

Coordination of unlike grammatical functions

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Abstract

The aim of this paper is to propose a dependency analysis of coordination of unlike grammatical functions, as witnessed in Slavic and some neighbouring languages (including Romanian, Hungarian and West Armenian). In order to increase the practical impact of the analysis, the proposed representations adhere to Universal Dependencies, a syntactic corpus annotation scheme, though arguments are given for validity of such representations from the theoretical linguistic perspective.

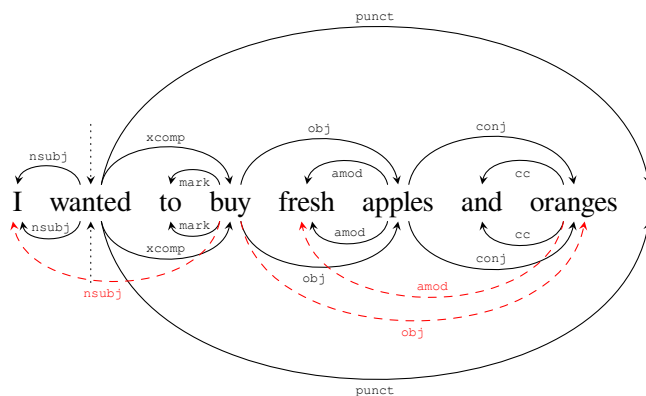
1 Introduction

Coordination is a well-known and long-standing problem for dependency representations of natural language utterances, both in theoretical linguistics and in natural language processing. Representational devices beyond the usual dependency trees are proposed especially for the treatment of coordination in Lucien Tesnière's Dependency Syntax (1959, 2015), Richard Hudson's Word Grammar (1984, 1990, 2010), and Igor Mel'čuk's Meaning–Text Theory (1974, 1988, 2009). Also, the representation of coordination differs widely in different dependency corpora (Popel et al., 2013).

Coordination is also problematic for Universal Dependencies (UD; Nivre et al., 2016; <http://universaldependencies.org/>). In the current version 2 of the standard, each utterance may be represented by two dependency structures: the basic dependency tree and the enhanced representation, which does not have to be a tree. For example, the two representations of (1) (on one of its interpretations) are shown in (2).^{1,2}

(1) I wanted to buy fresh apples and oranges.

(2)



As is clear from the basic dependency tree (above the tokens), coordination is represented in UD as headed by the first conjunct, as in Mel'čuk's Meaning–Text Theory (MTT), but – unlike in that theory – all non-initial conjuncts are `conj` dependents of the initial conjunct, and the coordinating conjunction is a `cc` dependent of the following conjunct. This tree suffers from the usual deficiencies of dependency

¹This example is based on examples given at <http://universaldependencies.org/u/overview/enhanced-syntax.html>. All URLs mentioned in this paper were last accessed on 1 April 2019.

²In drawing UD representations, the following conventions are adopted in this paper. The basic dependency tree is drawn above the word tokens and the enhanced dependency is drawn below the word tokens. Dependencies which differ between the two representations are drawn as dashed lines in red. The root is marked by a vertical dotted arrow.

trees: it does not represent the fact that *I* is not only the surface subject (*nsubj*; for nominal subject) of the matrix verb *wanted* but also the understood subject of the controlled verb *buy*, or the fact that the adjectival modifier (*amod*) *fresh* is understood here as referring to the whole coordinate structure, *apples and oranges*, rather than just to the first conjunct, *apples*. These deficiencies are corrected in the enhanced dependency structure (below the tokens), where – just as in Lexical Functional Grammar (LFG; Bresnan, 1982, Dalrymple, 2001), Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar (HPSG; Pollard and Sag, 1987, 1994), and Hudson’s Word Grammar (WG) – structure sharing in control constructions is represented explicitly, namely, by the additional *nsubj* dependency. Moreover, the additional *amod* dependency from *oranges* to *fresh* makes it clear that the adjective is shared by the two conjuncts. Finally, the additional *obj* (direct object) dependency from *buy* to *oranges* emphasises the symmetric nature of the two conjuncts with respect to the governing verb *buy*.

One problematic aspect of this representation of coordination, known to the UD community, concerns nested – i.e. immediately embedded – coordination: in the case of three conjuncts, *A, B, C*, the proposed representation does not distinguish between the flat structure (*A, B, C*), and the structure in which *A* and *B* are conjoined and the resulting coordination is conjoined with *C*, i.e., *((A, B), C)*.³ Solutions to this problem are discussed in Przepiórkowski and Patejuk, 2019b. In this paper we deal with another phenomenon problematic for UD, namely, the possibility to coordinate different grammatical functions, as in the attested (3):⁴

(3) [[*What*]_{obj} and [*when*]_{advmod}] to *eat* to reduce insulin⁵

Such examples violate the overwhelming generalisation that only the same grammatical functions may be coordinated. Normally, languages satisfy this generalisation and attempts to coordinate phrases bearing different grammatical functions result in unacceptability, as in (4)–(5):

(4) **I and an apple have already eaten.*

(intended meaning: *I have already eaten an apple.*)

(5) **I have already eaten an apple and today.*

(intended meaning: *I have already eaten an apple today.*)

The utterance (4) is unacceptable as it involves a coordination of a subject, *I*, and a direct object, *an apple*. Similarly, (5) involves a coordination of a direct object, *an apple*, and an adjunct, *today*.

The assumption that all conjuncts must bear the same relation to the external head is also explicitly made in dependency grammars, e.g. (Hudson, 1984, 225):

[W]e need to make sure that, in some sense, all the conjuncts in a coordinate structure have the same external relations... If we mix up conflicting external relations, the result is zeugma (e.g. *He came in {(a hurry) and (a taxi)}*, where the conjuncts require conflicting meanings of *in*), or sheer incoherence (e.g. *I ate potatoes and in the kitchen*).

This is also implicitly assumed in constituency- and constraint-based approaches, e.g., in LFG, where – in the f(unctional)-structure – the whole coordinate structure is the value of an attribute such as *SUBJ(ect)* or *OBJ(ect)*, or belongs to the *ADJ(unct)s* set, i.e. where all conjuncts bear the same grammatical function.

There are, however, two classes of exceptions – both empirically constrained – to the generalisation that only the same grammatical functions may be coordinated. The first, sylleptic zeugma, is mentioned in the above quote from Hudson, 1984, 225. Such constructions, in which the two conjuncts evoke two different meanings of the head, have a metalinguistic feel and they are easy to distinguish from genuine coordination. We will not deal with zeugma here. The rest of this paper is devoted to the second class of exceptions, illustrated with the English (3). As discussed in §2, such constructions are robust especially in Slavic and they do not evoke different meanings of the head. §3 examines previous dependency approaches to such constructions, while §4 proposes a UD representation. Finally, §5 concludes the paper.

³<http://universaldependencies.org/u/dep/conj.html#nested-coordination>

⁴This phenomenon should be carefully distinguished from the coordination of unlike grammatical *categories*, relatively uncontroversial in contemporary linguistics (cf., e.g., Sag et al., 1985, Bayer, 1996, Dalrymple, 2017, but also Bruening and Al Khalaf, 2019 for dissent).

⁵<https://www.dietdoctor.com/what-and-when-to-eat-to-reduce-insulin>

2 Lexico-Semantic Coordination

The phenomenon in question is the so-called lexico-semantic coordination (Sannikov, 1979, 1980), also known as hybrid coordination (Chaves and Paperno, 2007). It occurs mainly in Slavic (incl. Bulgarian, Croatian, Polish and Russian) and in some neighbouring languages (Romanian, Hungarian, West Armenian), as well as – though significantly constrained – in English, French, German, Dutch, Italian and Spanish (Paperno, 2012, Lipták, 2012, Bílbíie and Gazdik, 2012). In the case of these Germanic and Romance languages, the phenomenon seems to be limited to the coordination of optional *wh*-items (Gračanin-Yüksek, 2007, Lipták, 2012) – e.g., an adjunct and an optional argument – and often occurs in titles, as in (3) above. In the case of the “Slavic sprachbund“, the phenomenon is much more robust.

First of all, as discussed in Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012a,b and in Paperno, 2012, in Slavic such constructions are not limited to *wh*-items, although they particularly often involve such items; most of the examples in this paper are of this kind. But apart from *wh*-items, coordination of different grammatical functions may involve negative pronouns (so-called *n*-words; cf., e.g., the Russian (11) and the Polish (16)), certain items expressing existential or universal quantifiers (the latter illustrated in (6) below), and items belonging to a number of other pronominal or quantificational classes.⁶ Second, the coordinated items may be obligatory arguments, as in (6) from the National Corpus of Polish (NKJP; Przepiórkowski et al., 2011, 2012), cited here after Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012b, 463.⁷

- (6) *Obiecać* można [[wszystko]_{obj} i [wszystkim]_{iobj}]. (Polish)
promise.INF may everything.ACC and everyone.DAT
‘One may promise everything to everyone.’ (NKJP)

Hence, lexico-semantic coordination cannot easily be analysed via ‘conjunction reduction’, i.e., as some kind of ellipsis; arguments against such an analysis are reviewed in Patejuk, 2015, §5.4.⁸ Third, such constructions are textually frequent and often occur in carefully edited texts; there is nothing marginal about them in the languages in which they occur.

Given that lexico-semantic coordination violates the ‘same grammatical function’ generalisation, it might seem that perhaps it does not involve coordination at all, i.e. that *i* ‘and’ in (6) and *and* in (3) are not really conjunctions here, but some homophonous elements of a different grammatical class. There are strong arguments against this view. First, in all languages which allow for joining different grammatical functions the joining element has the same form as a conjunction; on the homonymy view, this perfect synchronous correlation is somewhat surprising (even if it may be justified diachronically). Second, and more importantly, as shown in Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012b and in Patejuk, 2015, other typical conjunctions may also occur in such constructions – for instance *lub* ‘or’, see (7), and *ani* ‘nor’, see (8).⁹ It is worth noting that the conjunction *ani* has a special property – it is an *n*-word, so it requires negation. It retains this property when it combines unlike grammatical functions. As a consequence, the hypothesis that *ani* in (8) is not a conjunction seems like a typical missed generalisation: it combines two items just like conjunctions do, it has the same form as a conjunction, it also has the same properties with respect to negation as that very conjunction. Finally, lexico-semantic coordination may also occur with preconjunctives (‘both... and...’, ‘not only... but also...’), as shown in (9), and it is possible to coordinate more than two items, see (10).

- (7) ...kto lub czego będzie w Wikipedii szukał. (Polish)
who.NOM or what.GEN will in Wikipedia seek
‘...who will seek what in Wikipedia.’ (NKJP)
- (8) Rząd USA *(nie) ujawnia, kogo ani dlaczego umieścił na liście osób... (Polish)
government USA NEG discloses who.ACC and why put on list people
‘The US government does not disclose who and why they put on the list of people...’¹⁰

⁶See Przepiórkowski and Patejuk, 2014 and, especially, Patejuk, 2015, §5.8 for a comprehensive list of such classes in Polish.

⁷The labels *obj* and *iobj* reflect how this example would be annotated in Polish UD treebanks; cf. Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2018.

⁸For this reason we do not refer in this paper to dependency analyses of gapping, non-constituent coordination and the like.

⁹The asterisk before brackets in (8) means that the sentence is ungrammatical if the bracketed material is omitted.

¹⁰http://wyborcza.pl/1,76842,15826586,Amerykanie_maja_tajna_liste_nielotow__Trafisz_na.html

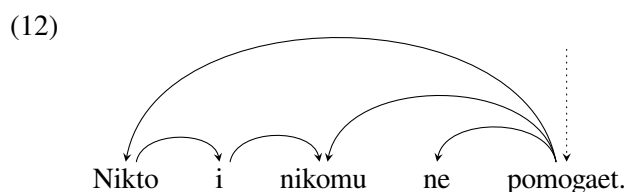
- (9) ...kiedy wyjawisz nie tylko kto, ale i dlaczego otrzymał awans. (Polish)
 when disclose not only who.NOM but and why received promotion
 ‘...when you explain not only who, but also why got promoted.’¹¹
- (10) Kto, kiedy i dla kogo napisał te wiersze? (Polish)
 who.NOM when and for who.GEN wrote these poems
 ‘Who, when and for whom wrote those poems?’¹²

Hence, the combining words should be analysed as true conjunctions, and the phenomenon in question – as true coordination.

3 Theoretical Dependency Approaches

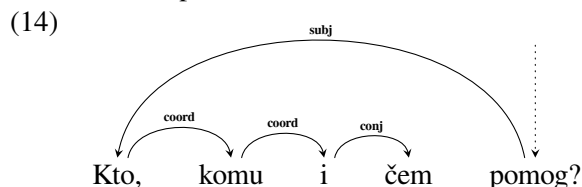
While coordination of unlike grammatical functions has attracted some attention in various linguistic theories, including Transformational Grammar (e.g. Lipták, 2012, Citko and Gračanin-Yüksek, 2013), Categorical Grammar (Paperno, 2012), HPSG (Chaves and Paperno, 2007, Bîlbîie and Gazdik, 2012) and LFG (Gazdik, 2010, Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012a,b, Patejuk, 2015), to the best of our knowledge, it has not been given a serious analysis in dependency theories. Mel’čuk referred to lexico-semantic coordination in a couple of works, but only in passing: in an endnote in Mel’čuk, 1988 (and in Mel’čuk and Pertsov, 1987), then in the main text in Mel’čuk, 2009. Mel’čuk, 1988, 40 states that “There are more complicated cases of double dependency challenging the adequacy of D[ependency]-trees”, illustrating this using example (11) together with representation in (12), both based on similar examples in Sannikov, 1979:

- (11) Nikto i nikomu ne pomogaet. (Russian)
 nobody.NOM and nobody.DAT not helps
 ‘Nobody helps anybody.’



Mel’čuk, 1988 distances himself from this representation, claiming that “*nikomu* does not depend on *pomogaet* syntactically”. Mel’čuk, 2009, 81 returns to lexico-semantic coordination and briefly considers the Russian sentence (13), which would receive a representation like (14) within his Meaning–Text Theory:

- (13) Kto, komu i čem pomog? (Russian)
 who.NOM who.DAT and what.INS helped
 ‘Who helped whom with what?’

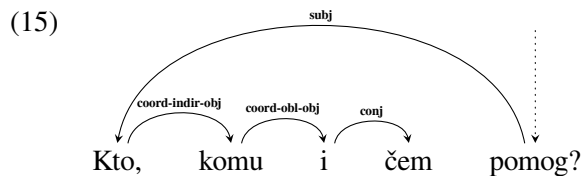


Noting that this representation loses information about grammatical functions of non-initial conjuncts, he proposes to “introduce some special [dependency relations] just for this very special construction: **coord-subj**, **coord-dir-obj**, **coord-indir-obj**, etc.” So, presumably, (13) should be represented as (15).¹³

¹¹<https://www.hbrp.pl/b/dobry-system-awansow-pracownikow-to-awans-dla-calej-firmy/P1C5cBsul>

¹²Danielewiczowa, 1996, 85

¹³It is not clear to us that the two relations assigned to *komu* ‘who.DAT’ and *čem* ‘what.INS’ in Meaning–Text Theory are in fact indirect object and oblique object, as indicated in (15), but this does not matter for the argument in the main text.



Apart from the problem of duplicating many syntactic relations as **coord**-relations, this suggestion is based on the assumption that all conjuncts in lexico-semantic coordination must be dependents of the same head. As demonstrated in Patejuk and Przepiórkowski, 2012b and Patejuk, 2015 on the basis of numerous examples such as the following, this assumption is false:

(16) Nic i nikogo nie może tłumaczyć. (Polish)
 nothing.NOM and nobody.GEN NEG can excuse.INF
 ‘Nothing may excuse anybody.’ (NKJP)

(17) Czego i ile trzeba dostarczyć organizmowi? (Polish)
 what.GEN and how much.ACC should provide.INF organism.DAT
 ‘What – and how much – should one provide one’s organism with?’¹⁴

(18) Jakie i kto może ponieść konsekwencje? (Polish)
 what.ADJ.ACC and who.NOM can bear.INF consequences.ACC
 ‘Who can suffer what consequences?’¹⁵

In (16), *nic* ‘nothing.NOM’ is the subject of the matrix verb *może* ‘may’, as well as the understood subject of the controlled verb *tłumaczyć* ‘excuse’, while *nikogo* ‘nobody.GEN’ is the direct object of the controlled verb (only). In (17), adopting the common and well-founded assumption in Polish structural and formal linguistics (e.g., Saloni and Świdziński, 2001) that numerals – not nouns – are heads of numeral phrases, the interrogative numeral *ile* ‘how much.ACC’ is the direct object of *dostarczyć* ‘provide, supply’, while *czego* ‘what.GEN’ is a dependent of this numeral.¹⁶ Finally, in (18), *jakie* ‘what.ACC’ is the adjectival modifier of *konsekwencje* ‘consequences’, which is the object of *ponieść* ‘suffer’, which in turn is the infinitival complement of the main verb, *może* ‘may’, whose subject is *kto* ‘who.NOM’.

On Mel’čuk’s proposal, the **coord** dependency between conjuncts in (16)–(18) would not only have to encode the grammatical function (**coord-subj**, **coord-dir-obj**, **coord-indir-obj**, etc.), but also information about the actual head of each non-initial conjunct. It is not clear how this information could be encoded within a constrained set of dependency relations (52 in Mel’čuk, 2009). A potential solution, to be considered in more detail below, would be to devise a special labelling convention to account for this phenomenon, where – for each non-initial conjunct – a single dependency label would encode the entire dependency chain to this conjunct. However, this would result in a potentially infinite number of dependency labels.

4 Lexico-Semantic Coordination in UD

4.1 Proposal

How can coordination of unlike grammatical functions be represented in UD? Let us start with the simple (but attested) Polish example (19), where two different dependents of the same head are coordinated: the subject (*kto* ‘who.NOM’) and the object (*kogo* ‘whom.ACC’) of the verb *zdradził* ‘betrayed’. Since there is no discussion of how to annotate lexico-semantic coordination in UD guidelines, the representation in (20) follows general guidelines related to coordination:

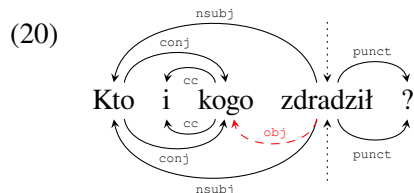
¹⁴https://vitalia.pl/forum22,446761,0_Czego-i-ile-trzeba-dostarczyc-organizmowi.html

¹⁵Patejuk, 2015, 99

¹⁶As discussed in §4.3, in UD the relation between the numeral and the noun is reversed, but the two conjuncts in (17) are still dependents of different heads.

- (19) Kto i kogo zdradził?
 who.NOM and who.ACC betrayed
 ‘Who betrayed whom?’¹⁷

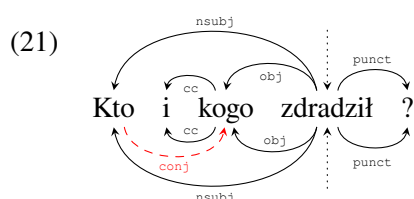
(Polish)



In the basic dependency tree (edges above words), the first conjunct, *kto*, is the subject of *zdradził*, but the information that *kogo* is the object of *zdradził* is lost. This is because *kogo* is annotated as the second conjunct using the `conj` relation – since the basic representation must be a tree, there must not be another incoming relation (object). In effect, the coordination *kto i kogo* ‘who.NOM and whom.ACC’ is annotated as if it were the subject – which is not true in the case of the second conjunct – and there is no information that *zdradził* has an object. This problem is mitigated in the enhanced dependency representation (edges below words), which lacks such a restriction – the object dependency from *kogo* to *zdradził* is present in the graph, which shows that it is not its subject (despite the basic representation). As a result, appropriate grammatical functions are only provided in the enhanced dependency representation.

Note that it does not seem appropriate to think about the basic representation in (20) as an ‘underspecified’ version of the more detailed enhanced structure. On such an ‘underspecification’ view, the basic representation of ordinary coordinated subjects, as in *John and Mary arrived*, would also have to be considered ‘underspecified’, with the grammatical functions of non-initial conjuncts (here: *Mary*) to be ascertained only upon careful inspection of the enhanced representation. This view is not only questionable conceptually, but also untenable practically: as popular dependency parsers only deal with basic dependency trees – and are unable to learn from or parse with enhanced dependency representations – the lossy and misleading information about grammatical functions at the basic tree level translates into errors in downstream applications, especially those which rely on grammatical functions to extract information about who did what to whom.¹⁸

For these – conceptual and practical – reasons we propose the alternative basic UD representation in (21); while the enhanced dependency graph is the same as in (20), the basic dependency tree does not include the `conj` dependency between the two conjuncts, i.e. coordination is not fully represented at this level, but the much more important information about grammatical functions is: in (21) *kogo* is identified as the object of *zdradził* at both levels of dependency representation.



The more theoretical reason for preferring (21) to (20) as a representation of (19) is that coordination plays here a very different role than usual: it does not conjoin phrases which stand in the same syntactic and semantic relation to the head, but rather it joins elements which only have the same information structure status in the sentence. This difference between standard coordination and the coordination of unlike grammatical functions discussed in this section, since it is crucial for the syntactic and semantic interpretation of the sentence, should be represented in the basic dependency tree.

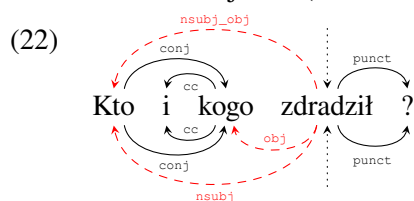
4.2 Potential Alternatives

Let us consider a potential alternative solution, inspired by the approach outlined in Mel’čuk, 2009 (see the discussion of (14)), which is aimed at saving the topology of the basic UD representation in (20) by enriching

¹⁷<http://sliwerski-pedagog.blogspot.com/2018/06/kto-i-kogo-zdradzi.html>

¹⁸Easiness to extract such relations is an important design goal of UD, as made explicit, e.g., in the following quote: “UD inherits from [Stanford Dependencies] the concern with usefulness for relation extraction [...]” (Silveira and Manning, 2015, 311).

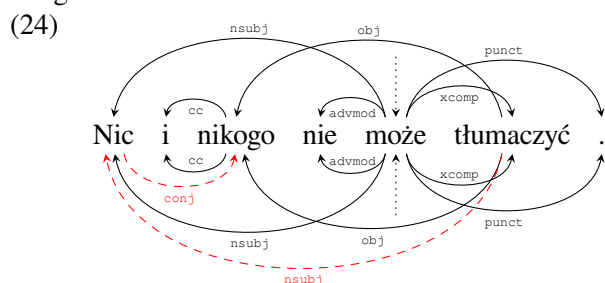
the dependency label from the head to the coordinate structure so that it correctly represents grammatical functions of all conjuncts (instead of suggesting that the entire coordination is the subject), e.g.:



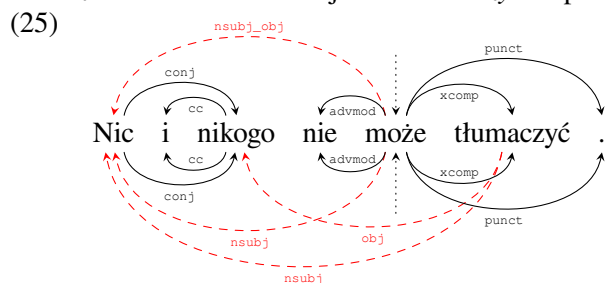
This solution suffers from the same problems as that proposed by Mel'čuk (2009): it greatly multiplies dependency labels (many different numbers and orders of grammatical functions¹⁹ would have to be encoded) and it does not encode information about possibly different heads of particular conjuncts. Consider again (16), repeated below as (23):

(23) Nic i nikogo nie może tłumaczyć. (Polish)
 nothing.NOM and nobody.GEN NEG can EXCUSE.INF
 'Nothing may excuse anybody.'

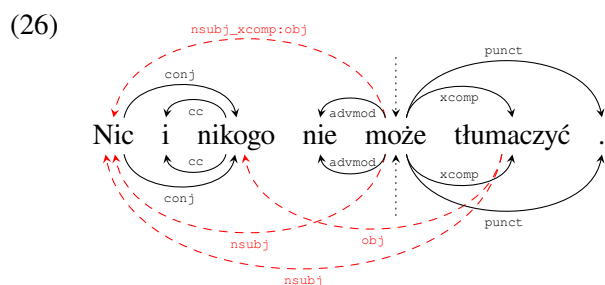
On our proposal, its representation is given in (24) – coordination is not fully represented in the basic tree, but grammatical functions are:



In contrast, the attempt to save the more standard basic representation (the one following from general guidelines) by labelling the dependency from *może* 'can, may' to *nic* 'nothing.NOM' as *nsubj_obj* (instead of *nsubj*) in (25) is misinformative, as it incorrectly suggests that *nikogo* 'nobody.GEN' is the direct object of *może* – rather than the object of *tłumaczyć* 'explain'.



This problem could be approached in a way analogous to the earlier suggestion on how to modify Mel'čuk's account, namely, by providing – in the basic tree – full paths to non-initial conjuncts, as shown in (26), where the relation targeting *nic* is *nsubj_xcomp:obj* (because *nikogo* is the *obj* of *xcomp*, see (24)):

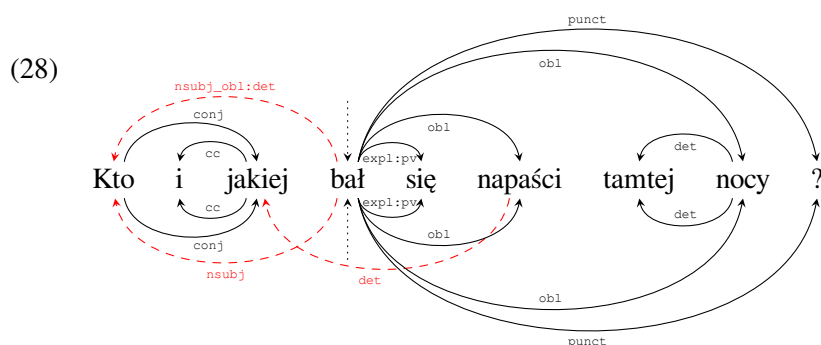


¹⁹For instance, assuming there are only instances of coordination with 2 conjuncts, each of which has a different grammatical function, this yields $n \times (n - 1)$ labels, where n is the number of basic grammatical functions. For 3 conjuncts, there would be $n \times (n - 1) \times (n - 2)$ labels, and so on.

However, it is clear that such a solution involving full dependency paths as (parts of) dependency labels would further aggravate the issue of the number and complexity of dependency labels.²⁰ Moreover, in some cases such dependency paths may still be insufficient, e.g. in the case of a predicate with two or more *obl* dependents such that a dependent of one them participates in lexico-semantic coordination, as in (27):

- (27) Kto i jakiej bał się napaści tamtej nocy? (Polish)
 who.NOM.M and what.ADJ.GEN.F feared.3.SG.M RM assault.GEN.F that.GEN.F night.GEN.F
 ‘Who feared what assault on that night?’

Here, both *napaści* ‘assault’ and *tamtej nocy* ‘that night’ are genitive obliques, so the *obl* part of the hypothetical *nsubj_obl:det* dependency from the root verb *bał (się)* ‘feared’ to *kto* ‘who’ – the hypothetical head of the lexico-semantic coordinate structure *kto i jakiej* ‘who.NOM.M and what.ADJ.GEN.F’ – is ambiguous between these two oblique dependents, as shown in (28). Moreover, agreement facts do not help in resolving this ambiguity, because both obliques are feminine, singular, genitive – just like the adjective *jakiej*.²¹



Hence, we prefer the representation in (24) to hypothetical alternatives shown in (25) and (26) – the proposed solution ensures simple and accurate representation of grammatical functions of coordinated dependents using the standard repertoire of dependency labels, even if coordinated items depend on different heads. This is achieved at the cost of not fully representing the lexico-semantic coordination at the basic level, which is however fully represented in enhanced dependencies.

4.3 Numeral Phrases: A Challenge for UD

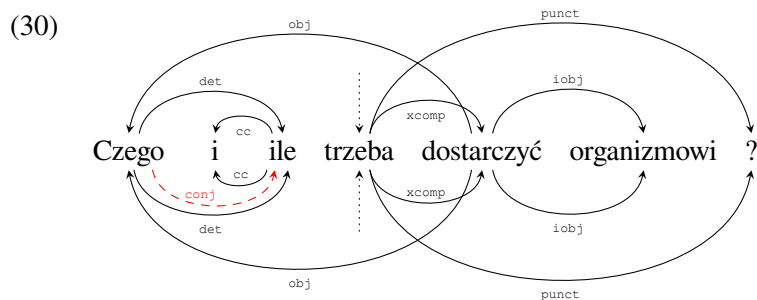
Let us now return to (17), repeated below for convenience as (29), which poses an interesting additional challenge to UD:

- (29) Czego i ile trzeba dostarczyć organizmowi? (Polish)
 what.GEN and how much.ACC should provide.INF organism.DAT
 ‘What – and how much – should one provide one’s organism with?’

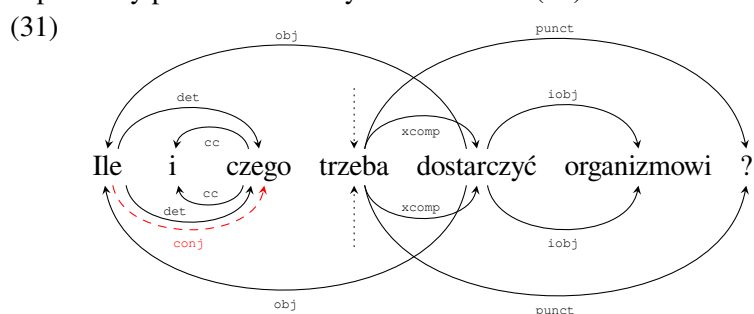
As mentioned above, in Polish – on the standard (non-UD) analysis – the numeral is the head (it receives case marking from the verb), while the accompanying noun is its dependent (it receives case from the numeral). However, following UD guidelines, this dependency relation is reversed: numerals are dependents of nominal heads, so the interrogative numeral *ile* ‘how much’ is a *det* dependent of *czego* ‘what.GEN’, which is in turn the direct object of *dostarczyć* ‘provide, supply’. One potential problem with the UD representation arises at the level of enhanced dependencies, where *ile* is also a *conj* dependent of *czego*; as shown in (30), there are two different equidirectional dependency relations between these two tokens: *det* and *conj*.

²⁰See Schuster et al., 2017, 130–131 for arguments against encoding paths in dependency labels in the context of the UD representation of gapping, the most important of which is that this would introduce an unbounded number of dependency relations.

²¹Though relations could be disambiguated by, for instance, adding indices, e.g. *obl1* and *obl2*, but this would further aggravate the problem of number and complexity of labels (resulting in *nsubj_obl1:det*, among others).

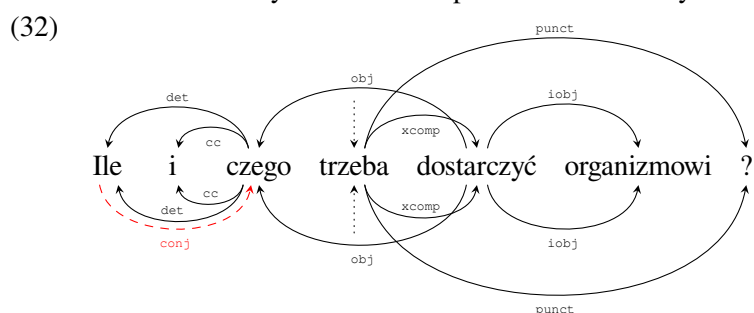


This problem arises regardless of which representation of lexico-semantic coordination – the one proposed here or the one arising from general UD guidelines – is chosen, because the enhanced representations are identical under both. Moreover, this problem is independent of the issue of headedness of Polish numeral phrases: if the UD analysis of numerals were reversed so that the numeral is the head and the noun is the dependent, the problem would resurface in examples such as (29) but with the order of conjuncts reversed (i.e. *Ile i czego trzeba dostarczyć organizmowi?* – also fully acceptable). This is illustrated in (31); the double dependency problem is exactly the same as in (30).



Rather, the problem stems directly from the UD representation of coordination, which requires that the second conjunct is a `conj` dependent of the first conjunct: if the second conjunct is independently a non-`conj` dependent of the first conjunct, the double dependency inevitably arises. Note that this is not a fundamental problem, as – while unmet in UD so far²² – such double dependencies in the enhanced representation do not seem to violate any deep UD principles, and they could be constrained by well-formedness conditions specifying which dependencies may co-occur this way.

Unfortunately, such constructions also present a more fundamental problem for the standard UD approach to coordination. Let us consider the representation of the sentence from (31) under the current proposal with the usual UD analysis of numeral phrases as headed by nouns:

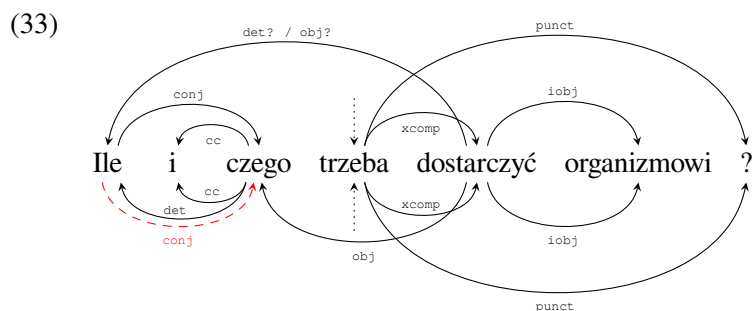


Unlike in (30), there is no problem of two equidirectional relations in (32), but the `det` edge targeting the first conjunct, *ile* ‘how much’, originates in the second conjunct, *czego* ‘what.GEN’, whose incoming edge originates in *dostarczyć* ‘provide, supply’. At the level of basic tree lexico-semantic coordination is not represented (there is no `conj` relation between conjuncts), so the tree is well-formed and does not violate any fundamental UD principles.²³

²²However, Przepiórkowski and Patejuk, 2019a discuss a phenomenon which also calls for lifting this ban: Polish particle *się* (sometimes called ‘reflexive marker’) may have more than one function with respect to the same verb, for instance inherent and impersonal, which also requires two different relations between the same tokens.

²³The `conj` relation is present in the enhanced representation, but this representation does not seem to violate any UD rules either: coordination is headed by the first conjunct, this first conjunct has its own a head (even if it is internal to coordination), and

However, an attempt to provide this example with a basic tree including the standard UD representation of coordination fails. Once *czego* is the `conj` dependent of *ile*, the dependency from the verb *dostarczyć* must target *ile*. But, if so, what should be the dependency label on this relation targeting the interrogative numeral? It cannot be `det`, as *ile* is a `det` dependent of *czego*, not of *dostarczyć*; verbs are not supposed to have `det` dependents at all. But it cannot be `obj` either, as this would mean that *ile* stands in the immediate `obj` relation to the verb, and *czego* perhaps does too, depending on the enhanced representation. As the enhanced representation does contain the secondary `obj` dependency from *dostarczyć* to *czego*, the `obj` label in the basic tree would in effect mean that the coordinate structure involves two conjuncts standing in the same `obj` relation to the verb, fully analogous to, for instance, *(Homer) likes donuts and burgers*. This problem is illustrated below.



So, while the enhanced representation in (33) is the same as in (32), there seems to be no good solution for the basic representation in (33), which assumes that lexico-semantic coordination is represented in the basic tree. Once this assumption is given up, a reasonable representation becomes available, namely, the representation (32) advocated in this paper.

5 Conclusion

In this paper, we presented constructions which violate the principle that only the same grammatical functions may be coordinated – to the best of our knowledge, this is the first comprehensive discussion of such constructions within any dependency framework.

We showed that the few existing suggestions of how lexico-semantic coordination may be analysed in dependency approaches cannot account for the complex data without running into serious problems. Instead, we proposed a UD analysis of such constructions, which represents the vital information about grammatical functions of particular conjuncts on both levels: in basic trees and in enhanced representations. A feature of this representation is that lexico-semantic coordination is fully represented only at the enhanced level, which makes it possible to precisely specify different grammatical functions at the basic level. While non-standard, we believe that – given the very non-standard nature of coordination of unlike grammatical functions – this is an advantage of the proposed representation.

We also demonstrated that the phenomenon of lexico-semantic coordination necessitates giving up the assumption that there is at most one dependency relation from one token to another. (However, on our proposal, such double dependencies only occur at the enhanced level of representation, so they do not violate any deep UD principles.)

We hope that the above considerations will inspire other dependency work on the fascinating topic of coordination of unlike grammatical functions.

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the `obj` edge to the second conjunct is secondary in a sense (it does not indicate the head of coordination).

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