

# Course 5

# Context free grammars (cfg)

# Context free grammar (cfg)

- Productions of the form:  $A \rightarrow \alpha$ ,  $A \in N$ ,  $\alpha \in (N \cup \Sigma)^*$
- More powerful
- Can model programming language:  
 $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$  s.t.  $L(G) = \text{programming language}$

# Equivalent transformation of cfg

- Unproductive **symbols**
- Inaccessible **symbols**
- $\epsilon$  - **productions**
- Single **productions**

1. Determine elements (symbols/ productions): Greedy alg
2. eliminate them: construct equivalent grammar

# Unproductive symbols

## Definition

A nonterminal  $A$  is *unproductive* in a cfg if it does not generate any word:  $\{w \mid A \Rightarrow^* w, w \in \Sigma^*\} = \emptyset$ .

## **Algorithm 1: Elimination of unproductive symbols**

input:  $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

output:  $G' = (N', \Sigma, P', S)$ ,  $L(G) = L(G')$

// idea: build  $N_0, N_1, \dots$  recursively (until saturation)

step 1:  $N_0 = \emptyset$ ;  $i := 1$ ;

step 2:  $N_i = N_{i-1} \cup \{A \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in P, \alpha \in (N_{i-1} \cup \Sigma)^*\}$

step 3: if  $N_i \neq N_{i-1}$  then  $i := i + 1$ ; goto step 2

else  $N' = N_i$

step 4: if  $S \notin N'$  then  $L(G) = \emptyset$

else  $P' = \{A \rightarrow \alpha \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in P \text{ and } A \in N'\}$

# Example

$G = (\{S,A,B,C,D\}, \{a,b,c\}, P, S)$

P:  $S \rightarrow aA \mid aC$

$A \rightarrow AB$

$B \rightarrow b$

$C \rightarrow aC \mid CD$

$D \rightarrow b$

# Inaccessible symbols

## Definition

A symbol  $X \in N \cup \Sigma$  is *inaccessible* in a cfg if  $X$  does not appear in any sentential form:  $\forall S \Rightarrow^* \alpha, X \notin \alpha$

## **Algorithm 2: Elimination of inaccessible symbols**

input:  $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

output:  $G' = (N', \Sigma', P', S)$ ,  $L(G) = L(G')$  and

$\forall X \in N \cup \Sigma \exists \alpha, \beta \in (N' \cup \Sigma')^*$  s.t.  $S \Rightarrow_{G'}^* \alpha X \beta$ .

step 1:  $V_0 = \{S\}$ ;  $i := 1$ ;

step 2:  $V_i = V_{i-1} \cup \{X \mid \exists A \rightarrow \alpha X \beta \in P, A \in V_{i-1}\}$

step 3: if  $V_i \neq V_{i-1}$  then  $i := i + 1$ ; goto step 2

else  $N' = N \cap V_i$

$\Sigma' = \Sigma \cap V_i$

$P' = \{A \rightarrow \alpha \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in P, A \in N', \alpha \in (N \cup \Sigma)^*\}$



# Example

$G = (\{S,A,B,C,D\}, \{a,b,c,d\}, P, S)$

P:  $S \rightarrow aA \mid aC$

$A \rightarrow AB$

$B \rightarrow b$

$C \rightarrow aC \mid bCb$

$D \rightarrow bB \mid d$

# $\varepsilon$ -productions

## Algorithm 3: Elimination of $\varepsilon$ -productions

input: cfg  $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$

output: cfg  $G' = (N', \Sigma, P', S')$

step 1: construct  $\bar{N} = \{A \mid A \in N, A \Rightarrow^+ \varepsilon\}$

1.a.  $N_0 := \{A \mid A \rightarrow \varepsilon \in P\};$

$i := 1;$

1.b.  $N_i := N_{i-1} \cup \{A \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in P, \alpha \in N_{i-1}^*\}$

1.c. **if**  $N_i \neq N_{i-1}$  **then**  $i := i + 1$ ; **goto** step 1.b

**else**  $\bar{N} = N_i$

$A \rightarrow BC$

$B \rightarrow \varepsilon$

$C \rightarrow \varepsilon$

## Definition

A cfg  $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$  is without  $\varepsilon$ -productions if

1.  $P \not\ni A \rightarrow \varepsilon$  ( $\varepsilon$ -productions)

OR

2.  $\exists S \rightarrow \varepsilon$  si  $S \notin \text{rhs}(p), \forall p \in P$

step 2: Let  $P'$  = set of productions built:

2.a. **if**  $A \rightarrow \alpha_0 B_1 \alpha_1 B_2 \alpha_2 \dots B_k \alpha_k \in P, k \geq 0$

**and** for  $i := 1, k$   $B_i \in \bar{N}$

**and**  $\alpha_j \notin \bar{N}, j := 0, k$

**then** add to  $P'$  all prod of the form

$A \rightarrow \alpha_0 X_1 \alpha_1 X_2 \alpha_2 \dots X_k \alpha_k$

where  $X_i$  is  $B_i$  or  $\varepsilon$  (not  $A \rightarrow \varepsilon$ )

2.b **if**  $S \in N'$  **then** add  $S'$  to  $N'$  and  $S' \rightarrow S \mid \varepsilon$  to  $P$

**else**  $N' := N; S' := S.$

# Example

$G = (\{S,A,B\}, \{a,b\}, P, S)$

P:  $S \rightarrow aA \mid aAbB$

$A \rightarrow aA \mid B$

$B \rightarrow bB \mid \epsilon$

# Single productions

## Definition

A production of the form  $A \rightarrow B$  is called single production or renaming rule.

### **Algorithm 4 : Elimination of single productions**

*Input:* cfg  $G$ , without  $\varepsilon$ -productions

*Output:*  $G'$  s.t.  $L(G) = L(G')$

For each  $A \in N$  build the set  $N_A = \{B \mid A \Rightarrow^* B\}$  :

1.a.  $N_0 := \{A\}$ ,  $i := 1$

1.b.  $N_i := N_{i-1} \cup \{C \mid B \rightarrow C \in P \text{ si } B \in N_{i-1}\}$

1.c. **if**  $N_i \neq N_{i-1}$  **then**  $i := i + 1$  **goto** 1.b.

**else**  $N_A := N_i$

$P'$ : **for** all  $A \in N$  **do**

**for** all  $B \in N_A$  **do**

**if**  $B \rightarrow \alpha \in P$  **and not** “single” **then**  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P'$

$G' = (N, \Sigma, P', S)$

# Example

$G = (\{E, T, F\}, \{a, (, ), +, *\}, P, E)$

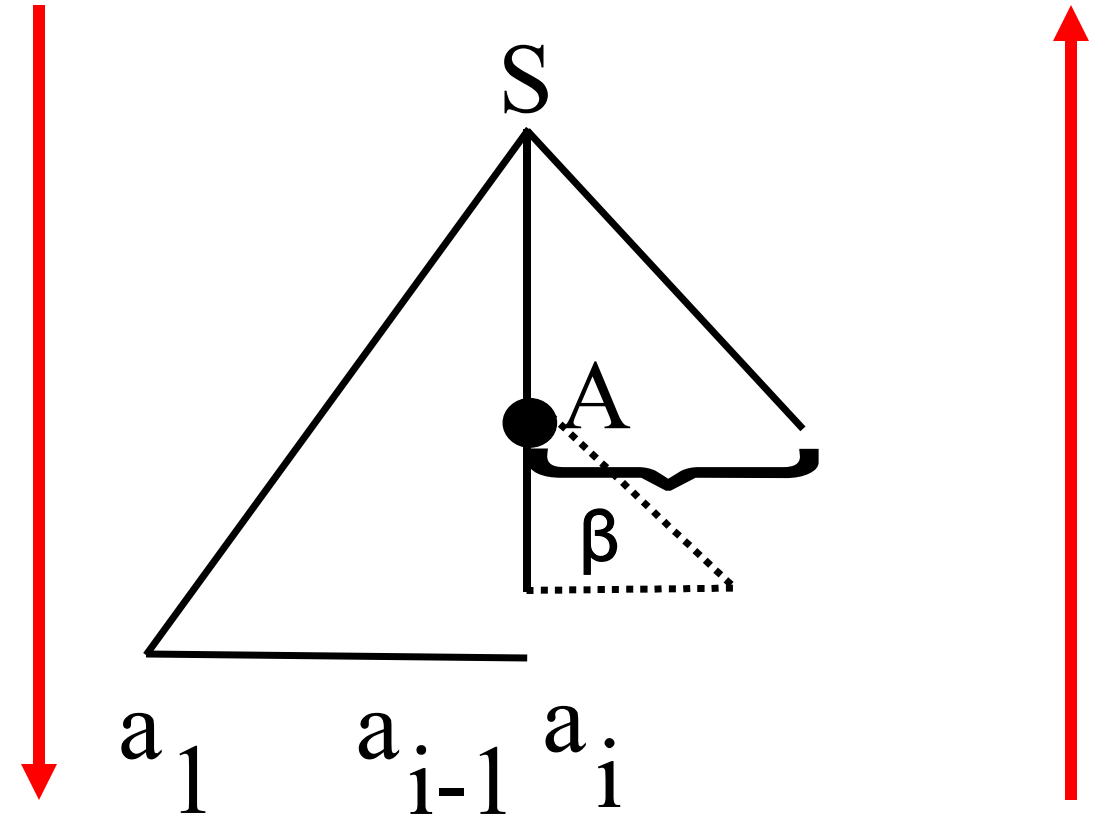
P:  $E \rightarrow E+T \mid T$

$T \rightarrow T*F \mid F$

$F \rightarrow (E) \mid a$

# Parsing

- Cfg  $G = (N, \Sigma, P, S)$  check if  $w \in L(G)$
- Construct parse tree
- How:
  1. Top-down vs. Bottom-up
  2. Recursive vs. linear



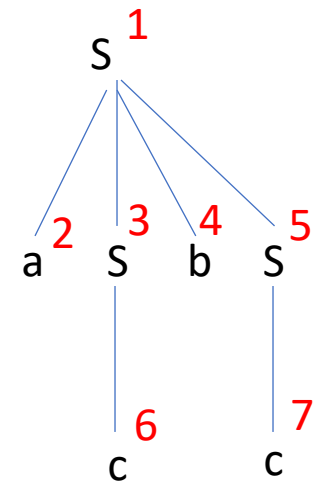
|           | Descendent                  | Ascendent                      |
|-----------|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Recursive | Descendent recursive parser | Ascendent recursive parser     |
| Linear    | LL(k): LL(1)                | LR(k): LR(0), SLR, LR(1), LALR |

# Result – parse tree -representation

- Arbitrary tree – child sybling representation
- Sequence of derivations  $S \Rightarrow \alpha_1 \Rightarrow \alpha_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \alpha_n = w$
- String of production – index associated to prod – which prod is used at each derivation step: 1,4,3,...



| index | Info | Parent | Right sibling |
|-------|------|--------|---------------|
| 1     | S    | 0      | 0             |
| 2     | a    | 1      | 0             |
| 3     | S    | 1      | 2             |
| 4     | b    | 1      | 3             |
| 5     | S    | 1      | 4             |
| 6     | c    | 3      | 0             |
| 7     | c    | 5      | 0             |



# Example – equivalence of the representation

$S \rightarrow aSbS \mid c$

$S \Rightarrow^* acbacbc$

Sequence of derivation / string of productions / syntax tree