

| 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 and 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) Same as... oh, wait, it's actually not the same thing, there's a trick! We can freely move 1s from the prefix to the last part, and the last part can match a lot of things. L_3 is equivalent to $L'_3 := \{1y' | y' \text{ contains at least one } 1\}$. Let's prove it. L'_3 is trivially a subset of L_3 since it's equivalent to L_3 with $k = 1$. L_3 is a subset of L'_3 : the prefix in L_3 can be "split" into two parts: one 1, and zero or more 1s. The first part corresponds to the prefix in L'_3 , the second part is absorbed into y' . Since y contains at least k 1s and $k \geq 1$, the condition for y' (at least one 1) is met. Thus, surprisingly, L_3 is a subset of L'_3 . Since L_3 is a subset of L'_3 and vice-versa, $L_3 = L'_3$. L'_3 - in English, the set of words beginning by 1 and containing another 1 somewhere - is regular, here's a DFA that matches it:

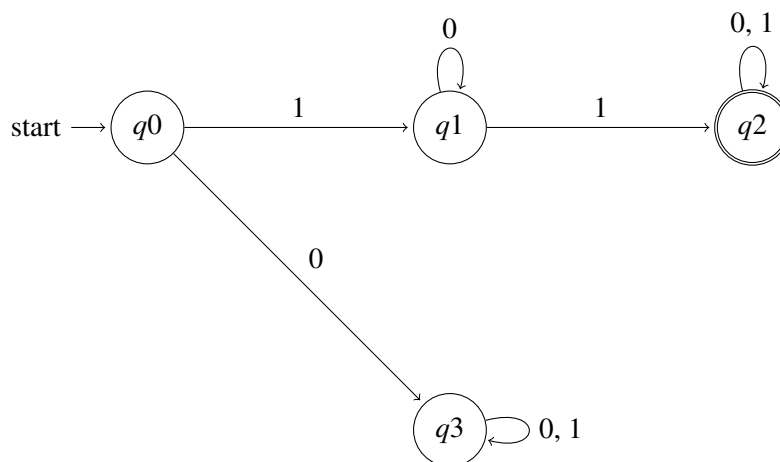


Figure 1: Problem 1c DFA

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.

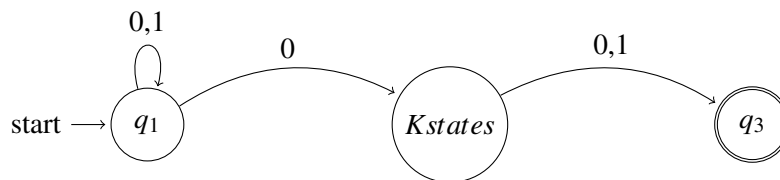


Figure 2: DFA A

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.