

1. TREES; CONTEXT FREE GRAMMARS.

1.1. Trees.

Definition 1.1. By a **rooted tree** we mean an ordered triple

$$\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, o, p)$$

such that

- (i) \mathcal{N} is a set;
- (ii) $o \in \mathcal{N}$;
- (iii) $p: \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\} \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$;
- (iv) if $\nu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\}$ there is $d \in \mathbb{N}^+$ such that $(\nu, o) \in p^d$.

One calls o the **root of \mathcal{T}** .

The members of \mathcal{N} are called **nodes**. o is called the **root node**. If $\nu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\}$ we call $p(\nu)$ the **parent of ν** . If $\nu \in \mathcal{N}$ we let

$$c(\nu) = p^{-1}[\{\nu\}] = \{\mu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\} : p(\mu) = \nu\}$$

and call the members of this set the **children of ν** . A node which has children is called an **interior node**. A node which has no children is called a **leaf node**. We let

$$\mathbf{i} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{l}$$

be the set of interior nodes of \mathcal{T} and the set of leaf nodes of \mathcal{T} , respectively.

Lemma 1.1. Suppose $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$. Then $p^{-n}[\{o\}] \subset \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\}$.

Proof. Suppose, contrary to the Lemma, $o \in p^{-n}[\{o\}]$. Since $p^{-n} = (p^n)^{-1}$ we have $(o, o) \in p^n$ so

$$o \in \mathbf{d} \mathbf{m} \mathbf{n} p^n \begin{cases} = \{(\nu, \nu) : \nu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\}\} & \text{if } n = 0, \\ \subset \mathbf{d} \mathbf{m} \mathbf{n} p & \text{if } n > 0 \end{cases}$$

which is incompatible with 1.1(iii). \square

Lemma 1.2. Suppose $m, n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $p^{-m}[\{o\}] \cap p^{-n}[\{o\}] \neq \emptyset$. Then $m = n$.

Proof. Suppose, contrary to the Lemma, $\mu \in p^{-m}[\{o\}] \cap p^{-n}[\{o\}]$ and $m > n$. Since $p^{-n} = (p^n)^{-1}$ we have $(o, \mu) \in p^{-n}$; also, $(\mu, o) \in p^m$ so that

$$(o, o) \in p^{-n} \circ p^m = p^{m-n};$$

which is incompatible with 1.1(iii). \square

Definition 1.2. Let

$$\mathbf{d} = \{(o, 0)\} \cup \left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}^+} p^{-n}[\{o\}] \times \{n\} \right).$$

here \mathbf{d} stands for “depth”.

Obviously,

$$(1) \quad p^{-n}[\{o\}] = \mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n\}] \quad \text{for } n \in \mathbb{N}^+.$$

Theorem 1.1. \mathbf{d} is a function with domain \mathcal{N} .

Proof. $\circ \in \mathbf{dmnd}$ since $(\circ, 0) \in \mathbf{d}$. If $\nu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{\circ\}$ there is by (iv) $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ such that $(\nu, \circ) \in p^n$ so $\nu \in p^{-n}[\{\circ\}] \subset \mathbf{dmnd}$.

Suppose, contrary to the Theorem, there are $\nu \in \mathcal{N}$ and $n_i, i = 1, 2$, such that $n_2 > n_1$ and $(\nu, n_i) \in \mathbf{d}, i = 1, 2$.

In case $n_1 = 0$ we would have $\nu = \circ$ and $\nu \in p^{-n_2}[\{\circ\}]$ which is excluded by Lemma ??.

In case $n_1 > 0$ we would have $\nu \in p^{-n_i}[\{\circ\}], i = 1, 2$. Then $(\nu, \circ) \in p^{-n_1}$ and $(\circ, \nu) \in (p^{-n_2})^{-1} = p^{n_2}$ so $(\circ, \circ) \in p^{-n_1} \circ p^{n_2} = p^{n_2 - n_1}$. Thus $\circ \in \mathbf{dmn} p^{n_2 - n_1} \subset \mathbf{rng} p$ which is incompatible with Lemma 1.1(iii). \square

Corollary 1.1. $\{p^{-d}[\{\circ\}] : d \in \mathbb{N}\}$ is a partition of \mathcal{N} .

For each $\mu \in \mathcal{N}$ we let

$$\mathbf{A}(\mu) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}^+} \{\nu : (\mu, \nu) \in p^n\}$$

and we let

$$\mathbf{D}(\mu) = \bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}^+} \{\nu : (\nu, \mu) \in p^n\};$$

The members of $\mathbf{A}(\mu)$ are called **ancestors of μ** and the members of $\mathbf{D}(\mu)$ are called **descendants of μ** .

Proposition 1.1. $\mathbf{A}(\circ) = \emptyset$.

Proof. Suppose $n \in \mathbb{N}^+, (\circ, \nu) \in p^n$. Then $\circ \in \mathbf{dmn} p^n \subset \mathbf{dmn} p = \mathcal{N} \sim \{\circ\}$ which is impossible. \square

Proposition 1.2. Suppose $\mu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{\circ\}$. Then $\mu \in \mathbf{dmnd}, \mathbf{d}(\mu) > 0, \mu \in p^{-\mathbf{d}(\mu)}[\{\circ\}]$,

$$\mathbf{A}(\mu) = \{p^n(\mu) : n \in \mathbb{I}(1, \mathbf{d}(\mu))\}$$

and $\mathbf{d}|\mathbf{A}(\mu)$ is a univalent function with range $\mathbb{I}[0, \mathbf{d}(\mu))$.

Proof. $\mu \in \mathbf{dmnd}$ by Theorem ??. Since $\mu \neq \circ$ we have $\mathbf{d}(\mu) > 0$ and $\mu \in p^{-\mathbf{d}(\mu)}[\{\circ\}]$; in particular, $(\mu, \circ) \in p^{\mathbf{d}(\mu)}$ and $(\circ, \mu) \in p^{\mathbf{d}(\mu)}$. Suppose $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ and $(\mu, \nu) \in p^n$. Then, as $(\nu, \mu) \in p^{-n}$ we have $(\nu, \circ) \in p^{-n} \circ p^{\mathbf{d}(\mu)} = p^{\mathbf{d}(\mu) - n}$ so $\nu \in p^{n - \mathbf{d}(\mu)}[\{\circ\}]$. Since $\circ \notin \mathbf{dmn} p$ we find that $n - \mathbf{d}(\mu) < 0$ and $\mathbf{d}(\nu) = \mathbf{d}(\mu) - n \in \mathbb{I}[0, \mathbf{d}(\mu))$. \square

1.2. Subtrees.

Definition 1.3. We say the rooted tree $\mathcal{U} = (\mathcal{O}, \sigma, q)$ is a **rooted subtree of $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, \circ, p)$** if $\sigma \in \mathcal{O} \subset \mathcal{N}$ and $q = p|(\mathcal{O} \sim \{\sigma\})$.

Given $\nu \in \mathcal{N}$ one easily verifies that

$$(\{\nu\} \cup \mathbf{D}(\nu), \nu, p|_{\mathbf{D}(\nu)})$$

is a rooted subtree of \mathcal{T} which we call the **rooted subtree associated to the node ν** .

1.3. Isomorphisms. Suppose $\mathcal{T}_i = (\mathcal{N}_i, \circ_i, p_i), i = 1, 2$ are rooted trees and $\iota : \mathcal{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_2$. We say ι is an **isomorphism from \mathcal{T}_1 to \mathcal{T}_2** if ι is univalent, $\mathbf{rng} \iota = \mathcal{N}_2$ and

$$p_2 \circ \iota = \iota \circ p_1;$$

it follows that $\iota(\circ_1) = \circ_2$ and that ι^{-1} is an isomorphism from \mathcal{T}_2 to \mathcal{T}_1 .

1.4. **Tree orderings.** Suppose $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, o, p)$ is a tree. We say \prec is a **tree ordering** of \mathcal{T} if

- (i) \prec is well ordering of \mathcal{N} ;
- (ii) if $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{N}$ and $\mathbf{d}(\mu) < \mathbf{d}(\nu)$ then $\mu \prec \nu$.
- (iii) if $\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{N} \sim \{o\}$, $\mathbf{d}(\mu) = \mathbf{d}(\nu)$ and $p(\mu) \prec p(\nu)$ then $\mu \prec \nu$.

Proposition 1.3. *Suppose \mathbf{W} is a function with domain \mathbb{N} whose value at $n \in \mathbb{N}$ is a well ordering of $\mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n\}]$ such that*

$$(p(\mu), p(\nu)) \in \mathbf{W}(n) \Rightarrow (\mu, \nu) \in \mathbf{W}(n+1)$$

whenever $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and $\mu, \nu \in \mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n+1\}]$. Then

$$\left(\bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} \mathbf{W}(n) \right) \cup \{(\mu, \nu) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : \mathbf{d}(\mu) < \mathbf{d}(\nu)\}$$

is a tree ordering of \mathcal{T} .

Theorem 1.2. *Suppose for each $\xi \in \mathcal{N}$ we are given a well ordering \prec_{ξ} of $\mathbf{c}(\xi)$. Then there is one and only one tree ordering \prec of \mathcal{T} such that, for each $\xi \in \mathcal{N}$ and each $\mu, \nu \in \mathbf{c}(\xi)$,*

$$(2) \quad \mu \prec_{\xi} \nu \Leftrightarrow \mu \prec \nu.$$

Proof. With regard to existence, we begin by constructing by induction on $n \in \mathbb{N}$ a well ordering W_n of $\mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n\}]$ as follows. We let $W_0 = \emptyset$. If $n \in \mathbb{N}$ and W_n is constructed We let

$$\begin{aligned} U_{n+1} &= \{(\mu, \nu) \in \mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n+1\}] : \mu \neq \nu \text{ and } (p(\mu), p(\nu)) \in W_n\}; \\ V_{n+1} &= \{(\mu, \nu) \in \mathbf{d}^{-1}[\{n+1\}] : \mu \neq \nu, p(\mu) = p(\nu) \text{ and } (\mu, \nu) \in \prec_{p(\mu)}\}; \end{aligned}$$

and we let $W_{n+1} = U_{n+1} \cup V_{n+1}$. We let

$$\prec = \{(\mu, \nu) \in \mathcal{N} \times \mathcal{N} : \mathbf{d}(\mu) < \mathbf{d}(\nu)\} \cup \left(\bigcup_{n \in \mathbb{N}} W_n \right).$$

It should be clear that \prec is the unique tree ordering of \mathcal{T} such that (2) holds. \square

Suppose $\mathcal{O}_i = (\mathcal{N}_i, o_i, p_i, \prec_i)$, $i = 1, 2$ are ordered trees and $\iota : \mathcal{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_2$. We say ι is an **isomorphism from \mathcal{O}_1 to \mathcal{O}_2** if ι is an isomorphism from $(\mathcal{N}_1, o_1, p_1)$ to $(\mathcal{N}_2, o_2, p_2)$ and

$$\mu, \nu \in \mathcal{N}_1 \text{ and } \mu \prec_1 \nu \Rightarrow \iota(\mu) \prec_2 \iota(\nu).$$

Suppose $\mathcal{O} = (\mathcal{N}, o, p, \prec)$ is an ordered tree and $\mathcal{U} = (\mathcal{O}, \sigma, q)$ is a subtree of $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, o, p)$. Let

$$\prec =$$

$\{(\mu, \nu) \in \mathcal{O} \times \mathcal{O} : \mu \prec \nu\}$ and note that $(\mathcal{O}, \sigma, q, \prec)$ is an ordered tree which we call the **ordered tree associated to \mathcal{U}** . In particular, if $\nu \in \mathcal{N}$, $\mathcal{O} = \mathcal{N}_{\nu}$, $\sigma = \nu$ and $q = q_{\nu}$ we call this ordered tree the **ordered tree associated to ν** .

1.5. **Tree codes.** Suppose I is an initial segment of \mathbb{N} . We let

$$\mathbf{T}(I)$$

be the set of functions $P : I \sim \{0\} \rightarrow I$ such that

- (3) $P^{-1}[\{0\}] \neq \emptyset;$
- (4) $i \in I \sim \{0\} \Rightarrow P(i) < i;$
- (5) $i, j \in I \sim \{0\}$ and $i < j \Rightarrow P(i) \leq P(j).$

Proposition 1.4. *Suppose I is an initial segment of \mathbb{N} and $P \in \mathbf{T}(I)$. Then $\mathcal{T} = ((I, 0, P), P, 0)$ is a tree and the standard well ordering of I is a tree ordering of \mathcal{T} .*

Proof. \square

Suppose $\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, o, p)$ is a tree and \prec is tree ordering of \mathcal{T} . Let $N = \mathbf{card}\mathcal{N}$ and let

$$W : \mathbf{I}[0, N] \rightarrow \mathcal{N}$$

be such that

$$i, j \in \mathbf{I}[0, N] \text{ and } i < j \Rightarrow W(i) \prec W(j).$$

Note that $W(0) = o$ and W is univalent; in particular, W^{-1} is a function. Let

$$P = W^{-1} \circ p \circ W.$$

Proposition 1.5. $P \in \mathbf{T}(N)$.

Remark 1.1. *We call P the tree code for (\mathcal{T}, \prec) .*

Proof. Suppose $i \in \mathbf{I}(1, N)$. Let $\mu = W(i)$. Then $W(P(i)) = p(W(i)) = p(\mu) \prec \mu = W(i)$ so $P(i) < i$.

Suppose $i, j \in \mathbf{I}(1, N)$, $i < j$ and $P(i) \neq P(j)$. Let $\mu = W(i)$ and let $\nu = W(j)$. Then $\mu \prec \nu$. We have $W(P(i)) = p(W(i)) = p(\mu)$ and $W(P(j)) = p(W(j)) = p(\nu)$. Since $P(i) \neq P(j)$ we have $\mu \neq \nu$ so $p(\mu) < p(\nu)$ so $P(i) < P(j)$. \square

Theorem 1.3. *Suppose, for $i = 1, 2$, $\mathbf{T}_i = (\mathcal{N}_i, p_i, o_i)$ is a tree and \prec_i is a tree ordering of \mathbf{T}_i . Then \mathbf{T}_i , $i = 1, 2$, are (\prec_1, \prec_2) isomorphic if and only if they have the same tree codes.*

Proof. Let $\iota : \mathcal{N}_1 \rightarrow \mathcal{N}_2$ be a (\prec_1, \prec_2) isomorphism and let T_i , $i = 1, 2$, be the \prec_i tree codes of \mathcal{T}_i respectively. Then

$$\begin{aligned} P_2 &= W_2^{-1} \circ p_2 \circ W_2 \\ &= W_2^{-1} \circ \iota \circ p_1 \circ \iota^{-1} \circ W_2 \\ &= W_2^{-1} \circ \iota \circ W_1 \circ P_1 \circ W_1^{-1} \circ \iota^{-1} \circ W_2 \\ &= (W_2^{-1} \circ \iota \circ W_1) \circ P_1 \circ (W_1^{-1} \circ \iota^{-1} \circ W_2); \end{aligned}$$

Since $W_2^{-1} \circ \iota \circ W_1$ and $W_1^{-1} \circ \iota^{-1} \circ W_2$ are order preserving maps of $\mathbf{I}[1, N]$ to itself they are equal to the identity map of $\mathbf{I}[1, N]$. \square

1.6. **Growing trees.** Suppose

$$\mathcal{T} = (\mathcal{N}, \mathfrak{o}, p)$$

is a tree and

$$\mathcal{O} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathcal{P}$$

satisfy the following conditions:

- (i) \mathcal{O} and \mathcal{P} are functions with domain the leaf nodes of \mathcal{T} ;
- (ii) for each $\nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})$, $(\mathcal{O}(\nu), \nu, \mathcal{P}(\nu))$ is a tree;
- (iii) the family

$$\{\mathbf{i}(\mathcal{T})\} \cup \{\mathcal{O}(\nu) : \nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})\}$$

is disjointed.

Let

$$\mathcal{U} = \mathbf{i}(\mathcal{T}) \cup \left(\bigcup \{\mathcal{O}(\nu) : \nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})\} \right)$$

and let

$$q = p \cup \left(\bigcup \{\mathcal{P}(\nu) : \nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})\} \right).$$

We leave it as an exercise for the reader to verify that

$$(\mathcal{U}, \mathfrak{o}, q)$$

is a tree; that $\mathcal{N} \subset \mathcal{U}$; and that, for each $\nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})$, $(\mathcal{O}(\nu), \nu, \mathcal{P}(\nu))$ is the subtree associated to the node ν of \mathcal{U} .

Now let us suppose that

$$(\mathcal{N}, \mathfrak{o}, p, <)$$

is an ordered tree and that, for each $\nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})$, $<_\nu$ is such that

$$(\mathcal{O}(\nu), \nu, \mathcal{P}(\nu), <_\nu)$$

is an ordered tree. We leave it to the reader to verify that there is one and only one

$$<$$

such that

- (i) $(\mathcal{U}, \mathfrak{o}, q, <)$ is an ordered tree;
- (ii) if $\mu, \xi \in \mathcal{N}$ and $\mu < \xi$ then $\mu <_\nu \xi$;
- (iii) if $\nu \in \mathbf{I}(\mathcal{T})$, $\mu, \xi \in \mathcal{O}(\nu)$ and $\mu <_\nu \xi$ then $\mu < \xi$.

2. CONTEXT FREE GRAMMARS.

For a set A we let $A^0 = \{\mathbf{null}\}$ and we let

$$A^* = \bigcup_{n=0}^{\infty} A^n$$

. For $a \in A^*$ we let

$$|a| \in \mathbb{N}$$

be such that $|a| = n$ if $a \in A^n$.

If $a, b \in A^*$ we define the **concatenation**

$$ab \in A^*$$

by requiring that

$$ab = b \quad \text{if } a = \mathbf{null}; \quad ab = a \quad \text{if } b = \mathbf{null};$$

and that

$$(ab)_i = \begin{cases} a_i & \text{if } i \in \mathbb{I}[1, M], \\ b_{i-M} & \text{if } i \in \mathbb{I}(M, M + N]. \end{cases}$$

Obviously,

$$|ab| = |a||b|.$$

Definition 2.1. *By a context free grammar ordered triple*

$$\mathcal{G} = (T, N, \mathcal{P})$$

such that

- (i) T is a set, N is a set and $T \cap N = \emptyset$;
- (iii) $\mathcal{P} \subset N \times (T \cup N)^*$;

The members of T are called **tokens** or **terminal symbols**. The members of N are called **nonterminals** or **nonterminal symbols**. The members of \mathcal{P} are called **productions**. For $A, B \in (T \cup N)^*$ we write

$$A \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{G}} B$$

if there are a production $(\mathbf{n}, \mathbf{s}) \in \mathcal{P}$ and $A_L, A_R, B_L, B_R \in (T \cup N)^*$ such that

$$A = A_L \mathbf{n} A_R \quad \text{and} \quad B = B_L \mathbf{s} B_R.$$

Suppose $\mathcal{T}_A = (\mathcal{N}_A, o_A, p_A)$ is a tree such that there is a univalent function L_A with domain $\mathbf{rng} A$ and range the leaf nodes of \mathcal{T}_A . We let $\nu = L_A(\mathbf{n})$; let $\mathcal{N}_B = \mathcal{N}_A \cup (\mathbf{rng} \mathbf{s} \times \{\nu\})$; let $o_B = o_A$; let $p_B = p_A \cup ((\mathbf{rng}(\mathbf{s} \times \{\nu\})) \times \{\nu\})$; and let

$$L_B = (L_A|_{\mathcal{N}_A \sim \{\nu\}}) \cup (\mathbf{rng} \mathbf{s} \times \{\nu\}).$$

We say the nonterminal \mathbf{n} **generates** $\mathbf{t} \in T^*$ if there is a finite sequence A_1, \dots, A_N such that

$$\mathbf{n} = A_1 \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{G}} \dots \Rightarrow_{\mathcal{G}} A_N = \mathbf{t}.$$

For each

Instead of writing $(r, s) \in \mathcal{P}$ one often writes

$$r := \epsilon \quad \text{if } |s| = 0$$

and

$$r := s_0 s_1 \cdots s_{|s|-1} \quad \text{if } |s| > 0.$$

If $r \in N$, $n \in \mathbb{N}^+$ and $s_0, \dots, s_{n-1} \in (T \cup N)^*$ one often writes

$$r := s_0 \mid s_1 \mid \cdots \mid s_{n-1}$$

instead of

$$(r, s_i) \in \mathcal{P}, \quad i \in I(n).$$

Obviously, if $(T, N, \mathbf{s}, \mathcal{P})$ is a context free grammar then so is $(T, N, \mathbf{t}, \mathcal{P})$ if $\mathbf{t} \in N$.

Definition 2.2. *A parse tree \mathcal{Q} for the context free grammar $\mathcal{G} = (T, N, \mathbf{s}, \mathcal{P})$ is an ordered quintuple*

$$(\mathcal{N}, o, p, <, f)$$

such that

- (i) $(\mathcal{N}, o, p, <)$ is an ordered tree;
- (ii) $f : \mathcal{N} \rightarrow T \cup N$;
 - (a) if $\nu \in \mathbf{i}(\mathcal{T})$ then $f(\nu) \in N$;
 - (b) if $\nu \in \mathbf{l}(\mathcal{T})$ then $f(\nu) \in T$;

(iii) if $\nu \in \mathbf{i}(\mathcal{T})$ and ν has m children

$$\mu_0 < \mu_2 < \dots < \mu_{m-1}$$

then

$$(f(\nu), (f(\mu_0), \dots, f(\mu_{m-1}))) \in \mathcal{P}.$$

Notice that the notion of parse tree is independent of \mathbf{s} .

We define

$$\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle \in (T)^*$$

as follows. Let

$$\mathcal{L} = \{\nu \in \mathbf{l}(\mathcal{T}) : f(\nu) \neq \epsilon\}$$

and let

$$n = |\mathcal{L}|.$$

If $n = 0$ we let

$$\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle = \epsilon$$

and if $n > 0$ and

$$\nu_0 < \nu_1 < \dots < \nu_{n-1}$$

are the members of \mathcal{L} we let

$$\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle = (f(\nu_0))|(f(\nu_1))|\dots|(f(\nu_{n-1})).$$

For each $\mathbf{t} \in N$ we let

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{t})$$

be the set of $\langle \mathcal{Q} \rangle$ as above where $f(o) = \mathbf{t}$. We let

$$\mathbf{L}(\mathcal{G}) = \mathbf{L}(\mathcal{G}, \mathbf{s})$$

and we call this language on the alphabet T the **language generated by \mathcal{G}** .

Definition 2.3. We say the context free grammar \mathcal{G} is **good** if $\mathcal{Q}_i = (\mathcal{N}_i, o_i, p_i, \langle_i, f_i)$, $i = 1, 2$, are parse trees such that $\langle \mathcal{Q}_1 \rangle = \langle \mathcal{Q}_2 \rangle$ then the ordered trees $(\mathcal{N}_i, o_i, p_i, \langle_i)$ are isomorphic; recall that this is the case if and only if they have the same tree codes. We say \mathcal{G} is **bad** if it is not good.

2.1. A bad grammar. Let \mathcal{B} be the context free grammar defined as follows. Let

$$T = \mathbb{N} \cup \{-, +, *\}$$

and let

$$N = \{\mathbf{expr}\}.$$

Let \mathbf{expr} be the start symbol. Let the productions be given by

$$\mathbf{expr} := j \quad \text{for } j \in \mathbb{N}$$

$$\mathbf{expr} := - \mathbf{expr}$$

$$\mathbf{expr} := \mathbf{expr} + \mathbf{expr}$$

$$\mathbf{expr} := \mathbf{expr} * \mathbf{expr}$$

Note that there are an infinite number of productions.

This grammar derives the string $27 + 5 * 298$ with two nonisomorphic parse trees so it is bad.

There are a number of ways to deal with this problem. One is to introduce parentheses which we now do. As we shall see, there are other ways to deal with this problem.