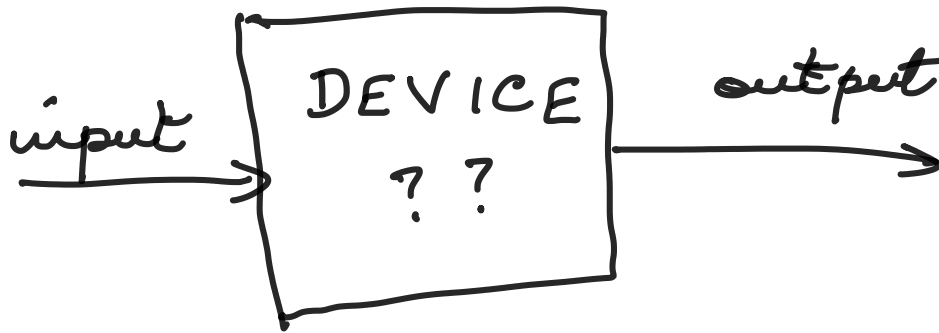


Lecture 2 DFA

Tuesday, January 12, 2021 9:46 AM



FIRST MODEL:

Finite memory machines

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Finite state machines

<https://powcoder.com>

input \rightarrow sequence of symbols

collection of symbols: alphabet

each symbol: letter

Σ : alphabet

$\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ or $\Sigma = \{a\}$

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ or $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2, \dots, 9\}$

words or strings are sequences of letters: $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

$a, abba, baba, aaaaaab, \epsilon$
 Σ^* : set of all possible ^{empty} word words

If $\Sigma \neq \emptyset$ then Σ^* is infinite as a set. We do not have infinitely long words.

$L \subseteq \Sigma^*$
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\hookrightarrow a language.
<https://powcoder.com>

L can be finite or infinite.
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Our DFA are going to read words one symbol at a time from left to right with no backtracking.

At the end the DFA is going to output "accept" or "reject".

The machine is telling you a set of words that it accepts i.e.

is defining a language.

Q: Is it possible to design a DFA for every language?

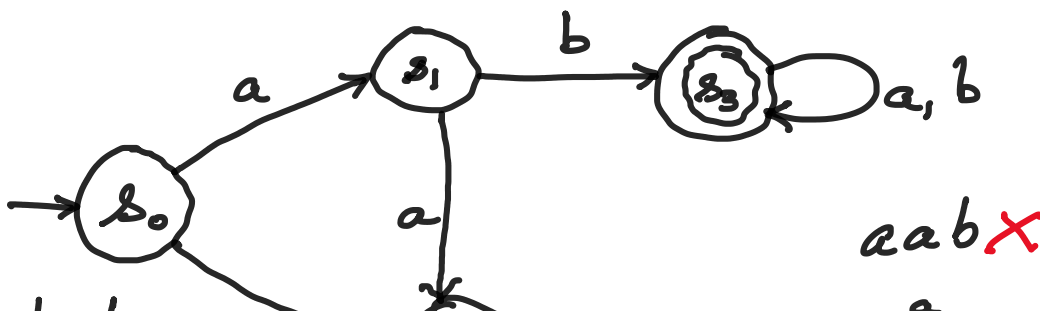
A: NO!

MACHINES :

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states (finitely many)

<https://powcoder.com>
transitions: jump between states
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We will give a formal def.
soon but let's draw pictures
first:



start
state



$$s_0 \xrightarrow{a} s_1 \xrightarrow{b} s_2 \xrightarrow{a} s_2$$

a ba ✓

$$s_0 \xrightarrow{a} s_1 \xrightarrow{b} s_2 \xrightarrow{a} s_2$$

set of states; s_0, s_1, s_2, s_3

start state: s_0

transitions are shown as
labelled arrows:

for every letter from every
state there is 1 arrow.

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$s_2 \xrightarrow{a} s_2 \quad s_2 \xrightarrow{b} s_2$

<https://powcoder.com>

Only one arrow for each letter
the machine is deterministic.

The state with the double
circle is an accept state.

If the m/c ends up in an accept
state at the end of the string, the
string is accepted.

This machine recognizes all words that start with ab

FORMAL DEF:

S : set of states (finite)



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$\delta: S \times \Sigma \rightarrow S$ <https://powcoder.com>

$\hookrightarrow \delta$ is a (total) function

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Def A Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA) is a 4-tuple

(S, s_0, δ, F) where

S is a finite set of states

$s_0 \in S$ is the start state

δ is a function

$\delta : S \times \Sigma \rightarrow S$ is the transition function

$F \subseteq S$ accept states
(final states)

Def: A language that can be recognized by a DFA is called a regular language.

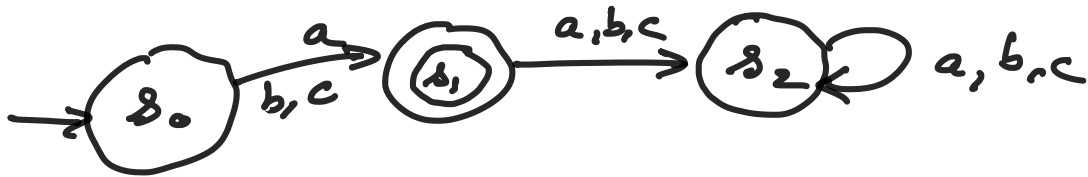
REMARK When I ask you to design a DFA for L , it must accept every word in L and reject every word that is not in L .



It accepts all of Σ^* .

If the start state is an accept

state then and only then
 ϵ is in the language.
 $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$



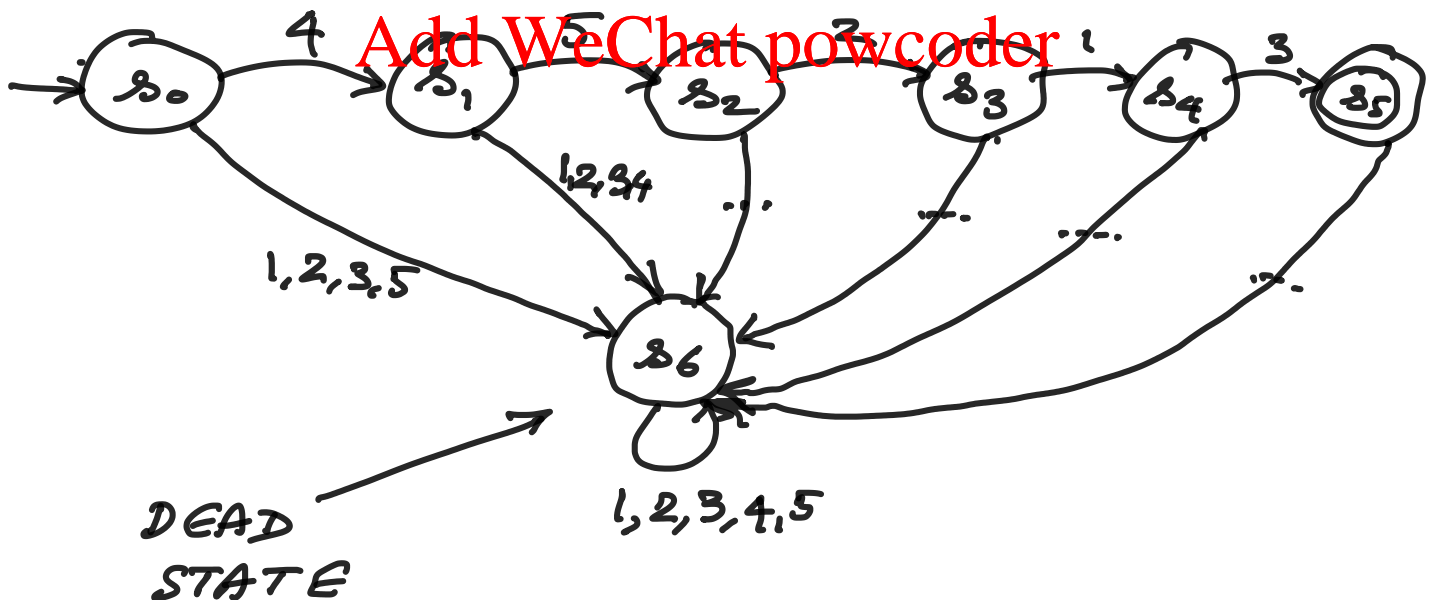
COMBINATION LOCK

$\Sigma = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$

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45213 → only valid comb.

<https://powcoder.com>

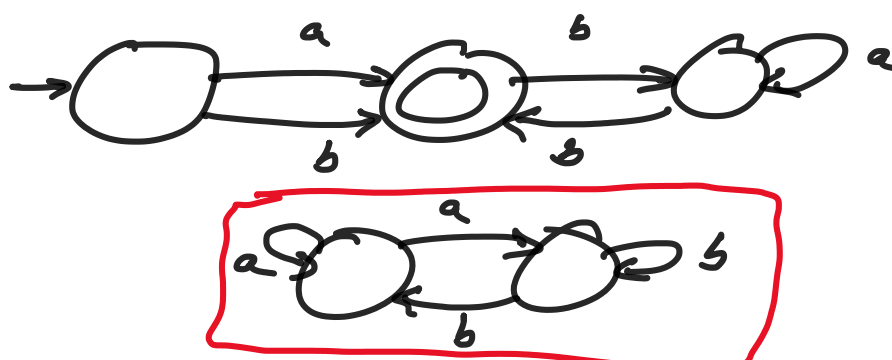


In order to get a less cluttered

picture we may leave out the dead state and the arrows to it. If we see a "missing" arrow we understand that there is actually a dead state with the transitions hidden.

REMARKS: ~~Unreachable states~~ **Assignment Project Exam Help**

They are ~~allowed~~ but useless so we usually remove them. <https://powcoder.com>
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UNREACHABLE

WE WILL REMOVE THEM.

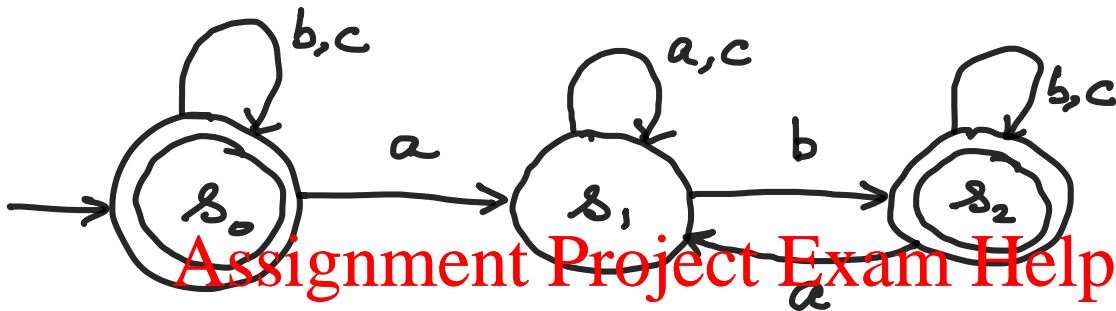
$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$$

EXAMPLE Design a m/c s.t it

accept only those strings s.t every
'a' is eventually followed by 'b'.

aaaccaabccb is OK

ababa X not OK



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$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

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we will interpret the strings
as binary numbers

$$\epsilon \rightarrow 0$$

$$000 \rightarrow 0$$

$$101 \rightarrow 5$$

Please design a DFA s.t it
accepts a sequence corresponding

maps a string to a binary number that is divisible by 3.

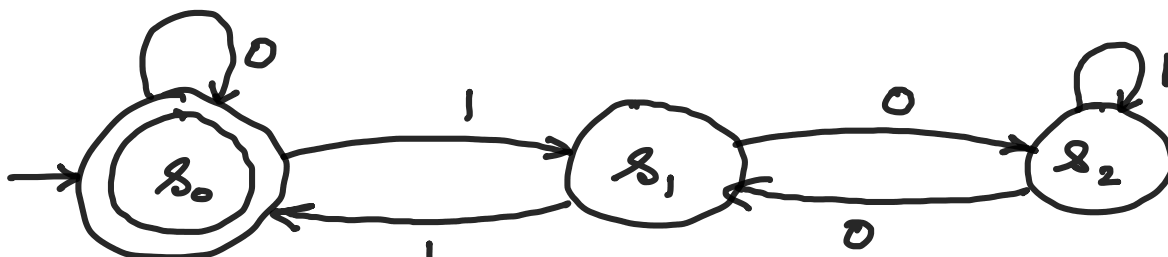
We are reading the string from left to right.

Suppose the number you have seen so far is n

- then you read 0, what is the new number? $2n$

OR then you read 1, what is the new number? $2n+1$

The states of our DFA will encode the mod 3 value of the number seen so far



EXAMPLE of a non-regular language

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

$$L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$

a^n means 'a' repeated 'n' times

$\epsilon, ab, aabb, aaabbb, \dots$

FINITE PROJECT EXAM HELP

CANNOT COUNT!
<https://powcoder.com>

They can only count mod
some finite number.
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If L is finite is it necessarily
regular? YES!!

PROVE IT!