CS 516—Software Foundations via Formal Languages—Spring 2025

Problem Set 4

Model Answers

Problem 1

(a) The finite automaton M is



(b) First, we put the expression of M in Forlan's syntax

{states} B, C {start state} B {accepting states} B
{transitions}
B, 0 -> C; B, 1 -> B; B, 00111 -> B; B, 000111 -> B;
C, 10 -> C; C, 111 -> B

in the file ps4-p1-fa (see the course website), and load this file into Forlan, calling the result fa:

- val fa = FA.input "ps4-p1-fa"; val fa = - : fa

Next we load the file ps4-p1.sml

```
val A = StrSet.fromString "001, 011, 101, 111";
(* val inB : str -> bool
    tests whether a string over the alphabet {0, 1} is in B *)
fun inB nil = true
    | inB (b :: bs) =
        if Sym.equal(b, Sym.fromString "0")
        then Set.exists (fn x => Str.prefix(x, bs)) A andalso
            inB bs
        else inB bs
(* val upto : int -> str set
    if n >= 0, then upto n returns all strings over alphabet {0, 1} of
    length no more than n *)
```

```
fun upto 0 : str set = Set.sing nil
  | upto n
      let val xs = upto(n - 1)
          val ys = Set.filter (fn x => length x = n - 1) xs
      in StrSet.union
         (xs, StrSet.concat(StrSet.fromString "0, 1", ys))
      end;
(* val partition : int -> str set * str set
   if n \ge 0, then partition n returns (xs, ys) where:
   xs is all elements of upto n that are in B; and
   ys is all elements of upto n that are not in B *)
fun partition n = Set.partition inB (upto n);
(* val test = fn : int -> fa -> str option * str option
   if n >= 0, then test n returns a function f such that, for all FAs
   fa, f fa returns a pair (xOpt, yOpt) such that:
     If there is an element of \{0, 1\}* of length no more than n that
     is in B but is not accepted by fa, then xOpt = SOME x for some
     such x; otherwise, xOpt = NONE.
     If there is an element of \{0, 1\}* of length no more than n that
     is not in B but is accepted by fa, then yOpt = SOME y for some
     such y; otherwise, yOpt = NONE. *)
fun test n =
      let val (goods, bads) = partition n
      in fn fa =>
              let val accepted
                                    = FA.accepted fa
                  val goodNotAccOpt = Set.position (not o accepted) goods
                  val badAccOpt
                                 = Set.position accepted bads
              in ((case goodNotAccOpt of
                        NONE => NONE
                      SOME i => SOME(ListAux.sub(Set.toList goods, i))),
                  (case badAccOpt of
                        NONE => NONE
                      | SOME i => SOME(ListAux.sub(Set.toList bads, i))))
              end
      end;
```

(see the course website) defining the function test into Forlan:

- use "ps4-p1.sml";

```
[opening ps4-p1.sml]
val A = - : str set
val inB = fn : sym list -> bool
val upto = fn : int -> str set
val partition = fn : int -> sym list set * sym list set
val test = fn : int -> fa -> sym list option * sym list option
val it = () : unit
```

Finally, we apply test to arguments 20 and fa:

```
- test 20 fa;
val it = (NONE,NONE) : sym list option * sym list option
```

Problem 2

(a) Let $C = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid 0 \text{ is a suffix of } w \text{ and, for all } x, y \in \{0,1\}^*, \text{ if } w = x0y, \text{ then } y \in \{\%,10\} \text{ or there is a } z \in A \text{ such that } z \text{ is a prefix of } y\}$. For example, 0 and 010 are both elements of C, even though they are not elements of B.

Lemma PS4.2.1

If $w \in B$, then either

- w = %; or
- w = x1, for some $x \in B$; or
- w = x**00111**, for some $x \in B$; or
- w = x000111, for some $x \in B$; or
- w = x111, for some $x \in C$.

Proof. Suppose $w \in B$. If w = %, then we are done, so suppose $w \neq \%$. Since $w \in B$, w cannot end in 0, so w = t1 for some $t \in \{0, 1\}^*$. If $t \in B$, then we are done, so suppose $t \notin B$. Thus t = y0zfor some $y, z \in \{0, 1\}^*$ such that there is no $u \in A$ such that u is a prefix of z. Thus w = t1 = y0z1. Because $w \in B$, there is an element of A that is a prefix of z1. Since the elements of A all have length 3, it follows that $|z| \ge 2$. If $|z| \ge 3$, then the fact that an element of A is a prefix of z1 would imply that it is also a prefix of z—contradiction. Thus |z| = 2. Because w = y0z1 and $w \in B$, z cannot be 00, 01 or 10, as then w would have a 0 not followed by at least three symbols. Thus z = 11, so that w = y0z1 = y0111. y cannot end with more than two occurrences of 0, as a string having 0000 as a substring cannot be in B. Thus we have the following three cases to consider.

• Suppose y = s00, for some $s \in \{0, 1\}^*$ that does not end with a 0. Thus w = y0111 = s000111, and it will suffice to show that $s \in B$. Suppose $u, v \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and s = u0v. We must show that there is an element of A that is a prefix of v. We have that w = u0v000111.

Suppose, toward a contradiction, that $|v| \leq 2$. If v = % or v ends in a 0, then 0000 is a substring of w—contradiction. Otherwise, $v \in \{1, 01, 11\}$. If v = 1, then w = u0(1000111), but no element of A is a prefix of 1000111—contradiction. If v = 01, then w = u0(01000111), but no element of A is a prefix of 01000111—contradiction. Finally, if v = 11, then w = u0(11000111),

but no element of A is a prefix of 11000111—contradiction. Since we obtained a contradiction in all cases, we have an overall contradiction. Thus $|v| \ge 3$.

Since w = u0(v000111) and $w \in B$, it follows that there is an $r \in A$ such that r is a prefix of v000111. But $|v| \ge 3$, and thus r is also a prefix of v.

• Suppose y = s0, for some $s \in \{0, 1\}^*$ that does not end with a 0. Thus w = y0111 = s00111, so it will suffice to show that $s \in B$. Suppose $u, v \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and s = u0v. We must show that there is an element of A that is a prefix of v. We have that w = u0(v00111).

Suppose, toward a contradiction, that $|v| \leq 2$. If v = % or v ends in a 0, then s = u0v ends in a 0—contradiction. Otherwise, $v \in \{1, 01, 11\}$. If v = 1, then w = u0(100111), but there is no element of A that is a prefix of 100111—contradiction. If v = 01, then w = u0(0100111), but there is no element of A that is a prefix of 0100111. And if v = 11, then w = u0(1100111), but there is no element of A that is a prefix of 1100111. Since we obtained a contradiction in each case, we have an overall contradiction. Thus $|v| \geq 3$.

Since w = u0(v00111) and $w \in B$, it follows that there is an $r \in A$ such that r is a prefix of v00111. But $|v| \ge 3$, and thus r is also a prefix of v.

Suppose y does not end with a 0. Since w = y0111 = (y0)(111), it will suffice to show that y0 ∈ C. Clearly y0 ends in a 0. So suppose u, v ∈ {0,1}* and y0 = u0v. We must show that v ∈ {%, 10} or there is an element of A that is a prefix of v. If v = %, then we are done. So suppose v ≠ %. Since y0 = u0v, it follows that v = v'0 for some v' ∈ {0,1}*. Because y0 = u0v = u0v'0, it follows that y = u0v' and w = u0v'0111. We must show that v'0 ∈ {%, 10} or there is an element of A that is a prefix of v'0. Suppose |v'| ≥ 2. Since w = u0(v'0111) and w ∈ B, we have that there is an element of A that is a prefix of v'0. Suppose |v'| ≥ 2. Since w = u0(v'0111) and w ∈ B, we have that there is an element of A that is a prefix of v'0. It have |v'| ≤ 1. We cannot have v' = % or v' = 0, because then y = u0v' ends in 0—contradiction. So v' = 1. But then v'0 = 10 ∈ {%, 10}, and we are done.

Lemma PS4.2.2

If $w \in C$, then either

- w = x0, for some $x \in B$; or
- w = x10, for some $x \in C$.

Proof. Suppose $w \in C$. Thus w = x0 for some $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$. If $x \in B$, then we are done, so suppose $x \notin B$. Thus x = u0v for some $u, v \in \{0, 1\}^*$ such that there is no $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v. Thus w = u0v0.

Suppose, toward a contradiction, that v = % or 0 is a suffix of v. Then 00 is a suffix of $w \in C$, so that $0 \in \{\%, 10\}$ or there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of 0—contradiction. Thus $|v| \ge 1$ and 0 is not a suffix of v.

Suppose, toward a contradiction, that $|v| \ge 2$. Then $|v\mathbf{0}| \ge 3$. Since $u\mathbf{0}(v\mathbf{0}) = w \in C$, either $v\mathbf{0} \in \{\%, \mathbf{10}\}$ or there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of $v\mathbf{0}$. The first case is impossible because

 $|v\mathbf{0}| \ge 3$. So we have that z is a prefix of $v\mathbf{0}$, for some $z \in A$. If $|v\mathbf{0}| = 3$, we have our contradiction, since all elements of A end in 1. And if $|v\mathbf{0}| > 3$, then z is a prefix of v—contradiction. Thus $|v| \le 1$.

Summarizing, we know that |v| = 1 and v does not end in 0. Hence v = 1, and w = u0v0 = (u0)10. It will suffice show that that $u0 \in C$. Clearly u0 ends in 0. Suppose $r, s \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and u0 = r0s. We must show that $s \in \{\%, 10\}$ or there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of s. If s = %, then we are done. So suppose $s \neq \%$. Since u0 = r0s, it follows that s = s'0 for some $s' \in \{0, 1\}^*$. Thus w = u010 = r0s10 = r0s'010, and we must show that $s'0 \in \{\%, 10\}$ or there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of s'0. $s' \neq \%$, as otherwise we would have $r0(010) = r0s'010 = w \in C$, which is impossible. $s' \neq 0$, as otherwise we would have $(r0)0(010) = r0s'010 = w \in C$, which is impossible. Thus either s' = 1 or $|s'| \ge 2$, so there are two cases to consider.

- Suppose s' = 1. Then $s'0 = 10 \in \{\%, 10\}$.
- Suppose $|s'| \ge 2$. Then $|s'0| \ge 3$. Since $(r)O(s'010) = w \in C$, it follows that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of s'010. But $|s'0| \ge 3$, and thus z is a prefix of s'0.

Lemma PS4.2.3

For all $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$:

- (B) if $w \in B$, then $w \in \Lambda_B$;
- (C) if $w \in C$, then $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$.

Proof. We proceed by strong string induction. Suppose $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: for all $x \in \{0, 1\}^*$, if x is a proper substring of w, then

- (B) if $x \in B$, then $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$;
- (C) if $x \in C$, then $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$.

We must show that

- (B) if $w \in B$, then $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$;
- (C) if $w \in C$, then $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$.

There are two parts to consider.

- (B) Suppose $w \in B$. We must show that $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$. By Lemma PS4.2.1, there are five cases to consider.
 - Suppose w = %. Then $w = \% \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$, since B is *M*'s start state.
 - Suppose $w = x\mathbf{1}$, for some $x \in B$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$. And $\mathsf{B}, \mathbf{1} \to \mathsf{B} \in T_M$, so that $w = x\mathbf{1} \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$.
 - Suppose w = x00111, for some $x \in B$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$. And $\mathsf{B}, 00111 \to \mathsf{B} \in T_M$, so that $w = x00111 \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$.
 - Suppose w = x000111, for some $x \in B$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$. And $\mathsf{B},000111 \to \mathsf{B} \in T_M$, so that $w = x000111 \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$.

- Suppose w = x111, for some $x \in C$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$. And $\mathsf{C}, 111 \to \mathsf{B} \in T_M$, so that $w = x111 \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$.
- (C) Suppose $w \in C$. We must show that $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$. By Lemma PS4.2.2, there are two cases to consider.
 - Suppose w = x0, for some $x \in B$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_B$. And $B, 0 \to C \in T_M$, so that $w = x0 \in \Lambda_C$.
 - Suppose w = x10, for some $x \in C$. By the inductive hypothesis, we have that $x \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$. And $\mathsf{C}, 10 \to \mathsf{C} \in T_M$, so that $w = x10 \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$.

Since B is M's only accepting state, we have that $L(M) = \Lambda_B$, so that $B \subseteq \Lambda_B = L(M)$, by Lemma PS4.2.3(B).

(b) Define C as in part (a).

Lemma PS4.2.4

- (1) $\% \in B$.
- (2) $B\{1\} \subseteq B$.
- (3) $B\{00111\} \subseteq B$.
- (4) $B\{000111\} \subseteq B$.
- (5) $B\{\mathbf{0}\} \subseteq C$.
- (6) $C\{10\} \subseteq C$.
- (7) $C\{111\} \subseteq B$.

Proof. From Section 3.2 of the slides and book, we know that, for all $x, y \in B$, $xy \in B$, and also that %, 1, 0111, 00111 and 000111 are in B.

- (1) $(\% \in B)$ Clearly, $\% \in B$.
- (2) $(B\{1\} \subseteq B)$ Suppose $w \in B\{1\}$, so that w = x1 for some $x \in B$. Because $x \in B$ and $1 \in B$, we have $w = x1 \in B$.
- (3) $(B\{00111\} \subseteq B)$ Suppose $w \in B\{00111\}$, so that w = x(00111) for some $x \in B$. Because $x \in B$ and $00111 \in B$, we have $w = x(00111) \in B$.
- (4) $(B\{000111\} \subseteq B)$ Suppose $w \in B\{000111\}$, so that w = x(000111) for some $x \in B$. Because $x \in B$ and $000111 \in B$, we have $w = x(000111) \in B$.

- (5) (B{0} ⊆ C) Suppose w ∈ B{0}, so that w = x0 for some x ∈ B. We must show that w = x0 ∈ C. Clearly, 0 is a suffix of x0. To complete the proof that x0 ∈ C, suppose u, v ∈ {0,1}* and x0 = u0v. We must show that v ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v. If v = %, then we are done. Otherwise, because x0 = u0v, it follows that v = v'0 for some v' ∈ {0,1}*. Since x0 = u0v = u0v'0, we have x = u0v', so that u0v' ∈ B. We must show that v'0 ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v'0. Since u0v' ∈ B, there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v'0 and z ∈ A.
- (6) (C{10} ⊆ C) Suppose w ∈ C{10} so that w = x10 for some x ∈ C. We must show that w = x10 ∈ C. Clearly 0 is a suffix of x10. Suppose u, v ∈ {0,1}* and x10 = u0v. We must show that v ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v. If v = % then we are done. Otherwise, because x10 = u0v, it follows that v = v'0 for some v' ∈ {0,1}*. Since x10 = u0v = u0v'0, it follows that x1 = u0v'. We must show that v'0 ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v'0 ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v'0. Since x1 = u0v', it follows that v' = v''1 for some v'' ∈ {0,1}*. Because x1 = u0v' = u0v''1, it follows that u0v'' = x ∈ C. We must show that v''10 ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v''10. Since u0v'' ∈ C, either v'' ∈ {%, 10} or there is a z ∈ A such that z is a prefix of v''. There are three cases to consider.
 - Suppose v'' = %. Then $v'' 10 = 10 \in \{\%, 10\}$.
 - Suppose v'' = 10. Then v'' 10 = 1010, so that $101 \in A$ and 101 is a prefix of v'' 10.
 - Suppose there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v''. Then z is also a prefix of v''10.
- (7) $(C\{111\} \subseteq B)$ Suppose $w \in C\{111\}$, so that w = x111 for some $x \in C$. We must show that $w = x111 \in B$. Suppose $u, v \in \{0, 1\}^*$ and x111 = u0v. We must show that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v. Since x111 = u0v, we have that v = v'1 for some $v' \in \{0, 1\}^*$. We must show that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v'1. Since x111 = u0v = u0v'1, it follows that x11 = u0v'. Consequently, v' = v''1 for some $v'' \in \{0, 1\}^*$. We must show that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v''11. Since x111 = u0v' = u0v'1, we have that x1 = u0v''. Thus v'' = v'''1 for some $v'' \in \{0, 1\}^*$. We must show that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v''11. Since x11 = u0v' = u0v''1, we have that x1 = u0v''. Thus v'' = v'''1 for some $v''' \in \{0, 1\}^*$. We must show that there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v'''11. Since x1 = u0v'' are there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v'''111. Since x1 = u0v''' = u0v'''1, we have that $u0v''' = x \in C$. Since $u0v''' \in C$, either $v''' \in \{\%, 10\}$ or there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v'''. Thus there are three cases to consider.
 - Suppose v''' = %. Then 111 is a prefix of 111 = v''' 111 and $111 \in A$.
 - Suppose v''' = 10. Then 101 is a prefix of 10111 = v'''111 and $101 \in A$.
 - Suppose there is a $z \in A$ such that z is a prefix of v'''. Then z is also a prefix of v'''111.

Lemma PS4.2.5

(B) For all $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}, w \in B$.

(C) For all $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}, w \in C$.

Proof. We proceed by induction on Λ . There are 7 (1 plus the number of transitions) parts to show.

(empty string) We have that $\% \in B$ by Lemma PS4.2.4(1), as required.

- $(\mathsf{B}, \mathsf{0} \to \mathsf{C})$ Suppose $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in B$. Then $w\mathsf{0} \in B\{\mathsf{0}\} \subseteq C$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(5), as required.
- (B, 1 \rightarrow B) Suppose $w \in \Lambda_B$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in B$. Then $w1 \in B\{1\} \subseteq B$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(2), as required.
- (B,00111 \rightarrow B) Suppose $w \in \Lambda_B$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in B$. Then $w(00111) \in B\{00111\} \subseteq B$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(3), as required.
- $(\mathsf{B}, \mathsf{000111} \to \mathsf{B})$ Suppose $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{B}}$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in B$. Then $w(\mathsf{000111}) \in B\{\mathsf{000111}\} \subseteq B$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(4), as required.
- $(\mathsf{C}, \mathsf{10} \to \mathsf{C})$ Suppose $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in C$. Then $w(\mathsf{10}) \in C\{\mathsf{10}\} \subseteq C$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(6), as required.
- $(\mathsf{C}, 111 \to \mathsf{B})$ Suppose $w \in \Lambda_{\mathsf{C}}$, and assume the inductive hypothesis: $w \in C$. Then $w(111) \in C\{111\} \subseteq B$, by Lemma PS4.2.4(7), as required.

Since B is M's only accepting state, we have that $L(M) = \Lambda_B$, so that $L(M) = \Lambda_B \subseteq B$, by Lemma PS4.2.5(B).