

Chapter NLP:V

V. Syntax

- ❑ Introduction
- ❑ Phrase Structure Grammars
- ❑ Dependency Grammars
- ❑ Features and Unification

Phrase Structure Grammars

Formal Grammars

A formal grammar is defined by a set of **rules** with **terminal** and **non-terminal** symbols.

- Rules transform non-terminal symbols into other terminal or non-terminal symbols.
- Terminal symbols (\approx words) cannot be transformed any further.
- Non-terminals express clusters or generalizations of terminals.

Grammar (Σ, N, S, R)

- Σ An alphabet (i.e., a finite set of terminal symbols).
- N A finite set of non-terminal symbols.
- S A start non-terminal symbol, $S \in N$.
- R A finite set of production rules, $R \subseteq (\Sigma \cup N)^+ \setminus \Sigma^* \times (\Sigma \cup N)^*$.

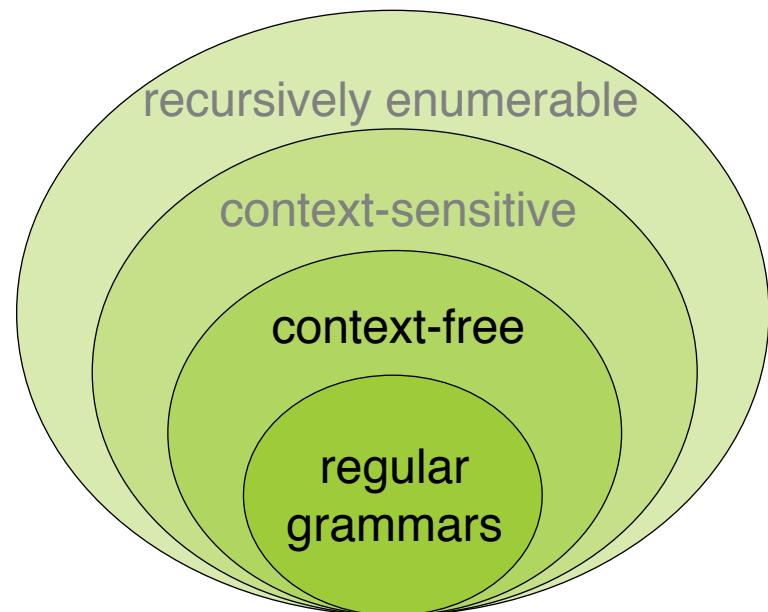
Phrase Structure Grammars

Chomsky Hierarchy

Formal grammars can be ordered in four types:

- Chomsky-0 (recursively enumerable). Any (Σ, N, S, R) as defined.
- Chomsky-1 (context-sensitive). Only rules $U \rightarrow V$ with $|U| \leq |V|$.
- Chomsky-2 (context-free). Only rules $U \rightarrow V$ with $U \in N$.
- Chomsky-3 (regular). Only rules $U \rightarrow V$ with $U \in N$
and $V \in \{\varepsilon, v, vW\}$, $v \in \Sigma$, $W \in N$.

In NLP most commonly used are regular and context-free grammars.



Remarks:

- Context-sensitive grammars allow multiple symbols on the left side (but at least one non-terminal) and multiple symbols on the right side without constraints.
$$S \rightarrow abc/aAbc, \quad Ab \rightarrow bA, \quad Ac \rightarrow Bbcc, \quad bB \rightarrow Bb, \quad aB \rightarrow aa/aaA$$
- Context-free grammars require a single non-terminal symbol on the left side. For example:
$$N = \{S, X\}, \Sigma = \{a, b\}, \quad S \rightarrow ab, \quad S \rightarrow aXb, \quad X \rightarrow ab, \quad X \rightarrow aXb$$
- Regular grammars are particularly useful in inferring information when language follows clear sequential patterns (i.e. pattern parsing). Consider our lecture on regular expressions for details.

Phrase Structure Grammars

Context-free grammars (CFG)

A phrase structure grammar is a syntactic structure based on the constituency relation between words.

Phrase structure grammars can be modeled as context-free grammars:

$$(\Sigma, S, N_{phr} \cup N_{pos}, R_{phr} \cup R_{pos})$$

Σ The alphabet.

S The start symbol.

N_{phr} A finite set of structural non-terminal symbols. NP, VP, ...

N_{pos} A finite set of lexical pre-terminal symbols. NN, VB, PRP, ...

$$N_{phr} \cap N_{pos} = \emptyset$$

R_{phr} A finite set of structure production rules. $S \rightarrow NP\ VP, \dots$

$$U \rightarrow V, U \in N_{phr} \quad V \in (N_{phr} \cup N_{pos})^*$$

R_{pos} A finite set of lexicon production rules. $NP \rightarrow DET\ NN\ NN, \dots$

$$U \rightarrow v, U \in N_{pos} \quad v \in \Sigma$$

Phrase Structure Grammars

Context-free grammars (CFG)

Some typical (English) phrase structures:

	Structural rule	Example
Clause Structures		
Declarative Clause	$S \rightarrow NP VP$	I take the flight tomorrow
Imperative Clause	$S \rightarrow VP$	Show me the next train
Yes-no Question	$S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$	Do you get off there?
Noun Phrase Structures		
Determiners	$NP \rightarrow DET NP$	the flight
Adjective Phrases	$NP \rightarrow JJ NP$	the earliest flight
Gerundive	$NP \rightarrow NP VP$	Show me the flights leaving today
Verb Phrase Structures		
Verb Phrase	$VP \rightarrow Verb NP$	take the train
Sentential Complement	$VP \rightarrow Verb S$	I think I want to take the train
Two Verb Phrases	$VP \rightarrow Verb VP$	I want to arrange three flights
Coordinations		
Coordination	$NP \rightarrow NP \text{ and } NP$	the flights and the cost

Phrase Structure Grammars

Context-free grammars (CFG)

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Phrase Structure Grammars

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Phrase Structure Grammars

Context-free grammars (CFG)

Some typical (English) phrase structures:

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Clause Structures		
Declarative Clause	$S \rightarrow NP\ VP$	I take the flight tomorrow
Imperative Clause	$S \rightarrow VP$	Show me the next train
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Noun Phrase Structures		
Determiners	$NP \rightarrow DET\ NP$	the flight
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Coordinations		
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Phrase Structure Grammars

CFG: Example Grammar

Structural rules		Lexical rules	
s1	$S \rightarrow NP VP$	I1	$N \rightarrow people$
s2	$VP \rightarrow V NP$	I2	$ \rightarrow fish$
s3	$ \rightarrow V NP PP$	I3	$ \rightarrow tanks$
s4	$NP \rightarrow NP NP$	I4	$ \rightarrow rods$
s5	$ \rightarrow NP PP // binary$	I5	$V \rightarrow people$
s6	$ \rightarrow N // unary$	I6	$ \rightarrow fish$
s7	$ \rightarrow \varepsilon // empty$	I7	$ \rightarrow tanks$
s8	$PP \rightarrow P NP$	I8	$P \rightarrow with$

Alternative:

Structural rules	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP VP$	
$NP \rightarrow NP NP NP PP N \varepsilon$	$N \rightarrow people fish tanks rods$
$VP \rightarrow V NP V NP PP$	$V \rightarrow people fish tanks$
$PP \rightarrow P NP$	$P \rightarrow with$

Phrase Structure Grammars

CFG Construction: Treebanks

- A phrase structure grammar consists of many (10k) rules.
- These rules are extracted from corpora with tree-structured expert annotations: **treebanks**. The most popular Treebanks are:
 1. The *Penn Treebank* (PTB) for constituency trees. [Marcus et al., 1993]
 2. The Universal Dependencies treebank for dependency structures.

Example from the Brown Corpus:

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

Structural rules		Lexical rules
S	→ NP-SBJ VP	NN → sky fire light
NP-SBJ	→ DT JJ , JJ NN	VBD → was
VP	→ VBD ADJP-PRD	JJ → cold empty full
ADJP-PRD	→ JJ PP	DT → That
PP	→ IN NP	IN → of
NP	→ NN CC NN	CC → and

Phrase Structure Grammars

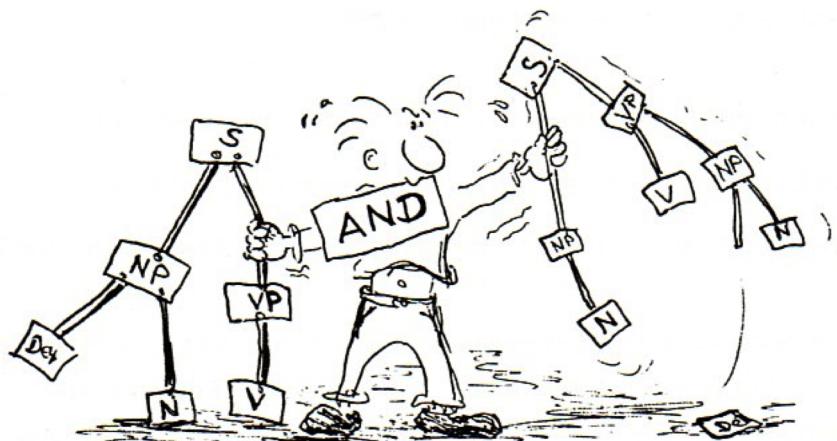
Constituency Parsing

Classical parsing

- Hand-crafted grammar (CFG or more complex), along with a lexicon.
- Usage of grammar-based systems to prove parses from words.
- This scales badly and fails to give high coverage of language.

Example: “Fed raises interest rates 0.5% in effort to control inflation”

- Minimal grammar: 36 parses
- Real-size broad-coverage grammar: Millions of parses



Phrase Structure Grammars

CFG Modifications for Parsing

Parsing with a CFG from a Treebank often yields long, specific, and rare rules:

- Parsing is inefficient.
- Parsing generalizes poorly.
- Syntactic disambiguation is difficult.

Some rules from Penn:

NP → DT JJ NN
NP → DT JJ NN NN
NP → DT JJ JJ NN
NP → RB DT JJ NN NN
NP → RB DT JJ JJ NNS
NP → DT NNP NNP NNP NNP JJ NN
NP → DT VBG JJ NNP NNP CC NNP
NP → DT JJ NNS , NNS CC NN NNS NN
NP → NP JJ , JJ " SBAR " NNS

CFGs are often modified for parsing:

Probabilistic CFG Extract the likelihood of each rule. Use the most likely rule when parsing.

Chomsky Normal Form Normalize rules into (equivalent) binary ones.

Lexicalization Add prior knowledge from a lexicon.

Linearization Transform trees to sequences.

Phrase Structure Grammars

Probabilistic CFG

A probabilistic context-free grammar (PCFG) is a CFG where each production rule is assigned a probability.

PCFG (Σ, N, S, R, P)

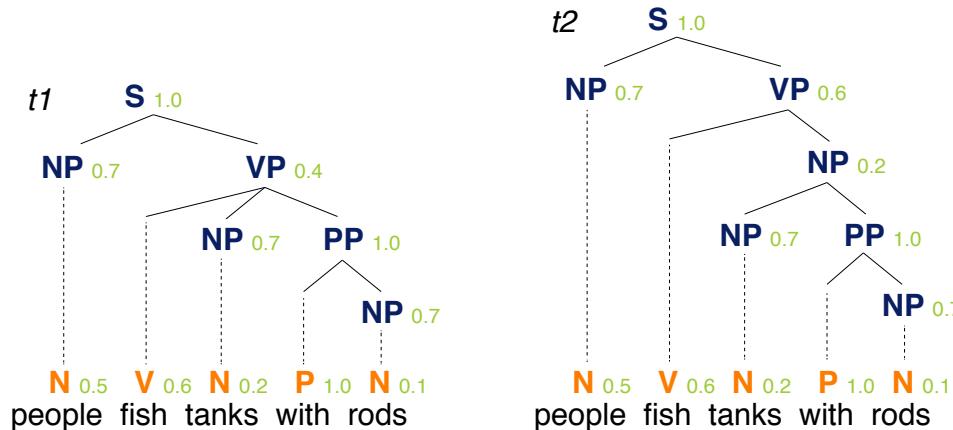
P A probability function $R \rightarrow [0, 1]$ from production rules to probabilities, such that

$$\forall U \in N : \sum_{(U \rightarrow V) \in R} P(U \rightarrow V) = 1$$

- The probability $P(t)$ of a parse tree t is the product of the probabilities of the rules used to generate it.
- The probability $P(s)$ of a clause s is the sum of the probabilities of the parses which yield s .

Phrase Structure Grammars

Probabilistic CFG



$$\begin{aligned} P(t_1) &= 1.0 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.4 \cdot 0.5 \cdot 0.6 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 1.0 \cdot 0.2 \cdot 1.0 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.1 \\ &= 0.0008232 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(t_2) &= 1.0 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.6 \cdot 0.5 \cdot 0.6 \cdot 0.2 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 1.0 \cdot 0.2 \cdot 1.0 \cdot 0.7 \cdot 0.1 \\ &= 0.00024696 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P(s) &= P(t_1) + P(t_2) = 0.0008232 + 0.00024696 \\ &= 0.00107016 \end{aligned}$$

Structural rules	P
$S \rightarrow NP\ VP$	1.0
$VP \rightarrow V\ NP$	0.6
$VP \rightarrow V\ NP\ PP$	0.4
$NP \rightarrow NP\ NP$	0.1
$NP \rightarrow NP\ PP$	0.2
$NP \rightarrow N$	0.7
$PP \rightarrow P\ NP$	1.0

Lexical rules	P
$N \rightarrow \text{people}$	0.5
$N \rightarrow \text{fish}$	0.2
$N \rightarrow \text{tanks}$	0.2
$N \rightarrow \text{rods}$	0.1
$V \rightarrow \text{people}$	0.1
$V \rightarrow \text{fish}$	0.6
$V \rightarrow \text{tanks}$	0.3
$P \rightarrow \text{with}$	1.0

Phrase Structure Grammars

Chomsky Normal Form

A CFG is in **Chomsky Normal Form** if all rules in R are in either of the forms:

$U \rightarrow VW$ Two non-terminals on the right side.

$U \rightarrow v$ One terminal symbol on the right side.

$S \rightarrow e$ The empty clause without symbols.

Two grammars are (weakly) equivalent if they generate the same set of strings.

- Grammars can be equivalently transformed by changing production rules.
- We can transform a CFG to parse it more efficiently.
- The Chomsky Normal Form is a binary branching normalization that is highly useful for parsing.

Phrase Structure Grammars

Chomsky Normal Form

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Transformation Idea:

1. Split n -ary production rules with helper non-terminals.

$$VP \rightarrow NP VP NP \rightarrow VP \rightarrow NP \alpha \cup \alpha \rightarrow VP NP$$

2. Remove empty rules.

$$NP \rightarrow \epsilon \cup VP \rightarrow V NP \rightarrow VP \rightarrow V NP \cup VP \rightarrow V$$

3. Replace unary *structure* rules with direct rules.

$$NP \rightarrow PP \cup PP \rightarrow P N \rightarrow PP \rightarrow P N \cup NP \rightarrow P N$$

Phrase Structure Grammars

Chomsky Normal Form

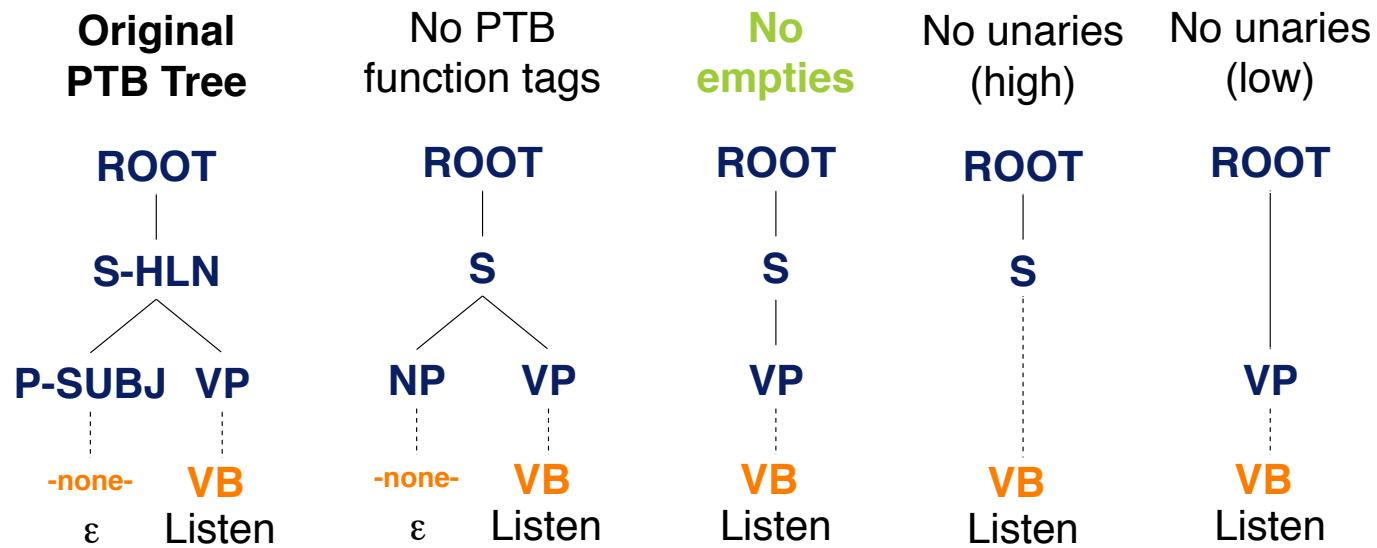
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Transformation of Penn (PTB) trees to Chomsky Normal Form (CNF):



Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation

Signature

- **Input.** The production rules $R = R_{phr} \cup R_{pos}$ of a CFG.
- **Output.** The production rules R^* of the normalized version of the CFG.

toChomskyNormalForm(Production rules R)

```
1.   while an empty  $(U \rightarrow \varepsilon) \in R$  do
2.
3.       // Replace empty rules
4.
5.   while a unary  $(U \rightarrow V) \in R$  do
6.
7.
8.       // Replace unary rules
9.
10.
11.  while an  $n$ -ary  $(U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_n) \in R$  do
12.      // Split  $n$ -ary rules with  $n \geq 3$ 
13.  return  $R$ 
```

Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation: Replace Empty Rules

1. **while** an empty $(U \rightarrow \varepsilon) \in R$ **do**
2. $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
3. **for each** rule $(V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k U W_1 \dots W_l) \in R$ **do** // $k, l \geq 0$
4. $R \leftarrow R \cup \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k W_1 \dots W_l\}$

Structural rules R^{old}	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \ NP \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \ PP \mid N \mid NP \xrightarrow{\varepsilon}$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Structural rules $R^{no \ empties}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP \mid VP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \mid NP \ PP \mid PP \mid N$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP \mid P$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation: Replace Unary Rules (1)

5. **while** a unary ($U \rightarrow V$) $\in R$ **do**
6. $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V\}$
7. **if** $U \neq V$ **then**
8. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$
9. **if not** ($W \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$ $V W_1 \dots W_l$) $\in R$ **then**
10. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no empties}}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP \mid VP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \mid NP \ PP \mid PP \mid N$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP \mid P$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries}}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP \mid V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \mid NP \ PP \mid PP \mid N$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP \mid P$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation: Replace Unary Rules (2)

5. **while** a unary ($U \rightarrow V$) $\in R$ **do**
6. $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V\}$
7. **if** $U \neq V$ **then**
8. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$
9. **if not** ($W \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$ $V W_1 \dots W_l$) $\in R$ **then**
10. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries } 1}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP \mid V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \mid NP \ PP \mid PP \mid N$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP \mid P$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries } 2}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \ VP \mid V \ NP \mid V \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \ NP \mid V \ NP \ PP \mid V \ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \ NP \mid NP \mid NP \ PP \mid PP \mid N$	$NP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$PP \rightarrow P \ NP \mid P$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation: Replace Unary Rules (3-7)

5. **while** a unary ($U \rightarrow V$) $\in R$ **do**
6. $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V\}$
7. **if** $U \neq V$ **then**
8. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$
9. **if not** ($W \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$ $VW_1 \dots W_l$) $\in R$ **then**
10. **for each** ($V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k$) $\in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries}}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP\ VP \mid V\ NP \mid \textcolor{brown}{V} \mid V\ NP\ PP \mid V\ PP$	
$VP \rightarrow V\ NP \mid V\ NP\ PP \mid V\ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP\ NP \mid \textcolor{brown}{NP} \mid NP\ PP \mid \textcolor{brown}{PP} \mid \textcolor{brown}{N}$	$VP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$PP \rightarrow P\ NP \mid \textcolor{brown}{P}$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$ $P \rightarrow \text{with}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries}}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP\ VP \mid V\ NP \mid V\ NP\ PP \mid V\ PP$	$S \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$VP \rightarrow V\ NP \mid V\ NP\ PP \mid V\ PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP\ NP \mid NP\ PP \mid \textcolor{green}{P}\ NP$	$VP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$PP \rightarrow P\ NP$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$ $P \rightarrow \text{with}$
	$NP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods} \mid \text{with}$
	$PP \rightarrow \text{with}$

Phrase Structure Grammars

CNF Transformation: Split n-ary rules with $n \geq 3$

11. **while** an n -ary $(U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_n) \in R$ **do** // $n \geq 3$

12. $R \leftarrow (R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V_1, V_2, \dots, V_n\}) \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 U V_1, U V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \dots V_n\}$

Structural rules $R^{\text{no unaries}}$	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \; VP \mid V \; NP \mid \cancel{V \; NP \; PP} \mid V \; PP$	$S \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$VP \rightarrow V \; NP \mid \cancel{V \; NP \; PP} \mid V \; PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \; NP \mid NP \; PP \mid P \; NP$	$VP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$PP \rightarrow P \; NP$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$
	$NP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods} \mid \text{with}$
	$PP \rightarrow \text{with}$

Structural rules R^{CNF}	Lexical rules
$S \rightarrow NP \; VP \mid V \; NP \mid \cancel{V \; S \; V} \mid V \; PP$	$S \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$\cancel{S \; V} \rightarrow NP \; PP$	
$VP \rightarrow V \; NP \mid \cancel{V \; VP \; V} \mid V \; PP$	$V \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$\cancel{VP \; V} \rightarrow NP \; PP$	$VP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks}$
$NP \rightarrow NP \; NP \mid NP \; PP \mid P \; NP$	$N \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods}$
$PP \rightarrow P \; NP$	$P \rightarrow \text{with}$
	$NP \rightarrow \text{people} \mid \text{fish} \mid \text{tanks} \mid \text{rods} \mid \text{with}$
	$PP \rightarrow \text{with}$

Phrase Structure Grammars

Chomsky Normal Form Transformation: Pseudocode

Signature

- **Input.** The production rules $R = R_{phr} \cup R_{pos}$ of a CFG.
- **Output.** The production rules R^* of the normalized version of the CFG.

toChomskyNormalForm(Production rules R)

1. **while** an empty $(U \rightarrow \varepsilon) \in R$ **do**
 $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$
2. **for each** rule $(V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k U W_1 \dots W_l) \in R$ **do** // $k, l \geq 0$
 $R \leftarrow R \cup \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k \quad W_1 \dots W_l\}$
3. **while** a unary $(U \rightarrow V) \in R$ **do**
 $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V\}$
4. **if** $U \neq V$ **then**
for each $(V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k) \in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$
5. **if not** $(W \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k \ V W_1 \dots W_l) \in R$ **then**
for each $(V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k) \in R$ **do** $R \leftarrow R \setminus \{V \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_k\}$
6. **while** an n -ary $(U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_n) \in R$ **do** // $n \geq 3$
 $R \leftarrow (R \setminus \{U \rightarrow V_1 \dots V_n\}) \cup \{U \rightarrow V_1 U _ V_1, \ U _ V_1 \rightarrow V_2 \dots V_n\}$
7. **return** R

Remarks:

- The original algorithm presented by Chomsky has 5 steps: START, TERM, BIN, DEL, and UNIT.
- `toChomskyNormalForm` only uses DEL, UNIT, and BIN in that order. The order can be changed, but DEL must come before UNIT.
- START eliminated S on the RHS, which should not occur in natural language.
- TERM splits rules with mixed terminals and non-terminals. We assume that the initial Grammar was extracted without such constructs.

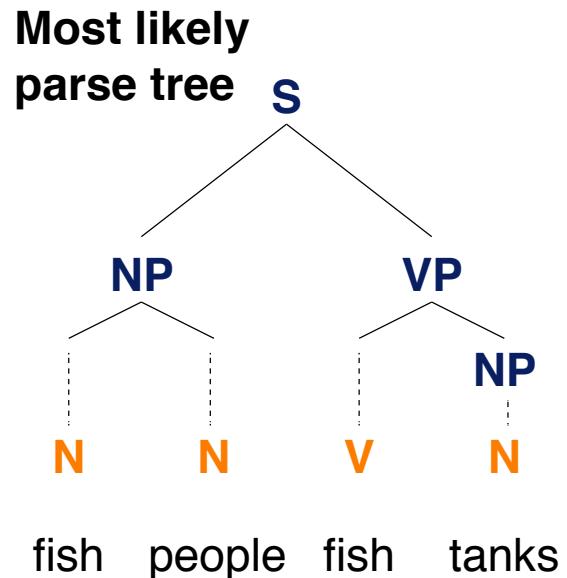
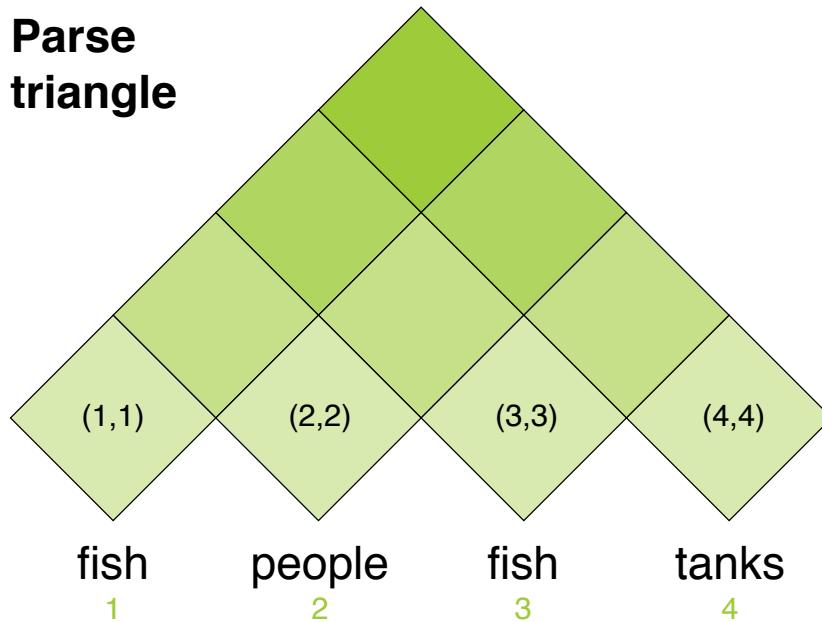
Phrase Structure Grammars

Cocke-Kasami-Younger (CKY) Parsing

PCFGs in CNF can be parsed via dynamic programming:

- CKY finds the most likely parse tree from the PCFGs probabilities.
- With a CFG in CNF, CKY parses in cubic time and quadratic space.

With respect to the length of the sentence and the number of non-terminals.

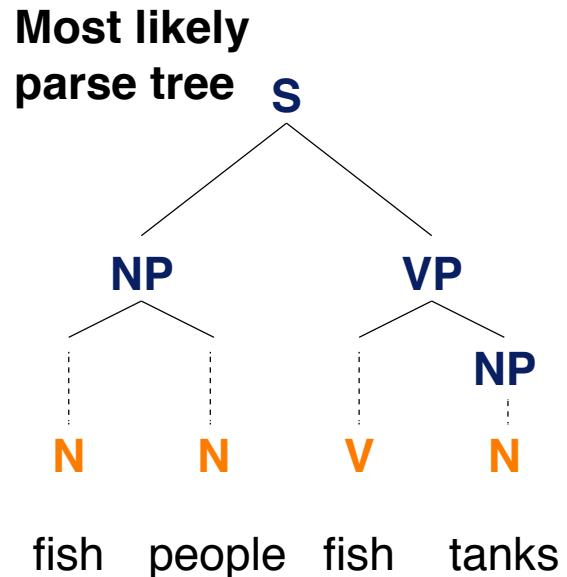
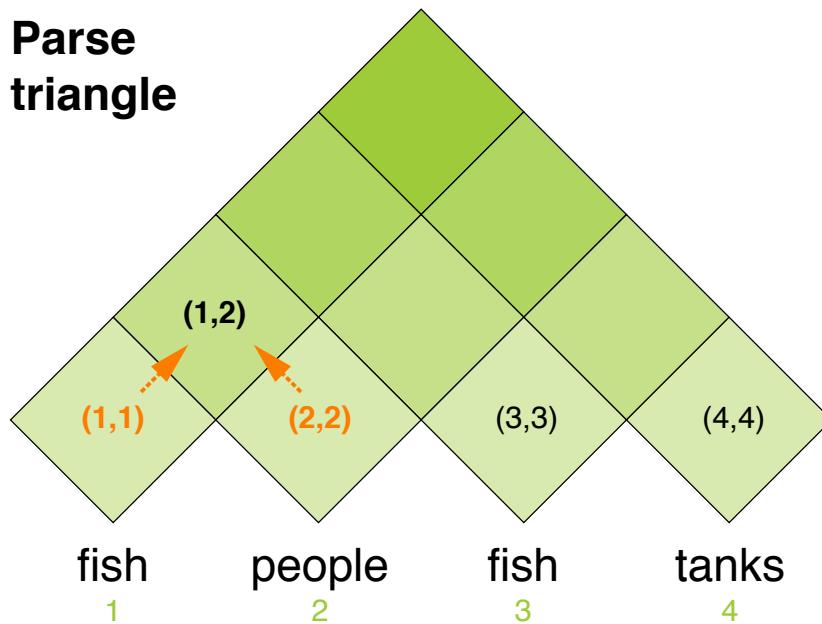


Parsing based on a PCFG

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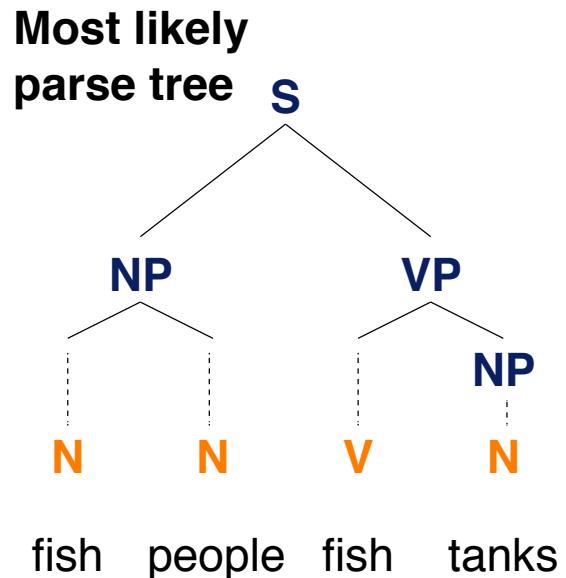
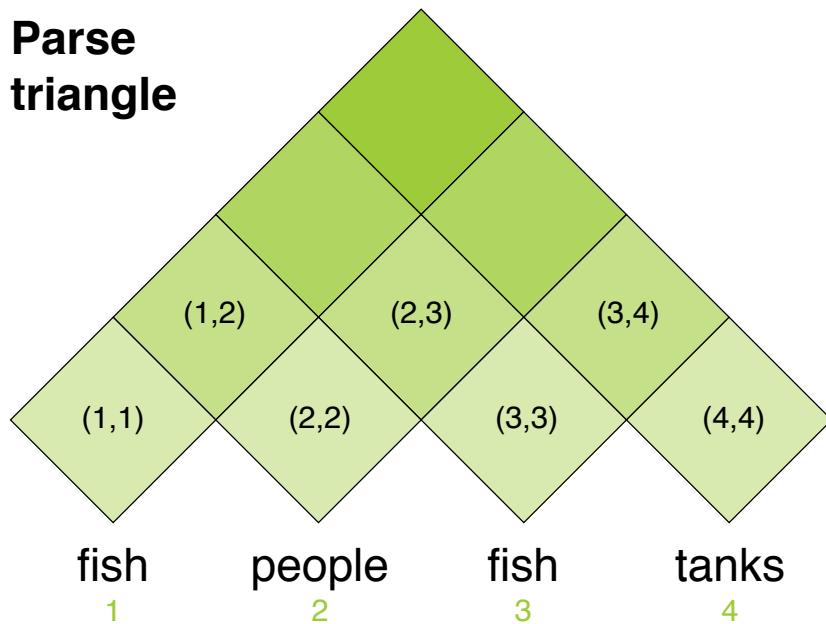


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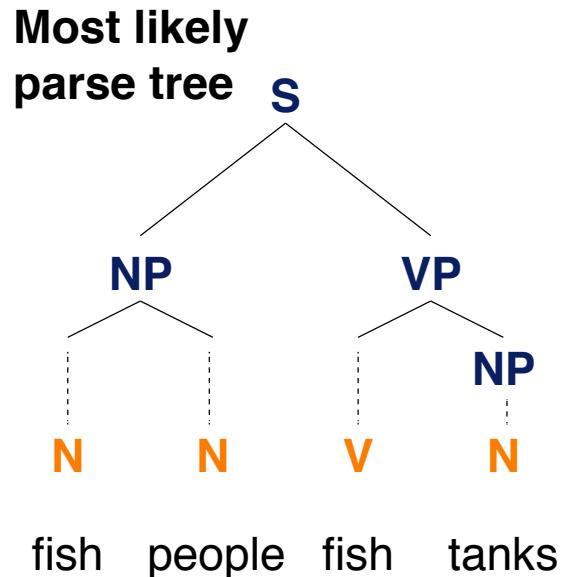
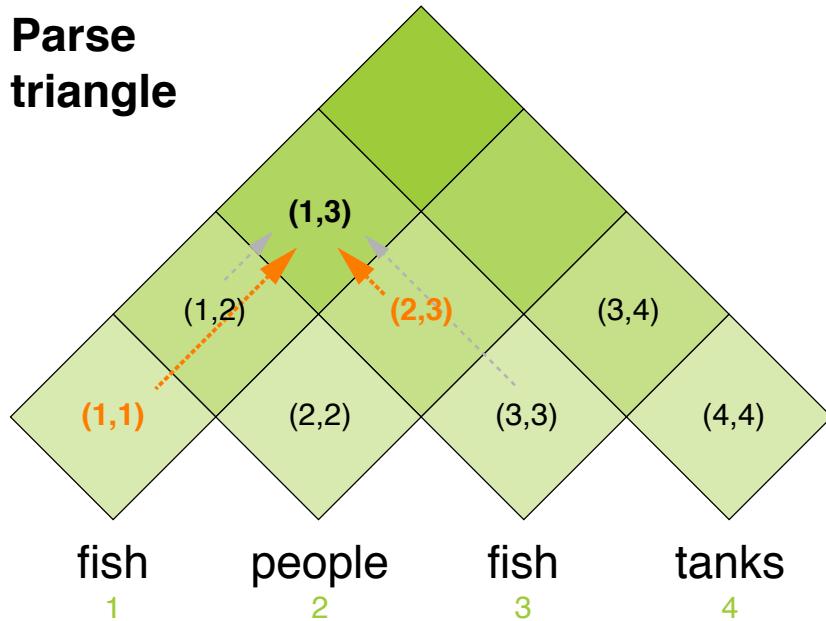


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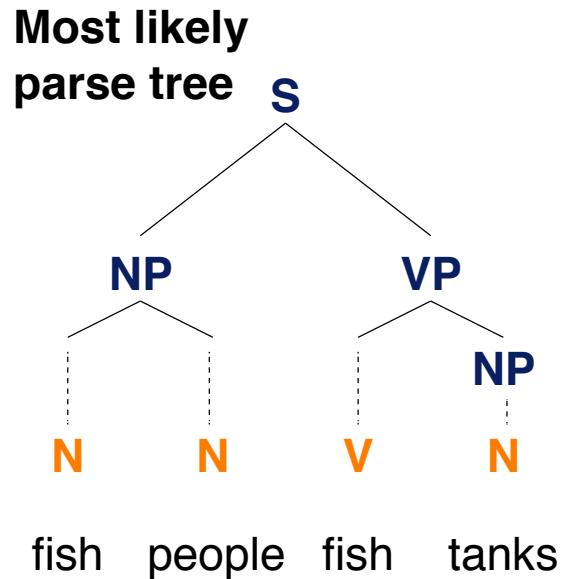
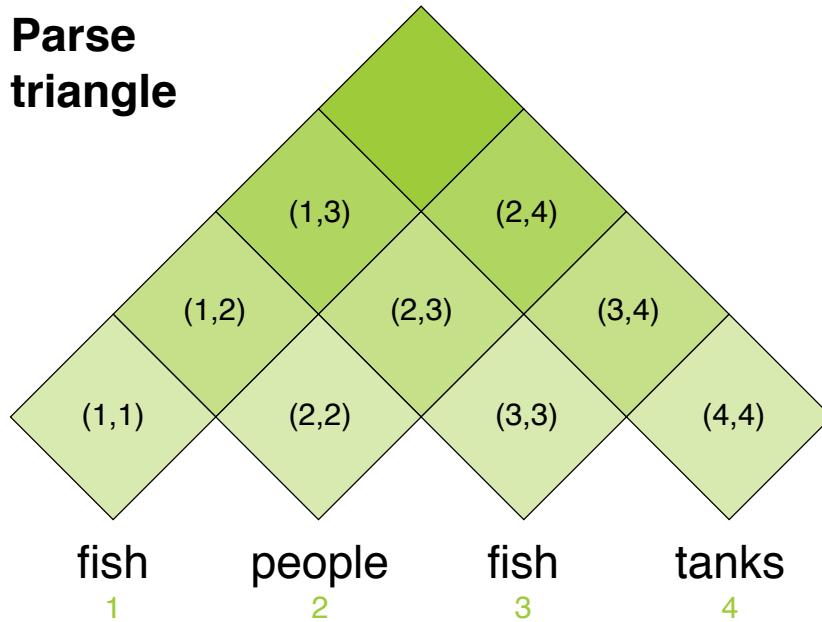


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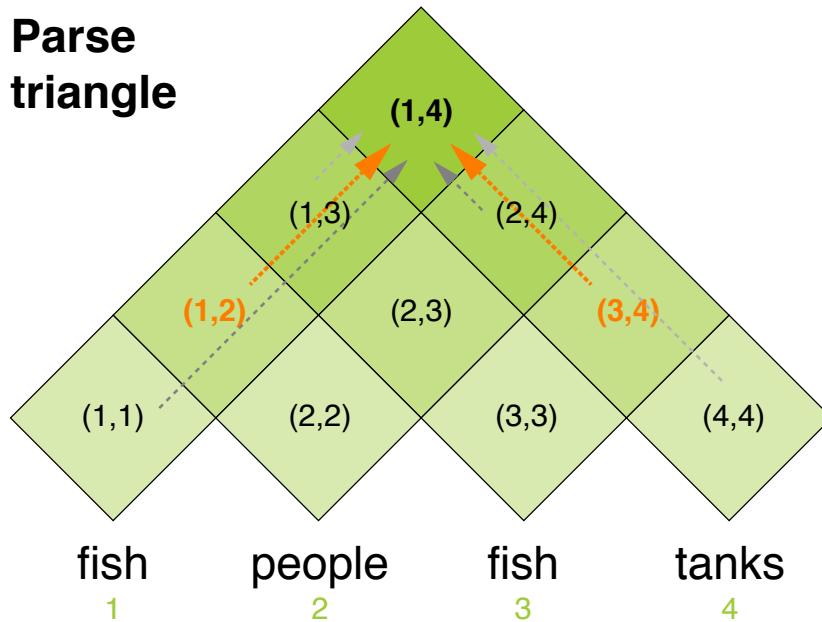
Parsing based on a PCFG

Cocke-Kasami-Younger (CKY) Parsing

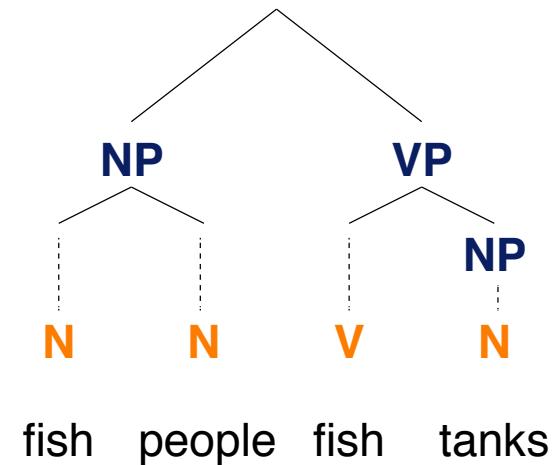
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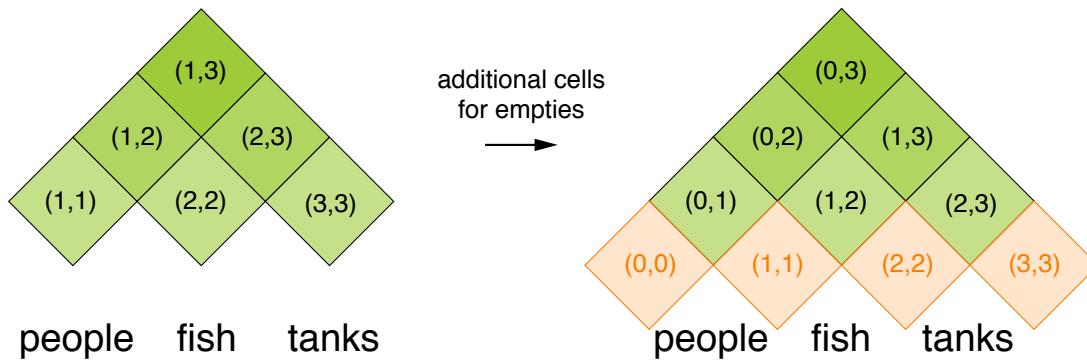


**Most likely
parse tree**



Remarks:

- The binarization from the CNF is crucial for cubic time.
- CKY can be extended to include Unaries and Empties without increasing time complexity.
This just makes the algorithm more messy:



Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Pseudo Code 1/2

Signature

- Input. A sentence (represented by a list of tokens), a binarized PCFG.
- Output. The most likely parse tree of the sentence.

extendedCKYParsing (List<Token> tokens, PCFG (Σ, N, S, R, P))

```
1.      double [][][] probs ← new double[#tokens] [#tokens] [#N]
2.      for int i ← 1 to #tokens do // Lexical rules (and unaries)
3.          for each U ∈ N do
4.              if (U → tokens[i]) ∈ P then
5.                  probs[i][i][U] ← P(U → tokens[i])
6.
7.
8.
9.
10.         // ... handle unaries...
11.
12.
13.
14.
15.         // ... continued on next slide...
```

Parsing based on a PCFG

CKY Parsing: Pseudo Code 1/2

Signature

- Input. A sentence (represented by a list of tokens), a binarized PCFG.
- Output. The most likely parse tree of the sentence.

extendedCKYParsing (List<Token> tokens, PCFG (Σ, N, S, R, P))

```
1.   double [][][] probs ← new double[#tokens][#tokens][#N]
2.   for int i ← 1 to #tokens do // Lexical rules (and unaries)
3.     for each U ∈ N do
4.       if (U → tokens[i]) ∈ P then
5.         probs[i][i][U] ← P(U → tokens[i])
6.   boolean added ← 'true' // As of here: Handle unaries
7.   while added = 'true' do
8.     added ← 'false'
9.     for each U,V ∈ N do
10.       if probs[i][i][V]>0 and (U → V) ∈ P then
11.         double prob ← P(U → V) · probs[i][i][V]
12.         if prob > probs[i][i][U] then
13.           probs[i][i][U] ← prob
14.           added ← 'true'
15.   // ... continued on next slide...
```

Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Pseudo Code 2/2

```
// ... lines 1-14 on previous slide...
15. for int length ← 2 to #tokens do // Structural rules
16.     for int beg ← 1 to #tokens - length + 1 do
17.         int end ← beg + length - 1
18.         for int split ← beg to end-1 do
19.
20.
    // ...
21.
22.
23.
24.
25.
26.     // ... handle unaries...
27.
28.
29.
30.
31. return buildTree(probs) // Reconstruct tree from triangle
```

Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Pseudo Code 2/2

```
// ... lines 1-14 on previous slide...
15. for int length ← 2 to #tokens do // Structural rules
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17.         int end ← beg + length - 1
18.         for int split ← beg to end-1 do
19.             for int U,V,W ∈ N do
20.                 int prob ← probs[beg][split][V] ·
21.                               probs[split+1][end][W] ·  $P(U \rightarrow V W)$ 
22.                 if prob > probs[beg][end][U] then
23.                     probs[beg][end][U] ← prob
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25.
26.         // ... handle unaries...
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Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Pseudo Code 2/2

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// ... lines 1-14 on previous slide...
15. for int length  $\leftarrow$  2 to #tokens do // Structural rules
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21.                               probs[split+1][end][W] ·  $P(U \rightarrow V W)$ 
22.                 if prob > probs[beg][end][U] then
23.                     probs[beg][end][U]  $\leftarrow$  prob
24.                     boolean added  $\leftarrow$  'true' // As of here: Handle unaries
25.                     while added do
26.                         added  $\leftarrow$  'false'
27.                         for U,V  $\in N$  do
28.                             prob =  $P(U \rightarrow V) \cdot$  probs[beg][end][V];
29.                             if prob > probs[beg][end][U] then
30.                                 probs[beg][end][U]  $\leftarrow$  prob
31.                                 added  $\leftarrow$  'true'
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```

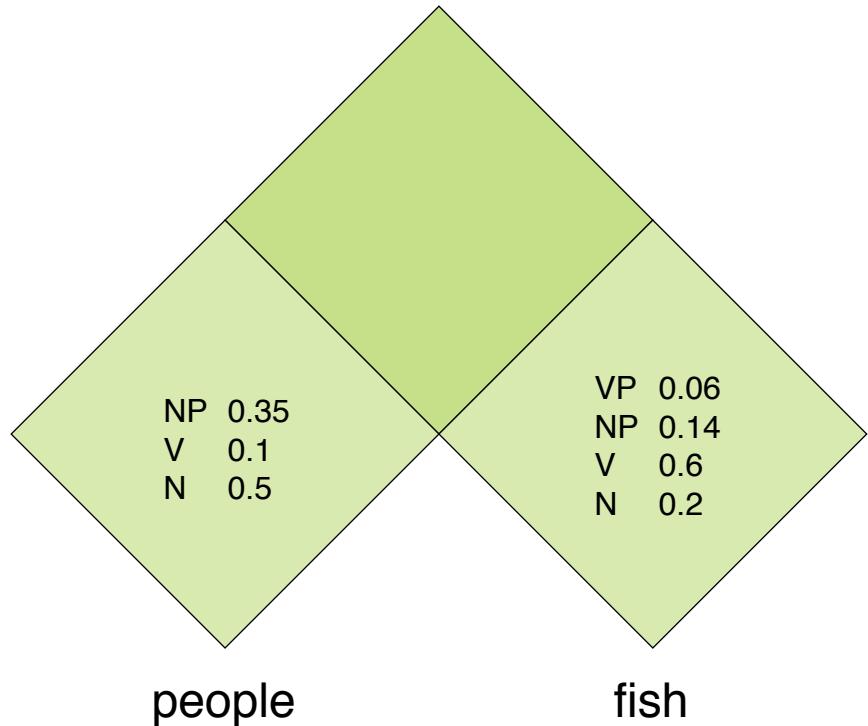
Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Example

A binarized PCFG

Structural rules

s1	$S \rightarrow NP\ VP$	0.9
s1'	$S \rightarrow VP$	0.1
s2	$VP \rightarrow V\ NP$	0.5
s2'	$VP \rightarrow V$	0.1
s3'	$VP \rightarrow V\ VP_V$	0.3
s3''	$VP \rightarrow V\ PP$	0.1
s3'''	$VP_V \rightarrow NP\ PP$	1.0
s4	$NP \rightarrow NP\ NP$	0.1
s5	$NP \rightarrow NP\ PP$	0.2
s6	$NP \rightarrow N$	0.7
s7	$PP \rightarrow P\ NP$	1.0



Filling cells

- Compute probabilities for each cell.
- Keep only highest for each left side.

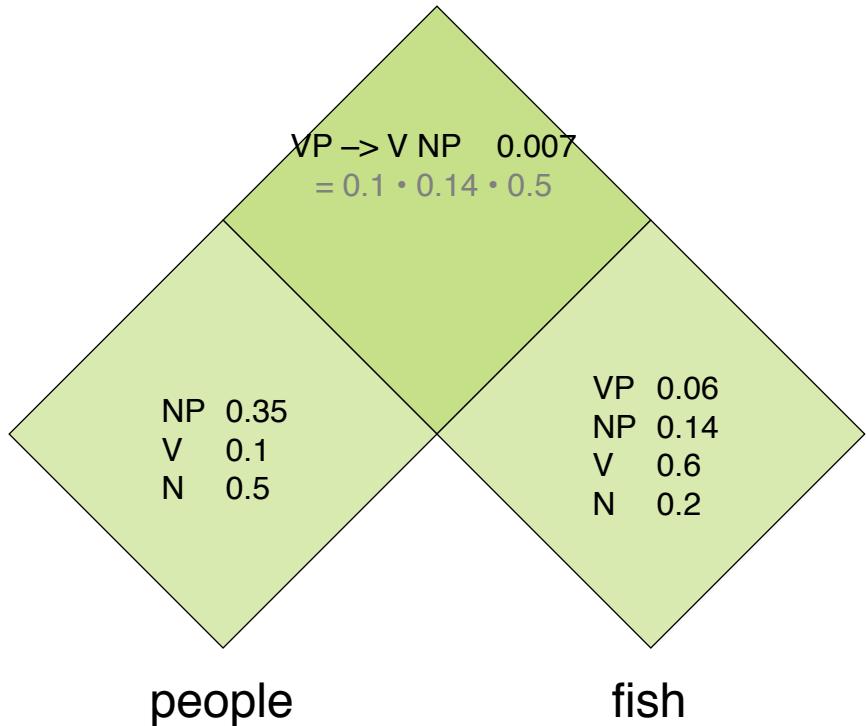
Phrase Structure Grammars

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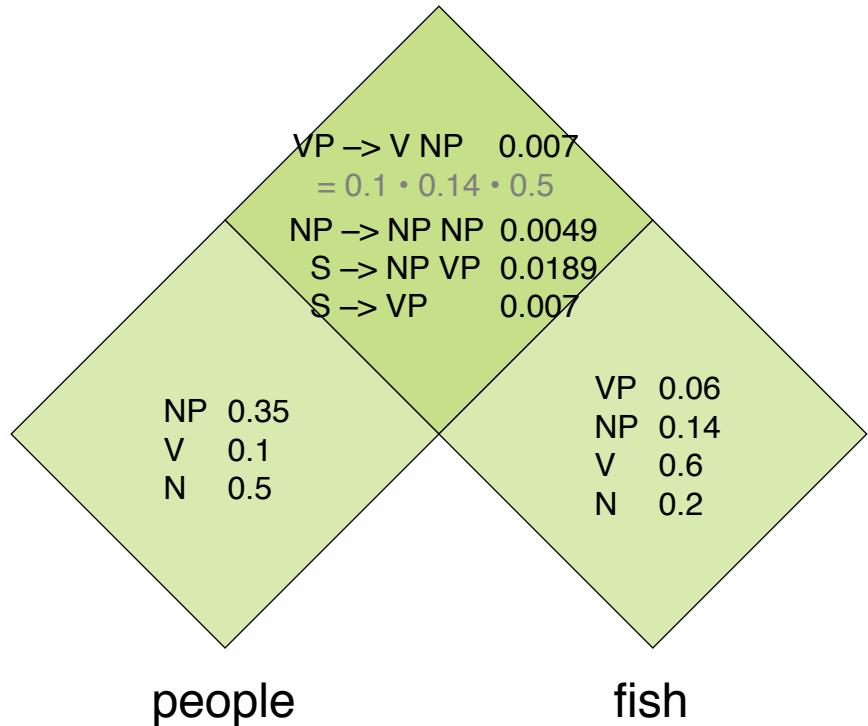
Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Example

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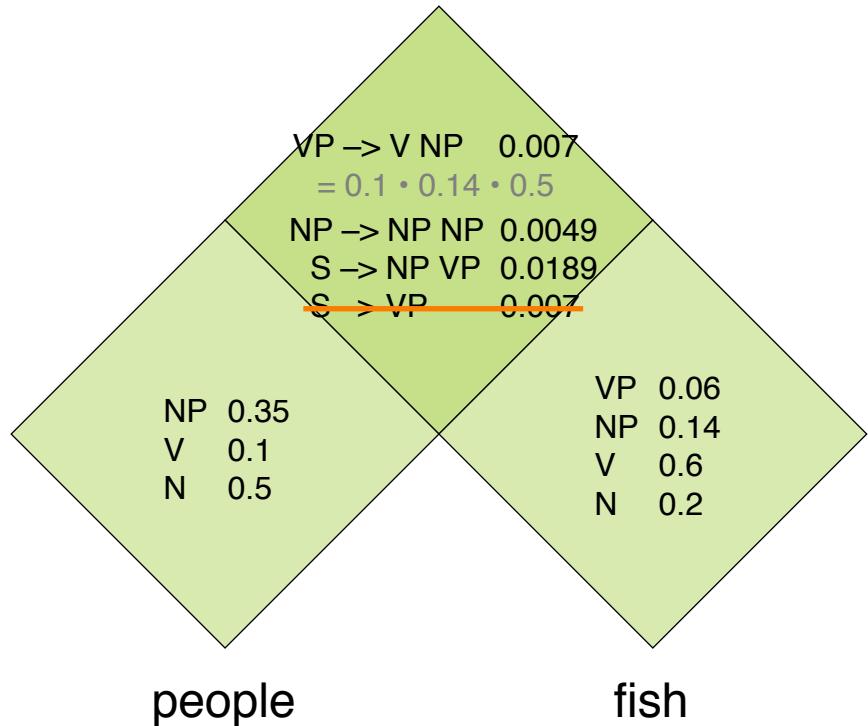
Phrase Structure Grammars

CKY Parsing: Example

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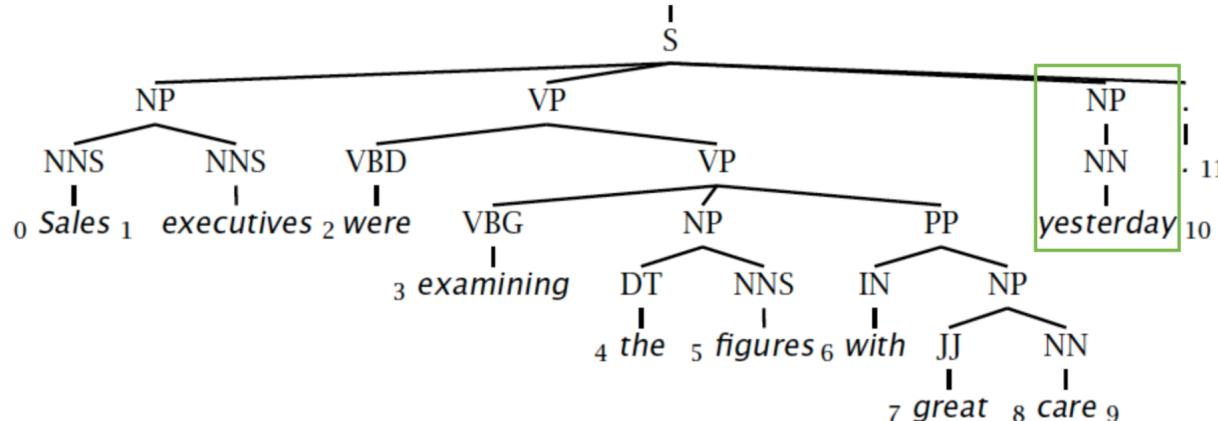
Remarks:

- CKY complexity of pseudo code part 1 is $\mathcal{O}(n \cdot |N|^2)$
 - $\mathcal{O}(n)$ times for-loop in lines 1–14, $n = \#$ tokens.
 - $\mathcal{O}(|N|)$ times for-loop in lines 3–5.
 - $\mathcal{O}(|N|^2)$ times while-loop in lines 7–14.
- CKY complexity of pseudo code part 2 is $\mathcal{O}(n^3 \cdot |N|^3)$
 - $\mathcal{O}(n)$ times for-loop in lines 15–30.
 - $\mathcal{O}(n)$ times for-loop in lines 16–30.
 - $\mathcal{O}(n)$ times for-loop in lines 18–22.
 - $\mathcal{O}(|N|^3)$ times for-loop in lines 19–22.
 - $\mathcal{O}(|N|^2)$ times while-loop in lines 24–30.
 - $\mathcal{O}(n^2)$ for building the tree in line 31.
- Extended CKY parsing has a runtime of $\mathcal{O}(n^3 \cdot |N|^3)$.

Remarks:

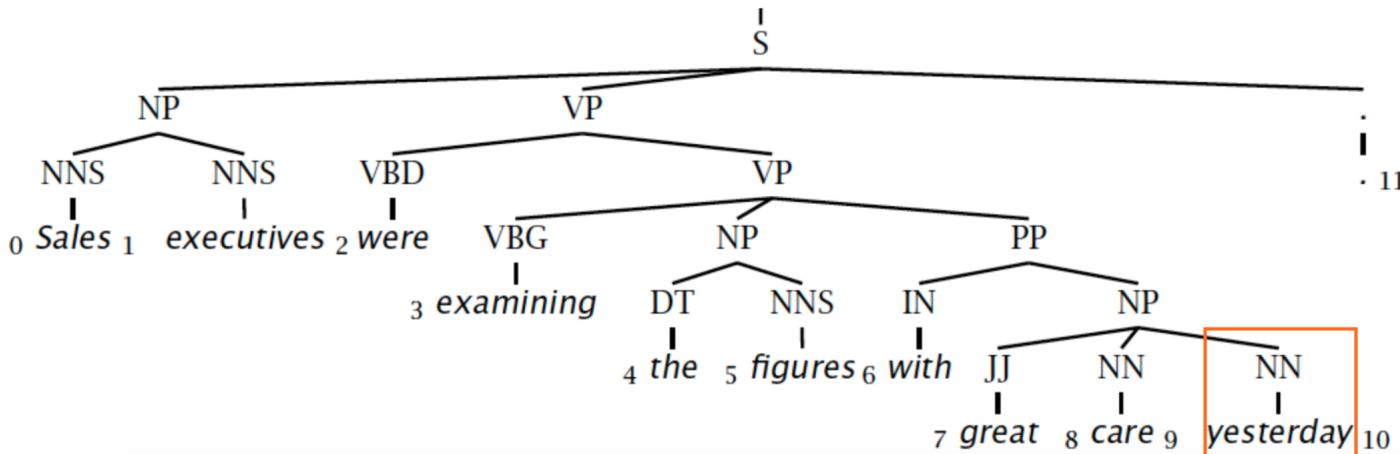
□ CKY Parsing: Evaluation of Effectiveness

Gold standard brackets: **S-(0:11), NP-(0:2), VP-(2:9), VP-(3:9), NP-(4:6), PP-(6-9), NP-(7,9), NP-(9:10)**



Candidate brackets:

S-(0:11), NP-(0:2), VP-(2:10), VP-(3:10), NP-(4:6), PP-(6-10), NP-(7,10)



Remarks:

- CKY Parsing: Evaluation of Effectiveness (continued)

8 gold standard brackets

S-(0:11), NP-(0:2), VP-(2:9), VP-(3:9), NP-(4:6), PP-(6:9), NP-(7,9), NP-(9:10)

7 candidate brackets

S-(0:11), NP-(0:2), VP-(2:10), VP-(3:10), NP-(4:6), PP-(6:10), NP-(7,10)

Effectiveness in the example

- Labeled precision (LP). $0.429 = 3 / 7$
- Labeled recall (LR). $0.375 = 3 / 8$
- Labeled F_1 -score. $0.400 = 2 \cdot LP \cdot LR / (LP + LR)$
- POS tagging accuracy. $1.000 = 11 / 11$

Effectiveness of CKY in general [Charniak, 1997]

- Labeled $F_1 \sim 0.73$ when trained and tested on Penn Treebank.
- CKY is robust (i.e., usually parses everything, but returns tiny probabilities).

Phrase Structure Grammars

Lexicalization

Problem: Probabilistic CFGs assume that the syntax is independent from the terminal symbols.

- PCFGs use production rules for parsing and parse tree probabilities for syntactic disambiguation.
- Information from the words is lost.
- Extending PCFGs by adding constraints from a lexicon is called **lexicalization**.

There are several PSG formalisms with varying degree of lexicalization:

- Lexical-Function Grammar [Bresnan, 1982]
- Head-driven Phrase Structure Grammar [Pollard and Sag, 1994]
- Tree-Adjoining Grammar [Joshi, 1985]
- Combinatory Categorical Grammar
- ...

Phrase Structure Grammars

Lexicalized PCFG parsing [Collins, 1999]

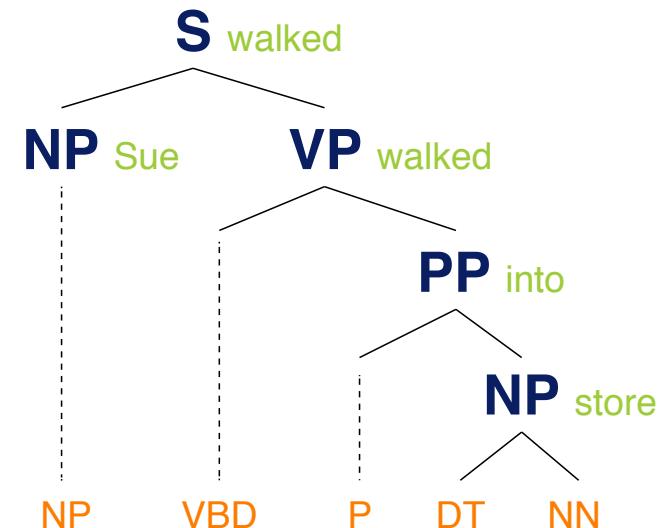
Idea: The head word of a phrase gives a good representation of the phrase's structure and meaning.

$$P(\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{VBD PP}) = 0.00151$$

$$P(\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{VBD PP} \mid \text{said}) = 0.00001$$

$$P(\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{VBD PP} \mid \text{gave}) = 0.01980$$

$$P(\text{VP} \rightarrow \text{VBD PP} \mid \text{walked}) = 0.02730$$



Phrase Structure Grammars

Unlexicalization [Klein and Manning, 2003]

Idea: Lexicality is less important than grammatical features like verb form, presence of a verb auxiliary, . . .

- Rules are not systematically specified down to the level of lexical items.
- No semantic lexicalization for nouns, such as “ $\text{NP}_{\text{stocks}}$ ”.
- Instead: Structural “lexicalization”, such as “ $\text{NP}_{\text{CC}}^{\text{S}}$ ”.
Meaning: Parent node is “S” and noun phrase is coordinating.
- Keep functional lexicalization of closed-class words, such as “ VB -have”.
- Extension: learn the information that is stored for each non-terminal from the annotations. [Petrov and Knight, 2007]

Phrase Structure Grammars

Linearized parsing [[Vinyals, Kaiser, et al., 2015](#)]

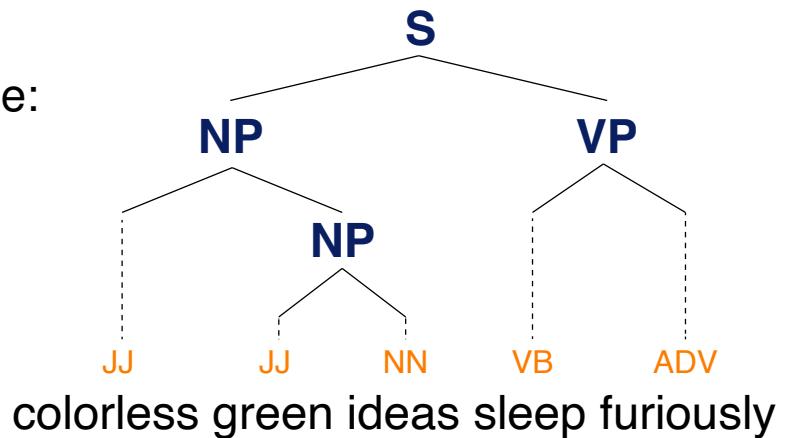
Idea: Linearize the parse tree into a sequence and use sequence2sequence methods.

Linearize with a depth-first traversal of the parse tree. Output:

- (**S** At the start of the traversal
- (**D** If descending to a non-terminal **D**
-)_A If ascending from a non-terminal **A**
- t** If descending to a terminal **t**
-)_S At the end of the traversal

Example with total outputs after each state:

1. (**S**
2. (**S** (**NP**
3. (**S** (**NP** **JJ**
4. (**S** (**NP** **JJ** (**NP**
5. (**S** (**NP** **JJ** (**NP** **JJ**
6. (**S** (**NP** **JJ** (**NP** **JJ** **NN**
7. (**S** (**NP** **JJ** (**NP** **JJ** **NN**)_{NP}
- ...
14. (**S** (**NP** **JJ** (**NP** **JJ** **NN**)_{NP})_{NP} (**VP** **VB** **ADV**)_{VP})_S



Remarks:

- Vinyals, Kaiser, et al. present linearization as “Grammar as a Foreign Language”.
- They use a standard (in 2015 SoTA) machine translation neural network: an Encoder produces a representation of the text and a Decoder predicts the linearized parse tree.

Phrase Structure Grammars

Evaluation [Sekine and Collins, evalb]

Idea: Each constituent spans a range of text and has a label.

- Define each constituent as a triple (label, start, end).
- A good **hypothesis parse** finds many triples that are in (recall) and few that are not in (precision) the **reference parse**.

Parsers are evaluated with the harmonic mean (F_1) of the averaged precision (LP) and labeled recall (LR):

$$LP = \frac{|\text{Correctly found triples in hypothesis parse}|}{|\text{Triples in hypothesis parse}|}$$

$$LR = \frac{|\text{Correctly found triples in hypothesis parse}|}{|\text{Triples in reference parse}|}$$

$$F_1 = \frac{2 \cdot LP \cdot LR}{LP + LR}$$

Phrase Structure Grammars

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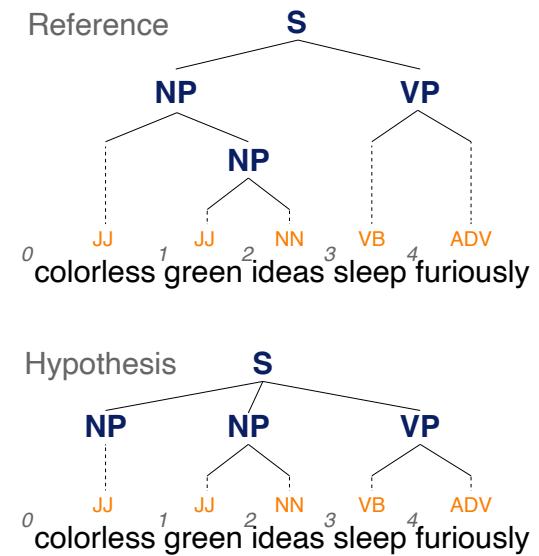
$$LR = \frac{|\text{Correctly found triples in hypothesis parse}|}{|\text{Triples in reference parse}|}$$

$$F_1 = \frac{2 \cdot LP \cdot LR}{LP + LR}$$

Constituent Triples				
Reference parse	S(0,4)	NP(0,2)	NP(1,2)	VP(3,4)
Hypothesis parse	S(0,4)	NP(0,0)	NP(1,2)	VP(3,4)

$$LP = \frac{3}{4} \quad LR = \frac{3}{4}$$

$$F_1 = \frac{2 \cdot 0.75 \cdot 0.75}{0.75 + 0.75} = 0.75$$



Remarks:

- Those evaluation measures were developed at the PARSEVAL Workshop in 1998 and are often referred with this name.
- Evalb is the reference implementation of the PARSEVAL measures.
- Evalb also includes the cross-bracket and unlabeled P/R metrics.

Phrase Structure Grammars

Evaluation: Comparison of Methods

- All in exactly the same setting on the Penn Treebank.

Approach	Source	Labeled F ₁
Extended CKY parsing	[Charniak, 1997]	0.73
Lexicalized parsing	[Collins, 1999]	0.89
Unlexicalized parsing	[Klein and Manning, 2003]	0.86
Learned unlexicalized parsing	[Petrov and Klein, 2007]	0.90
Combining parsers (Ensemble)	[Fossum and Knight, 2009]	0.92
Linearized parsing (Learning)	[Vinyals, Kaiser, et al., 2015]	0.92
CKY + learned disambiguation	[Zhang et al., 2020]	0.96

- Besides F₁ score, the time to parse 1,000 sentences is often considered too.
- Linearized methods are usually very fast. Ensemble methods perform well but are slow.
- CKY profits a lot from batching and parallelization.