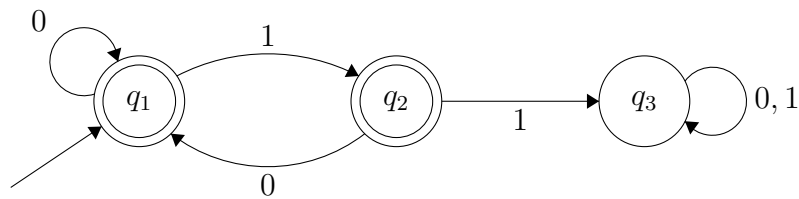


CSC 341 - Fall 2022

Problem Set 2 Solutions

Problem 1. Consider the DFA $D = (Q, \mathbb{Z}_2, \delta, q_0, F)$ given below.



a) For each of the following, fill in the blank (you may draw a table for δ):

- $Q =$
- $\delta =$
- $q_0 =$
- $F =$

b) What language $L(D)$ does D accept?

c) Prove that $L(D)$ is the set you specified in part (b).

Solution 1.

- a)
- $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
 - $q_0 = q_1$
 - $F = \{q_1, q_2\}$

$\delta(q, a)$	0	1
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_1	q_3
q_3	q_3	q_3

b) $L(D) = \{\omega \in \{0, 1\}^* \mid \omega \text{ has no consecutive 1's}\}$

c) Let A be the language defined in part b.

Define the statement $S(n) := \text{“}\forall \omega \in \mathbb{Z}_2^* \text{ such that } |\omega| = n \text{ and } \omega \text{ does not contain consecutive 1's,}$

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega) = \begin{cases} q_1 & \omega \text{ does not end in a 1} \\ q_2 & \omega \text{ ends in a 1.} \end{cases}$$

Clearly $S(n)$ covers all strings in A of length n for each n . Moreover, both q_1 and q_2 are accepting states. It thus suffices to demonstrate via induction that $P(n)$ is true for all $n \geq 0$ to show $A \subseteq L(D)$.

When $n = 0$, Clearly, D accepts ϵ and $\delta^*(q_1, \epsilon) = q_1$ as desired.

Now assume that $S(n)$ is true for some $n \geq 0$. Let $\omega a \in \mathbb{Z}_2^*$ such that $a \in \mathbb{Z}_2$, $|\omega a| = n + 1$, and ωa does not contain consecutive 1's.

Since ωa does not contain consecutive 1's, it follows that ω also does not. Moreover, $|\omega| = |\omega a| - 1 = n + 1 - 1 = n$, so we have two cases.

Case ω ends in a 1: In this case, since ωa does not have consecutive 1's, it follows that a must be 0 and $\delta^*(q_1, \omega) = q_2$. But then,

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega a) = \delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega), a) = \delta(q_2, 0) = q_1.$$

Since ωa does not end in a 1, this is precisely what we wanted.

Case ω ends in a 0: In this case, a may be either 0 or 1. By assumption, $\delta^*(q_1, \omega) = q_1$. When $a = 0$, we get $\delta^*(q_1, \omega a) = \delta(q_1, 0) = q_1$ as desired. When $a = 1$, we get $\delta^*(q_1, \omega a) = \delta(q_1, 1) = q_2$ as desired.

We have thus shown that $S(n)$ is true for all n .

It remains to show that $L(D) \subseteq A$. This direction is somewhat trivial.

Suppose $\omega \notin A$. Then there exists i such that $\omega_i = \omega_{i+1} = 1$. There are three cases.

Case $\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]) = q_1$: Then

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i + 1]) = \delta(\delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]), 1), 1) = \delta(\delta(q_1), 1), 1) = q_3.$$

Case $\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]) = q_2$: Then

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i]) = \delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]), 1) = \delta(q_2, 1) = q_3.$$

Case $\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]) = q_3$: Then $\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i - 1]) = q_3$.

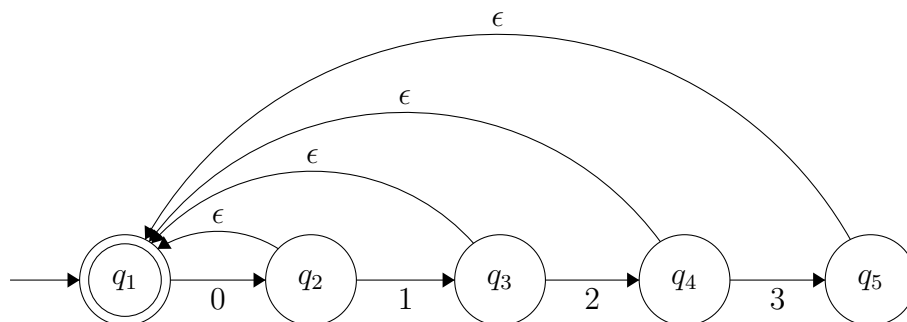
In each case, we enter state q_3 during D 's computation. Since q_3 is a nonaccepting absorbing state, it follows that D does not accept ω , hence $\omega \notin L(D)$. \square

Consider a less verbose alternative proof. Let A be the language defined in part b.

Suppose $\omega \in L(D)$. Then there exists a sequence of states $p_0 p_1 \dots p_{|\omega|}$ such that $p_0 = q_1$, $p_{|\omega|} \in F$, and for each $0 \leq i < |\omega|$, $\delta(p_i, \omega_i) = p_{i+1}$. Since q_3 is a nonaccepting absorbing state, it follows that each $p_i \neq q_3$. As such, each $p_i = q_1$ or q_2 . But there is no walk through q_1, q_2 that permits consecutive 1's! Thus $\omega \in A$.

Now suppose $\omega \in A$. The only way to escape F in D is to transition from q_2 to q_3 via a 1. But the only way to be in state q_2 is to transition from q_1 to it via a 1. Hence the only way to reach a nonaccepting state is via two consecutive 1's. Since ω has no consecutive 1's, it follows that D accepts ω . Thus $\omega \in L(D)$. \square

Problem 2. Consider the NFA $N = (Q, \mathbb{Z}_4, \delta, q_0, F)$ given below.



a) For each of the following, fill in the blank (you may draw a table for δ):

- $Q =$
- $\delta =$
- $q_0 =$
- $F =$

b) What language $L(N)$ does N accept?

c) Prove that $L(N)$ is the set you specified in part (b).

Solution 2.

- a)
- $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4, q_5\}$
 - $q_0 = q_1$
 - $F = \{q_1\}$

Let \perp denote a transition that leads to a nonaccepting absorbing state (i.e. it causes N to halt and reject its input).

$\delta(q, a)$	ϵ	0	1	2	3
q_1	$\{q_1\}$	$\{q_2\}$	\perp	\perp	\perp
q_2	$\{q_1, q_2\}$	\perp	$\{q_3\}$	\perp	\perp
q_3	$\{q_1, q_3\}$	\perp	\perp	$\{q_4\}$	\perp
q_4	$\{q_1, q_4\}$	\perp	\perp	\perp	$\{q_5\}$
q_5	$\{q_1, q_5\}$	\perp	\perp	\perp	\perp

b) $L(D) = (0|01|012|0123)^*$

c) Let A be the language defined in part b. First note that clearly $\epsilon \in A$ and $\epsilon \in L(N)$, so we'll exclude ϵ from consideration going forward.

We first show $A \subseteq L(N)$. Let A_n be the set of all strings in A with length $n > 0$. Define for $n > 0$ the statement $S(n) := \forall \omega \in A_n$ ending in $a \in \mathbb{Z}_4$, $\delta^*(q_1, \omega) = \{q_1, q_{a+2}\}$. It suffices to show that $S(n)$ is true for all $n > 0$ via induction.

When $n = 1$, the only string in A_1 is 0. In this case, $\delta^*(q_1, 0) = \{q_1, q_2\}$ as desired.

Now suppose $S(n)$ is true for some $n > 0$. Let $\omega a \in A_{n+1}$ with $a \in \mathbb{Z}_4$.

Since $n > 0$, $|\omega| > 0$. Let $a' \in \mathbb{Z}_4$ be the last symbol of ω . By assumption, $\delta^*(q_1, \omega) = \{q_1, q_{a'+2}\}$. We note that a has two possible values: $a = 0$ or (if $a' < 3$) $a = a' + 1$.

Case $a = 0$: By inspection,

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega a) = \delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega), 0) = \delta(\{q_1, q_{a'+2}\}, 0) = \{q_1, q_2\} = \{q_1, q_{a+2}\}.$$

Case $a' < 3$ and $a = a' + 1$: It then follows that

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega a) = \delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega), a) = \delta(\{q_1, q_{a'+2}\}, a) = \delta(\{q_1, q_{a+1}\}, a) = \{q_1, q_{a+2}\}.$$

In either case, $q_1 \in \delta^*(q_1, \omega a)$, so $\omega a \in L(N)$.

It remains to show that $L(D) \subseteq A$. This direction is somewhat trivial.

Suppose $\omega \notin A$. Then there are two possible cases. We can have $\omega = 1, 2$, or 3 . N does not accept any of these strings, so $\omega \notin L(N)$.

Otherwise, there exists a least i (by the well-ordering principle) such that $\omega_{i+1} \neq 0$ and $\omega_{i+1} \neq \omega_i + 1$. Since this is the least i , it follows that $\omega[1 \dots i] \in A$. We proved already that $\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i]) = \{q_1, q_{\omega_i+2}\}$. But then since $\omega_{i+1} \neq 0$ and $\omega_{i+1} \neq \omega_i + 1$,

$$\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i + 1]) = \delta(\delta^*(q_1, \omega[1 \dots i]), \omega_{i+1}) = \delta(\{q_1, q_{\omega_i+2}\}, \omega_{i+1}) = \emptyset.$$

Thus $\omega \notin L(N)$. □

Consider a less verbose alternative proof. Let A be the language defined in part b.

Suppose $\omega \in L(N)$. If $\omega = \epsilon$, then $\omega \in A$ and we're done, so assume $\omega \neq \epsilon$. Then since q_1 is the only accepting state, it follows that there is a sequence of cycles c_1, c_2, \dots, c_n in Q such that the following all hold.

- $c_i = p_{i,0} \dots p_{i,|c_i|}$, $|c_i| \geq 2$, and $p_{i,0} = p_{i,|c_i|} = q_1$.
- We transition through c_i via the input string $\omega_i = 0 \dots (|c_i| - 1)\epsilon$.
- $\omega = \omega_1 \dots \omega_n$

But since ω_i must be 0, 01, 012, or 0123, $\omega_i \in 0|01|012|0123$. ω , however, consists of any finite number of concatenations of these ω_i 's, so $\omega \in (0|01|012|0123)^*$. Thus $\omega \in A$.

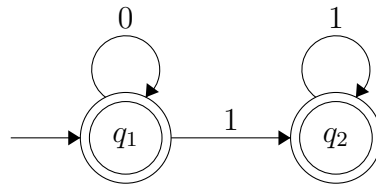
Now suppose $\omega \in A$. If $\omega = \epsilon$, then $\omega \in L(N)$ and we're done, so assume $\omega \neq \epsilon$. Since $A = (0|01|012|0123)^*$, we can rewrite ω as ω' ($\omega = \omega'$) by inserting an ϵ wherever $\omega_i \geq \omega_{i+1}$ and appending an ϵ to the end. Each substring of ω' from the symbol immediately after an ϵ to the next ϵ (possibly the same symbol) clearly denotes a cycle through N starting from q_1 . However, all of these cycles together represents all of ω' , and since each cycle ends on q_1 , it follows that N must accept ω' and hence ω . Thus $\omega \in L(N)$. □

Problem 3. For each of the following languages, give a DFA that accepts it. Unless otherwise specified, you may assume $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

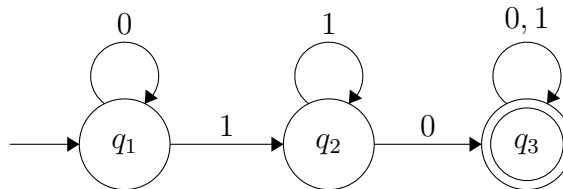
- a) $L_1 = \{\omega \in \Sigma^* \mid \omega \text{ is of the form } 0^*1^*\}$
- b) $L_2 = \overline{L_1}$
- c) $L_3 = \{\omega \in \Sigma^* \mid \text{every even bit of } \omega \text{ is a } 0\}$
- d) $L_4 = \{\omega \in \Sigma^* \mid \omega \text{ has even length if it starts with } 0 \text{ and has odd length if it starts with } 1\}$
- e) $L_5 = \{\omega \in \Sigma^* \mid \omega \text{ is any string except } 0 \text{ or } 1\}$
- f) $L_6 = 0^*1(0^*10^*1)^*$

Solution 3.

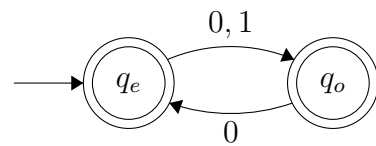
a)



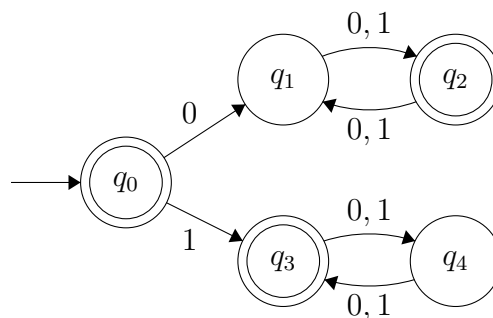
b)



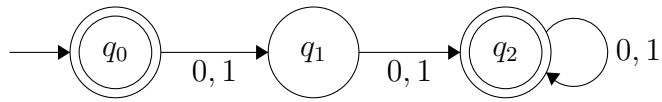
c)



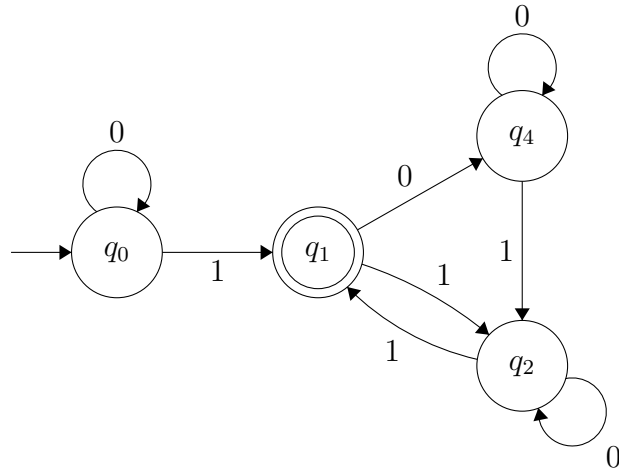
d)



e)



f)

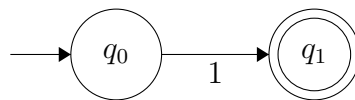


Problem 4. For each of the following languages, give an NFA that accepts it subject to (if any) the provided state restriction. Unless otherwise specified, you may assume $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

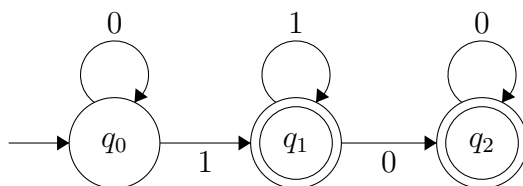
- a) With at most 2 states, $L_7 = \{1\}$
- b) With at most 3 states, $L_8 = 0^*1^+0^*$
- c) With at most 3 states, $L_9 = 1^*(001^+)^*$
- d) $L_{10} = \{x1^*y \mid x, y \in \Sigma^*\}$
- e) $L_{11} = \{\omega \in \mathbb{Z}_4^* \mid \omega \text{ contains at most one of each } a \in \mathbb{Z}_4\}$
- f) Using as few states as possible, $L_{12} = \{\omega^* \mid \omega \in \mathbb{Z}_4^* \text{ and } \omega \text{ contains at most one of each } a \in \mathbb{Z}_4\}$

Solution 4.

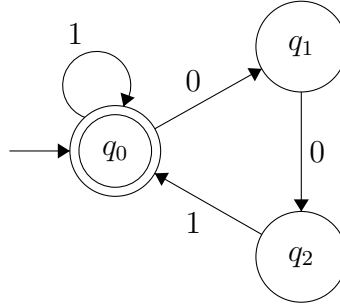
a)



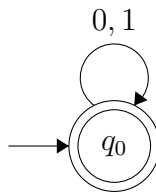
b)



c)



d)



- e) Create an accepting state q_S for each subset S of \mathbb{Z}_4 . Let $S, T \in \mathcal{P}(\mathbb{Z}_4)$ such that $S \subset T$ and $|S| + 1 = |T|$. Let $a \in \mathbb{Z}_4$ be the unique element of T not in S . Add a transition from q_S to q_T via a . Let the start state be q_\emptyset .
- f) Create a state q_g for each *ordered* tuple $g \in A = \{()\} \cup \mathbb{Z}_4 \cup \mathbb{Z}_4^2 \cup \mathbb{Z}_4^3 \cup \mathbb{Z}_4^4$ such that each component of g is distinct. Let the start state be $q_()$. Make the start state an accepting state. Let $g, h \in A$ such that if g is an n -tuple, then h is an $(n + 1)$ -tuple and $g_i = h_i$ for every valid index i . Let a be the last component of h . Add a transition from q_g to q_h via a .

For each state q_g other than q_\emptyset , we add an epsilon transition to a sub-NFA N_g which we describe below. Write the components of g in order as a string ω_g . N_g starts in an accepting state and has the self loop with transition ω_g . This is a GNFA transition, of course, but it is easy to unwind it into a sequence of $|\omega_g|$ states for an NFA.

Problem 5.

- Prove that every NFA can be converted into an NFA with a single accept state.
- Prove that every DFA can be converted into a DFA with a single accept state.

Solution 5.

- a) Let $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be an NFA. We construct a new NFA $N' = (Q \cup \{q_a\}, \Sigma, \delta', q_0, \{q_a\})$, where δ' on inputs $q \in Q \cup \{q_a\}$ and $c \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ is

$$\delta'(q, c) = \begin{cases} \delta(q, c) & q \in Q \wedge c \neq \epsilon \\ \delta(q, c) \cup \{q_a\} & q \in Q \wedge c = \epsilon \end{cases}$$

It remains to show that $L(N) = L(N')$.

Let $\omega \in L(N)$. Then $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) \subseteq \delta'^*(q_0, \omega)$ by construction. Moreover, $\exists q \in F$ such that $q \in \delta^*(q_0, \omega)$, hence $q \in \delta'^*(q_0, \omega)$. But $q_a \in \delta'(q, \epsilon)$, so $q_a \in \delta'^*(q_0, \omega)$. Thus N' accepts ω and $\omega \in L(N')$.

Now let $\omega \in L(N')$. The only way to reach the unique accepting state q_a for N' to accept is via an ϵ transition from a state $q \in F$. Further, since we cannot leave q_a , it follows from the construction of δ' that $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) = \delta'^*(q_0, \omega) \setminus \{q_a\}$. Therefore $q \in \delta^*(q_0, \omega)$, so N accepts ω and $\omega \in L(N)$. \square

b) This cannot be done. Below is a counterexample on the unary alphabet.

