

## Automata and Formal Languages — Exercise Sheet 8

### Exercise 8.1

Let  $L_1 = \{abb, bba, bbb\}$  and  $L_2 = \{aba, bbb\}$ .

(a) Give an algorithm for the following operation:

INPUT: A fixed-length language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^k$  described explicitly as a set of words.  
 OUTPUT: State  $q$  of the master automaton over  $\Sigma$  such that  $L(q) = L$ .

(b) Use the previous algorithm to build the states of the master automaton for  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ .

(c) Compute the state of the master automaton representing  $L_1 \cup L_2$ .

(d) Identify the kernels  $\langle L_1 \rangle$ ,  $\langle L_2 \rangle$ , and  $\langle L_1 \cup L_2 \rangle$ .

### Exercise 8.2

(a) Give an recursive algorithm for the following operation:

INPUT: States  $p$  and  $q$  of the master automaton.  
 OUTPUT: State  $r$  of the master automaton such that  $L(r) = L(p) \cdot L(q)$ .

Observe that the languages  $L(p)$  and  $L(q)$  can have different lengths. Try to reduce the problem for  $p, q$  to the problem for  $p^a, q$ .

(b) Give an recursive algorithm for the following operation:

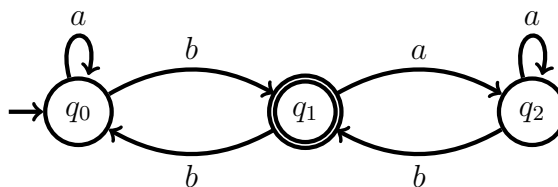
INPUT: A state  $q$  of the master automaton.  
 OUTPUT: State  $r$  of the master automaton such that  $L(r) = L(q)^R$

where  $R$  is the reverse operator.

(c) Give an recursive algorithm for the following operation:

INPUT: A DFA  $A$  over alphabet  $\Sigma$ , and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .  
 OUTPUT: State  $q$  of the master automaton over  $\Sigma$  such that  $L(q) = L(A) \cap \Sigma^k$ .

Apply your algorithm on the following DFA with  $k = 3$ :



**Exercise 8.3**

Let  $k \in \mathbb{N}_{>0}$ . Let  $\text{flip} : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^k$  be the function that inverts the bits of its input, e.g.  $\text{flip}(010) = 101$ . Let  $\text{val} : \{0, 1\}^k \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  be such that  $\text{val}(w)$  is the number represented by  $w$  in the *least significant bit first* encoding.

- (a) Describe the minimal transducer that accepts

$$L_k = \{[x, y] \in (\{0, 1\} \times \{0, 1\})^k \mid \text{val}(y) = \text{val}(\text{flip}(x)) + 1 \pmod{2^k}\}.$$

- (b) Build the state  $r$  of the master transducer for  $L_3$ , and the state  $q$  of the master automaton for  $\{010, 110\}$ .  
(c) Adapt the algorithm *pre* seen in class to compute *post* and compute using this algorithm  $\text{post}(r, q)$ .

**Solution 8.1**

(a)

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**Input:** A fixed-length language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^k$  described explicitly by a set of words.

**Output:** State  $q$  of the master automaton over  $\Sigma$  such that  $L(q) = L$ .

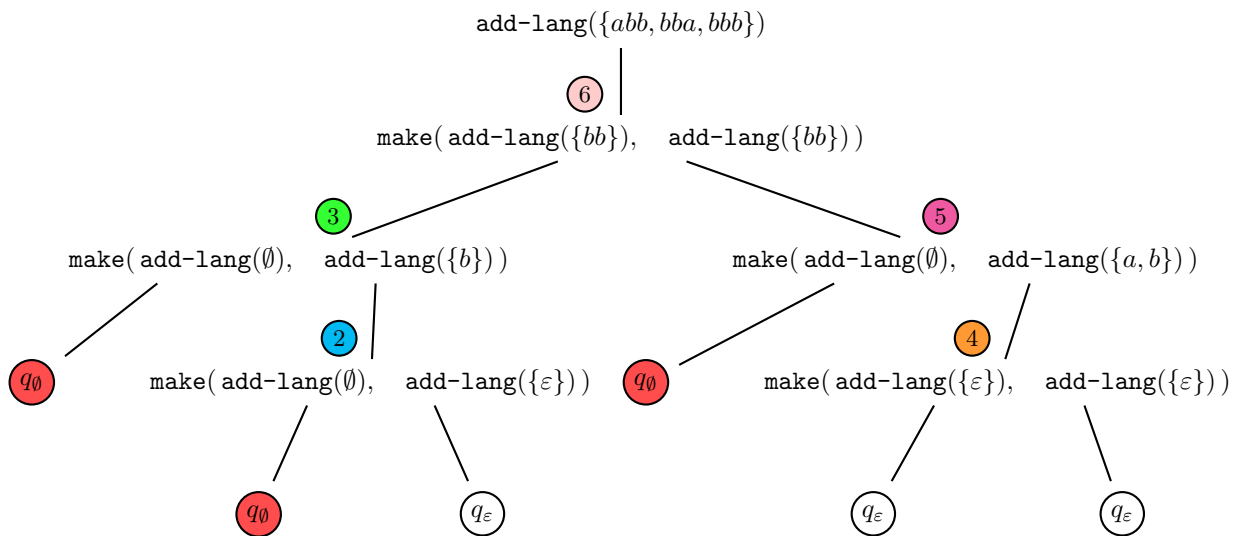
```

1 add-lang(L) :
2   if L = ∅ then
3     return q∅
4   else if L = {ε} then
5     return qε
6   else
7     for ai ∈ Σ do
8       Lai ← {u | aiu ∈ L}
9       si ← add-lang(Lai)
10    return make(s1, s2, ..., sn)

```

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(b) Executing `add-lang(L1)` yields the following computation tree:



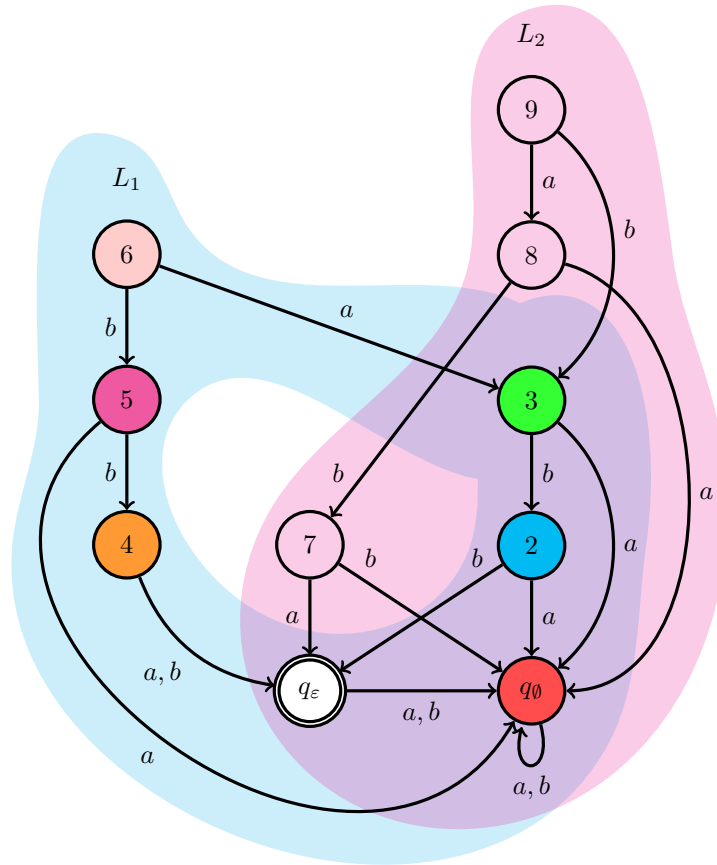
The table obtained after the execution is as follows:

Ident.	a-succ	b-succ
2	$q_\emptyset$	$q_\varepsilon$
3	$q_\emptyset$	2
4	$q_\varepsilon$	$q_\varepsilon$
5	$q_\emptyset$	4
6	3	5

Calling `add-lang(L2)` adds the following rows to the table and returns 9:

Ident.	a-succ	b-succ
7	$q_\varepsilon$	$q_\emptyset$
8	$q_\emptyset$	7
9	8	3

The resulting master automaton fragment is:



(c) Let us first adapt the algorithm for intersection to obtain an algorithm for union:

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**Input:** States  $p$  and  $q$  of same length of the master automaton.

**Output:** State  $r$  of the master automaton such that  $L(r) = L(p) \cup L(q)$ .

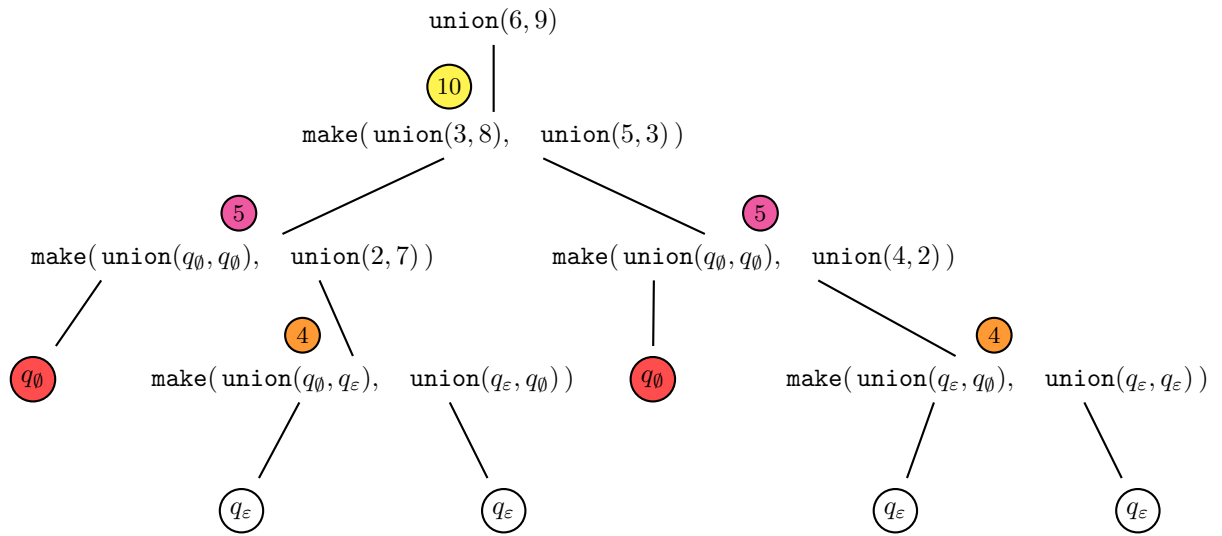
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1 union( $p, q$ ) :
2   if  $G(p, q)$  is not empty then
3     return  $G(p, q)$ 
4   else if  $p = q_0$  and  $q = q_0$  then
5     return  $q_0$ 
6   else if  $p = q_\epsilon$  or  $q = q_\epsilon$  then
7     return  $q_\epsilon$ 
8   else
9     for  $a_i \in \Sigma$  do
10       $s_i \leftarrow \text{union}(p^{a_i}, q^{a_i})$ 
11       $G(p, q) \leftarrow \text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ 
12      return  $G(p, q)$ 

```

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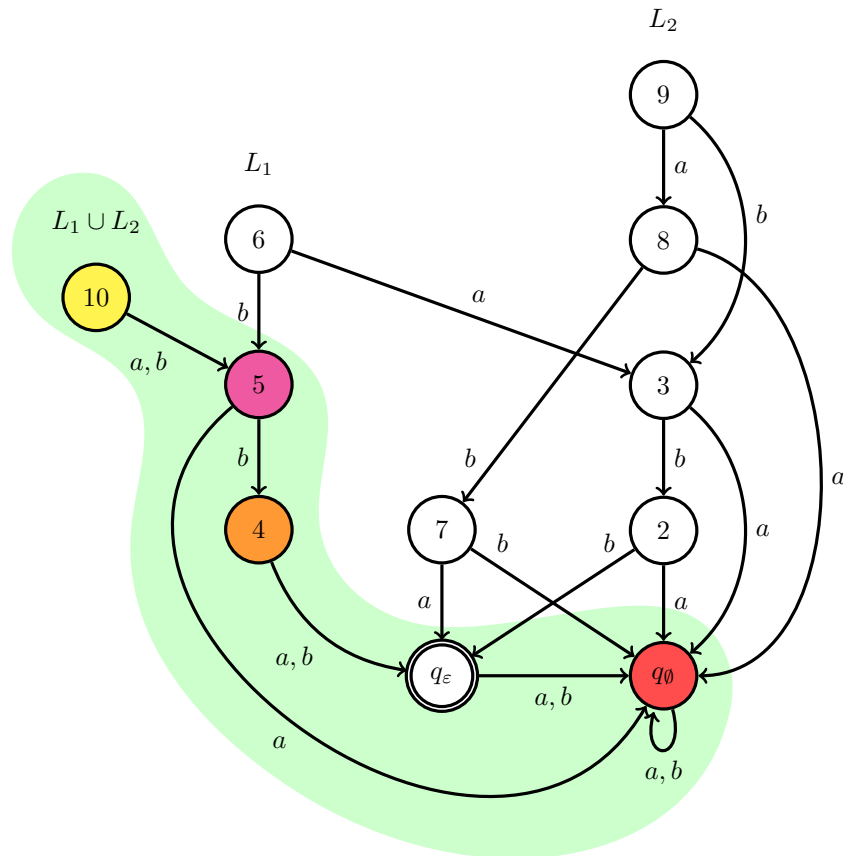
Executing  $\text{union}(6, 9)$  yields the following computation tree:



Calling  $\text{union}(6, 9)$  adds the following row to the table and returns 10:

Ident.	$a$ -succ	$b$ -succ
10	5	5

The new fragment of the master automaton is:



★ Note that  $\text{union}$  could be slightly improved by returning  $q$  whenever  $p = q$ , and by updating  $G(q, p)$  at the same time as  $G(p, q)$ .

(d) The kernels are:

$$\begin{aligned}\langle L_1 \rangle &= L_1, \\ \langle L_2 \rangle &= L_2, \\ \langle L_1 \cup L_2 \rangle &= \{ba, bb\}.\end{aligned}$$

### Solution 8.2

(a) Let  $L$  and  $L'$  be fixed-length languages. The following holds:

$$L \cdot L' = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } L = \emptyset, \\ L' & \text{if } L = \{\varepsilon\}, \\ \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma} \{a\} \cdot L^a \cdot L' & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

These identities give rise to the following algorithm:

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**Input:** States  $p$  and  $q$  of the master automaton.  
**Output:** State  $r$  of the master automaton such that  $L(r) = L(p) \cdot L(q)$ .

```

1 concat( $p, q$ ):
2   if  $G(p, q)$  is not empty then
3     return  $G(p, q)$ 
4   else if  $p = q_\emptyset$  then
5     return  $q_\emptyset$ 
6   else if  $p = q_\varepsilon$  then
7     return  $q$ 
8   else
9     for  $a_i \in \Sigma$  do
10       $s_i \leftarrow \text{concat}(p^{a_i}, q)$ 
11       $G(p, q) \leftarrow \text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ 
12      return  $G(p, q)$ 

```

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(b) Let  $L$  be a fixed-length language. The following holds:

$$L^R = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } L = \emptyset, \\ \{\varepsilon\} & \text{if } L = \{\varepsilon\}, \\ \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma} (L^a)^R \cdot \{a\} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

These identities give rise to the following algorithm:

★ Note that Lines 11 and 12 are introduced in order to represent the language  $\{a_i\}$  in Line 13 as a state  $\text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$  of the master automaton. This can be avoided by using the algorithm from Exercise 8.1, namely the state that represents  $\{a_i\}$  is  $\text{add-lang}(\{a_i\})$ . Thus, Lines 11-13 can be replaced just by  $r \leftarrow \text{concat}(\text{reverse}(q^{a_i}), \text{add-lang}(\{a_i\}))$

(c) Let  $A$  be a DFA and let  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . The following holds:

$$L(A) \cap \Sigma^k = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ and } \varepsilon \notin L(A), \\ \{\varepsilon\} & \text{if } k = 0 \text{ and } \varepsilon \in L(A), \\ \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma} \{a\} \cdot (L(A)^a \cap \Sigma^{k-1}) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

These identities give rise to the following algorithm:

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**Input:** A state  $q$  of the master automaton.

**Output:** State  $r$  of the master automaton such that  $L(r) = L(q)^R$ .

```
1 reverse( $q$ ):
2   if  $G(q)$  is not empty then
3     return  $G(q)$ 
4   else if  $q = q_\emptyset$  then
5     return  $q_\emptyset$ 
6   else if  $q = q_\varepsilon$  then
7     return  $q_\varepsilon$ 
8   else
9      $p \leftarrow q_\emptyset$ 
10    for  $a_i \in \Sigma$  do
11       $s_i \leftarrow q_\varepsilon$ 
12       $s_j \leftarrow q_\emptyset$  for every  $i \neq j$ 
13       $r \leftarrow \text{concat}(\text{reverse}(q^{a_i}), \text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n))$ 
14       $p \leftarrow \text{union}(p, r)$ 
15     $G(q) \leftarrow p$ 
16    return  $G(q)$ 
```

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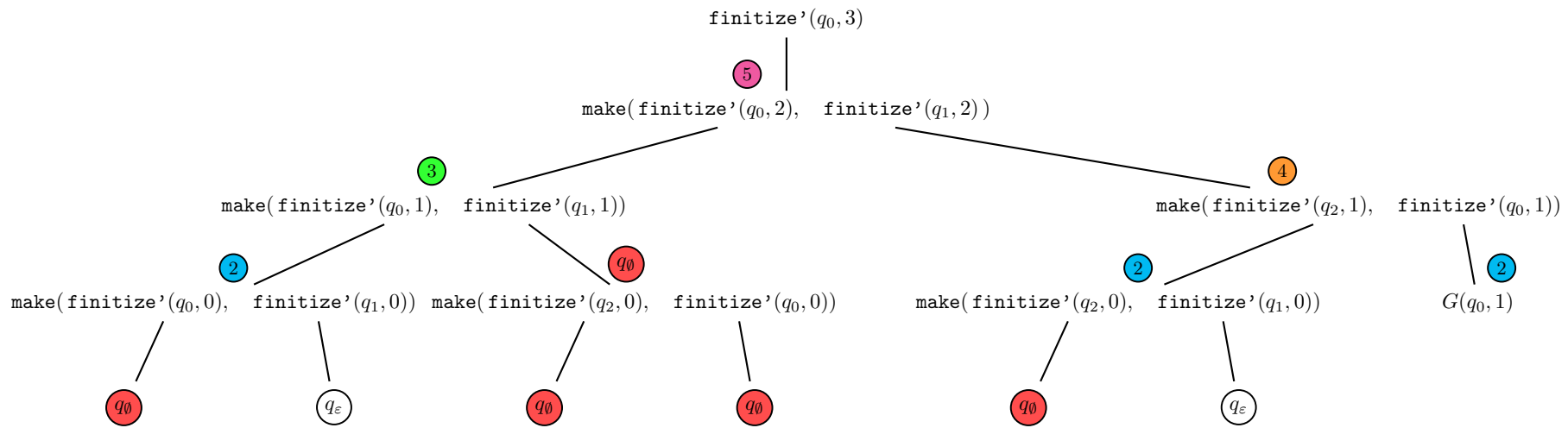
**Input:** A DFA  $A$  over alphabet  $\Sigma$ , and  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ .

**Output:** State  $q$  of the master automaton over  $\Sigma$  such that  $L(q) = L(A) \cap \Sigma^k$ .

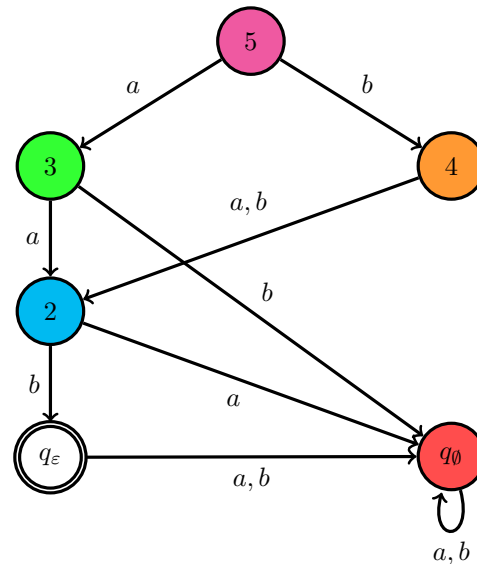
```
1 finitize( $A, k$ ):
2    $(Q, q_0, \Sigma, \delta, F) \leftarrow A$ 
3   return finitize'( $q_0, k$ )
4
5 finitize'( $q, k$ ):
6   if  $G(q, k)$  is not empty then
7     return  $G(q, k)$ 
8   else if  $k = 0$  and  $q \notin F$  then
9     return  $q_\emptyset$ 
10  else if  $k = 0$  and  $q \in F$  then
11    return  $q_\varepsilon$ 
12  else
13    for  $a_i \in \Sigma$  do
14       $s_i \leftarrow \text{finitize}'(\delta(q, a_i), k - 1)$ 
15       $G(q, k) \leftarrow \text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ 
16    return  $G(q, k)$ 
```

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Executing  $\text{finitize}(A, 3)$  calls  $\text{finitize}'(q_0, 3)$  which yields the following computation tree:



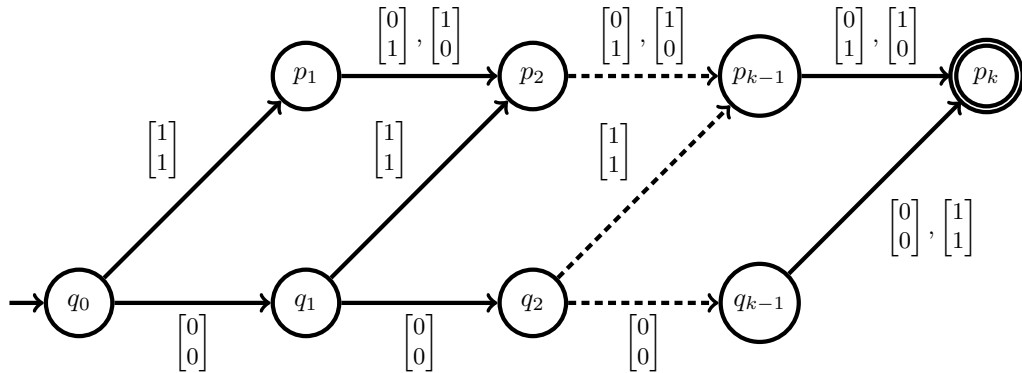
State 5 of the following master automaton fragment accepts  $L(A) \cap \{a, b\}^3 = \{aab, bab, bbb\}$ :



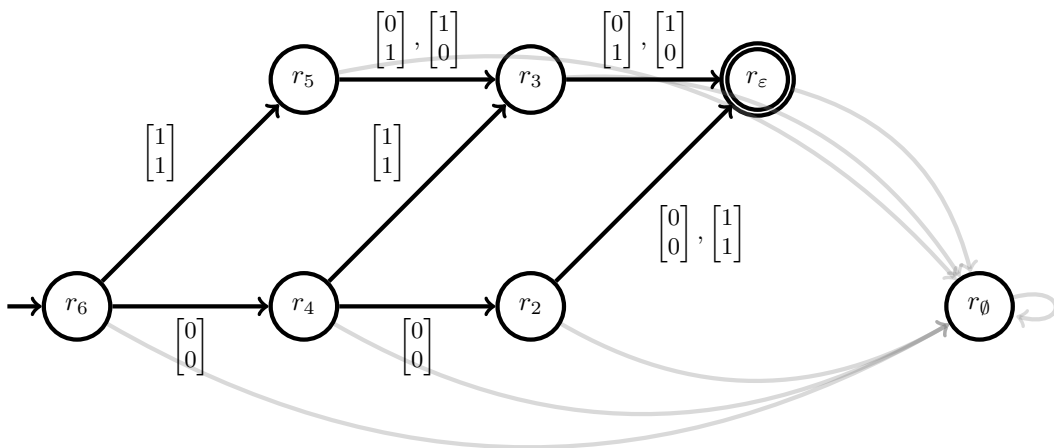


**Solution 8.3**

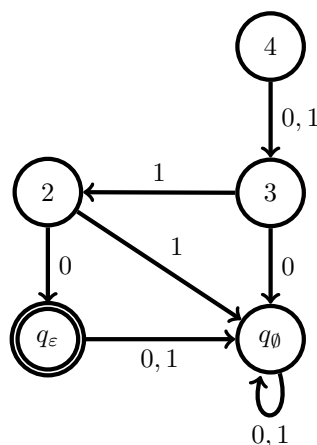
- (a) Let  $[x, y] \in L_k$ . We may flip the bits of  $x$  at the same time as adding 1. If  $x_1 = 1$ , then  $\neg x_1 = 0$ , and hence adding 1 to  $\text{val}(\text{flip}(x))$  results in  $y_1 = 1$ . Thus, for every  $1 < i \leq k$ , we have  $y_i = \neg x_i$ . If  $x_1 = 0$ , then  $\neg x_1 = 1$ . Adding 1 yields  $y_1 = 0$  with a carry. This carry is propagated as long as  $\neg x_i = 1$ , and thus as long as  $x_i = 0$ . If some position  $j$  with  $x_j = 1$  is encountered, the carry is “consumed”, and we flip the remaining bits of  $x$ . These observations give rise to the following minimal transducer for  $L_k$ :



- (b) The minimal transducer accepting  $L_3$  is



State 4 of the following master automaton fragment accepts  $\{010, 110\}$ :



(c) We can establish the following identities similar to those obtained for *pre*:

$$post_R(L) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } R = \emptyset \text{ or } L = \emptyset, \\ \{\varepsilon\} & \text{if } R = \{[\varepsilon, \varepsilon]\} \text{ and } L = \{\varepsilon\}, \\ \bigcup_{a,b \in \Sigma} b \cdot post_{R^{[a,b]}}(L^a) & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$$

To see that these identities hold, let  $b \in \Sigma$  and  $v \in \Sigma^k$  for some  $k \in \mathbb{N}$ . We have,

$$\begin{aligned} bv \in post_R(L) &\iff \exists a \in \Sigma, u \in \Sigma^k \text{ s.t. } au \in L \text{ and } [au, bv] \in R \\ &\iff \exists a \in \Sigma, u \in L^a \text{ s.t. } [au, bv] \in R \\ &\iff \exists a \in \Sigma, u \in L^a \text{ s.t. } [u, v] \in R^{[a,b]} \\ &\iff \exists a \in \Sigma \text{ s.t. } v \in Post_{R^{[a,b]}}(L^a) \\ &\iff v \in \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma} Post_{R^{[a,b]}}(L^a) \\ &\iff bv \in \bigcup_{a \in \Sigma} b \cdot Post_{R^{[a,b]}}(L^a). \end{aligned}$$

We obtain the following algorithm:

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**Input:** A state  $r$  of the master transducer and a state  $q$  of the master automaton.  
**Output:** State  $p$  of the master automaton such that  $L(p) = Post_R(L)$  where  $R = L(r)$  and  $L = L(q)$ .

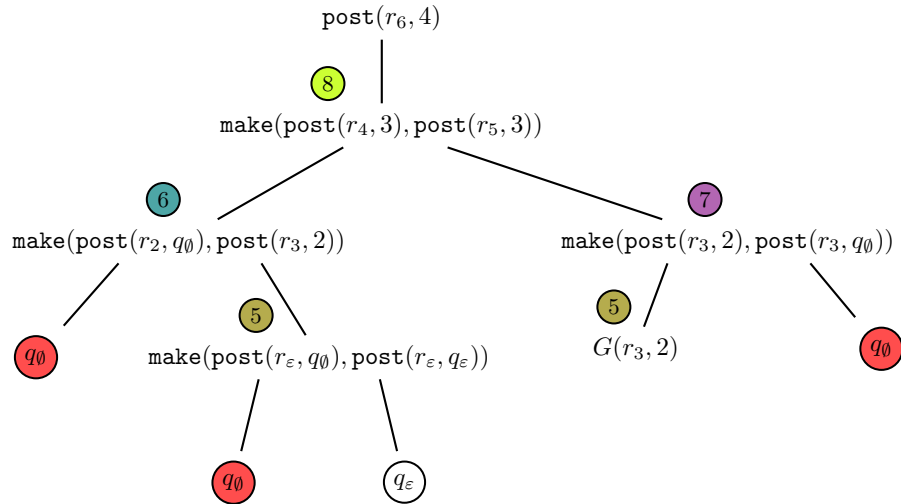
```

1 post( $r, q$ ):
2   if  $G(r, q)$  is not empty then
3     return  $G(r, q)$ 
4   else if  $r = r_\emptyset$  or  $q = q_\emptyset$  then
5     return  $q_\emptyset$ 
6   else if  $r = r_\varepsilon$  and  $q = q_\varepsilon$  then
7     return  $q_\varepsilon$ 
8   else
9     for  $b_i \in \Sigma$  do
10       $p \leftarrow q_\emptyset$ 
11      for  $a \in \Sigma$  do
12         $p \leftarrow \text{union}(p, \text{post}(r^{[a,b_i]}, q^a))$ 
13       $s_i \leftarrow p$ 
14       $G(q, r) \leftarrow \text{make}(s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n)$ 
15      return  $G(q, r)$ 

```

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Note that the transducer for  $L_3$  has some “strong” deterministic property. Indeed, for every state  $r$  and  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , if  $r^{[a,b]} \neq r_\emptyset$  then  $r^{[-a,b]} = r_\emptyset$ . Hence, for a fixed  $b \in \{0, 1\}$ , at most one term of the form “ $\text{post}(r^{[a,b]}, q^a)$ ” can differ from  $q_\emptyset$  at line 12 of the algorithm. Thus, unions made by the algorithm on this transducer are trivial, and executing  $\text{post}(6, 4)$  yields the following computation tree:



Calling  $\text{post}(6, 4)$  adds the following rows to the master automaton table and returns 8:

Ident.	0-succ	1-succ
5	$q_\emptyset$	$q_\epsilon$
6	$q_\emptyset$	5
7	5	$q_\emptyset$
8	6	7

The resulting master automaton fragment:

