

Forest Reranking

Discriminative Parsing with Non-Local Features



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University of Pennsylvania



ACL 2008 talk, Columbus, OH, June 2008

Is Supervised Parsing Done?

is it a done area?

Bod (2007)

**Is the End of Supervised
Parsing in Sight?**

Is Supervised Parsing Done?

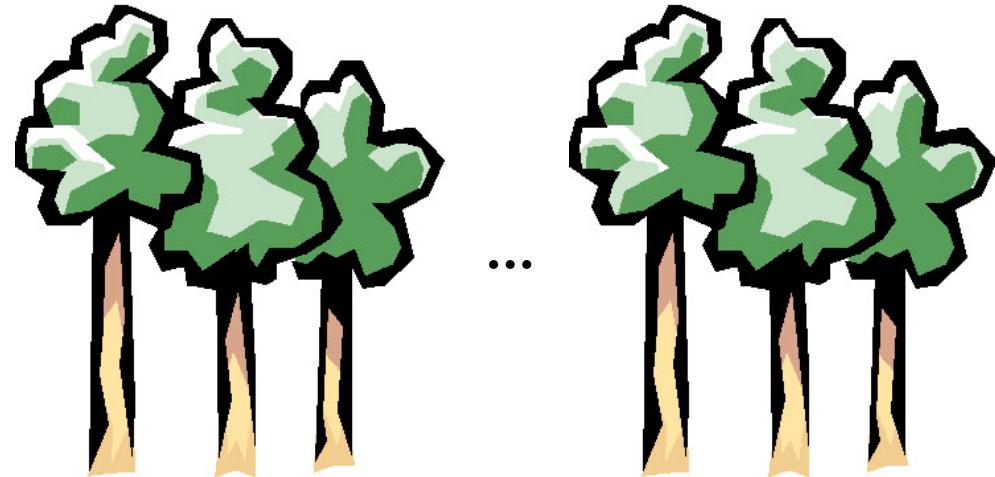
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**Is the End of Supervised
Parsing in Sight?**

- motivation: use **non-local** features
 - linguistically-motivated features for n -best reranking (Charniak and Johnson, 2005; Collins, 2000)
 - but can we integrate them back into **chart parsing**?
 - YES: using a **packed forest**!
- result: best whole Treebank parsing accuracy to date

Why is n -best list a bad idea?



- too few variations (limited scope)
 - 41% correct parses are not in ~30-best (Collins, 2000)
 - worse for longer sentences; tiny fraction of whole space
- too many redundancies
 - 50-best usually encodes 5-6 binary decisions ($2^5 < 50 < 2^6$)

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packed forest



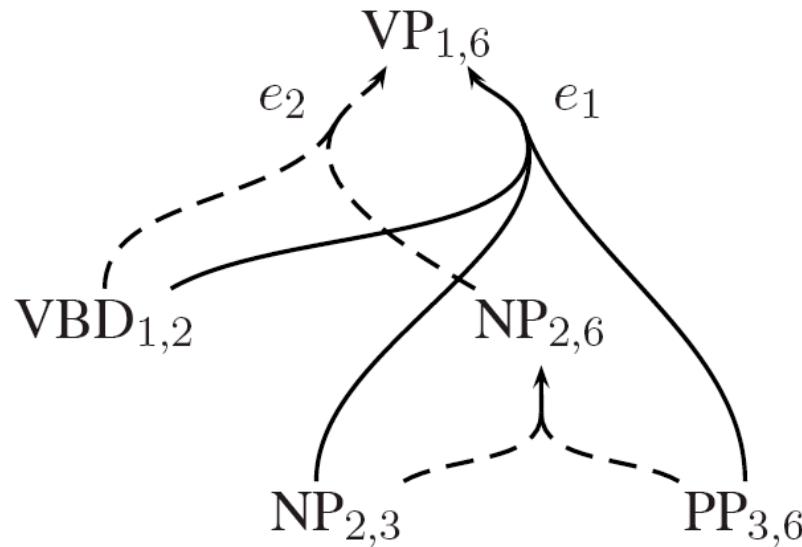
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Outline

- Packed Forest and General Idea
- Forest Reranking and Non-Local Features
 - Perceptron for Generic Reranking
 - Local vs. Non-Local Features
 - Incremental Computation of Non-Local Features
- Decoding Algorithm
- Experiments

Packed Forest

- a compact representation of many parses
 - by sharing common sub-derivations
 - polynomial-space encoding of exponentially large set

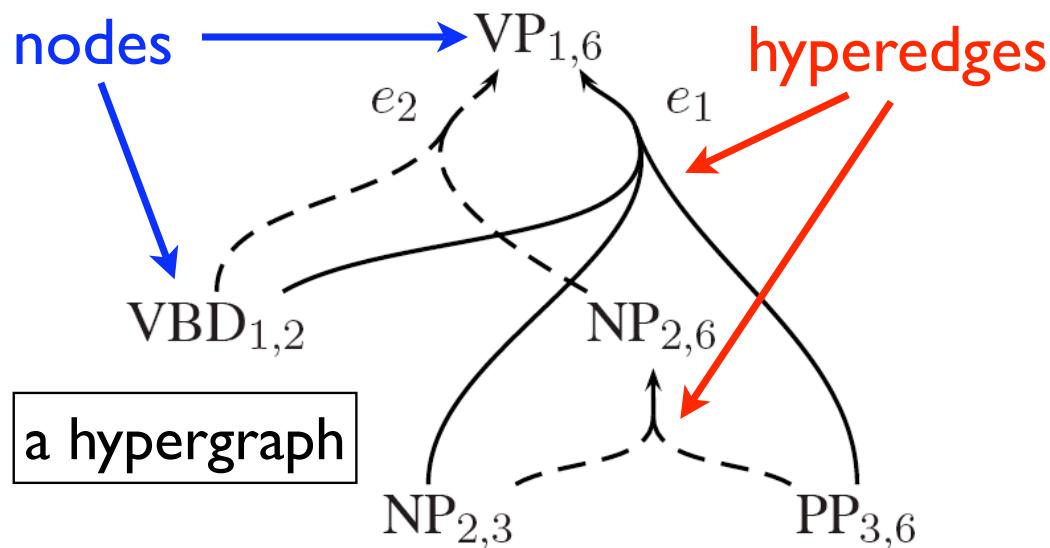


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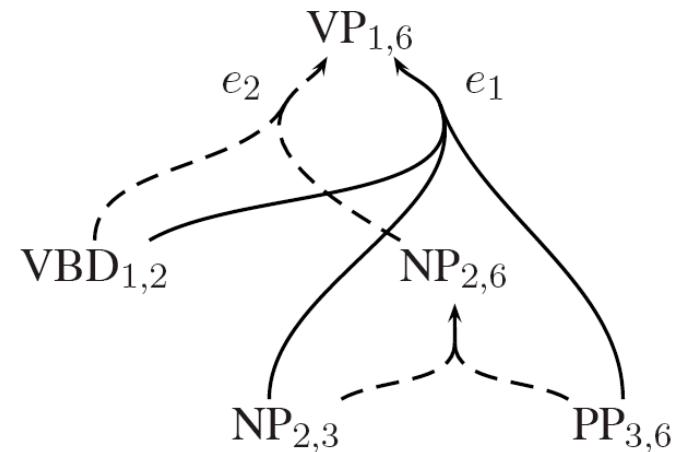
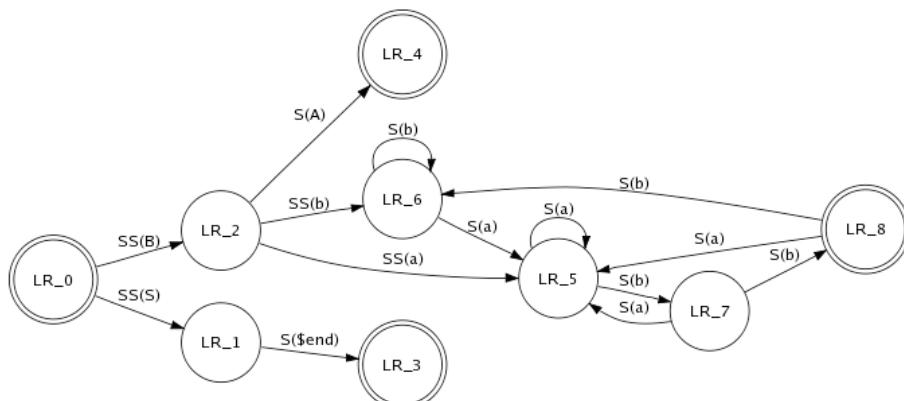
$$e_1 \frac{\text{VBD}_{1,2} \quad \text{NP}_{2,3} \quad \text{PP}_{3,6}}{\text{VP}_{1,6}}$$

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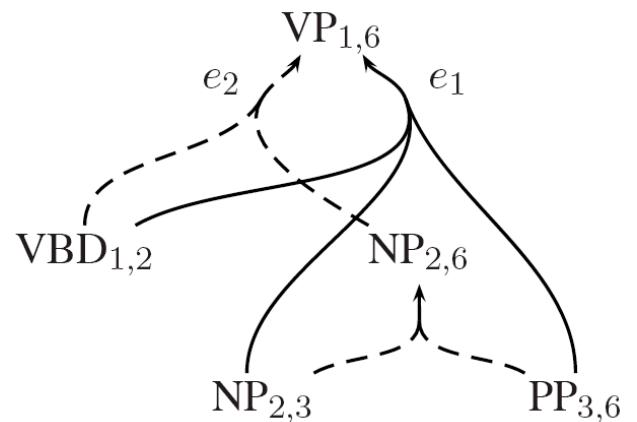
Lattices vs. Forests

- forest generalizes “lattice” from finite-state world
 - both are compact encodings of exponentially many derivations (paths or trees)
 - graph => hypergraph; regular grammar => CFG



Reranking on a Forest?

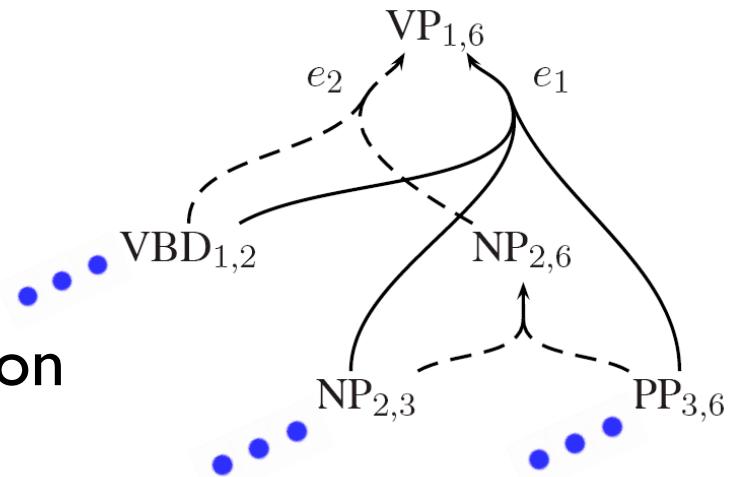
- with only local features
 - dynamic programming, tractable
(Taskar et al. 2004; McDonald et al., 2005)
- with non-local features
 - intractable, so we do approximation
 - on-the-fly reranking at internal
 - use non-locales as early and as much as possible!



| <i>methods \ features</i> | <i>local</i> | <i>non-local</i> |
|---------------------------|--------------|-----------------------|
| <i>n-best</i> reranking | | only at the root node |
| DP-based discrim. parsing | exact | N/A |
| forest reranking | exact | on-the-fly |

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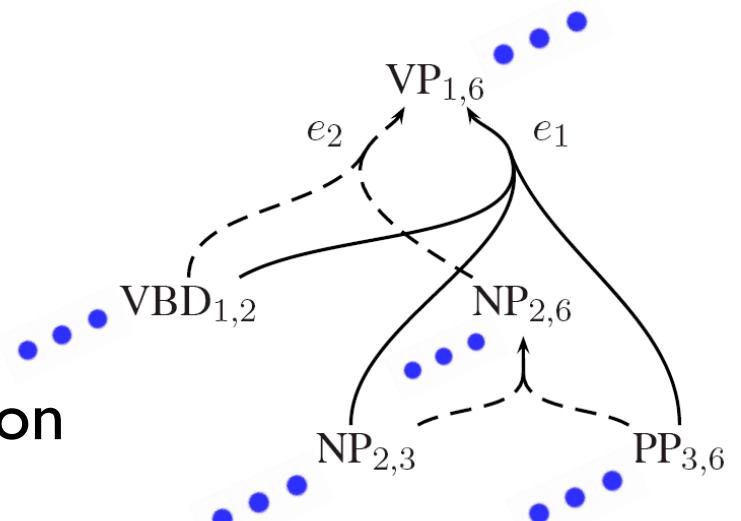
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Generic Reranking by Perceptron

- for each sentence s_i , we have a set of candidates $cand(s_i)$
 - and an **oracle** tree y_i^+ , among the candidates
 - a feature mapping from tree y to vector $\mathbf{f}(y)$

```
1: Input: Training examples  $\{cand(s_i), y_i^+\}_{i=1}^N$ 
2:  $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{0}$                                  $\triangleright$  initial weights
3: for  $t \leftarrow 1 \dots T$  do                   $\triangleright T$  iterations
4:   for  $i \leftarrow 1 \dots N$  do
5:      $\hat{y} = \operatorname{argmax}_{y \in cand(s_i)} \mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}(y)$ 
6:     if  $\hat{y} \neq y_i^+$  then
7:        $\mathbf{w} \leftarrow \mathbf{w} + \mathbf{f}(y_i^+) - \mathbf{f}(\hat{y})$ 
8: return  $\mathbf{w}$ 
```

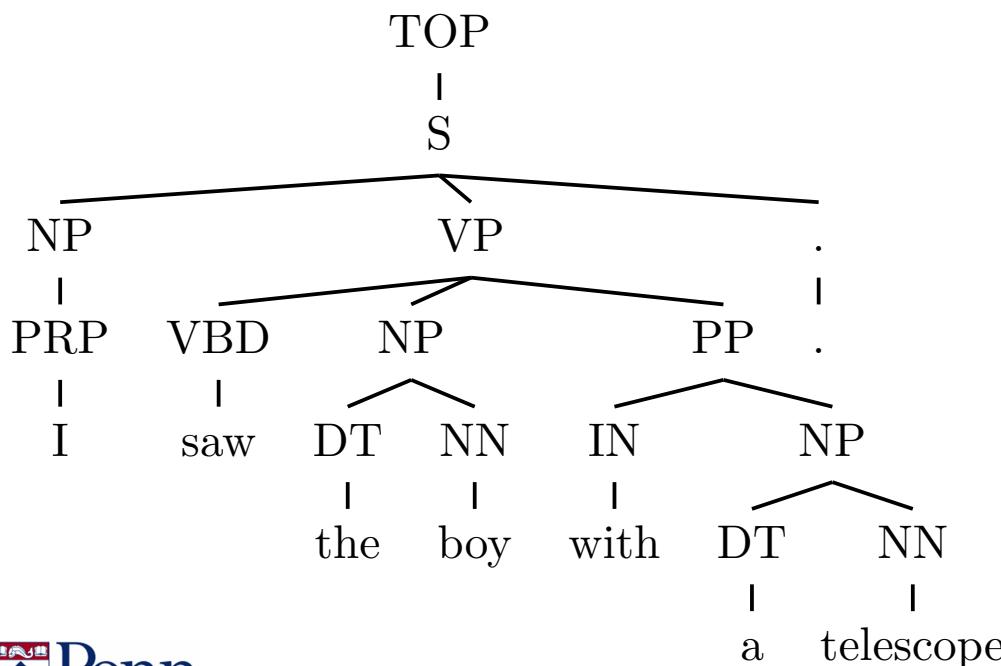
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Features

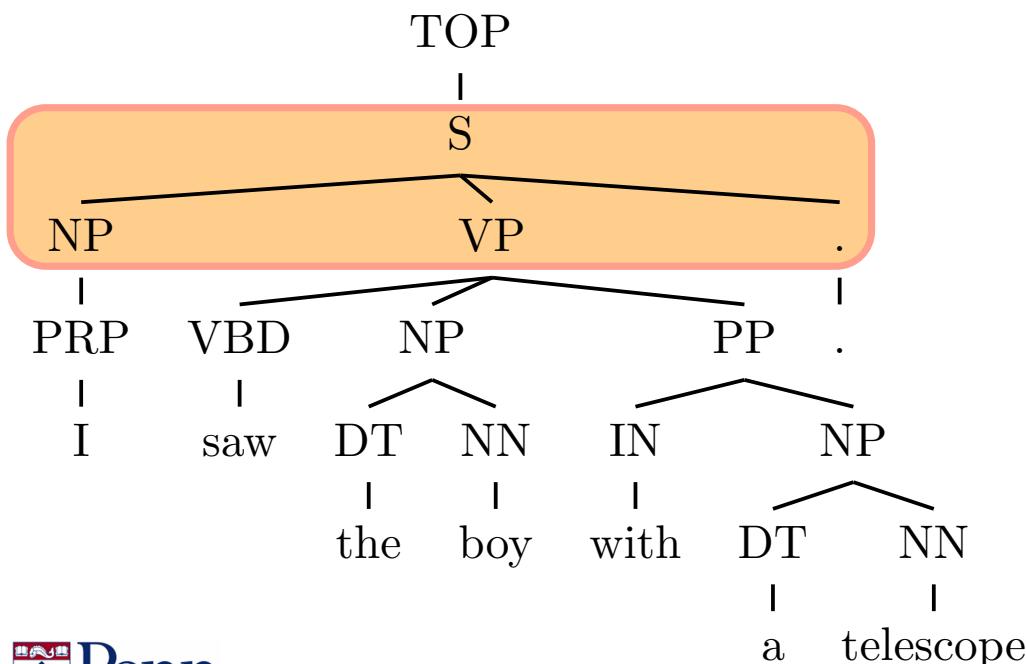
- a feature f is a function from tree y to a real number
 - $f_1(y) = \log \Pr(y)$ is the log Prob from generative parser
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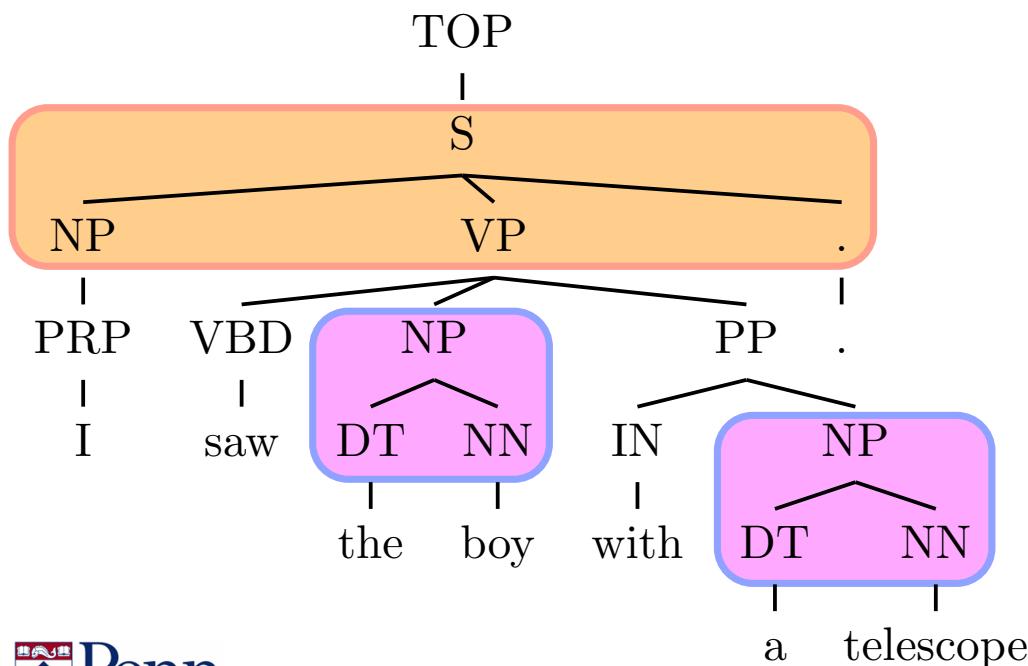
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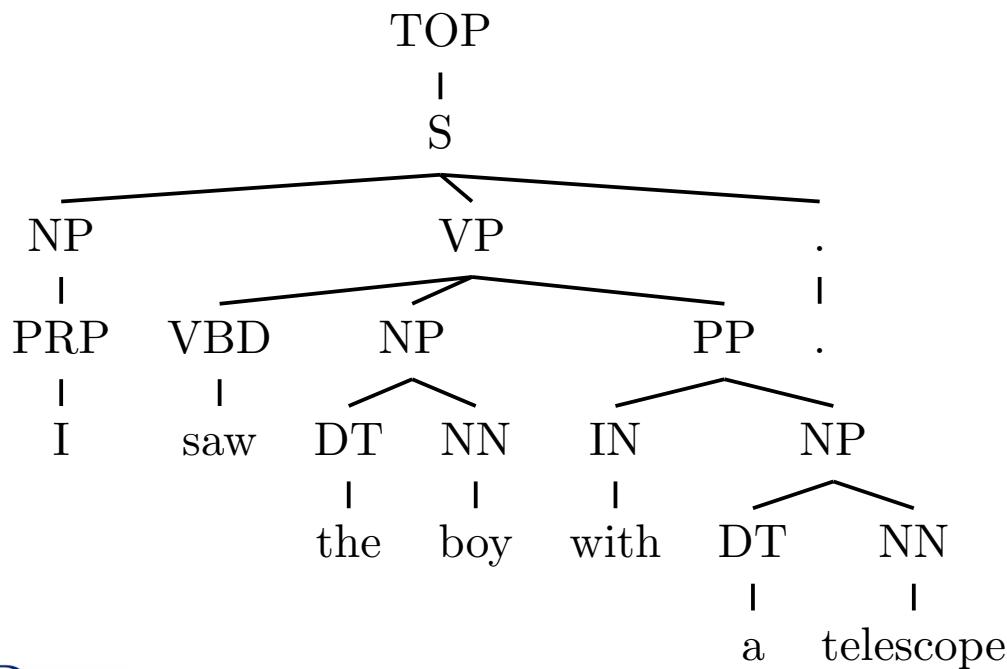
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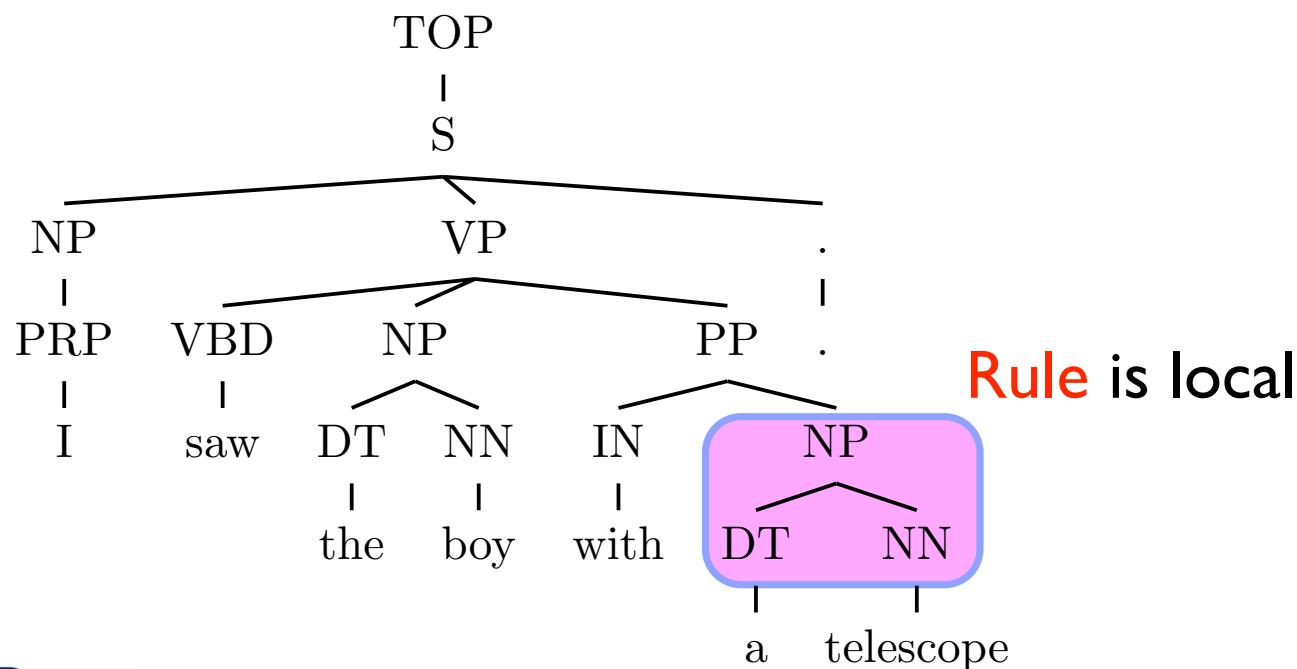
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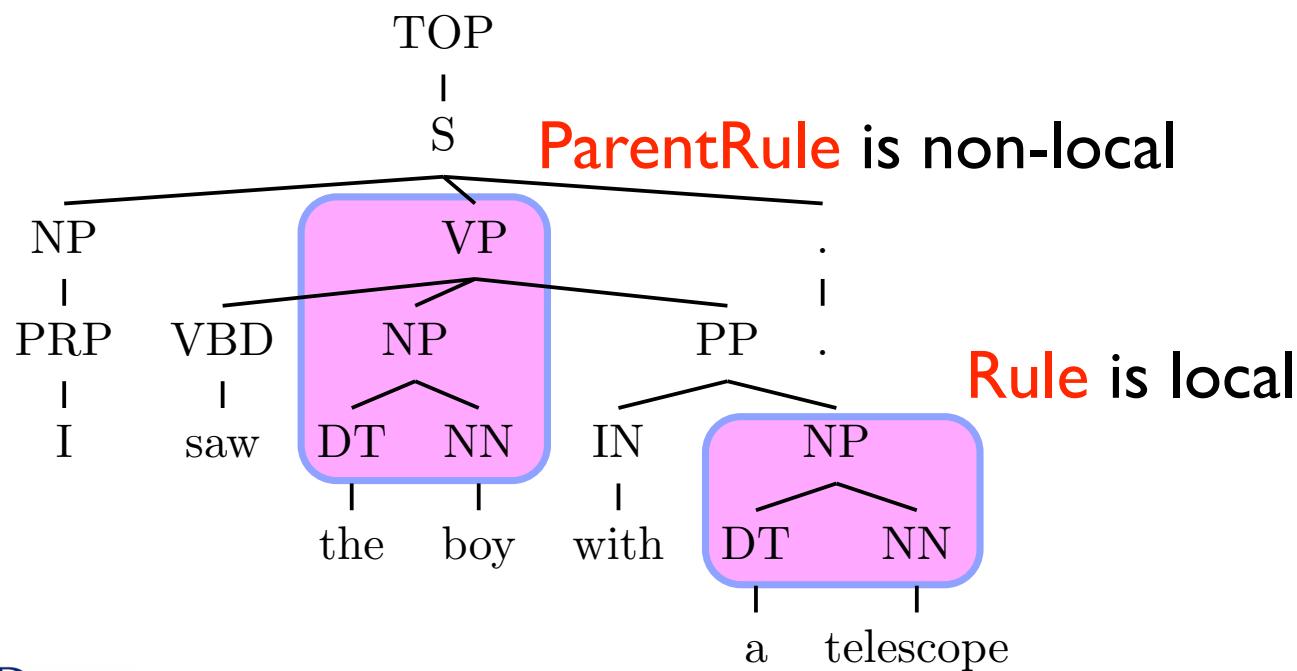
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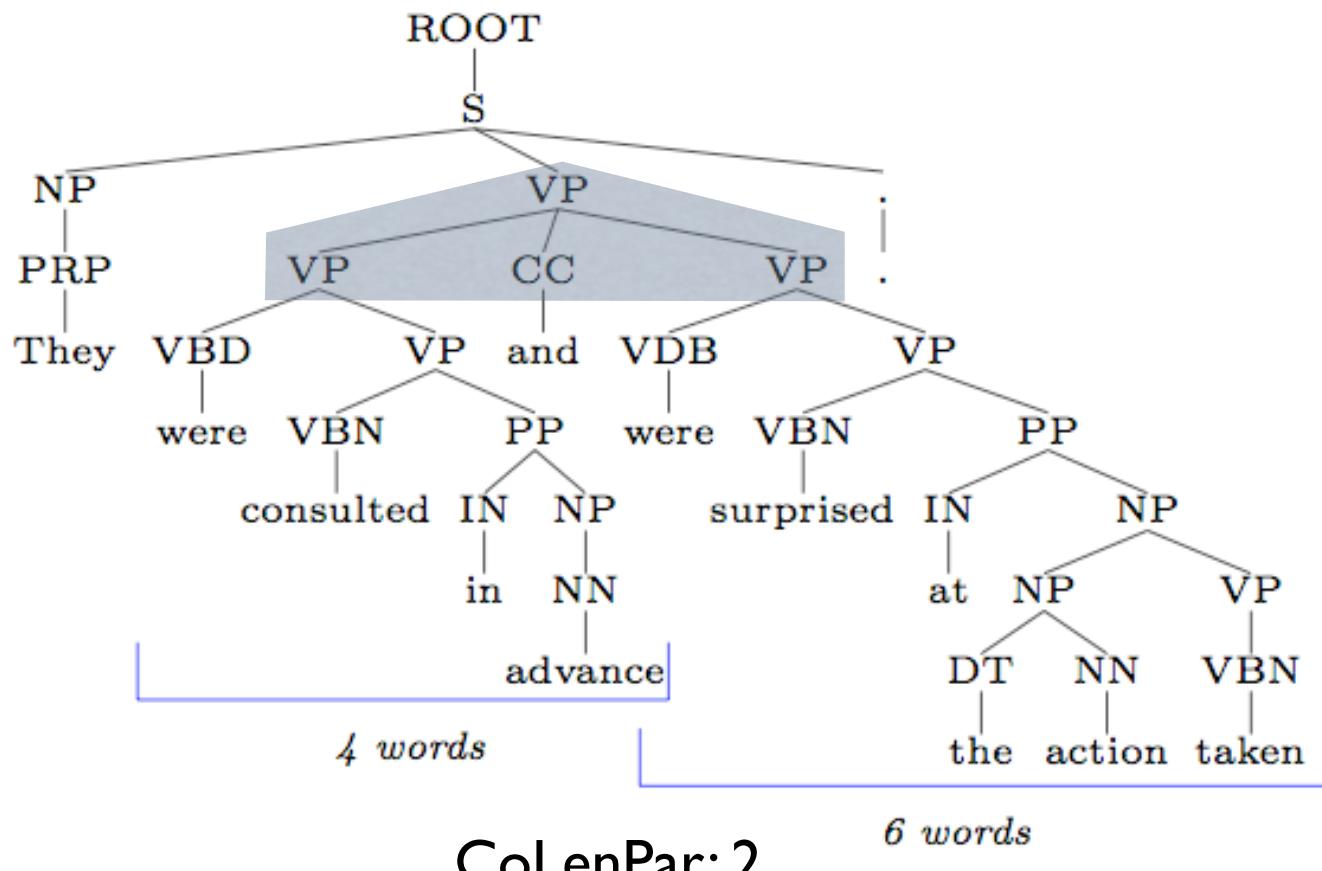
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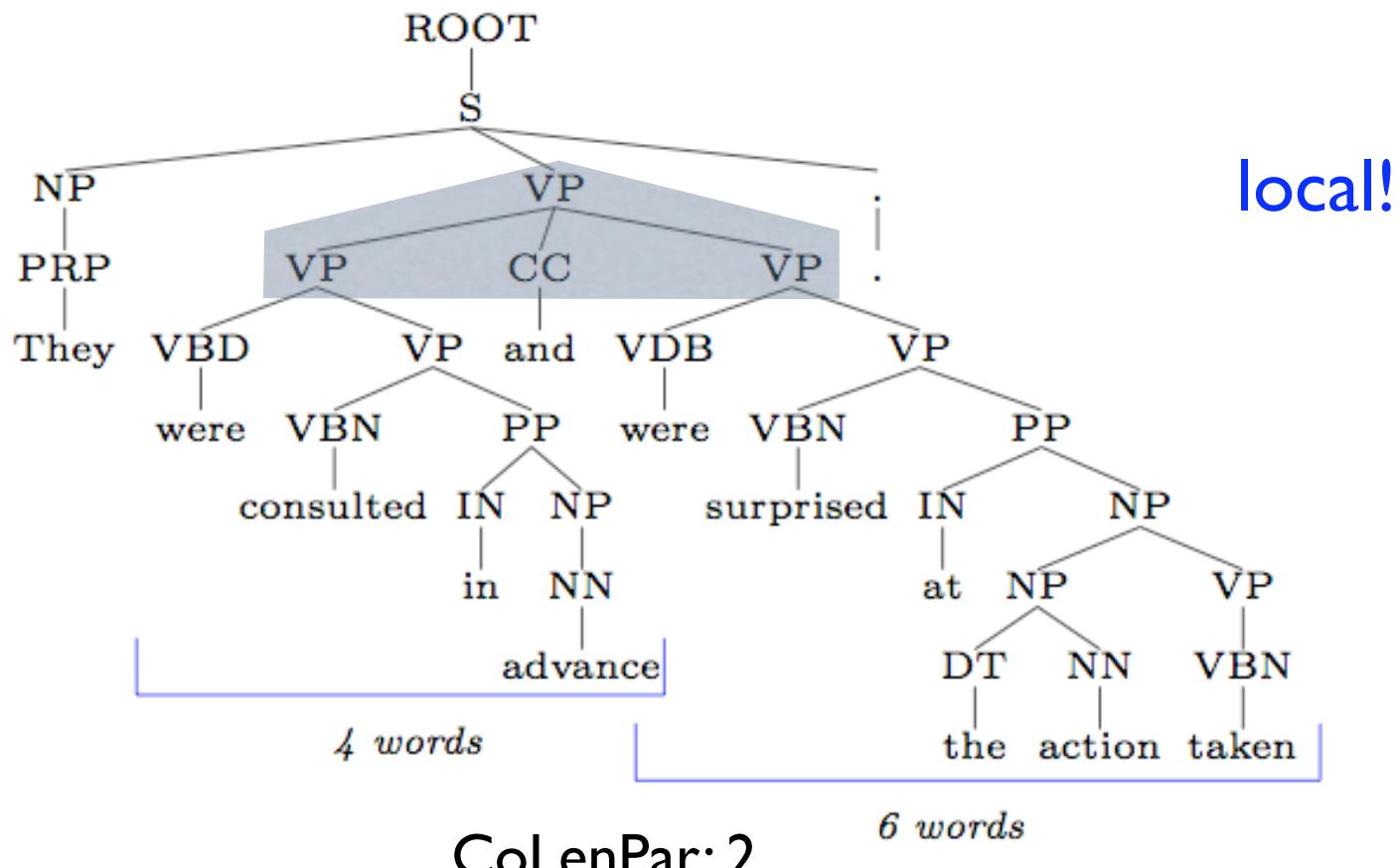
Local vs. Non-Local: Examples

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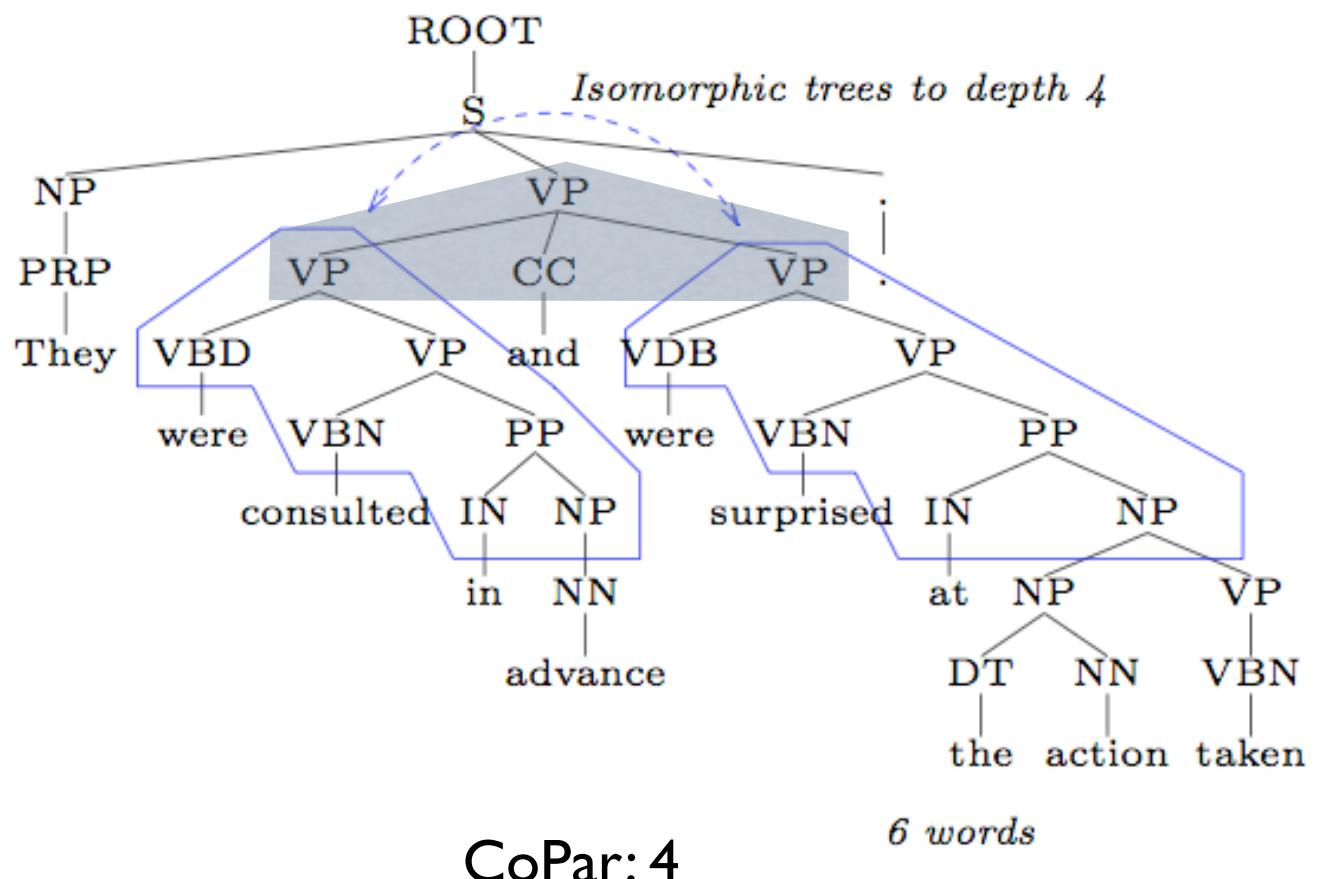
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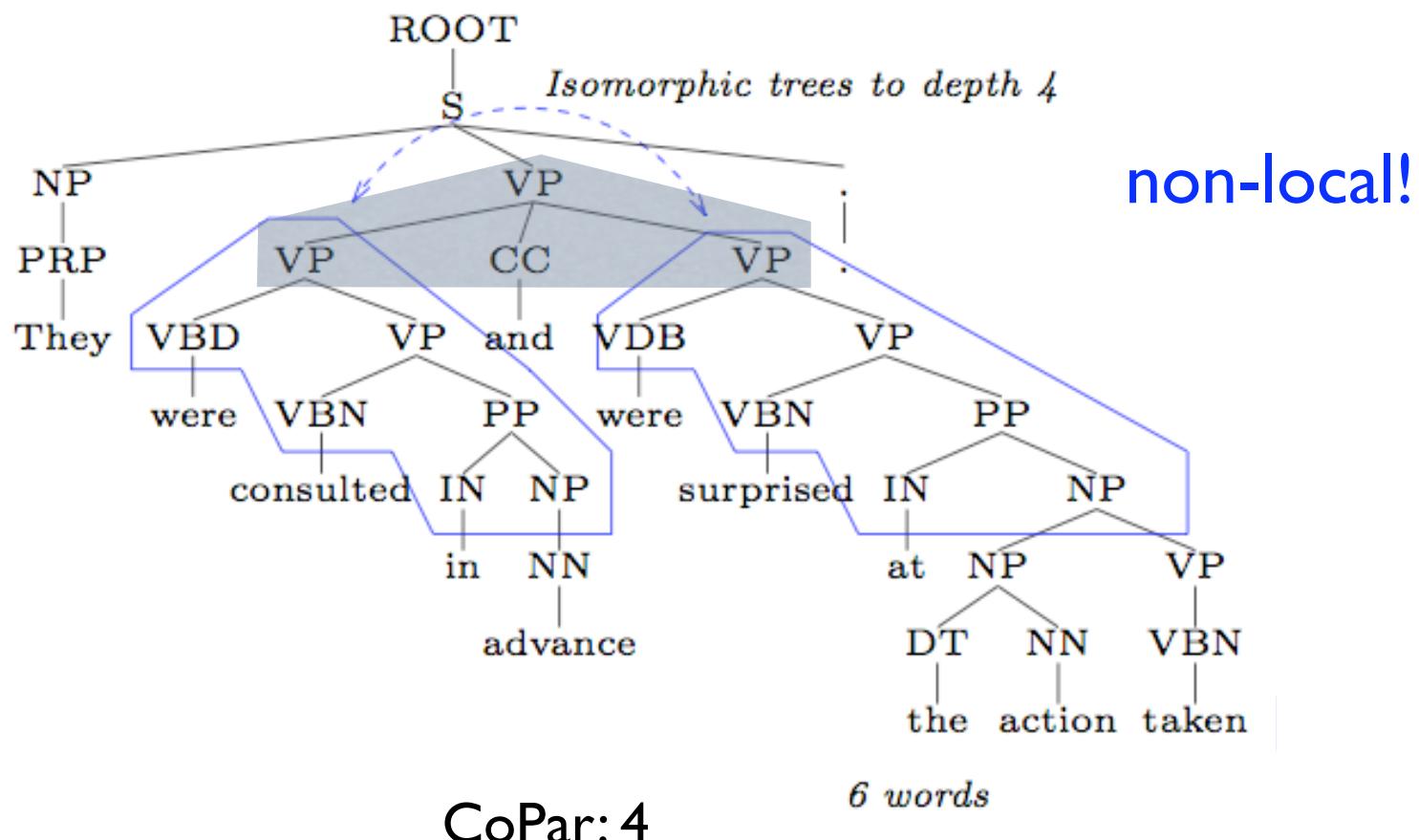
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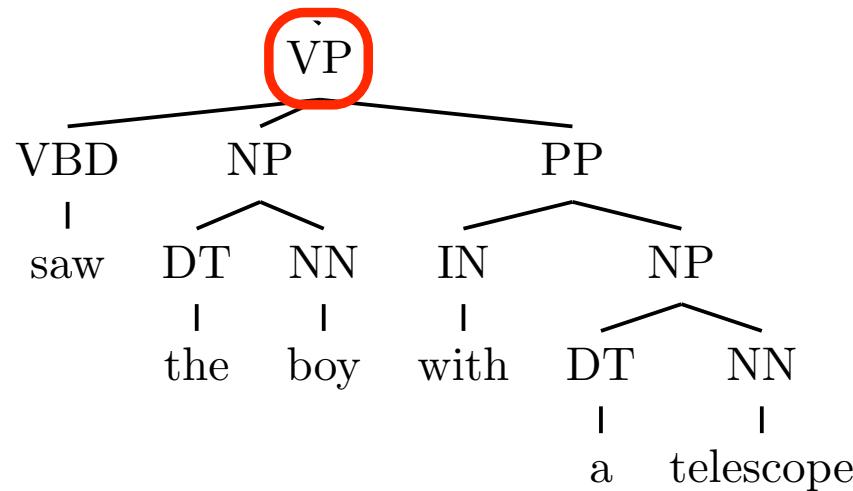
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Factorizing non-local features

- going bottom-up, at each node
 - compute (partial values of) feature instances that become computable at this level
 - postpone those uncomputable to ancestors

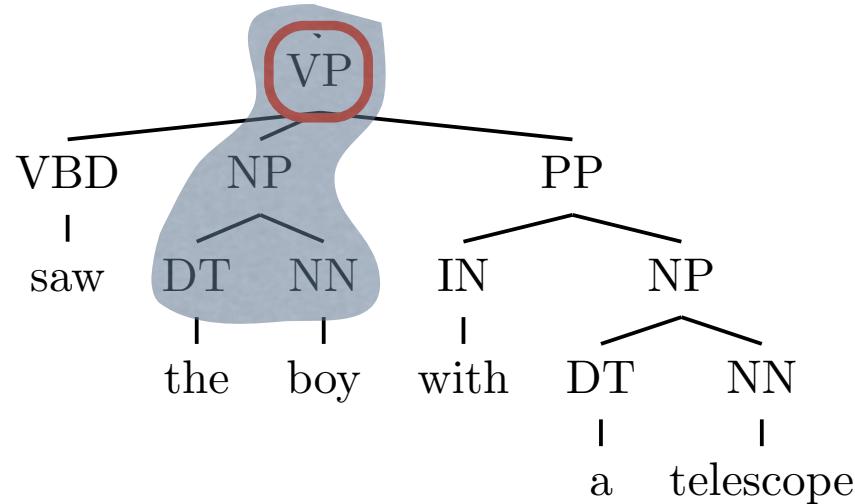
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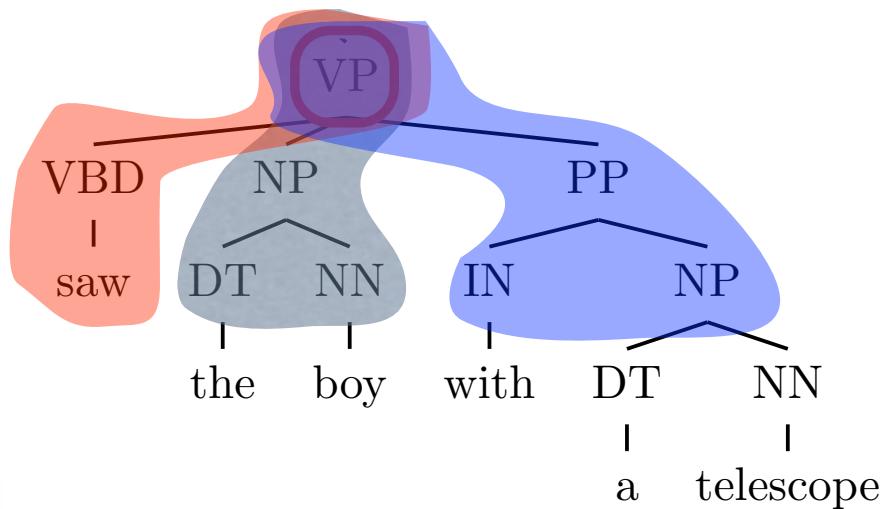
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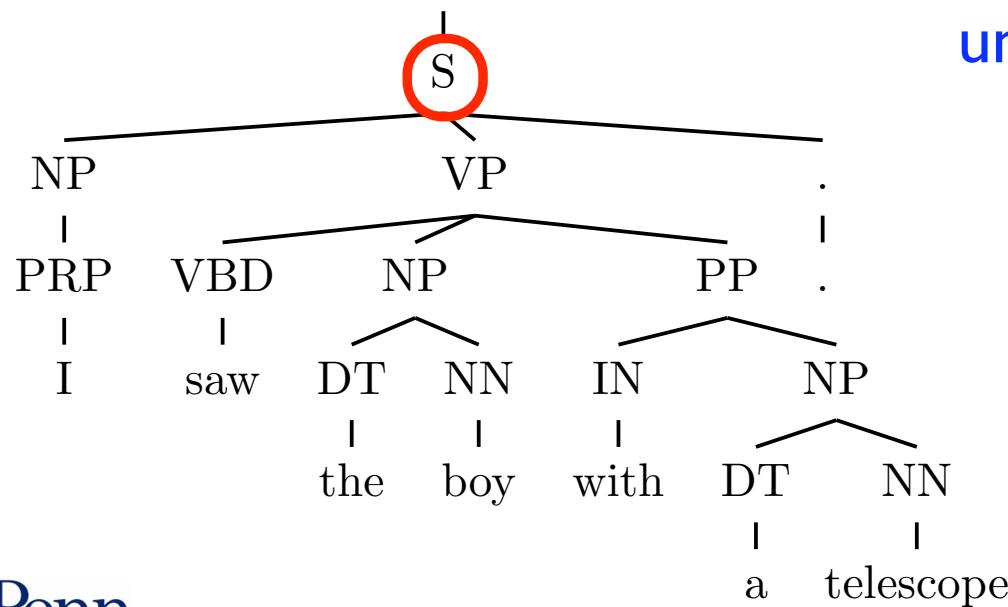
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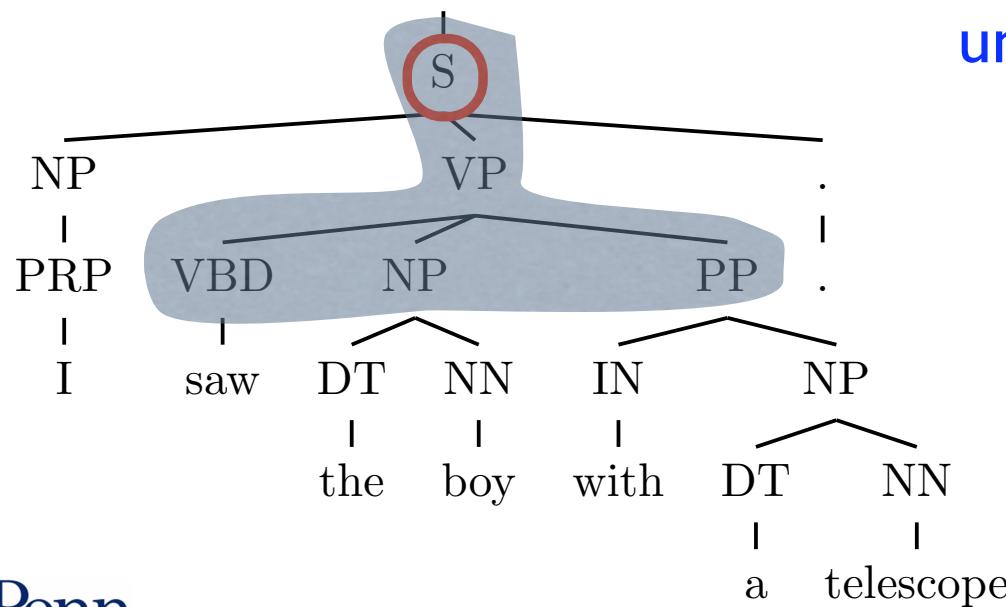
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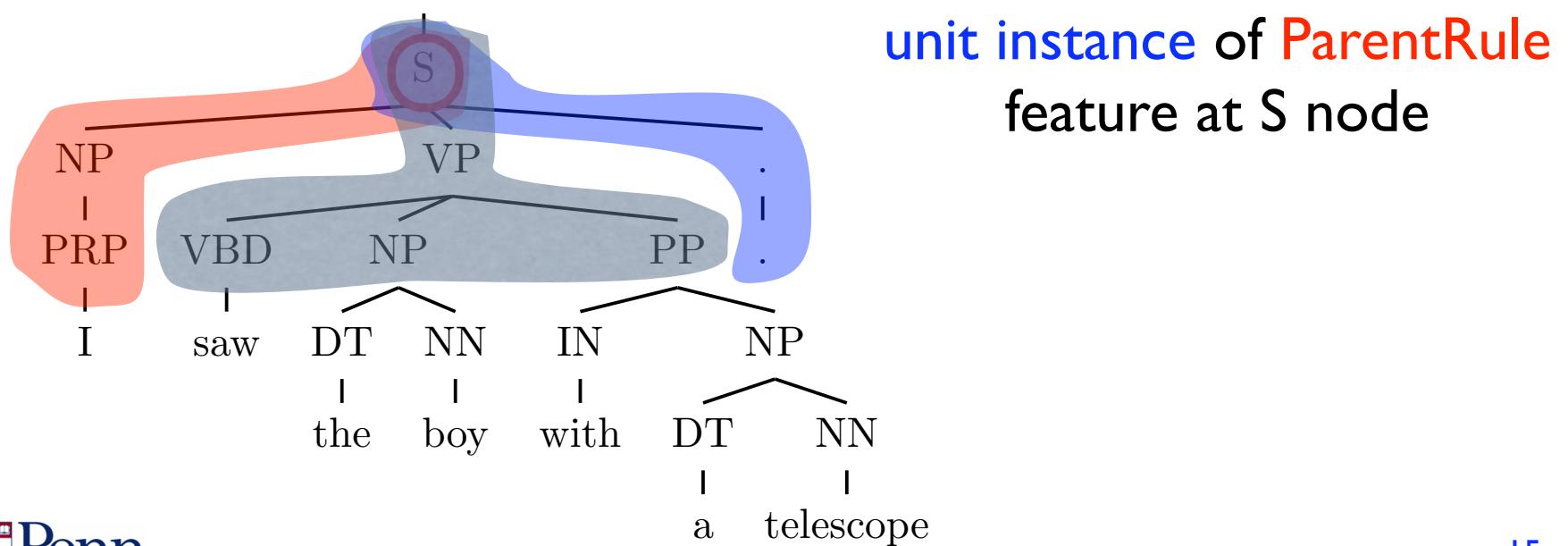
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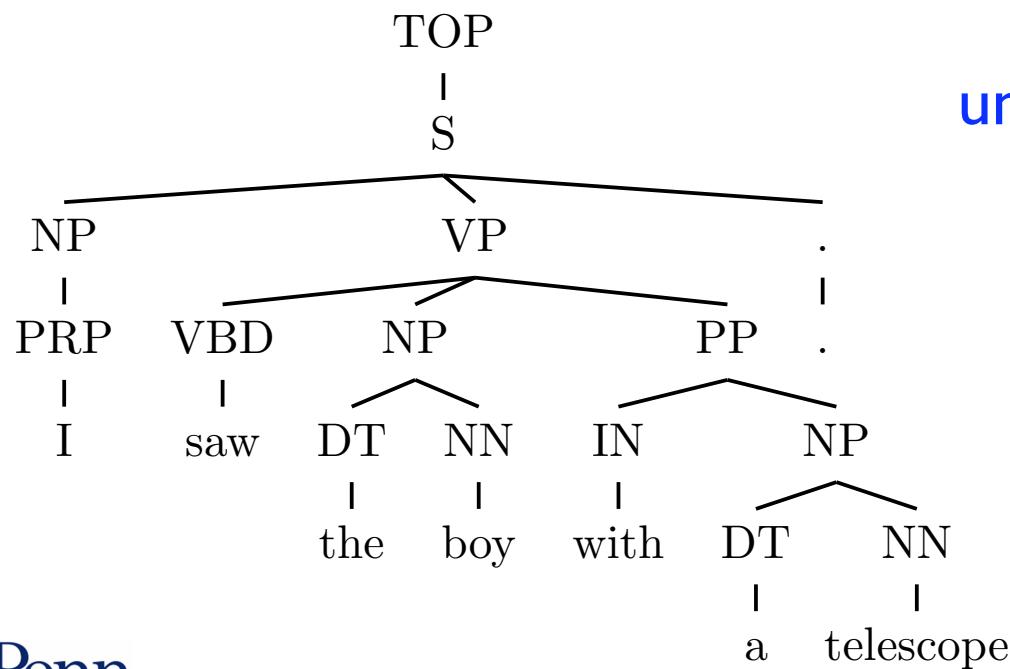
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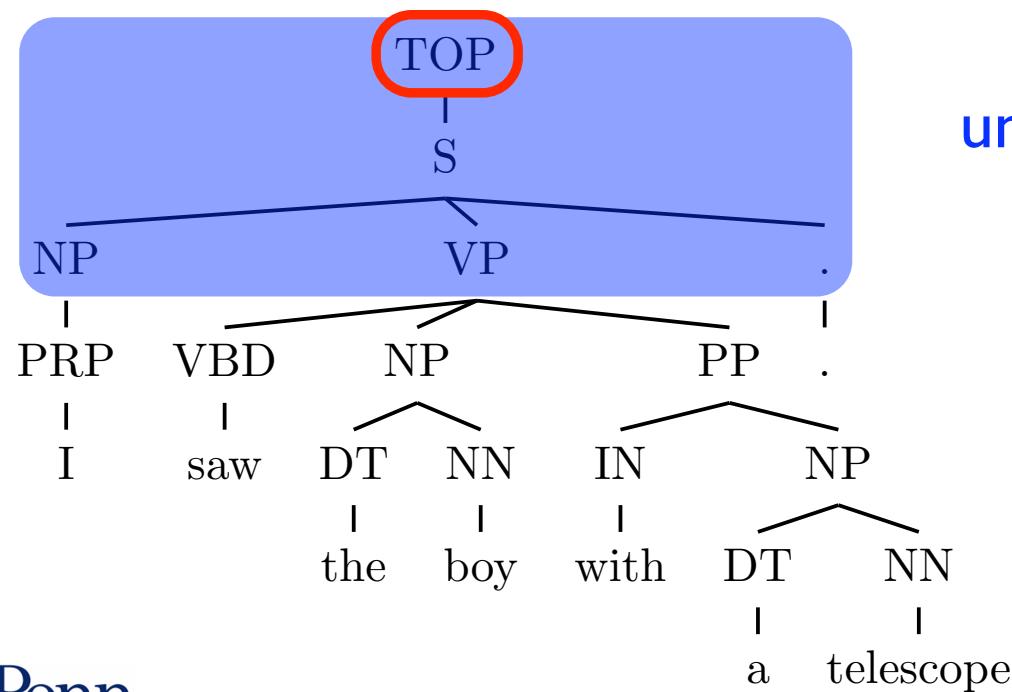
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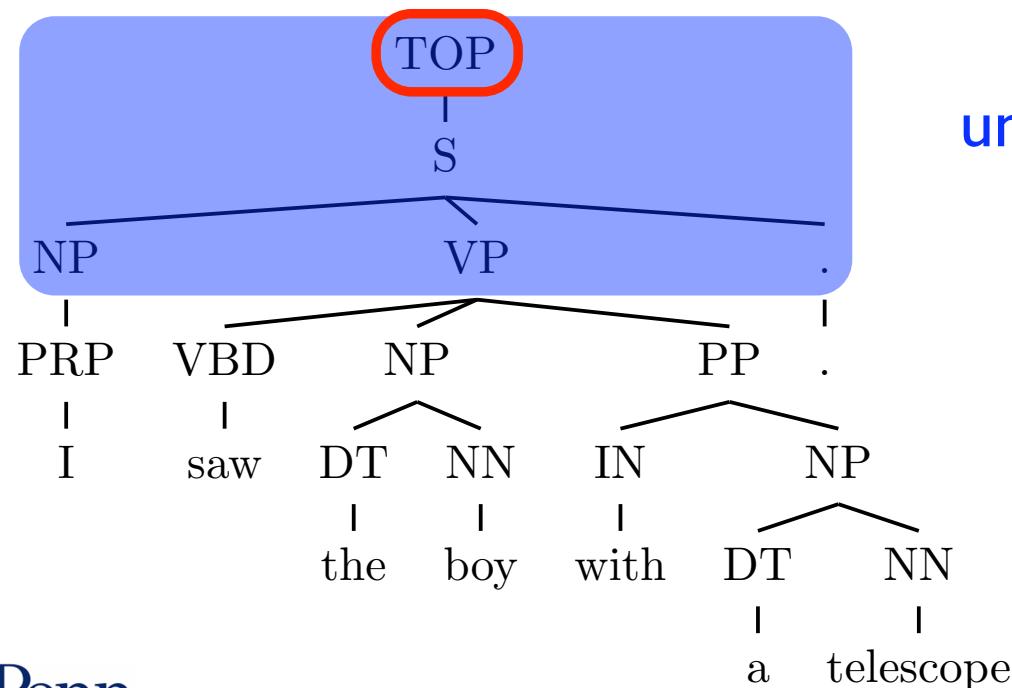
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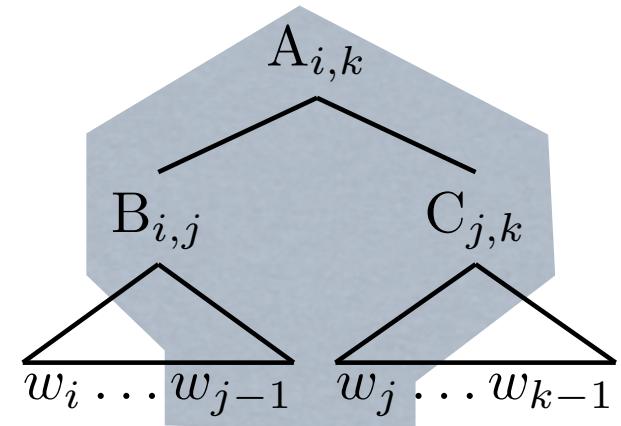
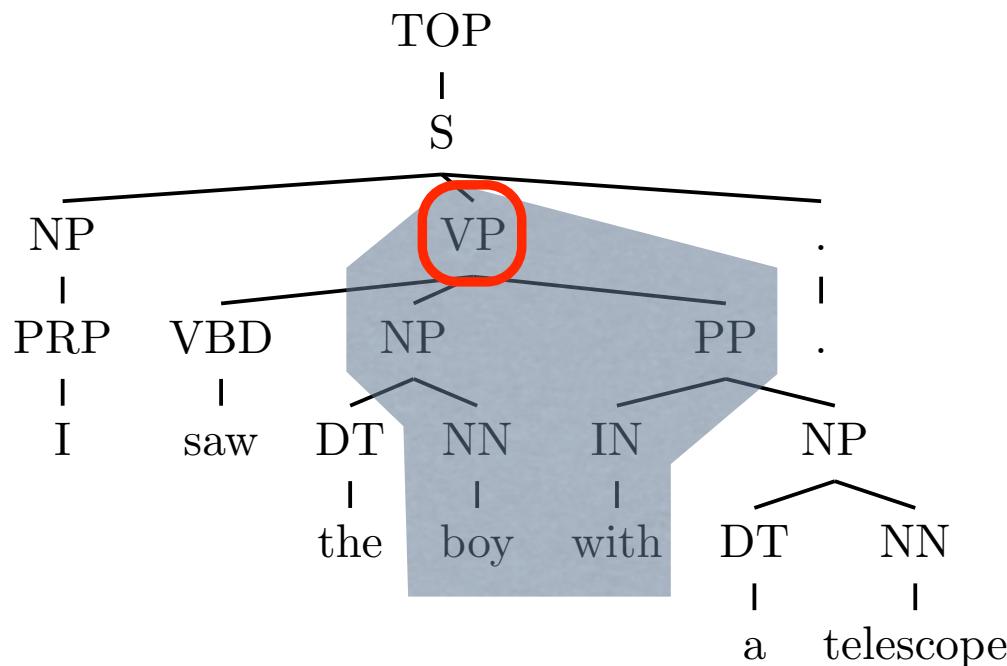
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non-local features factor
across nodes dynamically

local features factor
across hyperedges statically

NGramTree (C&J 05)

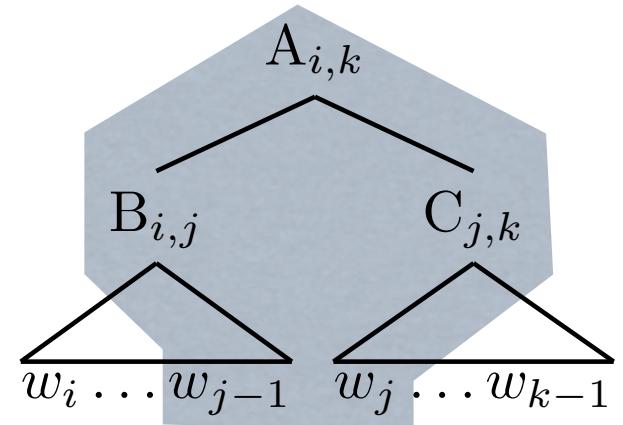
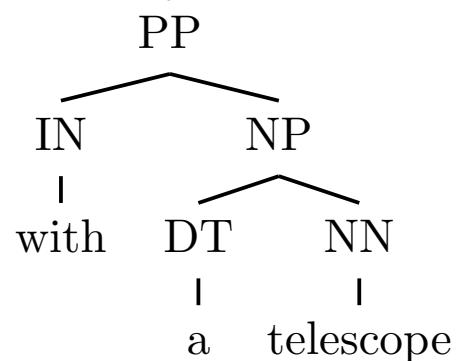
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- unit instances are **boundary words** between subtrees



unit instance of node A

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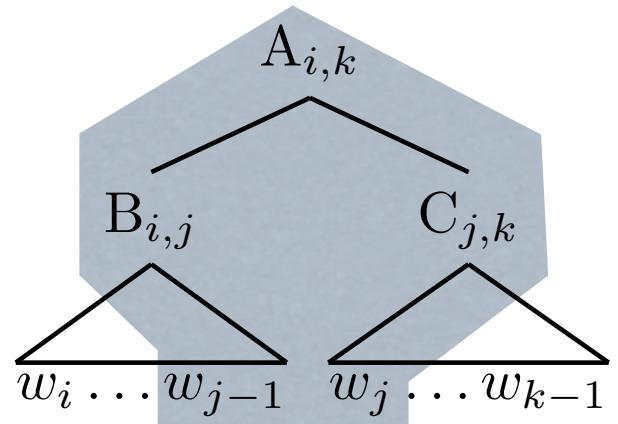
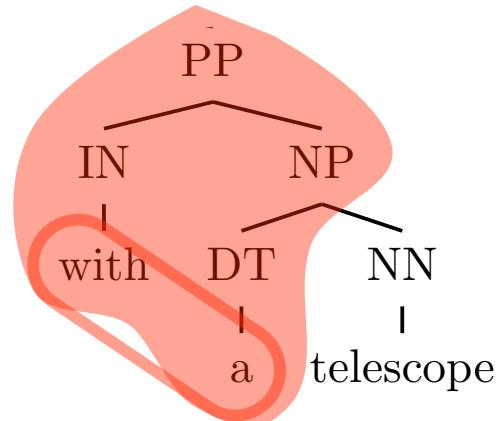
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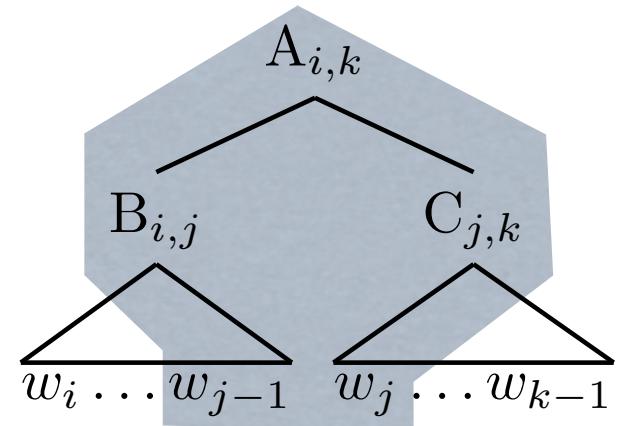
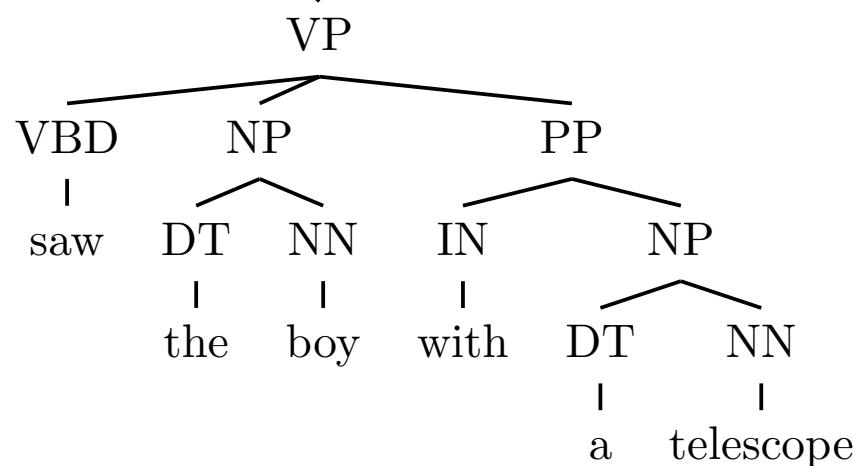
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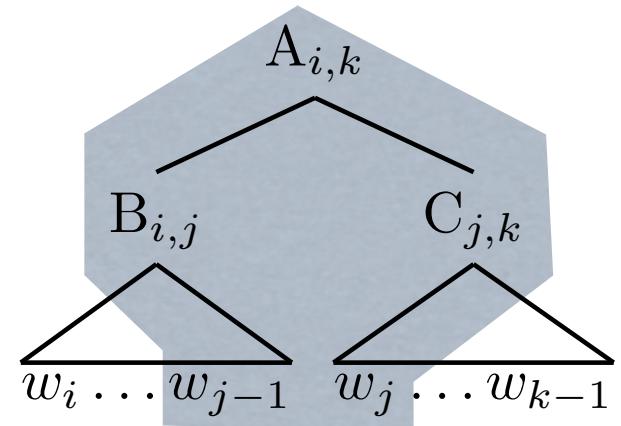
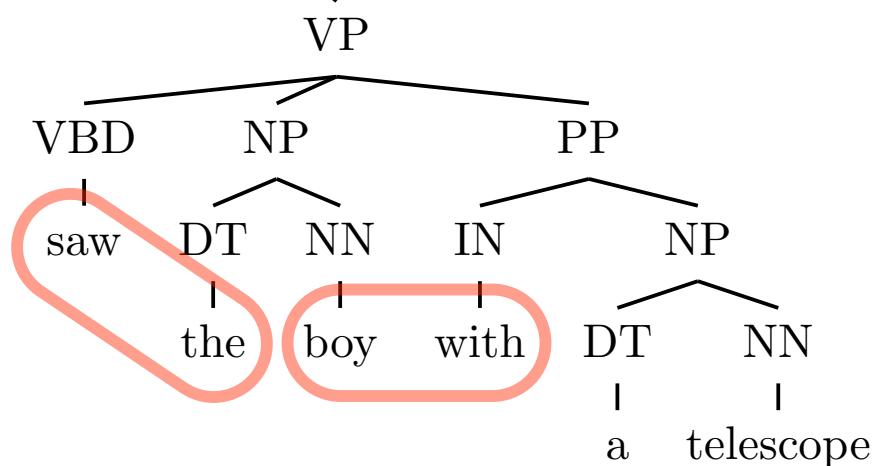
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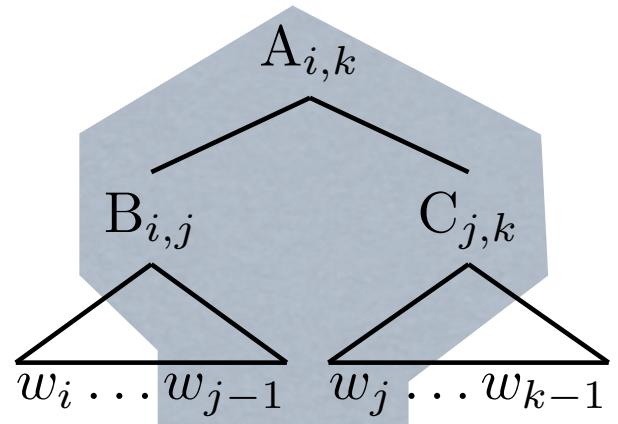
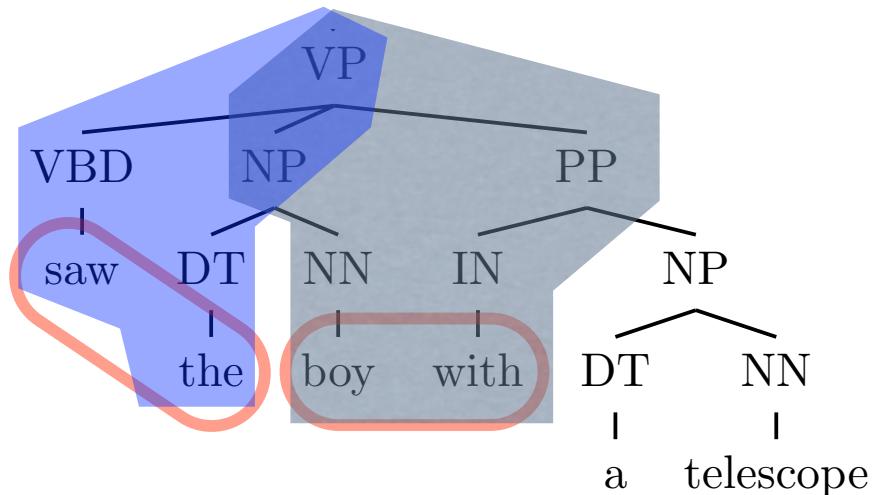
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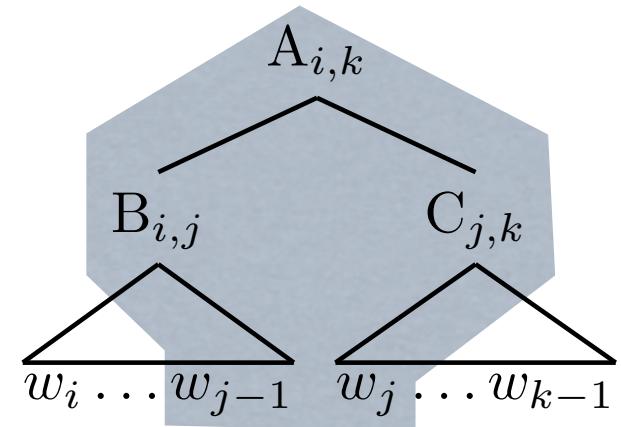
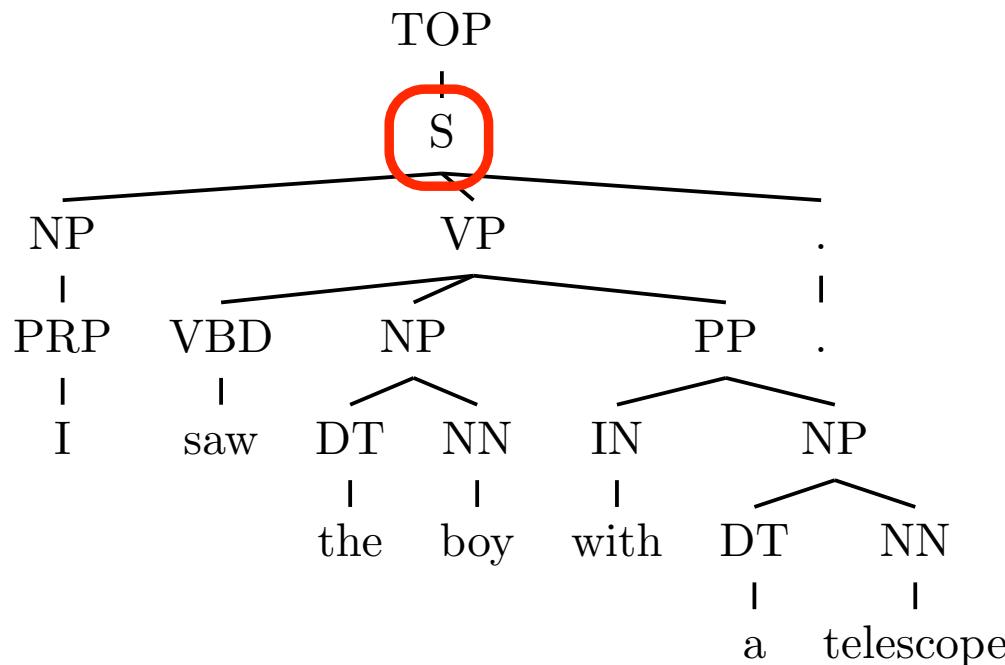
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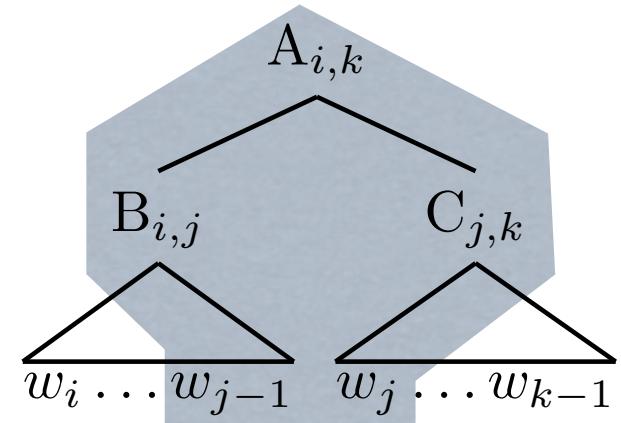
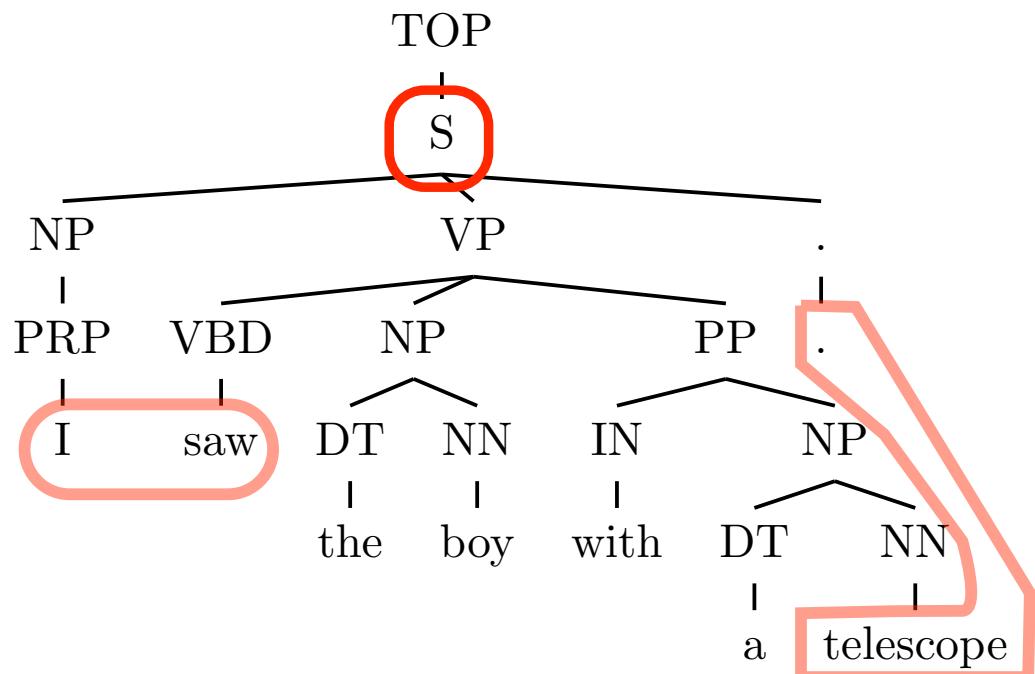
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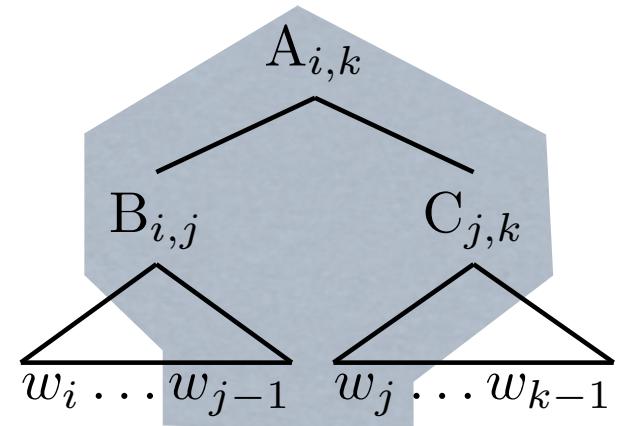
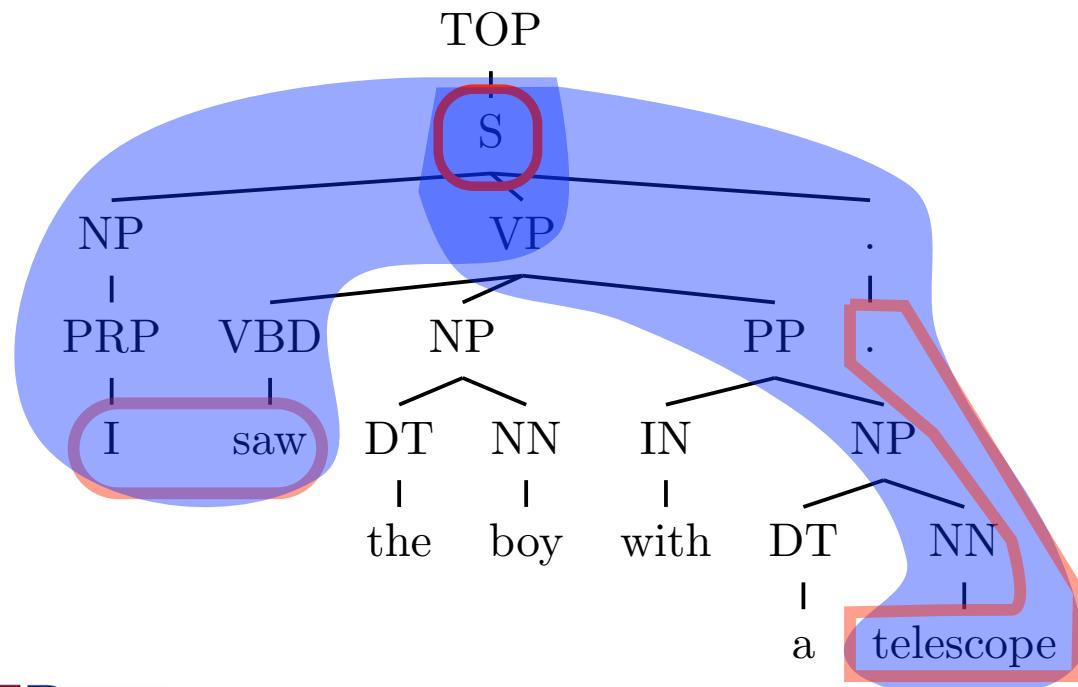
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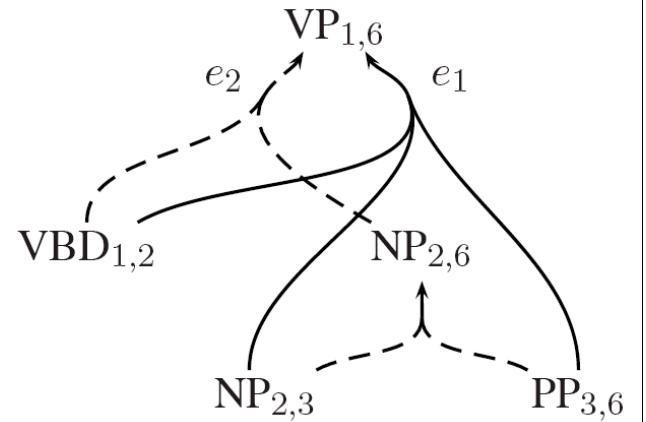
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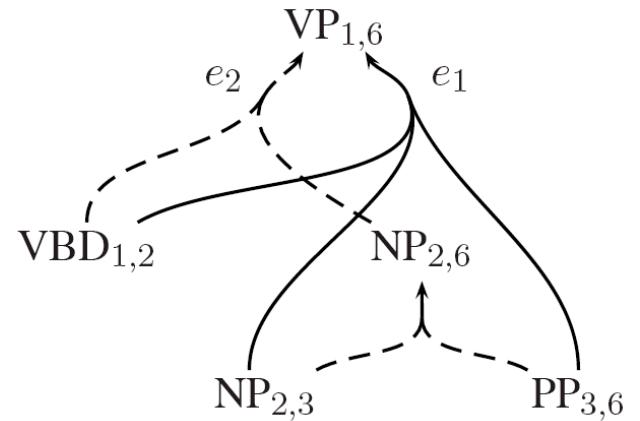
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General Idea of Decoding



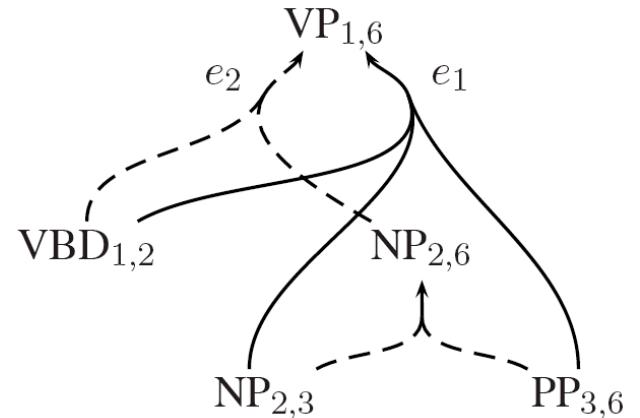
General Idea of Decoding

- bottom-up (chart parsing)



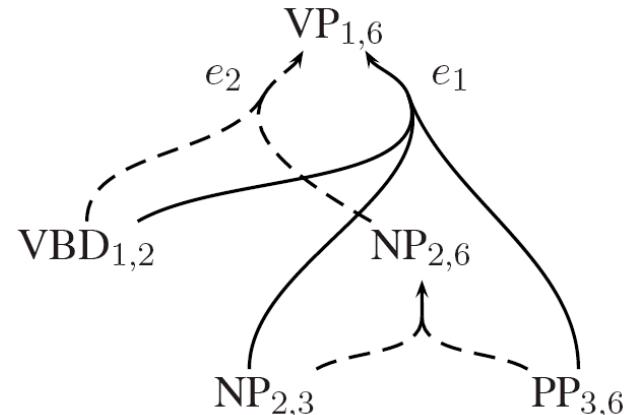
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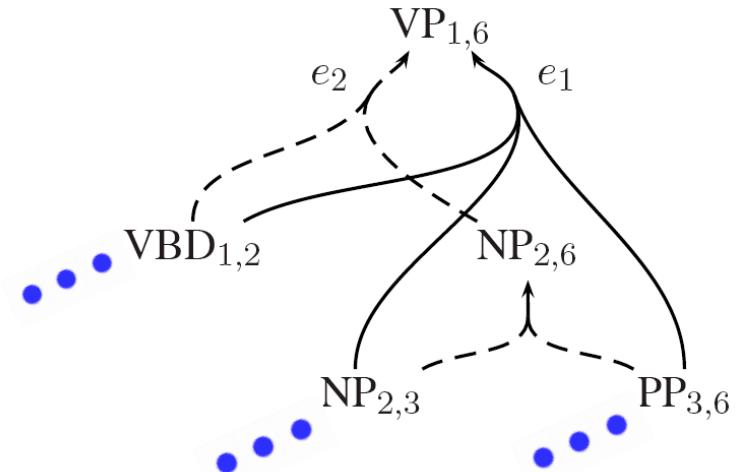
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- similar to machine translation decoding with integrated language models
 - non-local features \Leftrightarrow LM combo
 - so we use forest rescoring from MT
([Chiang 2007](#); [Huang and Chiang 2007](#)) to speed up the computation



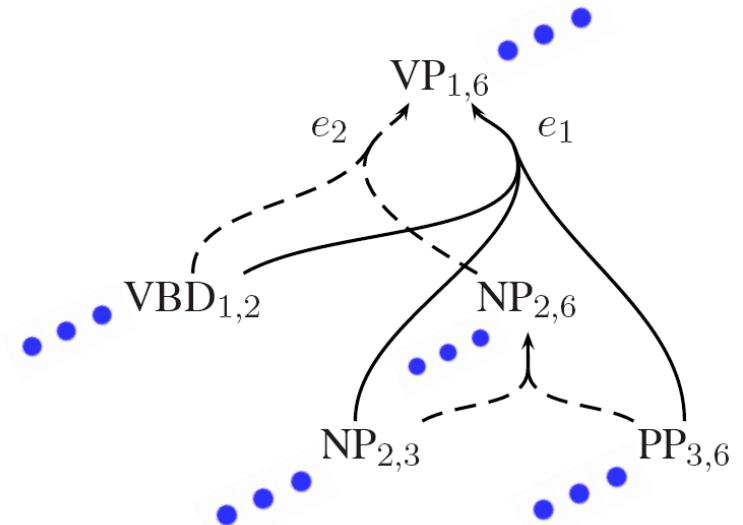
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- bottom-up (chart parsing)
- keep top k trees at each node
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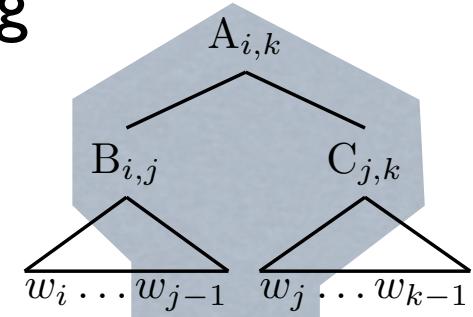
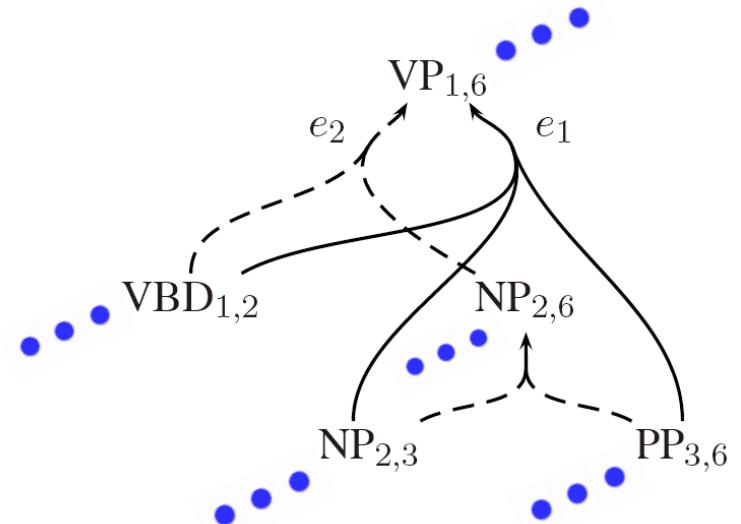
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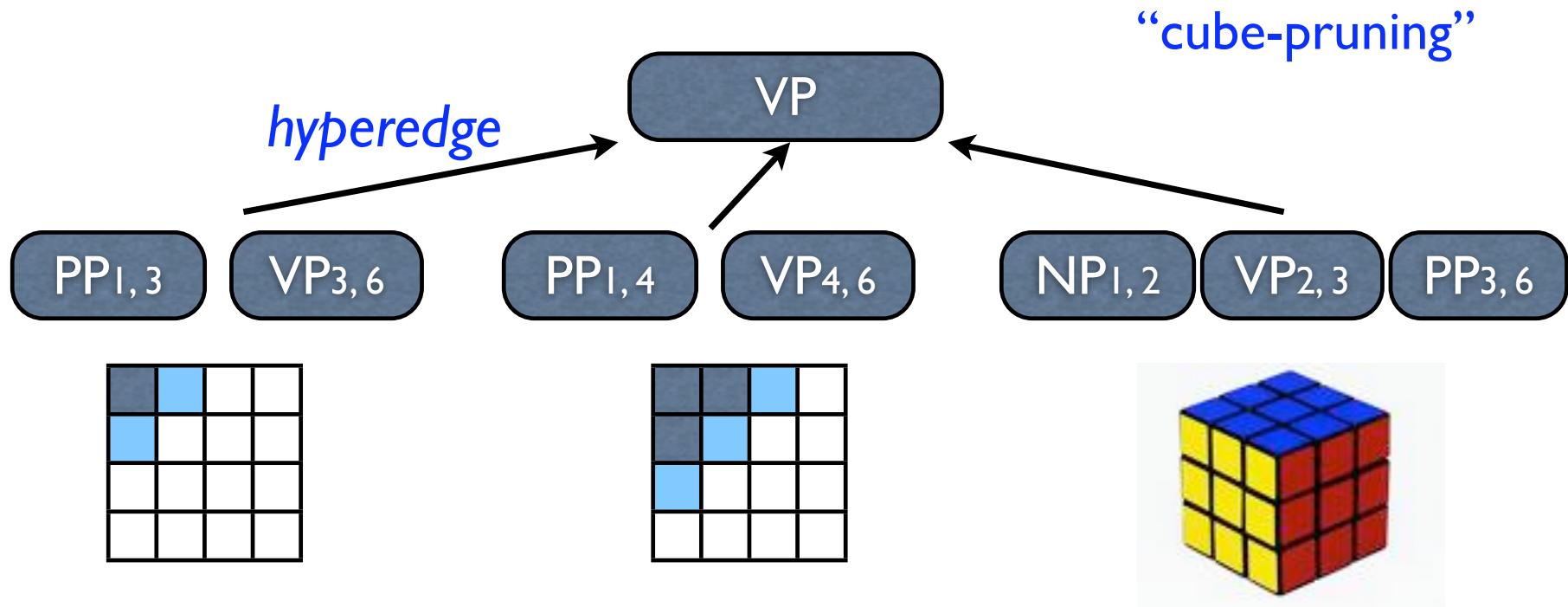
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Faster Decoding

- best-first exploration of hyperedges **simultaneously!**
significant savings of computation
- most of the item combinations are neglected



Experiments

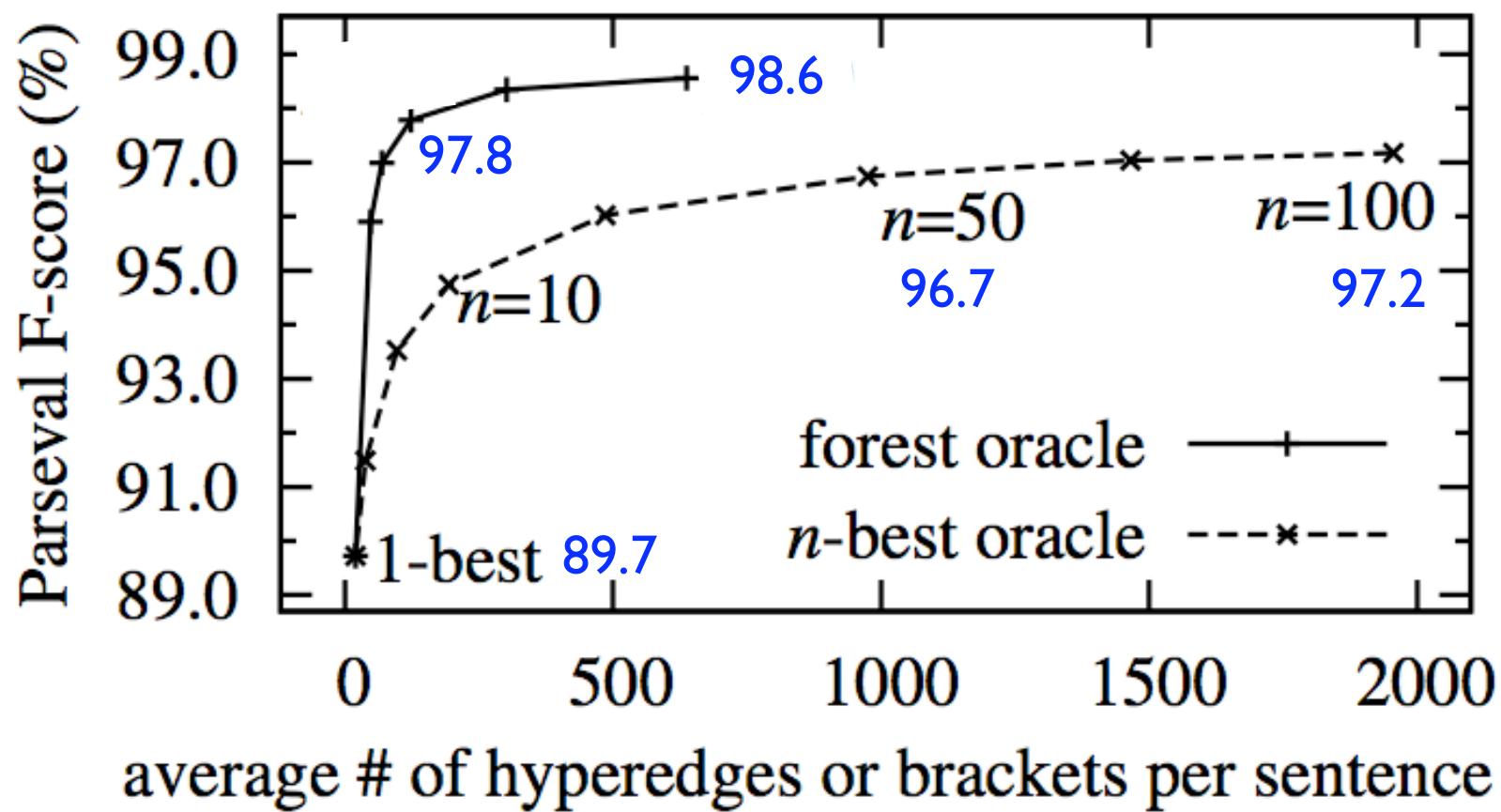
scaled to the whole Penn Treebank

Data Preparation

- use Charniak parser as baseline
- standard split: train: sec 02-21, dev: sec 22, test: sec 23
- training set split into 20 fold (cross-validation style)
- modify Charniak parser to output forests!
 - pruned by an Inside-Outside style algorithm
- use 15 features templates from (Charniak and Johnson, 2005; Collins, 2000); 800,582 feature instances (~70% local)
- both n -best and forest reranking systems implemented in pure Python, on 64-bit Dual-core 3.0 GHz machines

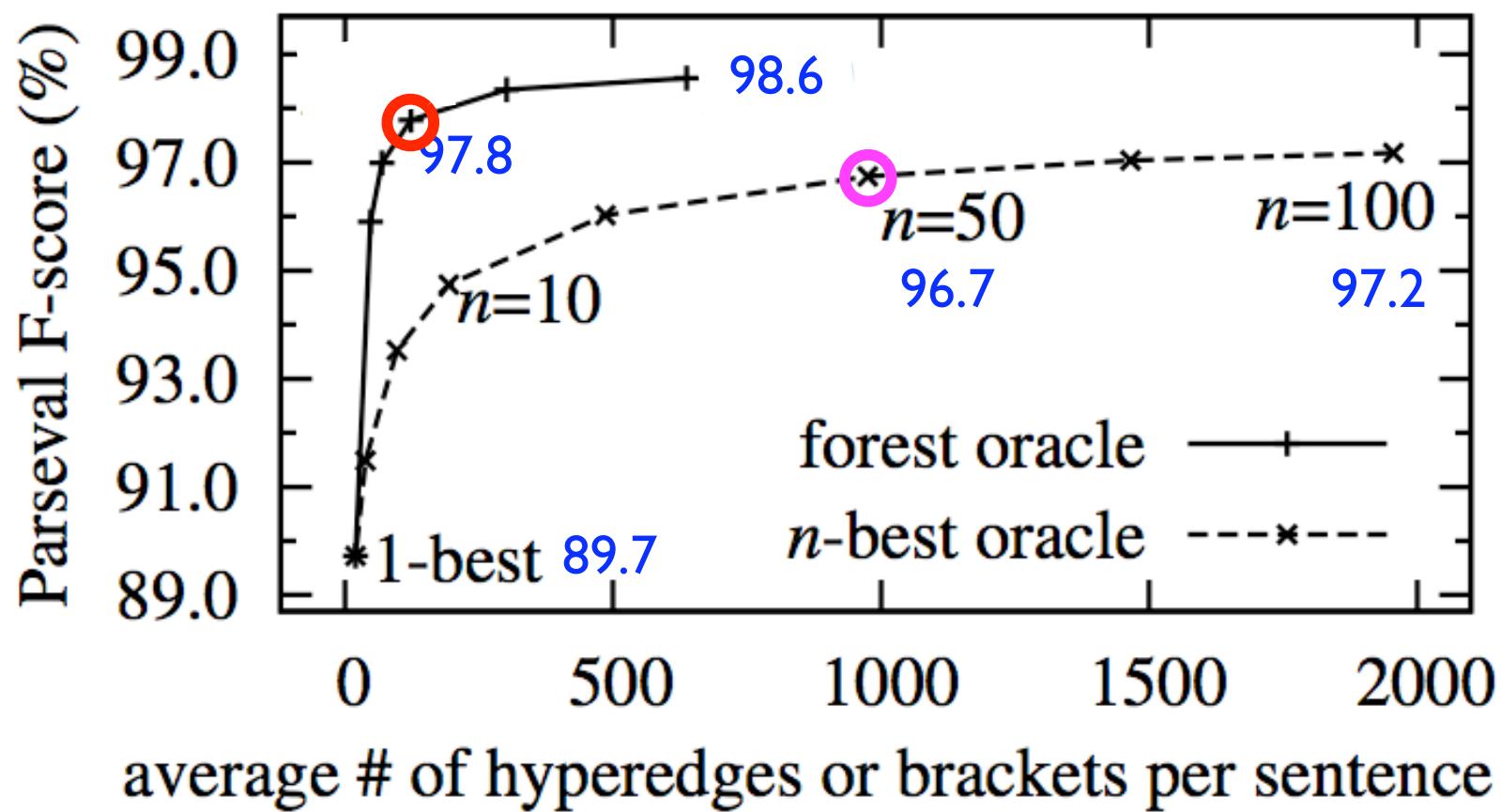
Forest vs. n-best Oracles

- forests enjoy higher oracle scores than n -best lists
 - a **dynamic programming** algorithm for forest oracle



Forest vs. n-best Oracles

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Main Results

- forest reranking outperforms both 50-best and 100-best reranking
- and can be trained on the whole treebank in ~ 1 day even with a pure Python implementation!

| baseline: 1-best Charniak parser | | 89.72 |
|----------------------------------|-----------------|-------|
| approach | training time | F1% |
| 50-best reranking | 4 \times 0.3h | 91.43 |
| 100-best reranking | 4 \times 0.7h | 91.49 |
| forest reranking | 4 \times 6.1h | 91.69 |

details in the paper.

Comparison with Others

| approach | system | F ₁ % |
|------------------------|-----------------------------|------------------|
| reranking | Collins (2000) | 89.7 |
| | Charniak and Johnson (2005) | 91.0 |
| dynamic programming | Petrov and Klein (2008) | 88.3 |
| | <i>this work</i> | 91.7 |
| generative | Bod (2000) | 90.7 |
| | Petrov and Klein (2007) | 90.1 |
| semi-supervised | McClosky et al. (2006) | 92.1 |

Conclusion

- A Framework for Reranking on Packed Forests
 - forests have more variations and smaller sizes
 - dynamic programming algorithm for forest oracles
- Two Key Ideas that made it work
 - incremental, recursive computation of features
 - forest rescore for approximate decoding
- Discriminative training scaled to the whole PTB
 - better than both 50-best and 100-best reranking
 - better than any previous results trained on PTB

Conclusion

- more akin to traditional chart parsing, not reranking!
 - multipass search (Goodman, 1997)
 - non-local features in the pruned forest
 - but without blowing up the forest
 - better search algorithms should help!
 - could in principle incorporate fancier features
- also applicable to other problems involving forest
 - sequence segmentation/labeling, dependency parsing, machine translation, generation, ...

Forest is your friend. Save the forest.



Thank you!

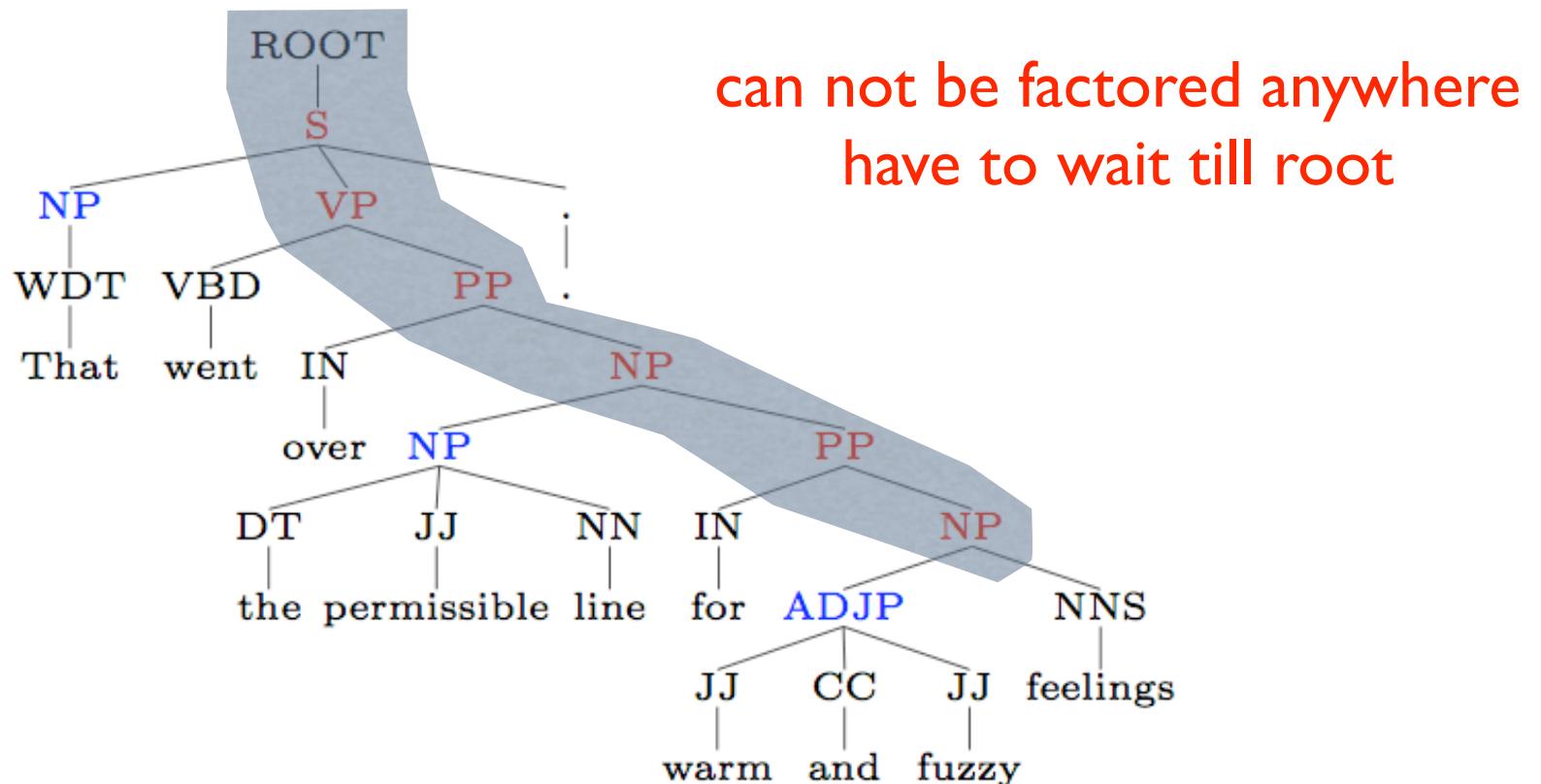
Forest-dumping Charniak parser
will be available online.





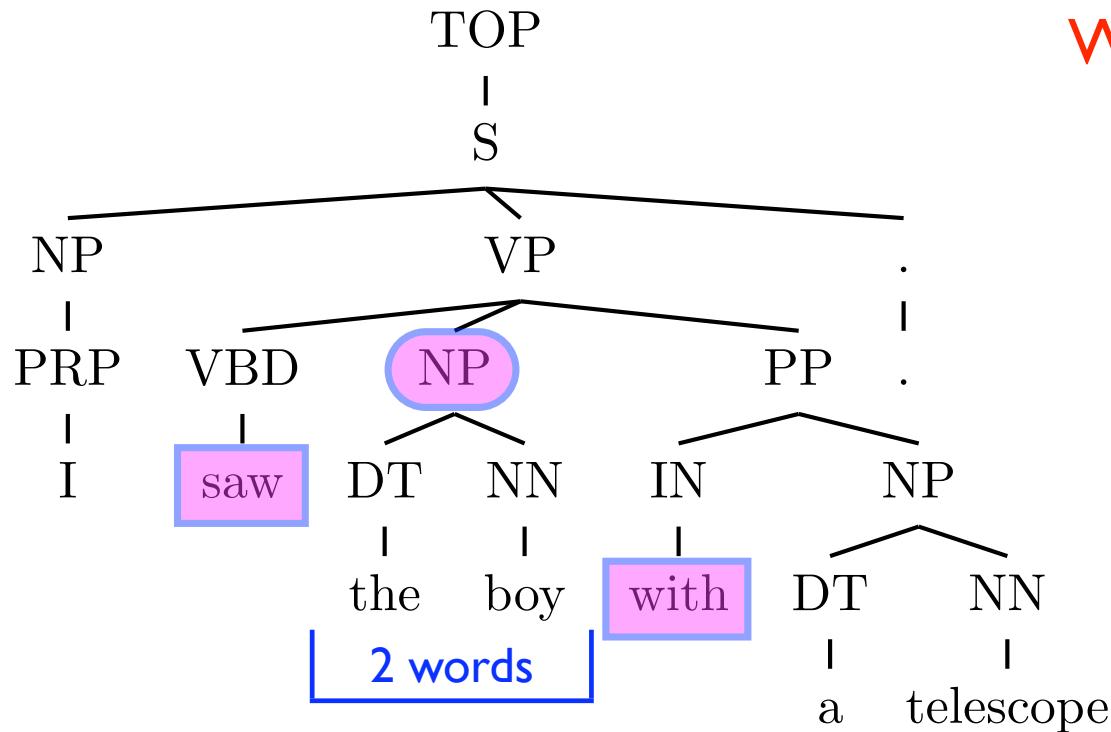
Global Feature - RightBranch

- length of rightmost (non-punctuation) path
 - English has a right-branching tendency



WordEdges (C&J 05)

- a **WordEdges** feature classifies a node by its label, (binned) span length, and surrounding words
- a **POSEdges** feature uses surrounding POS tags

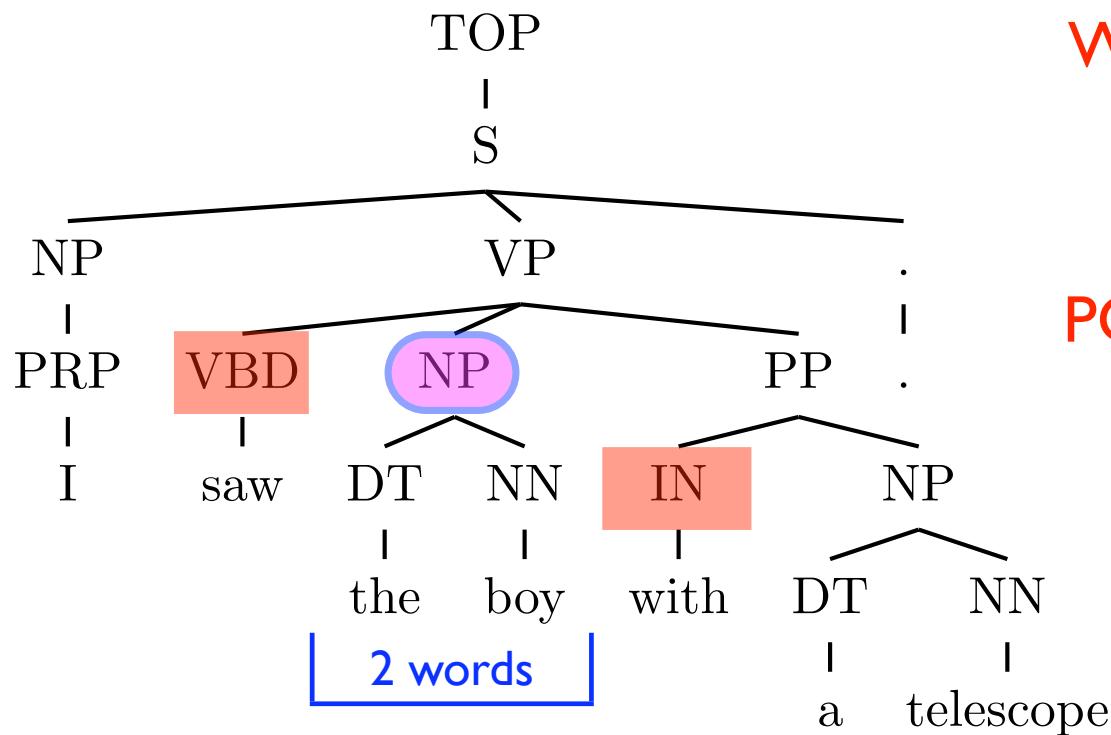


WordEdges is local

$$f_{400}(y) = f_{NP \ 2 \ saw \ with}(y) = 1$$

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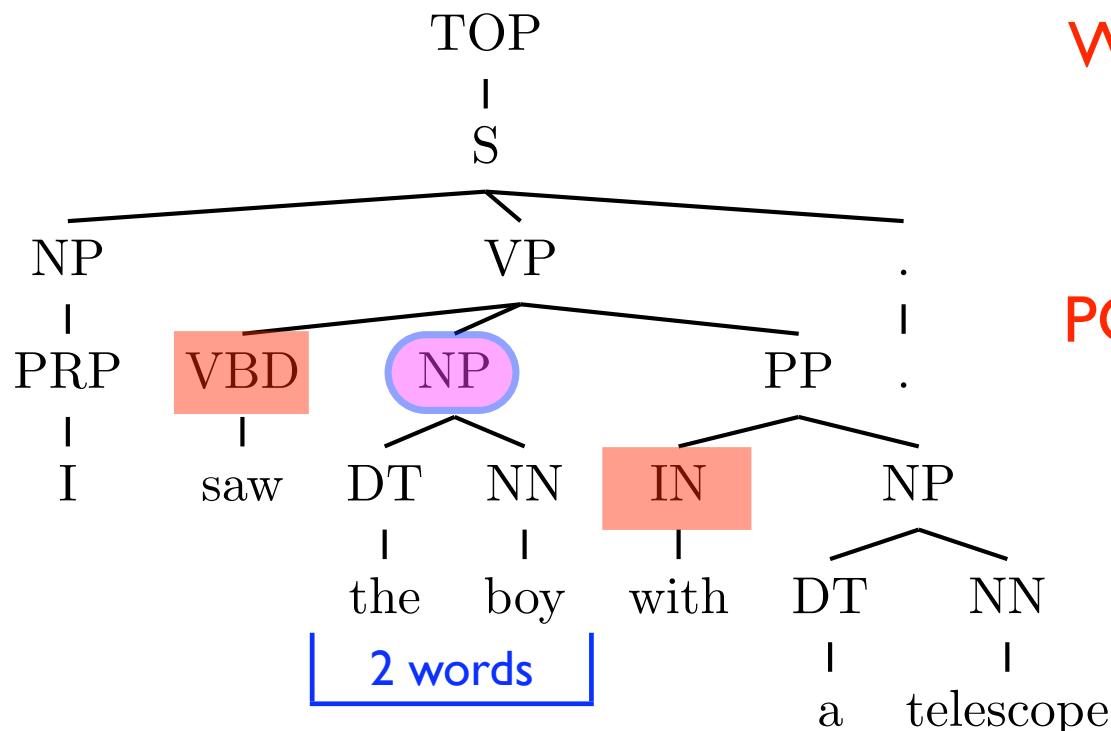
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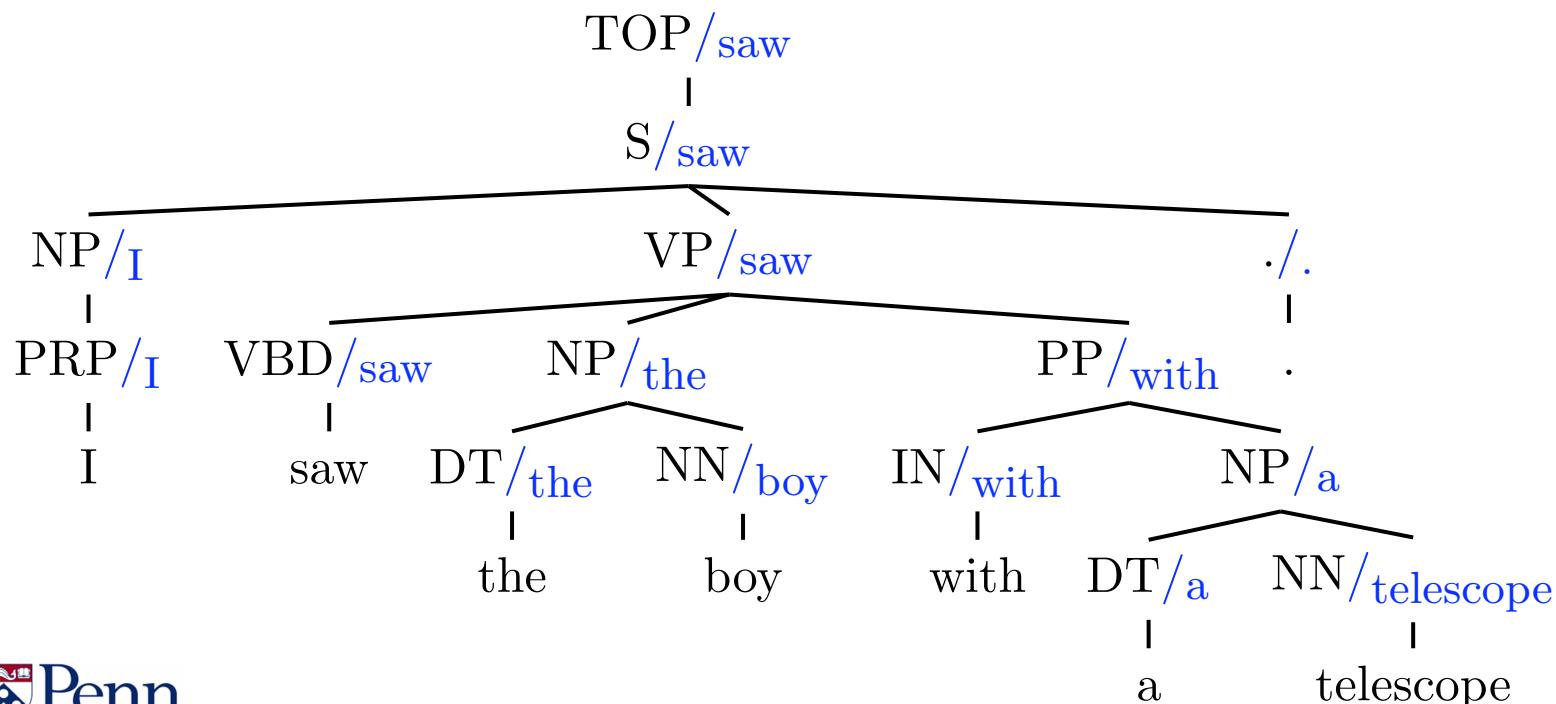
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local features comprise
~70% of all instances!

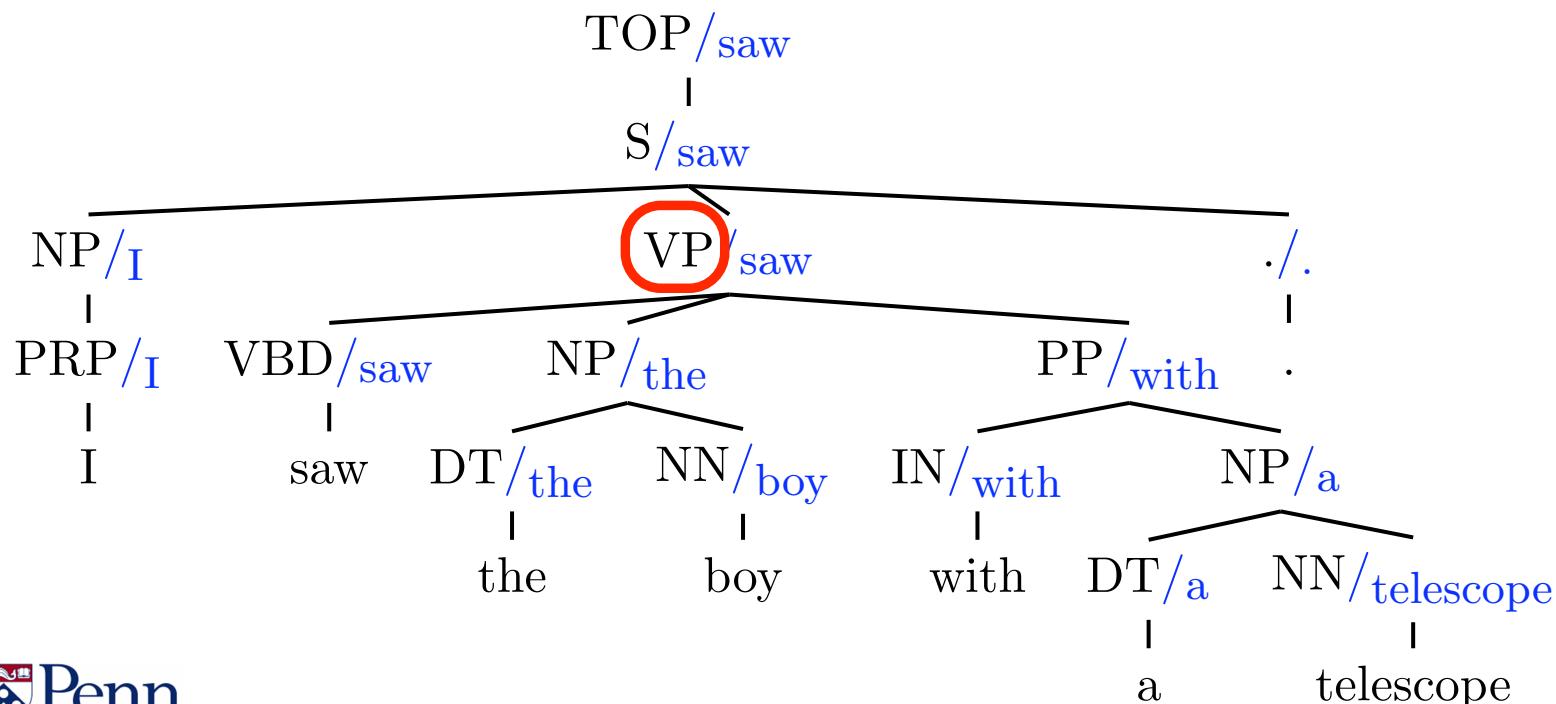
Heads (C&J 05, Collins 00)

- head-to-head lexical dependencies
- we percolate heads bottom-up
- unit instances are between the head word of the head child and the head words of non-head children



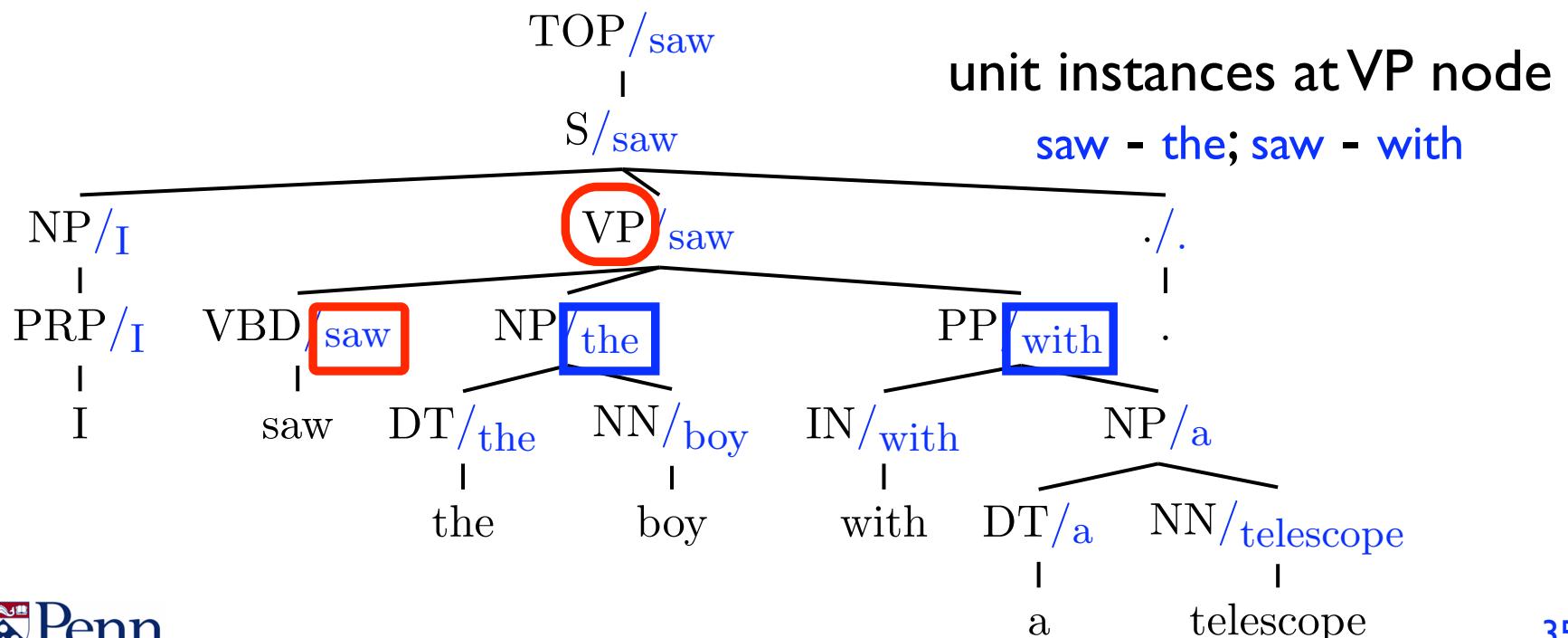
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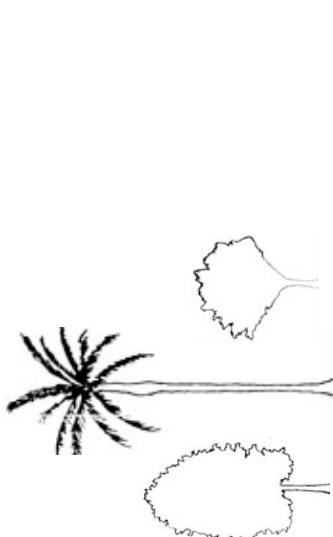
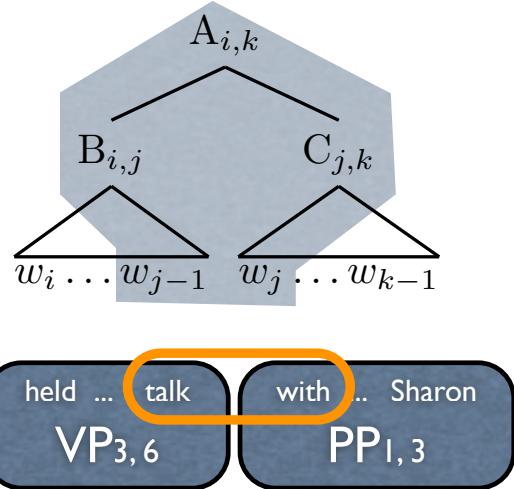
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Approximate Decoding

- bottom-up, keeps top k derivations at each node
 - forest rescoring from MT (Chiang 2007; Huang and Chiang 07)
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 - each iteration pops the best and pushes successors
 - unit non-local feature costs as a non-monotonic cost



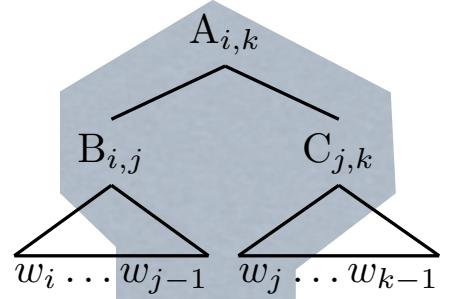
A 4x4 grid of numbers representing feature costs. The numbers are arranged as follows:

| | 1.0 | 3.0 | 8.0 |
|-----|-----|------|------|
| 1.0 | 2.5 | 9.0 | 9.5 |
| 1.1 | 2.4 | 9.5 | 9.4 |
| 3.5 | 5.1 | 17.0 | 12.1 |

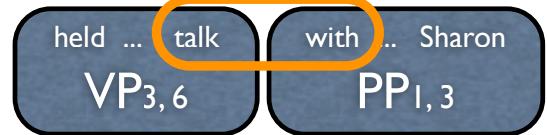
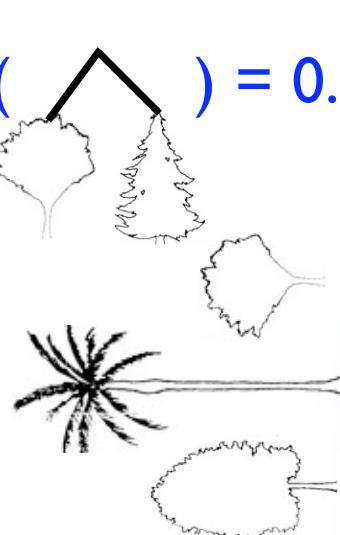
Some cells in the grid are highlighted in blue: the cell (1,1), the cell (1,2), and the cell (2,1).

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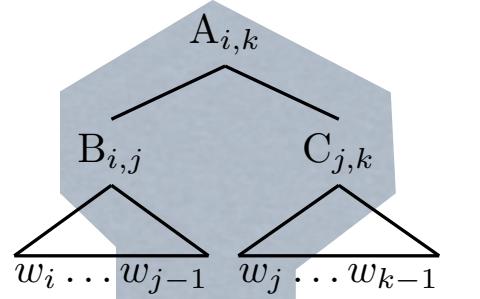
$$\mathbf{w} \cdot \mathbf{f}_N(\text{tree}) = 0.5$$



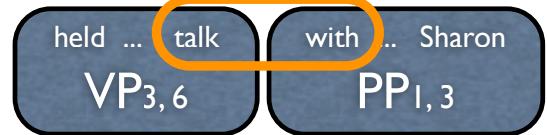
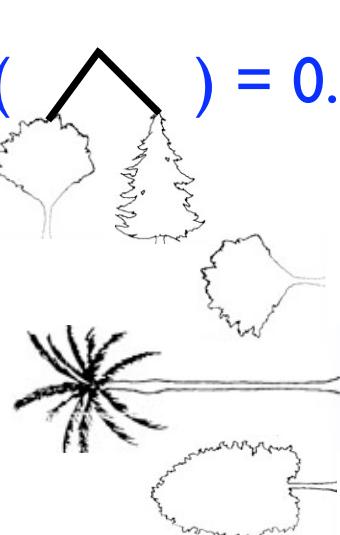
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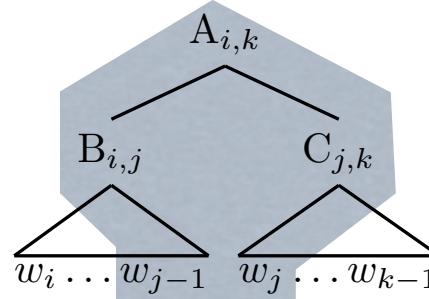
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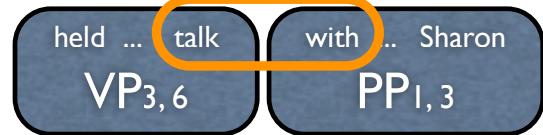
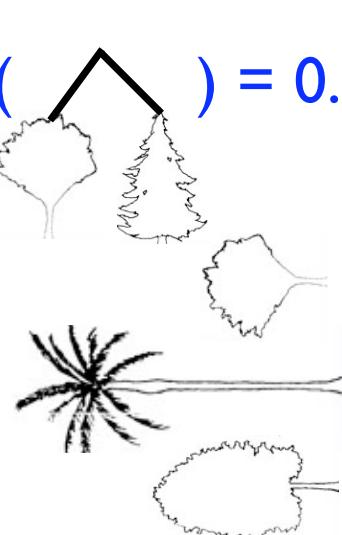
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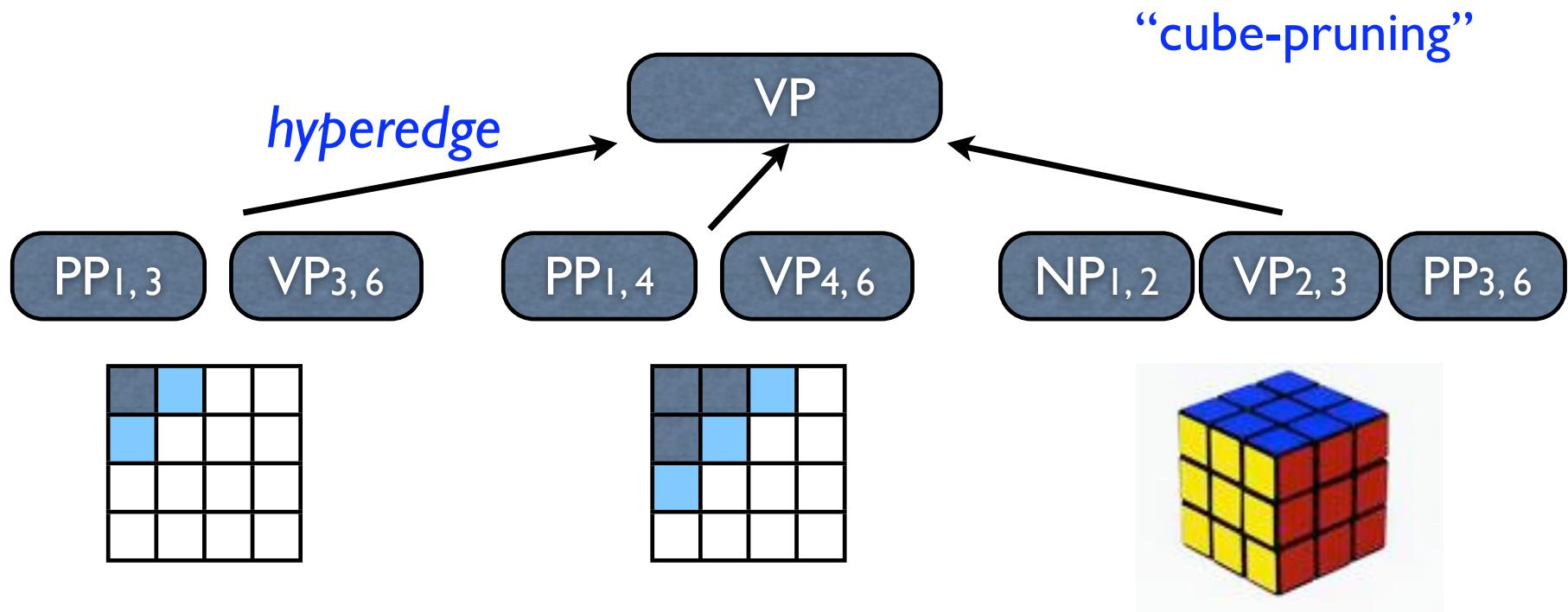


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Approximate Decoding

- process all hyperedges **simultaneously!**
significant savings of computation



complexity: $O(E + V \mathbf{U} k \log k)$,
bottom-neck: the time for on-the-fly extraction

Forest Oracle

the candidate tree that is closest to gold-standard

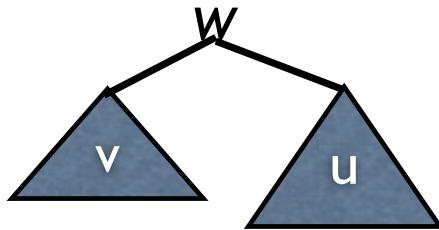
Optimal Parseval F-score

- find the tree in the forest with highest F-score
- Parseval F_1 -score is the harmonic mean between labeled precision and labeled recall
 - can not optimize F-scores on sub-forests separately
 - can not optimize precision and recall simultaneously
- we instead use **dynamic programming**
 - optimizes the number of matched brackets per given number of test brackets
 - “when the test (sub-) parse has 5 brackets, what is the max. number of matched brackets?”

Combining Oracle Functions

- to combine two nodes along a hyperedge, we need to **distribute** test brackets between the two, and **optimize** the number of matches

$$(f \otimes g)(t) \triangleq \max_{t_1+t_2=t} f(t_1) + g(t_2)$$

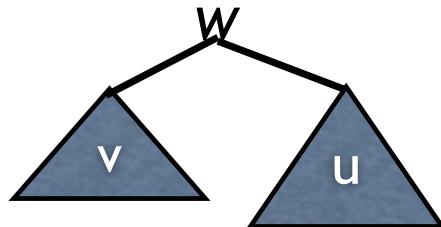


$$\begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline t & f(t) \\ \hline 2 & 1 \\ \hline 3 & 2 \\ \hline \end{array} \otimes \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline t & g(t) \\ \hline 4 & 4 \\ \hline 5 & 4 \\ \hline \end{array} = \begin{array}{|c|c|} \hline t & (f \otimes g)(t) \\ \hline 6 & 5 \\ \hline 7 & 6 \\ \hline 8 & 6 \\ \hline \end{array}$$

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N

| t | $(f \otimes g) \uparrow_{(1,0)} (t)$ |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 7 | 5 |
| 8 | 6 |
| 9 | 6 |

Y

| t | $(f \otimes g) \uparrow_{(1,1)} (t)$ |
|---|--------------------------------------|
| 7 | 6 |
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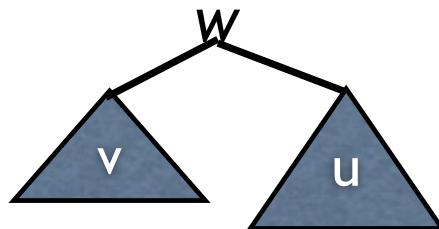
ora[w]

this node matched?

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final answer:

$$F(y^+, y^*) = \max_t \frac{2 \cdot ora[\text{TOP}](t)}{t + |y^*|}$$

N

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|---|--------------------------------------|
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