

# More Applications of The Pumping Lemma

# The Pumping Lemma:

For infinite context-free language  $L$

there exists an integer  $m$  such that

for any string  $w \in L, \quad |w| \geq m$

we can write  $w = uvxyz$

with lengths  $|vxy| \leq m$  and  $|vy| \geq 1$

and it must be:

$$uv^i xy^i z \in L, \quad \text{for all } i \geq 0$$

# Non-context free languages

$$\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$\{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

## Context-free languages

$$\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$\{ww^R : w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

**Theorem:** The language

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

is **not** context free

**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma  
for context-free languages

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

Assume for contradiction that  $L$   
is context-free

Since  $L$  is context-free and infinite  
we can apply the pumping lemma

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

Pumping Lemma gives a magic number  $m$   
such that:

Pick any string of  $L$  with length at least  $m$

we pick:  $a^m b^m a^m b^m \in L$

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

We can write:  $a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz$

with lengths  $|vxy| \leq m$  and  $|vy| \geq 1$

Pumping Lemma says:

$$uv^i xy^i z \in L \quad \text{for all } i \geq 0$$

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

We examine all the possible locations  
of string  $vxy$  in  $a^m b^m a^m b^m$

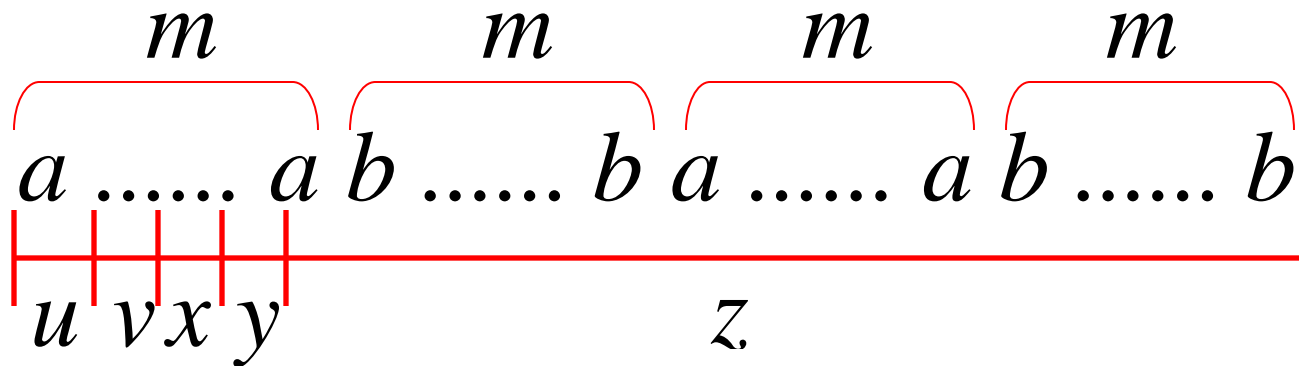


$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 1:**  $vxy$  is within the first  $a^m$

$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = a^{k_2} \quad k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$$

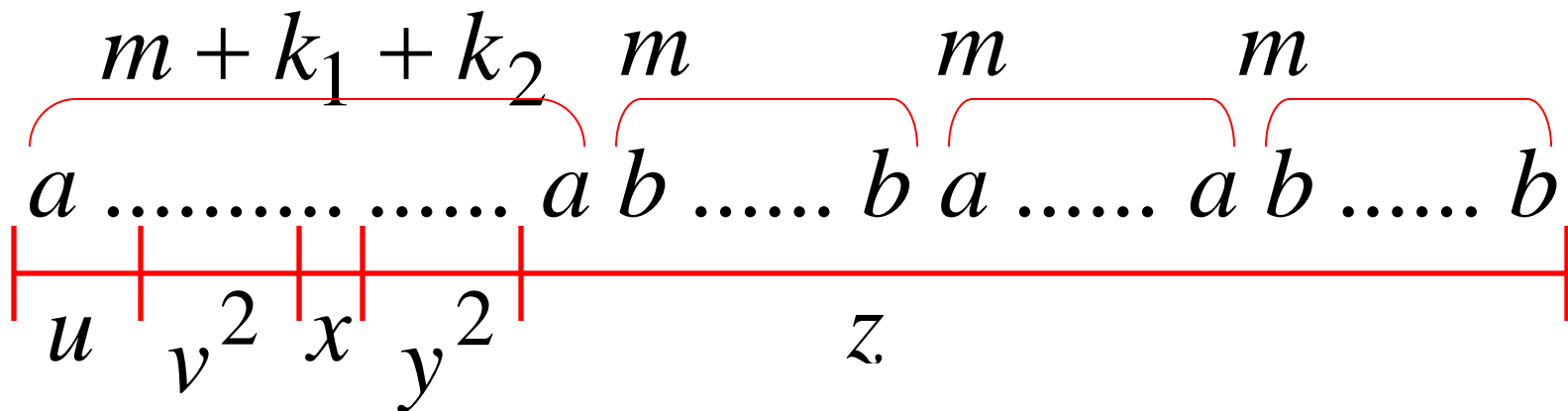


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**Case 1:**  $vxy$  is within the first  $a^m$

$$a^{m+k_1+k_2} b^m a^m b^m = uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$$

$$k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$$

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 1:**  $vxy$  is within the first  $a^m$

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However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^2 xy^2 z \in L$

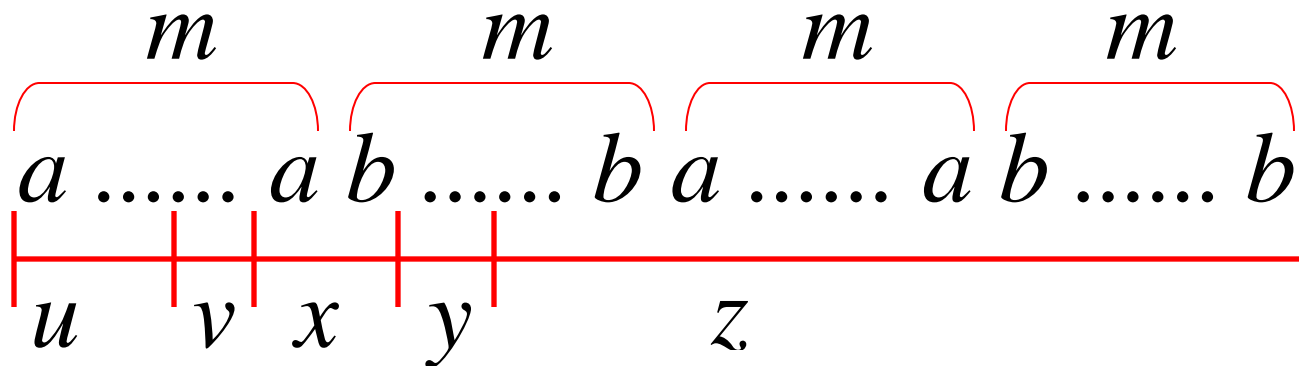
**Contradiction!!!**

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 2:**  $v$  is in the first  $a^m$   
 $y$  is in the first  $b^m$

$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = b^{k_2} \quad k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$$

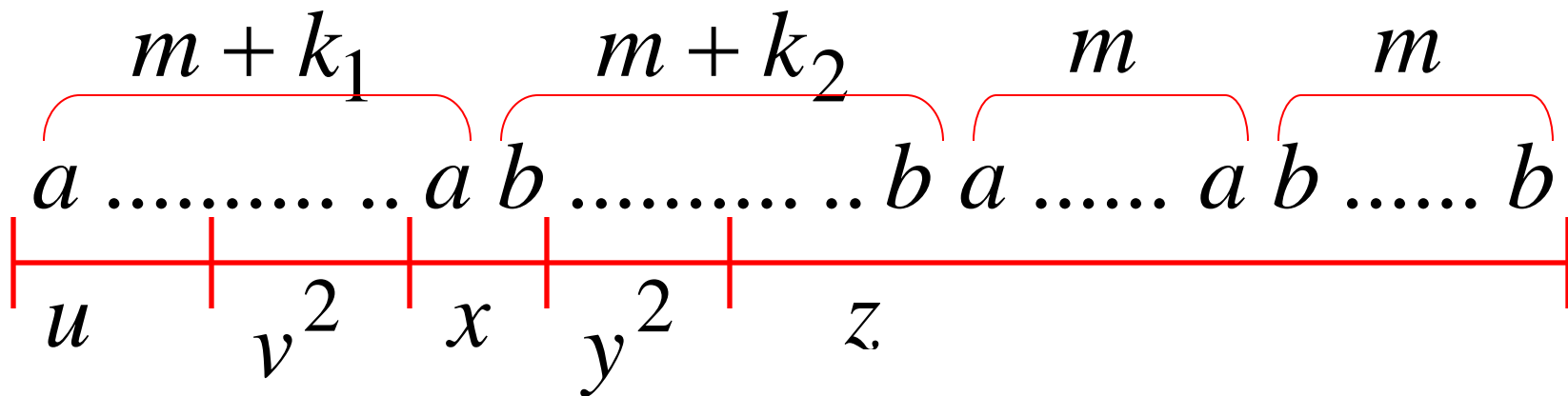


$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

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**Case 2:**  $v$  is in the first  $a^m$   
 $y$  is in the first  $b^m$

$$a^{m+k_1} b^{m+k_2} a^m b^m = uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$$

$$k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$$

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

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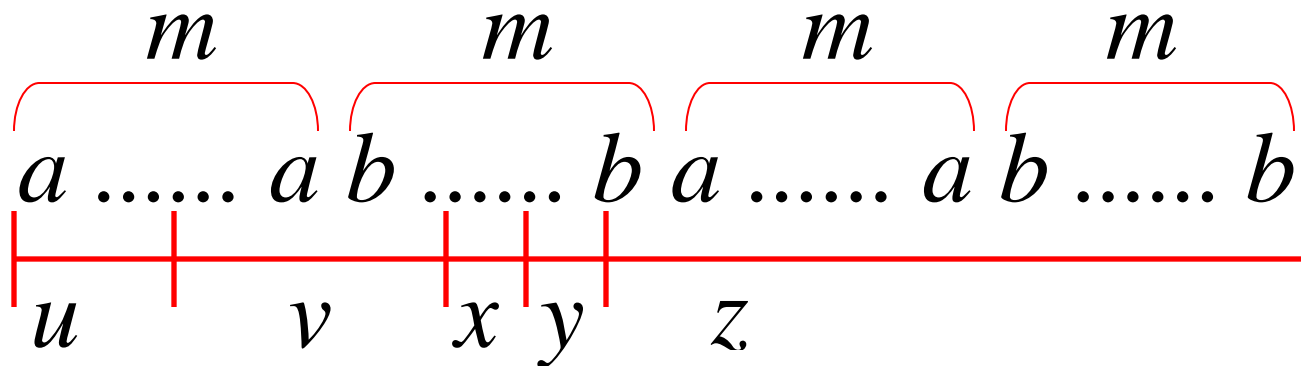


$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 3:**  $v$  overlaps the first  $a^m b^m$   
 $y$  is in the first  $b^m$

$$v = a^{k_1} b^{k_2} \quad y = b^{k_3} \quad k_1, k_2 \geq 1$$

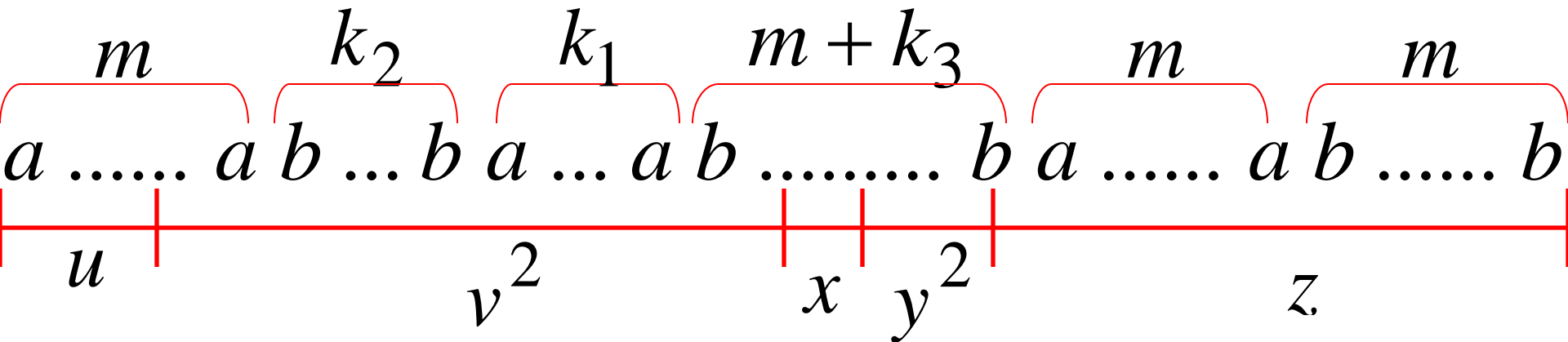


$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

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$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 3:**  $v$  overlaps the first  $a^m b^m$   
 $y$  is in the first  $b^m$

$$a^m b^{k_2} a^{k_1} b^{m+k_3} a^m b^m = uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$$

$$k_1, k_2 \geq 1$$

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

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However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^2 xy^2 z \in L$

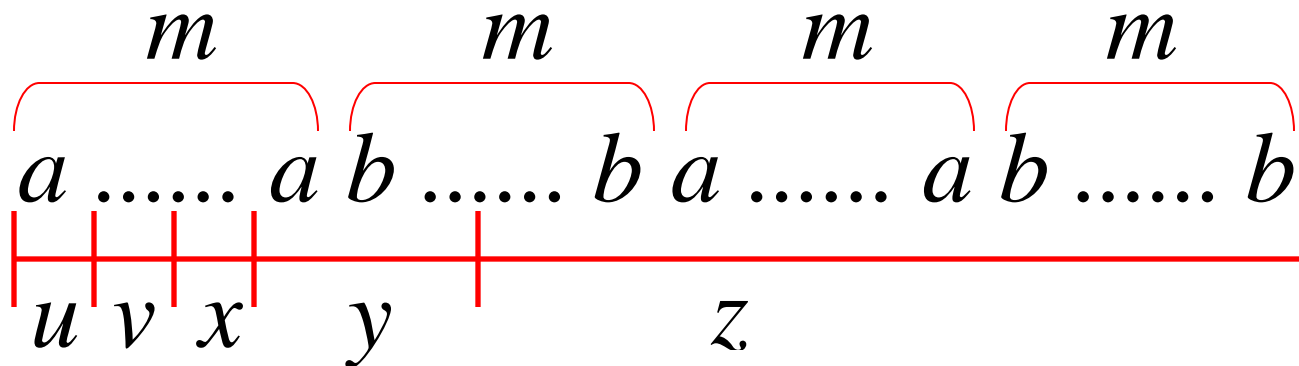
**Contradiction!!!**

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

**Case 4:**  $v$  in the first  $a^m$   
 $y$  Overlaps the first  $a^m b^m$

Analysis is similar to case 3



Other cases:  $vxy$  is within  $a^m \boxed{b^m} a^m b^m$

or

$a^m b^m \boxed{a^m} b^m$

or

$a^m b^m a^m \boxed{b^m}$

Analysis is similar to case 1:

$\boxed{a^m} b^m a^m b^m$

More cases:

$vxy$

overlaps

$a^m b^m a^m b^m$

or

$a^m b^m a^m b^m$

Analysis is similar to cases 2,3,4:

$a^m b^m a^m b^m$

There are no other cases to consider

Since  $|vxy| \leq m$ , it is impossible

$vxy$  to overlap:

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m$$

nor

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m$$

nor

$$a^m b^m a^m b^m$$



In all cases we obtained a contradiction

Therefore: The original assumption that

$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

is context-free must be wrong

Conclusion:  $L$  is not context-free

## Non-context free languages

$$\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$\{ww : w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

$$\{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

## Context-free languages

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**Theorem:** The language

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**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma  
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$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

Assume for contradiction that  $L$   
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Since  $L$  is context-free and infinite  
we can apply the pumping lemma

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

Pumping Lemma gives a magic number  $m$   
such that:

Pick any string of  $L$  with length at least  $m$

we pick:  $a^{m!} \in L$

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

We can write:  $a^{m!} = uvxyz$

with lengths  $|vxy| \leq m$  and  $|vy| \geq 1$

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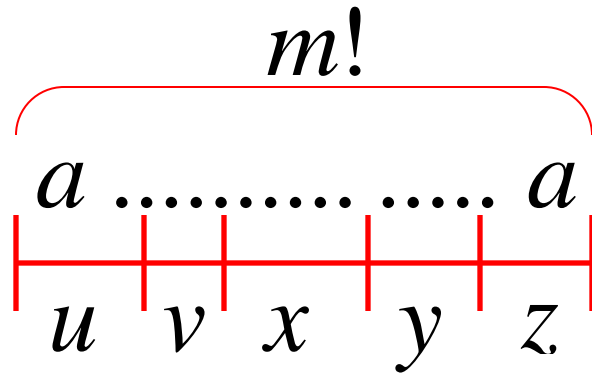
$$a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

We examine all the possible locations  
of string  $vxy$  in  $a^{m!}$

There is only one case to consider

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

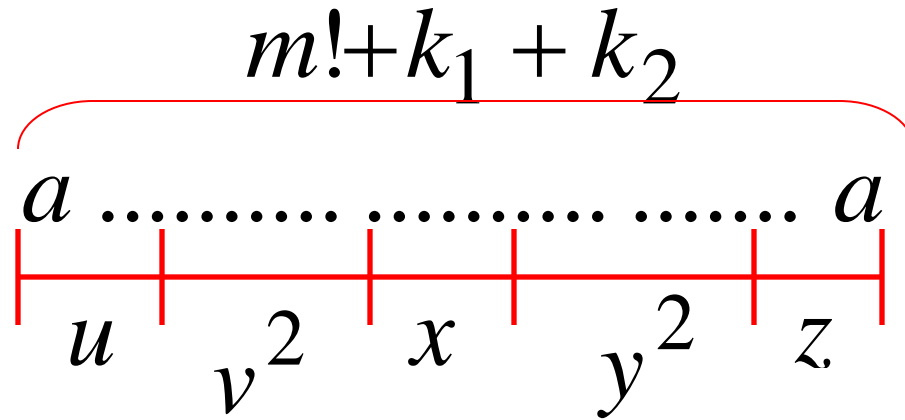


$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = a^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$



$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

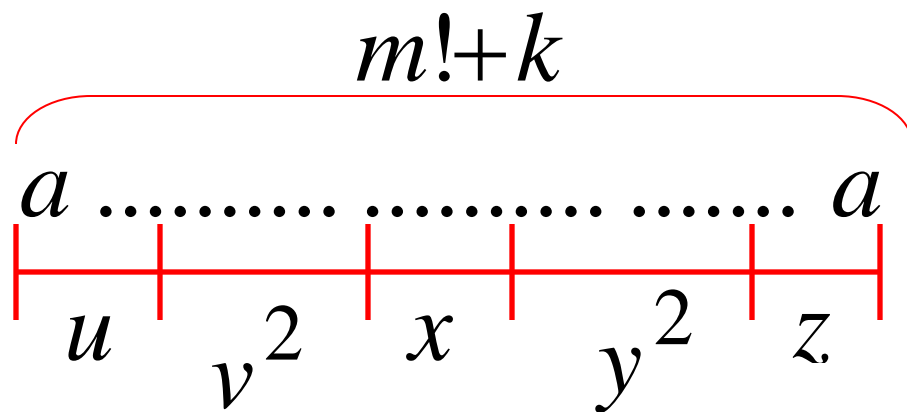
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$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

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$$k = k_1 + k_2$$

$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = a^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m!} = uvxyz \qquad |vxy| \leq m \qquad |vy| \geq 1$$

$$a^{m!+k} = uv^2xy^2z$$

$$1 \leq k \leq m$$

Since  $1 \leq k \leq m$ , for  $m \geq 2$  we have:

$$m! + k \leq m! + m$$

$$< m! + m!m$$

$$= m!(1 + m)$$

$$= (m + 1)!$$



$$m! < m! + k < (m + 1)!$$

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

$$m! < m! + k < (m+1)!$$



$$a^{m!+k} = uv^2xy^2z \notin L$$

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$$a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^2xy^2z \in L$

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**Contradiction!!!**

We obtained a contradiction

Therefore: The original assumption that

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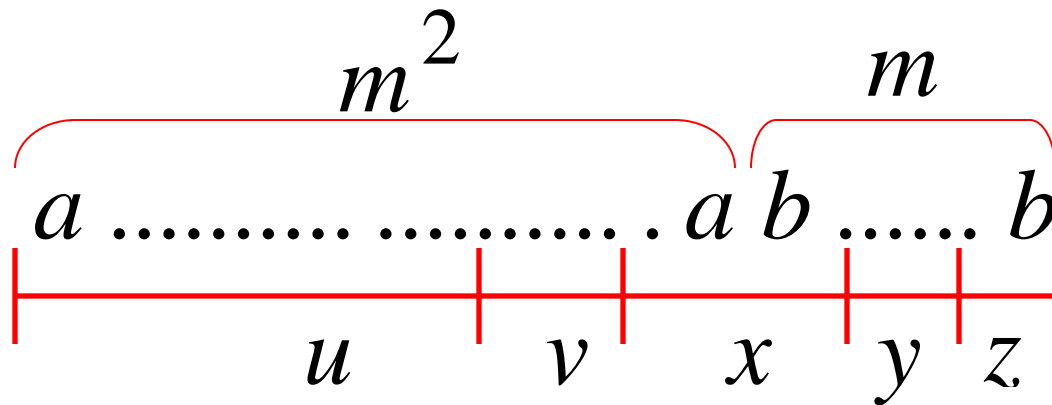
We examine all the possible locations

of string  $vxy$  in  $a^{m^2} b^m$

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$$a^{m^2} b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

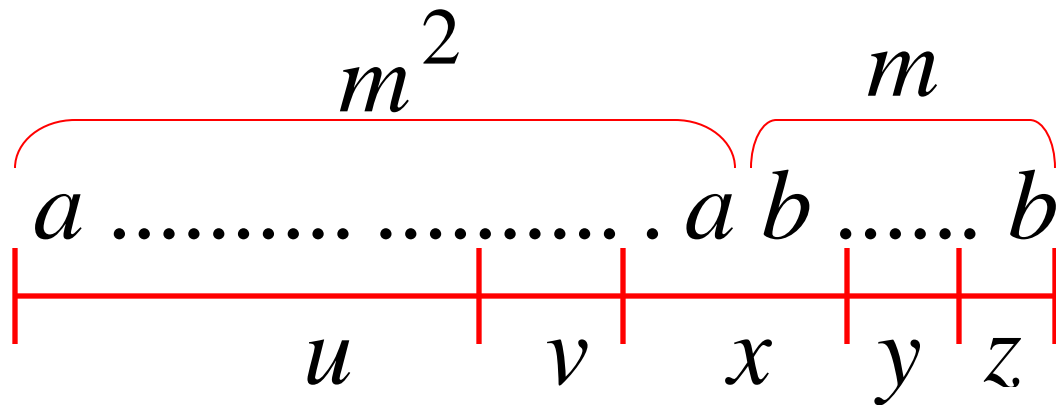
Most complicated case:  $v$  is in  $a^m$   
 $y$  is in  $b^m$



$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

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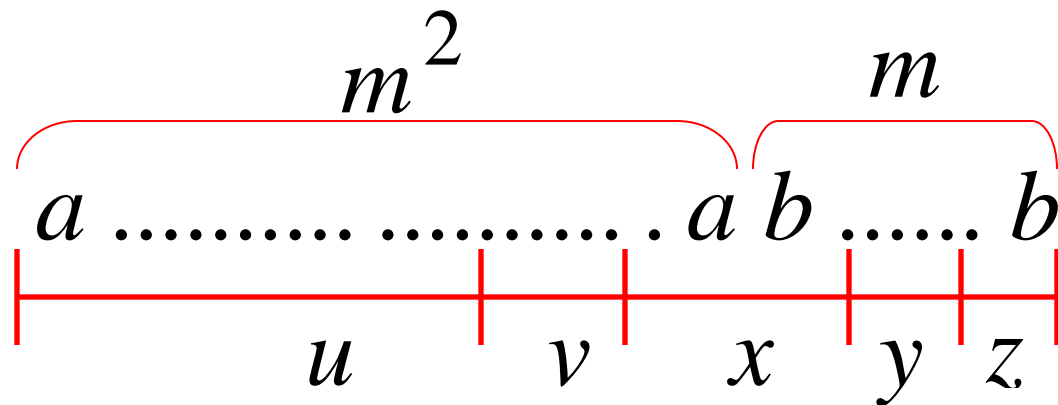


$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m^2} b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

Most complicated sub-case:  $k_1 \neq 0$  and  $k_2 \neq 0$

$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = b^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$



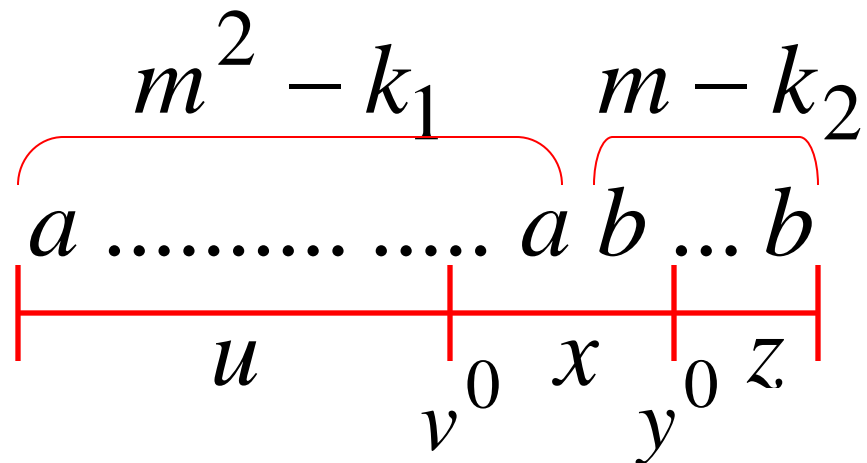


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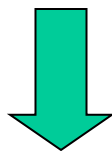
$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = b^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$

$$a^{m^2 - k_1} b^{m - k_2} = uv^0 xy^0 z$$

$$k_1 \neq 0 \text{ and } k_2 \neq 0 \qquad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$



$$\begin{aligned} (m - k_2)^2 &\leq (m - 1)^2 \\ &= m^2 - 2m + 1 \\ &< m^2 - k_1 \end{aligned}$$



$$m^2 - k_1 \neq (m - k_2)^2$$

$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m^2} b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

$$m^2 - k_1 \neq (m - k_2)^2$$



$$a^{m^2 - k_1} b^{m - k_2} = uv^0 xy^0 z \notin L$$

$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$a^{m^2} b^m = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$$

However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^0xy^0z \in L$

$$a^{m^2-k_1} b^{m-k_2} = uv^0xy^0z \notin L$$

Contradiction!!!

When we examine the rest of the cases  
we also obtain a contradiction

In all cases we obtained a contradiction

Therefore: The original assumption that

$$L = \{a^{n^2}b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

is context-free must be wrong

Conclusion:  $L$  is not context-free