

#### **Decision Problems**

- Are these in D, SD/D, or not-SD
  - 21.1C:  $\{ <M > | L(M) = \{a\} \}$
  - 21.1p: {<M> : there exists a string w such that |w| < |<M>| and that M accepts w}
  - 21.1q: {<M> : M does not accept any string that ends with o}

History

# Finite Automata

- McCulloch and Pitts (1943) modeling nerves
- Kleene: regular sets, 1956
- Rabin & Scott: non-determinism, 1959
  - Awarded Turing award for paper
  - both students of Church

#### Context-free Languages



- Chomsky 1956: Modeling natural languages
- Backus-Naur Form: Describing Algol 60
- Oettinger 1961, Schuzenberger 1963: PDA's

# Applications of CFL's

- Describing syntax of PL's
  - Can build parser (pda) directly from grammar
- Restrict to deterministic CFL's
  - LL(k), LR(k) limit amount of lookahead to k characters to decide which rule to apply.
- Compiler technology shows great success of theory!!
  - Formal specs of syntax and type-rules can be converted automatically to algorithms!

## **Context-Sensitive Languages**

• Like type 0, but require if  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$  is a rule then  $|\beta| \ge |\alpha|$ 

 $bB \rightarrow bb$ 

 $bC \rightarrow bc$ 

 $cC \rightarrow cc$ 

- Example:
  - $S \rightarrow aSBC$
  - $S \rightarrow aBC$
  - $CB \rightarrow BC$
  - $aB \rightarrow ab$
- Generates a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup>c<sup>n</sup>

# Context-Sensitive Languages

- Alternatively, restrict to productions of form
  - $\alpha A\beta \rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta$
  - Rewrite non-terminals in particular contexts
- Accepted by linear-bounded automata
  - Limit tape to amount of space to write input.
- Interesting from theoretical point of view, but not many applications

## Logic of Programs

- Floyd 1967 "Assigning meaning to programs"
  - Flow charts. Turing award 1978 (parsing, semantics, verification, algorithms)
- Hoare 1969 "An axiomatic basis for computer programming"
  - Hoare triples. Turing award 1980 (def & design programming languages)

## Logic of Programs

- Remains hard!
  - Especially unsuccessful if write program first and proof later.
  - Systems (Coq) where write proof and extract program from proof.

## Model Checking

- In early 1980's: Clarke and Emerson
- Remarkably successful, esp. w/hardware
- Take finite state machine and find which nodes satisfy various assertions.
  - Languages include temporal and fixed-point logics
  - State-space explosion still problem
  - Also useful in concurrency: safety and liveness

#### Final Exam

- Focus on material not on midterm:
  - Parsing, interpreters, type-checking
  - Lambda calculus, µ-recursive functions, etc.
  - FSM, PDA, TM, Grammars & Languages
  - Decidability & Semidecidability

#### Final Exam

- 24 hour take-home
- Open book, notes, course web pages, but no discussions w/anyone!
- Start as early as 9 a.m. Monday, must be in no later than 4:30 p.m. next Wednesday.
- 5 questions (multiple parts), emphasis on material not on midterm