

Formal Languages, Automata and Compilers

Lecture 1

2024-25

Formal Languages, Automata and Compilers

Lecture 1

- 1 Course Presentation
- 2 Formal languages
- 3 Grammars
- 4 Chomsky Hierarchy
- 5 Type 3 Grammars and Languages
- 6 Closure Properties for Regular Languages

Formal Languages, Automata and Compilers

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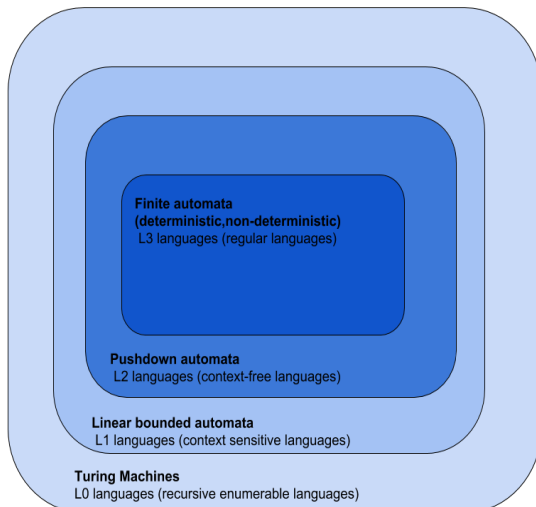
Evaluation

- 7 seminars, 6 laboratories;
 - **AS** =seminar activity (max 10 points);
 - **AL** = laboratory activity (max 10 points);
 - **T** = written test during the examination session (a grade from 1 to 10)
- Final score:
- $$P = 2.5 * AS + 2.5 * AL + 5 * T$$
- Minimal conditions for passing the exam: $(AS + AL) \geq 10$, $AS \geq 4$, $AL \geq 4$, $T \geq 5$, $P \geq 50$;
 - The final grade will be established according to the Gauss distribution

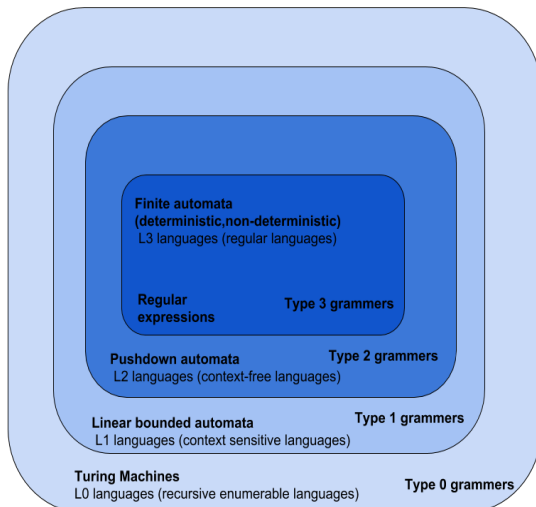
Evaluation

- **SA** = seminar activity (max 10 points):
 - the activity during the seminars - problem solving (max 2 points) + bonuses
 - written test (max 8 points)
- **LA** = laboratory activity:
 - project

Course Content (Part 1): Formal Languages and Automata



Course Content (Part 1): Formal Languages and Automata



Course Content (Part 1): Formal Languages and Automata

- Languages and grammars
- Regular languages; regular grammars, automata , regular expressions
- Context-free languages; context-free grammars, pushdown automata

Formal languages and automata: applications

- grammars

- compilers : the syntax of programming languages
- describe specific input for applications
- describe the structure of XML documents (DTD)
- Artificial Intelligence: in NLP (natural language processing)

- automata

- compilers: lexical analysis
- text processors: identification of specific patterns
- modelling and verification of software and hardware systems
- modelling network communication protocols
- modelling of computer network protocols
- AI: robotics

- regular expressions

- describe and validate input in various applications
- identification of patterns in text
- tools in operating systems (grep, sed, awk)

Course Content (part II)

- Programming languages: design and implementation
- Lexical analysis
- Syntactic analysis
- Translation to intermediary code

Bibliography (selections)

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- ② Gh. Grigoras. Constructia compilatoarelor - Algoritmi fundamentali, Ed. Universitatii Al. I. "Cuza Iasi", ISBN 973-703-084-2, 274 pg., 2005
- ③ Hopcroft, John E.; Motwani, Rajeev; Ullman, Jeffrey D. (2006). Introduction to Automata Theory, Languages, and Computation (3rd ed.). Addison-Wesley
- ④ J. Toader - Limbaje formale și automate, Editura Matrix Rom, Bucuresti, 1999.
- ⑤ J. Toader, S. Andrei - Limbaje formale și teoria automatelor. Teorie și practică, Editura Universitatii "Al. I. Cuza", Iasi, 2002.

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 $\{0, 1\}^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, 001, \dots\}$

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 $\{0, 1\}^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, 001, \dots\}$
- V^+ - the set of all the non-empty words over alphabet V
 $\{0, 1\}^+ = \{0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, 001, \dots\}$

Operations with words

- **Concatenation** of two words x, y : $x \cdot y$

$$x = 0100, y = 100, x \cdot y = 0100100$$

$$x = 000, y = \epsilon, x \cdot y = 000$$

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 $x = 000, y = \epsilon, x \cdot y = 000$
- Concatenation is an associative operation
- (V^*, \cdot) is a monoid (ϵ is the identity element), the free monoid generated by V .

Languages

- Let V be an alphabet. A subset $L \subseteq V^*$ is a formal **language** over alphabet V if L has a finite (mathematical) description.
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 - informal:
 - the set of words over alphabet $\{0, 1\}$ which contain an even number of 0.
 - $L = \{x \in V^+ : |x| \text{ is even}\}$.
 - $\{a^n b^n | n \in \mathbb{N}\}$.

Languages

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 - formal (mathematical):
 - an inductive description
 - a generative description (using grammars)
 - a description using recognizers (finite automata, pushdown automata, etc.)
 - an algebraic description (regular expressions)

Language Operations

- Set operations (union, intersection)
- Product of languages: $L_1 \cdot L_2 = \{u \cdot v \mid u \in L_1, v \in L_2\}$

Example:

$$L_1 = \{a^n, n \geq 1\}, L_2 = \{b^n, n \geq 1\}$$

$$L_1 \cdot L_2 = \{a^n b^m, n \geq 1, m \geq 1\}$$

- Iteration (Kleene product): $L^* = \bigcup_{n \geq 0} L^n$, where:

- $L^0 = \{\epsilon\}$
- $L^{n+1} = L^n \cdot L$

Example:

$$L = \{a\}, L^0 = \{\epsilon\}, L^1 = L, L^2 = \{aa\}, \dots, L^n = \{a^n\}$$

$$L^* = \{a^n, n \geq 0\}$$

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Grammars

Definition 1

A grammar is a system $G = (N, T, S, P)$, where:

- N and T are disjoint alphabets:
 - N is the set of non-terminals
 - T is the set of terminals
- $S \in N$ is the start symbol (initial non-terminal)
- P is a finite set of rules (productions): $x \rightarrow y$, where $x, y \in (N \cup T)^*$ and x contains at least a non-terminal.

Derivation

Definition 2

Let $G = (N, T, S, P)$ be a grammar $u, v \in (N \cup T)^*$.

v is directly derived (in one step) from u by application of rule $x \rightarrow y$, (written as $u \Rightarrow v$), if $\exists p, q \in (N \cup T)^$ such that $u = pxq$ and $v = pyq$.*

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- If $u_1 \Rightarrow u_2 \dots \Rightarrow u_n, n > 1$, we say that u_n is derived from u_1 in grammar G and write: $u_1 \Rightarrow^+ u_n$.
- We write $u \Rightarrow^* v$ if $u \Rightarrow^+ v$ or $u = v$.

Generated Language

Definition 3

The language generated by grammar G is:

$$L(G) = \{w \in T^* \mid S \Rightarrow^+ w\}$$

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Definition 4

Two grammars G_1 and G_2 are equivalent if $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$.

Example

- $G = (N, T, S, P)$, $N = \{S, S_1, X\}$, $T = \{a, b, c\}$, P consists of:
 - 1 $S \rightarrow abc$
 - 2 $S \rightarrow aS_1Xc$
 - 3 $S_1 \rightarrow abc$
 - 4 $cX \rightarrow Xc$
 - 5 $bX \rightarrow bb$
- $L(G) = \{abc, a^2b^2c^2\}$
- What is the equivalent grammar with only one non-terminal?

Example

- $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\}$
- Inductive definition:
 - $ab \in L$
 - if $X \in L$, then $aXb \in L$
 - No other word belongs to L

Example

- $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\}$
- Inductive definition:
 - $ab \in L$
 - if $X \in L$, then $aXb \in L$
 - No other word belongs to L
- Generative definition:
 - $G = (\{X\}, \{a, b\}, X, P)$, where $P = \{X \rightarrow aXb, X \rightarrow ab\}$
 - Derivation of the word a^3b^3 from the start symbol:
$$X \Rightarrow aXb \Rightarrow a(aXb)b \Rightarrow aa(ab)bb$$

Example

- $L = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$
- $G = (N, T, S, P)$, $N = \{S, X\}$, $T = \{a, b, c\}$, P contains the rules:
 - 1 $S \rightarrow abc$
 - 2 $S \rightarrow aSXc$
 - 3 $cX \rightarrow Xc$
 - 4 $bX \rightarrow bb$
- Derivation of word $a^3 b^3 c^3$:

$$\begin{aligned}
 S &\Rightarrow^{(2)} aSXc \Rightarrow^{(2)} aaSXcXc \Rightarrow^{(1)} aaabcXcXc \Rightarrow^{(3)} \\
 aaabXccXc &\Rightarrow^{(4)} aaabbccXc \Rightarrow^{(3)} aaabbccXcc \Rightarrow^{(3)} \\
 aaabbXccc &\Rightarrow^{(4)} aaabbbccc = a^3 b^3 c^3
 \end{aligned}$$

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Chomsky Hierarchy

1 Type 0 grammars (unrestricted grammars)

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rules of the form $pxq \rightarrow pyq$ where $x \in N$, $y \neq \epsilon$, $p, q \in (N \cup T)^*$,
 $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ (if this rule exists, S must not appear on the right side of the rules)

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3 Type 2 grammars (context-free grammars)

rules of the form $A \rightarrow y$ where $A \in N$ and $y \in (N \cup T)^*$;

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 $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ (if this rule exists, S must not appear on the right side of the rules)

3 Type 2 grammars (context-free grammars)

rules of the form $A \rightarrow y$ where $A \in N$ and $y \in (N \cup T)^*$;

4 Type 3 grammars (regular)

rules of the form $A \rightarrow u$ or $A \rightarrow uB$ where $A, B \in N$ and $u \in T^*$.

Examples

Type 1: $pxq \rightarrow pyq$ where $x \in N$, $y \neq \epsilon$, $p, q \in (N \cup T)^*$, $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

- $G = (N, T, S, P)$, $N = \{S, A, B\}$, $T = \{a, b, c\}$, P :

$$(1) S \rightarrow aaAc$$

$$(2) aAc \rightarrow aAbBc$$

$$(3) bB \rightarrow bBc$$

$$(4) Bc \rightarrow Abc$$

$$(5) A \rightarrow a$$

Type 1 grammar

- $G = (N, T, S, P)$, $N = \{S, X\}$, $T = \{a, b, c\}$, P :

$$(1) S \rightarrow abc$$

$$(2) S \rightarrow aSXc$$

$$(3) cX \rightarrow Xc \text{ (it is not a type 1 rule!, the grammar is a type 0 grammar)}$$

$$(4) bX \rightarrow bb$$

Examples

Type 2: $A \rightarrow y$ where $A \in N$ and $y \in (N \cup T)^*$

Type 3: $A \rightarrow u$ or $A \rightarrow uB$ where $A, B \in N$ and $u \in T^*$.

- G :

$$(1)x \rightarrow ax$$

$$(1)x \rightarrow xb$$

$$(2)x \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Examples

Type 2: $A \rightarrow y$ where $A \in N$ and $y \in (N \cup T)^*$

Type 3: $A \rightarrow u$ or $A \rightarrow uB$ where $A, B \in N$ and $u \in T^*$.

- G :

$$(1)x \rightarrow ax$$

$$(1)x \rightarrow xb$$

$$(2)x \rightarrow \epsilon$$

(Type 2)

- G :

$$(1)x \rightarrow ax$$

$$(2)x \rightarrow bx$$

$$(3)x \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Examples

Type 2: $A \rightarrow y$ where $A \in N$ and $y \in (N \cup T)^*$

Type 3: $A \rightarrow u$ or $A \rightarrow uB$ where $A, B \in N$ and $u \in T^*$.

- G :

$$(1)x \rightarrow ax$$

$$(1)x \rightarrow xb$$

$$(2)x \rightarrow \epsilon$$

(Type 2)

- G :

$$(1)x \rightarrow ax$$

$$(2)x \rightarrow bx$$

$$(3)x \rightarrow \epsilon$$

(Type 3)

Classification of languages

- A language L is of type j if there exists a grammar G of type j such that $L(G) = L$, where $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$.
- \mathcal{L}_j denotes the set of all languages of type j , where $j \in \{0, 1, 2, 3\}$.
- It holds that: $\mathcal{L}_3 \subset \mathcal{L}_2 \subset \mathcal{L}_1 \subset \mathcal{L}_0$
- The inclusions are strict:
 - any language of type $j + 1$ is also of type $j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$
 - there exists languages of type j that are not of type $j + 1$, $j \in \{0, 1, 2\}$

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- A grammar $G = (N, T, S, P)$ is a type 3 grammar if all the rules are of the form: $A \rightarrow u$ or $A \rightarrow uB$ where $A, B \in N$ and $u \in T^*$.
- Type 3 grammars are also called regular grammars;
- Example: Let

$$G = (\{A, B\}, \{a, b\}, A, \{A \rightarrow aA, A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow bB, B \rightarrow \epsilon\})$$

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$$G = (\{A, B\}, \{a, b\}, A, \{A \rightarrow aA, A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow bB, B \rightarrow \epsilon\})$$

$$L(G) = \{a^n b^m, n, m \geq 0\}$$

Examples

- $G = (\{D\}, \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}, D, P)$

where P is:

$$D \rightarrow 0D | 1D | 2D | \dots | 9D$$

$$D \rightarrow 0 | 1 | \dots | 9$$

- $G = (\{A, B\}, \{l, d\}, A, P)$ where P is:

$$A \rightarrow lB, \quad B \rightarrow lB | dB | \epsilon \quad (l = \text{latter}, d = \text{figure})$$

Examples

- $G = (\{D\}, \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}, D, P)$

where P is:

$$D \rightarrow 0D | 1D | 2D | \dots | 9D$$

$$D \rightarrow 0 | 1 | \dots | 9$$

- $G = (\{A, B\}, \{l, d\}, A, P)$ where P is:

$$A \rightarrow lB, \quad B \rightarrow lB | dB | \epsilon \quad (l = \text{latter}, \quad d = \text{figure})$$

$L(G)$: the set of identifiers

The Normal Form for Regular Grammars

- A regular grammar G is in **normal form** if all the rules are of the form $A \rightarrow a$ or $A \rightarrow aB$, where $a \in T$, and, if necessary $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ (in this case S does not appear in the right side of the rules).
- For any type 3 grammar there exists an equivalent grammar in normal form.

The Normal Form for Regular Grammars

- The equivalent grammar in normal form can be obtained as follows:
 - Remove (replace) the rules of the form $A \rightarrow B$ (unit rules) and $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ (ϵ -rules), except, if necessary, $S \rightarrow \epsilon$.
 - Any rule $A \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$ is replaced by: $A \rightarrow a_1 B_1, B_1 \rightarrow a_2 B_2, \dots, B_{n-2} \rightarrow a_{n-1} B_{n-1}, B_{n-1} \rightarrow a_n$, $n > 1$, B_1, \dots, B_{n-1} are new non-terminals.
 - Any rule $A \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \dots a_n B$ is replaced by: $A \rightarrow a_1 B_1, B_1 \rightarrow a_2 B_2, \dots, B_{n-2} \rightarrow a_{n-1} B_{n-1}, B_{n-1} \rightarrow a_n B$, $n > 1$, B_1, \dots, B_{n-1} are new non-terminals
 - The new grammar generates the same language

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Let L, L_1, L_2 be regular languages.

Then, the following languages are also regular languages:

- $L_1 \cup L_2$
- $L_1 \cdot L_2$
- L^*
- $L_1 \cap L_2$
- $L_1 \setminus L_2$

Closure under union

Let L, L_1, L_2 be regular languages.

Let $G_1 = (N_1, T_1, S_1, P_1)$ and $G_2 = (N_2, T_2, S_2, P_2)$ be type 3 grammars $L_1 = L(G_1)$, $L_2 = L(G_2)$.

Assume $N_1 \cap N_2 = \emptyset$.

Closure under union: it can be proved that $L_1 \cup L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_3$:

Grammar $G = (N_1 \cup N_2 \cup \{S\}, T_1 \cup T_2, S, P_1 \cup P_2 \cup \{S \rightarrow S_1, S \rightarrow S_2\})$ is of type 3 and generates $L_1 \cup L_2$

Closure under product

Let L_1, L_2 be regular languages.

Let $G_1 = (N_1, T_1, S_1, P_1)$ and $G_2 = (N_2, T_2, S_2, P_2)$ be type 3 languages with $L_1 = L(G_1)$, $L_2 = L(G_2)$.

Assume $N_1 \cap N_2 = \emptyset$.

Grammar $G = (N_1 \cup N_2, T_1 \cup T_2, S_1, P)$ where P contains:

- the rules of the form $A \rightarrow uB$ from P_1 (where $B \in N_1$)
- rules of the form $A \rightarrow uS_2$ for every rule of the form $A \rightarrow u$ from P_1 (with $u \in T_1^*$)
- all the rules from P_2

is of type 3 and generates the language $L_1 L_2$.

Example

$$L = \{uc^n, u \in \{a, b\}^+, n \geq 2\}$$

$$L = L_1 \cdot L_2, \text{ where: } L_1 = \{a, b\}^+, L_2 = \{c^n, n \geq 2\}$$

$G1 :$	$G2 :$	G	$=$
$\textcircled{1} S_1 \rightarrow aS_1$ $\textcircled{2} S_1 \rightarrow bS_1$ $\textcircled{3} S_1 \rightarrow a$ $\textcircled{4} S_1 \rightarrow b$	$\textcircled{1} S_2 \rightarrow cS_2$ $\textcircled{2} S_2 \rightarrow cc$	$(\{S_1, S_2\}, \{a, b, c\}, S_1, P),$ $P :$ $\textcircled{1} S_1 \rightarrow aS_1$ $\textcircled{2} S_1 \rightarrow bS_1$ $\textcircled{3} S_1 \rightarrow aS_2$ $\textcircled{4} S_1 \rightarrow bS_2$ $\textcircled{5} S_2 \rightarrow cS_2$ $\textcircled{6} S_2 \rightarrow cc$	

Closure under iteration

Let L be a regular language

Let $G = (N, T, S, P)$ of type 3, which generates L ($L = L(G)$).

Assume S does not appear in the right side of any rule

Grammar $G' = (N, T, S, P')$ where P' contains

- the rules $A \rightarrow uB$ from P (where $B \in N$)
- rules $A \rightarrow uS$, for any rule $A \rightarrow u$ from P (where $u \in T^*$), different from $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- the rule $S \rightarrow \epsilon$

is of type 3 and generates L^*

Example

$$L = \{a^{n_1} b^{m_1} a^{n_2} b^{m_2} \dots a^{n_k} b^{m_k}, n_i, m_i \geq 1 \forall i \in \{1, k\}, k \geq 0\}$$

$$L = \{a^n b^m, n \geq 1, m \geq 1\}^*$$

$G :$

$G' :$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad S \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{1} \quad S \rightarrow x$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x \rightarrow ax$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad x \rightarrow ax$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x \rightarrow ay$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad x \rightarrow ay$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad y \rightarrow by$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad y \rightarrow by$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad y \rightarrow b$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad y \rightarrow bS$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Closure under intersection

Let L_1, L_2 be regular languages.

Let $G_1 = (N_1, T_1, S_1, P_1)$ and $G_2 = (N_2, T_2, S_2, P_2)$ type 3 grammars, **in normal form**, such that $L_1 = L(G_1)$, $L_2 = L(G_2)$.

Grammar $G = (N_1 \times N_2, T_1 \cap T_2, (S_1, S_2), P)$, with P:

- $(S_1, S_2) \rightarrow \epsilon$, if $S_1 \rightarrow \epsilon \in P_1$ and $S_2 \rightarrow \epsilon \in P_2$
- $(A_1, B_1) \rightarrow a(A_2, B_2)$, if $A_1 \rightarrow aA_2 \in P_1$ and $B_1 \rightarrow aB_2 \in P_2$
- $(A_1, A_2) \rightarrow a$, if $A_1 \rightarrow a \in P_1$ and $A_2 \rightarrow a \in P_2$

is a type 3 grammar and generates $L_1 \cap L_2$

Example

$L(G1) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ contains at least a symbol '0'}\}$,

$L(G2) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ ends with '1'}\}$

$L(G) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ contains at least a symbol '0' and ends with '1'}\}$

$G1 :$

$G2 :$

G

$$① S_1 \rightarrow 1S_1$$

$$① S_2 \rightarrow 0S_2$$

$$① (S_1, S_2) \rightarrow 1(S_1, S_2)$$

$$② S_1 \rightarrow 0A$$

$$② S_2 \rightarrow 1S_2$$

$$② (A, S_2) \rightarrow 1(A, S_2)$$

$$③ S_1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$③ S_2 \rightarrow 1$$

$$③ (S_1, S_2) \rightarrow 0(A, S_2)$$

$$④ A \rightarrow 1A$$

$$④ (A, S_2) \rightarrow 0(A, S_2)$$

$$⑤ A \rightarrow 0A$$

$$⑤ (A, S_2) \rightarrow 1$$

$$⑥ A \rightarrow 1$$

$$⑦ A \rightarrow 0$$

Example

$L(G1) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ contains at least a symbol '0'}\},$

$L(G2) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ ends with '1'}\}$

$L(G) = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^*, w \text{ contains at least a symbol '0' and ends with '1'}\}$

$G1 :$

$G2 :$

G

$$① S_1 \rightarrow 1S_1$$

$$① S_2 \rightarrow 0S_2$$

$$① S \rightarrow 1S$$

$$② S_1 \rightarrow 0A$$

$$② S_2 \rightarrow 1S_2$$

$$② X \rightarrow 1X$$

$$③ S_1 \rightarrow 0$$

$$③ S_2 \rightarrow 1$$

$$③ S \rightarrow 0X$$

$$④ A \rightarrow 1A$$

$$④ X \rightarrow 0X$$

$$⑤ A \rightarrow 0A$$

$$⑤ X \rightarrow 1$$

$$⑥ A \rightarrow 1$$

$$⑦ A \rightarrow 0$$