



Natural Language Processing

Constituency Parsing

Joakim Nivre

Uppsala University
Department of Linguistics and Philology
joakim.nivre@lingfil.uu.se



Context-Free Grammar

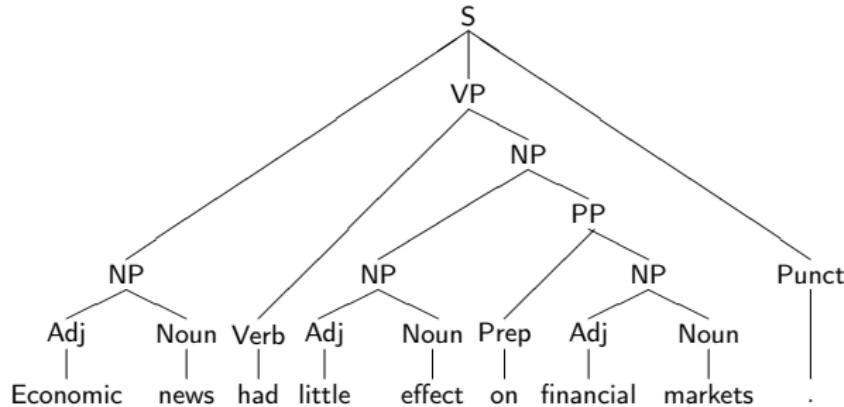
- ▶ A context-free grammar (CFG) consists of
 - ▶ a finite set of **nonterminal** symbols
 - ▶ a finite set of **terminal** symbols
 - ▶ a distinguished nonterminal symbol **S** (for Start)
 - ▶ a finite set of **rules** of the form

$$A \rightarrow \alpha$$

where A is a nonterminal and α is a (possibly empty) sequence of nonterminal and terminal symbols

Context-Free Grammar

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| S → NP VP Punct | PP → Prep NP | Adj → Economic |
| VP → VP PP | Verb → had | Adj → little |
| VP → Verb NP | Noun → news | Adj → financial |
| NP → NP PP | Noun → effect | Prep → on |
| NP → Adj Noun | Noun → markets | Punct → . |





CFG Parsing

- ▶ Input:
 - ▶ Sentence: $S = w_1, \dots, w_n$
 - ▶ Grammar: G
- ▶ Output:
 - ▶ Phrase structure tree for S generated by G
- ▶ Parsing:
 - ▶ Construct a derivation of S in G
 - ▶ Read off phrase structure tree from derivation



Quiz

| | | |
|-----------------|----------------|-----------------|
| S → NP VP Punct | PP → Prep NP | Adj → Economic |
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| NP → NP PP | Noun → effect | Prep → on |
| NP → Adj Noun | Noun → markets | Punct → . |

- ▶ Which sentences can be derived in the grammar above?
 1. Economic news had effect .
 2. Economic news had little effect .
 3. Economic news had little effect on markets.
 4. Economic news had little effect on little effect on little effect .



Top-Down Parsing

- ▶ Basic idea:
 - ▶ Start at the root node (start symbol)
 - ▶ Expand tree by matching the left-hand side of rules
 - ▶ Derive a tree whose terminal nodes match the input sentence
- ▶ Potential problems:
 - ▶ May use rules that could never match the input
 - ▶ May loop on recursive rules: $VP \rightarrow VP\ PP$

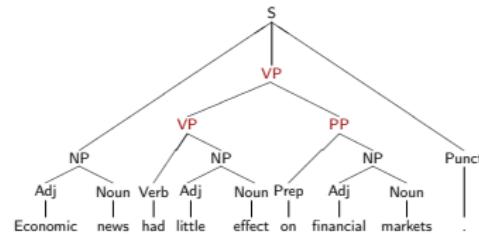
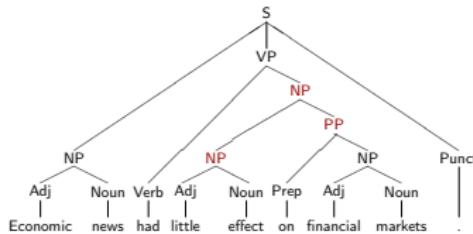


Bottom-Up Parsing

- ▶ Basic idea:
 - ▶ Start with the terminal nodes (words)
 - ▶ Expand tree by matching the right-hand side of rules
 - ▶ Build a tree whose with the start symbol at the root
- ▶ Potential problems:
 - ▶ May build structures that could never be in a tree
 - ▶ May loop on empty productions $NP \rightarrow \epsilon$



Ambiguity



- ▶ A sentence may be assigned more than one tree
- ▶ This corresponds to syntactic **ambiguity**
- ▶ What should the parser do in this case?



Dealing with Ambiguity

- ▶ Combinatorial explosion:
 - ▶ The number of possible trees grows exponentially
 - ▶ We need a smart algorithm – dynamic programming
- ▶ Disambiguation:
 - ▶ We need some way of selecting the best tree
 - ▶ Probabilistic grammars rank trees by decreasing plausibility



Quiz

- ▶ Which of the following sentences are **syntactically** ambiguous?
 1. I caught a bat
 2. I caught a bat with a hat
 3. I caught a bat happily
 4. I caught small bats and rats



Natural Language Processing

Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar

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Probabilistic Context-Free Grammar

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

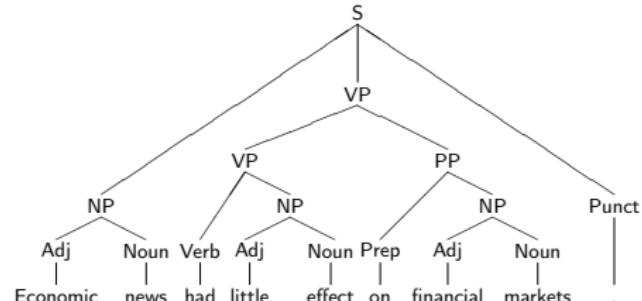
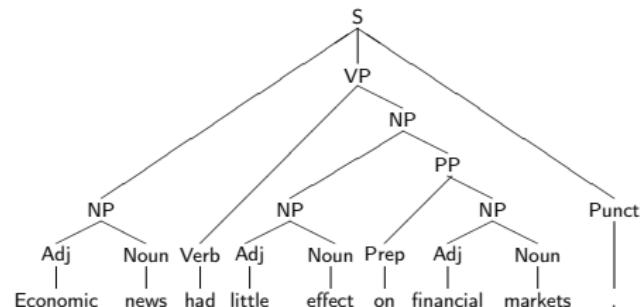
- ▶ N is a finite (non-terminal) alphabet
- ▶ Σ is a finite (terminal) alphabet
- ▶ R is a finite set of rules $A \rightarrow \alpha$ ($A \in N$, $\alpha \in (\Sigma \cup N)^*$)
- ▶ $S \in N$ is the start symbol
- ▶ Q is function from R to real numbers in the interval $[0, 1]$
 - ▶ For every nonterminal $A \in N$:

$$\sum_{r \in R : \text{LHS}(r)=A} Q(r) = 1$$



Example Grammar

| | | |
|-------|---------------|------|
| S | → NP VP Punct | 1.00 |
| VP | → VP PP | 0.50 |
| VP | → Verb NP | 0.50 |
| NP | → NP PP | 0.25 |
| NP | → Adj Noun | 0.75 |
| PP | → Prep NP | 1.00 |
| Punct | → . | 1.00 |
| Adj | → Economic | 0.33 |
| Adj | → little | 0.33 |
| Adj | → financial | 0.33 |
| Noun | → news | 0.33 |
| Noun | → effect | 0.33 |
| Noun | → markets | 0.33 |
| Verb | → had | 1.00 |
| Prep | → on | 1.00 |





Probability Model for Trees

- ▶ Probability of a tree T generated by G :

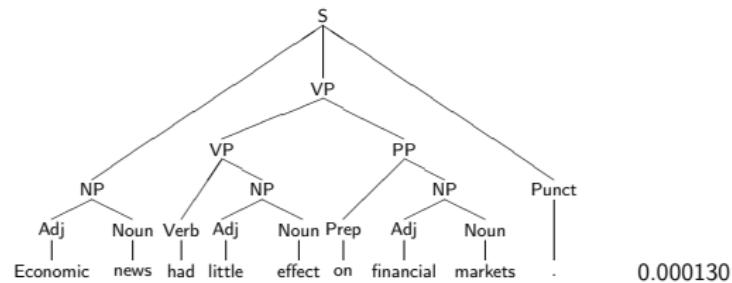
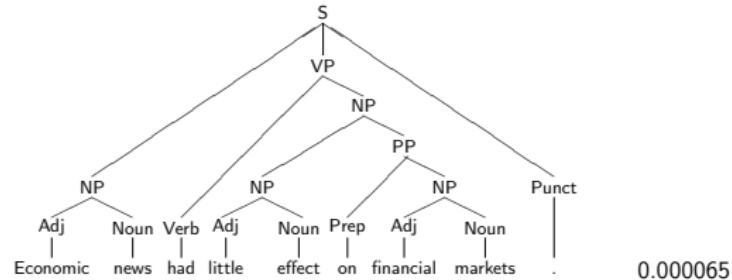
$$P(T) = \prod_{r \in R} Q(r)^{f(r, T)}$$

- ▶ $f(r, T)$ = the frequency of r in T
- ▶ Intuition:
 - ▶ The tree probability is the **joint** probability of rule instances
 - ▶ Rule instances are dependent only on their left-hand side
 - ▶ Thus, the joint probability is the **product** of rule probabilities



Example Trees

| | |
|-----------------------------|------|
| $S \rightarrow NP VP Punct$ | 1.00 |
| $VP \rightarrow VP PP$ | 0.50 |
| $VP \rightarrow Verb NP$ | 0.50 |
| $NP \rightarrow NP PP$ | 0.25 |
| $NP \rightarrow Adj Noun$ | 0.75 |
| $PP \rightarrow Prep NP$ | 1.00 |
| $Punct \rightarrow .$ | 1.00 |
| $Adj \rightarrow Economic$ | 0.33 |
| $Adj \rightarrow little$ | 0.33 |
| $Adj \rightarrow financial$ | 0.33 |
| $Noun \rightarrow news$ | 0.33 |
| $Noun \rightarrow effect$ | 0.33 |
| $Noun \rightarrow markets$ | 0.33 |
| $Verb \rightarrow had$ | 1.00 |
| $Prep \rightarrow on$ | 1.00 |





Quiz

| | | | |
|----|---|--------------|-----|
| NP | → | Noun | 0.1 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.4 |
| NP | → | Adj Noun | 0.2 |
| NP | → | Det Adj Noun | ?? |

- ▶ If these are all the NP rules, what is the missing probability?
 1. 0.1
 2. 0.3
 3. 0.6
 4. 1.0



Treebank Grammars

- ▶ Given a treebank $\mathcal{T} = \{(S_1, T_1), \dots, (S_n, T_n)\}$
- ▶ Extract grammar $G = (N, \Sigma, R, S)$:
 - ▶ N = the set of all nonterminals occurring in some tree
 - ▶ Σ = the set of all terminals occurring in some tree
 - ▶ R = the set of all rules needed to derive some tree
 - ▶ S = the nonterminal at the root of every tree
- ▶ Estimate Q using relative frequencies (MLE):

$$Q(A \rightarrow \alpha) = \frac{\sum_{i=1}^n f(A \rightarrow \alpha, T_i)}{\sum_{i=1}^n \sum_{r \in R: \text{LHD}(r)=A} f(r, T_i)}$$



Limitations of Treebank Grammars

- ▶ Insensitive to structural context:

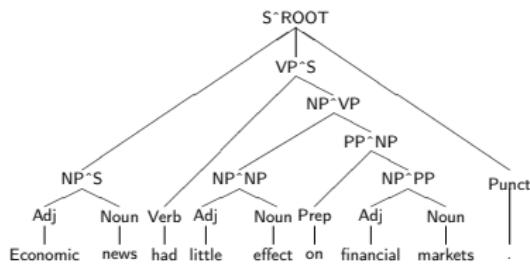
| Tree Context | NP PP | DT NN | PRP |
|--------------|-------|-------|-----|
| Anywhere | 11% | 9% | 6% |
| NP under S | 9% | 9% | 21% |
| NP under VP | 23% | 7% | 4% |

- ▶ Insensitive to lexical information:

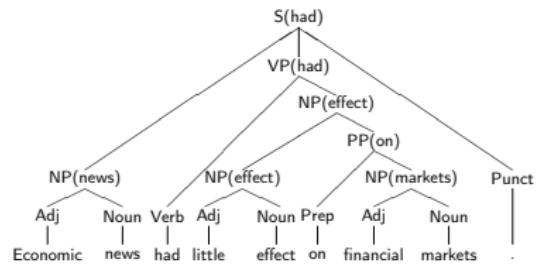
- ▶ She ate pizza with mushrooms
- ▶ She ate pizza with a fork



Parent Annotation

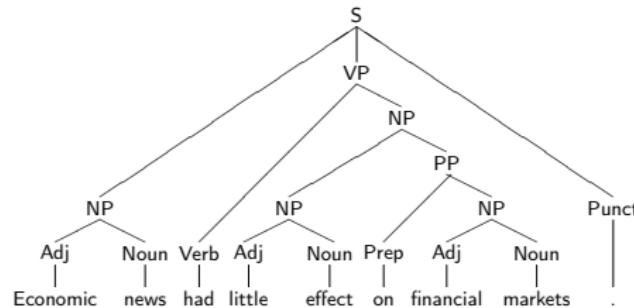


Lexicalization





Quiz



- ▶ Parent annotation increases the number of symbols.
- ▶ How many new NP symbols do we need for the tree above?
 1. 2
 2. 3
 3. 4
 4. 5



Natural Language Processing

PCFG Parsing

Joakim Nivre

Uppsala University
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joakim.nivre@lingfil.uu.se



PCFG Parsing

- ▶ Given a sentence S and grammar G
 - ▶ derive all possible trees for S according to G
 - ▶ find most probable tree T^*
- ▶ We can use **dynamic programming** to solve this efficiently
 - ▶ The Cocke-Kasami-Younger (CKY) algorithm
 - ▶ Earley's algorithm



Probabilistic CKY

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|-----|---|-----|---|------|---|
| 0 | I | 1 | saw | 2 | her | 3 | duck | 4 |
|---|---|---|-----|---|-----|---|------|---|

- ▶ Parse tables:
 $\mathcal{C}[i,j, B]$ = probability of best phrase of type B from i to j
 $\mathcal{B}[i,j, B]$ = back-pointers to retrieve best B from i to j
- ▶ CKY assumes Chomsky Normal Form (CNF):
 $A \rightarrow B \ C$
 $A \rightarrow a$
- ▶ Any CFG can be converted to CNF



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

```
for  $j$  from 1 to  $n$  do #  $j = \text{end of word}$ 
    for all  $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$  and  $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$ 
         $\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$ 
```



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$ and $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$

$\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$

for j from 2 to n do # $j = \text{end of phrase}$



Probabilistic CKY

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for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$ and $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$

$\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$

for j from 2 to n do # $j = \text{end of phrase}$

for i from $j-2$ downto 0 do # $i = \text{start of phrase}$



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$ and $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$

$\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$

for j from 2 to n do # $j = \text{end of phrase}$

for i from $j - 2$ downto 0 do # $i = \text{start of phrase}$

for k from $i + 1$ to $j - 1$ do # $k = \text{split point}$



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$ and $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$

$$\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$$

for j from 2 to n do # $j = \text{end of phrase}$

for i from $j-2$ downto 0 do # $i = \text{start of phrase}$

for k from $i+1$ to $j-1$ do # $k = \text{split point}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow BC \in R$ and $\mathcal{C}[i, k, B] > 0$ and $\mathcal{C}[k, j, C] > 0$



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

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for j from 2 to n do # $j = \text{end of phrase}$

for i from $j-2$ downto 0 do # $i = \text{start of phrase}$

for k from $i+1$ to $j-1$ do # $k = \text{split point}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow BC \in R$ and $\mathcal{C}[i, k, B] > 0$ and $\mathcal{C}[k, j, C] > 0$

if $(\mathcal{C}[i, j, A] < Q(A \rightarrow BC) \cdot \mathcal{C}[i, k, B] \cdot \mathcal{C}[k, j, C])$ then



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

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if $(\mathcal{C}[i, j, A] < Q(A \rightarrow BC) \cdot \mathcal{C}[i, k, B] \cdot \mathcal{C}[k, j, C])$ then

$\mathcal{C}[i, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow BC) \cdot \mathcal{C}[i, k, B] \cdot \mathcal{C}[k, j, C]$

$\mathcal{B}[i, j, A] := \{k, B, C\}$



Probabilistic CKY

PARSE(G, x)

for j from 1 to n do # $j = \text{end of word}$

for all $A : A \rightarrow a \in R$ and $a = {}_{j-1}w_j$

$\mathcal{C}[j-1, j, A] := Q(A \rightarrow a)$

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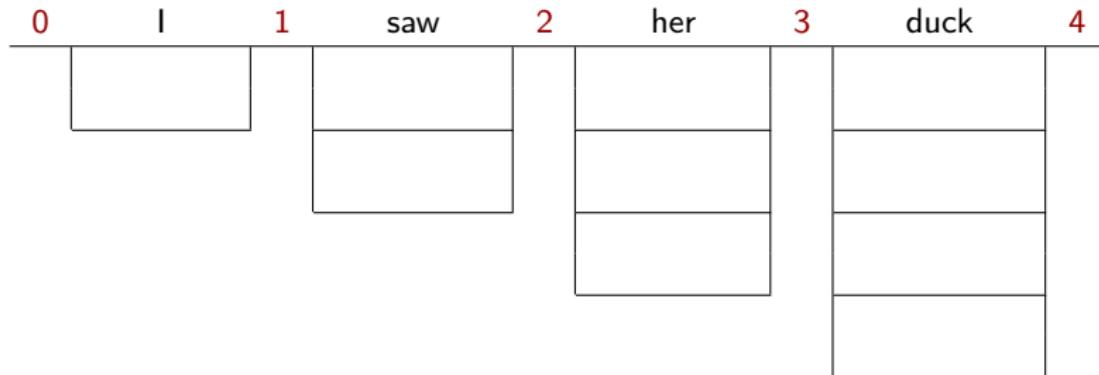
$\mathcal{B}[i, j, A] := \{k, B, C\}$

return BUILD-TREE($\mathcal{B}[0, n, S]$), $\mathcal{C}[0, n, S]$



Probabilistic CKY

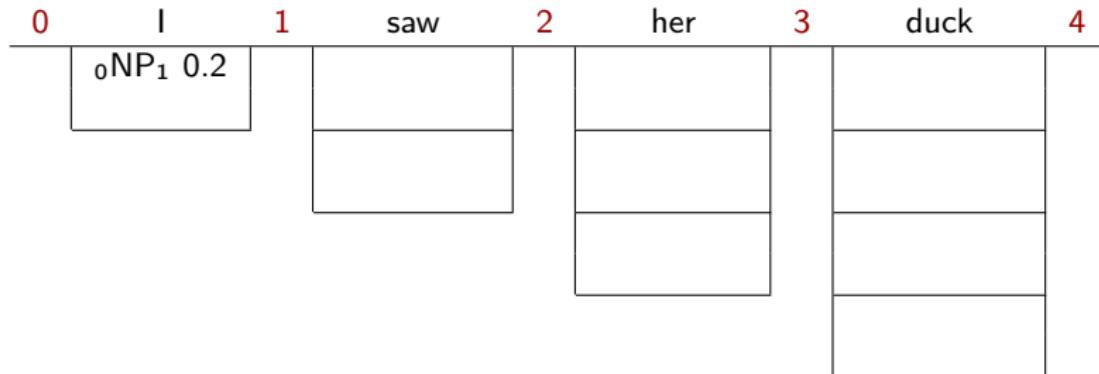
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|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
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Probabilistic CKY

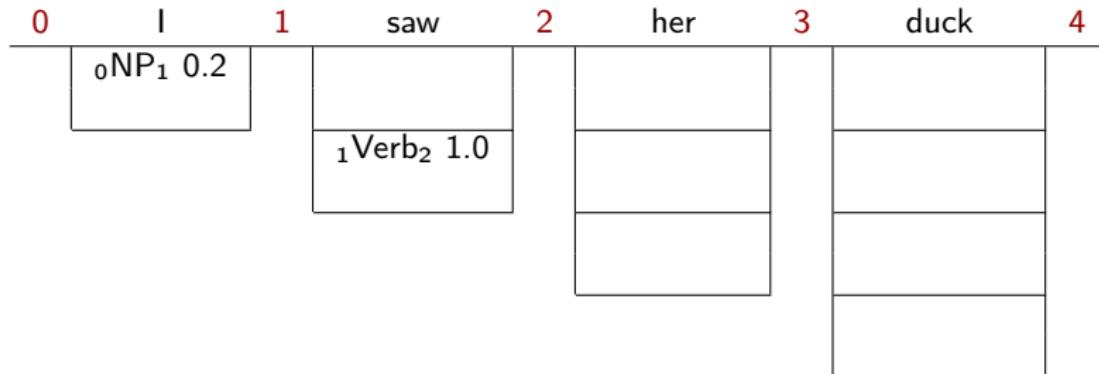
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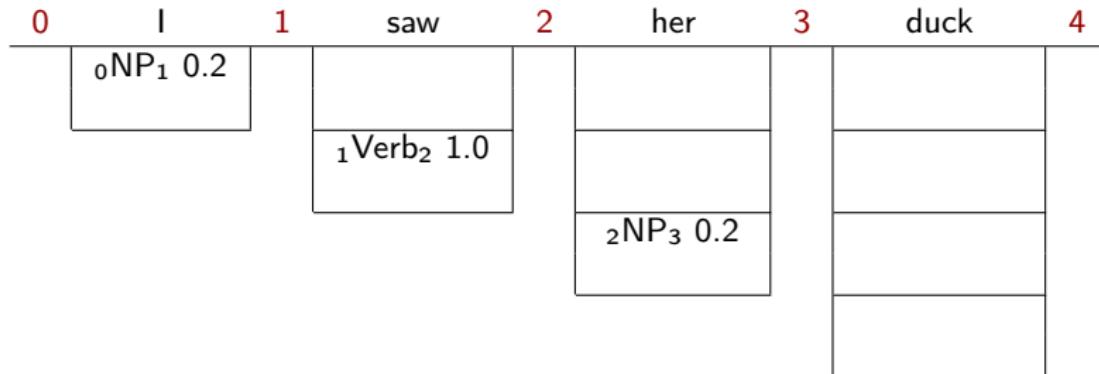
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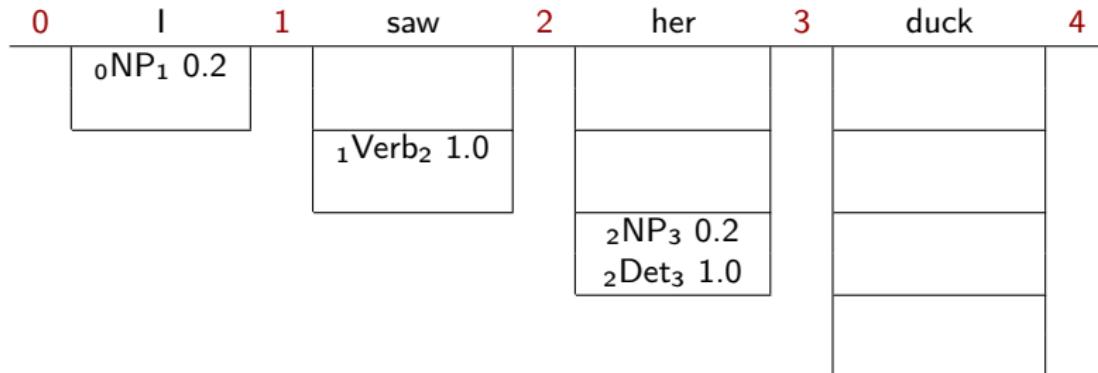
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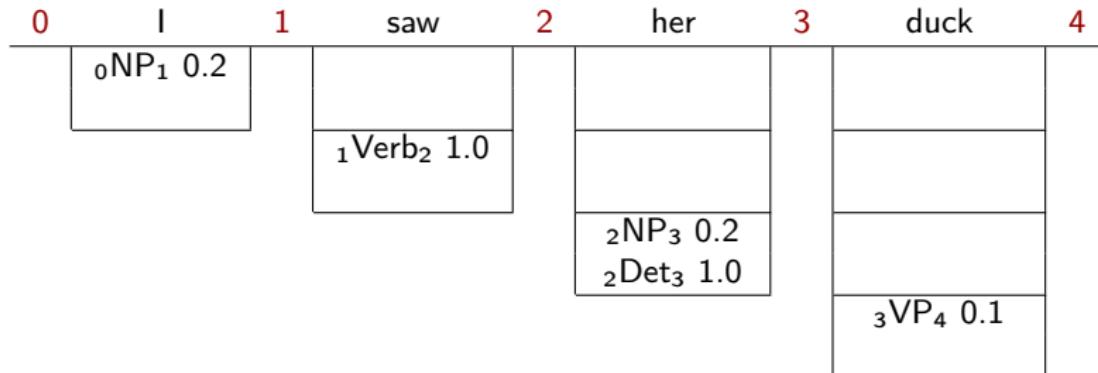
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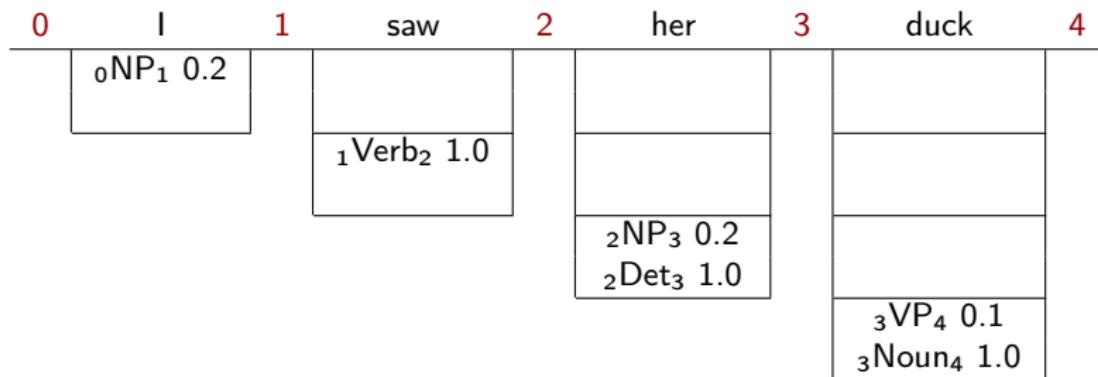
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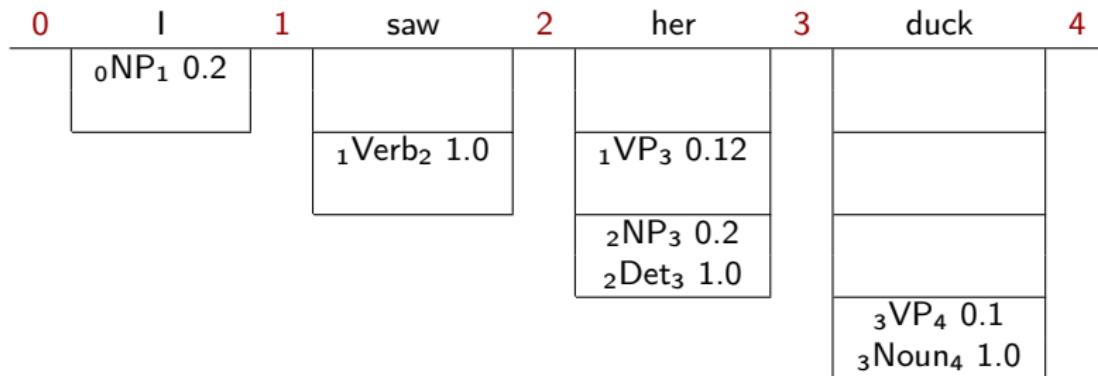
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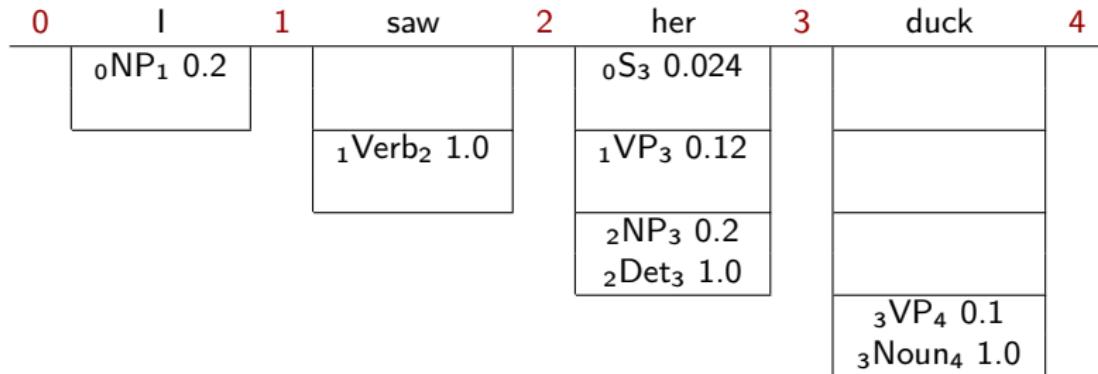
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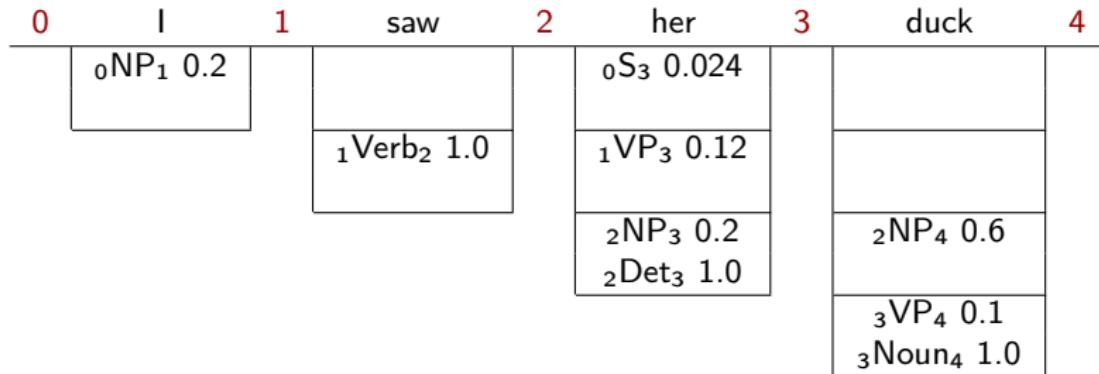
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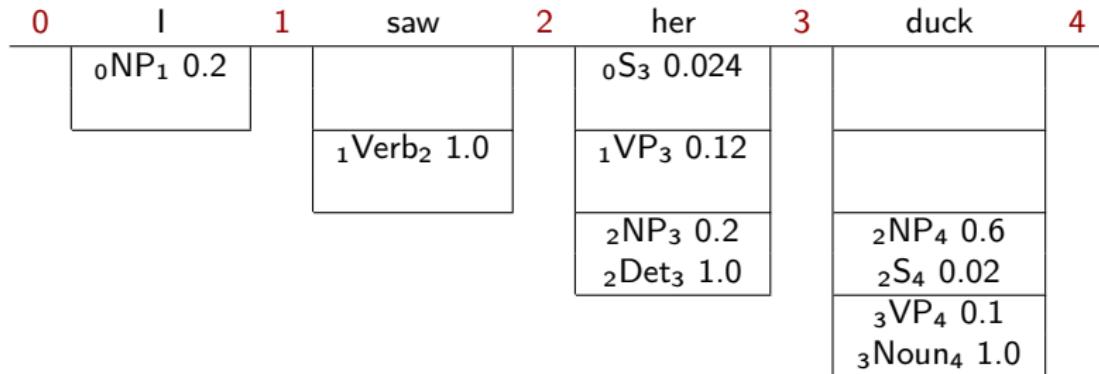
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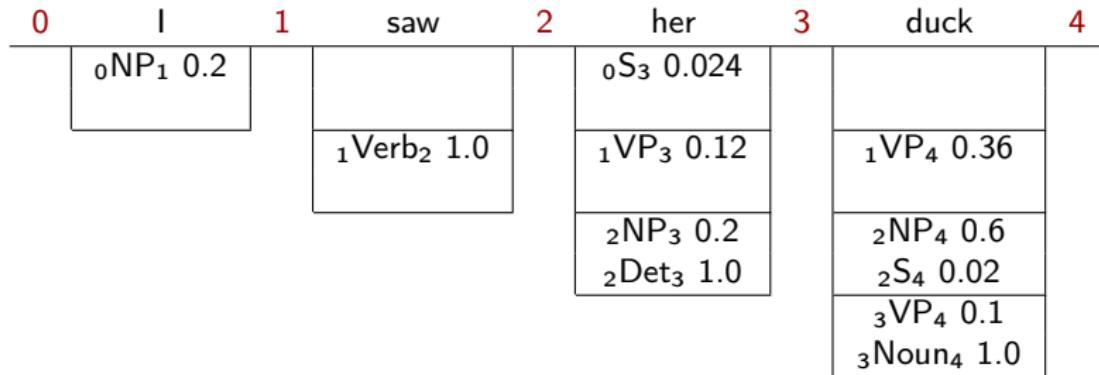
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| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |





Probabilistic CKY

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |





Probabilistic CKY

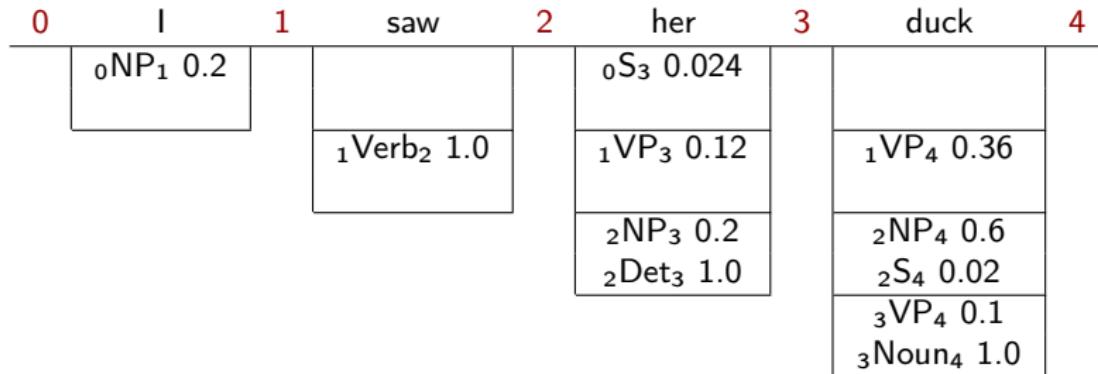
| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|---|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0 | I | 1 | saw | 2 | her | 3 | duck | 4 |
| ${}_0\text{NP}_1$ 0.2 | | | | ${}_0\text{S}_3$ 0.024 | | | | |
| | | | ${}_1\text{Verb}_2$ 1.0 | | ${}_1\text{VP}_3$ 0.12 | | | |
| | | | | | ${}_2\text{NP}_3$ 0.2 | | | ${}_1\text{VP}_4$ 0.36 |
| | | | | | ${}_2\text{Det}_3$ 1.0 | | ${}_1\text{VP}_4$ 0.006 | ${}_2\text{NP}_4$ 0.6 |
| | | | | | | | | ${}_2\text{S}_4$ 0.02 |
| | | | | | | | | ${}_3\text{VP}_4$ 0.1 |
| | | | | | | | | ${}_3\text{Noun}_4$ 1.0 |



Probabilistic CKY

| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |





Probabilistic CKY

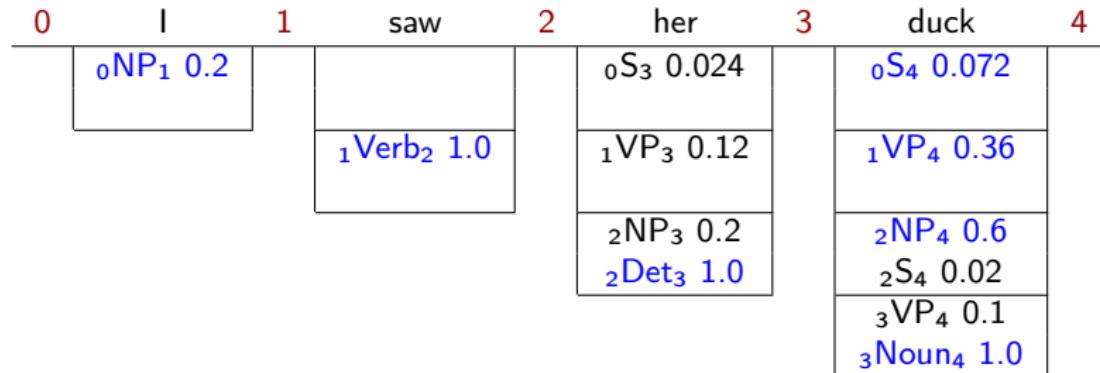
| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |

| | | | | | | | | |
|-----------------------|---|---|-------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|------------------------|-------------------------|
| 0 | I | 1 | saw | 2 | her | 3 | duck | 4 |
| ${}_0\text{NP}_1$ 0.2 | | | | ${}_0\text{S}_3$ 0.024 | | | ${}_0\text{S}_4$ 0.072 | |
| | | | ${}_1\text{Verb}_2$ 1.0 | | ${}_1\text{VP}_3$ 0.12 | | | ${}_1\text{VP}_4$ 0.36 |
| | | | | ${}_2\text{NP}_3$ 0.2 | | ${}_2\text{Det}_3$ 1.0 | | ${}_2\text{NP}_4$ 0.6 |
| | | | | | | | ${}_2\text{S}_4$ 0.02 | ${}_3\text{VP}_4$ 0.1 |
| | | | | | | | | ${}_3\text{Noun}_4$ 1.0 |



Probabilistic CKY

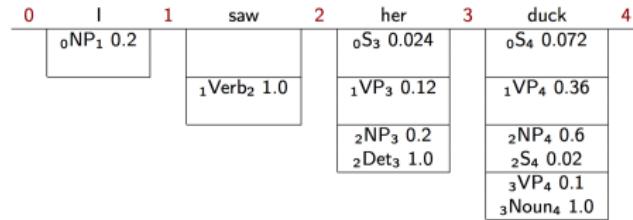
| | | | | | | | |
|----|---|----------|-----|------|---|------|-----|
| S | → | NP VP | 1.0 | NP | → | her | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb NP | 0.6 | NP | → | I | 0.2 |
| VP | → | Verb S | 0.3 | Verb | → | saw | 1.0 |
| VP | → | duck | 0.1 | Noun | → | duck | 1.0 |
| NP | → | Det Noun | 0.6 | Det | → | her | 1.0 |





Quiz

| | | | |
|---------------|-----|-------------|-----|
| S → NP VP | 1.0 | NP → her | 0.2 |
| VP → Verb NP | 0.6 | NP → I | 0.2 |
| VP → Verb S | 0.3 | Verb → saw | 1.0 |
| VP → duck | 0.1 | Noun → duck | 1.0 |
| NP → Det Noun | 0.6 | Det → her | 1.0 |



- Which items are combined into $_1\text{VP}_3$?
1. $_1\text{Verb}_2$ and $_2\text{NP}_3$
 2. $_1\text{Verb}_2$ and $_2\text{Det}_3$
 3. $_1\text{Verb}_2$ and $_2\text{NP}_4$