

Fundamentele Informatica 1 (I&E)

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

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6. Context-Free and Non-Context-Free Languages

6.1. The Pumping Lemma for Context-Free Languages

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6.1. The Pumping Lemma for Context-Free Languages

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

A slide from lecture 3:

2.4 The Pumping Lemma

Theorem 2.29.

The Pumping Lemma for Regular Languages.

Suppose L is a language over the alphabet Σ .

If L is accepted by a finite automaton $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$, and if n is the number of states of M ,

then for every $x \in L$ satisfying $|x| \geq n$, there are three strings u , v , and w such that $x = uvw$ and the following three conditions are true:

1. $|uv| \leq n$.
2. $|v| > 0$ (i.e., $v \neq \Lambda$).
3. For every $i \geq 0$, the string $uv^i w$ also belongs to L .

A slide from lecture 3:

Example 2.30. The language $AnBn$.

Let $L = \{a^i b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$.

Now, context-free languages.

Intuitively clear that PDA cannot accept $AnBnCn$ or $XX\dots$

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Intuitively clear that PDA cannot accept $AnBnCn$ or $XX\dots$

Pumping lemma based on derivation in CFG (not on PDA):

$$S \Rightarrow^* v \underline{A} z \Rightarrow^* v w \underline{A} y z \Rightarrow^* vw x yz$$

$$S \Rightarrow^* v \underline{A} z \Rightarrow^* v w \underline{A} y z \Rightarrow^* vw w A y y z \Rightarrow^* vw^m x y^m z$$

Theorem 6.1.

The Pumping Lemma for Context-Free Languages.

Suppose L is a context-free language. Then there is an integer n so that for every $u \in L$ with $|u| \geq n$, u can be written as $u = vwxyz$, for some strings v , w , x , y and z satisfying

1. $|wy| > 0$
2. $|wxy| \leq n$
3. for every $m \geq 0$, $vw^mxy^mz \in L$

Proof...

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 8:

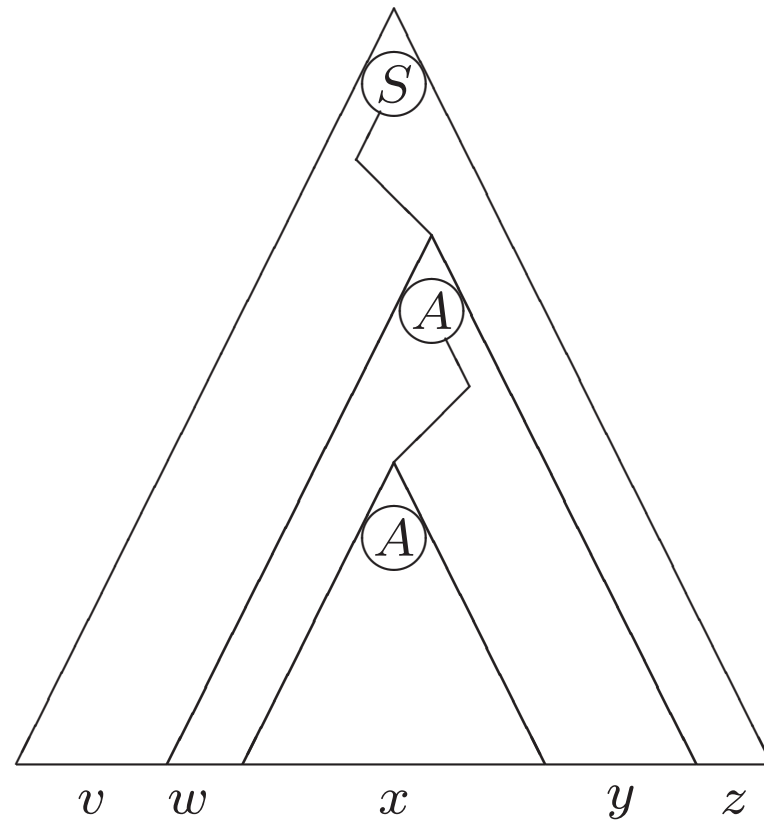
Theorem 4.30. (not Theorem 4.31!)

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

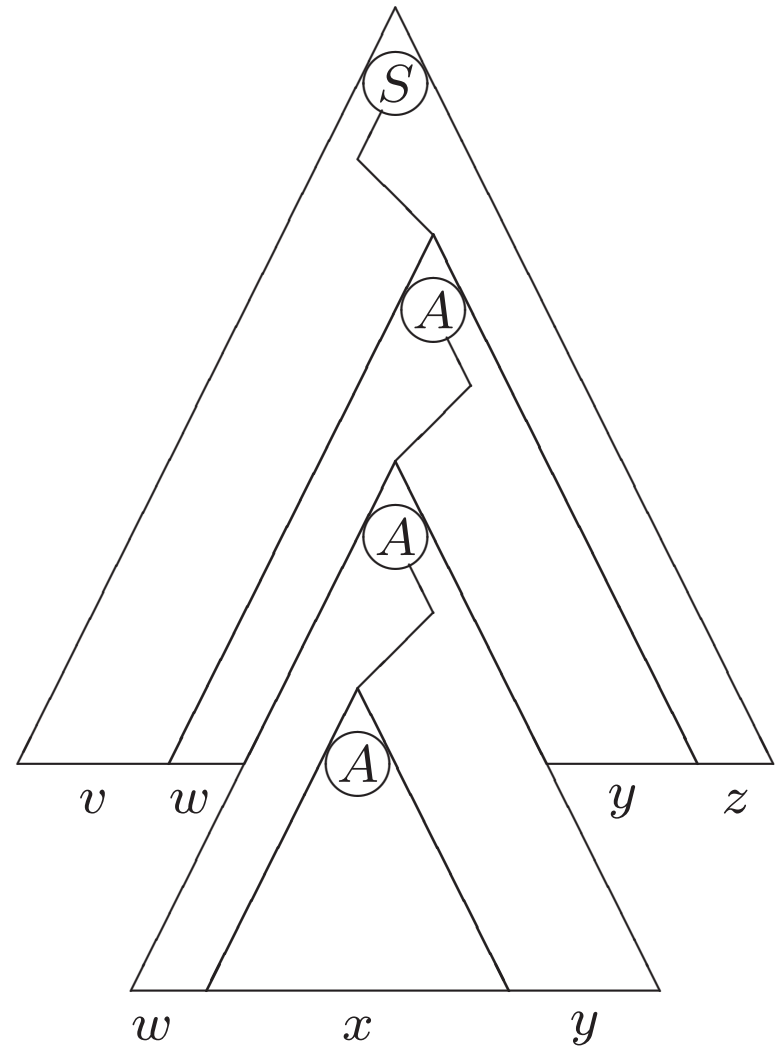
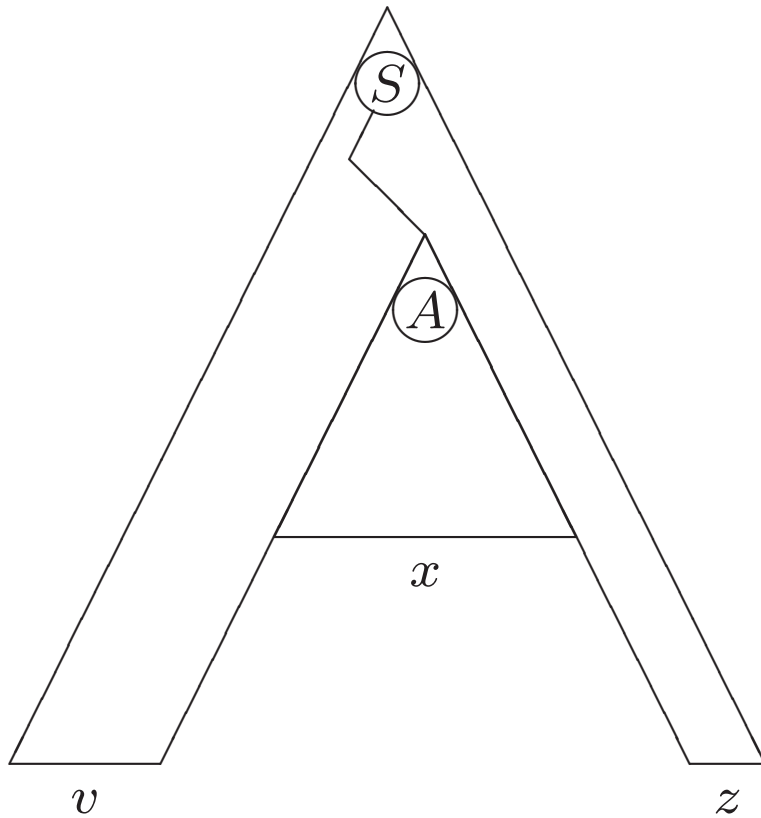
What if $\Lambda \notin L(G)$?

Number of leaf nodes in a binary tree of a given height

Pumping Lemma for CFLs



Pumping Lemma for CFLs



Theorem 6.1.

The Pumping Lemma for Context-Free Languages.

Proof

Let G be CFG in Chomsky normal form with $L(G) = L - \{\Lambda\}$.

Derivation tree in G is binary tree
(where each parent of a leaf node has only one child).

Height of a tree is number of edges in longest path from root to leaf node.

At most 2^h leaf nodes in binary tree of height h : $|u| \leq 2^h$.

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Let p be number of variables in G ,

let $n = 2^p$

and let $u \in L(G)$ with $|u| \geq n$.

(Internal part of) derivation tree of u in G has height at least p .
Hence, longest path in (internal part of) tree contains at least $p + 1$ (internal) nodes.

Consider final portion of longest path in derivation tree.

(leaf node + $p + 1$ internal nodes),

with ≥ 2 occurrences of a variable A .

Pump up derivation tree, and hence u .

Application of pumping lemma:

mainly to prove that a language L **cannot** be generated by a context-free grammar.

How?

Find a string $u \in L$ with $|u| \geq n$ that cannot be pumped up!

What is n ?

What should u be?

What can v , w , x , y and z be?

Suppose that there exists context-free grammar G with $L(G) = L$. Let n be the integer from the pumping lemma.

Pumping lemma:

For every $u \in L$ with $|u| \geq n$,
there are five strings v , w , x , y and z such that $u = vwxyz$
and the following three conditions are true:

1. $|wy| > 0$
2. $|wxy| \leq n$
3. for every $m \geq 0$, $vw^mxy^mz \in L$

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We prove:

NOT
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NOT all of the following three conditions are true:

1. $|wy| > 0$
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Suppose that there exists context-free grammar G with $L(G) = L$. Let n be the integer from the pumping lemma.

We prove:

There exists $u \in L$ with $|u| \geq n$, such that
for every five strings v, w, x, y and z such that $u = vwxyz$

if

1. $|wy| > 0$
2. $|wxy| \leq n$

then NOT

(

3. for every $m \geq 0$, $vw^mxy^mz \in L$

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Suppose that there exists context-free grammar G with $L(G) = L$. Let n be the integer from the pumping lemma.

We prove:

There exists $u \in L$ with $|u| \geq n$, such that
for every five strings v, w, x, y and z such that $u = vwxyz$

if

1. $|wy| > 0$
2. $|wxy| \leq n$

then

3. there exists $m \geq 0$, such that vw^mxy^mz **does not** belong to L

Example 6.3. Applying the Pumping Lemma to $AnBnCn$

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

Choose $u = \dots$

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Proof...

Example 6.5. Applying the Pumping Lemma to...

$$\{x \in \{a, b, c\}^* \mid n_a(x) < n_b(x) \text{ and } n_a(x) < n_c(x)\}$$

Choose $u = \dots$

Example 6.5. Applying the Pumping Lemma to...

$$\{x \in \{a, b, c\}^* \mid n_a(x) < n_b(x) \text{ and } n_a(x) < n_c(x)\}$$

Choose $u = a^n b^{n+1} c^{n+1}$

Example 6.6. The Set of Legal C Programs is Not a CFL

Choose $u = \dots$

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Choose $u =$

```
main(){int aaa...a;aaa...a;aaa...a;}
```

where $aaa...a$ contains $n + 1$ a's

Example 6.4. Applying the Pumping Lemma to XX

$$XX = \{xx \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

Choose $u = \dots$

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$$XX = \{xx \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

Choose $u = a^n b^n a^n b^n$