Module -1	Teaching Hours
INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF COMPUTATION AND FINITE AUTOMATA: Three basic concepts, Some Applications, Deterministic Finite Accepters, Nondeterministic Finite Accepters, Equivalence of Deterministic and Nondeterministic Finite Accepters, Reduction of the Number of States in Finite Automata. **Text Book 1**: Chapter 1:1.2 - 1.3, Chapter 2: 2.1 - 2.4	**08 Hours**

1 Introduction to the Theory of Computation

1.2 Three Basic Concepts

Languages

Grammars

Automata

1.3 Some Applications*

2 Finite Automata

2.1 Deterministic Finite Accepters

Deterministic Accepters and Transition Graphs

Languages and Dfa's

Regular Languages

2.2 Nondeterministic Finite Accepters

Definition of a Nondeterministic Accepter

Why Nondeterminism?

2.3 Equivalence of Deterministic and Nondeterministic Finite Accepters

2.4 Reduction of the Number of States in Finite Automata*

Three Basic concepts

Languages, Grammars & Automata

A language is a set of strings

String: A sequence of letters

Examples: "cat", "dog", "house", ...

Defined over an alphabet:

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \ldots, z\}$$

Alphabets and Strings

Alphabet: Finite nonempty set Σ of symbols, called the alphabet

Strings: Finite sequence of symbols from the alphabet

Strings

For example, if the alphabet is $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$, then abab & aaabbba are strings on Σ . We use lowercase letters a, b,c,… for elements of Σ & u,v,w… for string names

a

ab

$abba$

$baba$

$aaabbbaabab$

$u = ab$

$v = bbbaaa$

$w = abba$

String Operations

$$w = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n \qquad abba$$

$$v = b_1 b_2 \cdots b_m \qquad bbbaaa$$

Concatenation

$$wv = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n b_1 b_2 \cdots b_m \qquad abbabbbaaa$$

$$w = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$$

$$ababaaabbb$$

Reverse

$$w^R = a_n \cdots a_2 a_1$$

$$bbbaaababa$$

String Length

$$w = a_1 a_2 \cdots a_n$$

Length: $|w| = n$

Examples:

$$|abba| = 4$$

$$|aa| = 2$$

$$|a| = 1$$

Length of Concatenation

$$|uv| = |u| + |v|$$

Example:

$$u = aab, \quad |u| = 3$$

$$v = abaab, \quad |v| = 5$$

$$|uv| = |aababaab| = 8$$

$$|uv| = |u| + |v| = 3 + 5 = 8$$

Empty String

Empty string: A string with no symbols and it is denoted by λ

$$|\lambda| = 0$$

Observations:

$$\lambda w = w\lambda = w$$

$$\lambda abba = abba\lambda = abba$$

Substring

Substring of string:

a subsequence of consecutive characters

String	Substring
$\underline{ab}bab$	ab
$\underline{abba}b$	$abba$
$ab\underline{b}ab$	b
$a\underline{bbab}$	$bbab$

Prefix and Suffix

$$abbab$$

Prefixes	Suffixes
λ	$abbab$
a	$bbab$
ab	bab
abb	ab
$abba$	b
$abbab$	λ

$$w = \underbrace{u}_{\text{prefix}}\underbrace{v}_{\text{suffix}}$$

Another Operation

$$w^n = \underbrace{ww\cdots w}_{n}$$

Example: $(abba)^2 = abbaabba$

Definition: $w^0 = \lambda$

$$(abba)^0 = \lambda$$

The * Operation

Σ^* : the set of all possible strings from alphabet Σ

$$\Sigma = \{a, b\}$$

$$\Sigma^* = \{\lambda, a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, aaa, aab, \ldots\}$$

The + Operation

Σ^+ : the set of all possible strings from alphabet Σ except λ

$$\Sigma = \{a, b\}$$

$$\Sigma^* = \{\lambda, a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, aaa, aab, \ldots\}$$

$$\Sigma^+ = \Sigma^* - \lambda$$

$$\Sigma^+ = \{a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, aaa, aab, \ldots\}$$

Languages

A language is any subset of Σ^*

Example: $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$$\Sigma^* = \{\lambda, a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, aaa, \ldots\}$$

Languages: $\{\lambda\}$

$$\{a, aa, aab\}$$

$$\{\lambda, abba, baba, aa, ab, aaaaaa\}$$

Note that:

Sets $\qquad \varnothing = \{\ \} \neq \{\lambda\}$

Set size $\qquad |\{\ \}| = |\varnothing| = 0$

Set size $\qquad |\{\lambda\}| = 1$

String length $\qquad |\lambda| = 0$

Another Example

An infinite language $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

$$\left.\begin{array}{l} \lambda \\ ab \\ aabb \\ aaaaabbbbb \end{array}\right\} \in L \qquad abb \notin L$$

Operations on Languages

The usual set operations

$$\{a, ab, aaaa\} \bigcup \{bb, ab\} = \{a, ab, bb, aaaa\}$$

$$\{a, ab, aaaa\} \bigcap \{bb, ab\} = \{ab\}$$

$$\{a, ab, aaaa\} - \{bb, ab\} = \{a, aaaa\}$$

Complement: $\overline{L} = \Sigma^* - L$

$$\overline{\{a, ba\}} = \{\lambda, b, aa, ab, bb, aaa, \ldots\}$$

Reverse

Definition: $L^R = \{w^R : w \in L\}$

Examples: $\{ab, aab, baba\}^R = \{ba, baa, abab\}$

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$L^R = \{b^n a^n : n \geq 0\}$$

Concatenation

Definition: $$L_1L_2 = \{xy : x \in L_1, y \in L_2\}$$

Example: $$\{a, ab, ba\}\{b, aa\}$$

$$= \{ab, aaa, abb, abaa, bab, baaa\}$$

Another Operation

Definition: $$L^n = \underbrace{LL\cdots L}_{n}$$

$$\{a,b\}^3 = \{a,b\}\{a,b\}\{a,b\} =$$
$$\{aaa, aab, aba, abb, baa, bab, bba, bbb\}$$

Special case: $L^0 = \{\lambda\}$

$$\{a, bba, aaa\}^0 = \{\lambda\}$$

More Examples

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$L^2 = \{a^n b^n a^m b^m : n, m \geq 0\}$$

$$aabbaaabbb \in L^2$$

Star-Closure (Kleene *)

Definition: $L^* = L^0 \cup L^1 \cup L^2 \cdots$

Example:

$$\{a, bb\}^* = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \lambda, \\ a, bb, \\ aa, abb, bba, bbbb, \\ aaa, aabb, abba, abbbb, \ldots \end{array} \right\}$$

Positive Closure

Definition: $$L^{+} = L^{1} \bigcup L^{2} \bigcup \cdots$$
$$= L^{*} - \{\lambda\}$$

$$\{a, bb\}^{+} = \left\{\begin{matrix} a, bb, \\ aa, abb, bba, bbbb, \\ aaa, aabb, abba, abbbb, \ldots \end{matrix}\right\}$$