

# NEW FRONTIERS BEYOND CONTEXT-FREENESS: DI-GRAMMARS AND DI-AUTOMATA.

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## Abstract

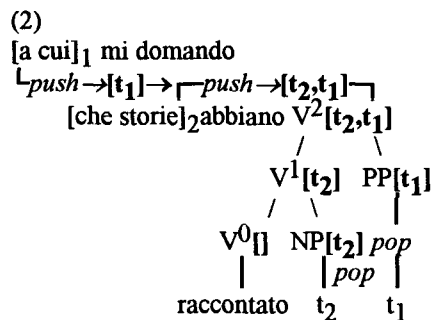
A new class of formal languages will be defined - the Distributed Index Languages (DI-languages). The grammar-formalism generating the new class - the DI-grammars - cover unbound dependencies in a rather natural way. The place of DI-languages in the Chomsky-hierarchy will be determined: Like Aho's indexed Languages, DI-languages represent a proper subclass of Type 1 (contextsensitive languages) and properly include Type 2 (context-free languages), but the DI-class is neither a subclass nor a superclass of Aho's indexed class. It will be shown that, apart from DI-grammars, DI-languages can equivalently be characterized by a special type of automata - DI-automata. Finally, the time complexity of the recognition-problem for an interesting subclass of DI-Grammars will approximately be determined.

## 1 Introduction

It is common practice to parse nested Wh-dependencies, like the classical example of Rizzi (1982) in (1),

(1) Tuo fratello, [a cui]<sub>1</sub> mi domando [che storie]<sub>2</sub> abbiamo raccontato t<sub>2</sub> t<sub>1</sub>, era molto preoccupato  
 (Your Brother, [to whom]<sub>1</sub> I wonder [which stories]<sub>2</sub> they told t<sub>2</sub> t<sub>1</sub> was very troubled)

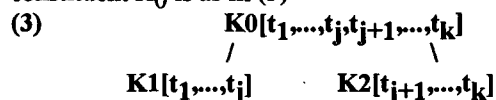
using a stack mechanism. Under the binary branching hypothesis the relevant structure of (1) augmented by wh-stacks is as follows:



Up to now it is unclear, how far beyond context-freeness the generative power of a Type 2 grammar formalism is being extended if such a stack mechanism is grafted on it (assuming, of course, that an upper bound for the size of the stack can not be motivated).

Fernando Pereira's concept of Extraposition Grammar (XG), introduced in his influential paper (Pereira, 1981; 1983; cf. Stabler, 1987) in order to delimit the new territory, can be shown to be inadequate for this purpose, since it is provable that the class of languages generable by XGs coincides with Type 0 (i.e. XGs have the power of Turing machines), whereas the increase of power by the stack mechanism is not even enough to generate all Type 1 languages (see below).

In (2) an additional point is illustrated: the stack [t<sub>2</sub>, t<sub>1</sub>] belonging to V<sup>2</sup> has to be divided into the substacks [t<sub>2</sub>] and [t<sub>1</sub>], which are then inherited by the daughters V<sup>1</sup> and PP. For the PP-index t<sub>1</sub> is not discharged from the top of the V<sup>2</sup>-stack [t<sub>2</sub>, t<sub>1</sub>]. Generalizing to stacks of unlimited size, the partition of a stack among the inheriting subconstituents K<sub>1</sub> and K<sub>2</sub> of a constituent K<sub>0</sub> is as in (3)



If the generalization in (3) is tenable, the extension of context-free grammars (Vijay-Shanker and Weir, 1991, call the resulting formalism "linear indexed grammar" (LIG)) discussed by Gazdar in (Gazdar, 1988), in which stacks are exclusively passed over to a single daughter (as in (3.1)), is too weak.

$$(3.1) \text{ a) } K_0[t_1, \dots, t_k] \quad \text{b) } K_0[t_1, \dots, t_k]$$

$$\begin{array}{c} / \quad \backslash \\ K_1[t_1, \dots, t_k] \quad K_2 \quad K_1 \quad K_2[t_1, \dots, t_k] \end{array}$$

Stack-transmission by *distribution*, however, as in (3) suggests the definition of a new class of grammars properly containing the context-free class.

## 2 DI-Grammars and DI-languages

A DI-grammar is a 5-tupel  $G = (N, T, F, P, S)$ , where  $N, T, S$  are as usual,  $F$  is a alphabet of indices,  $P$  is a set of rules of the following form

$$1) \text{ (a) } A \rightarrow \alpha \quad \text{(b) } A \rightarrow \alpha B f \beta \quad \text{(c) } A f \rightarrow \alpha,$$

$$(A, B \in N; \alpha, \beta \in (N \cup T)^*; f \in F)$$

The relation " $\Rightarrow$ " or "directly derives" is defined as follows:

$$2) \alpha \Rightarrow \beta$$

if either i)

$$\alpha = \delta A \text{index } \gamma, \delta, \gamma \in (NF^* \cup T)^*, \text{index} \in F^*, A \in N,$$

$$A \rightarrow B_1 B_2 \dots B_n \text{ is a rule of form 1)(a)}$$

$$\beta = \delta B_1 \text{index}_1 B_2 \text{index}_2 \dots B_n \text{index}_n \gamma$$

or ii)

$$\alpha = \delta A \text{index } \gamma, \delta, \gamma \in (NF^* \cup T)^*, \text{index} \in F^*, A \in N,$$

$$A \rightarrow B_1 \dots B_k f \dots B_n \text{ is a rule of form 1)(b), } f \in F$$

$$\beta = \delta B_1 \text{index}_1 \dots B_k f \text{index}_k \dots B_n \text{index}_n \gamma$$

or iii)

$$\alpha = \delta A f \text{index } \gamma, \delta, \gamma \in (NF^* \cup T)^*, \text{index} \in F^*, A \in N,$$

$$A f \rightarrow B_1 B_2 \dots B_n \text{ is a rule of form 1)(c), } f \in F$$

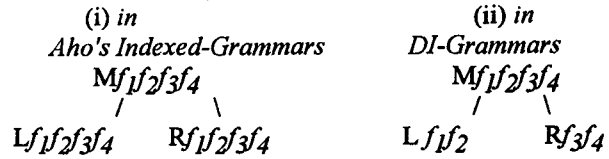
$$\beta = \delta B_1 \text{index}_1 B_2 \text{index}_2 \dots B_n \text{index}_n \gamma$$

(\*) and  $\text{index} = \text{index}_1 \text{index}_2 \dots \text{index}_n$ ,  
and for  $B_i \in T$ :  $\text{index}_i = \varepsilon$  (i.e. the empty word) ( $0 \leq i \leq n$ )

The reflexive and transitive closure  $*\Rightarrow$  of  $\Rightarrow$  is defined as usual.

Replacing (\*) by " $\text{index}_i = \text{index}$  for  $B_i \in N$ ,  $\text{index}_i = \varepsilon$  for  $B_i \in T$ ", changes the above definition into a definition of Aho's well known indexed grammars. How index-percolation differs in indexed and DI-grammars is illustrated in (4).

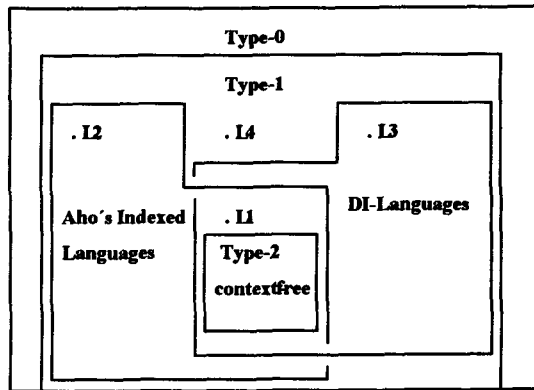
## (4) Index-Percolation



i.e. index multiplication vs. index distribution

The region in the Chomsky hierarchy occupied by the class of DI-languages is indicated in (5)

(5)



where

$$(5.1) L_1 = \{a^n b^n c^n; n \geq 1\}$$

$$(5.2) L_2 = \{a^k; k = 2^n, 0 \leq n\}$$

$$(5.3) L_3 = \{w_1 w_2 \dots w_n z_1 w_n \dots z_n w_1 z_{n+1} m(w_n) m(w_{n-1}) \dots m(w_2) m(w_1); n \geq 1 \text{ \& } w_i \in \{a, b\}^+ (1 \leq i \leq n) \text{ \& } z_1 z_2 \dots z_n z_{n+1} \in D_1\}$$

$m(y)$  is the mirror image of  $y$  and  $D_1$  is the Dyck language generated by the following CFG  $G_k$  ( $D_1 = L(G_k)$ ),  $G_k = (\{S\}, \{[, ]\}, R_k, S)$ , where  $R_k = \{S \rightarrow [S], S \rightarrow SS, S \rightarrow \varepsilon\}$

$$(5.4) L_4 = \{a^k; k = n^n, n \geq 1\}; (L_4 \text{ is not an indexed language, s. Takeshi Hayashi (1973)}).$$

By definition (see above), the intersection of the class of indexed languages and the class of DI-languages includes the context-free (cfr) languages. The inclusion is proper, since the (non-cfr) language  $L_1$  is generated by  $G_1 = (\{S, A, B\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{f, g\}, R_1, S)$ , where  $R_1 = \{S \rightarrow a A f c, A \rightarrow a A g c, A \rightarrow B, B g \rightarrow b B, B f \rightarrow b\}$ , and  $G_1$  obviously is both a DI-grammar and an indexed grammar.

Like cfr. languages and unlike indexed languages, DI-languages have the constant growth property (i.e. for every DI-grammar  $G$  there exists a  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , s.th. for every  $w \in L(G)$ , s.th.  $|w| > k$ , there exists a sequence  $w_1$



where  $k=2^n$ ,  $w_i \in \{a,b\}^+$  for  $1 \leq i \leq 2^n$ ;  $m(w_i)$  is the mirror image of  $w_i$ .  
i.e the central part  $[x_m]$  of such a word contains  $2^{n+1}-1$  pairs of parentheses, as shown in (9) for  $n=3$ :

$$(9) \text{[[[[w_8][w_7]][[w_6][w_5]]][[w_4][w_3]][[w_2][w_1]]]]$$

According to our assumption,  $G_I$  generates all words having the form (8). Referring to the derivation in (7), consider a path from  $M\mu$  to any of the parenthesized parts  $w_i$  of  $[x_m]$  in (8). (Ignoring for expositional purposes the possibility of "storing" (a constant amount of) parentheses in nonterminal nodes,) because of 2. and 3. an injective mapping can be defined from the set of pairs of parentheses containing at least two other (and because of the structure of (8) disjunct) pairs of parentheses into the set of branching nodes with (at least) two nonterminal daughters. Call a node in the range of the mapping a *P-Node*. Assuming without loss of generality that each node has at most two nonterminal daughters, there are  $2^n-1$  such P-nodes in the subtree rooted in  $M\mu$  and yielding the parenthesized part  $[x_m]$  of (8). Furthermore, every path from  $M\mu$  to the root  $W_i$  of the subtree yielding  $[w_i]$  contains exactly  $n$  P-nodes (where  $2^n=k$  in (8)).

Call an index-symbol  $f$  inside the index-stack  $\mu$  a  $w_i$ -index if  $f$  is discharged into a terminal constituting a parenthesized  $w_i$  in (8) (or equivalently, if  $f$  encodes a symbol of the peripheral  $x_1..x_T$ ).

Let  $f_t$  be the first (or leftmost)  $w_i$ -index from above in the index-stack  $\mu$ , and let  $w_t$  be the subword of  $[x_m]$  containing the terminal into which  $f_t$  is discharged, i.e all other  $w_i$ -indices in  $\mu$  are only accessible after  $f_t$  has been consumed. Thus, for  $\mu = \pi f_t \sigma$  we get from (7)

$$M\pi f_t \sigma = + = > u B_t [\tau f_t \sigma] v = + = > u_t W_t [\tau f_t \sigma] v_t \text{ and } W_t [\tau f_t \sigma] = + = > w_t$$

The path  $P_t$  from  $M\mu$  to  $w_t$  contains  $n$  B-nodes, for  $k=2^n$  in (8). For every B-node  $B_j$  ( $0 \leq j < n$ ) of  $P_t$  we obtain because of the index-multiplication effected by non-terminal branching:

$$B_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] = > L_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] R_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] \text{ and } L_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] = * = > u_{j+1} B_{j+1} [\tau_{j+1} f_t \sigma] v_{j+1} \\ (B_j, B_{j+1}, L_j, R_j \in N, \tau_j, \tau_{j+1}, \sigma \in F^*, f_t \in F, u_{j+1}, v_{j+1} \in \{a, b, [\cdot]\}^*)$$

Every path  $P_j$  branching off from  $P_t$  at  $B_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma]$  leads to a word  $w_j$  derived exclusively by discharging  $w_i$ -in-

dices situated in  $\mu$  below (or on the right side of)  $f_t$ . Consequently,  $f_t$  has to be deleted on every such path  $P_j$ , before the appropriate indices become accessible, i.e. we get for every  $j$  with  $0 \leq j < n$ :

$$B_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] = > u_j R_j [\tau_j f_t \sigma] y_j = * = > y_j C_j [f_t \sigma] z_j, \\ (B_j, R_j, C_j \in N, \tau_j, \sigma \in F^*, f_t \in F)$$

Thus, for  $n > |N|$  in (8) ( $|N|$  the cardinality of the non-terminal alphabet  $N$  of  $G_I$ , ignoring, as before the constant amount of parenthesis-storing in nonterminals) because of  $|\{C_j; 0 \leq j < n\}| = n$  the node-label  $C_j [f_t \sigma]$  occurs twice on two different paths branching off from  $P_t$ , i.e. there exist  $p, q$  ( $0 \leq p < q < n$ ) such that:

$$M\pi f_t \sigma = + = > u_p R_p [\tau_p f_t \sigma] v_q R_q [\tau_q f_t \sigma] y \text{ and } R_p [\tau_p f_t \sigma] = * = > y_p C [f_t \sigma] z_p = + = > y_p z z_p \\ R_q [\tau_q f_t \sigma] = * = > y_q C [f_t \sigma] z_q = + = > y_q z z_q, \\ (\mu = \pi f_t \sigma, \sigma_p, \tau_q, \sigma \in F^*, f_t \in F; M, R_p, R_q, C \in N; \\ u_p, v_q, y, y_q, y_p, z_p, z_q, z \in T^*) \\ \text{where } z \in \{z_1 w_1 \dots z_T w_T z_{T+1}; w_i \in \{a,b\}^+ \& z_1 \dots z_{T+1} \in D_1\} \\ (= \text{the Dyck-language from (5.3)}).$$

I.e.  $G_I$  generates words  $w'' = x_1'' [x_m] x_T''$ , the central part of which contain a duplication (of "z" in  $[x_m] = y_1 z y_2 z y_3$ ) without correspondence in  $x_1''$  or  $x_T''$ , thus contradicting the general form of words of  $L_3$ . Hence  $L_3$  is not indexed.

## 2.2 DI-Grammars and Linear Indexed Grammars<sup>1</sup>

As already mentioned above, Gazdar in (Gazdar, 1988) introduced and discussed a grammar formalism, afterwards (e.g. in (Weir and Joshi, 1988)) called linear indexed grammars (LIG's), using index stacks in which only one nonterminal on the right-hand-side of a rule can inherit the stack from the left-hand-side, i.e. the rules of a LIG  $G = (N, T, F, P, S)$  with  $N, F, T, S$  as above, are of the Form

- i.  $A[\cdot] \rightarrow A_1[\cdot] \dots A_i[\cdot] \dots A_n$
- ii.  $A[\cdot] \rightarrow A_1[\cdot] \dots A_i[f \cdot] \dots A_n$
- iii.  $A[f \cdot] \rightarrow A_1[\cdot] \dots A_i[\cdot] \dots A_n$
- iv.  $A[\cdot] \rightarrow a$

where  $A_1, \dots, A_n \in N$ ,  $f \in F$ , and  $a \in T \cup \{\epsilon\}$ . The "derives"-relation  $\Rightarrow$  is defined as follows

$$\alpha A [f_1 \dots f_n] \beta \Rightarrow \alpha A_1 [\cdot] \dots A_i [f_1 \dots f_n] \dots A_n [\cdot] \beta \\ \text{if } A[\cdot] \rightarrow A_1[\cdot] \dots A_i[\cdot] \dots A_n \in P$$

<sup>1</sup>Thanks to the anonymous referees for suggestions for this section and the next one.

$\alpha A[f_1 \dots f_n] \beta \Rightarrow \alpha A_1[] \dots A_n[f_1 \dots f_n] \dots A_n[] \beta$   
 if  $A[.] \rightarrow A_1[] \dots A_i[f_i] \dots A_n \in P$   
 $\alpha A[f_1 \dots f_n] \beta \Rightarrow \alpha A_1[] \dots A_i[f_1 \dots f_n] \dots A_n[] \beta$   
 if  $A[f_i] \rightarrow A_1[] \dots A_i[.] \dots A_n \in P$   
 $\alpha A[] \beta \Rightarrow \alpha a \beta$   
 if  $A[] \rightarrow a \in P$

$\Rightarrow^*$  is the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\Rightarrow$ , and  $L(G) = \{w, w \in T^* \ \& \ S[] \Rightarrow^* w\}$ .

Gazdar has shown that LIGs are a (proper) subclass of indexed grammars. Joshi, Vijay-Shanker, and Weir (Joshi, Vijay-Shanker, and Weir, 1989; Weir and Joshi, 1988) have shown that LIGs, Combinatory Categorical Grammars (CCG), Tree Adjoining Grammars (TAGs), and Head Grammars (HG) are weakly equivalent. Thus, if an inclusion relation can be shown to hold between DI-languages (DIL) and LILs, it simultaneously holds between the DIL-class and all members of the family.

To simulate the restriction on stack transmission in a LIG  $G_1 = (N_1, T, F_1, P_1, S_1)$  the following construction of a DI-grammar  $G_d$  suggests itself:

Let  $G_d = (N, T, F, P, S)$  where  $N - \{S\} = \{X', X \in N_1\}$ ,  $F = \{f'; f \in F_1\} \cup \{\#\}$ , and  $P = \{S \rightarrow S_1 \#\}$

$\cup \{A' \rightarrow A_1 \#\dots A_i' \dots A_n \#\, A[.] \rightarrow A_1[] \dots A_i[.] \dots A_n \in P_1\}$

$\cup \{A' \rightarrow A_1 \#\dots A_i' f' \dots A_n \#\, A[.] \rightarrow A_1[] \dots A_i[f_i] \dots A_n \in P_1\}$

$\cup \{A' f' \rightarrow A_1 \#\dots A_i' \dots A_n \#\, A[f_i] \rightarrow A_1[] \dots A_i[.] \dots A_n \in P_1\}$

$\cup \{A' \# \rightarrow a, A[] \rightarrow a \in P_1\}$

It follows by induction on the number of derivation steps that for  $X' \in N, X \in N_1, \mu' \in F^*, \mu \in F_1^*$ , and  $w \in T^*$

(10)  $X' \mu' \# \Rightarrow^* w$  if and only if  $X[\mu] \Rightarrow^* w$

where  $X' = h(X)$  and  $\mu' = h(\mu)$  ( $h$  is the homomorphism from  $(N_1 \cup F_1)^*$  into  $(N \cup F)^*$  with  $h(Z) = Z'$ ). For the nontrivial part of the induction, note that  $A' \# \mu'$  can not be terminated in  $G$ .

Together with  $S \Rightarrow S_1 \#$  (10) yields  $L(G_1) = L(G)$ .

The inclusion of the LIG-class in the DI-class is proper, since  $L_3$  above is not a LIG-language, or to give a more simple example:

$L_w = \{a^{n_1} a_1^{n_1} a_2^{n_1} b_1^{n_1} b_2^{n_1} b^{n_1} \mid n = n_1 + n_2\}$  is according to (Vijay-Shanker, Weir and Joshi, 1987) not in TAL, hence not in LIL. But (the indexed language)  $L_w$  is generated by the DI-Grammar

$G_w = (\{S, A, B\}, \{a, b, a_1, a_2, b_1, b_2\}, \{S \rightarrow aSfb, S \rightarrow AB, Af \rightarrow a_1 A a_2, Bf \rightarrow b_1 B b_2, Af \rightarrow a_1 a_2, Bf \rightarrow b_1 b_2, A \rightarrow \epsilon, B \rightarrow \epsilon, S\})$ .

### 2.3 Generalized Composition and Combinatory Categorical Grammars

The relation of DI-grammars to Steedman's Combinatory Categorical Grammars with Generalized Composi-

tion (GC-CCG for short) in the sense of (Weir and Joshi, 1988) is not so easy to determine. If for each  $n \geq 1$  composition rules of the form

$(x/y) (\dots (y|_1 z_1)|_2 \dots |_n z_n) \rightarrow (\dots (x|_1 z_1)|_2 \dots |_n z_n)$  and  
 $(\dots (y|_1 z_1)|_2 \dots |_n z_n) (x/y) \rightarrow (\dots (x|_1 z_1)|_2 \dots |_n z_n)$

are permitted, the generative power of the resulting grammars is known to be stronger than TAGs (Weir and Joshi, 1988).

Now, the GC-CCG given by

$f(\epsilon) = \{\#\}$                        $f(a_1) = \{S/X/\#, S/X\#, \#/X/\#, \#/X\#\}$   
 $f(a) = \{A, X \setminus A\}$                $f(b_1) = \{S/Y/\#, S/Y\#, \#/Y/\#, \#/Y\#\}$   
 $f(b) = \{B, Y \setminus B\}$                $f() = \{K\}$                        $f() = \{\#/\#K, \#/\#K\}$

generates a language  $L_c$ , which when intersected with the regular set

$\{a, b\}^+ \{[, a_1, b_1\}^+ \{a, b\}^+$

yields a language  $L_p$  which is for similar reasons as  $L_3$  not even an indexed language. But  $L_p$  does not seem to be a DI-language either. Hence, since indexed languages and DI-languages are closed under intersection with regular sets,  $L_c$  is neither an indexed nor (so it appears) a DI-language.

The problem of a comparison of DI-grammars and GC-CCGs is that, in spite of all appearances, the combination of generalized forward and backward composition can not directly simulate nor be simulated by index-distribution, at least so it seems.

### 3 DI-Automata

An alternative method of characterizing DI-languages is by means of DI-automata defined below.

*DI-automata (dia)* have a remote resemblance to Aho's *nested stack automata (nsa)*. They can best be viewed as push down automata (pda) with additional power: they can not only read and write on top of their push down store, but also travel down the stack and (recursively) create new embedded substacks (which can be left only after deletion). *dia's* and *nsa's* differ in the following respects:

1. a *dia* is only allowed to begin to travel down the stack or enter the stack reading mode, if a tape-symbol  $A$  on top of the stack has been deleted and stored in a special stack-reading-state  $q_A$ , and the stack-reading mode has to be terminated as soon as the first index-symbol  $f$  from above is being scanned, in which case the index-symbol concerned is deleted and an embedded stack is created, provided the transition-function gives permission. Thus, every occurrence of an index-symbol on the stack can only be "consumed" once, and

only in combination with a "matching" non-index-symbol.

A *nsa*, on the other hand, embeds new stacks behind tape symbols which are preserved and can, thus, be used for further stack-embeddings. This provides for part of the stack multiplication effect.

2. Moving through the stack in the stack reading mode, a *dia* is not allowed to pass or skip an index symbol. Moreover, no scanning of the input or change of state is permitted in this mode.

A *nsa*, however, is allowed both to scan its input and change its state in the stack reading mode, which, together with the license to pass tape symbols repeatedly, provides for another part of the stack multiplication effect.

3. Unlike a *nsa*, a *dia* needs two tape alphabets, since only "index symbols" can be replaced by new stacks, moreover it requires two sets of states in order to distinguish the pushdown mode from the stack reading mode.

Formally, a di-automaton is a 10-tuple  $D = \{q, Q_\Gamma, T, \Gamma, I, \delta, Z_0, \$, \phi, \#\}$ ,

where  $q$  is the control state for the pushdown mode,

$Q_\Gamma = \{q_A; A \in \Gamma\}$  a finite set of stack reading states,

$T$  a finite set of input symbols,

$\Gamma$  a finite set of storage symbols,

$I$  a finite set of index symbols where  $I \cap \Gamma = \emptyset$ ,

$Z_0 \in \Gamma$  is the initial storage symbol,

$\$$  is the top-of-stack marker on the storage tape,

$\phi$  is the bottom-of-embedded stack marker on the storage tape,

$\#$  marks the bottom of the storage tape, where  $\$, \phi, \# \notin \Gamma \cup I$ ,

$Dir = \{-1, 0, 1\}$  (for "1 step upwards", "stay", "1 step downwards", respectively),

$E = \{0, 1\}$  ("halt input tape", "shift input tape", respectively),

$T' = T \cup \{\#\}$ ,  $\Gamma' = \Gamma \cup \{\phi\}$ ,

$\delta$  is a mapping

1) in the push down mode:

from  $\{q\} \times T' \times \$\Gamma$  into finite subsets of

$\{q\} \times D \times \$\Gamma((\Gamma \cup I)^*)$

2) in the stack reading mode: for every  $A \in \Gamma$

(a) from  $\{q_A\} \times T' \times \Gamma$  into subsets of  $\{q_A\} \times \{0\} \times \{1\}$  (for walking down the stack)

(b) from  $\{q\} \times T' \times \$\{A\}$  into subsets of  $\{q_A\} \times \{0\} \times \{1\}$  (for initiating the stack reading mode)

(c) from  $\{q\} \times T' \times \{A\}$  into subsets of  $\{q\} \times \{0\} \times \{-1\}$  (for climbing up the stack)

3) in the stack creation mode:

from  $Q_\Gamma \times T' \times I$  into finite subsets of

$\{q\} \times \{0\} \times \$\Gamma((\Gamma \cup I)^*)\phi$ , and from  $Q_\Gamma \times T' \times \$I$  into finite subsets of  $\{q\} \times \{0\} \times \$\Gamma((\Gamma \cup I)^*)\phi$  (for re-

placing index symbols by new stacks, preserving the top-of-stack marker  $\$$ )

4) in the stack destruction mode:

from  $\{q\} \times T' \times \{\phi\}$  into subsets of  $\{q\} \times \{0\}$ .

As in the case of Aho's *nested stack* automaton a configuration of a DI-automaton  $D$  is a quadruple  $(p, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_j \dots X_m)$ , where

1.  $p \in \{q\} \cup Q_\Gamma$  is the current state of  $D$ ;

2.  $a_1 \dots a_n$  is the input string,  $\#$  the input endmarker;

3.  $i$  ( $1 \leq i \leq n+1$ ) the position of the symbol on the input tape currently being scanned by the input head ( $=a_i$ );

4.  $X_1 \dots X_j \dots X_m$  the content of the storage tape where for  $m > 1$   $X_1 = \$A$ ,  $A \in \Gamma$ ,  $X_m = \#$ ,  $X_2 \dots X_{m-1} \in (\Gamma \cup I \cup \{\$, \phi\})^*$ ;  $X_j$  is the stack symbol currently being read by the storage tape head. If  $m=1$ , then  $X_m = \$\#$ .

As usual, a relation  $\vdash_D$  representing a move by the automaton is defined over the set of configurations:

(i)  $(q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, \alpha \$^k A Y \beta)$

$\vdash_D (q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i+d, \alpha \$^k Z_1 \dots Z_k Y \beta)$ ,

if  $(q, d, \$Z_1 \dots Z_k) \in \delta(q, a_i, \$A)$ .

(ii)  $(p, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_j \dots X_m)$

$\vdash_D (q_A, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_{j-1} X_j X_{j+1} \dots X_m)$ ,

if  $(q_A, 0, 1) \in \delta(p, a_i, X_j)$ , where either  $X_j = \$A$  and  $p=q$ , or  $X_j \neq \$A$  ( $A \in \Gamma$ ) and  $p=q_A$ ;

(iii)  $(q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_j \dots X_m) \vdash_D$

$(q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_{j-1} O \$^k A_1 \dots A_k \phi X_{j+1} \dots X_m)$ ,

if  $(q, 0, \$A_1 \dots A_k \phi) \in \delta(q, a_i, X_j)$ , where  $X_j \in I$  and  $O = \epsilon$ , or  $X_j = \$F$  ( $F \in I$ ) and  $O = \$$ ;

(iv)  $(q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_{j-1} \$^k \phi X_{j+1} \dots X_m) \vdash_D$

$(q, a_1 \dots a_n \#, i, X_1 \dots X_{j-1} X_j X_{j+1} \dots X_m)$ ,

if  $(q, 0) \in \delta(q, a_i, \$^k \phi)$ .

$\vdash_D^*$  is the reflexive and transitive closure of  $\vdash_D$ .  $N(D)$  or the language accepted by empty stack by  $D$  is defined as follows

$N(D) = \{w; w \in T^* \ \& \ (q, w\#, 1, \$^k Z_0 \#)$

$\vdash_D^* (q, w\#, |w|+1, \$^k \#)$

To illustrate, the DI-automaton  $DI_3$  accepting  $L_3$  by empty stack is specified:

$DI_3 = (q$  (state for pda-mode),  $(Q_\Gamma =) \{q_S, q_M, q_Z, q_\phi\}$  (states for stack reading mode),  $(T =) \{a, b, [, ]\}$  (=input alphabet),  $(G =) \{S, M, Z, a, b, [, ], \}$  (=tape symbols for pda-mode),  $(I =) \{f, g\}$  (=tape symbols representing indices),  $\delta, S, \$, \phi, \#$ )

where for every  $x \in T$ :

$\delta(q, x, \$S) = \{(q, 0, \$aSfa), (q, 0, \$bSgb), (q, 0, \phi M), \}$ ,

(for the  $G_3$ -rules:  $S \rightarrow aSfa$ ,  $S \rightarrow bSgb$ ,  $S \rightarrow M$ )

$\delta(q, x, \$M) = \{(q, 0, \$[M]), (q, 0, \$MM), (q, 0, \$Z), \}$

(for:  $M \rightarrow [M]$ ,  $M \rightarrow MM$ ,  $M \rightarrow Z$ )  
 $\delta(q, x, \$x) = \{(q, l, \$)\}$   
 (i.e.: if input symbol  $x$  = "predicted" terminal symbol  $x$ , then shift input-tape one step (" $l$ ") and delete successful prediction" (replace  $\$x$  by  $\$$ ))  
 $\delta(q, x, \$Z)$  contains  $\{(q_Z, 0, \$)\}$ ,  
 (i.e.: change into stack reading mode in order to find indices belonging to the nonterminal  $Z$ )  
 $\delta(q_Z, x, \$Y) = \delta(q_Z, x, Y)$  contain  $\{(q_Z, 0, l)\}$  (for every  $x \in T$ ,  $Y \in \Gamma$ )  
 (i.e. seek first index-symbol belonging to  $Z$  inside the stack)  
 $\delta(q_Z, x, \$f) = \{(q_Z, 0, \$Za\phi), (q_Z, 0, \$\$a\phi)\}$ ,  
 $\delta(q_Z, x, \$g) = \{(q_Z, 0, \$\$Zb\phi), (q_Z, 0, \$\$b\phi)\}$ ,  
 $\delta(q_Z, x, f) = \{(q, x, \$Za\phi), (q, x, \$\$a\phi)\}$ ,  
 $\delta(q_Z, x, g) = \{(q, x, \$Zb\phi), (q, x, \$\$b\phi)\}$ ,  
 (i.e. simulate the index-rules  $Zf \rightarrow Za$ ,  $Zf \rightarrow a$  by creation of embedded stacks)  
 $\delta(q, x, \$\phi) = \{(q, 0)\}$ ,  
 (i.e. delete empty sub-stack)  
 $\delta(q, x, Y) = \{(q, 0, -1)\}$  (for  $x \in T$ ,  $Y \in G - \{f, g\}$ )  
 (i.e. move to top of (sub-)stack).

The following theorem expresses the equivalence of DI-grammars and DI-automata

(11) DI-THEOREM:  $L$  is a DI-language (i.e.  $L$  is generated by a DI-grammar) if and only if  $L$  is accepted by a DI-automaton.

Proof sketch:

I. "only if": (to facilitate a comparison this part follows closely Aho's corresponding proof for indexed grammars and  $nsa$ 's (theorem 5.1) in (Aho, 1969))  
 If  $L$  is a DI-language, then there exists a DI-grammar  $G=(N, T, F, P, S)$  with  $L(G)=L$ . For every DI-grammar an equivalent DI-grammar in a normal form can be constructed in which each rule has the form  $A \rightarrow BC$ ,  $A \rightarrow a$ ,  $A \rightarrow Bf$  or  $Af \rightarrow B$ , with  $A \in N$ ;  $B, C \in (N - \{S\})$ ,  $a \in T$ ,  $f \in F$ ; and  $\epsilon \in L(G)$ , only if  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$  is in  $P$ . (The proof is completely analogous to the corresponding one for indexed grammars in (Aho, 1968) and is therefore omitted). Thus, we can assume without loss of generality that  $G$  is in normal form.

A DI-automaton  $D$  such that  $N(D)=L(G)$  is constructed as follows:

Let  $D=(q, Q, \Gamma, T, I, I, \delta, Z_0, \$, \phi, \#)$ , with  $\Gamma=N \cup T \cup \{\$, \phi, \#\}$ ,  $Q_I=\{q_A: A \in \Gamma\}$ ,  $I=F$ ,  $Z_0=S$  where  $\delta$  is constructed in the following manner for all  $a \in T$ :

1.  $(q, 0, \$BC) \in \delta(q, a, \$A)$ , if  $A \rightarrow BC \in P$ ,  
 $(q, 0, \$b) \in \delta(q, a, \$A)$ , if  $A \rightarrow b \in P$ ,

2.  $(q, 0, \$Bf) \in \delta(q, a, \$A)$ , if  $A \rightarrow Bf \in P$
3.  $(q, l, \$) \in \delta(q, a, \$a)$
4.  $(q_A, 0, \$) \in \delta(q, a, \$A)$  for all  $A \in \Gamma$ ,
5.  $(q_A, 0, l) \in \delta(q_A, a, B)$  for all  $A \in \Gamma$  and all  $B \in \Gamma$ ,  
 i.  $(q, 0, \$B\phi) \in \delta(q_A, a, f)$  and  
 ii.  $(q, 0, \$\$B\phi) \in \delta(q_A, a, f)$  for all  $A \in \Gamma$  with  $Af \rightarrow B \in P$ ,
6.  $(q, 0) \in \delta(q, a, \$\phi)$
7.  $(q, 0, -1) \in \delta(q, a, B)$  for all  $B \in \Gamma \cup \{\phi\}$
8.  $(q, 0, \$) \in \delta(q, \#, \$S)$  if and only if  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$  is in  $P$ .

LEMMA 1.1

If  
 (i)  $Af_1 \dots f_k \xrightarrow{n} a_1 \dots a_m$   
 is a valid leftmost derivation in  $G$  with  $k \geq 0$ ,  $m \geq 1$  and  $A \in N$ , then for  $n \geq 1$ ,  $Z\beta_1 \dots \beta_k \in (N \cup \{\phi\})^*$ ,  $\alpha \in (N \cup \{\$, \phi\})^*$ ,  $\mu \in (N \cup F \cup \{\phi\})^*$ :  
 (ii)  $(q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} AZ \beta_1 f_1 \dots \beta_k f_k \mu \#)$   
 $\vdash_D^* (q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, m+1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} Z \beta_1 \dots \beta_k \mu \#)$ .

Proof by induction on  $n$  (i.e. the number of derivation steps):

If  $n=1$ , then (i) is of the form  $A \Rightarrow a$  where  $a \in T$  and  $k=0$ , since only a rule of the form  $A \rightarrow a$  can be applied because of the normal form of  $G$  and since in DI-grammars (unlike in indexed grammars) unconsumed indices can not be swallowed up by terminals. Because of the construction of  $\delta$ , (ii) is of the form

$$(q, a \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} AZ \beta_1 \dots \beta_k \mu \#) = (q, a \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} AZ \mu \#)$$

$$\vdash_D (q, a \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} a Z \mu \#)$$

$$\vdash_D (q, a \#, 2, \alpha \$^{\wedge} Z \mu \#)$$

$$= (q, a \#, 2, \alpha \$^{\wedge} Z \beta_1 \dots \beta_k \mu \#)$$

Suppose Lemma 1.1 is true for all  $n < n'$  with  $n' > 1$ .

A leftmost derivation  $Af_1 \dots f_k \xrightarrow{n'} a_1 \dots a_m$  can have the following three forms according as  $A$  is expanded in the first step:

$$1) Af_1 \dots f_j f_{j+1} \dots f_k \Rightarrow Bf_1 \dots f_j Cf_{j+1} \dots f_k$$

$$\xrightarrow{n_1} a_1 \dots a_j Cf_{j+1} \dots f_k$$

$$\xrightarrow{n_2} a_1 \dots a_j a_{j+1} \dots a_m$$

with  $n_1 < n'$  and  $n_2 < n'$

$$2) Af_1 \dots f_k \rightarrow Bff_1 \dots f_k \xrightarrow{n_1} a_1 \dots a_m \text{ with } n_1 < n'$$

$$3) Af_1 \dots f_k \rightarrow Bf_2 \dots f_k \xrightarrow{n_1} a_1 \dots a_m$$

with  $n_1 < n'$  and  $(Af_1 \rightarrow B) \in P$ .

From the inductive hypothesis and from 1.-8. above, it follows

1')

$$(q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} AZ \beta_1 f_1 \dots \beta_j f_j \beta_{j+1} f_{j+1} \dots \beta_k f_k \mu \#)$$

$$\vdash_D (q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, 1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} BCZ \beta_1 f_1 \dots \beta_j f_j \beta_{j+1} f_{j+1} \dots \beta_k f_k \mu \#)$$

$$\vdash_D^* (q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, i+1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} CZ \beta_1 \beta_2 \dots \beta_j \beta_{j+1} f_{j+1} \dots \beta_k f_k \mu \#)$$

$$\vdash_D^* (q, a_1 \dots a_m \#, m+1, \alpha \$^{\wedge} Z \beta_1 \dots \beta_j \beta_{j+1} \dots \beta_k \mu \#)$$

2')(q,a<sub>1</sub>...a<sub>m</sub>#,1,α\$^AZβ<sub>1</sub>f<sub>1</sub>...β<sub>k</sub>f<sub>k</sub>μ#)  
 $\vdash_D (q,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge BfZ\beta_1f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1... \beta_k\mu\#)$   
 3')(q,a<sub>1</sub>...a<sub>m</sub>#,1,α\$^AZβ<sub>1</sub>f<sub>1</sub>...β<sub>k</sub>f<sub>k</sub>μ#)  
 $\vdash_D (q_A,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q_A,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1\wedge f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_D (q,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1\$\wedge B\phi\beta_2f_2... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1\$\wedge \phi\beta_2... \beta_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_D (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\sigma\wedge X\beta_2... \beta_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\sigma\wedge X\beta_2... \beta_k\mu\#)$   
 where  $\sigma X = \beta_1$ .

LEMMA 1.2

If for  $Z\beta_1... \beta_k \in (N \cup \{\phi\})^*$ ,  $\alpha \in (N \cup \{\$, \phi\})^*$ , and  $m \geq 1$ ,  $\mu \in (N \cup F \cup \{\phi\})^*$

$(q,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge AZ\beta_1f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge Z\beta_1... \beta_k\mu\#)$

then for all  $n \geq 1$

$Af_1...f_k =^* \Rightarrow a_1...a_m$ .

The proof (by induction on n) is similar to the proof of Lemma 1.1 and is, therefore, omitted.

II. ("if")

If L is accepted by a DI-automaton  $D=(q,Q,\Gamma,T,\Gamma, \delta, I, Z_0, \$, \phi, \#)$ , then we can assume without loss of generality

a) that D writes at most two symbols on a stack in either the push down mode or the stack creation mode (it follows from the DI-automaton definition that the first one of the two symbols cannot be a index symbol from I),  
 b) that T and Γ are disjoint.

A DI-grammar G with  $L(G)=N(D)=L$  can be constructed as follows:

Let  $G=(N,F,T,P,S)$  with  $N=\Gamma$ ,  $F=I$ ,  $S=Z_0$ . P contains for all  $a \in T$ ,  $A,B,C \in N$ , and  $f \in F$  the productions  $(d_a = a, \text{ if } d=1, \text{ else } d_a = \epsilon)$

1.  $A \rightarrow d_a BC$ , if  $(q,d,\$BC) \in \delta(q,a,\$A)$ ,
2.  $A \rightarrow d_a Bf$ , if  $(q,d,\$Bf) \in \delta(q,a,\$A)$ ,
3.  $A \rightarrow d_a B$ , if  $(q,d,\$B) \in \delta(q,a,\$A)$ ,
4.  $A \rightarrow d_a$ , if  $(q,d,\$) \in \delta(q,a,\$A)$ ,
5.  $Af \rightarrow BC$ , if  $(q,0,\$BC\phi) \in \delta(q_A,a,f)$  or  $(q,0,\$\$BC\phi) \in \delta(q_A,a,\$f)$
6.  $Af \rightarrow B$ , if  $(q,0,\$B\phi) \in \delta(q_A,a,f)$  or  $(q,0,\$\$B\phi) \in \delta(q_A,a,\$f)$

For all  $n \geq 1$ ,  $m \geq 1$ ,  $\beta_1... \beta_k \in (N \cup \{\phi\})^*$ ,  $\alpha \in (N \cup \{\$, \phi\})^*$ ,  $f_1, f_2, \dots, f_k \in F$ ,  $A \in N$ ,  $\mu \in (N \cup F \cup \{\phi\})^*$ , and  $a_1...a_m \in T^*$  II.1 and II.2 is true:

II.1: If  $(q,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge A\beta_1f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_D^n (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge \beta_1... \beta_k\mu\#)$

then in G the derivation is valid

$Af_1...f_k =^* \Rightarrow a_1...a_m$ .

II.2: If

$Af_1...f_k =^n \Rightarrow a_1...a_m$ .

is a leftmost derivation in G, then the following transition of D is valid

$(q,a_1...a_m\#,1,\alpha\$\wedge A\beta_1f_1... \beta_kf_k\mu\#)$   
 $\vdash_{D^*} (q,a_1...a_m\#,m+1,\alpha\$\wedge \beta_1... \beta_k\mu\#)$

The proofs by induction of I.1 and II.2 (unlike the proofs of the corresponding lemmata for *nsa*'s and indexed grammars (s.Aho, (1969)) are as elementary as the one given above for I.1 and are omitted.

The DI-automaton concept can be used to show the inclusion of the class of DI-languages in the class of context-sensitive languages. The proof is structurally very similar to the one given by Aho (Aho, 1968) for the inclusion of the indexed class in the context-sensitive class: For every DI-automaton A, an equivalent DI-automaton A' can be constructed which accepts its input w if and only if A accepts w and which in addition uses a stack the length of which is bounded by a linear function of the length of the input w. For A' a linear bounded automaton M (i.e the type of automaton characteristic of the context-sensitive class) can be constructed which simulates A'. For reasons of space the extensive proof can not be given here.

#### 4 Some Remarks on the Complexity of DI-Recognition

The time complexity of the recognition problem for DI-grammars will only be considered for a subclass of DI-grammars. As the restriction on the form of the rules is reminiscent of the Chomsky normal form for context-free grammars (CFG), the grammars in the subclass will be called DI-Chomsky normal form (DI-CNF) grammars

A DI-grammar  $G=(N,T,F,P,S)$  is a DI-CNF grammar if and only if each rule in P is of one of the following forms where  $A,B,C \in N - \{S\}$ ,  $f \in F$ ,  $a \in T$ ,  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ , if  $\epsilon \in L(G)$ ,

- (a)  $A \rightarrow BC$ , (b)  $A \rightarrow BfC$ , (c)  $A \rightarrow BCf$ ,
- (d)  $Af \rightarrow BC$ , (e)  $Af \rightarrow a$ , (f)  $A \rightarrow a$

The question whether the class of languages generated by DI-CNF grammars is a proper or improper subclass of the DI-languages will be left open.

In considering the recognition of DI-CNF grammars an extension of the CKY algorithm for CFGs (Kasami, 1965; Younger, 1967) will be used which is essentially



inspired by an idea of Vijay-Shanker and Weir in (Vijay-Shanker and Weir, 1991).

Let the  $n(n+1)/2$  cells of a CKY-table for an input of length  $n$  be indexed by  $i$  and  $j$  ( $1 \leq i \leq j \leq n$ ) in such a manner that cell  $Z_{i,j}$  builds the top of a pyramid the base of which consists of the input  $a_i \dots a_j$ .

As in the case of CFGs a label  $E$  of a node of a derivation tree (or a code of  $E$ ) should be placed into cell  $Z_{i,j}$  only if in  $G$  the derivation  $E \Rightarrow a_i \dots a_j$  is valid. Since nonterminal nodes of DI-derivation trees are labeled by pairs  $(A, \mu)$  consisting of a nonterminal  $A$  and an index stack  $\mu$  and since the number of such pairs with  $(A, \mu) \Rightarrow w$  can grow exponentially with the length of  $w$ , intractability can only be avoided if index stacks can be encoded in such a way that substacks shared by several nodes are represented only once.

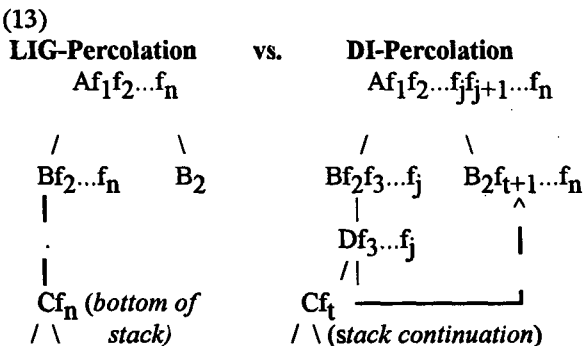
Vijay-Shanker and Weir solved the problem for linear indexed grammars (LIGs) by storing for each node  $K$  not its complete label  $Af_1f_2 \dots f_n$ , but the nonterminal part  $A$  together with only the top  $f_1$  of its index stack and an indication of the cell where the label of a descendant of  $K$  can be found with its top index  $f_2$  continuing the stack of its ancestor  $K$ . In the following this idea will be adopted for DI-grammars, which, however, require a supplementation.

Thus, if the cell  $Z_{i,j}$  of the CKY-table contains an entry beginning with " $\langle A, f_1, (B, f_2, q, p), \dots \rangle$ ", then we know that

$$A\mu \Rightarrow a_i \dots a_j \text{ with } \mu = f_1 \mu_1 \in F^*$$

is valid, and further that the top index symbol  $f_2$  on  $\mu_1$  (i.e. the continuation of  $f_1$ ) is in an entry of cell  $Z_{p,q}$  beginning with the nonterminal  $B$ . If, descending in such a manner and guided by pointer quadruples like " $\langle B, f_2, p, q \rangle$ ", an entry of the form " $\langle C, f_n, \dots \rangle$ " is met, then, in the case of a LIG-table, the bottom of stack has been reached. So, entries of the form " $\langle A, f_1, (B, f_2, p, q) \rangle$ " are sufficient for LIGs.

But, of course, in the case of DI-derivations the bottom of stack of a node, because of index distribution, does not coincide with the bottom of stack of an arbitrary index inheriting descendant, cf.



Rather, the bottom of stack of a DI-node coincides with the bottom of stack of its rightmost index inheriting descendant. Therefore, the pointer mechanism for DI-entries has to be more complicated. In particular, it must be possible to add an "intersemital" pointer to a sister path. However, since the continuation of the unary stack (like of  $Cf_t$  in ( )) of a node without index inheriting descendants is necessarily unknown at the time its entry is created in a bottom up manner, it must be possible to add an intersemital pointer to an entry later on.

That is why a DI-entry for a node  $K$  in a CKY-cell requires an additional pointer to the entry for a descendant  $C$ , which contains the end-of-stack symbol of  $K$  and which eventually has to be supplemented by an intersemital continuation pointer. E.g. the entry

$$(14) \langle B_1, f_2, (D, f_3, p, q), (C, f_t, r, s) \rangle \text{ in } Z_{i,j}$$

indicates that the next symbol  $f_3$  below  $f_2$  on the index stack belonging to  $B_1$  can be found in cell  $Z_{p,q}$  in the entry for the nonterminal  $D$ ; the second quadruple  $(C, f_t, r, s)$  points to the descendant  $C$  of  $B_1$  carrying the last index  $f_t$  of  $B_1$  and containing a place where a continuation pointer to a neighbouring path can be added or has already been added.

To illustrate the extended CKY-algorithm, one of the more complicated cases of specifying an entry for the cell  $Z_{i,j}$  is added below which dominates most of the other cases in time complexity:

```

....
FOR i:=n TO 1 DO
FOR j:=i TO n DO
FOR k:=i TO j-1 DO
.....
.....
For each rule  $A \rightarrow A_1 f A_2$ :
if  $\langle A_1, f, (B_1, f_1, p_1, q_1), (C_1, f_3, s_1, t_1) \rangle \in Z_{i,k}$ 
for some  $B_1, C_1 \in N, f_1, f_3 \in F$ ,
 $p_1, q_1$  ( $i \leq p_1 \leq q_1 \leq k$ ),  $s_1, t_1$  ( $i \leq p_1 \leq s_1 \leq t_1 \leq k$ )
and  $\langle A_2, f_c, \dots \rangle \in Z_{k+1, j}$  for some  $f_c \in F$ 
then 1. if
 $\langle B_1, f_1, (B_2, f_2, p_2, q_2), X \rangle \in Z_{p_1, q_1}$  for
some  $B_2 \in N, f_2 \in F, p_2, q_2$ 
with  $i \leq p_2 \leq q_2 \leq k$ , and if  $q_1 \leq p_2$ , then
 $X = \dots$ , else  $X = (C, f_t, u, v)$  for some
 $C \in N, f_t \in F, u, v$  ( $p_1 \leq u \leq v \leq q_1$ )
then
 $Z_{i,j} := Z_{i,j} \cup \{ \langle A, f_1, (B_2, f_2, p_2, q_2), (A_2, f_c, k+1, j) \rangle \}$ 
else
if  $\langle B_1, f_1, \dots \rangle \in L_{p_1, q_1}$ 
 $Z_{i,j} := Z_{i,j} \cup \{ \langle A, f_1, (A_2, f_c, k+1, j), (A_2, f_c, k+1, j) \rangle \}$ 
2. if
 $\langle C_1, f_3, \dots \rangle \in L_{s_1, t_1}$ 

```

then

$$Z_{s1,t1} := Z_{s1,t1} \cup \{ \langle C_1, f_3, (A_2 f_c, k+1, j), - \rangle \}$$

The pointer  $(A_2 f_c, k+1, j)$  in the new entry of  $Z_{i,j}$  points to the cell of the node where the end of stack of the newly created node with noterminal A can be found. The same pointer  $(A_2 f_c, k+1, j)$  appears in cell  $Z_{s1,t1}$  as "supplement" in order to indicate where the stack of A is continued behind the end-of-stack of  $A_1$ . Note that supplemented quadruples of a cell  $Z_{i,j}$  are uniquely identifiable by their form  $\langle N, f_1, (C, f_2, r, s), - \rangle$ , i.e. the empty fourth component, and by the relation  $j \leq r \leq s$ . Supplemented quadruples cannot be used as entries for daughters of "active" nodes, i.e. nodes the entries of which are currently being constructed.

Let  $a_1 \dots a_n$  be the input. The number of entries of the form  $\langle B, f_1, (D, f_2, p, q), (C, f_3, r, s) \rangle$  ( $f_1, f_2, f_3 \in F$ ,  $B, C, D \in N$ ,  $1 \leq i, p, q, r, s, j \leq n$ ) in each cell  $Z_{i,j}$  will then be bounded by a polynomial of degree 4, i.e.  $O(n^4)$ . For a fixed value of  $i, j, k$ , steps like the one above may require  $O(n^8)$  time (in some cases  $O(n^{12})$ ). The three initial loops increase the complexity by degree 3.

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