

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.

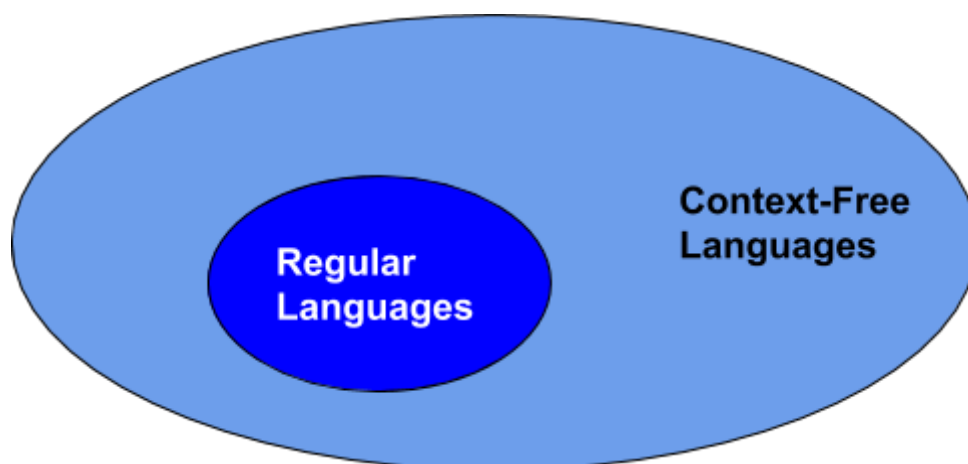
S is the start symbol.

- 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 Σ 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: λ

$w w^R = a a$

$w w^R = b b$

$w w^R = ab ba$ 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 λ .

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

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

$$n=3, a^3a^2b^3 = aaaaabbbb \text{ and so on}$$

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	λ
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:

m	$n=2+(m \bmod 3)$	$w=a^n b^m$
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 :

m (#b's)	n (#a's)	w , $n \neq 2m$
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 :
 $\{b^+, \mathbf{ab}^*, \dots\}$

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

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

We do not want to generate '**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 $L = \{a^{n+2}b^m, m > n, n \geq 0\}$

n (#a's)	m (#b's)	String
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:

$S \rightarrow aSc | A$ ($n, m \geq 0$, λ 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.

$S \rightarrow aaaaaaS | aa | aaa | aaaa | aaaaa$

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

$S \rightarrow aaaaaaS | aa | aaa | aaaa | aaaaa$