

Let L be an arbitrary regular language over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$. Prove that the following languages are also regular. (You probably won't get to all of these.)

1. $\text{FLIPODDS}(L) := \{\text{flipOdds}(w) \mid w \in L\}$, where the function flipOdds inverts every odd-indexed bit in w . For example:

$$\text{flipOdds}(0000111101010101) = 1010010111111111$$

Solution: Let $M = (Q, s, A, \delta)$ be a DFA that accepts L . We construct a new DFA $M' = (Q', s', A', \delta')$ that accepts $\text{FLIPODDS}(L)$ as follows.

Intuitively, M' receives some string $\text{flipOdds}(w)$ as input, restores every other bit to obtain w , and simulates M on the restored string w .

Each state (q, flip) of M' indicates that M is in state q , and we need to flip the next input bit if $\text{flip} = \text{TRUE}$.

$$Q' = Q \times \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$$

$$s' = (s, \text{TRUE})$$

$$A' =$$

$$\delta'((q, \text{flip}), a) =$$

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2. $\text{UNFLIPODD1S}(L) := \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \text{flipOdd1s}(w) \in L\}$, where the function flipOdd1s inverts every other **1** bit of its input string, starting with the first **1**. For example:

$$\text{flipOdd1s}(0000111101010101) = 0000010100010001$$

Solution: Let $M = (Q, s, A, \delta)$ be a DFA that accepts L . We construct a new DFA $M' = (Q', s', A', \delta')$ that accepts $\text{UNFLIPODD1S}(L)$ as follows.

Intuitively, M' receives some string w as input, flips every other **1** bit, and simulates M on the transformed string.

Each state (q, flip) of M' indicates that M is in state q , and we need to flip the next **1** bit of and only if $\text{flip} = \text{TRUE}$.

$$Q' = Q \times \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$$

$$s' = (s, \text{TRUE})$$

$$A' =$$

$$\delta'((q, \text{flip}), a) =$$

■

3. $\text{FLIPODD1S}(L) := \{\text{flipOdd1s}(w) \mid w \in L\}$, where the function *flipOdd1* is defined as in the previous problem.

Solution: Let $M = (Q, s, A, \delta)$ be a DFA that accepts L . We construct a new NFA $M' = (Q', s', A', \delta')$ that accepts $\text{FLIPODD1S}(L)$ as follows.

Intuitively, M' receives some string *flipOdd1s*(w) as input, *guesses* which 0 bits to restore to 1s, and simulates M on the restored string w . No string in $\text{FLIPODD1S}(L)$ has two 1s in a row, so if M' ever sees 11, it rejects.

Each state (q, flip) of M' indicates that M is in state q , and we need to flip a 0 bit before the next 1 if $\text{flip} = \text{TRUE}$.

$$Q' = Q \times \{\text{TRUE}, \text{FALSE}\}$$

$$s' = (s, \text{TRUE})$$

$$A' =$$

$$\delta'((q, \text{flip}), a) =$$

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4. Prove that the language $\text{insert1}(L) := \{x1y \mid xy \in L\}$ is regular.

Intuitively, $\text{insert1}(L)$ is the set of all strings that can be obtained from strings in L by inserting exactly one 1. For example, if $L = \{\varepsilon, \text{00K!}\}$, then $\text{insert1}(L) = \{1, 100K!, 010K!, 001K!, 00K1!, 00K!1\}$.

Solution: Let $M = (\Sigma, Q, s, A, \delta)$ be a DFA that accepts L . We construct an NFA $M' = (\Sigma, Q', s', A', \delta')$ that accepts $\text{insert1}(L)$ as follows.

Intuitively, M' nondeterministically chooses a 1 in the input string to ignore, and simulates M running on the rest of the input string.

- The state (q, before) means (the simulation of) M is in state q and M' has not yet skipped over a 1.
- The state (q, after) means (the simulation of) M is in state q and M' has already skipped over a 1.

$$Q' = Q \times \{\text{before}, \text{after}\}$$

$$s' = (s, \text{before})$$

$$A' =$$

$$\delta'((q, \text{before}), a) =$$

$$\delta'((q, \text{after}), a) =$$

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Work on these later:

5. Prove that the language $\text{delete}\mathbf{1}(L) := \{xy \mid x\mathbf{1}y \in L\}$ is regular.

Intuitively, $\text{delete}\mathbf{1}(L)$ is the set of all strings that can be obtained from strings in L by deleting exactly one $\mathbf{1}$. For example, if $L = \{\mathbf{101101}, \mathbf{00}, \varepsilon\}$, then $\text{delete}\mathbf{1}(L) = \{\mathbf{01101}, \mathbf{10101}, \mathbf{10110}\}$.

6. Consider the following recursively defined function on strings:

$$\text{stutter}(w) := \begin{cases} \varepsilon & \text{if } w = \varepsilon \\ aa \cdot \text{stutter}(x) & \text{if } w = ax \text{ for some symbol } a \text{ and some string } x \end{cases}$$

Intuitively, $\text{stutter}(w)$ doubles every symbol in w . For example:

- $\text{stutter}(\text{PRESTO}) = \text{PPRREESSTT00}$
- $\text{stutter}(\text{HOCUS} \diamond \text{POCUS}) = \text{HH00CCUUSS} \diamond \text{PP00CCUUSS}$

- (a) Prove that the language $\text{stutter}^{-1}(L) := \{w \mid \text{stutter}(w) \in L\}$ is regular.
 (b) Prove that the language $\text{stutter}(L) := \{\text{stutter}(w) \mid w \in L\}$ is regular.

7. Consider the following recursively defined function on strings:

$$\text{evens}(w) := \begin{cases} \varepsilon & \text{if } w = \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon & \text{if } w = a \text{ for some symbol } a \\ b \cdot \text{evens}(x) & \text{if } w = abx \text{ for some symbols } a \text{ and } b \text{ and some string } x \end{cases}$$

Intuitively, $\text{evens}(w)$ skips over every other symbol in w . For example:

- $\text{evens}(\text{EXPELLIARMUS}) = \text{XELAMS}$
- $\text{evens}(\text{AVADA} \diamond \text{KEDAVRA}) = \text{VD} \diamond \text{EAR}$.

- (a) Prove that the language $\text{evens}^{-1}(L) := \{w \mid \text{evens}(w) \in L\}$ is regular.
 (b) Prove that the language $\text{evens}(L) := \{\text{evens}(w) \mid w \in L\}$ is regular.

You may find it helpful to imagine these transformations concretely on the following DFA for the language specified by the regular expression 00^*11^* .

