

* Let $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ be an arbitrary regular language.
Prove that the language

$\text{left}(L) = \{x \in \Sigma^* \mid xy \in L \text{ for some } y \in \Sigma^* \text{ where } |x| = |y|\}$
is also regular.

S. Let $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be a DFA which accepts L .
We construct an NFA which simulates two copies of M in parallel: one copy moves forward reading x , the other moves backward from a final state of M by guessing y . If the two copies arrive at the same state, we accept. Formally, the NFA which accepts $\text{left}(L)$ is $N = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', Q'_0, F)$, where

$$Q' = Q \times Q,$$

$$Q'_0 = \{(q_0, q_f) \mid q_f \in F\},$$

$$\delta'((q_1, q_2), a) = \{(\delta(q_1, a), q_3) \mid \text{there exists } b \in \Sigma \\ \text{with } \delta(q_3, b) = q_2\},$$

$$F = \{(q, q)\}.$$

* Let $A/B = \{w \mid wx \in A \text{ for some } x \in B\}$. Show that if A is regular and B is any language, then A/B is regular.

S. Let Σ be the union of the alphabets for A and B . Let $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be a DFA which accepts A .

We construct $M' = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F')$, where

$F' = \{q \in Q \mid \exists x \in B \text{ such that } M \text{ goes from } q \text{ to some final state while reading } x\}$.

Then M' is a DFA for A/B .