

Problem 4.13

Given:

$A = \{ (R, S) \mid R \text{ and } S \text{ are regular expressions and } L(R) \subseteq L(S) \}$

To prove: A is decidable

Here,

$$L(R) \subseteq L(S) \iff L(R) \cap \overline{L(S)} = \emptyset$$

Proof:

$TM_1 =$ "On input $\langle R, S \rangle$ where R & S are regular expressions:

1. Convert regular expressions R and S to DFA, A and B respectively.

2. Create DFA C for $L(B)$ s.t. it accepts $\overline{L(B)}$

3. Construct DFA D for $L(A)$ s.t. $L(D) = L(A) \cap \overline{L(B)}$

4. Run T.M. that decides E_{DFA} on $\langle D \rangle$.
If it accepts, accept. If it rejects, reject.

Problem 4.16

Given:

$A = \{ \langle R \rangle \mid R \text{ is a regular expression describing a language containing at least one string } w \text{ that has } 111 \text{ as a substring} \}$

To prove: A is decidable.

~~Assuming~~

Assuming Σ is the alphabet for R

$TM_2 =$ "On input $\langle R \rangle$ where R is a regular expression

1. Convert R into a DFA A .

2. Construct DFA B s.t. it accepts language $L(B) = \{ w \mid w \text{ has the substring } 111 \}$

3. Construct a DFA C s.t. it describes $L(C) = L(B) \cap L(A)$

4. Run T.M. that decides E_{PFA} on $\langle C \rangle$. If it accepts, reject. If it rejects, accept.