

## Admin

Assignment 3

Quiz \#1

- High: 36
- Average: 33 (92\%)
$\square$ Median: 33.5 (93\%)
$\square$ Next one will probably be a bit harder $)$


## Parsing

Parsing is the field of NLP interested in automatically determining the syntactic structure of a sentence
parsing can also be thought of as determining what sentences are "valid" English sentences

## Parsing

We have a grammar, determine the possible parse tree(s)

Let's start with parsing with a CFG (no probabilities)

| s | $\rightarrow$ NP VP | I eat sushi with tuna |
| :---: | :---: | :---: |
| NP | $\rightarrow$ PRP |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ NPP |  |
| VP | $\rightarrow$ VNP |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ VNPPP |  |
|  | $\rightarrow \mathbb{N N}$ | approaches? |
|  | $\xrightarrow{\rightarrow}$ 1 | algorithms? |
| N | $\xrightarrow{\rightarrow}{ }_{\text {eat }}^{\text {eat }}$ |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ tuna |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ with |  |




Top Down Parsing











| Why is parsing hard? |
| :--- |
| Actual grammars are large |
| Lots of ambiguity! |
| - Most sentences have many parses <br> - Some sentences have a lot of parses <br> often ambiguity for subtrees (i.e. multiple ways to parse <br> a phrase) |



Why is parsing hard?

I saw the man on the hill with the telescope

What are some interpretations?

## Dynamic Programming Parsing

To avoid extensive repeated work you must cache intermediate results, specifically found constituents

Caching (memoizing) is critical to obtaining a polynomial time parsing (recognition) algorithm for CFGs

Dynamic programming algorithms based on both topdown and bottom-up search can achieve $O\left(n^{3}\right)$ recognition time where $n$ is the length of the input string.
Dynamic Programming Parsing Methods
CKY (Cocke-Kasami-Younger) algorithm based on
bottom-up parsing and requires first normalizing the
grammar.
Earley parser is based on top-down parsing and does
not require normalizing grammar but is more complex.
These both fall under the general category of chart
parsers which retain completed constituents in a chart





## CKY parser: the chart





## CKY parser: the chart







CKY: some things to talk about

After we fill in the chart, how do we know if there is a parse?

- If there is an $\mathbf{S}$ in the upper right corner

What if we want an actual tree/parse?




| A Simple PCFG |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Probabilities! |  |  |  |  |  |  |  |
|  | $\rightarrow$ | NP VP | 1.0 |  | $\rightarrow$ | NP PP | 0.4 |
|  | $\rightarrow$ | V NP | 0.7 | NP | $\rightarrow$ | astronomers | 0.1 |
|  | $\rightarrow$ | VP PP | 0.3 | NP | $\rightarrow$ | ears | 0.18 |
| PP | $\rightarrow$ | P NP | 1.0 | NP | $\rightarrow$ |  | 0.04 |
|  | $\rightarrow$ | with | 1.0 | NP | $\rightarrow$ | stars | 0.18 |
|  | $\rightarrow$ |  | 1.0 |  | $\rightarrow$ | telescope | 0.1 |

## Parsing with PCFGs

How does this change our CKY algorithm? $\square$ We need to keep track of the probability of a constituent

How do we calculate the probability of a constituent?
$\square$ Product of the PCFG rule times the product of the probabilities of the sub-constituents (right hand sides)
$\square$ Building up the product from the bottom-up

What if there are multiple ways of deriving a particular constituent?

- max: pick the most likely derivation of that constituent


Probabilistic CKY

Include in each cell a probability for each non-terminal

Cell[i,i] must retain the most probable derivation of each constituent (non-terminal) covering words $i$ through $j$

When transforming the grammar to CNF, must set production probabilities to preserve the probability of derivations


| Probabilistic CKY Parser |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Book | th | flight | through | Houston |
|  | None |  |  |  |
|  | Det. 6 |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |  |
| NP $\rightarrow$ Det Nominal |  |  |  |  |
| What is the probability of the NP? |  |  |  |  |





## Generic PCFG Limitations

PCFGs do not rely on specific words or concepts, only general structural disambiguation is possible (e.g. prefer to attach PPs to Nominals)
$\square$ Generic PCFGs cannot resolve syntactic ambiguities that require semantics to resolve, e.g. ate with fork vs. meatballs

Smoothing/dealing with out of vocabulary

MLE estimates are not always the best

