

No books or papers except the "notation and formula" sheet supplied by the instructor.

You may not use any devices with WI-FI/bluetooth, headphones, or earbuds.

No communication about this exam's contents with anyone besides the instructor before 11:45 AM.

If a problem is marked with a †, it means that there is information on the "notation and formulas" sheet that gives some helpful details for this problem.

## Scores:

Problem	Possible	Score
1	30	
2	5	
3	4	
4	21	
5	10	
6	15	
7	10	
8	5	
<b>Total</b>	<b>100</b>	

1. (30 points) Circle T or F to indicate whether it is *True* or *False*. IDK means *I don't know*. If the statement can ever be False, then False is the correct answer. **You do not need to give proofs or counterexamples.** For each part, you earn **1 point** for circling IDK, **2** for circling the correct answer, **-1** for circling the incorrect answer, and **0** if you leave it blank. Leaving it blank is silly, since you get more points for IDK.

- a) T ☒ F IDK The set of all languages over alphabet {a} is countably infinite.  
b) ☒ T F IDK The set of all regular languages over alphabet {a, b} is countably infinite.  
c) ☒ T F IDK The complement of a non-regular language must be non-regular.  
d) T ☒ F IDK The complement of an infinite language must be infinite.  
The next parts deal with the function  $\text{pref}(L) = \{w \in \Sigma^* : \exists x \in \Sigma^* (wx \in L)\}$   
e) ☒ T F IDK The set of regular languages is closed under *pref*.  
f) T ☒ F IDK The set of non-regular languages is closed under *pref*.  
g) ☒ T F IDK The set of finite languages is closed under *pref*.  
h) ☒ T F IDK The set of infinite languages is closed under *pref*.  
i) ☒ T F IDK If the transition graph of a DFSM M has no loops or cycles, then  $L(M)$  is finite.  
j) T ☒ F IDK † If  $\text{maxstring}(L)$  is regular, then L must be regular.  
k) ☒ T F IDK † If L is a regular language with alphabet {a, b}, then  $\text{chop}(L) \cap \{a, aba\} = \emptyset$ .  
l) T ☒ F IDK If neither of the languages  $L_1, L_2$  is regular, then  $L_1 \cup L_2$  is not regular.  
m) ☒ T F IDK Every non-regular language is the intersection of a countably infinite set of regular languages.  
n) ☒ T F IDK Every non-regular language is the intersection of a countably infinite set of non-regular languages.  
o) T ☒ F IDK Every regular language is the intersection of a countably infinite set of regular languages.

2. (5 points) † Consider the contrapositive to the Pumping Theorem (it is written out on the "Notations" handout). If we are using this to prove that a language L is non-regular, which of the values mentioned in the theorem do we get to choose? Circle them (and do not circle the ones that we are not allowed to choose).

k ☒ w x y z ☒ q

3. (4 points) Write the English name for each of these Greek letters that we frequently use in the course.

$\epsilon$  epsilon

$\Sigma$  sigma

$\delta$  delta

$\kappa$  kappa

## Explanations for Problem 1 answers

- a) The set of all languages over any non-empty alphabet is uncountable.
- b) If  $L$  is regular,  $L = L(\alpha)$  for some regular expression  $\alpha$ . The set of regular expressions over  $\{a, b\}$  is countable (we saw how to enumerate this set in class last week).
- c) Let  $L$  be a non-regular language. What if its complement  $L'$  were regular. Then the complement of  $L'$  would have to be regular. But  $L$  is the complement of  $L'$ .
- d) If  $\Sigma = \{a\}$ , then  $\Sigma^* - \{a\}$  is infinite. Its complement is  $\{a\}$ , which is certainly finite.
- e) We did the construction in class.
- f) Consider the non-regular language  $L = \{a^p : p \text{ is prime}\}$ .  $\text{Pref}(L)$  is  $\{a\}^*$ , which is regular.
- g) Taking all prefixes of a finite set of strings gives us a finite set of strings.
- h) Taking all prefixes of an infinite set of strings gives us an infinite set of strings.
- i) The transition graph of *every* DFSM has at least one loop or cycle, since there is a transition out of every state on every alphabet symbol.
- j) Consider the non-regular language  $L = \{a^p : p \text{ is prime}\}$ .  $\text{Maxstring}(L)$  is  $\emptyset$ , which is regular.
- k) For any  $L$ ,  $\text{chop}(L)$  does not contain any odd-length strings.
- l) Consider the non-regular languages  $L_1 = \{a^p : p \text{ is prime}\}$  and  $L_2 = \{a^p : p \text{ is not prime}\}$ .  $L_1 \cup L_2 = \{a\}^*$ .
- m) This was on HW 9. See the HW9 solution.
- n) Let  $L$  be a non-regular language.  $L' = \neg L$  is also non-regular, so infinite. Let  $\{w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots\}$  be an enumeration of  $L'$ . Let  $T$  be  $\{L \cup \{w_i\} : i \geq 0\}$ ; this is an infinite set of languages. Adding one element to a non-regular language does not make it regular.  $L$  is the intersection of all of the languages in  $T$ .
- o) Let  $\Sigma = \{a\}$ .  $L = \Sigma^*$  is a regular language. If an intersection results in  $L$ , it can be the intersection of only one set. If any other set is included it will not contain some element of  $L$ , so the intersection cannot be  $L$ .

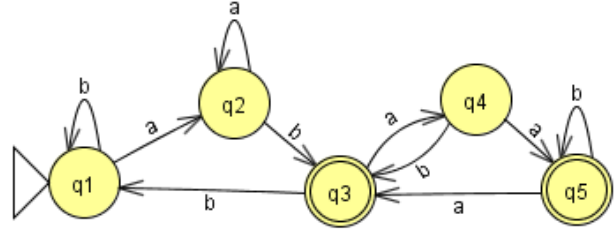
4. (21 points) † Consider the following transition diagram for a DFSM M, and the algorithm from class to find a regular expression  $\alpha$  such that  $L(\alpha) = L(M)$ .

(6) What the value of

$r_{220}$ ? **aUe**

$r_{350}$ ?  **$\emptyset$**

$r_{321}$ ?  **$b^+a$**  Credit for each: 2 for same or equivalent answer, 0 otherwise



(6) For each the following two  $r_{ijk}$  values, fill in the four sets of three subscripts that tell how to calculate the given  $r$  value using the recursive formula. **-1 for each incorrect subscript number, up to -3 for each of the problem parts**

$r_{225} = r_{224} \cup r_{254} r_{554}^* r_{524}$

$r_{414} = r_{413} \cup r_{443} r_{443}^* r_{413}$

(3) Write a regular expression that defines  $L(M)$ , in terms of a union of some of the  $r_{ijk}$ . You do not have to evaluate that/those  $r_{ijk}$ .

$L(M) = r_{135} \cup r_{155}$  No partial credit for this part

(3) List all pairs  $(i, j)$  such that  $R_{ij1}$  is different than  $R_{ij0}$ . **-1 point for each missing or incorrect pair (minimum of zero)**

**(1, 1)**  $bUe \rightarrow b^*$  **(1, 2)**  $a \rightarrow b^+a$  **(3, 1)**  $b \rightarrow b^+$  **(3, 2)**  $\emptyset \rightarrow b^+a$

(3) List all pairs  $(j, j)$  such that  $R_{ij2}$  is different than  $R_{ij1}$ . **-1 for one or two missing or incorrect pairs, -2 for three or four, -3 for more than four**

**(1, 2)**  $b^+a \rightarrow b^+a^+$  **(1, 3)**  $\emptyset \rightarrow b^+a^+b^+$  **(2, 2)**  $aUe \rightarrow a^*$  **(2, 3)**  $b \rightarrow a^+b$  **(3, 2)**  $b^+a \rightarrow b^+a$  **(3, 3)**  $\emptyset \rightarrow b^+a^+b$

5. (10 points) This problem is the same as a problem in HW5, but you do not have to prove your answer here. Let  $M_1=(K_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, s_1, A_1)$  and  $M_2=(K_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, s_2, A_2)$  be DFSMs that accept the regular languages  $L_1 = L(M_1)$  and  $L_2 = L(M_2)$ . Let  $L = L_1 \cap L_2$ . Show that  $L$  is regular by carefully constructing a DFSM  $M=(K, \Sigma, \delta, s, A)$  such that  $L=L(M)$ . I do not expect you to have memorized the solution; you should be able to figure out the details again.

Answer: Full or no credit for each part

(2)  $K = K_1 \times K_2$

(4)  $\delta$  is defined as  $\delta((q_1, q_2), a) = (\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a))$

(2)  $s = (s_1, s_2)$

(2)  $A = A_1 \times A_2$  Could also be written  $\{(q_1, q_2) :$

6. (15 points) † Use the contrapositive of the pumping theorem directly (no closure properties or equivalence classes) to show that  $L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \exists x,y \in \{a,b\} (\exists n \geq 0 (w = xa^n b^n y))\}$  is not regular.

Given  $k \geq 0$ , choose  $w = a^{k+1}b^{k+1}$ , which is an element of  $L$ , because it is  $aa^k b^k b$ .

If  $w=xyz$  (meeting the requirements  $|xy| \leq k$  and  $|y| \geq 1$ ), then  $y=a^p$  for some  $p \geq 1$  and  $p \leq k$ .

Choose  $q=0$  (the textbook calls this *pumping out*).

Then  $xz$  is  $aa^{k-p}bkb$ , which is not in  $L$ .

Of course, there are other  $w$ 's and  $q$ 's that can work. Examples of point values to take off.

(-10) Choosing a  $w$  that does not depend on  $k$ , or not making it specific (for example  $ba^2b^2a$  or  $xa^k b^k y$ )

(-5) Assuming that  $y$  is a specific string that the student chooses (for example  $y=a^3$ )

(-5) Not choosing a specific value of  $q$ ; not pumping correctly, or =not getting outside  $L$  after pumping.

(?) Other errors on a case-by-case basis.

7. (10 points) Write a decision procedure that decides the following problem:  
Given regular expressions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ , is it true that  $L(\alpha)$  is the complement of  $L(\beta)$ ?

a) From  $\alpha$ , construct a DFSM  $M$  such that  $L(M) = L(\alpha)$

b) From  $\beta$ , construct a DFSM  $M'$  such that  $L(M') = L(\beta)$

c) From  $M'$ , construct a DFSM for  $\neg L(M')$

[students do not have to say this, but it is done by swapping accepting and non-accepting states]

d) From  $M$ , construct an equivalent minimal state, canonical form machine  $M''$

e) From  $M'$ , construct an equivalent minimal state, canonical form machine  $M'''$

f) If  $M'$  is the same as  $M'''$  return "yes"  
else return "no"

8. (5 points) What is the relationship between  
the lexicographic ordering of all strings over alphabet  $\Sigma$   
and  
the ordering of the states in our textbook's canonical form of a minimal DFSM over  $\Sigma$ ?

This could be expressed in many different ways. Here is one:

For any state  $q$  in  $M$ , define *firstString*( $q$ ) to be the first string  $w$  in the lexicographic ordering of  $\Sigma^*$  such that  $(s, w) \vdash_M^* (q, \varepsilon)$ .

If  $M$  is in canonical form, then for any two states numbered  $q_i$  and  $q_j$ ,  $i < j$  iff *firstString*( $q_i$ ) comes before *firstString*( $q_j$ ) in lexicographic order.