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# CSE211 – Formal Languages and Automata Theory

## U1L15 – DFA to Regular Expressions Part 2

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# Agenda

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- Recap of previous class
- Two important theorems
- Converting DFA to RE
- Examples and Exercise for DFA to RE conversion

# From DFA's to RE's: Theorem 3.4

If  $L = L(A)$  for some DFA  $A$ , then there is an RE  $R$  such that  $L = L(R)$ .

*Proof:*

- *Idea:* the proof is conducted by constructing progressively string sets defined by a certain RE form,  $R_{ij}^{(k)}$ , until the entire set of acceptable strings (i.e., the language  $L(A)$ ) is obtained.

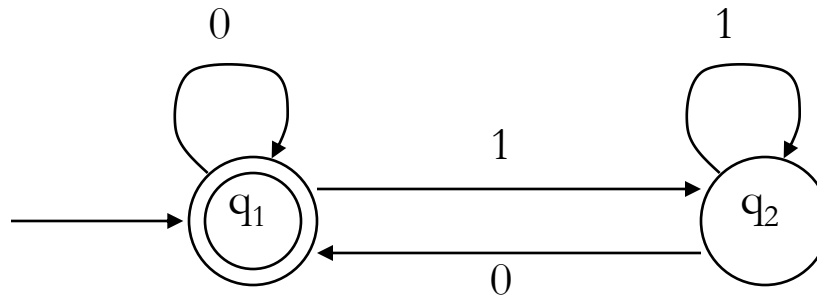
*Steps:*

- Assume that the set of states are numbered as  $\{1, 2, \dots, n\}$  (1 is the start state).
- Use the technique of *induction* to construct  $R_{ij}^{(k)}$ , starting at  $k = 0$  and stop at  $k = n$  (the largest state number), for all  $i, j = 1, 2, \dots, n$ .
- Where  $R_{ij}^{(k)}$  is used to denote the set of strings  $w$  such that
  - each  $w$  is the label of a path from state  $i$  to state  $j$  in DFA  $A$ ; and
  - the path has no *intermediate* node whose number is *larger than*  $k$ .

# From DFA's to RE's: Theorem 3.4

- If  $k = n$ ,  $i = 1$ , and  $j$  specifies an accepting state, then a set of strings accepted by DFA  $A$  is defined by
  - $R_{ij}^{(k)} = R_{1j}^{(n)}$
  - It is path starting from the start state (specified by  $i = 1$ ) to the accepting state (specified by  $j$ ).
- If there are more than one accepting state,
  - i.e., if  $F = \{j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m\}$  is the set of accepting states, then
  - all the  $R_{1j}^{(n)}$  so obtained for all the accepting states  $j = j_1, j_2, \dots, j_m$  are collected by union as the final result:
  - $R_{1j_1}^{(n)} + R_{1j_2}^{(n)} + \dots + R_{1j_m}^{(n)}$

# Example



$$R_{11}^0 = \{\epsilon, 0\} = \epsilon + 0$$

$$R_{12}^0 = \{1\} = 1$$

$$R_{22}^0 = \{\epsilon, 1\} = \epsilon + 1$$

$$R_{11}^1 = \{\epsilon, 0, 00, 000, \dots\} = 0^*$$

$$R_{12}^1 = \{1, 01, 001, 0001, \dots\} = 0^*1$$

# Construction of $R_{ij}^{(k)}$ by induction

*Basis (for  $k = 0$ ):*

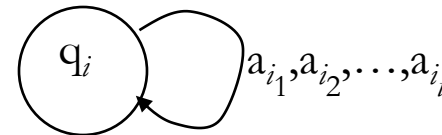
- (A) When  $k = 0$ , all state numbers  $\geq 1$ , and so there is no intermediate state in path  $i$  to  $j$ , leading to 2 cases:
  1. an arc (a transition) from  $i$  to  $j$ ;
  2. a path from  $i$  to  $i$  itself.

# General construction

- We inductively define  $R_{ij}^k$  as:

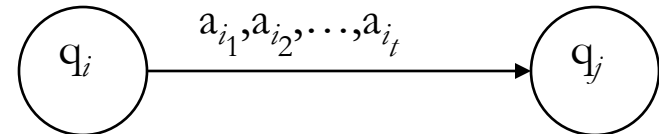
$$R_{ii}^0 = a_{i_1} + a_{i_2} + \dots + a_{i_t} + \varepsilon$$

(all loops around  $q_i$  and  $\varepsilon$ )



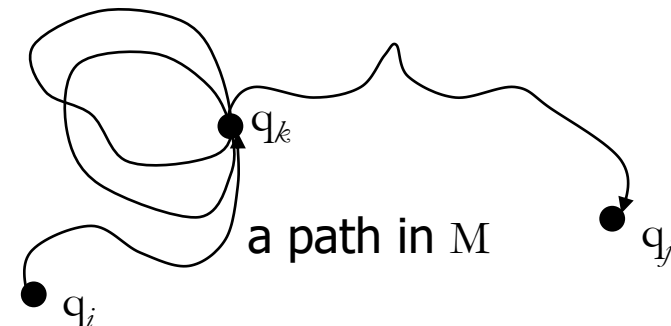
$$R_{ij}^0 = a_{i_1} + a_{i_2} + \dots + a_{i_t} \text{ if } i \neq j$$

(all  $q_i \rightarrow q_j$ )



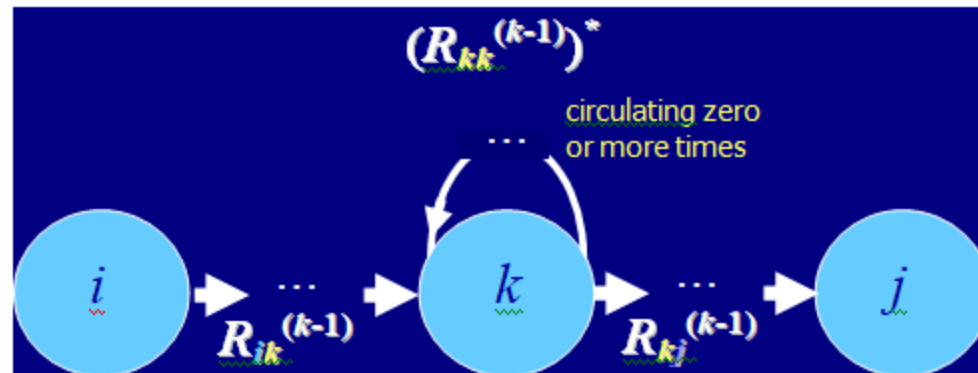
$$R_{ij}^k = R_{ij}^{k-1} + R_{ik}^{k-1} (R_{kk}^{k-1})^* R_{kj}^{k-1}$$

(for  $k > 0$ )



# Informal proof of correctness

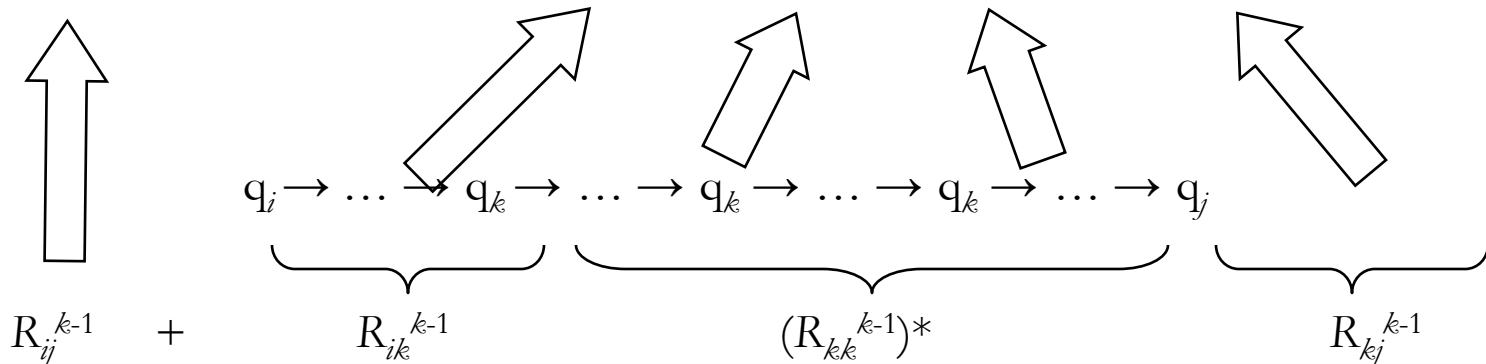
- Each execution of the DFA using states  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_k$  will look like this:



state  $q_k$  is  
never visited

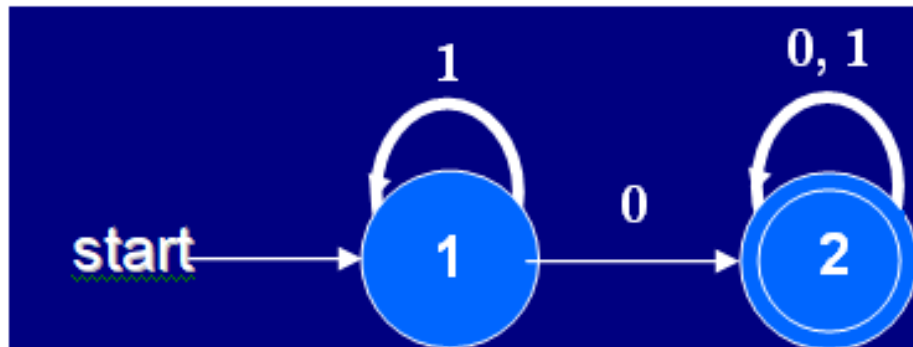
or

intermediate parts use  
only states  $q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{k-1}$





# Convert the DFA shown in Fig. RE.



- $R_{12}^{(2)} = R_{12}^{(1)} + R_{12}^{(1)}(R_{22}^{(1)})^*R_{22}^{(1)}$

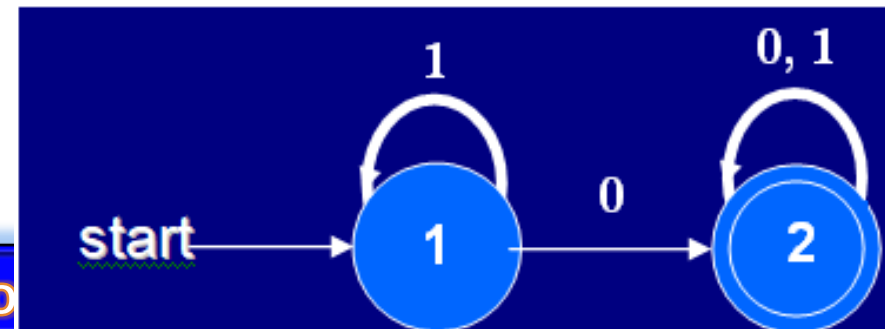
$$R_{ij}^k = R_{ij}^{k-1} + R_{ik}^{k-1}(R_{kk}^{k-1})^*R_{kj}^{k-1}$$

- $R_{ij}^{(0)}$  may be constructed as follows:

- $R_{11}^{(0)} = \epsilon + 1$  because  $\delta(1, 1) = 1$  (going back to state 1);
- $R_{12}^{(0)} = 0$  because  $d\delta(1, 0) = 2$  (getting out to state 2);
- $R_{21}^{(0)} = \phi$  because there is no path from state 2 to 1;
- $R_{22}^{(0)} = (\epsilon + 0 + 1)$  because  $\delta(2, 0) = 2$  and  $d(2, 1) = 2$  (going back to state 2).

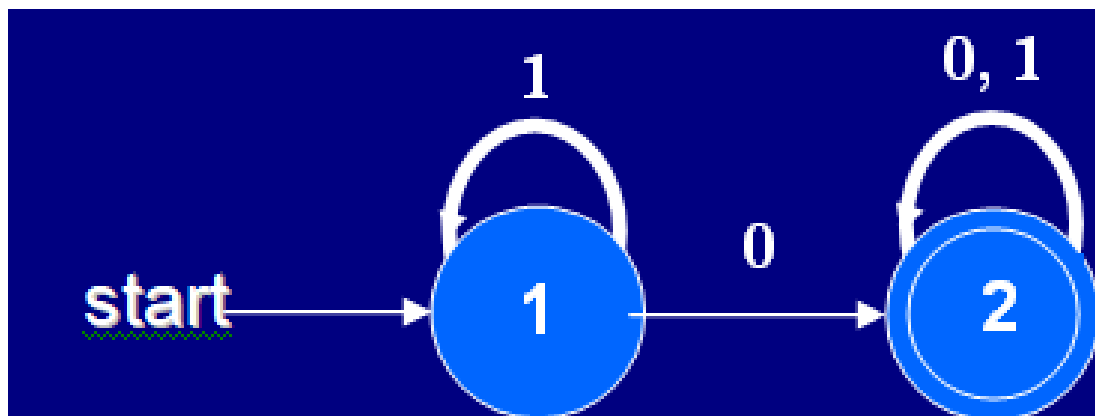
# Conversion of DFA to RE...

- $R_{12}^{(1)} = R_{12}^{(0)} + R_{11}^{(0)}(R_{11}^{(0)})^*R_{12}^{(0)}$
- $= \mathbf{0} + (\varepsilon + \mathbf{1})(\varepsilon + \mathbf{1})^*\mathbf{0}$  (by substitutions)
- $= \mathbf{0} + (\varepsilon + \mathbf{1})\mathbf{1}^*\mathbf{0}$  (by Equality 4 above)
- $= \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}^*\mathbf{0}$  (by Equality 5 above)
- $= (\varepsilon + \mathbf{1}^*)\mathbf{0}$  (by the distributive law)
- $= \mathbf{1}^*\mathbf{0}$  (by Equality 4 above)
- 
- $R_{22}^{(1)} = R_{22}^{(0)} + R_{21}^{(0)}(R_{11}^{(0)})^*R_{12}^{(0)}$
- $= (\varepsilon + \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}) + \phi(\varepsilon + \mathbf{1})^*\mathbf{0}$  (by substitutions)
- $= (\varepsilon + \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}) + \phi$  (by Equality 1 above)
- $= \varepsilon + \mathbf{0} + \mathbf{1}$  (by Equality 2 above)
- ...
- ...



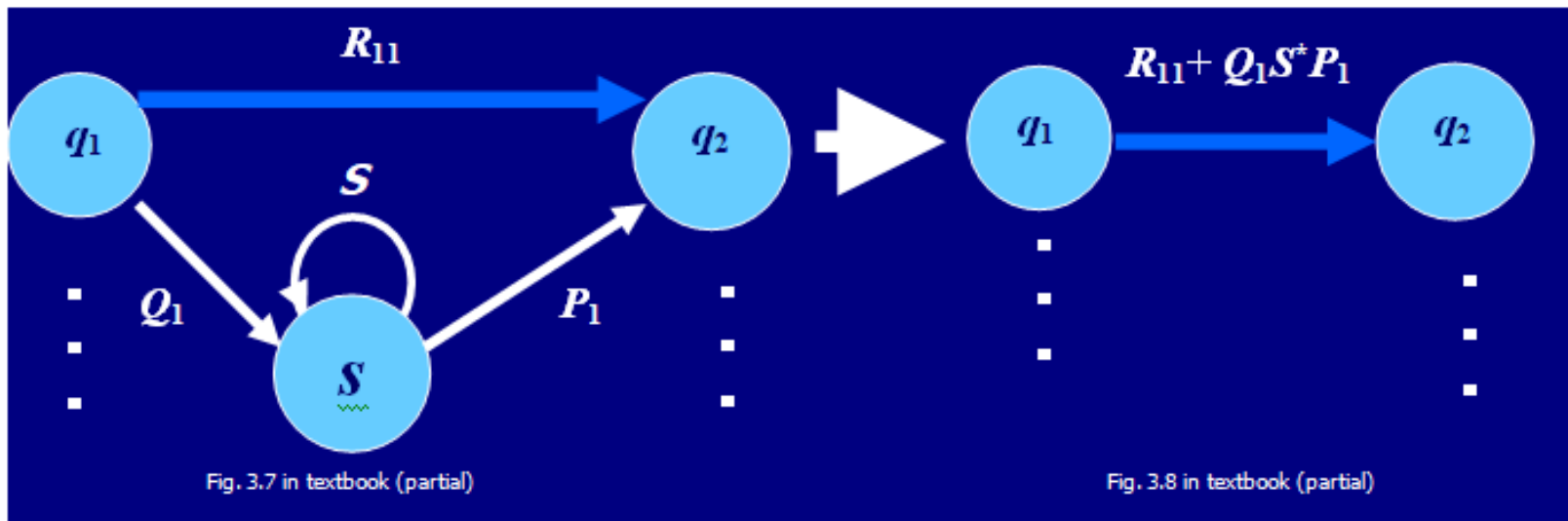
# Conversion of DFA to RE...

- Finally,  $R_{12}^{(2)}$  may be computed as follows.
- $R_{12}^{(2)} = R_{12}^{(1)} + R_{12}^{(1)}(R_{22}^{(1)})^*R_{22}^{(1)}$ 
  - $= 1^*0 + 1^*0(\epsilon + 0 + 1)^*(\epsilon + 0 + 1)$  (by subst.)
  - $= 1^*0 + 1^*0(0 + 1)^*(\epsilon + 0 + 1)$  (by Equality 4 above)
  - $= 1^*0 + 1^*0(0 + 1)^*$  (by Equality 6 above)
  - $= 1^*0(\epsilon + (0 + 1)^*)$  (by the distributive law)
  - $= 1^*0(0 + 1)^*$  (by Equality 4 above)

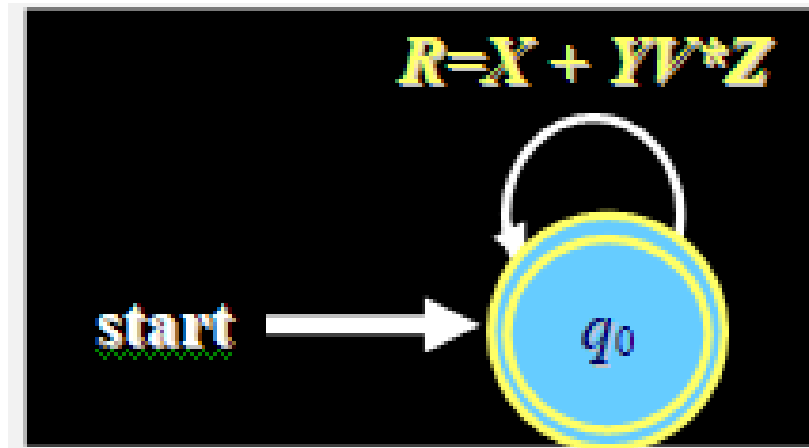
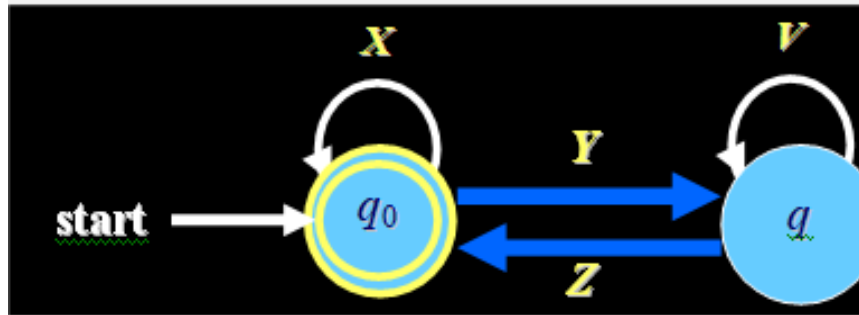


# Converting DFA's to RE's by State Elimination

- If multiple states are there,
  - Step 1 – regard symbols on arcs as RE's;
  - Step 2 – conduct each of the type of conversion as illustrated by Fig.;
  - Step 3 – collect RE's for all the final states.

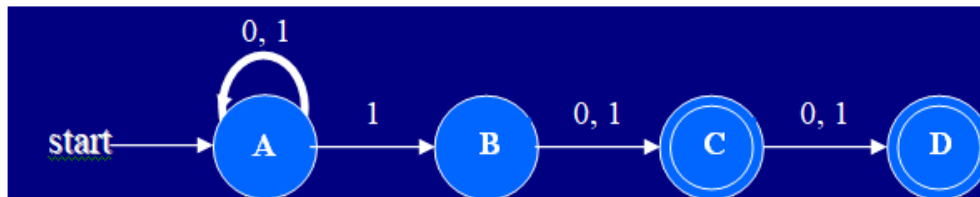


# Converting DFA's to RE's by State Elimination

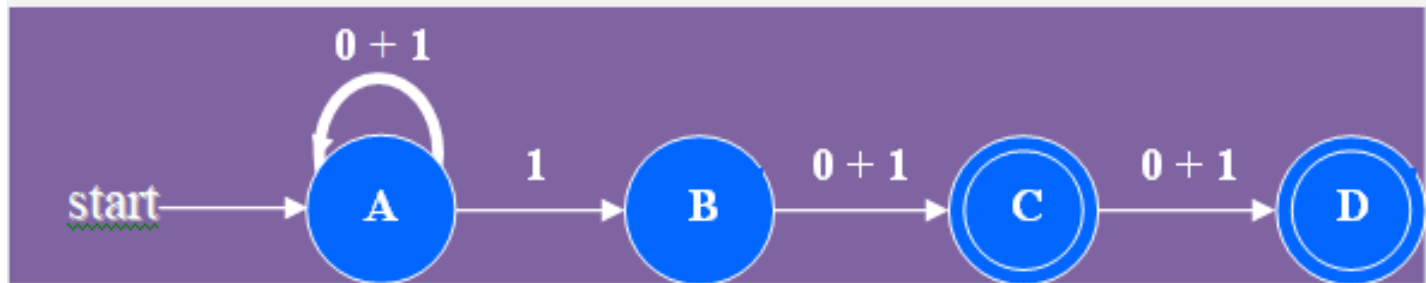


# State Elimination Method

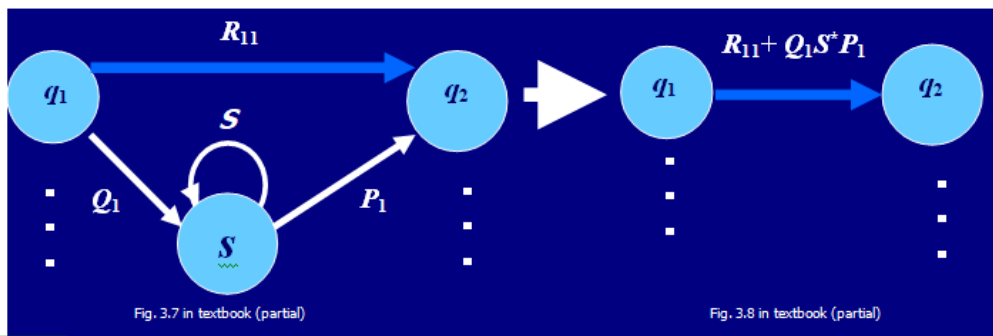
- Convert the following DFA into RE



- Step 1: regard symbols on arcs as RE's;

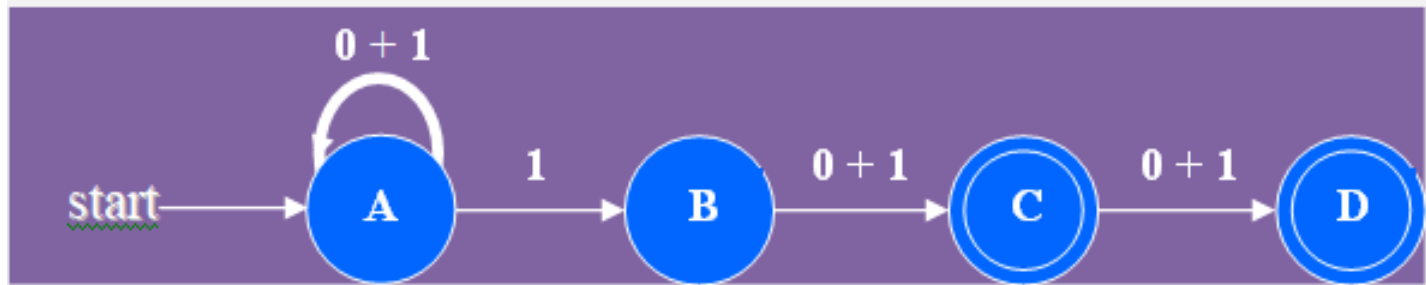


- Step 2: conduct each of the type of conversion by applying

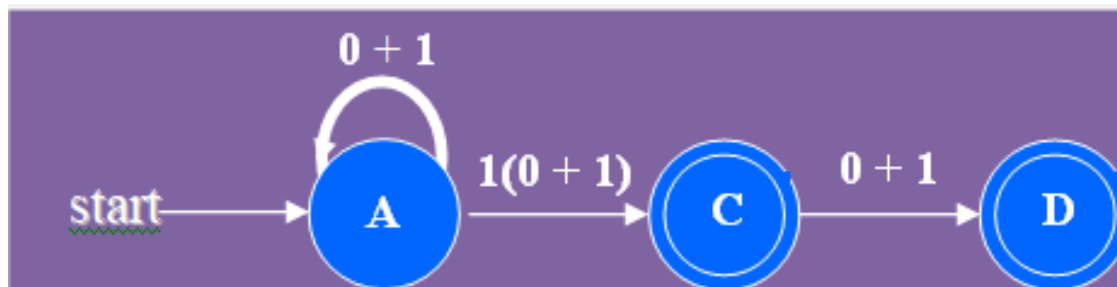


1. Remove B
2. Remove C
3. Remove D

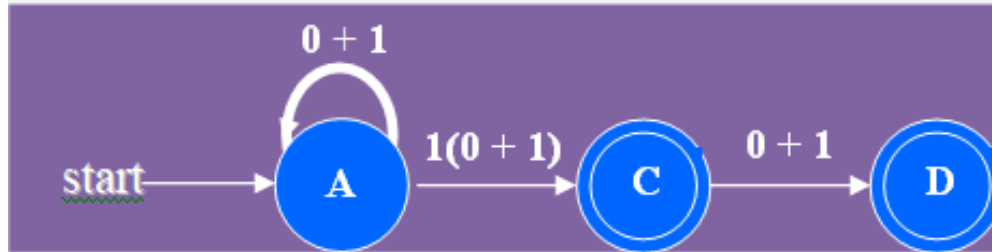
# State Elimination Method



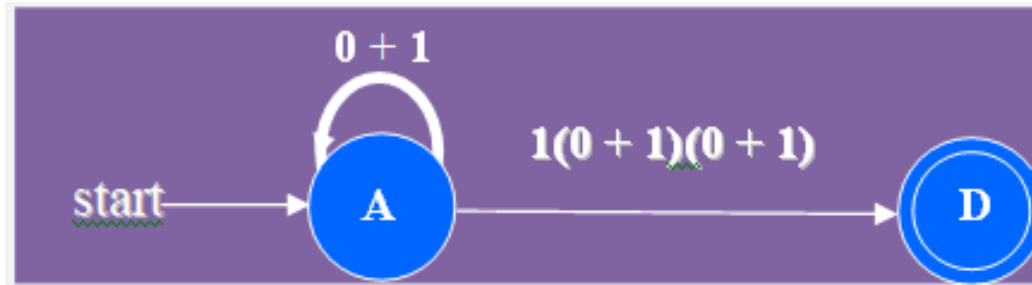
- Step 2: to remove B, applying the state-elimination conversion shown in Fig. 3.11 (a repetition of Fig. 3.4), we get  $s = B$ ,  $q_1 = A$ ,  $q_2 = C$ ,  $S = \phi$ ,  $Q_1 = 1$ ,  $P_1 = 0 + 1$ ,  $R_{11} = \phi$  so that
  - $R_{11} + Q_1 S^* P_1 = \phi + 1 \phi^* (0 + 1) = 1 \epsilon (0 + 1) = 1(0 + 1).$



# For Final State D



- Step 2: for the final state D, we have to remove C, resulting in  $s = C$ ,  $q_1 = A$ ,  $q_2 = D$ ,  $S = \phi$ ,  $Q_1 = 1(0 + 1)$ ,  $P_1 = 0 + 1$ ,  $R_{11} = \phi$ , so that
  - $R_{11} + Q_1 S^* P_1 = \phi + 1(0 + 1) \phi^* (0 + 1) = 1(0 + 1)(0 + 1)$ .

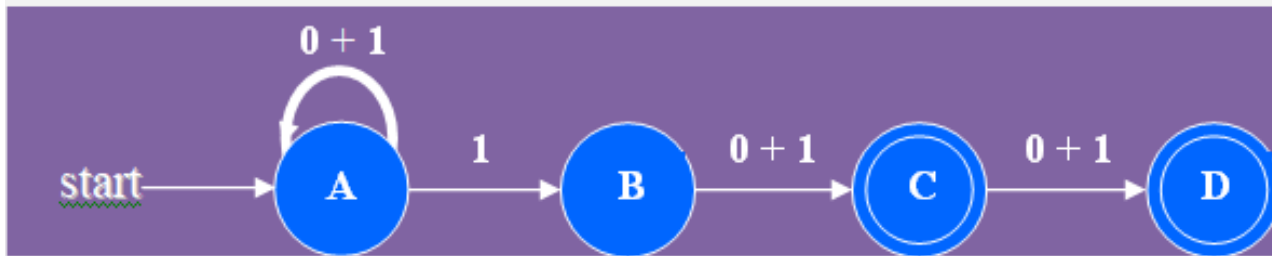


- Via A =>  $= (0 + 1)^* 1(0 + 1)(0 + 1)$ .

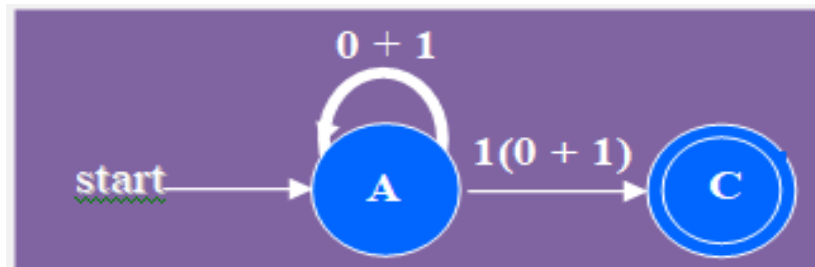


# For Final State C

- for the other final state C, starting from Fig. , we have to eliminate D using the



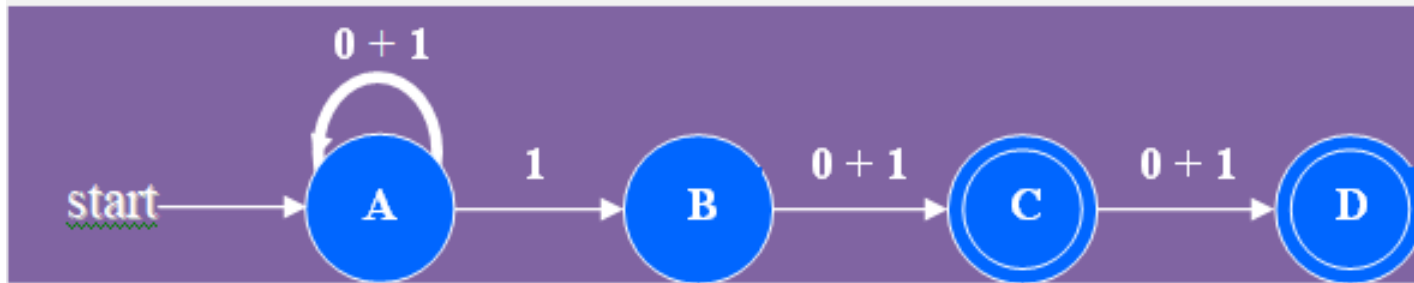
- since D has no successor, deleting D has no effect to the other parts, resulting in the diagram shown



- Via A => 
$$= (0 + 1)^* 1(0 + 1).$$

# Combining the DFAs

- Step 3: the final result is a sum of the previous two derivation results:  
desired RE =  $(0 + 1)^* 1(0 + 1) + (0 + 1)^* 1(0 + 1)(0 + 1)$
- which may be checked for its correctness.



# Summary

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- Two important theorems
- Converting DFA to RE
- Examples and Exercise for DFA to RE conversion

# References

- John E. Hopcroft, Rajeev Motwani and Jeffrey D. Ullman, *Introduction to Automata Theory, Languages, and Computation*, Pearson, 3<sup>rd</sup> Edition, 2011.
- Peter Linz, *An Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata*, Jones and Bartle Learning International, United Kingdom, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition, 2016.

Next Class:

Regular Expression to e-NFA

**THANK YOU.**