



# Reinforcement Learning for NLP

## Advanced Machine Learning for NLP

Jordan Boyd-Graber

SHIFT-REDUCE PARSERS

Adapted from material by Jimmy Lin and Jason Eisner

## Shift-Reduce Parsing

---

- Alternative to arc-factored models
- Cognitively plausible
- Better at short-range dependencies

## Example

---

ROOT Economic news had little effect on financial markets .

## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news had little effect on financial markets .

## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little effect on financial markets .

## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial markets .

## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial ← markets .

## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial ← markets .



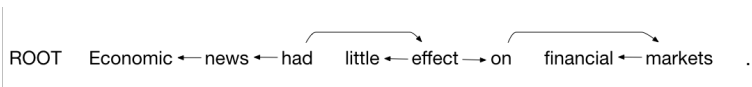
## Example

---

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect → on financial ← markets .

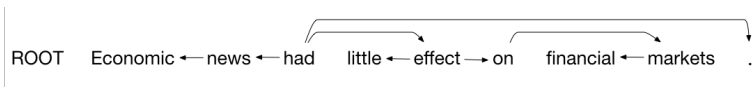
## Example

---



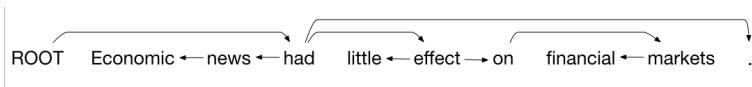
## Example

---



## Example

---



## Components

---

- Process a sentence word by word from a **buffer**
- You can temporarily place store words on a **stack**
- As you process you can either:

## Components

---

- Process a sentence word by word from a **buffer**
- You can temporarily place store words on a **stack**
- As you process you can either:
  - *Shift*: Move a word from the buffer to the stack

## Components

---

- Process a sentence word by word from a **buffer**
- You can temporarily place store words on a **stack**
- As you process you can either:
  - *Shift*: Move a word from the buffer to the stack
  - *Left*: The top of the stack is the child of the buffer's next word

## Components

---

- Process a sentence word by word from a **buffer**
- You can temporarily place store words on a **stack**
- As you process you can either:
  - *Shift*: Move a word from the buffer to the stack
  - *Left*: The top of the stack is the child of the buffer's next word
  - *Right*: The buffer's next word is the child of the top of the stack



## Initial and Final Conditions

---

- Initially the stack has root, the buffer has the sentence's words, and there are no edges
- At the end, the buffer must be empty

## Action: Left

---

- Add an edge  $(w_j, w_i)$
- $w_i$  is the top of the stack
- $w_j$  is the first word of the buffer
- Pop the stack

## Action: Left

---

- Add an edge  $(w_j, w_i)$
- $w_i$  is the top of the stack
- $w_j$  is the first word of the buffer
- Pop the stack
- Stack and buffer must be non-empty;  $w_i$  cannot be the root

## Action: Right

---

- Add an edge  $(w_i, w_j)$
- $w_i$  is the top of the stack
- $w_j$  is the first word in the buffer
- Pop the stack
- Replace  $w_j$  by  $w_i$  at the head of buffer

## Action: Right

---

- Add an edge  $(w_i, w_j)$
- $w_i$  is the top of the stack
- $w_j$  is the first word in the buffer
- Pop the stack
- Replace  $w_j$  by  $w_i$  at the head of buffer
- Stack and buffer must be non-empty

## Shift

---

- Removes  $w_i$  from the buffer
- Places it on the stack

## Shift

---

- Removes  $w_i$  from the buffer
- Places it on the stack
- Buffer must be non-empty

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root ]

### Buffer

[economic, news, had, little, effect,  
on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic news had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 1. Shift



## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , economic ]

### Buffer

[news, had, little, effect, on, financial,  
markets, .]

ROOT Economic news had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 2. Left

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root ]

### Buffer

[news, had, little, effect, on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 3. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , news ]

### Buffer

[had, little, effect, on, financial,  
markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 4. Left

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root ]

### Buffer

[had, little, effect, on, financial,  
markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 5. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had ]

### Buffer

[little, effect, on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 6. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had , little ]

### Buffer

[effect, on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little effect on financial markets .

Next action: 7. Left

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had ]

### Buffer

[effect, on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial markets .

Next action: 8. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had , effect ]

### Buffer

[on, financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial markets .

Next action: 9. Shift



## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had , effect , on ]

### Buffer

[financial, markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial markets .

Next action: 10. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

### Stack

[root , had , effect , on , financial ]

### Buffer

[markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial markets .

Next action: 11. Left

## Shift Reduce Example

---

**Stack**

[root , had , effect , on ]

**Buffer**

[markets, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial ← markets .

Next action: 12. Right

## Shift Reduce Example

---

**Stack**

[root , had , effect ]

**Buffer**

[on, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect on financial ← markets .

Next action:

13. Right

## Shift Reduce Example

---

**Stack**

[root , had ]

**Buffer**

[effect, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect → on financial ← markets .

Next action:

14. Right

## Shift Reduce Example

---

**Stack**

[root ]

**Buffer**

[had, .]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect → on financial ← markets .

Next action:

15. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

---

Stack

[root , had]

Buffer

[.]

ROOT Economic ← news ← had little ← effect → on financial ← markets .

Next action:

16. Right

## Shift Reduce Example

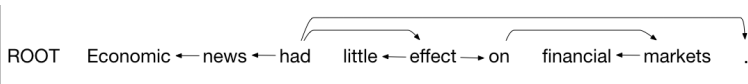
---

**Stack**

[root ]

**Buffer**

[had]



Next action:

17. Right



## Shift Reduce Example

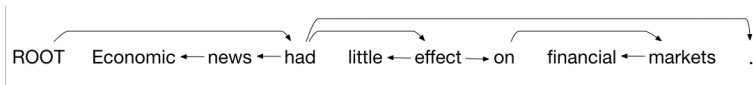
---

Stack

[ ]

Buffer

[root]



Next action:

18. Shift

## Shift Reduce Example

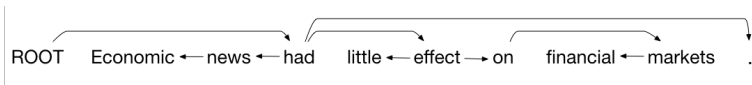
---

Stack

[root ]

Buffer

[]



Next action:

## Transition Sequence Algorithm

---

- Start with root on stack, buffer with whole sentence
- If there's nothing on the stack, you must *shift*
- If the top of the stack is the child of the top of the buffer, then make a *left* edge
- If the top of the buffer is is a child of the top of the stack and the top of the buffer has no children that have yet to be added to the tree, then make a *right*

## How to apply to data

---

- Create oracle for all sentences
- Create three-way classifier for each possible actions
- Features
  - The top of the stack
  - Top two words on buffer
  - The parts of speech of the words

## Complexity

---

## Complexity

---

- A word can only enter the stack once
- So complexity is  $O(2N)$

### Stack

[root ]

### Buffer

[I, am, the, very, model, of, a,  
modern, major, general]

### Edges

Next action: 1. Shift

### Stack

[root , | ]

### Buffer

[am, the, very, model, of, a, modern,  
major, general]

### Edges

Next action: 2. Left



### Stack

[root ]

### Buffer

[am, the, very, model, of, a, modern,  
major, general]

### Edges

, | ← am

Next action: 3. Shift

### Stack

[root , am ]

### Buffer

[the, very, model, of, a, modern,  
major, general]

### Edges

, | ← am

Next action: 4. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , the ]

### Buffer

[very, model, of, a, modern, major,  
general]

### Edges

, | ← am

Next action: 5. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , the , **very** ]

### Buffer

[model, of, a, modern, major, general]

### Edges

, | ← am

Next action: 6. Left

### Stack

[root , am , the ]

### Buffer

[model, of, a, modern, major, general]

### Edges

, l ← am

, very ← model

Next action: 7. Left

### Stack

[root , am ]

### Buffer

[model, of, a, modern, major, general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

Next action: 8. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , model ]

### Buffer

[of, a, modern, major, general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

Next action: 9. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , model , of ]

### Buffer

[a, modern, major, general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

Next action: 10. Shift



### Stack

[root , am , model , of , a ]

### Buffer

[modern, major, general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

Next action: 11. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , model , of , a , modern ]

### Buffer

[major, general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

Next action: 12. Shift

### Stack

[root , am , model , of , a , modern ,  
major]

### Buffer

[general]

### Edges

, I ← am  
, very ← model  
, the ← model

Next action: 13. Left

### Stack

[root , am , model , of , a , modern ]

### Buffer

[general]

### Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

Next action: 14. Left

## Stack

[root , am , model , of , a ]

## Buffer

[general]

## Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

, **modern ← general**

Next action: 15. Left

## Stack

[root , am , model , of ]

## Buffer

[general]

## Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

, modern ← general

, a ← general

Next action: 16. Right

## Stack

[root , am , model ]

## Buffer

[of, ]

## Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

, modern ← general

, a ← general

, **of** → general

Next action: 17. Right

## Stack

[root , am ]

## Buffer

[model, ]

## Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

, modern ← general

, a ← general

, of → general

, **model** → of

Next action: 18. Right



## Stack

[root ]

## Buffer

[am]

## Edges

- , I ← am
- , very ← model
- , the ← model
- , major ← general
- , modern ← general
- , a ← general
- , of → general
- , model → of
- , **am → model**

Next action: 19. Right

## Stack

[     ]

## Buffer

[root]

## Edges

, I ← am  
, very ← model  
, the ← model  
, major ← general  
, modern ← general  
, a ← general  
, of → general  
, model → of  
, am → model  
, **root → am**

Next action: 20. Shift

## Stack

[root ]

## Buffer

[]

## Edges

, I ← am

, very ← model

, the ← model

, major ← general

, modern ← general

, a ← general

, of → general

, model → of

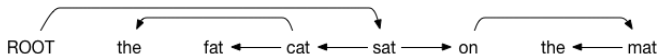
, am → model

, root → am

## Transition Sequence Algorithm

---

- Start with root on stack, buffer with whole sentence
- If there's nothing on the stack, you must *shift*
- If the top of the stack is the child of the top of the buffer, then make a *left* edge
- If the top of the buffer is is a child of the top of the stack and the top of the buffer has no children that have yet to be added to the tree, then make a *right*



## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
--------	------------	-----------	-----------	----------

---

S

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
--------	------------	-----------	-----------	----------

---

S

S

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the



## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the
S				

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the
S				
I	4	sat	3	cat

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the
S				
I	4	sat	3	cat
S				

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the
S				
I	4	sat	3	cat
S				
S				

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
--------	------------	-----------	-----------	----------

---

S

S

I	3	cat	2	fat
---	---	-----	---	-----

I	3	cat	1	the
---	---	-----	---	-----

S

I	4	sat	3	cat
---	---	-----	---	-----

S

S

S

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
I	3	cat	2	fat
I	3	cat	1	the
S				
I	4	sat	3	cat
S				
S				
S				
I	7	mat	6	the

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
l	3	cat	2	fat
l	3	cat	1	the
S				
l	4	sat	3	cat
S				
S				
S				
l	7	mat	6	the
r	5	on	7	mat

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
l	3	cat	2	fat
l	3	cat	1	the
S				
l	4	sat	3	cat
S				
S				
S				
l	7	mat	6	the
r	5	on	7	mat
r	4	sat	5	on



## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
s				
s				
l	3	cat	2	fat
l	3	cat	1	the
s				
l	4	sat	3	cat
s				
s				
l	7	mat	6	the
r	5	on	7	mat
r	4	sat	5	on
r	0	None	4	sat

## Parse to Transition Sequence

---

Action	Head Index	Head Word	Dep Index	Dep Word
S				
S				
l	3	cat	2	fat
l	3	cat	1	the
S				
l	4	sat	3	cat
S				
S				
S				
l	7	mat	6	the
r	5	on	7	mat
r	4	sat	5	on
r	0	None	4	sat
S				