

Regular expressions, Finite Automata, transition graphs are all the same!!





Method of proof Let A,B,C be sets such that A⊆B, B⊆C, C⊆A. Then A=B=C.

<u>Remark:</u> Regular expressions, finite automata, and transition graphs each define a set of languages.





Kleene's Theorem

Any language that can be defined by a regular expression, or finite automaton, or transition graph can be defined by all three methods.





<u>Proof of Kleen's theorem</u>: It is enough to prove each of the lemmas below.

Lemma 1: Every language that can be defined by a finite automaton can also be defined by a transition graph.

Lemma 2: Every language that can be defined by a transition graph can also be defined by a regular expression.

Lemma 3: Every language that can be defined by a regular expression can also be defined by a finite automaton. $FA \subset TG \subset RE \subset FA$





Lemma 1: Every language that can be defined by a finite automaton can also be defined by a transition graph.
 Proof: By definition, every finite automaton is a transition graph.

Lemma 2: Every language that can be defined by a transition graph can also be defined by a regular expression. Proof: By constructive algorithm, that works

- 1. for every transition graph
- 2. in a finite number of steps





1st step: transform to a transition graph with a single start state.













3a. Combine edges that have the same starting and ending state.







3b. Eliminate states one by one:bypass and state elimination operation



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bypass state 2,

paths through state 2: $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4$, $1 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 5$, $3 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 4$, $3 \rightarrow 2 \rightarrow 5$







Even with many paths through state 2, always an equivalent GTG.



















3a. Combine edges















Example 3







Transition Graph \rightarrow Regular Expression

- Algorithm (and proof)
- 1. Add (if necessary) a unique start state without incoming edges and a unique final state without outgoing edges.

For each state that is not a start state or a final state, repeat steps 2 and 3.

- 2. Do a bypass and state elimination operation.
- 3. Combine edges that have the same starting and ending state.
- 4. Combine the edges between the start state and the final state. The label on the only remaining edge is the regular expression result. If there is none, the regular expression is ϕ .





Lemma 3: Every language that can be defined by a regular expression can also be defined by a finite automaton.

<u>Proof:</u> By constructive algorithm starting from the recursive definition of regular expressions.





- Remember: Given an alphabet Σ, the set of regular expressions is defined by the following rules.
 - 1. For every letter in Σ , the letter written in bold is a regular expression. Λ is a regular expression.
 - 2. If $\mathbf{r_1}$ and $\mathbf{r_2}$ are regular expressions, so is $\mathbf{r_1} + \mathbf{r_2}$.
 - 3. If $\mathbf{r_1}$ and $\mathbf{r_2}$ are regular expressions, so is $\mathbf{r_1}\mathbf{r_2}$.
 - 4. If \mathbf{r}_1 is a regular expression, so is \mathbf{r}_1^* .
 - 5. Nothing else is a regular expression.





Build a finite automaton that accepts the language: (**a**+**b**)*(**a**+**b**)(**a**+**b**)* <u>Rule:</u>

1.	The letter a	1
2.	The letter b	1
3.	The word aa (using 1)	3
4.	The word bb (using 2)	3
5.	The expression aa+bb (using 3 and 4)	2
6.	The expression a + b (using 1 and 2)	2
7.	The expression $(a+b)^*$ (using 6)	4
8.	The expression (a+b)*(aa+bb) (using 7 and 5)	3
9.	The expression (a+b)*(aa+bb)(a+b)* (using 8 and 7)	3















Example 2.



(words ending in a)

(words ending in b)

	a	b
-x ₁	x ₂	x ₁
+x ₂	x ₂	x ₁

	a	b
-y ₁	y ₁	y ₂
+y ₂	y ₁	y ₂

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Lemma 3: Every language that can be defined by a regular expression can also be defined by a finite automaton.

<u>Proof:</u> By constructive algorithm starting from the recursive definition of regular expressions

- 1. There is an FA that accepts only the empty word (Λ) and an FA that accepts only a single letter.
- 2. If there is an FA that accepts the language defined by \mathbf{r}_1 and an FA that accepts the language defined by \mathbf{r}_2 , then there is an FA that accepts the language $\mathbf{r}_1 + \mathbf{r}_2$.
- 3. If there is an FA that accepts the language defined by \mathbf{r}_1 and an FA that accepts the language defined by \mathbf{r}_2 , then there is an FA that accepts the language defined by their concatenation $\mathbf{r}_1\mathbf{r}_2$.
- 4. If there is an FA that accepts the language defined by **r** then there is an FA that accepts the language defined by **r***.

Thus for every regular expression, we can construct a FA.

Algorithm 1: $r_1 + r_2$

Input:

FA 1: alphabet: Σ states: x_1, x_2, x_3, \ldots start state: x_1

FA 2: alphabet: Σ states: $y_1, y_2, y_3,...$ start state: y_1 plus final states and transitions

The new FA:

alphabet: Σ states: $z_1, z_2, z_3, ...$ start state: x_1 or y_1 transitions: if $z_i = x_j$ or y_k and $x_j \rightarrow x_{new}$ and $y_k \rightarrow y_{new}$ (for input p) then $z_{new} = (x_{new} \text{ or } y_{new})$ for input p. If x_{new} or y_{new} is a final state, then z_{new} is a final state.

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Rule 3: r1r2, Example 1

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We start by creating the states z1=x1and z2=x2

(z2,a)= x3 "we continue on AF1" OR y1"we move to AF2, since x3 is a final state in AF1"

$$(z2, a) = x3 \text{ or } y1 = z3$$

$$(z3, a) = x3 \text{ or } y1 = z3$$

 $(z3, b) = x3 \text{ or } y1 \text{ or } y2 = z4 + (z4, a) = x3 \text{ or } y1 = z3$

$$(z4, b)=x3 \text{ or } y1 \text{ or } y2 = z4 +$$

Rule 3: Concatenation: Summary of the Algorithm

- Add a state z for every state of the first automaton that is 1. possible to go through before arriving at a final state.
- For each final state x, add a state $z = (x \text{ or } y_1)$, where y_1 2. is the start state of the second automaton.
- Starting from the states added at step 2, add states: 3. f^{x} (state such that execution continues on 1st automaton) $z = \begin{cases} OR \\ y \text{ (state such that execution moves on 2nd automaton)} \end{cases}$
- 4. Label every state that contains a final state from the second automaton as a final state.

Example 3

r₂: odd number of letters

 $\mathbf{r_1r_2}$: all words except Λ

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r: a* + aa*b

r*: words without double b, and that do not start with b.

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Rule 4: Kleene Star: Algorithm

Given: an FA whose states are $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, ...\}$

- For every subset of states, create a state of the new FA.
 Remove any subset that contains a final state but not the start state.
- Make the transition table for all the new states.
- Add a <u>+</u> state. Connect it to the same states as the original start state was connected to using the same transitions.
- The final states must be those that contain at least one final state from the original FA.

Example 3

Words with an odd number of b's.

 Λ and words with at least one b.

- A nondeterministic finite automaton (NFA) is:
 - a finite set of states, one of which is designated as the start state, and some (maybe none) of which are designated the final states
 - 2. an alphabet Σ of input letters
 - a finite set of transitions that show how to go to a new state, for some pairs of state and letters

<u>Remark:</u> Every finite automaton is a nondeterministic finite automaton. Every nondeterministic finite automaton is a transition graph.

2 Examples of Nondeterministic Finite Automata

<u>Theorem:</u> Every language that can be defined by a nondeterministic finite automaton can also be defined by a deterministic finite automaton.

<u>Proof (1)</u>: Every nondeterministic finite automaton is a transition graph.

By lemma 2: transition graph \rightarrow regular expression

By lemma 3: regular expression \rightarrow finite automaton

Proof (2): By constructive algorithm (See Manuel page 135)

Algorithm: nondeterministic automaton \rightarrow deterministic automaton (FA) Given: a nondeterministic automaton whose states are

 $\{x_1, x_2, x_3, ...\}$

- 1. For every subset of states, create a state of the new FA.
- 2. Make the transition table for all the new states (or just the new states that can be entered).
- Add a state φ. Add transitions that loop back to itself for all letters of the alphabet. For each new state, if there is no transition for letter p, add one that goes to the φ state.
- 4. The final states must be those that contain at least one final state from the original nondeterministic finite automaton.

(x1,a)=x1 (x1 or x2, a)=x1 (x2 or x3,a)=x2 or x3 (x1,b)=x1 or x2 (x1 or x2,b)=x2 or x3 (x2 or x3,b)=x2 or x3

Lemma 3: Every language that can be defined by a regular expression can also be defined by a finite automaton.

<u>Proof:</u> By constructive algorithm starting from the recursive definition of regular expressions, we build a nondeterministic finite automaton. Then, by the most recent theorem, it is possible to then build a finite automaton.

Rule 1: Λ and the letters in Σ

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