

# CSE322 Theory of Computation (L9)

ⓐ whether a DFA has infinitely many things.  
def Algo( $D()$ , #states, #symbols):

Today

## Regular expressions (Regex)

01234

0+2\*34\*5+67

Definition by induction. Fix some alphabet  $A$ .  $A = \{0,1\}$

$R$  is a regular expression (regex) if  $R$  is ...

\* symbol  $a$ ,  $L(R) = \{a\}$       $\boxed{0}$       $\boxed{1}$       $L(0) = \{0\}$       $L(1) = \{1\}$

\*  $\epsilon$ ,  $L(R) = \{\epsilon\}$       $\epsilon$       $L(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$

\* empty set,  $L(R) = \{\}$       $\emptyset$       $L(\emptyset) = \emptyset$       $R_1 + R_2$   
 "  $(R_1 \cup R_2)$ "

\*  $(R_1 \cup R_2)$  for regular  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ;  $L(R) = L(R_1) \cup L(R_2)$

*regular ops.* \*  $(R_1 \circ R_2)$  for regular  $R_1$  and  $R_2$ ;  $L(R) = L(R_1) \cdot L(R_2)$

\*  $(R_1^*)$  for regular  $R_1$ ;  $L(R) = (R_1^*)$       $L((R_1^*)) = (L(R_1))^*$

*brackets are often dropped if they are clear*

string  $s$  matches regex  $R$  if  $s$  is in  $L(R)$

$A = \{a,b,c\}$

$b \cup \epsilon$       $X$

$((b^*) \cup (\epsilon^*))$

$\left. \begin{matrix} b^* \\ \epsilon^* \end{matrix} \right\} b^* \cup \epsilon^*$

$L(0 \cup 1) = L(0) \cup L(1)$

$0 \cup 1$  &  $1 \cup 0$  accept the same language. They are equivalent.

$\begin{matrix} 0/1 \\ L(0 \cup 1) \\ L(0 + 1) \end{matrix}$       $1 \cup 0$

# Exercise: Are these regular expressions?

$$= \Sigma^*$$

$$R = (0 \cup 1)^* = \left( \begin{array}{l} L(0) \cup L(1) \\ \{0\} \cup \{1\} \end{array} \right)^*$$

What is  $L(R)$ ?  $L(0) \cup L(1) = \{0, 1\}$   
 = all binary strings

Notation:

$$0 \cup 1 = \Sigma / A$$

\*  $(R1^+)$  is regular for regular  $(R1 \cdot R1^*)$

$(0^+)(1^+) = (0 \cdot 0^*)(1 \cdot 1^*)$   
 = one or more 0s followed by one or more 1s

\*  $(R1^?)$  is regular for regular  $(R1 \cup \epsilon)$

$(0^?) = \{0, \epsilon\}$   
 $R1 \cdot R1 \cdots R1$

\*  $(R1^k)$  is regular for regular  $R1$  and fixed integer  $k$

\*  $(R1 | R2)$  is notation for  $(R1 \cup R2)$

$L((abc)^?) = \{\epsilon, abc\}$

\*  $([\wedge a])$  is notation for  $(a1 \cup a2 \cup \dots)$  except  $a$

$$\{0, 1, 2, 3\} \quad [\wedge 1] = 0 \cup 2 \cup 3$$

Omit parentheses, if possible.

Evaluation order: star/plus, concatenation, union

$$R1^* R2 \cup R3 = ((R1^*) R2) \cup R3$$

$R2 = (0 \Sigma^*) \cup (\Sigma^* 1) = 0(0 \cup 1)^* \cup (0 \cup 1)^* 1$   
 = start with 0 or end with 1

What is  $L(R2)$ ?

# Exercise: Languages of Regex

$R = 0^*10^*$  = strings containing only one 1

$$R \cup \{\} \equiv R$$

$$L(R \cup \epsilon) = R? = L(R) \cup \{\epsilon\}$$

$$R \circ \epsilon \equiv R$$

→  $(0 \cup \epsilon)1^*$  = strings in which 0 doesn't appear anywhere except maybe at the beginning

$$R \circ \{\} \equiv \{\}$$

$$(\Sigma\Sigma)^*$$

$$= (0 \cup 1)(0 \cup 1)^*$$

= all even length strings

## Regex identities

$$(R1 \cup R2) \cup R3 \equiv R1 \cup (R2 \cup R3)$$

$$R1 \cdot (R2 \cdot R3) \equiv (R1 \cdot R2) \cdot R3$$

$$R1 (R2 \cup R3) \equiv R1 R2 \cup R1 R3$$

$$(R1 \cup R2) R3 \equiv R1 R3 \cup R2 R3$$

$$R1 \cup R2 \equiv R2 \cup R1$$

$$(R^*)^* \equiv R^*$$

$L(LHS)$

$$= L(R1 \cup R2) \cup L(R3)$$

$$= (L(R1) \cup L(R2)) \cup L(R3)$$

$$= L(R1) \cup L(R2) \cup L(R3)$$



# Power of Regex

"15-02-2022 12:16 PM +05:30"

Is there a regex to recognize ... valid HTTP packets?

Valid email addresses? Valid date-time strings?

Valid JPEG files? Valid adjacency lists with cycles?

Is there a regex to recognize ... valid C programs?

$L = \{w :$

$w$  is of the form "int main()  $\{\{\{x\}\}\}$ "

for some  $x$  not containing  $\{$  and  $\}$

$\}$   $\{\epsilon, 00, 11, 010, 1011, \dots\} \Leftarrow \text{DFA}$

$\{0, 1, \dots\}$

$0^n 1^n$

$w \cdot w^{\text{rev}}$

$w : w = w^{\text{rev}}$

$w : \#0(w) = \#1(w)$

$L2 = \{x : x \text{ can be written as } ww\}$

$$L(10 \cup 0^*1) = \{0^k 1 \mid k \geq 0\} \cup \{10\}$$

$$L((10) \cup (0^*1)) = L(10) \cup L(0^*1) = L(1) \cdot L(0) \cup L(0^*) L(1) \\ = \{10\} \cup \{0^k 1 : k \geq 1\}$$

Regex for ...

$$\text{All strings containing the substring } 000 = (0 \cup 1)^* 000 (0 \cup 1)^* \\ = w_1 000 w_2 \quad \{0, 1\}$$

All strings not containing the substring 000  $(1 \cup 01 \cup 001)^* (0 \cup 00)$   
 break string at 1's  $\Rightarrow$  each substring contains at most 2 0s and ends with 1.

Every string except 000  $\epsilon \cup (0 \cup 1)^4 (0 \cup 1)^* \cup 0 \cup 1 \cup 00 \cup 01 \cup 10 \cup 11 \cup 001 \cup 011 \cup 010 \cup 100 \cup 101 \cup 110 \cup 111$   
 19 'U'.

\* Design a regex with at most 8 'U'

$\rightarrow \#(0, w) = \#(1, w)$  for all even-length prefix  $(01 \cup 10)^* (0 \cup 1)$

All strings  $w$  s.t. in every prefix of  $w$ , the numbers of 0s and 1s differ by at most 1.

$\epsilon, 0, 01, 010, 0101, 1, 10, 011, 0110, 100, 1001, 101, 1010$

$$L((1(0 \cup 1))^*(1 \cup \epsilon)) = ?$$

Exercise

Can you design a regex for  $\{w : w \text{ has equal occurrences of } 01 \text{ and } 10\}$

$$\text{Regex: } 0(0 \cup 1)^* 0 \cup 1(0 \cup 1)^* 1$$

$= \{w : \text{start and end with the same symbol}\}$

$010, 0110, 101, 1001, 000$

# Kleene's Theorem

Regular language: Languages of Regexes

Thm: Regular languages are equivalent to DFA

Regex is not as powerful as Java

Regex is okay for verifying patterns ...

like C variable names, URLs ... (lexical an.)

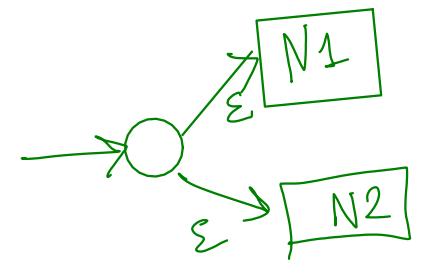
Can Regex verify syntax of C programs?



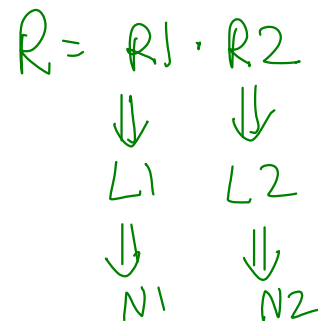
Thm: If  $L$  is described by a regex,  $R$   
 $L = L(R)$   
 then  $L$  is accepted by an NFA.

Proof by structural induction on  $R$

Base cases:



$N \stackrel{\text{NFA}}{\text{eq.}}$   
 $L(N) = L(N_1) \cup L(N_2) = L(R)$



$N \stackrel{\text{NFA}}{\text{eq.}}$   
 $L(N) = L(N_1) \cdot L(N_2) = L(R)$



$N \stackrel{\text{NFA}}{\text{eq.}}$   
 $L(N) = (L(N_1))^* = (L(R))^*$

# Induction case:

Show that  $(1(0 \cup 1))^+$  is regular  
construct an equivalent NFA

