

Formal Languages and Automata Theory

Exercises Regular Languages

Unit 5

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* Several exercises are based on the ones proposed in the following books:

- Enrique Alfonseca Cubero, Manuel Alfonseca Cubero, Roberto Moriyón Salomón. *Teoría de autómatas y lenguajes formales*. McGraw-Hill (2007).
- Manuel Alfonseca, Justo Sancho, Miguel Martínez Orga. *Teoría de lenguajes, gramáticas y autómatas*. Publicaciones R.A.E.C. (1997).
- Pedro Isasi, Paloma Martínez y Daniel Borrajo. *Lenguajes, Gramáticas y Autómatas. Un enfoque práctico*. Addison-Wesley (1997).



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1. Obtain the minimum DFA equivalent to each one of the following grammars describing the intermediate steps: $G \rightarrow \text{NFA} \rightarrow \text{DFA} \rightarrow \text{minimal DFA}$.

<p>a) $G_A = (\{a,b,c\}, \{S,A,B\}, S, P_A)$ $P_A = \{ S ::= aA \mid bB \mid c$ $A ::= aB \mid b \mid cA$ $B ::= a \mid bA \mid c$ $\}$</p>	<p>b) $G_B = (\{a,b,c\}, \{S,B,C,E\}, S, P_B)$ $P_B = \{ S ::= a \mid aS \mid aB \mid cC$ $C ::= c$ $B ::= bE \mid b$ $E ::= bB \mid b$ $\}$</p>
<p>c) $G_C = (\{a,b,c\}, \{S,A,B,C,D\}, S, P_C)$ $P_C = \{ S ::= aA$ $A ::= aA \mid bB \mid a$ $B ::= bB \mid bC \mid b$ $C ::= bC \mid cD \mid bB$ $D ::= bC \mid bB \mid cC$ $\}$</p>	<p>d) $G_D = (\{c,f,d\}, \{A,B,C,D,E,F\}, A, P_D)$ $P_D = \{ A ::= cB \mid cE \mid f \mid fC$ $B ::= cB \mid fD \mid dE$ $C ::= cA$ $D ::= cD \mid fD$ $E ::= cE \mid fF \mid dF$ $F ::= cF \mid fF$ $\}$</p>

Solution:

Section a:

NFA	DFA	Minimal DFA
<p>NFA = $(\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3\}, f, Q_0, Q_3)$</p> <p>$f(Q_0, a) = Q_1$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_2$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_3$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_2, a) = Q_3$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_1$ $f(Q_2, c) = Q_3$</p>	<p>DFA = $(\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4\}, f, Q_0, Q_3)$</p> <p>$f(Q_0, a) = Q_1$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_2$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_3$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_2, a) = Q_3$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_1$ $f(Q_2, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_3, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_3, b) = Q_4$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, b) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_4$</p>	<p>Same DFA.</p>



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Section b:

NFA	DFA	minimal DFA
<p>NFA= ($\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_7\}, f, Q_0, Q_3$)</p> <p> $f(Q_0, a) = Q_0, Q_2, Q_3$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_2, Q_3$ $f(Q_7, b) = Q_2, Q_3$ </p>	<p>DFA= ($\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5, Q_6, Q_8\}, f, Q_0, \{Q_3, Q_4, Q_6, Q_8\}$)</p> <p> $f(Q_0, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_3, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_3, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_4, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_5, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_6, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_6, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_6, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_8, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_8, b) = Q_6$ $f(Q_8, c) = Q_5$ </p>	<p>DFAMin= ($\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5, Q_9\}, f, Q_0, \{Q_3, Q_4, Q_9\}$)</p> <p> $f(Q_0, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_3, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_3, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_4, a) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, b) = Q_9$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_5, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, b) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_9, a) = Q_5$ $f(Q_9, b) = Q_9$ $f(Q_9, c) = Q_5$ </p>



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Section c:

NFA	DFA	Minimal DFA
$NFA = (\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5\}, f, Q_0, Q_5)$ $f(Q_0, a) = Q_1$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_1, Q_5$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_2, Q_3, Q_5$ $f(Q_3, b) = Q_2, Q_3$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, b) = Q_2, Q_3$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_3$	$DFA = (\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_6, Q_7, Q_8, Q_9\}, f, Q_0, \{Q_7, Q_8\})$ $f(Q_0, a) = Q_1$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_6$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_7$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_7, a) = Q_7$ $f(Q_7, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_7, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_2, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_2, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_8, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_8, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_8, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_4, b) = Q_9$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_9, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_9, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_9, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_3, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_3, b) = Q_9$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_6, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_6, b) = Q_6$ $f(Q_6, c) = Q_6$	$DFAMin = (\{a, b, c\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_6, Q_7, Q_8, Q_9, Q_{10}\}, f, Q_0, \{Q_7, Q_8\})$ $f(Q_0, a) = Q_1$ $f(Q_0, b) = Q_6$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_1, a) = Q_7$ $f(Q_1, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_7, a) = Q_7$ $f(Q_7, b) = Q_2$ $f(Q_7, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_2, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_2, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_2, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_8, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_8, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_8, c) = Q_{10}$ $f(Q_9, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_9, b) = Q_8$ $f(Q_9, c) = Q_{10}$ $f(Q_6, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_6, b) = Q_6$ $f(Q_6, c) = Q_6$ $f(Q_{10}, a) = Q_6$ $f(Q_{10}, b) = Q_9$ $f(Q_{10}, c) = Q_{10}$

Section d:

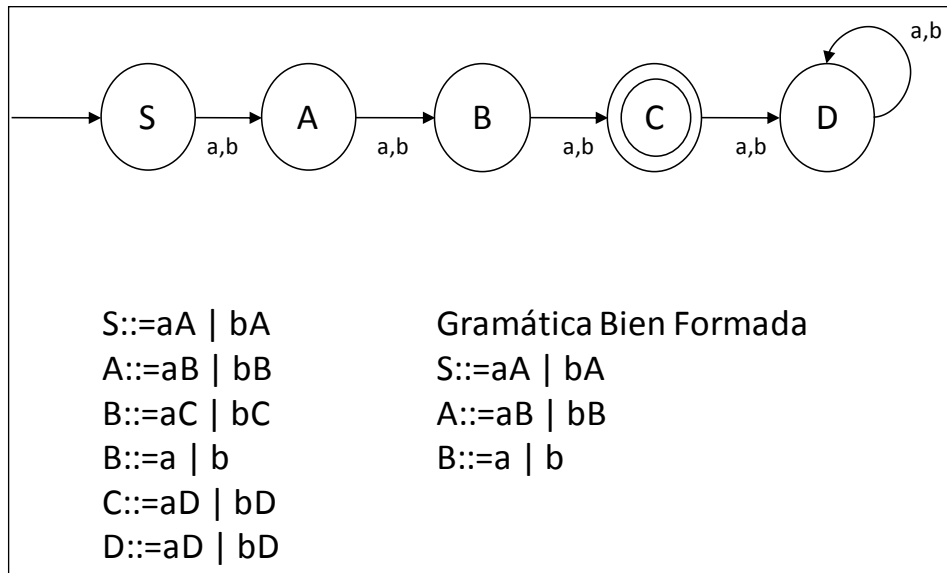
NFA	DFA	Minimal DFA
$NFA = (\{c, f, d\}, \{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, Q_3, Q_4, Q_5, Q_6\}, f, Q_0, Q_6)$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_1, Q_4$ $f(Q_0, f) = Q_2, Q_6$ $f(Q_1, c) = Q_1$ $f(Q_1, f) = Q_3$ $f(Q_1, d) = Q_4$ $f(Q_2, c) = Q_0$ $f(Q_3, c) = Q_3$ $f(Q_3, f) = Q_3$ $f(Q_4, c) = Q_4$ $f(Q_4, f) = Q_5$ $f(Q_4, d) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, f) = Q_5$	$DFA = (\{c, f, d\}, \{Q_0, Q_5, Q_7, Q_8, Q_9, Q_{10}, Q_{11}\}, f, Q_0, Q_8)$ $f(Q_0, c) = Q_7$ $f(Q_0, f) = Q_8$ $f(Q_0, d) = Q_9$ $f(Q_7, c) = Q_7$ $f(Q_7, f) = Q_{10}$ $f(Q_7, d) = Q_{11}$ $f(Q_8, c) = Q_0$ $f(Q_8, f) = Q_9$ $f(Q_8, d) = Q_9$ $f(Q_{10}, c) = Q_{10}$ $f(Q_{10}, f) = Q_{10}$ $f(Q_{10}, d) = Q_9$ $f(Q_{11}, c) = Q_{11}$ $f(Q_{11}, f) = Q_5$ $f(Q_{11}, d) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, c) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, f) = Q_5$ $f(Q_5, d) = Q_9$ $f(Q_9, c) = Q_9$ $f(Q_9, f) = Q_9$ $f(Q_9, d) = Q_9$	$DFAMin = (\{c, f, d\}, \{C_1, C_2, C_3\}, f, C_3, C_2)$ $f(C_3, c) = C_1$ $f(C_3, f) = C_2$ $f(C_3, d) = C_1$ $f(C_1, c) = C_1$ $f(C_1, f) = C_1$ $f(C_1, d) = C_1$ $f(C_2, c) = C_3$ $f(C_2, f) = C_1$ $f(C_2, d) = C_1$



Formal Languages and Automata Theory

2. Given the alphabet $\{a,b\}$, construct a DFA which recognizes string with length "3" of the universal language. Obtain the G3 corresponding to this automaton.

Solution:



3. We have a door with only one lock. To open it, it is necessary to use three different keys (called a,b, and c), in a predefined order, which is following described:

- Key a, then key b, then key c, or
- Key b, then key a, then key c.

If this order is not followed, then the lock is blocked (for instance, if the key a is used and following it is introduced again).

Once the door is open, the introduction of keys in the lock (in every possible order) does not affect the closing device (i.e. the door remains open).

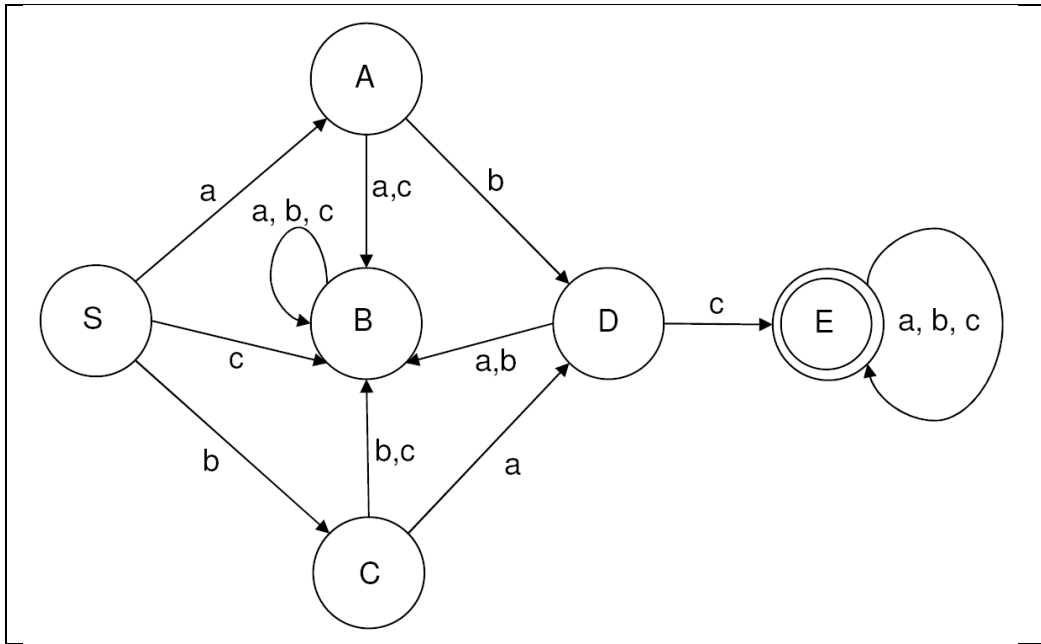
Consider that the names of the different keys are symbols of an alphabet, over which a language L whose words are the valid sequences for the opening of the door is defined. For instance, abcba is a word included in the language. It is required:

- a) Design a finite automata FA which accepts L.
- b) Well-formed Grammar which generates words in L



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Solution:



$G = (\{a, b, c\}, \{S, A, B, C, D, E\}, S, P)$
 $P = \{$
 $\quad S ::= aA \mid bC$
 $\quad A ::= bD$
 $\quad C ::= aD$
 $\quad D ::= cE \mid c$
 $\quad E ::= aE \mid bE \mid cE \mid a \mid b \mid c$
 $\quad \}$

4. Given the RE $(b^*a^*)^*$, which represents a regular language, construct a FA accepting this regular language

Solution:

$$R = (ba^*)^*$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_a(R) &= D_a((ba^*)^*) = D_a(ba^*)(ba^*)^* \\
 &= (\cancel{D_a(b)}a^* + \delta(\cancel{b})D_a(a^*)) (ba^*)^* \\
 &= (\phi a^* + \phi D_a(a^*)) (ba^*)^* = \phi
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_b(R) &= D_b((ba^*)^*) = D_b(ba^*)(ba^*)^* \\
 &= (D_b(b)a^* + \delta(\cancel{b})D_b(a^*)) (ba^*)^* \\
 &= (\lambda a^* + \phi D_b(a^*)) (ba^*)^* = a^*(ba^*)^* = R1
 \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 D_a(R1) &= D_a(a^*(ba^*)^*) \\
 &= D_a(a^*)(ba^*)^* + \delta(a^*)D_a((ba^*)^*) \\
 &= D_a(a)a^*(ba^*)^* + \lambda D_a(R) \\
 &= \lambda a^*(ba^*)^* + \lambda \phi = a^*(ba^*)^* = R1
 \end{aligned}$$

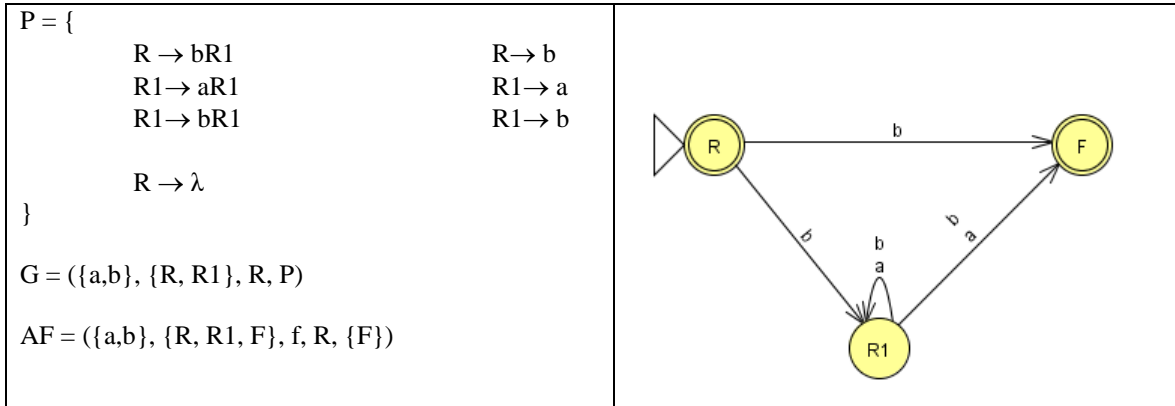
$$\begin{aligned}
 D_b(R1) &= D_b(a^*(ba^*)^*) \\
 &= \cancel{D_b(a^*)}(ba^*)^* + \delta(a^*)D_b((ba^*)^*) \\
 &= \phi (ba^*)^* + \lambda D_b(R) = \phi + R1 = R1
 \end{aligned}$$



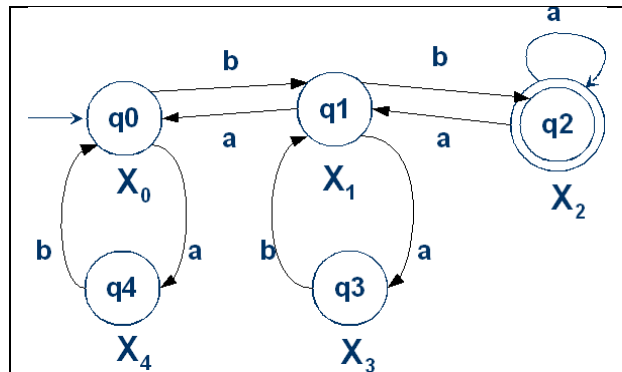
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$$R = (ba^*)^* \quad R1 = a^*(ba^*)^*$$

$D_a(R)$	$= \phi$	$\delta(D_a(R))$	$= \delta(\phi)$	$= \phi$
$D_b(R)$	$= R1$	$\delta(D_b(R))$	$= \delta(R1) = \delta(a^*(ba^*)^*)$	$= \lambda$
$D_a(R1)$	$= R1$	$\delta(D_a(R1))$	$= \delta(R1) = \delta(a^*(ba^*)^*)$	$= \lambda$
$D_b(R1)$	$= R1$	$\delta(D_b(R1))$	$= \delta(R1) = \delta(a^*(ba^*)^*)$	$= \lambda$



5. Determine the language recognized by the following automaton. To do this, use the characteristic equations.



Solution:

$$X_0 = aX_4 + bX_1$$

$$X_1 = aX_0 + bX_2 + b + aX_3$$

$$X_2 = aX_1 + aX_2 + a$$

$$X_3 = bX_1$$

$$X_4 = bX_0$$

$$X_0 = (ab)^* b (ab)^* b (ab)^* a^*$$

6. Given the following right-linear grammar, $G = (\{0,1\}, \{S,A,B,C\}, S, P)$, where $P = \{ S ::= 1A \mid 1B, A ::= 0A \mid 0C \mid 1C \mid 1, B ::= 1A \mid 1C \mid 1, C ::= 1 \}$. Calculate formally the RE of the language associated to this grammar.

Solution:

$$ER = (\lambda + 1)(10^*(01 + 11 + 1)) + 111 + 11$$



Formal Languages and Automata Theory

7. Simplify the following regular expression: $\alpha = a + a(b+aa)(b^*aa)^*b^* + a(aa+b)^*$ by using the equivalence properties of the regular expressions.

Solution:

$$\alpha = a(aa + b)^* + a(aa + b)^* = a(aa + b)^*$$

8. Calculate the derivative $D_{ab}(\alpha)$ where $\alpha = a^*ab$, using the definitions of the derivatives of regular expressions.

Solution:

$$D_{ab}(a^*ab) = \lambda$$

9. Obtain the grammar for the regular expression $a(aa + b)^*$.

Solution:

$$R_0 = a(aa+b)^*$$

$$R_1 = (aa+b)^*$$

$$D_a(R_0) = R_1$$

$$R_0 ::= aR_1$$

$$\delta(D_a(R_0)) = \lambda$$

$$R_0 ::= a$$

$$D_b(R_0) = \phi$$

$$D_a(R_1) = R_0$$

$$R_1 ::= aR_0$$

$$\delta(D_a(R_1)) = \phi$$

$$D_b(R_1) = R_1$$

$$R_1 ::= bR_1$$

$$\delta(D_b(R_1)) = \lambda$$

$$R_1 ::= b$$

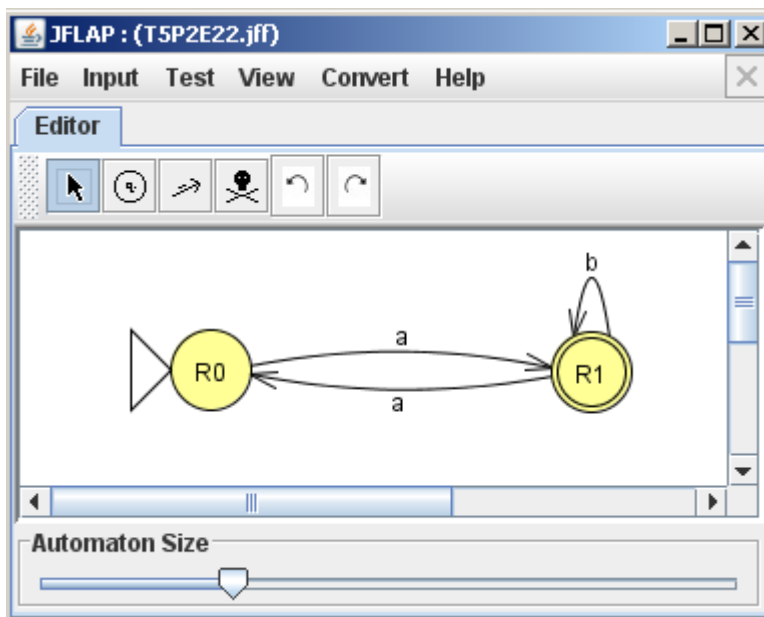
$$G = (\{a, b\}, \{R_0, R_1\}, R_0, P)$$

$$P = \{$$

$$R_0 ::= aR_1 \mid a$$

$$R_1 ::= aR_0$$

$$R_1 ::= bR_1 \mid R_1 ::= b$$

$$\}$$


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10. Given the following regular expression $a^*c^*(a+b)(cb)^*$, construct formally an equivalent regular grammar.

$$R_0 = a^*c^*(a+b)(cb)^*$$

$$R_1 = a^*c^*(a+b)(cb)^* + (cb)^*$$

$$R_2 = (cb)^*$$

$$R_3 = c^*(a+b)(cb)^*$$

$$R_4 = b(cb)^*$$

$$R_0 \rightarrow aR_1 \mid a \mid bR_2 \mid b \mid cR_3$$

$$R_1 \rightarrow aR_1 \mid a \mid bR_2 \mid b \mid cR_3$$

$$R_2 \rightarrow cR_4$$

$$R_3 \rightarrow aR_2 \mid a \mid bR_2 \mid b \mid cR_3$$

$$R_4 \rightarrow bR_2 \mid b$$

