



# THEORY OF COMPUTATION

Regular Expression

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## Regular Expression.

*Formal Definition of a RE:* Let  $\Sigma$  be a given alphabet. Then,

- (i)  $\phi$ ,  $\Lambda$ , and  $a$  belongs to  $\Sigma$ , are all regular expressions. [primitive Regular Expressions]
- (ii) If  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are regular expressions, then  $r_1+r_2$ ,  $r_1r_2$ ,  $r_1^*$ ,  $(r_1)$  are also regular expression if and only if it can be derived from the primitive RE by the finite number of applications of the rules in (ii).

## Operators of Regular Expressions

The union of two languages, L and M is denoted by  $L \cup M$  which are a set of strings that are either in L or M or both.

*Example:*

$L = \{001, 10, 111\}$

$M = \{\Lambda, 001\}$

$L \cup M = \{\Lambda, 00, 10, 111\}$

The concatenation of languages L and M, denoted  $L.M$  which are a set of strings that can be formed by taking any string in L and concatenating with any string in M.

*Example:*

$L = \{001, 10, 111\}$

$M = \{\Lambda, 001\}$

$LM = \{001, 001001, 10, 1000, 111, 111001\}$

The closure of a language, L is denoted as  $L^*$  represent the set of those strings that can be formed by taking any number of strings from L, possibly with repetitions and concatenating all of them.

*Example:*

$L = \{0, 1\}$

$L^0 = \{\Lambda\}$

$L^1 = \{0, 1\}$

$L^2 = \{01, 00, 11, 10\}$

1. Write a RE for the language accepting all combinations of a's over the set  $\Sigma = \{a\}$   
**L = {all combination of a's over {a}}**  
 = {  $\Lambda$ , a, aa, aaa,..... }  
**R = a\***

2. **Design the RE for the language accepting all combinations of a's except the null string over**

**L = {all combination of a over {a }except  $\Lambda$  }**  
 = {a, aa, aaa,aaaa..... }  
**R = a+**

3. Design a RE for the languages containing all the strings containing any number of a's and b's .

**L = {  $\Lambda$ ,a,b, aa, bb, ab,aab,.... }**  
**R = (a+b)\***

4. Construct the RE for the language containing all strings having any number of a's and b's except the null string.

**L = {a, ab, b, aa, abb, aabb, ... }**  
**R = (a+b)+**

5. Construct a RE for the language accepting all strings which are ending with 00 over the set,  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$

**L = {00, 000, 100, 0100, 1000, 01000, 01000, 11100,.. }**  
**R = (0+1)\* 00.**

6. Write a RE for the language accepting the strings which are starting with 1 and ending with 0, over the set  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$

**L = {10, 100, 110, 1000, 10101, 111000 .... }**  
**R = 1(0+1)\*0**

7. Write a RE to denote a language, L over  $\Sigma^*$  where  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  that the third character from right end of the string is always a.

**L = aab, aba, aaa, abb, babb, aaaa,...**  
**R = (a+b)\* a(a+b)(a+b)**