

Recall from the theory of classical finite state automata theory:

If  $L$  is a language and  $w$  is a word,

$$w^{-1}L := \{v \mid wv \in L\} \text{ called the residual of } L \text{ on } w$$

Also, say that  $u \equiv_L v$  iff  $\forall w \in \Sigma^*, uw \in L \iff vw \in L$

Myhill-Nerode Theorem  $L$  is regular iff  $\equiv_L$  has finite index

Or equivalently, iff  $\text{Residuals}(L) = \{w^{-1}L \mid w \in \Sigma^*\}$  is finite.

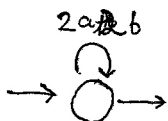
We will develop a weighted counterpart of this theory.

Suppose  $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$  is a weighted language, and  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , then define  $w^{-1}f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$   
 $x \mapsto f(wx)$

$$\text{Let } \text{Residuals}(f) = \{w^{-1}f \mid w \in \Sigma^*\}$$

Is  $\text{Residuals}(f)$  finite when  $f$  is recognizable? No.

For instance, consider  $x \mapsto 2^{|x|}$ , which is realised by the following automata



Notice that  $w^{-1}f = x \mapsto f(wx) = x \mapsto 2^{|w|+|x|} = x \mapsto 2^{|w|} (2^{|x|})$

For every  $w$  such that  $|w| \neq |v|$ ,  $w^{-1}f \neq v^{-1}f$ . Thus, there are infinitely many residuals.

To find an analogue of Myhill-Nerode, we look for a finite set of objects which generate the set of residuals.

Left  $\mathbb{S}$ -modules Suppose that  $\mathbb{S}$  is a semiring. <sup>(left)</sup>  $A_n$  module over  $\mathbb{S}$  is an object  $M$  endowed with a  $+$ -operation, which makes  $M$  a commutative monoid, along with a "scalar product"

$$\times: \mathbb{S} \times M \rightarrow M \text{ s.t.}$$

$$- s(m_1 + m_2) = sm_1 + sm_2$$

$$- (s_1 + s_2)m = s_1m + s_2m$$

$$- s_1(s_2m) = (s_1s_2)m$$

$$- 1_{\mathbb{S}}m = m$$

$$- 0_{\mathbb{S}}m = 0_M$$

$$- s0_M = 0_M$$

For brevity, we will call such <sup>objects</sup> modules.

A submodule of a module  $M$  is a subset of its elements which are closed under addition and scalar multiplication. Note that a submodule is a module in its own right.

Notice that Series, denoted  $\mathbb{S} \langle\langle \Sigma^* \rangle\rangle$  henceforth form a module under the addition of series and standard scalar multiplication.

A module is finitely generated if there is a finite set  $\{m_1, \dots, m_n\}$  s.t. for every  $m \in M$ ,

$$m = \sum_{i=1}^n \alpha_i m_i \quad \text{for some } \alpha_i \in \mathbb{S}$$

We call a submodule  <sup>$M$</sup>  of  $\mathbb{S} \langle\langle \Sigma^* \rangle\rangle$  stable, if  $\forall w \in \Sigma^*, f \in M \Rightarrow w^{-1}f \in M$

Notice that the set of polynomials are a stable submodule. Indeed, if  ~~$w$  is the non-zero word~~ the length of the longest word which has a non-zero coefficient in some  $f$  is  $l$ , then for any  $w \in \Sigma^* \setminus \{\epsilon\}$ , the length of the longest word with non-zero coefficient would be  $l - |w|$  or smaller. So,  $w^{-1}f$  is also a polynomial.

However, the submodule of polynomials <sup>is</sup> ~~are~~ not ~~stable~~ finitely generated

(Analogue of Myhill Nerode Theorem for Weighted Automata) Suppose  $f: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ .

$f$  is recognizable iff  $f$  is a member of a finitely generated stable submodule of  $\mathbb{S} \langle\langle \Sigma^* \rangle\rangle$

Proof ( $\Leftarrow$ ) Suppose  $M \subseteq \mathbb{S} \langle\langle \Sigma^* \rangle\rangle$  is generated by  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$  and  $f \in M$ .

Then, we can realize  $f$  by a finite state weighted automata as follows: let the set of states

be  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ . Then, since  $M$  is stable and generated by  $\{f_1, \dots, f_n\}$ , it is possible

to pick  $\{\mu_{ij}^a\}$  s.t.

$$a^{-1} f_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \mu_{ij}^a f_j$$

This gives us the matrices  $\mu(a)$  for  $a \in \Sigma$ .

Now, define  $\gamma_i = f_i(\epsilon)$

$$\text{and } \lambda_j \text{ s.t. } f = \sum_{j=1}^n \lambda_j f_j$$

Then,  $\langle \lambda, \mu, \gamma \rangle$  gives the automata we were looking for.

( $\Rightarrow$ ) Suppose  $f$  is recognizable via  $\langle \lambda, \mu, \gamma \rangle$

Define  $f_i$  to be the function that takes  $w$  to  $(\mu(w))_i$

$$\text{Then } f = \sum_i \lambda_i f_i$$

The submodule we are looking for is the one generated by  $\{f_1, f_2, \dots, f_n\}$

To show that it is stable, it is enough to show that  $a^{-1} f_i$  can be written as  $\sum c_{ij} f_j$  for coefficients  $c_{ij} \in \mathbb{S}$  for every generator  $f_i$  and every  $a \in \Sigma$ . Indeed, by definition, we have that

$$a^{-1} f_i = \sum_{j=1}^n \mu(a)_{ij} f_j$$

QED

Aside The function  $a^n \mapsto 2^{2^n}$  is not recognizable over  $(\mathbb{N}, +, \times)$  and  $\Sigma = \{a\}$

Suppose an automaton  $A$  has  $|Q|$  many states with the largest weight  $k$ . Then, the largest weight of a single run of  $A$  on word  $a^n$  is bounded by  $k^n$ . The number of such runs is bounded by  $|Q|^n$ . So,  $\|A\|(a^n) \leq (|Q|k)^n$ . For sufficiently large  $n$ ,  $(k|Q|)^n < 2^{2^n}$ .

### Comments on Hadamard Product

For  $f, g: \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathbb{S}$ , define  $f \otimes g$  by  $w \mapsto f(w) \times g(w)$  where  $\times$  is the semiring multiplication.

If the semiring is commutative,  $f \otimes g$  is recognizable whenever  $f$  and  $g$  are. This follows from

a construction similar to the one in LECTURE-8

Exercise Working on the semiring  $(\Sigma^*, +, \circ)$ , suppose

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} f: a \mapsto a \\ \quad b \mapsto \varepsilon \\ g: a \mapsto a \\ \quad b \mapsto b \end{array} \right\} \begin{array}{l} \text{Show that } f \text{ and } g \text{ are recognizable} \\ \text{but } f \otimes g \text{ is not.} \end{array}$$

Aside Weighted Automata over the semiring of languages are transducers. Several important decision problems for transducers are undecidable.