

## Solution to Exercises

### Exercise 3.1:

**Solution:** ♣

### Exercise 5.1:

**Solution:** Suppose for a contradiction that  $L$  is a regular language, thus there exists pumping length  $p$  satisfying the pumping lemma. Now consider the string

$$\omega := 0^p 1^p \in L$$

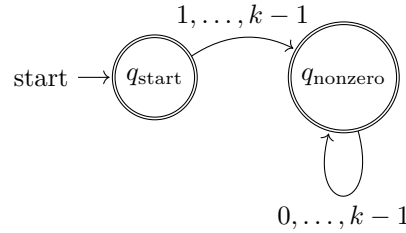
of length  $2p$ . For this string, in its decomposition  $\omega = xyz$ , we have  $xy$  is made of purely zero's. In particular,  $y$  consists of only zero's. It is now easy to see that

$$xy^i z \notin L$$

for, for example,  $i = 2$ . This contradicts our assumption that  $L$  is regular, hence  $L$  is not regular. ♣

### Exercise 5.2 :

**Solution:** Since we have the convention that  $(0)_k$  is the empty word, we have the following automaton accepting the set:



### Exercise 5.3 :

**Solution:** Recall that we know for  $\omega = d_m d_{m-1} \dots d_0$ , we have defined

$$[\omega]_k = d_m k^m + d_{m-1} k^{m-1} + \dots + d_1 k + d_0$$

Thus we can extend this definition and find that in general, we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 [uv^n \omega]_k &= [u]_k \cdot k^{n|v|+|\omega|} + [v]_k \cdot (1 + k^{|v|} + \dots + k^{(n-1)|v|}) k^{|\omega|} + [\omega]_k \\
 &= [u]_k \cdot k^{n|v|+|\omega|} + [v]_k \cdot k^{|\omega|} \cdot \frac{k^{n|v|} - 1}{k^{|v|} - 1} + [\omega]_k \\
 &= \underbrace{\left( [u]_k \cdot k^{|\omega|} + \frac{[v]_k \cdot k^{|\omega|}}{k^{|v|} - 1} \right)}_{\alpha} k^{|v|} \cdot k^n + \underbrace{\left( -\frac{1}{k^{|v|} - 1} + [\omega]_k \right)}_{\beta}
 \end{aligned}$$

the result is now obvious. ♣

**Exercise 5.4 :**

**Solution:** Similar to exercise 5.1 with the use of Fermat's Little Theorem. Suppose for a contradiction that the set  $S$  is regular, thus it needs to satisfy the pumping lemma for some pumping length  $p$ . Find a prime  $\gamma$  such that its base- $k$  expansion has length at least  $p$ , and can be written as  $\gamma = uvw$ . Therefore, by exercise 5.3, we know that there exists integer  $k$  and  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  such that

$$\begin{aligned}[uvw]_k &= \alpha k + \beta \\ [uv^n w]_k &= \alpha k^n + \beta\end{aligned}$$

Subtracting two equations yields us

$$[uv^n w]_k - [uvw]_k = \alpha(k^n - k)$$

We can now pick  $n = uvw$ . By Fermat's Little Theorem, we know that RHS is divisible by  $uvw$ . Thus we can deduce that

$$uvw \mid [uv^n w]_k$$

which implies that  $[uv^n w]_k \notin S$ , contradiction. ♣

**Exercise 5.5 :**

**Solution:** This is similar to exercise 5.1. Suppose for a contradiction that the set of palindromes is regular, then there exists a pumping length  $p$  satisfying the pumping lemma. Now consider an arbitrary string  $\omega$  (palindrome) of length  $2p + 1$ , we know that in the decomposition  $\omega xyz$ ,  $xy$  does not contain the middle character of the palindrome  $\omega$ . As a result, it is now easy to see that the new string

$$xy^i z$$

wouldn't be a palindrome as desired, which further implies that  $xy^i z \notin L$ . This contradicts the pumping lemma, which means that  $L$  is not regular. ♣

**Exercise 5.6 :**

**Solution:** We denote the set of words over the alphabet  $\{0, 1, \dots, k-1\}$  that represent the base- $k$  expansions of elements of  $\{\ell^n : n \geq 0\}$  as  $L$ . Suppose for a contradiction that  $L$  does form a regular language. Hence for the pumping length  $p$ , let  $\ell^n \in L$  be an element whose base- $k$  expansion has length at least  $p$ , suppose  $\ell^n = uvw$ , we have

$$[uvw]_k = \alpha k + \beta = \ell^n$$

for some rational numbers  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ . By the pumping lemma, we know that  $uv^n w \in L$  for some  $n \geq 0$  with  $n \neq n'$ , thus by exercise 5.3 we have

$$[uv^n w]_k = \alpha k^n + \beta = \ell^{n'}$$

for some  $n'$ . Subtracting the two equations we obtain that

$$\begin{aligned}\ell^{n'} - \ell^n &= \alpha k^n - \alpha k \\ n' \log \ell - n \log \ell &= \log \alpha + n \log k - \log \alpha - \log k \\ n' \log \ell - n \log \ell &= n \log k - \log k \\ (n' - n) \log \ell &= (n - 1) \log k\end{aligned}$$

This contradicts the fact that  $\ell$  and  $k$  are multiplicatively independent, hence the set of words does not form a regular language. ♣

**Exercise 5.7a :**

**Solution:** Suppose for a contradiction that  $L$  is regular. Hence for a fixed pumping length  $p$ , we can find  $\ell \in L$  with  $|\ell| \geq p$  such that  $\ell = xyz$ . We assume that  $|\ell| = q$  for some prime  $q$ . By the pumping lemma, we know that

$$xy^{q+1}z \in L$$

However, it is easy to see that  $q \nmid |xy^{q+1}z|$ , a contradiction. Hence  $L$  is not regular. ♣

**Exercise 5.7b :**

**Solution:** Unmatched number of left and right parentheses. ♣

**Exercise 5.8 :**

**Solution:** ♣

**Exercise 5.9 :**

**Solution:** ♣

**Exercise 7.1 :**

**Solution:** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (b): We define

$$A = \begin{bmatrix} 0 & 1 & 0 & \cdots & 0 \\ 0 & 0 & 1 & \cdots & 0 \\ \vdots & \vdots & \vdots & \ddots & \vdots \\ 0 & 0 & 0 & \cdots & 1 \\ -c_0 & -c_1 & -c_2 & \cdots & -c_{d-1} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{and} \quad \mathbf{w} = \begin{bmatrix} f(0) \\ f(1) \\ \vdots \\ f(d-1) \end{bmatrix}$$

We prove by induction on  $n$  that

$$\begin{bmatrix} f(n) \\ f(1) \\ \vdots \\ f(d-1) \end{bmatrix} = A^n \mathbf{w}$$

For our base case, we know by the definition of  $\mathbf{w}$  that

$$\begin{bmatrix} f(0) \\ f(1) \\ \vdots \\ f(d-1) \end{bmatrix} = A^0 \mathbf{w}$$

Suppose the result holds for  $m < n$ . Now we have

$$A^n \mathbf{w} = A A^{n-1} \mathbf{w} = A \begin{bmatrix} f(n-1) \\ f(n-1+1) \\ \vdots \\ f(n-1+d-1) \end{bmatrix} = \begin{bmatrix} f(n) \\ f(n+1) \\ \vdots \\ f(n+d-1) \end{bmatrix}$$

as desired. For the other direction (b)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Recall that from Cayley-Hamilton we know that

$$A^d + c_{d-1}A^{d-1} + \cdots + c_1A + c_0I = 0$$

Hence we further know that

$$\mathbf{v} (A^{n+d} + c_{d-1}A^{n+d-1} + \cdots + c_1A^{n+1} + c_0A^n) \mathbf{w} = 0$$

which yields us the recurrence relation of the form in statement (a). ♣

**Exercise 7.2 :**

**Solution:** (a)  $\Rightarrow$  (c): We define

$$Q(x) := 1 + c_{d-1}x + \cdots + c_0x^d$$

and

$$P(x) := \left( \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n \right) \cdot Q(x)$$

Thus it now suffices to show that  $P(x)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $d - 1$ . We notice that

$$[x^m]P(x) = \sum_{i=0}^{\min(m,d)} c_{d-i} \cdot f(m-i)$$

Given that  $f(n)$  satisfies a linear recurrence:

$$f(n+d) + c_{d-1}f(n+d-1) + \cdots + c_0f(n) = 0 \quad \text{for all } n \geq 0$$

Then, for any  $m \geq d$ , we have:

$$f(m) + c_{d-1}f(m-1) + \cdots + c_0f(m-d) = 0$$

This implies:

$$[x^m]P(x) = f(m) + c_{d-1}f(m-1) + \cdots + c_0f(m-d) = 0 \quad \text{for all } m \geq d$$

thus proving that  $P(x)$  has degree at most  $d - 1$ . For the other direction, (c)  $\Rightarrow$  (a): Suppose we know that

$$\sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n = \frac{P(x)}{Q(x)}$$

Hence we know

$$[x^i]Q(x) \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n$$

Suppose

$$Q(x) = c_dx^0 + c_{d-1}x + \cdots + c_0x^d$$

where  $c_d = 1$  since  $Q(0) = 1$ , we now have that

$$\begin{aligned} [x^i]Q(x) \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n &= [x^i] \sum_{j=0}^d c_{d-j}x^j \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n \\ &= \sum_{j=0}^d c_{d-j} [x^{i-j}] \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n = \sum_{j=0}^d c_{d-j} f(i-j) \end{aligned}$$

Moreover, given that  $P(x)$  is a polynomial of degree at most  $d - 1$ , we know that

$$[x^d]P(x) = 0$$

which implies that

$$[x^d]Q(x) \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n)x^n = \sum_{j=0}^d c_{d-j} f(d-j) = 0$$

as desired. ♣

**Exercise 7.3 :**

**Exercise 7.4 :**

**Solution:** We first show that  $\sum_{d|n} \mu(d) = \begin{cases} 1 & n = 1 \\ 0 & n \neq 1 \end{cases}$ . It is easy to see that when  $n = 1$ , we indeed have  $\mu(1) = 1$ . For all the other cases, suppose the number  $n$  has  $m$  distinct prime factors  $p_1, \dots, p_m$ , thus we know that

$$\sum_{d|n} \mu(d) = \sum_{j=0}^m (-1)^j \binom{m}{j} = (1 + (-1))^m = 0$$

Now, we have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) f(n/d) &= \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) \sum_{m|n/d} g(m) \\ &= \sum_{m|n} g(m) \sum_{d|n/m} \mu(d) \end{aligned}$$

Notice the only term that is non-zero for the right-hand side summation is when  $m = n$ , hence we have

$$\sum_{d|n} \mu(d) f(n/d) = g(n) = g(n)$$

as desired. ♣

**Exercise 7.5 :**

**Solution:** We notice that every word of length  $n$  is built by repeating a primitive word of length  $d$ , where  $d|n$ , hence we have

$$k^n = \sum_{d|n} f(d)$$

Using möbius inversion we obtain that

$$f(n) = \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) k^{n/d}$$

as desired. ♣

**Exercise 7.6 :**

**Solution:** We have

$$\begin{aligned} \sum_{n \geq 0} f(n) x^n &= f(0) x^0 + \sum_{n \geq 1} f(n) x^n \\ &= 1 + \sum_{n \geq 1} \sum_{d|n} \mu(d) k^{n/d} x^n \\ &= 1 + \sum_{d \geq 1} \mu(d) \sum_{j \geq 1} k^j x^{dj} \\ &= 1 + \sum_{d \geq 1} \mu(d) \frac{kx^d}{1 - kx^d} \end{aligned}$$

which is a little different from what we wanted. ♣

**Exercise 7.7 :**

**Solution:** By Theorem 6.4, we know that if a language  $L$  is regular, then the number of length- $n$  words in  $L$  satisfy some recurrence relation. Therefore, it suffices to prove that the expression we obtained in Exercise 7.6 isn't an expansion of a rational function to conclude that the set of primitive words over a  $k$ -letter alphabet is not a regular language.

♣