

Sec. 1.4 (pp. 77-81). **Nonregular Languages**

- Consider the following regular languages (show regex and NFA/DFA, count # of states)
 - $\{(01)^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
 - $\{0^n 1^m \mid n \geq 0, m \geq 0\}$
 - $\{0^k 1^k \mid 0 \leq k \leq n, \text{ for some fixed } n\}$
 - $\{w \mid w \text{ has equal \# of } 01 \text{ and } 10 \text{ substrings}\}$ is regular (see Prob. 1.48)
- If a language is finite, is it always regular? YES

- ***Now is $\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ regular?***

- Not all languages are regular (i.e. not all recognizable by some FA or expressible as a regex)
 - Need to “count & remember” some transition
 - But no way to count to an arbitrarily large number
 - $C = \{w \mid w \text{ has equal \# 0s and 1s}\}$ also not regular
 - Again have to “count”

- How to show some languages non-regular?
- Observation: If the set of strings L is infinite & regular
 - Then matching regex must have at least one “*” or “+”
 - I.e. $R_x R_y^* R_z$ where R_x, R_y, R_z all smaller regexs
 - E.g. $L = ac(bb \cup aa)^* ca$
 - $acbbca$ is in L
 - but so is $acca, acbbbbbca, acbbbbbbca, \dots$
 - i.e. there are an infinite number of strings of the form $ac(bb)^n ca$ for all $n \geq 0$ also in L !
 - In general (with caveats) if w is in L , there is some $w=xyz$ so that for all n , so is $xy^n z$
 - So in general if we find one string we know is in L
 - Then an infinite number of other strings also in L
- Why is this useful? Assume want to show L is NOT regular
 - Proof by contradiction: **Assume L IS regular**
 - Find a string w known to be in L
 - Look at all possible ways of dividing into $w=xyz$
 - x from some R_x, y from some R_y, z from some R_z
 - In each case show for some $k, xy^k z$ is not in L
 - Contradiction! **Assumption that L is regular is FALSE**
 - **Thus L cannot be a regular language**

- (p. 78) **PUMPING LEMMA**. If A is regular, then
 - There is some number p (called the **pumping length**)
 - Where if s is any string in A whose length $\geq p$
 - **Then s can be divided somehow into 3 pieces $s = xyz$**
 - $|y| > 0$, (i.e. y cannot be ϵ)
 - $|xy| \leq p$, (note either x or y or both may be ϵ)
 - **For any $i \geq 0$, then xy^iz is also in A**
- What this means: If **L is regular** language of infinite size
 - L has associated with it some string length p
 - Such that if you take *any* string w from L where $|w| \geq p$
 - Then you can *always* write w as concatenation $w = xyz$ for *some* strings x, y, and z (i.e. at least one)
 - Such that the strings $xz, xyz, xyyz, xyyyz, \dots xy^iz$ all in L
 - Note: finite languages cannot be pumped
 - Example: $\{ade, abcde, abcbcde, \dots\}$
 - Regex = $a(bc)^*de$
 - GNFA equivalent has 3 states
 - $p=4, x=a, y=bc, z=de$
 - Easiest to see the y in a DFA loop, or "*" in the regex

- What this means: If **L is not regular**, then L does not obey the pumping lemma
 - Can use pumping lemma in a **proof by contradiction** to show language is not regular
 - Assume L is regular
 - Then there must exist *some* p (we don't need to know exact value)
 - Show that there is always some string w in L , $|w| \geq p$, that cannot be pumped, regardless of how we partition it into some xyz
 - Need find ONLY ONE SUCH STRING
 - Thus assumption is false and L not regular

- (p. 78) Proof in outline:
 - Assume $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_1, \delta, F)$ accepts A
 - Assume $p = \#$ of states in M
 - $Q = \{q_1, q_2, \dots, q_p\}$
 - If no string in A is $\geq p$, then theorem obviously true
 - Assume $s = s_1s_2 \dots s_n$, $n \geq p$ (n is $\#$ of characters in string)
 - Then state sequence must be (r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n) (see fig. 1.72)
 - where $r_0 = q_1$
 - and $\delta(r_{i-1}, s_i) = r_i$
 - But since $n \geq p$, then $n+1 > p$
 - But since only p states, we must have repeated $n+1-p$ states
 - Assume r_j is 1st state that is repeated
 - s_{j+1} is 1st character to cause leaving r_j
 - Assume s_l is 1st character that causes re-entry to state r_j
 - Since we are back at r_j , we could repeat $s_{j+1} \dots s_l$ forever
 - i.e. $s_{l+1} = s_{j+1}, s_{l+2} = s_{j+2} \dots s_{l+i} = s_l$
 - The substring **$s_{j+1} \dots s_l$** (of length $l-j$) **is thus y**
 - We could keep repeating $s_{j+1} \dots s_l$ arbitrarily often and still end up at r_j – i.e. $(s_{j+1} \dots s_l)^i$ for $i \geq 0$
 - And $x = s_1s_2 \dots s_j$, $z = s_{j+i(l-j)} \dots s_n$,
 - Either/both x and z could be ϵ

- Use lemma to show B not regular – by contradiction
 - Assume B regular
 - Thus there is some p such that **all strings** of length $\geq p$ can be pumped
 - Find a string s in B that is $\geq p$, but cannot be pumped
 - Look at all possible ways to divide string into xyz
 - For each way find an i such that xy^iz not in B
 - When found, we have a contradiction!
 - Thus B is NOT regular
- Examples
 - P.80: $B = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
 - Look at 3 cases of substrings: all 0s, ..01.., all 1s
 - P.80: $C = \{w \mid w \text{ has equal \# of 0's and 1s}\}$
 - Look at $s = 0^p 1^p$
 - P.81: $F = \{ww \mid w \text{ in } \{0,1\}^*\}$
 - Look at $s = 0^p 10^p 1$
 - P.82: $D = \{1^{n^2} \mid n \geq 0\}$
 - Look at $s = 1^{p^2}$
 - P. 82: $E = \{0^i 1^j \mid i > j\}$
 - Look at $s = 0^{p+1} 1^p$
- Also look at problems 1.53-1.58

Summary: Applying Pumping Lemma

- **The Lemma:** If L is regular and infinite, then
 - There is guaranteed to be some integer p such that
 - If you look at **ANY string s** where $|s| \geq p$
 - You can **always find at least one partitioning** $s=xyz$ where
 - $|y| \geq 1$ and $|xy| \leq p$
 - AND xy^iz is also in L **FOR ALL $i \geq 0$** (we are “pumping” the string)
- **How to apply:** To show that L IS NOT Regular
 - Assume L IS regular
 - You only need find one string s in L , $|s| \geq p$, that **does not pump**
 - Choose a string where you can easily identify:
 - What are all the possible values of xy
 - And you can id what y is for any of these
 - Work thru all possible xy strings partitions
 - There are at most $p*(p-1)$ of them:
 - Show that **each possibility** has at least one i where xy^iz does not belong to L
- **Example:** $\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
 - If we choose $0^p 1^p$ then we know
 - xy must be all 0s
 - And thus y must be one or more 0s and no 1s
 - And z holds all p 1s (and perhaps some 0s from the end of the 1st half)
 - Now **regardless of what xy actually is** (need only find one value of i)
 - $i=0$ removes just 0s from the string and thus # of 0s is less than # of 1s, AND thus xy^0z IS NOT IN L
 - Alternatively if we choose $i=2$, then we “add” more 0s to the string and thus more 0s than 1s, AND thus xy^2z IS NOT IN L
 - Thus we have found a string that does not pump, and **THUS L CANNOT BE REGULAR**