

Ling 566
Oct 25, 2012
Lexical Rules

Overview

- How lexical rules fit in
- Three types of lexical rules, constraints
- Example: Plural noun lexical rule
- Advice on writing lexical rules
- Constant lexemes
- ARG-ST & ARP
- The feature FORM

Lexical Types & Lexical Rules

- Lexemes capture the similarities among *run*, *runs*, *running*, and *ran*
- The lexical type hierarchy captures the similarities among *run*, *sleep*, and *laugh*, among those and other verbs like *devour* and *hand*, and among those and other words like *book*.
- Lexical rules capture the similarities among *runs*, *sleeps*, *devours*, *hands*, ...

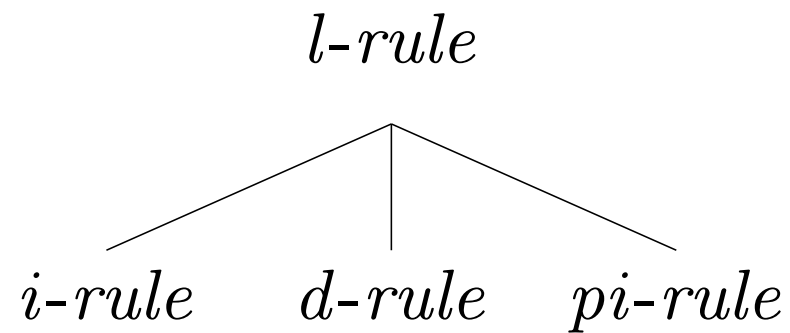
Parsimony & Plausibility

- Lexical rules capture **productive** generalizations.
- There may be some ‘precompiling’ going on as well.

Three Kinds of Lexical Rules

- Inflectional: *lexeme to word*
Examples?
- Derivational: *lexeme to lexeme*
Examples?
- Post-Inflectional: *word to word*
(Chapters 11, 13, 14)

Three Subtypes of *l-rule*

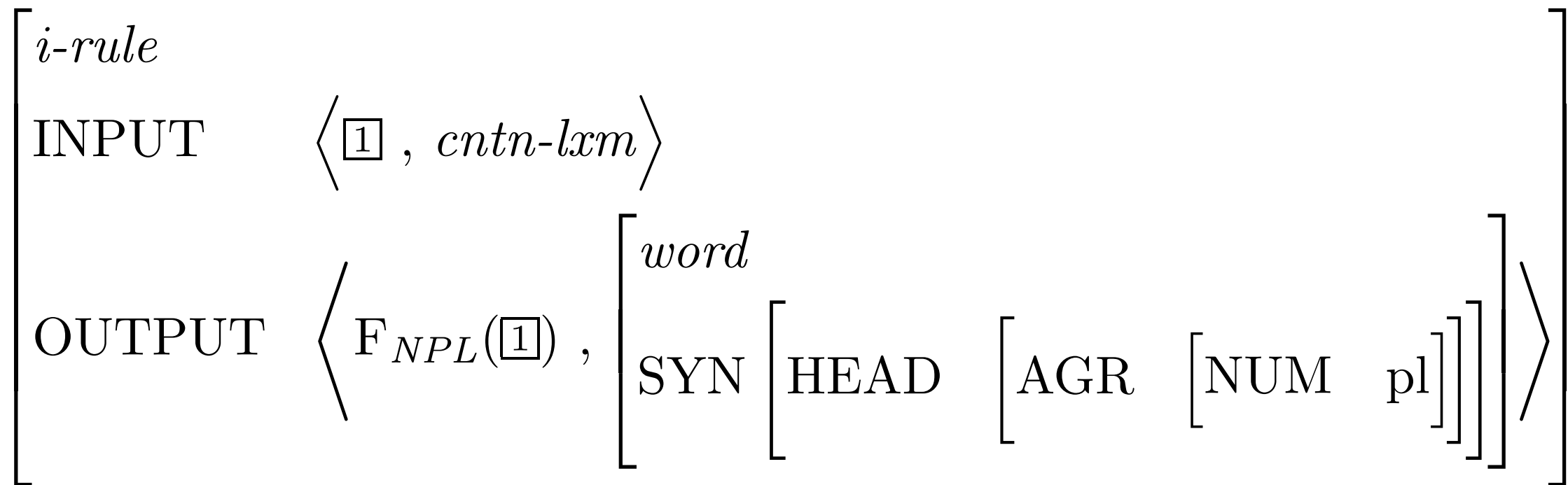


$$l\text{-rule} : \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{INPUT} \quad l\text{-sequence} \left\langle X, [\text{SEM} \quad / \boxed{2}] \right\rangle \\ \text{OUTPUT} \quad l\text{-sequence} \left\langle Y, [\text{SEM} \quad / \boxed{2}] \right\rangle \end{array} \right]$$

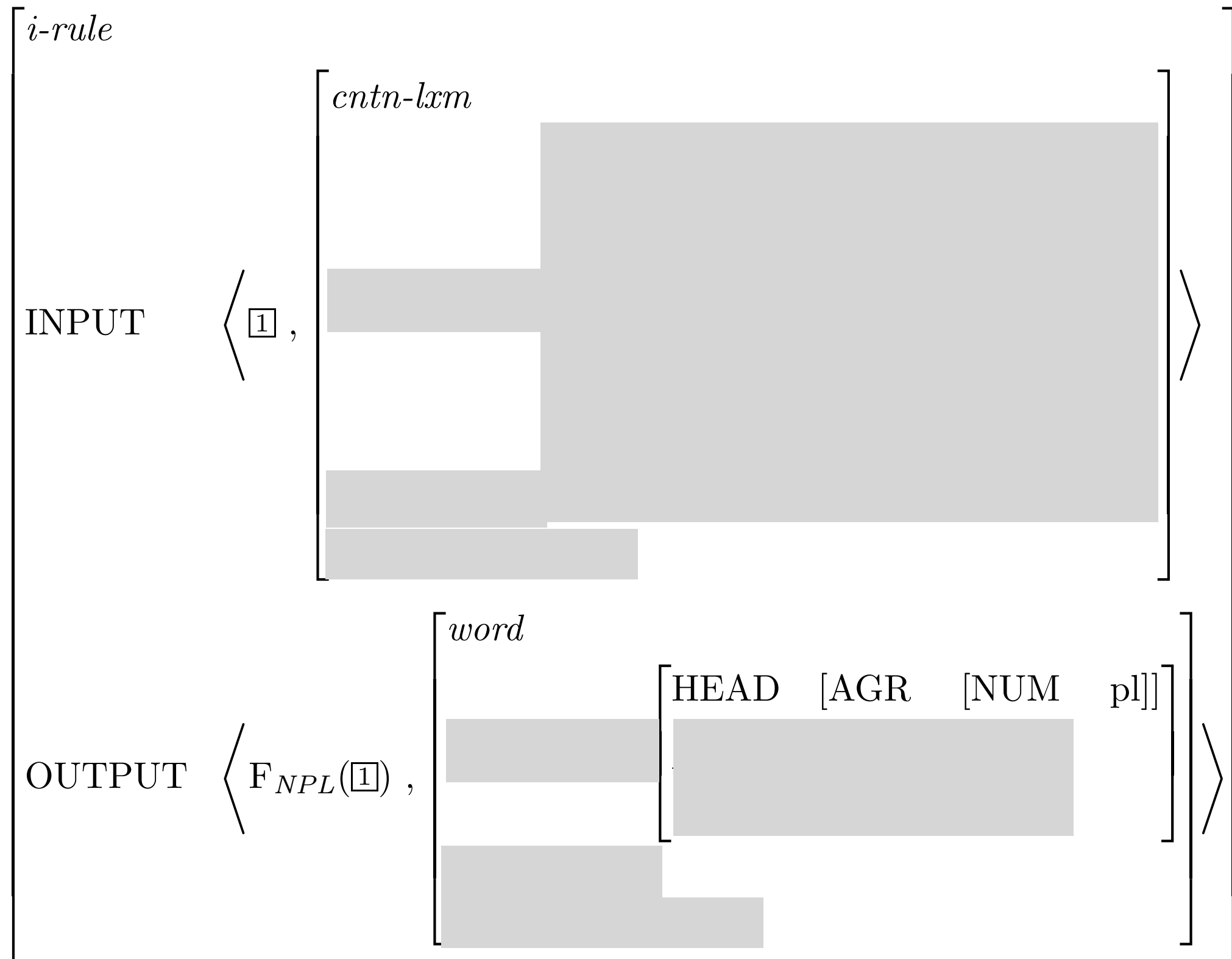
$$i\text{-rule} : \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{INPUT} \quad \left\langle X, \left[\begin{array}{l} \textit{lexeme} \\ \text{SYN} \quad \boxed{3} \\ \text{ARG-ST} \quad \boxed{A} \end{array} \right] \right\rangle \\ \text{OUTPUT} \quad \left\langle Y, \left[\begin{array}{l} \textit{word} \\ \text{SYN} \quad \boxed{3} \\ \text{ARG-ST} \quad \boxed{A} \end{array} \right] \right\rangle \end{array} \right]$$

$$d\text{-rule} : \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{INPUT} \quad \left\langle X, \left[\begin{array}{l} \textit{lexeme} \\ \text{SYN} \quad / \boxed{3} \end{array} \right] \right\rangle \\ \text{OUTPUT} \quad \left\langle Y, \left[\begin{array}{l} \textit{lexeme} \\ \text{SYN} \quad / \boxed{3} \end{array} \right] \right\rangle \end{array} \right]$$

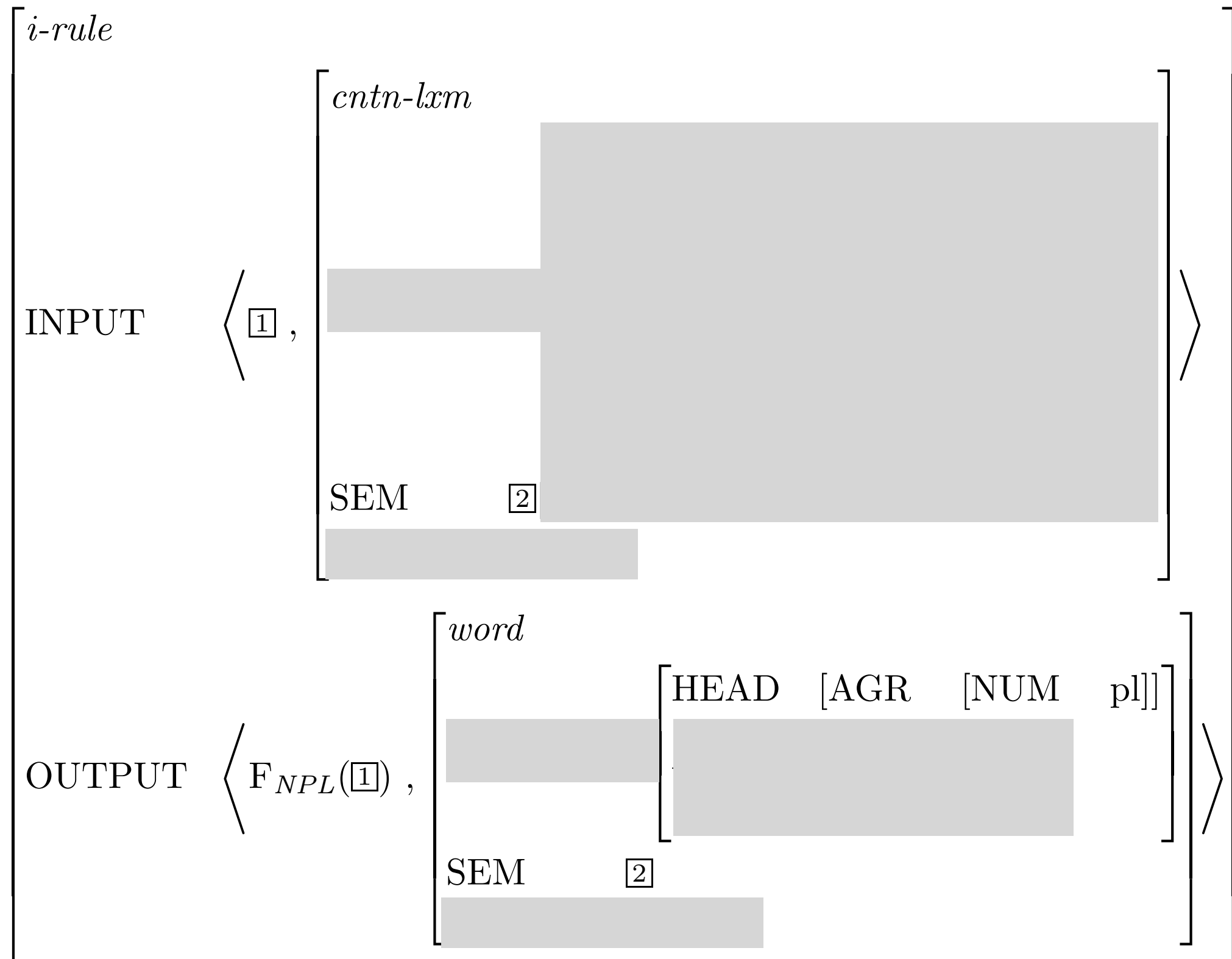
Plural Noun LR



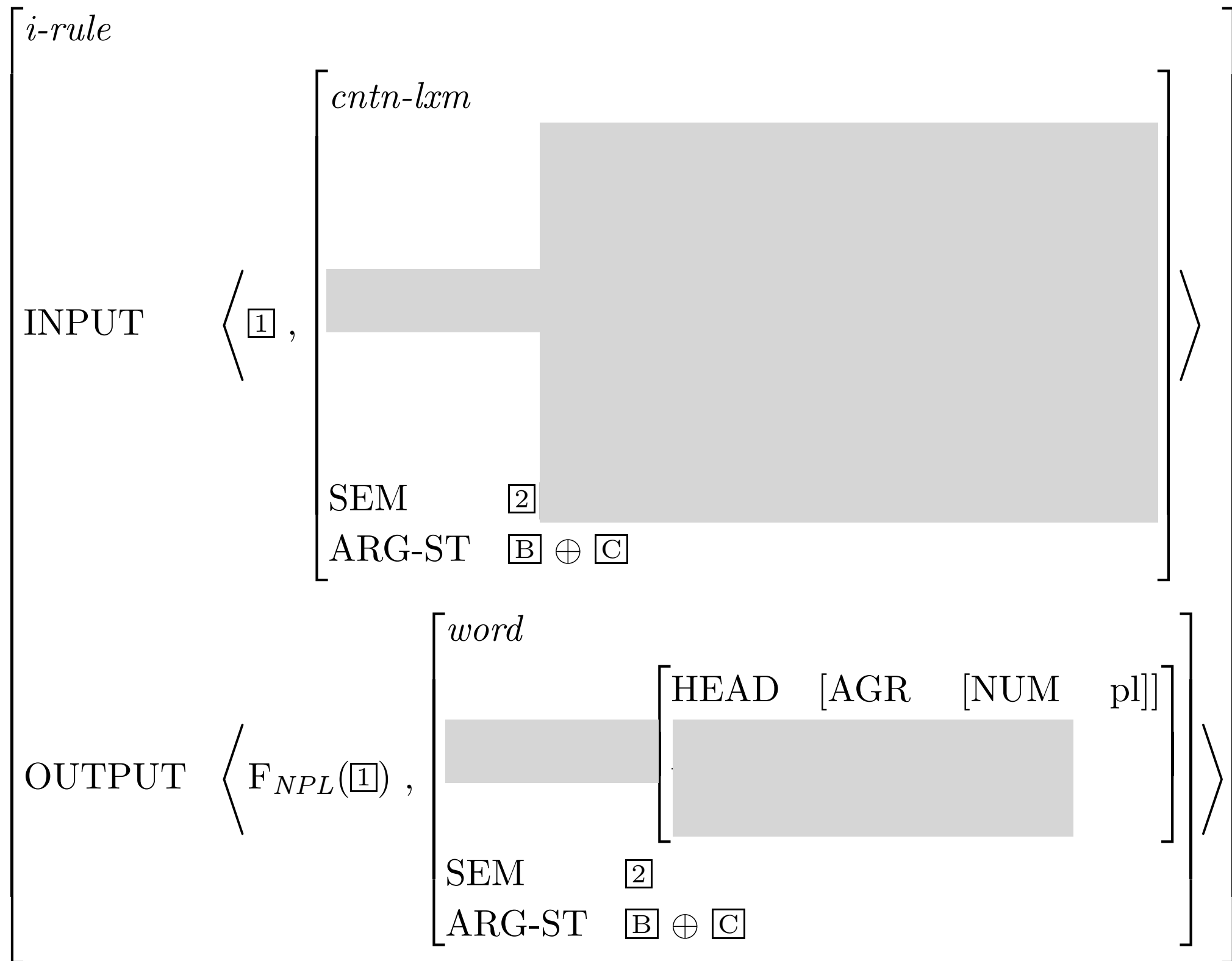
Plural Noun LR with Inherited Constraints



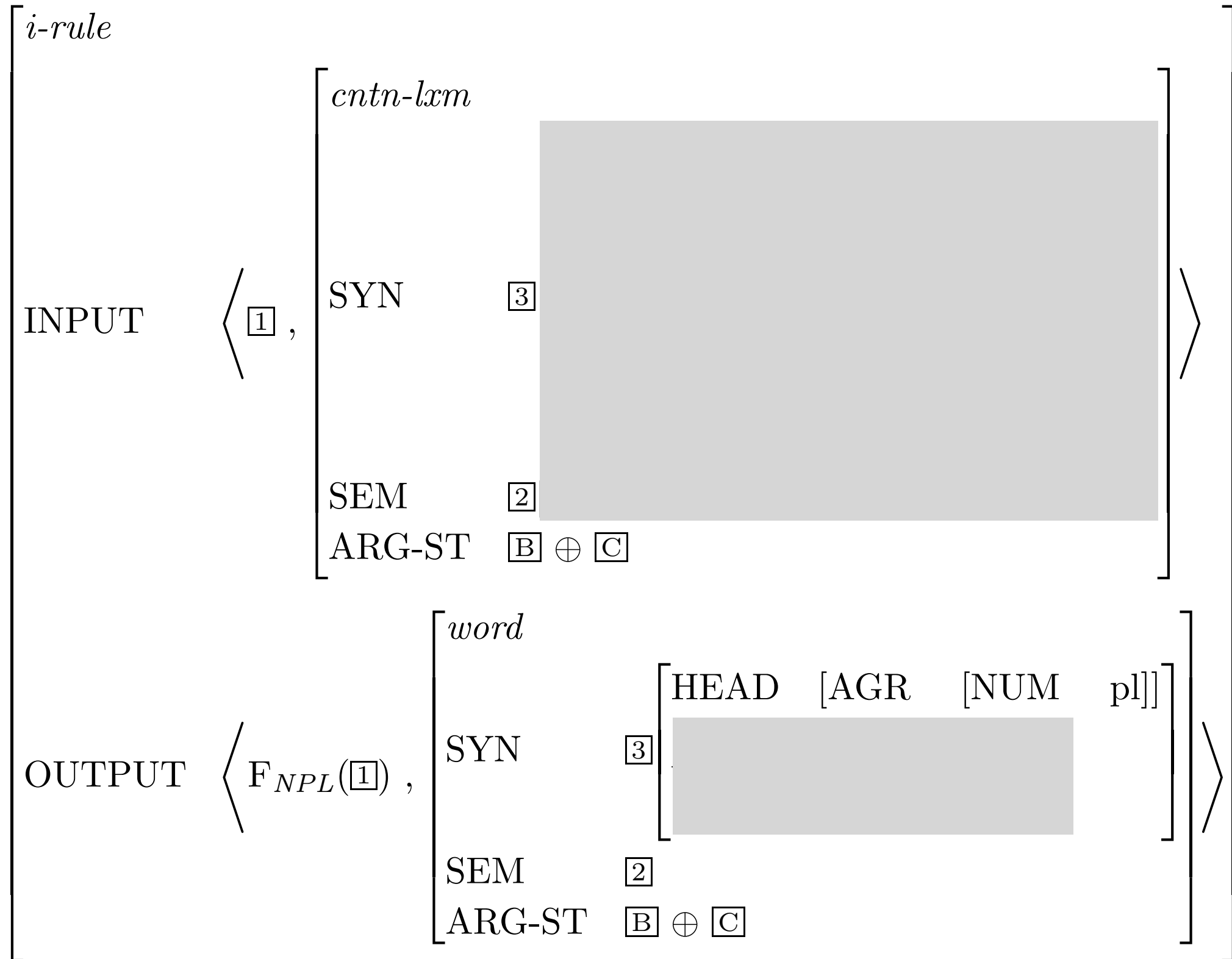
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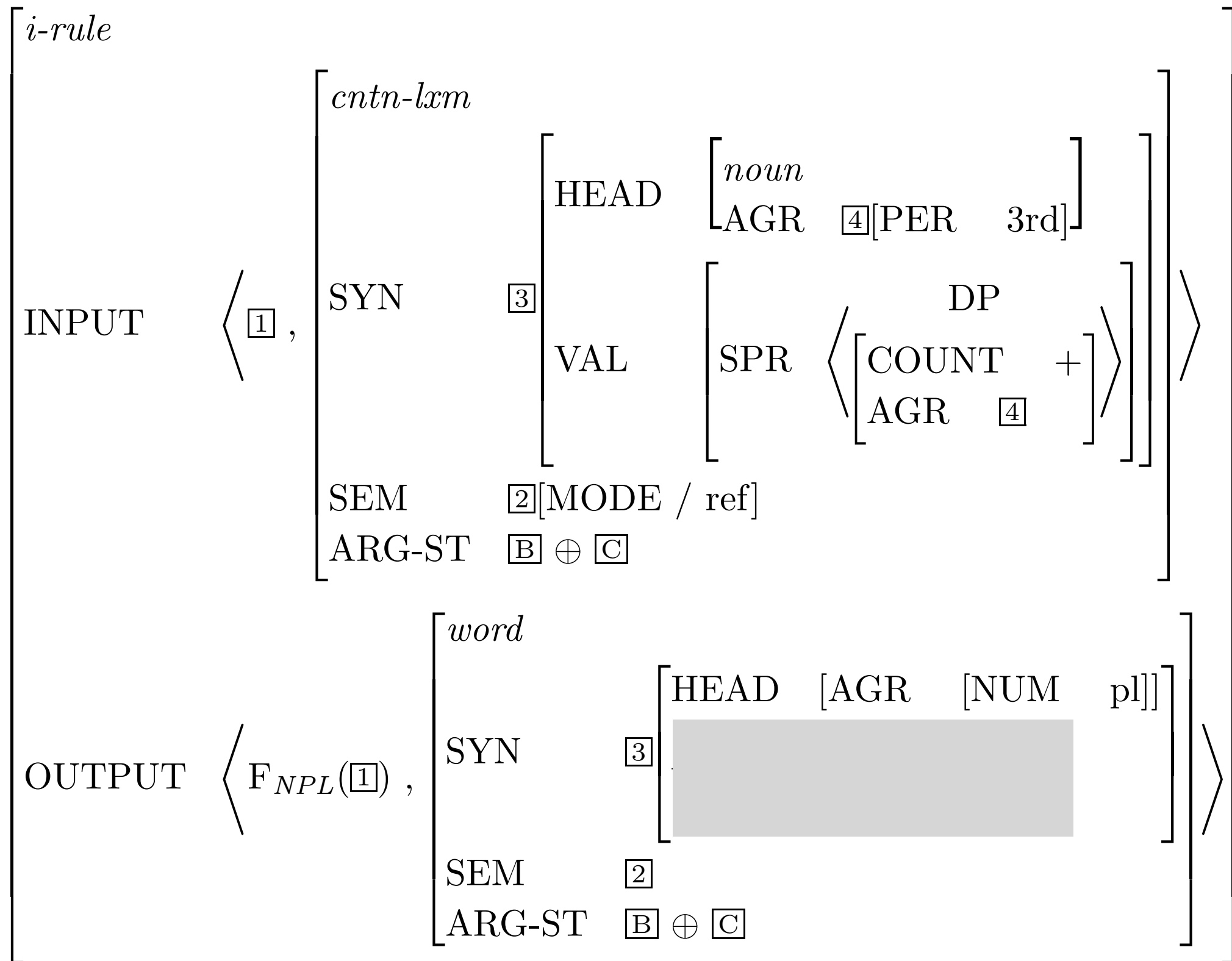
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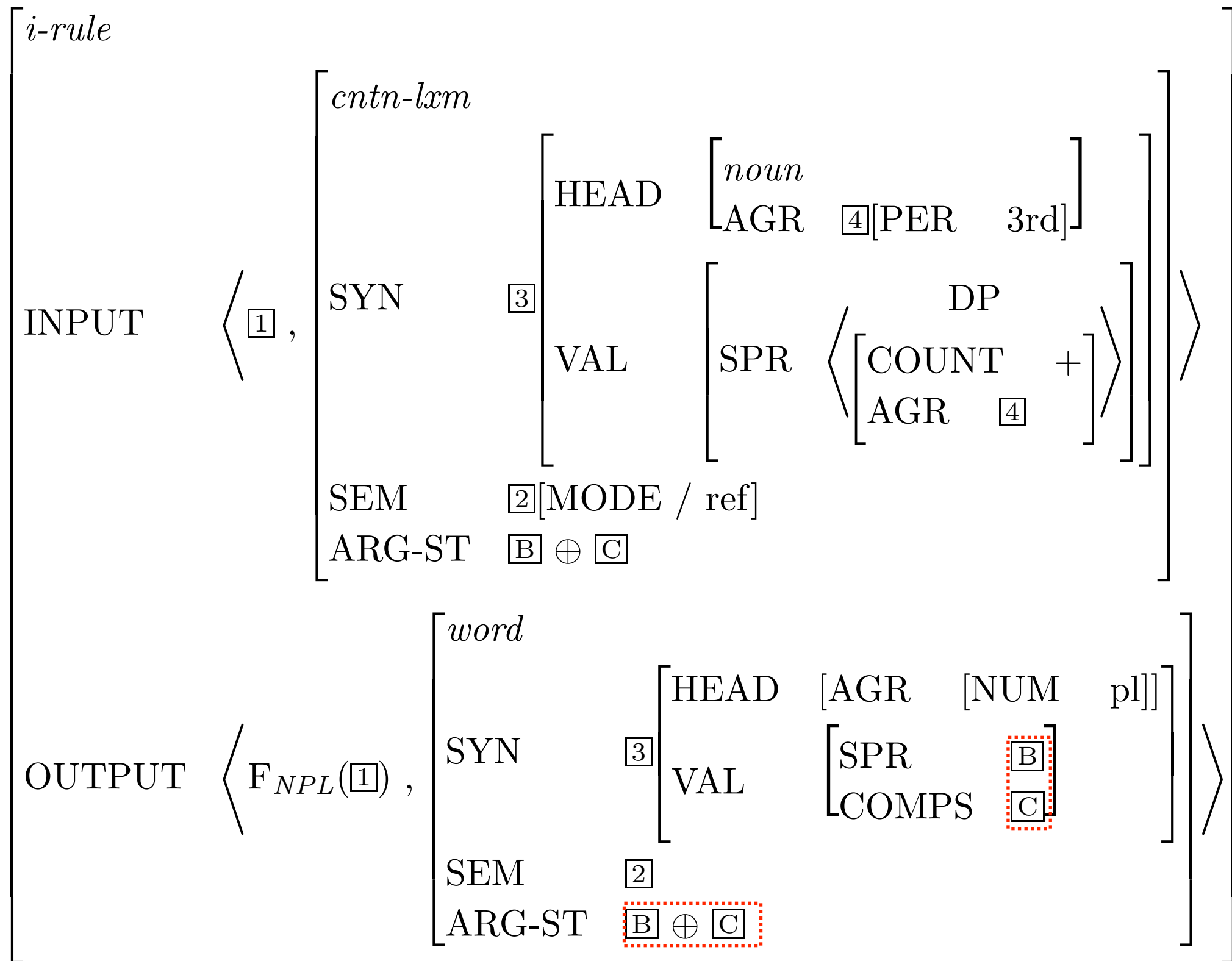
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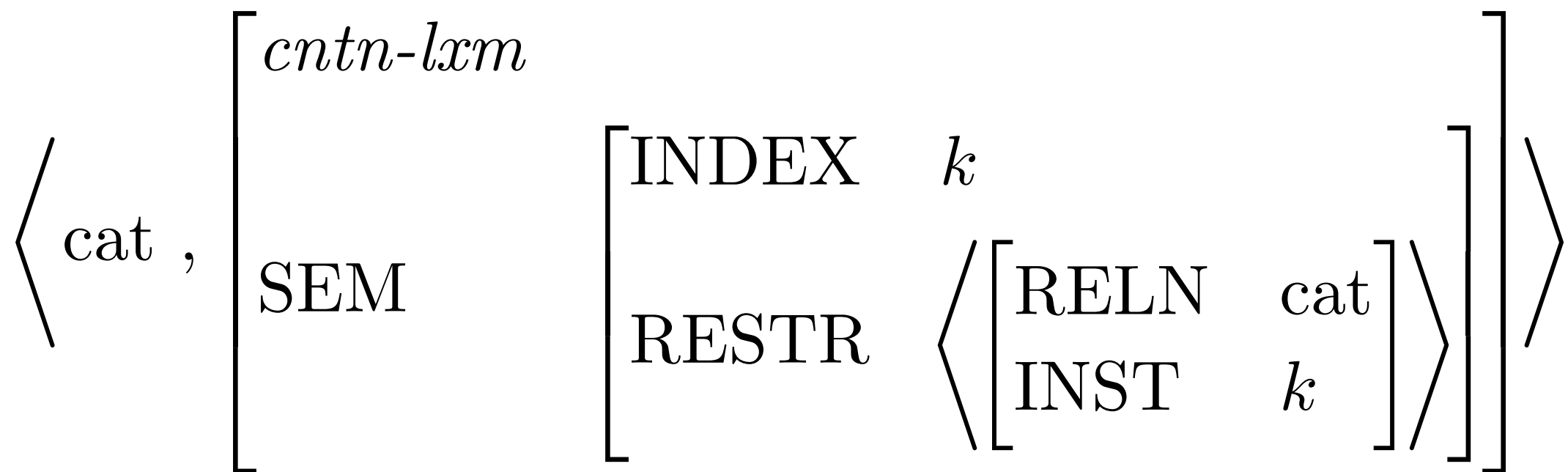
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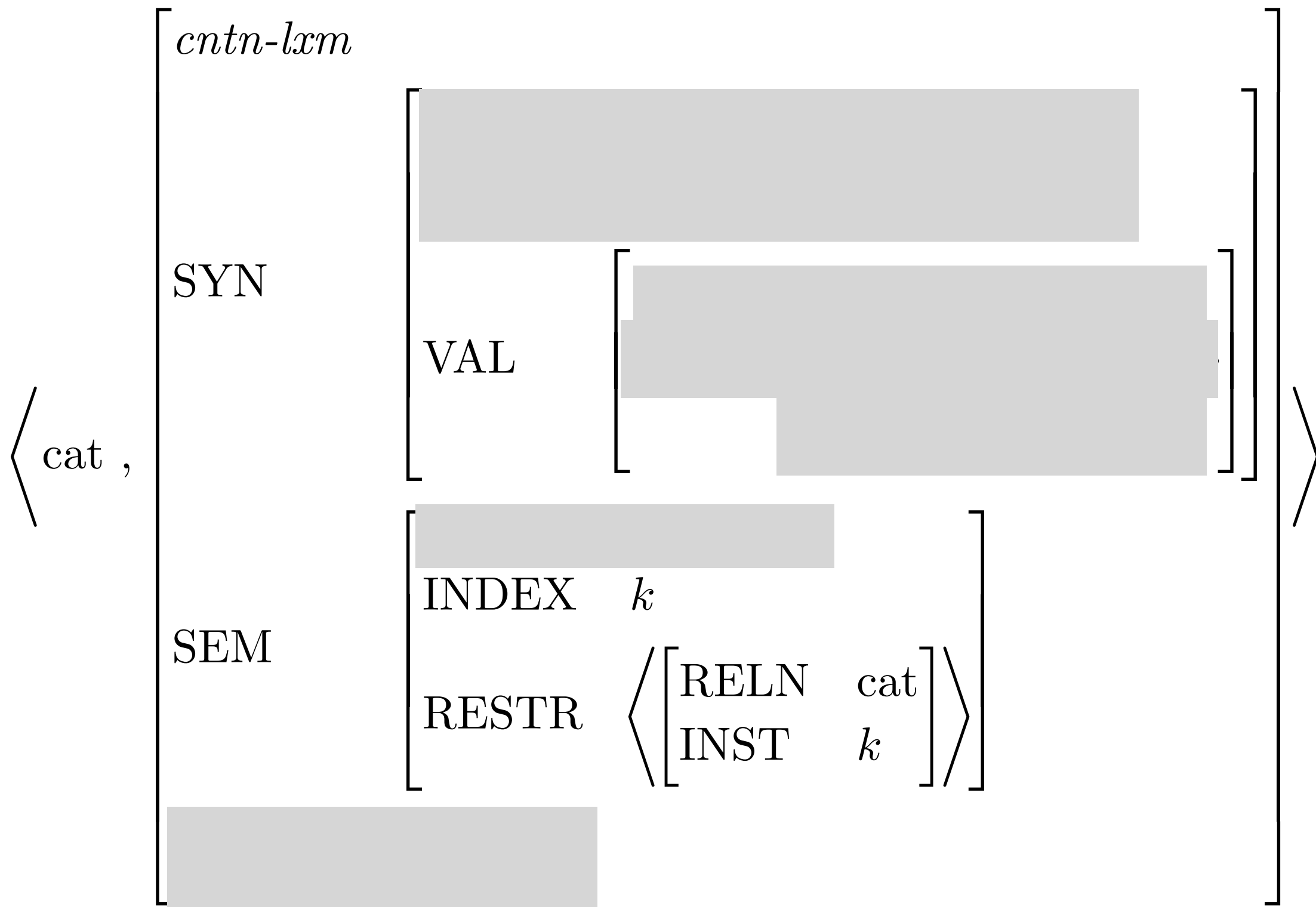
Practicalities - Applying Lexical Rules

- INPUT is a family of lexical sequences.
- OUTPUT is another family of lexical sequences.
 - ...usually a smaller family
 - ...usually a disjoint one
- The only differences between the families are those stipulated in the rule (or the rule's type).
- Similarities are handled by the constraints on *l-rule* and its subtypes.
- If we've written the LRs correctly, nothing is left underconstrained.

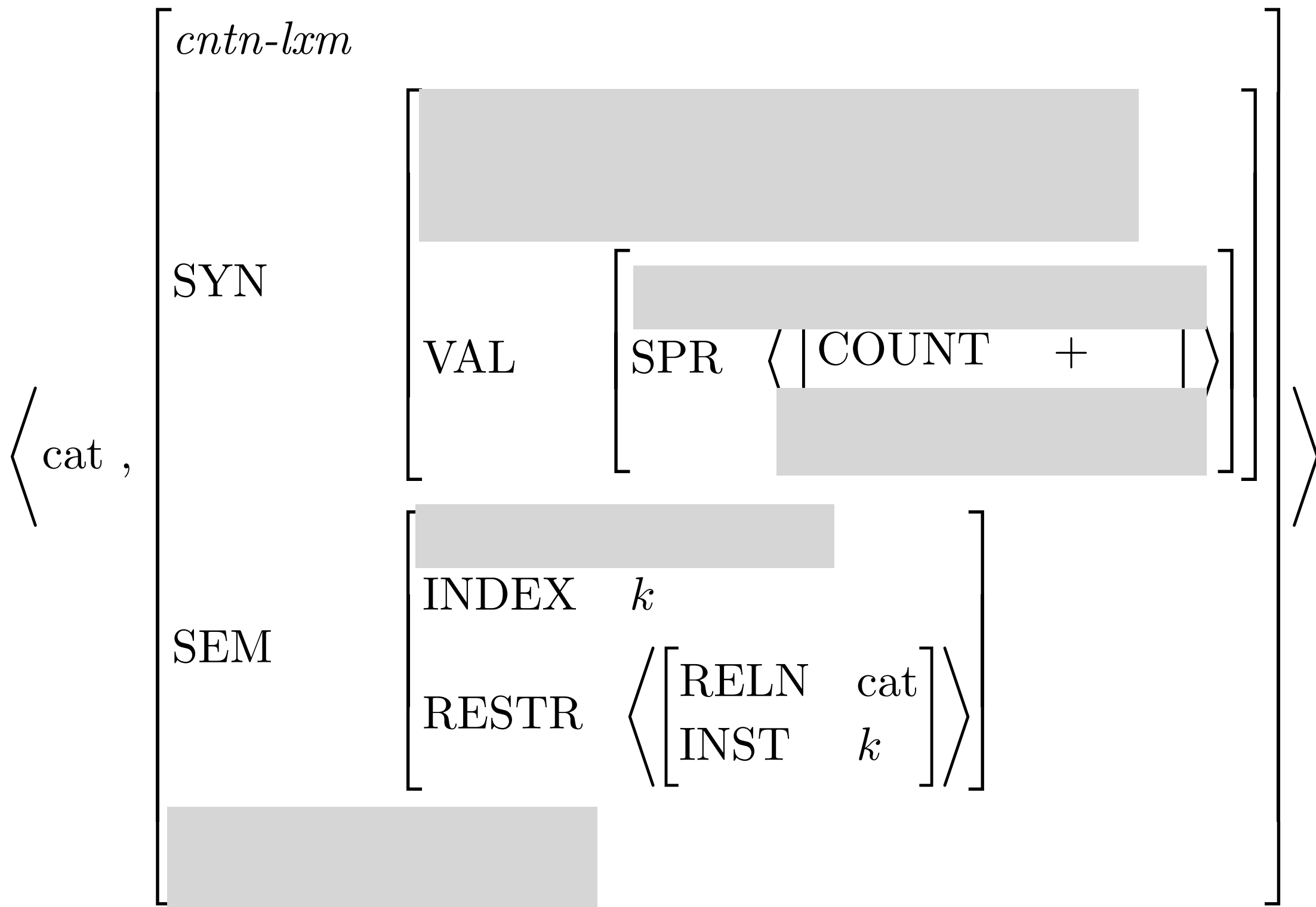
Example: Lexical Entry for *cat*



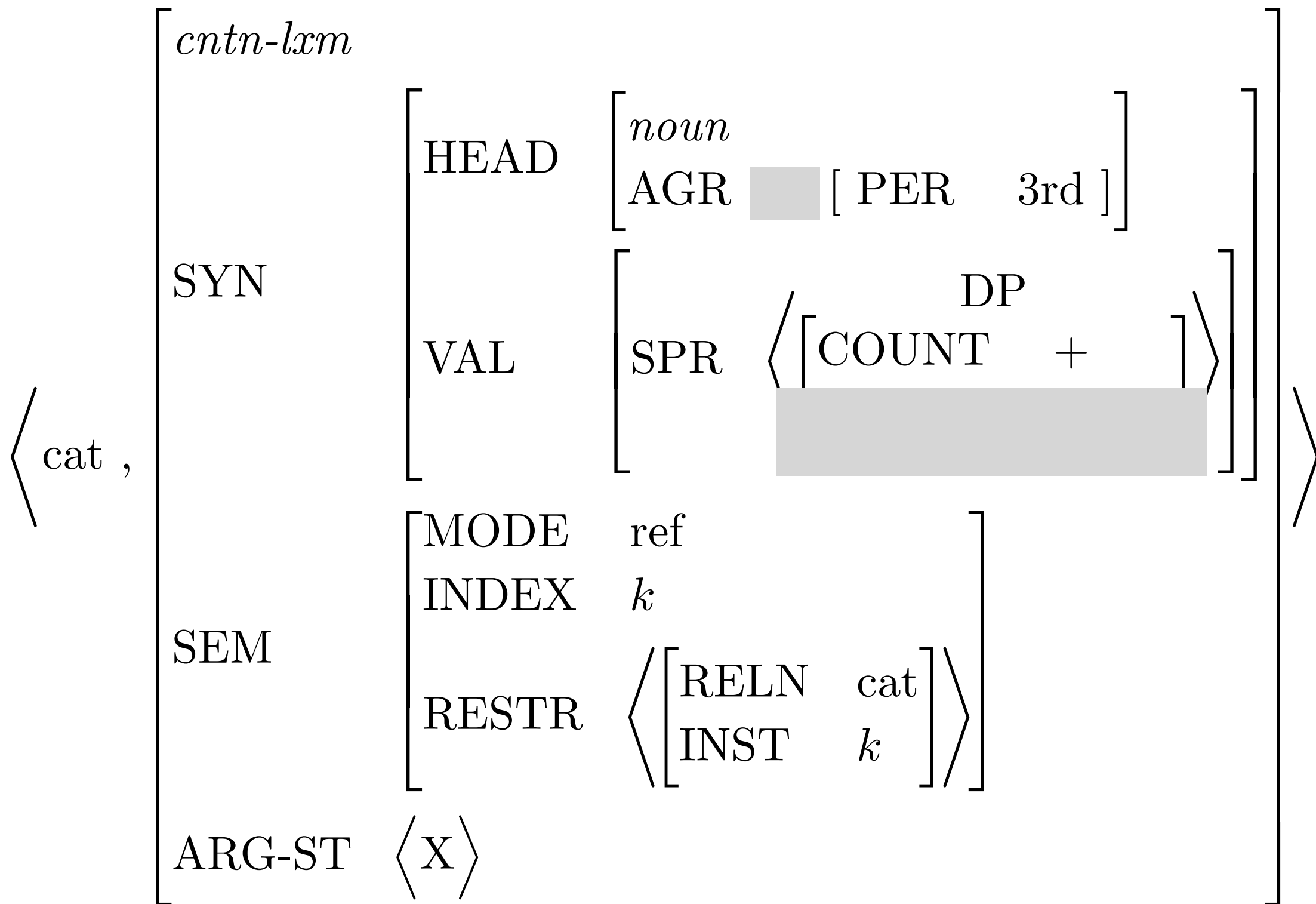
Example: *cat*, with inheritance



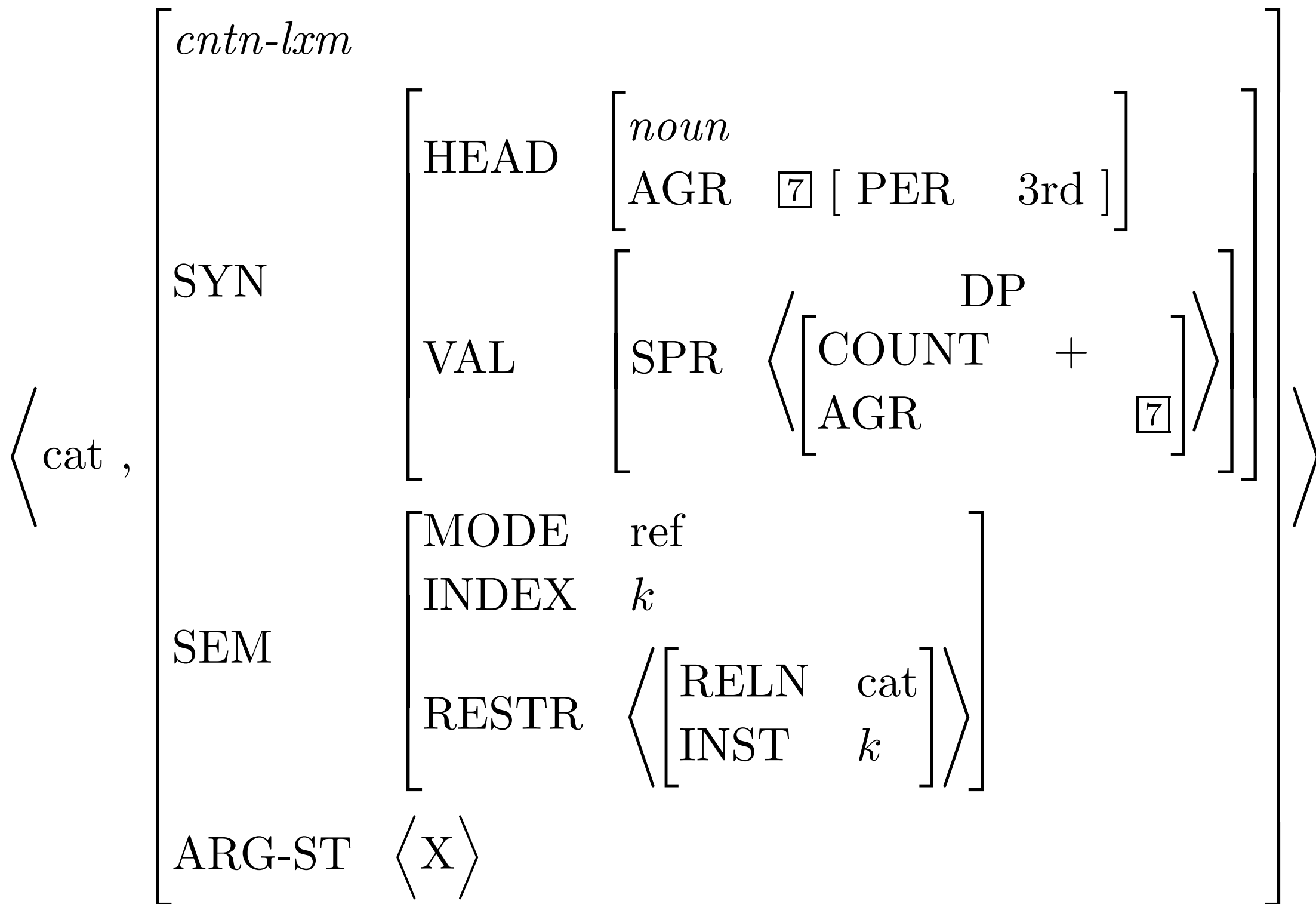
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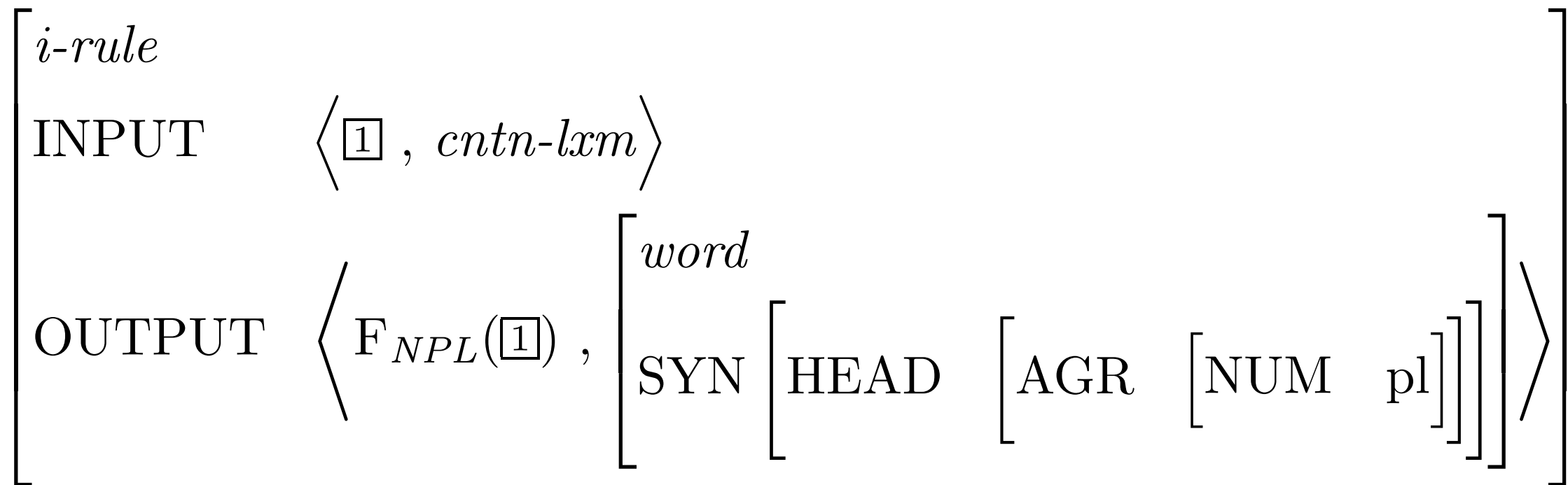
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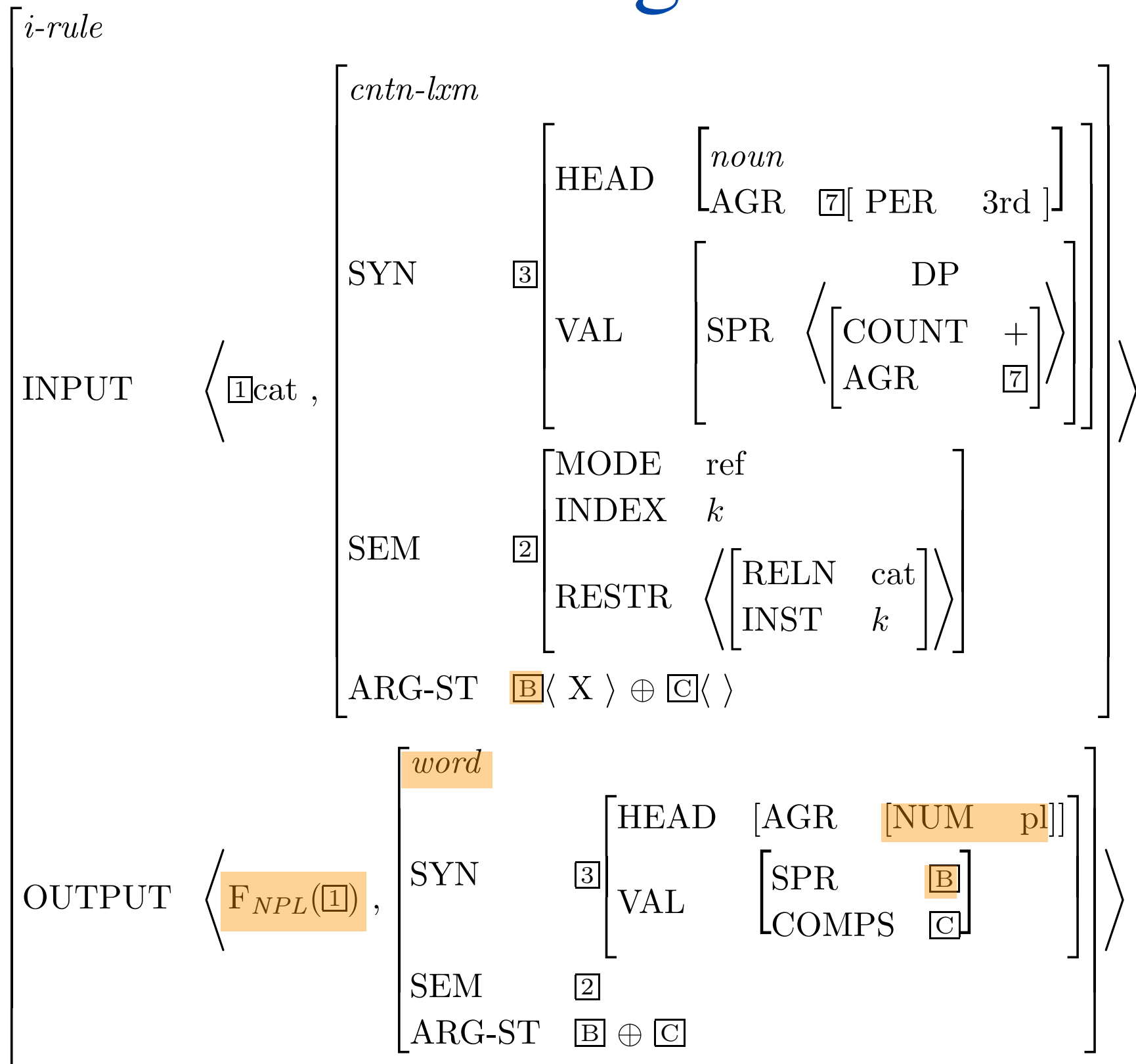
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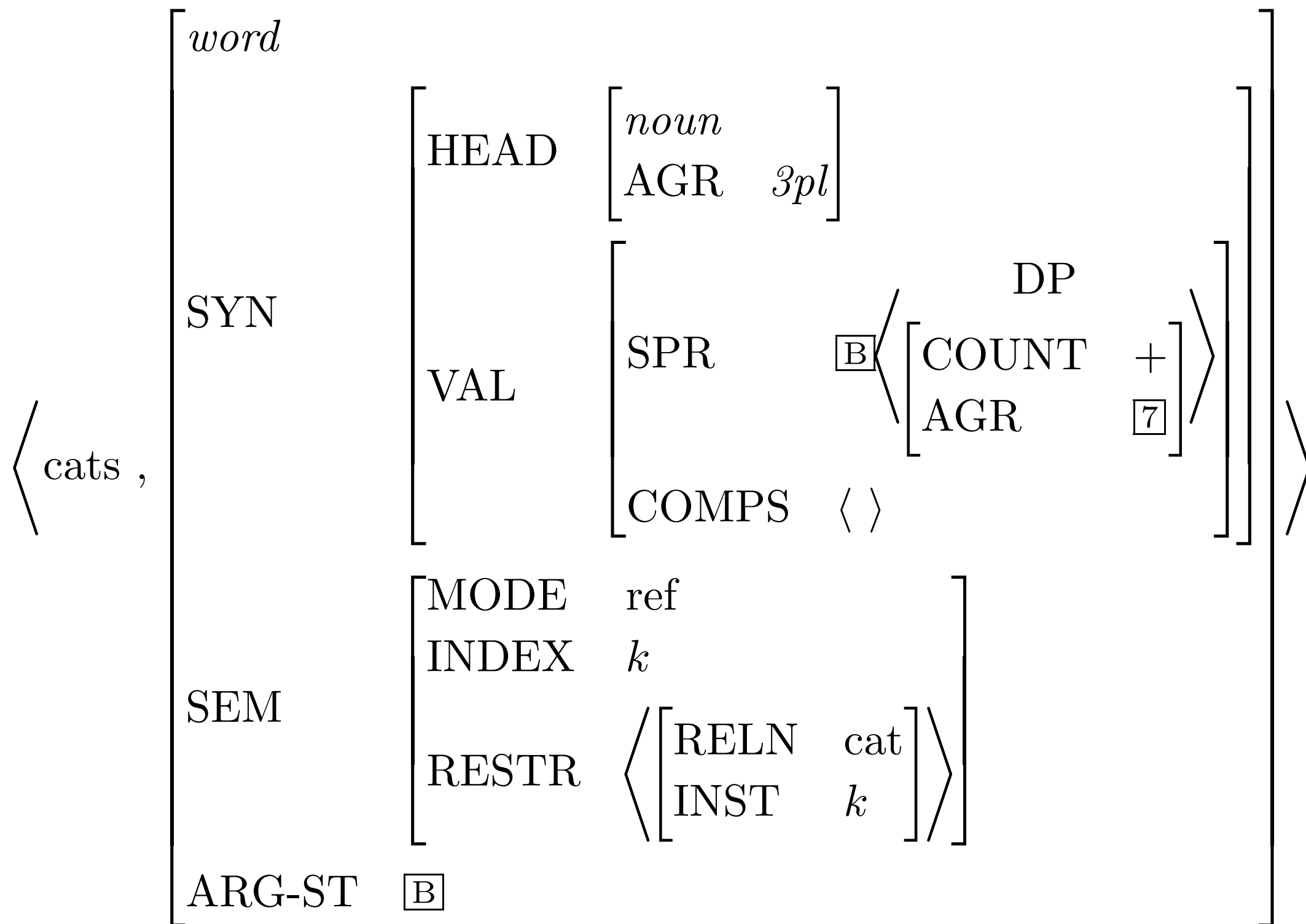
Plural Noun LR



Licensing *cats*



cats: The Lexical Sequence



Practicalities -- Writing Lexical Rules

- Determine the type of the LR.
- Determine the class of possible inputs.
- Determine what should change.
 - If INPUT and OUTPUT values are identified (by default or otherwise) and only OUTPUT value is mentioned, then...
information is added.

(Lexical sequences incompatible with that value are not possible inputs)
 - If INPUT and OUTPUT values are identified by default, but different values are given on the INPUT and OUTPUT of the rule, then...
information is changed.
 - If INPUT and OUTPUT values are identified by an inviolable constraint, but different values are given on the INPUT and OUTPUT of the rule, then...
there is no well-formed output

Constant lexemes

- What kinds of words are constant lexemes in our grammar?
- Why do we need a rule for these words?
- What would be an alternative analysis?

Constant Lexeme LR

$$\left[\begin{array}{l} i\text{-rule} \\ \text{INPUT} \quad \langle \boxed{1}, \text{const-lxm} \rangle \\ \text{OUTPUT} \quad \left[\text{FIRST} \quad \boxed{1} \right] \end{array} \right]$$

- What keeps this from applying to, say, verb lexemes?
- Why is this an *i-rule*?

ARG-ST & ARP

- Given the ARP, what do we need to specify about the valence properties of words?
- Why isn't the ARP a constraint on the type *lexeme*?

The Feature FORM

- Different inflected forms of verbs show up in different syntactic environments. Examples?
- These different forms are syntactically distinguished by the feature FORM, as assigned by lexical rules.
- FORM is also useful in our analyses of coordination and PP selection.

What rules these out?

- *Kim eat pizza.
- *Kim seems to eats pizza.
- *Dana helped Leslie [pack and moved].
- *Kim relies for Sandy.
- *Dana walked and Kim.

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Reading Questions

- Why doesn't this lexical sequence give rise to any words?

<i>cntrn-lxm</i>																					
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Reading Questions

- How does the l-rule subhierarchy fit into the larger hierarchy?
- Any harm in looking at INPUT/OUTPUT as procedural? (changing rather than relating)
- In i-rules what's actually enforcing the identity of SYN values between INPUT and OUTPUT?

Reading Questions

- Are morphological functions "functions" in the mathematical sense?
- Why don't we give the details of them?
- What do they look like formally? Can they be conceptualized as constraints?
- How are they handled in the ERG?
- What does "morphological change" mean when we say that zero derivation doesn't involve any?

Reading Questions

- Can we say that syntactic structure dictates which l-rules are used?
- When do we apply lexical rules?
- What is the 'family of lexical sequences' for dog? For eat?
- How do we group lexical sequences into families?

Reading Questions

- Could we use FORM for CASE?
- Are nouns/adjectives ever going to have values other than nform/aform?
- What does it mean for a verb to be finite?
In *I may have read the book*, which verb is finite? Which verb is the head?
- How do we handle plurals of mass nouns?
(I'll take three waters.)

Reading Questions

- Where do lexical exceptions like the one below come from, and how do we model them?

Jan gave Dale a book

Jan gave a book to Dale

**Kris donated the library a book*

Kris donated a book to the library

- How does the agent nominalization LR change the MODE without mentioning it?

Reading Questions

- How do we decide what to model with a lexical rule v. what to model with a grammar rule? What about N-N compounds?
- How do lexical rules relate to transformations?
- Will we use feature structures the way we're using them for lexical rules elsewhere, too?

Reading Questions

- Is it only in the use of [FORM fin] to add FORM feature to initial symbol S? The HFP also hold for other cases where [FORM prplpsplpass], therefore, isn't it true for those cases?
- Why do we want FORM to be a HEAD feature?
- Does our coordination rule handle *Kim likes singing and dancing.?*

Reading Questions

- If the initial symbol is now [FORM fin], how do we handle imperatives?
- What about *Sandy walks*? It consists of an NP and a VP. How does it form something that matches the initial symbol?
- Often different forms of a verb can have the same orthography (past participle and passive are often the same for example). Given a sentence we want to parse, how can we tell which form is correct?