


MA/CSSE 474

Theory of Computation

Course Intro
 $T \subseteq S$ proof from Day 1
More about strings and languages



Today's Agenda

- Roll call
- Student questions
- Introductions and Course overview
- Overview of yesterday's proof
 - I placed online a "straight-line" write-up of the proof in detail, without the "here is how a proof works" commentary that was in the slides. See Session 1 resources on schedule page
- Responses to Reading Quiz 1 (0 4 8 12)
- Languages and Strings
- (if time) Operations on Languages

Introductions

- **Roll Call**
 - If I mispronounce your name, or you want to be called by a nickname or different name but did not list that yesterday, let me know.
 - I have had most of you in class, but for some of you it has been a long time.
- **Graders:** Fred Zhang, Coleman Gibson, Kieran Groble
- **Instructor:** Claude Anderson: F-210, x8331
- **Random Note:** I often put more on my PowerPoint slides for a day than I expect we can actually cover that day, "just in case".

Instructor Professional Background

- **Formal Education:**
 - BS Caltech, Mathematics 1975
 - Ph.D. Illinois, Mathematics 1981
 - MS Indiana, Computer Science 1987
- **Teaching:**
 - TA at Illinois, Indiana 1975-1981, 1986-87
 - Wilkes College (now Wilkes University) 1981-88
 - RHIT 1988 –??
- **Major Consulting Gigs:**
 - Pennsylvania Funeral Directors Assn 1983-88
 - Navistar International 1994-95
 - Beckman Coulter 1996-98
 - ANGEL Learning 2005-2008
- **Theory of Computation history**

See optional video on Moodle for some personal background



What do we Study in Theory of Computation?

Larger issues, such as

- What can be computed, and what cannot?
- What problems are tractable?
- What are reasonable mathematical models of computation?



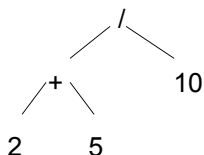
Applications of the Theory

- Finite State Machines (FSMs) for parity checkers, vending machines, communication protocols, and building security devices.
- Interactive games as nondeterministic FSMs.
- Programming languages, compilers, and context-free grammars.
- Natural languages are mostly context-free. Speech understanding systems use probabilistic FSMs.
- Computational biology: DNA and proteins are strings.
- The undecidability of a simple security model.
- Artificial intelligence: the undecidability of first-order logic.

Some Language-related Problems

```
int alpha, beta;
alpha = 3;
beta = (2 + 5) / 10;
```

- (1) **Lexical analysis**: Scan the program and break it up into variable names, numbers, operators, punctuation, etc.
- (2) **Parsing**: Create a tree that corresponds to the sequence of operations that should be executed, e.g.,



- (3) **Optimization**: Realize that we can skip the first assignment since the value is never used, and that we can pre-compute the arithmetic expression, since it contains only constants.
- (4) **Termination**: Decide whether the program is guaranteed to halt.
- (5) **Interpretation**: Figure out what (if anything) useful it does.

A Framework for Analyzing Problems

We need a single framework in which we can analyze a very diverse set of problems.

The framework we will use is

Language Recognition

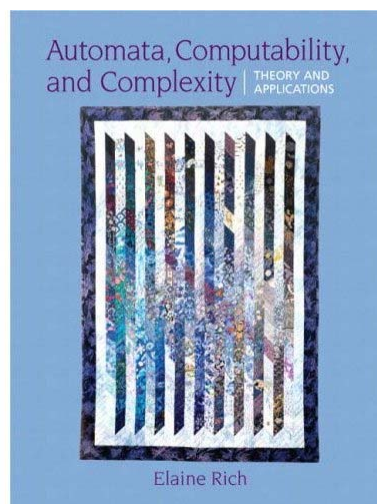
Most interesting problems can be restated as language recognition problems.

What we will focus on in 474

- Definitions
- Theorems
- Examples
- Proofs
- A few applications, but mostly theory

Textbook

- Thorough
- Literate
- Large (and larger!)
- Theory and Applications
- We'll focus more on theory; applications are there for you to see



Online Materials Locations

- On the Schedule page – public stuff
 - Reading, HW, topics, resources,
 - Suggestion: bookmark schedule page
- On Moodle – personal stuff
 - surveys, solutions, grades
- On piazza.com:
 - Discussion forums and announcements
- csse474-staff@rose-hulman.edu
- Many things are under construction and subject to change, especially the course schedule.

My most time-consuming courses (for students)

This is my perception, not a scientific study!

- 220 (object-oriented)
- 473 (design and analysis of algorithms)
- 280 (web programming)
- 304 (PLC)
- 404 (Compilers)
- 474 (Theory of Computation)
- 230 (Data Structures & Algorithms)

The learning outcomes include a lot of difficult material. Most of you will need a lot practice in order to understand it.

Questions about course policies and procedures?

- From Syllabus?
- Schedule page?
- Things said in class yesterday?
- Anything else?
- Attendance?
- Late Days?
- How to find my office hours for a given day?
- Anything else?

Overview of yesterday's proof

- $S = L(M)$, language accepted by M
- $T = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* : w \text{ does not have } 11 \text{ as substring}\}$
- Show that $S = T$. i.e., $S \subseteq T$ and $T \subseteq S$
- $S \subseteq T$: i.e. if $w \in S$, then $w \in T$
 - By induction on $|w|$, showed
 - If $\delta(q_0, w) = q_0$, w has no 11 and does not end in 1.
 - If $\delta(q_0, w) = q_1$, w has no 11 and ends in 1.
- $T \subseteq S$: i.e. if $w \in T$, then $w \in S$.
 - We show the contrapositive: if $w \notin S$, then $w \notin T$.
 - If $w \notin S$ then $\delta(q_0, w) = q_2$ (the only non-accepting state).
 - Show by induction that if $\delta(q_0, w) = q_2$, then w contains 11.
 - This uses the property of q_1 that was proved by induction as part of $S \subseteq T$.

Part B: $T \subseteq S$

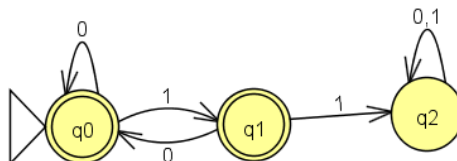
- Now, we must prove: if w has no 11's, then w is accepted by M .
- **Contrapositive**: If w is *not* accepted by M then w has 11 as a substring.

Key idea: contrapositive of "if X then Y " is the equivalent statement "if *not* Y then *not* X ."

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Using the Contrapositive

- **Contrapositive**: If w is *not* accepted by M then w has 11 as a substring.
- **Base case** is again vacuously true.
- Because there is a unique transition from every state on every input symbol, each w gets the DFSM to exactly one state.
- The only way w can not be accepted is if it takes the DFSM M to q_2 . How can this happen?

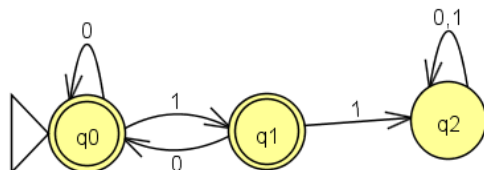


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Using the Contrapositive – (2)

Looking at the DFMSM, there are two possibilities: (recall that $w=ua$)

1. $\delta(q_0, u) = q_1$ and a is 1. We proved earlier that if $\delta(q_0, u) = q_1$, then u ends in 1. Thus w ends in 11.
2. $\delta(q_0, u) = q_2$. In this case, the IH says that u contains 11 as a substring. So does $w=ua$.



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Your 474 HW induction proofs

- Can be slightly less detailed
 - Many of the details above were about how the proof process works in general, rather than about the proof itself.
 - *You can assume that the reader knows the proof techniques.*
- You must always make it clear what the IH is, and where you apply it.
 - When in doubt about whether to include a detail, include it!
- Well-constructed proofs often contain more words than symbols.



This Proof as a 474 HW Problem

- An example of how I would write up this proof if it was a 474 HW problem will be linked from the schedule page this afternoon.
- You do not need to copy it exactly in your proofs, but it gives an idea of the kinds of things to include or not include.
- Also, I will post [another version of the slides](#) that includes the parts that I wrote on the board today.



Responses to Reading Quiz 1

Responses to Reading Quiz 1

- **From #4:** $\wp(\emptyset) = \{ \emptyset \}$ (not $\wp(\emptyset) = \emptyset$)
What is $\wp(\wp(\emptyset))$?
- **From #4:** $\{a, b\} \times \{1, 2, 3\} \times \emptyset = \emptyset$
- **#10:** (representing $\{1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, \dots\}$
in the form: $\{x \in A : P(x)\}$
 $\{x \in \mathbb{N} : x > 0 \wedge \exists y \in \mathbb{N} (y^2 = x)\}$
Why not $\{x \in \mathbb{N} : x > 0 \wedge \sqrt{x} \in \mathbb{N}\}$?
- **From #15:** $\forall x \in \mathbb{N} (\exists y \in \mathbb{N} (y < x))$.
Why is this **not** satisfiable? (e, g, by $x=3, y=2$)

Responses to Reading Quiz 1

- #16:** Let \mathbb{N} be the set of nonnegative integers. Let A be the set of nonnegative integers x such that $x \equiv_3 0$.
Show that $|\mathbb{N}| = |A|$.
Define a function $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$ by $f(n) = 3n$.
f is one-to-one: if $f(n) = f(m)$, then $3n = 3m$,
so $m=n$.
f is onto: Let $k \in A$. Then $k = 3m$ for some
 $m \in \mathbb{N}$. So $k = f(m)$.

Responses to Reading Quiz 1

#18: Prove by induction: $\forall n > 0 (n! \geq 2^{n-1})$.

Why is the following "proof" of the induction step shaky at best, perhaps wrong?

$(n+1)! \geq 2^n$ *what we're trying to show*

$(n+1)n! \geq 2(2^{n-1})$ *definitions of ! And exponents*

$(n+1) \geq 2$ *induction hypothesis ($n! \geq 2^{n-1}$)*

Since n is at least 1, this statement is true, therefore $(n+1)! \geq 2^n$ is true.

Languages and Strings

Properties of Strings

- A **string** is a finite sequence (possibly empty) of symbols from some finite alphabet Σ .
- ε is the empty string (some books/papers use λ instead)
- Σ^* is the set of all possible strings over an alphabet Σ
- **Counting:** $|s|$ is the number of symbols in s . $|\varepsilon| = 0$ $|1001101| = 7$
- $\#_c(s)$ is the number of times that c occurs in s . $\#_a(\text{abbaaa}) = 4$.

More Functions on Strings

Concatenation: st is the **concatenation** of s and t .

If $x = \text{good}$ and $y = \text{bye}$, then $xy = \text{goodbye}$.

Note that $|xy| = |x| + |y|$.

ε is the **identity** for concatenation of strings. So:

$$\forall x (x\varepsilon = \varepsilon x = x).$$

Concatenation is **associative**. So:

$$\forall s, t, w ((st)w = s(tw)).$$

More Functions on Strings

Replication: For each string w and each natural number i , the string w^i is:

$$w^0 = \varepsilon, \quad w^{i+1} = w^i w$$

Examples:

$$a^3 = aaa$$

$$(\text{bye})^2 = \text{byebye}$$

$$a^0 b^3 = \text{bbb}$$

Reverse: For each string w , w^R is defined as:

if $|w| = 0$ then $w^R = w = \varepsilon$

if $|w| \geq 1$ then:

$$\exists a \in \Sigma (\exists u \in \Sigma^* (w = ua)).$$

So define $w^R = a u^R$.

Concatenation and Reverse of Strings

Theorem: If w and x are strings, then $(wx)^R = x^R w^R$.

Example:

$$(\text{nametag})^R = (\text{tag})^R (\text{name})^R = \text{gateman}$$

Proof on next slide

Concatenation and Reverse of Strings

Proof: By induction on $|x|$:

$|x| = 0$: Then $x = \varepsilon$, and $(wx)^R = (w\varepsilon)^R = (w)^R = \varepsilon w^R = \varepsilon^R w^R = x^R w^R$.

$\forall n \geq 0$ ($(|u| = n \rightarrow ((w u)^R = u^R w^R)) \rightarrow$
 $(|x| = n + 1 \rightarrow ((w x)^R = x^R w^R))$):

Consider any string x , where $|x| = n + 1$. Then $x = u a$ for some symbol a and $|u| = n$. So:

$(w x)^R$	$= (w (u a))^R$	rewrite x as ua
	$= ((w u) a)^R$	associativity of concatenation
	$= a (w u)^R$	definition of reversal
	$= a (u^R w^R)$	induction hypothesis
	$= (a u^R) w^R$	associativity of concatenation
	$= (ua)^R w^R$	definition of reversal
	$= x^R w^R$	rewrite ua as x