

# Homework #3

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**Due: Tuesday, September 23**

Collaborators: None

## E-1.20

For each of the following languages, give two strings that are members and two strings that are *not* members- a total of four strings for each part. Assume the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  in all parts.

a.  $a^*b^*$

**Answer:** Members: [ *aab, abbbb* ] NonMembers: [ *aba, baa* ]

b.  $a(ba)^*b$

**Answer:** Members: [ *abab, ababab* ] NonMembers: [ *aaaa, bbbbbb* ]

c.  $a^* \cup b^*$

**Answer:** Members: [ *aabb, aaaa* ] NonMembers: [ *ba, bababa* ]

d.  $(aaa)^*$

**Answer:** Members: [ *aaa, aaaaaaaaa* ] NonMembers: [ *a, abababb* ]

## E-1.46

Prove that the following languages are not regular. You may use the pumping lemma and the closure of the class of regular languages under union, intersection, and complement.

a.  $\{0^n 1^m 0^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$

**Answer:** Let  $B$  be the language  $\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ . We use the pumping lemma to prove that  $B$  is not regular. The proof is by contradiction.

Assume to the contrary that  $B$  is regular. Let  $p$  be the pumping length given by the pumping lemma. Choose  $s$  to be the string  $0^p 1 0^p$ . Because  $s$  is a member of  $B$  and  $s$  has a length more than  $p$ , the pumping lemma states that  $s$  can be split into three pieces,  $s = xyz$ , where for any  $i \geq 0$  the string  $xy^i z$  is in  $B$ .

When dividing  $s$  into  $xyz$  we know the pumping lemma that  $|xy| \leq p$ . As such, since the first  $p$  elements in the string  $s$  are 0's, we know that both  $x$  and  $y$  must be composed entirely of 0's. Knowing this we can show the string  $s$  cannot be pumped. Since  $x$  and  $y$  must be composed entirely of 0's, we can express  $x = 0^{p-a}$ ,  $y = 0^a$ , and  $z = 10^p$ , making  $xyz = 0^{p-a} 0^a 10^p$ . Pumping up, the string  $xyyz = 0^{p+a} 10^p$  has more 0's on the left hand side of the 1, than the right making  $xyyz \notin B$ . If  $B$  were a regular language then  $xyyz$  would be an element of  $B$ , but since it isn't we reach a contradiction,  $B$  is not a regular language.

c.  $\{w \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^* \text{ is not a palindrome}\}$

**Answer:** Let  $A$  be the language  $\{w \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^* \text{ is not a palindrome}\}$ . We use closure of regular languages under compliment and the pumping lemma to prove that  $A$  is not regular. The proof is by contradiction.

Assume for sake of contradiction that  $A$  is regular. Since regular languages are closed under compliment, we know that the compliment of the set  $A$ ,  $B = \{w \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^* \text{ is a palindrome}\}$  is a regular language.

Let  $p$  be the pumping length of  $B$ . Choose  $s$  to be the string  $0^p 1 0^p$ . Because  $s$  is a member of  $B$ , and  $|s|$  is greater than  $p$ , the pumping lemma states that  $s$  can be split into three pieces  $s = xyz$  where for any  $i \geq 0$ , the string  $xy^i z \in B$ . Since the pumping lemma states  $|xy| \leq p$ , we know that  $y$  is composed entirely of 0's. Knowing this we can express  $xyz = 0^{p-a} 0^a 10^p$

with  $x = 0^p - a$ ,  $y = 0^a$ , and  $z = 10^p$ . According to the first condition of the pumping lemma,  $xyyz \in B$ , however we know that  $xyyz = 0^{p+a}10^p$  and  $0^{p+a}10^p \notin B$  because it is not a palindrome. Here is where we find our contradiction that shows our assumption that  $A$  is regular is false.  $A$  is not a regular language.

d.  $\{wtw|w, t \in \{0, 1\}^+\}$

**Answer:** Let  $A$  be the language  $\{wtw|w, t \in \{0, 1\}^+\}$ . We will use the pumping lemma to prove that  $A$  is not regular. To do this we will assume for sake of contradiction that  $A$  is regular.

Let  $p$  be the pumping length of  $A$ . Choose  $s$  to be the string  $0^p110^p1 \in A$ . By the pumping lemma we know that  $s$  can be split into three parts  $xyz$ . We also know from the pumping lemma's second condition that  $|xy| \leq p$  and knowing this we can say that  $y = 0^a$  for some  $a > 0$ . By the pumping lemma we know that  $xy^iz \in A$  for some  $i \geq 0$ . However when we pump up  $xyyz = 0^{p+a}110^p1 \notin A$ . This provides our contradiction.  $A$  is not a regular language.

## E-1.49

a. Let  $B = \{1^k y | y \in \{0, 1\}^* \text{ and } y \text{ contains at least } k \text{ 1s, for } k \geq 1\}$ . Show that  $B$  is a regular language.

**Answer:** We can prove that  $B$  is a regular language by constructing a regular expression that describes the language. The regular expression  $1 \circ 0^* \circ 1 \circ (0 \cup 1)^*$

b. Let  $C = \{1^k y | y \in \{0, 1\}^* \text{ and } y \text{ contains at most } k \text{ 1s, for } k \geq 1\}$ . Show that  $C$  isn't a regular language.

**Answer:** Assume for sake of contradiction that  $C$  is a regular language.

Let  $p$  be the pumping length of  $C$ . Let  $s$  be the string  $1^p 0^p 1^p \in C$ . The pumping lemma states that  $s$  can be split into three sections  $xyz$  where  $xy \leq p$ . With this we know that  $x = 1^{p-k}$ ,  $y = 1^k$ , and  $z = 0^p 1^p$  so we see  $xyz = 1^p 0^p 1^p \in C$ . The pumping lemma also states that  $xy^iz \in C$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . However if we pump down we see that  $xz = 1^{p-k} 0^p 1^p \notin C$  providing our contradiction.  $C$  is not a regular language.

## E-1.53

Let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, +, =\}$  and

$$ADD = \{x=y+z | x, y, z \text{ are binary integers, and } x \text{ is the sum of } y \text{ and } z\}.$$

Show that  $ADD$  is not regular.

**Answer:** Assume for sake of contradiction that  $ADD$  is regular.

Let  $p$  be the pumping length of  $ADD$ . Let  $s$  be as string such that  $s = 1^p = 1^{p-1}0 + 1 \in ADD$ . The pumping lemma states that  $s$  can be broken down into three portions  $xyz = 1^p = 1^{p-1}0 + 1$  and since, from the pumping lemma, we know  $|xy| \leq p$  and  $|y| \geq 1$  we can say  $x = 1^{p-k}$ ,  $y = 1^k$ , and  $z = 1^{p-1}0 + 1$ . We know from the pumping lemma that  $xy^iz \in ADD$  for all  $i \geq 0$ . However  $xy^2z = 1^{p+k} = 1^{p-1}0 + 1 \notin ADD$ . This provides our contradiction.  $ADD$  is not regular.

## E-1.57 (Extra Credit)

If  $A$  is any language, let  $A_{\frac{1}{2}-}$  be the set of all first halves of strings in  $A$  so that

$$A_{\frac{1}{2}-} = \{x | \text{for some } y, |x| = |y| \text{ and } xy \in A\}.$$

Show that if  $A$  is regular, then so is  $A_{\frac{1}{2}-}$ .

**Answer:**