

Regular Languages and Automata: Problems for Week 1

Note: when we ask for a DFA, we are happy for you to supply a partial DFA. Indeed that's usually better, because it's more efficient.

Exercise 1 Give a regexp over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ for the set of words in which “a” occurs precisely twice.

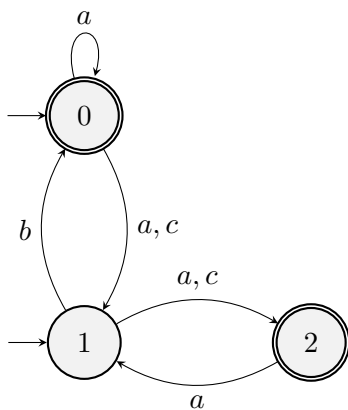
Exercise 2 Build a DFA that checks whether a string is equal to “Goo . . . gle” with arbitrarily many o’s following the initial two.

Exercise 3 Design DFAs for the following regular expressions:

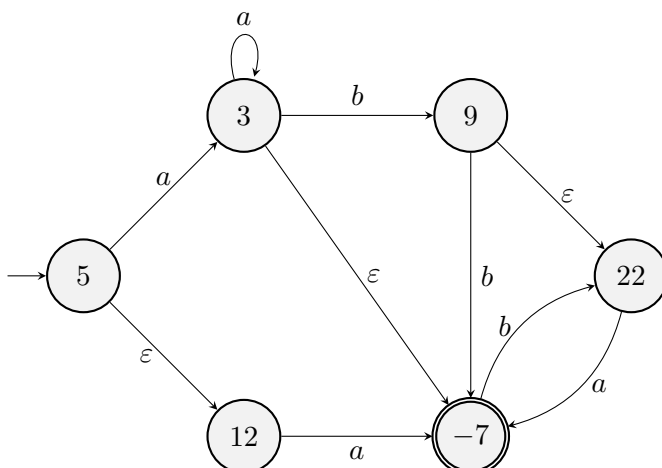
1. $(a|b)c$
2. $ab|bc$
3. $ab|ac$ (Careful! Remember that from any state there must be at most one transition labelled with a particular letter.)
4. $c(a|b)^*c$

Exercise 4 An online shop requires users to provide a password during registration. Every password is a string of lowercase letters and digits. It must contain at least one letter and at least one digit, and it must be at least three characters long. Give a regular expression for passwords. You can use $[a-z]$, which matches any lowercase letter, and $[0-9]$, which matches any digit.

Exercise 5 Determinize the following NFA.



Exercise 6 Remove ϵ -transitions from the following.



Exercise 7 Construct a partial DFA that accepts the language described by the regexp

$$(ab)^*c(a|b)$$

in three steps:

1. Construct a suitable ϵ NFA, using Kleene's Theorem.
2. Transform the ϵ NFA into an NFA.
3. Determinize the NFA to obtain a partial DFA.

Describe each step in detail.

Bonus: turn the partial DFA into a total one, assuming that the alphabet is $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$.