

**Topics:** the prediction operation of Earley’s algorithm; restricted but probabilistic variants of CFGs.

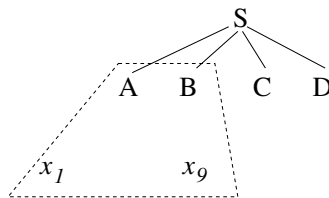
**Announcements:** The final exam is scheduled for Friday May 18, 2:00-4:30pm, Phillips 219.

**I. An alternative interpretation of parse states**  $(A \rightarrow \alpha \bullet \beta, i, j)$ : the branch  $A \rightarrow \alpha\beta$  is part of a (partial) parse where

- the part of the sentence that the *entire branch* “covers” starts with  $x_i$ , and
- the part of the sentence that the *pre-dot* stuff  $\alpha$  covers ends at (and includes)  $x_j$ .

**II. Example** Suppose the CFG has the following rewrite rules (plus others, assumedly), where “duck” is a terminal:

$S \rightarrow A B C D$   
 $C \rightarrow E F \quad C \rightarrow H I$   
 $E \rightarrow \text{duck}$



**III. Bigram models** A bigram CFG would take the following form:

- Terminals:  $w_1, w_2, \dots, w_m$
- Nonterminals:  $S, V_1, V_2, \dots, V_m$
- Start symbol:  $S$
- Rewrite rules: all rewrite rules of the form

1.  $V_i \rightarrow w_i V_j$ ,
2.  $V_i \rightarrow w_i$ , or
3.  $S \rightarrow V_i$

where  $1 \leq i, j \leq m$ .

**IV. Sentence-ranking example** A classic from the speech-recognition literature.

1. It’s hard to recognize speech.
2. It’s hard to wreck a nice beach.