

# FLT: Characterization of some classes of languages and automata

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# Chomsky grammar

$$G = (A, T, S, R)$$

$A$  alphabet,  $T \subset A$  terminal <sup>1</sup> alphabet ( $N = A \setminus T$ ),  $S \in N$   
starting symbol,  $R$  binary relation on  $A^*$ .

Namely, if  $(\alpha, \beta) \in R$ , then  $\alpha \notin T^*$ , and we denote it  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ .

One-step rewriting:  $\phi \Rightarrow_G \psi$ , if  $\phi = x\alpha y$ ,  $\psi = x\beta y$ ,  $(\alpha, \beta) \in R$

Multiple-steps rewriting <sup>2</sup> (transitive closure):  $\phi \Rightarrow_G^* \psi$ , if

$\exists \phi_1, \phi_2, \dots, \phi_n$  such that  $\phi = \phi_1$ ,  $\psi = \phi_n$ , and  $\phi_i \Rightarrow_G \phi_{i+1} \forall i$

$$L(G) = \{\beta \mid \beta \in T^*, S \Rightarrow_G^* \beta\}$$

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<sup>1</sup>halt criterion

<sup>2</sup>Conventional rewriting systems are non-deterministically sequential.

Unconventional ways to apply these rules: probabilistic, by priority relation,  
(maximal, conditioned) parallel.

# Examples

$\{S \rightarrow a, S \rightarrow aS\}$  generates monosomatic language

$\{S \rightarrow ab, S \rightarrow aSb\}$  generates bisomatic language

$\{S \rightarrow aS, S \rightarrow Sb, S \rightarrow \lambda\}$  generates bipartite language

$\{S \rightarrow abc, S \rightarrow aSBc, cB \rightarrow Bc, bB \rightarrow bb\}$  generates trisomatic language

$\{S \rightarrow abc, S \rightarrow aaBbc, Bb \rightarrow bbC, Cb \rightarrow bC, Cc \rightarrow cc, Cc \rightarrow Dcc, bD \rightarrow Db, aD \rightarrow aaB\}$  .. homework

## Four types of grammars/languages

**Type 0:**  $\alpha \in A^*NA^*$  (general form)

**Type 1:** (type 0 AND)  $|\alpha| \leq |\beta|$  (monotonic form)

**Type 2:** (type 1 AND)  $|\alpha| = 1$  (context-free form)

**Type 3:** (type 2 AND)  $\beta \in T \cup TN$  (regular form).

For  $i=0,1,2,3$ , a grammar is of type  $i$  if all its rules are of type  $i$ .

$\mathcal{L}_i$  is the class of languages generated by grammars of type  $i$ .

A language  $L$  is of type  $i$  if  $L \in \mathcal{L}_i \setminus \mathcal{L}_{i-1}$ .

By definition,  $\mathcal{L}_3 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_0$ . With strict inclusions, this is the Chomsky hierarchy.

# Bottom and top of the Chomsky hierarchy

Definition:  $FIN$  is the class of finite languages.

Since  $a^*$  is an infinite regular language (see grammar  $S \rightarrow a$  and  $S \rightarrow aS$ ), then  $\{a\}^* \in \mathcal{L}_3 \setminus FIN$ , and we have proved that  $FIN \subset REG$ .

Def: a language is infinite, if in its grammar there exists an *autoduplicating rule*:  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  with  $X \in N$  such that  $X$  occurs both in  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . In formal terms:  $\exists X \in N$  and  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , such that  $\alpha = \gamma X \delta$  and  $\beta = \eta X \epsilon$  for some  $\gamma, \delta, \eta, \epsilon \in A^*$ .

Remark:  $|\mathcal{P}(A^*)| > |\mathcal{L}_0|$ . Here we notice  $RE \subset \mathcal{P}(A^*)$ . We will see a language outside RE, in the proof of Post theorem.

# Regular languages: REG

REG is defined as  $Close(A, ;+, \star)$ .

Theorem (Kleene):  $REG = \mathcal{L}_3$

Theorem:  $\mathcal{L}_3 = L(FSA)$ , where  $L(FSA) = \{\alpha \mid q_0\alpha \Rightarrow_M^* q_f, q_f \in F\}$ .

Proof:  $REG \subseteq L(FSA)$  easy (by def of REG). Viceversa, it is evident by comparing FSA transitions and grammars of type 3.

Then, FSA recognize all and only regular languages.

$DFSA \equiv NDFSA$ , FSA are equivalent to  $\lambda$ -transition FSA, and to one-final-state FSA.

Remark:  $\mathcal{L}_3$  is closed by  $\star$ , by union, by complement, by intersection (to prove, homework).

## Examples of regular patterns

Examples of regular languages: strings over  $\{a, b, c\}$  starting with  $b$  and ending not with  $a$ :  $xyz$ , where  $x=b$ ,  $y \in \{a, b, c\}^*$ ,  $z \in \{b, c\}$ , or strings starting with  $a$ , followed by an arbitrary number of  $b$ s and ending with the string  $bab$  or  $aba$ :  
 $ab^*(bab + aba)$ .

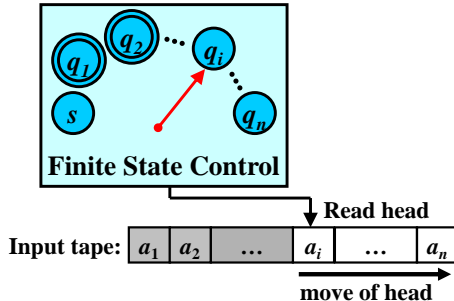
$$a^*(b + c)c^4$$

$$a^*bbc^*$$

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## Finite Automata (FA)

**Gist: The simplest model of computation based on a finite set of states and computational rules.**



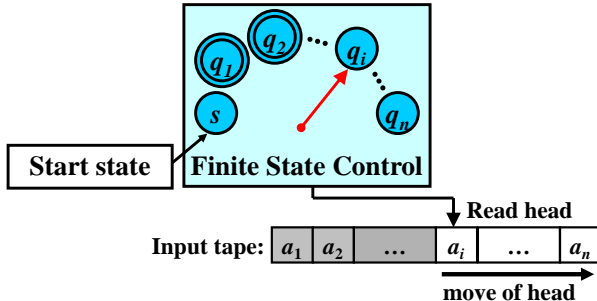
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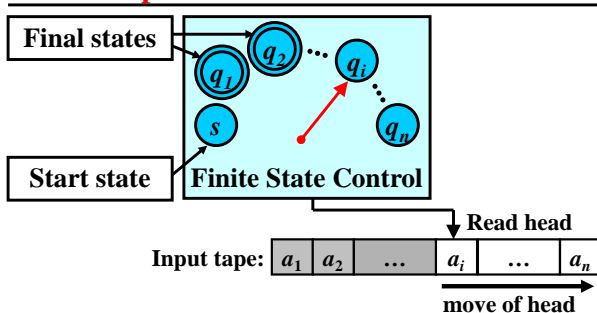


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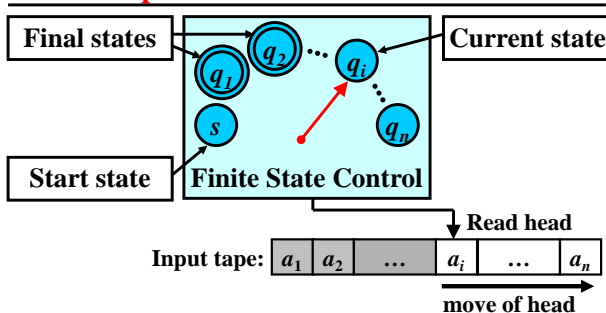


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## Finite Automata: Definition

**Definition:** A *finite automaton* (FA) is a 5-tuple:

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F), \text{ where}$$


- $Q$  is a *finite set of states*
- $\Sigma$  is an *input alphabet*
- $R$  is a *finite set of rules* of the form:  $pa \rightarrow q$ ,  
where  $p, q \in Q, a \in \Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$
- $s \in Q$  is the *start state*
- $F \subseteq Q$  is a set of *final states*

**Mathematical note on rules:**

- Strictly mathematically,  $R$  is a relation from  $Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\})$  to  $Q$
- Instead of  $(pa, q)$ , however, we write the rule as  $pa \rightarrow q$

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- $pa \rightarrow q$  means that with  $a$ ,  $M$  can move from  $p$  to  $q$
- if  $a = \varepsilon$ , no symbol is read


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## Graphical Representation

 denotes a state  $q \in Q$

 denotes the start state  $s \in Q$

 denotes a final state  $f \in F$

  $\xrightarrow{a}$   denotes  $pa \rightarrow q \in R$

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## Graphical Representation: Example

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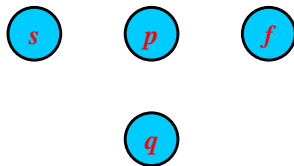
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## Graphical Representation: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ ,

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;



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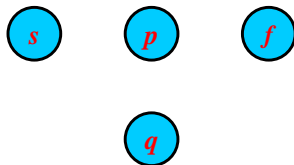
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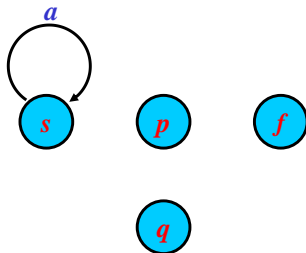
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## Graphical Representation: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ ,

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
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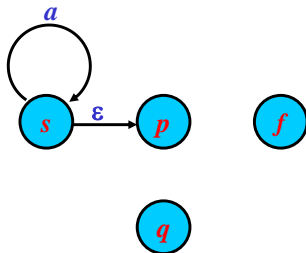
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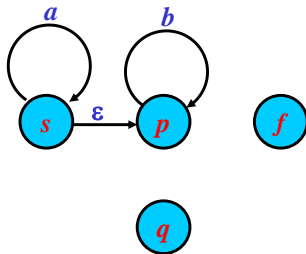
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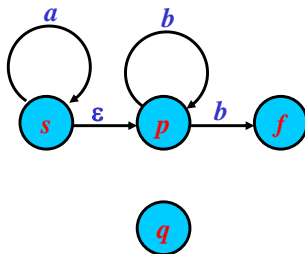
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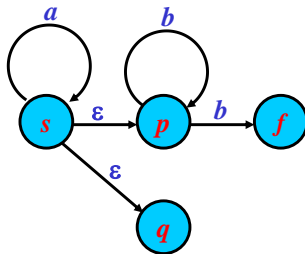
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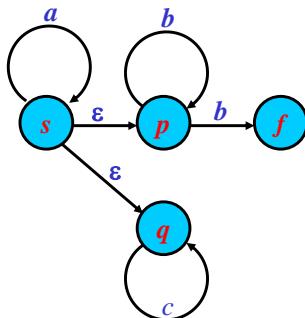
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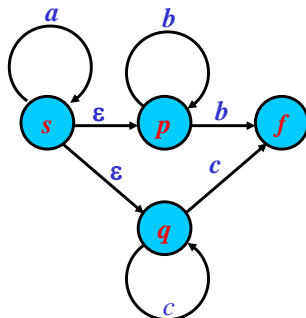
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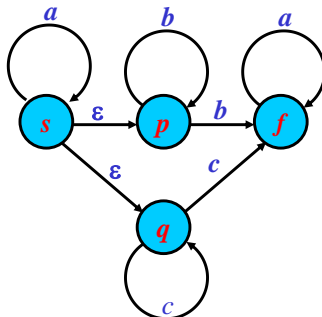
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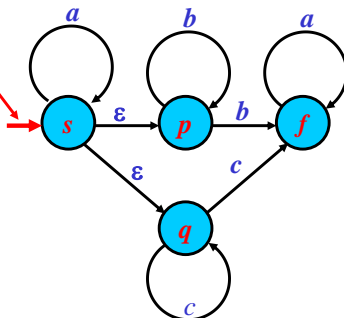
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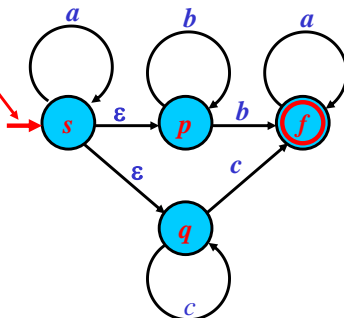
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- $F = \{f\}$



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## Accepted Language

**Gist:**  $M$  accepts  $w$  if it can completely read  $w$   
by a sequence of moves from  $s$  to a  
final state

**Definition:** Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$  be a FA.  
The *language accepted by  $M$* ,  $L(M)$ , is defined  
as:

$$L(M) = \{w: w \in \Sigma^*, sw \xrightarrow{*} f, f \in F\}$$

$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ :

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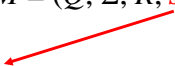
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$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ :

$$s \underbrace{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n}_w \mid \rightarrow q_1 a_2 \dots a_n \mid \dots \mid \rightarrow q_{n-1} a_n \mid \rightarrow q_n$$

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$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ :

if  $q_n \in F$  then  $w \in L(M)$ ;  
otherwise,  $w \notin L(M)$

$s \underbrace{a_1 a_2 \dots a_n}_w \mid - q_1 a_2 \dots a_n \mid - \dots \mid - q_{n-1} a_n \mid - q_n$

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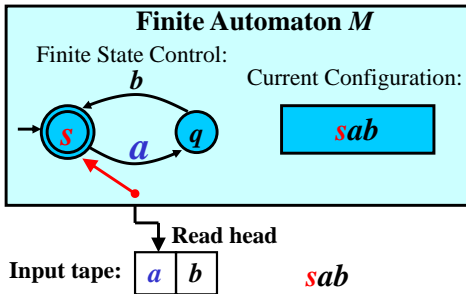
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## FA: Example 1/3

$M = (Q, \Sigma, R, s, F)$ , where:

$Q = \{s, q\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ,  $R = \{sa \rightarrow q, qb \rightarrow s\}$ ,  $F = \{s\}$

**Question:**  $ab \in L(M)$  ?



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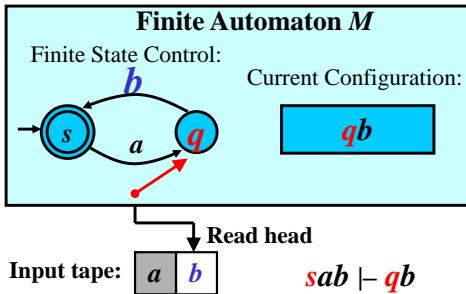
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## FA: Example 2/3

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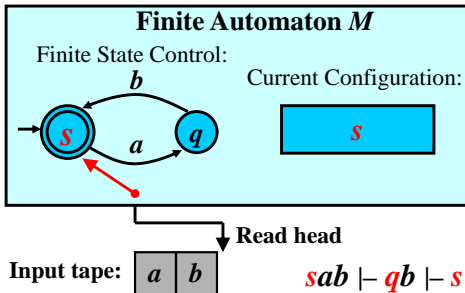
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## FA: Example 3/3

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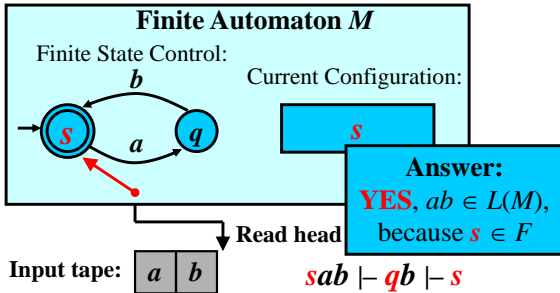
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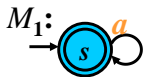
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## Equivalent Models

**Definition:** Two models for languages, such as FAs, are equivalent if they both specify the same language.

**Example:**



**Question:** Is  $M_1$  equivalent to  $M_2$  ?

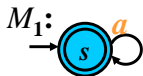
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**Example:**



**Question:** Is  $M_1$  equivalent to  $M_2$  ?


**Answer:**  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  are equivalent because  
 $L(M_1) = L(M_2) = \{a^n : n \geq 0\}$

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## Closure properties 1/2

**Definition:** The family of regular languages is closed under an operation  $\circ$  if the language resulting from the application of  $\circ$  to **any** regular languages is also regular.

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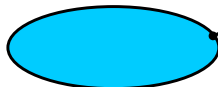
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## Closure properties 1/2


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**Illustration:**

- The family of regular languages is closed under *union*.  
It means:



The family of  
regular languages

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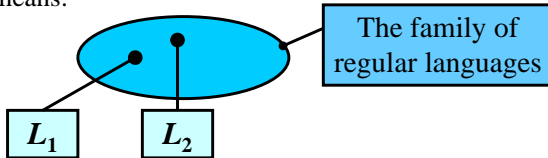
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## Closure properties 1/2

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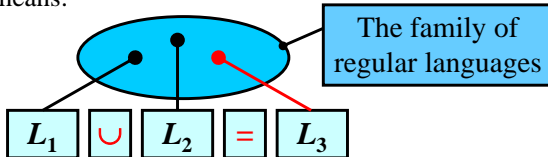
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## Closure properties 1/2

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## Closure properties 2/2

**Theorem:** The family of regular languages is closed under **union, concatenation, iteration.**

### Proof:

- Let  $L_1, L_2$  be two **regular languages**
- Then, there exist two REs  $r_1, r_2$ :  $L(r_1) = L_1, L(r_2) = L_2$ ;
- By the definition of regular expressions:
  - $r_1.r_2$  is a RE denoting  $L_1L_2$
  - $r_1 + r_2$  is a RE denoting  $L_1 \cup L_2$
  - $r_1^*$  is a RE denoting  $L_1^*$
- Every RE denotes regular language, so  
 $L_1L_2, L_1 \cup L_2, L_1^*$  are a **regular languages**

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## Closure properties: Complement

Theorem: the family of regular languages is closed under complement.

Proof: Let  $L$  be a regular language. Then, there exists a complete DFA  $M$ :  $L(M) = L$ .

We can construct a complete DFA  $M'$  (having as final states the complement of the final states of  $M$ ) s.t.  $L(M') = \bar{L}$

Every FA defines a regular language, so the complement of  $L$  is a regular language.


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## Closure properties: Intersection

**Theorem:** The family of regular languages is closed under **intersection**.

### Proof:

- Let  $L_1, L_2$  be two **regular languages**
- $\overline{L_1}, \overline{L_2}$  are **regular languages**  
(the family of regular languages is closed under complement)
- $\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}$  is a **regular language**  
(the family of regular languages is closed under union)
- $\overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$  is a **regular language**  
(the family of regular languages is closed under complement)
- $L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$  is a **regular language** (DeMorgan's law)

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## Boolean Algebra of Languages

**Definition:** Let a family of languages be closed under union, intersection, and complement. Then, this family represents a *Boolean algebra of languages*.

**Theorem:** The family of regular languages is a Boolean algebra of languages.

**Proof:**

- The family of regular languages is closed under union, intersection, and complement.

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# Pumping Lemma

By definition,  $CF = \mathcal{L}_2$  and  $CS = \mathcal{L}_1$ .

**Pumping Lemma** Let  $L$  be an *infinite* CF language,  $\exists$  two numbers  $q \leq p$ , such that,  $\forall \alpha \in L$  with  $|\alpha| \geq p$ ,  $\exists u, v, w, x, y$ ,  $vx \neq \lambda$ ,  $|vwx| \leq q$  such that  $\alpha = uvwxy$  and  $\forall i, uv^iwx^iy \in L$ .

$v$  and  $x$  are said *ancillaries*. Proof by the application of a free-context autoreplicative rule.

This lemma characterizes CF languages, and allows us to show that  $REG \subset CF \subset CS$ . Examples of this string inclusions are the bisomatic and trisomatic languages.

For any  $a^n b^n$ ,  $\exists q \leq p$  even and different than zero, such that,  $2n \geq p$ ,  $w = \lambda$ ,  $u = a^{\frac{2n-q}{2}}$ ,  $v = a^{\frac{q}{2}}$ ,  $x = b^{\frac{q}{2}}$ ,  $y = b^{\frac{2n-q}{2}}$

# Bisomatic is a context free and non-regular language

$$a^n b^n \in CF \setminus REG$$

By contradiction, let us assume  $M$  to be a *deterministic* FSA recognizing  $a^n b^n$ .  $\exists n \neq m$  such that both  $a^n$  and  $a^m$  end up in one same state, then  $a^n b^n$  and  $a^m b^n$  end up in the same final state.

Pigeon(hole) principle (“dei cassetti”): if  $n$  items are put into  $m$  containers, with  $n > m$ , then at least one container must contain more than one item.

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## Pumping Lemma for CFL

- Let  $L$  be CFL. Then, there exists  $k \geq 1$  such that:  
**if**  $z \in L$  and  $|z| \geq k$  **then** there exist  $u, v, w, x, y$  so  
 $z = uvwxy$  and  
**1)**  $vx \neq \varepsilon$  **2)**  $|vwx| \leq k$  **3)** for each  $m \geq 0$ ,  $uv^mwx^my \in L$

### Example:

$G = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b, c\}, \{S \rightarrow aAa, A \rightarrow bAb, A \rightarrow c\}, S)$   
 generate  $L(G) = \{ab^n cb^n a : n \geq 0\}$ , so  $L(G)$  is CFL.

There is  $k = 5$  such that **1)**, **2)** and **3)** holds:

- for  $z = \mathbf{abcba}$ :  $z \in L(G)$  and  $|z| \geq 5$ :
 

$\begin{array}{c} \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \downarrow \\ uvwxy \end{array}$	$uv^0wx^0y = ab^0cb^0a = aca \in L(G)$
	$uv^1wx^1y = ab^1cb^1a = abcba \in L(G)$
$vx = bb \neq \varepsilon$ $ vwx  = 3: 1 \leq 3 \leq 5$	$uv^2wx^2y = ab^2cb^2a = abbcbbba \in L(G)$
	$\vdots$
- for  $z = \mathbf{abbcbbba}$ :  $z \in L(G)$  and  $|z| \geq 5$ :  
 $\vdots$

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## Pumping Lemma: Illustration

- $L =$  any context-free language:

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## Pumping Lemma: Illustration

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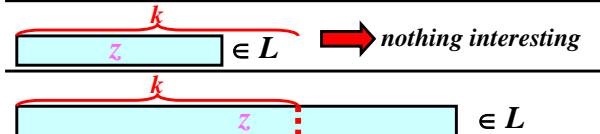


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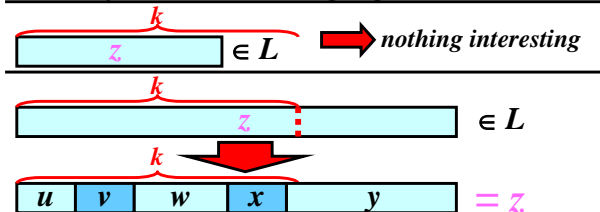


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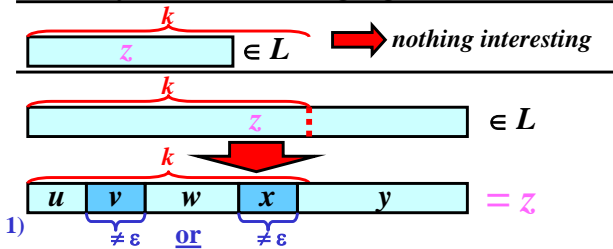


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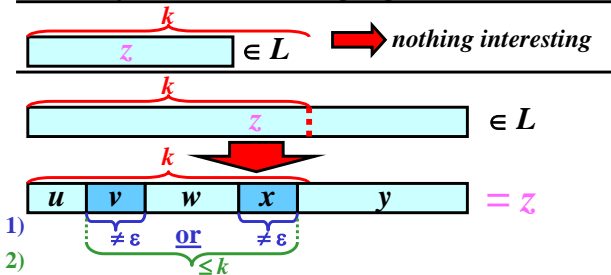


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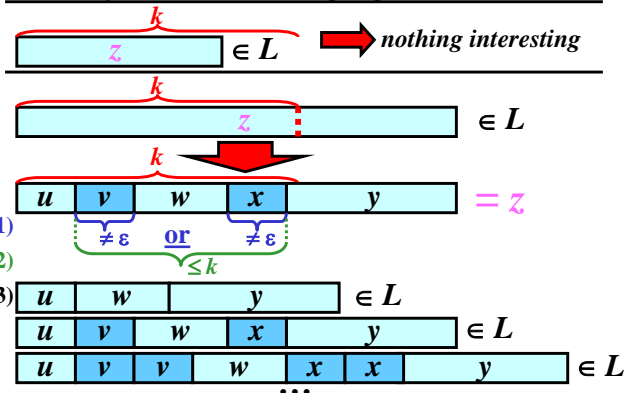


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## Pumping Lemma: Application

- Based on the pumping lemma for CFL, we often make a proof by contradiction to demonstrate that a language is **not** a CFL.

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Assume that  $L$  is a CFL.

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## Pumping Lemma: Application

- Based on the pumping lemma for CFL, we often make a proof by contradiction to demonstrate that a language is **not** a CFL.

Assume that  $L$  is a CFL.

Consider the PL constant  $k$  and select  $z \in L$ , whose length depends on  $k$  so  $|z| \geq k$  is surely true.

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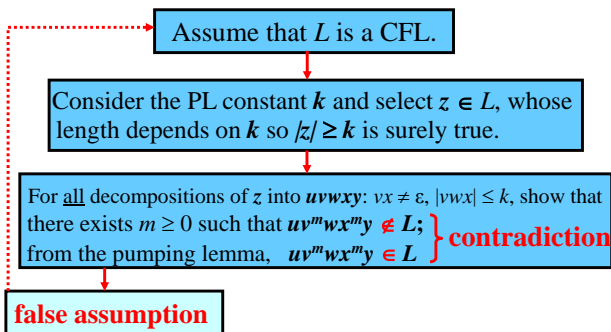
For all decompositions of  $z$  into  $uvwxy$ :  $vx \neq \varepsilon$ ,  $|vwx| \leq k$ , show that there exists  $m \geq 0$  such that  $uv^mwx^my \notin L$ ; } **contradiction**  
from the pumping lemma,  $uv^mwx^my \in L$

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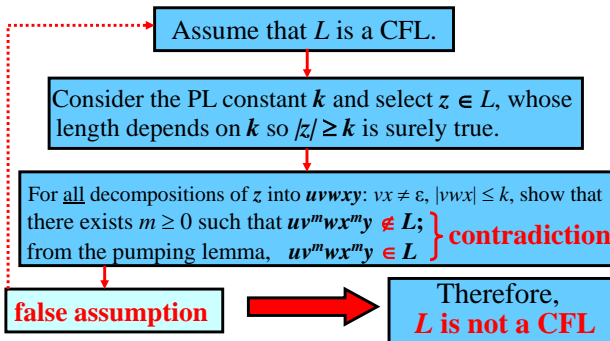


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## Pumping Lemma: Example 1/2

Prove that  $L = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 1\}$  is not CFL.

- 1) Assume that  $L$  is a CFL. Let  $k \geq 1$  be the pumping lemma constant for  $L$ .
- 2) Let  $z = a^k b^k c^k : a^k b^k c^k \in L$ ,  $|z| = |a^k b^k c^k| = 3k \geq k$
- 3) All decompositions of  $z$  into  $uvwxy$ ;  $vx \neq \varepsilon$ ,  $|vwx| \leq k$ :

$\overbrace{aaaaa \dots a}^k \overbrace{bb \dots bb}^k \overbrace{cc \dots cc}^k$   
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{a) } vwx \in \{a\}^* \{b\}^*, vx \neq \varepsilon}$ 
 $\underbrace{\hspace{10em}}_{\text{b) } vwx \in \{b\}^* \{c\}^*, vx \neq \varepsilon}$

**a)**  $vwx \in \{a\}^* \{b\}^*$ ,  
 $vx \neq \varepsilon$

**b)**  $vwx \in \{b\}^* \{c\}^*$ ,  
 $vx \neq \varepsilon$

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## Pumping Lemma: Example 2/2

a)  $vw x \in \{a\}^* \{b\}^*$ :

• Pumping lemma:

$$uv^0wx^0y \in L$$

•  $uv^0wx^0y = uwy = \underbrace{a}_{u} \underbrace{a \dots aabb \dots b}_{w} \underbrace{bcc \dots cc}_{y} \notin L$

**Note:**  $uwy$  contains  $k$   $cs$ , but fewer than  $k$   $as$  or  $bs$ .

b)  $vw x \in \{b\}^* \{c\}^*$ :

• Pumping lemma:

$$uv^0wx^0y \in L$$

•  $uv^0wx^0y = uwy = \underbrace{aa \dots aab}_{u} \underbrace{b \dots bbcc \dots c}_{w} \underbrace{c}_{y} \notin L$

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**All these decompositions lead to a contradiction!**

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## Pumping Lemma: Example 2/2

a)  $vw^kx \in \{a\}^* \{b\}^*$ :

• Pumping lemma:

$$uv^0wx^0y \in L$$

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**All these decompositions lead to a contradiction!**

4) Therefore,  $L$  is not a CFL.


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## Closure properties of CFL

**Definition:** The family of CFLs is closed under an operation  $\circ$  if the language resulting from the application of  $\circ$  to **any** CFLs is a CFL as well.

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### Illustration:

- The family of CF languages is closed under *union*.  
It means:



The family of CF languages

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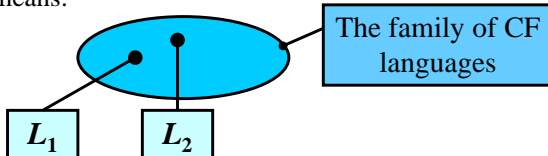
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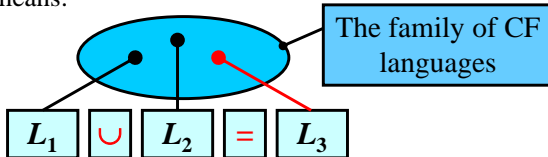
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## Closure properties

**Theorem:** The family of CFLs is closed under  
**union, concatenation, iteration.**

### Proof:

- Let  $L_1, L_2$  be two CFLs.
- Then, there exist two CFGs  $G_1, G_2$  such that  
 $L(G_1) = L_1, L(G_2) = L_2$ ;
- Construct grammars
  - $G_u$  such that  $L(G_u) = L(G_1) \cup L(G_2)$
  - $G_c$  such that  $L(G_c) = L(G_1) \cdot L(G_2)$
  - $G_i$  such that  $L(G_i) = L(G_1)^*$by using the previous three algorithms
- Every CFG denotes CFL, so
- $L_1 L_2, L_1 \cup L_2, L_1^*$  are CFLs.

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## Intersection: Not Closed


**Theorem:** The family of CFLs is **not** closed under **intersection**.

**Proof:**

• The intersection of some CFLs is not a CFL:

- $L_1 = \{a^m b^n c^n : m, n \geq 1\}$  is a CFL
- $L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^m : m, n \geq 1\}$  is a CFL
- $L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 1\}$  is not a CFL

(proof based on the pumping lemma) *QED*

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## Complement: Not Closed

**Theorem:** The family of CFLs is **not** closed under **complement**.

### Proof by contradiction:

- Assume that family of CFLs is closed under complement.
- $L_1 = \{a^m b^n c^n : m, n \geq 1\}$  is a CFL
- $L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^m : m, n \geq 1\}$  is a CFL
- $\overline{L_1}, \overline{L_2}$  are CFLs
- $\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}$  is a CFL (the family of CFLs is closed under union)
- $\overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$  is a CFL (assumption)
- DeMorgan's law implies  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 1\}$  is a CFL
- $\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 1\}$  is not a CFL  $\Rightarrow$  **Contradiction**

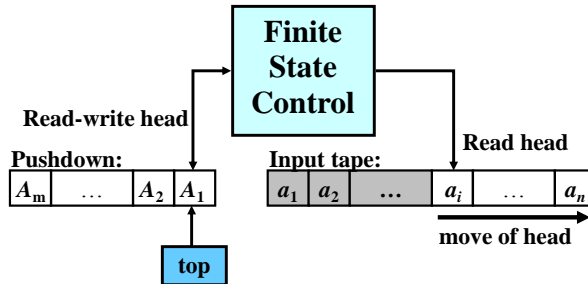
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## Pushdown Automata (PDA)

**Gist: An FA extended by a pushdown store.**



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## Pushdown Automata: Definition

**Definition:** A *pushdown automaton* (PDA) is a 7-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$ , where

- $Q$  is a *finite set of states*
- $\Sigma$  is an *input alphabet*
- $\Gamma$  is a *pushdown alphabet*
- $R$  is a *finite set of rules* of the form:  $Apa \rightarrow wq$   
where  $A \in \Gamma, p, q \in Q, a \in \Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}, w \in \Gamma^*$
- $s \in Q$  is the *start state*
- $S \in \Gamma$  is the *start pushdown symbol*
- $F \subseteq Q$  is a set of *final states*

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## Notes on PDA Rules

### Mathematical note on rules:

- Strictly mathematically,  $R$  is a finite relation from  $\Gamma \times Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\})$  to  $\Gamma^* \times Q$
  - Instead of  $(Apa, wq) \in R$ , however, we write  $Apa \rightarrow wq \in R$
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- **Interpretation of  $Apa \rightarrow wq$ :** if the current state is  $p$ , current input symbol is  $a$ , and the topmost symbol on the pushdown is  $A$ , then  $M$  can read  $a$ , replace  $A$  with  $w$  and change state  $p$  to  $q$ .
- **Note:** if  $a = \varepsilon$ , no symbol is read


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## Graphical Representation

 represents  $q \in Q$

 represents the initial state  $s \in Q$

 represents a final state  $f \in F$

  $\xrightarrow{A/w, a}$   denotes  $Ap a \rightarrow wq \in R$

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## Graphical Representation: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

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## Graphical Representation: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;



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$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

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- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;



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$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;
- $\Gamma = \{a, S\}$ ;



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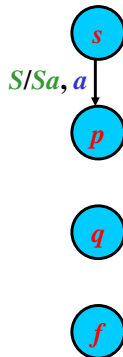
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## Graphical Representation: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;
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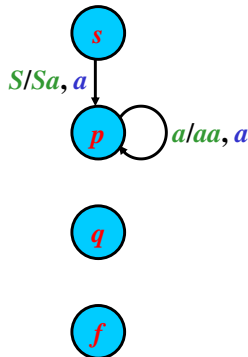
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## Graphical Representation: Example

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where:

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- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;
- $\Gamma = \{a, S\}$ ;
- $R = \{Ssa \rightarrow Sap, \quad apa \rightarrow aap\}$



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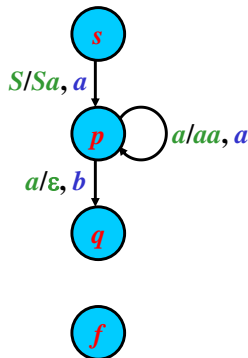
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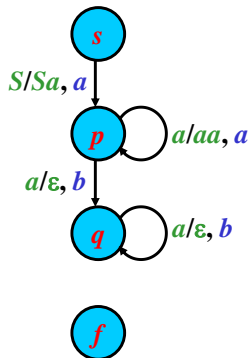
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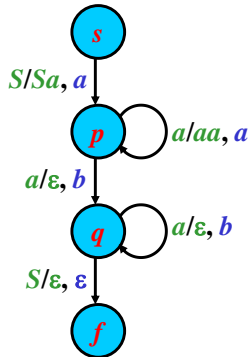
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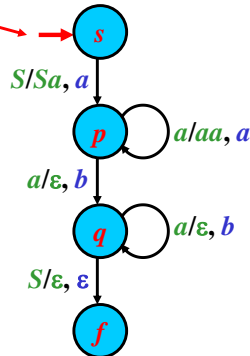
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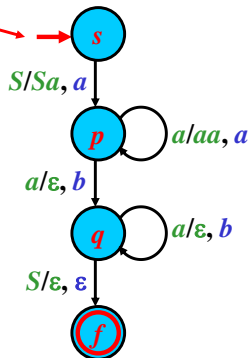
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 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
 $aqb \rightarrow q,$   
 $Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$



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## Accepted Language: Three Types

**Definition:** Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$  be a PDA.

1) The language that  $M$  accepts *by final state*,

denoted by  $L(M)_f$ , is defined as

$$L(M)_f = \{w: w \in \Sigma^*, Ssw \vdash^* zf, z \in \Gamma^*, f \in F\}$$

2) The language that  $M$  accepts *by empty pushdown*,

denoted by  $L(M)_\epsilon$ , is defined as

$$L(M)_\epsilon = \{w: w \in \Sigma^*, Ssw \vdash^* zf, z = \epsilon, f \in Q\}$$

3) The language that  $M$  accepts *by final state and empty pushdown*, denoted by  $L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ , is defined as

$$L(M)_{f\epsilon} = \{w: w \in \Sigma^*, Ssw \vdash^* zf, z = \epsilon, f \in F\}$$



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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;
- $\Gamma = \{a, S\}$ ;
- $R = \{Ssa \rightarrow Sap,$   
 $apa \rightarrow aap,$   
 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
 $aqb \rightarrow q,$   
 $Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$

$Ssaabb$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Courtesy of Alex Meduna (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic) from his book *Formal Languages and Computation: Models and Their Applications* (2014)

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ ;
- $\Gamma = \{a, S\}$ ;
- $R = \{Ssa \rightarrow Sap, \quad \text{apa} \rightarrow aap, \quad \text{apb} \rightarrow q, \quad \text{aqb} \rightarrow q, \quad Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$

$Ssaabb \vdash Sapabb$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?

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## PDA: Example

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 $apa \rightarrow aap,$   
 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
 $aqb \rightarrow q,$   
 $Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{fc}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

$S$   $a$   $p$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

$S$   $a$   $a$   $p$   $b$   $b$

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb$

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

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- $F = \{f\}$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{fc}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

$S$   $a$   $p$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

$S$   $a$   $a$   $p$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $a$   $q$   $b$

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqb$

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

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Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

$S$   $a$   $p$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

$S$   $a$   $a$   $p$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $a$   $q$   $b$

Rule:  $aqb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $q$   $\parallel$

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqb \mid Sq$

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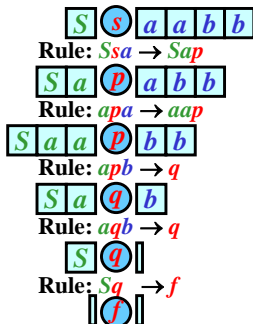
## PDA: Example

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 $apa \rightarrow aap,$   
 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
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- $F = \{f\}$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?



$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqb \mid Sq \mid f$

Courtesy of Alex Meduna (Brno University of Technology, Czech Republic) from his book *Formal Languages and Computation: Models and Their Applications* (2014)

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

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Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

$S$   $a$   $p$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

$S$   $a$   $a$   $p$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $a$   $q$   $b$

Rule:  $aqb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $q$  |

Rule:  $Sq \rightarrow f$

|  $f$  |

Empty  
pushdown

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqb \mid Sq \mid f$

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

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- $R = \{Ssa \rightarrow Sap,$   
 $apa \rightarrow aap,$   
 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
 $aqb \rightarrow q,$   
 $Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$

Question:  $aabb \in L(M)_{fc}$ ?

$S$   $s$   $a$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

$S$   $a$   $p$   $a$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

$S$   $a$   $a$   $p$   $b$   $b$

Rule:  $apb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $a$   $q$   $b$

Rule:  $aqb \rightarrow q$

$S$   $q$   $\parallel$

Rule:  $Sq \rightarrow f$

Final state

Answer: YES

Empty  
pushdown

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqb \mid Sq \mid f$

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## PDA: Example

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, R, s, S, F)$

where:

- $Q = \{s, p, q, f\}$ ;
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 $apb \rightarrow q,$   
 $aqb \rightarrow q,$   
 $Sq \rightarrow f\}$
- $F = \{f\}$

**Question:**  $aabb \in L(M)_{f\epsilon}$ ?

S s a a b b

Rule:  $Ssa \rightarrow Sap$

S a p a b b

Rule:  $apa \rightarrow aap$

S a a p b b

Rule:  $apb \rightarrow q$

S a q b

Rule:  $aqb \rightarrow q$

S q |

Rule:  $Sq \rightarrow f$

f

Final state

Empty  
pushdown

**Answer: YES**

$Ssaabb \mid Sapabb \mid Saapbb \mid Saqbb \mid Sq \mid f$

**Note:**  $L(M)_f = L(M)_\epsilon = L(M)_{f\epsilon} = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 1\}$

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# Linear languages

Linear grammars have rules  $X \rightarrow \beta$ , with at most one non-terminal symbol in  $\beta$ . If we require  $\beta$  to be shorter or equal than 2, we have regular languages. In particular, we may define R-LIN ( $X \rightarrow aY$ ) and L-LIN ( $X \rightarrow Ya$ ).

Theorem:  $L - LIN \equiv R - LIN \equiv REG$ .

However, linear is strictly more general than regular, and  $REG \subset LIN$ . Indeed, the bismatic language  $a^n b^n$  is linear (see grammar  $S \rightarrow ab, S \rightarrow aSb$ ) is an (infinite) linear language, which is not regular.

Btw, LIN equals languages generated by grammars having (possibly) both right linear and left right rules. See for example  $S \rightarrow aA$  and  $A \rightarrow Sb$ .

Language of palindromes is not regular (CF, and linear), while the Dyck language is not even linear ( $S \rightarrow xSyS$ , and  $S \rightarrow \lambda$  where  $x$  is the open parenthesis and  $y$  the closed one).

# Decidable and Recursively Enumerable languages

**Church thesis ('36): Turing machines are universal computable automata.** A function/problem/language is computable if it is algorithmically generable/recognizable.

$L$  is decidable, if there exists  $M_L \in TM$  such that  $\forall \alpha \in A^*$  it answers whether  $\alpha \in L$  or  $\alpha \notin L$  in a finite number of steps.  $L$  is semi-decidable if the answer is given in a finite time only when it is positive.

By definition,  $L \in RE$  iff there exists an algorithm to enumerate its strings. Then,  $RE = L(TM)$  and  $\mathcal{L}_0 \subseteq RE$ .

REC is the class of decidable languages<sup>3</sup>. Halting (machine termination) problem is undecidable.

---

<sup>3</sup>Characteristic functions, partial for RE and total for REC, are computable

## Central theorem of representation: $RE = \mathcal{L}_0$ .

For any RE language there exists a (general) grammar generating it.

RE is the class of **computable** and in general **semidecidable** languages – for them there exists a (Turing) machine which recognizes a string membership in a finite number of steps *only for positive answers*. If not decidable, for negative answers the machine takes an infinite number of steps to give the answer.

$$REC \subseteq RE$$

# Chomsky hierarchy

$$\mathcal{L}_3 \subset \mathcal{L}_2 \subset \mathcal{L}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{L}_0$$

We obtain this equivalent (strict?) hierarchy:

$$REG \subset CF \subset CS \subseteq RE$$

We are going to prove that:

- $CS \subseteq REC$  (context sensitive languages are decidable);
- $REC \subset RE$  (Post theorem characterizing REC)

# Recursive languages

**Context sensitive languages are decidable:**  $\forall \alpha \in L \in CS$ , since the rules cannot shorten the word during computation, starting from  $S$ , there exists a finite number of steps within  $\alpha$  may be generated. After that time I can give the positive/negative answer, in both cases.

**Theorem (Post):**  $L \in REC$  iff  $L, \bar{L} \in RE$ .

Proof:  $K = \{\alpha_i / \alpha_i \in L(G_i)\}$  if  $\forall (i, j) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$   $G_i$  has generated  $\alpha_j$  in  $j$  steps. Notice that  $\bar{K} = \{\alpha_i / \alpha_i \notin L(G_i)\}$  is not RE (this is the language outside RE). Indeed, by contradiction,  $\exists d$  such that  $\bar{K} = L(G_d)$ , then  $\alpha_d \in \bar{K}??$

Notice that RE is not closed by complementation, and  $CS \subset REC \subset RE \subset \mathcal{P}(A^*)$ , that is  $\bar{K} \in \mathcal{P}(A^*) \setminus RE$ .

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## Recursive Language

**Gist: Recursive Language accepts TM that always halt**





**Definition:** Let  $L$  be a language. If  $L = L(M)$ , where  $M$  is DTM that always halts, then  $L$  is a *recursive language*.

**Theorem:** The family of recursive languages is closed under complement.

**Proof:** See page 693 in [Meduna: Automata and Languages]

**Theorem:** The family of recursively enumerable languages is **not** closed under complement.

**Proof:** See the  $L_{\text{SelfAcceptance}}$

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# Parallel rewriting systems

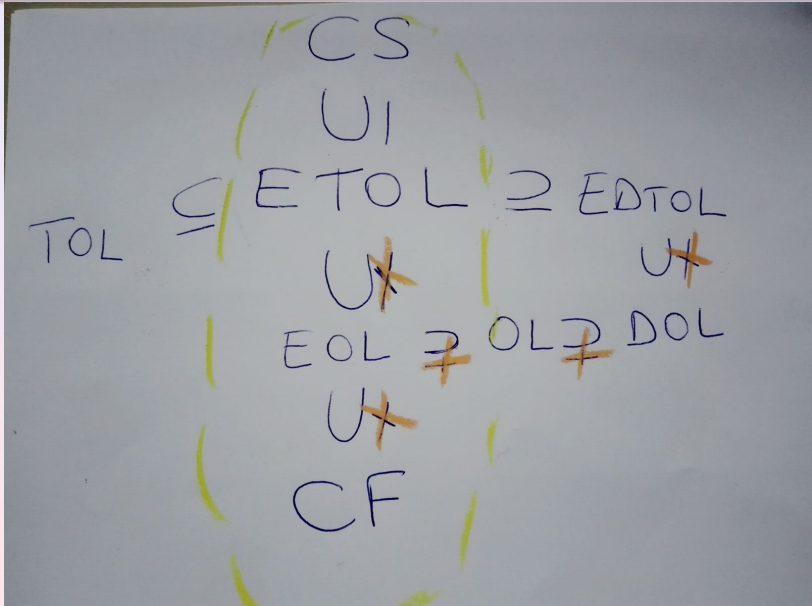
There are infinitely many other classes between any couple of Chomsky classes. For example:  $CF \subset EOL \subset ETOL \subseteq CS$ , where OL are parallel rewriting systems, defined by an alphabet  $A$ , a starting word  $\alpha$  and a morphism  $\mu$  over  $A$ , rewriting in parallel each symbol  $a_i$  of the alphabet into one string  $\beta_i \in A^*$  (if deterministic: DOL), otherwise into a set of strings:  $\beta_i \in \mathcal{P}(A^*)$ .

$$DOL \subset OL$$

EOL (Extended OL) is defined as OL with a set of terminals, while TOL (Table OL) introduces a non-deterministic choice among multiple morphisms. If this choice is deterministic, the system belongs to DTOL (or EDTOL, if extended).

Example of EDTOL generating trisomatic language, with two morphisms:  $\{A \rightarrow aA, B \rightarrow bB, C \rightarrow cC, a \rightarrow a, b \rightarrow b, c \rightarrow c\}$  and  $\{A \rightarrow a, B \rightarrow b, C \rightarrow c, a \rightarrow a, b \rightarrow b, c \rightarrow c\}$ , start word ABC.





# Comments on the Chomsky hierarchy

$$FIN \subset REG \subset LIN \subseteq CF \subset EOL \subset CS \subset REC \subset RE \subset \mathcal{P}(A^*)$$

**Savitch theorem:**  $\forall L \in RE \exists L' \in CS$  such that  
 $L = \{\alpha \mid \exists n \in \mathbb{N} : \alpha \#^n \in L', \# \notin A\}$

**Boolean algebras** (closed by  $\cdot, +, C$ ): REG and CS (by Immerman theorem). RE is not Boolean, and CF is not closed by intersection (see trisomatic language):  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$

Another interesting property:

$\forall L \in \mathcal{L}_i, i = 0, 1, 2, 3$  and  $\forall L' \in REG$ , we have  $L \cap L' \in \mathcal{L}_i$

## Incomputable Functions



- The set of all rewriting systems is **countable** because each definition of a rewriting system is **finite**, so this set can be put into a **bijection** with  $\mathbb{N}$ .
- The set of all Turing Machines, which are defined as rewriting systems, is **countable**.
- The set of all functions is **uncountable**.
- Thus, there are **more functions than Turing Machines**.
- Some functions are **incomputable**.
- Even some **simple total well-defined** functions over  $\mathbb{N}$  are **incomputable**.

# Automata corresponding to Chomsky grammars

- Kleen theorem:  $REG = L(FSA)$
- $CF = PDA = IFT_2, IFT_3 \subseteq CS, IFT_4 = RE$
- Kuroda theorem:  $CS = NLINSPACE$   
(Savitch theorem:  $NPSPACE = PSPACE$ )
- $RE=L(TM)$

TM is universal, no matter if deterministic or not, the number of tapes, the number of final states.

**Theorem (Shannon, '56):** For any TM there exists one equivalent having two states, and (another) one equivalent having two symbols.