

# CS310 Natural Language Processing

## 自然语言处理

### Lecture 06 - Dependency Parsing

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# Overview

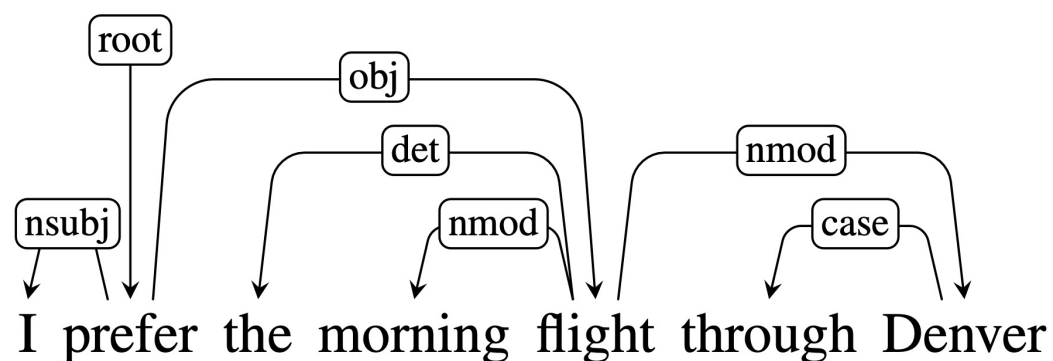
- Dependency Grammars
- Transition-Based Dependency Parsing
- Graph-Based Dependency Parsing
- Evaluation

# Dependency Grammars

- Different from context-free grammars and constituency-based representations
- **Dependency Grammars** describe **syntactic structure** of a sentence solely in terms of directed grammatical *relations between words*

arc: *n.* 弧线

Labeled arcs **from heads to dependents**



$prefer \xrightarrow{\text{nsubj}} I$

*prefer* is the head of *I*

$prefer \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} flight$

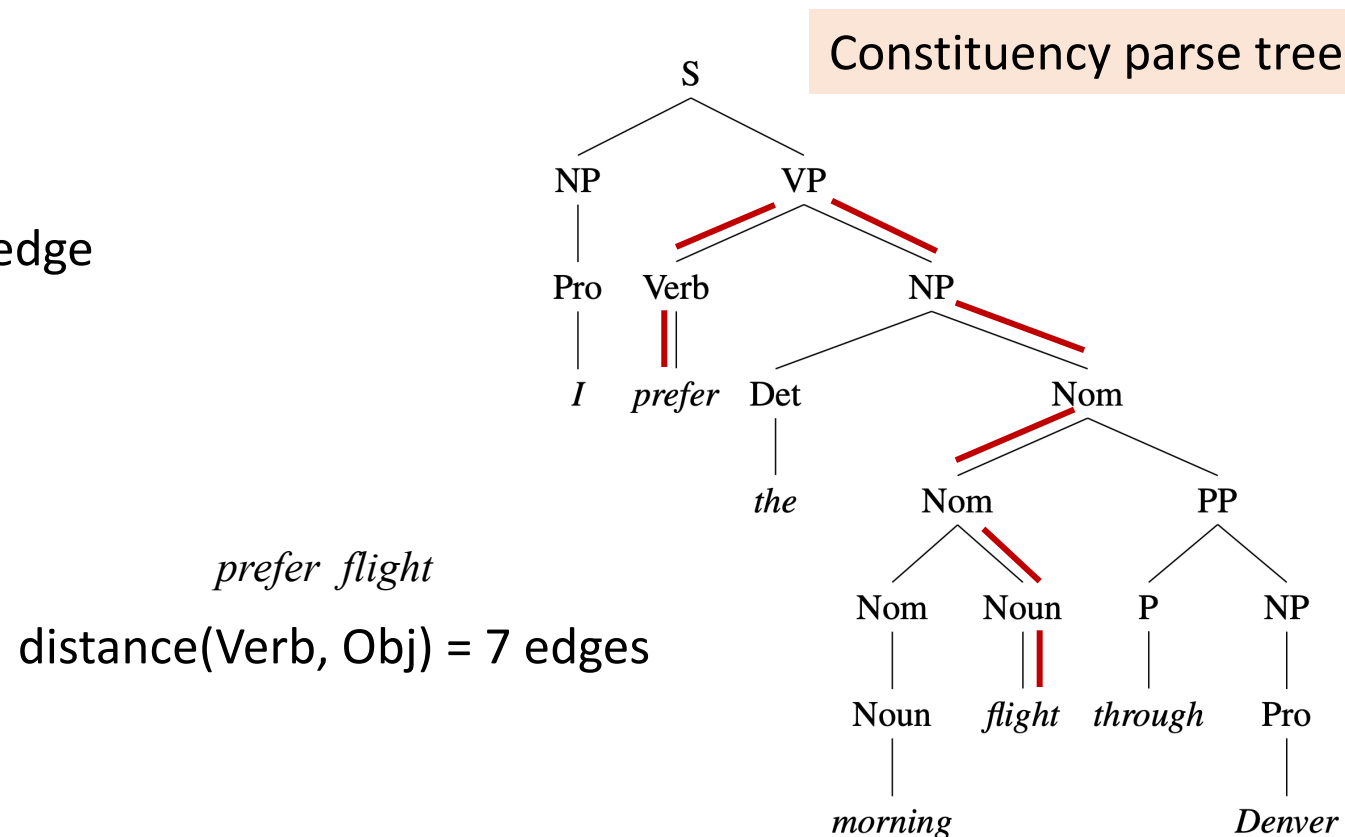
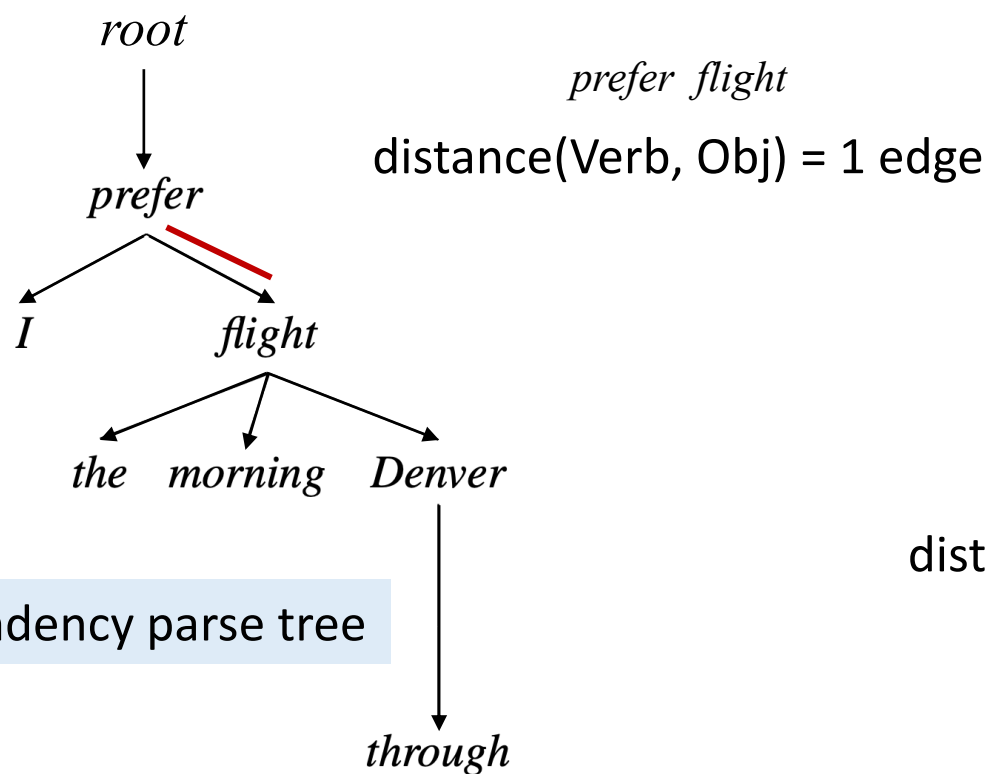
*flight* is the dependent of *prefer*

$root \rightarrow prefer$

*root* is the head of *prefer* and also the head of the entire structure (root of the tree)

# Compare to Context-Free Grammars

- Head-dependent relations **directly encode** important information that is often **buried** in the more complex constituency parses (by CFG)



# Dependency Relations

- Dependency relations consist of a head and dependent
- The **head** plays the role of the *central organizing word*, and the **dependent** as a kind of modifier
- The relations can be classified based on the **grammatical function** that the dependent plays with respect to its head
  - Such as *subject, direct object, indirect object*
- Cross-linguistic standards have been developed for the taxonomies of relations: 分类学  
The **Universal Dependencies (UD)** project (de Marneffe et al., 2021)
  - Across >100 languages; an inventory of 37 dependency relations

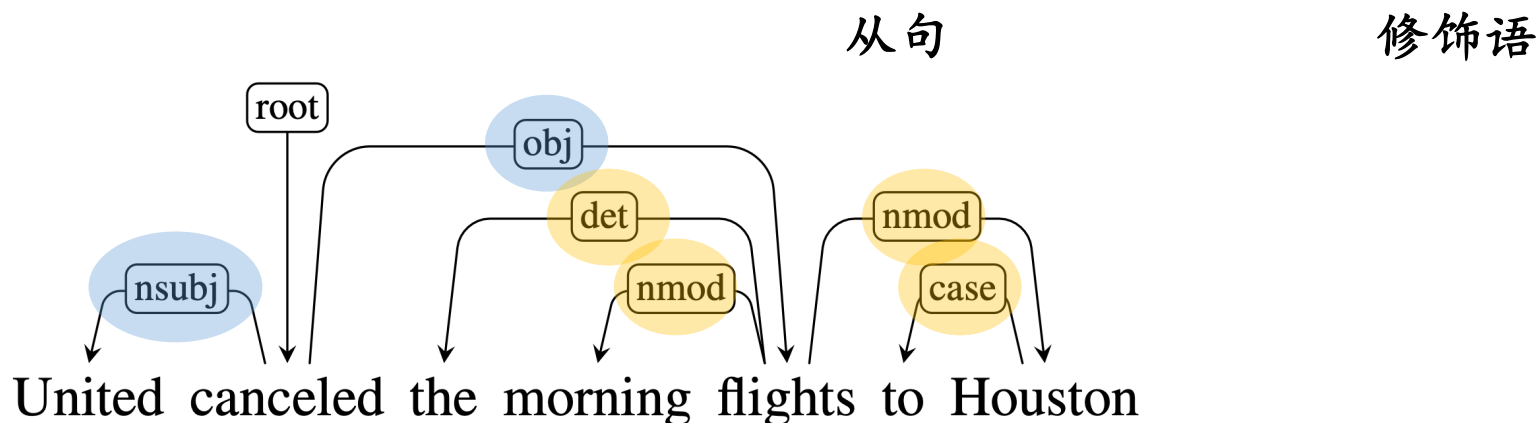
# Universal Dependency Relations (Examples)

Clausal Argument Relations	Description
NSUBJ	Nominal subject
OBJ	Direct object
IOBJ	Indirect object
CCOMP	Clausal complement
Nominal Modifier Relations	Description
NMOD	Nominal modifier
AMOD	Adjectival modifier
NUMMOD	Numeric modifier
APPOS	Appositional modifier
DET	Determiner
CASE	Prepositions, postpositions
Other Notable Relations	Description
CONJ	Conjunct
CC	Coordinating conjunction

Relation	Examples with <i>head</i> and <b>dependent</b>
NSUBJ	<b>United</b> <i>canceled</i> the flight.
OBJ	United <i>diverted</i> the <b>flight</b> to Reno. We <i>booked</i> her the first <b>flight</b> to Miami.
IOBJ	We <i>booked</i> <b>her</b> the flight to Miami.
NMOD	We took the <b>morning</b> <i>flight</i> .
AMOD	Book the <b>cheapest</b> <i>flight</i> .
NUMMOD	Before the storm JetBlue canceled <b>1000</b> <i>flights</i> .
APPOS	<i>United</i> , a <b>unit</b> of UAL, matched the fares.
DET	<b>The</b> <i>flight</i> was canceled. <b>Which</b> <i>flight</i> was delayed?
CONJ	We <i>flew</i> to Denver and <b>drove</b> to Steamboat.
CC	We flew to Denver <b>and</b> <i>drove</i> to Steamboat.
CASE	Book the flight <b>through</b> <i>Houston</i> .

# Universal Dependency Relations (Examples)

- Two sets of most frequently used relations: **clausal** relations and **modifier** relations



clausal relations describe syntactic roles with respect to a predicate (often a verb)

NSUBJ and OBJ identify the subject and direct object of the predicate *cancel*

modifier relations describe the ways that words can modify their heads

NMOD, DET, and CASE denote modifiers of the nouns *flights* and *Houston*

# Graph Formalization of Dependency

- A dependency structure can be represented as a directed graph  $G = (V, A)$ , with a set of vertices  $V$ , and a set of ordered pairs of vertices  $A$ , called arcs.
- A dependency tree satisfies the following constraints:
  - 1. There is a **single root node** that has **no incoming arcs**
  - 2. Each vertex has exactly one incoming arc, except for the root
  - 3. There is a unique path from the root node to each vertex in  $V$
- With above constraints: each word has **single head**; a word can have **multiple dependents**.

每个词只能“依附”于一个中心词，但可以支配多个词



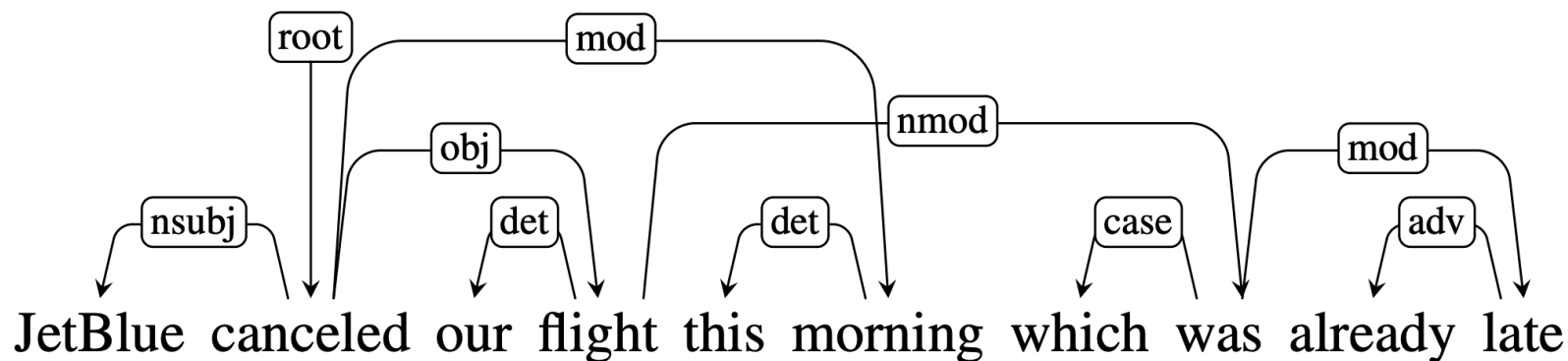
# Projectivity

projective: adj. 投射的；投影

句法结构中是否“干净”地嵌套的重要标准

- An arc is **projective** if there is a path from the head to every word that lies between the head and the dependent 没有跨越其他词的弧是 projective 的；跨越中间其他词却不支配它们的弧是 non-projective 的
- A dependent tree is said to be projective if **all the arcs are projective**
- Many valid constructions lead to non-projective trees, particularly in languages with relatively flexible word order

The arc *flight* → *was* is **non-projective**



since there is no path from  
*flight* to the intervening  
words *this* and *morning*

cancel就是projective的

# Projectivity

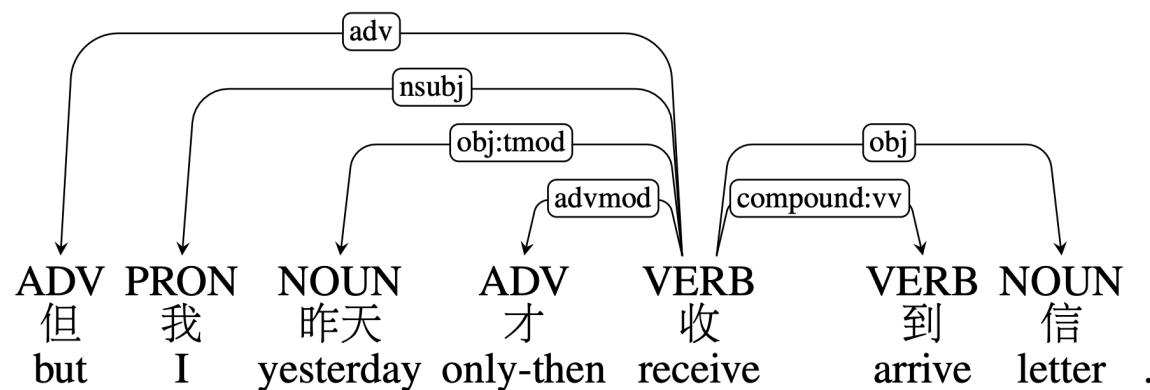
如果一棵依存树可以画出来时没有交叉的弧 (edges/arcs) , 那么它就是 projective (投射的)。

- Projectivity can be detected by testing if a tree can be **drawn with no crossing edges (arcs)**
- Why caring about projectivity?
- **First**, some widely used English dependency treebanks are automatically derived from constituency treebanks through the **use of head-finding rules**
  - Trees generated this way will always be projective;
  - Hence will be incorrect when non-projective examples are encountered
- **Second**, there are limitations to the widely used dependency parsing algorithms
  - **Transition-based parsing** (covered later) can only produce projective trees
  - Motivation for more flexible graph-based parsing

# Dependency Treebanks

大量带有句法结构标注的句子集合，这些句子以“词与词之间的依存关系”进行标注

- Treebanks play important role in training and evaluating dependency parsers, and for linguistic studies
- Treebanks are created by: human annotators; hand-corrected from the output of a parser; *translated* from constituency treebanks
- Largest open community project: The **Universal Dependencies (UD)** project
  - 200+ dependency treebanks in 100+ languages



但我昨天才收到信 “But I didn’t receive the letter until yesterday”

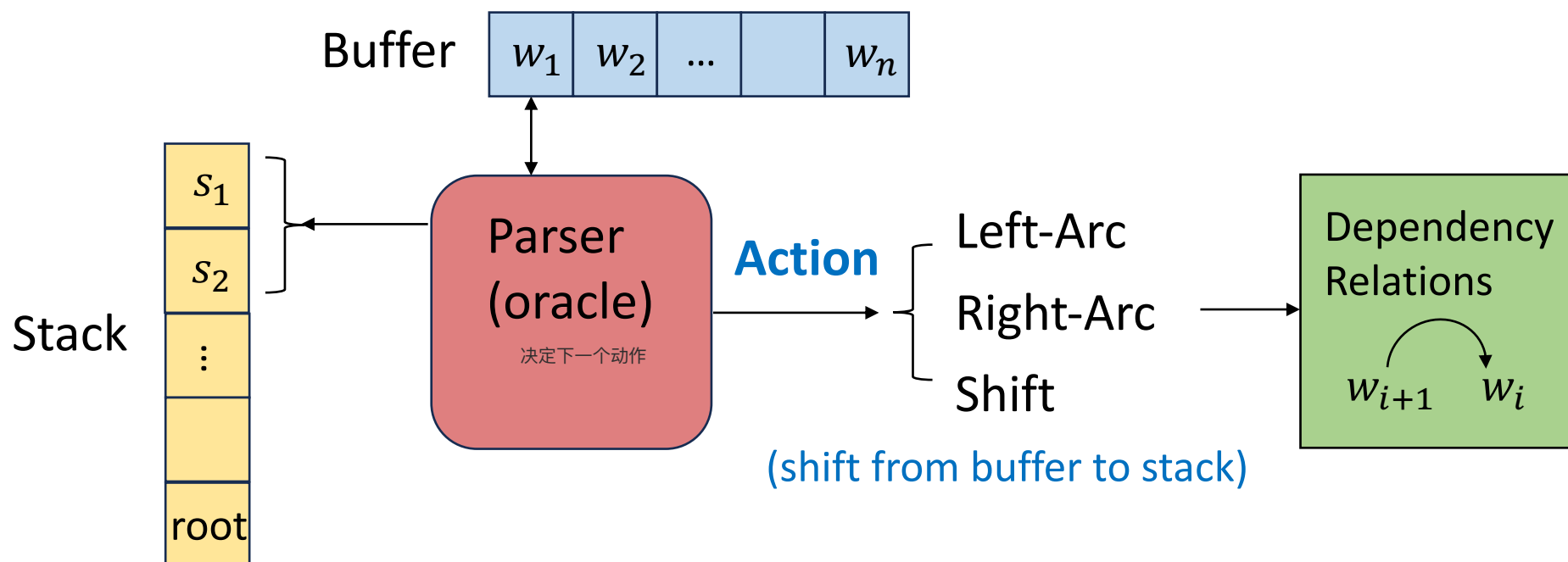
# Overview

- Dependency Grammars
- **Transition-Based Dependency Parsing**
  - Generic Parsing Process - Arc Standard Approach
  - Generating Training Data
  - Implementation
  - Advanced Methods - Arc Eager Approach
- Graph-Based Dependency Parsing
- Evaluation

# Transition-Based Dependency Parsing

- An architecture that draws on **shift-reduce parsing** (a paradigm for analyzing programming languages)
- Key components: **stack**, **buffer**, and **oracle**.

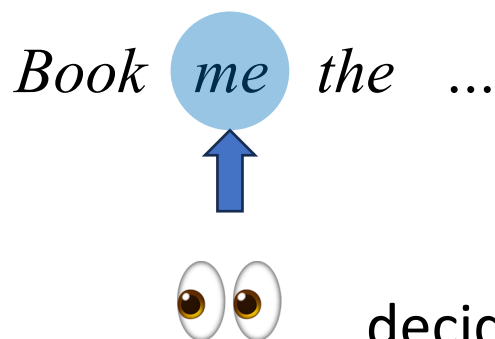
利用状态转换 (transitions) 来逐步构建依存关系



# Transition actions

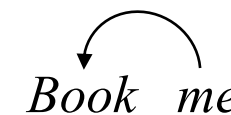
Transition Actions ( 转移动作 ) 是如何根据当前阅读的单词来构建依存结构的。

- The transition **actions** corresponds to the intuitive actions when we read a sentence in a single pass and try to create a dependency tree

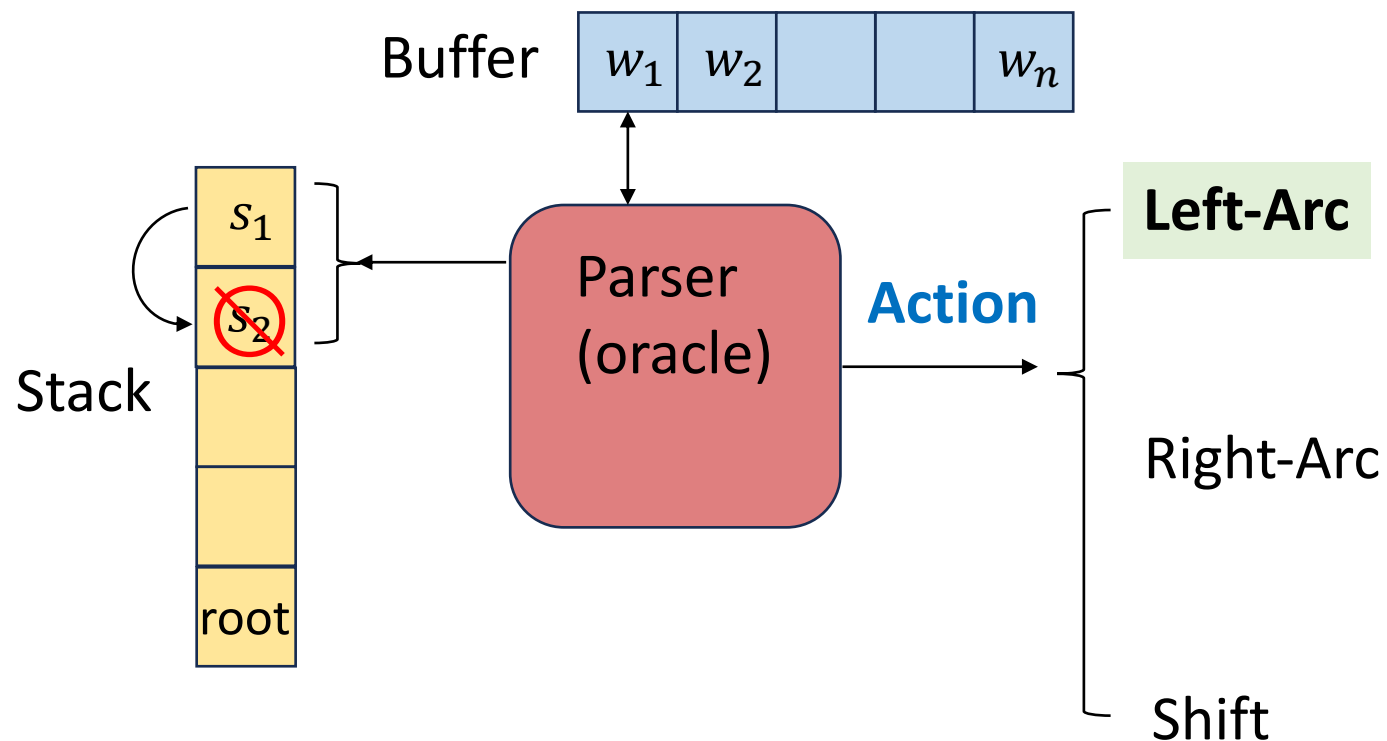


decide:

- ! Assign current word as the **head** of some previously seen word
- ! Assign some previously seen word as the **head** of current word
- ? Not sure, so postpone the decision and store it for later processing



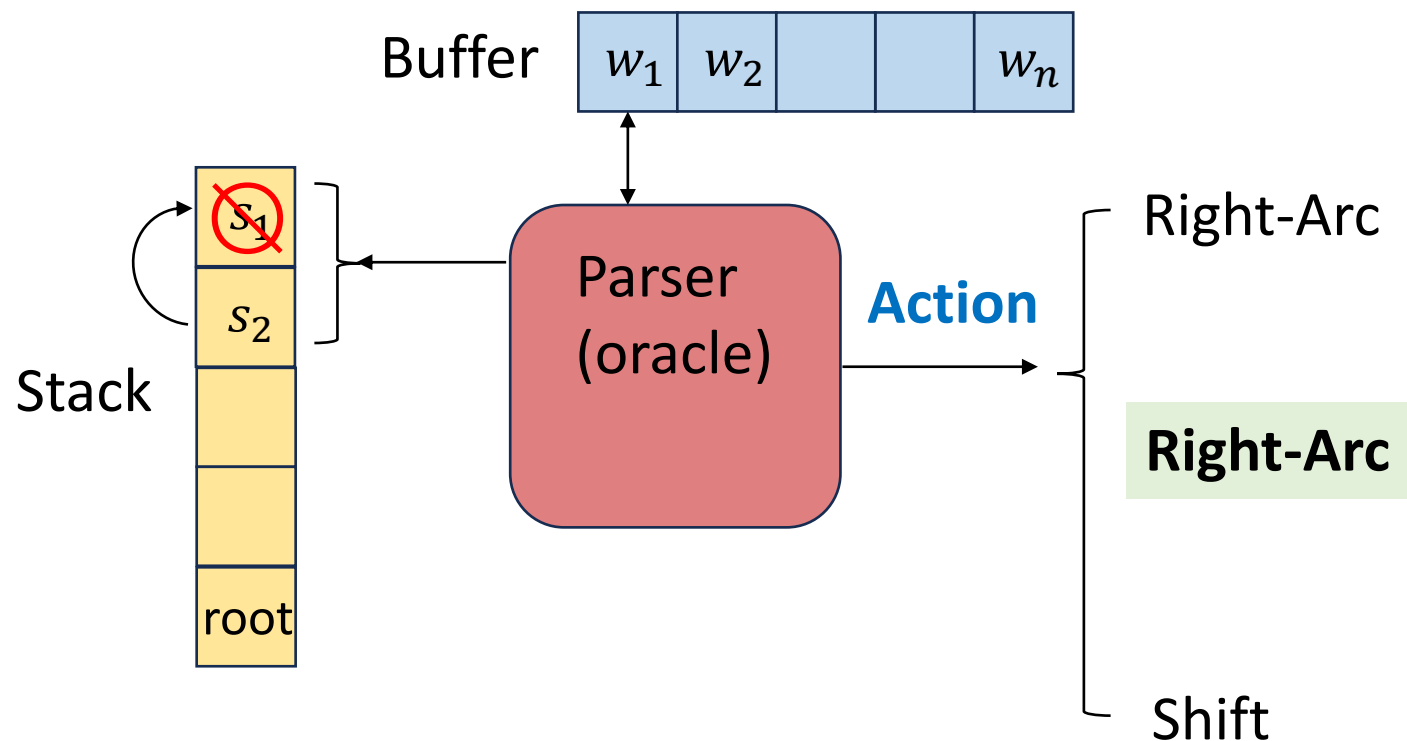
# Formalize the transition actions



Assert  $s_1 \rightarrow s_2$   
( $s_1$  is head and  $s_2$  is dependent)  
Remove  $s_2$

Because each word has exactly one incoming arc

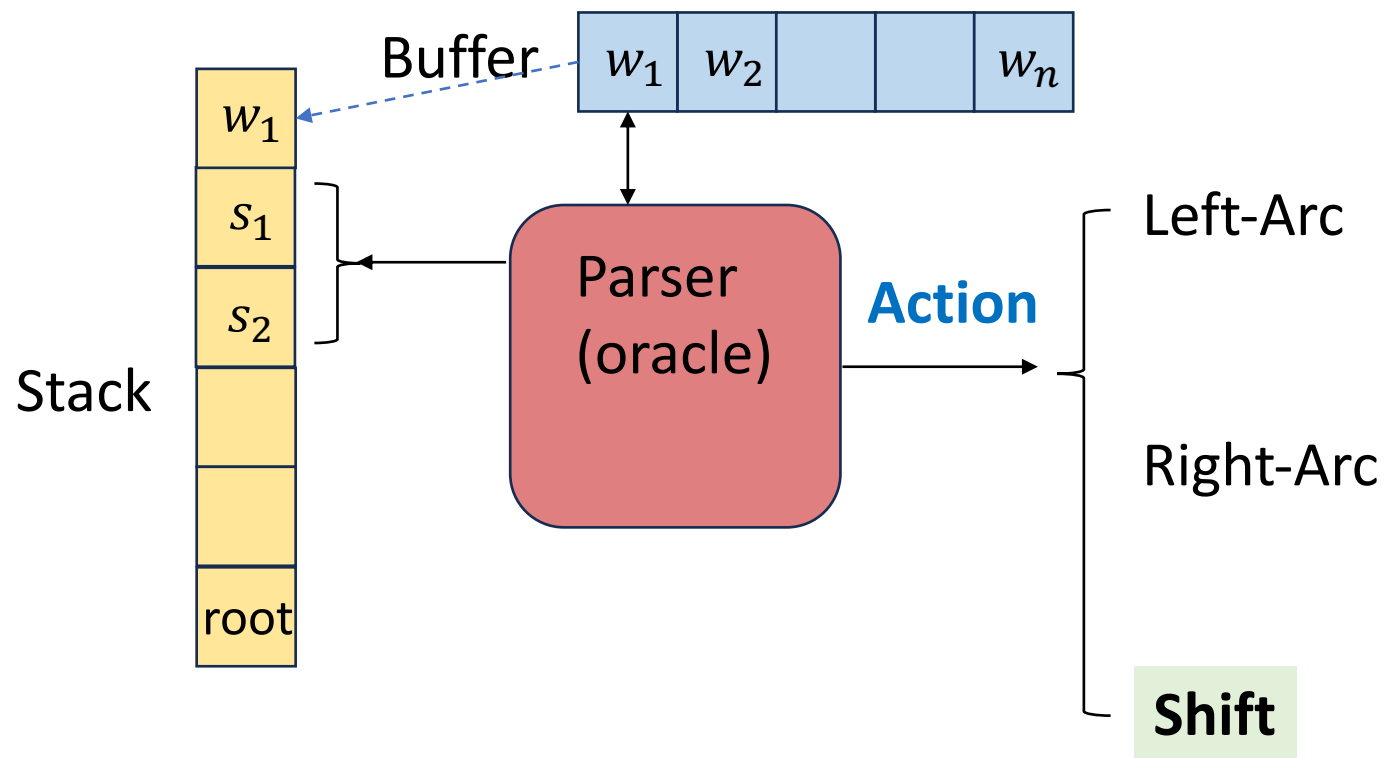
# Formalize the transition actions



Assert  $s_2 \rightarrow s_1$   
 ( $s_2$  is head and  $s_1$  is dependent)  
 Remove  $s_1$

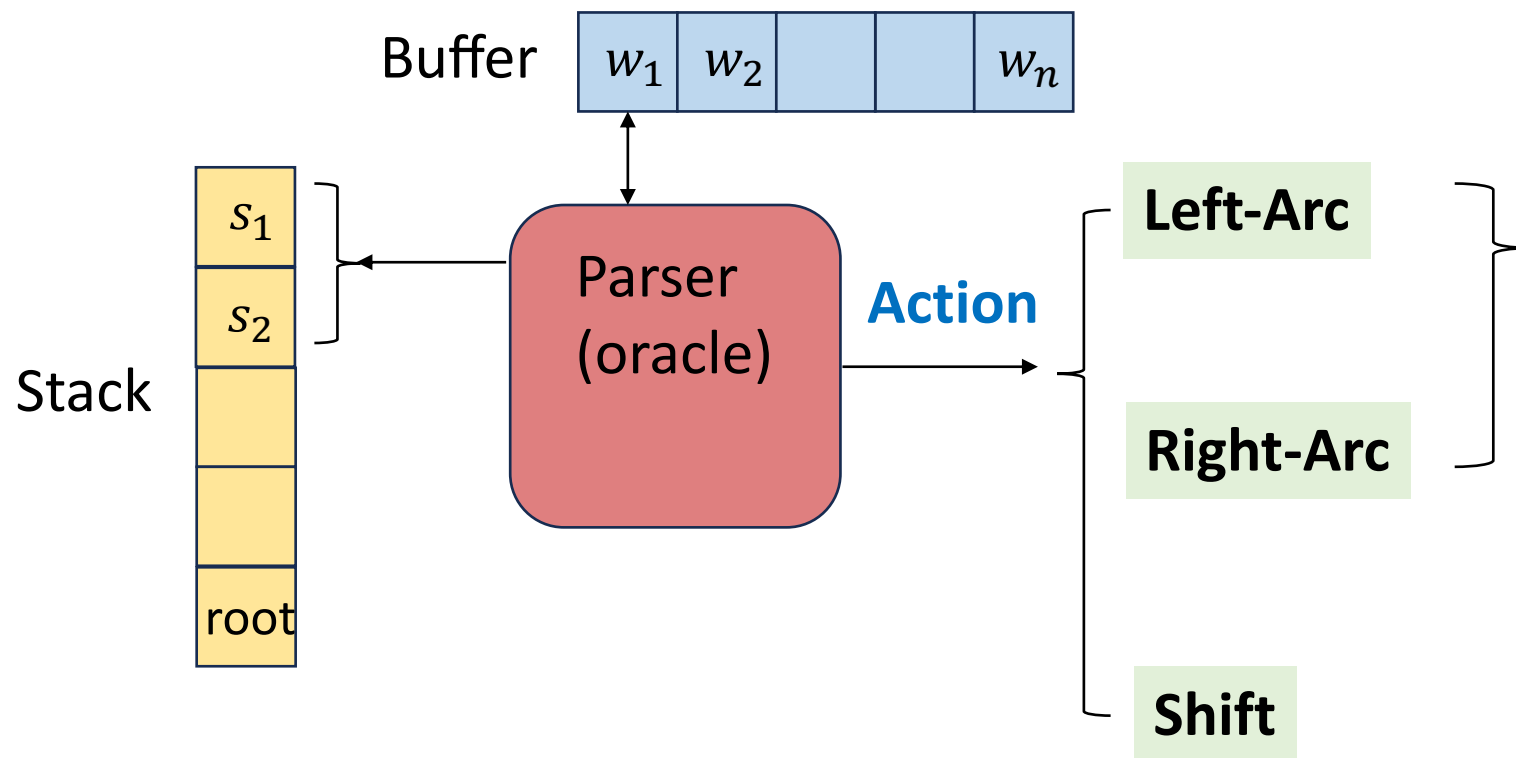


# Formalize the transition actions



Remove the word from the front of **buffer** and push it to **stack**

# Formalize the transition actions



**Reduce operations:**  
“reduce” means combining elements on stack

**Preconditions:**

- Both Left-Arc and Right-Arc **require *two* elements** to be on stack
- Left-Arc cannot be applied when ROOT is the second element

# Describe a generic transition-based parser

- **Configuration:** Describe the **current state** of parser with the **stack**, an input **buffer** of words, and a set of **relations** representing the dependency tree.

---

**function** DEPENDENCYPARSE(*words*) **returns** dependency tree

state  $\leftarrow$  {[root], [*words*], []} ; initial configuration

**while** *state* **not** final

$t \leftarrow$  ORACLE(*state*) ; choose a transition operator to apply

    state  $\leftarrow$  APPLY(*t*, *state*) ; apply it, creating a new state

**return** *state*

---

Parsing  $\Rightarrow$  making a sequence of transitions through the **space of possible configurations**

**Initial** configuration state:

- stack: [root]
- buffer: [ $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_n$ ]
- relations: []



**Final** configuration state:

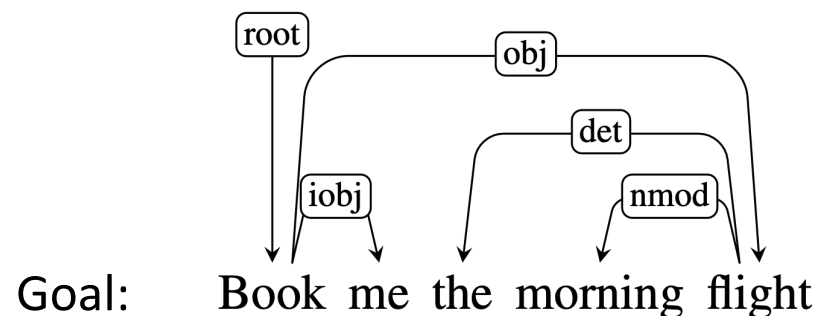
- stack: [root]
- buffer: []
- relations: a set of relations representing the final parse

# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

**Initial** configuration state:

- stack: [**root**]
- buffer: [book, me, the, morning, flight]
- relations: []



Add relation (book → me)

Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
0	[ <b>root</b> ]	[book, me, the, morning, flight]	Shift	
1	[ <b>root</b> , book]	[me, the, morning, flight]	Shift	
2	[ <b>root</b> , book, <del>me</del> ]	[the, morning, flight]	Right-Arc	(book → me)

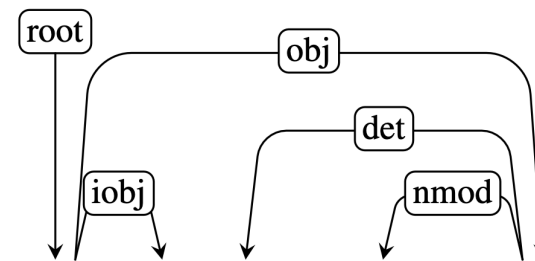
Pop *me* from the stack

Assign *book* as the head of *me*

# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

Goal: Book me the morning flight



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
0	[ <a href="#">root</a> ]	[book, me, the, morning, flight]	Shift	
1	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book]	[me, the, morning, flight]	Shift	
2	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book, me]	[the, morning, flight]	Right-Arc	(book → me)
3	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book]	[the, morning, flight]	Shift	
4	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book, the]	[morning, flight]	Shift	
5	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book, the, morning]	[flight]	Shift	
6	[ <a href="#">root</a> , book, the, <del>morning</del> , flight]	[]	Left-Arc	( <a href="#">morning</a> ← <a href="#">flight</a> )

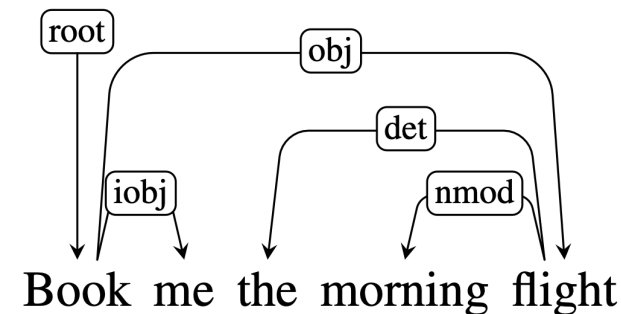
Assign *flight* as the head of *morning*      Add relation

Pop *morning* from the stack

# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

Goal:



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
6	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, morning, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(morning ← flight)
7	[ <b>root</b> , book, <del>the</del> , flight]	[]	<b>Left-Arc</b>	<b>(the ← flight)</b>

Pop *the* from the stack

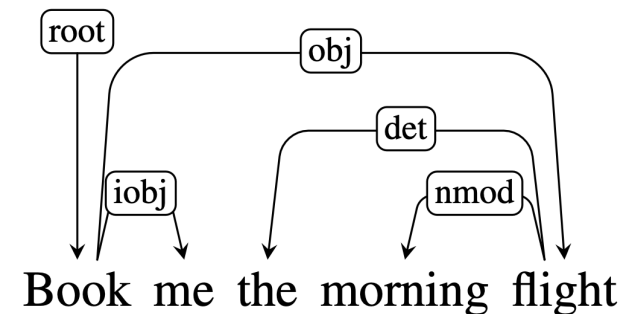
Assign *flight* as the head of *the*

Add relation

# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

Goal:



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
6	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, morning, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(morning ← flight)
7	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(the ← flight)
8	[ <b>root</b> , book, <del>flight</del> ]	[]	<b>Right-Arc</b>	<b>(book → flight)</b>

Pop *flight* from the stack

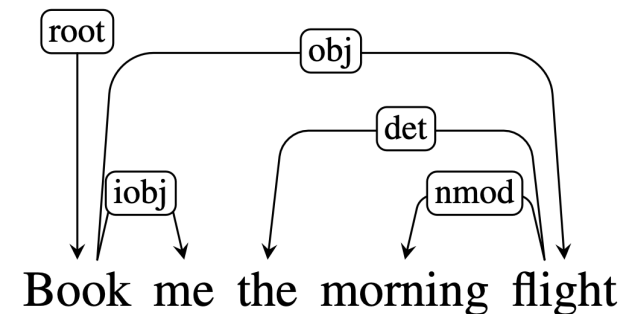
Assign *book* as the head of *flight*

Add relation

# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

Goal:



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
6	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, morning, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(morning ← flight)
7	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(the ← flight)
8	[ <b>root</b> , book, flight]	[]	Right-Arc	(book → flight)
9	[ <b>root</b> , <del>book</del> ]	[]	<b>Right-Arc</b>	<b>(root → book)</b>

Pop *book* from the stack

Assign *root* as the head of *book*

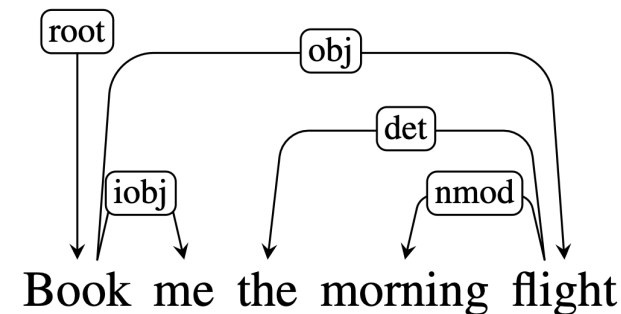
Add relation



# Parsing Example

Input sentence: Book me the morning flight

Goal:



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action	Relation Added
6	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, morning, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(morning ← flight)
7	[ <b>root</b> , book, the, flight]	[]	Left-Arc	(the ← flight)
8	[ <b>root</b> , book, flight]	[]	Right-Arc	(book → flight)
9	[ <b>root</b> , book]	[]	Right-Arc	(root → book)
10	[ <b>root</b> ]	[]	Done	

Parse is done when **stack** only contains **root** and **buffer** is empty

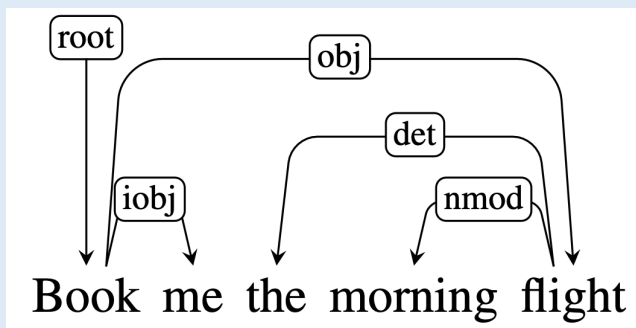
# Several Notable Things

- The sequence of transition actions is not the only one leading to a reasonable parse
- We assume the oracle always provides the correct action
  - which is **unlikely** to be true in practice
  - Incorrect choices will lead to incorrect parses since the parser **has no opportunity to go back and make alternative choices**
- In the previous example, dependency relations are without labels
  - To produce labeled parses, need to parameterize the Left-Arc and Right-Arc operators:
  - such as, **Left-Arc(NSUBJ)**, **Right-Arc(OBJ)**
  - Makes the job of oracle more difficult

# Train the Oracle

- Oracle's job: select the **appropriate transition action** based on the configuration: **stack (S)**, **buffer (B)**, and the already assigned **relations (R)**
- Trained by supervised machine learning
- **Training data: configurations** ( $x$ ) annotated with the correction **transition action** ( $y$ )
- ( $x, y$ ) are drawn from existing dependency trees

Treebank data:



How to convert?



Training data with paired ( $x, y$ ):

$(x_1 = S_1, B_1, R_1 \quad y_1 = \text{Shift})$

$(x_2 = S_2, B_2, R_2 \quad y_2 = \text{Shift})$

$(x_3 = S_3, B_3, R_3 \quad y_3 = \text{Shift})$

...

# Procedure of Generating Training Data

- Given current configuration and a gold-standard **reference** parse
- Choose **Left-Arc** if:  
it produces a correct head-dependent relation
- Choose **Right-Arc** if:  
1) it produces a correct head-dependent relation **and**  
2) all dependents of the top word of stack have already been assigned
- Choose **Shift** otherwise

The restriction on Right-Arc is to prevent a word being popped from stack before all of its dependent have been assigned

Formally, given

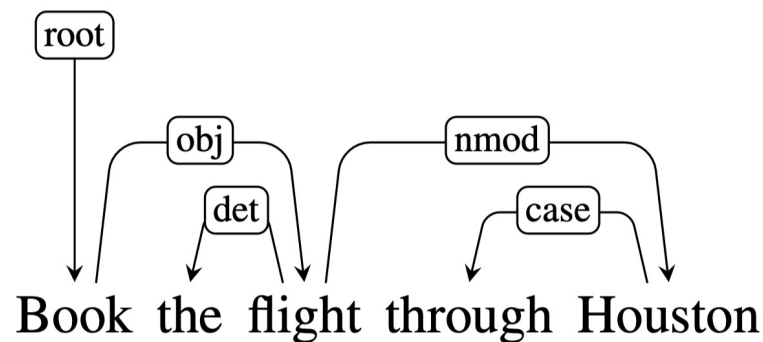
- a stack  $\mathcal{S}$
- a reference parse with a set of relations  $R_{\text{ref}}$
- a set of currently assigned relations  $R_c$

Choose transition action as follows:

- Left-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_1 \xrightarrow{r} S_2) \in R_{\text{ref}}$
- Right-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_2 \xrightarrow{r} S_1) \in R_{\text{ref}}$  **and**  
 $\forall r', \text{ w.r.t. } (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_{\text{ref}} \Rightarrow (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_c$
- Shift: **otherwise**

# Procedure of Generating Training Data

- Gold-standard sentence: Book the flight through Houston
- with reference parse:



Relations in this reference parse

$$R_{\text{ref}} = \{\text{root} \rightarrow \text{book},$$

$$\text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{flight},$$

$$\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the},$$

$$\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{nmod}} \text{Houston},$$

$$\text{Houston} \xrightarrow{\text{case}} \text{through}\}$$

Initial configuration stage:

**stack** = [root], **buffer** = [book, the, ...],  
currently assigned relations  $R_c = \{\}$

# Procedure of Generating Training Data

Step	Stack	Buffer
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]

At Step 1:

Left-Arc is not applicable because  $(\text{book} \rightarrow \text{root}) \notin R_{\text{ref}}$

Right-Arc is could be applicable since  $(\text{root} \rightarrow \text{book}) \in R_{\text{ref}}$ ,

Choose transition action as follows:

- Left-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_1 \xrightarrow{r} S_2) \in R_{\text{ref}}$
- Right-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_2 \xrightarrow{r} S_1) \in R_{\text{ref}}$  **and**  
 $\forall r', \text{ w.r.t. } (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_{\text{ref}} \Rightarrow (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_c$
- Shift: **otherwise**

$$R_c = \{\}$$

$$R_{\text{ref}} = \{\text{root} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{book}, \\ \text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{flight}, \\ \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}, \\ \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{nmod}} \text{Houston}, \\ \text{Houston} \xrightarrow{\text{case}} \text{through}\}$$

however *book* has not been assigned with its dependent yet:

as we find  $(\text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{flight}) \in R_{\text{ref}}$   
but  $(\text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{flight}) \notin R_c$

So **Shift** is the only possible action

# Procedure of Generating Training Data

Step	Stack	Buffer
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]
2	[root, book, the]	[flight, through, Houston]
3	[root, book, the, flight]	[through, Houston]

$$R_c = \{\}$$

$$R_{\text{ref}} = \{\text{root} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{book}, \\ \text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{flight}, \\ \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}, \\ \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{nmod}} \text{Houston}, \\ \text{Houston} \xrightarrow{\text{case}} \text{through}\}$$

Choose transition action as follows:

- Left-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_1 \xrightarrow{r} S_2) \in R_{\text{ref}}$
- Right-Arc( $r$ ): **if**  $(S_2 \xrightarrow{r} S_1) \in R_{\text{ref}}$  **and**  
 $\forall r', \text{ w.r.t. } (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_{\text{ref}} \Rightarrow (S_1 \xrightarrow{r'} w) \in R_c$
- Shift: **otherwise**

At Step 3:

Left-Arc is applicable because  $(\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}) \in R_{\text{ref}}$

then **Left-Arc** is the transition action for this step  
and  $\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}$  will be added to  $R_c$

# Procedure of Generating Training Data

Step	Stack	Buffer
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]
2	[root, book, the]	[flight, through, Houston]
3	[root, book, the, flight]	[through, Houston]
4	[root, book, flight]	[through, Houston]

$$R_c = \{\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}\}$$

$$R_{\text{ref}} = \{\text{root} \xrightarrow{\text{obj}} \text{book}, \text{book} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{flight}, \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}, \text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{nmod}} \text{Houston}, \text{Houston} \xrightarrow{\text{case}} \text{through}\}$$

At Step 4:

Left-Arc is not applicable because  $(\text{flight} \rightarrow \text{book}) \notin R_{\text{ref}}$

So, only **shift** is viable

We might be tempted to choose Right-Arc and add  $(\text{book} \rightarrow \text{flight})$

But we cannot because flight has a dependent that has not been assigned yet:  $\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{nmod}} \text{Houston}$

If Right-Arc was chosen, then it presents attachment from *Houston* to *flight* in later steps



# Procedure of Generating Training Data

- So far, 5 training data instances generated:

$$\text{Step 0: } \left( \begin{array}{l} x_1 = \{S: [\text{root}], \\ B: [\text{book, the, flight, through, Houston}], \\ R_c: \{\}\} \end{array} \right) \quad y_1 = \text{Shift}$$

⋮

$$\text{Step 3: } \left( \begin{array}{l} x_4 = \{S: [\text{root, book, the, flight}], \\ B: [\text{through, Houston}], \\ R_c: \{\}\} \end{array} \right) \quad y_4 = \text{Left-Arc}$$

$$\text{Step 4: } \left( \begin{array}{l} x_5 = \{S: [\text{root, book, flight}], \\ B: [\text{through, Houston}], \\ R_c: \{\text{flight} \xrightarrow{\text{det}} \text{the}\}\} \end{array} \right) \quad y_5 = \text{Shift}$$

# Complete Generated Data

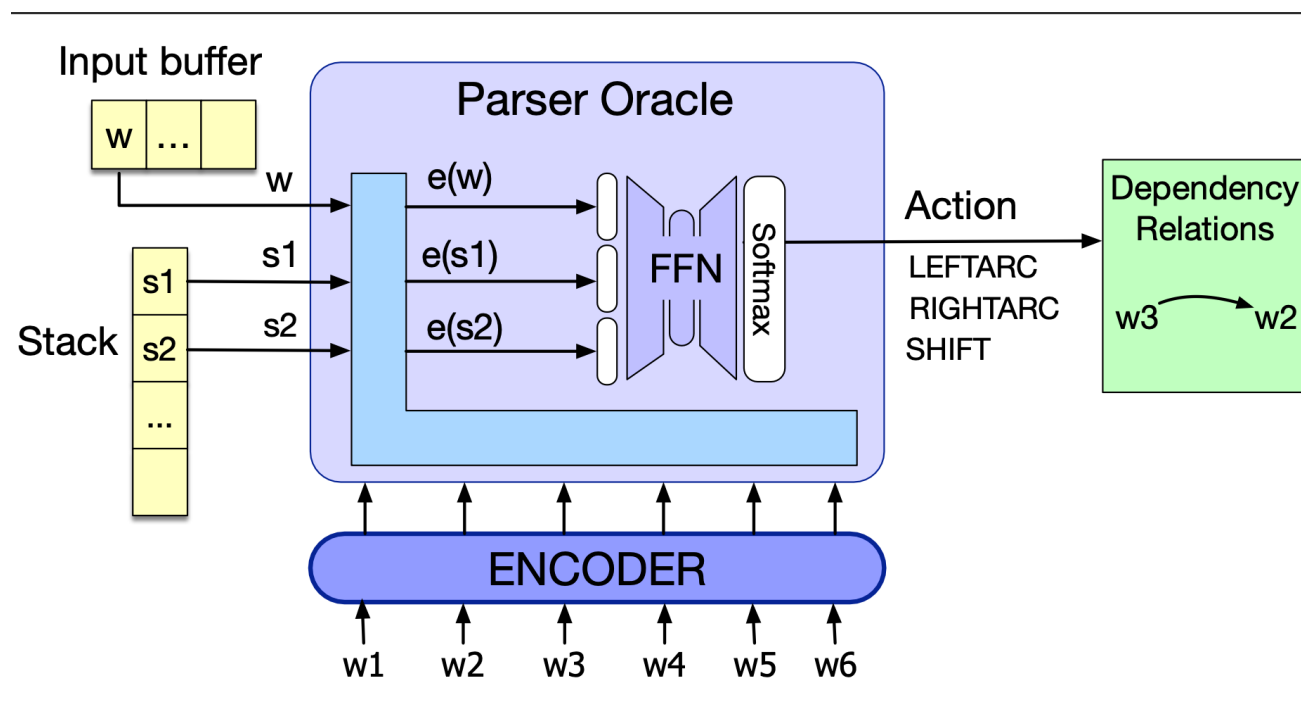
Step	Stack	Buffer	Action
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]	Shift
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]	Shift
2	[root, book, the]	[flight, through, Houston]	Shift
3	[root, book, the, flight]	[through, Houston]	Left-Arc
4	[root, book, flight]	[through, Houston]	Shift
5	[root, book, flight, through]	[Houston]	Shift
6	[root, book, flight, through, Houston]	[]	Left-Arc
7	[root, book, flight, Houston]	[]	Right-Arc
8	[root, book, flight]	[]	Right-Arc
9	[root, book]	[]	Right-Arc
10	[root]	[]	Done

# Recap for Generating Training Data

- The whole process is a *simulation* of how a parser works
- Simulate the action of a correct parser with a reference dependency tree
- A training data instance is a **configuration-transition (action) pair**
- Record the correct parser action at each step as progressing through each training example

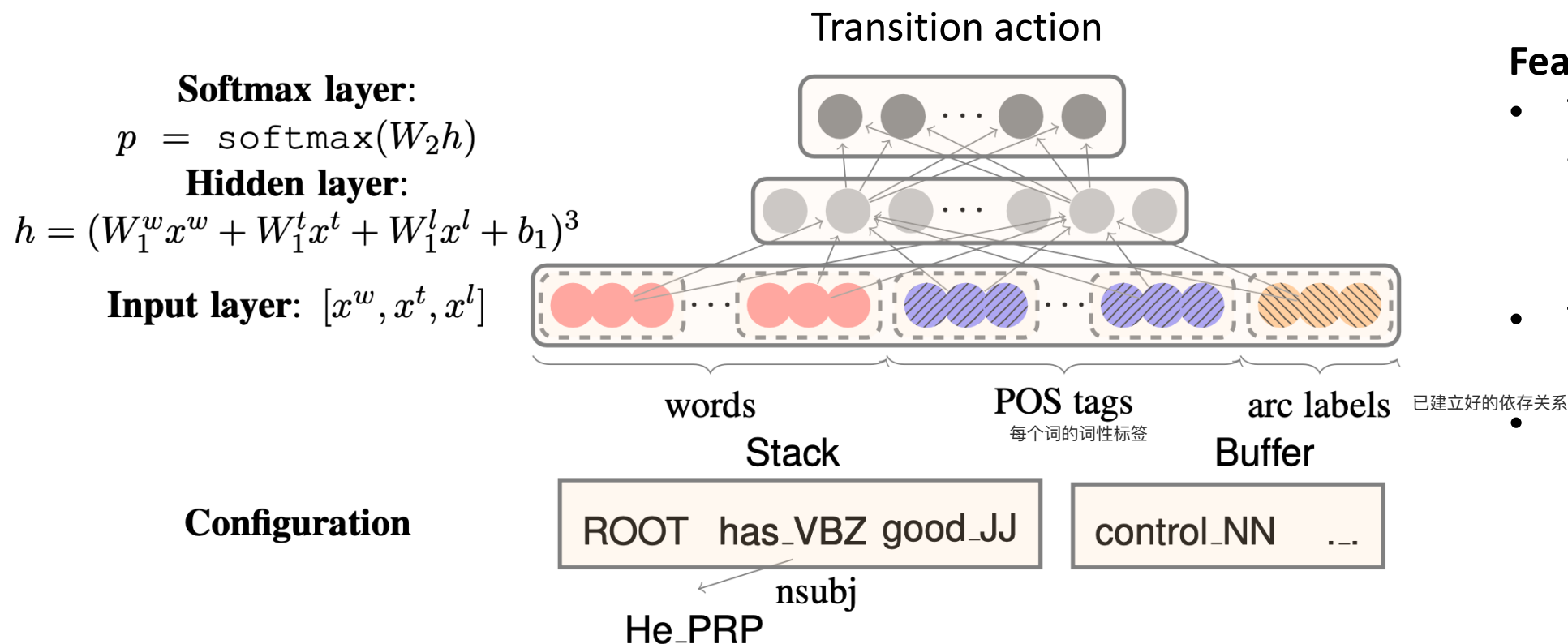
# Implementing the Oracle: A Neural Classifier

- **A standard architecture:**
- Pass the sentence through a neural encoder
- Take the vector representation of the top two words on stack and the first word on buffer, **concatenate them**
- Pass to a feedforward network to predict the transition action (learning done with cross-entropy loss)
- In practice, more features can be used



Reference: Chen and Manning, 2014; Kiperwasser and Goldberg, 2016; Kulmizev et al., 2019

# A Feed-Forward Neural Implementation



## Features used:

- The top 3 words on the stack and buffer, respectively:  $s_0, s_1, s_2, b_0, b_1, b_2$
- The POS tags of the words
- ...

Reference: Chen, D., & Manning, C. D. (2014, October). A fast and accurate dependency parser using neural networks.

# Decoding/Inference Stage: Greedy Parsing

---

**Algorithm 1** Greedy transition-based parsing

---

```
1: Input: sentence  $s = w_1, \dots, x_w, t_1, \dots, t_n$ ,  
   parameterized function  $\text{SCORE}_\theta(\cdot)$  with param-  
   eters  $\theta$ .  
2:  $c \leftarrow \text{INITIAL}(s)$   
3: while not  $\text{TERMINAL}(c)$  do  
4:    $\hat{t} \leftarrow \arg \max_{t \in \text{LEGAL}(c)} \text{SCORE}_\theta(\phi(c), t)$   
5:    $c \leftarrow \hat{t}(c)$   
6: return  $\text{tree}(c)$ 
```

---

每次只选当前得分最高的合法动作

- $\text{TERMINAL}(c)$  can be manually decided
- $t \in \text{LEGAL}(c)$  means that not all predictions from the oracle are legal transitions:  
不是所有动作在所有时刻都合法  
Left-Arc or Right-Arc on empty stack; Left-Arc to root; etc.
- Only select from the top scored transition among the legal ones

Figure from Kiperwasser and Goldberg (2016)

容易一开始选错一步就导致后续全错（没有回溯）

# Advanced Methods: Alternative Transition System

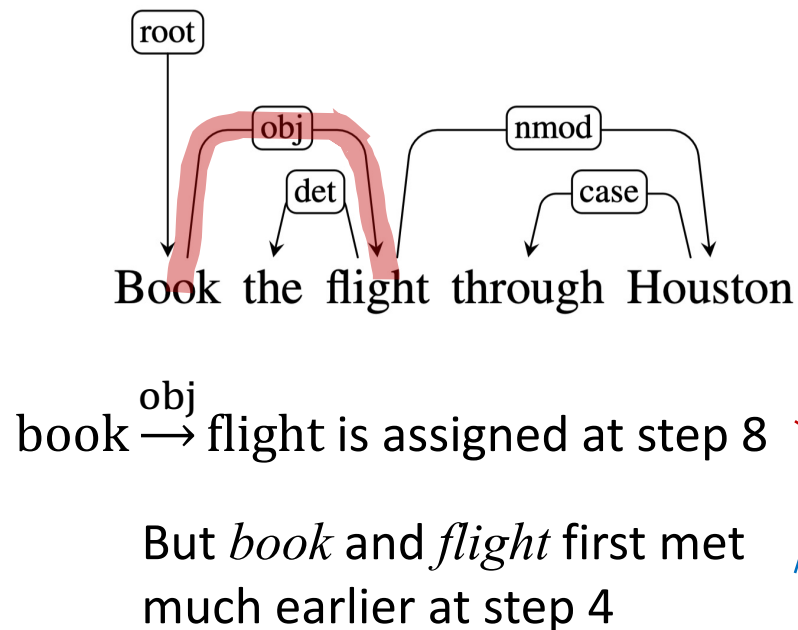
- Alternative to arc standard: **arc eager** transition system
- Where “eager” is from -- **assert Right-Arc much sooner** than arc standard

核心改进：更早建 Right-Arc，只要 head 和 dependent 一相遇，就可以立即建边

Arc Standard：必须等 dependent 被完全处理（即从 buffer 移出）之后，才能创建依存关系。

安全但会 推迟建边

## Revisit arc standard



Step	Stack	Buffer	Action
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]	Shift
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]	Shift
2	[root, book, the]	[flight, through, Houston]	Shift
3	[root, book, the, flight]	[through, Houston]	Left-Arc
4	[root, book, flight]	[through, Houston]	Shift
5	[root, book, flight, through]	[Houston]	Shift
6	[root, book, flight, through, Houston]	[]	Left-Arc
7	[root, book, flight, Houston]	[]	Right-Arc
8	[root, book, flight]	[]	Right-Arc
9	[root, book]	[]	Right-Arc
10	[root]	[]	Done

在step4的时候，其实已经决定了 book flight 的关系

# Advanced Methods: Alternative Transition System

- The reason book  $\xrightarrow{\text{obj}}$  flight cannot be assigned at Step 4 is due to the presence of the modifier through Houston.
- In arc-standard approach, a dependent (*flight*) is removed from stack as soon as it is assigned its head (*book*)

If *flight* had been assigned book as its head at Step 4, it would no longer be available to serve as the head of *Houston*!

So we have to delay this action to Step 8

如果在 Step 4 把 book  $\rightarrow$  flight 建立起来, flight 就会出栈, Houston 将找不到它的 head (flight)

3	[root, book, the, flight]	[through, Houston]	Left-Arc
4	[root, book, flight]	[through, Houston]	Shift
5	[root, book, flight, through]	[Houston]	Shift
6	[root, book, flight, through, Houston]	[]	Left-Arc
7	[root, book, flight, Houston]	[]	Right-Arc
8	[root, book, flight]	[]	Right-Arc

In general, the **longer** a word has to wait to get assigned its head, the more opportunities there are for something to go wrong

词在被赋予 head 前等待得越久, 出错的可能性就越大

这就是 Arc-Eager 系统提出的动机之一: 早点建边, 有助于减少依赖建立时的歧义和错误传播



# Arc Eager Transition System

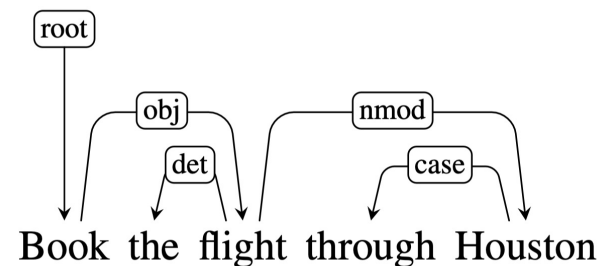
- Arc eager system addresses the issue by allowing words to be **attached to their heads as early as possible**
- before all the subsequent dependents have been seen
- Make changes to the **Left-Arc** and **Right-Arc** operators and **add a new Reduce operator**

- **Left-Arc**: Assert a head-dependent relation  
buffer[1]  $\rightarrow$  stack[1]; pop stack
- **Right-Arc**: Assert a head-dependent relation  
stack[1]  $\rightarrow$  buffer[1]; shift buffer[1] to stack
- **Shift**: move buffer[1] to stack
- **Reduce**: Pop stack

Difference from arc standard:

- Left-Arc and Right-Arc are applied to the top of **stack** and the front of **buffer**, instead of the top two elements of stack
- Right-Arc now **moves the dependent to stack from buffer** rather than removing it  
*thus, making it still available to serve as head for subsequent words*

# Arc Eager Parsing Example

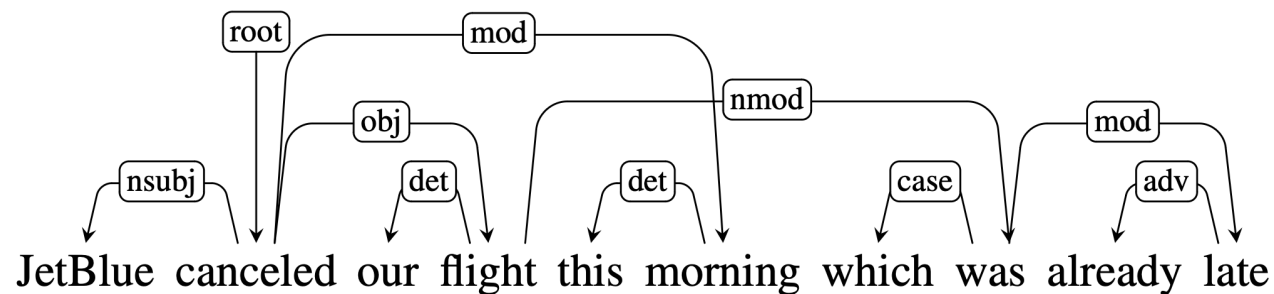


Step	Stack	Buffer	Action
0	[root]	[book, the, flight, through, Houston]	Right-Arc
1	[root, book]	[the, flight, through, Houston]	Shift
2	[root, book, the]	[flight, through, Houston]	Left-Arc
3	[root, book]	[flight, through, Houston]	Right-Arc
4	[root, book, flight]	[through, Houston]	Shift
5	[root, book, flight, through]	[Houston]	Left-Arc
6	[root, book, flight]	[Houston]	Right-Arc
7	[root, book, flight, Houston]	[]	Reduce
8	[root, book, flight]	[]	Reduce
9	[root, book]	[]	Reduce
10	[root]	[]	Done

# Overview

- Dependency Grammars
- Transition-Based Dependency Parsing
- **Graph-Based Dependency Parsing**
- Evaluation

# Transition-Based Methods Fail on Non-projective Trees



arc-standard

⋮

[..., flight, morning]	[which, was, ...]
	Shift
[..., flight, morning, which]	[was, already, ...]
	Shift
[..., flight, morning, which was]	[already, late]
	Left-Arc
[..., <b>flight</b> , morning, <b>was</b> ]	[already, late]
	Shift
⋮	

arc-eager

⋮

[..., flight, morning]	[which, was, ...]
	Shift
[..., flight, morning, which]	[was, already, ...]
	Left-Arc
[..., flight, morning]	[was, already, ...]
	Shift
[..., <b>flight</b> , morning, <b>was</b> ]	[already, late]
	Shift
⋮	

*flight* and *was* was never be attached

# Graph-Based Dependency Parsing

- Transition-based parsing has trouble when **heads are very far from dependents**
- Graph-based parsing avoid this difficulty by **scoring entire trees**, rather than relying on greedy local decisions; can produce non-projective trees
- **Idea**: Search through the space of possible trees to find a tree that maximizes some score over the given sentence

$$\hat{T}(S) = \arg \max_{t \in \mathcal{G}_S} \text{Score}(t, S)$$

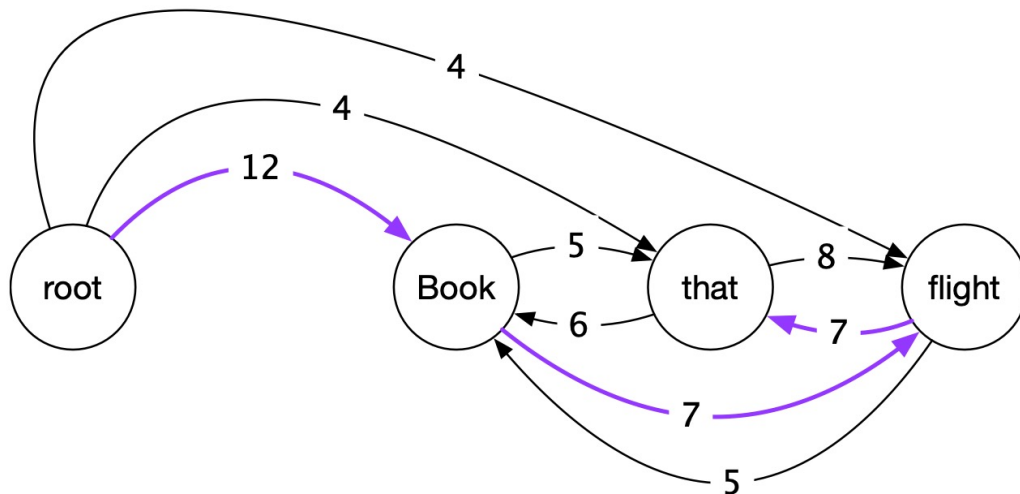
Given a sentence  $S$   
 $\mathcal{G}_S$ : the space of all possible trees for  $S$

$$\text{Score}(t, S) = \sum_{e \in t} \text{Score}(e)$$

Score is edge-factored: sum of the scores of edges comprising the tree

# Graph-Based Dependency Parsing

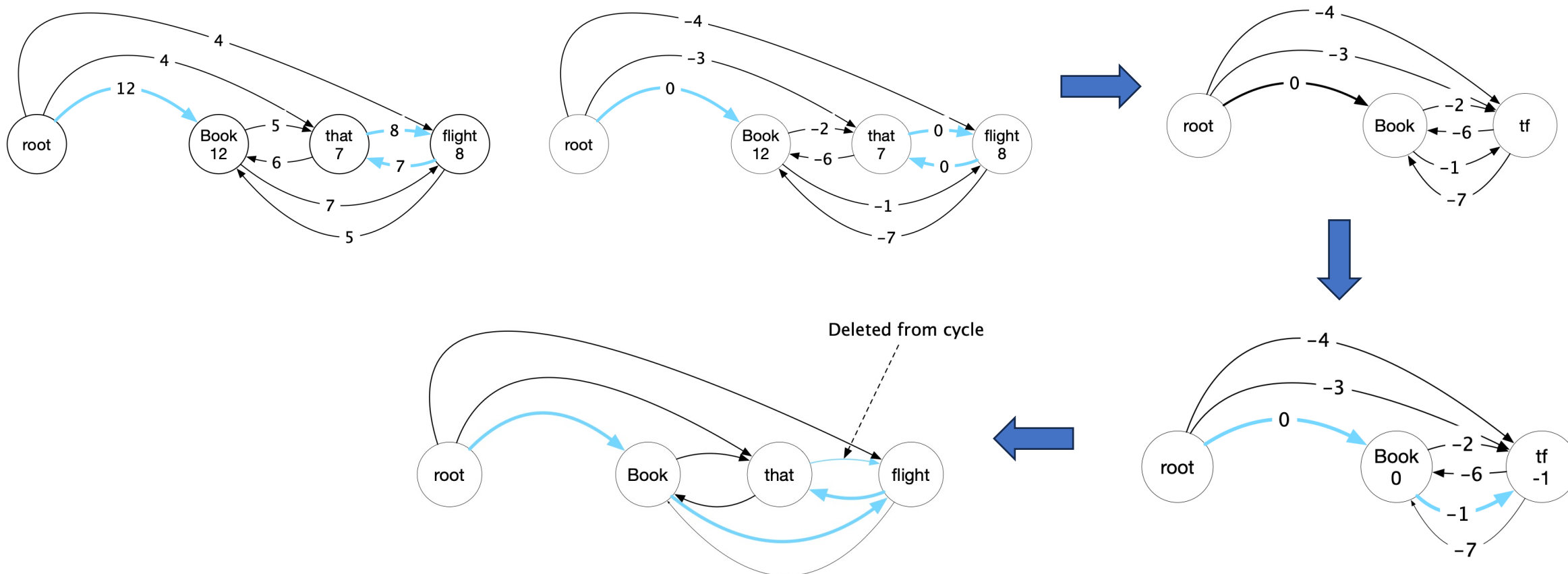
- Using Graph traversal algorithm: **Maximum spanning tree problem**
- Creating a graph G which is a **fully-connected**, weighted, directed graph where the vertices are the input words and the directed edges represent **all possible head-dependent** assignments



The weights reflect the score for each possible head-dependent relation assigned by some scoring algorithm

# Graph-Based Dependency Parsing

- Find the maximum spanning tree by eliminating cycles



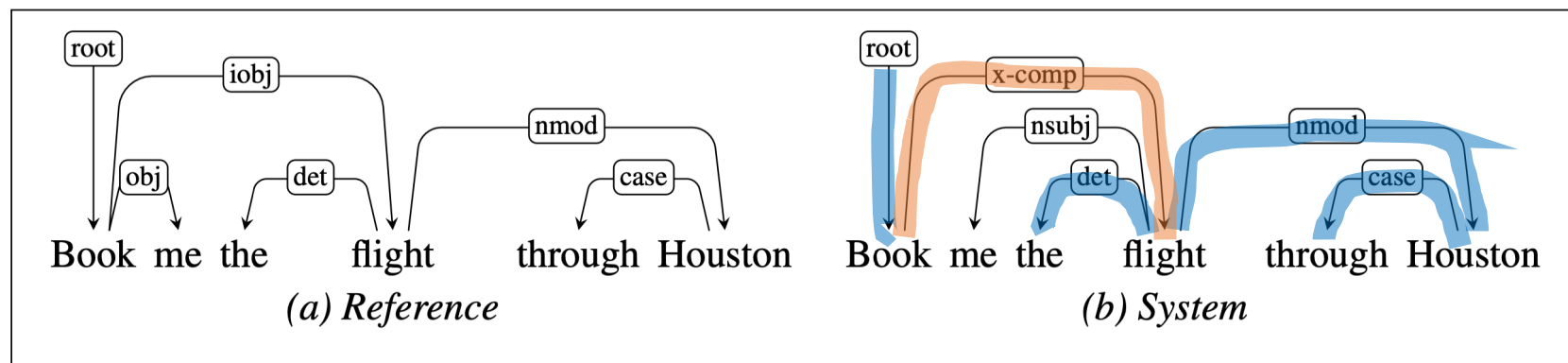
# Overview

- Dependency Grammars
- Transition-Based Dependency Parsing
- Graph-Based Dependency Parsing
- **Evaluation**



# Evaluation of Dependency Parsers

- Labeled attachment accuracy (**LAC**) and unlabeled attachment accuracy (**UAC**)
- 一个词是否被正确地连接到了正确的 head 且 使用了正确的依存关系标签。  
LAC: Proper assignment of word to its head along with the correct dependency relation
- UAC: Simply focuses on the correctness of the assigned head, ignoring the dependency relation  
只关心词连接到的 head 是否正确，不关心标签



The parser correctly finds 4 of the 6 relations in the reference parse  $\Rightarrow$  **LAC = 2/3**

But *book*  $\xrightarrow{\text{x-comp}}$  *flight* is only wrong in label but still correct in head-dependent  $\Rightarrow$  **UAC = 5/6**

# Recap

- Dependency grammars are currently more common than constituency grammars in NLP
- Transition-based parsing is a greedy algorithm
  - Limits: can only product projective trees
- Graph-based parsing scores entire tree
  - More accurate for long sentences
  - Can produce non-projective trees

# References

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