3. Show that the language $L = \{w : n_a(w) = n_b(w)\}$ is not regular.
Is L^* regular?

A language can be proved whether it is regular or not by using the Pumping Lemma Theorem.

If a language R is regular, then any string $w = xyz$ of R must satisfy

1. For each $i \geq 0$, $xy^iz \in R$
2. $|y| > 0$
3. $|xy| \leq P$

We must Prove L is not regular using contradiction.

Assume L is regular

Consider $w = a^P b^P \Rightarrow aaaaaaabbbbbbb$

Pumping length = 7

Case 1: The y is in the 'a' part

$\underbrace{aa}_{x}\underbrace{aaaa}_{y}\underbrace{abbbbbbb}_{z}$ $\qquad |xy| = 6 \leq 7$

Case 2: The y is in the 'b' part

$\underbrace{aaaaaaabb}_{x}\underbrace{bbbb}_{y}\underbrace{b}_{z}$ $\qquad |xy| = 13 \nleq 7$

Case 3: The y is in both 'a' and 'b' part

$\underbrace{aaaaa}_{x}\underbrace{aabb}_{y}\underbrace{bbbbb}_{z}$ $\qquad |xy| = 9 \nleq 7$

Testing case 1: $xy^iz \Rightarrow xy^2z$

aa aaaa aaaaabbbbbbb

Here, # of a's = 11 $\neq$ # of b's = 7

Testing case 2: $xy^iz \Rightarrow xy^2z$

aaaaaaabb bbbbbbbbb

Here, # of a's = 7 $\neq$ # of b's = 11

Testing case 3: $xy^iz \Rightarrow xy^2z$

aaaaa aabb aabb bbbbb

Here, $w = a^p b^p$ so this string $w \notin L$

Since w does not satisfy all 3 pumping conditions, the Language L is not regular.

We know that $L^* = L^0 \cup L^1 \cup L^2 \cup \ldots$

Thus, strings in L^* contains equal numbers of a's and equal number of b's.

That is $L^* = L$

$\therefore$ L^* is also not regular.

4. Prove that the following languages are not regular.

a. $L = \{a^n b^l a^k : k \geq n+1\}$

Given m, pick $w = a^m b^m a^{2m}$. The string y must then be a^k and the pumped strings will be

$$w_i = a^{m+(i-1)k} b^m a^{2m}.$$

If we take $i \geq 2$, then $m + (i-1)k > m$, and then w_i is not in L.

d. $L = \{a^n b^l : n \leq l\}$

Assume L is regular

Consider $w = a^m b^m \Rightarrow aaabbb$

Let $m = 3$

$\underbrace{a}_{x}\underbrace{aa}_{y}\underbrace{bbb}_{z}$

$|y| \geq 1$

$|xy| \leq m$

$xyz \in L$

xy^2z

aaaaabbb

As we can see that the string 'aaaaabbb' doesn't follow the language constraint that $a^n b^l : n \leq l$

$\therefore$ L is not regular

15. Consider the languages below. For each, make a conjecture whether or not it is regular. Then prove your conjecture.

15a. $L =$ $L = \{a^n b^l a^k : n + l + k > 5\}$.

The language is regular. This is most easily seen by splitting the problem into cases such as $l = 0$, $k = 0$, $n > 5$, for which one can easily construct regular expressions.

15b. $L = \{a^n b^l a^k : n > 5, l > 3, k \leq l\}$.

This language is not regular. If we choose $w = aaaaaab^m a^m$, our opponent has several choices. If y consists of only a's, we use $i = 0$ to violate the condition $n > 5$. If the opponent chooses y as consisting of b's, we can then violate the condition $k \leq l$.

15f. $L = \{a^n b^l : n \geq 100, l \leq 100\}$.

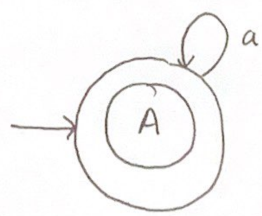
The language is regular.

A language is said to be regular iff a finite state machine recognizes it.

If the language was $a^n b^n$ where $n \geq 100$ or $n \leq 100$ the language would not be considered regular as n is the same for both nodes. This would require the FSM to store or count strings.

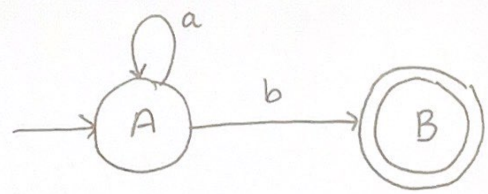
Let $n = 100$, $l = 0$

$aaaa \ldots aaa^{100}$



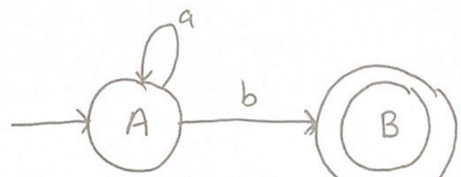
Let $n=100, \ell=1$

$a^{100}b$



Let $n=100, \ell=100$

$a^{100}b^{100}$



As the above example languages are accepted by a FSM, we conclude that our conjecture is true.

$\therefore$ This language is regular

15g) $L = \{ a^n b^\ell : |n-\ell| = 2 \}$

The language is not regular.

Assume L is regular

Since L is regular there exists a pumping length $m > 0$

Let $w = a^m b^{m+2}$, then $w \in L$ and $|w| > m$

Then from the pumping lemma there exists $xyz \in \Sigma^*$ such that $w = xyz$ with $|xy| \leq m$ and $|y| \geq 1$

So $y = a^k$ for some $1 \leq k \leq m$.

Taking $i=0$, then $xy^iz = a^{m-k}b^{m+2} \notin L$ because $|m-k-(m+2)| = |-k-2| = k+2 \neq 2$.

This is a contradiction of the pumping lemma.

$\therefore$ L is not regular.