

Context Free Languages: Problems for Week 4

Exercise 1 Consider the language generated by the grammar

$$\Rightarrow S ::= bSS \mid aS \mid a$$

and the string *aabbbaaa*.

1. Find a leftmost derivation for this string.
2. Draw the derivation tree.

Exercise 2 Let's look at a "Natural Language" example. The alphabet is

$\{ \text{the, a, cat, dog, happy, tired, slept, died, ate, dinner, and, .} \}$

The grammar is

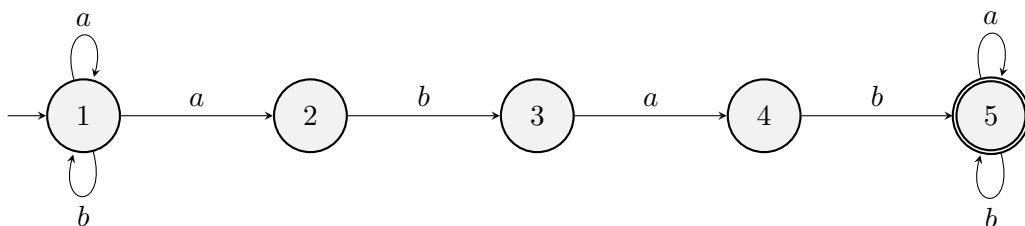
Sentence	$\Rightarrow S ::=$	$C .$
Clause	$C ::=$	$NP VP \mid C \text{ and } C$
Noun phrase	$NP ::=$	$Art N \mid \text{dinner}$
Noun	$N ::=$	$Adj N \mid \text{cat} \mid \text{dog}$
Adjective	$Adj ::=$	$\text{happy} \mid \text{tired}$
Verb phrase	$VP ::=$	$VI \mid VT NP$
Intransitive verb	$VI ::=$	$\text{slept} \mid \text{died}$
Transitive verb	$VT ::=$	ate
Article	$Art ::=$	$a \mid \text{the}$

This grammar accepts "words" such as

the happy tired happy dog died and the cat slept.
the tired tired cat ate dinner.
dinner ate a happy dog.

Try writing derivations and derivation trees for these sentences.

Exercise 3 Let's consider an NFA that accepts any string that contains the substring "abab".



1. Convert the above NFA into its equivalent total DFA.
2. Convert the resultant DFA in an equivalent CFG. It is suggested to minimize the DFA before writing CFG.

Exercise 4 Give a context free grammar for the set of palindromes over the alphabet $\{a, b\}$.

Exercise 5 Try deriving the string $3 + 5 \times 3$ in two different ways using leftmost derivation only, using the grammar given below:

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow A &::= A + B \mid B \\ B &::= B \times C \mid C \\ C &::= (A) \mid 3 \mid 5 \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 6 Show that the following grammar is ambiguous. The alphabet is $\{a, b\}$.

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow P &::= \varepsilon \mid Qa \mid aQ \\ Q &::= aaP \mid bR \\ R &::= Qa \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 7 Convert the following CFG into an equivalent CFG in Chomsky normal form

$$\begin{aligned} \Rightarrow A &::= BAB \mid B \mid \varepsilon \\ B &::= 00 \mid \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

Exercise 8 Give grammars for the following two languages:

1. All binary strings with both an even number of zeroes and an even number of ones.
2. All strings of the form $0^a 1^b 0^c$ where $a + c = b$.