

CANONICAL LANGUAGES

with special study of
a canonical predicate calculus for number theory
a canonical grammar for the English language

by

Donald Kingsbury BSc

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Department of Mathematics
McGill University
Montreal

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INTRODUCTION

A language is in canonical form if its basis has the following structure due to Post:

- (i) There exists a finite alphabet of distinct letters which can be juxtaposed to form strings, ie, any letter is a string, if b and c are strings then bc is a string, nothing else is a string.
- (ii) There exists a special finite set of strings called primitive assertions.
- (iii) There exists a finite set of productions each of the following form:

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 g_{11} & P_{11} & g_{12} & P_{12} & \dots & g_{1n} & \\
 g_{21} & P_{21} & g_{22} & P_{22} & \dots & g_{2n'} & \\
 \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \\
 g_{K1} & P_{K1} & g_{K2} & P_{K2} & \dots & g_{Kn^{(K)}} & \\
 \hline
 g_1 & P_{J_1} & g_2 & P_{J_2} & \dots & g_K &
 \end{array}
 \begin{array}{l}
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} g_{11} \\ g_{21} \\ \dots \\ g_{K1} \end{array}} \right\} \text{data} \\
 \left. \vphantom{\begin{array}{c} g_{1n} \\ g_{2n'} \\ \dots \\ g_{Kn^{(K)}} \end{array}} \right\} \text{product}
 \end{array}$$

where the g 's are given strings, possibly null, and the P 's represent operational variables of the production chosen from a finite set of such string variables, possibly including the null string. We make the restriction that each P_j from the product must be chosen from the P_{1m} of the data, that each datum and the product must contain at least one P , and that no choice of P 's can be allowed which would permit a null product.

The strings consisting of the primitive assertions, and all the strings obtainable by repeated use of the productions starting with the primitive assertions, will be called the assertions of the system. Any datum of such a production will be the product of another production, or a primitive assertion.

Post originally developed this definition of language as an abstract structure from which he hoped to prove theorems about languages in general, especially concerning their decision problems. In his 1941 paper (1) he proved his remarkable normal form theorem which states that every canonical language can be reduced to a normal language, i.e. one which has but a single primitive assertion with each of its productions of the form $gP \longrightarrow Pg'$. Thus any theorem concerning the structurally simpler normal form is also a theorem about its canonical equivalent. Later in

his 1944 paper (2) Post used his concept to tackle the decision problems of recursively enumerable sets of positive integers with interesting success.

However, the full power of this simple definition of language seems not to have been grasped by mathematicians. Undoubtedly it can produce deep theorems about languages in general but certainly one of its major applications will be in the study of particular languages. The expression of a language in its canonical form may have no special advantages. If a language is itself inelegantly expressed its canonical form will be inelegant.* But it may bring insights to the study of such a language. In other cases, such as that of the spoken languages, the canonical definition seems uniquely able to handle the language's structure. Not only does it readily provide a mechanical procedure for determining the grammatical correctness of a sentence, it seems to promise deep results in semantics, the problem of determining whether a statement in a spoken language has meaning and how meaningful sentences are constructed.

Here two languages shall be studied in detail in their canonical form, a predicate calculus for number theory and English. Gentzen's scheme has been chosen

* See Rosentloom (3) for the canonical forms of his languages L_1, L'_2, L_X , page 182

for the predicate calculus used here because of its simplicity and for the ease in which it reduces to canonical form, along with an original (to the best of the author's knowledge) modification of Kleene's postulates for number theory which makes arithmetic proofs independent of "Gentzen's cut" and so less dependent upon "guessing". As regards the English language only the grammar problem has been considered and that only for statement sentences, tho the method used is readily applicable to questions or commands. The resulting grammar is quite adequate but by no means perfect. A moderate amount of slave labor and diligence in conjunction with decent research facilities would suffice to make it tight. These examples are enough to illustrate the considerable power of Post's definition of language.

A CANONICAL PREDICATE CALCULUS FOR NUMBER THEORY

Calculi for number theory are well known and we need not explain our purpose in constructing one. But it should be noted that we are mainly interested in the structural and formal problems involved. Indeed the canonical approach forces this attitude upon us since it disallows all such verbalisms as "x is substitutable for y" requiring either that we do without them or that we replace them by some set of productions.

First of all we need a finite set of operational variables, the P's of the generalized production, as specified in our definition. We will need only the following sixteen.

- 9i) α, β any string of ones, possibly null.
- (ii) x, y are variables, not null, belonging to the class of assertions determined by production B1.
- (iii) a, b, c, d are terms, not null, belonging to the class of assertions determined by the productions B1 thru B4.
- (iv) A, B are formulae determined by C1 thru C6.
- (v) Γ, Δ, Θ are sequents determined by C1 thru C7.
- (vi) S is any sequence of terms derivable from rules B1 thru B4 separated by a comma.
- (vii) M, N are any strings whatsoever.

We now define our alphabet and set up the productions which will construct our well formed formulae.

Alphabet

$() [] ' / , ; @ \vdash \supset \neg \forall \cdot + \vee$

Primitive Assertions

- A1 $()$ primitive variable
 A2 $[/]$ primitive predicate

Variable Formation

- B1
$$\frac{(\alpha)}{(\alpha 1)}$$

Term Formation

- B2
$$\frac{a \quad b}{(a + b)}$$
 B3
$$\frac{a \quad b}{(a \cdot b)}$$
 B4
$$\frac{a}{(a')}$$

Formula Formation

- C1
$$\frac{[\alpha/\beta s] \quad x @ [\alpha/\beta s]}{[\alpha/\beta 1s, x]}$$
 @ to be read as "not free in"
- C2
$$\frac{[\alpha/\beta s]}{[\alpha 1/\beta s]}$$

$$C3 \quad \frac{A \quad B}{[A \supset B]}$$

$$C4 \quad \frac{A}{[\neg A]}$$

$$C5 \quad \frac{x \quad A}{[\forall x A]}$$

$$C6 \quad \frac{(a/b)A}{A}$$

$$S1 \quad \frac{A \quad a \quad b}{A(a/b)}$$

See substitution rules for meaning of (a/b)

Sequent Formation

$$C7 \quad \frac{\Gamma \quad \Delta}{\Gamma; \Delta}$$

The concept of a term or variable being free or not free in a formula or term assumes a mechanical procedure for deciding this freedom. Herewith is such a procedure in canonical form.

Free Term Test

@ to be read as "not free in"

$$D1 \quad \frac{(\alpha)}{(\alpha1) @ ()}$$

$$D2 \quad \frac{(\alpha)}{() @ (\alpha1)}$$

$$D3 \quad \frac{(\alpha) @ (\beta)}{(\alpha1) @ (\beta1)}$$

$$D4 \quad \frac{x @ a \quad x @ b}{x @ (a \cdot b)}$$

$$D5 \quad \frac{x @ a \quad \cancel{x} @ b}{x @ (a \quad b)}$$

$$D6 \quad \frac{x @ a}{x @ (a')}$$

$$D7 \quad \frac{a \quad b \quad x}{(a+b) @ x}$$

$$D8 \quad \frac{a \quad b \quad x}{(a \cdot b) @ x}$$

$$D9 \quad \frac{a \quad x}{(a') @ x}$$

$$D10 \quad \frac{c \quad a @ b \quad d}{a @ b \vee c @ d}$$

$$D11 \quad \frac{c \quad a @ b \quad d}{c @ d \vee a @ b}$$

$$D12 \quad \frac{(a') @ b \quad (a') @ c}{(a') @ (b \cdot c)}$$

$$D13 \quad \frac{(a') @ b \quad (a') @ c}{(a') @ (b + c)}$$

$$D14 \quad \frac{(a \cdot b) @ c \quad (a \cdot b) @ d}{(a \cdot b) @ (c + d)}$$

$$D15 \quad \frac{(a \cdot b) @ c}{(a \cdot b) @ (c')}$$

$$D15 \quad \frac{(a+b) @ c \quad (a+b) @ d}{(a+b) @ (c \cdot d)}$$

$$D16 \quad \frac{(a+b) @ c}{(a+b) @ (c')}$$

$$D17 \quad \frac{(a') @ b \quad a @ b \vee b @ a}{(a') @ (b')}$$

$$D18 \quad \frac{(a \cdot b) @ c \quad (a \cdot b) @ d \quad a @ c \vee c @ a}{(a \cdot b) @ (c \cdot d)}$$

$$D19 \quad \frac{(a \cdot b) @ c \quad (a \cdot b) @ d \quad b @ d \vee d @ b}{(a \cdot b) @ (c \cdot d)}$$

$$D20 \quad \frac{(a+b) @ c \quad (a+b) @ d \quad a @ c \vee c @ a}{(a+b) @ (c+d)}$$

$$D21 \quad \frac{(a+b) @ c \quad (a+b) @ d \quad b @ d \vee d @ b}{(a+b) @ (c+d)}$$

$$D22 \quad \frac{a @ S}{a @ [\alpha / \beta S]}$$

$$D23 \quad \frac{a @ S \quad a @ b}{a @ S, b}$$

$$D24 \quad \frac{a @ A}{a @ [\neg A]}$$

$$D25 \quad \frac{a @ A \quad a @ B}{a @ [A \supset B]}$$

$$D26 \quad \frac{a @ A \quad x @ a}{a @ [\forall x A]}$$

$$D27 \quad \frac{[\forall y A]}{y @ [\forall y A]}$$

$$D28 \quad \frac{a @ \Gamma \quad a @ \Delta}{a @ \Gamma; \Delta}$$

We now need some substitution productions to make it explicitly clear what we mean by "substitutable". Let $A(a/b)$ be read as "a will replace b in A" and $(a/b)A$ be read as "a has replaced b in A". No formula containing either $A(a/b)$ or $(a/b)A$ shall be considered well formed, the expressions containing these entities shall certainly be assertions of our system. It is to be noted that the

substitution productions given here are valid only for constructive proofs, and that if deductive provability is desirable (for its convenience, not its necessity) alterations would have to be made in many of the productions.

Substitution Rules

$$S2 \quad \frac{M[A \supset B](a/b)N}{M[A(a/b) \supset B(a/b)]N}$$

$$S3 \quad \frac{M[(a/b)A \supset (a/b)B]N}{M(a/b)[A \supset B]N}$$

$$S4 \quad \frac{M[\neg A](a/b)N}{M[\neg A(a/b)]N}$$

$$S5 \quad \frac{M[\neg(a/b)A]N}{M(a/b)[\neg A]N}$$

$$S6 \quad \frac{M[\forall xA](a/b)N \quad x @ a \quad x @ b}{M[\forall xA(a/b)]N}$$

$$S7 \quad \frac{M[\forall x(a/b)A]N \quad x @ a \quad x @ b}{M(a/b)[\forall xA]N}$$

$$S8 \quad \frac{M[\forall yA]N \quad x @ [\forall yA]}{M[\forall yA(x/y)]N}$$

$$S9 \quad \frac{M[\forall y(x/y)A]N}{M[\forall xA]N}$$

Rules S8 and S9 are unnecessary but convenient in cases where a bound variable blocks an intended substitution. They can be avoided altogether by the proper choice of bound variables.

$$\text{S10} \quad \frac{M(c')(a/b)N \quad (c') @ b \vee b @ (c')}{M(c(a/b)')N}$$

$$\text{S11} \quad \frac{M((a/b)c')N}{M(a/b)(c')N}$$

$$\text{S12} \quad \frac{M(c \cdot d)(a/b)N \quad (c \cdot d) @ b \vee b @ (c \cdot d)}{M(c(a/b) \cdot d(a/b))N}$$

$$\text{S13} \quad \frac{M((a/b)c \cdot (a/b)d)N}{M(a/b)(c \cdot d)N}$$

$$\text{S14} \quad \frac{M(c + d)(a/b)N \quad (c + d) @ b \vee b @ (c + d)}{M(c(a/b) + d(a/b))N}$$

$$\text{S15} \quad \frac{M((a/b)c + (a/b)d)N}{M(a/b)(c + d)N}$$

$$\text{S16} \quad \frac{M[\alpha/\beta S](a/t)N}{M[\alpha/\beta S(a/t)]N}$$

$$\text{S17} \quad \frac{M, (a/b)N}{M(a/t), N}$$

$$\text{S18} \quad \frac{M[\alpha/\beta (a/t)S]N}{M(a/b)[\alpha/\beta S]N}$$

$$\text{S19} \quad \frac{Mx(a/b)N \quad b @ x}{M(a/b)xN}$$

$$\text{S20} \quad \frac{Mb(a/b)N}{M(a/b)aN}$$

$$s21 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash \Delta \quad a \quad x}{\Gamma(a/x) \vdash \Delta(a/x)}$$

$$s22 \quad \frac{(a/x)\Gamma \vdash (a/x)\Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$s23 \quad \frac{a \quad \Gamma \vdash \Delta \quad x @ \Gamma; \Delta}{\Gamma(x/a) \vdash \Delta(x/a)}$$

$$s24 \quad \frac{(x/a)\Gamma \vdash (x/a)\Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$s25 \quad \frac{M; (a/b)N}{M(a/b); N}$$

The rules of inference are straight adaptations from Gentzen's system, which is itself almost in canonical form.

Rules Of Inference

$$\text{F1} \quad \frac{A}{A \vdash A}$$

$$\text{F2} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A \vdash B; \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [A \supset B]; \Delta}$$

$$\text{F3} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A; \Delta \quad \Gamma; B \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma; [A \supset B] \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{F4} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [A]; \Delta}$$

$$\text{F5} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A; \Delta}{\Gamma; [A] \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{F6} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A; \Delta \quad x @ \Gamma; \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash [\forall x A]; \Delta}$$

$$\text{F7} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A \vdash \Delta \quad x @ A \quad a}{\Gamma; [\forall x A(x/a)] \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{F8} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A \vdash \Delta \quad x}{\Gamma; [\forall x A] \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{S26} \quad \frac{\Gamma; [\forall x(x/a)A] \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma; [\forall x A] \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{F9} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A; \Delta \quad \Gamma; A \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

Structural Rules Of Inference

$$G1 \quad \frac{M \Gamma N \quad A}{M \Gamma ; AN}$$

$$G2 \quad \frac{M \Gamma ; A ; AN}{M \Gamma ; AN}$$

$$G3 \quad \frac{MA ; BN}{MB ; AN}$$

In setting up our productions for number theory it will be convenient to let $a \pm b$ represent $[/11a, b]$ and we may arbitrarily choose the symbol $()$ to be the zero of the system and denote it by 0. The following productions are essentially the same as the postulates for number theory which appear in Kleene (4).

Rules For Number Theory

$$H1 \quad \frac{\Gamma ; (a \cdot (b')) = ((a \cdot b) + a) \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$H2 \quad \frac{\Gamma ; (a + (b')) = ((a + b)') \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$H3 \quad \frac{\Gamma ; (a + 0) = a \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$H4 \quad \frac{\Gamma ; (a \cdot 0) = 0 \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$H6 \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash (a') = 0 ; \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{H7} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash a=b ; \Delta}{\Gamma \vdash (a')=(b') ; \Delta}$$

$$\text{H8} \quad \frac{\Gamma ; a=b \vdash \Delta}{\Gamma ; (a')=(b') \vdash \Delta}$$

$$\text{H9} \quad \frac{A \quad \Gamma \vdash a=b ; \Delta}{\Gamma ; A(a/b) \vdash a=b ; A ; \Delta}$$

$$\text{S27} \quad \frac{\Gamma ; (a/b)A \vdash a=b ; \Delta}{\Gamma ; A \vdash \Delta}$$

The following productions are for use with the induction procedure. These productions may seem redundantly formulated but there are some inherent difficulties in using an inductive proof constructively. For instance, when we are substituting x for (x') we must first be sure that our formula is free of x' 's if the procedure is going to be valid. This kind of question does not arise when we are using our induction in the usual manner, ie, when we are trying to decide whether a formula is an assertion or not, rather than trying to construct an assertion. As would be suspected, if we had been formulating our language to be used as a "decision" procedure the productions involved in our induction rule would be much simpler and the "proof

tree" of any assertion would be more compact. Constructive proofs in this kind of system are, in general, longer than their corresponding deductive proofs. Unfortunately, in choosing the constructive rather than the deductive approach we have lost much of the "beauty" of our system.

It is also well to note here that once $\text{an}(a/b)$ has been introduced into an assertion, all following productions must involve (a/b) until the (a/b) has been eliminated. For example it is not permitted that $\text{MA};(a/b)\text{CN} \longrightarrow \text{M}(a/b)\text{C};\text{AN}$ because the interchange production is good only for well formed formulae and $(a/b)\text{C}$ is not well formed by the definition of A and B in G3, which must be assertions derived from the products of productions (C1) thru (C6).

$$\text{S28} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash A \quad x @ \Gamma; A}{\Gamma \vdash A(x/0)}$$

$$\text{S29} \quad \frac{y = x ; \Gamma; A \vdash B \quad x @ \Gamma; B \quad y @ \Gamma; A}{\Gamma; A \vdash B((x')/(y'))}$$

$$\text{S30} \quad \frac{\Gamma; A \vdash ((x')/(y'))B \quad x @ \Gamma}{\Gamma; A \vdash B(x/(x'))}$$

$$\text{H10} \quad \frac{\Gamma \vdash (x/0)A \quad \Gamma; A \vdash (x/(x'))A \quad x @ \Gamma}{\Gamma \vdash A}$$

In this language proofs of theorems come out in a mechanically direct fashion, whose neatness is perhaps obscured by the poverty of symbols and the unthinking attention given to each small point. Making a few obvious informalisms, however, suffices to show some of the mechanical directness inherent in the language. The proof of such a simple thing as $a=a$ usually covers a messy page as for instance in Kleene, page 84. Here it is done (informally) in a few lines.

H3	$\forall a \text{ F1}$	$a + 0 = a$	$\vdash$	$a + 0 = a$	
H9			$\vdash$	$a + 0 = a$	$a = x$
S		$(a = x)(a + 0/a)$	$\vdash$	$a = x; a + 0 = a$	
S27		$(a + 0/a)(a + 0 = x)$	$\vdash$	$a = x; a + 0 = a$	
S21		$a + 0 = x$	$\vdash$	$a = x$	
S		$(a + 0 = x)(a/x)$	$\vdash$	$(a = x)(a/x)$	
S22		$(a/x)(a + 0 = a)$	$\vdash$	$(a/x)(a = a)$	
H9		$a + 0 = a$	$\vdash$	$a = a$	
			$\vdash$	$a = a$	

For our proofs we do not need rule F9 (by Gentzen's theorem) but it is a convenient one to have for practical purposes as it allows us to avoid proving over and over again assertions which we know to be theorems; without it, for instance, we would have to prove $a=a$ every time we needed it.

The commutivity of equality is easy to prove.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \text{H9} \frac{\quad \vdash a=b \quad b=x}{(b=x)(a/b) \vdash a=b ; b=x} \\
 \text{S} \frac{(b=x)(a/b) \vdash a=b ; b=x}{(a/b)(a=x) \vdash a=b ; b=x} \\
 \text{S27} \frac{(a/b)(a=x) \vdash a=b ; b=x}{a=x \vdash b=x} \\
 \text{S21} \frac{a=x \vdash b=x}{(a=x)(a/x) \vdash (b=x)(a/x)} \\
 \text{S} \frac{(a=x)(a/x) \vdash (b=x)(a/x)}{a=a \vdash b=a} \\
 \text{F9} \frac{a=a \vdash b=a \quad a=a}{\vdash b=a}
 \end{array}$$

Without the cut we could prove the same thing by using $a+0=a$, and a few more lines.

We could continue in this fashion and prove all of the standard arithmetical theorems, but it is pointless to do so without first making a few more obvious conventions, and perhaps restructuring the productions for deductive analysis, a step which would especially simplify the induction proofs. As it is we have done what we set out to do -- completely formalize the predicate calculus for arithmetic within the framework of Post's canonical definition of language in the simplest garb we could conceive wherein nothing was taken for granted and no procedures were left unwritten to be done by the mathematician's brain. Everything has been successfully reduced to meaningless marks.

A CANONICAL GRAMMAR FOR THE ENGLISH LANGUAGE

In setting up a grammar for a spoken language we are dealing with essentially the same problem as that of the well formed formula of the predicate calculus considered in the previous section by means of the A, B, and C productions. The remaining rules were concerned with procedures for constructing a subclass of well formed formulae, the provable formulae of arithmetic. This indicates that there is no compelling reason for us to stop with the grammar problem. It should be possible to set up productions which would generate meaningful sentences as a subclass of the class of grammatical sentences, meaningful, of course, only with respect to the "reality frame" built into the productions. Such a task promises some formal difficulties and a great deal of clerical work and shall not be attempted here, tho there does not seem to be any essential difference between the two problems other than that one is simpler due to the fact that the elements of the class which we use to define a word are much fewer in the grammatical case.

The alphabet of canonical English consists of the twenty-six letters, the punctuation marks, the space, the numbers, whatever other odd assorted symbols are in current

use including intonations and inflections which I shall ignore, and $\forall A \in \Sigma$. Our primitive assertions shall be of three kinds, definitions and primitive strings, the latter divided into primitive words and primitive types.

A primitive type can be considered to be a Σ -set with base elements consisting of primitive words and all other primitive types which are subsets, including itself; additional elements of the set are constructed by specified grammatical productions. There may be no primitive words in the type set if the grammatical productions only allow phrases as elements. If our object is merely to construct phrase frames or sentence frames we can delete all primitive words and just consider the strings of types generated by the productions.

We shall let all our definitions be of the following form: $W \subseteq R$, where W is a list of primitive strings and R a list of primitive types. Each member of W is an element of each member of R , and any primitive type which is a subset of all the R will also appear among the W . The introduction of the complement of a primitive type is possible and has a meaning, but it is such a weak meaning that we shall ignore it.

Other forms of definition are possible depending upon the use to which the system will be put practically. For translation machines an alphabetical listing of all primitive

strings in the form $x=R$ would be most convenient, coupled with a transitive law and the convention requiring that no set and its subset appear in the definition of a primitive word, this in order to minimize definition size and maximize availability. We shall not introduce such a convention.

Here R serves as the grammatical definition of each member of W . If we were dealing with semantics, R would actually be the semantic definition, tho of course we would need many more primitive types. The primitive types of semantics would be the so called "undefined terms" which have much the same correspondance as "parts of speech" do to our grammatical types.

Before discussing the simple algebra needed here as a base for the productions, a comment upon the paper of J. Lambek "The Mathematics of Sentence Structure" (5) is in order. At first the ^{present writer} ~~author~~ thought that he had a distinctly different system for analyzing grammar. But upon a closer but brief re-examination of Lambek's syntactic calculus it seems that if the procedures herein given are adequate for a complete solution of the grammar problem, then the syntactic calculus (in conjunction with intersection and union productions) is probably also adequate for its solution. This depends upon whether each grammar production can be effectively reduced to a set of what Lambek calls syntactic types.

This can be attempted in this fashion: most grammatical productions are of the form $x \in a ; y \in b \rightarrow xy \in c$ where x and y are strings and a , b and c are primitive types. This can be re-written as $a(a \backslash c) \rightarrow c$ by left division or $(c/b)b \rightarrow c$ by right division. If we then add the syntactic type $(a \backslash c)$ or (c/b) into the definitions and productions where " b " or " a " appears (whether as a primitive type or inside an already present syntactic type) then the production ought to be of no further use providing our algebra can handle right and left division as in the syntactic calculus. By a repeated application of this process it may be possible to eliminate all grammar productions. But the syntactic types can become very complicated. This is not necessarily a drawback. If our definitions become more complicated our algebra becomes simpler, a fact which may be of distinct advantage to a computer. It would be easier for the parsing unit of a translating machine to master the use of the syntactic calculus than it would be for it to master the use of many hundred grammar productions.

The following rules are essentially a very weak boolean algebra, minus among other things a production that would give $x \leftarrow x$ which has been replaced by rule (a1).

W and Y are sequences of primitive strings, and x and y are strings -- necessarily primitive in (a1). S and R are sequences of primitive types. a and b are types -- necessarily primitive in (a1) w and z are strings, possibly empty.

Sentences containing $\wedge$ and $\vee$ may not at first seem meaningful but they have a distinct meaning when we are considering the problem of parsing by machine. Very little of a translating machine's large memory could be in fast access storage. By looking up the definition of each word only once and inserting the intersection of the defining types into the sentence frame this problem is by-passed.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{a1} \quad \frac{W, x, Y \models S, a, R}{x \in a} \end{array}$$

$$\text{a2} \quad \frac{x \in a \quad x \in b}{x \in (a \wedge b)}$$

$$\text{a3} \quad \frac{x \in a \quad y \in b}{x \in (a \vee b)}$$

$$\text{a4} \quad \frac{x \in b \quad y \in a}{x \in (a \vee b)}$$

$$\text{a5} \quad \frac{w x z \in a \quad w y z \in a}{w (x \vee y) z \in a}$$

$$a6 \quad \frac{w x z \in a \quad y \in c}{w (x \wedge y) z \in a}$$

$$a7 \quad \frac{w y z \in a \quad x \in c}{w (x \wedge y) z \in a}$$

The system as it stands in rules (a1) thru (a7) trivially has a decision procedure. Later we will show that the system as a whole, with grammar productions, has a decision procedure and so can be used for parsing.

It is amusing to mention the Russell paradox here. The words are all sets which do not contain themselves by definition. Only the primitive types contain themselves. We might ask the question, "Is word a word or a primitive type?" We can of course do no such thing until we can construct such a set. Consider the productions (minus formal details that could be supplied.):

$$R1 \quad \frac{U = \text{word} \quad y \in x \quad \text{decide-not } (y \in y)}{U, y \text{ word}}$$

$$R2 \quad \frac{P = \text{prim-type} \quad y \in x \quad \text{decide } (y \in y)}{P, y \text{ prim-type}}$$

whence it becomes immediately evident that we have introduced a paradox. (Note: nugo is a singular noun that takes an article.)

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{W, \text{word}, Y \equiv S, \text{nugo}, R}{(R1) \frac{U \equiv \text{word}}{\text{word} \in \text{nugo}} \text{decide-not } (\text{word} \in \text{word})} \quad (a1) \\
 \frac{U, \text{word} \equiv \text{word}}{\text{word} \in \text{word}} (a1)
 \end{array}$$

Here we are using our clear cut decision procedure decide-not (word ∈ word) to assert (word ∈ word). If we resort to reduction to absurdity and then try to assert (word ∈ prim-type) we have no better luck.

$$\begin{array}{c}
 \frac{W, \text{word}, Y \equiv P, \text{nugo}, R}{(R2) \frac{P \equiv \text{prim-type}}{\text{word} \in \text{nugo}} \text{decide } (\text{word} \in \text{word})} \quad (a1) \\
 \frac{P, \text{word} \equiv \text{prim-type}}{\text{word} \in \text{prim-type}} (a1)
 \end{array}$$

We need the tree decide (word ∈ word) to assert that (word ∈ prim-type) but this we cannot do without also asserting decide-not (word ∈ word). Thus the paradox. The artificiality of such paradoxes becomes clearly evident in this example. It is eliminated in the usual manner by lifting to a different order the sets by which we discuss our sets. In this case we must replace the sign $\equiv$ in (R1) and (R2) by, say, $\equiv$ and introduce a new production like (a1) replacing $\equiv$ with $\equiv$ and $\in$ with, say, $\leftarrow$. Then (R1) simply gives us (word $\leftarrow$ word) and we cannot assert (word $\leftarrow$ prim-type). This is as our reason would demand.

In passing, some of the handicaps under which the grammar productions here given have been obtained should be mentioned. I worked first with my boy's baby dictionary, then graduated to sentences from novels and the Scientific American which I stripped down to manageable form, then graduated to full sized sentences. Working in this way is enormously difficult. For instance it took me a whole day to collect enough sentences representative of which, who, whom, that to make an adequate analysis of that form. "The Structure of English" by Fries (6) was of an immense help, and tho his word classes and groups do not always stand up, they provide some very real meat. What is needed for this type of research is a library of words on IBM cards, sorted alphabetically by docile graduate students, each card punched with the word and having written upon it the sentence in which the word appeared. There also should be a library for words with endings, listed like a rhyming dictionary. With twenty or thirty thousand sentences from representative sources thus filed away, it would be a simple matter to reach in the file, select all the sentences containing the wanted words, say which or much or all, examine them and write out all the productions in which those words appear, compare them with existing productions to see whether the word

belongs to any previously existing type and what are its various multiordinal grammatical meanings, and to see whether there are any flaws in the productions. A very tight grammar could be built up in a very short time this way because there can't be more than a few hundred key structural words to examine.

In spite of the difficulties, the grammar herein outlined is fairly adequate, more so than any other grammar the author has seen. "Noun" phrases, "verb" forms, and many of the common modifiers are handled, along with some of the more frequent sentence compounders.

As a small test the author analyzed twenty five sentences averaging thirty words per sentence in sequence from an article in the Scientific American and found only eleven renegade structures, three of these of rare predicate types deliberately ignored, the other eight being modifier phrases (which were not deeply studied -- there are very many) such as "when fresh", "said Cannon", "in short", "so far as possible". Of course, the value of a mechanical grammar depends largely upon its inability to construct ungrammatical forms and this does not show up in parsing if the assertions over-cover the genuine grammatical frames. It would be a simple matter to construct a grammar which would parse with 100% efficiency, if only because it considered all strings of words to be assertions. Still the methods used for

constructing grammar rules in this paper clearly indicate the power of Post's canonical definition of language.

A problem which has been completely ignored here is that of bracketing. In all the productions brackets have been inserted, but this is not terribly meaningful as brackets do not exist in a spoken or written language, except in the rudimentary form of pauses, inflections and commas. This of course leads to the fact that not all sentences have unique sentence frames, nor are sentence frames themselves always unique.

There is probably a grammar of brackets implicit in the sentence construction in English, especially spoken English, which eliminates most (but not all) grammatical ambiguities. Certain words seem to carry specific bracket types with themselves. For instance, at the beginning of a modifier, of attaches itself to the element immediately on the left, i.e., we always get:

on ((the airplane) in [(the sky) of (America)])

rather than

on ([(the airplane) in (the sky)] of (America))

If we wanted to indicate that the airplane belonged to America we would say, "in the sky on the airplane of America." It should be possible to develop a grammar of brackets.

An appendix of definitions, included at the back, may need to be glanced at by the reader from time to time as the frequency of the introduction of new primitive types comes pretty fast hereafter, and their names are not familiar. We are going to use the constructive approach and build up the basic units of our grammar one by one until we have what we need to assemble sentences. The standard grammatical terms break down completely and we shall not use them. This shift is further necessitated by the fact that we want "parts of speech" which are self reflexive.

First we need to consider the basic predicate frame of English:

$$a \xrightarrow{1} b \text{ Predicate } c \xrightarrow{2} d \xrightarrow{3} e$$

where any or all variable slots may be used depending upon whether our predicate is a function of one, two, or three variables. The latter are rare. The variables are of types which we shall call nuon, pron, rom, and bekal, and vilp, valp. The way in which these variables fill the slots affords a convenient classification of our predicates into six distinct classes. (These classes do not have null intersections) We shall treat only three. Predicate modifiers may occur in positions a, b, c, d, e.

The basic predicate frames are these:

(1) The vil frame.

Slot 1 -- noun or pron

2 -- empty

3 -- empty

I died
Jesus wept
Satan laughed

(2) The vum frame.

Slot 1 -- nuon or pron

2 -- tekal

3 -- empty

the roasted cannibal tasted delicious
the grapes are sour
democracy seems awful weak

(3) The var frame.

Slot 1 -- nuon or pron

2 -- nuon or rom

3 -- empty

Stalin cherished comrade Trotsky
christians are good honest people
she remembered the misty lake
fate destroyed her casually that afternoon

(4) not treated

Slot 1 -- nuon or pron

2 -- nuon or rom

3 -- nuon

¹Khrushchev gave ²his people ³eggs and butter while ¹Eisenhower
presented ²East Germany ³lard and flour
¹they elected ²me ³class fool
¹James appointed ²him ³dean
¹he made ²his wife ³toast

(5)

Slot 1 -- nuon or pron

2 -- nuon or rom

3 -- ~~avalpor~~ ~~avalp~~

¹the man watched ²the stripper ³undress
¹he made ²the girl ³cry
¹Tarzan made ²his wife ³cook monkeys
¹he saw ²the axe head ³bite his toe

(6)

Slot 1 -- nuon or pron

2 -- nuon or rom

3 -- bekal

¹she made ²her face ³tearful
¹this helpful fact makes ²analysis ³possible
¹it also made ²the emotions ³accessible to laboratory measurement
¹these changes rendered ²the organism ³more effective

The command sentences occur with slot 1 empty with the usual fillings for slot 2 and 3, as in: (1) run, fight, goof off; (2) be good; (3) kill it, pass that exam, stop thief; (4) give the boy his money, make your house a home; (5) watch the snake die; (6) make me happy. They are all type ~~avalp~~ or ~~avalp~~ and may be taken into account simply by making all elements of ~~avalp~~ and ~~avalp~~ also elements of sen (sentence). They introduce no new predicate classifications.

Frame (2) may be inverted as in "mimsy were the borogoves".

Frame (1) may be inverted by an operator like "there" as in "there wept Jesus", "there exist two numbers", "there exists a way".

A fundamental transformation takes place in the basic predicate frame when we operate on predicates from frames (3), (4), and (6) with the elements of the sets tohe or thab (hasvhadvhave been). A predicate of three variables is reduced to one of two, a transitive predicate is reduced to an intransitive form. These operations are frequently used in modest scientific papers to facilitate the hiding of the author.

1 predicate 2 3

→ 2 (isvavarevwasvwere) predicate 3

→ 2 (havevhasvhad been) predicate 3

ie, he loved her $\longrightarrow$ she was loved

the girl remembers the lake $\longrightarrow$ the lake has been
remembered

she made her face tearful $\longrightarrow$ her face had been made
tearful

he gave his people kutter $\longrightarrow$ his people were given
kutter

Naturally no such operation can be executed upon a
vii predicate. It is not possible to say "was died".
"Worked" in "has been worked" can only be type var. A
knowledge of this transformation is important to any
translating machine which is never to confuse "operator"
with "operated-upon".

A transformation which occurs occasionally is this one:

3 1 predicate 2 or 2 1 predicate,
such as, "Women, I love," "The house which none of us like,
I shall destroy," "Pencils, I give you." This form shall
not be treated here. It introduces no new predicate types.

Assume that we have a set hekal to draw from. Our
nuon set will be divided into singular and plural sets,
nuono and nuongs. Pron will be divided into singular and
plural also, prono containing "he, she, it" and prongs
containing "I, you, we, they." We will also need two
subsets of prons, iprons containing "you, we, they" and i
containing "I".

- b4 $\frac{x \in \text{do} \quad y \in \text{Ap}}{(x \ y) \in \text{dAp}}$ do go, do sound
don't remember
- b5 $\frac{x \in \text{does} \quad y \in \text{Ap}}{(x \ y) \in \text{dAps}}$ does see, does like
- b6 $\frac{x \in \text{did} \quad y \in \text{Ap}}{(x \ y) \in \text{dAed}}$ did seem, did want
 A ^{ranges over} the set vil, var, vum
- b7 $\frac{x \in \text{dvum} \beta \quad y \in \text{bekal}}{(x \ y) \in \text{dvil} \beta}$ did seem good
 β ^{ranges over} the set of endings p, ps, ed
 does sound extreme
- b8 $\frac{x \in \text{dvar} \beta \quad y \in \text{nuon} \vee \text{rom}}{(x \ y) \in \text{dvil} \beta}$ did remember the man
don't know its name
- b9 $\frac{x \in \text{be} \quad y \in \text{bekal} \vee \text{nuon} \vee \text{rom} \vee \emptyset}{(x \ y) \in \text{valp}}$ be good, be human
- b10 $\frac{x \in \text{be} \quad y \in \text{varen} \vee \text{vilping}}{(x \ y) \in \text{velp}}$ be sassed, be working
be drinking the water

- b11 $x \in be$ $y \in varping$ be remembering
 $(x y) \in beping$ be seeing
- b12 $x \in being$ $y \in bekal \vee varen \vee nuon \vee rom$
 $(x y) \in valping$ being naughty
 being taken
 being self sufficient
- b13 $x \in am$ $y \in bekal \vee nuon \vee rom \vee varen \vee vilping \vee valping$
 $(x y) \in amil$ am him, am gone
 am asking the major
 am being a joker
- b14 $x \in was$ $y \in bekal \vee nuon \vee rom \vee varen \vee vilping \vee valping$
 $(x y) \in wasil$
- b15 $x \in is$ $y \in nuon \vee rom \vee bekal \vee varen \vee vilping \vee valping$
 $(x y) \in isil$
- b16 $x \in were \vee are$ $y \in nuon \vee rom \vee bekal \vee varen \vee vilping \vee valping$
 $(x y) \in waril$
- b17 $x \in tave\gamma$ $y \in vilen$ have worked
 $(x y) \in vil\gamma$ had struck oil
 γ ranges over
 γ set of endings ps, ed

- b18 $\frac{x \in \text{tave}\beta \quad y \in \text{vilen}}{(x \ y) \in \text{volp}}$ have seen the man
 (we introduce volp rather than vilp because we do not want "did have seen...")
- b19 $\frac{x \in \text{tave}\beta \quad y \in \text{been}^*}{(x \ y) \in \text{thab}\beta}$ have been, had just been
- b20 $\frac{x \in \text{thab}\gamma \quad y \in \text{bekal} \vee \text{nuon} \vee \text{rom} \vee \text{varen} \vee \text{vilping}}{(x \ y) \in \text{vil}\gamma}$
 had been good
 has been cut
 has been cutting wood
- b21 $\frac{x \in \text{thabp} \quad y \in \text{bekal} \vee \text{nuon} \vee \text{rom} \vee \text{varen} \vee \text{vilping}}{(x \ y) \in \text{volp}}$ have been shot
- c1 $\frac{x \in \text{prons} \vee \text{nuons} \quad y \in \text{vilp} \vee \text{auxvil} \vee \text{dvilp} \vee \text{volp} \vee \text{viled} \vee \text{dviled}}{(x \ y) \in \text{sen}}$
- c2 $\frac{x \in \text{prono} \vee \text{nuono} \quad y \in \text{vilps} \vee \text{auxvil} \vee \text{dvilps} \vee \text{wasil} \vee \text{isil} \vee \text{viled} \vee \text{dviled}}{(x \ y) \in \text{sen}}$
- c3 $\frac{x \in 1 \quad y \in \text{amil} \vee \text{wasil}}{(x \ y) \in \text{sen}}$
- c4 $\frac{x \in \text{iprons} \vee \text{nuons} \quad y \in \text{waril}}{(x \ y) \in \text{sen}}$

* See note in appendix under "thab".

Except for frames (4), (5), (6) which have been neglected and some of the inversions which pop up, the b and c productions cover the predicate structure of the basic statement sentence of English pretty well, tho it might be mentioned that in many people's speech (including the author's own) "got" and "been" have structures not covered here. Fries includes "have to, has to, had to" as a special auxiliary form in itself, but this is not necessary. The infinitive (type invil) serves often as a substantive and fills slot 2 just like any other nuon element. The var predicate have merely has a special affinity for invil elements.

There are certain predicate-like structures involved in many sentences such as: "The continent discovered by Columbus was bleak and menacing. The soldier remembered getting his shots. She wanted to bake a cake." These we will ignore temporarily while we construct our nuon and bekal elements.

A fair number of "substantive" types are needed for an adequate grammar -- he, she, it, they substitutes; who and which correlation forms; classes of substantives with "hard" bases and with predicate bases; and classes with the other special modification structures which crop up. Here we shall be content with three: nugo a singular substantive which

takes an article, fugo a singular substantive which does not take an article, nufs a plural substantive which may or may not take an article. See the appendix for representative lists.

Very commonly in English these types modify each other from the right.

$$d1 \quad \frac{x \in \text{nugo} \vee \text{fugo} \quad y \in B}{(x \ y) \in B}$$

ranges over
B ■ set nugo, fugo, nufs

Excluded by the above
production are phrases like
men friends, formulae maker.
Only irregular plurals can
be used in the modifying
position. These we will
ignore.

school student
target date
air ocean
space frontier
east coast
eye glasses
army officers
Chalumna River
food particles
rock fishes
tree tops

Let us introduce a type ajekal (which will be a subset of bekal) which contains all more or less non substantive

pre-modifiers of substantives. This is by no means a clear cut class. In "the tree tops" "tree" is not an ajekal (because it will not be generally substitutable in ajekal productions) while in "the red coat" "red" can either be type nugo, fugo or ajekal. In "the intuitive man" "intuitive" can only be type ajekal.

Consider three subsets of ajekal; jek, jeker, jekest. We introduce them because they have distinct properties. Jek can be modified by "more" and "most", jeker and jekest cannot, jeker is involved in productions with the word "than" (not discussed), jekest elements can be used as nugo elements, etc.

Also we want to include some elements of varen, vilping, and varping in the ajekal class, but we cannot do this as they stand since we have included all modified forms in these sets. Let avum, avar, avil be sets of completely unmodified predicates, subsets respectively of vum, var, vil. Then avaren, avilping, and avarping are subsets of jek.

d2
$$\frac{x \in \text{nugo} \vee \text{fugo} \quad y \in \text{avaren} \vee \text{avarping}}{(x \ y) \in \text{ajekal}}$$

A (man made) moon

a (nigger hating) Klaner

their (land invading) offspring

- d3 $\frac{x \in \text{jekly} \quad y \in \text{jek}}{(x \ y) \in \text{jek}}$ An (equally striking) finding
- d4 $\frac{x \in \text{less} \vee \text{more} \quad y \in \text{jek}}{(x \ y) \in \text{jeker}}$ A (less enjoyable) day
A (more abandoned) woman
- d5 $\frac{x \in \text{too} \quad y \in \text{jek}}{(x \ y) \in \text{seker}}$ A (too soft) material
- d6 $\frac{x \in \text{least} \vee \text{most} \quad y \in \text{jek}}{(x \ y) \in \text{jekest}}$ The (most characteristic) feature
- d7 $\frac{x \in \text{modek} \quad y \in \text{jek} \vee \text{jeker} \vee \text{seker} \vee \text{jekest}}{(x \ y) \in \text{ajekal}}$
This (very remarkable) chain
A (fairly good) house
A (real gone) guy
- d8 $\frac{x \in \text{mucal} \quad y \in C}{(x \ y) \in C}$ A (far better) man
A (much too noisy) gigolo
C is type jeker or seker
- d9 $\frac{x \in \text{moda} \quad y \in \text{ajekal}}{(x \ y) \in \text{ajekal}}$ A (rather nasty) joke
A (somehow essentially depraved) person

We are now in a position to left-modify our substantives.

$$\text{dl0} \quad \frac{x \in \text{ajekal} \quad y \in \text{nugo}}{(x \ y) \in \text{nago}}$$

$$\text{dl1} \quad \frac{x \in \text{ajekal} \quad y \in \text{fugo}}{(x \ y) \in \text{fago}}$$

$$\text{dl2} \quad \frac{x \in \text{ajekal} \quad y \in \text{nufs}}{(x \ y) \in \text{nafs}}$$

Notice that in rules (dl0) to (dl2) we have introduced types nago, fago, and nafs, specifically so that the products of these rules cannot be used as input for rule (dl). Thus we avoid expressions like "eye dirty glasses" with "dirty" modifying "glasses".

The article productions below are over simplified. For instance "the other" serves as an article and we make no allowance for this. It should be mentioned that article construction in English is more complicated than is commonly thought. It is also sometimes even ambiguous -- does "most famous men" mean "(most famous) men" or "most (famous men)"? In the latter phrase "most" serves as an article. Also we have treated possessive phrases as articles since they function this way.

- e1 $\frac{x \in \text{ajekal} \quad y \in D}{(x \ y) \in D}$ D is the set nug's, fug's, nufs'
- e2 $\frac{x \in \text{pos} \quad y \in \text{nug's} \vee \text{fug's} \vee \text{nufs'}}{(x \ y) \in \text{eths} \wedge \text{eth}}$ my men's, our hat's
- e3 $\frac{x \in \text{eths} \quad y \in \text{nufs'}}{(x \ y) \in \text{eths} \wedge \text{eth}}$ those men's
- e4 $\frac{x \in \text{eth} \quad y \in \text{nug's}}{(x \ y) \in \text{eths} \wedge \text{eth}}$ this man's
- e5 $\frac{x \in \text{fug's}}{(x \ y) \in \text{eths} \wedge \text{eth}}$
- e6 $\frac{x \in \text{alb} \quad y \in \text{reths}}{(x \ y) \in \text{eths}}$ all the, both those
- e7 $\frac{x \in \text{eth} \quad y \in \text{nago}}{(x \ y) \in \text{fago}}$ another man
the house
- e8 $\frac{x \in \text{eths} \quad y \in \text{nafs}}{(x \ y) \in \text{fags}}$ most men
many enchanting places

Note that nafs is also a subset of fags since no plural need take an article.

Vilping and valping we include as subsets of fago since they are frequently used this way.

Fag elements are modified on the right by a variety of structures, the main right modifier being of the type "in the moon", "of the manor" which we call type nal. To construct these we need a new set frep which vaguely includes those words which are generally called prepositions.

f1	$\frac{x \in \text{frep} \quad y \in \text{nuonvrom}}{(x \ y) \in \text{nal}}$	beneath the hatchet of these experiments over the whole envelope on coated fabrics for housing radar stations in the U.S. under (the direction of Byrd) above the atmospheric pressure with seven heads
----	--	---

While we are at it we may as well construct a similar set of predicate modifiers, val, by using the set vrep. Vrep is not identical with frep; neither, unfortunately, is their intersection null.

f2	$\frac{x \in \text{vrep} \quad y \in \text{nuonvrom}}{(x \ y) \in \text{val}}$	toward the mountain to a true arithmetical formula
----	--	---

by liquidating their officers
 as (an invitation to despair)
 on (finding the best materials)
 to Thompson
 from Pierce
 in a competitive postwar world
 for a few months.
 along the highway
 thru space
 about its day's business
 with an electronic machine

There are other words and phrases which seem to belong
 to type val. "Seaward", "forward", "this Monday", "today", "down-
 stream", "then", "that way". Being already overburdened we shall
 not try to set up other productions to generate val phrases
 such as "this Monday", "that way".

Another defect should be mentioned which is obscured
 by the fact that val and nal have a large intersection.
 Altho the val phrases are essentially predicate modifiers
 they do modify some fag elements, namely those fag elements
 whose base is essentially a predicate form. For instance
 we can modify the vilp element "transfer the material" with
 the val element "to any foreign country". And tho it is

e2 $x \in \text{nuon} \delta$ $y \in \text{invil} \vee \text{varen} \vee \text{vilping} \vee \text{valping}$
 $(x \ y) \in \text{nuon} \delta$

the man of the manor to see

regions of the corona giving
forth powerful emissions

the decision to leave a lost
girl walking the street

the decision procedure for
the predicate calculus
discovered by Gentzen

e3 $x \in \text{nuons}$ $y \in \text{whoch}$
 $z \in \text{viled} \vee \text{dviled} \vee \text{vilp} \vee \text{dvilp} \vee \text{volp} \vee \text{auxvil} \vee \text{waril}$
 $(x \ y \ z) \in \text{nuons}$

e4 $x \in \text{nuono}$ $y \in \text{whoch}$
 $z \in \text{viled} \vee \text{dviled} \vee \text{vilps} \vee \text{dvilps} \vee \text{auxvil} \vee \text{wasil} \vee \text{isil}$
 $(x \ y \ z) \in \text{nuono}$

standard items which can be
mass-produced by batteries
of machines

units of his writing which
are the objects of the
teacher's consideration

non-human creatures who
were really alien

the men who enjoyed these
gargantuan decorations

We have ~~some~~ similar productions involving the set whomch (which contains an empty element), however, to construct this modifier we need the elements of a set named nuvar. Nuvar elements require for their generation more than fifteen productions which shall not be listed here. The construction of these productions is routine and shall be left as an exercise for the reader. They are essentially sen frames with an object-like element knocked off at the end.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{e5} \quad \frac{x \in \text{nuon}\delta \quad y \in \text{whomch} \quad z \in \text{nuvar}}{(x \ y \ z) \in \text{nuon}\delta} \end{array}$$

The woman I loved

the r which we pronounce
but do not write (in colonel)

a piping noise which the
queen bee can make by forcing
air thru her abdominal spiracles

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{e6} \quad \frac{w \in \text{nuon}\delta \quad x \in \text{whomch} \quad y \in \text{sen} \quad z \in \text{vrep}}{(w \ x \ y \ z) \in \text{nuon}\delta} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{e7} \quad \frac{w \in \text{nuon}\delta \quad x \in \text{vrep} \quad y \in \text{owhomch} \quad z \in \text{sen}}{(w \ x \ y \ z) \in \text{nuon}\delta} \end{array}$$

let owhomch be whomch minus the empty element

computers for which it does not yet have a suitable list of components

one of the most important agencies by which the bees communicate

a substance which initially would not be either attractive or repellent to salmon to which they would be conditioned

(its pages provide) a hundred hours of the most exasperating reading which a man could ask for

the subject of partial differentiation which we devote this chapter to

There are other modifiers of this kind such as when varen which we see in phrases like "this relation when analyzed". A special class of nuon is modified by when sen and where sen as in "that time when we killed the bottle" or "the university where lunkhead got his degree". For these, productions could easily be generated.

"What" is an interesting word. Such phrases as what nuvar or what auxvil or what vilps serve as nuon elements. Consider: "You know what would have happened to them." "We are safe on that score for what it is worth" (it is worth what) "What people looked for most was extravagance and huge dimension." (people looked for most what) "We can validly deduce no set of statements of what actually exists from any proposition about what ought to be done or what ought to exist."

That sen also serves in the same way as a nuon element, and frequently appears as such in scientific papers. "We proved that our matrix is bounded in the fundamental domain F." "That the triple tangents of the curve of intersection of (36) and S at O coincide with (37) can easily be demonstrated."

Words like "whose" have their own peculiar properties. "Whose" attaches itself to a sentence by gobbling up the first article, if one exists, and in this form acts as a nuon modifier. "There is no question of importance whose decision is not comprised in the science of man." "It loses the collar and becomes a carrier whose function is to transfer the spermatozoon to an egg." Productions can be made to handle these.

Except for one other type of nuon modifier, which we will mention when we construct our bekal elements, this completes our study of the nuon class. It is very nearly an exhaustive treatment, but not entirely as the following illustrations show. "Those near the poles circle in a shorter time than those traveling around the equator, and one band may drift as much as 200 knots faster than the next." "I remember the story of how he came to the college." "The wafers are made of clay, talc, and barium carbonate called steatite." (call is a predicate of frame (4)) "Sawdust laced with oatmeal makes a much better soil for mushroom farming than the usual mixture of compost and straw."

"At 28 Lavoisier married Marie Anne Pierrette Paulze, the 14 year old daughter of a leading member of the Ferme."

Modification of pron and rom elements is a subject which has been ignored due to lack of data. English sentence structure seems to discourage their modification in the usual nuon sense, providing alternate outlets. We never see, "Beautiful I went to town," but rather something like, "I was beautiful as I went to town." Such modification does occur, tho, as in, "You don't love poor little ole me anymore."

We shall now turn to a discussion of bekal elements. We have constructed most of these already in our ajekal set but not all of them. Once the modifier which lies between the article and the substantive has reached a certain size it tends to be shoved out toward the right. We never say, "The bride innocent walked to the altar," but we do say, "The bride innocent in white gown and virginal smile walked to the altar." Therefore let us construct a subset of bekal which we shall call vekal.

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{h1} \quad \frac{x \in \text{ajekal} \vee \text{vekal} \quad y \in \text{valvinvil}}{(x \ y) \in \text{vekal}} \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \text{h2} \quad \frac{x \in \text{nuon} \delta \quad y \in \text{vekal}}{(x \ y) \in \text{nuon} \delta} \end{array}$$

the dependent passive patient
eager to rely on authority
figures

1000 B-17s high in the sky
over Germany

an active agent distinguishable
from adrenalin

the parts essential for intense
physical effort

a growing technical culture
hard pressed for predicates

The intersection of ajekal and vekal elements is our bekal set, the study of which we now consider complete. We do not pretend that we have constructed all possible bekal elements, however. Consider, "It really can't be that small."

Predicate modification is an obscene subject which must be approached with fear and trepidation. Let's start with some of the more exotic forms. "Jake could lip read at forty feet." "He hand tooled the few parts (which) he couldn't buy." "General Motors mass produced another batch of monster barges in 1959." These forms seem to have been impressed into use by a growing technical culture hard pressed for predicates. Predicates left-modified by nugo elements, such as mass or hand or left, is a form with no flexibility in English and as such is essentially idiomatic. As idioms they require separate productions.

There are a fair number of vil and var elements which behave superficially like vum and frame (6) elements respectively. By superficially we mean that only a very limited class of bekal elements can appear in the slot 2 or 3 position. A fair number of such examples are given by Fries (6) page 135. If we wish only to parse, no trouble arises by treating them as members of vum and frame (6), but constructively this is a poor solution. Here is one of the many areas where there is no clear cut division between grammar and semantics. It is perhaps here that the reader should note that any exception, no matter how wild, can always be handled by some special production.

Consider the examples: "The shutter always bangs shut." "A student of mine by the name of Darling blushed red when I called her name." "The baby broke loose from his playpen." "Your wash comes clean clean clean with new blue Crud." "The burglars forced their door open." "I have just the talent to make good as a bum." "This theorem don't ring true nohow." "She turned black and blue after I showed her what's what." Etc.

An important set of post predicate modifiers, we'll call it glup, resembles the vrep set but is by no means identical with it. It is this set which keeps English

teachers whimpering because its members keep turning up at the end of sentences where prepositions are not supposed to turn up. The structural difference between the glup and vrep sets is well illustrated by the sentences, "She turned in the covers," and "They built up the slope." Are "turned" and "built" avil elements modified by the val elements "in the covers", "up the slope", or are they avar elements modified by "in" and "up" with "the covers" and "the slope" in slot 1? That is, do we have a woman making a bed or sleeping in it, do we have a group of people building a house on a slope or building a slope?

Such ambiguities tend to be eliminated in English by various available methods. If the semantic content is not clear we get, "She turned the covers in," (a valid and common solution to a difficult problem in spite of what conventional grammarians say) or "She turned over in the covers." Differences in the glup and vrep sets also eliminate some of the possible ambiguities. "Out" and "in" seem to be similar words but "out" is not a member of vrep. When we say, "They rolled out the barrel," there is no ambiguity. If we want to indicate what happened at the end of the party we say, "They rolled out of the barrel," "out of" serving the same function in vrep as "out" serves in glup.

A glup never modifies an avum, it modifies an avil directly on the right, and may modify an avar directly on the right or directly after the nuon or rom has been added if the latter element is not too long. Left modification of avil by glup in conjunction with an inversion sometimes occurs in kiddies' books, as in, "Up jumped Peter Rabbit," but according to Fries this inversion does not occur in modern spoken English. Glup elements sometimes are used as prefixes as in, "overstay, overeat, upend, upchuck."

11	$\frac{x \in \text{avar}\alpha \quad y \in \text{glup}}{(x \ y) \in \text{bvar}\alpha}$	stamp out, throwing up take down, work up (courage)
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12	$\frac{x \in \text{avar}\alpha \quad y \in \text{nuon} \vee \text{rom} \quad z \in \text{glup}}{(x \ y \ z) \in \text{bvil}\alpha}$	pick the man up knock the man down living the story down
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13	$\frac{x \in \text{avil}\alpha \quad y \in \text{glup}}{(x \ y) \in \text{bvil}\alpha}$	get up, gets down, got out dying down, fell over
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The elements of tobe are also modifiable by glup as in, "the sun is up," but our notation for tobe, which isn't the best, makes this difficult. We shall ignore it.

The predicate modifier sets moda and jekly which we have seen before in conjunction with the construction of ajekal elements have versatile modification properties.

$$14 \quad \frac{x \in \text{jekly} \vee \text{moda} \quad y \in E}{(x \ y) \in E}$$

E ranges over the set bvar^a, dvi^a, auxvil, bvil^a, valp, velp, volp, valping, amil, wasil, isil, waril, invil

clearly could go
somehow did not want it
immediately went
kindly get out of my house
always sing the same song
shortly following its birth

$$15 \quad \frac{x \in F \quad y \in \text{not}}{(x \ y) \in F}$$

F ranges over am, is, was, were, are, do
does, did, aux, have, has, had,
tave

is not, ~~must not~~, ~~does not~~
was not, might not, will not

$$16 \quad \frac{x \in G \quad y \in \text{jekly} \vee \text{moda} \vee \text{val}}{(x \ y) \in G}$$

G ranges over am, is, was, were, are, do
does, did, aux, have, has, had, be, been
tave

Sets like val, vilping, varen, infel seldom premodify predicates, and the only modifier which appears with any regularity between the var element and slot 2 is the glup group. Such sentences are understandable but usually don't ring true, ie, "The man to the station went to get his wife," and "She remembered that evening the man."

But the author has met: "Electrons have seen inside it." "It was believed that the young of a species possessed an inborn capacity for following only their own parents." "This machine has, as its insulator, a tiny slab composed of high purity titanates." "The mushroom, is, in essence, a spore bearing and spore distributing structure." "... which in turn might break up spontaneously by the fission process."

Some more common modification productions are:

$$17 \quad \frac{x \in H \quad y \in \text{val} \vee \text{invil} \vee \text{moda} \vee \text{jekly}}{(x \ y) \in H}$$

H ranges over the set varen, vil α , volp, valp, varping, amil, wasil, isil, waril

$$18 \quad \frac{x \in \text{joen} \quad y \in \text{sen}}{(x \ y) \in \text{val}}$$

wherever they went

(no matter where) they did it

whenever I came aboard

when the vegetation is most
active

because she waited

after my time was up

before atoms can be studied

$$19 \quad \frac{x \in \text{vilping} \vee \text{varen} \vee \text{infel} \vee \text{val} \vee \text{moda} \vee \text{jekly} \quad y \in \text{sen}}{(y \ x) \vee (x \ y) \in \text{sen}}$$

This completes our by no means adequate analysis of predicate modification.

We have neglected to mention the type joiners such as "and" and "or", and "either-or", "neither-nor", "not-but", etc. The productions involved are trivial providing we are careful to take into account such small points as the fact that "and" joining two singular substantives gives a plural substantive.

A whole subject completely ignored involves productions which transform one sentence frame into an equivalent frame, or integrates two sentence frames into one. A simple example follows:

$$\begin{array}{l} j1 \quad \frac{w x y \text{ and } x z v \in a}{w x y \text{ and } z v \in a} \end{array}$$

I wondered and I waited ----
I wondered and waited

$$\begin{array}{l} j2 \quad \frac{w x y \text{ and } z y v \in a}{w x \text{ and } z y v \in a} \end{array}$$

his blue coat and her wool coat
---- his blue and her wool coat

Ignoring such productions as given by (j1) and (j2) it can easily be demonstrated that our system has a decision procedure. Note first that every production given involving $\wedge$ or $\vee$ can be rewritten as a finite number of productions not involving $\wedge$ or $\vee$. Define the rank of the assertion $x \in a$ as the number of occurrences of the space. For each given production, the rank of a datum is less than the rank of the product, therefore in a finite number of ways any assertion can be reduced to a set of assertions of rank zero. Each of these assertions is either possible or impossible by the application of (a1) in a finite manner. Hence a decision procedure.

To illustrate the method, let us parse a few standard English sentences.

A [to describe the patterns of nuon€nuono]

B [is the purpose of this chapter€isil]

to describe the patterns of the contrastive differences that signal these various types of utterances is the purpose of this chapter€sen

Let us consider the construction of a few more sentences in a less formal manner.

Ex 2 After the virus had been split into its two components, these components could recombine under suitable conditions to form particles which looked like the original virus and displayed its properties.

after the virus had been split into its two components€val
after€joen

the virus€nuono

had been split into its two components€viled

had been€thabed

split into its two components€varen

split€varen

into its two components€val

into€vrep

its two components€nuon (here our inadequate treatment of articles comes out: "its two" ought to be type eths, instead we get its€pos€eths, two€ajekal, components€nufs)

these components could recombine under suitable conditions
 to form particles which looked like the original virus and
 displayed its properties €sen
 particles which looked like the original virus and displayed
 its properties €nuon
 particles €nufs
 which €woch
 looked like the original virus €viled
 looked €viled
 like the original virus €val
 like €vrep (like is a peculiar word like as and needs study)
 the original virus €nuon
 displayed its properties €viled
 displayed €avared
 its properties €nuon
 its €eths
 properties €nufs
 (note: viled and viled €viled)
 these components €nuons
 these €eths components €nafs
 could recombine under suitable conditions to form nuon €auxvil
 could €aux
 recombine under suitable conditions to form nuon €vilp
 to form nuon €invil form nuon €vilp form €avarp
 recombine under suitable conditions €vilp recombine €vilp
 under suitable conditions €val

Ex 3 We have a universal pudding composed of certain
known ingrediants mixed in certain proportions

we € prons

certain known ingrediants mixed in certain proportions € nuon

certain known ingrediants € nuon

certain -- this word is multi-ordinal; I believe in this
context it should be in the article class. As an ajekal it
means "sure". Its singular equivalent would be "a certain",
just as "another" is the singular equivalent of "other".

known € avaren € ajekal ingrediants € nufs

mixed in certain proportions € varen

mixed € varen

in certain proportions € val in € vrep certain proportions € nuon

have a universal pudding composed of nuon € vilp

have € avarp

a universal pudding composed of nuon € nuon

a universal pudding € nuon a € eth universal € ajekal

pudding € nug

composed of nuon € varen composed € varen of nuon € val

Ex 4 Little study has been given to identifying the characteristics

little study € nuono little € ajekal study € fugo
 has been given to identifying the characteristics € vilps
 has been € thapps
 given to identifying the characteristics € varen
 given € varen to identifying the characteristics € val
 to € vrep identifying the characteristics € vilping € nuono
 identifying € avarping the characteristics € nuon

E5 He has had considerable experience designing printed circuits.

Here the grammatical structure is ambiguous and without recourse to semantics there is no help for us. If we add a structural detail, an article, one or the other meaning is selected for us, ie, "He has had many experience designing printed circuits," or "He has had experience designing many printed circuits." As is, "designing" can modify either "experience" or "circuits" and our moronical procedure cannot tell us which. Assume the intended meaning.

designing printed circuits € vilping designing € avarping
 printed € avaren € ajekal circuits € nufs
 considerable experience vilping € nuon
 has had nuon € vilps he € prono has € taveps had nuon € vilen
 had € avaren considerable experience € nuon

With this brief demonstration of our method we close our discussion of English as a canonical language. The methods used are open to great improvement but it is encouraging to note that they can be so improved, that we have not reached an impasse. A refining of types and a complex cataloging operation, but no barrier to the solution of the many outstanding grammar problems, is in sight. We should be able to achieve a constructively rigorous set of grammar productions which will carry us to, or past, the boundry line between grammar and semantics.

APPENDIX OF PRIMITIVE TYPES

TYPE

SUBSETS AND SAMPLE ELEMENTS

VIL

vilp	vilps	viled	vilen	vilping
work	works	worked	worked	working
die	dies	died	died	dying
go	goes	went	gone	going

(seemed pretty) (remembers the man) (had to go)
(work in the mine with tools)

the a prefix means the completely unmodified form
the b prefix means the glup modified form
the d prefix is the do, does, did modified form
the aux prefix is the must work, might die, will go
form -- see production b3

avilping is a subset of jek and ajekal and bekal
(a going concern, a working man)

VUM

vump	vumps	vumed	vumen	vum ^P ing
become	becomes	became	become	becoming
remain	remains	remained	remained	remaining
feel	feels	felt	felt	feeling

the a prefix is as above

VAR

varp	varps	vared	varen	varping
have	has	had	had	having
give	gives	gave	given	giving
love	loves	loved	loved	loving
cut	cuts	cut	cut	cutting

the a prefix means the completely unmodified form
the b prefix is the glup modified form

avaren andavarping are subsets of jek, ajekal, bekal

AUX	might, must, can, could, will, would, shall, should, may, won't, shan't, cannot.
TODO	do, does, did, don't, didn't, doesn't. (the auxiliary -- not the <u>do</u> which appears under the var listings.)
TOBE	is, am, was, are, were, ain't, been, be (with -en or -ping a predicate structure, otherwise behaves like a vil, var, or vum.)
VALP	be, be brutal, be a man, be the sugar in my coffee. (the pre-infinitive form of tobe in its vil, var, vum usage.)
VELP	be remembered, be swimming, be cut, be cutting a rug. (the pre-infinitive form of tobe in its auxiliary or predicate usage.)
VALPING	being remembered, being cut in the face, being good, being a man. (the -ping form of tobe in either its vil, var, vum or its predicate usage.)
AMIL WASIL ISIL WARIL	any predicate-tail following, respectively, am, was, is, were or are. (see productions B13 to B16)
TAVE	the auxiliary have, has, had. (forms a predicate structure exclusively with vilen elements) "has taken a watch from me," is the kind of structure it assumes before taking its place among the vil.
THAB	the auxiliary have been, has been, had been. (this set is unnecessary and should be eliminated which can be done easily by making all <u>been</u> forms, ie, been working on the railroad, been good, been taken, been stabbed in the back, elements of vilen.)

- VOLP** have been going, have seen the man, have failed.
(the pre-infinitive form of the tave and that auxiliaries. always begins with have unless premodified. separated from vilp in order to prevent the formation of assertions like, "We did have been rocking the boat.")
- INVIL** the infinitive; vilp, valp, volp, velp premodified by "to" as in, to have been drunk, to slowly ~~turn~~ turn the lock, to see certain smiles.

invil is a subset of nuono and is frequently used as a singular substantive, much more so than is commonly thought.
- NUVAR** (the main use of this set is with which and whom or nothing at all, as a nuon modifier. the object or an object like element is missing, which is to be "filled in" by the modified nuon.)

I loved that morning when the rain came
he wanted Charlie to see
Pappy did not want to leave where it was
- NUGO** (a singular bare substantive which takes an article, is subset of ~~nuono~~ nago, ~~nuono~~)

man, airplane, decision, reason, Canadian, latch cat, house, formula, officer, use, step, connective, attempt, way, result, center, case, outside, diet, work, size, ability, structure, angle, transfer
- FUGO** (a singular bare substantive which does not take an article, is a subset of ~~nuono~~ fago, ~~nuono~~, nuono, nuon.)

smog, time, mud, frien^dship, pride, Russian, mankind, freedom, money, sight, reality, activity, sunset,

nugo and fugo are by no means mutually exclusive sets
- NUFS** (a plural bare substantive, which may or may not take an article, is a subset of nafs, ^{fags}nuono, nuon)

positions, airplanes, modifiers, men, formulae

NAGO FAGO NAFS	(the ajekal modified forms of nugo, fago, nufs, respectively, tho also containing the unmodified forms. negative function, air movement, bluish-gray smog, large group, white flattened bodies, hand drills
NUG'S FUG'S NUFS'	(The possessive forms of nugo, fugo, and nufs respectively.) wife's, wives', man's, men's, Lincoln's, doctor's
I	(contains one element, I, is a subset of prons.)
IPRONS	we, you, they; (is a subset of prons, pron)
PRONS	I, we, you, they; (is a subset of pron)
PRONO	he, she, it; (is a subset of pron)
PRON	I, we, you, they, he, she, it.
ROM	us, you, them, him, her, it.,me.
NUONO NUONS NUON	(the generalized substantive of our grammar; nuon the undifferentiated form, nuono and nuons are the plural and singular subsets respectively. contains nufs, nafs, fugo, fagovas subsets, also invil, vilping, valping. fags God, the meaning of the modification structure with a class 3 word as head, the answer to the enigma of the spirals, one of the most challenging questions, this differential rotation, this issue, the two features of the steady state theory that seem to cause the greatest surprise, etc.
POS	my, your, her, his, its, our, their, John's.
RETHS	(is a subset of eths) the, those, these.

ALB	all, both (this both not to be mixed with both-and) (alb is a subset of eths.)
ETHS	many, any, few, two, some, no, most, other, various, more, such, ten, fourteen
ETH	the, a, an, this, that, every, no, any, either, neither, one, some, much, more, another
UND	and, but, or, not, rather than
ITHOR	either-or, neither-nor, both-and, not-but
FAGS	(an article-fixed nafs, subset of nuons)
JEK	good, bright, cheap, hard, bitter, dirty, beastly bookish, brutal, famous, angelic, spectacular, momentary, peaceful, faithless, lifelike, fortunate, wooden, ragged, confident, creative, readable, meddlesome, desolate. (a subset of ajekal, bekal)
JEKER	better, brighter, cheaper, harder, worse, less
SEKER	too soft, too nice, too bookish, too bitter
JEKEST	best, brightest, cheapest, dirtiest, worst, most, least
JEKLY	brightly, bitterly, momentarily, brutally, cheaply very brightly, terribly brutally, rather cheaply
MODEK	very, quite, fairly, terrikly, real, awfully, awful, pretty
MUCAL	much, little, far, "great deal"

MODA	rather, even, just, still, really, so, somehow surely, now, hardly, also, always, already, mostly, merely, actually
AJEKAL	(a left modifier of substantives, contains avilping, avarping, avaren, jek, jeker, jekest, seker, is itself a subset of bekal.)
BEKAL	(is associated with vum predicates in slot 2, contains subsets ajekal and vekal, qualitatively modifies substantives.)
VEKAL	(see production h1)
FREP	beneath, of, over, on, for, in, under, above, with. (as the grammar herein stands with minimal substantive differentiation, there is very little difference between this set and vrep)
VREP	toward, to, by, as, on, from, in, for, along, thru, about, with, out of, back of, off (see note above for frep)
NAL	(see production f1)
VAL	(see production f2)
WHOCH	who, that, which (insufficient differentiation of our substantives prevents the breakdown of this set into <u>who</u> and <u>that, which</u> .)
WHOMCH	whom, which, and an empty element. (see note above. associated with set nuvar. owhomch is subset of whomch, minus the empty element.)
GLUP	up, down, out, back, off, over
JOEN	wherever, whenever, when, where, no matter where, because, long after, after, before

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