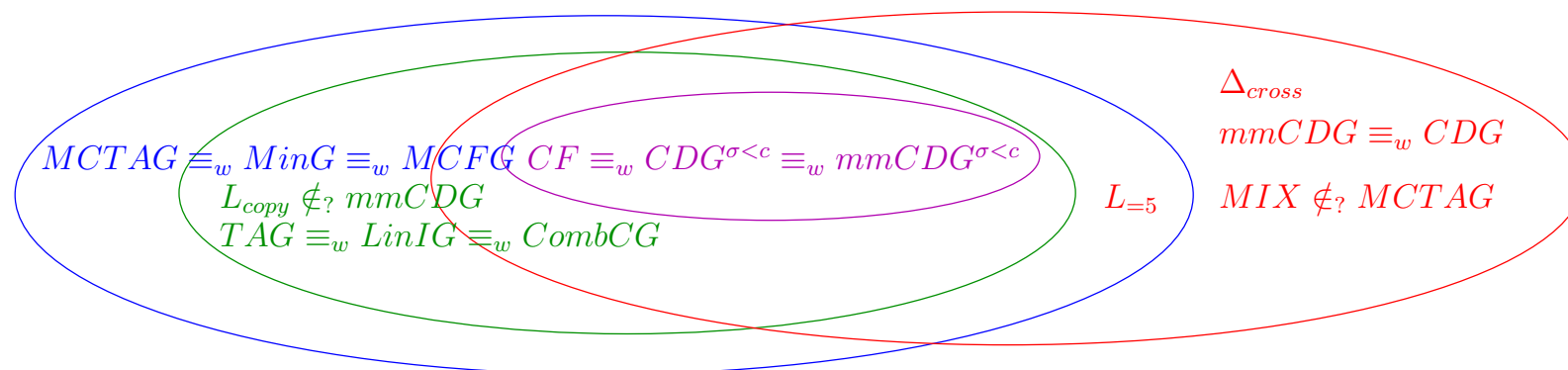
# Expressiveness, complexity continued

**TH** The family of languages  $T(L)$ , where  $L$  is a regular f-tree language and  $T$  is an FT-DS converter, **coincides with**  $\mathcal{L}(gCDG)$ .

**RM** The f-tree language of DP **is regular**

**Parsing complexity** (Dekhtyar, Dikovsky'2004) :

1. **theoretical** :  $O(n^{3+2p})$  (for  $p$  polarized valencies)
2. **in practice** ( $\sigma(G) < const$ ) :  $O(n^3)$ .



$$L_{copy} = \{ww \mid w \in W^+\}, \quad L_{=i} = \{a_1^n \dots a_i^n \mid n > 0\}, \quad MIX = \{w \in \{a, b, c\}^+ \mid |w|_a = |w|_b = |w|_c\}$$

# Conclusion

- FS-Functional Grammar calculates a lexicalization, d-types and a WO using a deterministic top-down FS-transducer applied to feasible discourse plans expressing the speaker's view on predications
- In the place of a general feasibility proof, the FS-FG uses a real-time proof scheme check procedure
- In principle, the DP composition, its FS-conversion and the proof checking can be synchronized implementing in this way the metaphor

Generate-While-Planning-the-Meaning

# A gCDG for a non-CF language

$$G_{abc} : \begin{cases} a \mapsto A \checkmark^A, [A \setminus A] \checkmark^A \\ b \mapsto [B/C] \checkmark^A, [A \setminus S/C] \checkmark^A \\ c \mapsto C, [B \setminus C] \end{cases}$$

**TH:**  $\mathcal{L}(G_{abc}) = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n > 0\}$ .

A derivation of  $a^3 b^3 c^3 \in L(G_{abc})$  :

Types assignment:

$$a^3 b^3 c^3 \mapsto A \checkmark^A [A \setminus A] \checkmark^A [A \setminus A] \checkmark^A [A \setminus S/C] \checkmark^A [B/C] \checkmark^A [B/C] \checkmark^A C [B \setminus C] [B \setminus C]$$

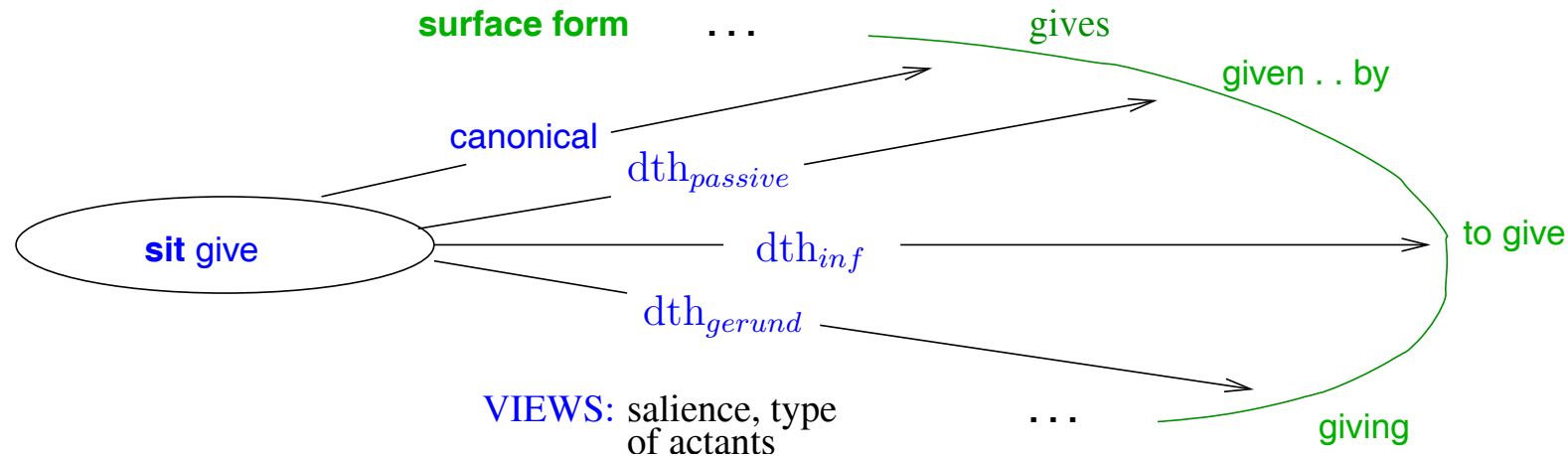
$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{[A] \checkmark^A [A \setminus A] \checkmark^A}{[A] \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad \frac{[A \setminus A] \checkmark^A}{[A] \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad \frac{[A \setminus S/C] \checkmark^A}{[A] \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad \frac{[B/C] \checkmark^A}{[A \setminus S] \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad \frac{[S] \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A}{S} (\mathbf{D}' \times 3) \\
 \frac{\frac{\frac{[B/C] \checkmark^A C}{B \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad [B \setminus C]}{C \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}')}{B \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}') \quad \frac{[B \setminus C]}{C \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}')}{C \checkmark^A \checkmark^A \checkmark^A} (\mathbf{L}')
 \end{array}$$

# Semantic sources of dependencies

- **Surface dependencies** originate from semantic argument-function relations represented with underspecified semantic structures that we call **discourse plans (DP)**. The DP determine compositions of *situations* or their derivatives, through *semantic diatheses*
- **Types of dependencies** can be calculated from DP using finite-state tree transducers

# Situations, diatheses

Situations : **invariants** of communicative views (= **semantic diatheses**)



**EX**(G. Frege, "Begriffsschrift", 1879) :

*Bei Platae siegten die Griechen über die Perser*

*Bei Platae wurden die Perser von den Griechen besiegt*

common situation : **siegen**(**SBJ**, **OBJ**)

● Arguments of situations :

- **actants**, identified with their **thematic roles**, vary from one diathesis derivative to another according to the intended **communicative ranks**;
- **circumstantials**, identified with other (optional) attributes,

● **communicative ranks** :  $\vec{T}$  (topic  $\simeq$ ,  $\circ$  (implied topic 0),  $\odot$  (rhematic focus),  $\oplus$  (background),  $\ominus$  (periphery))

# A case of clitisation in French

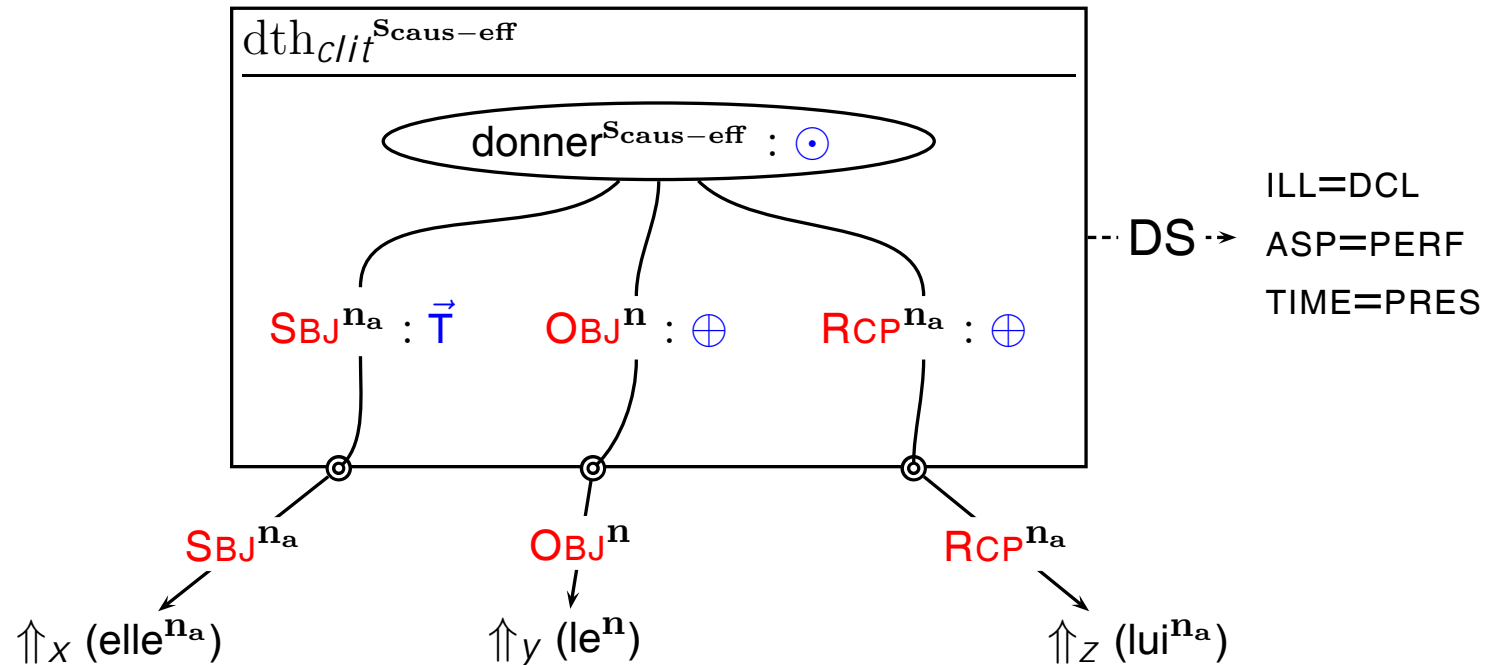
EX: *Elle le lui a donné*

Situation  $\langle\langle$  *donner*  $\rangle\rangle$ .

Canonical profile:  $\langle\langle$  *donner* ( $\text{SBJ}^{\text{n}_a}$ ,  $\text{OBJ}^{\text{n}}$ ,  $\text{RCP}^{\text{n}_a}$ ) $\text{S}_{\text{caus-eff}}$   $\rangle\rangle$

Diathesis:  $\langle\langle$   $\text{dth}_{\text{clit}}$  ( $\star_{\odot}$ ,  $\text{OBJ} \leftrightarrow \text{OBJ}_{\oplus}$   $\text{RCP} \leftrightarrow \text{RCP}_{\oplus}$ , ) $\text{S}_{\text{caus-eff}}$   $\rangle\rangle$

Input DP  $\pi_3$ :



# Generated dependency tree

Output WO, forms and typing:

*elle*  $\mapsto$  [*pred*]

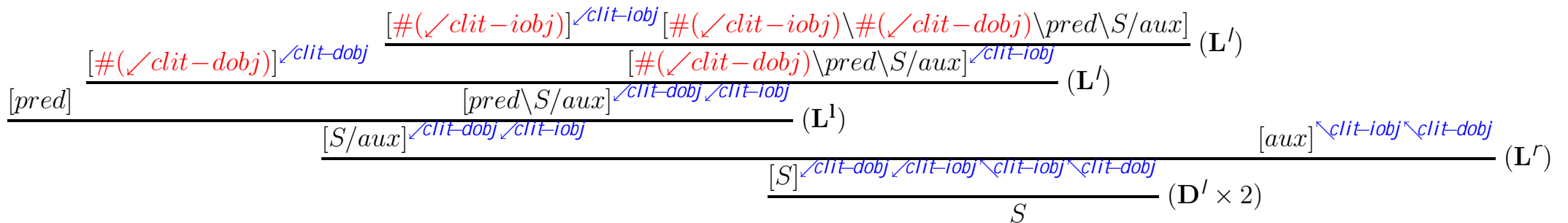
*le*  $\mapsto$  [ $\#(\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{dobj})$ ]  $\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{dobj}$

*lui*  $\mapsto$  [ $\#(\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{iobj})$ ]  $\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{iobj}$

*a*  $\mapsto$  [ $\#(\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{iobj}) \setminus \#(\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{iobj}) \setminus \textit{pred} \setminus S / \textit{aux}$ ]

*donné*  $\mapsto$  [*aux*]  $\surd \textit{clit} - \textit{iobj} \setminus \textit{clit} - \textit{dobj}$

$\pi_3$  is feasible:  $T(\pi_3) \vdash S$ .





# One more example

EX: *la commission ne la lui a pas refusée*

Situation  $\langle\langle \textit{refuser} \rangle\rangle$ .

Canonical profile:  $\langle\langle \textit{refuser}(\text{SBJ}^{\text{n}_a}, \text{OBJ}^{\text{S}}, \text{RCP}^{\text{n}_a})^{\text{S}_{\text{eff}}}\rangle\rangle$

Diathesis:  $\langle\langle \text{dth}_{\textit{clit}}(\star_{\odot}, \text{OBJ} \leftrightarrow \text{OBJ}_{\oplus} \text{RCP} \leftrightarrow \text{RCP}_{\oplus}, )^{\text{S}_{\text{caus-eff}}}\rangle\rangle$

Input DP  $\pi_3$ :

