

# Natural Language Processing



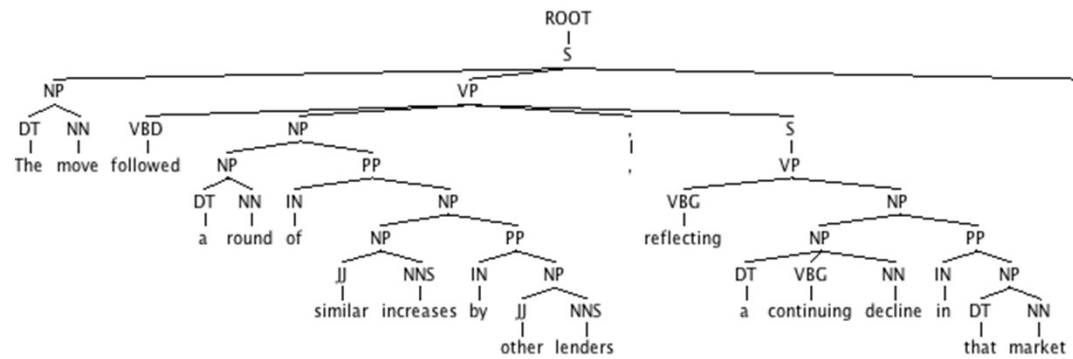
## Syntax and Parsing

Dan Klein – UC Berkeley

# Syntax



# Parse Trees

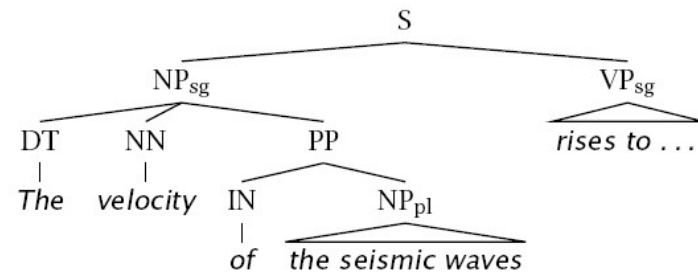


*The move followed a round of similar increases by other lenders, reflecting a continuing decline in that market*



# Phrase Structure Parsing

- Phrase structure parsing organizes syntax into *constituents* or *brackets*
- In general, this involves nested trees
- Linguists can, and do, argue about details
- Lots of ambiguity
- Not the only kind of syntax...



new art critics write reviews with computers

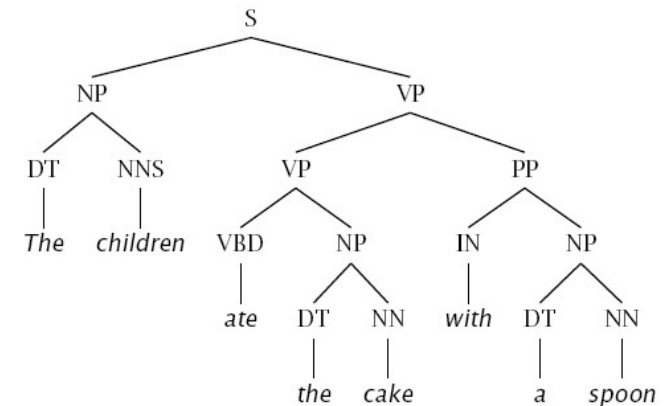


# Constituency Tests

- How do we know what nodes go in the tree?

- Classic constituency tests:

- Substitution by *proform*
- Question answers
- Semantic grounds
  - Coherence
  - Reference
  - Idioms
- Dislocation
- Conjunction



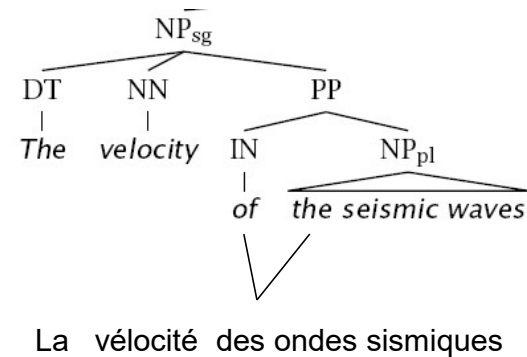
*The children ate the cake with a spoon*

- Cross-linguistic arguments, too



# Conflicting Tests

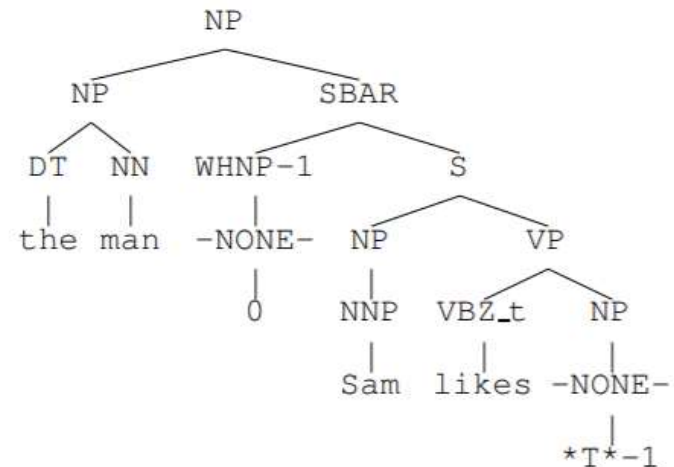
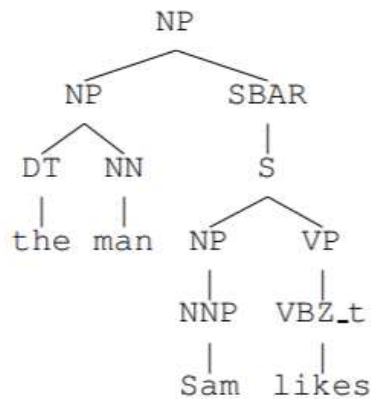
- Constituency isn't always clear
  - Units of transfer:
    - think about ~ penser à
    - talk about ~ hablar de
  - Phonological/morphological reduction:
    - I will go → I'll go
    - I want to go → I wanna go
    - a le centre → au centre
  - Coordination
    - He went to and came from the store.



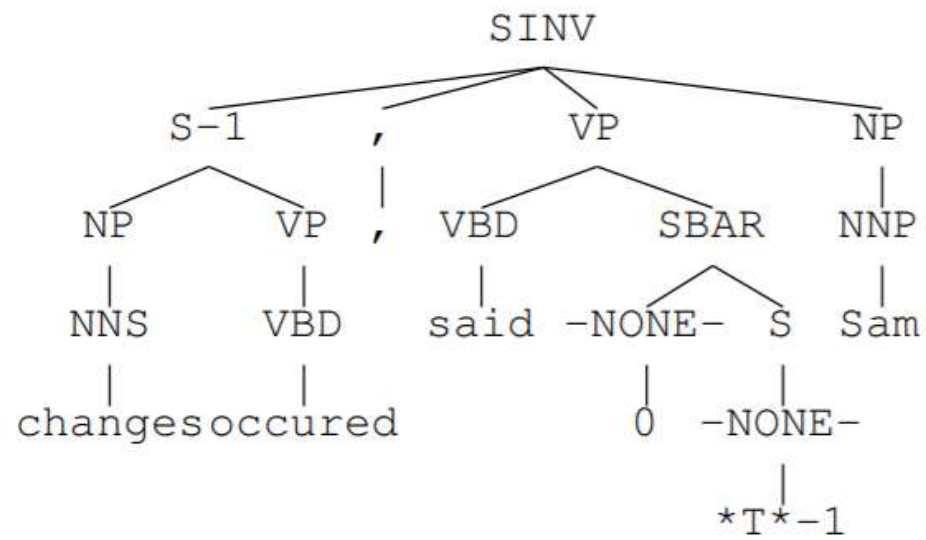


# Structure Depth

- Q: Do we model deep vs surface structure?

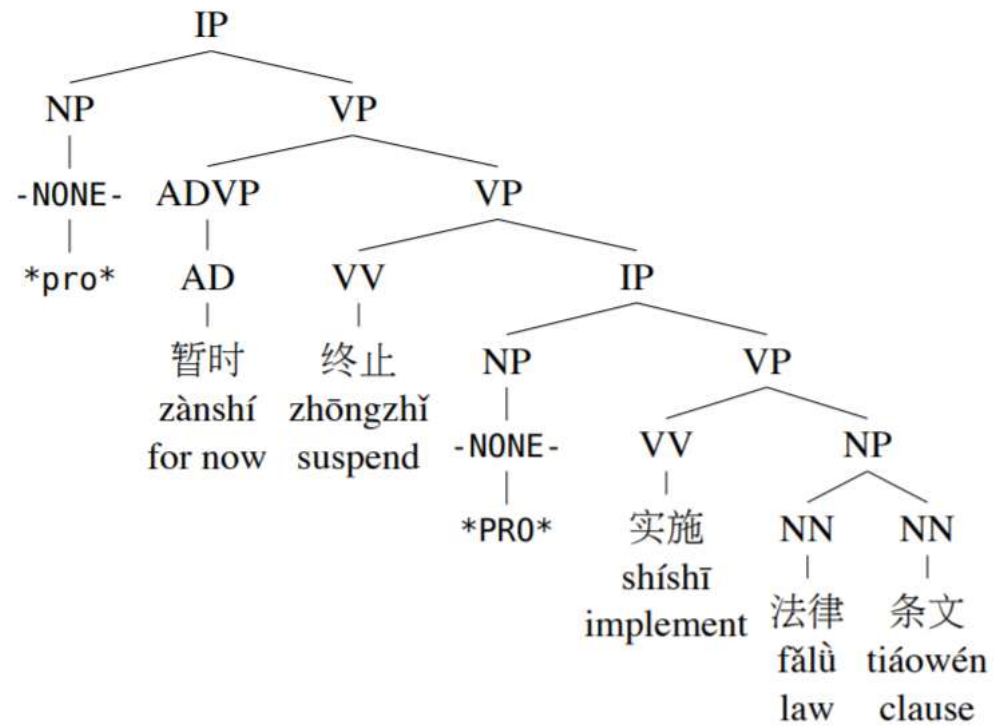


[Example: Johnson 02]



[Example: Johnson 02]





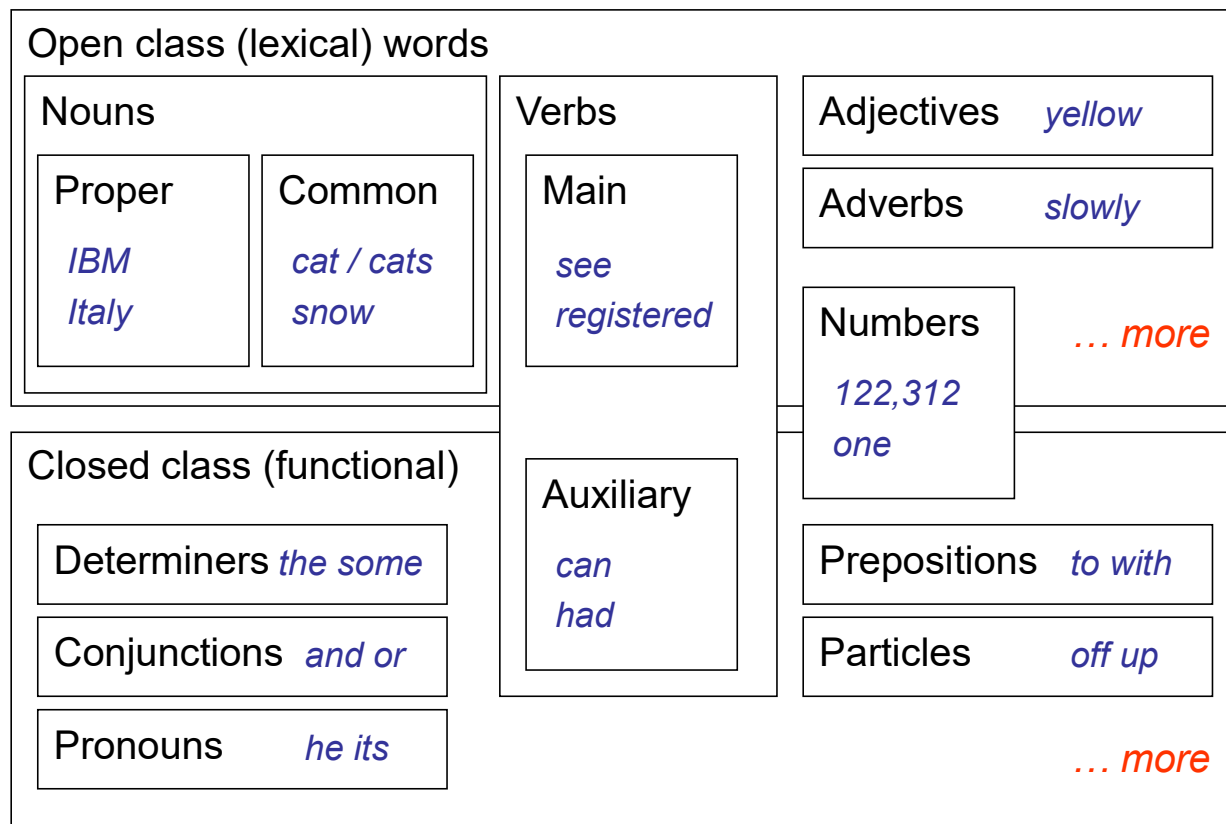
[Example: Cai et al 11]

# Ambiguities



# Parts-of-Speech (English)

- One basic kind of linguistic structure: syntactic word classes





# Part-of-Speech Ambiguity

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- Words can have multiple parts of speech

VBD                      VB  
VBN   VBZ            VBP            VBZ  
NNP   NNS            NN            NNS   CD    NN

Fed raises interest rates 0.5 percent

Mrs./NNP Shaefer/NNP never/RB got/VBD **around/RP** to/TO joining/VBG

All/DT we/PRP gotta/VBN do/VB is/VBZ go/VB **around/IN** the/DT corner/NN

Chateau/NNP Petrus/NNP costs/VBZ **around/RB** 250/CD

- Two basic sources of constraint:
  - Grammatical environment
  - Identity of the current word
- Many more possible features:
  - Suffixes, capitalization, name databases (gazetteers), etc...



# Why POS Tagging?

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- Historically useful in and of itself (more than you'd think)
  - Text-to-speech: record, lead
  - Lemmatization: saw[v] → see, saw[n] → saw
  - Quick-and-dirty NP-chunk detection: `grep {JJ | NN}* {NN | NNS}`
- Historically also useful as a pre-processing step for parsing
  - Less tag ambiguity means fewer parses
  - However, some tag choices are better decided by parsers

DT NNP NN VBD VBN **IN** RP NN NNS  
The Georgia branch had taken **on** loan commitments ...

DT NN IN NN **VDN** VBD NNS VBD  
The average of interbank **offered** rates plummeted ...



# Classical NLP: Parsing

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- Write symbolic or logical rules:

## Grammar (CFG)

ROOT $\rightarrow$ S	NP $\rightarrow$ NP PP
S $\rightarrow$ NP VP	VP $\rightarrow$ VBP NP
NP $\rightarrow$ DT NN	VP $\rightarrow$ VBP NP PP
NP $\rightarrow$ NN NNS	PP $\rightarrow$ IN NP

## Lexicon

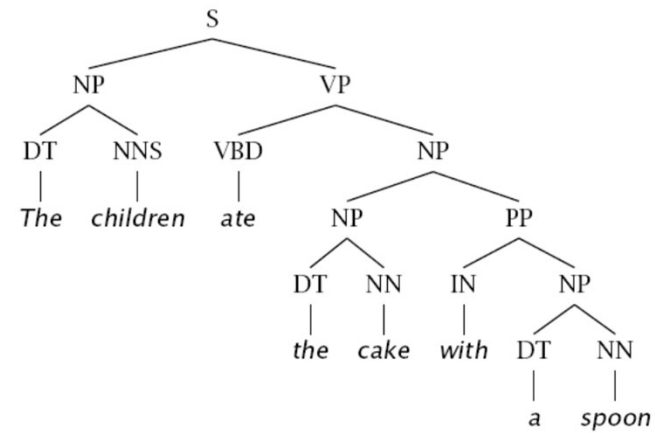
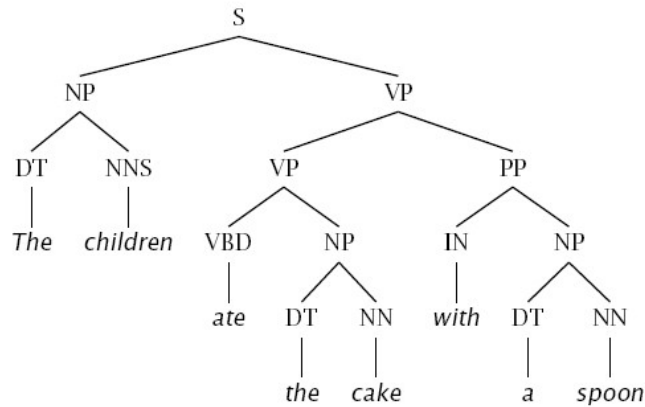
NN $\rightarrow$ interest
NNS $\rightarrow$ raises
VBP $\rightarrow$ interest
VBZ $\rightarrow$ raises

...

- Use deduction systems to prove parses from words
  - Minimal grammar on “Fed raises” sentence: 36 parses
  - Simple 10-rule grammar: 592 parses
  - Real-size grammar: many millions of parses
- This scaled very badly, didn’t yield broad-coverage tools



# Ambiguities: PP Attachment



The board approved [its acquisition] [by Royal Trustco Ltd.]  
[of Toronto]  
[for \$27 a share]  
[at its monthly meeting].



# Attachments

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- I cleaned the dishes from dinner
- I cleaned the dishes with detergent
- I cleaned the dishes in my pajamas
- I cleaned the dishes in the sink





# Syntactic Ambiguities I

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- **Prepositional phrases:**  
*They cooked the beans in the pot on the stove with handles.*
- **Particle vs. preposition:**  
*The puppy tore up the staircase.*
- **Complement structures**  
*The tourists objected to the guide that they couldn't hear.*  
*She knows you like the back of her hand.*
- **Gerund vs. participial adjective**  
*Visiting relatives can be boring.*  
*Changing schedules frequently confused passengers.*



# Syntactic Ambiguities II

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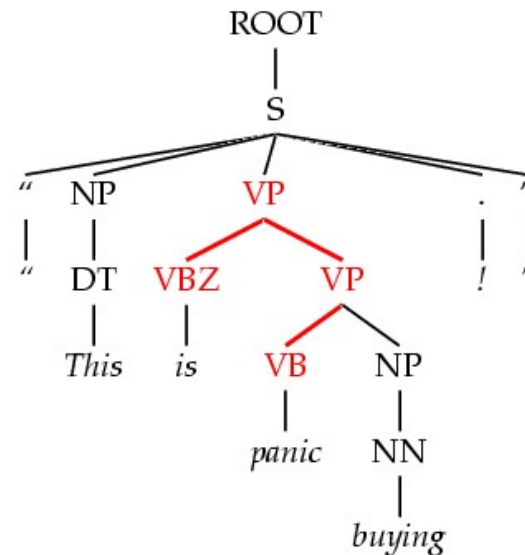
- **Modifier scope within NPs**  
*impractical design requirements*  
*plastic cup holder*
- **Multiple gap constructions**  
*The chicken is ready to eat.*  
*The contractors are rich enough to sue.*
- **Coordination scope:**  
*Small rats and mice can squeeze into holes or cracks in the wall.*



# Inaccessible Ambiguities

- *Inaccessible ambiguities*: most analyses are shockingly bad (meaning, they don't have an interpretation you can get your mind around)

This analysis corresponds to  
the correct parse of  
*"This will panic buyers !"*



- Unknown words and new usages
- **Solution**: We need mechanisms to focus attention on the best ones, probabilistic techniques do this

PCFGs



# Probabilistic Context-Free Grammars

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- A context-free grammar is a tuple  $\langle N, T, S, R \rangle$ 
  - $N$ : the set of non-terminals
    - Phrasal categories: S, NP, VP, ADJP, etc.
    - Parts-of-speech (pre-terminals): NN, JJ, DT, VB
  - $T$ : the set of terminals (the words)
  - $S$ : the start symbol
    - Often written as ROOT or TOP
    - *Not* usually the sentence non-terminal S
  - $R$ : the set of rules
    - Of the form  $X \rightarrow Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k$ , with  $X, Y_i \in N$
    - Examples:  $S \rightarrow NP VP$ ,  $VP \rightarrow VP CC VP$
    - Also called rewrites, productions, or local trees
- A PCFG adds:
  - A top-down production probability per rule  $P(Y_1 Y_2 \dots Y_k \mid X)$



# Trebank Sentences

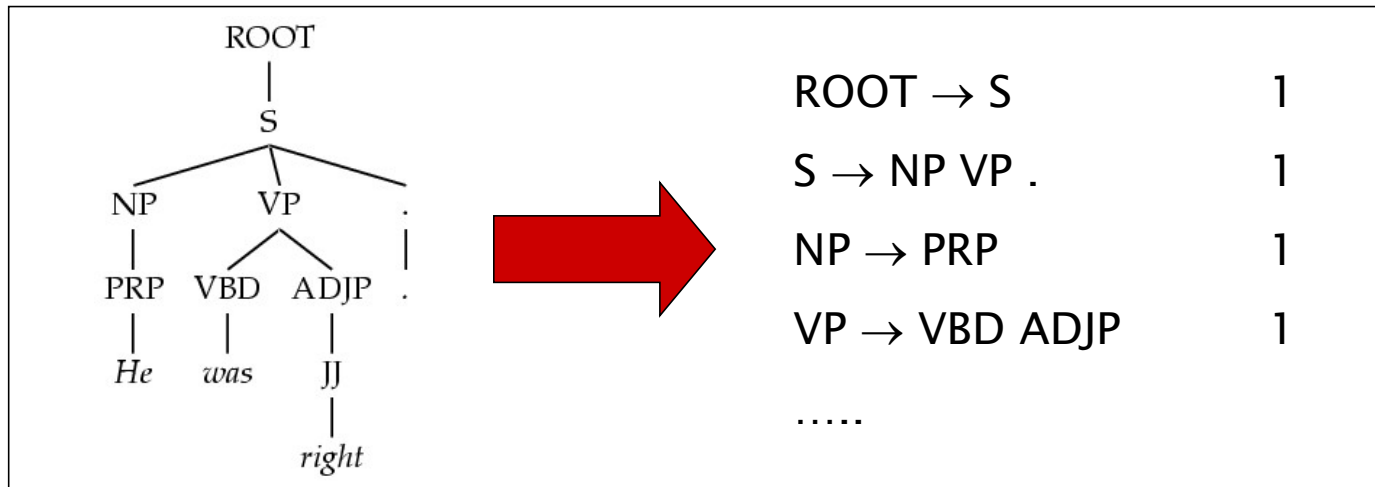
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```
( (S (NP-SBJ The move)
  (VP followed
    (NP (NP a round)
      (PP of
        (NP (NP similar increases)
          (PP by
            (NP other lenders))
          (PP against
            (NP Arizona real estate loans))))))
    ,
    (S-ADV (NP-SBJ *)
      (VP reflecting
        (NP (NP a continuing decline)
          (PP-LOC in
            (NP that market))))))
  .))
```



# Treebank Grammars

- Need a PCFG for broad coverage parsing.
- Can take a grammar right off the trees (doesn't work well):



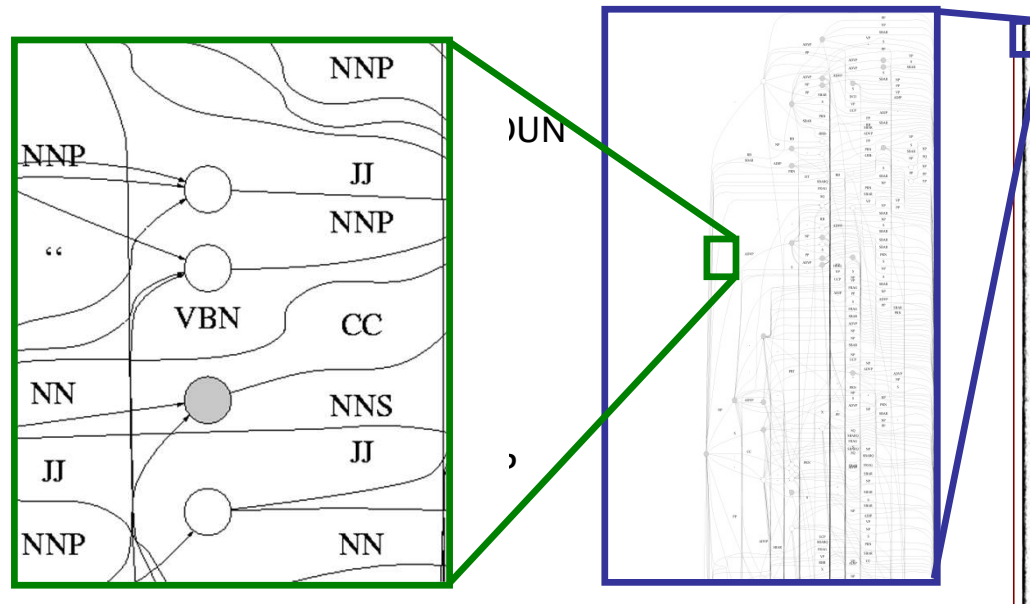
- Better results by enriching the grammar (e.g., lexicalization).
- Can also get state-of-the-art parsers without lexicalization.



# Trebank Grammar Scale

- Treebank grammars can be enormous
  - As FSAs, the raw grammar has ~10K states, excluding the lexicon
  - Better parsers usually make the grammars larger, not smaller

NP

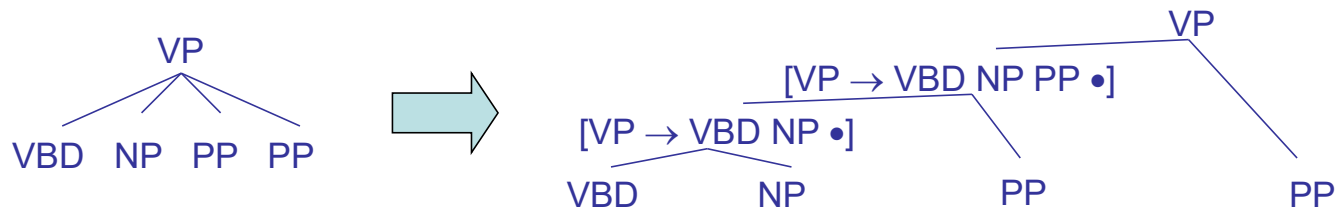






# Chomsky Normal Form

- **Chomsky normal form:**
  - All rules of the form  $X \rightarrow YZ$  or  $X \rightarrow w$
  - In principle, this is no limitation on the space of (P)CFGs
    - N-ary rules introduce new non-terminals



- Unaries / empties are “promoted”
- In practice it’s kind of a pain:
  - Reconstructing n-aries is easy
  - Reconstructing unaries is trickier
  - The straightforward transformations don’t preserve tree scores
- Makes parsing algorithms simpler!

# CKY Parsing



# A Recursive Parser

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```
bestScore(X,i,j)
  if (j = i+1)
    return tagScore(X,s[i])
  else
    return max score(X->YZ) *
               bestScore(Y,i,k) *
               bestScore(Z,k,j)
```

- Will this parser work?
- Why or why not?
- Memory requirements?



# A Memoized Parser

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- One small change:

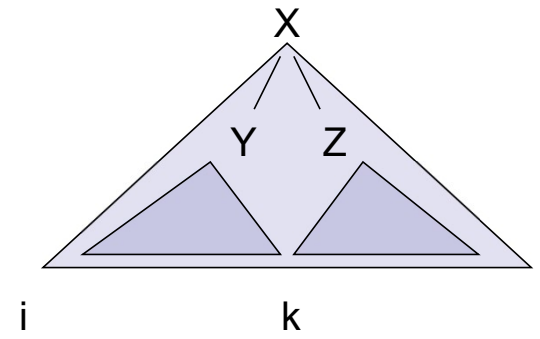
```
bestScore(X,i,j)
  if (scores[X][i][j] == null)
    if (j = i+1)
      score = tagScore(X,s[i])
    else
      score = max score(X->YZ) *
                bestScore(Y,i,k) *
                bestScore(Z,k,j)
    scores[X][i][j] = score
  return scores[X][i][j]
```



# A Bottom-Up Parser (CKY)

- Can also organize things bottom-up

```
bestScore(s)
  for (i : [0,n-1])
    for (X : tags[s[i]])
      score[X][i][i+1] =
        tagScore(X,s[i])
  for (diff : [2,n])
    for (i : [0,n-diff])
      j = i + diff
      for (X->YZ : rule)
        for (k : [i+1, j-1])
          score[X][i][j] = max score[X][i][j],
                                score(X->YZ) *
                                score[Y][i][k] *
                                score[Z][k][j]
```





# Unary Rules

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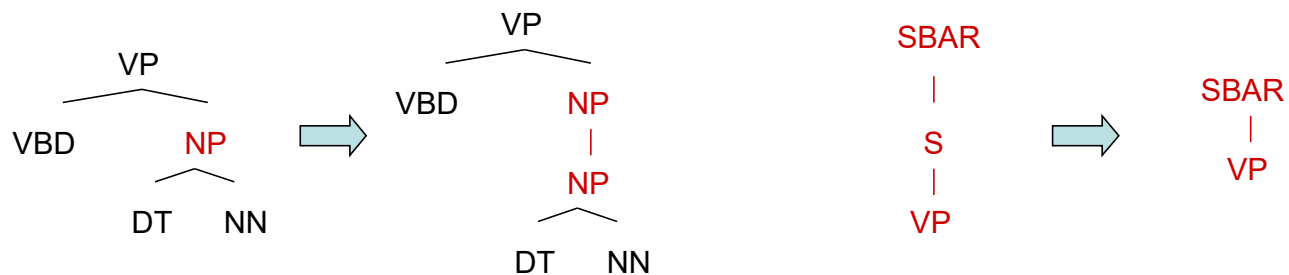
- Unary rules?

```
bestScore(X,i,j,s)
  if (j = i+1)
    return tagScore(X,s[i])
  else
    return max max score(X->YZ) *
               bestScore(Y,i,k) *
               bestScore(Z,k,j)
    max score(X->Y) *
    bestScore(Y,i,j)
```



# CNF + Unary Closure

- We need unaries to be non-cyclic
  - Can address by pre-calculating the *unary closure*
  - Rather than having zero or more unaries, always have exactly one



- Alternate unary and binary layers
- Reconstruct unary chains afterwards



# Alternating Layers

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```
bestScoreB(X,i,j,s)
  return max max score(X->YZ) *
                bestScoreU(Y,i,k) *
                bestScoreU(Z,k,j)
```

```
bestScoreU(X,i,j,s)
  if (j = i+1)
    return tagScore(X,s[i])
  else
    return max max score(X->Y) *
                bestScoreB(Y,i,j)
```

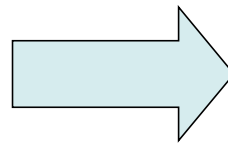
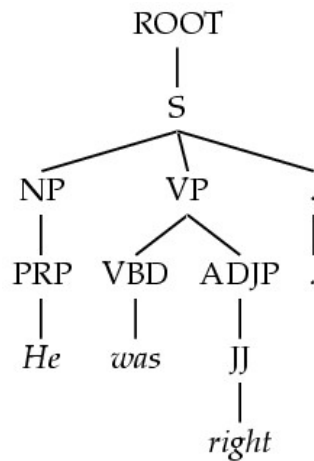


# Learning PCFGs



# Treebank PCFGs [Charniak 96]

- Use PCFGs for broad coverage parsing
- Can take a grammar right off the trees (doesn't work well):



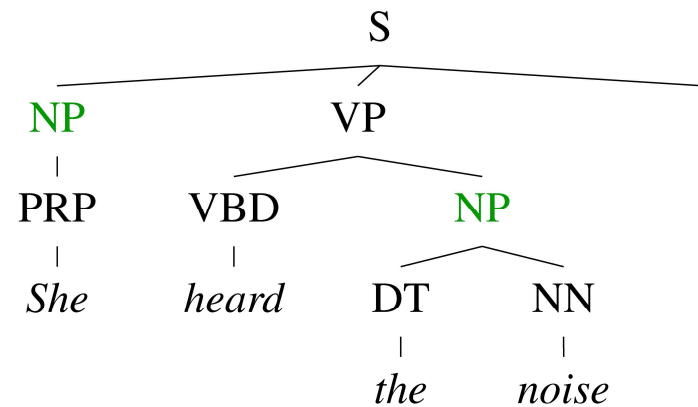
ROOT → S                    1  
S → NP VP .                    1  
NP → PRP                    1  
VP → VBD ADJP                1  
.....

<i>Model</i>	<i>F1</i>
Baseline	72.0



# Conditional Independence?

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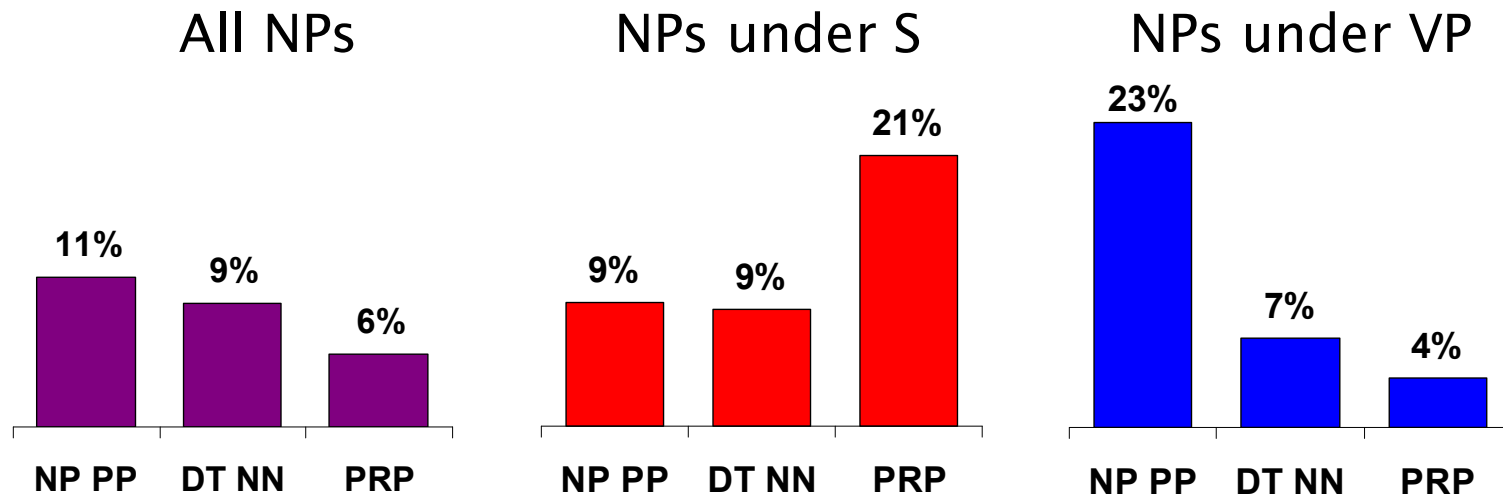


- Not every NP expansion can fill every NP slot
  - A grammar with symbols like "NP" won't be context-free
  - Statistically, conditional independence too strong



# Non-Independence

- Independence assumptions are often too strong.



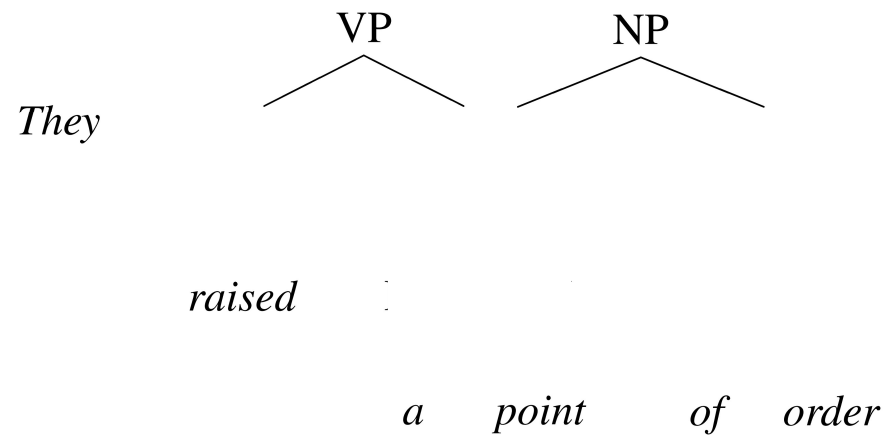
- Example: the expansion of an NP is highly dependent on the parent of the NP (i.e., subjects vs. objects).
- Also: the subject and object expansions are correlated!



# Grammar Refinement

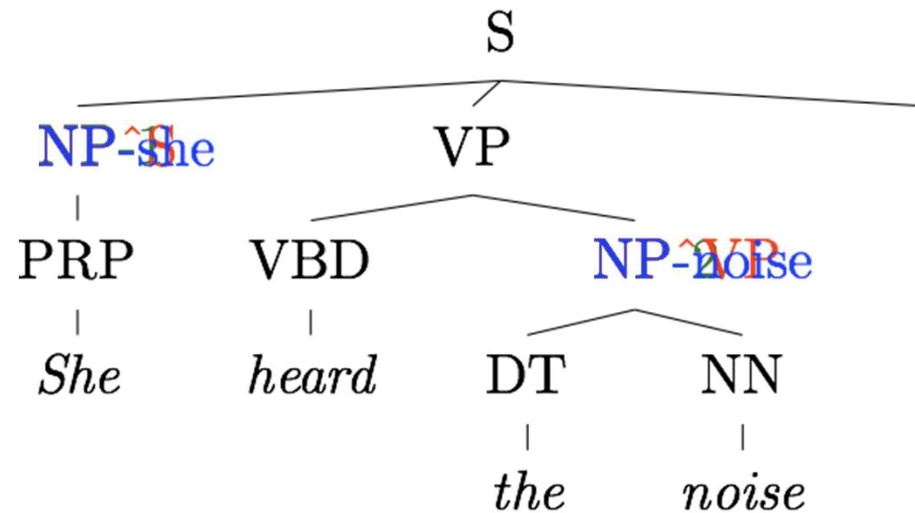
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- Example: PP attachment





# Grammar Refinement



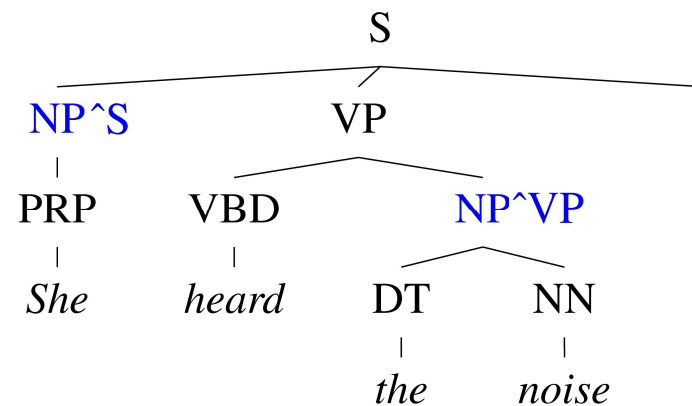
- Structure Annotation [Johnson '98, Klein&Manning '03]
- Lexicalization [Collins '99, Charniak '00]
- Latent Variables [Matsuzaki et al. 05, Petrov et al. '06]

# Structural Annotation



# The Game of Designing a Grammar

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- Annotation refines base treebank symbols to improve statistical fit of the grammar
  - Structural annotation

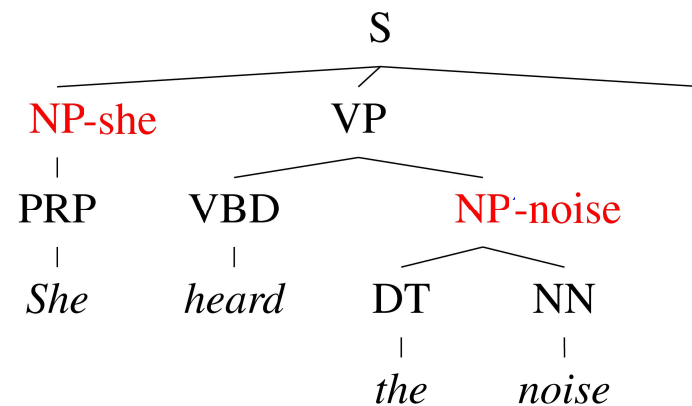


# Lexicalization



# The Game of Designing a Grammar

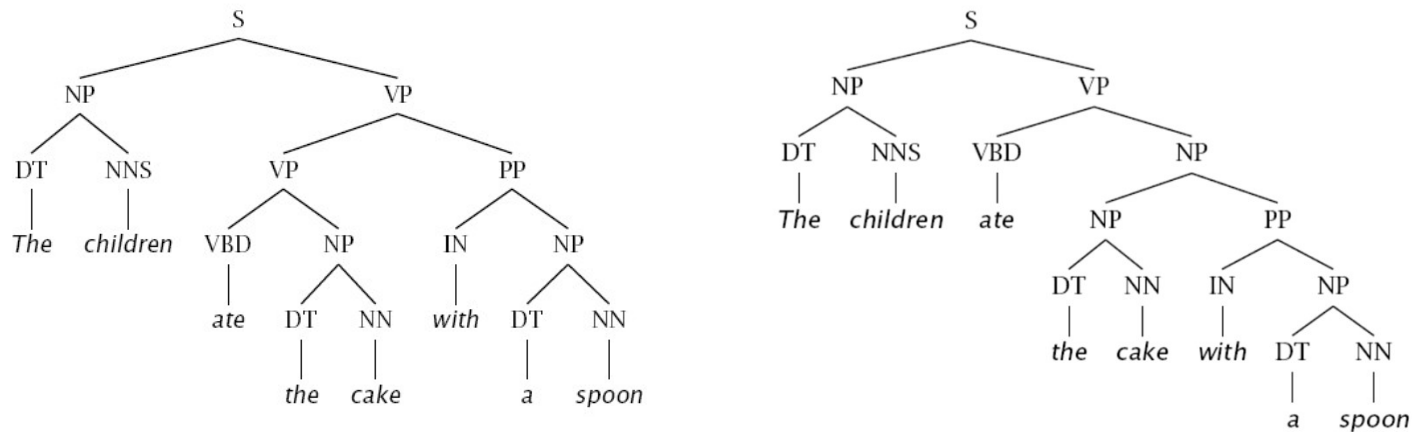
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- Annotation refines base treebank symbols to improve statistical fit of the grammar
  - Structural annotation [Johnson '98, Klein and Manning 03]
  - Head lexicalization [Collins '99, Charniak '00]



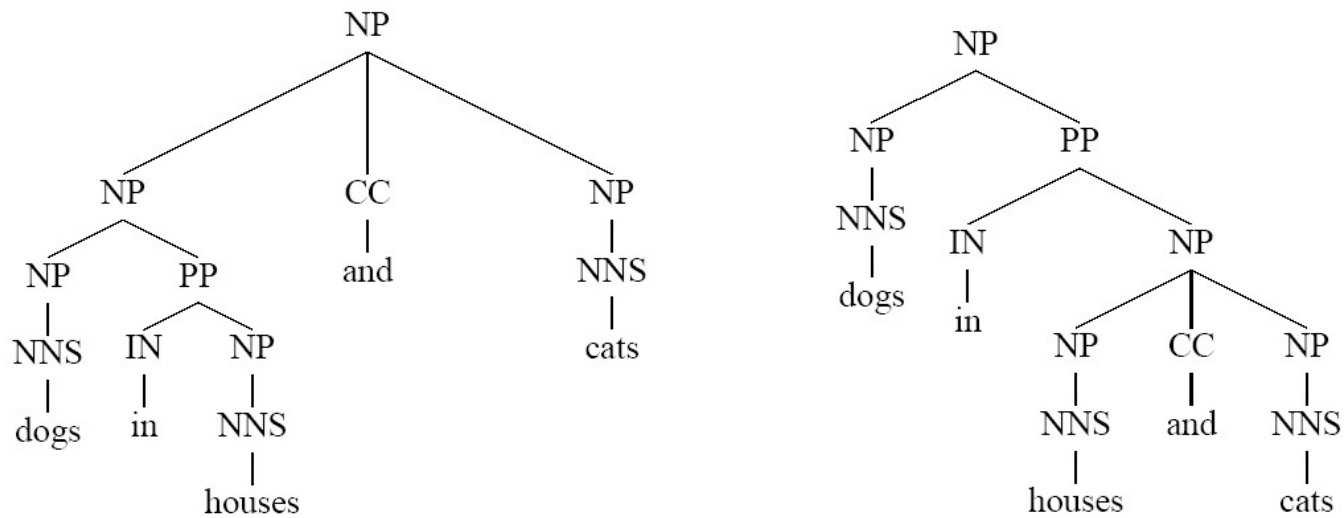
# Problems with PCFGs



- If we do no annotation, these trees differ only in one rule:
  - $VP \rightarrow VP PP$
  - $NP \rightarrow NP PP$
- Parse will go one way or the other, regardless of words
- We addressed this in one way with unlexicalized grammars (how?)
- Lexicalization allows us to be sensitive to specific words



# Problems with PCFGs

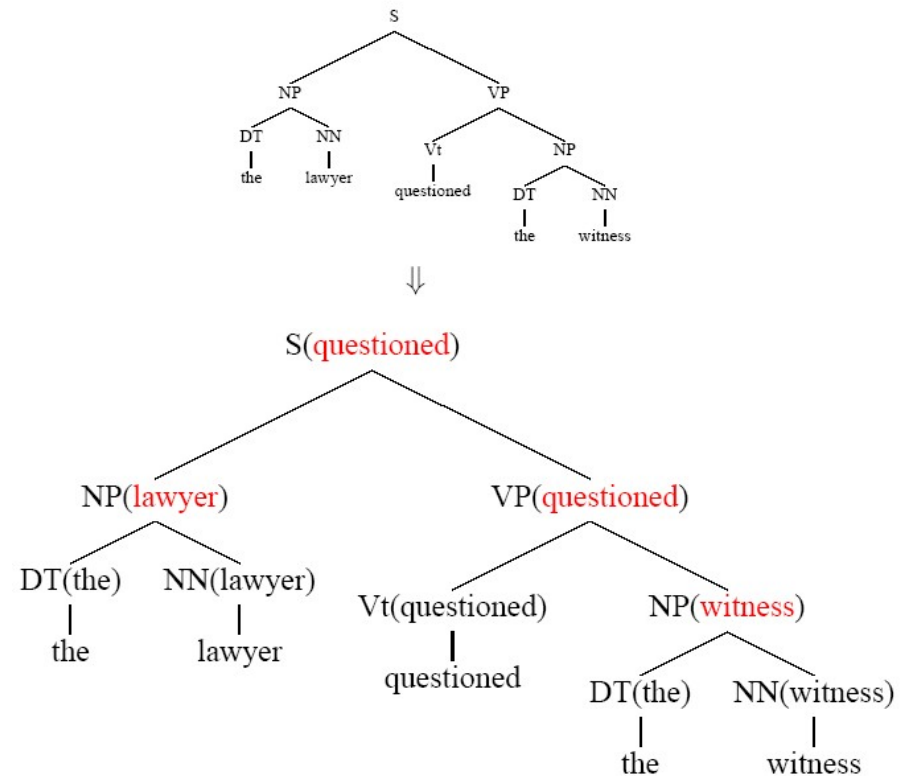


- What's different between basic PCFG scores here?
- What (lexical) correlations need to be scored?



# Lexicalized Trees

- Add “head words” to each phrasal node
  - Syntactic vs. semantic heads
  - Headship not in (most) treebanks
  - Usually *use head rules*, e.g.:
    - NP:
      - Take leftmost NP
      - Take rightmost N\*
      - Take rightmost JJ
      - Take right child
    - VP:
      - Take leftmost VB\*
      - Take leftmost VP
      - Take left child





# Lexicalized PCFGs?

- Problem: we now have to estimate probabilities like

$VP(\text{saw}) \rightarrow VBD(\text{saw}) NP-C(\text{her}) NP(\text{today})$

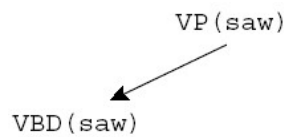
- Never going to get these atomically off of a treebank
- Solution: break up derivation into smaller steps



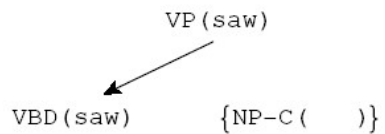


# Lexical Derivation Steps

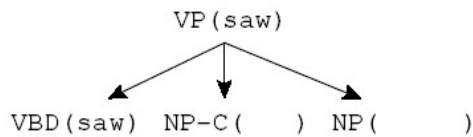
- A derivation of a local tree [Collins 99]



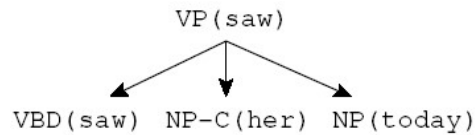
Choose a head tag and word



Choose a complement bag



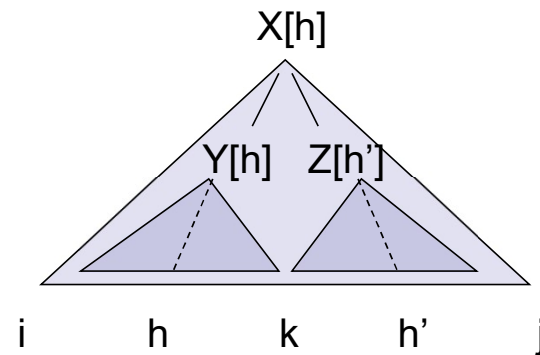
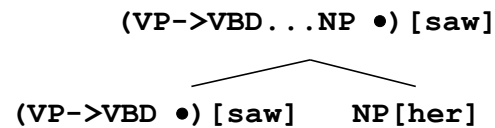
Generate children (incl. adjuncts)



Recursively derive children



# Lexicalized CKY



**bestScore**(X,i,j,h)

**if** (j = i+1)

**return** tagScore(X,s[i])

**else**

**return**

**max** **max** score(X[h]->Y[h] Z[h']) \*  
          <sub>k,h',X->YZ</sub>

        bestScore(Y,i,k,h) \*

        bestScore(Z,k,j,h')

**max** score(X[h]->Y[h'] Z[h]) \*  
          <sub>k,h',X->YZ</sub>

        bestScore(Y,i,k,h') \*

        bestScore(Z,k,j,h)





# Results

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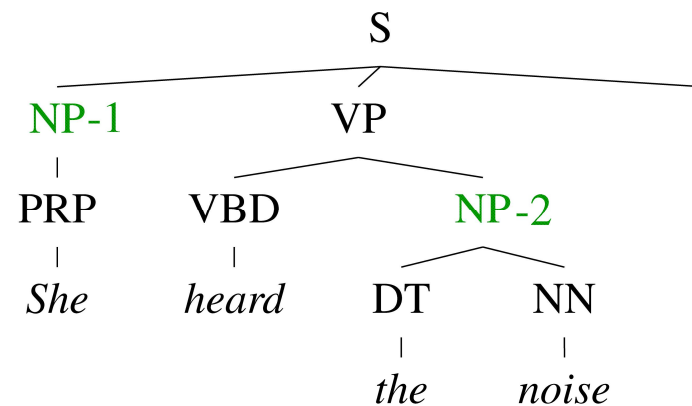
- **Some results**
  - Collins 99 – 88.6 F1 (generative lexical)
  - Charniak and Johnson 05 – 89.7 / 91.3 F1 (generative lexical / reranked)
  - Petrov et al 06 – 90.7 F1 (generative unlexical)
  - McClosky et al 06 – 92.1 F1 (gen + rerank + self-train)
- **However**
  - Bilexical counts rarely make a difference (why?)
  - Gildea 01 – Removing bilexical counts costs < 0.5 F1

# Latent Variable PCFGs



# The Game of Designing a Grammar

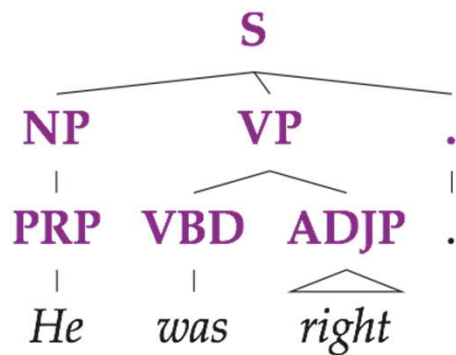
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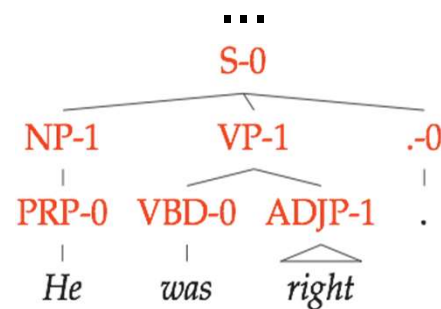
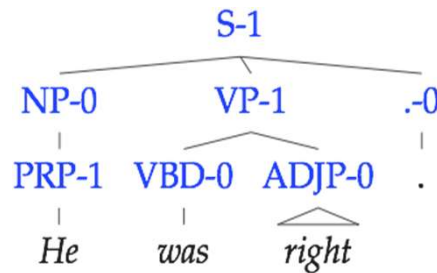
- Annotation refines base treebank symbols to improve statistical fit of the grammar
  - Parent annotation [Johnson '98]
  - Head lexicalization [Collins '99, Charniak '00]
  - Automatic clustering?



# Latent Variable Grammars



Parse Tree  $T$   
Sentence  $w$



Derivations  $t : T$



Grammar G		
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_0$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_0$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_1$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_1$	?	
$S_1 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_0$	?	
...		
$S_1 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_1$	?	
...		
$NP_0 \rightarrow PRP_0$	?	
$NP_0 \rightarrow PRP_1$	?	
...		

Lexicon		
$PRP_0 \rightarrow She$	?	
$PRP_1 \rightarrow She$	?	
...		
$VBD_0 \rightarrow was$	?	
$VBD_1 \rightarrow was$	?	
$VBD_2 \rightarrow was$	?	
...		

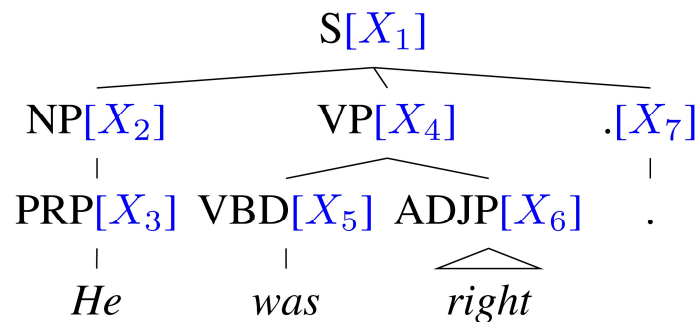
Parameters  $\theta$



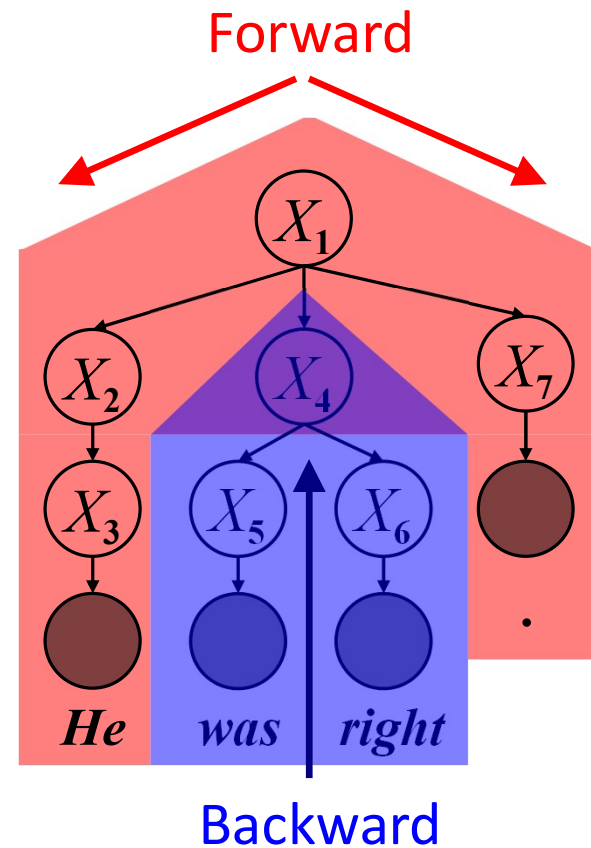
# Learning Latent Annotations

EM algorithm:

- Brackets are known
- Base categories are known
- Only induce subcategories



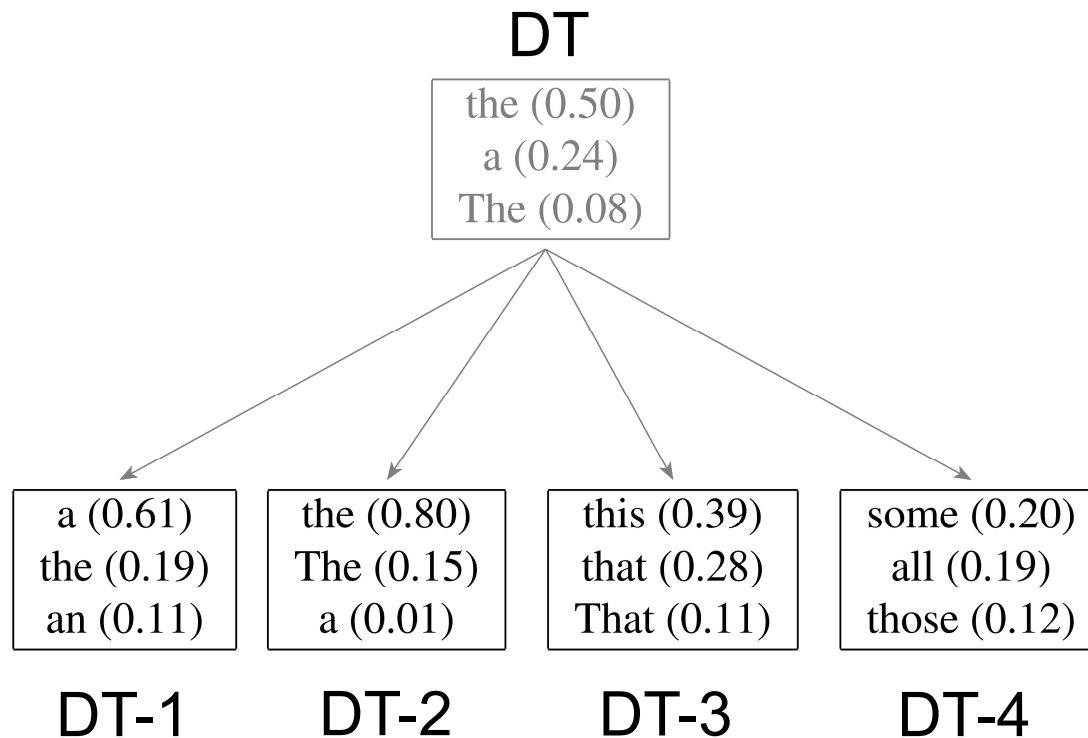
Just like Forward-Backward for HMMs.





# Refinement of the DT tag

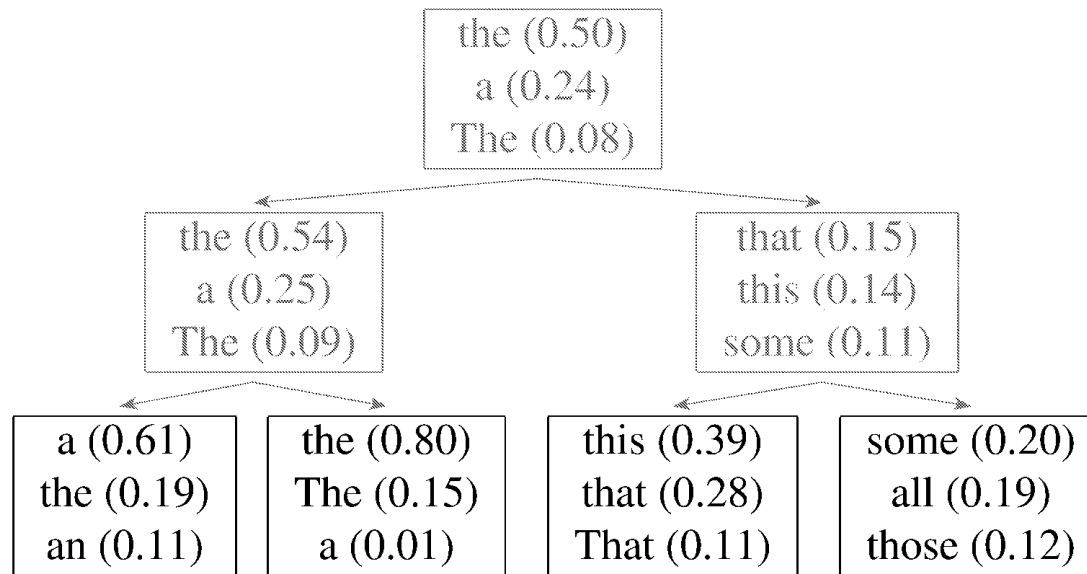
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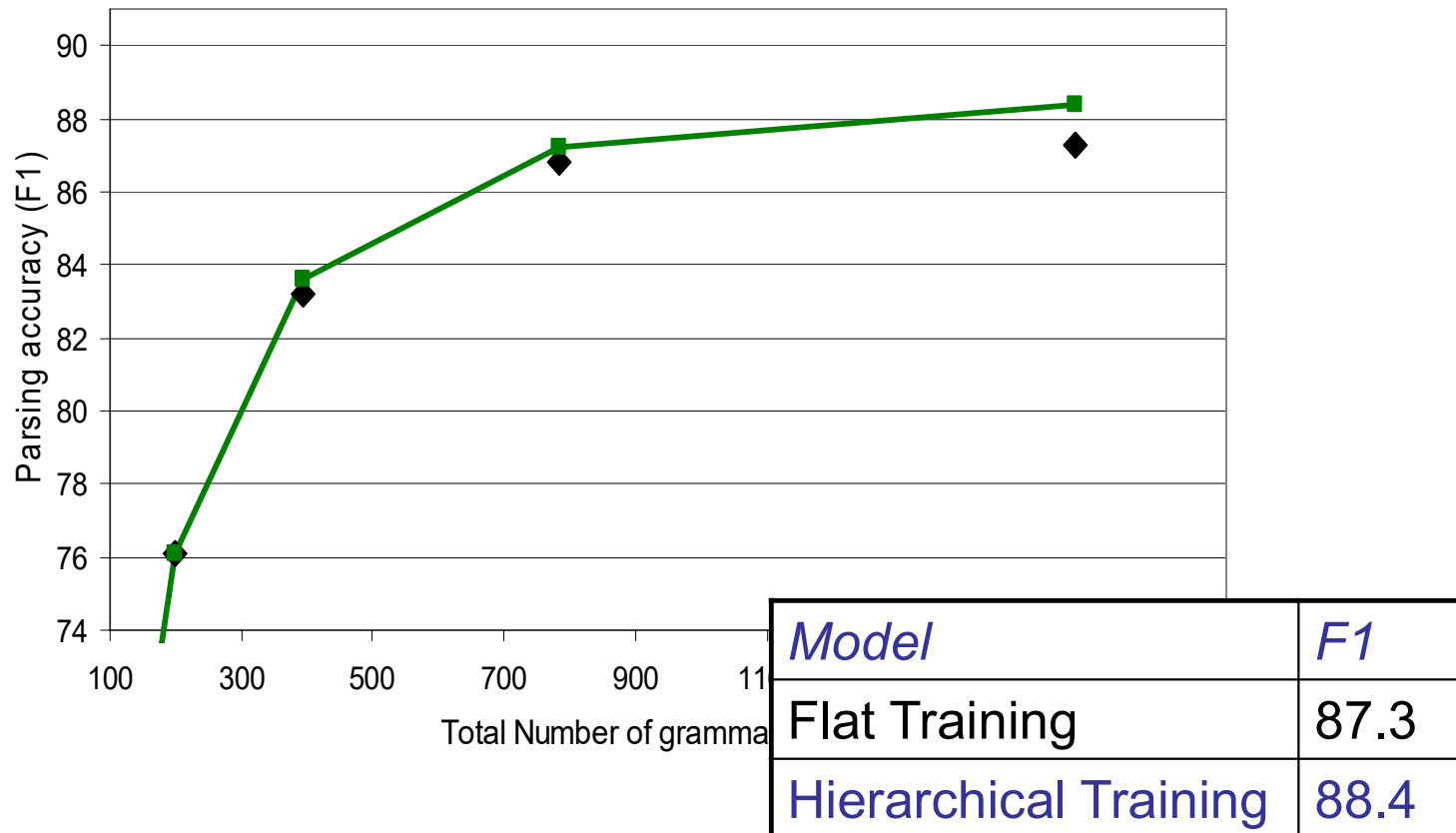
# Hierarchical refinement

---





# Hierarchical Estimation Results



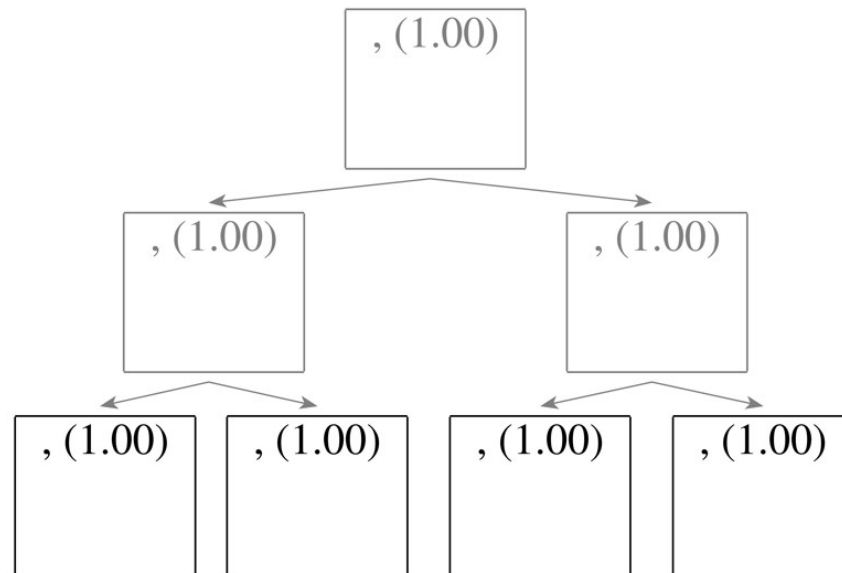




## Refinement of the , tag

---

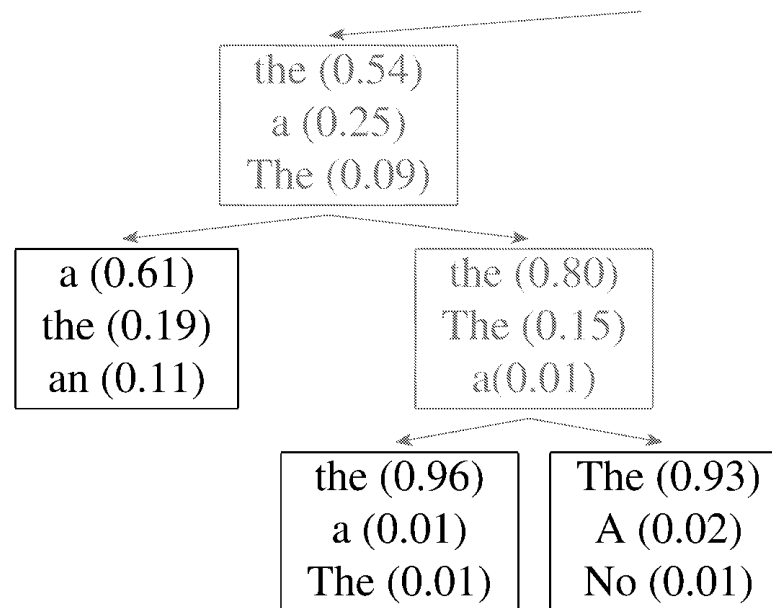
- Splitting all categories equally is wasteful:





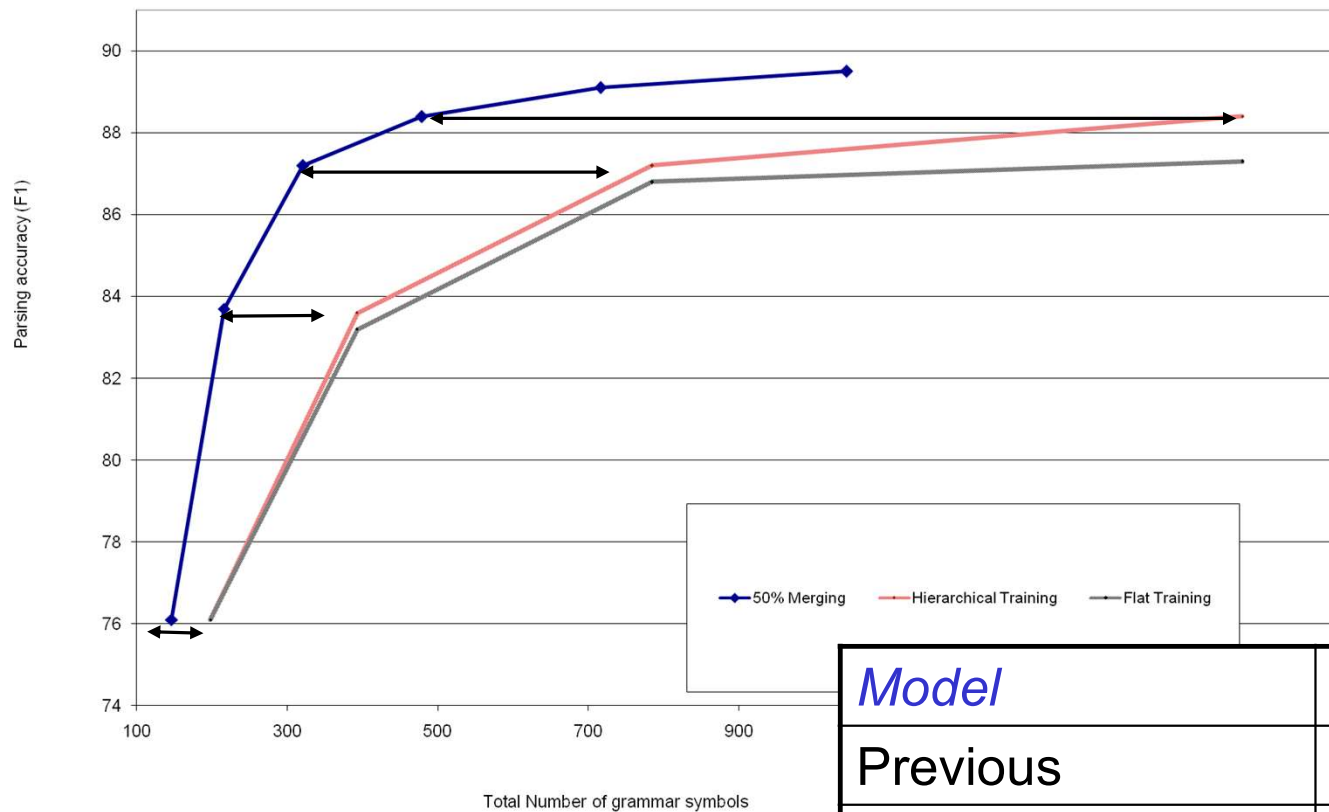
# Adaptive Splitting

- Want to split complex categories more
- Idea: split everything, roll back splits which were least useful





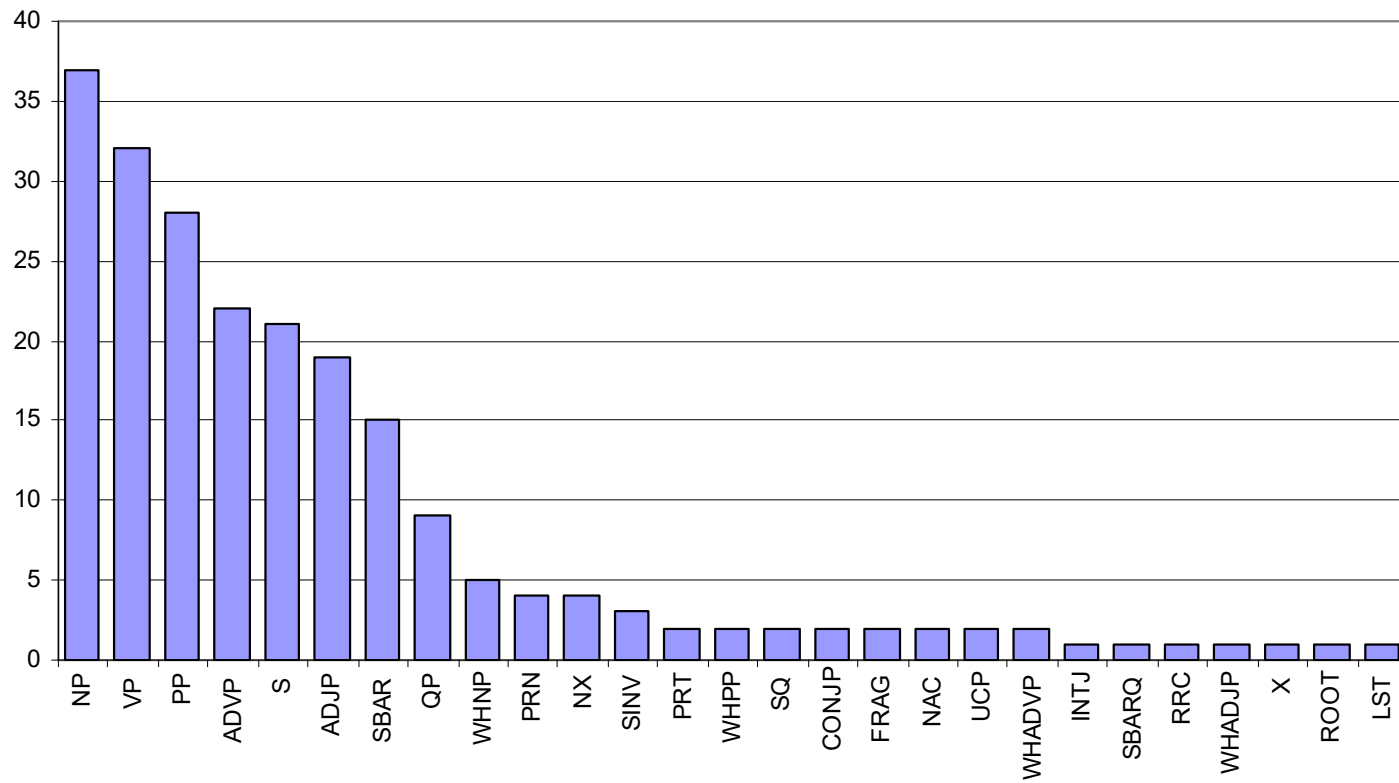
# Adaptive Splitting Results



<i>Model</i>	<i>F1</i>
Previous	88.4
With 50% Merging	89.5

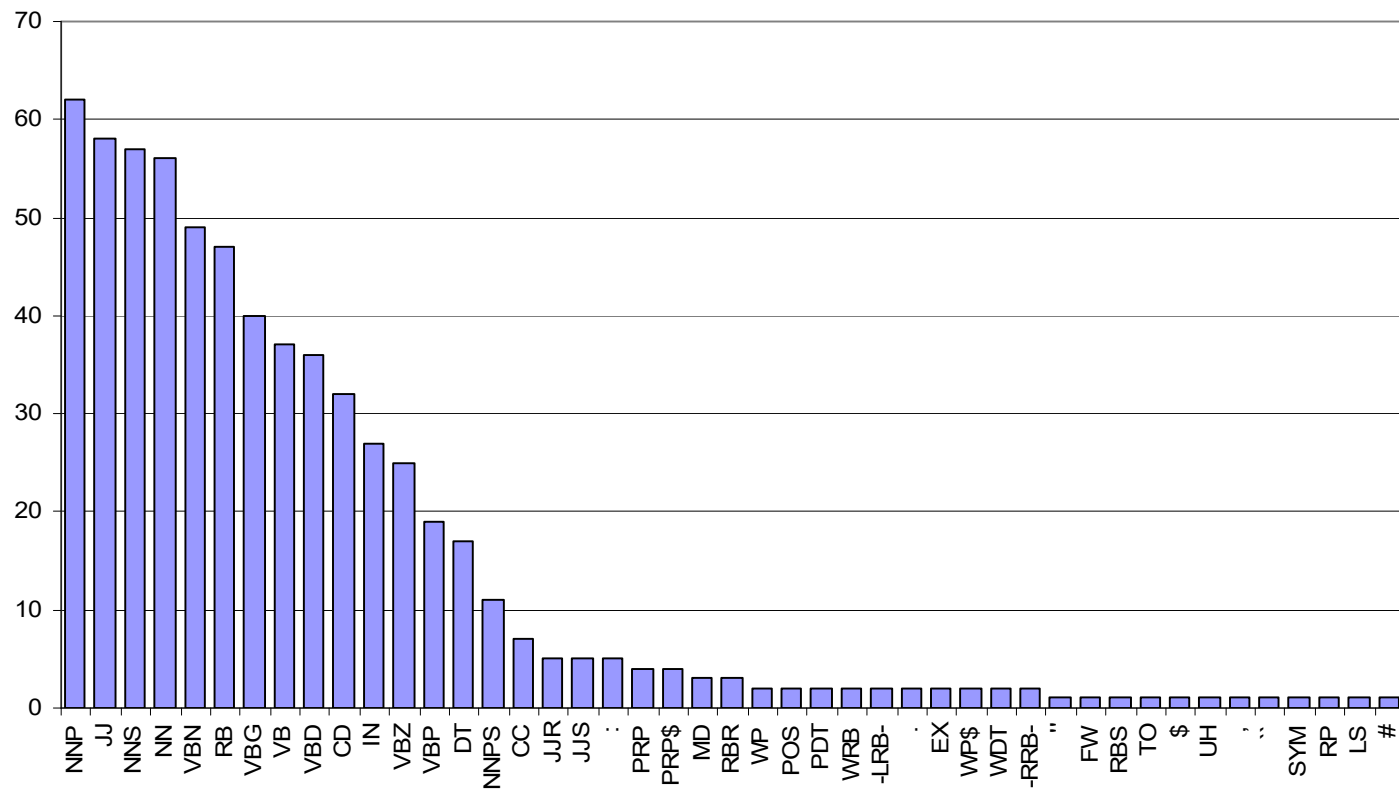


# Number of Phrasal Subcategories





# Number of Lexical Subcategories





# Learned Splits

---

- Proper Nouns (NNP):

NNP-14	Oct.	Nov.	Sept.
NNP-12	John	Robert	James
NNP-2	J.	E.	L.
NNP-1	Bush	Noriega	Peters
NNP-15	New	San	Wall
NNP-3	York	Francisco	Street

- Personal pronouns (PRP):

PRP-0	It	He	I
PRP-1	it	he	they
PRP-2	it	them	him



# Learned Splits

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- Relative adverbs (RBR):

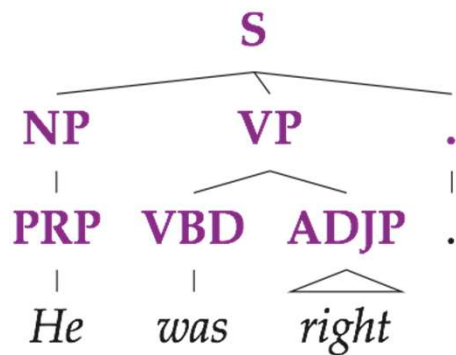
RBR-0	further	lower	higher
RBR-1	more	less	More
RBR-2	earlier	Earlier	later

- Cardinal Numbers (CD):

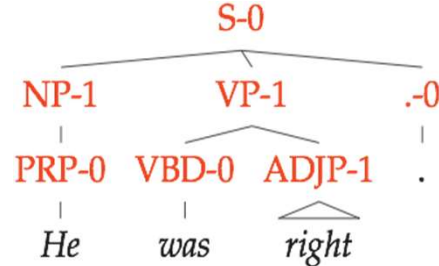
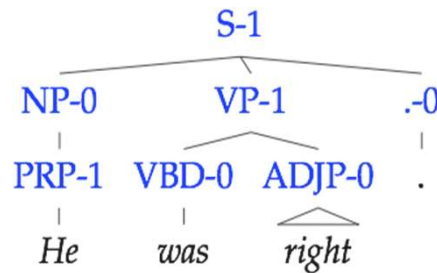
CD-7	one	two	Three
CD-4	1989	1990	1988
CD-11	million	billion	trillion
CD-0	1	50	100
CD-3	1	30	31
CD-9	78	58	34



# Latent Variable Grammars



Parse Tree  $T$   
Sentence  $w$



Derivations  $t : T$



Grammar G		
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_0$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_0$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_1$	?	
$S_0 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_1$	?	
$S_1 \rightarrow NP_0 VP_0$	?	
...		
$S_1 \rightarrow NP_1 VP_1$	?	
...		
$NP_0 \rightarrow PRP_0$	?	
$NP_0 \rightarrow PRP_1$	?	
...		

Lexicon		
$PRP_0 \rightarrow She$	?	
$PRP_1 \rightarrow She$	?	
...		
$VBD_0 \rightarrow was$	?	
$VBD_1 \rightarrow was$	?	
$VBD_2 \rightarrow was$	?	
...		

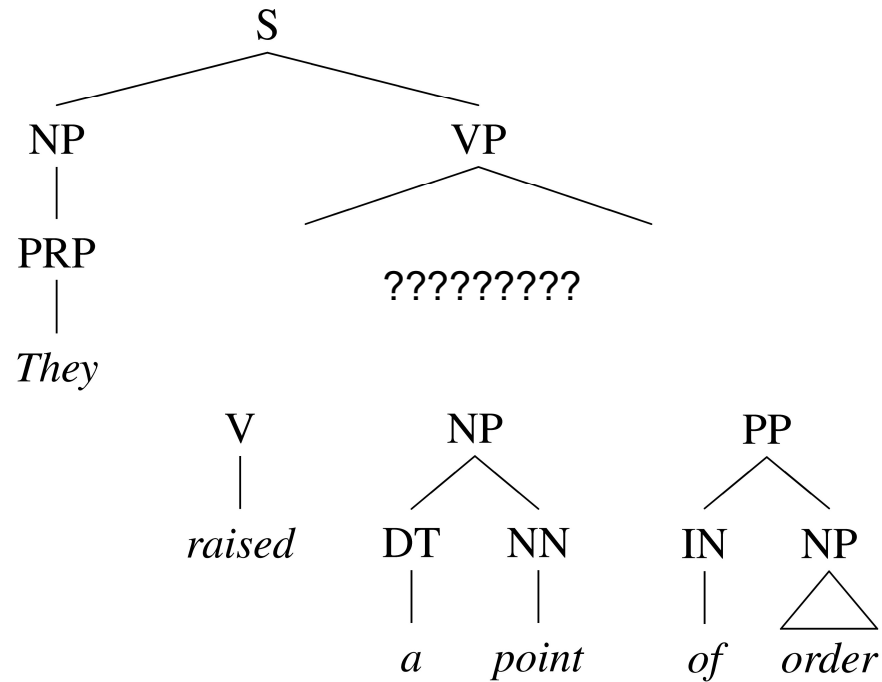
Parameters  $\theta$





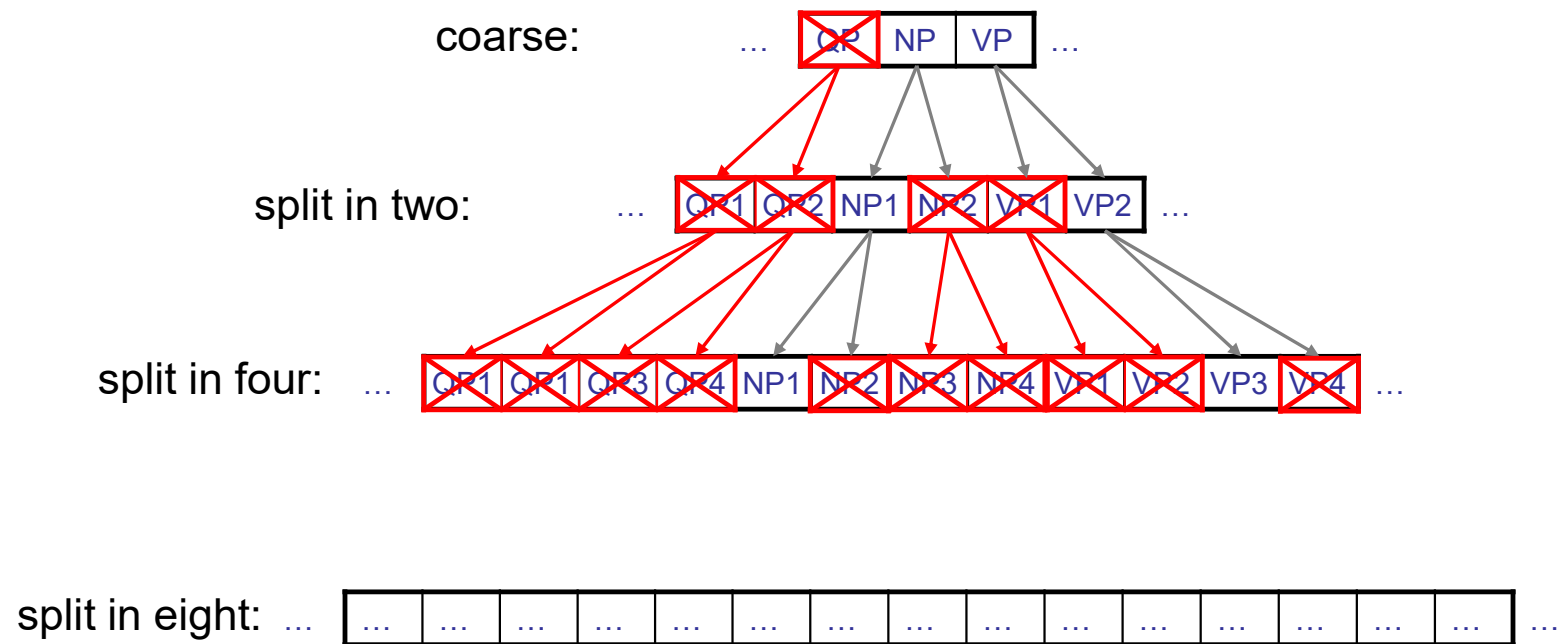
# Coarse-to-Fine Inference

- Example: PP attachment



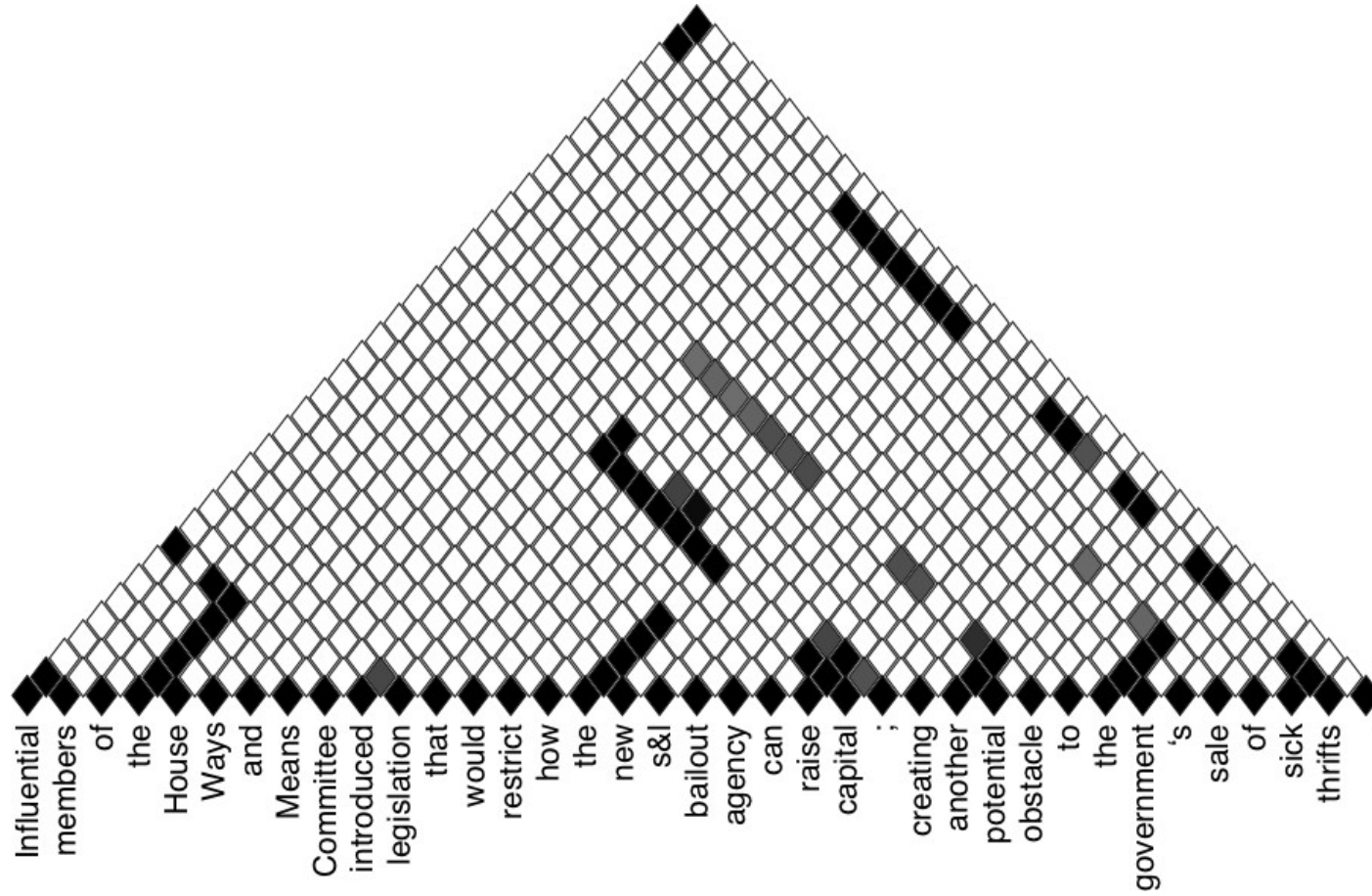


# Hierarchical Pruning





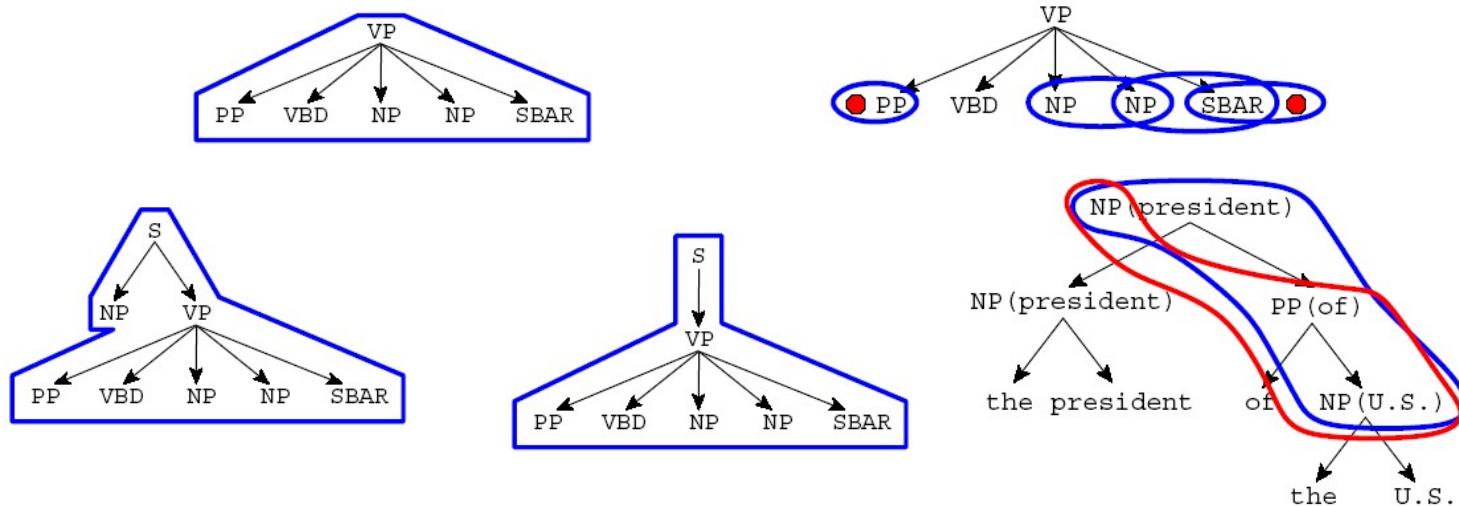
# Bracket Posteriors





# Parse Reranking

- Assume the number of parses is very small
- We can represent each parse  $T$  as a feature vector  $\phi(T)$ 
  - Typically, all local rules are features
  - Also non-local features, like how right-branching the overall tree is
  - [Charniak and Johnson 05] gives a rich set of features



# Natural Language Processing



## Syntax and Parsing

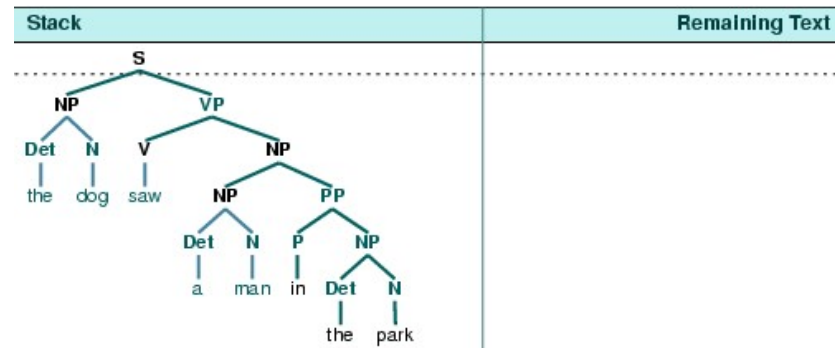
Dan Klein – UC Berkeley

# Other Syntactic Models



# Shift-Reduce Parsers

- Another way to derive a tree:

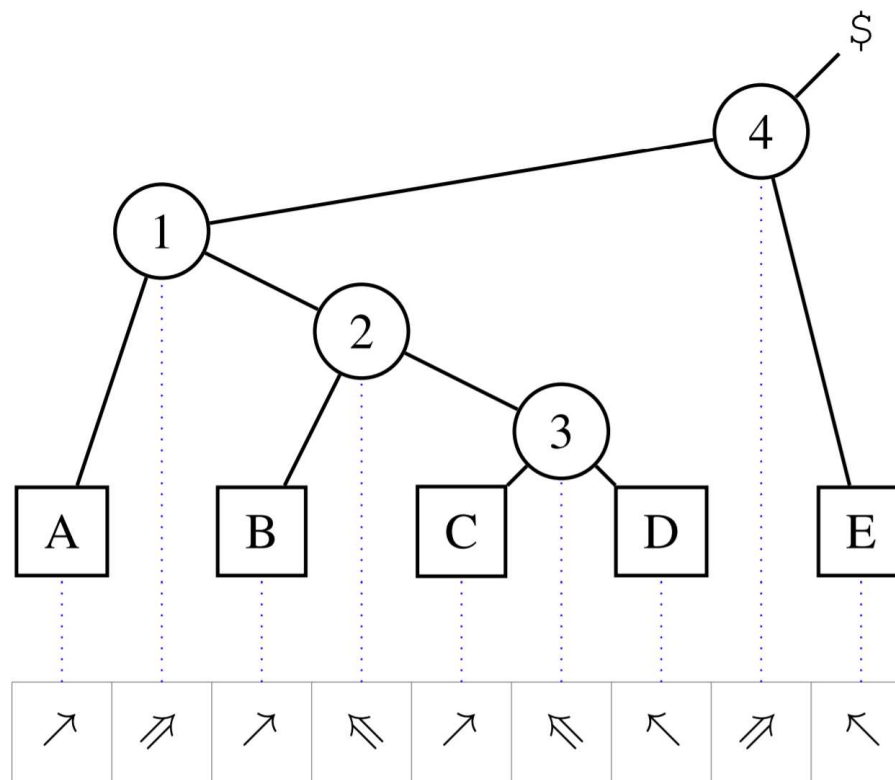


- Parsing
  - No useful dynamic programming search
  - Can still use beam search [Ratnaparkhi 97]



# Other Transformations

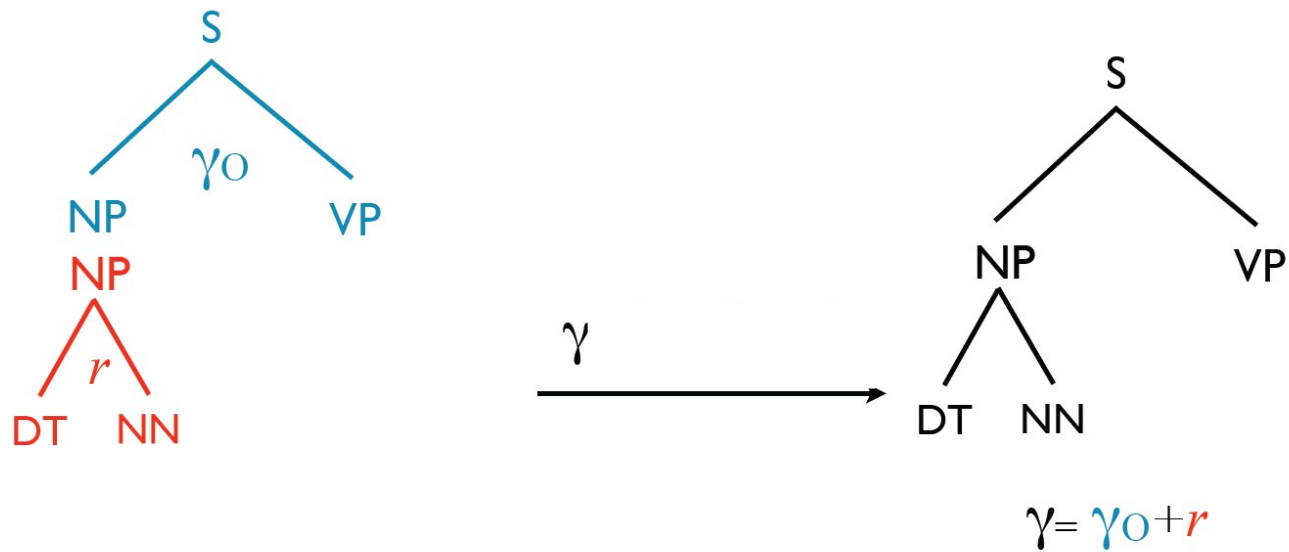
- Example: Left-Corner Transforms, Tetra-Tags







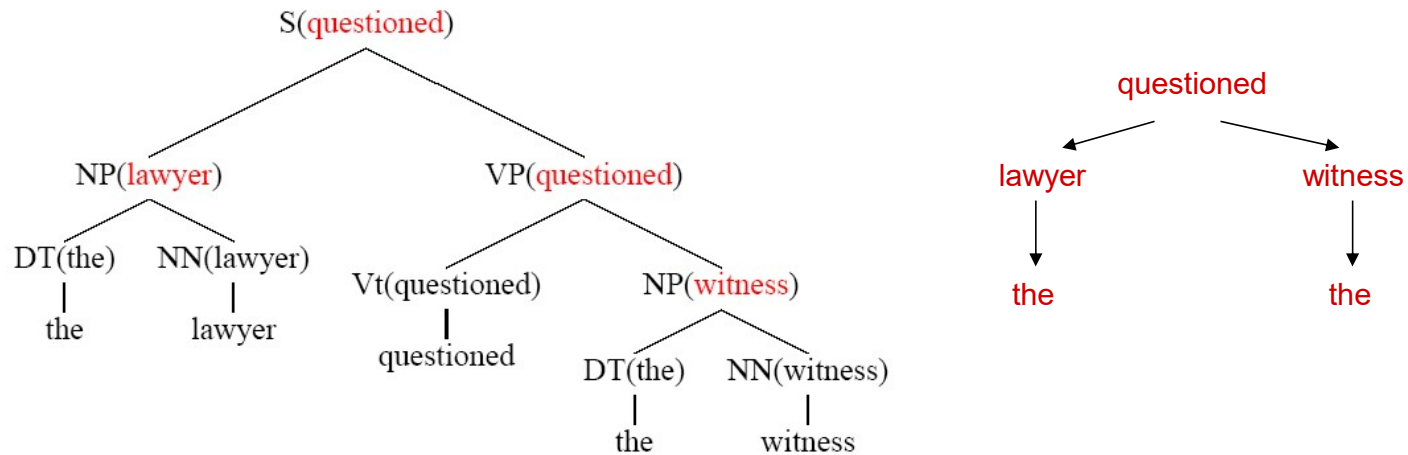
# K-Best Parsing





# Dependency Parsing

- Lexicalized parsers can be seen as producing *dependency trees*

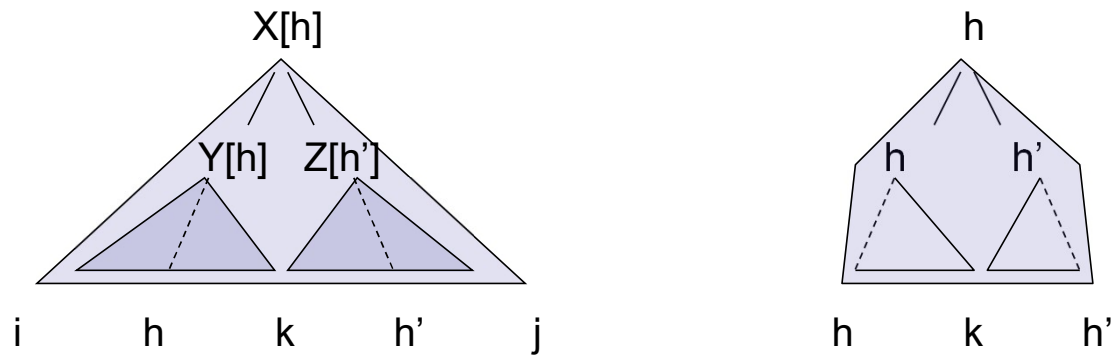


- Each local binary tree corresponds to an attachment in the dependency graph



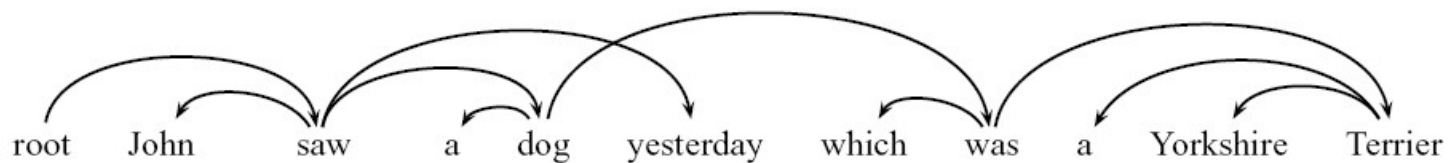
# Dependency Parsing

- Pure dependency parsing is only cubic [Eisner 99]



- Some work on *non-projective* dependencies

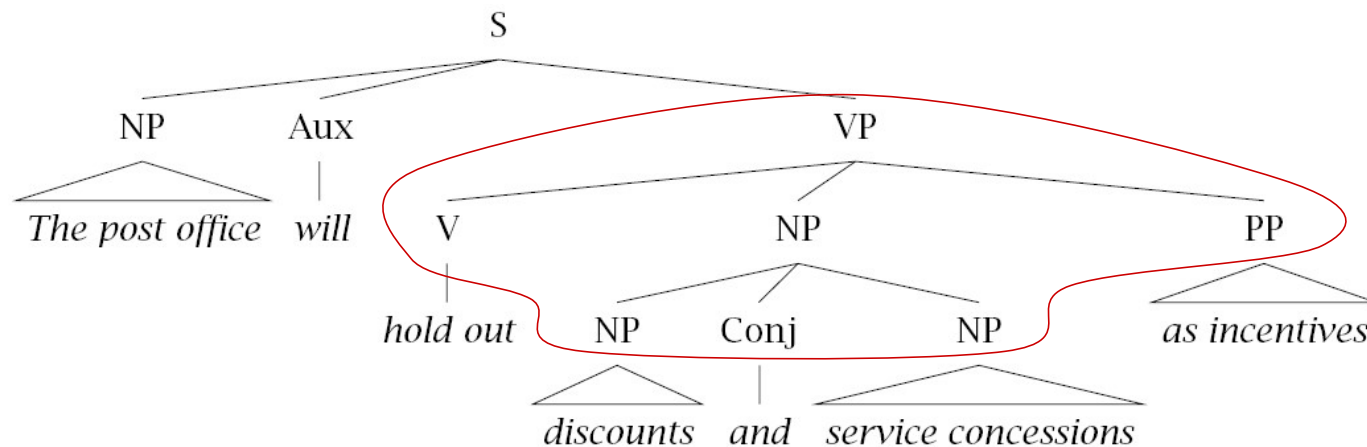
- Common in, e.g. Czech parsing
- Can do with MST algorithms [McDonald and Pereira 05]





# Data-oriented parsing:

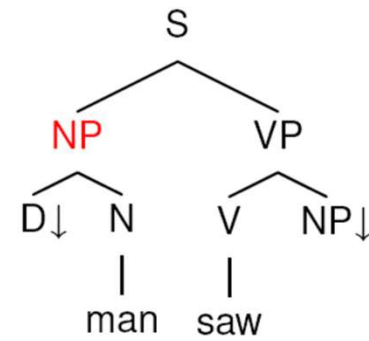
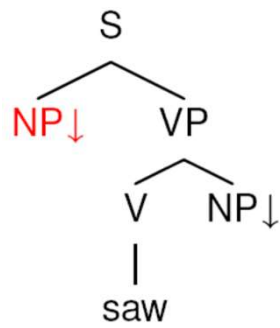
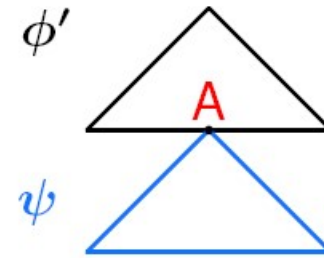
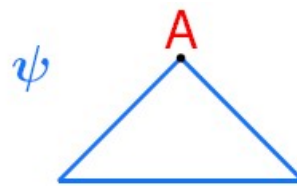
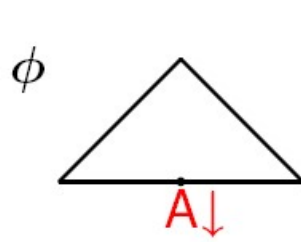
- Rewrite large (possibly lexicalized) subtrees in a single step



- Formally, a *tree-insertion grammar*
- Derivational ambiguity whether subtrees were generated atomically or compositionally
- Most probable *parse* is NP-complete



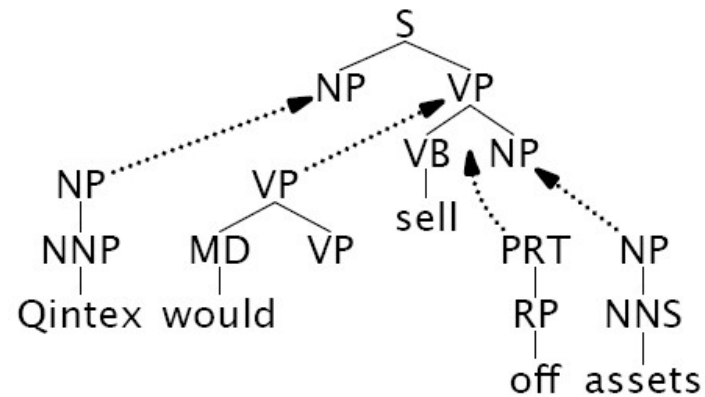
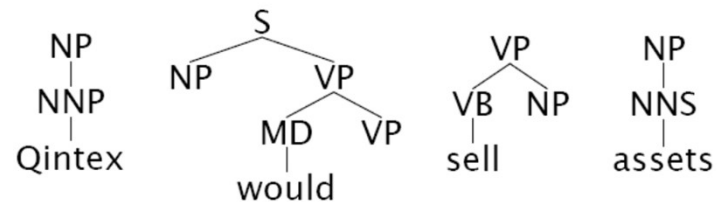
# TIG: Insertion





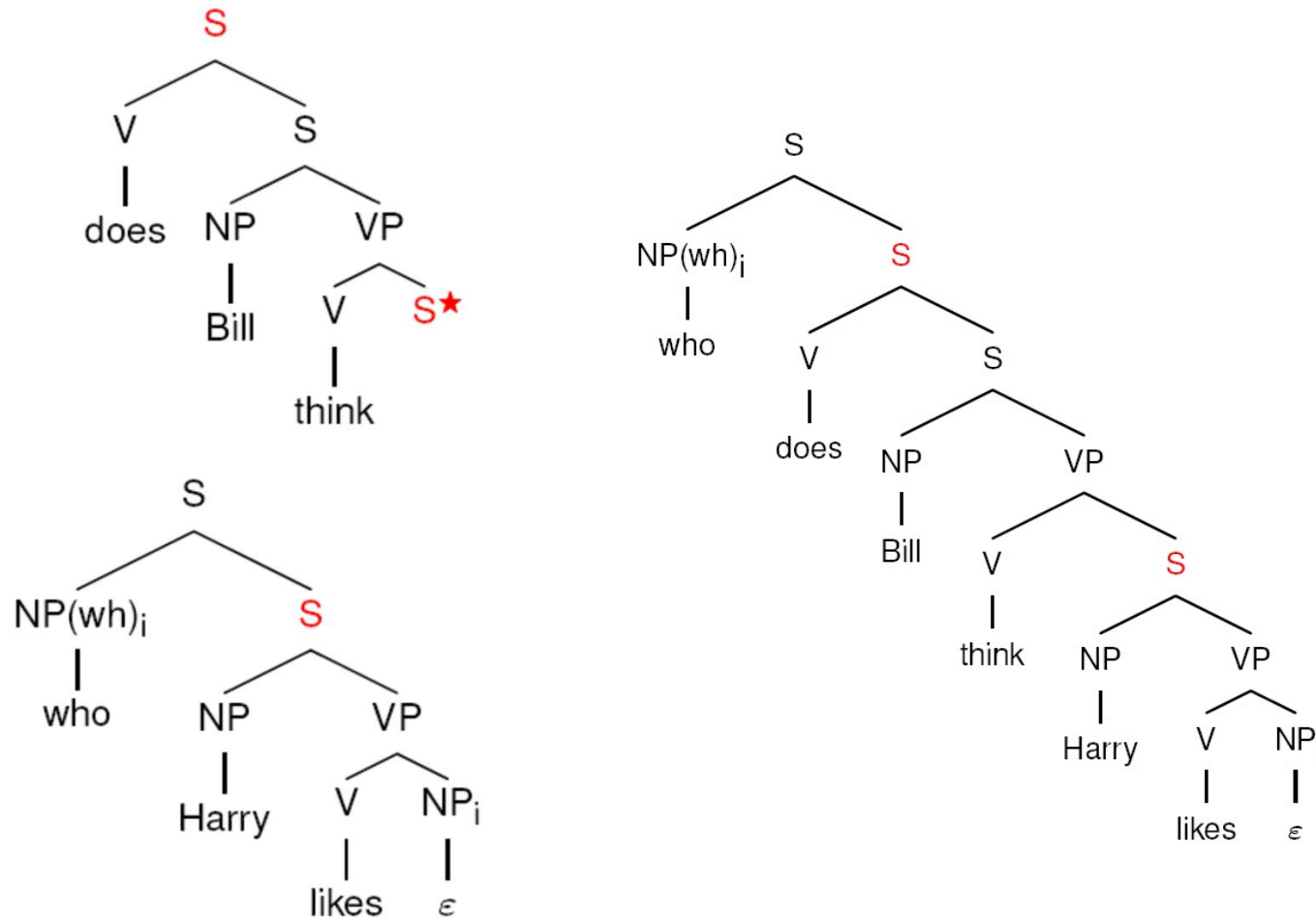
# Tree-adjoining grammars

- Start with *local trees*
- Can insert structure with *adjunction* operators
- Mildly context-sensitive
- Models long-distance dependencies naturally
- ... as well as other weird stuff that CFGs don't capture well (e.g. cross-serial dependencies)





# TAG: Long Distance





# CCG Parsing

- **Combinatory  
Categorial Grammar**
  - Fully (mono-)lexicalized grammar
  - Categories encode argument sequences
  - Very closely related to the lambda calculus (more later)
  - Can have spurious ambiguities (why?)

*John*  $\vdash$  NP

*shares*  $\vdash$  NP

*buys*  $\vdash$  (S\NP)/NP

*sleeps*  $\vdash$  S\NP

*well*  $\vdash$  (S\NP)\(S\NP)

