



Final Course Review

Reading: Chapters 1-9



Objectives

- Introduce concepts in automata theory and theory of computation
- Identify different formal language classes and their relationships
- Design grammars and recognizers for different formal languages
- Prove or disprove theorems in automata theory using its properties
- Determine the decidability and intractability of computational problems



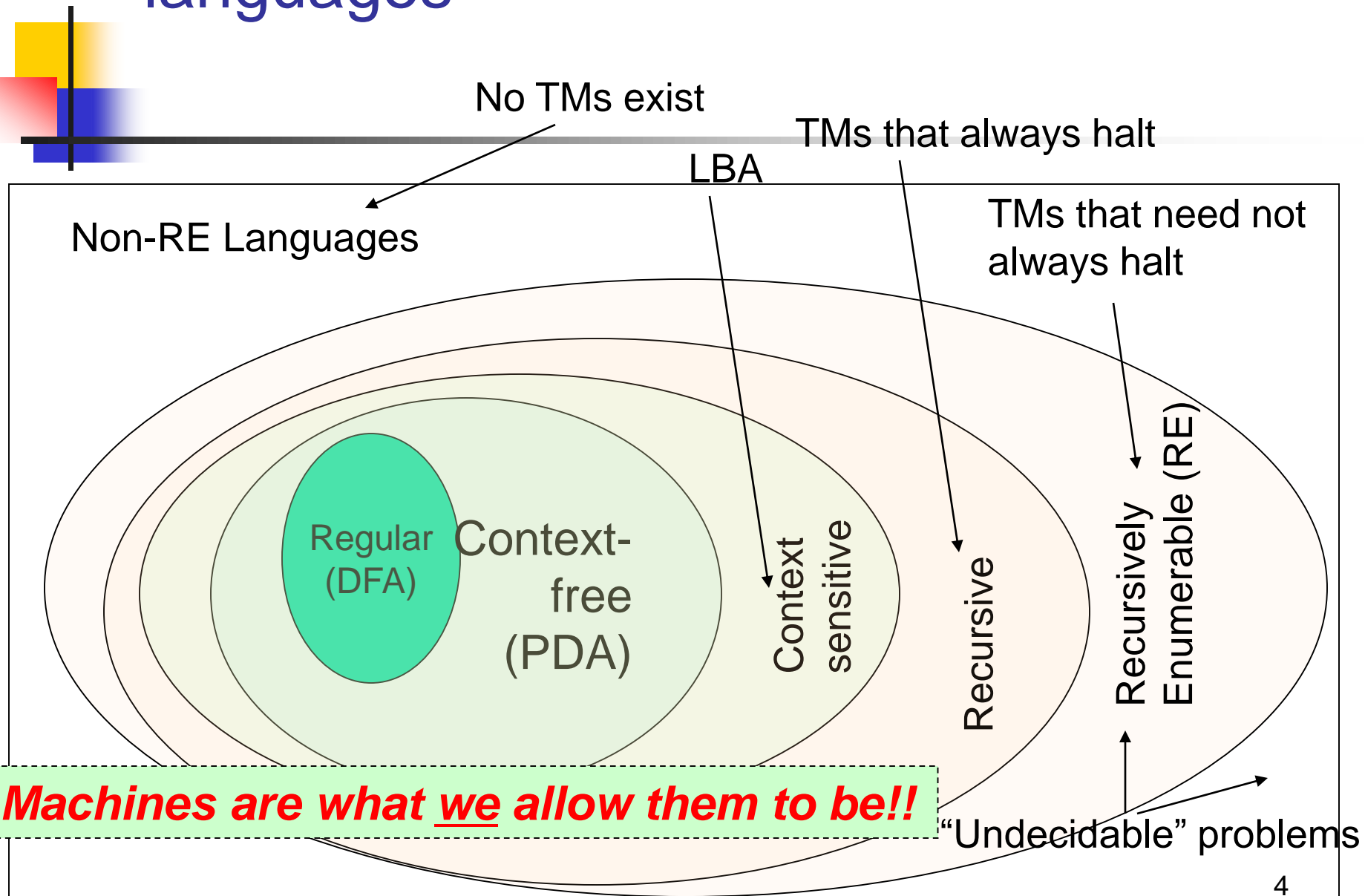
Main Topics

Part 1) Regular Languages

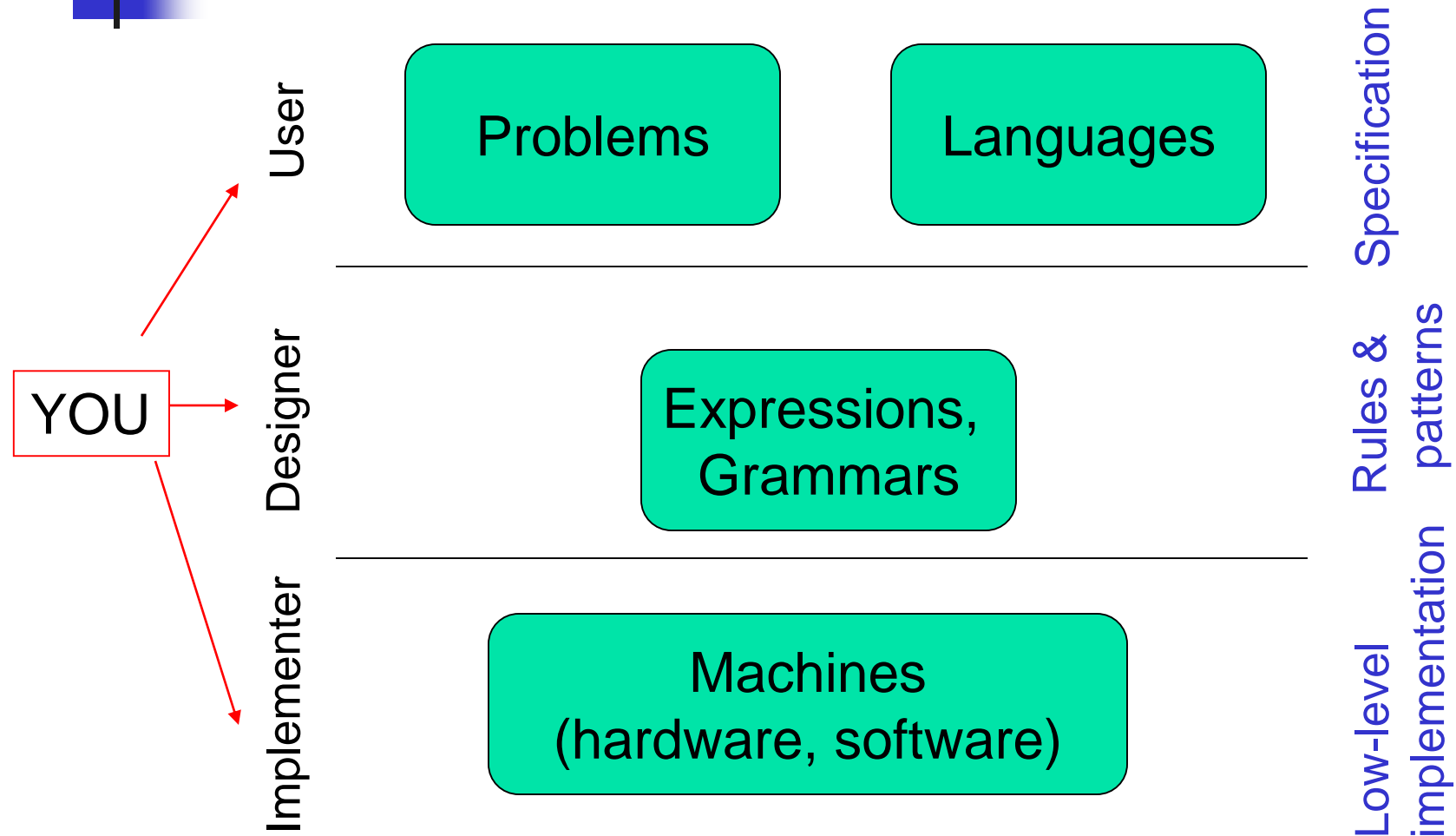
Part 2) Context-Free Languages

Part 3) Turing Machines &
Computability

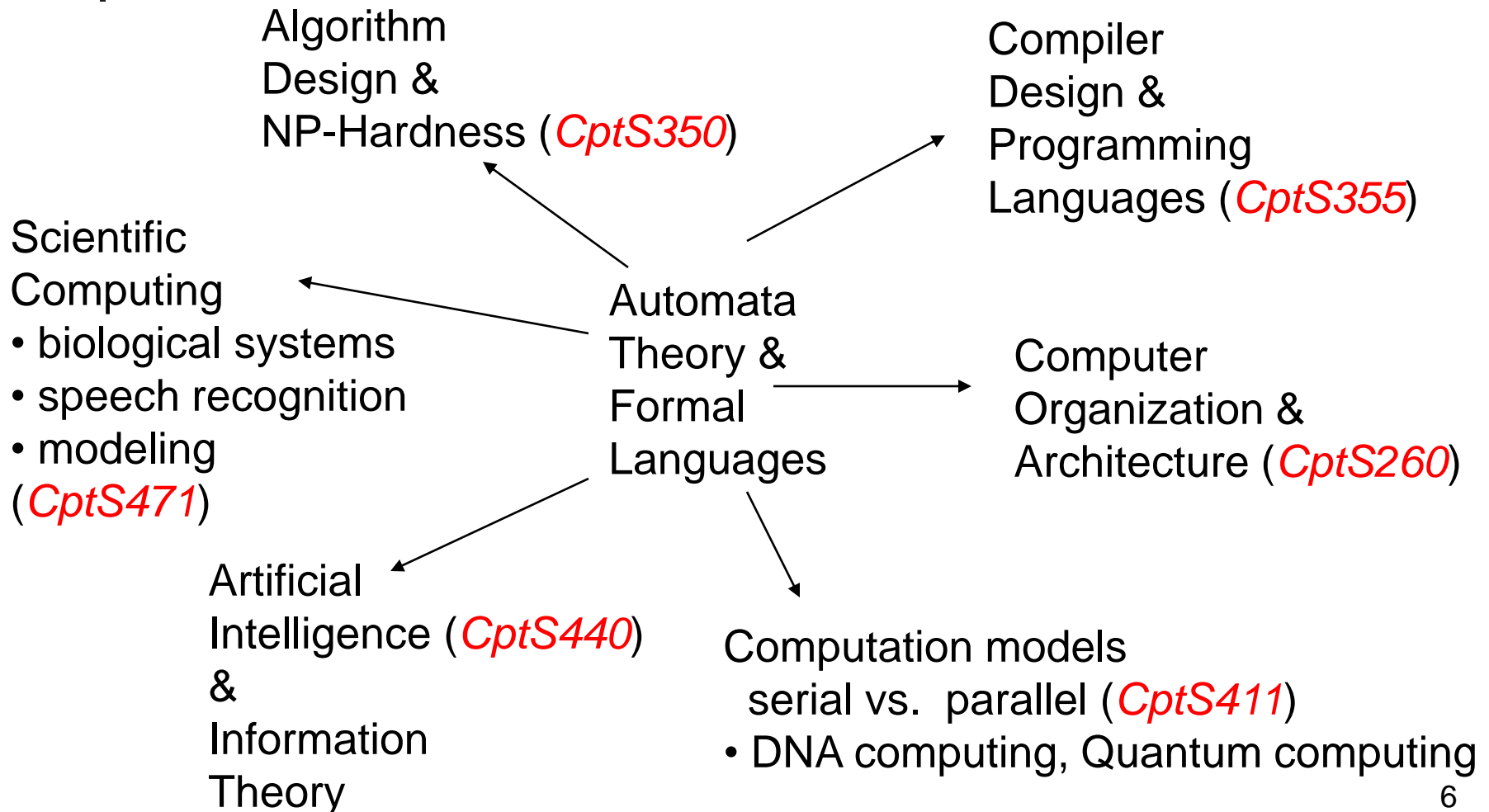
The Chomsky hierarchy for formal languages



Interplay between different computing components



Automata Theory & Modern-day Applications





Final Exam

- **May 3, 2017, Wednesday,
8:00am – 10:00am**
- In class
- Comprehensive:
 - Everything covered in class until (& including) the closure properties for Recursive and Recursively Enumerable language classes.



Thank You &



Course evaluations:
(fill out from my.wsu)



Topic Reviews

The following set of review slides are *not* meant to be comprehensive. So make sure you refer to them in conjunction with the midterm review slides, homeworks and most importantly, the original lecture slides!



Regular Languages Topics

- Simplest of all language classes
- Finite Automata
 - NFA, DFA, ε -NFA
- Regular expressions
- Regular languages & properties
 - Closure
 - Minimization



Finite Automata

- **Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)**
 - The machine can exist in only one state at any given time
- **Non-deterministic Finite Automata (NFA)**
 - The machine can exist in multiple states at the same time
- ϵ -NFA is an NFA that allows ϵ -transitions
- What are their differences?
- Conversion methods



Deterministic Finite Automata

- A DFA is defined by the 5-tuple:
 - $\{Q, \Sigma, q_0, F, \delta\}$
- Two ways to represent:
 - State-diagram
 - State-transition table
- DFA construction checklist:
 - States & their meanings
 - Capture all possible combinations/input scenarios
 - break into cases & subcases wherever possible)
 - Are outgoing transitions defined for every symbol from every state?
 - Are final/accepting states marked?
 - Possibly, dead-states will have to be included



Non-deterministic Finite Automata

- A NFA is defined by the 5-tuple:
 - $\{Q, \Sigma, q_0, F, \delta\}$
- Two ways to represent:
 - State-diagram
 - State-transition table
- NFA construction checklist:
 - Introduce states only as needed
 - Capture only valid combinations
 - Ignore invalid input symbol transitions (allow that path to die)
 - Outgoing transitions defined only for valid symbols from every state
 - Are final/accepting states marked?



NFA to DFA conversion

- Checklist for NFA to DFA conversion
 - Two approaches:
 - Enumerate all possible subsets, or
 - Use *lazy construction* strategy (to save time)
 - Introduce subset states only as needed
 - Any subset containing an accepting state is also accepting in the DFA
 - Have you made a special entry for Φ , the empty subset?
 - This will correspond to dead state



ϵ -NFA to DFA conversion

- Checklist for ϵ -NFA to DFA conversion
 - First take ECLOSE(start state)
 - New start state = ECLOSE(start state)
 - Remember: ECLOSE(q) include q
 - Same two approaches as NFA to DFA:
 - Enumerate all possible subsets, or
 - Use *lazy construction* strategy (to save time)
 - Introduce subset states only as needed
 - Only difference: take ECLOSE *both before & after* transitions
 - The subset Φ corresponds to a “dead state”



Regular Expressions

- A way to express accepting patterns
- Operators for Reg. Exp.
 - (E) , $L(E+F)$, $L(EF)$, $L(E^*)$..
- Reg. Language \rightarrow Reg. Exp. (checklist):
 - Capture all cases of valid input strings
 - Express each case by a reg. exp.
 - Combine all of them using the + operator
 - Pay attention to operator precedence



Regular Expressions...

- DFA to Regular expression
 - Enumerate all paths from start to every final state
 - Generate regular expression for each segment, and concatenate
 - Combine the reg. exp. for all each path using the + operator
- Reg. Expression to ϵ -NFA conversion
 - Inside-to-outside construction
 - Start making states for every atomic unit of RE
 - Combine using: concatenation, + and * operators as appropriate
 - For connecting adjacent parts, use ϵ -jumps
 - Remember to note down final states



Regular Expressions...

- Algebraic laws
 - Commutative
 - Associative
 - Distributive
 - Identity
 - Annihilator
 - Idempotent
 - Involving Kleene closures (* operator)



English description of lang.

- For finite automata
- For Regular expressions
- When asked for “English language descriptions”:
 - Always give the description of *the underlying language that is accepted by that machine or expression*
(*and not* of the machine or expression)



Pumping Lemma

- Purpose: Regular or not? Verification technique
- Steps/Checklist for Pumping Lemma:
 - Let $n \leftarrow$ pumping lemma constant
 - Then construct input w which has n or more characters
 - Now $w=xyz$ should satisfy P/L
 - Check all three conditions
 - Then use one of these 2 strategies to arrive at contradiction for some other string constructed from w :
 - Pump up ($k \geq 2$)
 - Pump down ($k=0$)



Reg. Lang. Properties

- Closed under:
 - Union
 - Intersection
 - Complementation
 - Set difference
 - Reversal
 - Homomorphism & inverse homomorphism
- Look at all DFA/NFA constructions for the above



Other Reg. Lang. Properties

- Membership question
- Emptiness test
 - Reachability test
- Finiteness test
 - Remove states that are:
 - Unreachable, or cannot lead to accepting
 - Check for cycle in left-over graph
 - Or the reg. expression approach



DFA minimization

- Steps:
 - Remove unreachable states first
 - Detect equivalent states
- Table-filing algorithm (checklist):
 - First, mark X for accept vs. non-accepting
 - Pass 1:
 - Then mark X where you can distinguish by just using one symbol transition
 - Also mark = whenever states are equivalent.
 - Pass 2:
 - Distinguish using already distinguished states (one symbol)
 - Pass 3:
 - Repeat for 2 symbols (on the state pairs left undistinguished)
 - ...
 - Terminate when all entries have been filled
 - Finally modify the state diagram by keeping one representative state for every equivalent class



Other properties

- Are 2 DFAs equivalent?
 - Application of table filling algo



CFL Topics

- CFGs
- PDAs
- CFLs & pumping lemma
- CFG simplification & normal forms
- CFL properties



CFGs

- $G=(V,T,P,S)$
- Derivation, recursive inference, parse trees
 - Their equivalence
- Leftmost & rightmost derivation
 - Their equivalence
 - Generate from parse tree
- Regular languages vs. CFLs
 - Right-linear grammars



CFGs

- Designing CFGs
 - Techniques that can help:
 - Making your own start symbol for combining grammars
 - Eg., $S \Rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$ (or) $S \Rightarrow S_1 S_2$
 - Matching symbols: (e.g., $S \Rightarrow a S a \mid \dots$)
 - Replicating structures side by side: (e.g., $S \Rightarrow a S b S$)
 - Use variables for specific purposes (e.g., specific sub-cases)
 - To go to an acceptance from a variable
 - \Rightarrow end the recursive substitution by making it generate terminals directly
 - $A \Rightarrow w$
 - Conversely, to *not* go to acceptance from a variable, have productions that lead to other variables
 - Proof of correctness
 - Use induction on the string length



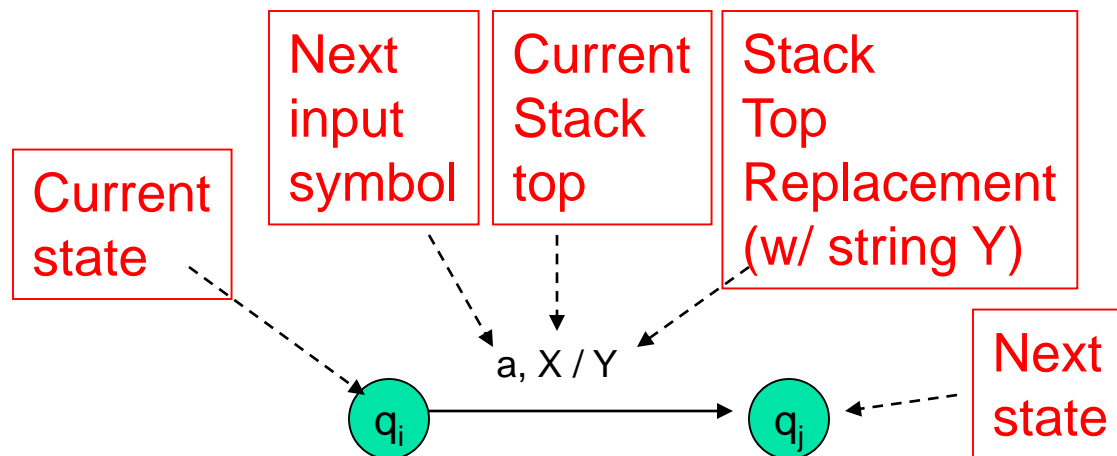
CFGs...

- Ambiguity of CFGs
 - One string \Leftrightarrow more than one parse tree
 - Finding one example is sufficient
- Converting ambiguous CFGs to non-ambiguous CFGs
 - Not always possible
 - If possible, uses ambiguity resolving techniques (e.g., precedence)
- Ambiguity of CFL
 - It is not possible to build even a single unambiguous CFG

There can be only 1 stack top symbol
There can be many symbols for the replacement

PDA's

- PDA $\implies \epsilon$ -NFA + "a stack"
- $P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z_0, F)$
- $\delta(q, a, X) = \{(p, Y), \dots\}$
- $ID : (q, aw, XB) \vdash (p, w, AB)$
- State diagram way to show the design of PDA's





Designing PDAs

- Techniques that can help:
 - Two types of PDAs
 - Acceptance by empty stack
 - If no more input and stack becomes empty
 - Acceptance by final state
 - If no more input and end in final state
 - Convert one form to another
 - Assign state for specific purposes
 - Pushing & popping stack symbols for matching
 - Convert CFG to PDA
 - Introducing new stack symbols may help
 - Take advantage of non-determinism



CFG Simplification

1. Eliminate ε -productions: $A \Rightarrow \varepsilon$
 - \Rightarrow substitute for A (with & without)
 - Find nullable symbols first and substitute next
 2. Eliminate unit productions: $A \Rightarrow B$
 - \Rightarrow substitute for B directly in A
 - Find unit pairs and then go production by production
 3. Eliminate useless symbols
 - Retain only reachable and generating symbols
- Order is important : steps (1) \Rightarrow (2) \Rightarrow (3)



Chomsky Normal Form

- All productions of the form:
 - $A \Rightarrow BC$ or $A \Rightarrow a$
- Grammar does not contain:
 - Useless symbols, unit and ϵ -productions
- Converting CFG (without $S \Rightarrow^* \epsilon$) into CNF
 - Introduce new variables that collectively represent a sequence of other variables & terminals
 - New variables for each terminal
- CNF \Rightarrow Parse tree size
 - If the length of the longest path in the parse tree is n , then $|w| \leq 2^{n-1}$.



Pumping Lemma for CFLs

- Then there exists a constant N , s.t.,
 - if z is any string in L s.t. $|z| \geq N$, then we can write $z = uvwxy$, subject to the following conditions:
 1. $|vwx| \leq N$
 2. $vx \neq \varepsilon$
 3. For all $k \geq 0$, uv^kwx^ky is in L

Using Pumping Lemmas for CFLs

- Steps:

1. Let N be the P/L constant
2. Pick a word z in the language s.t. $|z| \geq N$
 - (choice critical - an arbitrary choice may not work)
3. $z = uvwxy$
4. First, argue that because of conditions (1) & (2), the portions covered by vwX on the main string z will have to satisfy some properties
5. Next, argue that by pumping up or down you will get a new string from z that is not in L



Closure Properties for CFL

- CFLs are closed under:
 - Union
 - Concatenation
 - Kleene closure operator
 - Substitution
 - Homomorphism, inverse homomorphism
- CFLs are *not* closed under:
 - Intersection
 - Difference
 - Complementation

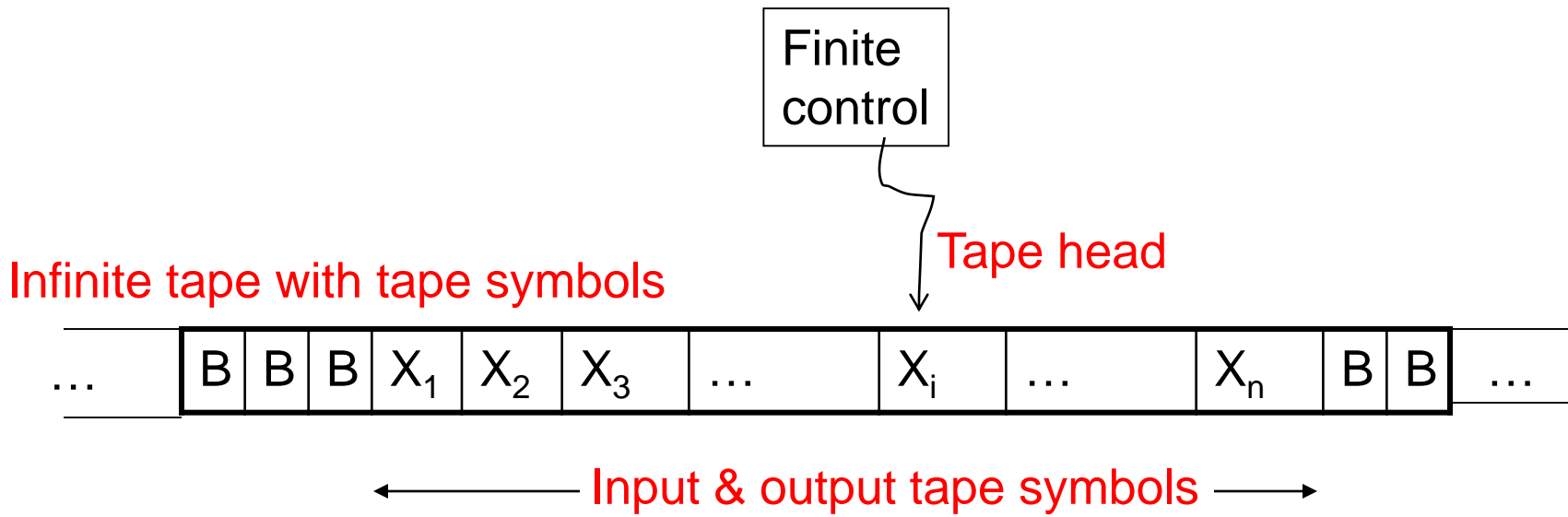


Closure Properties

- Watch out for
 - custom-defined operators
 - Eg.. Prefix(L), or “L x M”
 - Custom-defined symbols
 - Other than the standard 0,1,a,b,c..
 - E.g, #, c, ..

The Basic Turing Machine (TM)

- $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, B, F)$



B: end tape symbol (special)



Turing Machines & Variations

- Basic TM
- TM w/ storage
- Multi-track TM
- Multi-tape TM
- Non-deterministic TM

Unless otherwise stated, it is OK to give TM design
in the pseudocode format

TM design

- Use any variant feature that may simplify your design
 - Storage - to remember last important symbol seen
 - A new track - to mark (without disturbing the input)
 - A new tape - to have flexibility in independent head motion in different directions
- Acceptance only by final state
- No need to show dead states
- Use ε -transitions if needed
- Invent your own tape symbols as needed



Recursive, RE, non-RE

- Recursive Language
 - TMs that always halt
- Recursively Enumerable
 - TMs that always halt only on acceptance
- Non-RE
 - No TMs exist that are guaranteed to halt even on accept
- Need to know the conceptual differences among the above language classes
 - Expect objective and/or true/false questions



Recursive Closure Properties

- Closed under:
 - Complementation, union, intersection, concatenation (discussed in class)
 - Kleene Closure, Homomorphism (not discussed in class but think of extending)

Tips to show closure properties on Recursive & RE languages

Build a new machine that wraps around the TM for the input language(s)

■ For Recursive languages:

- The old TM is always going to halt (w/ accept or reject)
=> So will the new TM

■ For Recursively Enumerable languages:

- The old TM is guaranteed to halt only on acceptance
=> So will the new TM

You need to define the input and output transformations (f_i and f_o)

