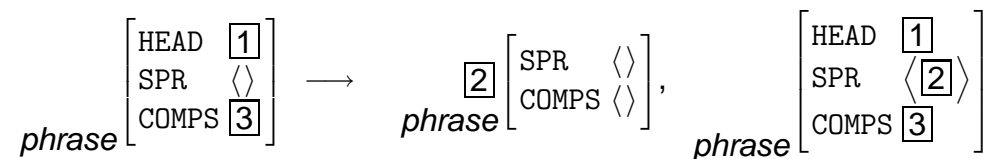


Computational Linguistics (INF2820 — Beyond CFGs)



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INF2880 — What We Are About to Do (and Why)

Course Outline

- Extend understanding of (natural) language as a system of rules;
- learn how to *formalize* grammars through typed feature structures;
- solve practical exercises: immediate gratification (risk of late hours).

Three Interacting Components

- **formal syntax** learn and practice (basic) notions of formal syntactic theory; by and large framework-independent and common sense;
- **grammar engineering** formalize linguistic theories with complex interactions of multiple phenomena; implementation and debugging;
- **processing** understand standard parsing algorithms; unification of typed feature structures; fundamentals of unification-based parsing.



Grammar Engineering from a CS Perspective

Implementation Goals

- Translate linguistic analysis into computational formalism: formal model;
- computational grammar provides mapping between form and meaning;
- assign correct analyses to grammatical, reject ungrammatical inputs;
- parsing and generation algorithms: apply mapping in either direction.

Analogy to (Object-Oriented) Programming

- Computational system with observable behavior: immediately testable;
- typed feature structures as a specialized (OO) programming language;
- make sure that all the pieces fit together; revise – test – revise – test ...



Comments on Background Literature

Natural Language Processing and Computational Grammar

- (1) Jurafsky, Daniel and Martin, James H.: *Speech and Language Processing. An Introduction to Natural Language Processing, Computational Linguistics, and Speech Recognition (2nd Edition)*. Upper Saddle River, NJ: Prentice Hall (2008).
- (2) Sag, Ivan A. Tom Wasow, and Emily M. Bender: *Syntactic Theory. A Formal Introduction (2nd Edition)*. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications (2003);
- (3) Copestake, Ann: *Implementing Typed Feature Structure Grammars*. Stanford, CA: CSLI Publications (2001).

Selected chapters from (2) and (3) are available as a 'course pack' (*kompendium*) from Akademika; in store starting Thursday, March 17.



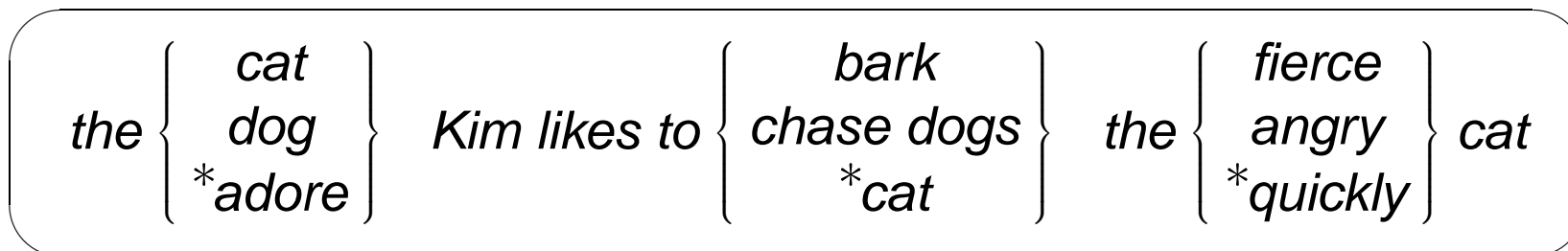
Course Logistics Ahead of Us (And a Moral Appeal)



Recap: How to Define Grammatical Categories

Word Classes or Parts of Speech (PoS)

<i>cat, dog, neighbours, ...</i>	noun (N)
<i>adore, barks, chased, was, ...</i>	verb (V)
<i>fierce, angry, black, young, ...</i>	adjective (A)
<i>quickly, probably, not, ...</i>	adverb (Adv)
<i>a, the, my, that, ...</i>	determiner (D)
<i>of, by, on, at, under, ...</i>	preposition (P)
<i>she, mine, those, what, ...</i>	pronoun (Pron)
<i>and, neither ... nor, because, ...</i>	conjunction (C)



Recap: More Grammatical Categories

Number — Person — Case — Gender

*That dog barks. — Those dogs bark.
I bark. — You bark. — They bark. — Sam shaved himself.
We bark. — You bark. — Those dogs bark.
I saw her. — She saw me. — My dog barked.*

...

Tense — Aspect — Mood

*The dog barks. — The dog barked — The dog will bark.
The dog has barked. — The dog is barking.
If I were a carpenter, ...*

...



Limitations of (Our) Context-Free Grammars

Agreement and Valency (For Example)

That dog barks.

**That dogs barks.*

**Those dogs barks.*

The dog chased a cat.

**The dog barked a cat.*

**The dog chased.*

**The dog chased a cat my neighbours.*

The cat was chased by a dog.

**The cat was chased of a dog.*

...



Agreement and Valency in Context-Free Grammars



Structured Categories in a Unification Grammar

- All categories in the grammar are (typed) feature structures (aka TFSs);
- specific TFS configurations may correspond to ‘traditional’ categories;
→ labels like ‘S’ or ‘NP’ are mere abbreviations, not elements of the theory.

$$\text{word} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{HEAD } \textit{noun} \\ \text{SPR } \langle \langle \text{HEAD } \textit{det} \rangle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS } \langle \rangle \end{array} \right]$$

‘N’

‘lexical’

$$\text{phrase} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{HEAD } \textit{verb} \\ \text{SPR } \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS } \langle \rangle \end{array} \right]$$

‘S’

‘maximal’

$$\text{phrase} \left[\begin{array}{l} \text{HEAD } \textit{verb} \\ \text{SPR } \langle \langle \text{HEAD } \textit{noun} \rangle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS } \langle \rangle \end{array} \right]$$

‘VP’

‘intermediate’



Preliminary Words on Specifiers and Complements



Interaction of Lexicon and Phrase Structure Schemata

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \boxed{1} \\ \text{SPR} & \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \boxed{3} \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \boxed{2} \begin{bmatrix} \text{SPR} & \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \boxed{1} \\ \text{SPR} & \langle \boxed{2} \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \boxed{3} \end{bmatrix}$$

$$\begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \textit{noun} \\ \text{SPR} & \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \textit{Kim} \quad \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \textit{verb} \\ \text{SPR} & \left\langle \begin{bmatrix} \text{HEAD} & \textit{noun} \\ \text{SPR} & \langle \rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \right\rangle \\ \text{COMPS} & \langle \rangle \end{bmatrix} \longrightarrow \textit{sleeps}$$

