# Automata and Formal Languages (6)

Email: christian.urban at kcl.ac.uk Office: S1.27 (1st floor Strand Building) Slides: KEATS (also home work is there) "I hate coding. I do not want to look at code."

"I am appalled. You do not show code anymore."

### **ReDoS**

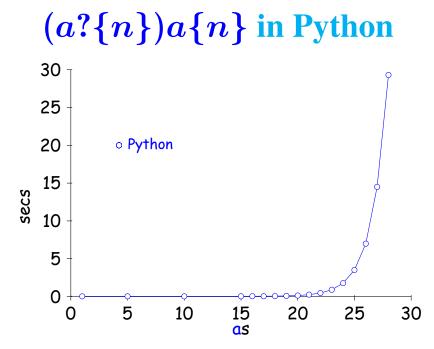
- Regular expression Denial of Service
- "Regular Expressions Will Stab You in the Back"
- Evil regular expressions
  - $(a?\{n\})a\{n\}$
  - (a<sup>+</sup>)<sup>+</sup>
  - $([a zA Z]^+)^*$
  - $(a + aa)^+$
  - $(a + a?)^+$

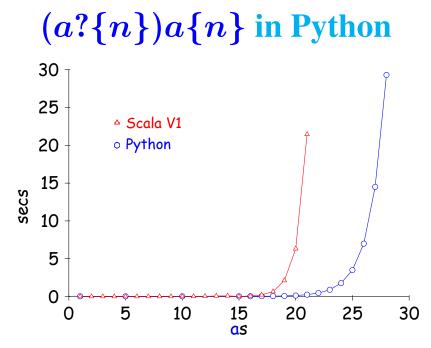
# **Regexp Matching**

Given a regular expression

- you might convert it into a DFA (subset construction)
- you might try all possible paths in an NFA via backtracking
- you might try all paths in an NFA in parallel
- you might try to convert the DFA "lazily"

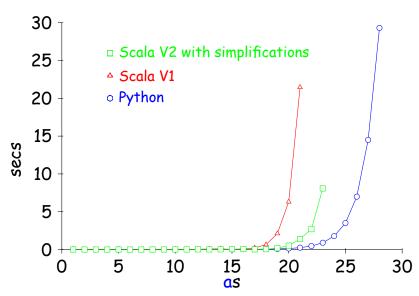
Often No 2 is implemented (sometimes there are even good reasons for doing this).

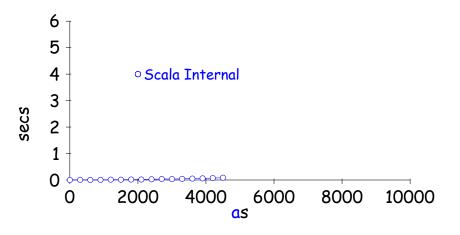




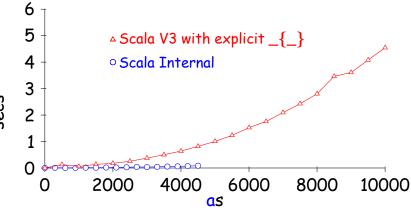
AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 6/14

# $(a?{n})a{n}$ in Python





AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 7/14



secs

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 7/14

### Grammars

A (context-free) Grammar G consists of

- a finite set of nonterminal symbols (upper case)
- a finite terminal symbols or tokens (lower case)
- a start symbol (which must be a nonterminal)
- a set of rules

### $A ightarrow \mathsf{rhs}$

where **rhs** are sequences involving terminals and nonterminals.

## Grammars

A (context-free) Grammar G consists of

- a finite set of nonterminal symbols (upper case)
- a finite terminal symbols or tokens (lower case)
- a start symbol (which must be a nonterminal)
- a set of rules

### $A ightarrow \mathsf{rhs}$

where **rhs** are sequences involving terminals and nonterminals.

We can also allow rules

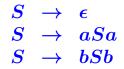
 $A 
ightarrow \mathsf{rhs}_1 |\mathsf{rhs}_2| \dots$ 

### **Palindromes**

# $egin{array}{cccc} S & o & \epsilon \ S & o & aSa \ S & o & bSb \end{array}$

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 9/14

### **Palindromes**



or

### $S ~ ightarrow~ \epsilon \mid aSa \mid bSb$

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 9/14

## **Arithmetic Expressions**

 $egin{array}{rcl} E & 
ightarrow & num\_token \ E & 
ightarrow & E+E \ E & 
ightarrow & E-E \ E & 
ightarrow & E*E \ E & 
ightarrow & E*E \ E & 
ightarrow & (E) \end{array}$ 

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 10/14

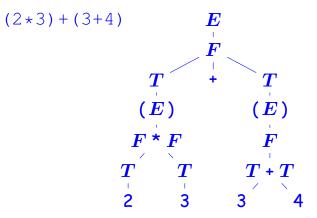
## **Arithmetic Expressions**

 $egin{array}{rcl} E & 
ightarrow & num\_token \ E & 
ightarrow & E+E \ E & 
ightarrow & E-E \ E & 
ightarrow & E*E \ E & 
ightarrow & E*E \ E & 
ightarrow & (E) \end{array}$ 

1 + 2 + 3 + 4

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 10/14

### **Parse Trees**



AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 11/14

# **Ambiguous Grammars**

A grammar is ambiguous if there is a string that has at least parse trees.

j	$E \rightarrow$	$num\_token$
j	$E \rightarrow$	$\boldsymbol{E} + \boldsymbol{E}$
i	$E \rightarrow$	E - E
i	$E \rightarrow$	$\boldsymbol{E} * \boldsymbol{E}$
i	$E \rightarrow$	(E)

1 + 2 + 3 + 4

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 12/14

# **Chomsky Normal Form**

All rules must be of the form

#### $A \rightarrow a$

or

 $A \rightarrow BC$ 

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 13/14



- runtime is  $O(n^3)$
- grammars need to be transferred into CNF

AFL 06, King's College London, 31. October 2012 - p. 14/14