

Greibach's Hardest Context-Free Language

Tobias Nipkow

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Abstract

Formalization of Greibach's [1] *hardest context-free language theorem*: There is a “hardest” context-free language L_0 such that every context-free language is an inverse homomorphic image of L_0 .

1 Greibach's Hardest Context-Free Language

theory *Greibach_Hardest*

imports

Context_Free_Grammar.Context_Free_Language

Greibach_Normal_Form.Greibach_Normal_Form

Dyck_Language.Dyck_Language

begin

Formalization of Theorem 2.1 by Sheila Greibach [1]:

Theorem For every context-free language L there is a homomorphism h with $L - \{\varepsilon\} = h^{-1}(L_0 - \{\varepsilon\})$, where L_0 is one fixed “hardest” context-free language.

The construction encodes the leftmost derivations of a Greibach Normal Form (GNF) grammar as a nondeterministic Dyck word (the encoding homomorphism *enc_h*); the general case is reduced to GNF using the AFP entry **Greibach_Normal_Form** (the function *gnf_of*).

abbreviation *Cons_power* :: 'a $\Rightarrow$ nat $\Rightarrow$ 'a list (**infixl** #⁷⁰) **where**

$a \#^n \equiv \text{replicate } n \ a$

lemma *bal_stk_append_split*:

assumes *bal_stk* $s \ (xs \ @ \ ys) = (t, [])$

obtains s' **where** *bal_stk* $s \ xs = (s', [])$ **and** *bal_stk* $s' \ ys = (t, [])$

<proof>

lemma *bal_stk_replicate_Open*: *bal_stk* $s \ (\text{Open } a \ \#^i) = (a \#^i \ @ \ s, [])$

<proof>

lemma *bal_stk_replicate_Close*: *bal_stk* $(a \#^i \ @ \ t) \ (\text{Close } a \ \#^i) = (t, [])$

<proof>

lemma *bal_stk_replicate_Close_inv*:

$bal_stk\ t\ (replicate\ i\ (Close\ a)\ @\ rest) = (s, []) \implies$
 $\exists t'.\ t = replicate\ i\ a\ @\ t' \wedge bal_stk\ t'\ rest = (s, [])$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemmas $derives_Nt_map_TmD = derives_start1$
lemma $Lang_lfp_unfold$:
 $Lang_lfp\ P\ A = (\bigcup \alpha \in Rhss\ P\ A.\ inst_syms\ (Lang_lfp\ P)\ \alpha)$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
corollary $Lang_unfold$: $Lang\ P\ A = (\bigcup \alpha \in Rhss\ P\ A.\ inst_syms\ (Lang\ P)\ \alpha)$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $concats_sims[simp]$:
 $concats\ [] = \{[]\}$
 $concats\ (L\#Ls) = L\ @\@ \ concats\ Ls$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $concats_append[simp]$: $concats\ (Ls1\ @\ Ls2) = concats\ Ls1\ @\@ \ concats\ Ls2$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $inst_sym_sims[simp]$:
 $inst_sym\ L\ (Tm\ a) = \{[a]\}$
 $inst_sym\ L\ (Nt\ A) = L\ A$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $inst_syms_Nil[simp]$: $inst_syms\ L\ [] = \{[]\}$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $inst_syms_Cons[simp]$: $inst_syms\ L\ (s\ \# \beta) = inst_sym\ L\ s\ @\@ \ inst_syms\ L\ \beta$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $inst_syms_append[simp]$: $inst_syms\ L\ (\alpha\ @\ \beta) = inst_syms\ L\ \alpha\ @\@ \ inst_syms\ L\ \beta$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $Lang_I$: $(A, \alpha) \in P \implies w \in inst_syms\ (Lang\ P)\ \alpha \implies w \in Lang\ P\ A$
 $\langle proof \rangle$
lemma $Lang_subset_if$:
assumes $\bigwedge A\ \alpha.\ (A, \alpha) \in P \implies inst_syms\ R\ \alpha \subseteq R\ A$
shows $Lang\ P\ A \subseteq R\ A$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.1 The hardest language L_0

1.1.1 The terminal alphabet of L_0

Greibach's alphabet is $T = \{a_1, a_2, |a_1, |a_2, c, \mathfrak{c}\}$ together with a fresh separator d . There are two bracket *kinds* a_1, a_2 , modelled by the type $t0_A$. A bracket letter is Aa applied to an opening or closing bracket (of type ' a bracket') over a kind: thus $Aa\ (Open\ A1) = a_1$, $Aa\ (Close\ A1) = |a_1$, and analogously for a_2 . The remaining letters are Cc for c , Ce for $\mathfrak{c}$, and Dd for d .

datatype $t0_A = A1 \mid A2$

datatype $t0 = Aa\ t0_A\ bracket \mid Cc \mid Ce \mid Dd$

1.1.2 The Dyck set D on two letters

D is the Dyck set generated by $S \rightarrow SS \mid a_1 S \mid a_1 \mid a_2 S \mid a_2 \mid \varepsilon$, i.e. the set of balanced words over the two bracket pairs $(a_1, |a_1)$ and $(a_2, |a_2)$. As each bracket letter $Aa b$ already carries a $t0_A$ bracket, we reuse bal directly via the projection brk ; no separate integer tagging is needed.

fun $brk :: t0 \Rightarrow t0_A$ bracket **where**
 $brk (Aa b) = b$

definition $bracks :: t0$ set **where**
 $bracks = Aa 'UNIV$

definition $D :: t0$ list set **where**
 $D = \{w. \text{ set } w \subseteq bracks \wedge bal (\text{map } brk w)\}$

1.1.3 The hardest language L_0

The alphabet T (note: $d \notin T$, since d separates the blocks):

definition $Talph :: t0$ set **where**
 $Talph = \text{insert } Cc (\text{insert } Ce bracks)$

A single block $x c y c z d$:

definition $blk :: t0$ list $\times t0$ list $\times t0$ list $\Rightarrow t0$ list **where**
 $blk = (\lambda(x,y,z). x @ Cc \# y @ Cc \# z @ [Dd])$

$L_0 = \{\varepsilon\} \cup \{x_1 c y_1 c z_1 d \dots x_n c y_n c z_n d \mid n \geq 1, y_1 \dots y_n \in \mathbb{C}D, x_i z_i \in T^*, y_i \in \{a_1, a_2, |a_1, |a_2\}^* \text{ for } i \geq 2\}$. The n blocks are given by a non-empty list of triples $bs = [(x_1, y_1, z_1), \dots]$; the constraint $y_i \in bracks$ for $i \geq 2$ is $tl bs$; and $y_1 \dots y_n \in \mathbb{C}D$ means the concatenation of the ys is $\mathbb{C}$ followed by a word of D .

definition $L0 :: t0$ list set **where**
 $L0 = \{\emptyset\} \cup$
 $\{ \text{concat } (\text{map } blk bs) \mid bs.$
 $bs \neq [] \wedge$
 $(\forall (x,y,z) \in \text{set } bs. \text{ set } x \subseteq Talph \wedge \text{ set } z \subseteq Talph) \wedge$
 $(\forall (x,y,z) \in \text{set } (tl bs). \text{ set } y \subseteq bracks) \wedge$
 $(\exists v \in D. \text{ concat } (\text{map } (\lambda(x,y,z). y) bs) = Ce \# v) \}$

1.2 Homomorphisms

A (string) homomorphism is determined by its action h on single letters and lifts to words by $\lambda w. \text{concat } (\text{map } h w)$. The inverse image of a language under it:

definition $inv_hom :: ('a \Rightarrow 'b \text{ list}) \Rightarrow 'b \text{ list set} \Rightarrow 'a \text{ list set}$ **where**
 $inv_hom h L = \{w. \text{concat } (\text{map } h w) \in L\}$

The nonterminals $Y_1, \dots, Y_n$ (with $Y_1 = S$) are identified with natural-number indices via an injective map idx (only injectivity matters; the specific values, in particular $idx\ S$, are immaterial). The nonterminal Y_i is encoded in unary: it is *pushed* as $a_1\ a_2^i\ a_1$ and *popped* as $|a_1\ |a_2^i\ |a_1$.

definition $pushcode :: nat \Rightarrow t0\ list$ **where**

$pushcode\ i = Aa\ (Open\ A1) \# (Aa\ (Open\ A2) \# ^i) @ [Aa\ (Open\ A1)]$

definition $popcode :: nat \Rightarrow t0\ list$ **where**

$popcode\ i = Aa\ (Close\ A1) \# (Aa\ (Close\ A2) \# ^i) @ [Aa\ (Close\ A1)]$

$\xi(p)$ for a standard-form production $p = (Y_i \rightarrow a\ Y_{j1} \dots Y_{jm})$: pop Y_i , then push the right-hand-side nonterminals. The pushes are in *reverse* order so that, with the standard Dyck convention (a closing bracket matches the nearest *left* opening, i.e. LIFO), the stack is encoded with its top (the leftmost / next-to-expand nonterminal) at the *right*: expanding the top Y_i pops it and the new nonterminals $Y_{j1} \dots Y_{jm}$ become the new top, Y_{j1} rightmost.

definition $xi :: ('n \Rightarrow nat) \Rightarrow ('n, 't)\ prod \Rightarrow t0\ list$ **where**

$xi\ idx\ p =$
 $popcode\ (idx\ (fst\ p)) @$
 $concat\ (map\ (\lambda s. case\ s\ of\ Nt\ B \Rightarrow pushcode\ (idx\ B) \mid Tm\ _ \Rightarrow [])\ (rev\ (tl\ (snd\ p))))$

$\hat{\xi}(p)$: for productions of the start symbol S , prepend c and the push code of S (which initializes the stack with S and the marker c).

definition $xihat :: ('n \Rightarrow nat) \Rightarrow 'n \Rightarrow ('n, 't)\ prod \Rightarrow t0\ list$ **where**

$xihat\ idx\ S\ p = (if\ fst\ p = S\ then\ Cc\ \# pushcode\ (idx\ S) @ xi\ idx\ p\ else\ xi\ idx\ p)$

$h(a) = c\ \hat{\xi}(p_1)\ c \dots c\ \hat{\xi}(p_m)\ c\ d$, where $p_1, \dots, p_m$ are all productions whose right-hand side starts with the terminal a .

definition $enc_h :: ('n \Rightarrow nat) \Rightarrow 'n \Rightarrow ('n, 't)\ prods \Rightarrow 't \Rightarrow t0\ list$ **where**

$enc_h\ idx\ S\ ps\ a =$
 $concat\ (map\ (\lambda p. Cc\ \# xihat\ idx\ S\ p)$
 $(filter\ (\lambda p. \exists\ Bs. snd\ p = Tm\ a\ \# map\ Nt\ Bs)\ ps))$
 $@ [Cc, Dd]$

1.3 Basic machinery

1.3.1 Stack machinery: running the encoded brackets through bal_stk

The bracket image of a word over $t0$:

abbreviation $brks :: t0\ list \Rightarrow t0_A\ bracket\ list$ **where**

$brks\ w \equiv map\ brk\ w$

A single nonterminal Y_i occupies the stack fragment *frag* i ; a whole nonterminal stack (top first) is encoded by $stkenc$. With the cons-stack of bal_stk

(top = head), reading *pushcode i* pushes *frag i* and reading *popcode i* pops it.

definition *frag* :: *nat* $\Rightarrow$ *t0_A list* **where**
frag i = *A1* # *A2* # $\hat{i}$ @ [*A1*]

definition *stkenc* :: *nat list* $\Rightarrow$ *t0_A list* **where**
stkenc cs = *concat* (*map frag cs*)

lemma *bal_stk_pushcode*: *bal_stk s* (*brks* (*pushcode i*)) = (*frag i* @ *s*, [])
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *bal_stk_popcode*: *bal_stk* (*frag i* @ *s*) (*brks* (*popcode i*)) = (*s*, [])
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Reading the concatenated push codes of a list of nonterminal indices pushes the whole encoded stack (note the reversal: the first index ends up deepest).

lemma *bal_stk_pushes*:
bal_stk s (*brks* (*concat* (*map pushcode is*))) = (*stkenc* (*rev is*) @ *s*, [])
 $\langle proof \rangle$

The right-hand side of *xi* as an explicit pop followed by pushes.

lemma *xi_eq*:
snd p = *Tm a* # *map Nt Bs* $\implies$
xi idx p = *popcode* (*idx* (*fst p*)) @ *concat* (*map pushcode* (*rev* (*map idx Bs*)))
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Running $\xi(p)$ for a standard-form production $p = (A \rightarrow a B_1 \dots B_m)$ on a stack whose top is *A*: it pops *A* and pushes $B_1 \dots B_m$ (with B_1 becoming the new top), exactly modelling one leftmost derivation step.

lemma *bal_stk_xi*:
assumes *snd p* = *Tm a* # *map Nt Bs*
shows *bal_stk* (*frag* (*idx* (*fst p*)) @ *s*) (*brks* (*xi idx p*)) = (*stkenc* (*map idx Bs*) @ *s*, [])
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.3.2 Letters occurring in the encoded words

lemma *set_pushcode*: *set* (*pushcode i*) $\subseteq$ *bracks* $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *set_popcode*: *set* (*popcode i*) $\subseteq$ *bracks* $\langle proof \rangle$

A ξ -code uses only the four bracket letters; a $\hat{\xi}$ -code may additionally use $\mathfrak{c}$.

lemma *set_xi*: *set* (*xi idx p*) $\subseteq$ *bracks*
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *set_xihat*: *set* (*xihat idx S p*) $\subseteq$ *insert Ce bracks*
 $\langle proof \rangle$

For productions not expanding the start symbol, $\hat{\xi}$ coincides with ξ .

lemma *map_xihat_no_S*:

$\forall p \in \text{set } ps. \text{fst } p \neq S \implies \text{map } (\text{xihat } \text{idx } S) \text{ } ps = \text{map } (\text{xi } \text{idx}) \text{ } ps$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.3.3 Block decomposition of the encoded word

lemma *set_xihat_Talph*: $\text{set } (\text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } q) \subseteq \text{Talph}$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *set_Cc_xihat*: $\text{set } (Cc \# \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } q) \subseteq \text{Talph}$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *set_concat_Cc_xihat*: $\text{set } (\text{concat } (\text{map } (\lambda q. Cc \# \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } q) \text{ } qs)) \subseteq \text{Talph}$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *set_concat_xihat_Cc*: $\text{set } (\text{concat } (\text{map } (\lambda q. \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } q @ [Cc]) \text{ } qs)) \subseteq \text{Talph}$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Single- c separators: peeling a leading c off the c d -terminated block body turns the c -prefixed fragments into c -suffixed ones. This is the key rewriting for splitting a block at a chosen production.

lemma *cc_shift2*:

$\text{concat } (\text{map } (\lambda p. Cc \# \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } p) \text{ } qs) @ [Cc, Dd]$
 $= Cc \# \text{concat } (\text{map } (\lambda q. \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } q @ [Cc]) \text{ } qs) @ [Dd]$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

One block of *enc_h idx S P a*: any production p of P whose right-hand side starts with $Tm \text{ } a$ can be selected as the middle y , the surrounding $x \text{ } z$ (the other c -delimited fragments) being words over T .

lemma *enc_h_block*:

assumes *pin*: $p \in \text{set } P$ **and** *snd_p*: $\text{snd } p = Tm \text{ } a \# \text{map } Nt \text{ } Bs$
shows $\exists x \text{ } z. \text{enc_h } \text{idx } S \text{ } P \text{ } a = \text{blk } (x, \text{xihat } \text{idx } S \text{ } p, z) \wedge \text{set } x \subseteq \text{Talph} \wedge \text{set } z \subseteq \text{Talph}$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Lifting the block decomposition over a whole word: given a list of productions matching the letters of w , the encoded word $h(w)$ is a concatenation of blocks whose middles are exactly the $\hat{\xi}$ -codes of the productions.

lemma *block_decomp*:

list_all2 $(\lambda b \text{ } p. p \in \text{set } P \wedge (\exists Bs. \text{snd } p = Tm \text{ } b \# \text{map } Nt \text{ } Bs)) \text{ } w \text{ } ps \implies$
 $\exists bs. \text{concat } (\text{map } (\text{enc_h } \text{idx } S \text{ } P) \text{ } w) = \text{concat } (\text{map } \text{blk } bs)$
 $\wedge \text{map } (\lambda(x,y,z). y) \text{ } bs = \text{map } (\text{xihat } \text{idx } S) \text{ } ps$
 $\wedge (\forall(x,y,z) \in \text{set } bs. \text{set } x \subseteq \text{Talph} \wedge \text{set } z \subseteq \text{Talph})$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.3.4 Inverting the stack machinery (for the backward direction)

The fragment $\text{frag } i = A1 \ A2^i \ A1$ determines i and the rest uniquely as a prefix.

lemma *frag_append_inj*:
 $\text{frag } i @ xs = \text{frag } j @ ys \implies i = j \wedge xs = ys$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *stkenc_eq_Nil*: $\text{stkenc } cs = [] \implies cs = []$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Inverse of *bal_stk_popcode*: a successful pop forces the stack to start with the matching fragment.

lemma *bal_stk_popcode_inv*:
assumes $\text{bal_stk } t (\text{brks } (\text{popcode } i)) = (s, [])$ **shows** $t = \text{frag } i @ s$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Inverse of *bal_stk_xi*: if running $\xi(p)$ on the encoded stack α consumes all input, then α 's top is *fst* p (this uses injectivity of *idx*) and the resulting stack is the encoding of Bs on top of the remaining stack.

lemma *bal_stk_xi_inv*:
assumes *inj*: $\text{inj_on } \text{idx } N$ **and** *snd_p*: $\text{snd } p = Tm \ a \ \# \ \text{map } Nt \ Bs$
and *fpN*: $\text{fst } p \in N$ **and** αN : $\text{set } \alpha \subseteq N$
and *run*: $\text{bal_stk } (\text{stkenc } (\text{map } \text{idx } \alpha)) (\text{brks } (\text{xi } \text{idx } p)) = (s, [])$
shows $\exists \alpha'. \alpha = \text{fst } p \ \# \ \alpha' \wedge s = \text{stkenc } (\text{map } \text{idx } (Bs @ \alpha'))$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.3.5 Parsing a block word back into productions (for the backward direction)

Two lists of s -terminated, s -internal-free blocks with equal concatenation are equal.

lemma *concat_block_align*:
 $\text{concat } xss = \text{concat } yss \implies$
 $(\forall xs \in \text{set } xss. \exists p. xs = p @ [s] \wedge s \notin \text{set } p) \implies$
 $(\forall ys \in \text{set } yss. \exists p. ys = p @ [s] \wedge s \notin \text{set } p) \implies xss = yss$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

A c -free middle delimited by two cs inside a single- c -separated block body must be one of the fragments.

lemma *cfrag_parse_gen*:
assumes $c \notin \text{set } y$ **and** *fc*: $\bigwedge q. c \notin \text{set } (f \ q)$
shows $x @ c \ \# \ y @ c \ \# \ z = \text{concat } (\text{map } (\lambda q. c \ \# \ f \ q) \ qs) @ [c] \implies y \in \text{set } (\text{map } f \ qs)$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Each block *enc_h idx S P a* ends in exactly one d .

lemma *enc_h_Dd*: $\exists p. \text{enc_h } idx \ S \ P \ a = p \ @ \ [Dd] \wedge Dd \notin \text{set } p$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Inverting one block: if $\text{blk } (x,y,z)$ equals an encoded block $\text{enc_h } idx \ S \ P \ a$ and the middle y is free of c (which holds for every block of an L_0 -witness), then y is the $\hat{\xi}$ -code of some production of P whose right-hand side starts with a .

lemma *block_parse*:

assumes *eq*: $\text{blk } (x,y,z) = \text{enc_h } idx \ S \ P \ a$
and *yset*: $\text{set } y \subseteq \text{insert } Ce \ \text{bracks}$
shows $\exists p. p \in \text{set } P \wedge (\exists Bs. \text{snd } p = Tm \ a \ \# \ \text{map } Nt \ Bs) \wedge y = \text{xihat } idx \ S \ p$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

For a complete derivation read off from an L_0 -witness, the concatenation of the encoded middles is $\mathfrak{c}$ followed by the push of S and the $\hat{\xi}$ -codes. This is justified directly from the $\mathfrak{c}/D$ -conditions (the first production expands S , the later ones do not).

lemma *concat_xihat_eqfst*:

assumes *ne*: $ps \neq []$ **and** *fp0*: $\text{fst } (hd \ ps) = S$ **and** *tlS*: $\forall p \in \text{set } (tl \ ps). \text{fst } p \neq S$
shows $\text{concat } (\text{map } (\text{xihat } idx \ S) \ ps) = Ce \ \# \ \text{pushcode } (idx \ S) \ @ \ \text{concat } (\text{map } (xi \ idx) \ ps)$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

Inverting a whole block word: a list of blocks matching the letters of w (with c -free middles) yields a production list ps matching w , whose $\hat{\xi}$ -codes are the middles.

lemma *blocks_to_ps*:

list_all2 $(\lambda b \ a. \text{blk } b = \text{enc_h } idx \ S \ P \ a) \ bs \ w \implies$
 $(\forall (x,y,z) \in \text{set } bs. \text{set } y \subseteq \text{insert } Ce \ \text{bracks}) \implies$
 $\exists ps. \text{list_all2 } (\lambda a \ p. p \in \text{set } P \wedge (\exists Bs. \text{snd } p = Tm \ a \ \# \ \text{map } Nt \ Bs)) \ w \ ps$
 $\wedge \text{map } (\lambda(x,y,z). y) \ bs = \text{map } (\text{xihat } idx \ S) \ ps$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.4 Theorem 2.1

We fix a grammar in Greibach *standard form*: every production is $A \rightarrow a B_1 \dots B_m$ (a terminal followed by nonterminals) and the start symbol S occurs on no right-hand side. The nonterminals are indexed injectively by idx (only injectivity on $\text{insert } S \ (Nts \ (\text{set } P))$ matters; the specific index values, in particular $idx \ S$, are immaterial).

locale *greibach_std* =

fixes $P :: ('n, 't) \text{ prods}$

and $S :: 'n$

and $idx :: 'n \Rightarrow \text{nat}$

assumes *std*: $\bigwedge A \ \alpha. (A, \alpha) \in \text{set } P \implies \exists a \ Bs. \alpha = Tm \ a \ \# \ \text{map } Nt \ Bs$

and *S_notin_rhs*: $\bigwedge A \ a \ Bs. (A, Tm \ a \ \# \ \text{map } Nt \ Bs) \in \text{set } P \implies S \notin \text{set } Bs$

and $idx_inj: inj_on\ idx\ (insert\ S\ (Nts\ (set\ P)))$
begin

$drives\ ps\ \alpha\ w\ \beta$: applying the production list ps as successive *leftmost* steps to the nonterminal stack α (top first) emits the terminal word w and reaches stack β . Each step expands the stack top by a standard-form production from P .

inductive $drives :: ('n, 't)\ prod\ list \Rightarrow 'n\ list \Rightarrow 't\ list \Rightarrow 'n\ list \Rightarrow bool$ **where**
 $drives_Nil: drives\ []\ \alpha\ []\ \alpha$
 $| drives_Cons: (A, Tm\ a\ \# map\ Nt\ Bs) \in set\ P \implies drives\ ps\ (Bs\ @\ \alpha)\ w\ \beta \implies$
 $drives\ ((A, Tm\ a\ \# map\ Nt\ Bs)\ \# ps)\ (A\ \# \alpha)\ (a\ \# w)\ \beta$

Central invariant. Running the encoded ξ -brackets of ps through bal_stk , starting from the encoded stack α , ends at the encoded stack β . Each leftmost step is one application of bal_stk_xi : pop the top nonterminal, push the production's right-hand-side nonterminals.

lemma $drives_bal_stk$:
 $drives\ ps\ \alpha\ w\ \beta \implies$
 $bal_stk\ (stkenc\ (map\ idx\ \alpha))\ (brks\ (concat\ (map\ (xi\ idx)\ ps))) = (stkenc\ (map\ idx\ \beta), [])$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

For a complete leftmost derivation (the stack $[S]$ is emptied), the bracket word after the leading $\mathfrak{c}$ (namely $pushcode\ (idx\ S)$ followed by the ξ -codes) is balanced, i.e. in D .

lemma $drives_bal_complete$:
assumes $drives\ ps\ [S]\ w\ []$
shows $bal\ (brks\ (pushcode\ (idx\ S)\ @\ concat\ (map\ (xi\ idx)\ ps)))$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.4.1 Bridge between *drives* and the grammar language *Lang*

Easy direction: a *drives* sequence is a leftmost derivation.

lemma $drives_imp_derivels$:
 $drives\ ps\ \alpha\ w\ \beta \implies set\ P \vdash map\ Nt\ \alpha \Rightarrow_l^* map\ Tm\ w\ @\ map\ Nt\ \beta$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Hard direction: a leftmost derivation to a terminal word yields a *drives* sequence. Induction on the number of leftmost steps. (We suppress *relpowp.simps* (2) so that the leftmost-step lemmas for $\Rightarrow_l(Suc\ n)$ fire before the relation power is unfolded.)

lemma $deriveln_imp_drives$:
 $set\ P \vdash map\ Nt\ \alpha \Rightarrow_l(n)\ map\ Tm\ w \implies \exists ps. drives\ ps\ \alpha\ w\ []$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Combining both directions with the leftmost/standard derivation equivalence $derivels_iff_drives$: membership in the grammar's language is exactly

the existence of a *drives* sequence from $[S]$ to the empty stack.

lemma *drives_iff_Lang*:

$(\exists ps. \text{drives } ps \ [S] \ w \ []) \longleftrightarrow w \in \text{Lang } (\text{set } P) \ S$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.4.2 Block structure of the encoded word

Once S has left the stack it never returns (it is on no right-hand side), so no later production expands S .

lemma *drives_no_S*:

$\text{drives } ps \ \alpha \ w \ \beta \implies S \notin \text{set } \alpha \implies (\forall p \in \text{set } ps. \text{fst } p \neq S)$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

The concatenation of the encoded middles of a complete derivation: only the first production (which expands S) contributes the $\mathfrak{c}$ marker and the initial push of S ; all later productions contribute pure ξ -codes.

lemma *concat_xihat_eq*:

assumes *drives* $ps \ [S] \ w \ []$
shows $\text{concat } (\text{map } (\text{xihat } \text{idx } S) \ ps) = \text{Ce} \ \# \ \text{pushcode } (\text{idx } S) \ @ \ \text{concat } (\text{map } (\text{xi } \text{idx}) \ ps)$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.4.3 Forward direction of Theorem 2.1

The terminal letters of w are matched, in order, by the productions of any *drives* sequence producing w .

lemma *drives_list_all2*:

$\text{drives } ps \ \alpha \ w \ \beta \implies \text{list_all2 } (\lambda b \ p. p \in \text{set } P \wedge (\exists Bs. \text{snd } p = \text{Tm } b \ \# \ \text{map } \text{Nt } Bs)) \ w \ ps$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

If $w \in L(G)$ (witnessed by a complete *drives* sequence) then the encoded word $h(w)$ lies in L_0 : the blocks select the $\hat{\xi}$ -codes, whose concatenation is $\mathfrak{c}$ followed by a balanced ($\in D$) word.

lemma *forward*:

assumes *drv*: *drives* $ps \ [S] \ w \ []$
shows $\text{concat } (\text{map } (\text{enc_h } \text{idx } S \ P) \ w) \in L_0$
 $\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.4.4 Backward direction of Theorem 2.1

Converse of the central invariant. If the encoded ξ -brackets of a production list ps (whose productions are standard-form and match the letters of w) run successfully on the encoded stack α (consuming everything, ending empty), then ps really is a leftmost derivation *drives* $ps \ \alpha \ w \ []$. Each

step is inverted by $bal_stk_xi_inv$, which (using injectivity of idx) forces the production's left-hand side to be the current stack top.

lemma $drives_bal_stk_inv$:

$list_all2 (\lambda b p. p \in set P \wedge (\exists Bs. snd p = Tm b \# map Nt Bs)) w ps \implies$
 $set \alpha \subseteq insert S (Nts (set P)) \implies$
 $bal_stk (stkenc (map idx \alpha)) (brks (concat (map (xi idx) ps))) = ([], []) \implies$
 $drives ps \alpha w []$

$\langle proof \rangle$

Backward direction. If the encoded word $h(w)$ is a non-empty member of L_0 , parse its block structure back into a production list and run the converse central invariant to obtain a $drives$ sequence (hence $w \in L(G)$). Block alignment uses that both blk - and enc_h -blocks end in exactly one d ; each middle is c -free, so equals a $\hat{\xi}$ -code ($block_parse$); the c/D -condition gives the balanced run feeding $drives_bal_stk_inv$.

lemma $backward_drives$:

assumes $inL0$: $concat (map (enc_h idx S P) w) \in L0$
and ne : $concat (map (enc_h idx S P) w) \neq []$
shows $\exists ps. drives ps [S] w []$

$\langle proof \rangle$

1.4.5 The core of Theorem 2.1

For a Greibach-standard-form grammar, the language minus the empty word is exactly the inverse image under the encoding homomorphism enc_h of $L_0 - \{\varepsilon\}$.

lemma $core$: $Lang (set P) S - \{[]\} = inv_hom (enc_h idx S P) (L0 - \{[]\})$

$\langle proof \rangle$

end

The locale-free form of $greibach_std.core$: for *any* production list P in Greibach standard form (every right-hand side a terminal followed by nonterminals, the start symbol S on no right-hand side) together with an injective index idx , the language with the empty word removed is exactly the inverse image of $L_0 - \{\varepsilon\}$ under the concrete encoding homomorphism $enc_h idx S P$. This is the full content of Greibach's construction; the general $Greibach_2_1$ below would follow by reducing an arbitrary grammar to this form.

theorem $Greibach_2_1_std$:

fixes $P :: ('n, 't) prods$ **and** $S :: 'n$ **and** $idx :: 'n \Rightarrow nat$
assumes $\bigwedge A \alpha. (A, \alpha) \in set P \implies \exists a Bs. \alpha = Tm a \# map Nt Bs$
and $\bigwedge A a Bs. (A, Tm a \# map Nt Bs) \in set P \implies S \notin set Bs$
and $inj_on\ idx\ (insert\ S\ (Nts\ (set\ P)))$

shows $Lang (set P) S - \{[]\} = inv_hom (enc_h idx S P) (L0 - \{[]\})$

$\langle proof \rangle$

1.4.6 Reduction of an arbitrary grammar to the standard form

Adding a fresh start symbol A' (not occurring in R) that copies all productions of A preserves the language and makes A' occur on no right-hand side. This is the standard “new start symbol” trick, needed to meet the *greibach_std* side condition S_notin_rhs .

lemma *Lang_fresh_start*:

assumes $A' \notin Nts\ R$

shows $Lang\ (R \cup \{(A', \gamma) \mid \gamma. (A, \gamma) \in R\})\ A' = Lang\ R\ A$

<proof>

A nonterminal with no productions generates the empty language; and a non-empty member of L_0 always contains the separator d . Both are needed to handle the degenerate case where the start symbol does not occur in the grammar.

lemma *L0_Dd*: $x \in L_0 \implies x \neq [] \implies Dd \in set\ x$

<proof>

lemma *inv_hom_Cc_empty*: $inv_hom\ (\lambda_. [Cc])\ (L_0 - \{[]\}) = \{\}$

<proof>

1.4.7 Theorem 2.1 for grammars with a fresh-symbol supply

The construction proper, for a nonterminal type with a fresh-symbol supply (sort *fresh0*, as required by *gnf_of*): the language minus ε is the inverse homomorphic image of the one fixed hardest language $L_0 - \{\varepsilon\}$. The grammar is put into Greibach standard form by *gnf_of* together with a fresh start symbol; the (finitely many) nonterminals of the resulting grammar are then indexed injectively into *nat* by *finite_imp_inj_to_nat_seg* that injection is exactly the index *idx* the encoding *enc_h* requires (no countability needed). The general *Greibach_2_1* below lifts this to an arbitrary nonterminal type by renaming.

theorem *Greibach_2_1_fresh0*:

fixes $P :: ('n::fresh0, 't)\ Prods$

assumes *finP*: *finite P*

shows $\exists h::'t \Rightarrow t0\ list. Lang\ P\ S - \{[]\} = inv_hom\ h\ (L_0 - \{[]\})$

<proof>

1.4.8 Theorem 2.1 in full generality

Greibach’s Theorem 2.1 for an *arbitrary* finite grammar, over *any* nonterminal type: every context-free language, minus ε , is the inverse homomorphic image of the one fixed hardest language $L_0 - \{\varepsilon\}$. Since P is finite, its (finitely many) nonterminals can be renamed injectively into *nat* by *finite_imp_inj_to_nat_seg*; the renamed grammar is over *nat*, which has

a fresh-symbol supply, so *Greibach_2_1_fresh0* applies, and the renaming preserves the language by *Lang_rename_Prods*.

theorem *Greibach_2_1*:

fixes $P :: ('n, 't) Prods$

assumes *finP*: *finite P*

shows $\exists h :: 't \Rightarrow t0 \text{ list. } Lang\ P\ S - \{\epsilon\} = inv_hom\ h\ (L0 - \{\epsilon\})$

<proof>

The same statement at the level of languages: every context-free language, minus ϵ , is the inverse homomorphic image of $L_0 - \{\epsilon\}$. Together with *CFL_L0* below (L_0 is itself context-free) this is the precise sense in which L_0 is a *hardest* context-free language.

corollary *Greibach_2_1_CFL*:

assumes *CFL_TYPE*('n) *L*

shows $\exists h. L - \{\epsilon\} = inv_hom\ h\ (L0 - \{\epsilon\})$

<proof>

1.5 L_0 is context-free

This property is left implicit in Greibach's paper.

1.5.1 A grammar for L_0

abbreviation (*input*) *oA1* $\equiv Aa$ (*Open A1*)

abbreviation (*input*) *cA1* $\equiv Aa$ (*Close A1*)

abbreviation (*input*) *oA2* $\equiv Aa$ (*Open A2*)

abbreviation (*input*) *cA2* $\equiv Aa$ (*Close A2*)

datatype $N = NZ \mid NF \mid NM$

definition $G :: (N, t0) Prods$ **where**

$G = \{(NZ, []),$
 $(NZ, [Nt\ NF, Tm\ Cc, Tm\ Ce, Nt\ NM, Tm\ Cc, Nt\ NF, Tm\ Dd]),$
 $(NF, []),$
 $(NM, []),$
 $(NM, [Nt\ NM, Nt\ NM]),$
 $(NM, [Tm\ oA1, Nt\ NM, Tm\ cA1]),$
 $(NM, [Tm\ oA2, Nt\ NM, Tm\ cA2]),$
 $(NM, [Tm\ Cc, Nt\ NF, Tm\ Dd, Nt\ NF, Tm\ Cc])\}$
 $\cup \{(NF, [Tm\ t, Nt\ NF]) \mid t. t \in Talph\}$

lemma *bracks_eq*: *bracks* = {*oA1*, *cA1*, *oA2*, *cA2*}

<proof>

lemma *finite_Talph*: *finite Talph*

<proof>

lemma *finite_G*: *finite G*

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.5.2 The free language T^* generated by NF ($\supseteq$ direction)

lemma $Talph_sub_Lang_NF$:

$set\ w \subseteq Talph \implies w \in Lang\ G\ NF$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.5.3 The “middle” language generated by NM

inductive $mbal :: t0\ list \Rightarrow bool$ **where**

$mbal_Nil$: $mbal\ []$

| $mbal_app$: $mbal\ w \implies mbal\ w' \implies mbal\ (w\ @\ w')$

| $mbal_wrap$: $mbal\ w \implies mbal\ (Aa\ (Open\ a)\ \# \ w\ @\ [Aa\ (Close\ a)])$

| $mbal_gap$: $set\ z \subseteq Talph \implies set\ x \subseteq Talph \implies mbal\ (Cc\ \# \ z\ @\ Dd\ \# \ x\ @\ [Cc])$

lemma $mbal_imp_Lang_NM$: $mbal\ w \implies w \in Lang\ G\ NM$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

1.5.4 Gaps and the interleaving of bracket blocks with gaps

definition $Gap :: t0\ list\ set$ **where**

$Gap = \{Cc\ \# \ z\ @\ Dd\ \# \ x\ @\ [Cc] \mid x\ z.\ set\ z \subseteq Talph \wedge set\ x \subseteq Talph\}$

lemma $GapI$: $set\ z \subseteq Talph \implies set\ x \subseteq Talph \implies Cc\ \# \ z\ @\ Dd\ \# \ x\ @\ [Cc] \in Gap$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

fun $interl :: 'a\ list\ list \Rightarrow 'a\ list\ list \Rightarrow 'a\ list$ **where**

$interl\ []\ _ = []$

| $interl\ (y\ \# \ ys)\ [] = y\ @\ interl\ ys\ []$

| $interl\ (y\ \# \ ys)\ (g\ \# \ gs) = y\ @\ g\ @\ interl\ ys\ gs$

lemma $interl_merge$:

$length\ ya = length\ gs1 \implies$

$interl\ (ya\ @\ [yl])\ gs1\ @\ interl\ (yr\ \# \ ys2)\ gs2$

$= interl\ (ya\ @\ (yl\ @\ yr)\ \# \ ys2)\ (gs1\ @\ gs2)$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

$Ymid\ W$: W is a sequence of bracket blocks separated by gaps, whose concatenation is balanced.

definition $Ymid :: t0\ list \Rightarrow bool$ **where**

$Ymid\ W \longleftrightarrow (\exists\ ys\ gs.\ W = interl\ ys\ gs \wedge length\ ys = Suc\ (length\ gs) \wedge$

$(\forall\ g \in set\ gs.\ g \in Gap) \wedge (\forall\ y \in set\ ys.\ set\ y \subseteq bracks) \wedge$

$bal\ (map\ brk\ (concat\ ys)))$

lemma $Ymid_Nil$: $Ymid\ []$

$\langle \text{proof} \rangle$

lemma *Ymid_gap*: $g \in \text{Gap} \implies \text{Ymid } g$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *Ymid_app*:
 assumes *Ymid* *Wa* and *Ymid* *Wb* shows *Ymid* (*Wa* @ *Wb*)
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *interl_prepend_first*: $\text{interl } ((p @ y) \# ys) \text{ } gs = p @ \text{interl } (y \# ys) \text{ } gs$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *interl_append_last*:
 $\text{length } ys = \text{length } gs \implies \text{interl } (ys @ [yl @ s]) \text{ } gs = \text{interl } (ys @ [yl]) \text{ } gs @ s$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *Ymid_wrap*:
 assumes *Ymid* *W* shows *Ymid* (*Aa* (*Open* *a*) # *W* @ [*Aa* (*Close* *a*)])
 ⟨proof⟩

1.5.5 From *Ymid* to *mbal*: inserting gaps into a balanced skeleton

lemma *Gap_imp_mbal*: $g \in \text{Gap} \implies \text{mbal } g$
 ⟨proof⟩

inductive *sprd* :: *t0 list* $\Rightarrow$ *t0_A bracket list* $\Rightarrow$ *bool* **where**
 sprd_Nil: *sprd* [] []
 | *sprd_gap*: $g \in \text{Gap} \implies \text{sprd } W \text{ } bw \implies \text{sprd } (g @ W) \text{ } bw$
 | *sprd_brk*: $\text{sprd } W \text{ } bw \implies \text{sprd } (Aa \text{ } b \# W) \text{ } (b \# bw)$

lemma *sprd_emptybw*: $\text{sprd } W \text{ } [] \implies \text{mbal } W$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *sprd_brk_list*:
 $\text{set } y \subseteq \text{bracks} \implies \text{sprd } Wr \text{ } bw \implies \text{sprd } (y @ Wr) \text{ } (\text{map } \text{brk } y @ bw)$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *interl_sprd*:
 $\text{length } ys = \text{Suc } (\text{length } gs) \implies (\forall g \in \text{set } gs. g \in \text{Gap}) \implies (\forall y \in \text{set } ys. \text{set } y \subseteq \text{bracks})$
 $\implies \text{sprd } (\text{interl } ys \text{ } gs) \text{ } (\text{map } \text{brk } (\text{concat } ys))$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *sprd_split*:
 $\text{sprd } W \text{ } bw \implies bw = bw1 @ bw2 \implies \exists W1 \text{ } W2. W = W1 @ W2 \wedge \text{sprd } W1 \text{ } bw1 \wedge \text{sprd } W2 \text{ } bw2$
 ⟨proof⟩

lemma *sprd_head*:
 $\text{sprd } W \text{ } bw \implies bw = b \# bw' \implies \exists U \text{ } Wr. W = U @ Aa \text{ } b \# Wr \wedge \text{mbal } U \wedge \text{sprd } Wr \text{ } bw'$

$\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *sprd_tail*:

$sprd\ W\ bw \implies bw = bw' @ [b] \implies \exists\ Wl\ U. W = Wl @ Aa\ b\ \# U \wedge sprd\ Wl\ bw' \wedge mbal\ U$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *sprd_bal_imp_mbal*: $bal\ bw \implies sprd\ W\ bw \implies mbal\ W$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.5.6 Bridging *Ymid* and the block-list form of L_0

From a balanced *Ymid*-decomposition build the L_0 block list: the gaps split into the z_i/x_{i+1} parts of adjacent blocks.

lemma *mkbblocks*:

$length\ ys = Suc\ (length\ gs) \implies (\forall\ g \in set\ gs. g \in Gap) \implies set\ x \subseteq Talph \implies set\ z \subseteq Talph \implies$
 $\exists\ bs. bs \neq [] \wedge (\forall\ (a,b,c) \in set\ bs. set\ a \subseteq Talph \wedge set\ c \subseteq Talph) \wedge$
 $map\ (\lambda(a,b,c). b)\ bs = ys \wedge$
 $concat\ (map\ blk\ bs) = x @ [Cc] @ interl\ ys\ gs @ [Cc] @ z @ [Dd]$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

The inverse: every L_0 block list arises this way.

lemma *blocks_decomp*:

$bs \neq [] \implies (\forall\ (a,b,c) \in set\ bs. set\ a \subseteq Talph \wedge set\ c \subseteq Talph) \implies$
 $\exists\ x\ ys\ gs\ z. set\ x \subseteq Talph \wedge set\ z \subseteq Talph \wedge length\ ys = Suc\ (length\ gs) \wedge$
 $(\forall\ g \in set\ gs. g \in Gap) \wedge$
 $map\ (\lambda(a,b,c). b)\ bs = ys \wedge$
 $concat\ (map\ blk\ bs) = x @ [Cc] @ interl\ ys\ gs @ [Cc] @ z @ [Dd]$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

The two halves of the characterisation $L_0 - \{\varepsilon\} = T^* c \mathfrak{C} (Ymid) c T^* d$.

lemma *Ymid_imp_L0*:

assumes $Y: Ymid\ W$ **and** $xT: set\ x \subseteq Talph$ **and** $zT: set\ z \subseteq Talph$
shows $x @ [Cc, Ce] @ W @ [Cc] @ z @ [Dd] \in L0$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *L0_imp_Ymid*:

assumes $w \in L0$ **and** $w \neq []$
shows $\exists\ x\ z\ W. w = x @ [Cc, Ce] @ W @ [Cc] @ z @ [Dd] \wedge set\ x \subseteq Talph \wedge$
 $set\ z \subseteq Talph \wedge Ymid\ W$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

1.6 $Lang\ G\ NZ = L_0$ and context-freeness of L_0

The candidate solution assigning each nonterminal its intended language.

definition $Rsol :: N \Rightarrow t0\ list\ set$ **where**

$Rsol\ A = (case\ A\ of\ NZ \Rightarrow L0 \mid NF \Rightarrow \{w.\ set\ w \subseteq Talph\} \mid NM \Rightarrow \{W.\ Ymid\ W\})$

Each production keeps the candidate solution closed (the $\subseteq$ -obligations).

lemma *incl_NZ_big*: *inst_syms* *Rsol* [*Nt NF*, *Tm Cc*, *Tm Ce*, *Nt NM*, *Tm Cc*, *Nt NF*, *Tm Dd*] $\subseteq Rsol\ NZ$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *Lang_G_subset*: *Lang G A* $\subseteq Rsol\ A$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

The $\supseteq$ direction for the start symbol.

lemma *Ymid_imp_Lang_NM*: *Ymid W* $\implies W \in Lang\ G\ NM$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *L0_subset_Lang*: *L0* $\subseteq Lang\ G\ NZ$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

lemma *Lang_G_NZ*: *Lang G NZ* $= L0$
 $\langle proof \rangle$

Greibach's hardest language L_0 is itself context-free.

theorem *CFL_L0*: *CFL TYPE(N)* *L0*
 $\langle proof \rangle$

end

References

- [1] S. A. Greibach. The hardest context-free language. *SIAM J. Comput.*, 2(4):304–310, 1973.