

# BILL, RECORD LECTURE!!!!

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# Regex: Closure Properties

# Terminology: Regular Languages

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We already know all of these closure properties since we did closure proofs with DFA's and NFA's; however, we are curious which ones can be proven **easily** with regex's.

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I think so but the literature is unclear on this point.

# Regular Lang Closed Under Union

**Easy** The regex for  $L(\alpha) \cup L(\beta)$  is  $\alpha \cup \beta$ .



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**Hard** Need to convert to NFA's and do it there and convert back.

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**Hard** Need to convert to NFA's and do it there and convert back.  
Might be on a HW or Exam.

# Regex Closed Under Concatenation

**Easy** The regex for  $L(\alpha) \cdot L(\beta)$  is  $\alpha \cdot \beta$ .

# Regular Lang Closed Under $*$ ?

**Easy** The regex for  $L(a)^*$  is  $a^*$ .

# Summary of Closure Properties and Proofs

X means **Can't Prove Easily**

$n_1 + n_2$  (and similar) is number of states in new machine if  $L_i$  reg via  $n_i$ -state machine.

$L_1 + L_2$  (and similar) is length of regex of  $L_i$  length of  $\alpha_i$ .

Closure Property	DFA	NFA	Regex
$L_1 \cup L_2$	$n_1 n_2$	$n_1 + n_2$	$L_1 + L_2$
$L_1 \cap L_2$	$n_1 n_2$	$n_1 n_2$	X
$L_1 \cdot L_2$	X	$n_1 + n_2 + 1$	$L_1 + L_2$
$\bar{L}$	$n$	X	X
$L^*$	X	$n + 1$	$L + 1$

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