

# Theory of Automata

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## Lecture 3

# Operation on Languages

- Union, intersection and difference --- same as on sets,
- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $\{a, ba, ab\} \cap \{\Lambda, a, aa, aaa, \dots\} = ?$

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- Complement: Let  $L = \{\Lambda, a, aa, aaa, \dots\}$
- $\bar{L} = \{w : w \text{ includes all } b\text{'s}\}$
- Reverse: Let  $L = \{a, ba, abc\}$
- $L^R = \{a, ab, cba\}$

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  - (i)  $x$
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- **Rule 3:** If  $x$  and  $y$  are in AE, then so are
  - (i)  $x + y$  (if the first symbol in  $y$  is not  $+$  or  $-$ )
  - (ii)  $x - y$  (if the first symbol in  $y$  is not  $+$  or  $-$ )
  - (iii)  $x * y$
  - (iv)  $x / y$
  - (v)  $x ** y$  (our notation for exponentiation)

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  - Is  $7 * (9 - 3)/4$  OK? Yes, and so on.

# **Defining Languages by Another New Method Regular Expression (RE)**

# Recursive definition of

## Regular Expression(RE)

- Step 1: Every letter of  $\Sigma$  including  $\Lambda$  is a regular expression.
- Step 2: If  $R1$  and  $R2$  are regular expressions then
  1.  $(R1)$
  2.  $R1 R2$
  3.  $R1 + R2$  and
  4.  $R1^*$are also regular expressions.
- Step 3: Nothing else is a regular expression.

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- $L = \text{language } (ab^*)$

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- $b^+ = \{b, bb, bbb, bbbb, \dots\}$
- $L = \{a, ab, abb, abbb, abbbb, \dots\}$
- $L = \text{language } (ab^*)$
- $L$  is the language in which the words are the concatenation of an initial  $a$  with some or no  $b$ 's.

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- We can apply the Kleene star to the whole string  $ab$  if we want:  
 $(ab)^* = \Lambda$  or  $ab$  or  $abab$  or  $ababab...$
- Observe that  
 $(ab)^* \neq a^*b^*$

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- because the language defined by the expression on the left contains the word  $abab$ , whereas the language defined by the expression on the



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- Here  $a^* + b^*$  does not generate any string of concatenation of  $a$  and  $b$ , while  $(a + b)^*$  generates such strings.
- $(a + b^*)^* ? (a + b)^*$

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- $(a + b^*)^* = (a + b)^*$   
since the internal  $*$  adds nothing to the language.

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- Let us introduce another use of the plus sign. Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . By the expression  
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     $a + b$   
    – means **either** a **or** b.
- Care should be taken so as not to confuse this notation with the notation  $+$  (as an exponent).

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- $\{\Lambda, a, b, ab\} =$

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- $\{\Lambda, a, b, ab\} = (a + \Lambda)(b + \Lambda)$

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- $(a+b)^*$ :

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- $(a+b)^*$ : all strings including null
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- $(a+b)^*a(a+b)^*$ :

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- $(a+b)^*aa(a+b)^*$ : having double a
- $(a+b)^*a(a+b)^*a(a+b)^*$ : having at least two a's
- $b^*ab^*a(a+b)^*$ : having at least two a's

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- $(a+b)((a+b)(a+b))^*$  or  $((a+b)(a+b))^*(a+b)$
- language L, of odd length
- a language may be expressed by more than one regular expressions, **while** given a regular expression there exist a unique language generated by

# Regular Expression (RE)

- starting with double a and ending in double b
- $aa(a+b)^*bb$
- starting and ending with same letter
- $a(a+b)^*a + b(a+b)^*b$
- starting and ending with different letter
- $a(a+b)^*b + b(a+b)^*a$
- ending with aa or bb

# Regular Expression (RE)

- Consider the regular expression  
$$E = [aa + bb + (ab + ba)(aa + bb)^*(ab + ba)]^*$$

# Regular Expression (RE)

- Consider the regular expression  
$$E = [aa + bb + (ab + ba)(aa + bb)^*(ab + ba)]^*$$
- This expression represents all the words that are made up of *syllables* of three types:  
type<sub>1</sub> = aa  
type<sub>2</sub> = bb  
type<sub>3</sub> = (ab + ba)(aa + bb)<sup>\*</sup>(ab + ba)

# Algorithms for EVEN-EVEN

- We want to determine whether a long string of a's and b's has the property that the number of a's is even and the number of b's is even.
- **Algorithm 1:** Keep two binary flags, the a-flag and the b-flag. Every time an a is read, the a-flag is reversed (0 to 1, or 1 to 0); and every time a b is read, the b-flag is reversed. We start both flags at 0 and check to be sure they are both 0 at the end.

# Algorithms for EVEN-EVEN

- If the input string is  
(aa)(ab)(bb)(ba)(ab)(bb)(bb)(bb)(ab)  
(ab)(bb)(ba)(aa) then, by Algorithm  
2, the  $\text{type}_3$ -flag is reversed 6 times  
and ends at 0.
- We give this language the name  
EVEN-EVEN. so, EVEN-EVEN =  $\{\Lambda,$   
aa, bb, aaaa, aabb, abab, abba,  
baab, baba, bbaa, bbbb, aaaaaa,  
aaaaab, aabbbb, aababb, aababb,

# Regular Expression (RE)

- If  $r_1 = (aa + bb)$  and
- $r_2 = (a + b)$  then
  1.  $r_1 + r_2 = (aa + bb) + (a + b)$
  2.  $r_1 r_2 = (aa + bb)(a + b)$   
 $= (aaa + aab + bba + bbb)$
  3.  $(r_1)^* = (aa + bb)^*$