

**CSE303 Q1 SOLUTIONS Spring 2023**  
**25 points + 5 extra pts**

NAME SOLUTIONS

**PART 1: YES/NO QUESTIONS (15pts)**

Circle your answer and write a short justification (1pt) . No justification- no points

1.  $\{2, \{\emptyset\}, \emptyset\} \cap 2^{\emptyset} = \emptyset$

**Justify:**  $2^{\emptyset} = \{\emptyset\}$  and  $\{2, \{\emptyset\}, \emptyset\} \cap \{\emptyset\} \neq \emptyset$  as  $\emptyset \in \{2, \{\emptyset\}, \emptyset\}$

**n**

2. For any non-empty sets  $A, B$ , any function that maps  $A$  into  $B$  is a binary relation  $R \subseteq A \times B$

**Justify:** Functions are, by definition, special binary relations

**y**

3. A set  $A = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : n^2 < 5, m^2 < 6\}$  is countable

**Justify:**  $A = \{(n, m) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} : n = 0, 1, 2 \text{ and } m = 0, 1, 2\}$  is a FINITE set, hence countable

**y**

4. A set  $A = \{(n, m) \in 2^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N} : n^2 + 1 < 5, m > 6\}$  is countable

**Justify:**  $A = \{(n, m) \in 2^{\mathbb{N}} \times \mathbb{N} : n = 0, 1, m > 6\} = B \times C$   
for  $B = \{\emptyset, \{1\}\}$  and  $C = \{m \in \mathbb{N} : m > 6\}$ . Both sets are countable as B is finite and C infinitely countable and so is their Cartesian product

**y**

5. Set  $A$  is countable if and only if  $|A| = |N|$ , where  $N$  is the set of Natural numbers.

**Justify:** This is definition of infinitely countable set.  
Definition of a countable set is: a set  $A$  is countable iff is finite or infinitely countable.

**n**

6. If the set  $A$  is uncountable, then  $|A| = |R|$  ( $R$  is the set of real numbers)

**Justify:** Definition of a un countable set is: A is countable iff A is not countable.  
For example  $A = 2^R$  is uncountable, but  $|R| < 2^R$  by Cantor Theorem.

**n**

7. The set  $\{\emptyset, \{\emptyset\}\}$  is an alphabet

**Justify:** A has two elements so it is a finite set.

**y**

8. Let  $\Sigma = \emptyset$ . There is only one language  $L = \emptyset$  over  $\Sigma$

**Justify:**  $\Sigma^* = \emptyset^* = \{e\}$ . We have that  $\emptyset \subseteq \{e\}$  and  $\{e\} \subseteq \{e\}$ .  
Hence there are two languages  $L_1 = \emptyset$  and  $L_2 = \{e\}$  over  $\Sigma$

**n**

9. For any languages  $L_1, L_2, L$  over  $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$

$$(L_1 \cup L_2) \cap L = (L_1 \cap L) \cup (L_2 \cap L)$$

**Justify:** Languages are sets, so the LAWS of distributivity hold

**y**

10. Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . There are more than 20 words of length 4 over  $\Sigma$ .

**Justify:** By Counting Functions Theorem there are exactly  $2^4 = 16$  words of length 4 over  $\Sigma$  and  $16 < 20$ .

**n**

11. For any languages  $L_1, L_2, L$  over  $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$

$$\Sigma^* - (L_1 \cup L_2) = (\Sigma^* - L_1) \cap (\Sigma^* - L_2)$$

**Justify:** Languages are sets so de Morgan Laws hold for them.

**y**

12.  $L^* = \{w_1 \dots w_n : w_i \in L, i = 1, 2, \dots, n, n \geq 0\}$

**Justify:** Definition of Kleene Star operation on languages

**y**

13.  $L^+ = LL^*$ .

**Justify:** the problem is only with cases  $e \in L$  or  $e \notin L$ .

When  $e \in L$ , then  $e \in L^+$ , and always  $e \in L^*$ , and  $e \in LL^*$ .

When  $e \notin L$ , then  $e \notin L^+$ , and always  $e \in L^*$ , but then  $e \notin LL^*$  as  $xe = x$  for  $x \neq e$ , hence  $L^+ = LL^*$

**y**

14. A regular language is a regular expression.

**Justify:** A language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is regular if and only if  $L$  is represented by a regular expression, i.e. when there is  $\alpha \in \mathcal{R}$  such that  $L = \mathcal{L}(\alpha)$

**n**

15.  $(\emptyset^* \cap a) \cup b^*$  describes a language with only one element.

**Justify:** we have that  $\emptyset^* = \{e\}$ ,  $(\emptyset^* \cap a) = \{e\} \cap \{a\} = \emptyset$ , and so

$$(\emptyset^* \cap a) \cup b^* = \emptyset \cup \{b\}^* = \{b\}^* \cap \{e\} = \{e\}$$

**y**

**PART 2: PROBLEMS (15pts)**

**QUESTION 1 (8pts)**

Given an alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$  and a regular expression  $\alpha = ((c^*a) \cup b)$

1. (1pt) Write  $\alpha$  in the shorthand notation

$$c^*a \cup b$$

2. (3pts) Given the representation function  $\mathcal{L} : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow 2^{\Sigma^*}$ .

Use the definition of the function  $\mathcal{L}$  to evaluate, step by step  $L = \mathcal{L}(\alpha)$ .

$$L = \mathcal{L}(\alpha) = \mathcal{L}(c^*a \cup b) = \mathcal{L}(c^*a) \cup \mathcal{L}(b) = \mathcal{L}(c^*)\mathcal{L}(a) \cup \{b\} = \{c\}^*\{a\} \cup \{b\}$$

3. (2pts) List elements of the infinite set  $L = \alpha$  (short notation)

$$\{e, c, cc, ccc, \dots\}\{a\} \cup \{b\} = \{a, ca, cca, ccca, \dots\} \cup \{b\} = \{b, a, ca, cca, ccca, \dots\}$$

4. (2pts) Write a property  $P(w)$  describing  $L = \alpha$ , i.e. write the language  $L$  as  $L = \{w \in \Sigma^* : P(w)\}$

$$L = \{w \in \Sigma^* : w = a \text{ or } w = b \text{ or } w \text{ is any nonempty finite sequence of } c \text{'s followed by } a \}$$

**PROBLEM 2 (7pts)**

Let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ . Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be defined as follows.

$$L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ has **three** occurrences of } 1 \text{ the **first** and the **second** of which **are not** consecutive} \}$$

1. (4pts) Write a regular expression  $\alpha$ , such that  $L = \alpha$  (short notation)

$$L = 0^*10^*010^*10^*$$

2. (3pts) Explain carefully our answer.

$L$  obviously has has **three** occurrences of 1.

The **first** and the **second** occurrences of 1 **are not** consecutive because in the expression  $10^*01$  the 0 separates them.