COL 352 Introduction to Automata and Theory of Computation

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Lecture 15: Pushdown Automata

Recap

Definition

A 2DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma \cup \{\#, \$\}, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{acc}}, q_{\text{rej}})$, where

Q :	set of states,	Σ:	input alphabet
$\#$:	left endmarker	$\$$:	right endmarker
q_0:	start state		
q_{acc}:	accept state	q_{rej}:	reject state

$\delta : Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\#, \$\} \to Q \times \{L, R\}$

The following conditions are forced:

$\forall q \in Q$, $\exists q', q'' \in Q$ s.t. $\delta(q, \#) = (q', R)$ and $\delta(q, \$) = (q'', L)$.

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Exercise: Come up with a suitable definition of 2-NFA. Redo closure properties of regular languages, but now using 2-DFA/2-NFA.

Power of 2DFAs

Lemma

The class of language recognized by 2DFAs is regular.

Proof.

Let $T_x : Q \cup \{\bowtie\} \to Q \cup \{\perp\}$, which is defined as follows:

$T_x(p) := q$ if whenever A enters x on p it leaves x on q.

$T_x(\bowtie) := q$ q is the state in which A emerges on x the first time.

$T_x(q) := \perp$ if A loops on x forever.

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Total number of functions of the type

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$T_x = T_y \Leftrightarrow x \equiv_A y$

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Moving on

How to we add expressive power to DFA/NFA so that we can compute more functions?

Pushdown automata

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NFA needs more memory to solve them.What if the NFA had a stack?

Pushdown automata: formal definition

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A non-deterministic pushdown automaton (NPDA)
$A = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \perp, F)$

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if $\gamma = \gamma_1\gamma_2\dots\gamma_k$ then X is replaced by γ_k
and $\gamma_1\gamma_2\dots\gamma_{k-1}$ are pushed on top of that.

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$$\delta(q_0, a, \perp) = \{(q_0, A\perp), (q_1, A\perp)\}$$

$$\delta(q_0, b, \perp) = \{(q_0, B\perp), (q_1, B\perp)\}$$

$$\delta(q_0, a, A) = \{(q_0, AA), (q_1, AA)\},\ \delta(q_0, a, B) = \{(q_0, AB), (q_1, AB)\}$$

$$\delta(q_0, b, A) = \{(q_0, BA), (q_1, BA)\},$$
$$\delta(q_0, b, B) = \{(q_0, BB), (q_1, BB)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, A) = (q_1, \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, B) = (q_1, \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, B) = (q', \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, A) = (q', \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, \perp) = (q', \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, \perp) = (q', \epsilon)$$

$$\delta(q_1, \epsilon, \perp) = (q_2, \perp)$$