

## FA and Regex

**Theorem** Suppose  $L_1, L_2 \subseteq \Sigma^*$  are accepted by FA, then so are  $\Sigma^* - L_1, L_1 \cap L_2, L_1 \cup L_2, L_1 L_2, L_1^*, L_1^+$

Proof Let  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1), M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  be two DFA's such that  $\mathcal{L}(M_1) = L_1, \mathcal{L}(M_2) = L_2$

Without losing the generality, assume  $Q_1 \cap Q_2 = \emptyset$

1.  $\Sigma^* - L_1$



$$M' = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, Q - F_1)$$

Proof Let  $x \in \Sigma^*$ , then  $x \in \mathcal{L}(M') \equiv \delta_1^*(q_1, x) \in Q_1 - F_1 \equiv \delta_1^*(q_1, x) \notin F_1 \equiv x \notin \mathcal{L}(M_1) = x \in (\Sigma^* - L_1)$

This construction mightn't work if  $M_1$  NFA since  $\delta_1^*(q_1, x) \cap Q_1 - F_1 \neq \emptyset$  AND  $\delta_1^*(q_1, x) \cap F_1 \neq \emptyset$  can both be true

2.  $L_1 \cup L_2$

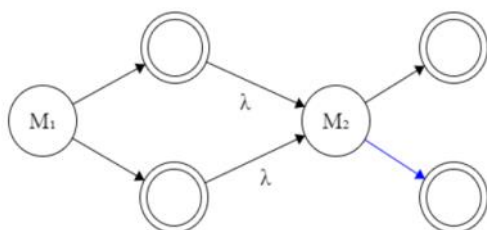


$$\text{OR } M' = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \delta', \{q_1, q_2\}, F_1 \times Q_2 \cup F_2 \times Q_1)$$

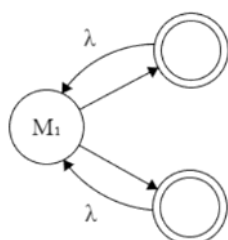
3.  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cap \overline{L_2}}$

$$\text{OR } M'' = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \delta', \{q_1, q_2\}, F_1 \times Q_2 \cap F_2 \times Q_1)$$

4.  $L(M_1)L(M_2)$



5.  $(L(M_1))^+$



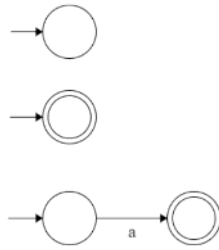
6.  $(L(M_1))^* = (L(M_1))^+ \text{ with } q_0 \in F$

**Theorem** All regular language can be accepted by a FA

Proof Base case:  $\mathcal{L}(\phi) = \emptyset$

$$\mathcal{L}(\lambda) = \lambda$$

$$\forall a \in \Sigma. \mathcal{L}(a) = \{a\}$$



Constructor case:

Suppose  $\mathcal{L}(r'), \mathcal{L}(r'')$  accepted by FA, then

$$\mathcal{L}(r'r'') = \mathcal{L}(r')\mathcal{L}(r'')$$

$$\mathcal{L}(r' \cup r'') = \mathcal{L}(r') \cup \mathcal{L}(r'')$$

$$\mathcal{L}((r')^*) = (\mathcal{L}(r'))^*$$

By closure results, they are all accepted by FA

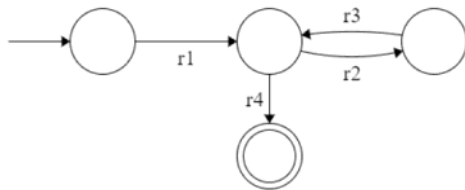
**Definition** generalized transition graph:

A NFA with 1 initial state and in which edges are labelled by regex instead of subset of  $\Sigma$  or  $\Sigma \cup \{\lambda\}$

Then, a string is accepted by a GTG IFF  $\exists k \in \mathbb{N}. (x = x_1 \dots x_k \text{ where } x_1, \dots, x_k \in \Sigma^*)$

and  $\exists \text{ path } e_1 \dots e_k \text{ from } q_0 \text{ to } f \in F \text{ s.t. } x_i \in \mathcal{L}(r_i) \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k \text{ and } r_i \text{ is the regex labelled on } e_i$

**Example**



If  $x = x_1x_2x_3x_4$  where  $x_i \in \mathcal{L}(r_i)$ , then  $M$  accepts  $x$

**Theorem**  $\forall A \in \text{FA}, \exists r \in \text{regex}. \mathcal{L}(A) = \mathcal{L}(r)$

**Discussion** without lose generality, take a GTG has exactly one final state that is not  $q_0$

Also assume  $\forall q, q' \in Q$  there exists edge between, if not add an edge labelled  $\phi$

Then, prove by induction on the number of states in  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

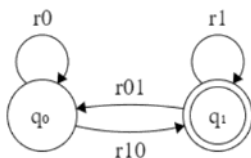
To prove if  $L = \mathcal{L}(M)$  for a GTG  $M$ , then  $L = \mathcal{L}(r)$  for a regex  $r$

By previous theorem,  $L = \mathcal{L}(M')$  for FA  $M'$

By definition, all NFA is a GFG

**Example**

Proof base case:  $n = 2$



$$\text{Then, } \mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{L}(r_0^* r_{01} (r_1 + r_{10} r_0^* r_{01})^*)$$

Suppose  $n > 2$ , construct a GFG  $M'$  s.t.  $\mathcal{L}(M') = \mathcal{L}(M)$  which has 1 fewer state, then by IH, exists  $r, \mathcal{L}(M') = \mathcal{L}(r)$

To construct such GFG, take arbitrary  $q_x \in Q - \{q_0\} - F$ , let  $Q' = Q - \{q_x\}$

Without lose generality, assume  $q_x$  has edge connected to  $q_i, q_j$  and have paths as labelled below.

