

Lecture ten

Topics that must be covered in this lecture:

- **Derivation.**
- **Context Free Grammar.**
- **Context Free Language.**
- **Derivation trees.**
- **The ambiguous context free grammars.**

Derivation

The set of all strings that can be derived from a grammar is said to be the **LANGUAGE** generated from that grammar.

Examples 1: consider the grammar $G_1 = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, \{S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow a, B \rightarrow b\})$, find language generated from G_1 .

Solution:

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\rightarrow aB$

$\rightarrow ab$

$L(G_1) = \{ab\}$

Examples 2: consider the grammar $G_2 = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, \{S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow aA|a, B \rightarrow bB|b\})$, find language generated from G_2 .

Solution:

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\rightarrow aB$

$\rightarrow ab$

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\rightarrow aAbB$

$\rightarrow aabB$

$\rightarrow aabb$

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\rightarrow aAb$

$\rightarrow aab$

$S \rightarrow AB$

$\rightarrow abB$

$\rightarrow abb$

$L(G_2) = \{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ and } n > 0\}$

CONTEXT FREE GRAMMAR

A *context free grammar*, called **CFG**, is defined by 4 tuples as $G=(V, \Sigma, S, P)$ where:

1. V = set of variables or Non-Terminal symbols
2. Σ = Set of Terminal symbols
3. S = start symbol
4. P = production rule

CFG has production rule of the form:

$$A \rightarrow \alpha$$

Where: $\alpha \in \{V \cup \Sigma\}^*$, $A \in V$ and $|A|=1$

Context Free Language

Definition: The language generated by the CFG is the set of all strings of terminals that can be produced from the start symbol S using the production as substitutions.

A language generated by the CFG is called a **context free language (CFL)**.

The set of all CFL is identical to the set of languages accepted by Pushdown automata.

Example for generating a language: that generates equal number of a's and b's in the form $a^n b^n$, the context free grammar will be defined as:

$$G=(\{S,A\}, \{a,b\}, \{S \rightarrow aAb, A \rightarrow aAb | \epsilon\})$$

Sol:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow aAb \\ &\rightarrow aaAbb \\ &\rightarrow aaaAbbb \\ &\rightarrow aaabbb \\ &\rightarrow a^3b^3 \Rightarrow a^n b^n \end{aligned}$$

Example about CFG

Example1

Let the only terminal be a.

Let the only nonterminal be S.

Let the production be:

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow \lambda$$

The language generated by this CFG is exactly a^* . In this language we can have the following derivation: $S \rightarrow aS \rightarrow aaS \rightarrow aaaS \rightarrow aaaaS \rightarrow aaaaaS \rightarrow aaaaaa \lambda = aaaaaa$

Example2

Let the only terminal be a.

Let the only nonterminal be S.

Let the production be:

$$S \rightarrow SS$$

$$S \rightarrow a$$

$$S \rightarrow \lambda$$

The language generated by this CFG is also just the language a^* .

In this language we can have the following derivation:

$$S \rightarrow SS \rightarrow SSS \rightarrow SaS \rightarrow SaSS \rightarrow \lambda aSS \rightarrow \lambda aaS \rightarrow \lambda aa \lambda = aa$$

Example3

Let the terminals be a, b. And the only nonterminal be S.

Let the production be:

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow bS$$

$$S \rightarrow a$$

$$S \rightarrow b$$

The language generated by this CFG is $(a+b)^+$.

In this language we can have the following derivation:

$$S \rightarrow bS \rightarrow baS \rightarrow baaS \rightarrow baab$$

Example4

Let the terminals be a, b. And the only nonterminal be S.

Let the production be:

$$S \rightarrow aS$$

$$S \rightarrow bS$$

$$S \rightarrow \lambda$$

The language generated by this CFG is $(a+b)^*$.

In this language we can have the following derivation:

$$S \rightarrow bS \rightarrow baS \rightarrow baaS \rightarrow baa \lambda = baa$$

Example:

Derivation Order

1. $S \rightarrow AB$
2. $A \rightarrow aaA$
3. $A \rightarrow \lambda$
4. $B \rightarrow Bb$
5. $B \rightarrow \lambda$

Leftmost derivation:

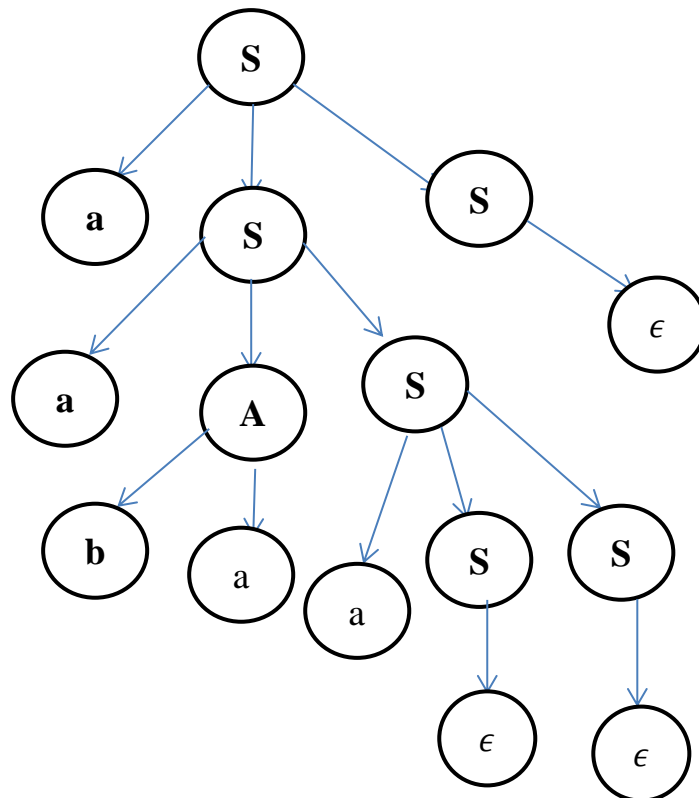
$$S \xrightarrow{1} AB \xrightarrow{2} aaAB \xrightarrow{3} aaB \xrightarrow{4} aaBb \xrightarrow{5} aab$$

Rightmost derivation:

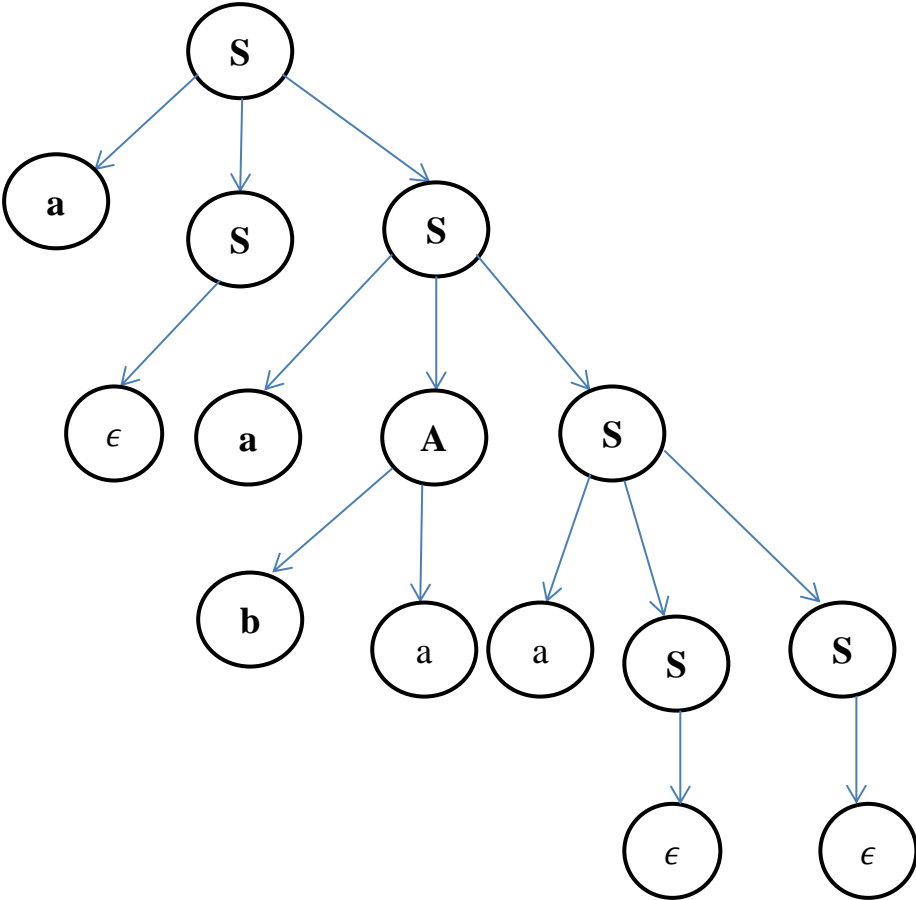
$$S \xrightarrow{1} AB \xrightarrow{4} ABb \xrightarrow{5} Ab \xrightarrow{2} aaAb \xrightarrow{3} aab$$

Example for generatong the string aabaa from the grammar $S \rightarrow aAS | aSS | \epsilon$, $A \rightarrow SbA | ba$, find left derivation tree and right derivation tree for derive aabaa.

Left derivation tree :



Right derivation tree:



Ambiguity:

A context-free grammar G is **ambiguous**

if some string $w \in L(G)$ has:

two or more leftmost derivations
(or rightmost)

Example1:

The grammar $E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \mid a$ is **ambiguous**:

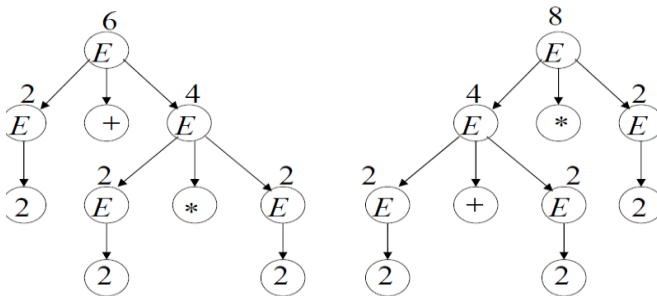
string $a + a * a$ has two leftmost derivations

$$E \Rightarrow E + E \Rightarrow a + E \Rightarrow a + E * E \Rightarrow a + a * E \Rightarrow a + a * a$$

$$E \Rightarrow E * E \Rightarrow E + E * E \Rightarrow a + E * E \Rightarrow a + a * E \Rightarrow a + a * a$$

$$2 + 2 * 2 = 6$$

$$2 + 2 * 2 = 8$$



Correct result: $2 + 2 * 2 = 6$

