

# Morphological Analysis

## Context-Free Grammars

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unless otherwise stated

## Warning

- We are going to observe a number of reasons why **pure** CFGs are **not** very suitable for MA
- Nevertheless we are going to study them because:
  - Extensions such as unification grammars (see later) are much more suitable
  - CFGs are also used to describe sentence structure (syntax)
  - The chart parsing algorithm is interesting enough and we would be looking at it anyway, sooner or later

# Context-Free Grammars

- Quadruple  $(T, N, S, P)$ 
  - $T$  ... alphabet of **terminal** symbols, usually lowercase letters
  - $N$  ... alphabet of **non-terminal** symbols, usually uppercase letters
  - $S \in N$  ... starting non-terminal symbol
  - $P$  ... set of rewrite rules of the form  $X \rightarrow \xi$  where  $X \in N$  and  $\xi \in (T \cup N)^*$
- A string can be **derived** in a CFG if it can be created by repeated application of the rules on the start symbol



## Morphological Example

- The first step towards a context-free description of the structure of Czech words could roughly look like this
- Non-terminals start with uppercase, terminals with lowercase
  - Word  $\rightarrow$  Comparison Negation Stem Suffix | Stem Suffix
  - Comparison  $\rightarrow$  *nej*
  - Negation  $\rightarrow$  *ne*
  - Stem  $\rightarrow$  *abatyš* | *abbé* | *abdikac* | *abdikov* | ...
  - Suffix  $\rightarrow$   $\lambda$  | *a* | *ovi* | *e* | *em* | *y* | *u* | *o* | *ou* | ...
- Distinguish stems that permit concrete groups of affixes
- Solve irregularities, alternations of stem-final consonants, ...
- Problem: The grammar would be too large!



## Example Czech Paradigms: *žena* “woman”, *matka* “mother”

- *žena* – *ženy* (sg. – pl.)
- *ženy* – *žen*
- *ženě* – *ženám*
- *ženu* – *ženy*
- *ženo* – *ženy*
- *ženě* – *ženách*
- *ženou* – *ženami*
- *matka* – *matky* (nom)
- *matky* – *matek* (gen)
- *matce* – *matkám* (dat)
- *matku* – *matky* (acc)
- *matko* – *matky* (voc)
- *matce* – *matkách* (loc)
- *matkou* – *matkami* (ins)



# Morphology and CFG: Too Many Paradigms

- *žena* “woman”
  - *žen* | *vlád* | *mát* | *láv* | ...
  - + *a* | *y* | *ě* | *u* | *o* | *ě* | *ou* |  
*y* | *λ* | *ám* | *y* | *y* | *ách* | *ami*
- *matka* “mother”
  - *mat* | *bab* | *vlaj* | ...
  - + *ka* | *ky* | *ce* | *ku* | *ko* | *ce* | *kou* |  
*ky* | *ek* | *kám* | *ky* | *ky* | *kách* | *kami*
- *banka* “bank”
  - *ban* | ...
  - + *ka* | *ky* | *ce* | *ku* | *ko* | *ce* | *kou* |  
*ky* | *k* | *kám* | *ky* | *ky* | *kách* | *kami*

Traditional school grammars of Czech assign all these words to the paradigm *žena* “woman”



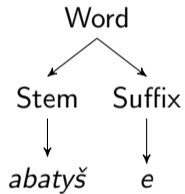
## Morphology and CFG: Too Many Paradigms

- *barva* “color”
  - *bar* | *lar* | *kur* | ... | *bit* | *pit* | ...
  - + *va* | *vy* | *vě* | *vu* | *vo* | *vě* | *vou* |  
*vy* | *ev* | *vám* | *vy* | *vy* | *vách* | *vami*
- *tráva* “grass”
  - *tr* | *kr* | *šť* | ... (but not e.g. *k*!)
  - + *áva* | *ávy* | *ávě* | *ávu* | *ávo* | *ávě* | *ávou* |  
*ávy* | *av* | *ávám* | *ávy* | *ávy* | *ávách* | *ávami*
- *louka* “meadow”
  - *l* | *m* | ... (but not e.g. *prv*, *mrav*!)
  - + *ouka* | *ouky* | *ouce* | *ouku* | *ouko* | *ouce* | *oukou* |  
*ouky* | *uk* | *oukám* | *ouky* | *ouky* | *oukách* | *oukami*



# Example of a Derivation Tree

non-terminals



terminals





# Context-Free Generation

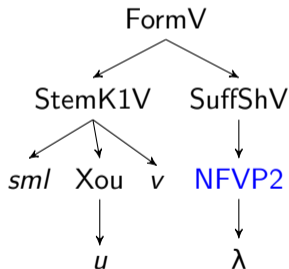
- Input:
  - `<l>matka<t>NNFS6-----A-----`
- Expected output:
  - `<f>matce`
- Grammar:
  - `FormMatka → StemMatka SuffMatka`
  - `StemMatka → mat | bab | vlaj | ...`
  - `SuffMatka → MatS1 | MatS2 | MatS3 | MatS4 | ...`
  - `MatS1 → ka ; MatS2 → ky ; MatS3 → ce ; MatS4 → ku ; ...`
  - `MatP1 → ky ; MatP2 → ek ; MatP3 → kám ; MatP4 → ky ; ...`

- Supplementary rule:
  - Names of some non-terminals **contain information** from morphological tags
  - In this particular case: the last two characters of non-terminals immediately under the non-terminal whose name begins with “Suff”
- In theory we could proceed like this:
  - First analyze the lemma *matka*. It will turn out that it consists of *mat* + **MatS1**
  - Replace by required **MatS6**



## The Result of the Analysis

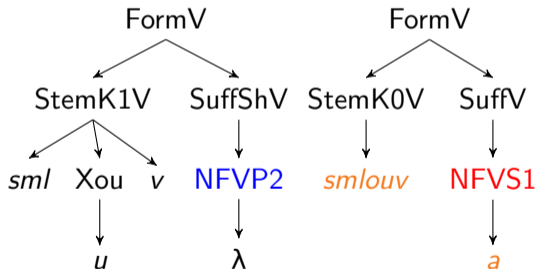
- After analysis, generate the base form (lemma; per definition it is S1). **FormV** refers to the correct paradigm





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# Context-Free Analysis and Generation

- Generation
  - Start with the start symbol
  - Choose a non-terminal in the current string. Choose a rule and rewrite the symbol.
    - When applicable, choose non-terminal by the supplementary rule
    - Sometimes (often!) we have to select one rule of many applicable
  - The string is complete if it contains only terminals

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- Analysis
  - Start with a string of terminal symbols (characters in word form)
  - Look for parts that can be replaced by non-terminals. Non-deterministic!
  - Goal: the start symbol



## Non-determinism

*nesu* “I carry”, *beru* “I take”, *mažu* “I grease”, *jdu* “I go”

- FormV13 → StemV13 SuffV13
- StemV13 → nes | ber | maž | jd | ...
- SuffV13 → V13PS1 | V13PS2 | V13PS3 | V13PP1 | V13PP2 | V13PP3
- V13PS1 → u ; V13PS2 → eš ; V13PS3 → e
- V13PP1 → eme | em ; V13PP2 → ete ; V13PP3 → ou

*nesou* (V13PS1)



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*nesou* (V13PP3)





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*nesouc* (converb)



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*nesoucí* (present active participle-adjective)



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*nesoucím* (dative plural of the participle-adjective)



## Non-determinism

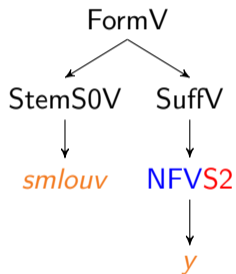
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*nesoucími* (instrumental plural of the participle-adjective)

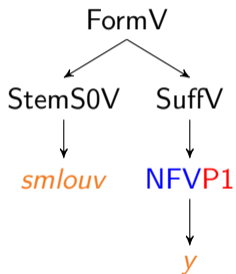


# Homonymy



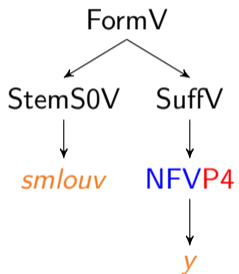


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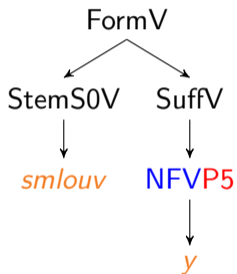


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- Bottom-up
  - Start with a sequence of terminals – the analyzed word

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- Bottom-up
  - Start with a sequence of terminals – the analyzed word
  - Collapse one non-terminal: search the analyzed string for the right-hand side of a rule, replace by the left-hand-side non-terminal



# Algorithm for Context-Free Analysis

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  - Start with a sequence of terminals – the analyzed word
  - Collapse one non-terminal: search the analyzed string for the right-hand side of a rule, replace by the left-hand-side non-terminal
  - Repeat until no rule found

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# Top-Down Analysis

- Somehow we must enforce heading to the terminal string being analyzed
- Solution: continuously check that the terminals in the current *state* correspond to a prefix of the string
- **State of the analysis:** string of terminals and non-terminals, a period delimits the checked (read) prefix

Analyzing the word *matce*

. **Form**

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . **Form**
- . **FormNFeka**

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka





## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
- . **bár** SuffNFeka



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
- . **bud** SuffNFeka



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
- . ... SuffNFeka



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
- . **mat** SuffNFeka

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
  - . FormNFeka
  - . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
  - . mat SuffNFeka
- mat . SuffNFeka



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
  - . FormNFeka
  - . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
  - . mat SuffNFeka
- mat . SuffNFeka
- mat . NFekaS1



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . Form
- . FormNFeka
- . StemNFeka SuffNFeka
- . mat SuffNFeka
- mat . SuffNFeka
- mat . NFekaS1
- mat . **ka**



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

```
. Form
. FormNFeka
. StemNFeka SuffNFeka
. mat SuffNFeka
mat . SuffNFeka
mat . NFekaS1
mat . ka
mat . NFekaS2
```





## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

```
. Form
. FormNFeka
. StemNFeka SuffNFeka
. mat SuffNFeka
mat . SuffNFeka
mat . NFekaS1
mat . ka
mat . NFekaS2
mat . ky
```



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

```
. Form
. FormNFeka
. StemNFeka SuffNFeka
. mat SuffNFeka
mat . SuffNFeka
mat . NFekaS1
mat . ka
mat . NFekaS2
mat . ky
mat . NFekaS3
```



## Example of Top-Down Analysis

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. Form
. FormNFeka
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mat . ka
mat . NFekaS2
mat . ky
mat . NFekaS3
mat . ce
```



## Example of Top-Down Analysis


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. FormNFeka
. StemNFeka SuffNFeka
. mat SuffNFeka
mat . SuffNFeka
mat . NFekaS1
mat . ka
mat . NFekaS2
mat . ky
mat . NFekaS3
mat . ce
matce . ☺
```

## An Observation about the Lexicon


- In practice the lexicon should be separated and implemented more effectively
- The last non-terminal above the lexicon is so-called **pre-terminal**
- It knows the list of strings belonging to it and it can search the strings **quickly**
- Implementation: hash table, search tree, trie...

# An Observation about (Left) Recursion

-  cs: iteratives: *dělat – dělávat – dělávávat – dělávávávat – dělávávávávat...*
- Form  $\rightarrow$  FormV5
- FormV5  $\rightarrow$  StemV5 **Iter** SuffV5 | StemV5 SuffV5
- StemV5  $\rightarrow$  děl | lét | ...
- SuffV5  $\rightarrow$  V5INF | V5PS1 | V5PS2 | ...
- **Iter**  $\rightarrow$  **Iter** áv | áv
- V5INF  $\rightarrow$  at | ati ; V5PS1  $\rightarrow$  ám ; V5PS2  $\rightarrow$  áš


. Form

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. FormV5


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. StemV5 Iter SuffV5




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- **Iter** → **Iter** *áv* | *áv*
- V5INF → at | ati ; V5PS1 → ám ; V5PS2 → áš


. děl Iter SuffV5

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děl . Iter SuffV5

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děl . Iter áv SuffV5

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děl . Iter áv áv áv áv SuffV5 ☹

# Recursion and Infinite-Loop Prevention

- Convert the grammar to a non-left-recursive one
- Make sure that the recurrent rules are not used until necessary
- If there are more than one recurrent rule, try all combinations
- There is a finite number of combinations—the recursion of any rule can be stopped once the number of symbols is greater than the number of input terminals
  
- Ban left recursion, permit right recursion  
(`Iter`  $\rightarrow$  `áv` | `áv Iter`)
- Perform bottom-up analysis



## Example of Bottom-Up Analysis

Analyzing the word *matce*

. matce



Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce
- . **SuffNNí** atce

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce
- . **SuffNNí** atce
- . NFaD7 tce

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce
- . SuffNNí atce
- . NFaD7 tce
- . SuffNFa tce

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce
- . **SuffNNí** atce
- . NFaD7 tce
- . **SuffNFa** tce
- . **StemNFeka** ce

Analyzing the word *matce*

- . matce
- . NNíS7 atce
- . **SuffNNí** atce
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StemNFeka SuffNFeka .  
FormNFeka .
```

Analyzing the word *matce*

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StemNFeka . ce

StemNFeka . NFekaS3

StemNFeka . SuffNFeka

StemNFeka SuffNFeka .

FormNFeka .

Form .



## How to Remember Alternate Paths

- In case of crash we must return to the last fork where more rules were available
- So we must remember the forks
- Possibility: **stack of alternate states**
- At fork, don't just generate one new state. Generate **all** possible continuations. Store them on a stack
- Pick the top state from the stack, make it the current state, go on with it
- In case of crash discard the state and pick the next one from the stack

# Context-Free Analysis as a Path Searching Problem

- The analysis can be viewed as finding a path in a tree of possibilities from the root to the leaves
- **Depth-first search:** the list of possibilities is a stack (**LIFO**)
- **Breadth-first search:** the list of possibilities is a queue (**FIFO**)
  
- Breadth-first search requires more memory for alternate states but it faces fewer recursion-related problems

# The Bottom-Up Algorithm

- Pick the next state from the stack (queue) and make it the current state

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- Consider all substrings of the current state that end at the period
  - Compare them to the right-hand sides of all rules
  - For every match generate a new state:
    - Detected right-hand side is replaced with left-hand side of the given rule
    - The rest of the state is identical to the current state
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    - Detected right-hand side is replaced with left-hand side of the given rule
    - The rest of the state is identical to the current state
  - Put the newly generated state on the stack
- Finally generate a state with shifted period
  - Only difference from current state: period shifted 1 symbol to the right
  - Put the new state on the stack



# Example of Bottom-Up Analysis Including the Stack

## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

$B \rightarrow b \mid ab$

**Current State**

. a b c d b c

**Stack**

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## Stack

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a b C . d b c

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a b c D .

## Stack

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a b C . d b c

B . c d b c

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$B . c d b c$

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$S \rightarrow C D$

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a b c D b . c

a b C . d b c

B . c d b c

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## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

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## Current State

a b c D b . c

## Stack

a b C . d b c

B . c d b c

a B . c d b c

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## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

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$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

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## Current State

a b c D b . c

## Stack

a b c D b c .

a b c D **B** . c

a b C . d b c

B . c d b c

a B . c d b c

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## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

$B \rightarrow b \mid ab$

## Current State

a b c d b . c

a b c D b . c

...

a b C d b . c

B c d b . c

a B c d b . c

## Stack

a b c D b c .

a b c D **B** . c

a b C . d b c

B . c d b c

a B . c d b c

...  
The same right-hand side is recognized at the same position over and over!

# Computational Complexity

- Described algorithm is **exponential** (all paths in a tree must be considered)
  - Problem: The same right-hand side is repeatedly compared and recognized at the same position
- There is a **polynomial** algorithm: CYK, *chart parser*



- *Chart* [ča:t] = „přehled, diagram“
  - The principal data structure in the parser
  - It remembers **what** right-hand sides have been recognized and **where**
- A note on Czech terminology: *chart parser* could in theory be translated as *analýza s přehledem* but in practice the original English term is used
- Chart parsing is a special case of **dynamic programming**

# Do Not Look for All Combinations. Store Each Constituent Separately!

## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

$B \rightarrow b \mid ab$

## String

0a1b2c3d4b5c6

## Chart

B 0 2

B 1 2

C 2 3

C 1 3

...

S 0 6

# State of Analysis

- The input is read one-by-one terminal symbol
- A right-hand side of a rule can be recognized after any terminal
- In addition, the chart contains a list of rules whose right-hand sides are partially read:
  - The period delimits the part of the right-hand side that has been recognized
  - We know the positions in the input string where the right-hand side began and where it currently ends (where the period is)
- Example:  $(B \rightarrow a . b) (0;1)$

# The Chart

- **Agenda.** List of constituents that have been recognized in the input and are waiting to be processed. The **span** of each constituent is saved (start and end positions in the input)
- **List of “active arcs”.** Right-hand sides that have been partially recognized in the input. The **span** of each is saved (start position of the right-hand side and the position of the **period**—position up to which the right-hand side has been recognized)
- **List of processed constituents.** The span of each constituent is saved. Constituents are moved here from the Agenda after they have been processed

# Chart Parsing Algorithm

- 1 Start with empty agenda, list of active arcs and list of processed constituents

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- 1 Start with empty agenda, list of active arcs and list of processed constituents
- 2 If agenda is empty:
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- 4 Consider all grammar rules. For every rule  $X \rightarrow CX_1 \dots X_n$  add new active arc from  $i$  to  $i$  of the form  $X \rightarrow \bullet CX_1 \dots X_n$  (new rules that **start** here)



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- 5 For every active arc from  $k$  to  $i$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots \bullet C \dots X_n$  add new active arc from  $k$  to  $j$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots C \bullet \dots X_n$  (rules that **continue** here)

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- 6 For every active arc from  $k$  to  $j$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots X_n C \bullet$  add to agenda a new constituent  $X$  spanning  $k$  to  $j$  unless it is already in agenda or in the list of processed constituents (rules that **end** here)

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- 7 Move  $(C, i, j)$  from agenda to list of processed constituents. If  $C = S$  and  $i, j$  spans the entire input, then we found one of the analyses
- 8 Go back to 2

# Complexity of Chart Parsing

- Polynomial:  $O(gn^3)$  where
  - $n$  ... number of input terminals
  - $g$  ... number of grammar rules
- There are  $\frac{(n+1)^2}{2}$  spans (from  $i$  to  $j$ )
- Maximum number of constituents within one span is less than or equal to the number of grammar rules
- Maximum number of states in which one partially recognized rule can find itself is  $n + 1$  (number of possible period positions)

## Keep All States of Each Rule Forever!

- For every active arc from  $k$  to  $i$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots \bullet C \dots X_n$  add new active arc from  $k$  to  $j$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots C \bullet \dots X_n$  (rules that continue here)
- After shifting the period keep both the new and the old state of the rule!
- What if the same constituent is recognized later, it starts at the same position but is longer?

# Example

## Grammar

$A \rightarrow a \mid a A$

$B \rightarrow b A$

...

## Input

**b** a a c

## Active arcs

$B \rightarrow b . A (0,1)$

## Constituents

b (0,1)

# Example

## Grammar

$A \rightarrow a \mid a A$

$B \rightarrow b A$

...

## Input

b a a c

## Active arcs

$B \rightarrow b \cdot A$  (0,1)

$A \rightarrow a \cdot$  (1,2)

$B \rightarrow b A \cdot$  (0,2)

## Constituents

b (0,1)

a (1,2)

$A$  (1,2)

B (0,2)

- Recognize ( $A$ , 1, 2) but don't discard this active arc!



# Example

## Grammar

$A \rightarrow a \mid a A$

$B \rightarrow b A$

...

## Input

b a a c

## Active arcs

$B \rightarrow b \cdot A (0,1)$

$A \rightarrow a \cdot (1,2)$

$B \rightarrow b A \cdot (0,2)$

$A \rightarrow a \cdot (2,3)$

$A \rightarrow a A \cdot (1,3)$

$B \rightarrow b A \cdot (0,3)$

...

## Constituents

b (0,1)

a (1,2)

A (1,2)

B (0,2)

a (2,3)

A (2,3)

**A (1,3)**

B (0,3)

...

- Recognize  $(A, 1, 2)$  but don't discard this active arc!
- If we later recognize  $(A, 1, 3)$  we will need the active arc again!

## How to Remember the Analysis?

- So far we can only figure out whether there is an analysis, i.e., whether the string is accepted by the grammar
- We need to know the derivation tree, too. We will use it to read the actual output:
  - `Form ( FormNFeka ( StemNFeka ( m a t ) SuffNFeka ( NFekaS1 ( k a ) ) ) )`

## How to Remember the Analysis?

- *For every active arc from  $k$  to  $j$  of the form  $X \rightarrow X_1 \dots X_n C$  add to agenda a new constituent  $X$  spanning  $k$  to  $j$  unless it is already in agenda or in the list of processed constituents (rules that end here)*
- Keep with every constituent the information what it is composed of. Same for every partially recognized rule.
- Caution: The same constituent spanning the same input substring may have arisen in several alternate ways!

# How to Remember the Analysis?

- $S \rightarrow A \mid Ab$
- $A \rightarrow a \mid ab$
- string  $ab$ 
  - $S(A(ab))$
  - $S(A(a)b)$

```
$agenda[0][2]['S']{description} = 'S:0:2';  
push(@composition, [$agenda[0][1]['A'], $agenda[1][2]['b']]);  
push(@composition, [$agenda[0][2]['A']]);  
push(@{$agenda[0][2]['S']{composition}}, \@composition);  
# Print j-th constituent of i-th composition of constituent S:0:2.  
print $agenda[0][2]['S']{composition}[$i][$j]{description};
```

```
$agenda[$i][$j]{$N}{composition}[$k][$l]
```

- constituent starts at position  $i$
- constituent ends at position  $j$
- constituent is labeled by symbol  $N$

# Chart Parsing Example

## Grammar

$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

$B \rightarrow b \mid ab$

## String

a b c d b c

## Chart

					c	6
				b		5
			d			4
		c				3
	b					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

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					c, C	6
				b, B		5
			d, D			4
		c, C				3
	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

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## Chart

				C	c, C	6
				b, B		5
		S	d, D			4
	C	c, C				3
B	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

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$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

$D \rightarrow d \mid d C$

$B \rightarrow b \mid ab$

## String

a b c d b c

## Chart

			D	C	c, C	6
				b, B		5
	S	S	d, D			4
C	C	c, C				3
B	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	



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## String

a b c d b c

## Chart

		S	D	C	c, C	6
				b, B		5
S	S	S	d, D			4
C	C	c, C				3
B	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

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## String

a b c d b c

## Chart

	S	S	D	C	c, C	6
				b, B		5
S	S	S	d, D			4
C	C	c, C				3
B	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

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$S \rightarrow C D$

$C \rightarrow c \mid B C$

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## String

a b c d b c

## Chart

S	S	S	D	C	c, C	6
				b, B		5
S	S	S	d, D			4
C	C	c, C				3
B	b, B					2
a						1
0	1	2	3	4	5	

# Context-Free Grammars and Morphological Analysis: Summary

- 😊 They nicely describe regular phenomena
- 😊 They can describe long-distance dependencies!
- 😞 “Regular irregularities” may require operations that are not directly supported by CFGs, simulation required
- 😞 The grammar grows unbearably
- 😞 High number of inflection classes  $\Rightarrow$  we need good maintenance tools. When the user is to add a new word we cannot reasonably require the word to be assigned one of 30 almost identical paradigms