

L2.2 – Simplification of CFG (Removal of Unit Productions)

Simplification of Context Free Grammar

Removal of Unit Productions

Any Production Rule of the form $A \rightarrow B$ where $A, B \in \text{Non Terminals}$ is called Unit Production

Procedure for Removal

- Step 1: To remove $A \rightarrow B$, add production $A \rightarrow x$ to the grammar rule whenever $B \rightarrow x$ occurs in the grammar. [$x \in \text{Terminal}$, x can be Null]
- Step 2: Delete $A \rightarrow B$ from the grammar.
- Step 3: Repeat from Step 1 until all Unit Productions are removed.



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Example: Remove Unit Productions from the Grammar whose production rule is given by

P: $S \rightarrow XY$, $X \rightarrow a$, $Y \rightarrow Z|b$, $Z \rightarrow M$, $M \rightarrow N$, $N \rightarrow a$

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P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow a$

$Y \rightarrow Z, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N$

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$Y \rightarrow Z, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N$

i) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

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P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow a$

$Y \rightarrow Z, Z \rightarrow M, \underline{M \rightarrow N}$

1) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

2) Since $M \rightarrow a$, we add $Z \rightarrow a$



Step 2: Delete $A \rightarrow B$ from the grammar.

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Example: Remove Unit Productions from the Grammar whose production rule is given by

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow a$

$Y \rightarrow Z, Z \rightarrow M, \underline{M \rightarrow N}$

1) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

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Example: Remove Unit Productions from the Grammar whose production rule is given by

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow N, N \rightarrow a$

$Y \rightarrow Z, \quad \underline{Z \rightarrow M}, \quad \underline{M \rightarrow N}$

1) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

2) Since $M \rightarrow a$, we add $Z \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow a, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

3) Since $Z \rightarrow a$, we add $Y \rightarrow a$

$Y \rightarrow Z$, $Z \rightarrow M$, $M \rightarrow N$

1) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY$, $X \rightarrow a$, $Y \rightarrow Z|b$, $Z \rightarrow M$, $M \rightarrow a$, $N \rightarrow a$

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P: $S \rightarrow XY$, $X \rightarrow a$, $Y \rightarrow a|b$, $Z \rightarrow a$, $M \rightarrow a$, $N \rightarrow a$

Remove the unreachable symbols



$Y \rightarrow Z$, $Z \rightarrow M$, $M \rightarrow N$

1) Since $N \rightarrow a$, we add $M \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow M, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

2) Since $M \rightarrow a$, we add $Z \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow Z|b, Z \rightarrow a, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

3) Since $Z \rightarrow a$, we add $Y \rightarrow a$

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow a|b, Z \rightarrow a, M \rightarrow a, N \rightarrow a$

Remove the unreachable symbols

P: $S \rightarrow XY, X \rightarrow a, Y \rightarrow a|b$

Questions???