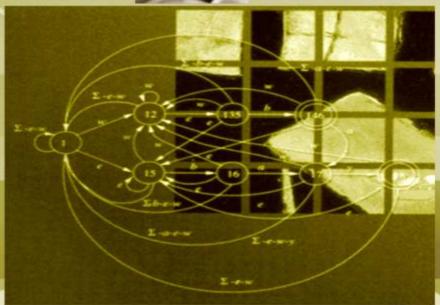
NEW AGE

THEORY OF AUTOMATA, FORMAL LANGUAGES



AND COMPUTATION



S.P. Eugene Xavier





Theory of Automata, Formal Languages and Computation

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ISBN (10): 81-224-2334-5 ISBN (13): 978-81-224-2334-1

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This book is dedicated to My Beloved Father, Mother, Wife and Daughter — The Fountain of Inspiration Forever

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Preface

This book deals with a fascinating and important subject which has the fundamentals of computer hardware, software and some of their applications. This book is intended as an introductory graduate text in computer science theory. I have taken care to present the material very clearly and interestingly.

As an introductory subject to computer science, this book has been written with major stress on worked examples. **Chapter 0** covers the basics required for this subject *viz.*, sets, relations, functions, graphs, trees, languages, and fundamental proof techniques.

Chapter 1 deals with the different aspects of Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA) and Non-Deterministic Finite Automata (NFA). A brief introduction to pumping lemma and some theorems relating to Regular Sets have also been given.

Chapter 2 covers the concepts relating to context free grammar *viz.*, derivation trees, parsing, ambiguity, and normal forms. **Chapter 3** deals with Pushdown Automata and their relation to Context-Free Grammar with some introduction to decision algorithms.

Chapter 4 deals with the Turing Machine model and the variations of Turing Machines with introduction to Church-Turing Thesis and the concept of undecidability. **Chapter 5** explains the concepts *viz.*, regular grammars, unrestricted grammars and Chomsky hierarchy of languages.

Chapter 6 deals with the different aspects of computability with an introduction to formal systems, recursive functions, primitive recursive functions, and recursion. **Chapter 7** covers the various aspect of complexity theory such as polynomial time algorithms, non-polynomial time algorithm class P and NP problems.

Chapter 8 covers propositions and predicates with lot of illustrative examples.

I wish to thank my teachers who helped me to get a good grasp of the subject and for having motivated me to write this book.

I want to place on record my sincere thanks to my family—Shri. Papu Antony, my father; Mrs. Maria Daisy, my mother; Mrs. Assumpta Eugene, my wife; and Ms. E. Catherine Praveena, my only daughter, for their great patience and prayers while I was writing this book.