

## Homework 3

Release date: Sep. 13, Due date: Sep. 20.

**Guidelines:** Submit your solutions in pdf format on Gradescope by **10pm on Sep. 20**. Solutions may be either typed in L<sup>A</sup>T<sub>E</sub>X or Word (with either machine-drawn or hand-drawn diagrams) or written **legibly** by hand. Please be sure to begin the solution for each problem on a new page, and to tag each of your solutions to the correct problem. Take time to write **clear** and **concise** answers. You are encouraged to form small groups to work through the homework, but you **must** write up all your solutions on your own. Depending on grading resources, we reserve the right to grade a random subset of the problems and check off the rest; so you are advised to attempt all the problems.

**Q 1** (30 points - 5 points per item). For each of the following languages, determine whether they are regular or non-regular.

If you claim the language is regular, please provide evidence for that statement, i.e., a description of a DFA or an NFA or a regular expression recognizing the language (there's no need to formally prove that the DFA/NFA/regex recognizes the language, just to give a brief description of it).

If you claim the language is non-regular, please provide proof using either the pumping lemma, the Myhill-Nerode theorem, or closure properties.

- (a)  $L_{\text{OR}} = \{a^i b^j \mid \text{either } i \text{ is odd or } i \geq j\}$
- (b)  $L_{\text{NEQ}} = \{a^i b^j \mid i \neq j\}$
- (c)  $L_{\text{PROD}} = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid \#_a(w) \cdot \#_b(w) \text{ is even}\}.$   
(Here  $\#_a(w)$ ,  $\#_b(w)$  denote number of occurrences of  $a, b$  in  $w$  respectively.)
- (d)  $L_{01=10} = \{w \in \{0, 1, 2\}^* \mid w \text{ has the same number of 01's as 10's}\}$   
(Note that this is over the ternary alphabet  $\{0, 1, 2\}$ ).
- (e)  $L_{sts} = \{s \cdot t \cdot s \mid s, t \in \{0, 1\}^+\}.$
- (f)  $L_{\text{palindrome}} = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid w = w^R\}.$

**Q 2.** (10 points - 5 points per item) Each of the following languages is regular, and hence has a pumping length. Determine the minimum pumping length (the smallest  $p$  that satisfies the condition of the pumping lemma).

- (a)  $L = L(1011)$
- (b)  $L = L((01)^*)$

**Q 3** ( $8 + 8 + 4 = 20$  points). Consider the following language over  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ :

$$F = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i, j, k \geq 0 \text{ and if } i = 1 \text{ then } j = k\}.$$

- (a) Show that  $F$  is not regular.

(b) Show that  $F$  acts like a regular language in the pumping lemma. In other words, give a pumping length  $p$  and demonstrate that  $F$  satisfies the three conditions of the pumping lemma for this value of  $p$ .

(c) Explain why parts (a) and (b) do not contradict the pumping lemma.

**Q 4** ( $5 + 2 + 8 = 15$  points). In this problem, we will classify all regular languages over the unary alphabet  $\Sigma = \{1\}$ .

(a) Let  $a, b \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Show that the following language is regular:

$$L = \{1^{ax+b} : x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}\}.$$

(b) Let  $a_1, b_1, \dots, a_k, b_k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ . Show that the following language is regular:

$$L = \{1^{a_i x + b_i} : x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, i \in \{1, \dots, k\}\}.$$

(c) Show that every regular language  $L$  over the unary alphabet is of the form

$$L = \{1^{a_i x + b_i} : x \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}, i \in \{1, \dots, k\}\}$$

for some  $a_1, b_1, \dots, a_k, b_k \in \mathbb{Z}_{\geq 0}$ .

**Q 5** (Extra credit = 8 points). Let  $L$  be an infinite regular language. Prove that  $L$  can be partitioned into two infinite disjoint regular languages. That is, there are two infinite regular languages  $A$  and  $B$  such that  $A \cup B = L$  and  $A \cap B = \emptyset$ .