# What is Syntactic Analysis?

• Syntactic Analysis, also known as **parsing**, is the process of analyzing the grammatical structure of a sentence based on a given set of syntax rules (grammar). It ensures that a sentence follows the correct structure according to a language's rules.

# **Example of Syntactic Analysis**

• Let's take an example sentence:

"The cat sleeps on the mat."

# **Step 1: Tokenization**

Breaking the sentence into individual components (words).

Tokens: [The, cat, sleeps, on, the, mat]

# Step 2: Parts of Speech (POS)

• Step 2: Parts of Speech (POS) Tagging Each word is labeled with its grammatical category.

Word	POS Tag
The	Determiner (DET)
cat	Noun (N)
sleeps	Verb (V)
on	Preposition (P)
the	Determiner (DET)
mat	Noun (N)

# **Step 3: Syntax Tree Construction**

Now, we analyze the sentence's structure based on grammar rules.

# **Grammar Rules Applied:**

- Sentence (S)  $\rightarrow$  NP (Noun Phrase) + VP (Verb Phrase)
- $NP \rightarrow DET + N$  (Noun Phrase consists of a determiner and a noun)
- $VP \rightarrow V + PP$  (Verb Phrase consists of a verb and a prepositional phrase)
- $\mathbf{PP} \rightarrow \mathbf{P} + \mathbf{NP}$  (Prepositional Phrase consists of a preposition and a noun phrase)

# **Syntax Tree Construction**

The syntax tree for the sentence:

```
NP VP
 DET N V PP
The cat sleeps P NP
         on DET N
             the mat
```

# **Key Takeaways**

- Syntactic Analysis checks whether a sentence is grammatically correct based on a language's syntax rules.
- It involves **Tokenization**, **POS Tagging**, and **Parsing**.
- The sentence structure is represented using Parse Trees or Dependency Graphs.
- Used in Natural Language Processing (NLP) for machine translation, chatbots, and more.

# Parsing in Natural Language Processing (NLP)

- Parsing in NLP refers to analyzing the grammatical structure of a sentence to understand relationships between words. It helps machines process human language by structuring it according to grammar rules.
- Types of Natural Language Parsing

Natural Language Parsing is mainly divided into:

- 1. Dependency Parsing
- 2. Constituency Parsing
- 3. Shallow Parsing (Chunking)
- 4. Semantic Parsing

# **Dependency Parsing**

**Definition:** Analyzes grammatical relationships between words in a sentence by forming a dependency tree.

- **Focus:** Determines how words depend on each other.
- Example:
- **Sentence:** "The cat sits on the mat."
- **Dependency Tree Representation:**

```
sits
/ | \
cat on mat
| |
The the
```

## **Explanation:**

- •"sits" is the **root** (main verb) of the sentence.
- •"cat" is the **subject** of "sits."
- •"on" is a prepositional relation to "sits."
- •"mat" is the **object** of "on."
- **★** Use Cases:
- Chatbots (Understanding sentence meaning)
- ✓ Machine Translation (Google Translate)

# **Constituency Parsing**

- **Definition:** Breaks a sentence into nested sub-phrases (constituents) based on a formal grammar.
- Focus: Identifies noun phrases (NP), verb phrases (VP), etc.
- Example:
- **Sentence:** "The cat sleeps."
- **Constituency Tree Representation:**
- •
- /\
- NP VP
- /\|
- DET N V

The cat sleeps

## **Explanation:**

- •S (Sentence) consists of NP (Noun Phrase) + VP (Verb Phrase).
- •NP  $\rightarrow$  DET + N  $\rightarrow$  "The cat"
- $\bullet VP \rightarrow V \rightarrow \text{"sleeps"}$
- **★** Use Cases:
- ☑ Text-to-Speech Systems
- Grammar Checking (Grammarly)

# **Shallow Parsing (Chunking)**

**. Definition:** Identifies phrases (chunks) in a sentence without analyzing the full tree structure.

**Focus:** Extracts noun phrases (NP), verb phrases (VP), etc.

## **Example:**

**Sentence:** "The black cat sits on the mat."

Chunking Output:

[NP The black cat] [VP sits] [PP on] [NP the mat]

#### **Use Cases:**

- ✓ Named Entity Recognition (NER)
- Information Extraction

# **Semantic Parsing**

- Definition: Converts natural language into a machine-readable format.
- Focus: Understanding the **meaning** of a sentence rather than just structure.
- Example:
- **Sentence:** "Book a flight from New York to London."
- **Semantic Representation (JSON format):**

```
{ "intent" : "book_flight",

"origin" : "New York",

"destination" : "London" }
```

- **Description** Use Cases:
- Voice Assistants (Alexa, Siri)
- Question-Answering Systems (Google Search)

# Comparison of Parsing Techniques

Parsing Type	Focus	Example Output	Use Cases
Dependency Parsing	Word relationships	sits → (subject: cat)	Chatbots, AI Assistants
Constituency Parsing	Sentence structure	$S \rightarrow NP VP$	Grammar Checking
Shallow Parsing (Chunking)	Phrase extraction	[NP The black cat]	Information Extraction
Semantic Parsing	Meaning extraction	{ "intent": "book_flight" }	Voice Assistants

# **Final Thoughts**

- $\nearrow$  **Dependency Parsing**  $\rightarrow$  Best for understanding word relationships.
- **★** Constituency Parsing → Useful for grammar and structure analysis.
- $\Rightarrow$  Shallow Parsing  $\rightarrow$  Quick and efficient for phrase extraction.
- **★ Semantic Parsing** → Most advanced, used for AI-based understanding.

# Part-of-Speech (POS) Tag Parsing

- **Definition:** Identifies the grammatical category (e.g., noun, verb, adjective) of each word in a sentence.
  - Example Sentence:
- **\*\* The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog.**
- POS Tagging Output:

Word	POS Tag
The	Determiner (DET)
quick	Adjective (ADJ)
brown	Adjective (ADJ)
fox	Noun (N)
jumps	Verb (V)
over	Preposition (P)
the	Determiner (DET)
lazy	Adjective (ADJ)
dog	Noun (N)

# **POS Parsing Structure:**

# **POS Parsing Structure:**

[DET The] [ADJ quick] [ADJ brown] [N fox] [V jumps] [P over] [DET the] [ADJ lazy] [N dog]

## **Use Cases:**

- Named Entity Recognition (NER)
- Sentiment Analysis
- Grammar Checking

# Syntactic Parsing (Grammar-Based Parsing)

- **Definition:** Analyzes the **sentence structure** based on grammar rules.
- Focus: Identifies relationships between words (subject, verb, object).
- Example Sentence:
- \* "The cat sits on the mat."
- Syntax Tree Representation:

## **Syntax Tree Representation:**

```
S
/\
NP VP
/\ /\
DET N V PP
| | | /\
The cat sits P NP
| / \
on DET N
| the mat
```

# Syntactic Parsing

#### **Breakdown:**

- •S (Sentence)  $\rightarrow$  NP (Noun Phrase) + VP (Verb Phrase)
- •NP  $\rightarrow$  DET (Determiner) + N (Noun)  $\rightarrow$  "The cat"
- •VP → V (Verb) + PP (Prepositional Phrase) → "sits on the mat"

## **Use Cases:**

- Machine Translation
- Chatbots
- ✓ AI-based Sentence Correction

# **Semantic Parsing (Meaning Extraction)**

- Definition: Converts human language into machine-readable meaning representation.
- Focus: Understanding the meaning rather than just structure.

## **Example Sentence:**

- \* "Book a flight from New York to London."
- Semantic Representation (JSON Format):

```
{ "intent" : "book_flight",

"origin" : "New York",

"destination": "London" }
```

#### **Use Cases:**

- Virtual Assistants (Alexa, Siri)
- Question-Answering Systems (Google Search)
- AI-Powered Chatbots

# **Comparison of Parsing Types**

Parsing Type	Focus	Example Output	Use Cases
POS Tag Parsing	Word Categories	[N cat] [V jumps] [DET the]	Text Analysis, NER
Syntactic Parsing	Sentence Structure	$S \rightarrow NP VP$	Grammar Checking, Translation
Semantic Parsing	Meaning Extraction	{ "intent": "book_flight" }	Al Assistants, Chatbots

## **Final Thoughts**

- **POS Tag Parsing** → Helps in identifying parts of speech for each word.
- $\Rightarrow$  Syntactic Parsing  $\rightarrow$  Analyzes the structure of sentences using grammar rules.
- **★** Semantic Parsing → Extracts meaning from the sentence for AI applications.

# Treebank

#### What is a Treebank?

- A **Treebank** is a collection of sentences annotated with their syntactic structures, used for **syntax** analysis in Natural Language Processing (NLP).
- Treebanks provide training data for **syntactic parsers**, helping machines learn grammar rules and understand sentence structures.

#### **Types of Treebanks in Syntax Analysis**

Treebanks used in **syntax analysis** are primarily of two types:

- 1. Constituency Treebanks (Phrase-Structure Treebanks)
- **2. Dependency Treebanks** (Relation-Based Treebanks)

# Constituency Treebanks (Phrase-Structure Treebanks)

#### • Definition:

Represents sentences using phrase structure trees based on Context-Free Grammar (CFG).

Breaks sentences into hierarchical phrases like Noun Phrases (NP), Verb Phrases (VP), and Prepositional Phrases (PP).

- Example:
- Sentence: "The small dog barks loudly."

## Dependency Tree Representation:

# S / \ NP VP / \ / \ DET N V ADV | | | | The small dog barks loudly

#### **Breakdown:**

- •S  $\rightarrow$  NP VP (Sentence consists of a Noun Phrase and a Verb Phrase)
- •NP  $\rightarrow$  DET N (Noun Phrase = Determiner + Noun  $\rightarrow$  "The small dog")
- •**VP**  $\rightarrow$  **V ADV** (Verb Phrase = Verb + Adverb  $\rightarrow$  "barks loudly")

# **Famous Constituency Treebanks:**

- **Penn Treebank** (**PTB**) Annotates English text with phrase structure trees.
- **British National Corpus (BNC)** Annotates large-scale English text.
- **NEGRA & TIGER Treebanks** Used for **German language** parsing.

## **Use Cases:**

- Grammar Checking (e.g., Grammarly)
- Machine Translation (Google Translate)
- **✓** Text-to-Speech Systems

# Dependency Treebanks (Relation-Based Treebanks)

#### **Definition:**

Focuses on the **dependency relations** between words.

Each word is linked to another word, forming a **dependency tree** instead of a phrase structure.

Used in **Dependency Parsing**, where words have a **head** and **dependent**.

**Example (Universal Dependencies Format):** 

**Genterice:** "The small dog barks loudly."

Dependency Tree Representation:



## **Dependency Relations:**

Word	Relation	Head
dog	Subject (nsubj)	barks
The	Determiner (det)	dog
small	Adjective (amod)	dog
barks	Root (root)	-
loudly	Adverbial Modifier (advmod)	barks

## **Famous Dependency Treebanks:**

- •Universal Dependencies (UD) Multi-language dependency annotations.
- •Prague Dependency Treebank (PDT) Focuses on Czech language parsing.
- •Turku Dependency Treebank Annotates Finnish sentences.
- **★** Use Cases:
- Chatbots & AI Assistants (e.g., Siri, Alexa)
- Sentiment Analysis
- **✓** Information Extraction

# Data-Driven Approach to Syntax

## What is a Data-Driven Approach to Syntax?

• A data-driven approach to syntax in NLP refers to the use of machine learning models trained on large datasets (Treebanks) rather than relying on manually crafted grammar rules. These models learn syntactic structures from annotated corpora and generalize them to new text.

# **Key Components of a Data-Driven Syntax Approach**

- 1. Annotated Corpora (Treebanks)
- 2. Machine Learning Algorithms
- 3. Feature Engineering
- 4. Statistical Parsing Models
- 5. Deep Learning for Syntax Parsing

## 1. Annotated Corpora (Treebanks)

- A data-driven syntax approach relies on Treebanks, which contain sentences annotated with syntactic structures.
- Example Sentence:
- The cat sits on the mat."
- Dependency Tree Representation (from Universal Dependencies Treebank):

```
nginx

sits

/ | \
cat on mat
| |
The the
```

Word	Relation	Head
cat	Subject (nsubj)	sits
sits	Root (root)	-
on	Preposition (prep)	sits
mat	Object (pobj)	on
The	Determiner (det)	cat
the	Determiner (det)	mat

- Common Treebanks Used in Data-Driven Syntax:
- Penn Treebank (PTB) English constituency parsing.
- Universal Dependencies (UD) Multilingual dependency parsing.
- Prague Dependency Treebank (PDT) Czech dependency parsing.

# 2. Machine Learning Algorithms for Syntax Parsing

Instead of manually defining grammar rules, machine learning models are trained on annotated data to learn patterns.

# Supervised Learning for Parsing

- Training Data: Treebanks with labeled syntactic structures.
- Algorithms Used:
  - Support Vector Machines (SVM)
  - Random Forests
  - Neural Networks (LSTMs, Transformers)
- Example: Training a Syntax Parser
- Input: "The dog runs."
- Output: POS Tags and Tree Structure learned from data.

# 3. Feature Engineering in Data-Driven Syntax

- Features extracted from training data help models understand syntax.
- Examples of features:
- POS Tags: "dog" = Noun, "runs" = Verb
- Word Dependencies: "dog" → subject of → "runs"
- Word Embeddings: Vector representation of words (e.g., Word2Vec, BERT)
- Example:

Using word dependencies as features:

```
scss

nsubj(dog, runs)

root(runs, -)
```

# 4. Statistical Parsing Models

Statistical parsing assigns probabilities to different possible parse trees.

# Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar (PCFG)

Each grammar rule is assigned a probability based on its frequency in the dataset.

Example PCFG Rules with Probabilities:

```
java S \rightarrow NP \ VP \qquad (0.9) NP \rightarrow DET \ N \qquad (0.6) VP \rightarrow V \ NP \qquad (0.7)
```

The parser selects the most probable parse tree based on training data.

# 5. Deep Learning for Syntax Parsing

- Neural Network models improve syntax analysis by learning hierarchical structures from data.
- Common architectures:
- Recurrent Neural Networks (RNNs)
- Long Short-Term Memory (LSTM) Networks
- Transformers (BERT, GPT)
- Example: Dependency Parsing with Neural Networks Using spaCy in Python:

```
import spacy
    nlp = spacy.load("en core web sm")
    sentence = "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog."
    doc = nlp(sentence)
    for token in doc:
        print(f"{token.text} → {token.dep } → {token.head.text}")
→ The → det → fox
    quick → amod → fox
    brown → amod → fox
    fox → nsubj → jumps
    jumps → ROOT → jumps
    over → prep → jumps
    the → det → dog
    lazy → amod → dog
    dog → pobj → over
    . → punct → jumps
```

Approach	Description	Example Output	Strengths
Rule-Based Parsing	Uses manually defined grammar rules	$S \rightarrow NP VP$	High precision, but inflexible
Statistical Parsing	Uses probabilities from training data	$P(S \rightarrow NP VP) = 0.9$	More flexible, but needs large data
Deep Learning Parsing	Uses neural networks to learn syntax	BERT predicts subject-object relations	Most accurate, but requires more computing power

#### **Final Thoughts**

- \*Rule-based parsing is limited, while data-driven approaches generalize better.
- ★ Deep learning-based parsers (BERT, spaCy) achieve state-of-the-art performance.
- \* Treebanks (e.g., Penn Treebank, UD) provide essential training data for syntax models.

## Why Use a Data-Driven Approach for Syntax?

- More Flexible Adapts to different languages and dialects.
- **✓ Higher Accuracy** Learns from real-world examples.
- **Scalability** Works well with large-scale NLP applications.
- **✓ Less Manual Effort** No need to manually define grammar rules.

# Representation of Syntactic Structure in NLP

# What is Syntactic Structure?

- Syntactic structure represents the **grammatical arrangement of words** in a sentence. It helps in understanding **how words and phrases relate to each other** in a sentence.
- In Natural Language Processing (NLP), there are two primary ways to represent syntactic structures:
- 1. Constituency Structure (Phrase Structure)
- 2. Dependency Structure (Relation-Based)

## 1. Constituency Structure (Phrase-Structure Representation)

#### Definition:

- Represents syntax using phrase structure trees (Constituents).
- Based on Context-Free Grammar (CFG).
- Breaks sentences into phrases like Noun Phrases (NP), Verb Phrases (VP), and Prepositional Phrases (PP).
- Example Sentence:
- "The small dog barks loudly."
- Constituency Tree Representation:

```
markdown

S
/ \
NP VP
/ \ / \
DET N V ADV
| | | |
The small dog barks loudly
```

- Breakdown:
- S → NP VP (Sentence consists of a Noun Phrase and a Verb Phrase)
- NP → DET N (Noun Phrase = Determiner + Noun → "The small dog")
- VP → V ADV (Verb Phrase = Verb + Adverb → "barks loudly")
- ★ Use Cases:
- Grammar Checking (e.g., Grammarly)
- Machine Translation (Google Translate)
- Text-to-Speech Systems

# 2. Dependency Structure (Relation-Based Representation)

- Definition:
- Focuses on the dependency relations between words.
- Each word is linked to another word, forming a dependency tree.
- Used in Dependency Parsing, where words have a head and dependent.
- **Example Sentence:**
- "The small dog barks loudly."
- Dependency Tree Representation:

```
markdown

barks

/ | \
dog loudly

/ \
The small
```

#### Dependency Relations:

Word	Relation	Head
dog	Subject (nsubj)	barks
The	Determiner (det)	dog
small	Adjective (amod)	dog
barks	Root (root)	-
loudly	Adverbial Modifier (advmod)	barks

- Chatbots & Al Assistants (e.g., Siri, Alexa)
- Sentiment Analysis
- ✓ Information Extraction

# **Comparison of Syntactic Structure Representations**

Representation Type	Focus	Example Output	Use Cases
Constituency Structure	Sentence structure	S -> NP VP	Grammar Checking, Machine Translation
Dependency Structure	Word relationships	nsubj(dog, barks)	Chatbots, Sentiment Analysis

# Implementation of Syntactic Structure in Python (Using spaCy)

## Dependency Parsing Example with spaCy

```
python

import spacy

# Load English NLP model
nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")

# Input sentence
sentence = "The small dog barks loudly."
doc = nlp(sentence)

# Print dependencies
for token in doc:
    print(f"{token.text} → {token.dep_} → {token.head.text}")
```

#### Output:

```
Final Thoughts

The → det → dog

small → amod → dog

dog → nsubj → barks

barks → ROOT → barks

loudly → advmod → barks

Final Thoughts

Constituency Structure → Good for phrase-level parsing (used in Penn Treebank).

Dependency Structure → Good for word-to-word relationships (used in Universal Dependencies).

SpaCy & NLP models use dependency parsing for Al-powered applications.
```

This shows how words relate to each other in the sentence.

# **Parsing Algorithms**

- What is Parsing in Syntax Analysis?
- Parsing in **Natural Language Processing (NLP)** is the process of **analyzing the syntactic structure** of a sentence to understand relationships between words. It is crucial for grammar checking, machine translation, question answering, and chatbots.
- There are two major types of parsing algorithms used in syntax analysis:
- 1. Top-Down Parsing
- 2. Bottom-Up Parsing

Each type has different algorithms, including:

- Top-Down Parsing:
  - Recursive Descent Parsing
  - Predictive Parsing
- Bottom-Up Parsing:
  - Shift-Reduce Parsing
  - CYK (Cocke-Younger-Kasami) Parsing
- Statistical & Neural Parsing:
  - Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar (PCFG)
  - Dependency Parsing with Machine Learning

## 1. Top-Down Parsing

- Definition:
- Starts from the root (Sentence S) and expands into subcomponents (NP, VP, etc.).
- Works based on grammar rules (Context-Free Grammar CFG).

#### 1.1 Recursive Descent Parsing

- How it works:
- · Uses a set of recursive functions to expand grammar rules.
- Backtracks when a rule fails.
- Example Grammar:

```
mathematica

S → NP VP

NP → DET N

VP → V NP

DET → "The"

N → "dog" | "cat"

V → "chased"
```

- ♦ Example Sentence: "The dog chased the cat."
- Recursive Parsing Process:

```
    Start with S → NP VP
    NP → DET N → "The" "dog"
    VP → V NP → "chased" "the cat"
    Sentence successfully parsed!
```

# 1.2 Predictive Parsing (LL(1) Parsing)

- ♦ Improvement over Recursive Descent:
- Uses lookahead tokens to decide the next step, avoiding backtracking.

## Example Grammar:

```
mathematica
S \rightarrow NP \ VP
NP \rightarrow DET \ N
VP \rightarrow V \ NP
```

## Predictive Parsing Table:

Lookahead	Production Rule	
"The"	NP → DET N	
"dog"	N → "dog"	
"chased"	V → "chased"	

#### A Benefit:

More efficient than recursive descent.

## 2. Bottom-Up Parsing

- Definition:
- Starts from words (tokens) and builds up the parse tree towards the root (Sentence S).

## 2.1 Shift-Reduce Parsing

- ♦ How it works:
- · SHIFT moves a word onto a stack.
- · REDUCE replaces words with grammar rules when possible.
- ♦ Example Sentence: "The dog chased the cat."
- Shift-Reduce Steps:

Stack	Action
The	SHIFT
The dog	SHIFT
NP (The dog)	REDUCE
NP chased	SHIFT
NP chased the	SHIFT
NP chased the cat	SHIFT
NP chased NP	REDUCE (VP → V NP)
S (NP VP)	REDUCE (S → NP VP)
✓ Sentence Parsed!	

## 2.2 CYK (Cocke-Younger-Kasami) Parsing

#### ♦ How it works:

- Uses dynamic programming to parse sentences based on a Chomsky Normal Form (CNF) grammar.
- · Builds a table from words to sentence structure.

#### Example:

For sentence "The dog sleeps" with CNF Grammar:

```
mathematica

S → NP VP

NP → DET N

VP → V

DET → "The"

N → "dog"

V → "sleeps"
```

#### CYK Table:

"The"	"dog"	"sleeps"
DET	N	V
NP		VP
S		

## 3. Statistical & Neural Parsing

- Why Statistical Parsing?
- Traditional parsers struggle with real-world language, where grammar rules are not always followed.
- Statistical parsers use probabilities to determine the most likely parse tree.

#### 3.1 Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar (PCFG)

- How it works:
- · Assigns probabilities to different grammar rules based on training data.
- Example Probabilities:

```
java \bigcirc Copy ? S \rightarrow NP VP (0.9) NP \rightarrow DET N (0.6) VP \rightarrow V NP (0.7)
```

Sentence Parsing Example:

For "The dog sleeps":

```
mathematica \bigcirc Copy \ 2
P(S \rightarrow NP \ VP) = 0.9
P(NP \rightarrow DET \ N) = 0.6
P(VP \rightarrow V) = 0.7
```

# Higher probability trees are preferred.

#### 3.2 Dependency Parsing with Machine Learning

- Modern NLP uses deep learning models like:
- Neural Networks (LSTMs, Transformers)
- Pre-trained models (BERT, spaCy, Stanza)
- Example: Dependency Parsing using spaCy

```
python

import spacy
nlp = spacy.load("en_core_web_sm")

sentence = "The cat chased a mouse."
doc = nlp(sentence)

for token in doc:
    print(f"{token.text} → {token.dep_} → {token.head.text}")
```

#### Output:

```
bash

The → det → cat

cat → nsubj → chased

chased → ROOT → chased

a → det → mouse

mouse → dobj → chased
```

Machine learning parsers generalize better than rule-based methods!

# **Comparison of Parsing Algorithms**

Algorithm	Туре	Strengths	Weaknesses
Recursive Descent Parsing	Top-Down	Simple	Inefficient due to backtracking
Predictive Parsing (LL(1))	Top-Down	Fast, No Backtracking	Needs left-factored grammar
Shift-Reduce Parsing	Bottom- Up	Efficient for small grammars	Hard for ambiguous sentences
CYK Parsing	Bottom- Up	Handles complex grammars	Requires Chomsky Normal Form
Probabilistic Parsing (PCFG)	Statistical	Handles real-world text	Needs large training data
Neural Dependency Parsing	ML-Based	Most accurate	Requires high computational power

# Final Thoughts

- \*\*Top-Down Parsing (Recursive & Predictive) is useful for small rule-based grammars.
- ★ Bottom-Up Parsing (Shift-Reduce, CYK) is efficient for programming languages.
- Statistical Parsing (PCFG, ML Models) is used in modern NLP (Google Translate, Chatbots).