

Automata and Formal Languages – Exercise sheet 4

Exercise 4.1

Let $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$. We consider the languages $L_1 = (baa^*)^*b$ and $L_2 = \Sigma^*a\Sigma^2a\Sigma^*$.

- Use the Thompson-construction for finding nondeterministic automata \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 with $L_i = L(\mathcal{A}_i)$.
- Use removal of ε -transitions for constructing equivalent nondeterministic automata \mathcal{B}_1 and \mathcal{B}_2 with labels in Σ .
- Use Brzozowski's minimization algorithm for constructing the minimal automata for L_1 and L_2 .
- Build an automaton \mathcal{D} accepting $L_1 \setminus L_2$ and minimize it.
- Use state elimination for constructing a rational expression for $L_1 \setminus L_2$.

Exercise 4.2

We use binary encoding of nonnegative integers with the least significant bit first.

- Give an automaton accepting the solutions of $3x - 5y > 2$.
- Give an automaton accepting the solutions of the formula $x + 2y \equiv 0 \pmod{7}$.
- Let $a_1, \dots, a_k \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $c \in \mathbb{N}$. Give an algorithm to build the automaton accepting solutions of $\sum_{i=1}^k a_i x_i = c$.
- Use the automata theoretic approach for showing that $\forall x \exists y \exists z: -x + 2y + 3z = 2$ is true for \mathbb{N} .

Exercise 4.3

Show that the true sentences in $\text{FO}[\mathbb{Z}, +]$ are decidable, i.e., for any given first-order sentence φ using atomic formulas of the form $x = n$ for $n \in \mathbb{Z}$ and $x + y = z$, one can decide whether φ is true over the integers \mathbb{Z} . For instance, the sentence $\forall x \exists y \exists z: 3y + 5z = x$ is false over \mathbb{N} but true over \mathbb{Z} .