

NTIN071 A&G: TUTORIAL 3 – EQUIVALENT AND MINIMAL REPRESENTATIONS,  
TESTING PROPERTIES, NONDETERMINISM, CLOSURE UNDER OPERATIONS

Solve 1abc only for  $A \mathcal{E} B$ , 2, 3a, 4 (the rest is for practice).

**Problem 1** (Equivalent and minimal representations). For the automata below:

- (a) Find and remove all unreachable states.
- (b) Determine the state equivalence (indistinguishability) relations. (Moreover, for any distinguishable pair of states find all minimal-length distinguishing words.)
- (c) Construct their reducts.
- (d) Are any two of the automata equivalent? Use the algorithm from the lecture.

A	a	b
$\rightarrow * 0$	1	2
1	3	0
2	4	5
3	0	2
4	2	5
5	0	3

B	a	b
$\rightarrow * 0$	0	5
1	1	3
2	2	7
3	3	2
* 4	6	1
5	5	1
* 6	4	2
7	7	0

C	a	b
$\rightarrow 1$	2	3
2	2	4
* 3	3	5
4	2	7
* 5	6	3
* 6	6	6
7	7	4
8	2	3
9	9	4

**Problem 2** (Testing properties). Consider finite automata  $A, B$ . Design an algorithm that decides the following properties. (Can you estimate the time complexity?)

- (a)  $L(A) = \emptyset$ ,
- (b)  $L(A) = L(B)$ ,
- (c)  $L(A) \subseteq L(B)$ ,
- (d)  $L(A)$  is finite.

**Problem 3** (Subset construction). Given a nondeterministic finite automaton with  $\epsilon$ -transitions, construct an equivalent reduced DFA.

(a)

	a	b	$\epsilon$
*A	$\{A, C\}$	$\{B\}$	$\emptyset$
B	$\{B, D\}$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
*C	$\{E\}$	$\{D\}$	$\emptyset$
D	$\{A\}$	$\{C, D\}$	$\emptyset$
$\rightarrow *E$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\{A, C\}$

(b)

	a	b	$\epsilon$
$\rightarrow A$	$\{E\}$	$\{B\}$	$\emptyset$
B	$\emptyset$	$\{C\}$	$\{D\}$
$\rightarrow C$	$\emptyset$	$\{D\}$	$\emptyset$
*D	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
E	$\{F\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{B, C\}$
F	$\{D\}$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

**Problem 4** (Closure under operations). For the automata  $A, B$  given below, construct an automaton accepting the given language.

- (a)  $L(A) - L(B)$  (b)  $L(A).L(B)$  (c)  $L(A)^+$  (d)  $L(A)^*$  (e)  $L(A)^R$

A	a	b
$\rightarrow 0$	1	2
* 1	3	0
2	4	5
3	0	2
4	2	5
5	0	3

B	a	b
$\rightarrow 0$	0	5
* 1	1	3
2	2	7
3	3	2
* 4	6	1
5	5	1
* 6	4	2
7	7	0

**Problem 5** (Automata homomorphism). Find DFA  $A, B$  such that:

- (a) Both are reduced and they are not isomorphic.  
 (b)  $A$  is homomorphic onto  $B$  but they are not isomorphic.  
 (c) They are equivalent but not isomorphic.  
 (d) They are both homomorphic onto  $C$  but not isomorphic with it. Moreover,  $A$  is not homomorphic onto  $B$  and  $B$  is not homomorphic onto  $A$ .

$$C = (\{p, q\}, \{0, 1\}, \{((p, 0), q), ((p, 1), p), ((q, 0), p), ((q, 1), q)\}, p, \{q\})$$

**Problem 6** (Regular? Reduce). Let  $L$  be a language over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$  consisting of words that do not contain three consecutive occurrences of the same letter. Decide if  $L$  is regular. If it is, find a reduced DFA accepting  $L$ .

**Problem 7** (Switch final and nonfinal states). If we switch accepting and nonaccepting states in a given NFA, will the language accepted by the resulting automaton be the complement of the language accepted by the original NFA? Justify your answer.