

MA/CSSE 474 Day 03 Summary . Main ideas from today (and probably a few that we'll get to tomorrow):

1. Operations on strings:
 - a. $|w|$
 - b. $\#_a(w)$
 - c. Concatenation wx (it's associative, and ϵ is the identity for this operation)
 - d. w^i
 - e. w^R (recursive definition): $\epsilon^R = \epsilon$, $(ua)^R = au^R$

2. **Theorem:** If w and x are strings, then $(wx)^R = x^R w^R$. Prove it by induction on $|x|$

Base case: $|x| = 0$: Then $x = \epsilon$, and $(wx)^R = (w\epsilon)^R = (w)^R = \epsilon w^R = \epsilon^R w^R = x^R w^R$.

Induction step: $\forall n \geq 0 ((|u| = n) \rightarrow ((w u)^R = u^R w^R)) \rightarrow ((|x| = n + 1) \rightarrow ((w x)^R = x^R w^R))$:

Consider any string x , where $|x| = n + 1$. Then $x = u a$ for some symbol a and $|u| = n$. So:

$$\begin{aligned}(w x)^R &= (w (u a))^R && \text{rewrite } x \text{ as } ua \\ &= ((w u) a)^R && \text{associativity of concatenation} \\ &= a (w u)^R && \text{definition of reversal} \\ &= a (u^R w^R) && \text{induction hypothesis} \\ &= (a u^R) w^R && \text{associativity of concatenation} \\ &= (ua)^R w^R && \text{definition of reversal} \\ &= x^R w^R && \text{rewrite } ua \text{ as } x\end{aligned}$$

3. You should know the meaning of *substring*, *prefix*, and *suffix*, and the "proper" version of each of those.

4. Describe in simple English the language $L = \{x : \exists u \in \{a, b\}^* : x = ua\}$

5. $L = \{x\#y : x, y \in \{0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9\}^* \text{ and, when } x \text{ and } y \text{ are viewed as the decimal representations of natural numbers, } \text{square}(x) = y\}$.

Examples: (in L or not?): $\#9$, $12\#144$, $3\#8$, 12 , $12\#12\#12$, $\#$

6. Give a very short symbolic description of $L = \{a^n : n \geq 0\}$

7. A language that we will use a lot: $A^n B^n = \{a^k b^k : k \geq 0\}$

8. Is the Halting problem language well-specified? Can we decide which strings it contains?

$L = \{w : w \text{ is a Java program that, no matter what finite input string it is given, is guaranteed to halt}\}$.

9. Languages based on prefixes :

$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \text{no prefix of } w \text{ contains } b\}$

$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \text{no prefix of } w \text{ starts with } a\}$

$L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \text{every prefix of } w \text{ starts with } a\}$

10. Concatenation of languages, and related things

a. $L_1 L_2$. If $L_1 = \{a, aa\}$, and $L_2 = \{a, c, \epsilon\}$, then $L_1 L_2 =$

. What is $L\{\epsilon\}$? $L\emptyset$?

b. L^R

c. L^3 Is this the same as $\{w^3 : w \in L\}$?

d. L^0

e. L^k

f. L^*

g. L^+

11. How many different partitions of the set $\{1, 2, 3\}$?

12. Are the natural numbers closed under $f(x) = 1+x$? $g(x) = x - 1$? $h(x) = 1/x$ $k(x) = \#$ distinct factors of x ?

13. What is the closure of \mathbb{N}^+ under division?

14. Show that \equiv_3 is an equivalence relation. ($a \equiv_3 b$ iff $b-a = 3k$ for some integer k).

reflexive:

symmetric:

transitive:

15. Can a language be uncountable?

Is the set of languages over a specific alphabet uncountable?

16. Questions about the *maxstring* function (defined on a slide):

$maxstring(A^n B^n) =$ $maxstring(\{a\}^*) =$

Let INF be the set of infinite languages. Let FIN be the set of finite languages.

Are the language classes FIN and INF closed under *maxstring*?

17. Questions about the *chop* function (defined on a slide):

What is $chop(A^n B^n)$?

What is $chop(A^n B^n C^n)$?

Are FIN and INF closed under *chop*?