

# UNIT 2

## 1. Regular Expressions and Identities

- **Regular Expression (RE):**
  - A symbolic representation to define regular languages.
  - Operators:
    - **Union ( $A \cup B$ ):** Denoted as  $A+BA + BA+B$  or  $A|BA|BA|B$ .
    - **Concatenation ( $AB$ ):** Denoted as  $A \cdot BA \cdot BA \cdot B$  or simply  $ABABAB$ .
    - **\*Kleene Star ( $A^*$ ):** Zero or more repetitions of  $AAA$ .
- **Identities:**
  - $R+\phi=RR + \phi = RR+\phi=R$  (Union with empty set is  $RR$ ).
  - $R \cdot \epsilon=RR \cdot \epsilon=RR$  (Concatenation with epsilon is  $RR$ ).
  - $(R^*)^*=R^*(R^*)^*=R^*(R^*)^*=R^*$  (Double Kleene star is the same as one).
  - $R+R=RR + R = RR+R=R$  (Union is idempotent).

## 2. Finite Automata and Regular Expressions

- **Transition System with Null Moves:**
  - NFA allows **null ( $\epsilon$ ) transitions**, enabling state changes without input.
- **NFA with Null Moves to DFA:**
  - Eliminate  $\epsilon$ -transitions using  **$\epsilon$ -closure** (all reachable states including null transitions).
- **Finite Automata and RE Equivalence:**
  - Any regular expression can be converted to an equivalent finite automaton, and vice versa.

## 3. Conversion Methods

- **Arden's Theorem:**
  - Used to solve regular expression equations.
  - If  $R=Q+RPR = Q + RPR=Q+RP$ , then  $R=QP^*R = QP^*R=QP^*$  (provided  $PPP$  doesn't contain  $\epsilon$ ).
- **Construction of Finite Automata from RE:**
  - Steps:
    1. Create NFA from the given RE.
    2. Convert NFA to DFA if needed.

## 4. Equivalence of Two Finite Automata and Regular Expressions

- **Finite Automata Equivalence:**
  - Two finite automata are equivalent if they accept the same language.
- **Regular Expression Equivalence:**
  - Two REs are equivalent if they describe the same language.

## 5. Closure Properties of Regular Sets

- **Regular languages are closed under:**
  - **Union:**  $L_1 \cup L_2$
  - **Intersection:**  $L_1 \cap L_2$
  - **Complement:**  $\Sigma^* \setminus L_1$
  - **Concatenation:**  $L_1 \cdot L_2$
  - **Kleene Star:**  $L_1^*$

## 6. Pumping Lemma for Regular Sets

- **Statement:**
  - If  $L$  is a regular language, there exists a pumping length  $p$  such that any string  $w \in L$  with  $|w| \geq p$  can be divided into  $w = xyz$  satisfying:
    1.  $|xy| \leq p$
    2.  $|y| > 0$
    3.  $x y^n z \in L$  for  $n \geq 0$
- **Application:**
  - Used to prove that certain languages are **not regular**.

## 7. Myhill-Nerode Theorem

- **Theorem:**
  - A language  $L$  is regular if and only if it has a finite number of equivalence classes under the relation  $x \sim_L y$  (indistinguishability of strings with respect to  $L$ ).
- **Significance:**
  - Helps in proving language regularity and minimizing finite automata.

## 8. Properties of Regular Languages

- **Decidability:**
  - Determining emptiness, finiteness, and equivalence is decidable for regular languages.
- **Non-Regularity Proofs:**
  - Use Pumping Lemma or Myhill-Nerode Theorem.

## Important MCQ

### 1. Regular Expressions Basics

1. What does the regular expression  $a^*a^*a^*$  denote?
  - a) Zero or more occurrences of aaa
  - b) At least one aaa
  - c) Exactly one aaa
  - d) None of the above**Answer:** a
2. Which regular expression represents all strings over  $\{a,b\}^*$ ?
  - a)  $(a+b)^*(a+b)^*(a+b)^*$
  - b)  $(ab)^*(ab)^*(ab)^*$
  - c)  $a+ba+ba+b$
  - d) None of the above**Answer:** a
3. What does  $(a|b)^+(a|b)^+(a|b)^+$  represent?
  - a) All strings with at least one aaa or bbb
  - b) Empty string
  - c) Strings with zero or more aaa and bbb
  - d) None of the above**Answer:** a

### 2. Regular Languages

4. Which of the following is NOT a regular language?
  - a)  $\{a^n | n \geq 0\}$
  - b)  $\{a^n b^n | n \geq 0\}$
  - c)  $(a+b)^*(a+b)^*(a+b)^*$
  - d)  $\{\epsilon\}$**Answer:** b
5. Regular languages are closed under which operation?
  - a) Union
  - b) Concatenation
  - c) Kleene Star
  - d) All of the above**Answer:** d
6. Which property is true for regular languages?
  - a) Infinite memory is required
  - b) Can be represented by finite automata
  - c) Context-free grammar is required
  - d) None of the above**Answer:** b

### 3. Finite Automata and Regular Expressions

7. Finite automata and regular expressions are:
  - a) Equivalent in power
  - b) Not equivalent
  - c) Regular expressions are more powerful
  - d) None of the above**Answer:** a

8. What is used to convert NFA with null moves to DFA?
- Subset construction
  - Transition table
  - Kleene Star
  - Pumping Lemma
- Answer: a**
9. What is the output of solving  $R=Q+RPR = Q + RPR=Q+RP$  using Arden's Theorem?
- $R=QP^*R = QP^*R=QP^*$
  - $R=PQR = PQR=PQ$
  - $R=Q+PR = Q + PR=Q+P$
  - None of the above
- Answer: a**

#### 4. Properties of Regular Languages

10. Which of the following is TRUE about regular languages?
- Closed under intersection
  - Closed under complement
  - Closed under union
  - All of the above
- Answer: d**
11. Which operation is NOT closed for regular languages?
- Union
  - Complement
  - Intersection
  - Infinite repetition
- Answer: d**
12. What is the smallest automaton that can recognize a regular language?
- DFA
  - NFA
  - Turing machine
  - Moore machine
- Answer: a**

#### 5. Pumping Lemma

13. Pumping Lemma is used to prove:
- A language is regular
  - A language is not regular
  - Closure properties of languages
  - Equivalence of two finite automata
- Answer: b**
14. Which condition is NOT part of the Pumping Lemma?
- $|xy| \leq p, |xy| \leq p, |xy| \leq p$
  - $|y| > 0, |y| > 0, |y| > 0$
  - $xynz \notin L, y^n z \notin L, xynz \in L$
  - $xynz \in L, y^n z \in L, xynz \in L$
- Answer: c**

15. What does ppp in the Pumping Lemma denote?

- a) Pumping length
- b) Number of states
- c) Transition function
- d) None of the above

**Answer:** a

## 6. Conversion Methods

16. NDFA to DFA conversion uses:

- a) Subset construction method
- b) Pumping Lemma
- c) Transition graph
- d) State minimization

**Answer:** a

17. Which theorem helps in solving equations involving regular expressions?

- a) Pumping Lemma
- b) Arden's Theorem
- c) Myhill-Nerode Theorem
- d) Kleene's Theorem

**Answer:** b

18. What is true about null moves in finite automata?

- a) They do not consume input symbols
- b) They add power to finite automata
- c) They make automata non-deterministic
- d) Both a and c

**Answer:** d

## 7. Myhill-Nerode Theorem

19. Myhill-Nerode Theorem is used to:

- a) Minimize finite automata
- b) Prove regularity of a language
- c) Construct finite automata from RE
- d) Both a and b

**Answer:** d

20. According to Myhill-Nerode Theorem, a language is regular if:

- a) It has a finite number of equivalence classes
- b) It is closed under union
- c) It can be represented by a Turing Machine
- d) None of the above

**Answer:** a

## 8. Regular Expressions and Automata Equivalence

21. A finite automaton can be constructed from:

- a) A regular expression
- b) A context-free grammar
- c) Both a and b
- d) None of the above

**Answer:** a

22. Which step is NOT required in constructing a DFA from an NDFA?

- a) Finding  $\epsilon$ -closure
- b) Subset construction
- c) State minimization
- d) Adding new states

**Answer: d**

23. How are two finite automata considered equivalent?

- a) When they have the same number of states
- b) When they recognize the same language
- c) When they have the same transitions
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

## 9. Closure Properties

24. Regular languages are NOT closed under:

- a) Complement
- b) Union
- c) Infinite intersection
- d) Concatenation

**Answer: c**

25. If  $L_1L_1L_1$  and  $L_2L_2L_2$  are regular languages, then  $L_1 \cdot L_2L_1 \cdot L_2$ :

- a) Is not regular
- b) Is always regular
- c) Depends on  $L_1L_1L_1$  only
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

26. Which of the following is a valid closure property of regular languages?

- a) Difference
- b) Reversal
- c) Homomorphism
- d) All of the above

**Answer: d**

## 10. Miscellaneous

27. What is the significance of Kleene Star in regular expressions?

- a) Adds complement functionality
- b) Adds infinite repetition functionality
- c) Represents union of languages
- d) None of the above

**Answer: b**

28. Which of the following operations on a regular language is undecidable?

- a) Membership test
- b) Emptiness test
- c) Equality test
- d) None of the above

**Answer: d**

29. What is the relationship between DFA and NDFA?

- a) DFA is a subset of NDFA
- b) NDFA is more powerful than DFA
- c) DFA and NDFA recognize the same class of languages
- d) None of the above

**Answer:** c

30. What is the result of concatenating two regular languages  $L_1L_1$  and  $L_2L_2$ ?

- a) A regular language
- b) A context-free language
- c) An undecidable language
- d) None of the above

**Answer:** a