

1. Problem 1

Let $L_1 \subset L_2$.

- (a) a If L_1 is a regular language, then is L_2 necessarily a regular language?

Solution: No. Counterexample: L_1 only accepts the string 01, L_2 is the language $0^n 1^n$.

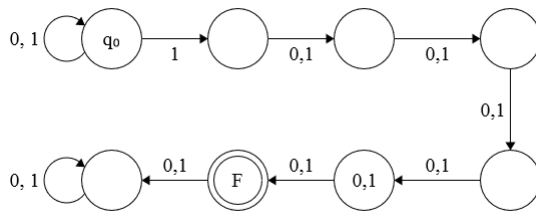
- (b) b If L_2 is a regular language, then is L_1 necessarily a regular language?

Solution: No. Counterexample: L_2 accepts all possible strings, L_1 is the language $0^n 1^n$.

2. Problem 2

Consider a regular language L that accepts a string if the 6th to last bit is a 1 (over an alphabet of $\{0, 1\}$).

- (a) Construct an NFA that recognizes L.



Solution:

- (b) Argue that any DFA which recognizes L must have at least 64 states.

Solution: Suppose for the sake of contradiction that there exists a DFA N that recognizes L but has strictly less than 64 states. Consider the 6-bit binary prefix string of an input. There are $2^6 = 64$ different possibilities, so by pigeonhole principle there exists two prefix strings P_a and P_b that arrive at the same state in N. Since they are different strings, they must differ in at least one bit. Consider the greatest i for which P_a and P_b differ at bit i . Concatenate i 0's to both P_a and P_b . The augmented strings will arrive at the same state after N reads each prefix, and therefore will also arrive at the same state after N reads the suffix, which is identical in both strings. However, N should reject one and accept the other. Contradiction.

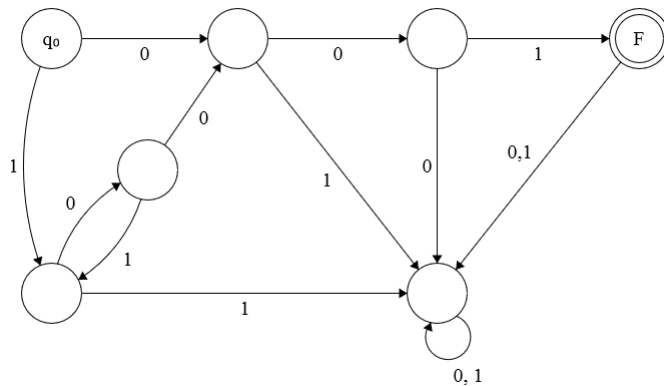
3. Problem 3

Given a DFA for L, provide a formal construction for a DFA that recognizes L^* . In other words, provide the 5-tuple that characterizes $\text{Kleene}(L) = \{w_1 \dots w_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } w_i \in L\}$.

Solution: Let the DFA that recognizes L be called N and the DFA that recognizes $\text{Kleene}(L)$ be called M . We will construct M as follows. The alphabet Σ is unchanged. The finite set of states Q is the power set of the states in N . The initial state in M is the singleton of the initial state in N . If the initial state of N is not an accept state, then let the singleton of the initial state be an accept state in M . This allows M to accept the empty string. Also, let any state in M that "contains" an accept state in N be an accept state. Finally, the transition function of M applies the transition function of N to every state contained by the current state in M in order to generate a set of states (which are represented by a state in M). If the current state is an accept state, add the initial state to this set of states.

4. Problem 4

Draw a DFA that accepts the regular language represented by the regular expression $((10)^*001$.



Solution: