

Problem

We define the **avoids** operation for languages A and B to be

$A \text{ avoids } B = \{w \mid w \in A \text{ and } w \text{ doesn't contain any string in } B \text{ as a substring}\}.$

Prove that the class of regular languages is closed under the **avoids** operation.

Step-by-step solution

Step 1 of 3

Regular Language:

- Regular language is the language which is generated or expressed with the help of regular expression and is recognizable by the finite automata.
- It is possible to get different types of regular languages from different types of regular grammar.
- By the definition of regular language it is known that if a finite automata recognizes a language then only it is said to be regular.
- Thus, in this case of “**avoids**” operation over two regular languages A and B
- If a finite automata accepting the language of “**avoids**” can be constructed
- Then it can be said that the set of regular languages is closed under the operation “**avoids**”.

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Step 2 of 3

As per given details there are two languages as **A** and **B** for which the avoid operations is defines as follows:

$A \text{ avoids } B = \{w \mid w \in A \text{ and } w \text{ does not contain any string in } B \text{ as a substring}\}.$

Here, it is required to prove that class of regular languages is closed under avoids operation.

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Step 3 of 3

Proof:

- In the above:

(A avoids B) can be written as follows:

$$(A - (A \text{ has } B))$$

Where (A has B) are string of A which contain strings of B as substrings.

- After that $(A \text{ avoids } B)$ will be strings of A that means strings of B will not contain B as substring.

- (A has B) can be written as follows:

$$(A \text{ has } B) \text{ as } A \cap (\Sigma^* B \Sigma^*)$$

- After that $(A \text{ has } B)$ that means these are the strings of A that contains the strings of B as substring.

- Similarly, (A avoids B) can be written as follows:

$$(A - (A \cap (\Sigma^* B \Sigma^*)))$$

Hence, the regular languages are closed under the concatenation, intersection, and subtraction and even closed under operation avoid.

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