

Grammar is ambiguous. $S \rightarrow aSbS \mid bSaS \mid \epsilon$

RGPV 2020

Show that the following grammar is ambiguous.

$S \rightarrow aSbS \mid bSaS \mid \epsilon$

Ans. For grammar to be ambiguous, there should be more than one parse tree for same string.

Above grammar can be written as

$S \rightarrow aSbS$

$S \rightarrow bSaS$

$S \rightarrow \epsilon$

Lets generate a string 'abab'.

So, now parse tree for 'abab'.

Left most derivative parse tree 01

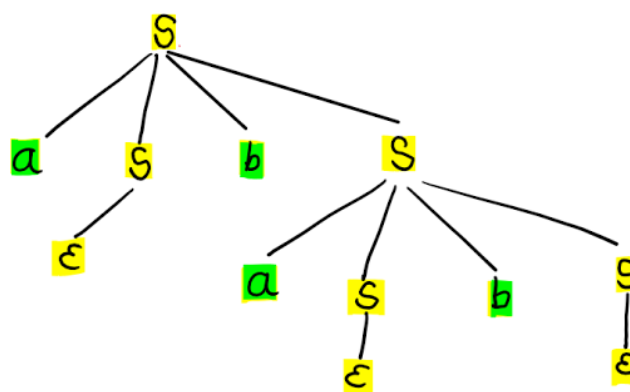
$S \rightarrow aSbS$

$S \rightarrow a\epsilon bS$

$S \rightarrow a\epsilon baSbS$

$S \rightarrow a\epsilon ba\epsilon b\epsilon$

$S \rightarrow abab$



Parse Tree 01

Grammar is ambiguous. $S \rightarrow aSbS|bSaS|\epsilon$

Left most derivative parse tree 02

$S \rightarrow aSbS$

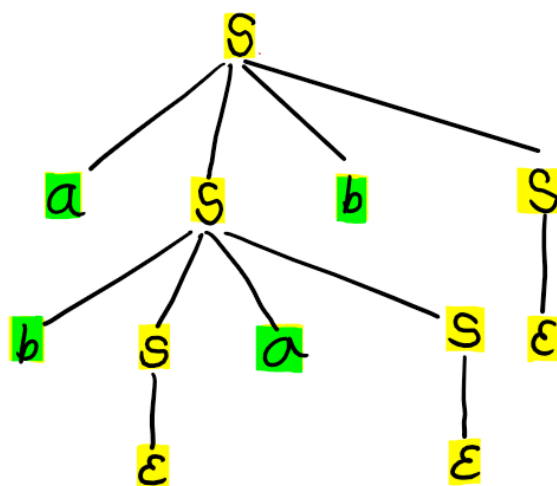
$S \rightarrow abSaSbS$

$S \rightarrow ab\epsilon aSbS$

$S \rightarrow ab\epsilon a\epsilon bS$

$S \rightarrow ab\epsilon a\epsilon b\epsilon$

$S \rightarrow abab$



Parse tree 02

So there are more than 1 parse tree for same string, that means grammar is ambiguous.

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