Automata and Formal Languages (4)

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Last week I showed you

- a tokenizer taking a list of regular expressions
- tokenization identifies lexeme in an input stream of characters (or string) and cathegorizes them into tokens

Two Rules

- Longest match rule (maximal munch rule): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD:

"if","then","else",
WHITESPACE:
 " ","\n",

IDENT:

LETTER · (LETTER + DIGIT + "_")* NUM:

```
(NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + "0"
OP:
```

"+"

COMMENT: "/*" • (ALL* • "*/" • ALL*) • "*/"

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"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if). WHITESPACE, IDENT(true), WHITESPACE, KEYWORD(then), WHITESPACE. KEYWORD(then), WHITESPACE. NUM(42), WHITESPACE, KEYWORD(else). WHITESPACE, OP(+)

"if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if), IDENT(true), KEYWORD(then), KEYWORD(then), NUM(42), KEYWORD(else), OP(+) There is one small problem with the tokenizer. How should we tokenize:

```
OP:

"+", "-"

NUM:

(NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + "0"

NUMBER:

NUM + ("-" · NUM)
```



Assume you have an alphabet consisting of the letters a, b and c only. Find a regular expression that matches all strings except ab, ac and cba.

Deterministic Finite Automata

A deterministic finite automaton consists of:

- a finite set of states
- one of these states is the start state
- some states are accepting states, and
- there is transition function

which takes a state and a character as arguments and produces a new state

this function might not always be defined everywhere

 $A(Q, q_0, F, \delta)$





- start can be an accepting state
- it is possible that there is no accepting state
- all states might be accepting (but does not necessarily mean all strings are accepted)



for this automaton δ is the function

$$\begin{array}{ll} (q_0, a) \rightarrow q_1 & (q_1, a) \rightarrow q_4 & (q_4, a) \rightarrow q_4 \\ (q_0, b) \rightarrow q_2 & (q_1, b) \rightarrow q_2 & (q_4, b) \rightarrow q_4 \end{array} \cdots$$

Accepting a String

Given

 $A(Q,q_0,F,\delta)$

you can define

$$egin{aligned} \hat{\delta}(q,"") &= q \ \hat{\delta}(q,c::s) &= \hat{\delta}(\delta(q,c),s) \end{aligned}$$

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Whether a string s is accepted by A?

 $\hat{\delta}(q_0,s)\in F$

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Non-Deterministic Finite Automata

A non-deterministic finite automaton consists again of:

- a finite set of states
- one of these states is the start state
- some states are accepting states, and
- there is transition relation

 $(q_1, a) \rightarrow q_2$ $(q_1, a) \rightarrow q_3$

 $(q_1, \epsilon) \rightarrow q_2$







 $\boldsymbol{\epsilon}$



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Why can't we just have an epsilon transition from the accepting states to the starting state?

Subset Construction



Subset Construction



Regular Languages

A language is regular iff there exists a regular expression that recognises all its strings.

or equivalently

A language is regular iff there exists a deterministic finite automaton that recognises all its strings.

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Why is every finite set of strings a regular language?





minimal automaton

- **1** Take all pairs (q, p) with $q \neq p$
- Mark all pairs that accepting and non-accepting states
- For all unmarked pairs (q, p) and all characters c tests wether

$(\delta(q,c), \delta(p,c))$

are marked. If yes, then also mark bl(q, p)

- Repeat last step until no chance.
- All unmarked pairs can be merged.

Given the function

$$egin{aligned} rev(arnothing) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} arnothing \ rev(\epsilon) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} \epsilon \ rev(c) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} c \ rev(r_1+r_2) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} rev(r_1) + rev(r_2) \ rev(r_1\cdot r_2) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} rev(r_2) \cdot rev(r_1) \ rev(r^*) &\stackrel{ ext{def}}{=} rev(r)^* \end{aligned}$$

and the set

$$Rev\,A\stackrel{\scriptscriptstyle{\mathsf{def}}}{=}\{s^{-1}\mid s\in A\}$$

prove whether

$$L(rev(r)) = Rev(L(r))$$

 The star-case in our proof about the matcher needs the following lemma

 $\operatorname{Der} \operatorname{c} A^* = (\operatorname{Der} \operatorname{c} A) \otimes A^*$

- If " " ∈ A, then
 Derc(A @ B) = (DercA) @ B ∪ (DercB)
- If " " ∉ A, then
 Der c (A @ B) = (Der c A) @ B

- Assuming you have the alphabet {a, b, c}
- Give a regular expression that can recognise all strings that have at least one b.

"I hate coding. I do not want to look at code."