

# Pune Institute of Computer Technology, Pune

**COVID19**

**STAY SAFE,  
STAY HEALTHY.**

You can reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus that causes **COVID-19** by taking the same steps you'd take to avoid getting colds.

**LET'S ALL  
DO OUR PART**



- 1  Wash hands frequently with soap
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- 3  Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing
- 4  See a doctor if you feel unwell

# THEORY OF COMPUTATION

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## UNIT II:

# Regular Expressions

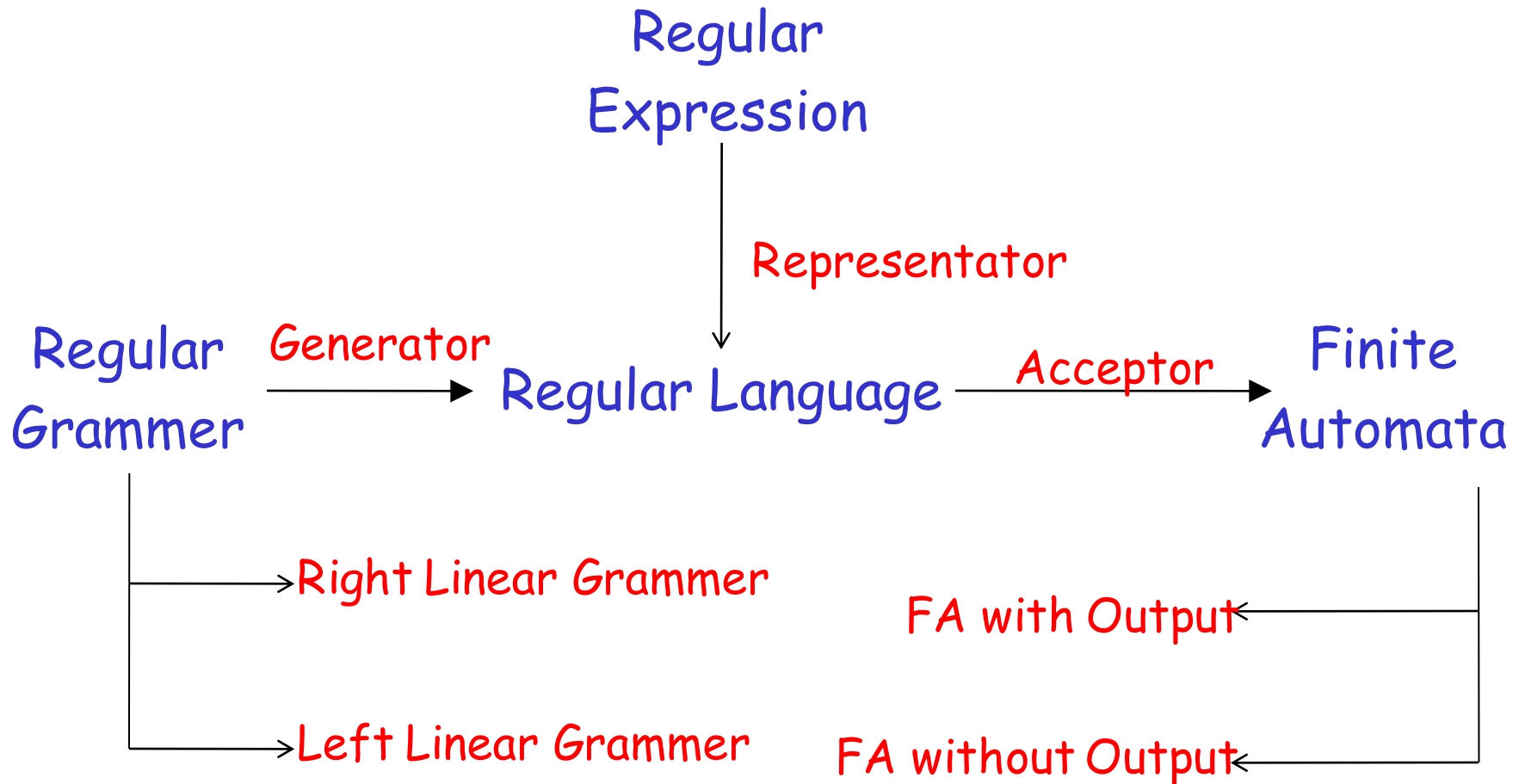
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**Jagadish Kashinath Kamble** (M.Tech, IIT Kharagpur)

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# Regular Expressions

Regular expressions

describe regular languages

Example:  $(a + b \cdot c)^*$

describes the language

$$\{a, bc\}^* = \{\lambda, a, bc, aa, abc, bca, \dots\}$$

# Recursive Definition

1)  $+$  : Union    2)  $\cdot$  : Concatenation    3)  $*$  : Kleene Closure

Primitive regular expressions:  $\emptyset$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $a$

$\emptyset \longrightarrow \{\}$

$\lambda \longrightarrow \{\lambda\}$

$a \longrightarrow \{a\}$

Given  
regular  
expressions  
 $r_1$  and  $r_2$

$r_1 + r_2$

$r_1 \cdot r_2$

$r_1^*$

$(r_1)$

Are regular expressions

# Examples

A regular expression:  $(a + b \cdot c)^* \cdot (c + \emptyset)$

Not a regular expression:  $(a + b +)$

# Languages of Regular Expressions

$L(r)$  : language of regular expression  $r$

Example

$$L((a + b \cdot c)^*) = \{\lambda, a, bc, aa, abc, bca, \dots\}$$

# Definition

For primitive regular expressions:

$$L(\emptyset) = \emptyset$$

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

$$L(a) = \{a\}$$



# Definition (continued)

For regular expressions  $r_1$  and  $r_2$

$$L(r_1 + r_2) = L(r_1) \cup L(r_2)$$

$$L(r_1 \cdot r_2) = L(r_1) L(r_2)$$

$$L(r_1^*) = (L(r_1))^*$$

$$L((r_1)) = L(r_1)$$

# Example

Regular expression:  $(a + b) \cdot a^*$

$$\begin{aligned} L((a + b) \cdot a^*) &= L((a + b)) L(a^*) \\ &= L(a + b) L(a^*) \\ &= (L(a) \cup L(b)) (L(a))^* \\ &= (\{a\} \cup \{b\}) (\{a\})^* \\ &= \{a, b\} \{\lambda, a, aa, aaa, \dots\} \\ &= \{a, aa, aaa, \dots, b, ba, baa, \dots\} \end{aligned}$$

# Example

Regular expression  $r = (a + b)^*(a + bb)$

$$L(r) = \{a, bb, aa, abb, ba, bbb, \dots\}$$

# Example

Regular expression  $r = (aa)^*(bb)^*b$

$$L(r) = \{a^{2n}b^{2m}b : n, m \geq 0\}$$

# Equivalent Regular Expressions

Definition:

Regular expressions  $r_1$  and  $r_2$

are **equivalent** if  $L(r_1) = L(r_2)$

# Regular Expressions and Regular Languages

- *Regular Language*

- $\emptyset$
- $\{\epsilon\}$
- $\{a,b\}^*$
- $\{aab\}^*\{a,ab\}$
- $\{aa,bb\} \cup \{ab,ba\}\{aa,bb\}^*$

- *Regular Expression*

- $\emptyset$
- $\epsilon$
- $(a+b)^*$
- $(aab)^*(a+ab)$
- $(aa+bb+(ab+ba)(aa+bb)^*)$

# Theorem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$



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# Recall

- Regular Expression

Find RE for the Language of strings of Length 2 over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=(aa+ab+ba+bb) \text{ or } (a+b)(a+b)$$

Find RE for the Language of strings of Length at least 2 over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=(a+b)(a+b)(a+b)^*$$

Find RE for the Language of strings of Length at most 2 over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=(a+b+\epsilon)(a+b+\epsilon)$$

Find RE for the Language of strings of even Length over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=((a+b)(a+b))^*$$

Find RE for the Language of strings of odd Length over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=(a+b)((a+b)(a+b))^*$$

Find RE for the Language of strings which is divisible by 3 over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=((a+b)(a+b)(a+b))^*$$

Find RE for the Language of strings  $= 2 \bmod 3$  over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=((a+b)(a+b)(a+b))^*(a+b)(a+b)$$

Find RE for the Language of strings of a's exactly 2 over the alphabet {a,b}

$$=b^*ab^*ab^*$$

- Find RE for the Language of strings of a's atleast 2 over the alphabet {a,b}
- $(a+b)^*a(a+b)^*a(a+b)^*$
- Find RE for the Language of strings of a's atmost 2 over the alphabet {a,b}
- $b^*(a+\epsilon)b^*(a+\epsilon)b^*$
- Find RE for the Language of strings of even length a's over the alphabet {a,b}
- $(b^*ab^*ab^*)^*$
- Find RE for the Language of strings which starts with a over the alphabet {a,b}
- $a(a+b)^*$
- Find RE for the Language of strings which ends with a over the alphabet {a,b}
- $(a+b)^*a$

- Find RE for the Language of strings which starts and ends with different symbol over the alphabet  $\{a,b\}$
- $(a(a+b)^*b)+(b(a+b)^*a)$
- Find RE for the Language of strings which starts and ends with Same symbol over the alphabet  $\{a,b\}$
- $(a(a+b)^*a)+(b(a+b)^*b)$

## Regular Expression

Write RE for the following languages for  $\Sigma = \{a,b\}$

- The language of all words  
 $(a+b)^*$
- All words ending with **b**  
 $(a+b)^*b$
- All words that start with **a**  
 $a(a+b)^*$
- The language of all strings, not beginning with b  
 $(a(a+b)^*)^+ \Lambda$
- All words that start with a double letter  
 $(aa+bb)(a+b)^*$
- All words that contain **at least one double letter**  
 $(a+b)^*(aa+bb)(a+b)^*$



## Continued..

- All words that contain **at least two a's or two b's**  
 $b^*ab^*a(a+b)^* + a^*ba^*b(a+b)^*$
- All words that start and end with a double letter  
 $(aa+bb)(a+b)^*(aa+bb)$
- All words of length  $\geq 3$   
 $(a+b)(a+b)(a+b)(a+b)^*$  or  $(a+b)(a+b)(a+b)^+$
- All words that contain exactly one **a** or exactly one **b**  
 $b^*ab^* + a^*ba^*$
- All words that don't end at **ba**  
 $(a+b)^*(aa+ab+bb)$
- All strings of a's and b's in which either the strings are all b's or else there is an a followed by some b's  
 $b^*+ab^*$

## Continued..

- Language of all words that have at least two **a**'s  
 $(a+b)^* a (a+b)^* a (a+b)^*$
- Language of all words that have **at least one a and at least one b**  
 $(a+b)^* a (a+b)^* b (a+b)^* + (a+b)^* b (a+b)^* a (a+b)^*$
- Language of all words that have **at least one a or at least one b**  
 $(a+b)^* a (a+b)^* + (a+b)^* b (a+b)^*$
- The languages  $L$ , of even length, defined over  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$   
 $((a+b)(a+b))^*$
- The languages  $L$ , of odd length, defined over  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$   
 $((a+b)(a+b))^* (a+b)$
- The strings of length 2, starting with **a**,  
 $aa+ab$

- Give RE for Following over the alphabet  $\{0,1\}$  (Aug-2015 6 Marks)
  - All binary strings with at least one 0
  - All binary strings with at Most one 0
- $(0+1)^*0(0+1)^*$
- $1^*(0+\epsilon)1^*$
- Language of all strings containing substring 00
- $(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$
- The Language of Strings in  $\{a, b\}^*$  Ending with b and Not Containing aa
- $(ab+b)^+(b+\epsilon)$
- Find RE for the Language of strings which does not contains two a's together over the alphabet  $\{a,b\}$
- $(a+\epsilon)(ba+b)^*$

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# Recall

- Examples on Regular Expression

- Construct regular expressions defined over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$ , which denote the following languages:
- i) All strings without a double a.
- ii) All strings in which any occurrence of the symbol b, is in groups of odd numbers.
- iii) All strings in which the total number of a's is divisible by 2.

- Construct regular expressions defined over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$ , which denote the following languages:
- i) All strings without a double a.
- $(a+\varepsilon)(ba+b)^*$
- ii) All strings in which any occurrence of the symbol b, is in groups of odd numbers.
- $a^*b(bb)^*a^*$
- iii) All strings in which the total number of a's is divisible by 2.
- $(b^*ab^*ab^*)^* + b^*$



- Check the following regular expressions for equivalence and justify:

- (i)  $R1 = (a + bb)^* (b + aa)^*$        $R2 = (a + b)^*$
- (ii)  $R1 = (a + b)^* abab^*$        $R2 = b^* a (a + b)^* ab^*$

i) Let us write languages denoted by R1 and R2 as below.

- $L(R1) = \{\epsilon, a, b, aa, ab, bb, abb, baa, bba, \dots\}$
- $L(R2) = \{\epsilon, a, b, aa, ab, ba, bb, \dots\}$
- Given regular expressions R1 and R2 are not equal as the strings produced by them are not same.
- For example, string 'ba' cannot be generated using regular expression R1 which can be produced by R2 .

ii) Let us write languages denoted by R1 and R2 as below.

- $L(R1) = \{aba, aaba, baba, abab, ababb, ababa, \dots\}$
- $L(R2) = \{aa, baa, baaa, baba, baab, \dots\}$
- Given regular expressions R1 and R2 are not equal as the strings produced by them are not same.
- For example, string 'aa' cannot be produced by Regular Expression R1 which can be produced by R2 .

# Identities Related to Regular Expressions

- Given  $R, P, L, Q$  as regular expressions, the following identities hold –
- $\emptyset^* = \varepsilon$
- $\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon$
- $RR^* = R^*R$
- $R^*R^* = R^*$
- $(R^*)^* = R^*$
- $RR^* = R^*R$
- $(PQ)^*P = P(QP)^*$
- $(a+b)^* = (a^*b^*)^* = (a^*+b^*)^* = (a+b^*)^* = a^*(ba^*)^*$

- $R + \emptyset = \emptyset + R = R$  (The identity for union)
- $R \varepsilon = \varepsilon R = R$  (The identity for concatenation)
- $R + R = R$  (Idempotent law)
- $L (M + N) = LM + LN$  (Left distributive law)
- $(M + N) L = ML + NL$  (Right distributive law)
- $\varepsilon + RR^* = \varepsilon + R^*R = R^*$

- Let  $\Sigma^* = \{0, 1\}$ . Construct regular expressions for each of the following:
- (a)  $L1 = \{W \in \Sigma^* \mid W \text{ has at least one pair of consecutive zeros}\}$
- (b)  $L2 = \{W \in \Sigma^* \mid W \text{ has no pair of consecutive zeros}\}$
- (c)  $L3 = \{W \in \Sigma^* \mid W \text{ starts with either '01' or '10'}\}$
- (d)  $L4 = \{W \in \Sigma^* \mid W \text{ consists of even number of 0's followed by odd number of 1's}\}$

- Solution
- (a)  $r = [(1 + 0)^* (00) (1 + 0)^*]^+$
- (b)  $r = (0 + \epsilon) (1+10)^*$
- (c)  $r = (01 + 10) (1+0)^*$
- (d)  $r = (00)^* 1 (11)^*$

# Gate Question

- Which one of the following languages over the alphabet  $\{0,1\}$  is described by the regular expression:  
 $(0+1)^*0(0+1)^*0(0+1)^*$ 
  1. The set of all strings containing the substring 00.
  2. The set of all strings containing at most two 0's.
  3. The set of all strings containing at least two 0's.
  4. The set of all strings that begin and end with either 0 or 1.
- GATE-CS-2009

# Theorem

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} = \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$

**Proof:**

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} \subseteq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} \supseteq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$

## Proof - Part 1

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} \subseteq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$

For any regular expression  $r$   
the language  $L(r)$  is regular

Proof by induction on the size of  $r$

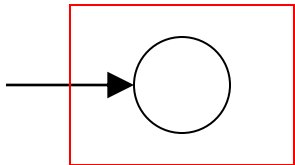


# Induction Basis

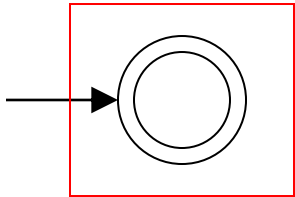
Primitive Regular Expressions:  $\emptyset$ ,  $\lambda$ ,  $a$

Corresponding

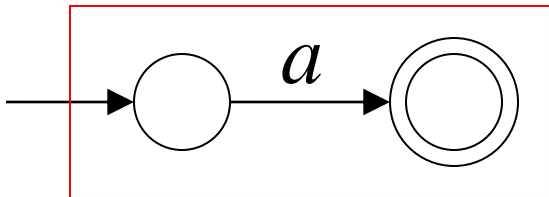
NFAs



$$L(M_1) = \emptyset = L(\emptyset)$$



$$L(M_2) = \{\lambda\} = L(\lambda)$$



$$L(M_3) = \{a\} = L(a)$$

regular  
languages

# Inductive Hypothesis

Suppose

that for regular expressions  $r_1$  and  $r_2$ ,  
 $L(r_1)$  and  $L(r_2)$  are regular languages

# Inductive Step

We will prove:

$$L(r_1 + r_2)$$

$$L(r_1 \cdot r_2)$$

$$L(r_1^*)$$

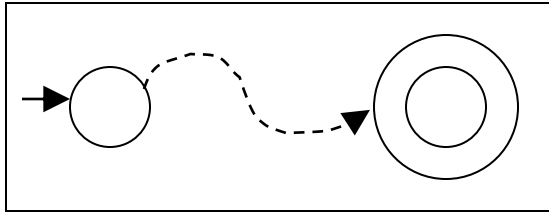
$$L((r_1))$$

Are regular  
Languages

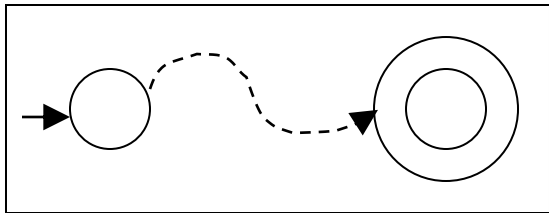
Using the regular closure of these operations,  
we can construct recursively the NFA  $M$   
that accepts  $L(M) = L(r)$

Example:  $r = r_1 + r_2$

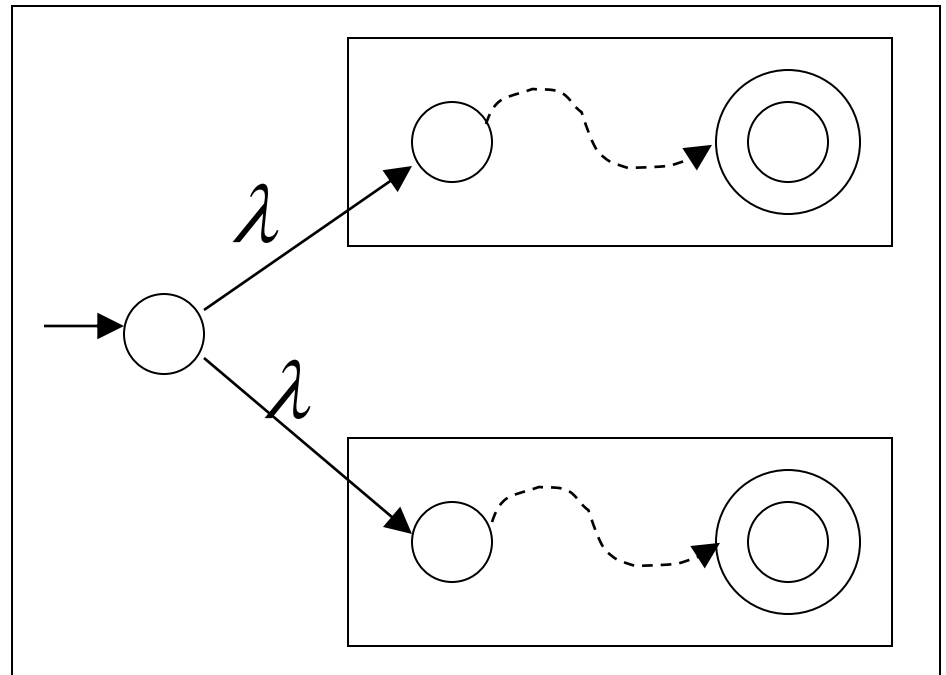
$$L(M_1) = L(r_1)$$



$$L(M_2) = L(r_2)$$



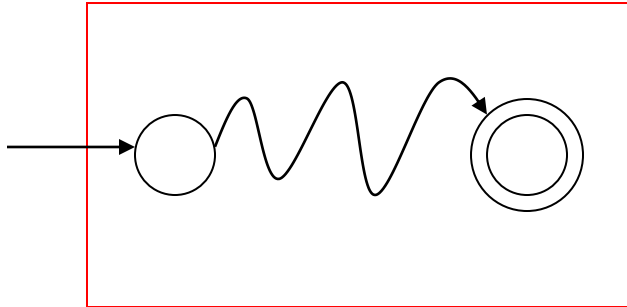
$$L(M) = L(r)$$



Regular Expression r1

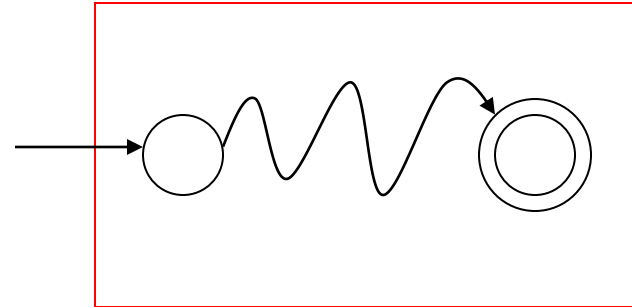
Regular Expression r2

NFA  $M_1$



Single accepting state

NFA  $M_2$

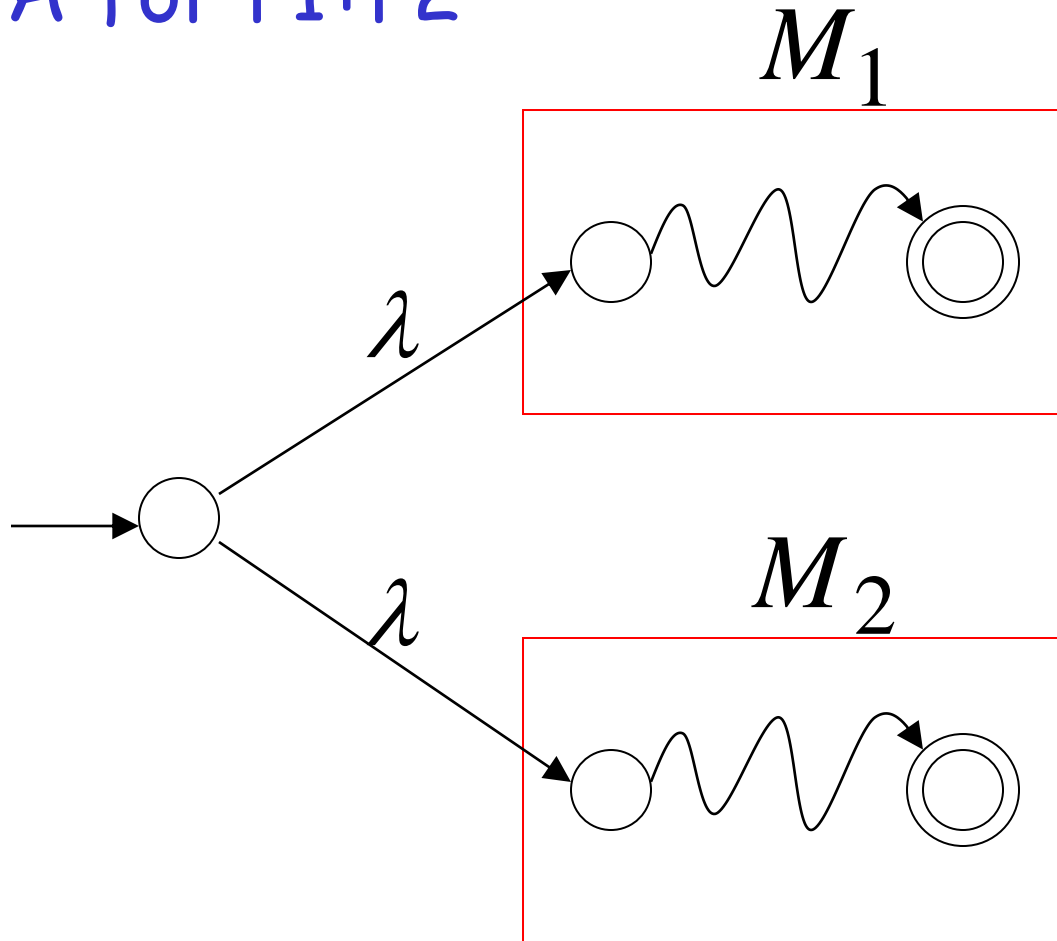


Single accepting state

# Union

r1 and r2

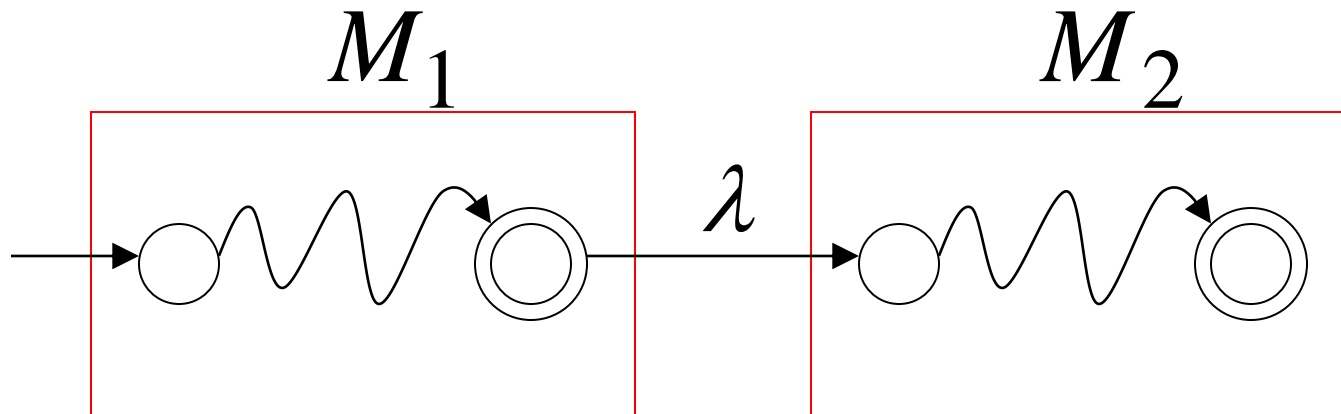
NFA for  $r_1 + r_2$



# Concatenation

$r_1$  and  $r_2$

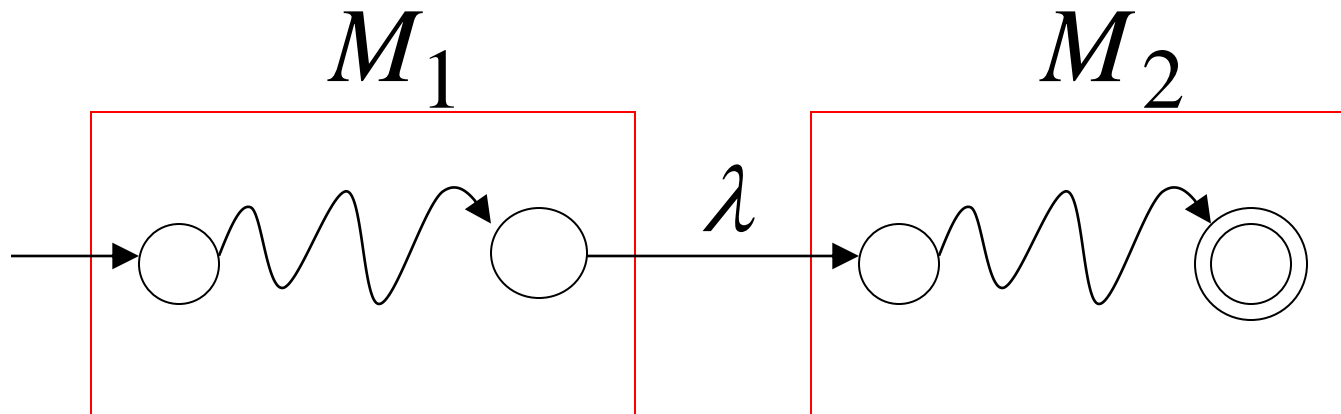
NFA for  $r_1 r_2$



# Concatenation

$r_1$  and  $r_2$

NFA for  $r_1 r_2$

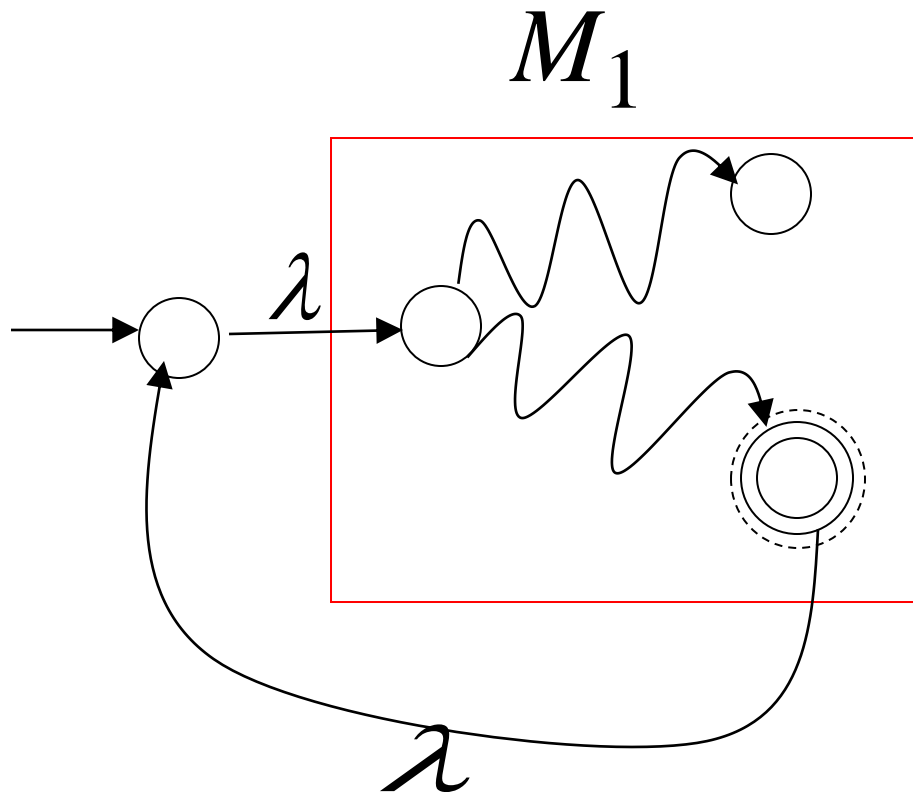




# Star Operation

$r_1$

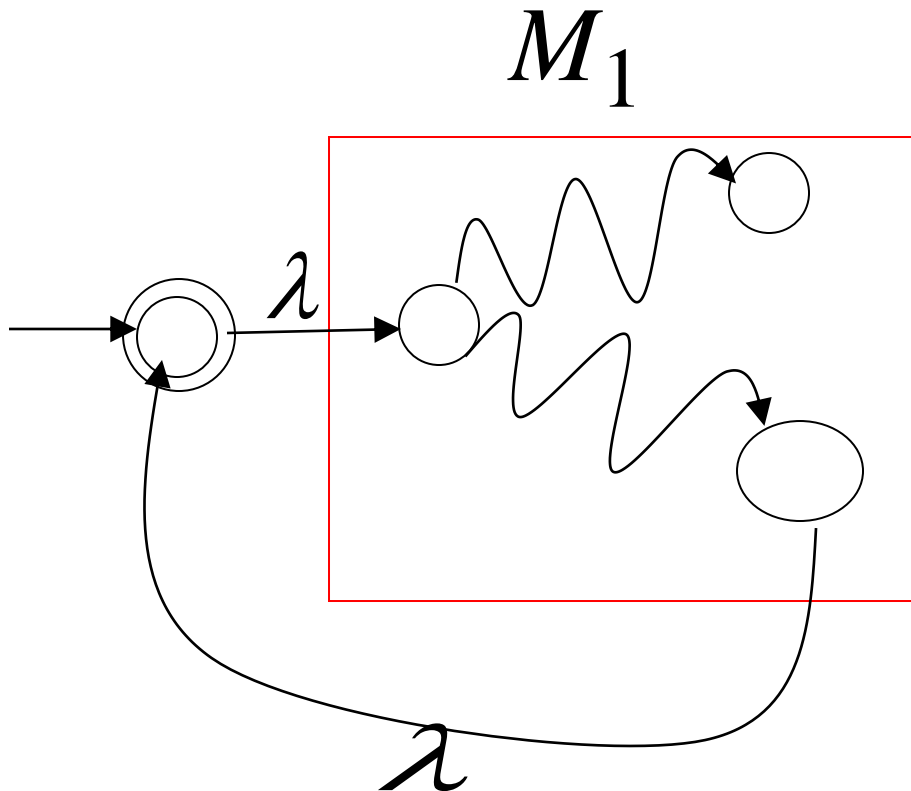
NFA for  $r_1^*$



# Star Operation

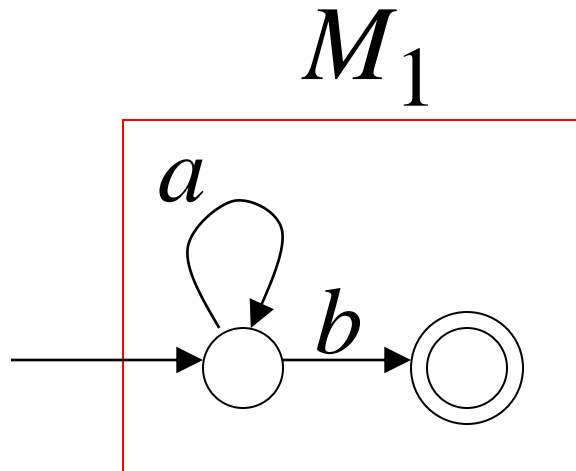
$r_1$

NFA for  $r_1^*$

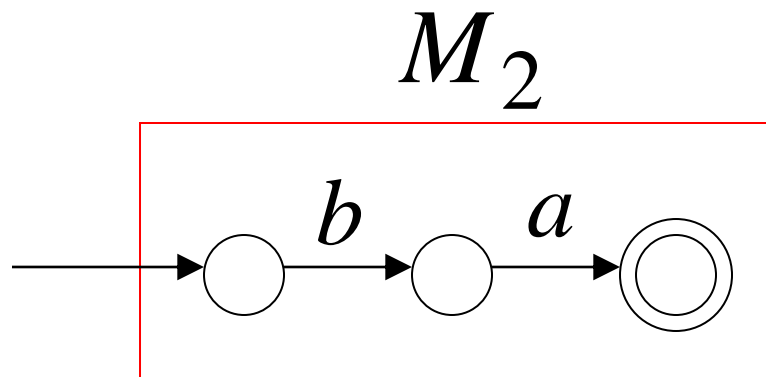


# Example

$$r_1 = (a^*b)$$



$$r_2 = (ba)$$

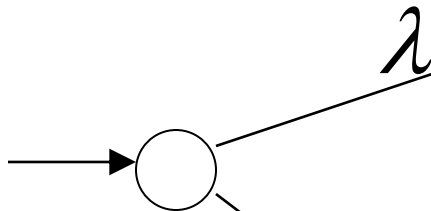
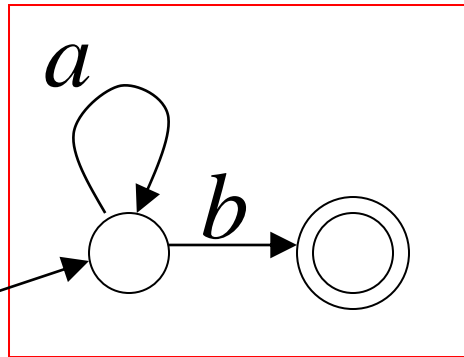


# Example

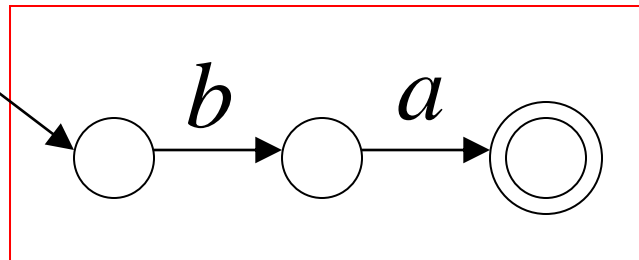
NFA for

$$r_1 + r_2 = (a^*b) + (ba)$$

$$L_1 = \{a^n b\} \quad r_1 = (a^*b)$$



$$L_2 = \{ba\} \quad r_2 = (ba)$$



# Example

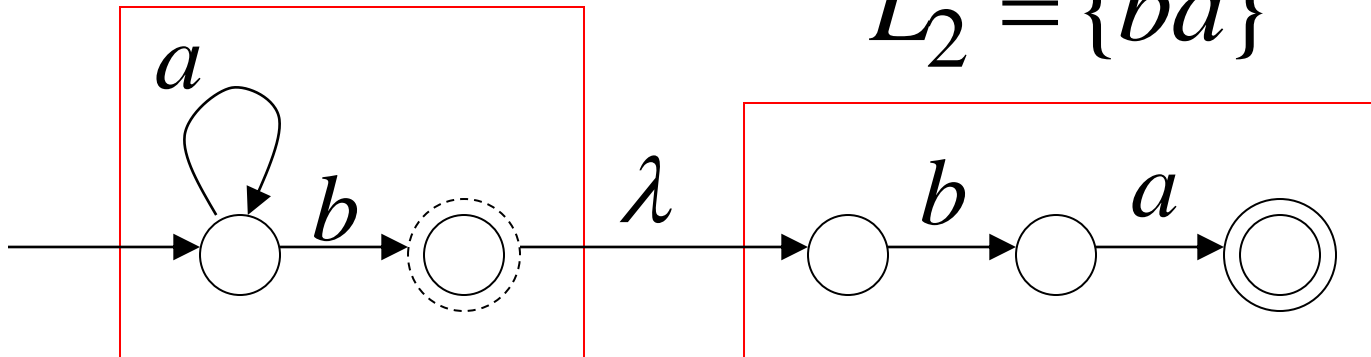
NFA for  $r_1 r_2 = (a^* b)(ba) = (a^* bba)$

$$r_1 = (a^* b)$$

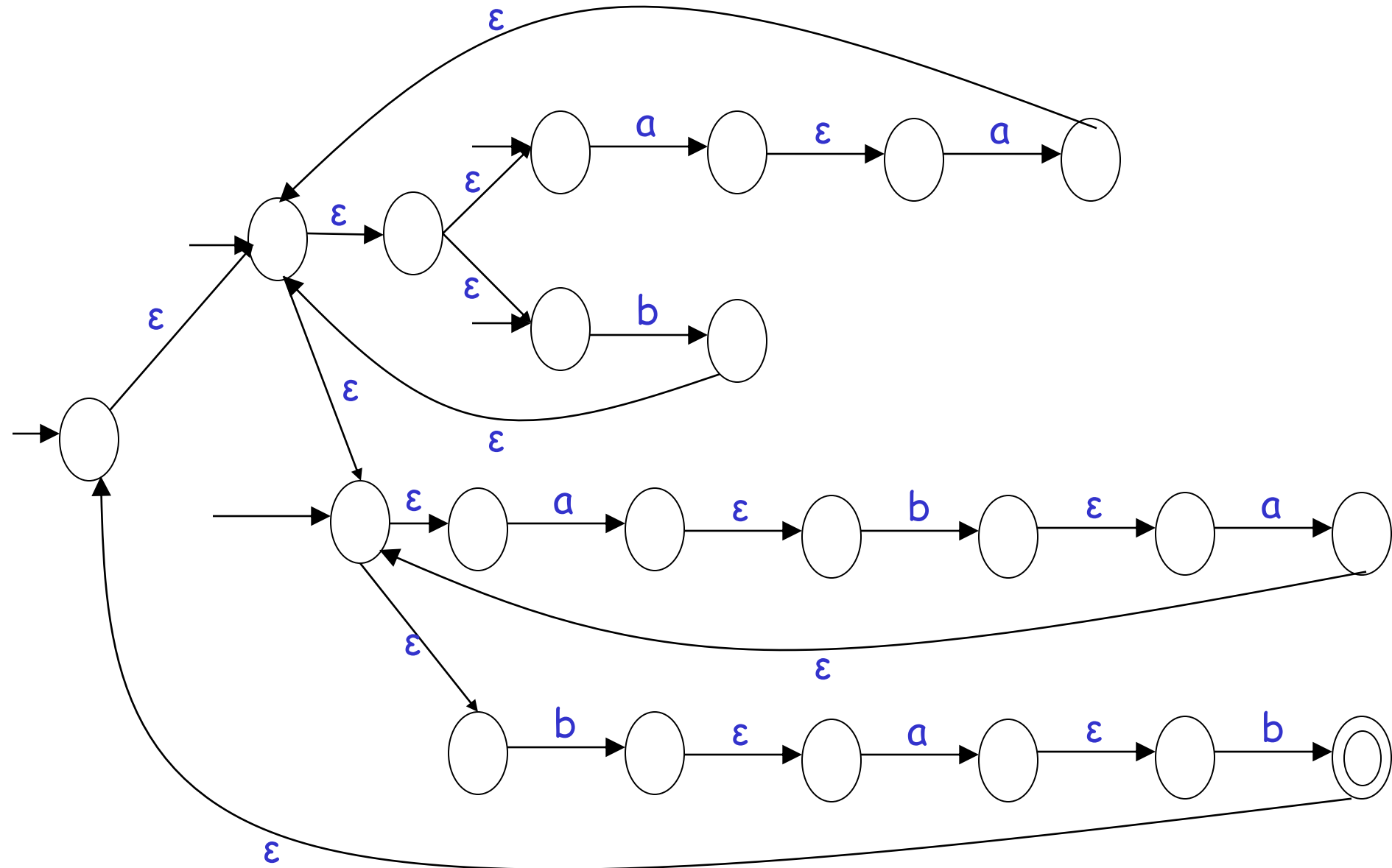
$$L_1 = \{a^n b\}$$

$$r_2 = (ba)$$

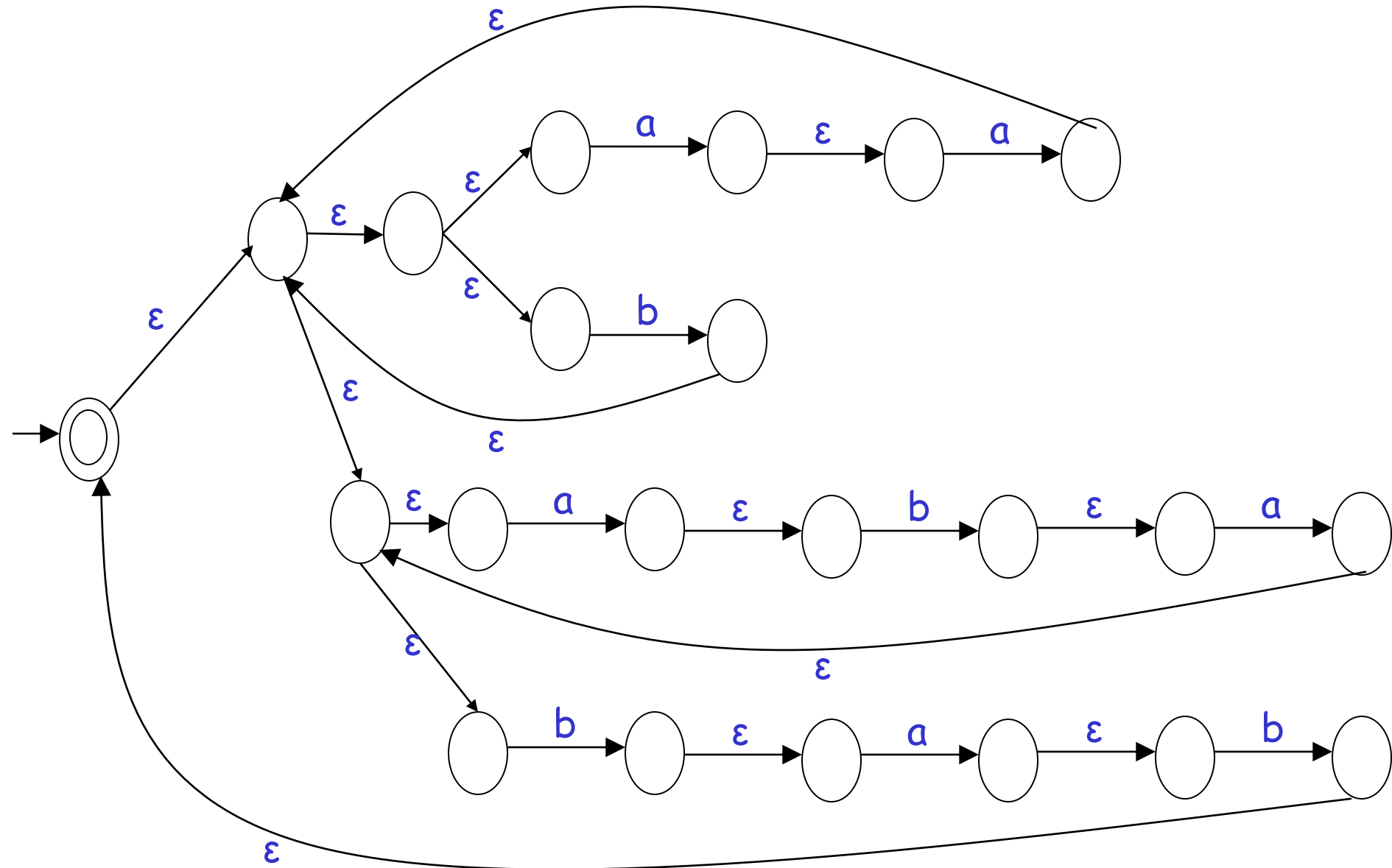
$$L_2 = \{ba\}$$



- An NFA Corresponding to  $((aa + b)^*(aba)^*bab)^*$



- An NFA Corresponding to  $((aa + b)^*(aba)^*bab)^*$



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# Review

- Regular Expression
- Construction of RE from Language
- Construction of Language from RE
- Equivalence in RE and RL
- Conversion of RE to RL (FSM)

# Problems

- Construct an NFA with null-moves, which accepts the language defined by:
- $((0 + 1)^* 10 + (00)^* (11)^*)^*$
- $01[((10)^+ + 111)^* + 0]^* 1$
- $(a / b)^* ab.$

# Problems

- Construct DFA for the R.E  $10 + (0 + 11)$
- Construct DFA for regular expression  $(0 + 1)^* (00 + 11)$

## Proof - Part 2

$$\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Languages} \\ \text{Generated by} \\ \text{Regular Expressions} \end{array} \right\} \supseteq \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Regular} \\ \text{Languages} \end{array} \right\}$$

For any regular language  $L$  there is  
a regular expression  $r$  with  $L(r) = L$

We will convert an NFA that accepts  $L$   
to a regular expression

# Arden's Theorem

In order to find out a regular expression of a Finite Automaton, we use Arden's Theorem along with the properties of regular expressions.

## *Statement –*

Let  $P$ ,  $Q$  and  $R$  be the regular expressions.

If  $P$  does not contain null string, then

$R = Q + RP$  has a unique solution that is

$$R = QP^*$$

**Proof –**

$$R = Q + (Q + RP)P \quad [\text{After putting the value } R = Q + RP] \\ = Q + QP + RPP$$

When we put the value of  $R$  recursively again and again, we get the following equation –

$$R = Q + QP + QP^2 + QP^3 \dots$$

$$R = Q (\varepsilon + P + P^2 + P^3 + \dots)$$

$$R = QP^* \quad [\text{As } P^* \text{ represents } (\varepsilon + P + P^2 + P^3 + \dots)]$$

Hence, proved.

# Assumptions for Applying Arden's Theorem

- The transition diagram must not have NULL transitions



# Method

**Step 1** – Create equations as the following form for all the states of the DFA having  $n$  states with initial state  $q_1$  (on incoming edges only and add  $\varepsilon$  to the initial state ).

$$q_1 = q_1 R_{11} + q_2 R_{21} + \dots + q_n R_{n1} + \varepsilon$$

$$q_2 = q_1 R_{12} + q_2 R_{22} + \dots + q_n R_{n2}$$

.....

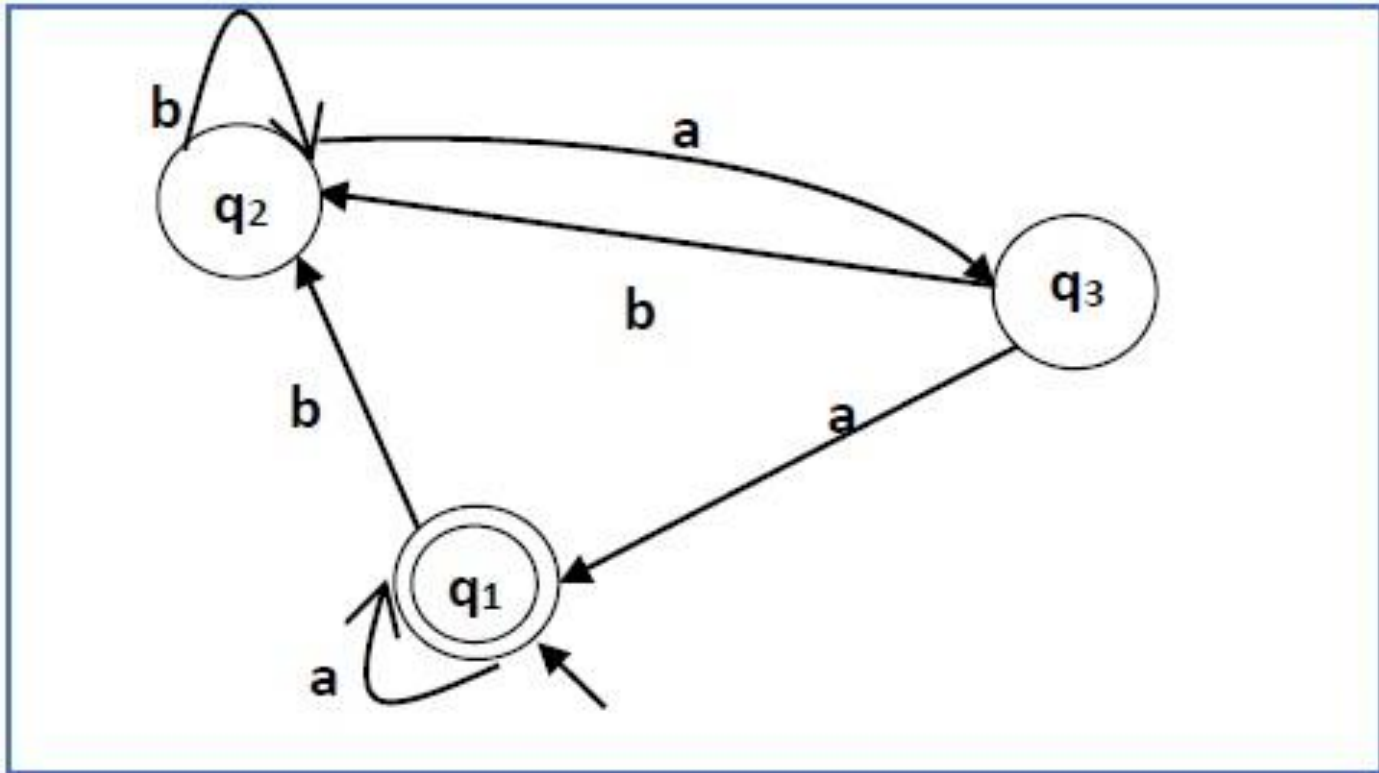
$$q_n = q_1 R_{1n} + q_2 R_{2n} + \dots + q_n R_{nn}$$

$R_{ij}$  represents the set of labels of edges from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$ , if no such edge exists, then  $R_{ij} = \emptyset$

**Step 2** – Solve these equations to get the equation for the final state in terms of  $R_{ij}$

## Problem

Construct a regular expression corresponding to the automata given below:



## Solution –

Here the initial state is  $q_2$  and the final state is  $q_1$ .

The equations for the three states  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ , and  $q_3$  are as follows –

$$q_1 = q_1a + q_3a + \varepsilon \quad (\varepsilon \text{ move is because } q_1 \text{ is the initial state})$$

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2b + q_3b$$

$$q_3 = q_2a$$

Now, we will solve these three equations –

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2b + q_3b$$

$$= q_1b + q_2b + (q_2a)b \quad (\text{Substituting value of } q_3)$$

$$= q_1b + q_2(b + ab)$$

$$= q_1b (b + ab)^* \quad (\text{Applying Arden's Theorem})$$

$$q_1 = q_1a + q_3a + \varepsilon$$

$$= q_1a + q_2aa + \varepsilon \quad (\text{Substituting value of } q_3)$$

$$= q_1a + q_1b(b + ab^*)aa + \varepsilon \quad (\text{Substituting value of } q_2)$$

$$= q_1(a + b(b + ab)^*aa) + \varepsilon$$

$$= \varepsilon (a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*$$

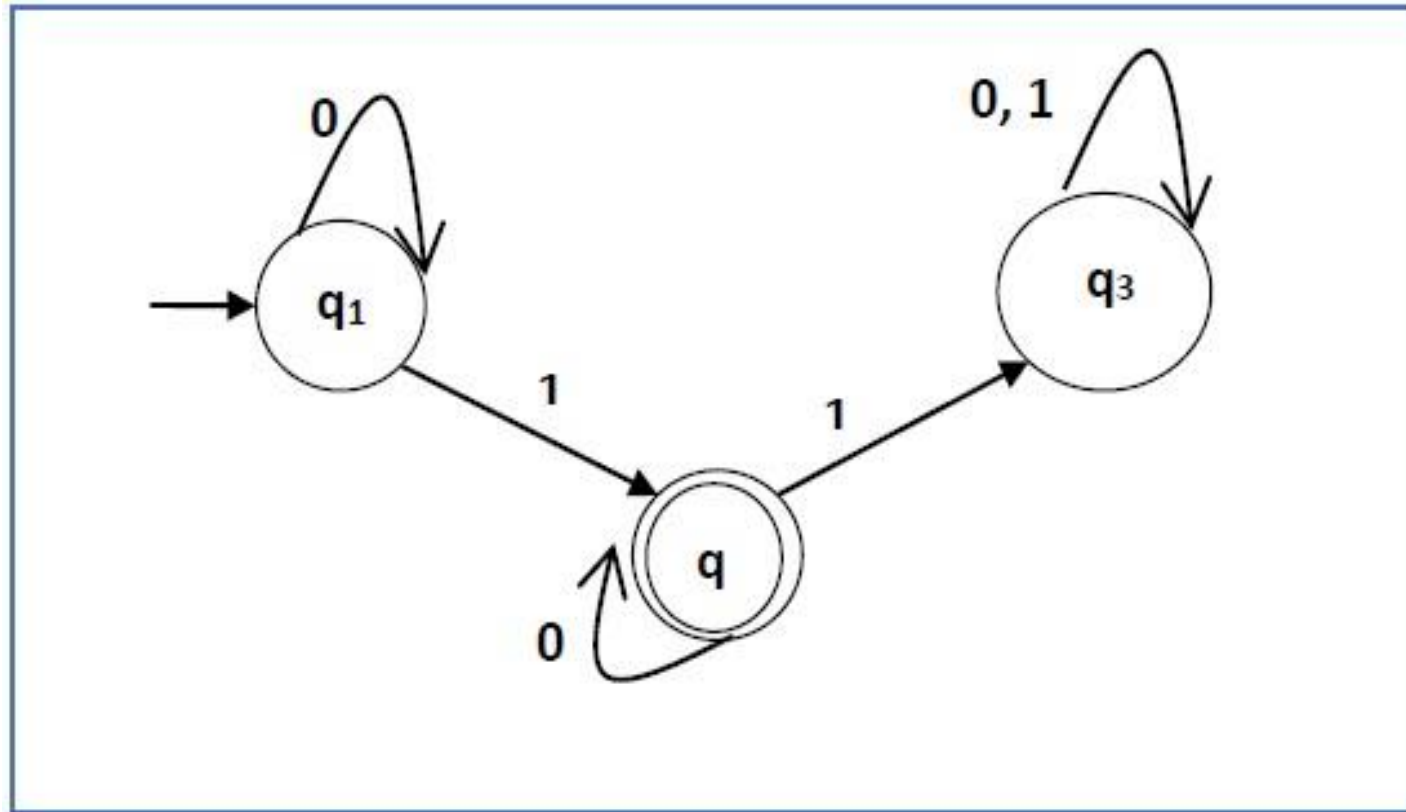
$$= (a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*$$

Hence, the regular expression is

$$(a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*.$$

## Problem

Construct a regular expression corresponding to the automata given below:



## Solution -

Here the initial state is  $q_1$  and the final state is  $q_2$

Now we write down the equations -

$$q_1 = q_1 0 + \varepsilon$$

$$q_2 = q_1 1 + q_2 0$$

$$q_3 = q_2 1 + q_3 0 + q_3 1$$

Now, we will solve these three equations -

$$q_1 = \varepsilon 0^* \quad [As, \varepsilon R = R]$$

$$So, \quad q_1 = 0^*$$

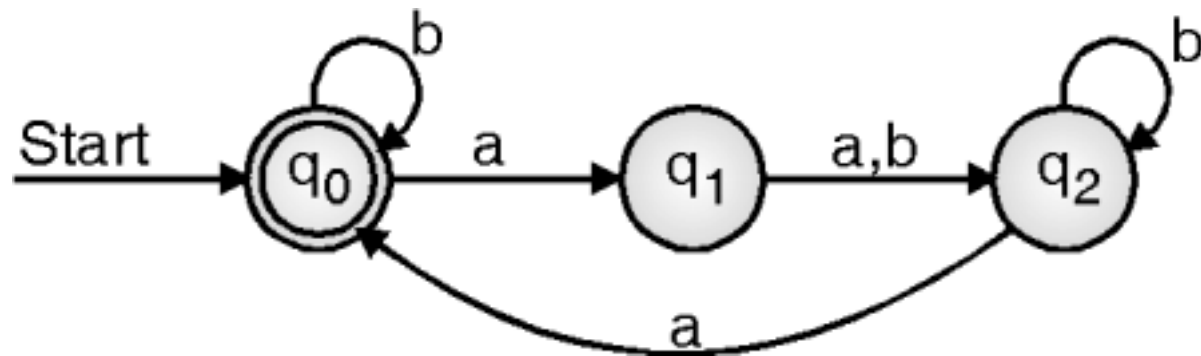
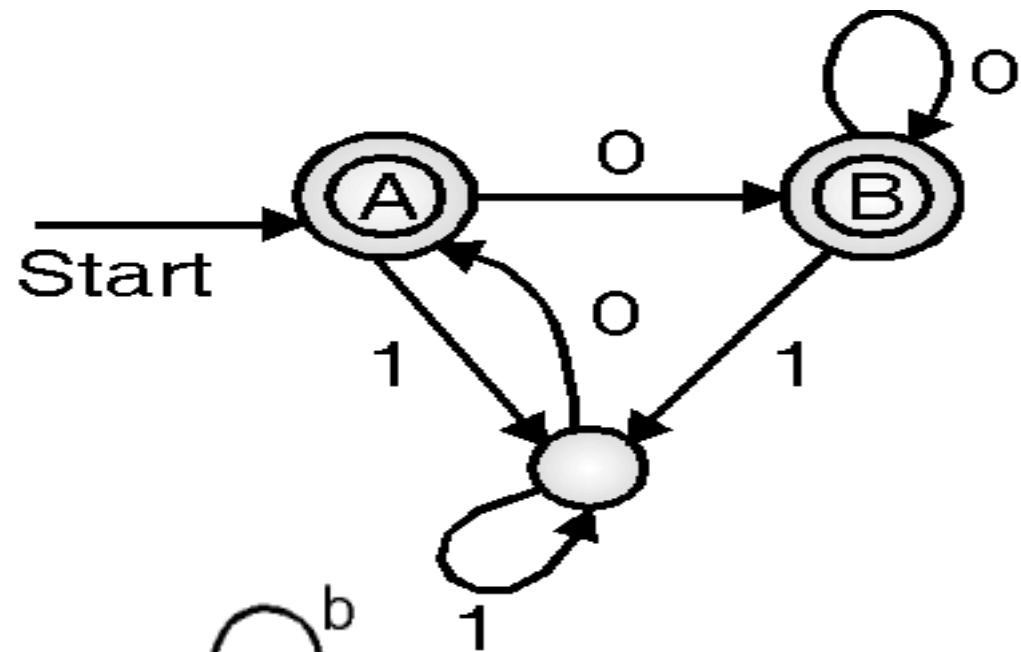
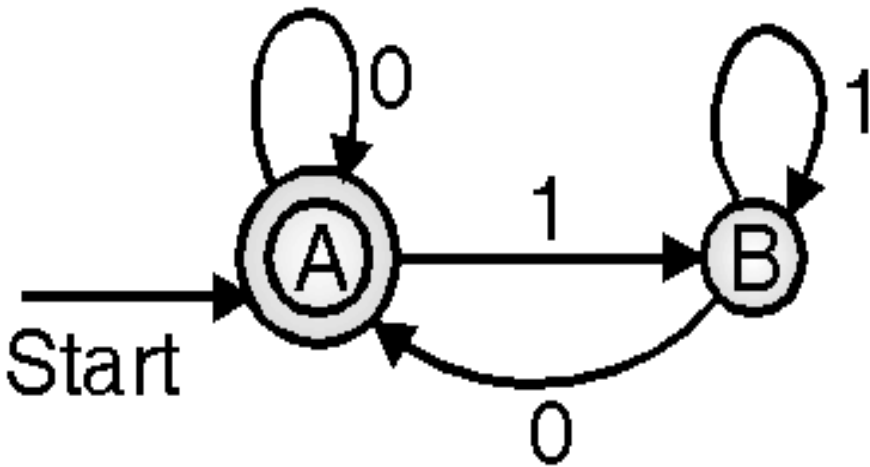
$$q_2 = 0^* 1 + q_2 0$$

$$So, \quad q_2 = 0^* 1 (0)^* \quad [By Arden's theorem]$$

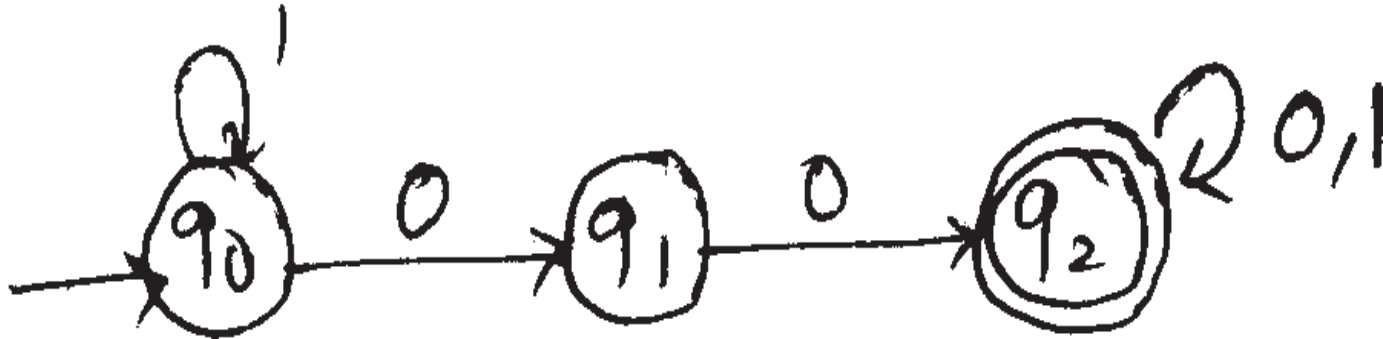
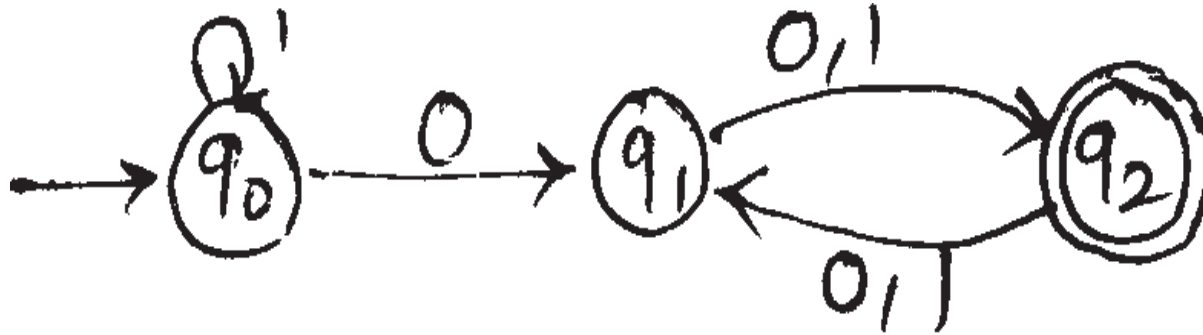
Hence, the regular expression is

$$0^* 1 0^*.$$

- Construct the regular expressions for the following DFAs:

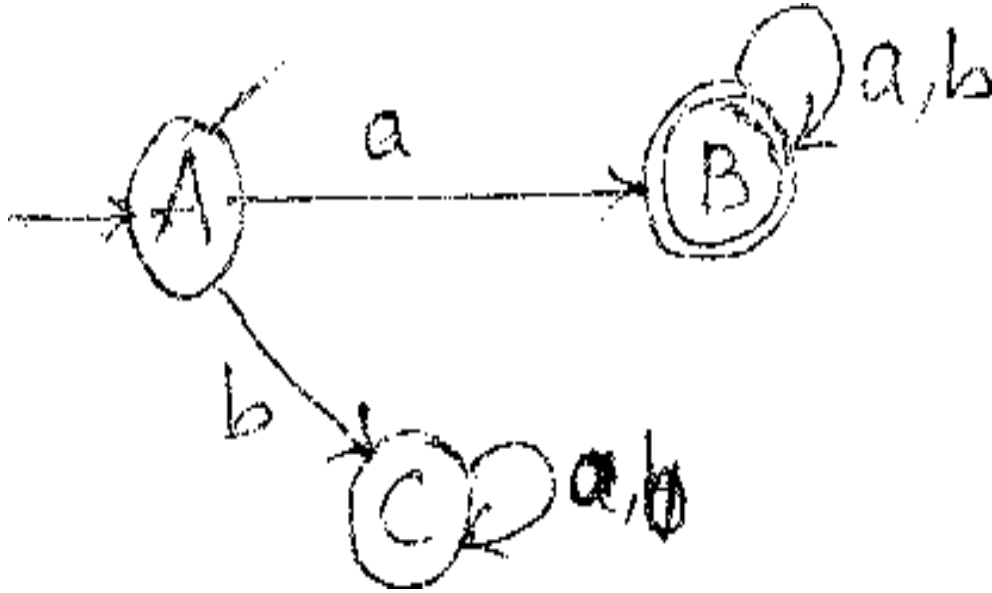


Find the regular expression for the following .  
(Nov-2017 4 Marks)



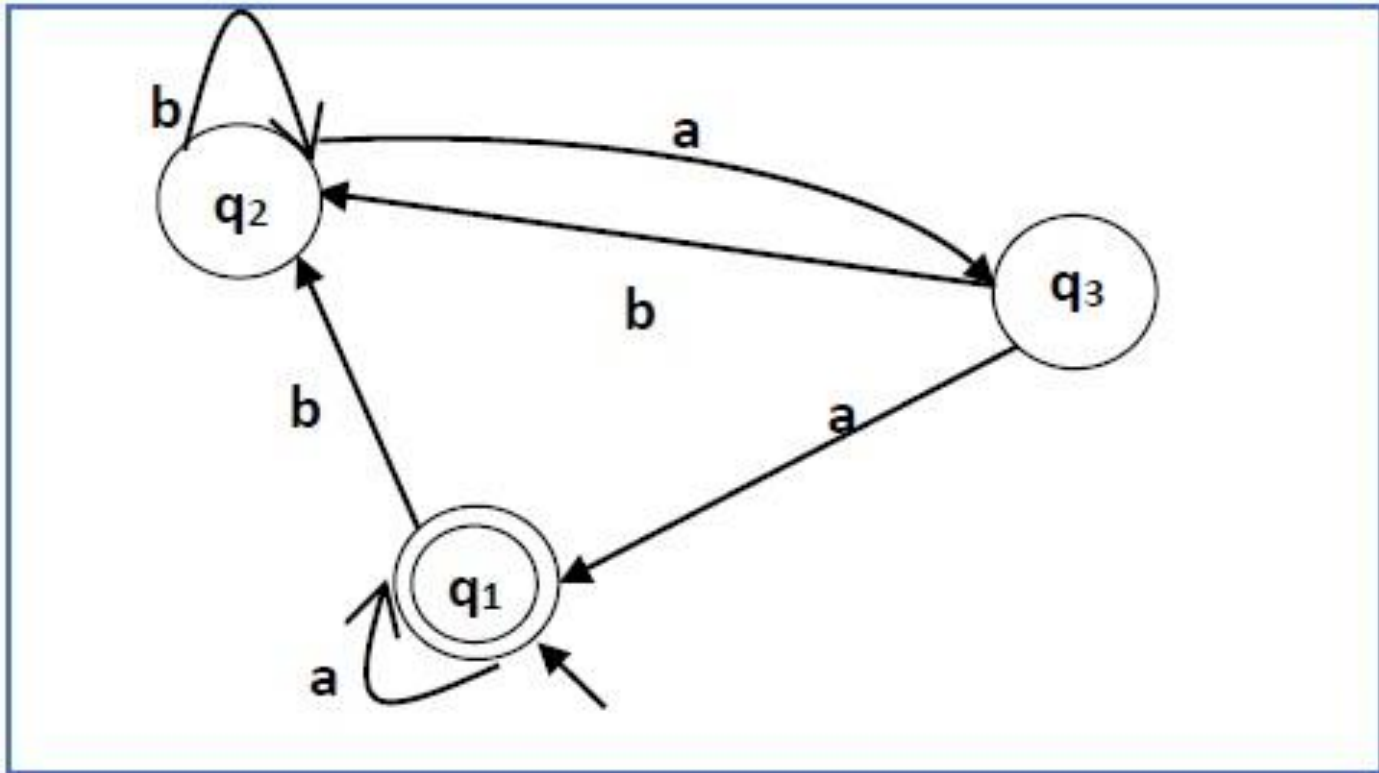


Construct Regular Expression for the following transition diagram using Arden's theorem. (Nov 2014 4 Marks)



## Problem

Construct a regular expression corresponding to the automata given below:



$$q_1 = q_1a + q_3a + \varepsilon$$

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2b + q_3b$$

$$q_3 = q_2a$$

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2b + q_3b$$

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2b + q_2ab$$

$$q_2 = q_1b + q_2(b + ab) \dots \dots \dots (R=Q+RP)$$

$$q_2 = q_1b(b + ab)^* \dots \dots \dots (R=QP^*)$$

$$q_1 = q_1a + q_3a + \varepsilon$$

$$= q_1a + q_2aa + \varepsilon \quad \text{(Substituting value of } q_3)$$

$$= q_1a + q_1b(b + ab^*)aa + \varepsilon \quad \text{(Substituting value of } q_2)$$

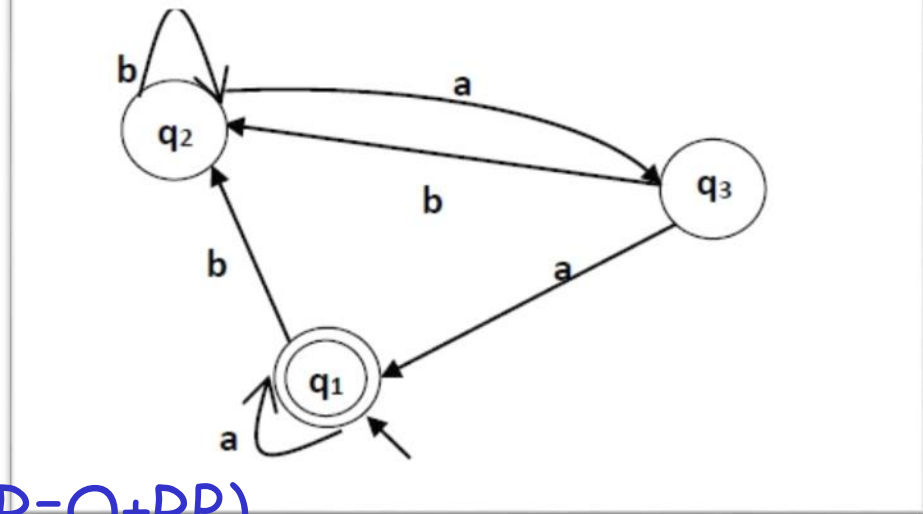
$$= q_1(a + b(b + ab)^*aa) + \varepsilon$$

$$= \varepsilon (a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*$$

$$= (a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*$$

Hence, the regular expression is

$$(a + b(b + ab)^*aa)^*.$$



# Regular Languages: *Grand Unification*

$$\begin{aligned} L(NFA - \lambda_s) &= L(NFAs) \\ &= L(DFAs) \end{aligned}$$



$$L(FA) = L(RE)$$

(Parallel Simulation)  
(Rabin and Scott's work)

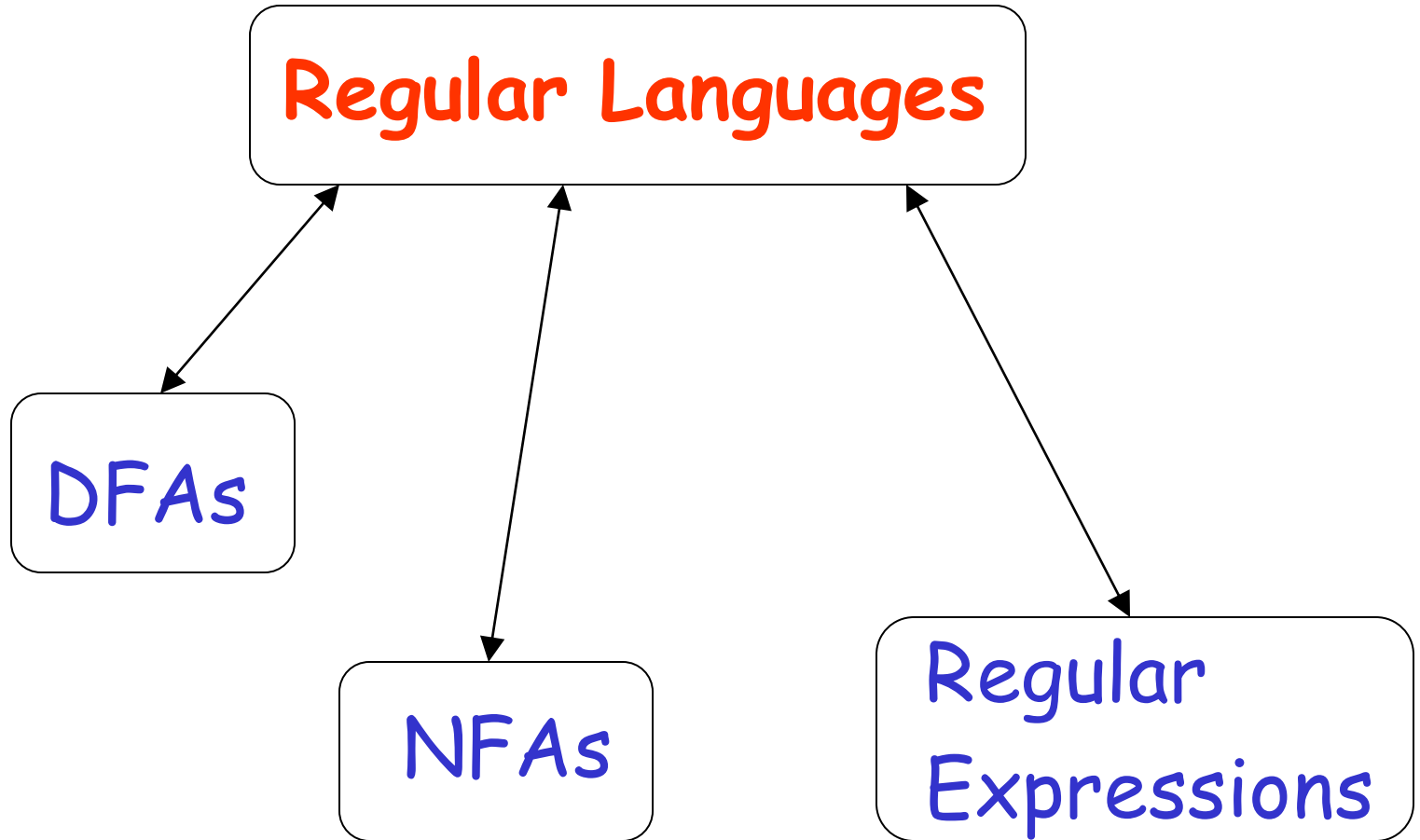
(Collapsing graphs;  
Structural Induction)  
(S. Kleene's work)

$$L(FA) = L(RG)$$

$$L(RG) = L(RE)$$

(Construction)  
(Solving linear  
equations) study later

# Standard Representations of Regular Languages



When we say: We are given  
a Regular Language  $L$

We mean: Language  $L$  is in a standard  
representation

(DFA, NFA, or Regular Expression)

Non-regular languages

$$\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$\{vv^R : v \in \{a,b\}^*\}$$

Regular languages

$$a^*b$$

$$b^*c + a$$

$$b + c(a + b)^*$$

*etc...*

# Non-regular languages

(Pumping Lemma)

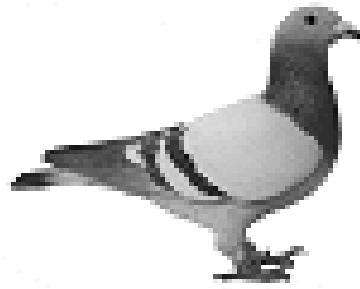


How can we prove that a language  $L$  is not regular?

Prove that there is no DFA or NFA or RE that accepts  $L$

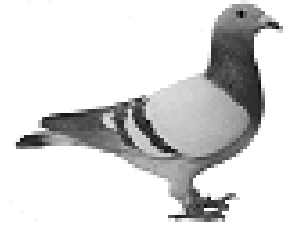
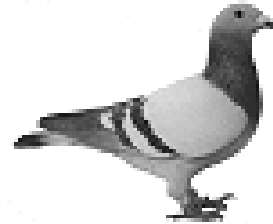
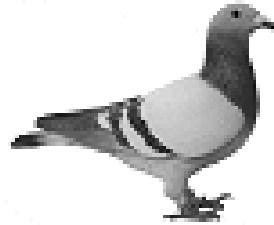
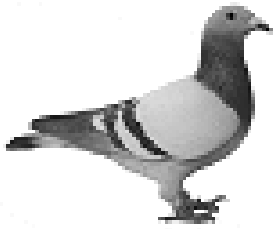
**Difficulty:** this is not easy to prove  
(since there is an infinite number of them)

**Solution:** use the Pumping Lemma !!!

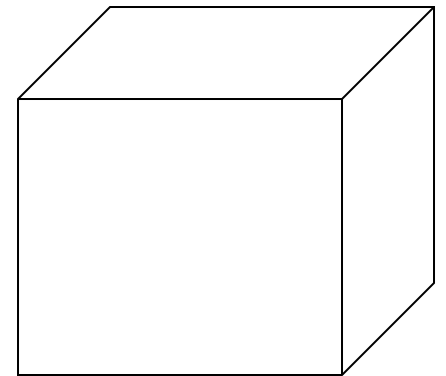
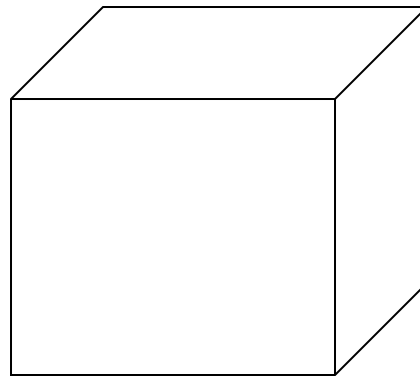
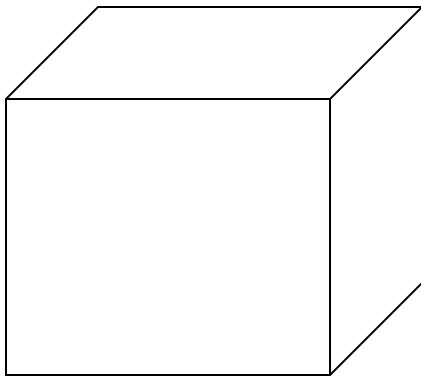


# The Pigeonhole Principle

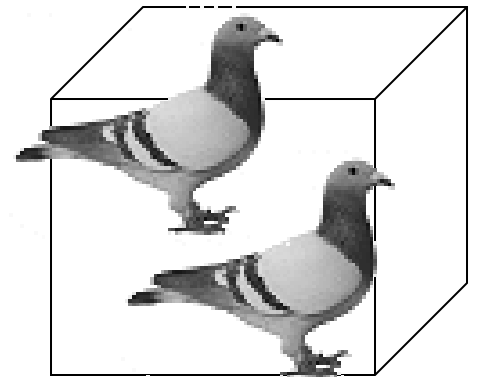
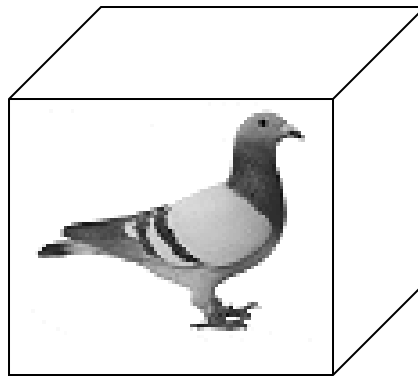
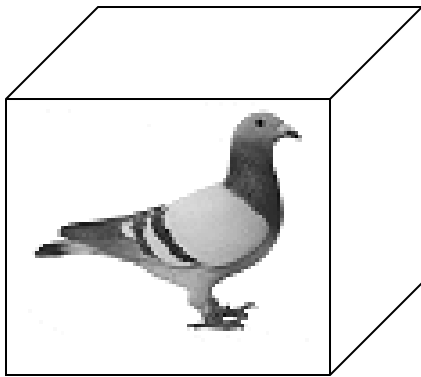
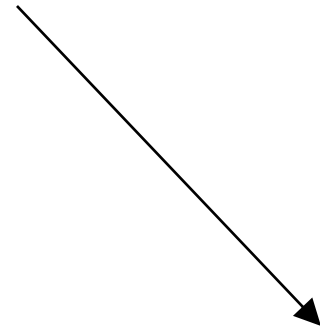
4 pigeons



3 pigeonholes



A pigeonhole must  
contain at least two pigeons



$n$  pigeons

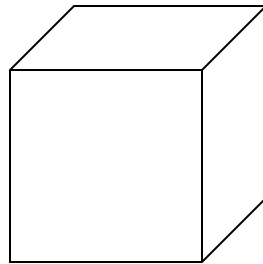
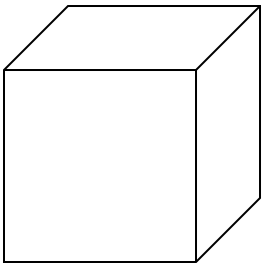


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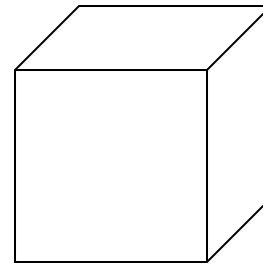


$m$  pigeonholes

$n > m$



.....



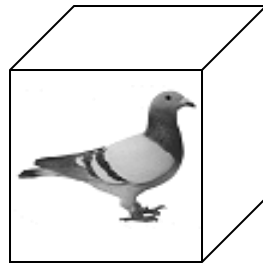
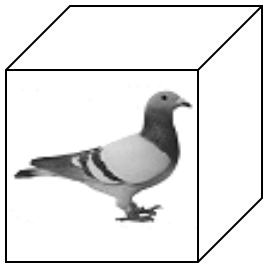
# The Pigeonhole Principle

$n$  pigeons

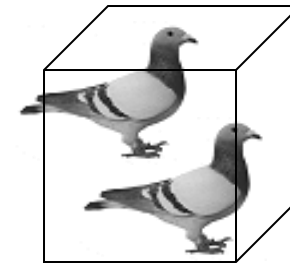
$m$  pigeonholes

$$n > m$$

There is a pigeonhole  
with at least 2 pigeons



.....

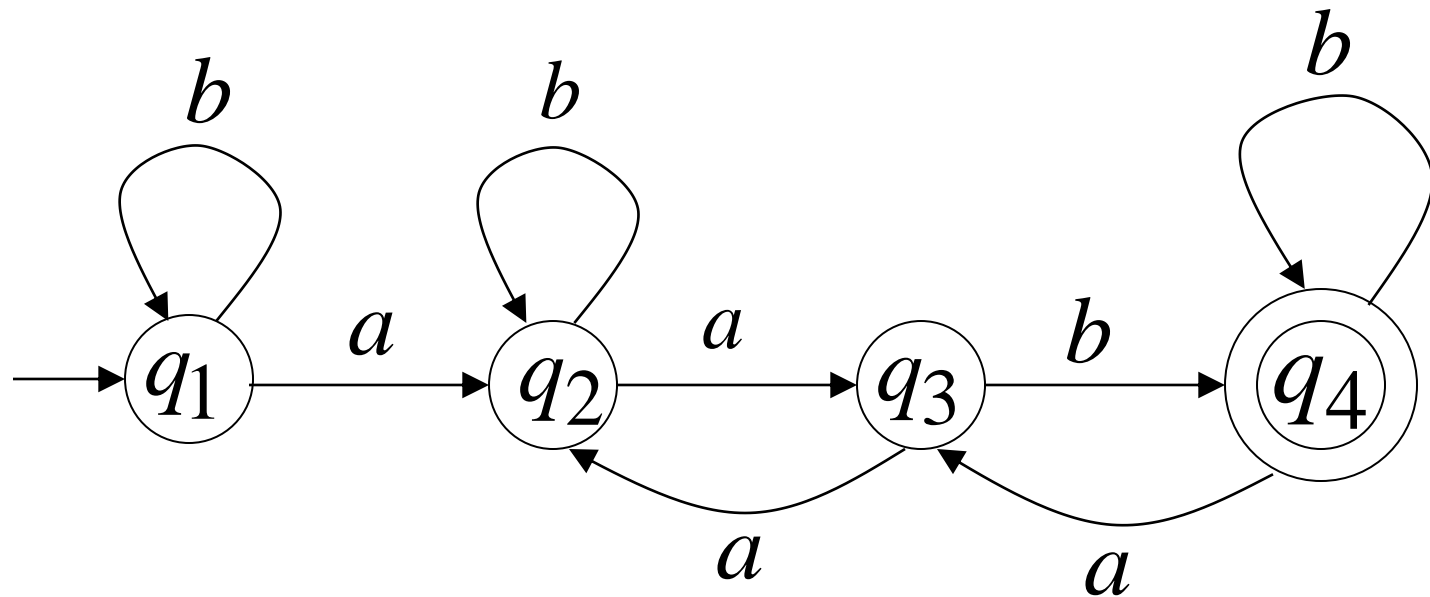


# The Pigeonhole Principle

and

DFAs

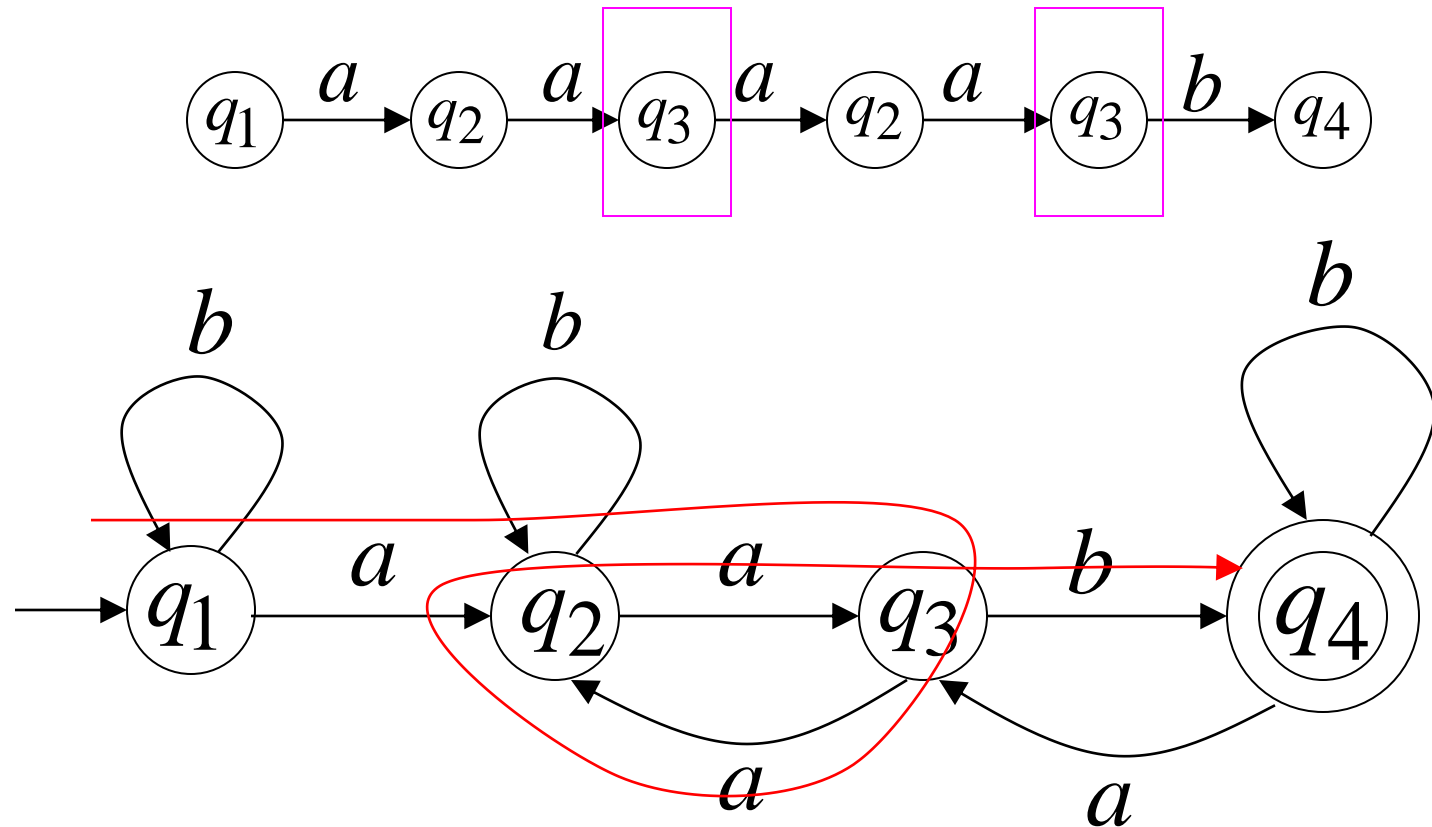
Consider a DFA with 4 states





Consider the walk of a “long” string:  $aaaaab$   
(length at least 4)

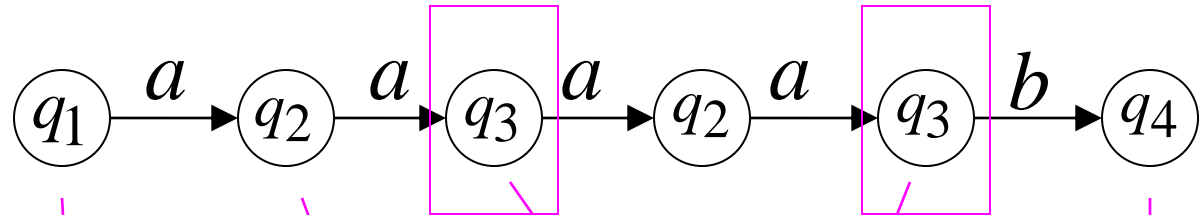
A state is repeated in the walk of  $aaaaab$



The state is repeated as a result of the pigeonhole principle

Walk of  $aaaaab$

Pigeons:  
(walk states)



Are more than

Nests:  
(Automaton states)

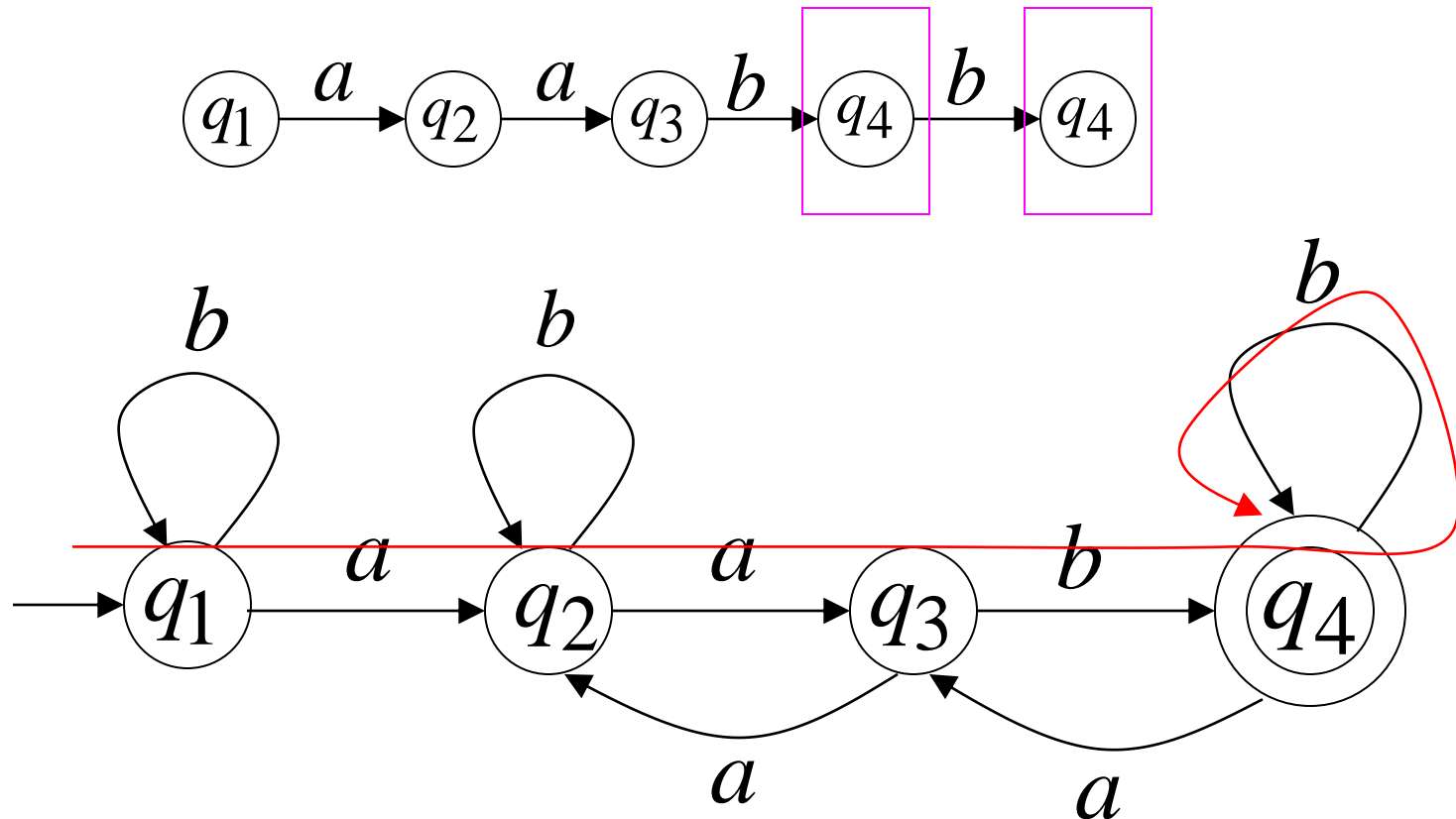


Repeated  
state

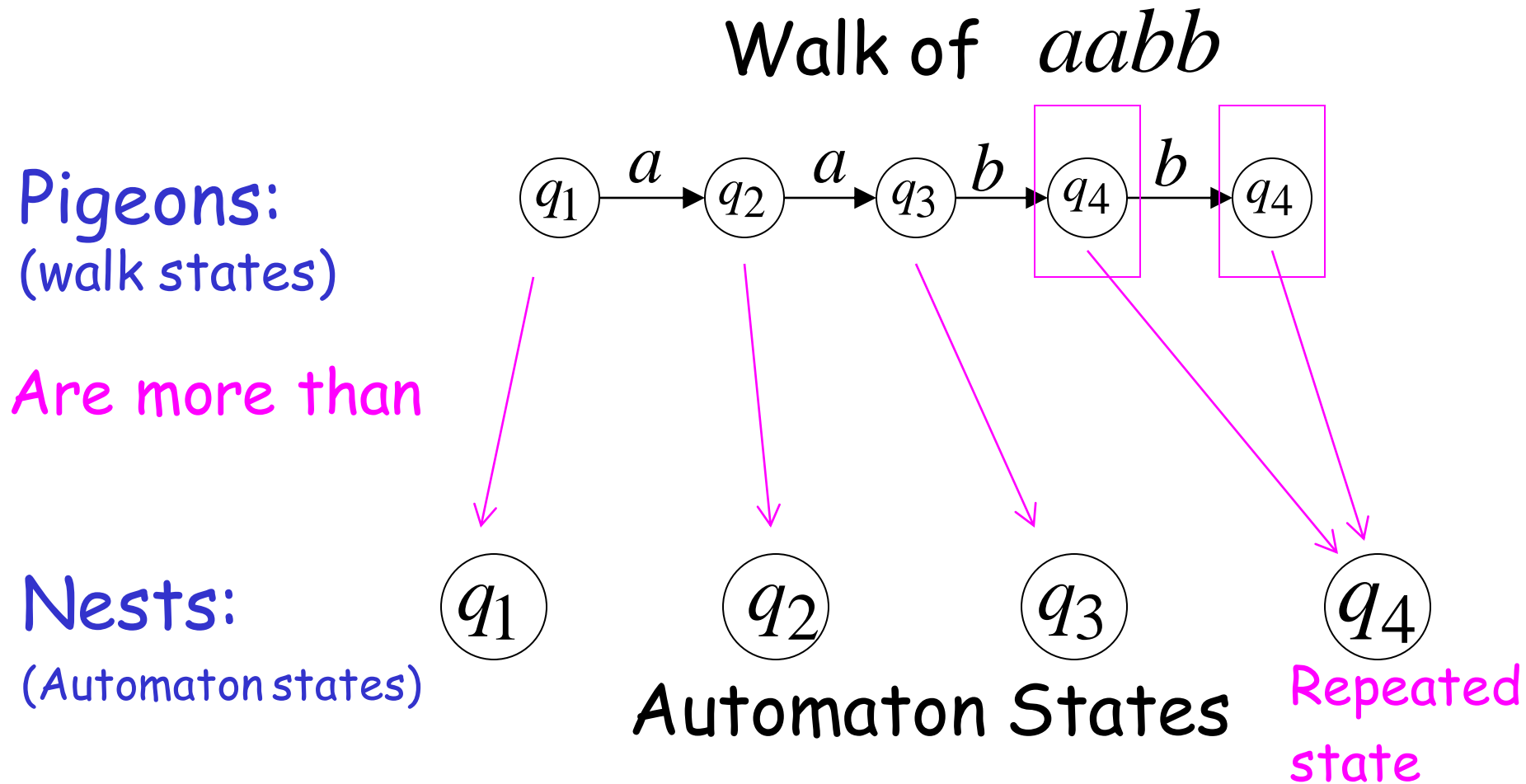
Consider the walk of a “long” string:  $aabb$   
(length at least 4)

Due to the pigeonhole principle:

A state is repeated in the walk of  $aabb$

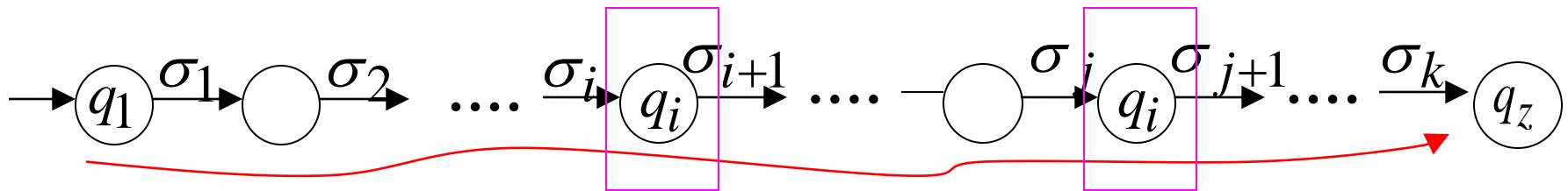


The state is repeated as a result of the pigeonhole principle

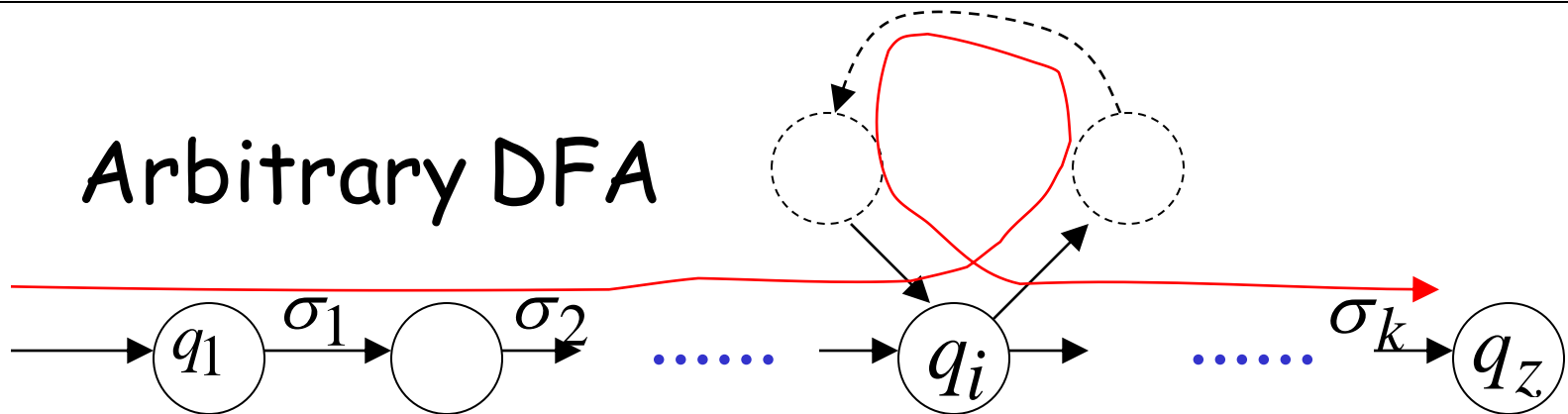


**In General:** If  $|w| \geq \# \text{states of DFA}$ ,  
 by the pigeonhole principle,  
 a state is repeated in the walk  $w$

Walk of  $w = \sigma_1 \sigma_2 \cdots \sigma_k$

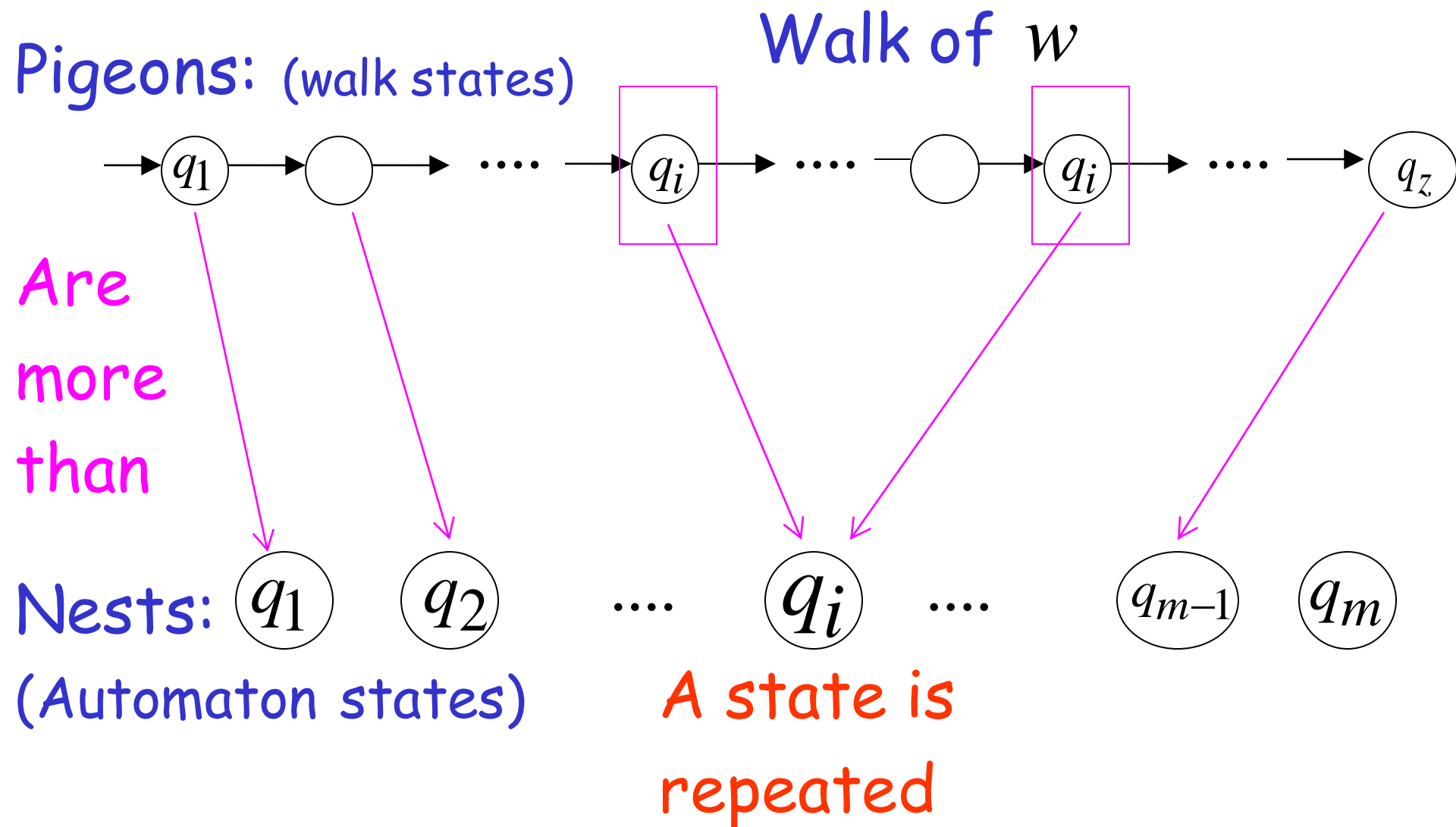


Arbitrary DFA



Repeated state

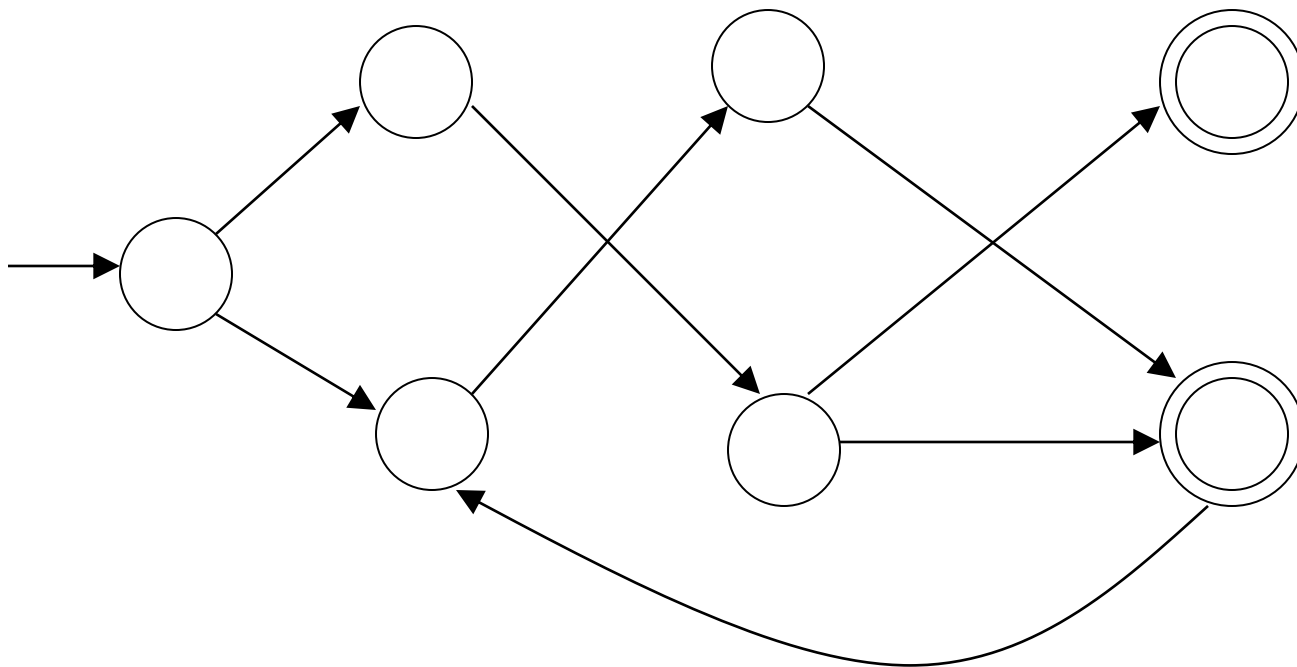
$$|w| \geq \# \text{states of DFA} = m$$



# The Pumping Lemma

Take an **infinite** regular language  $L$   
(contains an infinite number of strings)

There exists a DFA that accepts  $L$



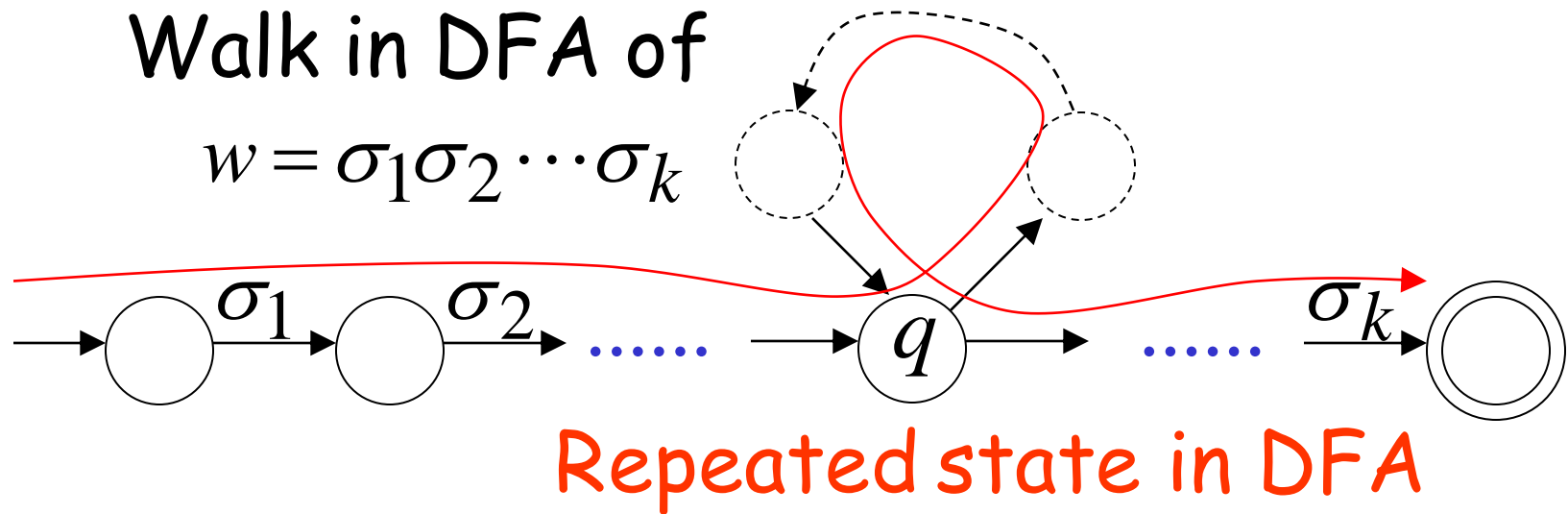
$m$   
states



Take string  $w \in L$  with  $|w| \geq m$

(number of  
states of DFA)

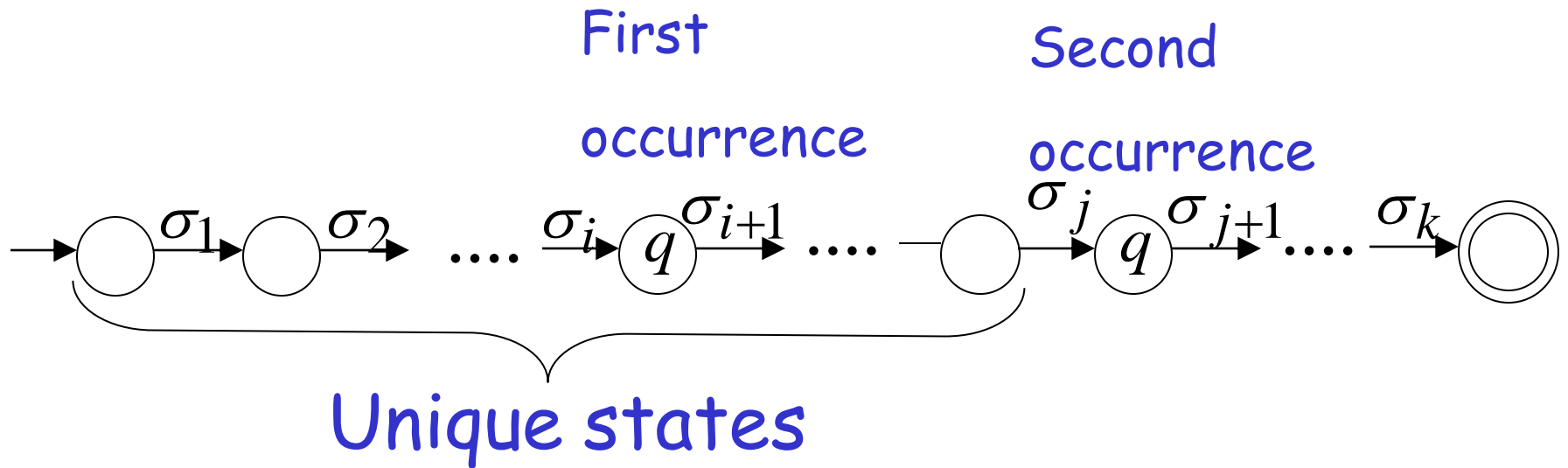
then, at least one state is repeated  
in the walk of  $w$



There could be many states repeated

Take  $q$  to be the first state repeated

One dimensional projection of walk  $w$ :



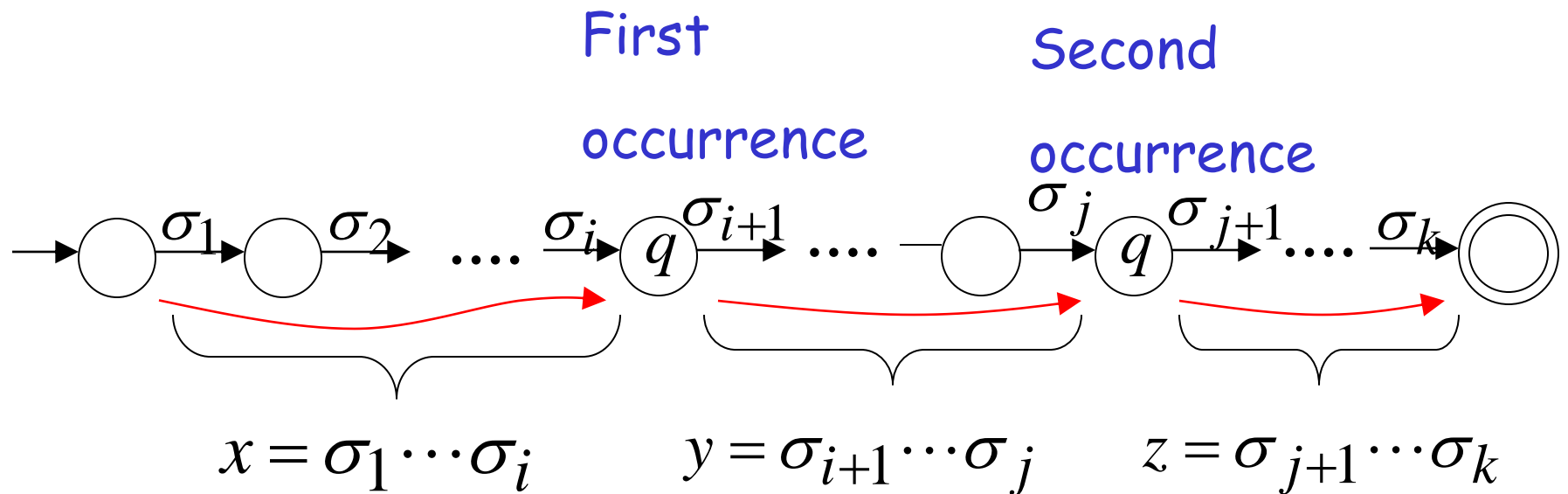
# Non-regular languages

# Pumping Lemma for Regular Languages

- It is a necessary condition.
  - Every regular language satisfies it.
  - If a language violates it, it is not regular.
    - $RL \Rightarrow PL$                        $\text{not } PL \Rightarrow \text{not } RL$
- It is *not* a sufficient condition.
  - Not every non-regular language violates it.
    - $\text{not } RL \Rightarrow ?$   $PL$  or  $\text{not } PL$  (no conclusion)

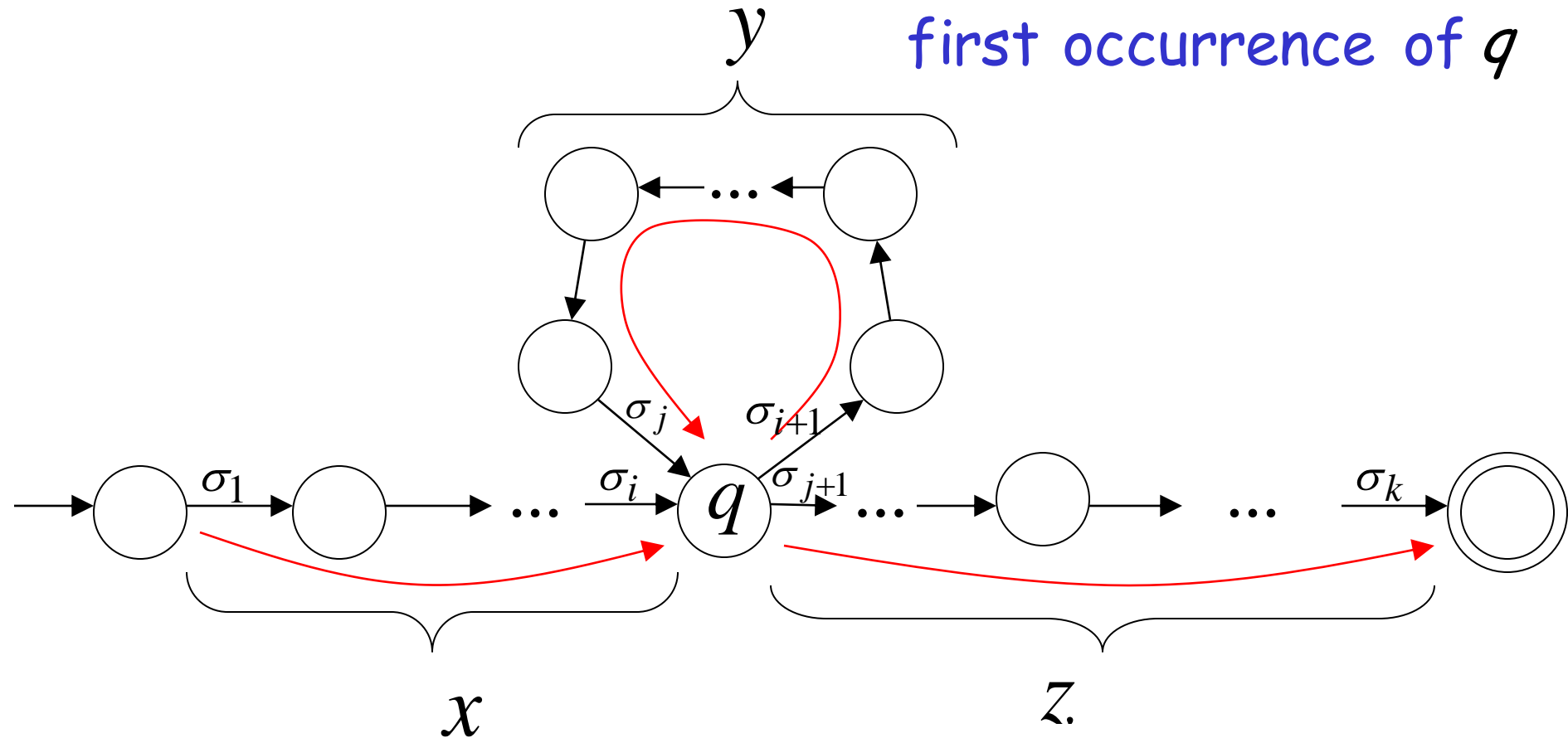
We can write  $w = xyz$

One dimensional projection of walk  $w$ :

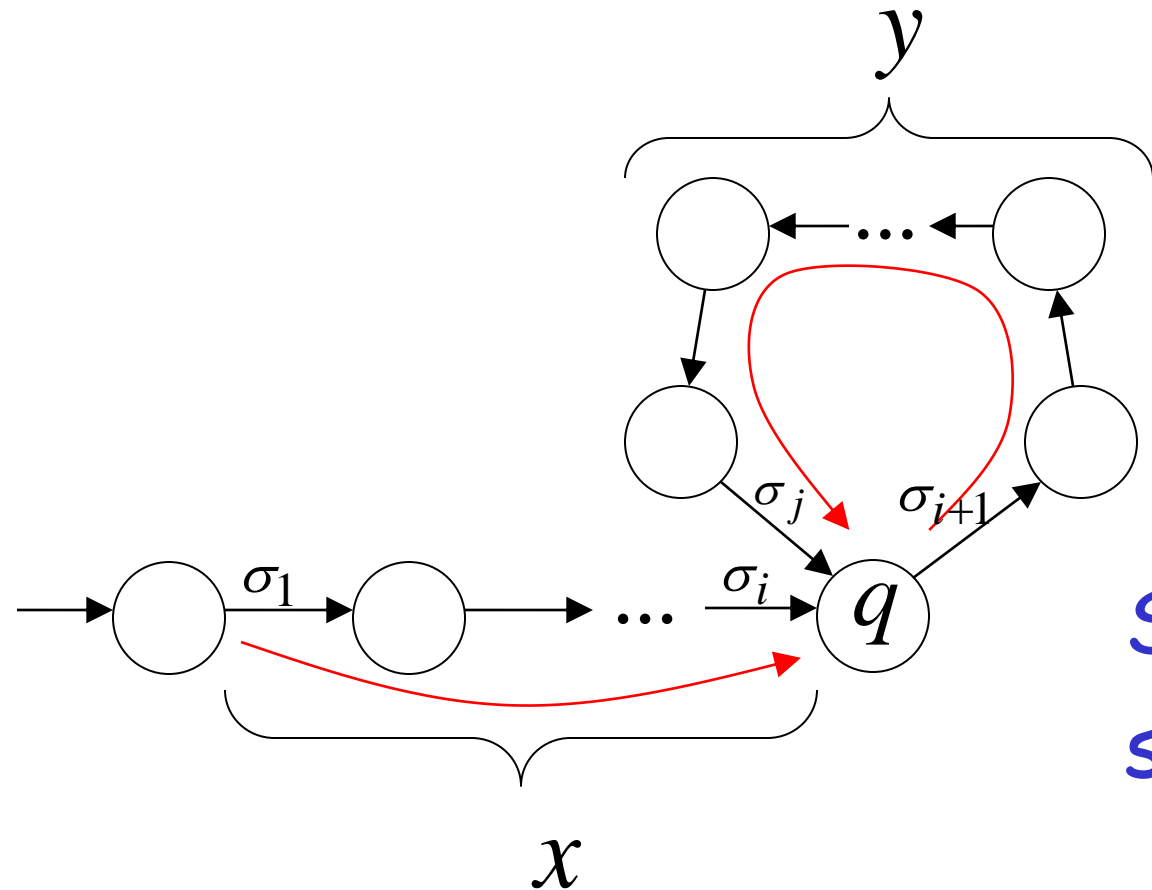


In DFA:  $w = x y z$

contains only  
first occurrence of  $q$



Observation:  $\text{length } |xy| \leq m$  number of states of DFA

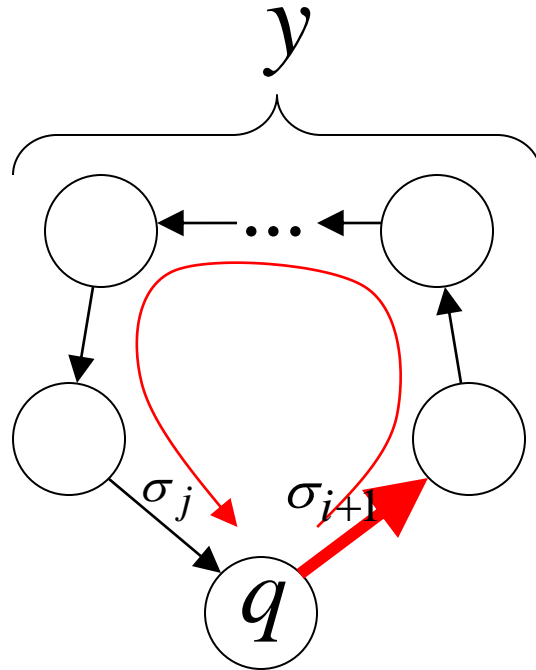


Unique States

Since, in  $xy$  no state is repeated (except  $q$ )

Observation:  $\text{length } |y| \geq 1$

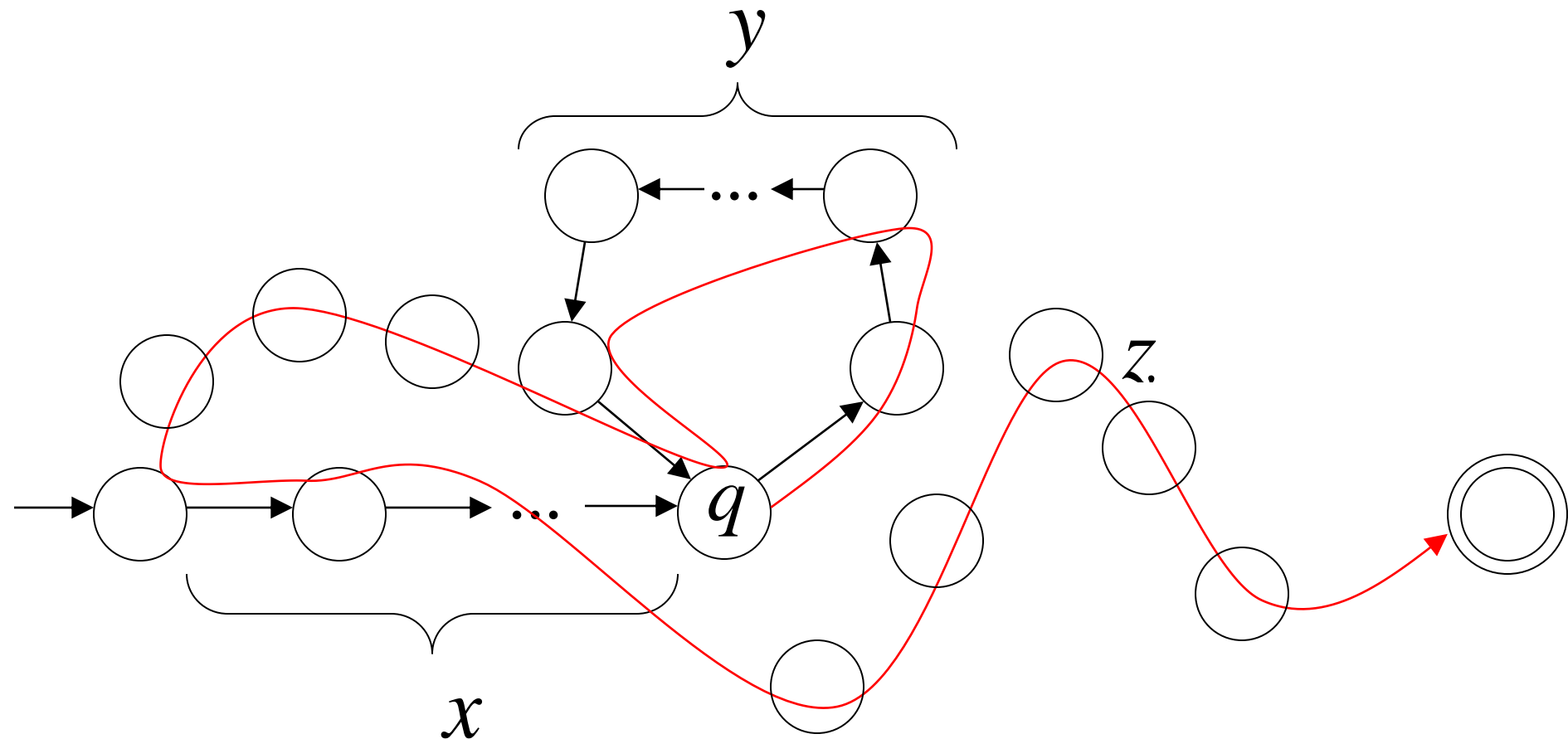
Since there is at least one transition in loop





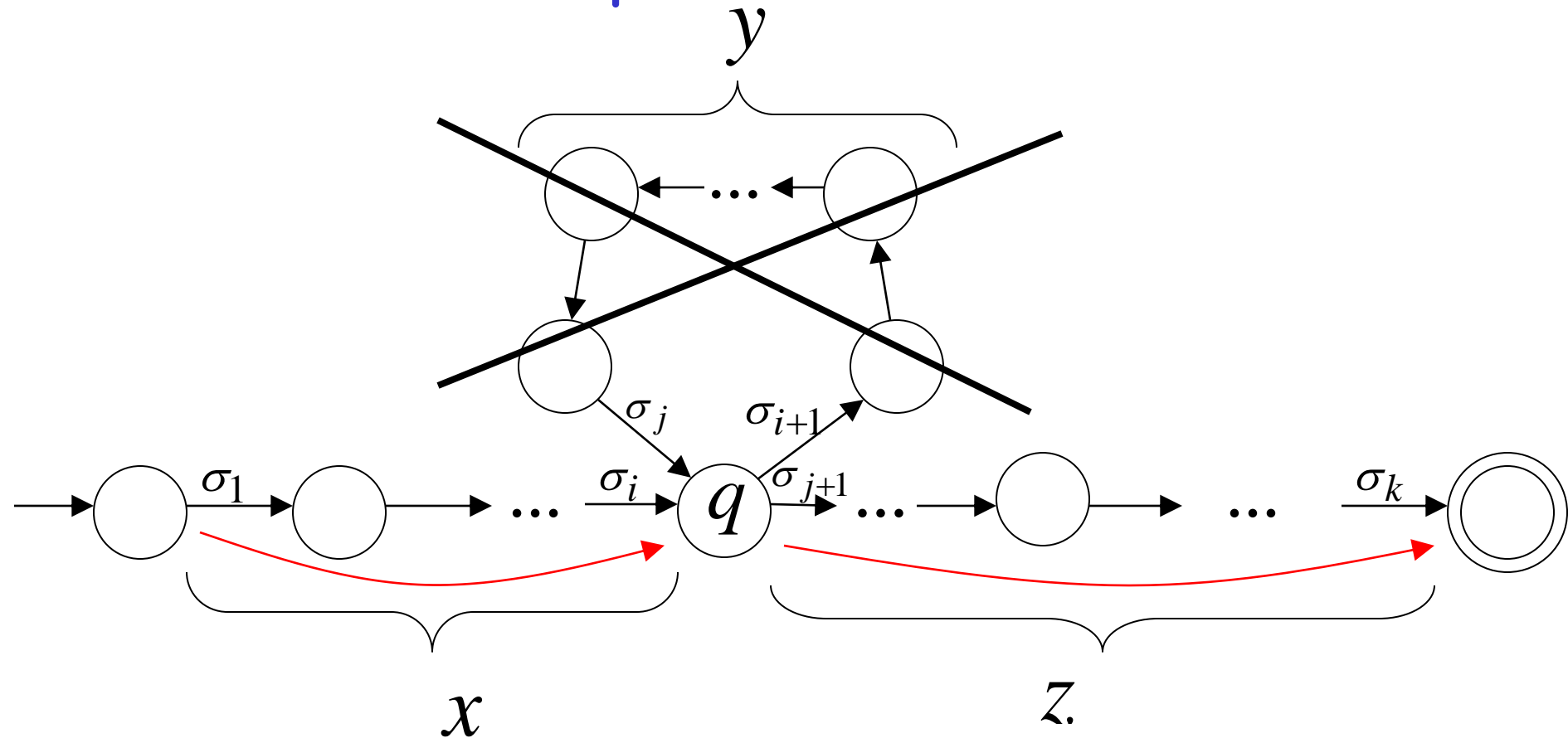
We do not care about the form of string  $z$ .

$z$  may actually overlap with the paths of  $x$  and  $y$



Additional string: The string  $xz$   
is accepted

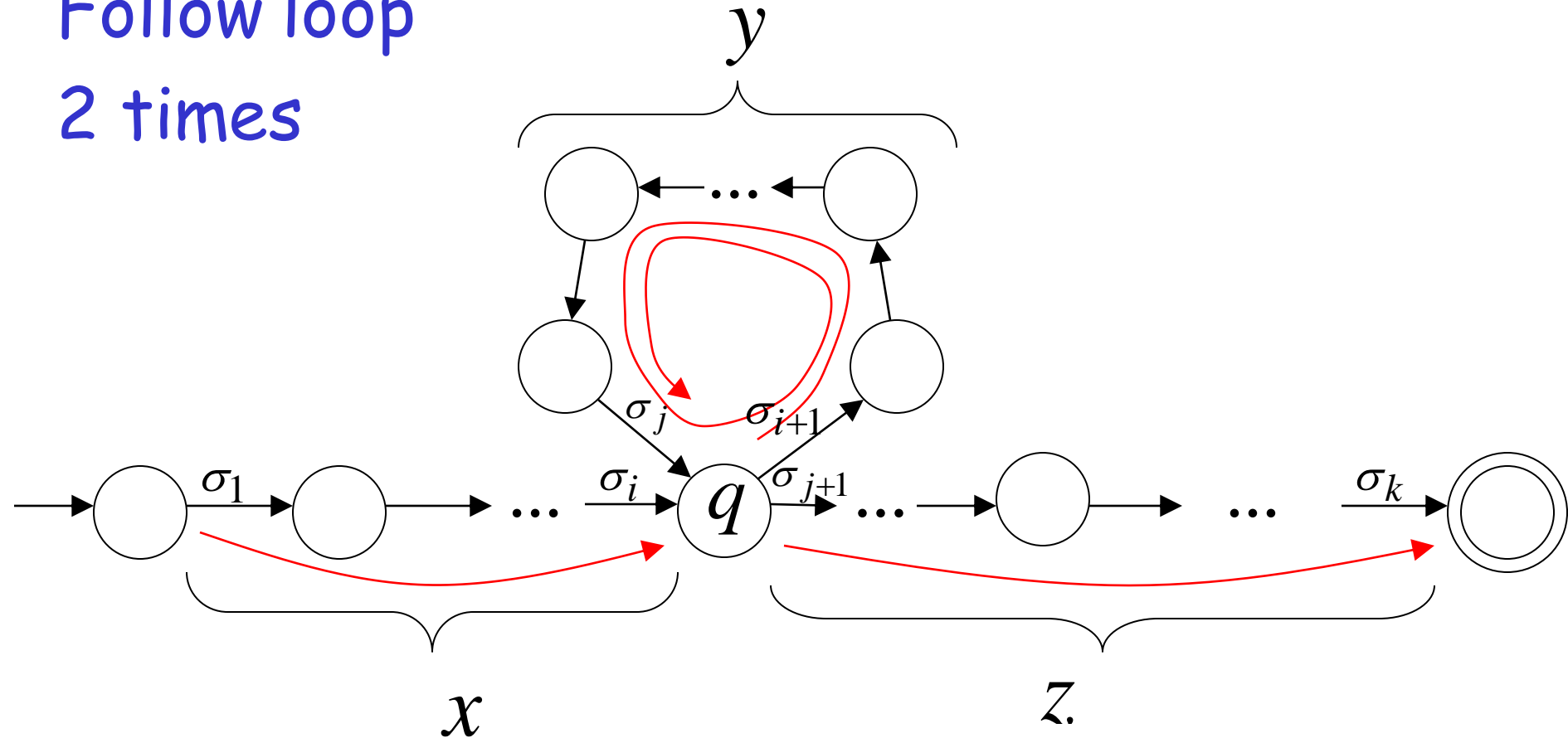
Do not follow loop



Additional string:

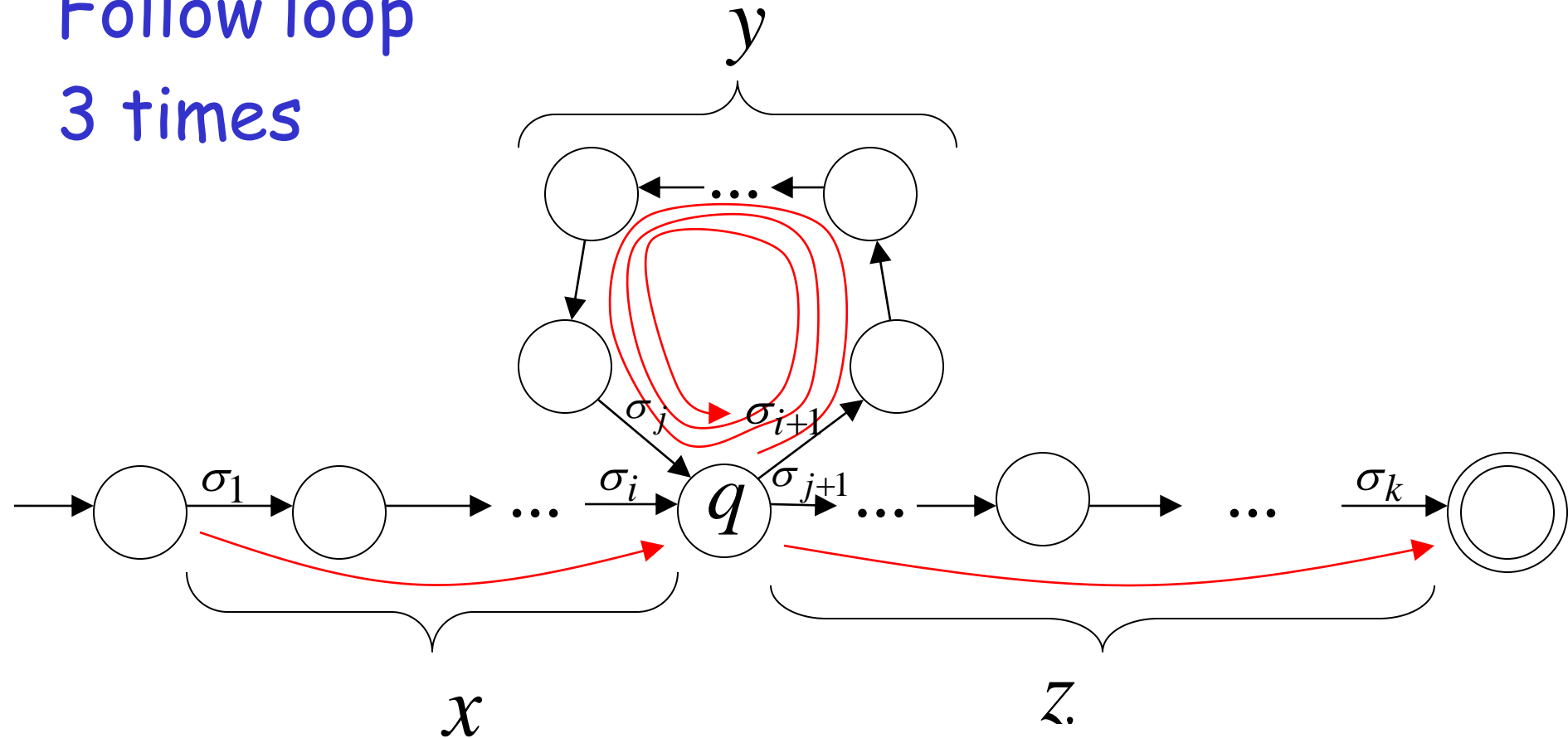
The string  $x y y z$   
is accepted

Follow loop  
2 times



Additional string: The string  $x y y y z$   
is accepted

Follow loop  
3 times



In General:

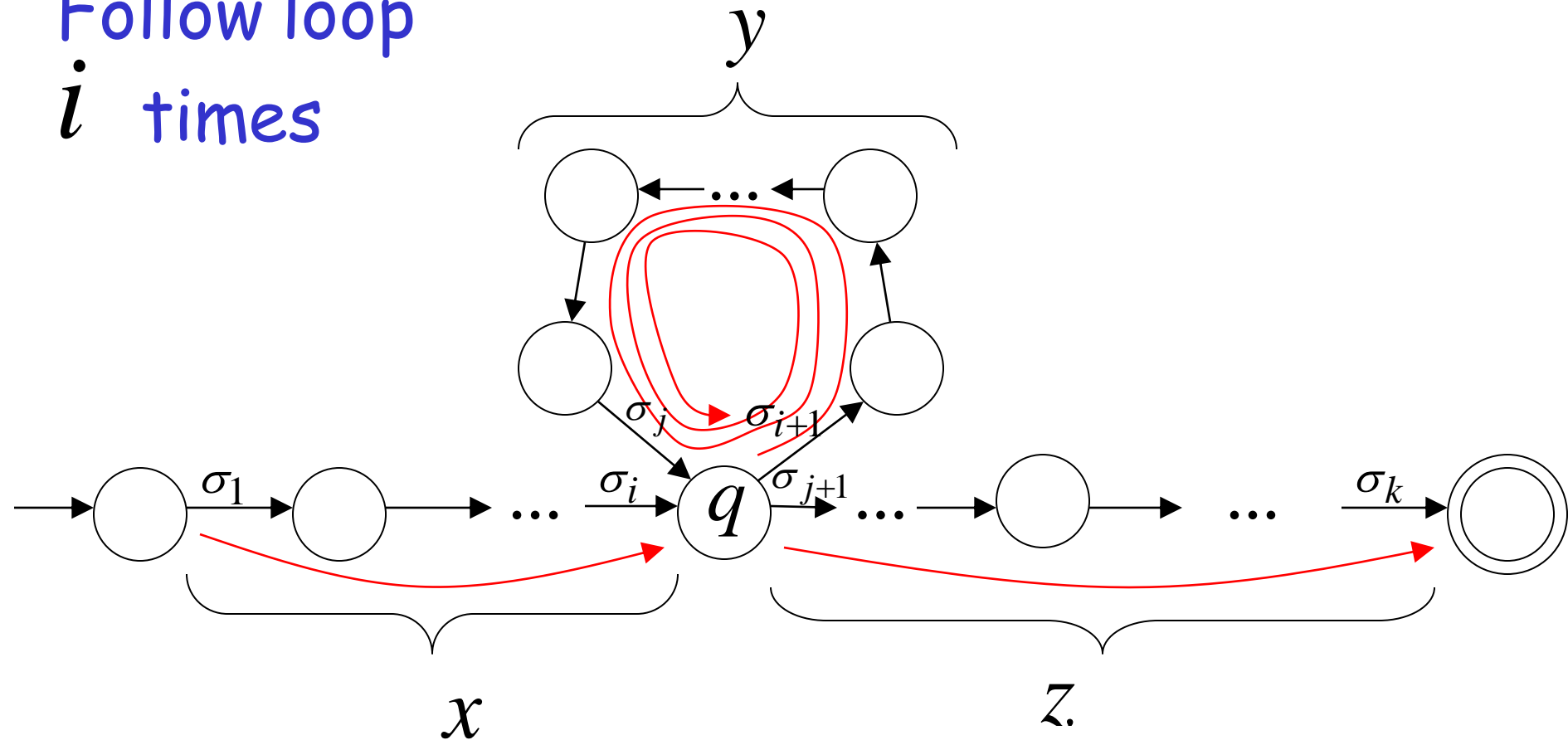
The string

$x y^i z$

is accepted

$i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

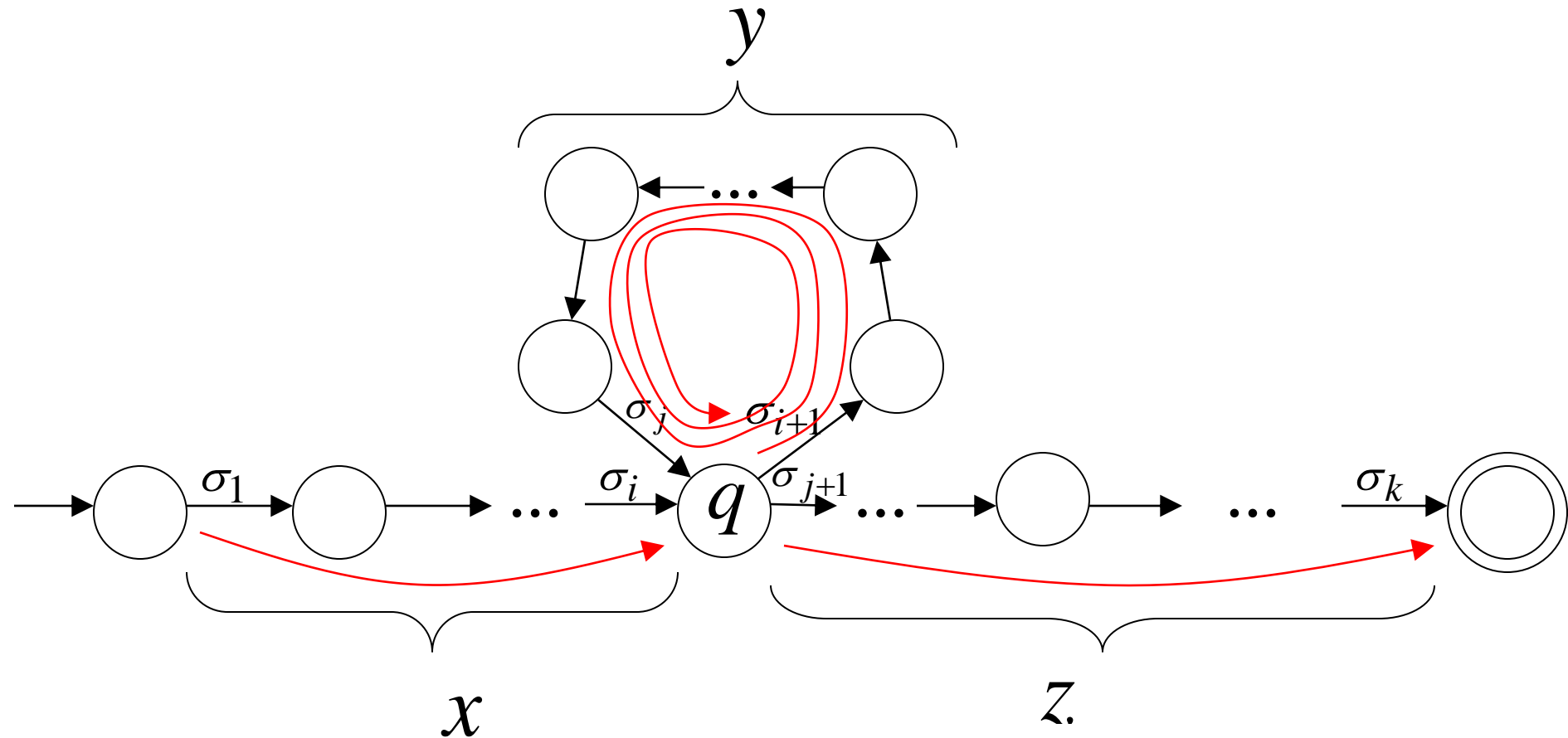
Follow loop  
 $i$  times



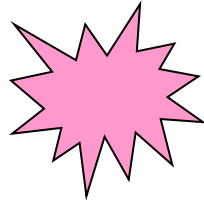
Therefore:

$$x y^i z \in L \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

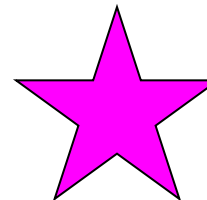
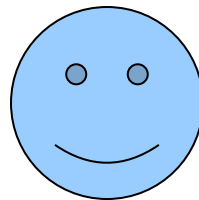
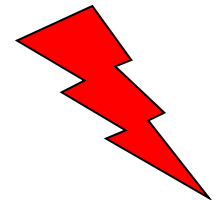
Language accepted by the DFA



In other words, we described:



The Pumping Lemma !!!



# The Pumping Lemma:

- Given a infinite regular language  $L$
- there exists an integer  $m$  (critical length)
- for any string  $w \in L$  with length  $|w| \geq m$
- we can write  $w = x y z$
- with  $|x y| \leq m$  and  $|y| \geq 1$
- such that:  $x y^i z \in L \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$



In the book:

Critical length  $m$  = Pumping length  $p$

# Applications of the Pumping Lemma

## Observation:

Every language of finite size has to be regular

(we can easily construct an NFA  
that accepts every string in the language)

Therefore, every non-regular language  
has to be of infinite size

(contains an infinite number of strings)

Suppose you want to prove that  
An infinite language  $L$  is not regular

1. Assume the opposite:  $L$  is regular
2. The pumping lemma should hold for  $L$
3. Use the pumping lemma to obtain a contradiction
4. Therefore,  $L$  is not regular

# Explanation of Step 3: How to get a contradiction

---

1. Let  $m$  be the critical length for  $L$
2. Choose a particular string  $w \in L$  which satisfies the length condition  $|w| \geq m$
3. Write  $w = xyz$
4. Show that  $w' = xy^i z \notin L$  for some  $i \neq 1$
5. This gives a contradiction, since from pumping lemma  $w' = xy^i z \in L$

Note: It suffices to show that  
only one string  $w \in L$   
gives a contradiction

You don't need to obtain  
contradiction for every  $w \in L$

# Example of Pumping Lemma application

**Theorem:** The language  $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$   
is not regular

**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma

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

Assume for contradiction  
that  $L$  is a regular language

Since  $L$  is infinite  
we can apply the Pumping Lemma



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

Let  $m$  be the critical length for  $L$

Pick a string  $w$  such that:  $w \in L$

and length  $|w| \geq m$

We pick  $w = a^m b^m$

From the Pumping Lemma:

we can write  $w = a^m b^m = x y z$

with lengths  $|x y| \leq m, \quad |y| \geq 1$

$$w = xyz = a^m b^m = \underbrace{a \dots a}_{x} \underbrace{a \dots a}_{y} \underbrace{a \dots a b \dots b}_{z}$$

The diagram illustrates the decomposition of the string  $w = a^m b^m$  into  $xyz$ . The string is represented as  $a \dots a a \dots a a \dots a b \dots b$ . A green bracket above the first two groups of  $a$ 's is labeled  $m$ , and another green bracket above the last group of  $a$ 's and the  $b$ 's is labeled  $m$ . Red brackets below the string partition it into three parts:  $x$  (the first group of  $a$ 's),  $y$  (the second group of  $a$ 's), and  $z$  (the third group of  $a$ 's and the  $b$ 's).

Thus:  $y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$

$$x y z = a^m b^m$$

$$y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^i z \in L$

$$i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$$

Thus:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$x y z = a^m b^m \quad y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$xy^2z = \overbrace{a \dots a a \dots a a \dots a a \dots a}^{m+k} \overbrace{b \dots b}^m \in L$$

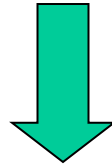
$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_x \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \underbrace{\hspace{3.5cm}}_z$

Thus:  $a^{m+k} b^m \in L$

$$a^{m+k}b^m \in L \qquad k \geq 1$$

---

**BUT:**  $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$



$$a^{m+k}b^m \notin L$$

**CONTRADICTION!!!**

Therefore: Our assumption that  $L$   
is a regular language is not true

**Conclusion:**  $L$  is not a regular language

END OF PROOF

Non-regular language  $\{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

Regular languages

$L(a^* b^*)$

# More Applications of the Pumping Lemma



# The Pumping Lemma:

- Given a infinite regular language  $L$
- there exists an integer  $m$  (critical length)
- for any string  $w \in L$  with length  $|w| \geq m$
- we can write  $w = x y z$
- with  $|x y| \leq m$  and  $|y| \geq 1$
- such that:  $x y^i z \in L \quad i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Non-regular languages

$$L = \{vv^R : v \in \Sigma^*\}$$



Regular languages

**Theorem:** The language

$$L = \{vv^R : v \in \Sigma^*\} \quad \Sigma = \{a, b\}$$

is not regular

**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{vv^R : v \in \Sigma^*\}$$

Assume for contradiction  
that  $L$  is a regular language

Since  $L$  is infinite  
we can apply the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{vv^R : v \in \Sigma^*\}$$

Let  $m$  be the critical length for  $L$

Pick a string  $w$  such that:  $w \in L$

and length  $|w| \geq m$

We pick  $w = a^m b^m b^m a^m$

## From the Pumping Lemma:

we can write:  $w = a^m b^m b^m a^m = x y z$

with lengths:  $|x y| \leq m, \quad |y| \geq 1$

$$W = xyz = \underbrace{a \dots a}_{x} \underbrace{a \dots a}_{y} \underbrace{a \dots a \dots ab \dots bb \dots ba \dots a}_{z}$$

Thus:  $y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$

$$x y z = a^m b^m b^m a^m \quad y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^i z \in L$   
 $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Thus:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$x y z = a^m b^m b^m a^m \quad y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$xy^2z = \overbrace{a \dots a}^{m+k} \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \in L$$

$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_x \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \quad \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \quad \underbrace{\hspace{4cm}}_z$

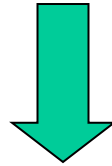
Thus:  $a^{m+k} b^m b^m a^m \in L$



$$a^{m+k}b^mb^ma^m \in L \quad k \geq 1$$

---

**BUT:**  $L = \{vv^R : v \in \Sigma^*\}$



$$a^{m+k}b^mb^ma^m \notin L$$

**CONTRADICTION!!!**

Therefore: Our assumption that  $L$   
is a regular language is not true

**Conclusion:**  $L$  is not a regular language

END OF PROOF

## Non-regular languages

$$L = \{a^n b^l c^{n+l} : n, l \geq 0\}$$



Regular languages

**Theorem:** The language

$$L = \{a^n b^l c^{n+l} : n, l \geq 0\}$$

is not regular

**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{a^n b^l c^{n+l} : n, l \geq 0\}$$

Assume for contradiction  
that  $L$  is a regular language

Since  $L$  is infinite  
we can apply the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{a^n b^l c^{n+l} : n, l \geq 0\}$$

Let  $m$  be the critical length of  $L$

Pick a string  $w$  such that:  $w \in L$  and  
length  $|w| \geq m$

We pick  $w = a^m b^m c^{2m}$

From the Pumping Lemma:

We can write  $w = a^m b^m c^{2m} = x y z$

With lengths  $|x y| \leq m, |y| \geq 1$

$$w = xyz = \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{ab \dots bc \dots cc \dots c}^{2m}$$
$$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_x \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \underbrace{\hspace{4cm}}_z$$

Thus:  $y = a^k, 1 \leq k \leq m$

$$x y z = a^m b^m c^{2m}$$

$$y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^i z \in L$   
 $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Thus:  $x y^0 z = xz \in L$



$$x y z = a^m b^m c^{2m} \qquad y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $xz \in L$

$$xz = \overbrace{a \dots a}^{m-k} \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{b \dots b}^m \overbrace{c \dots c}^{2m} \in L$$

$$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_x \underbrace{\hspace{4.5cm}}_z$$

Thus:  $a^{m-k} b^m c^{2m} \in L$

$$a^{m-k}b^mc^{2m} \in L \quad k \geq 1$$

---

**BUT:**  $L = \{a^n b^l c^{n+l} : n, l \geq 0\}$



$$a^{m-k}b^mc^{2m} \notin L$$

**CONTRADICTION!!!**

Therefore: Our assumption that  $L$   
is a regular language is not true

**Conclusion:**  $L$  is not a regular language

END OF PROOF

Non-regular languages

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$



Regular languages

**Theorem:** The language  $L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$   
is not regular

$$n! = 1 \cdot 2 \cdots (n-1) \cdot n$$

**Proof:** Use the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

Assume for contradiction  
that  $L$  is a regular language

Since  $L$  is infinite  
we can apply the Pumping Lemma

$$L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$$

Let  $m$  be the critical length of  $L$

Pick a string  $w$  such that:  $w \in L$

length  $|w| \geq m$

We pick  $w = a^{m!}$

From the Pumping Lemma:

We can write  $w = a^{m!} = x y z$

With lengths  $|x y| \leq m, |y| \geq 1$

$$w = xyz = a^{m!} = \overbrace{a \dots a}^m \overbrace{a \dots a}^{m! - m}$$
$$\underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_x \underbrace{\hspace{1.5cm}}_y \underbrace{\hspace{4cm}}_z$$

Thus:  $y = a^k, 1 \leq k \leq m$



$$x y z = a^{m!}$$

$$y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^i z \in L$   
 $i = 0, 1, 2, \dots$

Thus:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$x y z = a^{m!}$$

$$y = a^k, \quad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

From the Pumping Lemma:  $x y^2 z \in L$

$$xy^2z = \overbrace{a \dots a}^{m+k} \overbrace{a \dots a}^{m!-m} \in L$$

$\underbrace{a \dots a}_x$ 
 $\underbrace{a \dots a}_y$ 
 $\underbrace{a \dots a}_y$

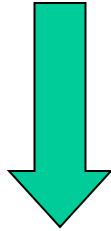
$\underbrace{a \dots a}_z$

Thus:  $a^{m!+k} \in L$

$$a^{m!+k} \in L \qquad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

---

Since:  $L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$



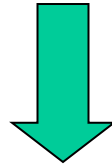
There must exist  $p$  such that:

$$m!+k = p!$$

$$a^{m!+k} \in L \qquad 1 \leq k \leq m$$

---

**BUT:**  $L = \{a^{n!} : n \geq 0\}$



$$a^{m!+k} \notin L$$

**CONTRADICTION!!!**

Therefore: Our assumption that  $L$   
is a regular language is not true

**Conclusion:**  $L$  is not a regular language

END OF PROOF

# Pune Institute of Computer Technology, Pune

**COVID19**

**STAY SAFE,  
STAY HEALTHY.**

You can reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus that causes **COVID-19** by taking the same steps you'd take to avoid getting colds.

**LET'S ALL  
DO OUR PART**



- 1  Wash hands frequently with soap
- 2  Wear a mask if you have a cough or runny nose
- 3  Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing
- 4  See a doctor if you feel unwell

# THEORY OF COMPUTATION

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## UNIT II:

# Regular Expressions

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Assistant Professor,

Dept. of Information Technology,

Pune Institute of Computer Technology, Pune.

# Review

- Pumping Lemma



# Closure Properties of Regular Languages

# Regular Languages

- If  $\Sigma$  is an alphabet, the set  $R$  of regular languages over  $\Sigma$  is defined as follows.
  - The language  $\emptyset$  is an element of  $R$ , and for every  $a \in \Sigma$ , the language  $\{a\}$  is in  $R$ .
  - For any two languages  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  in  $R$ , the three languages  $L_1 \cup L_2$ ,  $L_1 L_2$ , and  $L_1^*$  are elements of  $R$ .

For regular languages  $L_1$  and  $L_2$   
we will prove that:

Union:  $L_1 \cup L_2$

Concatenation:  $L_1 L_2$

Star:  $L_1^*$

Reversal:  $L_1^R$

Complement:  $\overline{L_1}$

Intersection:  $L_1 \cap L_2$

Are regular  
Languages

We say: Regular languages are **closed under**

Union:  $L_1 \cup L_2$

Concatenation:  $L_1 L_2$

Star:  $L_1^*$

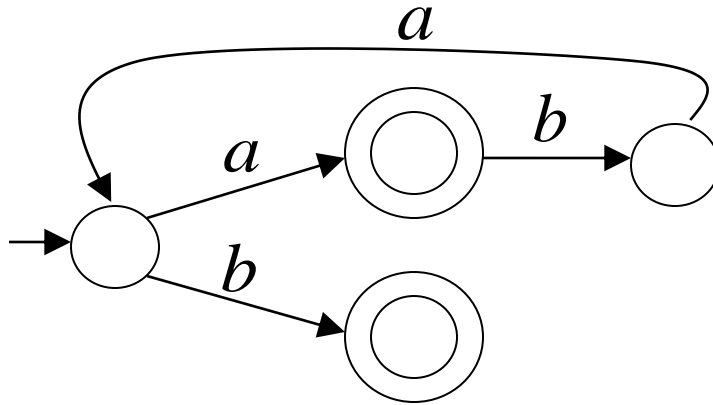
Reversal:  $L_1^R$

Complement:  $\overline{L_1}$

Intersection:  $L_1 \cap L_2$

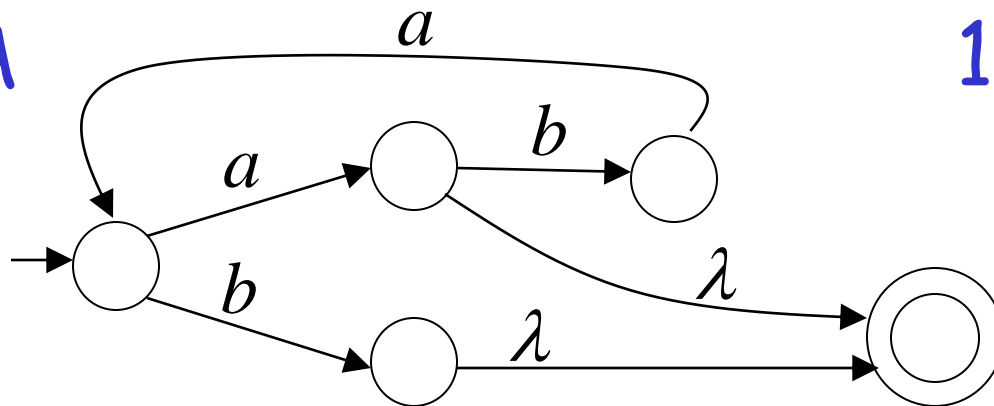
A useful transformation: use one accept state

NFA



2 accept states

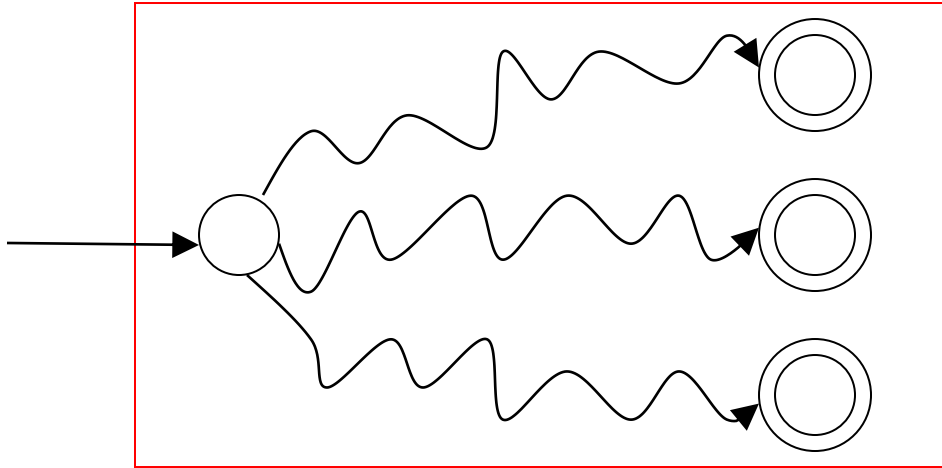
Equivalent  
NFA



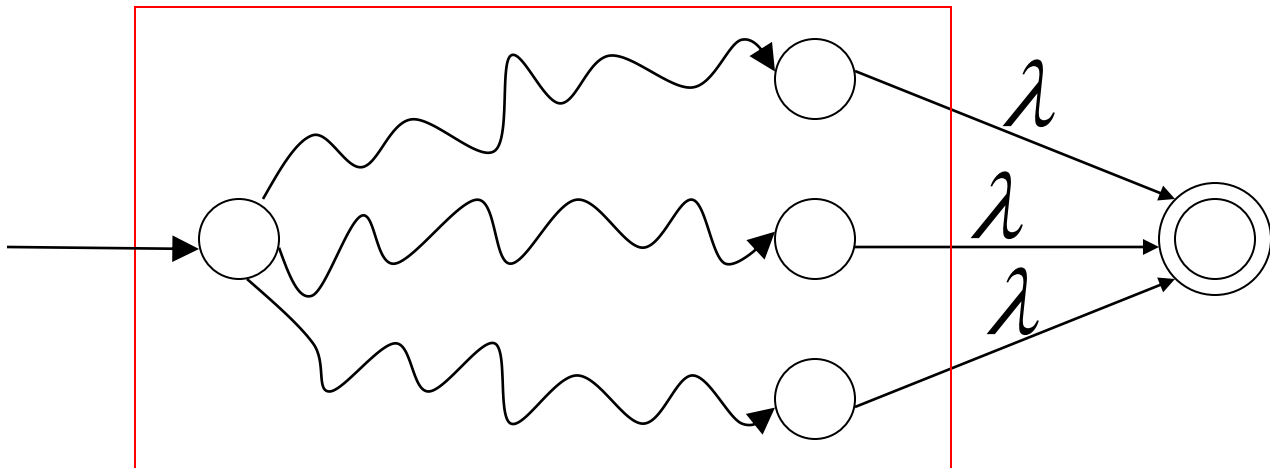
1 accept state

# In General

NFA



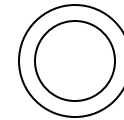
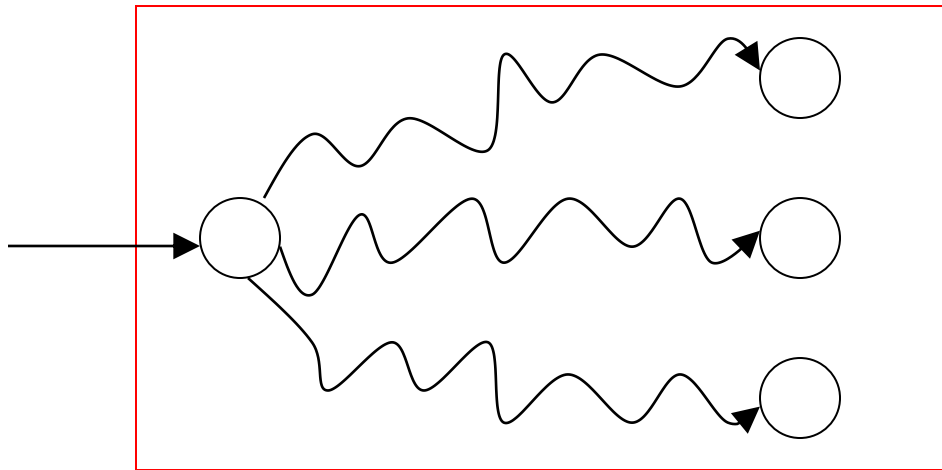
Equivalent NFA



Single  
accepting  
state

# Extreme case

## NFA without accepting state



Add an accepting state  
without transitions

# Take two languages

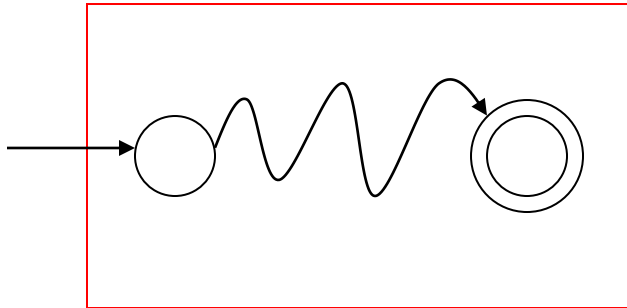
Regular language  $L_1$

Regular language  $L_2$

$$L(M_1) = L_1$$

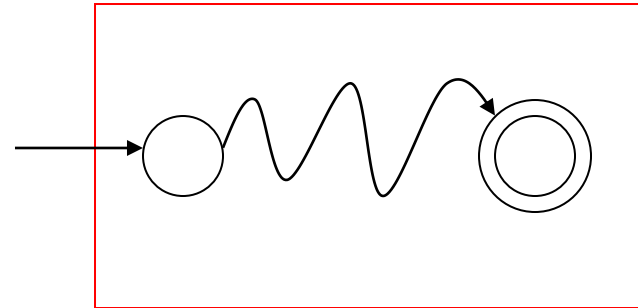
$$L(M_2) = L_2$$

NFA  $M_1$



Single accepting state

NFA  $M_2$

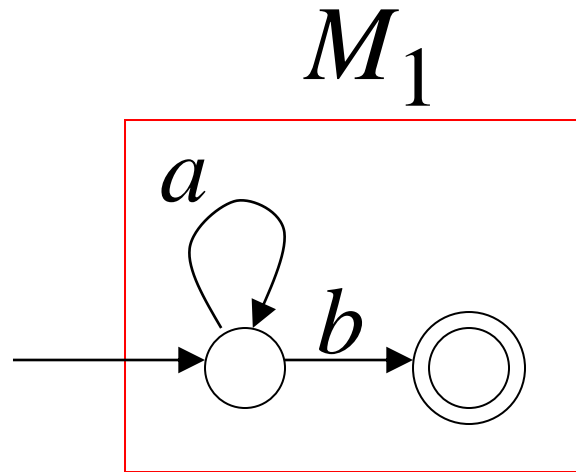


Single accepting state

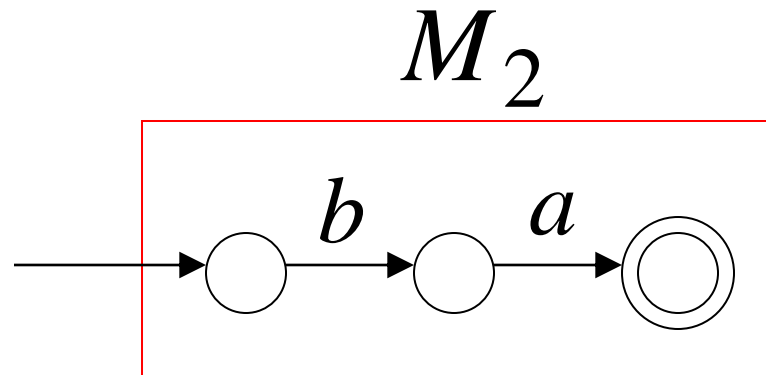


# Example

$$L_1 = \{a^n b \mid n \geq 0\}$$

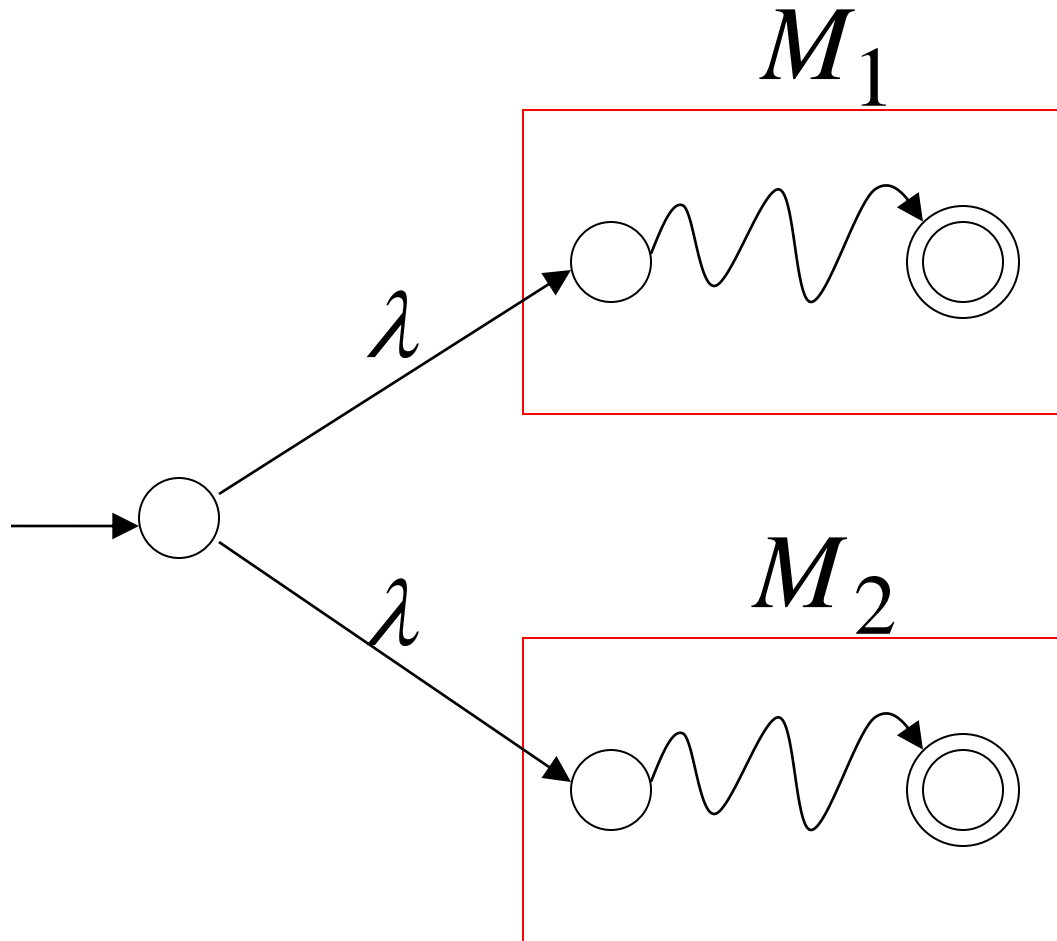


$$L_2 = \{ba\}$$



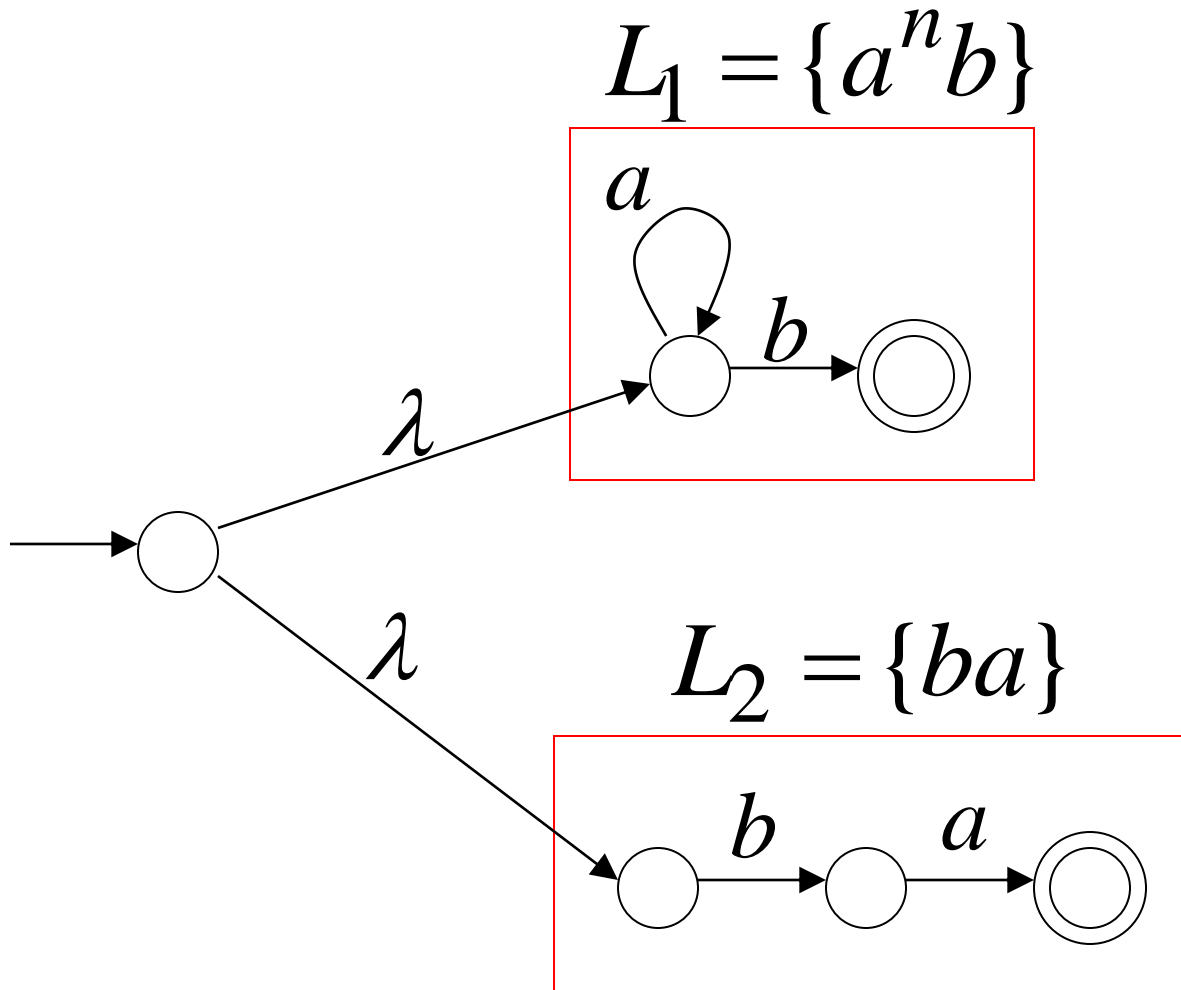
# Union

NFA for  $L_1 \cup L_2$



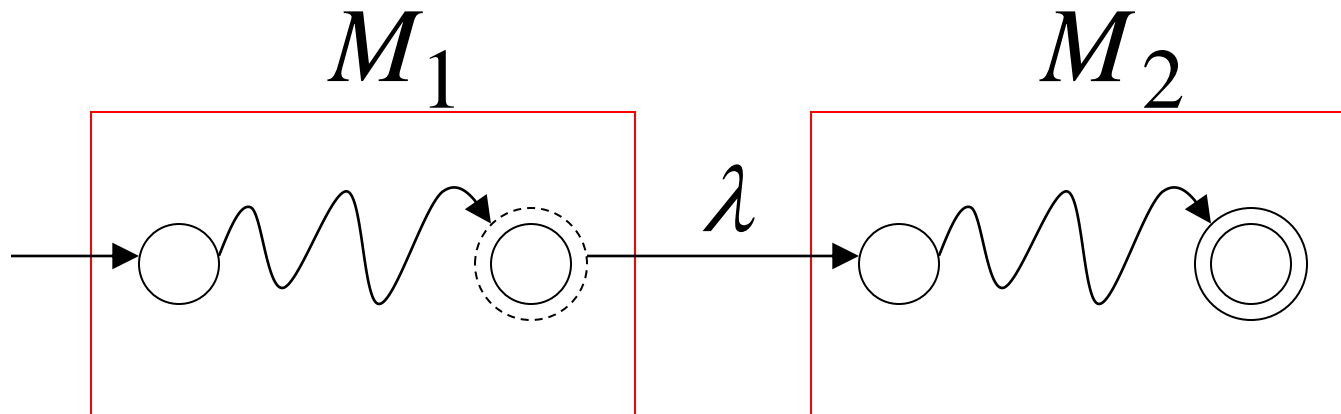
# Example

NFA for  $L_1 \cup L_2 = \{a^n b\} \cup \{ba\}$



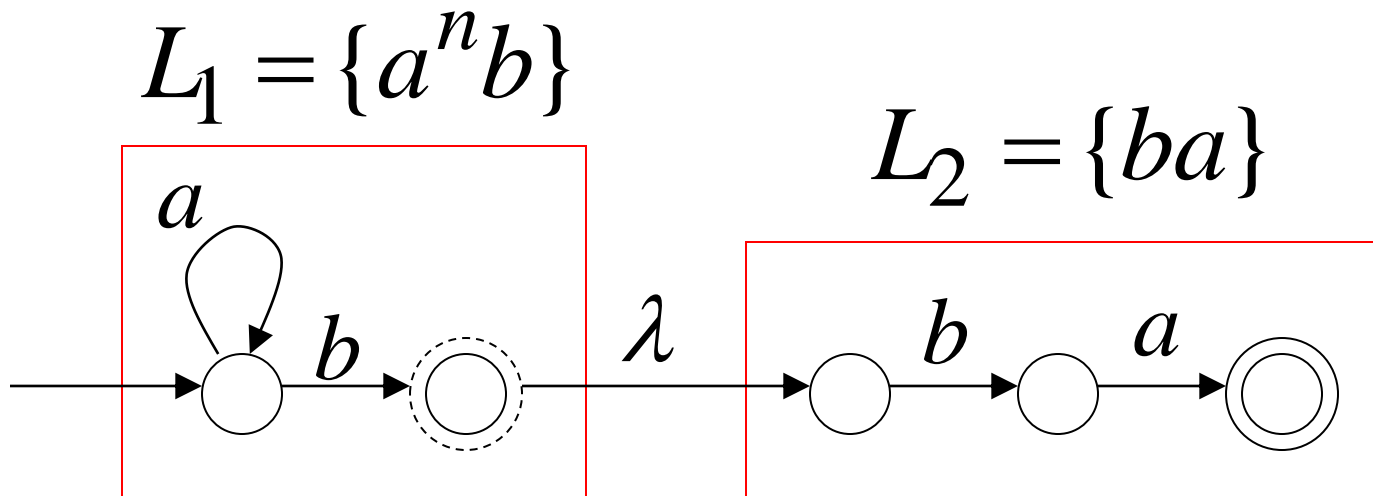
# Concatenation

NFA for  $L_1L_2$



# Example

NFA for  $L_1L_2 = \{a^n b\} \{ba\} = \{a^n bba\}$



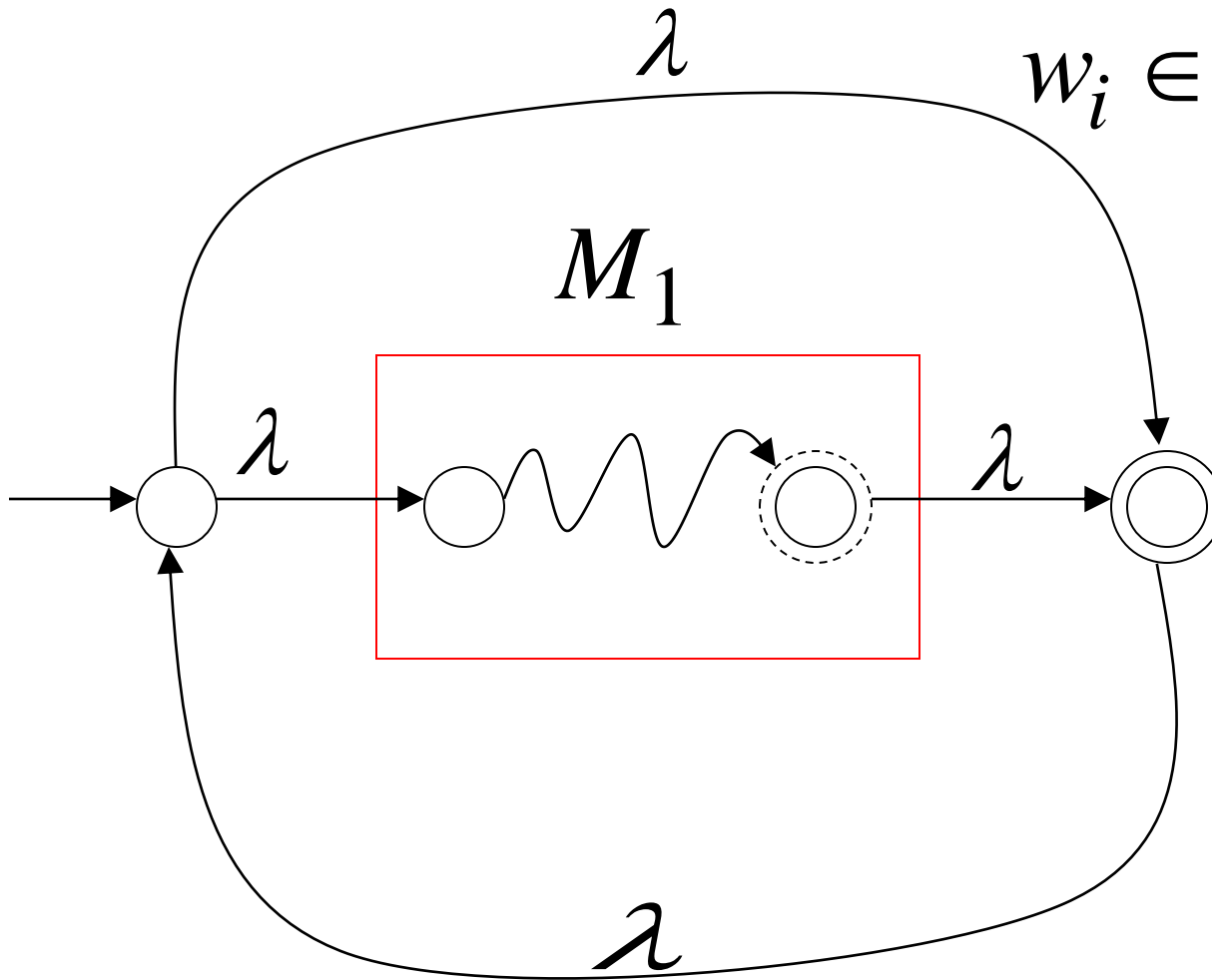
# Star Operation

NFA for  $L_1^*$

$$w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_k$$

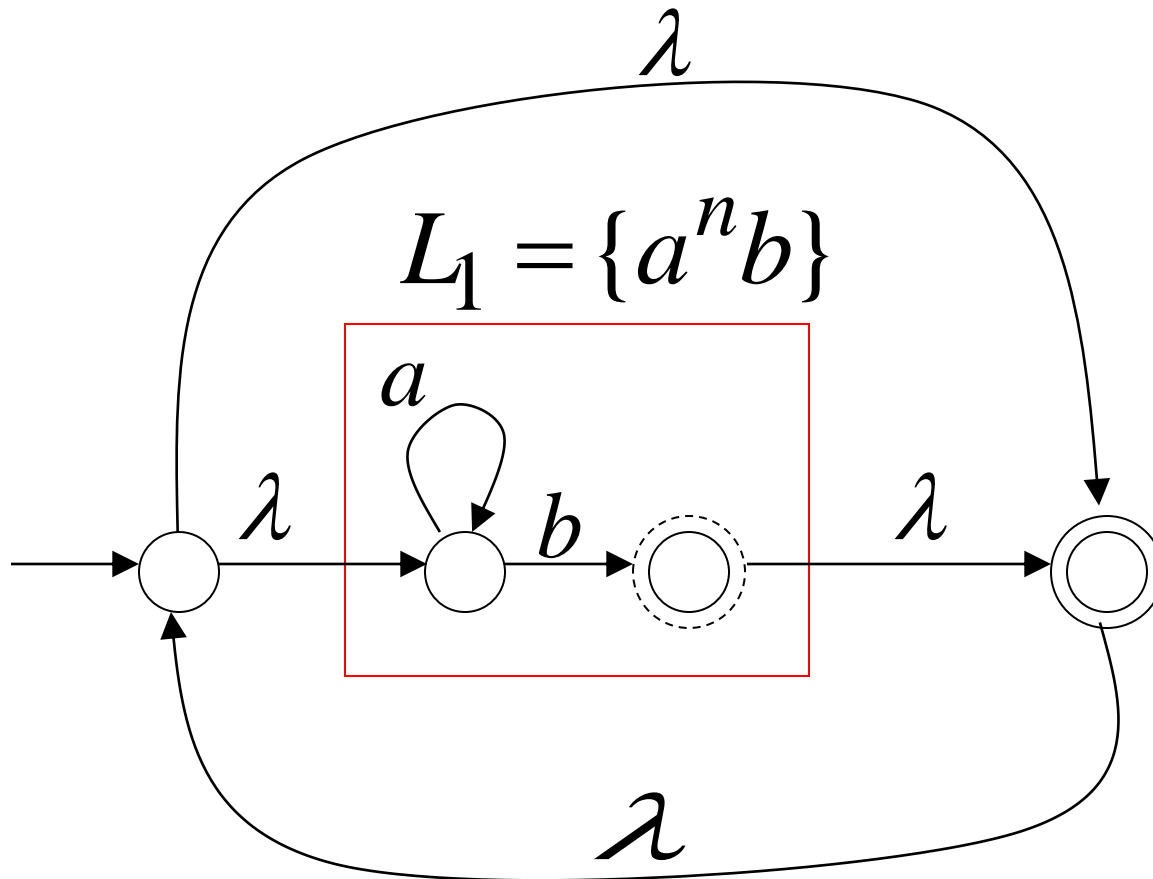
$$w_i \in L_1$$

$$\lambda \in L_1^*$$



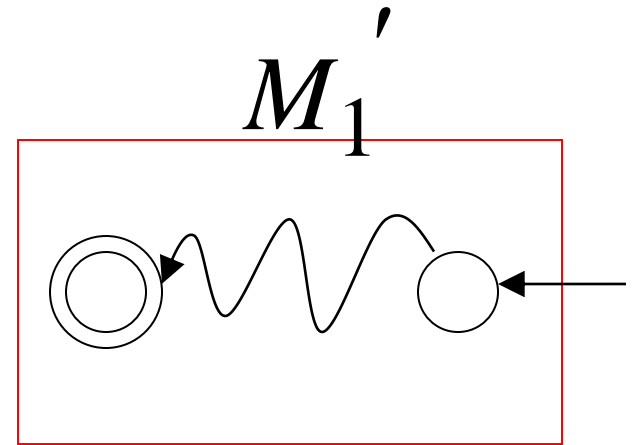
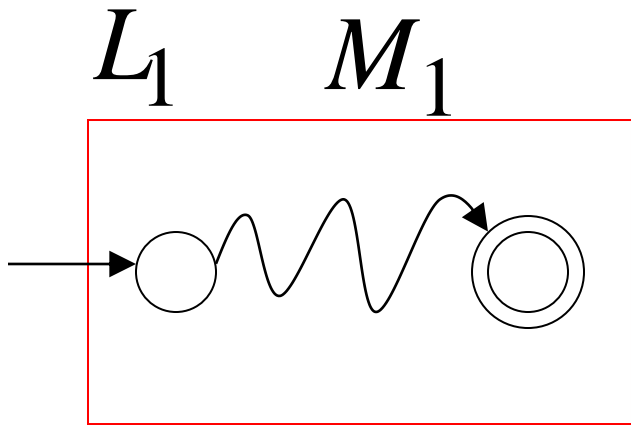
# Example

NFA for  $L_1^* = \{a^n b\}^*$



# Reverse

NFA for  $L_1^R$

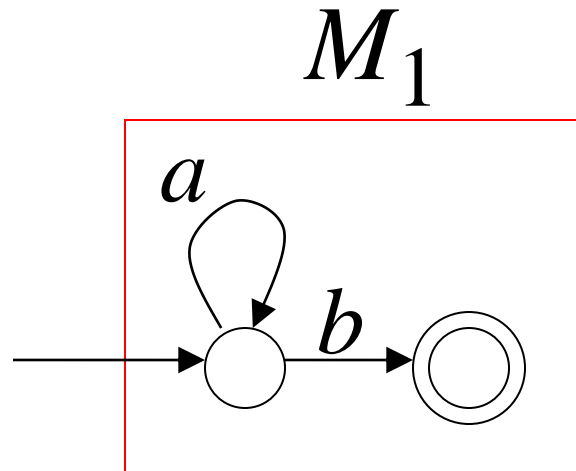


1. Reverse all transitions
2. Make initial state accepting state and vice versa

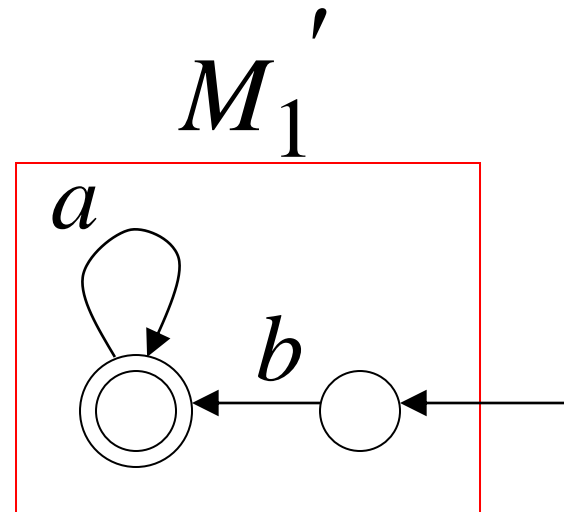


# Example

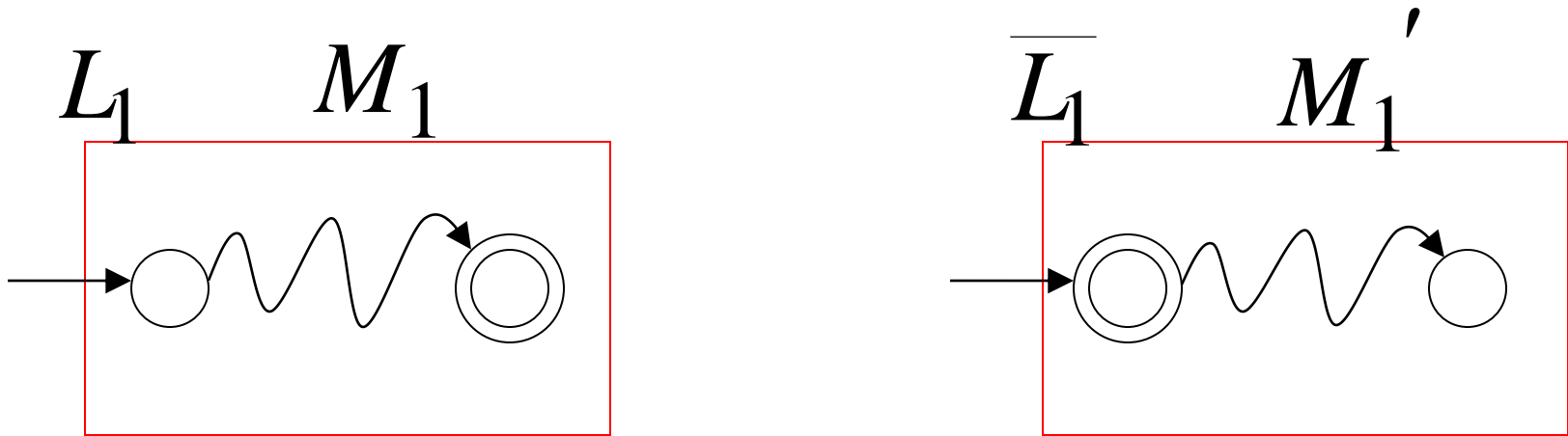
$$L_1 = \{a^n b\}$$



$$L_1^R = \{ba^n\}$$



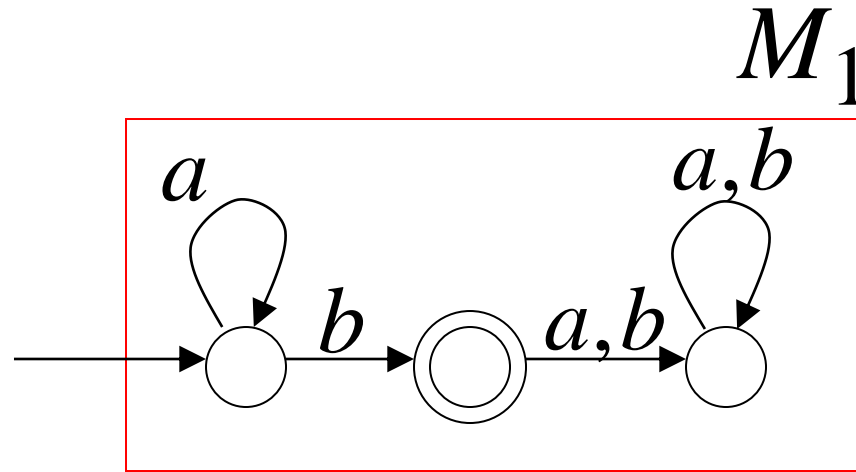
# Complement



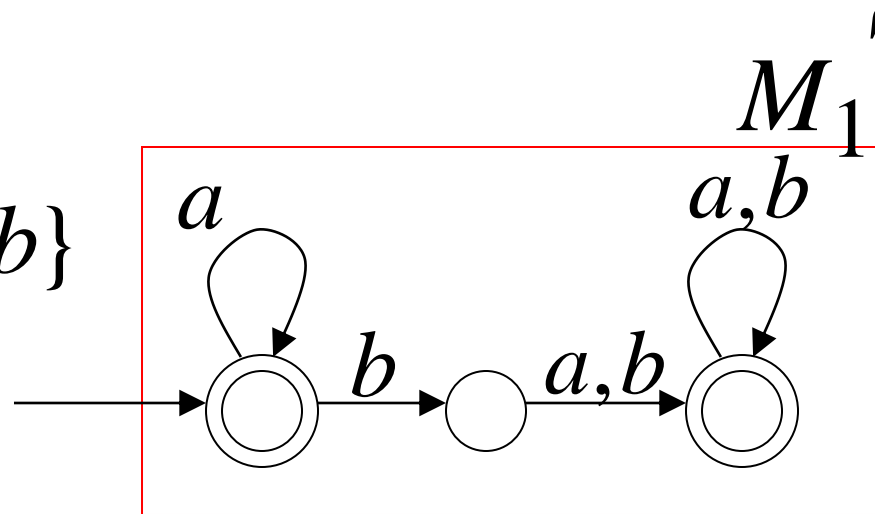
1. Take the **DFA** that accepts  $L_1$
2. Make accepting states non-final, and vice-versa

# Example

$$L_1 = \{a^n b\}$$

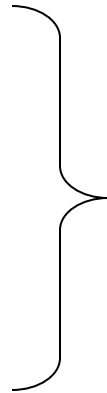


$$\overline{L_1} = \{a,b\}^* - \{a^n b\}$$

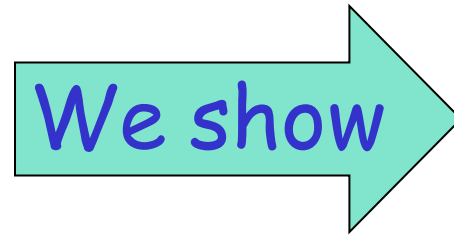


# Intersection

$L_1$  regular



We show



$L_2$  regular

$L_1 \cap L_2$

regular

DeMorgan's Law:  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$

$L_1, L_2$  regular

→  $\overline{L_1}, \overline{L_2}$  regular

→  $\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}$  regular

→  $\overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}$  regular

→  $L_1 \cap L_2$  regular

# Example

$$\left. \begin{array}{l} L_1 = \{a^n b\} \text{ regular} \\ L_2 = \{ab, ba\} \text{ regular} \end{array} \right\} \Rightarrow \begin{array}{l} L_1 \cap L_2 = \{ab\} \\ \text{regular} \end{array}$$

# Another Proof for Intersection Closure

Machine  $M_1$

DFA for  $L_1$

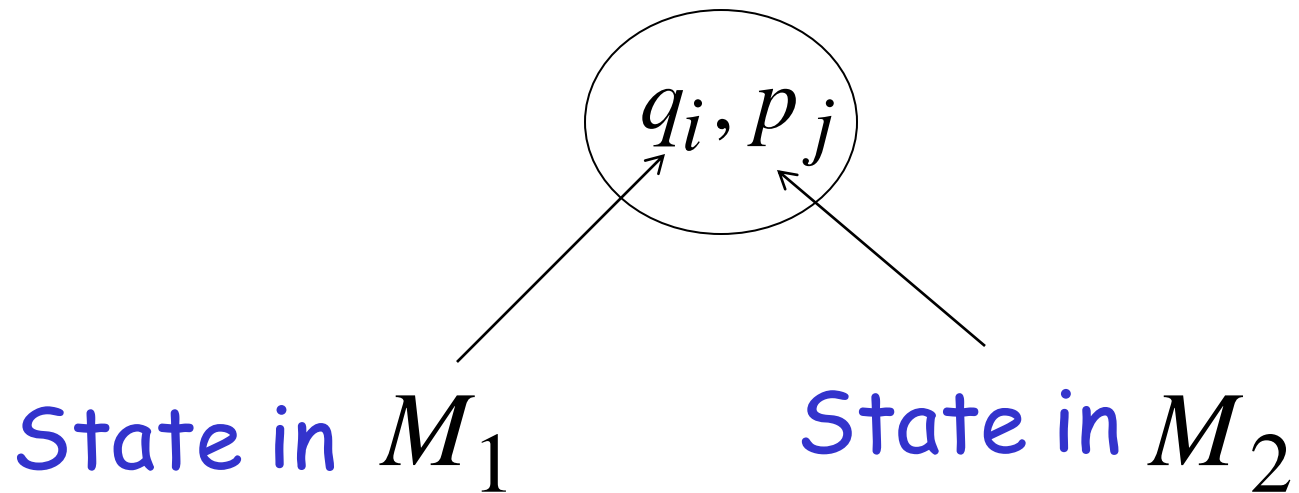
Machine  $M_2$

DFA for  $L_2$

Construct a new DFA  $M$  that accepts  $L_1 \cap L_2$

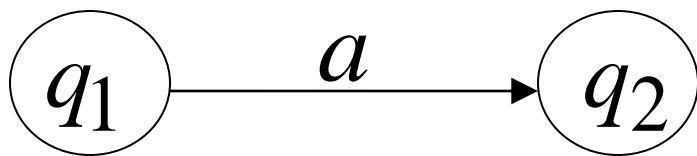
$M$  simulates in parallel  $M_1$  and  $M_2$

States in  $M$



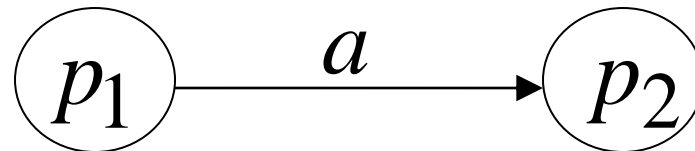


DFA  $M_1$

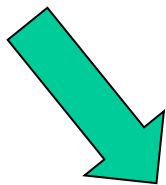


transition

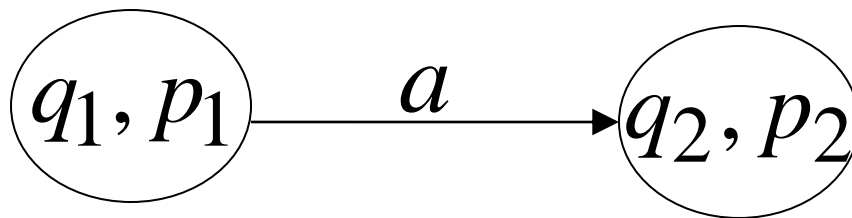
DFA  $M_2$



transition

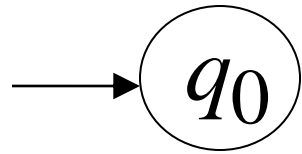


DFA  $M$



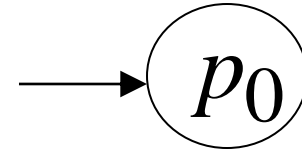
New transition

DFA  $M_1$

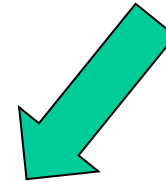


initial state

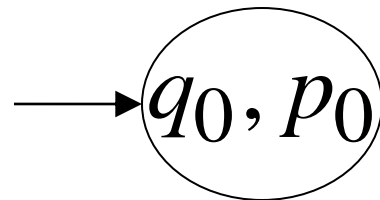
DFA  $M_2$



initial state

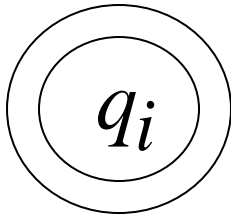


DFA  $M$



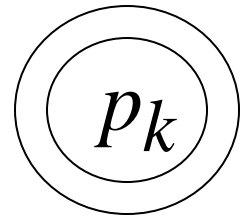
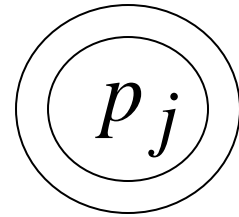
New initial state

DFA  $M_1$



accept state

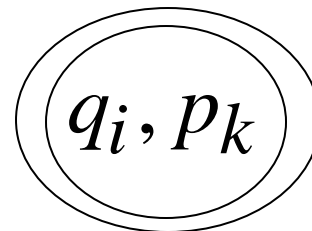
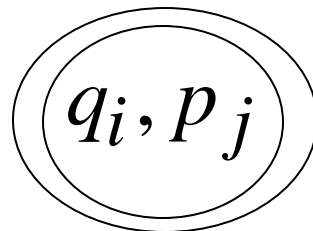
DFA  $M_2$



accept states



DFA  $M$

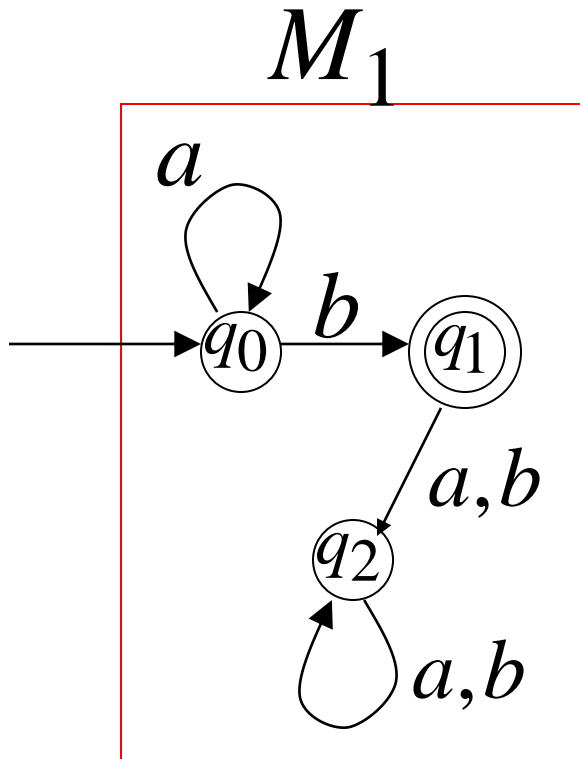


New accept states

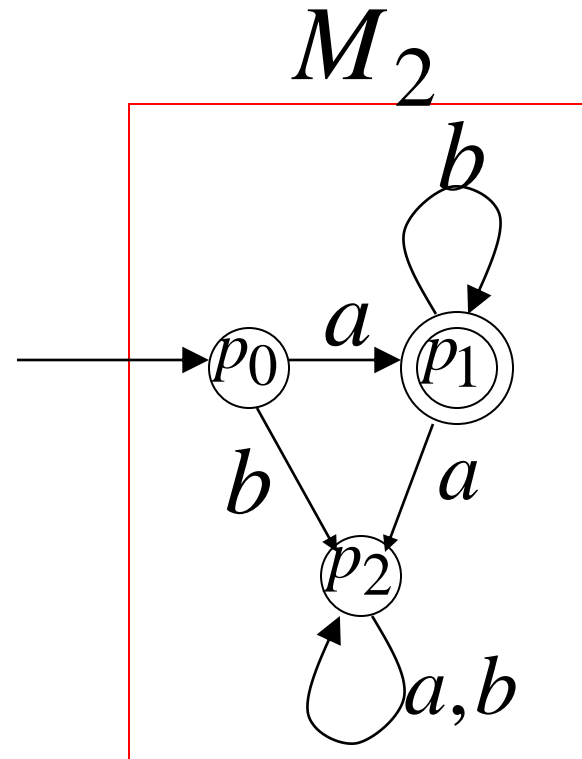
Both constituents must be accepting states

# Example:

$$L_1 = \{a^n b\} \quad n \geq 0$$

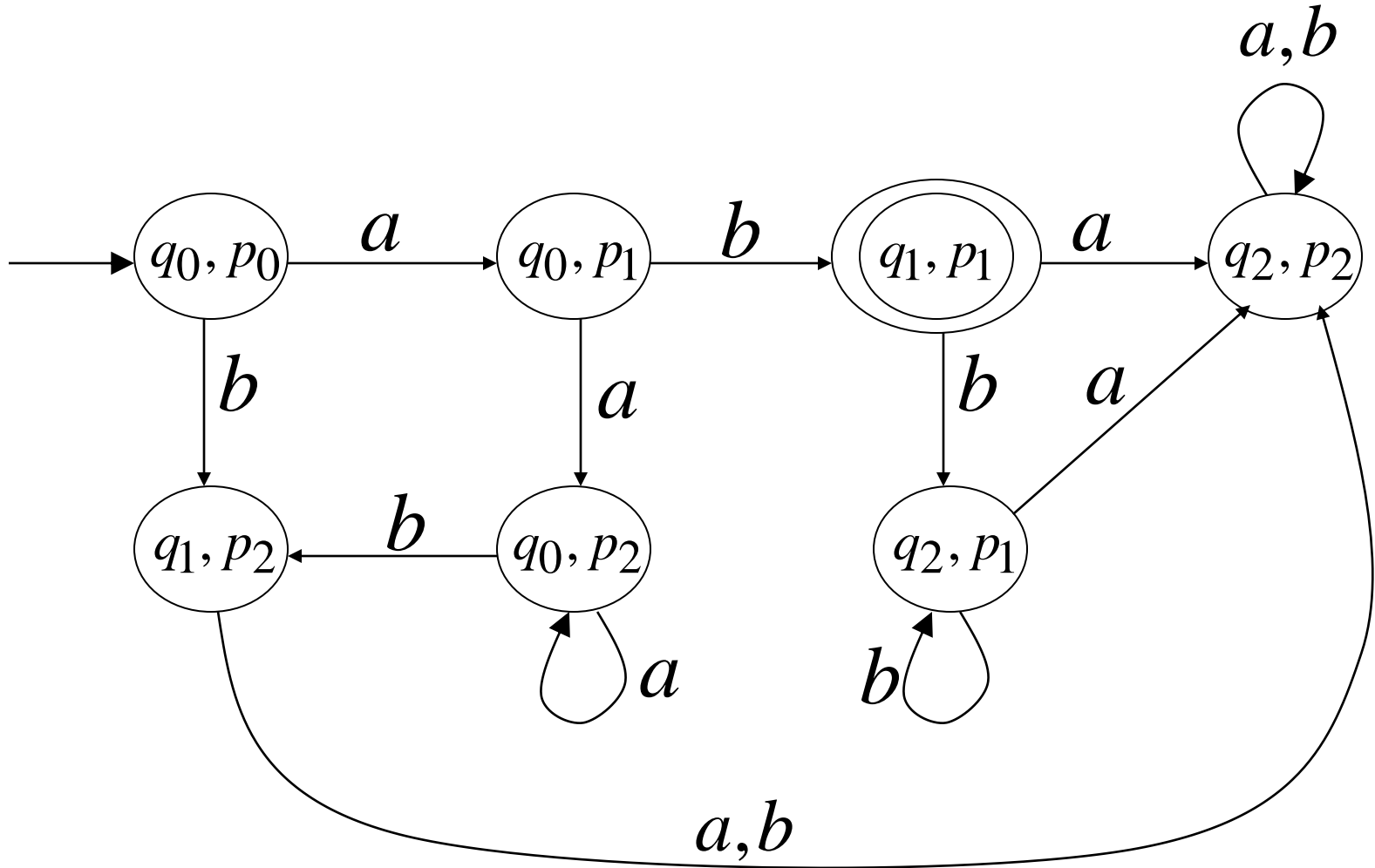


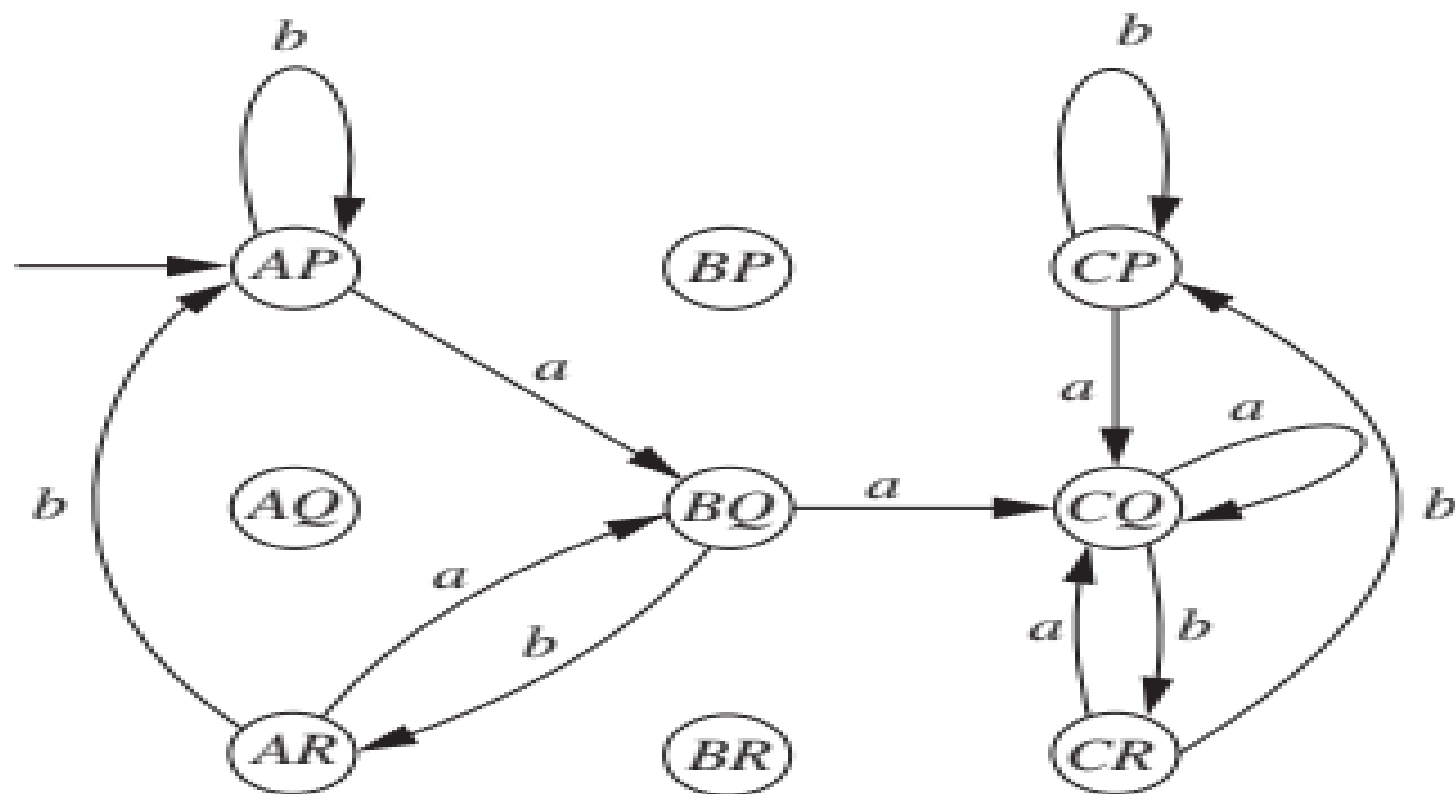
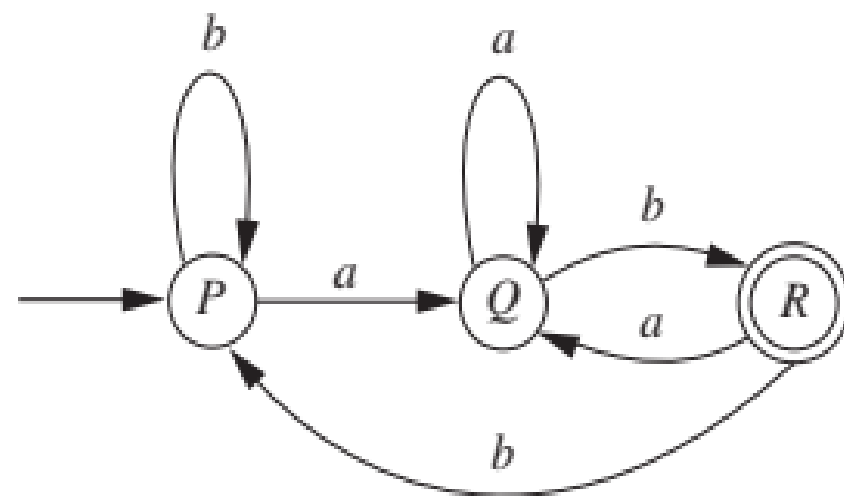
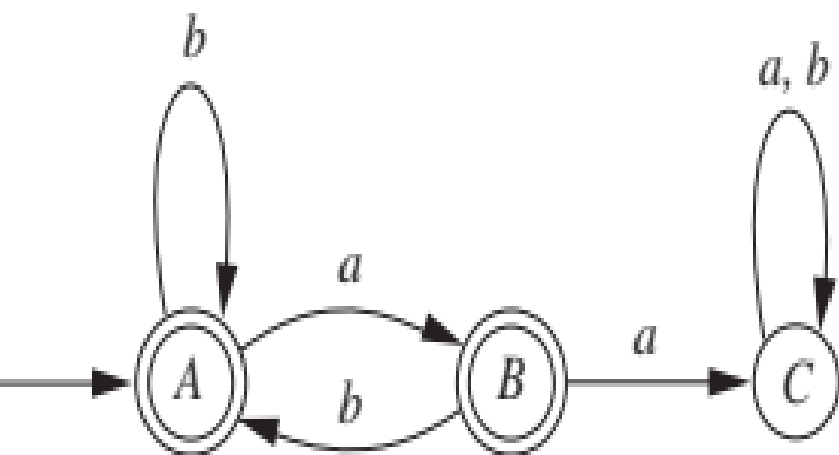
$$L_2 = \{ab^m\} \quad m \geq 0$$



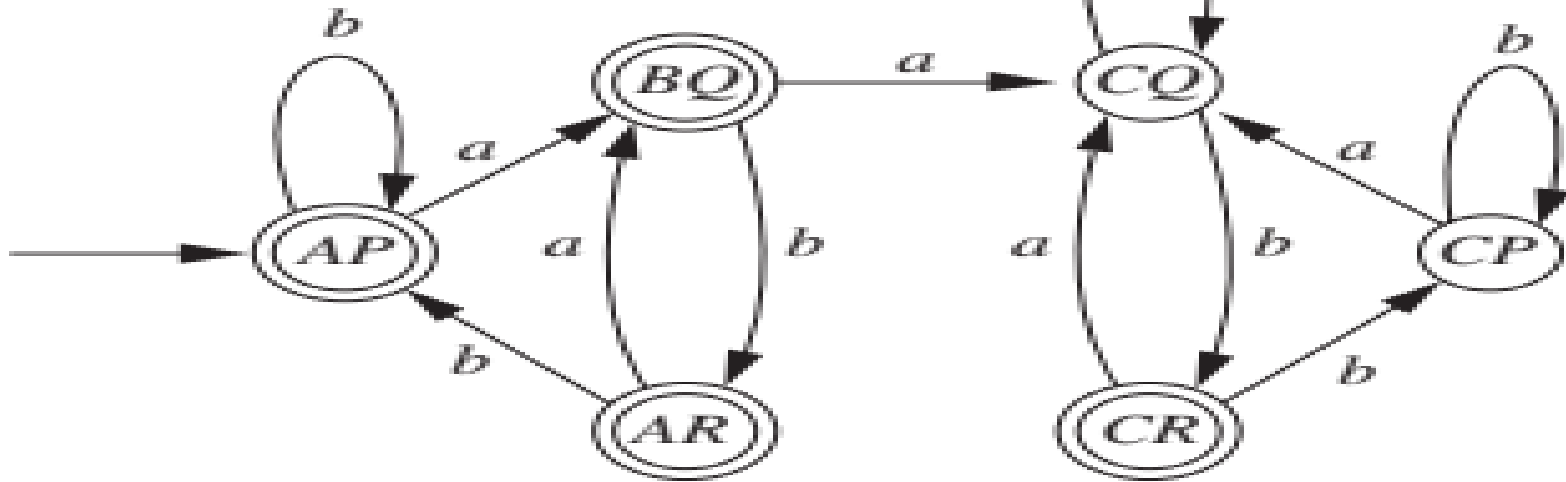
# Automaton for intersection

$$L = \{a^n b\} \cap \{ab^n\} = \{ab\}$$

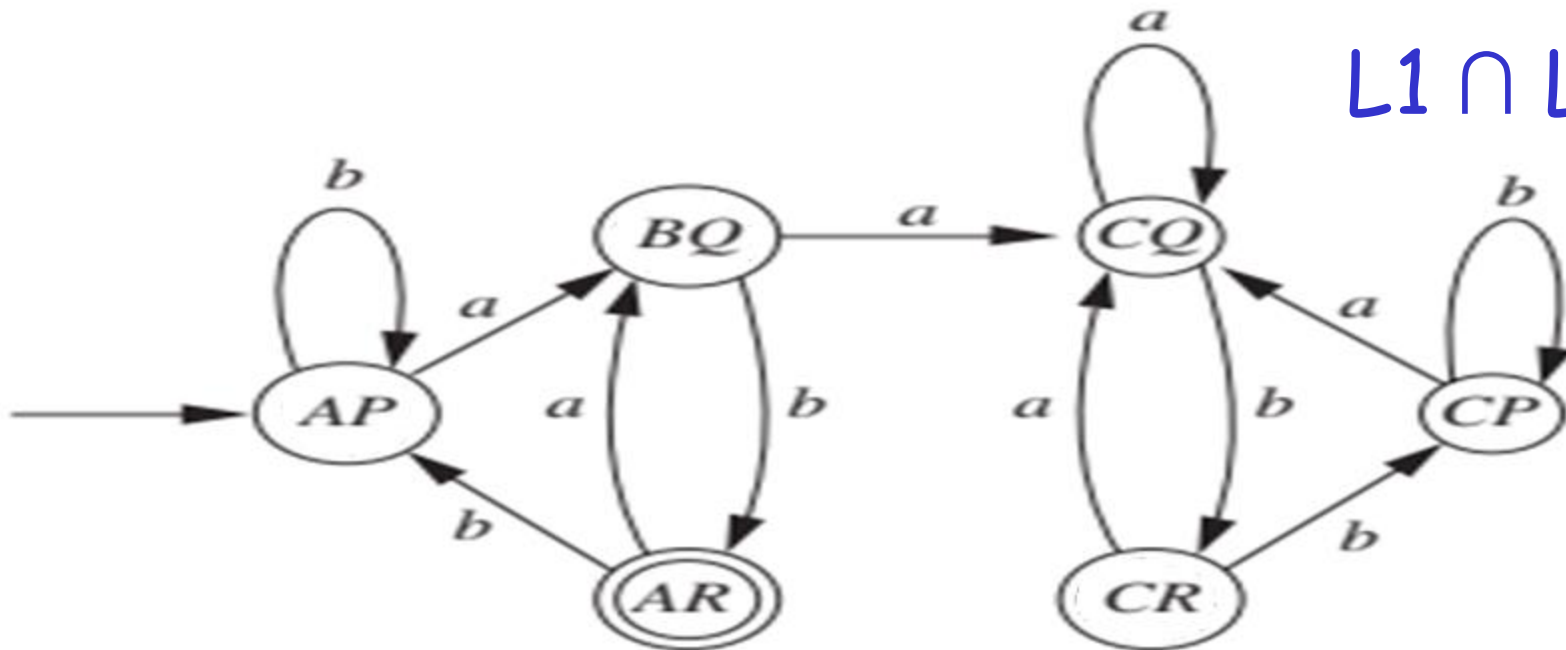




$L1 \cup L2$



$L1 \cap L2$



$M$  simulates in parallel  $M_1$  and  $M_2$

$M$  accepts string  $w$  if and only if:

$M_1$  accepts string  $w$   
and  $M_2$  accepts string  $w$

$$L(M) = L(M_1) \cap L(M_2)$$



# Pune Institute of Computer Technology, Pune

**COVID19**

**STAY SAFE,  
STAY HEALTHY.**

You can reduce the risk of spreading the coronavirus that causes **COVID-19** by taking the same steps you'd take to avoid getting colds.

**LET'S ALL  
DO OUR PART**



- 1  Wash hands frequently with soap
- 2  Wear a mask if you have a cough or runny nose
- 3  Cover your mouth with a tissue paper when coughing or sneezing
- 4  See a doctor if you feel unwell

# THEORY OF COMPUTATION

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## UNIT II:

# Regular Expressions

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# Review

- Closure Properties

# Applications of Regular Expression

- Regular Expressions in Lexical Analysis
- Regular Expressions in Web Search Engines
- Regular Expressions in Software Engineering

# Summary

- Regular Expression
- Construction of RE from Language
- Construction of Language from RE
- RE and DFA
- Conversion of RE to DFA
- Conversion of DFA to RE (Arden's Theorm)
- Pumping Lemma
- Closure Properties of RL
- Applications of RE

- Thank You....