

Prob. 1	Prob. 2

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Problem 1.

a) Let  $z$  be a word in  $0, 1^*$ , and  $z^R$  its reverse.  $L_1$  must not include  $zz^R$  since  $(zz^R)^R = zz^R$ . But, by the pigeonhole principle, there has to be a  $z' \neq z$  such that a DFA for  $L_1$  cannot distinguish between  $z$  and  $z'$ . This means that a DFA is unable of both rejecting all palindromes (including  $zz^R$ ) and accepting all non-palindromes (including  $z'z^R$ ), therefore  $L_1$  must be irregular.

b) Again, by the pigeonhole principle, there has to exist a  $k'$  such that a DFA recognizing  $L_2$  cannot distinguish between  $k$  1s and  $k'$  1s. But if the  $y$  that follows has  $Y$  1s where  $k < Y < k'$ ,  $k$  1s followed by  $y$  must be rejected while  $k'$  1s followed by  $y$  must be accepted. This is not possible, we cannot build such a DFA, therefore  $L_2$  is irregular.

c) *Bis repetita placent?* By the pigeonhole principle, there has to exist a  $k'$  such that a DFA recognizing  $L_3$  cannot distinguish between  $k$  1s and  $k'$  1s. But if the  $y$  that follows has  $Y$  1s where  $k < Y < k'$ ,  $k$  1s followed by  $y$  must be accepted while  $k'$  1s followed by  $y$  must be rejected. This is not possible, we cannot build such a DFA, therefore  $L_3$  is irregular.



## Problem 2.

a) The start state of our DFA is a state which can go to itself on any input, or go on a 0 to a second state that belongs to a bloc of  $K$  states, with each state going to the next one on any input (0 or 1), and a last state that is accepting and has no transitions.

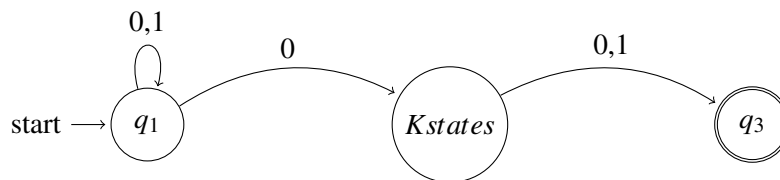


Figure 1: DFA A

b) Let us consider the set  $K$  of all words of length  $k + 1$  in  $0, 1^*$ . We want to prove that all of these words are pairwise distinguishable by  $L_k$ . Let  $w_1, w_2$  be two different words in  $K$ . Since they are different, there has to be at least one bit that is not the same between them, which also implies that one of these words will have a 0 where the other has a 1. Let's say  $w_1$  is the one with a 0 and  $w_2$  the one with a 1, and the last change bit is named  $B$ . We can construct a suffix  $u$  of length  $X$  (whether its bits are 0 or 1 doesn't matter), where  $X$  is  $k - (\text{number of bits after } B \text{ in } w_1)$  (thus  $0 \leq X \leq k$ ). This means that  $w_1u$  will be accepted while  $w_2u$  will be refused, therefore  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  are distinguishable by  $L$ . We just proved that there exists a set  $K$  of  $2^{(k+1)}$  words which are pairwise distinguishable by  $L_k$ . Using Theorem 1, we conclude that any DFA that implements  $L_k$  has to have at least  $2^{(k+1)}$  states.