

The syntactic tags

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1 Grammatical function tags

Our syntactic tags (grammatical function tags like @SUBJ>, @OBJ>, etc.) are based upon a compromise between the Sámi grammatical tradition and the conventions used within constraint grammar (CG), e.g. as found in [the visl project](#) for interactive syntax learning. The main difference between the two is that CG is a linear system, where tags are given to wordforms, and not to phrases. Thus, in a sentence like the Sámi equivalent of *Peter's dog barks* only the word *dog* will get the tag @SUBJ>. The word *Peter's* gets the tag @>N, or "modifying a noun to its right". It is then up to the reader (or to further computer processing) to interpret the combination of @>N and @SUBJ> as a phrase.

The arrow in a syntactic tag points at the "parent", which means that the tag tells which kind of part of speech (N, A, P, Pron or Num) or syntactic constituent (like ADVL) the wordform modifies or is a complement to, and whether the "parent" is to the left of to the right.

Note that all syntactic tags are identified by an initial @ symbol, to distinguish them from morphological tags, which do not have such a prefix. In the analysis, the syntactic tags are printed at the end of the tag string.

2 The syntactic tags for Sámi

The Sámi disambiguation file `sme-dis.rle` adds syntactic tags to each cohort.

2.1 The verb tags

- @+FAUXV @+FMAINV @-FAUXV @-FMAINV

These tags are self-explanatory: there are finite and infinite main and auxiliary verbs.

2.2 The major function tags

- @<SUBJ @SUBJ> @<SPRED @SPRED> @<OBJ @OBJ> @<OPRED @OPRED>

The four main functions for subject, object and their predicatives are obvious.

- @-FSUBJ> @-FOBJ> @-F<OBJ

These are tags for the same functions of infinite verbs outside the verbal: *mu* gets @-FSUBJ> in *Diet dáhpáhuvai mu die#ikeahtá* (the infinite verb gets @<ADVL) and *girjji* gets @-F<OBJ in *Munnje lei lossat lohkat girjji*. (the infinite verb gets @<SPRED).

2.3 The adverbial tags

- @ADVL @-FADVL @HAB
- @PCLE @COMPL-CS<
- @P< @>P
- @ADVL< @>ADVL

The @ADVL tag marks adverbials (many, but not all of the adverbials are adverbs). The adverbial of an infinite verb outside the verbal gets @-FADVL. The @HAB tag marks the habitative construction.

The @PCLE tag marks particles, and the @COMPL-CS< tag is for the complement of a @CS.

The two tags @>P and @P< are for complements of post- and prepositions, respectively.

The two tags @>ADVL and @ADVL< modify the adverbial to the right, or is a complement of the adverbial to the left, respectively.

2.4 The NP-internal modifiers

The other syntactic tags for modifiers tell which word they modify, and whether they modify to the left or to the right.

- @>N @>A @>Num
- @Pron< @N< @Num<

The morphological tag will tell what kind of part of speech the constituent itself is.

The @Pron< tag is for eg. numerals modifying pronouns to their left, like in *Mii golmmas finaimet máná geah#en*.

The @Num< tag is for complements of numerals, like *máná* in *Sudnos leat golbma máná*.

2.5 Appositions

- @APP-N< @APP-Pron< @APP-Num< @APP-ADVL<
- @APP>Pron

The apposition tag marks whether it is an apposition of a noun, a pronoun, a numeral or an adverbial.

2.6 The function words

- @CNP @CVP

Conjunction between NPs and VPs.

2.7 Sentence-external tags

- @HNOUN @INTERJ @VOC

Stray noun in sentence fragment, interjection and vocative.

2.8 The @X tag

- @X

An @X tag is assigned to mark that no tag has been assigned (because of omissions in our rule component)

3 The tags, listed alphabetically

Here is a list of the tags, with a definition or description, and one or more examples following each of them

@>A

Modifier of an adjective to the left.

nu (Adv)

Gulahallan Sámedikkiin dán gažaldagas šaddá nu konkrehtalažžan go vejolaš.
- 'The discussion in the Sámi Parliament about this issue gets as concrete as possible.'

@A<

Modifier of an adjective to the right.

básárdoaluin (N)

IL Nordlysa beaivválaš jo#iheadji, Nils Peder Eriksen, lohká iežaset leat oalle duhtava##at dán jagáš básárdoaluin. - 'The business manager of IL Nordlys, Nils Peder Eriksen, says he is really satisfied with this year's bazar arrangement.'

@ADV L

Sentence adverbial.

dál (Adv)

Dál lea Bireha vuorru. - 'It is Biret's turn now.'

@>ADV L

Modifier of an adverbial.

Man (Pron)

Man dávjá don lávet fitnat doppe? - 'How often do you usually go there?'

@<ADV L

adverbial to the right of the finite verb

beaivvážis (N)

Gávpot ii dárbbas #uovgga beaivvážis ii ge mánus. - 'The city does not need light from the sun and not the from the moon either.'

@ADV L<

Complement of an adverbial to the right of its head.

vahkus (N)

Mun málestan guktii vahkus. - 'I make food twice a week.'

@ADV L>

Adverbial to the left of the finite verb.

lasttain (N)

Ja muora lasttain ožžot álbmogat dearvvašvuo#a. - 'And from the tree's leaves, the people get health.'

@ADV L>CS

adverbial modifying a conjunction

dallah (Adv)

*Dallah goh Jeesuse tjaetseste tjuedtjele, dellie vuajna Elmie rihpesávva jih
Voekene altasasse goh ledtie suaja. - 'Right after Jesus stood up from the water,
he sees that heaven opens and the holy spirit flies to him like a bird.'*

(sma)

@APP-ADVL<

Apposition to an adverbial to the left. If the apposition consists of more than one word, the head will get this tag.

ovdal (Pr)

*Dolin, ovdal soa#i, olbmot lávejedje vuovdit jo#aíd. - 'In old times, before the
war, people used to sell cowberries.'*

@APP-N<

Apposition to a noun to the left of it. If the apposition is more than one word, the head will get this tag.

eatnigiela (N)

*Viimmat mun ohppen #állit sámegiela, mu eatnigiela. - 'Finally, I learned to write
in Sámi, my mother tongue.'*

@APP-Num<

Apposition to a numeral to the left.

suinniid (N)

*Juohke heasta borrá sullii 6 kilu suinniid beaivái. - 'Every horse eats
approximately 6 kilograms of grass a day.'*

@APP>Pron

Apposition to a pronoun to the right. If the apposition is more than one constituent, the head will get this tag.

Turner (N Prop)

*Muhto diet Will Turner, son nai lea fiinna olmmái. - 'But this Will Turner, he is
also a nice guy.'*

@APP-Pron<

Apposition to a pronoun to the left. If the apposition is more than one constituent, the head will get this tag.

olbmái (N)

*Dan mun muitalan dušše dutnje, mu buoremus olbmái. - 'This I tell only you, my
best friend.'*

@CMPND

First part of a compound followed by a hyphen

skaehtie-

*Reerenasse galka bætije stoerredigkieboelhkesne jâerhkedh dam skaehtie- jih
âasadaltesem mij lea daelie, jih daennie daltesisnie hov lea nuepie buerebe
joekedimmiem darjodh.*

@CNP

Local conjunction or subjunction.

ja (CC)

Sihke Mázes ja Guovdageainnus leat boarrásat viššalit finadan doaibmaguovddážiin. - 'Both in Máze and Guovdageaidnu, the oldest people frequently got to the activitycentre.'

go (CS)

Sámi geavaheaddjit hállet dávjá metaforaiguin ja sis leat ollu eará gulahallanvuogit go giella. - 'Sámi users speak often in metaphores and the have many other ways of communicating than by means of language.'

@COMPL-CS<

Complement of subjunction.

vejolaš (A)

Gulahallan Sámedikkiin dán gažaldagas šaddá nu konkrehtalažžan go vejolaš. - 'The contact with the Sámi Parliament about this issue gets as concrete as possible.'

@CVP

Conjunction or subjunction that conjoins finite verb phrases

ja (CC)

Bealatjogas leat dološ rájes leamaš bálvvossajit ja dát golbma sieiddi ledje dovddus gitta olgoriikii. - 'Long since, there have been sacrificial sites at Bealatjohka and the three 'sieidi' (cult images) were known even abroad.'

go (CS)

Leago guhkes áigi dassá go Máreha oidnet? - 'Has it been a long time since you have seen Máret?'

@+FAUXV

Finite auxiliary verb.

ferte (V)

Sámi geavaheddjiid bálvvalusaid vuo##un ferte leat sámegielmáhttu ja sámii kulturamáhttu. - 'Sámi user services need to be based on Sámi language competence and Sámi cultural competence.'

@+FMAINV

Finite main verb.

Boa#e (V)

Boa#e boahhte vahku. - 'Come next week.'

@-FADVL

Object of infinitive verb outside the verbal.

várrogasat (Adv)

Dihkkadeaddji rávve skohtervuddjiid várrogasat mátkkoštit. 'The roadman warns snowscooter drivers to drive carefully.'

@-F<ADVL

árbbola##ain (N)

Danne dárbbasit mii oažžut lobi Nils Aslak Valkeapää árbbola##ain almmuhit dán guokte lávlaga min sálbma-CD:s. - 'Therefore we need to get permission from Nils Aslak Valkeapää's heirs to release these two songs on our psalm-CD.'

@-FAUXV

Infinite auxiliary verb.

sáhte (V)

Eat mii sáhte vuolgit. - 'We cannot leave.'

@-FMAINV

Infinite main verb.

geargan (V)

Ja Biret-Elle lea easka skuvllas geargan. - 'And Biret-Elle has just finished school.'

@-F<OBJ

Object of infinite verb outside the verbal.

govaid (N)

Boa#e mu lusa geah##at govaid! - 'Come to me and look at the pictures!'

@-FOBJ>

Object of infinite verb outside the verbal.

váldovuoittuid (N)

Valáštallanhálla lei njealjehas dievva olbmuiguin geat vurde váldovuoittuid fasket. - 'The gym was to a quarter full of people that wait to grab the main prizes.'

@-FSUBJ>

Subject of infinite verb outside the verbal.

mu (Pron)

Diet dáhpáhuvai mu die#ikeahtá. - 'It happened without me knowing about it.'

@HAB

Habitive.

Máhtes (N)

Máhtes lea beana. - 'Máhte has a dog.'

@HNOUN

Stray noun in sentence fragments.

boddu (N)

Vuosttaš boddu. - 'First lesson.'

@INTERJ

Interjection.

maid (Interj)

Maid, iigo leat boahtán? - 'What, hasn't he/she come?'

@>N

Prenominal modifier to the left

geavatlaš (A)

Rá##ehussii lea geavatlaš politihka dea#alaš. - 'For the government, practical politics is important.'

oahppo-

Oahppo- ja dutkanministtar dat lea ráhkadan die#áhusa alit sámi oahpu ja dutkama birra. - 'The secretary for education and research has given a notice about Sámi higher education and research.'

rektor (N)

Rektor Tove Bull álgaga mielde... - 'According to principal Tove Bull ...'

Tove (N Prop)

Rektor Tove Bull álgaga mielde... - 'According to principal Tove Bull ...'

@N<

Modifier of the noun to the left.

33 (Num)

Mun lean ilus go beasan ovdanbuktit St.die#. nr. 33. - 'I am happy that I get the opportunity to present the parliament notice number 33.' (In this case 33 modifies St.die#.)

vihtta (Num)

Mun boa#án diibmu vihtta. - 'I will come at five o'clock.'

@>Num

Attributes of numeral to the right.

nr (N)

Mun lean ilus go beasan ovdanbuktit St.die#. nr. 33. - 'I am happy that I get the opportunity to present the parliament notice number 33.'

@Num<

Attributes of numeral to the left.

jagi (N)

Son lea guoktelogi jagi boaris. - 'She/he is twenty years old.'

@<OBJ

Direct object to the right of the finite verb.

áiggi (N)

Dat gáibida ollu áiggi. - 'That demands a lot of time.'

@OBJ>

Direct object to the left of the finite verb.

maid (Pron)

Filbma lea oassi prošeavttas maid Sámi instituhtta lea ruthadan. - 'The film is a part of the project that the Sámi institute has financed.'

@OPRED>

Object predicative to the left of the finite verb.

luoikkasin (N)

Gaup dojii stivrrana hárjehallamiin, muhto oa##ui luoikkasin eará stivrrana. - 'Gaup broke the handlebars during the practises, but got to borrow another steering.'

@<OPRED

Object predicative to the right of the finite verb.

buriid (A)

Gáhkkuid son ráhkada hui buriid. - 'Cakes, she/he makes really good ones.'

sámegielhállin (N)

Dagat iežat sámegielhállin. - 'You make yourself a Sámi speaker.'

@>P

Complement of postposition to the left of it.

oahpu (N), dutkama (N)

Oahppo- ja dutkanministtar dat lea ráhkadan die#áhusa alit sámi oahpu ja dutkama birra. - 'The secretary for education and research has given a notice about Sámi higher education and research.'

@P<

Complement of preposition to the right of it.

oasála##aid (N)

Finnmárkkus ii goassige leat leamaš ságastallan gaskal muhtun muddui seammadássaš oasála##aid. - 'There has never been a discussion in Finnmark between somehow equal parts.'

@PCLE

Particle.

amma (Pcle)

Amma mii eat leat máksán? - 'We haven't paid, have we?'

@PPRED

a predicative with a predicative as its head

rea#gan (N)

Máhtes lea Jovvna rea#gan. - 'Máhtte has Jovvna as a searvant.'

@>Pron

Modifier of a pronoun to the left of it.

buot (Pron)

Mun, Johanas, lean dat guhte lean gullan ja oaidnán buot dán. - 'I, Johanas, am the one who has heard and seen all of it.'

@Pron<

Modifier of pronoun to the right of it.

ipmašiid (N)

Maid ipmašiid doppe dagat? - 'What the heck are you doing there?'

golmmas (N)

Mii golmmas oktan du vieljain finaimet Niillas-#eazi geah#en. - 'We three together with your brother visited uncle Niillas.'

@SPRED

Subject predicative in elliptical sentences.

nommh (N)

Die maa onterligksh nommh, ih goh tuhtjh, men die ligan onterligksh nierretjh aaj. - ''

(sma)

@<SPRED

Subject predicative to the right of the finite verb.

galbmasat (A)

Mus leat gie#at nu galbmasat. - 'My hands are so cold.'

beana (N)

Mus lea beana. - 'I have a dog.'

@SPRED>

Subject predicative to the right of the finite verb.

oabbá (N)

Son lea mu oabbá. - 'She is my sister.'

@SUBJ

Elliptical subject.

álma (N)

Dennie synnagoggesne jis akte álma maam doenh-aajmoe doerelamme. - ''

@SUBJ>

Subject to the left of the finite verb.

son (Pron)

Son lea mu oabbá. - 'She is my sister.'

luopmánat (N)

Jeakkis leat luopmánat. - 'There are cloudberry in the swamp.'

@<SUBJ

Subject to the right of the finite verb.

ollusat (Pron)

...ja dan vejolašvuo#a orro gal ollusat geavahan. - '...and this opportunity, many seem to make use of.'

@VOC

Vocative.

hearrá

Hearrá, du ráhkis ustit lea buohcci. - 'Lord, your beloved friend is ill.'

@X

A dummy tag assigned when no tag assignment rule has hit. This tag is useful for finding the flaws in the tag mapping section.

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