

5 (a) Let L be an arbitrary language over the alphabet $\{a, b\}$.

Define L^* and L^+ recursively. [5 points]

L^* Basis Clause: $\Lambda \in L^*$

Inductive Clause: If $x \in L^*$ and $y \in L$ for any string x, y , then $xy \in L^*$

Extremal Clause: As usual.

L^+ Basis Clause: $L \subseteq L^+$

Inductive Clause: If $x \in L^+$ and $y \in L$ for any string x, y , then $xy \in L^+$

Extremal Clause: As usual.

(b) Using your definition of L^* and L^+ of (a) prove by general induction (a.k.a. structural induction) that L^+ is a subset of L^* . [15 points]

Basis Step: To prove $x \in L \rightarrow x \in L^*$

Proof: Since $\Lambda \in L^*$, by Inductive Clause of definition of L^* , for any $e \in L$, $\Lambda e \in L^*$.
 $\therefore x \in L^*$.

Inductive Step: To prove that if $x \in L^+$ and $x \in L^*$, then for any $y \in L$, $xy \in L^*$.

Proof: Since $x \in L^*$, by Inductive Clause of definition of L^* , for any $y \in L$,
 $xy \in L^*$.