

# Theory of Computation

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What is TOC?

- A branch of theoretical CS
- Whether and how efficiently a problem can be solved on computational model, using an algorithm

TOC has major 3 branches.

- Automata theory
- Computability theory
- Computational Complexity theory

Model of Computation: mathematical abstraction of Computer

*Definition:* describe a object and notations.

*Theorem:* mathematical statement basis on previously established statement.

*Proof:* convincing logical argument that statement is true.

*Lemma:* A minor result (theorem, it's the lemma) to prove another theorem.

*Corollaries:* A result in which the proof relies heavily.

#### THEOREM

If m and n are any two whole numbers and

- $a = m^2 - n^2$
- $b = 2mn$
- $c = m^2 + n^2$

then  $a^2 + b^2 = c^2$

**Proof:**

$$\begin{aligned}a^2 + b^2 &= (m^2 - n^2)^2 + (2mn)^2 \\&= m^4 - 2m^2n^2 + n^4 + 4m^2n^2 \\&= m^4 + 2m^2n^2 + n^4 \\&= (m^2 + n^2)^2 \\&= c^2\end{aligned}$$

*Deductive Proof:* If H (hypothesis), then C (conclusion)

- Sequence of statement
- -hypothesis to conclusion

*Contradiction Proof:*

- Assume the theorem is false, this assumption leads to false  
Example:  $\sqrt{2}$  is irrational.

*Induction proof:*

- All elements of infinite set have a specific property
- 2 Steps
  - Base case

- Induction Step (Assume  $S(k)$ , then  $S(k+1)$ )
- Example:  $\sum n = n(n+1)/2$

*Contraposition Proof:*

- $P \Rightarrow Q$  is equivalent to  $\neg Q \Rightarrow \neg P$
- Assume  $\neg Q$  is true, prove  $\neg P$  is true
- Example : If  $n$  is even,  $n^2$  is even

Theorem: If  $n^2$  is even, then  $n$  is even

Proof by Contrapositive:

If  $n$  is not even,  $n^2$  is not even

Assume  $n$  is odd

$$\exists k_1 \in \mathbb{Z}, n = 2k_1 + 1$$

$$\text{So } n^2 = (2k_1 + 1)^2 =$$

$$4k_1^2 + 4k_1 + 1 =$$

$$2(2k_1^2 + 2k_1) + 1$$

$$\text{Let } k_2 = 2k_1^2 + 2k_1.$$

$$\text{So } n^2 = 2k_2 + 1$$

Thus  $n^2$  is odd.

*Counter Example proof:*

- Show an example to disprove the claim

## Automata theory

- Study of abstract machines and computational problems that can be solved by these machines

Automata: abstract machine

Consists of

- States: Circle
- Transition: Arrow, input, one state to another

Basic Definition:

### 1. Symbols

- a. Symbols are indivisible objects or entity that cannot be defined.

### 2. Alphabets

- a. Finite set of symbols
- b.  $\Sigma$

### 3. String

- a. Finite sequence of symbols
- b. Denoted by  $w, z, y, z$

### 4. Empty String

- a. Denoted by  $\epsilon$
- b. The length of the empty string is 0

### 5. Length of a string

- a. Denoted by  $|w|$

### 6. Power of Alphabets

- a. Set of string length  $k$ ,  $\Sigma^k$ 
  - i.  $\Sigma^0 = \{\epsilon\}$

b. Set of all string including empty,  $\Sigma^* = \Sigma^0 \cup \Sigma^1 \cup \dots \cup \Sigma^n$

c. Set of all String w/o empty string,  $\Sigma^+ = \Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma^2 \dots \cup \Sigma^n$

## 7. Concatenation of a string

a.  $x = 01$ ,  $y = 10$  concatenation of  $x$  and  $y$ ,  $xy = 0110$ ,  $yx = 1001$

## 8. Language

a. A language over an alphabet is a set of strings over that alphabet.

b. Set of all  $\Sigma^*$

c. Empty language  $\emptyset$

## 3 requirements of automata:

- Taking input
- Producing output
- May have Temporary storage
- Control unit: can change state according to transition function

# Finite automata

- No temporary storage
- Used to recognize pattern
- Accept or reject input depending on pattern

## 2 types

- DFA (Deterministic Finite Automata)
- NFA (Non-Deterministic Finite Automata)

DFA	NFA
one state transition in DFA	May have more than one
Cannot $\epsilon$	Can use $\epsilon$
Understand as one machine	Multiple machine
have max. one possible next state	May have multiple next possible states
Difficult to construct	Easier
Time less	Executing time more
All DFA = NFA	All NFA $\neq$ DFA
$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$	$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$

## State:

- Description of the Status of system waiting to execute a transition
- Denoted by Circle/Vertex

## Transition:

- set of actions to execute when a condition is fulfilled or an event received.
- Denoted by Arrow/Edge

# DFA

Deterministic finite automata (or DFA) are finite state machines that accept or reject strings of characters by parsing them through a sequence that is **uniquely determined by each string**.

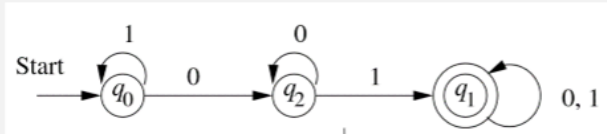
- A formalism for defining languages, consisting of:
  1. A finite set of *states* ( $Q$ , typically).
  2. A finite set of *input symbols* ( $\Sigma$ , typically).
  3. A *transition function* ( $\delta$ , typically).
  4. A *start state* ( $q_0$ , one of the states in  $Q$ , typically).
    1. Only one start state
  5. A set of *final states* ( $F \subseteq Q$ , typically).
    - “Final” and “accepting” are synonyms.
    - May have multiple final states
- So, A DFA is a *five-tuple* notation:

$$A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$$

where **A** is the name of the DFA.

## Lecture 3:

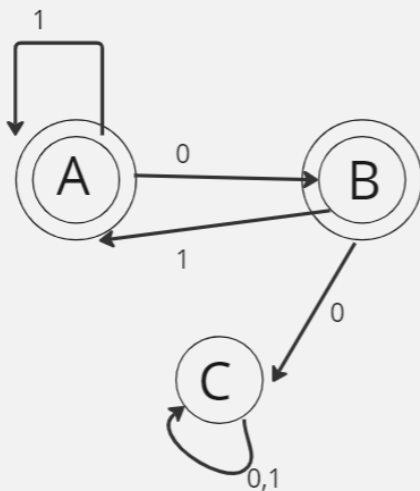
1. Show a transition table for the following diagram/automata:



	0	1
→ q0	q2	q1
q2	q2	q1
*q1	q1	q1

2. Draw a transition diagram from the following table:

	0	1
→ *B	C	A
C	C	C





## Extended Transition Functions

- Denoted by  $\hat{\delta}$
- Takes state  $q$  and string  $w$  (where Transition function usually takes only alphabet)

A recursive algorithm is used to reach the final state, which is as follows:

1. Base condition:

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \epsilon) \rightarrow q$$

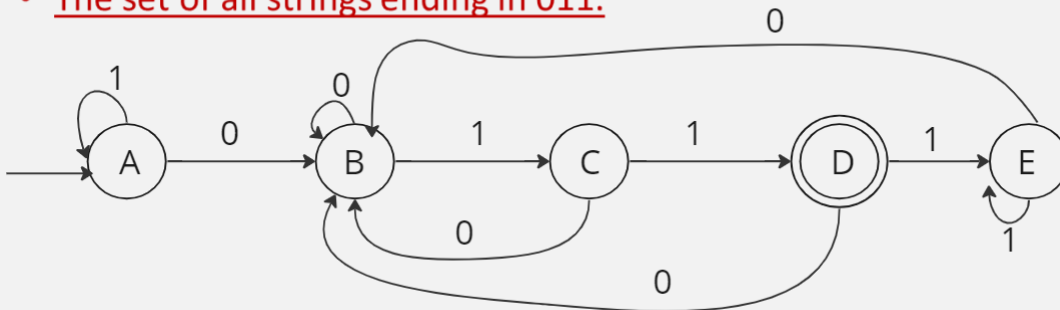
2. Recursion rule:

$$\hat{\delta}(q, xa) \rightarrow \delta(\hat{\delta}(q, x), a)$$

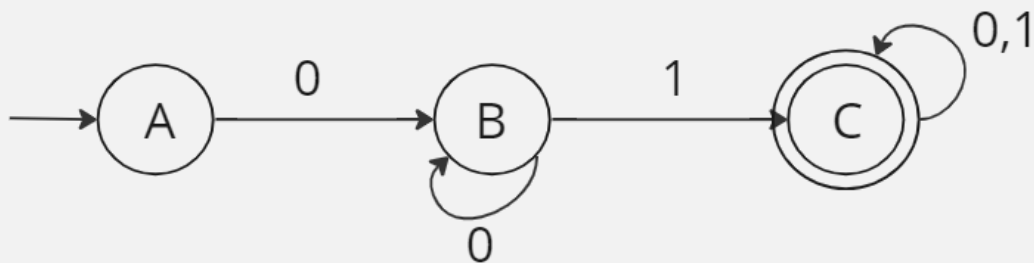
Here,  $x \in \Sigma^*$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ . Also,  $x$  is a string of characters belonging to the set of the input symbols and  $a$  is a single character.

## Lecture 4:

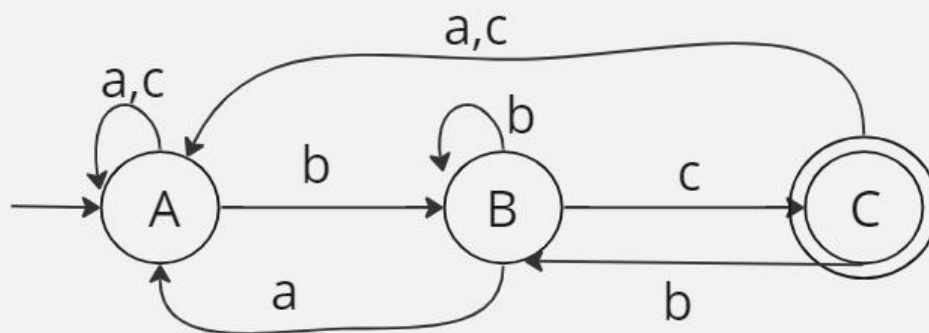
- The set of all strings ending in 011.



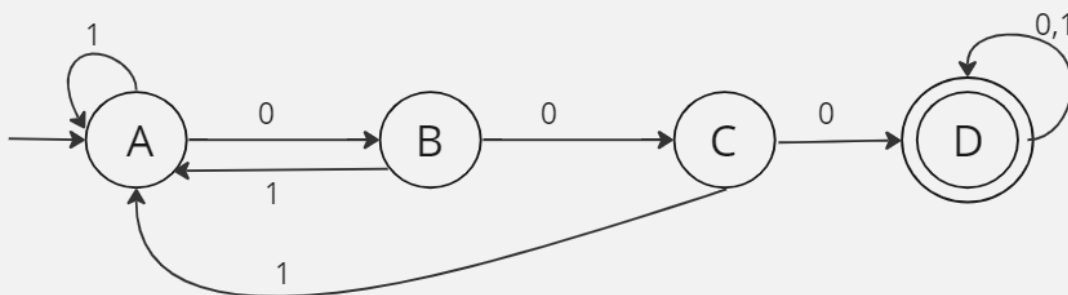
- The set of all string with 01 as a substring.



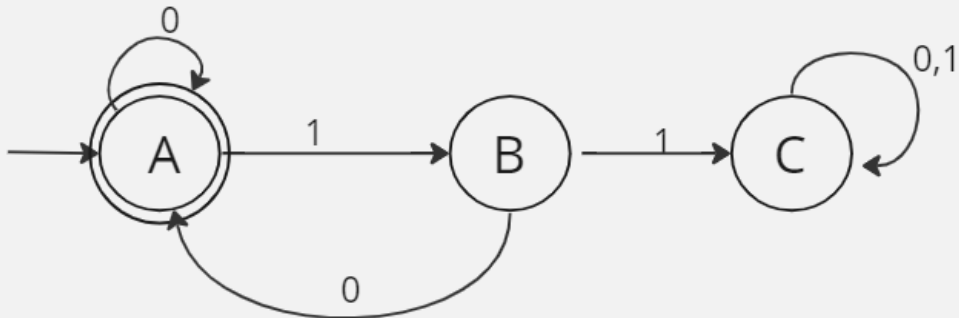
- Draw a DFA for the following language over  $\Sigma = \{a,b,c\}$ 
  - The set of all strings ending in bc.



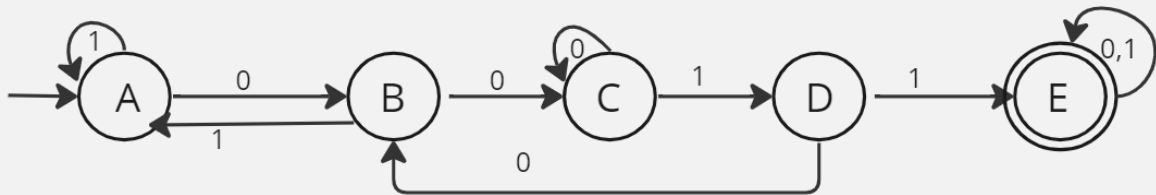
- The set of all strings with three consecutive 0's (not necessarily at the end).



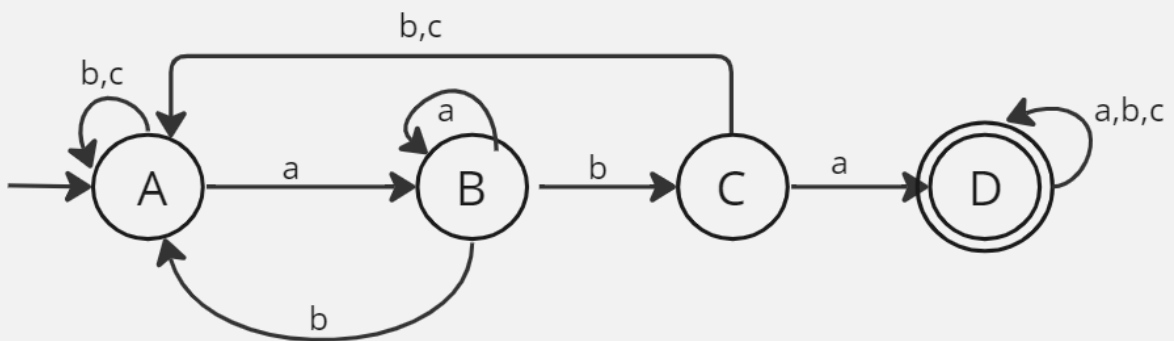
- The set of all strings with not having two consecutive 1's (not necessarily at end).



- The set of strings containing two consecutive zero's followed by two consecutive ones.



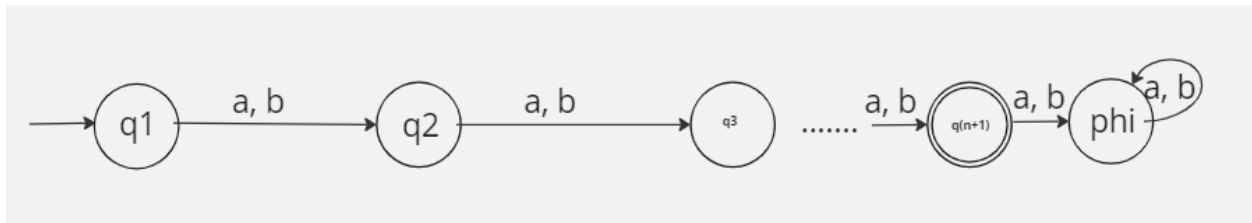
- The set of all strings with aba is a substring.



## Lecture : 5

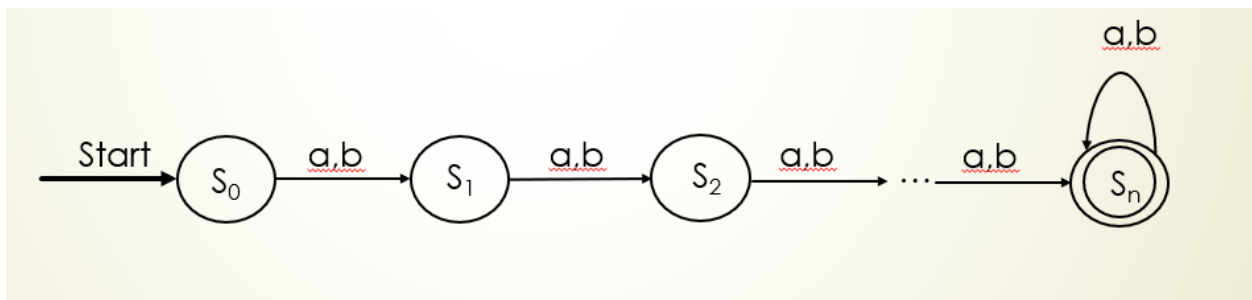
### DFA with exactly $n$ alphabets

- i. Number of states:  $n+2$



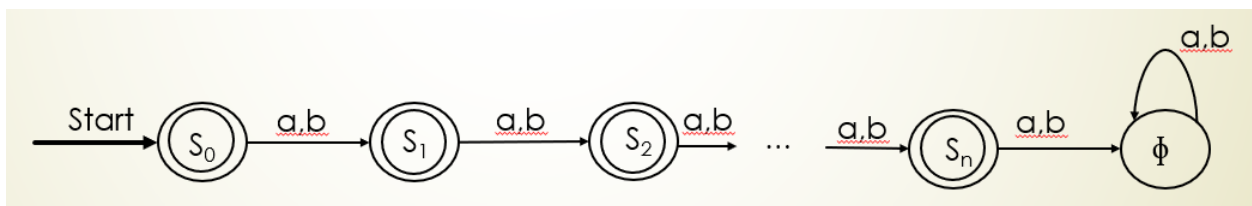
### DFA with at least $n$ alphabets

- i. Number of states:  $n+1$

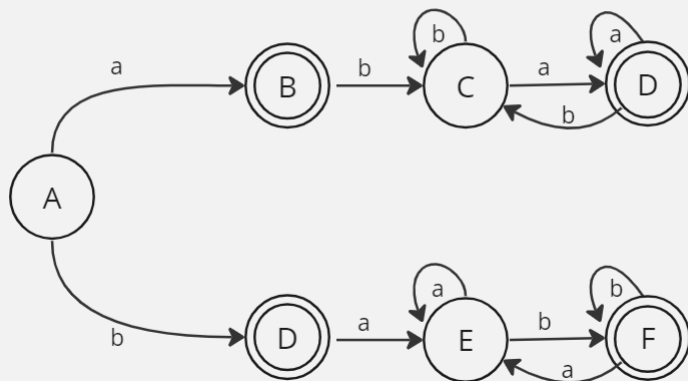


### DFA with at most $n$ alphabets

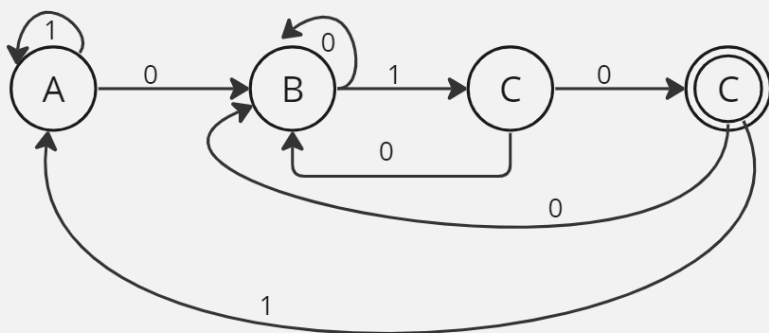
- i. Number of states:  $n+2$



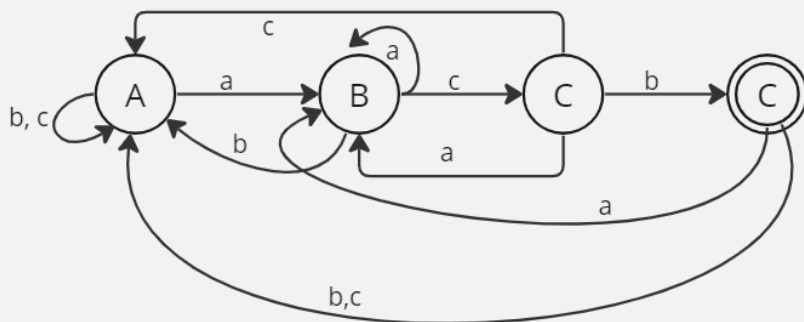
- Draw a DFA that accepts equal number of **ab** and **ba** over  $\Sigma = \{a,b\}$ .



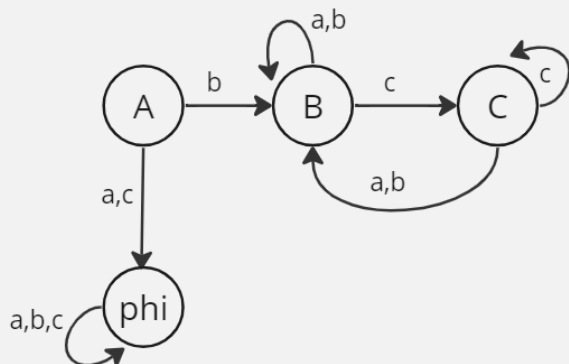
- Draw a DFA for the set of all strings ending in **010** over  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$ .



- Draw a DFA for the set of all strings ending in **acb** over  $\Sigma = \{a,b,c\}$ .



- Draw a DFA for the set of all strings starting with **b** and ending with **c** over  $\Sigma = \{a,b,c\}$ .



## Minimizing DFA

### - Equivalence Theorem

Using equivalence theorem, we have

0 equivalence

$$P_0 = \{A, D, E\} \{B, C, G\}$$

1 equivalence

$$P_1 = \{A, D, E\} \{B, C\} \{G\}$$

2 equivalence

$$P_2 = \{A\} \{D, E\} \{B, C\} \{G\}$$

3 equivalence

$$P_3 = \{A\} \{D, E\} \{B, C\} \{G\}$$

Since  $P_3 = P_2$ , we stop.

	0	1
$\rightarrow A$	B	C
*B	D	E
*C	E	D
D	G	G
E	G	G
*G	G	G

	0	1
$\rightarrow \{A\}$	$\{B, C\}$	$\{B, C\}$
$\{D, E\}$	$\{G\}$	$\{G\}$
* $\{B, C\}$	$\{D, E\}$	$\{D, E\}$
* $\{G\}$	$\{G\}$	$\{G\}$

## Table Filling Method / Myhill-Nerode Theorem

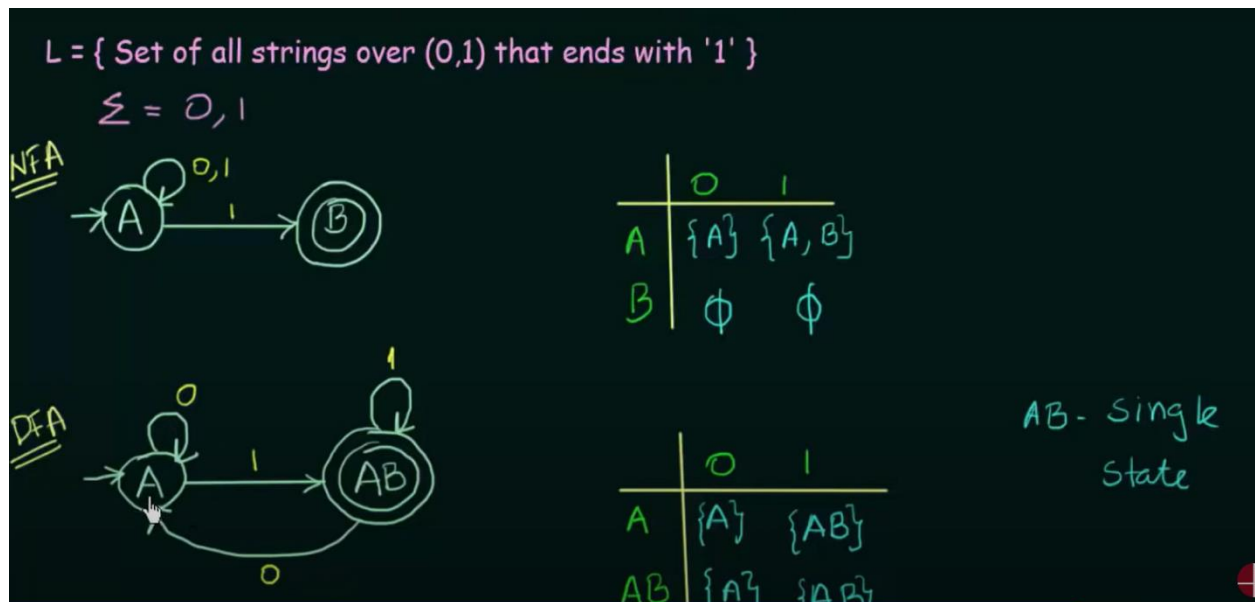
### Steps:

- 1) Draw a table for all pairs of states (P,Q)
- 2) Mark all pairs where  $P \in F$  and  $Q \notin F$
- 3) If there are any Unmarked pairs (P,Q) such that  $[\delta(P,x), \delta(Q,x)]$  is marked, then mark [P,Q] where 'x' is an input symbol  
REPEAT THIS UNTIL NO MORE MARKINGS CAN BE MADE
- 4) Combine all the Unmarked Pairs and make them a single state in the minimized DFA

## NFA

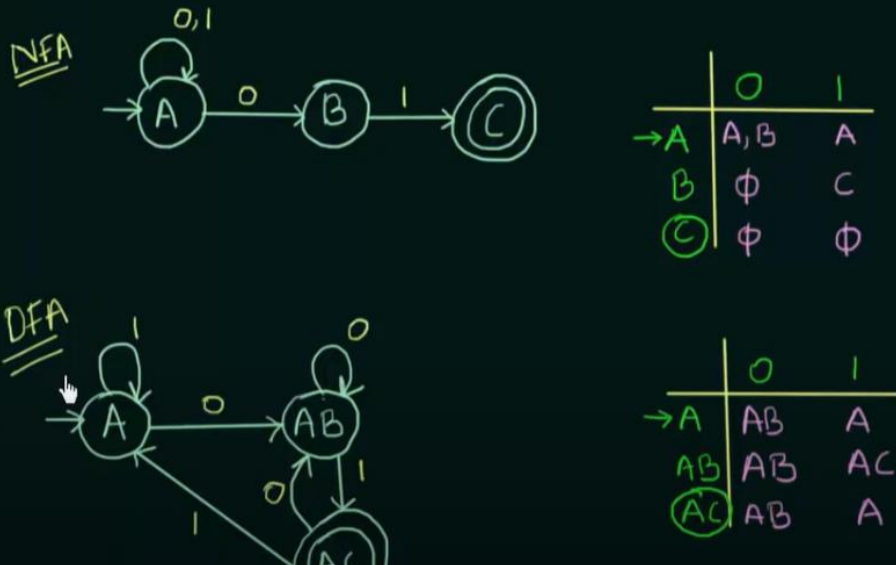
- Non-deterministic Finite Automata
- Transition from a state on input symbol can be to any set of states
- DFA:  $Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$
- NFA:  $Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$
- No need to add dead state/trap state
- Input can be empty

Conversion of NFA to DFA:

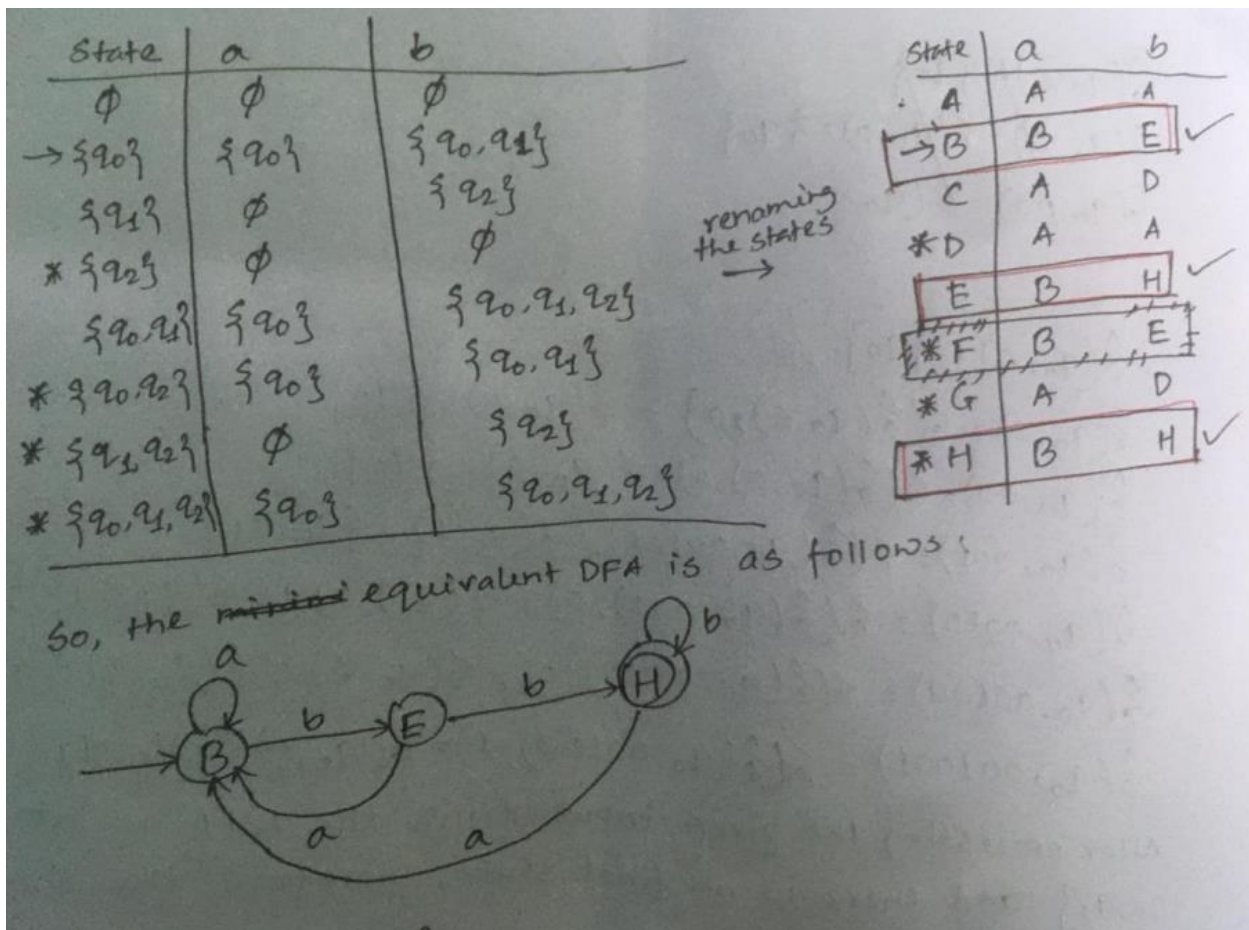


If there are any empty state/phi in NFA, a dead state should be added for that in NFA.

$L = \{ \text{Set of all strings over } (0,1) \text{ that ends with '01'} \}$ . Construct its equivalent DFA



Set Construction Method:





## $\epsilon$ -transitions

- NFA allows go to next state w/o any input
- $\epsilon$  means empty

## Formal Notation for an $\epsilon$ -NFA

□ **Definition:** an  $\epsilon$ -NFA  $A$  is denoted by  $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  where the transition function  $\delta$  takes as arguments:

- a state in  $Q$ , and
- a member of  $\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$

## Epsilon-Closure

- Denoted by  $\epsilon^*$
- All the states than be reached from particular state only by seeing the  $\epsilon$  symbol

## Epsilon-NFA to NFA:

- If a state (let  $x$ ) goes to final state only by seeing  $\epsilon$  in E-NFA, then the state ( $x$ ) will be a final state in the NFA