Stochastic Parsing

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Today's lecture

1. Probabilistic parsing
   - Probabilistic CKY
2. Homework 3

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Deterministic parsing

Using deterministic methods, it's difficult to tell which parses are correct.

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Strategy: prune search space by eliminating suboptimal or improbable ones

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Strategy: prune search space by eliminating suboptimal or improbable ones

Use a PCFG to guide the pruning process; chose the best parse, or n best parses.

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CKY vs. Prob-CKY

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- All possible structures for a given span of input; in other words, all possible syntactic interpretations for a given substring.
  ...(time flies)... can be a VP, S, NP, ...

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- All possible structures for a given span of input; in other words, all possible syntactic interpretations for a given substring.
  ...(time flies)... can be a VP, S, NP, ...
- What if we only need the most likely parse (or top 10 most likely parses) ?

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Probabilistic-CKY

function PROBABILISTIC-CKY(*words*, *grammar*) **returns** most probable *parse*, probability

for j $\leftarrow$ **from** 1 **to** LENGTH(*words*) **do**

for all $\{A|A \rightarrow words[j] \in grammar\}$

$table[j-1, j, A] \leftarrow P(A \rightarrow words[j])$

for $i \leftarrow$ **from** $j-2$ **downto** 0 **do**

for $k \leftarrow i+1$ **to** $j-1$ **do**

for all $\{A|A \rightarrow B\ \ C \in grammar,$

and $table[i,k,B] > 0$ and $table[k,j,C] > 0\}$

if $table[i,j,A] < P(A \rightarrow B\ C) \times table[i,k,B] \times table[k,j,C])$

$table[i,j,A] \leftarrow P(A \rightarrow B\ C) \times table[i,k,B] \times table[k,j,C])$

$back[i,j,A] \leftarrow \{k, B, C\}$

return BUILD_TREE($back$[1,LENGTH(*words*), S]), $table$[1,LENGTH(*words*), S]

See pcky_eg.pdf.

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1. work with a real PCFG
2. build a probabistic parser (CKY)
3. evaluate the results

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$$\mathrm{P}(\textit{Hw3 is easy.}) = 0.0000001$$
$$\mathrm{P}(\textit{Hw3 is hard.}) = 0.004$$

Parsing: dev/train/test paradigm

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4. **gold standard**: annotated version of test data, with no errors (hidden till parser is developed)