

Eksamensopgaver i DM17, Januar 2002

Problem No. 1 (20 points)

Find a regular expression representing the following languages:

- a) $L := \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ has an odd number of occurrences of } a\}$.
- b) $L := \{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid |w| \geq 3 \text{ and the third symbol from the right is the letter } b\}$.

Consider the regular language L over $\{0, 1\}$ which is represented by the regular expression $(0 \cup 1)^*0$.

- c) Draw the state diagram of a nondeterministic finite automaton which precisely accepts L . The automaton should **not** be a deterministic one.
- d) Draw the state diagram of a deterministic finite automaton which precisely accepts L .

Problem No. 2 (10 points)

Let Σ be a finite alphabet and let $L \subseteq \Sigma^+$ be a regular language. Define a new language \tilde{L} as the language of all words $w \in \Sigma^*$ such that w is obtained from a word in L by deleting its first letter.

Is the language \tilde{L} regular as well? Prove your answer.

Problem No. 3 (20 points)

Let the language $L \subset \{0, 1\}^*$ be defined as

$$L := \{01^j \mid j \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that there is a } k \in \mathbb{N} \text{ with } j = k! \} .$$

For example, the words 01 , 011 , 0111111 etc. are in L .

We want to prove that L is not regular.

- a) Show that using the Pumping Lemma the question whether L is not regular can be reduced to the following problem:

for any two natural numbers $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ **not all** the numbers of the form

$$a + n \cdot b , n \in \mathbb{N}$$

are factorials of a natural number.

- b) Prove that a) is true, i.e. given any two natural numbers $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$ show that there is a choice for $n \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $a + n \cdot b$ is not of the form $k!$, no matter how we choose $k \in \mathbb{N}$.

Problem No. 4 (20 points)

a) Consider the context-free grammar $G = (V, \Sigma, S, R)$, given by $V := \{S, A, B, a, b\}$, $\Sigma := \{a, b\}$ and

$$\begin{aligned} R := \{ & S \rightarrow AB, S \rightarrow Ba, \\ & A \rightarrow a, A \rightarrow abAS, A \rightarrow bAa, \\ & B \rightarrow b, B \rightarrow bSS, B \rightarrow aSBB \} \end{aligned}$$

Prove that all words in $L(G)$ contain the same number of occurrences of the letters a and b .

b) Consider the context-free language

$$L := \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n} \mid n \geq 1\}$$

over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$.

Write down a Pushdown automaton M which precisely accepts L . This includes the definition of a transition table. Explain the way your PDA works.

Hint for b): To simplify the task your PDA is allowed to write in a single step several symbols onto the stack (but it can read only one at a time).

Problem No. 5 (15 points)

A function $f : \{a, b\}^+ \rightarrow \{a, b\}^+$ is given as follows: For input $x \in \{a, b\}^+$ we define $f(x)$ as the word which is obtained by replacing every occurrence of the substring ab in x by the string aa .

For example:

$$\begin{aligned} f(aab) &= aaa \\ f(abbabb) &= aabaab \\ &\vdots \end{aligned}$$

Give the full description of a Turing machine which for every input $x \in \{a, b\}^+$ replaces x by $f(x)$ and stops (in a final state) on the right-most symbol of $f(x)$.

Explain your solution, i.e. explain the way your machine works.

Problem No. 6 (15 points)

Let Σ be a fixed finite alphabet with $|\Sigma| \geq 2$.

For each of the following problems over Σ find out, whether they are decidable or not. You have to argue precisely, why your answer is correct.

a) **INPUT:** the encoding of a Turing machine M

QUESTION: does M accept at least one word of length 1?

b) **INPUT:** the encoding of a Turing machine M

QUESTION: does M have a transition rule whose application does not change the state?

c) **INPUT:** the encoding of a Turing machine M

QUESTION: is the language accepted by M the complement of the halting problem, i.e. does $L(M) = \overline{HALT}$ hold?