Problem Set 1 is to test your knowledge of background material, and you need not turn it in. For material on graph algorithms, you can look at the Wikipedia book http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Book:Graph\_Algorithms or in a standard textbook on algorithms, such as the one by Cormen and others. For material on formal languages and automata, you can look at the book by Sipser.

**Problem 1.1.** A graph is *semi-accessible* if for every pair of vertices  $u, v \in V$ , either  $u \to^* v$  or  $v \to^* u$ . Give an algorithm to check if a graph is semi-accessible.

**Problem 1.2.** Show that every regular language can be recognized by an NFA (possibly with  $\epsilon$  transitions) with exactly one initial state and exactly one final state. Does this property hold if you do not allow  $\epsilon$  transitions?

**Problem 1.3.** Consider the language

 $L_n = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \text{the } n\text{th symbol from the right is a } 1\}$ 

(a) describe an NFA with O(n) states that recognizes this language. (b) Show that any DFA for this language requires at least  $2^{n-1}$  states.

**Problem 1.4.** Give an algorithm to check if a regular language described as an NFA is non-empty. What is the time complexity of your algorithm? Give an algorithm to check if an NFA accepts all possible strings. What is the time complexity of your algorithm?

**Problem 1.5.** Give an algorithm that checks if a given numbering of nodes of a graph defines a topological order.

**Problem 1.6.** Show the following valid propositions in propositional logic.

- 1.  $(\neg P \rightarrow P) \rightarrow P$
- 2.  $\neg (P \rightarrow Q) \rightarrow \neg Q$

**Problem 1.7.** Using a truth table, determine which of the following are equivalent to  $(p \land q) \rightarrow r$  and which are equivalent to  $(p \lor q) \rightarrow r$ :

1.  $p \rightarrow (q \rightarrow r)$ 2.  $q \rightarrow (p \rightarrow r)$ 3.  $(p \rightarrow r)^{(q} \rightarrow r)$ 4.  $(p \rightarrow r) \lor (q \rightarrow r)$ 

**Problem 1.8.** The *diameter* of a tree T = (V, E) is defined as

$$\max_{u,v\in V} d(u,v)$$

that is, it is the longest of all pairs of shortest paths in the tree. Give an algorithm to compute the diameter of a tree and analyze the running time of your algorithm.

**Problem 1.9.** (a) Given two regular languages  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , how will you check if they have at least one string in common? (b) Can you use the algorithm in part (a) to check if all strings of  $L_1$  also belong to  $L_2$ ?

**Problem 1.10.** Given a DFA M and a number n, give an algorithm to count the number of strings of length n in L(M).