

## Challenge 5 – Regular Expressions

Describe an algorithm that could be used to eliminate the symbol  $\emptyset$  from any regular expression<sup>1</sup> that does not correspond to the empty language.

Note that the input and output of the algorithm must be:

- Input: a regular expression representing a non-empty language L
- Output: a regular expression representing the same language L, but without using  $\emptyset$

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<sup>1</sup> Consider regular expressions formed by symbols:  $\varepsilon$ ,  $\emptyset$ ,  $+$ ,  $.$ ,  $*$ ,  $($ ,  $)$ ,  $\Sigma$  (any symbol from the alphabet)