

CS & IT ENGINEERING

Theory of Computation
Finite Automata



Lecture No. 4



By- DEVA Sir

TOPICS TO BE COVERED

01 Practice Questions

02 GATE PYQs

03 Model GATE Questions

04 Important Regular Exps

05 Revision

How to write Regular Expressions ?

Regular Language

=

Regular Expression

P
W

① $L = \{\}$ over $\Sigma = \{a\}$

$$R = \phi$$

$$= \phi \cdot a = \phi \cdot a^*$$

② $L = \{\}$ over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$$R = \phi$$

$$= b \cdot \phi \cdot a = \phi \cdot a^* b^*$$

③ $L = \{\}$ over $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$

$$R = \phi$$

$$= \phi \cdot (c+a) = \phi \cdot (a+b+c)^*$$

Note: To represent one regular language,
How many regular expressions?

= Infinite

$$\Sigma = \{a\}$$

$$L = \{ \} \Rightarrow$$

ϕ
 $\phi.a$
 $\phi.a^*$
 $\phi.\text{any}$

$a.\phi$
 $aa.\phi$
 $\tilde{a}^3.\phi$
 $\tilde{a}.\phi.\tilde{a}^*$

④ $L = \{\epsilon\}$ over $\Sigma = \{a\}$

P
W

$$\boxed{R = \epsilon} = \phi^* = \phi^* \cdot a$$

⑤ $L = \{\epsilon\}$ over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$$\boxed{R = \epsilon} = \phi^0 = b^0 = a^0$$

$$= (a+b)^0 = (ab)^0$$

⑥ $L = \text{Set of all strings over } \Sigma = \{a\}$

$$R = a^* = \Sigma^*$$

⑦ $L = \text{Set of all strings over } \Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$$R = (a+b)^* = \Sigma^*$$

$$\hat{a}^* = (\hat{a}^*)^\dagger = (\hat{a}^*)^* = (\hat{a}^*)^+ = (\hat{a}^+)^*$$

$$= \overset{+}{a} + \varepsilon$$

*

$$= a + \underset{\text{any exp}}{\text{any over } \Sigma}$$

$$= (a + \varepsilon)^+$$

$$= (a + \varepsilon)^*$$

$$= \phi^* \cdot \hat{a}^*$$

$$\underline{(a+b)^*} = (a+b)^+ + \varepsilon$$

$$= (a+b+\varepsilon)^+$$

$$= (\overset{*}{a} + \overset{*}{b})^*$$

$$= (\overset{*}{a} \overset{*}{b})^*$$

$$= (\overset{*}{b} \overset{*}{a})^*$$

Later

$$\boxed{a^* b^*} \neq \boxed{b^* a^*}$$

$$(a^* b^*)^* = (b^* a^*)^*$$

Difference?

$$a^* b^* = \epsilon + a + a^2 + \dots + b + b^2 + \dots + ab + aab + abb + \dots$$

$$b^* a^* = \boxed{\epsilon} + \boxed{a} + \boxed{b} + \boxed{ab}$$

\downarrow \downarrow \downarrow
 $b^* a$ $b^* a^*$ $b^* a$

$$(a^* b^*)^* = (\overset{\circ}{a} \overset{\circ}{b})^* + (\overset{\circ}{a} \overset{\circ}{b})^1 + (\overset{\circ}{a} \overset{\circ}{b})^2 + \dots$$

$$= \epsilon + a^* b^* + \underset{\Sigma}{\overset{\circ}{a}} \underset{\Sigma}{\overset{\circ}{b}} \underset{\Sigma}{\overset{\circ}{a}} \underset{\Sigma}{\overset{\circ}{b}} + \dots$$

⑧

$$L = \{ w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, w \text{ starts with } a \}$$

P
W

$$= \{ aw \mid w \in \{a, b\}^* \}$$

= Set of all strings starting with a

a ~~X~~

$$R = a(a+b)^*$$

$$= a \Sigma^*$$

$$= a (a^* b^*)^*$$

$L = \{ w \mid \underbrace{w \in \{a,b\}^*}_{w \in \Sigma^*}, w \text{ starts with } a \}$

$= \{ a, aa, ab, a\underbrace{a\underline{a}}, aab, aba, abb, \dots \}$

$A = \{ x \mid \underbrace{x \in \mathbb{N}}_{\text{Cond 1}}, \underbrace{x > 2}_{\text{Cond 2}} \}$

Every x which is natural and greater than 2

$= \{ 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, \dots \}$

⑨ Set of all strings starting with ab over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$$R = ab(a+b)^*$$

⑩ $L = \{ \omega \mid \omega \in \{a, b\}^*, \omega \text{ starts with } aaa \}$

$$R = aaa(a+b)^*$$

⑪ $L = \{ \omega \mid \omega \in \{a, b\}^*, \omega \text{ ends with } a \}$

$$R = (a+b)^* a$$

Match
Equivalent

(12) Group - I

P
W

1. $a(a+b)^*$



I. $(ab^*)^+ = \{a, \underline{aa}, ab, \dots\}$

2. $b(a+b)^*$

II. $(b^*\underline{a})^+ = (a+b)^*a$

3. $(a+b)^*a$

III. $(\underline{ba}^*)^+ = b(a+b)^*$

4. $(a+b)^*b$

IV. $(\underline{a}^*b)^+ = (a+b)^*b$

PW



⑬ $L = \{ w_1 a w_2 \mid w_1, w_2 \in \{a,b\}^* \}$ P
W

= Set of **all** strings containing 'a' as Substring

= {**0, 0a, 0b, ba,** ... }

= $(a+b)^* a (a+b)^*$

= $b^* a (a+b)^*$

same

(14)

$$L = \{ w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, |w| = 2 \}$$

P
W

Exactly 2 length strings

$$\sum_{k=0}^{\infty} a^k b^k$$

$$\Sigma = \Sigma^2$$

$$(a+b) \cdot (a+b) = (a+b)^2$$

$$\Sigma \cdot \Sigma = \Sigma^2$$

$$R = ab + ba + aa + bb$$

$$= \underbrace{(a+b)}_1 \cdot \underbrace{(a+b)}_1$$

$$= (a+b)^2 = \Sigma^2$$

Exactly k length

$$= (a+b)^k$$

15

$$\{w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, \underbrace{|w| \leq 2}\}$$

P
W

At most 2 length string

 $|w| \leq K$

$$= \epsilon + (a+b) + (a+b)^2$$

$$R = \epsilon + a + b + aa + ab + ba + bb$$

$$= \sum^0 + \sum^1 + \sum^2$$

$$= (\epsilon + a + b)^2$$

 $(a+b+\epsilon)^K$

(constant)

Strings
 ϵ

Length

0

0

a+b

1

b b
b a
a b
a a

$a+b+\epsilon$

0 or 1
 ≤ 1

at most 1 length

$$(a+b+\epsilon)(a+b+\epsilon) = (a+b+\epsilon)^2$$

≤ 2 length



Note:

$$\begin{aligned} a^* b^* + b^* a^* &= \underbrace{\epsilon + a^+ + b^+ + ab^+ + ba^+}_{\Sigma} \\ &= a^* + b^* + ab^+ + ba^+ \\ &= a^* + b^+ + ab^+ + ba^+ \\ &= \underline{a^+} + \underline{b^*} + \underline{ab^+} + \underline{ba^+} \end{aligned}$$

⑯

 $\{w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, |w| \geq 2\}$
P
W

$$\begin{aligned}
 x^+ x^+ &= x x^+ \\
 &= x x x^* \\
 &= x x^* x \\
 &= x^* x x \\
 &= (x^+)^2
 \end{aligned}$$

$$= \underbrace{(a+b)}_{\text{exactly } 2 \text{ length}}^2 \underbrace{(a+b)}_{\text{any length}}^*$$

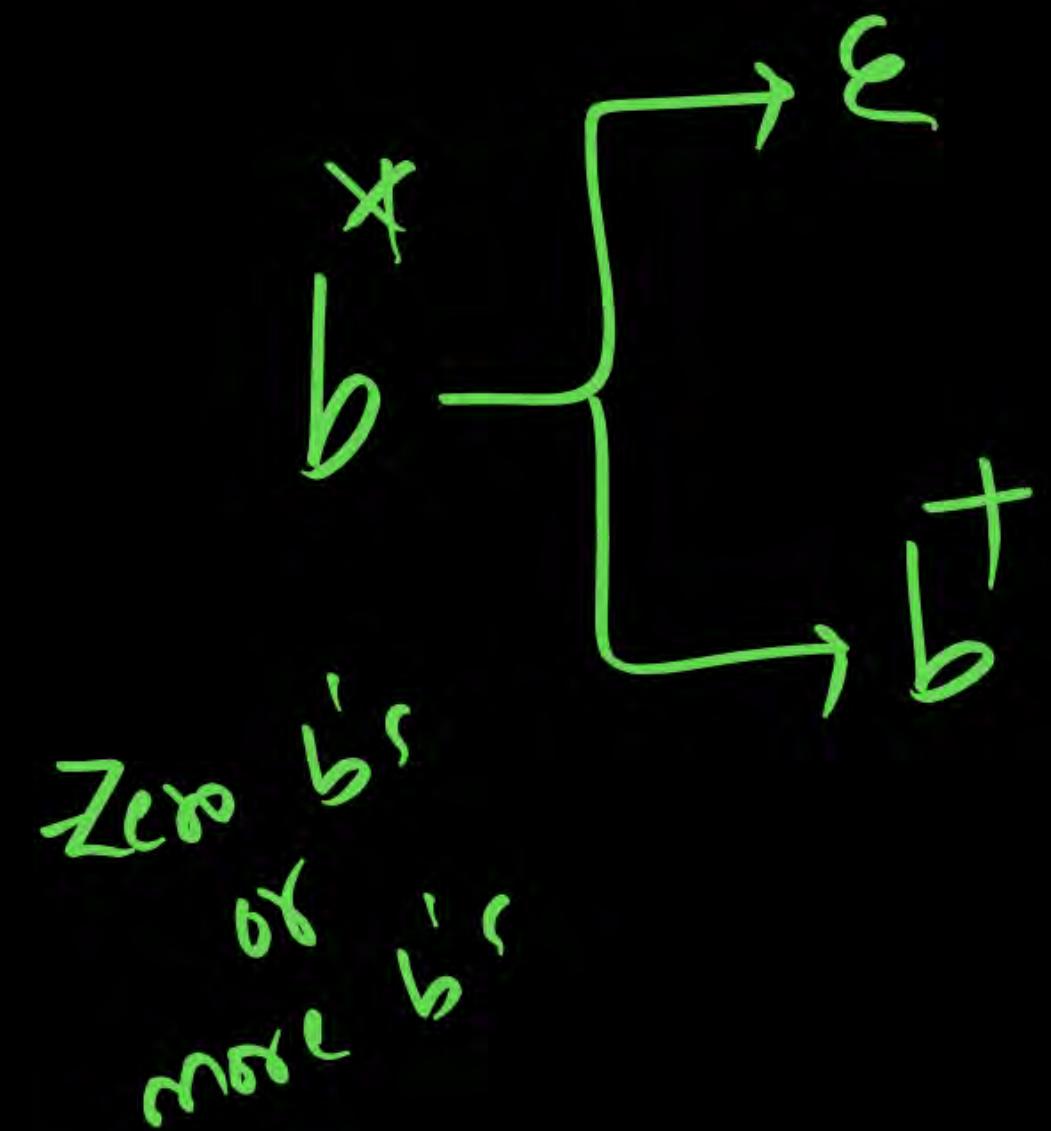
at least 2 length

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (a+b)^* (a+b)^2 \\
 &= (a+b) (a+b) (a+b)^* \\
 &= (a+b) (a+b)^+ \\
 &= (a+b)^+ (a+b)
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\textcircled{17} \quad \left\{ \omega \mid \omega \in \{a, b\}^*, \ n_a(\omega) = 2 \right\}$$

P
W

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= \left(\overbrace{b \circ a}^{\text{must}} \right)^* \left(\overbrace{b \circ a}^{\text{must}} \right)^* b^* \\
 &= \left(b^* a \right)^2 b^* \\
 &= b^* \left(a b^* \right)^2
 \end{aligned}
 \quad \left. \begin{array}{l} n_a(\omega) \\ \#_a(\omega) \\ \text{no.of } a's(\omega) \end{array} \right\}$$



$$18) \{w \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*, n_a(w) \leq 2\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} &= b^* + \cancel{bab}^* + \cancel{bab}^* \cancel{ab}^* \\ &= b^* (\varepsilon + a) b^* (\varepsilon + a) b^* \end{aligned}$$

$$19) \{w \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*, n_a(w) \geq 2\}$$

$$= (a+b)^* \underbrace{a}_{X} (a+b)^* \underbrace{a}_{X} (a+b)^*$$

X a X a X

zero a's $\Rightarrow b^*$
 one a $\Rightarrow \cancel{bab}$
 2 a's $\Rightarrow \cancel{babab}$
 3 a's $\Rightarrow \cancel{bababab}$

$$= b^* + \underbrace{b^* a b^*}_{= 1a} + \underbrace{\overbrace{b^* a b^* a b^*}^{= 2a^*}}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 = \boxed{b^* (\epsilon + a) \quad b^* (\epsilon + a) b^*} \\
 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\
 b^* \quad \epsilon \quad b^* \quad \epsilon \quad b^* \\
 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\
 b^* a \quad a \quad b^* \quad b^* \quad a \quad b^* \\
 \downarrow \qquad \qquad \qquad \downarrow \qquad \qquad \downarrow \\
 b^* a b^* \quad b^* a b^* a b^*
 \end{array}$$

Q

$$= (a+b)^* \boxed{a} (a+b)^* \boxed{a} (a+b)^*$$

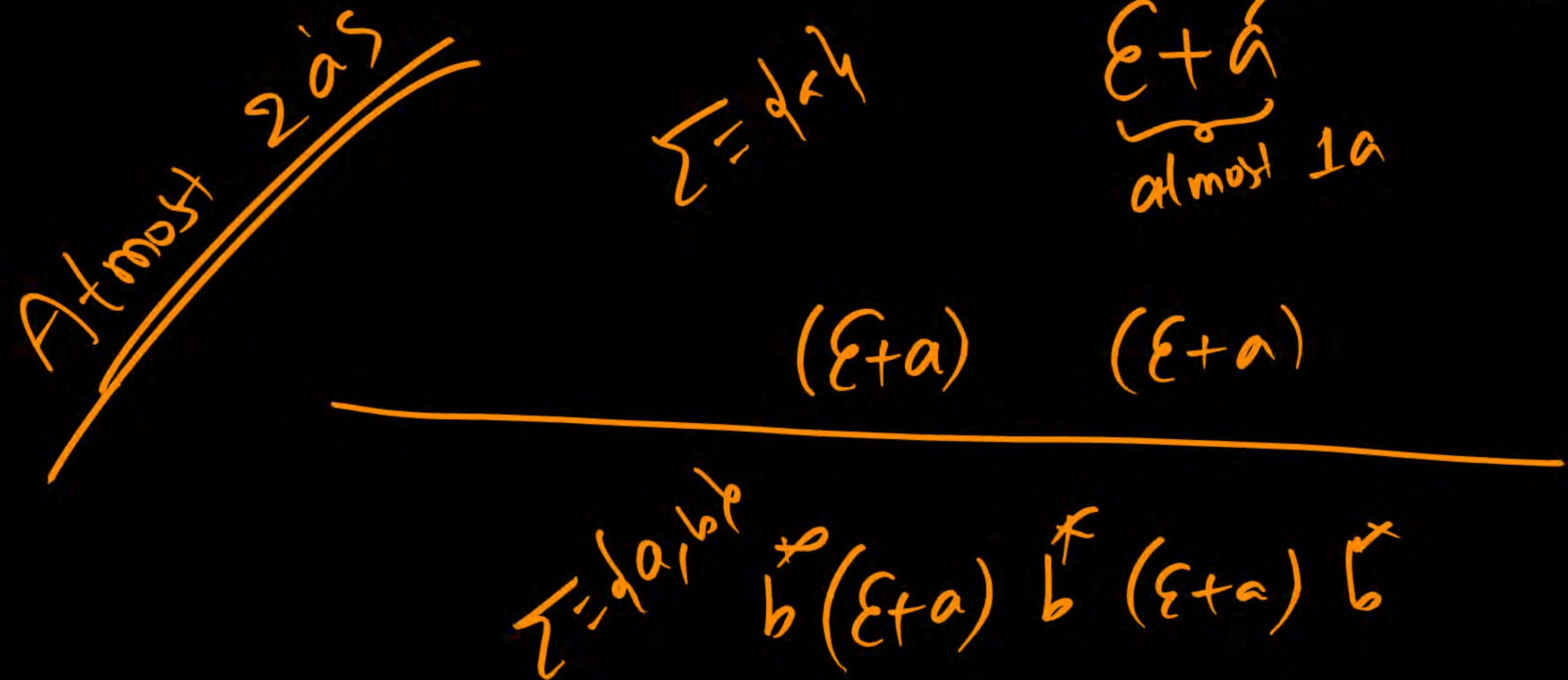
$$= b^* \boxed{a} b^* \boxed{a} (a+b)^*$$

$$= (a+b)^* \boxed{a} b^* \boxed{a} b^*$$

$$= b^* \boxed{a} (a+b)^* \boxed{a} b^*$$

Equivalent

P
W



20

$$\{ w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, |w| \text{ is even} \}$$

$= \left[(a+b)^2 \right]^*$
 $\quad \quad \quad |w| \text{ is divisible by } 2$
 $\quad \quad \quad |w| \text{ is multiple of } 2$
 $\quad \quad \quad (|w| \% 2) = 0 \quad |w| = 2^n$
 $\quad \quad \quad n \geq 0$

21

$$\{ w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, |w| \text{ is odd} \}$$

$= \left[(a+b)^2 \right]^* (a+b)$
 $\quad \quad \quad |w| = 2n+1$
 $\quad \quad \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{even}} \quad \underbrace{\quad}_{\text{odd}} = (a+b) \left[(a+b)^2 \right]^*$

$$\left((a+b)^2 \right)^*$$
$$\left(\quad \right)^0 = 1$$
$$\left(\quad \right)^1 = (a+b)^2$$
$$\left(\quad \right)^2 = \left((a+b)^2 \right)^2 = (a+b)^4$$
$$\left(\quad \right)^3 = (a+b)^6$$

Even length strings

$$= \{ \underbrace{\epsilon}_{0}, \underbrace{aa, ab, ba, bb}_{2}, \underbrace{aaaa, aaab, aaba, \dots}_{4} \}$$

(22) $L = \{ \underbrace{x \downarrow}_{3 \text{ len}} \underbrace{ay \downarrow}_{\text{any}} \mid x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |x|=3 \}$

= 4^k symbol from begin is a

$$= \underbrace{(a+b)^3}_{3 \text{ length}} \frac{a}{4^k \text{ symbol}} (a+b)^*$$

$$= \boxed{\quad \quad \quad} a \underbrace{\text{any}}_{4^k}$$

(23) $\{ xay \mid x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |y|=2 \}$

P
W

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (a+b)^* \boxed{a} (a+b)^2 \\
 &\quad \xleftarrow{\text{3rd from end is } a} \\
 &= (a+b)^* a (a+b) (a+b) \\
 &\quad \xleftarrow{\text{any}} a \quad \square \quad \square
 \end{aligned}$$

②4

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$$

$$R = a^* b^*$$

②5

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 0, n \geq 1\}$$

$$R = a^* b^+$$

②6

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 1, n \geq 1\}$$

$$R = ab^+$$

$$27) \{a^m b^n \mid m=\text{even}, n \geq 0\} \Rightarrow R = (aa)^* b^*$$

$$28) \{a^m b^n \mid m=\text{odd}, n \geq 1\} \Rightarrow R = a(aa)^* b^+$$

$$29) \{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 2, n=\text{even}\} \Rightarrow R = aa\bar{a}^* (bb)^*$$

$$30) \{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 2, n \geq 3\} \Rightarrow R = aaa^* bbbb^*$$

$$31) \{a^m b^n \mid m \leq 1, n \geq 2\} \Rightarrow R = \underbrace{(\epsilon + a)}_{\text{max } 1a} \underbrace{bbb^*}_{\text{min } 2b}$$

$$\leq 2 \\ a \Rightarrow \underbrace{\epsilon + a + a}_{\text{at most } 2a}^2$$

$$a^{\text{even}} = (aa)^* = (\overset{o}{a})^*$$

$$a^{\text{odd}} = a(aa)^* = (aa)^* a$$

$$\geq 2 \\ a = aaa^*$$

$$\leq 1 \\ a = \overset{o}{a} + a = \underbrace{\epsilon + a}_{\text{at most } 1a}$$

32) $\{w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, n_a(w) = \text{odd}\}$

~~Home work~~

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= b^* \left(\frac{b^* a b^*}{x} a b^* \right)^* b^* a b^* \\
 &= b^* (a b^* a b^*)^* a b^* \\
 &= (b^* a b^* a)^* b^* a b^* \\
 &= b^* a \frac{b}{\cancel{a}} \left(\frac{b^* a b^* a b^*}{\cancel{b}} \right)^* b^*
 \end{aligned}$$

wrong

$$\begin{aligned}
 &(a b^* a)^* a \\
 &(a b^* a)^* b^* a \\
 &b^* (a a)^* a
 \end{aligned}$$

***** 33)
Homework

valid:
 ϵ
 b
 aa
 aba
 baa
 aab
 $bbaa$
 $babaa$

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \left\{ w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, n_a(w) = \text{even} \right\} = \{\epsilon, b, bb, aa, \dots\} \\
 & = b^* (b^* \square a b^* \square a b^*)^* b^* \\
 & = b^* (a b^* \square a b^*)^* \\
 & = (b^* \square b^* \square a)^* b^* \\
 & = (b^* \square b^* \square a)^* + b^*
 \end{aligned}$$

This expression can't generate
 $(babab)^*$

wrong
 $\hookrightarrow b$ is having even a's
 $\hookrightarrow b$ is valid
 b is not possible here

$L = \boxed{w \in \{a,b\}^*, n_a(w) = \text{even}}$

$\Sigma^* = \{\cancel{\epsilon}, \cancel{a}, \cancel{b}, \cancel{aa}, \cancel{ab}, \cancel{ba}, \cancel{bb}, \cancel{aaa}, \cancel{aab}, \dots\}$

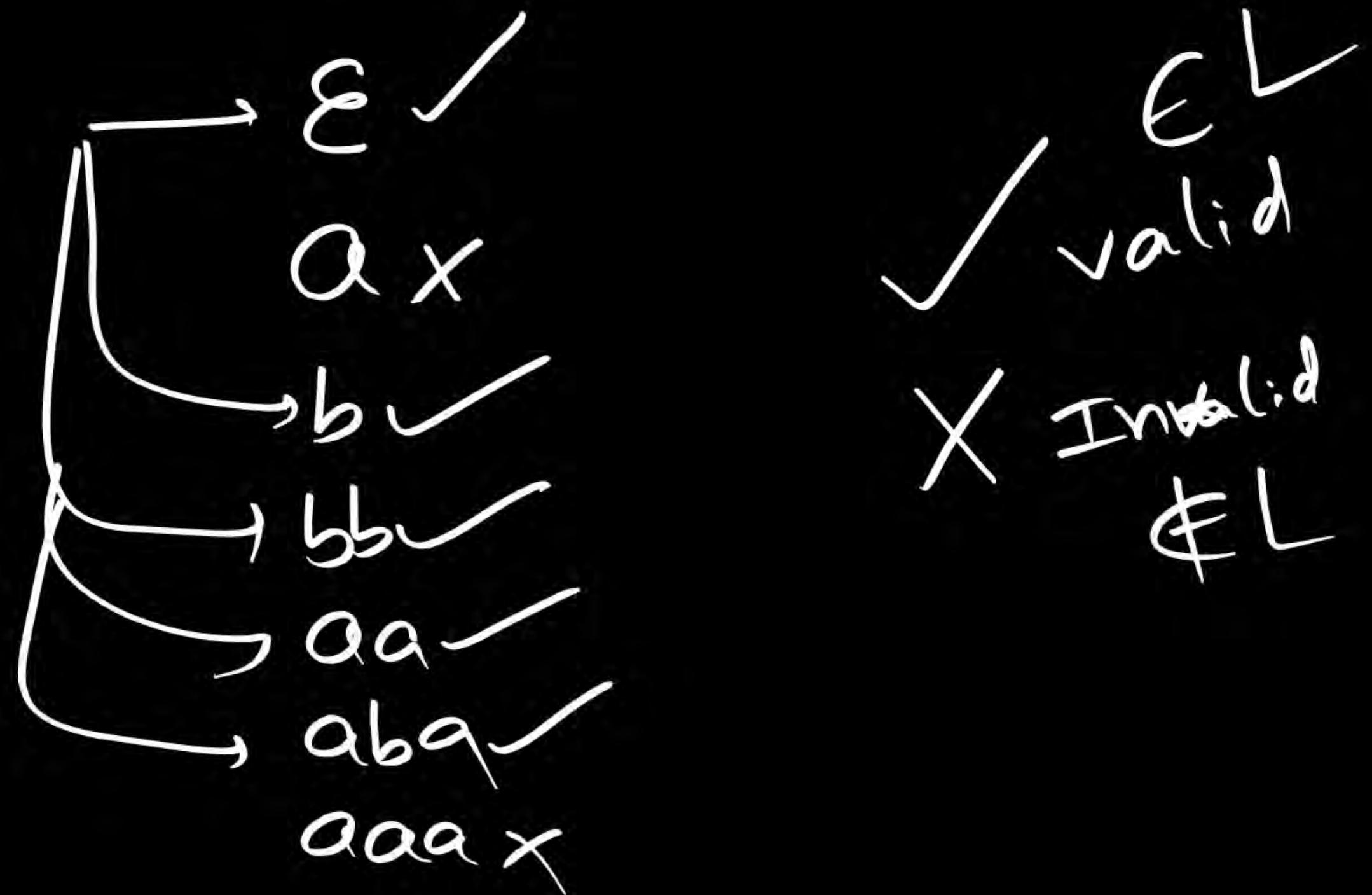
$L = \{\epsilon, b, aa, bb, aab, \dots\}$

$(aa)^*$
 b 's can come
 anywhere

\downarrow
 \downarrow
 \downarrow
 \downarrow
 \downarrow
 zero a's

even no. of a's
 1
 zero a's
 2 a's
 4 a's

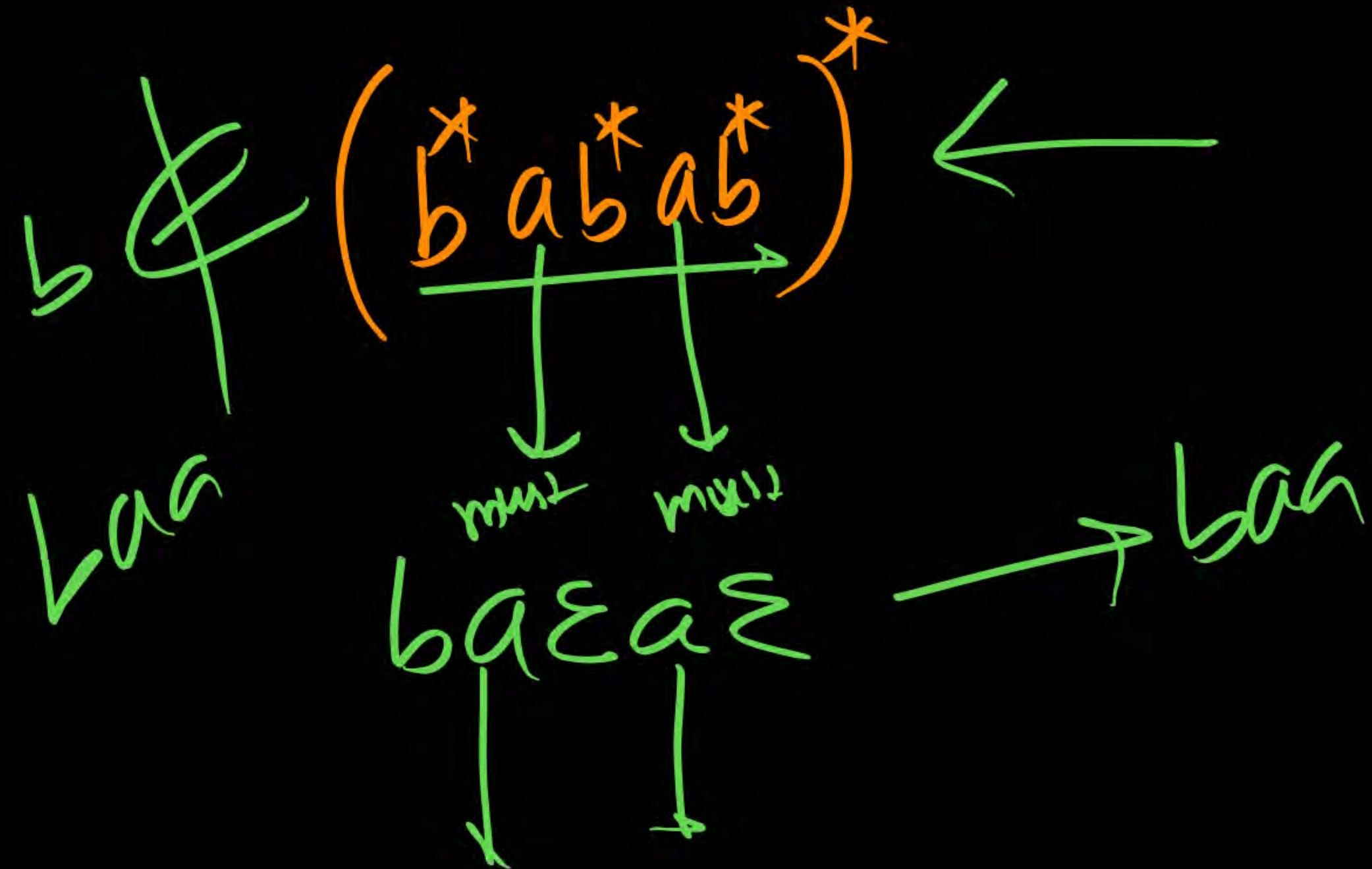
#as=even



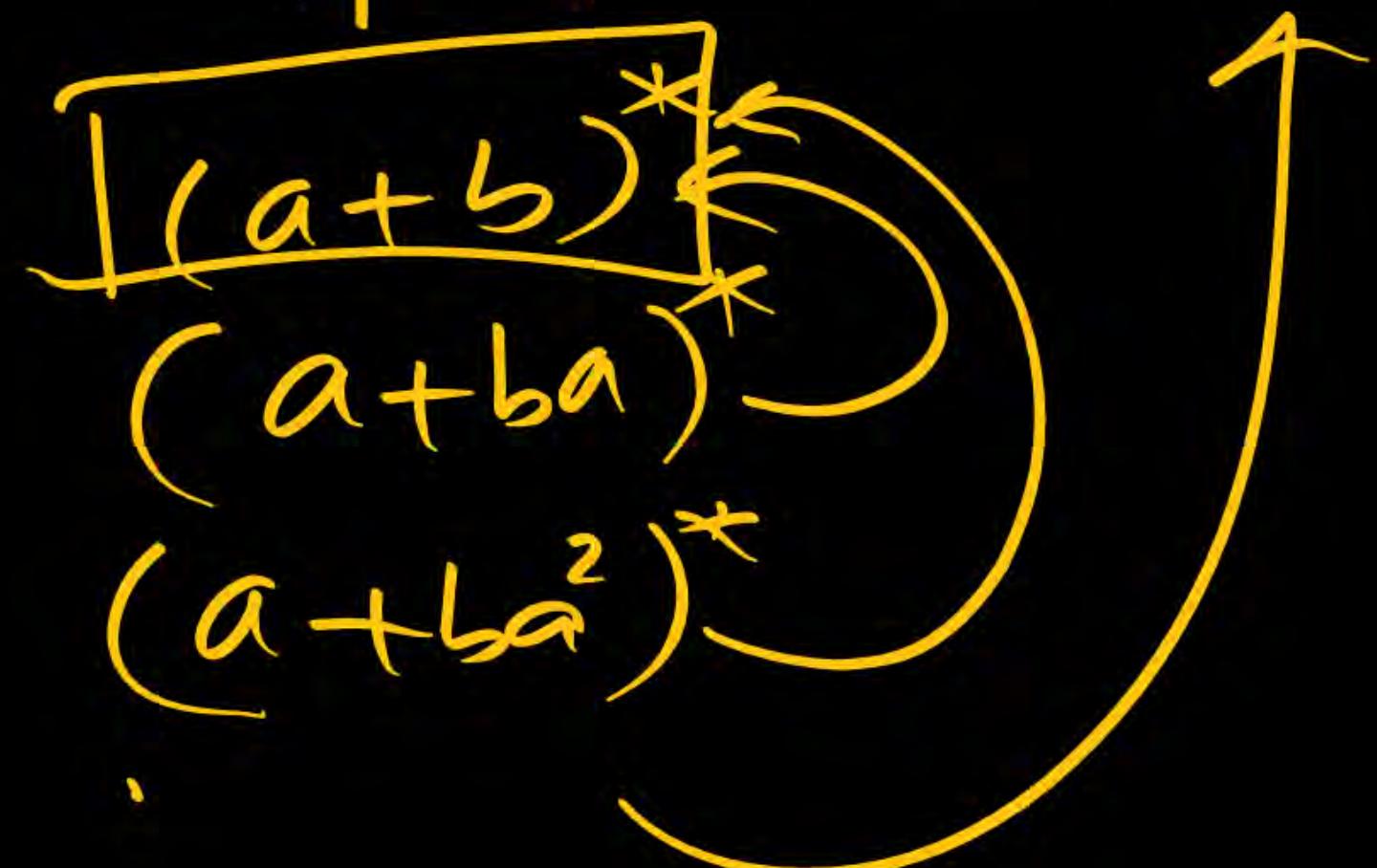
$$34) \{w \mid w \in a^*, \quad n_a(w) = \text{odd}\} = \{a^{2n+1} \mid n \geq 0\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R &= a(aa)^* \\ &= (aa)^* a \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} 35) \{w \mid w \in a^* b^*, \quad n_a(w) = \text{odd}\} \\ - a(aa)^* b^* \end{aligned}$$



$$(a + \underline{ba}^*)^* = (a+b)^*$$



($a+b$)



a
 b

$ab \times$

$ba \times$

(ab)



ab



$a \times$

$b \times$

①

$$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^*: \#_a(w) \leq 3\}.$$

- A. $b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- B. $b^* (a) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- C. $b^* (a) b^* (a) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- D. $b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a) b^* (a) b^*$

+
- } posane

P
W

2

P
W

$$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^*: \#_a(w) \geq 3\}.$$

- A. $b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- B. $(a \cup b)^* (a) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- C. $b^* (a) b^* (a) b^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^*$
- D. $(a \cup b)^* a (a \cup b)^* a (a \cup b)^* a (a \cup b)^*$

③

P
W

$$L1 = a^*b^*$$

$$L2 = a^+b^+$$

Find $L2 - L1$.

- A. a^*
- B. b^*
- C. $a^* + b^*$
- D. None

④

$$L1 = a^* + b^* \text{ and } L2 = a^*b^*.$$

Which of the following is TRUE?

- A. $L1 = L2$
- B. $L1 \cup L2 = (a+b)^*$
- C. $L1^* = L2^*$
- D. None

P
W

5

$L_1 = a^* + b^*$ and $L_2 = a^*b^*$.

Which of the following is TRUE?

- A. L_1 is subset of L_2
- B. L_2 is subset of L_1
- C. $L_1 \cup L_2 = L_1$
- D. None

⑥

$L_1 = a^+b^+$ and $L_2 = a^*b^*$.

Which of the following is FALSE?

- A. L_1 is subset of L_2
- B. $L_1^* = L_2^*$
- C. $L_1 \cup L_2 = L_2$
- D. None

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$L_1 = a^+ + b^+$ and $L_2 = a^* + b^*$.

Which of the following is TRUE?

- A. $L_1 = L_2$
- B. $L_1^+ = L_2^+$
- C. $L_1 \cup L_2 = L_2$
- D. None

⑧

$L_1 = a^+$ and $L_2 = a^*$

Which of the following is TRUE?

- A. $L_1^+ = L_2^*$
- B. $L_1^+ = L_2^+$
- C. $L_1^* = L_2^+$
- D. None

q

$A = a^*$ and $B = b^*$

$AB = ?$

- A. $\{ a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$
- B. $\{ a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$
- C. $(a+b)^*$
- D. None

A = aa* and B = bb*
(AUB)* = ?

10

- A. { $a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0$ }
- B. { $a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 0$ }
- C. $(a+b)^*$
- D. None

(10)

Given the language $L = \{ab, aa, baa\}$,
which of the following strings are not in L^* ?

- 1) abaabaaaabaa
- 2) aaaabaaaaa
- 3) baaaaabaaaab

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. 3 only
- D. None

12

The length of the shortest string NOT in the language
(over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$) of the following regular expression is

_____.

$a^*(ba)^*a^*$

- A. 1
- B. 2
- C. 3
- D. 4

$L = a(a+b)^*$ is equivalent to _____

(13)

- A. $(ab^*)^+$
- B. $(a^+b^*)^+$
- C. $a^*(ab^*)^+$
- D. All of the above

$L = (a+b)^*b$ is equivalent to _____

(14)

- A. $(ab^*)^+$
- B. $(a^+b^*)^+$
- C. $b^*(ab^*)^*b$
- D. None

$$(b + ba)(b + a)^*(ab + b)$$

(15)

- A. $(a+b)^*$
- B. $a(a+b)^*a$
- C. $b(a+b)^*b$
- D. None

16

$$\{w \in \{a, b\}^*: \#_a(w) \equiv_3 0\}.$$

- A. $(b^*ab^*ab^*a)^*b^*$
- B. $(b^*ab^*ab^*a)^*$
- C. $(ab^*ab^*a)^*$
- D. $(ab^*ab^*a)^*b^*$

$$(a \cup b)^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* =$$

13

- A. $(a+b)(a+b)^*$
- B. $(a+b)^*$
- C. $(aa+b)^*$
- D. None

$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ has } bba \text{ as a substring}\}$

Which of the following describes L ?

(18)

- A. $(a \cup b)^* bba (a \cup b)^*$
- B. $(a \cup b)^+ bba (a \cup b)^*$
- C. $(a \cup b)^+ bba (a \cup b)^+$
- D. $(a \cup b)^* bba (a \cup b)^+$

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$$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

1. $(a + b)^*$
2. $(a + b + \epsilon)^+$
3. $\epsilon + (a + b)^+$
4. $(a^*b^*)^*$
5. $(b^*a^*)^*$
6. $(a^+b^+)^*$

How many of above are equivalent to given L ?

- A. 4 B. 5 C. 6 D. 3

Which Two of the following four regular expressions are equivalent?

(20)

- (i) $(00)^*(\varepsilon + 0)$
- (ii) $(00)^*$
- (iii) 0^*
- (iv) $0(00)^*$

- (a) (i) and (ii)
- (b) (ii) and (iii)
- (c) (i) and (iii)
- (d) (iii) and (iv)

(GATE - 96)

If the regular set A is represented by $A = (01+1)^*$ and the regular set ‘B’ is represented by $B= ((01)^*1^*)^*$, which of the following is true? **(GATE - 98)**

21

- (a) $A \subset B$
- (b) $B \subset A$
- (c) A and B are incomparable
- (d) $A = B$

The string 1101 does not belong to the set represented by (GATE - 98)

- (a) $110^* (0+1)$
- (b) $1(0+1)^* 101$
- (c) $(10)^* (01)^* (00+11)^*$
- (d) $(00+(11)^* 0)^*$

22

Let S and T be languages over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ represented by the regular expressions $(a + b^*)^*$ and $(a + b)^*$, respectively.

Which of the following is true? **(GATE - 2000)**

- (a) $S \subset T$
- (b) $T \subset S$
- (c) $S = T$
- (d) $S \cap T = \emptyset$

23

Consider the set Σ^* of all strings over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

Σ^* with the concatenation operator for strings (GATE - 03)

- (a) Does not form a group
- (b) Forms a non-commutative group
- (c) Does not have a right identity element
- (d) Forms a group if the empty string is removed from Σ^*

24

PL & Discrete math

The regular expression $0^*(10^*)^*$ denotes the same set as (GATE - 03)

- (a) $(1^*0)^*1^*$
- (b) $0^+ (0+10)^*$
- (c) $(0+1)^*10 (0+1)^*$
- (d) None of the above

25

Which one of the following languages over the alphabet $\{0, 1\}$ is described by the regular expression $(0+1)^*0(0+1)^*0(0+1)^*$ (GATE - 09)

- (a) The set of all strings containing the substring 00
- (b) The set of all strings containing at most two 0's
- (c) The set of all strings containing at least two 0's
- (d) The set of all strings that begin and end with either 0 or 1

26

Consider the languages $L_1 = \phi$ and $L_2 = \{a\}$. Which one of the following represents $L_1 L_2^* \cup L_1^*$? (GATE - 13)

- (a) $\{\epsilon\}$
- (b) ϕ
- (c) a^*
- (d) $\{\epsilon, a\}$

23

The length of the shortest string NOT in the language (over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$) of the following regular expression is _____.

$a^*b^*(ba)^*a^*$

(GATE - 14-SET3)

28

Which one of the following regular expressions represents the language: the set of all binary strings having two consecutive 0's and two consecutive 1's? **(GATE – 16 – SET1)**

- (a) $(0+1)^* \ 0011(0+1)^* + (0+1)^* \ 1100(0+1)^*$
- (b) $(0+1)^* \ (00(0+1)^* \ 11 + 11(0+1)^* \ 00)(0+1)^*$
- (c) $(0+1)^* \ 00(0+1)^* + (0+1)^* \ 11(0+1)^*$
- (d) $00(0+1)^* \ 11 + 11(0+1)^* \ 00$

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Let $r = 1(1+0)^*$, $s = 11^*0$ and $t = 1^*0$ be three regular expressions. Which one of the following is true? (GATE - 91)

- (a) $L(s) \subseteq L(r)$ and $L(s) \subseteq L(t)$
- (b) $L(r) \subseteq L(s)$ and $L(s) \subseteq L(t)$
- (c) $L(s) \subseteq L(t)$ and $L(s) \subseteq L(r)$
- (d) $L(t) \subseteq L(s)$ and $L(s) \subseteq L(r)$.

(30)

Which of the following regular expression identities are true?

(GATE - 92)

(a) $r(*) = r^*$

(b) $(r^*s^*)^* = (r+s)^*$

(c) $(r+s)^* = r^* + s^*$

(d) $r^*s^* = r^*+s^*$

③)

Which one of the following regular expressions represents the set of all binary strings with an odd number of 1's?

- A. $((0 + 1)^* 1 (0 + 1)^* 1)^* 1 0^*$
- B. $(0^* 1 0^* 1 0^*)^* 0^* 1$
- C. $1 0^* (0^* 1 0^* 1 0^*)^*$
- D. $(0^* 1 0^* 1 0^*)^* 1 0^*$

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Which one of the following regular expressions over $\{0, 1\}$ denotes the set of all strings **not** containing 100 as a substring?

(GATE - 97)

- (a) $0^*(1^+ 0)^*$
- (b) $0^* 1010^*$
- (c) $0^* 1^* 01^*$
- (d) $0^* (10+1)^*$

Model GATE Questions

- Identify correct regular expression for given Language.
- Find the expression that can generate given String.
- Find the string that can be generated by given expression.
- Find shortest length string generated by given expression.
- Identify the equivalent expression for given expression.
- Identify equivalent expressions from given expressions.
- Find number of equivalence classes for the language generated by given expression.
- Find the language generated by expression is finite or infinite.

Important Reg Exps

$$(a+b)^* = ?$$
$$a(a+b)^* = ?$$
$$b(a+b)^* = ?$$
$$(a+b)^* a = ?$$
$$(a+b)^* b = ?$$

equivalent
Answers

$$\begin{aligned} & xx^* = x^+ \\ &= (a+b) \underbrace{(a+b)}_{(a+b)^*} (a+b)^* \\ &= (a+b) (a+b)^+ \end{aligned}$$

