## A CFL for $\Sigma^* - \{a^n b^n c^n : n \in \mathbb{N}\}$ By William Gasarch

## 1 Introduction

 $\Sigma^* - \{a^n b^n c^n : n \in \mathsf{N}\}.$ 

Note that this language is the union of the following languages

- 1.  $\Sigma^* ba \Sigma^*$
- 2.  $\Sigma^* ca \Sigma^*$
- 3.  $\Sigma^* cb\Sigma^*$
- 4.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_2\}.$
- 5.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 > n_2\}.$
- 6.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_2 < n_3\}.$
- 7.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_2 > n_3\}.$
- 8.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_3\}.$
- 9.  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 > n_3\}.$

We give a CFG for each of these and then use closure under union. It would be very easy to use the closure under union construction to get a real CFG for the union.

2  $\Sigma^* ba \Sigma^*$ 

We give a CFG for  $\Sigma^* b a \Sigma^*$ . The ones for

$$\begin{split} \Sigma^* ca \Sigma^* \\ \Sigma^* cb \Sigma^* \\ \text{are similar.} \\ S &\to T ba T \\ T &\to a T \\ T &\to b T \\ T &\to b T \\ T &\to c T \\ T &\to e. \end{split}$$
Note that T can generate any element of  $\Sigma^*$ . Hence we get  $\Sigma^* ba \Sigma^*$ .

**3** { $a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_2$ }

We give CFG's for  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_2\}$ . The CFG's for  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 > n_2\}$   $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_2 < n_3\}$   $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_2 > n_3\}$ are similar.  $S \rightarrow TBC$   $T \rightarrow aTb$   $T \rightarrow e$   $B \rightarrow Bb$   $B \rightarrow b$   $C \rightarrow cC$  $C \rightarrow e$ 

IDEA: T will generate  $a^n b^n$ . Then B will generate AT LEAST one b, so there will be more b's than a's. C will generate as any number of c's.

 $4 \quad \{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_3\}$ 

We give CFG's for  $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 < n_2\}$ . The CFG's for

 $\{a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}: n_1 > n_3\}$ is similar.  $S \to aTcC$  $T \to aTc$  $T \to B$  $B \to bB$  $B \to e$  $C \to cC$  $C \to c.$ 

IDEA: T will generate  $a^nTc^n$ . Then C will generate at least one more c. Then T will generate any number of b's.