

A grammar is in **Chomsky normal form** if all of its rule have one of the following forms:

1.  $A \rightarrow BC$ , where  $B, C$  are not the start variable.
2.  $A \rightarrow a$ , where  $a$  is any terminal.
3.  $S \rightarrow \epsilon$ .

**Theorem** Any context free grammar is equivalent to a grammar in Chomsky normal form.

1. Let  $G$  be a grammar in Chomsky normal form. Prove that if  $w \in \Sigma^*$  can be generated by  $G$  and  $|w| = n$ , then it takes exactly  $2n - 1$  steps to generate  $w$  using  $G$ .

2. Consider the following grammar which is in Chomsky normal form.

$$\begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow AR \quad S \rightarrow a \quad S \rightarrow \epsilon \\ R \rightarrow BT \quad R \rightarrow b \quad A \rightarrow a \quad B \rightarrow b \\ T \rightarrow CD \quad T \rightarrow c \quad C \rightarrow c \quad D \rightarrow d \end{array}$$

Fill in the following table by listing all variables from  $V = \{S, A, B, C, D, R, T\}$  that can generate each string. For example,  $c$  can be generated by both  $C$  and  $T$ .

a:	ab:	abc:	abcd:
b:	bc:	bcd:	
c: C, T	cd:		
d:			

3. Let  $w \in \Sigma^*$  with  $|w| = n$ . How many (contiguous) substrings can  $w$  have? Hint: think about the number of substrings of length 1, then length 2, etc. It might help to think about a simple example like  $w = abcde$ .

4. The following algorithm uses dynamic programming to decide whether a string  $w$  can be generated by a grammar in Chomsky normal form. The idea is to create a table to record variables that can generate substrings of  $w$  and use it to decide if  $w$  can be generated.

```
# Build a table to track which substrings can be generated.
for substring of w:
  for k from 0 to length(w):
    left_substring = substring[0:k]
    right_substring = substring[k+1:end]
    for "A -> BC" in rules:
      if B in Table[left_substring] and C in Table[right_substring]:
        add A to Table[substring]

# Then check if w can be generated.
if Table[w] is not empty:
  return True
else:
  return False
```

What is the running time (in big-O notation) for this algorithm to decide if a string  $w$  with length  $n$  can be generated by a grammar in Chomsky normal form?