

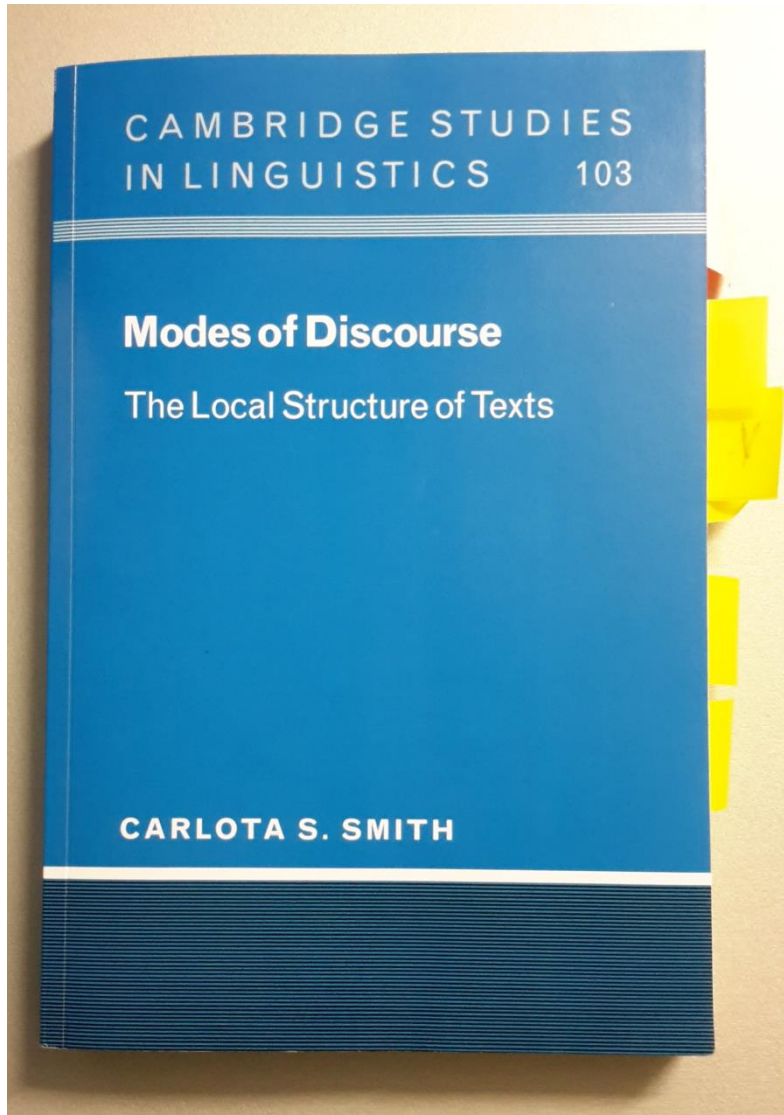
# Annotation and automatic classification of situation entity types

Kolloquium Übersetzungswissenschaft -- Saarbrücken, January 2016

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Annemarie Friedrich, Saarland University  
joint work with Alexis Palmer and Manfred Pinkal

# Carlota Smith: Modes of discourse (2003)



# Thanks!



Alexis Palmer



Manfred Pinkal



Melissa Peate  
Sorensen



Liesa Heuschkel



Kleio-Isidora Mavridou



Christine  
Bocionek



Fernando  
Ardente



Ruth Kühn



Ambika Kirkland



Damyana Gateva

# Discourse modes



Prof. Dr. Origin at Saarland University came into his office one morning and was very surprised by the results of an experiment he had started the day before. He called in his assistants to inspect the hen and the egg that were the subject of his experiments...

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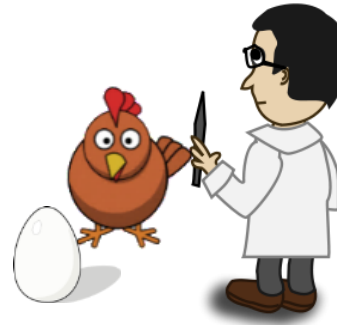


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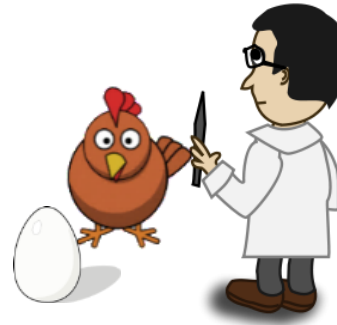
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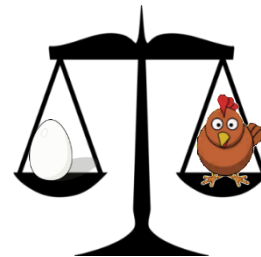
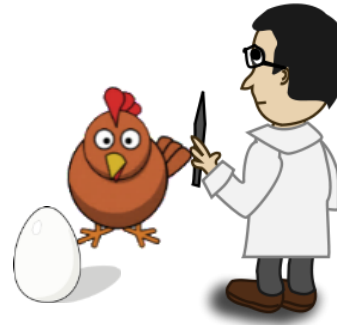
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ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY



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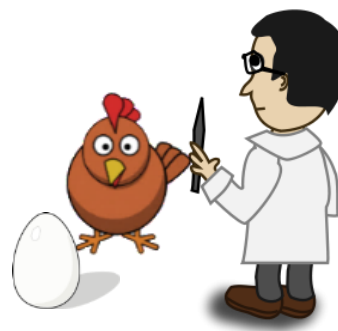
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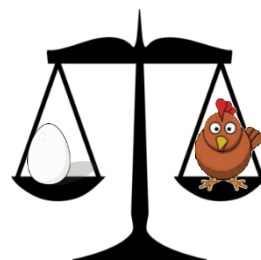
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ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY



one text  
≈ one genre



one passage  
≈ one discourse  
mode



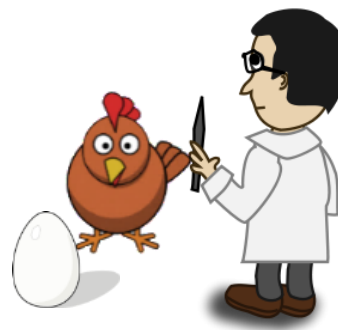
# Discourse modes & situation entity types



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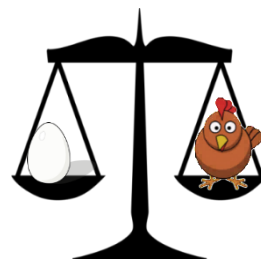
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**NARRATIVE**



**INFORMATION**



**ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY**

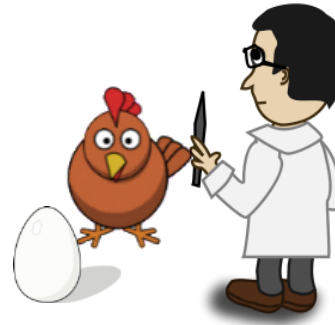
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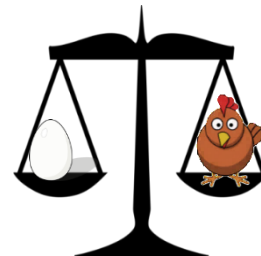


NARRATIVE

STATE  
EVENT



INFORMATION



ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY

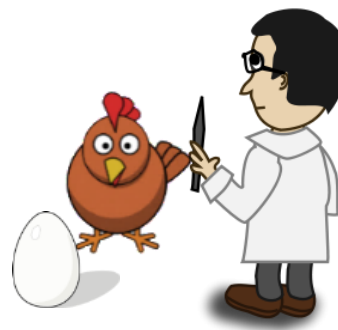
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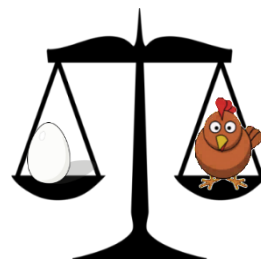
NARRATIVE

STATE  
EVENT



INFORMATION

GENERIC SENTENCE  
GENERALIZING SENTENCE



ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY

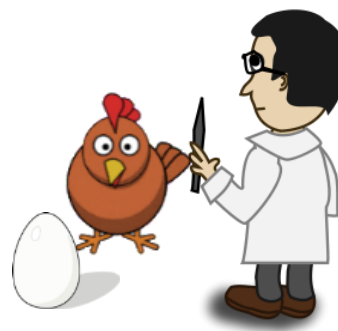
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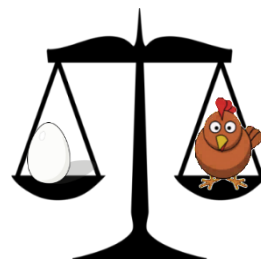
NARRATIVE

STATE  
EVENT



INFORMATION

GENERIC SENTENCE  
GENERALIZING SENTENCE



ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY

STATE, EVENT, ABSTRACT  
ENTITIES, GENERIC /  
GENERALIZING SENTENCES

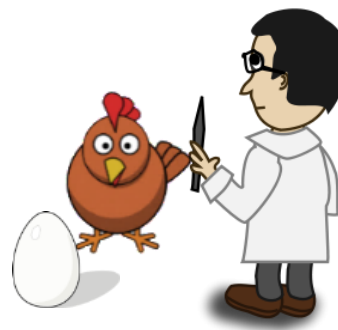
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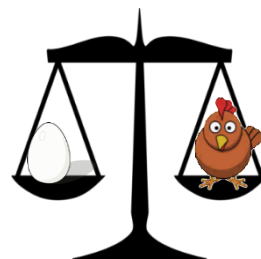
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NARRATIVE



INFORMATION



ARGUMENT  
COMMENTARY

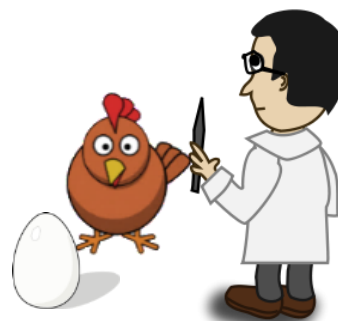
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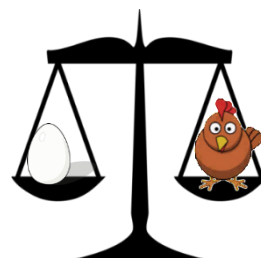


## NARRATIVE

temporal  
situations related  
to one another



## INFORMATION



## ARGUMENT COMMENTARY

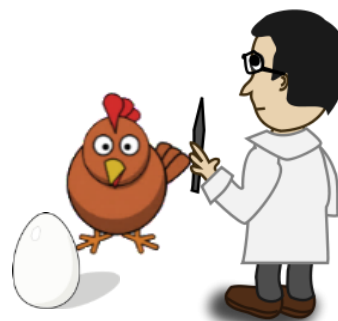
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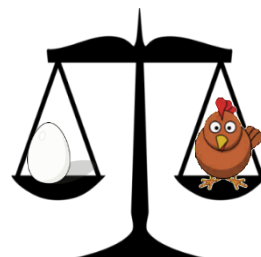
## NARRATIVE

temporal  
situations related  
to one another



## INFORMATION

metaphorical  
through domain



## ARGUMENT COMMENTARY



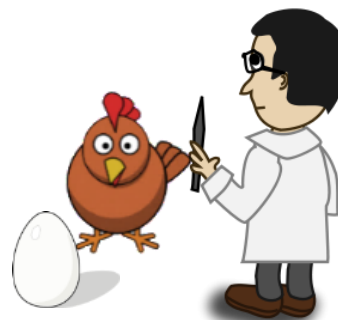
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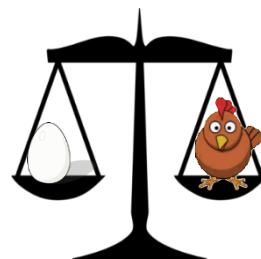
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temporal  
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## INFORMATION

metaphorical  
through domain



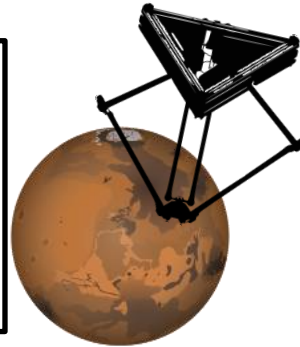
## ARGUMENT COMMENTARY

metaphorical

# Additional discourse modes [Smith 2003]



On Monday, NASA **announced** that signs of liquid water **have been found** on Mars. The Mars Reconnaissance Orbiter spacecraft **found** evidence of the liquid on the Martian surface, in long dark spots on the Red Planet thought to be formed because of water flow.



## REPORT

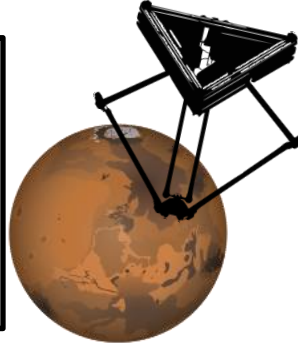
STATE, EVENT

temporal progression  
related to speech time.

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## REPORT

STATE, EVENT

temporal progression  
related to speech time.

The sand-hills here run down to the sea, and end in two spits of rock jutting out opposite each other, till you lose sight of them in the water. One is called the North Spit, and one the South.



## DESCRIPTION

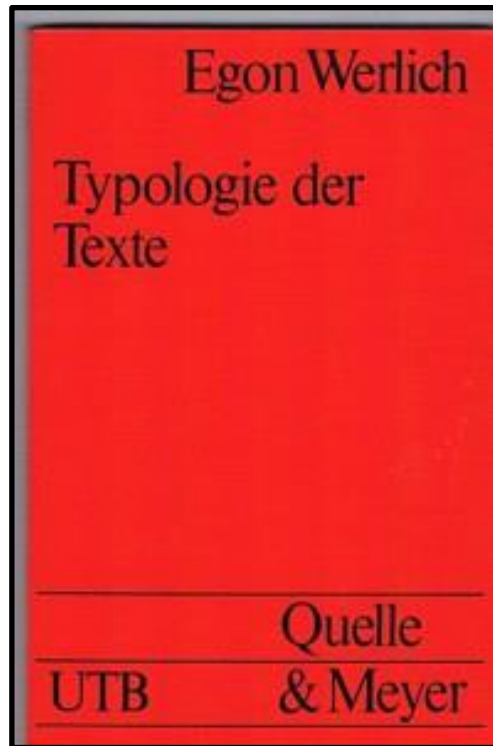
STATE, on-going EVENT

metaphorical progression  
through scene

# Discourse modes: related theories



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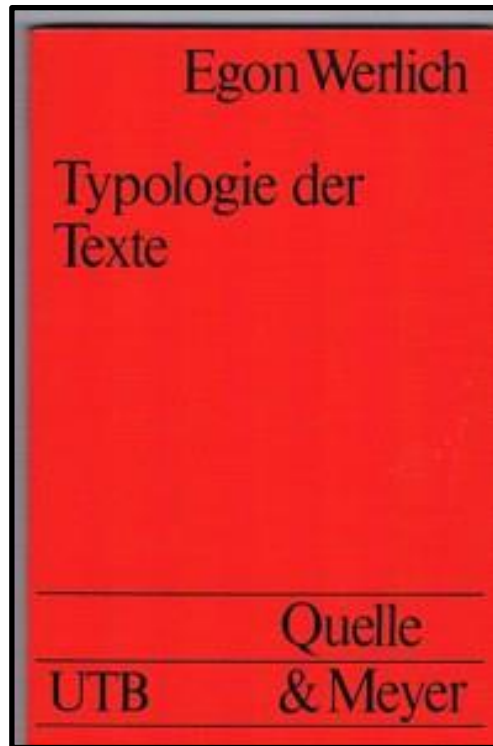


Egon Werlich, 1989

**text types**

narration, description,  
exposition, argumentation,  
instruction

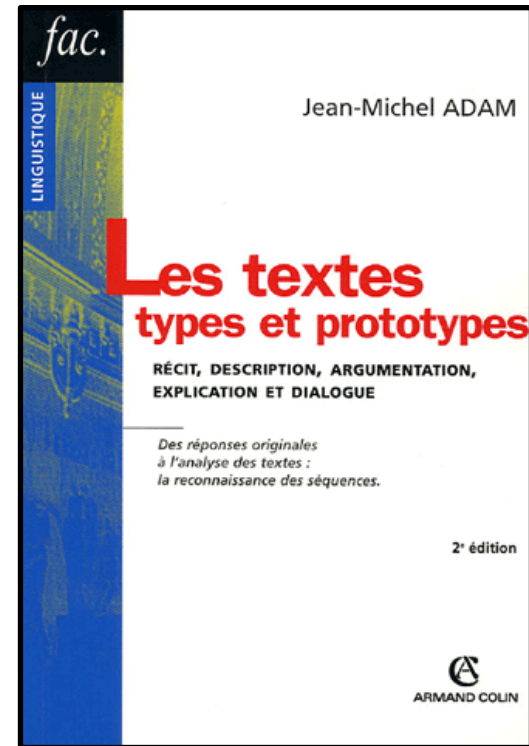
# Discourse modes: related theories



Egon Werlich, 1989

**text types**

narration, description,  
exposition, argumentation,  
instruction



Jean-Michel Adam, 2005

**typical sequences**

narrative, argumentative,  
descriptive, explicative,  
dialogued

# Discourse modes: relevance for NLP





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- temporal discourse processing
  - knowing a passage's discourse mode is a necessary prerequisite for interpreting tense [Smith 2005]

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  - narrow the search space for claims by focusing on argumentative passages

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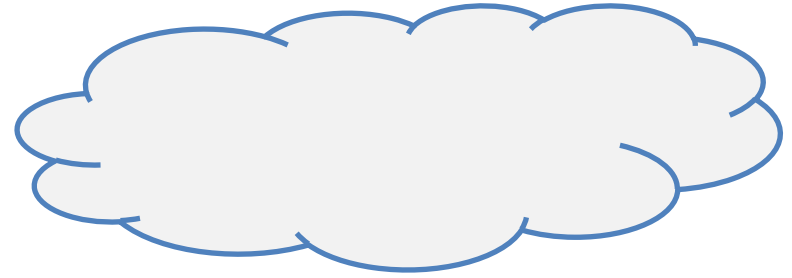


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- genre distinctions
  - literary studies

# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
 $\approx$  evoked by finite clauses

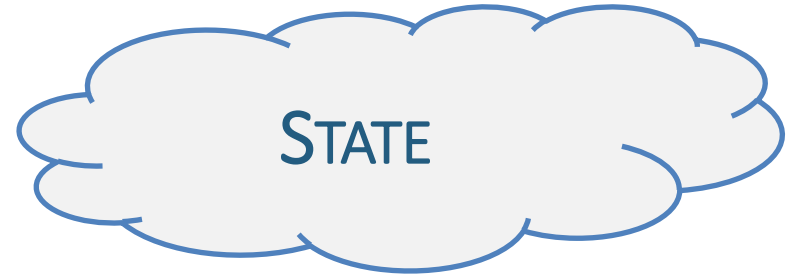


1. Yesterday, Mary bought a cat.
2. Now she owns four cats.
3. Susie often feeds Mary's cats.
4. Cats are very social animals.

# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
 $\approx$  evoked by finite clauses

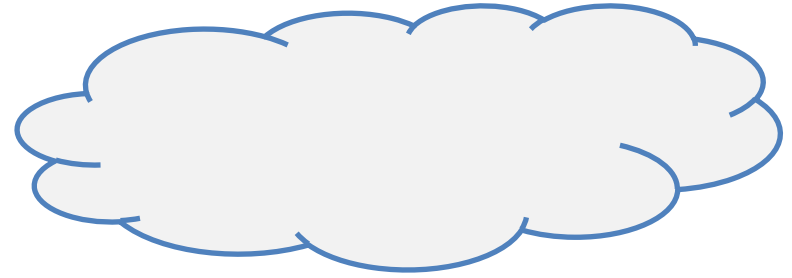


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STATE



# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
 $\approx$  evoked by finite clauses



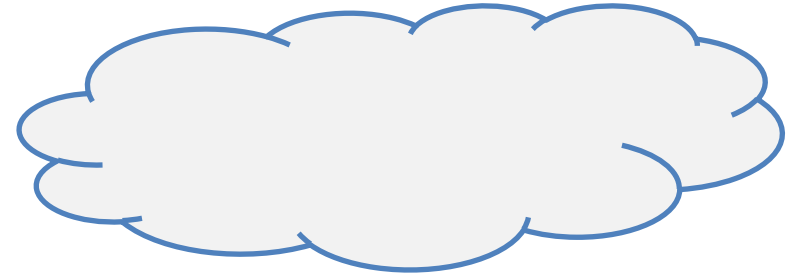
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STATE

# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
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EVENT

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STATE

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# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
≈ evoked by finite clauses



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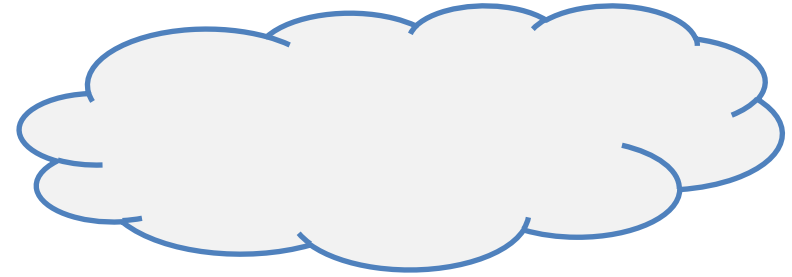
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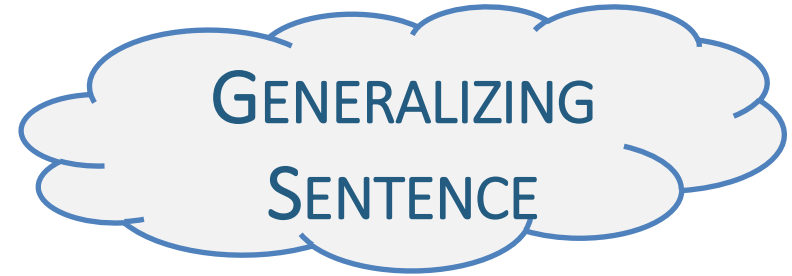
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GENERIC SENTENCE

# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
≈ evoked by finite clauses



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EVENT

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STATE

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GENERIC SENTENCE

# Situation entity types



situations / eventualities  
≈ evoked by finite clauses

1. Yesterday, Mary bought a cat.

EVENT

2. Now she owns four cats.

STATE

3. Susie often feeds Mary's cats.

GENERALIZING  
SENTENCE

4. Cats are very social animals.

GENERIC SENTENCE



# More situation entity types

## ABSTRACT ENTITIES

here: clausal complements

frequent in  
ARGUMENT/COMMENTARY  
discourse mode

Susie **knows**

that Mary loves her cats a lot.

STATE

FACT

object of knowledge







# More situation entity types

## ABSTRACT ENTITIES

here: clausal complements

frequent in  
ARGUMENT/COMMENTARY  
discourse mode

Susie **knows**  
that Mary loves her cats a lot.

STATE

FACT

object of knowledge

Susie **believes**  
that the cats also love Mary.

STATE

PROPOSITION

object of belief





# More situation entity types

## ABSTRACT ENTITIES

here: clausal complements

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discourse mode

Susie **knows**  
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STATE

FACT

object of knowledge

Susie **believes**  
that the cats also love Mary.

STATE

PROPOSITION

object of belief



Have you seen my cats?

QUESTION

Don't forget to feed the cats!

IMPERATIVE

[Palmer et al. 2007]

# Situation entity types: summary



Eventualities	STATE	Mary likes cats.
	EVENT	Mary fed the cats.
	- REPORT	..., Mary said.
General Statives	GENERALIZING SENTENCE	Mary often feeds my cats.
	GENERIC SENTENCE	Cats are always hungry.
Abstract Entities	FACT	I know <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
	PROPOSITION	I believe <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
Speech Acts	QUESTION	Does Mary like cats?
	IMPERATIVE	Don't forget to feed the cats!

# Situation entity types: summary



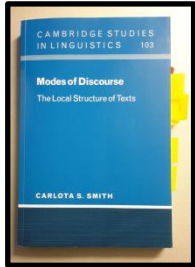
Eventualities	STATE	Mary likes cats.
	EVENT	Mary fed the cats.
	- REPORT	..., Mary said.
General Statives	GENERALIZING SENTENCE	Mary loves cats.
	GENERAL SENTENCE	Mary is a cat lover.
Abstract	FACT	The ship was in motion. STATE
	PROPOSITION	The ship moved. EVENT
	QUESTION	Did the ship move?
	IMPERATIVE	Don't forget to feed the cats!

Writer / speaker chooses how to present things:  
The ship was in motion. STATE  
The ship moved. EVENT



Carlota Smith: The Parameter of Aspect (1997).

# Situation entity annotation

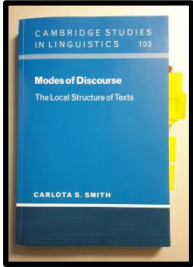


Carlota Smith: Modes of Discourse (2003).

Many examples, but no formal definition of the different situation entity types.



# Situation entity annotation



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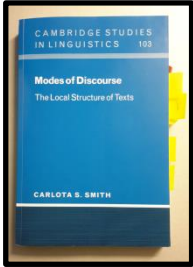
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Alexis Palmer, Elias Ponvert, Jason Baldridge, and Carlota Smith.  
**A sequence model for situation entity classification.** ACL 2007.

- first labeled data set for SEs, ~6000 clauses
- no annotation manual, Cohen's  $\kappa = 0.54$



# Situation entity annotation



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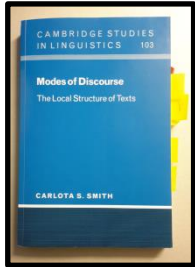
- first labeled data set for SEs, ~6000 clauses
- no annotations for

What are the **most important differences** between Smith's situation entity types?



Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer.  
**Situation entity annotation.** LAW 2014.

# Situation entity annotation



Carlota Smith: Modes of Discourse (2003).

Many examples, but no formal definition of the different situation entity types.

Alexis Palmer, Elias Ponvert, Jason Baldridge, and Carlota Smith.  
**A sequence model for situation entity classification.** ACL 2007.

- first labeled data set for SEs, ~6000 clauses
- no annotation scheme

What are the **most important differences** between Smith's situation entity types?

convey **annotation scheme + guidelines** to annotators



Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer.  
**Situation entity annotation.** LAW 2014.



# Situation entity types: feature-based annotation



What are the **main differences** between the different situation entity types?

Eventualities	STATE	Mary likes cats.
	EVENT	Mary fed the cats.
	- REPORT	..., Mary said.
General Statives	GENERALIZING SENTENCE	Mary often feeds my cats.
	GENERIC SENTENCE	Cats are always hungry.
Abstract Entities	FACT	I know <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
	PROPOSITION	I believe <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
Speech Acts	QUESTION	Does Mary like cats?
	IMPERATIVE	Don't forget to feed the cats!

# Situation entity types: feature-based annotation



What are the **main differences** between the different situation entity types?

Does the verb express an **event** or a **state**?

**aspectual class**

		Mary likes cats.
		Mary fed the cats.
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Does something happen repeatedly or once?

**habituality**

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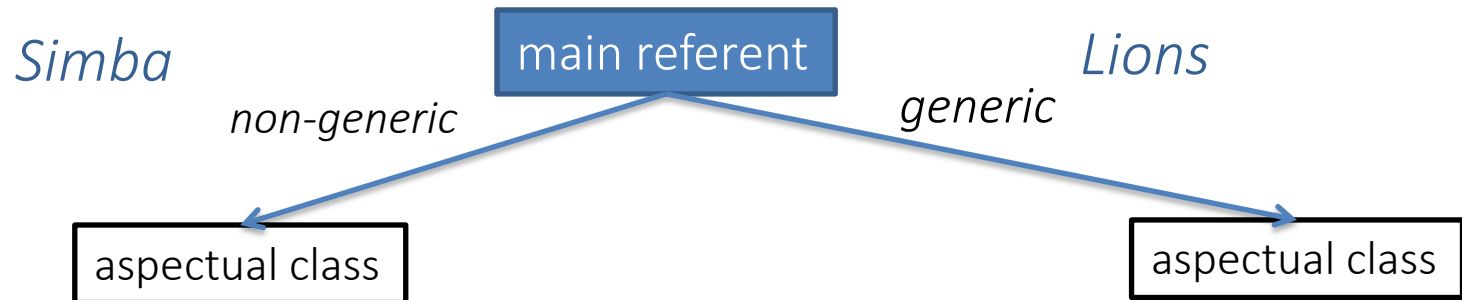
**habituality**

Does the sentence talk about a **particular referent** or a **kind/class**?

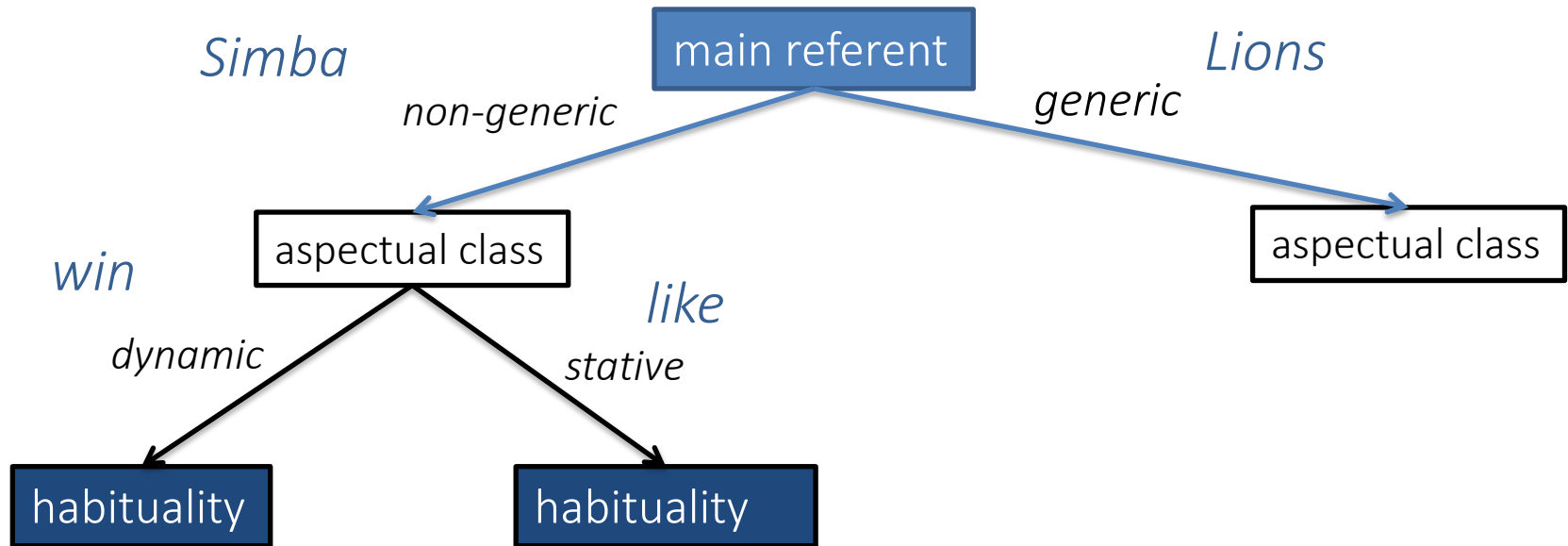
**genericity**

		Mary likes cats.
		Mary fed the cats.
	- REPORT	... Mary said.
		Mary often feeds her cats.
		Cats are always hungry.
		I know <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
Entities	PROPOSITION	I believe <u>that Mary fed the cats.</u>
Speech Acts	QUESTION	Does Mary like cats?
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# A decision tree for labeling situation entities

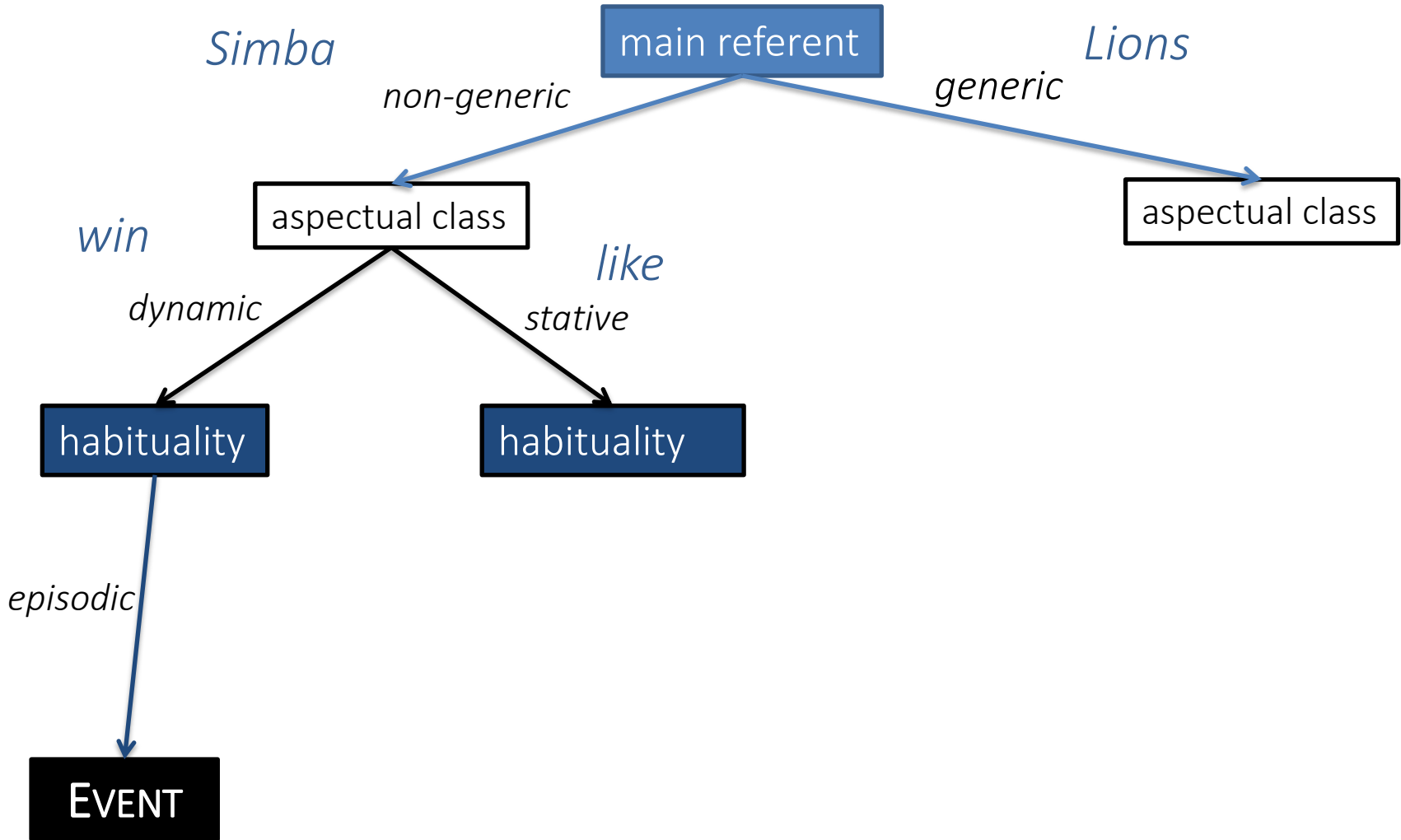


# A decision tree for labeling situation entities





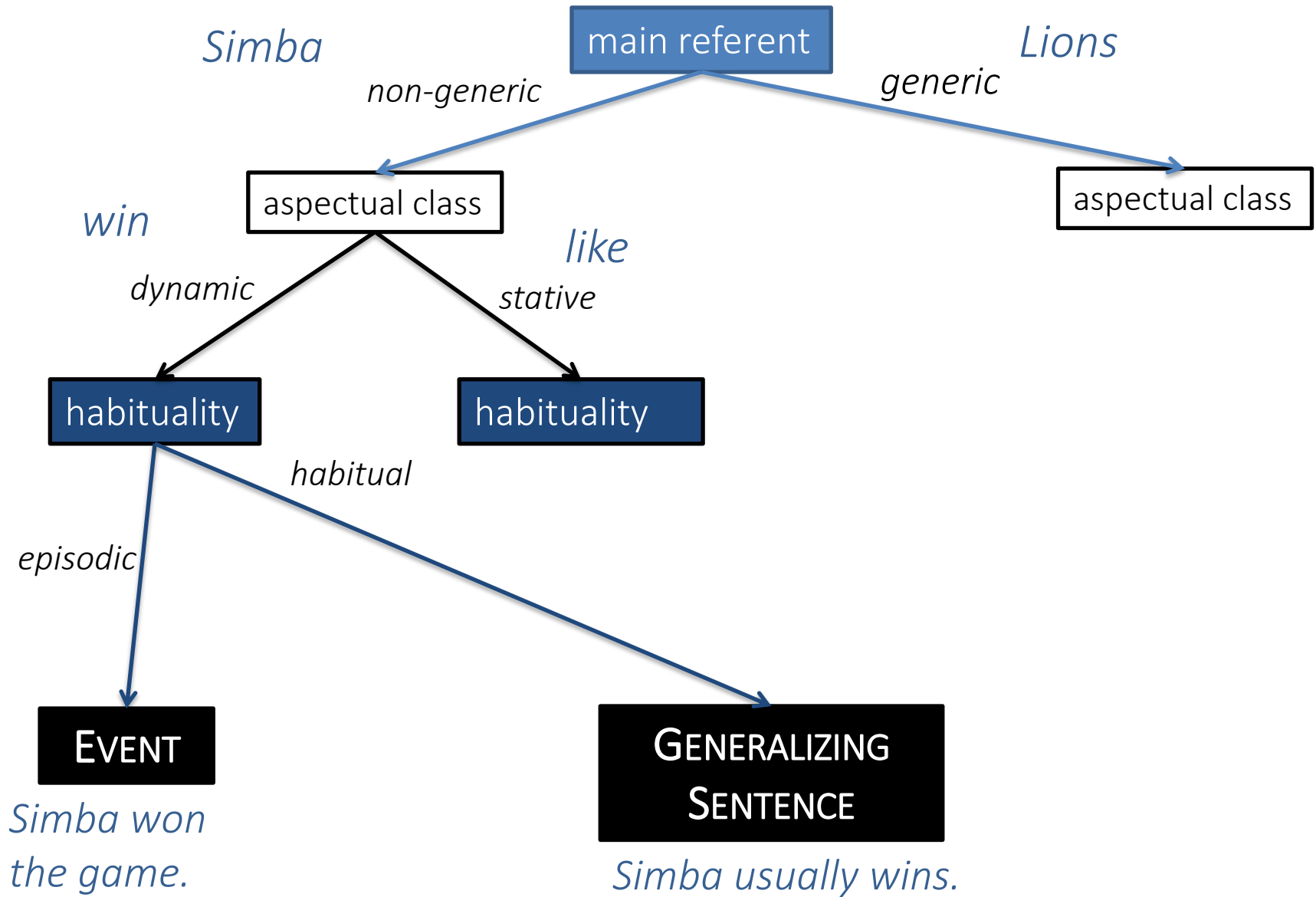
# A decision tree for labeling situation entities



*Simba won  
the game.*



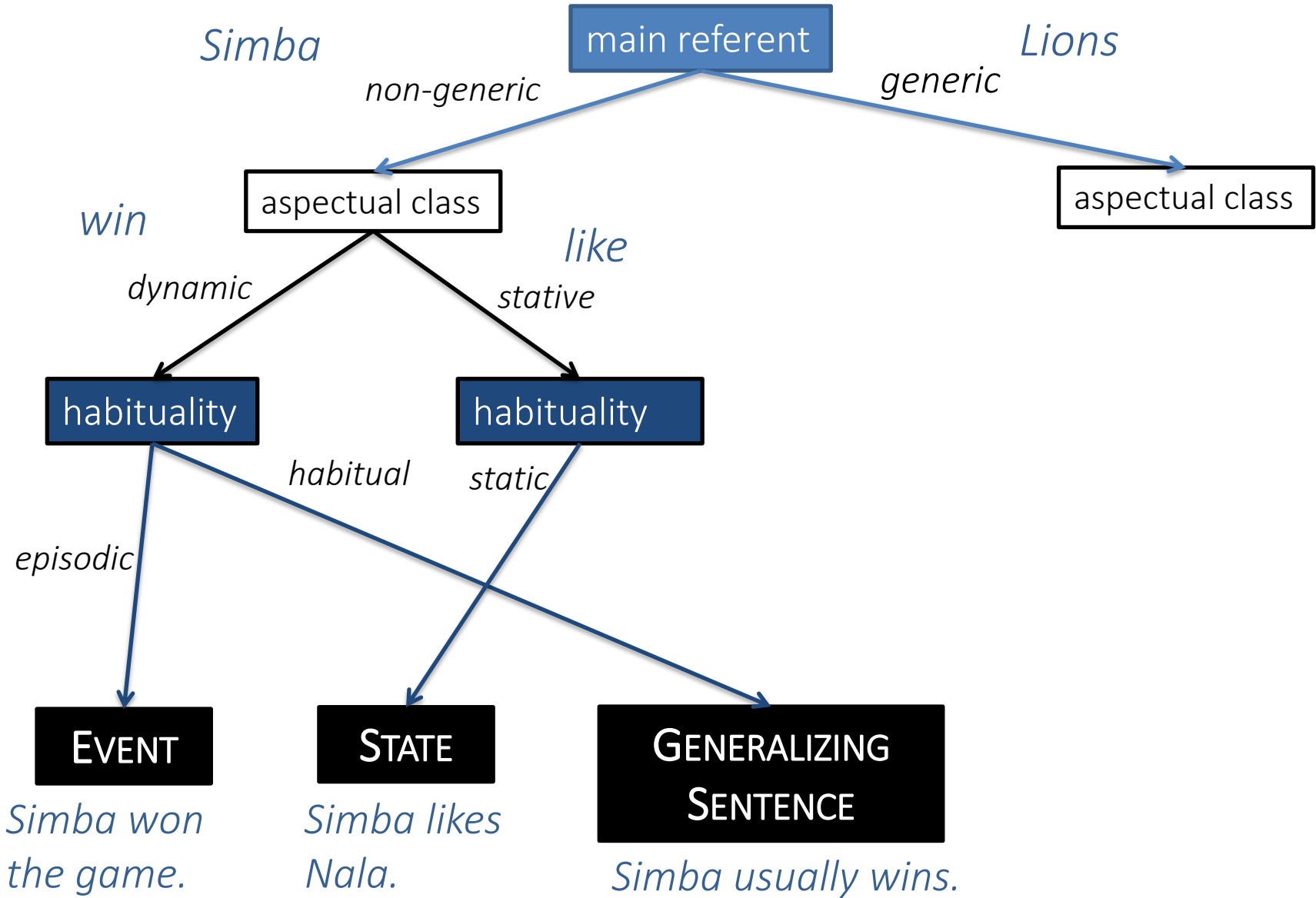
# A decision tree for labeling situation entities





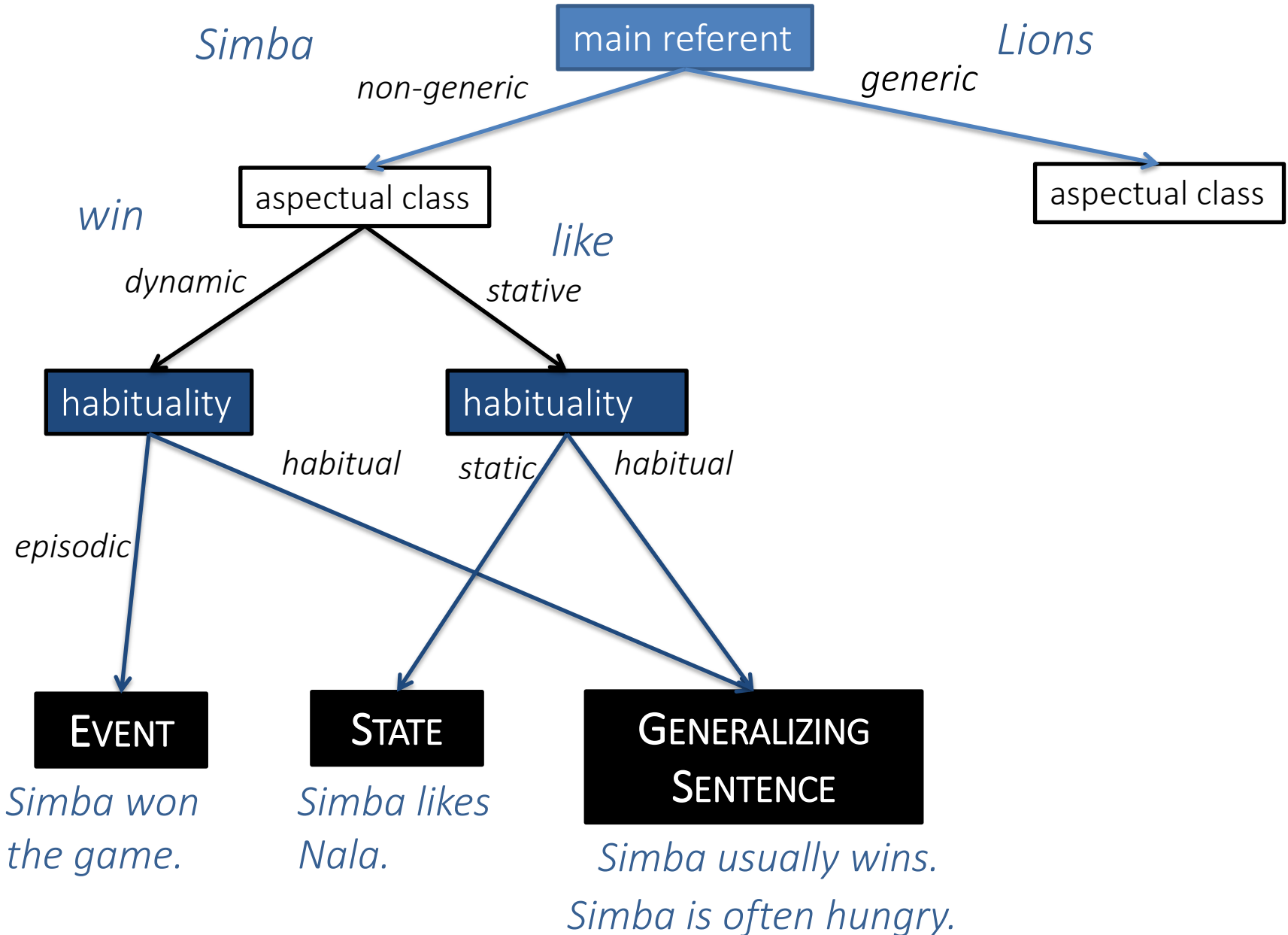


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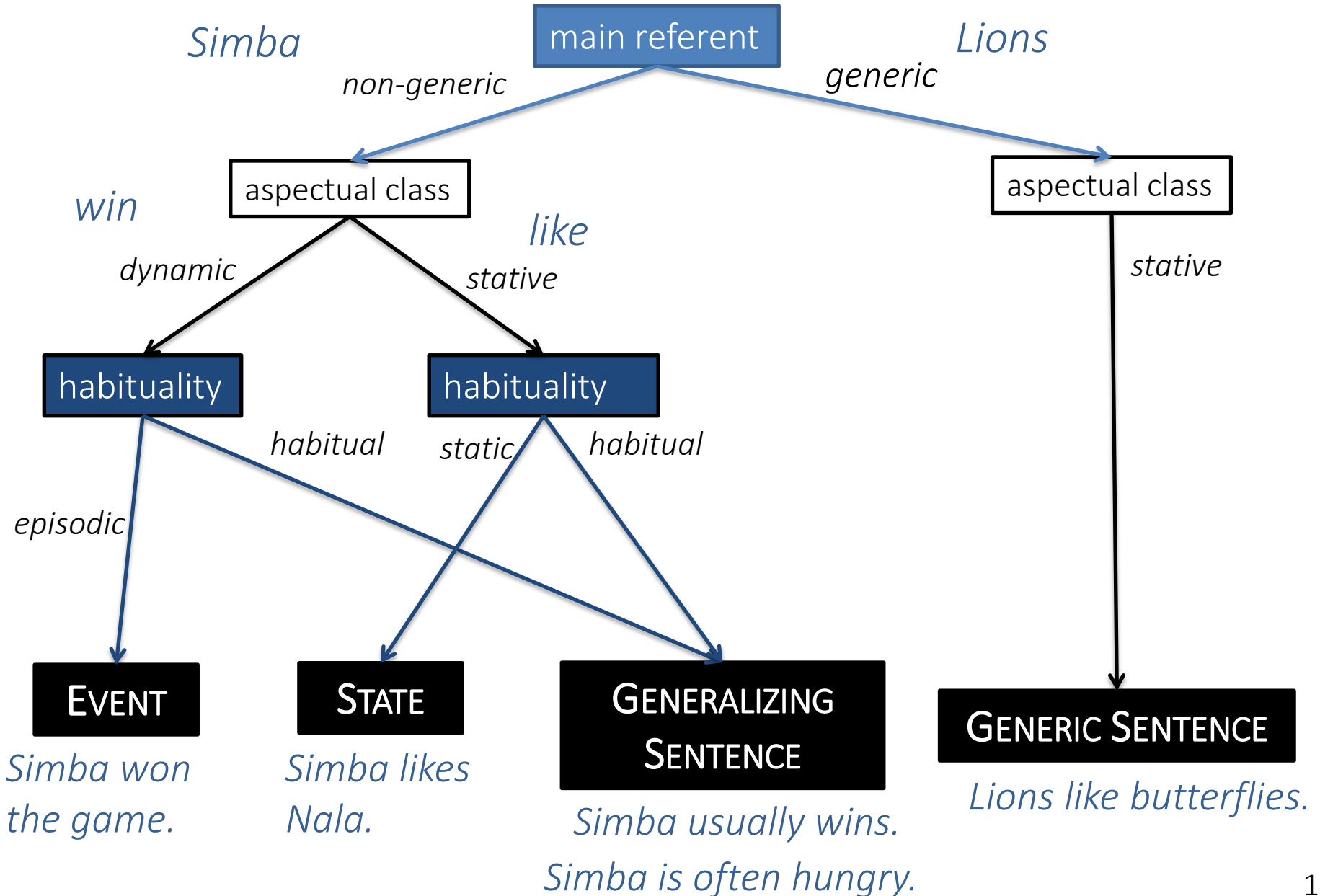


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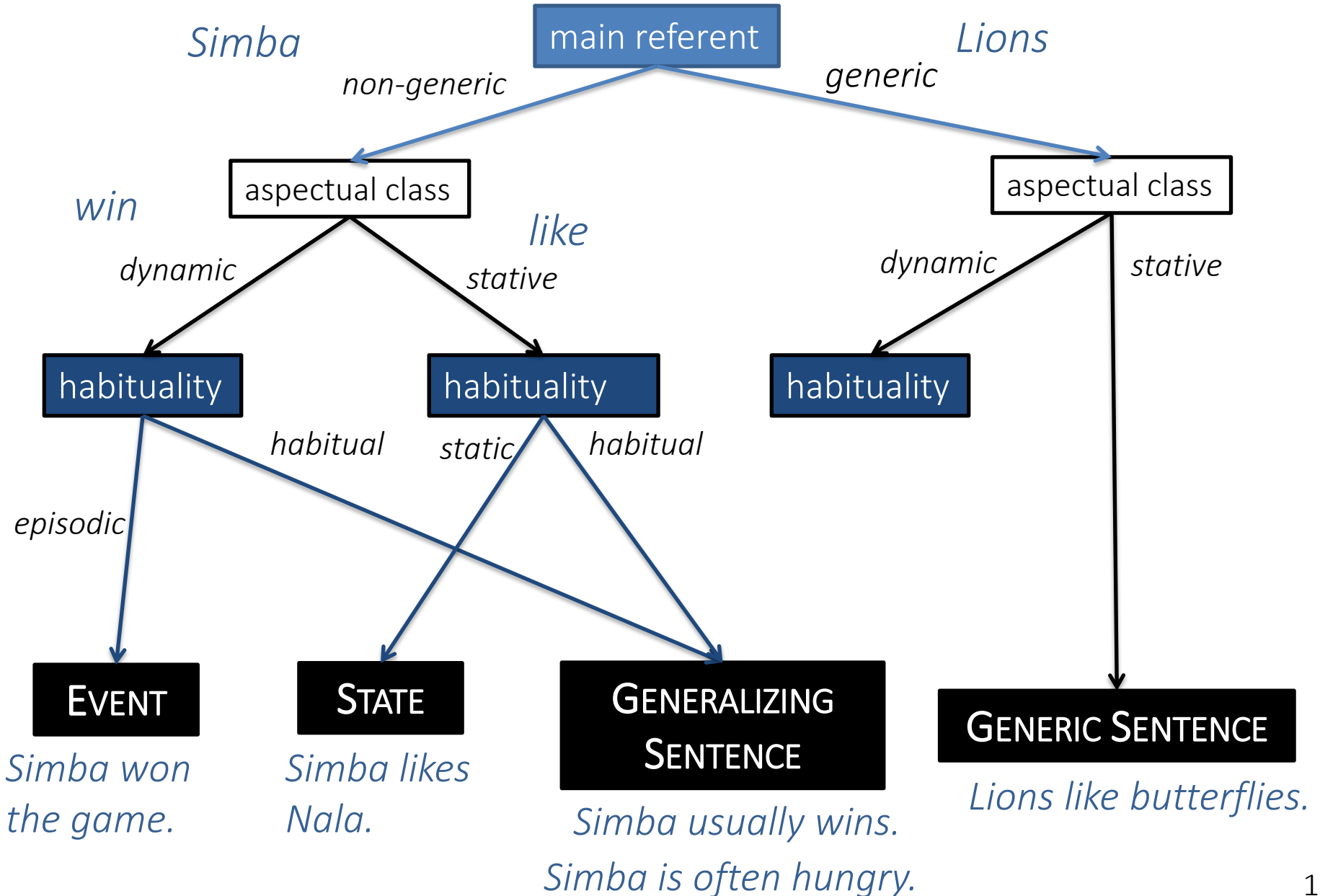


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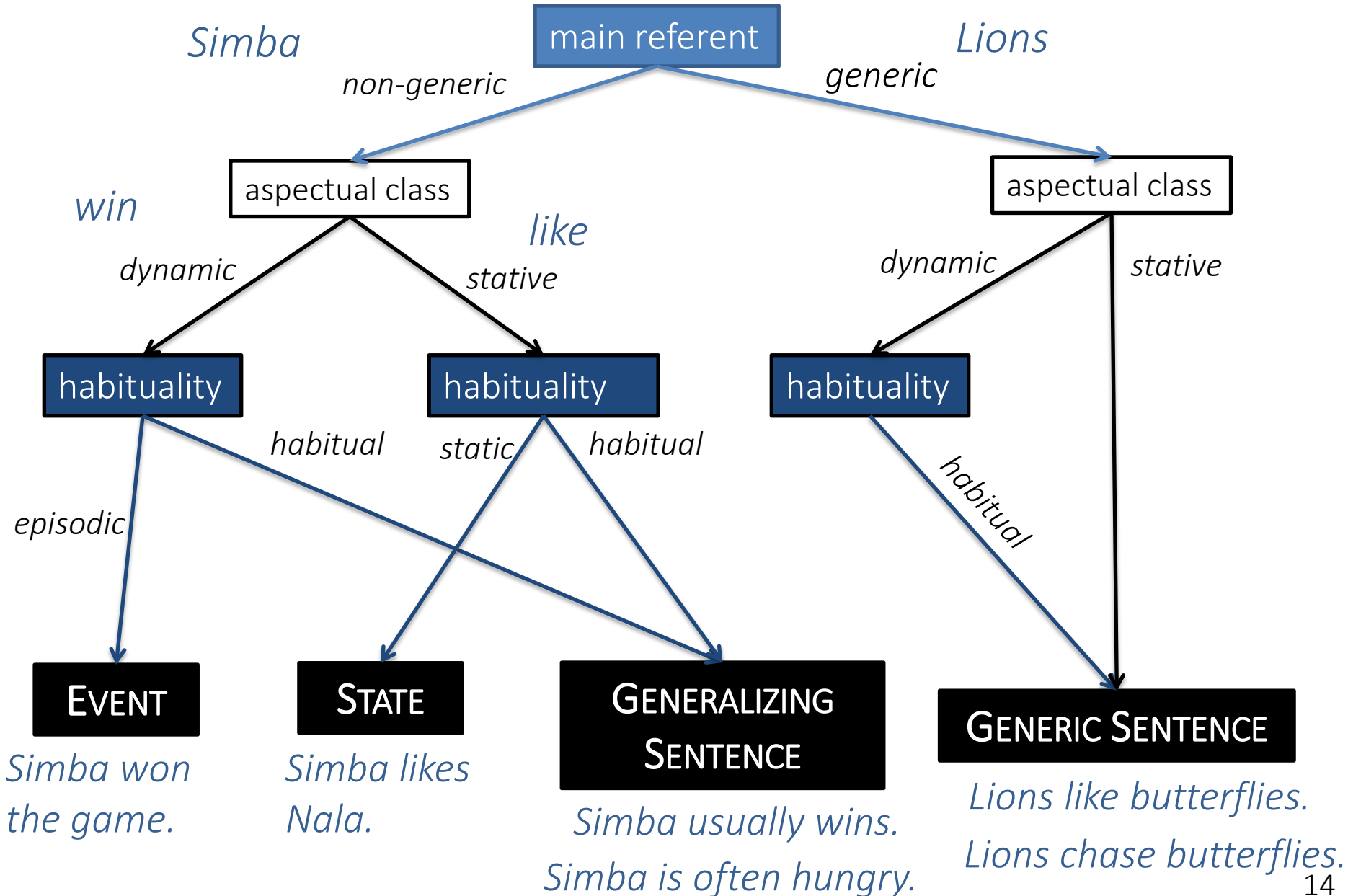


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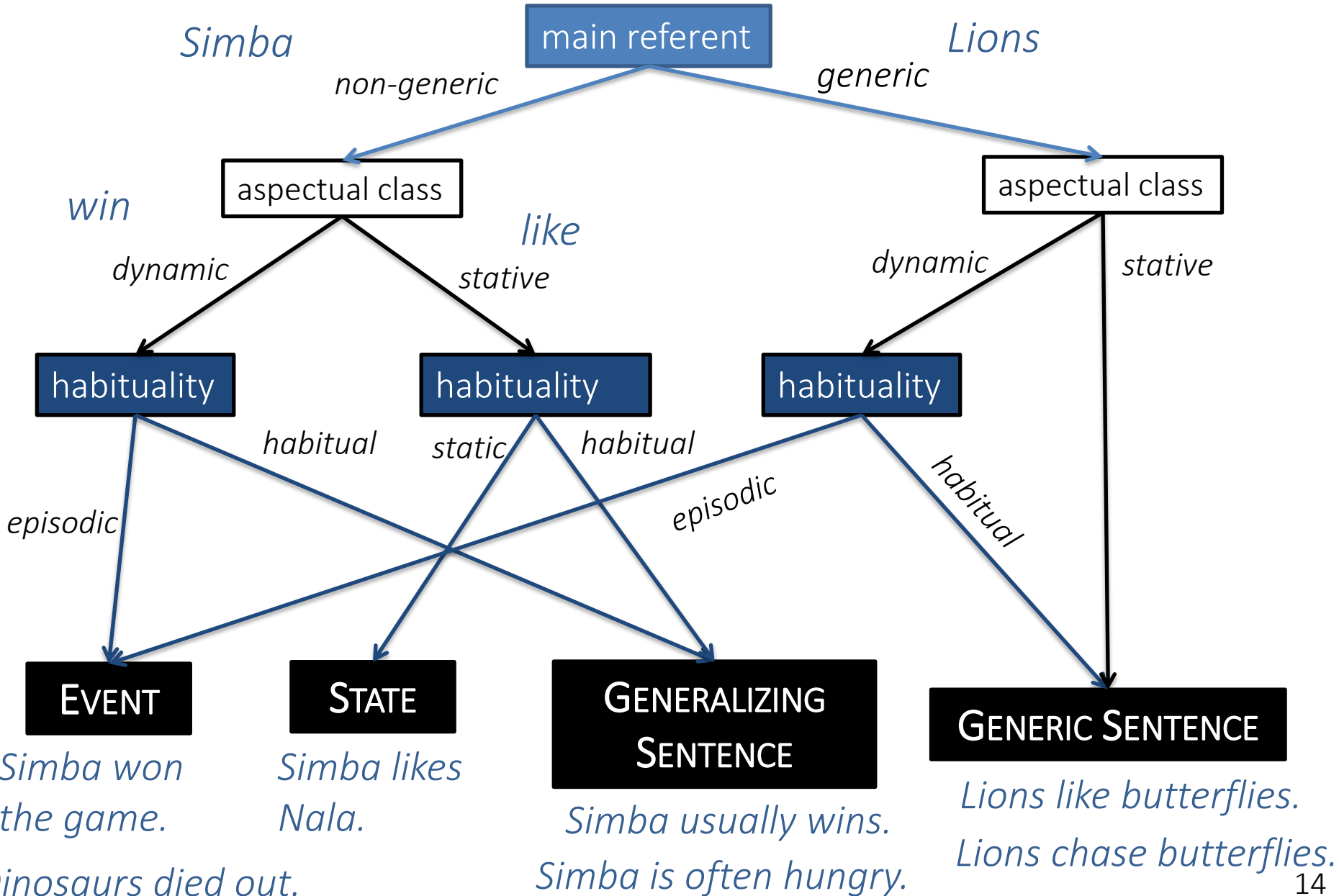


# A decision tree for labeling situation entities





# A decision tree for labeling situation entities



# Situation entity types: coercion



some linguistic phenomena coerce **EVENTs** to **STATES**:  
negation, modality, future / perfect,  
conditionality, subjectivity





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Susie **will** feed the cats.

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some linguistic phenomena coerce **EVENTs** to **STATEs**:  
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**If** Susie has forgotten the cats,  
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negation, modality, future / perfect,  
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**If** Susie has forgotten the cats,  
they **might** be hungry now.



does not apply to general statives:

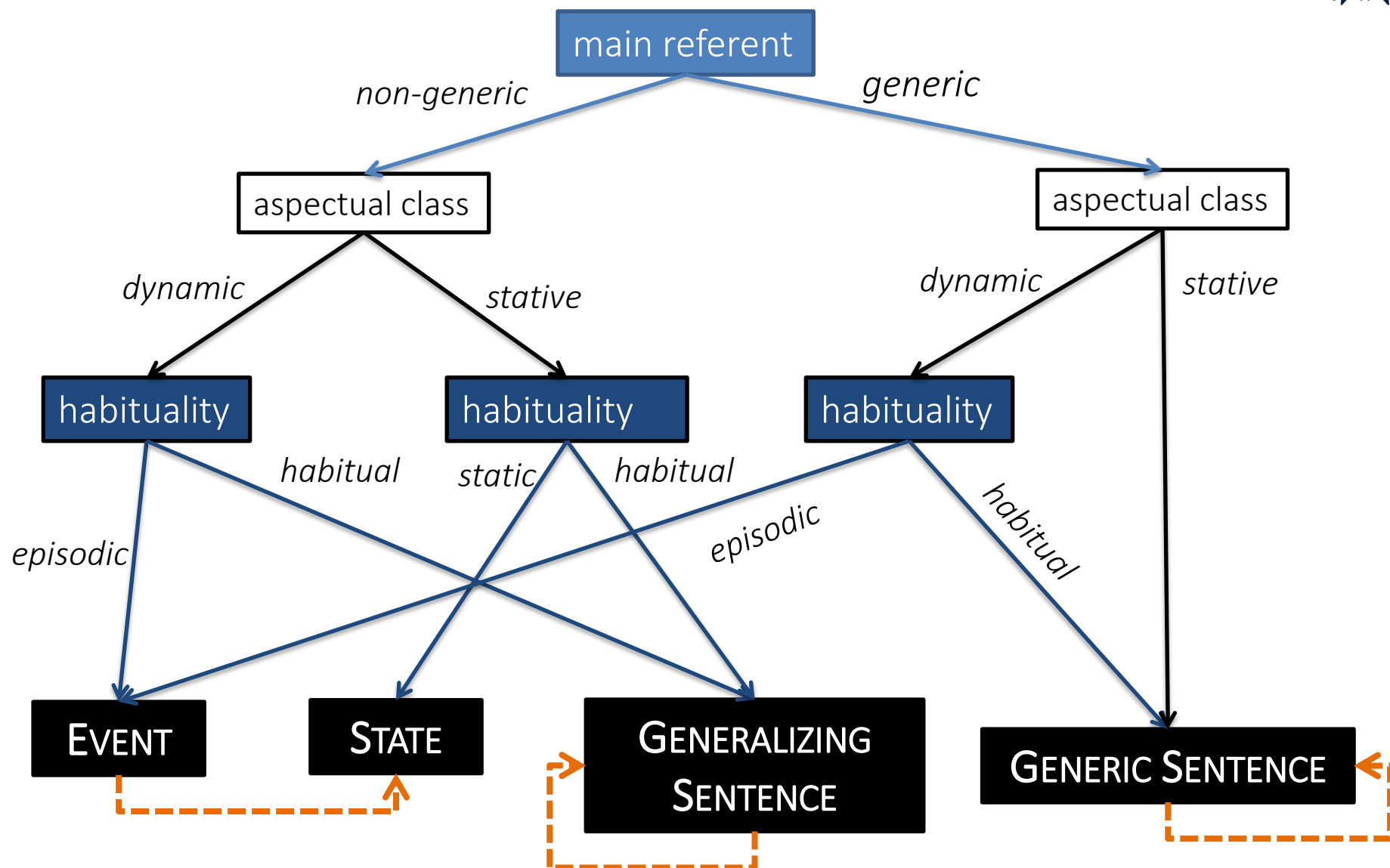
Susie **never** feeds Mary's cats.

GENERALIZING SENTENCE

Cats **might** be the most popular pet.

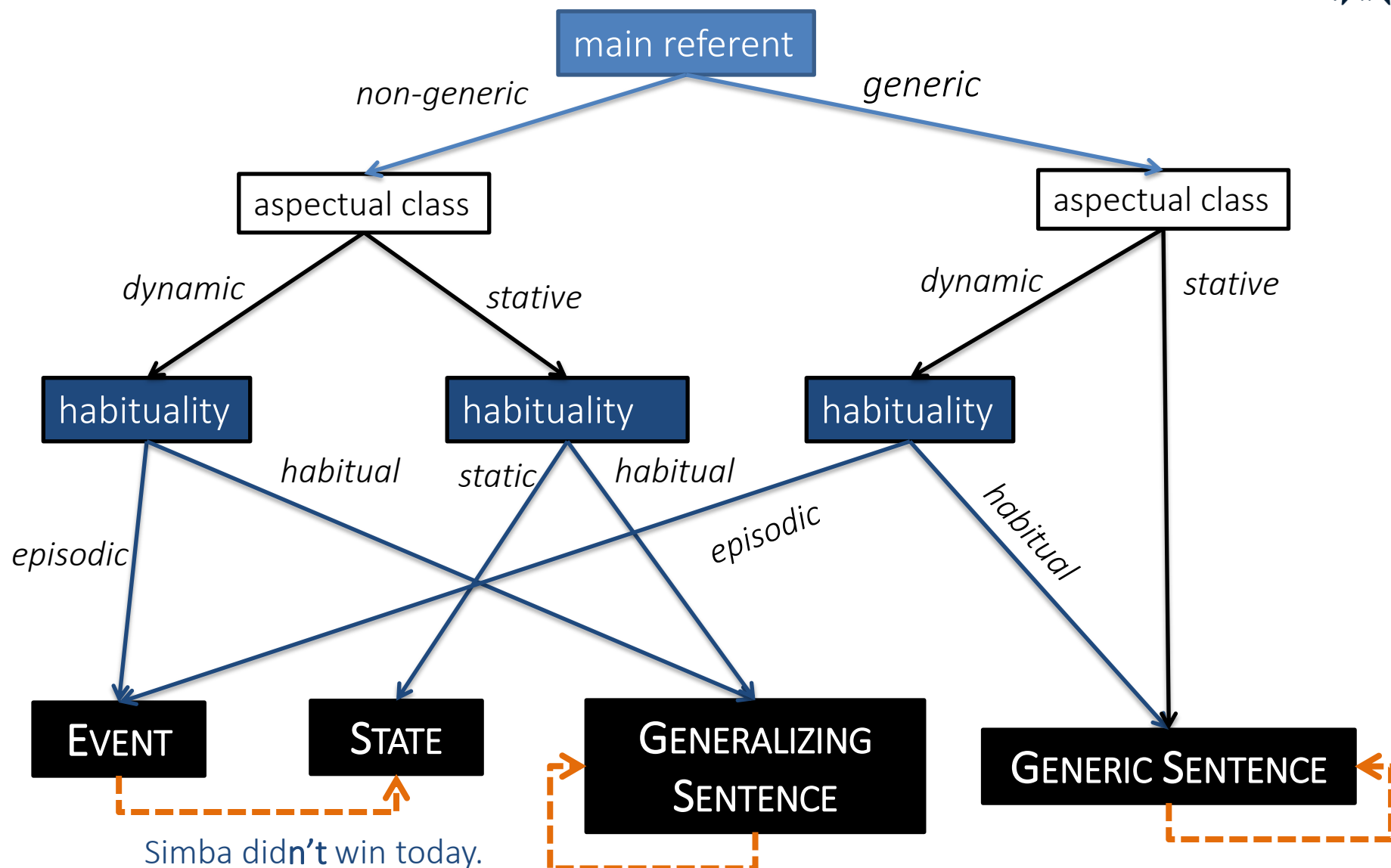
GENERIC SENTENCE

# A decision tree for labeling situation entities



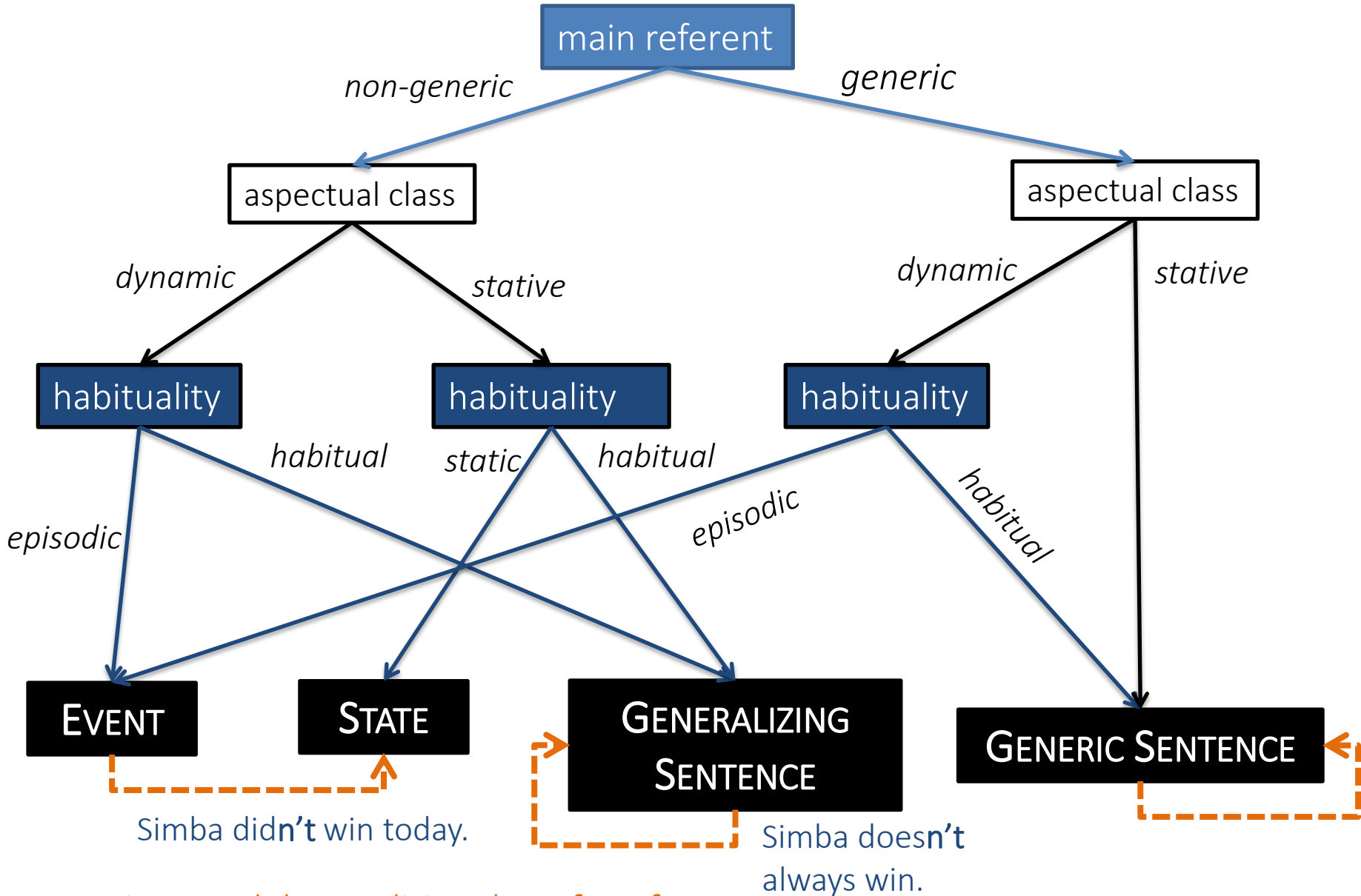
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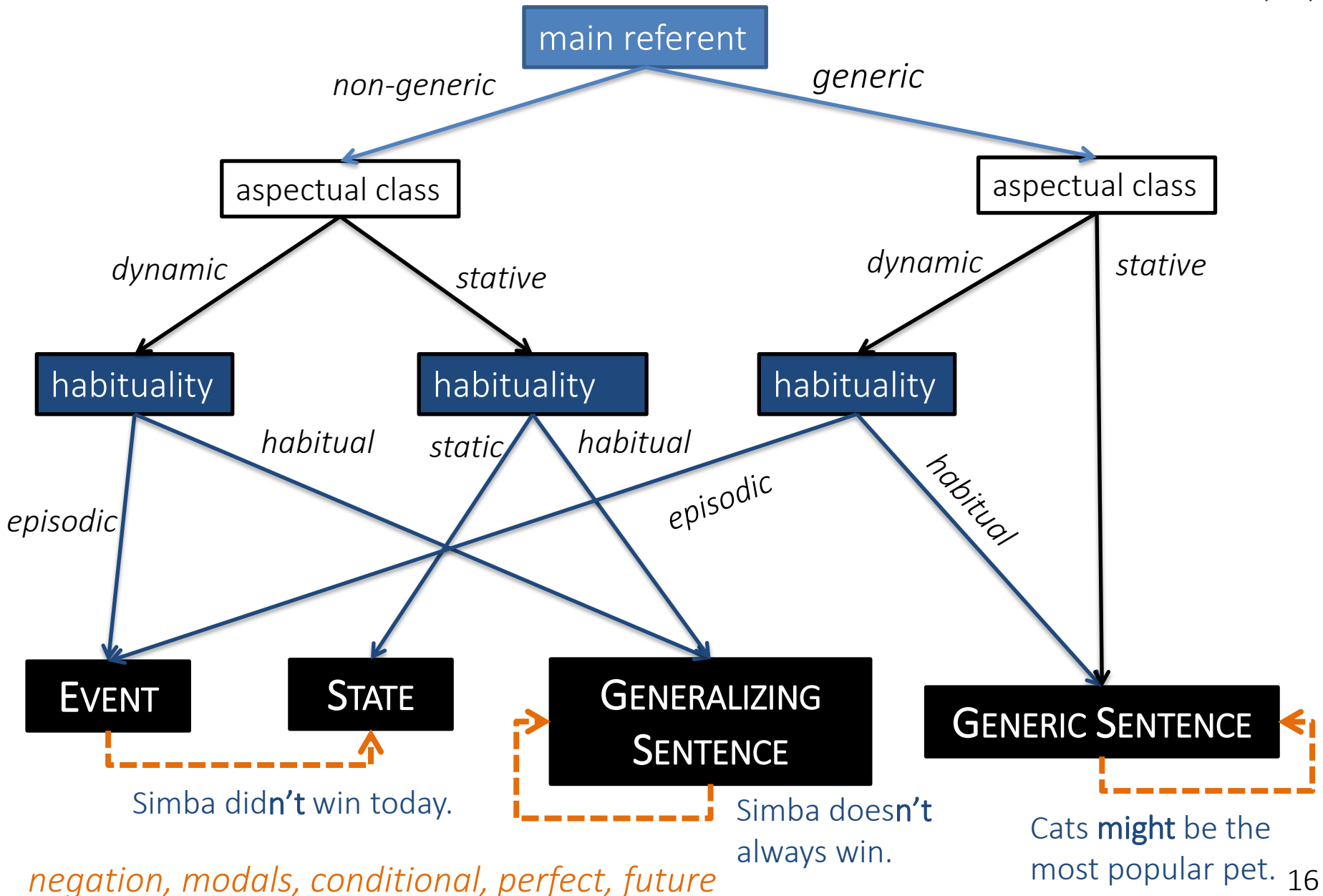


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# A decision tree for labeling situation entities



# A decision tree for labeling situation entities



# Data sets and annotation procedure





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## MASC

30,000 clauses

*essays, letters, fiction,  
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# Data sets and annotation procedure



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## Wikipedia

10,000 clauses

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# Data sets and annotation procedure



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- lexical aspectual class of main verb
- habituality of main verb

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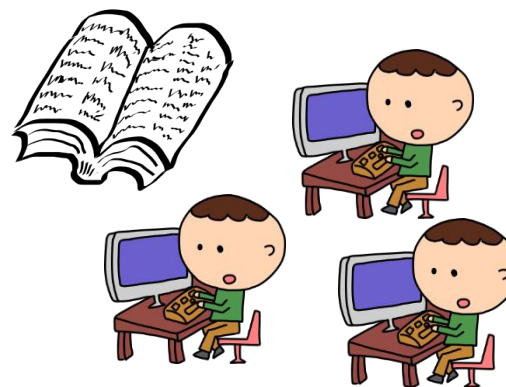


## Wikipedia

10,000 clauses

*botany, animals, sports,  
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training phase  
+ manual



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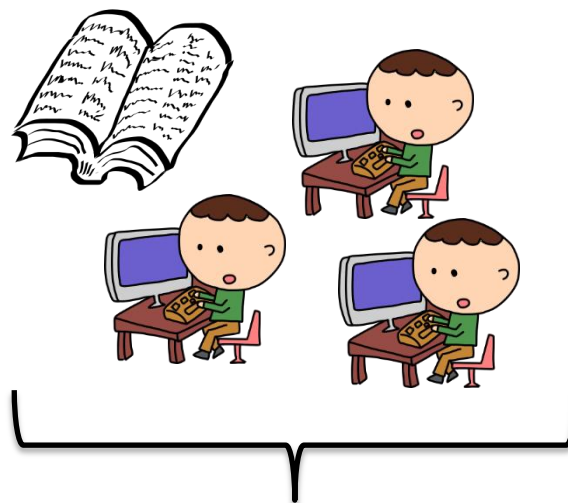
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**gold standard** = majority vote  
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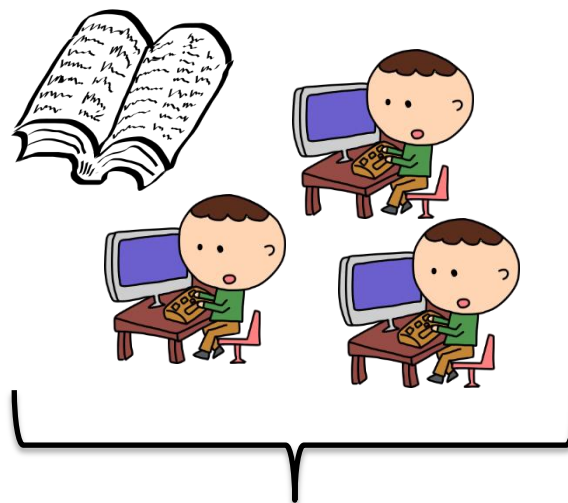


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**gold standard** = majority vote  
over labels of 3 annotators

(about 10% of segments marked as  
“No SITUATION”)



# Annotation of situation entity types and features










## SITUATION ENTITIES: ANNOTATION TOOL

USER: ANNE FRIEDRICH

[HOME](#) [LOGOUT](#) File: wikipedia\_wikiGenerics\_blobfish.txt

1	seg_prob	The blobfish ( <i>Psychrolutes marcidus</i> )
2	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	is a deep sea fish of the family Psychrolutidae.
3	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	It inhabits the deep waters off the coasts of mainland Australia and Tasmania, as well as the waters of New Zealand.
4	seg_prob	
5	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	Blobfish are typically shorter than 30 cm.
6	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	They live at depths between where the pressure is several dozen times higher than at sea level,
7	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	which would likely make gas bladders inefficient for maintaining buoyancy.
8	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	Instead, the flesh of the blobfish is primarily a gelatinous mass with a density slightly less than water;
9	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	this allows the fish to float above the sea floor
10	GEN_STAT, GENERIC	without expending energy on swimming.

### FEATURES

#### Main Referent

☐ *not the grammatical subject*

☐ non-generic ☐ no main referent

☒ generic ☐ can't decide

#### Aspectual Class of main verb

☒ stative ☐ both

☐ dynamic ☐ can't decide

#### Habituality of main verb

☐ episodic ☒ static

☐ habitual ☐ can't decide

### SEGMENTATION PROBLEMS

☐ no situation

### SITUATION ENTITY TYPES

☐ State

☐ Event

☐ Report

☐ Event-Perfect-State

☒ General Stative

☐ Generalizing Sentence

☒ Generic Sentence

☐ Abstract Entity

☐ Fact

☐ Proposition

☐ Resemblance

☐ Speech Act

☐ Imperative

☐ Question



# Inter-annotator agreement

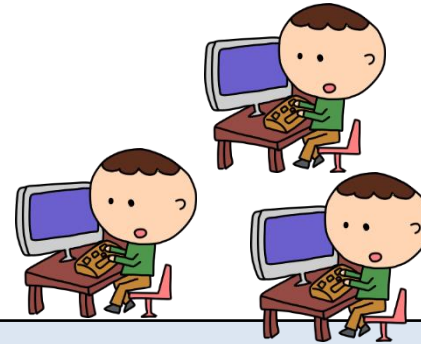


Fleiss' $\kappa$ : features			
Feature	labels	MASC	Wikipedia
aspectual class	stative, dynamic, both	0.69	0.64
main referent	generic, non-generic, cannot decide	0.55	0.67
habituality	episodic, static, habitual, cannot decide	0.72	0.65

# Inter-annotator agreement



Krippendorff's diagnostics:  
situation entity types



Fleiss'  $\kappa$

Fleiss' $\kappa$		
CATEGORY	MASC	Wikipedia
<b>all categories</b>	<b>0.64</b>	<b>0.63</b>
STATE	0.64	0.57
EVENT	0.72	0.72
REPORT	0.83	0.28
GENERIC SENTENCE	0.43	0.70
GENERALIZING SENTENCE	0.45	0.35
ABSTRACT ENTITY	0.40	0.19
QUESTION	0.85	0.85
IMPERATIVE	0.91	0.85

# Situation entity types: relevance for NLP



- identifying the discourse modes of a text passage

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  - identifying **generic noun phrases** [Reiter & Frank 2013]

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  - identifying **generic noun phrases** [Reiter & Frank 2013]
  - identifying **habitual vs. episodic sentences** [Mathew & Katz 2009]

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

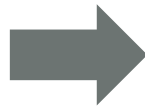
[EMNLP 2015]

is the main  
referent generic?

lexical  
aspectual  
class

recognize  
habituality

entire  
documents,  
segmented  
into clauses

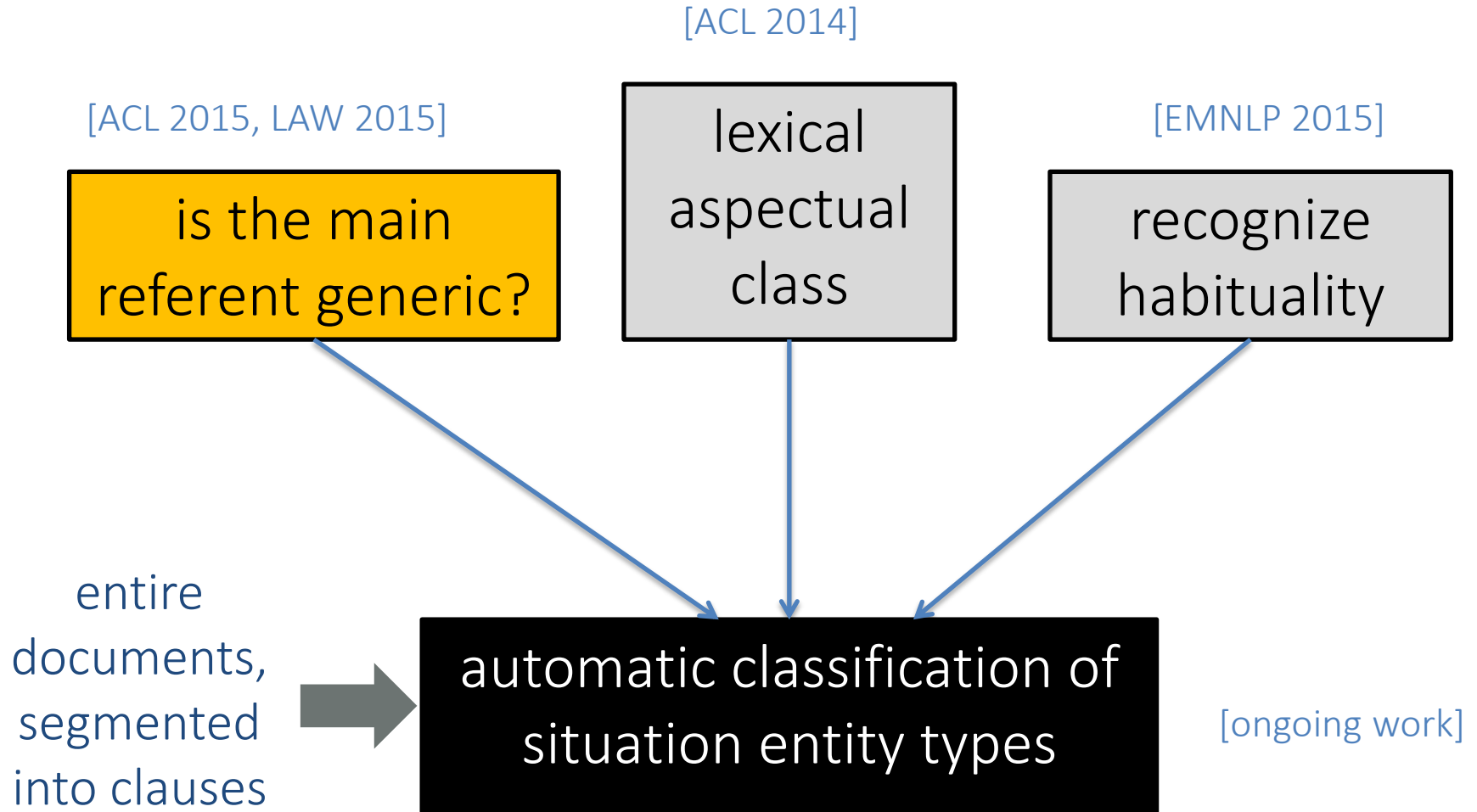


automatic classification of  
situation entity types

[ongoing work]



# Computational modeling of situation entity types



# Genericity



## THE GENERIC BOOK

Edited by  
GREGORY N.  
CARLSON  
and  
FRANCIS JEFFRY  
PELLETIER

Krifka, Manfred, et al.  
Introduction to genericity.  
In *The Generic Book* (1995).

lion

different  
entailment properties

kind-referring  
generic

Lions are dangerous.

Mufasa is dangerous.  
Simba is dangerous.

non-generic

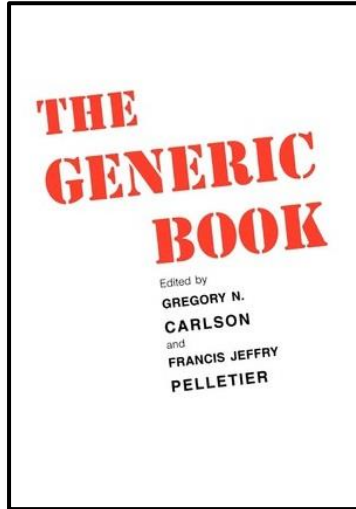


Simba

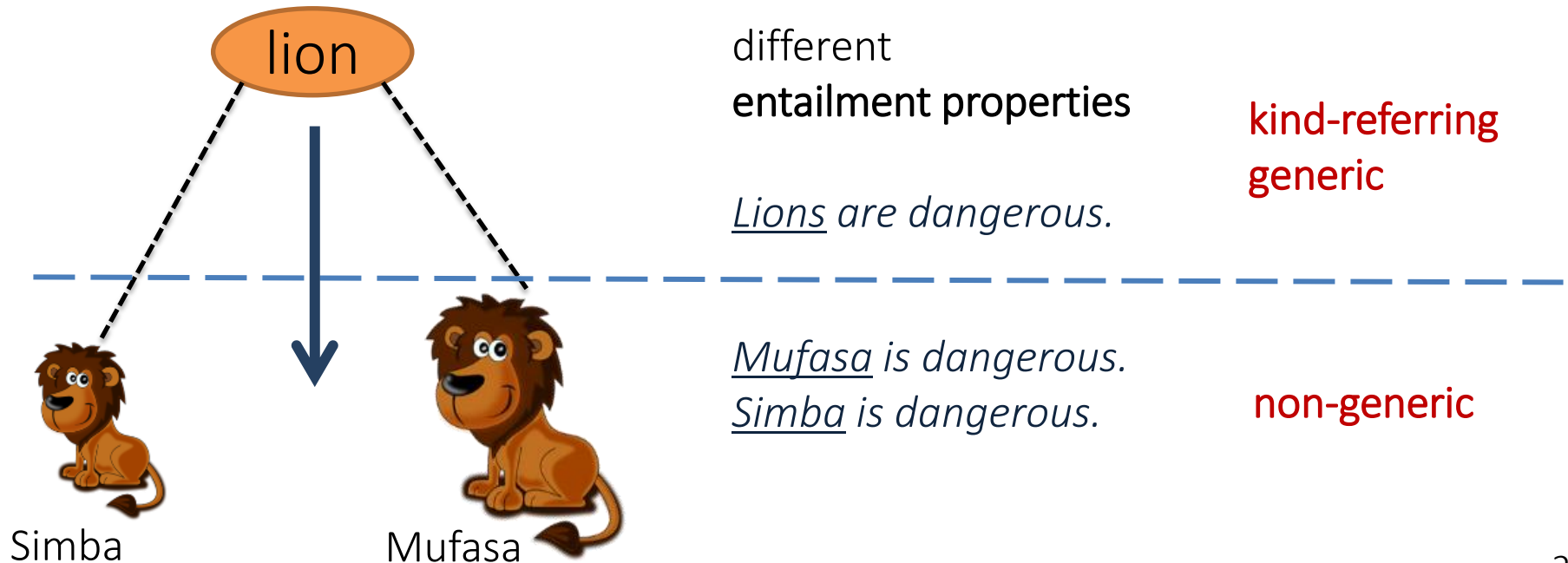


Mufasa

# Genericity



Krifka, Manfred, et al.  
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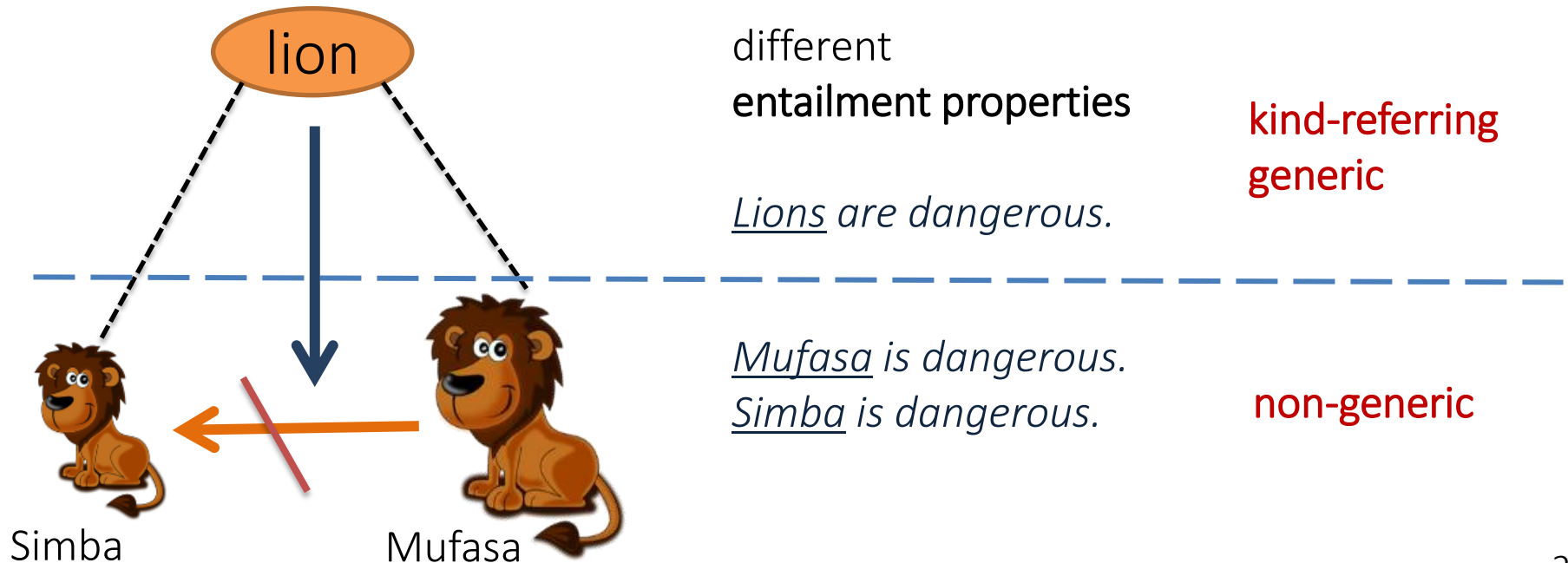
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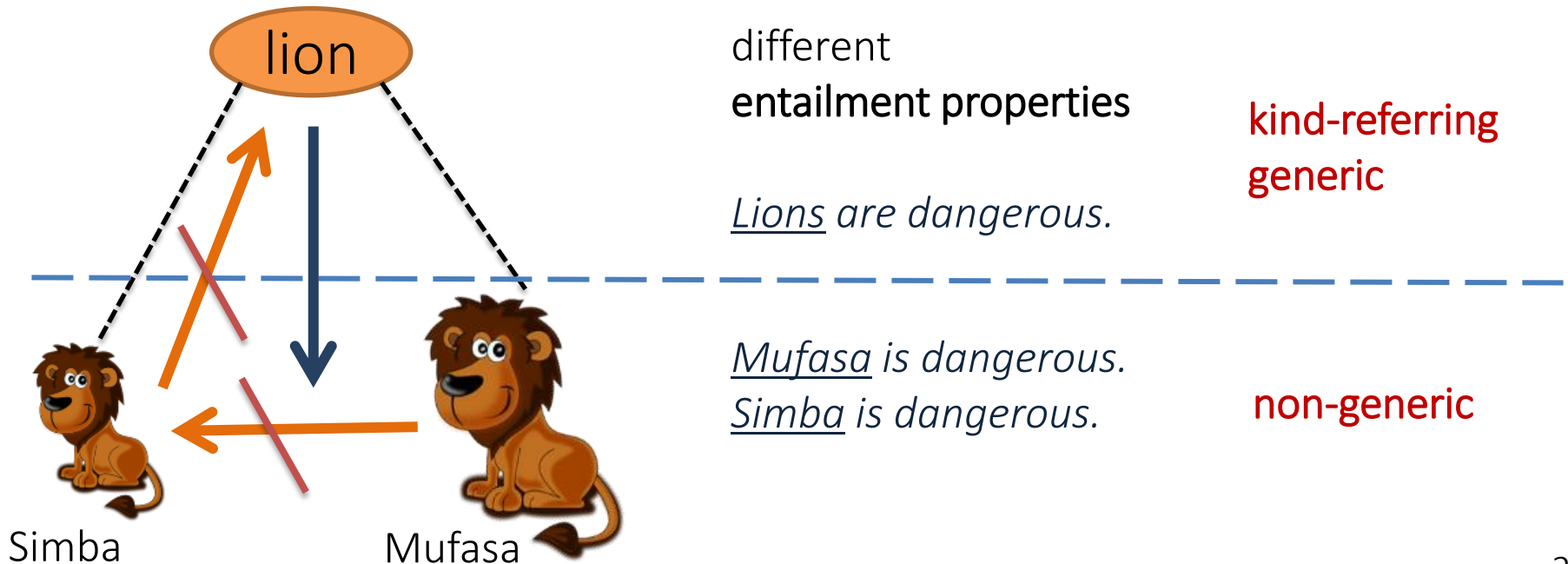
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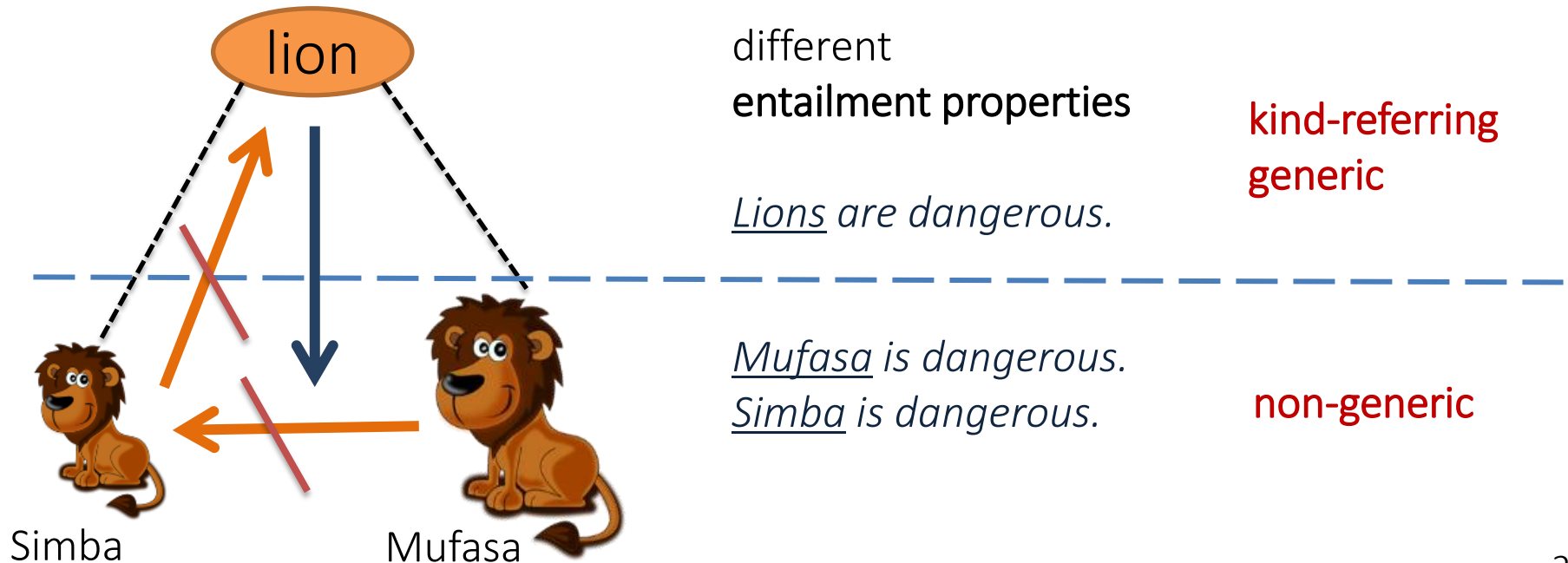


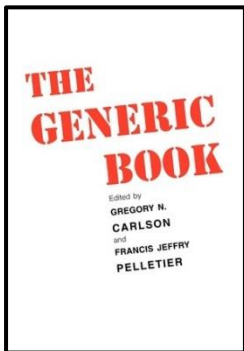
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- ✓ information / event extraction
- ✓ knowledge acquisition from text

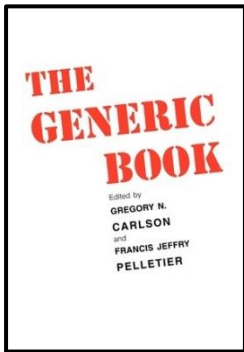




# Reference to kinds



	kind-referring	non-kind-referring
definite NPs	<u>The lion</u> is a predatory cat.	<u>The cat</u> chased the mouse.
indefinite NPs	<u>Lions</u> eat meat.	<u>Dogs</u> were barking outside.
quantified NPs	<u>Some (type of) dinosaur</u> is extinct.	<u>Some dogs</u> were barking outside.
proper names	<u>Panthera leo persica</u> was first described by the Austrian zoologist Meyer.	<u>John</u> likes ice cream.



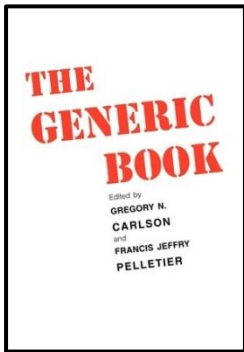
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form of NP not sufficient

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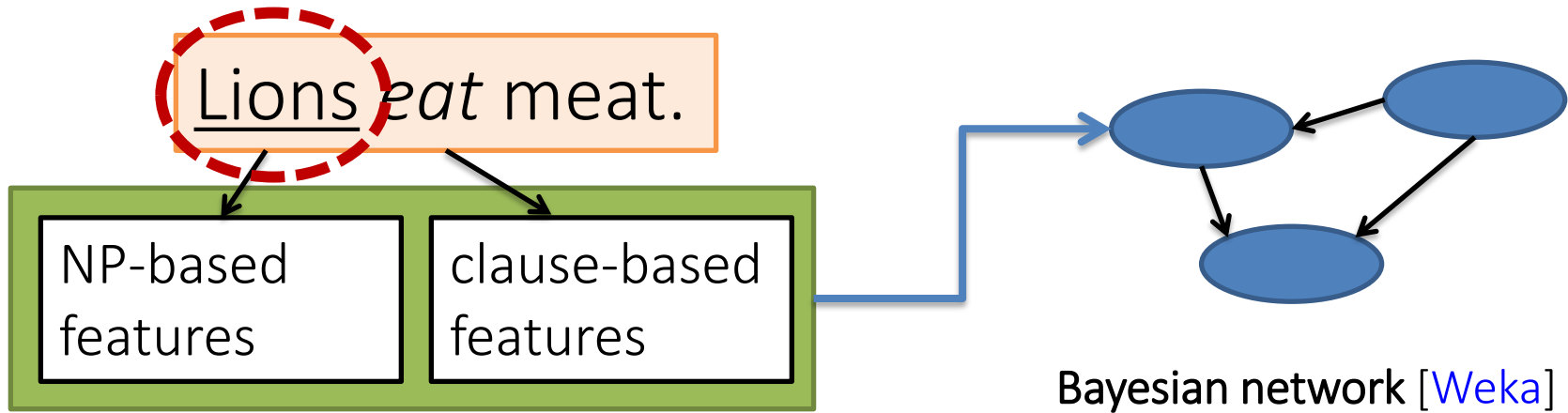
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clause / context matters



# Baseline: identifying generic noun phrases



Nils Reiter and Anette Frank. **Identifying generic noun phrases.** ACL 2010.

Data: ACE-2 & ACE-2005

→ largest corpora annotated with NP-level genericity to date, ~40k NPs

- SPC = specific / non-generic
- GEN = generic
- USP = underspecified



# Syntactic-semantic features

- reimplementation of R&F using freely available resources
- extracted from dependency parses (Stanford parser)

<https://github.com/annefried/sitent>

NP-based features	
number	sg, pl
person	1,2,3
countability	Celex: count, uncount,...
noun type	common, proper, pronoun
determiner type	def, indef, demon
part-of-speech	POS of head
bare plural	true, false
WordNet based features	senses, lexical filename,...

Clause-based features	
dependency relations	between (subject) head and governor etc.
tense	past, present, future
progressive	true, false
perfective	true, false
voice	active, passive
part-of-speech	POS of head
temporal modifier	true, false
number of modifiers	numeric
predicate	lemma of head
adjunct-degree	positive, comparative, superlative

# Discourse-sensitive approach



WIKIPEDIA  
The Free Encyclopedia

[Sugar maples] also have a tendency to color unevenly in fall.

[The recent year's growth twigs] are green and turn dark brown.



Annemarie Friedrich and Manfred Pinkal. **Discourse-sensitive automatic identification of generic expressions.** ACL 2015.

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genericity labeling of noun phrases in entire texts  
→ sequence labeling task

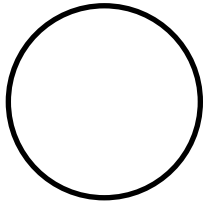
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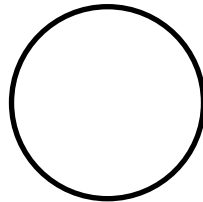
# Conditional random field (CRF)



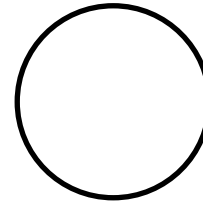
GENERIC



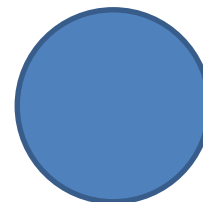
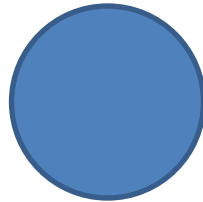
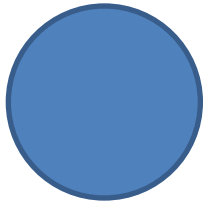
GENERIC



GENERIC



*label  
sequence  $\vec{y}$*



*observation  
sequence  $\vec{x}$*

Acer saccharum is  
a deciduous tree.

Sugar maples also  
have a tendency to  
color unevenly in  
fall.

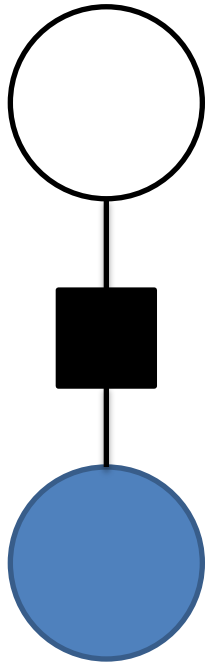
The recent year's  
growth twigs are  
green.



# Conditional random field (CRF)

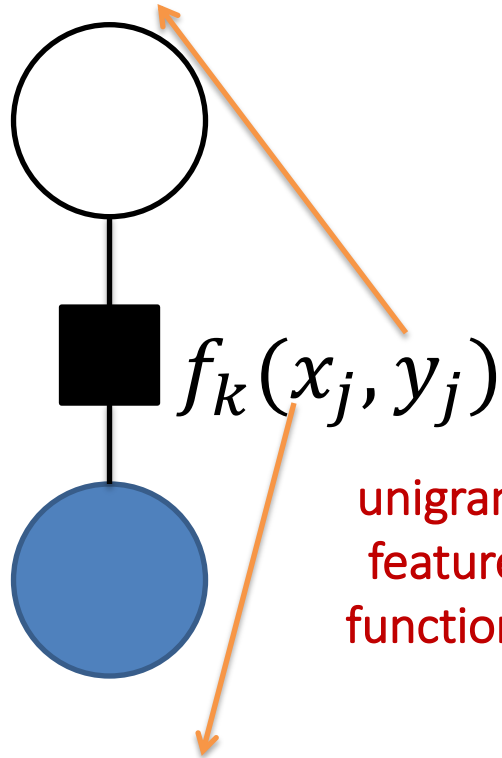


GENERIC



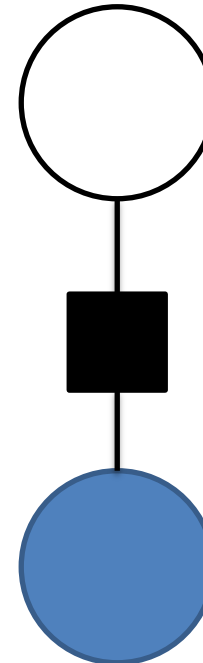
Acer saccharum is  
a deciduous tree.

GENERIC



Sugar maples also  
have a tendency to  
color unevenly in  
fall.

GENERIC



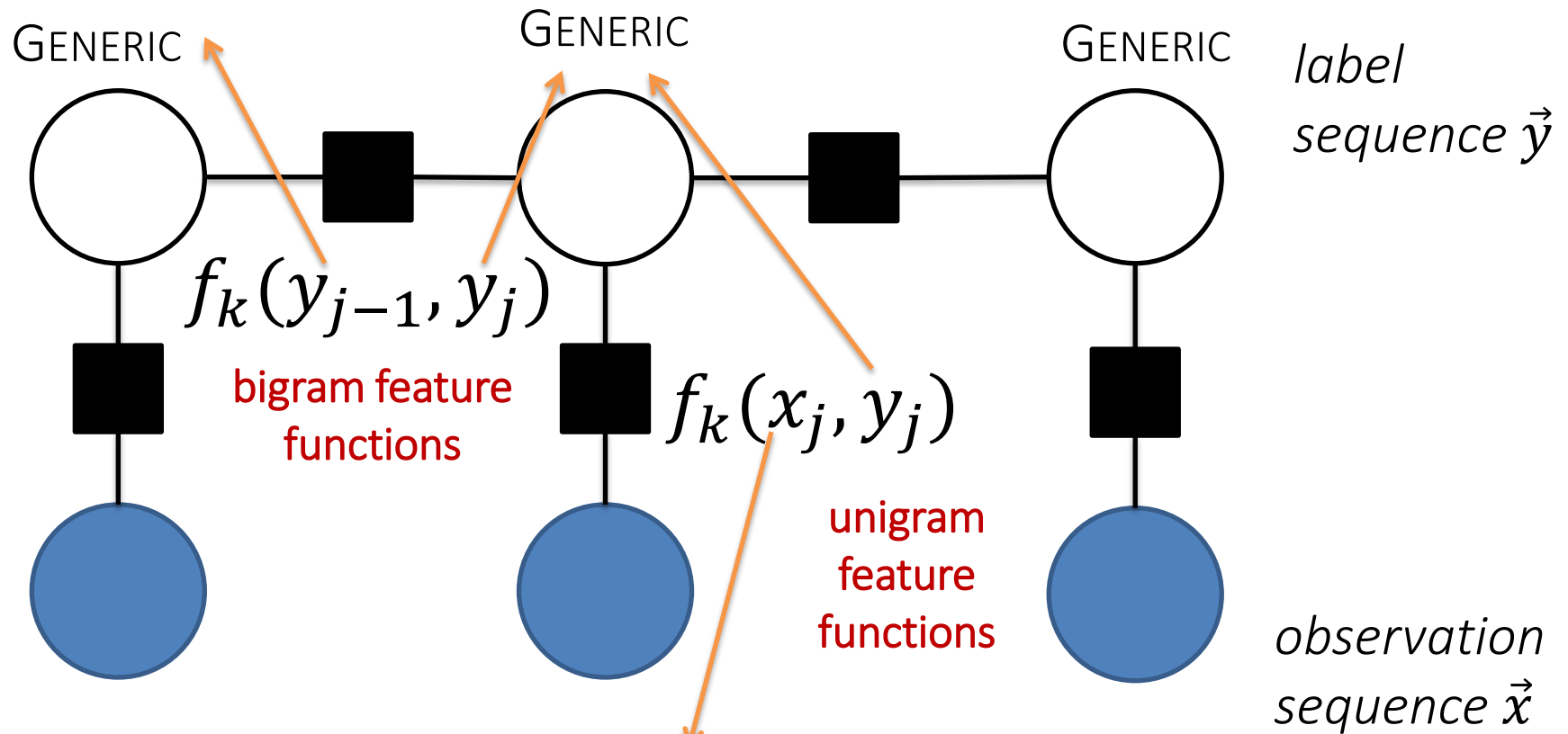
*label  
sequence  $\vec{y}$*

*observation  
sequence  $\vec{x}$*

The recent year's  
growth twigs are  
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# Conditional random field (CRF)



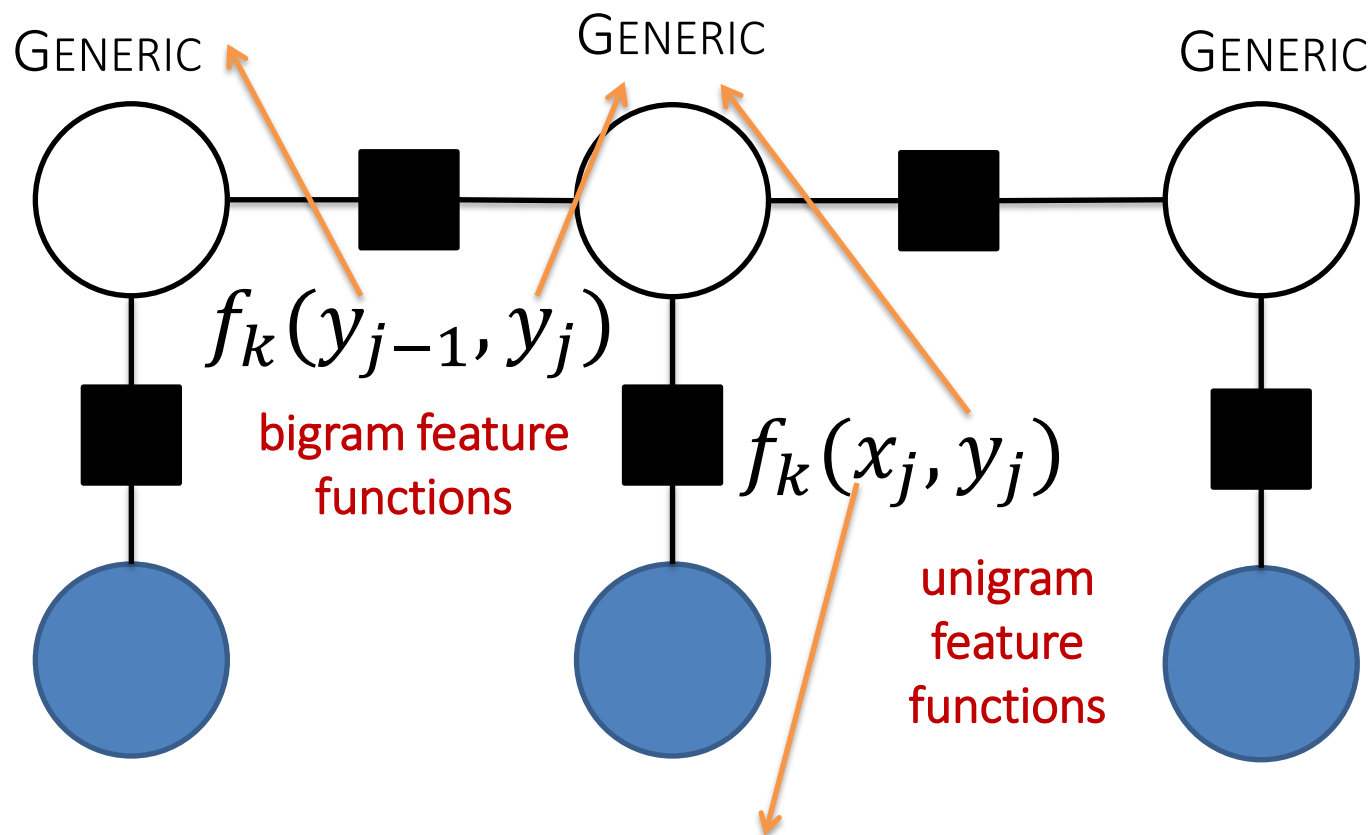
Acer saccharum is a deciduous tree.

Sugar maples also have a tendency to color unevenly in fall.

The recent year's growth twigs are green.



# Conditional random field (CRF)



label  
sequence  $\vec{y}$

$$P(\vec{y}|\vec{x}) \sim \sum_k \lambda_k f_k$$

observation  
sequence  $\vec{x}$

Acer saccharum is  
a deciduous tree.

Sugar maples also  
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color unevenly in  
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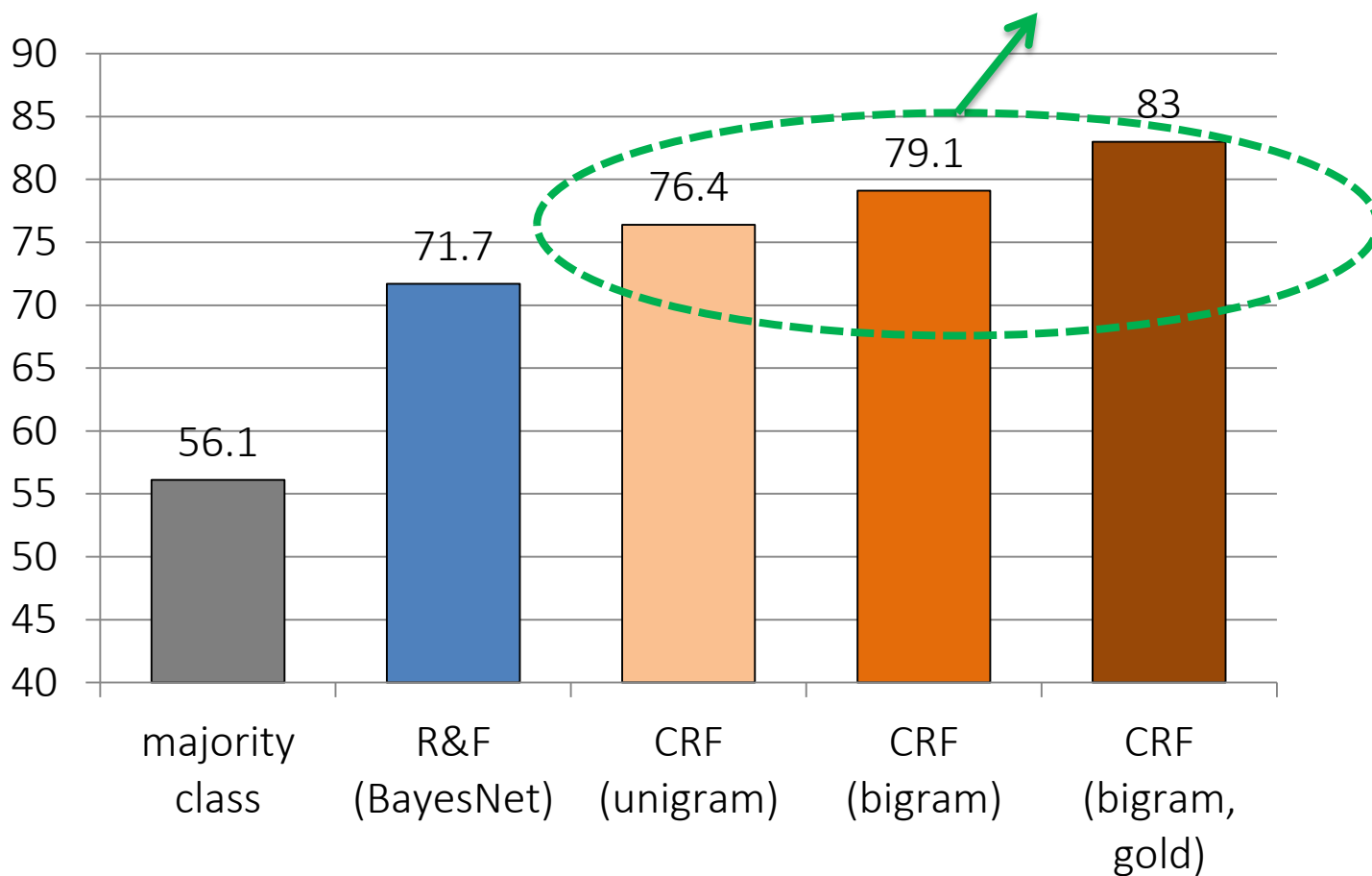
The recent year's  
growth twigs are  
green.



# Accuracy: Wikipedia data (main referent)



discourse / context information helps!



all differences statistically significant

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

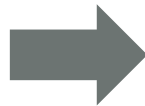
[EMNLP 2015]

is the main  
referent generic?

lexical  
aspectual  
class

recognize  
habituality

entire  
documents,  
segmented  
into clauses



automatic classification of  
situation entity types

[ongoing work]

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

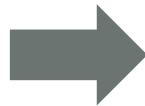
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is the main  
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documents,  
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into clauses



automatic classification of  
situation entity types

[ongoing work]

# Lexical aspectual class



She **filled** the  
glass with juice.  
dynamic





# Lexical aspectual class



She **filled** the  
glass with juice.  
**dynamic**



Juice **fills** the glass.  
**stative**

# Lexical aspectual class



She **filled** the  
glass with juice.  
**dynamic**



Juice **fills** the glass.  
**stative**

The glass **was filled** with  
juice.  
**both** interpretations  
possible



# Lexical aspectual class



She **filled** the  
glass with juice.  
**dynamic**



Juice **fills** the glass.  
**stative**

The glass **was filled** with  
juice.  
**both** interpretations  
possible

Vendler [1957]: time schemata of verbs  
lexical aspect / aktionsart

states	<i>love, own</i>	<b>stative</b>    <b>dynamic</b>
activities	<i>run</i>	
accomplishments	<i>write a letter</i>	
achievements	<i>realize</i>	



# Lexical aspectual class



She **filled** the glass with juice.  
**dynamic**



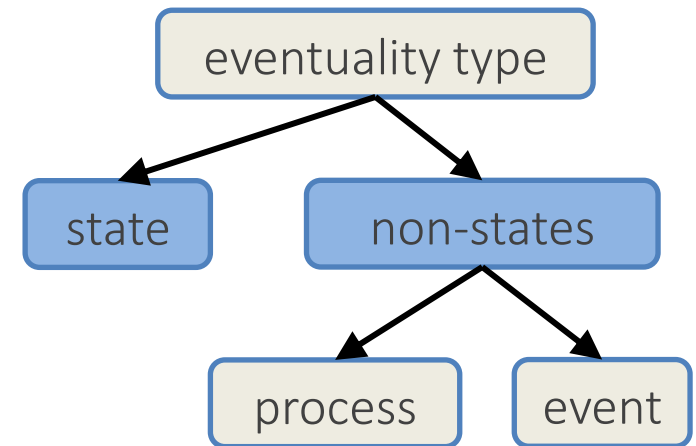
Juice **fills** the glass.  
**stative**

The glass **was filled** with juice.  
**both interpretations possible**

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lexical aspect / aktionsart

states	<i>love, own</i>	<b>stative</b>
activities	<i>run</i>	
accomplishments	<i>write a letter</i>	<b>dynamic</b>
achievements	<i>realize</i>	

Bach [1986]: time schemata of sentences





# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

John will <b>love</b> this cake!	<b>stative</b>	<i>John love cake</i>
John has <b>kissed</b> Mary.	<b>dynamic</b>	<i>John kiss Mary</i>
John <b>drives</b> to work.	<b>dynamic</b>	<i>John drive to work</i>

Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown. **Learning methods to combine linguistic indicators.** *Computational Linguistics*, 2000.

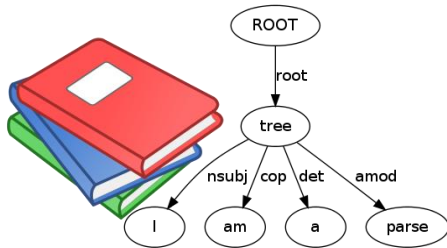


# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

John will <b>love</b> this cake!	<b>stative</b>	<i>John love cake</i>
John has <b>kissed</b> Mary.	<b>dynamic</b>	<i>John kiss Mary</i>
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## Linguistic indicators

large parsed text corpus  
(Gigaword)



Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown. **Learning methods to combine linguistic indicators.** *Computational Linguistics*, 2000.

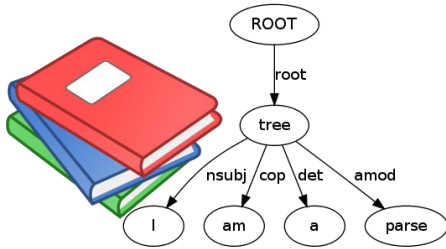


# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

John will <b>love</b> this cake!	<b>stative</b>	<i>John love cake</i>
John has <b>kissed</b> Mary.	<b>dynamic</b>	<i>John kiss Mary</i>
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## Linguistic indicators

large parsed text corpus  
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frequency	negated	no subject
present	perfect	evaluation adverb
past	progressive	continuous adverb
future	for-PP	manner adverb
particle	in-PP	temporal adverb

Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown. **Learning methods to combine linguistic indicators.** *Computational Linguistics*, 2000.

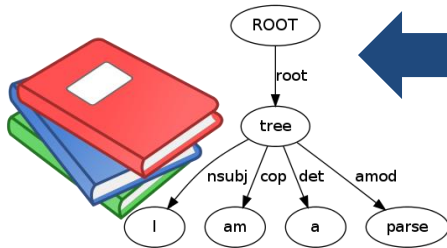


# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

John will <b>love</b> this cake!	<b>stative</b>	<i>John love cake</i>
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## Linguistic indicators

large parsed text corpus  
(Gigaword)



counts for each  
**verb type**

frequency	negated	no subject
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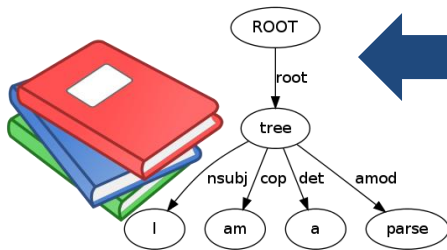


# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

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verb type: *drink* -- `ling_ind_past` = 0.0927

→ 9.27% of all instances of *drink* in corpus are in past tense

Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown. **Learning methods to combine linguistic indicators.** *Computational Linguistics*, 2000.

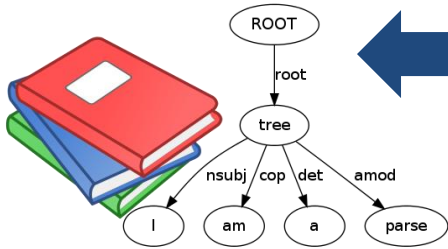


# Predicting fundamental lexical aspectual class

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## Linguistic indicators

large parsed text corpus  
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past	progressive	continuous adverb
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verb type: **drink** -- **ling\_ind\_past** = 0.0927

→ 9.27% of all instances of *drink* in corpus are in past tense

→ 15 features for  
each **verb type**

Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown. **Learning methods to combine linguistic indicators.** *Computational Linguistics*, 2000.

# Fundamental lexical aspectual class



Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown, 2000.

She **filled** the glass with juice.

linguistic indicator

features for fill:

present 0.0927

negation 0.00024

... ..

training: labeled data

She **likes** flowers. **stative**

Mary **bought** a cat. **dynamic**

Random Forest  
classifier

**dynamic**

# Fundamental lexical aspectual class



Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown, 2000.

The glass is **filled** with juice.

She **filled** the glass with juice.

linguistic indicator

features for fill:

present 0.0927

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... ..

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Classification always results in majority class of verb type. Dataset not available.

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She **likes** flowers. **stative**

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} ~6000 clauses  
from MASC,  
complete texts,  
 $\kappa=0.7$

Random Forest  
classifier

**dynamic**

Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer. **Automatic prediction of aspectual class of verbs in context.** ACL 2014.

# Fundamental lexical aspectual class



Eric Siegel and Kathleen McKeown, 2000.

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... ..

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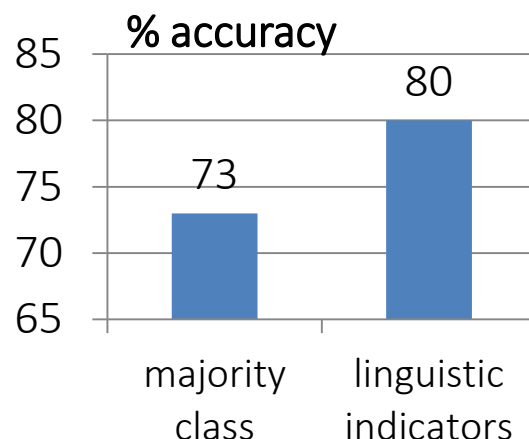
She **likes** flowers. **stative**  
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} ~6000 clauses  
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complete texts,  
 $\kappa=0.7$

Random Forest  
classifier

**dynamic**

10-fold cross  
validation:  
UNSEEN VERBS



linguistic indicators generalize  
across verb types

Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer. **Automatic prediction of aspectual class of verbs in context.** ACL 2014.



# Fundamental lexical aspectual class

linguistic indicator

features for fill:

present 0.0927  
negation 0.00024  
... ..

training/test: labeled data

She **likes** flowers. **stative**

Mary **bought** a cat. **dynamic**

Random Forest  
classifier

**dynamic**

instance-based

features for clause:

tense past  
subject noun.person  
voice active  
... ..

Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer. **Automatic prediction of aspectual class of verbs in context.** ACL 2014.





# Fundamental lexical aspectual class

linguistic indicator

features for fill:

present 0.0927  
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... ..

instance-based

features for clause:

tense past  
subject noun.person  
voice active  
... ..

training/test: labeled data

She **likes** flowers. **stative**  
Mary **bought** a cat. **dynamic**

Random Forest  
classifier

**dynamic**

2667 sentences from  
Brown corpus for 20  
frequent ambiguous  
verbs

2 annotators,  $\kappa = 0.6$   
Leave-One-Out CV

Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer. **Automatic prediction of aspectual class of verbs in context.** ACL 2014.

# Fundamental lexical aspectual class



linguistic indicator  
features for fill:  
present 0.0927  
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... ..

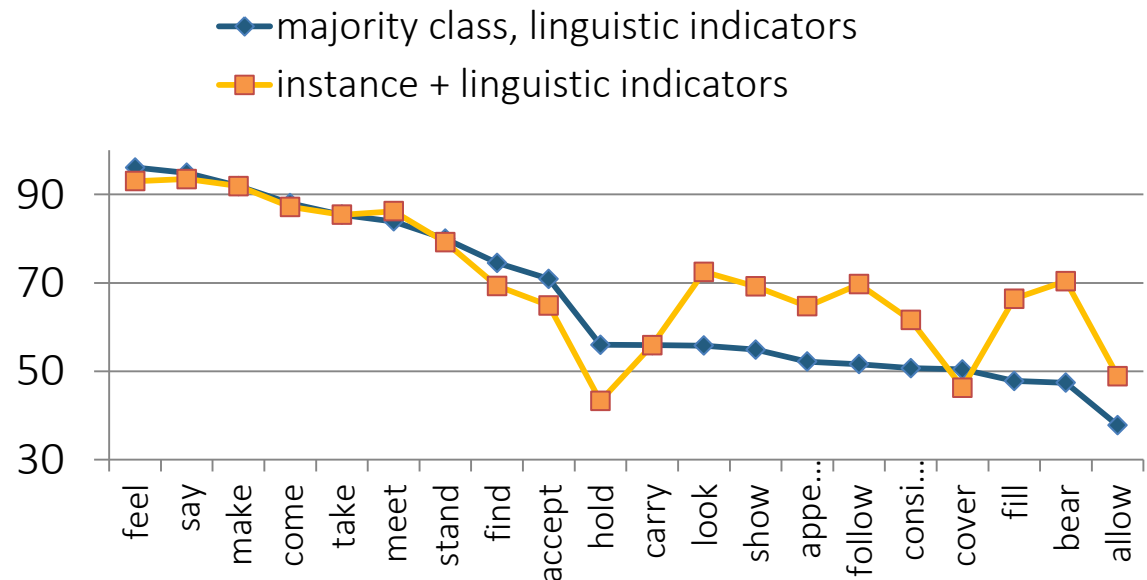
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Random Forest  
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Annemarie Friedrich and Alexis Palmer. **Automatic prediction of aspectual class of verbs in context.** ACL 2014.

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

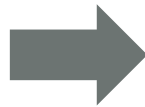
[EMNLP 2015]

is the main  
referent generic?

lexical  
aspectual  
class

recognize  
habituality

entire  
documents,  
segmented  
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automatic classification of  
situation entity types

[ongoing work]

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

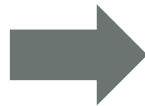
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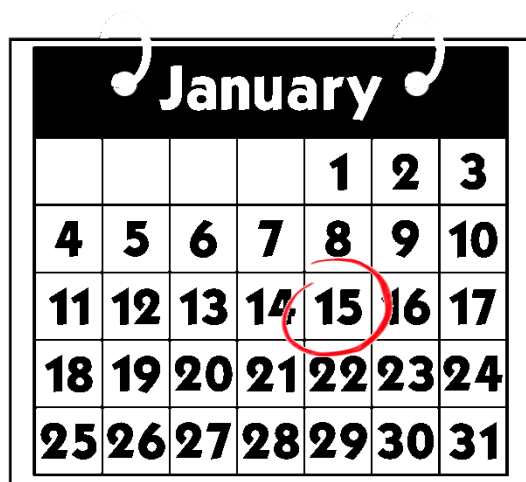
[ongoing work]

# Habituality



**episodic**

a particular event



A calendar for the month of January. The title 'January' is at the top, flanked by two musical notes. The calendar grid shows days 1 through 31. The date 15 is circled in red.

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

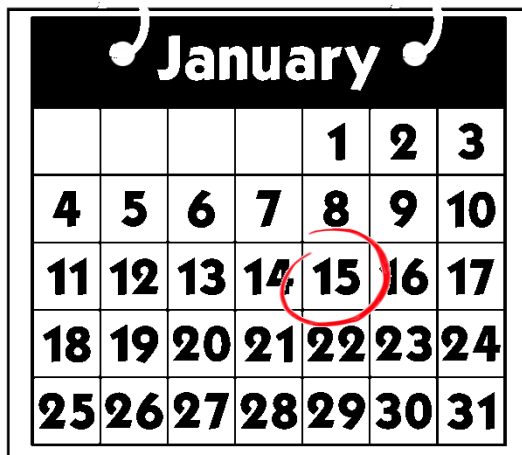
*John went swimming  
yesterday!*

# Habituality



## episodic

a particular event



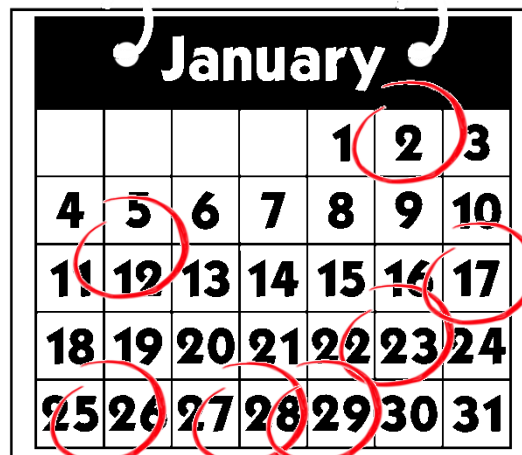
A calendar for the month of January. The title 'January' is at the top, flanked by two musical notes. The calendar grid shows dates from 1 to 31. The date 15 is circled in red.

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*John went swimming yesterday!*

## habitual

generalization over situations,  
exceptions are tolerated



A calendar for the month of January. The title 'January' is at the top, flanked by two musical notes. The calendar grid shows dates from 1 to 31. Multiple dates are circled in red: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

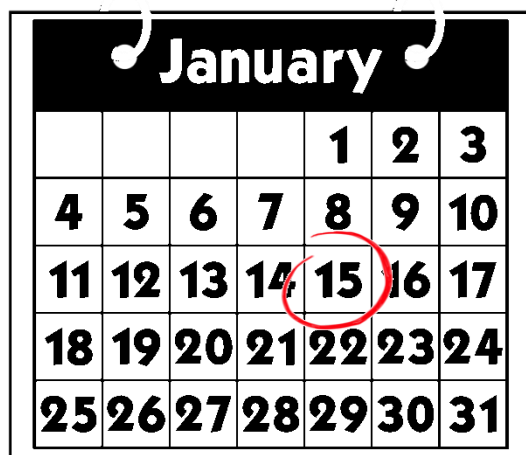
*Bill often goes swimming.*

# Habituality



## episodic

a particular event



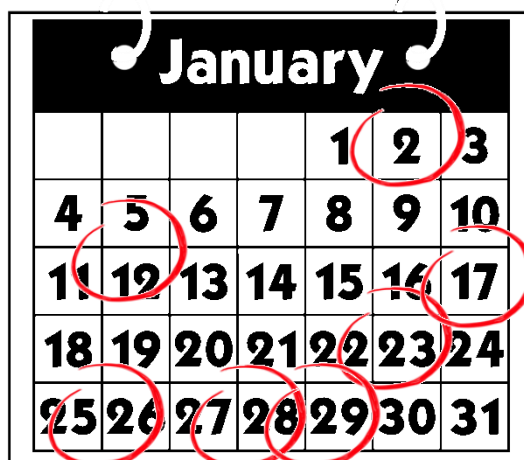
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*John went swimming  
yesterday!*

## habitual

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A calendar for the month of January. The title 'January' is at the top, flanked by two musical notes. The calendar grid shows dates from 1 to 31. Multiple dates are circled in red: 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, and 31.

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11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*Bill often goes  
swimming.*

Thomas Mathew and Graham Katz. Supervised categorization of habitual and episodic sentences.  
*Sixth Midwest Computational Linguistics Colloquium, Bloomington, Indiana. 2009.*

# Habituality



## episodic

a particular event

January						
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*John went swimming yesterday!*

## habitual

generalization over situations,  
exceptions are tolerated

January						
				1	2	
4	5	6	7	8		
11	12	13	14	15		
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

*Bill often goes swimming.*

Bill likes coffee.  
Bill didn't go swimming.  
Bill can swim.



Thomas Mathew and Graham Katz. Supervised categorization of habitual and episodic sentences.  
Sixth Midwest Computational Linguistics Colloquium, Bloomington, Indiana. 2009.



# A three-way classification of clausal aspect



clausal aspect

lexical aspect

episodic

Bill **drank** a coffee after lunch.

*dynamic*

Annemarie Friedrich and Manfred Pinkal. **Recognising habituals: a three-way classification of clausal aspect.** EMNLP 2015.

# A three-way classification of clausal aspect



clausal aspect		lexical aspect
episodic	Bill <b>drank</b> a coffee after lunch.	<i>dynamic</i>
	Bill <i>usually</i> <b>drinks</b> coffee after lunch.	<i>dynamic</i>
habitual	Italians <b>drink</b> coffee after lunch.	<i>dynamic</i>
	Sloths <i>sometimes</i> <b>sit</b> on top of branches.	<i>stative</i>
	John <i>never</i> <b>drinks</b> coffee.	<i>dynamic</i>

Annemarie Friedrich and Manfred Pinkal. **Recognising habituals: a three-way classification of clausal aspect.** EMNLP 2015.

# A three-way classification of clausal aspect



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habitual	Italians <b>drink</b> coffee after lunch.	<i>dynamic</i>
	Sloths <i>sometimes</i> <b>sit</b> on top of branches.	<i>stative</i>
	John <i>never</i> <b>drinks</b> coffee.	<i>dynamic</i>
static	Bill <b>likes</b> coffee.	<i>stative</i>
	Bill <i>can</i> <b>swim</b> .	<i>dynamic</i>
	Bill <i>didn't</i> <b>drink</b> coffee yesterday.	<i>dynamic</i>
	Mary <i>has</i> <b>made</b> a cake.	<i>dynamic</i>

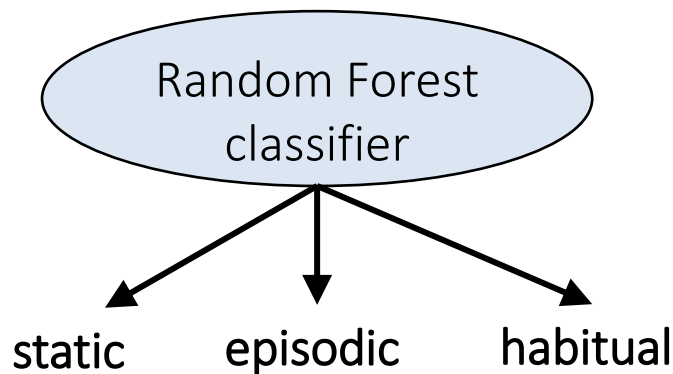
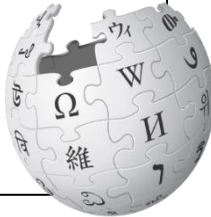
Annemarie Friedrich and Manfred Pinkal. **Recognising habituais:**  
a three-way classification of clausal aspect. EMNLP 2015.

# Automatic classification of clausal aspect

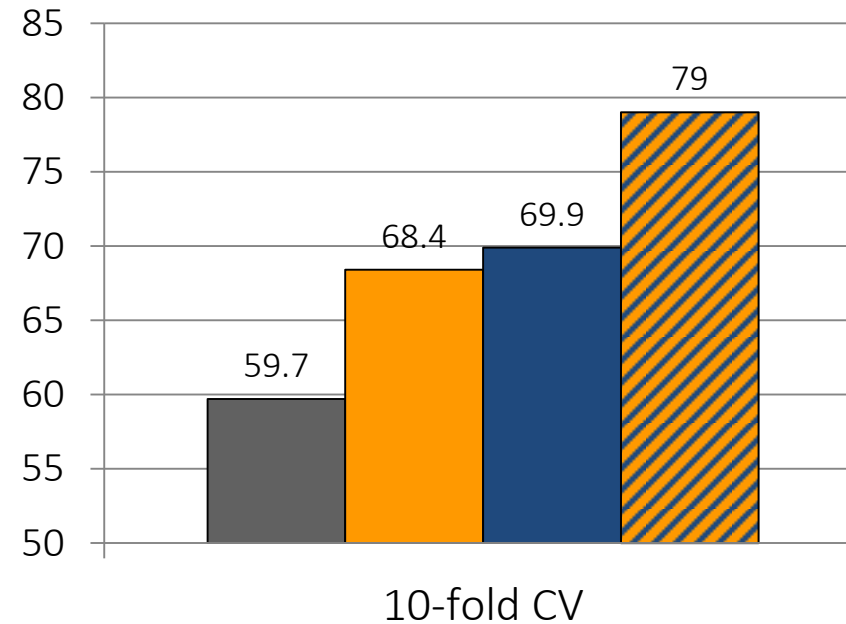


102 texts, 10355 clauses  
3 annotators,  $\kappa=0.61$

60% **static**  
20% **episodic**  
20% **habitual**



- majority class
- instance-based
- type (linguistic indicators)
- instance+type



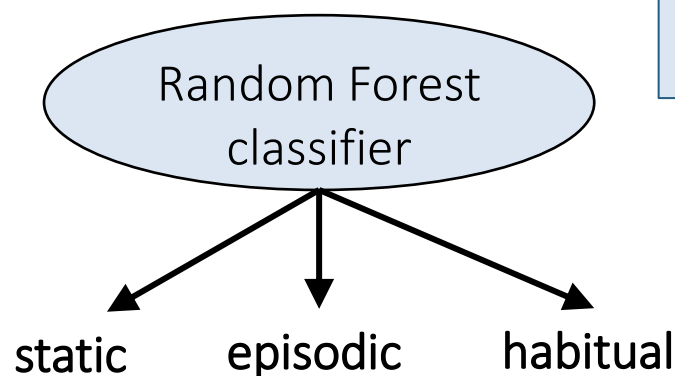
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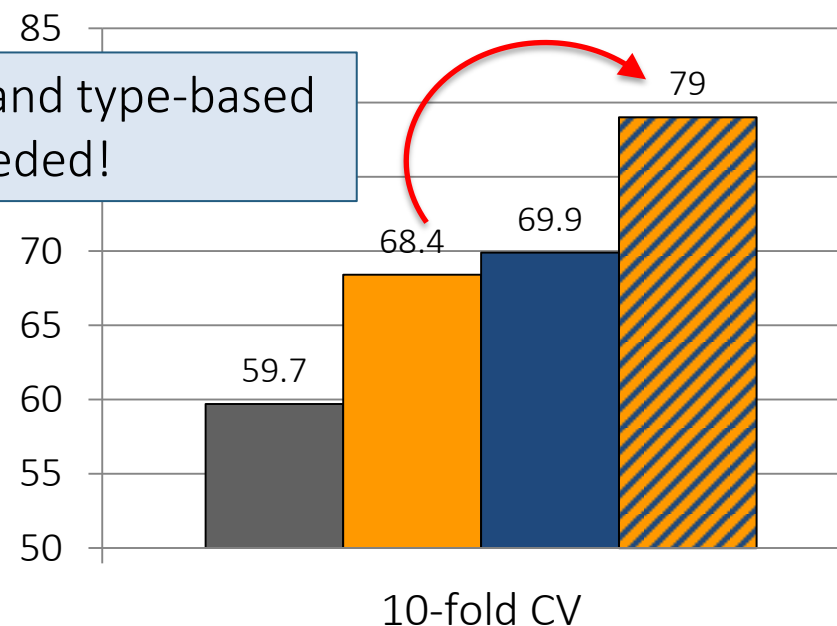
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Both instance- and type-based features are needed!

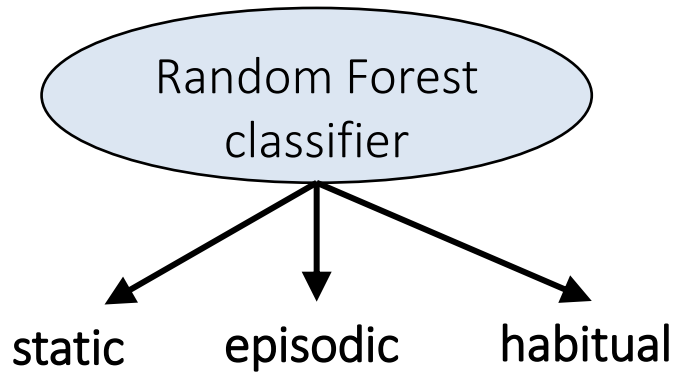


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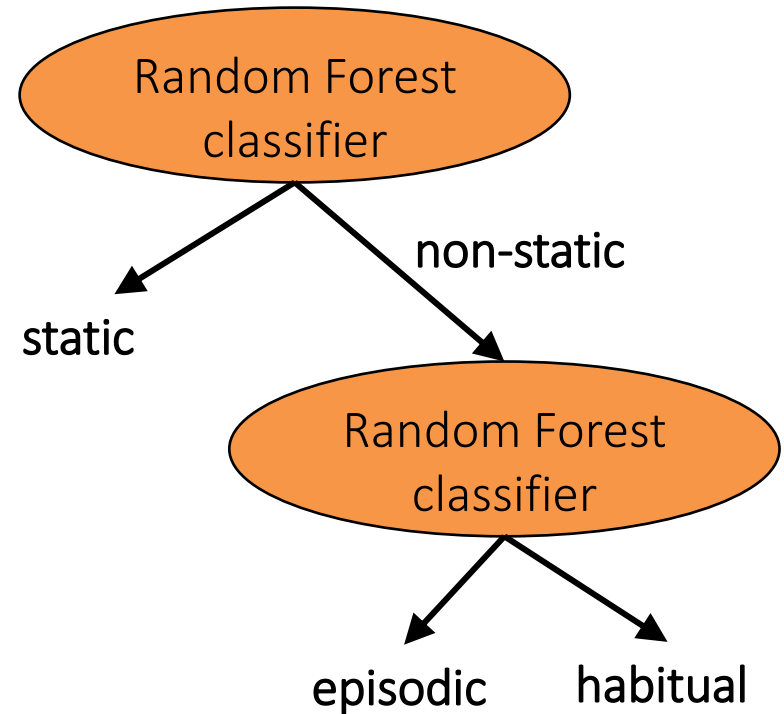
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## JOINT MODEL



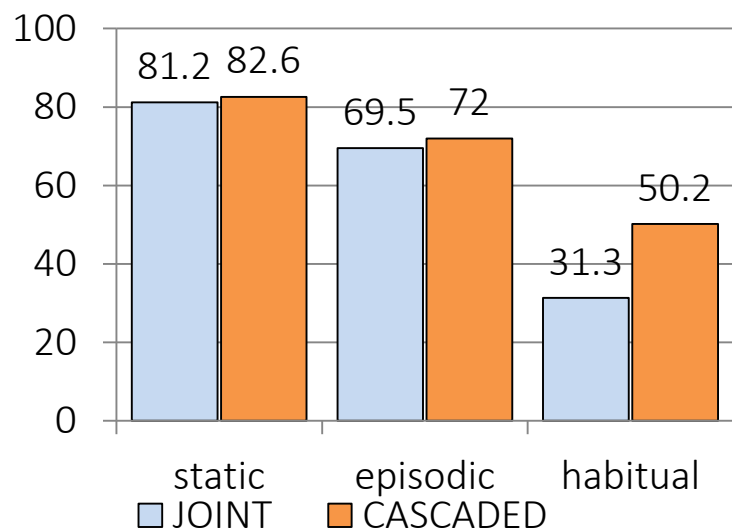
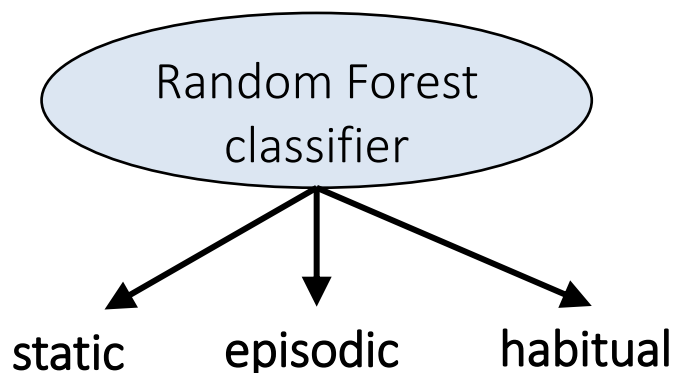
## CASCADED MODEL



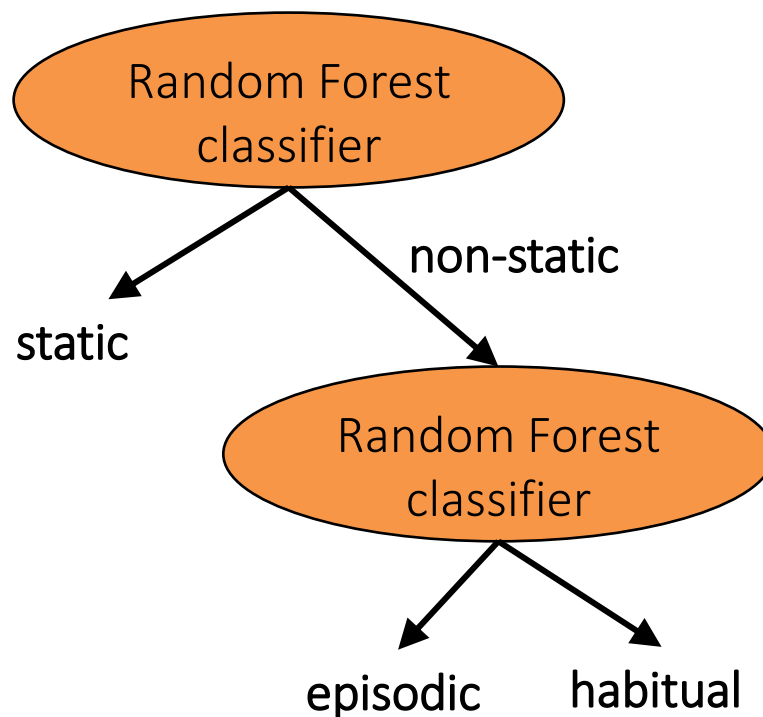
# Automatic classification of clausal aspect



## JOINT MODEL



## CASCADED MODEL



Cascaded model improves identification of habituals in free text.

# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

[ACL 2015, LAW 2015]

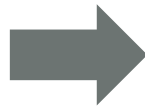
[EMNLP 2015]

is the main  
referent generic?

lexical  
aspectual  
class

recognize  
habituality

entire  
documents,  
segmented  
into clauses



automatic classification of  
situation entity types

[ongoing work]



# Computational modeling of situation entity types



[ACL 2014]

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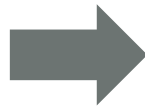
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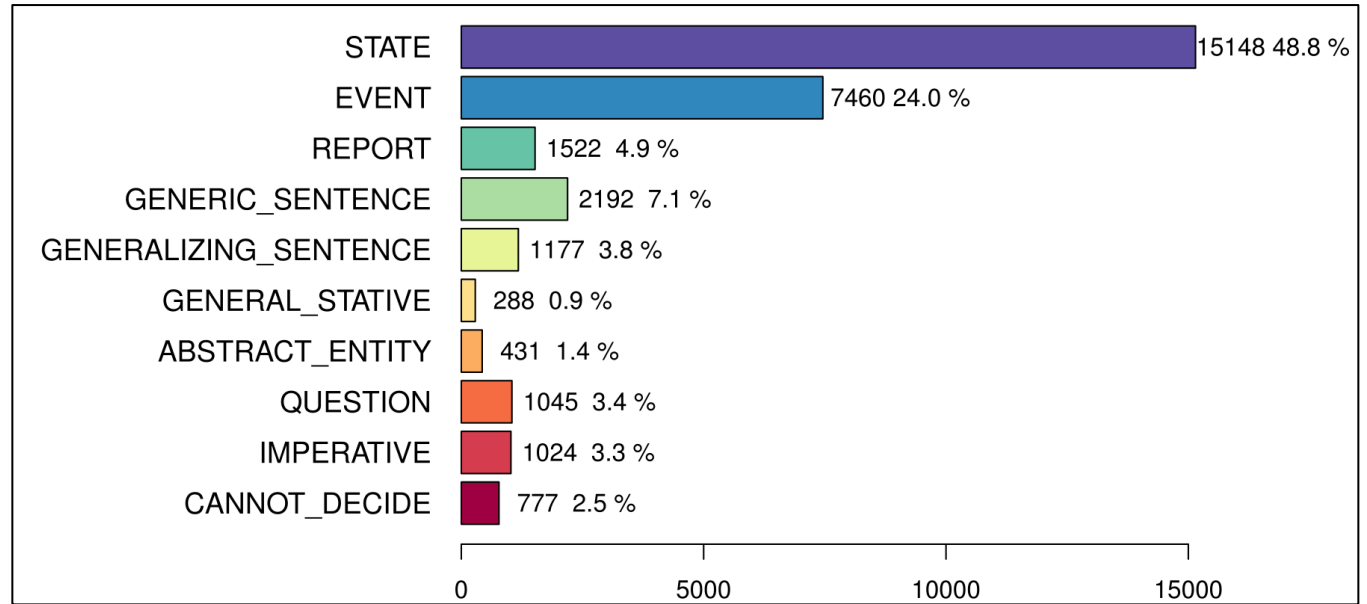
[ongoing work]

# Situation entity type distributions

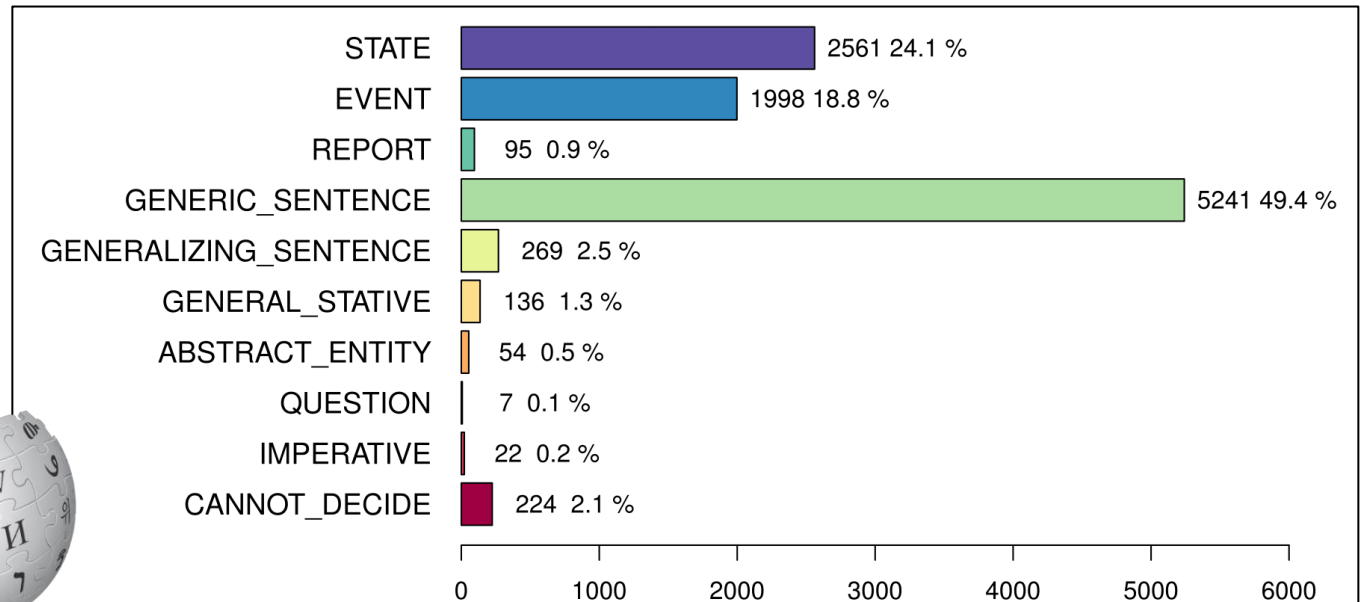


## MASC

- blog
- email
- essays
- fictions
- fiction
- govt-docs
- jokes
- journal
- letters
- news
- technical
- travel



## Wikipedia



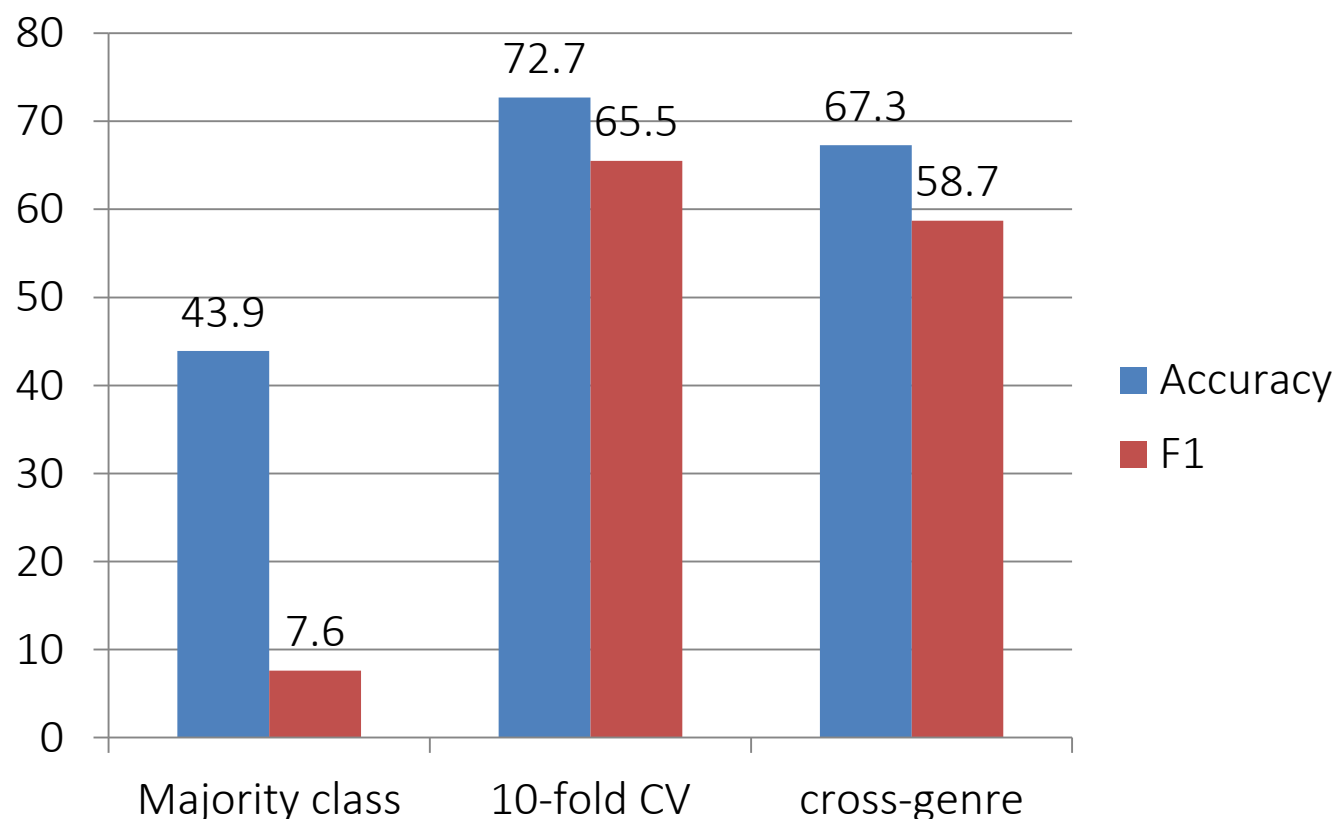
# Situation entity types (intermediate results)



development set, ~32550 clauses from MASC+Wiki

8-way classification task

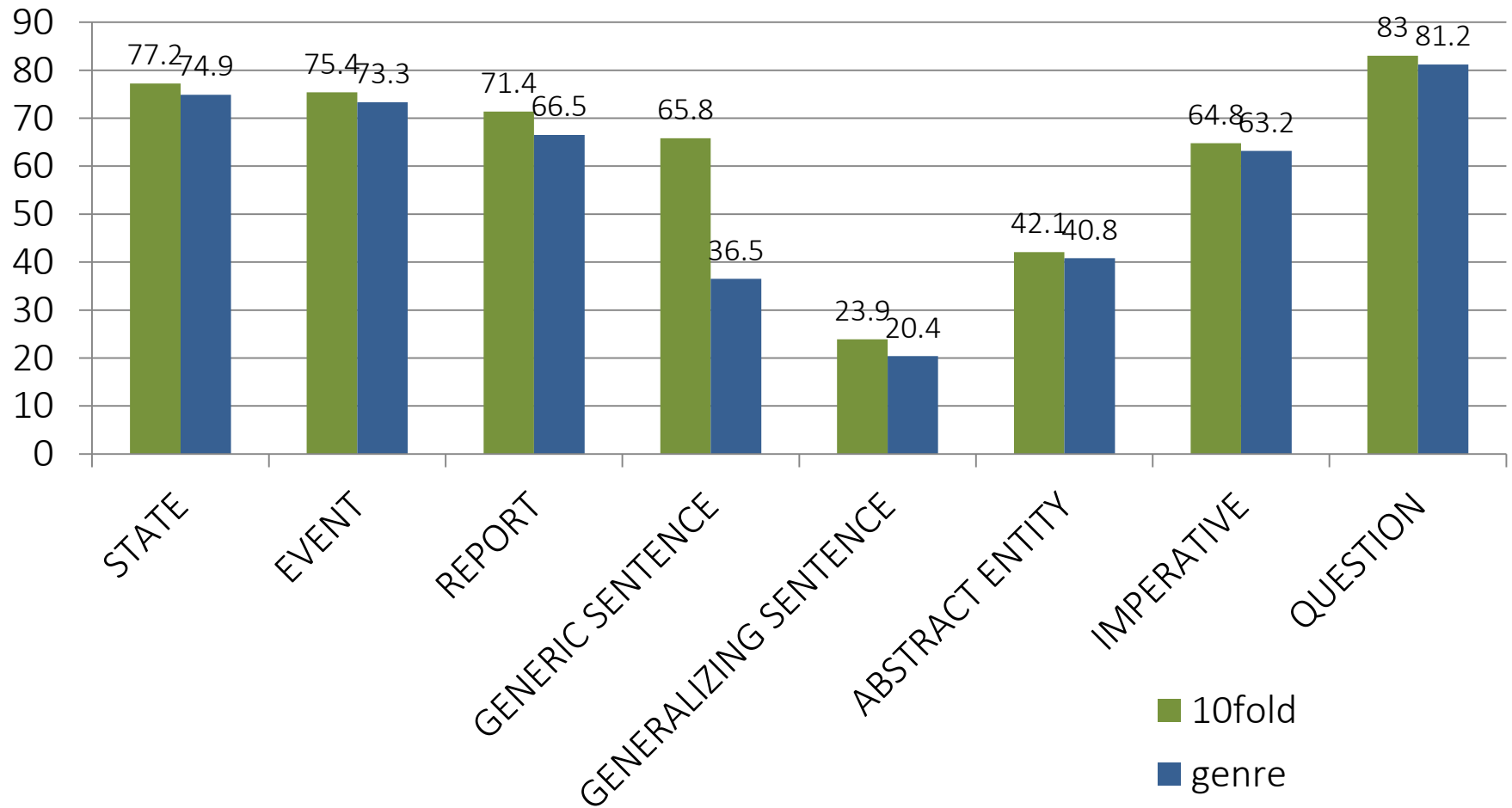
Conditional Random Field, selection of syntactic-semantic features



# Situation entity types (intermediate results)



development set, ~32550 clauses  
8-way classification task  
Conditional Random Field



# On-going / future work



- improving classification of **situation entity types**

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- investigate interaction of prediction of **features** (main referent, clausal aspect) and **situation entity types**



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- other languages (extend work of Mavridou et al. 2015)

# Summary



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*Thank you!*





# References



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- Carlota S Smith. Aspectual entities and tense in discourse. In *Aspectual inquiries*, pages 223–237. Springer, 2005.
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# Computational model for genericity



Sugar maples also  
have a tendency to  
color unevenly in fall.

The recent year's  
growth twigs are green.

*sequence of clauses  
(entire document)*

barePlural=true : 1  
determinerType=def : 0  
tense=present : 1  
voice=active : 1  
...

barePlural=true : 0  
determinerType=def : 1  
tense=present : 1  
voice=active : 1  
...

***features:  
indicator functions***

CRF

GENERIC

GENERIC

*sequence of labels*

# Linear-chain Conditional Random Field

Probability of label  
sequence  $\vec{y}$  given  
observation sequence  $\vec{x}$

sum over observations in  $\vec{x}$

sum over feature functions

$$P(\vec{y}|\vec{x}) = \frac{1}{Z(\vec{x})} \exp \left\{ \sum_{j=1}^n \left[ \sum_i \lambda_i f_i(y_{j-1}, y_j) + \sum_k \lambda_k f_k(x_j, y_j) \right] \right\}$$

weights for feature functions

normalization over scores for all  
possible label sequences with  
length  $|\vec{x}|$

**Discriminative training**

(maximum likelihood, [CRF++](#) toolkit)

# Accuracy: ACE-2 and ACE-2005

