

## Reduction of CFG

Reduction of the grammar simply means the simplification of a grammar by elimination of unnecessary symbols (terminals or non-terminals)

### Condition for a reduced grammar

A reduced grammar is one which satisfies the following conditions:

- (1) It does not contain null productions i.e.  
 $A \rightarrow \epsilon$
- (2) It does not contain unit productions i.e.  
 $A \rightarrow B$  where  $A$  and  $B$  are non-terminals
- (3) It doesn't contain useless symbols.

## Removal of NULL Production

A production of the form

$A \rightarrow \lambda$  is called NULL production.

A variable ' $A$ '  $A \in V_N$  is said to be Nullable variable

if  $A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda$ ,  $A$  is said to be nullable, if it derives  $\epsilon$  in zero or more steps.

Steps for Removal of NULL production derives  $\epsilon$ .

- 1) Find all nullable variables which directly or indirectly
- 2) Write all the production whose RHS doesn't include nullable variable.
- 3) Now, consider the production, whose RHS include the nullable variable.

New production will be formed either by.

- (i) Not erasing the nullable variable on the RHS.
- (ii) By erasing one or more nullable variable from the RHS provided that some symbol must appear on the RHS.

① Consider the following grammar, construct CFG  
without Null production.  
 $A \rightarrow \lambda$   
 $S \rightarrow aS \mid AB$   
 $B \rightarrow \lambda$   
 $D \rightarrow b$   
 $L(G) = \{ \lambda \}$

Sol. find all nullable variable

$$W = \{ A \mid A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda, A \in V_N \}$$

$$= \{ A, B, S \}$$

Since  $A \rightarrow \lambda$

$B \rightarrow \lambda$

$S \rightarrow AB$

Step 2 construction of P'

Now consider the production whose RHS  
(a) doesn't include nullable variable

$D \rightarrow b$

(b) Now consider the production whose RHS  
include the nullable variable

New production will be formed either

(i) by not erasing the nullable variable  
on the RHS  
or

(ii) by erasing one or more nullable variable  
from the RHS provided that



some symbol must appear on the RHS.

(1)  $S \rightarrow aS$  gives  $S \rightarrow aS, S \rightarrow a$

(ii)  $S \rightarrow AB$  gives  $S \rightarrow AB, S \rightarrow A, S \rightarrow B$

Now the production (P')

$D \rightarrow b$

$S \rightarrow aS \mid a$

$S \rightarrow AB \mid A \mid B$

(2)

② Remove the NULL production from CFG,  
whose production is given below:

$$S \rightarrow XYX$$

$$X \rightarrow 0X \mid \lambda$$

$$Y \rightarrow 1Y \mid \lambda$$

Sol.

CFG  $G (V_N, \Sigma, P, S)$

$$V_N = \{ S, X, Y \}$$

$$\Sigma = \{ 0, 1 \}$$

$$S = \{ S \}$$

Step 1: find all nullable variable

$$\begin{aligned} W &= \{ A \mid A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda, A \in V_N \} \\ &= \{ X, Y, S \} \end{aligned}$$

Since  $X \rightarrow \lambda$

$$Y \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$S \rightarrow XYX$$

Step 2: (a) Write all the production whose RHS doesn't include nullable variable

$\emptyset$

(b) Now consider the production, whose RHS contain the nullable variable.

(i) New production will be formed by either by not erasing the nullable variable on the RHS or

(ii) by erasing one or more nullable variable from the RHS provided that some symbol must appear on the RHS.

$S \rightarrow XYX$  gives  $S \rightarrow XYX, S \rightarrow YX, S \rightarrow XX,$   
 $S \rightarrow XY, S \rightarrow X, S \rightarrow Y$

$X \rightarrow OX$  gives  $X \rightarrow OX, X \rightarrow O$

$Y \rightarrow 1Y$  gives  $Y \rightarrow 1Y, Y \rightarrow 1$

Now the production  $P'$

$S \rightarrow XYX \mid YX \mid XX \mid XY \mid X \mid Y$

$X \rightarrow OX \mid O$

$Y \rightarrow 1Y \mid 1$

3

$$S \rightarrow ABC$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$C \rightarrow C$$

Sol.

$$\text{CFG } G (V_N, \Sigma, P, S)$$

$$V_N = \{S, A, B, C\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{C\}$$

$$S = \{S\}$$

Step 1: Find all nullable variables:

$$W = \{A \mid A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda \mid A \in V_N\}$$
$$= \{A, B\}$$

Step 2: write all the production whose

a) RHS doesn't include nullable variable.

$$C \rightarrow C$$

b) Now consider the production whose RHS include the nullable variable.

$S \rightarrow ABC$  gives  $S \rightarrow ABC, S \rightarrow AC, S \rightarrow BC, S \rightarrow C$

Now the production  $P'$

$S \rightarrow ABC \mid AC \mid BC \mid \underline{C}$   
 $C \rightarrow C$



eg. ④  $S \rightarrow aS | bS | \epsilon$

Eliminate  $\epsilon$ -productions

Ans.  $S \rightarrow aS | bS | a | b$

⑤  $S \rightarrow AB$   
 $A \rightarrow aAA | \epsilon$   
 $B \rightarrow bBB | \epsilon$

Eliminate  $\epsilon$ -productions

Ans.  $S \rightarrow AB | A | B$   
 $A \rightarrow aAA | aA | a$   
 $B \rightarrow bBB | bB | b$

⑥  $S \rightarrow ABAC$   
 $A \rightarrow aA | \epsilon$   
 $B \rightarrow bB | \epsilon$   
 $C \rightarrow c$

Ans.  $S \rightarrow ABAC | BAC | ABC | \epsilon AC | BC | \epsilon AAC | \epsilon$   
 $A \rightarrow aA | a$   
 $B \rightarrow bB | b$   
 $C \rightarrow c$

7.

$$S \rightarrow a | Ab | aBa$$

$$A \rightarrow A | \lambda$$

$$B \rightarrow b | A$$

Sol.

$$\text{CFG } G(V_N, \Sigma, P, S)$$

$$V_N = \{S, A, B\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{a, b\}$$

$$S = \{S\}$$

Step 1: Find all nullable variable

$$W = \{ A \mid A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda, A \in V_N \}$$

$$= \{A, B\}$$

$$\text{Since } A \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$B \rightarrow A \quad (\text{indirectly})$$

Step 2.

Now, Consider the production whose RHS, ~~write all the variable~~ doesn't include all nullable variable.

$$S \rightarrow a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

Step 2 (ii) Now consider the production,  
whose RHS include nullable variable.

$S \rightarrow aBa$  gives

$S \rightarrow Ab$  gives

$A \rightarrow A$  gives

$B \rightarrow A$  gives

$S \rightarrow aBa, S \rightarrow a^a, \text{ and } S \rightarrow \epsilon$

$S \rightarrow Ab, S \rightarrow b$

$A \rightarrow A$

$B \rightarrow A$

final production

$S \rightarrow a \mid aBa \mid aa \mid Ab \mid b$

$A \rightarrow A$

$B \rightarrow A \mid b$

eg.  $S \rightarrow aS | bS | \epsilon$

Eliminate  $\epsilon$  productions, if any.

Solution

The given grammar is:

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow bS$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Step 1: Identify the nullable variables:

The nullable variable is  $S$ .

Step 2: Create two versions of all productions having nullable variables:

for production  $S \rightarrow aS$ :

$$S \rightarrow aS \text{ (with } S)$$

$$S \rightarrow a \text{ (without } S)$$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow aS \text{ (with } S) \\ S \rightarrow a \text{ (without } S) \end{array} \right\} S \rightarrow aS | a$$

for production  $S \rightarrow bS$

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow bS \\ S \rightarrow b \end{array} \right\}$$

$$S \rightarrow bS | b$$

Thus, the complete production becomes

$$S \rightarrow aS | bS | a | b$$

This is the required grammar.



(2)

Consider the following grammar

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aAA | \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow bBB | \epsilon$$

eliminate  $\epsilon$  productions, if any.

Solution:

The given grammar is:

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aAA$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow bBB$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Step 1. Identify the nullable variable

Nullable variables :  $S, A, B$

Step 2: create two versions of all productions having nullable variables

(i) for production :  $S \rightarrow AB$

Considering  $A^2$   $S \rightarrow AB$

$$S \Rightarrow A$$

$$S \rightarrow B$$

$$S \rightarrow AB | B$$

### Considering B

Two versions of this production are:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow AB \\ S \rightarrow A \end{array} \right\} \quad S \rightarrow AB|A$$

### Considering both A and B

Two versions of this production are:

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow AB \\ S \rightarrow \epsilon \end{array} \right\} \quad S \rightarrow AB$$

Thus, complete production becomes:

$$S \rightarrow AB|B|AB|A|AB$$

$$\boxed{S \rightarrow AB|A|B}$$

\* for production  $A \rightarrow aAA$

### Considering first A

Two versions of this production are

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (i) \quad A \rightarrow aAA \\ (ii) \quad A \rightarrow aA \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow A \rightarrow aAA|aA$$

### Considering second A

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} (i) \quad A \rightarrow aAA \\ (ii) \quad A \rightarrow aA \end{array} \right\} \rightarrow A \rightarrow aAA|aA$$

Considering both A

$$A \rightarrow aAA$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

}

$$A \rightarrow aAA|a$$

Thus,

Complete production becomes.

$$A \rightarrow aAA|aA|aAA|aA|aAA|a$$

$$A \rightarrow aAA|aA|a$$

\* for production

$$B \rightarrow bBB$$

Considering just B

$$B \rightarrow bBB$$

$$B \rightarrow bB$$

}

$$B \rightarrow bBB|bB$$

Considering second B

$$B \rightarrow bBB|bB$$

Considering both

$$B \rightarrow bBB|b$$

Thus, complete production becomes

$$B \rightarrow bBB|bB|bBB|bB|bBB|b$$

$$B \rightarrow bBB|bB|b$$

Thus, grammar after elimination of  $\epsilon$  productions are

$$S \rightarrow AB | A | B$$

$$A \rightarrow aAA | aA | a$$

$$B \rightarrow bBB | bB | b$$

eg 3. consider the following grammar

$$S \rightarrow aS | AB$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$D \rightarrow b$$

Eliminate  $\epsilon$  productions, if any.

$$W = \{A \mid A \xrightarrow{*} \lambda, A \in V_n\}$$

Solution

The nullable variables are:

$A, B, S$  (indirectly)

$$S \rightarrow AB.$$

Since -  $A \rightarrow \lambda$   $S \rightarrow AB.$   
 $B \rightarrow \lambda$

The grammar after eliminating  $\epsilon$  - production

$$\left[ \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow aS \\ S \rightarrow a \\ D \rightarrow b \end{array} \right] \left[ \begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow AB | A | B | aS | a \\ D \rightarrow b \end{array} \right]$$



eg. 4.

Consider the following grammar

$$S \rightarrow ABAC$$

$$A \rightarrow aA | \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow bB | \epsilon$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

Eliminate  $\epsilon$  productions

Solution :

The nullable variables are :

A, B

The grammar after eliminate  $\epsilon$ -productions is:

$$S \rightarrow ABAC \mid BAC \mid AAC \mid ABC \mid BC \mid C \mid AC$$

$$A \rightarrow aA \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow bB \mid b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$