

- The homework is due on April 16, 23:59pm. Please submit your solutions to Gradescope.
- Starting from Homework 1, all homework sets allow *group submissions* up to 2 people. Please write down the names of the members *very clearly* on the first page of your solutions.
- Answer the questions in a way that is clear, correct, convincing, and concise. The level of details to aim for is that your peers in this class should be convinced by your solutions.
- You can use any statements proved during the working sessions/lectures without proofs in your solutions.
- You might notice the difficulty of the homework problems are much higher than the worksheets. *This is by design*. These problems are meant to stretch your ability and solidify your understanding of the core concepts.
- You are expected to spend a reasonable amount of time (measured in hours) working on these problems. Remember you are allowed to utilize any resources. Make sure to cite all the people/webpages/source of information that helped.
- Some problems are marked with a *star*; these are more challenging (and fun) extra credit problems. They are optional and do not count toward raw grades.

1. **Register machine.** A *k*-register machine is a DFA augmented with extra *k*-bits of memory called *register*; the transition of the DFA is determined by *both* the input bit and the current values in the registers. Formally, a ***k*-register machine** *M* consists of the following components:

- a set of *states*  $Q$ ,
- a *starting state*  $s \in Q$ ,
- a set of *accepting states*  $A \subseteq Q$ ,
- *alphabet set*  $\Sigma$ ,
- a set of **registers**  $R = \underbrace{\Sigma \times \cdots \times \Sigma}_{k \text{ times}}$ , taking values over  $\Sigma$ ,
- a **transition function**  $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \times R \rightarrow Q$ ; that is, given the *current state*  $q$ , an *input character*  $a$ , and *current values of the  $k$  registers*  $r := (r_1, \dots, r_k)$ , the transition function outputs the next state  $\delta(q, a, r)$ .

We can define the extended transition function  $\delta^*$  similarly to the regular DFA. Just like regular DFAs, a *k*-register machine *M* **accepts** string  $w$  if  $\delta^*(s, w) \in A$ . The language of a *k*-register machine *M* is defined to be

$$L(M) := \{w \in \Sigma^* : M \text{ accepts } w\}.$$

Prove that given any language  $L$  of some *k*-register DFA *M* for constant *k*, one can construct a regular DFA *D* that accepts the same set of strings in  $L$ . In notation,

$$\forall \text{ } k\text{-register DFA } M, \quad \exists \text{ DFA } D \quad \text{such that} \quad L(D) = L(M).$$

2. **Erasing digit sequence.** Let the input be a string of digits from 0 to 9 (in other words, the alphabet set  $\Sigma$  is  $\{0, \dots, 9\}$ ). The ERASE function is defined as follows:

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ERASE( $w$ ):
  input: digit string  $w$ 
  digit string  $r \leftarrow \varepsilon$ 
  while  $w$  is not empty:
     $d \leftarrow$  first digit of  $w$ 
    remove the first digit of  $w$ 
     $r \leftarrow r \cdot d$  ⟨append  $d$  after  $r$ ⟩
    if there are at least  $d$  digits left in  $w$ :
      remove  $d$  digits from  $w$ 
    else:
      return fail
  return  $r$ 

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A digit string  $w$  is **erasable** if ERASE( $w$ ) successfully returns another digit string. For example, string  $w = 314159265358979323846264338327950288419$  is erasable because

$$\text{ERASE}(w) = \text{314159265358979323846264338327950288419} = 355243251.$$

Construct DFAs that recognize the following languages.

- (a)  $\{w \in \Sigma^* : w \text{ is erasable}\}$
- (b)  $\{w \in \Sigma^* : \text{both } w \text{ and ERASE}(w) \text{ are erasable}\}$

*[It is not sufficient to just draw the diagram; you must explain your construction, especially what each state represents, in English. (This is equivalent to commenting your code with the meaning of each variable.) Remember your job is to **convince** the reader that your construction is correct. Alternatively, you may describe the DFAs using the formal tuple  $(Q, s, A, \Sigma, \delta)$ . But you still need to explain your construction. Answers without English explanations will receive no credit, even when the answers are correct.]*