

# Introduction Lindenmayer Systems

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# Outline

- What is a L-System
- Types of L systems
- What is a Language (in terms of L systems)
- Drawing Fractals
- Trees

# What is a Lindenmayer system

- System having the structure  $G = \langle \Sigma, h, \omega \rangle$
- $\Sigma$  an alphabet
  - an atomic set of symbols example:  $\{a,b,c\}$ ,  $\{1,2,3\}$
  - $\Sigma^*$  a set of all words over an alphabet  $\Sigma$
- $h$  a set of homomorphic production rules
  - Of form  $h: \Sigma \rightarrow \Sigma^*$
  - Example  $\Sigma = \{a\}$ ,  $h(a) = a^2$
- $\omega$  an axiom (an initial word)
  - Example  $\omega = ab$

# DOL

- Simplest type of system  $G = \langle \Sigma, h, \omega \rangle$
- D: Deterministic
- 0: Rewriting that takes place is context-free
- L: Lindenmayer System
- Example
  - $G = (\{a,b\}, \{h(a)=a, h(b)=ab\}, ab)$

# Words and Languages

- The language is constructed by:
  - Denote  $h^i$  as the  $i^{\text{th}}$  production rule
  - $h^2 = h \circ h$
  - $L(G) = \{\omega, h(\omega), h^2(\omega), h^3(\omega), \dots\}$
  - $L(G) = \{h^i(\omega) \mid i \geq 0\}$ , where  $h^0(\omega) = \omega$
- $E(G)$  is the word sequence generated by the (same as the language at the  $i^{\text{th}}$  step)

# Language Equivalence

- We say that languages are equivalent that is  $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$  iff the branching structures generated by them are isomorphic.
- Does not imply the sequences are equivalent.
- Example:

$$G_1 = \langle \{a, b\}, \{a \rightarrow b^2, b \rightarrow a\}, b \rangle$$

$$G_2 = \langle \{a, b\}, \{a \rightarrow b, b \rightarrow a^2\}, a \rangle$$

$$L(G_1) = L(G_2)$$

# OL

- All the rules of D0L  $G = \langle \Sigma, h, \omega \rangle$
- Remove D for deterministic
- Difference is in production rules

- Example:

$$G = (\{a\}, \{a \rightarrow a, a \rightarrow a^2\}, a)$$

# EOL

- Form:  $G = \langle \Sigma, h, S, \Delta \rangle$
- Known as the Extension to 0L
- Allows for use of symbols not in the final form
- $S$  Axiom (may contain aux symbols)
- $\Delta$  Target alphabet (no aux symbols)



# Lindenmayer Systems

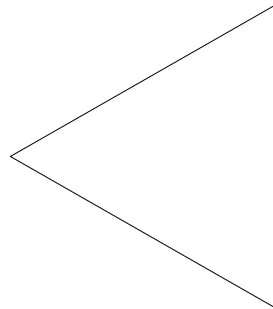
- Also referred to as L systems
- D0L
- 0L
- E0L
- C0L
- DT0L
- EDT0L
- \*1L
- .... (there are many)

# Tree drawing and fractals

- So far we've considered term rewriting as symbols, consider the following:

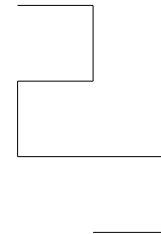


- Axiom:

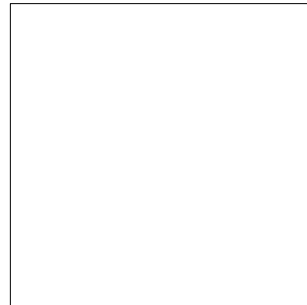


# Koch curve

*h*:

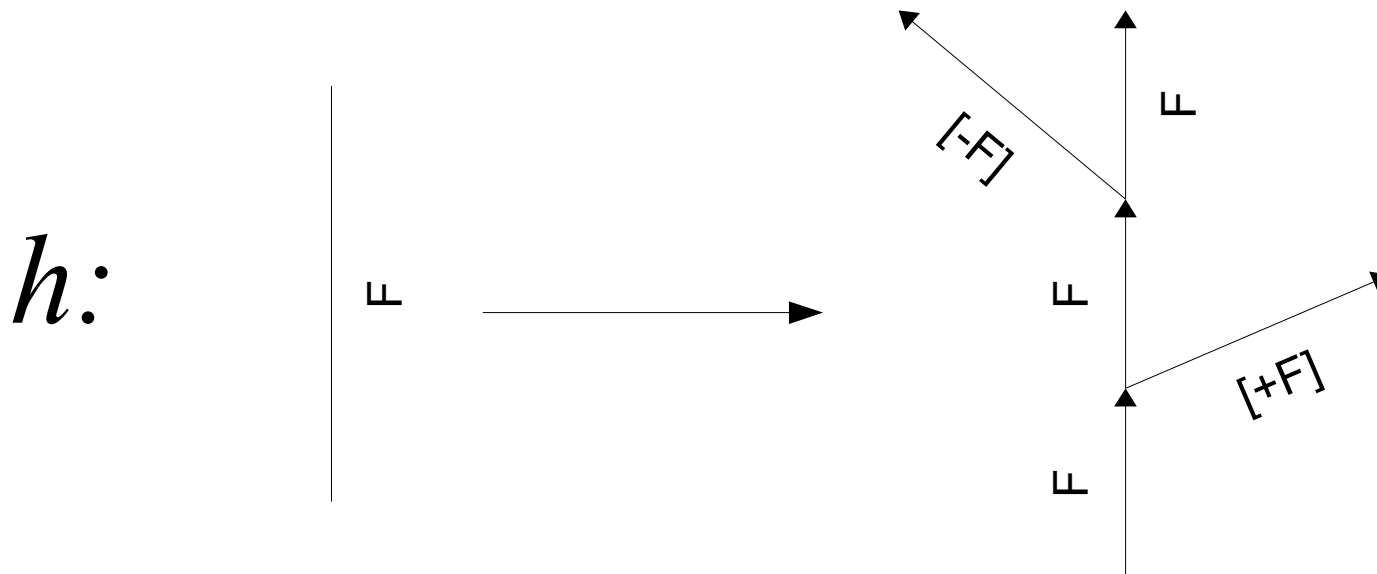


**Axiom:**

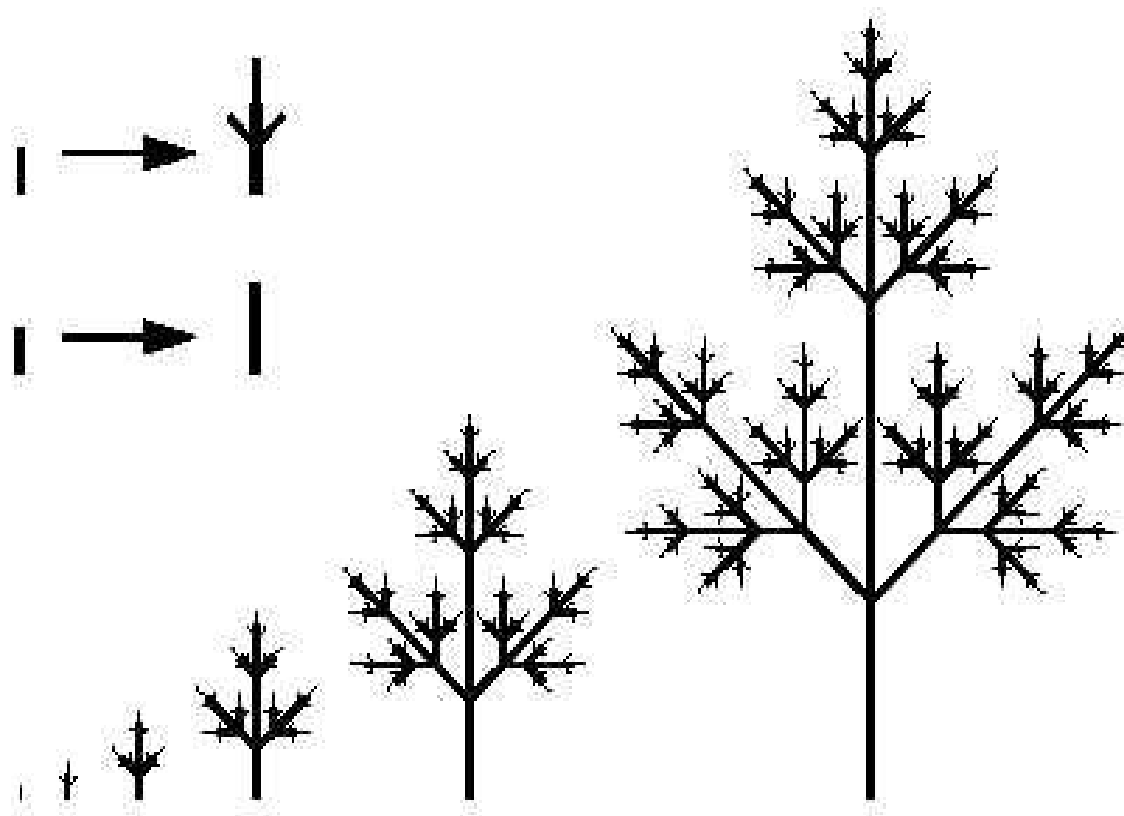


# Growing trees

- Bracketed L-Systems
- Add brackets as a form of denoting branching structure.
- We can draw trees!



# Further Examples



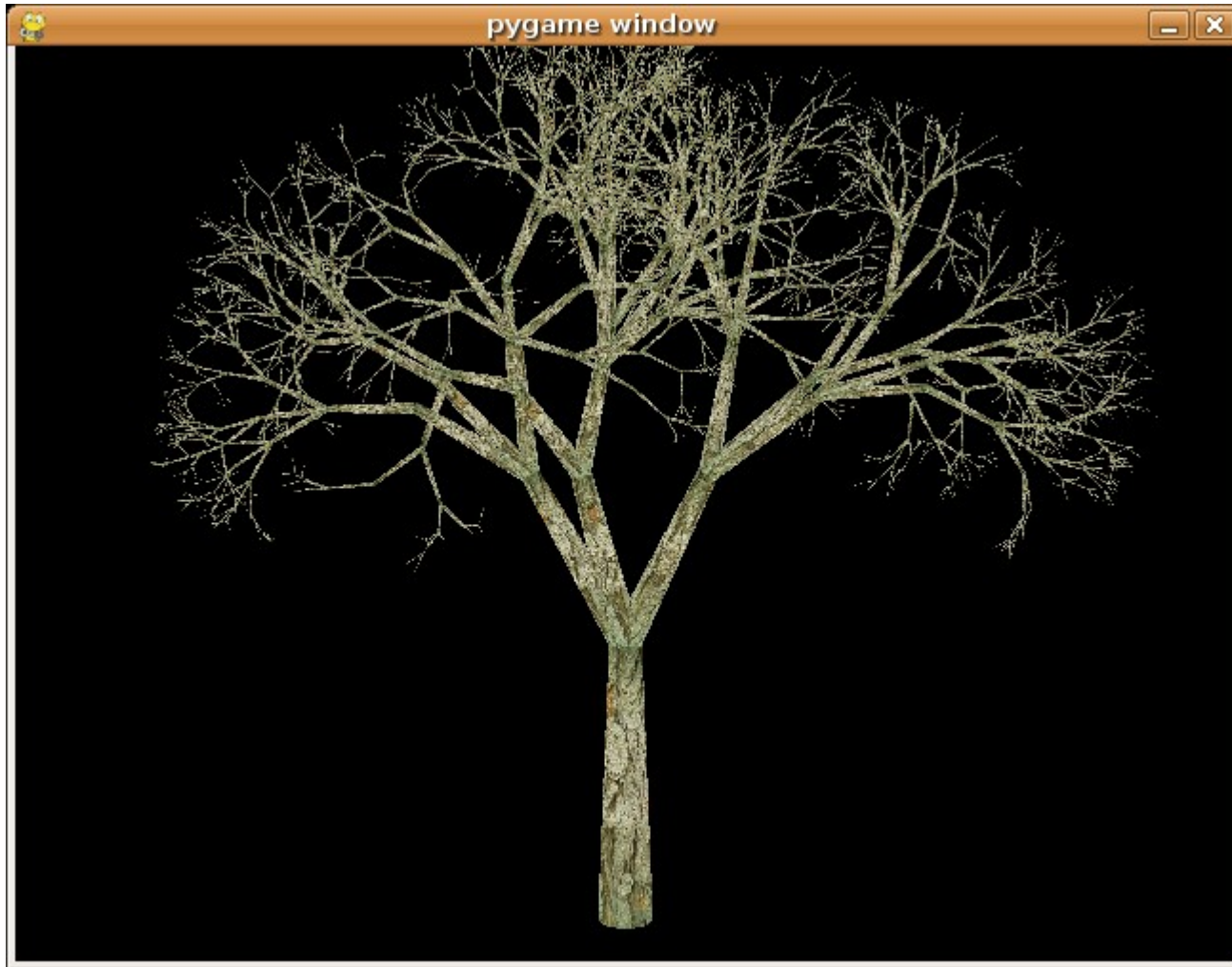
# Further Examples



# Further Examples



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# Further Examples



# References

- Rozenberg & Salomaa (1980): The mathematical theory of L systems
- Prusinkiewicz & Hanan (1989): Lecture notes in biomathematics v. 79
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