

My name and student number: Joseph Siu, 1010085701. Sanchit Manchanda, Ali Zaki Rashid.

For any language $S \subseteq \Sigma^*$, define $C(S) = \{x \in \Sigma^* \mid \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. (xwxy \in S)\}$.

For example, if $S = \{ababc, aabaab\}$, then $C(S) = \{\lambda, a, aa, ab, aab\}$.

Question 1. Describe the language $S = L(((01)^* + 1^*)^*) = \{z \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \dots\}$ by replacing the \dots with at most 10 words. (z counts as one word.) Briefly justify your answer.

Here \dots is equivalent to “all occurrences of 0 in z are followed by 1.”

Justification. We will (briefly) show the equality by double subset. For the forward subset, let $s \in L(((01)^* + 1^*)^*)$ be arbitrary, then by definition of $*$, s is concatenated by strings in $(01)^* + 1^*$, let string $w \in (01)^* + 1^*$ be an arbitrary string in such concatenation. Then w is either a string of 1's or a string of 01's, for both cases we can see that all occurrences of 0 in w are followed by 1. Thus $s \in \{z \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{all occurrences of 0 in } z \text{ are followed by 1}\}$.

For the backward subset, let $s \in \{z \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{all occurrences of 0 in } z \text{ are followed by 1}\}$ be arbitrary, then the string s must be a concatenation of strings in $(01)^* + 1^*$ if we group all 0's followed by 1's together. Hence by definition of $*$, $s \in L(((01)^* + 1^*)^*)$.

Therefore, $S = L(((01)^* + 1^*)^*) = \{z \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{all occurrences of 0 in } z \text{ are followed by 1}\}$.

Question 2. Describe the language $T = L(\overline{(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)}) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \dots\}$ by replacing the \dots with at most 10 words. (x counts as one word.) Briefly justify your answer.

Here \dots is equivalent to “there are no consecutive 0's in string x .”

Justification. We will (briefly) show the equality by double subset. To show $L(\overline{(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)}) = L(\overline{(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)}) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are no consecutive 0's in string } x\}$, by definition of complement it is equivalent to show $L(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are consecutive 0's in string } x\}$.

For the forward subset, let $s \in L(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)$ be arbitrary, then by definition of concatenation, since $\phi = \Sigma^*$, string $s = \alpha \cdot 00 \cdot \beta$ for some $\alpha \in \Sigma^*$, for some $\beta \in \Sigma^*$, so s contains consecutive 0's. Thus $s \in \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are consecutive 0's in string } x\}$.

For the backward subset, let $s \in \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are consecutive 0's in string } x\}$ be arbitrary, then this means there exists $\alpha \in \Sigma^*$ and $\beta \in \Sigma^*$ such that $s = \alpha \cdot 00 \cdot \beta$, so $s \in L(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)$.

Therefore, as $L(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are consecutive 0's in string } x\}$, we conclude that $T = L(\overline{(\phi \cdot 00 \cdot \phi)}) = \{x \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \text{there are no consecutive 0's in string } x\}$.

Question 3. Explain why $C(S) = T$.

Both $C(S)$ and T are precisely the sets that contain all strings that do not have consecutive 0's. We will show they are equal by strong induction on the length of the string x .

Proof of Question 3 by induction.

Define the predicate $P(n)$ = “For all strings $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ of length n , $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$.”

Let $n \in \mathbb{N}$ be arbitrary;

Assume $\forall i \in \mathbb{N}. ((i < n) \text{ IMPLIES } P(i))$.

Case 1. $n = 0$.

Then only string $x = \lambda$ is length 0, by our condition, $\lambda\lambda\lambda\lambda \in S$ so $\lambda = x \in C(S)$ and $x \in T$ since x has no consecutive 0's.

In Case 1 $P(n)$ holds.

Case 2. $n = 1$.

Only strings $x = 0$ and $x = 1$ are length 1:

Subcase (1): $x = 0$: Then by condition, since $0101 \in S$, $0 \in C(S)$ and $0 \in T$ since 0 has no

consecutive 0's. Thus $P(1)$ holds. For Case 2.1 $P(n)$ holds.

Subcase (2): $x = 1$: Then by condition, since $1111 \in S$, $1 \in C(S)$ and $1 \in T$ since 1 has no consecutive 0's. Thus $P(1)$ holds. For Case 2.2 $P(n)$ holds.

In Case 2 $P(n)$ holds.

Case 3. $n \geq 2$.

Let string $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$ of length n be arbitrary. Since $n \geq 2$, we know $x = y \cdot \alpha$ for some $y \in \{0, 1\}^*$ of length $n - 1$ and $\alpha \in \{0, 1\}$.

Subcase (1): x has consecutive 0's.

Then by condition this implies $x \notin T$.

To obtain a contradiction, assume $x \in C(S)$. This implies there exists $w' \in \Sigma^*$ and $y' \in \Sigma^*$ such that $xw'xy' \in S$. However by definition of S , $xw'xy' \in S$ implies all occurrences of 0 in $xw'x'y'$ are followed by 1. This contradicts the fact that x has consecutive 0's.

Thus $x \notin C(S)$.

For this subcase $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$.

Subcase (2): x has no consecutive 0's.

Then by definition $x \in T$. Since y has no consecutive 0's, by definition $y \in T$.

Moreover, by inductive hypothesis, specialization and modus ponens, $y \in C(S)$. By definition this means there exists $w' \in \Sigma^*$ and $y' \in \Sigma^*$ such that $yw'yy' \in S$.

Combining the facts that $y\alpha, \alpha 1, 1w', w'y, 1y'$ have no consecutive 0's by definition of S , we have $y\alpha 1w'y\alpha 1y' \in S$ since the entire string cannot have consecutive 0's, so $x = y\alpha \in C(S)$ as $1w' \in \Sigma^*$ and $1y' \in \Sigma^*$.

For this subcase $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$.

Since for all subcases of Case 3 $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$, for Case 3 $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$.

Since x is arbitrary, $P(n)$ holds for Case 3.

Since all cases $P(n)$ hold, we conclude $P(n)$ holds.

By strong induction on n , we conclude that for all $n \in \mathbb{N}$, $P(n)$ holds. Thus for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$, $x \in C(S)$ if and only if $x \in T$. By definition of set equality we conclude $C(S) \subseteq T$ and $T \subseteq C(S)$, so $C(S) = T$.

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Question 4. Give any deterministic finite automaton $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, construct a finite automaton $M' = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q'_0, F')$ such that $L(M') = C(L(M))$.

Let $Q' = Q, q'_0 = q_0, \delta' = \delta, F' = \{q \in Q' \mid \forall x \in \Sigma^*. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta'^*(q'_0, x) = q \text{ IMPLIES } \delta'^*(q, wxy) \in F]\}$.

Then $M' = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q'_0, F')$ is the desired finite automaton.

Question 5. briefly describe how M' works.

The only differences between M and M' are the accepted states. By our construction of F' , we can see that string x is accepted by M' implies there exists strings w and y such that $xwxy$ is accepted by M . And by our condition of C , $xwxy$ is accepted by M implies $x \in C(L(M))$. Thus $L(M') \subseteq C(L(M))$.

Question 6. Prove that $L(M') = C(L(M))$.

Proof. First by construction

$$\begin{aligned} F' &= \{q \in Q' \mid \forall x \in \Sigma^*. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta'^*(q'_0, x) = q \text{ IMPLIES } \delta'^*(q, wxy) \in F]\} \\ &= \{q \in Q \mid \forall x \in \Sigma^*. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta^*(q_0, x) = q \text{ IMPLIES } \delta^*(q, wxy) \in F]\} \end{aligned}$$

So, let $x \in L(M')$ be arbitrary, then

$$\begin{aligned}
 x \in L(M') &\text{ IMPLIES } \delta'^*(q'_0, x) \in F' \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } \delta^*(q_0, x) \in F' \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } \exists q \in F'. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta^*(q_0, x) = q \text{ IMPLIES } \delta^*(q, wxy) \in F] \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } \exists q \in F'. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta^*(q_0, x) = q \text{ IMPLIES } \delta^*(\delta^*(q_0, x), wxy) \in F] \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } \exists q \in F'. \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. [\delta^*(q_0, x) = \bar{q} \text{ IMPLIES } \delta^*(q_0, xwxy) \in F] \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } \exists w \in \Sigma^*. \exists y \in \Sigma^*. xwxy \in L(M) \\
 &\text{ IMPLIES } x \in C(L(M))
 \end{aligned}$$

We have shown that $x \in L(M')$ implies $x \in C(L(M))$.
 Since x is arbitrary, we conclude $L(M') \subseteq C(L(M))$.
 To show the other direction, we need to construct another automaton : (

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