

Advanced Automata Theory

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Exercise Sheet 6

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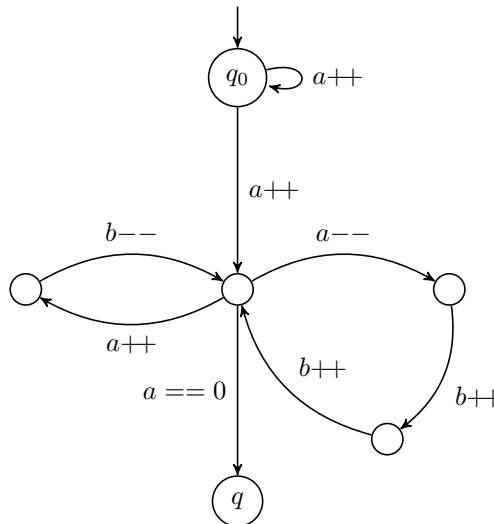
Out: May 25, **Updated May 26**: Fixed bug in counter machine Ex. 1b Due: May 30, 12:00

Exercise 1: Reversal-Bounded Counter Machines

Consider an n -counters machine where all the counters are unrestricted. The set of reachable vectors at a state q of a counter machine is the set $R(q) := \{\vec{v} \in \mathbb{N}^n \mid (q_0, 0) \rightarrow^* (q, \vec{v})\}$. The set of reachable vectors at a state q using at most k reversals is

$$R_k(q) := \left\{ \vec{v} \in \mathbb{N}^n \mid (q_0, 0) \xrightarrow[\leq k \text{ reversals}]{}^* (q, \vec{v}) \right\}.$$

- a) Prove that $R_k(q)$ is semilinear.
- b) Consider the following counter machine:



Show that $R(q) \supsetneq R_1(q)$.

- c) Compute a semilinear set representing $R_1(q)$ for the machine above.

Exercise 2: Naive Interpretation of NFAs as NBAs

Let $A = (\Sigma, Q, q_0, \rightarrow, Q_F)$ be an NFA with $\emptyset \neq L(A) \subseteq \Sigma^+$ and, for any two states $q, q' \in Q$, define $L_{q,q'}^{\neq \epsilon} := \{w \in \Sigma^+ \mid q \xrightarrow{w} q' \text{ in } A\}$. If $L_\omega(A)$ is the ω -regular language accepted by A (interpreted as an NBA), one can **wrongly** believe that $L_\omega(A) = L(A)^\omega$.

- a) Find a counterexample to $L_\omega(A) = L(A)^\omega$ when $\emptyset \neq L_{q,q}^{\neq \epsilon} \subseteq L(A)$ for all $q \in Q_F$.
- b) Show that if $L(A) = L^+$ for some regular language L , then $L_\omega(A) = L(A)^\omega$ holds.
Update: That actually does not hold...
- c) Given an NFA A , provide a construction for an NBA A_ω such that $L(A_\omega) = L(A)^\omega$.

Exercise 3: NBA languages = ω -regular Languages

- a) Prove that ω -regular languages are NBA definable.
- b) Show that if there exists an NBA that accepts $L \subseteq \Sigma^\omega$ then L is ω -regular.
- c) Construct an NBA that accepts $L = (ab + c)^*((aa + b)c)^\omega + (a^*c)^\omega$.

Exercise 4: Shuffle ω -regular Languages

Given an infinite set of positions $I \subseteq \{0, 1, \dots\}$ with $I = \{i_1, i_2, \dots\}$ and $i_1 < i_2 < \dots$, and an ω -word w , we write $w|_I$ for the ω -word $w(i_1)w(i_2)\dots$, i.e. the sub-word of w obtained by selecting the letters in the positions of I .

The **fair shuffle** of two ω -languages L_1, L_2 is defined as

$$L_1 \sqcup L_2 := \{w \mid \exists \text{ partition } I, J \text{ of positions } \{0, 1, \dots\} \text{ such that } w|_I \in L_1 \text{ and } w|_J \in L_2\}$$

Note in particular, that since I and J form a partition of the positions, $I \neq \emptyset \neq J$.

Show that ω -regular languages are closed under fair shuffle.

Exercise 5: Reachability in Counter Machines (Optional)

Adapting Parikh's proof, show that reachability in counter machines with one unrestricted counter and n r -reversal bounded counters is decidable.