

Lecture 4

# Properties of Regular Languages

COSE215: Theory of Computation

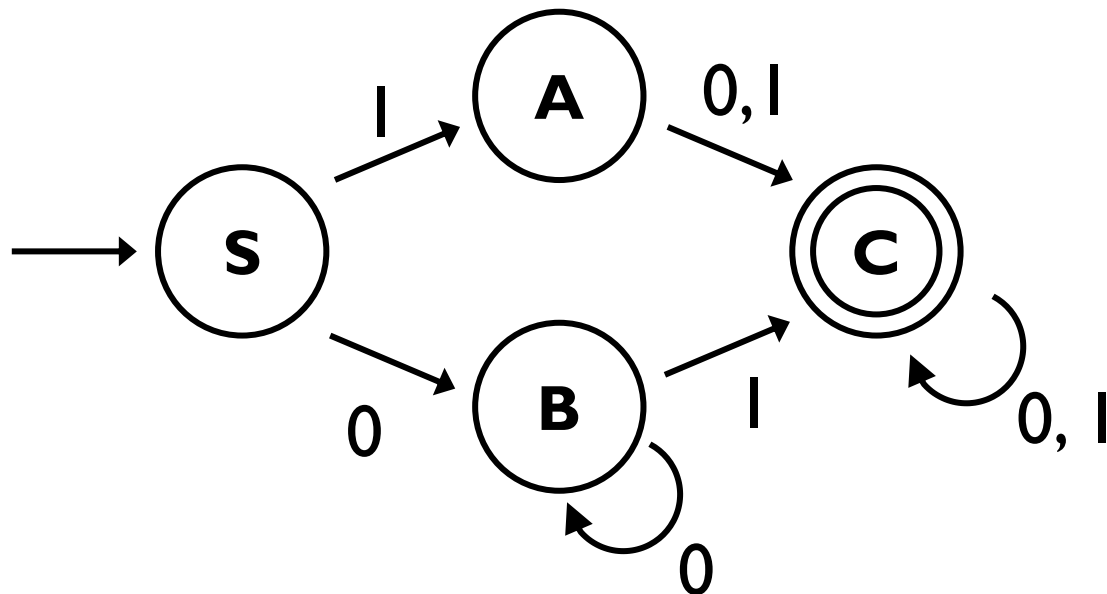
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Fall 2023

# Practice for Lecture 3

- Find a **DFA** for the given regular expression, and then extract regular grammar

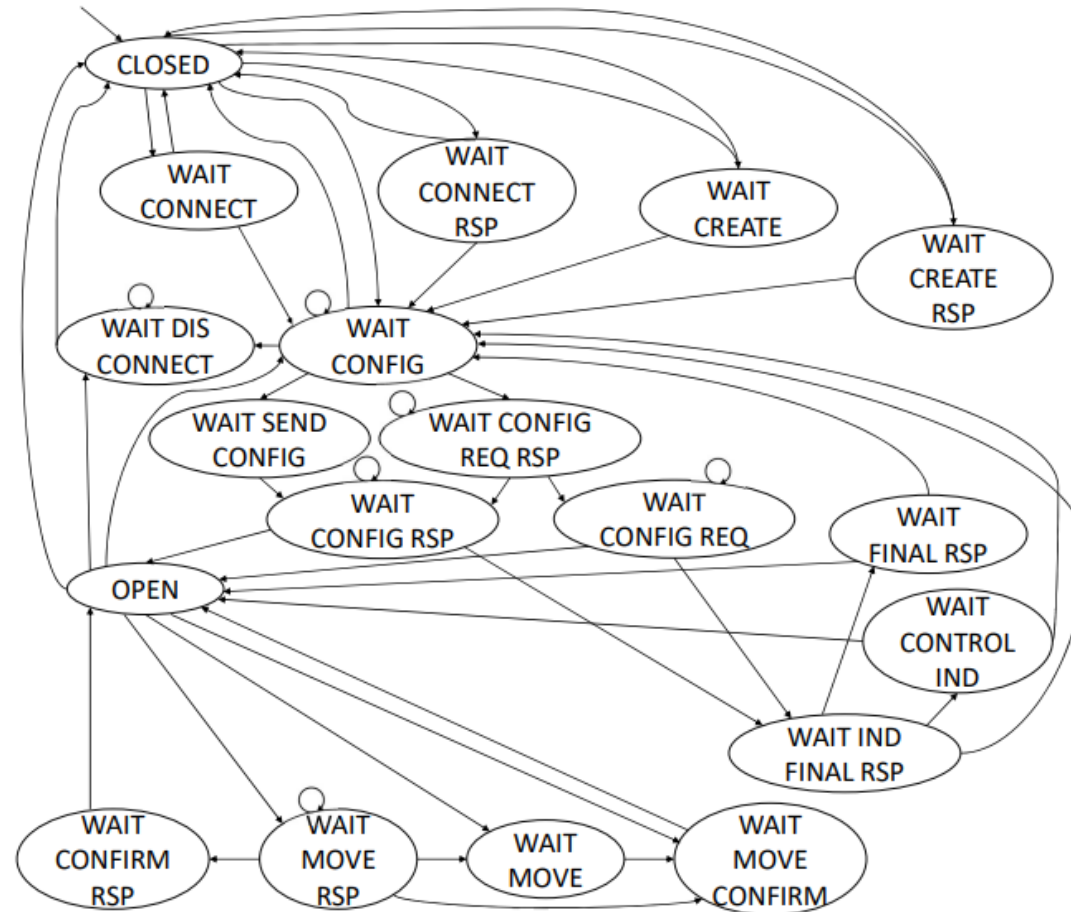
- $(1(0 + 1) + 00^*1)(0 + 1)^*$



- $S \rightarrow 1A \mid 0B$
- $A \rightarrow 0C \mid 1C \mid 0 \mid 1$
- $B \rightarrow 0B \mid 1C \mid 1$
- $C \rightarrow 0C \mid 1C \mid 0 \mid 1$

# Example State Machine

- Bluetooth L2CAP



# Contents

- **Pumping Lemma: Identifying non-regular languages**

# Identifying non-regular languages

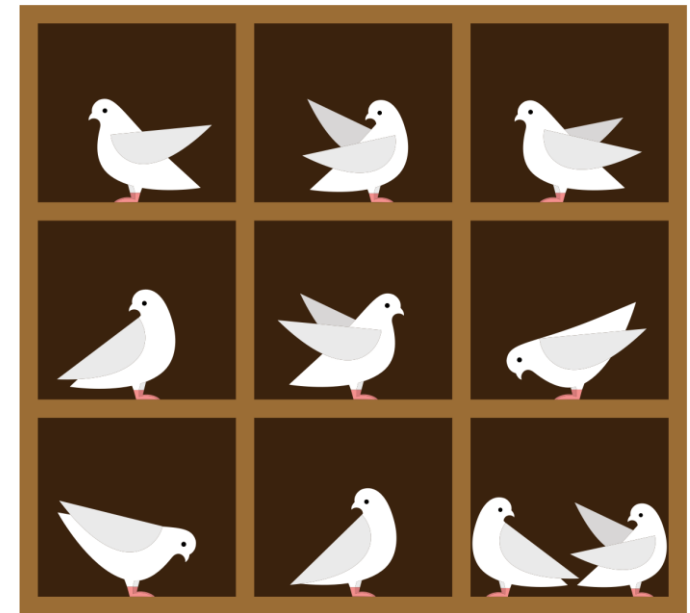
- **Non-regular languages**

- Non-regular languages cannot be recognized by finite automata
- Claim:  $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not regular
  - ❖ L is a regular language if we can construct a DFA for L
  - ❖ However, DFA has limited temporary storage, so it cannot remember  $n$

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pigeonhole principle**

- If  $n$  pigeons are placed in  $m$  pigeon holes,
  - ❖ Then one hole will contain at least  $n/m$  pigeons
- If we put  $n$  objects into  $m$  boxes and  $n > m$ , then at least one box must have more than one object in it

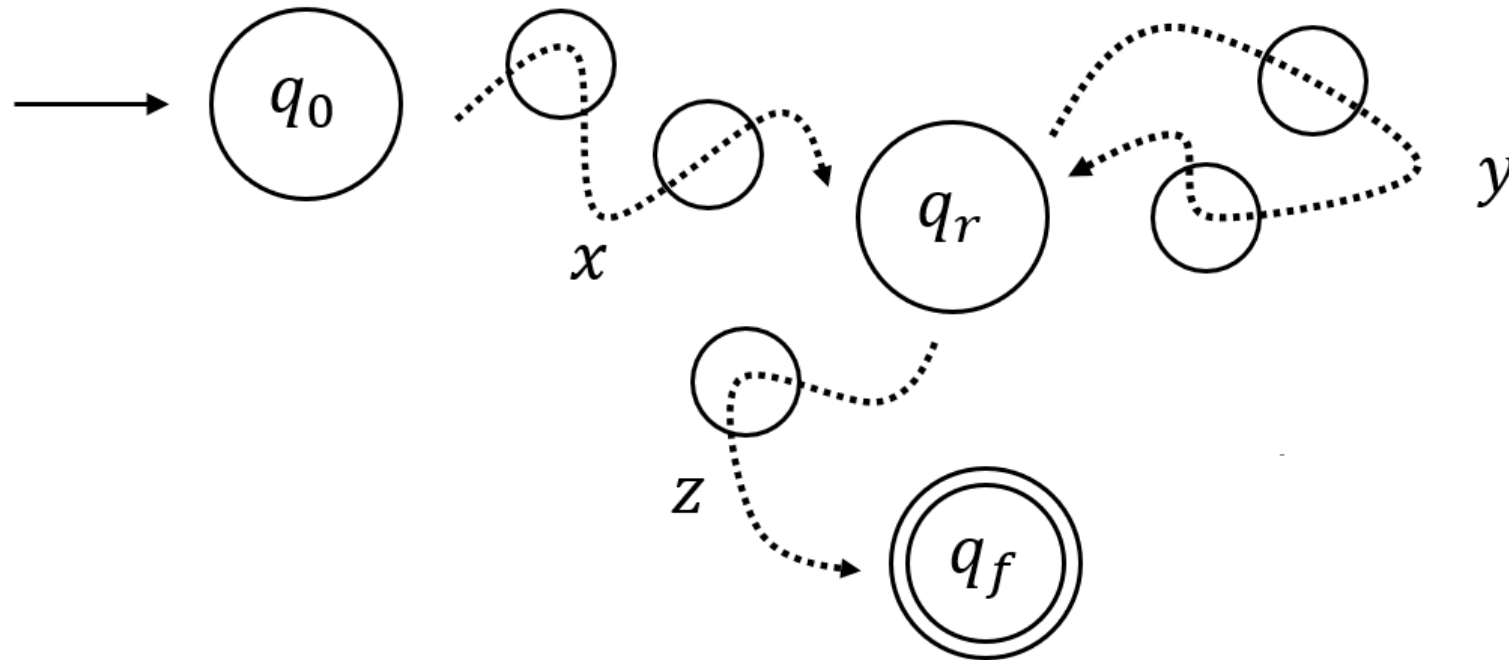


# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Basic idea to identify non-regular languages**
  - Consider a finite automaton with  $n$  state
  - Given an input string with length  $m$  where  $m > n$
  - Then, one or more states will inevitably be visited multiple times

# Identifying non-regular languages

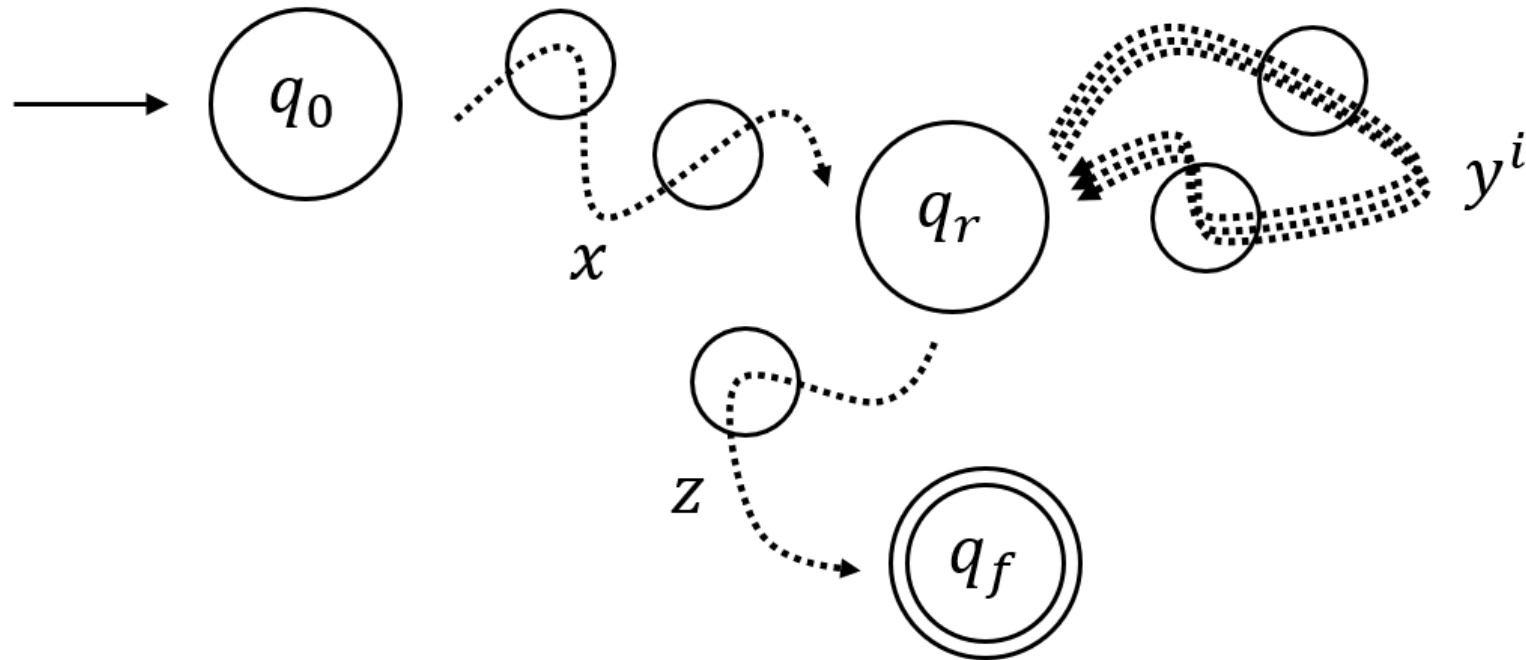
- Pumping lemma





# Identifying non-regular languages

- Pumping lemma



# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Let  $L$  be a regular language
- There exists a positive integer  $m$  such that any  $w \in L$ , if  $|w| \geq m$ , there exists  $w = xyz$  such that
  - ❖  $|xy| \leq m$
  - ❖  $|y| \geq 1$
  - ❖ For all  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^iz \in L$

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  - ❖ For all  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^iz \in L$
- A string of sufficiently large length ( $|w| \geq m$ ) can be represented in the form of  $xyz$ , and  $xy^iz$ , which is pumped "y"  $i$  times, can also always belong to this language

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Proof of the pumping lemma**
  - If  $L$  is regular, there exists a DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  that recognizes it

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- Consider the set of states  $M$  goes through as it processes  $w$ :  $q_0, q_i, q_j, \dots, q_f$
- Since this sequence has  $|w| + 1$  states, at least one state must be repeated
  - ❖ Such a repetition must start no later than the  $n^{\text{th}}$  move
  - ❖ E.g.,  $q_0, q_i, q_j, \dots, q_r, \dots, q_r, \dots, q_f$



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  - ❖ E.g.,  $q_0, q_i, q_j, \dots, q_r, \dots, q_r, \dots, q_f$
- This indicates that there must be substrings  $x, y, z$  of  $w$  such that
  - ❖  $\delta^*(q_0, x) = q_r, \quad \delta^*(q_r, y) = q_r, \quad \delta^*(q_r, z) = q_f$  (with  $|xy| \leq n + 1$  and  $|y| \geq 1$ )

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- From this, the followings can be satisfied
  - ❖  $\delta^*(q_0, xz) = q_f, \quad \delta^*(q_0, xy^2z) = q_f, \quad \delta^*(q_0, xy^3z) = q_f, \quad \delta^*(q_0, xy^i z) = q_f$

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Show that  $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$  is not regular

# Identifying non-regular languages

## • Pumping lemma

- Show that  $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$  is not regular
  - ❖ Assume that  $L$  is regular, so that the pumping lemma must hold
  - ❖ Let  $m = n$
  - ❖ Because  $|xy| \leq m$ , the substring  $y$  must consist entirely of  $a$ 's (suppose  $|y| = k$ )
  - ❖ When  $i = 0$ , then  $w_0 = a^{m-k} b^m$
  - ❖  $a^{m-k} b^m$  clearly not in  $L \Rightarrow$   **$L$  is not regular**

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that  $L = \{ww^R : w \in \Sigma^*\}$  is not regular

- ❖  $w^R$  = string reverse

- E.g.,  $w = abb$ , then  $w^R = bba$

# Identifying non-regular languages

## • Pumping lemma

- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that  $L = \{ww^R : w \in \Sigma^*\}$  is not regular
  - ❖ Assume that  $L$  is regular, so that the pumping lemma must hold
  - ❖ Consider a positive integer  $m$  and let  $w' = ww^R$  be  $a^m b^m b^m a^m$
  - ❖ Because  $|xy| \leq m$ , the substring  $y$  must consist entirely of  $a$ 's (suppose  $|y| = k$ )
  - ❖ When  $i = 0$ , then  $w' = a^{m-k} b^m b^m a^m \notin L$
  - ❖  **$L$  is not regular**

$a^m$        $b^m$        $b^m$        $a^m$

$aaa \dots aaabbb \dots bbbbbb \dots bbbaaa \dots aaa$

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Pumping Lemma is violated  $\Rightarrow$  **not a regular language**
- Pumping Lemma is not violated  $\Rightarrow$  do not know if it is regular language or not

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that  $L = \{w \in \Sigma^* : n_a(w) < n_b(w)\}$  is not regular



# Identifying non-regular languages

## • Pumping lemma

- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that  $L = \{w \in \Sigma^* : n_a(w) < n_b(w)\}$  is not regular
  - ❖ Assume that  $L$  is regular, so that the pumping lemma must hold
  - ❖ Consider a positive integer  $m$  and  $w = a^m b^{m+1}$
  - ❖ Because  $|xy| \leq m$ , the substring  $y$  must consist entirely of  $a$ 's (suppose  $|y| = k \geq 1$ )
  - ❖ When  $i = 2$ , then  $w = a^{m+k} b^{m+1} (\notin L)$
  - ❖  **$L$  is not regular**

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma**

- Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that  $L = \{ww \mid w \in \Sigma^*\}$  is not regular

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  - ❖ Assume that  $L$  is regular, so that the pumping lemma must hold
  - ❖ Consider a positive integer  $m$  and  $w = a^m b a^m b$
  - ❖ Because  $|xy| \leq m$ , the substring  $y$  must consist entirely of  $a$ 's (suppose  $|y| = k \geq 1$ )
  - ❖ When  $i = 0$ , then  $w = a^{m-k} b a^m b (\notin L)$
  - ❖  **$L$  is not regular**

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma: practice**

- Show that  $L = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i + j \leq k\}$  is not regular

# Identifying non-regular languages

- **Pumping lemma: practice**

- Show that  $L = \{0^{n^2} \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not regular

# Next Lecture

- **Context-Free Languages**