

# 1 CFLs

**note 1:**  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

**note 2:**  $n_x(a)$  means the number of a's in the string x.

## 1.1 common seen CFGs

- $\{x | n_x(a) = n_x(b)\}$   
corresponding CFG :

$$S \rightarrow aSbS | bSaS | \epsilon$$

- $\{x | n_x(a) \geq n_x(b)\}$   
corresponding CFG:

$$S \rightarrow SS | aSb | bSa | a | \epsilon$$

not surely right version :

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow SaS | T \\ T &\rightarrow aTbT | bTaT | \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

- $\{x | n_x(a) = 2n_x(b)\}$   
corresponding CFG:

$$S \rightarrow SaSaSbS | SaSbSaS | SbSaSaS | \epsilon$$

using similar method, we can easily generalize this into k.

an important lemma needed in the proof: substring  $a^x b a^y$ ,  $(x + y = k)$  can always be found in any non-empty string s in the language.

- complement of  $a^n b^n$   
corresponding CFG:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow aSb | bY | Ya \\ Y &\rightarrow bY | aY | \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

- $\{a^i b^j | i \neq j \wedge i \neq 2j\}$   
corresponding CFG(not surely right):

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A | B | N \\ E &\rightarrow aEb | \epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow Eb | aAb | Ab \\ B &\rightarrow aaabb | aBb | aaBb \\ M &\rightarrow aaMb | \epsilon \\ N &\rightarrow aM | aNb | aN \end{aligned}$$

- $\{a^i b^j | i \leq j \leq 2i\}$

With the idea of previous problem, it's easy to construt a CFG to recognize this language.

But it's also elegant to use PDA to solve this problem.

While the PDA reads an 'a', it randomly pushes one 'a' or two 'a's into stack and pops two 'a's while reading 'b'. And PDA accepts when stack is empty.

Using this idea, it's also easy to show  $\{x | n_x(a) \leq n_x(b) \leq 2n_x(a)\}$  is CFL.

- $\{xyz | x, z \in \Sigma^*, y \in \Sigma^* b \Sigma^* \text{ and } |x| = |z| \geq |y|\}$   
corresponding CFG (not surely right):

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A | B | C \\ A &\rightarrow EEEbEE | EAE | EEAE \\ B &\rightarrow EEbEEE | EBE | EBEE \\ C &\rightarrow EbE | ECE \\ E &\rightarrow a | b \end{aligned}$$

## 1.2 others

### 1.2.1 convert NFA/DFA into CFG

let  $D = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a NFA, and WLOG,  $F = \{p\}$ .  
 let  $C = (V, T, R, S)$  to be the resulting CFG, and

- $V = Q$
- $T = \Sigma$
- $S = q_0$
- $\forall x, y \in Q, c \in \Sigma, y \in \delta(x, c)$ , insert " $x \rightarrow cy$ " into  $R$
- insert " $p \rightarrow \epsilon$ " into  $R$

Also, one can construt a CFG  $D = (V', T', R', S')$  and

- $V' = Q'$
- $T' = \Sigma$
- $S' = p$
- $\forall x, y \in Q, c \in \Sigma, y \in \delta(x, c)$ , insert " $y \rightarrow xc$ " into  $R'$
- insert " $q_0 \rightarrow \epsilon$ " into  $R'$

#### extention

- Using similar idea, it's obvious that if the rules in a CFG contain only transitions of type  $A \rightarrow cB$  where  $A, B \in V, c \in T^*$  or only transitions of type  $A \rightarrow Bc$ , this CFG generates regular language.

However if the rules contain both transitions of type  $A \rightarrow cB$  and type  $A \rightarrow Bc$ , this CFG might generate CFL but regular language.

For example, consider CFG

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow Bb| \epsilon \\ B &\rightarrow aS \end{aligned}$$

The language of this CFG may not be regular(hint: use pumping lemma of regular language).

Note that there are some CFLs that cannot be recognized by this type of CFGs.

To show that, first we need to formalize this type of CFG,  $G = (V, T, R, S)$   $R$  contains transitions of **both** type  $A \rightarrow cB$  and type  $A \rightarrow Bc$ , while it also contains type of  $A \rightarrow c$  where  $A, B \in V, c \in T^*$ . For simplicity, it's denoted by "DECFG", while its language class is denoted by "DECFL".

Moreover we can simplify DECFG into "standard DECFG" with same ability, that  $R$  contains transitions of **both** type  $A \rightarrow cB$  and type  $A \rightarrow Bc$ , while it also contains type of  $A \rightarrow c$  where  $A, B \in V, c \in T$ , especially, only  $S$  could yield  $\epsilon$ . (hint: implement Chomsky normal form).

Pumping lemma of standard DECFG, for any string in DECFL  $L$ , whose length is larger than  $p$ , can be rewrited as  $xyuvw$ ,  $x, y, u, v, w \in T^*$  such that.

1.  $|xyvw| \leq p$
2.  $|yv| \geq 1$
3.  $\forall 0 \leq i, xy^iuv^iw \in L$

(hint: consider parsing tree of standard DECFG)

With this lemma, it can be shown that  $\{a^n b^n a^m b^m | n, m \geq 0\}$  are not DECFL. Also it shows that DECFL is not closed under concatenation and Kleene star.

But, it remains some properties and some of them are listed in the following table.

1. DECFL is close under intersection.
2. DECFL is not close under union.

3. DECFL is not close under complement.
4. DECFL is close under intersection with regular language.

(hint for property4 : First, show that “NFA” that can read one character randomly from the the beginning or the end of input each time generates DECFL. Second, expand the state set of this “NFA” to prove it. (same “NFA” can be used to prove that  $ALL_{DECFG}$  is not decidable))