

Top Hat
8053

Sipser's Problem Naming Scheme:

Kind of Question



category of machine or other formal object being asked about.

A: "Does M accept x?"
 $\stackrel{\text{accept}}{\text{Two givens}}$
E for empty?

E: "Is L(M) = \emptyset ?"

NE: "Is L(M) $\neq \emptyset$?"

ALL: "Is L(M) = Σ^* ?"

Has just one given: an encoding of a machine M

NE for non-emptiness: $(\exists x) x \in L(M)$?

x is quantified: not a given

Empty \cap : Given M₁ and M₂, is L(M₁) \cap L(M₂) = \emptyset ?

Equal: Given M₁ and M₂, is L(M₁) = L(M₂)?

The above problems talk only about accept/reject and can be worded the same to be about regexps r or grammars G. More specific to machines, we can ask:

HALT (HP): Given M and x, does M(x) \downarrow ?

TOT: Given just M, does M halt for all inputs?
 $(\forall x) M(x) \downarrow$
 ie., does

How problems are specified:

A DFA

Name of problem often synonymous with the language L of the problem
 ie. $(\forall x) M(x) \downarrow$?

INPUT: A DFA M and an x $\in \Sigma^*$

QUERY: Does M accept x?

Language is

L = { z = <M, x> : the answer is yes, ie. M accepts x }

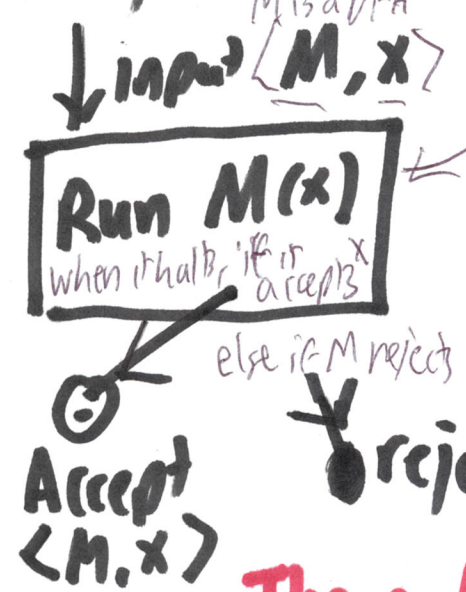
Algorithm to decide ADFA problem/lang. ⁽²⁾

Pseudocode for a TM or code

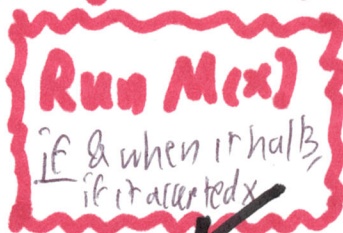
0. Given DFA M and $x \in \Sigma^*$ ($M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$)
1. Run M on x . M must halt within $|x|+1$ of its own steps.
2. If M accepts x , you accept $\langle M, x \rangle$. If not, you reject $\langle M, x \rangle$.

Since your algorithm is total, the ADFA language is decidable.

Flowchart Diagram



old Flowchart Convention:
Solid box means routine is guaranteed to halt. Fuzzy box \equiv might not exit.



$A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, x \rangle : M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } x \}$

The code in both cases can be the "Turing Kit". Turing Kit is not a decider - not total - but does show that the A_{TM} language is computably enumerable. We will see next week that A_{TM} is not in DEC. ie. C.E. But ADFA is decidable, because when M is a DFA, both M and Turing Kit on M are guaranteed to halt.

ADPDA: INPUT: A DPDA $M = (Q, \Sigma, \dots)$ $\downarrow M, x$ (3)
 und an $x \in \Sigma^*$
QUES: Does M accept x ?

First edit M to M' which makes all non-halting (e.g. e_1, e_2, \dots) cases go straight to qref. Then Run $M'(x)$ if it accepts else

Handwave (*)
 Yes, this edit can always be determined, so algorithm is total.

Accept / reject

ANFA:
 INST: An NFA N , an $x \in \Sigma^*$
 QUES: Does N accept x ?

Can convert N to an equiv't DFA M , then run $M(x)$.
 but this can incur exponential blowup in time.

Can solve in $\text{poly}(|x|)$ time by simulating $N(x)$ directly keeping track of which states are "currently lit".
 This is how UNIX grep and scripting langs solve A REGEX

ENFA: INSTANCE: An NFA N (no "x" this time)
 QUESTION: Is $L(N) \neq \emptyset$? $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$

$L(N) \neq \emptyset \iff N$ has a path from s to some state in F .
 The $x \in L(N)$ is whatever chars are processed on that path.

Algorithm: • Do Breadth-First Search starting from s .
 Must halt within m iterations, $m = |Q|$.
 This is a decider for NE DFA too.
 • Accept $\langle N \rangle$ iff some state in F is found.

How about ALL DFA: \underline{I} : A DFA $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$
 Decider: $Q: \text{Is } L(M) = \Sigma^* ?$ (4)

1. Given M , first convert M into M' st.

$M' = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, Q \setminus F)$ $L(M') = \sim L(M)$ ie. $\Sigma^* \setminus L(M)$.
 runs in poly time. Hence $L(M) = \Sigma^* \Leftrightarrow L(M') = \emptyset \Leftrightarrow L(M') \notin \text{NE}_{\text{DFA}}$ (ie. $\in \text{E}_{\text{DFA}}$)

2. Feed $L(M')$ to your algorithm for NE_{DFA} . if it accepts, you reject. if it rejects, you accept.

So this is a correct decider. (Idea for we reduced ALL DFA to the NE_{DFA} problem)
 ch 5:

How about ALL NFA?

Possible decider in flowchart form.

Decider, but not in poly(n) time!

↓ input N (an NFA)

Convert N to equiv DFA M

run about alg for ALL DFA

In fact ALL NFA and ALL REGEXP are both NP-hard.

How about ALL DPOA?

Can we same complementing trick after converting M to DPOA M' that always halts. Then run NE_{CFG} algm → next lecture.

How about ALL NPOA and ALL CFG?

In fact, THERE IS NO DECIDER! The trick can't be made to work.