

# CS 302.1 - Automata Theory

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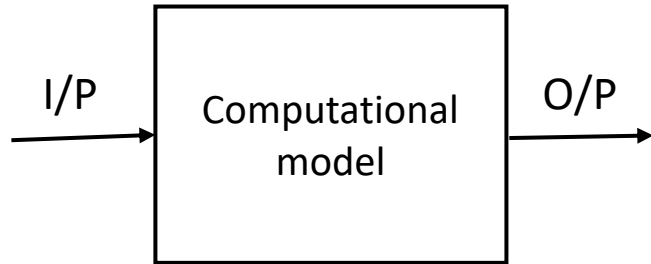
Center for Security, Theory and Algorithms (CSTAR)

IIIT Hyderabad



# A quick recap

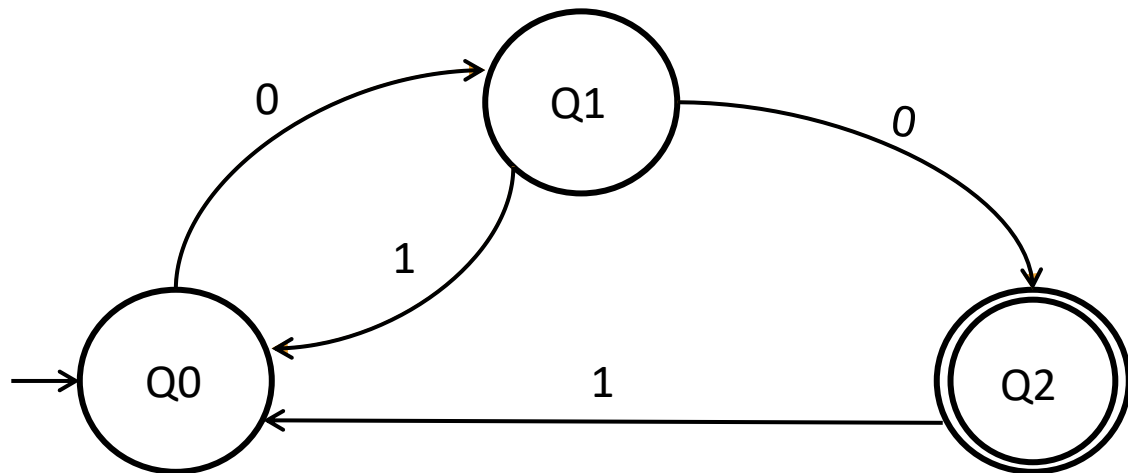
- Can a given problem be computed by a particular computational model?



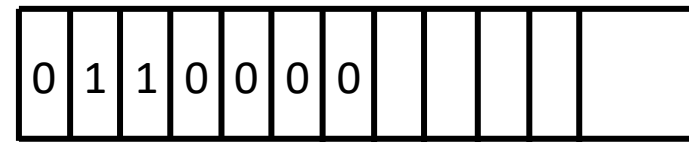
A computational model solves a problem P if,

- (i) For all inputs belonging to the YES instance of P, the device outputs **YES**
- (ii) For all inputs belonging to the NO instance of P, the device outputs **NO**.

If (i) and (ii) hold, we say that the problem **P** is **computable** by this computational model.



Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)



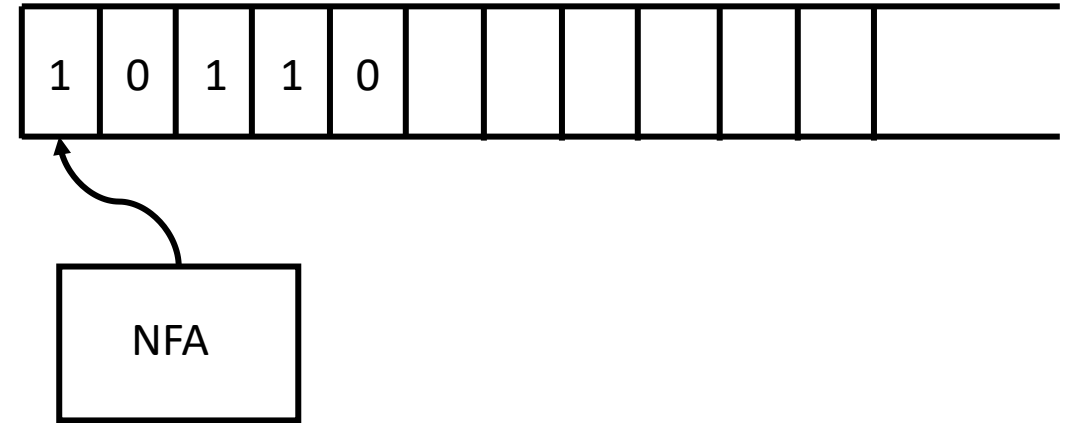
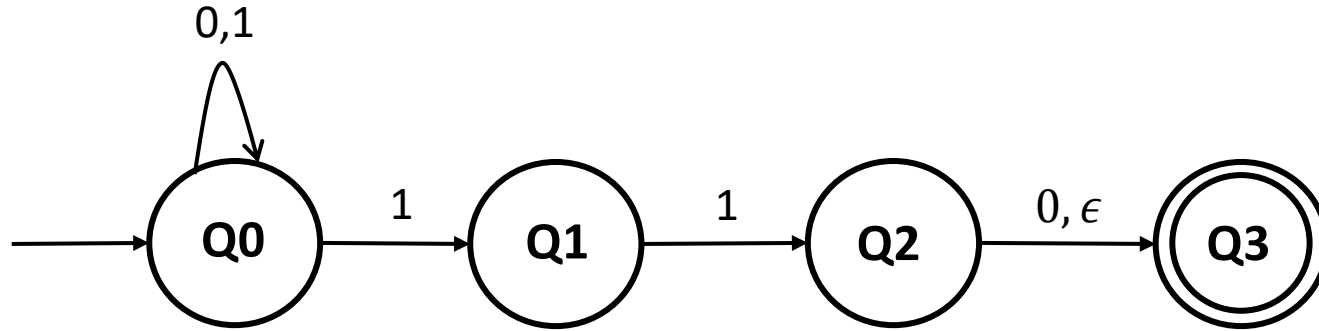
Run:

$Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q1 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q1 \xrightarrow{0} Q2 \xrightarrow{0} Q2 \xrightarrow{0} Q2$

$L(M) = \{\omega \mid \omega \text{ results in an accepting run}\}$

# A quick recap

Non deterministic Finite Automata (NFA)



**Run 1:**  $Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q0$  (**REJECT**)  
**Run 2:**  $Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q1 \xrightarrow{1} Q2 \xrightarrow{0} Q3$  (**ACCEPT**)  
**Run 3:**  $Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q1 \xrightarrow{0}$  **CRASH (REJECT)**  
**Run 4:**  $Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q0 \xrightarrow{0} Q0 \xrightarrow{1} Q1 \xrightarrow{1} Q2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} Q3 \xrightarrow{0}$  **CRASH (REJECT)**

- Multiple runs per input possible.
- The NFA “accepts” an input string, if there exists at **least one accepting run**

	0	1	$\epsilon$
Q0	Q0	Q0, Q1	
Q1		Q2	
Q2	Q3		Q3
Q3			

$L(M) = \{\omega \mid \omega \text{ results in an accepting run}\}$

# NFA vs DFA

- Are NFAs more powerful than DFAs? Intuitively, non-determinism seems to be adding more “power”.
- Let  $L_1$  be the language accepted NFAs and  $L_2$  be the language accepted by DFAs
- Is  $L_2 \subseteq L_1$ ? Clearly true, because a DFA is just a special case of an NFA.
- Surprisingly, what we will show next is that  $L_1 \subseteq L_2$ !
- That is, **given an NFA, we can convert it to a DFA that accepts the same language.**
- Such a DFA is called a “**Remembering DFA**”.

**Thus, DFAs and NFAs are completely equivalent and  $L_1 = L_2$ !**

# Converting an NFA to a DFA

Intuitive idea for the construction of a Remembering DFA from an NFA:

- Let  $R$  be the Remembering DFA corresponding to an NFA  $N$ .
- $R$  on an input enters a state that is labelled by all possible states that  $N$  can enter on that input.
- Note that this “trims away” the non-determinism of the NFA  $N$  without “losing” the language it accepts.
- Also note that if  $N$  has  $k$  states, then  $R$  has at most  $2^k$  states. Why?

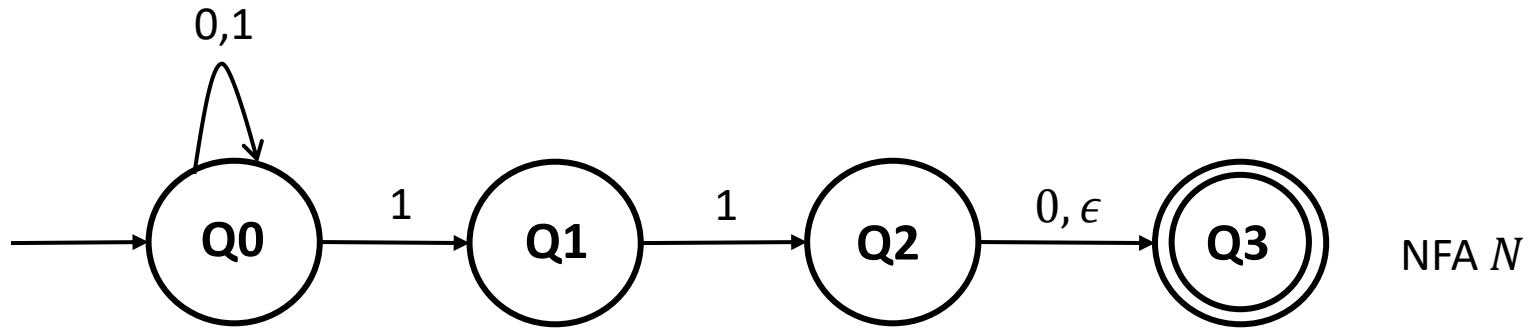
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- Also note that if  $N$  has  $k$  states, then  $R$  has at most  $2^k$  states. Why?
- Any label in the Remembering DFA is a subset of  $\{Q_0, Q_1, Q_2, \dots, Q_{k-1}\}$ , where  $Q_i$  = State of the NFA.
- There are at most  $2^k$  labels for the DFA.

# Converting an NFA to a DFA

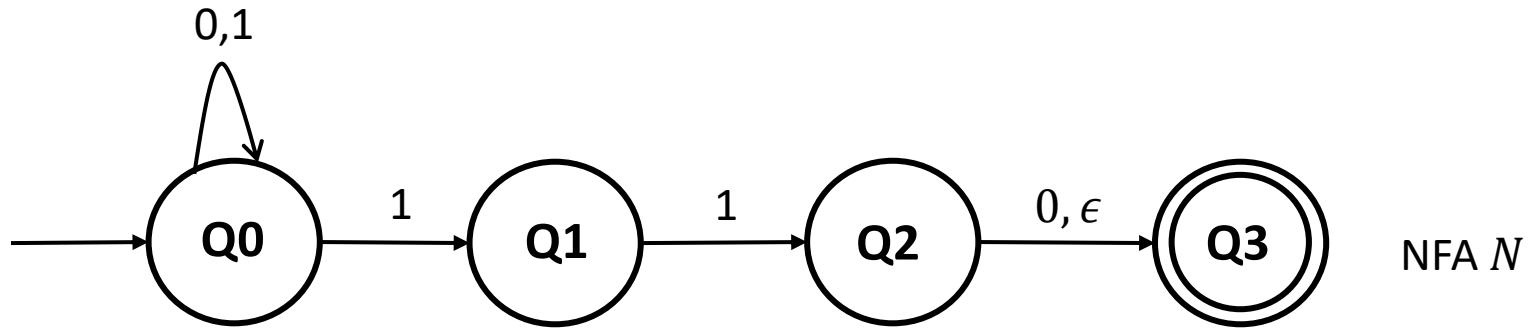
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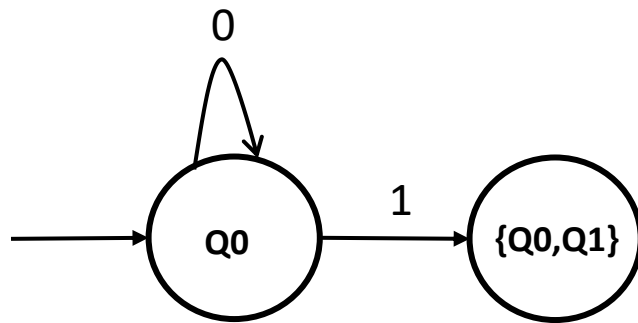
	0	1	$\epsilon$
Q0	Q0	Q0, Q1	
Q1		Q2	
Q2	Q3		Q3
Q3			

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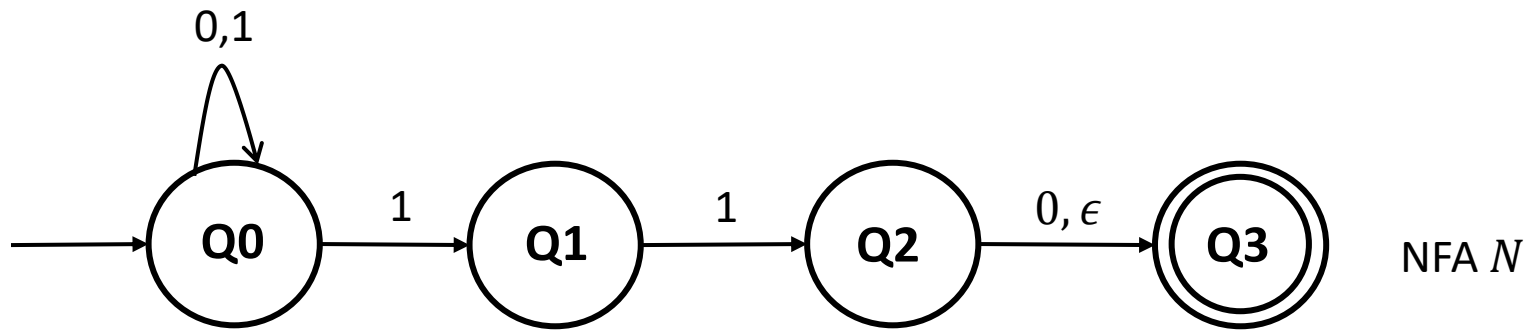


Remembering DFA  $R$

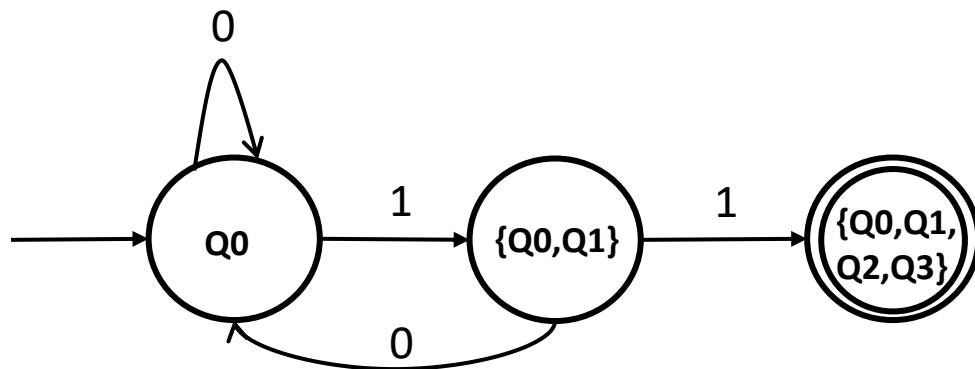


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$Q_1$		$Q_2$	
$Q_2$	$Q_3$		$Q_3$
$Q_3$			

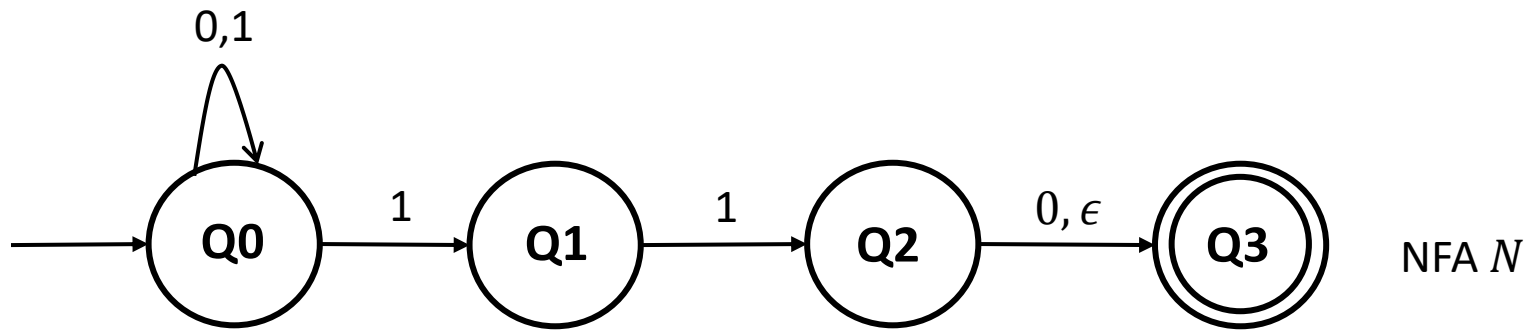


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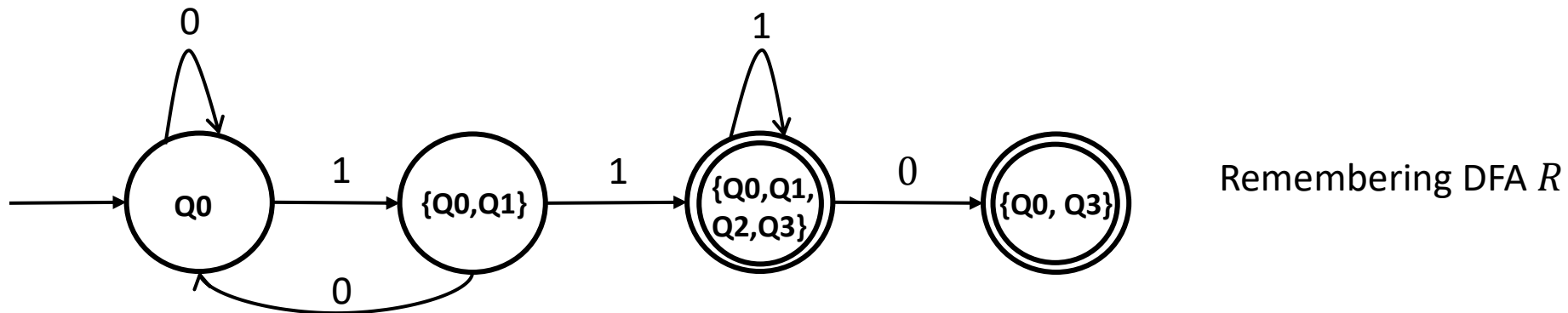
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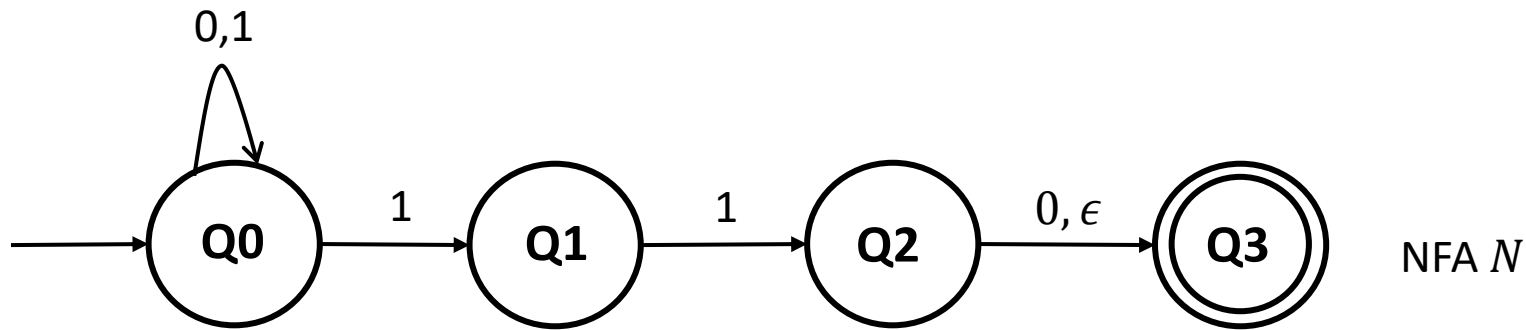
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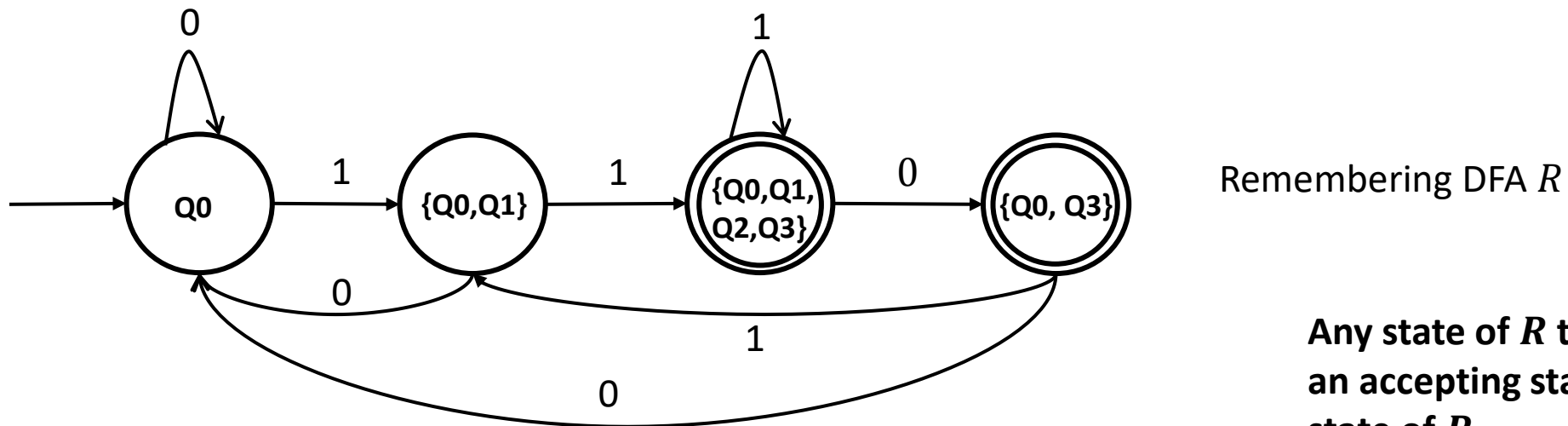
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- $M_2$  on an input enters a state that is labelled by all possible states that  $M_1$  can enter on that input.



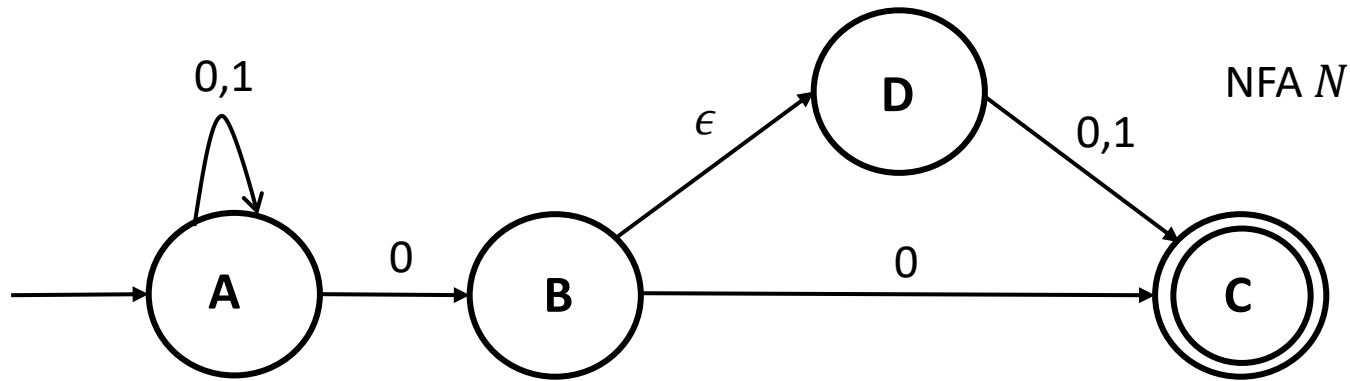
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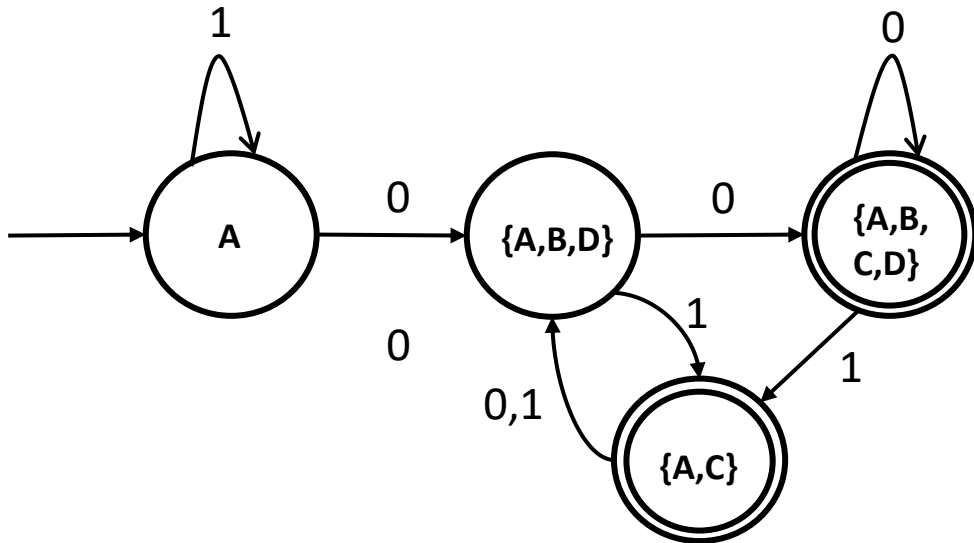
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	0	1	$\epsilon$
A	A	A	
B	C		D
C			
D	C	C	



Remembering DFA  $R$

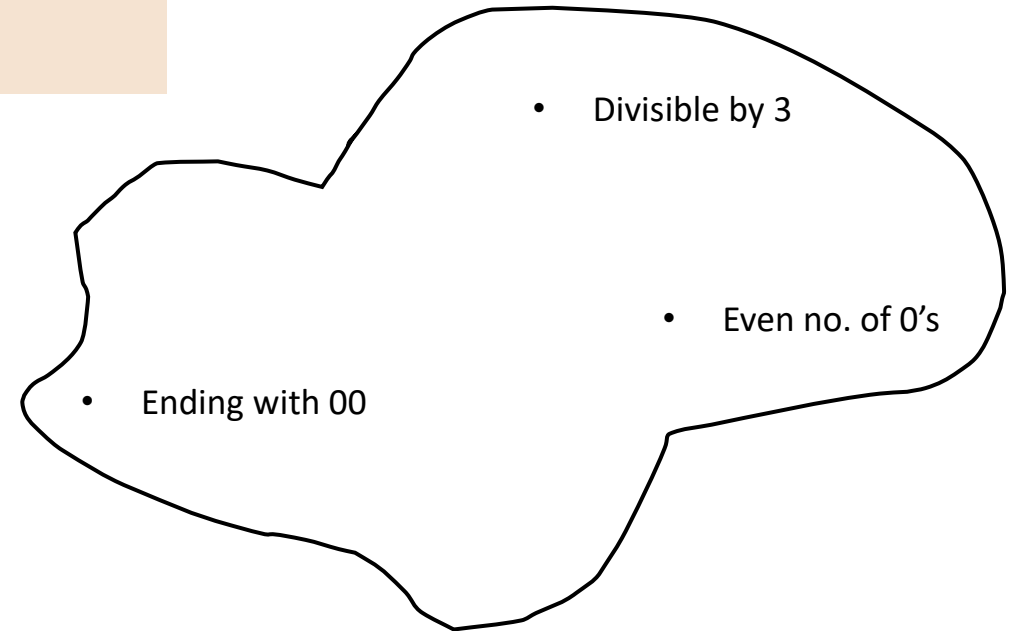
# Regular Languages

A language is called a **Regular Language** if there exists some finite automata recognizing it.

If  $M$  be a finite automaton (DFA/NFA) and,

$$L(M) = \{\omega \mid \omega \text{ is accepted by } M\}$$

**$L(M)$  is regular.**



Set of all regular Languages

# Regular Languages

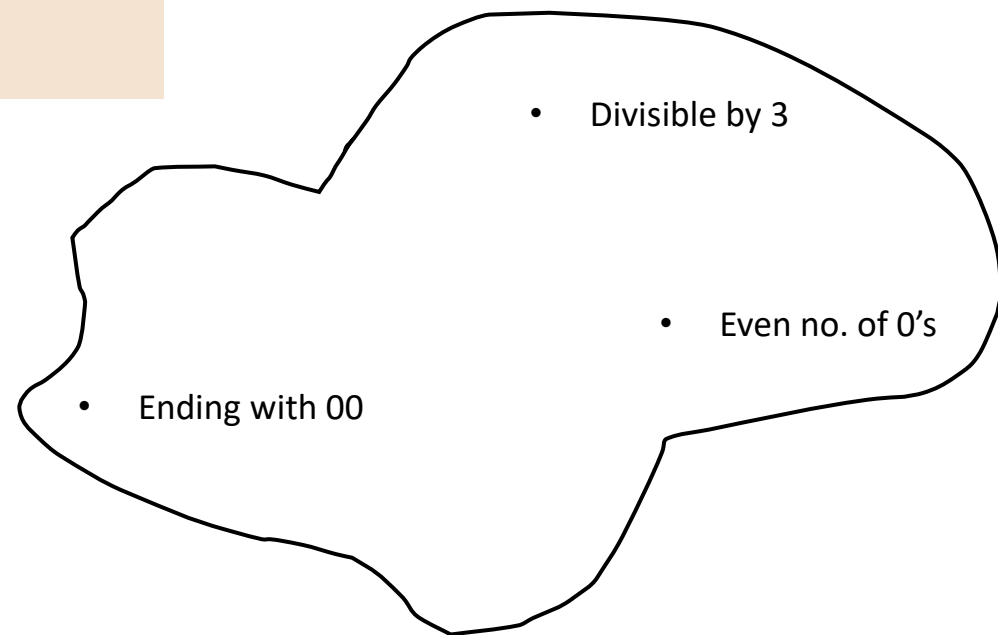
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- Any language has associated with it, a set of operations that can be performed on it.
- These operations help us to understand the properties of that language, e.g. closure properties
- For regular languages, this will help us prove that certain languages are non-regular and hence we cannot hope to design a finite automaton for them



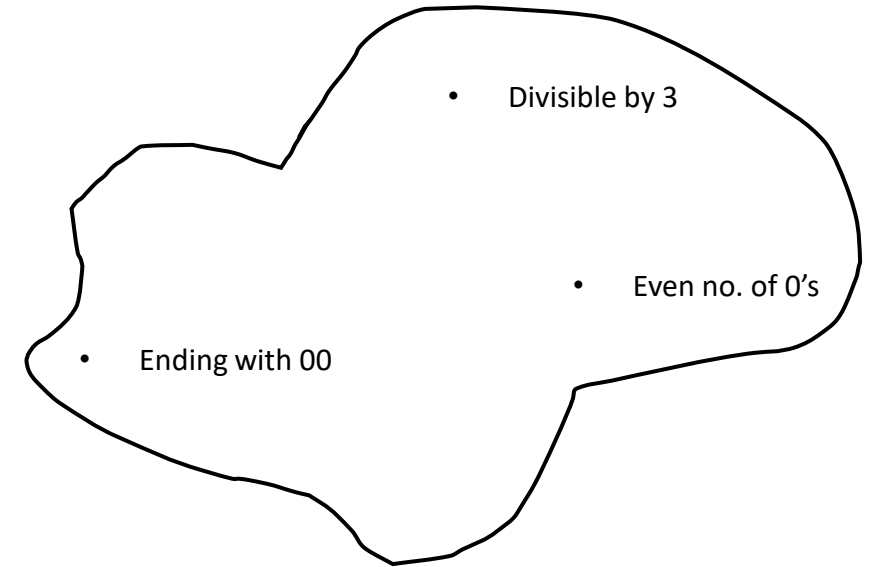
Set of all regular Languages

# Regular Languages

## Regular Operations:

Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be languages. The following are the *regular operations*:

- **Union:**  $L_1 \cup L_2 = \{x | x \in L_1 \text{ or } x \in L_2\}$
- **Concatenation:**  $L_1 \cdot L_2 = \{xy | x \in L_1 \text{ and } y \in L_2\}$
- **Star:**  $L_1^* = \{x_1x_2 \cdots x_k | k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in L_1\}$



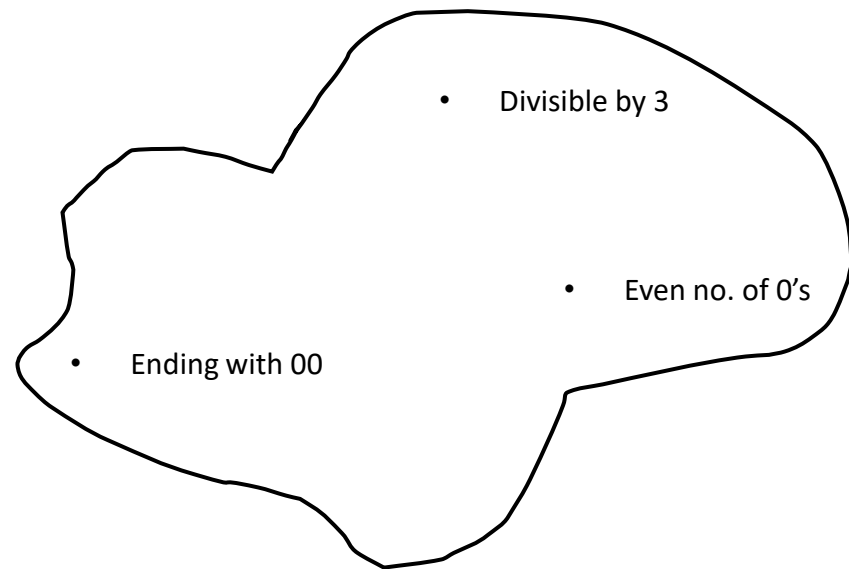
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Set of all regular Languages

**Star operation:** It is an unary operation (unlike the other two) and involves putting together *any number of strings in  $L_1$  together to obtain a new string.*

**Note:** Any number of strings includes “0” as a possibility and so the empty string  $\epsilon$  is a member of  $L_1^*$ .

If  $\Sigma = \{a\}$ ,  $\Sigma^* = \{\epsilon, a, aa, aaa, \dots\}$ ; If  $\Sigma = \{\Phi\}$ ,  $\Sigma^* = \{\}$

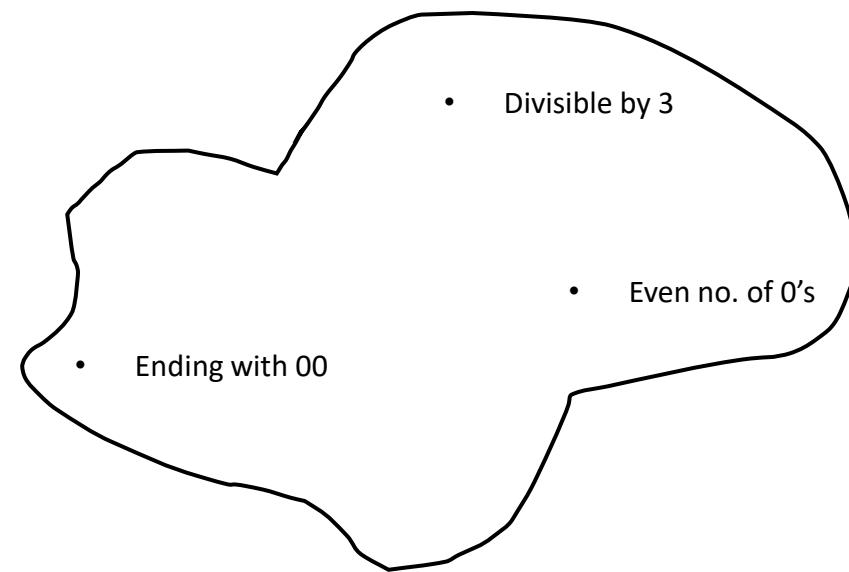


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If  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$ , we have that  $\Sigma^* = \{0,1\}^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, 000, \dots\}$

# Regular Languages

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**Example:** Let the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots, z\}$ . If  $L_1 = \{\text{social, economic}\}$  and  $L_2 = \{\text{justice, reform}\}$ , then

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- $L_1 \cup L_2 = \{\text{social}, \text{economic}, \text{justice}, \text{reform}\}$
- $L_1.L_2 = \{\text{socialjustice}, \text{socialreform}, \text{economicjustice}, \text{economicreform}\}$

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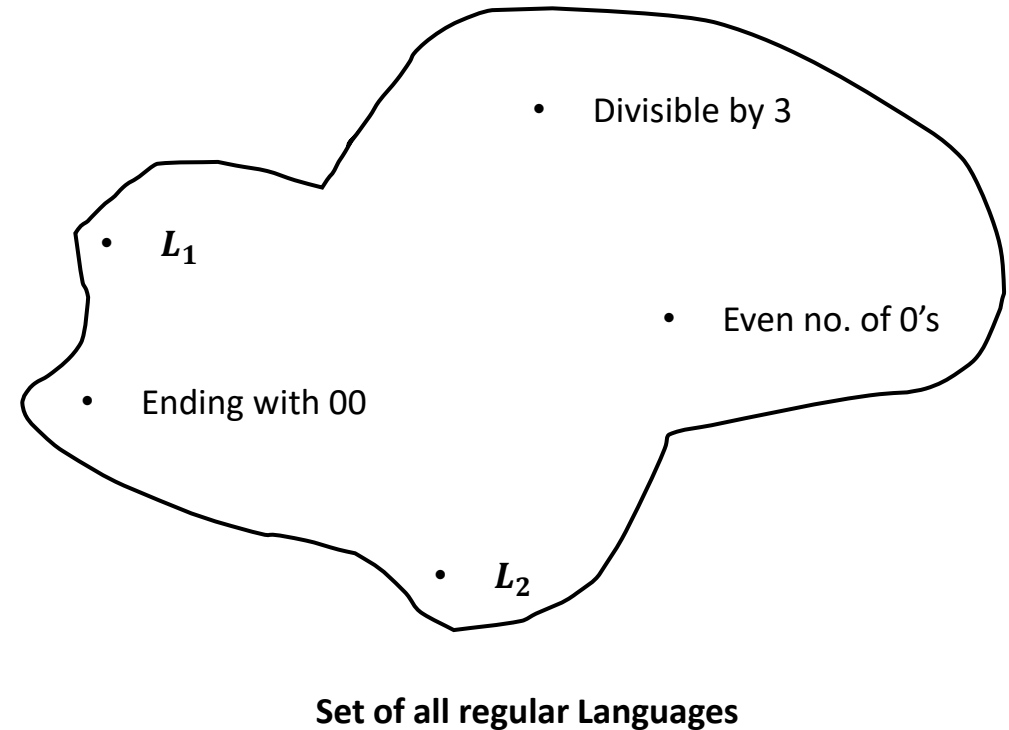
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- $L_2^* = \{\epsilon, \text{justice, reform, justicejustice, justicereform, reformjustice, reformreform, justicejusticejustice, .....}\}$

# Closure of Regular Languages

We want to check whether the set of regular languages are **closed** under some operations.

What does this mean?

- We pick up points within the set of all regular languages (say  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ )
- Perform *set operations* such as Union, concatenation, Star, intersection, reversal, compliment etc on them.
- Observe whether the resulting language still belongs to the set of all regular languages.
- If so, we say, regular languages are **closed** under that operation.

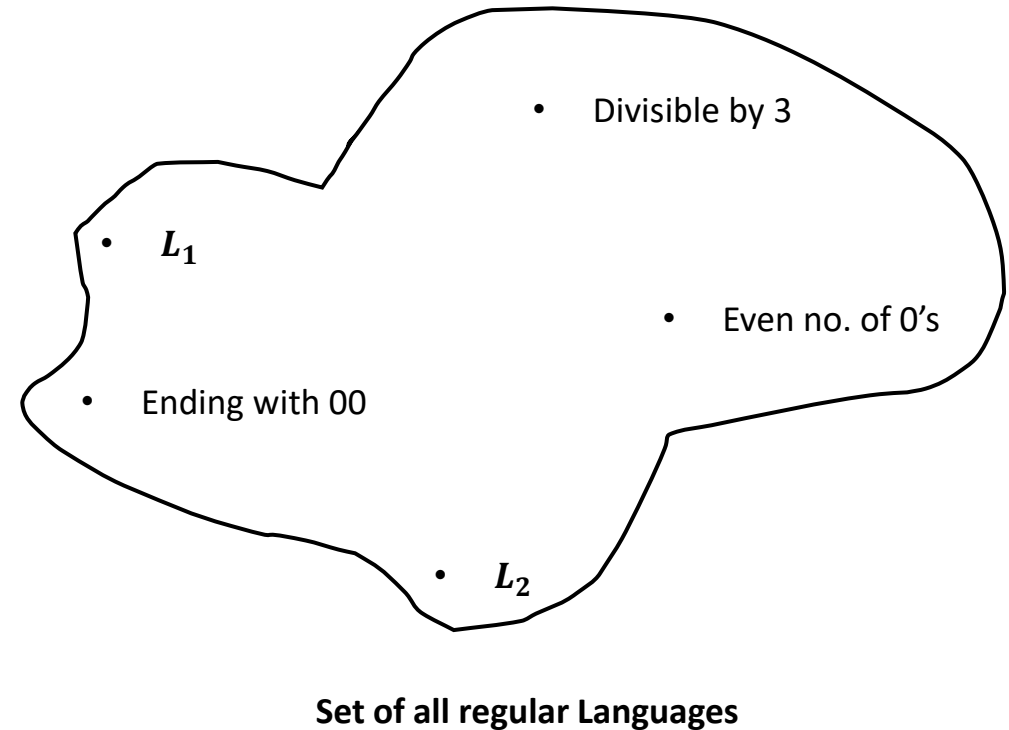


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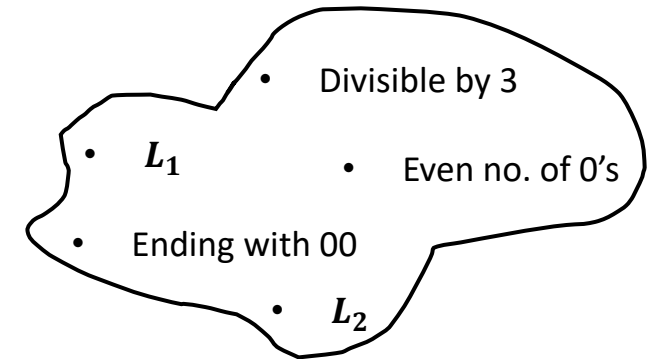


For example, the **natural numbers** are **closed under addition/multiplication** and **not under subtraction/division**.

# Closure of Regular Languages

**Q:** Is the set of all regular languages **closed under union**?

Suppose  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular languages. Is  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$  also regular?



**Set of all regular Languages**

# Closure of Regular Languages

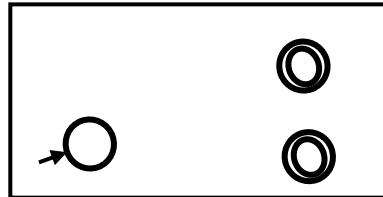
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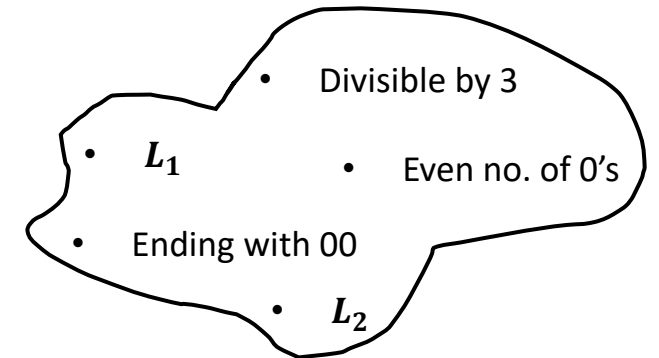
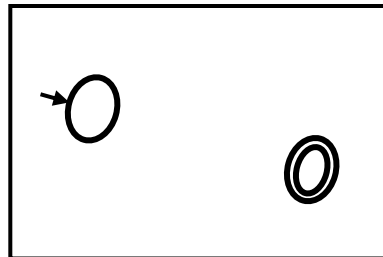
**Proof:** Since  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular, there must be a DFA  $M_1$  that accepts  $L_1$ , i.e.  $L(M_1) = L_1$  and a DFA  $M_2$  that accepts  $L_2$ , i.e.  $L(M_2) = L_2$ .

Using  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , we will show how to construct an NFA  $M$  that accepts  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$ , i.e.  $L(M) = L_1 \cup L_2$ .

Suppose the DFA for  $M_1$  is



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Set of all regular Languages



# Closure of Regular Languages

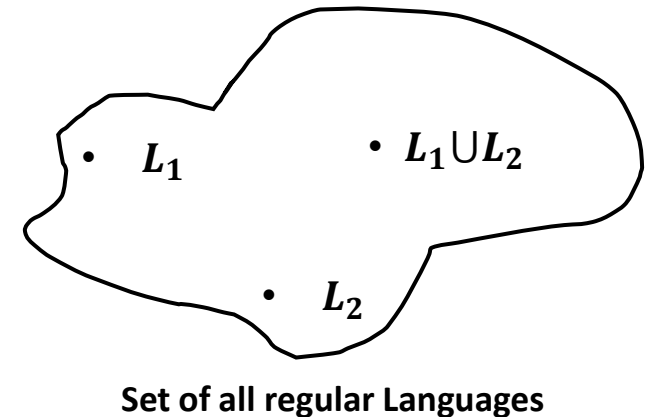
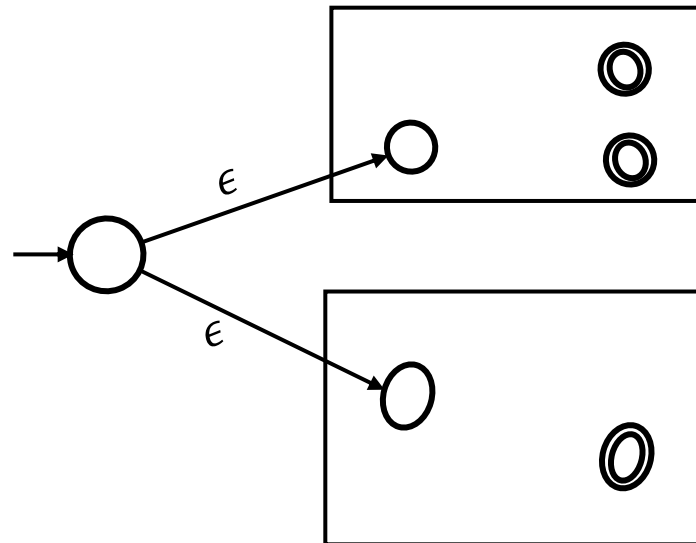
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NFA  $M$  accepting  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$



# Closure of Regular Languages

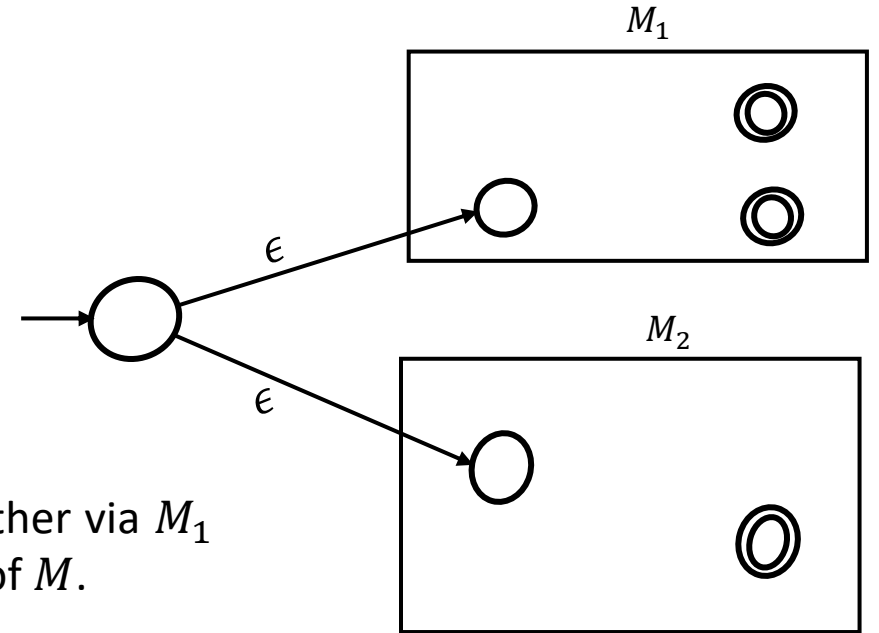
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Suppose  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular languages. Is  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$  also regular?

**Proof:** In order to prove that  $L(M) = L_1 \cup L_2$ , we show two things:

(i)  $L \subseteq L_1 \cup L_2$

Let  $\omega \in L$ , i.e.  $\omega$  is accepted by  $M$ . The final state for  $L$  can be reached either via  $M_1$  or  $M_2$ . Thus  $\omega$  must be accepted by either of them to reach the final state of  $M$ .



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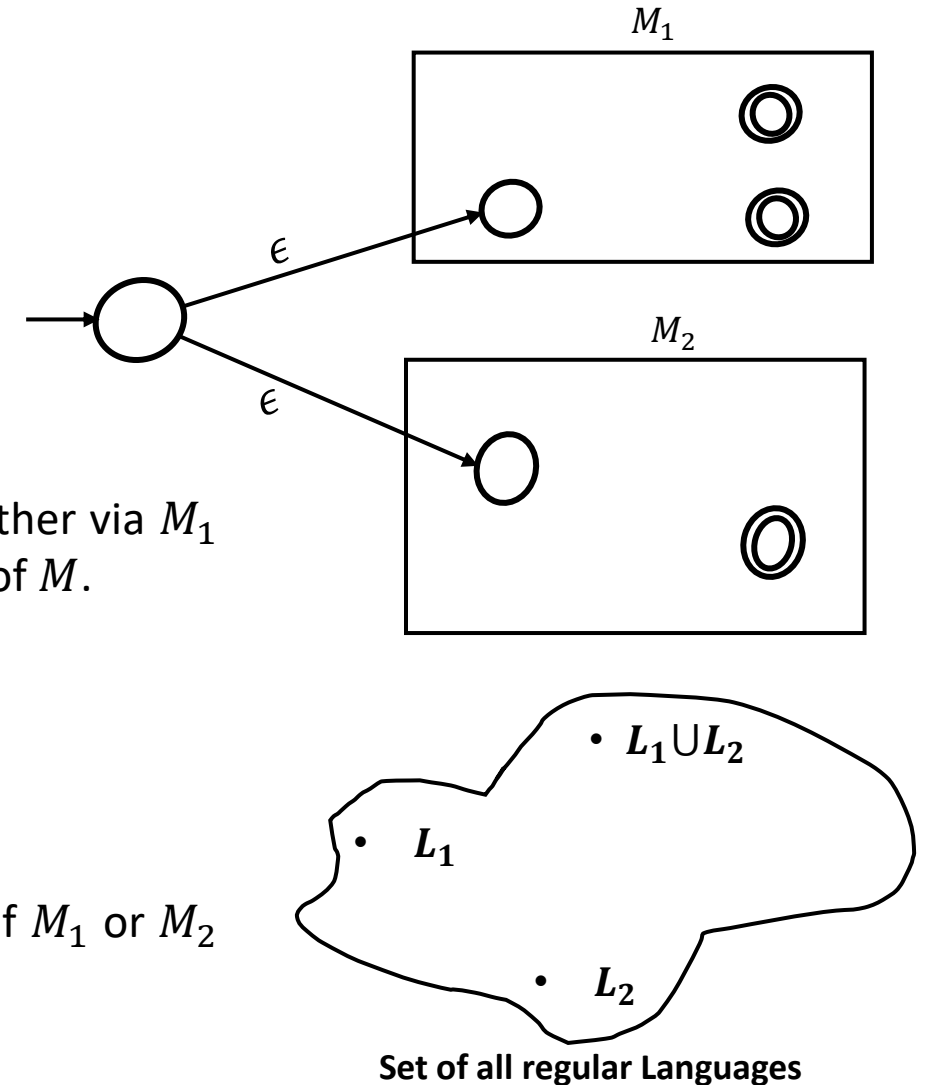
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(ii)  $L_1 \cup L_2 \subseteq L$

Let  $\omega \in L_1 \cup L_2$ . Then,  $\omega \in L_1$  or  $\omega \in L_2$ .

Thus,  $\omega$  must reach the final state of  $M_1$  or  $M_2$ . But since the start state of  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  can be reached from the start state of  $M$  by taking an  $\epsilon$ -transition,  $\omega \in L$ .

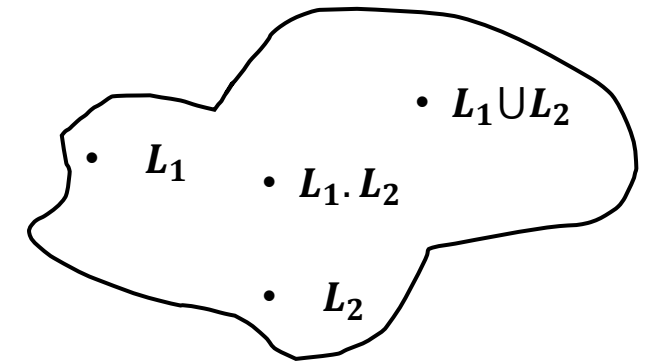
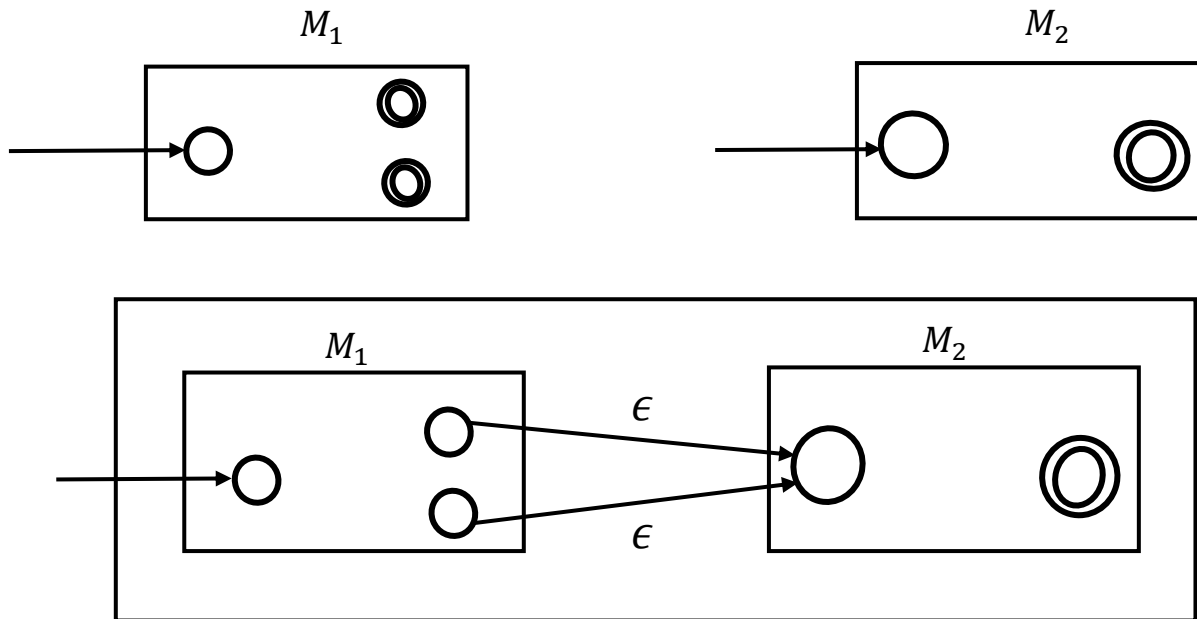


# Closure of Regular Languages

**Q:** Is the set of all regular languages **closed under concatenation**? Suppose  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular languages. Is  $L = L_1.L_2$  also regular?

**Proof:** Since  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular, there must be a DFA  $M_1$  that accepts  $L_1$ , i.e.  $L(M_1) = L_1$  and a DFA  $M_2$  that accepts  $L_2$ , i.e.  $L(M_2) = L_2$ .

Using  $M_1$  and  $M_2$ , we will show how to construct an NFA  $M$  that accepts  $L = L_1.L_2$ .



Set of all regular Languages

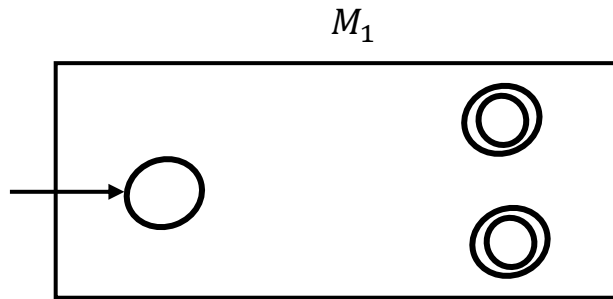
$$L_1.L_2 = \{xy | x \in L_1 \text{ and } y \in L_2\}$$

NFA  $M$  accepting  $L = L_1.L_2$

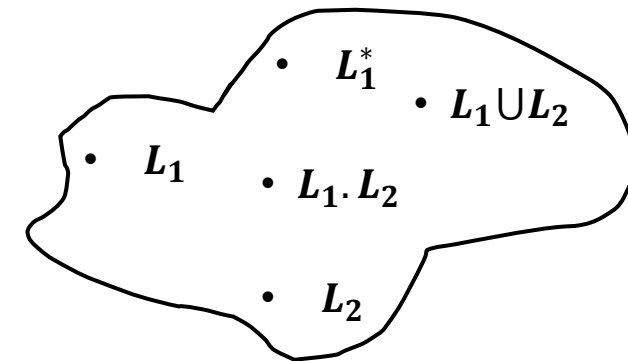
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**Q:** Is the set of all regular languages **closed under star**? Suppose  $L_1$  is a regular language. Is  $L_1^*$  also regular?

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$$L_1^* = \{x_1x_2 \cdots x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in L_1\}$$

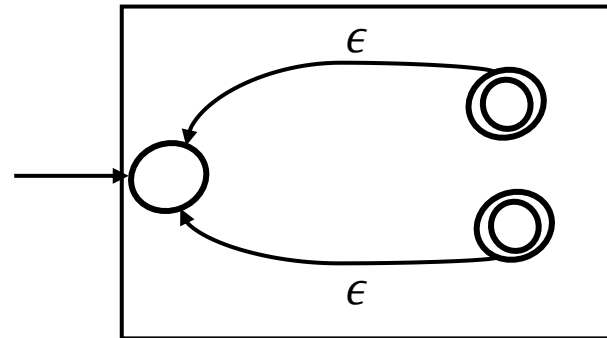
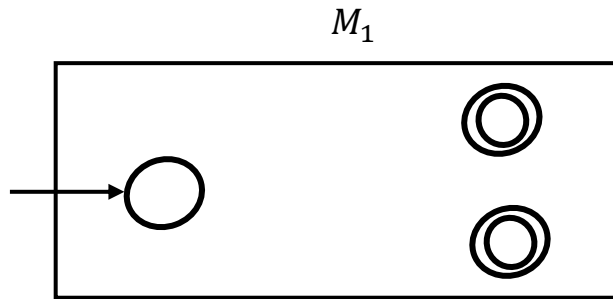


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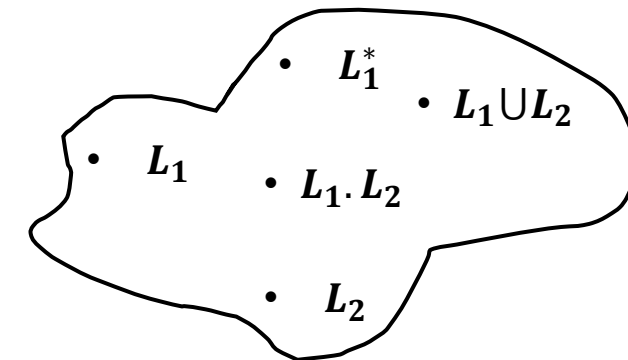


NFA accepting  $L = L_1^*$

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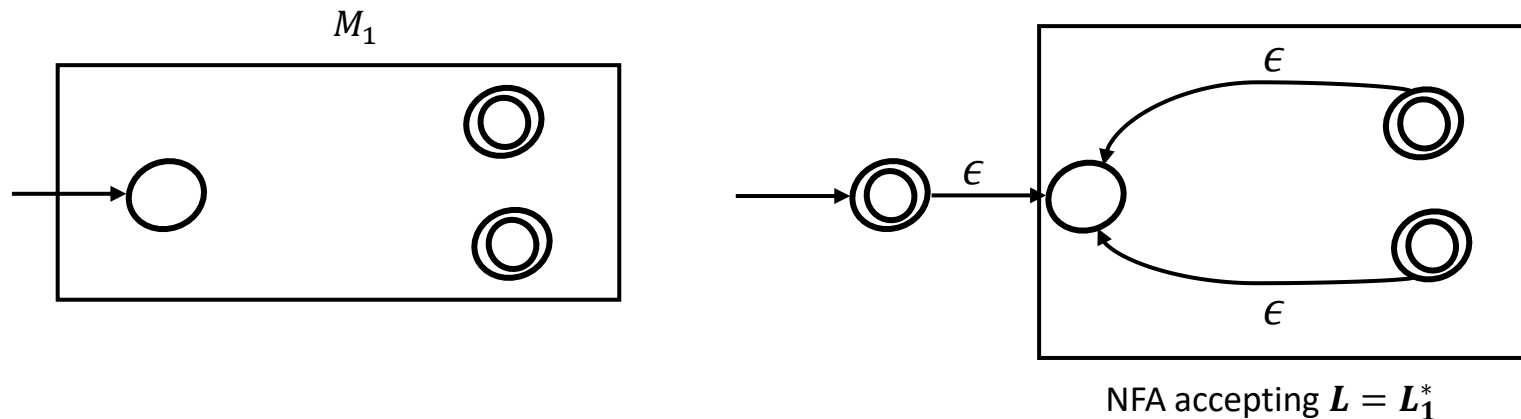


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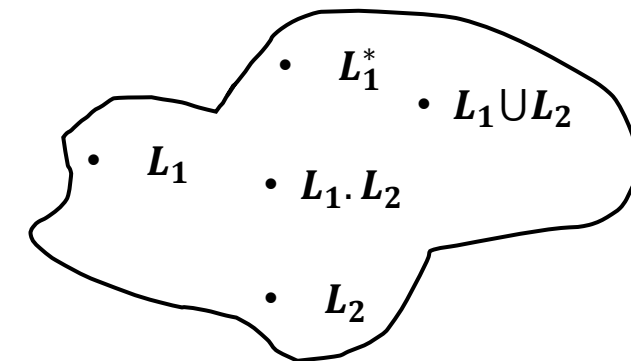
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- Make  $\epsilon$ -transitions from the final states of  $L_1$  to the initial state of  $L_1$ .
- Make a new final state as the start state and make an  $\epsilon$ -transition from this state to the previous start state of  $L_1$ .



Set of all regular Languages

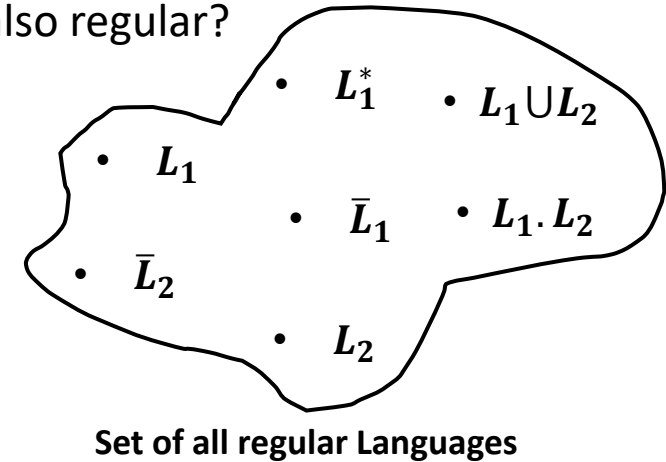
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**Q:** Is the set of all regular languages **closed under complement**? If  $L$  is regular, then is  $\bar{L}$  also regular?

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$$L(M') = \bar{L}$$





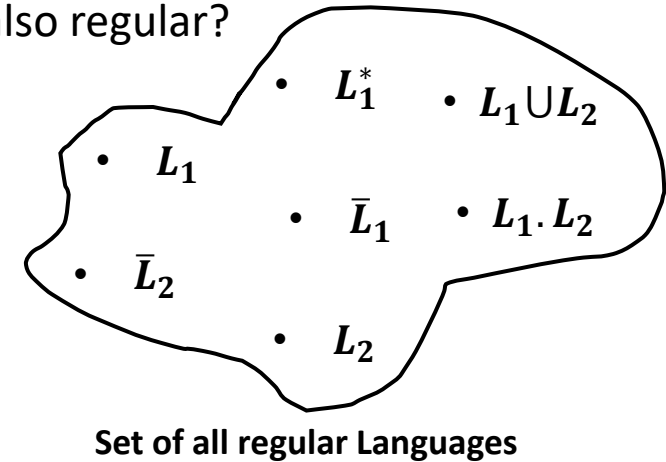
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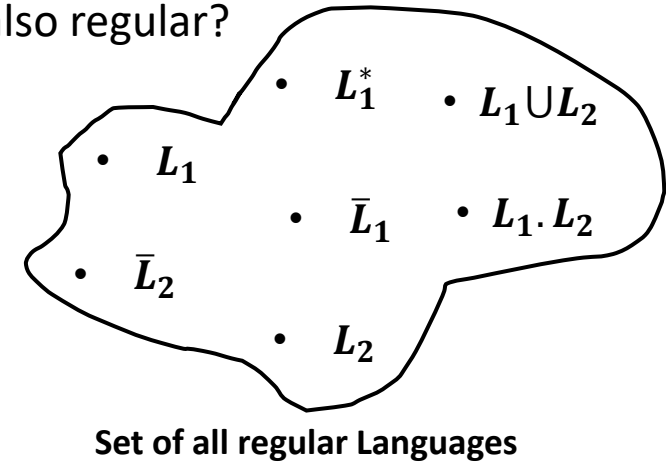
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	NFA $N$	Toggled NFA $N'$
Run 1	Rejecting	
Run 2	Accepting	

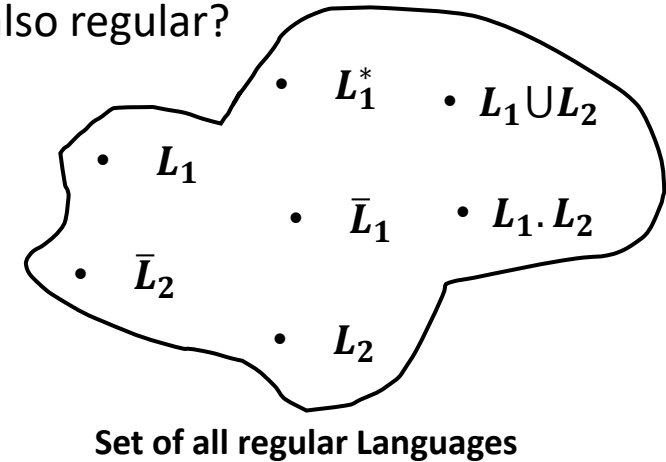
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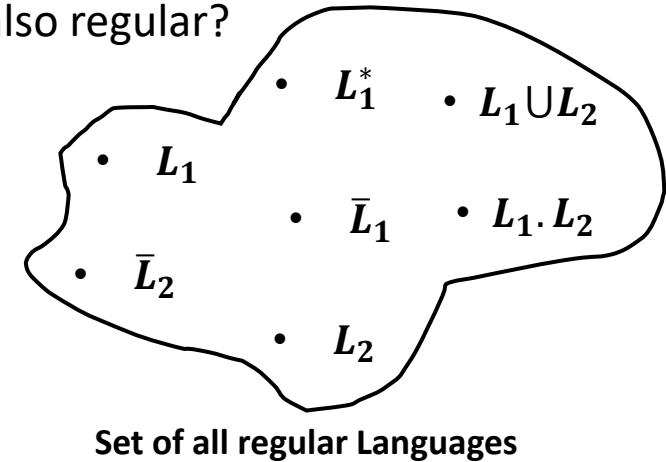
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**Contradiction!** So No, the **toggled NFA does not accept  $\bar{L}$** .

	NFA $N$	Toggled NFA $N'$
Run 1	Rejecting	Accepting
Run 2	Accepting	Rejecting

# Closure of Regular Languages

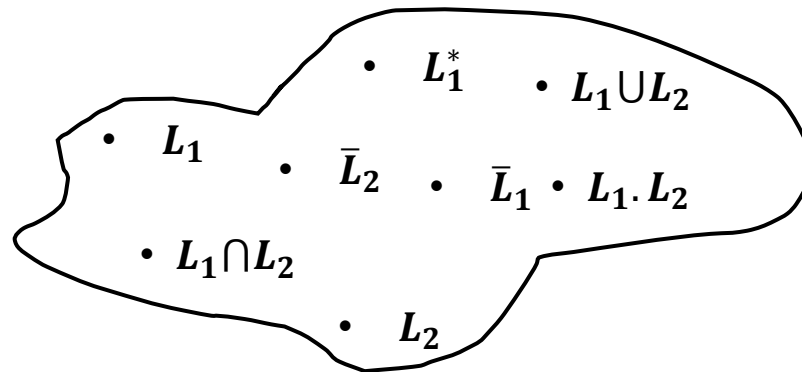
**Q:** Is the set of all regular languages **closed under intersection**? If  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are regular, then is  $L = L_1 \cap L_2$  also regular?

**Proof:** We shall use the fact that regular languages are **closed** under union and complement.

Note that using De Morgan's laws:

$$L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$$

Given a DFA for  $L_1$  and a DFA for  $L_2$ , we know how to construct an NFA for  $\overline{L_1}, \overline{L_2}$  as well as for  $L_1 \cup L_2$ . Using these constructions and the aforementioned relationship, we can construct an NFA for  $L = L_1 \cap L_2$



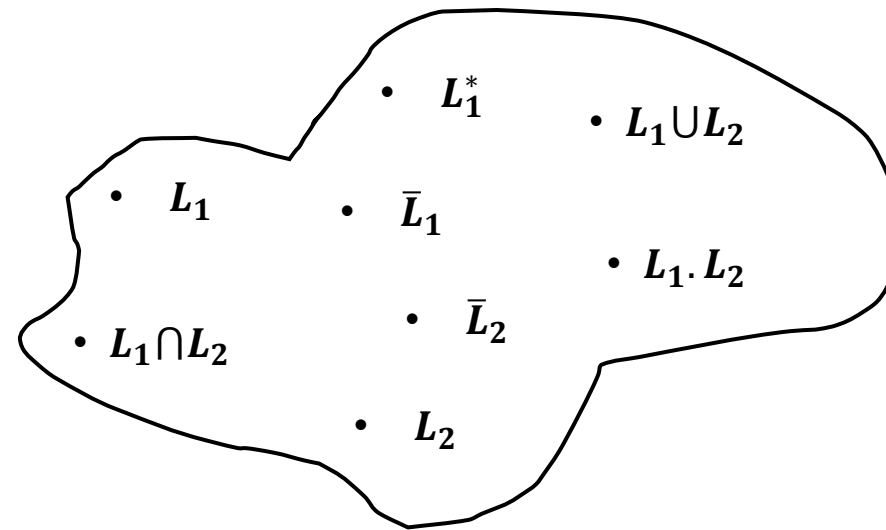
Set of all regular Languages

# Closure of Regular Languages

## Summary:

Regular Languages are closed under:

- **Union**
- **Intersection**
- **Star**
- **Complement**
- **Concatenation**



Set of all regular Languages

# Regular Languages

If  $\Sigma$  is an alphabet, then

- $\Sigma^0 = \{\epsilon\}$
- $\Sigma^2 = \{a_1 a_2 | a_1 \in \Sigma, a_2 \in \Sigma\}$
- $\Sigma^k = \{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k | a_i \in \Sigma | 0 \leq i \leq k\}$
- $\Sigma^* = \{\cup_{i \geq 0} \Sigma^i\} = \{\Sigma^0 \cup \Sigma^1 \cup \Sigma^2 \cdots\} = \{a_1 a_2 \cdots a_k | k \in \{0, 1, \cdots\} \text{ \& } a_j \in \Sigma, \forall j \in \{1, 2, \cdots, k\}\}$

A Language  $L \subset \Sigma^*$  and  $L^* = \{\cup_{i \geq 0} L^i\}$

# Regular Languages

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**Regular Language (alternate definition):** Let  $\Sigma$  be an alphabet. Then the following are the regular languages over  $\Sigma$ :

- The empty language  $\Phi$  is regular
- For each  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  $\{a\}$  is regular.
- Let  $L_1, L_2$  be regular languages. Then  $L_1 \cup L_2$ ,  $L_1 \cdot L_2$ ,  $L_1^*$  are regular languages.



# Regular Expressions

A regular expression describes regular languages algebraically. The algebraic formulation also provides a powerful set of tools which will be leveraged to prove

- languages are regular
- derive properties of regular languages

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- $R_1 + R_2$  is a regular expression if  $R_1$  and  $R_2$  are regular expressions,  $L(R_1 + R_2) = L(R_1) \cup L(R_2)$
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- $(R)$  is a regular expression if  $R$  is a regular expression,  $L((R)) = L(R)$

# Regular Expressions

Syntax for regular expressions:

Regular Expression	Regular Language	Comment
$\Phi$	$\{\}$	The empty set
$\epsilon$	$\{\epsilon\}$	The set containing $\epsilon$ only
$a$	$\{a\}$	Any $a \in \Sigma$
$R_1 + R_2$	$L(R_1) \cup L(R_2)$	For regular expressions $R_1$ and $R_2$
$R_1 R_2$	$L(R_1) \cdot L(R_2)$	For regular expressions $R_1$ and $R_2$
$R^*$	$(L(R))^*$	For regular expressions $R$
$(R)$	$L(R)$	For regular expressions $R$

Order of precedence:  $()$ ,  $*$ ,  $\cdot$ ,  $+$

A language  $L$  is regular if and only if for some regular expression  $R$ ,  $L(R) = L$ .

RE's are equivalent in power to NFAs/DFAs

# Regular Expressions

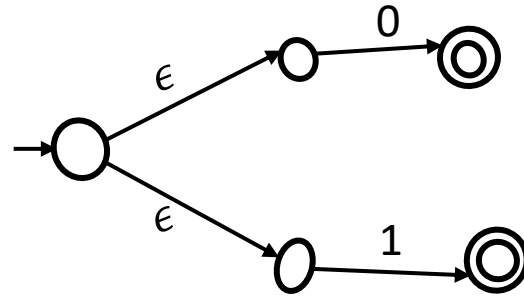
Syntax for regular expressions:

Regular Expression $R$	$L(R)$
$01$	$\{01\}$
$01 + 1$	$\{01, 1\}$
$(0 + 1)^*$	$\{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, \dots\}$
$(01 + \epsilon)1$	$\{011, 1\}$
$(0 + 1)^*01$	$\{01, 001, 101, 0001, \dots\}$
$(0 + 10)^*(\epsilon + 1)$	$\{\epsilon, 0, 10, 00, 001, 010, 0101, \dots\}$

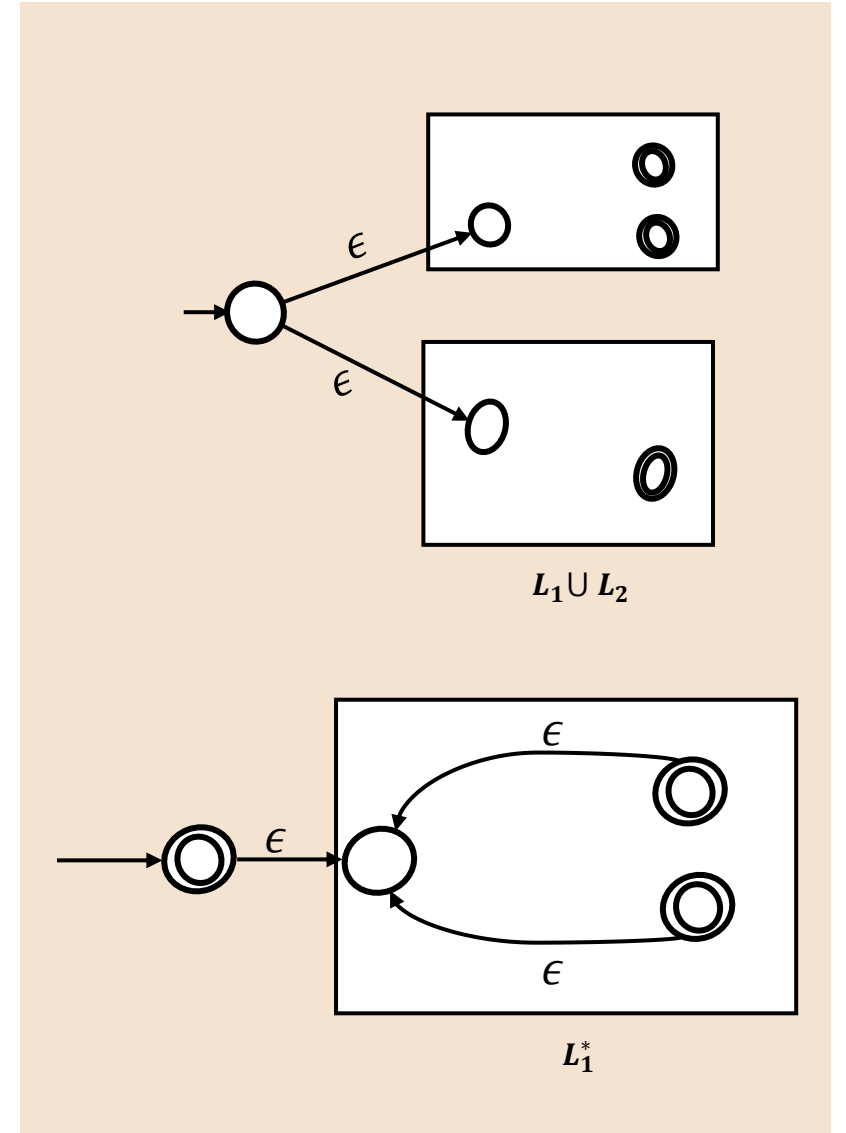
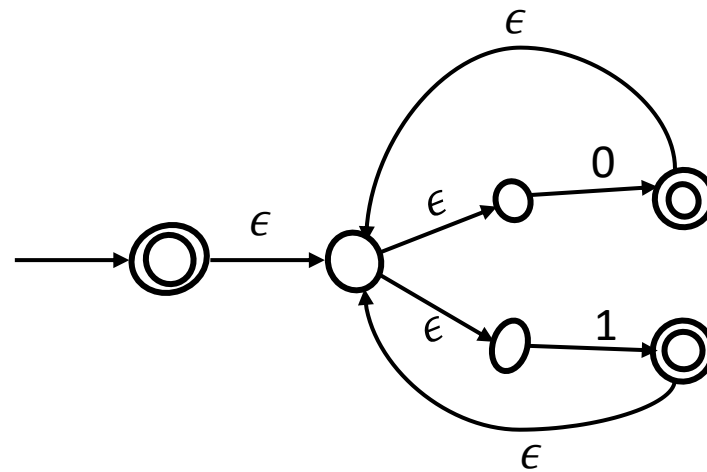
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**NFA for RE:  $(0 + 1)^* 01$**

(i) NFA for  $(0 + 1)$

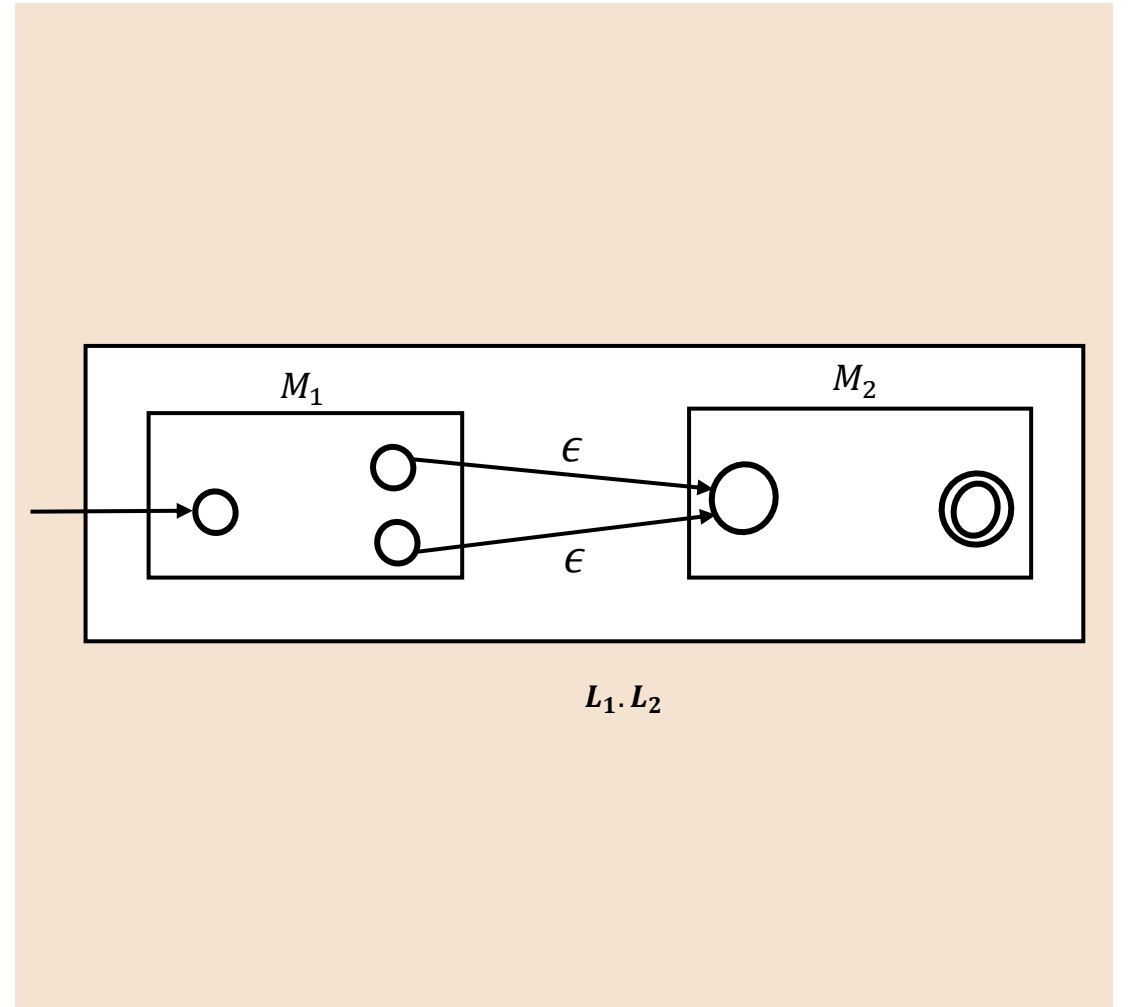
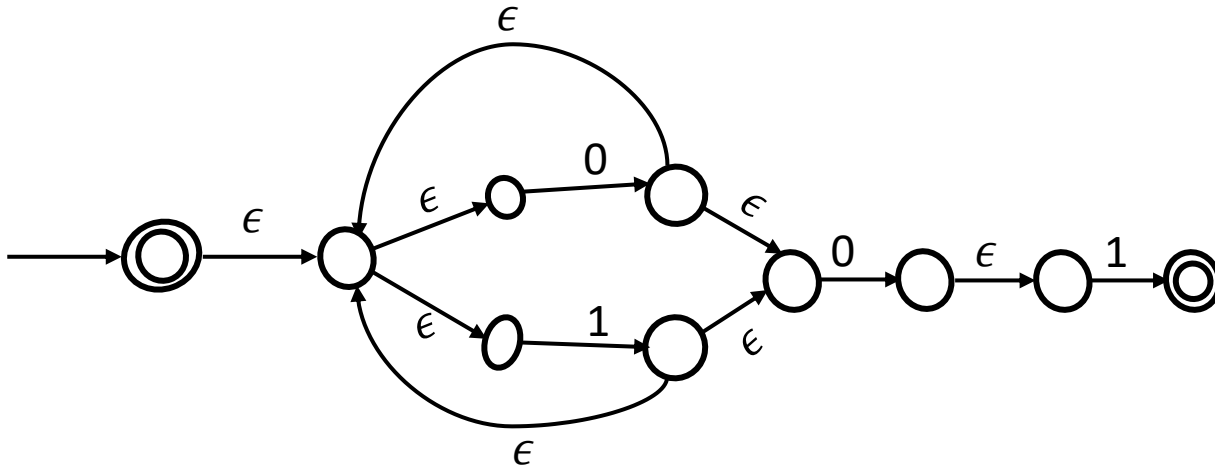


(ii) NFA for  $(0 + 1)^*$



# Regular Expressions

NFA for  $(0 + 1)^*01$





# Regular Expressions

Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .

Language	Regular Expression
$\{\omega \mid \omega \text{ ends in "ab"}\}$	$(a + b)^*ab$
$\{\omega \mid \omega \text{ has a single } a \}$	$b^*ab^*$
$\{\omega \mid \omega \text{ has at most one } a\}$	$b^* + b^*ab^*$
$\{\omega \mid  \omega  \text{ is even}\}$	$((a + b)(a + b))^* = (aa + bb + ab + ba)^*$
$\{\omega \mid \omega \text{ has "ab" as a substring}\}$	$(a + b)^*ab(a + b)^*$
$\{\omega \mid  \omega  \text{ is a multiple of 3}\}$	$((a + b)(a + b)(a + b))^*$

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## Some algebraic properties of Regular Expressions:

- $R_1 + (R_2 + R_3) = (R_1 + R_2) + R_3$
- $R_1(R_2R_3) = (R_1R_2)R_3$
- $R_1(R_2 + R_3) = R_1R_2 + R_1R_3$
- $(R_1 + R_2)R_3 = R_1R_3 + R_2R_3$
- $R_1 + R_2 = R_2 + R_1$
- $R_1^*R_1^* = R_1^*$
- $(R_1^*)^* = R_1^*$
- $R\epsilon = \epsilon R = R$
- $R\Phi = \Phi R = \Phi$
- $R + \Phi = R$
- $\epsilon + RR^* = \epsilon + R^*R = R^*$
- $(R_1 + R_2)^* = (R_1^*R_2^*)^* = (R_1^* + R_2^*)^*$

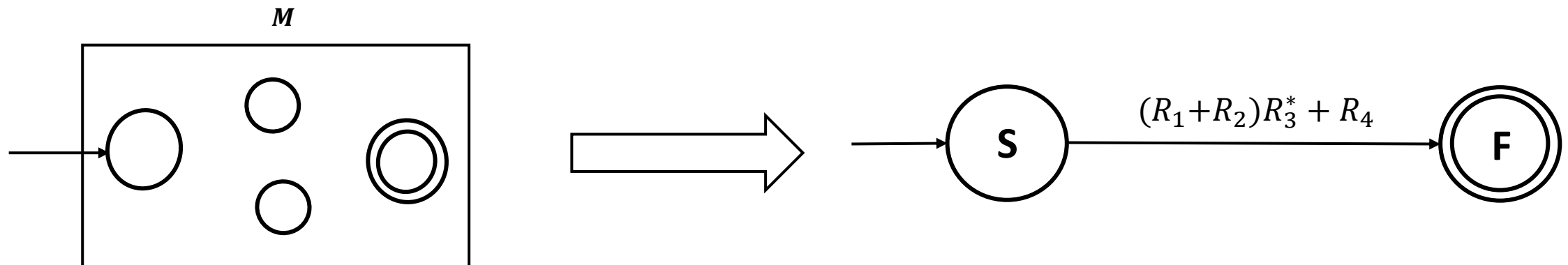
# DFA to Regular Expressions

If a language is regular then it accepts a regular expression. We could draw equivalent NFAs for Regular Expressions.

How can we obtain Regular expressions given a DFA?

Given a DFA  $M$ , we **recursively** construct a two-state Generalized NFA (GNFA) with

- A start state and a final state
- A single arrow goes from the start state to the final state
- The label of this arrow is the regular expression corresponding to the language accepted by the DFA  $M$ .



Thank You!