

Context-free languages

$$L = \{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$$

$P()$  {  }  
do { write 0; (0(0(0(0(ε)1)1)..)  
 $P()$ ;  
write 1; }  
or { ← } }

$$S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$$

$S$  is the smallest language s.t.

- $\epsilon \in S$

- If  $w \in S$  then  $0w1 \in S$ .

$$S = \{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}.$$

$$S \rightarrow OS1 \mid \epsilon$$

Derivation of 000111

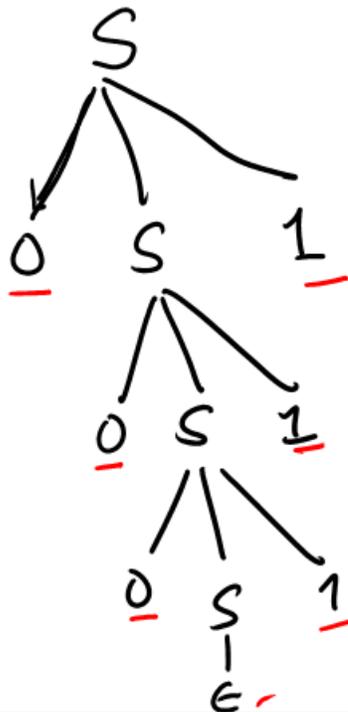
$$S \rightarrow \underline{O}S\underline{1} \rightarrow \underline{O}O\underline{S}1\underline{1}$$

$$\rightarrow 00OS111$$

$$\rightarrow 000\epsilon 111 = 000111$$

$S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$

parse tree



$$\Sigma = \{a, b\}$$

$L =$  set of all palindromes over  $\Sigma$   
 $= \{ w \mid w^R = w \}$

abbabbabba

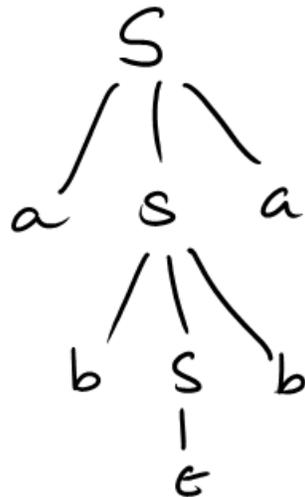


If  $w$  is palindrome,  $awa$   
&  $bwb$  are  
palindromes.

$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid a \mid b \mid \epsilon$$

abba

a b  $\epsilon$  b a



$S \rightarrow aSa$   
 $\rightarrow abSba$   
 $\rightarrow abba$

S → NP VP

NP → DET N

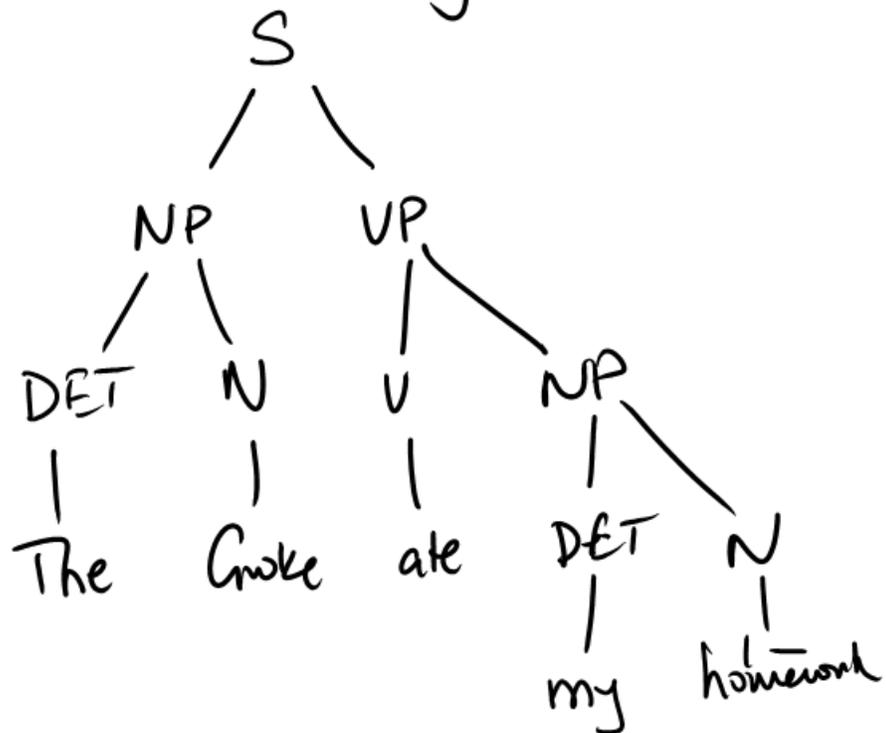
VP → V NP

N → Groke | homework | lunch

DET → the | my

V → ate | corrected | washed  
...

The Croke ate my homework



## Formal definition of a context-free grammar (CFG)

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A CFG is a 4-tuple  
 $(V, \Sigma, R, S)$

Where  $V$  is a finite set (called "variables")

$\Sigma$  is a finite set ("the alphabet")

$S \in V$  - initial/start variable.

$R$  is a finite set of rules of the form  
 $A \rightarrow w$  where  $w \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$   
and  $A \in V$

Ex.  $S \rightarrow OS1 \mid T$   
 $T \rightarrow aT \mid bT \mid \epsilon.$

$$L(S) = \left\{ 0^n w 1^n \mid \begin{array}{l} n \in \mathbb{N} \\ w \in \{a,b\}^* \end{array} \right\}$$

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

$$V = \{ S, T \}$$

$$\Sigma = \{ 0, 1, a, b \}$$

$$R = \left\{ S \rightarrow OS1, S \rightarrow T, T \rightarrow aT, T \rightarrow bT, T \rightarrow \epsilon \right\}$$

Let  $x, y, w \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$  and  $A \in V$ .  
Defining " $\Rightarrow$ " ("yields" relation)  
 $xAy \Rightarrow xwy$  provided  
 $A \rightarrow w \in R$

If  $x, y \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$ , then

$x \Rightarrow^* y$  if there is a sequence  
of words  $z_1 \dots z_n$

$$x = z_1 \Rightarrow z_2 \Rightarrow z_3 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow z_n = y$$

The language of a grammar

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

$$\text{is } \{ w \mid S \Rightarrow_G^* w, w \in \Sigma^* \}$$

$G \quad S \rightarrow OS1 \mid T$   
 $T \rightarrow aT \mid bT \mid \epsilon$

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$a\underline{S}b10T \Rightarrow_a a\underline{OS1}b10T$

$\Rightarrow a\underline{T}b10T$

$\Rightarrow aSb10\underline{aT}$

$\Rightarrow^* : x \Rightarrow^* y$   
 iff  $x \Rightarrow z_1 \Rightarrow z_2 \dots \Rightarrow y$

$$00a11 \in L(G)$$
$$S \Rightarrow^* 00a11$$
$$\begin{aligned} S &\Rightarrow OS1 \Rightarrow 0OS11 \\ &\Rightarrow 0OT11 \\ &\Rightarrow 0OaT11 \\ &\Rightarrow 0Oae11 \\ &= 00a11 \end{aligned}$$

