

1. Suppose $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, A)$ with extended transition function $\delta^* : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$. Prove that for any $q \in Q$ and $x, y \in \Sigma^*$ that $\delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y)$. Hint: prove by induction on $|y|$.

Base case:

Let $|y| = 0$, then $y = \epsilon$

Left Hand side :

$$\delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(q, x\epsilon) = \delta^*(q, x)$$

Right Hand side :

$$\delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), \epsilon) = \delta^*(q, x)$$

$$LHS = RHS = \delta^*(q, x)$$

So this holds for the base case.

Induction Step:

IH : Assume $\delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y)$ holds for an arbitrary y where $|y| = n$.

$\delta^*(q, xyw) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), yw)$, where $w \in \Sigma$, then $|yw| = n + 1$.

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q, xyw) &= \delta(\delta^*(q, xy), w) \\ &= \delta(\delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y), w) \\ &= \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), yw) \end{aligned}$$

Further expansion by IH (Induction Hypothesis)

$$\delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), yw) = \delta^*(q, xyw).$$

Thus it holds for the induction step.

2. Prove by induction on n that if L is a language and R is a regular expression such that $L = L(R)$ then there exists a regular expression R_n such that $L(R_n) = L^n$. Be sure to use the fact that if R_1 and R_2 are regular expressions then $L(R_1 R_2) = L(R_1) \cdot L(R_2)$.

Base case:

Let $n = 1$, then

$$L(R_n) = L^n \Rightarrow L(R) = L^1 = L(R) = L$$

When $n = 1$, there is a regular expression R , such that $L(R_n) = L^n$.

So this holds for the base case.

Inductive Hypothesis:

IH : suppose L is language and R_n is regular expression such that $L = L(R)$ then there exists a regular expression R_n such that $L(R_n) = L^n$ for $n \geq 1$.

Induction Step:

Prove this holds true for L^{n+1} .

$$L^{n+1} = L^n \cdot L^1$$

$$L^{n+1} = L^n \cdot L^1 = L(R_n) \cdot L(R) \quad \text{by IH (Induction Hypothesis)}$$

$$L^{n+1} = L^n \cdot L^1 = L(R_n) \cdot L(R) = L(R_n R) \quad \text{by given fact}$$

The given fact shows that the product of any two regular expressions is also a regular expression.

Let the product of the expressions equal $R_m = R_n R$.

Then there exist a regular expression R_m that hold for L^{n+1} . Thus it holds for the induction step.

This proves by induction for $n \geq 1$ that if L is a language and R is a regular expression such that $L = L(R)$ then there is a regular expression R_n so that $L(R_n) = L^n$.

3. Every finite-sized language L has a regular expression that accepts it. Informally, the expression for $\{w, x, y\}$ is $w + x + y$. Prove this is true for all finite-sized languages using induction on the number of words in L . You may need to use these definitions in your proof: (i) if w is a word then w is also a regular expression with $L(w) = \{w\}$, (ii) if R_1 and R_2 are regular expressions then $R_1 + R_2$ is a regular expression, and (iii) $L(R_1 + R_2) = L(R_1) \cup L(R_2)$.

Base case:

Let L be a finite language, and let n be the number of words in L .

Suppose L has no elements, so $n = 0$

$L = \emptyset$, and a regular expression for L would be \emptyset , by the definition of a regular language.

A language with no elements, i.e empty set $\{\}$ has a regular expression of \emptyset .

So this holds for the base case.

Induction Step:

IH : Suppose if L is a finite language that has n strings and R is regular expression such that R accepts L so $L(R)$, and, $|L(R)| = n$.

Now prove that $L(R)$ is true for $n + 1$ strings.

w is an arbitrary word over Σ that does not already exist in $L(R)$, and $|L(w)| = 1$.

By definition w is also a regular language.

$L(w) = \{w\}$, w is a regular expression

by definition (i)

$L(R) \cup L(w) = L(R + w)$ is a regular language

by definition (iii)

Since R and w are regular expressions, so is $R + w$

by definition (ii)

$|L(R)| = n$ and $|L(w)| = 1$ so,

by IH(inductive hypothesis)

$|L(R) + w| = n + 1$

Then there exist a regular expression $R + w$ that accepts the finite language L for string size $n + 1$:

Thus it holds for the induction step.

4. Give a generic construction for a finite state machine that accepts a nonempty finite-size language $L = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$. Define all parts of the machine. (You do not need to prove it accepts the language). Hint: do this for a simple language like $\{\epsilon, a, aa, ba, ab\}$ and then generalize what you did so it can work for any finite language. Hint: if you make $Q \subseteq \Sigma^*$ you can have an easy way to describe construction.

A generic construction for a finite state machine that accepts a non-empty language is defined in the following:

$L = \{w_1, \dots, w_n\}$, since L is finite, L is also a regular language.

Let $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, A)$ be a DFA that accepts a non – empty finite language L .

$Q = Q \subseteq \Sigma^*$ which is any number of states needed to define a DFA for finite Language L .

$\Sigma = \text{Sigma}$ is the same Σ that comes with the language L .

Let q be a state in Q and let $a \in \Sigma$.

All transitions that lead to cycle or loops with a final state is not a DFA that works for a finite Language.

$\delta(q, a) =$ in a state q read a letter a and go to a new state, if the letter is an element of the language the new state must be a final state.

$\delta(q, a) =$ in a state q read a letter a and go to a new state, if the letter is not an element of the language or, if the letter is not a prequel or an extension to a string from the language set then the new state is not a final state and must be a trap state, i.e sink state q_e .

$\delta(q, a) =$ in a state q read a letter a and go to a new state, if the letter is a prequel or an extension to a string from the language set then the new state is not a final state and must be a regular state.

Assume any non – defined transition leads to a non – accepting state, i.e trap state.

q_0 is the starting state.

$A =$ The accepted final states.

If the language contains epsilon then q_0 the starting state, must be a final state.

A state is a final state if a sequence of letters, through the transitions starting from the starting state to the current state forms a string which is an element of the language set, then the current state should be a final state. The sink state is not a final state.

5. Suppose L is a regular language, and $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, A)$ is a deterministic finite state machine such that $L(M) = L$. Prove that if $|Q| = 2$ then at least one of the following hold:
 (i) $L = \emptyset$ (ii) $\epsilon \in L$, or (iii) $\exists a \in \Sigma$ such that $a \in L$. Note that different M with $|Q| = 2$ may have a different property that holds. Hint: do a case analysis for configurations of A .

*Since the total number of states is 2, and we start with q_0 , then the set of states is $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$.
 Then with a case analysis on the set of final states A we get that :*

Case 1:

*If there is no final state i.e the set of final state $A = \emptyset$ then no language is accepted, so (i) $L = \emptyset$, $L(M) = \emptyset$.
 So property (i) holds for this case.*

Case 2:

*If there is one final state and it is q_0 , so $q_0 \in A$, then epsilon must be part of the language, (ii) $\epsilon \in L$, $L(M) = \epsilon$.
 So property (ii) holds for this case.*

Case 3:

*If there is more than one final states and q_1 is one of them, so $q_1 \in A$ then there is word a (iii) $\exists a \in \Sigma$,
 that transitions from q_0 to q_1 . $\delta(q_0, a) = q_1$ so this entails that $a \in L$.
 So property (iii) holds for this case.*

Case 4:

*If there is one final state and it is q_1 , so $q_1 \in A$ and q_0 is not a final state, $q_0 \notin A$.
 Then there must be no transition from q_0 to q_1 , otherwise case 3 would hold, this means that no
 words/ the language is accepted. since no language transitions to the final state the language of the machine is
 $L(M) = \emptyset$.
 So property (i) holds for this case.*