

# Finite Automata

## CSCI 338

# CSCI 338

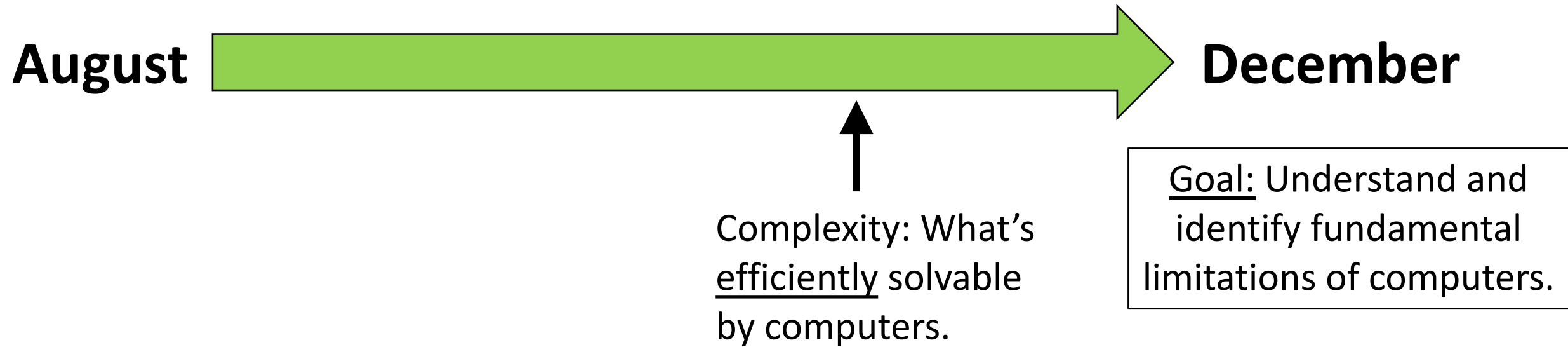
**August**



**December**

Goal: Understand and  
identify fundamental  
limitations of computers.

# CSCI 338



# CSCI 338

Computability:  
What's solvable  
by computers.



**August**



**December**



Complexity: What's  
efficiently solvable  
by computers.

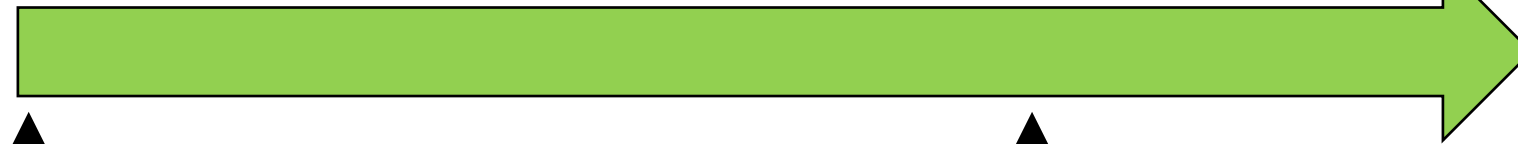
Goal: Understand and  
identify fundamental  
limitations of computers.

# CSCI 338

Computability:  
What's solvable  
by computers.



**August**



**December**

↑  
???

↑  
Complexity: What's  
efficiently solvable  
by computers.

Goal: Understand and  
identify fundamental  
limitations of computers.

# CSCI 338

Computability:  
What's solvable  
by computers.



**August**



**December**

Computational  
Models



Complexity: What's  
efficiently solvable  
by computers.



Goal: Understand and  
identify fundamental  
limitations of computers.

# Finite State Machine

# Finite State Machine

**Consider a car.**



# Finite State Machine

States:

??

**Consider a car.**

# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

**Consider a car.**

# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

**Consider a car.**

Actions:

??

# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake

**Consider a car.**

# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Moving

Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake

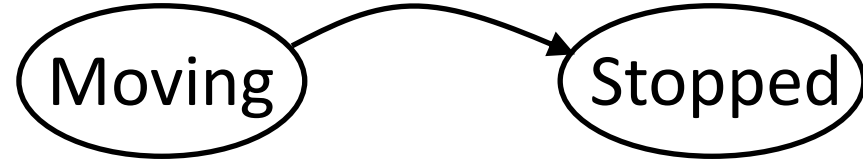
# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake



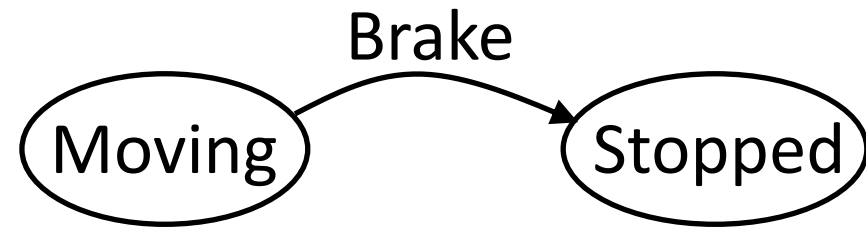
# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake



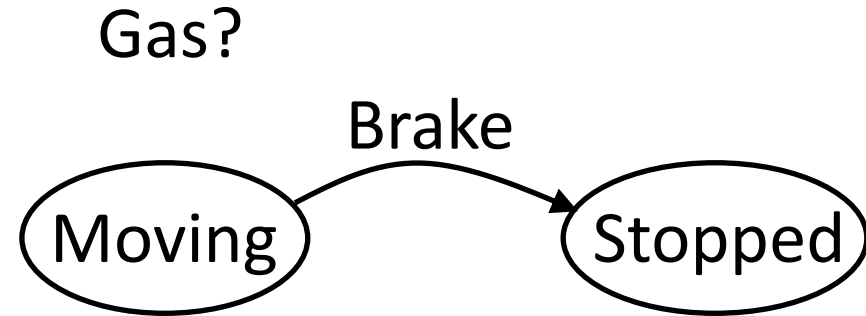
# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake





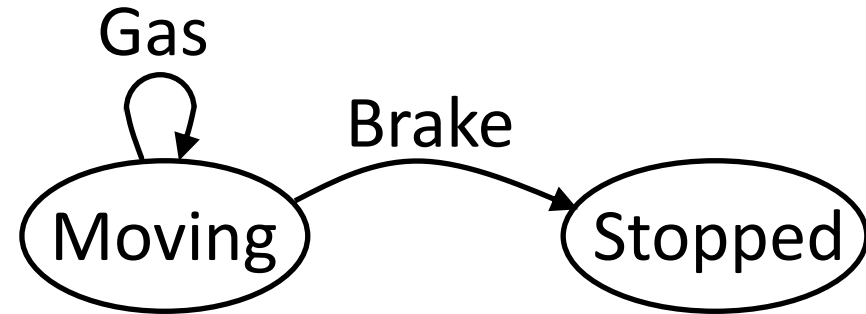
# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake



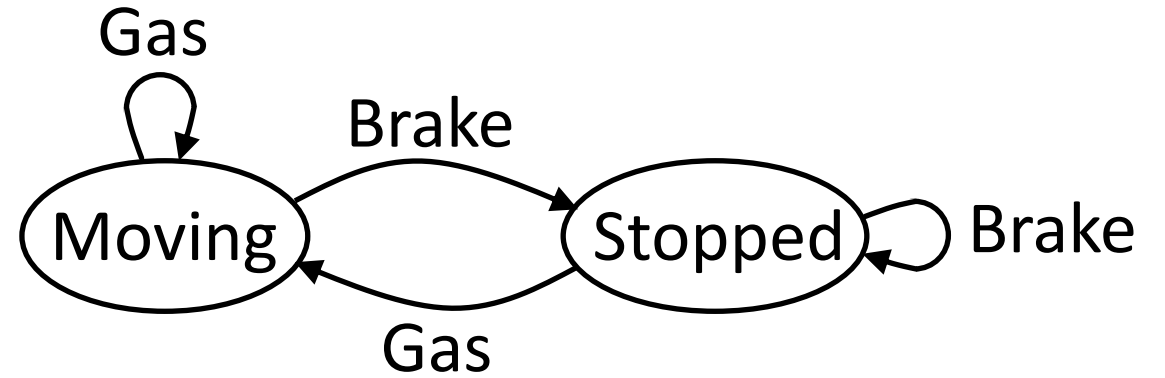
# Finite State Machine

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake



# Finite State Machine

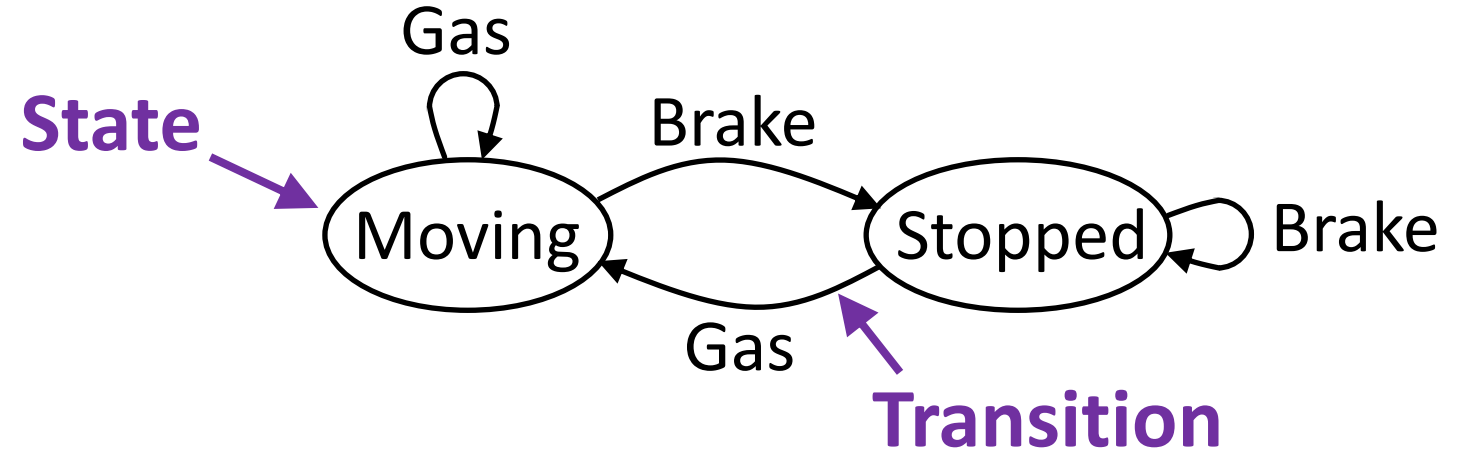
## State Diagram

States:

- Moving
- Stopped

Actions:

- Gas
- Brake



# Computational Question

Is the string  $\omega = 01101001$  of the form:

$\{\omega: \omega \text{ contains an even number of 0's and even number of 1's}\}?$

# Computational Question

Is the string  $\omega = 01101001$  of the form:


$\{\omega: \omega \text{ contains an even number of 0's and even number of 1's}\}?$



**Set of strings with a specific format (pattern).**

# Computational Question

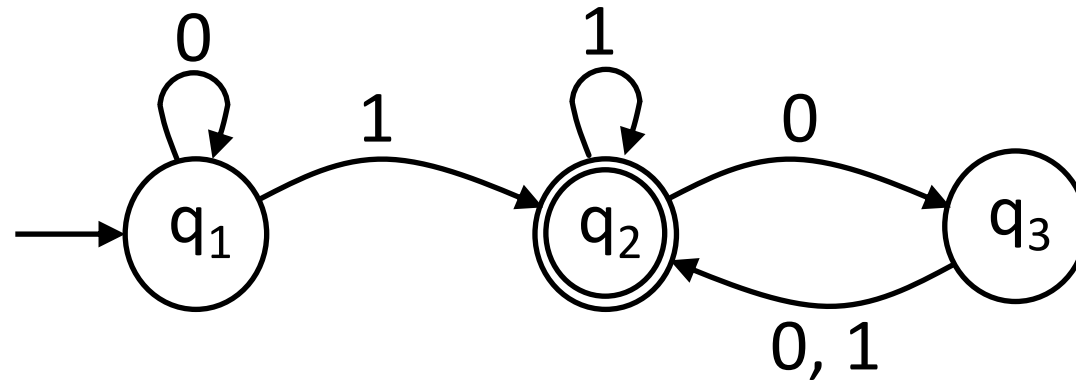
Is the string  $\omega = 01101001$  of the form:  
 $\{\omega: \omega \text{ contains an even number of 0's and even number of 1's}\}?$



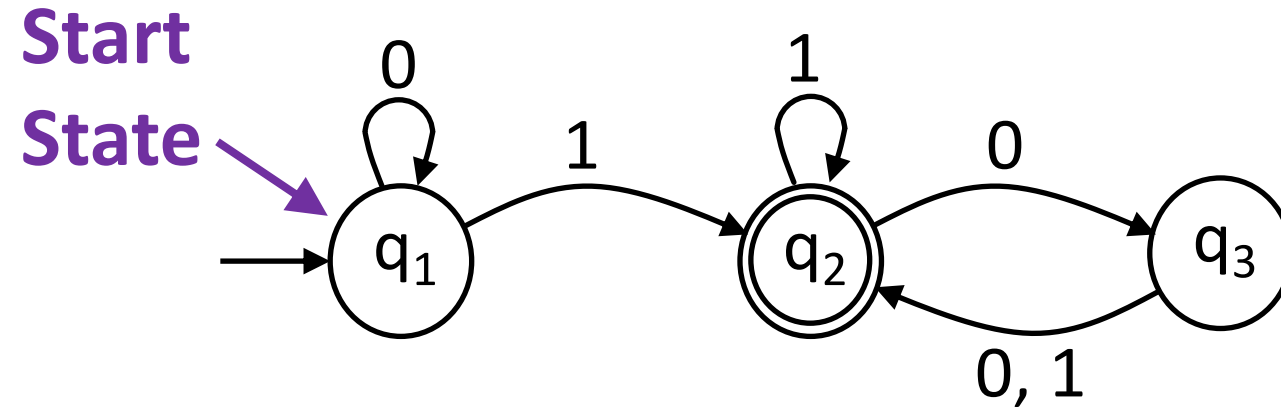
**Set of strings with a specific format (pattern).**

Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA): An abstract model (machine) that determines (yes or no) if a string has a specific format.

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

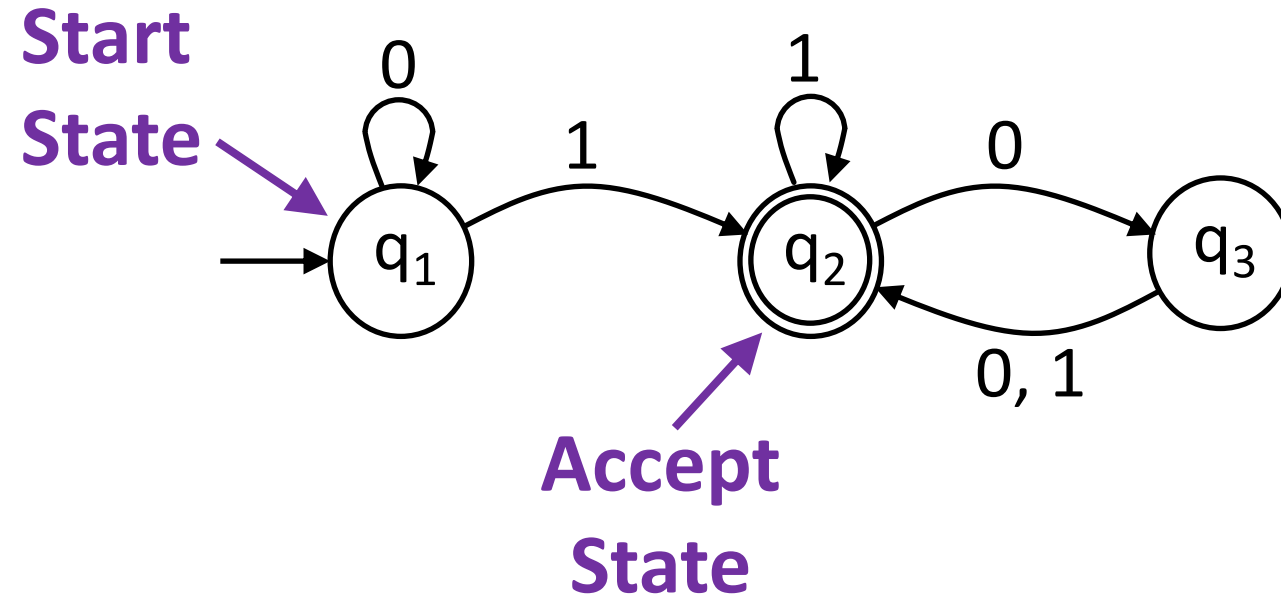


# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

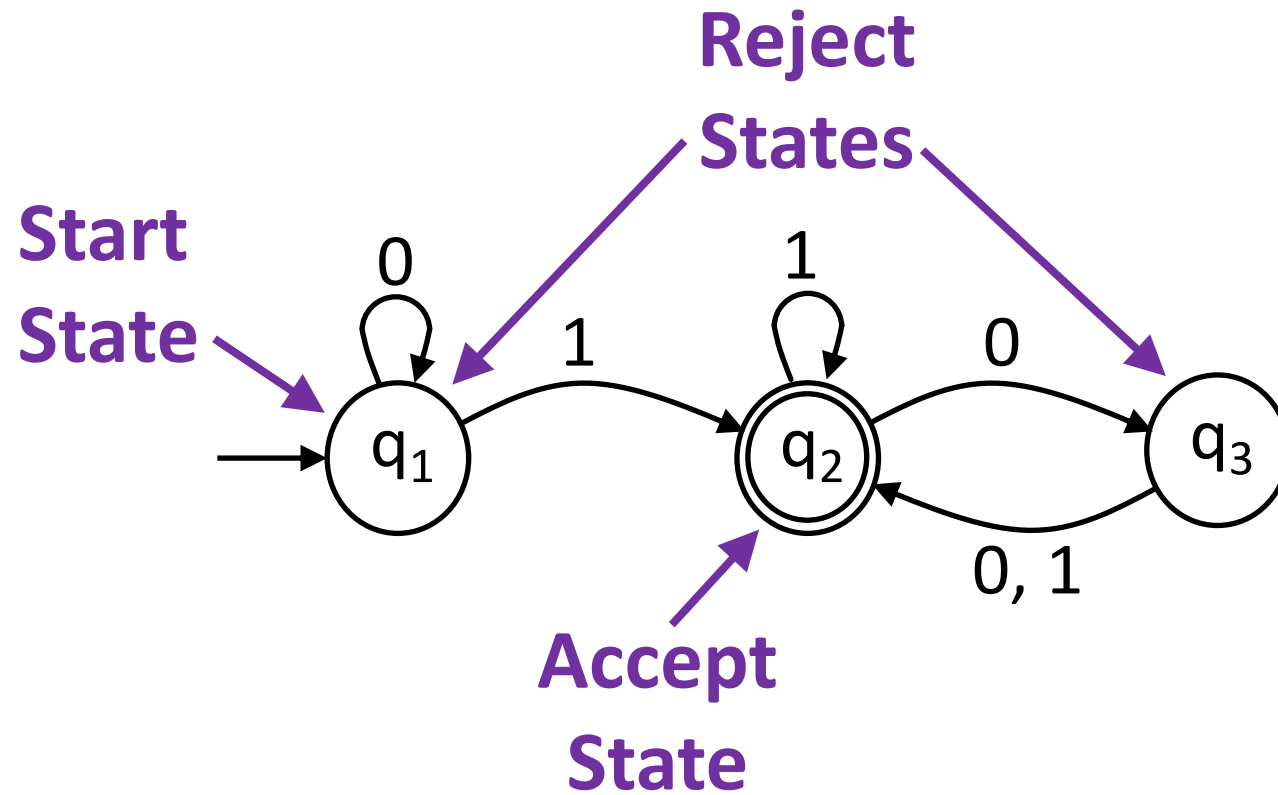




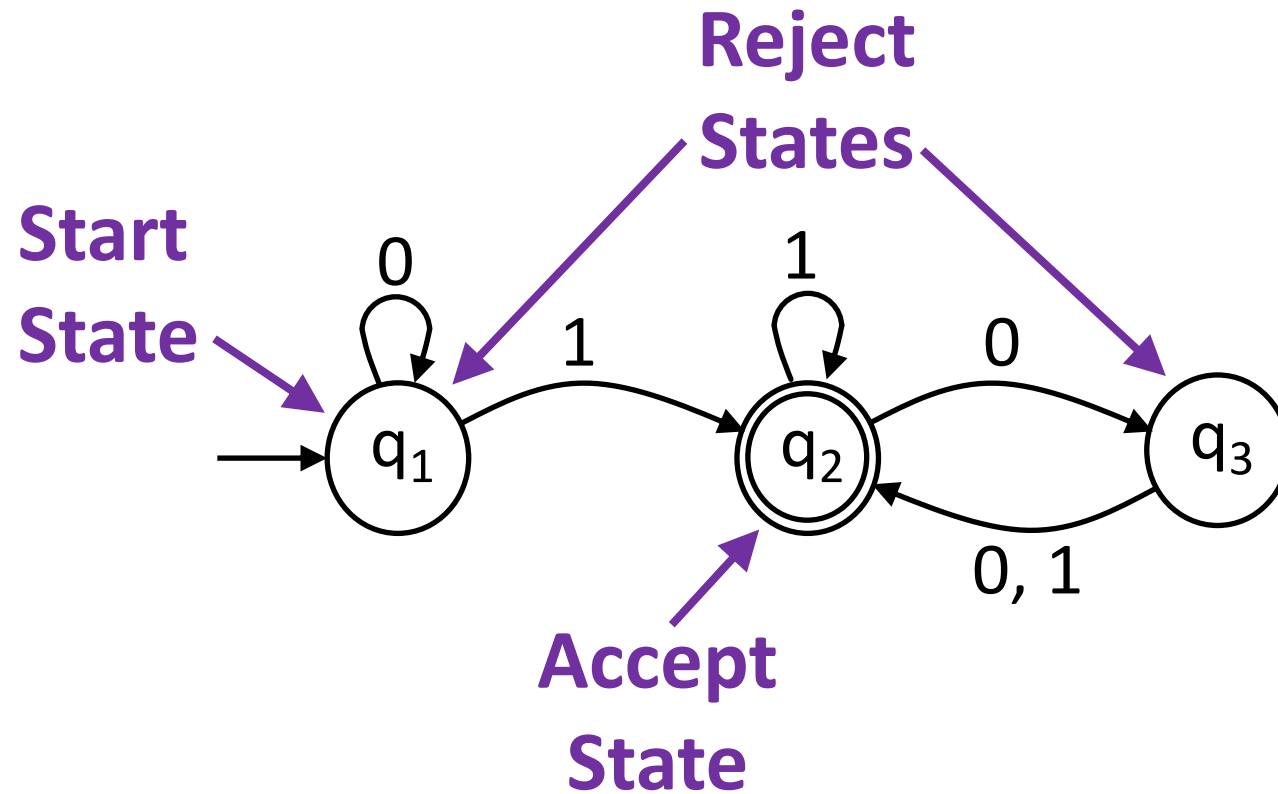
# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)



# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

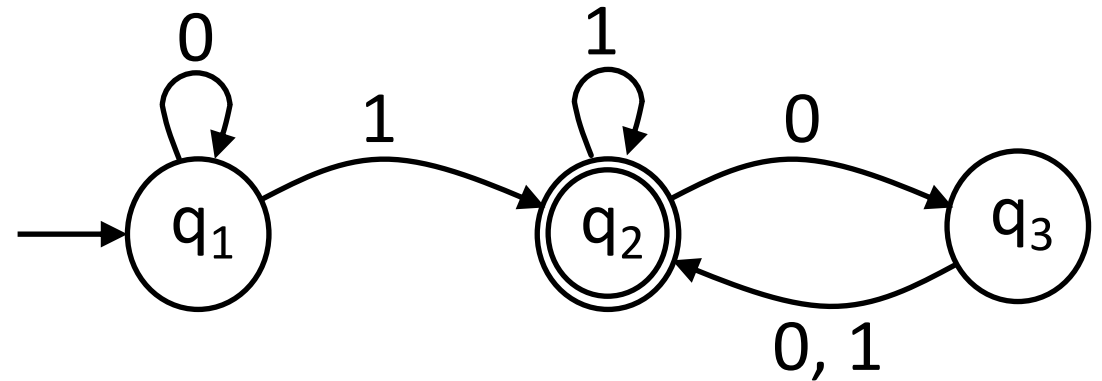


# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)



DFAs either accept or reject strings.

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)



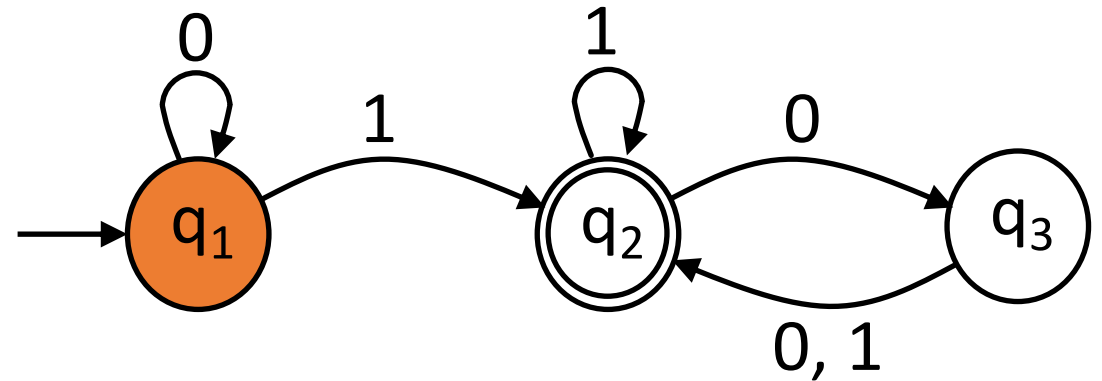
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.



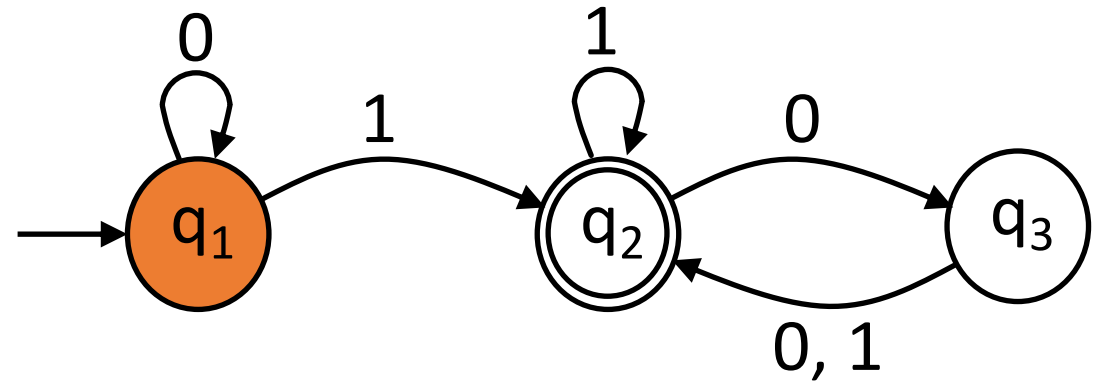
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.



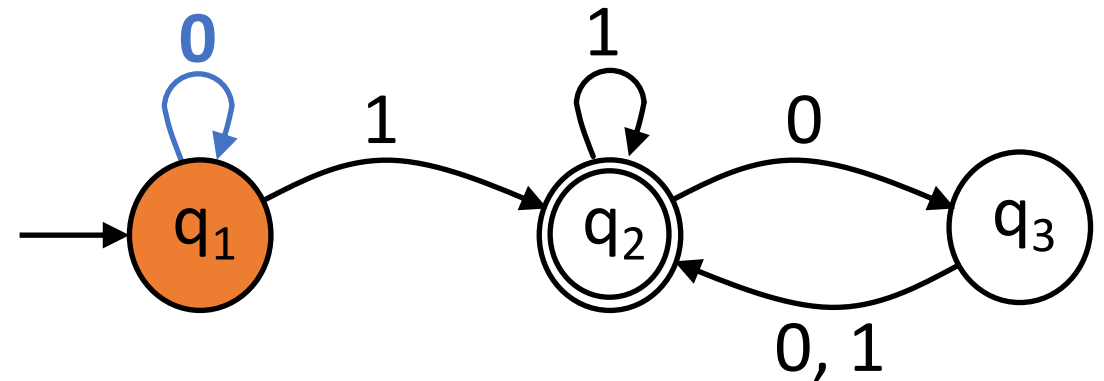
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = \mathbf{0}1101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.



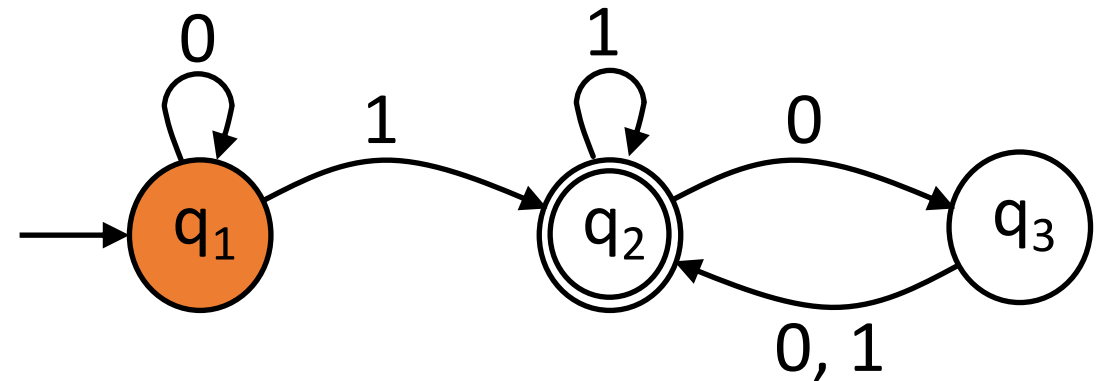
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = \mathbf{0}1101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.



DFAs either accept or reject strings.

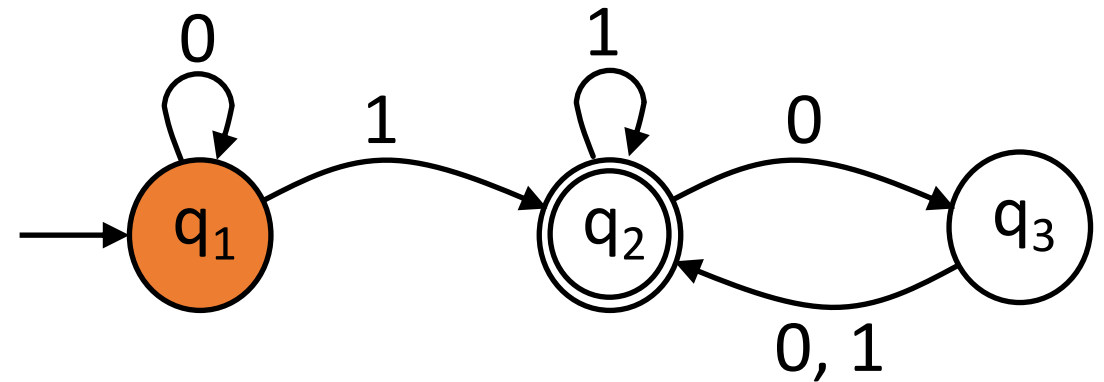
Given string  $\omega = 0\mathbf{1}101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?



# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



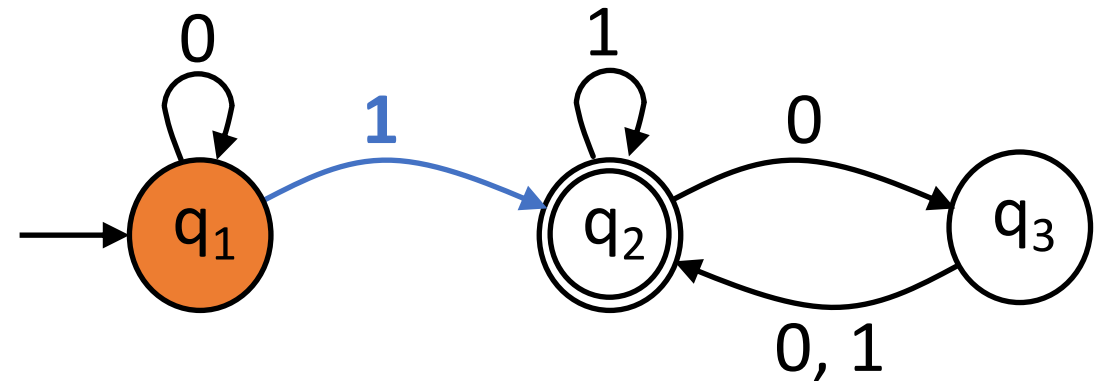
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 0\mathbf{1}101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
- 3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.**
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



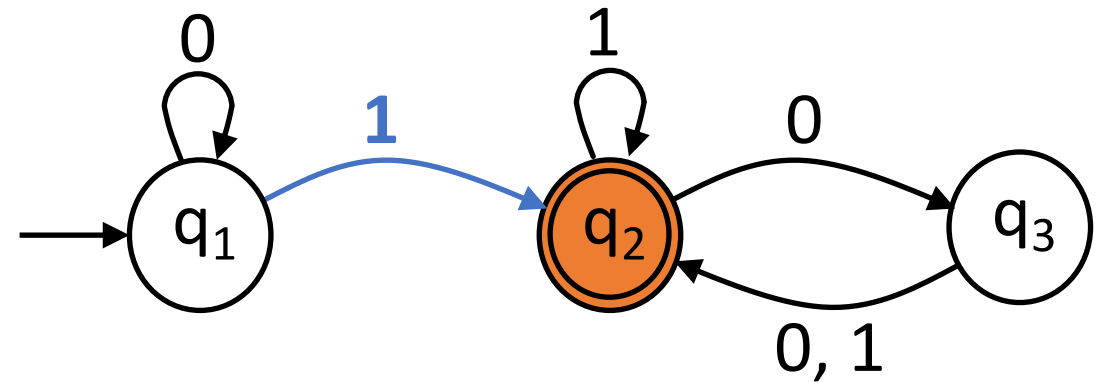
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 0\mathbf{1}101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
- 3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.**
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



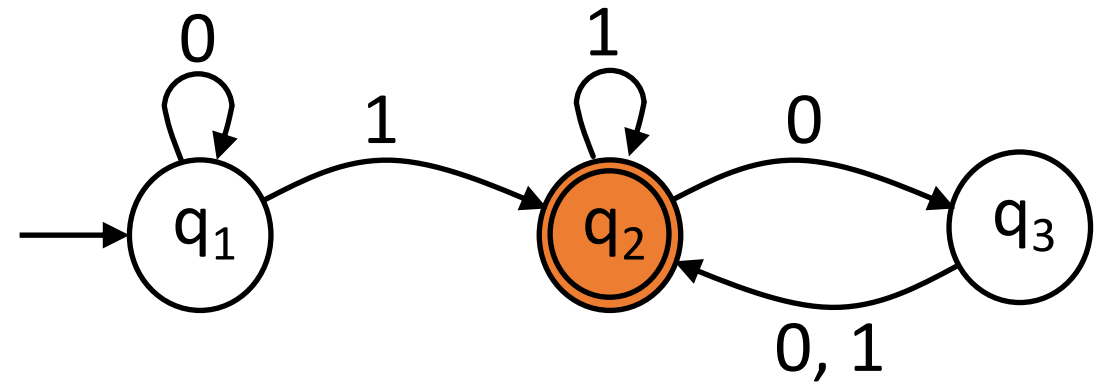
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 0\mathbf{1}101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
- 4. Select next character in string.**
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



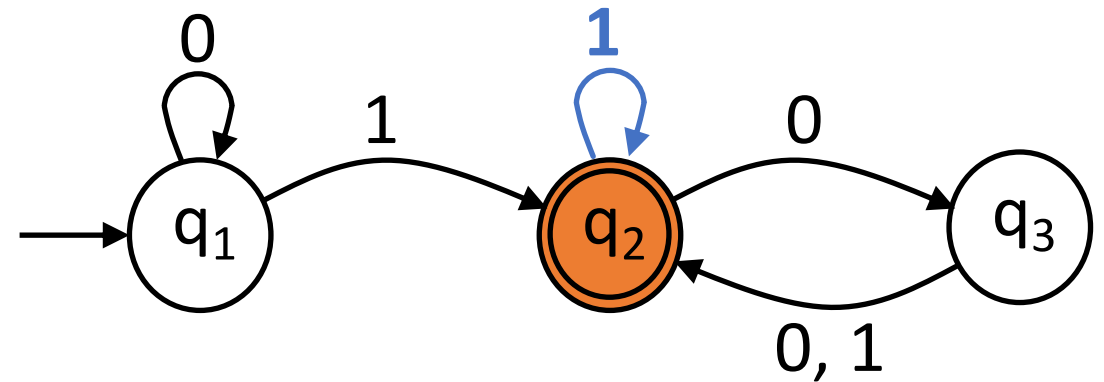
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01\mathbf{1}01$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
- 3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.**
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



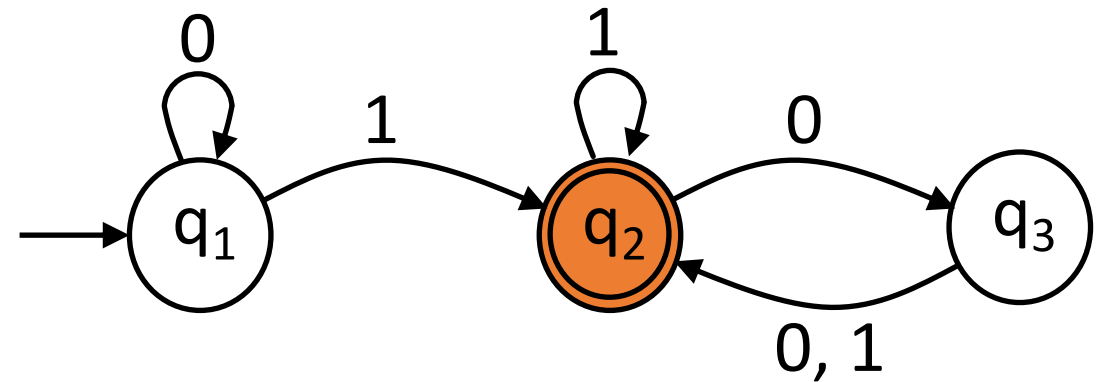
DFA's either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01\mathbf{1}01$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
- 4. Select next character in string.**
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



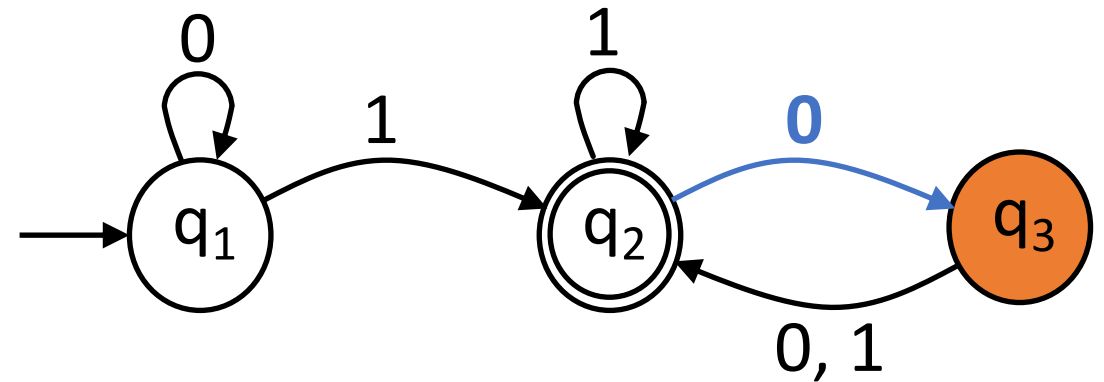
DFA's either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 011\mathbf{0}1$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
- 3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.**
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



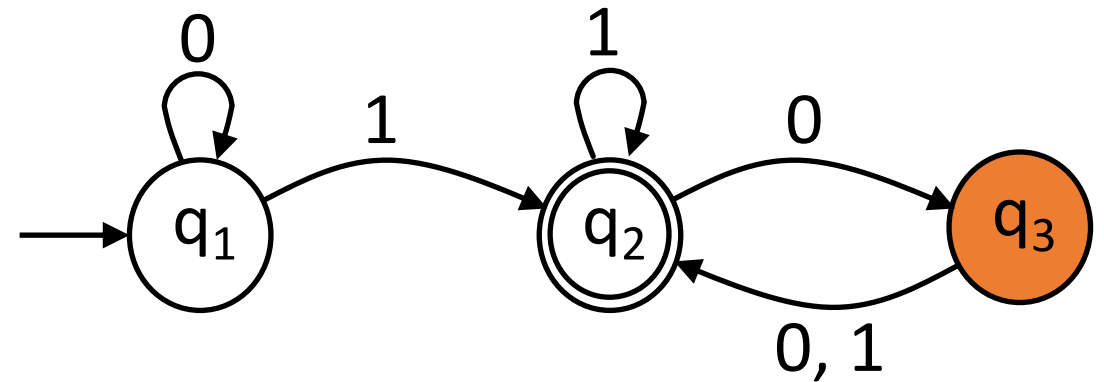
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 011\mathbf{0}1$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
- 4. Select next character in string.**
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



DFA's either accept or reject strings.

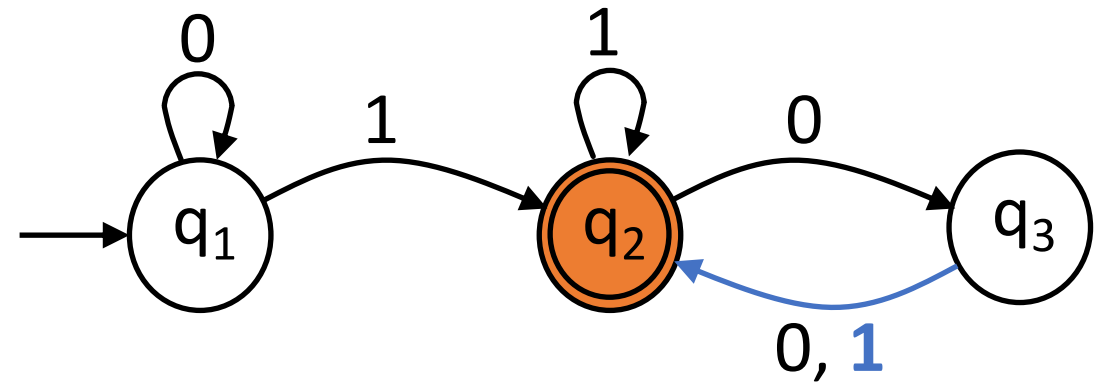
Given string  $\omega = 0110\mathbf{1}$ , does this DFA accept or reject?



# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
- 3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.**
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.



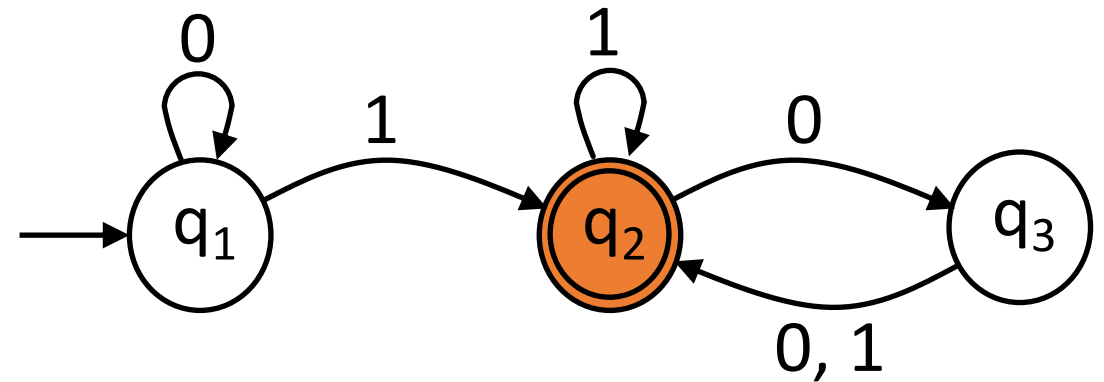
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 0110\mathbf{1}$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until **no characters remain**.



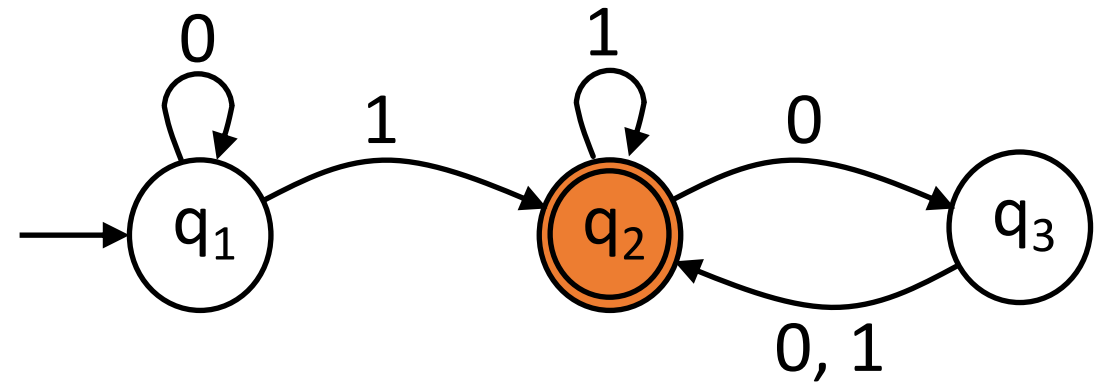
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept.  
Otherwise, reject.



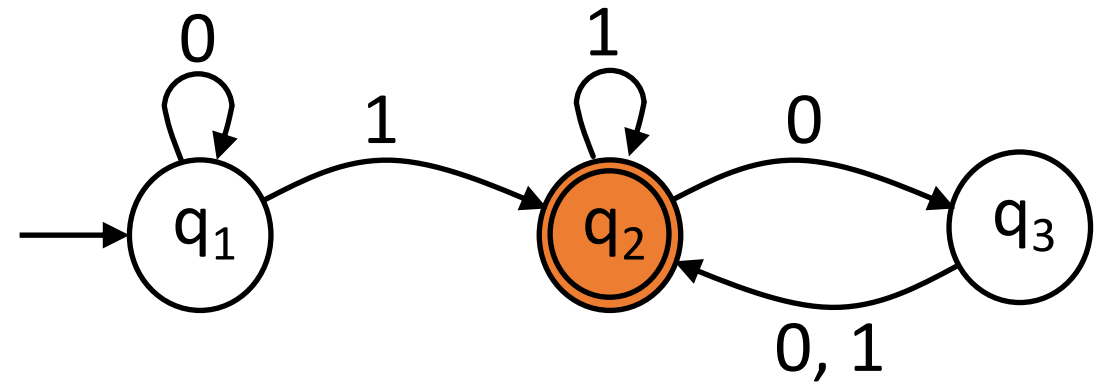
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01101$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept. Otherwise, reject.



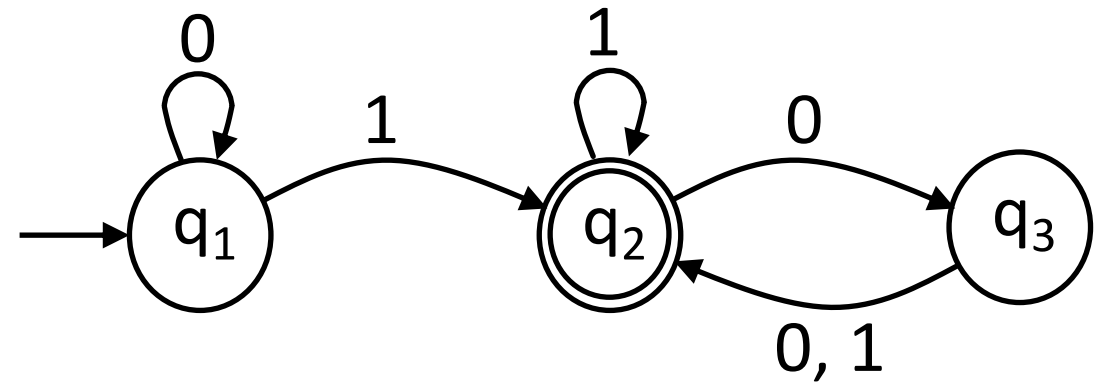
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01101$ , does this DFA **accept** or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept. Otherwise, reject.



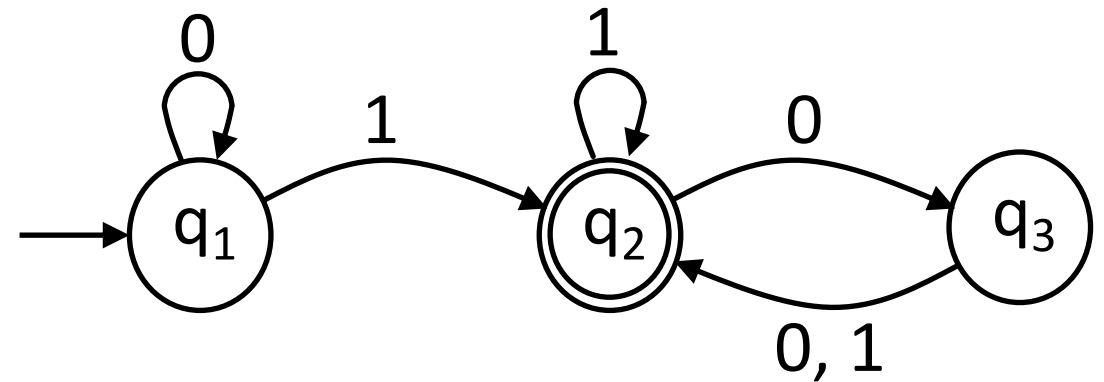
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 010$ , does this DFA accept or reject?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept. Otherwise, reject.



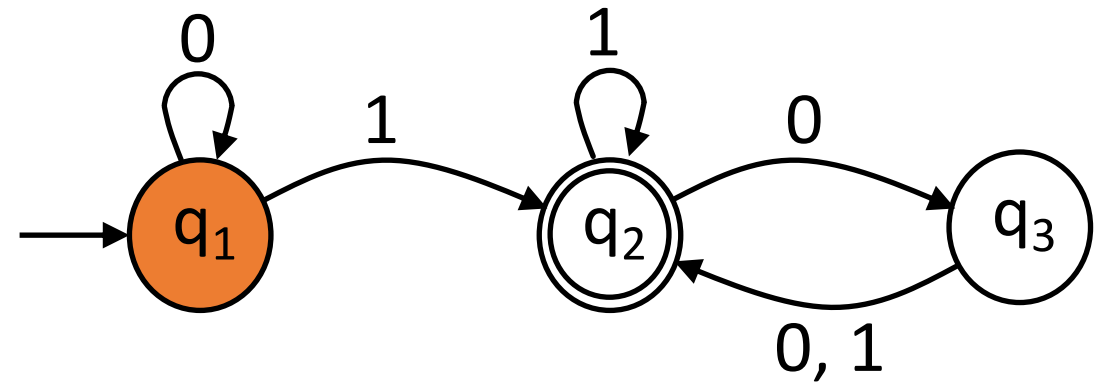
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 010$ , does this DFA accept or **reject**?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept.  
Otherwise, reject.



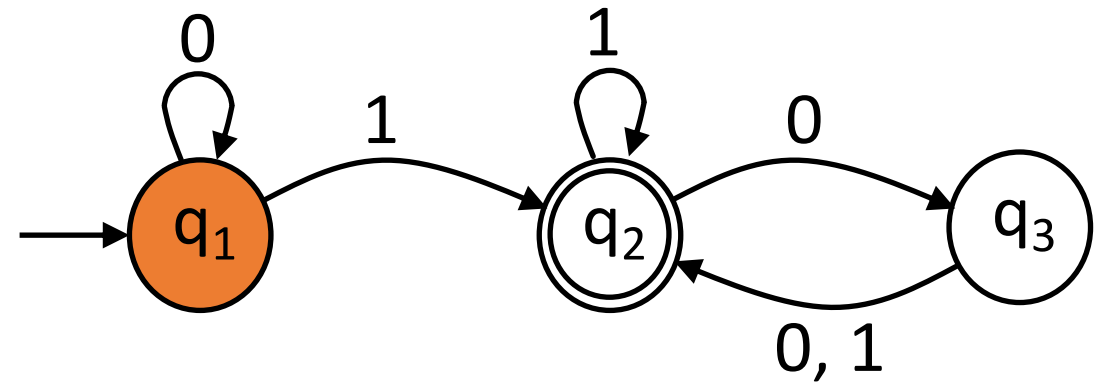
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 010$ , does this DFA accept or **reject**?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept. Otherwise, reject.



DFAs either accept or reject strings.

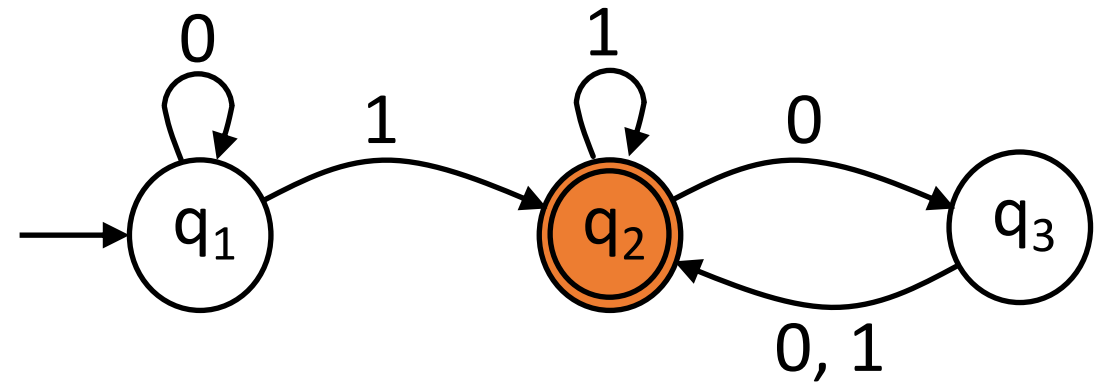
Given string  $\omega = 010$ , does this DFA accept or **reject**?



# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept.  
Otherwise, reject.



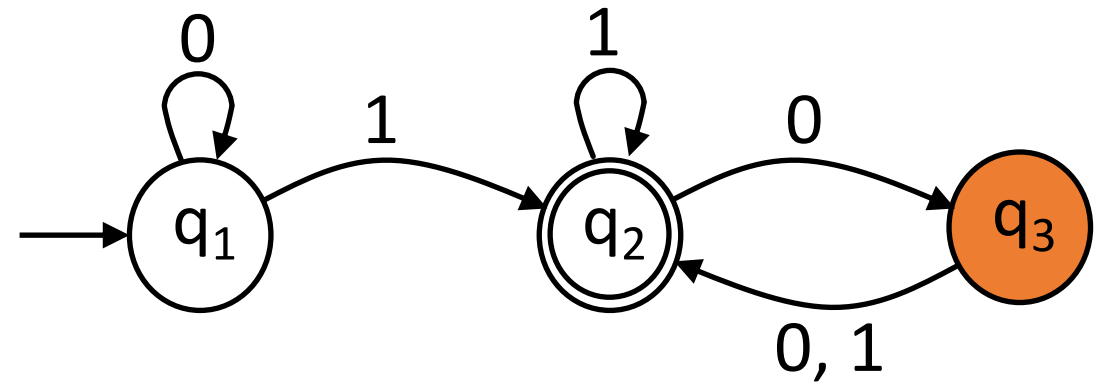
DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 0\mathbf{1}0$ , does this DFA accept or **reject**?

# Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

DFA string processing:

1. Start at start state.
2. Select first character in string.
3. Update state by following transition that corresponds to character.
4. Select next character in string.
5. Repeat step 3 and 4 until no characters remain.
6. If final state is accept state, accept. Otherwise, reject.

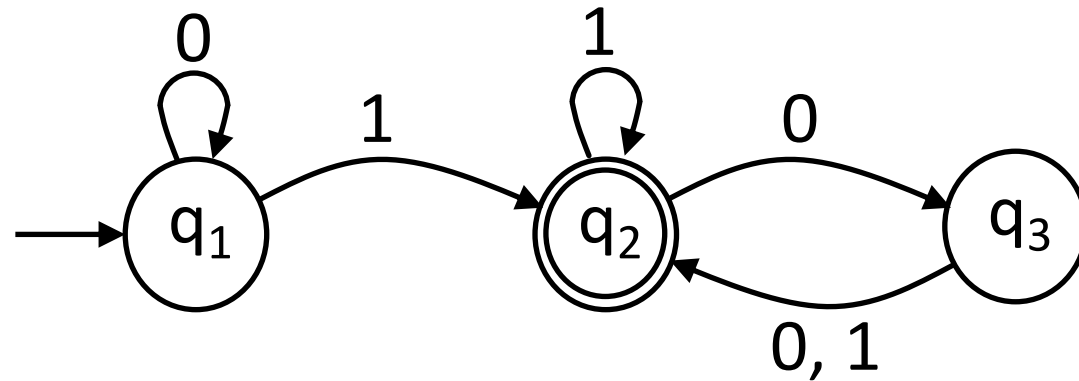


DFAs either accept or reject strings.

Given string  $\omega = 01\mathbf{0}$ , does this DFA accept or **reject**?

# DFA Formal Definition

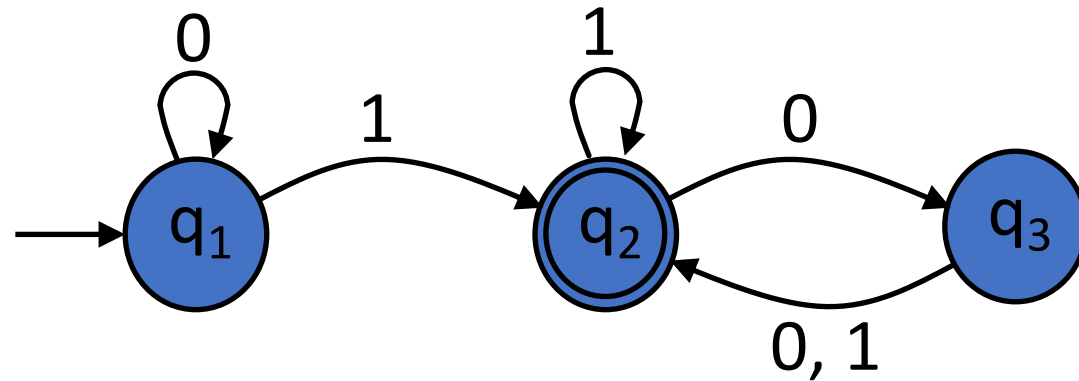
DFA's consist of:



# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .

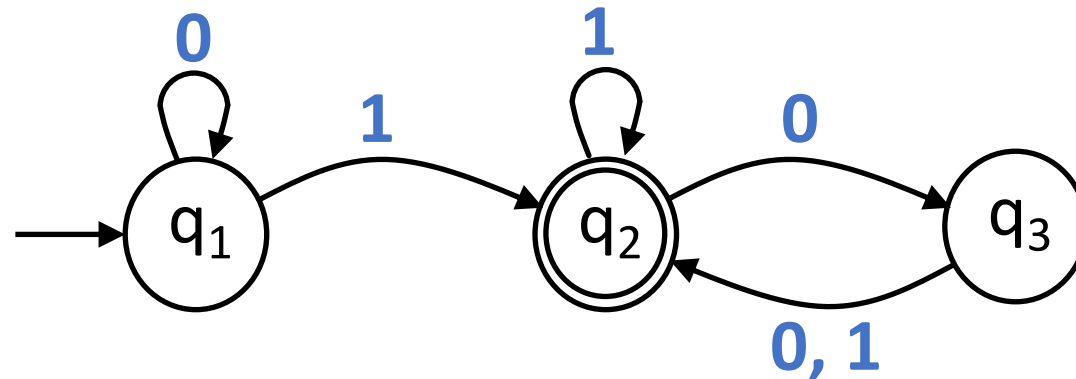


# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .

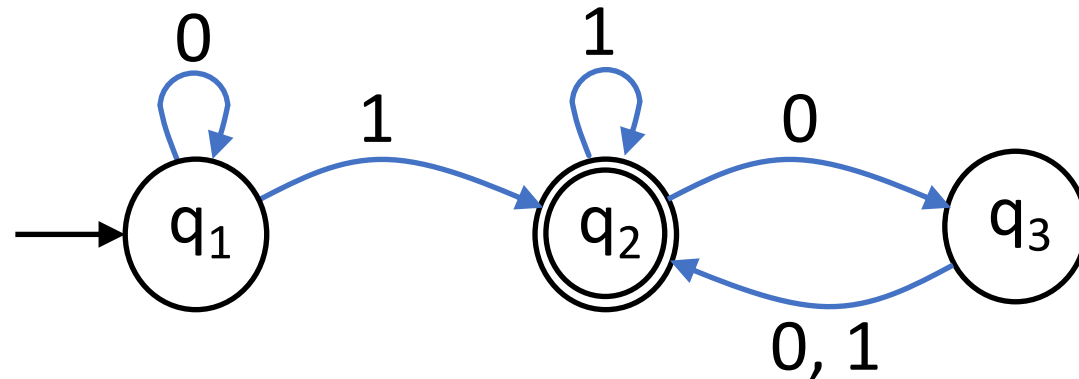
$\Sigma$  consists of the transition characters (i.e. characters in the strings the DFA processes).



# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .

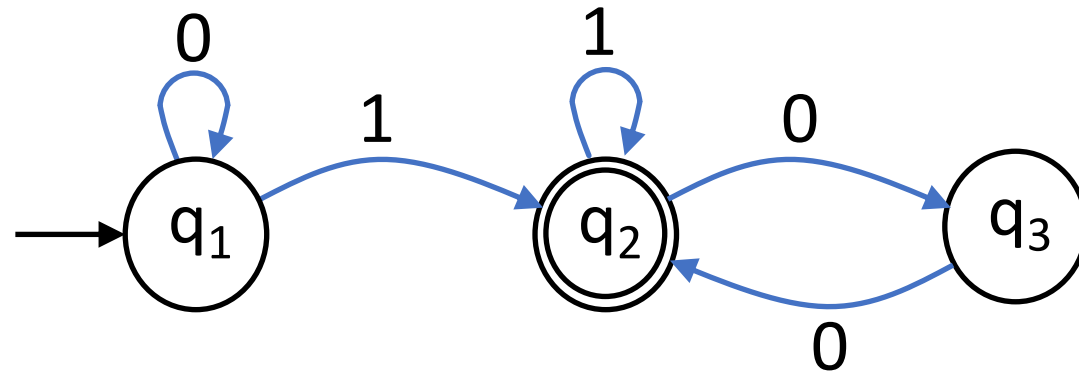


# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  means that **every** state needs to handle **every** element of the alphabet.

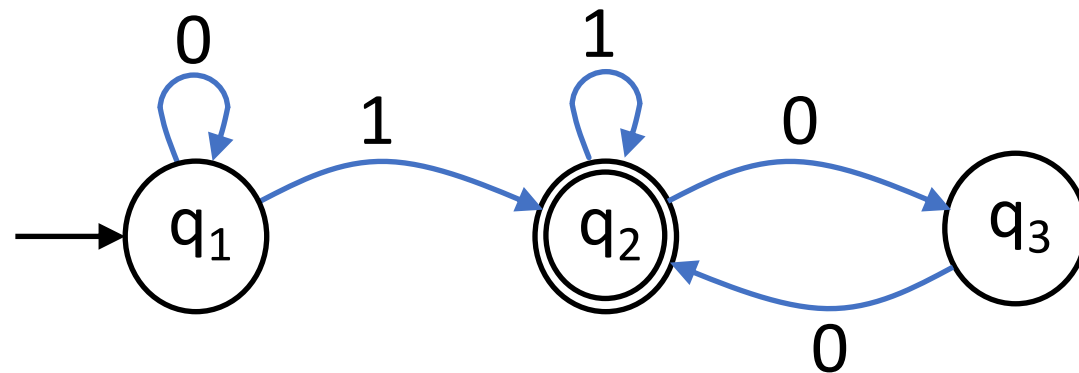


# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  means that **every** state needs to handle **every** element of the alphabet.



Not allowed!  $q_3$  needs to handle the value 1 somehow!



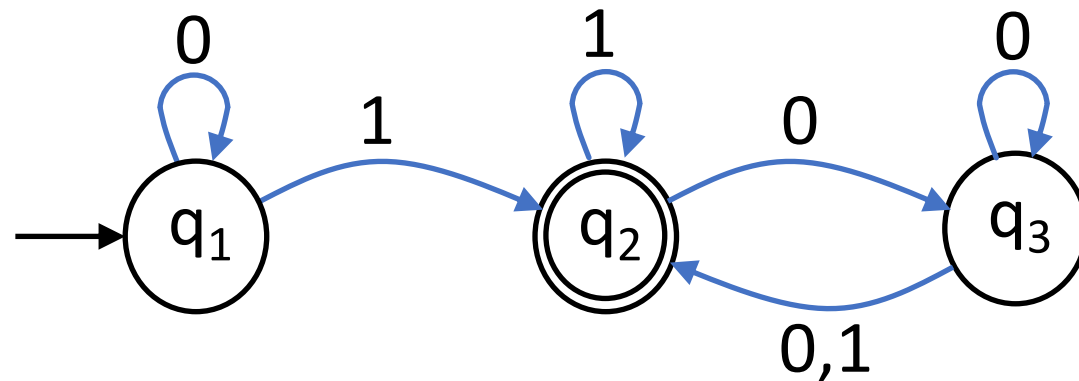
# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  means that **every** state needs to handle **every** element of the alphabet.

??

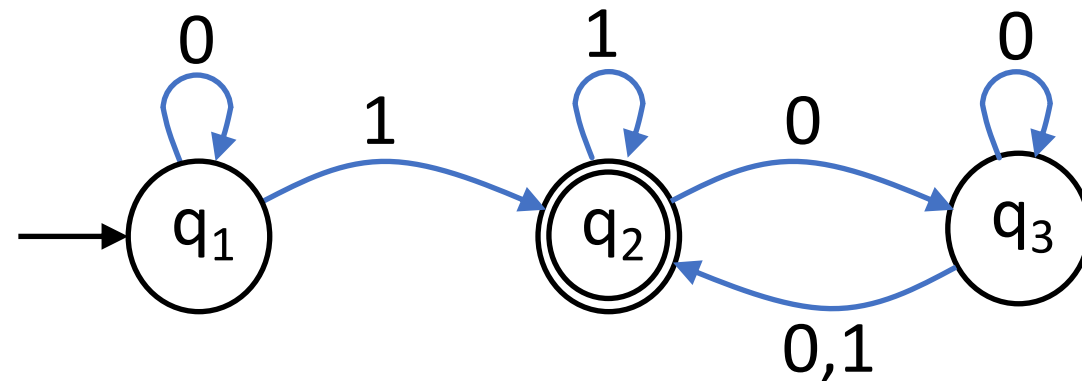


# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  means that **every** state needs to handle **every** element of the alphabet.



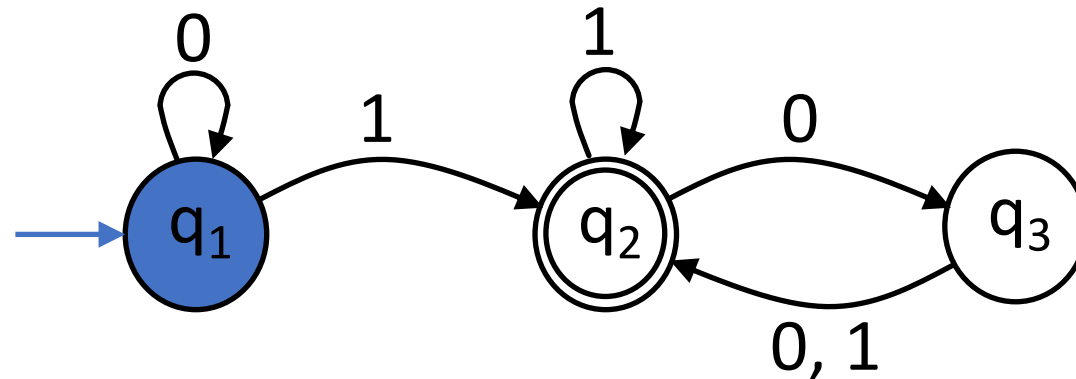
Not allowed!  $q_3$  needs to transition to a single state on 0!

# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .
4. Start state,  $q_0 \in Q$ .

Exactly one start state needed.

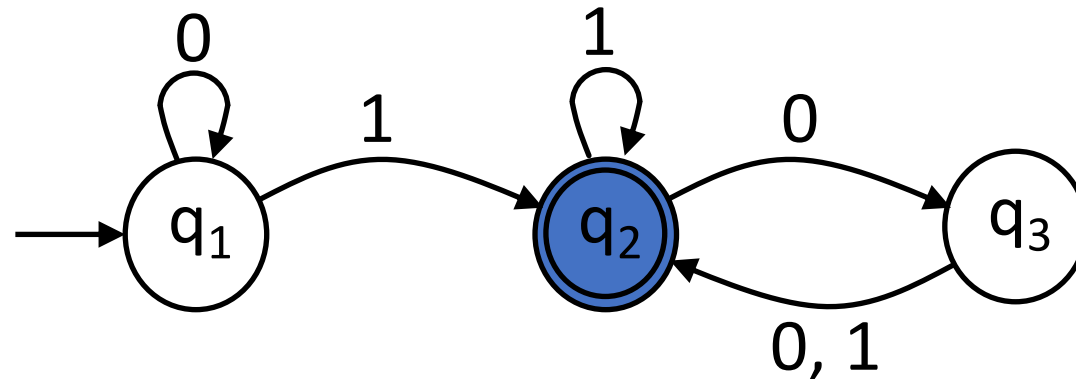


# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .
4. Start state,  $q_0 \in Q$ .
5. Set of accept states,  $F \subseteq Q$ .

$F$  is allowed to equal  $Q$   
or be empty.



# DFA Formal Definition

DFA's consist of:

1. Finite set of states,  $Q$ .
2. Finite alphabet,  $\Sigma$ .
3. Transition function,  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ .
4. Start state,  $q_0 \in Q$ .
5. Set of accept states,  $F \subseteq Q$ .



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

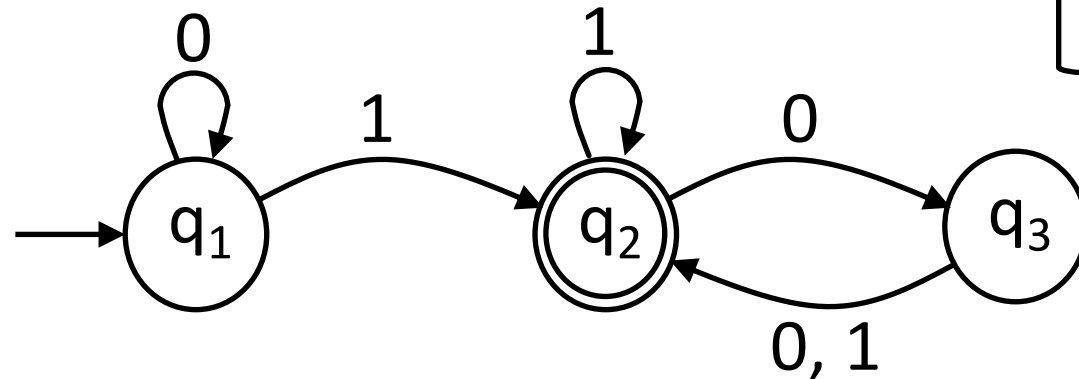
$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$\delta$ :

	0	1
$q_1$	$q_1$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_2$
$q_3$	$q_2$	$q_2$

Start state =  $q_1$

$F = \{q_2\}$



# DFA Language

## Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

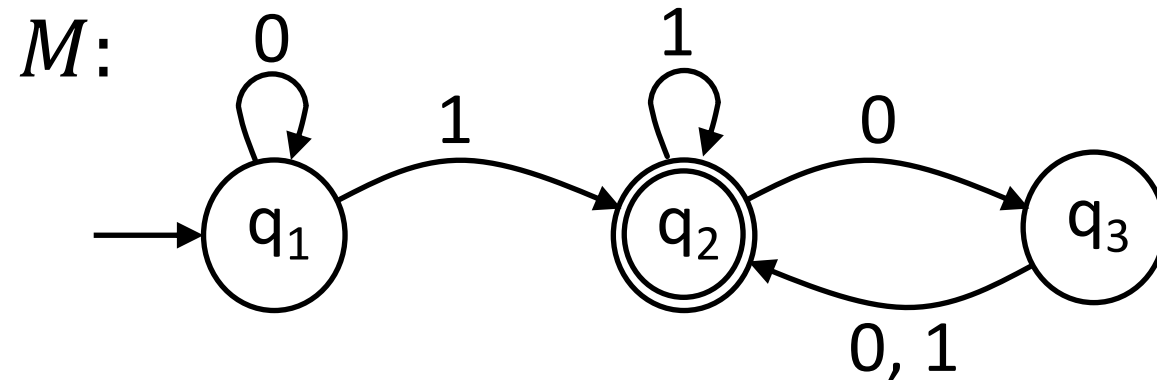
$M$  recognizes  $A$ .

# DFA Language

Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .



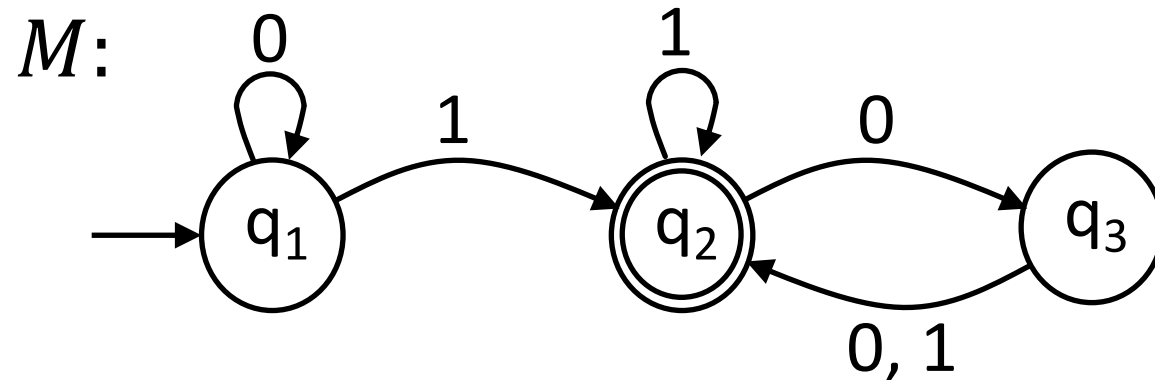
$L(M) =$  ?

# DFA Language

Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .



$L(M) = \{\omega: \omega \text{ contains at least one } 1 \text{ and an even number of } 0\text{s following the final } 1\}$



# DFA Language

## Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .

A language is called a regular language if some DFA recognizes it.

# DFA Language

## Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .

A language is called a regular language if some DFA recognizes it.

How do you prove a language is regular?

# DFA Language

## Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .

A language is called a regular language if some DFA recognizes it.

How do you prove a language is regular?

Make a DFA that recognizes it.

# DFA Language

## Definitions:

The set of all strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

$M$  recognizes  $A$ .

A language is called a regular language if some DFA recognizes it.

How do you prove a language is regular?

Make a DFA that recognizes it.

Set of regular languages are “things we can do” with DFAs.

# DFA Practice

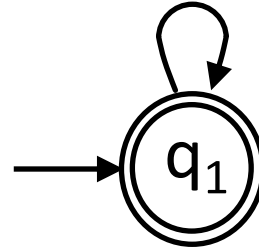
**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .

# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

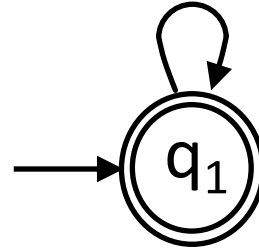
1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .

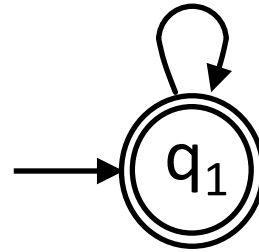


2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.

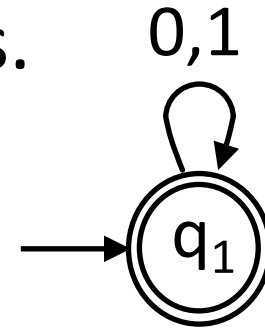
# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.

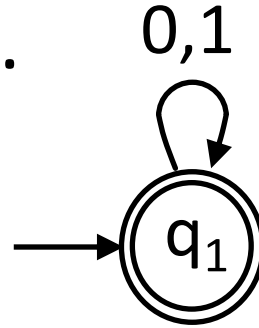




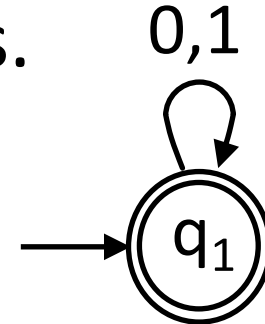
# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.

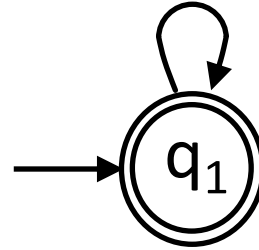


The set of **all** strings  $A$  that a DFA  $M$  accepts is called its language,  $L(M) = A$ .

# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .

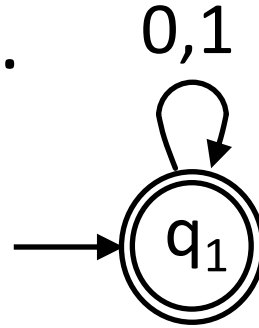


2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.

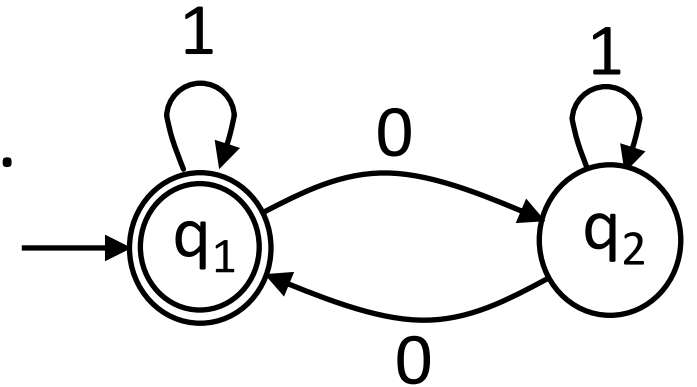
# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



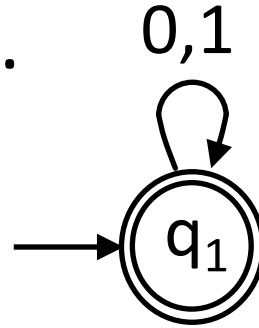
2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.



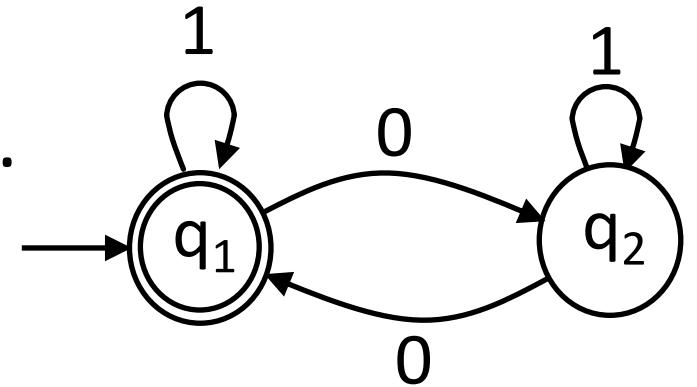
# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.

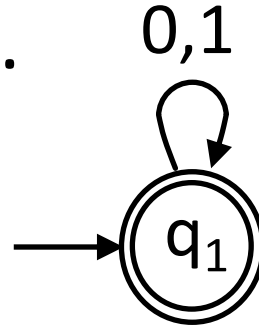


3. Set of all strings that contain the substring: 10.

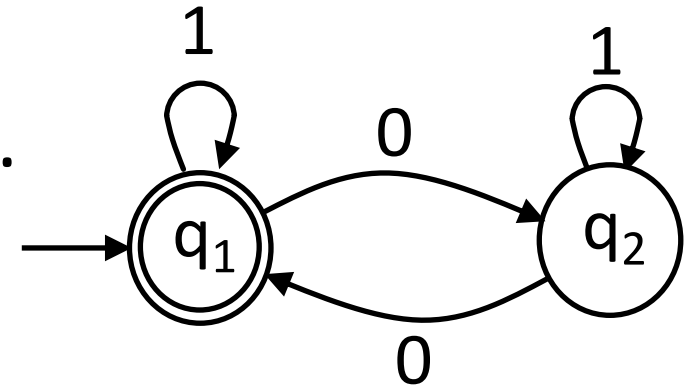
# DFA Practice

**Prove** that the following languages are regular:

1. Set of all strings over  $\{0,1\}$ .



2. Set of all strings with an even number of 0s.



3. Set of all strings that contain the substring: 10.

