

08-0: **Context-Free Grammars**

- Set of Terminals ( $\Sigma$ )
- Set of Non-Terminals
- Set of Rules, each of the form:  
 $\langle \text{Non-Terminal} \rangle \rightarrow \langle \text{Terminals \& Non-Terminals} \rangle$
- Special Non-Terminal – Initial Symbol

08-1: **Generating Strings with CFGs**

- Start with the initial symbol
- Repeat:
  - Pick any non-terminal in the string
  - Replace that non-terminal with the right-hand side of some rule that has that non-terminal as a left-hand side

Until all elements in the string are terminals

08-2: **CFG Example**

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow Bb$$

$$B \rightarrow cB$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Generating a string:

 $S$       replace  $S$  with  $aS$ 
 $aS$       replace  $S$  with  $Bb$ 
 $aBb$       replace  $B$  with  $cB$       08-3: **CFG Example**
 $acBb$       replace  $B$  with  $\epsilon$ 
 $acb$       Final String

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow Bb$$

$$B \rightarrow cB$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Generating a string:

 $S$       replace  $S$  with  $aS$ 
 $aS$       replace  $S$  with  $aS$ 
 $aaS$       replace  $S$  with  $Bb$ 
 $aaBb$       replace  $B$  with  $cB$       08-4: **CFG Example**
 $aacBb$       replace  $B$  with  $cB$ 
 $aaccBb$       replace  $B$  with  $\epsilon$ 
 $aaccb$       Final String

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow Bb$$

$$B \rightarrow cB$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Regular Expression equivalent to this CFG:

08-5: **CFG Example**

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow Bb$$

$$B \rightarrow cB$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Regular Expression equivalent to this CFG:

$$a^*c^*b$$

08-6: **CFG Example**

CFG for  $L = \{0^n1^n : n > 0\}$

08-7: **CFG Example**

CFG for  $L = \{0^n1^n : n > 0\}$

$$S \rightarrow 0S1 \quad \text{or} \quad S \rightarrow 0S1|01$$

$$S \rightarrow 01$$

(note – can write:

$$A \rightarrow \alpha$$

$$A \rightarrow \beta$$

as

$$A \rightarrow \alpha|\beta)$$

(examples: 01, 0011, 000111) 08-8: **CFG Formal Definition**

$$G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$$

- $V$  = Set of symbols, both terminals & non-terminals
- $\Sigma \subset V$  set of terminals (alphabet for the language being described)
- $R \subset ((V - \Sigma) \times V^*)$  Finite set of rules
- $S \in (V - \Sigma)$  Start symbol

08-9: **CFG Formal Definition**

Example:

$$S \rightarrow 0S1$$

$$S \rightarrow 01$$

Set theory Definition:

$$G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$$

- $V = \{S, 0, 1\}$
- $\Sigma \subset V = \{0, 1\}$
- $R \subset ((V - \Sigma) \times V^*) = \{(S, 0S0), (S, 01)\}$
- $S \in (V - \Sigma) = S$

08-10: **Derivation**

A *Derivation* is a listing of how a string is generated – showing what the string looks like after every replacement.

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aA|\epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow bB|\epsilon$$

$$S \Rightarrow AB$$

$$\Rightarrow aAB$$

$$\Rightarrow aAbB$$

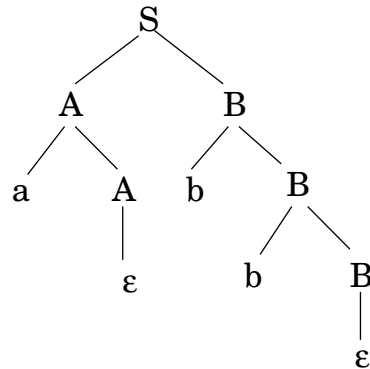
$$\Rightarrow abB$$

$$\Rightarrow abbB$$

$$\Rightarrow abb$$

08-11: **Parse Tree**

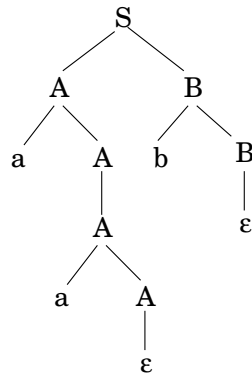
A *Parse Tree* is a graphical representation of a derivation.



$S \Rightarrow AB$   
 $\Rightarrow aAB$   
 $\Rightarrow aAbB$   
 $\Rightarrow abB$   
 $\Rightarrow abbB$   
 $\Rightarrow abb$

08-12: **Parse Tree**

A *Parse Tree* is a graphical representation of a derivation.



$S \Rightarrow AB$   
 $\Rightarrow AbB$   
 $\Rightarrow aAbB$   
 $\Rightarrow aaAbB$   
 $\Rightarrow aaAb$   
 $\Rightarrow aab$

08-13: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a Context-Free Grammar for all strings over  $\{a,b\}$  which contain the substring “aba”

08-14: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a Context-Free Grammar for all strings over  $\{a,b\}$  which contain the substring “aba”

$S \rightarrow AabaA$   
 $A \rightarrow aA$   
 $A \rightarrow bA$   
 $A \rightarrow \epsilon$

- Give a parse tree for the string: bbabaa

08-15: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a Context-Free Grammar for all strings over  $\{a,b\}$  that begin or end with the substring bba (inclusive or)

## 08-16: Fun with CFGs

- Create a Context-Free Grammar for all strings over  $\{a,b\}$  that begin or end with the substring bba (inclusive or)

$$S \rightarrow bbaA$$

$$S \rightarrow Abba$$

$$A \rightarrow bA$$

$$A \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

08-17:  $L_{CFG}$ 

The Context-Free Languages,  $L_{CFG}$ , is the set of all languages that can be described by some CFG:

- $L_{CFG} = \{L : \exists \text{ CFG } G \wedge L[G] = L\}$

We already know  $L_{CFG} \not\subseteq L_{REG}$  (why)?

- $L_{REG} \subset L_{CFG}$  ?

08-18:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

We will prove  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$  in two different ways:

- Prove by induction that, given any regular expression  $r$ , we create a CFG  $G$  such that  $L[G] = L[r]$
- Given any NFA  $M$ , we create a CFG  $G$  such that  $L[G] = L[M]$

08-19:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

- To Prove: Given any regular expression  $r$ , we can create a CFG  $G$  such that  $L[G] = L[r]$
- By induction on the structure of  $r$

08-20:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

Base Cases:

- $r = a, a \in \Sigma$

08-21:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

Base Cases:

- $r = a, a \in \Sigma$

$$S \rightarrow a$$

08-22:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

Base Cases:

- $r = \epsilon$

08-23:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

Base Cases:

- $r = \epsilon$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

08-24:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$ 

Base Cases:

- $r = \emptyset$

08-25:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Base Cases:

- $r = \emptyset$

$$S \rightarrow SS$$

08-26:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1 r_2)$

$$L[G_1] = L[r_1], \text{ Start symbol of } G_1 = S_1$$

$$L[G_2] = L[r_2], \text{ Start symbol of } G_2 = S_2$$

08-27:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1 r_2)$

$$L[G_1] = L[r_1], \text{ Start symbol of } G_1 = S_1$$

$$L[G_2] = L[r_2], \text{ Start symbol of } G_2 = S_2$$

$G$  = all rules from  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , plus new non-terminal  $S$ , and new rule:

$$S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$$

New start symbol  $S$

08-28:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1 + r_2)$

$$L[G_1] = L[r_1], \text{ Start symbol of } G_1 = S_1$$

$$L[G_2] = L[r_2], \text{ Start symbol of } G_2 = S_2$$

08-29:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1 + r_2)$

$$L[G_1] = L[r_1], \text{ Start symbol of } G_1 = S_1$$

$$L[G_2] = L[r_2], \text{ Start symbol of } G_2 = S_2$$

$G$  = all rules from  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ , plus new non-terminal  $S$ , and new rules:

$$S \rightarrow S_1$$

$$S \rightarrow S_2$$

Start symbol =  $S$

08-30:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1^*)$

$L[G_1] = L[r_1]$ , Start symbol of  $G_1 = S_1$

08-31:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$

Recursive Cases:

- $r = (r_1^*)$

$L[G_1] = L[r_1]$ , Start symbol of  $G_1 = S_1$

$G =$  all rules from  $G_1$ , plus new non-terminal  $S$ , and new rules:

$S \rightarrow S_1 S$

$S \rightarrow \epsilon$

Start symbol =  $S$

(Example) 08-32:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$  **II**

- Given any NFA
  - $M = (K, \Sigma, \Delta, s, F)$
- Create a grammar
  - $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  such that  $L[G] = L[M]$
- Idea: Derivations like “backward NFA configurations”, showing past instead of future
  - Example for all strings over  $\{a, b\}$  that contain  $aa$ , not  $bb$

08-33:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$  **II**

- $M = (K, \Sigma, \Delta, s, F)$
- $G = (V, \Sigma', R, S)$ 
  - $V$
  - $\Sigma'$
  - $R$
  - $S$

08-34:  $L_{REG} \subseteq L_{CFG}$  **II**

- $M = (K, \Sigma, \Delta, s, F)$
- $G = (V, \Sigma', R, S)$ 
  - $V = K \cup \Sigma$
  - $\Sigma' = \Sigma$
  - $R = \{(q_1 \rightarrow aq_2) : q_1, q_2 \in K \text{ (and } V),$   
 $a \in \Sigma, ((q_1, a), q_2) \in \Delta\} \cup$   
 $\{(q \rightarrow \epsilon) : q \in F\}$
  - $S = s$

(Example)

08-35: **CFG – Ambiguity**

- A CFG is *ambiguous* if there exists at least one string generated by the grammar that has  $\geq 1$  different parse tree

$$S \rightarrow AabaA$$

- Previous CFG is ambiguous (examples)

$$A \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow bA$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

08-36: **CFG – Ambiguity**

- Consider the following CFG:

$$E \rightarrow E + E | E - E | E * E | N$$

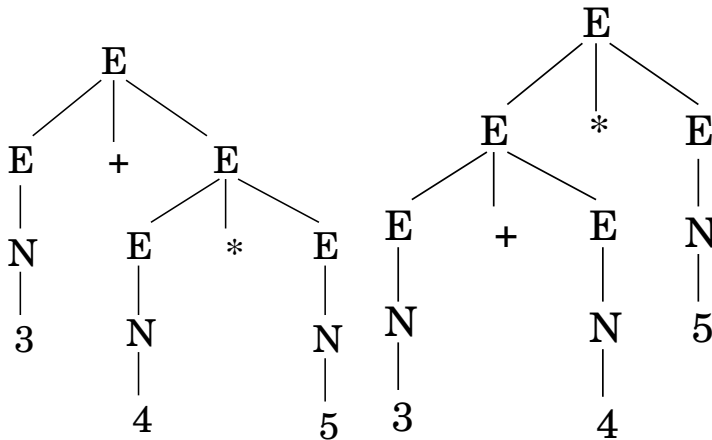
$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

- Is this CFG ambiguous?
- Why is this a problem?

08-37: **CFG – Ambiguity**

$$E \rightarrow E + E | E - E | E * E | N$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$



08-38: **CFG – Ambiguity**

$$E \rightarrow E + E | E - E | E * E | N$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

- If all we care about is removing ambiguity, there is a (relatively) easy way to make this unambiguous (make all operators right-associative)

08-39: **CFG – Ambiguity**

$$E \rightarrow E + E | E - E | E * E | N$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

Non-ambiguous:

$$E \rightarrow N | N + E | N - E | N * E$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

- If we were writing a compiler, would this be a good CFG?
- How can we get correct associativity

08-40: **CFG – Ambiguity**

- Ambiguous:

$$E \rightarrow E + E | E - E | E * E | N$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

- Unambiguous:

$$E \rightarrow E + T | E - T | T$$

$$T \rightarrow T * N | N$$

$$N \rightarrow 0 | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9$$

Can add parentheses, other operators, etc. (More in Compilers)

08-41: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a CFG for all strings over  $\{(,)\}$  that form balanced parenthesis
  - $()$
  - $()()$
  - $((()))((()))$
  - $((((())))$

08-42: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a CFG for all strings over  $\{(,)\}$  that form balanced parenthesis
 
$$S \rightarrow (S)$$

$$S \rightarrow SS$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$
- Is this grammar ambiguous?

08-43: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create a CFG for all strings over  $\{(,)\}$  that form balanced parenthesis
 
$$S \rightarrow (S)$$

$$S \rightarrow SS$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$
- Is this grammar ambiguous?
  - YES! (examples)

08-44: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create an *unambiguous* CFG for all strings over  $\{(,)\}$  that form balanced parenthesis

08-45: **Fun with CFGs**

- Create an *unambiguous* CFG for all strings over  $\{(,)\}$  that form balanced parenthesis

$$S \rightarrow AS$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$A \rightarrow (S)$$

08-46: **Ambiguous Languages**



- A language  $L$  is ambiguous if all CFGs  $G$  that generate it are ambiguous

- Example:

- $L_1 = \{a^i b^i c^j d^j \mid i, j > 0\}$
- $L_2 = \{a^i b^j c^j d^i \mid i, j > 0\}$
- $L_3 = L_1 \cup L_2$

- $L_3$  is inherently ambiguous

(Create a CFG for  $L_3$ ) 08-47: **Ambiguous Languages**

- $L_1 = \{a^i b^i c^j d^j \mid i, j > 0\}$
- $L_2 = \{a^i b^j c^j d^i \mid i, j > 0\}$
- $L_3 = L_1 \cup L_2$

$S \rightarrow S_1 | S_2$   
 $S_1 \rightarrow AB$   
 $A \rightarrow aAb | ab$   
 $B \rightarrow cBd | cd$   
 $S_2 \rightarrow aS_2d | aCd$   
 $C \rightarrow bCc | bc$

What happens when  $i = j$ ? 08-48: **(More) Fun with CFGs**

- Create an CFG for all strings over  $\{a, b\}$  that have the same number of a's as b's (can be ambiguous)

08-49: **(More) Fun with CFGs**

- Create an CFG for all strings over  $\{a, b\}$  that have the same number of a's as b's (can be ambiguous)

$S \rightarrow aSb$   
 $S \rightarrow bSa$   
 $S \rightarrow SS$   
 $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

08-50: **(More) Fun with CFGs**

- Create an CFG for  $L = \{ww^R : w \in (a + b)^*\}$

08-51: **(More) Fun with CFGs**

- Create an CFG for  $L = \{ww^R : w \in (a + b)^*\}$

$S \rightarrow aSa$   
 $S \rightarrow bSb$  08-52: **(More) Fun with CFGs**  
 $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

- Create an CFG for all palindromes over  $\{a, b\}$ . That is, create a CFG for:

- $L = \{w : w \in (a + b)^*, w = w^R\}$

08-53: **(More) Fun with CFGs**

- Create an CFG for all palindromes over  $\{a, b\}$ . That is, create a CFG for:

- $L = \{w : w \in (a + b)^*, w = w^R\}$

$S \rightarrow aSa$

$S \rightarrow bSb$

$S \rightarrow \epsilon$       08-54: (More) Fun with CFGs

$S \rightarrow a$

$S \rightarrow b$

- Create an CFG for  $L = \{a^i b^j c^k : j > i + k\}$

08-55: (More) Fun with CFGs

- Create an CFG for  $L = \{a^i b^j c^k : j > i + k\}$

*HINT:* We may wish to break this down into 3 different languages ...

08-56: (More) Fun with CFGs

- Create an CFG for  $L = \{a^i b^j c^k : j > i + k\}$

$S \rightarrow ABC$

$A \rightarrow aAb$

$A \rightarrow \epsilon$

$B \rightarrow bB$

$B \rightarrow b$

$C \rightarrow bCc | \epsilon$

08-57: (More) Fun with CFGs

- Create an CFG for all strings over  $\{0, 1\}$  that have the an even number of 0's and an odd number of 1's.
  - *HINT:* It may be easier to come up with 4 CFGs – even 0's, even 1's, odd 0's odd 1's, even 0's odd 1's, odd 1's, even 0's – and combine them ...

08-58: (More) Fun with CFGs

- Create an CFG for all strings over  $\{0, 1\}$  that have the an even number of 0's and an odd number of 1's.

$S_1 = \text{Even 0's Even 1's}$

$S_2 = \text{Even 0's Odd 1's}$

$S_3 = \text{Odd 0's Even 1's}$

$S_4 = \text{Odd 0's Odd 1's}$

$S_1 \rightarrow 0S_3 | 1S_2$

$S_2 \rightarrow 0S_4 | 1S_1$

$S_3 \rightarrow 0S_1 | 1S_4$

$S_4 \rightarrow 0S_2 | 1S_3$