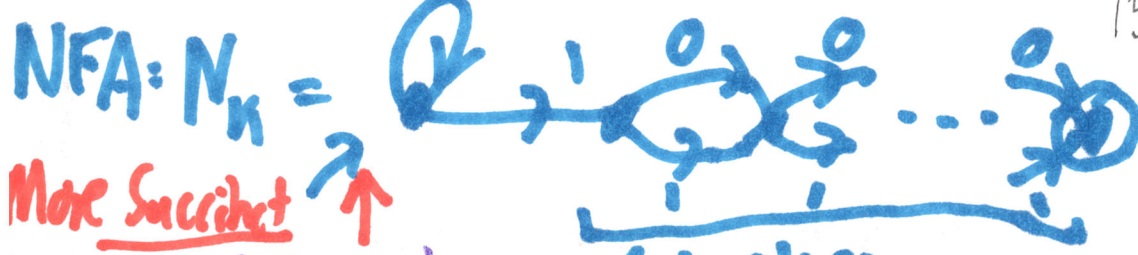


For each  $k \geq 1$ , define  $L_k$  (over  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$ )

$L_k = \{x : \text{the } k\text{th bit from the right is a 1}\}$

Regexp:  $a_k = (0+1)^* \cdot 1 \cdot (0+1)^*$

$(k-1)$  This "powering" abbreviation make  $a_k$  use only  $(\log_2 k)$  characters



$k+1$  states  $\approx O(k)$  ASCII encode

More Succinct  $\uparrow$

Less Succinct, Verbose  $\downarrow$   $k-1$  steps

But, every DFA  $M_k$  st.  $L(M_k) = L_k$  needs  $2^k$  states! pairwise distinguishable

Proof: Take  $S = \{0,1\}^k$ . Claim:  $S$  is PD for  $L_k$ .

ie.  $(\forall x,y \in S, x \neq y) (\exists z \in \Sigma^*) L_k(xz) \neq L_k(yz)$ .

Since  $|S| = 2^k$ , proof follows.  $x \not\sim_{L_k} y$ , ie.  $[x] \neq [y]$ .

Let any  $x,y \in S, x \neq y$  be given.

Goal: show there exists a string  $z \in \Sigma^*$  st. .... Take  $z = \dots$

By  $x \neq y$ , there is a place  $j$  (numbering from 1 left to right) such that  $x$  has a 0 in place  $j$  but  $y$  has a 1 in place  $j$  (or vice-versa). Take  $z = 0^{j-1}$ . Then  $xz \notin L_k$  and  $yz \in L_k$ . Since  $x,y \in S$  are an arbitrary pair,  $S$  is PD for  $L_k$ .

Furthermore,  $2^K$  states suffice: Build  $M_K$  with each state  $q_u$  representing a string  $u \in \Sigma$ . The state  $q_K$  remembers the last  $K$  bits read. Transitions

$$\delta(q_u, 0) = q_{u'}$$

$$\delta(q_u, 1) = q_{u''}$$

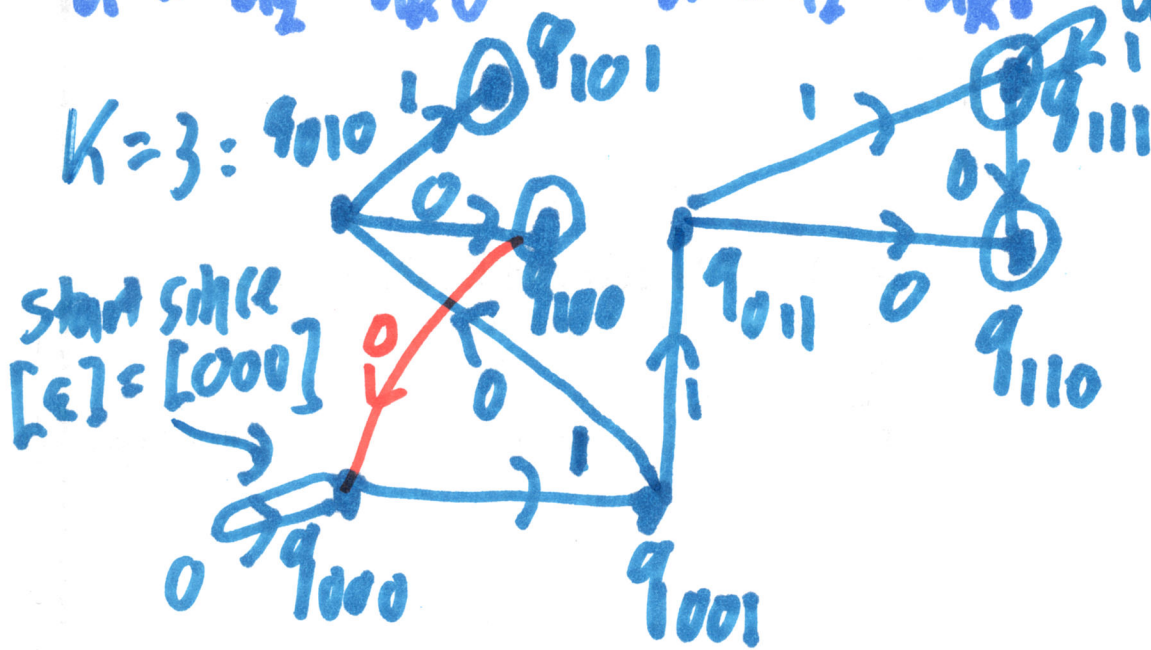
$$u' = u_2 \dots u_k 0$$

$$u'' = u_2 \dots u_k 1$$

$$F = \{q_u : u = 1\}$$

For  $|u| < K$ , consid

$$u' = 0^{K-|u|} u$$



So 8 states are necessary and sufficient for  $L_3$ , and  $2^K$  for  $L_K$ .

Consider  $L_\infty = \bigcup_{K=1}^{\infty} L_K$ . How many equiv. classes?

$L_\infty = \{x \in \{0,1\}^* : \text{for some } K \geq 1, \text{ the } K\text{th char from right in } x \text{ is a } 1\}$

$= \{x : x \text{ has a } 1\} = 0^* 1 (0+1)^*$



2 states and  $[0] \neq [1]$

so this is minimal

$L'_\infty = \{0^K x : \text{the } K\text{th char}^{\text{from right}} \text{ in } x \text{ is a } 1, K \geq 1\}$

now  $x = 100$  is no longer in  $L'_\infty$ , nor  $0100$ .

How about  $x = 00010$ ? yes:  $y = \underbrace{00}_{k=2} \cdot \underbrace{010}_{"x"} \quad (3)$

Prove:  $L'_{\infty}$  is not regular. Method:

Take  $S = 0^+$ . Clearly  $S$  is infinite; we will show  $S$  is PD for  $L'_{\infty}$ .

Let any  $x, y \in S$ ,  $x \neq y$ , be given. Then there are natural  $m, n \geq 1$  s.t.  $x = 0^m$  and  $y = 0^n$  and  $m < n$

Without loss of generality, "x" can refer to the shorter one. "wlog."

Take  $z = 10^{m-1}$  OK since  $m \geq 1$  by  $S = 0^+$ .

Then  $xz = 0^m 10^{m-1} \in L'_{\infty}$  since it has a 1 in place  $m$  from right  
but  $yz = 0^n 10^{m-1} \notin L'_{\infty}$ ? no

Back up!

Take  $z = 10^{n-1}$  =  $0^m \cdot \underbrace{0^{n-m} 10^{n-1}}_{\text{still good, i.e. still in } L}$

Then  $xz = 0^m 10^{n-1} \notin L'_{\infty}$  since  $m$  is too low  
while  $yz = 0^n 10^{n-1} \in L'_{\infty}$  "just right"

Thus  $L'_{\infty}(xz) \neq L'_{\infty}(yz)$  and since  $x, y \in S$  are arbitrary and  $S$  is infinite,  $L'_{\infty}$  is not regular.