

Parsing logic grammars ²

- **Phrase Structure Grammars vs Logic Grammars**
- terminal and non terminal vocabularies
 - Tags belonging to a close tagset
 - Open expressions
 - terms from a 1st order predicate logic (e.g. Prolog terms)
 - Feature Structures, FS
 - ...

Parsing logic grammars ³

- Logic Grammars vs Unification Grammars
 - How important is unification
- Adaptation of classical algorithms dealing with CFG

Unification importance

Tomabechi, 1991

85% - 90% of parsing time

- 75% - 95% from this time: structures copying
- > 60% of unifications in correct parses fail

▪ Other operations

- subsumption, generalization, inheritance, disjunction, negation, reescripture, assignment

Prolog as parser ¹

- Pros
 - Parsing as theorem proving
 - A specific parser is not needed
 - Incorporated to formalism: DCG
 - (Relatively) easy to write the grammar
 - (Relatively) easy to integrate

Prolog as parser ²

- **Cons**
 - TD fixed strategy
 - Fixed left to right management of literals
 - Fixed order of clauses (grammar rules)
 - Problems with left recursivity
 - **Backtracking**
 - Computation redundancy
 - Generation of useless (sub) parse trees
 - **Lack of flexibility on parsing**

Prolog as parser ³

- Improvements
 - (Stabler, 1990)
 - Separation of grammar clauses from lexicon ones.
 - Reordering of objectives to satisfy (literals).
 - static and dynamic (when trying to satisfy right part of the clause)
 - Unfolding.
 - Replacing part of the literals of the right part of a clause by the unfolding of the involved clauses.
 - Partial evaluation.

Prolog as parser ⁴

- Improvements
- Generation and test.
 - performing tests asap within a conjunction.
- Using selectional functions domain specific
- Literal reordering in the grammar using statistical techniques taking into account the number of arguments, their complexity, their instantiation level, etc...
- dynamic pruning (e.g. limitations on the number of recursive steps)
- Saving of intermediate results (positive or negative)

Prolog as parser ⁵

- Improvements
 - Kiefer et al, 1999
 - Precompiling the lexicon
 - expansion and application of lexical rules
 - removing parts of FS useless for parsing
 - Improvements in unification
 - quasi-destructive algorithm of Tomabechi
 - reusing parts of input structure in the output (Pereira)
 - Precompilation of type unification
 - Precompilation of filtering rules

Prolog as parser ⁶

- Improvements
 - unification dynamic filters (“quick check”)
 - Reduction of the size of FS using restrictors
 - Limitation of the initial number of items of chart
 - Computing and saving best partial analysis

Prolog as parser ⁷

- Bottom Up Parser
 - Traduction, at compilation time, of grammar rules, in DCG, to a type of Horn clauses, BUP clauses, that will be further processed by Prolog.
 - The resulting parser incorporates in BUP clauses the control mechanism ("left corner")
 - [Matsumoto et al, 1983], [Matsumoto et al, 1985]
 - SAX (Matsumoto, Sagimura)