

1 Intersection of regular languages (★)

Let $L = \{w \mid w \text{ has an even number of 'a's and one or two 'b's}\}$ over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$. L is the intersection of two simpler languages. Give DFAs for these two languages and use the generic construction for the intersection of regular languages to construct a DFA for L .

2 Constructing DFAs (★)

Construct DFAs for the following languages over the alphabet $\{0, 1\}$.

1. $\{\varepsilon, 0\}$
2. $\{w \mid w \text{ begins with a 1 and ends with a 0}\}$
3. $\{w \mid w \text{ contains the substring } 0101, \text{ i.e. } w = u0101v \text{ for some } u, v\}$
4. $\{w \mid w \text{ has length at least 3 and the third symbol is a 0}\}$
5. $\{w \mid w \text{ is any string except } 11 \text{ or } 111\}$
6. $\{w \mid \text{at every odd position of } w \text{ there is a 1}\}$

3 Constructing NFAs (★)

Give NFAs for the following languages with the number of states specified over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$.

1. $\{w \mid w \text{ ends with } aa\}$ with 3 states
2. $\{w \mid w \text{ contains the substring } abab\}$ with 5 states
3. $\{w \mid w \text{ contains an even number of 'a's or exactly two 'b's}\}$ with 6 states
4. $\{a\}$ with 2 states
5. (★★) Can you construct DFAs for the above languages with the same number of states? Why not?

4 NFAs need only one accept state

For every NFA there is an equivalent NFA with exactly one accept state.

1. (★) Give a construction to turn an NFA into one with exactly one accept state. (Note: don't forget the case when your original NFA has no accept states at all.)
2. (★★, optional) Formally prove that your construction works.

5 k -fold repetition is regular (\star)

Let $B_n := \{a^k \mid k \text{ is a multiple of } n\}$. Show that for every $n \geq 1$ the language B_n is regular. (Note: The aim of this problem is to describe a DFA or NFA for a given n abstractly (but not necessarily formally) since you can't draw a single diagram that covers all cases of n .)

6 Odd one out ($\star\star$)

Let L be the language of all strings over the alphabet $\{0, 1\}$ that do not contain a pair of 1s that are separated by an odd number of symbols. Construct a DFA for L with exactly 5 states.

Hints:

- How many 1s can a word in L have maximally?
- You may find it helpful to construct an NFA with 4 states for the complement of L .

7 Reversing is regular ($\star\star$, optional)

For a word w , let $w^{\mathcal{R}}$ be the reverse of w , i.e. the reverse of $w = w_1w_2 \dots w_{n-1}w_n$ is $w_nw_{n-1} \dots w_2w_1$. For a language L , let $L^{\mathcal{R}} := \{w^{\mathcal{R}} \mid w \in L\}$.

Show that if L is a regular language then so is $L^{\mathcal{R}}$. For an extra challenge you can try and prove this formally.