

# Fundamentele Informatica 1 (I&E)

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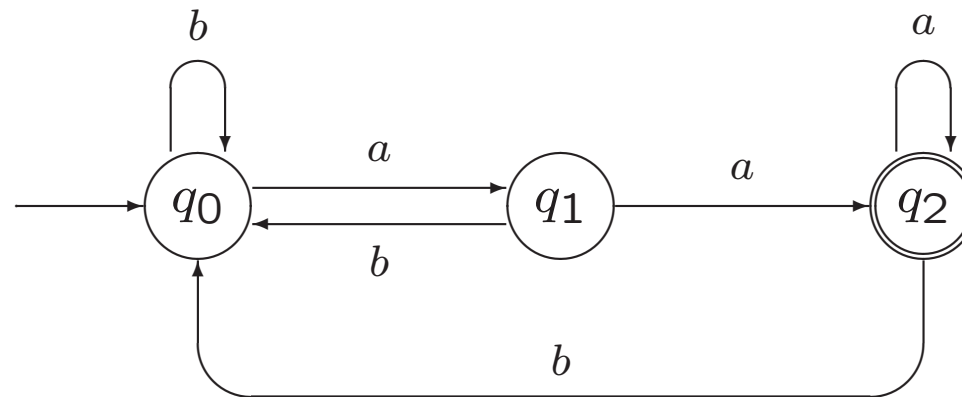
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2.4 The Pumping Lemma

### Example 2.1.

A finite automaton for accepting

$$L_1 = \{x \in \{a, b\}^* \mid x \text{ ends with } aa\}$$



## 2.4 The Pumping Lemma

**Theorem 2.29.**

**The Pumping Lemma for Regular Languages.**

Suppose  $L$  is a language over the alphabet  $\Sigma$ .

If  $L$  is accepted by a finite automaton  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$ , and if  $n$  is the number of states of  $M$ ,

then for every  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , there are three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$  and the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

## **Application of pumping lemma:**

mainly to prove that a language  $L$  **cannot** be accepted by a finite automaton.

How?

Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .

Apply pumping lemma,  
and end up with contradiction.

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

Pumping lemma:

for every  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ ,  
there are three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$   
and the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

**NOT**  
(

for every  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ ,  
there are three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$   
and the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

)

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

There exists  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , such that

**NOT**

(

there are three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$  and the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

)

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

There exists  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , such that for every three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$

**NOT**  
(

the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

)



**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

There exists  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , such that for every three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$

**NOT all of** the following three conditions are true:

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).
3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

There exists  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , such that for every three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$

if

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).

then NOT

(

3. For every  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $uv^i w$  also belongs to  $L$ .

)

**Suppose that there exists FA  $M$  with  $n$  states that accepts  $L$ .**

We prove:

There exists  $x \in L$  satisfying  $|x| \geq n$ , such that for every three strings  $u$ ,  $v$ , and  $w$  such that  $x = uvw$

**if**

1.  $|uv| \leq n$ .
2.  $|v| > 0$  (i.e.,  $v \neq \Lambda$ ).

**then**

3. There exists  $i \geq 0$ , such that the string  $uv^i w$  **does not** belong to  $L$ .

## Application of pumping lemma:

mainly to prove that a language  $L$  **cannot** be accepted by a finite automaton.

How?

Find a string  $x \in L$  with  $|x| \geq n$  that cannot be pumped up!

What is  $n$ ?

What should  $x$  be?

What can  $u$ ,  $v$  and  $w$  be?

**Example 2.30.** The language  $AnBn$ .

Let  $L = \{a^i b^i \mid i \geq 0\}$ .

**Example 2.30.** The language  $A \text{Eq} B$ .

Let  $L = \{x \in \{a, b\}^* \mid n_a(x) = n_b(x)\}$ .

**Example 2.31.**

Let  $L = \{x \in \{a, b\}^* \mid n_a(x) > n_b(x)\}$ .

**Example 2.32.**

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Let } L &= \{a^{i^2} \mid i \geq 0\} = \{a^k \mid k \text{ is a square}\} \\ &= \{\Lambda, a, aaaa, aaaaaaaaaa, aaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaaa, \dots\}. \end{aligned}$$



**Example 2.33.**

Let  $L$  be the set of legal C programs.

**Example 2.34.** Decision problems involving languages accepted by finite automata.

1. Given an FA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$ , is  $L(M)$  nonempty ?
  - 1a. Determine reachable states.
  - 1b. (Black box.) Use pumping lemma.

**Exercise.**

Let  $M$  be a finite automaton with  $n$  states and alphabet  $\Sigma$ . Prove the following claim:

$$\begin{aligned} L(M) \text{ is nonempty} & \iff \\ L(M) \text{ contains a string } x \in \Sigma^* & \text{ with } |x| < n \end{aligned}$$

**Example 2.34.** Decision problems involving languages accepted by finite automata.

2. Given an FA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$ , is  $L(M)$  infinite ?

Use pumping lemma.

**Exercise.**

Let  $M$  be a finite automaton with  $n$  states and alphabet  $\Sigma$ . Prove the following claim:

$$\begin{aligned} L(M) \text{ is infinite} & \iff \\ L(M) \text{ contains a string } x \in \Sigma^* \text{ with } |x| \geq n & \iff \\ L(M) \text{ contains a string } x \in \Sigma^* \text{ with } n \leq |x| < 2n & \end{aligned}$$