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2. A good two days' worth of work was put into this project.
3. I worked on my local machine and had no problem since I was a one-woman team.
4. I used C because I thought I'd implement it to Arduino (mistakes were made - although I did brush up on it a lot so it's still a win). I included `stdio.h`, `stdlib.h`, `assert.h`, `ctype.h`, and `string.h`.
5. I declared `struct machine` and `struct str_input` to hold information about the machine and the input string. I used a lot of `char *` arrays and not much of other data structures.
6. The logic of implementation was simple, but C was just hard to use because it was getting rusty in my memory. Also, as a note, when I used the `.txt` files downloaded straight from the test files given to us by the professor as the machine definition files, my program did not work. However, when I copied and pasted to another `.txt` file of my own without editing, it worked with my program.
7. The program outputs the input strings and the corresponding transition steps it took as well as the result (rejected or accepted) into the `output.txt` file. I also print this out as the program is running.
8. I used `fst_echoi7.txt` to define the machine and `fst_echoi7_input.txt` as the input. `fst_echoi7.txt` takes `+, -, *` as the input and the English alphabet as the output. There is one state for each character. The start state is `qa`, and the accept states are `qa`, `qe`, `qi`, `qo`, and `qu`. The input `+` transitions current state to the next alphabet's state. The input `-` transitions current state to the previous alphabet's state. The input `*` multiplies the position of the current state's alphabet by itself and transitions to the result position's alphabet state. Note that the states do not wrap around (so `qz, +` would not transition to `qa`).  
The input file has four lines, `+`, `++-+*+`, `++-+*++++-+++`, and `++-+*-+++-*+`. `+` should return reject (final state is `qb`). `++-+*+` should return reject (final state is `qj`). `++-+*++++-+++` should return reject (final state is `qn`). `++-+*-+++-*+` should return reject (final state is trap state).