

# **AUTOMATA FORMAL LANGUAGES AND LOGIC**



## **Lecture notes on Context Free Grammar/Linear Grammar**

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**1. Context Free Grammar (CFG)** is defined by 4 tuples  $G=(V,T,P,S)$  where,

$V$  is the set of variables.

$T$  is the set of terminal symbols.

$P$  is the set of production rules of the form:

$A \rightarrow \alpha$  (Variable  $\rightarrow$  String), Where  $\alpha \in \{V \cup T\}^*$  and  $A \in V$ .

A context-free grammar has no restrictions on the right side of its productions, while the left side must be a single variable.

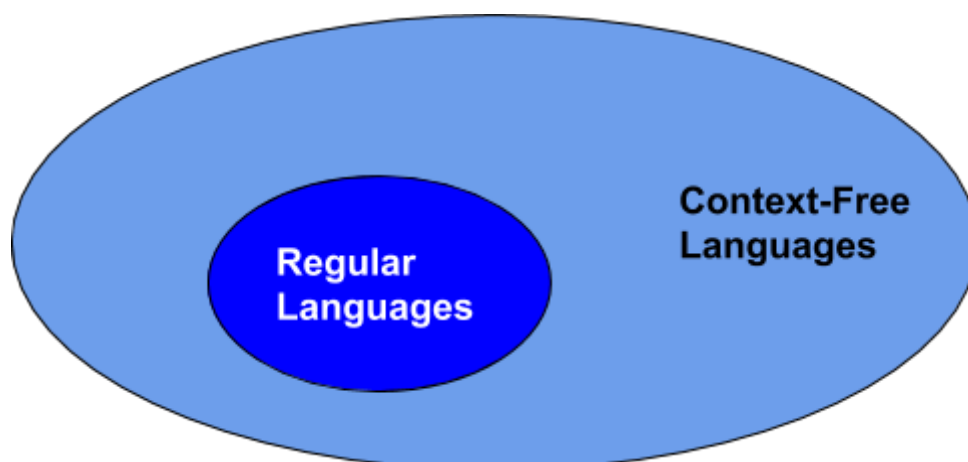
$S$  is the start symbol.

- CFG may not be right-linear or left-linear, i.e., it may have a variable in the middle of the right-hand side of the grammar, surrounded by terminal symbols on both sides.
- CFG may not even be linear, i.e., may have more than one variable on the right-hand side.
- If  $G$  is a CFG with alphabet  $\Sigma$  and start symbol  $S$ , then the language of  $G$  is the set  $L(G) = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow^* w \}$ .
- Any language generated by a context free grammar (CFG) is a Context Free Language (CFL).
- CFG / Linear grammar has only one variable on the RHS of any production rule.

## 2. Context-Free Languages

**Context-free languages** are a strict superset of the regular languages.

Every regular language is context-free, but not necessarily the other way around.



### Example 1:

Construct linear grammar for the even palindromes.  $L = \{ww^R, w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$

Palindrome is a sequence that reads the same backwards as forwards, e.g. madam.

Set of strings that belong to the language  $= \{\lambda, aa, bb, abba, \dots\}$

Minimum strings:  $\lambda$

$w w^R = a a$

$w w^R = b b$

$w w^R = ab ba$  and so on.

There is a pattern which follows,

if we generate an 'a' at the start there has to be an 'a' at the end.

$S \rightarrow aSa$

Similarly, if we generate 'b' at the start there has to be 'b' at the end.

$S \rightarrow aSa | bSb$

Since it is an even palindrome, we will replace the  $S$  with  $\lambda$ .

CFG/linear grammar for the even palindromes is:

$S \rightarrow aSa | bSb | \lambda$

### Example 2:

Construct linear grammar for the even palindromes.  $L = \{wCw^R, w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$

$C$  represents the mid.

We can take the grammar from the previous example and replace  $S \rightarrow \lambda$  with  $S \rightarrow C$ .

CFG/linear grammar for the even palindromes with  $C$  as separator is:

$S \rightarrow aSa | bSb | C$

### Example 3:

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{ww^R, w \in \{ab\}^* \mid (ba)^*\}$

w here is either ab or ba.

If we generate 'ab' at the start we must generate 'ba' at the end.

$S \rightarrow \text{abSba}$

If we generate 'ba' at the start we must generate 'ab' at the end.

$S \rightarrow \text{baSab}$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{ww^R, w \in \{ab\}^* \mid (ba)^*\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow \text{abSba} \mid \text{baSab} \mid \lambda$

### Example 4:

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n ww^R b^n \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$

We will first generate  $a^n b^n$ .

$S \rightarrow \text{aSb}$

Next, we will replace S with  $ww^R$

Introduce new production  $S \rightarrow A$ , where A will take care of  $ww^R$ .

$S \rightarrow \text{aSb} \mid A$

$A \rightarrow \text{aAa} \mid \text{bAb} \mid \lambda$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n ww^R b^n \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow \text{aSb} \mid A$

$A \rightarrow \text{aAa} \mid \text{bAb} \mid \lambda$

### Example 5:

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{n+1}, n \geq 0\}$

$a^n b^{n+1}$  is similar to  $a^n b^n$  but has an extra b.

$a^n b^{n+1} = a^n b b^n$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{n+1} \mid n \geq 0\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow \text{aSb} \mid b$

**Example 6:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^{n+2}b^n, n \geq 1\}$

$$a^{n+2}b^n = a^n a^2 b^n$$

Minimum value  $n=1$  ,  $aa^2b=aaab$

$$n=2, a^2a^2b^2=aaaaabb$$

$$n=3, a^3a^2b^3=aaaaaabb and so on$$

There is a pattern which follows,  
there are an equal number of a's and b's in the middle there are two a's.

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^{n+2}b^n, n \geq 1\}$  is:

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aaab$$

**Example 7:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{2n}, n \geq 0\}$

Enumerate the strings in L:

n	w(string)
0	$\lambda$
1	a bb
2	aa bbbb

There is a pattern which follows, for every 'a' there are two b's.

$$S \rightarrow aSbb \mid \lambda$$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{2n}, n \geq 0\}$  is:

$$S \rightarrow aSbb \mid \lambda$$

**Example 8:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{n-3}, n \geq 3\}$

Enumerate the strings in L:

n	w(string)
3	$a^3 b^0$
4	$a^4 b^{4-3} = a^4 b^1 = aa^3 b$
5	$a^5 b^{5-3} = a^5 b^2 = a^2 a^3 b^2$

There is a pattern which follows,  
there are an equal number of a's and b's and extra three a's.

$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aaa$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^{n-3}, n \geq 3\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aaa$

**Example 9:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n > m\}$

Strings in the language  $L = \{\text{more a's than b's}\} = \{a, aa, \dots, aab, aaaabbbb, \dots\}$

The pattern which follows is at least one more 'a' along with the same number of a's and b's.

$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aS \mid a$  ( $S \rightarrow aS \mid a$  will generate one or more a's)

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n > m\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aS \mid a$



**Example 10:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n \neq m\}$

$a^n b^m, n \neq m$  means either the number of a's are more or number of b's are more.

$S \rightarrow A \mid B$  (A-takes care of more a's, B-takes care of more b's)

$A \rightarrow aAb \mid aA \mid a$

$B \rightarrow aBb \mid bB \mid b$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n \neq m\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow A \mid B$

$A \rightarrow aAb \mid aA \mid a$

$B \rightarrow aBb \mid bB \mid b$

**Example 11:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n=2+(m \bmod 3)\}$

Enumerate the strings in L:

<b>m</b>	<b><math>n=2+(m \bmod 3)</math></b>	<b><math>w=a^n b^m</math></b>
0	$n=2+0 \bmod 3=2+0=2$	aa
1	$n=2+1 \bmod 3=2+1=3$	aaab
2	$n=2+2 \bmod 3=2+2=4$	aaaabb
3	$n=2+3 \bmod 3=2+0=2$	aabbb
4	$n=2+4 \bmod 3=2+1=3$	aaabbbb
5	$n=2+5 \bmod 3=2+2=4$	aaaabbbb

We see that there is a restriction on the number of a's=2,3 or 4.  
The number of b's are always multiples of 3.

**Base cases:** aa**bbb**,aaab**bbb**,aaaab**bbb**

$S \rightarrow aaA|aaabA|aaaabbA$   
 $A \rightarrow bbbA|\lambda$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n=2+(m \bmod 3)\}$  is:

**$S \rightarrow aaA|aaabA|aaaabbA$**   
 **$A \rightarrow bbbA|\lambda$**

**Example 12:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n \neq 2m\}$

$L = \{\text{number of } a\text{'s} \neq \text{twice the number of } b\text{'s}\}$

$aab, aaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots \in L$

Enumerate the strings in  $L$ :

<b>m</b> <b>(#b's)</b>	<b>n</b> <b>(#a's)</b>	<b>w , <math>n \neq 2m</math></b>
0	$\neq 0$	No b's, At least one 'a'= $a^+$
1	$\neq 2$	One 'b'. No of a's $\neq 2$ $w \in \{b, ab, aaab, aaaab, aaaaab, \dots\}$
2	$\neq 4$	Two b's No of a's $\neq 4$ $w \in \{bb, abb, aabb, aaabb, aaaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots\}$
3	$\neq 6$	Three b's No of a's $\neq 6$ $w \in \{bbb, abbb, aabbb, aaabbb, aaaaabbb, aaaaaabbb, \dots\}$
4	$\neq 8$	Four b's No of a's $\neq 8$ $w \in \{bbbb, abbbb, aabbbb, aaabbbb, aaaaabbbb, aaaaaabbbb, \dots\}$

Strings in the language :

$\{b, ab, aaab, aaaab, aaaaab, \dots\}$

$\{bb, abb, aabb, aaabb, aaaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots\}$

$\{bbb, abbb, aabbb, aaabbb, aaaaabbb, aaaaaabbb, \dots\}$

$\{bbbb, abbbb, aabbbb, aaabbbb, aaaaabbbb, aaaaaabbbb, \dots\}$

General form :

$\{b^+, \dots\}$

$\{b, \mathbf{ab}, aaab, aaaab, aaaaab, \dots\}$   
 $\{bb, \mathbf{abb}, aabb, aaabb, aaaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbb, \mathbf{abbb}, aabbb, aaabbb, aaaaabbb, aaaaaabbb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbbb, \mathbf{abbbb}, aabbbb, aaabbbb, aaaaabbbb, aaaaaabbbb, \dots\}$   
 General form :  
 $\{b^+, \mathbf{ab}^*, \dots\}$

$\{b, ab, \mathbf{aab}, aaab, aaaab, aaaaab, \dots\}$   
 $\{bb, abb, \mathbf{aabb}, aaabb, aaaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbb, abbb, \mathbf{abbbb}, aaabbb, aaaaabbb, aaaaaabbb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbbb, abbbb, \mathbf{aabbbb}, aaabbbb, aaaaabbbb, aaaaaabbbb, \dots\}$   
 Pattern is,  $aa(b^+)b$   
 General form :  
 $\{b^+, ab^*, \mathbf{aab}^+b, \dots\}$

$\{b, ab, aab, \mathbf{aaab}, aaaab, aaaaab, \dots\}$   
 $\{bb, abb, aabb, \mathbf{aaabb}, aaaaabb, aaaaaabb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbb, abbb, aabbb, \mathbf{aaabbb}, aaaaabbb, aaaaaabbb, \dots\}$   
 $\{bbbb, abbbb, aabbbb, \mathbf{aaabbbb}, aaaaabbbb, aaaaaabbbb, \dots\}$   
 Pattern is,  $aa(b^+)b$   
 General form :  
 $\{b^+, ab^*, aab^+b, \mathbf{aaab}^*b, \dots\}$

$\mathbf{aab}, \mathbf{aaaab}, \mathbf{aaaaaabb}, \dots \notin L$

We do not want to generate ' $\mathbf{aab}$ ', so we build upon it so it doesn't occur.

The cases to handle which we saw so far:

1. At Least one  $a = a^+$
2.  $b^+$
3.  $ab^*$

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m, n \neq 2m\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow \mathbf{aaSb} | \mathbf{A} | \mathbf{B} | \mathbf{aC}$

$\mathbf{A} \rightarrow \mathbf{aA} | \mathbf{a}$  (case 1)

$\mathbf{B} \rightarrow \mathbf{Bb} | \mathbf{b}$  (case 2)

$\mathbf{C} \rightarrow \mathbf{Cb} | \lambda$  (case 3)

### Example 13:

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^{n+2}b^m, m > n, n \geq 0\}$

<b>n</b> <b>(#a's)</b>	<b>m</b> <b>(#b's)</b>	<b>String</b>
0	>0	$a^{n+2}b^m = a^2b^m = a^2bb^*$
1	>1	$a^{n+2}b^m = a^{1+2}b^m = aa^2bbb^*$
2	>2	$a^{n+2}b^m = a^{2+2}b^m = aaa^2bbbb^*$

Strings to understand the pattern:

$a^2bb^*$

$aa^2bbb^*$

$aaa^2bbbb^*$

The cases to handle which we saw so far:

1. Same number of a's and b's.
2.  $a^2b = aab$ , substring (in the middle).
3.  $b^*$  any number of b's at the end.

$S \rightarrow aSb$  (case 1)

$S \rightarrow aSb|aab$  (case 2)

$S \rightarrow aSb|aab|Sb$  (case 3)

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^{n+2}b^m, m > n, n \geq 0\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow aSb|aab|Sb$

**Example 14:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^m d^n, n, m \geq 1\}$

The cases to handle :

1. Equal number of a's and d's.
2. Equal number of b's and c's.

Minimum string in  $L = abcd$

$S \rightarrow aSd | aAd$  (case 1 and also  $n \geq 1$ ,  $S \rightarrow aAd$  and not  $S \rightarrow A$ )  
 $A \rightarrow bAc | bc$  (case 2, and also  $m \geq 1$ ,  $A \rightarrow bc$  and not  $A \rightarrow \lambda$ )

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^m d^n, n, m \geq 1\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow aSd | aAd$   
 $A \rightarrow bAc | bc$

**Example 15:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^k, k = n + m, n, m, k \geq 0\}$

Number of c's = number of a's + number of b's

We can rewrite  $a^n b^m c^k = a^n b^m c^{n+m} = a^n b^m c^m c^n$

The cases to handle (similar to the previous one):

1. Equal number of a's and c's.
2. Equal number of b's and c's.

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^m d^n, n, m \geq 1\}$  is:

$S \rightarrow aSc | A$  ( $n, m \geq 0$ ,  $\lambda$  is the minimum string in the language)  
 $A \rightarrow bAc | \lambda$

**Example 16:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^k, m=2n, k=2, n \geq 0\}$

We can rewrite  $a^n b^m c^k = a^n b^{2n} c^2$

We can have two variables **A** to handle  $a^n b^{2n}$  and **B** to handle  $c^2$ .

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^k, m=2n, k=2, n \geq 0\}$  is:

**$S \rightarrow AB$**

**$A \rightarrow aAbb | \lambda$**

**$B \rightarrow cc$**

**Example 17:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^k, m, n \geq 0, k=n+2m\}$

We can rearrange rewrite  $a^n b^m c^k = a^n b^m c^{n+2m} = a^n b^m c^{2m} . c^n$

The cases to handle :

3. Equal number of a's and c's.
4. Every 'b' has 'cc'.

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{a^n b^m c^k, m, n \geq 0, k=n+2m\}$  is:

**$S \rightarrow aSc | A$**

**$A \rightarrow bAcc | \lambda$**

**Example 18:**

Construct linear grammar for  $L = \{|w| \bmod 3 \neq |w| \bmod 2, w \in \{a\}^*\}$

Remainder for mod 3=0,1,2

Remainder for mod 2=0,1

We will find out  $a^n$  for which  $a^n \bmod 3 \neq a^n \bmod 2$

$a^n$	mod 2	mod 3
$a^0$	0	0
$a^1$	1	1
$a^2$	0	2
$a^3$	1	0
$a^4$	0	1
$a^5$	1	2
$a^6$	0	0
$a^7$	1	1
$a^8$	0	2
$a^9$	1	0
$a^{10}$	0	1
$a^{11}$	1	2

$L = \{a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5, a^8, a^9, a^{10}, a^{11}, \dots\}$

Base cases:  $a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5$

Keep on adding 6 to each of  $a^2, a^3, a^4, a^5$ , we get  $a^8, a^9, a^{10}, a^{11}$ .

Generate S in multiples of 6.

**$S \rightarrow aaaaaaS \mid aa \mid aaa \mid aaaa \mid aaaaa$**

CFG/linear grammar for  $L = \{|w| \bmod 3 \neq |w| \bmod 2, w \in \{a\}^*\}$  is:

**$S \rightarrow aaaaaaS \mid aa \mid aaa \mid aaaa \mid aaaaa$**