Transducers

Introduction and Mealy machines

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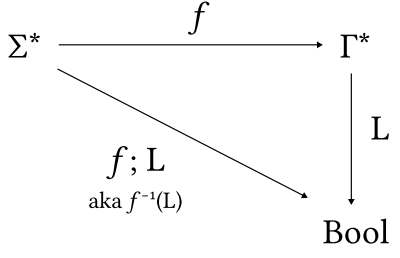

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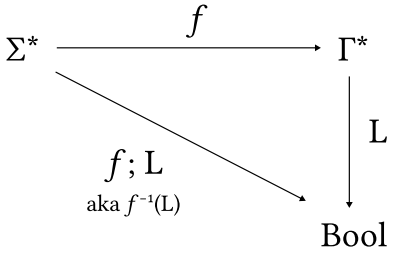

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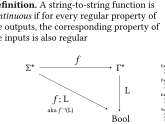

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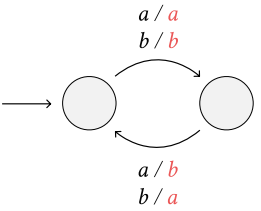
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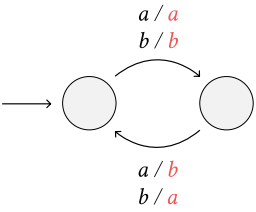

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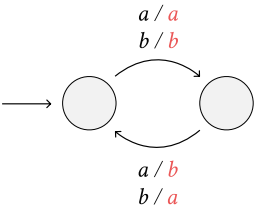

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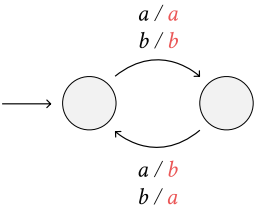

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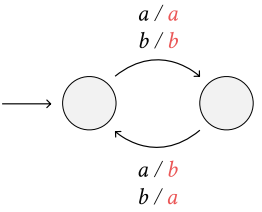

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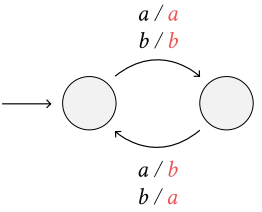

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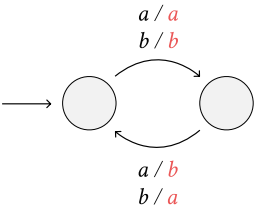

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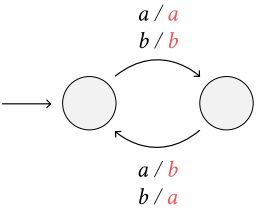

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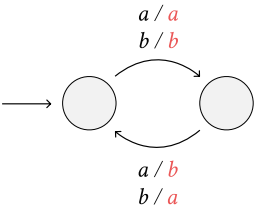

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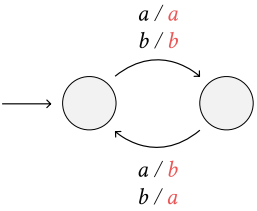

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Σ	Γ	Q
input alphabet	output alphabet	states

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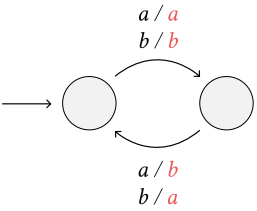

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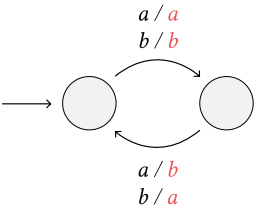

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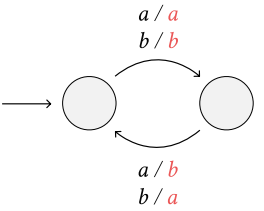

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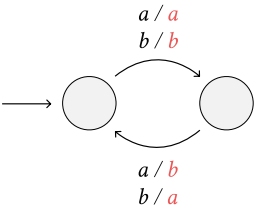

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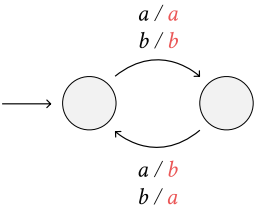

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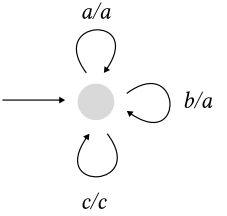
Example. One-state Mealy machines are the same as letter-to-letter homomorphisms.

This is a function $\Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$ obtained by lifting some function $\Sigma \longrightarrow \Gamma$



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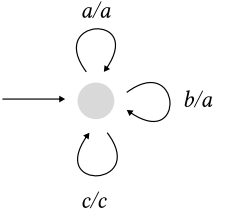

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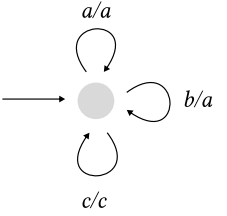

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○	○	○	*a*	*a*	*a*	*b*	*c*	*c*	*a*	*a*	states
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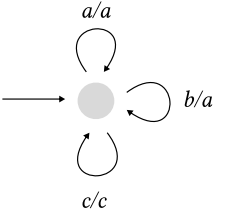

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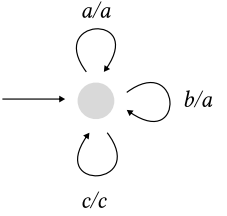

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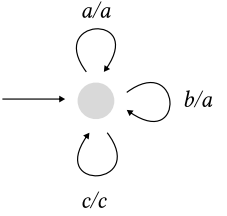

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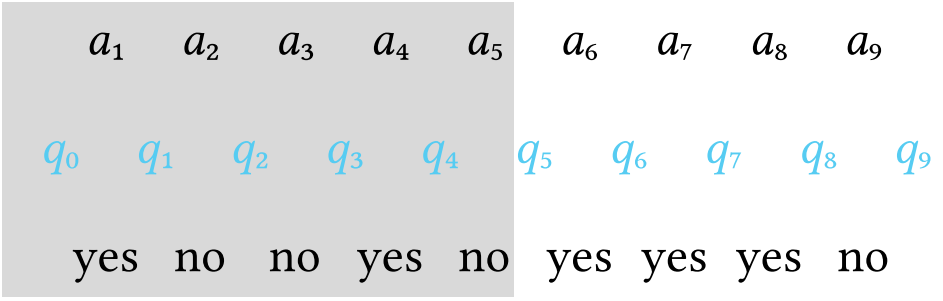
General Mealy machines the same as partitions of Σ^* into $|\Gamma|$ regular parts.



the n-th output letter can be seen as a decision for the first n input letters.

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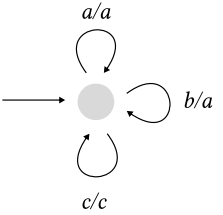

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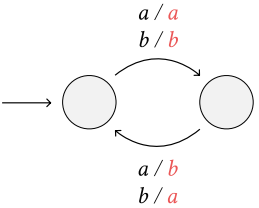

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Theorem. (Functions computed by) Mealy machines are closed under composition.

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Proof. A product construction.


Σ*
f
Δ*
g
Γ*

a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5 a_6 a_7 a_8 a_9

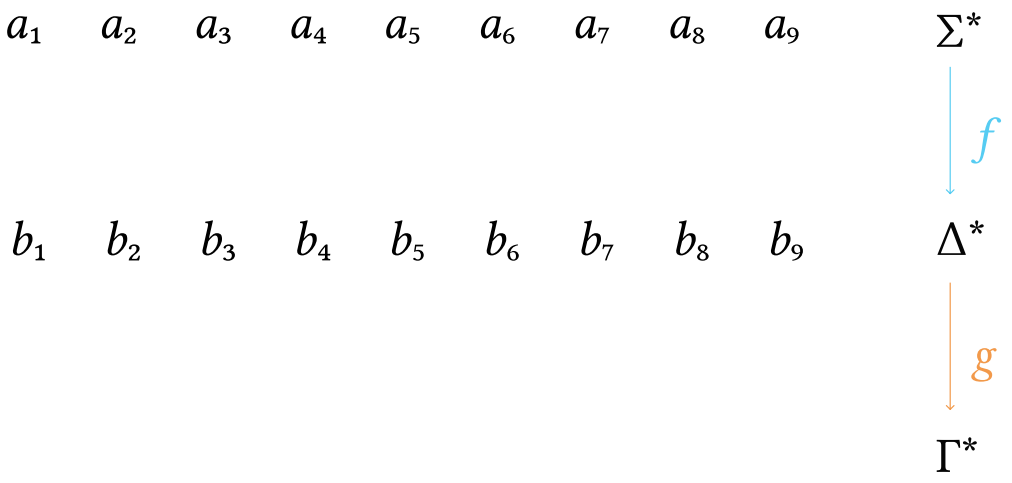
Σ^*

f

Δ^*

g

Γ^*


a_1 a_2 a_3 a_4 a_5 a_6 a_7 a_8 a_9
Σ^*
f
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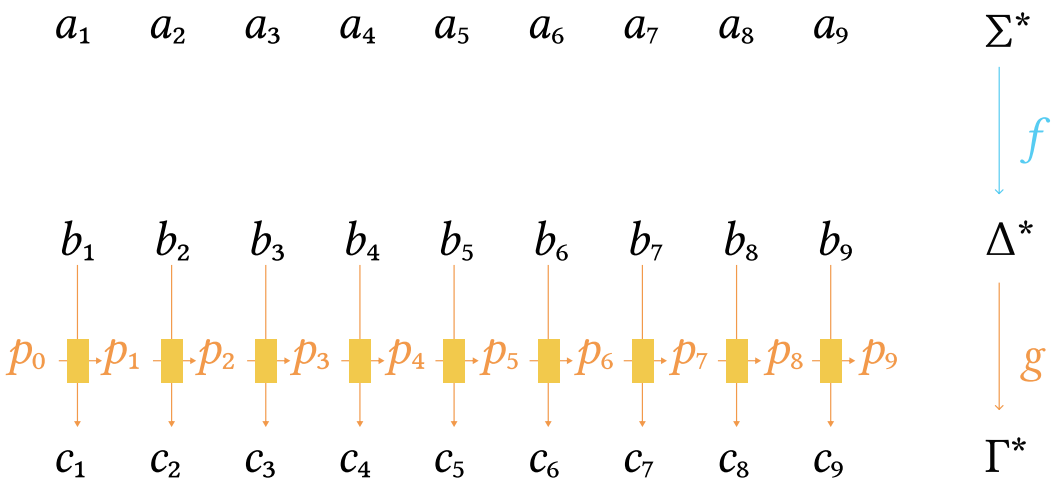
Γ^*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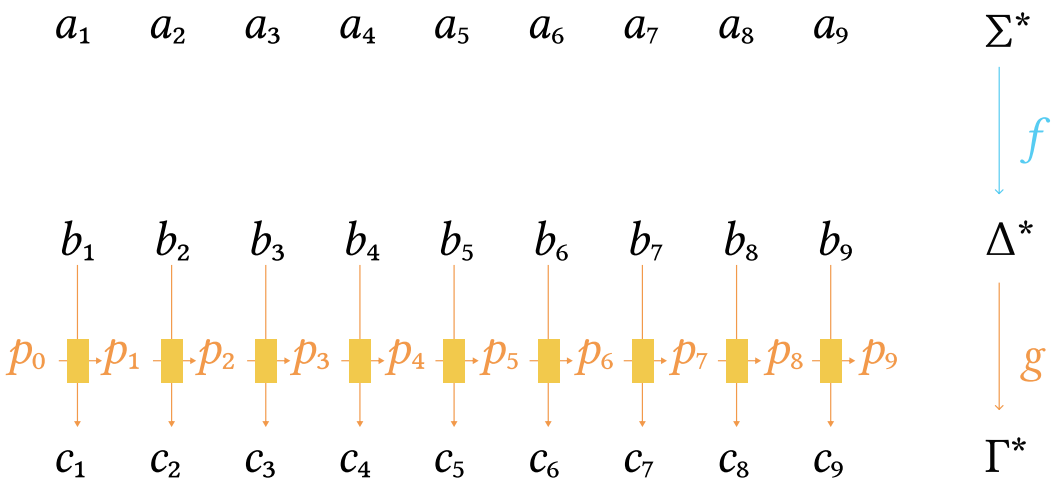
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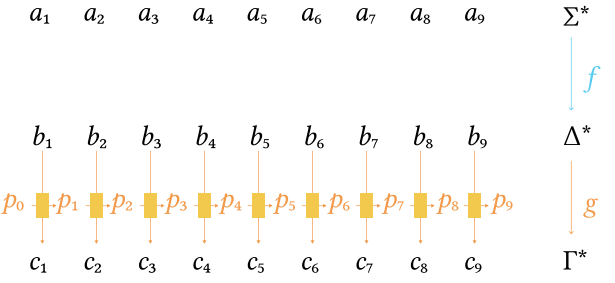
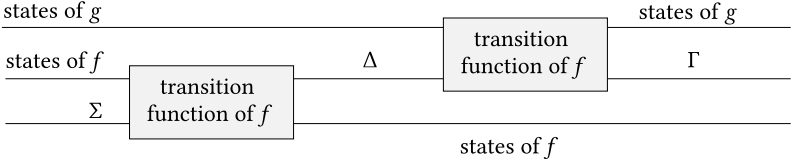
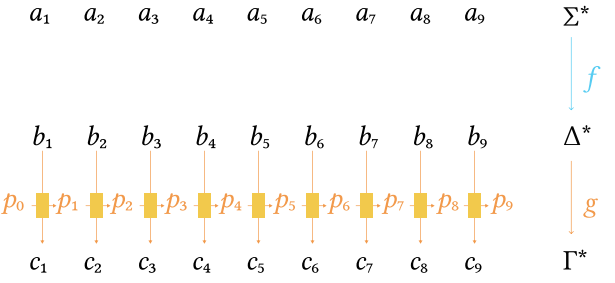
Γ^*



The states for the composition are (states of f) × (states of g)

The initial state is the pair of initial states, and the transition function is





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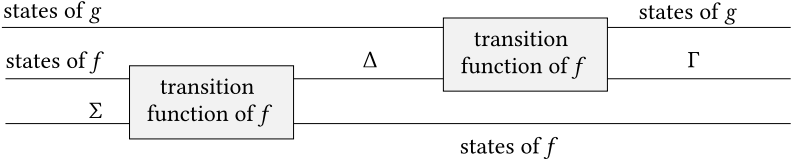

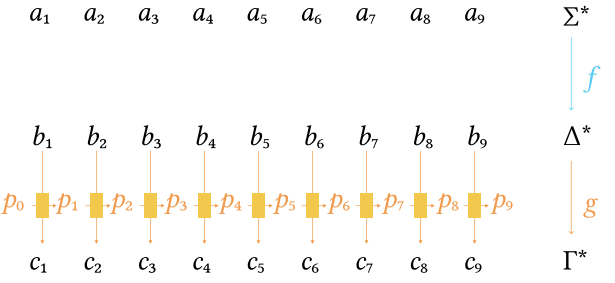

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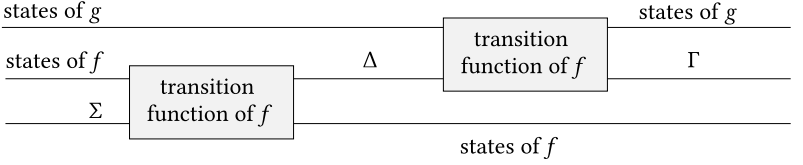

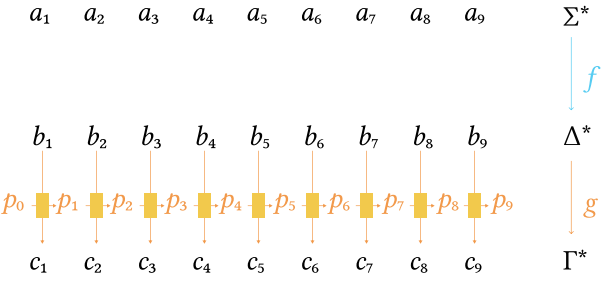

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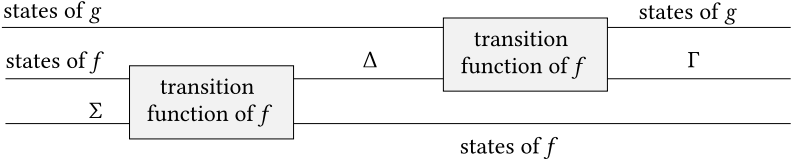

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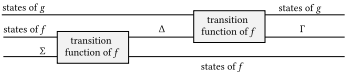
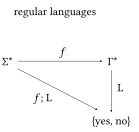


Corollary. Mealy machines are continuous, i.e. inverse images of regular languages are regular.



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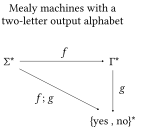

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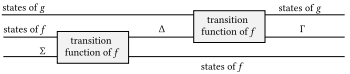

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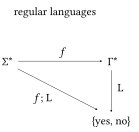

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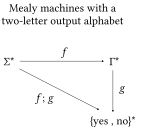

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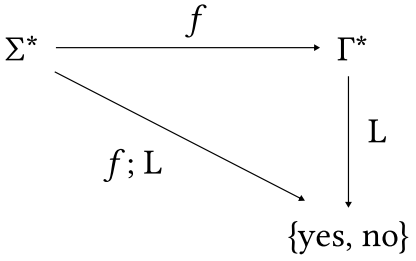

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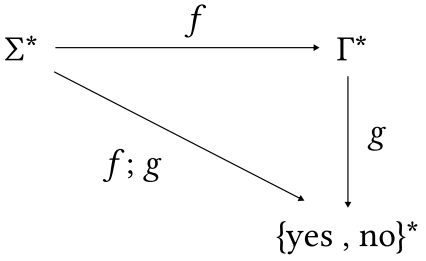

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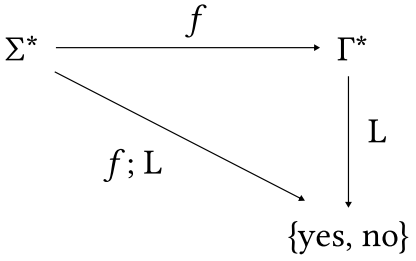

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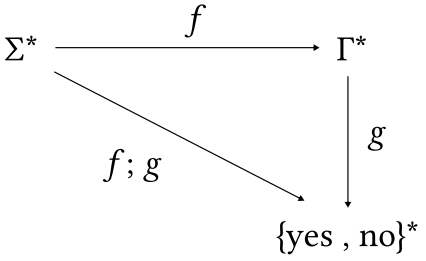

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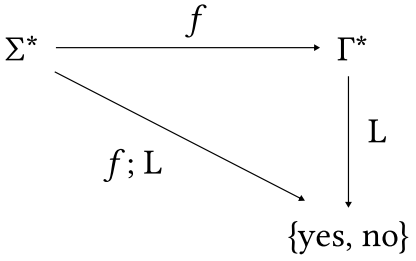

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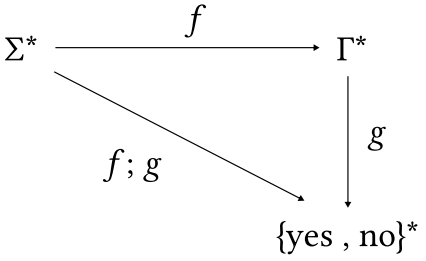

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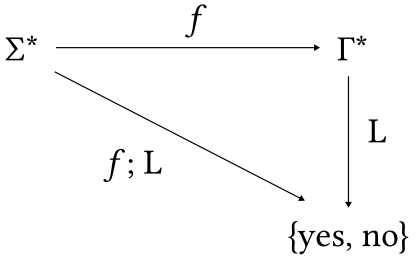

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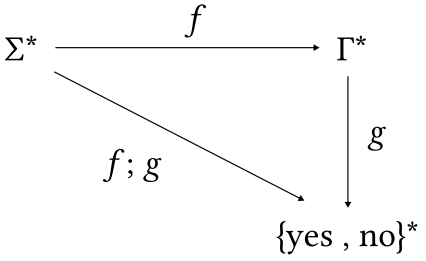

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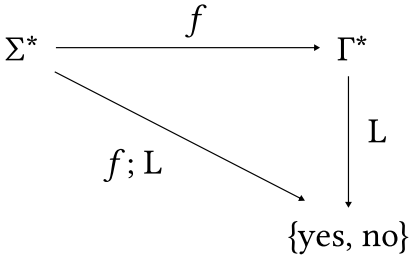

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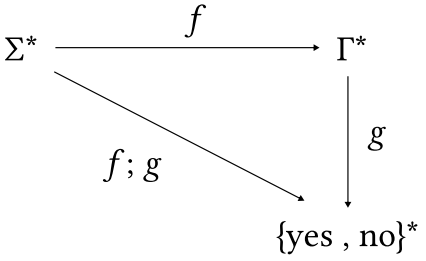

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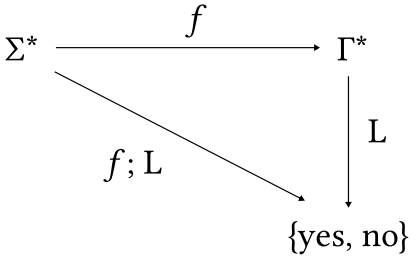

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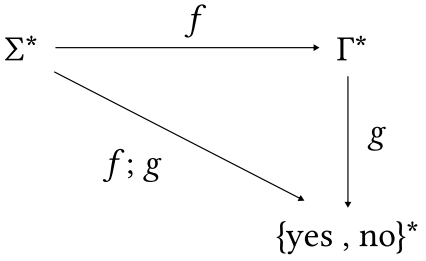

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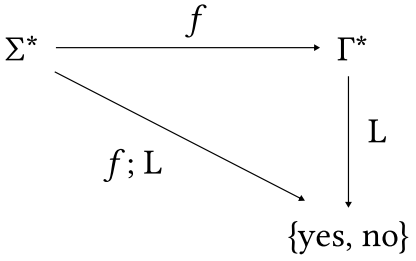

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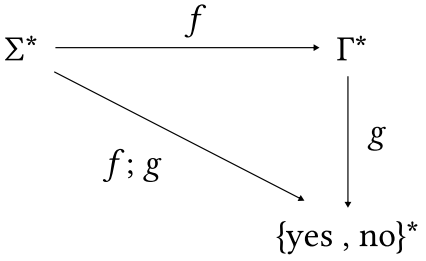

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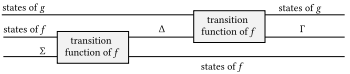

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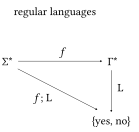

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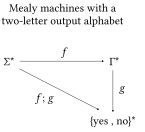
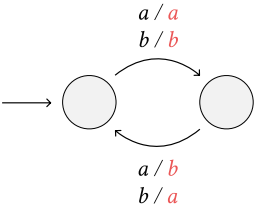


closure under composition

A Mealy machine is a DFA, but:

- each transition is labelled by one output letter
  and therefore it defines a letter-to-letter function (i.e. length preserving)
- we do not define accepting states
  it does not accept or reject, but only defines an output string



Formal definition.

Σ	Γ	Q	$q_0 \in Q$	$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \longrightarrow Q \times \Gamma$
input alphabet	output alphabet	states	initial state	transition function

Examples

Example. One-state Mealy machines are the same as letter-to-letter homomorphisms.
This is a function $\Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$ obtained by lifting some function $\Sigma \longrightarrow \Gamma$.
A (not necessarily letter-to-letter) homomorphism $lift_h$ a function $\Sigma \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$.

Example. The flip-flop machine.

Basic Properties

Theorem. (Functions computed by) Mealy machines are closed under composition.

Proof. A product construction.

Corollary. Mealy machines are continuous, i.e. inverse images of regular languages are regular.

Krohn-Rhodes Theorem

Theorem. [Krohn-Rhodes 1965] Every Mealy machine f can be decomposed as $f = f_1; ...; f_n$ where each Mealy machine f_i is either:

Reversible: every state transformation is bijection; or
The state transformation of a letter is defined to be the corresponding function $Q \longrightarrow Q$.
If a machine is reversible, and we know the last state, then we can reconstruct the run.

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Flip-flop: every state transformation is the identity or constant.

In a flip-flop machine, an input letter either keeps the state unchanged, or forgets it and sets it to some new state that depends on the letter

$$\text{Mealy} = (\underbrace{\text{reversible} + \text{flip-flop}})^*$$

we use the name *prime* for these two kinds

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Clearly primes* ⊆ Mealy.

Because primes ⊆ Mealy and Mealy* = Mealy.

The interesting part is Mealy ⊆ primes*.

Step 1. primes* is closed under map.

For a Mealy machine $f\colon \Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$, define its map to be:

$$w_1 \mid w_2 \mid \ldots \mid w_n \quad \mapsto \quad f(w_1) \mid f(w_2) \mid \ldots \mid f(w_n)$$

the input and output alphabets are extended with a separator |

This is clearly a Mealy machine. But also:

Lemma. If a function is in primes*, then so is its map.

Proof. It is enough to prove that if a function is in primes, then its map is in primes*. because the map of fg is (map f)(map g)

The map of a flip-flop is also a flip-flop.
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Step 2. finish the job

We decompose every Mealy machine into primes, using induction on:

1. the number of states
2. the size of the input alphabet

The parameters are ordered lexicographically, which means that the induction advances if we decrease the state space but increase the input alphabet

In the induction basis of one state, the machine is flip-flop. also, reversible.
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Intuition: words that end with a fall under item 1 of the induction assumption, and words that do not contain a fall under item 2.

Bonus. We have also proved the Schützenberger Theorem.

A Mealy machine is called *counter-free* if it does not have a counter:

a counter is an input letter that creates a non-trivial cycle on states

non-trivial means that there are at least two different states in the cycle

Counter-free machines are connected to first-order logic.

Theorem. counter-free Mealy = (flip-flop)*.

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The interesting case is when f is reversible.

Step 2. finish the job

We decompose every Mealy machine into primes, using induction on:

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The parameters are ordered lexicographically, which means that the induction advances if we decrease the state space but increase the input alphabet

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Intuition: words that end with a fall under item 1 of the induction assumption, and words that do not contain a fall under item 2.

Bonus. We have also proved the Schützenberger Theorem.

A Mealy machine is called *counter-free* if it does not have a counter:

a counter is an input letter that creates a non-trivial cycle on states

non-trivial means that there are at least two different states in the cycle

Counter-free machines are connected to first-order logic.

Theorem. counter-free Mealy = (flip-flop)*.

Proof. If we apply the proof of the Krohn-Rhodes Theorem to a counter-free machine, then counters will not be created, and only flip-flop machines will be needed.

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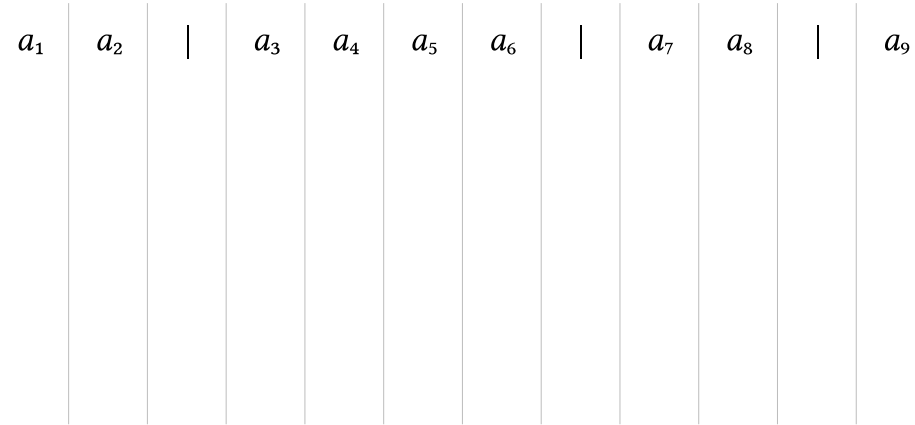

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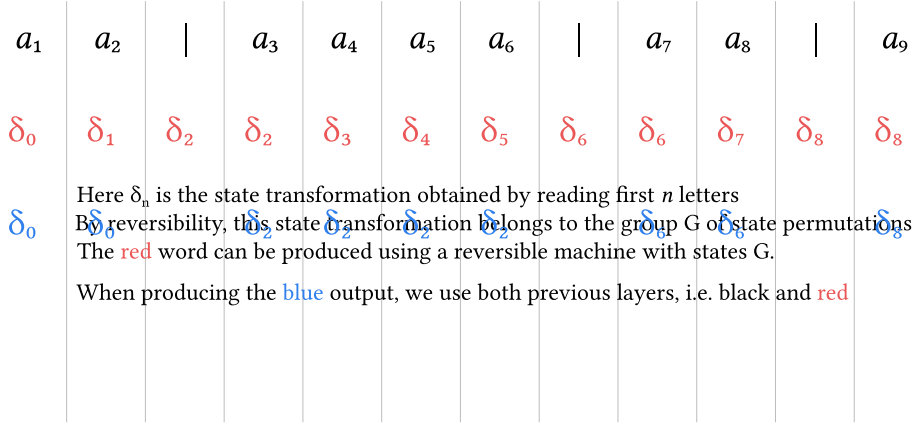

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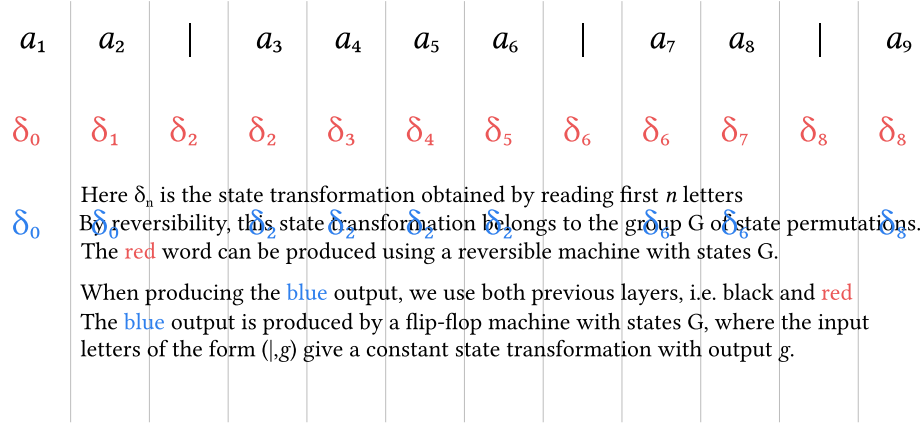

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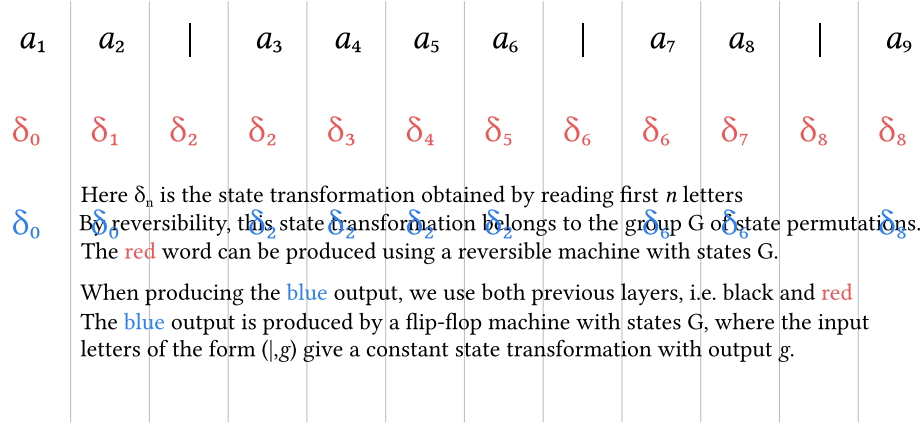

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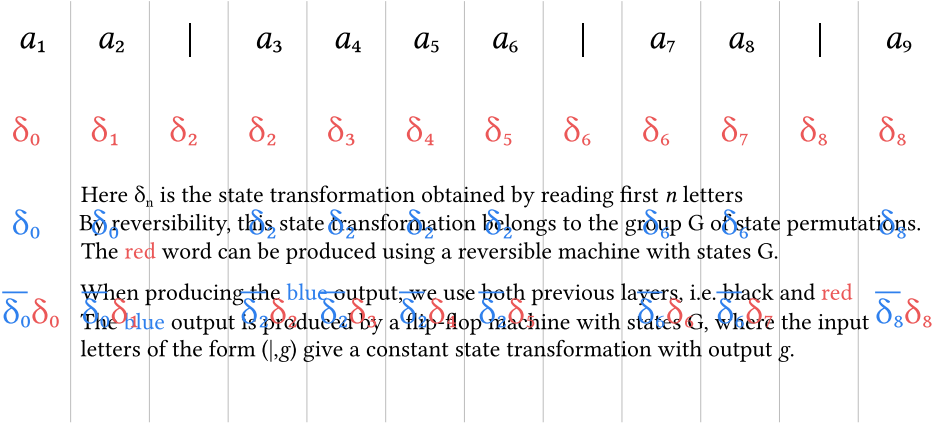

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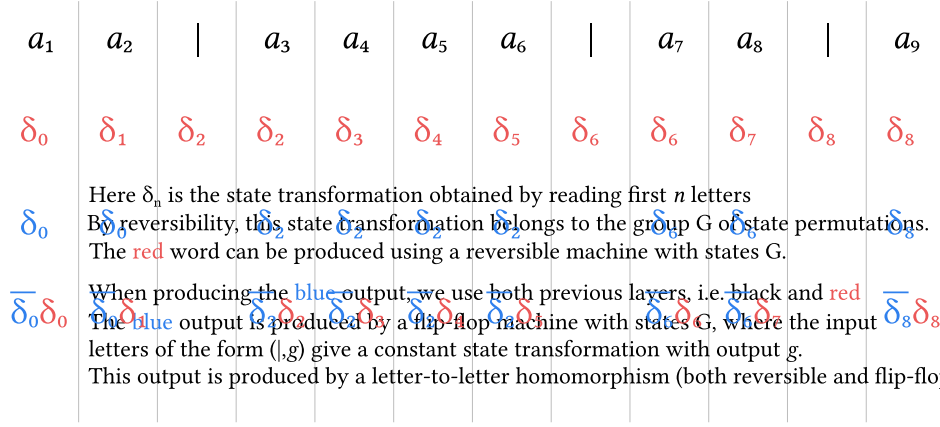

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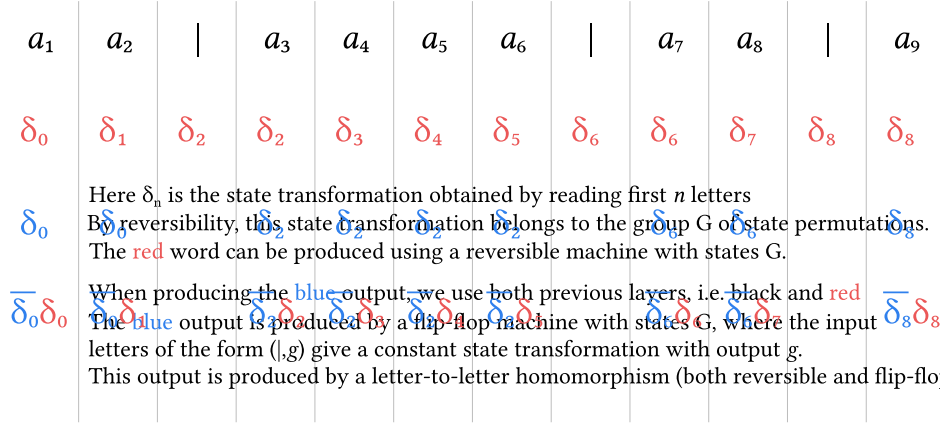

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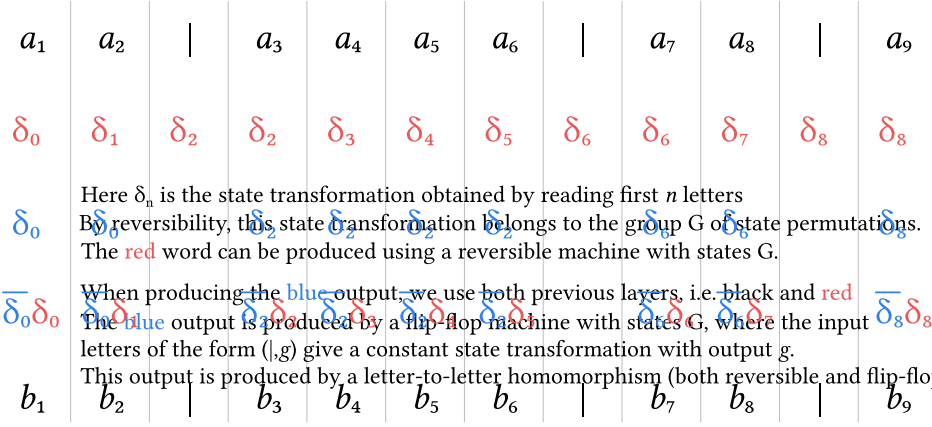

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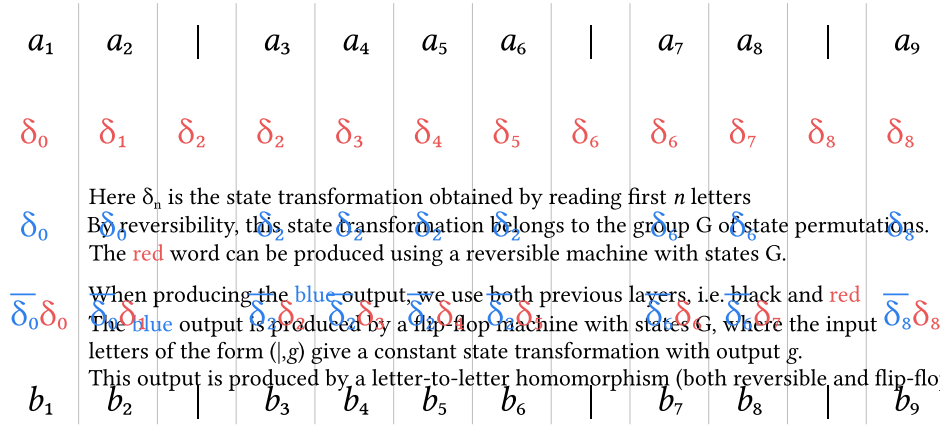

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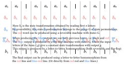

Step 2. finish the job

We decompose every Mealy machine into primes, using induction on:

1. the number of states
2. the size of the input alphabet

The parameters are ordered lexicographically, which means that the induction advances if we decrease the state space but increase the input alphabet

In the induction basis of one state, the machine is flip-flop. also, reversible.

Consider the induction step.

Either the machine is already reversible, or there is some input letter $a\in\Sigma$ such that the corresponding state transformation $Q\longrightarrow Q$ has an image that is a proper subset of Q.

Intuition: words that end with a fall under item 1 of the induction assumption, and words that do not contain a fall under item 2.

Bonus. We have also proved the Schützenberger Theorem.

A Mealy machine is called *counter-free* if it does not have a counter:

a counter is an input letter that creates a non-trivial cycle on states

non-trivial means that there are at least two different states in the cycle

Counter-free machines are connected to first-order logic.

Theorem. counter-free Mealy = (flip-flop)*.

Proof. If we apply the proof of the Krohn-Rhodes Theorem to a counter-free machine, then counters will not be created, and only flip-flop machines will be needed.

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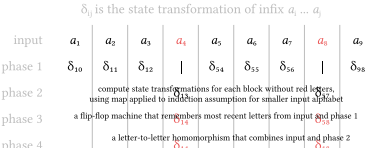

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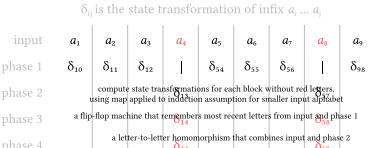

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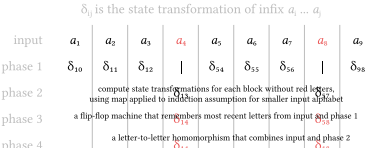

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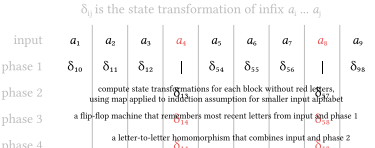

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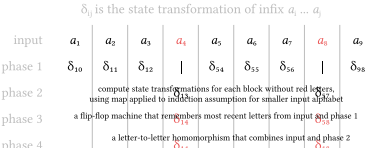

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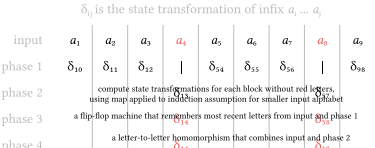

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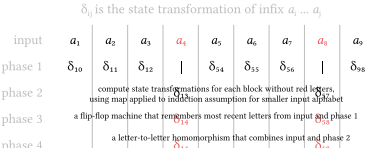

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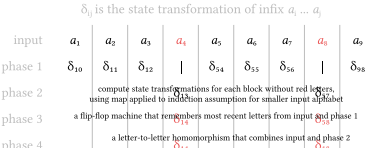

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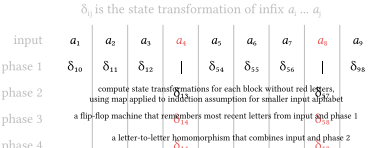

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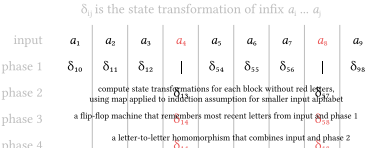

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compute state transformations for each block without red letters, using map applied to induction assumption for smaller input alphabet

a flip-flop machine that remembers most recent letters from input and phase 1

a letter-to-letter homomorphism that combines input and phase 2

Compose state transformations from phase 3, using induction assumption on a smaller state space.

More formally, if P is the image of the red transformations, then to compose the red state transformations, we use a Mealy machine with states P, with one machine for each initial state.

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More formally, if P is the image of the red transformations, then to compose the red state transformations, we use a Mealy machine with states P, with one machine for each initial state.

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We decompose every Mealy machine into primes, using induction on:

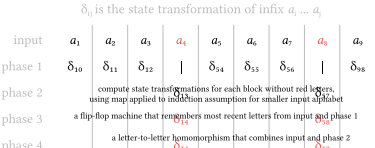
1. the number of states
2. the size of the input alphabet

The parameters are ordered lexicographically, which means that the induction advances if we decrease the state space but increase the input alphabet

In the induction basis of one state, the machine is flip-flop. also, reversible.
Consider the induction step.

Either the machine is already reversible, or there is some input letter $a \in \Sigma$ such that the corresponding state transformation $Q \longrightarrow Q$ has an image that is a proper subset of Q.

Intuition: words that end with a fall under item 1 of the induction assumption, and words that do not contain a fall under item 2.



Mealy = (reversible + flip-flop)*

we use the name *primes* for these two kinds

Clearly primes* ⊆ Mealy.

Because primes ⊆ Mealy and Mealy* = Mealy.

The interesting part is Mealy ⊆ primes*.

Step 1. primes* is closed under map.

For a Mealy machine $f : \Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$, define its map to be:

$$w_1 \mid w_2 \mid \ldots \mid w_n \quad \mapsto \quad f(w_1) \mid f(w_2) \mid \ldots \mid f(w_n)$$

the input and output alphabets are extended with a separator |

This is clearly a Mealy machine. But also:

Lemma. If a function is in primes*, then so is its map.

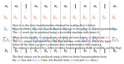
Proof. It is enough to prove that if a function is in primes, then its map is in primes*. because the map of f;g is (map f);(map g)

The map of a flip-flop is also a flip-flop.

The separator has a constant state transformation.

The interesting case is when f is reversible.

Suppose that f is reversible. We want to show that its map is in primes*.



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Bonus. We have also proved the Schützenberger Theorem.

A Mealy machine is called *counter-free* if it does not have a counter:

a counter is an input letter that creates a non-trivial cycle on states

non-trivial means that there are at least two different states in the cycle

Counter-free machines are connected to first-order logic.

Theorem. counter-free Mealy = (flip-flop)*.

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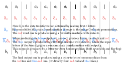

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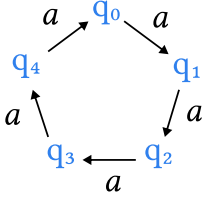

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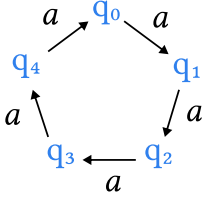

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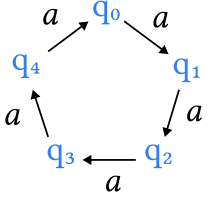

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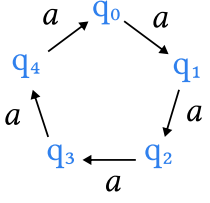

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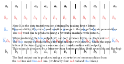
Proof. It is enough to prove that if a function is in primes, then its map is in primes*. because the map of f;g is (map f);(map g)

The map of a flip-flop is also a flip-flop.

The separator has a constant state transformation.

The interesting case is when f is reversible.

Suppose that f is reversible. We want to show that its map is in primes*.



Step 2. finish the job

We decompose every Mealy machine into primes, using induction on:

1. the number of states
2. the size of the input alphabet

The parameters are ordered lexicographically, which means that the induction advances if we decrease the state space but increase the input alphabet

In the induction basis of one state, the machine is flip-flop. also, reversible.
Consider the induction step.

Either the machine is already reversible, or there is some input letter $a \in \Sigma$ such that the corresponding state transformation $Q \longrightarrow Q$ has an image that is a proper subset of Q.

Intuition: words that end with a fall under item 1 of the induction assumption, and words that do not contain a fall under item 2.

Bonus. We have also proved the Schützenberger Theorem.

A Mealy machine is called *counter-free* if it does not have a counter:

a counter is an input letter that creates a non-trivial cycle on states

non-trivial means that there are at least two different states in the cycle

Counter-free machines are connected to first-order logic.

Theorem. counter-free Mealy = (flip-flop)*.

Proof. If we apply the proof of the Krohn-Rhodes Theorem to a counter-free machine, then counters will not be created, and only flip-flop machines will be needed.

Theorem. [Krohn-Rhodes 1965] Every Mealy machine f can be decomposed as $f = f_1; \ldots; f_n$ where each Mealy machine f_i is either:

Reversible: every state transformation is bijection; or

The state transformation of a letter is defined to be the corresponding function $Q \longrightarrow Q$. If a machine is reversible, and we know the last state, then we can reconstruct the run and output in a right-to-left pass.

Flip-flop: every state transformation is the identity or constant.

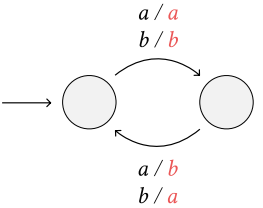
In a flip-flop machine, an input letter either keeps the state unchanged, or forgets it and sets it to some new state that depends on the letter

$$\text{Mealy} = (\underbrace{\text{reversible} + \text{flip-flop}})^*$$

we use the name *prime* for these two kinds

A Mealy machine is a DFA, but:

- each transition is labelled by one output letter
  and therefore it defines a letter-to-letter function (i.e. length preserving)
- we do not define accepting states
  it does not accept or reject, but only defines an output string



Formal definition.

Σ	Γ	Q	$q_0 \in Q$	$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \longrightarrow Q \times \Gamma$
input alphabet	output alphabet	states	initial state	transition function

Examples

Example. One-state Mealy machines are the same as letter-to-letter homomorphisms.
This is a function $\Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$ obtained by lifting some function $\Sigma \longrightarrow \Gamma$.
A (not necessarily letter-to-letter) homomorphism $lift_h$ a function $\Sigma \longrightarrow \Gamma^*$.

Example. The flip-flop machine.

Basic Properties

Theorem. (Functions computed by) Mealy machines are closed under composition.

Proof. A product construction.

Corollary. Mealy machines are continuous, i.e. inverse images of regular languages are regular.

Krohn-Rhodes Theorem

Theorem. [Krohn-Rhodes 1965] Every Mealy machine f can be decomposed as $f = f_1; ...; f_n$ where each Mealy machine f_i is either:

Reversible: every state transformation is bijection; or
The state transformation of a letter is defined to be the corresponding function $Q \longrightarrow Q$.
If a machine is reversible, and we know the last state, then we can reconstruct the run.

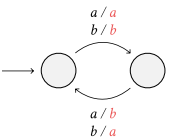
Transducers

Introduction and Mealy machines

We begin our course with Mealy machines, which are the simplest transducer model

A Mealy machine is a DFA, but:

- each transition is labelled by one output letter
  and therefore it defines a letter-to-letter function (i.e. length preserving)
- we do not define accepting states
  it does not accept or reject, but only defines an output string



Formal definition. Σ input alphabet; Γ output alphabet; Q states; $q_0 \in Q$ initial state; $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \longrightarrow Q \times \Gamma$ transition function

Examples

Basic Properties

Theorem. [Functions computed by] Mealy machines are closed under

Corollary. Mealy machines are continuous, i.e. (reverse

Krohn-Rhodes Theorem

Theorem. [Krohn-Rhodes 1965] Every Mealy machine f can be