

1. (20 points) Recall the inductive definition for the set,  $S$ , of all strings in  $\{0,1\}^*$  with an equal number of 1's and 0's (see the September 8 lecture notes):  $w$  is in  $S$  iff

- $w = \epsilon$ ; or
- There is a string  $x$  in  $S$  such that  $w = 0x1$  or  $w = 1x0$ ; or
- There are strings  $x$  and  $y$  in  $S$  such that  $w = xy$ .

(a) (10 points) Give an inductive definition for a set,  $T$ , that contains all strings that have more 1's than 0's.

**Solution:** String  $w$  is in  $T$  iff

- There are strings  $x$  and  $y$  in  $S$  such that  $w = x1y$ , where  $S$  is the set of all string with an equal number of ones and zeros as defined in the problem statement.
- There are strings  $x$  and  $y$  in  $T$  such that  $w = xy$ .

(b) (10 points) Give a proof that your solution to part (a) is correct.

**Solution:**

Let  $numOne(w)$  denote the number of 1's in string  $w$  and  $numZero(w)$  denote the number of 0's. We prove that  $T$  is the set of all strings that have more 1's than 0's by showing the set inclusion in each directions.

Every string in  $T$  has more 1's than 0s:

Proof by induction on the derivation of the string.

Let  $w \in T$  be a string. There are two cases to consider:

$\exists x, y \in S. w = x1y$ :

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| 1. $numZero(x) = numOne(x),$                | $S$ is the set of strings with an equal number of 0's and 1's. |
| 2. $numZero(y) = numOne(y),$                | same as for step 1   |
| 3. $numZero(w) = numZero(x) + numZero(y),$  | $w = x1y$  |
| 4. $numOne(w) = numOne(x) + 1 + numOne(y),$ | $w = x1y$  |
| 5. $numOne(w) = numZero(w) + 1,$            | substitution, 1-4  |
| 5. $numOne(w) > numZero(s),$                | step 4   |

It is also acceptable to write the equivalent proof in English:

It was shown (in the Sept. 11 notes) that for any string  $s$  in  $S$ , the number of 0's and 1's in  $s$  are equal. Thus,  $x$  has an equal number of 0's and 1's as does  $y$ . The number of 0's in  $w$  is the total number of 0's in  $x$  and  $y$ . The number of 1's in  $w$  is one greater than the total number in  $x$  and  $y$ . Thus, The number of 1's in  $w$  is one greater than the number of 0's in  $w$  which means that  $w$  has more 1's than 0's.

$\exists x, y \in T. w = xy$ :

- |  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| 1. $numOne(x) > numZero(x),$               | induction hypothesis: $x \in T$ |
| 2. $numOne(y) > numZero(y),$               | induction hypothesis: $x \in T$ |
| 3. $numOne(w) = numOne(x) + numOne(y),$    | $w = xy$                        |
| 4. $numZero(w) = numZero(x) + numZero(y),$ | $w = xy$                        |
| 5. $numOne(w) > numZero(w),$               | substitution and addition, 1-4  |

Again, a proof written in English prose acceptable. The use of the induction hypothesis should be clearly indicated.

We've shown for both cases that  $numOne(w) > numZero(w)$ . Therefore, every string in  $T$  has more ones than zeros.

Every string that has more 1's than 0's is in  $T$ :

Let  $w$  be a string that has more 1's than 0's. Let  $x$  be the shortest prefix of  $w$  that has more 1's than zeros – note that  $w$  has this property so such a prefix must exist. Furthermore,  $x$  must have exactly one more 1 than 0, and  $x$  must end with a 1. Thus, we can choose  $u$  such that  $x = u1$ , and  $u \in S$ . Now, choose  $y$  such that  $w = xy$ . Note that  $\text{numOne}(y) \geq \text{numZero}(y)$ . We consider two cases:

$\text{numOne}(y) = \text{numZero}(y)$ : This means that  $y \in S$ . We now have  $w = u1y$  with  $u, y \in S$ .

Thus, the first case in the definition of  $T$  applies, and  $w \in T$ .

$\text{numOne}(y) > \text{numZero}(y)$ : This means that  $y \in T$ . Furthermore,  $x = u1\epsilon$ , and  $u$  and  $\epsilon$  are both in  $S$ . Therefore,  $x \in T$  by the first case in the definition of  $T$ . Having shown that  $x$  and  $y$  are both in  $T$ , we conclude that  $xy \in T$  using the second case in the definition of  $T$ . This shows that  $w \in T$ .

We've shown for both cases that  $w \in T$ . Therefore, every string that has more 1's than 0's is in  $T$ .

We've shown that every string in  $T$  has more ones than zeros and that every string that has more ones than zeros is in  $T$ . Thus,  $T$  is the set of all strings that have more ones than zeros.

I've been careful to put "wrap-up" statements at the end of each part of the proof. Acceptable solutions can omit those when they are clear and be somewhat less detailed than mine.

2. (20 points) Let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ . Let  $\subseteq \Sigma^*H$  be the language that contains a string  $w$  iff

- $w = \epsilon$ ; or
- There are strings  $x$  and  $y$  in  $H$  such that  $w \in \{0x1y2, 0x2y1, 1x0y2, 1x2y0, 2x0y1, 2x1y0\}$ .

(a) (10 points) Prove that for each string,  $w$  in  $H$ , the number of 0's, 1's and 2's in  $w$  are all equal to each other.

**Solution:** Let  $\text{numZero}(w)$ ,  $\text{numOne}(w)$  and  $\text{numTwo}(w)$  denote respectively the number of 0's, 1's and 2's in  $w$ . Let  $w \in H$  be a string. To show that  $\text{numZero}(w) = \text{numOne}(w) = \text{numTwo}(w)$ , there are two cases to consider according to the definition of  $H$ :

$w = \epsilon$ :  $\text{numZero}(w) = \text{numOne}(w) = \text{numTwo}(w) = 0$ .

$w \in \{0x1y2, 0x2y1, 1x0y2, 1x2y0, 2x0y1, 2x1y0\}$ : We consider the case where  $w = 0x1y2$ , the other cases are equivalent. We have:

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 1. \quad \text{numZero}(w) &= 1 + \text{numZero}(x) + \text{numZero}(y), \quad w = 0x1y2 \\
 2. \quad \text{numOne}(w) &= 1 + \text{numOne}(x) + \text{numOne}(y), \quad w = 0x1y2 \\
 &= 1 + \text{numZero}(x) + \text{numZero}(y), \quad \text{induction hypothesis:} \\
 & \quad \text{numOne}(x) = \text{numZero}(x) \\
 & \quad \text{and numOne}(y) = \text{numZero}(y) \\
 &= \text{numZero}(w), \quad \text{substitution, step 1} \\
 3. \quad \text{numTwo}(w) &= 1 + \text{numTwo}(x) + \text{numTwo}(y), \quad w = 0x1y2 \\
 &= 1 + \text{numZero}(x) + \text{numZero}(y), \quad \text{induction hypothesis:} \\
 & \quad \text{numTwo}(x) = \text{numZero}(x) \\
 & \quad \text{and numTwo}(y) = \text{numZero}(y) \\
 &= \text{numZero}(w), \quad \text{substitution, step 1} \\
 4. \quad \text{numZero}(w) &= \text{numOne}(w) = \text{numTwo}(w), \quad \text{steps 2 \& 3}
 \end{array}$$

This completes the proof.

(b) (10 points) Does  $H$  contain all strings that have an equal number of 0's, 1's and 2's? Give a short proof for your answer.

**Solution:**  $H$  does not contain all strings that have an equal number of 0's, 1's and 2. For example,  $H$  does not include the string **012210**.

*Proof:* The first rule for  $H$  produces the empty string. All strings produced by the second rule have first and last symbols that differ. Neither rule can produce the string **012210**.

An acceptable proof would be:

There are no strings in  $H$  for which the first and last symbol are the same.

or

If  $w \in H$  and  $w \neq \epsilon$ , then the first and last symbols of  $w$  are different.

3. **(30 points)** Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Figure 1 depicts three finite state machines that read inputs from this alphabet. Let  $L_a$ ,  $L_b$ , and  $L_c$  be the languages accepted by DFA (a), DFA (b), and DFA (c) respectively.

(a) **(9 points)** For each of  $L_a$ ,  $L_b$ , and  $L_c$ , list three strings in  $\Sigma^*$  that are in the language and three strings in  $\Sigma^*$  that are not in the language.

**Solution:**

$L_a$ : The strings a, aa and aaa are in  $L_a$ .

The strings b, ab and bb are not in  $L_a$ .

$L_b$ : The strings aa, baa and baabaa are in  $L_b$ .

The strings b, ab and bb are not in  $L_b$ .

$L_c$ : The strings aaa, aaaa and baaa are in  $L_c$ .

The strings b, ab and bb are not in  $L_c$ .

(b) **(12 points)** Write a short description of each of the languages,  $L_a$ ,  $L_b$  and  $L_c$ .

**Solution:**

$L_a$ :  $w \in L_a$  iff  $w$  ends with an a.

$L_b$ :  $w \in L_b$  iff  $w$  ends with two a's followed by zero or more repetitions of ba.

It is not correct to say that  $L_b$  is the set of all strings that end with two a's. For example, the string aaba is in  $L_b$ , but it does not end with two a's.

$L_c$ : For this one, it's convenient to define two other languages first. Let  $L_{ba}$  be the language of all strings consisting of zero or more repetitions of ba; for example  $\epsilon$ , ba, and babababa are in  $L_{ba}$ . Let  $L_{bba-a}$  be the language of all strings of the form bba  $y$  a where  $y \in L_{ba}$ .

Using these definitions, a string  $w$  is in  $L_c$  iff  $w$  ends with a suffix of the form aa  $y$  a  $z$  where  $y \in L_{ba}$  and is the concatenation of zero or more strings from  $L_{ba}$  or  $L_{bba-a}$ .

Explanation: Let  $z$  be the suffix of a string  $w$  as described above. The aa at the beginning of  $z$  moves the machine to state 2. The string  $y$  moves the machine back and forth between states 1 and 2 any number of times (perhaps zero), ending in state 2. The next a moves the machine to state 3. Once the machine has reached state 3, any string from  $L_{ba}$  moves the machine back and forth between states 2 and 3 any number of times (perhaps zero). Likewise, a string from  $L_{bba-a}$  brings the machine back to state 1 (with the bb) then forward to state 2 (with the a) and eventually back to state 3 (with the final a).

Note that we don't have to worry about strings that take the machine all the way back to state 0 – we can just start again with a later suffix.

By the time that this is posted, we will have seen regular expressions. I wrote my description without using regular expressions. Here's the same descriptions written as regular expressions:

$$L_a = \Sigma^* a$$

$$L_b = \Sigma^* aa (ba)^*$$

$$L_c = \Sigma^* aa (ba)^* a (ba \cup (bba (ba)^* a))^*$$

(c) (9 points)

Is  $L_a = L_b$ ,  $L_a \subset L_b$ ,  $L_a \supset L_b$ , or none of these?

Is  $L_b = L_c$ ,  $L_b \subset L_c$ ,  $L_b \supset L_c$ , or none of these?

Is  $L_a = L_c$ ,  $L_a \subset L_c$ ,  $L_a \supset L_c$ , or none of these?

Give a short justification of your answers.

**Solution:**  $L_a \supset L_b \supset L_c$ .

Any string in  $L_b$  ends with an a and is therefore in  $L_a$ . Conversely, the string a is in  $L_a$  but not in  $L_b$ ; thus the superset relation,  $L_a \supset L_b$  is strict.

Let  $\delta_b$  and  $\delta_c$  be the state transition functions for DFA(a) and DFA(b) respectively. I'll now show by induction that for all strings,  $w$ ,

$$\delta_c(0, w) - 1 \leq \delta_b(0, w) \leq \delta_c(0, w).$$

My proof is (of course) by induction – in this case on  $w$ .

$$w = \epsilon: \delta_b(0, \epsilon) = 0 = \delta_c(0, \epsilon).$$

$$w = x \cdot c:$$

If  $c = a$  and  $\delta_b(0, x) < 2$ , Both machines move one to the right and the induction hypothesis is maintained.

If  $c = a$  and  $\delta_b(0, x) = 2$ , DFA(b) stays in state 2. DFA(c) must have been in state 2 or 3 after reading  $x$ , and moves to state 3 after reading the a. The induction hypothesis is maintained.

If  $c = b$  and  $\delta_b(0, x) > 0$ , Both machines move one to the left and the induction hypothesis is maintained.

If  $c = b$  and  $\delta_b(0, x) = 0$ , DFA(b) stays in state 0. DFA(c) must have been in state 0 or 1 after reading  $x$ , and moves to state 0 after reading the a. The induction hypothesis is maintained.

Now, consider  $w \in L_c$ . This means that  $\delta_c(0, w) = 3$ . By the result that we just proved by induction,

$$2 \leq \delta_b(0, w) \leq 3,$$

but  $\delta_b(0, w)$  must be less than 3. Therefore,  $\delta_b(0, w) = 2$  which means that DFA(b) accepts  $w$ . Therefore  $w \in L_b$ .

The string aa is in  $L_b$  but not in  $L_a$ . This shows that the superset relationship,  $L_b \supset L_a$  is strict.

I'll also accept a solution that doesn't set up a formal induction proof. For example:

Let  $w$  be a string in  $L_c$ . As noted earlier, this means that  $w$  ends with two a's followed by zero or more repetitions of ba followed by an a followed by zero or more repetitions of ba. Note that we can find strings  $x$  and  $y$  such that

- $w = xy$ ;
- $x$  ends with two a's followed by zero or more repetitions of ba followed by an a,
- $y$  consists of zero or more repetitions of ba.

Any such  $x$  must end with two consecutive a's (just consider the cases for zero repetitions of ba and more than zero repetitions). Therefore,  $xy$  is a string that ends with two a's followed by zero or more repetitions of ba. Thus,  $xy \in L_b$ .

Of course, an example to show that the subset relationship is strict is still required.

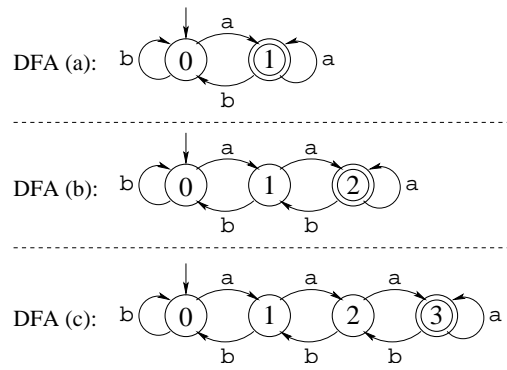


Figure 1: Finite state machines for question 3