

# Formal Grammar

- Definition:
- A formal grammar is a 4-tuple
- 
- Notation:
- $G = (N, T, P, S)$
- Where:
- $G$  : formal grammar
- $N$  : set of nonterminal symbols ( capital letters )
- $T$  : set of terminal symbols ( small letters )
- $S$  : start symbol ( goal / sentence symbol )
- 
- Note:  $N \cap T = \phi$       $S \notin (N \cup T)$
- 
- $P$  : set of productions
- A production is an ordered pair  $(\alpha, \beta)$  which is written in the form
- $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ .
- where:  $\alpha = \phi A \psi$
- $\beta = \phi \omega \psi$
- such that:  $\omega, \phi, \psi \in (N \cup T)^*$
- $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$

# Exercise

- Construct a Formal Grammar for the set of numerical strings. That is,  
 $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11, \dots 100, 101, \dots, 00, 01, 001, 005\}$

# Exercise

- Construct a Formal Grammar for the set of numerical strings. That is,  $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11, \dots, 100, 101, \dots\}$

Formal Grammar,  $G=(N,T,P,\Sigma)$

$\Sigma$ =Start Symbol

$N=\{A\}$

$T=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$

$P=\{\Sigma \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow 0, A \rightarrow 1, A \rightarrow 2, A \rightarrow 3, A \rightarrow 4, A \rightarrow 5, A \rightarrow 6, A \rightarrow 7, A \rightarrow 8, A \rightarrow 9, A \rightarrow 0A, A \rightarrow 1A, A \rightarrow 2A, A \rightarrow 3A, A \rightarrow 4A, A \rightarrow 5A, A \rightarrow 6A, A \rightarrow 7A, A \rightarrow 8A, A \rightarrow 9A\}$

# Exercise

- Construct a Formal Grammar for the set of numerical strings. That is,  $\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9,10,11, \dots 100, 101, \dots\}$

Formal Grammar,  $G=(N,T,P,\Sigma)$

$\Sigma$ =Start Symbol

$N=\{A\}$

$T=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$

$P=\{\Sigma \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow 0, A \rightarrow 1, A \rightarrow 2, A \rightarrow 3, A \rightarrow 4, A \rightarrow 5,$

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

The above grammar generates 01, 001, 0001, etc.. Leading 0's to any integer is allowed.

**Exercise: Construct a Formal Grammar such that leading zeroes are disallowed.**

Formal Grammar,  $G=(N,T,P,\Sigma)$

$\Sigma$ =Start Symbol

$N=\{A,B\}$

$T=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$

$P=\{\Sigma \rightarrow AB, \Sigma \rightarrow A, \Sigma \rightarrow 0, A \rightarrow 1, A \rightarrow 2, A \rightarrow 3, A \rightarrow 4, A \rightarrow 5, A \rightarrow 6, A \rightarrow 7, A \rightarrow 8, A \rightarrow 9, A \rightarrow 1B, A \rightarrow 2B, A \rightarrow 3B, A \rightarrow 4B, A \rightarrow 5B, A \rightarrow 6B, A \rightarrow 7B, A \rightarrow 8B, A \rightarrow 9B, B \rightarrow 0, B \rightarrow 1, B \rightarrow 2, B \rightarrow 3, B \rightarrow 4, B \rightarrow 5, B \rightarrow 6, B \rightarrow 7, B \rightarrow 8, B \rightarrow 9, B \rightarrow 0B, B \rightarrow 1B, B \rightarrow 2B, B \rightarrow 3B, B \rightarrow 4B, B \rightarrow 5B, B \rightarrow 6B, B \rightarrow 7B, B \rightarrow 8B, B \rightarrow 9B\}$

# Types of Formal Grammar (Chomsky's Hierarchy of Formal Grammars)

- 1 ) Type 0 : Unrestricted Grammar ( $G_0$ )
- : Contracting Grammar
- Production Rule:  $\phi A \psi \rightarrow \phi \omega \psi$   
where  $\omega, \phi, \psi \in (N \cup T)^*$  and  $A \in (N \cup \{\Sigma\})$
- 2 ) Type 1 : Context-Sensitive Grammar ( $G_1$ )
- Production Rules:  $\phi A \psi \rightarrow \phi \omega \psi, \omega \neq \lambda$   
 $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$  ( when  $\lambda \in L(G)$  )
- 3 ) Type 2 : Context-Free Grammar ( $G_2$ )
- Production Rules:  $A \rightarrow \omega$   
 $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$  ( when  $\lambda \in L(G)$  )  
where:  $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$   
 $\omega \in (N \cup T)^* - \{\lambda\}$
- 4 ) Type 3 : Regular Grammar ( $G_3$ )
- a. Right-Linear
- b. Left-Linear

# Formal Grammar

- 4 ) Type 3 : Regular Grammar ( $G_3$ )
- 
- a. Right-Linear                      b. Left-Linear
- 
- $A \rightarrow aB$                                        $A \rightarrow Ba$
- $A \rightarrow a$      $A \rightarrow a$
- 
- where:  $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$     where:  $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$
- $B \in N$      $B \in N$
- $a \in T$      $a \in T$

# Formal Grammar

- **TYPES OF GRAMMAR:**
- 
- 1) Type 0 : Unrestricted Grammar ( $G_0$ )
- : Contracting Grammar
- 
- Production Rule:  $\phi A \psi \rightarrow \phi \omega \psi$
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- 2) Type 1 : Context-Sensitive Grammar ( $G_1$ )
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- Production Rules:  $\phi A \psi \rightarrow \phi \omega \psi, \omega \neq \lambda$
- $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$  (when  $\lambda \in L(G)$ )
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- 3) Type 2 : Context-Free Grammar ( $G_2$ )
- 
- Production Rules:  $A \rightarrow \omega$
- $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$
- 
- where:  $A \in N \cup \{ \Sigma \}$
- $\omega \in (N \cup T)^* - \{ \lambda \}$
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- 4) Type 3 : Regular Grammar ( $G_3$ )
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# Types of Formal Grammar

- 1) Type 0 : Unrestricted Grammar ( $G_0$ )
- : Contracting Grammar
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- Production Rule:  $\varphi A \psi \rightarrow \varphi \omega \psi$
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- 2) Type 1 : Context-Sensitive Grammar ( $G_1$ )
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- Production Rules:  $\varphi A \psi \rightarrow \varphi \omega \psi, \omega \neq \lambda$
- $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$  ( when  $\lambda \in L(G)$  )
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# Formal Grammar

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- a. Right-Linear                      b. Left-Linear
- 
- $A \rightarrow aB$                                        $A \rightarrow Ba$
- $A \rightarrow a$      $A \rightarrow a$
- 
- where:  $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$     where:  $A \in N \cup \{\Sigma\}$
- $B \in N$      $B \in N$
- $a \in T$      $a \in T$

# Formal Grammar

## (Chomsky's Hierarchy of Grammars)

$G_0$  = Unrestricted Grammar

$L(G_0)$  = Language of the Unrestricted Grammar

$G_1$  = Context-Sensitive Grammar

$L(G_1)$  = Language of the Context-Sensitive Grammar

$G_2$  = Context-Free Grammar

$L(G_2)$  = Language of the Context-Free Grammar

$G_3$  = Regular Grammar

$L(G_3)$  = Language of the Regular Grammar

$$L(G_0) \supseteq L(G_1) \supseteq L(G_2) \supseteq L(G_3)$$

# Is the following formal grammar a Regular Grammar?

Formal Grammar,  $G=(N,T,P,\Sigma)$

$\Sigma$ =Start Symbol

$N=\{A\}$

$T=\{0,1,2,3,4,5,6,7,8,9\}$

$P=\{\Sigma \rightarrow 1A, \Sigma \rightarrow 2A, \Sigma \rightarrow 3A, \Sigma \rightarrow 4A, \Sigma \rightarrow 5A, \Sigma \rightarrow 6A, \Sigma \rightarrow 7A, \Sigma \rightarrow 8A, \Sigma \rightarrow 9A, \Sigma \rightarrow 0, \Sigma \rightarrow 1, \Sigma \rightarrow 2, \Sigma \rightarrow 3, \Sigma \rightarrow 4, \Sigma \rightarrow 5, \Sigma \rightarrow 6, \Sigma \rightarrow 7, \Sigma \rightarrow 8, \Sigma \rightarrow 9, A \rightarrow 0, A \rightarrow 1, A \rightarrow 2, A \rightarrow 3, A \rightarrow 4, A \rightarrow 5, A \rightarrow 6, A \rightarrow 7, A \rightarrow 8, A \rightarrow 9, A \rightarrow 0A, A \rightarrow 1A, A \rightarrow 2A, A \rightarrow 3A, A \rightarrow 4A, A \rightarrow 5A, A \rightarrow 6A, A \rightarrow 7A, A \rightarrow 8A, A \rightarrow 9A\}$

# Formal Grammar

- Exercise:
- 
- Given the grammar  $G = (\Sigma, N, T, P)$  :
- $\Sigma$  = start symbol
- $N = \{ A, B, C \}$
- $T = \{ a, b, c \}$
- $P = \{ \Sigma \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow aABC, A \rightarrow abC, CB \rightarrow BC, \quad bB \rightarrow bb, bC \rightarrow bc, cC \rightarrow cc \}$
- 
- Derive  $a^3b^3c^3$
-

# Formal Grammar

- Given the grammar  $G1 = (\Sigma, N, T, P)$  :
- $\Sigma$  = start symbol
- $N = \{ A, B, C \}$
- $T = \{ a, b, c \}$
- $P = \{ S \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow aABC, A \rightarrow abC, CB \rightarrow BC, bB \rightarrow bb, bC \rightarrow bc, cC \rightarrow cc \}$
- 
- Derive  $a^3b^3c^3$
- 
- Solution:
- 
- $\Sigma \rightarrow A \rightarrow aABC \rightarrow aaABCBC \rightarrow aaabCBCBC \rightarrow aaabBCCBC \rightarrow aaabBCBCC \rightarrow aaabbCBCC \rightarrow aaabbBCCC \rightarrow aaabbbCCC \rightarrow aaabbbccC \rightarrow aaabbbccC \rightarrow aaabbbccc$
- 
- It can be shown that the Language of Grammar  $G1 = \{ a^k b^k c^k \mid k \geq 1 \}$
- 
- OR  $L(G1) = \{ a^k b^k c^k \mid k \geq 1 \}$

# Formal Grammar

Given the grammar  $G2 = \{\Sigma, N, T, P\}$  :

$$N = \{ A, B, C \}$$

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

$$P = \{ \Sigma \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow aABC, A \rightarrow abc, CB \rightarrow BC, bB \rightarrow bb, bC \rightarrow b \}$$

- 

Derive  $a^2b^2$

-

# Formal Grammar

Given the grammar  $G_2 = \{\Sigma, N, T, P\}$  :

$N = \{A, B, C\}$

$T = \{a, b\}$

$P = \{\Sigma \rightarrow A, A \rightarrow aABC, A \rightarrow abC, CB \rightarrow BC, bB \rightarrow bb, bC \rightarrow b\}$

Derive  $a^2b^2$

Solution:

- $\Sigma \rightarrow A \rightarrow aABC \rightarrow aabCBC \rightarrow aabBC \rightarrow aabbC \rightarrow aabb$

It can be verified that  $L(G_2) = \{a^k b^k \mid k \geq 1\}$

For  $k \geq 0$ , include  $\lambda$  in the production, that is,  $\Sigma \rightarrow \lambda$



# Formal Grammar

## RIGHT-LINEAR GRAMMAR

ex:

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \{A, B\} \\ T &= \{0, 1\} \\ P : \Sigma &\rightarrow 1B \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow 1 \\ A &\rightarrow 1B \\ B &\rightarrow 0A \\ A &\rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma &\rightarrow 1 \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow 1B \rightarrow 10A \rightarrow 101 \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow 1B \rightarrow 10A \rightarrow 101B \rightarrow 1010A \rightarrow 10101\end{aligned}$$
$$L(G) = 1 (01)^*$$

# Formal Grammar

## LEFT-LINEAR GRAMMAR

ex:

$$\begin{aligned} N &= \{ A, B \} \\ T &= \{ 0, 1 \} \\ P : \Sigma &\rightarrow B1 \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow 1 \\ A &\rightarrow B1 \\ B &\rightarrow A0 \\ A &\rightarrow 1 \end{aligned}$$

**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma &\rightarrow 1 \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow B1 \rightarrow A01 \rightarrow 101 \\ \Sigma &\rightarrow B1 \rightarrow A01 \rightarrow B101 \rightarrow A0101 \rightarrow 10101\end{aligned}$$
$$L(G) = 1 (01)^*$$

# Formal Grammar

- **AMBIGUITY OF A GRAMMAR**

Simplified Definition ( Regular Grammar ):

- A grammar is ambiguous if there exist two or more distinct leftmost derivations (derivation trees) for a certain string.

# Formal Grammar

Determine if the following grammar is ambiguous or not.

$N = \{A, B\}$

$T = \{0, 1\}$

P:

$\Sigma \rightarrow A$

$A \rightarrow B0$

$A \rightarrow A0$

$B \rightarrow B0$

$A \rightarrow 1$

$B \rightarrow 1$

# Formal Grammar

Determine if the following grammar is ambiguous or not.

$$N = \{A\}$$

$$T = \{0, 1\}$$

P:

$$\Sigma \rightarrow A$$

$$A \rightarrow A0A$$

$$A \rightarrow 1$$

# Formal Grammar

Exercise:

Determine which types of grammar hold for the grammars described in the previous two slides.

Show that  $a=b*a+b/c-a$  is a member/element of the language of the following grammar

- $N = \{L, R, O\}$
- $T = \{+, *, /, -, =, a, b, c\}$
- $P$ :

$$\Sigma \rightarrow L = R$$

$$R \rightarrow a$$

$$L \rightarrow a$$

$$R \rightarrow b$$

$$O \rightarrow *$$

$$L \rightarrow b$$

$$R \rightarrow c$$

$$O \rightarrow /$$

$$L \rightarrow c$$

$$O \rightarrow +$$

$$R \rightarrow ROR$$

$$O \rightarrow -$$

# Backus-Naur Form and Context-free Grammar

- The Backus-Naur Form (BNF), named after John Backus, who invented it, and Peter Naur, who refined it for the specification of the programming language ALGOL, is essentially a context-free grammar (CFG). Instead of adapting the conventions on the CFG as presented in Chomsky's Hierarchy of Grammars, the following modifications are used for the BNF.
- 1. Instead of using the symbol  $\rightarrow$  in a production, the symbol  $::=$  is used.
- 2. Nonterminal symbols are enclosed by angle brackets,  $\langle \rangle$ .
- 3. Instead of listing separately the production rules with similar left hand sides, they are combined into one statement. The right-hand sides of the productions that are combined into one statement are separated by bars. For example, the productions  $A \rightarrow Aa$ ,  $A \rightarrow a$  and  $A \rightarrow AB$  is represented by the single production

$\langle A \rangle ::= \langle A \rangle a \mid a \mid \langle A \rangle \langle B \rangle$  in BNF.



# Exercise

## Backus-Naur Form

**Required:** Construct a Backus-Naur form of a grammar for the production of signed integers. (A signed integer is a nonnegative integer preceded by a plus sign or minus sign). Let  $N=\{R,S,I,D\}$  where  $R$  represents signed integers,  $S$  represents a sign(i.e. +, -),  $I$  represents an integer and  $D$  represents a numeral digit(i.e. 0,1,...,9)