

Compiler Construction

Syntax Definitions - Grammars

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What is Grammer?

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- It is basically defined as a set of 4-tuple (V, T, P, S) , where,
 - ① **V** is set of nonterminals (variables)
 - ② **T** is set of terminals (primitive symbols)
 - ③ **P** is set of productions (rules), which govern the relationship between non-terminal and terminals
 - ④ **S** is start symbol with which strings in grammar are derived

Grammar example in English Language

- Consider the following English grammar rules,

$\langle \text{sentence} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{noun} \rangle \langle \text{verb} \rangle$

$\langle \text{noun} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{com-noun} \rangle \mid \langle \text{prop-noun} \rangle$

$\langle \text{verb} \rangle \rightarrow \text{ate} \mid \text{sat} \mid \text{ran}$

$\langle \text{prop-noun} \rangle \rightarrow \text{Ali} \mid \text{Mahad}$

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① Ali ate

② Mahad ran

③ He sat

④ He ran

Grammar *notations*

Some of the *notations* used to represent grammar are,

① **Terminal Symbols:** these can be represented by,

- Lower-case letters of alphabet like a, c, z, etc
- Operator symbols like +, -, etc
- Punctuation symbols like (, {, ; etc
- Digits 0-9
- Bold face strings **int**, **main**, **if**, **else** etc

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- ④ Lower case letters u, v, w, x, y, z are generally used to represent a string of terminals

Type of Grammars –Chomsky Hierarchy

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Chomsky Hierarchy continued ...

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$S \rightarrow ACaB$

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$$\begin{aligned} S &\Rightarrow SBC \Rightarrow SBCBC \Rightarrow aCBCBC \Rightarrow aBCCBC \Rightarrow aaCCBC \Rightarrow aaCBCC \\ &\Rightarrow aaBCC \Rightarrow aaaCCC \Rightarrow aaabbb \end{aligned}$$

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- It describes the same language as by the regular expression a^*bc^*

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