

Biçimsel Diller ve Otomata Teorisi

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The Pumping Lemma

- Some languages can be described in English but they cannot be defined by an FA
 - Such as the language PALINDROME or PRIME (of all words a^p , where p is a prime number)
- A language that cannot be defined by a regular expression is called a **nonregular** language
- By Kleene's theorem, a nonregular language can also not be accepted by any FA or TG
- All languages are either regular or nonregular; none are both

The Pumping Lemma

- Let us define the language L
 - $L = \{\Lambda \text{ ab aabb aaabbb aaaabbbb aaaaaabbbbb ...}\}$
- We could also define this language by the formula
 - $L = \{a^n b^n \text{ for } n = 0 \ 1 \ 2 \ 3 \ 4 \ 5 \ ...\}$
 - Or for short $L = \{a^n b^n\}$
- It is a subset of many regular languages, such as **a^*b^***
 - Note that $a^n b^n$ does not include aab or bb

The Pumping Lemma

- Suppose on the contrary that this language were regular
 - Then there would have to exist some FA that accepts it
 - Let us picture one of these FAs (there might be several)
- This FA might have many states
 - Let us say that it has 95 states
 - Yet, we know it accepts the word $a^{96}b^{96}$
 - The first 96 letters of this input string are all a 's and they trace a path through this machine

The Pumping Lemma

- The path cannot visit a new state with each input letter read
 - Because there are only 95 states
 - Therefore, at some point the path returns to a state that it has already visited
- The first time it was in that state it left by the *a*-road
 - The second time it is in that state it leaves by the *a*-road again
 - Even if it only returns once, we say that the path contains a circuit (A **circuit** is a loop that can contain several edges)

The Pumping Lemma

- First , the path wanders up to the circuit and then it starts to loop around the circuit maybe many times
 - It cannot leave the circuit until a b is read from the input
 - Then the path can take a different turn
 - For example, the path could make 30 loops around a three-state circuit before the first b is read
- After the first b is read, the path goes off and does some other stuff following b -edges and eventually winds up at a final state where the word $a^{96}b^{96}$ is accepted

The Pumping Lemma

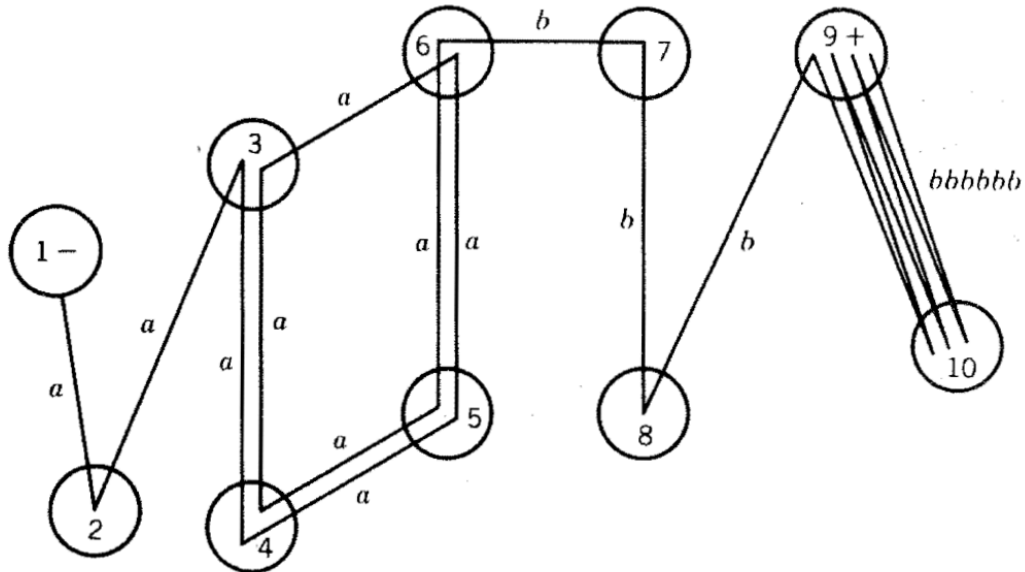
- Let us say that the circuit that the a -edge path loops around has seven states in it
 - The path enters the circuit
 - Loops around it
 - Then goes off on the b -line to a final state
- What would happen to the input string $a^{96+7}b^{96}$?
 - The path loops around this circuit one more time (precisely one extra time)
 - That string is not in the language $L = \{a^n b^n\}$
 - This is a contradiction, in other words, L is nonregular

The Pumping Lemma

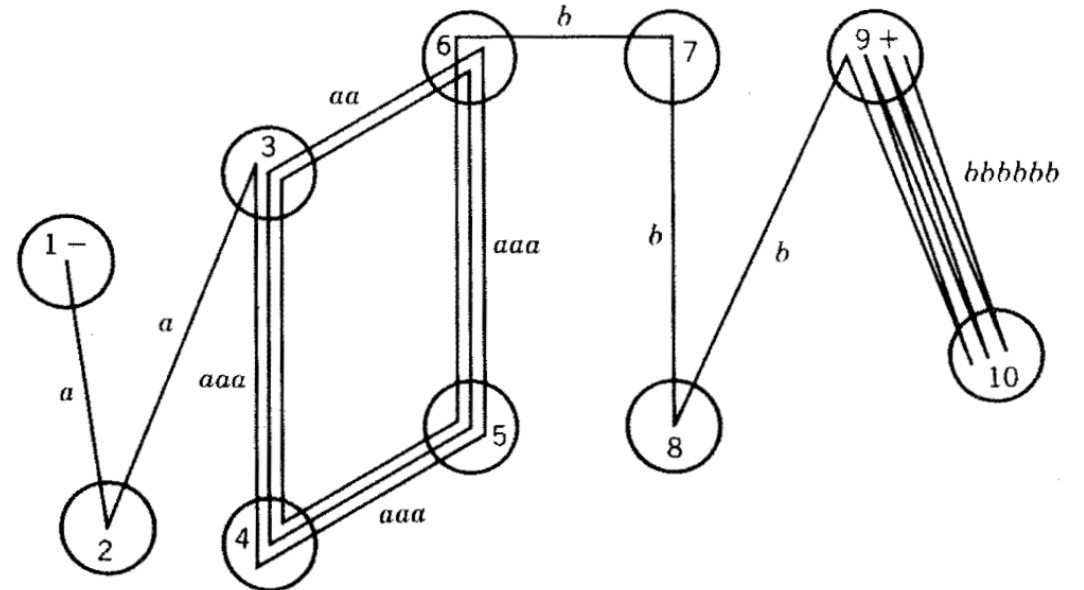
- Let us review what happened
- We choose a word in L that was so large (had so many letters) that its path through the FA had to contain a circuit
- Once we found that some path with a circuit could reach a final state, we ask..
 - What happens to a path that is just like the first one, but that loops around the circuit one extra time and then proceeds identically through the machine
- The new path also leads to the same final state
 - But it is generated by a different input string – an input string not in the language L

The Pumping Lemma

- Let the path a^9b^9 be



- The path for $a^{13}b^9$



The Pumping Lemma – Theorem

- Let L be any regular language that has infinitely many words
- There exist some three strings x , y , and z (where y is not the null string)
 - $xy^n z$ for $n = 1\ 2\ 3\ \dots$
are words in L

The Pumping Lemma – Proof

- If L is a regular language, then there is an FA that accepts exactly word in L
 - The machine has only finitely many states
 - L has infinitely many words in it (there are arbitrarily long words in L)
- Let w be some word in L that has more letters in it than there are states in the machine
- When this word generates a path through the machine, the path cannot visit a new state for each letter
 - Because there are more letters than states
 - It must at some point revisit a state that it has been to before

The Pumping Lemma – Proof

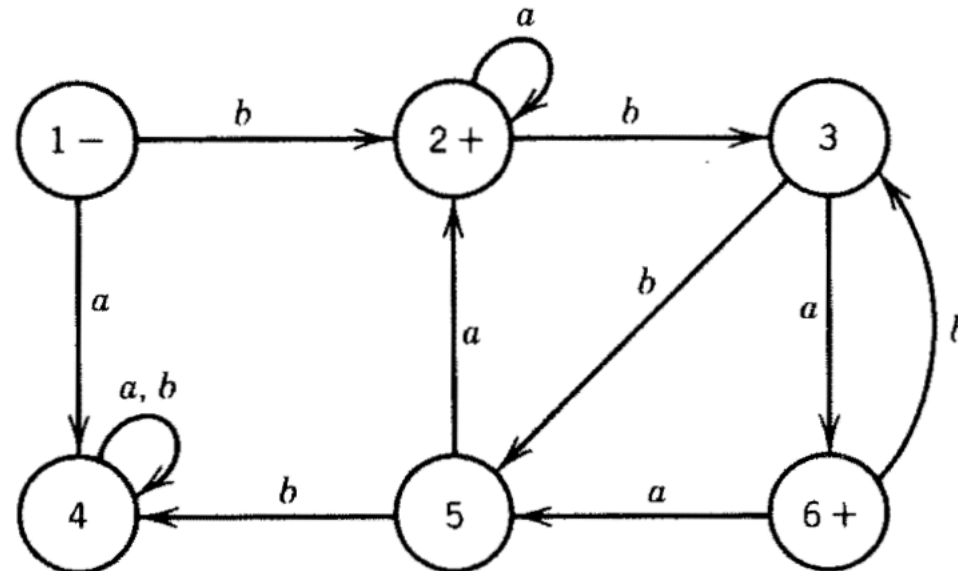
- Let us break the word w up into three parts
 - **Part 1** (x) All the letters of w starting at the beginning that lead up to the first state that is revisited. x may be the null string if the path for w revisits the start state as its first revisit
 - **Part 2** (y) Starting at the letter after x , y travels around the circuit coming back to the same state the circuit began. Because there must be a circuit, y cannot be null
 - **Part 3** (z) The rest of w . z could be null
- $w = xyz$

The Pumping Lemma

- What is the path through this machine of input string
 - $xyyz?$
 - $xyyyz?$
 - $xyyyyyyyyyyyz?$
- All these must be accepted by the machine and therefore are all in L
- L must contain all strings of the form
 - $xy^n z$ for $n = 1\ 2\ 3\ \dots$

Example

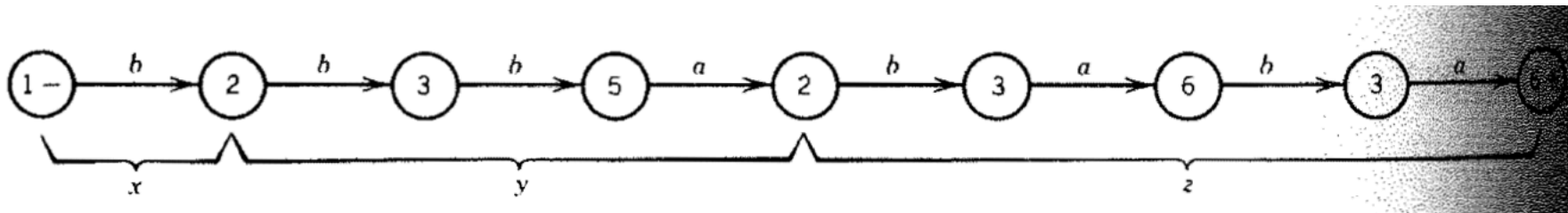
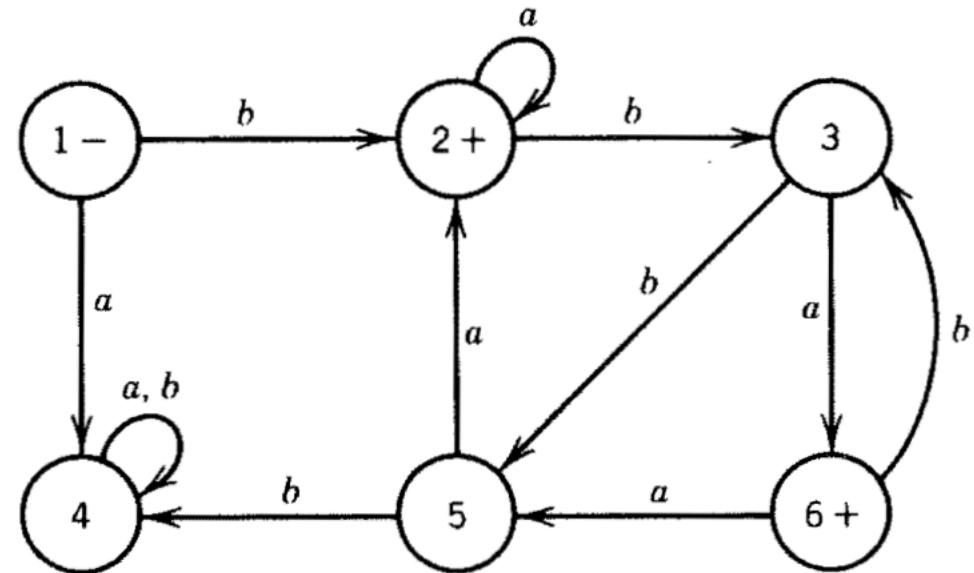
- The machine below accepts an infinite language and has only six states
- Any word with six or more letters must correspond to a path that includes a circuit (also some words with fewer than six letters such as *baaa*)
- We will consider in detail: $w = bbbababa$



Example

- $w = bbbababa$ has more than six letters (includes a circuit)
- $w = b \quad bba \quad baba$
 $x \quad y \quad z$

What would happen to $xyyz$?
 $x y y z = b bba bba baba$



Example

- The pumping lemma says that there must be strings x , y , and z such that all words in the form $xy^n z$ are in L
 - Is this possible?
- A typical word of L
 - $aaa \dots aaaabbbb \dots bbb$
- How do we break this into three pieces as x , y , and z ?
 - y is made entirely of a 's ($xyyz$, more a 's than b 's)
 - y is made entirely of b 's ($xyyz$, more b 's than a 's)
 - y contains some a 's and some b 's ($xyyz$ would have two copies of substring ab)
 - $xyyz$ cannot be a word in L , L is not regular

Example

- The language EQUAL, of all words with the same total number of a 's and b 's is also nonregular
- $\text{EQUAL} = \{\Lambda \text{ ab ba aabb abab abba baab baba bbaa aaabbb ...}\}$
- The language $a^n b^n$ is the intersection of all words defined by the RE $\mathbf{a^*b^*}$ and the language EQUAL
 - $\{a^n b^n = \mathbf{a^*b^*} \cap \text{EQUAL}\}$
- If EQUAL were a regular language, then $a^n b^n$ would be the intersection of two regular languages. Because $a^n b^n$ is not regular, EQUAL cannot be

Example

- Consider the language $a^nba^n = \{b \text{ } aba \text{ } aabaa \dots\}$
- If this language were regular, there would exist three strings x , y , and z such that
 - xyx and $xyyz$ were both words in this language
 - We can show that this is impossible

Example

- Consider the language $a^nba^n = \{b\ aba\ aabaa\ \dots\}$
- Observations
 1. If the y string contained b , then xyz would contain two b 's (no word in this language can have)
 2. If the y string is all a 's then the b in the middle of the word xyz is in the x -side or z -side. In either case, xyz has increased the number of a 's either in front of the b or after the b (but not both)
- Conclusions
 1. xyz does not have its b in the middle and is not in the form a^nba^n
 2. This language cannot be pumped and is therefore not regular

Example

- Consider the language $a^n b^n a b^{n+1}$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
 - Show that if xyz is in this language, then $xyyz$ is not
- Observations
 1. If we know the total number of a 's we can calculate the number of b 's and vice versa. No two different words have the same number of a 's or b 's
 2. All words have exactly two substrings equal to ab and one equal to ba
 3. If xyz and $xyyz$ are both in this language, then y cannot contain either ab or ba because then $xyyz$ would have too many

Example

- Consider the language $a^n b^n a b^{n+1}$ for $n = 1, 2, 3, \dots$
- Conclusions
 1. Because y cannot be Λ , it must contain either only a 's or b 's, any mixture contains the forbidden substrings (observation 3)
 2. If y is solid a 's, then xyz and $xyyz$ are different words with the same total b 's, violating observation 1. If y is solid b 's, then xyz and $xyyz$ are different words with the same number of a 's violating observation 1
 3. It is impossible for both xyz and $xyyz$ to be in this language for any strings x , y , and z . The language is unpumpable and not regular

Theorem

- Let L be an infinite language accepted by a finite automaton with N states. Then for all words w in L that have more than N letters, there are strings x , y , and z , where y is not null and $\text{length}(x) + \text{length}(y)$ does not exceed N such that

$$w = xyz$$

And all strings in the form $xy^n z$ (for $n = 1\ 2\ 3\ \dots$) are in L

Example

- We shall show that the language PALINDROME is nonregular
 - We cannot use the first version of the pumping lemma because the strings $x=a$, $y=b$, $z=a$ satisfy the lemma and do not contradict the language
 - All words of the form $xy^nz = ab^na$ are in PALINDROME
- Let us consider one of the FAs that might accept this language
 - The machine has 77 states
 - $w = a^{80}ba^{80}$
 - Because it has more letters than the machine has states, we can break w into the three parts: x , y , and z

Example

- Because the length of x and y must be in total 77 or less
 - They must both be made of solid a 's (because the first 77 letters of w are all a 's)
 - When we form the word $xyyz$, we are adding more a 's to the front of w (but we are not adding more a 's to the back of w because all the rear a 's are in the z -part, which stays fixed at 80 a 's)
 - The string $xyyz$ is not a palindrome because it will be of the form $a^{\text{more than } 80}ba^{80}$
- But the second version of the pumping lemma says that PALINDROME has to include this string
 - PALINDROME is nonregular

Example

- Let us consider the language $\text{PRIME} = \{a^p \text{ where } p \text{ is a prime}\}$
- Is PRIME a regular language?
 - If it is, then there is some FA that accepts exactly these words
 - Let us suppose that it has 345 states
 - Let us choose a prime number bigger than 345 – for example, 347
- a^{347} can be broken into parts x , y , and z such that $xy^n z$ is in PRIME for any value of n
 - x , y , z are all just a 's
 - Let us take $n = 348$, the word $xy^{348}z$ must be in PRIME

Example

- $xy^{348}z = xyzy^{347}$ (all a 's, order doesn't matter)
- $xyzy^{347} = a^{347}y^{347}$ (x , y , and z came originally from a^{347})
- We also know that y is some (nonempty) string of a 's
 - Let us say that $y = a^m$
- $$\begin{aligned} a^{347}y^{347} &= a^{347}(a^m)^{347} \\ &= a^{347+347m} \\ &= a^{347(m+1)} \end{aligned}$$
- Because $m \neq 0$, we know that $347(m+1)$ is not a prime number
 - This is a contradiction
 - Therefore, PRIME is nonregular