

The subset construction game

Thm. If $A = L(N)$ for NFA N , then there exist a DFA M such that $L(M) = L(N) = A$. In other words, A is regular.

Assume $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \Delta_N, S_N, F_N)$

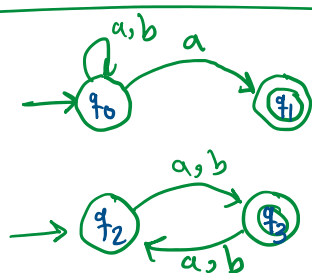
Then we take $M = (Q_M, \Sigma, \delta_M, s_M, F_M)$

where:

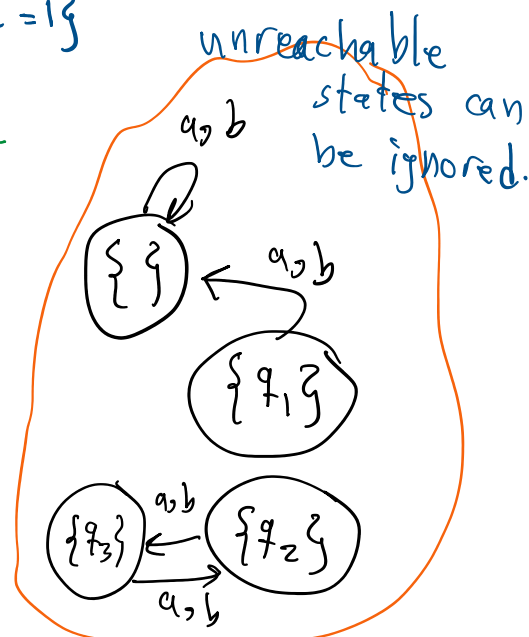
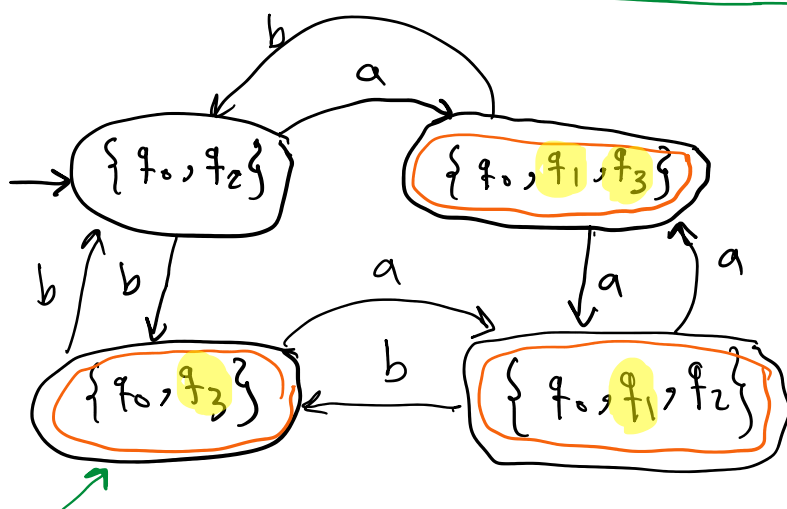
$$\begin{aligned}
 & * Q_M = 2^{Q_N} = \{B \subseteq Q_N\} \\
 & * \delta_M(q_A, x) = \hat{\Delta}(A, x) \\
 & * s_M = S_N \\
 & * F_M = \{q_A \in Q_M : A \cap F_N \neq \emptyset\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$\forall A \subseteq Q_N$
 $\forall q_A \in Q_M$
 $\forall x \in \Sigma^*$

the book might use A and q_A interchangeably.



$\{x \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{the last letter of } x \text{ is } a \text{ OR } |x| \bmod 2 = 1\}$



why does subset construction work?

Why does subset construction work?

* Lemma 6.1 in the book:

* For any $x, y \in \Sigma^*$, and $A \subseteq Q_N$,

$$\hat{\Delta}(A, \tilde{x}\tilde{y}) = \hat{\Delta}(\hat{\Delta}(A, x), y)$$

proof: induction on $|y|$.

* Lemma 6.3 in the book:

* For any $A \subseteq Q_N$ and $x \in \Sigma^*$,

$$\hat{\Sigma}_M(q_A, x) = \hat{\Delta}_N(A, x)$$

M is the DFA that we created using subset construction.

*Thm $L(M) = L(N)$