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# DFA to regular expression conversion

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**Converting DFA to Regular Expression  
(Methods)**

**Arden's Method**

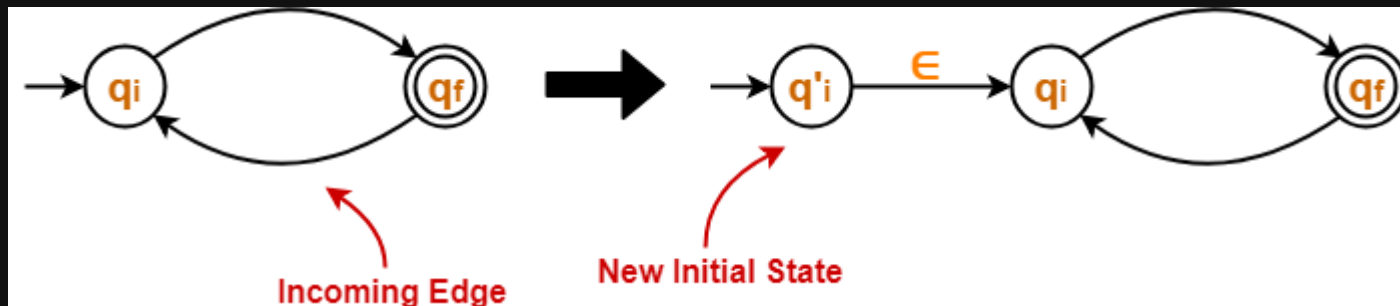
**State Elimination Method**

# State Elimination Method-

This method involves the following steps in finding the regular expression for any given DFA-

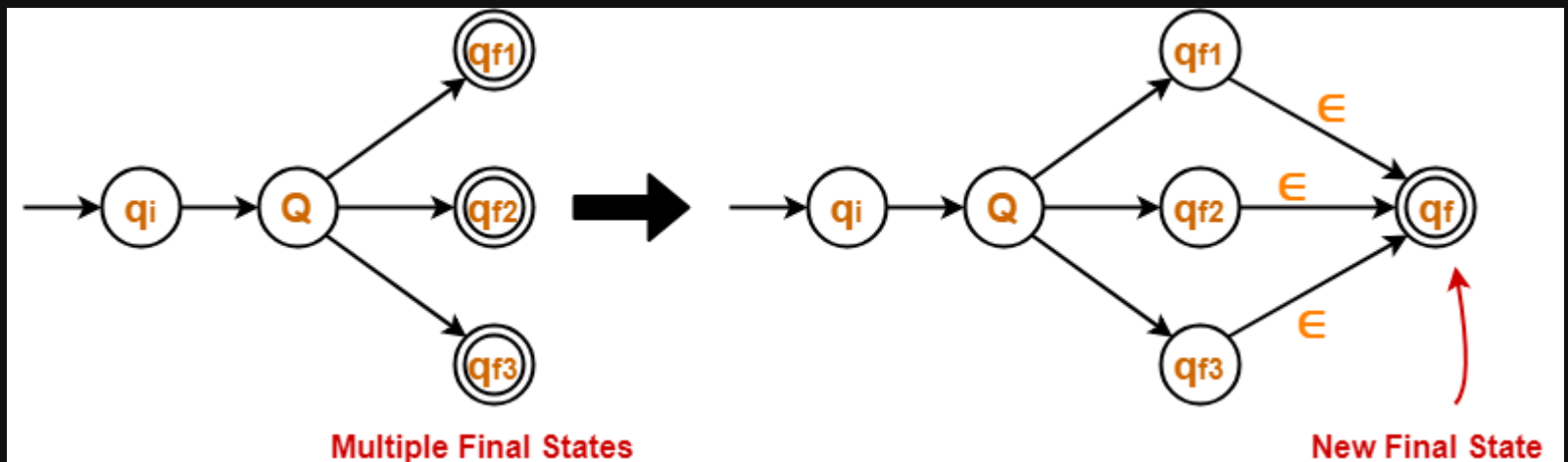
## Step-0 I:

If there exists any incoming edge to the initial state, then create a new initial state having no incoming edge to it.



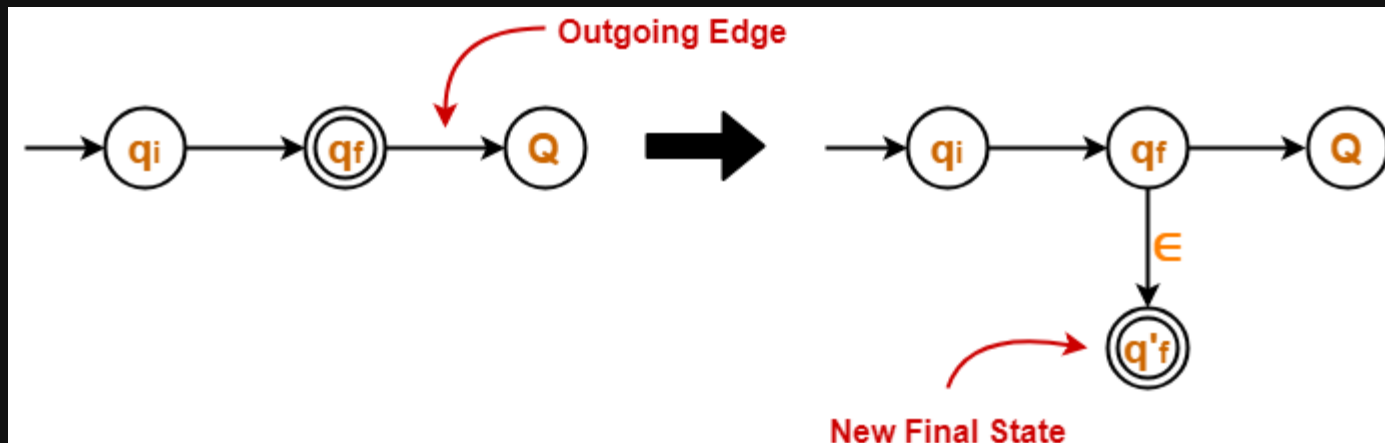
## Step-02:

If there exists multiple final states in the DFA, then convert all the final states into non-final states and create a new single final state.



### Step-03:

If there exists any outgoing edge from the final state, then create a new final state having no outgoing edge from it.



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## **Step-04:**

- Eliminate all the intermediate states one by one.
- These states may be eliminated in any order.

In the end,

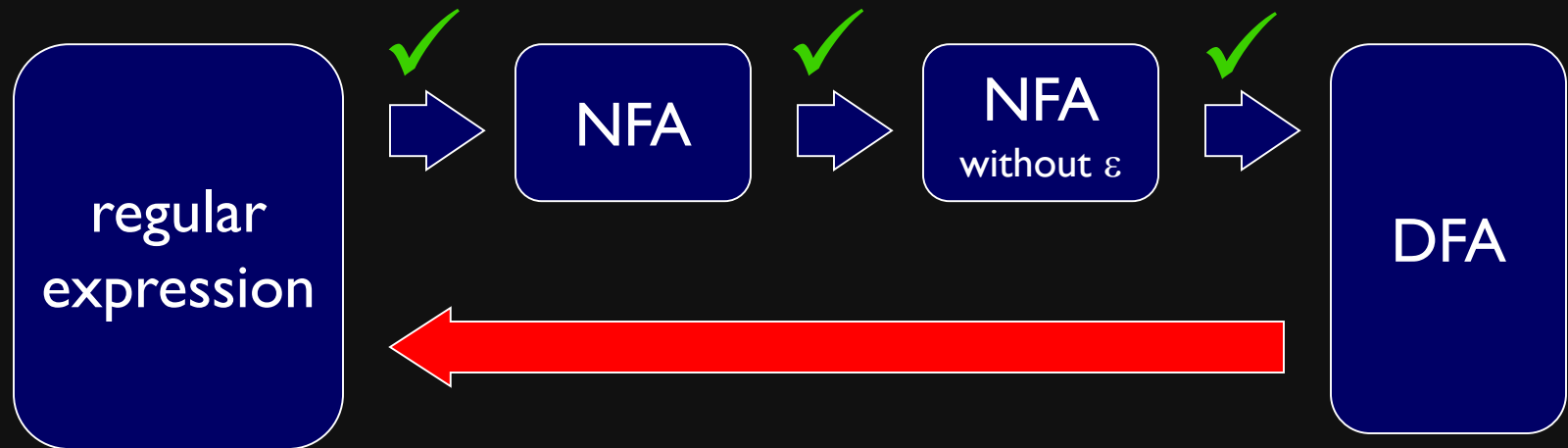
- Only an initial state going to the final state will be left.
- The cost of this transition is the required regular expression.

## **NOTE**

The state elimination method can be applied to any finite automata.  
(NFA,  $\epsilon$ -NFA, DFA etc)

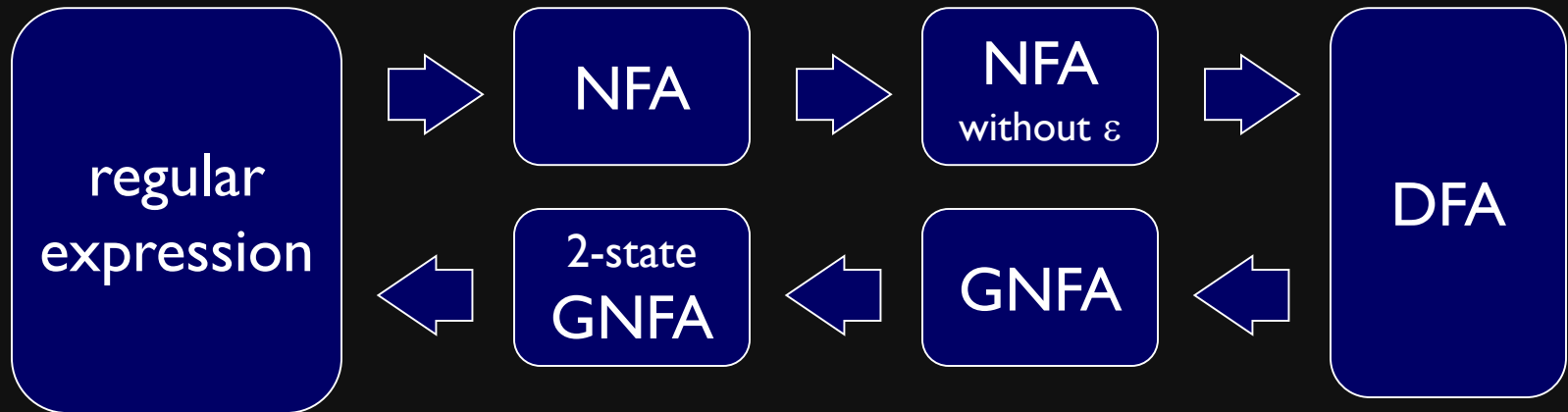
# Road map

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# Road map

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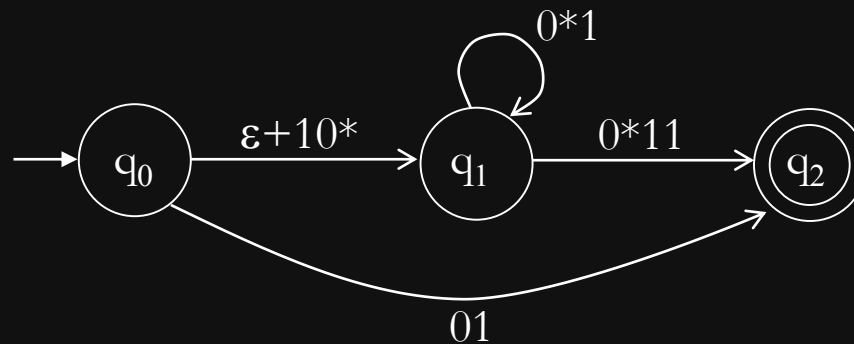




# Generalized NFAs

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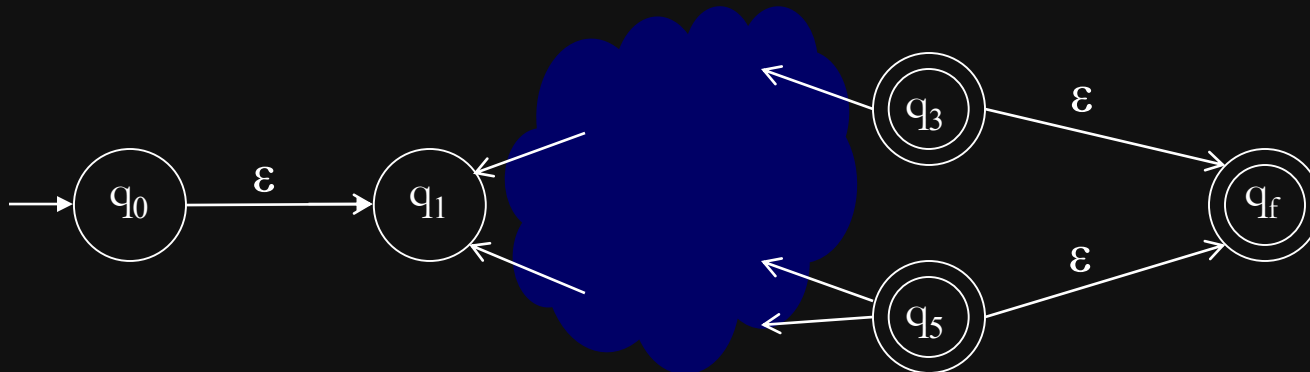
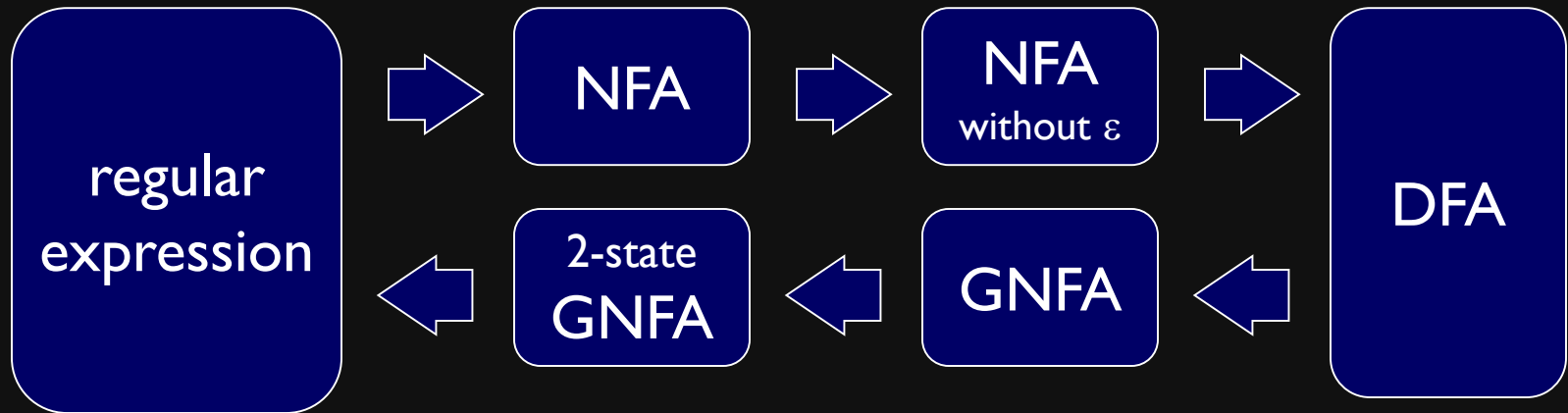
- A **generalized NFA** is an NFA whose transitions are labeled by regular expressions, like



moreover

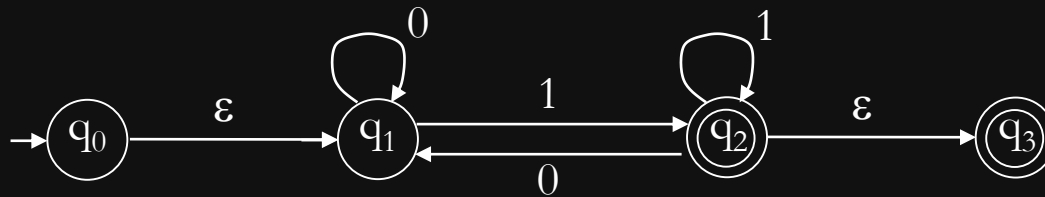
- It has **exactly one accept state**, different from its start state
- No arrows come into the start state
- No arrows go out of the accept state

# Converting a DFA to a GNFA



# Conversion example

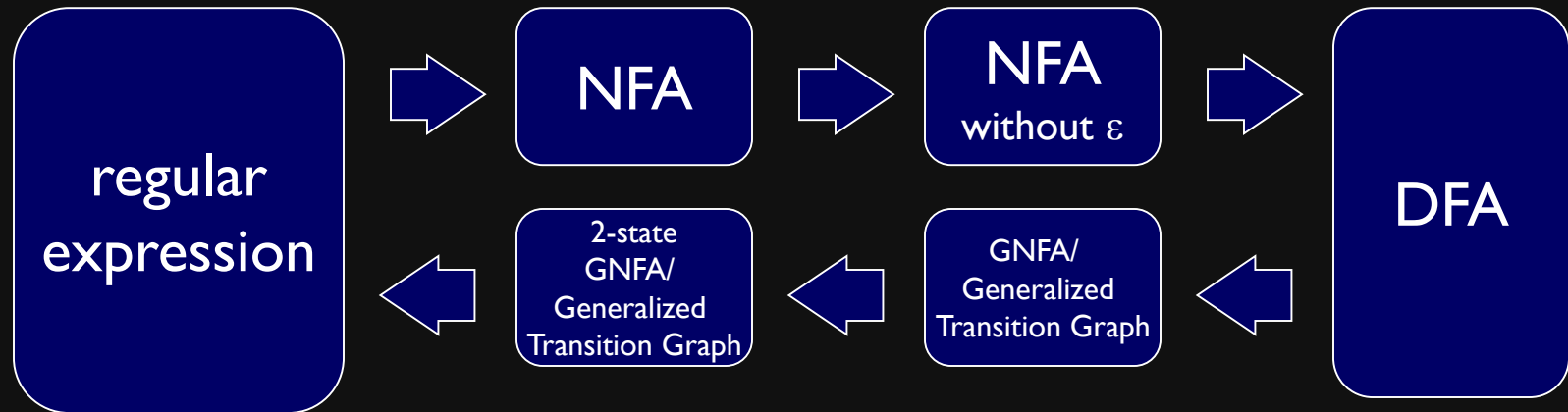
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- ✓ – It has **exactly one accept state**, different from its start state
- ✓ – No arrows come into the start state
- ✓ – No arrows go out of the accept state

# GNFA state reduction

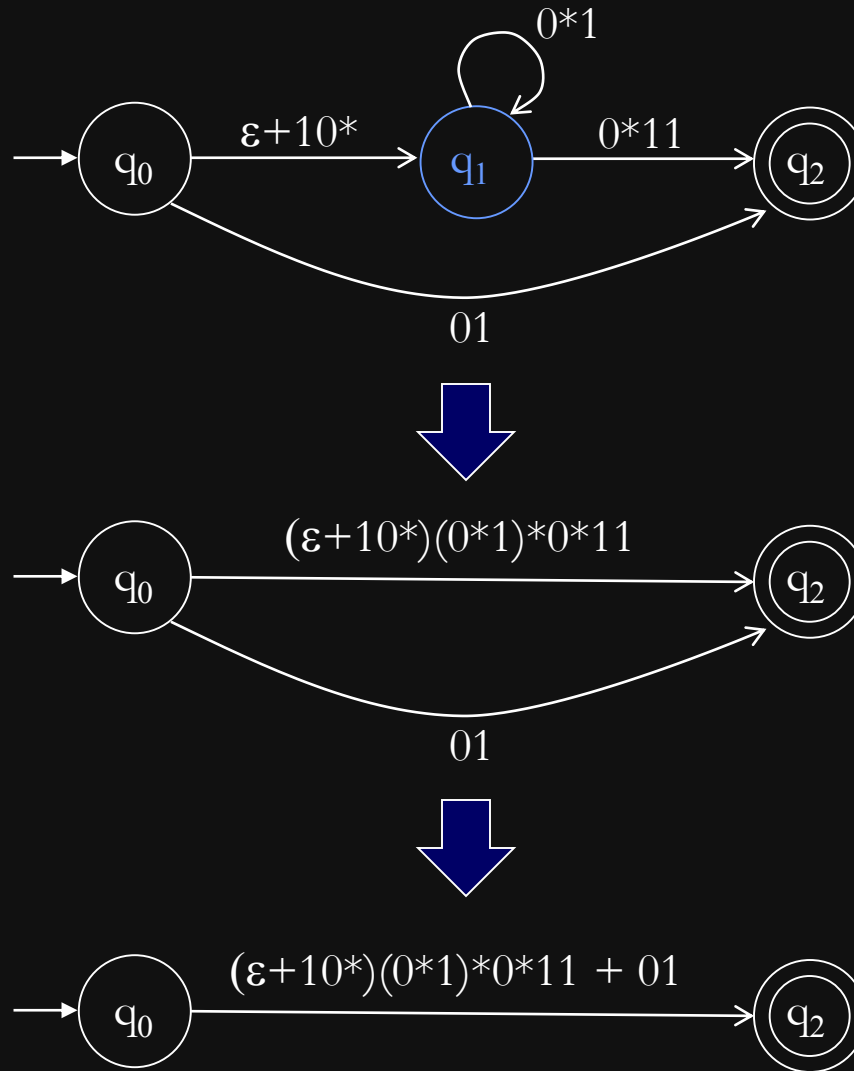
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From any GNFA, we can eliminate every state but the start and accept states

# State elimination

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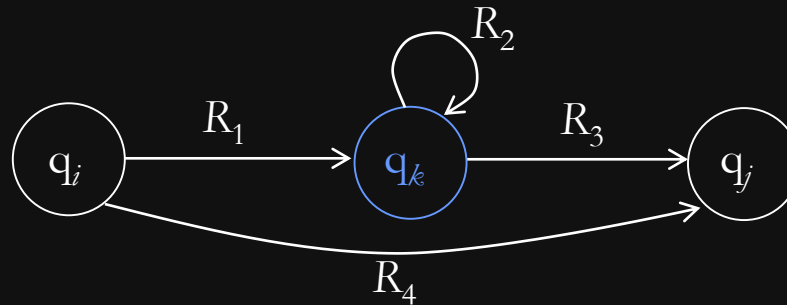


# State elimination – general method

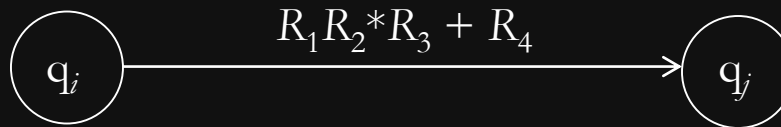
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- To **eliminate** state  $q_k$ , for every pair of states  $(q_i, q_j)$

Replace



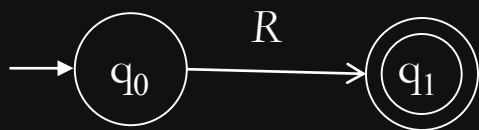
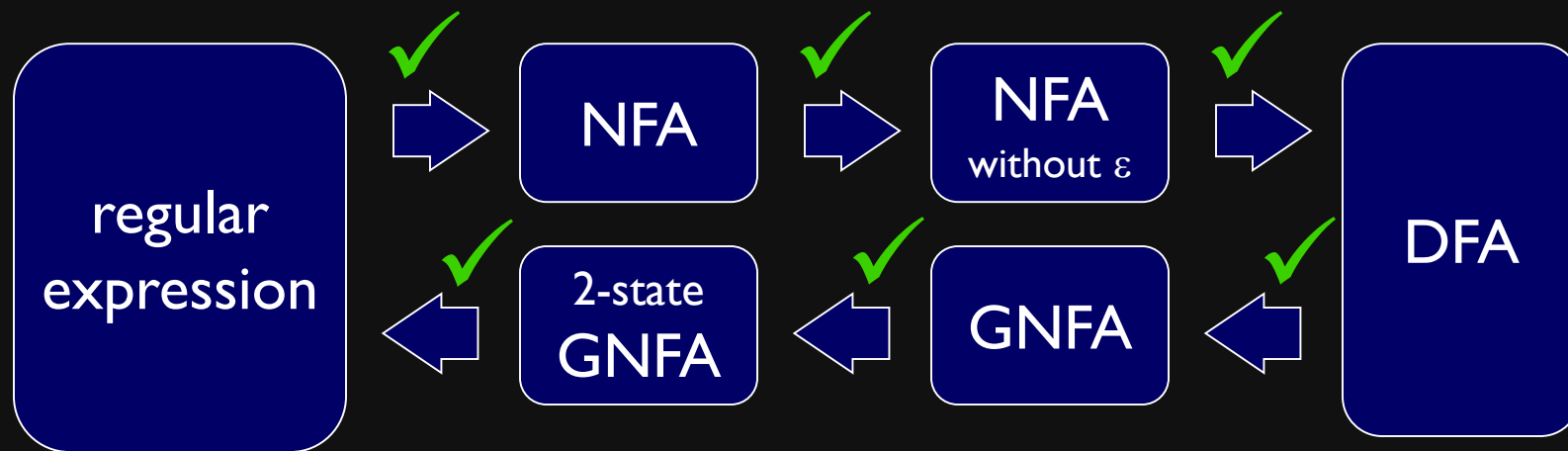
by



remember to do this even when  $q_i = q_j$ !

# Road map

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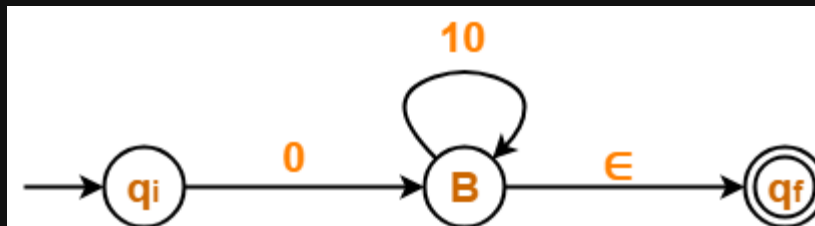
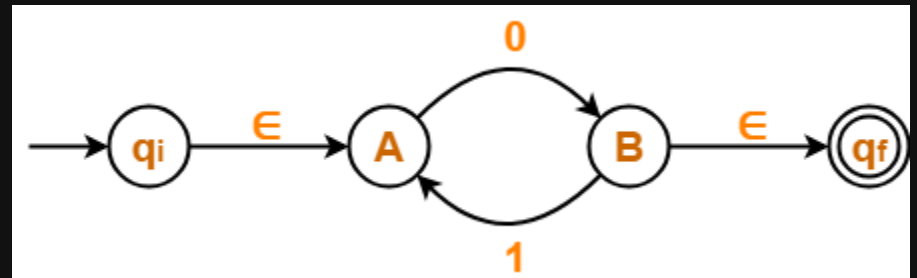
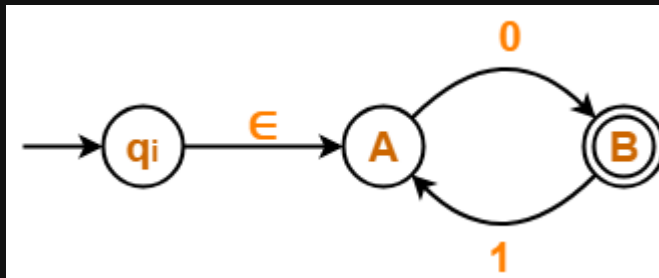
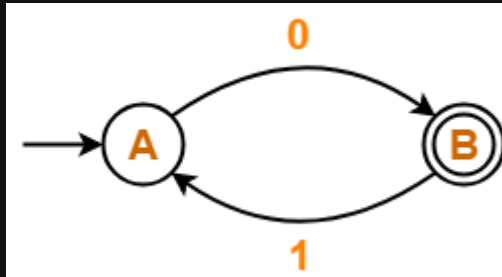
A 2-state GNFA is the **same** as a regular expression  $R$ !

## Problem-01:

### NOTE-

In the above question,

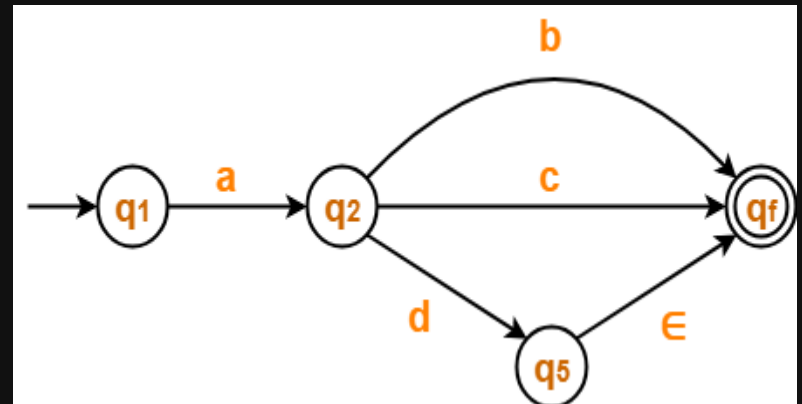
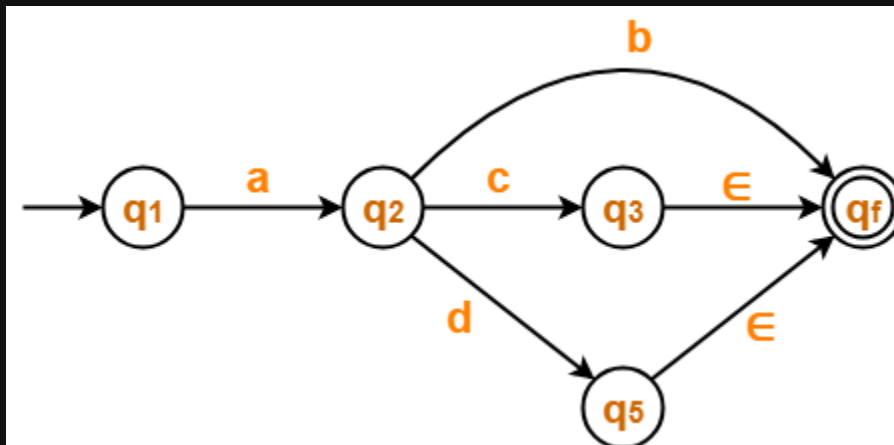
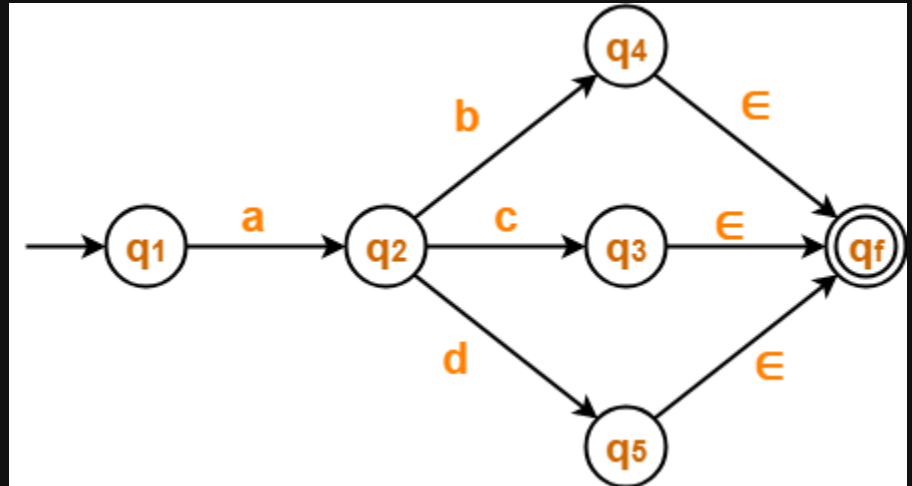
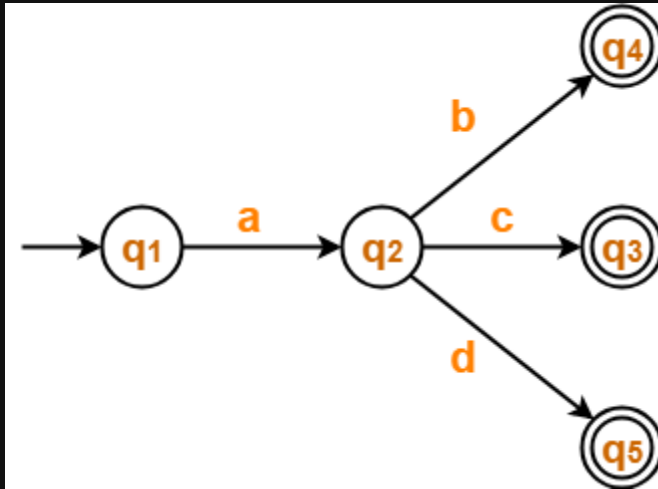
- If we first eliminate state B and then state A, then regular expression would be  $= (01)^*0$ .
- This is also the same and correct.

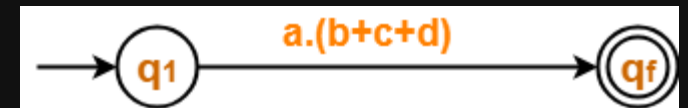
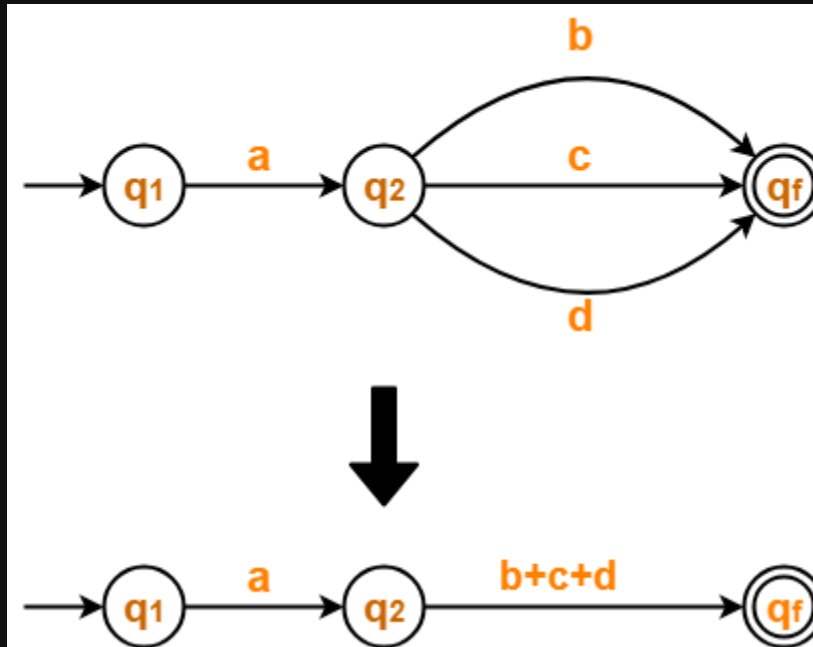


**Regular Expression =  $0(10)^*$**



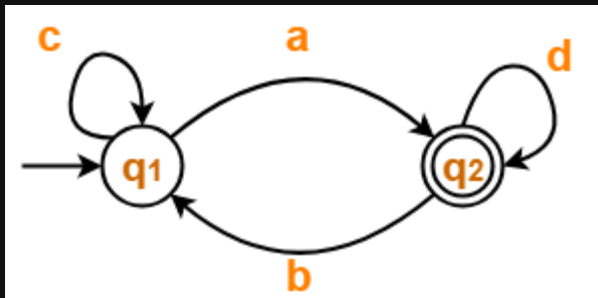
# Problem 02



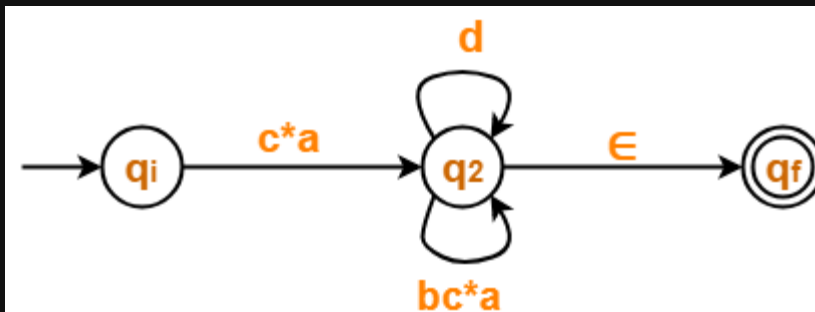
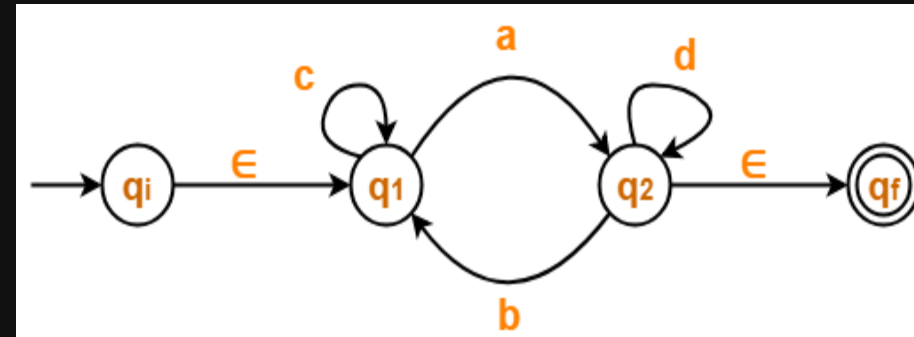
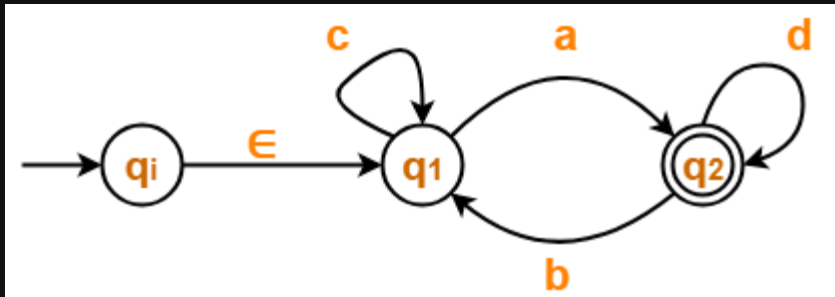


**Regular Expression =  $a(b+c+d)$**

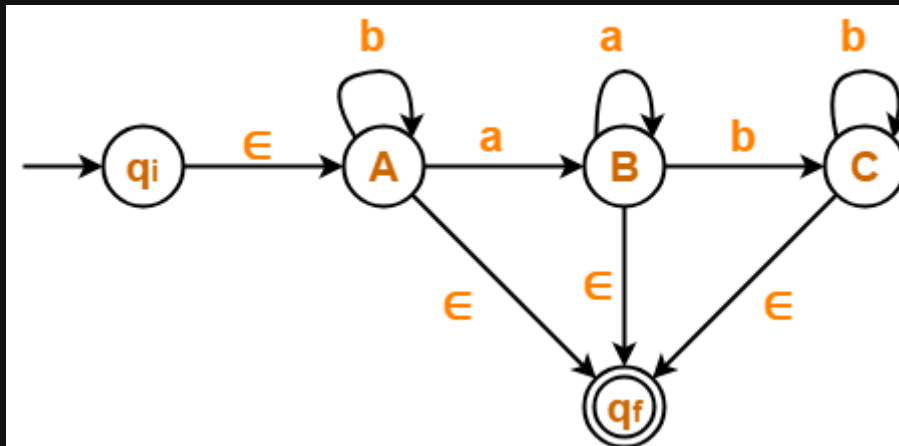
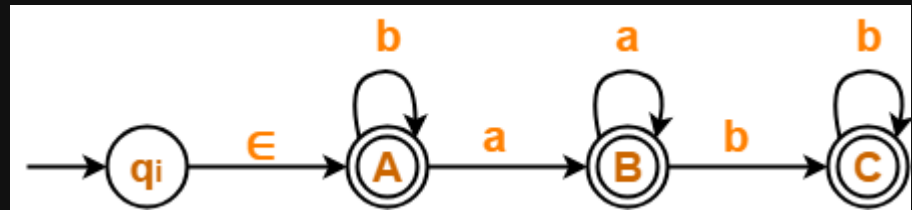
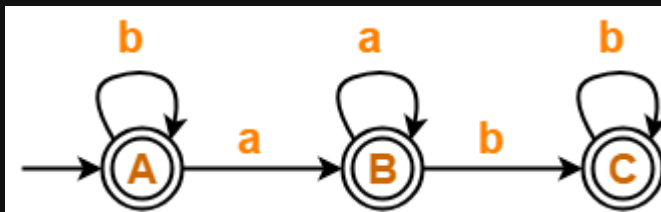
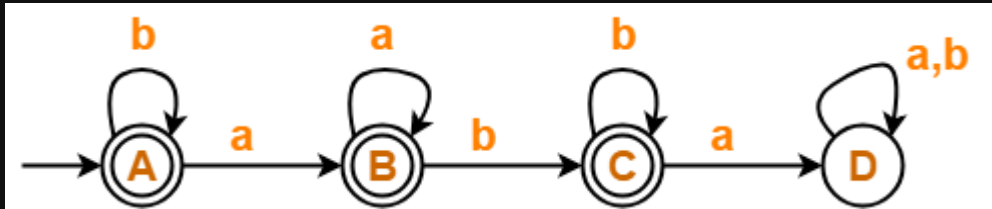
# Problem 03

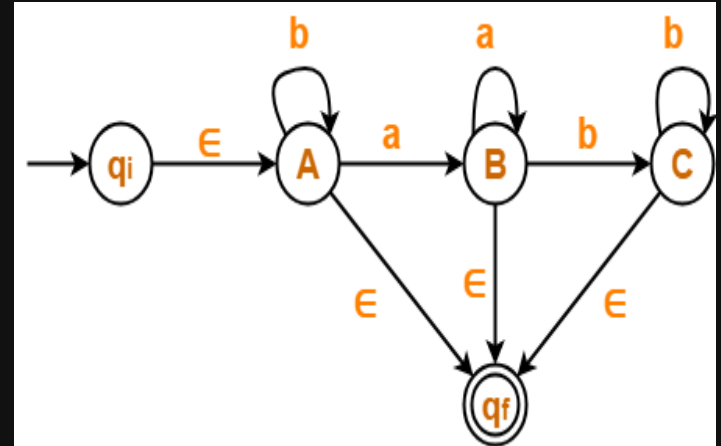
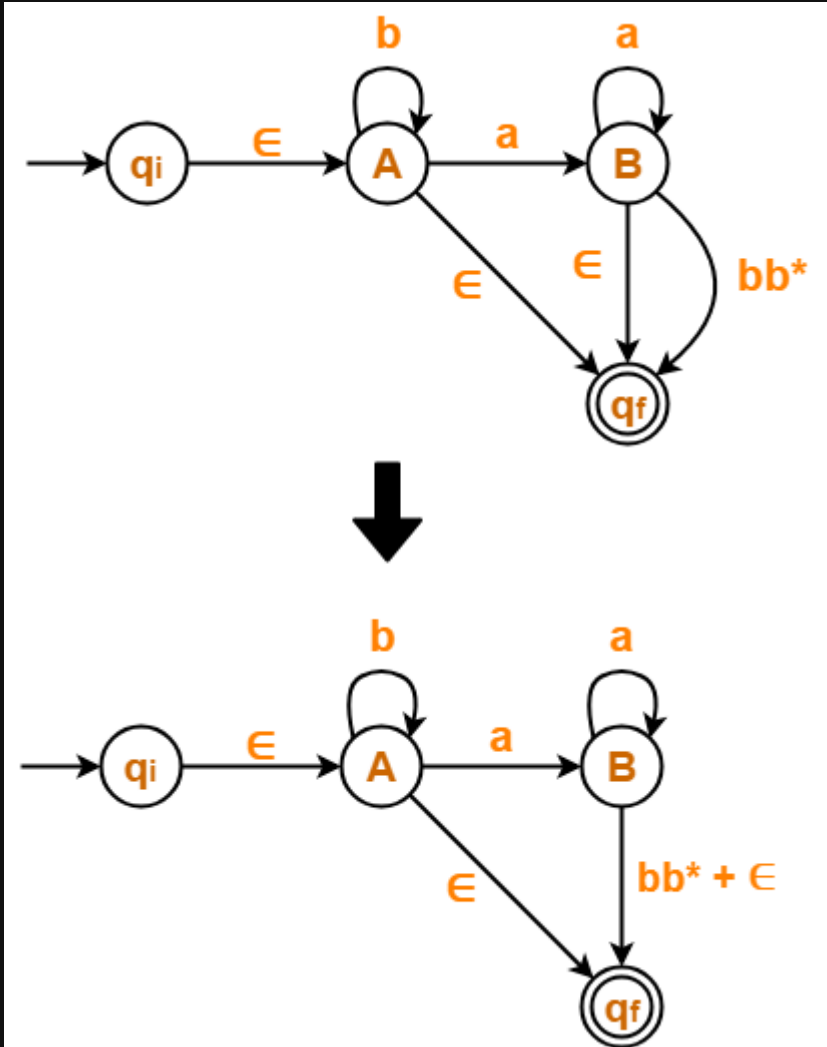


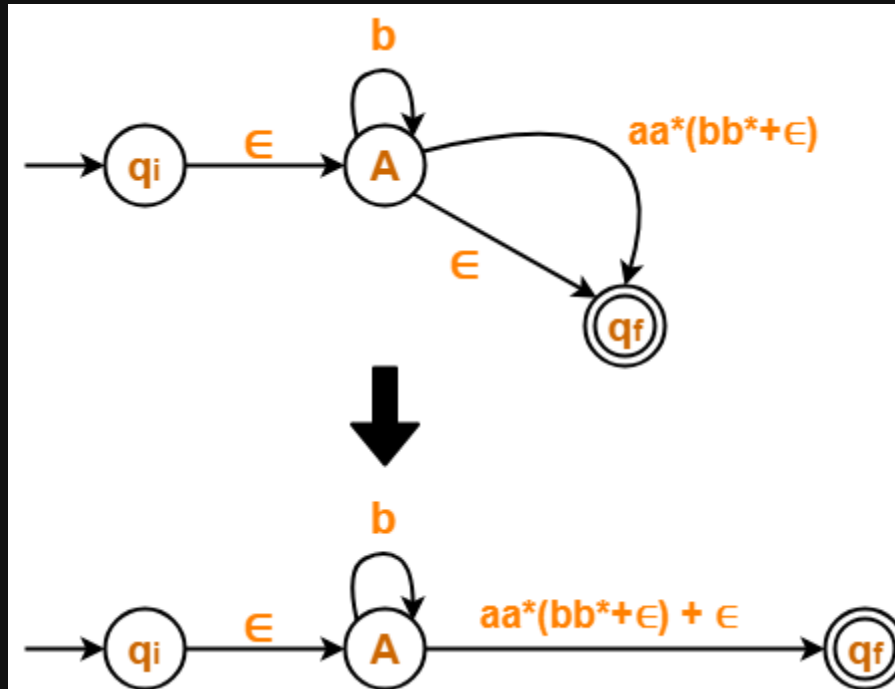
Regular Expression =  
 $c^*a(d+bc^*a)^*$



# Problem 04







**Regular Expression =**  
 $b^*(aa^*(bb^* + \epsilon) + \epsilon)$

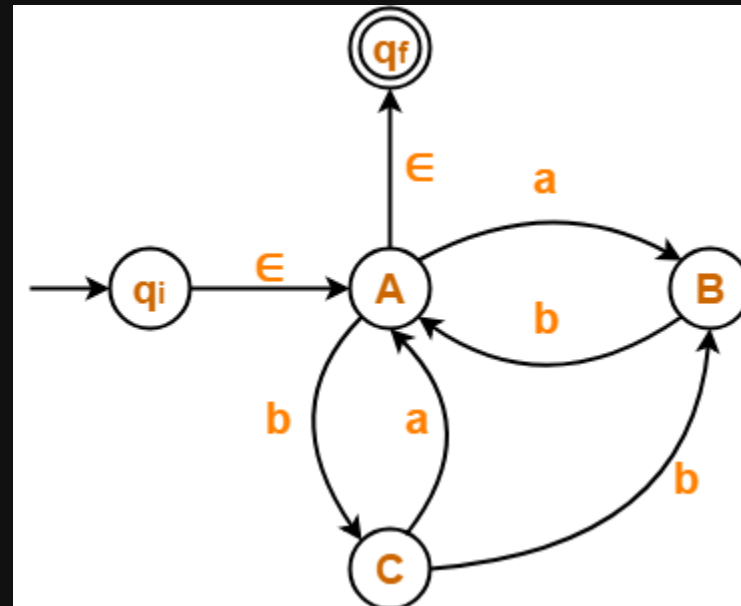
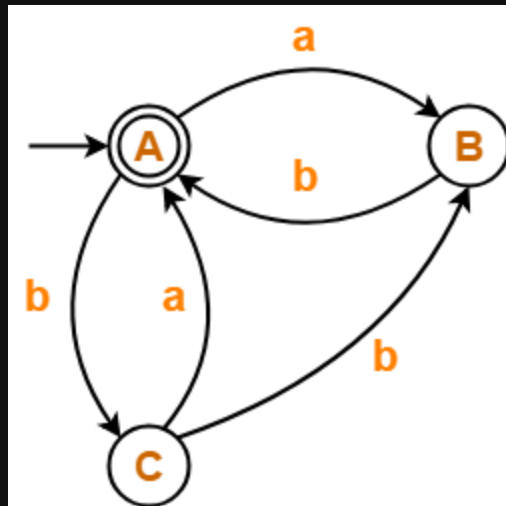
We know,  $bb^* + \epsilon = b^*$   
 So, we can also write-

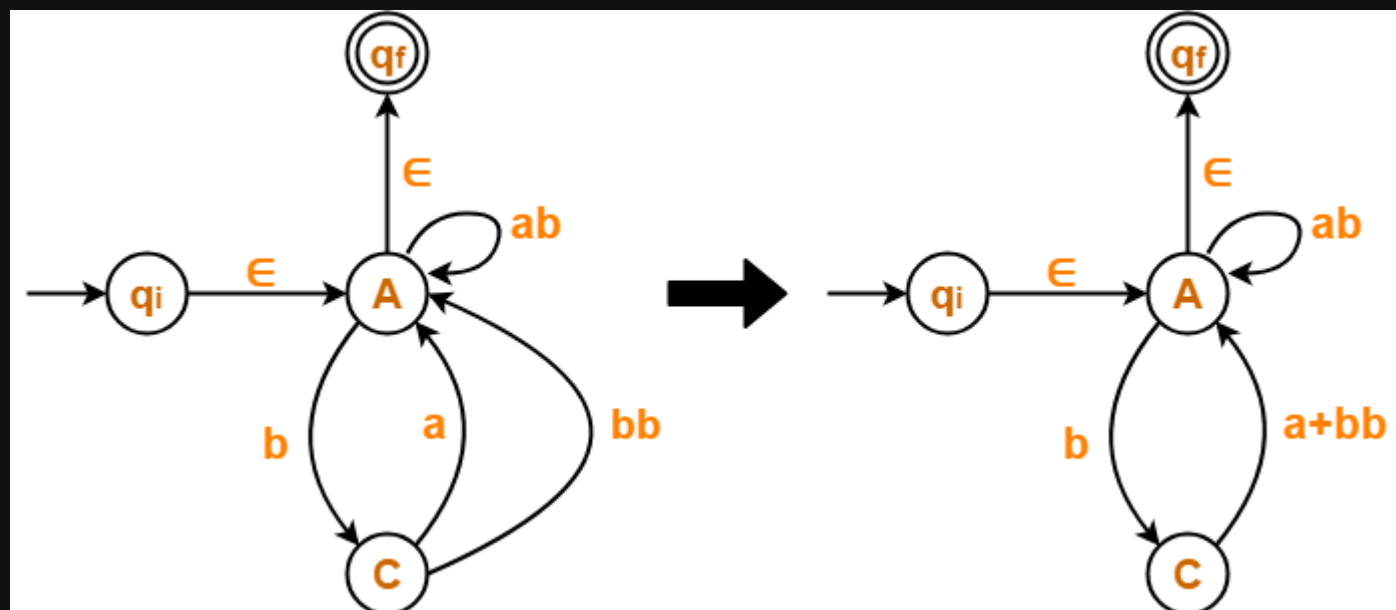
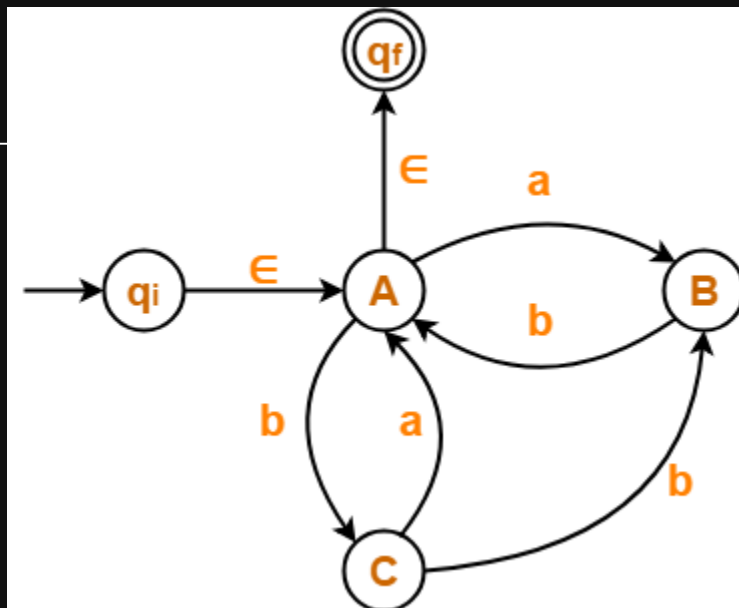
**Regular Expression =**  
 $b^*(aa^*b^* + \epsilon)$



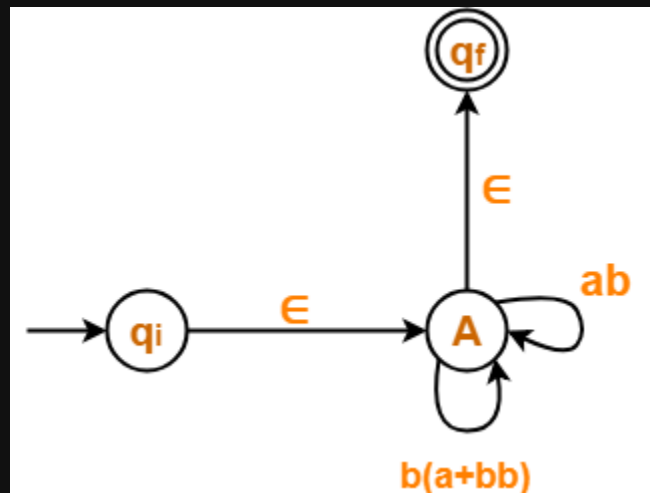
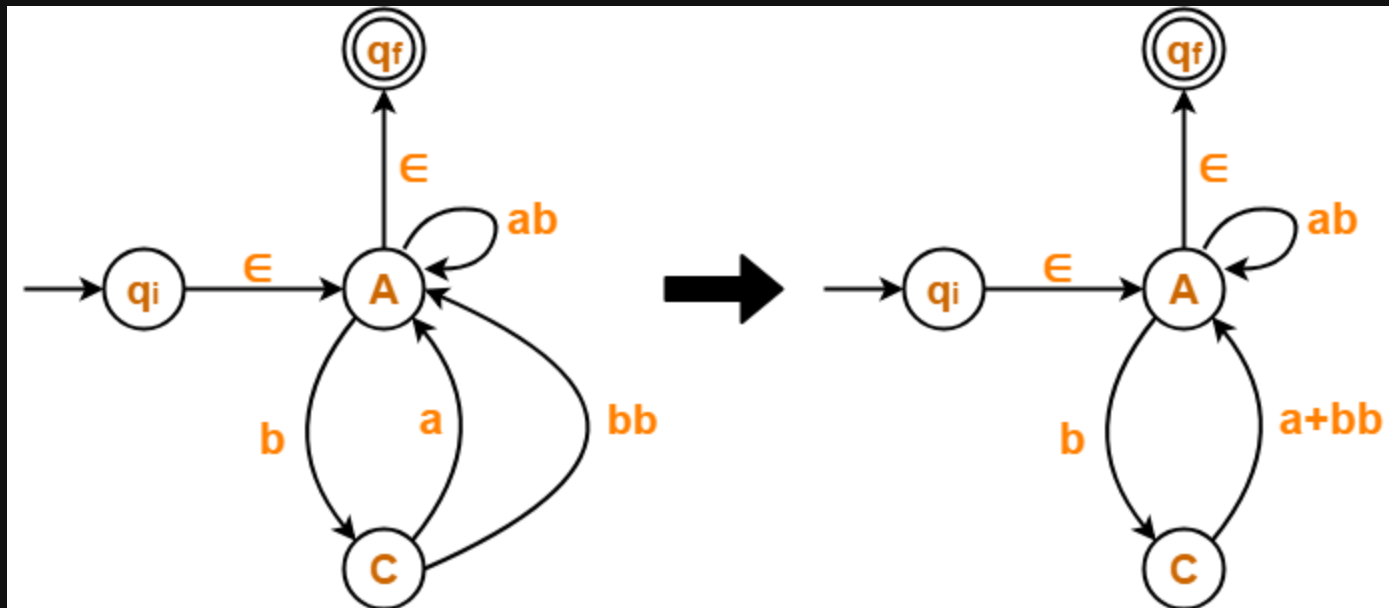
# Problem 05

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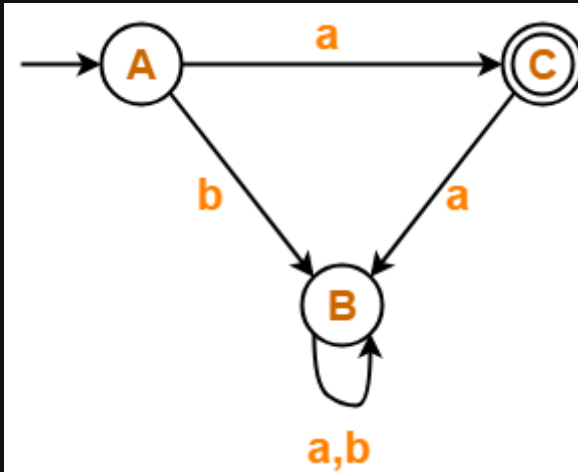


**Regular Expression =  $(ab + b(a+bb))^*$**



# Problem 06

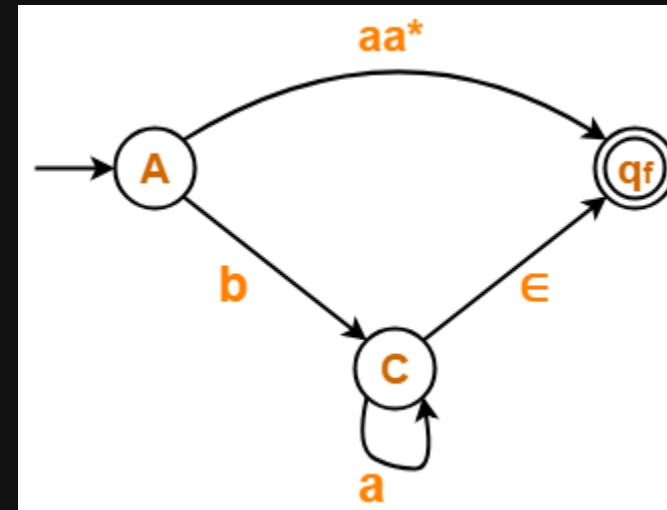
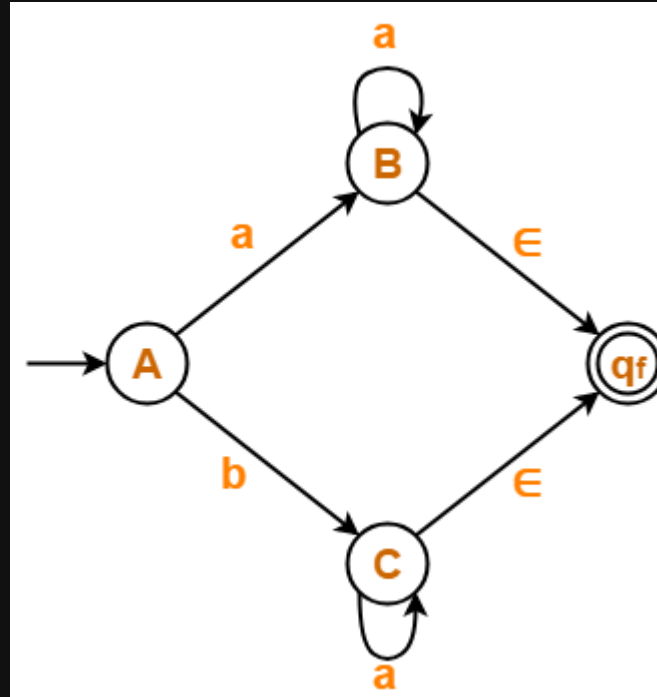
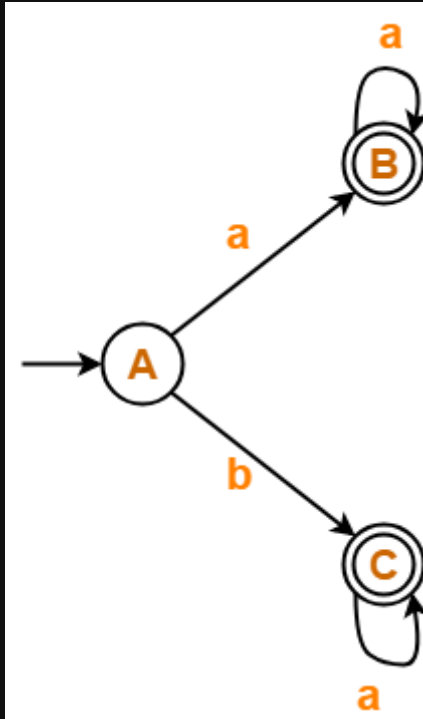
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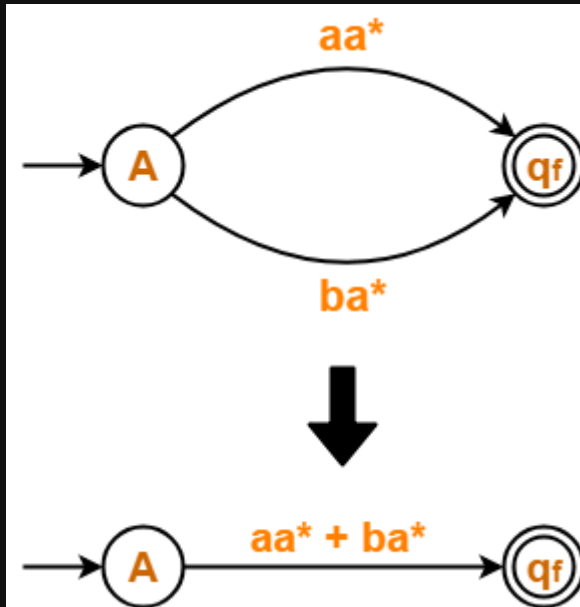


**Regular Expression = a**

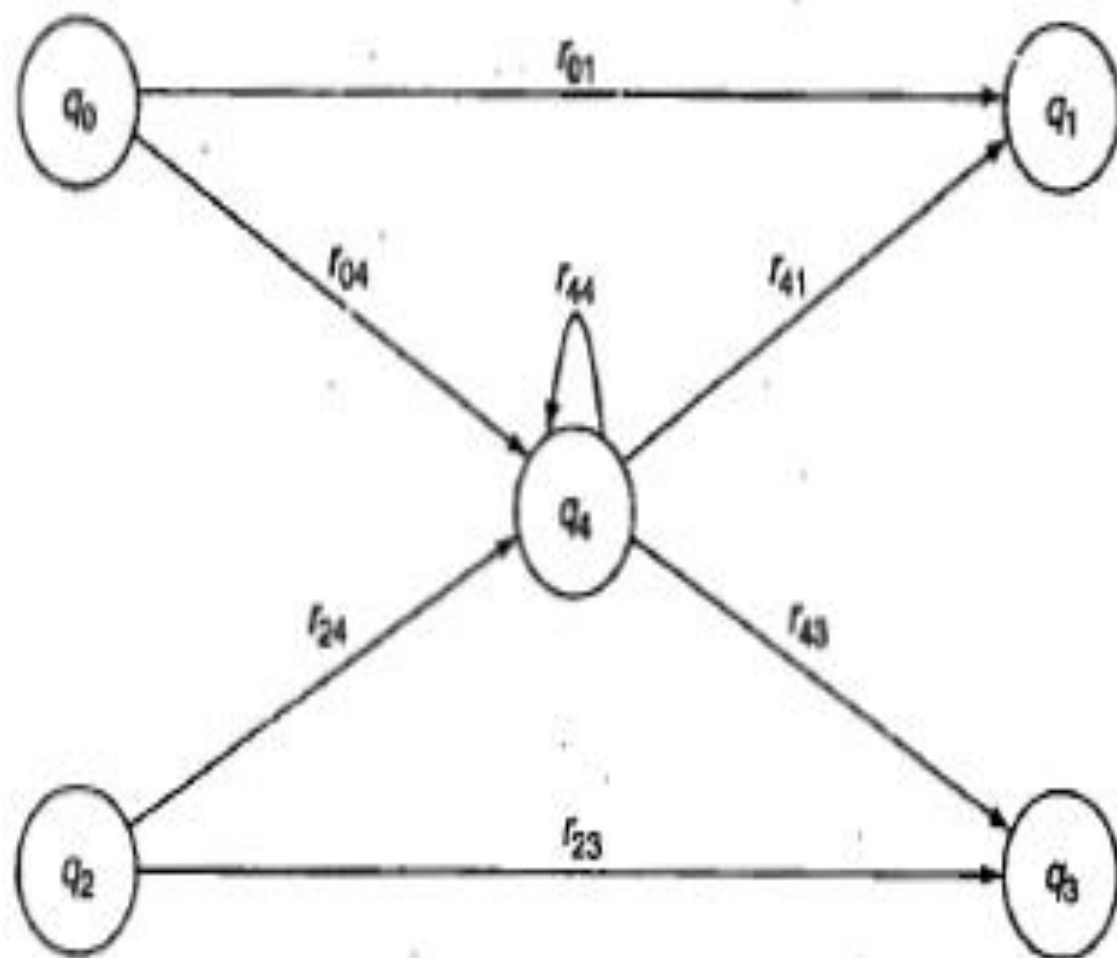


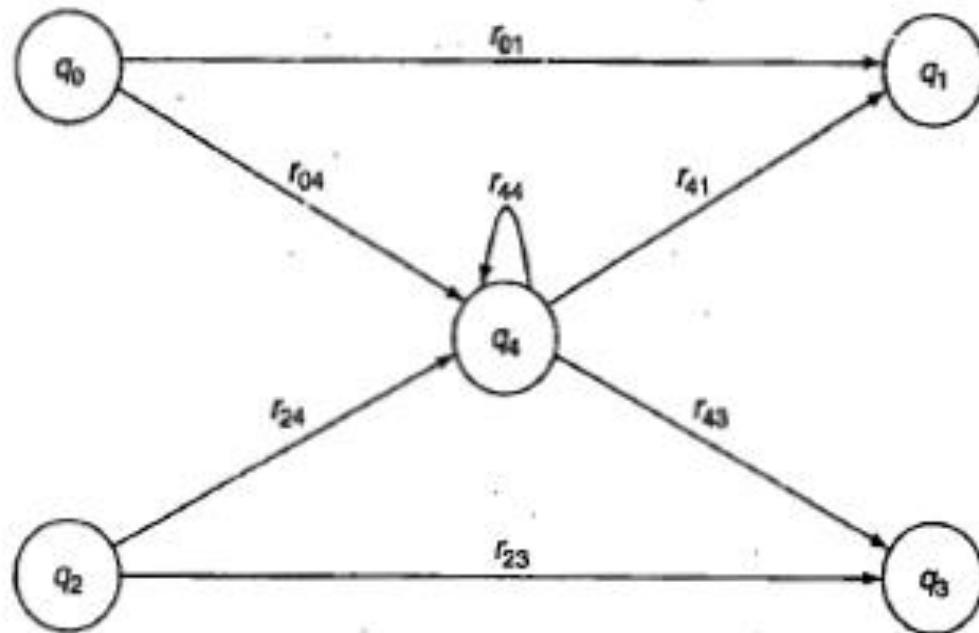
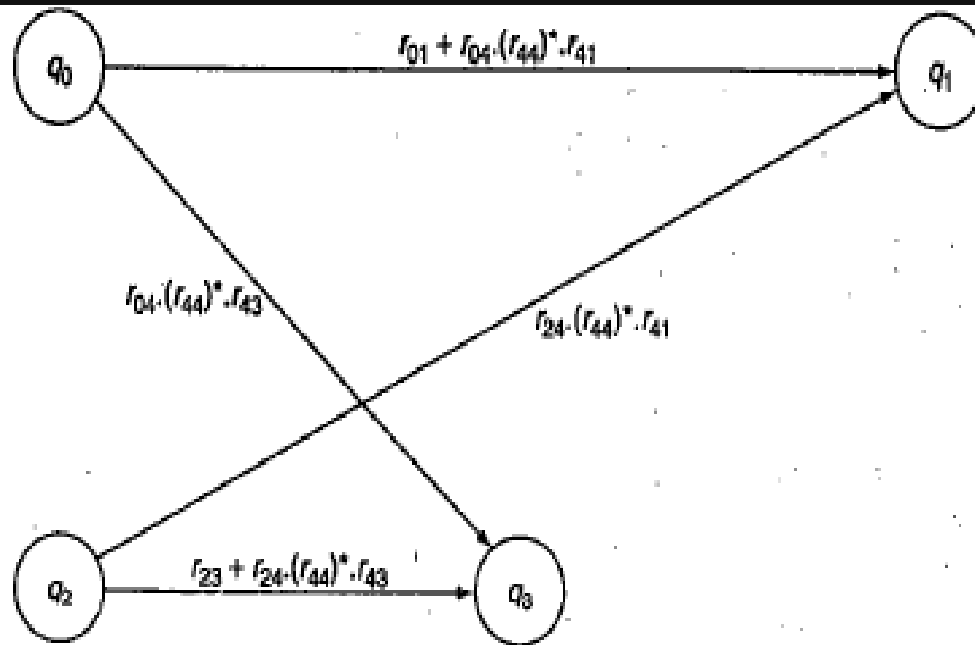
# Problem 07

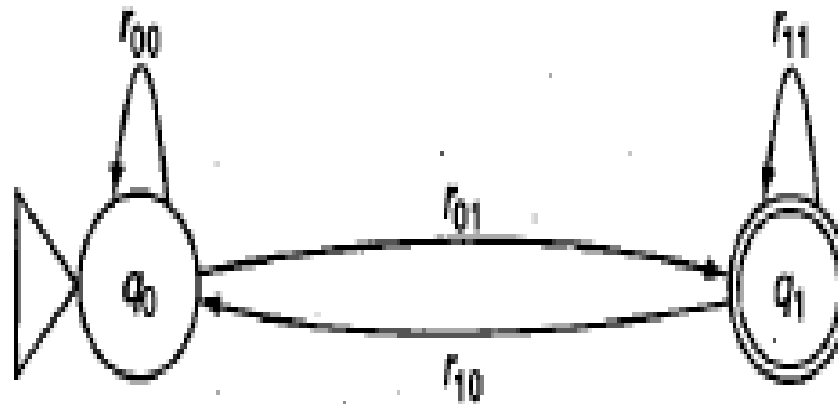




**Regular Expression =  $aa^* + ba^*$**

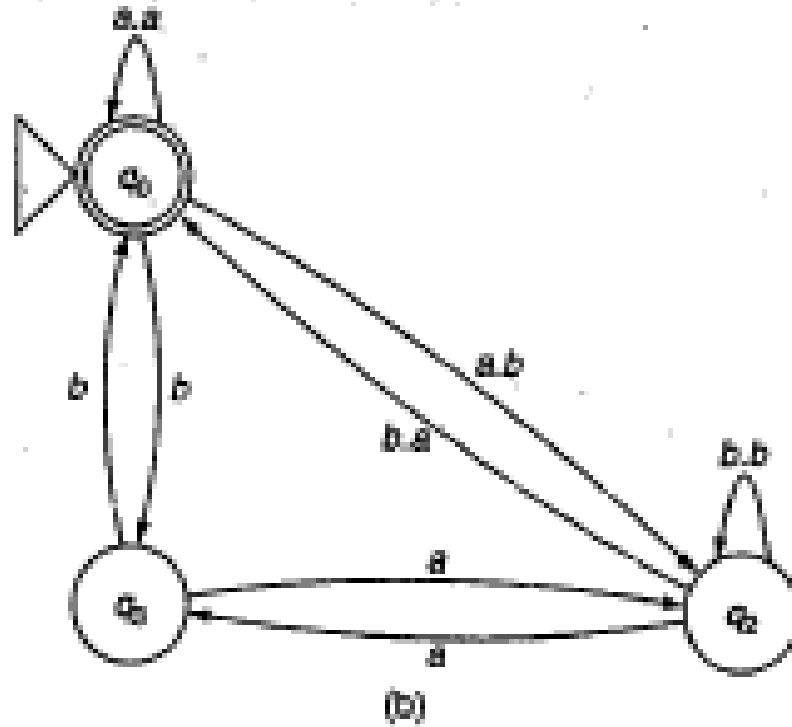
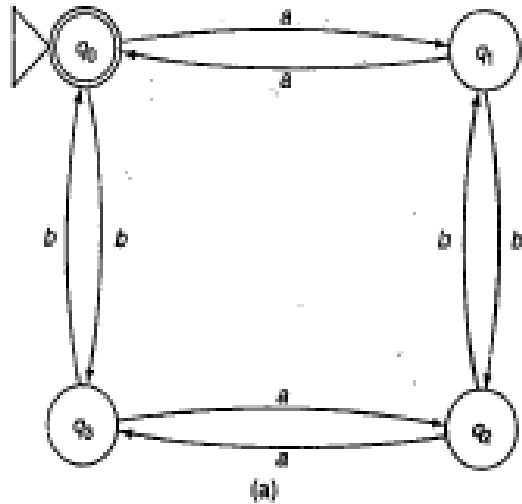




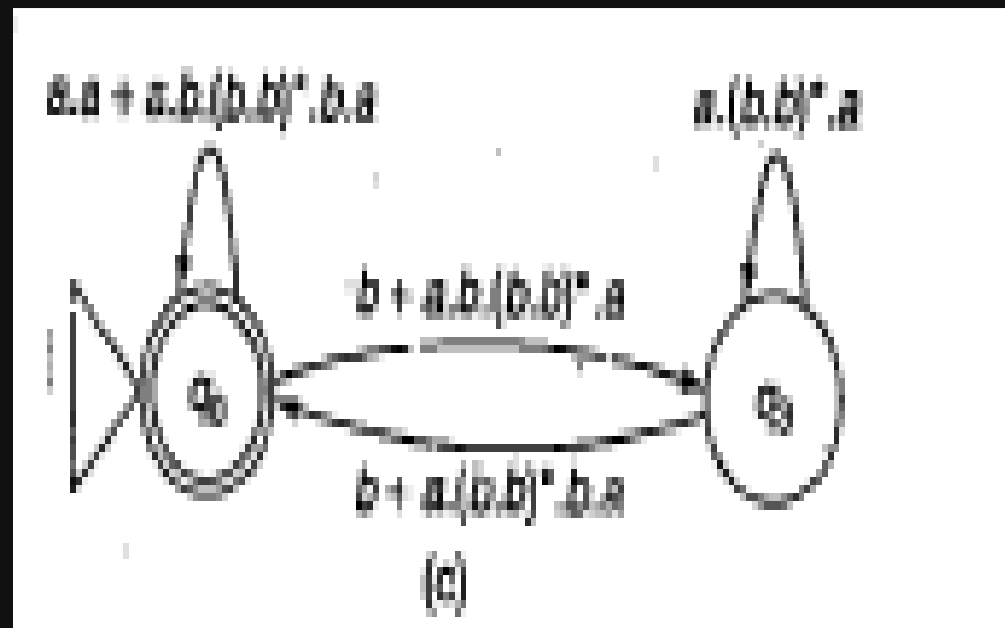
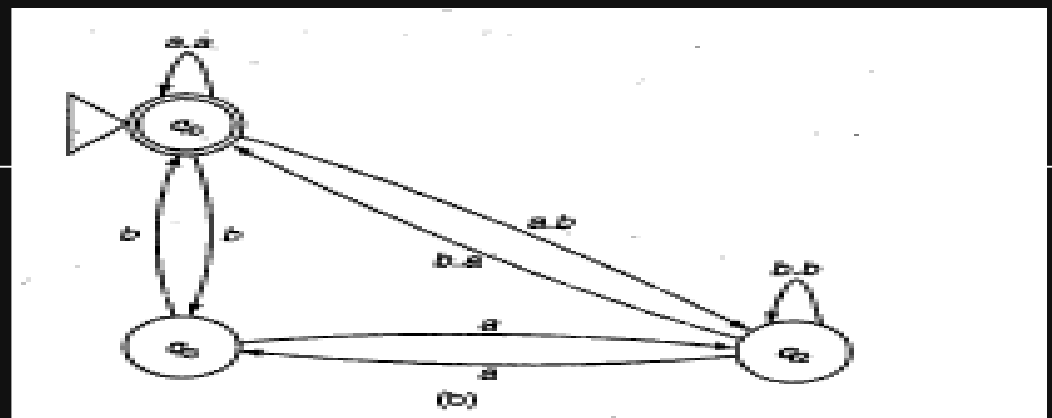


$$(r_{00} + r_{01} \cdot (r_{11})^* \cdot r_{10})^* \cdot r_{01} \cdot (r_{11} + r_{10} \cdot (r_{00})^* \cdot r_{01})^*$$

# example







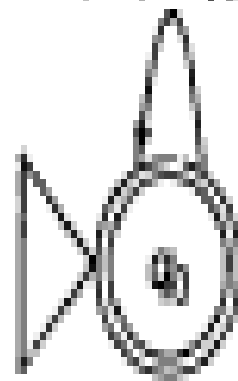
$$a.a + a.b(b.b)^*.b.a$$

$$a.(b.b)^*.a$$



(c)

$$(aa + ab(bb)^*ba + (b + ab(bb)^*a)(a(bb)^*a)^*(b + a(bb)^*ba))^*$$

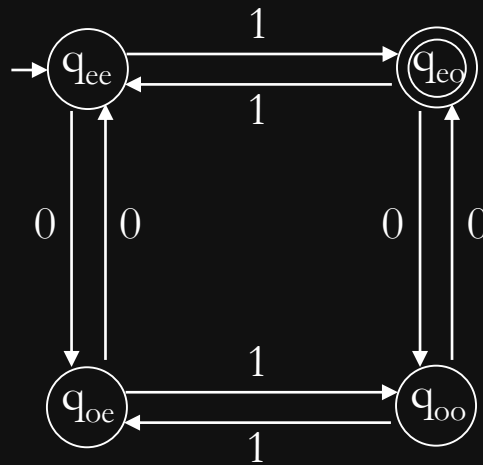


(d)

# Exercise

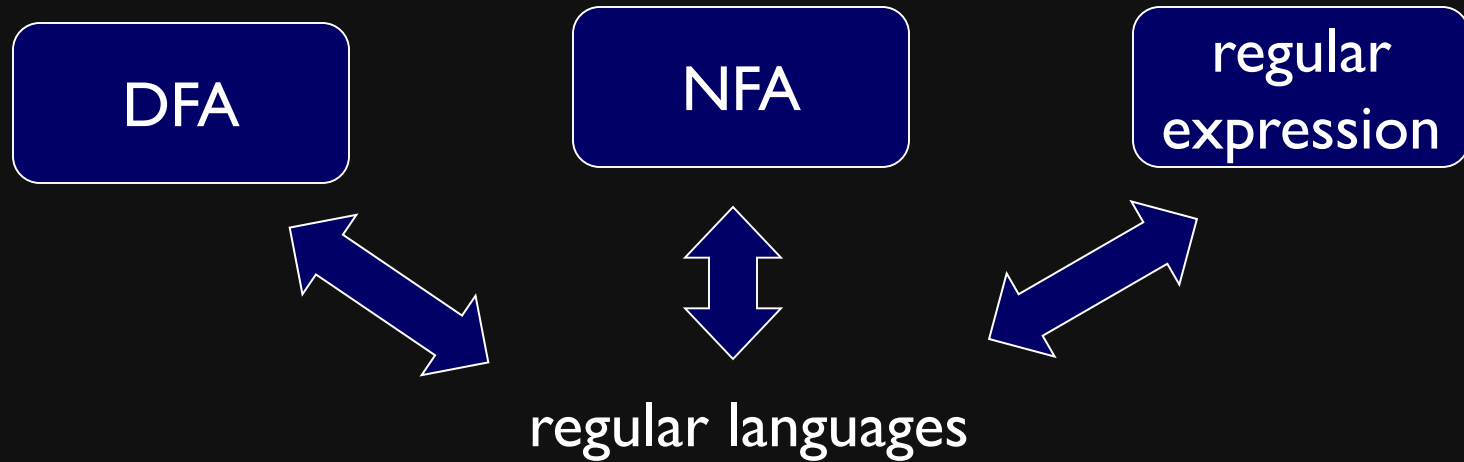
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- Even number of 0s and odd number of 1s?



# What you need to know

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# EQUIVALENCE OF REGULAR EXPRESSIONS

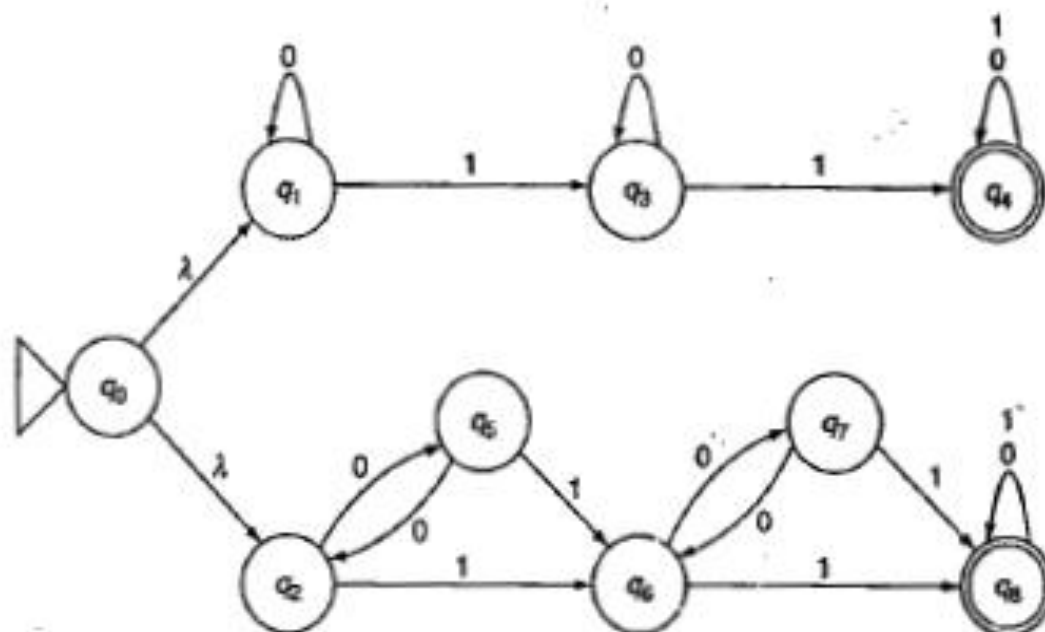
1. Treat the two machines (DFAs) together as a single machine for a moment with their two start states being reachable from a new start state through  $\lambda$ -transitions.
2. Mark all distinguishable states.
3. If the two start states are marked as distinguishable, then the two automata are different.
4. If the two start states are indistinguishable, then the two machines are equivalent (and hence the two regular expressions from which they came are the same) because indistinguishability requires that the machines reach their final states from the two start states on exactly the same set of strings.

Consider the two regular expressions:

$$0^*10^*1(0+1)^*$$

and

$$((00)^*1 + 0(00)^*1)((00)^*1 + 0(00)^*1)(0+1)^*$$



**FIGURE 4.9** Combining automata to compare two regular expressions.

# BY IGNORING NEW START STATE $q_0$

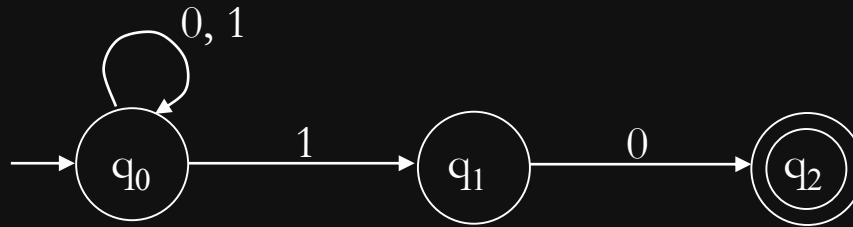
TABLE 4.3 Marking Distinguishable States for Comparing Regular Expressions

$q_2$	?						
$q_3$	on l	on l					
$q_4$	fnf	fnf	fnf				
$q_5$	?	?	on l	fnf			
$q_6$	on l	on l	?	fnf	on l		
$q_7$	on l	on l	?	fnf	on l	?	
$q_8$	fnf	fnf	fnf	?	fnf	fnf	fnf
States	$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_4$	$q_5$	$q_6$	$q_7$

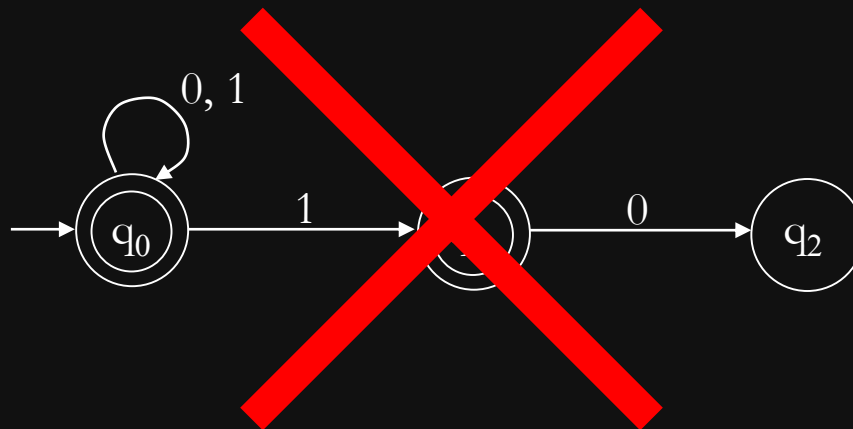
# Some pitfalls

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- NFA for all strings that end in 10:



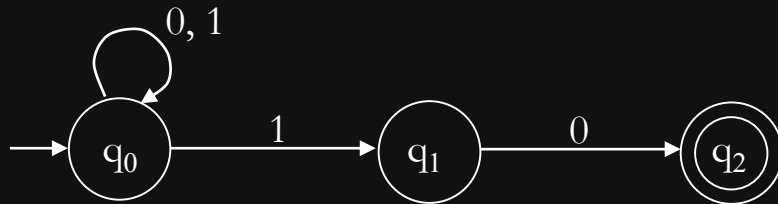
- NFA for all strings that **do not end in** 10:



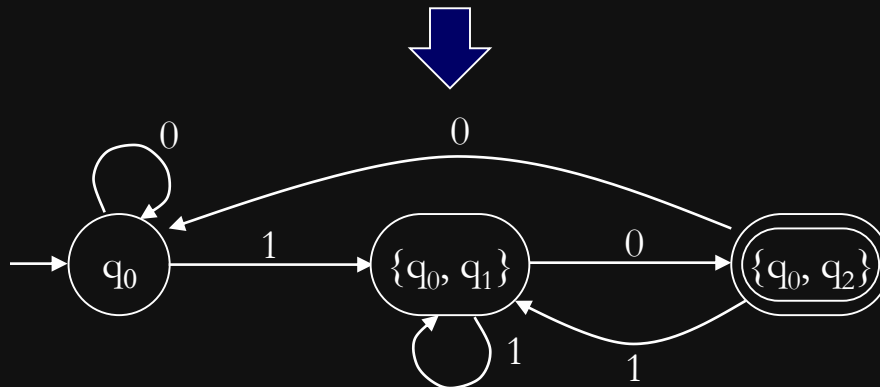


# How to do it right

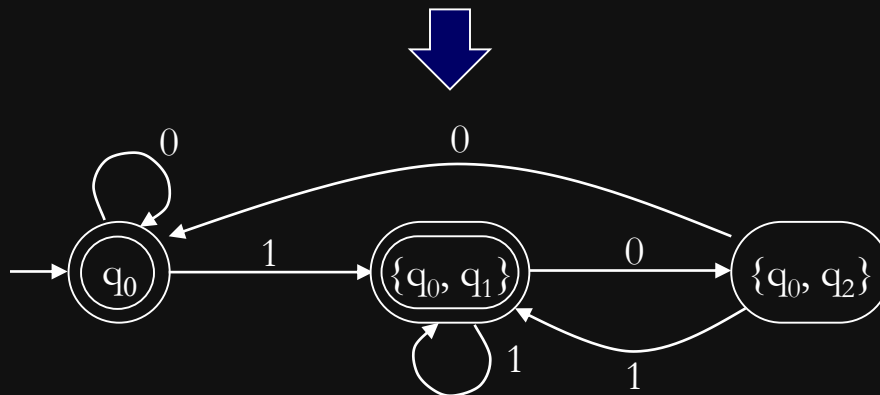
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NFA for **ends in 10**



DFA for **ends in 10**



DFA for **does not end in 10**

# Reversal process in DFA

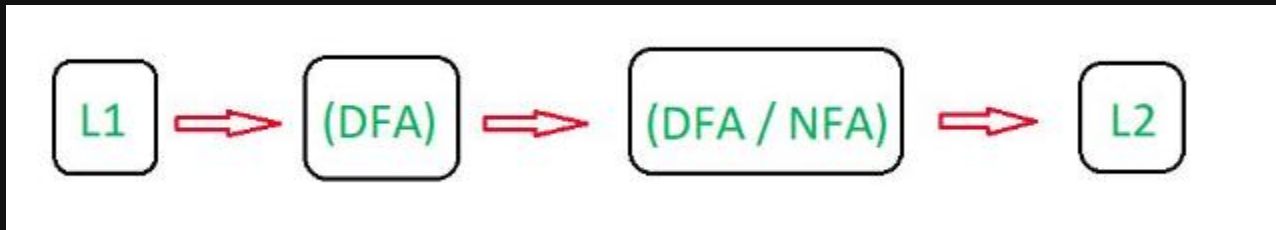
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- **Reversal** : Reversing a language means reversing the each string in the language.
- **Steps to Reversal:**
  - Draw the states as it is.
  - Make final state as initial state and initial states as a final state
  - Reverse the edges
  - Loop will remain same
  - Remove the inappropriate transition state.

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- **Note :**

1. Not every reversal of DFA lead to DFA
2. Reversal process goes like this:



## Example-I:

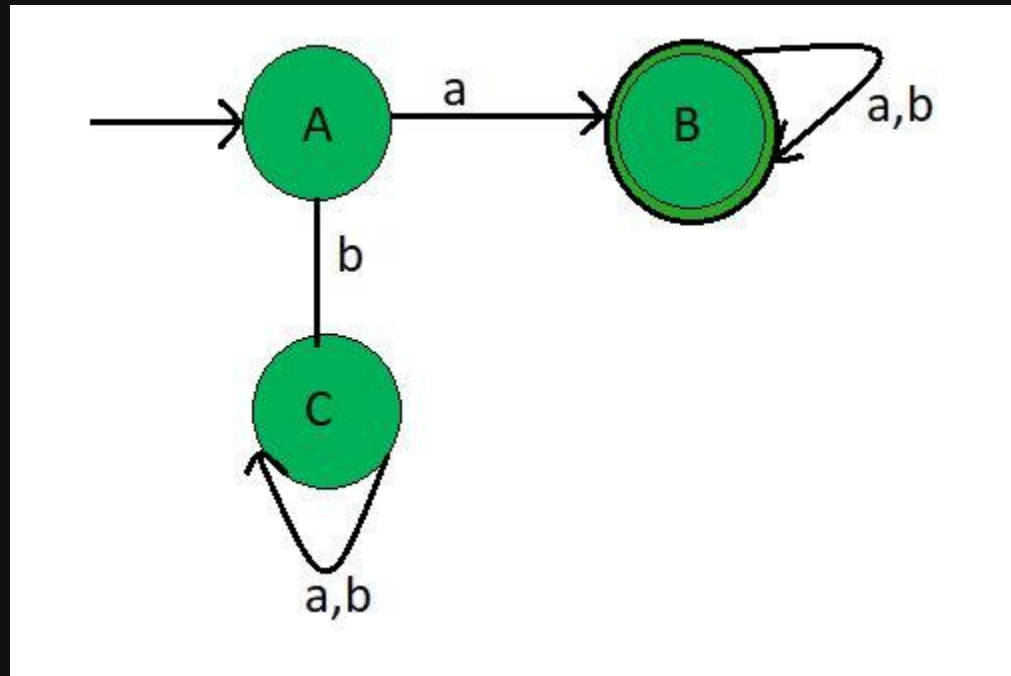
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Designing a DFA for the set of string over  $\{a, b\}$  such that string of the language start symbol 'a'.

The desired language will be formed:

$L1 = \{a, aa, ab, aab, aaabb, aabab, \dots\}$

- In LI, each string have starting element a. State Transition Diagram for the language LI:



# State Transition Diagram of L2 (reverse of L1):

