

# Midterm 1

John Hynes  
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**Problem 1.** Write down all relations on the set  $A = \{a, b\}$  and determine which of them are reflexive, symmetric or transitive.

$R = \emptyset$  symmetric, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a)\}$  symmetric, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, b)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(b, a)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(b, b)\}$  symmetric, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a), (a, b)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a), (b, a)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a), (b, b)\}$  reflexive, symmetric, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, b), (b, a)\}$  symmetric  
 $R = \{(a, b), (b, b)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(b, a), (b, b)\}$  transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, a)\}$  symmetric  
 $R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, b)\}$  reflexive, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, a), (b, a), (b, b)\}$  reflexive, transitive  
 $R = \{(a, b), (b, a), (b, b)\}$  symmetric  
 $R = \{(a, a), (a, b), (b, a), (b, b)\}$  reflexive, symmetric, transitive

**Problem 2.** Let  $f : A \rightarrow B$  and define a relation  $R$  on  $A$  by:  $xRy$  if and only if  $f(x) = f(y)$ .

a. Prove that  $R$  is an equivalence relation.

*Proof.*  $R$  is reflexive:

**Reason:** For any  $x \in A$  we have  $f(x) = f(x)$ .

$R$  is symmetric:

**Reason:** For any  $x, y \in A$  we have  $f(x) = f(y)$  implies  $f(y) = f(x)$ .

$R$  is transitive:

**Reason:** For any  $x, y, z \in A$  if  $f(x) = f(y)$  and  $f(y) = f(z)$  then  $f(x) = f(z)$ .  $\square$

b. What is  $[x]$  under this relation?

Let  $x \in A$ . The equivalence class of  $x$  is the set  $[x] = \{y \in A \mid f(y) = f(x)\}$ .

c. Let  $A = B = \mathbf{R}$  and define  $f : \mathbf{R} \rightarrow \mathbf{R}$  by  $f(x) = x(x - 1)(x + 1)$ . Determine  $[0]$ .  
 $[0] = \{-1, 0, 1\}$

**Problem 3.** Let  $L_1 = \{ab, ba\}$  and  $L_2 = \{\lambda, aab, bab\}$ .

a. Determine  $L_1L_2$ .

$$L_1L_2 = \{ab, ba, abaab, abbab, baaab, babab\}$$

b. Determine  $L_1^3$ .

$$L_1^2 = \{abab, abba, baab, baba\}$$

$$L_1^3 = \{ababab, ababba, abbaab, abbaba, baabab, baabba, babaab, bababa\}$$

**Problem 4.** Show that if  $L_1L = L$  for every  $L \subseteq \{a, b\}^*$ , then  $L_1 = \{\lambda\}$ .

*Proof.* Assume  $L_1L = L$  for all  $L \subseteq \{a, b\}^*$ . In particular  $L_1\{\lambda\} = \{\lambda\}$ . Pick an arbitrary  $x \in L_1$ . Then  $x\lambda$ , being a member of  $L_1\{\lambda\}$ , is also a member of  $\{\lambda\}$ . Therefore  $x\lambda = \lambda$ , hence  $x = \lambda$ . Since  $x$  was arbitrary, we've shown that  $x \in L_1 \implies x = \lambda$ , and thus  $L_1 = \{\lambda\}$ .  $\square$

**Problem 5.** Let  $S$  be a set. Prove that no function  $f : S \rightarrow 2^S$  is onto. (Note  $2^S$  denotes the power set of  $S$ , i.e. the set of all subsets of  $S$ .)

*Proof.* Suppose  $f : S \rightarrow 2^S$  is onto. Define  $A \subseteq S$  by

$$A = \{x \in S \mid x \notin f(x)\}$$

Since  $A \in 2^S$  and  $A$  is onto there must exist  $y \in S$  such that  $f(y) = A$ .

Either  $y \in A$  or  $y \notin A$ . If  $y \in A$  then  $y \in f(y)$ , hence  $y \notin A$ .  $=><=$

If  $y \notin A$  then  $y \notin f(y)$ , hence  $y \in A$ .  $=><=$   $\square$

**Problem 6.** Recall the language  $Expr \subseteq \{a, (, ), +, \cdot\}^*$  was defined recursively as

(1)  $a \in Expr$

(2) If  $x \in Expr$ , then  $(x) \in Expr$ .

(3) If  $x, y \in Expr$ , then  $x + y \in Expr$ .

(4) If  $x, y \in Expr$ , then  $x \cdot y \in Expr$ .

Prove that  $\forall x \in Expr : |x|$  is odd. (Hint: use structural induction on  $x$ .)

*Proof.* For every element  $x$  of  $Expr$ ,  $|x|$  is odd.

**Basis step.** We wish to show that  $|a|$  is odd. This is true because  $|a| = 1$ .

**Induction hypothesis.**  $x$  and  $y$  are in  $Expr$ , and  $|x|$  and  $|y|$  are odd.

**Statement to be proved in the induction step.**  $|x + y|$ ,  $|x \cdot y|$ , and  $|(x)|$  are odd.

**Proof of induction step.** The numbers  $|x + y|$  and  $|x \cdot y|$  are both  $|x| + |y| + 1$ , because the symbols of  $x + y$  include those in  $x$ , those in  $y$ , and the additional operator symbol. The number  $|(x)|$  is  $|x| + 2$ , because two parentheses have been added to the symbols of  $x$ . The first number is odd because the induction hypothesis implies that it is the sum of two odd numbers plus 1, and the second number is odd because the induction hypothesis implies that it is an odd number plus 2.  $\square$

**Problem 7.** Recall the language  $Bal \subseteq \{ (, ) \}^*$ .

a. Write down the recursive definition of  $Bal$ .

1.  $\lambda \in Bal$
2.  $x, y \in Bal \rightarrow xy \in Bal$
3.  $x \in Bal \rightarrow (x) \in Bal$

b. Prove that  $\forall x \in Bal : |x|$  is even.

*Proof.*  $\forall x \in Bal : |x|$  is even

- I.  $|\lambda|$  is even
- II. if  $y, z \in Bal$  and  $|y|, |z|$  are even, then  
 $|yz| = |y| + |z|$  is even  
and  $|(y)| = 1 + |y| + 1$  is even  
 $\therefore x \in Bal \implies |x|$  is even.

□

c. Prove that  $\forall x \in Bal : n_((x)) = n_)(x)$ .

*Proof.*  $n_((x)) = n_)(x)$

- I.  $n_((\lambda)) = 0 = n_)(\lambda)$
- II. Assume  $n_((x)) = n_)(x)$  true for some  $x, y \in Bal$ . We must show
  - $n_((x)) = n_)(x)$  holds for  $xy$
  - $n_((x)) = n_)(x)$  holds for  $(x)$

Since  $n_((x)) = n_)(x)$  we have  $n_(((x)))) = 1 + n_((x)) = 1 + n_)(x) = n_)((x))$  (see page 31)

**Induction hypothesis.**  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ , and for every string  $x$  of parentheses, if  $|x| \leq k$  and  $B(x)$ , then  $x \in Balanced$ . (Writing for every string  $x$  of parentheses, if  $|x| \leq k$  says the same thing as for every  $m \leq k$ , and every string  $x$  of parentheses with  $|x| = m$  but involves one fewer variable and sounds a little simpler.)

**Statement to be proved in induction step.** For every string  $x$  of parentheses, if  $|x| = k + 1$  and  $B(x)$ , then  $x \in Balanced$ .

**Proof of induction step.** We suppose that  $x$  is a string of parentheses with  $|x| = k + 1$  and  $B(x)$ . We must show that  $x \in Balanced$ , which means that  $x$  can be obtained from statement 1 or statement 2 in the definition. Since  $|x| > 0$ , statement 1 won't help; we must show  $x$  can be obtained from statement 2. The trick here is to look at the two cases in statement 2 and work backward. If we want to show that  $x = yz$  for two shorter strings  $y$  and  $z$  in  $Balanced$ , the way to do it is to show that  $x = yz$  for two shorter strings  $y$  and  $z$  satisfying  $B(y)$  and  $B(z)$ ; for then the induction hypothesis will tell us that  $y$  and  $z$  are in  $Balanced$ . However,

this may not be possible, because the statements  $B(y)$  and  $B(z)$  require that  $y$  and  $z$  both have equal numbers of left and right parentheses. The string  $((()))$ , for example, cannot be expressed as a concatenation like this. We must show that these other strings can be obtained from statement 2. It seems reasonable, then, to consider two cases. Suppose first that  $x = yz$ , where  $y$  and  $z$  are both shorter than  $x$  and have equal numbers of left and right parentheses. No prefix of  $y$  can have more right parentheses than left, because every prefix of  $y$  is a prefix of  $x$  and  $B(x)$  is true. Because  $y$  has equal numbers of left and right, and because no prefix of  $x$  can have more right than left, no prefix of  $z$  can have more right than left. Therefore, both the statements  $B(y)$  and  $B(z)$  are true. Since  $|y| \leq k$  and  $|z| \leq k$ , we can apply the induction hypothesis to both strings and conclude that  $y$  and  $z$  are both elements of *Balanced*. It follows from statement 2 of the definition that  $x = yz$  is also. In the other case, we assume that  $x = (y)$  for some string  $y$  of parentheses and that  $x$  cannot be written as a concatenation of shorter strings with equal numbers of left and right parentheses. This second assumption is useful, because it tells us that no prefix of  $y$  can have more right parentheses than left. (If some prefix did, then some prefix  $y_1$  of  $y$  would have exactly one more right than left, which would mean that the prefix  $(y_1)$  of  $x$  had equal numbers; but this would contradict the assumption.) The string  $y$  has equal numbers of left and right parentheses, because  $x$  does, and so the statement  $B(y)$  is true. Therefore, by the induction hypothesis,  $y \in \text{Balanced}$ , and it follows from statement 2 that  $x \in \text{Balanced}$ .

□

d. Prove that  $\forall x \in \text{Bal} : \text{if } z \text{ is any prefix of } x, \text{ then } n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$

*Proof.* if  $z$  is a prefix of  $x$ , then  $n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$  i.e. no prefix has more right than left parens.

- I.  $\lambda$  is the only prefix of  $\lambda$ , so  $n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$  reduces to  $0 \leq 0$ .
- II. Assume  $n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$  true for some  $x, y \in \text{Bal}$ . We must show
  - $n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$  holds for  $xy$
  - $n_r(z) \leq n_l(z)$  holds for  $(x)$

Book proves 1<sup>st</sup> bullet. (P. 31) We do 2<sup>nd</sup> bullet which is part (3) of recursion.

(a) Since  $n_l(x) = n_r(x)$  (ind. hyp.) we have  $n_l((x)) = 1 + n_r(x) = n_r((x))$

(b) Let  $z$  be a prefix of  $(x)$ . We must show

$$n_r(z) \leq n_l(z).$$

If  $z = \lambda$  inequality is  $0 \leq 0$ .

if  $z = (x)$  then  $n_r(z) = n_l(z)$  by Part (a). Otherwise  $z = (w$  where  $w$  is a prefix of  $x$ . By ind. hyp. on  $x$  we have  $n_r(w) \leq n_l(w)$ . Thus

$$n_r(z) = n_r(w) \leq n_l(w) < 1 + n_l(w) = n_l(z).$$

□

**Problem 8.** Let  $\Sigma$  be a finite alphabet.

a. Write down the recursive definition of  $\Sigma^*$ .

1.  $\lambda \in \Sigma^*$
2.  $x \in \Sigma^*$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , then  $x\sigma \in \Sigma^*$

b. Write down the recursive definition of the reversal function  $r : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ .

1.  $r(\lambda) = \lambda$
2.  $\forall x, \sigma \in \Sigma^* \rightarrow r(x\sigma) = \sigma r(x)$

c. Prove that  $\forall x, y \in \Sigma^* : r(xy) = r(y)r(x)$ .

*Proof.*  $\forall x \forall y \in \Sigma^* : r(xy) = r(y)r(x) = P(x)$

I.  $P(\lambda)$  says:  $\forall y : (y\lambda)^r = \lambda^r y^r$

This is true since  $(y\lambda)^r = y^r = \lambda y^r = \lambda^r y^r$  (rec. defn. of  $r$  pt.(1))

II. Assume  $P(x)$  is true for some  $x \in \{a, b\}^*$ , i.e. for this  $x : \forall y : (yx)^r = x^r y^r$

We must show  $P(x\sigma)$  is true for any  $\sigma \in \{a, b\}$ , i.e. we must show

$\forall y : (y(x\sigma))^r = (x\sigma)^r y^r$ .

Let  $y \in \{a, b\}^*$ . Then

$(y(x\sigma))^r = ((yx)\sigma)^r$  assoc.

$= \sigma(yx)^r$  defn. of  $r$

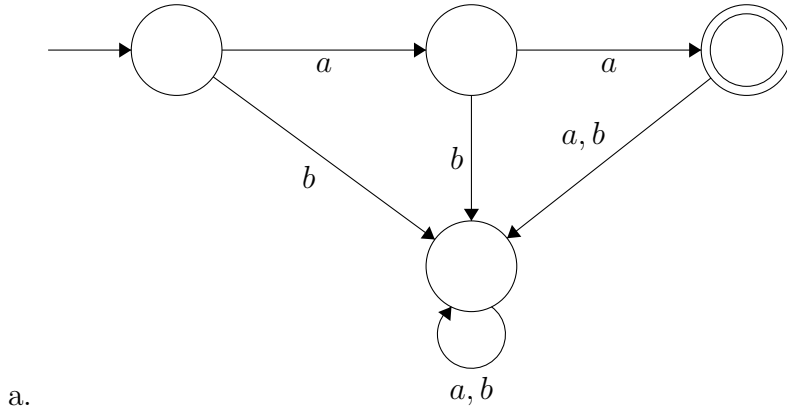
$= \sigma(x^r y^r)$  ind. hyp.

$= (\sigma x^r) y^r$  assoc.

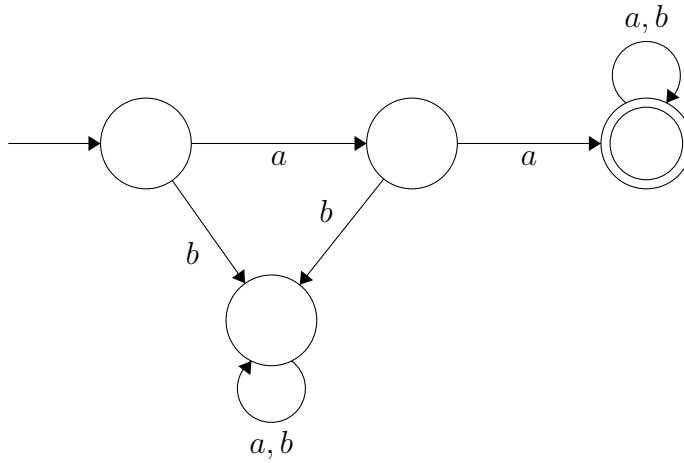
$= (x\sigma)^r y^r$  defn. of  $r$

$\therefore P(x\sigma)$  is true. We conclude  $P(x)$  for all  $x \in \{a, b\}^*$ , i.e.  $\forall x \forall y (yx)^r = x^r y^r$ .  $\square$

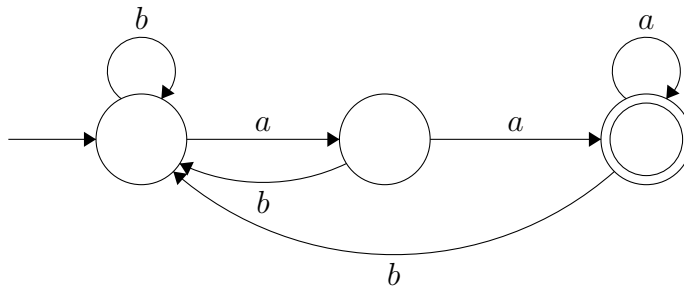
**Problem 9.** Write a simple description of the language  $L \subseteq \{a, b\}^*$  accepted by the following finite automata. No justification is required.



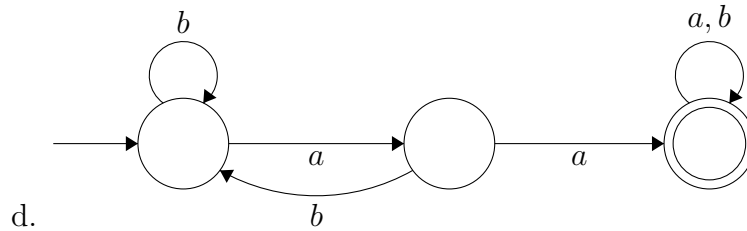
The language of containing only the string  $aa$ .



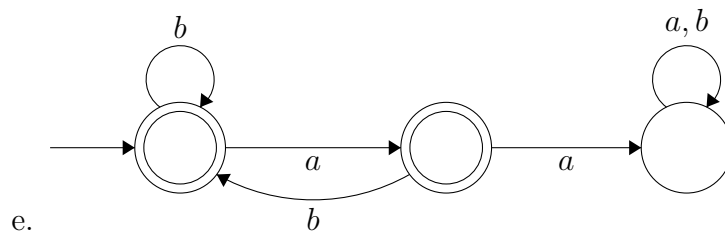
The language of all strings beginning with the string  $aa$ .



The language of all strings ending with the string  $aa$ .



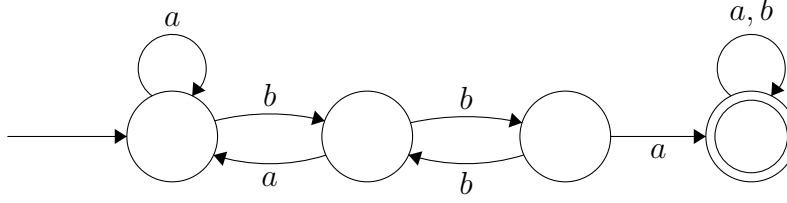
The language of all strings containing the string  $aa$ .



The language of all strings not containing the string  $aa$ .

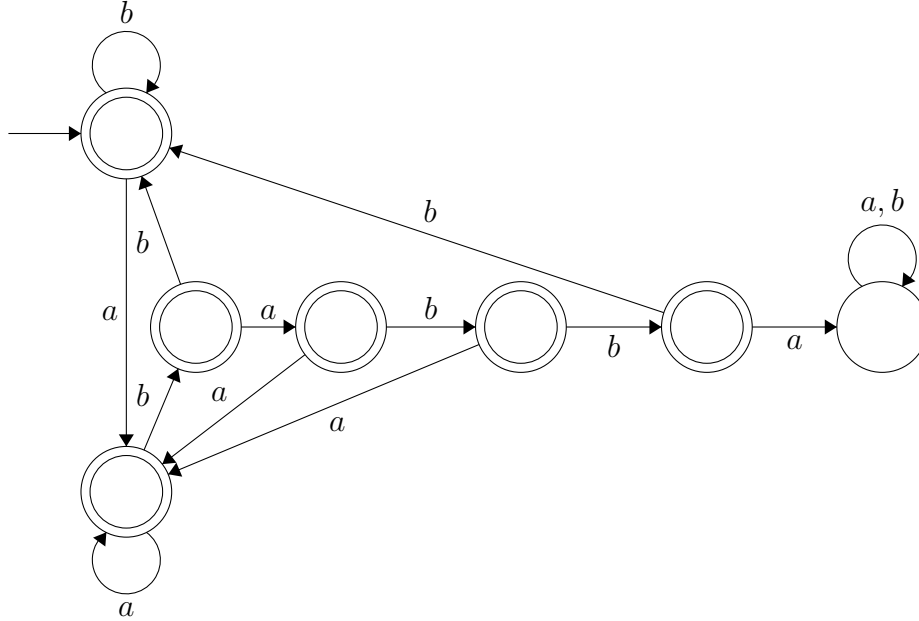
**Problem 10.** Draw a state transition diagram for a DFA accepting the language

$$L = \{x \in \{a, b\}^* | x \text{ contains the substring } bba\}$$



**Problem 11.** . Draw a state transition diagram for a DFA accepting the language

$$L = \{x \in \{a, b\}^* | x \text{ does not contain the substring } ababba\}$$



**Problem 12.** Given a DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$

a. Write the recursive definition of the extended transition function  $\delta^* : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$ .

1.  $\forall q \in Q, \delta^*(q, \lambda) = q$
2.  $\forall q \in Q, y \in \Sigma^* \text{ and } \sigma \in \Sigma$

$$\delta^*(q, y\sigma) = \delta(\delta^*(q, y), \sigma)$$

b. Prove that  $\delta^*(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$  for any  $q \in Q$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

*Proof.*  $\delta^*(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q, \sigma) &= \delta^*(q, \lambda\sigma) & (\sigma = \lambda\sigma) \\ &= \delta(\delta^*(q, \lambda), \sigma) & (\text{definition of } \delta^*) \\ &= \delta(q, \sigma) & (\delta^*(q, \lambda) = q) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\delta^*(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$  for any  $q \in Q$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ . □

c. Prove that for all  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$  and  $q \in Q : \delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y)$

*Proof.*  $P(y) = \delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y)$

I.  $P(\lambda) = \forall y : \delta^*(q, y\lambda) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, y), \lambda)$

$$\delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), \lambda) = \delta^*(q, x) = \delta^*(q, x\lambda)$$

II. Assume  $P(y)$  holds for some  $y \in \Sigma^*$ , we must show  $\forall x | \delta^*(q, x(y\sigma)) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y\sigma)$

Let  $x \in \Sigma^*$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q, x(y\sigma)) &= \delta^*(q, (xy)\sigma) \\ &= \delta(\delta^*(q, xy), \sigma) \\ &= \delta(\delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y), \sigma) \\ &= \delta(\delta^*(q, x), y\sigma) \end{aligned}$$

Therefore  $\delta^*(q, xy) = \delta^*(\delta^*(q, x), y)$ . □