

4. Let  $A$  be any regular language, show that  $A \in \text{TIME}(n)$

**Intuition:** Every regular language can be solved in  $O(n)$  because all we need to do is read through the input once.

**Proof:**

We know that we can create a DFA from any regular language.

We know that we can simulate any DFA with a TM

For TM  $M$  our transition function will be as follows:

$$\delta: Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{R\}$$

Since a DFA can only read left to right we can restrict our TM to only move right and still be able to replicate a DFA. Therefore the complexity has to be  $O(n)$  because we can only read through the input once. Therefore any TM simulating a regular language  $\in P$ .