

Theory of Automata and Formal Language

Lecture-28

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Pumping Lemma for Context Free Languages

Let L be an infinite context free language. Then there exists some positive integer n such that any $x \in L$ with $|x| \geq n$, can be decomposed as

$$x = uvwxy$$

with $|vxy| \leq n$ and $|vx| \geq 1$,

such that

$$uv^iwx^iy \in L, \forall i = 0, 1, 2, 3, \dots$$

Application: This lemma is used to show a given language is not context free.

Example: Show that the language

$$L = \{ a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$$

is not context free.

Solution:

Exercise

1. $L = \{ww \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$
2. $L = \{a^{n!} \mid n \geq 0\}$
3. $L = \{a^n b^j \mid n = j^2\}$
4. $L = \{a^{n^2} \mid n \geq 0\}$
5. $L = \{a^p \mid p \text{ is a prime number}\}$
6. $L = \{a^n b^j c^k \mid k > n, k > j\}$

Decision Properties of Regular and Context Free Languages

Theorem: Given a context free grammar $G=(V,\Sigma,S,P)$, there exists an algorithm for deciding whether or not $L(G)$ is empty.

Proof: For the simplicity, we assume that $\epsilon \notin L(G)$. We use the algorithm for removing useless symbols and productions. If S is found to be useless, then $L(G)$ is empty otherwise $L(G)$ contains at least one element.

Context Free Grammar

Theorem: Given a context free grammar $G=(V,\Sigma,S,P)$, there exists an algorithm for deciding whether or not $L(G)$ is infinite.

Proof: We assume that G contains no ϵ – *productions*, no unit-productions, and no useless symbols.

Convert the grammar into CNF.

We draw a directed graph whose vertices are variables in G . If $A \rightarrow BC$ is a production, then there are directed edges from A to B and A to C .

L is finite iff the directed graph has no cycles.

Theorem: Show that there exists an algorithm for deciding whether a regular language, L is empty.

Proof: Construct a deterministic finite automata M accepting L . Determine the set of all the states reachable from q_0 . If this set contains a final state, then L is non-empty otherwise L is empty.

Theorem: Show that there exists an algorithm for deciding whether a regular language, L is infinite.

Proof: Construct a deterministic finite automata M accepting L . L is infinite iff M has a cycle.

AKTU Examination Questions

1. Convert the following CFG to its equivalent GNF:
 $S \rightarrow AA$ a, $A \rightarrow SS$ b.
2. Prove that the following Language $L = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$ is not Context Free.
3. Is context free language closed under union? If yes, give an example.
4. Remove useless productions from the following grammar
 $S \rightarrow AB/ab$, $A \rightarrow a/aA/B$, $B \rightarrow D/E$
5. Reduce the given Grammar $G = (\{S,A,B\}, \{a,b\}, S, P)$ to Chomsky Normal Form, where P is the following
 $S \rightarrow bA/aB$, $A \rightarrow a/aS/bAA$, $B \rightarrow b/bS/aBB$

Context Free Grammar

6. Discuss the inherent ambiguity of context free languages with suitable example. Construct the context free grammar that accept the following language

$$L = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i = j \text{ or } j = k\}$$

7. Define the parse tree. Construct the parse tree for the string abbcde considering the productions

$$S \rightarrow aAcBe, A \rightarrow b/Ab, B \rightarrow d$$

Is this ambiguous? Justify.

8. Prove or disprove that union and concatenation of two context free languages is also context free.

9. Prove that the language $L = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$ is neither regular nor context free.

10. Determine the language generated by grammar $S \rightarrow Sab|aSb|abS|baS|L$

11. What is inherent ambiguity? Explain with the help of suitable example.

Context Free Grammar

12. Remove the Unit productions from the following grammar: $S \rightarrow aSb \mid A$, $A \rightarrow cAd \mid cd$

13. Write the procedure to convert a given CFG into equivalent grammar in CNF. Apply the procedure and convert the grammar with following production into CNF: $S \rightarrow bA \mid aB$, $A \rightarrow bAA \mid aS \mid a$, $B \rightarrow aBB \mid bS \mid b$

14. Define Greibach normal form for a CFG. Reduce the following CFG into GNF:

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

15. Let G be the grammar $S \rightarrow 0B \mid 1A$, $A \rightarrow 0 \mid 0S \mid 1AA$, $B \rightarrow 1 \mid 1S \mid 0BB$

For the string 00110101, find: (i) The leftmost derivation. (ii) The rightmost derivation. (iii) The derivation tree.

Context Free Grammar

16. Check whether the grammar is ambiguous or not.

$R \rightarrow R+R / RR / R^* / a / b / c$. Obtain the string $w = a+b*c$

17. Eliminate unit productions in the grammar. $S \rightarrow A/bb$ $A \rightarrow B/b$
 $B \rightarrow S/a$

18. Find out whether the language $L = \{x^n y^n z^n | n \geq 1\}$ is context free or not.

19. Convert the following CFG into CNF

$S \rightarrow XY / X^n / p$

$X \rightarrow mX / m$

$Y \rightarrow X^n / o$

20. Convert the following CFG into CNF $S \rightarrow ASA / aB$, $A \rightarrow B / S$, $B \rightarrow b / \epsilon$

21. Write CFG for language $L = \{a^n b^n | n \geq 0\}$. Also convert it into CNF.

22. Define ambiguity. Show that the grammar G with following production is ambiguous.

$S \rightarrow a / aAb / abSb, A \rightarrow aAAb / bS$

23. Convert the following grammar in GNF: $S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow BS / a, B \rightarrow SA / b$

24. Define derivation Tree. Show the derivation tree for string 'aabbbb' with the following grammar $S \rightarrow AB/\epsilon, A \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow Sb$.