Problem 1. Prove using a finite automaton definition of regularity that if a language $L$ is regular, then its complement $\overline{L}$ is regular.

Solution 1. Let $L$ be regular. Then there is a DFA $D = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ such that $L(D) = L$.

Construct a new DFA $\overline{D} = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, \overline{F})$. Then if $\omega \in L(D)$, by definition, this means $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) \in F$. In other words, $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) \notin \overline{F}$, so $\omega \notin L(\overline{D})$. Moreover, if $\omega \notin L(D)$, by definition, $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) \notin F$. Thus $\delta^*(q_0, \omega) \in \overline{F}$, so $\omega \in L(\overline{D})$.

But then $\omega \in L(D) \iff \omega \notin L(\overline{D})$, so $L(\overline{D}) = \overline{L}$. Thus $\overline{L}$ is regular. \hfill $\square$

Problem 2. Prove using the Myhill-Nerode Theorem that if a language $L$ is regular, then $\overline{L}$ is regular.

Solution 2. Let $L$ be regular. Then by Myhill-Nerode, there is a finite number of equivalence classes of $\equiv_L$. But then those equivalence classes must be the same equivalence classes for $\equiv_{\overline{L}}$. Thus $\equiv_{\overline{L}}$ has a finite number of equivalence classes, so $\overline{L}$ must also be regular. \hfill $\square$

Problem 3. Prove or disprove using the Pumping Lemma or the Myhill-Nerode Theorem that the following language is regular.

Solution 3. We will use the Pumping Lemma to show $A$ is not regular. First, assume that $A$ is regular. Then by the Pumping Lemma, there is a pumping length $p > 0$ for $A$.

Pick $\omega = 0^p$. Let $x = 0^i$, $y = 0^b$ and $z = 0^{p-a-b}$. Then the Pumping Lemma, it follows that for every $i \geq 0$, $0^{p+a(i-1)} \in A$. In other words, for each such $i$, $p + a(i - 1)$ is prime. This is clearly not the case since the difference between primes is not bounded by $a$. As such, there must eventually be an $i$ such that $p + a(i - 1)$ is not prime.

Thus $A$ is not regular. \hfill $\square$

Problem 4. Prove or disprove using the Pumping Lemma or the Myhill-Nerode Theorem that the following language is regular.

Solution 4. We prove via the Myhill-Nerode theorem that $A$ is irregular.

Consider the string $x_i = 0^i$ for some $i \geq 1$. If we pick $i' > i$ then $x_{i'} \notin A$. To see why, consider the string $y_i = 1^i$. Clearly, $x_iy_i \notin A$ but $x_{i'}y_i \in A$, so $y_i$ is a distinguishing extension of $x_i$ and $x_{i'}$, thus $x_i$ and $x_{i'}$ lie in distinct equivalence classes. Since $i$ and $i'$ were arbitrary, there are an infinite number of equivalence classes with respect to $\equiv_A$, hence $A$ is irregular. \hfill $\square$
Problem 5. Prove or disprove using the Pumping Lemma or the Myhill-Nerode Theorem that the following language is regular.

\[ C = \{ \omega \in \Sigma^* \mid |\omega| \equiv 0 \pmod{777} \} \]

You may assume that \( \Sigma = \{0, 1\} \).

Solution 5. We will use the Myhill-Nerode Theorem to show that \( C \) is regular. In this case, there are 777 equivalence classes, but it suffices to show that there are at most this many equivalence classes.

Let \( [\omega_i] \) for \( 0 \leq i < 777 \) denote the set of all strings \( \omega \) satisfying \( |\omega| \equiv i \pmod{777} \).

Then for any \( i \), pick \( x, y \in [\omega_i] \). Let \( z \) be any extension string. Then \( xz \in C \) if and only if \( |xz| \equiv 0 \pmod{777} \). But \( |x| = |y| \), so this is true if and only if \( |yz| \equiv 0 \pmod{777} \). That in turn is true if and only if \( yz \in C \). Hence \( x \equiv_C y \).

Since \( i \) was arbitrary, this is true of each of these sets. This means that \( \equiv_C \) has at most 777 equivalence classes, thus \( \equiv_C \) has at most a finite number of equivalence classes. Therefore \( C \) is regular.