

## More Applications of The Pumping Lemma

class 14

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### The Pumping Lemma:

For infinite context-free language  $L$

there exists an integer  $m$  such that

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

we can write  $w = uvxyz$

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

and it must be:

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

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### Non-context free languages

$$\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\} \quad \{vv : v \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

### Context-free languages

$$\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\} \quad \{ww^R : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

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### Theorem: The language

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

is **not** context free

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

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

Assume for contradiction that  $L$   
is context-free

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pumping Lemma says:

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

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

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

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

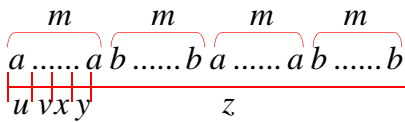
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$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

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

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

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



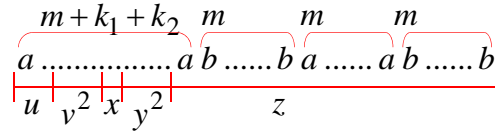
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$$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

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

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

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

$$k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$$

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

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

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

**Contradiction!!!**

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

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

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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 2:**  $v$  is in the first  $a^m$   
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$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = b^{k_2} \quad k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$

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

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

$k_1 + k_2 \geq 1$

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$L = \{vv : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$   
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However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^2 xy^2 z \in L$

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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  $b^m$

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

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

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

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

$k_1, k_2 \geq 1$

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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  $b^m$

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

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

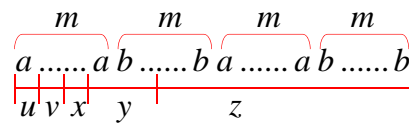
**Contradiction!!!**

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

Analysis is similar to case 3



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**Other cases:**  $vxy$  is within  $a^m b^m a^m b^m$

or

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

or

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

Analysis is similar to case 1:

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

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**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:

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

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**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

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

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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

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Non-context free languages

$$\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\} \quad \{ww : w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$
$$\{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

Context-free languages

$$\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\} \quad \{ww^R : w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

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**Theorem:** The language  
 $L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
is **not** context free

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

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

Assume for **contradiction** that  $L$   
is context-free

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Pumping Lemma says:

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

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

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

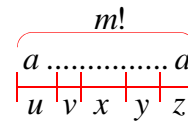
We examine all the possible locations of string  $vxy$  in  $a^{m!}$

There is only one case to consider

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

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

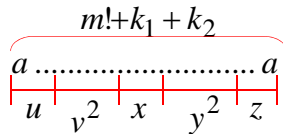


$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = a^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$

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

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

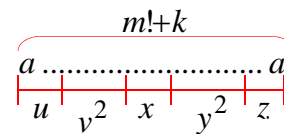


$$v = a^{k_1} \quad y = a^{k_2} \quad 1 \leq k_1 + k_2 \leq m$$

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

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



$$k = k_1 + k_2$$

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

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

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

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

$$1 \leq k \leq m$$

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

$$\begin{aligned} m!+k &\leq m!+m \\ &< m!+m!m \\ &= m!(1+m) \\ &= (m+1)! \end{aligned}$$



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

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$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
 $a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$   
 $m! < m! + k < (m+1)!$   
  
 $a^{m!+k} = uv^2xy^2z \notin L$

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$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
 $a^{m!} = uvxyz \quad |vxy| \leq m \quad |vy| \geq 1$   
 However, from Pumping Lemma:  $uv^2xy^2z \in L$   
 $a^{m!+k} = uv^2xy^2z \notin L$   
**Contradiction!!!**

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We obtained a contradiction  
 Therefore: The original assumption that  
 $L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
 is context-free must be wrong  
 Conclusion:  $L$  is not context-free

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Non-context free languages  
 $\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$        $\{ww : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$   
 $\{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$        $\{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
 Context-free languages  
 $\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$        $\{ww^R : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$

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**Theorem:** The language  
 $L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$   
 is **not** context free  
**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma  
 for context-free languages

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$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$   
 Assume for contradiction that  $L$   
 is context-free  
 Since  $L$  is context-free and infinite  
 we can apply the pumping lemma

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

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

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

we pick:  $a^{m^2} b^m \in L$

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

We can write:  $a^{m^2} b^m = uvxyz$

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

Pumping Lemma says:

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

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

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

We examine all the possible locations

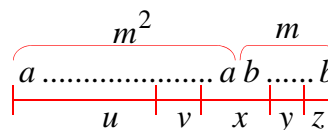
of string  $vxy$  in  $a^{m^2} b^m$

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

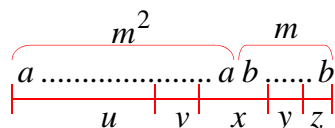


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$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

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

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



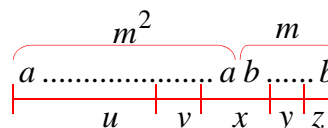
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$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

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

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

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



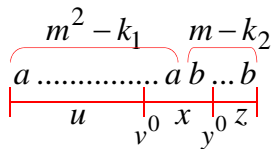
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$$L = \{a^{n^2} b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

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

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

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

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

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

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

↓

$$(m - k_2)^2 \leq (m - 1)^2$$

$$= m^2 - 2m + 1$$

$$< m^2 - k_1$$

↓

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

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

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

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

↓

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

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

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

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

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

Contradiction!!!

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

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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

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