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### Motivation

• What class of languages is the best for natural language syntax?

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- Constant growth property.
- Limited number of cross-serial dependencies.

# Mildly context-sensitive languages

MIX = {w ∈ {a, b, c}\* | |w|<sub>a</sub> = |w|<sub>b</sub> = |w|<sub>c</sub>} is not mildly context-sensitive (Bach, 1984; Kanazawa, Salvati, 2012).

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- MIX is not a 2-wMCFL (equivalently, not a tree-adjoining language) (Kanazawa, Salvati, 2012).
- Probably, it is not a k-wMCFL for any k (Kanazawa-Salvati conjecture, 2012). But how to prove it?

# Proving non-wellnestedness

• The proof of Kanazawa and Salvati uses combinatorial and geometrical arguments. Difficult to generalize.

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  - Some examples of non-wMCFGs.

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  - Ogden's lemma for wMCFGs. Not yet
  - Some examples of non-wMCFGs. Done for TALs

Displacement context-free grammars

### Basic notions

• Σ — alphabet.

Displacement context-free grammars

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- N nonterminals,  $s: N \rightarrow [0; k]$  rank function,  $k \in N$ .

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- concatenation:

$$(u_0,\ldots,u_s)\cdot(v_0,\ldots,v_t)=(u_0,\ldots,u_{s-1},u_sv_0,v_2,\ldots,v_t).$$

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• Instead of tuples, gapped strings may be used.
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Displacement context-free grammars

### Terms

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$$\operatorname{Tm}_k(N, \Sigma)$$
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 $u = (u_0, \ldots, u_s) \in \operatorname{Tm}_k$ ,  $\operatorname{rk}(u) = s$ .

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- $\operatorname{GrTm}_k$  ground terms (no nonterminals).
- Any ground term  $\alpha$  has a value  $\nu(\alpha)$ .

Displacement context-free grammars

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Displacement context-free grammars

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- $Var = \{x_1, x_2, \ldots\}$  ranked set of free variables,
- multicontext a term with variables in some leaves (possibly zero)

Displacement context-free grammars

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Pumping lemma and Ogden lemma for displacement context-free grammars Displacement context-free grammars

# Displacement context-free grammars

### Definition

A k-displacement context-free grammar is  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ , where

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• •  $\vdash_{G} \in N \times Tm_{k}$  — the smallest reflexive transitive relation, s.t  $(B \rightarrow \beta) \in P$  and  $A \vdash C[B]$  imply  $A \vdash C[\beta]$  for any context C.

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 ⊢<sub>G</sub>∈ N × Tm<sub>k</sub> — the smallest reflexive transitive relation, s.t (B → β) ∈ P and A ⊢ C[B] imply A ⊢ C[β] for any context C.
 L<sub>G</sub>(A) = {ν(α) | A ⊢<sub>G</sub> α, α ∈ GrTm<sub>k</sub>}, L(G) = L<sub>G</sub>(S).

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Displacement context-free grammars

## Example

$$G_i = \langle \{S, T\}, \{a, b\}, P_i, S \rangle \text{ with } \operatorname{rk}(T) = i \text{ and the following } P_i:$$
  

$$S \to \underbrace{(\dots (aT \odot_1 a) + \dots) \odot_1 a}_{i-1 \text{ times}} \underbrace{(\dots (bT \odot_1 b) + \dots) \odot_1 b}_{i-1 \text{ times}},$$

$$T \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots(aT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) + \dots) \odot_i \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle}_{i-1 \text{ times}}$$

$$T \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots(bT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle + \dots) \odot_i \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle}_{i-1 \text{ times}} |\underbrace{\langle \varepsilon, \dots, \varepsilon \rangle}_{(i+1) \text{ times}} .$$

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$$T \to \underbrace{(\dots}_{i-1} \operatorname{times}_{i} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle + \dots \odot_{i} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle \mid \underbrace{\langle \varepsilon, \dots, \varepsilon \rangle}_{i-1} \ldots$$

$$i \to \underbrace{(\dots (bT \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle + \dots) \odot_{i} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle \mid (i+1) \text{ times}}_{i+1 \text{ times}}$$

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 $L(G_i) = \{w^{i+1} \mid w \in \Sigma^+\}$ 

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$$T \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots (aT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) + \dots) \odot_i \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle}_{i-1 \text{ times}}$$

$$T \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots (bT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle + \dots) \odot_i \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle |}_{i-1 \text{ times}} \underbrace{\langle \varepsilon, \dots, \varepsilon \rangle}_{(i+1) \text{ times}}$$

$$L(G_i) = \{w^{i+1} \mid w \in \Sigma^+\}$$
  
Here is the derivation of  $(aba)^3$  in  $G_2$ :

Displacement context-free grammars

## Example

$$G_i = \langle \{S, T\}, \{a, b\}, P_i, S \rangle \text{ with } \operatorname{rk}(T) = i \text{ and the following } P_i:$$

$$S \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots (a \ I \ \odot_1 \ a) + \dots) \odot_1 a}_{i-1 \text{ times}} \underbrace{(\dots (b \ I \ \odot_1 \ b) + \dots) \odot_1 b}_{i-1 \text{ times}},$$

$$T \rightarrow \underbrace{(\dots (a \ T \ \odot_1 \ \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) + \dots) \odot_i \ \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle}_{i-1 \text{ times}},$$

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Displacement context-free grammars

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$$T \xrightarrow{i-1 \text{ times}}_{\substack{i-1 \text{ times} \\ i-1 \text{ times} \\ i-1 \text{ times} \\ T \xrightarrow{i-1 \text{ times}}_{\substack{i-1 \text{ times} \\ i-1 \text{ times} \\$$

$$\begin{array}{l} \mathcal{L}(G_i) = \{w^{i+1} \mid w \in \Sigma^+\} \\ \text{Here is the derivation of } (aba)^3 \text{ in } G_2: \\ S \to (aT \odot_1 a) \odot_1 a \to (a((bT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_2 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_1 a) \odot_1 a. \end{array}$$

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$$\begin{split} \mathcal{L}(G_i) &= \{ w^{i+1} \mid w \in \Sigma^+ \} \\ \text{Here is the derivation of } (aba)^3 \text{ in } G_2 : \\ \mathcal{S} &\to (aT \odot_1 a) \odot_1 a \to (a((bT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_2 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_1 a) \odot_1 a \to \\ (a((b((aT \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_2 \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_1 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_2 \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_1 a) \odot_1 a \to . \end{split}$$

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$$G_{i} = \langle \{S, T\}, \{a, b\}, P_{i}, S \rangle \text{ with } \operatorname{rk}(T) = i \text{ and the following } P_{i}:$$

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$$S \rightarrow (aT \odot_{1} a) \odot_{1} a \rightarrow (a((bT \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{2} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{1} a) \odot_{1} a \rightarrow$$

$$(a((b((aT \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_{2} \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{2} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{1} a) \odot_{1} a \rightarrow$$

$$(a((b((\langle a, \varepsilon, \varepsilon \rangle \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_{2} \langle \varepsilon, a \rangle) \odot_{1} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{2} \langle \varepsilon, b \rangle) \odot_{1} a) =$$

$$(a(b(\langle a, a, a \rangle \odot_{1} (\langle \varepsilon, b \rangle)) + 2 (\langle \varepsilon, b \rangle)) + 1 a) \odot_{1} a =$$

# Chomsky normal form |

Two grammars are equivalent if they generate the same language.

### Theorem (Chomsky normal form)

Every k-DCFG is equivalent to a k-DCFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  with the rules only of the form:

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$$A 
ightarrow a$$
 or  $A 
ightarrow \langle arepsilon, arepsilon 
angle$ , where  $A \in N, \; a \in \Sigma,$ 

# Chomsky normal form ||

### Example

The grammar  $\begin{aligned} G_2' &= \langle \{S, T_2, U_1, V_1, U_2, V_2, W_2, X_2, A_1, B_1, A, B\}, \{a, b\}, P, S \rangle \\ \text{with the following set of rules generates the language} \\ \{www \mid w \in \Sigma^+ \}. \end{aligned}$ 

### Derivation tree

The derivation tree of the word *abaabaaba* in  $G'_2$ :



### Derivation tree



• Downward-closed subtrees correspond to subterms of the derived term, and vice versa (so we may speak about nodes' ranks).

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# Properties of trees and terms

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- If B is a label of a subtree, corresponding to a  $\beta$ , then  $B \vdash \beta$ .
- If  $A \vdash C[\beta_1, \ldots, \beta_t]$  then there are nonterminals  $B_1, \ldots, B_t$ such  $A \vdash C[B_1, \ldots, B_t]$  and  $\forall i (B_i \vdash \beta_i)$ .

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- If α = C[β] for some ground context C and rk(β) = I, then there are tuples s<sub>1</sub>, s<sub>2</sub>, u<sub>1</sub>,..., u<sub>I</sub> such that α = s<sub>1</sub>(β⊗(u<sub>1</sub>,..., u<sub>I</sub>))s<sub>t</sub>. (⊗ denotes simultaneous replacement of all the separators)

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### Definition

A descendent v of a node u is direct, if all the nodes on the path from u to v have the same rank (including u and v).  $\beta$  is a direct subterm of  $\alpha$ , if its root is a direct descendant of the root of  $\alpha$ .

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### Lemma

If  $\alpha = C[\beta]$  and  $\beta$  is a direct subterm of  $\alpha$ , then there are words  $s_1, s_2, u_1, v_1, \dots, u_l, v_l$ , s.t.  $\alpha = s_1(\beta \otimes (\langle u_1, v_1 \rangle, \dots, \langle u_l, v_l \rangle))s_2$ .
Pumping lemma and Ogden lemma for displacement context-free grammars

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Structure of pumps

### Pumping lemma: reminder



Pumping lemma and Ogden lemma for displacement context-free grammars Structure of pumps

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Pumping lemma and Ogden lemma for displacement context-free grammars

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For any recursive terminal A of a CFG G there are words u, v s.t.  $uv \neq \varepsilon$  and  $A \vdash_G y$  implies  $A \vdash_G uyv$ .

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For any recursive terminal A of a CFG G there are words u, v s.t.  $uv \neq \varepsilon$  and  $A \vdash_G y$  implies  $A \vdash_G uyv$ . We expect: for any recursive terminal A with rank s of a k-DCFG G there are words  $u_0, \ldots, u_{rk(A)}, v_0, \ldots, v_{rk(A)}$  s.t.  $u_0 \ldots u_s v_0 \ldots v_s \neq \varepsilon$  $\varepsilon$  and  $A \vdash_G \langle y_0, \ldots, y_s \rangle$  implies  $A \vdash_G \langle u_0 y_0 v_0, \ldots, u_s y_s v_s \rangle$ .

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 $\langle w_0, w_1 \rangle \qquad v_0$ 

In this case  $A \vdash \langle w_0, w_1 \rangle$  implies  $A \vdash_G \langle u_0, u_1 w_0 v_0 w_1 \rangle$ . That's because the foot node of the pumped subtree is not a direct descendant of its root.

### Equivalence of terms

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$$\nu : \operatorname{Var} \to \mathcal{B}((\Sigma^*)^*) - \operatorname{valuation}$$
, if  $\nu(A) \subseteq (\Sigma^*)^{rk(A)+1}$  for any  $A \in N \cup \operatorname{Var}$ .

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- A term is *l*-essential, if its root and its leaves are of rank *l* or less.

#### Lemma

Every I-essential term  $\alpha$  is equivalent to some I-correct  $\beta$ .

Removing bad subtrees

• A term is *l*-redundant if it is *l*-essential, but not *l*-correct.

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• Let  $N_I$  denote the number of nonterminals of rank I.

### Removing bad subtrees

- A term is *I*-redundant if it is *I*-essential, but not *I*-correct.
- Let N<sub>1</sub> denote the number of nonterminals of rank 1.
- A grammar G is *I*-duplicated if for any derivable rule A → α with *I*-redundant α with depth(α) ≤ N<sub>I</sub> + 1 there is a derivable rule A → α', where α ~ α' and α ∈ Tm<sub>I</sub>. <4->

#### Lemma

For any k-DCFG G and any  $l \leq k$  there is an equivalent l-duplicated k-DCFG G' with the same set of nonterminals of rank l and greater.

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### Compactness

#### Definition

A subbranch in a syntactic tree is an *I*-matreshka, iff all the nodes of it have rank *I* and its length is at least  $N_I + 1$ .

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### Compactness

#### Definition

A subbranch in a syntactic tree is an *I*-matreshka, iff all the nodes of it have rank *I* and its length is at least  $N_I + 1$ .

### Definition

A vicinity of a node v if the largest well-formed subtree containing T such that all its internal nodes have the same rank as v.

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A derivation tree is *m*-compact, if for any node *v* of any rank *l* there is a path from *l* to an element of an l' - matreshka with  $l' \ge l$  such that its length is not greater than *l* and all the nodes on it are of rank *l* or greater.

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#### Lemma

For any k-DCFG G for some m there is an equivalent m-compact k-DCFG.

### Sketch of the proof

Proceed by downwards induction on *I*, start with *I* = *k* + 1 and *m* = 0.

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• Consider l := l - 1,  $m := m + 2N_l$  and duplicate all (l - 1)-redundant rules.

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- If it contains some node of greater rank: use induction hypothesis.

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- It is deeper than  $N_l + 1$  it contains an *l*-matreshka.
- If it contains some node of greater rank: use induction hypothesis.
- Otherwise it is *l*-redundant replace the subtree by an equivalent one, which is *l*-correct.

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### Pumping lemma

#### Theorem (Pumping lemma for k-DCFGs)

For any k-DCFG G there is a number n such that for any word  $w \in L(G)$ , such that  $|w| \ge n$ , there is a decomposition  $w = s_0 u_1 x_1 v_1 s_1 \dots u_k x_k v_k s_k$ , satisfying:  $\sum_{i=1}^{k} |u_i x_i v_i| \le n$ ,  $u_1 v_1 \dots u_k v_k \ne \varepsilon$ , For any  $m \in \mathbb{N}$   $s_0 u_1^m x_1 v_1^m s_1 \dots u_k^m x_k v_k^m s_k \in L(G)$ .

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$$\sum_{i=1}^{n} |u_i x_i v_i| \leqslant n, \quad u_1 v_1 u_2 v_2 \neq \varepsilon,$$

**2** There is at least one marked position in one of  $u_1, v_1, u_2, v_2$ .

Solution There is at least one marked position in one of x<sub>1</sub>, x<sub>2</sub>.

### Geometry of constituents

 Any constituent of a context-free derivation tree of a word w is specified by two positions 0 ≤ i < j ≤ |w|.</li>

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Possible: [ [ ] ]

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- Regions inside different curves are either embedded or disjoint.
  - Possible:  $\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 2 & 2 & 3 & 2 & 2 \\ i_1 & i'_1 & j'_1 & j_1 & j_2 & j_2 & j_3 & j'_2 & j'_2 & j_3 & j'_3 &$

# Geometry of pumps

• Every pump is a difference of two constituents.

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#### Lemma

If the pumps  $\pi = \langle i_1, \ldots, l_2 \rangle$  and  $\pi' = \langle i'_1, \ldots, l'_2 \rangle$  do not have common inner points, then one of the following conditions hold:

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Note: For any pumps  $\pi = \langle i_1, \ldots, l_2 \rangle$  and  $\pi' = \langle i'_1, \ldots, l'_2 \rangle$  either  $l_2 \leq i'_1$  or  $i_1 \leq i'_1 \leq l'_2 \leq l_2$ .

### 4MIX language

• We prove that  $4MIX = \{w \in \{a, b, c, d\}^* | |w|_a = |w|_b = |w|_c = |w|_d\}$  is not a 1-DCFL.

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- Every word in this language consists of 8 maximal homogeneous fragments, each pump intersects with exactly 4 such fragments and has equal number of a-s, b-s, c-s and d-s.

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- Consider the word  $w = a^{m_1} b^{m_2} c^{m_3} d^{m_4} a^{n_1} b^{n_2} c^{n_3} d^{n_4}$  with
  - 1 min  $(m_j, n_j) \ge t$ , where t is the number from Ogden's lemma, 2  $m_1 \ge (3M+1)(M+t)$ , where  $M = \max(m_2, m_4, n_3)$ , 3  $m_4 \ge (n_1+1)(n_1+t)$ .

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• We want to prove the existence of a [1, 3, 6, 8]-pump.

### 4MIX language ||

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**3**  $m_4 \ge (n_1 + 1)(n_1 + t)$ .

## 4MIX language ||

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•  $M \xrightarrow{d \dots d} t \xrightarrow{M} M \xrightarrow{d \dots d} t$ 

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•  $M \xrightarrow{d \dots d} M$   
•  $M \xrightarrow{d \dots d} t$ 

• If two groups belong to the same pump, then there are at least (M+2) *a*-s in the pump.

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### 4MIX language ||

• 
$$w = a^{m_1} b^{m_2} c^{m_3} d^{m_4} a^{n_1} b^{n_2} c^{n_3} d^{n_4}$$
,  
•  $\min(m_j, n_j) \ge t$ , where t is the number from Ogden's lemma,  
•  $m_1 \ge (3M+1)(M+t)$ , where  $M = \max(m_2, m_4, n_3)$ ,  
•  $m_4 \ge (n_1+1)(n_1+t)$ .  
•  $a \dots a_t$   
•  $M$   

• If two groups belong to the same pump, then there are at least (M + 2) *a*-s in the pump. It cannot be a [1,2], [1,4] or [1,7]-pump  $(m_2, n_3, m_4$  are too small), then it is a [1,3,6,8]-pump.

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- If two groups belong to the same pump, then there are at least (M + 2) *a*-s in the pump. It cannot be a [1,2], [1,4] or [1,7]-pump  $(m_2, n_3, m_4$  are too small), then it is a [1,3,6,8]-pump.
- If all the groups belong to different pumps, then there are at least M + 2 non-intersecting [1,2] pumps, but m<sub>2</sub> is too small. Again, there exists a [1,3,6,8]-pump.

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- If two groups belong to the same pump, then there are at least (M + 2) *a*-s in the pump. It cannot be a [1, 2], [1, 4] or [1, 7]-pump  $(m_2, n_3, m_4$  are too small), then it is a [1, 3, 6, 8]-pump.
- If all the groups belong to different pumps, then there are at least M + 2 non-intersecting [1,2] pumps, but m<sub>2</sub> is too small. Again, there exists a [1,3,6,8]-pump.
- By analogous arguments, there is a [1, 4]-pump.

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$$w = a^{m_1}b^{m_2}c^{m_3}d^{m_4}a^{n_1}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}d^{n_4}$$
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3  $m_4 \ge (n_1+1)(n_1+t)$ .  
4  $\cdots$   $M$   
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- If two groups belong to the same pump, then there are at least (M + 2) *a*-s in the pump. It cannot be a [1,2], [1,4] or [1,7]-pump  $(m_2, n_3, m_4$  are too small), then it is a [1,3,6,8]-pump.
- If all the groups belong to different pumps, then there are at least M + 2 non-intersecting [1,2] pumps, but m<sub>2</sub> is too small. Again, there exists a [1,3,6,8]-pump.
- By analogous arguments, there is a [1, 4]-pump.
- It should be a [1,4,8]-pump, which is impossible. Then 4MIX is not a 2-DCFL.

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### MIX language

Theorem

MIX is not a 1-DCFL.

# MIX language

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MIX is not a 1-DCFL.

• We prove for MIX  $\cap a^+b^+c^+b^+c^+a^+$ ,  $w = a^{m_1}b^{m_2}c^{m_3}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}a^{n_1}$ .

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$$\min(m_j, n_j) \ge t$$
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(2)  $m_1 \ge (4M+1)(M+t)$ , where  $M = \max(m_3, n_2)$ ,  
(3)  $n_1 \ge (4M+1)(M+t)$ , where  $M = \max(m_3, n_2)$ ,  
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• There are at least 2*M* + 1 [1]-groups and [4]-groups on the distance at least *M*.

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• There are at least 2M + 1 [1]-groups and [4]-groups on the distance at least M.

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• Consequently, there is a [1,2,5,6]-group.

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- There are at least 2M + 1 [1]-groups and [4]-groups on the distance at least M.
- Consequently, there is a [1,2,5,6]-group.
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- There are at least 2M + 1 [1]-groups and [4]-groups on the distance at least M.
- Consequently, there is a [1, 2, 5, 6]-group.
- There is a [2,3]-group, which should be a [1,2,3,6]-group
- There is a [4]-group, but it could be only a [1,2,4,6]-group, which has no *c*-s. Contradiction.

# $MIX_p$ language

### Theorem

$$\begin{split} \mathrm{MIX}_p &= \{ w \in \{a, b, c\}^+ \mid |w|_a = |w|_b = |w|_c, \forall u \subseteq w |u|_a \geqslant \\ |u|_b \geqslant |u|_c \} \text{ is not a 1-DCFL.} \end{split}$$

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• Consider the word  $a^{m_1}b^{m_2}a^{n_1}c^{m_3}b^{n_2}c^{n_3}$  with min  $(m_i, n_i) \ge t$ .

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• Every pump satisfies the prefix condition.

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- Every pump satisfies the prefix condition.
- Therefore [4]-pump is automatically a [1, 2, 4]-pump and [3]-pump a [3, 5, 6]-pump.

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- Every pump satisfies the prefix condition.
- Therefore [4]-pump is automatically a [1, 2, 4]-pump and [3]-pump a [3, 5, 6]-pump.
- If the first is embracing the second, it is a [1,2,4,6]-pump impossible to combine them.

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• If the second — symmetrically. Contradiction.

### Future work

• Ogden's lemma for *k*-DCFGs (or any other technique to localize the pumps).

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## Future work

- Ogden's lemma for *k*-DCFGs (or any other technique to localize the pumps).
- Apply this lemma to give counterexamples on higher levels of DCFG hierarchy.

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## Future work

- Ogden's lemma for *k*-DCFGs (or any other technique to localize the pumps).
- Apply this lemma to give counterexamples on higher levels of DCFG hierarchy.

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• Kanazawa-Salvati conjecture (MIX is not a DCFL).

# Thank you! Спасибо за внимание!

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