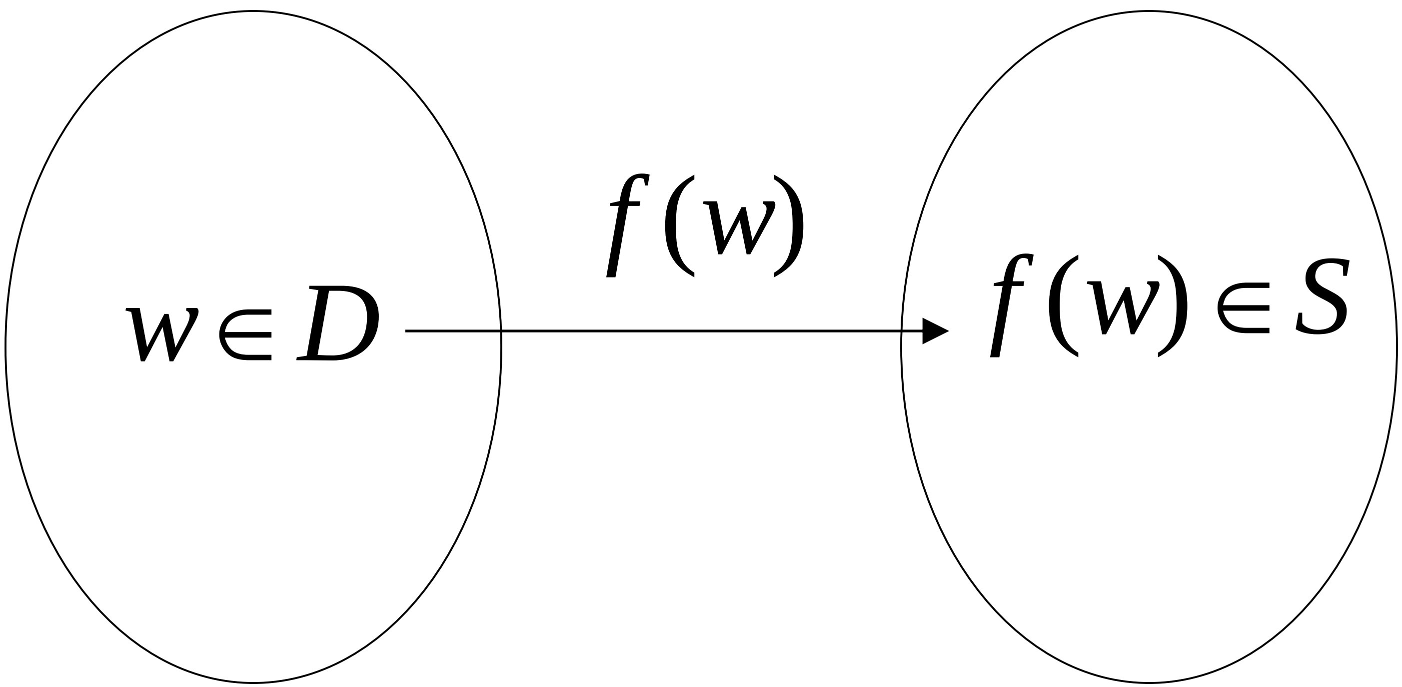
Computing Functions with Turing Machines

A function $f(w)$ has:

Domain: D Result Region: S



A function may have many parameters:

Example: Addition function

$$f(x, y) = x + y$$

Integer Domain

Decimal: 5

Binary: 101

Unary: 11111

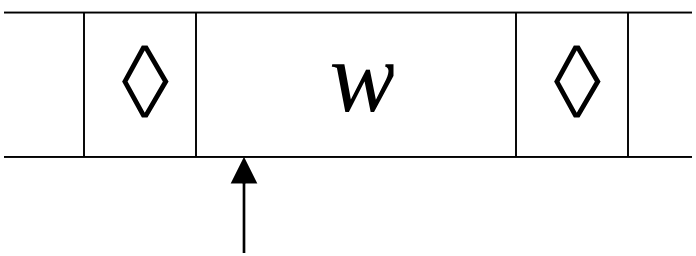
We prefer **unary** representation:

easier to manipulate with Turing machines

Definition:

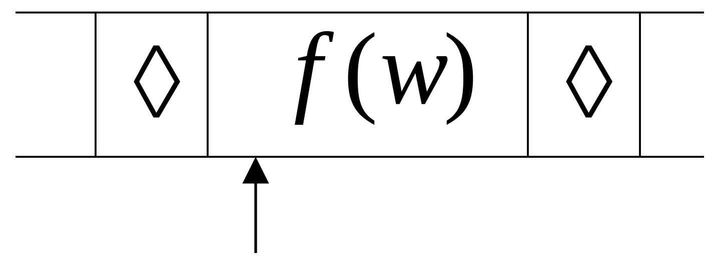
A function f is computable if there is a Turing Machine M such that:

Initial configuration



q_0 initial state

Final configuration



q_f final state

For all $w \in D$ Domain

In other words:

A function f is computable if there is a Turing Machine M such that:

$$q_0 \, w \overset{*}{\succ} q_f \, f(w)$$

Initial Configuration

Final Configuration

For all $w \in D$ Domain

Example

The function $f(x, y) = x + y$ is computable

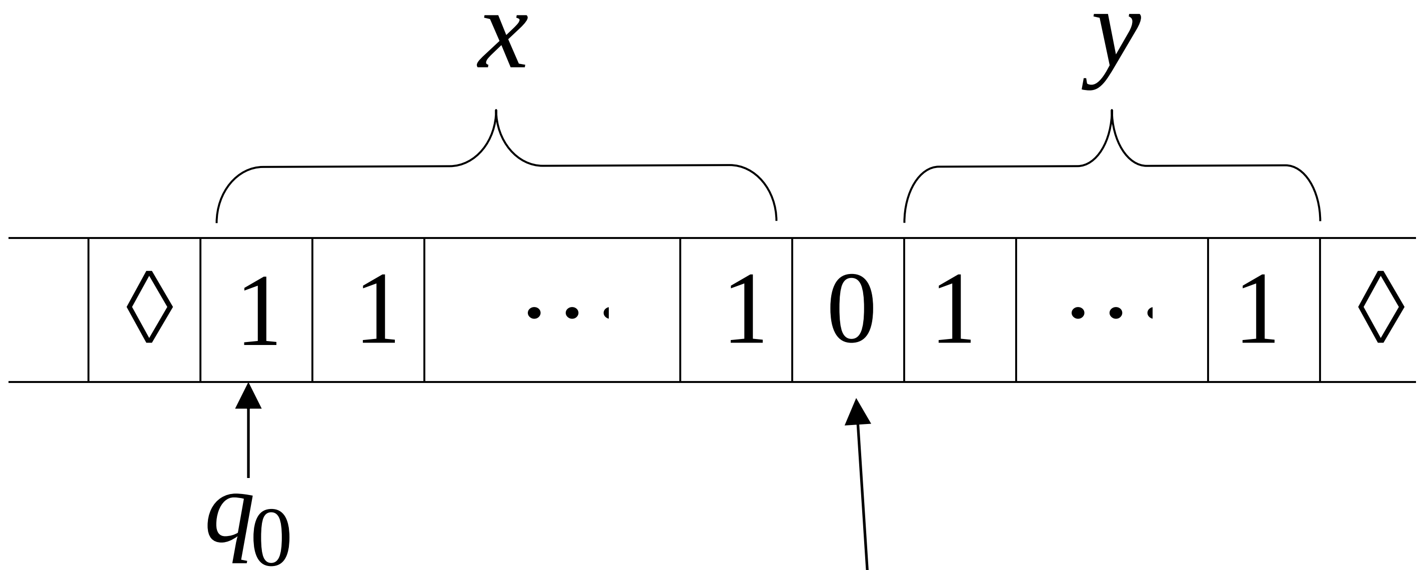
x, y are integers

Turing Machine:

Input string: $x0y$ unary

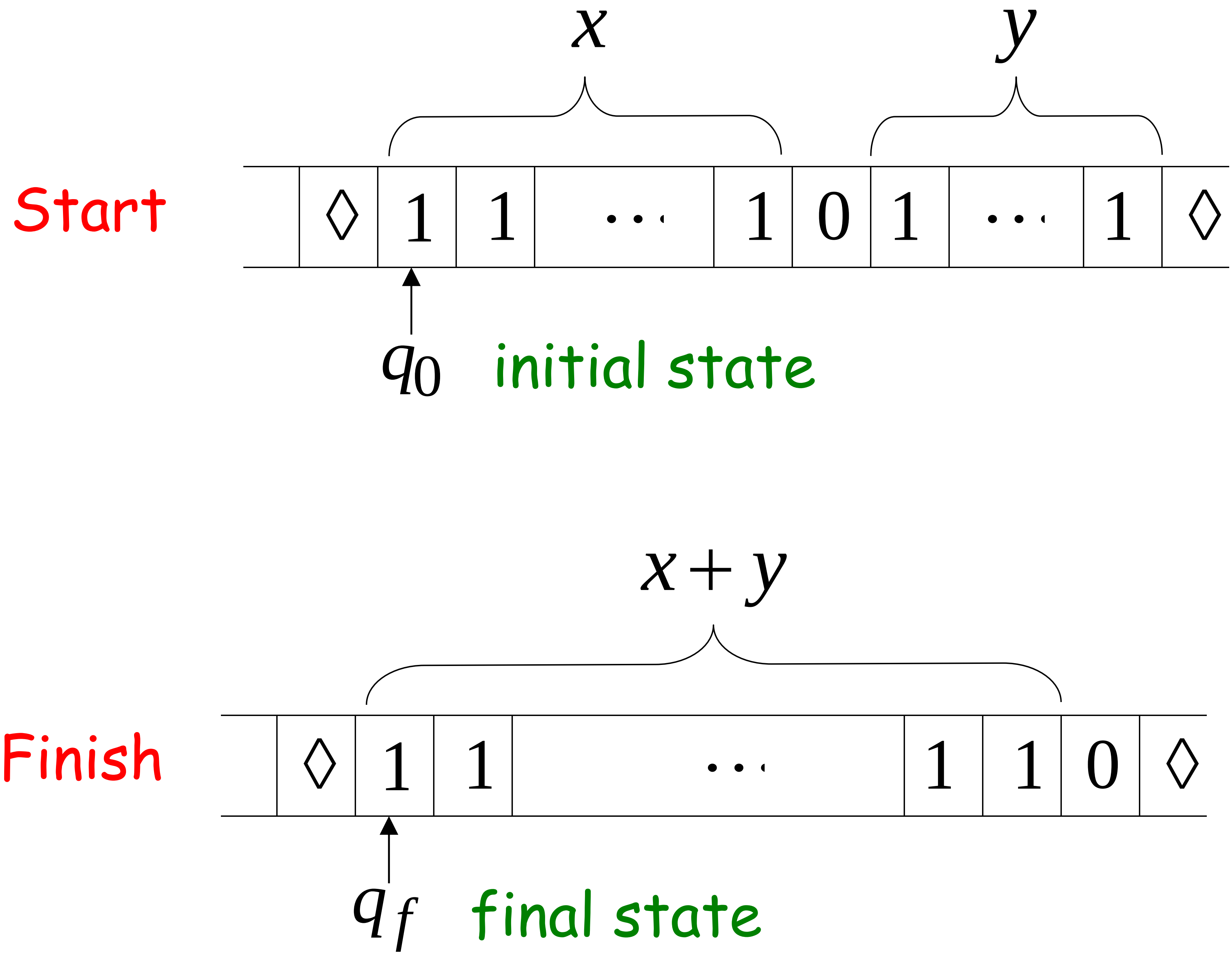
Output string: $xy0$ unary

Start



initial state

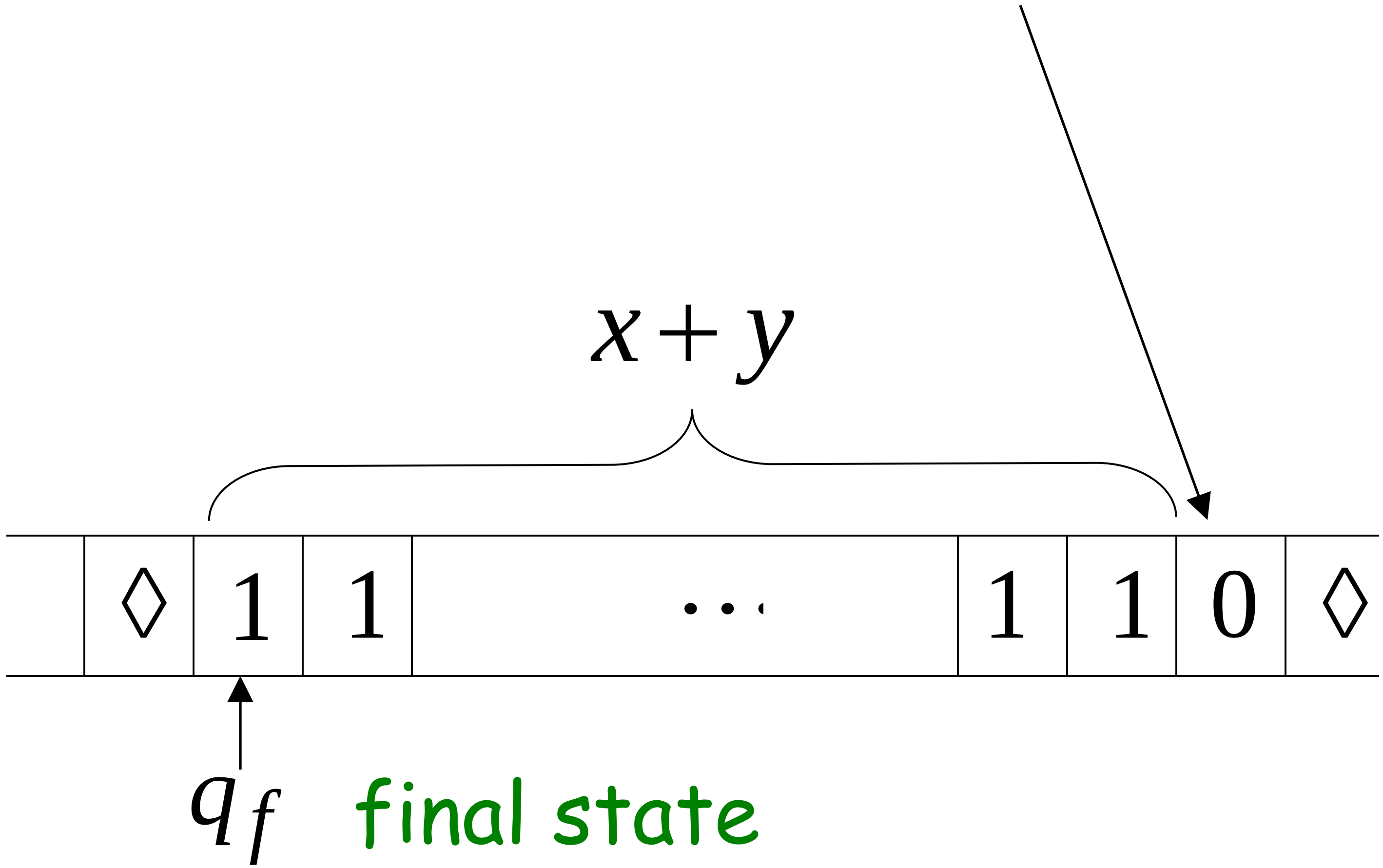
The 0 is the delimiter that separates the two numbers



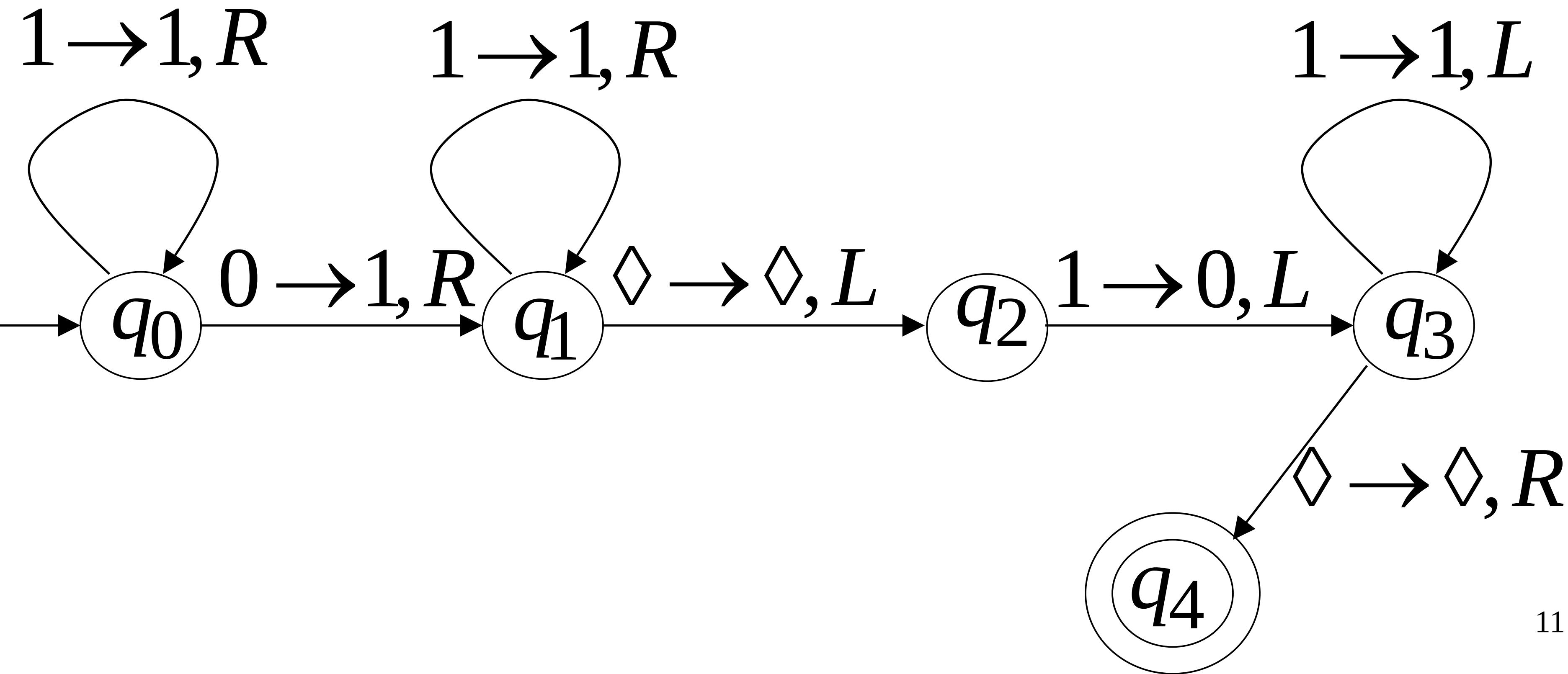
Start
x
y
◊ 1 1 ··· 1 0 1 ··· 1 ◊
q_0
initial state
Finish
$x+y$
◊ 1 1 ··· 1 1 0 ◊
q_f
final state

The 0 helps when we use the result for other operations

Finish



Turing machine for function $f(x,y)=x+y$



Execution Example:

$x = 11$ (2)

$y = 11$ (2)

Time 0

x y

	◊	1	1	0	1	1	◊

$\uparrow$ q_0

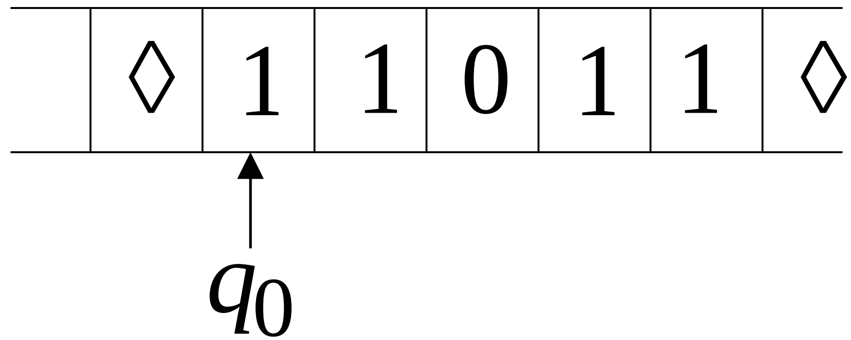
Final Result

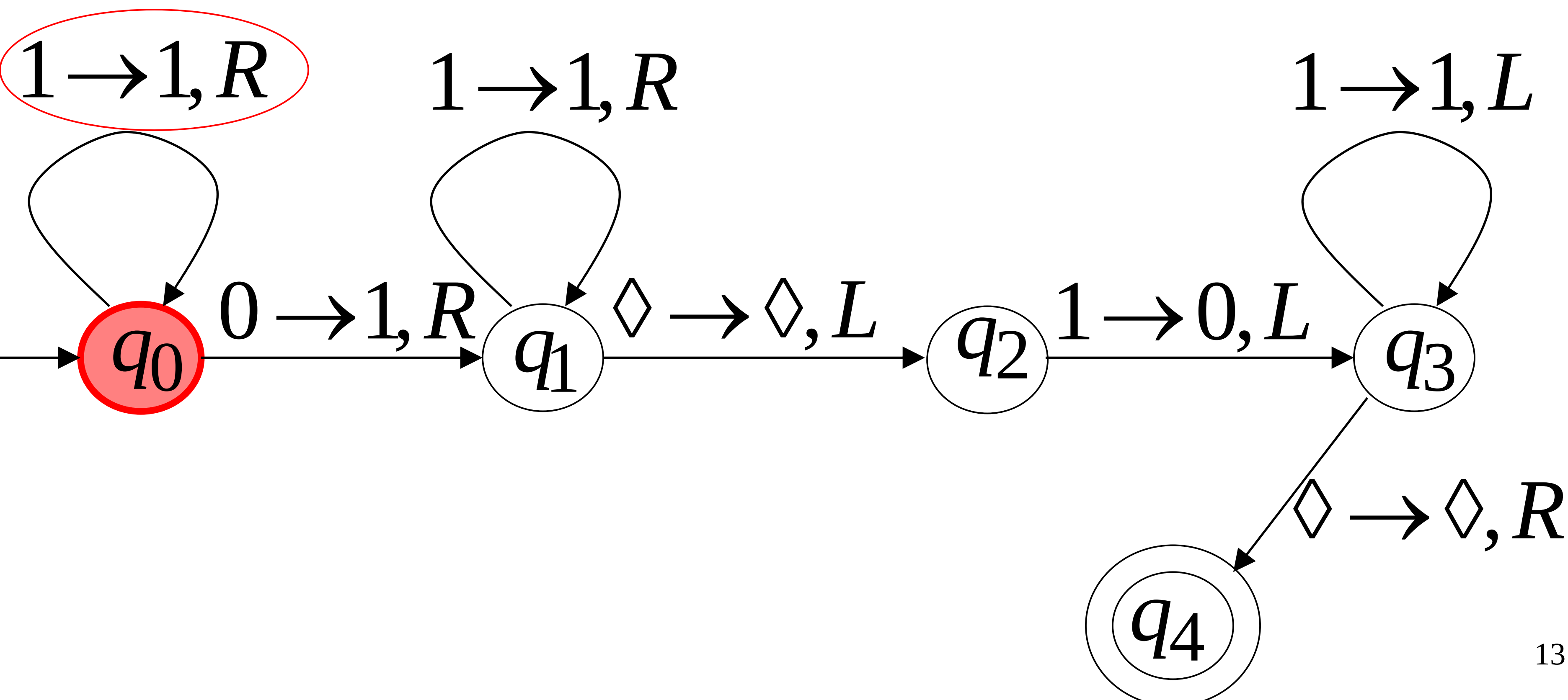
$x + y$

	◊	1	1	1	1	0	◊

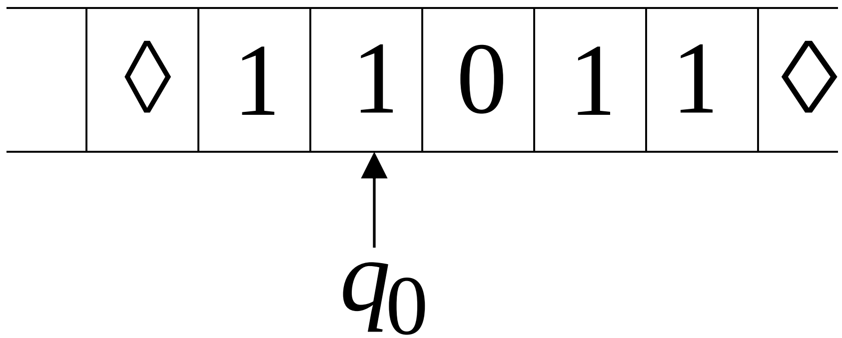
$\uparrow$ q_4

Time 0

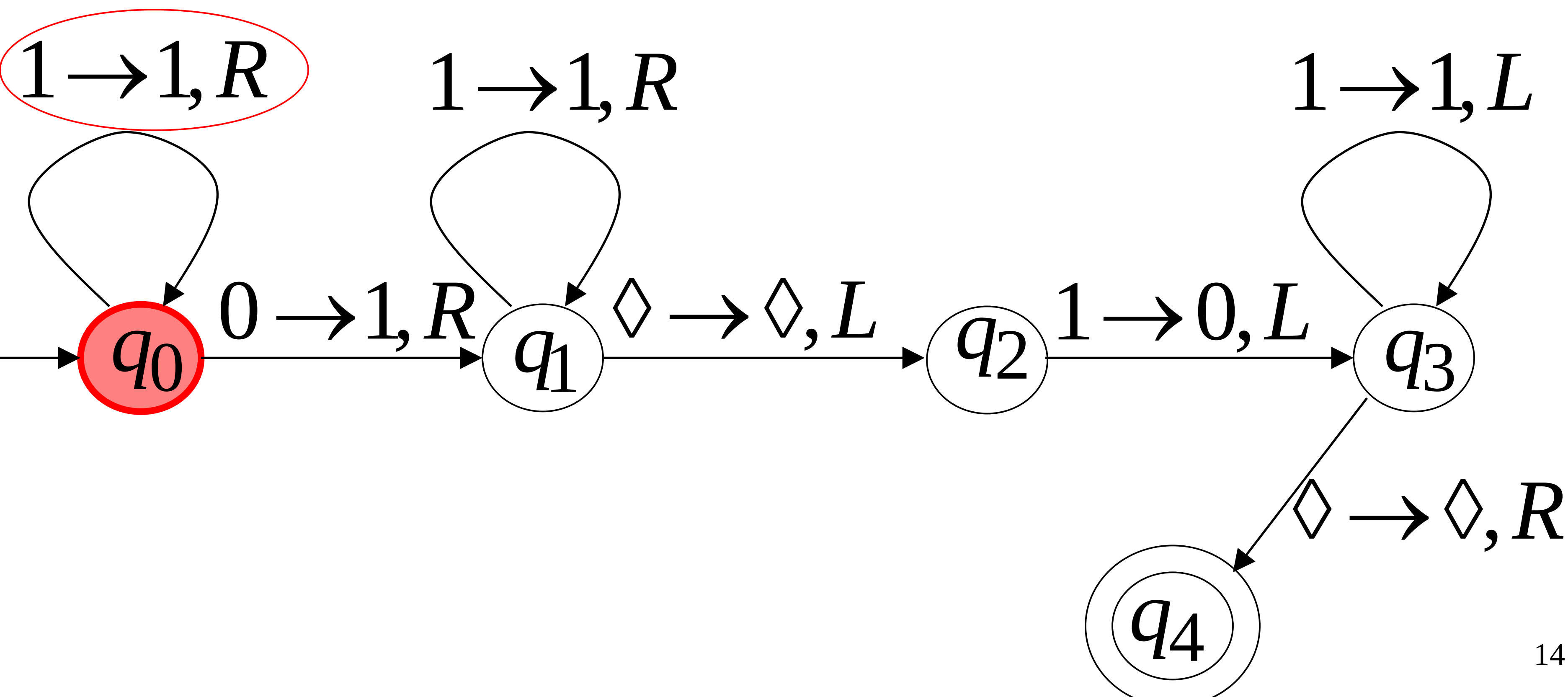

◊ 1 1 0 1 1 ◊
q_0


$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, L$
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, R$
q_0
q_1
q_2
q_3
q_4

Time 1

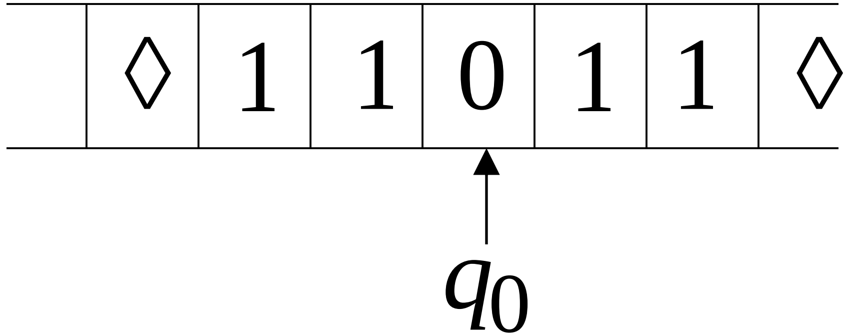


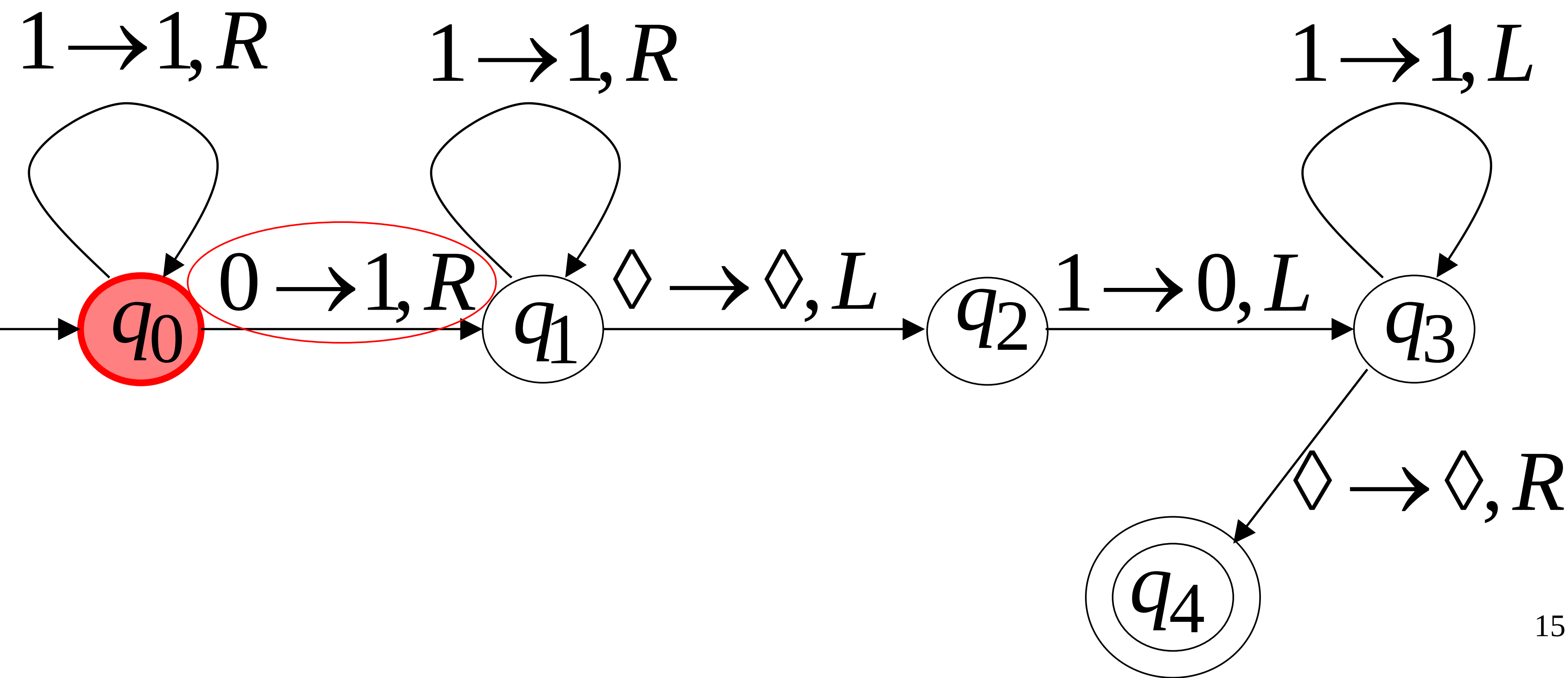
◊
1
1
0
1
1
◊
q_0



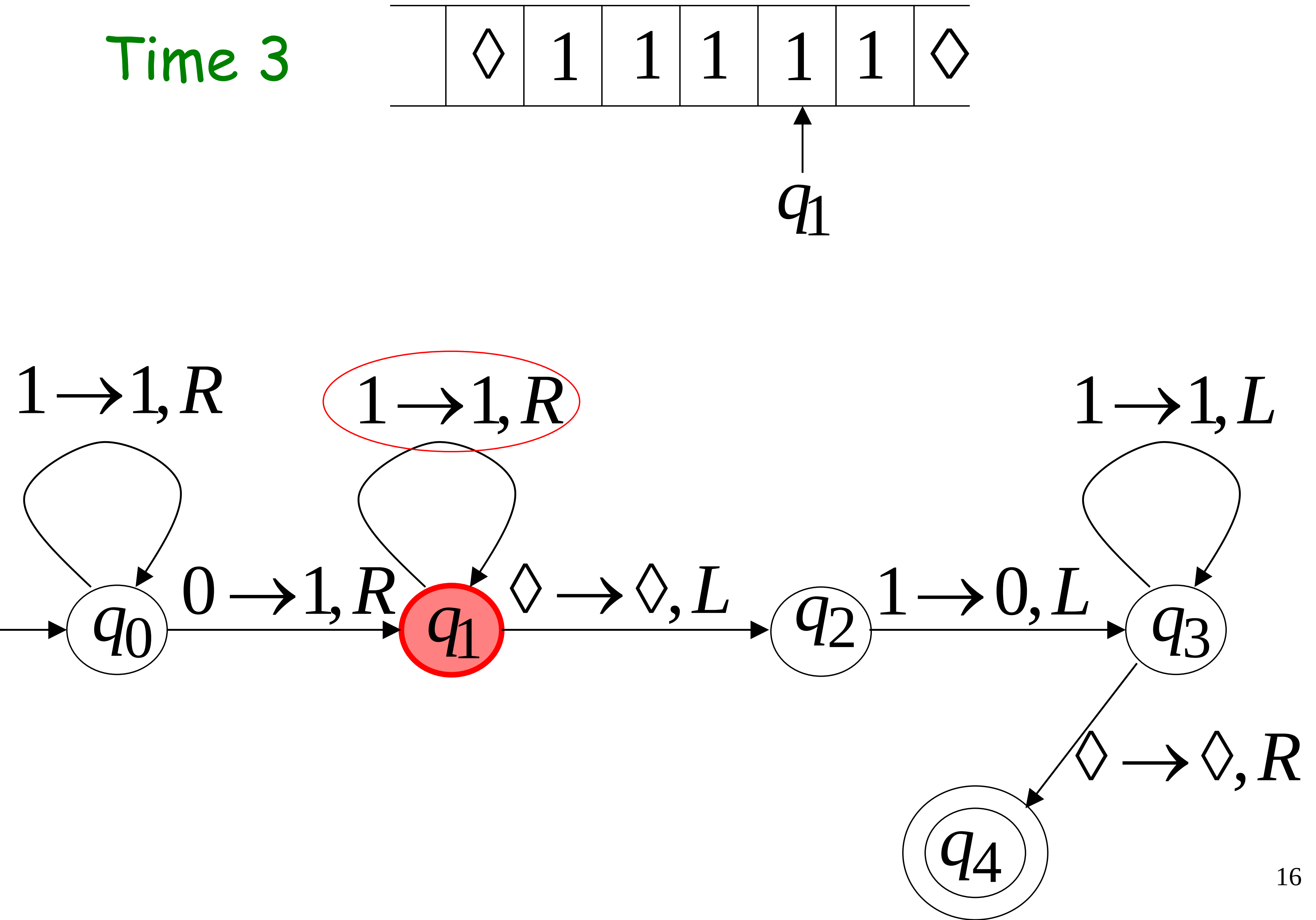
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, R$
q_4

Time 2


◊
1
1
0
1
1
◊
q_0

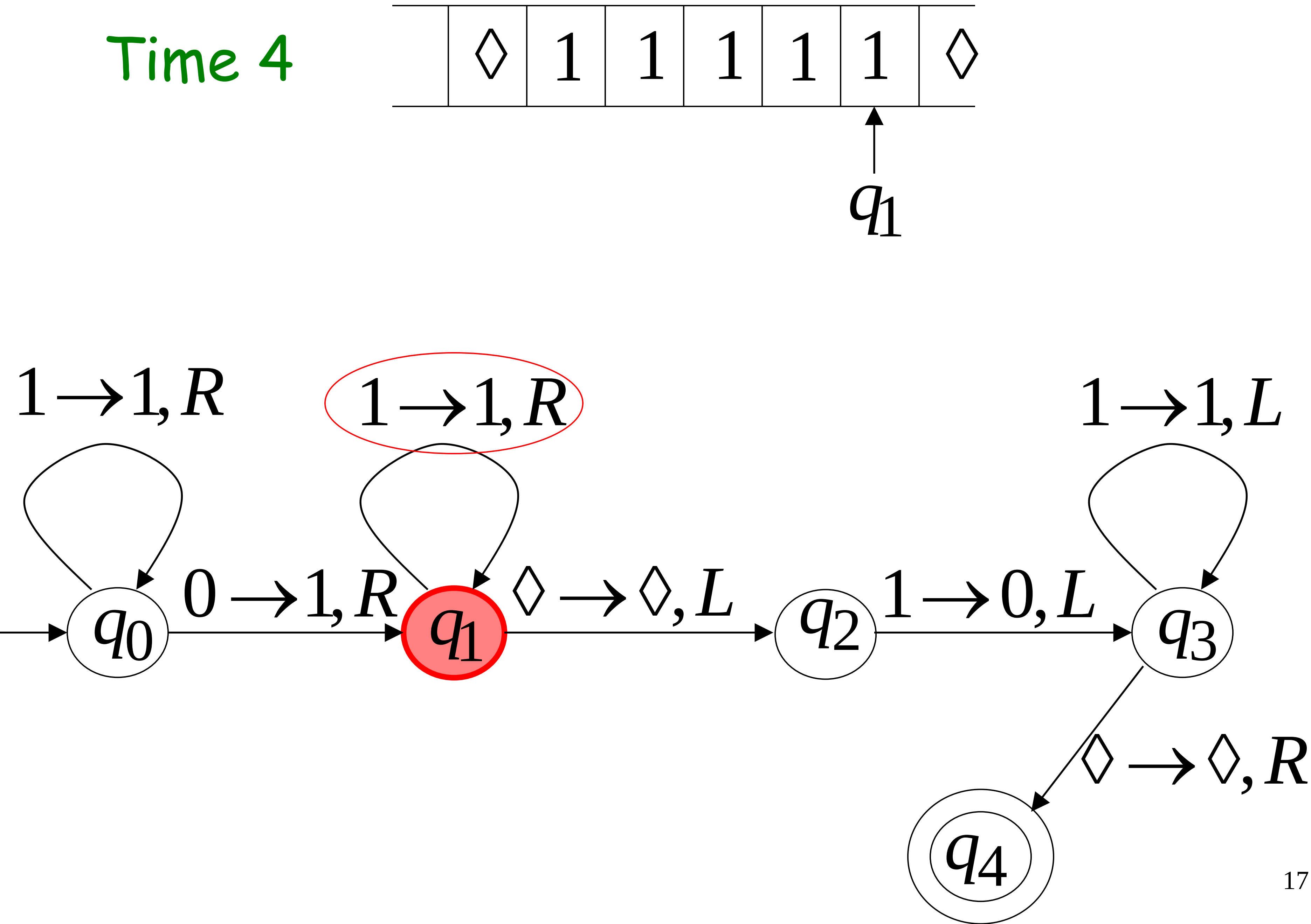

$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, R$
q_4

Time 3



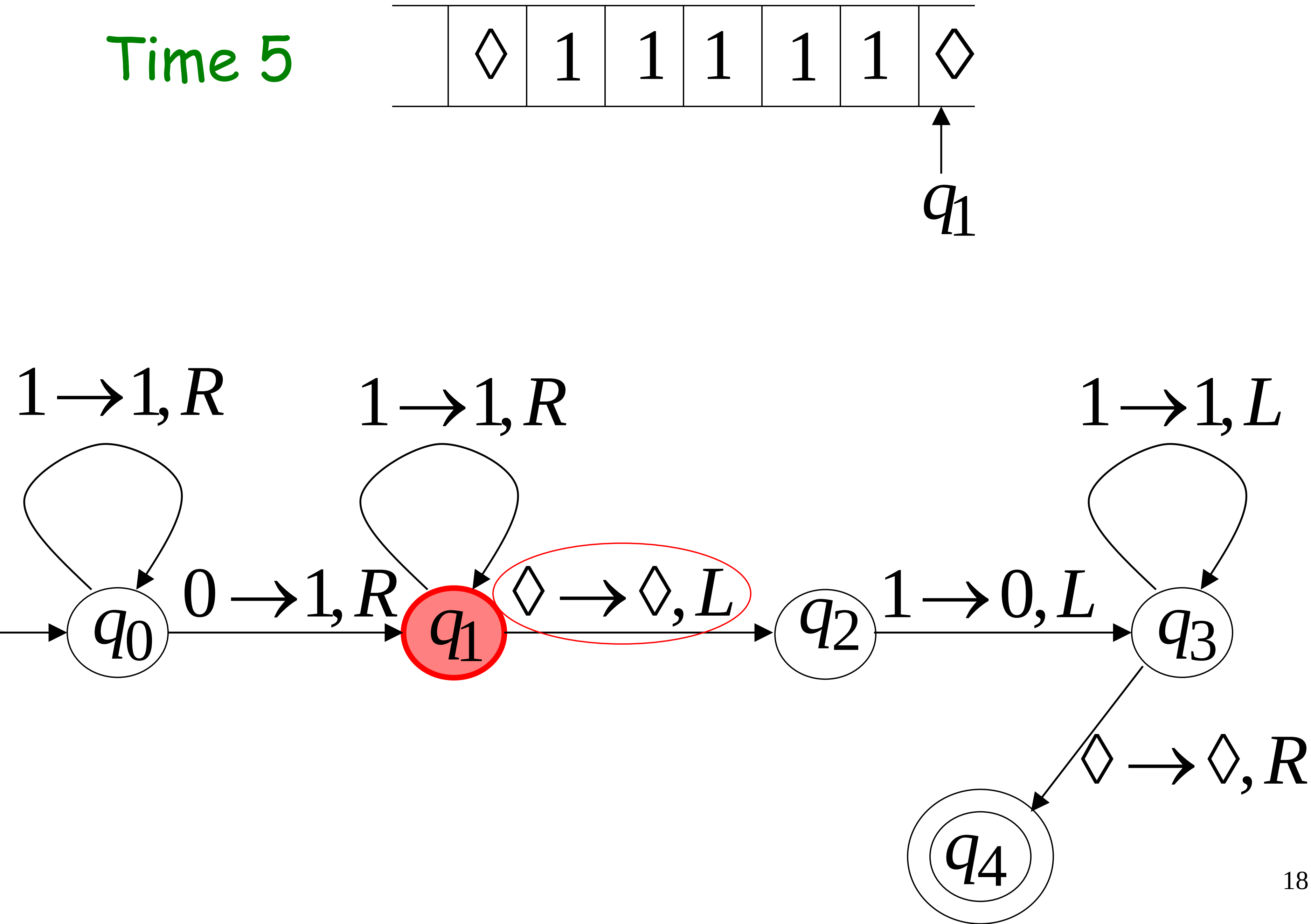
◊
1
1
1
1
1
◊
q_1
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, R$
q_4

Time 4

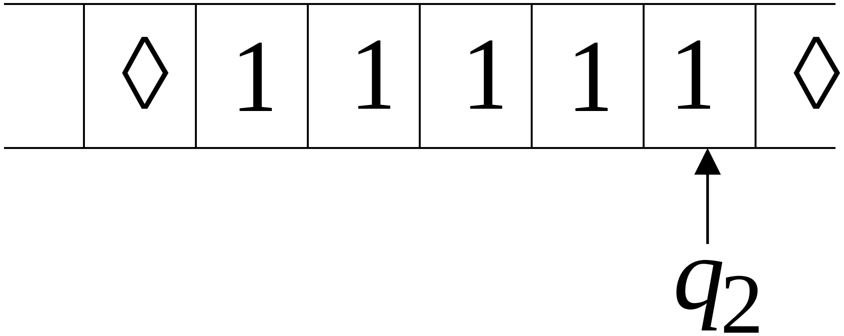


◊ 1 1 1 1 1 ◊
q_1
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$◊ \rightarrow ◊, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$◊ \rightarrow ◊, R$
q_4

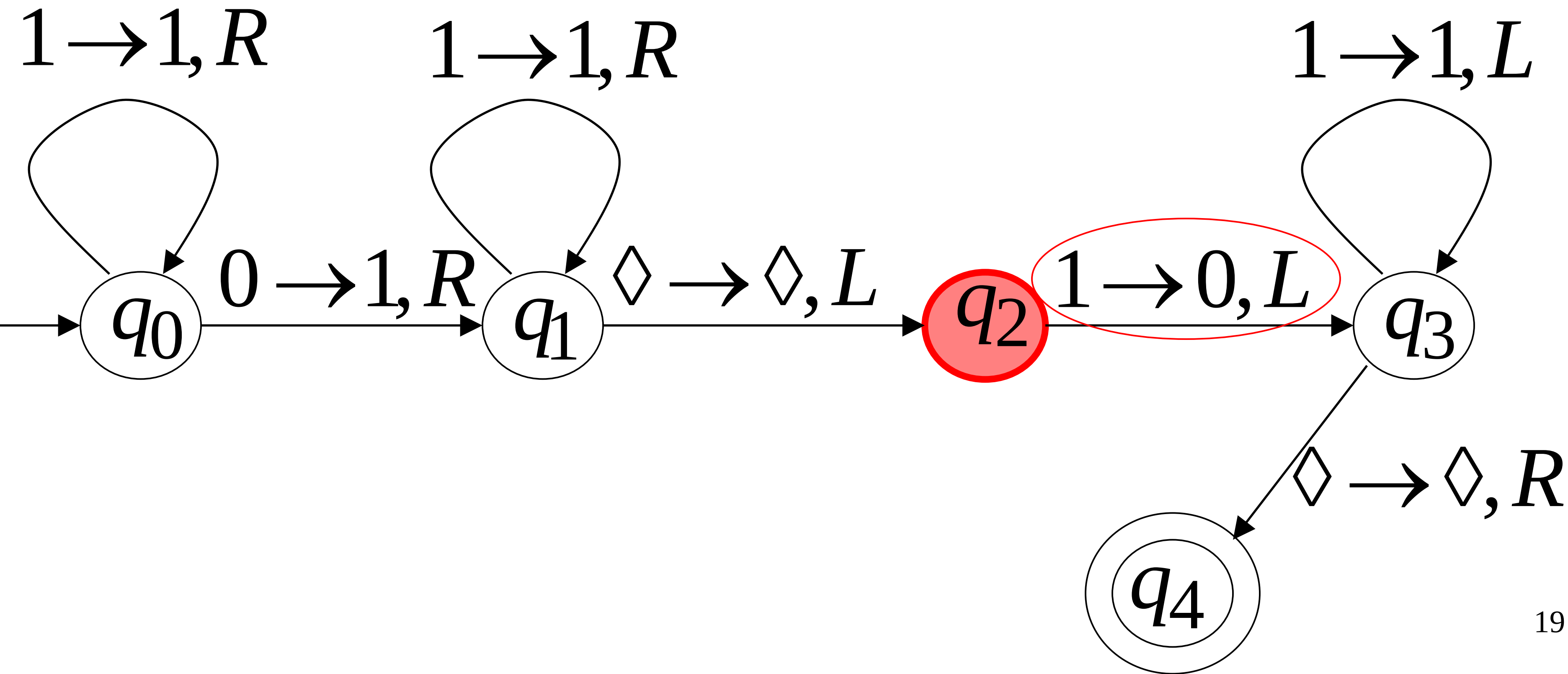
Time 5


◊
1
1
1
1
1
◊
q_1
$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, L$
$0 \to 1, R$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, L$
$1 \to 0, L$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, R$
q_0
q_1
q_2
q_3
q_4

Time 6

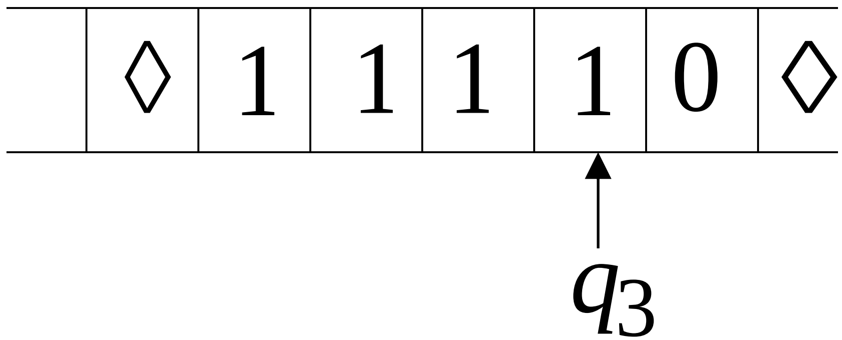


◊
1
1
1
1
1
◊
q_2

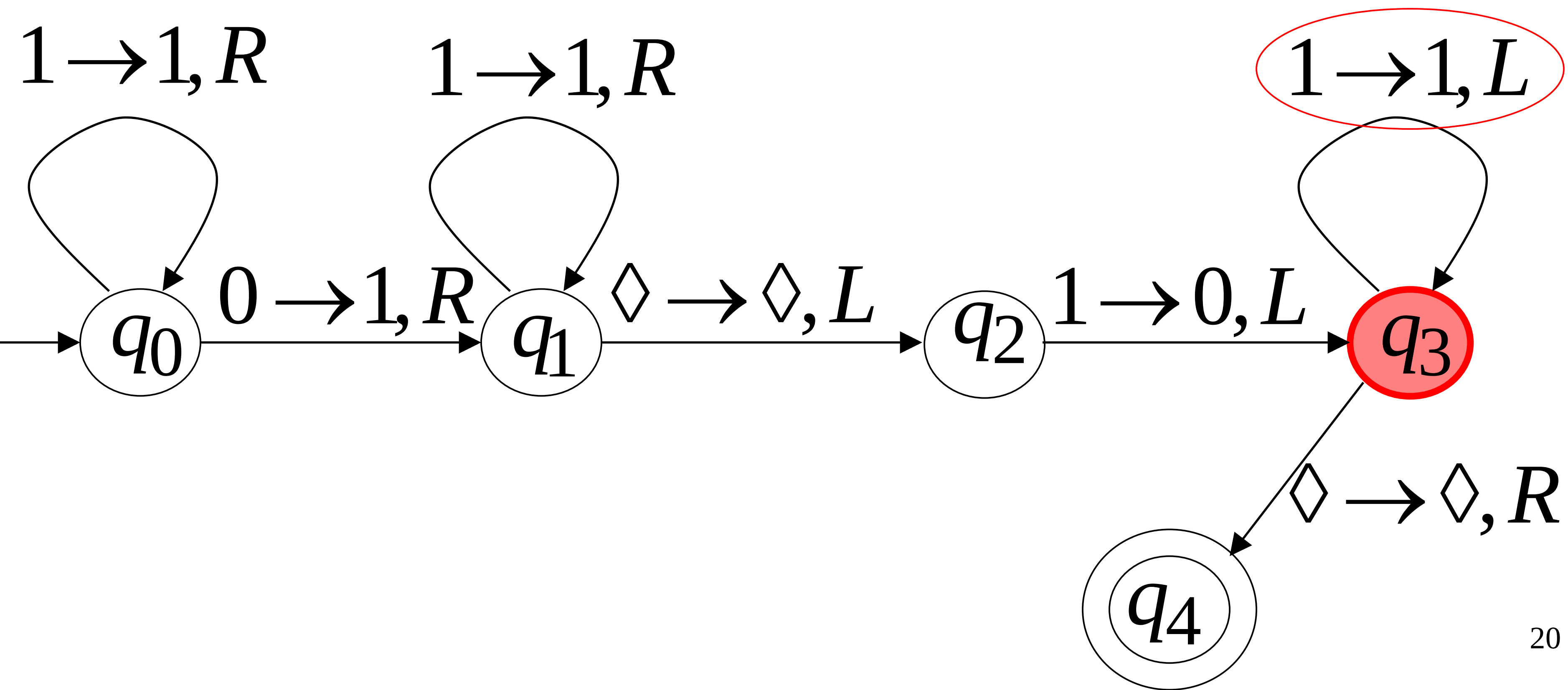


$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, R$
q_4

Time 7

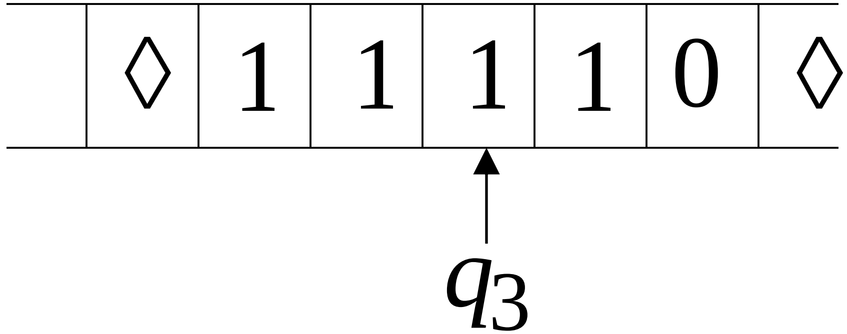


◊
1
1
1
1
0
◊
q_3

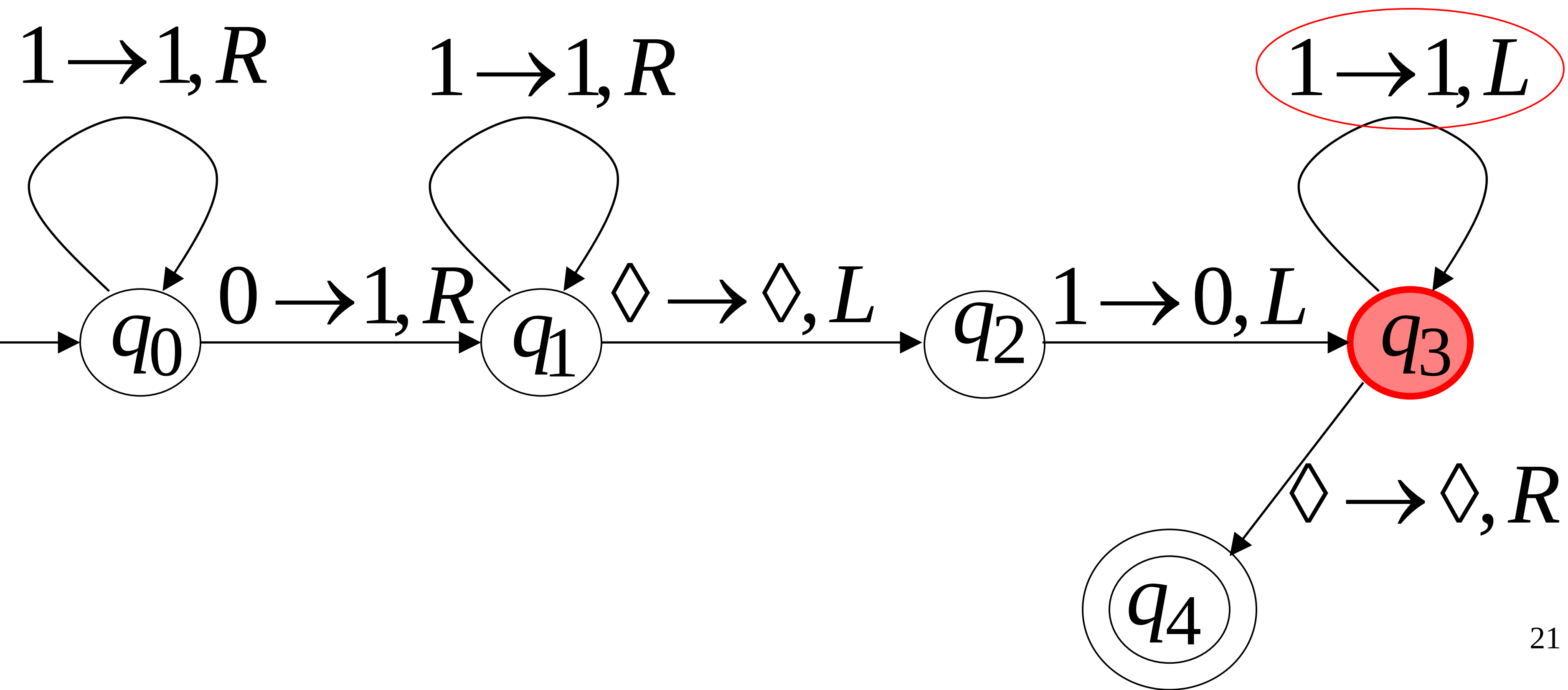


$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, R$
q_4

Time 8

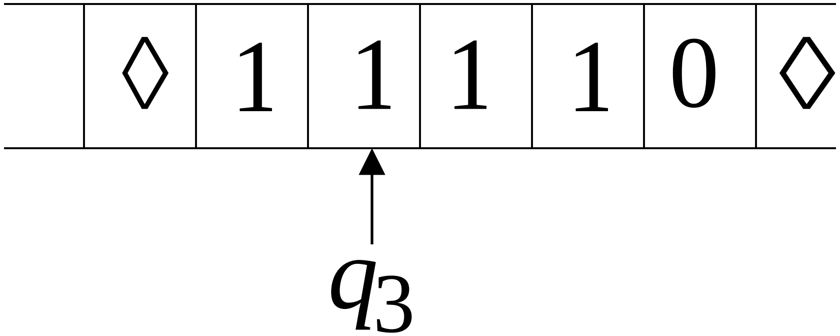


◊ 1 1 1 1 0 ◊
q_3

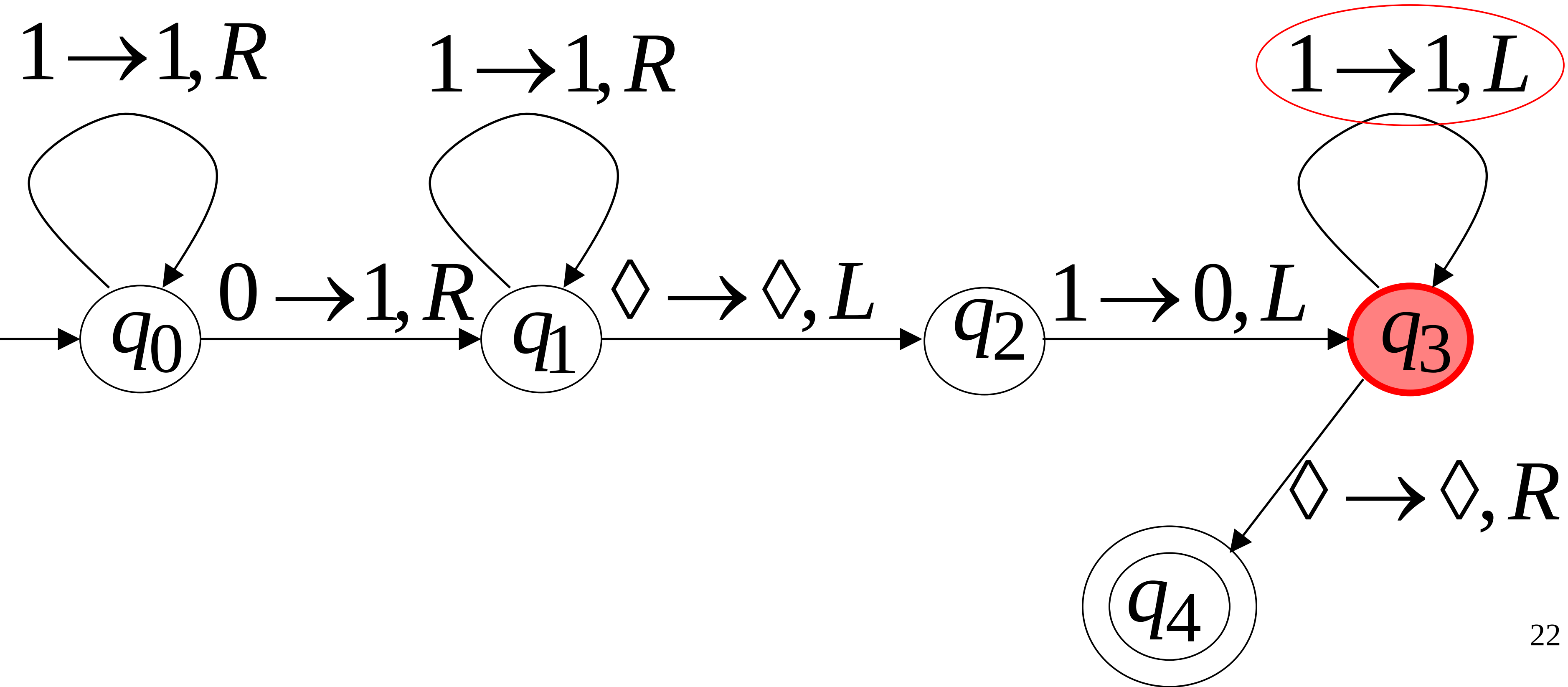


$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, L$
q_0
$0 \to 1, R$
q_1
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, L$
q_2
$1 \to 0, L$
q_3
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, R$
q_4

Time 9

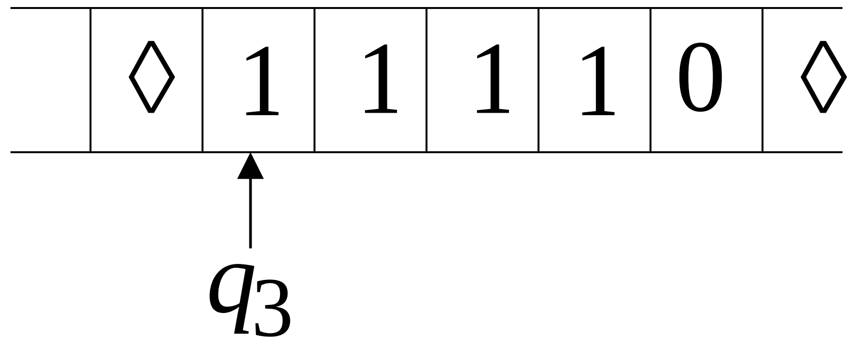


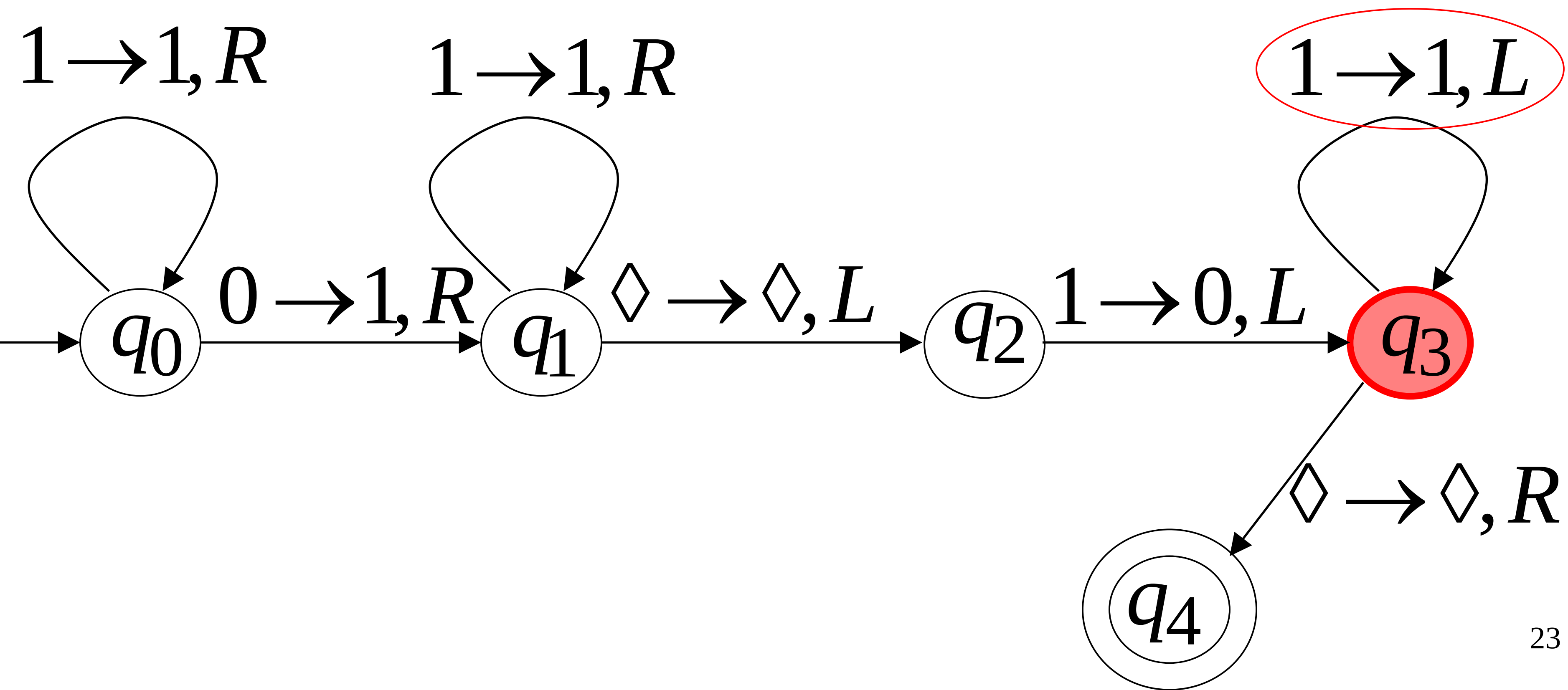
◊ 1 1 1 1 0 ◊
q_3



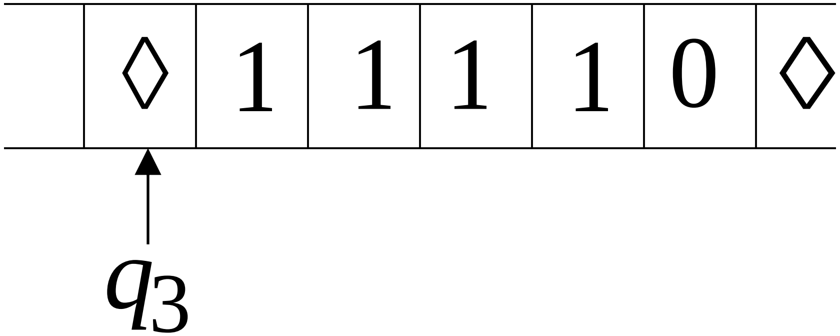
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
q_0
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
q_1
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, L$
q_2
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
q_3
$\Diamond \rightarrow \Diamond, R$
q_4

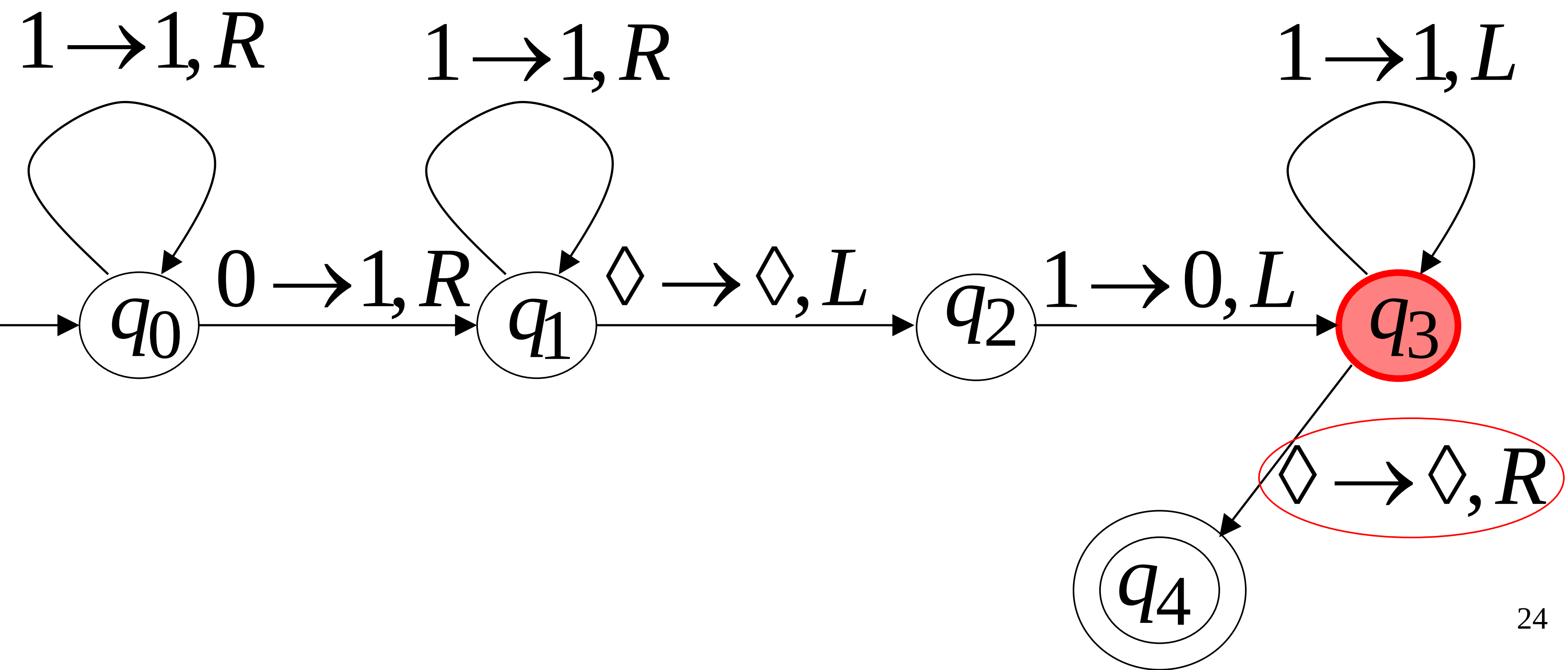
Time 10


◊ 1 1 1 1 0 ◊
q_3

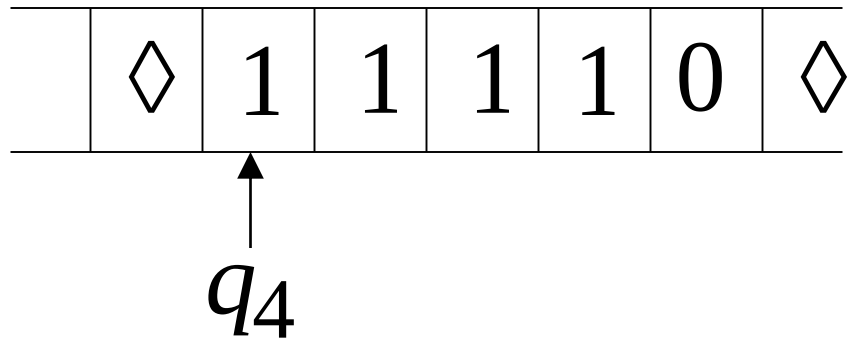

$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, L$
$0 \to 1, R$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, L$
$1 \to 0, L$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, R$
q_0
q_1
q_2
q_3
q_4

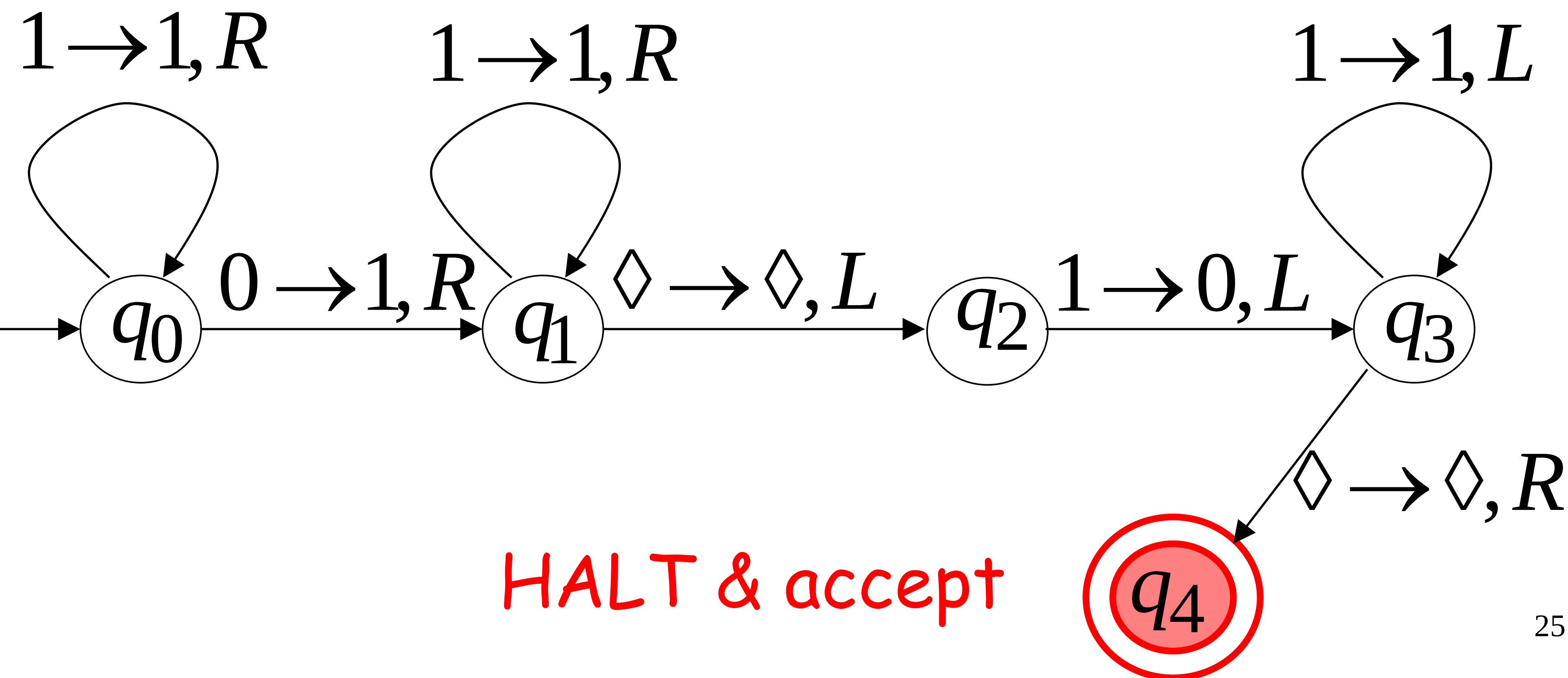
Time 11


◊
1
1
1
1
0
◊
q_3


$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, R$
$1 \to 1, L$
$0 \to 1, R$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, L$
$1 \to 0, L$
$\Diamond \to \Diamond, R$
q_0
q_1
q_2
q_3
q_4

Time 12


◊ 1 1 1 1 0 ◊
q_4


$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, R$
$1 \rightarrow 1, L$
$0 \rightarrow 1, R$
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, L$
$1 \rightarrow 0, L$
$\lozenge \rightarrow \lozenge, R$
q_0
q_1
q_2
q_3
q_4
HALT & accept

Another Example

The function $f(x) = 2x$ is computable

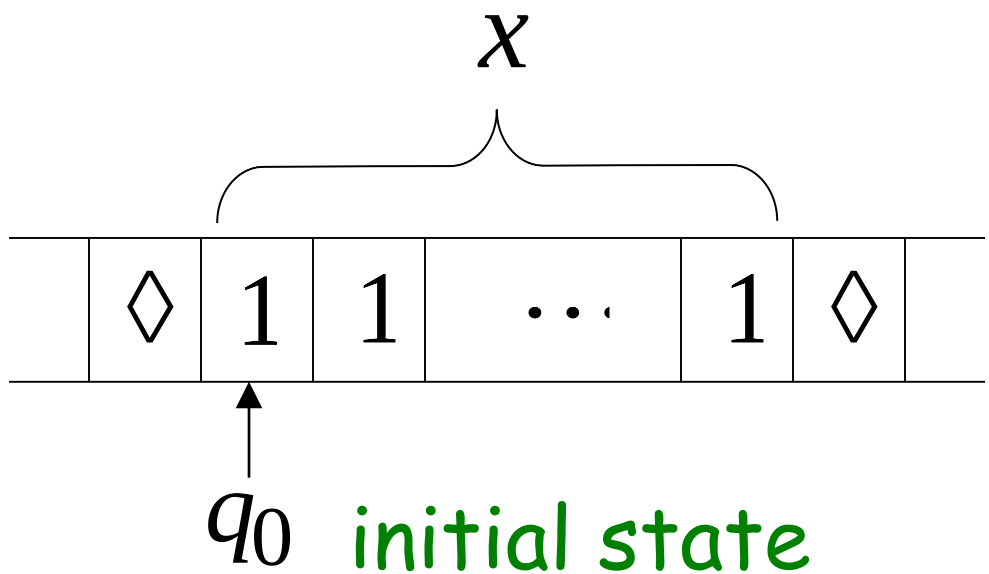
x is integer

Turing Machine:

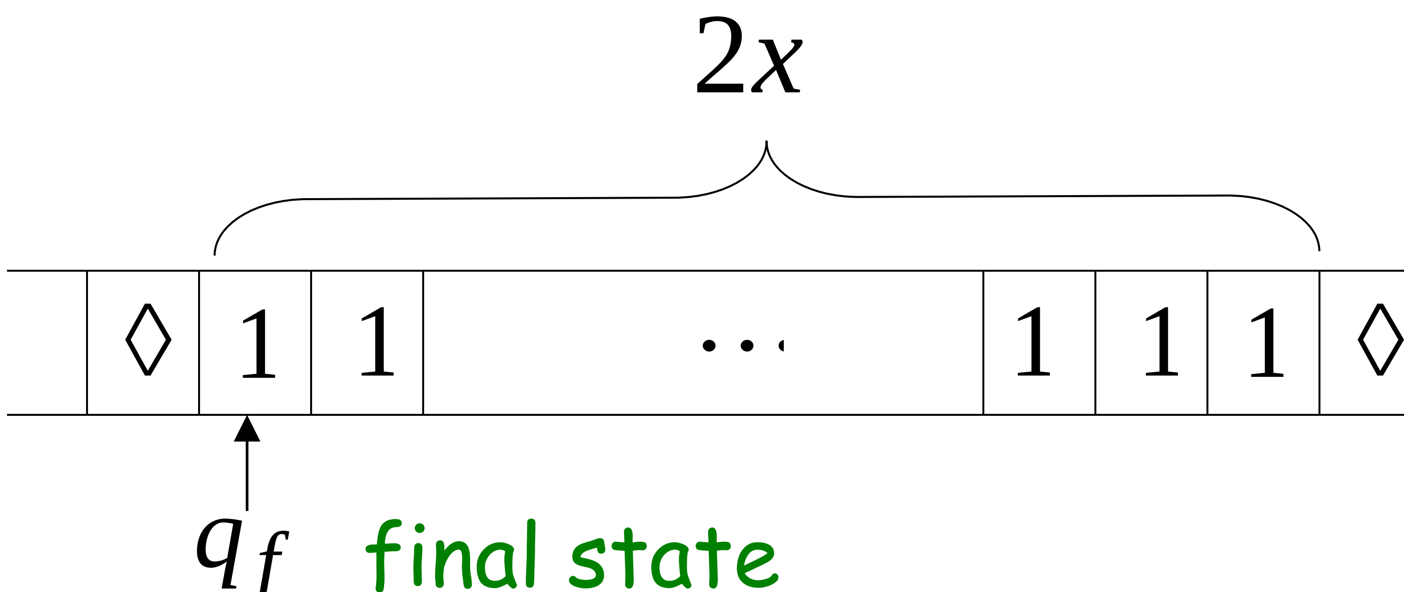
Input string: x unary

Output string: xx unary

Start



Finish

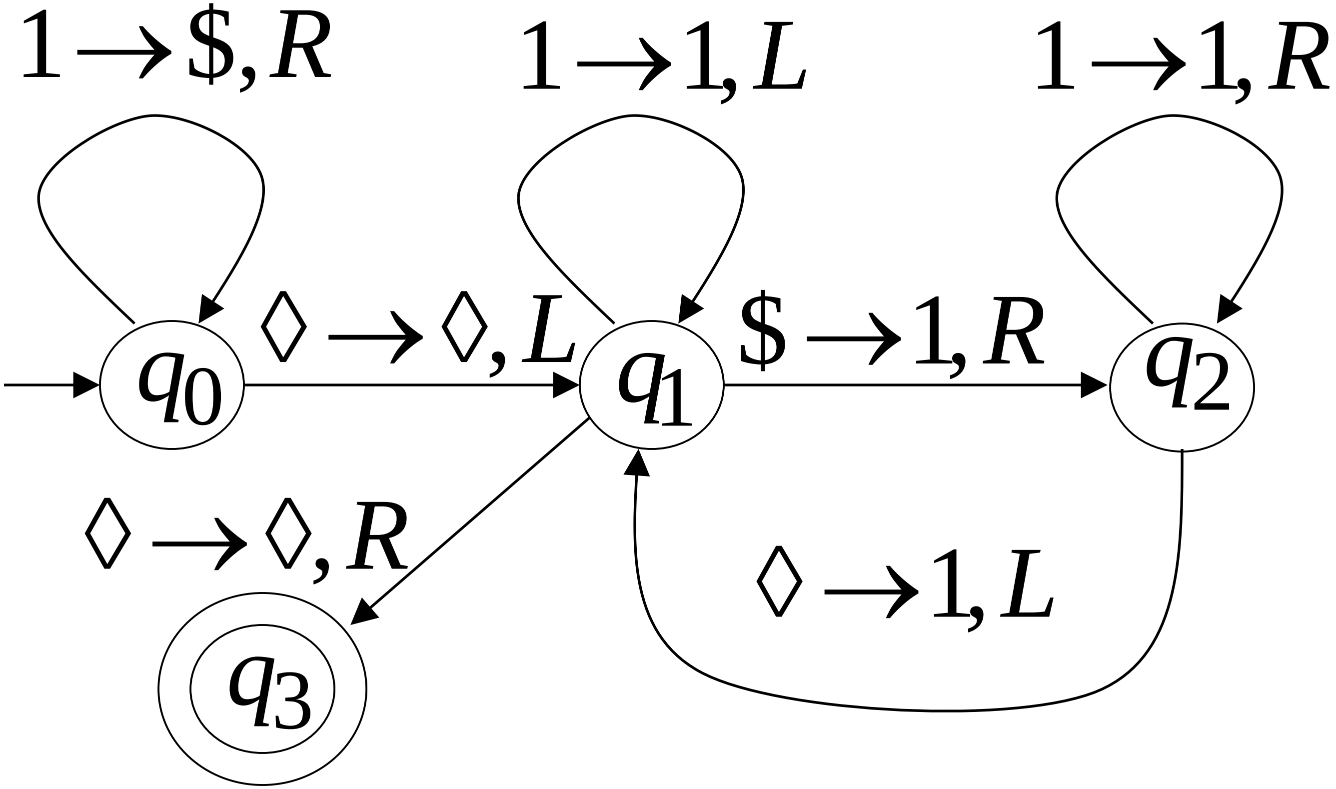


Turing Machine Pseudocode for $f(x) = 2x$

- Replace every 1 with \$
- Repeat:
  - Find rightmost \$, replace it with 1
  - Go to right end, insert 1

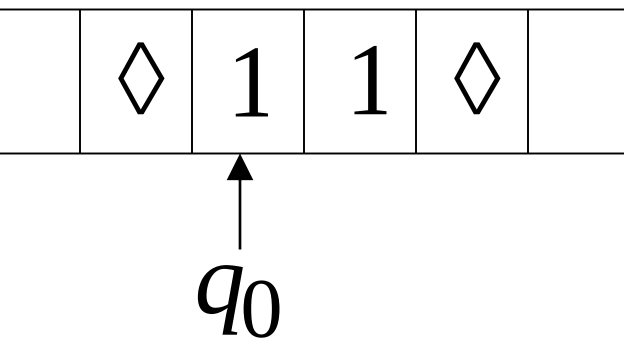
Until no more \$ remain

Turing Machine for $f(x) = 2x$

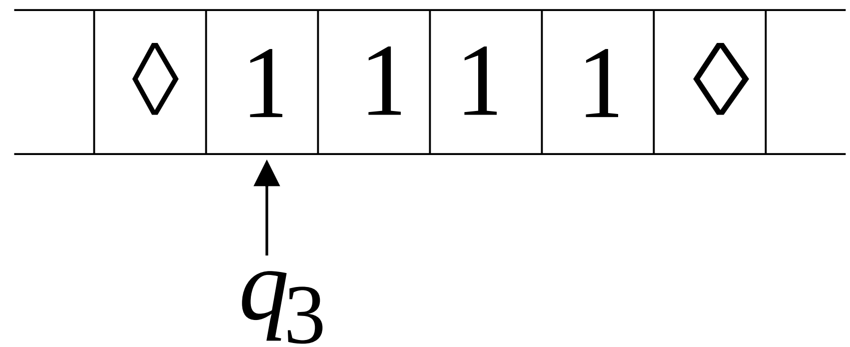


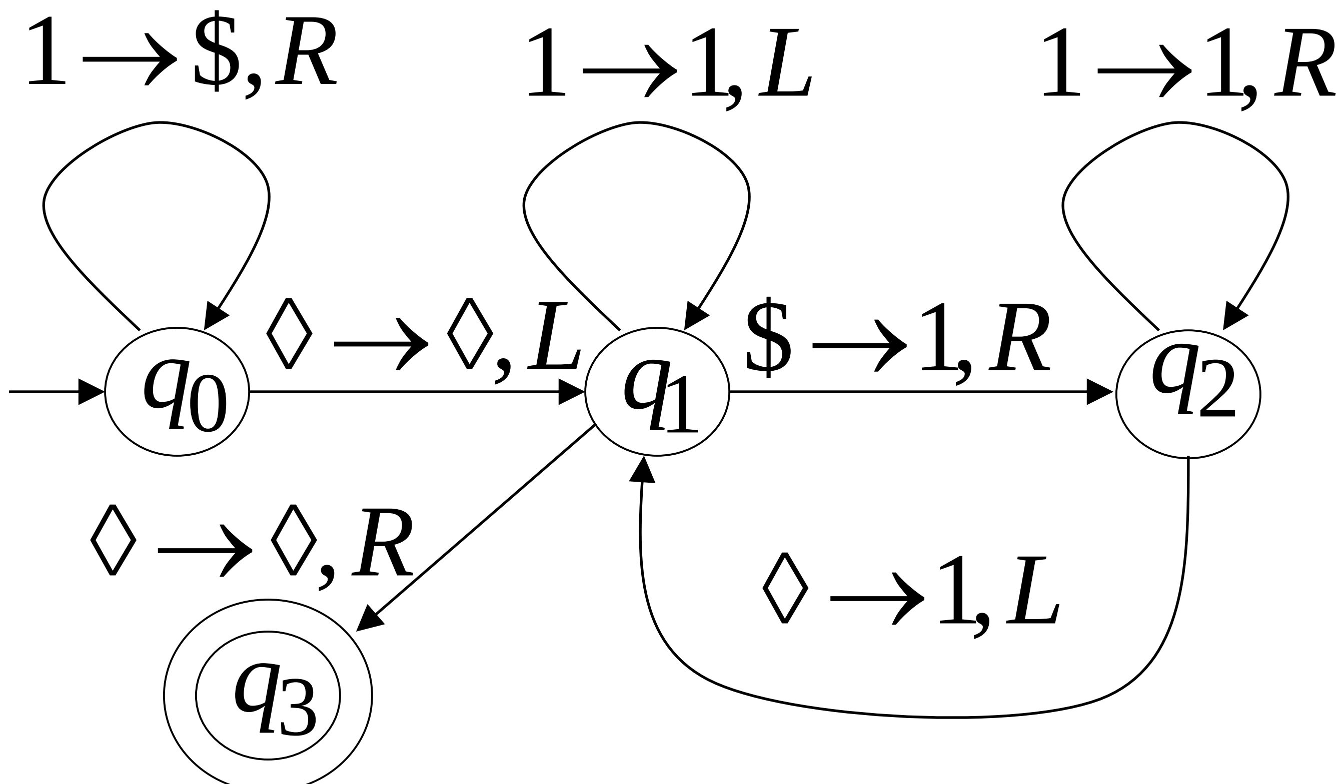
Example

Start



Finish





Another Example

The function is computable

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > y \\ 0 & \text{if } x \le y \end{cases}$$

Turing Machine for

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x > y \\ 0 & \text{if } x \le y \end{cases}$$

Input: $x0y$

Output: 1 or 0

Turing Machine Pseudocode:

- Repeat

    Match a 1 from x with a 1 from y

  Until all of x or y is matched

- If a 1 from x is not matched

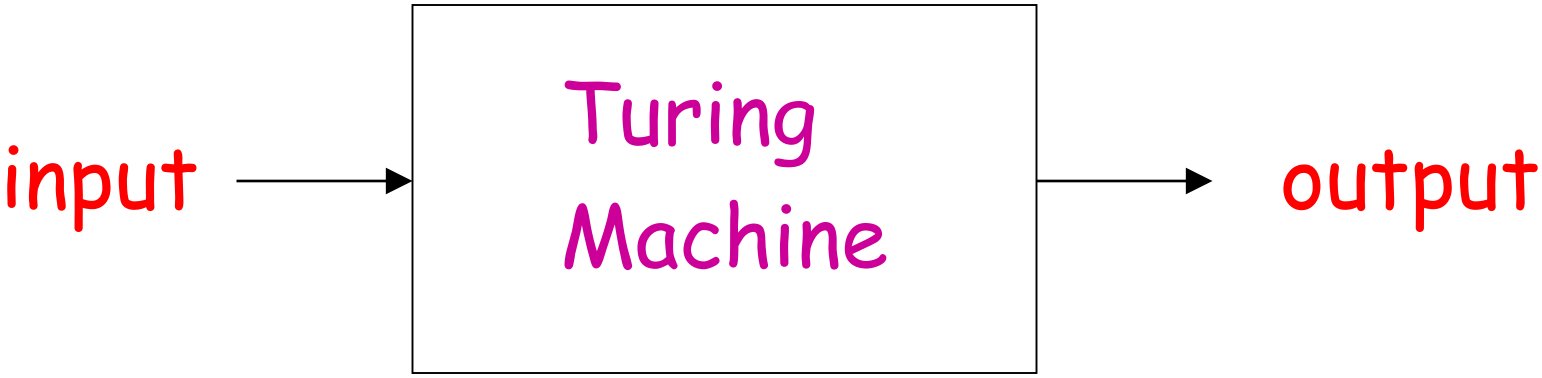
    erase tape, write 1 $(x > y)$

  else

    erase tape, write 0 $(x \leq y)$

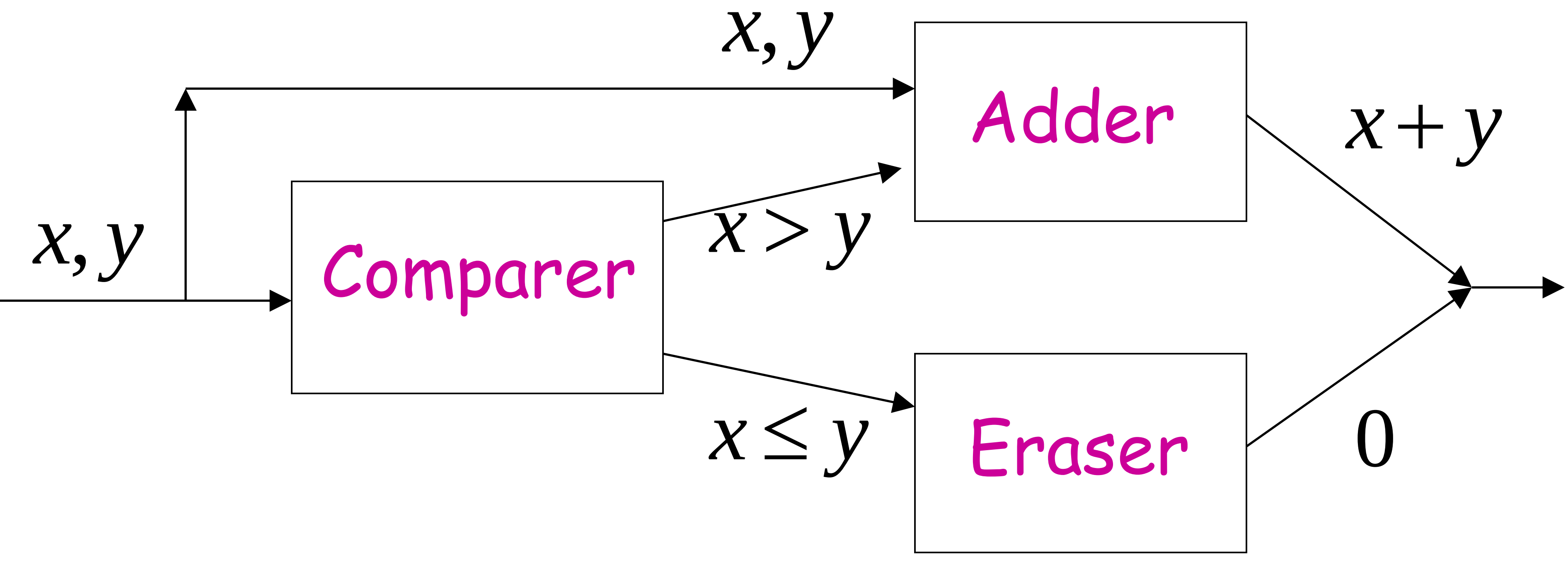
Combining Turing Machines

Block Diagram



Example:

$$f(x,y) = \begin{cases} x+y & \text{if } \; x>y \\ 0 & \text{if } \; x \le y \end{cases}$$



Turing's Thesis

Question: Do Turing machines have the same power with a digital computer?

Intuitive answer: Yes

There is no formal answer!!!

Turing's thesis:

Any computation carried out
by mechanical means
can be performed by a Turing Machine

(1930)

Computer Science Law:

A computation is mechanical
if and only if
it can be performed by a Turing Machine

There is no known model of computation
more powerful than Turing Machines

Definition of Algorithm:

An algorithm for function $f(w)$

is a

Turing Machine which computes $f(w)$

Algorithms are Turing Machines

When we say:

There exists an algorithm

We mean:

There exists a Turing Machine
that executes the algorithm