

## Challenge Activity 7 – Regular Languages

Calvin needs to prove, using the Pumping Lemma, that the language of the palindromes in the alphabet consisting of the ASCII symbols is not a regular language.

Hobbes suggested that he can prove it by proving that  $L = \{1^n 2 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not a regular language.

Calvin is with doubts that the prove suggested by Hobbes is valid, as he thought about the regular language  $L((a+b)^*)$  and that using the Pumping Lemma for  $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  (a language consisting of string belonging to  $L((a+b)^*)$ ) would conclude wrongly that  $L((a+b)^*)$  is not a regular language.

- (a) Do you think that Hobbes is right or wrong? Justify your answer.
- (b) What is wrong with the thoughts of Calvin concerning the suggestion of Hobbes?