

tphols-2011

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1 Direction *regular language* \Rightarrow *finite partition*

A *deterministic finite automata (DFA)* M is a 5-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$, where:

1. Q is a finite set of *states*, also denoted Q_M .
2. Σ is a finite set of *alphabets*, also denoted Σ_M .
3. δ is a *transition function* of type $Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$ (a total function), also denoted δ_M .
4. $s \in Q$ is a state called *initial state*, also denoted s_M .
5. $F \subseteq Q$ is a set of states named *accepting states*, also denoted F_M .

Therefore, we have $M = (Q_M, \Sigma_M, \delta_M, s_M, F_M)$. Every DFA M can be interpreted as a function assigning states to strings, denoted $\hat{\delta}_M$, the definition of which is as the following:

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\delta}_M(\[]) &\equiv s_M \\ \hat{\delta}_M(xa) &\equiv \delta_M(\hat{\delta}_M(x), a)\end{aligned}\tag{1}$$

A string x is said to be *accepted* (or *recognized*) by a DFA M if $\hat{\delta}_M(x) \in F_M$. The language recognized by DFA M , denoted $L(M)$, is defined as:

$$L(M) \equiv \{x \mid \hat{\delta}_M(x) \in F_M\}\tag{2}$$

The standard way of specifying a language \mathcal{L} as *regular* is by stipulating that: $\mathcal{L} = L(M)$ for some DFA M .

For any DFA M , the DFA obtained by changing initial state to another $p \in Q_M$ is denoted M_p , which is defined as:

$$M_p \equiv (Q_M, \Sigma_M, \delta_M, p, F_M) \quad (3)$$

Two states $p, q \in Q_M$ are said to be *equivalent*, denoted $p \approx_M q$, iff.

$$L(M_p) = L(M_q) \quad (4)$$

It is obvious that \approx_M is an equivalent relation over Q_M . and the partition induced by \approx_M has $|Q_M|$ equivalent classes. By overloading \approx_M , an equivalent relation over strings can be defined:

$$x \approx_M y \equiv \hat{\delta}_M(x) \approx_M \hat{\delta}_M(y) \quad (5)$$

It can be proved that the the partition induced by \approx_M also has $|Q_M|$ equivalent classes. It is also easy to show that: if $x \approx_M y$, then $x \approx_{L(M)} y$, and this means \approx_M is a more refined equivalent relation than $\approx_{L(M)}$. Since partition induced by \approx_M is finite, the one induced by $\approx_{L(M)}$ must also be finite. Now, we get one direction of Myhill-Nerode Theorem:

Lemma 1 (Myhill-Nerode Theorem, Direction one). *If a language \mathcal{L} is regular (i.e. $\mathcal{L} = L(M)$ for some DFA M), then the partition induced by $\approx_{\mathcal{L}}$ is finite.*

The other direction is:

Lemma 2 (Myhill-Nerode Theorem, Direction two). *If the partition induced by $\approx_{\mathcal{L}}$ is finite, then \mathcal{L} is regular (i.e. $\mathcal{L} = L(M)$ for some DFA M).*

To prove this lemma, a DFA $M_{\mathcal{L}}$ is constructed out of $\approx_{\mathcal{L}}$ with:

$$Q_{M_{\mathcal{L}}} \equiv \{ \llbracket x \rrbracket_{\approx_{\mathcal{L}}} \mid x \in \Sigma^* \} \quad (6a)$$

$$\Sigma_{M_{\mathcal{L}}} \equiv \Sigma_M \quad (6b)$$

$$\delta_{M_{\mathcal{L}}} \equiv (\lambda(\llbracket x \rrbracket_{\approx_{\mathcal{L}}}, a) \cdot \llbracket xa \rrbracket_{\approx_{\mathcal{L}}}) \quad (6c)$$

$$s_{M_{\mathcal{L}}} \equiv \llbracket \epsilon \rrbracket_{\approx_{\mathcal{L}}} \quad (6d)$$

$$F_{M_{\mathcal{L}}} \equiv \{ \llbracket x \rrbracket_{\approx_{\mathcal{L}}} \mid x \in \mathcal{L} \} \quad (6e)$$

It can be proved that $\mathcal{L} = L(M_{\mathcal{L}})$.

end

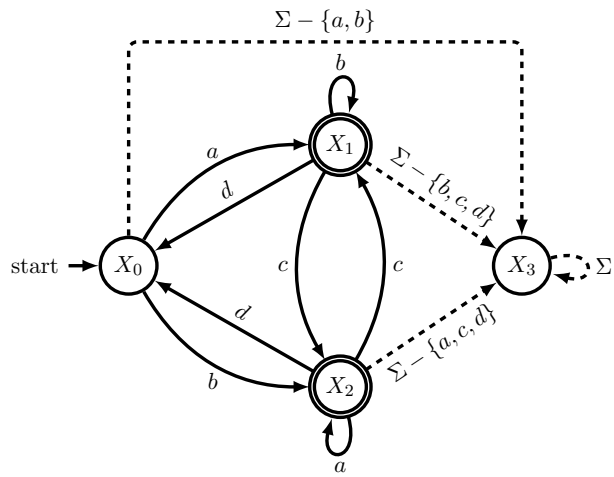


Figure 1: The relationship between automata and finite partition