

Homework 3

1. Assume you have an alphabet consisting of the letters a , b and c only. (a) Find a regular expression that recognises the two strings ab and ac . (b) Find a regular expression that matches all strings *except* these two strings. Note, you can only use regular expressions of the form

$$r ::= \emptyset \mid \epsilon \mid c \mid r_1 + r_2 \mid r_1 \cdot r_2 \mid r^*$$

2. Define the function *zeroable* which takes a regular expression as argument and returns a boolean.¹ The function should satisfy the following property:

$$\text{zeroable}(r) \text{ if and only if } L(r) = \emptyset$$

3. Define the tokens and regular expressions for a language consisting of numbers, left-parenthesis (, right-parenthesis), identifiers and the operations $+$, $-$ and $*$. Can the following strings in this language be lexed?

- " $(a + 3) * b$ "
- " $() ++ - 33$ "
- " $(a/3) * 3$ "

In case they can, can you give the corresponding token sequences.

¹In an earlier version there was an error.