

A GNFA, $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_{\text{start}}, q_{\text{accept}})$ is a 5-tuple s.t.

- ① Q is the finite set of states
- ② Σ is the input alphabet
- ③ $\delta: (Q - \{q_{\text{accept}}\}) \times (Q \rightarrow \{\epsilon_{\text{start}}\}) \rightarrow R$.
 R is the set of all regular expressions over Σ
- ④ q_{start} is the start state
- ⑤ q_{accept} is the accept state.

Lem. If a language is regular, then it is described by a regular expression.

IDEA: (1) DFA \rightarrow GNFA

* (2) GNFA \rightarrow regular expression

Sketch of proof (step 2):

"By construction"

Let M be the DFA for language A .

We first convert M to a GNFA G .

Then, run Convert(G):

1. Let k be the # of states in G
2. If $k=2$, return the expression R
3. If $k>2$, select any state $q_{rip} \in Q$ different from q_{start} and q_{accept} .

Delete q_{rip} as in Fig 1 to obtain a new GNFA G' (with $k-1$ states)

4. Recursively call Convert(G').

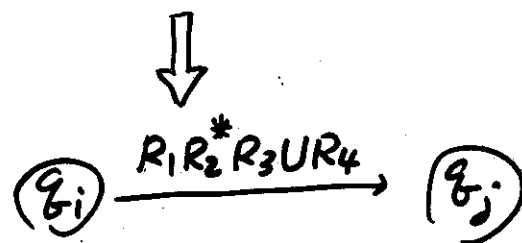
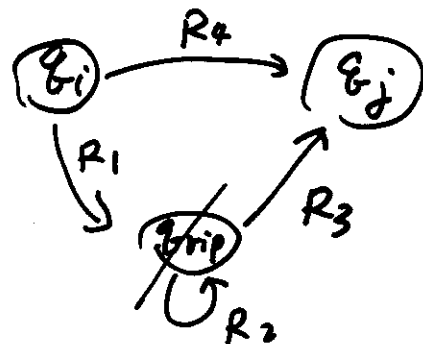


Fig 1