



Twelfth Lecture

AUTOMATA & FORMAL LANGUAGES

Saturday, 9 November 2024

RECAP of Chapter 3

Context-free languages $\rightsquigarrow$ PARSE TREES

Chomsky Normal Form CNF

Theorem (Chomsky).

For every context-free G there is a G' in $\bigwedge$ CNF s.t. $L(G) = L(G')$.

Noam Chomsky



Chomsky in 2017

Born Avram Noam Chomsky
December 7, 1928 (age 94)
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, U.S.

Spouses Carol Schatz
(m. 1942; died 2008)
Valeria Wasserman (m. 2014)

Children 3, including Aviva

Parent William Chomsky (father)

3.3 The pumping lemma for context-free languages

Definition 3.10. Let $L \subseteq W$ be a language. We say that L satisfies the (context-free) pumping lemma with pumping number n if for every word $w \in L$ such that $|w| \geq n$ there are words u, v, x, y, z such that $w = xuyvz$, $|uv| > 0$, $|uyv| \leq n$ and for all $k \in \mathbb{N}$, we have that $xu^kyv^kz \in L$. We say that L satisfies the (context-free) pumping lemma if there is some n such that it satisfies the (context-free) pumping lemma with pumping number n .

The first proof of the context-free pumping lemma is usually attributed to Yehoshua Bar-Hillel (1915–1975); the statement is therefore also known as the *Bar-Hillel Lemma*.¹²

Theorem Every context-free language satisfies $\bigwedge$ the CFLP for some n .

[If G is in CNF, $n := 2^m + 1$
where $m := |V|$.]

If $|w| \geq n$, then $w = xuyvz$ with $|uv| > 0$,
 $|uyv| \leq n$ and $xu^kyv^kz \in L \forall k$.

Yehoshua Bar-Hillel



Born September 8, 1915
Vienna, Austria-Hungary

Died September 25, 1975
(aged 60)
Jerusalem, Israel

Application of CFL

Example 3.13 $L = \{0^k 1^k 2^k, k > 0\}$ is not context-free.
 Compare ES#1 (5)(iii). Easy to get $(01)^k 2^k$ as context-free.

Assume it is. Let N be the PN.

Pick $0^N 1^N 2^N \in L$

By CFL, $0^N 1^N 2^N = xuyvz$

with $|uv| > 0$
 $|uyv| \leq N$

So one of two cases applies: either uyv contains no 0
 or uyv contains no 2.

So, pumping up or down will change at least one of the numbers, but not the number of the letters not contained in uyv . q.e.d

Comment on storage / memory:

We showed that $0^n 1^n$ is not regular.

Automata have finite memory, but as $0^n 1^n$ shows: not unbounded memory.

ES#2:

$0^n 1^m 2^n 3^m$

not context-free; would require two independent memory cells.

If there is a model of computation for CFL, it has one unbounded memory space, but it seems to destroy the information when reading it.

§ 3.4 Closure properties

We already know that CFL are closed under union & concatenation.

If $\mathcal{C}$ is closed under union AND complementation, then closed under intersection.

$$\text{DE MORGAN: } A \cap B = X \setminus (X \setminus A \cup X \setminus B) \\ A, B \subseteq X$$

Note: CFL not closed under intersection, then not closed under complement.

Ex 3.14 CFL not closed under intersection.
Show that L from Ex 3.13 is the intersection of two CFL.

$$L_0 = \{0^k 1^k 2^m; k, m > 0\}$$

$$L_1 = \{0^m 1^k 2^k; k, m > 0\}$$

Clearly, $L = L_0 \cap L_1$.

We know that $L_2 = \{0^k 1^k; k > 0\}$ and $L_3 = \{1^k 2^k; k > 0\}$ are CF.

Then $L_0 = L_2 2^+$ and $L_1 = 0^+ L_3$, so both L_0 & L_1 are CFL, since CFL are closed under concatenation. qed

§ 3.5 Decision Problems

	regular (type 3)	context-free (type 2)
<i>Closure properties.</i>		
Concatenation	✓	✓
Union	✓	✓
Intersection	✓	×
Complementation	✓	×
Difference	✓	×
<i>Decision problems.</i>		
Word problem	✓	✓
Emptiness problem	✓	✓
Equivalence problem	✓	×

Figure 4: Closure properties and decision problems of regular and context-free grammars in an overview.

Emptiness

Note that for solving EMPTINESS, we only needed that the shortest word of a non-empty language is shorter than the PN [o/w it can be pumped down].

But that's implied by the CFL.

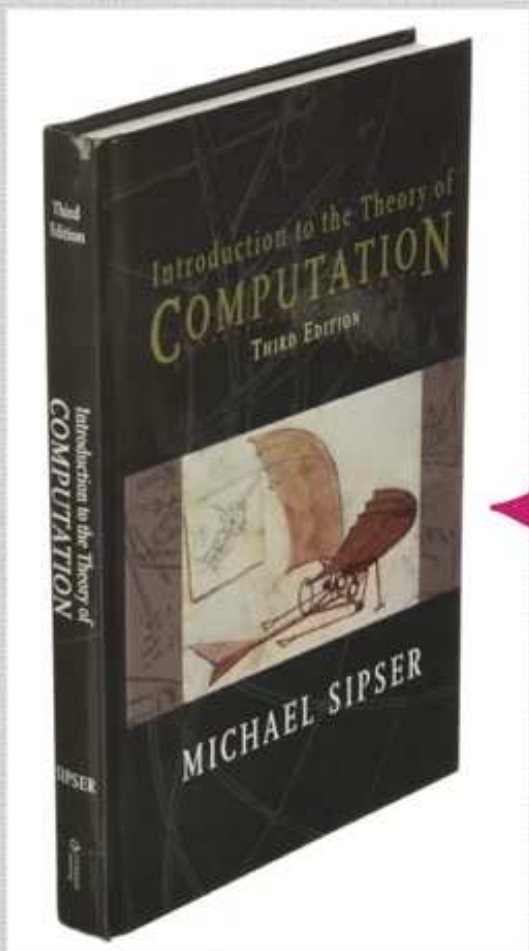
So, the same proof works.

The Equivalence problem for context-free grammars

Answer: NO!
Not solvable.

Exercise 5.1
Theorem 5.13

Note Negative answer must
require a precise
definition of "solvable".
This uses §§ 4.8
& 4.11 from our typed
notes.



Code on Chapter 3 . Model of computation.

There is a notion called PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON

This is an automaton with one additional memory cell called a STACK
with LIFO memory (LAST IN FIRST OUT)

Then we can prove. $L \text{ is CFL} \iff L \text{ is accepted by a pushdown automaton.}$

Note: Failure of intersection closure means
that there cannot be a product
notation.

Chapter 4.

COMPUTABILITY THEORY

Alan Turing
OBE FRS



Turing c. 1928 at age 16

Born Alan Mathison Turing
23 June 1912
Maida Vale, London, England

Died 7 June 1954 (aged 41)
Wilmslow, Cheshire, England



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A. M. TURING

[Nov. 12,

ON COMPUTABLE NUMBERS, WITH AN APPLICATION TO
THE ENTSCHEIDUNGSPROBLEM

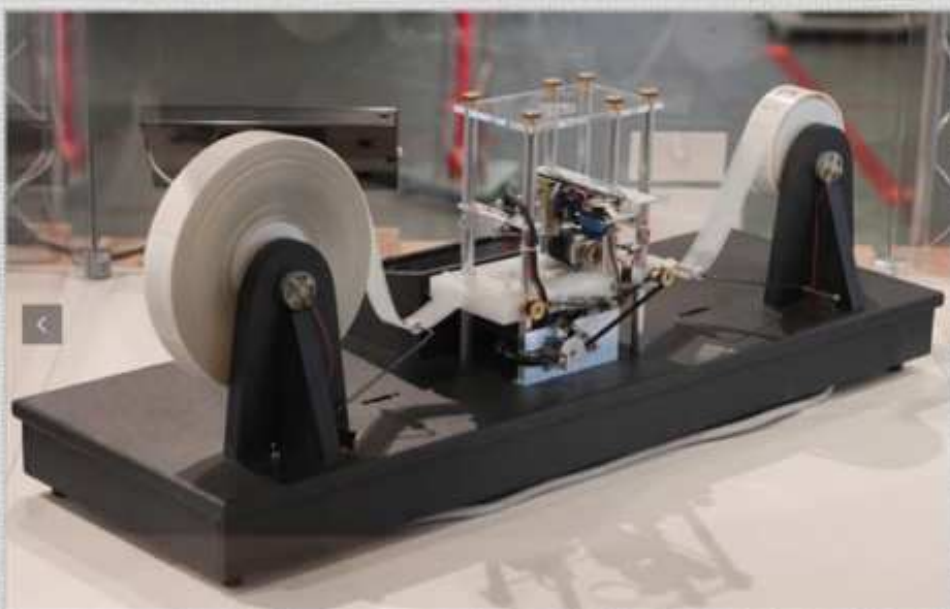
By A. M. TURING.

[Received 28 May, 1936.—Read 12 November, 1936.]



TURING MACHINES

Single Tape
(infinite):
serves as input,
scratch, &
output



REGISTER MACHINES

von Neumann
architecture

finitely many
memory cells:

REGISTERS

Joachim LAMBER 1922-2014

Zdzisław MELBAK 1926-?

Maurice KINSKY 1927-2016

John C. SHEPHERSON
1926-2015

Howard E. STORGIS
1936-1990

Basic ideas for Register Machines

COMPUTERS CAN ONLY UNDERSTAND BINARY
for the moment $\Sigma := \Sigma_{01} = \{0, 1\}$

$+0$	$?0$	$-$	} form INSTRUCTIONS
$+1$	$?1$		
	$?ε$		

Six basic operation types.