

# Pumping Lemma for CFL

## Theorem 31 (Thm. 2.34: Pumping lemma for CFL)

*If  $A$  is a context-free language, then there is a number  $p$  (the pumping length) where, if  $s$  is any string in  $A$  of length at least  $p$ , then  $s$  may be divided into five pieces,  $s = uvxyz$ , satisfying the conditions*

1.  $uv^ixy^iz \in A$  for each  $i \geq 0$
2.  $|vy| > 0$
3.  $|vxy| \leq p$ .

### Note:

- Condition 1: you can pump “up” and “down”
- Condition 2: both  $v$  and  $y$  cannot be empty strings
- Condition 3: the length of substrings  $vxy$  is at most  $p$

Proof: see the book.