

1. [2 marks] Consider the following statement about a language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ .

If  $L$  is regular, then  $\exists$  a DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  such that  $|F| = 1$  and  $L(M) = L$ .

Is the statement true? Justify your answer.

**Solution: This statement is incorrect.**

Consider the language  $L = \{0, 00\}$ , where  $\Sigma = \{0\}$ . Suppose that there is a DFA for  $L$  with a single final state. Then  $\widehat{\delta}(q_0, 0) = \widehat{\delta}(q_0, 00)$ . But then,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_0, 00) = \widehat{\delta}(q_0, 000)$  which cannot happen since  $00 \in L$  and  $000 \notin L$ .

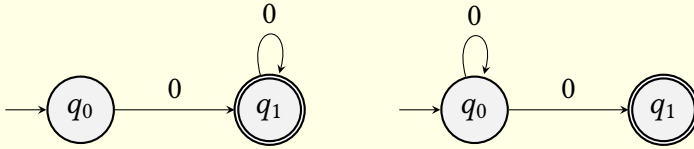
2. [2 marks] Consider the following statement.

Let  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  be two NFAs with the minimum number of states accepting a language  $L$ . Then,  $N_1 \cong N_2$ .

Is the statement true? Justify your answer.

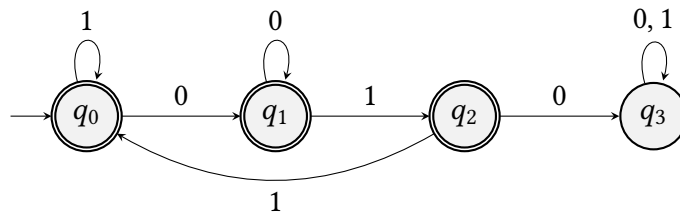
**Solution: This statement is incorrect.**

Consider  $L = \{0^i \mid i \geq 1\}$ . We have the following NFAs (one of which is a DFA).



The two NFAs are not isomorphic. They are minimal as well since if there is an NFA with just a single state, then either its language must be empty, or it will accept  $\varepsilon$ .

3. [3 marks] Write down the regular expression corresponding to  $L$  given by the DFA below. Explain your answer clearly.



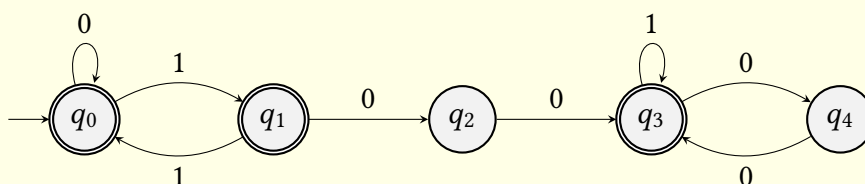
**Solution:** We can do state elimination here. We add a new start state  $s$  with  $\varepsilon$ -transition to  $q_0$ , and a new final state  $f$  with  $\varepsilon$ -transitions from  $q_0$ ,  $q_1$ , and  $q_2$  to  $f$ . One order of elimination is  $q_3$ ,  $q_2$ ,  $q_1$ , and finally  $q_0$ . This gives the final regex as  $(1 + 00^*11)^*(\varepsilon + 00^*(1 + \varepsilon))$ .

4. [4 marks] Draw a DFA corresponding to the language given by the regular expression  $R$  below. Explain your answer clearly.

$$R = (0 + 11)^*(1 + 00)^*$$

**Solution:** We can describe this language as follows:  $L(R)$  contains all string  $w$  such that  $w$  can be written as  $xy$ , where  $\#1(x)$  is even and no odd occurrence of 1 in  $x$  is followed by a 0, and  $\#0(y)$  is even and no odd occurrence of 0 in  $y$  is followed by a 1.

Thus, we can draw the DFA as follows.



Notice that the only incoming transition to  $q_1$  is from  $q_0$ , and the only incoming transition to  $q_0$  is from  $q_1$ . Hence the set of strings that reach  $q_0$  are precisely  $(0 + 11)^*$ , and the set of strings that reach  $q_1$  is  $(0 + 11)^*1$ . Hence the strings that reach  $q_3$  is  $(0 + 11)^*100(1 + 00)^*$ . Thus the language accepted by the DFA is  $R' = (0 + 11)^* + (0 + 11)^*1 + (0 + 11)^*100(1 + 00)^*$ . Now,  $L(R') \subseteq L(R)$  from the way  $R'$  is written. For any  $w \in L(R)$ , if no odd occurrence of a 1 is followed by a 0, then  $w \in (0 + 11)^*$ . Otherwise  $w \in (0 + 11)^*100(1 + 00)^*$ . Hence  $L(R) \subseteq L(R')$ .

5. [4 marks] For a regular expression  $R$ ,  $\text{rev}(R)$  is defined as follows.

- If  $R = \varepsilon$ , then  $\text{rev}(R) = \varepsilon$ ,
- If  $R = \sigma$ , for  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , then  $\text{rev}(R) = \sigma$ ,
- If  $R = R_1 \cdot R_2$ , then  $\text{rev}(R) = \text{rev}(R_2) \cdot \text{rev}(R_1)$ ,
- If  $R = R_1 + R_2$ , then  $\text{rev}(R) = \text{rev}(R_1) + \text{rev}(R_2)$ , and
- If  $R = R_1^*$ , then  $\text{rev}(R) = \text{rev}(R_1)^*$ .

Consider the following statement about  $R$  and  $\text{rev}(R)$ .

$$\text{If } L = L(R), \text{ then } L(\text{rev}(R)) = \{w \mid \text{reverse of } w \text{ is in } L\}.$$

Is the statement true? Justify your answer.

**Solution:** This statement is correct.

Let  $R' = \text{rev}(R)$ . We do this inductively on the length of  $R$ .

- If  $R = \varepsilon$ , then  $R' = \varepsilon$ , and  $L(R') = L(R)$  and  $\varepsilon = \text{rev}(\varepsilon)$ . Similarly for  $R = \sigma$  for  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . These are the simple base cases.

- If  $R = R_1 + R_2$ , then  $R' = \text{rev}(R_1) + \text{rev}(R_2)$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} w \in L(R') &\Leftrightarrow w \in L(\text{rev}(R_1)) \text{ or } w \in L(\text{rev}(R_2)) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w) \in L(R_1) \text{ or } \text{rev}(w) \in L(R_2) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w) \in L(R_1 + R_2) = L(R) \end{aligned}$$

- If  $R = R_1 \cdot R_2$ , then  $R' = \text{rev}(R_2) \cdot \text{rev}(R_1)$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} w \in L(R') &\Leftrightarrow w \in L(\text{rev}(R_2)) \cdot L(\text{rev}(R_1)) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \exists w_1, w_2, \text{ s.t } w = w_2 w_1 \text{ and } w_2 \in L(\text{rev}(R_2)) \text{ and } w_1 \in L(\text{rev}(R_1)) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w_2) \in L(R_2) \text{ and } \text{rev}(w_1) \in L(R_1) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w_1) \cdot \text{rev}(w_2) \in L(R_1 \cdot R_2) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w_2 w_1) \in L(R) \end{aligned}$$

- If  $R = R_1^*$ , then  $R' = \text{rev}(R_1)^*$ . Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} w \in L(R') &\Leftrightarrow \exists w_1, w_2, \dots, w_k \in L(\text{rev}(R_1)) \text{ s.t } w = w_1 \cdot w_2 \cdots w_k \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w_i) \in L(R_1) \text{ and } \text{rev}(w) = \text{rev}(w_k) \cdot \text{rev}(w_{k-1}) \cdots \text{rev}(w_1) \\ &\Leftrightarrow \text{rev}(w) \in L(R_1)^* = L(R_1^*) = L(R) \end{aligned}$$