

Introduction to CFG (Context Free Grammar)

Introduction to CFG

A context Free Grammar (CFG) is a 4-tuple such that-

$$G = (V, T, P, S)$$

where-

V = Finite non-empty set of variables / non-terminal symbols

T = Finite set of terminal symbols

P = Finite non-empty set of production rules

S = Start symbol

Example-01: Find out the characteristics of CFG from the following expression: -

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Expression} &\rightarrow \text{Expression} + \text{Term} \mid \text{Term} \\ \text{Term} &\rightarrow \text{Term} * \text{Factor} \mid \text{Factor} \\ \text{Factor} &\rightarrow (\text{Expression}) \mid \text{id} \end{aligned}$$

Variables $V = \{\text{Expression, Term, Factor}\}$

Terminals $T = \{+, *, (,), \text{id}\}$

Production rules $P = \{$

$\text{Expression} \rightarrow \text{Expression} + \text{Term} \mid \text{Term}$

$\text{Term} \rightarrow \text{Term} * \text{Factor} \mid \text{Factor}$

$\text{Factor} \rightarrow (\text{Expression}) \mid \text{id}$

$\}$

Start Symbol $S = \{\text{Expression}\}$

Example-02: Write down the formal definition of CFG for the following expression: -

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid \epsilon$$

Variables $V = \{S\}$

Terminals $T = \{a, b, \epsilon\}$

Production rules $P = S \rightarrow aSb \mid \epsilon$

Start Symbol $S = \{S\}$

Example-03: Write down the formal definition of CFG for the following expression: -

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow aAb \mid \epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow aAb \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Consider a grammar $G = (V, T, P, S)$ where-

Variables $V = \{S\}$

Terminals $T = \{a, b\}$

Production rules $P = \{S \rightarrow aSbS, S \rightarrow bSaS, S \rightarrow \epsilon\}$

Start Symbol $S = \{S\}$

Introduction to CFG (Context Free Grammar)

Question – 1:

a. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n \mid n \geq 0\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{\epsilon, a, aa, aaa, aaaaa, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = a^*$

CFG: $S \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aS$

b. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n \mid n \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{a, aa, aaa, aaaaa, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = a^+$

CFG: $S \rightarrow a \mid aS$

c. Construct a CFG where $L = \{\text{set of all string over } a, b\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{\epsilon, a, b, bb, bbbb, aba, bbba, bababab, aa, aaa, aaaaa, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = (a+b)^*$

CFG: $S \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aS \mid bS$

d. Construct a CFG where $L = \{\text{set of all string length at least 2}\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{aa, ab, ba, bb, aba, baa, aaa, bbbb, aaaaa, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = (a+b).(a+b).(a+b)^*$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow AAB$

$A \rightarrow a \mid b$

$B \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aB \mid bB$

e. Construct a CFG where $L = \{\text{set of all string length at most 2}\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{\epsilon, b, a, aa, ab, ba, bb\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = (a+b+\epsilon) + (a+b+\epsilon)$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow AA$

$A \rightarrow a \mid b \mid \epsilon$

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Question – 2:

- a. Construct a CFG where $L = \{\text{set of all string at least three 0's}\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{000, 10100, 01001, 00000101, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = (0+1)^* \cdot 0 \cdot (0+1)^* \cdot 0 \cdot (0+1)^* \cdot 0 \cdot (0+1)^*$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow A0A0A0A$

$A \rightarrow \epsilon \mid 0A \mid 1A$

- b. Construct a CFG where $L = \text{start with 'a' and end with 'b'}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{ab, abb, aab, abbbbbb, abababab, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = a(a+b)^*b$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow aAb$

$A \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aA \mid bA$

- c. Construct a CFG where $L = \text{start and ends with same symbol}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{a, aa, b, bb, aba, bab, abbbbbbba, bbbbbbba, aaaaaa, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = a(a+b)^*a + b(a+b)^*b$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow aAa \mid bAb$

$A \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aA \mid bA$

- d. Construct a CFG where $L = \text{start and ends with different symbol}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{ab, ba, aabbab, babbba, abababab, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = a(a+b)^*b + b(a+b)^*a$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow aAb \mid bAa$

$A \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aA \mid bA$

- e. Construct a CFG where $L = \text{even length of string}$

Solution:

Regular Language, $RL = \{aa, aaba, bb, bbba, bbbbaa, abababab, \dots\}$

Regular Expression, $RE = ((a+b)(a+b))^*$

CFG:

$S \rightarrow BS \mid \epsilon$

$B \rightarrow AA$

$A \rightarrow a \mid b$

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Question – 3:

a. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n b^{2n} \mid n \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, RL = {abb, aabbbb, aaabbbbb.....}

CFG:

$S \rightarrow abb \mid aSbb$

b. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n b^m c^n \mid n, m \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, RL = {abc,abbc,aabcc,aabbcc.....}

CFG:

$S \rightarrow aSc \mid aAc$

$A \rightarrow bA \mid \epsilon$

c. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n b^m c^m d^n \mid n, m \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, RL = {abcd,abbccd,aabccd,aabbccdd}

CFG:

$S \rightarrow aSd \mid aAd$

$A \rightarrow bAc \mid bc$

d. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^n b^n c^m d^m \mid n, m \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, RL = {abcd,abccdd,aabbcd,aabbccdd}

CFG:

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$

$B \rightarrow cBd \mid cd$

e. Construct a CFG where $L = \{a^{m+n} b^m c^n \mid n, m \geq 1\}$

Solution:

Regular Language, RL = {aabc,aaabcc,aaabbc}

CFG:

$S \rightarrow AB$

$A \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$

$B \rightarrow cBd \mid cd$