

5. Let  $L = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* : w \text{ has an odd no. of 1's}\}$ , and let  $A$  be the DFA with tabular representation:

	0	1
$\rightarrow p$	$p$	$q$
$\star q$	$q$	$p$

Prove that  $L = L(A)$ . *Hint:* Do the  $L(A) \subseteq L$  part of the proof by induction on the length of the string processed by  $A$ . You need a mutual induction with a claim for state  $p$  and a claim for state  $q$ .

**Solution:**

To prove  $w \in L(A) \Rightarrow w \in L$  we use an induction on length of  $w$ . We claim that

- (1) If  $\hat{\delta}(p, w) = p$ , then  $w$  has even number of 1's.
- (2) If  $\hat{\delta}(p, w) = q$ , then  $w$  has odd number of 1's.

**Basis:**  $|w| = 0$  then  $w = \epsilon$ , so obviously (1) is true. Also, it is clear that  $\hat{\delta}(p, \epsilon) = p \neq q$ , so (2) is vacuously true.

**IH:** (1) and (2) are true for any string  $w$  of length  $n$ .

**IS:** Now prove (1) and (2) for  $w = xa$ , where  $|x| = n$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ .

(1): If  $\hat{\delta}(p, xa) = p$  then  $\hat{\delta}(p, x)$  is  $p$  and  $a = 0$  or  $q$  and  $a = 1$ , as can be seen from the transition diagram of  $A$ .

If  $\hat{\delta}(p, x) = p$  then by the IH (1), the string  $x$  has even number of 1's. Therefore  $w = x0$  which has even number of 1's.

If  $\hat{\delta}(p, x) = q$  then by the IH (2), the string  $x$  has odd number of 1's, so  $w = x1$  has even number of 1's.

(2): If  $\hat{\delta}(p, xa) = q$  then  $\hat{\delta}(p, x)$  is  $p$  and  $a = 1$  or  $q$  and  $a = 0$ , as can be seen from the transition diagram of  $A$ .

If  $\hat{\delta}(p, x) = p$  then by the IH (1), the string  $x$  has even number of 1's. Therefore  $w = x1$  which has odd number of 1's.

If  $\hat{\delta}(p, x) = q$  then by the IH (2), the string  $x$  has odd number of 1's, so  $w = x0$  has odd number of 1's. This completes induction.

For the other direction, we have:

$$\begin{aligned} w \notin L(A) &\Rightarrow \hat{\delta}(p, w) = p \\ &\Rightarrow w \text{ has even number of 1's} \\ &\Rightarrow w \notin L \end{aligned}$$

So it never ends in a final state with an even number of 1's. Therefore, this direction is also proved, that is  $L \subseteq L(A)$ .