

Fundamentele Informatica 1 (I&E)

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<http://www.liacs.leidenuniv.nl/~vlietrvan1/fi1ie/>

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4. Context-Free Languages

4.5. Simplified Forms and Normal Forms

5. Pushdown Automata

5.1. Definitions and Examples

4.5. Simplified Forms and Normal Forms

A slide from lecture 7:

Definition 4.29. Chomsky Normal Form

A context-free grammar is said to be in *Chomsky normal form* if every production is of one of these two types:

$A \rightarrow BC$ (where B and C are variables)

$A \rightarrow \sigma$ (where σ is a terminal symbol)

A slide from lecture 7:

Arbitrary CFG may have

- productions $A \rightarrow \Lambda$
- productions $A \rightarrow B$ (unit productions)
- productions $A \rightarrow bc, A \rightarrow Bc, A \rightarrow bC$
- productions $A \rightarrow \alpha$ with $|\alpha| \geq 3$

A slide from lecture 7:

Converting a CFG to Chomsky Normal Form Step 1

- Identify *nullable* variables
- Add productions in which nullable variables are removed from right hand side
- Delete Λ -productions

We cannot generate Λ anymore

Example.

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid aBb \quad B \rightarrow bB \mid \Lambda$$

$$S \rightarrow SaS \mid B \quad B \rightarrow bB \mid \Lambda$$

A slide from lecture 7:

Converting a CFG to Chomsky Normal Form Step 2

- Identify *A-derivable* variables
- For every *A-derivable* variable B and nonunit production $B \rightarrow \alpha$, add production $A \rightarrow \alpha$
- Delete unit productions

Example.

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid B \quad B \rightarrow bB \mid b \mid A \quad A \rightarrow aBS \mid a$$

Arbitrary CFG may have

- productions $A \rightarrow \Lambda$
- productions $A \rightarrow B$ (unit productions)
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Converting a CFG to Chomsky Normal Form

Step 3

- Add productions $X_a \rightarrow a$
- In every production $A \rightarrow \alpha$ with $|\alpha| \geq 2$, replace terminals a by corresponding non-terminals X_a

Example.

$$S \rightarrow TB \quad T \rightarrow aTTb \mid ab \quad B \rightarrow bB \mid b$$

Arbitrary CFG may have

- productions $A \rightarrow \Lambda$
- productions $A \rightarrow B$ (unit productions)
- productions $A \rightarrow bc, A \rightarrow Bc, A \rightarrow bC$
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Converting a CFG to Chomsky Normal Form

Step 4

- Split productions whose right hand sides are too long

Example.

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow TB & T &\rightarrow X_a T T X_b \mid X_a X_b & B &\rightarrow X_b B \mid b \\ X_a &\rightarrow a & X_b &\rightarrow b \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 4.30.

For every context-free grammar G ,
there is another CFG G_1 in Chomsky normal form
such that $L(G_1) = L(G) - \{\Lambda\}$.

What if $\Lambda \notin L(G)$?

Example 4.31. Converting a CFG to Chomsky Normal Form

Let G be CFG with productions

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow TU \mid V \\ T &\rightarrow aTb \mid \Lambda \\ U &\rightarrow cU \mid \Lambda \\ V &\rightarrow aVc \mid W \\ W &\rightarrow bW \mid \Lambda \end{aligned}$$

5. Pushdown Automata

reg. languages	FA	reg. grammar	reg. expression
cf. languages	PDA	cf. grammar	
re. languages	TM	unrestr. grammar	

just like FA, PDA accepts strings / language

just like FA, PDA has states

just like FA, PDA reads input one letter at a time

unlike FA, PDA has auxiliary memory: a stack

unlike FA, by default PDA is nondeterministic

unlike FA, by default Λ -transitions are allowed in PDA

Why a stack?

$$AnBn = \{a^i b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$$

$$SimplePal = \{x c x^r \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

Stack in PDA contains symbols from certain alphabet.

Usual stack operations: pop, top, push

Extra possibility: replace top element X by string α

$\alpha = \Lambda$ pop

$\alpha = X$ top

$\alpha = YX$ push

$\alpha = \beta X$ push*

$\alpha = \dots$

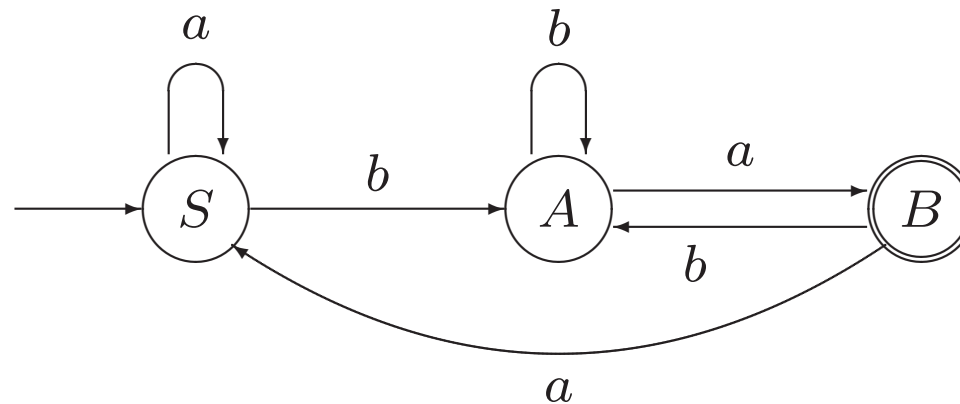
Top element X is required to do a move!

Example 5.3. A PDA Accepting the Language $AnBn$

A slide from lecture 7:

In general: construction of a CFG from a finite automaton.

Example: an FA accepting $\{a, b\}^* \{ba\}$



Definition 5.1. A Pushdown Automaton

A *pushdown automaton* (PDA)

is a 7-tuple $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, q_0, Z_0, A, \delta)$, where

Q is a finite set of states.

Σ and Γ are finite sets, the *input* and *stack* alphabet.

q_0 , the initial state, is an element of Q .

Z_0 , the initial stack symbol, is an element of Γ .

A , the set of accepting states, is a subset of Q .

δ , the transition function, is a function from ... to ...

Definition 5.1. A Pushdown Automaton

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A , the set of accepting states, is a subset of Q .

δ , the transition function, is a function from $Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\Lambda\}) \times \Gamma$
to the set of **finite** subsets of $Q \times \Gamma^*$.

In principle, Z_0 may be removed from the stack,
but often it isn't.

Example 5.3. A PDA Accepting the Language $AnBn$

Transition table:

Move Number	State	Input	Stack Symbol	Move(s)
	p	σ	X	$\delta(p, \sigma, X)$
1	q_0	a	Z_0	(q_1, aZ_0)
2	q_1	a	a	(q_1, aa)
3	q_1	b	a	(q_2, Λ)
4	q_2	b	a	(q_2, Λ)
5	q_2	Λ	Z_0	(q_3, Z_0)
	(all other combinations)			none

Notation:

configuration for certain input (q, x, α)

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash_M (q, y, \beta)$$

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash_M^n (q, y, \beta)$$

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash_M^* (q, y, \beta)$$

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash (q, y, \beta)$$

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash^n (q, y, \beta)$$

$$(p, x, \alpha) \vdash^* (q, y, \beta)$$

Definition 5.2. Acceptance by a PDA

If $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, q_0, Z_0, A, \delta)$ and $x \in \Sigma^*$, the string x is accepted by M if

$$(q_0, x, Z_0) \vdash_M^* (q, \Lambda, \alpha)$$

for some $\alpha \in \Gamma^*$ and some $q \in A$.

A language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ is said to be accepted by M , if L is **precisely** the set of strings accepted by M ; in this case, we write $L = L(M)$.

Sometimes a string accepted by M , or a language accepted by M , is said to be accepted *by final state*.

Example 5.3. A PDA Accepting the Language $AnBn$

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Move Number	State	Input	Stack Symbol	Move(s)
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2	q_1	a	a	(q_1, aa)
3	q_1	b	a	(q_2, Λ)
4	q_2	b	a	(q_2, Λ)
5	q_2	Λ	Z_0	(q_3, Z_0)
	(all other combinations)			none

Computation for $aabb\dots$

Example 5.3. PDAs Accepting the Languages $AnBn$ and *SimplePal*

$$\textit{SimplePal} = \{x c x^r \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

Example 5.7. A Pushdown Automaton Accepting *Pal*

$$Pal = \{y \in \{a, b\}^* \mid y = y^r\} = \{xx^r, xax^r, xbx^r \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

Computation Tree

