

All students should read §3.3–3.6.

Distribute the following questions across the members of your group. You will share your solutions (and most importantly the *method* of your solutions) during the next lecture period. Divide up the questions so that **each** question has at least two solutions from different group members.

For all of these questions, you do not need to venture farther than the **regular expression language** described in the text for answers (namely:  $a$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $a|b$ ,  $a^+$ ,  $a^k$ , and (of course)  $a^*$ ). You don't need "look backs", named groups, or other notions from any other regex language.

For **questions 1, 2, and 4**, provide an algorithm that proves the assertion.

1. Page 110, question 18<sup>1</sup>
2. Page 110, question 19; **Hint:** the world does not revolve around DFAs.
3. Page 111, question 25
4. Page 111, question 26; **Warning:** In the question,  $AllButLast(a^+b) = a^+$  should be interpreted as: "Applying *AllButLast* to the regular set generated by  $a^+b$  would generate a set of strings that would all be matched by the RE  $a^+$ . It **does not mean** *AllButLast* applied to the sequence of characters  $a$ , superscript  $+$ , and  $b$  would yield  $a^+$  — which, of course it **would** if that is what the author meant.
5. (a) Find a reasonably good tutorial or short article on LEX (one you can read and understand); provide this to your group for their future benefit.  
(b) Page 111, question 22; **Hints:** "before the blank" and "very last character" refers to ASCII table ordering.  $x^{12,345}$  is a regular expression: 12,345  $x$  characters in a row. The book doesn't mention this RE form in LEX, so it is a good thing you found a good tutorial in part a.

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<sup>1</sup>Too bad *Not(e)* doesn't count as an algorithm.