

## Lecture 8 Minimization

Tuesday, February 2, 2021 11:32 AM

In NFA's the transition relation is

$$\Delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$$

$\emptyset \in 2^Q$  so  $\Delta(Q_i, a) = \emptyset$  is possible

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NOTATION REMINDERS : DFA

$\delta: S \times \Sigma \rightarrow S$

$$\delta^*: S \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow S$$

$$\delta^*(s, \epsilon) = s$$

$$\delta^*(s, aw) = \delta^*(\delta(s, a), w)$$

$$\delta^*(s, wa) = \delta(\delta^*(s, w), a)$$


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MINIMIZATION of DFA's:

lump together states that behave  
exactly the same way.

Def Given a DFA  $M = (S, s_0, \delta, F)$   
 $s, t \in S$  are equivalent if for all  $w \in \Sigma^*$ ,  $\delta^*(s, w) \in F \iff \delta^*(t, w) \in F$

over alphabet  $\Sigma$  are equivalent and write  $p \approx q$  if

$$\forall x \in \Sigma^* \quad \delta^*(p, x) \in F \Leftrightarrow \delta^*(q, x) \in F$$

Remark When are  $p, q$  not  $\approx$ ?

$$\exists x \in \Sigma^* (\delta^*(p, x) \in F \ \& \ \delta^*(q, x) \notin F) \\ \text{OR} \ (\delta^*(p, x) \notin F \ \& \ \delta^*(q, x) \in F).$$

we call such an  $x$  a distinguishing string.

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OBSERVATION <https://powcoder.com> is an equivalence relation.

We write  $[p] = \{q \mid p \approx q\}$   
if  $p \approx q$ , then  $[p] = [q]$ .

LEMMA A  $p \approx q \Rightarrow \forall a \in \Sigma$   
 $\delta(p, a) \approx \delta(q, a).$

PROOF Suppose  $\delta^*(\delta(p, a), x) \in F$   
 $= \delta^*(p, ax) \in F$

But we assumed  $p \approx q$  so

$$\delta^*(q, ax) \in F$$

$$i.e. \delta^*(\delta(q,a),x) \in F$$

similarly for the other direction  
so the proof is complete 😊

REMARK  $p \approx q$  can be written as

$$[p] = [q]. \text{ So what we have shown is } [p] = [q] \Rightarrow [\delta(p,a)] = [\delta(q,a)] \forall a \in \Sigma.$$

We can construct a new machine:

$$M' = (S', s_0', \delta', F')$$

$S'$ : equivalence classes of  $\approx$

$s_0'$ :  $[s_0]$

$$\delta'([s], a) = [\delta(s, a)] \quad [\text{well defined by lemma A}]$$

$$F' = \{[s] \mid s \in F\}$$

LEMMA B  $p \in F \text{ \& } p \approx q \Rightarrow q \in F$  (D14)

LEMMA C  $\forall w \in \Sigma^*$

$$\delta'^*([p], w) = [\delta^*(p, w)]$$

PROOF Induction on  $w$

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BASE  $w = \epsilon$

$$\delta'^*([p], \epsilon) = [p] = [\delta^*(p, \epsilon)] \quad \checkmark$$

Induction step: Assume true for  $w$

$$\delta'^*([p], w) = [\delta^*(p, w)]$$

Calculate:

$$\delta'^*([p], wa) = \delta'(\delta'^*([p], w), a) \quad \text{Def of } \delta'$$

$$= \delta'([\delta^*(p, w)], a) \quad \text{Ind. hyp.}$$

$$= [\delta(\delta^*(p, w), a)] \quad \text{Def of } \delta'$$

$$= [\delta^*(p, wa)] \quad \text{Done.}$$

THM  $L(M') = L(M)$

Proof  $x \in L(M') \Leftrightarrow \delta'^*([s_0], x) \in F'$

$$\Leftrightarrow [\delta^*(s_0, x)] \in F'$$

$$\Leftrightarrow \delta^*(s_0, x) \in F \Leftrightarrow x \in L(M) \quad \blacksquare$$

The machine with equivalent states lumped together recognizes the same

language as the original machine.

Idea : Assume initially all states are equivalent. Then start splitting the states as you examine the transitions.

Def  $p \approx q$  if  $\exists w \in \Sigma^*$  s.t.

$$\delta^*(p, w) \in F \ \& \ \delta^*(q, w) \notin F$$

OR

$$\delta^*(p, w) \notin F \ \& \ \delta^*(q, w) \in F.$$

i.e.  $p \approx q$  is  $\neg (p \neq q)$

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If  $p \approx q$  then  $p$  &  $q$  are distinguishable

FACT If  $\exists a \in \Sigma$  s.t.  $\delta(p, a) \not\approx \delta(q, a)$   
then  $p \not\approx q$ . [DIY]

## ALGORITHM

Step 0 Get rid of unreachable states.

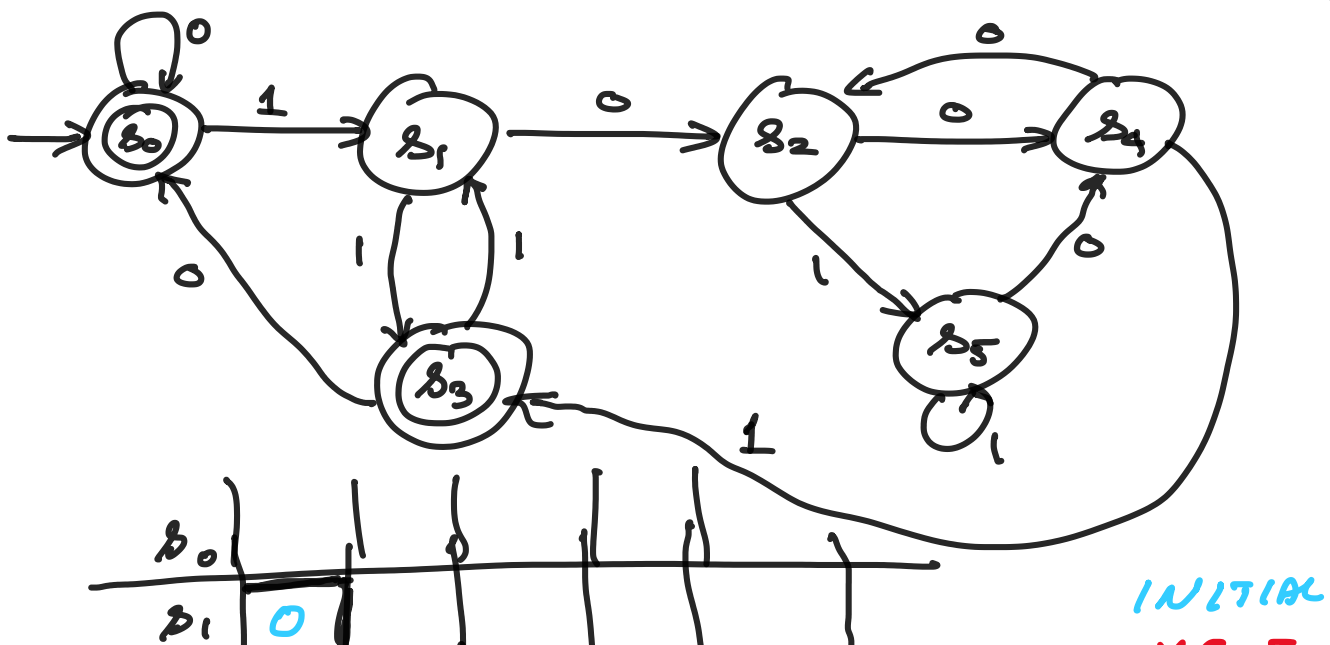
Step 1 Define an  $S \times S$  array of boolean

step 2 For every pair  $(p, q) \in S \times S$  such that  $p \in F$  and  $q \notin F$  put a 0 in the  $(p, q)$  cell of the array.

step 3 Repeat until there are no more changes:

- For each pair  $(p, q)$  that is not marked with a 0 check if  $\exists a \in \Sigma$  s.t.  $(\delta(p, a), \delta(q, a))$  is marked with a 0, if so mark  $(p, q)$  with a 0.

step 4 Mark anything remaining 1



NOT  
EQUIVALENT

$s_2$	$s_0$	$s_1$	$s_2$	$s_3$	$s_4$	$s_5$
	○	○				
$s_3$		○	○			
$s_4$	○		○	○		
$s_5$	○	○		○	○	

THM If two states are NOT labelled by a  $\emptyset$  then they must be equivalent.

PROOF Assume theorem is false. So there are some pairs of states s.t.

$p \neq q$  but they are not marked.

Call such a pair a bad pair.

Each such bad pair must have a distinguishing string. Choose a

bad pair with the shortest distinguishing

string.  $x = x_1 \dots x_n \quad x_i \in \Sigma$

Note  $x \neq \epsilon$  [why not?]

Suppose  $(s, t)$  is a bad pair and  $x$  is the dist. string for this pair

$\delta^*(s, x) \neq \delta^*(t, x)$  since

$\delta^*(\delta(s, x_1), x_2 \dots x_n) \in F$

$\delta^*(\delta(t, x_1), x_2 \dots x_n) \notin F$

so  $\underline{\delta(s, x_1)} \neq \underline{\delta(t, x_1)}$

&  $x_2 \dots x_n$  is the distinguishing string.

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So  $\delta(s, x_1) \neq \delta(t, x_1)$  cannot be a

bad pair so the algorithm did mark

them. Add WeChat powcoder

$s, t$  would be marked in the next step.

This is a contradiction. ■

So this algorithm finds all the equivalent states.

RUNNING TIME:  $O(n^4)$   $n$  # of states

each round is  $O(n^2)$

$O(n^2)$  rounds

1 2 1 1 6 # of times



IMPROVED alg  $O(n^2)$  → ~ ~ ~  
HOPCROFT'S ALG:  $O(n \log n)$  ←  
BRZDOWSKI:  $O(2^n)$  !

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