

Theoretical Computer Science

Tutorial Week 12

Prof. Andrey Frolov



Grammars

- **Computational linguistics**
- Chomsky Hierarchy
 - Regular grammars (type 3)
 - Context-Free grammars (type 2)
 - Context-Sensitive grammars (type 1)
 - Unrestricted grammars (type 0)

Grammars

- (proposition) \rightarrow (noun)(verb)
- (noun) \rightarrow a cat
- (noun) \rightarrow a dog
- (noun) \rightarrow a fish
- ...
- (verb) \rightarrow meows
- (verb) \rightarrow barks
- (verb) \rightarrow swims
- ...

(proposition) \rightarrow (noun)(verb) \rightarrow a dog (verb) \rightarrow a dog swims

(proposition) \rightarrow (noun)(verb) \rightarrow a cat (verb) \rightarrow a cat barks

(proposition) \rightarrow (noun)(verb) \rightarrow a fish (verb) \rightarrow a fish meows

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \alpha_2 \mid \cdots \mid \alpha_n$$

- $A \rightarrow \alpha_1$
- $A \rightarrow \alpha_2$
- \dots
- $A \rightarrow \alpha_n$

Grammars

- (proposition) \rightarrow (noun)(verb)
- (noun) \rightarrow a cat | a dog | a fish | ...
- (verb) \rightarrow meows | barks | swims | ...

(proposition), (noun), (verb) are called **non-terminal**
“a dog”, “a cat”, “meows”, “barks”, ... are called **terminal**

Grammars

- $(\text{proposition}) \rightarrow (\text{noun})(\text{verb})$
- $(\text{noun}) \rightarrow \text{a cat} \mid \text{a dog}$
- $(\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{sleeps} \mid \text{runs}$
- $\text{a cat} (\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a cat meows}$
- $\text{a dog} (\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a dog barks}$

$(\text{proposition}) \rightarrow (\text{noun})(\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a dog} (\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a dog barks}$

$(\text{proposition}) \rightarrow (\text{noun})(\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a cat} (\text{verb}) \rightarrow \text{a cat meows}$

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Alphabets:

- V_N is the non-terminal alphabet;
- V_T is the terminal alphabet;
- $V = V_N \cup V_T$ the alphabet;
- $V_N \cap V_T = \emptyset$.

Rules:

- $P \subseteq (V^* \cdot V_N \cdot V^*) \times V^*$ is the (finite) set of rewriting rules of production, where $V = V_N \cup V_T$

A **production rule** $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ is an element of P where

- $\alpha \in V^* \cdot V_N \cdot V^*$ is a sequence of symbols including at least one non-terminal symbol;
- $\beta \in V^*$ is a (potentially empty) sequence of (terminal or non-terminal) symbols.

Grammar: definition

Initial:

- $S \in V_N$ is called an initial symbol

Definition

A grammar is a tuple $\langle V_N, V_T, P, S \rangle$, where

- V_N is the non-terminal alphabet;
- V_T is the terminal alphabet;
- $P \subseteq (V^* \cdot V_N \cdot V^*) \times V^*$ is the (finite) set of rewriting rules of production, where $V = V_N \cup V_T$;
- $S \in V_N$ is a particular element called axiom or initial symbol.

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Regular grammars (type 3)

Right regular grammar

A right regular grammar is a formal grammar $\langle V_N, V_T, P, S \rangle$ such that all the production rules in P are of one of the following forms:

- 1 $A \rightarrow b$, where $A \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$;
- 2 $A \rightarrow bB$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T \cup \{\epsilon\}$;
- 3 $A \rightarrow \epsilon$, where $A \in V_N$ and ϵ denotes the empty string.

Left regular grammar

A left regular grammar is a formal grammar $\langle V_N, V_T, P, S \rangle$ such that all the production rules in P are of one of the following forms:

- 1 $A \rightarrow b$, where $A \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$;
- 2 $A \rightarrow Bb$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T \cup \{\epsilon\}$;
- 3 $A \rightarrow \epsilon$, where $A \in V_N$ and ϵ denotes the empty string.

Regular grammars (type 3)

Fact

Right regular = Left regular = Regular

Regular grammars (type 3)

Example 1

$L_1 = \{s \in \{a, b\}^* \mid a \text{ and } b \text{ alternating}\}$

- $S \rightarrow A$
- $S \rightarrow B$
- $A \rightarrow aB$
- $A \rightarrow \epsilon$
- $B \rightarrow bA$
- $B \rightarrow \epsilon$

$S \rightarrow A \rightarrow aB \rightarrow abA \rightarrow abaB \rightarrow aba\epsilon = aba$

$S \rightarrow B \rightarrow bA \rightarrow baB \rightarrow babA \rightarrow babaB \rightarrow baba$

Regular grammars (type 3)

Example 2

$$L_1 = \{a^{2n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Rules

- $S \rightarrow aA$
- $A \rightarrow aS$
- $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

$S \rightarrow aA \rightarrow aaS \rightarrow aa$

$S \rightarrow aA \rightarrow aaS \rightarrow aaaA \rightarrow aaaaS \rightarrow aaaa$

Regular grammars (type 3)

Example 2

$$L_1 = \{a^{2n} \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Rules

- $S \rightarrow aaS$

- $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

$$S \rightarrow aaS \rightarrow aa$$

$$S \rightarrow aaS \rightarrow aaaaS \rightarrow aaaa$$

Regular grammars (type 3)

Right regular grammar

A right regular grammar is a formal grammar $\langle V_N, V_T, P, S \rangle$ such that all the production rules in P are of one of the following forms:

- ① $A \rightarrow b$, where $A \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$;
- ② $A \rightarrow bB$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T \cup \{\epsilon\}$;
- ③ $A \rightarrow \epsilon$, where $A \in V_N$ and ϵ denotes the empty string.

Right regular grammar

A right regular grammar is a formal grammar $\langle V_N, V_T, P, S \rangle$ such that all the production rules in P are of one of the following forms:

- 1) $A \rightarrow s$, where $A \in V_N$ and $s \in V_T^*$;
- 2) $A \rightarrow sB$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $s \in V_T^*$;

The same definitions?

Regular grammars (type 3)

Rules

- $A \rightarrow a_1 A'_1$
- $A'_1 \rightarrow a_2 A'_2$
- \dots
- $A'_{k-1} \rightarrow a_k A'_k$
- $A'_k \rightarrow \epsilon B$

This rules equals to $A \rightarrow sB$, where $s = a_1 a_2 \dots a_k$.

$$A \rightarrow a_1 A'_1 \rightarrow a_1 a_2 A'_2 \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \dots a_k A'_k \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \dots a_k B = sB$$

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Context-Free grammars (type 2)

Context-Free grammar

Defined by rules of the form $A \rightarrow \gamma$ where A is a non-terminal and γ is a string of terminals and non-terminals.

Example of rules

- ① $A \rightarrow b$, where $A \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$ Yes
- ② $A \rightarrow Bb$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$ Yes
- ③ $A \rightarrow BbB$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$ Yes
- ④ $A \rightarrow bBb$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$ Yes
- ⑤ $AB \rightarrow Bb$, where $A, B \in V_N$ and $b \in V_T$ NO

Context-Free grammars (type 2)

Example

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

Rules

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$S \rightarrow aSb$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$S \rightarrow aSb \rightarrow ab$$

$$S \rightarrow aSb \rightarrow aaSbb \rightarrow \cdots a^n Sb^n \rightarrow a^n b^n$$

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 - **Context-Sensitive grammars (type 1)**
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Context-Sensitive grammars (type 1)

The rules of the form $s_1 A s_2 \rightarrow s_1 \gamma s_2$, where A is a non-terminal and s_1 , s_2 and γ are strings of terminals and non-terminals.

Example

Generate language $\{a^n b^n c^n | n > 0\}$

① $S \rightarrow aBC$

② $S \rightarrow aSBC$

③ $CB \rightarrow CZ$

④ $CZ \rightarrow WZ$

⑤ $WZ \rightarrow WC$

⑥ $WC \rightarrow BC$

⑦ $aB \rightarrow ab$

⑧ $bB \rightarrow bb$

⑨ $bC \rightarrow bc$

⑩ $cC \rightarrow cc$

$$CB \rightarrow CZ \rightarrow WZ \rightarrow WC \rightarrow BC$$

Context-Sensitive grammars (type 1)

The rules of the form $s_1 A s_2 \rightarrow s_1 \gamma s_2$, where A is a non-terminal and s_1 , s_2 and γ are strings of terminals and non-terminals.

Example

Generate language $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n > 0\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad S \rightarrow aBC$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad S \rightarrow aSBC$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad CB \rightarrow CZ$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad CZ \rightarrow WZ$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad WZ \rightarrow WC$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad WC \rightarrow BC$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad aB \rightarrow ab$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad bB \rightarrow bb$$

$$\textcircled{9} \quad bC \rightarrow bc$$

$$\textcircled{10} \quad cC \rightarrow cc$$

$S \rightarrow aSBC \rightarrow aaBCBC \rightarrow aaBBCC \rightarrow aabBCC \rightarrow aabbCC \rightarrow aabb cC \rightarrow aabbcc$

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 - **Unrestricted grammars (type 0)**

Unrestricted grammars (type 0)

Unrestricted grammar (type 0)

A Unrestricted grammar is a formal grammar without any limitation on production rules.

The rules of the form $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$, where α and β are strings of non-terminals and terminals.

Example 1

Generate language $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n > 0\}$

① $S \rightarrow aBC$

② $S \rightarrow aSBC$

③ $CB \rightarrow BC$

④ $aB \rightarrow ab$

⑤ $bB \rightarrow bb$

⑥ $bC \rightarrow bc$

⑦ $cC \rightarrow cc$

Unrestricted grammars (type 0)

Example 2

Generate language $\{a^n b^n c^n d^n \mid n > 0\}$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad S \rightarrow aBCD$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad S \rightarrow aSBCD$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad CB \rightarrow BC$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad DB \rightarrow BD$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad DC \rightarrow CD$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad aB \rightarrow ab$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad bB \rightarrow bb$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad bC \rightarrow bc$$

$$\textcircled{9} \quad cC \rightarrow cc$$

$$\textcircled{10} \quad cD \rightarrow cd$$

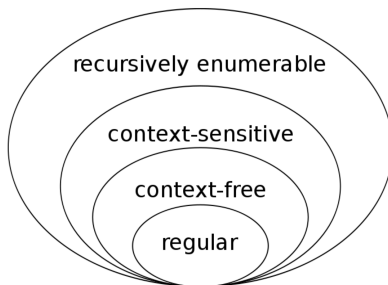
$$\textcircled{11} \quad dD \rightarrow dd$$

$S \rightarrow aSBCD \rightarrow aaBCDBCD \rightarrow aaBCBDCD \rightarrow aaBBCDCD \rightarrow$
 $aaBBCCDD \rightarrow aabBCCDD \rightarrow aabbCCDD \rightarrow aabbcCDD \rightarrow$
 $aabbccDD \rightarrow aabbccdD \rightarrow aabbccdd$

Chomsky Hierarchy

Classification of grammars by Chomsky: four types according to the form of production rules.

- (type 3) Regular grammars
- (type 2) Context-Free grammars
- (type 1) Context-Sensitive grammars
- (type 0) Unrestricted grammars



Grammars, languages and automata

| Chomsky hierarchy | Grammars | Languages | Minimal automaton |
|-------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------------------|
| Type-0 | Unrestricted | Recursively enumerable | Turing machine |
| Type-1 | Context-sensitive | Context-sensitive | LBA |
| Type-2 | Context-free | Context-free | NDPDA |
| Type-3 | Regular | Regular | FSA |

Thank you for your attention!