

## Assignment 2 Solutions

### 1 2.1

1. Which of the strings 0001, 01101, 00001101 are accepted by the dfa in Figure 2.1?

**Solution:** Strings 0001, 01101, and 00001101 are accepted by the dfa in Figure 2.1.

2. \*\* Translate the graph in Figure 2.5 into  $\delta$ - notation

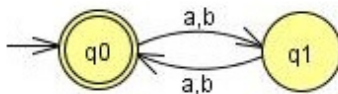
**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}\delta(\lambda, 1) &= \lambda, & \delta(\lambda, 0) &= 0, \\ \delta(0, 1) &= \lambda, & \delta(0, 0) &= 00, \\ \delta(00, 0) &= 00, & \delta(00, 1) &= 001, \\ \delta(001, 0) &= 001, & \delta(001, 1) &= 001.\end{aligned}$$

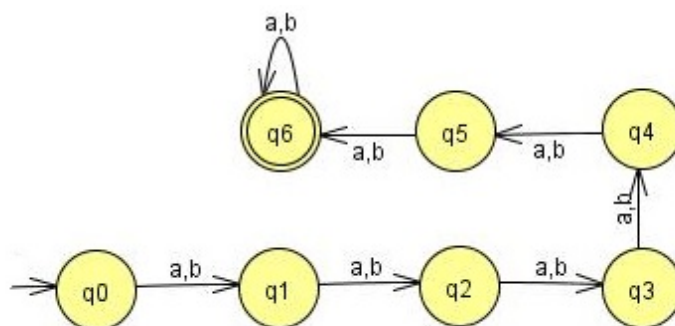
3. For  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , construct dfa's that accept the sets consisting of

- (a) all strings of even length
- (b) all strings of length greater than 5
- (c) \*\* all strings with an even number of  $a$ 's
- (d) all strings with an even number of  $a$ 's and an odd number of  $b$ 's

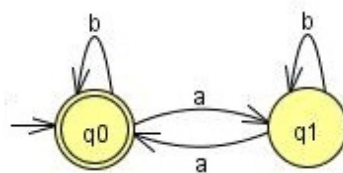
**Solution:** (a)



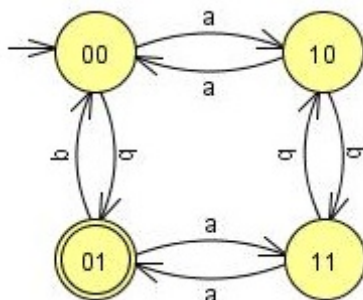
(b) The solution requires seven states as shown below.



(c)



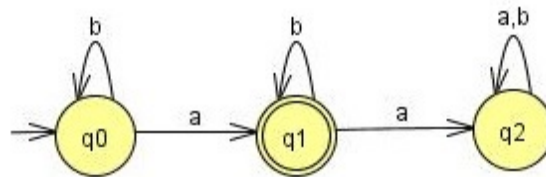
(d) The key for solving this problem is to realize that an even number of  $a$ 's and an odd number of  $b$ 's in  $w$  can be stated as  $n_a(w) \bmod 2 = 0$  and  $n_b(w) \bmod 2 = 1$ . Therefore if we label each state in the automaton by a two digits number such that the first digit represents  $a \bmod 2$  and the second one for  $b \bmod 2$ , the number of  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's (in modulo 2) will be traced in an obvious manner. A dfa for the solution of the problem is given below.



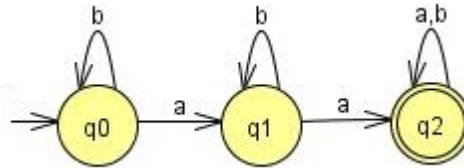
4. For  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , construct dfa's that accept the sets consisting of

- (a) \*\* all strings with exactly one  $a$ ,
- (b) all strings with at least two  $a$ 's,
- (c) all strings with no more than two  $a$ 's
- (d) all strings with at least one  $b$  and exactly two  $a$ 's,
- (e) all the strings with exactly two  $a$ 's and more than three  $b$ 's.

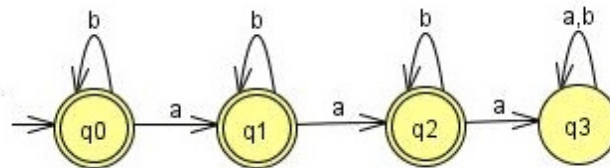
**Solution:** (a) A solution is given by



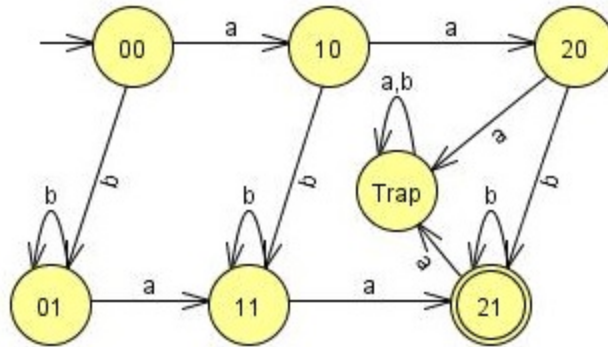
(b) A solution is given by



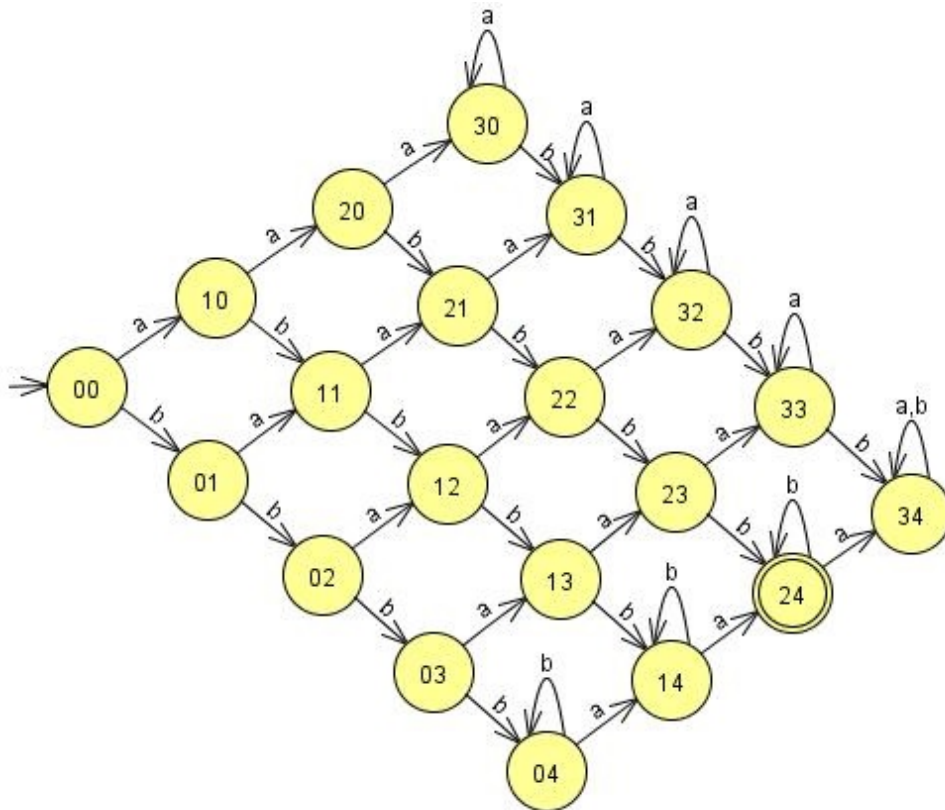
(c) The first three states are all final states until the third input  $a$  is encountered in the fourth state.



(d) We label the state by a two digit number such that the first digit represents the number of input  $a$ 's and the second digit represents the number of  $b$ 's.



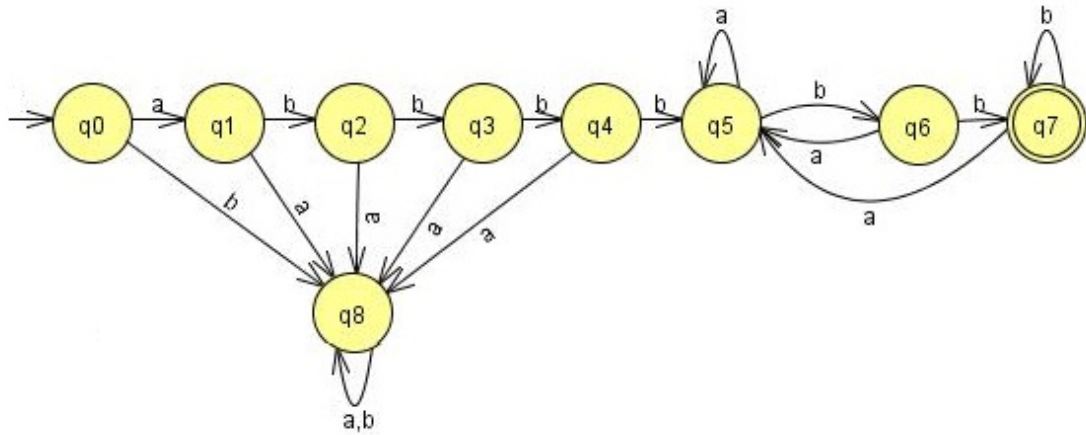
(e) Use the same approach as (d) to label the state by two digit numbers to keep track  $n_a(w)$  and  $n_b(w)$ .



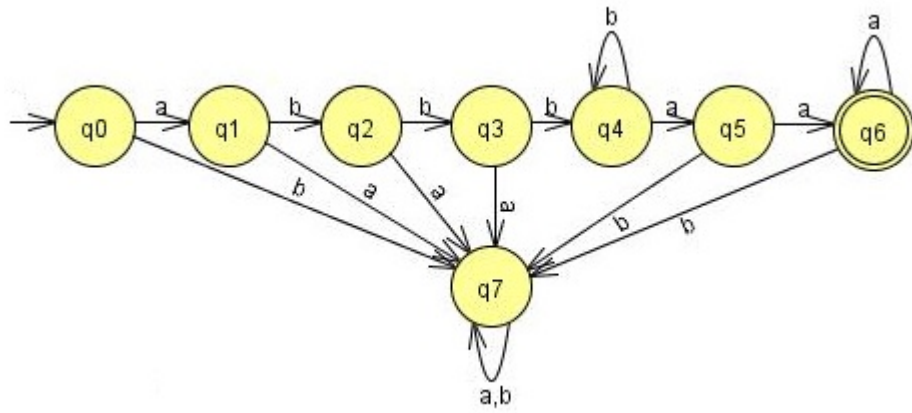
5. Give dfa's for the languages

- (a)  $L = \{ab^4wb^2 : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ ,  
 (b)  $L = \{ab^na^m : n \geq 3, m \geq 2\}$ ,  
 (c)  $L = \{w_1abbw_2 : w_1 \in \{a, b\}^*, w_2 \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ ,  
 (d)  $L = \{ba^n : n \geq 1, n \neq 4\}$ .

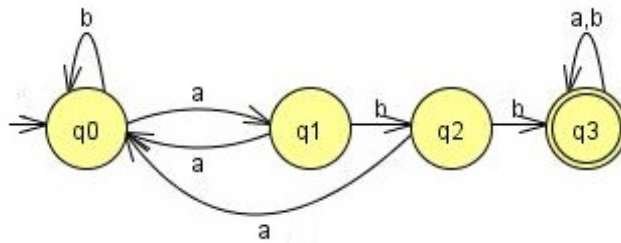
**Solution:** (a) The key is that any string that can be accepted by the solution dfa must consist of  $ab^4$  at the beginning and two  $b$ 's at the end. The first requirement is straightforward, and the second requirement is solved between states  $q_5$  to  $q_7$ .



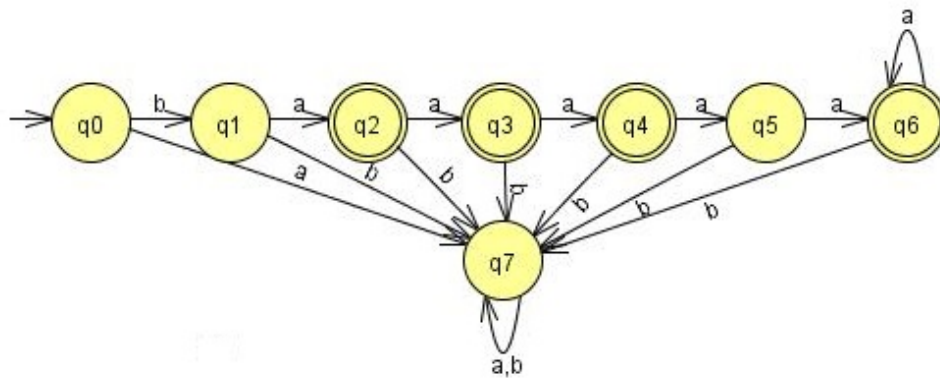
(b)



(c)



(d) The dfa must have final states corresponding to one  $a$ , two, three, five, and more  $a$ 's but not four  $a$ 's as shown below.



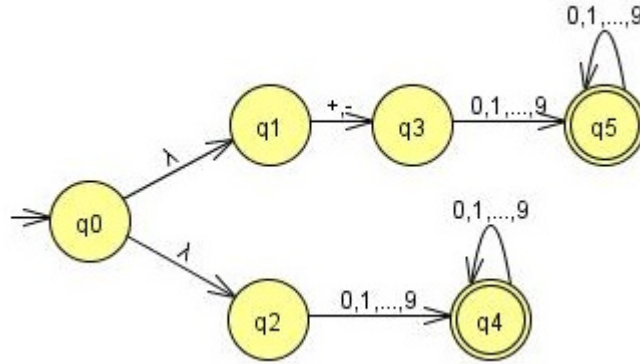
9. Show that if we change Figure 2.6, making  $q_3$  a nonfinal state and making  $q_0, q_1, q_2$  final states, the resulting dfa accepts  $L$ .

**Solution:** If  $w \in L$  then the dfa in Figure 2.6 will reject  $w$ . That is at the end of string the dfa will be in one of the nonfinal states  $q_0, q_1, q_2$ . However, if we change these states to final states, then the resulting dfa accepts  $w$

## 1 2.2

1. Construct an nfa that accepts all integer numbers in C.

**Solution:** Integer numbers in C have the form  $\langle sign \rangle \langle magnitude \rangle$ .  
A solution is



2. Prove in detail the claim made in the previous section that if in a transition graph there is a walk labeled  $w$ , there must be some walk labeled  $w$  of length no more than  $\Lambda + (1 + \Lambda) |w|$ .

**Solution:** Suppose we have a walk labeled  $w = a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$  in a graph with  $\Lambda$   $\lambda$ -transitions. Then any walk labeled  $w$  that includes  $\lambda$ -edges can be described by the form

$$u = \lambda^{k_1} a_1 \lambda^{k_2} \dots \lambda^{k_n} a_n \lambda^{k_{n+1}},$$

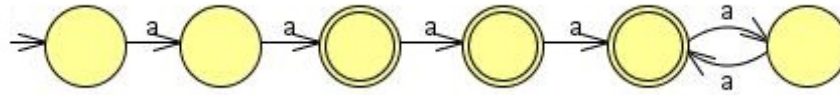
where  $\lambda^{k_i}$  denotes successive traversal  $k_i$   $\lambda$ -edges and  $a_i$  denotes the traversal of an edge labeled  $a_i$ . Denoting the length of  $u$  by  $|u|$  we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 |u| &= (k_1 + k_2 + \dots + k_{n+1}) + (|a_1| \dots + |a_n|) \\
 &= (n + 1)\Lambda + n \\
 &= \Lambda + (1 + \Lambda)|w|.
 \end{aligned}$$

3. \*\* Find a dfa that accepts the language defined by the nfa in Figure 2.8.

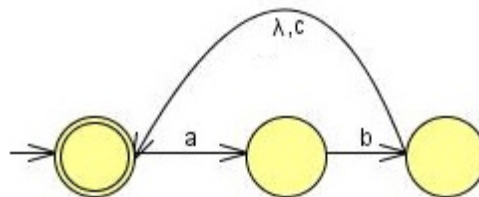


**Solution:** The nfa in Figure 2.8 accepts the language  $\{a^n : n = 3 \text{ or } n \text{ is even}\}$ . A dfa for this language is



9. \*\* Construct an nfa with three states that accepts the language  $\{ab, abc\}^*$ .

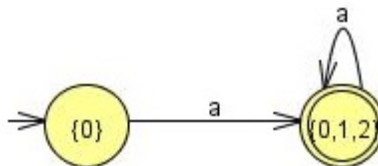
**Solution:**



## 1 2.3

1. \*\* Use the construction of Theorem 2.2 to convert the nfa in Figure 2.10 to a dfa. Can you see a simpler answer more directly?

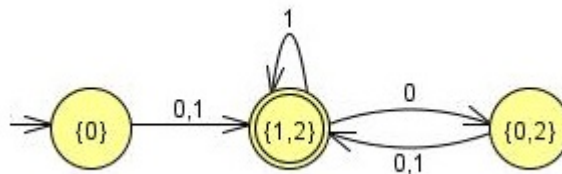
**Solution:**



For a simple answer, note that the accepted language is  $\{a^n : n > 1\}$ .

2. Convert the nfa in Exercise 13, Section 2.2, into an equivalent dfa.

**Solution:** Following the procedure nfa-to-dfa, we have



3. \*\* Convert the nfa defined by

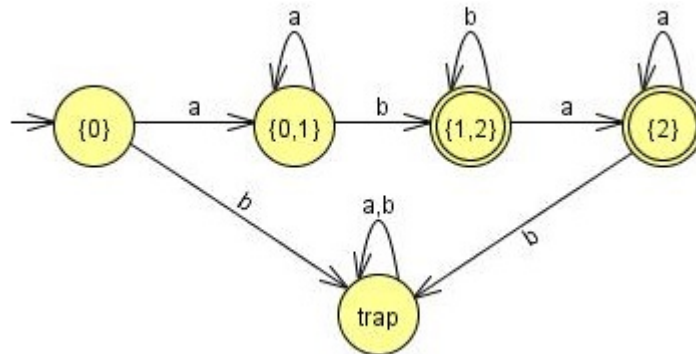
$$\delta(q_0, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, b) = \{q_1, q_2\}$$

$$\delta(q_2, a) = \{q_2\}$$

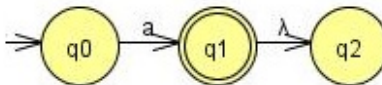
with initial state  $q_0$  and final state  $q_2$  into an equivalent dfa.

**Solution:** This gives the dfa



8. Is it true that for every nfa  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  the complement of  $L(M)$  is equal to the set  $\{w \in \Sigma^* : \delta^*(q_0, w) \cap (Q - F) \neq \emptyset\}$ ? If so, prove it; if not, give a counterexample.

**Solution:** No.  $\lambda$ -transition make a difference. See the following simple example, that  $L = \{a\}$ . But  $\delta^*(q_0, a) \cap (Q - F) = \{q_2\} \neq \emptyset$  which is impossible.



9. Prove that for every nfa with an arbitrary number of final states there is an equivalent nfa with only one final state. Can we make a similar claim for dfa's?

**Solution:** Introduce a new final state  $p_f$  and for every  $q \in F$  add the transitions

$$\delta(q, \lambda) = \{p_f\}.$$

Then make  $p_f$  the only final state. It is a simple matter then to argue that if  $\delta^*(q_0, w) \in F$  originally, then  $\delta^*(q_0, w) = \{p_f\}$  after the modification, so both the original and the modified nfa's are equivalent.

Since this construction requires  $\lambda$ -transitions, it cannot be made for dfa's. Generally, it is impossible to have only one final state in a dfa, as can be seen by constructing a dfa that accepts  $\{\lambda, a\}$ .

## 1 2.4

1. Consider the dfa with initial state  $q_0$  , final state  $q_2$  and

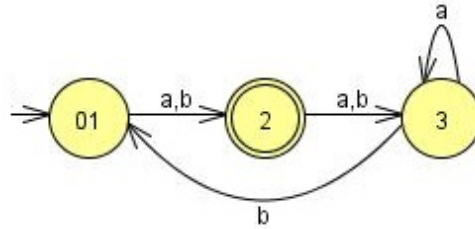
$$\begin{aligned}\delta(q_0, a) &= q_2 & \delta(q_0, b) &= q_2 \\ \delta(q_1, a) &= q_2 & \delta(q_1, b) &= q_2 \\ \delta(q_2, a) &= q_3 & \delta(q_2, b) &= q_3 \\ \delta(q_3, a) &= q_3 & \delta(q_3, b) &= q_1\end{aligned}$$

Find a minimal equivalent dfa.

**Solution:** Using procedure *mark*, we generate the equivalence classes  $\{q_0, q_1\}, \{q_2\}, \{q_3\}$ . Then the procedure *reduce* gives

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\delta}(01, a) &= 2, & \hat{\delta}(01, b) &= 2, \\ \hat{\delta}(2, a) &= 3, & \hat{\delta}(2, b) &= 3, \\ \hat{\delta}(3, a) &= 3, & \hat{\delta}(3, b) &= 01.\end{aligned}$$

Therefore a minimal equivalent dfa is



2. Minimize the number of states in the dfa in Figure 2.16.

**Solution:** To simplify the notation for the names of the states in Figure 2.16, we let

$$\begin{aligned}p_0 &= \{q_0\}, & p_1 &= \{q_0, q_1\}, & p_2 &= \{q_0, q_1, q_2\} \\ p_3 &= \{q_1, q_2\}, & p_4 &= \{q_1\}, & p_5 &= \{q_2\}, & p_6 &= \emptyset.\end{aligned}$$

After performing the procedures *mark* and *reduce*, the resulting minimal dfa is

