

6.110 Re-lecture 1

Regular expressions, automata, grammars, parse trees

SMILE!



**YOU'RE
ON
CAMERA!**

4 lectures in 1

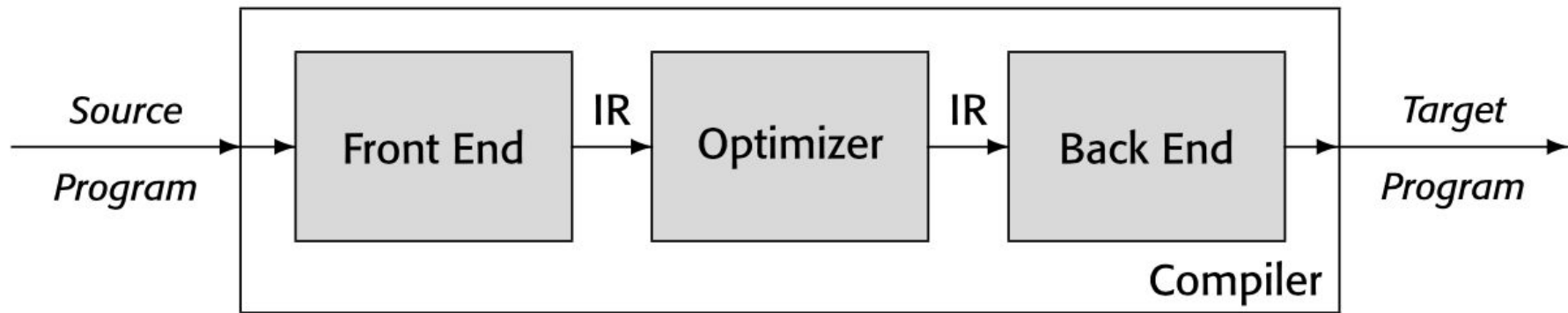
Focus on theory

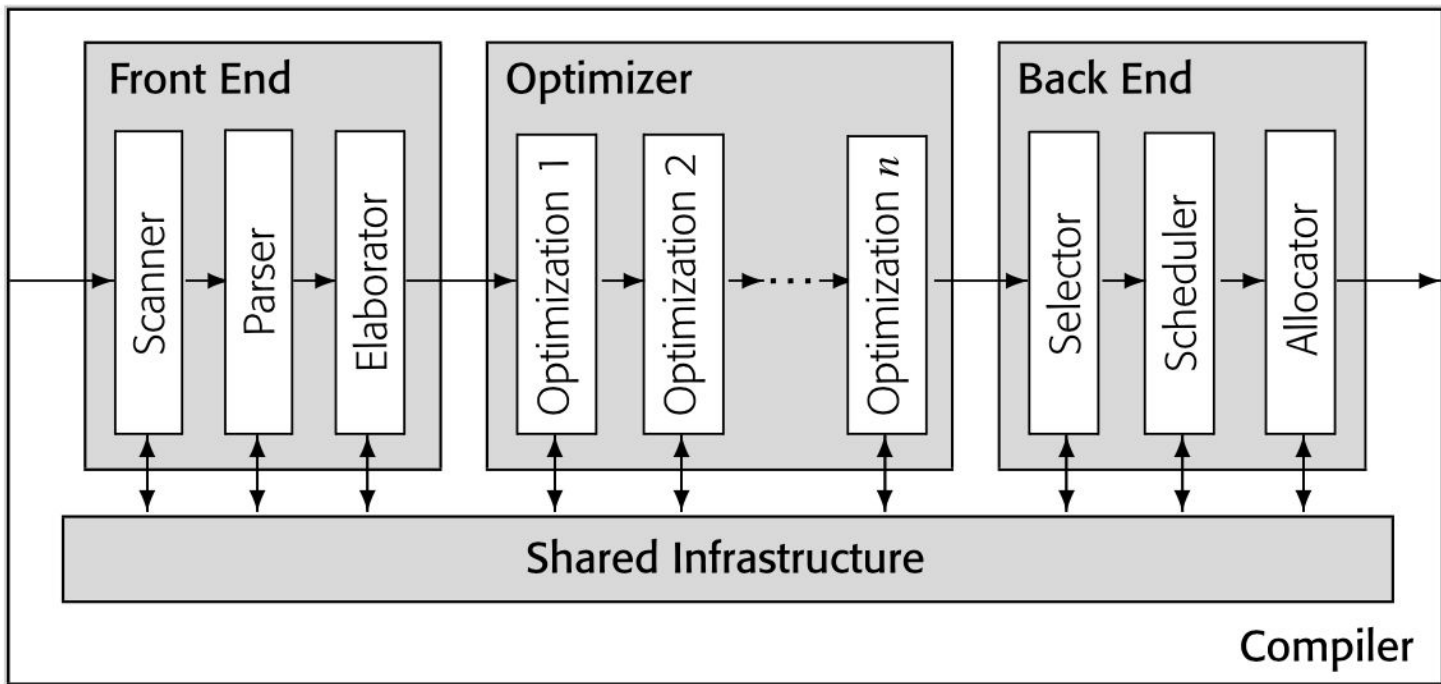
Ideal: 90 minutes

Stop me

Plan

- Overview of compiler components and optimizations
- Regular expressions
- Finite automata
- Duality and constructions
- Tokenization
- Context-free grammar
- Ambiguity
- Precedence





Front end

```
# Comment 1
  # Comment 2

# Factorial:

def fact(  x\
):

    if x == -1:
        return 1.j

    elif x ==0:

        return 1
    else:

        return x* fact(x

- 1)

s = "foo\
\\ \n\'\\""
```

# Comment 1	(KEYWORD def)	(LIT 1)
# Comment 2	(ID "fact")	(NEWLINE)
	(PUNCT "(")	(DEDENT)
# Factorial:	(ID "x")	(KEYWORD else)
	(PUNCT ")")	(PUNCT ":")
	(PUNCT ":")	(NEWLINE)
def fact(x\	(NEWLINE)	(INDENT)
):	(INDENT)	(KEYWORD return)
	(KEYWORD if)	(ID "x")
if x == -1:	(ID "x")	(PUNCT "*")
return 1.j	(PUNCT "==")	(ID "fact")
	(PUNCT "-")	(PUNCT "(")
	(LIT 1)	(ID "x")
	(PUNCT ":")	(PUNCT "-")
elif x ==0:	(NEWLINE)	(LIT 1)
	(INDENT)	(PUNCT ")")
return 1	(KEYWORD return)	(NEWLINE)
else:	(LIT +1.i)	(DEDENT)
	(NEWLINE)	(DEDENT)
return x* fact(x	(DEDENT)	(ID "s")
	(KEYWORD elif)	(PUNCT "=")
	(ID "x")	(LIT "foo\\ \n\\'\\'")
	(PUNCT "==")	(NEWLINE)
- 1)	(LIT 0)	(ID "fact")
	(PUNCT ":")	(PUNCT "(")
	(NEWLINE)	(LIT 20)
s = "foo\	(INDENT)	(PUNCT ")")
\\ \n\\'\\'"	(KEYWORD return)	(NEWLINE)
		(ENDMARKER)

```

# Comment 1
# Comment 2

# Factorial:

def fact( x\
):

    if x == -1:
        return 1.j

    elif x ==0:

        return 1
    else:

        return x* fact(x

- 1)

s = "foo\
\\ \n\'\\"

```

```

Module(
  body=[
    FunctionDef(
      name='fact',
      args=arguments(
        posonlyargs=[],
        args=[
          arg(arg='x')],
        kwonlyargs=[],
        kw_defaults=[],
        defaults=[]),
      body=[
        If(
          test=Compare(
            left=Name(id='x', ctx=Load()),
            ops=[
              Eq()],
            comparators=[
              UnaryOp(
                op=USub(),
                operand=Constant(value=1)))]),
          body=[
            Return(
              value=Constant(value=1j))],
          or_else=[
            ...

```

Intermediate representation

$$a \leftarrow a \times 2 \times b \times c \times d$$

$$a \leftarrow a \times 2 \times b \times c \times d$$

$$t_0 \leftarrow a \times 2$$

$$t_1 \leftarrow t_0 \times b$$

$$t_2 \leftarrow t_1 \times c$$

$$t_3 \leftarrow t_2 \times d$$

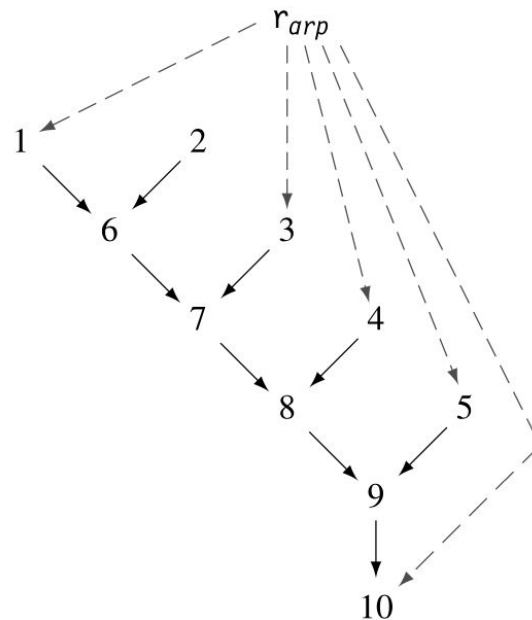
$$a \leftarrow t_3$$

$$a \leftarrow a \times 2 \times b \times c \times d$$

loadAI	$r_{arp}, @a \Rightarrow r_a$	// load 'a'
loadI	$2 \Rightarrow r_2$	// constant 2 into r_2
loadAI	$r_{arp}, @b \Rightarrow r_b$	// load 'b'
loadAI	$r_{arp}, @c \Rightarrow r_c$	// load 'c'
loadAI	$r_{arp}, @d \Rightarrow r_d$	// load 'd'
mult	$r_a, r_2 \Rightarrow r_a$	// $r_a \leftarrow a \times 2$
mult	$r_a, r_b \Rightarrow r_a$	// $r_a \leftarrow (a \times 2) \times b$
mult	$r_a, r_c \Rightarrow r_a$	// $r_a \leftarrow (a \times 2 \times b) \times c$
mult	$r_a, r_d \Rightarrow r_a$	// $r_a \leftarrow (a \times 2 \times b \times c) \times d$
storeAI	$r_a \Rightarrow r_{arp}, @a$	// write r_a back to 'a'

$$a \leftarrow a \times 2 \times b \times c \times d$$

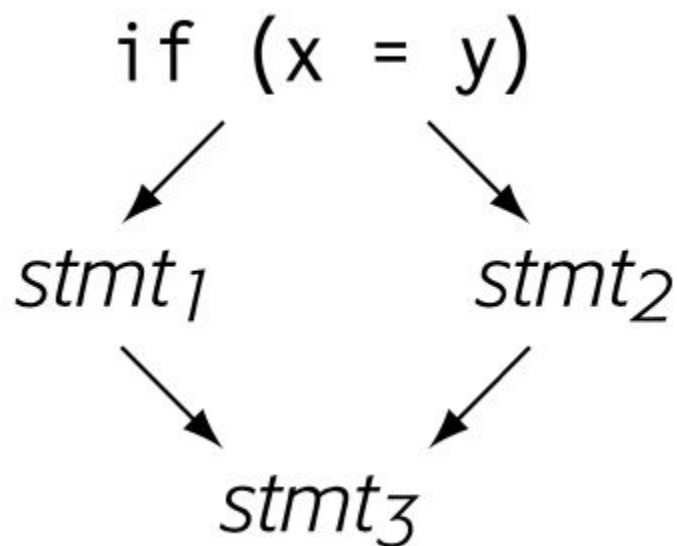
1	loadAI	$r_{arp}, @a \Rightarrow r_a$
2	loadI	$2 \Rightarrow r_2$
3	loadAI	$r_{arp}, @b \Rightarrow r_b$
4	loadAI	$r_{arp}, @c \Rightarrow r_c$
5	loadAI	$r_{arp}, @d \Rightarrow r_d$
6	mult	$r_a, r_2 \Rightarrow r_a$
7	mult	$r_a, r_b \Rightarrow r_a$
8	mult	$r_a, r_c \Rightarrow r_a$
9	mult	$r_a, r_d \Rightarrow r_a$
10	storeAI	$r_a \Rightarrow r_{arp}, @a$



(a) Example Code from Chapter 1

(b) Dependence Graph for the Example

```
if (x = y)
  then stmt1
  else stmt2
stmt3
```



Back end

$$a \leftarrow a \times 2 \times b \times c \times d$$

```

loadAI  rarp, @a ⇒ ra      // load 'a'
loadI    2      ⇒ r2      // constant 2 into r2
loadAI  rarp, @b ⇒ rb      // load 'b'
loadAI  rarp, @c ⇒ rc      // load 'c'
loadAI  rarp, @d ⇒ rd      // load 'd'
mult    ra, r2 ⇒ ra      // ra ← a × 2
mult    ra, rb ⇒ ra      // ra ← (a × 2) × b
mult    ra, rc ⇒ ra      // ra ← (a × 2 × b) × c
mult    ra, rd ⇒ ra      // ra ← (a × 2 × b × c) × d
storeAI  ra      ⇒ rarp, @a // write ra back to 'a'

```

```

addi    sp, sp, -32
sw      ra, 28(sp)
sw      s0, 24(sp)
addi    s0, sp, 32
sw      a0, -20(s0)
sw      a1, -24(s0)
sw      a2, -28(s0)
sw      a3, -32(s0)
lw      a4, -20(s0)
lw      a5, -24(s0)
mul     a4, a4, a5
lw      a5, -28(s0)
mul     a4, a4, a5
lw      a5, -32(s0)
mul     a5, a4, a5
slli    a5, a5, 1
mv      a0, a5
lw      ra, 28(sp)
lw      s0, 24(sp)
addi    sp, sp, 32
jr      ra

```

Formal languages

Alphabet

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \dots, z\}$$

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

$$\Sigma = \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$$

Σ = English words

String

abcdababab

11100011001

3

~~00000...~~

'i' 'like' 'six' 'oh' 'three' 'five'

Language

$L = \{1, 01, 10, 001, 010, 100, 0001, 0010, 0100, 1000, 00001, 00010, 00100, 01000, 10000, 000001, \dots\}$

(assuming $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$)

$L = \text{set of binary strings that contain exactly one } 1$

(assuming $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$)

$L(s)$ = whether s contains exactly one 1 (yes or no)

(assuming $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$)

L = set of decimal numbers that are divisible by 3

(assuming $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$)

L = set of valid hexadecimal numbers

(assuming Σ = ASCII characters)

L = set of syntactically valid Python programs

(assuming Σ = ASCII characters)

L = set of syntactically valid Python programs

(assuming Σ = Python tokens)

L = set of Python source interpretable without error

Regular languages

Regular expression

$(617|857) - 253 - (0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)$

0 Empty string

0 Empty string
 ϵ

1 A letter from Σ
0

2 Concatenation

$$a \cdot b$$

2 Concatenation

ab

2 Concatenation
234324

3 Alternation

$$a \mid b$$

3 Alternation/Union

$$a \cup b$$

3 Alternation

0 | 1

3 Alternation

000 | 001 | 100 | 101

3 Alternation
 $(0|1)0(0|1)$

3 Alternation

$(617|857) - 253 - (0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)(0|1|\dots|9)$

4 Kleene star

a^*

4 Kleene star
 $(0|1)^*$

4 Kleene star

0^*10^*

"regex"

[0-9A-Fa-f]

[01]{8}

$0|(1[01]^*)$

0x[0-9A-Fa-f] +

0x[0-9A-Fa-f][0-9A-Fa-f]*

617-253-\d{4}

• *

* Untitled Pattern ⚙ Save (cmd-s) New

☰ Menu ✕

⚙ Pattern Settings >

♥ My Patterns >

📄 Cheatsheet >

📖 RegEx Reference >

👤 Community Patterns >

❓ Help >

RegExr is an online tool to **learn, build, & test** Regular Expressions (RegEx / RegExp).

- Supports **JavaScript & PHP/PCRE** RegEx.
- Results update in **real-time** as you type.
- **Roll over** a match or expression for details.
- Validate patterns with suites of **Tests**.
- **Save** & share expressions with others.
- Use **Tools** to explore your results.

Expression

/([A-Z])\w+/g

Text

Tests

NEW

RegExr was created by gskinner.com.

Edit the Expression & Text to see matches. Roll over matches or the expression for details. PCRE & JavaScript support.

The favorite RegExr. You can also Save & Share with the Community and explore custom results. Details lists capture groups. Expressions in progress.

regexr.com

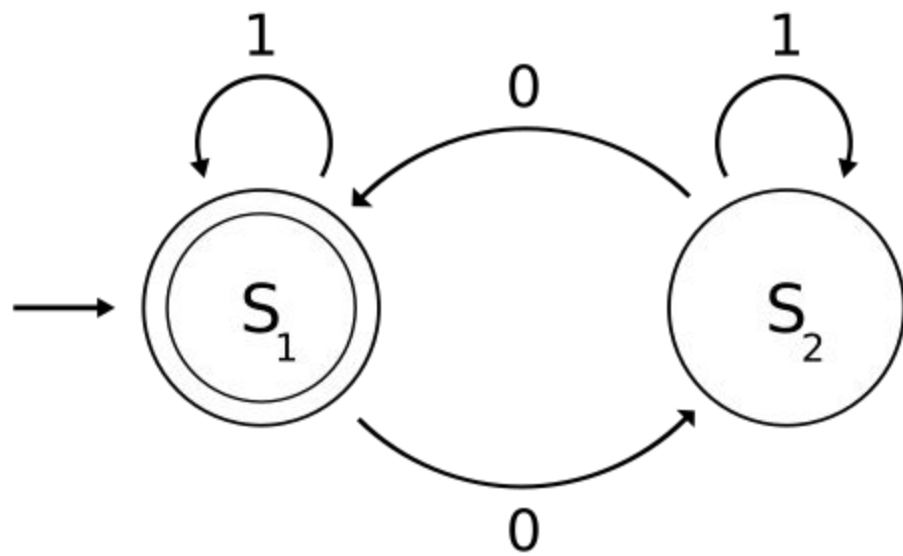
Tools

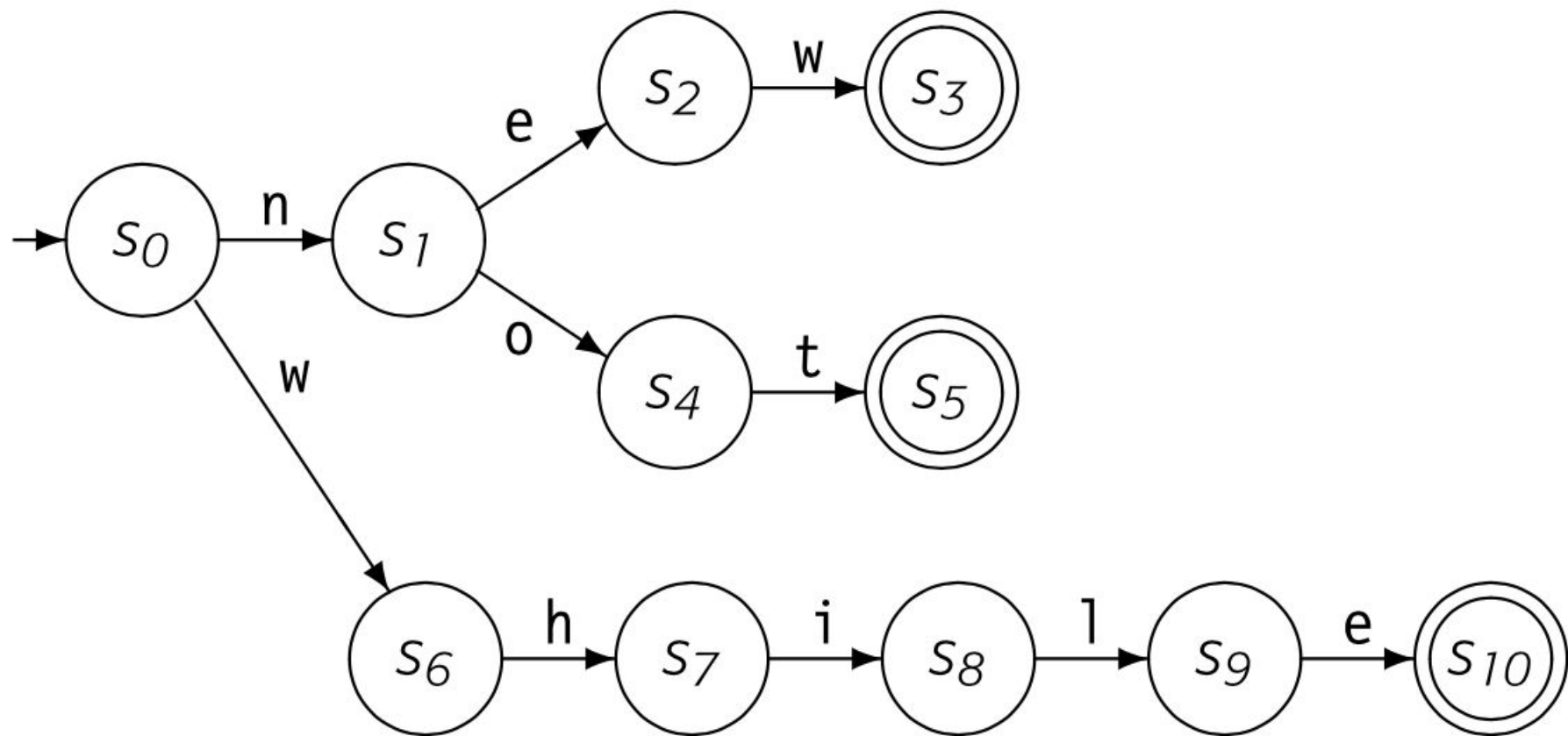
Roll-over elements below to highlight in the Expression above. Click to open in Reference.

(Capturing group #1. Groups multiple tokens together and creates a capture group for extracting a substring or using a backreference.

Deterministic Finite Automata

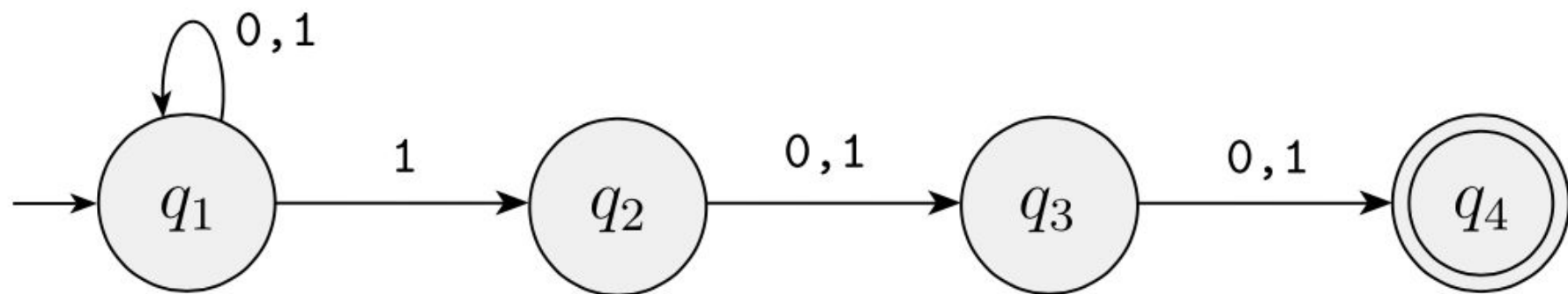
$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$$



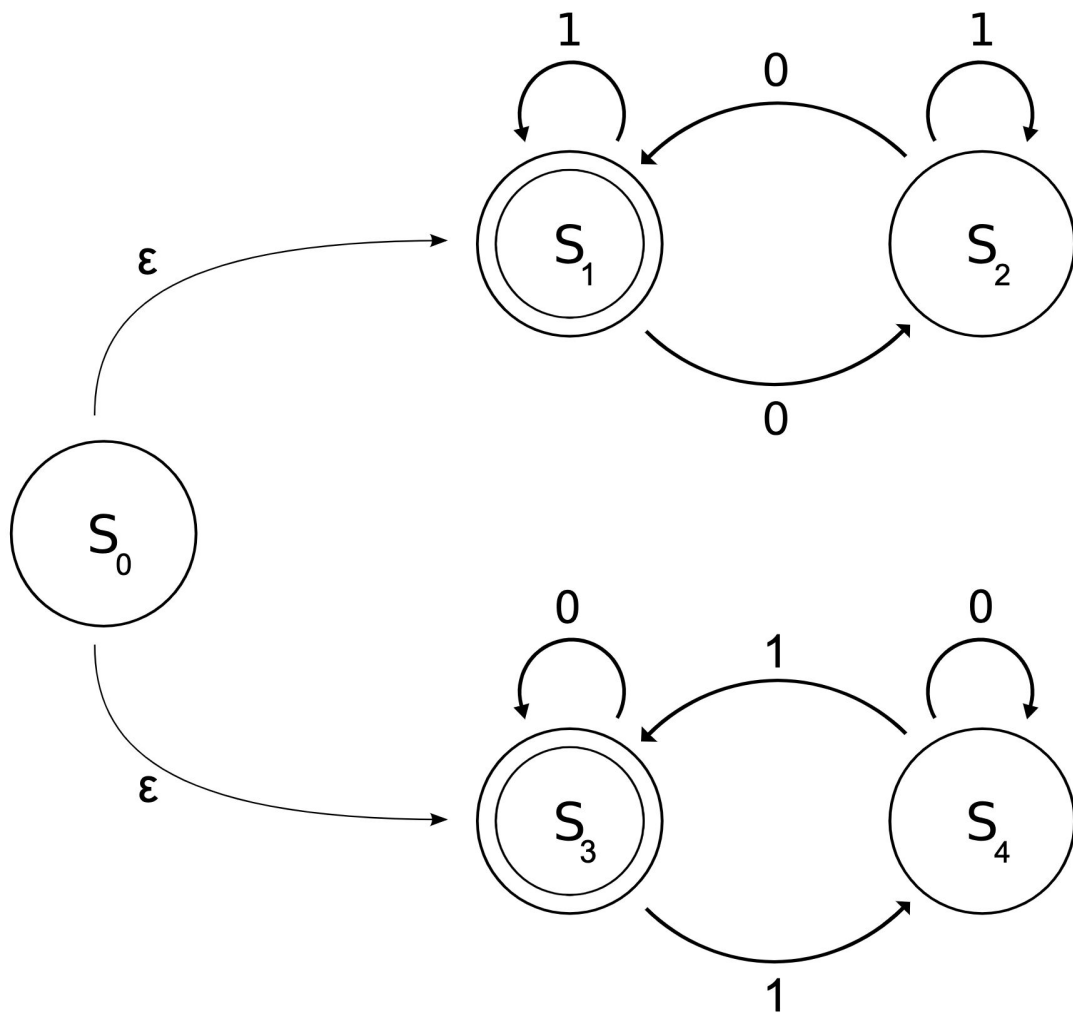


Non-deterministic Finite Automata

$L =$ set of binary strings containing a 1 in
the third position from the end



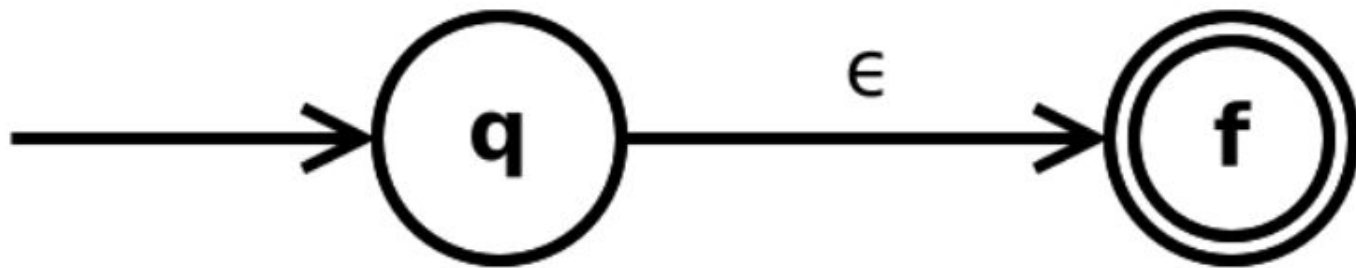
$L =$ set of binary strings with even number
of 0s or even number of 1s



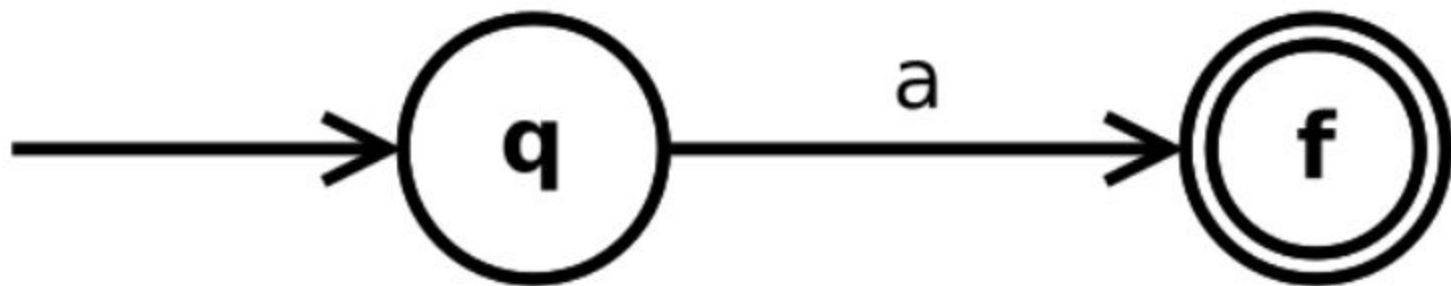
Regex \rightarrow NFA

Thompson's construction

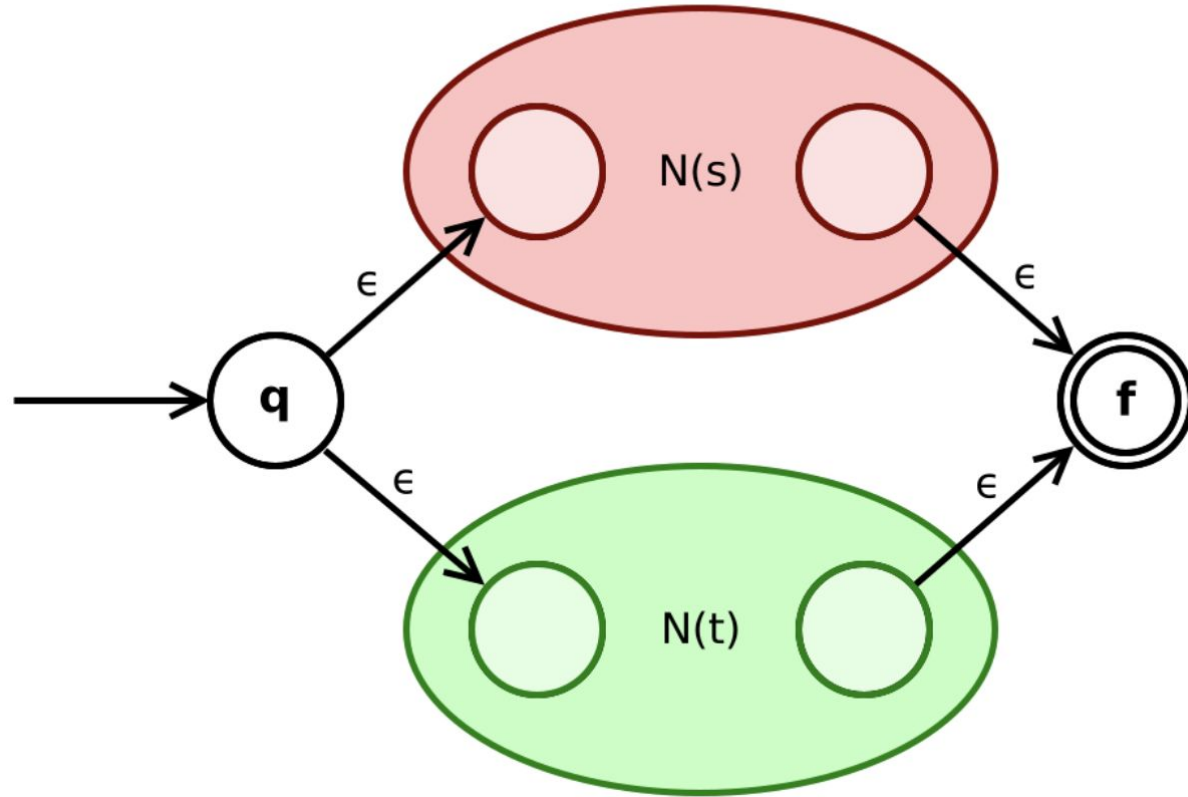
The **empty-expression** ε is converted to

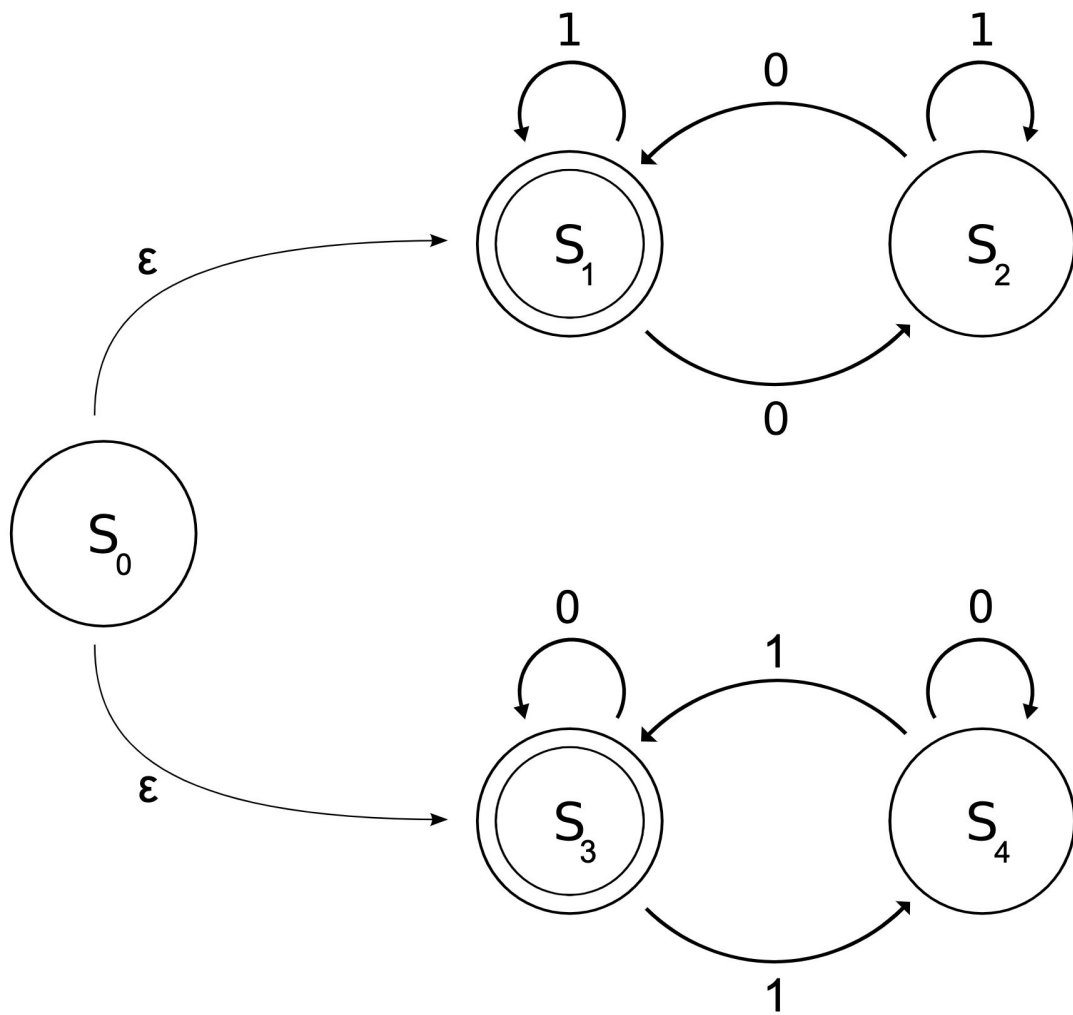


A **symbol** a of the input alphabet is converted to

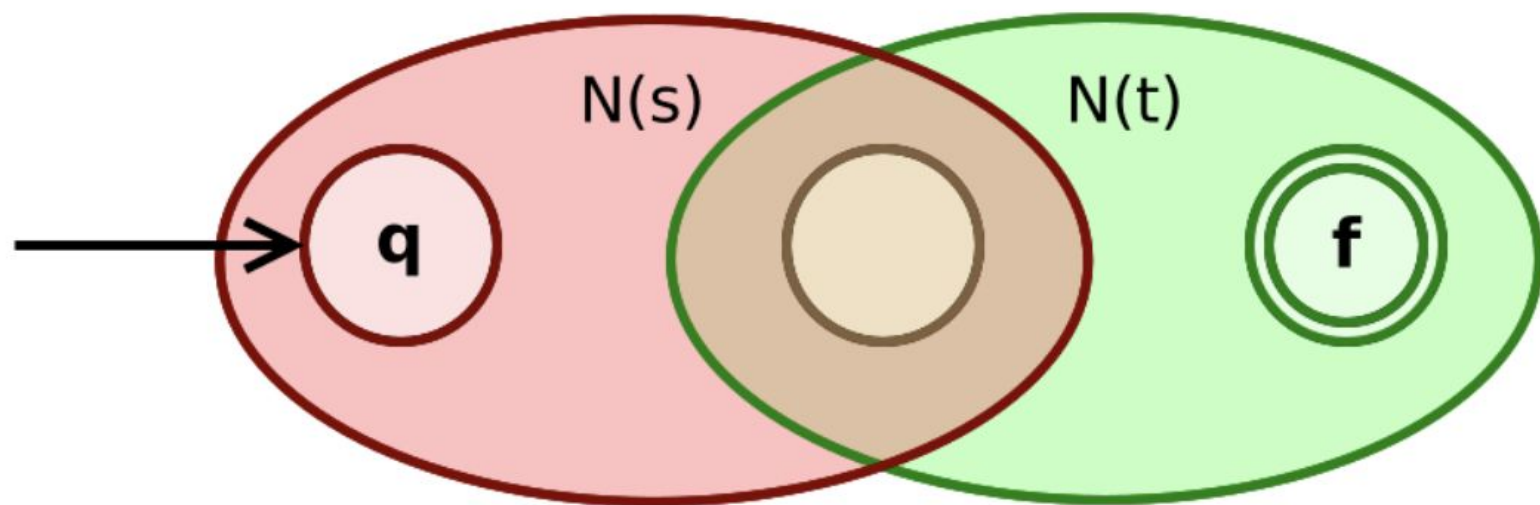


The union expression $s \mid t$ is converted to

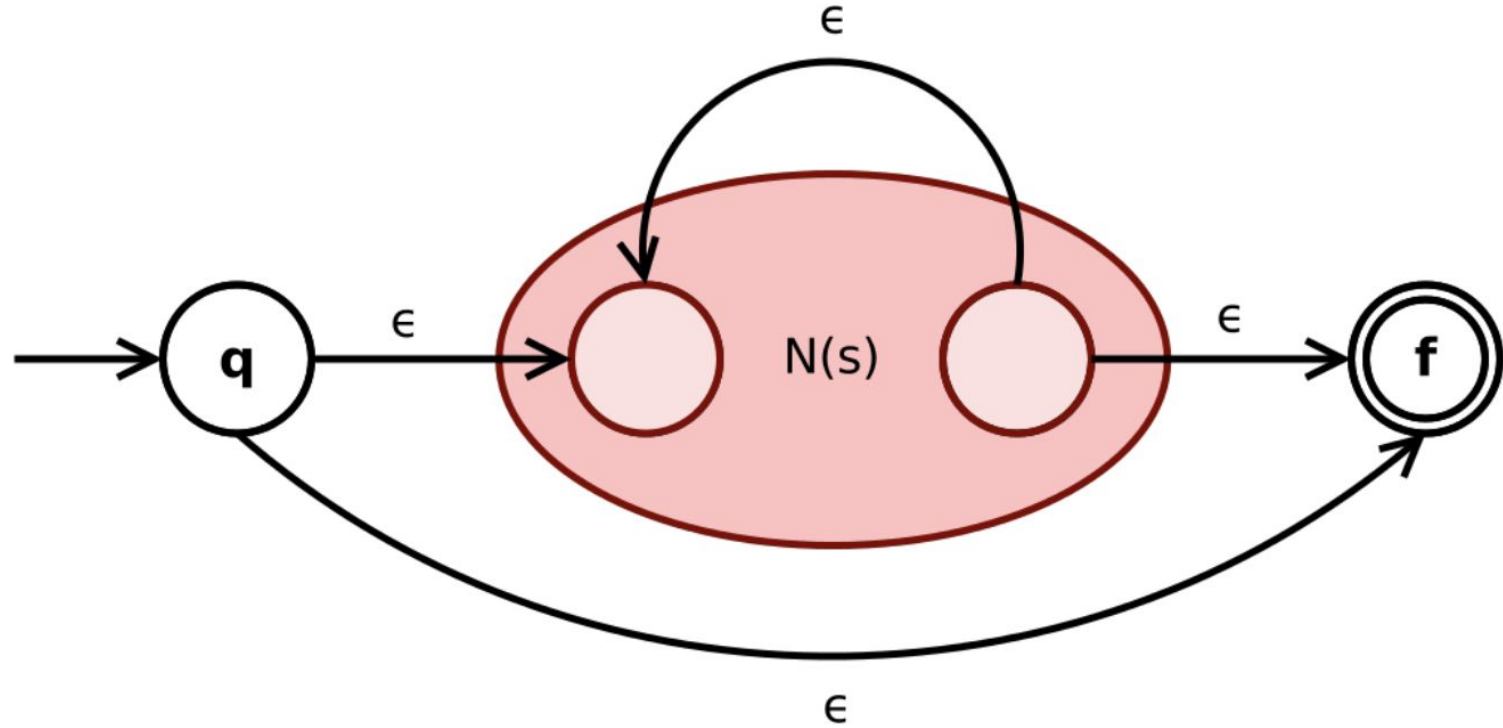




The **concatenation expression** st is converted to

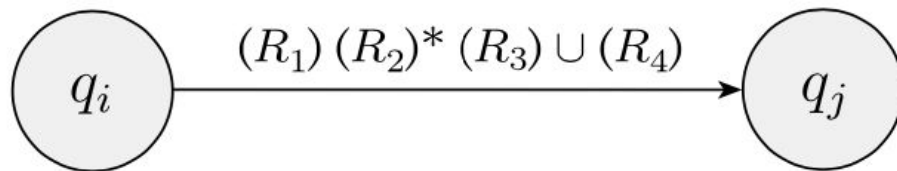
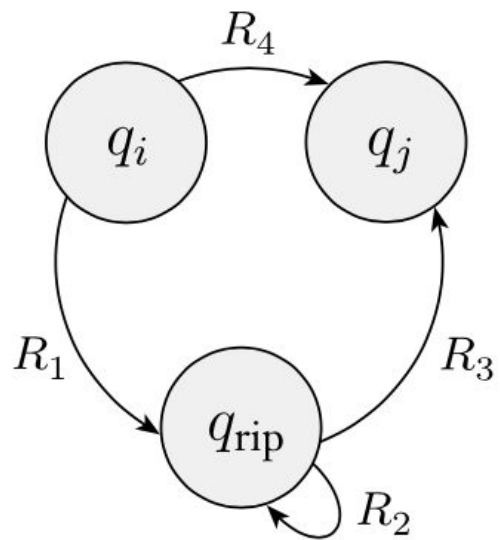


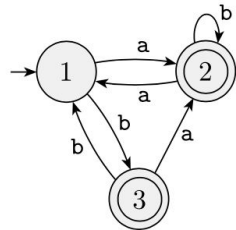
The **Kleene star** expression s^* is converted to



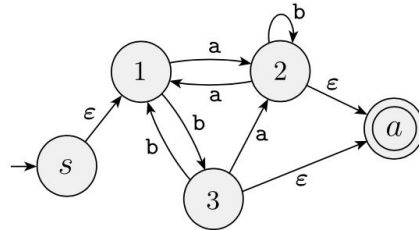
DFA/NFA \rightarrow Regex

Generalized NFA

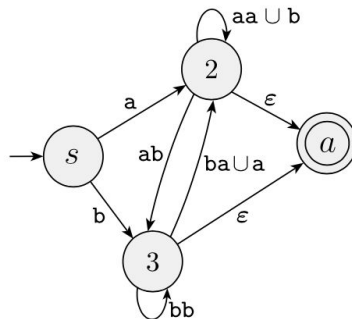




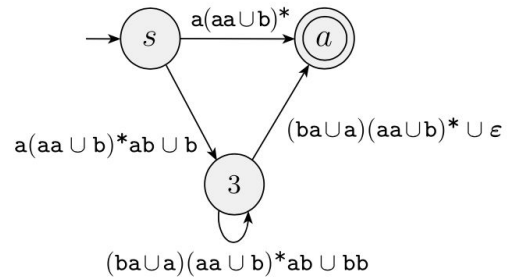
(a)



(b)



(c)

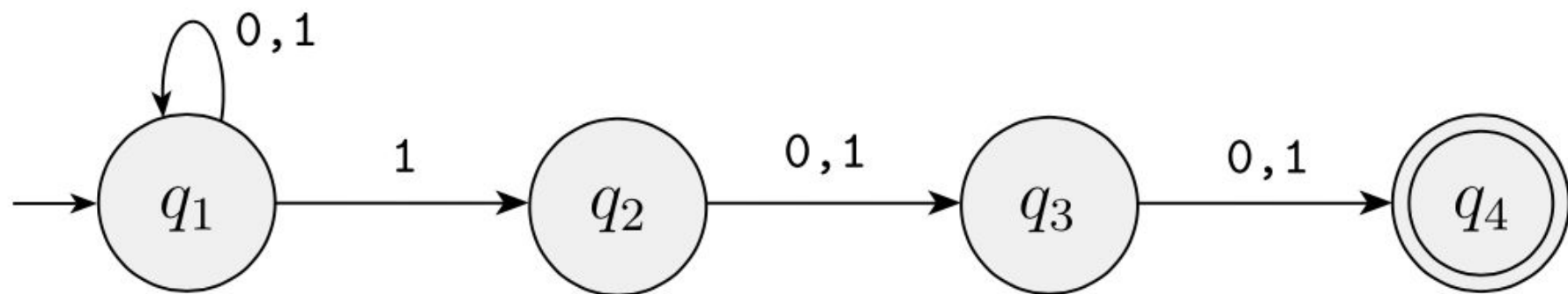


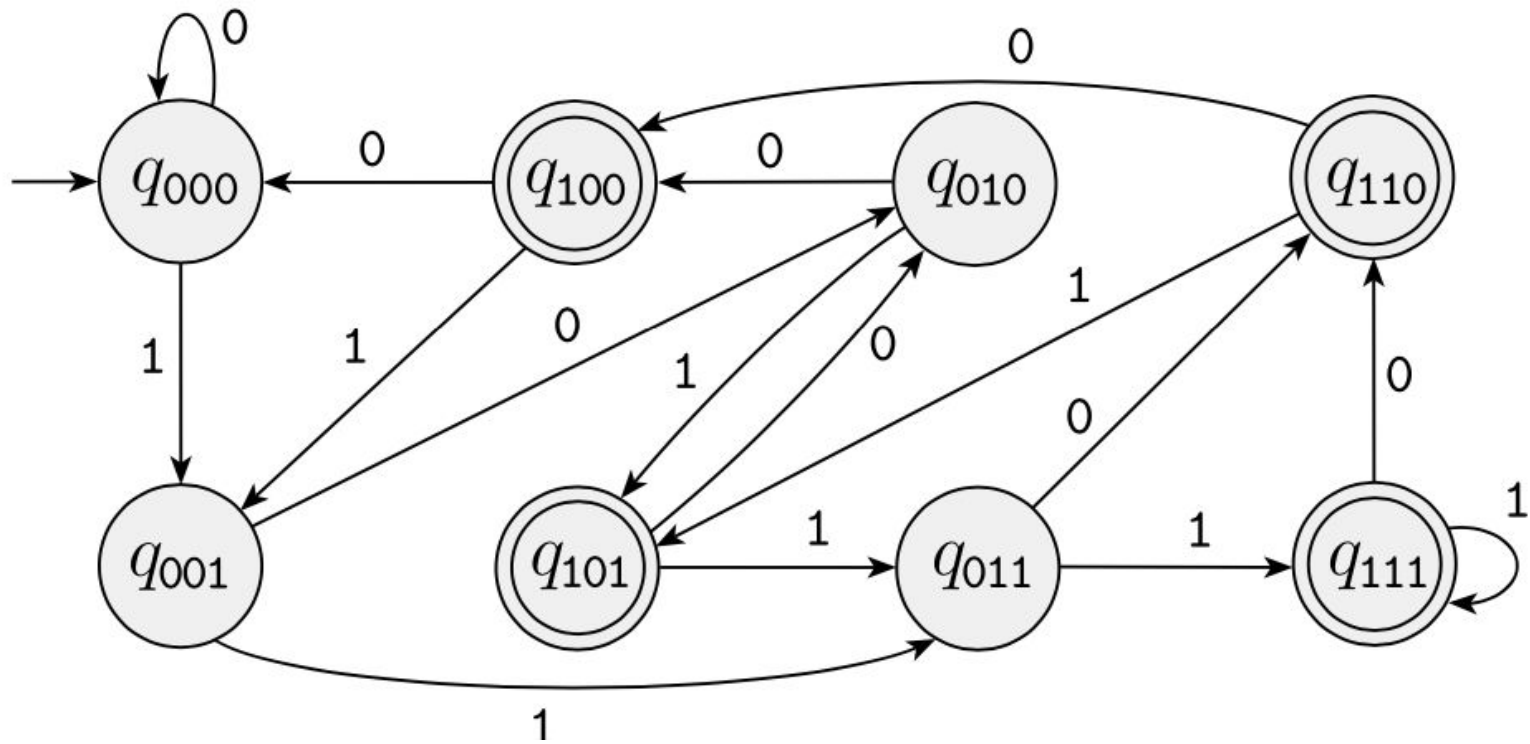
(d)



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

NFA \rightarrow DFA





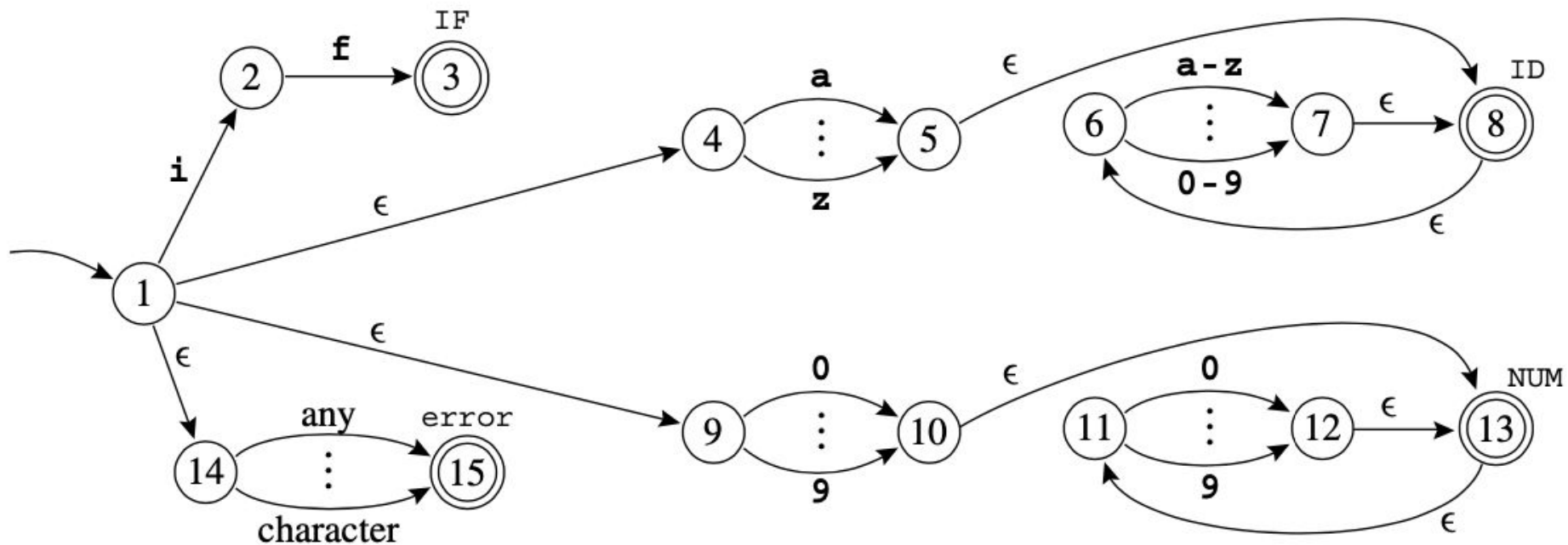
DFA \rightarrow NFA

Trivial

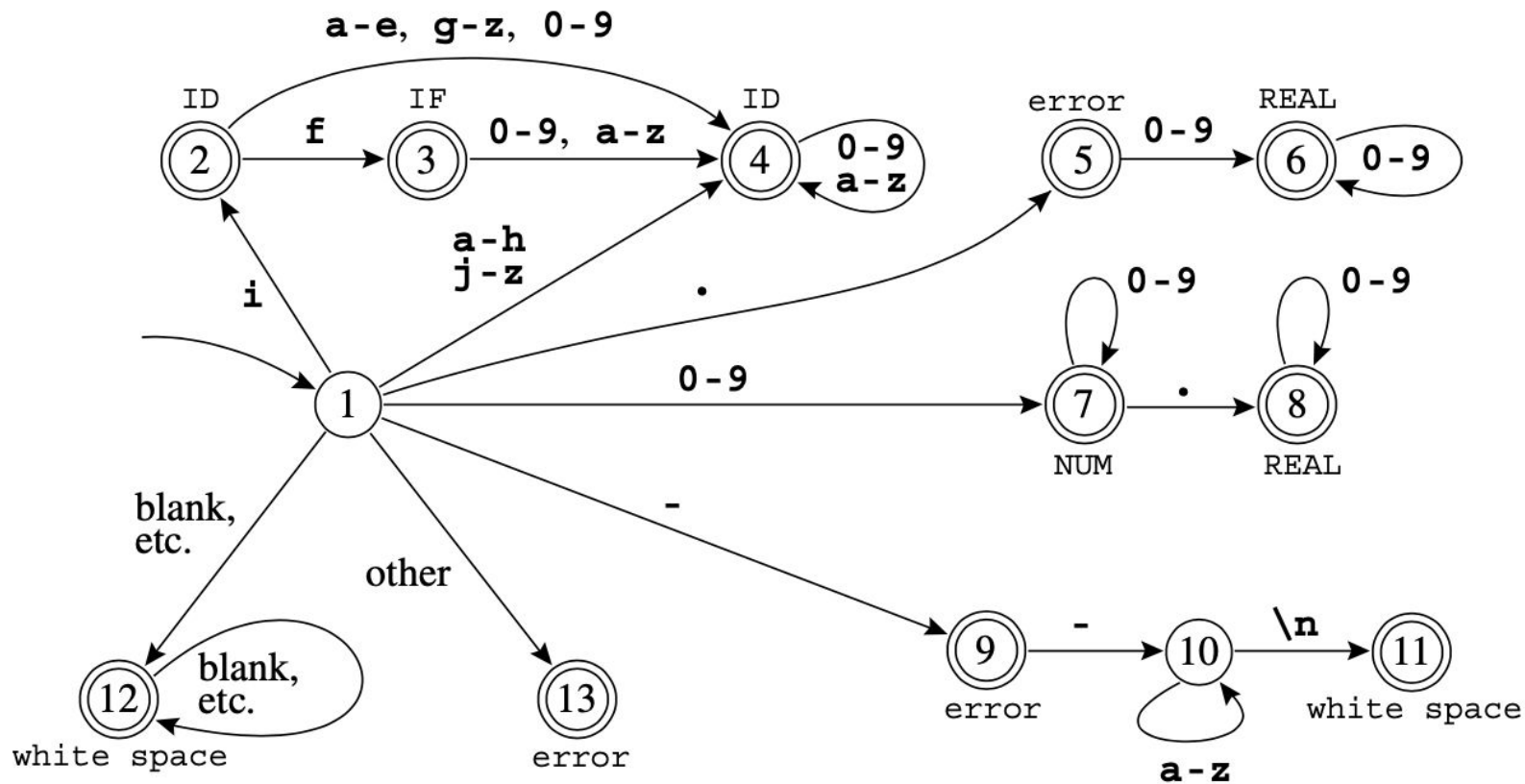
DFA Minimization

Hard

Why?



Greedy



L = set of binary strings that start with 0s,
followed by an equal number of 1s

Pumping lemma

Take 6.045 or 6.840.

1 2 Next



4407



Locked. There are [disputes about this answer's content](#) being resolved at this time. It is not currently accepting new interactions.

You can't parse [X]HTML with regex. Because HTML can't be parsed by regex. Regex is not a tool that can be used to correctly parse HTML. As I have answered in HTML-and-regex questions here so many times before, the use of regex will not allow you to consume HTML. Regular expressions are a tool that is insufficiently sophisticated to understand the constructs employed by HTML. HTML is not a regular language and hence cannot be parsed by regular expressions. Regex queries are not equipped to break down HTML into its meaningful parts. so many times but it is not getting to me. Even enhanced irregular regular expressions as used by Perl are not up to the task of parsing HTML. You will never make me crack. HTML is a language of sufficient complexity that it cannot be parsed by regular expressions. Even Jon Skeet cannot parse HTML using regular expressions. Every time you attempt to parse HTML with regular expressions, the unholy child weeps the blood of virgins, and Russian hackers pwn your webapp. Parsing HTML with regex summons tainted souls into the realm of the living. HTML and regex go together like love, marriage, and ritual infanticide. The <center> cannot hold it is too late. The force of regex and HTML together in the same conceptual space will destroy your mind like so much watery putty. If you parse HTML with regex you are giving in to Them and their blasphemous ways which doom us all to inhuman toil for the One whose Name cannot be expressed in the Basic Multilingual Plane, he comes. HTML-plus-regexp will liquify the nerves of the sentient whilst you observe, your psyche withering in the onslaught of horror. Regēx-based HTML parsers are the cancer that is killing StackOverflow *it is too late it is too late we cannot be saved* the transgression of a child ensures regex will consume all living tissue (except for HTML which it cannot, as previously prophesied) *dear lord help us how can anyone survive this scourge* using regex to parse HTML has doomed humanity to an eternity of dread torture and security holes *using regex* as a tool to process HTML establishes a breach *between this world* and the dread realm of corrupt entities (like SGML entities, but *more corrupt*) a mere glimpse of the world of **regex parsers for HTML will** instantly transport a programmer's consciousness into a world of ceaseless screaming, he comes, ~~the pestilent~~ slithy regex-infection will **devour your** HTML parser, application and existence for all time like Visual Basic only ~~worse~~ *he comes he comes do not fight he comes, his unholy radiance* destroying all enlightenment, HTML tags **leaking from your eyes like liquid** pain, the song of regular expression parsing will extinguish the voices of mortal man **from the sphere** I can see it can you see *if it is beautiful the final snuffing of the* **lies of Man ALL IS LOST ALL IS LOST** the pony he comes he comes ~~he comes~~ **the ichor** permeates all MY FACE MY FACE *god no* **NO NOOOO NO** stop the angles are not real **ZALGO IS TONY THE PONY HE COMES**

For the quiz, you should know how to:

- Simulate regex/DFA/NFA
- Design a regex/DFA/NFA
- Convert regex to NFA
- Convert NFA to DFA

How to practice: Do textbook exercises!

Context-free grammar

⟨SENTENCE⟩ → ⟨NOUN-PHRASE⟩⟨VERB-PHRASE⟩
⟨NOUN-PHRASE⟩ → ⟨CMPLX-NOUN⟩ | ⟨CMPLX-NOUN⟩⟨PREP-PHRASE⟩
⟨VERB-PHRASE⟩ → ⟨CMPLX-VERB⟩ | ⟨CMPLX-VERB⟩⟨PREP-PHRASE⟩
⟨PREP-PHRASE⟩ → ⟨PREP⟩⟨CMPLX-NOUN⟩
⟨CMPLX-NOUN⟩ → ⟨ARTICLE⟩⟨NOUN⟩
⟨CMPLX-VERB⟩ → ⟨VERB⟩ | ⟨VERB⟩⟨NOUN-PHRASE⟩
 ⟨ARTICLE⟩ → a | the
 ⟨NOUN⟩ → boy | girl | flower
 ⟨VERB⟩ → touches | likes | sees
 ⟨PREP⟩ → with

1	$Expr$	\rightarrow	$\underline{(Expr)}$
2		$ $	$Expr Op Expr$
3		$ $	name

4	Op	\rightarrow	+
5		$ $	-
6		$ $	\times
7		$ $	\div

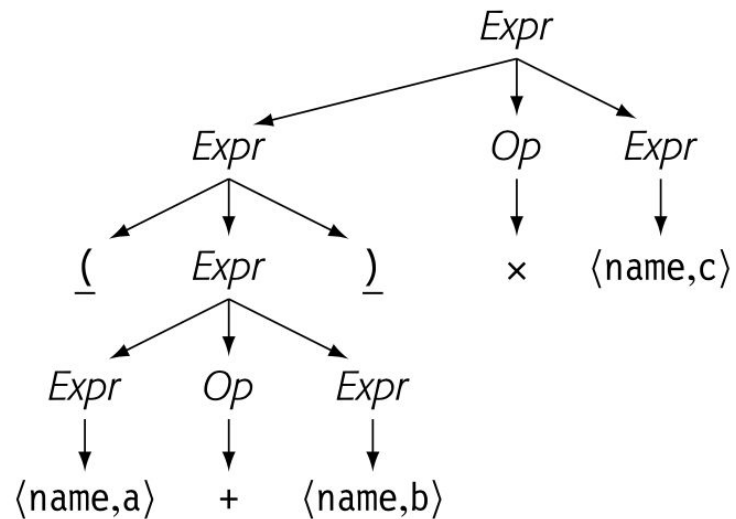
1	$Expr$	\rightarrow	(\underline{Expr})
2		$ $	$Expr \ Op \ Expr$
3		$ $	name

4	Op	\rightarrow	$+$
5		$ $	$-$
6		$ $	\times
7		$ $	\div

$(a + b) \times c$

1	$Expr \rightarrow \underline{(Expr)}$
2	$\quad \mid Expr Op Expr$
3	$\quad \mid name$

4	$Op \rightarrow +$
5	$\quad \mid -$
6	$\quad \mid \times$
7	$\quad \mid \div$



Ambiguity

1	$Stmt \rightarrow$	if $Expr$ then $Stmt$
2		if $Expr$ then $Stmt$ else $Stmt$
3		$Other$

Left factoring

1	<i>Stmt</i>	→	if <i>Expr</i> then <i>Stmt</i>
2			if <i>Expr</i> then <i>Stmt</i> else <i>Stmt</i>
3			<i>Other</i>

1	<i>Stmt</i>	→	if <i>Expr</i> then <i>Stmt</i>
2			if <i>Expr</i> then <i>WithElse</i> else <i>Stmt</i>
3			<i>Other</i>
4	<i>WithElse</i>	→	if <i>Expr</i> then <i>WithElse</i> else <i>WithElse</i>
5			<i>Other</i>

Precedence climbing

1	$Expr$	\rightarrow	$(Expr)$
2		$ $	$Expr Op Expr$
3		$ $	name

4	Op	\rightarrow	$+$
5		$ $	$-$
6		$ $	\times
7		$ $	\div

1	$Expr$	\rightarrow	(\underline{Expr})
2		$ $	$Expr \ Op \ Expr$
3		$ $	name

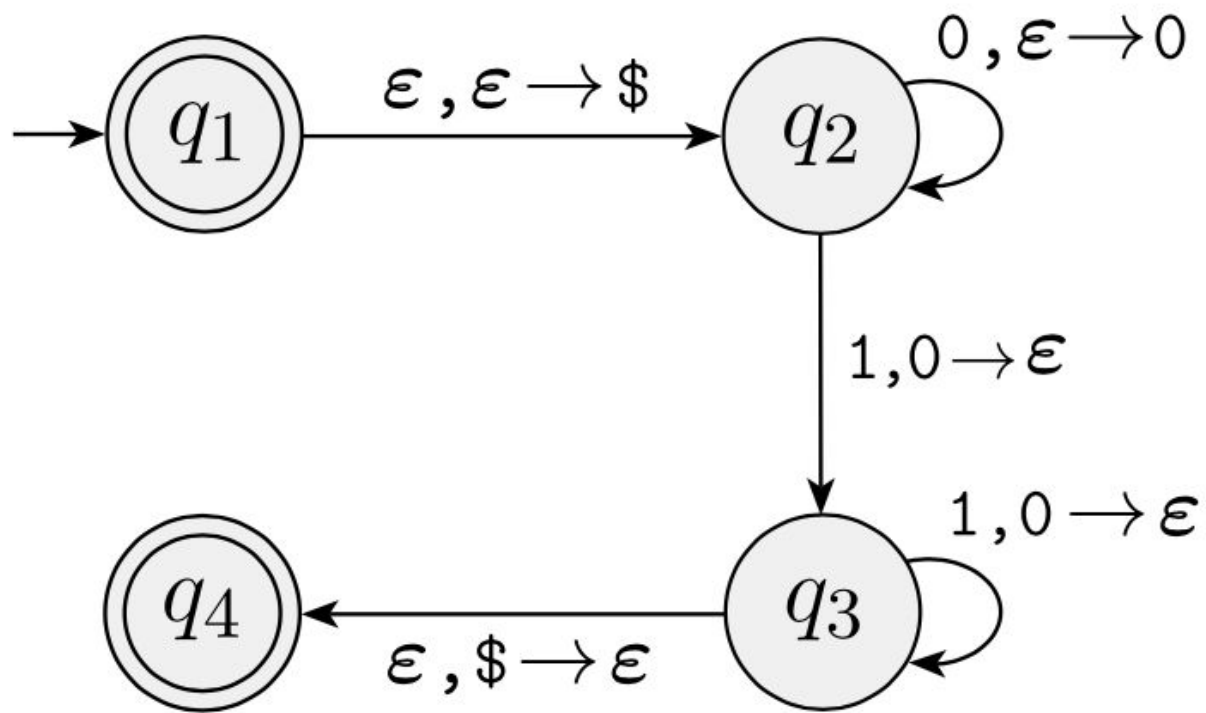
4	Op	\rightarrow	$+$
5		$ $	$-$
6		$ $	\times
7		$ $	\div

0	$Goal$	\rightarrow	$Expr$
1	$Expr$	\rightarrow	$Expr + Term$
2		$ $	$Expr - Term$
3		$ $	$Term$
4	$Term$	\rightarrow	$Term \times Factor$

5		$ $	$Term \div Factor$
6		$ $	$Factor$
7	$Factor$	\rightarrow	(\underline{Expr})
8		$ $	num
9		$ $	name

Pushdown Automata

L = set of binary strings that start with 0s,
followed by an equal number of 1s



Remember this?

```
expression ::= resize ('|' resize)*;  
resize     ::= primitive ('@' size)*;  
size       ::= (number 'x' number);  
primitive  ::= filename | '(' expression ')';
```

```
topToBottomOperator ::= '---' '-'*;  
filename             ::= [A-Za-z0-9. _-]*;  
number               ::= [0-9]+;  
whitespace           ::= [ \\t\\r\\n]+;
```

Extended Backus–Naur form*

(* in spirit)

$$A \quad :: = \quad B * \quad C$$

$$\begin{array}{l}
 A \quad ::= A' \ C \\
 A' \quad ::= \varepsilon \mid BA'
 \end{array}$$

For the quiz, you should know how to:

- Parse a string using a given grammar (draw parse trees)
- Eliminate ambiguity
- Fix precedence issues
 - Make sure you understand the arithmetic examples.
 - Reminder: You can collaborate/ask for help on miniquiz.

How to practice: Do textbook exercises!

Top-down parsing

Recursive descent parser

<rant>

Use first principles

Ask TAs

</rant>

Project 1!

Left factoring (again)

Factor \rightarrow name
 | name [*ArgList*]
 | name (*ArgList*)
ArgList \rightarrow *Expr* *MoreArgs*
MoreArgs \rightarrow , *Expr* *MoreArgs*
 | ϵ

Factor \rightarrow name *Arguments*

Arguments \rightarrow [*ArgList*]

| (*ArgList*)

| ϵ

ArgList \rightarrow *Expr* *MoreArgs*

MoreArgs \rightarrow , *Expr* *MoreArgs*

| ϵ

Left recursion

$Expr ::= Expr + Term$
 $\quad | Expr - Term$
 $\quad | Term;$

$Term ::= Term \times Factor$
 $\quad | Term \div Factor$
 $\quad | Factor;$

$Factor ::= (Expr)$
 $\quad | num$
 $\quad | name;$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Fee & \rightarrow & Fee \ \alpha \\
 | & & \beta
 \end{array}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
 Fee & \rightarrow & \beta \ Fee' \\
 Fee' & \rightarrow & \alpha \ Fee' \\
 | & & \epsilon
 \end{array}$$

$Expr ::= Term\ Expr';$

$Expr' ::= +\ Term\ Expr'$

$\quad | -\ Term\ Expr'$

$\quad | \varepsilon;$

$Term ::= Factor\ Term'$

$Term' ::= \times\ Factor\ Term'$

$\quad | \div\ Factor\ Term'$

$\quad | \varepsilon;$

$Factor ::= (Expr)$

$\quad | \text{num}$

$\quad | \text{name}$

Expr ::= *Term* ((+|-) *Term*)*

Term ::= *Factor* ((×|÷) *Factor*)*

Factor ::= (*Expr*)

| num

| name;

Indirect left recursion

Constraint propagation

$$NT \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$NT \rightarrow^* \varepsilon$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
 NT_0 \rightarrow NT_1 NT_2 \dots \text{ and } NT_i \rightarrow^* \varepsilon \\
 \Rightarrow \\
 NT_0 \rightarrow^* \varepsilon
 \end{array}$$

$$\mathbf{T} \in \text{First}(\mathbf{T})$$

$$x \in \text{First}(S)$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$x \in \text{First}(S S_1 S_2 S_3 \dots)$$

$$x \in \text{First}(S)$$
$$\Rightarrow$$
$$x \in \text{First}(S\beta)$$

$$\text{First}(S) \subseteq \text{First}(S\beta)$$

$$x \in \text{First}(\beta) \quad \text{and} \quad NT \rightarrow^* \varepsilon$$

$$\Rightarrow$$

$$x \in \text{First}(NT \beta)$$

$$\begin{aligned} x \in \text{First}(S\beta) \quad \text{and} \quad (NT \rightarrow S\beta) \\ \Rightarrow \\ x \in \text{First}(NT) \end{aligned}$$