

**A.** Yes,  $A$  is regular. A DFA with three states suffices. [Fill in the details.]

**B.** No —  $A$  is not regular, as we now prove. Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $A$  is regular. Let  $p$  be the pumping length from the pumping lemma. Let  $w = 01^p01^p$ . Because  $w \in A$  and  $|w| \geq p$ , the pumping lemma guarantees the existence of strings  $x, y, z$  such that  $w = xyz$ ,  $|xy| \leq p$ ,  $|y| \geq 1$ , and  $xy^kz \in A$  for all  $k \geq 0$ . The first three properties imply that  $y$  is a non-empty substring of the first  $01^p$  in  $w$ . Now consider the string  $xy^0z = xz$ . There are two cases.

1. If  $y$  contains 0, then  $xy^0z$  contains just one 0 and hence is not in  $A$ .
2. If  $y$  consists solely of 1s, then  $xy^0z = 01^i01^j$  for some  $i < j$ , and hence is not in  $A$ .

In both cases we have shown that  $xy^0z \notin A$ . This fact contradicts the pumping lemma. We conclude that  $A$  is not regular.

**C.A.** One solution is  $07\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma$ . If you don't like  $\Sigma$  in regular expressions, then replace each  $\Sigma$  with  $(0 \cup 1 \cup 2 \cup 3 \cup 4 \cup 5 \cup 6 \cup 7 \cup 8 \cup 9)$ .

**C.B.** [In reality, US mobile phone numbers have ten digits  $a_0 \cdots a_9$  rather than nine. I counted them incorrectly while writing the exam. Fortunately, this error does not materially affect the problem.] To save writing, let  $R$  be the regular expression  $(2 \cup 3 \cup 4 \cup 5 \cup 6 \cup 7 \cup 8 \cup 9)$ . Then a solution is

$$R\Sigma\Sigma R((0 \cup R)\Sigma \cup \Sigma(0 \cup R))\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma.$$

**C.C.** Let  $K$  be the set of UK mobile phone numbers; it is regular by part A. Let  $S$  be the set of USA mobile phone numbers; it is regular by part B. Then  $K \cup S$  is regular and

$$(K \cup S)^c = K^c \cap S^c = A$$

is also regular. Hence there must be a regular expression that matches  $A$ .

**D.A.** TRUE. [A finite language  $A$  is a union of one-string languages. For any one-string language, you can design a DFA or regular expression. Then  $A$  is regular because the class of regular languages is closed under finite unions.]

**D.B.** FALSE. [For example, let  $A = \{0, 1\}^*$  and  $B = \{0^n 1^n : n \geq 0\}$ .]

**D.C.** FALSE. [For example, working over  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ , let  $A = \{011\}$  and  $B = \{1, 11\}$ . Then  $A/B = \{0, 01\}$  and  $(A/B)B = \{01, 011, 0111\}$ .]

**D.D.** FALSE. [For example, let  $A_i = \{0^i 1^i\}$ . Then  $A_0 \cup A_1 \cup A_2 \cup \cdots = \{0^n 1^n : n \geq 0\}$ .]

**D.E.** FALSE. [Here's the sketch of a proof. For any given alphabet  $\Sigma$ , there are infinitely many regular languages but only finitely many NFAs with three states. Namely, there are no more than

$$p \cdot 2^p \cdot (2^p)^{p(|\Sigma|+1)}$$

NFAs of  $p$  states. I asked this question because, in the part of the course about CFGs and PDAs, the analogous statement is essentially (but not exactly) true.]