

Games, graphs, and machines



Stars and cats = con CAT enation

Alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.

Languages $L = \{0\}$ and $M = \{1, 11, 111, 1111, \dots\}$.

NOT
the same
vs $\{1\}^*$

↑
includes ϵ

1. $LM = L \circ M = \{01, 011, 0111, \dots\}$

2. $ML = \{10, 110, 1110, \dots\}$

3. $L^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 00, 000, \dots\}$

4. $M^* = \{\epsilon, 1, 11, 111, \dots\}$

5. $L^*M =$
 $\{ \underbrace{\epsilon}_{L^*} \cdot \underbrace{1}_{M} \leftarrow$

0 or more 0s
followed by
1 or more 1s

01, 11

001, 011, 111

0001, 0011, 0111, 1111,
..... }

REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

A regular expression is a pattern that describes a set of strings. Regular expressions are constructed analogously to arithmetic expressions, by using various operators to combine smaller expressions...

Character Classes and Bracket Expressions

A bracket expression is a list of characters enclosed by [and]...

Anchoring

The caret ^ and the dollar sign \$ are meta-characters...

The Backslash Character and Special Expressions

The symbols \< and \> respectively match the empty string...

Repetition

A regular expression may be followed by one of several repetition operators:

- ? The preceding item is optional and matched at most once.
- *
- +
- {n} The preceding item is matched exactly n times.
- {n,} The preceding item is matched n or more times.
- {,m} The preceding item is matched at most m times. This is a GNU extension.
- {n,m} The preceding item is matched at least n times, but not more than m times.

Concatenation

Two regular expressions may be concatenated; ...

Alternation

Two regular expressions may be joined by the infix operator |;...

Our regexps

- \emptyset

ϵ

0

1

- Concatenation ab
alternation $a|b$
star a^* .

$$(\epsilon|0)^* (0|1)$$

* precedes

concat precedes

|

$$01^*$$

$$(01)^*$$

$$01^* | 10^*$$

$$(0(1^*)) | (1(0^*))$$

Regular expressions

Explicitly write the language described by the regexp.

$$1. 01^* = 0 \cdot 1^* = \{0\} \cdot \{\epsilon, 1, 11, 111, \dots\} = \{0, 01, 011, \dots\}$$

$$2. (0|1)^* = \{0, 1\}^* = \text{All strings}$$

$$3. (01)^* = \{\epsilon, 01, 0101, \dots\}$$

$$4. 00^*10^*0$$

$$0 \cdot 0^* \cdot 1 \cdot 0^* \cdot 0$$

$$0 \cdot \{\epsilon, 0, 00, \dots\} \cdot 1 \cdot \{\epsilon, 0, 00, 000, \dots\} \cdot 0$$

$$0 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{0 \text{ or more}} 1 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{0 \text{ or more}} 0 \quad \underbrace{00}_{1 \text{ or more}} 1 \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_{1 \text{ or more}}$$

Building regexps

Find regular expressions that describe the following languages.

1. $\emptyset \rightarrow \emptyset$

2. $\{\epsilon\} \rightarrow \epsilon$

3. $\{0, 00, 000, \dots\} = L(00^*) = L(00^*) = L(0|000^*)$

4. $\{w \mid w \text{ starts with } 0 \text{ and ends with } 1\}$

11

00^*1^*1

01^*

7

✓ $0(0|1)^*1$

0101

Building trickier regexps

Find regular expressions that describe the following languages.

1. $\{w \mid 0 \text{ and } 1 \text{ alternate in } w\}$
2. $\{w \mid \text{every } 0 \text{ in } w \text{ has } 1 \text{ on its left and on its right}\}.$
3. $\{w \mid w \text{ has an even number of } 0\text{s}\}$

✓
 $\epsilon, 0, 1, 01, 010, 0101, 01010$
 $10, 101, 1010, 10101, \dots$

$$(1|\epsilon)(01)^* \mid (01\epsilon)(10)^* \quad \cdot (0|\epsilon)(10)^*(1|\epsilon)$$

Even trickier languages

Can you find regexps that describe the following languages?

1. $\{w \mid w \text{ has as many 0s as 1s}\}$.
2. $\{w \mid w \text{ is a palindrome}\}$.

NO !
0