

# Lecture 7 Dependency Parsing

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## Linguistic Structure

### Syntactic Ambiguities

- Grammars are declarative
  - They don't specify how the parse tree will be constructed
- Ambiguity
  - Prepositional phrase (PP) attachment ambiguity
    - a key parsing decision is how we attach various constituents
  - Verb attachment ambiguity
  - Anaphoric ambiguity
  - Coordination Scope
    - 'I ate [red (apples) and bananas]'
  - Particles or Prepositions
    - some verbs are followed by adverb particles, and some particles are detached from the verb and put after the noun
    - adverb particle: particle is closely tied to its verb to form idiomatic expressions
    - Preposition is closely tied to the noun or pronoun it modifies.
  - Gerund or adjective
    - ' **Dancing shoes** can provide nice experience'
  - Gap
    - 'She never saw a dog and did **not smile** '
- Views of linguistic structure

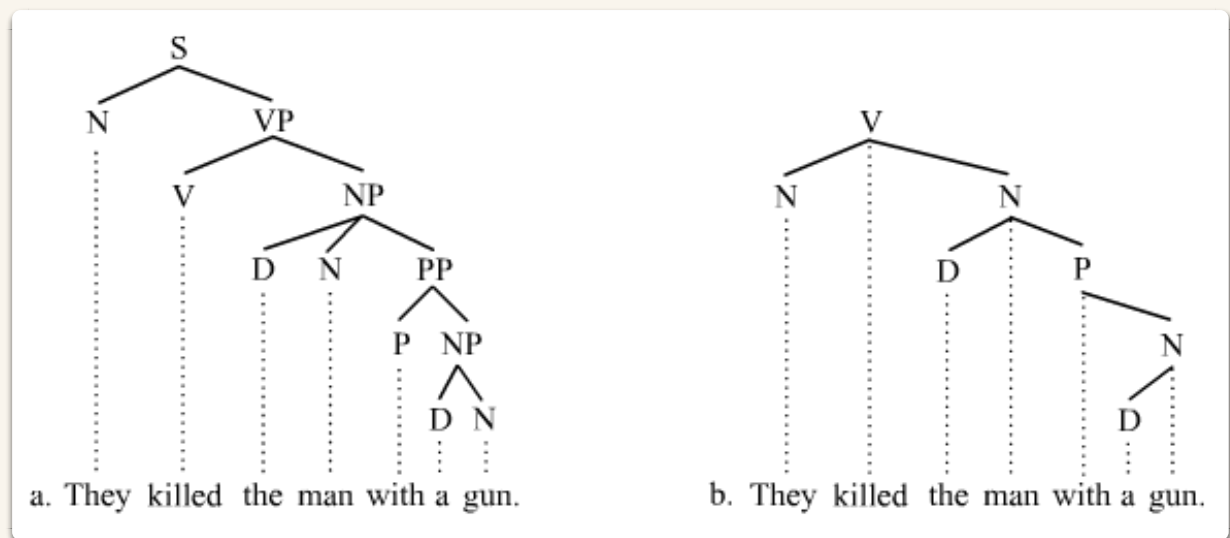
## — Constituency Grammar

- Immediate constituent analysis
- one to one/more relation.
- For every word in a sentence, there is at least one node in the syntactic structure that corresponds to that word
- a basic observation: **groups of word** (constituents) = a single unit
- constituents: similar internal structure and behave similarly with respect to other units
- e.g. noun phrases(NP) 、 verb phrases(VP)、 prepositional phrases(PP)

## — Dependence Grammar

- Functional dependency relations
- For every word in a sentence, there is exactly one node in the syntactic structure that corresponds to that word.

### Constituency Parsing Dependency Parsing



## ● Sample context-free grammar

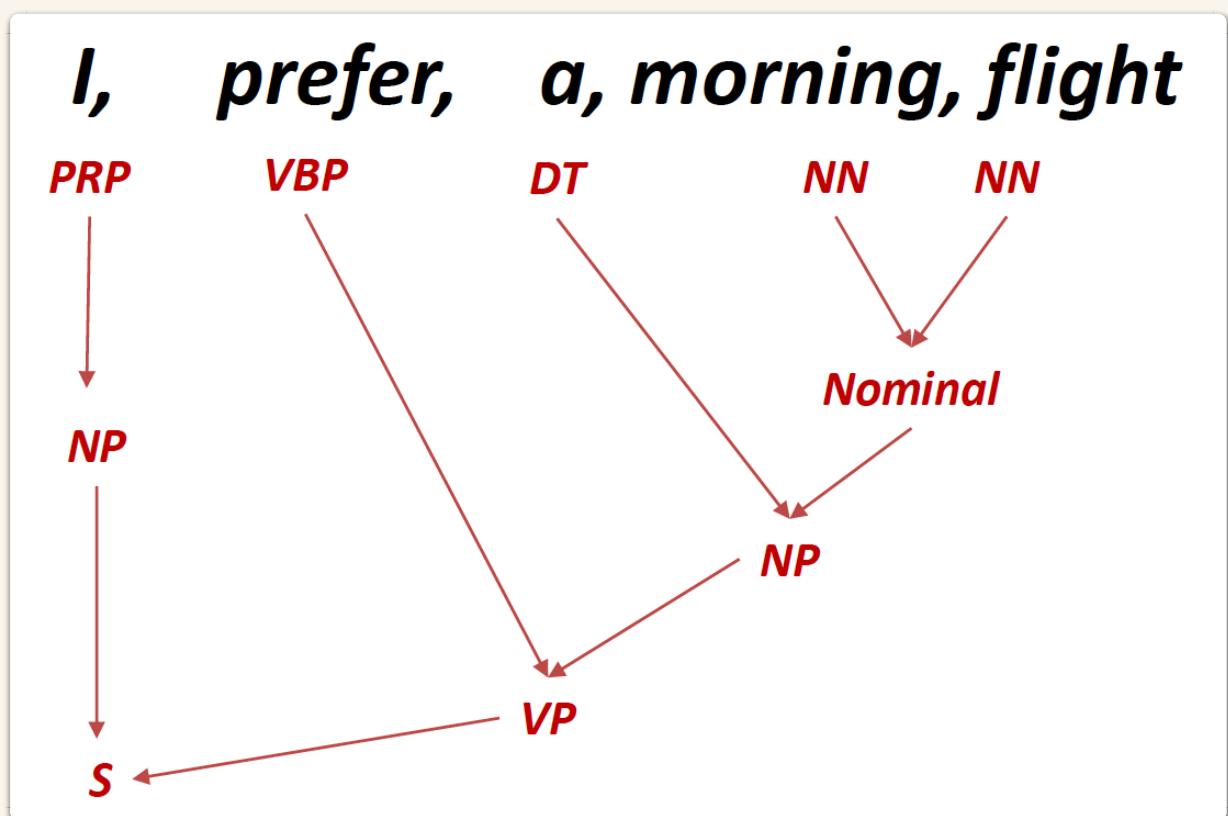
— Starting unit: words are give a category (PoS)

I, prefer, a, morning, flight

PRP, VBP, DT, NN, NN

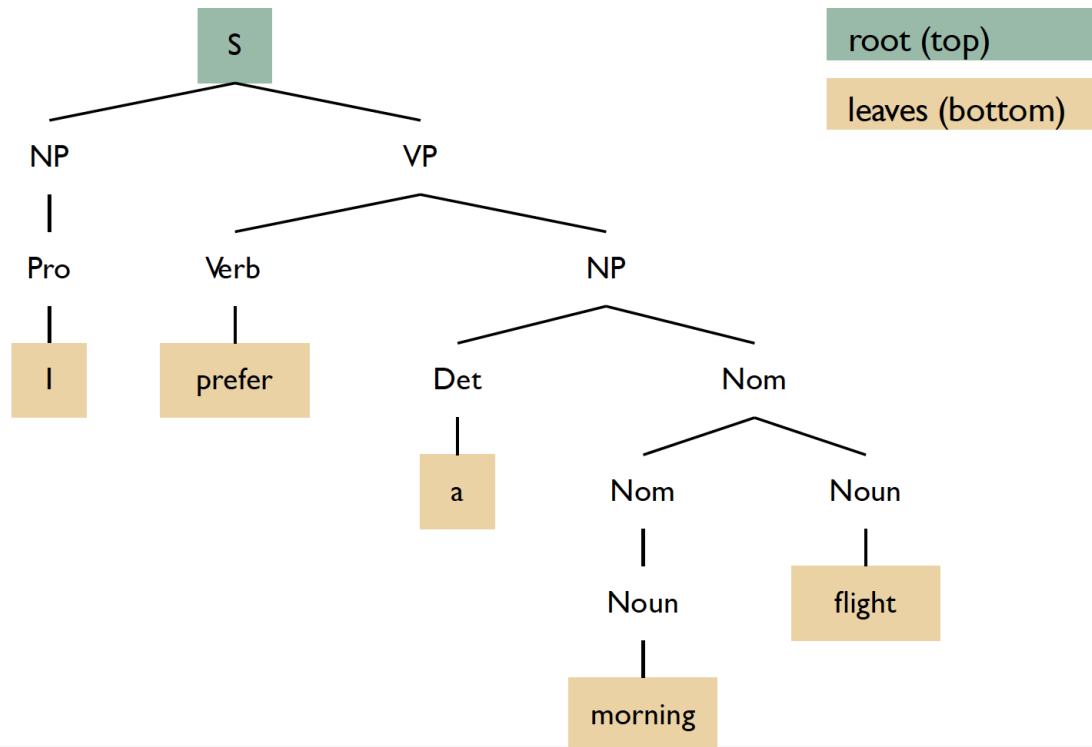
| Grammar rule                                     | Example                            |
|--|------------------------------------|
| $S \rightarrow NPVP$                             | I + want a morning flight          |
| $NP \rightarrow \text{Pronoun}$                  | I                                  |
| $NP \rightarrow \text{Proper-Noun}$              | Sydney                             |
| $NP \rightarrow \text{Det Nominal}$              | a flight                           |
| $\text{Nominal} \rightarrow \text{Nominal Noun}$ | morning flight                     |
| $\text{Nominal} \rightarrow \text{Noun}$         | flights                            |
| $VP \rightarrow \text{Verb}$                     | do                                 |
| $VP \rightarrow \text{Verb NP}$                  | want + a flight                    |
| $VP \rightarrow \text{Verb NP PP}$               | leave + Melbourne + in the morning |
| $VP \rightarrow \text{VerbPP}$                   | leaving + onThursday               |
| $PP \rightarrow \text{Preposition NP}$           | from + Sydney                      |

— Combining words into phrases with categories



— combining phrases into bigger phrases recursively

## A sample context-free grammar



- Treebanks

- Treebanks are generally created by
  - parsing texts with an existing parser
  - having human annotators correct the result
- Penn Treebank (English annotators)

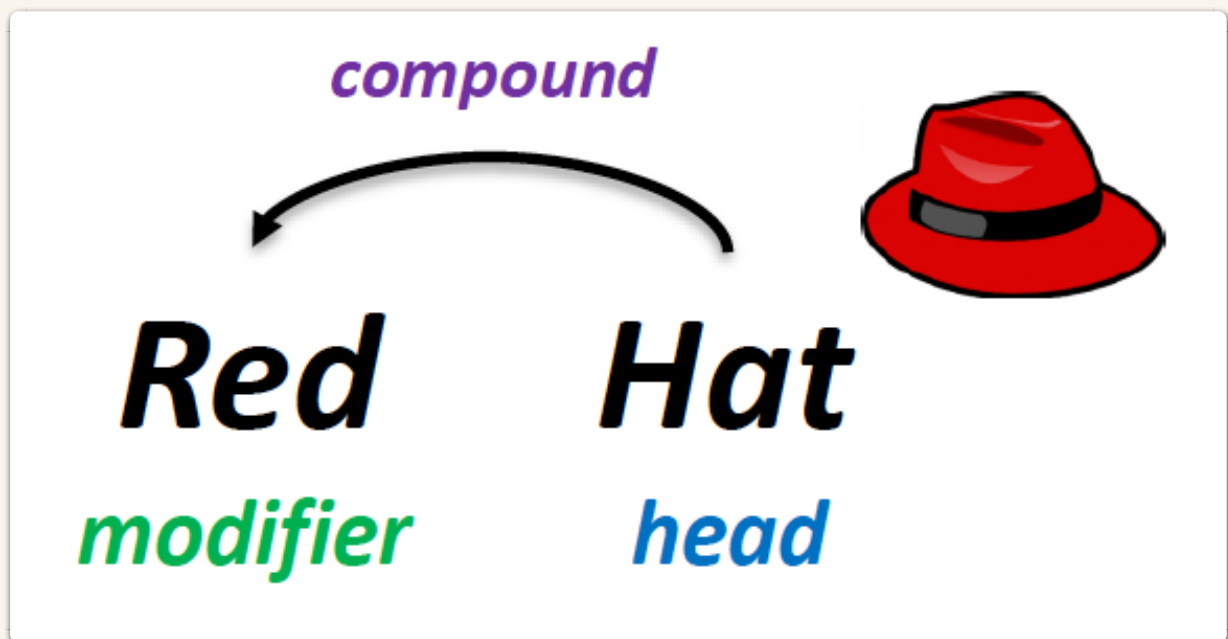
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( (S
  (NP-SBJ
    (NP (NNP Pierre) (NNP vinken) )
    (, ,)
    (ADJP
      (NP (CD 61) (NNS years) )
      (JJ old) )
    (, ,) )
  (VP (MD will)
    (VP (VB join)
      (NP (DT the) (NN board) )
      (PP-CLR (IN as)
        (NP (DT a) (JJ nonexecutive) (NN director) ))
      (NP-TMP (NNP Nov.) (CD 29) )))
  (. .) ))

```

# Dependency Structure

- Syntactic structure : Dependencies, lexical items linked by binary asymmetrical relations("arrows")



— modifier: dependent, child, subordinate

— head: governor, parent, regent

*determine the syntactic/semantic category of the construct*

— compound: dependency relations

*The arrows are typed with the name of grammatical relations*

- Dependency Parsing
  - Represents lexical/syntactic dependencies between words
  - Dependencies from a tree (connected, acyclic, single-head)
    - How to make the dependencies a tree– Constraints
      1. only one word is a dependent of ROOT (the main predicate of a sentence)
      2. Don't want cycles  $A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow A$

3. Usually add one fake ROOT to avoid the difference among ways of the drawing arrows, so every word is a dependent of precisely one other node

4. Projectivity vs Non-projectivity

— No crossing dependency arcs when the words are laid out in their linear order, with all arcs above the words

— Dependencies parallel to a Context-Free-Grammar(CFG) tree must be projective

- Forming dependencies by taking 1 child of each category as head

— Dependency theory does allow non-projective structures to account for displaced constituents.

— Advantage: Treebank

- Reusability of the labor: many parsers, PoS taggers, valuable resource for linguistics
- Broad coverage, not just a few intuitions
- Frequency and distributional information
- A way to evaluate systems

- Dependency Conditioning Preference

— Source of information for dependency parsing

- Bilexical affinities
- Dependency distance
- Intervening material
- Valency of heads

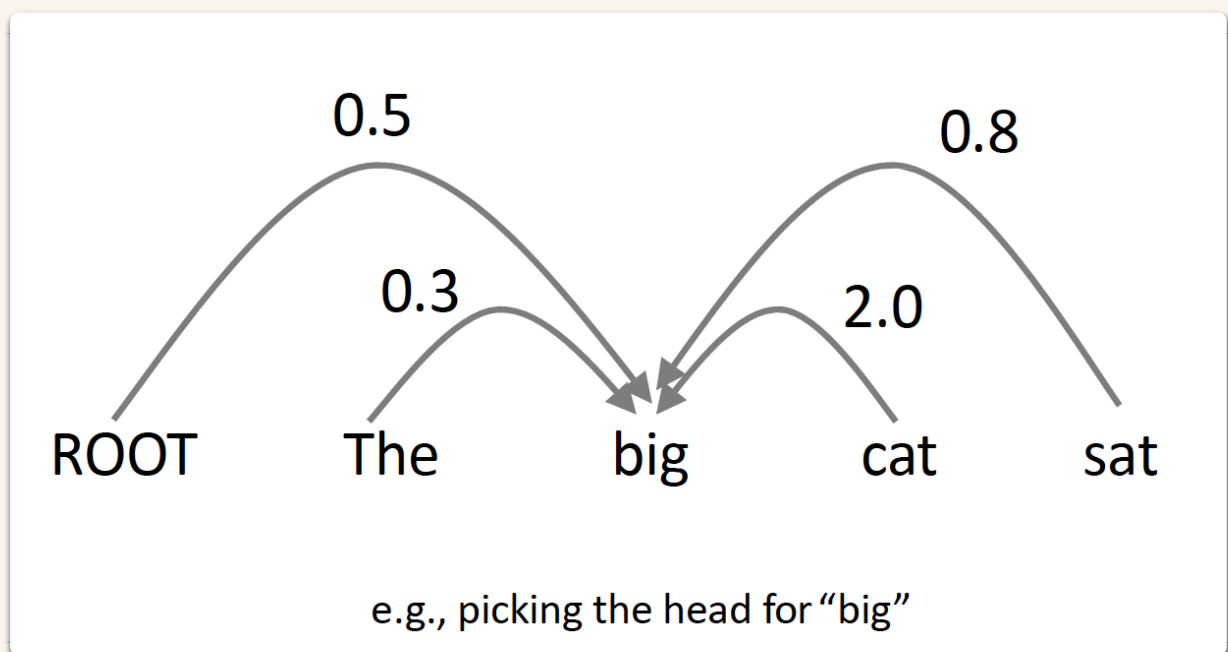
## Dependency Parsing Algorithms

- Dynamic programming

—  $O(n^3)$  : producing parse items with heads at the ends rather than in the middle

- Constraint Satisfaction

- edges are eliminated that don't satisfy hard constraints
- Graph-based Dependency parsing (MST)
  - Non-deterministic dependency parsing
    - build a complete graph with directed weighted edges
    - Find the highest scoring tree from a complete dependency graph
  - create a Minimum Spanning Tree for a sentence
    - computing a score for every possible dependency for each edge
    - Add an edge from each word to the highest scoring candidate head
    - Repeat the same process for each other word
  - MST parser scores dependencies independently using a ML classifier

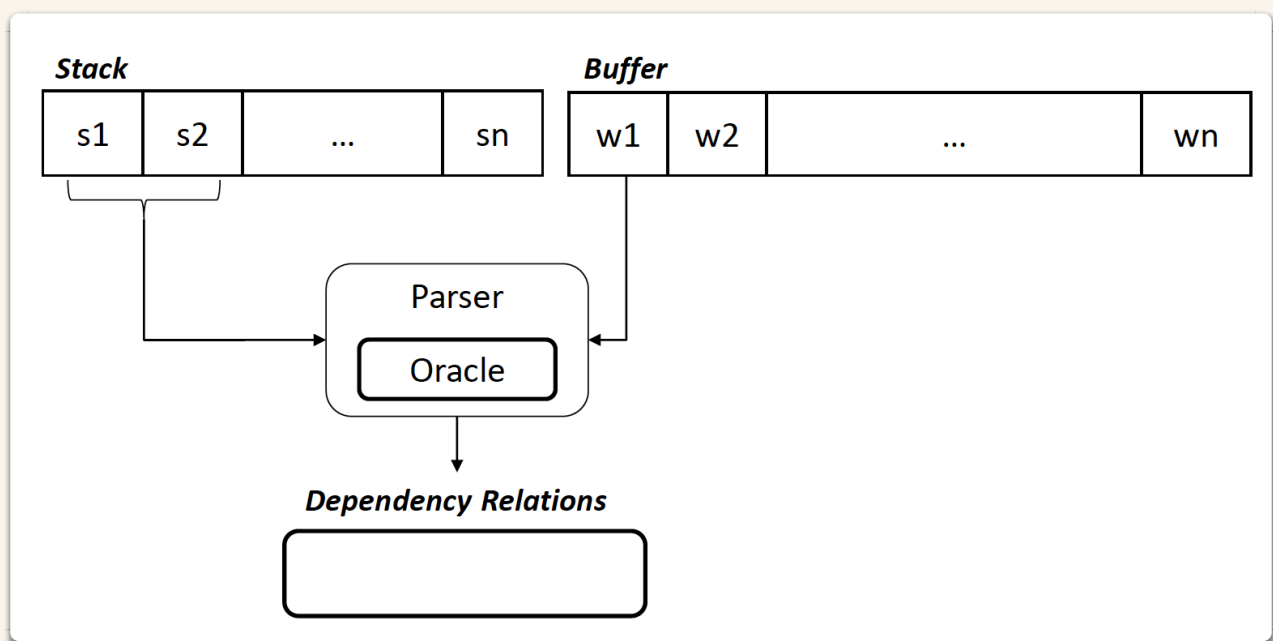


- Transition-based Dependency parsing (Greedy Algorithm)
  - Deterministic dependency parsing
    - build a tree by applying a sequence of transition actions
    - Find the highest scoring action sequence that builds a legal tree
- Neural Network-based Dependency Parsing

## Transition-based Parsing

### Greeding Transition-based parsing

- A form of greedy discriminative dependency parser
- Design a dumb but really fast algorithm and let the machine learning do the rest
- Eisner's Algorithm (Dynamic Programming-based Dependency parsing) searches over many different dependency trees at the same time
- a transition-based dependency parser only builds one tree, in one left-to-right sweep over the input



## Transition-based parsing– the arc-standard algorithm

- The arc-standard algorithm is a simple algorithm for transition-based dependency parsing
- A sequence of bottom up actions:
  - Like "shift" or "reduce" in a shift-reduce parser, but the "reduce" actions are specialized to create dependencies with head on left or right
- Most practical transition-based dependency parser including MaltParser



**Stack**

ROOT

**Buffer**

book

me

a

morning

flight

**Dependency Graph**

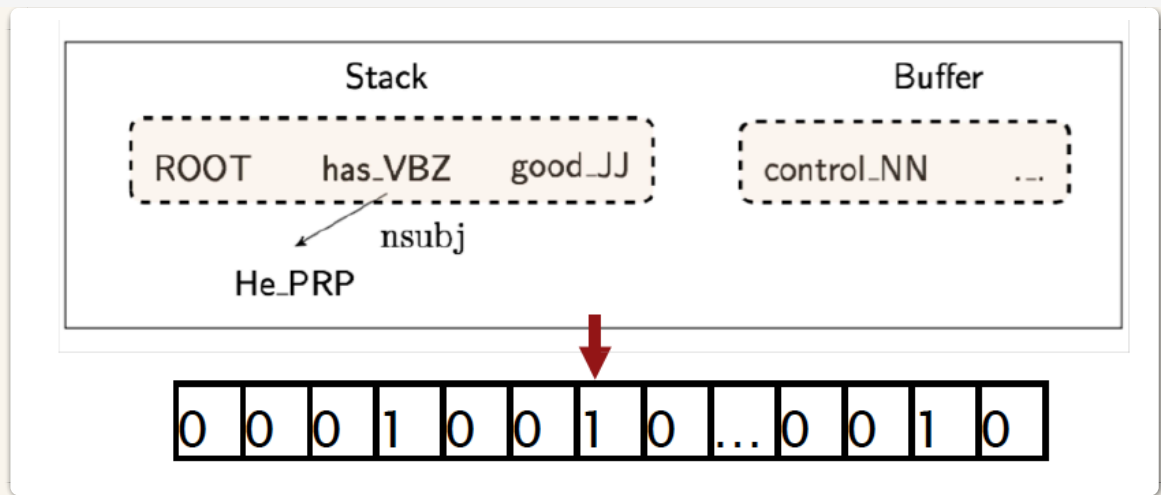
- Initial configuration
  - All words are in the buffer
  - the stack is empty or starts with the ROOT symbol
  - the dependency graph is empty
  - ROOT cannot have incoming arc
- Possible Transaction
  - Shift: **Push** the next word in buffer onto the stack
  - Left-Arc:
    - **Add** an arc from the topmost word to the  $2^{nd}$  topmost word on the stack
    - **Remove**  $2^{nd}$  word from stack
    - Require 2 elements in stack to be applied
  - Right-Arc:
    - **Add** an arc from the  $2^{nd}$ -topmost word to the topmost word on the stack
    - **Remove** the topmost word from stack
    - Require 2 elements in stack to be applied
- Terminal configuration
  - The buffer is empty
  - The stack contains a single word
-

**Start:**  $\sigma = [\text{ROOT}], \beta = w_1, \dots, w_n, A = \emptyset$

1. Shift  $\sigma, w_i | \beta, A \rightarrow \sigma | w_i, \beta, A$
2. Left-Arc<sub>r</sub>  $\sigma | w_i | w_j, \beta, A \rightarrow \sigma | w_j, \beta, A \cup \{r(w_j, w_i)\}$   $\sigma | w_i | w_j, \beta, A \rightarrow$
3. Right-Arc<sub>r</sub>  $\sigma | w_i, \beta, A \cup \{r(w_i, w_j)\}$

**Finish:**  $\sigma = [w], \beta = \emptyset$

- 
- choose the next action (ML)
  - Goal: predict the next transition(class), given the current configuration
  - Let the parser run on gold-standard trees
  - Every time there is a choice to make, we just look into the tree to do the right thing
  - Collect all (configuration,transition) pairs and train a classifier on them
  - When parsing unseen sentences, we use the trained class classifier as a guide
- Handling the large number of pairs: Feature representation
  - define a set of features of configurations that would be relevant for the task of predicting the next transition.
    - e.g. word forms of the topmost two words on the stack and the next two words in the buffer
  - Describe every configuration in terms of a feature vector



- In practice, thousands of features and hundreds of transitions
- use ML (perceptron, decision tree, SVM, memory-based learning)

## Deep Learning-based Dependency parsing

### Distributed Representations

- Represent each word as a  $d$ -dimensional dense vector (word embedding)
  - Similar words are expected to have close vector
  - NNS (plural noun) should be close to NN (singular noun)
- PoS and dependency labels are also represented as the  $d$ -dimensional vector
- Similar discrete sets also represent similar semantics
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## Softmax probabilities

Output layer  $y$   
 $y = \text{softmax}(Uh + b_2)$

cross-entropy error will be  
back-propagated to the e  
mbeddings.

Hidden layer  $h$   
 $h = \text{ReLU}(Wx + b_1)$

Input layer  $x$   
lookup + concat

