

Task sheet 10

Task 62. Show that if $u_1 w u_2 = v_1 \bar{w} v_2$ and w is reduced then either $w = 1$ or $v_1 \bar{w} \sqsubseteq u_1$ or $u_1 w \sqsubseteq v_1$, i.e. w and \bar{w} cannot overlap.

Task 63. Consider the case of x being a pseudo-solution of $xu\underline{x}vx$, where $x_u = \bar{u}'$ and $x_v = w_v \bar{v}'$: (and $\bar{v}' \bar{w}_v \sqsubseteq x_u = \bar{u}'$); in particular, $x = \bar{u}' w_v \bar{v}'$.

Show that $x = x_u x_v = \text{nf}(\bar{u}' u'' \bar{v})$ for some $u \sqsupseteq u'' \sqsupseteq u''$; note that there is a reduction in $\bar{u}' u''$.

Task 64. Let $x_u = \bar{u}' w_u$, $x_v = w_v \bar{v}'$ (in particular, $x = \bar{u}' w_u w_v \bar{v}'$) and also $x_v \sqsupseteq \bar{w}_u \bar{u}'$ and $\bar{v}' \bar{w}_v \sqsubseteq x_u$. All above are in nf ; this corresponds to the main case of pseudo-solution of $xu\underline{x}vx$.

Justify the argument (especially the steps involving nf)

$$\begin{aligned}
 & \bar{v}' \bar{w}_v \sqsubseteq \bar{u}' w_u \\
 & v' \bar{v}' \bar{w}_v \sqsubseteq v \bar{u}' w_u \\
 & \text{nf}(v' \bar{w}_v) \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(v \bar{u}' w_u) \\
 & v' \bar{w}_v \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(v \bar{u}' w_u) \\
 & u' w_u \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(v \bar{u}' w_u) \\
 & \text{nf}(\bar{u}' \bar{u}' u' w_u) \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(\bar{u}' v \bar{u}' w_u) \\
 & \text{nf}(\bar{u}' w_u) \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(\bar{u}' v \bar{u}' w_u) \\
 & x_u \sqsubseteq \text{nf}(\bar{u}' v x_u)
 \end{aligned}$$

Task 65. Let s be a cyclically reduced word. Let W be a set of words and $k = \sum_{w \in W} |w|$. Suppose that s^{k_1}, \dots, s^{k_p} are pairwise disjoint subwords of words in W and that k_1, \dots, k_p are pairwise different integers. Show that $p \leq \sqrt{4k/|s| + 1}$.