

Paper 11Solution

a) i) suppose the first  $N$  characters of  $x$  form the ~~string~~<sup>word</sup>  $y$ . Consider the <sup>state</sup> transitions of  $M$  as the ~~str~~ word  $y$  is input, starting in say  $q_0$ .

$1 \leq |h|a|a|a| \dots |o|f|y|$

$q_0 \quad q_1 \quad q_2 \quad \dots \quad \dots \quad q_{N-1} \quad q_N$

There are  $(N+1)$ -state values  $\{q_i\}_{i=0}^N$ , hence at least one state must occur twice; say  $q_i = q_j$  where  $0 \leq i < j \leq N$ . Let  $u$  be the initial ~~string~~<sup>word</sup> of  $x$  up to and including the  $i^{\text{th}}$  character,  $v$  consists characters  $(i+1) \dots j$ , and  $w$  make up the rest of  $x$ .  $1 \leq l(v) \leq N$

certainly  $x = uvw$ ,  $l(u) < N$ , ~~not~~;

suppose word  $\Sigma_k = uv^k w$  is input to  $M$ .

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a) i) & d)  $w$  applied to  $M$  in state  $q_i$  causes transition to  $q_j^* \in A$ , some accepting state, since we know that  $M$  accepts  $x$ . Hence under  $x$

$$q_0 \xrightarrow{u} q_i \xrightarrow{v} q_j \xrightarrow{w} q_j^* \in A,$$

where  $q_i = q_j$ .

Consider behaviour of  $M$  in  $q_i$  under  $v^k$ .

If  $k=0$ ,  $v^k = \varepsilon$  (null string),  $q_i \xrightarrow{\varepsilon} q_i = q_j$

Suppose that  $q_i \xrightarrow{v^k} q_j$ ; note that

$$q_i \xrightarrow{v^k} q_j = q_i \xrightarrow{v} q_j, \text{ hence } q_i \xrightarrow{v^{k+1}} q_j.$$

$$\therefore q_0 \xrightarrow{u} q_i \xrightarrow{v^k} q_j \xrightarrow{w} q_j^* \in A \quad \forall k \in \mathbb{N},$$

by induction.

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a) ii) Let  $E = \{w \in S^* \mid l(w) \geq N, M \text{ accepts } w\}$

Certainly  $E$  is non-empty: choose a word  $z \in E$  of minimal length  $l \geq N$ .

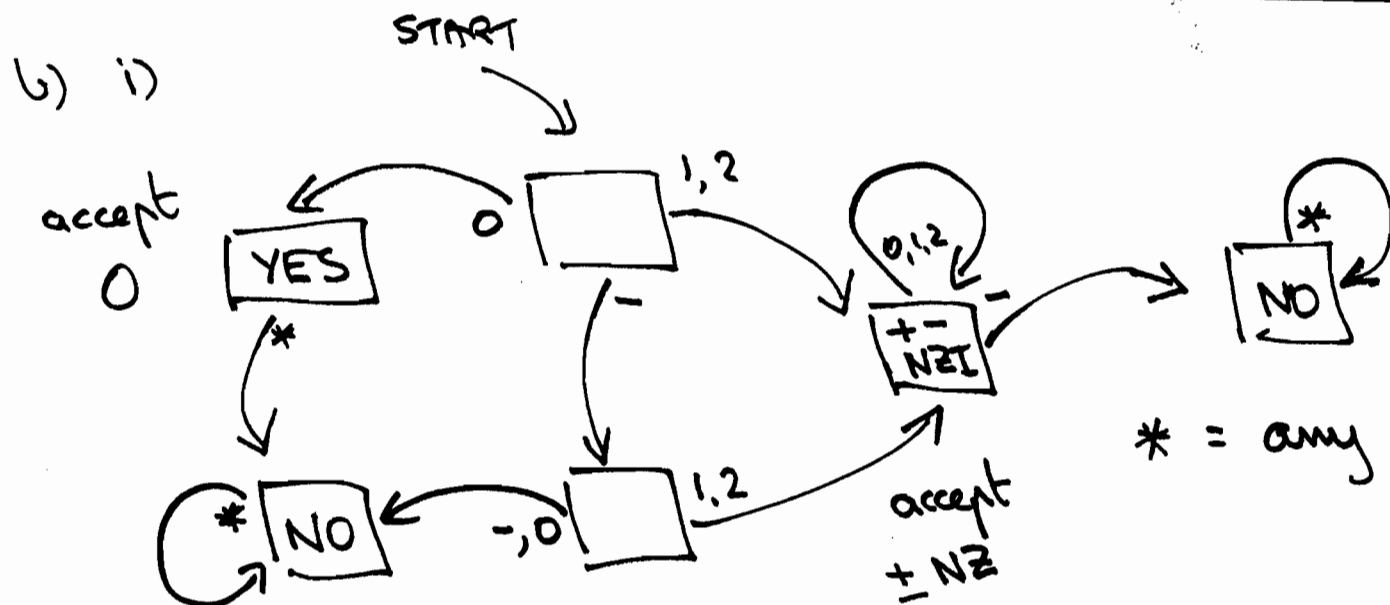
Suppose if possible that  $l \geq 2N$ . By part

a) i),  $z = uvw$  where  $1 \leq l(v) \leq N$  and

$M$  accepts  $z_0 = uw$ . Then certainly  $l(z_0) \geq N$ ,

and  $l(z_0) < l(z)$  CONTRADICTION.

Hence  $M$  accepts some word  $z$ ,  $N \leq l(z) < 2N$ .



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$$\begin{aligned} \text{b) ii)} \quad & "0" + "-" ("1" + "2") ("0" + "1" + "2")^* \\ & + ("1" + "2") ("0" + "1" + "2")^* \end{aligned}$$

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