

7th Sem Bsc IT (Honors)
SYLLABUS FOR THE THEORY OF COMPUTATION

Credits: 4+2

Unit I: Foundations and Regular Languages

Introduction to computation, complexity, and computability. Review of sets, alphabets, strings, and languages. **Finite Automata (FA):** Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA), state tables & diagrams, Acceptability of a String by a Finite Automaton. **Nondeterministic Finite Automata (NFA):** Definition, equivalence of NFA and DFA, conversion from NFA to DFA. **Minimization of Finite Automata.** **Regular Expressions (RE):** Formal definition, identities, and the equivalence of RE and Finite Automata. Conversion of FA to RE and vice versa. **Properties of Regular Languages:** Pumping Lemma for regular sets, closure properties. **Automata with Output (Transducers):** Mealy and Moore machines, and the conversion between them.

Unit II: Context-Free Languages

Formal Grammars: Introduction to grammars, Chomsky Classification of languages (overview). **Context-Free Grammars (CFG):** Right-linear and left-linear grammars, derivation trees, parsing (top-down, bottom-up), and ambiguity. **Simplification of CFGs.** **Normal Forms:** Chomsky Normal Form (CNF) and Greibach Normal Form (GNF). **Properties of Context-Free Languages (CFLs).**

Unit III: Pushdown Automata

Pushdown Automata (PDA): Introduction to PDAs, deterministic and non-deterministic PDAs. **Relationship between PDA and CFL:** Equivalence of PDAs and CFGs, conversion from PDA to CFG. Concepts in parsing. Introduction to context sensitive grammars.

Unit IV: Turing Machines and Recursive Enumerable Languages

Chomsky Hierarchy: A detailed look at Regular Grammars, Context-Sensitive Languages, and their corresponding automata. **Recursive and Recursively Enumerable Languages:** Definitions and properties. **The Turing Machine (TM):** Formal definition and model, computing with Turing Machines. **Types and Variants of TMs:** Multi-tape TM, Multi-dimensional TM, Multi-head TM, and Nondeterministic Turing Machines. **The Church-Turing Thesis:** The definition of an algorithm. **Universal Turing Machines.** **Decidability and Undecidability:** Unrestricted grammars, the concept of decidable vs. undecidable problems. **Reducibility:** A technique for proving problems are undecidable. **The Halting Problem:** Proving its undecidability. **The Post Correspondence Problem (PCP).**

References:

1. *Introduction to Automata Theory, Languages, and Computation* by Hopcroft, Motwani, Ullman.
2. *An Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata* by Peter Linz.
3. *Introduction to the Theory of Computation* by Michael Sipser.