



Finite State Machines (Automatons)

Computation and Discrete Structures III

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Material adapted from Professor Oscar Bedoya

2026

1. Finite Automata
2. Deterministic Finite Automata
3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata
4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA
5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

1. Finite Automata

2. Deterministic Finite Automata

3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata

4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA

5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

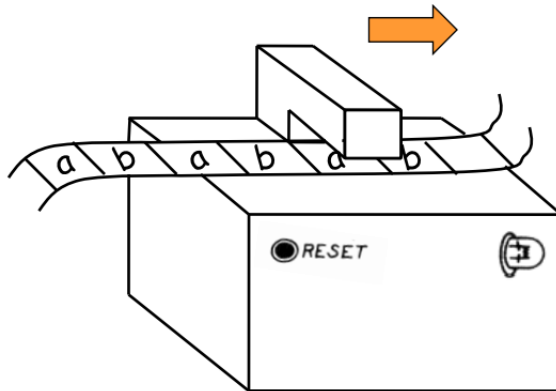
Type	Languages	Machine Type	Grammar Rules
0	Recursively enumerable	Turing machine	Unrestricted
1	Context-sensitive	Linear bounded automaton	$\alpha \rightarrow \beta, \quad \alpha \leq \beta $
2	Context-free	Pushdown automaton	$A \rightarrow \gamma$
3	Regular	Finite automaton	$A \rightarrow aB$ $A \rightarrow a$

A **finite automaton** can be constructed for each of these languages:

- $\{a\}^*$
- $\{a\}^* \cup \{b\}^*$
- $\{a\}^* \cdot \{b\}^*$
- $\{a, bc\}^*$
- $\{a\} \cdot \{b, c, ab\}$
- $\{(ab)^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $\{a^n b^m \mid n \geq 0, m \geq 0\}$
- $\{a^l b^m c^n \mid l \geq 0, m \geq 0, n \geq 0\}$

No finite automaton can be constructed for any of these languages:

- $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$, not regular
- $\{a^n b^{2n} \mid n \geq 0\}$, not regular
- $\{wcw \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$, not regular



A finite automaton can be designed to **accept**, for example, the language $\{ab\}^* = \{\epsilon, ab, abab, ababab, \dots\}$

Consider the regular language L represented by:

$$c^*(a \cup bc^*)^*$$

- Does $w_1 = abc^5ab$ belong to L ?
- Does $w_2 = cabac^3bc$ belong to L ?

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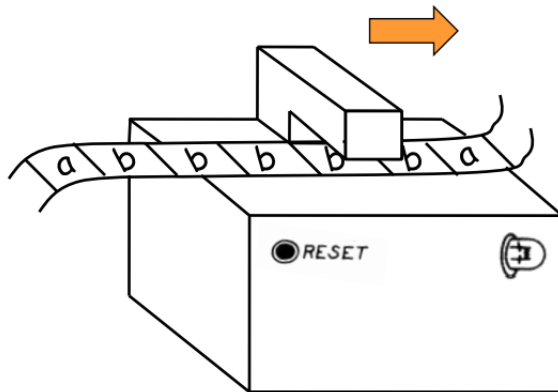
$$c^*(a \cup bc^*)^*$$

- Does $w_1 = abc^5ab$ belong to L ?
- Does $w_2 = cabac^3bc$ belong to L ?

To determine if a string w is generated by a language L , a **finite automaton** can be created

Finite automata

- Black box that accepts tape data as input
- A light bulb represents the output; when input is accepted by the automaton, it lights up
- Reset button
- Machine operation consists of a set of internal states

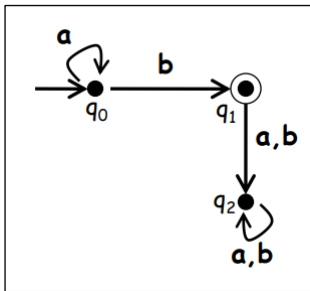


The automaton's head can only **read** (cannot write) and always moves to the **right**

Consider an automaton that accepts strings in $\{a, b\}^*$ that have a single b at the end of the string

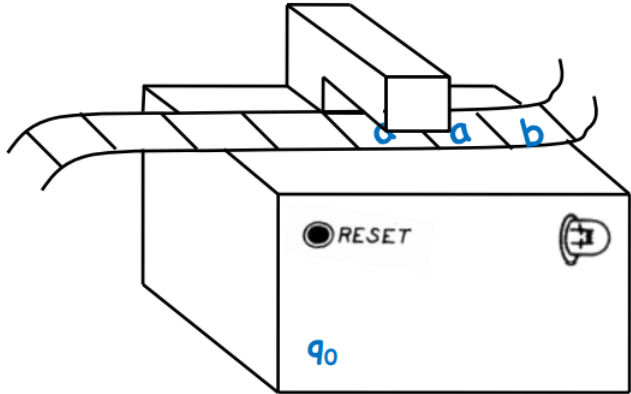
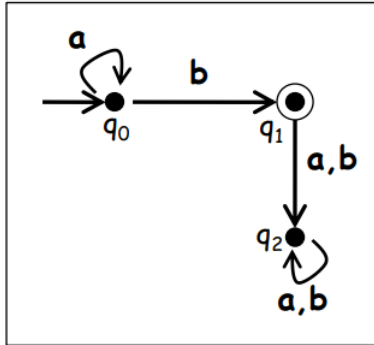
Finite automata can be represented by a directed graph known as the **transition diagram**

- Nodes (**states**)
 - Initial state
 - Accepting state
- Edges (**transitions**)



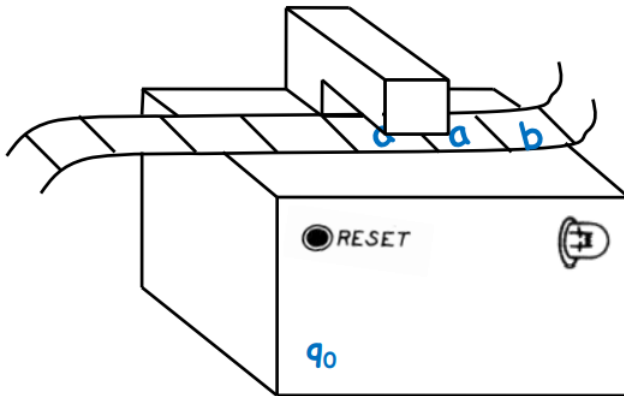
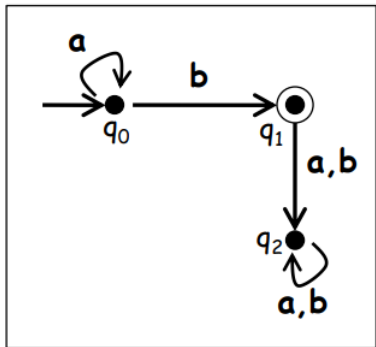
Finite automata

Each **step** in the automaton depends on: (symbolRead, currentState).

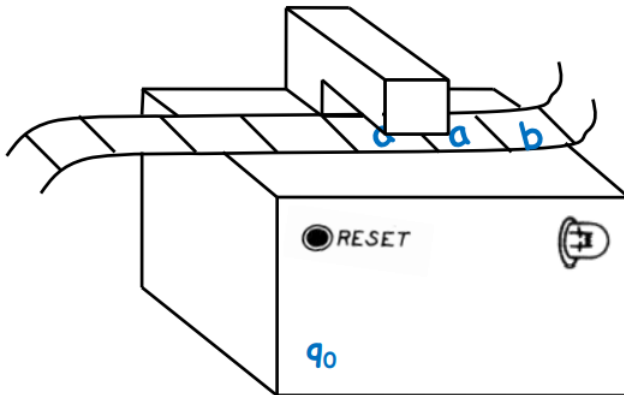
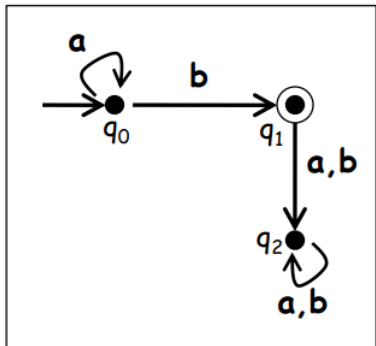


Finite automata

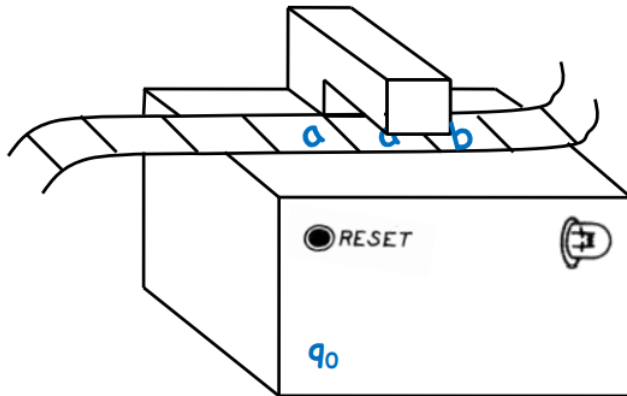
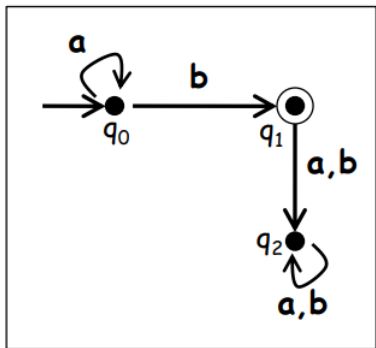
Follow the computation for the string *aab*



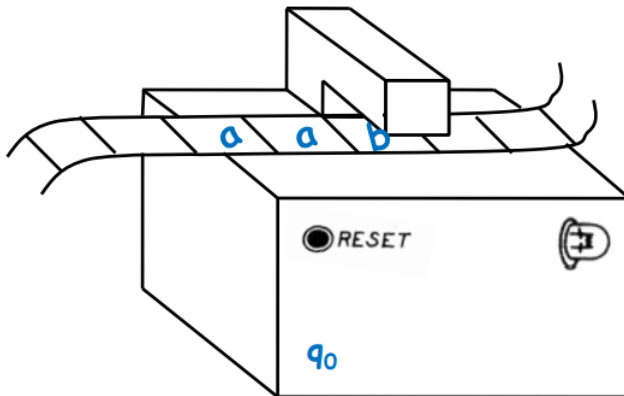
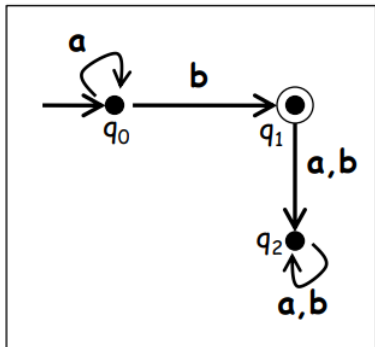
$$(q_0, a) \Rightarrow q_0$$



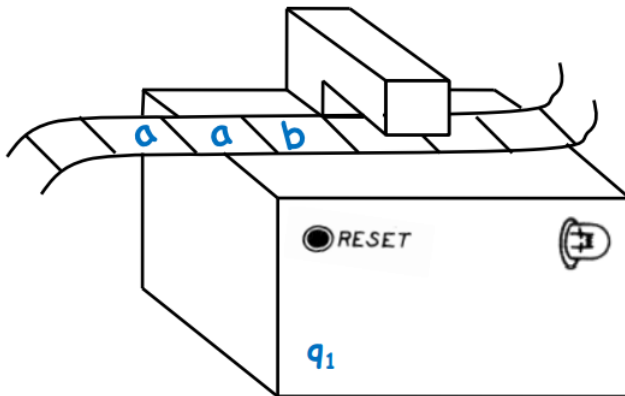
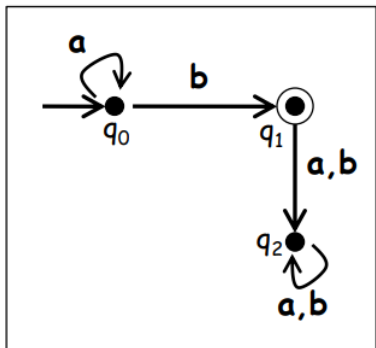
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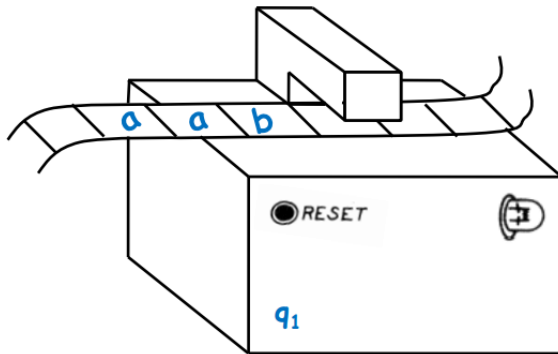
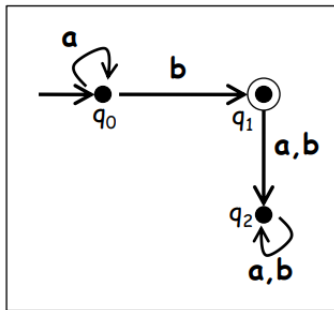
$$(q_0, a) \Rightarrow q_0$$



$$(q_0, b) \Rightarrow q_1$$



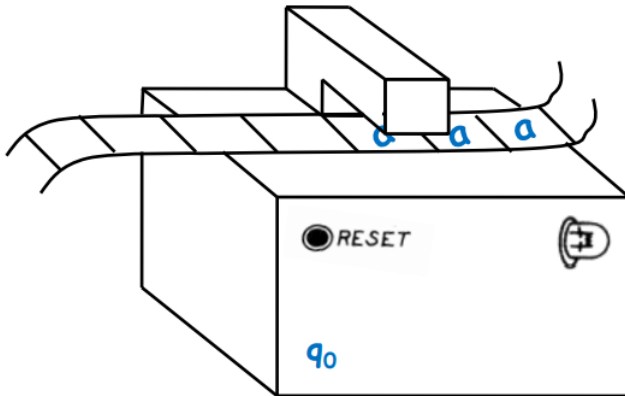
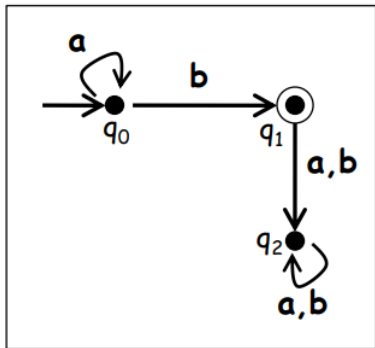
$$(q_0, b) \Rightarrow q_1$$



Since all symbols on the tape are consumed and q_1 is an accepting state, the automaton recognizes **aab**

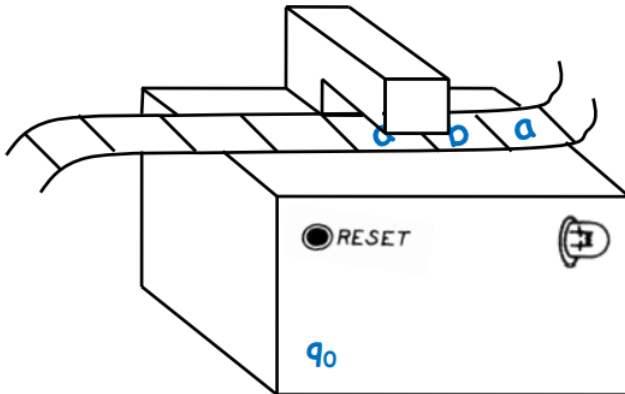
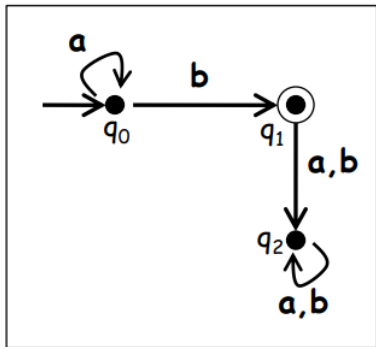
Finite automata

Indicate if the string *aaa* is accepted:



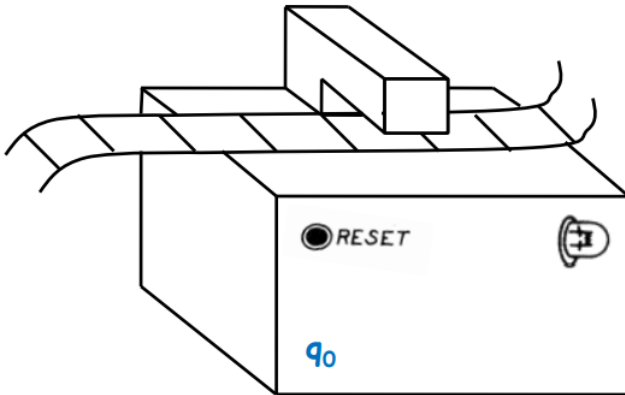
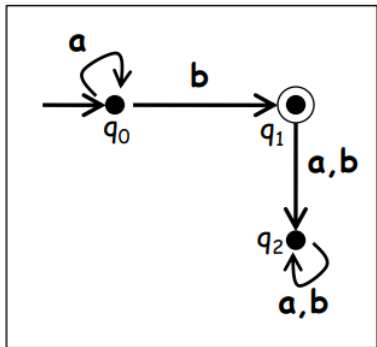
Finite automata

Indicate if the string *aba* is accepted:



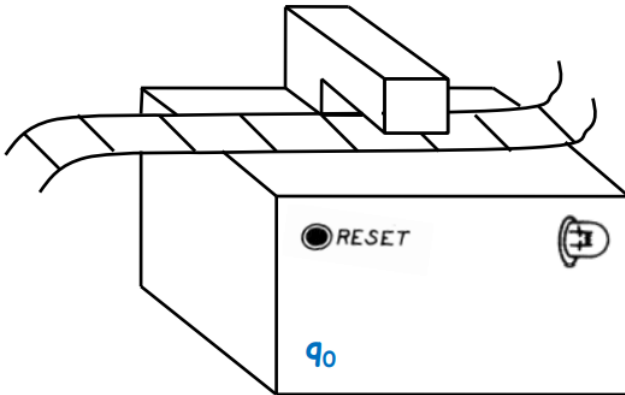
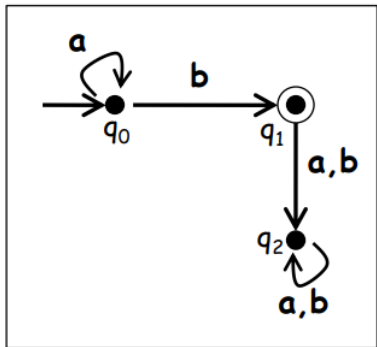
Finite automata

Indicate if the empty string ϵ is accepted:



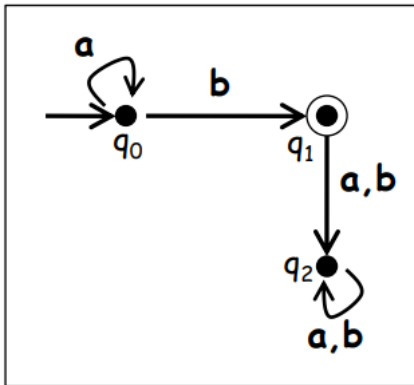
Finite automata

Indicate a regular expression for the automaton

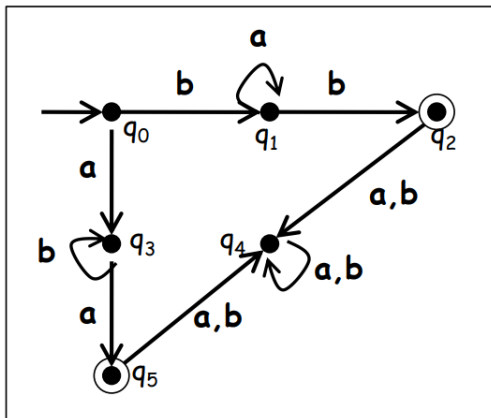


Finite automata

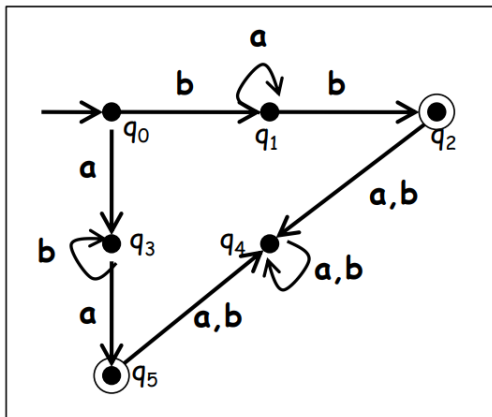
A regular expression for the automaton is a^*b , meaning it accepts strings that belong to that language.



From the automaton in the image, indicate if the following strings are accepted: ϵ , ab , bab , ba^4b , ab^3a .

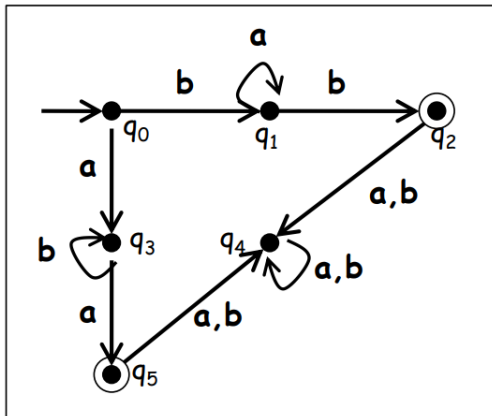


Indicate a regular expression that represents the language accepted by the automaton:

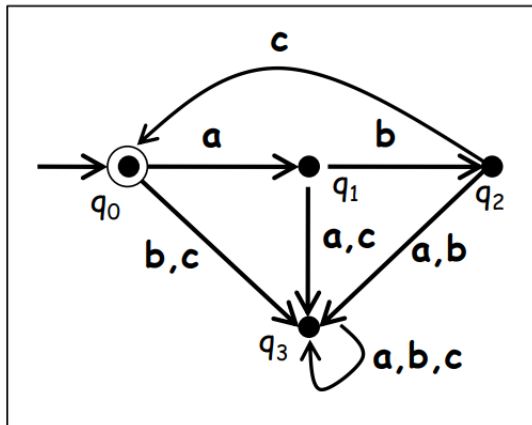


A regular expression that represents the language accepted by the automaton is:

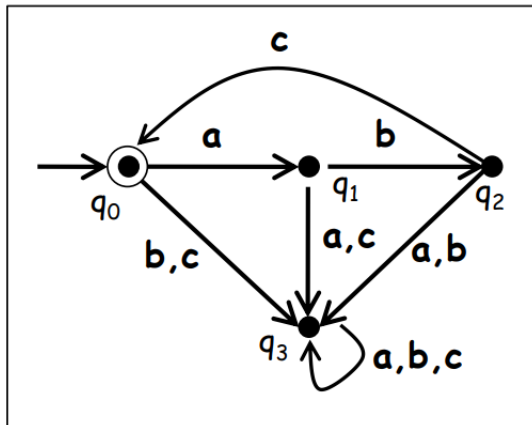
$$(ab^*a) \cup (ba^*b)$$



From the automaton in the image, indicate if the following strings are accepted: ϵ , abc , $(abc)^2$, $aabc$, aba , $abca$

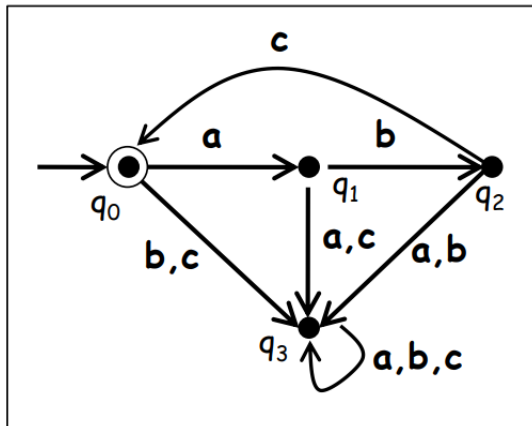


Indicate a regular expression that represents the language accepted by the automaton:

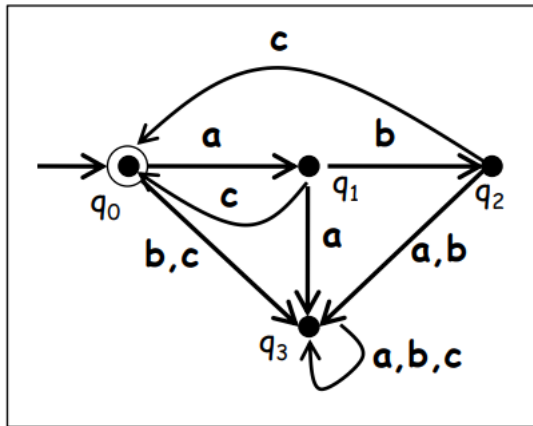


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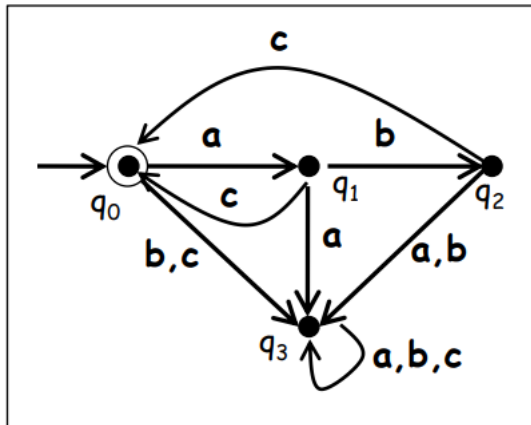
$$(abc)^*$$



From the automaton in the image, indicate if the following strings are accepted: ϵ , abc , $abcac$, $(ac)^{10}$, $a^2b^2c^2$, $(abc)^2$, $(abc)^2(ac)^3$

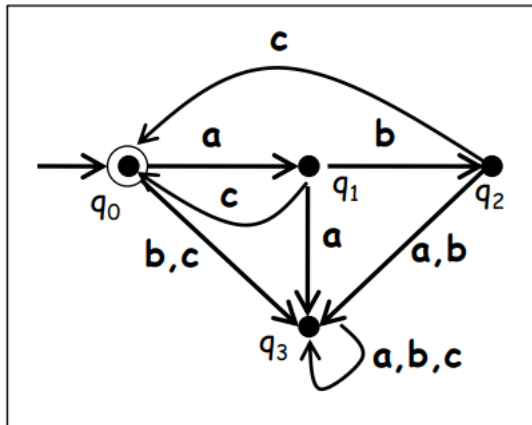


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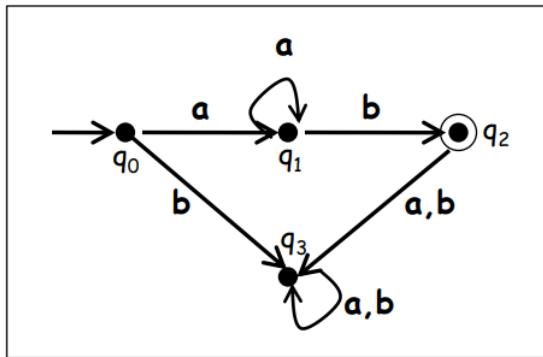
A regular expression that represents the language accepted by the automaton is:

$$(abc \cup ac)^*$$



Design a finite automaton that accepts a^+b

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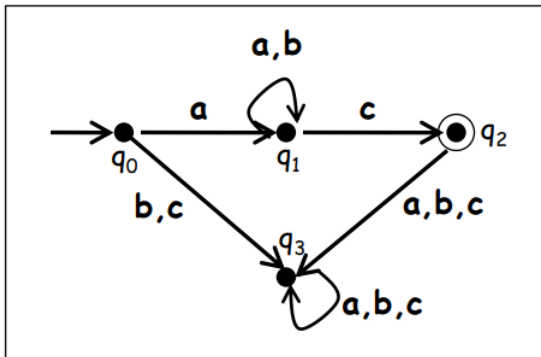


Regular expression: a^+b

Language: $\{ab, aab, aaab, \dots\}$

Design a finite automaton that accepts $a(a \cup b)^*c$

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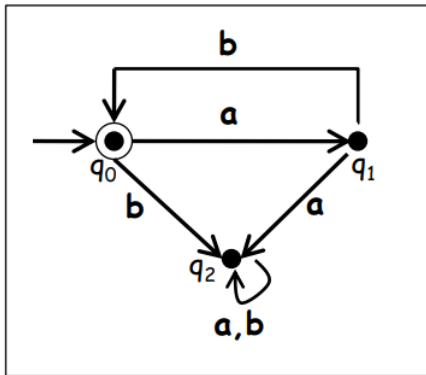


Regular expression: $a(a \cup b)^*c$

Language: $\{ac, aac, abc, aabc, \dots\}$

Design a finite automaton that accepts $(ab)^*$

Design a finite automaton that accepts $(ab)^*$



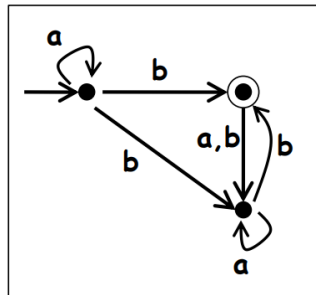
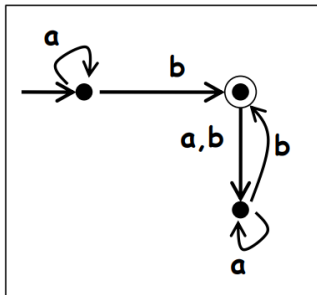
Regular expression: $(ab)^*$

Language: $\{\epsilon, ab, abab, ababab, \dots\}$

Kleene's Theorem

A language is regular if and only if it is accepted by a finite automaton

Finite automata are divided into deterministic finite automata (**DFA**) and non-deterministic finite automata (**NFA**)



- Given a state q and a symbol x , there is a single transition edge. (**DFA**)
- Given a state q and a symbol x , there are multiple possible transitions (and could be also, none). (**NFA**)

1. Finite Automata

2. Deterministic Finite Automata

3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata

4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA

5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

A DFA is a collection of five elements:

- An alphabet Σ
- A finite collection of states Q
- An initial state q_0
- A finite collection of accepting states T
- A function $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$ that determines the **unique** next state for the pair (q_i, σ) corresponding to the current state q_i and input σ

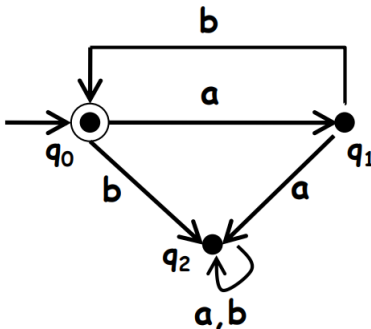
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δ must be a **function** for determinism to exist

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

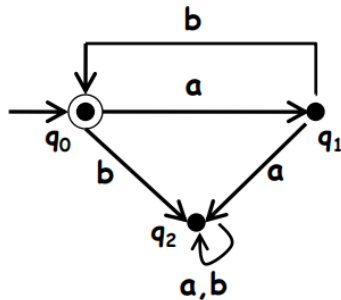
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Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- Σ
- Q
- Initial state
- T
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

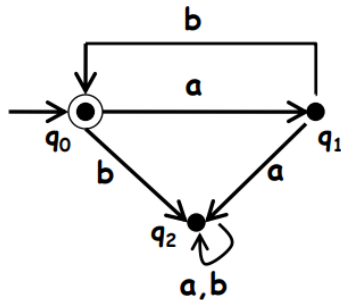
δ	a	b
q_0		
q_1		
q_2		



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

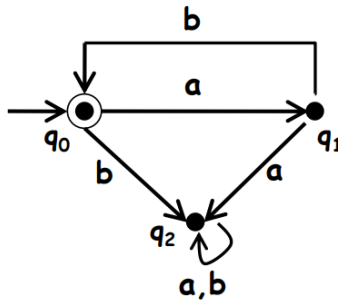
δ	a	b
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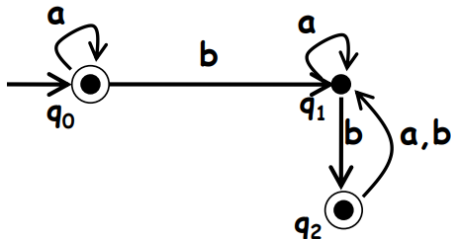
δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_2
q_1	q_2	q_0
q_2	q_2	q_2



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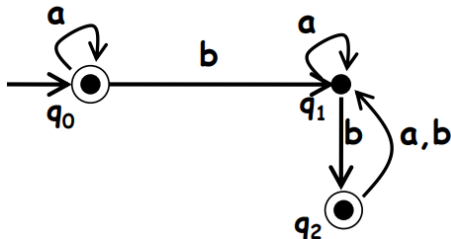
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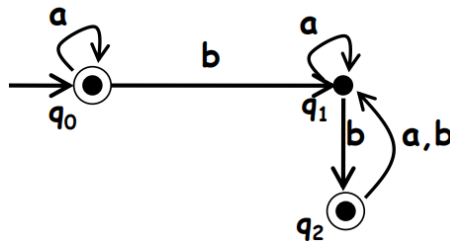
δ	a	b
q_0		
q_1		
q_2		



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

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- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_0	q_1
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_1	q_1



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Show the transition diagram for the automaton:

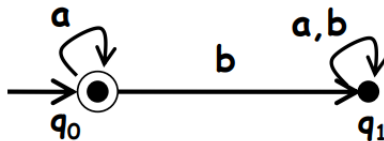
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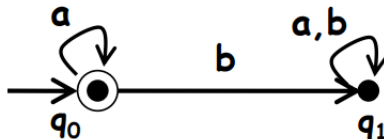


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Indicate the accepted language

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_0	q_1
q_1	q_1	q_1

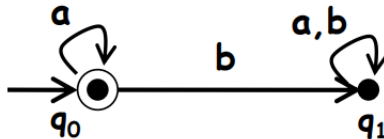


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

The language accepted by the automaton is a^*

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_0	q_1
q_1	q_1	q_1



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Show the transition diagram for the automaton:

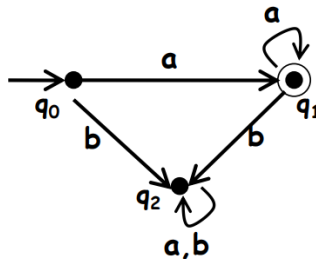
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q₀	q_1	q_2
q₁	q_1	q_2
q₂	q_2	q_2

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_2
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_2	q_2

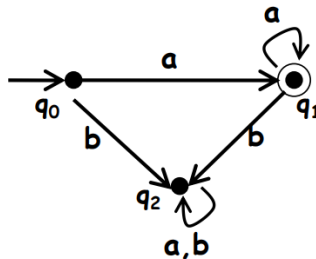


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Indicate the accepted language

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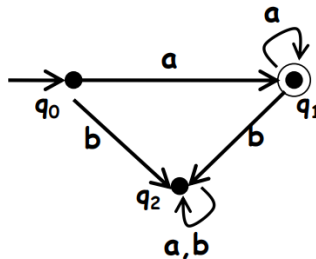


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

The language accepted by the automaton is a^+

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q₀	q_1	q_2
q₁	q_1	q_2
q₂	q_2	q_2



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Show the transition diagram for the automaton:

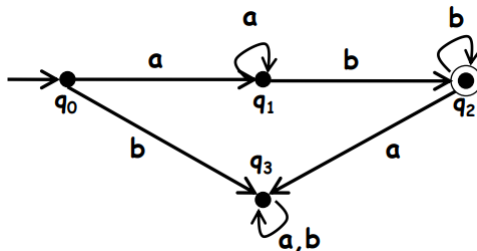
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- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q₀	q_1	q_3
q₁	q_1	q_2
q₂	q_3	q_2
q₃	q_3	q_3

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_3
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_3	q_2
q_3	q_3	q_3

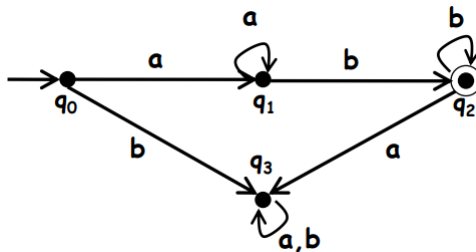


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Indicate the accepted language

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_3
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_3	q_2
q_3	q_3	q_3

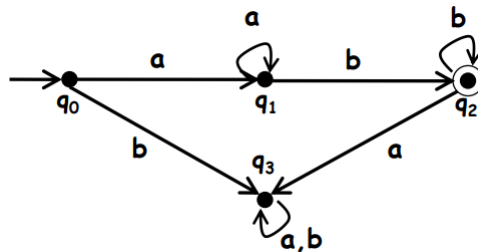


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

The language accepted by the automaton is a^+b^+

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q₀	q ₁	q ₃
q₁	q ₁	q ₂
q₂	q ₃	q ₂
q₃	q ₃	q ₃



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

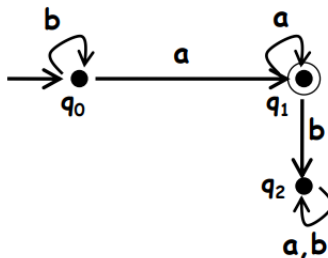
Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes b^*a^+

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_2	q_2



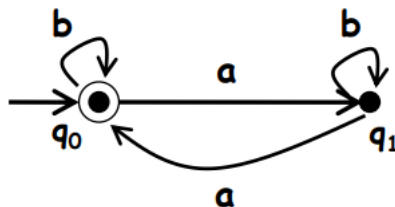
Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all words containing an even number of a 's. Strings with zero a 's are accepted.

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_0	q_1



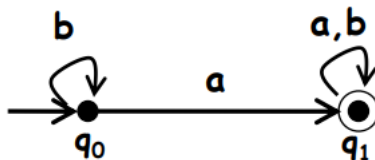
Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all words that have at least one a

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally
- Indicate the regular expression

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_1	q_1

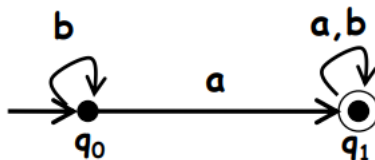


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Indicate the accepted language

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_1	q_1

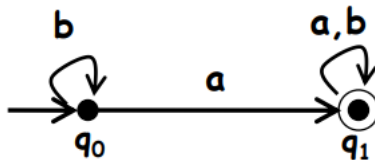


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

The automaton accepts: $b^*a(a \cup b)^*$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_1	q_1



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

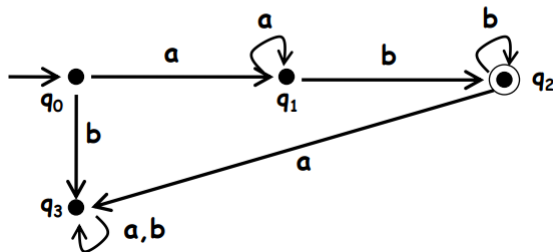
Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes a^+b^+

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_3
q_1	q_1	q_2
q_2	q_3	q_2
q_3	q_3	q_3



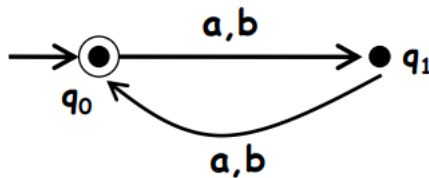
Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all strings that have an even number of symbols (including the empty string).

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally
- Indicate the regular expression

Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_1
q_1	q_0	q_0

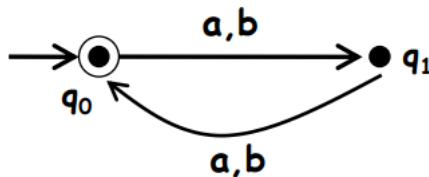


Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

The automaton accepts: $((a \cup b)(a \cup b))^*$ or equivalently, $(aa \cup ab \cup ba \cup bb)^*$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow Q$

δ	a	b
q_0	q_1	q_1
q_1	q_0	q_0



* Design a DFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all strings that begin and end with the same symbol in $\{a, b\}^*$

- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally
- Indicate the regular expression

1. Finite Automata
2. Deterministic Finite Automata
- 3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata**
4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA
5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

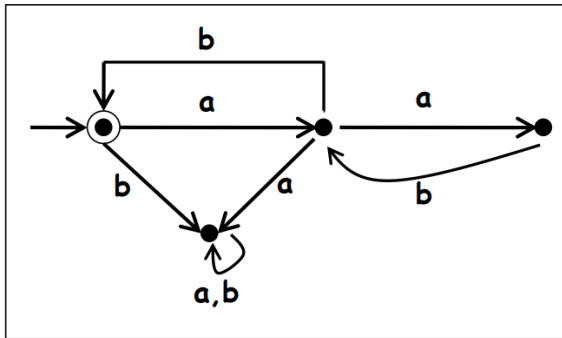
Non-deterministic finite automata

If zero, two or more transitions are allowed from some state using the same input symbol, the **finite automaton is non-deterministic**

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

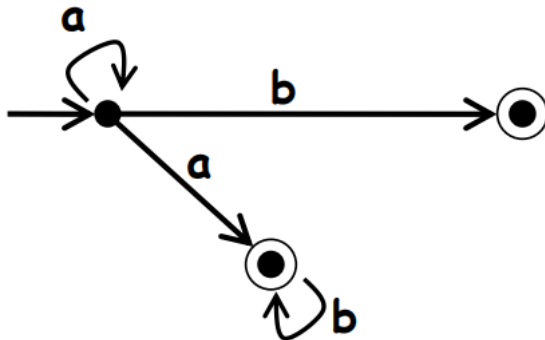
Non-deterministic finite automata

If zero, two or more transitions are allowed from some state using the same input symbol, the **finite automaton is non-deterministic**



Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

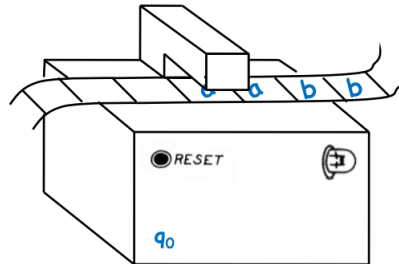
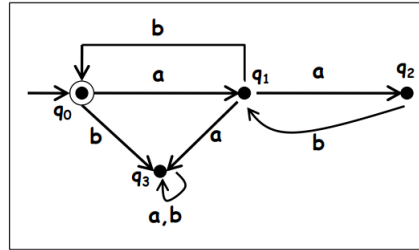
NFAs are used because they can be simpler than DFAs.



NFA that accepts $a^*b \cup a^+b^*$

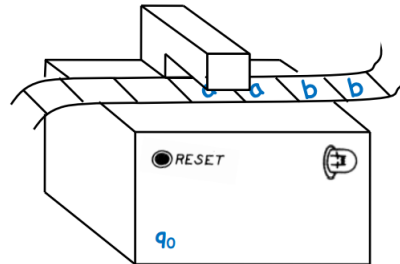
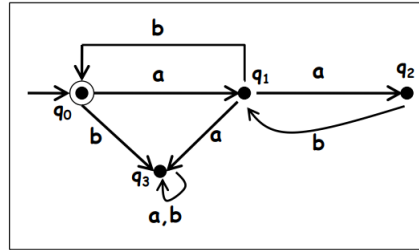
Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

Does the finite automaton accept or reject the string *aabb*?



Deterministic finite automata (DFA)

In an NFA, it can be assumed that if there exists a path in the transition diagram that ends in an accepting state, the automaton finds it



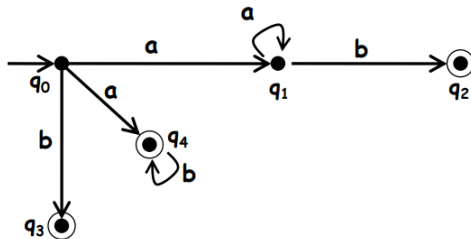
An NFA is a collection of five elements:

- An alphabet Σ
- A finite collection of states Q
- An initial state q_0
- A finite collection of accepting states T
- A relation Δ over $(Q \times \Sigma) \Rightarrow 2^Q$ called **transition relation**. 2^Q is the power set of Q (subsets of Q)

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

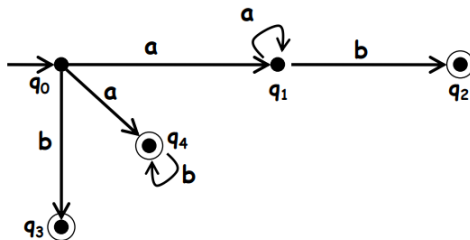
Δ	a	b
q_0		
q_1		
q_2		
q_3		
q_4		



Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_1, q_4\}$	$\{q_3\}$
q_1	$\{q_1\}$	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_3	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_4	\emptyset	$\{q_4\}$

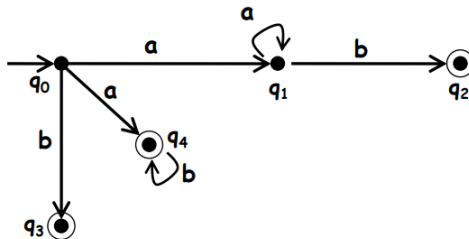


Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

Does the string *baa* get accepted or rejected by the automaton?

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_1, q_4\}$	$\{q_3\}$
q_1	$\{q_1\}$	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_3	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_4	\emptyset	$\{q_4\}$

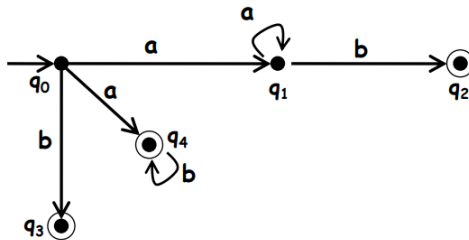


Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

If the string is not fully consumed, it is rejected

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_1, q_4\}$	$\{q_3\}$
q_1	$\{q_1\}$	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_3	\emptyset	\emptyset
q_4	\emptyset	$\{q_4\}$

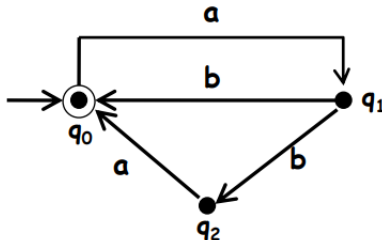


Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

Formally represent the NFA

- Σ
- Q
- Initial state
- T
- Δ

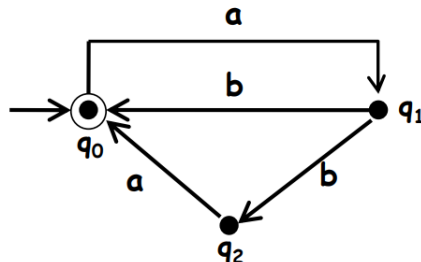
Δ	a	b
q_0		
q_1		
q_2		



Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_1\}$	\emptyset
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_0, q_2\}$
q_2	$\{q_0\}$	\emptyset

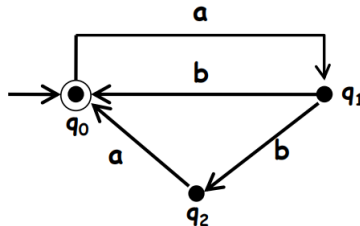


Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

NFA that accepts $(ab \cup aba)^*$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_0\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_1\}$	\emptyset
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_0, q_2\}$
q_2	$\{q_0\}$	\emptyset



Design the NFA specified below and indicate the accepted language:

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

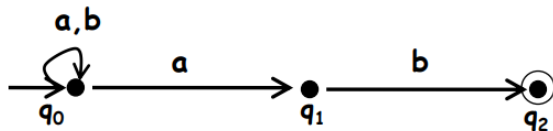
Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

NFA that accepts strings ending in ab . $(a \cup b)^*ab$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset



Design the NFA specified below and indicate the accepted language:

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

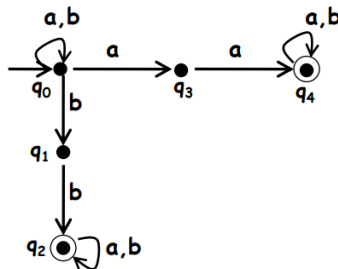
Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0, q_3\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	$\{q_2\}$	$\{q_2\}$
q_3	$\{q_4\}$	\emptyset
q_4	$\{q_4\}$	$\{q_4\}$

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

NFA that accepts $(a \cup b)^*(aa \cup bb)(a \cup b)^*$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2, q_4\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0, q_3\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
q_1	\emptyset	$\{q_2\}$
q_2	$\{q_2\}$	$\{q_2\}$
q_3	$\{q_4\}$	\emptyset
q_4	$\{q_4\}$	$\{q_4\}$



Design an NFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all strings ending in b given by the regular expression $(a \cup b)^*b$

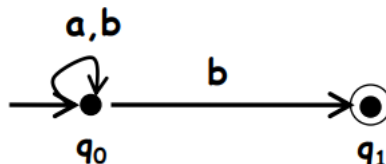
- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

NFA that accepts $(a \cup b)^*b$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
q_1	\emptyset	\emptyset



Design an NFA over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that recognizes the language of all strings that have at least two consecutive a 's given by the regular expression $(a \cup b)^* aa(a \cup b)^*$

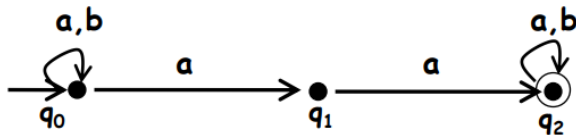
- Show the transition diagram
- Express the automaton formally

Non-deterministic finite automata (NFA)

NFA that accepts $(a \cup b)^*aa(a \cup b)^*$

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Initial state q_0
- $T = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma \Rightarrow 2^Q$

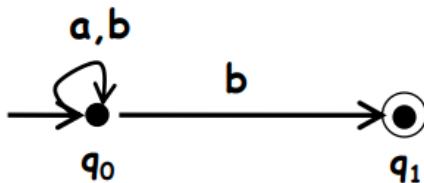
Δ	a	b
q_0	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
q_1	$\{q_2\}$	\emptyset
q_2	$\{q_2\}$	$\{q_2\}$



1. Finite Automata
2. Deterministic Finite Automata
3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata
- 4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA**
5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

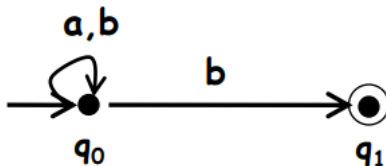
Equivalence between DFA and NFA

Consider the NFA that recognizes the language of words over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that end in b

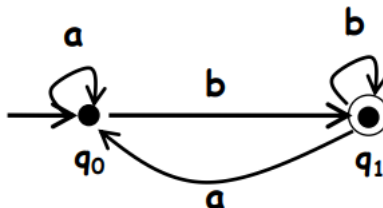


Equivalence between DFA and NFA

NFA that recognizes the language of words over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ that end in b



DFA that recognizes the same language

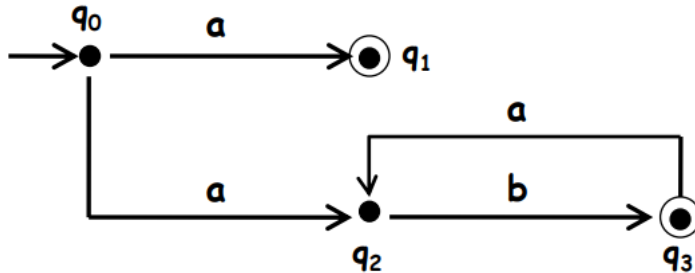


Equivalence between DFA and NFA

Every NFA M' has a DFA M such that $L(M') = L(M)$

1. Finite Automata
2. Deterministic Finite Automata
3. Non-deterministic Finite Automata
4. Equivalence between DFA and NFA
- 5. Method to convert an NFA to a DFA**

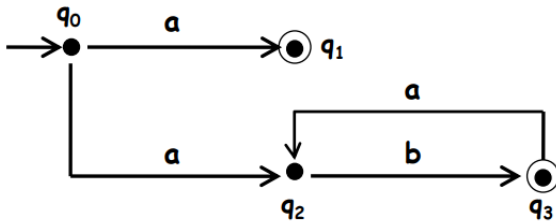
Method to convert an NFA to a DFA



NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

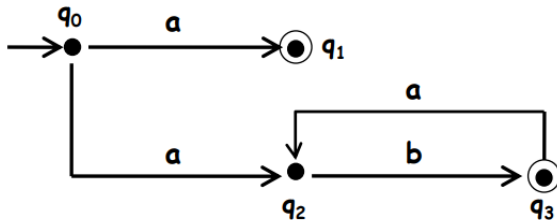
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

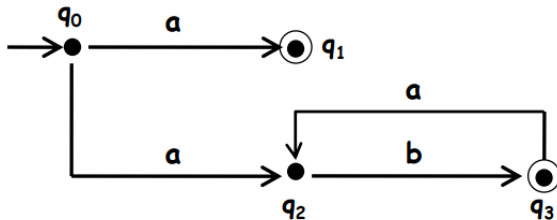
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = ?$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = ?$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

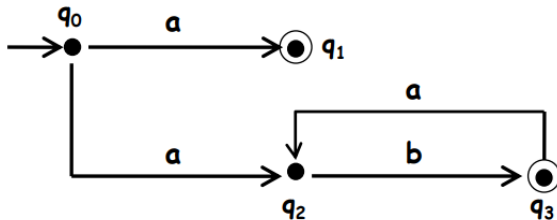
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

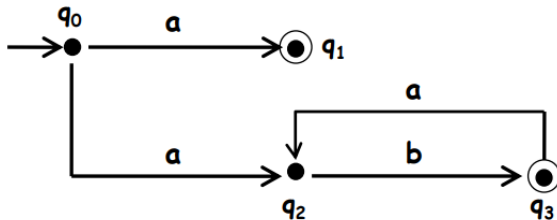
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = ?$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = ?$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

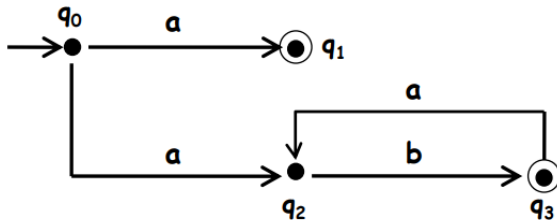
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

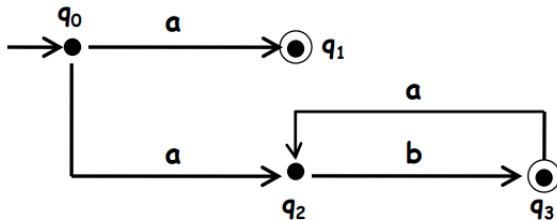
NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = ?$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = ?$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

NFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$



- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

$\{q_0\}$



$\{q_1, q_2\}$



$\{q_3\}$



$\{q_2\}$



\emptyset

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

Any set containing an accepting state is marked as accepting

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$



- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$

- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$

- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$



- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$

- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$

- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

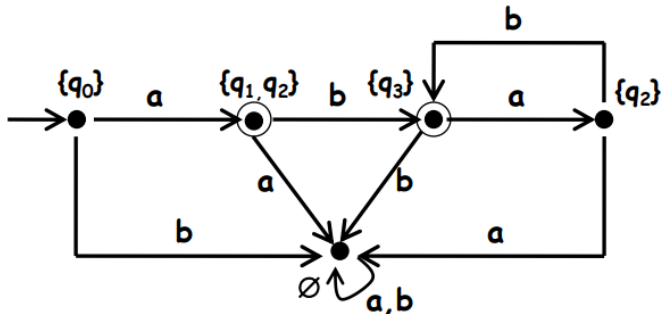
- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

The node labeled \emptyset has transitions leading to itself

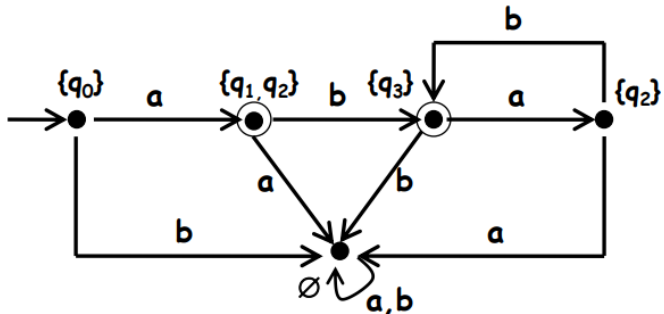
- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

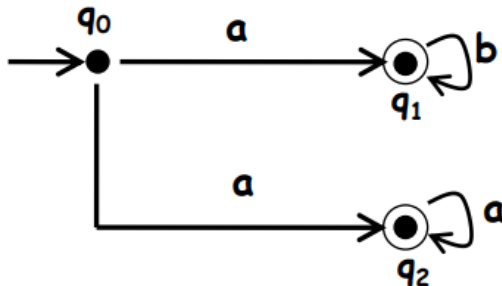
DFA that accepts $a \cup (ab)^+$

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \{q_3\}$



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

Convert the following NFA to a DFA



NFA that accepts $ab^* \cup a^+$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_1\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_1\}$

$\{q_0\}$



$\{q_1, q_2\}$



$\{q_2\}$



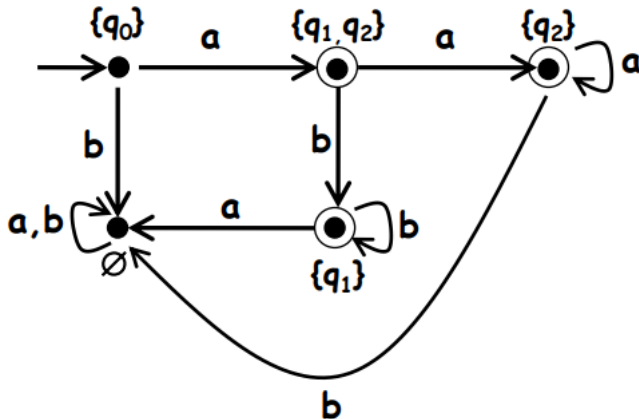
\emptyset



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

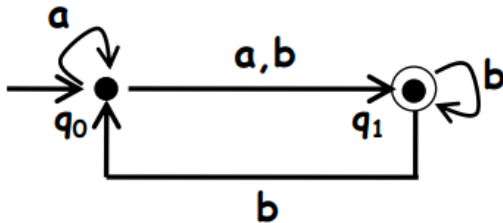
DFA that accepts $ab^* \cup a^+$

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, a) = \{q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_2\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_1\}$



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

Convert the following NFA to a DFA

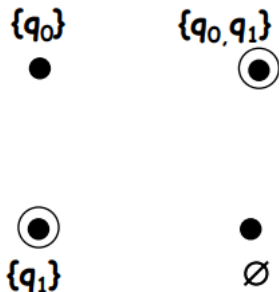


Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$

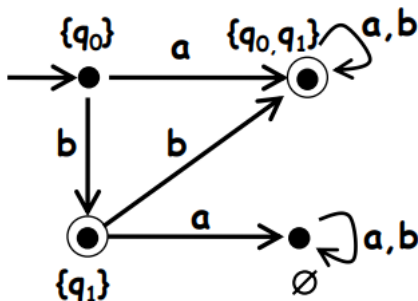
Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$



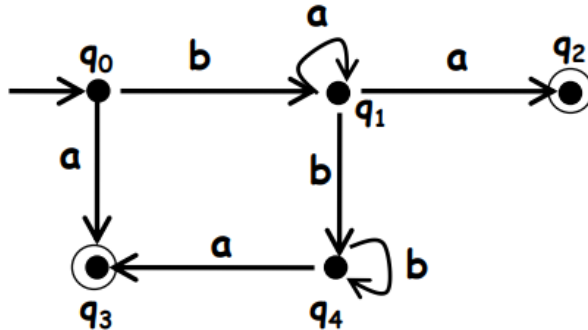
Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, a) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_0, q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_0, q_1\}$



Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

Convert the following NFA to a DFA

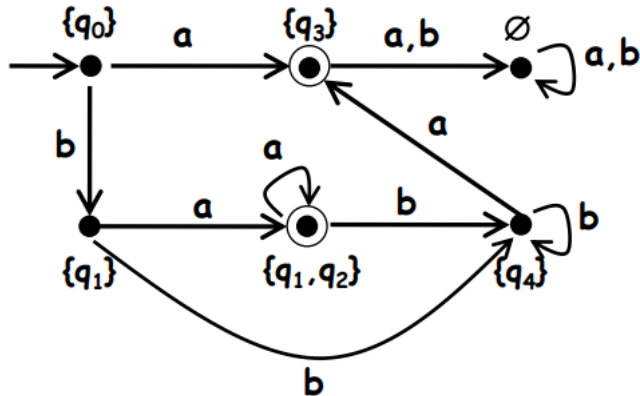


Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_4\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_4\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_4\}, a) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_4\}, b) = \{q_4\}$

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

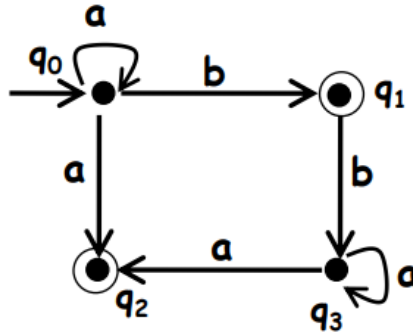
- $\Delta(q_0, a) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(q_0, b) = \{q_1\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1\}, b) = \{q_4\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, a) = \{q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_1, q_2\}, b) = \{q_4\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_4\}, a) = \{q_3\}$
- $\Delta(\{q_4\}, b) = \{q_4\}$



Regular Languages and Regular Expressions (Copy)

Method to convert an NFA to a DFA

* Convert the following NFA to a DFA





Kozen, D. C. (2007)

Automata and computability

Springer Science & Business Media. Lectures 3–5.