

# Lecture 10: Parsing I



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#### Today's Class

- Chomsky Hierarchy and Grammar
- Parsing Approaches for Context-Free Grammar (CFG)
  - Top-down Approach
  - Bottom-up Approach
- Parsing Algorithms
  - Shift-reduce Parsing
  - CYK Parsing

## Syntactic Analysis

Computer and Natural Languages are very productive. They are also highly regular in character. Hence, any grammar which is generated to accept all structurally correct strings must account for this productivity and regularity.

- To describe the regularity and productivity of languages, we provide rules of syntax
- Our rules of syntax should specify the syntactic structure of a string in our language.

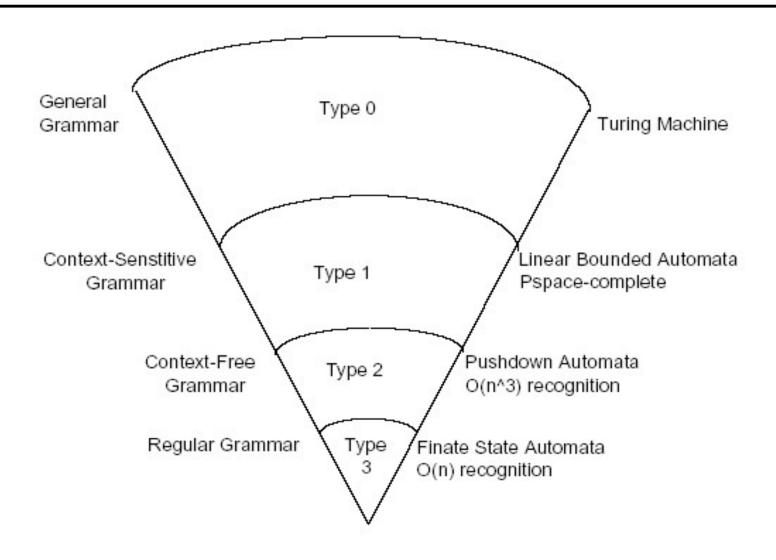
#### Syntactic Analysis

- To provide a syntactic analysis for a string, we must have:
- A Grammar: the formal specification of allowable structures.
- A Parsing Algorithm: a method of analyzing the sentence to determine its structure.
- Generative grammars can be thought of as a set of rules that generate valid phrases in a particular language. Noam Chomsky defined four classes of "complexity" for generative grammars, that are commonly organized into the Chomsky Hierarchy.

#### **Generative Grammar**

- A generative grammar G is expressed as G=(V, T, P, S), where:
  - V is a <u>finite</u> set of non-terminals or variables (use capital letters to designate them).
  - T is a <u>finite</u> set of terminals or tokens (use small letters to designate them).
  - P is a finite set of productions or rules of the form α→β.
  - S is a special non-terminal called the start symbol, S ∈ V.
- Normally V ∩ T = Ø.
- A grammatical symbol is an element of V ∪ T.

# **Chomsky Hierarchy**



#### Regular Grammar (Type 3)

- A Regular Grammar is denoted as G=(V, T, P, S)
  - V are finite set of non-terminal variables
  - T are finite set of terminal variables
  - S are start symbol
  - P is a finite set of productions. Consist of productions like  $A \rightarrow \beta$
- Left linear grammar for ab
  - $-B \rightarrow Ab A \rightarrow a$

Left hand side: one non-terminal symbol

Right hand side: empty string / a terminal symbol/a nonterminal sysbol following a terminal symbol

- Right linear grammar
  - $-A \rightarrow aB B \rightarrow b$

## Context-free Grammars (Type 2)

- A Context-free Grammar is denoted as G=(V, T, P,
   S)
  - V are finite set of non-terminal variables
  - T are finite set of terminal variables
  - S are start symbol
  - P is a finite set of productions. Consist of productions like  $A \rightarrow \alpha$
  - Only one non-terminal symbol on the left hand side
- Push down Automata

## Example

Example Grammar, G:

```
V = {S, VP, NP, Name, Det, Noun, Pro, Verb}
T = {Nyssa, chases, cat, cats, the, he, she}
S = \{S\}
P = \{S \rightarrow NP VP\}
     VP \rightarrow Verb NP
      NP → Name | Det Noun | Pro
      Name → Nyssa
      Det \rightarrow the
      Noun \rightarrow cat | cats
      Pro \rightarrow he \mid she
      Verb → chases}
```

- To generate phrases in the language of grammar G, repeatedly apply productions to non-terminals beginning with the start symbol.
- If we apply A → β to the string αAγ, we obtain αβγ, obtaining a string in the language generated by G, L(G).
- L(G) is the set of strings such that:
- Each string consists solely of terminals.
- Each string is derived from S by applying the productions in P. Below is a string of derivations:
   α<sub>1</sub> → α<sub>2</sub> → α<sub>3</sub> → ... → α<sub>n</sub>

- An important aspect of the CFGs is that the derivations involve variables that are independent of what surrounds them; hence, they are context independent.
- Importance of CFGs:
- They are powerful enough to handle much of the productivity of computer and natural languages.
- They are restrictive enough to construct efficient parsers, O(n<sup>3</sup>) generally, O(n) for deterministic grammars (generally true for computer languages).

## Context-Sensitive Grammars (Type 1)

- A Context-Sensitive Grammar is denoted as G=(V, T, P, S)
  - V are finite set of non-terminal variables
  - T are finite set of terminal variables
  - S are start symbol
  - P is a finite set of productions. Consist of productions like  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$
  - $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  are strings of symbol in (VUT)\* and  $\beta$  is at least as long as  $\alpha$
  - NO productions of AB $\rightarrow$ C or AB $\rightarrow$ empty
  - $-\alpha_1 A\alpha_2$  →  $\alpha_1 \beta \alpha_2$  where β can't be empty "A becomes β in the context of  $\alpha_1$  and  $\alpha_1$ "

# General Grammar (Type 0)

- A General Grammar is denoted as G=(V, T, P, S)
  - V are finite set of non-terminal variables
  - T are finite set of terminal variables
  - S are start symbol
  - P is a finite set of productions WITHOUT RESTRICATIONS
- Type 0 grammar are recursively enumerable and are accepted by a Turing Machine.
- Too complex a speciation for computer languages.

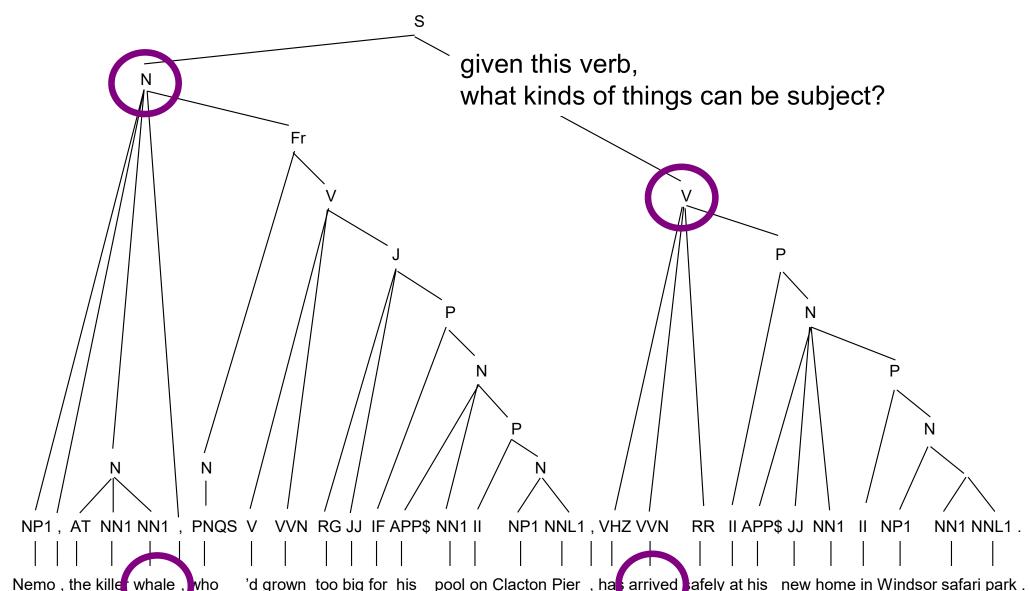
#### **Parsing**

- Parsing is the process of determining whether a string is in a grammar G.
- Without context, ambiguities occurs in natural language frequently. With more contextual information, most ambiguities can be removed
- The core of parsing natural language is to resolve the ambiguities in the syntactic structures.
- The goal of sentence processing is to understand the representations people form as they understand a sentence (syntax, meaning...).

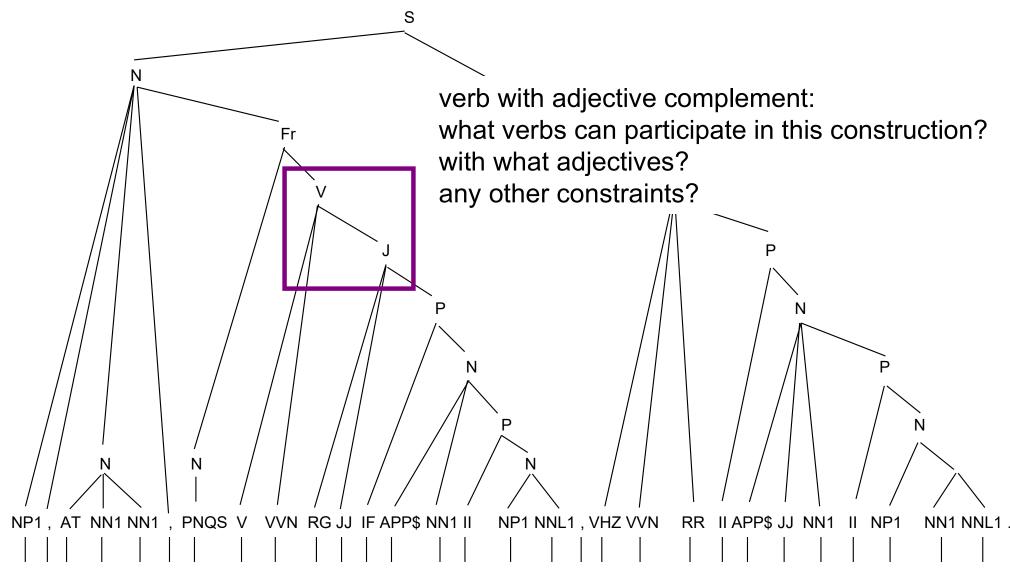
#### **Parsing**

- Parsing adds information about sentence structure and constituents
- Allows us to see what constructions words enter into
  - eg, transitivity, passivization, argument structure for verbs
- Allows us to see how words function relative to each other
  - eg, what words can modify / be modified by other words

[S[N Nemo\_NP1 ,\_, [N the\_AT killer\_NN1 whale\_NN1 N] ,\_, [Fr[N who\_PNQS N][V 'd\_VHD grown\_VVN [J too\_RG big\_JJ [P for\_IF [N his\_APP\$ pool\_NN1 [P on\_II [N Clacton\_NP1 Pier\_NNL1 N]P]N]P]J]V]Fr]N] ,\_, [V has\_VHZ arrived\_VVN safely\_RR [P at\_II [N his\_APP\$ new\_JJ home\_NN1 [P in\_II [N Windsor\_NP1 [ safari\_NN1 park\_NNL1 ]N]P]N]P]V] .\_. S]

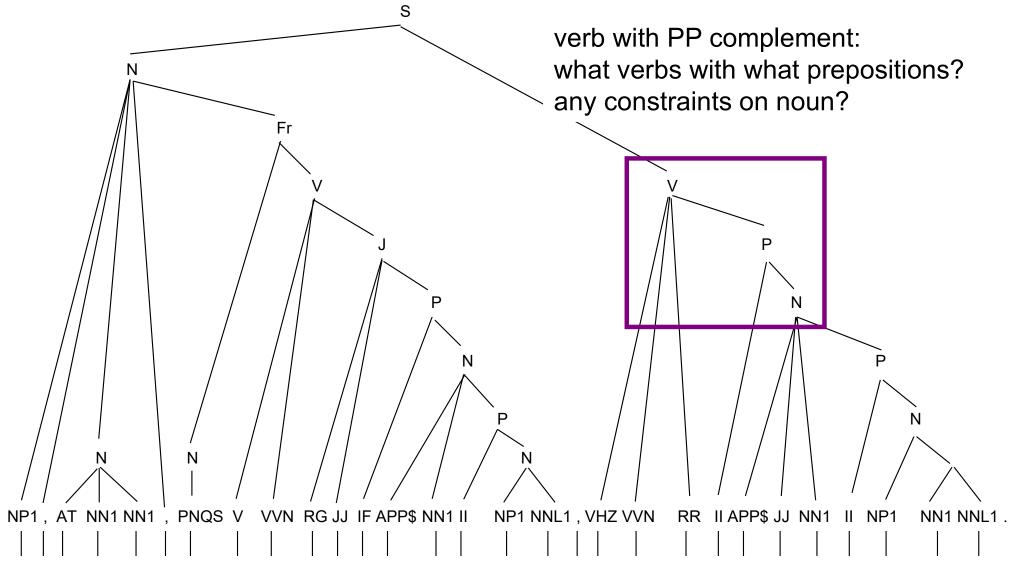


[S[N Nemo\_NP1 ,\_, [N the\_AT killer\_NN1 whale\_NN1 N] ,\_, [Fr[N who\_PNQS N][V 'd\_VHD grown\_VVN [J too\_RG big\_JJ [P for\_IF [N his\_APP\$ pool\_NN1 [P on\_II [N Clacton\_NP1 Pier\_NNL1 N]P]N]P]J]V]Fr]N] ,\_, [V has\_VHZ arrived\_VVN safely\_RR [P at\_II [N his\_APP\$ new\_JJ home\_NN1 [P in\_II [N Windsor\_NP1 [ safari\_NN1 park\_NNL1 ]N]P]N]P]V] .\_. S]



Nemo, the killer whale, who 'd grown too big for his pool on Clacton Pier, has arrived safely at his new home in Windsor safari park.

[S[N Nemo\_NP1 ,\_, [N the\_AT killer\_NN1 whale\_NN1 N] ,\_, [Fr[N who\_PNQS N][V 'd\_VHD grown\_VVN [J too\_RG big\_JJ [P for\_IF [N his\_APP\$ pool\_NN1 [P on\_II [N Clacton\_NP1 Pier\_NNL1 N]P]N]P]J]V]Fr]N] ,\_, [V has\_VHZ arrived\_VVN safely\_RR [P at\_II [N his\_APP\$ new\_JJ home\_NN1 [P in\_II [N Windsor\_NP1 [ safari\_NN1 park\_NNL1 ]N]P]N]P]V] .\_. S]



Nemo, the killer whale, who 'd grown too big for his pool on Clacton Pier, has arrived safely at his new home in Windsor safari park.

## Parsing: difficulties

- Besides lexical ambiguities (usually resolved by tagger), language can be <u>structurally</u> ambiguous
  - global ambiguities due to ambiguous words and/or alternative possible combinations
  - local ambiguities, especially due to attachment ambiguities, and other combinatorial possibilities
  - sheer weight of alternatives available in the absence of (much) knowledge

#### Parsing: difficulties

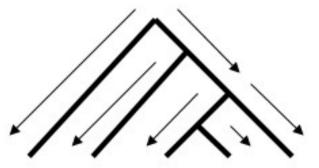
- Broad coverage necessary for parsing corpora of real text
- Long sentences:
  - structures are very complex
  - ambiguities proliferate
- Difficulty (even for human) to verify if parse is correct
  - because it is complex
  - because it may be genuinely ambiguous

#### Parsing

- Parsing Approaches
  - Top down parsers
  - Bottom up parsers
  - Left corner parsers

#### **Top-down Parsing**

- Begin with the start symbol S and produce the right hand side (RHS) of the rule
- Match the left-hand side (LHS) of CFG rules to the non-terminals in the string, replacing them with the right-hand side of the rule.
- Continue until all the non-terminals are replaced by terminals, such that they correspond to the symbols in the sentence.
- The parse succeeds when all words in the sentence are generated.



- This is a left-most derivation for the sentence; each production is applied to the left-most nonterminals
- Based on Prediction
  - Produce the prediction for following component, then verify the prediction by matching words
  - If the prediction is verified, the target string will parsed according to the prediction
  - If no verified, use other predictions (backtracking)
  - If all predictions are rejected, the sentence is not valid
     parser fails

#### **Bottom-up Parsing**

- Begin with Words.
- Apply the right-hand side RHS of the rules to the words to generate non-terminals from the LHS.
- The parse succeeds when the start non-terminal is generated.
- Based on Reduction
  - Match the words in the sentence
  - Generate possible non-terminal symbols iteratively
  - If S is generated, Parse succeeds
  - If S is not generated, use other symbols (backtracking)

#### Rule Set

#### Rule

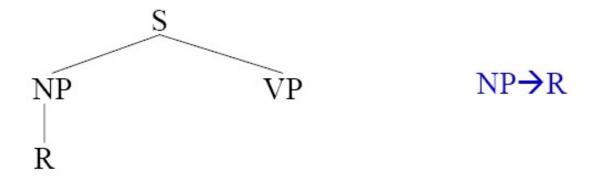
- $(7) \text{ NP} \rightarrow R$
- (8) NP  $\rightarrow$  N
- (9) NP  $\rightarrow$  S $\phi$  de
- (10)  $VP\phi \rightarrow VV$
- (11)  $VP \rightarrow VNP$
- (12)  $S\phi \rightarrow NP VP\phi$
- (13)  $S \rightarrow NP VP$

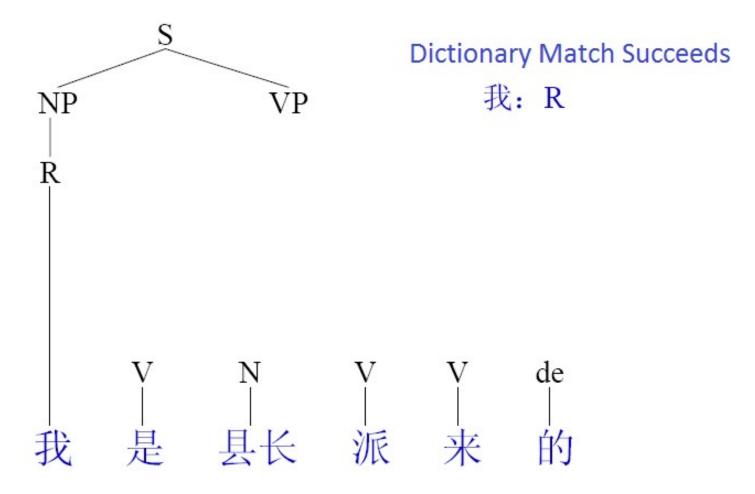
#### Dictionary

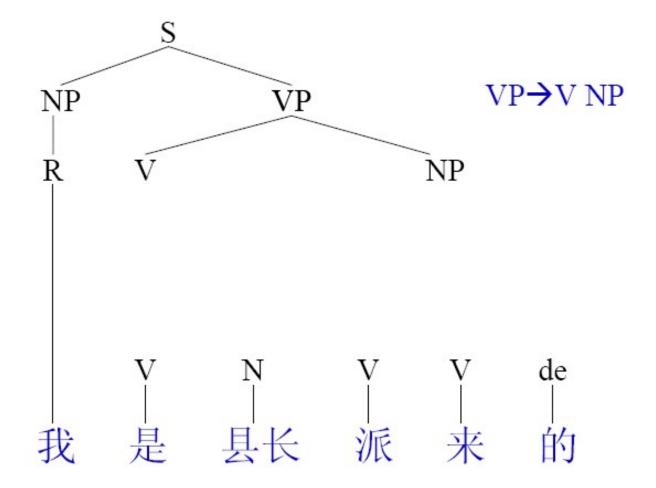
- (1) R**→**我
- (2) N → 县长
- (3) V **>**是
- (4) V →派
- (5) V **→**来
- (6) de **→**的

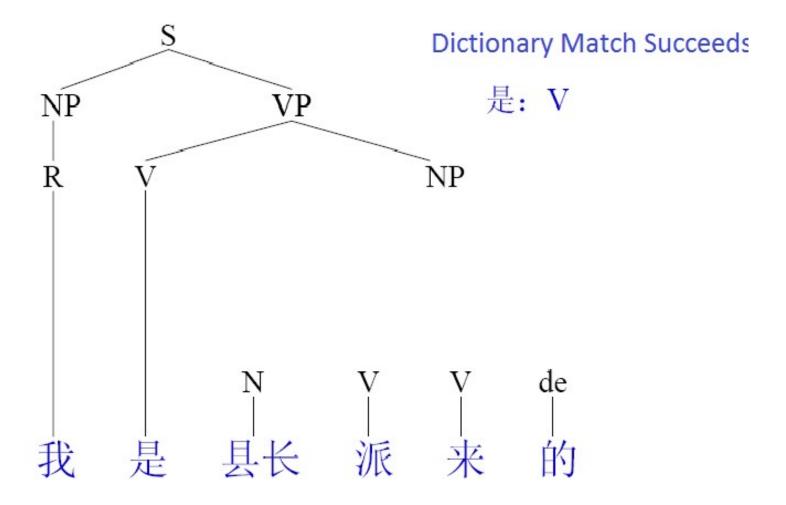
## Top-Down Parsing Illustration -1

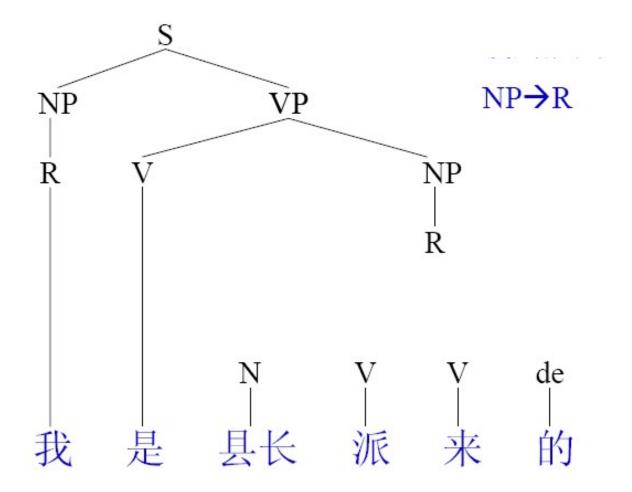


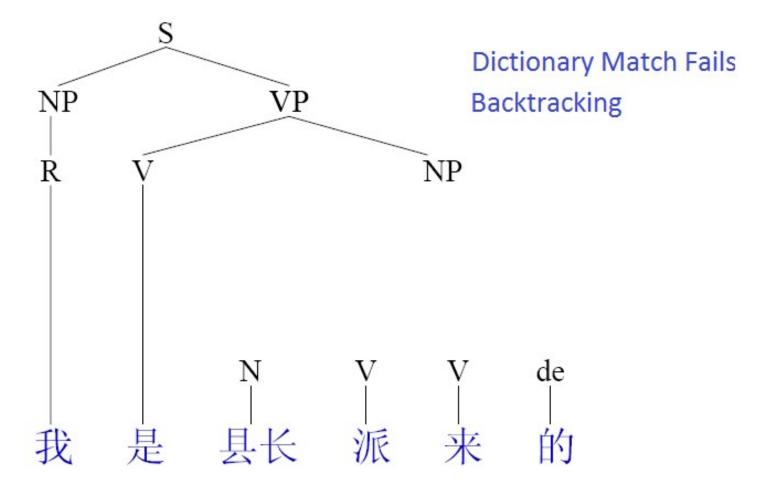


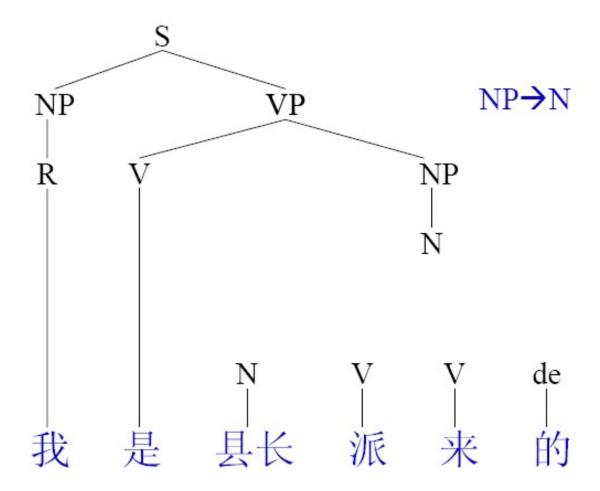


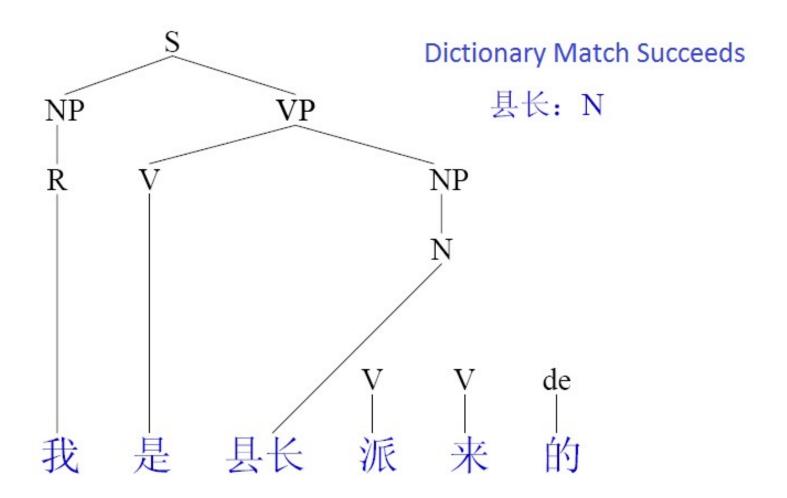


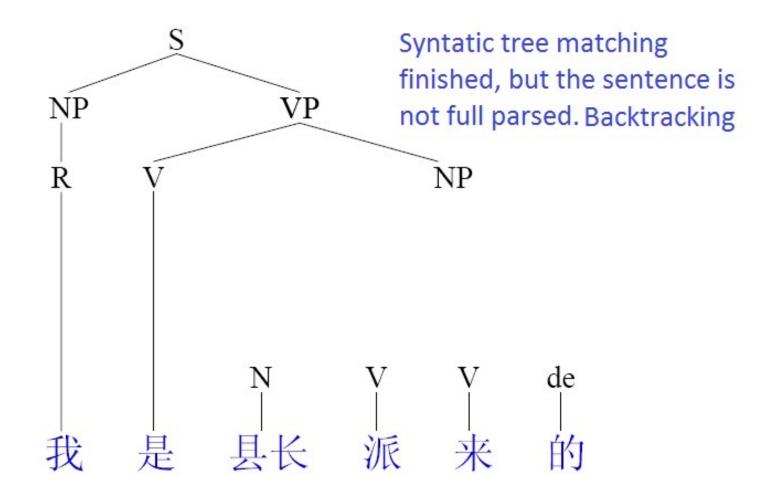


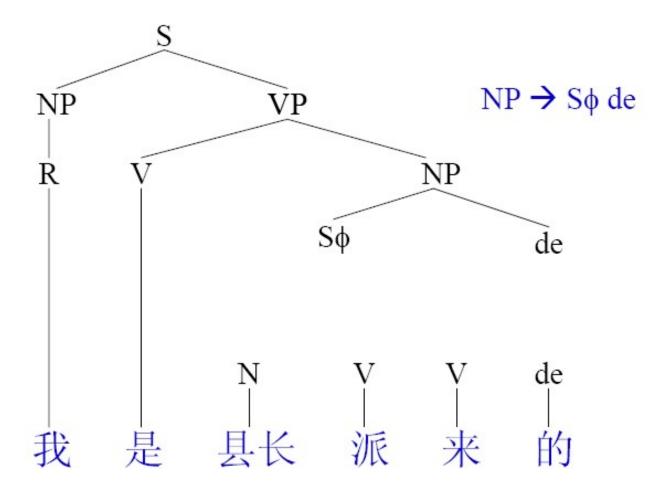


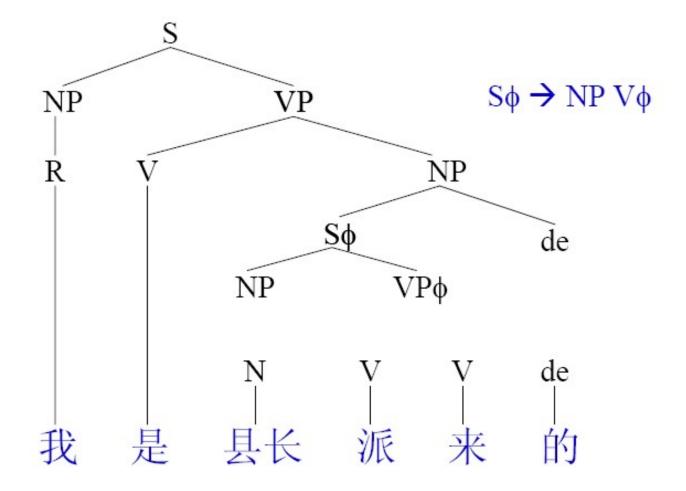


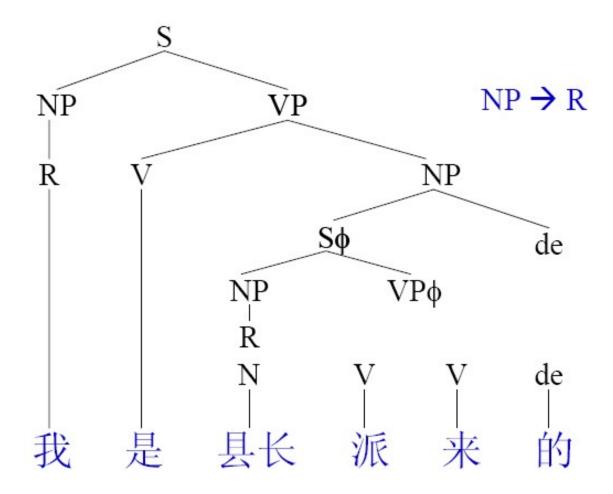


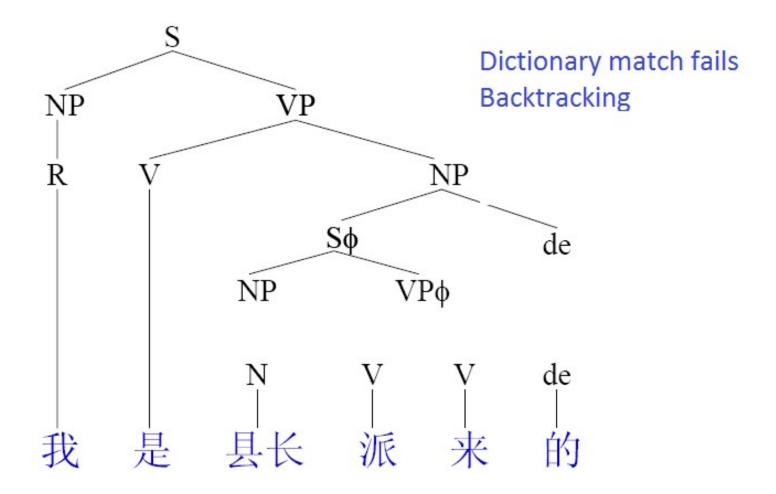


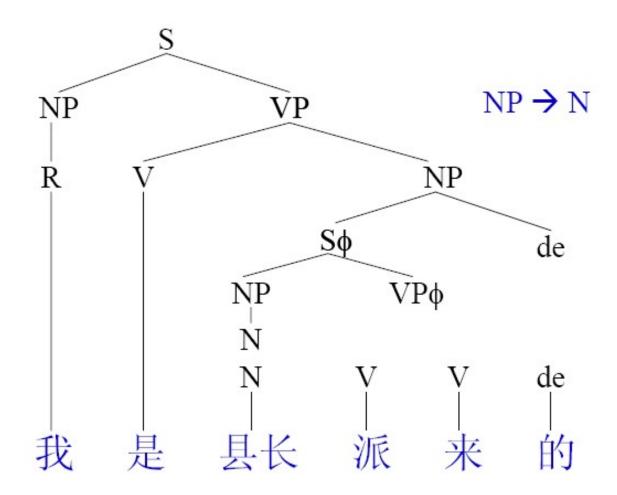


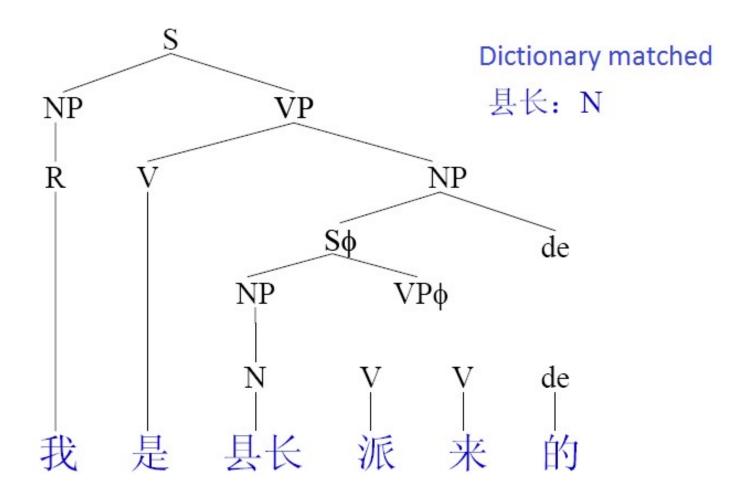


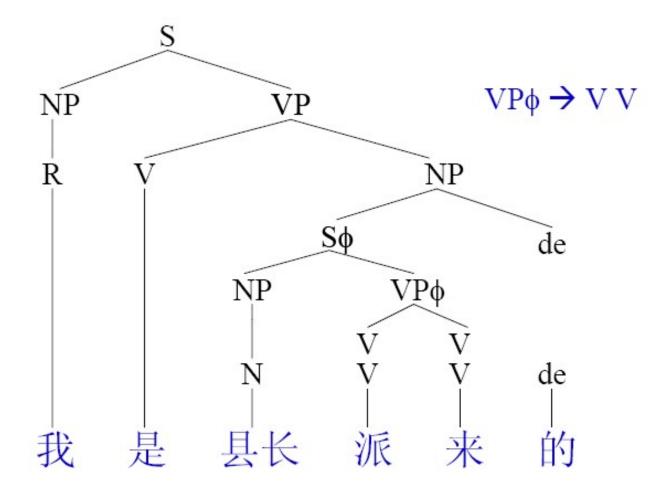


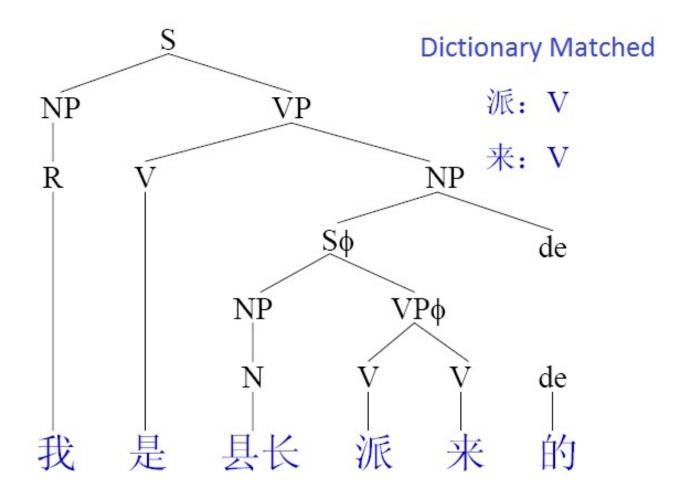


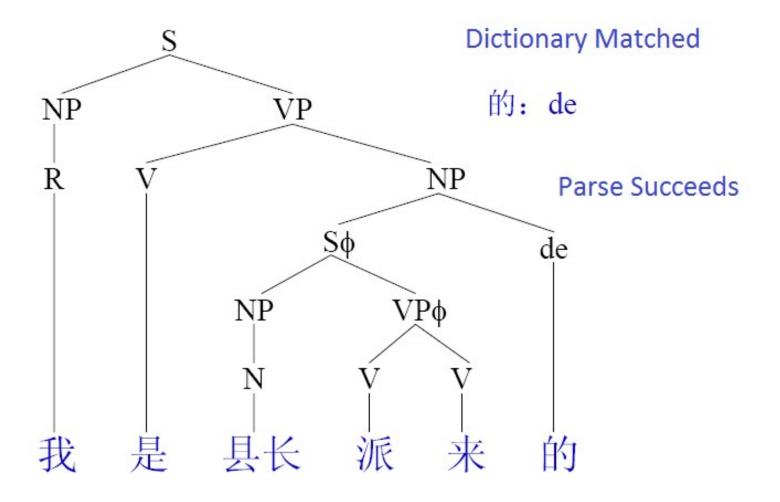










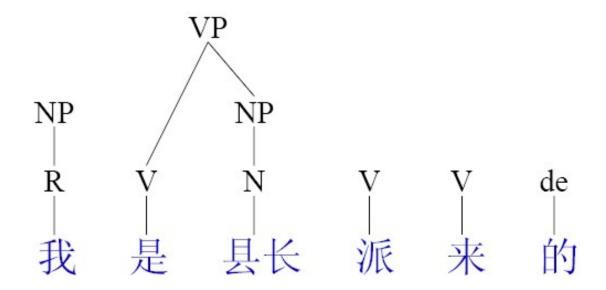


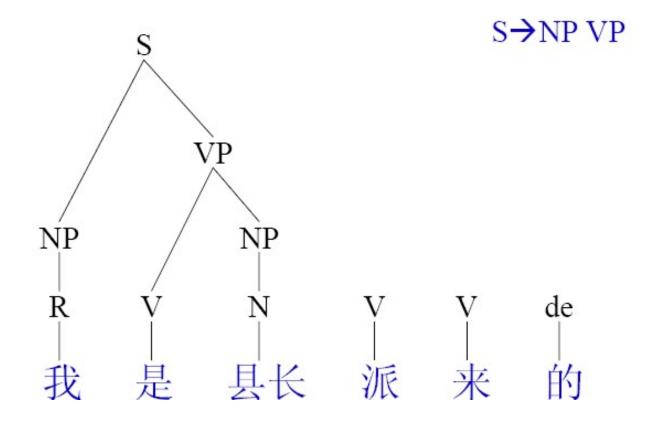
## Bottom-Up Parsing Illustration -1

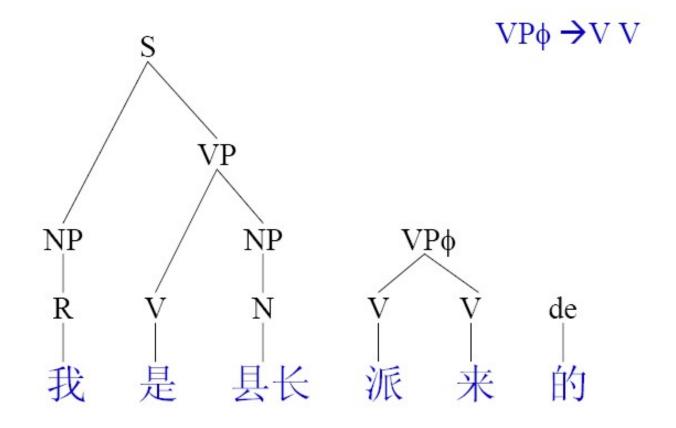
$$NP \rightarrow R$$

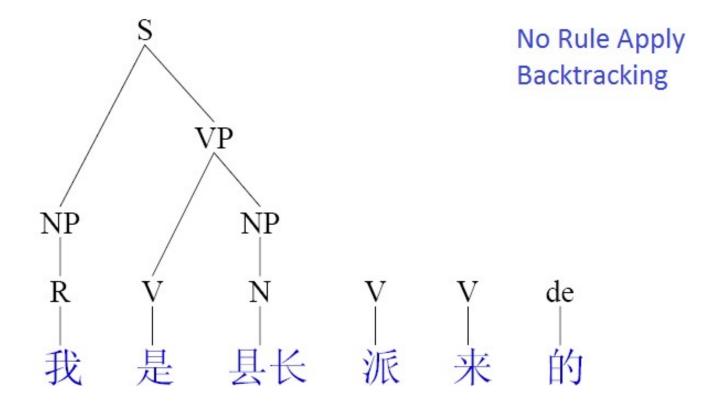
#### $NP \rightarrow N$

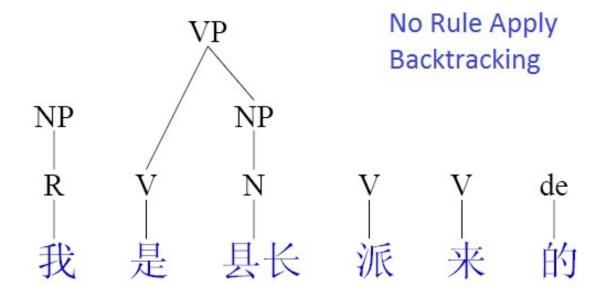
#### VP→V NP



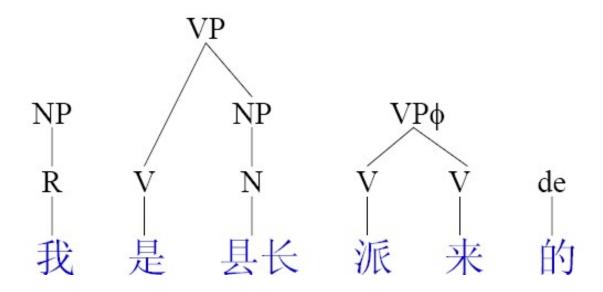




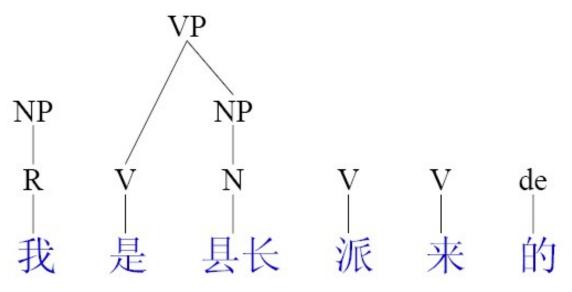




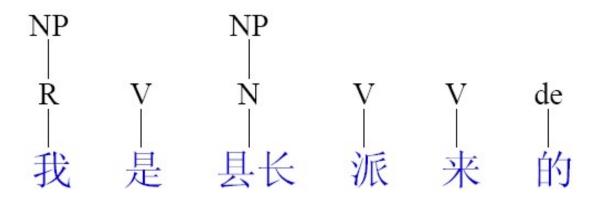




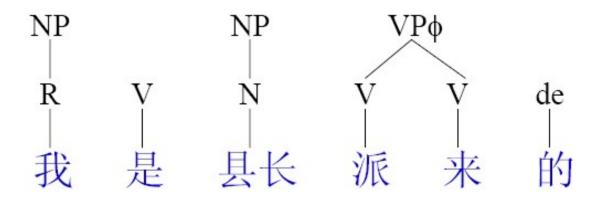
### No Rule Apply Backtracking



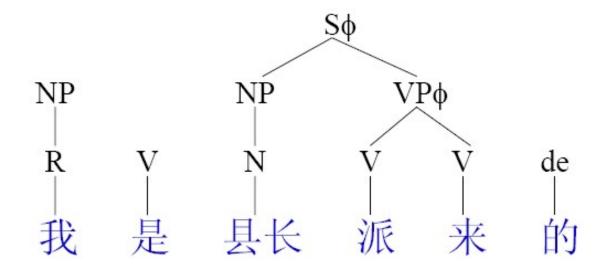
#### No Rule Apply Backtracking



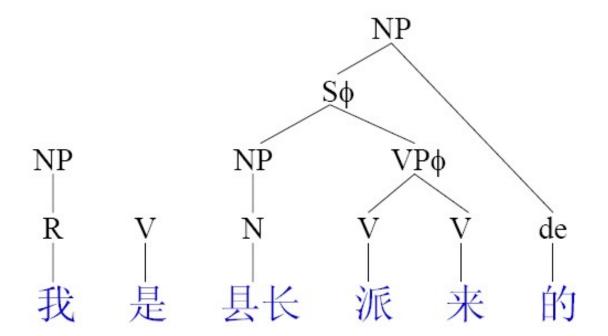
$$VP\phi \rightarrow VV$$

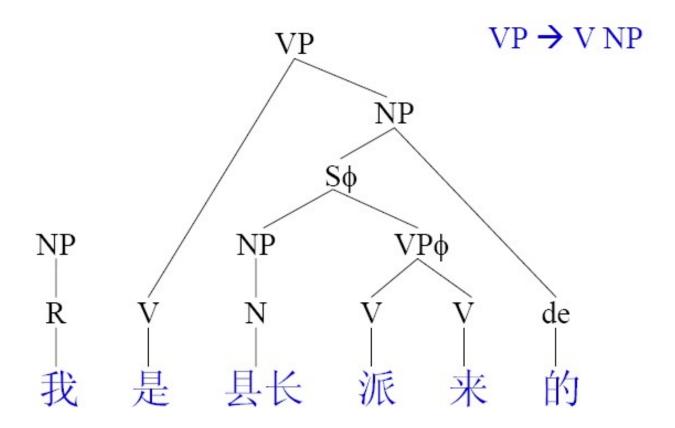


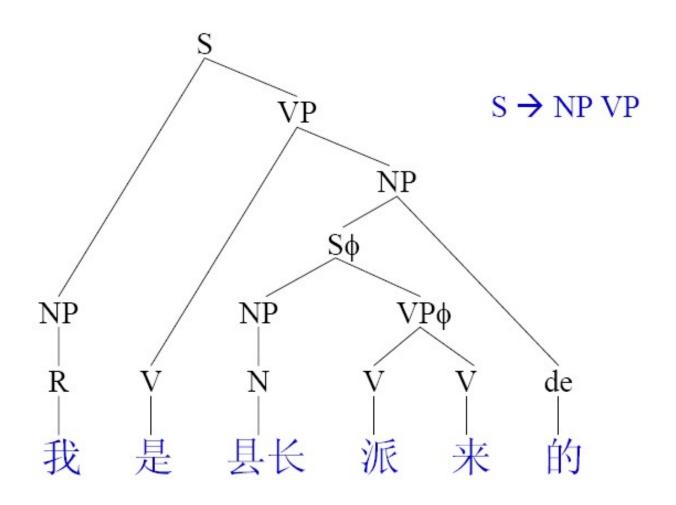
### $S\phi \rightarrow NP VP\phi$



### $NP \rightarrow S\phi de$







## Top Down Parsing - Remarks

- Top-down parsers do well if there is useful grammar driven control: search can be directed by the grammar.
- Not too many different rules for the same category
- Not too much distance between non terminal and terminal categories.
- Top-down is unsuitable for rewriting parts of speech (preterminals) with words (terminals). In practice that is always done bottom-up as lexical lookup.

## Bottom Up Parsing - Remarks

- It is data-directed: it attempts to parse the words that are there.
- Does well, e.g. for lexical lookup.
- Does badly if there are many rules with similar RHS categories.
- Insufficient when there is great lexical ambiguity (grammar driven control might be helpful here)
- Empty categories: termination problem unless rewriting of empty constituents is somehow restricted (but it's generally incomplete)

## **CFG Parsing Algorithms**

- Shift-Reduce Algorithm
- CYK Algorithm
- Marcus Analysis Algorithm
- Earley Algorithm (Top-down)
- Tomita Algorithm
- Chart Algorithm

## Shift-Reduce Algorithm

- Similar to Push Down Automata
- Basic Data structure: Stack
- Four Operations in Shift-Reduced Algorithm
  - Shift 移进:
    - push next input on to top of stack
    - = Shift a terminator to top of stack from left of sentence
  - Reduce 归约 R:
    - top of stack should match RHS of rule
    - replace top of stack with LHS of rule
    - = replace several symbols on the top of stack to one symbol
  - Accept (shift EOF & can reduce what remains on stack to start symbol)
  - Error (shift all words to the stack, but stack have symbols more than S and cannot be reduced)

# Shift-Reduce Algorithm

()()	Stack	Input	Operation	n Rule
1	#	我是县长	Shift	
2	# 我	是 县长	Reduce	R→ 我
3	# R	是 县长	Reduce	NP→R
4	# NP	是 县长	Shift	
5	# NP 是	县长	Reduce	V→是
6	# NP V	县长	Shift	
7	# NP V 县长		Reduce	N→县长
8	#NPVN		Reduce	NP→N
9	# NP V NP		Reduce	VP→V NP
10	# NP VP		Reduce	S→NP VP
11	# S		Accept	

## Ambiguities in Shift-Reduce Algorithm

### Two kinds of Ambiguities

- Shift-Reduce ambiguity: The word can be both shifted and reduced
- Reduce-Reduce ambiguity: The word can be reduced by different rules.

#### Backtracking

- For the ambiguous operations, give a selection order
- Breakpoint Information: Maintain the non-terminator in stack and breakpoint information including the stack information and optional operations on the breakpoint.

## Backtracking

- Backtracking Strategy
  - Shift-Reduce Ambiguity: Reduce first, Shift second
  - Reduce-Reduce Ambiguity: Sort the rules according to their priority. Apply the high priority rule first.
- Breakpoint Information
  - Current Applied Rule
  - Candidate Rules
  - Substituted node during reduce operation

## Shift-Reduce Algorithm: Illustration

#### Sort the rule set

#### Rule

- $(7) \text{ NP} \rightarrow \text{R}$
- (8) NP  $\rightarrow$  N
- (9) NP  $\rightarrow$  S $\phi$  de
- (10)  $VP\phi \rightarrow VV$
- (11)  $VP \rightarrow VNP$
- (12)  $S\phi \rightarrow NP VP\phi$
- (13)  $S \rightarrow NP VP$

#### Dictionary

- (1) R**→**我
- (2) N → 县长
- (3) V **→**是
- (4) V **→**派
- (5) V **→**来
- (6) de **→**的

	Stack	Input	Opr	Rule
1	#	我是县长派来的	Shift	
2	# 我	是县长派来的	Reduce	(1) <b>R→</b> 我
3	# R (1)	是县长派来的	Reduce	(7) NP→R
4	# NP (7)	是县长派来的	Shift	
5	# NP (7) 是	县长 派 来 的	Reduce	(3) V <del>)</del> 是
6	# NP (7) V (3)	县长 派 来 的	Shift	
7	# NP (7) V (3)县长	派来的	Reduce	(2) <b>N→</b> 县长
8	# NP (7) V (3) N (2)	派来的	Reduce	(8) NP→N
9	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8)	派来的	Reduce	(11) VP→V NP
10	# NP (7) VP (11)	派来的	Reduce	(13) S→NP VP
11	# S (13)	派 来 的	Shift	

	Stack	Input	Opr	Rule
12	# S (13) 派	来的	Reduce	(4) V→派
13	# S (13) V(4)	来的	Shift	
14	# S (13) V(4) 来	的	Reduce	(5) <b>V→</b> 来
15	# S (13) V(4) V(5)	的	Reduce	(10) $VP\varphi \rightarrow VV$
16	# S (13) VP() (10)	的	Shift	
17	# S (13) VP() (10) 的		Reduce	(6) de→的
18	# S (13) VP\( \phi\) (10) de(6)		Back	
19	# S (13) VP() (10) 的		Back	
20	# S (13) VP() (10)	的	Back	
21	# S (13) V(4) V (5)	的	Back	
22	# S (13) V(4) 来	的	Back	

	Stack	Input	Opr	Rule
23	# S (13) V(4)	来的	Back	
24	# S (13) 派	来的	Back	
25	# S (13)	派来的	Back	
26	# NP (7) VP (11)	派来的	Shift	(13) S→NP VP
27	# NP (7) VP (11) 派	来的	Reduce	(4) V→派
28	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4)	来的	Shift	
29	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4) 来	的	Reduce	(5) <b>V→</b> 来
30	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4) V(5)	的	Reduce	(10) $VP\phi \rightarrow VV$
31	# NP (7) VP (11) VP\$ (10)	的	Shift	
32	# NP (7) VP (11) VP (10) 的		Reduce	(6) de→的
33	# NP (7) VP (11) VPφ (10) de(6)		Back	

	Stack	Input	Opr	Rule
34	# NP (7) VP (11) VP (10) 的		Back	
35	# NP (7) VP (11) VP\$ (10)	的	Back	
36	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4) V(5)	的	Back	
37	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4) 来	的	Back	
38	# NP (7) VP (11) V(4)	来的	Back	
39	# NP (7) VP (11) 派	来的	Back	
40	# NP (7) VP (11)	派来的	Back	
41	# NP (7) VP (11)	派来的	Back	
42	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8)	派来的	Shift	
43	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8) 派	来的	Reduce	(4) V→派
44	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8) V(4)	来的	Shift	

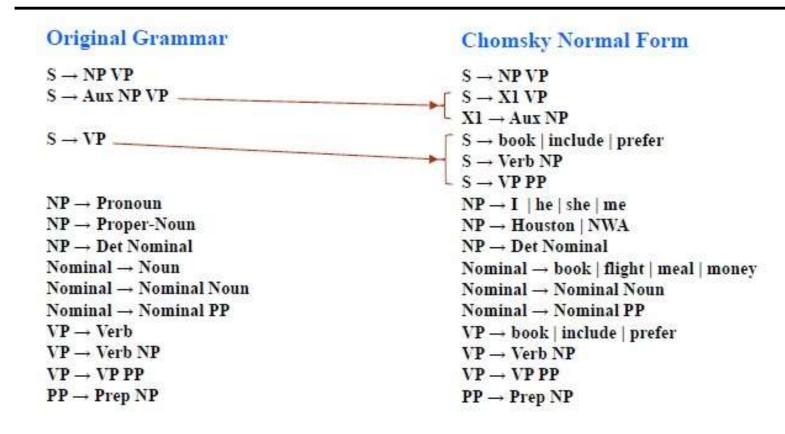
	Stack	Input	Opr	Rule
45	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8) V(4)来	的	Reduce	(5) <b>V→</b> 来
46	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8) V(4) V(5)	的	Reduce	(10) $VP\varphi \rightarrow VV$
47	# NP (7) V (3) NP (8) VPφ (10)	的	Reduce	(12) $S\varphi \rightarrow NP$ $VP\varphi$
48	# NP (7) V (3) S\( \phi \) (12)	的	Shift	
49	# NP (7) V (3) Sq (12) 的		Reduce	(6) de→的
50	# NP (7) V (3) S\( \phi \) (12) de (6)		Reduce	(9) NP $\rightarrow$ S $\phi$ de
51	# NP (7) V (3) NP (9)		Reduce	(11) VP→V NP
52	# NP (7) VP (11)		Reduce	(13) S→NP VP
53	# S (13)		Accept	

### Summary of Shift-Reduce Algorithm

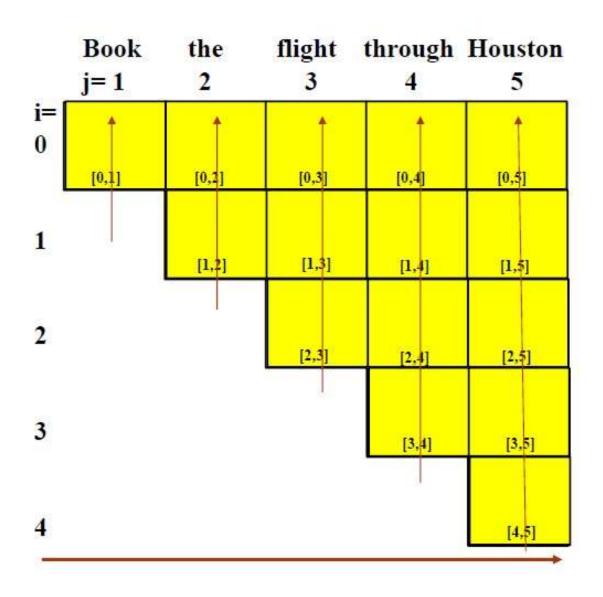
- Shift-Reduce algorithm is a bottom-up analysis
- In order to obtain all possible parsing results, force backtracking is conducted for each success analysis, which leads to lots of redundant operations
- Revisions:
  - Introduce conditional operation rule
  - Introduce contextual operation rule
  - Introduce Cache (Marcus Algorithm)

- CKY (Cocke-Kasami-Younger) algorithm
- Bottom-Up Parsing
- The productive rules must be formalized
- Dynamic Parsing  $(O(n^3))$
- The rules must be formalized to Chomsky normal
- form (CNF), where the RHS of this rule must be 2 non-terminal or 1 terminal
- Paring from Bottom in a table.
- The Parsing for a string depends on the parsing for its sub-strings

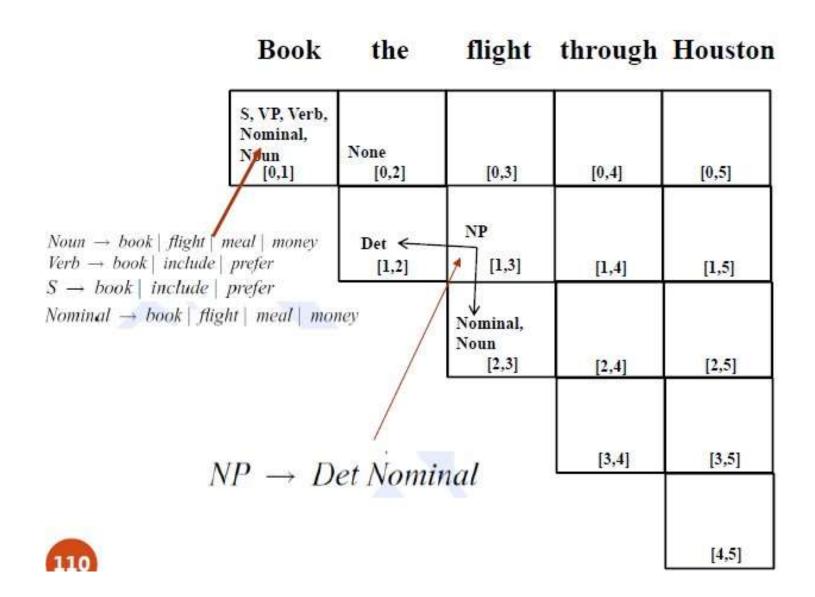
### CYK Parsing: Rule Formalization

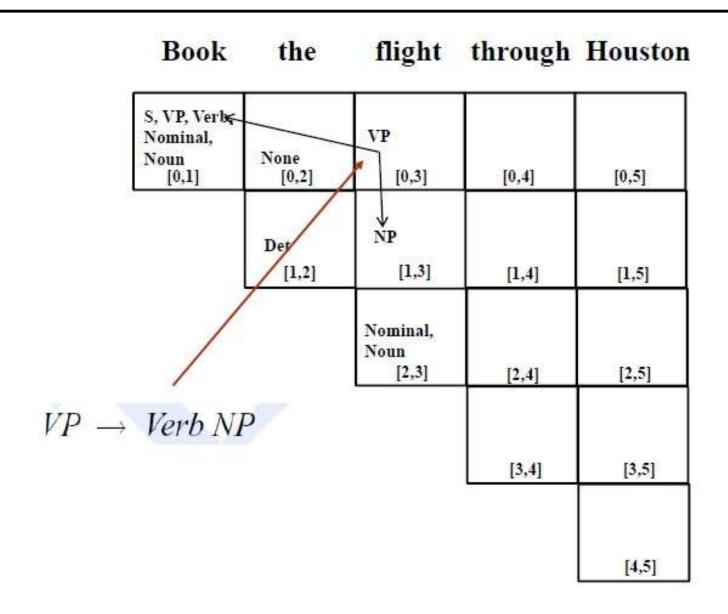


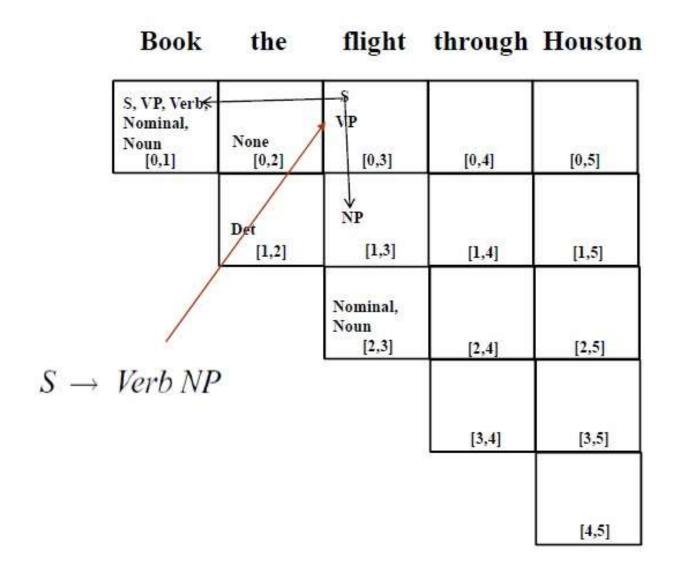
```
Det \rightarrow that \mid this \mid a
Noun \rightarrow book \mid flight \mid meal \mid money
Verb \rightarrow book \mid include \mid prefer
Pronoun \rightarrow I \mid she \mid me
Proper-Noun \rightarrow Houston \mid TWA
Aux \rightarrow does
Preposition \rightarrow from \mid to \mid on \mid near \mid through
```



Cell[i,j] contains all of Non-terminals which covers Word<sub>i+1</sub> to Word<sub>j</sub>

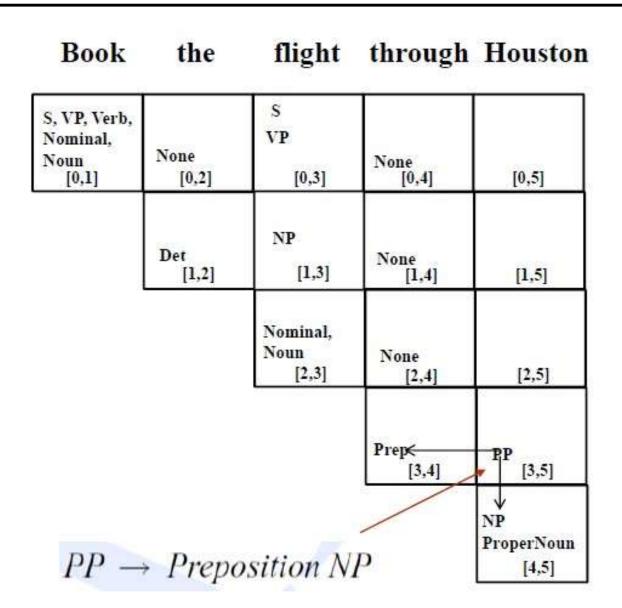


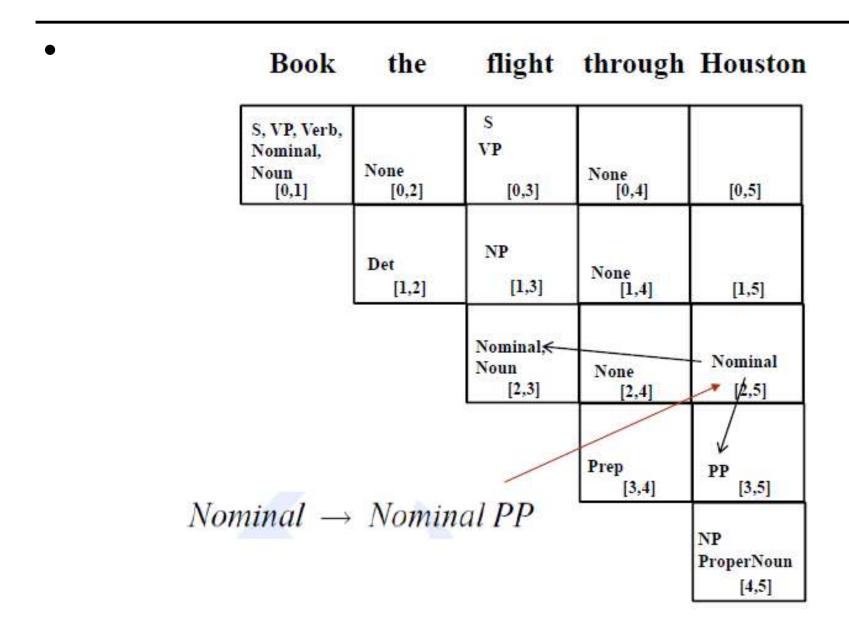


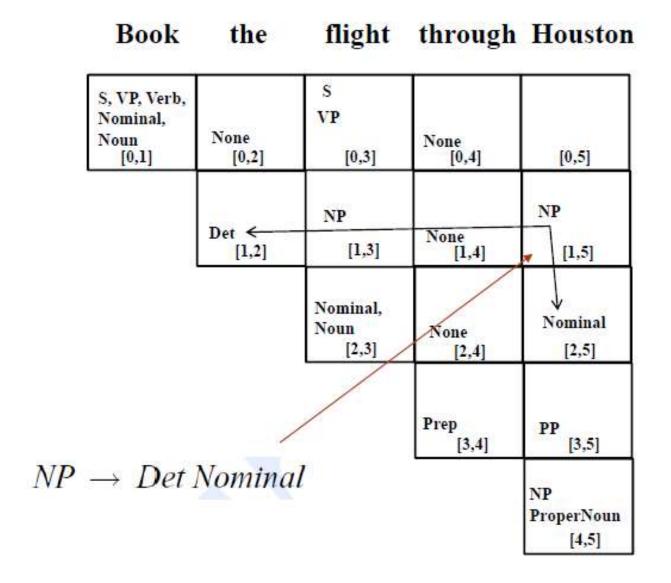


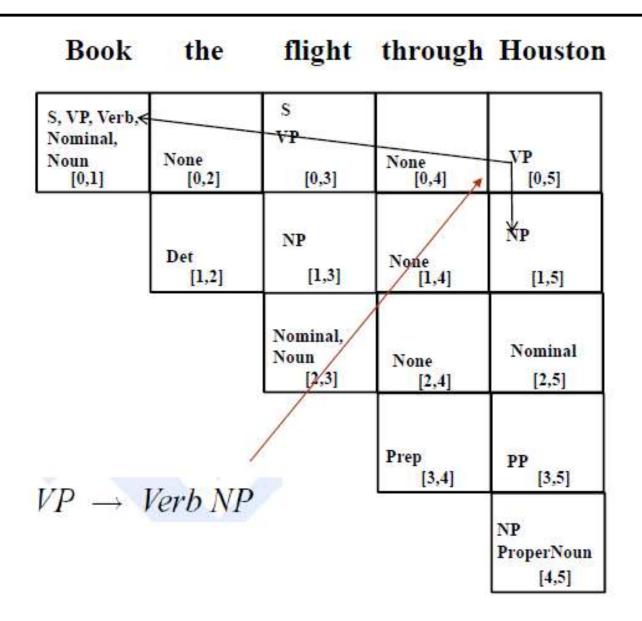
Book	the	flight	through	Houston
S, VP, Verb, Nominal, Noun [0,1]	None [0,2]	S VP [0,3]	[0,4]	[0,5]
9	Det [1,2]	NP [1,3]	[1,4]	[1,5]
		Nominal, Noun [2,3]	[2,4]	[2,5]
			[3,4]	[3,5]
				[4,5]

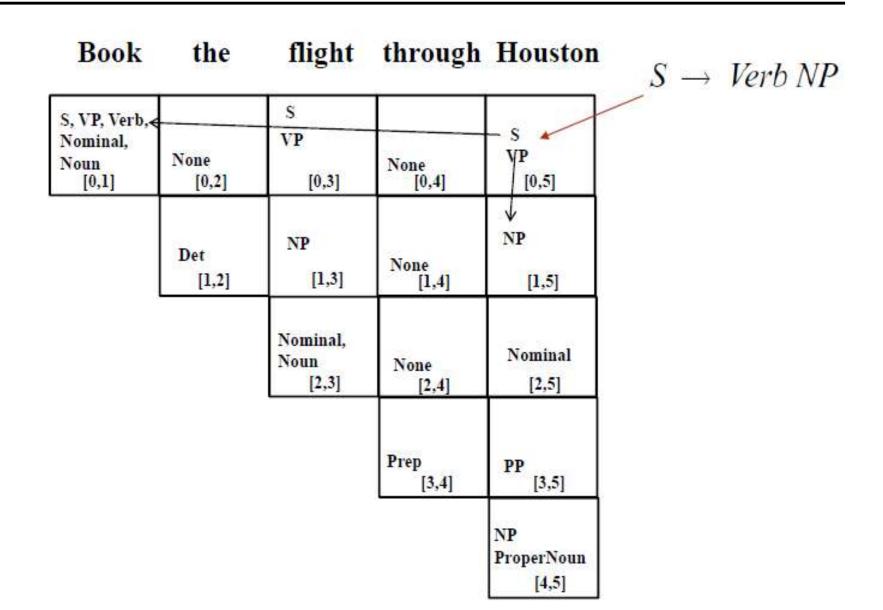
Book	the	flight	through	Houston
S, VP, Verb, Nominal, Noun [0,1]	None [0,2]	S VP [0,3]	None [0,4]	[0,5]
	Det [1,2]	NP [1,3]	None [1,4]	[1,5]
		Nominal, Noun [2,3]	None [2,4]	[2,5]
			Prep [3,4]	[3,5]
				[4,5]



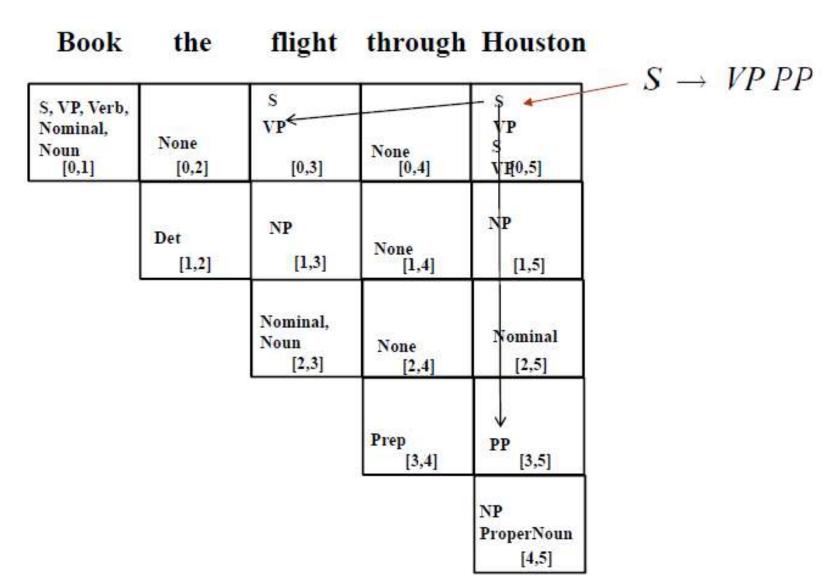


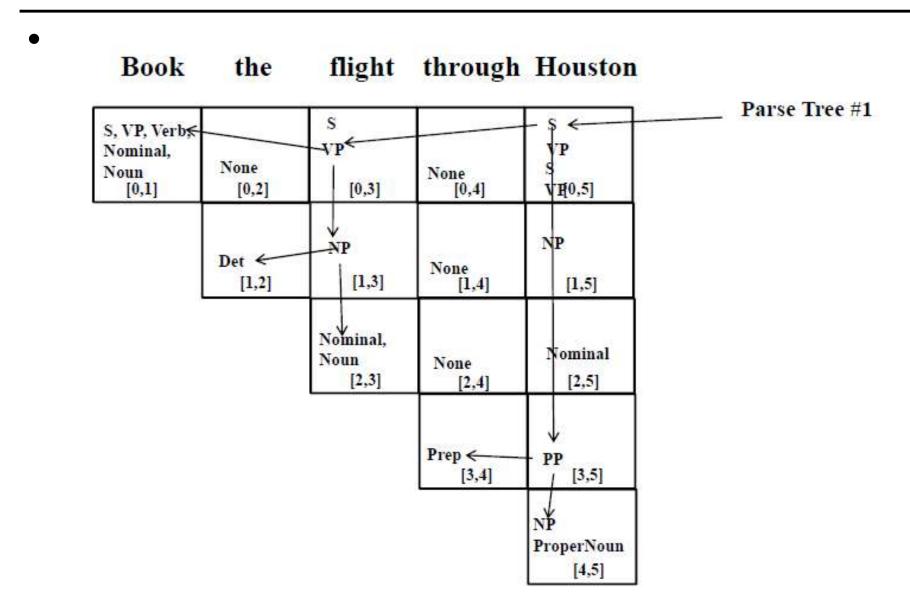






Book the flight through Houston  $VP \rightarrow VP PP$ S, VP, Verb, VP Nominal, None None [0,4] Noun [0,5][0,1][0,2][0,3]NP NP None [1,4] Det [1,3] [1,2] [1,5] Nominal, Nominal Noun None [2,3][2,5] [2,4] Prep [3,5] [3,4]NP ProperNoun [4,5]





Book flight through Houston the Parse Tree #2 S S S, VP, Verb Nominal, VP VP None [0,4] None Noun [0,1][0,3] H0,5] [0,2]NP NP Det < None [1,3] [1,2] [1,4] [1,5] Nominal, ← Nominal Noun None [2,3][2,5][2,4]Prep ← PP [3,4][3,5] ProperNoun [4,5]

- Generate all possible parsing tree
- Complexity:  $O(n^3)$
- Dynamic Parsing

No disambiguation capability

#### The Next Lecture

Lecture 11Parsing II