

**Names:** Omar Abdelmotaleb and Benjamin Singleton

**Pledge:** I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System. -Omar Abdelmotaleb

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**Problem 1.** (30 points) Construct deterministic FSAs for each of the following languages over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$ :

1.  $L_1 = \{w: w \text{ contains the string } aaa \text{ and the string } bbb\}$ .

2.  $L_2 = \{w: w \text{ starts with an } a \text{ and has at most one } b.\}$

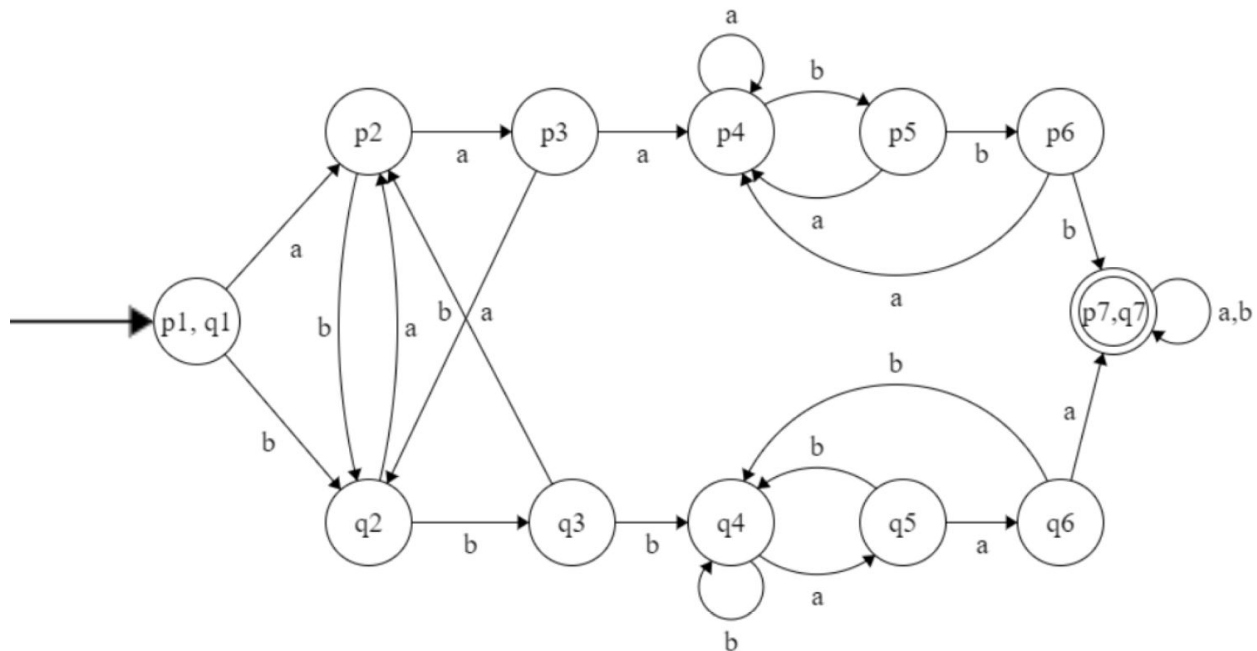
Hint: Express  $L_2$  as the intersection of two languages.

3.  $L_3 = \{w: \text{the } 4^{\text{th}} \text{ symbol from the end of } w \text{ is } a\}$ .

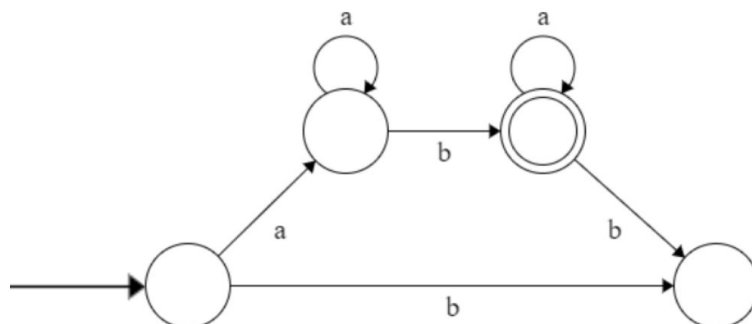
So, for example,  $abbbaaba \in L_3$  but  $abaababa \notin L_3$ . To get started see how trivial it would be if the FSA had to check the last symbol of the input. Then try to design an FSA that must check only the 2<sup>nd</sup> last symbol. What does each state in this FSA represent?

Now extend this idea to design an FSA that accepts  $L_3$ .

1.



2.



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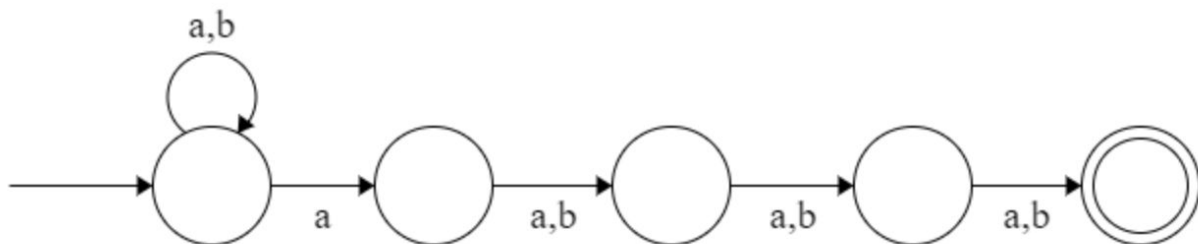
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3. We converted the NFA to a DFA using transition tables.

state	a	b
->A	A,B	A
B	C	C
C	D	D
D	E	E
E	-	-

state	a	b
->A	AB	A
AB	ABC	AC
AC	ABD	AD
AD	ABE	AE
AE	AB	A
ABC	ABCD	ACD
ABD	ABCE	ACE
ABE	ABC	AC
ACD	ABDE	ADE
ACE	ABD	AD
ADE	ABE	AE
ABCD	ABCDE	ACDE
ABCE	ABCD	ACD
ABDE	ABCE	ACE
ACDE	ABDE	ADE
ABCDE	ABCDE	ACDE

**NFA:**

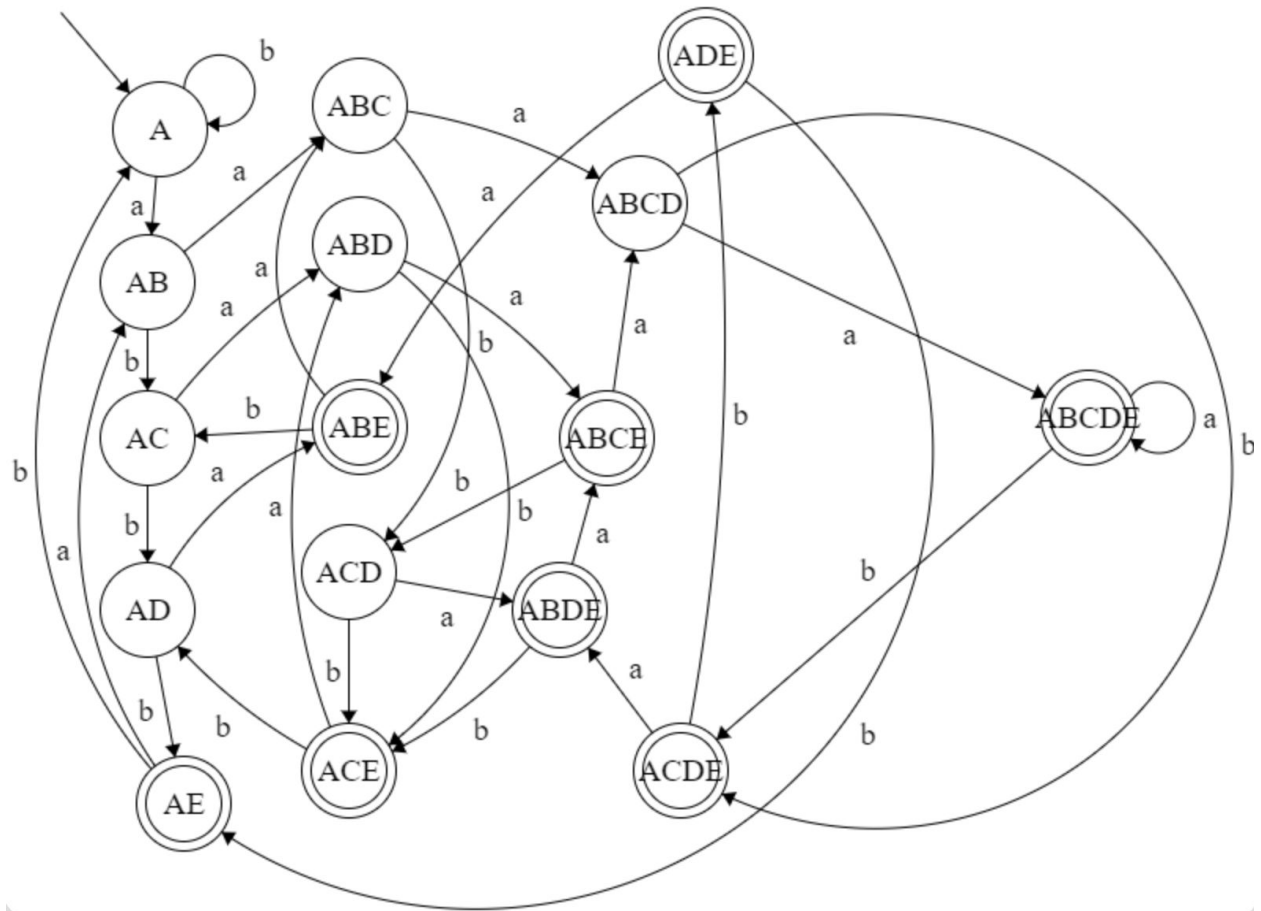


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**DFA:**



All FSAs shown were designed using Finite State Machine Designer:

<http://madebyevan.com/fsm/>

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**Problem 2.** (10 points) Modify the proof of Theorem 1.25 in the textbook to cover the case when the machines  $M_1, M_2$  have *different* input alphabets  $\Sigma_1, \Sigma_2$ . Hint: the machine  $M$  that recognizes the union of the languages of  $M_1, M_2$  will have input alphabet  $\Sigma = \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2$ . Take care when defining  $\delta((r_1, r_2), a)$  as the symbol  $a$  could belong to one alphabet but not the other!

### Proof by Construction

Let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$ , where  $M_1 = (Q, \Sigma_1, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$ , and  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$ , where  $M_2 = (Q, \Sigma_2, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$ , and

Construct  $M$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ , where  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q, F)$ .

1.  $Q = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } r_2 \in Q_2\}$ ,

This set is the cartesian product of sets  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$  and is written  $Q_1 \times Q_2$ . It is the set of all pairs of states, the first from  $Q_1$  and the second from  $Q_2$ .

2.  $\Sigma$ , the alphabet and is the union of  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ .

3.  $\delta$ , the transition function is defined as follows. For each  $(r_1, r_2) \in Q$  and for each  $a \in \Sigma_1$  and  $b \in \Sigma_2$ , let

$$\delta((r_1, r_2), a) = (\delta_1(r_1, a), \delta_2(r_1, b), \delta_3(r_2, a), \delta_4(r_2, b))$$

Hence  $\delta$  gets a state of  $M$  (which actually is a pair of states from  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ ), together with an input symbol, and returns  $M$ 's next state.

4.  $q_0$  is the pair  $(q_1, q_2)$ .

5.  $F$  is the set of pairs in which either member is an accept state of  $M_1$  or  $M_2$ . We can write it as

$$F = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } r_2 \in F_2\}.$$

This expression is the same as  $F = (F_1 \times Q_2) \cup (F_2 \times Q_1)$ .

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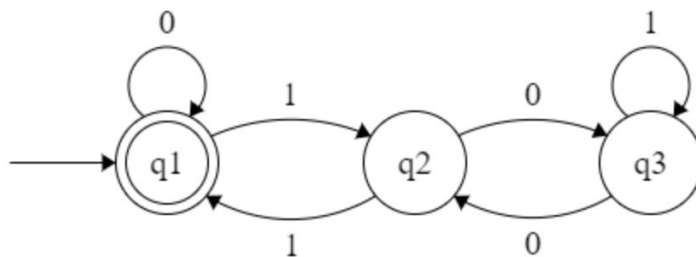
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**Problem 3.** (10 points) Let  $D_k$  denote the set of binary strings that represent numbers divisible by  $k$ . For example, input strings 0, 00, 000, 10, 010, 0010, 0100010 are all divisible by 2 (the least significant bit is the rightmost, or last symbol in the sequence), and therefore are all in the language  $D_2$ .

1. Construct a deterministic FSA to recognize the language  $D_3$ . Hint: Use states to represent remainders of the input seen thus far when divided by 3.
2. Prove that  $D_k$  is regular, for every  $k \geq 1$ .

1.



2. Construct  $M_k$  such that  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q, F)$ .

$Q$ , being the number of states, is equal to  $k$ , where  $k \geq 1$ . So,  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, \dots, q_k\}$

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

$\delta$ , the transition function where  $\delta: (q_{k-1}, (0, 1)) \rightarrow q_k$

$q_0$ , the start and accept state.

$F$ , the set of accept states  $\{q_0\}$ .

Let  $\omega$  be the input string over  $\Sigma$ . Let  $r$  be the remainder such that  $\omega \% k = r$ . The accept state is reached if  $r = 0$ . Each state will represent a remainder  $r$  for all of  $k$ . All states except  $q_0$  are end states for all of  $r$  from 1 up to  $k-1$ . This constructs the FSA for  $M_k$ .

Since  $D_k$  denotes a set of binary strings that follow the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ , its alphabet for the input is accepted over  $M_k$ . Since the alphabet is accepted over  $M_k$ , an FSA,  $D_k$  is regular.

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**Optional Exercise. (Present your ideas anytime this term during Sandeep's office hours.)** You have been asked to design an FSA to operate a building elevator. How would you go about this design process? What would a state of the FSA correspond to? What should be the alphabet? What constraints would be reasonable to impose on the movement of the elevator? This is an open-ended problem – we don't expect a full design, but rather things you considered and what constraints you found difficult to design for. To get started, imagine a 2-storey building, then a 3-storey building, etc. How do your ideas scale for a very tall building?