

# **Advanced Lectures: L-systems**

# OL System

**History:** Astrid Lindenmayer, 1968

**Inspiration:** the growth process in living organisms

## **Classical approach:**

Only a certain *part* of a word is rewritten at one moment.

## **Lindenmayer approach:**

*All letters* of a word must be rewritten at the same time.

## 0L Definition



```
graph TD; A[0L Definition] --> B[Zero-sided left-side handle]; A --> C[Lindenmayer system]
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Zero-sided left-side handle

Lindenmayer system

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**Gist:** *no nonterminals, parallel derivation step*

**Definition:** *0L system* is a triple  $H = (V, P, w)$ :

- 1)  $V$  is a finite *alphabet* of symbols
- 2)  $P$  is a finite set of *rules* of the form:  $a \stackrel{\textcircled{R}}{\rightarrow} x$ ,  
where  $a \in V$  and  $x \in V^*$
- 3)  $w \in V^+$  is the *starting string* (axiom).

# Derivation

**Gist: parallel rewriting of all symbols**

**Definition:** *Direct derivation* ( $\Rightarrow$ ):

$a_1 a_2 \dots a_n \Rightarrow x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$ ,  $n \geq 1$ , if  $a_i \rightarrow x_i \in P$   
for all  $i = 1, \dots, n$ .

*Derivation* ( $\Rightarrow^*$ ): reflexive and transitive  
closure of  $\Rightarrow$ .

**Example:**

$$u = a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$$

$$v = x_1 x_2 \dots x_n$$

and we write:  $u \Rightarrow^* v$

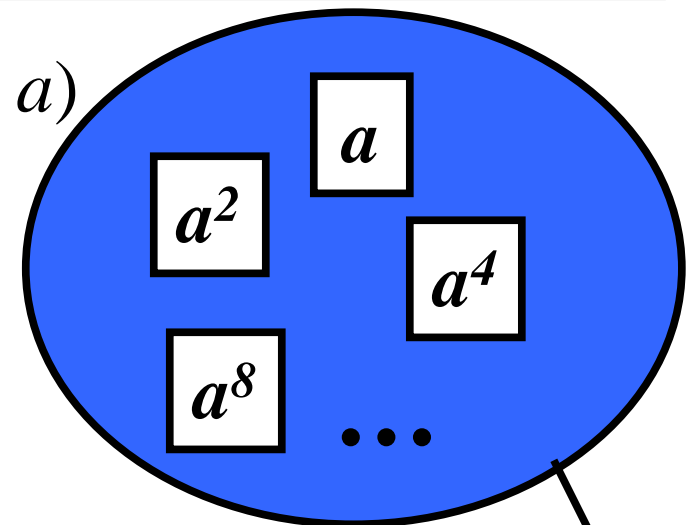
# Language & Example

**Gist:** all reachable sentential forms in  $L(H)$

**Definition:** Language  $L(H) = \{x : w \Rightarrow^* x\}$ .

**Example:**  $H = (\{a\}, \{a \rightarrow a^2\}, a)$

$$\begin{array}{rcl}
 a & = & a^{2^0} = a \\
 \textcircled{R} & & \\
 a \ a & = & a^{2^1} = a^2 \\
 \textcircled{R} \ \textcircled{R} & & \\
 a \ a \ a \ a & = & a^{2^2} = a^4 \\
 \textcircled{R} \ \textcircled{R} \ \textcircled{R} \ \textcircled{R} & & \\
 a \ a \ a \ a \ a \ a \ a \ a & = & a^{2^3} = a^8 \\
 \vdots & &
 \end{array}$$



$L(H)$

$$L(H) = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$$

## Variants of L-systems

**Gist: determinism and/or no erasing rules**

Let  $H = (V, P, w)$  is a 0L system.

**Definition:** *Deterministic 0L system (D0L):*

For each  $a \in V$  there is exactly one rule

$a \rightarrow x \in P$ .

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**Definition:** *Propagating 0L system (P0L):*

For each  $a \rightarrow x \in P$  holds  $x \neq \varepsilon$ .

**Note:** PD0L is a deterministic propagating 0L system.

**Note 2:** The previous example is a PD0L system.

# Example – Red Alga Simulation

**Model of red alga growth by PD0L system:**

**Starting string:** **1** **+** **Rules:**

$1 \rightarrow 23$

$2 \rightarrow 2$

$3 \rightarrow 24$

$4 \rightarrow 54$

$[ \rightarrow [$

$5 \rightarrow 6$

$6 \rightarrow 7$

$7 \rightarrow 8[1]$

$8 \rightarrow 8$

$] \rightarrow ]$

# Red Alga Simulation 1/11

**Derivation:**

$1 \Rightarrow 23$

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**2 3**

**1**  $\rightarrow$  **23**

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

]  $\rightarrow$  ]



# Red Alga Simulation 2/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow 23 \Rightarrow 224$

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2 2 4

1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

]  $\rightarrow$  ]

# Red Alga Simulation 3/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow 23 \Rightarrow 224 \Rightarrow 2254$

---

2 2 5 4

1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

]  $\rightarrow$  ]

# Red Alga Simulation 4/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow 23 \Rightarrow 224 \Rightarrow 2254 \Rightarrow 22654$

---

2 2 6 5 4

1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

]  $\rightarrow$  ]

# Red Alga Simulation 5/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow 23 \Rightarrow 224 \Rightarrow 2254 \Rightarrow 22654 \Rightarrow 227654$

---

2 2 7 6 5 4

1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

]  $\rightarrow$  ]

# Red Alga Simulation 6/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow 23 \Rightarrow 224 \Rightarrow 2254 \Rightarrow 22654 \Rightarrow 227654 \Rightarrow 228[1]7654$



1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

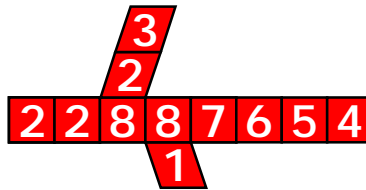
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# Red Alga Simulation 7/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow 228[1]7654 \Rightarrow 228[23]8[1]7654$

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1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

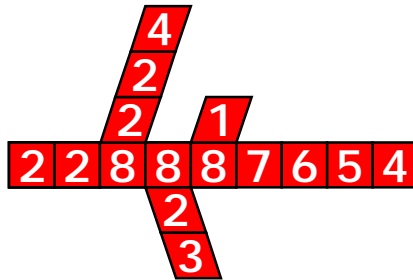
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# Red Alga Simulation 8/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow 228[23]8[1]7654 \Rightarrow 228[224]8[23]8[1]7654$

---



1  $\rightarrow$  23

2  $\rightarrow$  2

3  $\rightarrow$  24

4  $\rightarrow$  54

[  $\rightarrow$  [

5  $\rightarrow$  6

6  $\rightarrow$  7

7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]

8  $\rightarrow$  8

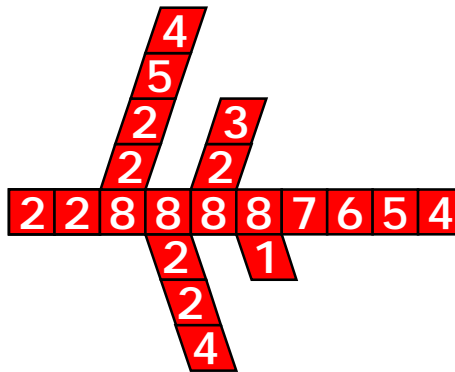
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# Red Alga Simulation 9/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow^* 228[2254]8[224]8[23]8[1]7654$

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$1 \rightarrow 23$   
 $2 \rightarrow 2$   
 $3 \rightarrow 24$   
 $4 \rightarrow 54$   
 $[ \rightarrow [$   
 $5 \rightarrow 6$   
 $6 \rightarrow 7$   
 $7 \rightarrow 8[1]$   
 $8 \rightarrow 8$   
 $] \rightarrow ]$

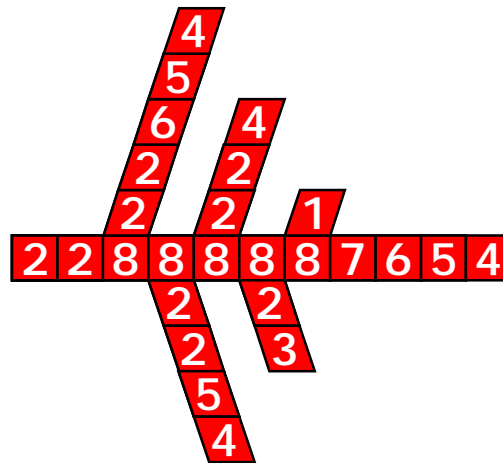


# Red Alga Simulation 10/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow^* 228[22654]8[2254]8[224]8[23]8[1]7654$

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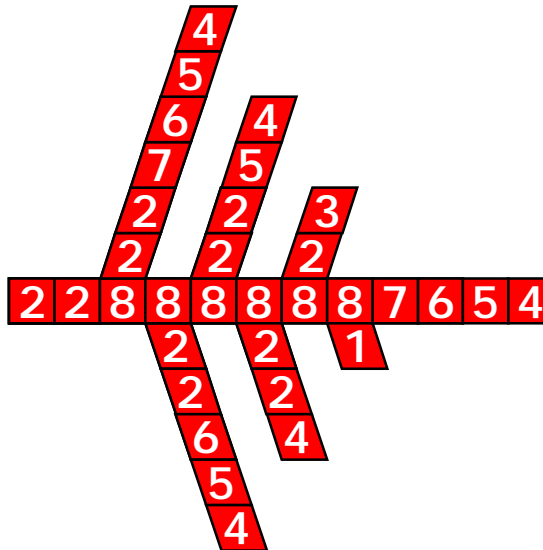
1  $\rightarrow$  23  
 2  $\rightarrow$  2  
 3  $\rightarrow$  24  
 4  $\rightarrow$  54  
 [  $\rightarrow$  [  
 5  $\rightarrow$  6  
 6  $\rightarrow$  7  
 7  $\rightarrow$  8[1]  
 8  $\rightarrow$  8  
 ]  $\rightarrow$  ]

# Red Alga Simulation 11/11

## Derivation:

$1 \Rightarrow^* 228[227654]8[22654]8[2254]8[224]8[23]8[1]7654$

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# Operations over 0L languages

**Gist: properties different from CFLs**

## **Not closed under operations:**

- union of 0L languages
- intersection of 0L languages
- complementation of 0L language
- concatenation of 0L languages
- positive closure ( $^+$ ) of 0L language

## **Closed under operations:**

- reversal of 0L language

## E0L Definition

**Gist: improved variant of 0L system**

**Definition:** *Extended 0L system* is a quadruple  $G = (V, T, P, w)$  where  $V, P, w$  have the same meaning as in 0L system,  $T \subseteq V$  is set of terminals

**Note:**  $\vdash, \vdash^*$  – by analogy with 0L systems.

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**Definition:** *Language* generated by E0L system  $G$  is  $L(G) = \{ x : w \vdash^* x, x \in T^* \}$ .

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**Note:** If  $V = T$  in E0L system then it is 0L system.

## E0L system – Example

**Gist: E0L are more powerful than 0L;**  
**starting string has not to be included in  $L(G)$ .**

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**Example:**  $G = (\{S, a, b\}, \{a, b\}, P, S)$

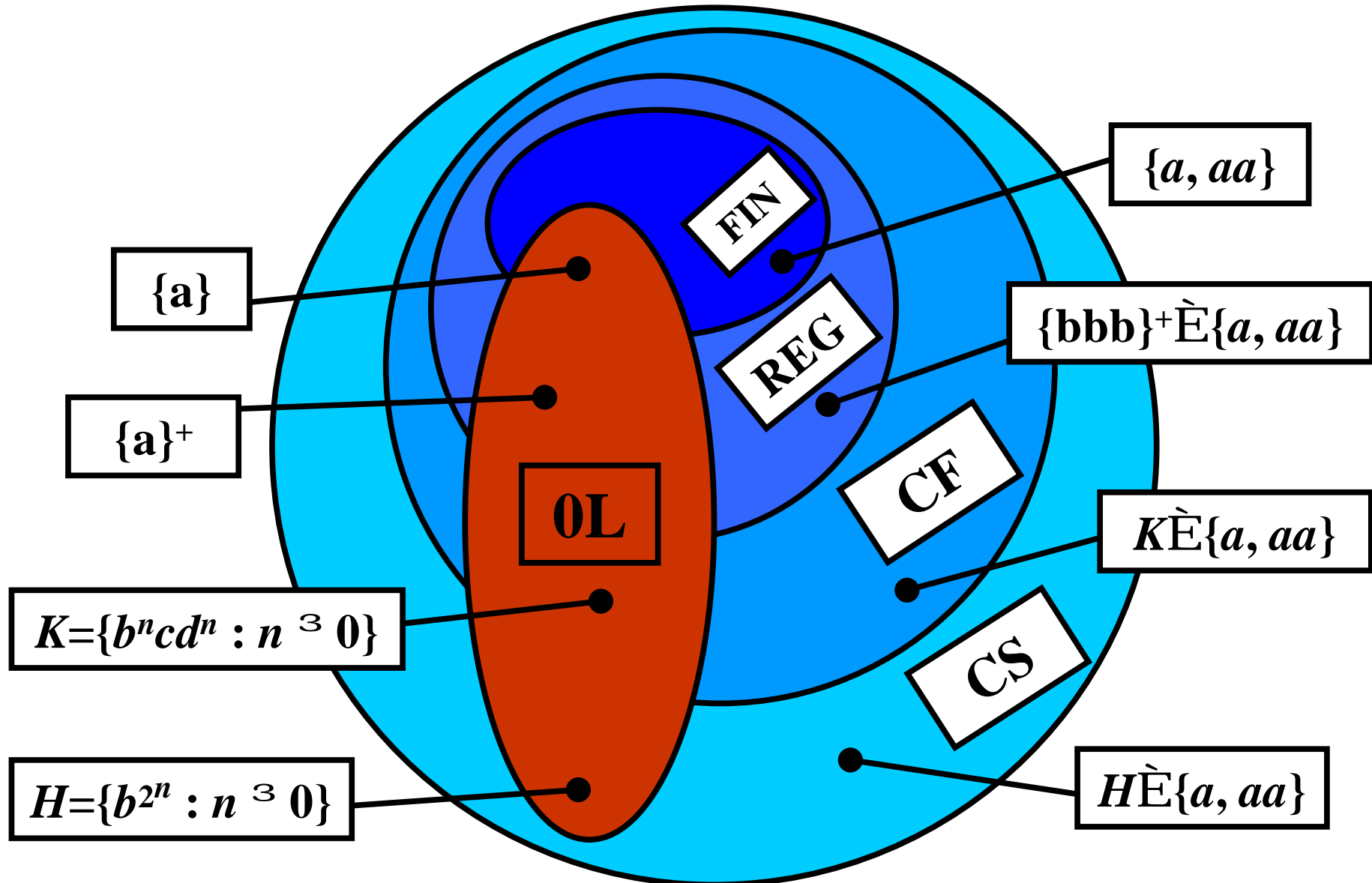
$P = \{ S \rightarrow a, S \rightarrow b, a \rightarrow aa, b \rightarrow bb \}$

$L(G) = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\} \cup \{b^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

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$L(G) \in L(\text{E0L}) - L(\text{0L}) \Rightarrow L(\text{0L}) \subset L(\text{E0L}).$

# 0L & Chomsky hierarchy



# L systems & Chomsky hierarchy

