COL 352 Intro to Automata and Theory of Comput.
Minor 1, Sem II 2018-19, Max 40, Time 1 hr

Name ______________________ **Entry No.** ______________________ **Group**

Note (i) Write your answers neatly and precisely in the space provided with with each question including back of the sheet. You won't get a second chance to explain what you have written.
(ii) You can quote any result covered in the lectures without proof but any other claim should be formally justified.

1. Design a DFA for the language $L = \{w \in 0^* | \quad |w| \text{ is a multiple of 2 or 3}\}$. Briefly explain the construction. **(5)**

   One clean and intuitive construction will be to take product construction of the M_1 and M_2 that recognize multiple of 2 and 3 respectively and mark out the final states as either final state of M_1 or M_2.
   Some common deficiencies: Some people have gone through the path of NFA and either not given a DFA or given a wrong DFA - marks have been deducted for such incomplete answers.

2. Let $L_1, L_2 \subset \Sigma^*$ be infinite languages. **(5+5)**

   (a) If $L_1 \cap L_2$ is regular then L_1 and L_2 are regular. Justify or give a counterexample.
   False. Consider $\bar{L_1} = 0^i 1^i$ (some non regular language) and $\bar{L_2} = \Sigma^*$. Then $\bar{L_1} \cup \bar{L_2} = \Sigma^* \Rightarrow L_1 \cap L_2 = \bar{\Sigma^*} = \phi$. Note that L_1 is not regular and ϕ is regular.

   (b) For $L_1 \subset L_2$, can L_2 be non-regular and L_1 regular ? Provide an example or argue about impossibility.
   Let $L_2 = 0^p$ where p is prime and $p \neq 2 \cup L_1 = (00)^*$. Note that L_2 is not regular, otherwise $L_2 - L_1$ is regular.

   Common errors: (i) If both L_1, L_2 are not infinite, then only 1 mark has been given.
   If proofs of irregularity are not given in class and not given here then some marks have been deducted.

3. Consider the language $L = \{0^i \cdot 1^j | i \neq j\}$ for $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$. Consider the following arguments to show that L is not regular. Point out the fallacy in the proofs (if any) in one sentence.

   (a) Since $\{0^i \cdot 1^j | i = j\}$ is not regular (proved in class), it follows from the the closure property of complement of Regular languages that L is not regular. **(2)**
   $\{0^i \cdot 1^j | i \neq j\}$ is not the complement of $\{0^i \cdot 1^j | i = j\}$ for the alphabet $\{0, 1\}$. In particular it doesn't contain strings not of the form 0^*1^*.

   (b) Consider the language $L_< = \{0^i \cdot 1^j | i < j\}$. It can be proved easily by Pumping Lemma that $L_<$ is not regular by choosing a string $0^n \cdot 1^{n+1}$ where n is the constant of the Pumping Lemma and pumping enough 0's so that it exceeds the number of 1's. Similarly, the language $L_> \{0^i \cdot 1^j | i > j\}$ is not regular. Since $L = L_< \cup L_>$, it follows that L is not regular. **(2)**
   Even if L_1, L_2 are not regular, their union can be regular - for example a non regular language and its complement.

   (c) *Using Pumping Lemma* Consider a string $z = 0^n \cdot 1^{n+k}$ where n is the constant of the Pumping Lemma and k is an integer $1 \leq k \leq n$. In the partiion $z = u \cdot v \cdot w$, note that uv consists only of 0's, so choose $v = 0^k$. Then $uv^2w = 0^{n+k} \cdot 1^{n+k} \notin L$ and therefore a contradiction. **(2)**
   We can't choose v in a pumping lemma proof and must argue wrt all possible vs.

   (d) In case, you find all the proofs are incorrect, then either show that L is regular or give a correct proof that L is not regular. (Otherwise you just mention one of the previous proof that is correct). **(6)**
   Since $0^* \cdot 1^*$ is regular, its complement is also regular - denote it by S. Suppose $L = \{0^i \cdot 1^j | i \neq j\}$ is regular, then $S' = S \cup L$ is also regular using the closure properties of regular languages. Since $\Sigma^* = S' \cup \{0^i \cdot 1^i\}$, it implies that $\{0^i \cdot 1^i\} = \Sigma^* - S'$ is regular which is a contradiction.

For the first part, only the fallacy in the given proof counts - just saying correct/incorrect doesn't. Also giving incorrect reasons like "regular languages are closed under complementation but irregular is not" doesn't fetch any marks either.

The pumping lemma based proof for proving irregularity is a little tricky and I found only one correct answer which went as follows - Take $0^n \cdot 1^{n+m}$ where $m = n!$ and n is the constant of the pumping lemma. If $|v| = k \leq n$, then pumping i time produces a string $0^{n+(i-1)k} \cdot 1^{n+m}$ where we can choose i. To produce a string not in L, we need to fix $(i-1) \cdot k = m$. Since k divides m, there is an integral value i for which this inequality holds.

Most PL proofs either missed the integrality part or came up with erroneous calculations.

4. Let L be a regular language over $\{0,1\}$ and consider the set of strings $S = \{y | y \cdot (01^*01 + 010^*) \in L\}$.
(i) What can you say about S - is it always regular ? Justify or give a counterexample. **(10)**

Consider a DFA M such that $L(M) = L$. Let R denote the set of strings $(01^*01 + 010^*)$ For any state $q \in Q$, if there is a string $y \in R$ such that $\delta(q, y) \in F$, then mark that state q as a final state - denote this DFA by M'. So M' is identical to M except perhaps the set of final states F'.

Proof of correctness If a string y is accepted by this machine then from our definition of final states F' there must be a string $x \in R$ such that $\delta(q_0, y \cdot x) \in F$, i.e., $y \cdot x \in L$.
Conversely, if for any string y, there exists $x \in R$ such that $\delta(q_0, y \cdot x) \in F$ (i.e. it belongs to L) then $\delta(q_0, y) \in F'$ and is accepted by M'.
Incorrect reasoning didn't fetch any marks even if you correctly guessed that S is regular. Partial marks were given for incomplete arguments. Most common mistake was - If $L_1 \cdot L_2 = L$ and L_1, L are regular, then L_2 is regular. Clearly $0^{prime} \cdot 0^* = 0^*$ is a clear counter-example of this claim. And the closure under concatenation of regular languages is not applicable to this situation.

(ii) What can you say about $S' = \{y | y \cdot 0^i \cdot 1^i \in L, i \geq 1\}$ **(3)**

In the previous part, we didn't use any property of L being regular, so it carries over this case also.

However, in part 1, we can procedurally determine if there is a path between q and F with one of the strings in L. Consider a state $p \in Q$ - we can find an r.e. for all the paths from q to F, say R'. Then, if $R \cap R' \neq \phi$, then $q \in F'$.

For the second problem, R is not an r.e. and we may not know how to find $R \cap R'$, nevertheless, the definition of F' is still valid and the machine is a DFA by construction. This can be thought of as a non-constructive proof.