

## **Detecting and Comparing Peculiar Features of Different Dependency Treebanks**

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## 1. Introduction

The following is a list of factors that are of fundamental importance in deciding how a treebank and its underlying corpus should be organized. These factors are at the same time conditions of well-formedness of a treebank and may constitute an obstacle against the usability of the same treebank for machine learning purposes. We believe that a treebank should be endowed with:

- Representativeness in terms of text genres
- Representativeness in terms of linguistic theory adherence
- Coherence in allowing Syntactic-Semantic Mapping
- Ability to highlight distinctive linguistic features of the chosen language.

Each factor can impact negatively on the linguistic texture of a treebank, and may undermine its utility as a general linguistic reference point for studies of the chosen language. More specifically, we assume that the above factors would have to be determined on the basis of the following choices:

- Corpus (balanced) and representative of 6 or 7 different text genres vs. unbalanced/mono genre
- Strictly adherent to linguistic principles vs. loosely/non adherent (e.g. more hierarchical vs. less hierarchical)
- Constituency/Dependency/Functional structures are semantically coherent vs. incoherent
- Language chosen is highly canonical and regular vs. almost free word order language.

The final item is clearly inherent in the language chosen and not to be attributed to responsibilities of the annotators. However, as will be shown and discussed at length below, it may turn out to be the main factor in determining the feasibility of the treebank for grammar induction and probabilistic parsing.

In this report I will be concerned with Italian Dependency Treebanks (IDT for short) and will trace minor/major differences with the purpose that they might be useful in case of need for a "normalization" or simply a wrapper to map from one representation to another.

It is important to note that currently available CoNLL style IDT are just three:

- TUT of Tourin University
- TALN of Pisa University
- VIT of Venice University

We will be concerned mainly with common and generally accepted information structure that is distributed on some 8/10 columns. Only TUT and VIT have a version of the treebank that includes Null Elements, however: this will be discussed in a separate section below. We will not compare tags - POS or morphological features, nor functional labels. We will just highlight macro differences and then will concentrate on some thorny issues and compare different solutions. Different treatments in IDT will then be compared with other treebanks available in CoNLL format for similar languages - the AnCora Dependency Treebank (ADT) for Catalan and the CoNLL-X distributed version of a Portuguese treebank CPT- and also with Penn TB. We will in some cases also look at PARC-700 LFG dependency treebank.

### 1.1 Amalgams

First of all, it is important to note that Italian has two major types of amalgams: prepositional-article compounds - also called D-to-P incorporation - and cliticized verbs. There are two variables at play here: preserve the original orthography and insert additional information in the feature slot; else modify the orthography and distribute the information in different entries. Differently from what TUT and VIT have decided to do - to decompose both types - TALN has decided to decompose only verbal amalgams, that is cliticized verbs. Prepositional amalgams are left as they appear but their nature is clarified by the additional morphological features:

```
16  alla  a      E      EA      num=s|gen=f      15  comp  _      _      INDCOMPL
```

Now the other variable is constituted by the running word indices associated to each token in the entry text. TALN introduces a new separate index for the enclitic pronoun, as shown below:

|    |            |            |    |       |                   |    |       |             |   |          |  |  |
|----|------------|------------|----|-------|-------------------|----|-------|-------------|---|----------|--|--|
| 35 | di         | di         | E  | E     | _                 | 34 | comp  | _           | _ | RMOD     |  |  |
| 36 | poter-     | potereV    | VM | mod=f |                   | 38 | modal | INTRANS     | _ | ARG      |  |  |
| 37 | li         | li         | P  | PE    | num=p per=3 gen=m | 38 | obj   | LOBJ CLITIC | _ | VISITOR  |  |  |
| 38 | utilizzare | utilizzare | V  | V     | mod=f             | 35 | prep  | TRANS       | _ | INDCOMPL |  |  |

As can be easily gathered, in this way the original orthography is not preserved and in order to recover the original token POTERLI, two separate dependency representations have to be concatenated, poter-li.

TUT maintains a homogenous behaviour for both types: it multiplies the amalgamated preposition-article into two entries which also have separate indices, as follows:

|    |       |      |      |      |               |    |          |   |   |
|----|-------|------|------|------|---------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 10 | della | DI   | PREP | PREP | MONO          | 9  | INDCOMPL | _ | _ |
| 11 | della | IL   | ART  | ART  | DEF F SING    | 10 | ARG      | _ | _ |
| 12 | cosa  | COSA | NOUN | NOUN | COMMON F SING | 11 | ARG      | _ | _ |

the same thing happens with cliticized verbs,

|    |          |         |      |      |                           |    |          |   |   |
|----|----------|---------|------|------|---------------------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 18 | venderla | VENDERE | VERB | VERB | MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS  | 16 | INDCOMPL | _ | _ |
| 19 | venderla | LA      | PRON | PRON | PERS F SING 3 LOBJ CLITIC | 18 | OBJ      | _ | _ |

In fact, the original complete version of TUT has a different treatment for duplicate entries: they are differentiated from the original previous entry with the additional of a subindex. As for VIT, the situation is a mixture of both approaches: amalgamated preposition-article entries are duplicated but retain the same index and are differentiated with an additional subindex (as the original TUT, but with a morpheme rather than the same lexical entry):

```
2 sull su part(preposition_plus_article) sp num=s|per=fm 0 pcomp det
2.1 l il art sn num=s|per=fm 0 det def
```

On the contrary, enclitics are separated and reintroduced as separate independent words, and constitute an additional entry index:

```
6 vengono venire vprog(verb_progressive) ibar punt 8 ibar aux
7 a a pt(verbal_participle) ibar - 8 ibar nil
8 delinearisi delinear vit(verb_trans_infinitive) cl(main) punt - ibar rifl
9 si si clit(clitic_pronoun) compt per=3|gen=m|num=sp 8 compt acc
```

The need for the separate entry is justified by the need to specify argument relations: this principle is followed by all three IDT. Differences are only visible at the level of the other amalgam which is less relevant than argument specification, but still important at referential level, to indicate the presence of Definiteness.

### 1.1.1 Amalgams in other treebanks

In the AnCora Dependency treebank the preposition+article amalgams are not decomposed and are treated as TALN does. As for enclitics, their treatment is partly close to TALN and partly to VIT, as can be seen here below,

|    |           |           |   |    |             |    |       |   |   |
|----|-----------|-----------|---|----|-------------|----|-------|---|---|
| 19 | ser       | ser       | v | vs | mod=n       | 8  | SF    | _ | _ |
| 20 | un        | un        | d | di | num=s gen=m | 21 | ESPEC | _ | _ |
| 21 | dret      | dret      | n | nc | num=s gen=m | 19 | ATR   | _ | _ |
| 22 | per       | per       | s | sp | for=s       | 19 | CC    | _ | _ |
| 23 | convertir | convertir | v | vm | mod=n       | 22 | SNF   | _ | _ |
| 24 | -se       | ell       | p | p0 | per=3       | 23 | MORF  | _ | _ |
| 25 | en        | en        | s | sp | for=s       | 23 | CREG  | _ | _ |
| 26 | una       | un        | d | di | num=s gen=f | 27 | ESPEC | _ | _ |

27 aspiració aspiració n nc num=s|gen=f25 SN \_ \_

The enclitic is separated from the original wordform and makes a new separately indexed entry with the explicit indication, - the presence of an hyphen -, that it is a morpheme and not a word. This is further specified by the constituent label MORF.

## 1.2 Multiwords

All IDTs indicate Multiwords, however they do it differently. We use the term multiword in its general sense, to indicate collocations and locutional combination of words.

Locutions are entered in separate lines but are internally indicated by the lemma:

### TUT

4 in IN@QUANTO CONJ CONJ SUBORD|CAUS|LOCUTION 1 RMOD\_ \_  
 5 quanto IN@QUANTO CONJ CONJ SUBORD|CAUS|LOCUTION 4 CONTIN+LOCUT  
 - -

### TALN

35 per per@conto@di E E \_ 28 comp LOCUTION \_ RMOD  
 36 conto per@conto@di E S \_ 35 prep LOCUTION \_ CONTIN+LOCUT  
 37 di per@conto@di E E \_ 36 comp LOCUTION \_ CONTIN+LOCUT

### VIT

36 in in\_termini\_di php(preposition\_locution) sp - 34 adj nil  
 37 termini in\_termini\_di php(preposition\_locution) sp num=p|per=3 36 adj nil  
 38 di in\_termini\_di php(preposition\_locution) sp - 37 adj nil

Additional cases of multiword show different behaviours in treatment. TUT will only indicate abbreviations and acronyms in full form, and some Latin locution as here,

38 res RES@NULLIUS NOUN NOUN COMMON|F|SING|LOCUTION 37 PREDCOMPL+OBJ \_  
 39 nullius RES@NULLIUS NOUN NOUN COMMON|F|SING|LOCUTION 38 CONTIN+LOCUT  
 - -

TALN on the contrary will also indicate as multiwords geographical compound names as for instance,

13 Santa santa@maria@delle@grazie S SP num=s|gen=f 12 prep LOCUTION  
 CHURCH ARG  
 14 Maria santa@maria@delle@grazie S SP num=s|gen=f 13 concatLOCUTION  
 CHURCH CONTIN+LOCUT  
 15 delle santa@maria@delle@grazie S SP num=s|gen=f 14 concatLOCUTION  
 CHURCH CONTIN+LOCUT  
 16 Grazie santa@maria@delle@grazie S SP num=s|gen=f 15 concatLOCUTION  
 CHURCH CONTIN+LOCUT

This is also partly the position taken by VIT, which acknowledges the presence of compound words, which are usually named entities like geographical and person names, but also collocation with a strong lexical dependency, but also of all those cases in which the meaning of the compound is not compositional, as for instance,

2 il il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 3 sn def  
 3 cessate\_il\_fuoco [cessate,il,fuoco] n(noun) sn num=m 1 obj invar  
 38 polo\_di\_attrazione [polo,di,attrazione] n(noun) sn num=m 37 ncomp invar  
 5 rischio\_pentiti rischio\_pentiti n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 3 obj-theme\_aff com  
 31 rischio\_Italia rischio\_Italia n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 30 pobj com

24 capi\_mafia capi\_mafia n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 23 pobj com

10 top\_secret top\_secret agn(nominal\_adjective/past\_participle) sa num=m 8 acomp abst

3 Via\_XX\_Settembre [via,xx,settembre] np(noun\_proper\_geographic) sn num=s|gen=f 2 pobj-loc geo

81 Côte\_d\_Azur Côte\_d\_Azur np(noun\_proper\_geographic) sn [] 78 sn geo

44 Stati\_Uniti Stati\_Uniti np(noun\_proper\_geographic) sn [] 43 pobj-loc geo

33 New\_York New\_York np(noun\_proper\_geographic) sn [] 32 pobj-loc geo

On the contrary, multiwords that need not be compounded to retain their semantic identity are indicated as multiwords but remain separate: this happens typically for person proper names:

5 Lamberto Lamberto mw(multi\_word) sn num=s|gen=m 6 sn nil

6 Dini Dini nh(noun\_human) sn propr 1 sn hum

### 1.2.1 Multiwords in other treebanks

Again looking at ADT, we see that it is similar to VIT in introducing multiwords directly as single entries rather than as separate tokens. They also decided to treat as multiwords not only locutions of function words like preposition, adverbials and conjunctions, but also collocations and even appositions, as can be seen here below,

|    |   |   |   |    |       |    |    |   |   |
|----|---|---|---|----|-------|----|----|---|---|
| 9  | a_través_de                                   | a_través_de                                   | s | sp | for=s | 19 | CC | _ | _ |
| 36 | Capa_i_Espasa                                 | Capa_i_Espasa                                 | n | np | _     | 35 | SN | _ | _ |
| 14 | Colla_Gegantera                               | Colla_Gegantera                               | n | np | _     | 12 | SN | _ | _ |
| 6  | Lliurament_de_Premis_del_III_Concurs_de_Còmic | Lliurament_de_Premis_del_III_Concurs_de_Còmic | n | np | _     | 4  | CD | _ | _ |
| 16 | Plaça_de_l'_Univers_del_Passeig_de_Riells     | Plaça_de_l'_Univers_del_Passeig_de_Riells     | n | np | _     | 14 | SN | _ | _ |
| 18 | Adrià_Blasco                                  | Adrià_Blasco                                  | n | np | _     | 17 | SN | _ | _ |
| 23 | Cocoduro_,_el_conde_de_Calvatiesa             | Cocoduro_,_el_conde_de_Calvatiesa             | n | np | _     | 21 | SN | _ | _ |

### 1.3 Functional Heads

Another important issue is constituted by the way in which dependencies are organized in all those cases in which heads have specifiers: verbs have auxiliaries, nouns have determiners, etc. Different strategies have been followed to indicate dependencies: for instance TUT makes lexical verbs dependent on auxiliaries, as follows:

#### TUT COMPLETE

4 Il (IL ART DEF M SING) [6;VERB-SUBJ]

5 proprietario (PROPRIETARIO NOUN COMMON M SING) [4;DET+DEF-ARG]

6 puo` (POTERE VERB MOD IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [0;TOP-VERB]

7 compiere (COMPIERE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [6;VERB+MODAL-INDCOMPL]

#### TUT CONLL

|    |              |              |      |      |                             |    |               |   |   |
|----|--------------|--------------|------|------|-----------------------------|----|---------------|---|---|
| 6  | può          | POTERE       | VERB | VERB | MOD IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING | 0  | TOP           | _ | _ |
| 7  | essere       | ESSERE       | VERB | VERB | AUX INFINITE PRES INTRANS   | 11 | AUX+PASSIVE   | _ | _ |
| 8  | parzialmente | PARZIALMENTE | ADV  | ADV  | MANNER                      | 11 | RMOD          | _ | _ |
| 9  | o            | O            | CONJ | CONJ | COORD DISJ                  | 8  | COORD+BASE    | _ | _ |
| 10 | totalmente   | TOTALMENTE   | ADV  | ADV  | MANNER                      | 9  | COORD2ND+BASE | _ | _ |

11 sacrificata SACRIFICARE VERB VERB MAIN|PARTICIPLE|PAST|TRANS|SING|F 6  
 INDCOMPL \_ \_

On the contrary, TALN behaves like VIT in considering specifiers dependent on their heads:

1 Piero piero S SP num=s|gen=m 2 mod \_ NAME SUBJ  
 2 della della@francesca S SP \_ 5 subj LOCUTION \_ CONTIN+DENOM  
 3 Francesca della@francesca S SP \_ 2 concatLOCUTION \_ CONTIN+LOCUT  
 4 ha avere V VA num=s|per=3|mod=i|ten=p 5 aux TRANS \_ AUX+TENSE  
 5 realizzato realizzare V V num=s|mod=p|gen=m 0 ROOT TRANS \_ TOP

In fact, TUT behaves homogeneously by considering other functional heads specifiers as encoding the main dependent relation of argument of a predicate, such as the article, here below, where we see that the article IL is encoded as the SUBject of the verb PUO', and the lexical head PROPRIETARIO - depending on the article - as the ARG:

*TUT COMPLETE*

4 il (IL ART DEF M SING) [6;VERB-SUBJ]  
 5 proprietario (PROPRIETARIO NOUN COMMON M SING) [4;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 6 puo` (POTERE VERB MOD IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 7 godere (GODERE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES INTRANS) [6;VERB+MODAL-INDCOMPL]

*TUT CONLL*

1 il IL ART ART DEF|M|SING 9 SUBJ \_ \_  
 2 codice CODICE NOUN NOUN COMMON|M|SING 1 ARG \_ \_  
 3 , #\, PUNCT PUNCT \_ 1 SEPARATOR \_ \_  
 4 e E CONJ CONJ COORD|COORD 1 COORD+BASE \_ \_  
 5 alcune ALCUNO ADJ ADJ INDEF|F|PL 4 COORD2ND+BASE \_ \_  
 6 leggi LEGGE NOUN NOUN COMMON|F|PL 5 ARG \_ \_  
 7 speciali SPECIALE ADJ ADJ QUALIF|ALLVAL|PL 6 RMOD \_ \_  
 8 , #\, PUNCT PUNCT \_ 9 SEPARATOR \_ \_  
 9 prevedono PREVEDERE VERB VERB MAIN|IND|PRES|TRANS|3|PL 0 TOP \_ \_  
 10 alcuni ALCUNO ADJ ADJ INDEF|M|PL 9 OBJ \_ \_  
 11 istituti ISTITUTO NOUN NOUN COMMON|M|PL 10 ARG \_ \_

The same applies to the quantifier "alcuni/alcune" which are treated as functional heads on which lexical semantic heads are dependent. Again, TALN and VIT behave differently, and functional categories are computed as minor dependents on their lexical heads, as shown here

1 La il R RD num=s|gen=f 3 det \_ \_ SUBJ  
 2 prima primo N NO num=s|gen=f 3 mod \_ \_ RMOD  
 3 opera opera S S num=s|gen=f 5 subj \_ \_ ARG  
 4 è essereV VA num=s|per=3|mod=i|ten=p 5 aux INTRANS \_ AUX  
 5 stata essereV V num=s|mod=p|gen=f 0 ROOT INTRANS \_ TOP  
 6 il il R RD num=s|gen=m 7 det \_ \_ PREDCOMPL+SUBJ  
 7 Libellus libellus S S num=s|gen=m 5 pred \_ \_ ARG\*TITLE

And this is VIT,

19 l il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 20 sn def  
 20 ufficio ufficio n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 25 subj-source\_info com  
 21 tecnico tecnico ag(adjective) sa num=s|gen=m 20 mod nil  
 22 erariale erariale ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 21 mod nil  
 23 non non neg(negation) ir\_infl - 25 neg nil  
 24 avrà avere auair(auxiliary\_averere\_mood\_irrealis) ir\_infl nil 25 ir\_infl [sems=aux,mfeats=futL3s]  
 25 espresso esprimere vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ir\_infl punt 3 ir\_infl refl/inform

where both articles and auxiliaries are dependent and minor ones to their lexical and semantic head, respectively, the noun and the verb.

### 1.3.1 Functional Heads in other treebanks

Neither auxiliaries nor articles, nor other determiners are treated as semantic heads in ADT. The same applies to the CPT. As for Penn Treebank, as will be discussed further on, it treats auxiliaries as heads of lexical verbs, as shown here below:

|    |             |   |     |   |   |    |      |   |   |
|----|-------------|---|-----|---|---|----|------|---|---|
| 5  | said        | _ | VBD | _ | _ | 0  | ROOT | _ | _ |
| 10 | that        | _ | IN  | _ | _ | 5  | OBJ  | _ | _ |
| 13 | it          | _ | PRP | _ | _ | 14 | SBJ  | _ | _ |
| 14 | would       | _ | MD  | _ | _ | 10 | SUB  | _ | _ |
| 15 | appear      | _ | VB  | _ | _ | 14 | VC   | _ | _ |
| 16 | that        | _ | IN  | _ | _ | 15 | OBJ  | _ | _ |
| 17 | nothing     | _ | NN  | _ | _ | 19 | SBJ  | _ | _ |
| 18 | substantive | _ | JJ  | _ | _ | 17 | APPO | _ | _ |
| 19 | has         | _ | VBZ | _ | _ | 16 | SUB  | _ | _ |
| 20 | changed     | _ | VBN | _ | _ | 19 | VC   | _ | _ |

PTB conversion tools propose a treatment of auxiliaries identical to the one used by TUT. However, one needs to consider that conversion tools are a mapping from constituency to dependency structure: to understand the reason why the output of the conversion tool has an auxiliary as head of the lexical verb one simply needs to note the fact that PTB decided to use chomsky-adjunction to compute the structure of verbal compounds. In this way complex verbal compounds have one VP node per verb, - auxiliaries included - disregarding the semantic role the verb eventually will have in the final computation. This fact will condition the working of any conversion tool that will map any abstract syntactic constituent nodes to dependency nodes, and could only be amended by some post-processing, which however does not take place.

### 1.4 Coordination

Coordination is regarded, rightly, a thorny issue and difficult to solve automatically. Solutions adopted by the three IDT differ slightly. We will start by looking at TALN treatment by quoting a long stretch of text which is however very illuminating:

|      |                |                |   |    |                   |    |      |         |   |                     |
|------|----------------|----------------|---|----|-------------------|----|------|---------|---|---------------------|
| 35   | per            | per            | E | E  | _                 | 32 | comp | _       | _ | RMOD                |
| 36   | la             | il             | R | RD | num=s gen=f       | 37 | det  | _       | _ | ARG                 |
| 37   | determinatezza | determinatezza | S | S  | num=s gen=f       | 35 | prep | _       | _ | ARG                 |
| 38   | delle          | di             | E | EA | num=p gen=f       | 37 | comp | _       | _ | RMOD                |
| 39   | figure         | figura         | S | S  | num=p gen=f       | 38 | prep | _       | _ | ARG                 |
| 40   | trattate       | trattare       | V | V  | num=p mod=p gen=f | 39 | mod  | TRANS   | _ |                     |
|      |                |                |   |    |                   |    |      |         |   | RMOD+RELCL+REDUC    |
| 41   | ,              | ,              | F | FB | _                 | 42 | punc | _       | _ | OPEN+PARENTHETICAL  |
| 42   | solide         | solido         | A | A  | num=p gen=f       | 39 | mod  | _       | _ | APPOSITION          |
| **43 | e              | e              | C | CC | _                 | 42 | con  | COORD   | _ | COORD+BASE          |
| 44   | poliedriche    | poliedrico     | A | A  | num=p gen=f       | 42 | conj | _       | _ | COORD2ND+BASE       |
| 45   | ,              | ,              | F | FB | _                 | 42 | punc | _       | _ | CLOSE+PARENTHETICAL |
| **46 | e              | e              | C | CC | _                 | 35 | con  | COORD   | _ | COORD+BASE          |
| 47   | per            | per            | E | E  | _                 | 35 | conj | _       | _ | COORD2ND+BASE       |
| 48   | l'             | il             | R | RD | num=s gen=n       | 49 | det  | _       | _ | ARG                 |
| 49   | assenza        | assenza        | S | S  | num=s gen=f       | 47 | prep | INTRANS | _ | ARG                 |
| 50   | di             | di             | E | E  | _                 | 49 | comp | _       | _ | SUBJ                |
| 51   | dimostrazioni  | dimostrazione  | S | S  | num=p gen=f       | 50 | prep | TRANS   | _ |                     |
|      |                |                |   |    |                   |    |      |         |   | ARG                 |
| 52   | classiche      | classico       | A | A  | num=p gen=f       | 51 | mod  | _       | _ | RMOD                |
| **53 | e              | e              | C | CC | _                 | 35 | con  | COORD   | _ | COORD+BASE          |
| 54   | per            | per            | E | E  | _                 | 35 | conj | _       | _ | COORD2ND+BASE       |
| 55   | l'             | il             | R | RD | num=s gen=n       | 56 | det  | _       | _ | ARG                 |
| 56   | uso            | uso            | S | S  | num=s gen=m       | 54 | prep | TRANS   | _ | ARG                 |

|      |             |            |   |    |             |    |      |       |   |               |  |  |
|------|-------------|------------|---|----|-------------|----|------|-------|---|---------------|--|--|
| 57   | di          | di         | E | E  | _           | 56 | comp | _     | _ | OBJ           |  |  |
| 58   | regole      | regola     | S | S  | num=p gen=f | 57 | prep | _     | _ | ARG           |  |  |
| 59   | aritmetiche | aritmetico | A | A  | num=p gen=f | 58 | mod  | _     | _ | RMOD          |  |  |
| **60 | e           | e          | C | CC | _           | 59 | con  | COORD | _ | COORD+BASE    |  |  |
| 61   | algebriche  | algebrico  | A | A  | num=p gen=f | 59 | conj | _     | _ | COORD2ND+BASE |  |  |

Coordinating conjunctions like “e”/and, are made dependent on the previous head they are coordinators of: so in case they coordinate two nouns, the head will be the previous noun. In case they coordinate two prepositional phrases, the head will be the previous preposition. I highlighted the conjunction by inserting a double star beginning of the line. The first conjunction 43, is dependent on 42, the previous adjective. The second conjunction, 46, coordinates between two prepositions and it is correctly linked to 35, the previous preposition. The same applies to 53; 60, on the contrary, is locally coordinating between two adjectives and is linked to 59.

If we look at TUT, we see the same behaviour:

|    |              |              |      |      |            |    |               |   |   |  |  |
|----|--------------|--------------|------|------|------------|----|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| 8  | parzialmente | PARZIALMENTE | ADV  | ADV  | MANNER     | 11 | RMOD          | _ | _ |  |  |
| 9  | o            | O            | CONJ | CONJ | COORD DISJ | 8  | COORD+BASE    | _ | _ |  |  |
| 10 | totalmente   | TOTALMENTE   | ADV  | ADV  | MANNER     | 9  | COORD2ND+BASE | _ | _ |  |  |

Differences emerge clearly due to the treatment of specifiers: here below, the conjunction is linked to the article and not to the head noun.

|   |           |           |       |       |                          |   |               |   |   |  |  |
|---|-----------|-----------|-------|-------|--------------------------|---|---------------|---|---|--|--|
| 1 | Il        | IL        | ART   | ART   | DEF M SING               | 9 | SUBJ          | _ | _ |  |  |
| 2 | codice    | CODICE    | NOUN  | NOUN  | COMMON M SING            | 1 | ARG           | _ | _ |  |  |
| 3 | ,         | #\,       | PUNCT | PUNCT | _                        | 1 | SEPARATOR     | _ | _ |  |  |
| 4 | e         | E         | CONJ  | CONJ  | COORD COORD              | 1 | COORD+BASE    | _ | _ |  |  |
| 5 | alcune    | ALCUNO    | ADJ   | ADJ   | INDEF F PL               | 4 | COORD2ND+BASE | _ | _ |  |  |
| 6 | leggi     | LEGGE     | NOUN  | NOUN  | COMMON F PL              | 5 | ARG           | _ | _ |  |  |
| 7 | speciali  | SPECIALE  | ADJ   | ADJ   | QUALIF ALLVAL PL         | 6 | RMOD          | _ | _ |  |  |
| 8 | ,         | #\,       | PUNCT | PUNCT | _                        | 9 | SEPARATOR     | _ | _ |  |  |
| 9 | prevedono | PREVEDERE | VERB  | VERB  | MAIN IND PRES TRANS 3 PL | 0 | TOP           | _ | _ |  |  |

5 di (DI PREP MONO) [3;VERB-INDCOMPL-THEME]  
 6 godere (GODERE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES INTRANS) [5;PREP-ARG]  
 7 ( (#\ ( PUNCT) [6;OPEN+PARENTHETICAL]  
 8 1 ([1| NUM 1) [6;APPOSITION]  
 9 ) (#\ ) PUNCT) [6;CLOSE+PARENTHETICAL]  
 10 e (E CONJ COORD COORD) [6;COORD+BASE]  
 11 disporre (DISPORRE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [10;COORD2ND+BASE]

4 in (IN\_QUANTO CONJ SUBORD CAUS LOCUTION) [1;VERB+FIN-RMOD]  
 5 quanto (IN\_QUANTO CONJ SUBORD CAUS LOCUTION) [4;CONTIN+LOCUT]  
 6 delineano (DELINEARE VERB MAIN IND PRES TRANS 3 PL) [4;CONJ-ARG]  
 7 e (E CONJ COORD COORD) [6;COORD+BASE]  
 8 definiscono (DEFINIRE VERB MAIN IND PRES TRANS 3 PL) [7;COORD2ND+BASE]

Another important difference is the linking of the conjoined head, which can vary between linking it directly to the coordinating conjunction - as TUT does - or linking it to the previous head, as the coordinating conjunction, as TALN does.

VIT treats conjunctions differently, and in case of sentence coordination between clauses makes them usually dependent on the governing verb, as follows:

2 fece fare vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) cl(main) punt - ibar trans/camb\_attiv  
 3 6 6 num(numeral) sn [] 4 sn card  
 4 morti morte n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 5 obj com  
 5 e e cong(conjunction) coord [] 2 coord sum  
 6 mille mille num(numeral) sn [] 7 sn card  
 7 feriti ferito n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 5 obj com



4 era essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 5 ibar aux  
 5 parsa parere vppc(verb\_copulative\_past\_participle) cl(main) punt - ibar refl/exten  
 6 scontata scontato ag(adjective) sa num=s|gen=f 5 acomp nil  
 7 e e cong(conjunction) fc [] 5 fc sum  
 8 non non neg(negation) ibar - 10 neg nil  
 9 ha avere ausa(auxiliary\_avere\_tensed) ibar punt 10 ibar aux  
 10 sorpreso sorprendere vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 7 ibar psych1/exten  
 11 neppure neppure neg(negation) savv - 10 adj nil  
 12 mohammed mohammed mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 13 sn nil  
 13 salameh salameh nh(noun\_human) sn propr 20 obj hum  
 14 , , punt(sentence\_internal) coord punt 20 coord nil  
 15 ahmad ahmad mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 16 sn nil  
 16 ajaj ajaj nh(noun\_human) sn propr 20 obj hum  
 17 , , punt(sentence\_internal) coord punt 20 coord nil  
 18 mahmud mahmud mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 19 sn nil  
 19 abouhalima abouhalima nh(noun\_human) sn propr 20 obj hum  
 20 e e cong(conjunction) coord [] 10 coord sum  
 21 nidal nidal mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 22 sn nil  
 22 ayyad ayyad nh(noun\_human) sn propr 20 obj hum

In both cases, there is an abstract COORD node which is linked to the main verb and all coordinated heads are dependent on that node: 5, in the first excerpt, and 20 in the second one. This happens not only with complex structures, like NPs of the two excerpts, but also with ellipsed fragments, single words or others, as shown below:

4 riconosciuti riconoscere vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) cl(main) punt - ibar tr/exten  
 5 colpevoli colpevole ag(adjective) sa num=p|per=fm 4 acomp nil  
 6 di di pt(verbal\_participle) sv2 - 5 sv2 nil  
 7 aver avere ausai(auxiliary\_avere\_infinitival) sv2 punt 5 sv2 aux  
 8 preparato preparare vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) sv2 punt 9 sv2 tr  
 9 ed ed cong(conjunction) coord [] 5 coord sum  
 10 eseguito eseguire vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) sv2 punt 9 sv2 tr

It clearly also applies when sentences are coordinated:

49 il il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 50 sn def  
 50 cuore cuora n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 54 subj-theme\_unaff com  
 51 finanziario finanziario ag(adjective) sa num=s|gen=m 50 mod nil  
 52 della di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=s|gen=f 50 mod det  
 52.1 la il art sn num=s|gen=f 50 det def  
 53 città città n(noun) sn num=f 52 pobj invar  
 54 tremò tremare vin(verb\_intrans\_tensed) ibar punt 55 ibar unerg/exten  
 55 e e cong(conjunction) fc [] 34 fc sum  
 56 una uno q(quantifier) sq num=s|gen=f 65 subj-agent ind  
 57 delle delle ccom(conjunction\_come\_comparative) sc num=m|per=o|md=c|ts=c 56 sc nil  
 58 due due num(numeral) sn [] 59 sn card  
 59 torri torre n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 57 sn com  
 60 gemelle gemello ag(adjective) sa num=p|gen=f 59 mod nil  
 61 del di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=s|gen=m 59 mod det  
 61.1 l il art sn num=s|per=fm 59 det def  
 62 world world mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 64 sn nil  
 63 trade trade mw(multi\_word) sn num=w|gen=m 64 sn nil  
 64 center center npro(noun\_proper\_institution) sn [] 61 pobj inst  
 65 rimase rimanere vin(verb\_intrans\_tensed) ibar punt 55 ibar unac/posit

#### 1.4.1 Coordination in other treebanks

If we look at ADT we see that it treats coordination in the same way as TALN does:

|    |                              |                              |   |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
|----|------------------------------|------------------------------|---|----|-------------------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 1  | Les                          | el                           | d | da | num=p gen=f             | 2  | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 2  | doctores                     | doctora                      | n | nc | num=p gen=f             | 13 | SUJ      | - | - |
| 3  | Anna_Ribas                   | Anna_Ribas                   | n | np | -                       | 2  | SN       | - | - |
| 4  | i                            | i                            | c | cc | -                       | 3  | CO       | - | - |
| 5  | Montserrat_Ventura           | Montserrat_Ventura           | n | np | -                       | 3  | CONJUNCT | - | - |
| 7  | formen_part                  | formar_part                  | v | vm | num=p per=3 mod=i ten=p | 5  | SF       | - | - |
| 8  | del                          | del                          | s | sp | num=s gen=m for=c       | 7  | CREG     | - | - |
| 9  | programa                     | programa                     | n | nc | num=s gen=m             | 8  | SN       | - | - |
| 10 | del                          | del                          | s | sp | num=s gen=m for=c       | 9  | SP       | - | - |
| 11 | desè                         | desè                         | a | ao | num=s gen=m             | 12 | SADJ     | - | - |
| 12 | aniversari                   | aniversari                   | n | nc | num=s gen=m             | 10 | SN       | - | - |
| 13 | del                          | del                          | s | sp | num=s gen=m for=c       | 12 | SP       | - | - |
| 14 | Grup_de_Defensa_del_Ter      | Grup_de_Defensa_del_Ter      | n | np | -                       | 13 | SN       | - | - |
| 15 | i                            | i                            | c | cc | -                       | 10 | CO       | - | - |
| 16 | del                          | del                          | s | sp | num=s gen=m for=c       | 10 | CONJUNCT | - | - |
| 17 | Dia_Mundial_del_Medi_Ambient | Dia_Mundial_del_Medi_Ambient | n | np | -                       | 16 | SN       | - | - |

Similarly the CPT treats coordination as ADT:

|    |               |              |      |          |                    |    |          |   |   |
|----|---------------|--------------|------|----------|--------------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 17 | continua      | continuar    | v    | v-fin    | PR 3S IND          | 2  | A<       | - | - |
| 18 | a             | a            | prp  | prp      | -                  | 17 | PRT-AUX< | - | - |
| 19 | manter        | manter       | v    | v-inf    | -                  | 17 | MV       | - | - |
| 20 | os            | o            | art  | art      | <artd> M P         | 21 | >N       | - | - |
| 21 | traços        | traço        | n    | n        | M P                | 19 | ACC      | - | - |
| 22 | decorativos   | decorativo   | adj  | adj      | M P                | 21 | N<       | - | - |
| 23 | e             | e            | conj | conj-c   | <co-acc>           | 21 | CO       | - | - |
| 24 | as            | o            | art  | art      | <artd> F P         | 25 | >N       | - | - |
| 25 | clientelas    | clientela    | n    | n        | F P                | 21 | CJT      | - | - |
| 26 | de            | de           | prp  | prp      | -                  | 25 | N<       | - | - |
| 27 | sempre        | sempre       | adv  | adv      | -                  | 26 | P<       | - | - |
| 1  | Alguns        | algum        | pron | pron-det | <quant> M P4       |    | SUBJ     | - | - |
| 2  | até           | até          | adv  | adv      | -                  | 4  | ADVL     | - | - |
| 3  | já            | já           | adv  | adv      | -                  | 4  | ADVL     | - | - |
| 4  | desapareceram | desaparecer  | v    | v-fin    | PS 3P IND          | 0  | STA      | - | - |
| 5  | ,             | ,            | punc | punc     | -                  | 4  | PUNC     | - | - |
| 6  | como          | como         | adv  | adv      | <rel> <prp>        | 1  | N<       | - | - |
| 7  | o             | o            | pron | pron-det | <artd> M S         | 6  | SUBJ     | - | - |
| 8  | de            | de           | prp  | prp      | -                  | 7  | N<       | - | - |
| 9  | Castro_Verde  | Castro_Verde | prop | prop     | M S                | 8  | P<       | - | - |
| 10 | ,             | ,            | punc | punc     | -                  | 4  | PUNC     | - | - |
| 11 | e             | e            | conj | conj-c   | <co-vfin> <co-fmc> | 4  | CO       | - | - |
| 12 | outros        | outro        | pron | pron-det | <diff> M P         | 13 | SUBJ     | - | - |
| 13 | têm           | ter          | v    | v-fin    | PR 3P IND          | 4  | CJT      | - | - |
| 14 | vindo         | vir          | v    | v-pcp    | -                  | 13 | AUX      | - | - |

On the contrary, PTB treats coordination as TUT does: non-clause level coordination is made by linking conjunction to the first coordinated head, then second and following ones are linked to the conjunction or punctuation mark:

|   |        |   |     |   |   |   |       |   |   |
|---|--------|---|-----|---|---|---|-------|---|---|
| 2 | the    | - | DT  | - | - | 4 | NMOD_ | - | - |
| 3 | stock  | - | NN  | - | - | 4 | NMOD_ | - | - |
| 4 | market | - | NN  | - | - | 5 | SBJ   | - | - |
| 5 | does   | - | VBZ | - | - | 1 | OBJ   | - | - |

|    |            |     |   |    |       |   |   |
|----|------------|-----|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 6  | n't        | RB  | - | 5  | ADV   | - | - |
| 7  | crash      | VB  | - | 5  | VC    | - | - |
| 8  | again      | RB  | - | 7  | TMP   | - | - |
| 9  | and        | CC  | - | 7  | COORD | - | - |
| 10 | completely | RB  | - | 11 | ADV   | - | - |
| 11 | discredit  | VB  | - | 9  | CONJ  | - | - |
| 12 | yuppies    | NNS | - | 11 | OBJ   | - | - |
| 13 | and        | CC  | - | 12 | COORD | - | - |
| 14 | trading    | NN  | - | 15 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 15 | rooms      | NNS | - | 13 | CONJ  | - | - |
| 52 | genius     | NN  | - | 50 | COORD | - | - |
| 53 | and        | CC  | - | 52 | COORD | - | - |
| 54 | energy     | NN  | - | 53 | CONJ  | - | - |
| 2  | with       | IN  | - | 11 | ADV   | - | - |
| 3  | all        | PDT | - | 5  | NMOD  | - | - |
| 4  | the        | DT  | - | 5  | NMOD  | - | - |
| 5  | money      | NN  | - | 2  | PMOD  | - | - |
| 6  | and        | CC  | - | 5  | COORD | - | - |
| 7  | glamour    | NN  | - | 6  | CONJ  | - | - |
| 8  | Michelle   | NNP | - | 15 | SBJ   | - | - |
| 9  | ,          | ,   | - | 8  | P     | - | - |
| 10 | a          | DT  | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 11 | junior     | JJ  | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 12 | bond       | NN  | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 13 | trader     | NN  | - | 8  | APPO  | - | - |
| 14 | ,          | ,   | - | 8  | P     | - | - |

However, clause-level coordination is done by linking conjunction/punctuation to the first governing verb, while second and following coordinated verbs are linked to the conjunction and not to first head:

|    |          |     |   |    |       |   |   |
|----|----------|-----|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 1  | The      | DT  | - | 3  | NMOD  | - | - |
| 2  | trade    | NN  | - | 3  | NMOD  | - | - |
| 3  | figures  | NNS | - | 4  | SBJ   | - | - |
| 4  | turn     | VBP | - | 0  | ROOT  | - | - |
| 5  | out      | RP  | - | 4  | PRT   | - | - |
| 6  | well     | RB  | - | 4  | ADV   | - | - |
| 7  | ,        | ,   | - | 4  | P     | - | - |
| 8  | and      | CC  | - | 4  | COORD | - | - |
| 9  | all      | PDT | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 10 | those    | DT  | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 11 | recently | RB  | - | 12 | AMOD  | - | - |
| 12 | unloaded | VBN | - | 13 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 13 | bonds    | NNS | - | 14 | SBJ   | - | - |
| 14 | spurt    | VBP | - | 8  | CONJ  | - | - |
| 15 | in       | IN  | - | 14 | ADV   | - | - |
| 16 | price    | NN  | - | 15 | PMOD  | - | - |

Pros and cons for one approach versus the VIT approach are:

- theoretically speaking the VIT approach is the one that ensures semantic consistency, any coordination corresponding to a set of individual representations;
- from a practical point of view a COORD constituent or dependency node does not constitute sufficient information by itself of the coordinated elements – being a conjunction or a punctuation mark, and a further node needs to be searched for to know what is being coordinated;

- however a similar problem arises for the other versions, for the second/all nodes attached to the coordinating conjunction. In this case, in order to get the head of the dependent two more nodes need to be searched: beside the coordinating conjunction, also the first conjunct must be searched because it is just this one that will carry the dependent node to the head of the coordination.

The most straightforward coordinate structure then seems to be the one used by TALN, ADT and CPT, in which all coordinated items – including the coordinating head – are made dependent on the first conjunct. However in this way the semantic dependence of the coordinated set is marked only in one place and needs to be recovered from there for the other conjuncts: in particular, we know that a nominal head is SUBJECT or OBJECT from the first conjunct and not locally.

So, eventually all three versions require some extra specialization in order to make semantic processing work, in particular to build correct predicate-argument structures.

### 1.5 CHE complementizer

In all romance languages but also in English, the complementizer is a wordform used for many syntactic purposes. This will also allow us to start looking into the problem of Null or Empty Elements and their role in the dependency structure. At first however, we will limit ourselves at looking in detail at the way in which surface and not deep dependency structures deal with CHE (QUE – THAT).

The complementizer is a function word that is used for at least the following purposes:

1. to indicate the beginning of a complement clause or sentential complement
2. to indicate the beginning of a relative clause
3. sometimes, to indicate the beginning of an adjunct clause or sentential adjunct
4. to signal the beginning of an interrogative clause
5. to signal the beginning of an exclamative clause
6. to indicate the second element of a comparative structure

In surface or shallow dependency structures as the ones that will concern us first, the difference between all of these functions will not always be sufficiently signalled. As will become clear, in fact there are only two possible ways of treating CHE, either as head or as dependent, and we will expect TUT to treat it as head, while TALN will do the the opposite. But this is not the case. So we will start by looking at each different type of structure and comment on each one.

#### 1.5.1 CHE as Functional Head for Sentential Complements

The first case is that of a clear functional head in which the only information to be passed down is that the complement clause main VERB is dependent on the governing verb of the complement clause, usually a communication verb like DIRE, RITENERE, etc.

We look at TALN first, which correctly links CHE to the governing verb and the Verb of the Complement Clause to CHE. In this way CHE complementizer is treated as a HEAD and not simply as a dependent, which is what happens in TUT:

|               |             |             |    |    |                         |      |       |                |     |                     |  |
|---------------|-------------|-------------|----|----|-------------------------|------|-------|----------------|-----|---------------------|--|
| 14            | ritenere    | ritenere    | V  | V  | mod=f13                 | prep | TRANS | _              | ARG |                     |  |
| 15            | che         | che         | C  | CS | _                       | 14   | arg   | NEUTRAL        | _   | OBJ                 |  |
| 16            | queste      | questo      | P  | PD | num=p gen=f             | 23   | subj  | LSUBJ+LOBJ+OBL | _   | SUBJ                |  |
| 17            | ,           | ,           | F  | FB | _                       | 18   | punc  | _              | _   | OPEN+PARENTHETICAL  |  |
| 18            | se          | se          | C  | CS | _                       | 23   | mod   | COND           | _   | RMOD                |  |
| 19            | ben         | bene        | B  | B  | _                       | 20   | mod   | MANNER         | _   | RMOD                |  |
| 20            | indirizzate | indirizzare | V  | V  | num=p mod=p gen=f       | 18   | sub   | TRANS          | _   | ARG                 |  |
| 21            | ,           | ,           | F  | FB | _                       | 18   | punc  | _              | _   | CLOSE+PARENTHETICAL |  |
| 22            | potessero   | potereV     | VM |    | num=p per=3 mod=c ten=i | 23   | modal | INTRANS        | _   | ARG                 |  |
| 23            | far         | fare        | V  | V  | mod=f                   | 15   | sub   | TRANS          | _   | INDCOMPL            |  |
|               |             |             |    |    |                         |      |       |                |     |                     |  |
| 14            | documenti   | documento   | S  | S  | num=p gen=m             | 15   | subj  | _              | _   | ARG                 |  |
| 15            | confermano  | confermare  | V  | V  | num=p per=3 mod=i ten=p | 3    | conj  | TRANS          | _   |                     |  |
| COORD2ND+BASE |             |             |    |    |                         |      |       |                |     |                     |  |
| 16            | che         | che         | C  | CS | _                       | 15   | arg   | NEUTRAL        | _   | OBJ                 |  |
| 17            | Piero       | piero       | S  | SP | num=s gen=m             | 18   | subj  | _              | _   | NAME SUBJ           |  |
| 18            | fu          | essereV     | V  |    | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=s | 16   | sub   | INTRANS        | _   | ARG                 |  |
| 19            | suo         | suo         | A  | AP | num=s gen=m             | 20   | mod   | P-3 P-SING     | _   | PREDCOMPL+SUBJ      |  |

20 assistente assistente S S num=s|gen=n 18 pred \_ \_ ARG

And this is TUT treatment of CHE complementizer:

21 ricordando RICORDARE VERB VERB MAIN|GERUND|PRES|TRANS 18 RMOD\_ \_  
 22 che CHE CONJ CONJ SUBORD|NEUTRAL 21 OBJ \_ \_  
 23 l' IL ART ART DEF|F|SING 27 SUBJ \_ \_  
 24 Albania ALBANIA NOUN NOUN PROPER|F|SING|EESTATE 23 ARG \_ \_  
 25 e' ESSERE VERB VERB AUX|IND|PRES|INTRANS|3|SING 27 AUX+TENSE \_ \_  
 26 gia' GIÀ ADV ADV TIME 27 RMOD\_ \_  
 27 diventata DIVENTARE VERB VERB MAIN|PARTICIPLE|PAST|INTRANS|SING|F 22 ARG \_

TUT treats as head a typical functional word like CHE complementizer, thus perfectly in line with the treatment of the other function words that we saw previously. This treatment is perfectly correct and in line with all the other treebanks, VIT included.

0 Si si clitic(clitic\_pronoun) ibar per=3|gen=m|num=sp 1 ibar nom  
 1 sa sapere vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) cl(main) punt - ibar trans/presuppositional  
 1.11 pro si pro(little\_pro) sn per=3|gen=m|num=sp 0 s\_impers-actor nom  
 2 soltanto soltanto cong(conjunction) compt [] 1 cong q  
 3 che che pk(complementizer) fac - 1 fcomp nil  
 4 l' il art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 5 sn def  
 5 offerta offerta n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 8 subj-agent com  
 6 italiana italiano ag(adjective) sa num=s|gen=f 5 mod nil  
 7 sarà essere aueir(auxiliary\_essere\_mood\_irrealis) ir\_infl punt 8 ir\_infl aux  
 8 compresa comprendere vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ir\_infl punt 3 ir\_infl tr/inclus

The same argument will apply to CHE complementizer governed by an epistemic nominal (possibly deverbal) head as shown here below, from TALN:

32 la il R RD num=s|gen=f33 det \_ \_ SUBJ  
 33 congettura congettura S S num=s|gen=f43 subj \_ \_ ARG  
 34 del di E EA num=s|gen=m 33 comp \_ \_ RMOD  
 35 Vasari vasari S SP \_ 34 prep \_ \_ ARG  
 36 che che C CS \_ 33 arg NEUTRAL \_ RMOD  
 37 abbia avere V VA num=s|per=3|mod=c|ten=p 38 aux TRANS \_ AUX+TENSE  
 38 preso prendere V V num=s|mod=p|gen=m 36 sub TRANS \_ ARG  
 39 il il R RD num=s|gen=m 40 det \_ \_ OBJ  
 40 cognome cognome S S num=s|gen=m 38 obj \_ \_ ARG  
 41 dalla da E EA num=s|gen=f38 comp \_ \_ RMOD  
 42 madremadre S S num=s|gen=f41 prep \_ \_ ARG  
 43 è essere V V num=s|per=3|mod=i|ten=p 2 conj INTRANS \_  
 COORD2ND+ADVERS  
 44 inattendibile inattendibile A A num=s|gen=n 43 pred \_ \_ PREDCOMPL+SUBJ

### 1.5.2 CHE as Functional Head for Sentential Complements in other treebanks

We will look at PTB at first which proposes a dependency structure similar to VIT:

5 said \_ VBD \_ \_ 0 ROOT \_ \_  
 10 that \_ IN \_ \_ 5 OBJ \_ \_  
 13 it \_ PRP \_ \_ 14 SBJ \_ \_  
 14 would \_ MD \_ \_ 10 SUB \_ \_  
 15 appear \_ VB \_ \_ 14 VC \_ \_  
 16 that \_ IN \_ \_ 15 OBJ \_ \_  
 17 nothing \_ NN \_ \_ 19 SBJ \_ \_  
 18 substantive \_ JJ \_ \_ 17 APPO \_ \_  
 19 has \_ VBZ \_ \_ 16 SUB \_ \_  
 20 changed \_ VBN \_ \_ 19 VC \_ \_

## This is what AnCORA does with QUE Subord

|     |            |           |   |    |                         |    |          |   |   |   |
|-----|------------|-----------|---|----|-------------------------|----|----------|---|---|---|
| 18  | ha         | haver     | v | va | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 19 | AUX      | _ | - | - |
| 19  | indicat    | indicar   | v | vm | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 0  | S        | - | - | - |
| 20  | que        | que       | c | cs | -                       | 22 | SUBORD   | - | - | - |
| 21  | es         | es        | p | p0 | -                       | 22 | IMPERS   | - | - | - |
| 22  | tracta     | tractar   | v | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 19 | CD       | - | - | - |
| 25  | hem        | haver     | v | va | num=p per=1 mod=i ten=p | 26 | AUX      | - | - | - |
| 26  | coincidit  | coincidir | v | vm | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 3  | CONJUNCT | - | - | - |
| 27  | plenament  | plenament | r | rg | -                       | 26 | CC       | - | - | - |
| 28  | que        | que       | c | cs | -                       | 31 | SUBORD   | - | - | - |
| 29  | ha         | haver     | v | va | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 31 | AUX      | - | - | - |
| 30  | de         | de        | s | sp | for=s                   | 31 | PREP     | - | - | - |
| 31  | ser        | ser       | v | vs | mod=n                   | 26 | CREG     | - | - | - |
| 23  | comprovarà | comprovar | v | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=f | 19 | SF       | - | - | - |
| 24  | -          | -         | F | Fg | -                       | 26 | PUNC     | - | - | - |
| ... |            |           |   |    |                         |    |          |   |   |   |
| 28  | que        | que       | c | cs | -                       | 30 | SUBORD   | - | - | - |
| 29  | Madrid     | Madrid    | n | np | -                       | 30 | SUJ      | - | - | - |
| 30  | ofereix    | oferir    | v | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 23 | CD       | - | - | - |
| 31  | més        | més       | r | rg | -                       | 32 | ESPEC    | - | - | - |
| 32  | avantatges | avantatge | n | nc | num=p gen=m             | 30 | CD       | - | - | - |
| 33  | que        | que       | c | cs | -                       | 35 | SUBORD   | - | - | - |
| 34  | altres     | altre     | d | di | num=p gen=c             | 35 | ESPEC    | - | - | - |
| 35  | espais     | espai     | n | nc | num=p gen=m             | 32 | COMP     | - | - | - |
| 36  | espanyols  | espanyol  | a | aq | num=p gen=m             | 35 | SADJ     | - | - | - |

What we see here is the treatment of QUE complementizer as a functional head linked to the main verb of the sentential complement TRACTAR, SER, COMPROVAR; and in turn these verbs are linked to their governing verb in the main higher clause. The same treatment is done by the Portuguese treebank, that we report below:

|    |                      |                      |      |           |            |    |        |   |   |
|----|----------------------|----------------------|------|-----------|------------|----|--------|---|---|
| 15 | secretário_de_Estado | secretário_de_Estado | n    | n         | M S        | 13 | SUBJ   | - | - |
| 16 | ,                    | ,                    | punc | punc      | -          | 15 | PUNC   | - | - |
| 17 | que                  | que                  | pron | pron-indp | <rel> M S  | 18 | SUBJ   | - | - |
| 18 | considera            | considerar           | v    | v-fin     | PR 3S IND  | 15 | N<PRED | - | - |
| 19 | que                  | que                  | conj | conj-s    | -          | 25 | SUB    | - | - |
| 20 | a                    | o                    | art  | art       | <artd> F S | 21 | >N     | - | - |
| 21 | solução              | solução              | n    | n         | F S        | 25 | SUBJ   | - | - |
| 22 | para                 | para                 | prp  | prp       | -          | 21 | N<     | - | - |
| 23 | as                   | o                    | art  | art       | <artd> F P | 24 | >N     | - | - |
| 24 | autarquias           | autarquia            | n    | n         | F P        | 22 | P<     | - | - |
| 25 | é                    | ser                  | v    | v-fin     | PR 3S IND  | 18 | ACC    | - | - |

So eventually, we have come up with three different approaches to the problem of treating CHE/QUE/THAT complementizer

- linked to the governing verb in the main clause
  - o the governed verb linked to the governing verb (TUT, TALN)
  - o the governed verb linked to CHE (VIT)
- linked to the governed verb in the sentential complement (ALL Other TBs)

### 1.5.3 CHE as beginner of a Relative Clause

In shallow or surface dependency treebank, relative pronouns are only visible if lexically expressed. So the case of implicit relative pronoun signalled by CHE complementizer does not exist – but it does in all deep dependency treebanks as we will show below. What is usually done, is the transformation of CHE itself into a relative pronoun like CHI, CUI or QUALE and others. We will discuss other cases

below. However, even though this is what all shallow treebanks do, the treatment of CHE is not uniform. We look at first into TALN:

|    |               |               |   |    |                         |    |         |            |   |                 |
|----|---------------|---------------|---|----|-------------------------|----|---------|------------|---|-----------------|
| 40 | luce          | luce          | S | S  | num=s gen=f             | 2  | conj    | _          | _ | COORD2ND+BASE   |
| 41 | non           | non           | B | BN | _                       | 42 | neg     | _          | _ | RMOD            |
| 42 | fisica        | fisico        | A | A  | num=s gen=f             | 40 | mod     | _          | _ | RMOD            |
| 43 | ma            | ma            | C | CC | _                       | 42 | con     | ADVERS     | _ | COORD+ADVERS    |
| 44 | intellettuale | intellettuale | A | A  | num=s gen=n             | 42 | conj    | _          | _ | COORD2ND+ADVERS |
| 45 | ,             | ,             | F | FF | _                       | 47 | punc    | _          | _ | SEPARATOR       |
| 46 | che           | che           | P | PR | num=n gen=n             | 47 | subj    | LSUBJ+LOBJ | _ | SUBJ            |
| 47 | pervade       | pervadere     | V | V  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 40 | mod_rel |            |   | TRANS           |
|    | _             |               |   |    |                         |    |         |            |   | RMOD+RELCL      |

|    |            |            |   |    |                         |    |           |            |   |                |
|----|------------|------------|---|----|-------------------------|----|-----------|------------|---|----------------|
| 1  | La         | il         | R | RD | num=s gen=f             | 4  | det       | _          | _ | SUBJ           |
| 2  | prima      | primo      | N | NO | num=s gen=f             | 4  | mod       | _          | _ | RMOD           |
| 3  | sua        | suo        | A | AP | num=s gen=f             | 4  | mod       | P-3 P-SING | _ | RMOD           |
| 4  | opera      | opera      | S | S  | num=s gen=f             | 9  | subj      | _          | _ | ARG            |
| 5  | che        | che        | P | PR | num=n gen=n             | 8  | subj_pass | LSUBJ+LOBJ | _ | OBJ/SUBJ       |
| 6  | ci         | ci         | P | PC | num=n gen=n             | 8  | comp_ind  | LOC CLITIC | _ | RMOD           |
| 7  | è          | essere     | V | VA | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 8  | aux       | TRANS      | _ |                |
|    |            |            |   |    |                         |    |           |            |   | AUX+PASSIVE    |
| 8  | conservata | conservare | V | V  | num=s mod=p gen=f       | 4  | mod_rel   |            |   | TRANS          |
|    |            |            |   |    |                         |    |           |            |   | RMOD+RELCL     |
| 9  | è          | essere     | V | V  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 0  | ROOT      | TRANS      | _ | TOP            |
| 10 | la         | il         | R | RD | num=s gen=f             | 11 | det       | _          | _ | PREDCOMPL+SUBJ |
| 11 | Madonna    | madonna    | S | SP | num=s gen=f             | 9  | pred      | _          |   | NAME ARG*TITLE |
| 12 | col        | con        | E | EA | num=s gen=m             | 11 | concat    | _          |   | RMOD*TITLE     |
| 13 | Bambino    | bambino    | S | S  | num=s gen=m             | 12 | concat    | _          |   | ARG*TITLE      |

As can be easily noticed, CHE is only treated as functional dependent on the verb of Relative Clause. As functional dependent it shouldn't be associated to any semantic function: on the contrary it is marked as SUBJECT of the verb PERVADERE and CONSERVARE. These verbs are then linked as dependents to the head noun governing the relative pronoun – in this case coinciding to CHE – thus introducing a specialization for verb relations in addition to linking to other verbs, or to subordinating/coordinating conjunctions. TUT treatment is identical to TALN:

|     |          |          |      |      |                                   |    |           |   |  |            |
|-----|----------|----------|------|------|-----------------------------------|----|-----------|---|--|------------|
| 1   | Nelle    | IN       | PREP | PREP | MONO15                            |    | RMOD      | _ |  |            |
| 2   | Nelle    | IL       | ART  | ART  | DEF F PL                          | 1  | ARG       | _ |  |            |
| 3   | societa' | SOCIETÀ  | NOUN | NOUN | COMMON F ALLVAL                   | 2  | ARG       | _ |  |            |
| 4   | di       | DI       | PREP | PREP | MONO3                             |    | RMOD      | _ |  |            |
| 5   | Tirana   | TIRANA   | NOUN | NOUN | PROPER F SING ££CITY              | 4  | ARG       | _ |  |            |
| 6   | che      | CHE      | PRON | PRON | RELAT ALLVAL ALLVAL LSUBJ+LOBJ    | 8  | SUBJ      | _ |  |            |
| 7   | hanno    | AVERE    | VERB | VERB | AUX IND PRES TRANS 3 PL           | 8  | AUX+TENSE | _ |  |            |
| 8   | truffato | TRUFFARE | VERB | VERB | MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST TRANS SING M | 3  |           |   |  |            |
|     |          |          |      |      |                                   |    |           |   |  | RMOD+RELCL |
| ... |          |          |      |      |                                   |    |           |   |  |            |
| 14  | c'       | CI       | PRON | PRON | LOC ALLVAL ALLVAL LOC CLITIC      | 15 | RMOD      | _ |  |            |
| 15  | e'       | ESSERE   | VERB | VERB | MAIN IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING      | 0  | TOP       | _ |  |            |

In this example, the prepositional phrase headed by NELLE is linked to the main verb ESSERE in 15, and the noun SOCIETA' governing the relative clause is linked to NELLE; TRUFFARE the verb of the relative clause is linked to SOCIETA', but the information as to what grammatical function this head noun plays in the relative clause is indicated in the CHE.

So the recovery of grammatical relations for TRUFFARE – and the same will apply to previous cases of TALN – will go through a process of restructuring of the argument subject SOCIETA' with CHE that

works as functional head but does not have any explicit link with it. This is different from what happens in VIT:

13 emergere emergere n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 12 pobj com  
 14 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 13 mod nil  
 15 una uno art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 17 sn ind  
 16 crescente crescente ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 17 mod nil  
 17 concorrenza concorrenza n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 14 pobj com  
 18 che che rel(relative) f2 - 17 subj-theme\_aff nil  
 19 si si clitic(clitic\_pronoun) ibar per=3|gen=m|num=sp 22 ibar acc  
 20 è essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 22 ibar aux  
 21 progressivamente progressivamente avv(adverb) ibar [] 22 adjv mn  
 22 spostata spostare vppin(verb\_intrans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 18 ibar refl\_in/posit

In this case we see that CHE is bound to its noun head CONCORRENZA which has a certain role in the sentence to which it belongs, headed by EMERGERE through preposition DI; then CHE is the intermediary between the head noun and verb of the relative SPOSTARE which is linked to it. The role played by the CHE is played, in the case of a deep representation, by the empty category, otherwise it will be the CHE itself to carry the information of both grammatical function and semantic role, as happens in previous treebanks.

#### 1.5.4 CHE as beginner of a Relative Clause in other treebanks

We will look at PTB as it has been converted by Malt conversion tools for CoNLL:

|    |               |   |     |   |    |      |   |   |
|----|---------------|---|-----|---|----|------|---|---|
| 10 | has           | _ | VBZ | _ | 0  | ROOT | _ | - |
| 11 | proposed      | _ | VC  | _ | 10 | VC   | _ | - |
| 12 | a             | _ | DT  | _ | 14 | NMOD | _ | - |
| 13 | sweeping      | _ | JJ  | _ | 14 | NMOD | _ | - |
| 14 | restructuring | _ | NN  | _ | 11 | OBJ  | _ | - |
| 15 | that          | _ | WDT | _ | 16 | SBJ  | _ | - |
| 16 | would         | _ | MD  | _ | 14 | NMOD | _ | - |
| 17 | pare          | _ | VB  | _ | 16 | VC   | _ | - |
| 18 | it            | _ | PRP | _ | 17 | OBJ  | _ | - |

here we see that the head noun RESTRUCTURING is the Object of its main verb PROPOSE and the CHE/THAT is the Subject of the verb of the relative clause PARE through WOULD the modal auxiliary: in turn WOULD is linked to the head noun of the relative RESTRUCTURING. So eventually, what PTB does – or at least its conversion tool – is proposing the same distribution of dependencies as TUT and TALN have done. Here below is what the portuguese treebanks has for relatives where we see that the head noun of the relative is linked and has roles in the main clause, the relative pronoun carried the roles it has in the relative clause and is linked to its verb, the verb of the relative clause is linked to the head noun:

|    |         |        |      |           |                    |      |   |   |
|----|---------|--------|------|-----------|--------------------|------|---|---|
| 7  | os      | o      | art  | art       | <-sam> <artd> M P8 | >N   | - | - |
| 8  | tempos  | tempon | n    | n         | M P 6              | P<   | - | - |
| 9  | que     | que    | pron | pron-indp | <rel> M P 10       | SUBJ | - | - |
| 10 | correm  | correr | v    | v-fin     | PR 3P IND 8        | N<   | - | - |
| 23 | os      | o      | pron | pron-det  | <dem> M P 22       | P<   | - | - |
| 24 | que     | que    | pron | pron-indp | <rel> M P 25       | SUBJ | - | - |
| 25 | querem  | querer | v    | v-fin     | PR 3P IND 23       | N<   | - | - |
| 26 | fugir   | fugir  | v    | v-inf     | 25                 | ACC  | - | - |
| 7  | milhões | milhão | n    | n         | F P 4              | P<   | - | - |
| 8  | que     | que    | pron | pron-indp | <rel> M P 12       | ACC  | - | - |
| 9  | o       | o      | art  | art       | <artd> M S 10      | >N   | - | - |



|    |   |   |      |       |           |    |      |   |   |
|----|---|---|------|-------|-----------|----|------|---|---|
| 10 | Ministério_do_Planeamento_e_Administração_do_Território | Ministério_do_Planeamento_e_Administração_do_Território | prop | prop  | M S       | 12 | SUBJ | _ | _ |
| 11 | já  | já  | adv  | adv   | _         | 12 | ADVL | _ | _ |
| 12 | gasta   | gastar  | v    | v-fin | PR 3S IND | 7  | N<   | _ | _ |

this is identical to what AnCORA has done,

|    |            |           |    |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
|----|------------|-----------|----|----|-------------------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 19 | empresa    | empresa   | n  | nc | num=s gen=f             | 14 | CONJUNCT | _ | _ |
| 20 | ,          | ,         | F  | Fc | _                       | 23 | PUNC     | _ | _ |
| 21 | "          | "         | F  | Fe | _                       | 23 | PUNC     | _ | _ |
| 22 | que        | que       | p  | pr | num=n gen=c             | 23 | SUJ      | _ | _ |
| 23 | comprovará | comprovar | v  | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=f | 19 | SF       | _ | _ |
| 24 | -          | -         | F  | Fg | _                       | 26 | PUNC     | _ | _ |
|    |            |           |    |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
| 20 | una        | un        | d  | di | num=s gen=f             | 21 | ESPEC    | _ | _ |
| 21 | part       | part      | n  | nc | num=s gen=f             | 18 | SN       | _ | _ |
| 22 | petita     | petit     | a  | aq | num=s gen=f             | 21 | SADJ     | _ | _ |
| 23 | que        | que       | p  | pr | num=n gen=c             | 24 | SUJ      | _ | _ |
| 24 | afecta     | afectar   | v  | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 21 | SF       | _ | _ |
|    |            |           |    |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
| 26 | el         | el        | d  | da | num=s gen=m             | 27 | ESPEC    | _ | _ |
| 27 | treball    | treballn  | nc | nc | num=s gen=m             | 24 | CD       | _ | _ |
| 28 | que        | que       | p  | pr | num=n gen=c             | 30 | SUJ      | _ | _ |
| 29 | es         | es        | p  | p0 | _                       | 30 | PASS     | _ | _ |
| 30 | desplaça   | desplaçar | v  | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 27 | SF       | _ | _ |

Now, the difference in treatment is clear and can be summarized below. As with the complementizer of sentential complements, we have come up with three different approaches to the problem of treating CHE/QUE/THAT relative pronoun

- linked to the governing Noun head (VIT)
  - o the governed verb of the relative clause linked to CHE
- linked to the governed verb in the relative clause (ALL Other TBs)
  - o the governed verb being an auxiliary if present (TUT, PTB)
  - o the governed verb being the lexical semantic verb (ALL Other TBs)

To substantiate our proposal we now show the output of other DEEP treebanks, like the one proposed by PARC- XEROX and organized on the basis of LFG theoretical framework. This treebank is based on the same set of newspaper articles from Wall Street Journal of PTB and in particular it contains all articles belonging to section 23. We will indicate only relevant dependency nodes to highlight differences from previous treebanks.

### *- THAT COMPLEMENTIZER OF SENTENTIAL COMPLEMENTS*

sentence\_form(The Justice Department announced that the FBI has been given the authority to seize U.S. fugitives overseas without the permission of foreign governments.)

```
comp(announce~0, give~52)
subord_form(give~52, that)
```

As can be seen, THAT is related to the governed verb GIVE and not to governing verb ANNOUNCE, which is then linked to GIVE by a COMP grammatical relation.

### *- THAT COMPLEMENTIZER OF RELATIVE CLAUSES*

sentence\_form(But not much money was spent on the shows\, either\, a situation that encouraged cheap-to-make talk and game shows\, while discouraging expensive-to-produce dramas.)

```
pron_rel(encourage~12, pro~16)
```

```

subj(encourage~12, pro~16)
topic_rel(encourage~12, pro~16)
case(pro~16, nom)
num(pro~16, sg)
pers(pro~16, 3)
pron_form(pro~16, that)
pron_type(pro~16, relative)
adjunct(situation~7, encourage~12)
adjunct_type(encourage~12, relative)

```

THAT is treated as complementizer and is linked to PRO relative. PRO is marked as NOMINATIVE and is linked to ENCOURAGE, the verb of the relative. SITUATION is linked to ENCOURAGE, and ENCOURAGE is linked to PRO. This is partially coincident with what VIT has done and partially with TUT and TALN. In the DEEP treebank, it is the implicit pronoun PRO which plays the role of intermediary between the complementizer THAT and the verb of the relative. The relative clause as a whole is then linked as dependent to the head noun SITUATION.

Let's look now at the deep version of VIT:

```

13 emergere emergere n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 12 pobj com
14 di di pd(preposition_di) spd - 13 mod nil
15 una uno art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 17 sn ind
16 crescente crescente ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 17 mod nil
17 concorrenza concorrenza n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 14 pobj com
18 che che rel(relative) f2 - 17 binder nil
19 si si clit(clitic_pronoun) ibar per=3|gen=m|num=sp 22 ibar acc
20 è essere ause(auxiliary_essere_tensed) ibar punt 22 ibar aux
21 progressivamente progressivamente avv(adverb) ibar [] 22 adjv mn
22 spostata spostare vppin(verb_intrans_past_participle) ibar punt 18 ibar refl_in/posit
22.11 rel_pro concorrenza rel(relative_pronoun) bindee num=s|gen=f ant=17 subj-theme_aff nil

```

From a computational point of view, a chain allows recovering easily all relations needed in case of further processing of dependency structures for semantic purposes. Here the chain goes from the relative pronoun to its noun head binder, however all relevant information is already encoded in the rel\_pro additional entry which as a null element has already undergone head substitution with its binder antecedent. The index carried by the null rel\_pro is the same as that of the verb of the relative, in this way partly resembling the linking of the verb to relative head noun. The complementizer can in this case simply be done away with in the semantics, as would happen with the case of sentential complements, being a functional head with no semantic content.

If we look at PTB original constituency structure, we see that relative pronouns are embedded in the NP of the head noun they depend on; then the relative pronoun and its preposition if existent, and following head noun in the case of WHOSE, are all included in a SBAR structure, that is the relative clause, that they are beginners of. Finally, the index associated to the relative pronoun is then "landed" in a position around the verb of the relative clause, either just before or after in case of argument relation, or after the expressed arguments in case of adjunct relation as shown below:

```

(NP (NP three levels)
  (SBAR (WHPP-1 on
    (WHNP which))
    (S (NP-SBJ *)
      (VP to
        (VP treat
          (NP the subject)
          (PP-LOC *T*-1))))))

```

```

(S (NP-SBJ-2 I)
  (VP do n't
    (VP know

```

```

(SBAR (WHNP-1 what)
  (S (NP-SBJ *-2)
    (VP to
      (VP do
        (NP *T*-1)
        (PP-CLR with
          (NP this sentence)))))))))

```

In some case as the following one, the trace lands deeper below, inside an infinitival, complement of the main verb of the relative clause:

```

(S (NP-SBJ The following prompts)
  (VP allow
    (S (NP-SBJ you)
      (VP to
        (VP specify
          (SBAR (WHADVP-1 how)
            (S (NP-SBJ you)
              (VP want
                (S (NP-SBJ the printed output)
                  (VP to
                    (VP look
                      (ADVP-MNR *T*-1)))))))))))))

```

Penn Treebank also signals with traces passive constructions so that in case of a passive relative clause the number of traces is doubled:

```

(NP (NP a factor)
  (SBAR (WHNP-1 which)
    (S (NP-SBJ *T*-1)
      (VP has
        (VP caused
          (S (NP-SBJ the Citizens Group)
            (VP to
              (VP obtain
                (NP signatures)
                (PP under
                  (SBAR-NOM
                    (WHNP-2 what)
                    (S (NP-3 *T*-2)
                      (VP were
                        (VP termed
                          (S (NP-SBJ *-3)
                            ``
                              (NP-PRD false pretenses)
                              "))))))))))))))

```

There are no principled reasons for not using a chain-like description of the relative clause structure, from what is contained in this annotation. If embedding is used to detect dependency, then the relative pronoun should always be dependent on the head noun it is governed by. The presence of the trace in the following clause should then be used to make the verb of the relative clause dependent on the relative pronoun. Romance languages have a much wider inventory of relative pronouns than German ones, in particular Italian has certainly the most extended one, and we will discuss them in the section below.

### 1.6 Lexical Relative and Interrogative Pronouns

Lexical pronouns have a different status from CHE complementizer at least in as far as they would contain internally enough information to an independent semantic specification. In fact, relative pronouns can also be subdivided by the traditional categorization of “analytic” (IL QUALE, etc) vs. “synthetic” (CHE, CUI) pronouns: this subdivision, however, is irrelevant to the discussion of

dependency structure. We will look into CUI and QUALE preceded or not by preposition. From the structures below, we see that the same technique is being used for linking relative pronouns and their prepositions: dependency links are established as before, between the verb of the relative clause which is made dependent upon the nominal head of the relative pronoun; then the preposition is made dependent on the verb of the relative clause, and the relative pronoun on the preposition. In all the examples below, recovering the binder and noun antecedent of the relative pronoun requires at least a search in two steps as will be explained below. We will start by looking at excerpts from TUT deep:

#### - *DAL QUALE*

6 shock (SHOCK NOUN COMMON M ALLVAL) [4;DET+INDEF-ARG]  
 7 dal (DA PREP MONO) [10;PREP-RMOD-LOC+METAPH]  
 7.1 dal (IL ART DEF M SING) [7;PREP-ARG]  
 8 quale (QUALE PRON RELAT ALLVAL SING 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ+OBL) [7.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 9 e` (ESSERE VERB AUX IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [10;AUX+TENSE]  
 10 riemersa (RIEMERGERE VERB MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST INTRANS SING F) [6;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]

#### - *IN CUI*

31 nei (IN PREP MONO) [30;PREP-RMOD-LOC+IN]  
 31.1 nei (IL ART DEF M PL) [31;PREP-ARG]  
 32 luoghi (LUOGO NOUN COMMON M PL) [31.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 33 abituali (ABITUALE ADJ QUALIF ALLVAL PL) [32;ADJC+QUALIF-RMOD]  
 34 in (IN PREP MONO) [39;PREP-RMOD-LOC+IN]  
 35 cui (CUI PRON RELAT LIOBJ+OBL) [34;PREP-ARG]  
 36 di (DI PREP MONO) [39;VERB-INDCOMPL-THEME]  
 37 Tv (|Tv| NOUN PROPER) [36;PREP-ARG]  
 38 si (SI PRON REFL-IMPERS ALLVAL ALLVAL 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ+LIOBJ CLITIC) [39;VERB-SUBJ/VERB-SUBJ+IMPERS]  
 39 parla (PARLARE VERB MAIN IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [32;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]

#### 1.6.1 *Pied Piping relative pronouns*

In this section we present relative pronouns headed by a preposition which in turn are embedded in another prepositional phrase that is then governed by the nominal head of the relative:

#### - *DI CUI*

8 e` (ESSERE VERB MAIN IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 9 il (IL ART DEF M SING) [8;VERB-PREDCOMPL+SUBJ]  
 10 coronamento (CORONAMENTO NOUN COMMON M SING CORONARE TRANS) [9;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 11 del (DI PREP MONO) [10;NOUN-OBJ]  
 11.1 del (IL ART DEF M SING) [11;PREP-ARG]  
 12 dialogo (DIALOGO NOUN COMMON M SING) [11.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 13 di (DI PREP MONO) [17;VISITOR]  
 14 cui (CUI PRON RELAT LIOBJ+OBL) [13;PREP-ARG]  
 15 oggi (OGGI ADV TIME) [17;ADVB-RMOD-TIME]  
 16 si (SI PRON REFL-IMPERS ALLVAL ALLVAL 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ+LIOBJ CLITIC) [17;VERB-SUBJ/VERB-SUBJ+IMPERS]  
 17 vedono (VEDERE VERB MAIN IND PRES TRANS 3 PL) [12;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]  
 18 i (IL ART DEF M PL) [17;VERB-OBJ]  
 19 risultati (RISULTATO NOUN COMMON M PL RISULTARE INTRANS) [18;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 19.10 t [13f] (DI PREP MONO) [19;NOUN-SUBJ]

This seems the only case in which a trace is inserted to allow for the genitive DI CUI to be linked appropriately as complement of RISULTATI. However here again in order to get the antecedent of CUI, which is the nominal head DIALOGO, one has to search the verb.

#### - *DEL CUI*

29 lo (IL ART DEF M SING) [23;APPOSITION]  
 30 studente (STUDENTE NOUN COMMON M SING) [29;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 31 di (DI PREP MONO) [30;PREP-RMOD-LOC+ORIGIN]

32 Ancona (ANCONA NOUN PROPER F ECITY) [31;PREP-ARG]  
 33 scomparso (SCOMPARIRE VERB MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST INTRANS SING M) [30;VERB-RMOD+RELCL+REDUC]  
 40 e (E CONJ COORD COORD) [33;COORD+BASE]  
 41 del (DI PREP MONO) [46;VERB-INDCOMPL-THEME]  
 41.1 del (IL ART DEF M SING) [41;PREP-ARG]  
 42 cui (CUI PRON RELAT LIOBJ+OBL) [43;PRON-RMOD]  
 43 caso (CASO NOUN COMMON M SING) [41.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 44 si (SI PRON REFL-IMPERS ALLVAL ALLVAL 3 LSUB]+LOBJ+LIOBJ CLITIC) [46;EMPTYCOMPL]  
 45 era (ESSERE VERB AUX IND IMPERF INTRANS 3 SING) [46;AUX+TENSE]  
 46 occupata (OCCUPARE VERB MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST TRANS SING F) [40;COORD2ND+BASE]

Recovering the antecedent in this case requires climbing the coordinate structure, then from the reduced relative SCOMPARSO finding the nominal head STUDENTE. However this seems to be identical to the previous example where RISULTATI was lacking its complement: CASO perhaps should have been followed by a trace that identified its complement clearly, in this way the genitive would have been explicitated.

#### - CON CUI

1 La (IL ART DEF F SING) [6;VERB-SUBJ]  
 2 bella (BELLO ADJ QUALIF F SING) [3;ADJC+QUALIF-RMOD]  
 3 cantante (CANTANTE NOUN COMMON ALLVAL SING) [1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 4 di (DI PREP MONO) [3;PREP-RMOD-LOC+ORIGIN]  
 5 Filadelfia (FILADELFIA NOUN PROPER F ECITY) [4;PREP-ARG]  
 6 sara` (ESSERE VERB MAIN IND FUT INTRANS 3 SING) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 7 ospite (OSPITE NOUN COMMON ALLVAL SING) [6;VERB-PREDCOMPL+SUBJ]  
 8 di (DI PREP MONO) [7;PREP-RMOD]  
 9 Massimo (MASSIMO NOUN PROPER M ENAME) [8;PREP-ARG]  
 10 Ranieri (Ranieri NOUN PROPER) [9;CONTIN+DENOM]  
 11 ( (#\ ( PUNCT) [9;OPEN+PARENTHETICAL]  
 12 con (CON PREP MONO) [14;PREP-RMOD-TOGETHER]  
 13 cui (CUI PRON RELAT LIOBJ+OBL) [12;PREP-ARG]  
 14 cantera` (CANTARE VERB MAIN IND FUT TRANS 3 SING) [9;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]  
 15 in (IN PREP MONO) [14;PREP-RMOD-MEANSMANNER]  
 16 duetto (DUETTO NOUN COMMON M SING) [15;PREP-ARG]

In this case, the structure is wrongly built, because the relative verb CANTERA' is left without a SUBJECT, empty in this case and bound to CANTANTE: the explicitate sentence should have been something like,  
 "[la cantante] canterà con cui [Massimo Ranieri]"

#### - DA CUI

1 Il (IL ART DEF M SING) [12;VERB-SUBJ]  
 2 punto (PUNTO\_DI\_VISTA NOUN COMMON M SING LOCUTION) [1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 3 di (PUNTO\_DI\_VISTA NOUN COMMON LOCUTION) [2;CONTIN+LOCUT]  
 4 vista (PUNTO\_DI\_VISTA NOUN COMMON LOCUTION) [3;CONTIN+LOCUT]  
 5 da (DA PREP MONO) [7;VISITOR]  
 6 cui (CUI PRON RELAT LIOBJ+OBL) [5;PREP-ARG]  
 7 volevo (VOLERE VERB MOD IND IMPERF TRANS 1 SING) [2;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]  
 7.10 t [] (DEITT-T PRON PERS ALLVAL SING 1) [7;VERB-SUBJ]  
 8 raccontare (RACCONTARE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [7;VERB+MODAL-INDCOMPL]  
 8.10 t [7.10p] (DEITT-T PRON PERS ALLVAL SING 1) [8;VERB-SUBJ]  
 8.11 t [5f] (DA PREP MONO) [8;PREP-RMOD-PERSPECT]  
 9 la (IL ART DEF F SING) [8;VERB-OBJ]  
 10 storia (STORIA NOUN COMMON F SING) [9;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 11 non (NON ADV NEG) [12;ADVB-RMOD-NEG]  
 12 era (ESSERE VERB MAIN IND IMPERF INTRANS 3 SING) [0;TOP-VERB]

In this structure, the trace reappears again to bind the relative DA CUI to RACCONTARE. However, here again in order to recover the binder nominal head PUNTO one has to produce more search steps from VOLEVO the modal inflected verb, then up to PUNTO.

The same remarks can be made if we look at TALN, where the relation intervening between the relative oblique pronoun and its nominal head binder is not available and must be recovered indirectly from the verb:

#### - IN CUI

|    |          |            |    |                         |                         |       |         |            |          |
|----|----------|------------|----|-------------------------|-------------------------|-------|---------|------------|----------|
| 17 | attimo   | attimoS    | S  | num=s gen=m             | 16                      | prep  | _       | _          | ARG      |
| 18 | in       | in         | E  | E                       | -                       | 22    | comp    | _          | RMOD     |
| 19 | cui      | cui        | P  | PR                      | -                       | 18    | prep    | LIOBJ+OBL  | ARG      |
| 20 | esso     | esso       | P  | PE                      | num=s per=3 gen=m       | 22    | subj    | LSUBJ+LOBJ | SUBJ     |
| 21 | può      | potereV    | VM | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 22                      | modal | INTRANS | _          |          |
|    |          | RMOD+RELCL |    |                         |                         |       |         |            |          |
| 22 | eternar- | eternare   | V  | V                       | mod=f                   | 17    | mod_rel | TRANS      | INDCOMPL |
| 1  | Forma    | forma      | S  | S                       | num=s gen=f             | 0     | ROOT    | _          |          |
| 2  | in       | in         | E  | E                       | -                       | 5     | comp    | _          |          |
| 3  | cui      | cui        | P  | PR                      | num=n gen=n             | 2     | prep    | _          |          |
| 4  | si       | si         | P  | PC                      | num=n gen=n             | 5     | clit    | _          |          |
| 5  | presenta | presentare | V  | V                       | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 1     | mod_rel | _          |          |
| 6  | in       | in         | E  | E                       | -                       | 5     | comp    | _          |          |
| 7  | natura   | natura     | S  | S                       | num=s gen=f             | 6     | prep    | _          |          |
| 8  | .        | .          | F  | FS                      | -                       | 1     | punc    | _          |          |

#### - DURANTE I QUALI

|    |               |               |   |                         |                   |         |           |                |                |
|----|---------------|---------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------|---------|-----------|----------------|----------------|
| 46 | anni          | anno          | S | S                       | num=p gen=m       | 45      | prep      | _              | ARG            |
| 47 | 1435          | 0             | N | N                       | -                 | 46      | mod       | _              | APPOSITION     |
| 48 | -             | -             | F | FF                      | -                 | 47      | con       | _              | SEPARATOR      |
| 49 | 1440          | 0             | N | N                       | -                 | 47      | conj      | _              | ARG            |
| 50 | ,             | ,             | F | FF                      | -                 | 51      | punc      | _              | SEPARATOR      |
| 51 | durante       | durante       | E | E                       | -                 | 54      | comp_temp | TIME           | RMOD           |
| 52 | i             | il            | R | RD                      | num=p gen=m       | 53      | det       | _              | ARG            |
| 53 | quali         | quale         | P | PR                      | num=p per=3 gen=n | 51      | prep      | LSUBJ+LOBJ+OBL | ARG            |
| 54 | era           | essereV       | V | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=i | 46                | mod_rel | INTRANS   | RMOD           |                |
| 55 | ancora        | ancora        | B | B                       | -                 | 54      | mod_temp  | TIME           | RMOD           |
| 56 | collaboratore | collaboratore | S | S                       | num=s gen=m       | 54      | pred      | _              |                |
|    |               |               |   |                         |                   |         |           |                | PREDCOMPL+SUBJ |

#### 1.6.1 Lexical Relative Pronouns in other treebanks

TALN and TUT encode relations in the same way in which PTB and other treebanks do, as shown below:

#### - ABOUT WHICH

|    |             |   |     |   |   |    |       |   |   |
|----|-------------|---|-----|---|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 27 | and         | _ | CC  | - | - | 17 | COORD | - | - |
| 28 | should      | _ | MD  | - | - | 27 | CONJ  | - | - |
| 29 | honor       | _ | VB  | - | - | 28 | VC    | - | - |
| 30 | local       | _ | JJ  | - | - | 31 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 31 | convictions | _ | NNS | - | - | 29 | OBJ   | - | - |
| 32 | about       | _ | IN  | - | - | 31 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 33 | which       | _ | WDT | - | - | 34 | NMOD  | - | - |
| 34 | tasks       | _ | NNS | - | - | 36 | SBJ   | - | - |
| 35 | most        | _ | RBS | - | - | 36 | ADV   | - | - |
| 36 | need        | _ | VBP | - | - | 32 | PMOD  | - | - |
| 37 | doing       | _ | VBG | - | - | 36 | OBJ   | - | - |

- *AT WHICH*

|    |        |     |    |   |    |       |   |
|----|--------|-----|----|---|----|-------|---|
| 26 | the    | DT  | -  | - | 27 | NMOD_ | - |
| 27 | level  | NN  | -  | - | 25 | PMOD_ | - |
| 28 | at     | IN  | -  | - | 36 | LOC   | - |
| 29 | which  | WDT | -  | - | 28 | PMOD_ | - |
| 30 | the    | DT  | -  | - | 32 | NMOD_ | - |
| 31 | stock  | NN  | -  | - | 32 | NMOD_ | - |
| 32 | market | -   | NN | - | 34 | SBJ   | - |
| 33 | itself | PRP | -  | - | 32 | APPO  | - |
| 34 | would  | MD  | -  | - | 27 | NMOD_ | - |
| 35 | have   | VB  | -  | - | 34 | VC    | - |
| 36 | closed | VBN | -  | - | 35 | VC    | - |

- *ON WHICH*

|    |            |     |     |   |    |       |   |
|----|------------|-----|-----|---|----|-------|---|
| 26 | products   | -   | NNS | - | 23 | PMOD_ | - |
| 27 | ,          | ,   | -   | - | 26 | P     | - |
| 28 | on         | IN  | -   | - | 31 | ADV   | - |
| 29 | which      | WDT | -   | - | 28 | PMOD_ | - |
| 30 | deliveries | -   | NNS | - | 31 | SBJ   | - |
| 31 | began      | VBD | -   | - | 26 | NMOD_ | - |

- *IN WHICH*

|    |            |       |    |   |    |       |   |
|----|------------|-------|----|---|----|-------|---|
| 36 | climate    | -     | NN | - | 34 | OBJ   | - |
| 37 | of         | IN    | -  | - | 36 | NMOD_ | - |
| 38 | trust      | NN    | -  | - | 37 | PMOD_ | - |
| 39 | and        | CC    | -  | - | 38 | COORD | - |
| 40 | peace      | NN    | -  | - | 39 | CONJ  | - |
| 41 | in         | IN    | -  | - | 46 | LOC   | - |
| 42 | which      | WDT   | -  | - | 41 | PMOD_ | - |
| 43 | his        | PRP\$ | -  | - | 44 | NMOD_ | - |
| 44 | government | -     | NN | - | 45 | SBJ   | - |
| 45 | can        | MD    | -  | - | 36 | NMOD_ | - |
| 46 | begin      | VB    | -  | - | 45 | VC    | - |

In all these examples, the preposition is linked to the verb of the relative clause, WHICH is linked to the preposition, and the verb of the relative is in turn linked to the head noun of the relative pronoun. To show the difference intervening between WHICH and WHOSE – that is somewhat comparable to CUI – we will now present some examples with the genitive relative pronoun WHOSE – that is always accompanied by at least a noun or a noun with modifiers -, which resembles in some way the sequence (Art) CUI, but without preceding articles.

- *WHOSE*

|   |       |      |   |   |   |       |   |
|---|-------|------|---|---|---|-------|---|
| 4 | those | DT   | - | - | 3 | PMOD_ | - |
| 5 | of    | IN   | - | - | 4 | NMOD_ | - |
| 6 | us    | PRP  | - | - | 5 | PMOD_ | - |
| 7 | whose | WP\$ | - | - | 8 | NMOD_ | - |
| 8 | views | NNS  | - | - | 9 | SBJ   | - |
| 9 | are   | VBP  | - | - | 4 | NMOD_ | - |

- *WHOSE*

|    |              |      |     |   |    |       |   |
|----|--------------|------|-----|---|----|-------|---|
| 6  | Nunn-McCurdy | -    | NNP | - | 5  | PMOD_ | - |
| 7  | ,            | ,    | -   | - | 6  | P     | - |
| 8  | whose        | WP\$ | -   | - | 9  | NMOD_ | - |
| 9  | benefits     | -    | NNS | - | 12 | SBJ   | - |
| 10 | to           | TO   | -   | - | 9  | NMOD_ | - |
| 11 | enrollees    | -    | NNS | - | 10 | PMOD_ | - |
| 12 | are          | VBP  | -   | - | 6  | NMOD_ | - |

- *WHOSE*

|   |                |      |     |   |   |    |       |   |   |
|---|----------------|------|-----|---|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 2 | Sony           | _    | NNP | _ | - | 18 | SBJ   | _ | - |
| 3 | ,              | _    | ,   | _ | - | 2  | P     | _ | - |
| 4 | whose_         | WP\$ | _   | - | - | 8  | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 5 | innovative     | _    | JJ  | _ | - | 8  | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 6 | ,              | _    | ,   | _ | - | 8  | P     | _ | - |
| 7 | premium-priced | _    | JJ  | _ | - | 8  | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 8 | products       | _    | NNS | _ | - | 9  | SBJ   | _ | - |
| 9 | are            | _    | VBP | _ | - | 2  | NMOD_ | _ | - |

- *WHOSE*

|    |            |      |     |   |   |    |       |   |   |
|----|------------|------|-----|---|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 3  | Kollmorgen | _    | NNP | _ | - | 2  | OBJ   | _ | - |
| 4  | ,          | _    | ,   | _ | - | 3  | P     | _ | - |
| 5  | whose_     | WP\$ | _   | - | - | 6  | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 6  | agreement  | _    | NN  | _ | - | 17 | SBJ   | _ | - |
| 7  | to         | _    | TO  | _ | - | 6  | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 8  | be         | _    | VB  | _ | - | 7  | IM    | _ | - |
| 9  | acquired   | _    | VBN | _ | - | 8  | VC    | _ | - |
| 10 | for        | _    | IN  | _ | - | 9  | ADV   | _ | - |
| 11 | \$         | _    | \$  | _ | - | 10 | PMOD_ | _ | - |
| 12 | 25         | _    | CD  | _ | - | 11 | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 13 | a          | _    | DT  | _ | - | 14 | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 14 | share      | _    | NN  | _ | - | 11 | ADV   | _ | - |
| 15 | by         | _    | IN  | _ | - | 9  | LGS   | _ | - |
| 16 | Vernitron  | _    | NNP | _ | - | 15 | PMOD_ | _ | - |
| 17 | collapsed  | _    | VBD | _ | - | 3  | NMOD_ | _ | - |

- *WHOSE*

|    |          |      |     |   |   |    |       |   |   |
|----|----------|------|-----|---|---|----|-------|---|---|
| 10 | area     | _    | NN  | _ | - | 7  | PMOD_ | _ | - |
| 11 | whose_   | WP\$ | _   | - | - | 13 | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 12 | economic | _    | JJ  | _ | - | 13 | NMOD_ | _ | - |
| 13 | health_  | NN   | _   | - | - | 14 | SBJ   | _ | - |
| 14 | is       | _    | VBZ | _ | - | 10 | NMOD_ | _ | - |

As can be noticed, WHOSE requires a totally different treatment from WHICH: it is linked to the head noun it modifies – it specifies its semantic content - and this noun is then linked to the verb of the relative clause. The verb of the relative is then linked to the head noun but this noun does not modify the verb, in fact it does not have any relation with it being a modifier of one of the arguments of the relative clause. I indicate here below in brackets the position of WHOSE and of its lexical substitute:

innovative products [of Sony] are / Sony [whose] innovative products are  
 agreement [of Kollmorgen] collapsed / Kollmorgen [whose] agreement collapsed  
 economic health [of area] is / area [whose] economic health is

For this reason, I don't see why the verb of the relative should be linked to the head noun of the relative pronoun, rather than directly to the relative pronoun, and the latter in turn linked to the head noun.

In the case of WHICH, the relations are different:

deliveries began on [products] / products on [which] deliveries began  
 his government can begin in [climate] / climate in [which] his government can begin

Relative pronoun WHICH is governed by the preposition which is heading an adjunct or argument of the verb of the relative itself. Very much the same would happen with simple relative pronouns which are arguments of the verb of the relative. So eventually, the treatment of WHOSE/CUI seems inadequate in particular in view of its mapping onto a semantic predicate-argument structure. To see in more depth the ways in which the mapping of oblique/genitive relative pronouns may take place



we look into PARC-700 relevant portions to check how the LFG has decided to encode it. We look at five different examples and we see that the treatment is definitely organized on the basis of the presence of a NULL element, *pro*. What is important to stress here is the fact that WHOSE expresses a possessive genitive relation with its local head that it modifies, and that this relation is represented by an abstract "*pro*" linked to WHOSE and also linked to the verb of the relative: RESPECT, SING, BE, DETERMINE, KEEP.

sentence\_form(But Mr. Davis\, whose views are widely respected by money managers\, says he expects no 1987-style crash.)

```
adjunct(Mr. Davis~1, respect~18)
adjunct(respect~18, widely~24)
adjunct_type(respect~18, relative)
obl_ag(respect~18, manager~19)
pron_rel(respect~18, pro~22)
subj(respect~18, view~20)
topic_rel(respect~18, view~20)
mod(manager~19, money~28)
pcase(manager~19, by)
poss(view~20, pro~22)
pron_form(pro~22, whose)
pron_type(pro~22, relative)
```

sentence\_form(One of Italy's favorite shows\, ``Fantastico\," a tepid variety show\, is so popular that viewers clamored to buy a chocolate product\, ``Cacao Fantastico\," whose praises were sung each week by dancing showgirls -- even though the product didn't exist.)

```
adjunct_type(Cacao Fantastico~61, parenthetical)
poss(praise~62, pro~64)
pron_form(pro~64, whose)
pron_rel(sing~54, pro~64)
pron_type(pro~64, relative)
subj(sing~54, praise~62)
obl_ag(sing~54, showgirl~43)
adjunct_type(sing~54, relative)
topic_rel(sing~54, praise~62)
adjunct(product~92, Cacao Fantastico~61)
```

sentence\_form(And it has remained there\, as evidenced by its reappearance in a 1972 CBS sitcom called ``Bridget Loves Bernie\," whose sole distinction was that it led to the real-life marriage of Meredith Baxter and David Birney.)

```
subj(call~18, pro~26)
subj(Bridget Loves Bernie~25, pro~26)
xcomp(call~18, Bridget Loves Bernie~25)
adjunct_type(be~19, relative)
subj(be~19, distinction~31)
topic_rel(be~19, distinction~31)
pron_rel(be~19, pro~32)
pron_form(pro~32, whose)
pron_type(pro~32, relative)
poss(distinction~31, pro~32)
```

sentence\_form(The White House Office of Management and Budget\, whose calculations determine whether the Gramm-Rudman targets are met\, estimated that the House-passed deficit-reduction measure would cut the fiscal 1990 shortfall by \$6.2 billion\, almost half of the Congressional Budget Office's estimate of \$11.0 billion.)

```
adjunct(Office of Management and Budget~4, determine~26)
adjunct_type(determine~26, relative)
pron_rel(determine~26, pro~33)
subj(determine~26, calculation~31)
poss(calculation~31, pro~33)
```

pron\_form(pro~33, whose)  
pron\_type(pro~33, relative)

sentence\_form(Her friend Susan\, whose parents kept reminding her she was unwanted\, slept on a narrow bed wedged into her parents' bedroom\, as though she were a temporary

adjunct(Susan~1, keep~45)  
mod(Susan~1, friend~61)  
adjunct\_type(keep~45, relative)  
pron\_rel(keep~45, pro~48)  
subj(keep~45, parent~49)  
topic\_rel(keep~45, parent~49)  
pron\_form(pro~48, whose)  
pron\_type(pro~48, relative)  
poss(parent~49, pro~48)

For these reasons, the role of CUI in particular has been given a lot of attention in the deep version of VIT, that we comment here below.

### 1.6.2 CUI in VIT

There are at least four different typologies of structure accompanying CUI oblique relative pronoun, and that we have found in VIT:

1. argument/adjunct of relative verb
  - it directly modifies the main verb of the relative clause
2. adjunct modifier of argument of relative verb
  - it modifies an argument of the verb of relative clause
3. adjunct modifier of a noun
4. adjunct modifier of the internal nominal head

#### 1.6.2.1 ARGUMENT/ADJUNCT OF RELATIVE VERB

All of the following examples show the variety of cases in which CUI can act as an adjunct but also as an argument with different semantic roles:

##### - IN CUI (Locative)

38 dell di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=s|per=fm 49 mod det  
38.1 l il art sn num=s|per=fm 49 det def  
39 ambiente ambiente n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 38 pobj com  
40 socio\_economico socio\_economico ag(adjective) sa num=s 39 mod nil  
41 in in p(preposition) sp - 39 adj nil  
42 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 41 binder rel\_obl  
43 sono essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 44 ibar aux  
44 inserite inserire vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 39 ibar refl\_in/into\_hole  
44.11 prep\_relob in\_ambiente prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=m ant=41\_42 bindee com

##### - IN CUI (Part)

7 nella in part(preposition\_plus\_article) sp num=s|gen=f 6 obl det  
7.1 la il art sn num=s|gen=f 6 det def  
8 norma norma n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 7 pobj com  
9 in in p(preposition) sp - 8 adj nil  
10 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 9 binder rel\_obl  
11 si si clit(clitic\_pronoun) ibar per=3|gen=m|num=sp 12 ibar nom  
12 stabilisce stabilire vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) ibar punt 8 ibar refl/exten  
12.10 pro si pro(little\_pro) sn per=3|gen=m|num=sp 11 s\_impers-agent nom  
12.11 prep\_relob in\_norma prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=f ant=9\_10 bindee com

##### - SU CUI (Argument)

9 proposte proposta n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 8 pobj com

10 su su p(preposition) sp - 9 adj nil  
11 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 10 binder rel\_obl  
12 lavorare lavorare viin(verb\_intrans\_infinitival) sv2 punt 9 adj intr  
12.11 prep\_relob su\_proposta prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=f ant=10\_11 bindee com

#### - SECONDO CUI (Attribution)

11 confraternita confraternita n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 10 pobj-recipient com  
12 dei di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=p|gen=m 11 mod det  
12.1 i il art sn num=p|gen=m 11 det def  
13 piagnoni piagnone n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 12 pobj com  
14 , , punt(sentence\_internal) sn punt 11 sn nil  
15 secondo secondo p(preposition) sp - 11 adj nil  
16 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 15 binder rel\_obl  
17 manca mancare vin(verb\_intrans\_tensed) ibar punt 11 ibar tr/not\_exten  
17.11 prep\_relob secondo\_confraternita prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=f ant=15\_16 bindee com  
18 personale personale n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 17 subj-agent com

#### - IN CUI (Manner)

5 al a part(preposition\_plus\_article) sp num=s|gen=m 11 iobj det  
5.1 l il art sn num=s|per=fm 11 det def  
6 modo modo n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 5 pobj com  
7 in in p(preposition) sp - 6 adj nil  
8 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 7 binder rel\_obl  
9 è essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 10 ibar aux  
10 interrogato interrogare vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 6 ibar tr/inform  
10.10 pro pro pro(little\_pro) sn num=s|per=3 ant=1 s\_impl-address nil  
10.11 prep\_relob in\_modo prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=m ant=7\_8 bindee com

#### - CON CUI (Instrument)

35 le il art(article) sn num=p|gen=f 36 sn def  
36 argomentazioni argomentazione n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 34 pobj com  
37 politiche politico ag(adjective) sa num=p|gen=f 36 mod nil  
38 con con p(preposition) sp - 36 adj nil  
39 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sp [] 38 sp rel\_obl  
40 ha avere ausa(auxiliary\_avere\_tensed) ibar punt 41 ibar aux  
41 motivato motivare vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 36 ibar tr/exten  
41.10 pro pro pro(little\_pro) sn num=p|per=3 ant=27 s\_impl-theme\_unaff nil  
41.11 prep\_relob con\_argomentazioni prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=m ant=38\_39 bindee com

#### - PER CUI (Motivation)

4 una uno art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 5 sn ind  
5 condizione condizione nf(noun\_factive) sn num=s|gen=f 3 s\_top-agent com  
6 per per p(preposition) sp - 5 adj nil  
7 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 6 binder rel\_obl  
8 manca mancare vin(verb\_intrans\_tensed) ibar punt 5 ibar tr/not\_exten  
8.11 prep\_relob per\_condizione prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=f ant=6\_7 bindee com

#### - DI CUI (Theme)

2 cose cosa n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 1 ncomp com  
3 più più in(intensifier) sa [] 4 sa q  
4 importanti importante ag(adjective) sa num=p|per=fm 2 mod nil  
5 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 2 adj nil  
6 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 5 binder rel\_obl  
7 occuparmi occupare vcl(verb\_with\_enclitic) sv2 punt 2 adj tr  
7.11 prep\_relob di\_cosa prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=f ant=5\_6 bindee com

( here DI CUI is ARGUMENT of main verb of the relative clause, OCCUPARMI )

### 1.6.2.2 ADJUNCT MODIFIER OF ARGUMENT OF RELATIVE VERB

The samples in this subsection are all referred to the special case of copulative constructions as relative clauses, in which the oblique relative is a modifier of the predicate, usually an adjective.

#### - AL QUALE - IN CUI

31 il il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 32 sn def  
32 costo costo n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 39 ncomp com  
33 al a part(preposition\_plus\_article) sp num=s|gen=m 32 mod det  
33.1 l il art sn num=s|per=fm 32 det def  
34 quale quale rel(relative) f2 num=s|gen=m 33 binder nil  
35 la il art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 36 sn def  
36 sostituzione sostituzione n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 37 subj-tema\_bound com  
37 è essere vc(verb\_copulative) ibar punt 34 ibar cop/esistenza  
38 possibile possibile ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 37 acomp nil  
39 e e cong(conjunction) coord [] 30 coord sum  
40 la il art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 41 sn def  
41 misura misura n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 39 ncomp com  
42 in in p(preposition) sp - 41 adj nil  
43 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 42 binder rel\_obl  
44 è essere vc(verb\_copulative) ibar punt 41 ibar cop/esistenza  
44.10 pro sostituzione pro(little\_pro) sn num=s|per=3 ant=36 s\_impl-tema\_bound nil  
45 fattibile fattibile ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 44 acomp nil  
45.11 prep\_relob in\_misura prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=f ant=42\_43 bindee com

Even though “la\_misura\_in\_cui” may sometimes be used as adverbial locution, in this case it is just the SUBJect of BE and consequently CUI is head of relative clause that modifies FATTIBILE - in ... misura. The same applies to the example below, where the relative pronoun is a modifier of RESPONSABILE.

#### - DI CUI

36 sulle su part(preposition\_plus\_article) sp num=p|gen=f 32 pcomp det  
36.1 le il art sn num=p|gen=f 32 det def  
37 due due num(numeral) sn [] 38 sn card  
38 branche branca n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 36 pobj com  
39 operative operativo ag(adjective) sa num=p|gen=f 38 mod nil  
40 , , punt(sentence\_internal) sn punt 38 sn nil  
41 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 38 adj nil  
42 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 41 binder rel\_obl  
43 pure pure cong(conjunction) f2 [] 38 cong sum  
44 è essere vc(verb\_copulative) ibar punt 38 ibar cop/esistenza  
45 nominalmente nominalmente avv(adverb) savv [] 46 adjm mn  
46 responsabile responsabile ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 44 acomp nil  
46.11 prep\_relob di\_branca prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=f ant=41\_42 bindee com

### 1.6.2.2.1 ADJUNCT MODIFIER OF ARGUMENT OF RELATIVE VERB

In this subsection, the oblique relative is a modifier of a nominal predicate, BISOGNO and further on CANDIDATO.

#### - DI CUI

21 fondi fondo n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 19 obj com  
22 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 21 adj nil  
23 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 22 binder rel\_obl  
24 abbiamo avere vc(verb\_copulative) ibar nil 21 ibar cop/stato  
24.10 pro pro pro(little\_pro) sn nil ant=7 s\_impl-esperiente impl1p  
24.11 prep\_relob di\_fondo prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=m ant=22\_23 bindee com  
25 bisogno bisogno n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 24 ncomp com

#### - ALLA CUI

8 commissione commissione n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 6 pobj com  
9 esteri estero ag(adjective) sa num=p|gen=m 8 mod nil  
10 alla a part(preposition\_plus\_article) sp num=s|gen=f 8 adj det  
10.1 la il art sn num=s|gen=f 8 det def  
11 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sp [] 10 sp rel\_obl  
12 presidenza presidenza n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 10 pobj com  
13 è essere vc(verb\_copulative) ibar punt 8 ibar cop/esistenza  
14 candidato candidato n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 13 ncomp com  
14.11 prep\_relob alla\_commissione prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=m ant=10\_11 bindee com

#### 1.6.2.2.2 ADJUNCT MODIFIER OF ARGUMENT OF RELATIVE VERB

This example shows a case of oblique relative which is a modifier of an argument embedded in an infinitival complement of a process verb CONTINUARE, very much like the example we saw from PTB in the section above:

#### - DI CUI

0 Una uno art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 1 sn ind  
1 strategia strategia n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 13 sn com  
2 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 1 adj nil  
3 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 2 binder rel\_obl  
4 tutti tutto qc(quantifier\_collective) sq num=p|gen=m 6 sq nil  
5 i il art(article) sn num=p|gen=m 6 sn def  
6 ministri ministro n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 8 subj-exper com  
7 interessati interessato ppas(past\_participle\_absolute) sa num=p|gen=m 6 mod nil  
8 continuano continuare vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) cl(main) punt - ibar raisn/process  
9 a a pt(verb\_participle) sv2 - 10 sv2 nil  
10 sottolineare sottolineare vit(verb\_trans\_infinitive) sv2 punt 8 vcomp tr  
10.10 pPro pPro pPro(big\_pro) sn nil ant='6' s\_impl-causer ministro  
11 la il art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 13 sn def  
12 < < par(parenthetical) sn - 13 sn nil  
13 collegialità collegialità n(noun) sn num=f 10 obj invar  
13.11 prep\_relob di\_strategia prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=f ant=1\_2 bindee com

In this example, we want to say that the relative pronoun modifies COLLEGIALITA', and the semantics should compose the following pseudo-structure:

una strategia [di cui] tutti i ministri interessati continuano a sottolineare la collegialità [t] → la collegialità [della strategia]

#### 1.6.2.3 ADJUNCT MODIFIER OF AN ELLIPSED NOMINAL HEAD

Not all cases of relative pronouns are connected to a fully lexicalized relative clause: there are cases in which the clause is unexpressed – as would happen with reduced relatives – but also ellipsed as shown in the following examples:

#### - TRA CUI

12 nomi nome n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 11 obj-theme\_unaff com  
13 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 12 mod nil  
14 rilievo rilievo n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 13 pobj com  
15 ,, punt(sentence\_internal) sn punt 12 sn nil  
16 tra tra p(preposition) sp - 12 adj nil  
17 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 16 binder rel\_obl  
18 l il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 20 sn def

19 ex ex ag(adjective) sa num=f|gen=m 20 mod invar  
 20 ministro ministro n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 17 subj com  
 20.11 prep\_relob tra\_nome prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=m ant=16\_17 bindee com  
 21 della di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=s|gen=f 20 mod det  
 21.1 la il art sn num=s|gen=f 20 det def  
 22 difesa difesa n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 21 pobj com

#### - TRA CUI

5 variabili variabile n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 4 pobj com  
 6 strutturali strutturale ag(adjective) sa num=p|per=fm 5 mod nil  
 7 tra tra p(preposition) sp - 5 adj nil  
 8 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 7 binder rel\_obl  
 9 le il art(article) sn num=p|gen=f 10 sn def  
 10 istituzioni istituzione n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 11 sn com  
 ...  
 32 che che rel(relative) f2 - 11 binder nil  
 33 si si clit(clitic\_pronoun) ibar per=3|gen=m|num=sp 34 ibar acc  
 34 modificano modificare vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) ibar punt 32 ibar refl\_in/exten  
 34.11 rel\_pro istituzioni rel\_pro(relative\_pronoun) bindee num=p|per=3 ant=11 subj-theme\_aff nil

The specialty of this structure is the fact that it is a fragment which however has a main nominal head: to complete the semantics it could be enriched by the presence of a “dummy BE” verb, or perhaps a dummy THERE\_BE, so that the head noun MINISTRO is computed as subject of predication. The oblique relative modifies directly the subject nominal MINISTRO or indirectly, in case of presence of dummy BE, through the predication:

→ l'ex ministro ... *E' tra i nomi*

The same applies to the example below:

#### - TRA CUI

29 collaboratori collaboratore n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 28 pobj com  
 ...  
 37 tra tra p(preposition) sp - 29 adj nil  
 38 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 37 binder rel\_obl  
 39 il il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 40 sn def  
 40 capo capo n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 38 sn com  
 40.11 prep\_relob tra\_collaboratori prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=p|gen=m ant=37\_38 bindee com  
 41 della di partd(preposition\_di\_plus\_article) spd num=s|gen=f 40 mod det  
 41.1 la il art sn num=s|gen=f 40 det def  
 42 polizia polizia n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 41 pobj com

### 1.6.2.4 ADJUNCT OF THE SUBJECT/OBJECT NOMINAL HEAD OF THE RELATIVE

Eventually, we also found cases in which the relative CUI modifies the SUBject head noun it depends on, as is the case in the example below:

#### - LA CUI

0 Non non neg(negation) ir\_infl - 1 neg nil  
 1 sarà essere vcir(verb\_copulative\_mood\_irrealis) cl(main) punt - ir\_infl cop/esistenza  
 2 presente presente ag(adjective) sa num=s|per=fm 1 acomp nil  
 3 ,, punt(sentence\_internal) compc punt 1 compc nil  
 4 invece invece congf(conjunction\_sentential) compc [] 1 cong av  
 5 ,, punt(sentence\_internal) compc punt 1 compc nil  
 6 l il art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 7 sn def  
 7 uomo uomo n(noun) sn num=m 1 s\_top-tema\_bound invar  
 ...

19 la il art(article) sn num=s|gen=f 21 sn def  
 20 cui cui relob(relative\_oblique) sn [] 7 sn rel\_obl  
 21 posizione posizione n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 24 subj-theme\_unaff com  
 21.11 prep\_relob di\_uomo prep\_relob(prepositional\_rel\_oblique) sp num=s|gen=m ant=7 bindee com  
 22 è essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 24 ibar aux  
 23 stata essere ausep(auxiliary\_essere\_past\_participle) ibar punt 24 ibar aux  
 24 stralciata stralciare vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 21 ibar tr/possess  
 ...

In this structure the oblique is only active locally even though the main verb would occur in the following portion of the sentence, it does not contribute to the following relative clause structure, neither as argument nor as adjunct nor as modifiers of some argument.

### 1.6.3 OBLIQUE RELATIVE in other treebanks

We already saw in the previous section the treatment of WHOSE in PTB. We will now document the treatment of oblique relatives in the Portugues and Catalan treebank. As is clearly shown, the relative pronoun is linked to the local nominal head which is linked to the relative verb, the relative verb in turn is linked to the governing nominal head of the relative, which is what we already saw in previous examples and treebanks,

#### CUJA

|    |             |             |            |             |             |            |        |      |     |    |  |
|----|-------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|------------|--------|------|-----|----|--|
| 1  | A           | o           | art        | art         | <artd> F S  | 2          | >N     | -    | -   |    |  |
| 2  | Conferência | Haitiana_de | Religiosos | Conferência | Haitiana_de | Religiosos | prop   | prop | F S | 11 |  |
|    | SUBJ        | -           | -          |             |             |            |        |      |     |    |  |
| 3  | ,           | ,           | punc       | punc        | -           | 2          | PUNC   | -    | -   |    |  |
| 4  | cuja        | cujo        | pron       | pron-det    | <rel> F S   | 5          | >N     | -    | -   |    |  |
| 5  | direcção    | direcção    | n          | n           | F S         | 6          | SUBJ   | -    | -   |    |  |
| 6  | é           | ser         | v          | v-fin       | PR 3S IND   | 2          | N<PRED | -    | -   |    |  |
| 7  | tida        | ter         | v          | v-pcp       | F S         | 6          | MV     | -    | -   |    |  |
| 8  | por         | por         | prp        | prp         | -           | 7          | SC     | -    | -   |    |  |
| 9  | moderada    | moderar     | v          | v-pcp       | F S         | 8          | P<     | -    | -   |    |  |
| 10 | ,           | ,           | punc       | punc        | -           | 2          | PUNC   | -    | -   |    |  |
| 11 | vem         | vir         | v          | v-fin       | PR 3S IND   | 0          | STA    | -    | -   |    |  |
| 12 | respondendo | responder   | v          | v-ger       | -           | 11         | MV     | -    | -   |    |  |

|     |            |            |      |          |                 |    |        |   |   |  |  |
|-----|------------|------------|------|----------|-----------------|----|--------|---|---|--|--|
| 10  | a          | o          | art  | art      | <-sam> <artd> S | 11 | >N     | - | - |  |  |
| 11  | Igreja     | Igreja     | prop | prop     | F S             | 9  | P<     | - | - |  |  |
| 12  | ,          | ,          | punc | punc     | -               | 11 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| 13  | cuja       | cujo       | pron | pron-det | <rel> F S       | 14 | >N     | - | - |  |  |
| 14  | hierarquia | hierarquia | n    | n        | F S             | 24 | SUBJ   | - | - |  |  |
| 15  | ,          | ,          | punc | punc     | -               | 14 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| ... |            |            |      |          |                 |    |        |   |   |  |  |
| 23  | ,          | ,          | punc | punc     | -               | 14 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| 24  | prefere    | preferir   | v    | v-fin    | PR 3S IND       | 11 | N<PRED | - | - |  |  |

#### CUJAS

|    |              |             |      |          |            |    |        |   |   |  |  |
|----|--------------|-------------|------|----------|------------|----|--------|---|---|--|--|
| 17 | o            | o           | art  | art      | <artd> M S | 18 | >N     | - | - |  |  |
| 18 | SIED         | SIED        | prop | prop     | M S        | 16 | ACC    | - | - |  |  |
| 19 | ,            | ,           | punc | punc     | -          | 18 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| 20 | cuja         | cujo        | pron | pron-det | <rel> F P  | 21 | >N     | - | - |  |  |
| 21 | competências | competência | n    | n        | F P        | 22 | SUBJ   | - | - |  |  |
| 22 | foram        | ser         | v    | v-fin    | PS 3P IND  | 18 | N<PRED | - | - |  |  |
| 23 | ,            | ,           | punc | punc     | -          | 22 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| 24 | entretanto   | entretanto  | adv  | adv      | <kc>       | 26 | ADVL   | - | - |  |  |
| 25 | ,            | ,           | punc | punc     | -          | 22 | PUNC   | - | - |  |  |
| 26 | transferidas | transferir  | v    | v-pcp    | F P        | 22 | MV     | - | - |  |  |

### 1.6.3.1 OBLIQUE RELATIVE in other treebanks

As an experiment I tried out a sentence which contained a pied piped oblique genitive in English, with both CONNEXOR and STANFORD parsers to see the relations they manage to encode in the output. However none of the output is able to show differences in treatment from previous examples.

```
1   John john      @OBJ %NH N NOM SG
2   ,           ,
3   in   in       @ADVL %EH PREP
4   whose who attr:>5 @A> %>N <Rel> PRON WH GEN
5   house house   @<P %NH N NOM SG
6   the  the  det:>7 @DN> %>N DET
7   accident accident subj:>8 @SUBJ %NH N NOM SG
8   took take pcomp:>3 @+FMAINV %VA V PAST
9   place place obj:>8 @OBJ %NH N NOM SG
10  ,           ,
11  is    be    v-ch:>12 @+FAUXV %AUX V PRES SG3
12  leaving leave @-FMAINV %VA ING
13  home home goa:>12 @ADVL %EH N NOM SG
14  now  now  tmp:>12 @ADVL %EH ADV
15  .    .
16  <s> <s>
```

And this is the STANFORD parser output:

*John in whose house the accident took place is leaving home now.*

```
(ROOT
 (S
  (NP
   (NP (NNP John))
   (PP (IN in)
    (SBAR
     (WHNP (WP$ whose)
      (NP (NN house))))
     (S
      (NP (DT the) (NN accident))
      (VP (VBD took)
       (NP (NN place))))))
   (VP (VBZ is)
    (VP (VBG leaving)
     (NP (NN home))
     (ADVP (RB now))))
  (. .)))
```

#### Typed dependencies

```
nsubj(leaving-10, John-1)
prep(John-1, in-2)
poss(house-4, whose-3)
dobj(took-7, house-4)
det(incident-6, the-5)
nsubj(took-7, accident-6)
pcomp(in-2, took-7)
dobj(took-7, place-8)
aux(leaving-10, is-9)
root(ROOT-0, leaving-10)
dobj(leaving-10, home-11)
advmod(leaving-10, now-12)
```

#### Typed dependencies, collapsed

```
nsubj(leaving-10, John-1)
poss(house-4, whose-3)
dobj(took-7, house-4)
det(incident-6, the-5)
nsubj(took-7, accident-6)
prepc_in(John-1, took-7)
dobj(took-7, place-8)
aux(leaving-10, is-9)
root(ROOT-0, leaving-10)
dobj(leaving-10, home-11)
advmod(leaving-10, now-12)
```



What is missing, then here, is the information that “the house” belongs to John, and the role of WHOSE is left unexplained.

I also tried the Italian version of the same sentence with TALN online parser called DeSR. As can be noticed, positioning the SUBJECT NP “l’incidente” in postverbal position causes the system to label it as OBJECT, while it correctly labels the NP as subject if in preverbal position. This could be obviated easily if the parser was endowed with a syntactico-semantic classification of verbs, limited to exceptional classes like AVVENIRE, which are impersonal verbs, disallowing semantic subject but allowing syntactic surface subjects.

| ID | FORM      | LEMMA     | CPOS | POS | MORPH                   | HEAD | DEP     | PH | PD |
|----|-----------|-----------|------|-----|-------------------------|------|---------|----|----|
| 1  | Gino      | Gino      | S    | SP  | —                       | 11   | subj    | —  | —  |
| 2  | ,         | ,         | F    | FF  | —                       | 1    | punc    | —  | —  |
| 3  | nella     | in        | E    | EA  | num=s gen=f             | 9    | comp    | —  | —  |
| 4  | cui       | cui       | D    | DR  | num=n gen=n             | 5    | mod     | —  | —  |
| 5  | casa      | casa      | S    | S   | num=s gen=f             | 3    | prep    | —  | —  |
| 6  | l'        | il        | R    | RD  | num=s gen=n             | 7    | det     | —  | —  |
| 7  | incidente | incidente | S    | S   | num=s gen=m             | 9    | subj    | —  | —  |
| 8  | è         | essere    | V    | VA  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 9    | aux     | —  | —  |
| 9  | avvenuto  | avvenire  | V    | V   | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 1    | mod_rel | —  | —  |
| 10 | ,         | ,         | F    | FF  | —                       | 1    | punc    | —  | —  |
| 11 | sta       | stare     | V    | V   | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 0    | ROOT    | —  | —  |
| 12 | partendo  | partire   | V    | V   | mod=g                   | 11   | mod     | —  | —  |
| 13 | da        | da        | E    | E   | —                       | 12   | comp    | —  | —  |
| 14 | casa      | casa      | S    | S   | num=s gen=f             | 13   | prep    | —  | —  |
| 15 | ora       | ora       | B    | B   | —                       | 12   | mod     | —  | —  |
| 16 | .         | .         | F    | FS  | —                       | 11   | punc    | —  | —  |

|    |           |           |   |    |                         |    |         |   |   |
|----|-----------|-----------|---|----|-------------------------|----|---------|---|---|
| 1  | Gino      | Gino      | S | SP | —                       | 11 | subj    | — | — |
| 2  | ,         | ,         | F | FF | —                       | 1  | punc    | — | — |
| 3  | nella     | in        | E | EA | num=s gen=f             | 7  | comp    | — | — |
| 4  | cui       | cui       | D | DR | num=n gen=n             | 5  | mod     | — | — |
| 5  | casa      | casa      | S | S  | num=s gen=f             | 3  | prep    | — | — |
| 6  | è         | essere    | V | VA | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 7  | aux     | — | — |
| 7  | avvenuto  | avvenire  | V | V  | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 1  | mod_rel | — | — |
| 8  | l'        | il        | R | RD | num=s gen=n             | 9  | det     | — | — |
| 9  | incidente | incidente | S | S  | num=s gen=m             | 7  | obj     | — | — |
| 10 | ,         | ,         | F | FF | —                       | 1  | punc    | — | — |
| 11 | sta       | stare     | V | V  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 0  | ROOT    | — | — |
| 12 | partendo  | partire   | V | V  | mod=g                   | 11 | mod     | — | — |
| 13 | da        | da        | E | E  | —                       | 12 | comp    | — | — |
| 14 | casa      | casa      | S | S  | num=s gen=f             | 13 | prep    | — | — |
| 15 | ora       | ora       | B | B  | —                       | 12 | mod     | — | — |
| 16 | .         | .         | F | FS | —                       | 11 | punc    | — | — |

## 1.7 QUESTIONS

Questions are hard to parse for statistical parsers, given their sparsity in available treebanks. We will now look at some questions and the way in which they are encoded in dependency structures. Apart from some mistakes present in the analysis, the major difficulty seems interpreting the grammatical function of the interrogative pronouns. TALN parser is sensitive to the position of the pronoun, that being anteposed to the verb is interpreted as SUBJECT. Also the case of a prepositional interrogative, “A CHE” is interpreted as such.

|   |           |             |   |    |                         |   |      |   |   |
|---|-----------|-------------|---|----|-------------------------|---|------|---|---|
| 1 | Che       | che         | D | DQ | num=n gen=n             | 2 | mod  | — | — |
| 2 | cosa      | cosa        | S | S  | num=s gen=f             | 3 | subj | — | — |
| 3 | significa | significare | V | V  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 0 | ROOT | — | — |
| 4 | quest'    | quest'      | V | V  | num=s per=2 mod=m ten=p | 0 | ROOT | — | — |

|   |            |            |   |    |              |     |      |   |
|---|------------|------------|---|----|--------------|-----|------|---|
| 5 | asserzione | asserzione | S | S  | num=s gen=f4 | obj | -    | - |
| 6 | ?          | ?          | F | FS | -            | 5   | punc | - |

|   |        |         |   |    |                         |   |      |   |
|---|--------|---------|---|----|-------------------------|---|------|---|
| 1 | A      | a       | E | E  | -                       | 0 | ROOT | - |
| 2 | che    | che     | P | PR | num=n gen=n             | 3 | subj | - |
| 3 | pensa  | pensare | V | V  | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 1 | prep | - |
| 4 | costui | costui  | P | PD | num=s per=3 gen=m       | 3 | obj  | - |
| 5 | ?      | ?       | F | FS | -                       | 4 | punc | - |

TALN, as TUT does, encode the relation intervening between the interrogative pronoun and the verb of the relative directly by linking it to the verb,

8 decidere (DECIDERE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [7;PREP-ARG]  
 8.10 t [6.10f] (IL ART DEF M SING) [8;VERB-SUBJ]  
 9 quali (QUALE ADJ INTERR ALLVAL PL) [13;VERB-OBJ]  
 10 misure (MISURA NOUN COMMON F PL) [9;DET+INTERR-ARG]  
 11 di (DI PREP MONO) [10;PREP-RMOD]  
 12 sicurezza (SICUREZZA NOUN COMMON F SING) [11;PREP-ARG]  
 13 adottare (ADOTTARE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [8;VERB-OBJ]  
 13.10 t [8.10f] (IL ART DEF M SING) [13;VERB-SUBJ]

1 Cosa (COSA PRON INTERR ALLVAL SING LSUBJ+LOBJ) [2;VERB-OBJ]  
 2 faranno (FARE VERB MAIN IND FUT TRANS 3 PL) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 3 adesso (ADESSO ADV TIME) [2;ADVB-RMOD-TIME]  
 4 il (IL ART DEF M SING) [2;VERB-SUBJ]  
 5 Governo (GOVERNO NOUN COMMON M SING) [4;DET+DEF-ARG]

1 Perche' ([perche'| ADV INTERR) [3;ADVB+INTERR-RMOD]  
 2 avete (AVERE VERB AUX IND PRES TRANS 2 PL) [3;AUX+TENSE]  
 3 ucciso (UCCIDERE VERB MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST TRANS SING M) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 3.10 t [] (DEITT-T PRON PERS M PL 2) [3;VERB-SUBJ]  
 4 altri (ALTRO ADJ DEITT M PL) [3;VERB-OBJ]  
 5 albanesi (ALBANESE NOUN COMMON ALLVAL PL) [4;DET+DEF-ARG]  
 6 ? (#\? PUNCT) [3;END]

1 Ma (MA CONJ COORD ADVERS) [0;TOP-CONJ]  
 2 cosa (COSA PRON INTERR ALLVAL SING LSUBJ+LOBJ) [3;VERB-SUBJ]  
 3 accadrà' (ACCADERE VERB MAIN IND FUT INTRANS 3 SING) [1;COORD2ND+ADVERS]

6 Vediamo (VEDERE VERB MAIN IND PRES TRANS 1 PL) [0;TOP-VERB]  
 6.10 t [] (DEITT-T PRON PERS ALLVAL PL 1) [6;VERB-SUBJ]  
 7 cosa (COSA PRON INTERR ALLVAL SING LSUBJ+LOBJ) [9;VISITOR]  
 8 si (SI PRON REFL-IMPERS ALLVAL ALLVAL 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ+LIOBJ CLITIC) [9;VERB-SUBJ/VERB-SUBJ+IMPERS]  
 9 può' (POTERE VERB MOD IND PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [6;VERB-OBJ]  
 10 fare (FARE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [9;VERB+MODAL-INDCOMPL]  
 10.10 t [8f] (SI PRON REFL-IMPERS ALLVAL ALLVAL 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ+LIOBJ CLITIC) [10;VERB-SUBJ]  
 10.11 t [7f] (COSA PRON PERS INTERR) [10;VERB-OBJ]

2 tutti (TUTTO PREDET M PL) [3;PDET+QUANTIF-RMOD]  
 3 gli (IL ART DEF M PL) [17;VERB-SUBJ]  
 4 scienziati (SCIENZIATO NOUN COMMON M PL) [3;DET+DEF-ARG]

...

21 capire (CAPIRE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [20;PREP-ARG]  
 21.10 t [3f] (IL ART DEF M PL) [21;VERB-SUBJ]  
 22 cosa (COSA ADV INTERR) [24;VERB-SUBJ]

23 stia (STARE VERB AUX CONG PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [24;AUX+TENSE]  
24 succedendo (SUCCEDERE VERB MAIN GERUND PRES INTRANS) [21;VERB-OBJ]

The following case is very interesting: we have a purpose infinitival clause governed by VEDERE which has as complement an indirect interrogative clause headed by a pronoun which has an anaphoric link with an antecedent (BANCHE) that is placed in the main clause. This is correctly marked but with a trace, as if it were a syntactically governed relation.

4 il (IL ART DEF M SING) [3;VERB-OBJ]  
5 privato (PRIVATO ADJ QUALIF M SING) [6;ADJC+QUALIF-RMOD]  
6 cittadino (CITTADINO NOUN COMMON M SING) [4;DET+DEF-ARG]  
7 che (CHE PRON RELAT ALLVAL ALLVAL LSUBJ+LOBJ) [8;VERB-SUBJ]  
8 fa (FARE VERB MAIN IND PRES TRANS 3 SING) [6;VERB-RMOD+RELCL]  
9 il (IL ART DEF M SING) [8;VERB-OBJ]  
10 giro (GIRO NOUN COMMON M SING) [9;DET+DEF-ARG]  
11 delle (DI PREP MONO) [10;PREP-RMOD]  
11.1 delle (IL ART DEF F PL) [11;PREP-ARG]  
12 banche (BANCA NOUN COMMON F PL) [11.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
13 per (PER PREP MONO) [8;PREP-RMOD-REASONCAUSE]  
14 vedere (VEDERE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [13;PREP-ARG]  
14.10 t [7p] (CHE PRON RELAT ALLVAL ALLVAL LSUBJ+LOBJ) [14;VERB-SUBJ]  
15 in (IN PREP MONO) [17;PREP-RMOD-LOC+METAPH]  
16 quale (QUALE ADJ INTERR ALLVAL SING LSUBJ+LOBJ) [15;PREP-ARG]  
16.10 t [12f] (BANCA NOUN COMMON F PL) [16;DET+INTERR-ARG]  
17 guadagnerebbe (GUADAGNARE VERB MAIN CONDIZ PRES TRANS 3 SING) [14;VERB-OBJ]  
17.10 t [14.10p] (CHE PRON RELAT ALLVAL ALLVAL LSUBJ+LOBJ) [17;VERB-SUBJ]

In the following example the relation between the interrogative pronoun and the verb of governed clause is marked as OBJ – seen that the verb is in passive mood. However, the grammatical relation is usually referred to the surface syntactic structure and not the deep structure.

13 scoprire (SCOPRIRE VERB MAIN INFINITE PRES TRANS) [12;PREP-ARG]  
13.10 t [] (GENERIC-T PRON PERS ALLVAL ALLVAL ALLVAL) [13;VERB-SUBJ]  
14 quale (QUALE ADJ INTERR ALLVAL SING) [29;VERB-OBJ]  
15 elemento (ELEMENTO NOUN COMMON M SING) [14;DET+INTERR-ARG]  
16 nella (IN PREP MONO) [29;PREP-RMOD-LOC+METAPH]  
16.1 nella (IL ART DEF F SING) [16;PREP-ARG]  
17 struttura (STRUTTURA NOUN COMMON F SING) [16.1;DET+DEF-ARG]  
18 ( (#\ ( PUNCT) [15;OPEN+PARENTHETICAL]  
19 sia (ESSERE VERB MAIN CONG PRES INTRANS 3 SING) [15;APPOSITION]  
20 esso (ESSO PRON PERS M SING 3 LSUBJ+LOBJ) [19;VERB-SUBJ]  
21 un (UN ART INDEF M SING) [19;VERB-PREDCOMPL+SUBJ]  
22 arco (ARCO NOUN COMMON M SING) [21;DET+INDEF-ARG]  
23 o (O CONJ COORD DISJ) [21;COORD+BASE]  
24 un (UN ART INDEF M SING) [23;COORD2ND+BASE]  
25 nodo (NODO NOUN COMMON M SING) [24;DET+INDEF-ARG]  
26 ) (#\ ) PUNCT) [15;CLOSE+PARENTHETICAL]  
27 era (ESSERE VERB AUX IND IMPERF INTRANS 3 SING) [28;AUX+TENSE]  
28 stato (ESSERE VERB AUX PARTICIPLE PAST INTRANS SING M) [29;AUX+PASSIVE]  
29 introdotto (INTRODURRE VERB MAIN PARTICIPLE PAST TRANS SING M) [13;VERB-OBJ]

And in the following sentence there are two SUBject relations: the one headed by the interrogative pronoun, and the one headed by “I POLITICI” which should be the legitimate SUBject.

1 Chi (CHI PRON INTERR ALLVAL ALLVAL LSUBJ+LOBJ) [2;VERB-SUBJ]  
2 sono (ESSERE VERB MAIN IND PRES INTRANS 3 PL) [0;TOP-VERB]  
3 i (IL ART DEF M PL) [2;VERB-PREDCOMPL+SUBJ]  
4 politici (POLITICO NOUN COMMON M PL) [3;DET+DEF-ARG]

And now we will look into VIT:

0 Cosa cosa int(interrogative\_pronoun) fint num=s 3 fint int  
 1 risponde rispondere vt(verb\_trans\_tensed) cl(main) punt - ibar trans/dir\_speech  
 1.10 pro pro pro(little\_pro) sn num=s|per=3 ant=sent\_00195/10 s\_impl-agente nil  
 1.11 rel\_pro cosa rel\_pro(relative\_pronoun) bindee num=s|gen=m ant=0 obj-info com  
 2 loro egli pron(pronoun) sn num=p|per=fm 1 iobj pers  
 3 ? ? ? puntint(punctuation\_non\_declarative) fint nil 1 fint puntint  
 0 Ed ed cong(conjunction) fc [] 1 fc sum  
 1 è essere vc(verb\_copulative) cl(main) punt - ibar cop/esistenza  
 1.11 pro pro pro(little\_pro) nil num=s|per=3 9 s\_expl nil  
 2 su su p(preposition) sp - 1 pcomp nil  
 3 quali quale int(interrogative\_pronoun) fint num=p|per=fm 2 binder nil  
 4 intendere intendere vit(verb\_trans\_infinitive) sv2 punt 3 adj intr  
 5 come come ccom(conjunction\_come\_comparative) sc [] 4 sc comp  
 6 commissioni commissione n(noun) sn num=p|gen=f 5 sn com  
 7 di di pd(preposition\_di) spd - 6 mod nil  
 8 controllo controllo n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 7 pobj com  
 9 che che pk(complementizer) fac - 1 fcomp nil  
 10 maggioranza maggioranza n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 11 subj com  
 11 e e cong(conjunction) coord [] 9 coord sum  
 12 opposizione opposizione n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 11 subj com  
 13 parlano parlare vin(verb\_intrans\_tensed) ibar punt 9 ibar intr/attivit a  
 13.11 rel\_pro su\_quali rel\_pro(relative\_pronoun) bindee num=p|gen=fm ant=3 obl-info com  
 14 un uno art(article) sn num=s|gen=m 15 sn ind  
 15 linguaggio linguaggio n(noun) sn num=s|gen=m 13 obj-informtn com  
 16 diverso diverso ag(adjective) sa num=s|gen=m 15 mod nil  
 17 . . punto(sentence\_final) fc - 1 fc nil  
 9 ricordandomi ricordare vgt(verb\_trans\_gerundive) sv5 punt 3 adj tr  
 10 mi mi clit(clitic\_pronoun) compt per=1|gen=f|num=sm 9 compt nom  
 11 con con p(preposition) sp - 9 adj nil  
 12 quale quale int(interrogative\_pronoun) sp num=s|gen=m 13 binder nil  
 13 decisione decisione n(noun) sn num=s|gen=f 11 pobj com  
 14 sono essere ause(auxiliary\_essere\_tensed) ibar punt 16 ibar aux  
 15 stati essere ausep(auxiliary\_essere\_past\_participle) ibar punt 16 ibar aux  
 16 presi prendere vppt(verb\_trans\_past\_participle) ibar punt 10 ibar trans/attivit a  
 16.11 rel\_pro con\_quale rel\_pro(relative\_pronoun) bindee num=p|gen=fm ant=12 obl-info com  
 17 provvedimenti provvedimento n(noun) sn num=p|gen=m 16 s\_top-actor com  
 18 a a p(preposition) sp - 16 iobj nil  
 19 vicenza vicenza np(noun\_proper\_geographic) sn [] 18 pobj-loc geo

### 1.7.1 Interrogative Pronoun in other treebanks

We look now at CPT and ADT to see how they treat interrogative clauses, ADT first:

|   |        |        |   |    |                         |   |       |   |   |   |   |
|---|--------|--------|---|----|-------------------------|---|-------|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | ¿      | ¿      | F | Fi | _                       | 3 | PUNC  | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 2 | Qui    | qui    | p | pt | num=s gen=c             | 3 | SUJ   | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 3 | és     | ser    | v | vs | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 0 | S     | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 4 | l'     | el     | d | da | num=s gen=c             | 5 | ESPEC | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 5 | enemic | enemic | n | nc | num=s gen=m             | 3 | ATR   | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 6 | del    | del    | s | sp | num=s gen=m for=c       | 5 | SP    | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 7 | Barça  | Barça  | n | np | _                       | 6 | SN    | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 8 | ?      | ?      | F | Fi | _                       | 3 | PUNC  | _ | _ | _ | _ |

|   |      |     |   |    |                         |    |       |   |   |   |   |
|---|------|-----|---|----|-------------------------|----|-------|---|---|---|---|
| 6 | ¿    | ¿   | F | Fi | _                       | 8  | PUNC  | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 7 | què  | què | p | pt | num=s gen=c             | 8  | CD    | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 8 | feia | fer | v | vm | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=i | 0  | S     | _ | _ | _ | _ |
| 9 | el   | el  | d | da | num=s gen=m             | 10 | ESPEC | _ | _ | _ | _ |

|    |               |            |    |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
|----|---------------|------------|----|----|-------------------------|----|----------|---|---|
| 10 | directiu      | directiu   | n  | nc | num=s gen=m             | 8  | SUJ      | - | - |
| 11 | de            | de         | s  | sp | for=s 10                | SP | -        | - | - |
| 12 | l'            | el         | d  | da | num=s gen=c             | 13 | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 13 | estudi        | estudi     | n  | nc | num=s gen=m             | 11 | SN       | - | - |
| 14 | ?             | ?          | F  | Fi | -                       | 8  | PUNC     | - | - |
|    |               |            |    |    |                         |    |          |   |   |
| 1  | ¿             | ¿          | F  | Fi | -                       | 5  | PUNC     | - | - |
| 2  | Quantes       | quant      | d  | di | num=p gen=f             | 3  | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 3  | vegades       | vegada     | n  | nc | num=p gen=f             | 5  | CC       | - | - |
| 4  | hem           | haver      | v  | va | num=p per=1 mod=i ten=p | 5  | AUX      | - | - |
| 5  | sentit        | sentir     | v  | vm | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 0  | S        | - | - |
| 6  | que           | que        | c  | cs | -                       | 15 | SUBORD   | - | - |
| 7  | per           | per        | s  | sp | for=s 15                | CI | -        | - | - |
| 8  | als           | al         | s  | sp | num=p gen=m for=c       | 7  | SP       | - | - |
| 9  | restaurants   | restaurant | n  | nc | num=p gen=m             | 8  | SN       | - | - |
| 10 | i             | i          | c  | cc | -                       | 9  | CO       | - | - |
| 11 | les           | el         | d  | da | num=p gen=f             | 12 | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 12 | esglésies     | església   | n  | nc | num=p gen=f             | 9  | CONJUNCT | - | - |
| 13 | els           | el         | d  | da | num=p gen=m             | 14 | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 14 | casaments     | casament   | n  | nc | num=p gen=m             | 15 | SUJ      | - | - |
| 15 | són           | ser        | v  | vs | num=p per=3 mod=i ten=p | 5  | CD       | - | - |
| 16 | un            | un         | d  | di | num=s gen=m             | 17 | ESPEC_   | - | - |
| 17 | negocinegocin | nc         | nc | nc | num=s gen=m             | 15 | ATR      | - | - |
| 18 | ?             | ?          | F  | Fi | -                       | 5  | PUNC     | - | - |

|    |           |           |   |    |                         |        |        |   |   |
|----|-----------|-----------|---|----|-------------------------|--------|--------|---|---|
| 2  | ¿         | ¿         | F | Fi | -                       | 11     | PUNC   | - | - |
| 3  | Per       | per       | s | sp | for=s 11                | CC     | -      | - | - |
| 4  | què       | què       | p | pt | num=s gen=c             | 3      | SN     | - | - |
| 5  | per       | per       | s | sp | for=s 11                | CCT    | -      | - | - |
| 6  | primera   | primer    | a | ao | num=s gen=f7            | SADJ   | -      | - | - |
| 7  | vegada    | vegada    | n | nc | num=s gen=f5            | SN     | -      | - | - |
| 8  | el        | el        | d | da | num=s gen=m             | 9      | ESPEC_ | - | - |
| 9  | Vaticà    | Vaticà    | n | np | -                       | 11     | SUJ    | - | - |
| 10 | ha        | haver     | v | va | num=s per=3 mod=i ten=p | 11     | AUX    | - | - |
| 11 | desmentit | desmentir | v | vm | num=s mod=p gen=m       | 0      | S      | - | - |
| 12 | una       | un        | d | di | num=s gen=f13           | ESPEC_ | -      | - | - |
| 13 | notícia   | notícia   | n | nc | num=s gen=f11           | CD     | -      | - | - |
| 14 | ?         | ?         | F | Fi | -                       | 11     | PUNC   | - | - |

And this is CPT:

|    |             |             |      |           |                    |    |      |   |   |
|----|-------------|-------------|------|-----------|--------------------|----|------|---|---|
| 1  | que         | que         | pron | pron-det  | <interr> M S2      | >N | -    | - | - |
| 2  | tipo        | tipo        | n    | n         | M S                | 8  | ACC  | - | - |
| 3  | de          | de          | prp  | prp       | -                  | 2  | N<   | - | - |
| 4  | relação     | relação     | n    | n         | F S                | 3  | P<   | - | - |
| 5  | económica   | económico   | adj  | adj       | F S                | 4  | N<   | - | - |
| 6  | se          | se          | pron | pron-pers | M/F 3S/P ACC       | 7  | SUBJ | - | - |
| 7  | poderá      | poder       | v    | v-fin     | FUT 3S IND         | 0  | QUE  | - | - |
| 8  | estabelecer | estabelecer | v    | v-inf     | -                  | 7  | MV   | - | - |
| 9  | entre       | entre       | prp  | prp       | -                  | 8  | ADVL | - | - |
| 10 | Israel      | Israel      | prop | prop      | M S                | 9  | P<   | - | - |
| 11 | e           | e           | conj | conj-c    | <co-prparg>        | 10 | CO   | - | - |
| 12 | os          | o           | art  | art       | <artd> M P         | 14 | >N   | - | - |
| 13 | seus        | seu         | pron | pron-det  | <poss 3S> <si> M P | 14 | >N   | - | - |
| 14 | vizinhos    | vizinho     | n    | n         | M P                | 10 | CJT  | - | - |
| 15 | árabes      | árabe       | adj  | adj       | M P                | 14 | N<   | - | - |
| 16 | ?           | ?           | punc | punc      | -                  | 7  | PUNC | - | - |

|    |         |         |      |          |               |    |      |   |   |
|----|---------|---------|------|----------|---------------|----|------|---|---|
| 3  | Como    | como    | adv  | adv      | <interr>      | 4  | SC   | - | - |
| 4  | é       | ser     | v    | v-fin    | PR 3S IND     | 1  | QUE  | - | - |
| 5  | a       | o       | art  | art      | <artd> F S    | 7  | >N   | - | - |
| 6  | sua     | seu     | pron | pron-det | <poss 3S> F S | 7  | >N   | - | - |
| 7  | relação | relação | n    | n        | F S           | 4  | SUBJ | - | - |
| 8  | com     | com     | prp  | prp      | -             | 7  | N<   | - | - |
| 9  | o       | o       | art  | art      | <artd> M S    | 10 | >N   | - | - |
| 10 | piano   | piano   | n    | n        | M S           | 8  | P<   | - | - |
| 11 | ?       | ?       | punc | punc     | -             | 4  | PUNC | - | - |

|     |             |           |      |           |              |    |      |   |   |
|-----|-------------|-----------|------|-----------|--------------|----|------|---|---|
| 6   | quem        | quem      | pron | pron-indp | <interr> M P | 7  | SC   | - | - |
| 7   | eram        | ser       | v    | v-fin     | IMPF 3P IND  | 0  | QUE  | - | - |
| 8   | os          | o         | art  | art       | <artd> M P   | 9  | >N   | - | - |
| 9   | corruptores | corruptor | n    | n         | M P          | 7  | SUBJ | - | - |
| 10  | e           | e         | conj | conj-c    | <co-vfin>    | 7  | CO   | - | - |
| 11  | por         | por       | pp   | pp        | <new>        | 15 | ADVL | - | - |
| 12  | que         | que       | pron | pron-det  | <new> M S    | 13 | >N   | - | - |
| 13  | motivo      | motivo    | n    | n         | M S          | 11 | P<   | - | - |
| 14  | não         | não       | adv  | adv       | -            | 15 | ADVL | - | - |
| 15  | foram       | ser       | v    | v-fin     | PS 3P IND    | 7  | CJT  | - | - |
| ... |             |           |      |           |              |    |      |   |   |
| 24  | ?           | ?         | punc | punc      | -            | 7  | PUNC | - | - |

The treatment is identical to TALN and TUT, in that the interrogative pronoun is directly linked to the following verb, and in case it is headed by a preposition, it is linked to the preposition which in turn is linked to the following verb.

## 1.8 CONCLUSIONS and RECOMMENDATIONS

We conclude by listing in a succinct form the items we reviewed in the previous pages, indicating for each item the way in which the various treebanks have produced a dependency link. At the end we try to propose some recommendations.

### 1. Amalgams

#### 1.1 Verbs and prepositions

- VIT and TUT decompose both preposition+article amalgams and criticized verbs
- TALN decompose only verbal amalgams

#### 1.2 Running indexes

- TALN introduces a new separate index for the enclitics
- TUT CoLNN shallow version, introduces a new index for both amalgams
  - TUT deep version, only duplicates entries but no new index
- VIT introduces a new index only for enclitics

#### 1.3 Other treebanks

- AnCora as TALN does not decompose preposition+article amalgams
  - it decomposes verb+clitics and introduces a new index, the clitic is treated as a morpheme

### 2. Multiwords

#### 2.1 Locutions

- in both TUT and TALN locutions are entered in separate lines and are internally indicated as such by the lemma
- VIT only treats locutions as single entries - no decomposition

#### 2.2 Named Entities

- TUT only indicates abbreviations, acronyms in full form and some formulaic Latin expression, by entering each part in separate lines and indicating their full form as lemma
- TALN on the contrary indicates NEs in the same way as locutions
- VIT keeps them as single entries but indicates they are multiwords in the lemma

### **2.3 Other treebanks**

- AnCor is similar to VIT as all multiwords are entered as single entries.

### **3. Functional heads**

#### **3.1 Specifiers**

- TUT - both deep and shallow - makes lexical verbs dependent on auxiliaries, nouns dependent on determiners

- TALN and VIT on the contrary treat minor categories contained in specifier position as dependent on the head, verb or noun

#### **3.2 Other treebanks**

- ADT treats determiners as dependent

- PTB however treats auxiliaries as heads of the lexical verb

### **4. Coordination**

- TUT makes conjunctions dependent on first head they are coordinators of: second and following coordinated heads are dependent on the conjunction/punctuation

- TALN, ADT and CPT make conjunctions dependent on first head and sequent heads also dependent on first head;

- PTB distinguishes two cases of coordination: clause level and other cases. Clause level coordination is done as TUT does by linking second and following conjuncts to the conjunction/punctuation. Other cases are treated as TALN does.

- VIT makes conjunctions dependent on the governing verb if coordination is between clauses, otherwise it builds an abstract COORD node and constituent heads are made dependent on it

### **5.0. CHE complementizer**

- TUT, TALN and VIT link the complementizer to the governing verb, and the verb of the sentential complement to CHE, thus realizing a chain. The same applies to PTB.

- In ADT and CPT, on the contrary, treat the complementizer as a minor constituent and functional head and do not treat as intermediate head: they link QUE to the verb of the sentential complement, which in turn is linked to matrix clause main verb.

#### **5.1. CHE relative**

- TUT and TALN treat CHE complementizer as functional head dependent on the verb of the Relative Clause. In this way, they treat it differently from the previous case.

- VIT treats it as we saw before in section 5.0.

### **6. Lexical (analytic) relative pronouns**

- TUT and TALN link the preposition of the relative pronoun, and also the nominal head of the relative to the verb of the relative; then it links the relative pronoun to the preposition.

- Also PTB treats WHOSE in the same way as CUI, and WHICH as TUT and TALN do.

- PARC-700 LFG dependency treebank introduces an abstract PRO that is linked to WHOSE and to the verb of the relative, thus working as intermediate element of a chain

- VIT treats it differently according to the role of CUI/QUALE

#### **6.1 VIT treatment according to different syntactic roles**

a. argument/adjunct of relative verb

- it directly modifies the main verb of the relative clause

b. adjunct modifier of argument of relative verb

- it modifies an argument of the verb of relative clause

c. adjunct modifier of a noun

d. adjunct modifier of the internal nominal head

e. adjunct modifier of an ellipsed nominal head

f. adjunct of the subject/object nominal head of the relative

#### **6.2 Relative pronouns in other treebanks**

- are treated as previously shown with TUT, TALN and PTB

#### **6.3 WHOSE in structures built by online parsers**

## 7. Questions

- TUT and TALN link the interrogative pronoun (direct and indirect) to the verb of the following clause
- The same happens in CPT and ADT
- VIT introduce traces that are bound at the verb index: so eventually it links the interrogative pronoun to the following verb, in all cases, even when there is a preposition heading it.

### 1.8.1 Recommendations

As appears, there are differences between the treebanks considered in this report. However, it is important to remind that the main difference lies in the decision to produce a deep vs. a shallow structure. The deep structure may well encode dependency relations with the auxiliary help of null elements. I would say that major differences are in fact only minor problems that can be easily mended by a ad hoc script. What is not easy to produce is the presence of Null Elements which require a lot of additional computation and of manual checking.

The main difference is in the treatment of relative pronouns and relative clauses. In particular, we think it badly needing some amendment, the way in which CUI and other pied piping constructions have been treated. These structure need to be represented differently from relative clauses headed by relative pronouns which act as direct Argument/Adjunct of the relative verb. Of course this is something that can be done at best by inserting some empty element. However in some cases, there is a need to check dependencies which are not directly to the verb but to an argument/adjunct of the verb of the relative.

Luckily, these structure seem to be fairly uncommon. So eventually the net advantage in modifying a parser or some automatic procedure for the treebank annotation, is very small.

Other questions regard minor items, as said above, and they can be interpreted in terms of overall treebank consistency/coherence, and/or its strict/loose adherence to a linguistic theory. Treebank conversion tools made available for the CoNLL international challenge have determined a “de facto” standard in the way in which dependency relations are encoded. And this is obviously reflected in the fact that Penn Treebank has become the “de facto” standard of all syntactic treebanks. But it is clear that mapping constituency to dependency is not always easy and may require difficult decisions to be taken. Uniformity in the mapping encoded in a script is not always easy to guarantee, as we saw above. Also decisions as to what constitute a HEAD in dependency terms is not an easy decision in some cases, even though the theoretical background of linguistic theories should be helpful if properly used. In particular, if functional heads are treated as dependents they should always be treated as such; the same applies to the opposite case. However, this might become ambiguous in case there is a need to represent an implicit category like PRO for unexpressed relative pronouns.

Eventually what is needed is Semantic Transparency.

In other words, annotations in treebanks should be as much as possible transparent to semantic mapping procedures if they are to be of any use at all. For this reason we are convinced of the following:

- Minor categories and functional heads should always be treated as dependent, or if needed, be part of a chain with a semantic head; this is particularly true for the case in which negation is linked to the auxiliary rather than the lexical verb.
- Preserving the original orthography is not a major issue of a dependency treebank; multiwords should be treated as one unit if that is semantically justified; amalgams should be decomposed if needed for semantic opportunity – enclitics constitute arguments that will undergo anaphoric processes, but incorporated articles don't need to be assigned a separate index.
- Positing the existence of an abstract category like COORD which may serve for semantic purposes might be allowed even if it is linked to punctuation.



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