

## 1. Automata and Languages

### 1.1. Regular Languages

**Def.** A (deterministic) **finite automaton** is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_o, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set called the **states**,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite set called the **alphabet**,
3.  $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the **transition function**,
4.  $q_o \in Q$  is the **start state**, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of **accepted/final states**

**Def.** A language is called a **regular language** if some finite automaton recognizes it.

Ex. A language that has strings ending with 0; A language that has strings with substring 010.

The class of regular languages is closed under the following operations:

1. **Union:**  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$ .
2. **Concatenation:**  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x, y \in A, B\}$ .
3. **Star:**  $A^* = \{x_1, x_2, \dots, x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$ .

**Determinism-** When the machine is in a given state and reads the next input symbol, the next state is unique and already determined.

**Nondeterminism-** Several choices may exist for the next state at any point.

**Def.** A **nondeterministic finite automaton** is the same 5-tuple, except

$$\delta : Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \rightarrow P(Q)$$

**Theorem.** Every NFA has an equivalent DFA.

**Corollary.** A language is regular if and only if some NFA recognizes it.

**Def.** R is a **regular expression** if R is

1.  $a$  for some  $a$  is the alphabet  $\Sigma$ ,
2.  $\epsilon$ ,
3.  $\phi$ ,
4.  $(R_1 \cup R_2)$ , where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are regular expressions,
5.  $(R_1 \circ R_2)$ , where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are regular expressions,
- or
6.  $(R_1^*)$ , where  $R_1$  is a regular expression.

**Theorem.** A language is regular iff some regular expression describes it.

**Note.** Every regular language can be converted into an NFA.

**Note.** DFAs can be reduced to minimized DFAs.

**Nonregular languages** are those that cannot be recognized by DFAs.

Ex.  $\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ .

**Theorem. Pumping Lemma** If  $A$  is a regular language, then  $\exists$  a number  $p$  (the pumping length) where if any  $s \in A$  s.t.  $|s| \geq p$ , then  $s$  can be divided into 3 pieces,  $s = xyz$ , s.t.

1. for each  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^i z \in A$ ,
2.  $|y| > 0$ , and
3.  $|xy| \leq p$ .

Pumping Lemma can help differentiate between regular and nonregular languages.

### 1.2. Context-free grammars

**Def.** A CFG is a 4-tuple  $(V, \Sigma, R, S)$ , where

1.  $V$  is a finite set called the variables,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite set, disjoint from  $V$ , called the terminals,
3.  $R$  is a finite set of rules, with each rule being a variable and a string of variables and terminals, and
4.  $S \in V$  is the start variable.

A left hand derivation exists for every string  $s \in L(CFG)$ . The language of the grammar is  $\{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow^* w\}$ .

Grammars can be unambiguous (i.e. each string has a unique LH derivation) or ambiguous (i.e. string has two or more LH derivations), or even inherently ambiguous.

**Note.** A context-free grammar is in Chomsky normal form if every rule is of the form

$$\begin{aligned} A &\rightarrow BC \\ A &\rightarrow a \\ S &\rightarrow \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

**Def.** A (nondeterministic) **pushdown automaton** is a 6-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \varsigma, \delta, q_o, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is the set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is the input alphabet,
3.  $\varsigma$  is the stack alphabet,
4.  $\delta : Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \varsigma_\epsilon \Rightarrow P(Q \times \varsigma_\epsilon)$  is the transition function,
5.  $q_o \in Q$  is the start state, and
6.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.

**Theorem.** A language  $A$  is a CFL iff  $\exists$  a PDA  $P$  s.t.  
 $L(P) = A$ .

Ex.  $\{0^i 1^j 2^k \mid i \neq j \text{ or } j \neq k, i, j, k \geq 0\} \in CFL$ .

**Def.** A **deterministic PDA** is the same 5-tuple, except

$$\delta : Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \varsigma_\epsilon \Rightarrow Q \times \varsigma_\epsilon \cup \{\phi\}.$$

s.t.  $\forall q \in Q, a \in \Sigma, b \in \varsigma$  we have exactly one of the following to be non-empty:

$$\delta(q, a, b), \delta(q, a, \epsilon), \delta(a, \epsilon, b), \delta(\epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon)$$

**Theorem.** A language  $A$  is a DCFL iff  $\exists$  a DPDA  $D$  s.t.  
 $L(D) = A$ .

Ex.  $\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\} \in DCFL \setminus RL$ .

**Note.** PDAs can either accept by final state or by emptying the stack.

**Note.** Every DPDA has an equivalent DPDA that always reads the entire input string.

**Note.** If  $A = N(P)$ , i.e. accepted by emptying the stack, then  $A$  is prefix-free.

**Note.** CFLs are closed under union, intersections and complement.

**Note.** DCFLs are closed under complement.

**Def.** A **DCFG** is a CFG such that every valid string has a forced handle.  $\exists$  a similar pumping lemma for non-context-free languages where the string can be divided into five pieces instead,  $s = uv^i xy^i z$ .