



# Finite Automata (FA)

## Nepal Institute of Engineering

# FA:

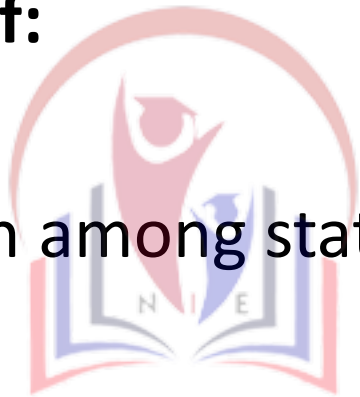
- Finite automata is a mathematical model which has no memory.

## Consists of:

- states
- transition among states

## Types:

1. Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)
2. Non-Deterministic Finite Automata (NFA/NDFA)



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# DFA:

- For each input, only one transition is possible from the current state.

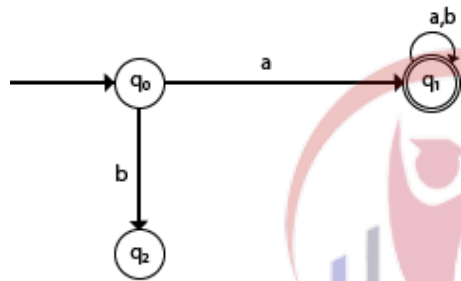


Fig:- DFA

- A DFA can be represented by a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  where:

**Q** is a finite set of states.

**$\Sigma$**  is a finite set of symbols called the alphabet.

**$\delta$**  is the transition function where  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$

**$q_0$**  is the initial state from where any input is processed ( $q_0 \in Q$ ).

**F** is a set of final state/states of Q ( $F \subseteq Q$ ).

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Eg: Draw a DFA for the language accepting strings ending with '0011' over input alphabets  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$

Solution,

Regular expression for the given language =  $(0 + 1)^*0011$

We will construct DFA for the following strings-

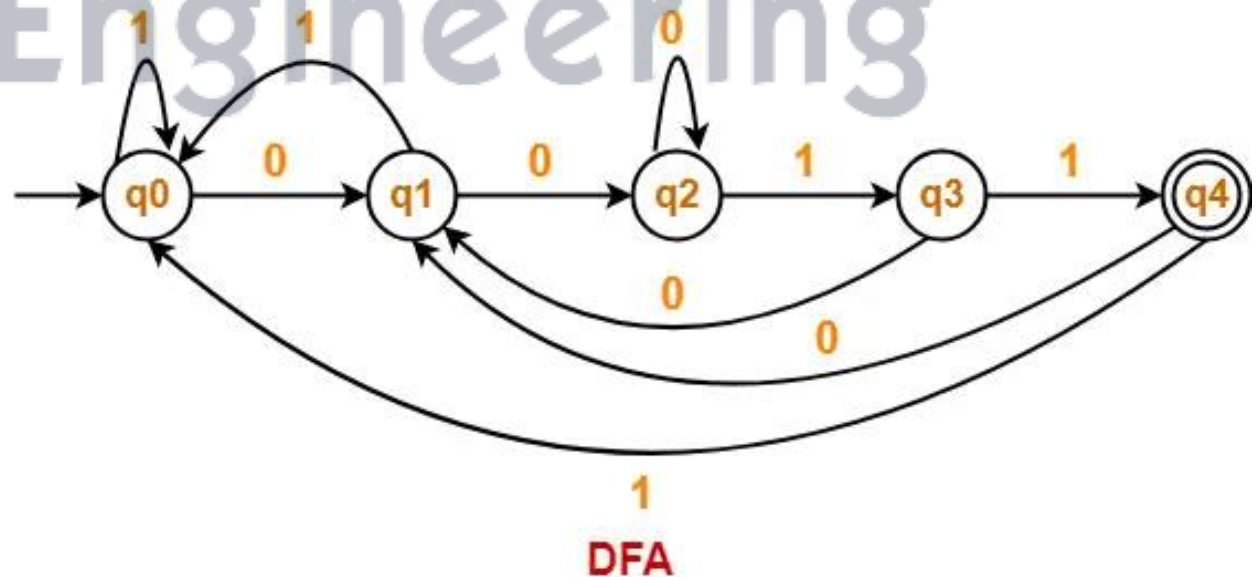
0011

00011

000011

0010011

00110011



# NFA:

- Similar to DFA, For each input, several transitions is possible from the current state
- An NFA can be represented by a 5-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  where:

$Q$  = finite set of states

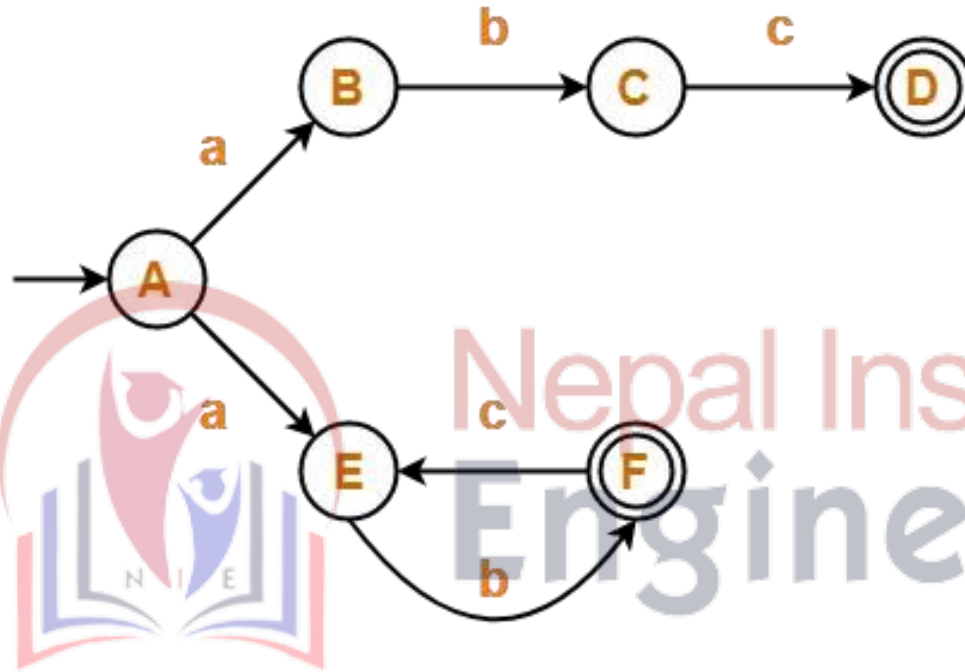
$\Sigma$  = non-empty finite set of symbols called as input alphabets

$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$  is a total function called as transition function

$q_0 \in Q$  is the initial state

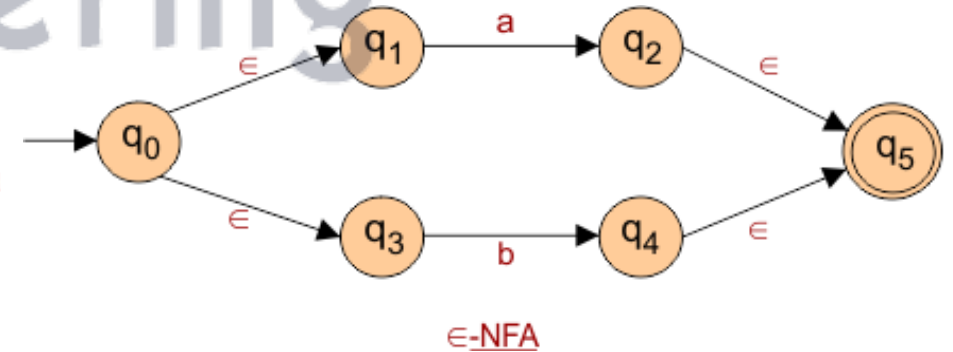
$F \subseteq Q$  is a set of final states

Eg:



**Example of Non-Deterministic Finite Automata**  
**(Without Epsilon)**

- **e-NFA**: epsilon means empty string; NFA can change its state from one to another without reading any input string is called e-NFA.
- same as NFA but input string contains e(epsilon).
- transition function:  $\delta : Q \times (\Sigma \cup \epsilon) \rightarrow 2^Q$
- Eg:



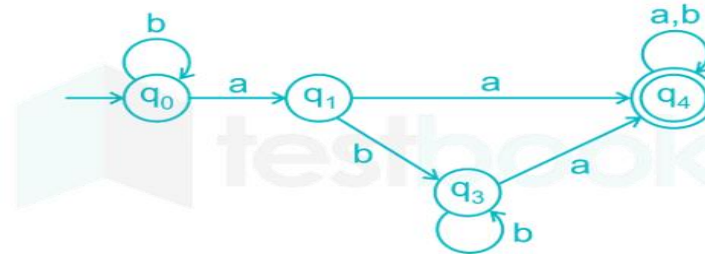
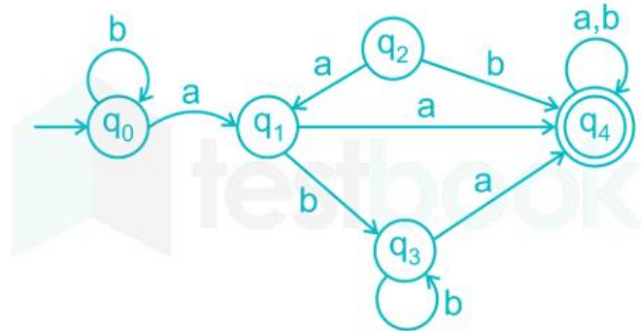
# Minimization of FSM:

- The process of reducing a given DFA to its minimal form is called as minimization of DFA.
- It contains the minimum number of states.
- The DFA in its minimal form is called as a **Minimal DFA**.
- The two popular methods for minimizing a DFA are
  - Equivalence Theorem
  - Table Filling Method

Q1. What is the number of states obtained

after minimizing the given DFA

Solution :  $q_2$  is not reachable from any states so it is dead state (discard it)



- 0 equi sets =  $[q_0, q_1, q_3], [q_4]$
  - 1 equi sets =  $[q_0], [q_1, q_3], [q_4]$
  - 2 equi sets =  $[q_0], [q_1, q_3], [q_4]$
- Therefore no of states is 3.

# Equivalence of NFA and DFA:

- NFA and DFA are equal in Power though DFA has more number of transitions than NFA.
- NFA is very simple to construct than DFA.
- Convert DFA  $\rightarrow$  NFA (every DFA is also an NFA).
- Convert NFA  $\rightarrow$  DFA (every NFA is not a DFA because NFA one state has multiple next states but DFA not, though we can convert NFA  $\rightarrow$  to DFA using Subset construction method).



# Regular Expressions:

- Are algebraic descriptions of a language. It is used to:
  - Specify or search text strings.
  - Languages defined by NFA, DFA can be also defined by regular expression.
- A language is defined by NFA, DFA and regular expression is called regular languages.

## Operators:

- $L1=\{01,101,11\}$  and  $L2=\{101, e\}$ 
  - Union:  $L1 \cup L2 = \{01,101,11,e\}$
  - Concatenation:  $L1L2 = \{01101,01,101101,101,11101,11\}$  e-identity element.
  - Closure:  $L^*$ ; if  $L=\{0,1\}$  then  $L^*=\{e,0,1,00,01,10,11,\dots\}$

# RE Defination:

Basis:

1.  $RE=e.; \{e\}$
2.  $RE=a; \{a\}$

Induction:

1. If  $R1$  &  $R2$  are REs then

$$RE=R1+R2; L(R1) \cup L(R2)$$

2.  $RE=R1R2; L(R1)L(R2)$

3.  $RE=R1^*; (L(R1))^*$

Q1. Construct a RE for the language accepting all strings which have bab as a substring over input={a,b}.

Solution:

$$RE=(a+b)^*bab(a+b)^*$$

Q2. write a regular expression for input {0,1} accepting string starting and ending with different symbols.

$$0(0+1)^*1 + 1(0+1)^*0$$

# Pumping Lemma for Regular Languages:

- For showing certain languages not to be regular.
- Let  $L$  be a regular language. Then there exists a constant  $n$  such that for every string  $w$  in  $L$ ,  $|w| \geq n$ .
- We can break  $w$  into three strings,  $w=xyz$  such that
  1.  $y \neq \epsilon$  or  $|y| > 0$
  2.  $|xy| \leq n$
  3. for all  $k \geq 0$ , the string  $xy^kz$  is also in  $L$

Find suitable integer  $k$  such that  $xy^kz \notin L$  hence  $L$  is not regular.

Eg: assume  $L$  is regular and  $n$  be a constant

let  $L = \{0^n 1^n; n \geq 0\}$   
split  $w = xyz$  such that

1.  $y \neq \epsilon$  or  $|y| > 0$
2.  $|xy| \leq n$
3. for all  $k \geq 0$ , the string  $xy^kz$  is also in  $L$

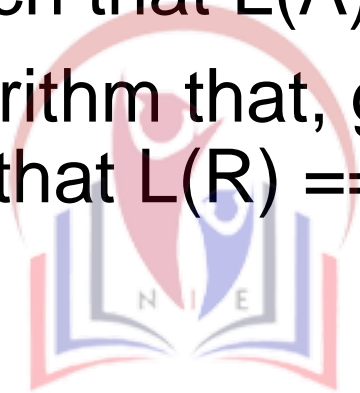
$w = 0^n 1^n = 0011$  (when  $n=2$ )

$xy = 00$  i.e.  $x=0, y=0$  and  $z=11$

$k=2$  then  $xy^kz = 00^2 11 = 00011 \notin L$  so contradiction, hence we can say that  $L = \{0^n 1^n; n \geq 1\}$  is not regular

# Equivalence of RE and FA:

1. an algorithm that, given a regular expression  $R$ , produces an FA  $A$  such that  $L(A) == L(R)$ .
2. an algorithm that, given an FA  $A$ , produces a regular expression  $R$  such that  $L(R) == L(A)$ .



# MCQ Links

<https://www.studocu.com/sg/document/lovely-professional-university/automata/finite-automata-unitn-1/9257389>

<https://www.studocu.com/sg/document/thapar-institute-of-engineering-and-technology/data-structures-and-algorithms/engineeringinterviewquestions-com-mcqs-on-regular-language-expression-2-answers/16127192>