

A Top-down Graph-based Tool for Modeling Classical Semantic Maps: A Crosslinguistic Case Study of Supplementary Adverbs

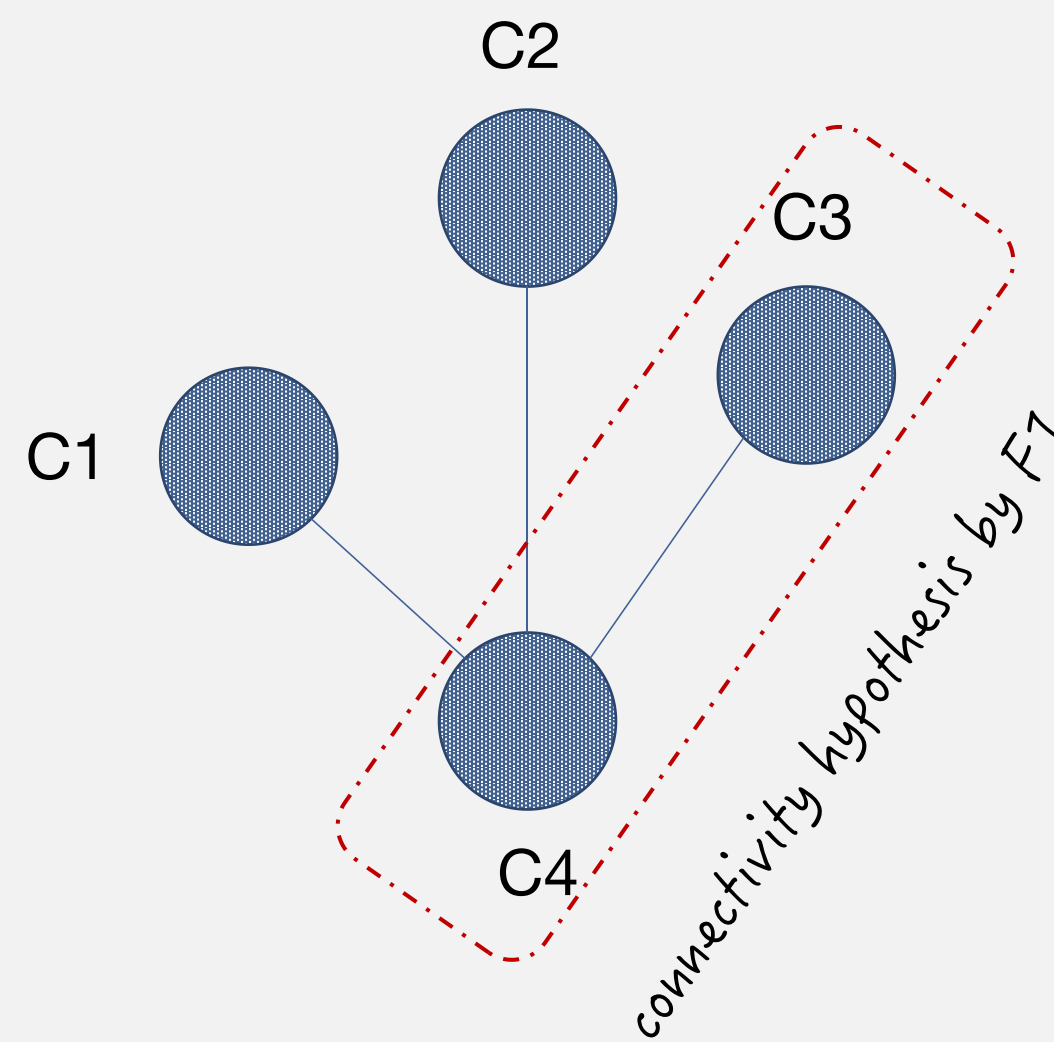
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What are classical semantic maps?



	C1	C2	C3	C4
F1			✓	✓
F2		✓		✓
F3	✓			✓
F4	✓			✓

Form-Concept Table



Semantic Maps

Node: Concept / Meaning / Functions / Sense

Forms: Function or Content Words / Affixes / Constructions

Edge: Association between nodes

Form-Concept Table: Multifunctionality/Polysemous patterns

Connectivity Hypothesis (H1): concepts for one form must be connected!

Coverage-Predictivity Dilemma

Vacuous Map: Cycled graph without any predictions, avoid it!

Croft, William 2003 Typology and Universals(2nd edition). Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

English preposition to

- Goethe went to Vienna as a student. (direction)
- Eve gave the apple to Adam. (recipient)
- This seems outrageous to me. (experiencer)
- I left the party early to get home in time. (purpose)

English preposition for

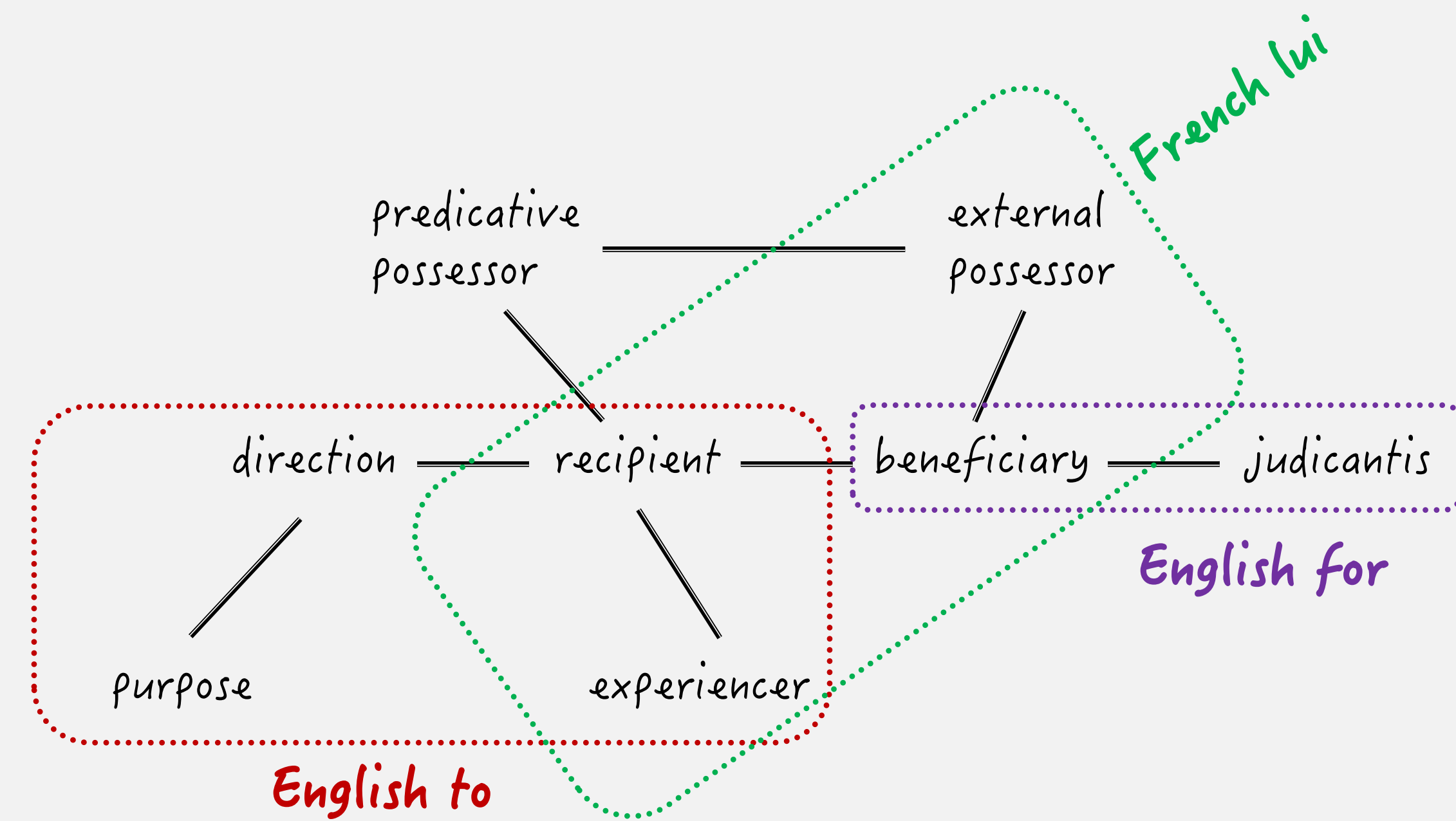
- My mom bought a bike for the son. (benefactive)
- The math is too difficult for me. (judicantis)

French lui (DAT-case)

- Je lui donne le livre. [I'll give her the book] (recipient)
- Je lui ai trouvé unemploi [I found a job for him.] (benefactive)
- On lui a cassé la jambe [They broke his leg] (ext. possessor)
- Ce livre lui plaît [He likes this book] (experiencer)

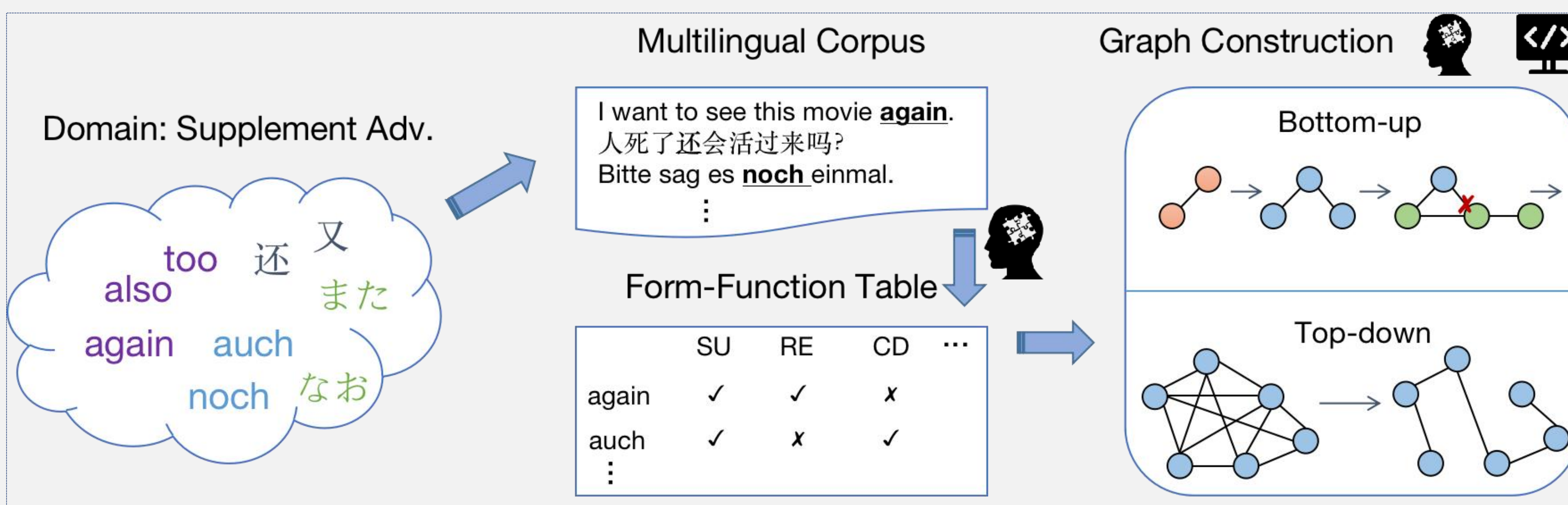
Russian: u, Dative-case

Chinese, Catalan, Homeric Greek, Basque ...



Haspelmath M. External possession in a European areal perspective[J]. Typological studies in language, 1999, 39: 109-136.

How to construct classical semantic maps?



- Bottom-up construction
- Expert or previous programme
 - Iterative to meet connectivity hypothesis (H1) case by case
 - Avoid to generative cycles (vacuous graph) if necessary
 - Time-consuming and hard to scale ✗

- Top-down construction (ours)
- Initially generate a complete graph by calculating the nubmer of bifunctional cooccurrence
 - Convert the local connectivity H1 into a global H2
 - Efficient and Automatic ✓
- H2: Maximum spanning tree from the complete graph
- Whole connectivity
 - Acyclicity
 - Maximum summed weights

Evaluations on a case study

- 9 languages, 28 grammatical forms and 18 functions
- Supplementary Adverbs (The core meaning is to express supplement)
- The form-function table has been created by linguists in a bottom-up fashion.
- The golden map (GT) is provided as a reference

Metrics

- Size: summed weights
- Recall: {#cases meeting H1}/{Number of cases}
- Precision: {#cases meeting H1}/{Possible cases generated by graphs}
- Accuracy: matching proportion according to golden reference.

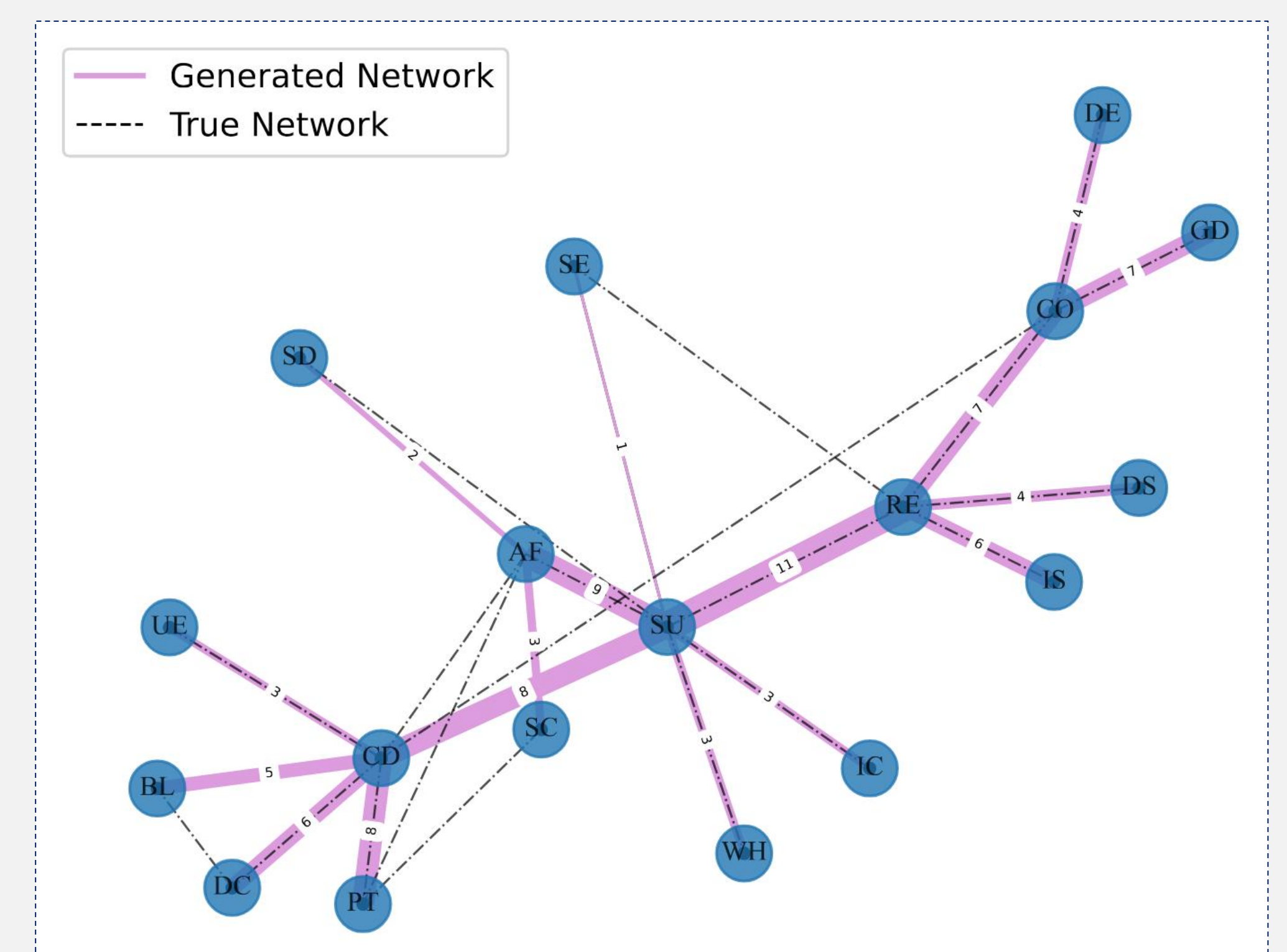
- Standard derivation of degrees: prefer a chain-like typology

- Baselines
- C: Complete graph
- LT: lower-bound with a "bad" tree without overlapping GT

Index	Size↑	Recall↑	Precision↑	Accuracy↑
C	286	1	0	50.0
LT	-	-	-	79.0
GT	91	1	0.20	1
0	90	85.7	0.17	92.6
1	89	82.1	0.21	91.4
2	89	82.1	0.44	90.1
3	88	82.1	0.34	91.4
4	88	78.6	0.50	88.9

Round	RG_1	RG_2
1	-17.8	-22.1
2	-21.9	-22.4
3	-20.5	-19.2
4	-23.8	-21.7
5	-23.1	-24.1
Mean	-21.4	-21.9
Std. Dev.	2.13	1.58

- a graph similar to that by experts (high accuracy)
- Multiple candidates
- A metric moderately correlated with the quality
- Failed edges mainly caused by the acyclicity (Like CD)



Rui Guo, 2010. A semantic map study of adverbs related to "supplement". In Paper presented at the International Symposium for Comparative and Typological Research on Languages of China, Hong Kong, China.

