

## Chapter 1 Regular Languages

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### Overview

- computation theory begins with the question: what is a computer?
- real computers are overly complicated for our uses
- instead, we use an idealized computer, or computational model
- we will use several different models with varying features
- the first is the finite state machine, or finite automaton

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### Finite Automata

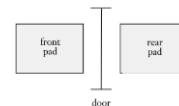
- finite automata
  - useful
  - limited memory
  - common in everyday life
- example: automatic door controller with ground pads
  - front pad: detect person about to walk through door
  - rear pad: detect how long to hold the door, and to keep the door shut if someone is standing there



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### Finite Automata

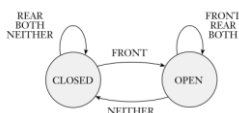
- example: automatic door with ground pads (cont.)
- controller in one of two states: OPEN or CLOSED
- four possible input conditions
  - FRONT: person standing on front pad
  - REAR: person is standing on rear pad
  - BOTH: people are standing on both pads
  - NEITHER: no one is standing on either pad



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### Finite Automata

- example: automatic door with ground pads (cont.)
- controller moves between states OPEN and CLOSED depending on input
- state diagram



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### Finite Automata

- example: automatic door with ground pads (cont.)
- state transition table

state	input signal			
	CLOSED	NEITHER	FRONT	REAR
CLOSED	CLOSED	CLOSED	OPEN	CLOSED
OPEN	OPEN	CLOSED	OPEN	OPEN

- if controller is CLOSED and receives input:
  - FRONT, REAR, NEITHER, FRONT, BOTH, NEITHER, REAR, and NEITHER
- it would go through states:
  - CLOSED (starting), OPEN, OPEN, CLOSED, OPEN, OPEN, CLOSED, CLOSED, CLOSED

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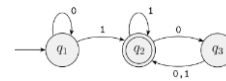
## Finite Automata

- automatic door controller as finite automaton
- controller: computer with single bit of memory to hold state
- other controllers might need larger memories
  - elevator controller
    - state for current floor
    - inputs from buttons
  - dishwashers, thermostats, digital watches, calculators
- Markov chains: useful for recognizing patterns in data
  - speech processing, optical character recognition
  - employ probabilistic state chains

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## Finite Automata

- sample finite automaton  $M_1$

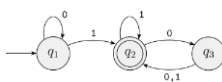


- state diagram
- three states:  $q_1, q_2, q_3$
- start state:  $q_1$  indicated by arrow pointing from nowhere
- accept state:  $q_2$  with double circle
- transitions: other arrows

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## Finite Automata

- sample finite automaton  $M_1$

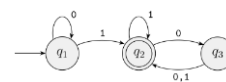


- when input string is received, e.g. 1101, the FA processes it and produces an output: accept or reject
- begins at start state of  $M_1$
- input string symbols processed one by one from left to right
- after reading each symbol,  $M_1$  moves from one state to another according to the symbol
- when the last symbol is read,  $M_1$  produces output accept if it is in the accept state; otherwise reject

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## Finite Automata

- sample finite automaton  $M_1$

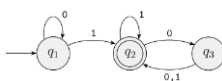


- e.g. 1101
  - start at state  $q_1$
  - read 1, follow transition from  $q_1$  to  $q_2$
  - read 1, follow transition from  $q_2$  to  $q_2$
  - read 0, follow transition from  $q_2$  to  $q_3$
  - read 1, follow transition from  $q_3$  to  $q_2$
  - accept because  $M_1$  is in an accept state  $q_2$  at end of input

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## Finite Automata

- sample finite automaton  $M_1$



- other strings accepted
  - 1, 01, 11, 01010101
  - any string that ends with 1
  - 100, 0100, 110000, 0101010000
  - any string that ends with an even number of 0s
- rejected strings
  - 0, 10, 101000

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## Finite Automata

- formal definition
- diagrams easier to understand, but formal definition needed because it is
  - precise
    - resolves uncertainties as to what is allowed
  - notation
    - helps express thoughts clearly

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## Finite Automata

- formal definition
- requires multiple parts (5-tuple)
  - set of states
  - rules for transitions between states depending on input
  - input alphabet of allowable input symbols
  - start state
  - set of accept states (or final states)

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## Finite Automata

- concerning rules for transitions between states
  - use transition functions, denoted by  $\delta$
  - if FA has an arrow from state  $x$  to state  $y$  when it reads a 1, it will move from  $x$  to  $y$  when 1 is read
    - $\delta(x, 1) = y$

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## Finite Automata

- formal definition

A *finite automaton* is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set called the *states*,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite set called the *alphabet*,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the *transition function*,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the *start state*, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the *set of accept states*

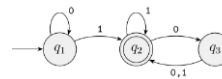
- with this definition we see
  - 0 accept states is allowable
  - $\delta$  specifies exactly one next state for each state/input value

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## Finite Automata

- for example



- $M_1$  can be described as  $M_1 = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F)$  where
  - $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
  - $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
  - $\delta$  is described as
 

	0	1
$q_1$	$q_1$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_2$
$q_3$	$q_2$	$q_2$
  - $q_1$  is the start state
  - $F = \{q_2\}$

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## Finite Automata

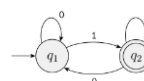
- if  $A$  is the set of all strings that  $M$  accepts
  - $A$  is the language of  $M$
  - $L(M) = A$
  - $M$  recognizes  $A$
  - $M$  accepts  $A$
- a machine may accept multiple strings, but it only recognizes one language
  - if it accepts no strings, it recognizes the empty language  $\emptyset$
- $M_1$  recognizes  $A$  where  $A = \{w \mid w \text{ has at least one 1 and an even number of 0s follow the last 1}\}$

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## Finite Automata

- example



- $M_2 = (\{q_1, q_2\}, \{0, 1\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_2\})$  where
  - $\delta$  is described as
 

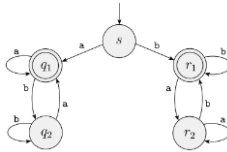
	0	1
$q_1$	$q_1$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_1$	$q_2$
  - try sample strings
  - What language does  $M_2$  recognize?
    - all binary strings ending with a 1

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## Finite Automata

## • example

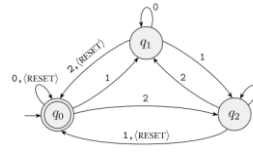


- What language does  $M_4$  recognize?
- all strings of  $\{a,b\}$  beginning and ending with the same letter

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## Finite Automata

## • example



- think about a counter or accumulator where RESET sets it back to 0
- What language does  $M_5$  recognize?
- accepts all strings with digits summing to 0 mod 3

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## Finite Automata

- for some FAs, a state diagram is not possible
  - it may be too large to draw (but not infinite)
  - description depends on an unspecified parameter
  - a formal definition must then be used to specify the machine
- e.g., a generalization of the previous example

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## Finite Automata

- formal definition of computation
  - let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F)$  be a FA and  $w = w_1w_2...w_n$  be a string where each  $w_i$  is a member of the alphabet
  - $M$  accepts  $w$  if a sequence of states  $r_0, r_1, ..., r_n$  in  $Q$  exists with three conditions:
    - $r_0 = q_0$ 
      - machine starts at start state
    - $\delta(r_i, w_{i+1}) = r_{i+1}$  for  $i = 0, ..., n-1$ 
      - machine goes from state to state according to transition function
    - $r_n \in F$ 
      - machine accepts its input if it ends up in an accept state

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## Finite Automata

- formal definition of computation (cont.)
  - $M$  recognizes language  $A$  if
    - $A = \{w \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$
  - a language is called a regular language if some finite automaton recognizes it

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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
  - cannot be prescribed easily
  - put yourself in the place of the machine
    - you receive a string an input string and must determine whether it is a member of the language the automaton is supposed to recognize
  - process the symbols in the string one by one
    - decide whether the string seen so far is in the language since you don't know when the string will end

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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata (cont.)
- determine what you need to remember about the string as you are reading it
  - input could be very long, but you probably don't need to remember the entire input string
- you have finite memory, e.g., a single sheet of paper
- what is the crucial information to remember?

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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
- example: construct a FA that recognizes the language of all bit strings with an odd number of 1s
  - as you traverse the string, you don't need to remember the entire string
- simply remember whether the number of 1's seen so far is odd or even
  - if you read a 1, flip the answer
  - if you read a 0, leave the answer as is

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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
- example: construct a FA that recognizes the language of all bit strings with an odd number of 1s (cont.)
  - once you have the necessary information to remember, make a finite list of possibilities
    - even so far
    - odd so far
- assign a state to each of the possibilities

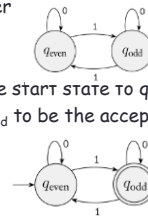


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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
- example: construct a FA that recognizes the language of all bit strings with an odd number of 1s (cont.)
  - assign transitions to go from one possibility to another
- set the start state to  $q_{\text{even}}$  since 0 is an even number
- set  $q_{\text{odd}}$  to be the accept state



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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
- example: construct a FA that recognizes the regular language of all bit strings that contain 001
  - e.g., 0010, 1001, 001, 1111001111, but not 11 and 000
- if you were the automaton, you would read symbols from the beginning, skipping over all 1s
  - if you read a 0, you may be seeing the start of 001
    - if you read a 1 next, there are too few 0s, so go back to skipping over 1s
  - if you read a 0 next, you need to remember that you have now seen two symbols of the pattern
- continue scanning until you see a 1 - if so, remember that you have found the pattern, and keep reading to the end of the string

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## Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
- example: construct a FA that recognizes the regular language of all bit strings that contain 001 (cont.)
  - four different possibilities
    - you haven't seen any symbols of the pattern
    - you have seen just one 0
    - you have seen 00
    - you have seen the entire pattern 001
- assign states  $q$ ,  $q_0$ ,  $q_{00}$ , and  $q_{001}$  to these possibilities

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### Finite Automata

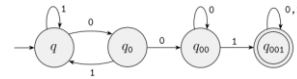
- designing finite automata
  - example: construct a FA that recognizes the regular language of all bit strings that contain 001 (cont.)
  - assign the transitions
    - from  $q$ 
      - if you read a 1, stay in  $q$
      - if you read a 0, go to  $q_0$
    - from  $q_0$ 
      - if you read a 1, return to  $q$
      - if you read a 0, go to  $q_{00}$
    - from  $q_{00}$ 
      - if you read a 1, go to  $q_{001}$
      - if you read a 0, stay in  $q_{00}$
    - from  $q_{001}$ 
      - if you read a 0 or 1, stay in  $q_{001}$

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### Finite Automata

- designing finite automata
  - example: construct a FA that recognizes the regular language of all bit strings that contain 001 (cont.)
  - start state is  $q$
  - accept state is  $q_{001}$



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### Finite Automata

- regular operations
  - properties for finite automata
    - help us design FA to recognize particular languages
    - help us determine other languages are nonregular
  - three regular operations
    - union:  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$
    - concatenation:  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$
    - star:  $A^* = \{x_1x_2\dots x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$

where  $A$  and  $B$  are regular languages

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### Finite Automata

- regular operations
  - regular operation notes
    - union: takes all strings in  $A$  and  $B$  and puts them into one language
    - concatenation: attaches a string from  $A$  in front of a string from  $B$  in all possible ways to get the new language
    - star: unary rather than binary
      - attaches any number (0 or more) of strings in  $A$  to get a string in the new language
      - empty string  $\epsilon$  is always a member of  $A^*$

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### Finite Automata

- regular operations
  - example:  $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots, z\}$ ,  $A = \{\text{good}, \text{bad}\}$ ,  $B = \{\text{boy}, \text{girl}\}$ 
    - $A \cup B = \{\text{good}, \text{bad}, \text{boy}, \text{girl}\}$
    - $A \circ B = \{\text{goodboy}, \text{goodgirl}, \text{badboy}, \text{badgirl}\}$
    - $A^* = \{\epsilon, \text{good}, \text{bad}, \text{goodgood}, \text{goodbad}, \text{badgood}, \text{badbad}, \text{goodgoodgood}, \text{goodgoodbad}, \text{goodbadgood}, \text{goodbadbad}, \dots\}$

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### Finite Automata

- closure
  - consider  $N = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$ 
    - $N$  is closed under multiplication means that when we multiply any two numbers from  $N$ , we get a product that is also in  $N$
    - $N$  is not closed under division (why?)
  - in general, a collection of objects is closed under some operation if the result of that operation is still in the collection

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## Finite Automata

- closure
  - regular languages are closed under union
    - if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$
  - proof idea: construct a FA  $M$  that recognizes  $A_1 \cup A_2$
  - if  $M_1$  recognizes  $A_1$  and  $M_2$  recognizes  $A_2$ , then  $M$  will simulate both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , accepting if either  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  accepts
    - cannot simulate  $M_1$  and then  $M_2$
    - cannot rewind the input

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## Finite Automata

- closure
  - regular languages are closed under union (cont.)
    - instead, simulate  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  simultaneously
      - remember state each machine would be in if it had read the input up to this point
    - if  $M_1$  has  $k_1$  states and  $M_2$  has  $k_2$  states, the number of pairs of states is  $k_1 \times k_2$
    - each state in  $M$  will be a pair
    - transitions go from pair to pair, updating the current state of both  $M_1$  and  $M_2$
    - accept states are those pairs where either  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  is in an accept state

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## Finite Automata

- closure
  - proof: regular languages are closed under union (cont.)
    - let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $M_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
    - let  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $M_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2\}$

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## Finite Automata

- closure
  - proof: regular languages are closed under union (cont.)
    - construct  $M = \{Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F\}$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ 
      - $Q = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } r_2 \in Q_2\}$ 
        - cartesian product for all pairs of states  $Q_1 \times Q_2$
      - $\Sigma$  alphabet for both
      - $\delta$  transition function for each  $(r_1, r_2) \in Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ 
        - $\delta((r_1, r_2), a) = (\delta_1(r_1, a), \delta_2(r_2, a))$
        - moves from state pair to state pair based on  $a$
      - $q_0$  is the pair  $(q_1, q_2)$
      - $F$  is set of pairs where  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  is in an accept state
        - $F = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } r_2 \in F_2\}$  not and

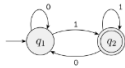
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## Finite Automata

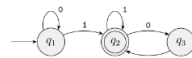
- closure
  - regular languages are closed under union example
    - let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $M_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$

$M_1 = \{(q_1, q_2), \{0,1\}, \delta_1, q_1, \{q_2\}\}$   
binary strings ending in 1



- let  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $M_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_1, F_2\}$

$M_2 = \{(q_1, q_2, q_3), \{0,1\}, \delta_2, q_1, \{q_2\}\}$



binary strings with 1 followed by even number of 0s

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## Finite Automata

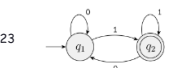
- closure
  - regular languages are closed under union example
    - let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $M_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
    - let  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $M_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2\}$

new states:  $q_{11}, q_{12}, q_{13}, q_{21}, q_{22}, q_{23}$

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$

start state:  $q_{11}$

accept states:  $\{q_{12}, q_{21}, q_{22}, q_{23}\}$



accepts binary strings ending with 1  
or containing a 1 followed by an even # of 0s

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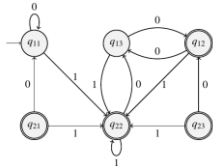
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## Finite Automata

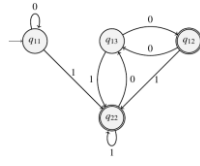
### closure



### union



### simplified



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## Finite Automata

### closure

- regular languages are closed under concatenation
  - let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $M_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
  - let  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $M_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2\}$
  - construct  $M$  to accept input first for  $M_1$ , then for  $M_2$
  - BUT,  $M$  doesn't know where to break its input
    - where the first part ends and the second part begins
- we need to introduce a new technique called nondeterminism

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## Nondeterminism

- so far, we have considered only deterministic finite automata (DFA)
  - i.e., when a machine is in a given state and reads the next input symbol, there is only one state that can be the next state
- in a nondeterministic machine, several choices may exist for the next state
  - nondeterminism is a generalization of determinism



- what do you notice that is different in this NFA?

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## Nondeterminism

### differences between DFAs and NFAs

- DFAs: states may have exactly one exiting arrow for each symbol
- NFAs: a state may have zero, one, or many exiting arrows for each symbol
- DFAs: labels on transition arrows are symbols from the alphabet
- NFAs: labels on transition arrows are symbols from the alphabet or  $\epsilon$ ; zero, one, or many arrows may exit from each state with label  $\epsilon$



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## Nondeterminism

- how does an NFA compute?
  - if multiple ways to proceed exist after reading a symbol, the machine splits into multiple copies of itself and follows all possibilities in parallel
  - machine also splits for all  $\epsilon$  branches that can be taken
  - each copy takes one of the possible ways to proceed and continues as before
  - each machine continues to split as needed
  - if the next input symbol does not match an exiting arrow for a machine's current state, that copy of the machine dies, along with its branch of computation
  - if any one of the copies reaches an accept state at the end of the input, the NFA accepts the input string

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## Nondeterminism

- nondeterminism can be viewed as a parallel computation
  - multiple independent "processes" or "threads" can be running concurrently
  - each split corresponds to a process forking into multiple children, with each proceeding separately
  - if at least one of these processes accepts, then the entire computation accepts

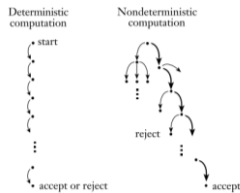
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## Nondeterminism

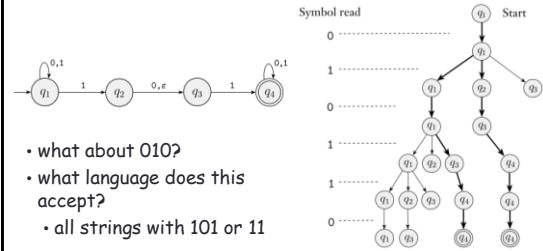
- nondeterminism can be viewed as a tree of possibilities
- root is the start of the computation
- branches signify the machine splitting across multiple choices
- machine accepts if at least one branch ends in an accept state



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## Nondeterminism

- example: NFA  $N_1$  on 010110
- keep track of possibilities by placing fingers over each state where a machine could be



- what about 010?
- what language does this accept?
- all strings with 101 or 11

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## Nondeterminism

- NFAs are useful in several ways
- every NFA can be converted directly into a DFA
- constructing NFAs is sometimes easier than directly constructing DFAs
- an NFA may be much smaller or easier to understand than its corresponding DFA

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## Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_2$



- what language does it accept?
- all binary strings with 1 in third-to-last position

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## Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_2$



- can think of it as staying in the start state until it guesses that it is three places from the end
- at that point, if the next symbol is 1, it branches to  $q_2$  and uses  $q_3$  and  $q_4$  to check its guess

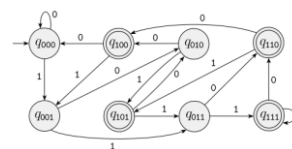
53

## Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_2$



- this NFA can be converted to an equivalent DFA, but with more states and transitions
- smallest equivalent DFA



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### Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_2$



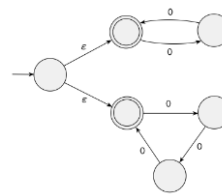
- what language would  $N_2$  recognize if edges with labels  $\epsilon$  were added from  $q_2$  to  $q_3$  and from  $q_3$  to  $q_4$ ?
- all binary strings containing a 1 in any of the last three positions
- how would the corresponding DFA change?

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### Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_3$



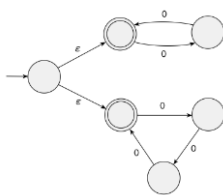
- unary alphabet  $\{0\}$
- what language does this accept?

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### Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_3$



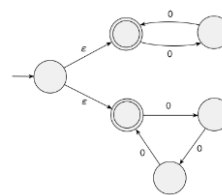
- accepts  $\epsilon$ , 00, 000, 0000, 000000 but not 0, 00000
- accepts all strings  $0^k$  where  $k$  is 0 or a multiple of 2 or 3

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### Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_3$



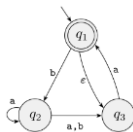
- think of the machine as guessing whether to test for multiples of 2 or 3
- could use a DFA instead, but  $N_3$  is easiest to understand

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### Nondeterminism

- example NFA  $N_4$



- accepts  $\epsilon$ , a, baba, baa
- does not accept b, bb, babba
- so, the language consists of  $\epsilon$  and strings composed of a's and b's, but always ending in a
- more limitations, but this language cannot be easily and succinctly described

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### Nondeterminism

- formal definition of NFA
- similar to DFA, but transition functions are different
  - in NFA, transition function takes a state and an input symbol \*or the empty string\* and produces a \*set\* of possible next states
- recall  $P(Q)$  is the power set (set of all subsets)
- alphabet must add  $\epsilon$ 
  - $\Sigma_\epsilon = \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$

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## Nondeterminism

### • formal definition of NFA

A *nondeterministic finite automaton* is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow P(Q)$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.

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## Nondeterminism

### • example $N_1$



### • formal definition

$$Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\delta \text{ is given as } \begin{array}{c|ccc} & 0 & 1 & \epsilon \\ \hline q_1 & \{q_1\} & \{q_1, q_2\} & \emptyset \\ q_2 & \{q_3\} & \emptyset & \{q_3\} \\ q_3 & \emptyset & \{q_4\} & \emptyset \\ q_4 & \{q_4\} & \{q_4\} & \emptyset \end{array}$$

•  $q_1$  is the start state

$$F = \{q_4\}$$

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## Nondeterminism

### • formal definition of computation

- similar to DFA
- let  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a NFA and  $w$  a string over alphabet  $\Sigma$
- $N$  accepts  $w$  if we can write  $w$  as  $w = y_1 y_2 \dots y_n$  where each  $y_i$  is a member of  $\Sigma$ , and the sequence of states  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n$  in  $Q$  exists with three conditions:
  - $r_0 = q_0$ 
    - machine starts at start state
  - $r_{i+1} \in \delta(r_i, y_{i+1})$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ 
    - machine goes from state  $r_i$  to  $r_{i+1}$  which is a member of the set of allowable next states according to transition function
  - $r_n \in F$ 
    - machine accepts its input if it ends up in an accept state

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## Nondeterminism

### • equivalence of NFAs and DFAs

- deterministic and nondeterministic FAs recognize the same class of languages
- surprising since NFAs seem more powerful
- useful because NFAs are often easier to construct and understand
- two machines are equivalent if they recognize the same language

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## Nondeterminism

### • Theorem: every nondeterministic finite automaton has an equivalent deterministic finite automaton

- proof idea
  - convert NFA to equivalent DFA that simulates it
  - consider what happens as input is read
  - what do you need to keep track of?
    - various branches of computation by placing fingers over active states
  - if the NFA has  $k$  states, there are  $2^k$  subsets of states
  - each subset corresponds to one state the DFA will need to keep track of, so the DFA will have  $2^k$  states
  - set start and accept states for DFA

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## Nondeterminism

### • proof

- let  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be the NFA recognizing  $A$ 
  - construct DFA  $M = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_0', F')$  recognizing  $A$
- first consider case where  $N$  has no  $\epsilon$  edges
  - $Q' = P(Q)$ 
    - every state of  $M$  is a set of states of  $N$
  - let  $\delta'(R, a) = \{q \in Q \mid q \in \delta(r, a) \text{ for some } r \in R\}$  where  $R \subseteq Q$ 
    - if  $R$  is a state of  $M$ , it is also a set of states of  $N$ ; when  $M$  reads a symbol  $a$  in  $R$ , it goes to one or more states in  $R$ , so  $\delta'(R, a) = \bigcup_{r \in R} \delta(r, a)$
- $q_0' = \{q_0\}$ 
  - $M$  starts in the state corresponding to the collection containing just the start state of  $N$
- $F' = \{R \in Q' \mid R \text{ contains an accept state of } N\}$ 
  - machine accepts if one of the possible states that  $N$  could be in at this point is an accept state

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## Nondeterminism

- proof (cont.)
- now consider  $\epsilon$  edges
  - for any state  $R$  of  $M$ ,  $E(R)$  is the collection of states that can be reached from members of  $R$  by following  $\epsilon$  arrows, including the members of  $R$  themselves
  - $E(R) = \{q \mid q \text{ can be reached from } R \text{ by 0 or more } \epsilon \text{ arrows}\}$
- modify transition function to include states reached by  $\epsilon$  arrows
  - $\delta'(R, a) = \{q \in Q \mid q \in E(\delta(r, a)) \text{ for some } r \in R\}$
- modify start state  $q_0' = E(\{q_0\})$

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## Nondeterminism

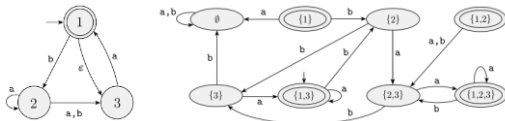
- corollary
  - a language is regular if and only if some nondeterministic finite automaton recognizes it

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## Nondeterminism

- convert NFA  $N_4$  to a DFA

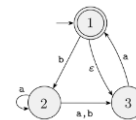


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## Nondeterminism

- convert NFA  $N_4$  to a DFA



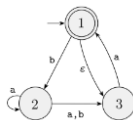
- $N_4 = (Q, \{a, b\}, \delta, 1, \{1\})$  where  $Q = \{1, 2, 3\}$
- DFA  $D$ 's states will be
  - $P(Q) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2\}, \{3\}, \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{2,3\}, \{1,2,3\}\}$
- $D$ 's start state =  $E(\{1\}) = \{1, 3\}$
- $D$ 's accept states =  $\{\{1\}, \{1,2\}, \{1,3\}, \{1,2,3\}\}$ 
  - anything containing the  $N_4$ 's accept states

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## Nondeterminism

- convert NFA  $N_4$  to a DFA (cont.)



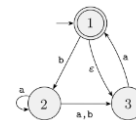
- $D$ 's transition function
  - each of  $D$ 's states must go to one place on input  $a$  and one place on input  $b$ 
    - state  $\{2\}$  goes to  $\{2,3\}$  on  $a$  and  $\{3\}$  on  $b$
    - state  $\{1\}$  goes to  $\emptyset$  on  $a$  and  $\{2\}$  on  $b$
    - note: follow  $\epsilon$  arrows as a new state is entered (start state or state reached by input symbol)

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## Nondeterminism

- convert NFA  $N_4$  to a DFA (cont.)



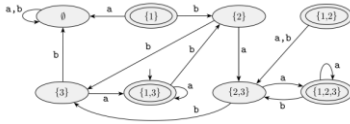
- $D$ 's transition function (cont.)
  - state  $\{3\}$  goes to  $\{1,3\}$  on  $a$  and  $\emptyset$  on  $b$
  - state  $\{1,2\}$  goes to  $\{2,3\}$  on  $a$  and  $\{2,3\}$  on  $b$
  - etc.

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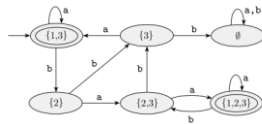
72

## Nondeterminism

- convert NFA  $N_4$  to a DFA (cont.)
- DFA D



- DFA D simplified
- remove states that cannot be reached



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## Nondeterminism

- closure under the regular operations
- remember that we started this topic on nondeterminism because we needed NFA to prove regular operations were closed under
  - union
  - concatenation
  - star

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## Nondeterminism

- closure under union
- we proved closure under union before by simulating both machines simultaneously
  - the new proof using nondeterminism is easier

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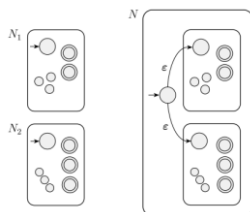
## Nondeterminism

- closure under union (cont.)
- if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$
- proof idea: construct NFA  $N$  that recognizes  $A_1 \cup A_2$
- if  $N_1$  recognizes  $A_1$  and  $N_2$  recognizes  $A_2$ , then  $N$  will combine  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ , accepting if either  $N_1$  or  $N_2$  accepts
  - $N$  has new start state that branches to the start states of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  with  $\epsilon$  arrows
  - $N$  nondeterministically guesses which machine accepts the input
  - if either  $N_1$  or  $N_2$  accepts,  $N$  will accept, too

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## Nondeterminism

- closure under union (cont.)



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## Nondeterminism

- closure under union (cont.)
- proof: regular languages are closed under union
  - let  $N_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $N_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
  - let  $N_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $N_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2\}$
  - construct  $N = \{Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F\}$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ 
    - $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1 \cup Q_2$
    - the states of  $N$  are all states of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  with new start state  $q_0$
    - $\Sigma$  alphabet for both
    - $\delta$  transition function for each  $q \in Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ 
      - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a)$   $q \in Q_1$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_2(q, a)$   $q \in Q_2$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$   $q = q_0$  and  $a = \epsilon$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \emptyset$   $q = q_0$  and  $a \neq \epsilon$
    - $q_0$  is the start state of  $N$
    - $F = F_1 \cup F_2$
    - the accept states of  $N$  are all the accept states of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$  so that  $N$  accepts if either  $N_1$  or  $N_2$  accepts

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### Nondeterminism

- closure under concatenation
- we tried earlier to prove closure under concatenation, but we didn't finish because it was too difficult
  - the new proof using nondeterminism is easier

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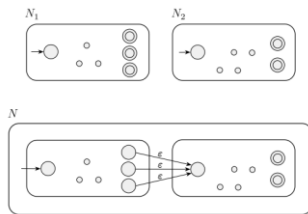
### Nondeterminism

- closure under concatenation (cont.)
  - if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \circ A_2$
  - proof idea: construct NFA  $N$  that recognizes  $A_1 \circ A_2$
  - if  $N_1$  recognizes  $A_1$  and  $N_2$  recognizes  $A_2$ , then  $N$  will combine  $N_1$  and  $N_2$ 
    - start state of  $N$  is assigned to the start state of  $N_1$
    - the accept states of  $N_1$  have additional  $\epsilon$  arrows that nondeterministically allow branching to  $N_2$  whenever  $N_1$  is in an accept state
      - i.e., the first part of the concatenation has been found
  - accept states of  $N$  are the accept states of  $N_2$  only
    - accepts when input split into two parts:  $N_1$  and  $N_2$
    - nondeterministically guesses where to make split

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### Nondeterminism

- closure under concatenation (cont.)



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### Nondeterminism

- closure under concatenation (cont.)
  - proof: regular languages are closed under concatenation
    - let  $N_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $N_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
    - let  $N_2$  recognize  $A_2$  where  $N_2 = \{Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2\}$
    - construct  $N = \{Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F\}$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$ 
      - $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$ 
        - the states of  $N$  are all states of  $N_1$  and  $N_2$
      - $\Sigma$  alphabet for both
      - $\delta$  transition function for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ 
        - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a)$   $q \in Q_1$  and  $q \in F_1$
        - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a)$   $q \in F_1$  and  $a \neq \epsilon$
        - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a) \cup \{q_2\}$   $q \in F_1$  and  $a = \epsilon$
        - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_2(q, a)$   $q \in Q_2$
      - $q_1$  is the start state of  $N$
      - $F = F_2$ 
        - the accept states of  $N$  are all the accept states of  $N_2$

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### Nondeterminism

- closure under star
  - if  $A_1$  is a regular languages, so is  $A_1^*$
  - proof idea: construct NFA  $N$  that recognizes  $A_1^*$
  - modify  $N_1$  that recognizes  $A_1$  to produce  $N$ 
    - $N$  will accept its input whenever it can be broken into several pieces and  $N_1$  accepts each piece

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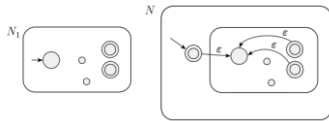
### Nondeterminism

- closure under star (cont.)
  - proof idea: construct NFA  $N$  that recognizes  $A_1^*$
  - modify  $N_1$  that recognizes  $A_1$  to produce  $N$ 
    - $N$  will be similar to  $N_1$ , but with additional  $\epsilon$  arrows returning to the start state from the accept states
    - when processing gets to the end of a piece that  $N_1$  accepts, you can jump back to the start state to try to read another piece that  $N_1$  accepts
  - $N$  must also accept  $\epsilon$ , which is always a member of  $A_1^*$ 
    - could add start state to set of accept states, but may cause other bad strings to be accepted
    - instead, add a new start state that is also an accept state and that has an  $\epsilon$  arrow to the old start state

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## Nondeterminism

- closure under star (cont.)



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## Nondeterminism

- closure under star (cont.)
  - proof: regular languages are closed under star
    - let  $N_1$  recognize  $A_1$  where  $N_1 = \{Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1\}$
  - construct  $N = \{Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F\}$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ 
    - $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1$ 
      - the states of  $N$  are states of  $N_1$  plus new start state
    - $\Sigma$  alphabet
    - $\delta$  transition function for each  $q \in Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ 
      - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a)$   $q \in Q_1$  and  $a \in F_1$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a)$   $q \in F_1$  and  $a \neq \epsilon$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \delta_1(q, a) \cup \{q_1\}$   $q \in F_1$  and  $a = \epsilon$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \{q_1\}$   $q = q_0$  and  $a = \epsilon$
      - $\delta(q, a) = \emptyset$   $q = q_0$  and  $a \neq \epsilon$
    - $q_0$  is the new start state of  $N$
    - $F = \{q_0\} \cup F_1$ 
      - the accept states are old accept states plus new start state

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## Regular Expressions

- in arithmetic, we can use operations  $+$  and  $\times$  to build expressions
  - $(5 + 3) \times 4$
  - value?
- similarly, we use regular expression operations to build up regular expressions
  - $(0 \cup 1)0^*$
  - value: a language consisting of all strings starting with 0 or 1 followed by any number of 0s

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## Regular Expressions

- similarly, we use regular expression operations to build up regular expressions (cont.)
  - $(0 \cup 1)0^*$
  - in this example
    - $(0 \cup 1)$  is short for  $(\{0\} \cup \{1\})$ 
      - value is language  $\{0, 1\}$
    - $0^*$  means  $\{0\}^*$ 
      - value is language of all strings containing any number of 0s
  - concatenation symbol can be implicit
    - instead of  $(0 \cup 1) \cdot 0^*$ , it's just  $(0 \cup 1)0^*$
    - like multiplication

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## Regular Expressions

- regular expressions are important in computer science applications
  - e.g., search for strings with specific patterns
- regular expressions are used in
  - awk and grep in Unix/Linux
  - Perl
    - e.g., `$myfilesearch =~ s/"//g;`
  - text editors

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## Regular Expressions

- e.g.,  $(0 \cup 1)^*$ 
  - value is language of all possible strings of 0s and 1s
- if  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ 
  - $\Sigma$  is shorthand for  $(0 \cup 1)$
  - $\Sigma$  describes language consisting of all strings of length 1 over this alphabet
  - $\Sigma^*$  describes language consisting of all strings over this alphabet
  - $\Sigma^*1$  is all strings that end in 1
  - $(0\Sigma^*) \cup (\Sigma^*1)$  is all strings that start with 0 or end with 1

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## Regular Expressions

- in arithmetic,  $\times$  has precedence over  $+$ 
  - $2 + 3 \times 4$
  - value?
- to change the precedence, must use parentheses
  - $(2 + 3) \times 4$
- precedence in regular expressions
  - $()$
  - $*$
  - concatenation
  - union

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## Regular Expressions

- $R$  is a regular expression if  $R$  is
  - $a$  for some  $a$  in  $\Sigma$
  - $\epsilon$
  - $\emptyset$
  - $(R_1 \cup R_2)$  where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are regular expressions
  - $(R_1 \circ R_2)$  where  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are regular expressions
  - $(R_1^*)$  where  $R_1$  is a regular expressions
- careful with  $\epsilon$  and  $\emptyset$ 
  - $\epsilon$  - the language containing one string: the empty string
  - $\emptyset$  - the language containing no strings
- using  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  in definition not circular, but inductive

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## Regular Expressions

- $R^+$  - shorthand for  $RR^*$
- $R^*$  - 0 or more concatenations from  $R$
- $R^+$  - 1 or more concatenations from  $R$ 
  - $R^+ \cup \epsilon = R^*$
- $R^k$  -  $k$  concatenations of  $R$
- $L(R)$  - language of  $R$

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## Regular Expressions

- regular expression exercises
  - $0^*10^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid w \text{ contains a single } 1\}$
  - $\Sigma^*1\Sigma^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid w \text{ contains at least one } 1\}$
  - $\Sigma^*001\Sigma^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid w \text{ contains the substring } 001\}$
  - $1^*(01^*)^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid \text{every } 0 \text{ in } w \text{ is followed by at least one } 1\}$
  - $(\Sigma\Sigma)^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid w \text{ is a string of even length}\}$
  - $(\Sigma\Sigma\Sigma)^* =$ 
    - $\{w \mid \text{the length of } w \text{ is a multiple of } 3\}$

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## Regular Expressions

- regular expression exercises (cont.)
  - $01 \cup 10 =$ 
    - $\{01, 10\}$
  - $0\Sigma^*0 \cup 1\Sigma^*1 \cup 0 \cup 1 =$ 
    - $\{w \mid w \text{ starts and end with the same symbol}\}$
  - $(0 \cup \epsilon)1^* =$ 
    - $01^* \cup 1^*$
  - $(0 \cup \epsilon)(1 \cup \epsilon) =$ 
    - $\{\epsilon, 0, 1, 01\}$
  - $1^*\emptyset =$ 
    - $\emptyset$
  - $\emptyset^* =$ 
    - $\{\epsilon\}$

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## Regular Expressions

- regular expression identities
  - $R \cup \emptyset = R$
  - $R \circ \epsilon = R$
  - $R \cup \epsilon$  may not be  $R$ 
    - if  $R = \emptyset$  then  $L(R) = \{\emptyset\}$  but  $L(R \cup \epsilon) = \{\emptyset, \epsilon\}$
  - $R \circ \emptyset$  may not be  $R$ 
    - if  $R = \emptyset$  then  $L(R) = \{\emptyset\}$  but  $L(R \circ \emptyset) = \emptyset$

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## Regular Expressions

- regular expressions are useful for designing compilers for programming languages
- tokens, such as constants or variable names, may be described using regular expressions
- e.g., numerical constant that may include a fractional part and/or a sign can be described as

$$(+ \cup - \cup \epsilon) (D^+ \cup D^+ . D^+ \cup D^+ . D^+)$$

- examples: 72, 3.14159, +7., and -.01
- once syntax has been described with regular expressions in terms of its tokens, a lexical analyzer that processes the program can be generated

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## Regular Expressions

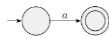
- regular expressions are equivalent to finite automata
- surprising since they appear to be quite different
- a regular expression that describes a language can be converted into a FA that recognizes that language, and vice versa
- Theorem: A language is regular if and only if some regular expression describes it.
  - iff requires proof in each direction

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof:
  - if a language is described by a regular expression, it is regular
  - Proof idea: convert R describing A into an NFA recognizing A
  - Proof: consider 6 cases
    - $R = a$  for some  $a \in \Sigma$ , so  $L(R) = \{a\}$  that can be recognized by the following NFA (easier than DFA)



- note that this is an NFA (why?)
- $N = (\{q_1, q_2\}, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, \{q_2\})$  where  $\delta$  is shown above

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - Proof: consider 6 cases
    - $R = \epsilon$ , so  $L(R) = \{\epsilon\}$  that can be recognized by the following NFA (easier than DFA)



- $N = (\{q_1\}, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, \{q_1\})$  where
- $\delta(r, b) = \emptyset$  for any  $r$  and  $b$

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - Proof: consider 6 cases
    - $R = \emptyset$ , so  $L(R) = \emptyset$  that can be recognized by the following NFA



- $N = (\{q\}, \Sigma, \delta, q, \emptyset)$  where
- $\delta(r, b) = \emptyset$  for any  $r$  and  $b$

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## Regular Expressions

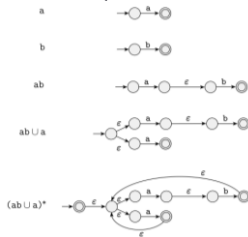
- Proof: (cont.)
  - Proof: consider 6 cases
    - $R = R_1 \cup R_2$
    - $R = R_1 \circ R_2$
    - $R = R_1^*$
  - for these last three cases, we use constructions given in the proofs of regular languages closed under these operations

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## Regular Expressions

- example: build an NFA from the RE  $(ab \cup a)^*$
- start with smallest and build up
  - this technique generally does not result in an NFA with the fewest states (2 states for this NFA)

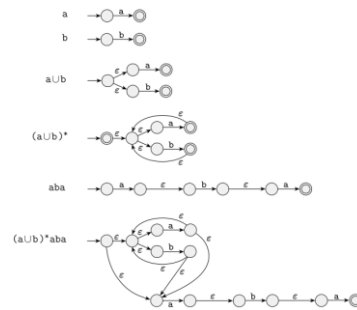


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## Regular Expressions

- example: build an NFA from the RE  $(a \cup b)^*aba$



follows from  
def of concat

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- if a language is regular, then it is described by a regular expression
- Proof idea: if  $A$  is regular, it is accepted by a DFA; convert the DFA into an equivalent regular expression
- break procedure into two parts using a GNFA (generalized nondeterministic finite automaton)
  - convert DFA to GNFA
  - GNFA to regular expression

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## Regular Expressions

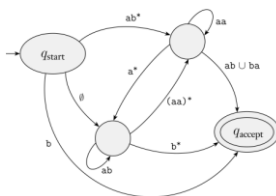
- Proof: (cont.)
- GNFA (generalized nondeterministic finite automaton)
  - NFA with transition arrows that may have regular expressions as labels
  - can read blocks of symbols instead of just one at a time
  - moves along transition arrow by reading a block of symbols representing a string described by the RE on that arrow
  - nondeterministic so may have different ways to process the same input string
  - accepts if in an accept state at end of input

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: GNFA



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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- for convenience, we will require GNFA's to have a special form
  - the start state has transition arrows going to every other state but no arrows coming in from any other state
  - only one accept state with arrows coming in from every other state but no arrows going to any other states; cannot be the same as the start state
  - except for the start and accept states, one arrow goes from every state to every other state and to itself

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## Regular Expressions

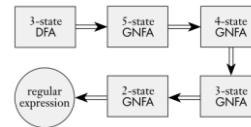
- Proof: (cont.)
  - easy to convert a GNFA into a RE
    - if GNFA has  $k$  states,  $k \geq 2$  since at least a start and accept state
    - if  $k > 2$ , we can construct an equivalent GNFA with  $k - 1$  states
    - this step can be repeated on a GNFA until it is reduced to just 2 states
    - if  $k = 2$ , the GNFA has a single arrow from start to accept state with the label being the equivalent of the RE

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - stages to convert a GNFA into a RE



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## Regular Expressions

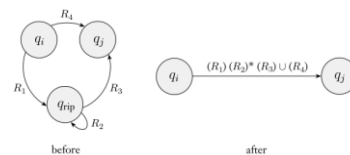
- Proof: (cont.)
  - constructing an equivalent GNFA with one fewer state when  $k > 2$
  - select a state, rip it out of the machine, and repair the remaining machine so the language is still recognized
    - any state can be ripped out except the start or accept states
    - ripped state termed  $q_{rip}$
    - after removing  $q_{rip}$ , repair the machine by altering the RE on the labels of the remaining arrows
    - compensate for absence of  $q_{rip}$  by adding back lost computations

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - constructing an equivalent GNFA with one fewer state



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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - in the old machine, if
    - $q_i$  goes to  $q_{rip}$  with an arrow labeled  $R_1$ ,
    - $q_{rip}$  goes to itself with an arrow labeled  $R_2$ ,
    - $q_{rip}$  goes to  $q_j$  with an arrow labeled  $R_3$ , and
    - $q_i$  goes to  $q_j$  with an arrow labeled  $R_4$
  - then in the new machine, the arrow from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$  gets the label
 
$$(R_1)(R_2)^* (R_3) \cup (R_4)$$
    - make this change for any arrow from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$ , even when  $q_i = q_j$
    - the new machine recognizes the original language

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
  - formal definition of a GNFA (similar to NFA but diff  $\delta$ )

$$\delta: (Q - \{q_{accept}\}) \times (Q - \{q_{start}\}) \rightarrow R$$

- $R$ : all regular expressions over alphabet  $\Sigma$
- if  $\delta(q_i, q_j) = R$ , the arrow from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$  has RE  $R$  as its label
- an arrow connects every state to every other state
  - no arrows coming from  $q_{accept}$  or going to  $q_{start}$

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- formal definition of a GNFA

A *generalized nondeterministic finite automaton* is a 5-tuple,  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{\text{start}}, q_{\text{accept}})$ , where

1.  $Q$  is the finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is the input alphabet,
3.  $\delta: (Q - \{q_{\text{accept}}\}) \times (Q - \{q_{\text{start}}\}) \rightarrow \mathcal{R}$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_{\text{start}}$  is the start state, and
5.  $q_{\text{accept}}$  is the accept state.

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- a GNFA accepts a string  $w$  in  $\Sigma^*$  if
  - $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_k$
  - each  $w_i$  is in  $\Sigma^*$
  - a sequence of states  $q_0, q_1, \dots, q_k$  exists
- such that
  - $q_0 = q_{\text{start}}$  is the start state
  - $q_k = q_{\text{accept}}$  is the accept state
  - for each  $i$ , we have  $w_i \in L(R_i)$  where
    - $R_i = \delta(q_{i-1}, q_i)$
    - i.e.,  $R$  is the RE on the arrow from  $q_{i-1}$  to  $q_i$

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- returning to the lemma proof: if a language is regular, then it is described by a regular expression
- let  $M$  be the DFA for language  $A$
- convert  $M$  to GNFA  $G$ 
  - add new start state (with  $\epsilon$  arc to old start state)
  - add new accept state (with  $\epsilon$  arcs from old accept states)
  - add all other missing arcs and label with  $\emptyset$
- use new procedure  $\text{CONVERT}(G)$ 
  - takes GNFA and returns equivalent RE
  - recursive, but only calls itself with a GNFA with one fewer state (to avoid infinite recursion)

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## Regular Expressions

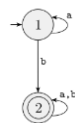
- Proof: (cont.)
- $\text{CONVERT}(G)$ 
  1.  $k$  is number of states of  $G$
  2. if  $k = 2$ ,  $G$  has start state, accept state, and one arrow connecting them labeled with RE  $R$
  3. if  $k > 2$ , select any state  $q_{\text{rip}} \in Q$  (other than  $q_{\text{start}}$  and  $q_{\text{accept}}$ )
    - let  $G' = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_{\text{start}}, q_{\text{accept}})$
    - $Q' = Q - \{q_{\text{rip}}\}$
    - for any  $q_i \in Q' - \{q_{\text{accept}}\}$  and any  $q_j \in Q' - \{q_{\text{start}}\}$  let
 
$$\delta'(q_i, q_j) = (R_1)(R_2)^*(R_3) \cup (R_4)$$
 for
      - $R_1 = \delta(q_i, q_{\text{rip}})$ ,  $R_2 = \delta(q_{\text{rip}}, q_{\text{rip}})$ ,  $R_3 = \delta(q_{\text{rip}}, q_j)$ , and  $R_4 = \delta(q_i, q_j)$
      - if  $\delta(q_i, q_j) = R$ , the arrow from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$  has RE  $R$  as its label
  4. compute  $\text{CONVERT}(G')$  and return this value

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert two-state DFA to a regular expression

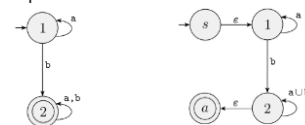


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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert two-state DFA to a regular expression
  - create 4-state GNFA by adding new start and accept states
  - labeled  $s$  and  $a$  for diagram clarity
  - do not draw arcs labeled  $\emptyset$  (i.e.,  $s \rightarrow 2$ ,  $s \rightarrow a$ ,  $1 \rightarrow a$ ,  $2 \rightarrow 1$ )
  - replace label  $a,b$  with  $a \cup b$  since only one transition allowed per arc in GNFA

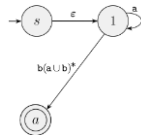
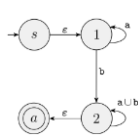


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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert two-state DFA to a regular expression
  - remove state 2 and update arc labels
  - only arc that changes is 1 to a (step 3 in CONVERT)
  - $q_i = 1, q_j = a, q_{rip} = 2$
  - $R_1 = b, R_2 = a \cup b, R_3 = \epsilon$ , and  $R_4 = \emptyset$
  - new label:  $(b)(a \cup b)^*(\epsilon) \cup \emptyset$ , or just  $b(a \cup b)^*$

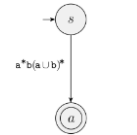
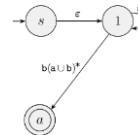


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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert two-state DFA to a regular expression
  - remove state 1 and update arc labels
  - only arc that changes is s to a (step 3 in CONVERT)
  - $q_i = s, q_j = a, q_{rip} = 1$
  - $R_1 = \epsilon, R_2 = a^*, R_3 = b(a \cup b)^*$ , and  $R_4 = \emptyset$
  - new label:  $(\epsilon)(a^*)b(a \cup b)^*(\epsilon) \cup \emptyset$ , or just  $a^*b(a \cup b)^*$



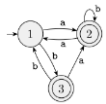
final RE:  
 $a^*b(a \cup b)^*$

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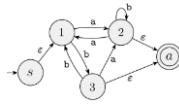
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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert three-state DFA to a regular expression
  - steps are similar



DFA

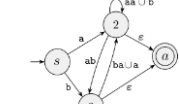
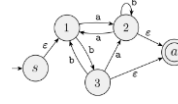


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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert three-state DFA to a regular expression
  - steps are similar

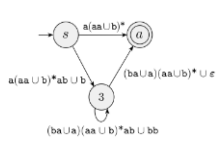
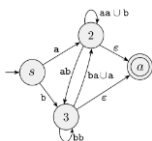
 $q_{rip} = 1$ 

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert three-state DFA to a regular expression
  - steps are similar

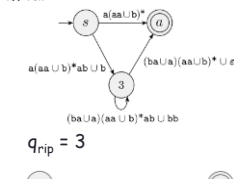
 $q_{rip} = 2$ 

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## Regular Expressions

- Proof: (cont.)
- example: convert three-state DFA to a regular expression
  - steps are similar

 $q_{rip} = 3$ 

RE:  $(a(aa \cup b)^*ab \cup b)((ba \cup a)(aa \cup b)^*ab \cup bb)((ba \cup a)(aa \cup b)^*(\epsilon) \cup a(aa \cup b)^*$

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## Nonregular Languages

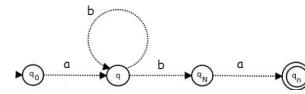
- some languages cannot be recognized by FA
  - ex.:  $B = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ 
    - machine would need to be able to remember how many 0s were seen as it reads the input
      - could be unlimited, so could not be done with a finite number of states
  - need a proof method to show a language is nonregular
    - cannot use example above because though a language appears to require unlimited memory does not mean that it actually does
    - examples
      - $C = \{w \mid w \text{ has an equal number of 0s and 1s}\}$
      - $D = \{w \mid w \text{ has an equal number of 01 and 10 substrings}\}$
      - $C$  is not regular, but  $D$  is

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma preliminary
  - consider the NFA for the language  $A$



- what is the smallest string in this language?
- is there a relationship between the number of symbols in the smallest string and the number of states?
- what can you say about a string in the language whose length is greater than or equal to the number of states?

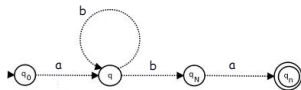
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## Nonregular Languages

- the pumping lemma
  - all regular languages can be pumped if they are at least as long as a special value termed the pumping length
  - each such string contains a section that can be repeated any number of times with the resulting string remaining in the language
  - if a language does not have this property, it is nonregular

pumping  
length = 4

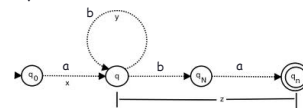


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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
  - if  $A$  is a regular language, there is a number  $p$  (the pumping length) where if  $s$  is any string in  $A$  of length at least  $p$ , then  $s$  may be divided into three pieces,  $s = xyz$ , satisfying the following conditions
    - for each  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^i z \in A$
    - $|y| > 0$
    - $|xy| \leq p$



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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
  - for each  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^i z \in A$
  - $|y| > 0$
  - $|xy| \leq p$
- note that
  - $|s|$  is the length of string  $s$
  - $y^i$  means  $i$  copies of  $y$  are concatenated together
  - $y^0 = \epsilon$
- $x$  or  $z$  may be  $\epsilon$ , but  $y \neq \epsilon$
- $x$  and  $y$  together have length at most  $p$

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
  - proof idea:
    - let  $M = \{Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F\}$  is a DFA that recognizes  $A$
    - let pumping length  $p = \text{number of states of } M$
    - show that any string  $s$  in  $A$  can be broken into pieces  $xyz$  satisfying the three conditions
      - if no strings in  $A$  are of length at least  $p$ , the theorem is vacuously true
    - otherwise, three conditions hold

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## Nonregular Languages

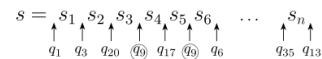
- pumping lemma
- proof idea: (cont.)
  - if  $s$  in  $A$  has length at least  $p$ , consider the sequence of states  $M$  goes through with input  $s$
  - e.g., let's say it starts with  $q_1$  (start state), then goes on to  $q_3, q_{20}, q_9, \dots$  until it reaches the end of  $s$  in  $q_{13}$
  - if  $s \in A$ ,  $M$  must accept  $s$ , so  $q_{13}$  is an accept state

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
- proof idea: (cont.)
  - let  $n = |s|$  - therefore, the sequence of states  $q_1, q_3, q_{20}, q_9, \dots, q_{13}$  has length  $n + 1$
  - because  $n$  is at least  $p$ ,  $n + 1 > p$  (or  $|Q|$ )
  - therefore, the sequence must contain a repeated state due to the pigeonhole principle
  - e.g.,

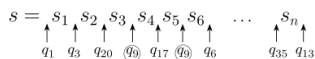


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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
- proof idea: (cont.)
  - divide  $s$  into three pieces  $x, y$ , and  $z$ 
    - $x$  appears before  $q_9$
    - $y$  is the part between the two  $q_9$ 's
    - $z$  is the remaining part of  $s$

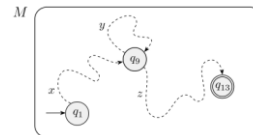


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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
- proof idea: (cont.)
  - so,
    - $x$  takes  $M$  from  $q_1$  to  $q_9$
    - $y$  takes  $M$  from  $q_9$  back to  $q_9$
    - $z$  takes  $M$  from  $q_9$  to the accept state  $q_{13}$



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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma
- proof idea: (cont.)
  - this division of  $xyz$  satisfies the three conditions on input  $xyz$ :
    - for each  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^iz \in A$ 
      - $x$  takes  $M$  from  $q_1$  to  $q_9$
      - $y$  takes  $M$  from  $q_9$  back to  $q_9$ , as does the second  $y$
      - $z$  takes  $M$  to  $q_{13}$ , the accept state, so  $M$  accepts  $xy^iz$
    - similarly, it accepts  $xy^iz$  for any  $i > 0$
    - for  $i = 0$ ,  $xy^iz = xz$ , which is also accepted
  - $|y| > 0$ 
    - since it was the part of  $s$  that occurred between two different occurrences of state  $q_9$
  - $|xy| \leq p$ 
    - make sure  $q_9$  is the first repetition in the sequence
    - $p+1$  states must contain a repetition (pigeonhole principle)

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- proof is similar to proof idea
- use the pumping lemma to show that a language  $B$  is nonregular
  - assume  $B$  is regular and show a contradiction
  - use the pumping lemma where all strings of  $B$  with at least length  $p$  can be pumped
  - find string  $s$  in  $B$  with length  $> p$  that can't be pumped
  - show  $s$  cannot be pumped by considering all ways of dividing  $s$  into  $x, y$ , and  $z$ , and for each division, finding an  $i$  where  $xy^iz$  is not in  $B$
  - $s$  contradicts pumping lemma, so  $B$  is nonregular

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### Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- finding  $s$  may take creative thinking
  - try members of  $B$  that seem to exhibit  $B$ 's nonregularity
  - see following examples

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $B = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  - use the pumping lemma to prove by contradiction that  $B$  is not regular
- assume  $B$  is regular with  $p$  pumping length
- let  $s = 0^p 1^p$ 
  - because of our assumption,  $s = xyz$  where  $xy^i z$  is in  $B$  for any  $i > 0$
- three cases to show how this is impossible
  - $y$  consists of only 0s
    - now  $xyyz$  has more 0s than 1s and is not in  $B$ , violating condition 1 of the pumping lemma
  - $y$  consists of only 1s
    - also a contradiction
  - $y$  consists of 0s and 1s
    - $xyyz$  may have same number of 0s and 1s, but they will be out of order with some 1s before 0s (not in  $B$ )

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### Nonregular Languages

- let  $B = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  - use the pumping lemma to prove by contradiction that  $B$  is not regular (cont.)
- in any of the cases, a contradiction is unavoidable
- can simplify argument by applying condition 3 of the pumping lemma to eliminate cases 2 and 3
- in this example, finding  $s$  was easy

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $C = \{w \mid w \text{ has an equal number of 0s and 1s}\}$  - show that  $C$  is not regular
- assume  $C$  is regular with  $p$  pumping length
- let  $s = 0^p 1^p$ 
  - because of our assumption,  $s = xyz$  where  $xy^i z$  is in  $C$  for any  $i > 0$
- seems possible since if  $x$  and  $z$  are empty, and  $y = 0^p 1^p$ , then  $xy^i z$  always has an equal number of 0s and 1s
- but condition 3 of the pumping lemma states that  $|xy| \leq p$ , so  $s$  cannot be pumped in this way
  - if  $|xy| \leq p$ , our only choice is  $y$  consists of all 0s, so  $xyyz$  is not in  $C$ , which leads to the contradiction

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $C = \{w \mid w \text{ has an equal number of 0s and 1s}\}$  - show that  $C$  is not regular (cont.)
- finding  $s$  was a bit harder here
- if we had let  $s = (01)^p$ , it would not have worked since it can be pumped
- keep trying different values of  $s$  until you find one that cannot be pumped
- another way to prove  $C$  is nonregular is to use another language that we already know is nonregular, like  $B$
- if  $C$  were regular,  $C \cap 0^* 1^*$  would also be regular due to closure under intersection (proved in the textbook)
  - but  $C \cap 0^* 1^* = B$ , which is not regular

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $F = \{ww \mid w \in \{0,1\}^*\}$  - show that  $F$  is not regular
- assume  $F$  is regular with  $p$  pumping length
- let  $s = 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$
- so  $s$  can be split into three pieces  $s = xyz$  satisfying the three conditions of the lemma
  - could let  $x$  and  $z$  be  $\epsilon$ , but  $y$  must consist of only 0s, so  $xyyz$  not in  $F$
- we chose  $s$  to be a string that exhibits a nonregular language instead of say,  $0^p 0^p$ , even though it is a member since it can be pumped and fails the contradiction

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $D = \{1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  - show that D is not regular
  - assume D is regular with p pumping length
  - let  $s = 1^{p^2}$
  - so s can be split into three pieces  $s = xyz$  satisfying the three conditions of the lemma
    - perfect squares: 0, 1, 4, 9, 16, 25, 36, 49, ...
    - gap between values gets greater as n increases

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $D = \{1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  - show that D is not regular
  - assume D is regular with p pumping length (cont.)
    - consider strings  $xyz$  and  $xy^2z$ 
      - differ by one repetition of y so lengths differ by  $|y|$
      - by condition 3,  $|xy| \leq p$  so  $|y| \leq p$
      - but  $|xyz| = p^2$  so  $|xy^2z| \leq p^2 + p$
      - $p^2 + p < p^2 + 2p + 1 = (p+1)^2$
      - y cannot be  $\epsilon$ , so  $|xy^2z| > p^2$
      - thus  $|xy^2z|$  lies between consecutive perfect squares  $p^2$  and  $(p+1)^2$
      - so length is not a perfect square (contradiction)
      - thus  $xy^2z$  not in D, and D is not regular

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### Nonregular Languages

- example: let  $E = \{0^i 1^j \mid i > j\}$  - use the pumping lemma to prove by contradiction that E is not regular
  - use pumping lemma to pump down
  - assume E is regular with p pumping length
  - let  $s = 0^{p+1} 1^p$ 
    - because of our assumption,  $s = xyz$  where  $xy^i z$  is in E for any  $i \geq 0$
  - by condition 3, y consists of only 0s
    - now  $xyy$  has even more 0s, which is in E, so we need to try another string
  - try  $xy^0 z = xz$  (pumping down)
    - since s had just one more 0 than 1s, xz cannot have more 0s than 1s  $\rightarrow$  contradiction

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### Nonregular Languages

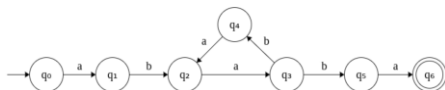
- pumping lemma (cont.)
  - additional notes
    - we cannot use the pumping lemma to show that a language is regular
      - some languages will pass the pumping lemma test, but still be nonregular
    - the pumping lemma, therefore, is a necessary test, but not a sufficient test, to show that a language is regular
    - we have other ways to show a language is regular
    - no language that fails the pumping lemma test is regular

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### Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
  - additional notes
    - consider the following DFA



- what strings can be accepted?
- divide the strings into three parts
- provide a regular expression

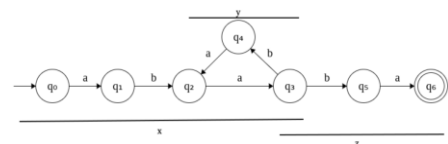
<https://awamathany.github.io/FSM/pumpinglemma.html>

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### Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
  - additional notes



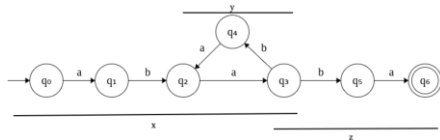
- if loop at beginning  $x = \epsilon$  and  $w = yz$
- if loop at end  $z = \epsilon$  and  $w = xy$
- y cannot be  $\epsilon$  (but  $y^0$  can!)

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- additional notes



- shortest string accepted? if  $q_2$  is also accept state?
- longest string accepted without looping?
- longest string accepted by looping once (p)?

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- additional notes
  - what is the pumping length for the following languages?

1.  $1^*$
2.  $01$
3.  $01^*0$
4.  $11^*$

1. 1
2. 3
3. 3
4. 2

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## Nonregular Languages

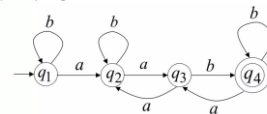
- pumping lemma (cont.)
- additional notes
  - remember that  $s$  is only one type of string found in the language
  - try to choose  $s$  to be a string pattern we already know is nonregular
    - use  $p$  strategically to limit the number of parts of the string that  $y$  can be assigned
  - for  $xy^iz$ , string must be in the language for all  $i \geq 0$ 
    - only one assignment to  $x$ ,  $y$ , and  $z$  must work
    - but for that assignment, it must work for all  $i \geq 0$
    - so you must try them all and explain why none of them work when considering all  $i \geq 0$

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- additional notes
  - what about DFAs with multiple circuits?
  - the pumping lemma seems too limited



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- it still works since we can break down the strings into different cases of  $s$  where each  $s$  has only one circuit, e.g.,  $a^i b^i$  and  $b^i a^i$

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## Nonregular Languages

- pumping lemma (cont.)
- proof requirements for proving  $A$  is nonregular
  - Assume  $A$  is regular and therefore must pass the pumping lemma test
  - let  $s =$  some string using  $p$ , such as  $0^p 1^p$
  - explain  $xyz$  assignment, such as  $x$  and  $y$  must consist entirely of  $0$ s (from the limitations imposed by  $s$ )
  - explain how  $xy^iz$  would allow other strings to be generated with  $i = 0$  or  $2$  that are not in  $A$
  - explain how there are no other options, or every other option would result in the same or similar condition
  - state that this is a contradiction and therefore the pumping lemma does not hold; therefore,  $A$  is nonreg

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