

Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science, Fall 2024

Assignment 7 Solutions

- Q1. Let A be a DFA. Consider the state diagram of A . It can be viewed as a directed graph G . We delete from G the nodes that are not reachable from the initial state and the nodes from which we cannot reach the final states. Then $L(A)$ is infinite if and only if G has a cycle, the latter of which can be determined using DFS in linear time.
- Q2. Let M be a Turing machine. Let w be a string. In the following, we shall construct a Turing machine M' such that M accepts w if and only if $L(M')$ is infinite.

M' = on input x :

1. run M on w
2. if M accepts w
3. accept x
4. else
5. reject x

The above is a reduction from A_{TM} to INF_{TM} . Since A_{TM} is not recursive, nor is INF_{TM} .

- Q3. Let A be a DFA. Let B be the NFA with $L(B) = L^R(A)$. B can be constructed from A by reversing all the transitions of A . One can see that " A " $\in S$ if and only if $L(A) = L(B)$. Therefore, S can be reduced to EQ_{DFA} . Since EQ_{DFA} is recursive, so is S .
- Q4. Let A be the stated language in the question. Let $B = \{ "M" : M \text{ is a TM that accepts } e \}$. We already know that B is not recursive. To prove A is not recursive, it suffices to reduce B to A . Let M be a TM. Let M' be the following Turing machine.

M' = on input x :

1. if $x == e$
2. accept x
3. else
4. reject x

It is easy to see that $L(M') = \{e\}$. Then we have that M accepts e if and only if $L(M) \cap L(M') \geq 1$. This finishes the reduction.