

# **Theory of Computing**

## **SE-205**

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### **Lecture-2**

# Extended Transition Function

We describe the effect of a string of inputs on a DFA by extending  $\hat{\delta}$  to a state and a string.

Induction on length of string.

**Basis:**  $\hat{\delta}(q, \epsilon) = q$

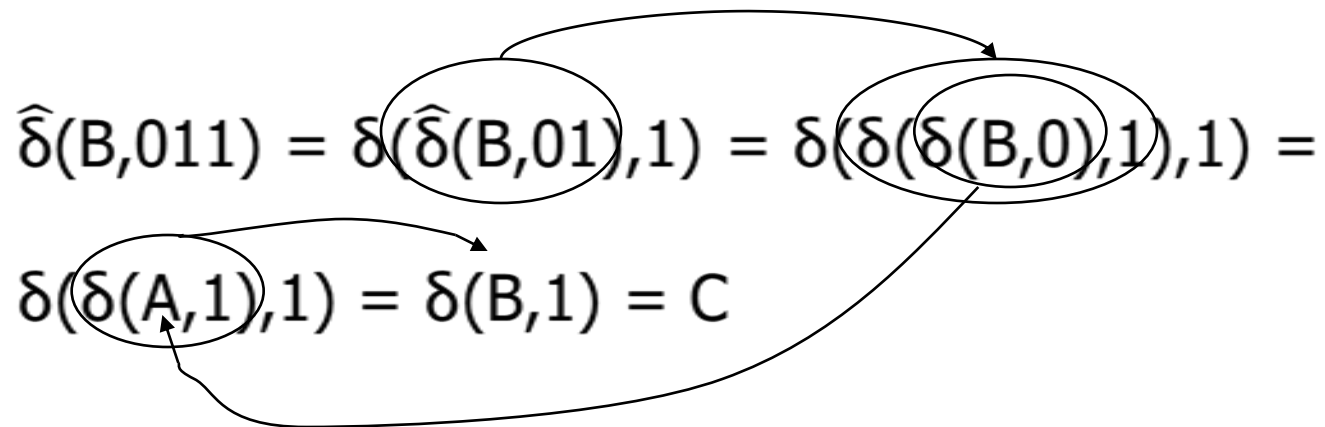
Suppose  $w$  is a string where  $w=xa$ .

$w=1101$  is broken into  $x=110$  and  $a=1$ .

**Induction:**  $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \delta(\hat{\delta}(q, x), a) = r$

# Extended Transition Function..

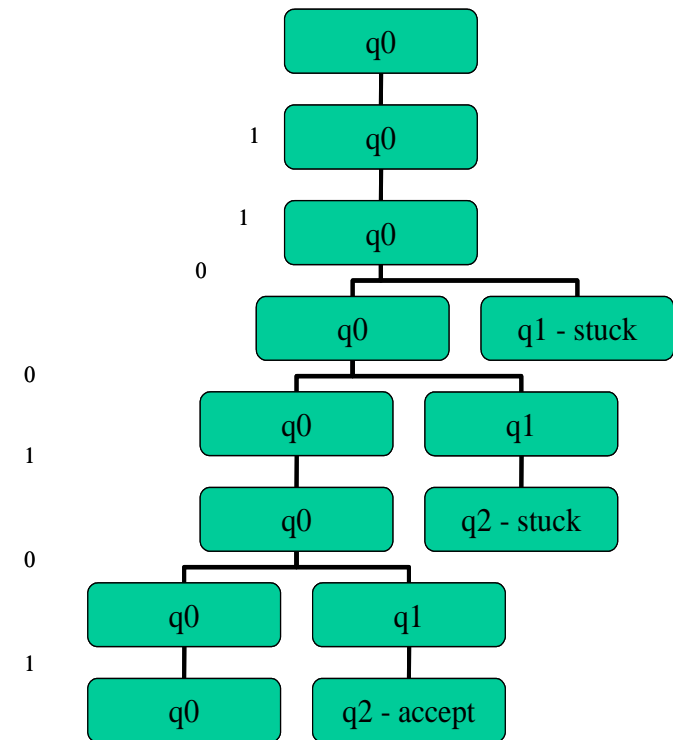
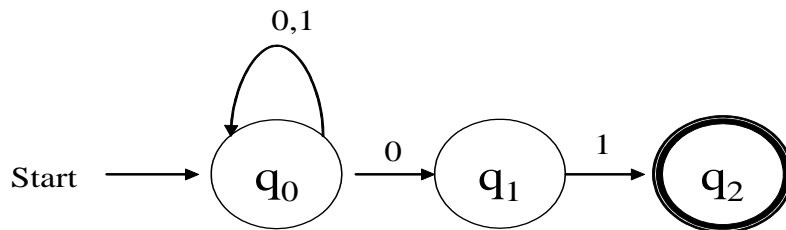
|   | 0 | 1 |
|---|---|---|
| A | A | B |
| B | A | C |
| C | C | C |

$$\begin{aligned}\hat{\delta}(B,011) &= \delta(\hat{\delta}(B,01),1) = \delta(\delta(\delta(B,0),1),1) = \\ \delta(\delta(A,1),1) &= \delta(B,1) = C\end{aligned}$$


# NFA

- A *nondeterministic finite automaton* has the ability to be in several states at once.
  - Transitions from a state on an input symbol can be to any set of states.
- This NFA accepts only those strings that end in 01
  - Running in “parallel threads” for string 1100101
- 
- ```

graph TD
    q0_0[q0] -- 1 --> q0_1[q0]
    q0_1 -- 1 --> q0_2[q0]
    q0_2 -- 0 --> q0_3[q0]
    q0_2 -- 0 --> q1_stuck[q1 - stuck]
    q0_3 -- 0 --> q0_4[q0]
    q0_3 -- 0 --> q1_4[q1]
    q0_4 -- 1 --> q0_5[q0]
    q1_4 -- 1 --> q1_5[q1]
  
```



# Language of an NFA

- An NFA accepts  $w$  if *there exists at least one* path from the start state to an accepting (or final) state that is labeled by  $w$
- $L(N) = \{ w \mid \delta(q_0, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset \}$

# Extended transition function for NFA

- Basis:  $\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \{q\}$

Induction: Suppose  $w$  is a string where  $w=xa$ .

- Let  $\hat{\delta}(q, x) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$
- $\bigcup_{i=1}^k \delta(p_i, a) = \{r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots, r_m\}$
- $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \{r_1, r_2, r_3, \dots, r_m\}$

# NFA to DFA by Subset Construction

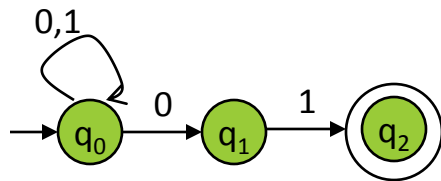
- Given  $N = \{Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N\}$
- Goal: Build  $D = \{Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D\}$  s. t.  
 $L(D) = L(N)$
- Construction:
  1.  $Q_D$  = all subsets of  $Q_N$  (i. e., power set)
  2.  $F_D$  = set of subsets  $S$  of  $Q_N$  s. t.  $S \cap F_N \neq \emptyset$
  3.  $\delta_D$ : for each subset  $S$  of  $Q_N$  and for each input symbol  $a$  in  $\Sigma$ :
    - $\delta_D(S, a) = \bigcup_{p \in S} \delta_N(p, a)$

# NFA to DFA construction: Example

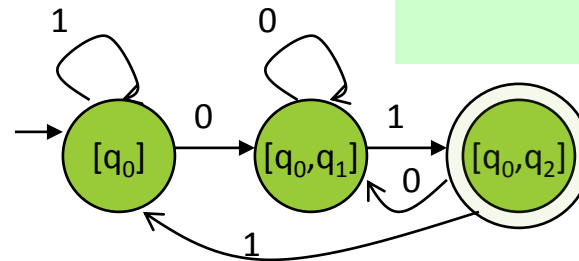
$L = \{w \mid w \text{ ends in } 01\}$

Idea: To avoid enumerating all of power set, do "lazy creation of states"

NFA:



DFA:



| $\delta_N$ | 0              | 1           |
|------------|----------------|-------------|
| $q_0$      | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$   |
| $q_1$      | $\emptyset$    | $\{q_2\}$   |
| $*q_2$     | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$ |

| $\delta_D$           | 0              | 1              |
|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$    |
| $\{q_0\}$            | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$      |
| $\{q_1\}$            | $\emptyset$    | $\{q_2\}$      |
| $*\{q_2\}$           | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$    |
| $\{q_0, q_1\}$       | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0, q_2\}$ |
| $*\{q_0, q_2\}$      | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$      |
| $*\{q_1, q_2\}$      | $\emptyset$    | $\{q_2\}$      |
| $*\{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0, q_2\}$ |
| $\}$                 |                |                |

| $\delta_D$      | 0              | 1              |
|-----------------|----------------|----------------|
| $\{q_0\}$       | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$      |
| $\{q_0, q_1\}$  | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0, q_2\}$ |
| $*\{q_0, q_2\}$ | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$      |

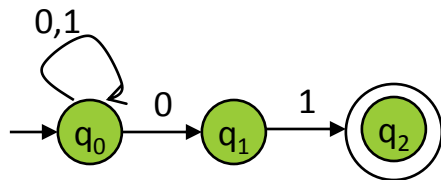
0. Enumerate all possible subsets
1. Determine transitions
2. Retain only those states reachable from  $\{q_0\}$



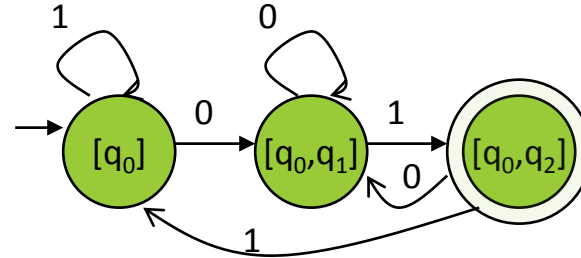
# NFA to DFA: Repeating the example using *LAZY CREATION*

$$L = \{w \mid w \text{ ends in } 01\}$$

**NFA:**



**DFA:**



| $\delta_N$        | 0              | 1           |
|-------------------|----------------|-------------|
| $\rightarrow q_0$ | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$   |
| $q_1$             | $\emptyset$    | $\{q_2\}$   |
| $*q_2$            | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$ |

| $\delta_D$    | 0            | 1            |
|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| $[q_0]$       | $[q_0, q_1]$ | $[q_0]$      |
| $[q_0, q_1]$  | $[q_0, q_1]$ | $[q_0, q_2]$ |
| $*[q_0, q_2]$ | $[q_0, q_1]$ | $[q_0]$      |

**Main Idea:**

Introduce states as you go  
(on a need basis)

# FA with $\varepsilon$ -Transitions

- We can allow explicit  $\varepsilon$ -transitions in finite automata
  - i.e., a transition from one state to another state without consuming any additional input symbol
  - Explicit  $\varepsilon$ -transitions between different states introduce non-determinism.
  - Makes it easier sometimes to construct NFAs
  - This means that a transition is allowed to occur without reading in a symbol.

**Definition:  $\varepsilon$ -NFAs are those NFAs with at least one explicit  $\varepsilon$ -transition defined.**

- $\varepsilon$ -NFAs have one more column in their transition table

Transition function  $\delta$  is now a function that takes as arguments:

- A state in  $Q$  and
- A member of  $\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ ; that is, an input symbol or the symbol  $\varepsilon$ . We require that  $\varepsilon$  not be a symbol of the alphabet  $\Sigma$  to avoid any confusion.

# $\epsilon$ -Transitions

## Use of $\epsilon$ -transitions

We allow the automaton to accept the empty string  $\epsilon$ .

This means that a transition is allowed to occur without reading in a symbol.

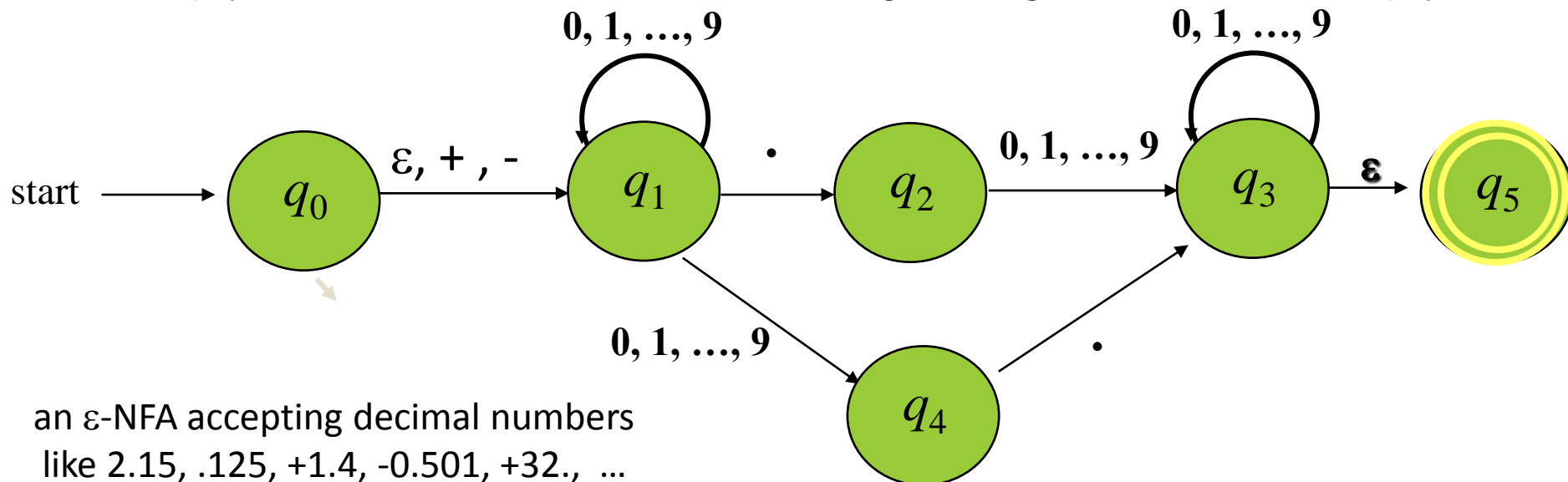
The resulting NFA is called  $\epsilon$ -NFA.

It adds “programming (design) convenience” (more intuitive for use in designing FA’s)

# Example # 1: $\epsilon$ -NFA

Example: Draw a  $\epsilon$ -NFA that accepts decimal numbers consisting of

1. An optional + or – sign
2. A string of digits
3. A decimal point, and
4. Another string of digits. Either this string of digits or the string (2) can be empty, but at least one of the two strings of digit must be nonempty.



# Formal Notation for an $\epsilon$ -NFA

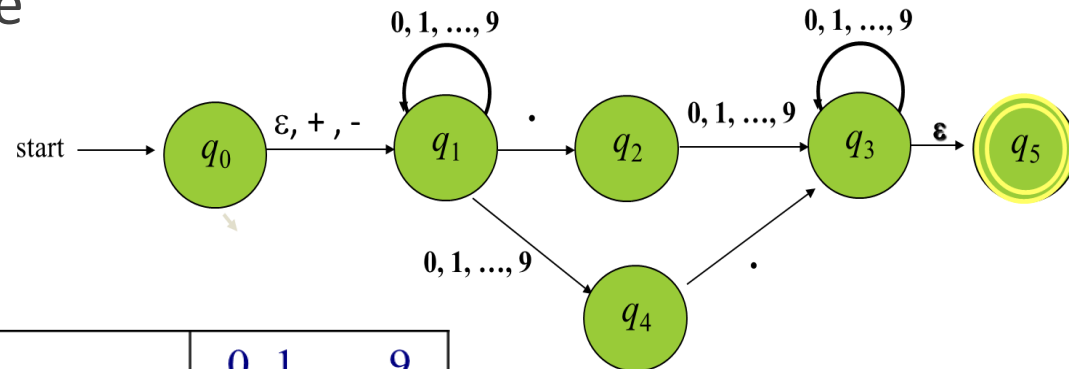
## Formal Notation for an e-NFA

$$E = (\{q_0, q_1, \dots, q_5\}, \{., -, +, \epsilon, 0, 1, \dots, 9\}, \delta, q_0, \{q_5\})$$

The transitions, e.g., include

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

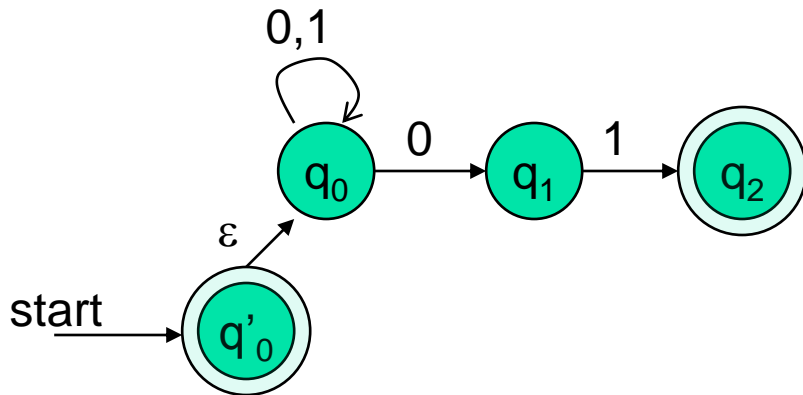
$$\delta(q_1, \epsilon) = \emptyset$$



|       | $\epsilon$ | $+, -$    | $.$       | $0, 1, \dots, 9$ |
|-------|------------|-----------|-----------|------------------|
| $q_0$ | $\{q_1\}$  | $\{q_1\}$ | $\phi$    | $\phi$           |
| $q_1$ | $\phi$     | $\phi$    | $\{q_2\}$ | $\{q_1, q_4\}$   |
| $q_2$ | $\phi$     | $\phi$    | $\phi$    | $\{q_3\}$        |
| $q_3$ | $\{q_5\}$  | $\phi$    | $\phi$    | $\{q_3\}$        |
| $q_4$ | $\phi$     | $\phi$    | $\{q_3\}$ | $\phi$           |
| $q_5$ | $\phi$     | $\phi$    | $\phi$    | $\phi$           |

# Example #2: $\epsilon$ -NFA..

$L = \{w \mid w \text{ is empty, or if non-empty will end in } 01\}$



| $\delta_E$          | 0              | 1           | $\epsilon$ -closure |
|---------------------|----------------|-------------|---------------------|
| $\rightarrow *q'_0$ | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$ | $\{q'_0, q_0\}$     |
| $q_0$               | $\{q_0, q_1\}$ | $\{q_0\}$   | $\{q_0\}$           |
| $q_1$               | $\emptyset$    | $\{q_2\}$   | $\{q_1\}$           |
| $*q_2$              | $\emptyset$    | $\emptyset$ | $\{q_2\}$           |

ECLOSE( $q'_0$ )

ECLOSE( $q_0$ )

ECLOSE( $q_1$ )

ECLOSE( $q_2$ )

- $\epsilon$ -closure of a state  $q$ , **ECLOSE( $q$ )**, is the set of all states (including itself) that can be *reached* from  $q$  by repeatedly making an arbitrary number of  $\epsilon$ -transitions.

# Epsilon-Closures

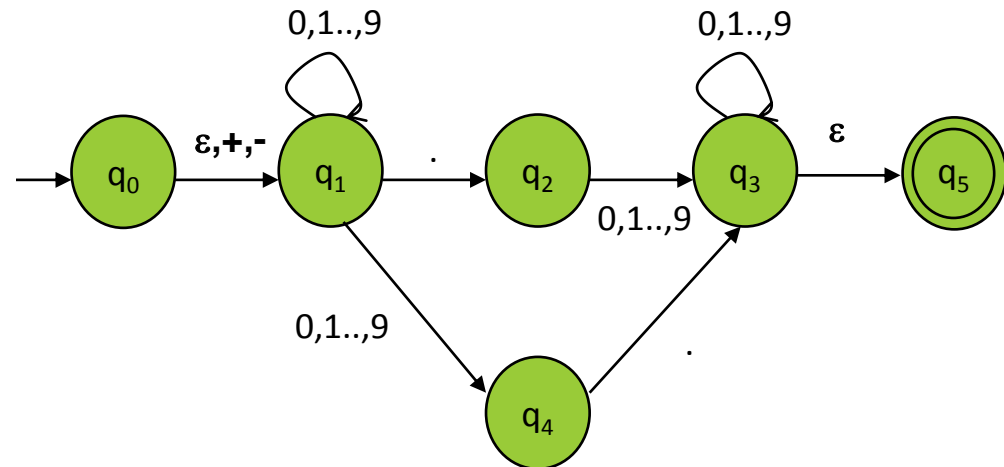
We  $\epsilon$ -close a state  $q$  by following all transitions out of  $q$  that are labeled  $\epsilon$ .

*Basis: state  $q$  is in  $ECLOSE(q)$ .*

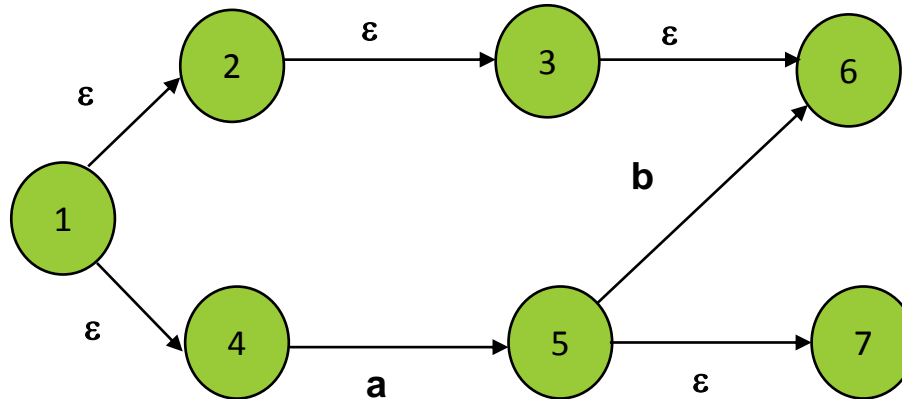
*Induction: If  $p$  is in state  $ECLOSE(q)$  and there is a transition from  $p$  to  $r$  using  $\epsilon$ , then  $r$  is in  $ECLOSE(q)$ .*

$ECLOSE(q_0) = \{q_0, q_1\}$

$ECLOSE(q_3) = \{q_3, q_5\}$



# Epsilon-Closures



ECLOSE(1)

= {1, 2, 3, 4, 6}

ECLOSE(2)

= {2, 3, 6}



# Extended Transitions & Languages for $\epsilon$ -NFA's

- Recursive definition of extended transition function  $\hat{\delta}$  :

Basis:  $\hat{\delta}(q, \epsilon) = \text{ECLOSE}(q)$ .

Induction: if  $w = xa$ , then  $\hat{\delta}(q, w)$  is computed as:

If  $\hat{\delta}(q, x) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$  and

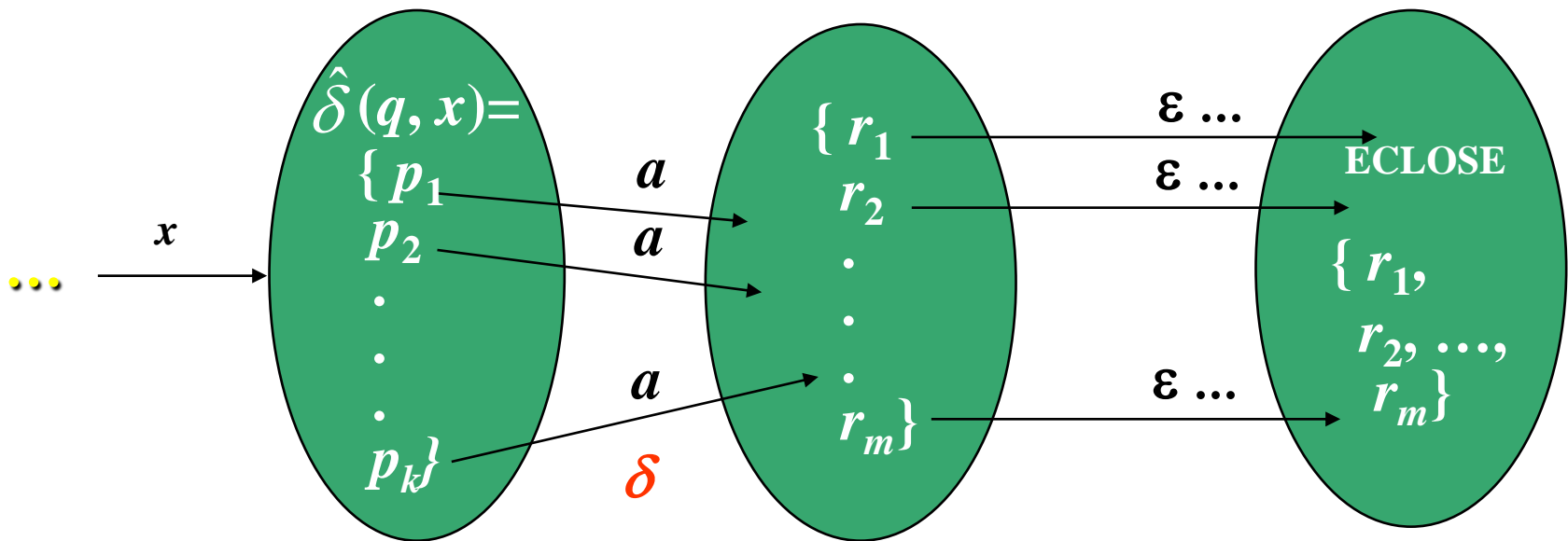
$$\delta(p_i, a) = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\},$$

then  $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}) = \text{ECLOSE}(\bigcup_{i=1}^k \delta(p_i, a))$ .

# Extended Transitions & Languages for $\epsilon$ -NFA's..

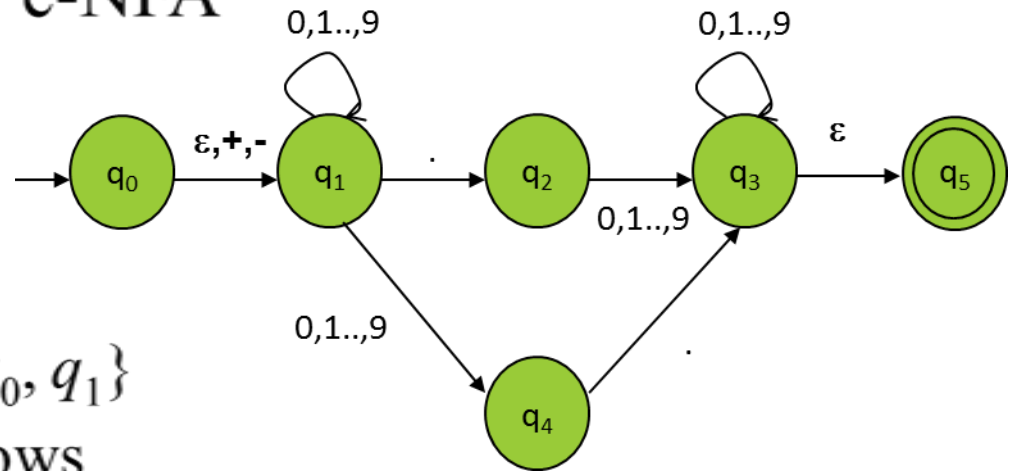
Induction: if  $w = xa$ , then  $(q, w)$  is computed as:

If  $\hat{\delta}(q, x) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$  and  $\hat{\delta}(p_i, a) = \{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$ ,  
 then  $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\})$ .



# FA with $\epsilon$ -transition

Computing  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, 5.6)$  for e-NFA



- $\hat{\delta}(q_0, \epsilon) = \text{ECLOSE}(q_0) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Compute  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, 5)$  as follows
  1.  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, 5) = (q_0, \epsilon 5) = \text{ECLOSE}(\delta(q_0, 5) \cup \delta(q_1, 5)) = \{q_1, q_4\}$
  2.  $\text{ECLOSE}$  the result of step (1)
 
$$= \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1, q_4\}) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1\}) \cup \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_4\})$$

$$= \{q_1, q_4\}$$
- Compute  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, 5. )$
- Compute  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, 5.6 )$

# Eliminating $\varepsilon$ -Transitions

## Eliminating $\varepsilon$ -Transitions

- The  $\varepsilon$ -transition is good for design of FA, but for implementation, they have to be eliminated.
- Given an  $\varepsilon$ -NFA, we can find an equivalent DFA (a theorem seen later).
- Let  $E = (Q_E, S, \delta_E, q_0, F_E)$  be the given  $\varepsilon$ -NFA, the equivalent DFA  $D = (Q_D, S, \delta_D, q_D, F_D)$  is constructed

# Eliminating $\epsilon$ -Transitions..

- $Q_D$  is the set of subsets of  $Q_E$ , in which each accessible is an e-closed subset of  $Q_E$ , i.e., are sets  $S \subseteq Q_E$  such that  $S = \text{ECLOSE}(S)$ .

In other words, each e-closed set of states,  $S$ , includes those states such that any e-transition out of one of the states in  $S$  leads to a state that is also in  $S$ .

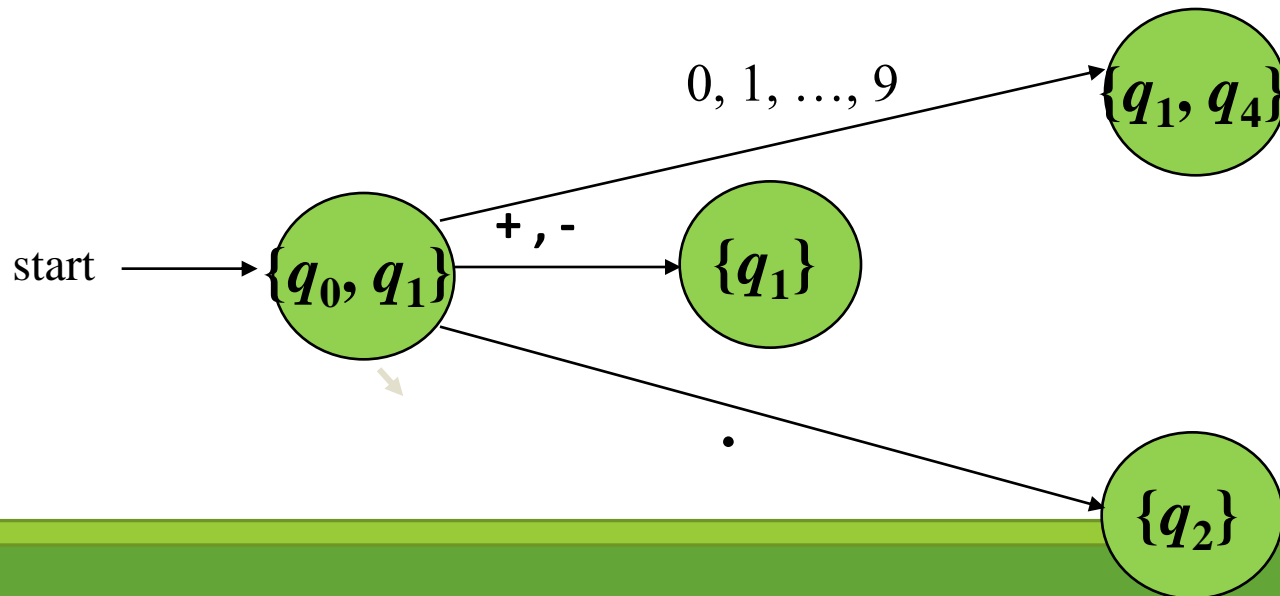
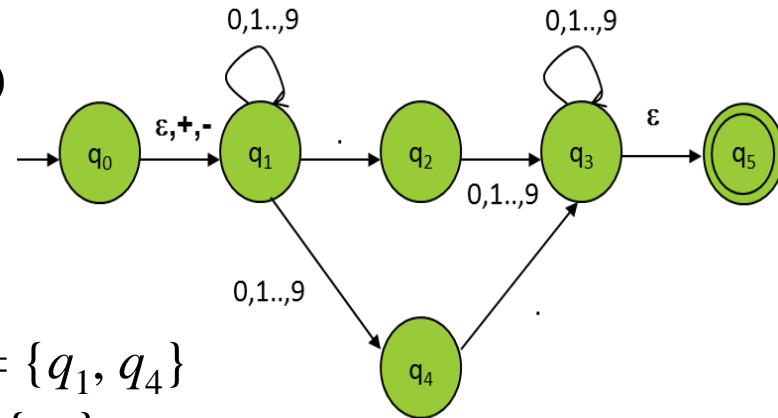
- $q_D = \text{ECLOSE}(q_0)$  (initial state of  $D$ )
- $F_D = \{S \mid S \in Q_D \text{ and } S \cap F_E \neq \emptyset\}$

# Eliminating $\varepsilon$ -Transitions..

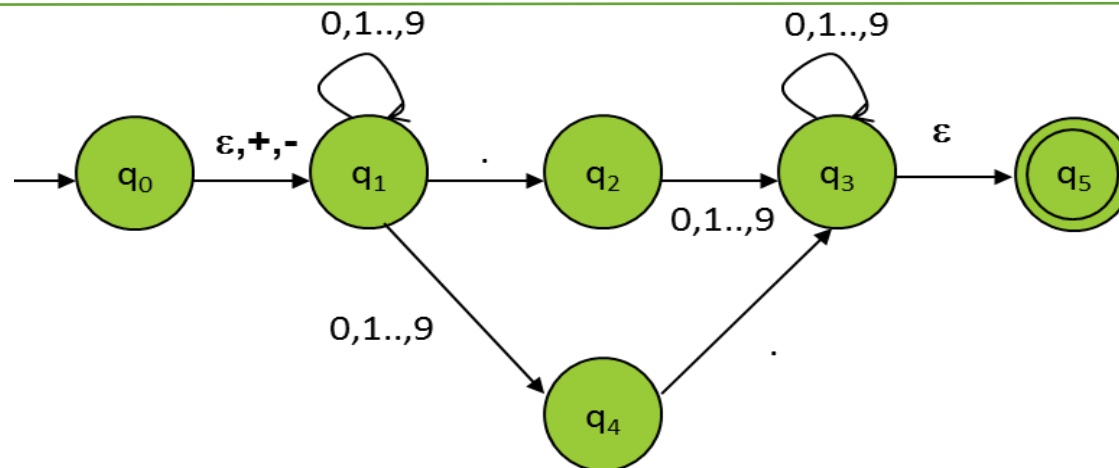
- $\delta_D(S, a)$  is computed for each  $a$  in  $\Sigma$  and each  $S$  in  $Q_D$  in the following way:
  - Let  $S = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$
  - Compute  $\bigcup_{i=1}^k \delta(p_i, a)$  and let this set be  $\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\}$
  - Set  $\delta_D(S, a) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{r_1, r_2, \dots, r_m\})$   
$$= \text{ECLOSE}(\bigcup_{j=1}^m \text{ECLOSE}(r_j))$$
- Technique to create accessible states in DFA  $D$ :
  - starting from the start state  $q_0$  of  $\varepsilon$ -NFA  $E$ , generate  $\text{ECLOSE}(q_0)$  as start state  $q_D$  of  $D$ ;
  - from the generated states to derive other states.

# Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions

- Start state  $q_D = \text{ECLOSE}(q_0) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $d_D(\{q_0, q_1\}, +) = \text{ECLOSE}(d_E(q_0, +) \cup d_E(q_1, +))$   
 $= \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1\} \cup \emptyset) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1\}) = \{q_1\}$
- $d_D(\{q_0, q_1\}, 0) = \text{ECLOSE}(d_E(q_0, 0) \cup d_E(q_1, 0))$   
 $= \text{ECLOSE}(\emptyset \cup \{q_1, q_4\}) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1, q_4\}) = \{q_1, q_4\}$
- $d_D(\{q_0, q_1\}, \cdot) = \text{ECLOSE}(d_E(q_0, \cdot) \cup d_E(q_1, \cdot)) = \{q_2\}$

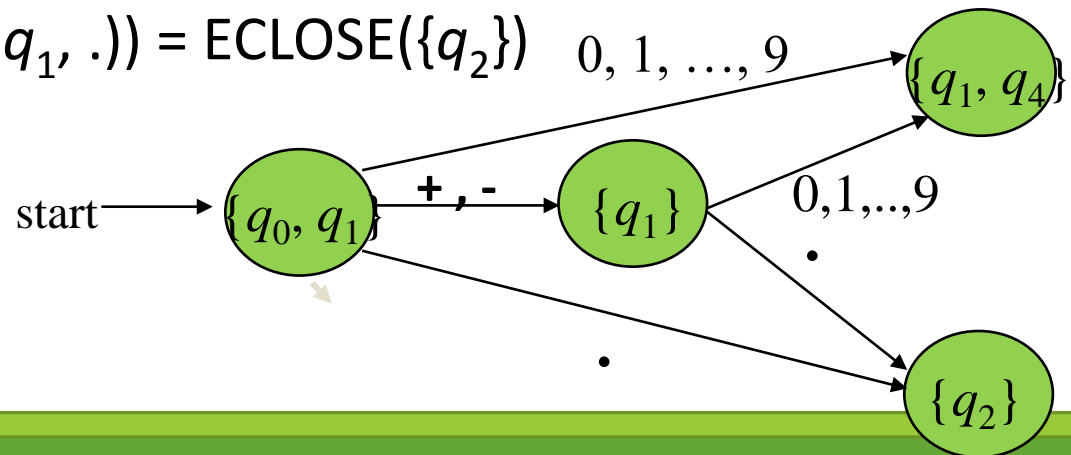


# Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions



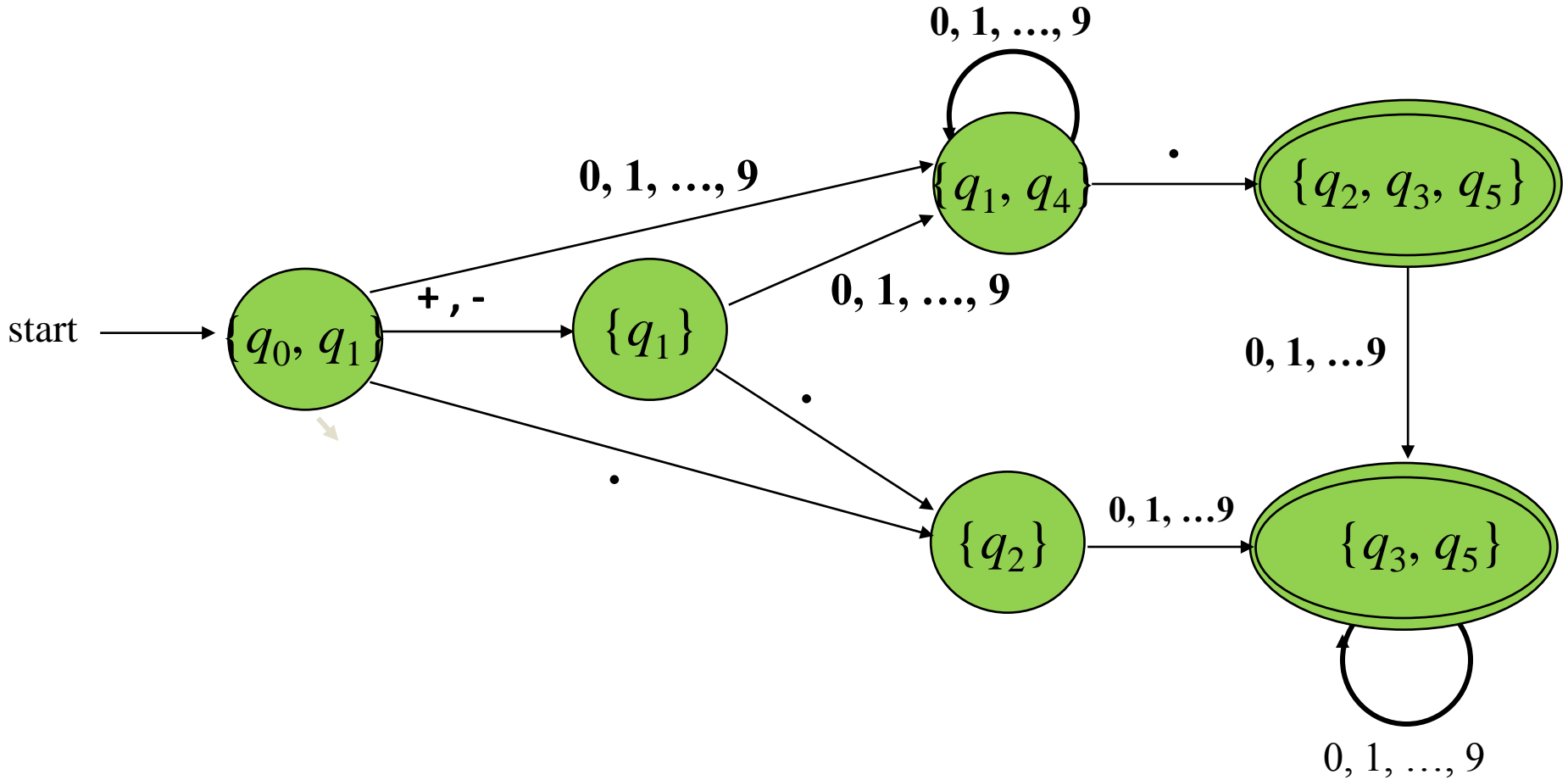
$$\square \delta_D(\{q_1\}, 0) = \text{ECLOSE}(\delta_E(q_1, 0)) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_1, q_4\}) \\ = \{q_1, q_4\} \dots$$

$$\square \delta_D(\{q_1\}, .) = \text{ECLOSE}(\delta_E(q_1, .)) = \text{ECLOSE}(\{q_2\}) \\ = \{q_2\}$$



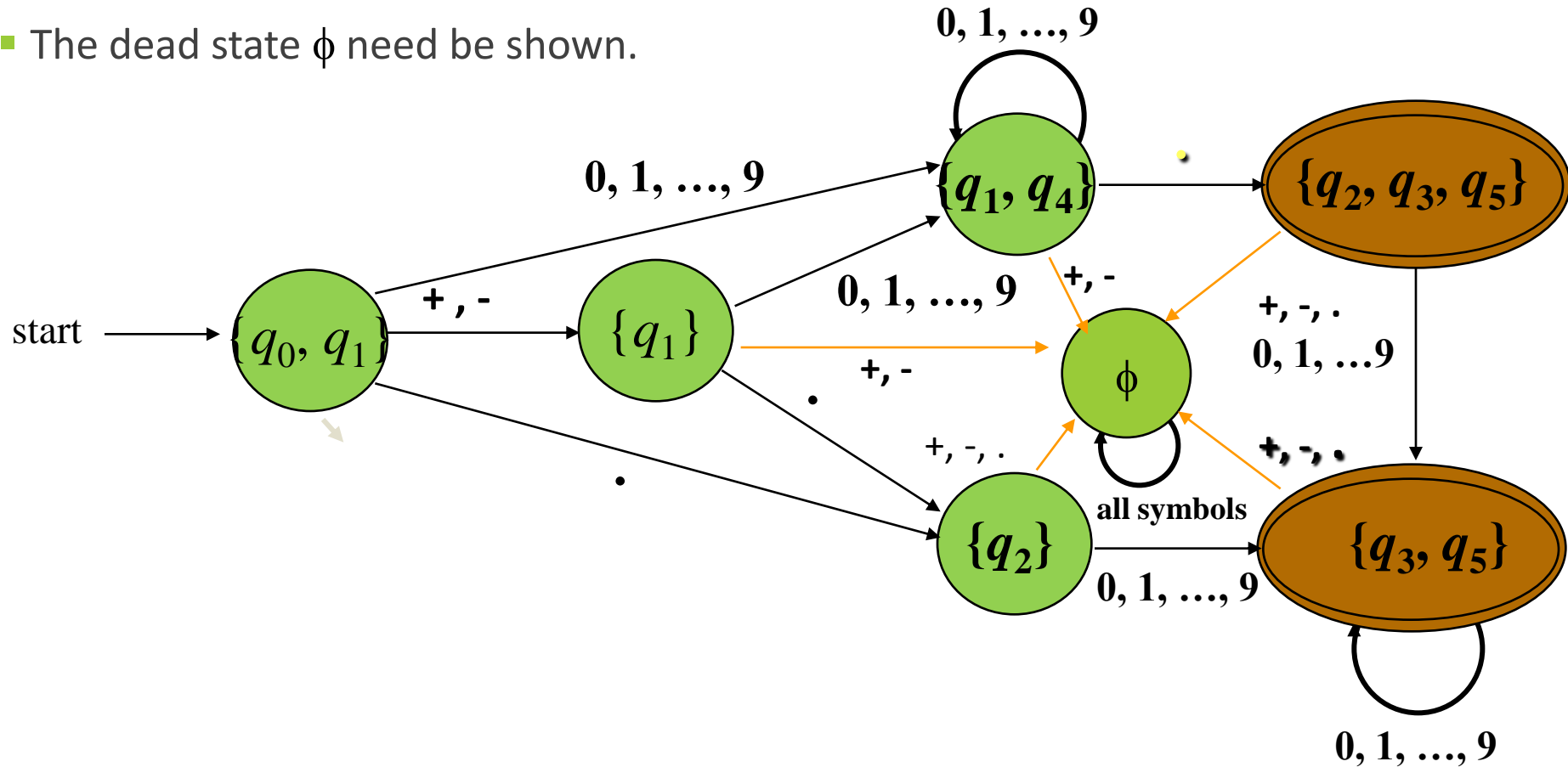


# Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions

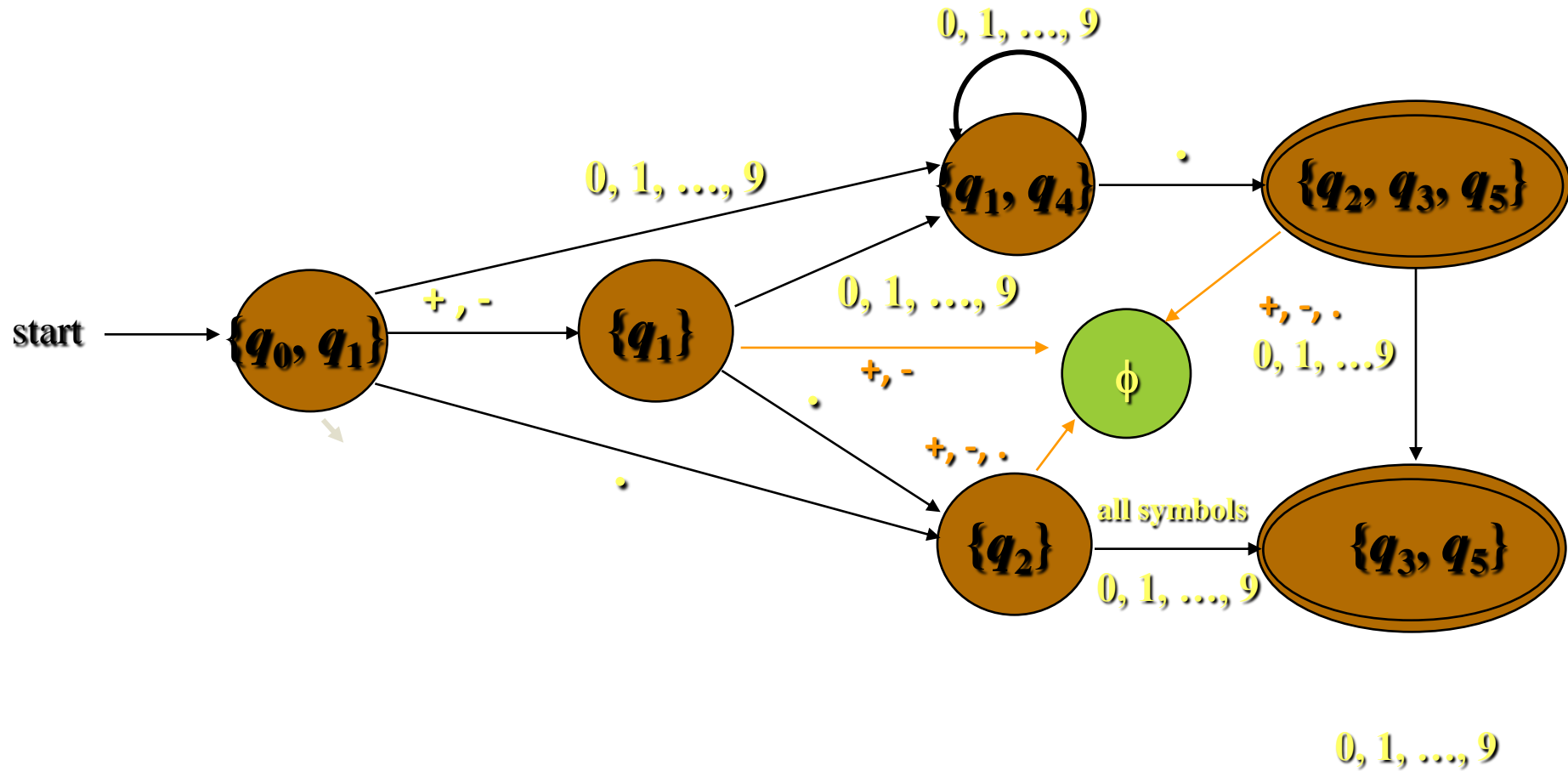


# Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions

- The dead state  $\phi$  need be shown.



# Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions



# Theorem 1

If  $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$  is the DFA constructed from NFA  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, \{q_0\}, F_N)$  by the subset construction, then  $L(D) = L(N)$ .

**PROOF:** We prove by induction on  $|w|$ , is that

$$\delta_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \delta_N(q_0, w)$$

**BASIS:** Let  $|w| = 0$ ; that is,  $w = \epsilon$  by the basis definition of  $\delta$  for DFA's and NFA's, both  $\delta_D(\{q_0\}, \epsilon)$  and  $\delta_N(q_0, \epsilon)$  are  $\{q_0\}$ .

**INDUCTION:** Let  $w$  be of length  $n + 1$ , and assume the statement for length  $n$ . Break  $w$  up as  $w = xa$ , where  $a$  is the final symbol of  $w$ . By the induction hypothesis,  $\delta_D(\{q_0\}, x) = \delta_N(\{q_0\}, x)$ . Let both these sets of N's states be  $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$ .

The inductive part of the definition of  $\delta$  for NFA's tell us

$$\begin{aligned} \delta_N(q_0, w) &= \delta(q_0, xa) \\ \delta_N(q_0, x) &= \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\} \\ \delta_N(q_0, w) &= \bigcup \delta_N(p_i, a) \dots\dots\dots(1) \end{aligned}$$

The subset construction, on the other hand, tells us that

$$\delta_D(\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}, a) = \bigcup \delta_N(p_i, a) \dots\dots\dots(2)$$

Now, let us use (2) and the fact that  $\delta_D(\{q_0\}, x) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}$  in the inductive part of the definition of  $\delta$  for DFA's:

$$\delta_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \delta_D(\delta_D(\{q_0\}, x), a) = \delta_D(\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_k\}, a) = \bigcup \delta_N(p_i, a)$$

Thus the above equations demonstrate that  $\delta_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \delta_N(q_0, w)$ .

When we observe that D and N both accept  $w$  if and only if  $\delta_D(\{q_0\}, w)$  or  $\delta_N(q_0, w)$ , respectively, contain a state in  $F_N$ , we have a complete proof that  $L(D) = L(N)$ .

# Design an NFA to recognize the following set of strings

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## Exercise 2.4.1

**a)** *abc*, *abd*, and *aacd*.

Assume the alphabet is  
 $\{a, b, c, d\}$

|      | <b>a</b>      | <b>b</b> | <b>c</b> | <b>d</b> |
|------|---------------|----------|----------|----------|
| ->q0 | {q0,q1,q4,q7} | {q0}     | {q0}     | {q0}     |
| q1   | {}            | {q2}     | {}       | {}       |
| q2   | {}            | {}       | {q3}     | {}       |
| *q3  | {}            | {}       | {}       | {}       |
| q4   | {}            | {q5}     | {}       | {}       |
| q5   | {}            | {}       | {}       | {q6}     |
| *q6  | {}            | {}       | {}       | {}       |
| q7   | {q8}          | {}       | {}       | {}       |
| q8   | {}            | {}       | {q9}     | {}       |
| q9   | {}            | {}       | {}       | {q10}    |
| *q10 | {}            | {}       | {}       | {}       |

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Thank you 😊