

# Syntactic Parsing

# Syntax

# Syntax

- **Syntax** (of natural languages) describe how words are strung together to form components of sentences, and how those components are strung together to form sentences.
- In the core of the description of the syntax of a natural language, we use context-free grammars (CFGs).
- Groups of words may behave as a single unit or phrases, called as **constituent**.
  - noun phrase,
  - verb phrase
- CFGs will allow us to model these constituency facts.

# Constituency

- **How do words group together?**
- Some noun phrases (noun groups) in English:
  - three parties from Brooklyn                      they                      three books
- All noun phrases can appear in similar syntactic environments:
  - three parties from Brooklyn arrive                      they arrive
- Although whole noun phrase can appear before a verb, its parts may not appear before verb.
  - \* from arrive
- A noun phrase can be placed in certain places in a sentence.
- A prepositional phrase can be placed in different places in the sentences.
  - On September seventh, I'd like to fly from Atlanta to Denver
  - I'd like to fly on September seventh from Atlanta to Denver
  - I'd like to fly from Atlanta to Denver on September seventh

# Context Free Grammars

- CFGs capture constituency and ordering in natural language sentences.
- But we will need extra information to model:
  - grammatical relations such as agreement
  - subcategorization of verbs
  - dependency relations between words and phrases
- So, a CFG will be in the core of the description of the syntax of a natural language.
- Context-Free Grammars are also called as **Phrase-Structure Grammars**.

# Why not Other Formalisms

- Why do we use CFG to describe the syntax of a natural language.
  - Regular Grammars -- too weak
  - Context Sensitive Grammars -- too strong.
  - Turing Machines -- way too strong.
- Too weak means that they cannot capture/describe the syntactic structures which exist in natural languages.
- Too strong means that we do not need that much power to capture/describe the syntactic structures which exist in natural languages.
- For weaker methods, we have much efficient computational processes.

# Definition of CFG

- A CFG consists of:
  - **Sets of terminals** (either lexical items or parts of speech)
  - **Sets of non-terminals** (the constituents of the language)
  - **Sets of rules of the form  $A \rightarrow \alpha$**  where  $\alpha$  is a string of zero or more terminals and non-terminals.
  - One of non-terminals is designated as a **start symbol**.

# An Example of CFG

$S \rightarrow NP VP$

$NP \rightarrow \text{Pronoun} \mid \text{NOM} \mid \text{Det NOM}$

$\text{NOM} \rightarrow \text{Noun} \mid \text{Noun NOM}$

$VP \rightarrow \text{Verb NP}$

-- Lexicon -- (parts of speech)

$\text{Pronoun} \rightarrow I \mid they$

$\text{Noun} \rightarrow \text{flight} \mid \text{morning} \mid \text{evening}$

$\text{Verb} \rightarrow \text{prefer}$

$\text{Det} \rightarrow a \mid the \mid that$



# Derivation

- A **derivation** is a sequence of rule applications.
- In each rule application, a non-terminal in a string is re-written as  $\alpha$  if there is a rule in the form  $A \rightarrow \alpha$ .

$$\beta A \gamma \Rightarrow \beta \alpha \gamma$$

- We say that  $\alpha_1$  **derives**  $\alpha_m$  ( $\alpha_1 \Rightarrow^* \alpha_m$ ) if:

$$\alpha_1 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \alpha_m$$

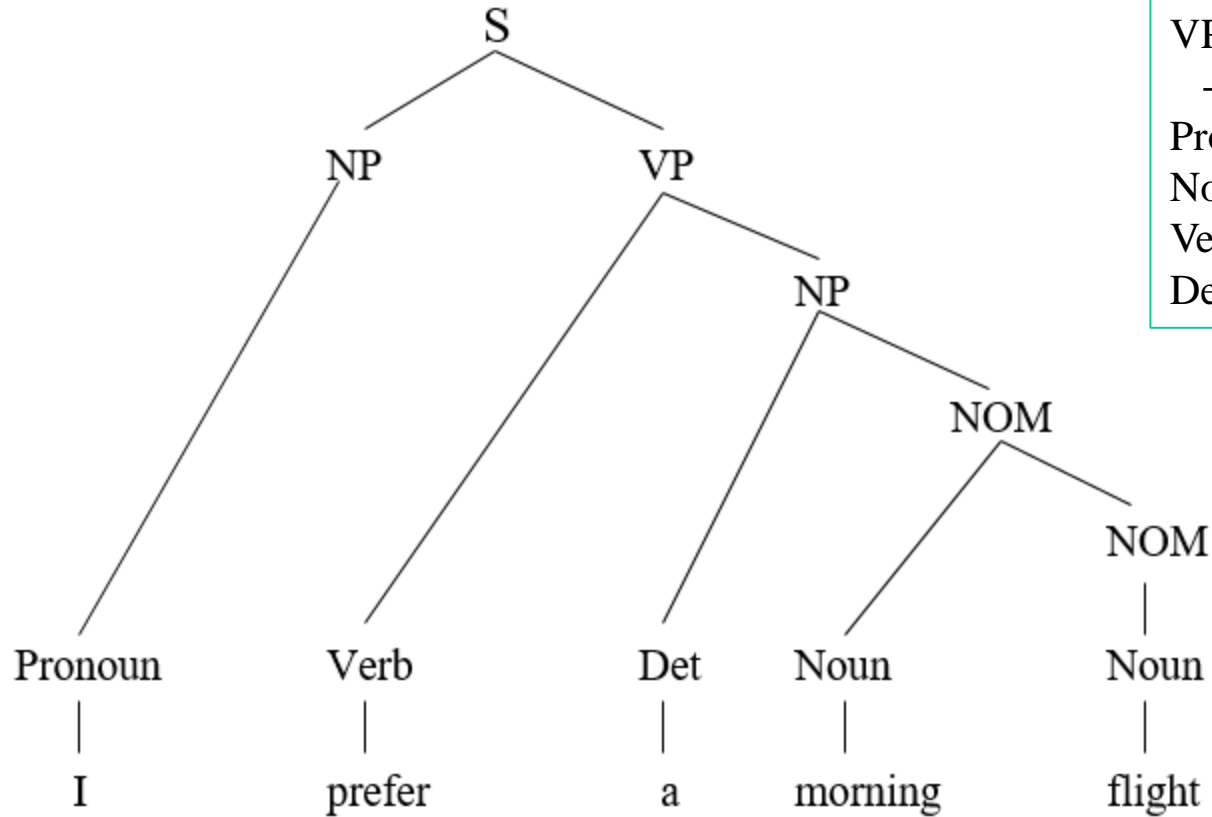
- The language generated by a CFG  $G$  is:

$$L_G = \{ w \mid w \text{ is a string of terminals and } S \text{ derives } w \}$$

- A derivation can be represented by a **parse tree**.
- Mapping from a string of terminals to its parse tree is called as **parsing**.

# Parse Tree

S → NP VP  
NP → Pronoun | NOM | Det NOM  
NOM → Noun | Noun NOM  
VP → Verb NP  
-- Lexicon -- (parts of speech)  
Pronoun → I | they  
Noun → flight | morning | evening  
Verb → prefer  
Det → a | the | that



# Developing Grammars

- We have to do a lot to develop grammars for natural languages.
  - We will look some trivial parts of grammars.
- Here we look at some constituents (syntactic substructures) in natural languages.
- The key constituents are: (We will investigate)
  - Sentences
  - Noun Phrases
  - Verb Phrases
  - Prepositional Phrases

# Sentence Types

- Declarative Sentences

- $S \rightarrow NP VP$

He left

- Imperative Sentences

- $S \rightarrow VP$

Get out!

- Yes-No Questions

- $S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$

Did you decide?

- WH-Questions

- $S \rightarrow WH\text{-Word } Aux NP VP$

What did you decide?

# Noun Phrases

- Each noun phrase has a **head noun**. -- a book
- A noun phrase the head noun may be preceded by **pre-nominal modifiers** and followed by **post-nominal modifiers**.
- Pre-Nominal Modifiers:
  - Determiner -- a, the, that, this, any, some -- a book
    - mass-nouns do not require determiners
  - Pre-Determiners -- all -- all the flights, all flights
  - Cardinal Numbers -- one, two -- two friends, one man
  - Ordinal Numbers -- first,second,next,last,other -- the last flight
  - Quantifiers -- many,several,few -- many fares
  - Adjective Phrases -- the least expensive fare
    - Adjectives can be grouped into a phrase called an **adjective phrase**.
- A simplified rule:
  - NP → (PreDet) (Det) (Card) (Ord) (Quan) (AP) NOM

# Noun Phrases -- Post-Modifiers

- Three common post-modifiers:
  - prepositional phrases                      -- all flights from Ankara
  - non-finite clauses                            -- any flight arriving after 5 p.m.
    - three common non-finite post-modifiers: gerundive, -ed, and infinitive forms.
  - relative clauses                                -- a flight that serves dinner

NOM → NOM PP (PP) (PP)

NOM → NOM GerundVP

NOM → NOM RelClause

GerundVP → GerundV | GerundV NP | GerundV PP | GerundV NP PP

GerundV → arriving | preferring | ...

RelClause → who VP | that VP

# Conjunctions

- Noun phrases and other phrases can be conjoined with **conjunctions** such as *and*, *or*, *but*, ...
  - *table and chair ...*
  - the flights that *leaving Ankara and arriving in Istanbul*
  - *he came from Ankara and he went to Istanbul.*

NP → NP and NP

VP → VP and VP

S → S and S

# Recursive Structures

- Recursive rules may appear in our grammars.
  - NP → NP PP          the flight from Ankara
  - VP → VP PP          departed Ankara at 5 p.m.
  
- These rules allow us the following:
  - Flights to Ankara
  - Flights to Ankara from Istanbul
  - Flights to Ankara from Istanbul in March
  - Flights to Ankara from Istanbul in March on Friday
  - Flights to Ankara from Istanbul in March on Friday under \$100
  - Flights to Ankara from Istanbul in March on Friday under \$100 with lunch



# Some Difficulties in Grammar Development

- When we use CFGs to describe the syntax of a natural language, we may encounter certain difficulties in the expression of some structures in natural languages.
- Some of these difficulties are:
  - Agreement
    - he flies ...      \* he fly
    - I fly ..            \* I flies
    - this book          \* this books
    - those books      \* those book
  - Subcategorization
    - \* I disappeared the cat. (disappear cannot be followed by a noun phrase)

# Agreement

- How can we modify our grammar to handle these agreement phenomena?
- We may expand our with multiple set of rules
  - 3SgNP  $\rightarrow$  ...
  - Non3SgNP  $\rightarrow$  ...
- But this will double the size of the grammar.
- A better way to deal with agreement problems without exploding the size of the grammar by parameterizing each non-terminal with **feature structures**.

# SubCategorization

- A verb phrase may consists of a verb and a number of constituents.
  - VP → Verb                      -- disappear
  - VP → Verb NP                    -- prefer a morning flight
  - VP → Verb NP PP                -- leave Ankara in the morning
  - VP → Verb PP                    -- leaving on Monday
  - VP → Verb S                      -- You said there is only one flight
- Although a verb phrase can have many possible of constituents, not every verb is compatible with every verb phrase.
- Verbs have preferences for the kinds of constituents they co-occur with.
  - Transitive verbs
  - Intransitive verbs
  - Modern grammars distinguish too many subcategories (100 subcategories)

# Some SubCategorization Frames

| <u>Frame</u>                        | <u>Verb</u> | <u>Example</u>                                     |
|-------------------------------------|-------------|----------------------------------------------------|
| $\Phi$                              | eat, sleep  | I want to eat                                      |
| NP                                  | prefer      | I prefer <u>a morning flight</u>                   |
| NP NP                               | show        | Show <u>me</u> <u>all flights from Ankara</u>      |
| PP <sub>from</sub> PP <sub>to</sub> | fly         | I would like to fly <u>from Ankara to Istanbul</u> |
| NP PP <sub>with</sub>               | help        | Can you help <u>me</u> <u>with a flight</u>        |
| VP <sub>to</sub>                    | prefer      | I would prefer <u>to go by THY</u>                 |
| S                                   | mean        | This means <u>THY has a hub in Istanbul</u>        |

# Parsing

# Parsing

- **Parsing with a CFG is the task of assigning a correct parse tree (or derivation) to a string given some grammar.**
- The correct means that it is consistent with the input and grammar.
  - It doesn't mean that it's the “right” tree in global sense of correctness.
- The leaves of the parse tree cover all and only the input, and that parse tree corresponds to a valid derivation according to the grammar.
- The parsing can be viewed as a search.
  - The search space corresponds to the space of parse trees generated by the grammar.
  - The search is guided by the structure of space and by the input.
- First, we will look at basic (bad) methods of the parsing.
  - After seeing what's wrong with them, we will look at better methods.

# A Simple English Grammar

$S \rightarrow NP VP$

$S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$

$S \rightarrow VP$

$NP \rightarrow Det NOM$

$NP \rightarrow ProperNoun$

$NOM \rightarrow Noun$

$NOM \rightarrow Noun NOM$

$NOM \rightarrow NOM PP$

$VP \rightarrow Verb$

$VP \rightarrow Verb NP$

$PP \rightarrow Prep NOM$

$Det \rightarrow that \mid this \mid a \mid the$

$Noun \rightarrow book \mid flight \mid meal \mid money$

$Verb \rightarrow book \mid include \mid prefer$

$Aux \rightarrow does$

$Prep \rightarrow from \mid to \mid on$

$ProperNoun \rightarrow Houston \mid TWA$

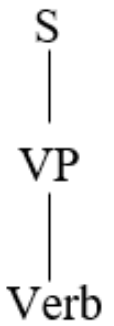
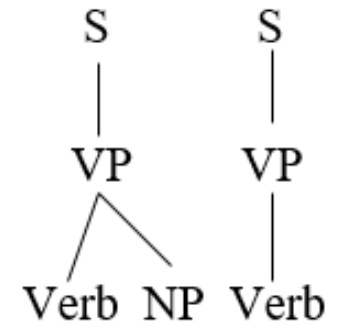
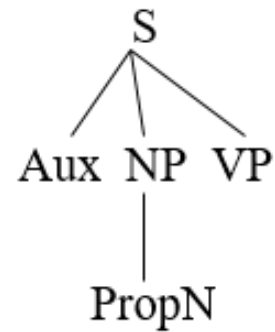
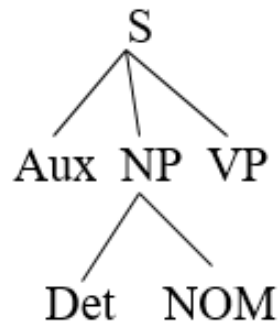
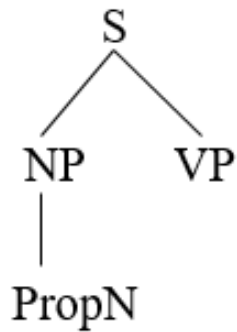
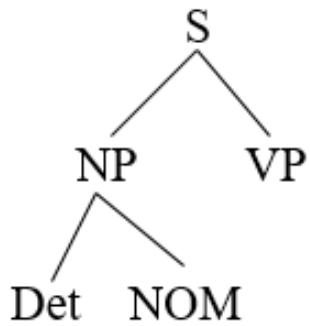
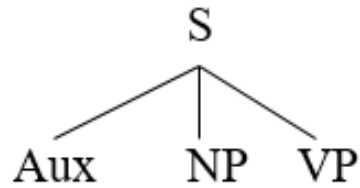
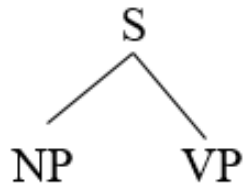
# Basic Top-Down Parsing

- A top-down parser searches a parse tree by trying to build from the root node S (start symbol) down to leaves.
- First, we create the root node, then we create its children. We chose one of its children and then we create its children.
- We can search the search space of the parse trees:
  - breadth first search    -- level by level search
  - depth first search      -- first we search one of the children



# A Top-Down Search Space

S



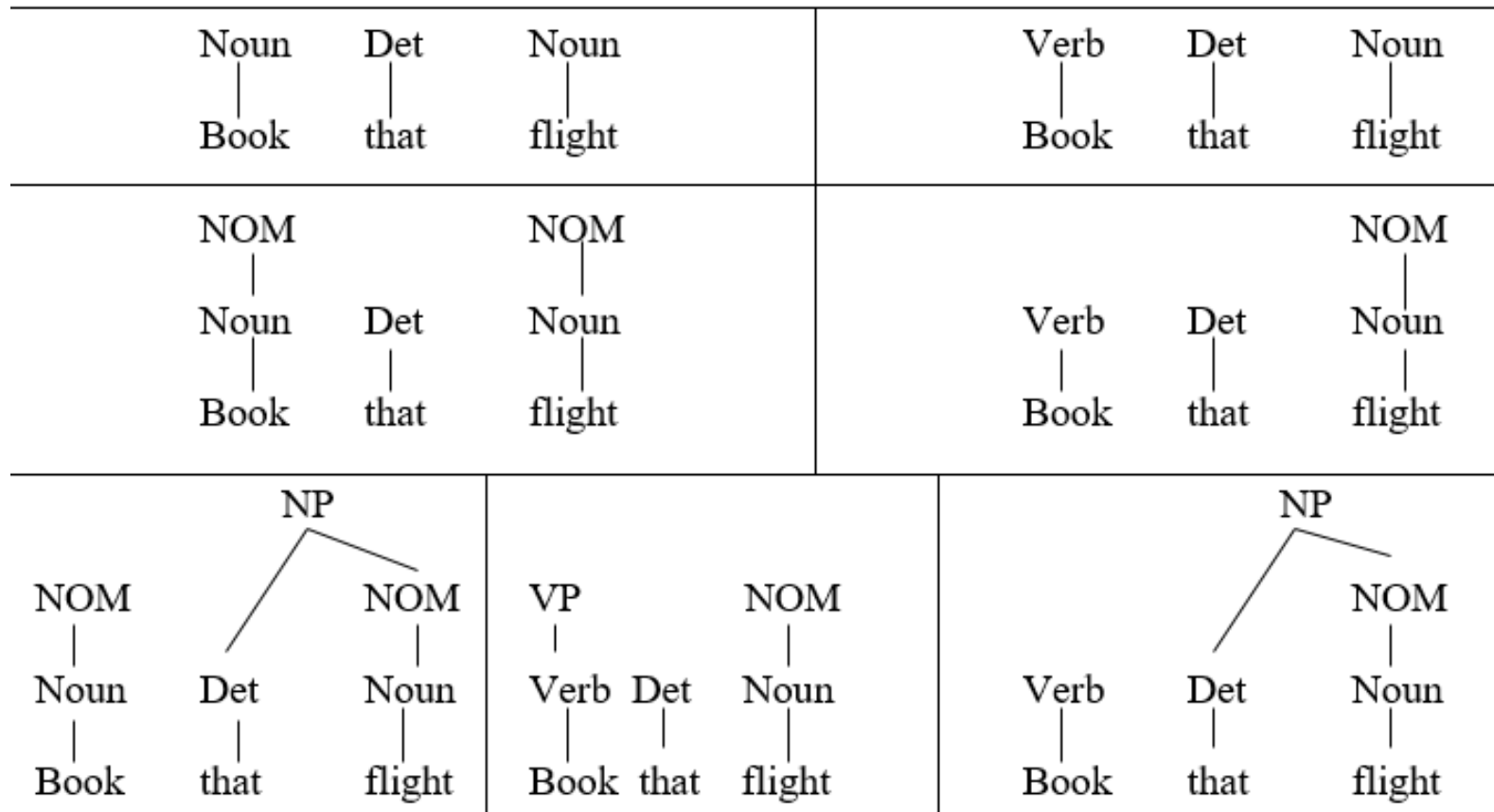
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- *Input:* Book that flight

# Basic Bottom-Up Parsing

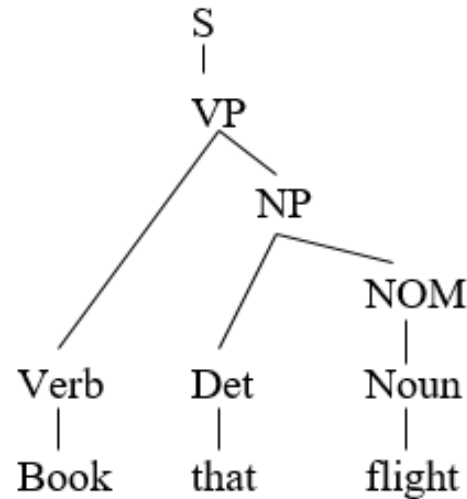
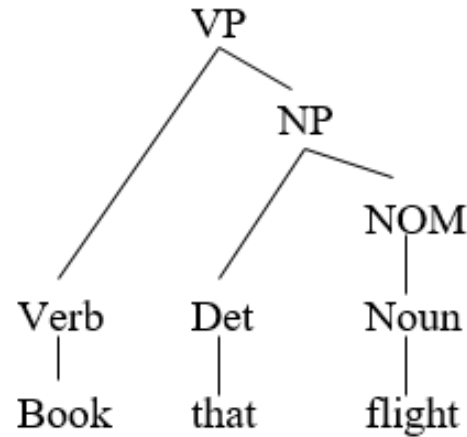
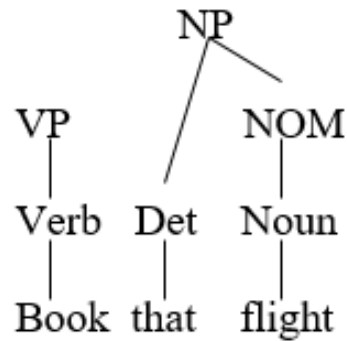
- In bottom-up parsing, the parser starts with the words of input, tries to build parse trees from words up.
- The parser is successful if the parser succeeds building a parse tree rooted in the start symbol that covers all of the input.

# A Bottom-Up Search Space

- *Input:* Book that flight



# A Bottom-Up Search Space (cont.)



# Top-Down or Bottom-Up?

- Each of top-down and bottom-up parsing techniques has its own advantages and disadvantages.
- The top-down strategy never wastes time exploring trees cannot result in the start symbol (starts from there).
- On the other hand, bottom-up strategy may waste time in those kind of trees.
- But the top-down strategy spends with trees which are not consistent with the input.
- On the other hand, bottom-up strategy never suggests trees that are not at least locally grounded in the actual input.
- None of these two basic strategies are good enough to be used in the parsing of natural languages.

# Search Control Issues

- How our search will take place?
- Which node in the tree will be expanded next?
- Which applicable grammar rule will be tried first?
  
- The answers of these questions determine how to control our search in the search space of trees.
- Are we going to use depth-first or breath-first search?

# A Top-Down Depth-First Left-to-Right Search

- In this top-down search, we will use:
  - depth-first strategy -- we will choose a node and explore its sub-trees
  - left-to-right -- we will choose the left-most node to explore
- For the chosen node, we will choose one of applicable rules (the first one) and we will apply it into that node.
- If there is more than one applicable rule, we keep a pointer to other applicable rules in a stack; so that if our choice fails we can backtrack to other alternatives.
- Let us look at how this method for our grammar and the following input:
  - *Does this flight include a meal?*

# Top-Down Parsing with Bottom-Up Filtering

- When we choose applicable rules, we can use bottom-up information.
- For example, in our grammar we have:
  - $S \rightarrow NP VP$
  - $S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$
  - $S \rightarrow VP$
- If we want to parse the input:
  - Does this flight serve a meal?
- Although all three of these rules are applicable, the first and the third ones will definitely fail because NP and VP cannot derive to strings starting with *does* (an auxiliary verb here).
- Can we make this decision before we choose an applicable rule?
  - Yes. We can use left-corner filtering.

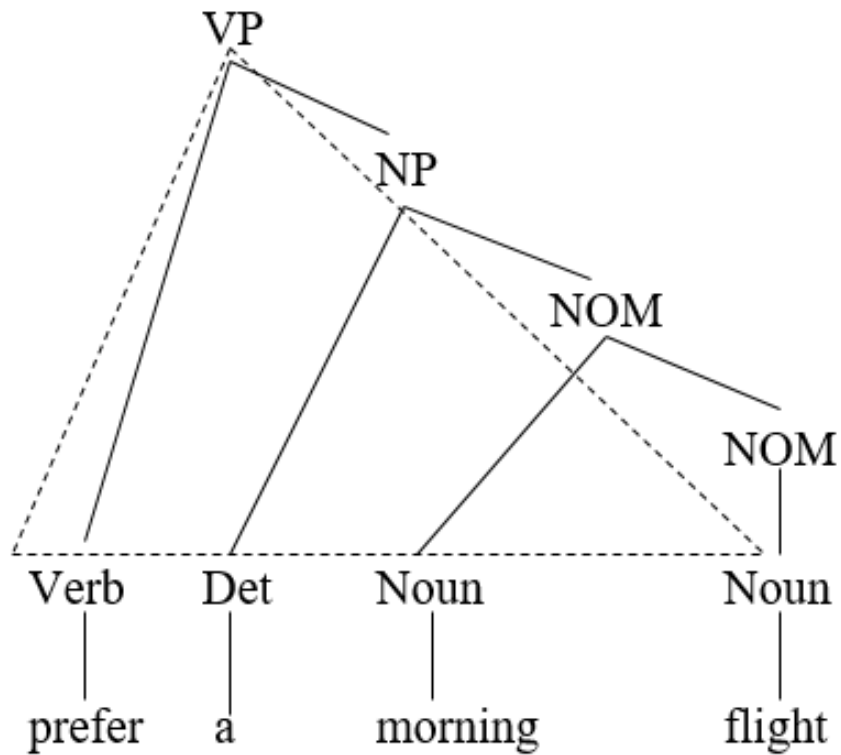


# Filtering with Left Corners

- The parser should not consider any grammar rule if the current input serve as *the first word along the left edge of some derivation* from this rule.
- *The first word along the left edge of a derivation* is called as the **left-corner** of the tree.
- B is a left-corner of A if the following relation holds:
  - $A \Rightarrow^* B\alpha$
- In other words, B can be the left-corner of A if there is a derivation of A that begins with B.
- We will ask whether a part of speech (of the current input) can be left-corner of the current-node (non-terminal).

# Left Corner

- *prefer* (or Verb) is a left-corner of VP



# Filtering with Left-Corners (cont.)

- Do not consider any expansion where the current input can not serve as the left-corner of that expansion.

| <u>Category</u> | <u>Left-Corners</u>        |
|-----------------|----------------------------|
| S               | Det, ProperNoun, Aux, Verb |
| NP              | Det, ProperNoun            |
| NOM             | Noun                       |
| VP              | Verb                       |
| PP              | Prep                       |

# Problems with Basic Top-Down Parser

- Even the top-down parser with bottom-up filtering has three problems that make it an insufficient solution to general-purpose parsing problem.
  - Left-Recursion
  - Ambiguity
  - Inefficient Reparsing of Subtrees
- First we will talk about these three problems.
- Then we will present Earley algorithm to avoid these problems.

# Left-Recursion

- When left-recursive grammars are used, top-down depth-first left-to-right parsers can dive into an infinite path.
- A grammar is left-recursive if it contains at least one non-terminal  $A$  such that:
  - $A \Rightarrow^* A\alpha$
- This kind of structures are common in natural language grammars.
  - $NP \rightarrow NP PP$
- We can convert a left-recursive grammar into an equivalent grammar which is not left-recursive.
$$A \rightarrow A\beta \mid \alpha \quad \implies \quad \begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow \alpha A' \\ A' \rightarrow \beta A' \mid \varepsilon \end{array}$$
- Unfortunately, the resulting grammar may no longer be the most grammatically natural way to represent syntactic structures.

# Ambiguity

- Top-down parser is not efficient at handling ambiguity.
- **Local ambiguity** lead to hypotheses that are locally reasonable but eventually lead nowhere. They lead to **backtracking**.
- Global ambiguity potentially leads to multiple parses for the same input (if we force it to do).
- The parsers without disambiguation tools must simply return all possible parses. But most of disambiguation tools require statistical and semantic knowledge.
- There will be many unreasonable parses. But most of applications do not want all possible parses, they want a single correct parse.
- The reason for many unreasonable parses, exponential number of parses are possible for certain inputs.

# Ambiguity - Example

- If we add the following rules to our grammar:
  - $VP \rightarrow VP PP$
  - $NP \rightarrow NP PP$
- The following input:
  - Show me the meal on flight 286 from Ankara to Istanbul.

will have a lot of parses (14 parses?). Some of them are really strange parses.

- If we have

| – $PP \rightarrow \text{Prep NP}$ | Number of NP parses | Number of PPs |
|-----------------------------------|---------------------|---------------|
|                                   | 2                   | 2             |
|                                   | 5                   | 3             |
|                                   | 14                  | 4             |
|                                   | 132                 | 5             |
|                                   | 469                 | 6             |

# Repeated Parsing of Subtrees

- The parser often builds valid trees for portion of the input, then discards them during backtracking, only to find that it has to rebuild them again.
- The parser creates small parse trees that fail because they do not cover all the input.
- The parser backtracks to cover more input, and recreates subtrees again and again.
- The same thing is repeated more than once unnecessarily.



# Repeated Parsing of Subtrees (cont.)

- Consider parsing the following NP with the following rules:

*a flight from Ankara to Istanbul on THY*

NP → Det NOM

NP → NP PP

NP → ProperNoun

- What happens with a top-down parser?

# Repeated Parsing of Subtrees (cont.)

- a flight from Ankara to Istanbul on THY
- a flight from Ankara to Istanbul on THY
- a flight from Ankara to Istanbul on THY
- a flight from Ankara to Istanbul on THY

*a flight* is parsed 4 times, *from Ankara* is parsed 3 times, ...

# Dynamic Programming

- We want a parsing algorithm (using dynamic programming technique) that fills a table with solutions to sub-problems that:
  - Does not do repeated work
  - Does top-down search with bottom-up filtering
  - Solves the left-recursion problem
  - Solves an exponential problem in  $O(N^3)$  time.
- The answer is **Earley Algorithm**.

# Earley Algorithm

- Earley Algorithm fills a table in a single pass over the input.
- The table will be size  $N+1$  where  $N$  is the number of words in the input.
- We may think that each table entry, called state, represents gaps between words.
- Each possible subtree is represented only once, and it can be shared by all the parses that need it.

# States

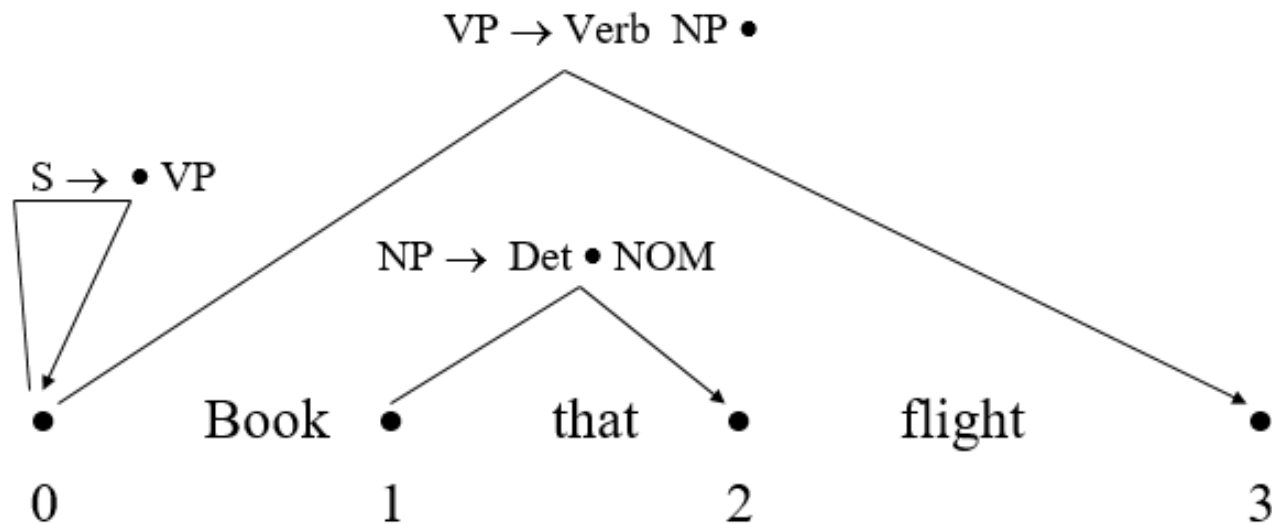
- A state in a table entry contains three kinds of information:
  - a subtree corresponding to a single grammar rule
  - information about the progress made in completing this subtree
  - the position of subtree with respect to the input.
- We use a dot in the state's grammar rule to indicate the progress made in recognizing it.
- We call this resulting structure **dotted rule**.
- A state's position are represented by two numbers indicating that where the state starts and where its dot lies.

# States - Dotted Rule

- Three example states: (Ex: Book that flight)
  - $S \rightarrow \bullet VP$ , [0,0]
  - $NP \rightarrow Det \bullet NOM$ , [1,2]
  - $VP \rightarrow Verb NP \bullet$ , [0,3]
- The first state represents a top-down **prediction** for S.
  - The first 0 indicates that the constituent predicted by this state should begin at position 0 (beginning of the input).
  - The second 0 indicates that the dot lies at position 0.
- The second state represents an **in-progress** constituent.
  - The constituent starts at position 1 and the dot lies at position 2.
- The third state represents a **completed** constituent.
  - This state describes that VP is successfully parsed, and that constituent covers the input from position 0 to position 3.

# Graphical Representations of Dotted Rules

- A directed acyclic graph can be in the representation of dotted rules.



# Parsing with Earley Algorithm

- New predicted states are based on existing table entries (predicted or in-progress) that predict a certain constituent at that spot.
- New in-progress states are created by updating older states to reflect the fact that the previously expected completed constituents have been located.
- New complete states are created when the dot in an in-progress state moves to the end.



# More Specifically

1. Predict all the states
2. Read an input.
  - See what predictions you can match.
  - Extend matched states, add new predictions.
  - Go to next state (state 2)
3. At the end, see if state[N+1] contains a complete S

# A Simple English Grammar (Ex.)

S → NP VP

S → Aux NP VP

S → VP

NP → Det NOM

NP → ProperNoun

NOM → Noun

NOM → Noun NOM

VP → Verb

VP → Verb NP

Det → that | this | a | the

Noun → flight | meal | money

Verb → book | include | prefer

Aux → does

ProperNoun → Houston | TWA

# Example: Chart[0]

*book that flight*

|                                     |       |                   |
|-------------------------------------|-------|-------------------|
| $\gamma \rightarrow \bullet S$      | [0,0] | Dummy start state |
| $S \rightarrow \bullet NP VP$       | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $NP \rightarrow \bullet Det NOM$    | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $NP \rightarrow \bullet ProperNoun$ | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $S \rightarrow \bullet Aux NP VP$   | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $S \rightarrow \bullet VP$          | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $VP \rightarrow \bullet Verb$       | [0,0] | Predictor         |
| $VP \rightarrow \bullet Verb NP$    | [0,0] | Predictor         |

|                             |
|-----------------------------|
| $S \rightarrow NP VP$       |
| $S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$   |
| $S \rightarrow VP$          |
| $NP \rightarrow Det NOM$    |
| $NP \rightarrow ProperNoun$ |
| $NOM \rightarrow Noun$      |
| $NOM \rightarrow Noun NOM$  |
| $VP \rightarrow Verb$       |
| $VP \rightarrow Verb NP$    |

# Example: Chart[1]

*book that flight*

|                   |       |           |
|-------------------|-------|-----------|
| Verb → book •     | [0,1] | Scanner   |
| VP → Verb •       | [0,1] | Completer |
| S → VP •          | [0,1] | Completer |
| VP → Verb • NP    | [0,1] | Completer |
| NP → • Det NOM    | [1,1] | Predictor |
| NP → • ProperNoun | [1,1] | Predictor |

S → NP VP  
S → Aux NP VP  
S → VP  
NP → Det NOM  
NP → ProperNoun  
NOM → Noun  
NOM → Noun NOM  
VP → Verb  
VP → Verb NP

# Example: Chart[2]

*book that flight*

|                  |       |           |
|------------------|-------|-----------|
| Det → that •     | [1,2] | Scanner   |
| NP → Det • NOM   | [1,2] | Completer |
| NOM → • Noun     | [2,2] | Predictor |
| NOM → • Noun NOM | [2,2] | Predictor |

S → NP VP  
S → Aux NP VP  
S → VP  
NP → Det NOM  
NP → ProperNoun  
NOM → Noun  
NOM → Noun NOM  
VP → Verb  
VP → Verb NP

# Example: Chart[3]

*book that flight*

|                  |       |           |
|------------------|-------|-----------|
| Noun → flight •  | [2,3] | Scanner   |
| NOM → Noun •     | [2,3] | Completer |
| NOM → Noun • NOM | [2,3] | Completer |
| NP → Det NOM •   | [1,3] | Completer |
| VP → Verb NP •   | [0,3] | Completer |
| S → VP •         | [0,3] | Completer |
| NOM → • Noun     | [3,3] | Predictor |
| NOM → • Noun NOM | [3,3] | Predictor |

S → NP VP  
S → Aux NP VP  
S → VP  
NP → Det NOM  
NP → ProperNoun  
NOM → Noun  
NOM → Noun NOM  
VP → Verb  
VP → Verb NP

# Earley Algorithm

- The Earley algorithm has three main functions that do all the work.

## **Predictor:**

- Adds predictions into the chart.
- It is activated when the dot (in a state) is in the front of a non-terminal which is not a part of speech.

## **Completer:**

- Moves the dot to the right when new constituents are found.
- It is activated when the dot is at the end of a state.

## **Scanner:**

- Reads the input words and enters states representing those words into the chart.
  - It is activated when the dot (in a state) is in the front of a non-terminal which is a part of speech.
- The Earley algorithm uses these functions to maintain the chart.

# Predictor

```
procedure PREDICTOR((A  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha \bullet$  B  $\beta$ , [i,j]))  
  for each (B  $\rightarrow$   $\gamma$ ) in GRAMMAR-RULES-FOR(B,grammar) do  
    ENQUEUE((B  $\rightarrow$   $\bullet \gamma$ , [j,j]), chart[j])  
end
```



# Completer

```
procedure COMPLETER((B  $\rightarrow$   $\gamma \bullet$  , [j,k]))  
  for each (A  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha \bullet$  B  $\beta$  , [i,j]) in chart[j] do  
    ENQUEUE((A  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha$  B  $\bullet$   $\beta$  , [i,k]), chart[k])  
end
```

# Scanner

```
procedure SCANNER((A  $\rightarrow$   $\alpha \bullet$  B  $\beta$ , [i,j]))  
  if (B  $\in$  PARTS-OF-SPEECH(word[j]) then  
    ENQUEUE((B  $\rightarrow$  word[j]  $\bullet$  , [j,j+1]), chart[j+1])  
  end
```

# Enqueue

```
procedure ENQUEUE(state, chart-entry)  
  if state is not already in chart-entry then  
    Add state at the end of chart-entry)  
end
```

# Earley Code

```
function EARLEY-PARSE(words,grammar) returns chart
  ENQUEUE(( $\gamma \rightarrow \bullet S$ , [0,0], chart[0])
for i from 0 to LENGTH(words) do
  for each state in chart[i] do
    if INCOMPLETE?(state) and NEXT-CAT(state) is not a PS then
      PREDICTOR(state)
    elseif INCOMPLETE?(state) and NEXT-CAT(state) is a PS then
      SCANNER(state)
    else
      COMPLETER(state)
  end
end
return(chart)
```

# Retrieving Parse Trees from A Chart

- To retrieve parse trees from a chart, the representation of each state must be augmented with an additional field to store information about the completed states that generated its constituents.
- To collect parse trees, we have to update **COMPLETER** such that it should add a pointer to the older state onto the list of previous-states of the new state.
- Then, the parse tree can be created by retrieving these list of previous-states (starting from the completed state of S).

# Chart[0] - with Parse Tree Info

|                                        |       |    |                   |
|----------------------------------------|-------|----|-------------------|
| S0 $\gamma \rightarrow \bullet S$      | [0,0] | [] | Dummy start state |
| S1 $S \rightarrow \bullet NP VP$       | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S2 $NP \rightarrow \bullet Det NOM$    | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S3 $NP \rightarrow \bullet ProperNoun$ | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S4 $S \rightarrow \bullet Aux NP VP$   | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S5 $S \rightarrow \bullet VP$          | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S6 $VP \rightarrow \bullet Verb$       | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S7 $VP \rightarrow \bullet Verb NP$    | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |

$S \rightarrow NP VP$   
 $S \rightarrow Aux NP VP$   
 $S \rightarrow VP$   
 $NP \rightarrow Det NOM$   
 $NP \rightarrow ProperNoun$   
 $NOM \rightarrow Noun$   
 $NOM \rightarrow Noun NOM$   
 $VP \rightarrow Verb$   
 $VP \rightarrow Verb NP$

# Chart[1] - with Parse Tree Info

|     |                   |       |      |           |
|-----|-------------------|-------|------|-----------|
| S8  | Verb → book •     | [0,1] | []   | Scanner   |
| S9  | VP → Verb •       | [0,1] | [S8] | Completer |
| S10 | S → VP •          | [0,1] | [S9] | Completer |
| S11 | VP → Verb • NP    | [0,1] | [S8] | Completer |
| S12 | NP → • Det NOM    | [1,1] | []   | Predictor |
| S13 | NP → • ProperNoun | [1,1] | []   | Predictor |

|                                                                                                                                                                             |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>S → NP VP</p> <p>S → Aux NP VP</p> <p>S → VP</p> <p>NP → Det NOM</p> <p>NP → ProperNoun</p> <p>NOM → Noun</p> <p>NOM → Noun NOM</p> <p>VP → Verb</p> <p>VP → Verb NP</p> |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

# Chart[2] - with Parse Tree Info

|     |                  |       |       |           |
|-----|------------------|-------|-------|-----------|
| S14 | Det → that •     | [1,2] | []    | Scanner   |
| S15 | NP → Det • NOM   | [1,2] | [S14] | Completer |
| S16 | NOM → • Noun     | [2,2] | []    | Predictor |
| S17 | NOM → • Noun NOM | [2,2] | []    | Predictor |

S → NP VP  
 S → Aux NP VP  
 S → VP  
 NP → Det NOM  
 NP → ProperNoun  
 NOM → Noun  
 NOM → Noun NOM  
 VP → Verb  
 VP → Verb NP



# Chart[3] - with Parse Tree Info

|     |                  |       |           |           |
|-----|------------------|-------|-----------|-----------|
| S18 | Noun → flight •  | [2,3] | []        | Scanner   |
| S19 | NOM → Noun •     | [2,3] | [S18]     | Completer |
| S20 | NOM → Noun • NOM | [2,3] | [S18]     | Completer |
| S21 | NP → Det NOM •   | [1,3] | [S14,S19] | Completer |
| S22 | VP → Verb NP •   | [0,3] | [S8,S21]  | Completer |
| S23 | S → VP •         | [0,3] | [S22]     | Completer |
| S24 | NOM → • Noun     | [3,3] | []        | Predictor |
| S25 | NOM → • Noun NOM | [3,3] | []        | Predictor |

# Global Ambiguity

$S \rightarrow \text{Verb}$

$S \rightarrow \text{Noun}$

---

## Chart[0]

|    |                                     |       |    |                   |
|----|-------------------------------------|-------|----|-------------------|
| S0 | $\gamma \rightarrow \bullet S$      | [0,0] | [] | Dummy start state |
| S1 | $S \rightarrow \bullet \text{Verb}$ | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |
| S2 | $S \rightarrow \bullet \text{Noun}$ | [0,0] | [] | Predictor         |

---

## Chart[1]

|    |                                               |       |      |           |
|----|-----------------------------------------------|-------|------|-----------|
| S3 | $\text{Verb} \rightarrow \text{book} \bullet$ | [0,1] | []   | Scanner   |
| S4 | $\text{Noun} \rightarrow \text{book} \bullet$ | [0,1] | []   | Scanner   |
| S5 | $S \rightarrow \text{Verb} \bullet$           | [0,1] | [S3] | Predictor |
| S6 | $S \rightarrow \text{Noun} \bullet$           | [0,1] | [S4] | Predictor |