

From the previous discussion, the grammar is

$$S \rightarrow A.B$$

$$A \rightarrow 1A/2A/3A/4A/5A/6A/7A/8A/9A/0/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9$$

$$B \rightarrow 0B/1B/2B/3B/4B/5B/6B/7B/8B/9B/1/2/3/4/5/6/7/8/9$$

Example 2.31 Construct the grammar for WW^R , where $W \in (a, b)^*$.

Solution: The string W consists of a and b . W can be a null string also. W^R is the reverse string of W .

The number of characters in the string WW^R will always be even, except the null string.

So, the string is nothing but an even palindrome of a and b including the null string. The grammar is

$$S \rightarrow aSa/bSb/\varepsilon$$

Example 2.32 Construct the grammar for the language

$$L = a^n b^n c^m d^m \quad m, n > 0.$$

Solution: The total string can be divided into two parts: (i) string of a and b , where the number of a and the number of b are the same and (ii) string of c and d , where the number of c and d is the same.

From the start symbol, there will be two non-terminals A and B , where A will generate $a^n b^n$ and B will generate $c^m d^m$. In the language set, there will be no null string. So the grammar is

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb/ab$$

$$B \rightarrow cBd/cd$$

Example 2.33 Construct the grammar for the language

$$L = a^n c^m d^m b^n \quad m, n > 0.$$

Solution: In between a and b , there is an equal number of c and d . The number of a and the number of b are the same.

So, we have to construct $a^n b^n$ with a non-terminal in between a^n and b^n . From that non-terminal, $c^m d^m$ will be produced.

The grammar constructed according to the previous discussion is

$$S \rightarrow aSb/aAb$$

$$A \rightarrow cAd/cd$$

2.2 The Chomsky Hierarchy

The Chomsky hierarchy is an important contribution in the field of formal language and automata theory. In the mid-1950, Noam Chomsky, at the Harvard University, started working on formal languages and grammars. He structured a hierarchy of formal languages based on the properties of the grammars required to generate the languages. The Chomsky hierarchy drives automata theory one step forward.

Chomsky classified the grammar into four types depending on the production rules.

These are as follows:

Type 0: Type 0 grammar is a phase structure grammar without any restriction. All grammars are type 0 grammar.

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For type 0 grammar, the production rules are in the format of

$$\{(L_c)(NT)(R_c)\} \rightarrow \{\text{String of terminal or non-terminals or both}\}$$

$$L_c : \text{Leftcontext} R_c : \text{Rightcontext} NT : \text{Non-terminal}$$

Type 1: Type 1 grammar is called context-sensitive grammar.

For type 1 grammar, all production rules are context-sensitive if all rules in P are of the form

$$\alpha A \beta \rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta,$$

where $A \in NT$ (i.e., A is a single non-terminal), $\alpha, \beta \in (NT \cup \Sigma)^*$ (i.e., α and β are strings of nonterminals and terminals), and $\gamma \in (NT \cup \Sigma)^+$ (i.e., γ is a non-empty string of non-terminals and terminals).

Type 2: Type 2 grammar is called context-free grammar. In the LHS of the production, there will no left or right context.

For type 2 grammar, all the production rules are in the format of

$$(NT) \rightarrow \alpha, \text{ where } |NT| = 1 \text{ and } \alpha \in (NT \cup T)^*$$

NT : Non-terminal T : Terminal

Type 3: Type 3 grammar is called regular grammar. Here, all the productions will be in the following forms:

$$A \rightarrow \alpha \quad \text{or} \quad A \rightarrow \alpha B, \text{ where } A, B \in NT \text{ and } \alpha \in T$$

The Chomsky classification is called the Chomsky hierarchy. This is represented diagrammatically in Fig. 2.7. From this diagrammatical representation, we can say that all regular grammar is context-free grammar, all context-free grammar is context-sensitive grammar, and all context-sensitive grammar is unrestricted grammar.

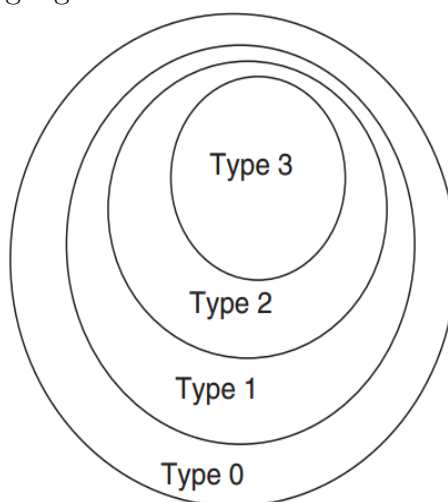


Fig. 2.7 The Chomsky Hierarchy

Grammar	Language	Machine Format
Type 0	Unrestricted language	Turing machine
Type 1	Context-sensitive language	Linear bounded automata
Type 2	Context-free language	Push down automata
Type 3	Regular expression	Finite automata

(Null alphabet is represented by ϵ . Null string is represented by Λ . Null set is represented by Φ .)

The following are some examples from context-sensitive grammar.

Example 2.34 Construct a grammar for the language $a^n b^n c^n$, where $n \geq 1$.

Solution: We construct it by the following process:

1. First, we construct $a^n \alpha^n$.
2. Then, from α^n we construct $b^n c^n$.

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From α , generating $b^n c^n$ is difficult, From α^n , $(bc)^n$ can be constructed. But $(bc)^n$ is not equal to $b^n c^n$.

Introduce a new non-terminal B.

$$S \rightarrow Abc/ABSc$$

$$BA \rightarrow AB$$

$$Bb \rightarrow bb$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

Example 2.35 Construct a grammar for the language xx , where $x \in (a, b)^*$

Solution:

$$S \rightarrow aAS/bBS$$

$$S \rightarrow aAZ/bBZ$$

$$Aa \rightarrow aA$$

$$Bb \rightarrow bB$$

$$AZ \rightarrow Za$$

$$BZ \rightarrow Zb$$

$$Z \rightarrow \lambda$$

Example 2.36 Construct a grammar for the language $\{a^n b^n c^n d^n, n \geq 1\}$.

Solution:

$$S \rightarrow abcd$$

$$S \rightarrow aXbcd$$

$$Xb \rightarrow bX$$

$$Xc \rightarrow bYc$$

$$Yc \rightarrow cY$$

$$Yd \rightarrow Rcdd$$

$$cR \rightarrow Rc$$

$$bR \rightarrow Rb$$

$$aR \rightarrow aaX \mid aa$$

In the Chomsky classification, the different types of grammar and their production rules are described. From the production rules, it is possible to find the highest type of the grammar. The following are some examples of finding the highest type of grammar from the production rules.

Example 2.37 Find the highest type of the following grammar.

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow aA/bB \\ B &\rightarrow aB/bB/a/b \end{aligned}$$

Solution: The grammar is context-free as the LHS of each production contains only one non-terminal. The RHS of each production contains a single terminal or a single terminal followed by nonterminal. This matches with regular grammar. So, the grammar is type 3 grammar.

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Example 2.38 Find the highest type of the following grammar.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow a/aAS \\ A &\rightarrow SS/SbA/ba \end{aligned}$$

Solution: The grammar is context-free as the LHS of each production contains only one non-terminal.

Now, it is needed to check whether it is regular or not. The RHS of all productions does not contain a single terminal or a single terminal followed by non-terminal. So, the grammar is not regular. Hence, it is type 2 grammar.

Example 2.39 Find the highest type of the following grammar.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow aS/A \\ aS &\rightarrow aa \\ A &\rightarrow a \end{aligned}$$

Solution: The LHS of the second production rule contains a terminal and a non-terminal (left context). So, the grammar is context-sensitive, and hence

it is type 1.

What We Have Learned So Far

1. The set of rules for constructing a language is called the grammar for that language.
2. For every programming language such as C, C++, or Java, there is a grammar.
3. Grammar consists of four tuples. $G = \{V_N, \Sigma, P, S\}$, where V_N : set of non-terminals, Σ : set of terminals, P : set of production rules, S : start symbol.
4. Chomsky, a linguist, classified the grammar into four types depending on the productions. The types are type 0, i.e., unrestricted grammar, type 1, i.e., context-sensitive grammar, type 2, i.e., context-free grammar, type 3, i.e., regular grammar.
5. For each of the grammar, there is a specific language namely unrestricted language, context-sensitive language, context-free language, and regular expression.
6. Unrestricted language is accepted by the Turing machine, context-sensitive language is accepted by linear bounded automata, context-free language is accepted by push down automata, and regular language is accepted by finite automata.
7. For type 0 grammar, the production rules are in the format of $\{(L_c)(NT)(R_c)\} \rightarrow \{\text{String of terminals or non-terminals or both}\}$, where L_c : Left context, R_c : Right context, and NT : Non-terminal
8. For type 1 grammar, all production rules are context-sensitive if all rules in P are of the form $\alpha A \beta \rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta$, where $A \in NT$ (i.e., A is a single non-terminal), $\alpha, \beta \in (NT \cup \Sigma)^+$ (i.e., α and β are strings of non-terminals and terminals), and $\gamma \in (NT \cup \Sigma)^+$ (i.e., γ is a non-empty string of nonterminals and terminals).
9. Type 2 grammar is called context-free grammar. In the LHS of the production, there will be no left or right context. For type 2 grammar, all the production rules are in the format of $(NT) \rightarrow \alpha$, where $|NT| = 1$ and $\alpha \in (NT \cup T)^*$, NT : Non terminal, and T : Terminal.
10. Type 3 grammar is called regular grammar. Here, all the productions will be in the following forms: $A \rightarrow \alpha$ or $A \rightarrow \alpha B$, where $A, B \in NT$ and $\alpha \in T$.