Syntax Trees in LATEX

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This tutorial will show you how to make syntax trees using \LaTeX . It will assume you either know very basic \LaTeX (such as how to format a document) or can find out.

1 Getting started

To begin, you will need to use the package qtree. Include in your preamble:

\usepackage{qtree}

If you plan on using prime notation (e.g., for X-bar trees), also include the line:

\qtreeprimes

2 The trees

Start a tree with the command

\Tree

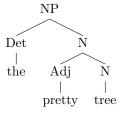
Trees are written in bracket notation. You can denote a node label by preceding it with a period. Any other text is taken to be the end of the branch.

2.1 Simple Example

Take, for example, the phrase "the pretty tree":

\Tree [.NP [.Det the] [.N [.Adj pretty] [.N tree]]]

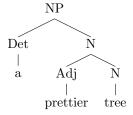
Looks like:



2.2 Formatting

Doing the entire tree in one line can get pretty messy. Even that short phrase is a little cluttered. Luckily, LATEX ignores any extra whitespace in a tree, so you can break it up across lines and indent it to make it a lot more readable. Take the following example using "a prettier tree":

Looks like:



2.3 Bar notation

To use X-bar notation, everything is more or less the same, but you use "\1" for the prime mark.

Looks like:

