

Special Topics in Natural Language Processing

CS6980

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Lecture 16: Parsing 2
Feb 9, 2020

Context Free Grammar (CFG)

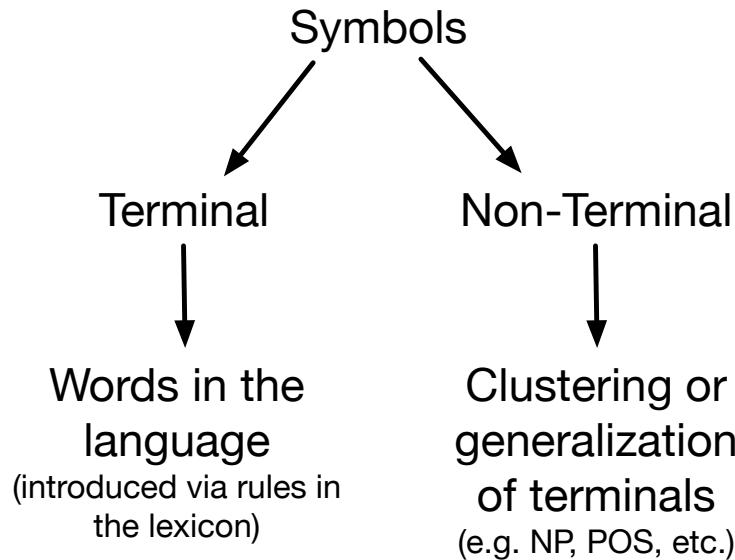
- Constituent: Group of words behaving as a single unit. E.g. phrases
 - NP: Harry the Horse
- Constituent Structure is modeled using **Context Free Grammar (CFG)**
- CFG contains set of **rules (or productions)** and a **lexicon**
 - Rules express the ways that symbols of the language can be grouped and ordered together

$$NP \rightarrow Det \ Nominal$$
$$Det \rightarrow a$$
$$NP \rightarrow ProperNoun$$
$$Det \rightarrow the$$
$$Nominal \rightarrow Noun \mid NominalNoun$$
$$Noun \rightarrow flight$$

- Lexicon contains words and **symbols** in the language



Context Free Grammar (CFG)



Non-Terminal \rightarrow Terminal | Non-Terminal

NP \rightarrow *Det Nominal*

Noun \rightarrow *flight*

CFG: DEFINITION

A context free grammar (CFG) is a 4-tuple $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S)$

- N is a finite set of non-terminal symbols.
- Σ is a finite set of terminal symbols.
- R is a finite set of rules of the form $X \rightarrow Y_1, \dots, Y_n$,
where $X \in N$, $n \geq 0$, and $Y_i \in (N \cup \Sigma)$ for $i = 1, 2, \dots, n$
- $S \in N$ is a distinguished start symbol.



CFG: EXAMPLE

$S = S$

$N = \{S, NP, VP, PP, DT,$
 $Vi, Vt, NN, IN\}$

$\Sigma = \{\text{sleeps, saw, woman,}$
 telescope, dog
 $\text{man, the, with, in}\}$

$R =$

$S \rightarrow NP \ VP$
$VP \rightarrow Vi$
$VP \rightarrow Vt \ NP$
$VP \rightarrow VP \ PP$
$NP \rightarrow DT \ NN$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ PP$
$PP \rightarrow IN \ NP$

$Vi \rightarrow \text{sleeps}$
$Vt \rightarrow \text{saw}$
$NN \rightarrow \text{man}$
$NN \rightarrow \text{woman}$
$NN \rightarrow \text{telescope}$
$NN \rightarrow \text{dog}$
$DT \rightarrow \text{the}$
$IN \rightarrow \text{with}$
$IN \rightarrow \text{in}$



LEFT MOST DERIVATION

Given a context free grammar G ,

a left most derivation is a sequence of strings s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n

where,

- $s_1 = S$ i.e., s_1 consists of a single element, the start symbol
- $s_n = \Sigma^*$, i.e. s_n is made up of terminal symbols only
- Each s_i for $i = 2\dots n$ is derived from s_{i-1}

by picking the left-most non-terminal X in s_{i-1}

and replacing it by some β where

$X \rightarrow \beta$ is a rule in R



CFG LANGUAGE

Each left most derivation of CFG G results in $s_n \in \Sigma^*$,
 s_n is called *Yield* of the derivation

A string $s \in \Sigma^*$ is said to be in the *language* defined by the CFG,
if there is at least one derivation whose yield is s



PROBABILISTIC CFGs (PCFGs)

A PCFG consists of:

1. A context free grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S)$
2. A parameter $q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$ for each rule $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$

q can be interpreted as the conditional probability of choosing rule $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ in a left most derivation, given that the non-terminal being expanded is α

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R \\ \alpha = X \in N}} q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1$$

$$q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$$



PROBABILISTIC CFGs (PCFGs)

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2. A parameter $q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)$ for each rule $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$

Given a parse tree $t \in \mathcal{T}_G$ containing rules

$$\alpha_1 \rightarrow \beta_1, \alpha_2 \rightarrow \beta_2, \dots, \alpha_n \rightarrow \beta_n$$

$$p_{\text{PCFG}}(t) = \prod_{i=1}^n q(\alpha_i \rightarrow \beta_i)$$



$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R \\ \alpha = X \in N}} q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1 \quad q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$$

Two Questions:

1. **Learning Problem** : How do we learn the parameters (probabilities)?
2. **Decoding Problem**: Given a sentence s how do we find the most likely tree?

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$$



TREEBANKS

- Linguists have annotated sentences in a large text corpus with syntactic parse
- Each sentence in the corpus has a parse tree
- This corpus of sentences and parse trees is referred as **Treebank**



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- This corpus of sentences and parse trees is referred as **Treebank**
- One of the most famous treebank used for English is **Penn Treebank**.
- Created from Wall Street Journal, Brown, Switchboard and ATIS corpora.



PENN TREEBANK EXAMPLE

That cold, empty sky was full of fire and light.



PENN TREEBANK EXAMPLE

That cold, empty sky was full of fire and light.

```
((S
  (NP-SBJ (DT That )
    (JJ cold )(, , )
    (JJ empty )(NP sky ))
  (VP (VBD was )
    (ADJP-PRD (JJ full )
      (PP (IN of )
        (NP (NN fire )
          (CC and )
          (NN light ) ) ) ) )
  (. . ) ) )
```



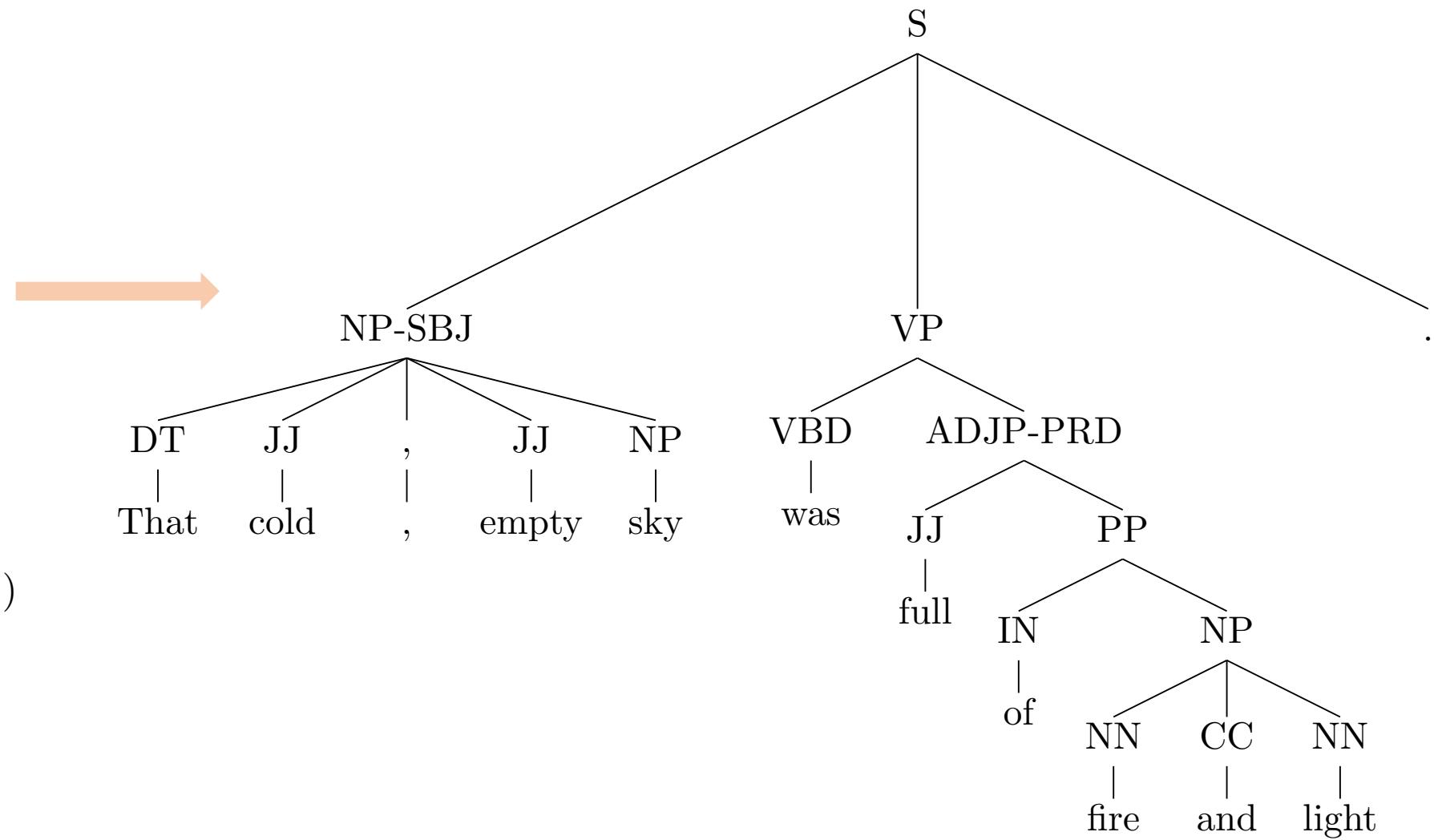
PENN TREEBANK EXAMPLE

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$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R \\ \alpha = X \in N}} q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1 \quad q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$$

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LEARNING IN PCFGs

- We are given a treebank

$$\{s_i, t_i\}_{i=1}^m$$



LEARNING IN PCFGs

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$$\{s_i, t_i\}_{i=1}^m$$

$$s_i = \mathbf{Yield}(t_i)$$

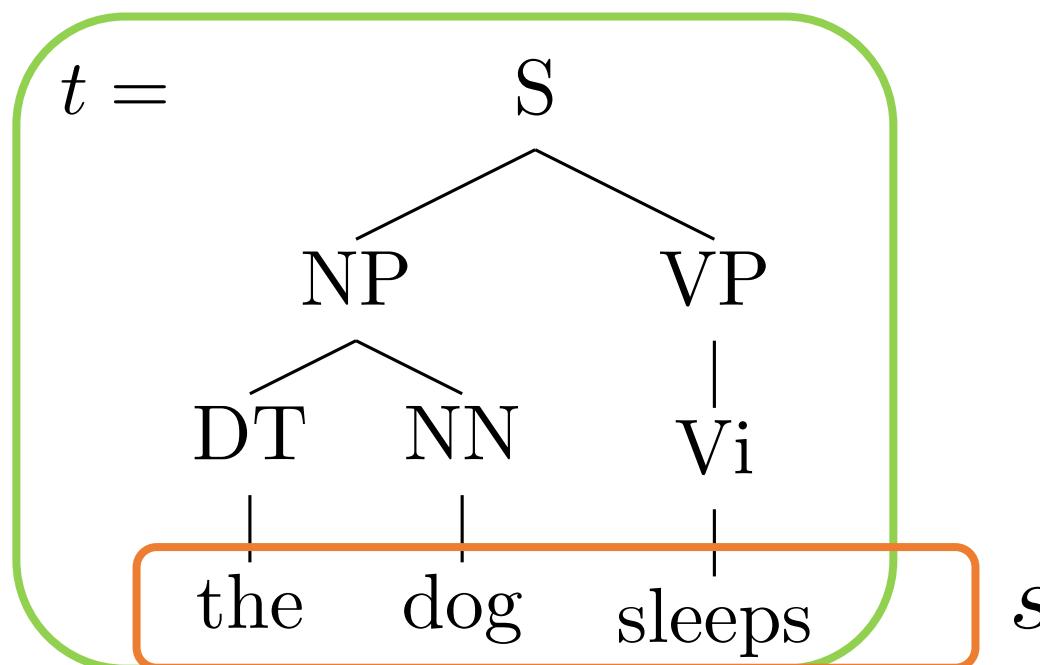


LEARNING IN PCFGs

- We are given a treebank

$$\{s_i, t_i\}_{i=1}^m$$

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LEARNING IN PCFGs

$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

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- Learning problem is about how to get the values of q



LEARNING IN PCFGs

$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R \\ \alpha = X \in N}} q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1 \quad q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$$

- Learning problem is about how to get the values of q
- We are given training corpus (Treebank), we can do MLE



LEARNING IN PCFGs

$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

$$\sum_{\substack{\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R \\ \alpha = X \in N}} q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) = 1 \quad q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta) \geq 0 \quad \forall \alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$$

$$q(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)_{ML} = \frac{C(\alpha \rightarrow \beta)}{C(\alpha)}$$



$$G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$$

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$$\operatorname{argmax}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$$



CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM (CNF)

A CFG $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S)$ is in Chomsky Normal Form (CNF) if each rule $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in R$ takes one of the two following forms:

$X \rightarrow Y_1, Y_2$ where, $X \in N, Y_1 \in N, Y_2 \in N$

OR

$X \rightarrow Y$ where, $X \in N, Y \in \Sigma$



CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM (CNF)

$$S = S$$

$$N = \{S, NP, VP, PP, DT,\\ Vi, Vt, NN, IN\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{\text{sleeps}, \text{ saw}, \text{ woman}, \\ \text{ telescope}, \text{ dog} \\ \text{ man}, \text{ the}, \text{ with}, \text{ in}\}$$

$$R, q =$$

$S \rightarrow NP \quad VP$	1.0
$VP \rightarrow Vt \quad NP$	0.8
$VP \rightarrow VP \quad PP$	0.2
$NP \rightarrow DT \quad NN$	0.8
$NP \rightarrow NP \quad PP$	0.2
$PP \rightarrow IN \quad NP$	1.0

$Vi \rightarrow \text{sleeps}$	1.0
$Vt \rightarrow \text{saw}$	1.0
$NN \rightarrow \text{man}$	0.1
$NN \rightarrow \text{woman}$	0.1
$NN \rightarrow \text{telescope}$	0.3
$NN \rightarrow \text{dog}$	0.5
$DT \rightarrow \text{the}$	1.0
$IN \rightarrow \text{with}$	0.6
$IN \rightarrow \text{in}$	0.4

PCFG: DECODING

Given, $PCFG$ ($G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$) in CNF form,

a sentence $s = x_1, \dots, x_n$, where, x_i is the i^{th} word in the sentence,
we are interested in

$$\operatorname{argmax}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$$



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Decoding can be done using CKY (Cocke-Kasami-Younger) algorithm

It is a Dynamic Programming algorithm



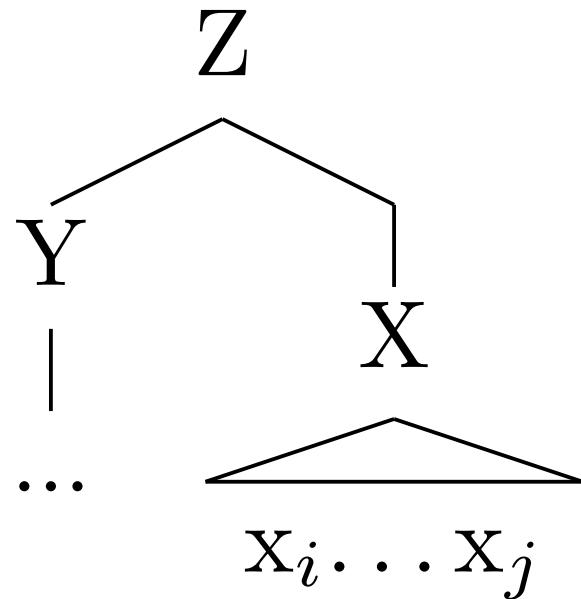
PCFG: DECODING

$\mathcal{T}(i, j, X) = \text{Set of all parse trees for words } x_i \dots x_j \ (\forall 1 \leq i \leq j \leq n)$
with $X \in N$ as the root



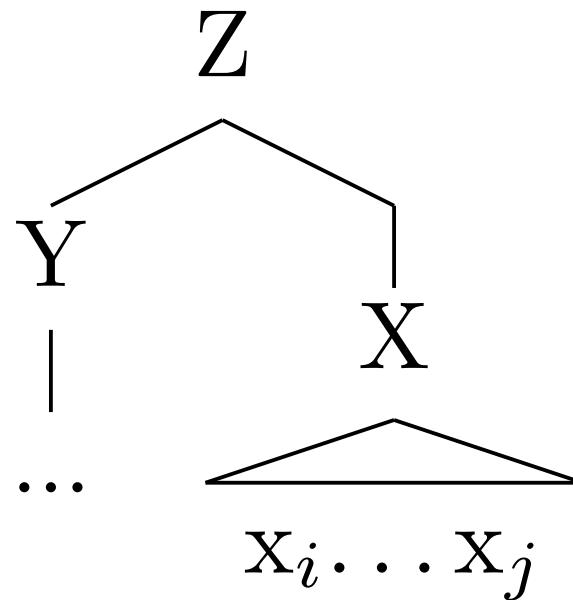
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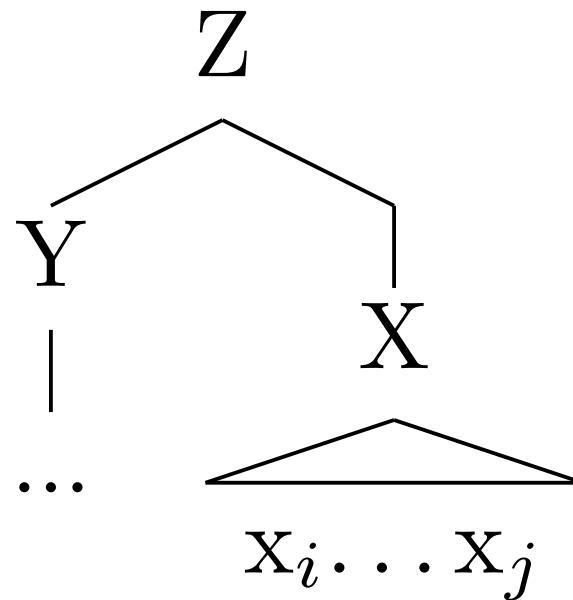
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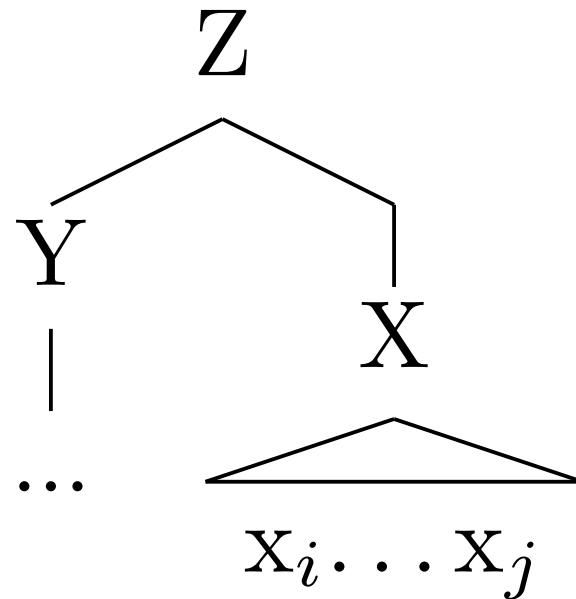


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$$p(t) = \prod_{k=1}^r q(\alpha_k \rightarrow \beta_k)$$

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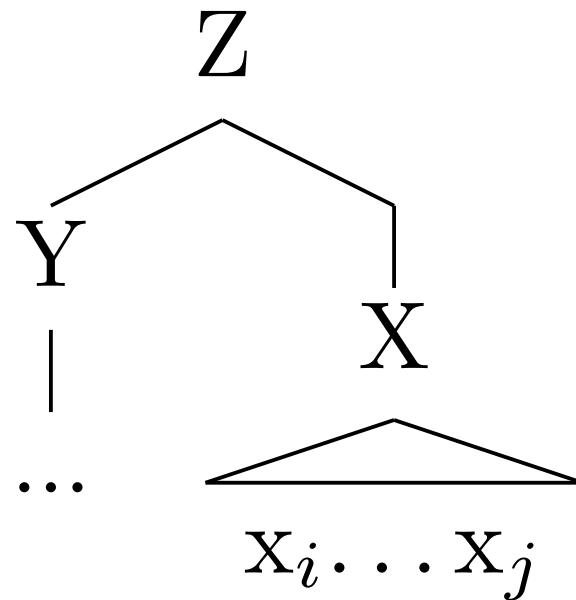


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$$\pi(1, n, S) = ?$$

PCFG: DECODING

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PCFG DECODING: CYK ALGORITHM

Dynamic Programming based algorithm



PCFG DECODING: CYK ALGORITHM

Base case, $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $X \in N$

$$\pi(i, i, X) = \begin{cases} q(X \rightarrow x_i) & \text{If } X \rightarrow x_i \in R \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



PCFG DECODING: CYK ALGORITHM

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Recursion, $\forall 1 \leq i, j \leq n$ and $X \in N$

$$\pi(i, j, X) = \max_{\substack{X \rightarrow YZ \in R, \\ s \in (i \dots (j-1))}} (q(X \rightarrow YZ) \times \pi(i, s, Y) \times \pi(s + 1, j, Z))$$



PCFG DECODING: CYK ALGORITHM

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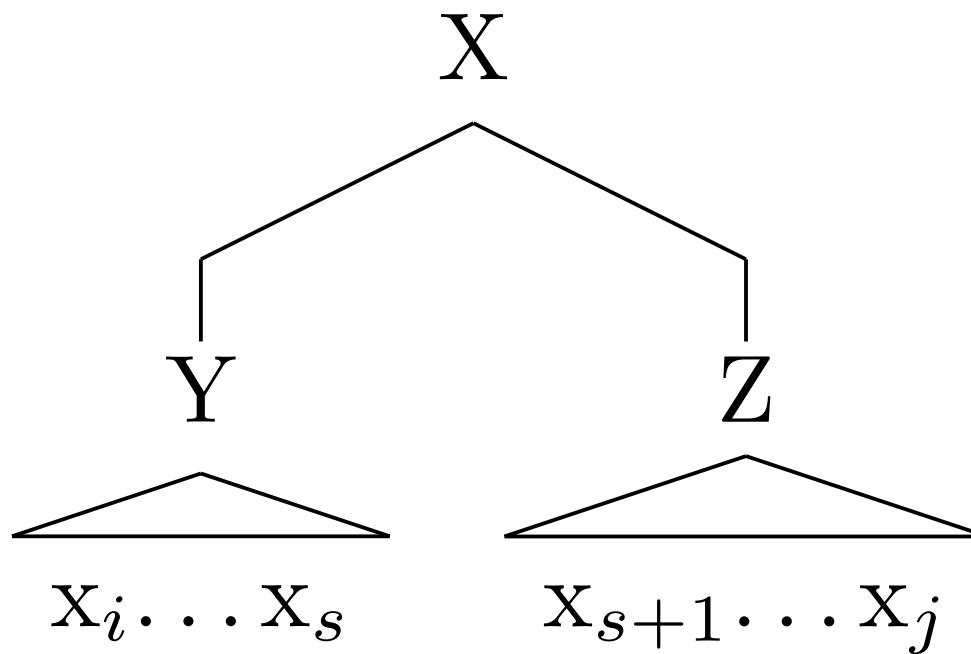
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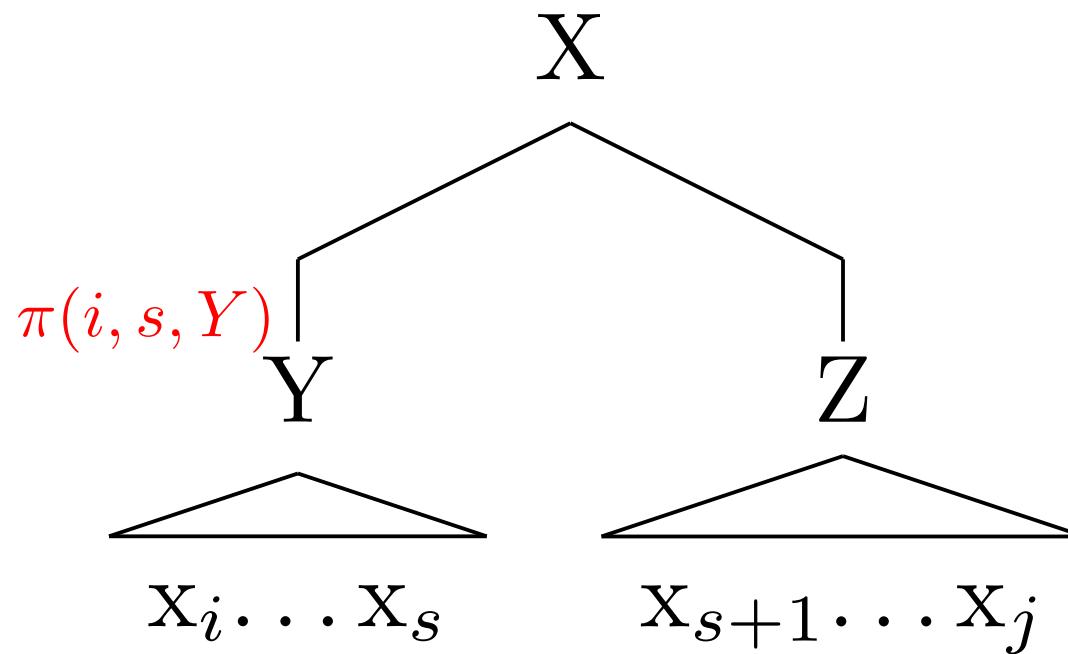
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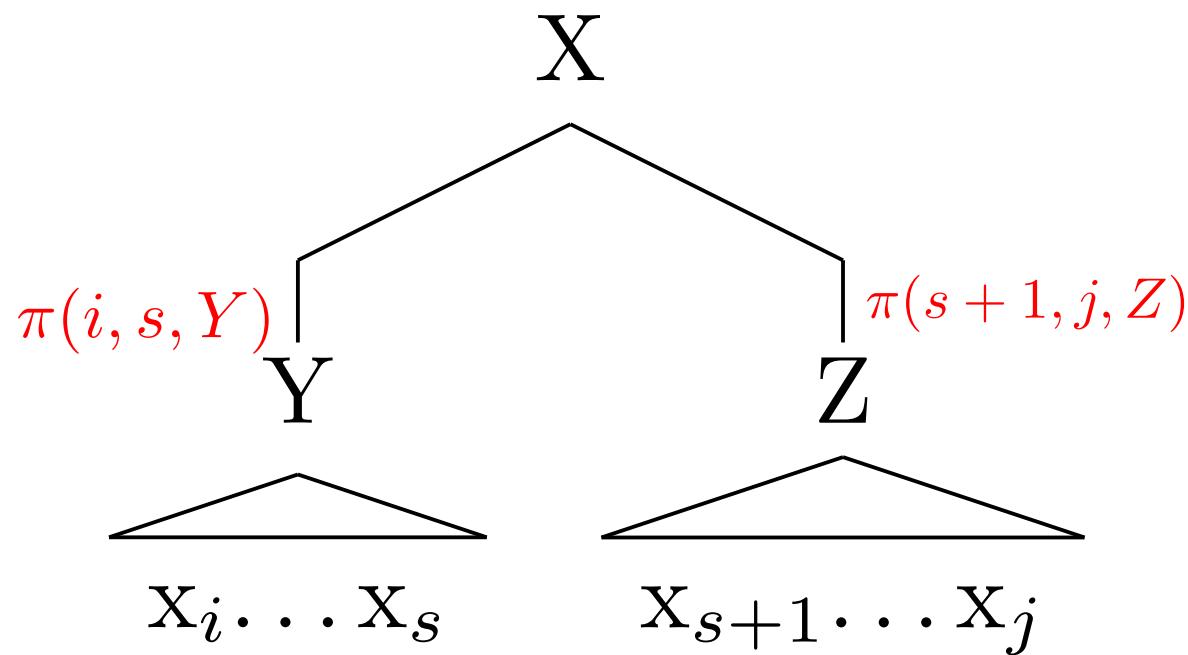
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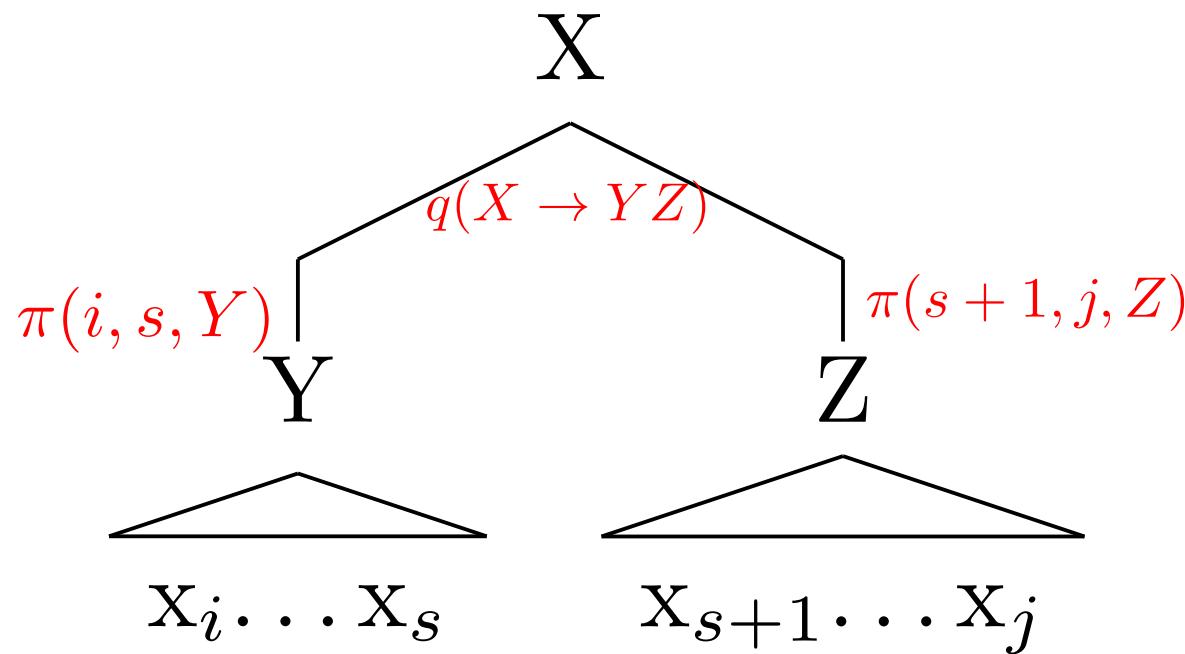
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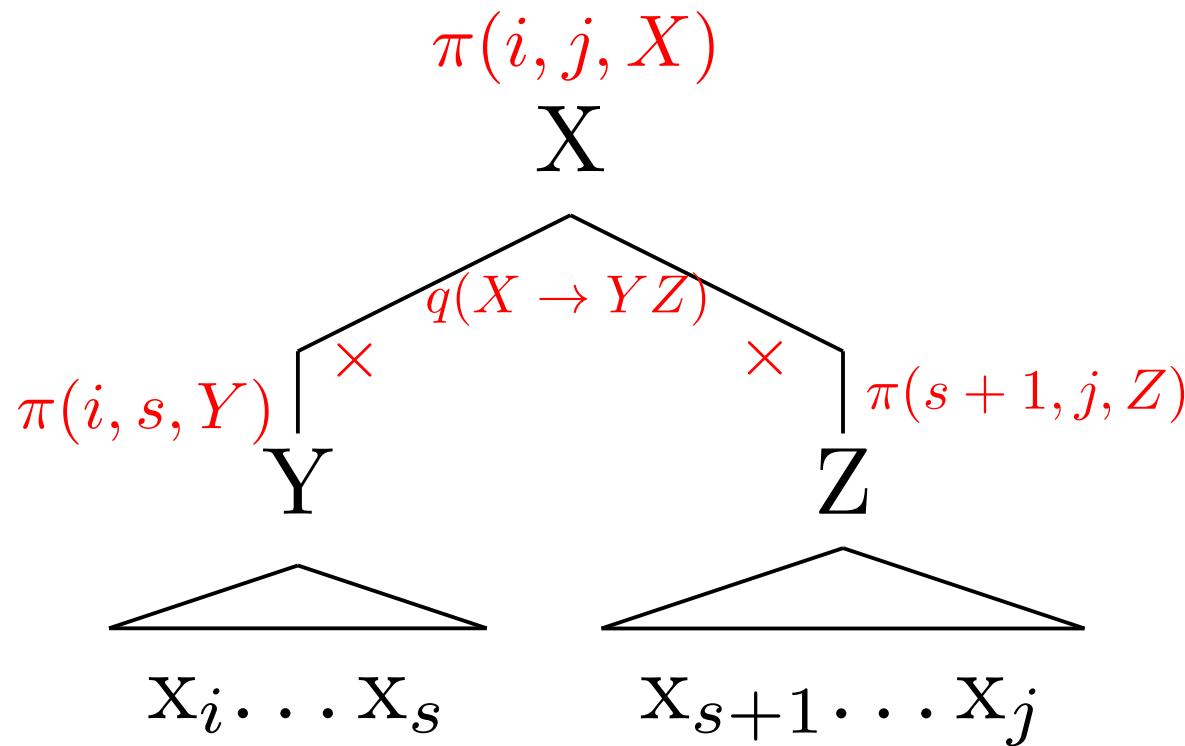
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PCFG DECODING: CYK ALGORITHM

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CYK ALGORITHM

Input: sentence $s = x_1 \dots x_n$ and PCFG $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$ in CNF form



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Initialization: $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $X \in N$

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Algorithm:

For $k = 1, \dots, (n - 1)$

For $i = 1, \dots, (n - k)$

$j = i + k$



CYK ALGORITHM

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Algorithm:

For $k = 1, \dots, (n - 1)$

For $i = 1, \dots, (n - k)$

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$\forall X \in N$, calculate

$$\pi(i, j, X) = \max_{\substack{X \rightarrow YZ \in R, \\ s \in (i \dots (j-1))}} (q(X \rightarrow YZ) \times \pi(i, s, Y) \times \pi(s + 1, j, Z))$$



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$$bp(i, j, X) = \operatorname{argmax}_{\substack{X \rightarrow YZ \in R, \\ s \in (i \dots (j-1))}} (q(X \rightarrow YZ) \times \pi(i, s, Y) \times \pi(s + 1, j, Z))$$

end for

end for



CYK ALGORITHM

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end for

end for

Output: Return $\pi(1, n, S) = \max_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$ and $bp(1, n, S) = \operatorname{argmax}_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$



CYK ALGORITHM: Example

Initialization: $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $X \in N$

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 end for

end for

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CYK ALGORITHM: Example

Initialization: $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $X \in N$

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VP → Vt NP	0.8	Vt → saw	1.0
VP → VP PP	0.2	NN → man	0.1
NP → DT NN	0.8	NN → woman	0.1
NP → NP PP	0.2	NN → telescope	0.3
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$$p(s) = \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}_G(s)} p(t)$$



INSIDE ALGORITHM

Input: sentence $s = x_1 \dots x_n$ and PCFG $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$ in CNF form

Initialization: $\forall 1 \leq i \leq n$ and $X \in N$

$$\pi(i, i, X) = \begin{cases} q(X \rightarrow x_i) & \text{If } X \rightarrow x_i \in R \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Algorithm:

For $k = 1, \dots, (n - 1)$

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 end for

end for

Output: Return $\pi(1, n, S) = \sum_{t \in \mathcal{T}(s)} p(t)$



Summary

- PCFG: $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S, q)$
- Linguists have created large corpus of sentences and corresponding trees (Treebank)
- Parameters of a PCFG can be learned using MLE on Treebank
- Most probable tree can be found using CKY algorithm
- Probability of a sentence under the PCFG can be found using Inside Algorithm



References

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<http://www.cs.columbia.edu/~mcollins/courses/nlp2011/notes/pcfgs.pdf>
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