

Computability and Complexity

COSC 4200

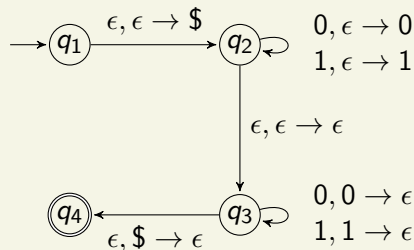
Context-Free Grammars

Context-Free Languages

Context-Free Grammars (CFG)

$$S \rightarrow LC \mid AR$$
$$L \rightarrow aLb \mid \epsilon$$
$$R \rightarrow bRc \mid \epsilon$$
$$A \rightarrow Aa \mid \epsilon$$
$$C \rightarrow Cc \mid \epsilon$$

Pushdown Automata (PDA)



Context-Free Grammars

Example of a CFG G :

$$A \rightarrow 0A1$$

$$A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow \#$$

A, B are *variables* (or *nonterminals*)

A is the *start variable*

$0, 1, \#$ are *terminals*

$X \rightarrow Y$ is a *substitution rule* (or *production*)

We begin with the start variable and apply substitutions to *derive* strings.

$$A \Rightarrow 0A1$$

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$$\begin{aligned} A &\Rightarrow 0A1 \\ &\Rightarrow 00A11 \end{aligned}$$

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$A \Rightarrow 0A1$

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$$\begin{aligned} A &\Rightarrow 0A1 \\ &\Rightarrow 00A11 \\ &\Rightarrow 000A111 \\ &\Rightarrow 000B111 \\ &\Rightarrow 000\#111 \end{aligned}$$

The *language* $L(G)$ of G is the set of all strings that can be derived from it. In this case,

$$L(G) = \{0^n\#1^n \mid n \geq 0\}.$$

Definition

A *context-free grammar (CFG)* is a 4-tuple $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ where

- V is a finite set called the *variables* (usually V consists of capital letters)
- Σ is a finite set, disjoint from V , called the *terminals*
- R is a finite set of *rules*, with each rule begin of the form

$$R \rightarrow \omega$$

where $R \in V$ and $\omega \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$.

(I.e., R is a variable and ω is a string of variables and terminals.)

- S is the *start variable*.

G :

$A \rightarrow 0A1$

$A \rightarrow B$

$B \rightarrow \#$

In this example, $G = (V, \Sigma, R, A)$ where

- $V = \{A, B\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, \#\}$
- $R = \{A \rightarrow 0A1, A \rightarrow B, B \rightarrow \#\}$
- A is the start variable

Let $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ be a CFG. If $u, v, w \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$ are strings of variables and terminals and $A \rightarrow w$ is a rule in the grammar, then we say uAv *yields* uwv , written

$$uAv \Rightarrow uwv.$$

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$$uAv \Rightarrow uwv.$$

We write $u \xRightarrow{*} v$ if

- ① $u = v$ or
- ② if a sequence u_1, \dots, u_k exists for $k \geq 0$ such that

$$u \Rightarrow u_1 \Rightarrow u_2 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow u_k \Rightarrow v.$$

The *language* of G is

$$L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow^* w\}.$$

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$$L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \xRightarrow{*} w\}.$$

Definition

If $A = L(G)$ for some context-free grammar, then A is a *context-free language*. We let CFL be the class of all context-free languages.

Example. Often we use a compact form for specifying a grammar:

$$S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$$

Example. Often we use a compact form for specifying a grammar:

$$S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \epsilon$$

Here the explicit meaning is

- $V = \{S\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- $R = \{S \rightarrow 0S1, S \rightarrow \epsilon\}$
- S is the start variable

The language of this grammar is

$$\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}.$$

Example.

$$S \rightarrow (S) \mid SS \mid \epsilon$$

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$$S \rightarrow (S) \mid SS \mid \epsilon$$

This grammar generates all strings of properly nested parentheses.

- $S \Rightarrow (S) \Rightarrow ()$
- $S \Rightarrow (S) \Rightarrow (SS) \Rightarrow (()S) \Rightarrow (()())$
- $S \xRightarrow{*} (()((()()))())$

Example. $S \rightarrow (S) \mid SS \mid \epsilon$

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 $\Rightarrow (() (() ())) (S)$
 $\Rightarrow (() (() ())) ()$

Example.

$$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$$

$$T \rightarrow T \times F \mid F$$

$$F \rightarrow (E) \mid N$$

$$N \rightarrow NN \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid 5 \mid 6 \mid 7 \mid 8 \mid 9$$

This grammar generates strings like

$$(12 + 8) \times 66$$

$$2020 + (4200 \times 30)$$

$$87 \times ((33 + ((12 + 7) \times 99)) + 47)$$

E

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$$E \xRightarrow{*} (12 + 8) \times 66$$

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$$\Rightarrow (NN + N) \times NN$$

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$$\Rightarrow (NN + N) \times N$$

$$\Rightarrow (NN + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (1N + N) \times NN$$

$$E \rightarrow E + T \mid T$$

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$$\Rightarrow (NN + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (1N + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + 8) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + 8) \times 6N$$

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$$F \rightarrow (E) \mid N$$

$$N \rightarrow NN \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid 2 \mid 3 \mid 4 \mid 5 \mid 6 \mid 7 \mid 8 \mid 9$$

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$$\Rightarrow (NN + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (1N + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + N) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + 8) \times NN$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + 8) \times 6N$$

$$\Rightarrow (12 + 8) \times 66$$

Example. $A = \{a^n b^m \mid n < m\}$

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid Sb \mid b$$

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$$S \Rightarrow aSb$$

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$$\Rightarrow aaaabbbbb = a^4 b^5$$

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$$\Rightarrow aaaaSbbbb$$

$$\Rightarrow aaaaSbbbbb$$

$$\Rightarrow aaabbbbbbb = a^3 b^6$$

Example. $B = \{a^n b^m c^l \mid n = m \text{ or } m = l\}$

Example. $B = \{a^n b^m c^l \mid n = m \text{ or } m = l\}$

$$S \rightarrow LC \mid AR$$

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$$A \rightarrow Aa \mid \epsilon$$

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Proof. Let $A \in \text{REG}$, and let $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be a DFA for A . For each state $q \in Q$, we make a variable T_q . Formally,

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$$\begin{aligned} R = & \{T_q \rightarrow aT_{\delta(q,a)} \mid q \in Q \text{ and } a \in \Sigma\} \\ & \cup \{T_q \rightarrow \epsilon \mid q \in F\}. \end{aligned}$$

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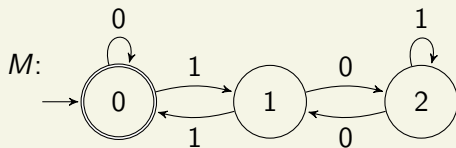
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Our grammar is $G = (V, \Sigma, R, T_{q_0})$. Then $L(G) = L(M) = A$. \square

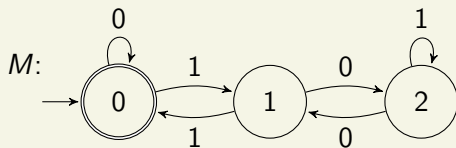
Example

$$L(M) = \{x \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \text{bin}(x) \text{ is a multiple of } 3\}$$



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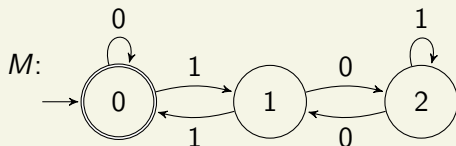
$$T_0 \rightarrow 0T_0 \mid 1T_1 \mid \epsilon$$

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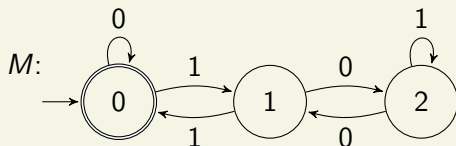
$$T_1 \rightarrow 0T_2 \mid 1T_0$$

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Let $x = 10101$. Then
 $\text{bin}(x) = 21$ and $x \in L(M)$.

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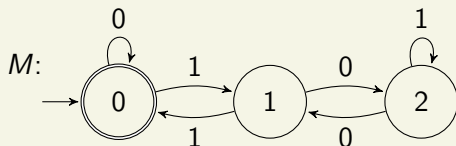
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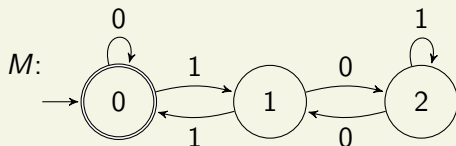
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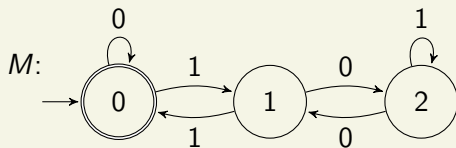
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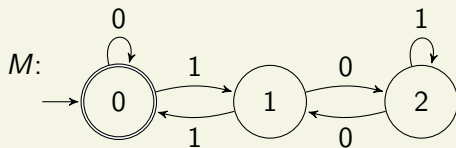
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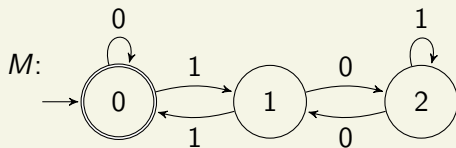
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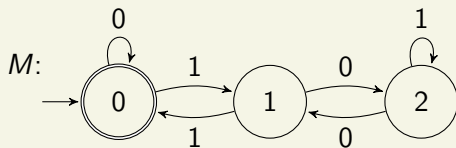
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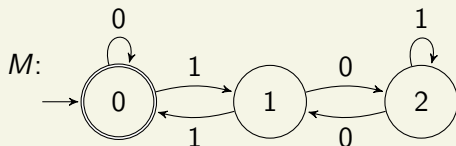
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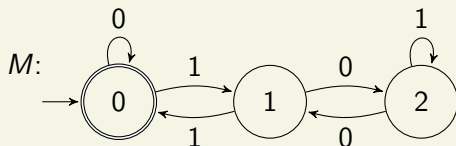
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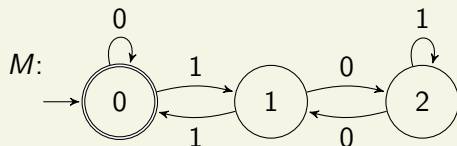
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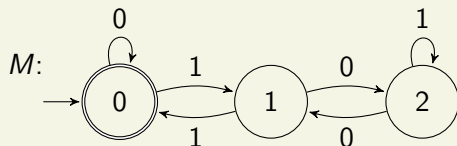
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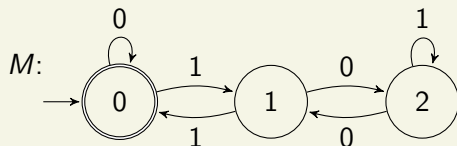
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 $\text{bin}(x) = 21$ and $x \in L(M)$.

$$\begin{aligned} T_0 &\Rightarrow 1T_1 \\ &\Rightarrow 10T_2 \\ &\Rightarrow 101T_2 \\ &\Rightarrow 1010T_1 \\ &\Rightarrow 10101T_0 \end{aligned}$$

Example

$$L(M) = \{x \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \text{bin}(x) \text{ is a multiple of } 3\}$$



G :

$$T_0 \rightarrow 0T_0 \mid 1T_1 \mid \epsilon$$

$$T_1 \rightarrow 0T_2 \mid 1T_0$$

$$T_2 \rightarrow 0T_1 \mid 1T_2$$

Let $x = 10101$. Then
 $\text{bin}(x) = 21$ and $x \in L(M)$.

$$\begin{aligned} T_0 &\Rightarrow 1T_1 \\ &\Rightarrow 10T_2 \\ &\Rightarrow 101T_2 \\ &\Rightarrow 1010T_1 \\ &\Rightarrow 10101T_0 \\ &\Rightarrow 10101 \end{aligned}$$

Thus $T_0 \xRightarrow{*} 10101$, so
 $10101 \in L(G)$.