Homework 2

## CpSc 421

## 1. (25 points) Sipser, problem 1.31.

For any string  $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n$ , the **reverse** of w, written  $w^{\mathcal{R}}$ , is the string w in reverse order,  $w^{\mathcal{R}} =$  $w_n \dots w_2 w_1$ . For any language A, let

$$A^{\mathcal{R}} = \{ w^{\mathcal{R}} \mid w \in A \}.$$

Prove that if A is regular, then  $A^{\mathcal{R}}$  is regular as well.

2. (25 points) Sipser, problem 1.32. Let

$$\Sigma_3 = \left\{ \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\0\\1 \end{bmatrix}, \begin{bmatrix} 0\\1\\0 \end{bmatrix}, \cdots \begin{bmatrix} 1\\1\\1 \end{bmatrix} \right\}.$$

 $\Sigma_3$  contains all size 3 columns of 0s and 1s. A string of symbols in  $\Sigma_3$  gives three rows of 0s and 1s. Consider each row to be a binary number with the most significant bit first. For example, let

		$\begin{bmatrix} 0 \end{bmatrix}$	$\begin{bmatrix} 1 \end{bmatrix}$	[1]	[1]	
w	=	0	1	0	1	
		[1]	1		0	

The first row of w is the binary representation of 7, the second row corresponds to 5, and the third row corresponds to 12.

Let

 $B = \{ w \in \Sigma_3^* \mid \text{the bottom row of } w \text{ is the sum of the top two rows} \}.$ 

Show that B is regular. (Hint: Working with  $B^{\mathcal{R}}$  is easier. You can use the result that you were asked to prove for question 1).

3. (25 points) Let u and v be strings with |u| = |v|. We define weave(u, v) as shown below:

$$weave(\epsilon, \epsilon) = \epsilon$$
  
$$weave(x \cdot a, y \cdot b) = weave(x, y) \cdot a \cdot b$$

For example, weave(cat, dog) = cdaotg and weave(srn, tig) = string. For any language A, let

 $half(A) = \{u \mid \exists v \in \Sigma^{|u|}. weave(u, v) \in A\}$ 

Prove that if A is regular, then half(A) is regular as well.

4. (10 points) (from Sipser 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 that the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  in all parts.

- (a) a\*b\*.
- (b) a\*(*ba*)\*b\*.
- (c)  $a^* \cup b^*$ .
- (d) (aaa)\*.
- (h)  $(a \cup ba \cup bb)\Sigma^*$ .

## 5. (15 points) (from Sipser 1.22).

In certain programming languages, comments appear between delimiters such as /# and /#. (We're using /# instead of /\* as for comments in C to avoid confusion of the character \* with the regular expression operator, \*.) Let C be the language of all valid delimited comment strings. A member of C must begin with /# and end with #/ but have no intervening #/. For simplicity, we'll say that comments themselves are written with only the symbols a, b; hence the alphabet of C is  $\Sigma = \{a, b, /, \#\}$ .

- (a) Give a DFA that recognized C.
- (b) Give a regular expression that generates C.

Note: As described by Sipser, the text of the comment cannot contain the symbols / or #. Thus, / #abbabaab#/ is a valid comment but / #ab/babb#ba##/ is not a valid comment. You may make this assumption in your solution – it makes the solution easier.