

# The Myhill-Nerode Theorem Based on Regular Expressions

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## Abstract

There are many proofs of the Myhill-Nerode theorem using automata. In this library we give a proof entirely based on regular expressions, since regularity of languages can be conveniently defined using regular expressions (it is more painful in HOL to define regularity in terms of automata). We prove the first direction of the Myhill-Nerode theorem by solving equational systems that involve regular expressions. For the second direction we give two proofs: one using tagging-functions and another using partial derivatives. We also establish various closure properties of regular languages.<sup>1</sup>

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<sup>1</sup>Most details of the theories are described in the paper [2].

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```
theory Folds
imports Regular-Sets.Regular-Exp
begin
```

## 1 “Summation” for regular expressions

To obtain equational system out of finite set of equivalence classes, a fold operation on finite sets *folds* is defined. The use of *SOME* makes *folds* more robust than the *fold* in the Isabelle library. The expression *folds f* makes sense when *f* is not *associative* and *commutitive*, while *fold f* does not.

### definition

```
folds :: ('a ⇒ 'b ⇒ 'b) ⇒ 'b ⇒ 'a set ⇒ 'b
```

### where

```
folds f z S ≡ SOME x. fold-graph f z S x
```

Plus-combination for a set of regular expressions

### abbreviation

```
Setalt :: 'a rexpr set ⇒ 'a rexpr (⊜ ⊕ -> [1000] 999)
```

### where

```
⊜ A ≡ folds Plus Zero A
```

For finite sets, *Setalt* is preserved under *lang*.

```
lemma folds-plus-simp [simp]:
  fixes rs::('a rexpr) set
  assumes a: finite rs
  shows lang (¶ rs) = ∪ (lang ` rs)
  ⟨proof⟩
```

**end**

```
theory Myhill-1
imports Folds
  HOL-Library.While-Combinator
begin
```

## 2 First direction of MN: finite partition $\Rightarrow$ regular language

### notation

conc (infixr  $\leftrightarrow$  100) and  
 star ( $\cdot\star\cdot$  [101] 102)

```
lemma Pair-Collect [simp]:
  shows (x, y) ∈ {(x, y). P x y}  $\longleftrightarrow$  P x y
  ⟨proof⟩
```

Myhill-Nerode relation

### definition

str-eq :: 'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  ('a list  $\times$  'a list) set ( $\approx$  [100] 100)

### where

$\approx A \equiv \{(x, y). (\forall z. x @ z \in A \longleftrightarrow y @ z \in A)\}$

### abbreviation

str-eq-applied :: 'a list  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  'a list  $\Rightarrow$  bool ( $\approx$  [101] 101)

### where

$x \approx A y \equiv (x, y) \in \approx A$

### lemma str-eq-conv-Derivs:

```
str-eq A = {(u,v). Derivs u A = Derivs v A}
  ⟨proof⟩
```

### definition

finals :: 'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang set

### where

$\text{finals } A \equiv \{\approx A `` \{s\} \mid s . s \in A\}$

### lemma lang-is-union-of-finals:

**shows** A = ∪ (finals A)

⟨proof⟩

```

lemma finals-in-partitions:
  shows finals A  $\subseteq$  (UNIV //  $\approx A$ )
  {proof}

```

## 2.1 Equational systems

The two kinds of terms in the rhs of equations.

```

datatype 'a trm =
  Lam 'a rexp
  | Trn 'a lang 'a rexp

```

```

fun
  lang-trm::'a trm  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang
where
  lang-trm (Lam r) = lang r
  | lang-trm (Trn X r) = X · lang r

fun
  lang-rhs::('a trm) set  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang
where
  lang-rhs rhs =  $\bigcup$  (lang-trm`rhs)

```

```

lemma lang-rhs-set:
  shows lang-rhs {Trn X r | r. P r} =  $\bigcup \{ \text{lang-trm} (\text{Trn } X \ r) \mid r. P \ r \}$ 
  {proof}

```

```

lemma lang-rhs-union-distrib:
  shows lang-rhs A  $\cup$  lang-rhs B = lang-rhs (A  $\cup$  B)
  {proof}

```

Transitions between equivalence classes

```

definition
  transition :: 'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  'a  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  bool ( $\leftarrow \models \Rightarrow \rightarrow$  [100,100,100] 100)
where
  Y  $\models c \Rightarrow X \equiv Y \cdot \{[c]\} \subseteq X$ 
```

Initial equational system

```

definition
  Init-rhs CS X  $\equiv$ 
    if ( $[] \in X$ ) then
       $\{ \text{Lam } \text{One} \} \cup \{ \text{Trn } Y \ ( \text{Atom } c ) \mid Y \ c. \ Y \in CS \wedge Y \models c \Rightarrow X \}$ 
    else
       $\{ \text{Trn } Y \ ( \text{Atom } c ) \mid Y \ c. \ Y \in CS \wedge Y \models c \Rightarrow X \}$ 

```

```

definition
  Init CS  $\equiv$   $\{ (X, \text{Init-rhs CS } X) \mid X. \ X \in CS \}$ 

```

## 2.2 Arden Operation on equations

**fun**

Append-rexp :: 'a rexp  $\Rightarrow$  'a trm  $\Rightarrow$  'a trm

**where**

Append-rexp r (Lam rexp) = Lam (Times rexp r)  
| Append-rexp r (Trn X rexp) = Trn X (Times rexp r)

**definition**

Append-rexp-rhs rhs rexp  $\equiv$  (Append-rexp rexp)  $^c$  rhs

**definition**

Arden X rhs  $\equiv$

Append-rexp-rhs (rhs - {Trn X r | r. Trn X r  $\in$  rhs}) (Star ( $\uplus$  {r. Trn X r  $\in$  rhs}))

## 2.3 Substitution Operation on equations

**definition**

Subst rhs X xrhs  $\equiv$

(rhs - {Trn X r | r. Trn X r  $\in$  rhs})  $\cup$  (Append-rexp-rhs xrhs ( $\uplus$  {r. Trn X r  $\in$  rhs}))

**definition**

Subst-all :: ('a lang  $\times$  ('a trm) set) set  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  ('a trm) set  $\Rightarrow$  ('a lang  $\times$  ('a trm) set) set

**where**

Subst-all ES X xrhs  $\equiv$  {(Y, Subst yrhs X xrhs) | Y yrhs. (Y, yrhs)  $\in$  ES}

**definition**

Remove ES X xrhs  $\equiv$

Subst-all (ES - {(X, xrhs)}) X (Arden X xrhs)

## 2.4 While-combinator and invariants

**definition**

Iter X ES  $\equiv$  (let (Y, yrhs) = SOME (Y, yrhs). (Y, yrhs)  $\in$  ES  $\wedge$  X  $\neq$  Y  
in Remove ES Y yrhs)

**lemma IterI2:**

assumes (Y, yrhs)  $\in$  ES

and X  $\neq$  Y

and  $\bigwedge Y$  yrhs.  $\llbracket (Y, yrhs) \in ES; X \neq Y \rrbracket \implies Q$  (Remove ES Y yrhs)

shows Q (Iter X ES)

$\langle proof \rangle$

**abbreviation**

Cond ES  $\equiv$  card ES  $\neq$  1

**definition**

*Solve X ES*  $\equiv$  *while Cond (Iter X) ES*

**definition**

*distinctness ES*  $\equiv$

$$\forall X \text{ rhs } rhs'. (X, rhs) \in ES \wedge (X, rhs') \in ES \longrightarrow rhs = rhs'$$

**definition**

*soundness ES*  $\equiv$   $\forall (X, rhs) \in ES. X = \text{lang-rhs } rhs$

**definition**

*ardenable rhs*  $\equiv (\forall Y r. Trn Y r \in rhs \longrightarrow [] \notin \text{lang } r)$

**definition**

*ardenable-all ES*  $\equiv \forall (X, rhs) \in ES. ardenable rhs$

**definition**

*finite-rhs ES*  $\equiv \forall (X, rhs) \in ES. finite rhs$

**lemma** *finite-rhs-def2:*

*finite-rhs ES*  $= (\forall X \text{ rhs}. (X, rhs) \in ES \longrightarrow finite rhs)$

*{proof}*

**definition**

*rhss rhs*  $\equiv \{X \mid X r. Trn X r \in rhs\}$

**definition**

*lhss ES*  $\equiv \{Y \mid Y yrhs. (Y, yrhs) \in ES\}$

**definition**

*validity ES*  $\equiv \forall (X, rhs) \in ES. rhss rhs \subseteq lhss ES$

**lemma** *rhss-union-distrib:*

**shows** *rhss (A  $\cup$  B) = rhss A  $\cup$  rhss B*

*{proof}*

**lemma** *lhss-union-distrib:*

**shows** *lhss (A  $\cup$  B) = lhss A  $\cup$  lhss B*

*{proof}*

**definition**

*invariant ES*  $\equiv$  *finite ES*

$\wedge$  *finite-rhs ES*

$\wedge$  *soundness ES*

$\wedge$  *distinctness ES*

$\wedge$  *ardenable-all ES*

$\wedge$  *validity ES*

```

lemma invariantI:
  assumes soundness ES finite ES distinctness ES ardenable-all ES
    finite-rhs ES validity ES
  shows invariant ES
  ⟨proof⟩

declare [[simproc add: finite-Collect]]

lemma finite-Trn:
  assumes fin: finite rhs
  shows finite {r. Trn Y r ∈ rhs}
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma finite-Lam:
  assumes fin: finite rhs
  shows finite {r. Lam r ∈ rhs}
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma trm-soundness:
  assumes finite:finite rhs
  shows lang-rhs ({Trn X r | r. Trn X r ∈ rhs}) = X · (lang (⊔ {r. Trn X r ∈ rhs}))
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma lang-of-append-rexp:
  lang-trm (Append-rexp r trm) = lang-trm trm · lang r
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma lang-of-append-rexp-rhs:
  lang-rhs (Append-rexp-rhs rhs r) = lang-rhs rhs · lang r
  ⟨proof⟩

```

## 2.5 Intial Equational Systems

```

lemma defined-by-str:
  assumes s ∈ X X ∈ UNIV // ≈A
  shows X = ≈A “{s}
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma every-eqclass-has-transition:
  assumes has-str: s @ [c] ∈ X
  and in-CS: X ∈ UNIV // ≈A
  obtains Y where Y ∈ UNIV // ≈A and Y · {[c]} ⊆ X and s ∈ Y
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma l-eq-r-in-eqs:

```

```

assumes  $X\text{-in-eqs}: (X, \text{rhs}) \in \text{Init} (\text{UNIV} // \approx A)$ 
shows  $X = \text{lang-rhs rhs}$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma finite-Init-rhs:
  fixes  $CS::((\text{'a}:\text{finite}) \text{ lang}) \text{ set}$ 
  assumes  $\text{finite}: \text{finite } CS$ 
  shows  $\text{finite} (\text{Init-rhs } CS X)$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Init-ES-satisfies-invariant:
  fixes  $A::((\text{'a}:\text{finite}) \text{ lang})$ 
  assumes  $\text{finite-CS}: \text{finite} (\text{UNIV} // \approx A)$ 
  shows  $\text{invariant} (\text{Init} (\text{UNIV} // \approx A))$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

## 2.6 Interations

```

lemma Arden-preserves-soundness:
  assumes  $\text{l-eq-r}: X = \text{lang-rhs rhs}$ 
  and  $\text{not-empty}: \text{ardenable rhs}$ 
  and  $\text{finite}: \text{finite rhs}$ 
  shows  $X = \text{lang-rhs} (\text{Arden } X \text{ rhs})$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Append-preserves-finite:
   $\text{finite rhs} \implies \text{finite} (\text{Append-rexp-rhs rhs } r)$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Arden-preserves-finite:
   $\text{finite rhs} \implies \text{finite} (\text{Arden } X \text{ rhs})$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Append-preserves-ardenable:
   $\text{ardenable rhs} \implies \text{ardenable} (\text{Append-rexp-rhs rhs } r)$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma ardenable-set-sub:
   $\text{ardenable rhs} \implies \text{ardenable} (\text{rhs} - A)$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma ardenable-set-union:
   $[\text{ardenable rhs}; \text{ardenable rhs}'] \implies \text{ardenable} (\text{rhs} \cup \text{rhs}')$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Arden-preserves-ardenable:
   $\text{ardenable rhs} \implies \text{ardenable} (\text{Arden } X \text{ rhs})$ 

```

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-preserves-ardenable*:

$\llbracket \text{ardenable rhs; ardenable xrhs} \rrbracket \implies \text{ardenable} (\text{Subst rhs } X \text{ xrhs})$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-preserves-soundness*:

**assumes** *substor*:  $X = \text{lang-rhs xrhs}$   
**and** *finite*: *finite rhs*  
**shows** *lang-rhs* (*Subst rhs X xrhs*) = *lang-rhs rhs* (**is**  $?Left = ?Right$ )  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-preserves-finite-rhs*:

$\llbracket \text{finite rhs; finite yrhs} \rrbracket \implies \text{finite} (\text{Subst rhs } Y \text{ yrhs})$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-all-preserves-finite*:

**assumes** *finite*: *finite ES*  
**shows** *finite* (*Subst-all ES Y yrhs*)  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**declare** [[simproc del: finite-Collect]]

**lemma** *Subst-all-preserves-finite-rhs*:

$\llbracket \text{finite-rhs ES; finite yrhs} \rrbracket \implies \text{finite-rhs} (\text{Subst-all ES } Y \text{ yrhs})$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *append-rhs-preserves-cls*:

*rhss* (*Append-rexp-rhs rhs r*) = *rhss rhs*  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Arden-removes-cl*:

*rhss* (*Arden Y yrhs*) = *rhss yrhs* - {*Y*}  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *lhss-preserves-cls*:

*lhss* (*Subst-all ES Y yrhs*) = *lhss ES*  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-updates-cls*:

$X \notin \text{rhss xrhs} \implies$   
*rhss* (*Subst rhs X xrhs*) = *rhss rhs*  $\cup$  *rhss xrhs* - {*X*}  
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *Subst-all-preserves-validity*:

**assumes** *sc*: *validity* (*ES*  $\cup$  {(*Y*, *yrhs*)}) (b*is *validity*  $?A$ )  
**shows** *validity* (*Subst-all ES Y (Arden Y yrhs)*) (b*is *validity*  $?B$ )  
 $\langle proof \rangle$**

```

lemma Subst-all-satisfies-invariant:
  assumes invariant-ES: invariant (ES  $\cup \{(Y, \text{yrhs})\}$ )
  shows invariant (Subst-all ES Y (Arden Y yrhs))
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma Remove-in-card-measure:
  assumes finite: finite ES
  and   in-ES: (X, rhs) ∈ ES
  shows (Remove ES X rhs, ES) ∈ measure card
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma Subst-all-cls-remains:
  (X, xrhs) ∈ ES  $\implies \exists \text{ xrhs}'. (X, \text{xrhs}') \in (\text{Subst-all ES Y yrhs})$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma card-noteq-1-has-more:
  assumes card: Cond ES
  and   e-in: (X, xrhs) ∈ ES
  and   finite: finite ES
  shows  $\exists (Y, \text{yrhs}) \in ES. (X, \text{xrhs}) \neq (Y, \text{yrhs})$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma iteration-step-measure:
  assumes Inv-ES: invariant ES
  and   X-in-ES: (X, xrhs) ∈ ES
  and   Cnd: Cond ES
  shows (Iter X ES, ES) ∈ measure card
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma iteration-step-invariant:
  assumes Inv-ES: invariant ES
  and   X-in-ES: (X, xrhs) ∈ ES
  and   Cnd: Cond ES
  shows invariant (Iter X ES)
  ⟨proof⟩

lemma iteration-step-ex:
  assumes Inv-ES: invariant ES
  and   X-in-ES: (X, xrhs) ∈ ES
  and   Cnd: Cond ES
  shows  $\exists \text{ xrhs}'. (X, \text{xrhs}') \in (\text{Iter X ES})$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

## 2.7 The conclusion of the first direction

```

lemma Solve:
  fixes A::('a::finite) lang

```

```

assumes fin: finite (UNIV // ≈A)
and      X-in: X ∈ (UNIV // ≈A)
shows ∃ rhs. Solve X (Init (UNIV // ≈A)) = {(X, rhs)} ∧ invariant {(X, rhs)}
⟨proof⟩

lemma every-eqcl-has-reg:
fixes A::('a::finite) lang
assumes finite-CS: finite (UNIV // ≈A)
and   X-in-CS: X ∈ (UNIV // ≈A)
shows ∃ r. X = lang r
⟨proof⟩

lemma bchoice-finite-set:
assumes a: ∀ x ∈ S. ∃ y. x = f y
and   b: finite S
shows ∃ ys. (⋃ S) = ⋃(f ` ys) ∧ finite ys
⟨proof⟩

theorem Myhill-Nerode1:
fixes A::('a::finite) lang
assumes finite-CS: finite (UNIV // ≈A)
shows ∃ r. A = lang r
⟨proof⟩

end

theory Myhill-2
imports Myhill-1 HOL-Library.Sublist
begin

```

### 3 Second direction of MN: regular language $\Rightarrow$ finite partition

#### 3.1 Tagging functions

**definition**  
 $tag\text{-}eq :: ('a list \Rightarrow 'b) \Rightarrow ('a list \times 'a list) set (\langle= - =\rangle)$   
**where**  
 $=tag= \equiv \{(x, y). tag x = tag y\}$

**abbreviation**  
 $tag\text{-}eq\text{-}applied :: 'a list \Rightarrow ('a list \Rightarrow 'b) \Rightarrow 'a list \Rightarrow bool (\langle - = = - \rangle)$   
**where**  
 $x =tag= y \equiv (x, y) \in =tag=$

**lemma [simp]:**  
**shows**  $(\approx A) `` \{x\} = (\approx A) `` \{y\} \longleftrightarrow x \approx A y$   
⟨proof⟩

```

lemma refined-intro:
  assumes  $\bigwedge x y z. [x =tag= y; x @ z \in A] \implies y @ z \in A$ 
  shows  $=tag= \subseteq \approx A$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma finite-eq-tag-rel:
  assumes rng-fnt: finite (range tag)
  shows finite (UNIV //  $=tag=$ )
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma refined-partition-finite:
  assumes fnt: finite (UNIV // R1)
  and refined:  $R1 \subseteq R2$ 
  and eq1: equiv UNIV R1 and eq2: equiv UNIV R2
  shows finite (UNIV // R2)
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma tag-finite-imageD:
  assumes rng-fnt: finite (range tag)
  and refined:  $=tag= \subseteq \approx A$ 
  shows finite (UNIV //  $\approx A$ )
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

```

### 3.2 Base cases: Zero, One and Atom

```

lemma quot-zero-eq:
  shows UNIV //  $\approx \{\} = \{UNIV\}$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma quot-zero-finiteI [intro]:
  shows finite (UNIV //  $\approx \{\}$ )
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma quot-one-subset:
  shows UNIV //  $\approx \{\[]\} \subseteq \{\{\[]\}, UNIV - \{\[]\}\}$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma quot-one-finiteI [intro]:
  shows finite (UNIV //  $\approx \{\[]\}$ )
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma quot-atom-subset:
  shows UNIV //  $(\approx \{[c]\}) \subseteq \{\{\[]\}, \{[c]\}, UNIV - \{\[], [c]\}\}$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma quot-atom-finiteI [intro]:

```

**shows** *finite* (*UNIV* //  $\approx\{[c]\}$ )  
*(proof)*

### 3.3 Case for *Plus*

**definition**

*tag-Plus* :: '*a lang*  $\Rightarrow$  '*a lang*  $\Rightarrow$  '*a list*  $\Rightarrow$  ('*a lang*  $\times$  '*a lang*)  
**where**

*tag-Plus A B*  $\equiv$   $\lambda x. (\approx A `` \{x\}, \approx B `` \{x\})$

**lemma** *quot-plus-finiteI* [*intro*]:  
**assumes** *finite1*: *finite* (*UNIV* //  $\approx A$ )  
**and** *finite2*: *finite* (*UNIV* //  $\approx B$ )  
**shows** *finite* (*UNIV* //  $\approx(A \cup B)$ )  
*(proof)*

### 3.4 Case for *Times*

**definition**

*Partitions x*  $\equiv$   $\{(x_p, x_s). x_p @ x_s = x\}$

**lemma** *conc-partitions-elim*:  
**assumes**  $x \in A \cdot B$   
**shows**  $\exists(u, v) \in \text{Partitions } x. u \in A \wedge v \in B$   
*(proof)*

**lemma** *conc-partitions-intro*:  
**assumes**  $(u, v) \in \text{Partitions } x \wedge u \in A \wedge v \in B$   
**shows**  $x \in A \cdot B$   
*(proof)*

**lemma** *equiv-class-member*:  
**assumes**  $x \in A$   
**and**  $\approx A `` \{x\} = \approx A `` \{y\}$   
**shows**  $y \in A$   
*(proof)*

**definition**

*tag-Times* :: '*a lang*  $\Rightarrow$  '*a lang*  $\Rightarrow$  '*a list*  $\Rightarrow$  '*a lang*  $\times$  '*a lang set*  
**where**  
*tag-Times A B*  $\equiv$   $\lambda x. (\approx A `` \{x\}, \{(\approx B `` \{x_s\}) \mid x_p x_s. x_p \in A \wedge (x_p, x_s) \in \text{Partitions } x\})$

**lemma** *tag-Times-injI*:  
**assumes**  $a: \text{tag-Times } A B x = \text{tag-Times } A B y$   
**and**  $c: x @ z \in A \cdot B$   
**shows**  $y @ z \in A \cdot B$   
*(proof)*

**lemma** *quot-conc-finiteI* [*intro*]:

```

assumes fin1: finite (UNIV // ≈A)
and      fin2: finite (UNIV // ≈B)
shows finite (UNIV // ≈(A · B))
⟨proof⟩

```

### 3.5 Case for *Star*

**lemma** star-partitions-elim:

```

assumes x @ z ∈ A★ x ≠ []
shows ∃(u, v) ∈ Partitions (x @ z). strict-prefix u x ∧ u ∈ A★ ∧ v ∈ A★
⟨proof⟩

```

**lemma** finite-set-has-max2:

```

[finite A; A ≠ {}] ⇒ ∃ max ∈ A. ∀ a ∈ A. length a ≤ length max
⟨proof⟩

```

**lemma** finite-strict-prefix-set:

```

shows finite {xa. strict-prefix xa (x::'a list)}
⟨proof⟩

```

**lemma** append-eq-cases:

```

assumes a: x @ y = m @ n m ≠ []
shows prefix x m ∨ strict-prefix m x
⟨proof⟩

```

**lemma** star-spartitions-elim2:

```

assumes a: x @ z ∈ A★
and      b: x ≠ []
shows ∃(u, v) ∈ Partitions x. ∃ (u', v') ∈ Partitions z. strict-prefix u x ∧ u ∈
A★ ∧ v @ u' ∈ A ∧ v' ∈ A★
⟨proof⟩

```

**definition**

tag-Star :: 'a lang ⇒ 'a list ⇒ ('a lang) set

**where**

```

tag-Star A ≡ λx. {≈A “{v} | u v. strict-prefix u x ∧ u ∈ A★ ∧ (u, v) ∈ Partitions
x}

```

**lemma** tag-Star-non-empty-injI:

```

assumes a: tag-Star A x = tag-Star A y
and      c: x @ z ∈ A★
and      d: x ≠ []
shows y @ z ∈ A★
⟨proof⟩

```

**lemma** tag-Star-empty-injI:

```

assumes a: tag-Star A x = tag-Star A y
and      c: x @ z ∈ A★
and      d: x = []

```

```

shows  $y @ z \in A^*$ 
⟨proof⟩

lemma quot-star-finiteI [intro]:
  assumes  $\text{finite1: finite } (\text{UNIV} // \approx A)$ 
  shows  $\text{finite } (\text{UNIV} // \approx (A^*))$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

### 3.6 The conclusion of the second direction

```

lemma Myhill-Nerode2:
  fixes  $r::'a\text{ rexpr}$ 
  shows  $\text{finite } (\text{UNIV} // \approx (\text{lang } r))$ 
⟨proof⟩

end

```

```

theory Myhill
  imports Myhill-2 Regular-Sets.Derivatives
begin

```

## 4 The theorem

```

theorem Myhill-Nerode:
  fixes  $A::('a::finite)\text{ lang}$ 
  shows  $(\exists r. A = \text{lang } r) \longleftrightarrow \text{finite } (\text{UNIV} // \approx A)$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

### 4.1 Second direction proved using partial derivatives

An alternaive proof using the notion of partial derivatives for regular expressions due to Antimirov [1].

```

lemma MN-Rel-Derivs:
  shows  $x \approx A y \longleftrightarrow \text{Derivs } x A = \text{Derivs } y A$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Myhill-Nerode3:
  fixes  $r::'a\text{ rexpr}$ 
  shows  $\text{finite } (\text{UNIV} // \approx (\text{lang } r))$ 
⟨proof⟩

```

```
end
```

```

theory Closures
  imports Myhill HOL-Library.Infinite-Set
begin

```

## 5 Closure properties of regular languages

**abbreviation**

*regular* :: '*a lang*  $\Rightarrow$  *bool*

**where**

*regular A*  $\equiv$   $\exists r. A = \text{lang } r$

### 5.1 Closure under $\cup$ , $\cdot$ and $\star$

**lemma** *closure-union* [*intro*]:

**assumes** *regular A regular B*

**shows** *regular (A  $\cup$  B)*

*{proof}*

**lemma** *closure-seq* [*intro*]:

**assumes** *regular A regular B*

**shows** *regular (A  $\cdot$  B)*

*{proof}*

**lemma** *closure-star* [*intro*]:

**assumes** *regular A*

**shows** *regular (A $\star$ )*

*{proof}*

### 5.2 Closure under complementation

Closure under complementation is proved via the Myhill-Nerode theorem

**lemma** *closure-complement* [*intro*]:

**fixes** *A::('a::finite lang)*

**assumes** *regular A*

**shows** *regular ( $- A$ )*

*{proof}*

### 5.3 Closure under $-$ and $\cap$

**lemma** *closure-difference* [*intro*]:

**fixes** *A::('a::finite lang)*

**assumes** *regular A regular B*

**shows** *regular (A - B)*

*{proof}*

**lemma** *closure-intersection* [*intro*]:

**fixes** *A::('a::finite lang)*

**assumes** *regular A regular B*

**shows** *regular (A  $\cap$  B)*

*{proof}*

### 5.4 Closure under string reversal

**fun**

```

Rev :: 'a rexp ⇒ 'a rexp
where
  Rev Zero = Zero
  | Rev One = One
  | Rev (Atom c) = Atom c
  | Rev (Plus r1 r2) = Plus (Rev r1) (Rev r2)
  | Rev (Times r1 r2) = Times (Rev r2) (Rev r1)
  | Rev (Star r) = Star (Rev r)

```

```

lemma rev-seq[simp]:
  shows rev ` (B · A) = (rev ` A) · (rev ` B)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma rev-star1:
  assumes a: s ∈ (rev ` A)★
  shows s ∈ rev ` (A★)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma rev-star2:
  assumes a: s ∈ A★
  shows rev s ∈ (rev ` A)★
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma rev-star [simp]:
  shows rev ` (A★) = (rev ` A)★
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma rev-lang:
  shows rev ` (lang r) = lang (Rev r)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma closure-reversal [intro]:
  assumes regular A
  shows regular (rev ` A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

## 5.5 Closure under left-quotients

**abbreviation**

$$\text{Deriv-lang } A \ B \equiv \bigcup x \in A. \text{Derivs } x \ B$$

```

lemma closure-left-quotient:
  assumes regular A
  shows regular (Deriv-lang B A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

## 5.6 Finite and co-finite sets are regular

```

lemma singleton-regular:
  shows regular {s}

```

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *finite-regular*:

**assumes** *finite A*  
  **shows** *regular A*

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *cofinite-regular*:

**fixes** *A::'a::finite lang*  
  **assumes** *finite (- A)*  
  **shows** *regular A*

$\langle proof \rangle$

## 5.7 Continuation lemma for showing non-regularity of languages

**lemma** *continuation-lemma*:

**fixes** *A B::'a::finite lang*  
  **assumes** *reg: regular A*  
  **and**   *inf: infinite B*  
  **shows**  $\exists x \in B. \exists y \in B. x \neq y \wedge x \approx A y$

$\langle proof \rangle$

## 5.8 The language $a^n b^n$ is not regular

**abbreviation**

*replicate-rev* ( $\leftarrow \sim\!\sim\!\sim \rightarrow [100, 100] 100$ )

**where**

$a \sim\!\sim\!\sim n \equiv \text{replicate } n a$

**lemma** *an-bn-not-regular*:

**shows**  $\neg \text{regular} (\bigcup n. \{\text{CHR "a"} \sim\!\sim\!\sim n @ \text{CHR "b"} \sim\!\sim\!\sim n\})$

$\langle proof \rangle$

**end**

**theory** *Closures2*

**imports**

*Closures*

*Well-Quasi-Orders. Well-Quasi-Orders*

**begin**

## 6 Closure under *SUBSEQ* and *SUPSEQ*

Properties about the embedding relation

**lemma** *subseq-strict-length*:

**assumes** *a: subseq x y x ≠ y*  
  **shows** *length x < length y*

```

⟨proof⟩

lemma subseq-wf:
  shows wf { $(x, y) \in A \mid subseq x y \wedge x \neq y$ }
⟨proof⟩

lemma subseq-good:
  shows good subseq ( $f :: nat \Rightarrow ('a::finite) list$ )
⟨proof⟩

lemma subseq-Higman-antichains:
  assumes  $a :: ('a::finite) list$  ∈ A.  $\forall y \in A. x \neq y \longrightarrow \neg(subseq x y) \wedge$ 
   $\neg(subseq y x)$ 
  shows finite A
⟨proof⟩

```

## 6.1 Sub- and Supersequences

**definition**

$SUBSEQ A \equiv \{x :: ('a::finite) list. \exists y \in A. subseq x y\}$

**definition**

$SUPSEQ A \equiv \{x :: ('a::finite) list. \exists y \in A. subseq y x\}$

```

lemma SUPSEQ-simps [simp]:
  shows SUPSEQ {} = {}
  and SUPSEQ {[]} = UNIV
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma SUPSEQ-atom [simp]:
  shows SUPSEQ {[c]} = UNIV ∙ {[c]} ∙ UNIV
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma SUPSEQ-union [simp]:
  shows SUPSEQ (A ∪ B) = SUPSEQ A ∪ SUPSEQ B
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma SUPSEQ-conc [simp]:
  shows SUPSEQ (A ∙ B) = SUPSEQ A ∙ SUPSEQ B
⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma SUPSEQ-star [simp]:
  shows SUPSEQ (A*) = UNIV
⟨proof⟩

```

## 6.2 Regular expression that recognises every character

**definition**

Allreg ::  $'a::finite rexp$   
**where**

```

 $Allreg \equiv \bigcup (Atom \cdot UNIV)$ 

lemma Allreg-lang [simp]:
  shows lang Allreg = ( $\bigcup a. \{[a]\}$ )
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma [simp]:
  shows ( $\bigcup a. \{[a]\}$ ) $\star = UNIV$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma Star-Allreg-lang [simp]:
  shows lang (Star Allreg) = UNIV
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

fun
  UP :: 'a::finite rexp  $\Rightarrow$  'a rexp
where
  UP (Zero) = Zero
  | UP (One) = Star Allreg
  | UP (Atom c) = Times (Star Allreg) (Times (Atom c) (Star Allreg))
  | UP (Plus r1 r2) = Plus (UP r1) (UP r2)
  | UP (Times r1 r2) = Times (UP r1) (UP r2)
  | UP (Star r) = Star Allreg

lemma lang-UP:
  fixes r::'a::finite rexp
  shows lang (UP r) = SUPSEQ (lang r)
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma SUPSEQ-regular:
  fixes A::'a::finite lang
  assumes regular A
  shows regular (SUPSEQ A)
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma SUPSEQ-subset:
  fixes A::'a::finite list set
  shows A  $\subseteq$  SUPSEQ A
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

lemma SUBSEQ-complement:
  shows  $\neg (SUBSEQ A) = SUPSEQ (\neg (SUBSEQ A))$ 
   $\langle proof \rangle$ 

definition
  minimal :: 'a::finite list  $\Rightarrow$  'a lang  $\Rightarrow$  bool
where
  minimal x A  $\equiv$  ( $\forall y \in A.$  subseq y x  $\longrightarrow$  subseq x y)

```

```

lemma main-lemma:
  shows  $\exists M. \text{finite } M \wedge \text{SUPSEQ } A = \text{SUPSEQ } M$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

### 6.3 Closure of SUBSEQ and SUPSEQ

```

lemma closure-SUPSEQ:
  fixes  $A::'a::\text{finite lang}$ 
  shows regular (SUPSEQ A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma closure-SUBSEQ:
  fixes  $A::'a::\text{finite lang}$ 
  shows regular (SUBSEQ A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```
end
```

## 7 Tools for showing non-regularity of a language

```

theory Non-Regular-Languages
  imports Myhill
begin

```

### 7.1 Auxiliary material

```

lemma bij-betw-image-quotient:
   $\text{bij-betw } (\lambda y. f -` \{y\}) (f ` A) (A // \{(a,b). f a = f b\})$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma regular-Derivs-finite:
  fixes  $r :: 'a :: \text{finite rexp}$ 
  shows finite (range ( $\lambda w. \text{Derivs } w (\text{lang } r)$ ))
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma Nil-in-Derivs-iff:  $[] \in \text{Derivs } w A \longleftrightarrow w \in A$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

The following operation repeats a list  $n$  times (usually written as  $w^n$ ).

```

primrec repeat :: nat  $\Rightarrow$  'a list  $\Rightarrow$  'a list where
  repeat 0 xs = []
  | repeat (Suc n) xs = xs @ repeat n xs

```

```

lemma repeat-Cons-left: repeat (Suc n) xs = xs @ repeat n xs ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma repeat-Cons-right: repeat (Suc n) xs = repeat n xs @ xs
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma repeat-Cons-append-commute [simp]: repeat n xs @ xs = xs @ repeat n xs

```

$\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *repeat-Cons-add* [simp]:  $\text{repeat } (m + n) \ xs = \text{repeat } m \ xs @ \text{repeat } n \ xs$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *repeat-Nil* [simp]:  $\text{repeat } n \ [] = []$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *repeat-conv-replicate*:  $\text{repeat } n \ xs = \text{concat } (\text{replicate } n \ xs)$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *nth-prefixes* [simp]:  $n \leq \text{length } xs \implies \text{prefixes } xs ! \ n = \text{take } n \ xs$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *nth-suffixes* [simp]:  $n \leq \text{length } xs \implies \text{suffixes } xs ! \ n = \text{drop } (\text{length } xs - n) \ xs$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *length-take-prefixes*:  
  **assumes**  $xs \in \text{set } (\text{take } n \ (\text{prefixes } ys))$   
  **shows**  $\text{length } xs < n$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

## 7.2 Non-regularity by giving an infinite set of equivalence classes

Non-regularity can be shown by giving an infinite set of non-equivalent words (w.r.t. the Myhill–Nerode relation).

**lemma** *not-regular-langI*:  
  **assumes**  $\text{infinite } B \wedge \forall x \ y. \ x \in B \implies y \in B \implies x \neq y \implies \exists w. \ \neg(x @ w \in A \longleftrightarrow y @ w \in A)$   
  **shows**  $\neg\text{regular-lang } (A :: 'a :: \text{finite list set})$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

**lemma** *not-regular-langI'*:  
  **assumes**  $\text{infinite } B \wedge \forall x \ y. \ x \in B \implies y \in B \implies x \neq y \implies \exists w. \ \neg(f x @ w \in A \longleftrightarrow f y @ w \in A)$   
  **shows**  $\neg\text{regular-lang } (A :: 'a :: \text{finite list set})$   
 $\langle proof \rangle$

## 7.3 The Pumping Lemma

The Pumping lemma can be shown very easily from the Myhill–Nerode theorem: if we have a word whose length is more than the (finite) number of equivalence classes, then it must have two different prefixes in the same class and the difference between these two prefixes can then be “pumped”.

```

lemma pumping-lemma-aux:
  fixes A :: 'a list set
  defines δ ≡ λw. Derivs w A
  defines n ≡ card (range δ)
  assumes z ∈ A finite (range δ) length z ≥ n
  shows ∃ u v w. z = u @ v @ w ∧ length (u @ v) ≤ n ∧ v ≠ [] ∧ (∀ i. u @ repeat
i v @ w ∈ A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

theorem pumping-lemma:
  fixes r :: 'a :: finite rexp
  obtains n where
     $\bigwedge z. z \in \text{lang } r \implies \text{length } z \geq n \implies$ 
     $\exists u v w. z = u @ v @ w \wedge \text{length } (u @ v) \leq n \wedge v \neq [] \wedge (\forall i. u @ \text{repeat}$ 
 $i v @ w \in \text{lang } r)$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

corollary pumping-lemma-not-regular-lang:
  fixes A :: 'a :: finite list set
  assumes  $\bigwedge n. \text{length } (z n) \geq n$  and  $\bigwedge n. z n \in A$ 
  assumes  $\bigwedge n u v w. z n = u @ v @ w \implies \text{length } (u @ v) \leq n \implies v \neq [] \implies$ 
   $u @ \text{repeat } (i n u v w) v @ w \notin A$ 
  shows  $\neg \text{regular-lang } A$ 
  ⟨proof⟩

```

## 7.4 Examples

The language of all words containing the same number of *as* and *bs* is not regular.

```

lemma ¬regular-lang {w. length (filter id w) = length (filter Not w)} (is ¬regular-lang ?A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

The language  $\{a^i b^i \mid i \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is not regular.

```

lemma eq-replicate-iff:
  xs = replicate n x  $\longleftrightarrow$  set xs ⊆ {x} ∧ length xs = n
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma replicate-eq-appendE:
  assumes xs @ ys = replicate n x
  obtains i j where n = i + j xs = replicate i x ys = replicate j x
  ⟨proof⟩

```

```

lemma ¬regular-lang (range (λi. replicate i True @ replicate i False)) (is ¬regular-lang ?A)
  ⟨proof⟩

```

**end**

## References

- [1] V. Antimirov. Partial Derivatives of Regular Expressions and Finite Automata Constructions. *Theoretical Computer Science*, 155:291–319, 1995.
- [2] C. Wu, X. Zhang, and C. Urban. A Formalisation of the Myhill-Nerode Theorem based on Regular Expressions (Proof Pearl). In *Proc. of the 2nd International Conference on Interactive Theorem Proving*, volume 6898 of *LNCS*, pages 341–356, 2011.