

Arden's Theorem:

If P and Q are two regular expressions over Σ , and if P does not contain ϵ , then the following equation in R given by $R = Q + RP$ has an unique solution i.e.,

$$R = QP^*$$

Let's start by taking this equation as equation (i)

$$R = Q + RP \dots\dots(i)$$

Now, replacing R by $R = QP^*$, we get,

$$R = Q + QP^*P$$

Taking Q as common,

$$R = Q(\epsilon + P^*P)$$

$$R = QP^*$$

Example 1:

Initial and final state- q_1

Step-01:

equations are

$$q_1 = q_1 a + q_3 a + \epsilon \quad (1)$$

$$q_2 = q_1 b + q_2 b + q_3 b \quad (2)$$

$$q_3 = q_2 a \quad (3)$$

Bring state q_2 in the form $R = Q + RP$.

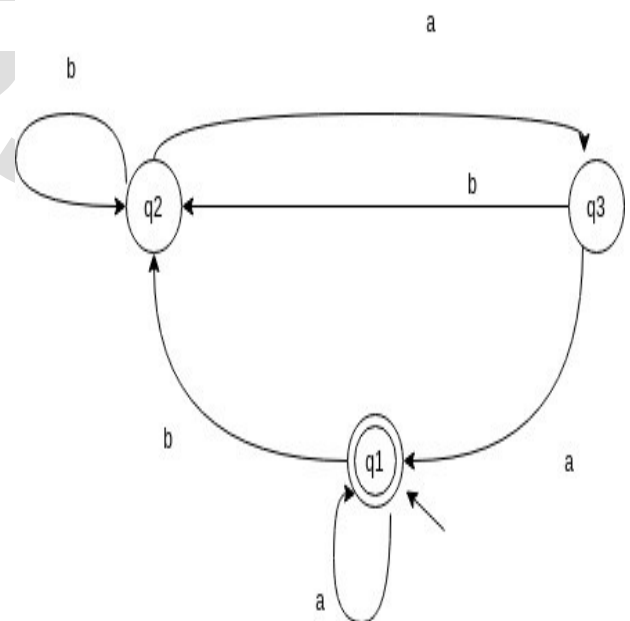
$$\begin{aligned} q_2 &= q_1 b + q_2 b + (q_2 a) b \\ &= q_1 b + q_2(b + ab) \end{aligned}$$

by arden's theorem

$$q_2 = q_1 b (b+ab)^* \quad (4)$$

Using (3) in (1), we get-

$$q_1 = q_1 a + q_3 a + \epsilon$$



$$=q_1a+(q_2a)a + \epsilon$$

Using (4) in (1), we get-

$$\begin{aligned} &=q_1a+q_1b(b+ab)^*aa + \epsilon \\ &=q_1(a+b(b+ab)^*aa) + \epsilon \end{aligned} \quad (5)$$

Using Arden's Theorem in (5), we get-

$$\begin{aligned} q_1 &= \epsilon + q_1(a+b(b+ab)^*aa) \\ q_1 &= (a+b(b+ab)^*aa)^* \end{aligned}$$

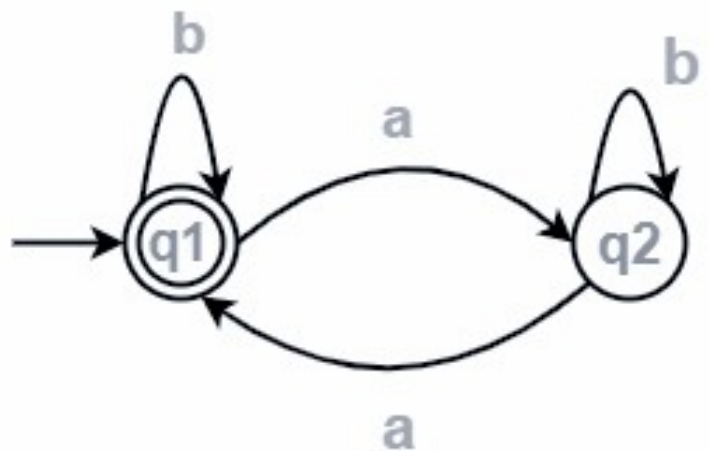
Thus, Regular Expression for the given DFA = $(a+b(b+ab)^*aa)^*$

Example 2:

Step-01:

Form an equation for each state-

- $q_1 = \epsilon + q_1b + q_2a$ (1)
- $q_2 = q_1a + q_2b$ (2)



Step-02:

Bring final state in the form $R = Q + RP$.

Using Arden's Theorem in (2), we get-

$$q_2 = q_1ab^* \quad \dots\dots(3)$$

Using (3) in (1), we get-

$$q_1 = \epsilon + q_1 b + q_1 a b^* a$$

$$q_1 = \epsilon + q_1 (b + a b^* a) \quad \dots\dots(4)$$

Using Arden's Theorem in (4), we get-

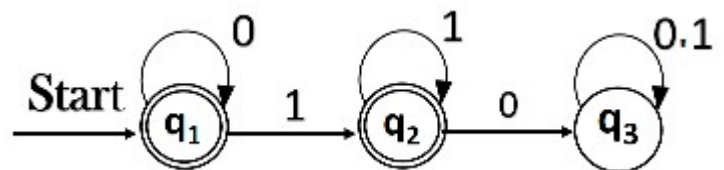
$$q_1 = \epsilon (b + a b^* a)^*$$

$$q_1 = (b + a b^* a)^*$$

Thus, Regular Expression for the given DFA = $(b + a b^* a)^*$

Example 3:

Construct the regular expression for the given DFA



Solution:

Let us write down the equations

$$q_1 = q_1 0 + \epsilon$$

Since q_1 is the start state, so ϵ will be added, and the input 0 is coming to q_1 from q_1 hence we write

State = source state of input \times input coming to it

Similarly,

$$q_2 = q_1 1 + q_2 1$$

$$q_3 = q_2 0 + q_3 (0+1)$$

Since the final states are q_1 and q_2 , we are interested in solving q_1 and q_2 only. Let us see q_1 first

$$q_1 = q_1 0 + \varepsilon$$

We can re-write it as

$$q_1 = \varepsilon + q_1 0$$

Which is similar to $R = Q + RP$, and gets reduced to $R = QP^*$.

Assuming $R = q_1$, $Q = \varepsilon$, $P = 0$

We get

$$q_1 = \varepsilon.(0)^*$$

$$q_1 = 0^* \quad (\varepsilon.R^* = R^*)$$

Substituting the value into q_2 , we will get

$$q_2 = 0^* 1 + q_2 1$$

$$q_2 = 0^* 1 (1)^* \quad (R = Q + RP \rightarrow QP^*)$$

The regular expression is given by

$$r = q_1 + q_2$$

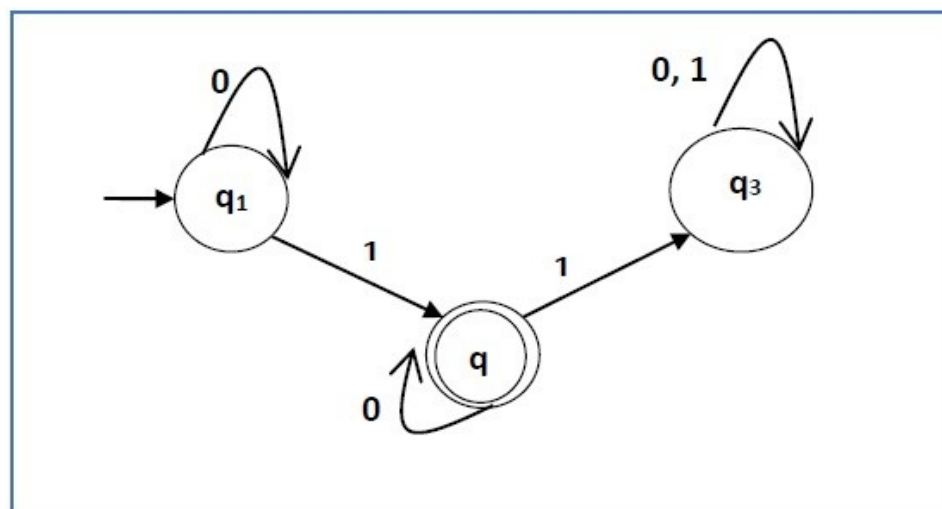
$$= 0^* + 0^* 1.1^*$$

$$r = 0^* + 0^* 1 + (1.1^*$$

$$= 1+)$$

Example 4:

Construct a regular expression



corresponding to the automata given below –

Here the initial state is q_1 and the final state is q_2

Now we write down the equations –

$$q_1 = q_1 0 + \epsilon$$

$$q_2 = q_1 1 + q_2 0$$

$$q_3 = q_2 1 + q_3 0 + q_3 1$$

Now, we will solve these three equations –

$$q_1 = \epsilon 0^* \text{ [As, } \epsilon R = R]$$

$$\text{So, } q_1 = 0^*$$

$$q_2 = 0^* 1 + q_2 0$$

$$\text{So, } q_2 = 0^* 1 (0)^* \text{ [By Arden's theorem]}$$

Hence, the regular expression is $0^* 1 0^*$.