

Note: Whenever binary set operators are used on regular expressions they will be defined for the purposes of these problems as acting on the corresponding regular languages, e.g. for regular expressions t and u , $t \subseteq u$ whenever the regular language corresponding to t is a subset of the regular language corresponding to u .

2.59) Define the function $rev(x) = x^r$ such that

1) $\Lambda^r = \Lambda$, and

2) $(xa)^r = ax^r$ for any $x \in \Sigma^*$ and any $a \in \Sigma$.

Prove the following facts about $rev : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$.

a) $[(xy)^r = y^r x^r \text{ for any strings } x, y \in \Sigma^*]$

Proof. We proceed by induction on the length of y . The base case, $|y| = 0$: $(xy)^r = (x\Lambda)^r = x^r = \Lambda^r x^r = y^r x^r$. Hence, it suffices to show that for any $n \geq 0$, if $(xy)^r = y^r x^r$ for any strings $x, y \in \Sigma^*$ such that $|y| = n$, then $(wz)^r = z^r w^r$ for any strings $w, z \in \Sigma^*$ such that $|z| = n + 1$. Let $z \in \Sigma^*$ such that $|z| = n + 1$. Without loss of generality we may assume that $z = ay$ where $a \in \Sigma$, $y \in \Sigma^*$, and $|y| = n$. Then $(wz)^r = (way)^r = y^r (wa)^r = y^r aw^r = (ay)^r w^r = z^r w^r$. \square

b) $[(x^r)^r = x \text{ for any string } x \in \Sigma^*]$

Proof. By induction on the length of x . The base case $|x| = 0$ is covered by (1) in the definition of rev . Hence, it suffices to show that for any $n \geq 0$, if $(x^r)^r = x$ for any string $x \in \Sigma^*$ such that $|x| = n$, then $(z^r)^r = z$ for any string $z \in \Sigma^*$ such that $|z| = n + 1$. Without loss of generality we may assume that $z = ax$ where $a \in \Sigma$, $x \in \Sigma^*$, and $|x| = n$. Then, using the results from part (a), $(z^r)^r = ((ax)^r)^r = (x^r a)^r = a(x^r)^r = ax = z$. \square

c) $[(x^n)^r = (x^r)^n \text{ for any string } x \in \Sigma^* \text{ and any } n \geq 0]$

Proof. By induction on n . The base case, $n = 0$: $(x^n)^r = (x^0)^r = (\Lambda)^r = \Lambda = (x^r)^0 = (x^r)^n$. Hence, it suffices to show that $(x^n)^r = (x^r)^n$ for any string $x \in \Sigma^*$ assuming that $(x^{n-1})^r = (x^r)^{n-1}$. Then, using the result from part (a), $(x^n)^r = (x^{n-1}x)^r = (x^r)^{n-1}x^r = (x^r)^{n-1}x^r = (x^r)^n$. \square

3.4) Show that $(111^*)^* = (11 + 111)^*$.

Proof. Assume that $\Sigma = \{1\}$. Since $\Lambda \in (111^*)^* \cap (11 + 111)^*$, it suffices to show that $1^n \in (11 + 111)^*$ and $1^n \in (111^*)^*$ whenever $n \geq 2$.

[$1^n \in (111^*)^*$ whenever $n \geq 2$]: $1^n \in 111^* \subseteq (111^*)^*$ whenever $n \geq 2$.

[$1^n \in (11 + 111)^*$ whenever $n \geq 2$]: If n is even, then $1^n \in (11)^* \subseteq (11 + 111)^*$. If $n \geq 2$ is odd, then $n - 3 \geq 0$ is even and $1^3 = 111 \in (11 + 111)^*$, hence $1^{n-3}, 1^3 \in (11 + 111)^*$. But Kleene star is closed under concatenation, i.e. $t^* \supseteq uv$ whenever $t^* \supseteq u$ and $t^* \supseteq v$, so that $1^n = 1^{n-3}1^3 \in (11 + 111)^*$. \square

3.7) Describe the smallest set of languages that contain the basic languages, $\emptyset, \{\Lambda\}$, and $\{a\}$ (for every $a \in \Sigma$), and is closed under the following operations.

a) union: The set of all finite languages consisting of elements of Σ , i.e. strings consisting of a single element Σ .

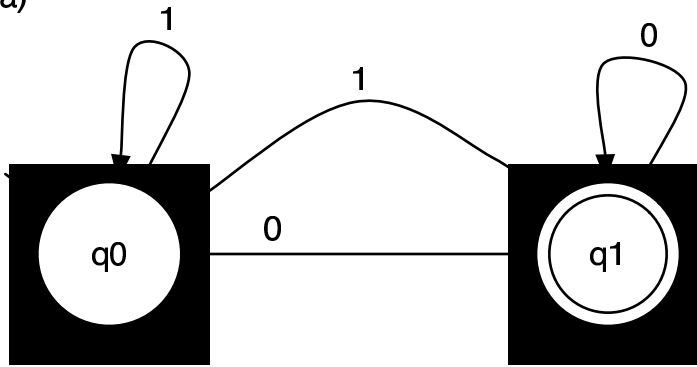
b) concatenation: The set of all languages containing a single finite length string composed of elements of Σ .

d) union and concatenation: The set of all finite languages.

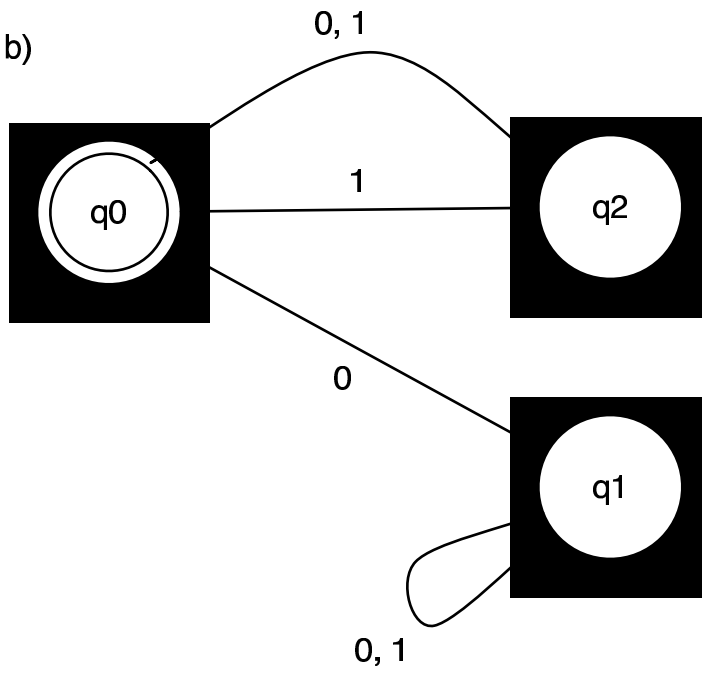
3.20)

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a)

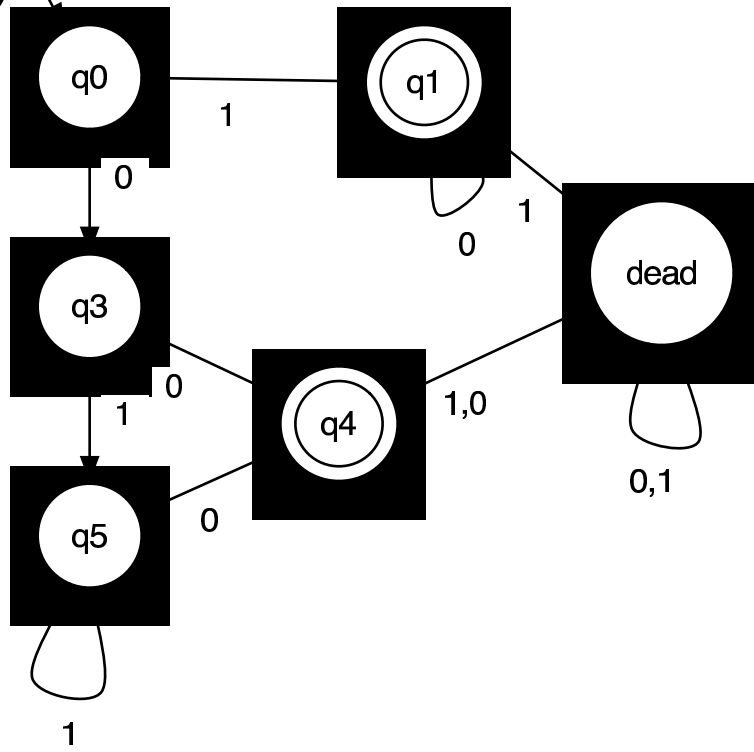


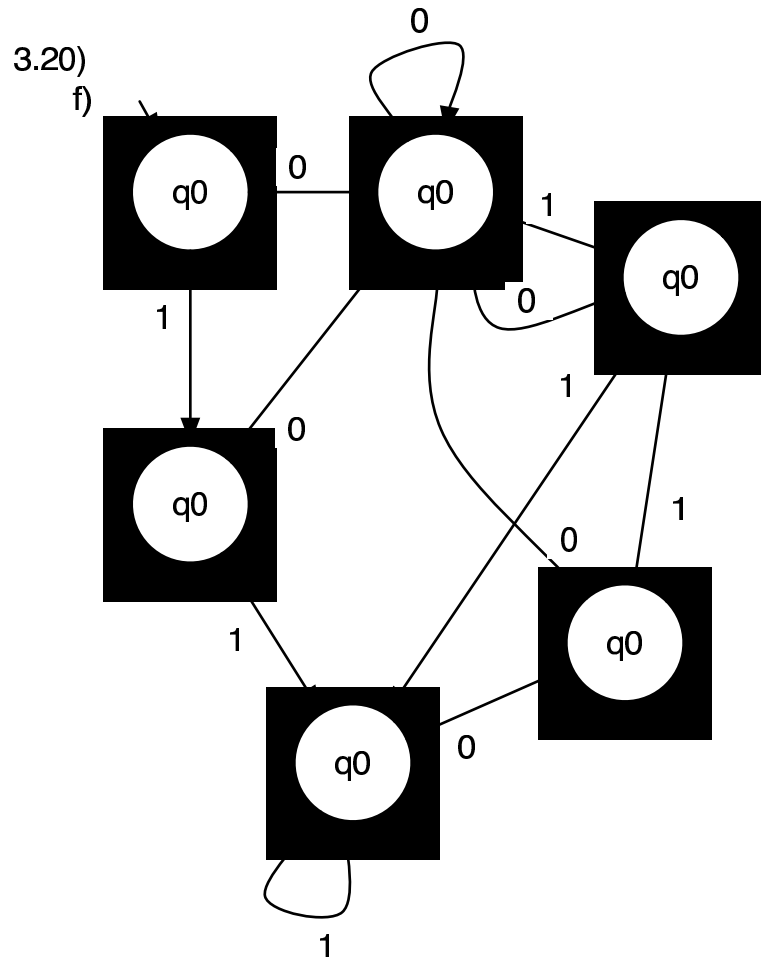
b)



3.20)

e)





3.23) If two FA 's are said to be equivalent if they accept the same language, then for every FA , there exists another equivalent FA with more states. Explain why this is true.

We can always add an unreachable state. More precisely, let $\{Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta\}$ be an arbitrary FA , let $q \notin Q$ be a *new* state, and define $\delta(q, a) = q$ for every $a \in \Sigma$. Then $\{Q \cup \{q\}, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta\}$ is equivalent to $\{Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta\}$, but with one more state.

3.34) Let r and s be regular expressions over Σ . Prove that $(r^*s^*)^* = (r+s)^*$.

Proof. It suffices to show that $(r^*s^*)^* \subseteq (r+s)^*$ and $(r^*s^*)^* \supseteq (r+s)^*$.

$[(r^*s^*)^* \supseteq (r+s)^*]$: $r^*s^* \supseteq r^*\Lambda \supseteq r$ and $r^*s^* \supseteq \Lambda s^* \supseteq s$ which implies that $r^*s^* \supseteq r+s$. But, by the definition of the Kleene star $t^* \supseteq u^*$ whenever $t \supseteq u$, so that $(r^*s^*)^* \supseteq (r+s)^*$.

$[(r^*s^*)^* \subseteq (r+s)^*]$: We proceed by induction.

Base cases: $(r+s)^* \supseteq \Lambda = (r^*s^*)^0$. Additionally $(r+s)^* \supseteq r^*$ and $(r+s)^* \supseteq s^*$. But Kleene star is closed under concatenation, i.e. $t^* \supseteq uv$ whenever $t^* \supseteq u$ and $t^* \supseteq v$, so that $(r+s)^* \supseteq r^*s^* = (r^*s^*)^1$.

Hence, it suffices to show that for any $i \geq 1$, $(r^*s^*)^* \subseteq (r+s)^{i+1}$ whenever $(r^*s^*)^* \subseteq (r+s)^i$. But, since Kleene star is closed under concatenation, $(r^*s^*)^* \subseteq (r+s)^i(r+s)^1 = (r+s)^{i+1}$. \square