

# NON DETERMINISTIC FINITE AUTOMATON

$$N = (Q, \Sigma, S, s, F)$$

$Q$  A FINITE SET OF STATES

$\Sigma$  A FINITE SET OF SYMBOLS - ALPHABET

$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$  TRANSITION FUNCTION RELATION ON  $(Q \times \Sigma) \times Q$

$$\delta(p, a) \subseteq 2^Q$$

SET OF ALL STATES  $N$  CAN MOVE TO FROM  $p$  IN ONE STEP UNDER INPUT SYMBOL  $a$ .

$$p \xrightarrow{a} q \text{ if } q \in \delta(p, a)$$

$\delta(p, a)$  CAN BE  $\emptyset$

$s \in Q$  IS THE "START" STATE

$F \subseteq Q$  "ACCEPT" OR "FINAL" STATES

## EXTENDED TRANSITION FUNCTION

$$\delta^*(q, \epsilon) = \{q\}$$

$$\delta^*(q, a) = \delta(q, a)$$

$$\delta^*(q, \pi a) = \bigcup_{p \in \delta^*(q, \pi)} \delta(p, a)$$

$$\delta^* : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q$$

$\delta^*(p, w)$  SET OF ALL STATES  $N$  CAN MOVE TO FROM  $p$  UNDER INPUT STRING  $w$ .

ACCEPTED

$w \in \Sigma^*$  IS ACCEPTED BY  $N$  IF

$$\delta^*(s, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset$$

LANGUAGE  $N$  RECOGNIZES (ACCEPTS)

$$L(N) = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid N \text{ accepts } w \}$$

## NFA Definitions

A Non-deterministic Finite Automaton, NFA, is a structure  $M$  such that:

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$ , where

$Q$  is a finite set of "states".

$\Sigma$  is a finite set of "symbols", an "alphabet".

$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$  is the "transition function".

For  $p \in Q$ ,  $A \in 2^Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $\delta(p, a) = A$  means

when in state  $p$  scanning symbol  $a$ , a non-deterministic transition

is made to one of the states in the set  $A$

$s \in Q$  is the "start state".

$F \subseteq Q$  is the set of "final states".

The extended transition function for  $M$  is the function:

$\hat{\delta} : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q$ , where

$\hat{\delta}(q, \epsilon) = \{q\}$ , and

$$\hat{\delta}(q, xa) = \bigcup_{p \in \hat{\delta}(q, x)} \delta(p, a)$$

A string  $x \in \Sigma^*$  is accepted by  $M$  if  $\hat{\delta}(s, x) \cap F \neq \emptyset$ .

The language accepted or recognized by  $M$  is

$$L(M) = \{x \in \Sigma^* \mid x \text{ is accepted by } M\}.$$

# EVERY DFA IS ALSO A NFA

THM: LET  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$  A DFA

AND  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \Delta, \overset{\text{---}}{s}, F)$  A NFA

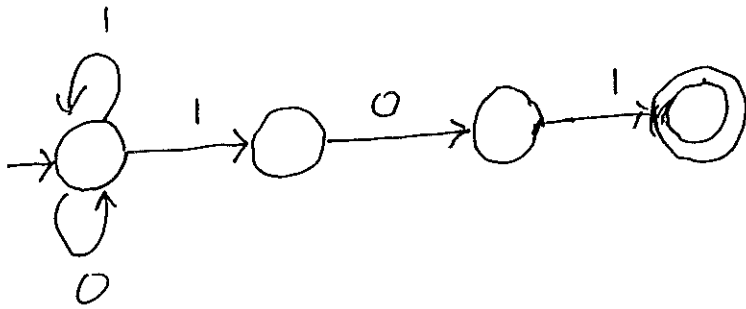
WHERE  $\Delta(p, a) = \{\delta(p, a)\}$

THEN  $x \in L(M)$  iff  $x \in L(N)$

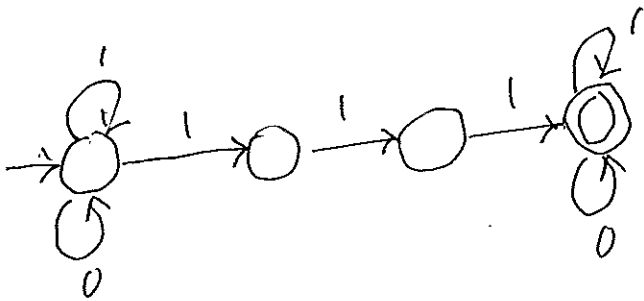
Proof: obvious.

# NFA EXAMPLES

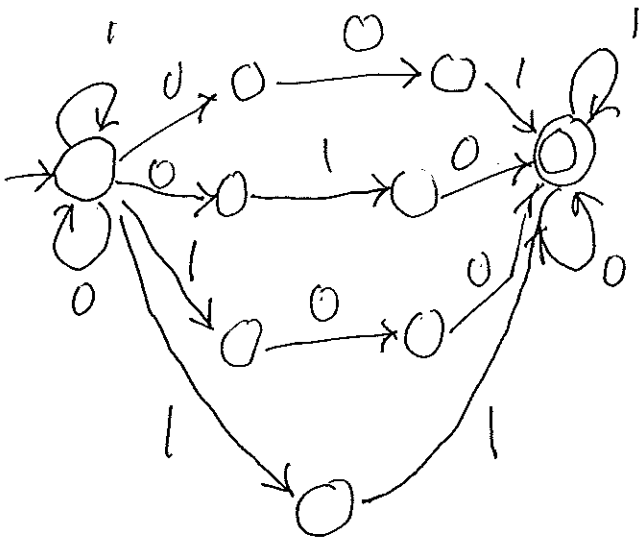
STRING ENDS WITH 101



STRING CONTAINS 111



STRING CONTAINS 001 v 010 v 100 v 11



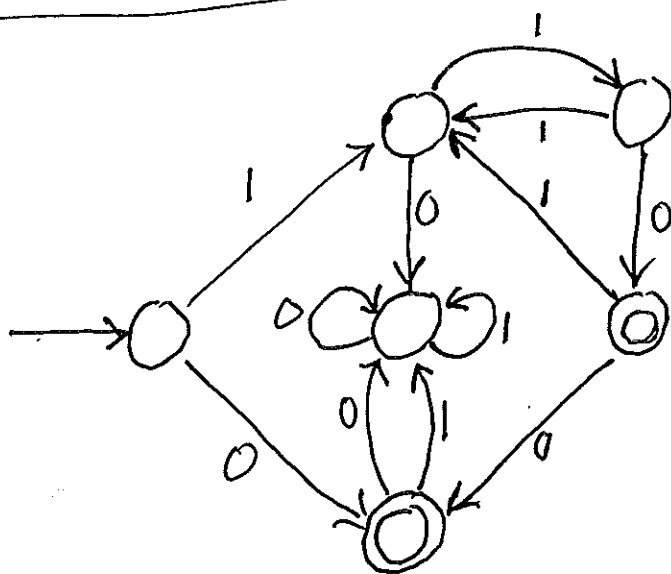
NFA EASIER TO DESIGN THAN DFA

FROM  
MARTIN

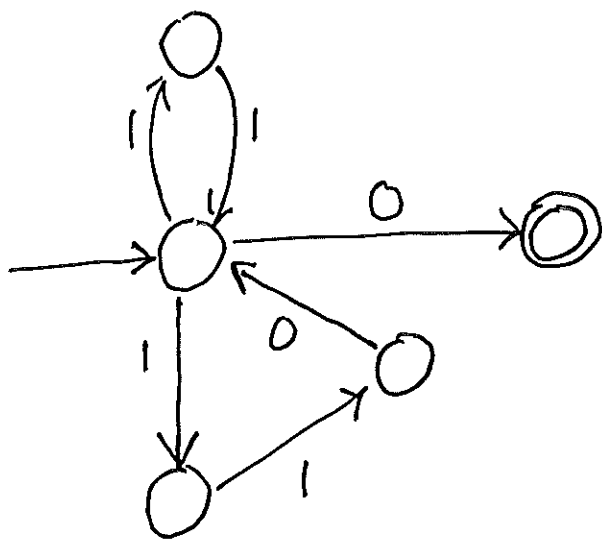
LANGUAGE:  $(11 + 110)^* 0$

~~where  $x \in \{11, 110\}$~~

$\{x_1 x_2 \dots x_n \mid n \geq 0 \text{ AND } x_i \in \{11, 110\}\}$



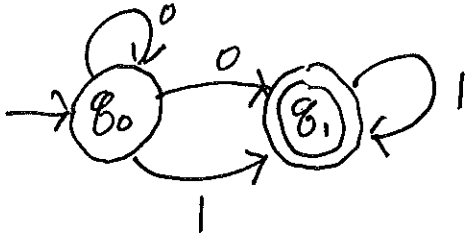
DFA

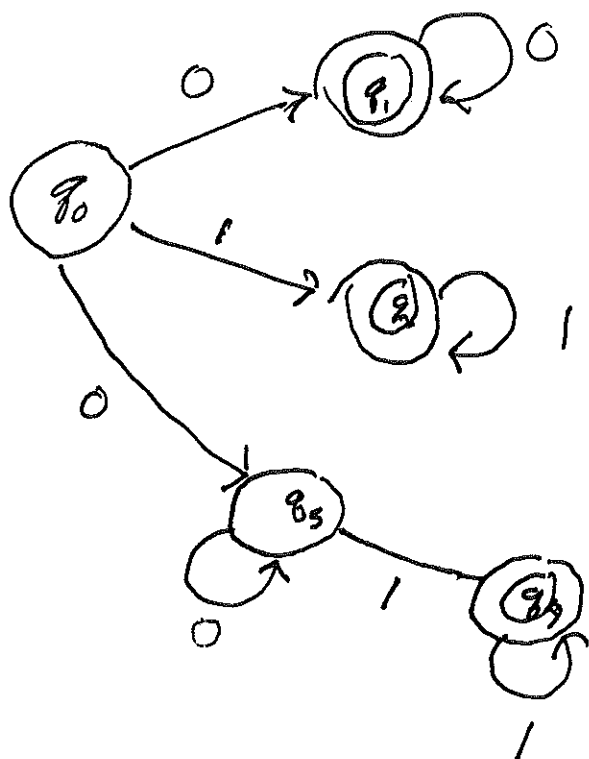


NFA

EXAMPLE OF NFA

$$L(M) = \{0^m \mid m \geq 1\} \cup \{1^m \mid m \geq 1\} \cup \{0^m 1^m \mid m \geq 1, m \geq 1\}$$







# SUBSET CONSTRUCTION

RABIN-SCOTT

1959

GIVEN NFA

$\delta_N^*$

$$N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, s_N, F_N)$$

$\vdots$

$$\delta_N : Q_N \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{Q_N}$$

$\delta_N(p, a)$  is SET OF ALL STATES THAT N CAN MOVE TO FROM p GIVEN a AS AN INPUT.

CONSTRUCT DFA

$$M = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, s_D, F_D)$$

$$Q_D = 2^{Q_N}$$

$$s_D = \{s_N\}$$

$$F_D = \{P \subseteq Q_N \mid P \cap F_N \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$\delta_D : Q_D \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q_D \quad 2^{Q_N} \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{Q_N}$$

$$\delta_D(P, a) = \bigcup_{p \in P} \delta_N(p, a) \quad \text{FOR } P \subseteq Q_N, P \in 2^{Q_N}$$

$$\hat{\delta}_D(P, \epsilon) = P$$

$$\hat{\delta}_D(P, \pi a) = \delta_D(\hat{\delta}_D(P, \pi), a)$$

THM  $L(N) = L(M)$

SHOW THAT  $M$  FAITHFULLY SIMULATES  $N$

SHOW TRANSITION FUNCTIONS ARE REALLY THE SAME.

FOR EVERY  $p$  of  $N$  and string  $w$  LEMMA

$$\delta_D^*(\{p\}, w) = \delta_N^*(p, w) \quad \text{CAN PROVE BY INDUCTION}$$

THIS IMPLIES  $L(N) = L(M)$

PROOF  
 $w$  ACCEPTED  $N$  iff  $\delta_N^*(s_N, w) \cap F_N \neq \emptyset$  DEF.

$$\text{iff } \delta_D^*(\{s_N\}, w) \cap F_N \neq \emptyset \quad \text{LEMMA}$$

$$\text{iff } \delta_D^*(\{s_N\}, w) \in F_D \quad \text{DEF OF } F_D$$

BUT THIS IS ACCEPTANCE BY  $M$

$$\text{iff } w \in L(M)$$

LEMMA

$$\delta_D^*(\{p\}, w) = \delta_N^*(p, w)$$

BASE  $w = \epsilon$

$$\delta_D^*(\{p\}, \epsilon)$$

~~$$\begin{aligned} &= \delta_N^*(p, \epsilon) \\ &= \{p\} \end{aligned}$$~~

DEF of  $\delta_D^*$



$\{p\}$

$$\delta_N^*(p, \epsilon) = \{p\} \quad \checkmark$$

DEF  $\delta_N^*$

INDUCTIVE STEP

ASSUME  $\delta_D^*(\{p\}, \pi) = \delta_N^*(p, \pi)$

I.H.

PROVE

$$\delta_D^*(\{p\}, \pi a) = \delta_N^*(p, \pi a)$$

$$\delta_D^*(\{p\}, \pi a) = \delta_D(\delta_D^*(\{p\}, \pi), a)$$

DEF  $\delta_D^*$

$$= \delta_D(\delta_N^*(p, \pi), a)$$

I.H.

$$= \bigcup_{q \in S_N^*(p, \pi)} S_N(q, a)$$

DEF  $S_D$

$$= S_N^*(p, \pi a)$$

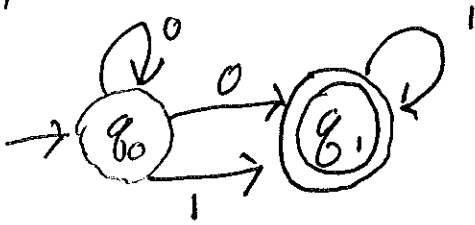
DEF  $S_N^*$

Q.E.D.

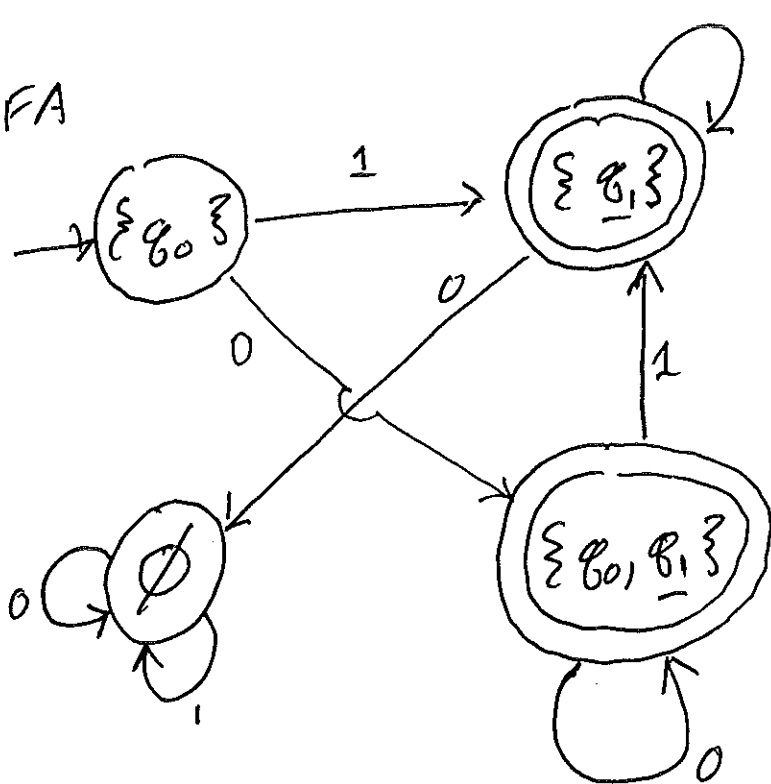
# EXAMPLE OF SUBSET CONSTRUCTION I

$$L(M) = \{0^n \mid n \geq 1\} \cup \{1^n \mid n \geq 1\} \cup \{0^n 1^m \mid n \geq 1, m \geq 1\}$$

NFA

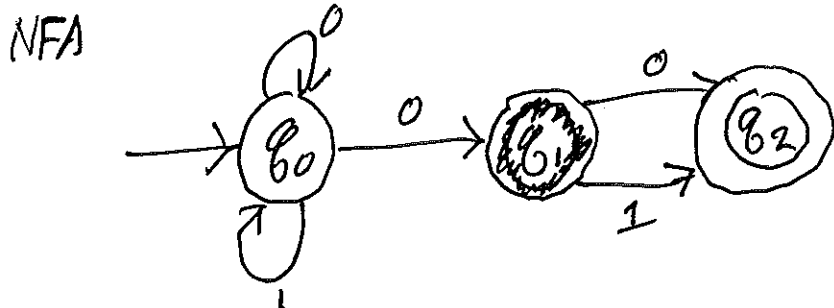


DFA

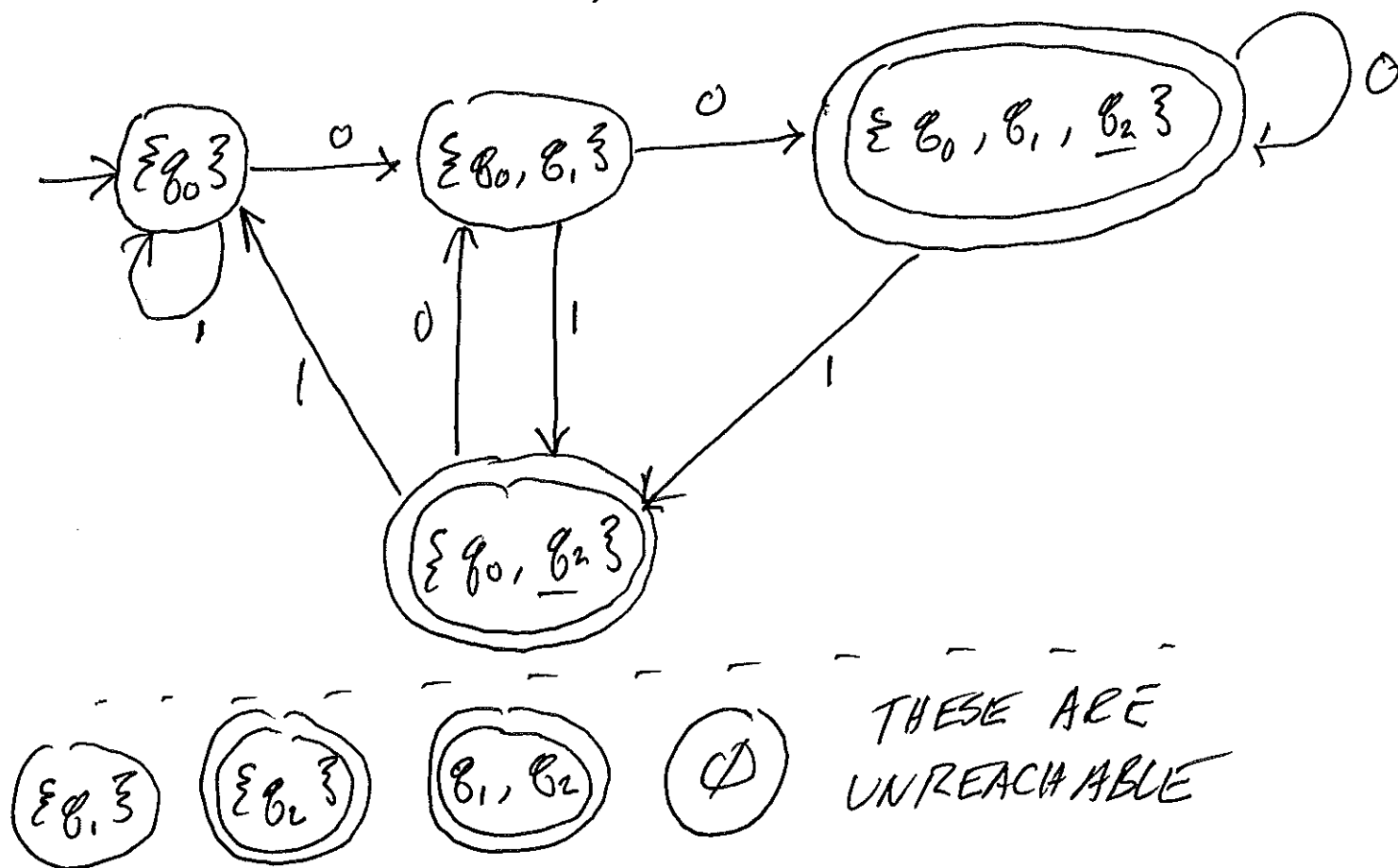


# EXAMPLE OF SUBSET CONSTRUCTION II

$$L_2 = \{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \text{2nd symbol from right is a 0} \}$$



DFA  
CONSIDER 8 STATES  $\emptyset, \{q_0\}, \{q_1\}, \{q_2\},$   
 $\{q_0, q_1\}, \{q_0, q_2\}, \{q_1, q_2\}$   
 $\{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$



## Exponential Blowup of Subset Construction

*Definition:*  $L_n = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ has a 1 in the } n\text{th position from the end}\}$ .  
Note an NFA with only  $n + 1$  states can be designed to recognize  $L_n$ .

*Theorem:* A DFA that recognizes  $L_n$  can not have less than  $2^n$  states.

*Proof:* Toward a contradiction assume that a DFA  $M$  exists with start state  $s$  and that recognizes  $L_n$  and has less than  $2^n$  states. Now consider strings of length  $n$ . There are  $2^n$  of them so from the pigeon hole principle we know that at least two different ones of them, say  $x$  and  $y$ , will reach the same end state, say  $q$ , when processed by  $M$ . That is

$$|x| = |y| = 2^n$$

$$\hat{\delta}(s, x) = \hat{\delta}(s, y) = q$$

Now consider the first place from the left where  $x$  and  $y$  differ. Say the  $k$ th position. So wlg we have

$$x = u1v$$

$$y = u0w$$

and

$$|u| = k - 1$$

$$|v| = |w| = n - k$$

We can construct strings

$$x' = u1v1^{|u|}$$

$$y' = u0w1^{|u|}$$

Clearly these must end in the same state, namely,  $\hat{\delta}(q, 1^{|u|})$ . Now  $x' \in L_n$  and  $y' \notin L_n$  so that state must be both an accept state and a reject state. That is a contradiction. ■

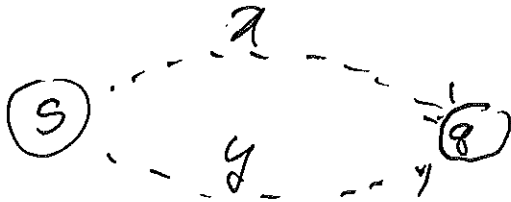
# EXPONENTIAL BLOWUP

$$L_m = \{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ HAS } 1 \text{ IN } m\text{TH POSITION FROM END} \}$$

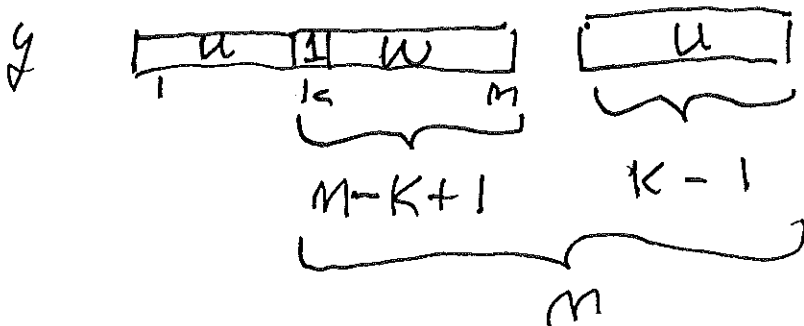
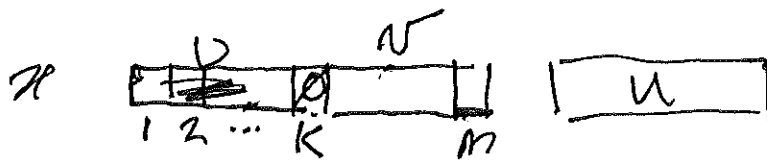
DFA THAT RECOG.  $L_m$  CAN NOT HAVE  $< 2^m$  STATES

CONSIDER STRINGS OF LENGTH  $m$   
THERE  $2^m$  DIFFERENT ONES

PIGEON HOLE AT LEAST TWO MUST END IN SAME STATE



CONSIDER FIRST POSITION WHERE THEY DIFFER SAY  $k$ -th





FOR  $\epsilon$ -NFA THIS FUNCTION IS SPECIAL.

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$$

$Q$

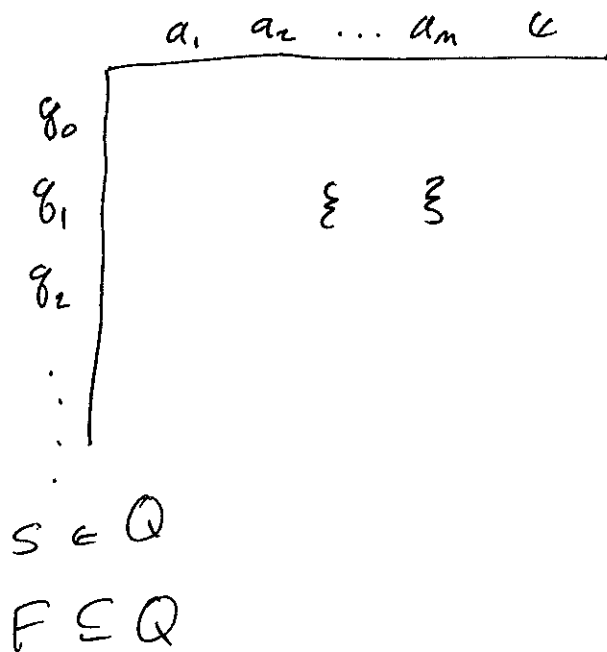
$\Sigma$

$$\delta: Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \rightarrow 2^Q$$

$$\delta(q, a \in \Sigma) \rightarrow P \subseteq 2^Q \text{ TRANSITION AND MOVE SCAN HEAD}$$

$$\delta(q, \epsilon) \rightarrow P \subseteq 2^Q \text{ TRANSITION AND NOT MOVE SCAN HEAD}$$

NOTE  $P$  MAY BE  $\emptyset$ .



THEOREM For every  $\epsilon$ -NFA  $M$  there is an NFA  $\hat{M}$  such that  $L(M) = L(\hat{M})$

$$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, s, F) \quad \epsilon\text{-NFA}$$

$$\hat{M} = (\hat{Q}, \Sigma, \hat{\delta}, \hat{s}, \hat{F}) \quad \text{NFA}$$

$$\hat{Q} = Q$$

$$\hat{s} = s$$

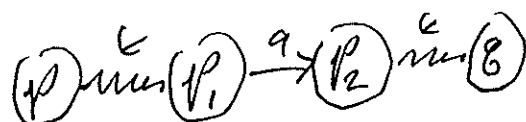
$$\hat{\delta}: \hat{Q} \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{\hat{Q}}$$

$$\hat{\delta}(p, a) = \{q \mid \text{there are states } p_1, p_2 \text{ s.t.}$$

$$p_1 \in E(p)$$

$$p_2 \in \delta(p_1, a)$$

$$q \in E(p_2) \}$$

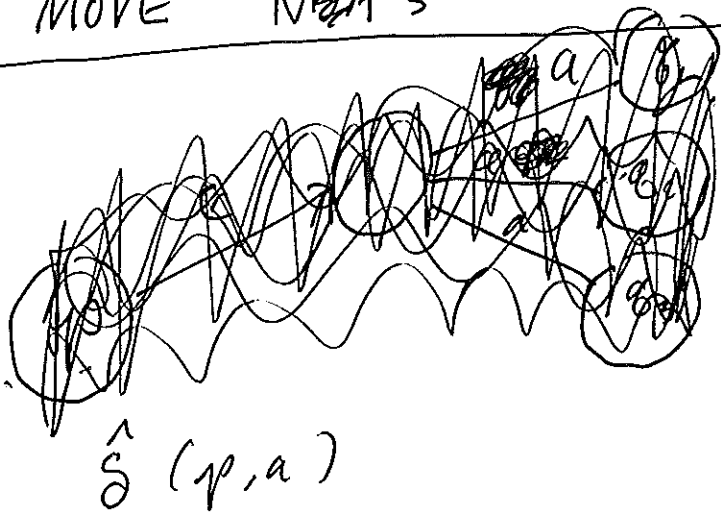


$E(p)$  = SET OF ALL STATES REACHABLE FROM  $p$  BY  $\epsilon$ -MOVES ONLY  
 $\epsilon$ -CLOSURE OF  $p$ .

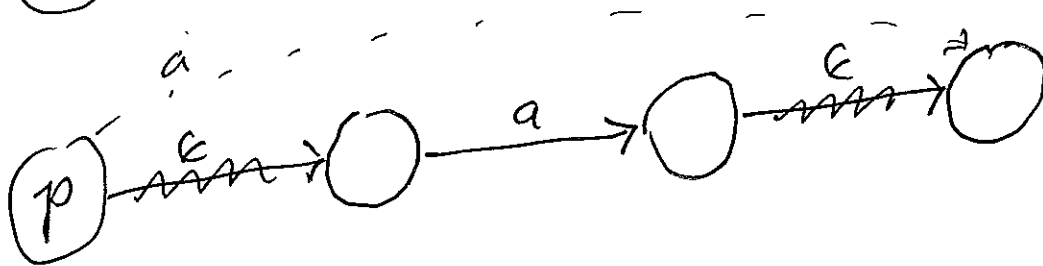
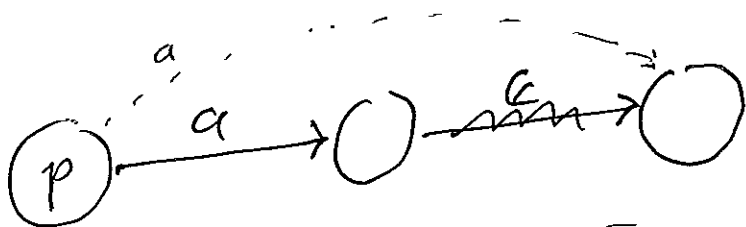
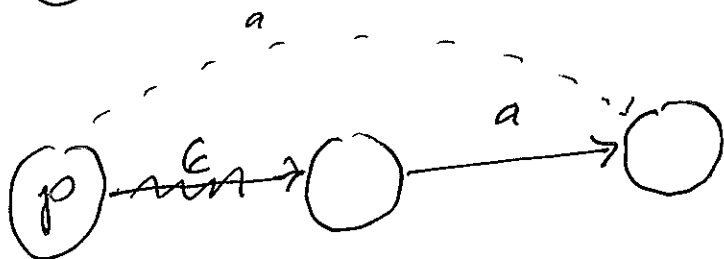
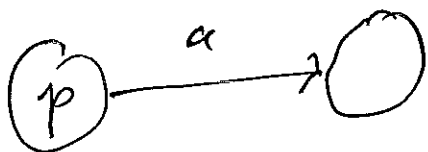
$$\hat{F} = \begin{cases} F \cup \{s\} & \text{IF } F \cap E(s) \neq \emptyset \\ F & \text{OTHERWISE} \end{cases}$$

EXERCISE: SHOW WITH INDUCTION ON  $|x|$  THEY SIMULATE EACH OTHER.

$\epsilon$  MOVE NFA's SEE NOTE BOOK



ALL PLACES CAN GET TO  
FROM  $p$  WITH INPUT  $a$

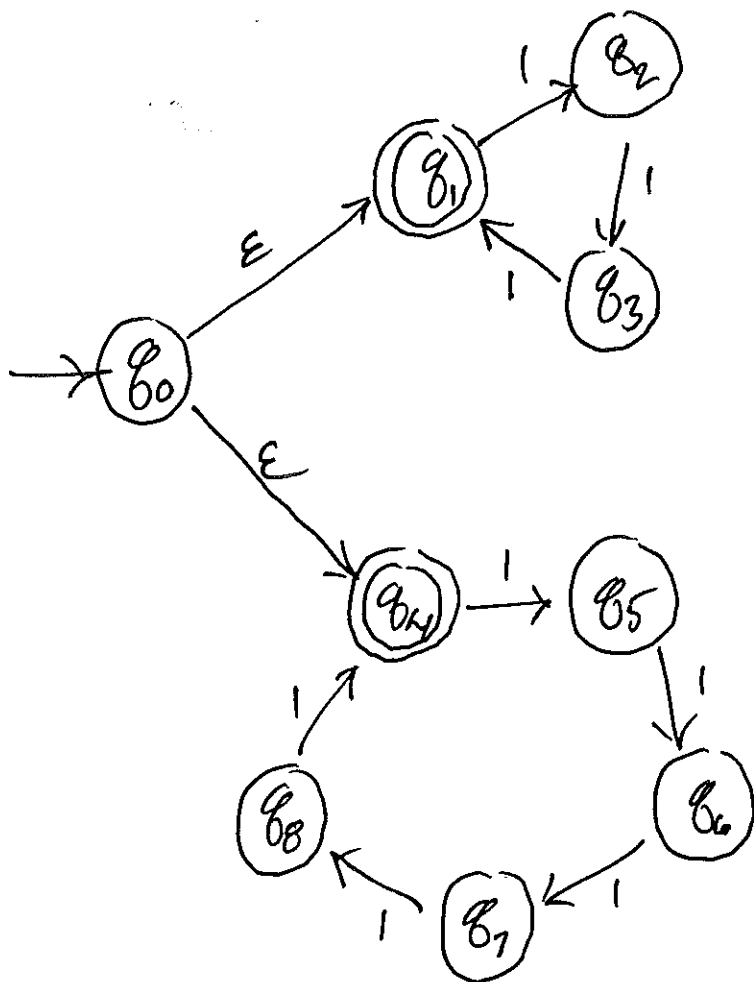


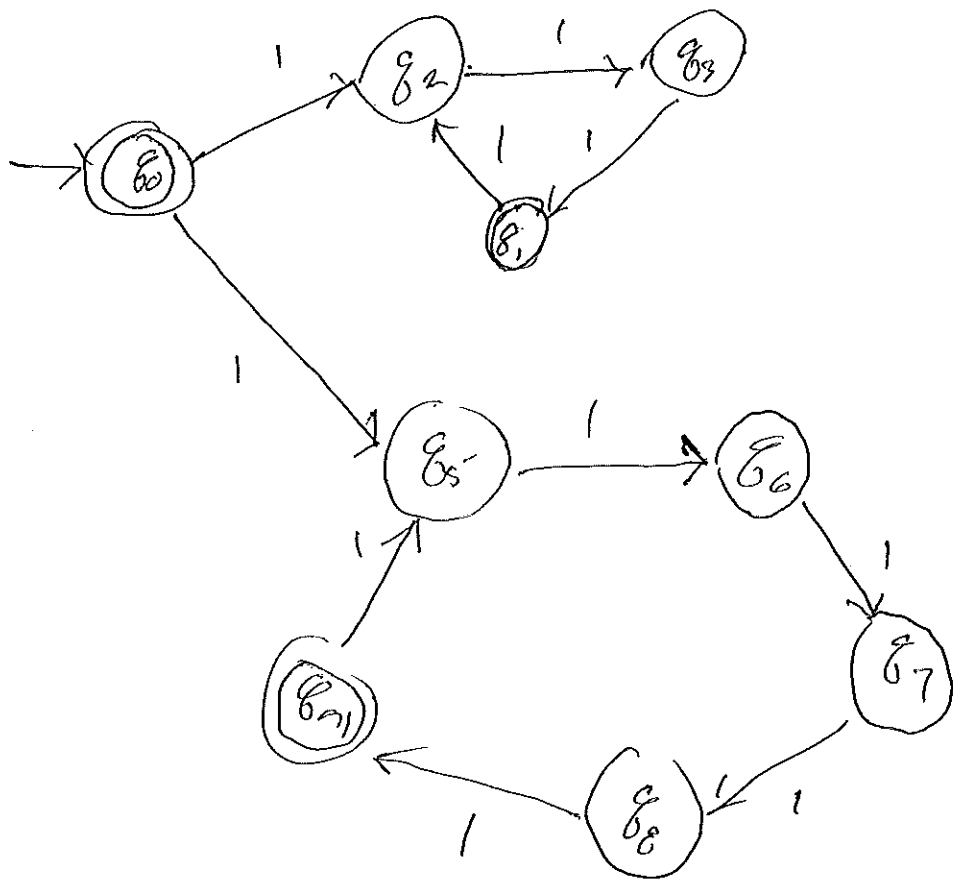
if  $\dots \rightarrow$  transition are included  
CAN GET ANY WHERE  $\epsilon$  ALLOWED WITHOUT USING  $\epsilon$ 's.

NOTE IF THERE IS  $\epsilon$  MOVES FROM START STATE TO AN ACCEPT STATE, THE START STATE MUST BE MADE AN ACCEPT STATE

E-NFA EXAMPLE (DEF. IN ~~THE~~ BOOK)

$$L = \{ 1^m \mid m \text{ is multiple of 3 or of 5} \}$$





# CLOSURE

REGULAR LANGUAGES<sup>1</sup> ROBUST ARE CLOSED UNDER

COMPLEMENT

UNION

INTERSECTION

DIFFERENCE

CONCATENATION

KLEENE STAR

QUOTIENT

REVERSAL

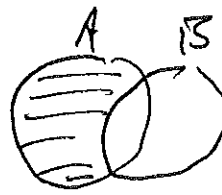
QUOTIENT

$$L_1 / L_2 = \{ x \mid \text{THERE IS A } y \in L_2 \text{ s.t. } xy \in L_1 \}$$

(PREFIXES OF STRINGS IN  $L_1$  WHOSE SUFFIX IS IN  $L_2$ )

FACT: IF  $L_1$  REGULAR  $L_1 / L_2$  IS REGULAR  
EVEN IF  $L_2$  IS NOT REGULAR.

$$A - B =$$



$$A \cap \overline{B}$$

A REG

B REG

~~A B~~  $A \cap \overline{B}$

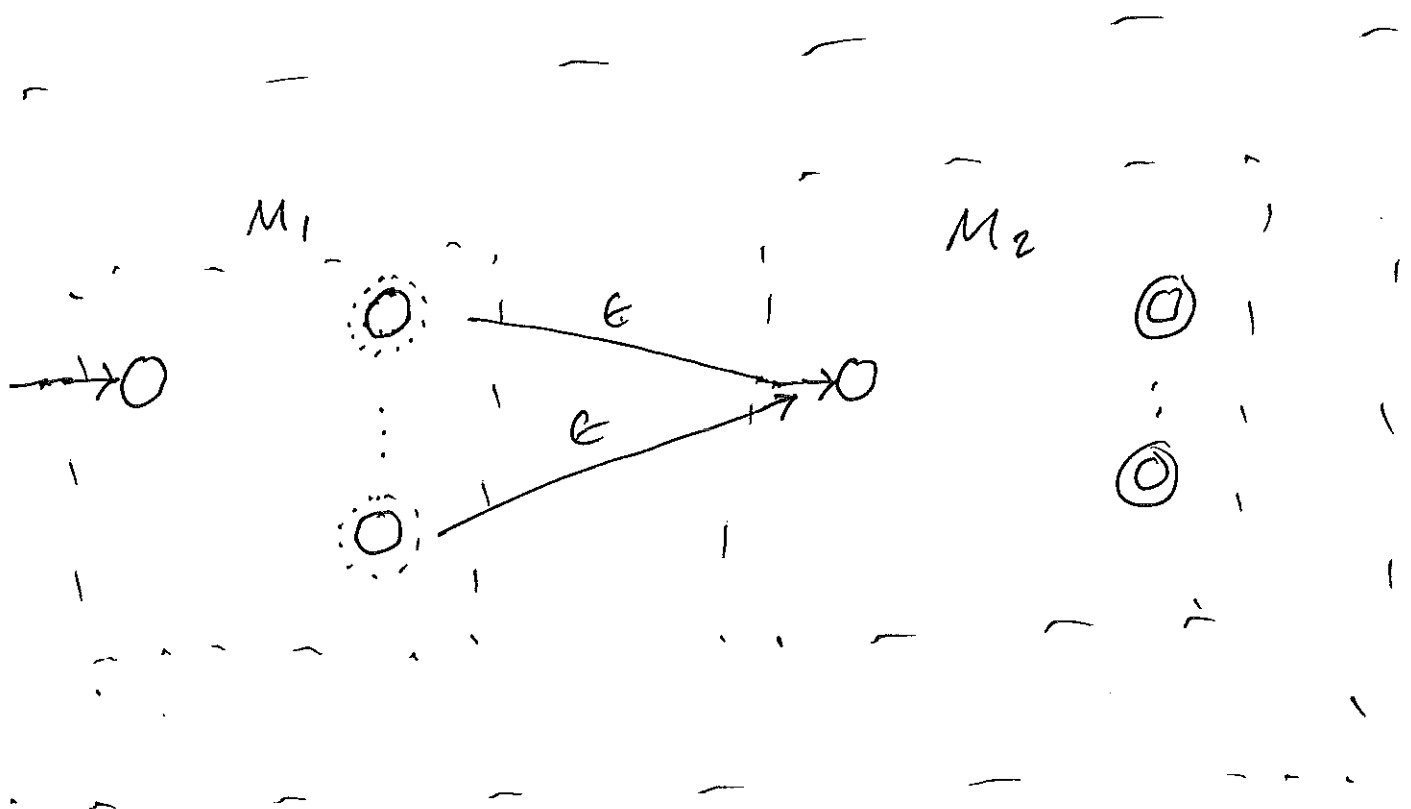
B REG  $\Rightarrow \overline{B}$  REG

$\Rightarrow A \cap \overline{B}$  REG

$\Rightarrow A - B$  REG

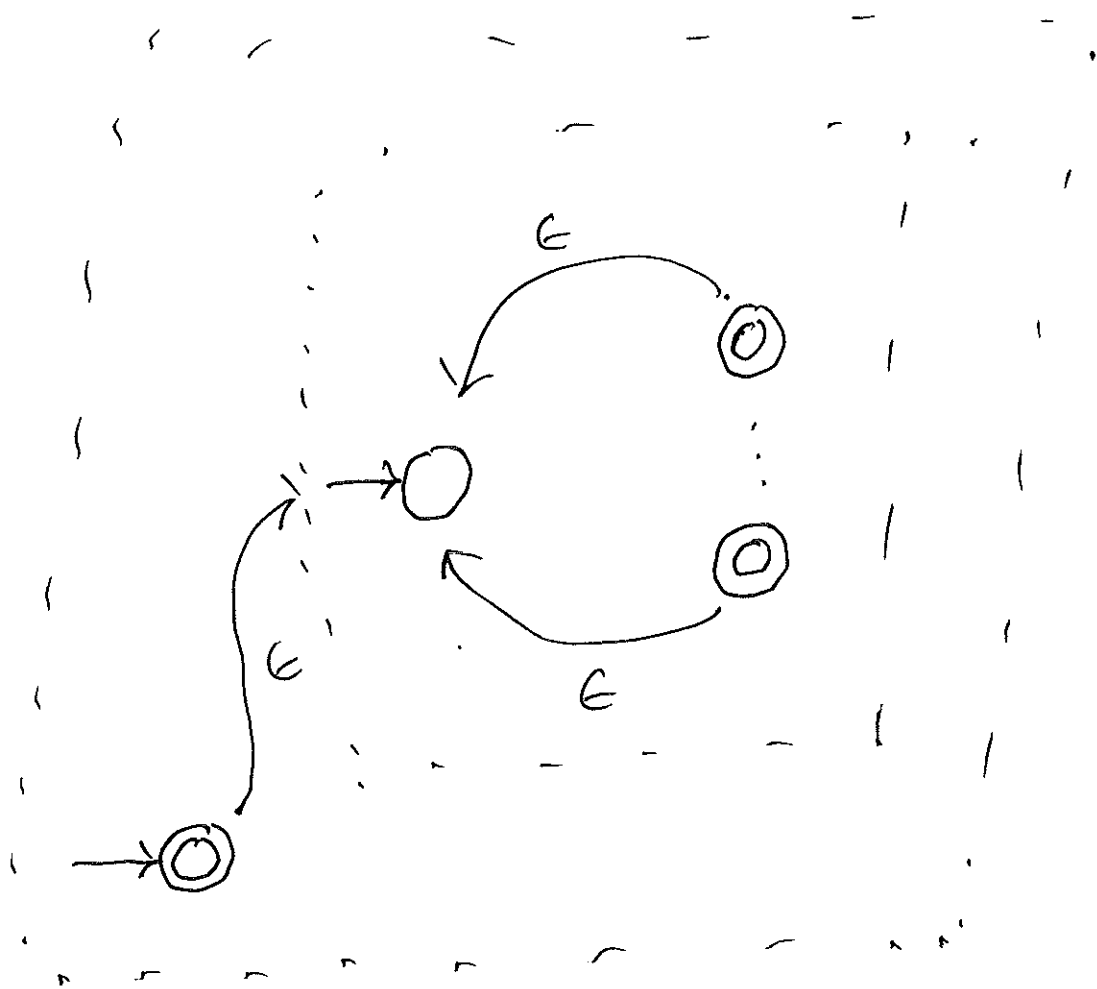
INTERSECT REG

CLOSED UNDER CONCATENATION.

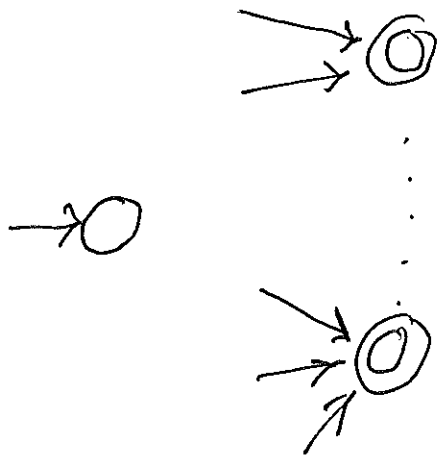




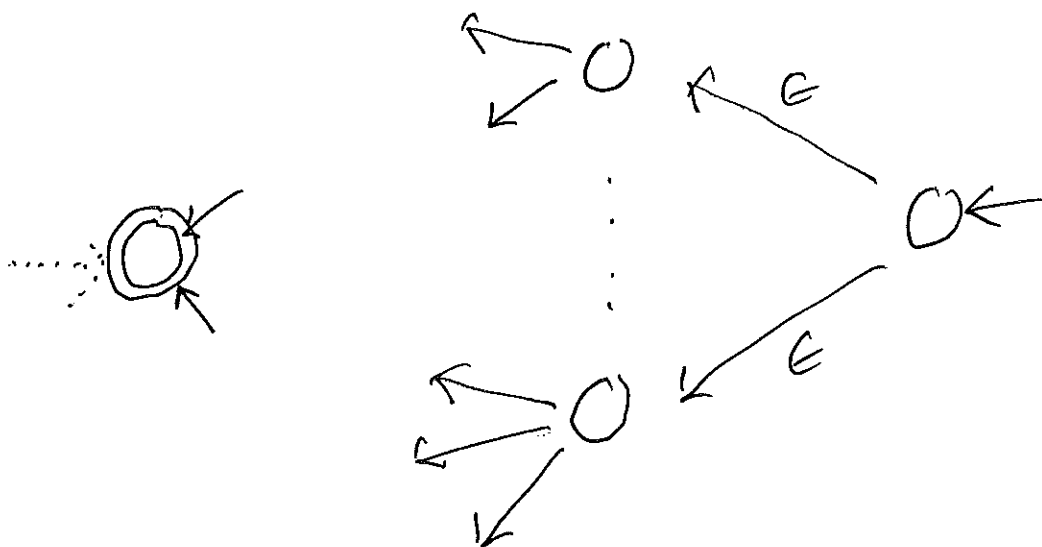
CLOSED UNDER KLEENE STAR



# CLOSED UNDER REVERSAL

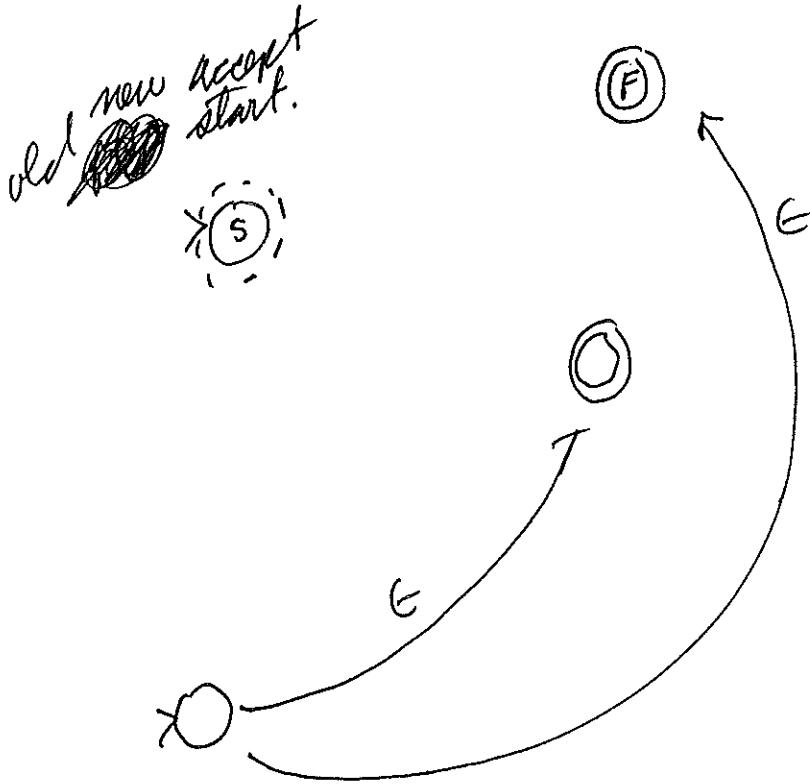


DFA

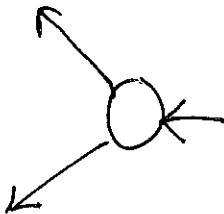
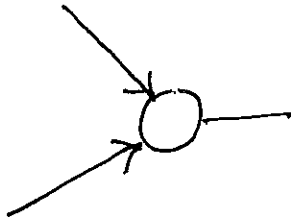


NFA

REVERSAL IS REG.



NEW START  
ε MOVES TO OLD ACCEPTS




---

IF A PATH FROM  $S \rightarrow F$  MUST BE PATH  
FROM  $F \rightarrow S$  IN NEW AND OF COURSE ~~REVERSE~~ ACCEPTS.  
IF A PATH FROM  $F \rightarrow S$  IN NEW MUST BE PATH  
IN OLD FROM  $S \rightarrow F$ .

1.31

IF  $A$  IS REG. THEN THERE MUST EXIST  
A DFA  $M_A$  THAT RECOGNIZES  $A$ .

$M_A$  CAN BE MODIFIED TO BE A NFA  $N_A$   
THAT RECOGNIZES  $A^R$ .

- I ADD A NEW START STATE WITH  $\epsilon$  MOVES  
TO ALL THE ACCEPT STATES OF  $M_A$ .
- II CHANGE THOSE ACCEPT STATES TO REJECT STATES.
- III CHANGE  $M_A$ 'S START STATE TO AN ACCEPT STATE.  
~~IN REVERSE~~
- IV REVERSE ALL TRANSITION ARROWS IN  $M_A$ .