

Fig.5.38(a)–(c)

3. The initial state of M' is the same as the final state of M (M' is the reverse direction of M)
4. The final state of M' is the same as the initial state of M (M' is the reverse direction of M)

Let a string w belong to L , i.e., $w \in M$. So, there is a path from q_0 to F with path value w . By reversing the edges, we get a path from F to q_0 (beginning and final state of M') in M' . The path value is the reverse of w , i.e., w^T . So, $w^T \in M'$.

So, the reverse of the string w is regular.

Example:

Let $L = ab(a+b)^*$.

The FA M accepting L is as shown in Fig. 5.39(a).

The reverse of the FA M' accepting L^c is shown in Fig. 5.39(b).

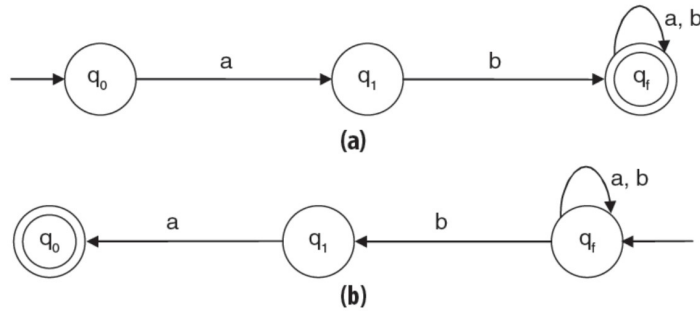


Fig.5.39(a)–(b)

M' accepts $(a+b)^*ba$ which is reverse of L .

Theorem 5.5: If L is regular and L is a subset of Σ^* , prove that $\Sigma^* - L$ is also a regular set.

As L is regular, there must be an FA, $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, accepting L . Let us construct another DFA

$M' = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F')$ where $F' = Q - F$. So, the two DFA differ only in their final states. A final state of M is a non-final state of M' and vice versa.

Let us take a string w which is accepted by M' . So, $\delta(q_0, w) \in F'$, i.e., $\delta(q_0, w) \in (Q - F)$.