

Automata and Formal Languages — Homework 7

Due 27.11.2015

Exercise 7.1

We have defined transducers as finite automata whose transitions are labeled by pairs of symbols $(a, b) \in \Sigma \times \Sigma$. With this definition transducers can only accept pairs of words $(a_1 \dots a_n, b_1 \dots b_n)$ of the same length. In many applications this is limiting.

An ε -transducer is an NFA whose transitions are labeled by elements of $(\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}) \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\})$. An ε -transducer accepts a pair (w, w') of words if it has a run

$$q_0 \xrightarrow{(a_1, b_1)} q_1 \xrightarrow{(a_2, b_2)} \dots \xrightarrow{(a_n, b_n)} q_n \text{ with } a_i, b_i \in \Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$$

such that $w = a_1 \dots a_n$ and $w' = b_1 \dots b_n$. Note that $|w| \leq n$ and $|w'| \leq n$. The relation accepted by the ε -transducer T is denoted by $L(T)$.

- (a) Construct ε -transducers T_1, T_2 such that $L(T_1) = \{(a^n b^m, c^{2n}) \mid n, m \geq 0\}$, and $L(T_2) = \{(a^n b^m, c^{2m}) \mid n, m \geq 0\}$.
- (b) Show that no ε -transducer recognizes $L(T_1) \cap L(T_2)$.

Exercise 7.2

Transducers can be used to capture the behaviour of simple programs. The figure below shows a program P , where the instruction **end** finishes the execution of the program and ? denotes a non-deterministic value. The domain of the variables is assumed to be $\{0, 1\}$, and the initial value is assumed to be 0.

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1 x ← ?
2 write x
3 while true do
  repeat
  | read y
4 until y = x ∧ y
5 if x = y then
6 | write y end
7 if ? then x ← x - 1
  else y ← x + y
8 if x ≠ y then
9 | write x end

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Let $[i, x, y]$ denote the configuration of P in which P is at line i of the program, and the values of x and y are x and y , respectively. The initial configuration of P is $[1, 0, 0]$. By executing the first instruction P moves nondeterministically to one of the configurations $[2, 0, 0]$ and $[2, 1, 0]$; no input symbol is read and no output symbol is written. Hence, the transition relation δ for P contains the transition rules $([1, 0, 0], (\varepsilon, \varepsilon), [2, 0, 0])$ and $([1, 0, 0], (\varepsilon, \varepsilon), [2, 1, 0])$. Similarly, by executing its second instruction, the program P moves from $[2, 1, 0]$ to $[3, 1, 0]$ while reading nothing and writing 1. Hence, δ contains $([2, 1, 0], (\varepsilon, 1), [3, 1, 0])$

- (a) Draw an ε -transducer that characterizes the program P
- (b) Can an overflow error occur?
- (c) What are the possible values of x upon termination, i.e. upon reaching **end**?

- (d) Is there an execution during which P reads 101 and writes 01?
- (e) Let I and O be regular sets of inputs and outputs, respectively. Think of O as a set of dangerous outputs that we want to avoid. We wish to prove that the inputs from I are safe, i.e. that when P is fed inputs from I , none of the dangerous outputs can occur. Describe an algorithm that decides, given I and O , whether there are $i \in I$ and $o \in O$ such that (i, o) belongs to the I/O -relation of P .

Exercise 7.3

Let $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$. Given $a, b \in \Sigma$, let $a \cdot b$ be the usual multiplication (an analog of boolean *and*) and let $a \oplus b$ be 0 if $a = b = 0$ and 1 otherwise (an analog of boolean *or*)

Consider the boolean function $f: \Sigma^6 \rightarrow \Sigma$ defined by

$$f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) = (x_1 \cdot x_2) \oplus (x_3 \cdot x_4) \oplus (x_5 \cdot x_6)$$

- (a) Construct the minimal DFA recognizing $\{x_1x_2x_3x_4x_5x_6 \mid f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) = 1\}$.
(For instance, the DFA accepts 111000 because $f(1, 1, 1, 0, 0, 0) = 1$, but not 101010, because $f(1, 0, 1, 0, 1, 0) = 0$.)
- (b) Construct the minimal DFA recognizing $\{x_1x_3x_5x_2x_4x_6 \mid f(x_1, x_2, x_3, x_4, x_5, x_6) = 1\}$.
(Notice the different order!)
- (c) More generally, consider the function

$$f(x_1, \dots, x_{2n}) = \bigoplus_{1 \leq k \leq n} (x_{2k-1} \cdot x_{2k})$$

and the languages $\{x_1x_2 \dots x_{2n-1}x_{2n} \mid f(x_1, \dots, x_{2n}) = 1\}$ and $\{x_1x_3 \dots x_{2n-1}x_2x_4 \dots x_{2n} \mid f(x_1, \dots, x_{2n}) = 1\}$.

Show that the size of the minimal DFA grows linearly in n for the first language, and exponentially in n for the second language.