Formal Languages Formal Grammars Regular Languages Formal complexity of Natural Languages References

Formal Languages and Linguistics

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Mathematical concepts:

Alphabet

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How to define a language ?

Extensionaly

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 - Outcome of a series of set operations

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 - By means of a formal grammar
 - By means of a (Turing) machine
 - . . .

Formal grammars

rewriting systems

$$\alpha\beta\gamma\longrightarrow\alpha\beta'\gamma$$
 iff the production rule $\beta\to\beta'$ is in the grammar

where $\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \beta'$ are arbitrary sequences of terminal and non terminal letters.

 engendered language : set of all (terminal) words derived from the axiom

$$\mathcal{G}: E \to E + E; E \to 1 \mid 2 \mid 3$$

 $\mathcal{L}_{\mathcal{G}} = \{1; 2; 3; 1 + 1; 1 + 2; 1 + 1 + 1; \ldots\}$