

School of Computing and Information Systems  
COMP30026 Models of Computation Tutorial Week 8

23–25 September 2020

## Plan

This week's exercises cover formal languages, DFAs, NFAs, and minimization. Exercises 65-67 are important because they teach you a systematic approach to building DFAs for intersection, complements and differences of languages.

Some of the exercises on automata theory are in the book *of Computation*, Chapter 1, on regular languages. The book has many examples and it contains many more exercises, plus answers to selected exercises.

## The exercises

63. For two languages  $L_1 = \{ab, c\}$ ,  $L_2 = \{ca, c\}$ , construct

- (a)  $L_1 \cup L_2$
- (b)  $L_1 \circ L_2$
- (c)  $L_1^*$
- (d)  $L_1^* \setminus L_2^*$

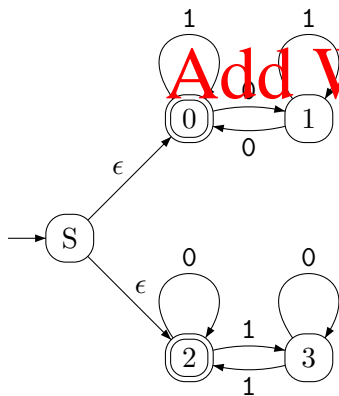
64. Draw DFAs recognising the following languages. Assume  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ .

- (a)  $\{w \mid w \text{ begins with a 1 and ends with a 0}\}$
- (b)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is not empty and contains only 0s or 1s}\}$
- (c)  $\{w \mid w \text{ contains the substring } 0101\}$  (so  $w = x0101y$  for some strings  $x$  and  $y$ )
- (d)  $\{w \mid w \text{ has length at least 3 and its third symbol is 0}\}$
- (e)  $\{w \mid \text{the length of } w \text{ is at most 5}\}$
- (f)  $\{w \mid \text{the length of } w \text{ is a multiple of 3}\}$
- (g)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string except } 11 \text{ and } 111\}$
- (h)  $\{w \mid \text{every odd position of } w \text{ is a 1}\}$
- (i)  $\{w \mid w \text{ contains at least two 0s and at most one 1}\}$
- (j)  $\{w \mid \text{the last symbol of } w \text{ is occurred at least twice in } w\}$
- (k)  $\{\epsilon, 0\}$
- (l) The empty set
- (m) All strings except the empty string

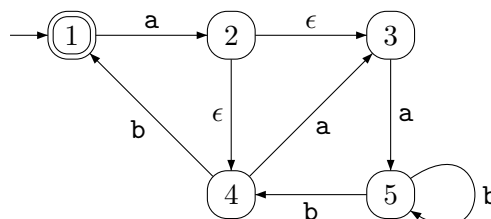
65. Each of the following languages is the intersection of two simpler languages. First construct the DFAs for the simpler languages, then combine them using the following idea: If the set of states for DFA  $D_1$  is  $Q_1$  and the set of states for  $D_2$  is  $Q_2$ , we let the set of states for the combined DFA  $D$  be  $Q_1 \times Q_2$ . We construct  $D$  so that, having consumed a string  $s$ ,  $D$  will be in state  $(q_1, q_2)$  iff  $D_1$  is in state  $q_1$ , and  $D_2$  is in state  $q_2$  when they have consumed  $s$ . Throughout this question, assume that the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .

- (a)  $\{w \mid w \text{ has at least three as and at least two bs}\}$

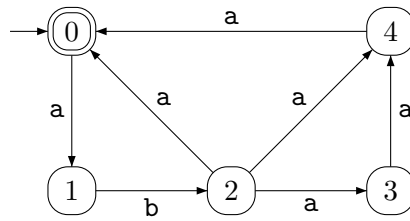
- (b)  $\{w \mid w \text{ has an even number of a's and one or two b's}\}$   
 (c)  $\{w \mid w \text{ has an odd number of a's and ends with b}\}$   
 (d)  $\{w \mid w \text{ has an odd number of a's and has even length}\}$
66. Each of the following languages is the complement of a simpler language. Again, the best way to proceed is to first construct a DFA for the simpler language, then find a DFA for the complement by transforming that DFA appropriately. Throughout this question, assume that the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .
- (a)  $\{w \mid w \text{ does not contain } ab\}$   
 (b)  $\{w \mid w \text{ contains } ab\}$   
 (c)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string}\}$   
 (d)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string not in } A^* \cup B^*, \text{ where } A = \{a\}, B = \{b\}\}$   
 (e)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string that doesn't contain exactly two a's}\}$   
 (f)  $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string except } a \text{ and } b\}$
67. The following language is the difference of two simpler languages. Assume that the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Construct two DFAs for simpler languages, then find the difference of the two DFAs for the language  $\{w \mid \text{the length of } w \text{ is a multiple of 2 and is not multiple of 3}\}$
68. (An example from Lec 6) Turn this NFA into an equivalent DFA:



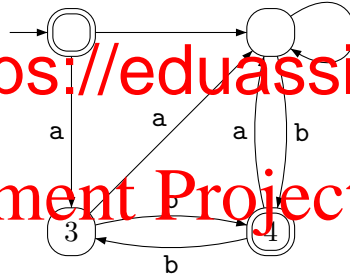
69. Use the subset construction method to turn this NFA into an equivalent DFA:



70. Use the subset construction method to turn this NFA into an equivalent DFA:



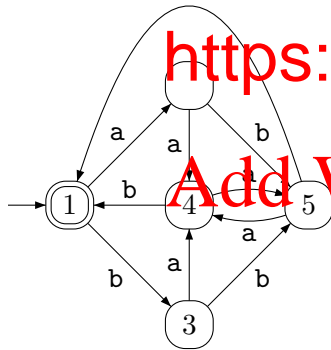
71. Find a minimal DFA which is equivalent to this one:



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72. Find a minimal DFA which is equivalent to this one:



<https://eduassistpro.github.io/>

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