

Page Number	12	Student ID	20601
Date	20/9	Student Name	S. K. S. Reddy

TUTORIAL SESSION 12:

Normal Form: GNF

Concept Building

Greibach Normal Form (GNF)

It is a specific type of context-free grammar that simplifies the structure of production rules to facilitate parsing and theoretical analysis. It is named after Sheila Greibach, an American computer scientist who made significant contributions to formal language theory.

Characteristics of Greibach Normal Form

A context-free grammar is in Greibach Normal Form if every production rule adheres to the following form:

$$A \rightarrow a\alpha$$

Here, A is a non-terminal symbol, 'a' is a terminal symbol, and α (alpha) is a (possibly empty) string of non-terminal symbols. This form ensures that each production rule begins with a terminal symbol followed by zero or more non-terminals.

Importance of Greibach Normal Form

Algorithmic Parsing: GNF is particularly useful for constructing top-down parsers, such as recursive descent parsers, because it guarantees that each production begins with a terminal symbol, making it easier to decide which rule to apply based on the next input symbol.

Theoretical Analysis: GNF simplifies the analysis of context-free grammars by providing a uniform structure for production rules. This uniformity aids in proving properties about languages and grammars, such as closure properties and decidability.

Equivalence to Other Forms: Any context-free grammar can be converted to an equivalent GNF grammar that generates the same language. This conversion preserves the language while restructuring the grammar for easier parsing.

Steps to Convert a Context-Free Grammar to GNF

Converting a context-free grammar to GNF involves several steps, often requiring intermediate transformations and the introduction of new non-terminals:

Remove Left Recursion: Ensure that the grammar is free from left recursion, as left-recursive rules cannot be converted directly to GNF.

Eliminate Non-Productive and Unreachable Symbols: Remove any non-productive symbols (symbols that do not derive any terminal strings) and unreachable symbols (symbols that cannot be reached from the start symbol).

Ensure Proper Ordering: Ensure that the non-terminals in the grammar are ordered such that when converting each rule to GNF, the right-hand side contains only non-terminals that have already been processed.

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGUAGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	132
		Page 132 of 261

Experiment #	12	Student ID	30609
Date	22/7	Student Name	S.R.S. Reddy

Pre-Tutorial (To be completed by student before attending tutorial session)

1. Convert the given CFG to GNF:

$$S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow BS \mid b, B \rightarrow SA \mid a$$

$$V \rightarrow T$$

$$V \rightarrow T \cup$$

Solution:

(i) No epsilon transition

(ii) No units transition

$$(ii) S \rightarrow AB \quad A \rightarrow b \quad B \rightarrow a$$

$$\rightarrow ba$$

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

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$\rightarrow ba$$

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

(iv) ~~S~~ $A \rightarrow b, B \rightarrow a$ are GNF

$$S \rightarrow AB \quad S \rightarrow bB \checkmark$$

$$A \rightarrow BS \quad A \rightarrow aS \checkmark$$

$$B \rightarrow SA \quad B \rightarrow sb \checkmark$$

(v) G_{NF}

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aAB \mid b$$

$$B \rightarrow bBA \mid a$$

$$pl: \{A \rightarrow b \mid aS\}$$

$$B \rightarrow sb \mid b$$

$$S \rightarrow bB \}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24 134
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 134 of 261

Experiment #	12	Student ID	20607
Date	20/9	Student Name	S.R.S Reddy

2. Transform the following grammar into GNF. $S \rightarrow AA \mid 0, A \rightarrow SS \mid 1$

Solution:

Simplification

1) Epsilon transitions

$$P: \{S \rightarrow AA \mid 0, A \rightarrow SS \mid 1\}$$

No epsilon

2) No unit transition

3) Useless transitions

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow AA & A \rightarrow SS \\ S \rightarrow '1' & \rightarrow '00' \end{array}$$

A) GNF

$$S \rightarrow AA$$

$$\Rightarrow S \rightarrow SSSS \mid SS1 \mid 1SS \mid 11$$

$$A \rightarrow SS$$

$$\Rightarrow A \rightarrow AAAA \mid AA0 \mid 0AA \mid 00$$

Final:

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow 0(1SS \mid SS1 \mid 11) \mid SSSS, A \rightarrow 00 \mid 0AA \mid AAO \mid AAAA \}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 135 of 26

136	Experiment #	12	Student ID	30607
	Date	20/9	Student Name	G.R.S. Perdy

3. Find GNF equivalent for the given CFG:

$$S \rightarrow CA \mid BB, B \rightarrow b \mid SB, C \rightarrow b, A \rightarrow a$$

Solution:

Simplification

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow CA \mid BB \\ B \rightarrow b \mid SB \\ C \rightarrow b \\ A \rightarrow a \}$$

1) Epsilon transitions

No epsilon

2) Unit transition

No Unit transition

3) Useless transitions

$$S \rightarrow CA \quad B \rightarrow 'b' \quad C \rightarrow 'b' \quad A \rightarrow 'a' \\ \rightarrow 'ba'$$

4) GNF:

$$P': \{ S \rightarrow ba \mid bb \\ B \rightarrow b \mid baB \mid bbB \\ C \rightarrow b \\ A \rightarrow a \}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	136
		Page 136 of 261

IN-TUTORIAL (To be carried out in presence of faculty in classroom)

1. Convert the following grammar into Greibach Normal Form:

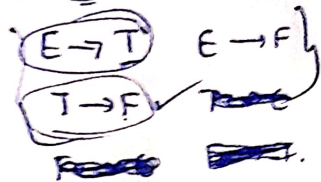
$$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T, T \rightarrow T^* F \mid F, F \rightarrow (E) \mid a$$

Solution:

Simplification

(i) No Epsilon

(ii) Unit



$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow T^* F \checkmark \\ T &\rightarrow a / (E) \checkmark \\ E &\rightarrow a / (E) \checkmark \end{aligned}$$

$$\Rightarrow \begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow E + T \mid a / (E) \mid T^* F \\ T &\rightarrow T^* F \mid a / (E) \\ F &\rightarrow (E) \mid a \end{aligned}$$

(iii) Remove useless transition.

$$E \rightarrow a \quad T \rightarrow a \quad F \rightarrow a$$

No useless

(iv) Final GNF

$$\begin{aligned} S: \{ & E \rightarrow FT'E' \\ & E' \rightarrow +FT'e' \\ & T \rightarrow FT' \\ & T' \rightarrow *FT' \\ & F \rightarrow (FT'E')a \} \end{aligned}$$

138	Experiment #	12	Student ID	30621
	Date	20/7	Student Name	S.P.S. Reddy

2. Convert the following CFG to GNF $S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow BS \mid a, B \rightarrow SA \mid b$.

Solution:

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow AB \\ A \rightarrow BS \mid a \\ B \rightarrow SA \mid b \}$$

Simplification of CFG

(i) No nullable values

\therefore No Epsilon transitions

(ii) Unit transitions

\therefore No Unit transitions

(iii) Remove Useless transitions

$$S \rightarrow AB \quad A \rightarrow a \quad B \rightarrow b \\ \rightarrow ab$$

\therefore No Useless transitions

(iv) Final GNF

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow aSA \mid ab \mid bSSA \mid bSb \\ A \rightarrow a \mid SAS \mid bS \\ B \rightarrow b \mid SA \}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	138
		Page 138 of 261

1. Transfer the following points to your classmate's copy.

Answer:

- 1. $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$
- 2. $4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6$
- 3. $7 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 9$

2. Write the following points.

1. The following points are given:

a. There are 100 students in the class.

2. The following points are given:

a. There are 100 students in the class.

3. The following points are given:

- 1. $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3$
- 2. $4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6$
- 3. $7 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 9$

3. Copy

1. $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 3 \rightarrow 4 \rightarrow 5 \rightarrow 6 \rightarrow 7 \rightarrow 8 \rightarrow 9 \rightarrow 10$

2. $11 \rightarrow 12 \rightarrow 13 \rightarrow 14 \rightarrow 15$

3. $16 \rightarrow 17 \rightarrow 18 \rightarrow 19 \rightarrow 20$

Experiment #	12	Student ID	30607
Date	20/9	Student Name	S.P.S.P.

4. A grammar G is defined with rules $S \rightarrow XA \mid BB$, $B \rightarrow b \mid SB$, $X \rightarrow b$, $A \rightarrow a$. Write the productions obtained after normalized GNF of G.

Solution:

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow XA \mid BB$$

$$B \rightarrow b \mid SB$$

$$X \rightarrow b$$

$$A \rightarrow a \}$$

$$V \rightarrow T$$

$$V \rightarrow T V'$$

Simplification

1) Epsilon transitions

No Nullable Values

2) Unit Values

No Unit Values

3) Useless transitions

$$S \rightarrow XA \quad B \rightarrow b \quad X \rightarrow b \quad A \rightarrow a$$

$$\rightarrow 'ba'$$

4) GNF

Already GNF

$$X \rightarrow b \checkmark$$

$$A \rightarrow a \checkmark$$

$$B \rightarrow b \checkmark$$

Final GNF

$$P1: \{ \cancel{S \rightarrow bSA \mid bBSA \mid bSSA} \mid S \rightarrow$$

$$S \rightarrow ba \mid bB \mid SB B.$$

$$B \rightarrow b \mid baB \mid bBB \mid aB BB$$

$$X \rightarrow b$$

$$A \rightarrow a \}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGUAGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
		140
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 140 of 261

Experiment #	12	Student ID	30607
Date	20/9	Student Name	S.P.S. Reddy

Post-Tutorial (To be carried out by student after attending tutorial session)

1. Convert the following CFG to GNF: $S \rightarrow AB$, $A \rightarrow BSB$, $A \rightarrow a$, $B \rightarrow b$

Solution:

$$P: \{ S \rightarrow AB \\ A \rightarrow BSB \\ A \rightarrow a \\ B \rightarrow b \}$$

Simplification

1) Epsilon transition
No nullable values.

2) Unit productions
No unit production

3) Useless

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow AB & A &\rightarrow BSB & B &\rightarrow b \\ &\rightarrow 'ab' & &\rightarrow bABb & & \\ & & &\rightarrow 'bab' & & \end{aligned}$$

4) GNF

Already GNF Find GNF

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow a \\ B &\rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} P: \{ S &\rightarrow ba | bB | SBB \\ B &\rightarrow b | baB | bBB \\ X &\rightarrow a \\ A &\rightarrow a \} \end{aligned}$$

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 141 of 261

2. Convert the following CFG to GNF : $S \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow aBa \mid a, B \rightarrow bAb \mid b$

Solution:

P: $\{S \rightarrow A$
 $A \rightarrow aBa \mid a$
 $B \rightarrow bAb \mid b\}$

Simplification

1) No epsilon

2) No Unit

3) Useless

$S \rightarrow A \quad A \rightarrow a$
 $\rightarrow a \quad B \rightarrow b$

4) GNF

Already GNF

$A \rightarrow a$

$B \rightarrow b$

Final

P: $\{S \rightarrow ~~aB~~ ~~aBa~~ aBa \mid a$

$A \rightarrow a ~~bS~~ aBa \mid a$

$B \rightarrow ~~b~~ bAb \mid b \}$

3. Write the steps for removing null productions and unreachable symbols? Explain with an example of your own.

Solution:

1. Removing null productions

• Identify nullable non-terminals.

• For each nullable non-terminal, add new productions.

• Remove the null productions.

2) Remove Unreachable Symbols

• Identify reachable symbols by starting from the start symbol and marking symbols used in productions.

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 142 of 261

Experiment #	12	Student ID	30697
Date	20/9	Student Name	S. V. S. Reddy

Viva Questions

1. What is Greibach Normal Form (GNF) in the context of context-free grammars, and what are its characteristics?

Answer:

GNF is a special form of context-free grammars where every production rule starts with a terminal followed by zero or more terminals.

2. What are some practical applications of Greibach Normal Form in computer science?

Answer:

1. Top-Down parsing
2. Theoretical Analysis
3. Proving Grammar Correctness

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGUAGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 143 of 261

144	Experiment #	12	Student ID	30409
	Date	20/9	Student Name	S.R.S. Reddy

3. Can you describe the process of converting a context-free grammar into Greibach Normal Form?

Answer:

To convert a CNF to GNF

1) Start by removing left recursion -


2) ensure every production starts with a terminal

$V \rightarrow T$

$V \rightarrow TV^*$

3) Replacing non-terminals with proper terminal first rule

(For Evaluator's use only)

Comment of the Evaluator (if Any)	Evaluator's Observation
	Marks Secured: 50 out of 50
	Full Name of the Evaluator:
	Signature of the Evaluator Date of
	Evaluation:  21/9/24

Course Title	AUTOMATA THEORY AND FORMAL LANGAUGES	ACADEMIC YEAR: 2023-24
		144
Course Code(s)	22CS2002A	Page 144 of 261