

# CS & IT ENGINEERING

2-3M

Theory of Computation

Finite Automata:

Regular Expression-2

Lecture No. 3



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# Regular Languages

TOPICS TO BE  
COVERED

01 Regular Expression

02 Operators

03 Basic Regular Expressions

04 Simplification of Reg Exps

05 Write Regular Exps

① Finite Automata  
(Regular Languages)

i) Regular Expressions

ii) Finite Automata

iii) Regular Grammars

iv) Regulars & Non Regs

v) Closure properties

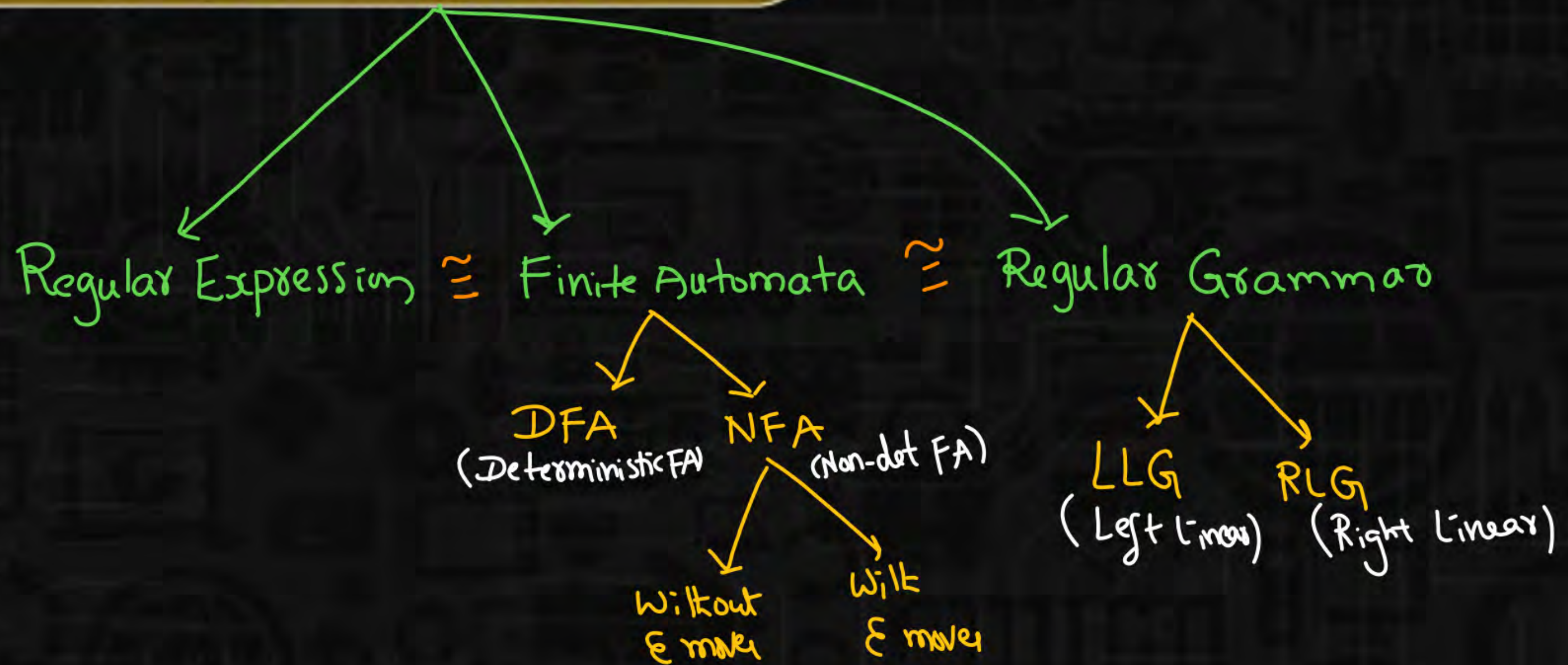
② Pushdown Automata

③ Turing Machine

④ Undecidability



# Regular Language

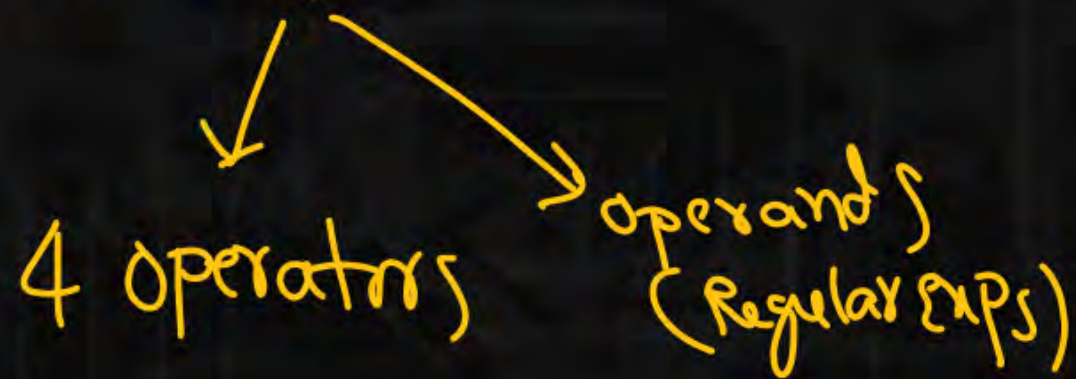


# Regular Expression

- It generates (denotes) a regular set.  
(represents) (regular language)
- It uses 4 operators to represent

Expression: combination of operators and operands

Regular Expression:





Digital Exp

$+$   
 $\cdot$   
 $\oplus$   
 $\odot$

operators

Math Exp

$+$   
 $-$   
 $*$   
 $/$   
 $\vdots$

operators

Relational Algebra  
DBMS

$\sigma$   
 $\pi$   
 $\times$   
 $\bowtie$   
 $\vdots$

operators

Discrete  
maths  
 $\Downarrow$   
propositional logic

$\vee$   
 $\wedge$   
 $\rightarrow$   
 $\leftrightarrow$   
 $\sim$

operators  
(connectives)

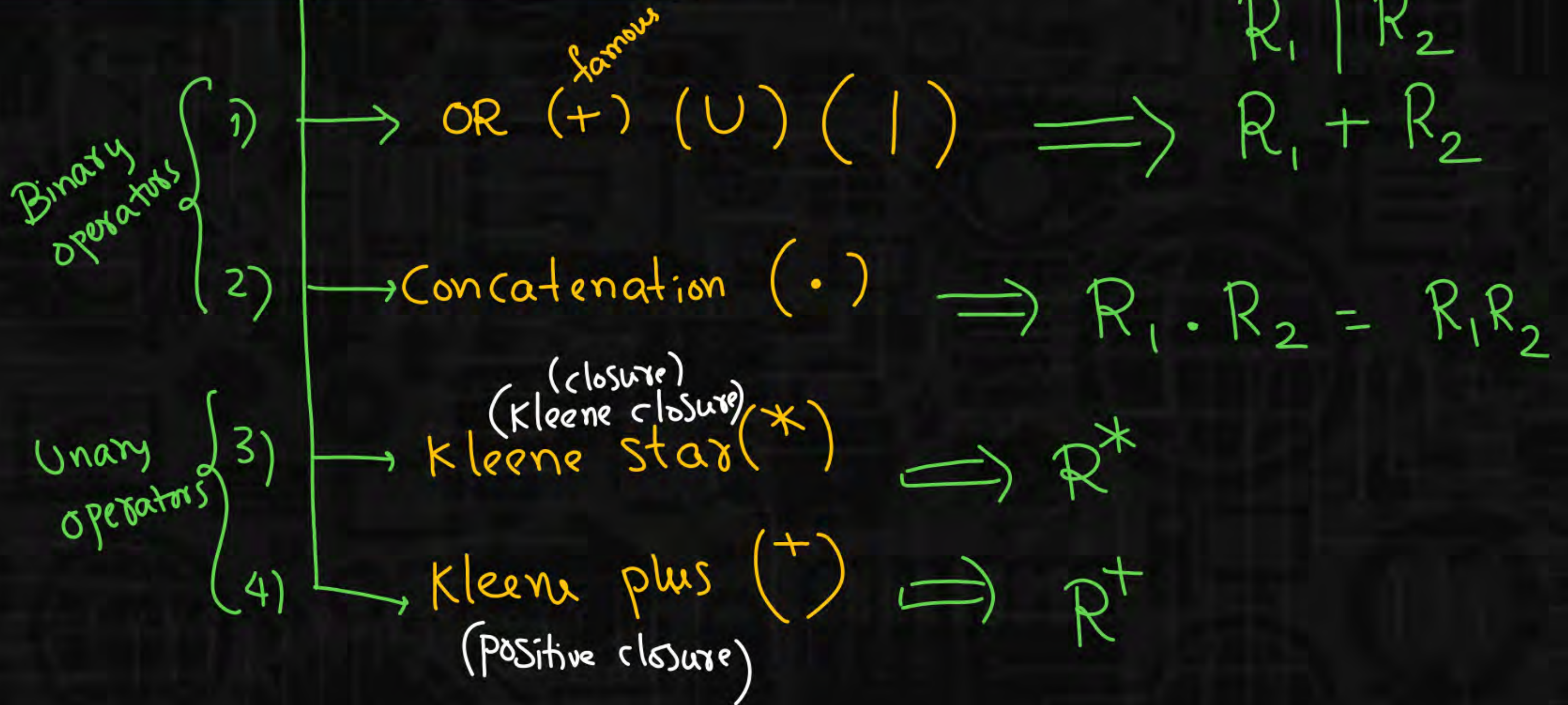
Operators  $\rightarrow$  unary  
Operators  $\rightarrow$  Binary

# Regular Expression

→ 4 operators only used



# Operators



$$R_1 \cup R_2$$

$$R_1 | R_2$$

$$R_1 + R_2$$

$$R_1 \cdot R_2 = R_1 R_2$$

$$R^*$$

$$R^+$$



OR (+)

$R_1 + R_2$

$R_1 \text{ or } R_2$

Either  $R_1$  or  $R_2$

$$L(\underbrace{a+b}) = \{a, b\}$$



$a$  ✓

$b$  ✓

~~$ab$~~

~~$ba$~~

Reg Exp

$a$

$\epsilon$

$\phi$  empty exp

$a+b$

$a+\epsilon$

$a+\phi$

Reg Language

$\{a\}$

$\{\epsilon\}$

$\phi = \{\}$  empty set

$\{a, b\}$

$\{a, \epsilon\}$

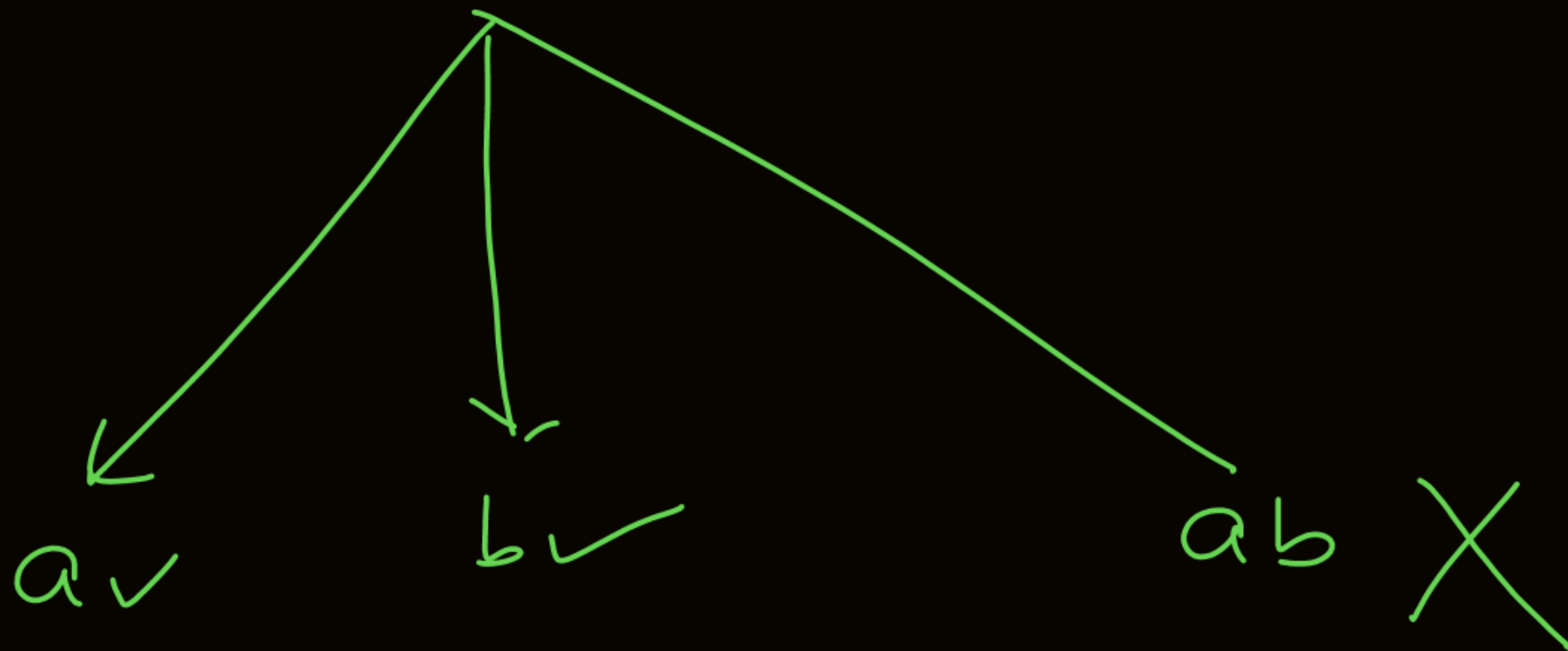
$\{a\}$

$$L(R_1 + R_2) = L(R_1) \cup L(R_2)$$

$$\begin{aligned} L(a + \phi) &= L(a) \cup L(\phi) \\ &= \{a\} \cup \{\} \\ &= \{a\} \end{aligned}$$



$a + b$



abc +  $\epsilon$

$\Rightarrow \{\epsilon, abc\}$



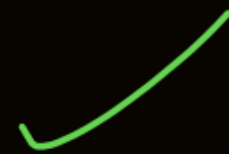
$\epsilon$



~~a~~

~~b~~

abc



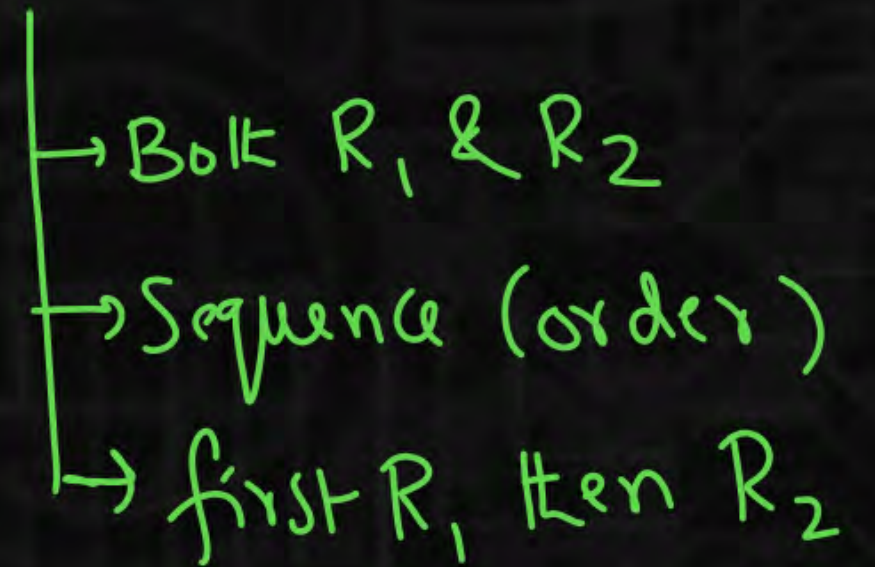
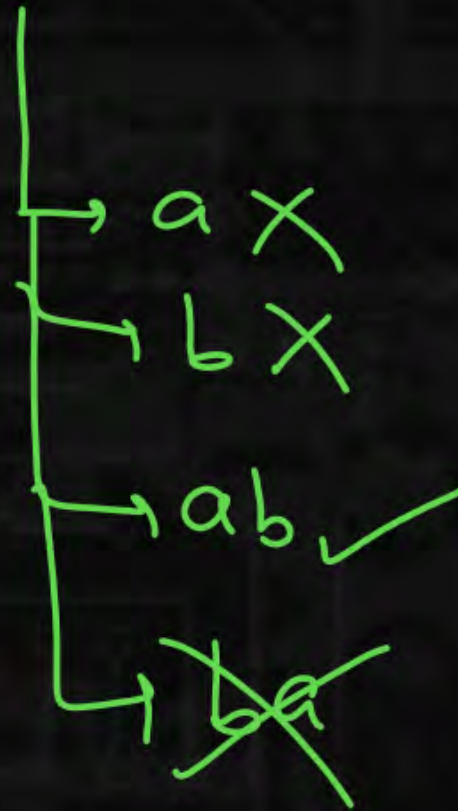


# Concatenation (.)

$$R_1 \cdot R_2 = R_1 R_2$$

$R_1$  followed by  $R_2$

$$a.b = \underbrace{ab}$$



$$a \cdot \varepsilon = a$$

$$\underline{\varepsilon \cdot a} = a$$

$$\underline{a \cdot bc} = abc$$

$$\underline{ab \cdot c} = abc$$

$$\underline{\varepsilon \cdot abc} = abc$$

$$\underline{abc \cdot \varepsilon} = abc$$

$$\underline{\varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon} = \varepsilon$$



# Kleene Star (\*)

$R^*$

Kleene closure of R

In TOC:

$$2^3 = 8 \text{ X}$$

$$= \underbrace{2.2.2}$$

3 times 2 will be repeated

$$2+2+2 = 6 \text{ X}$$

$$\{2\} = 2 \text{ in TOC}$$

$R^*$

$$R^* = R^0 + R^1 + R^2 + R^3 + \dots$$

$$a^* = a^0 + a^1 + a^2 + a^3 + \dots$$

$$= \{\epsilon, a, aa, aaa, \dots\}$$

= 0 or more occurrences of R

$$= R^{\geq 0}$$

$$\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon^0 + \varepsilon^1 + \varepsilon^2 + \varepsilon^3 + \dots$$

$$= \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \varepsilon + \dots$$

$$= \varepsilon$$

$$\boxed{\phi \cdot \phi = \phi}$$

$$\varepsilon = \overset{\circ}{\phi} = \varepsilon^0 = R^0 = \overset{\circ}{a} = \overset{\circ}{b}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \phi^* &= \phi^0 + \phi^1 + \phi^2 + \dots \\ &= \varepsilon + \underbrace{\phi + \phi + \phi + \dots}_{\phi} \\ &= \varepsilon + \phi \\ &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\varepsilon^2 = \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon = \varepsilon \checkmark$$

$$\varepsilon^3 = \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon = \varepsilon \checkmark$$

$$\varepsilon^4 = \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon = \varepsilon$$

$$\boxed{\begin{aligned} Any^0 &= 1X \\ &= \varepsilon \text{ in TDC} \end{aligned}}$$

$$\begin{aligned} R^0 &= \text{consider zero symbols} \\ &= \varepsilon \text{ in } R \end{aligned}$$



$\epsilon$



empty string

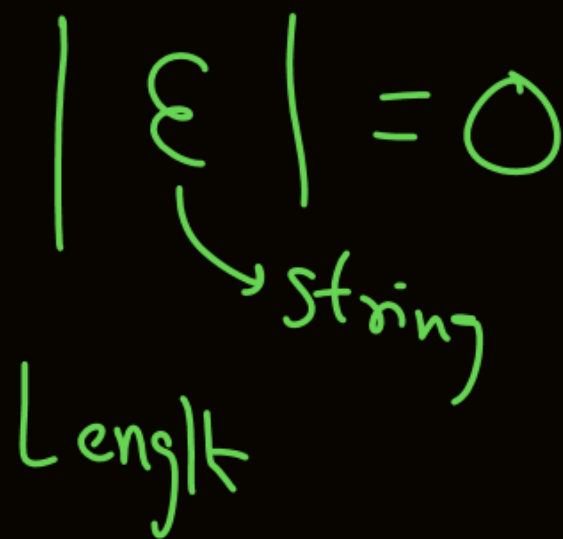
non empty Exp

Exp generates empty string

It is not set

$$|\epsilon| = 0$$

Length



$\emptyset$



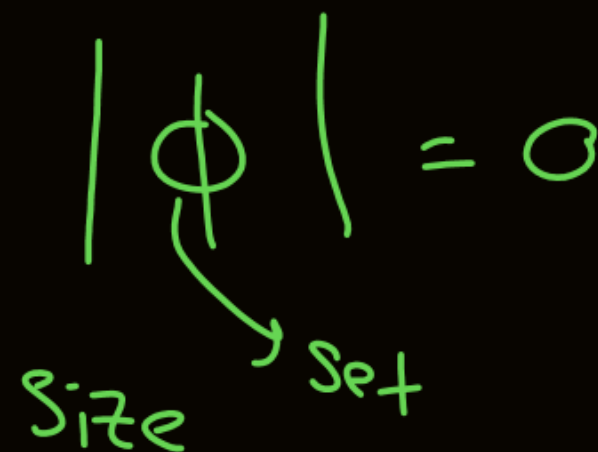
not string

Empty expression

Empty set

$$|\emptyset| = 0$$

Size



$$\{\varnothing\} \neq \{\}$$

$$|\{\varnothing\}| = 1$$

Size of non empty set

$$|\{\}| = 0$$

Size of empty set



Empty string =  $\epsilon$

Empty set =  $\phi = \{ \}$   
 $\cong$

Empty expression =  $\phi$

$$\mathcal{R}^5 = RRRRR$$



## Kleene Plus (+)

 $R^+$ 

Positive closure of  $R$

one or more occurrence of  $R$

$$\begin{aligned} R^+ &= R^1 + R^2 + R^3 + \dots \\ &= R^{\geq 1} \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} a^+ &\Rightarrow \{a, a^2, a^3, \dots\} \\ &\quad \{a, aa, aaa, \dots\} \end{aligned}$$

$$R^* = R^0 + \underbrace{R^1 + R^2 + R^3 + \dots}_{R^+}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \varepsilon^* &= \varepsilon^0 + \varepsilon^+ \\ \varepsilon &= \varepsilon + \varepsilon \\ \varepsilon &= \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

$$\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon$$

$$\varepsilon^+ = \varepsilon$$

$$R^* = R^0 + R^+$$

$$\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon^+$$

$R^* = R^+$  happens sometimes

why  $R^+ \neq R^* - \{\varepsilon\}$ ?

$$\begin{array}{c|c} \varepsilon^+ & \varepsilon^* - \{\varepsilon\} \\ \hline \{\varepsilon\} & \{\varepsilon\} - \{\varepsilon\} \\ \hline \{\varepsilon\} & \{\} \end{array}$$



wff  
well formed formula

$$R_1 + R_2 = (R_1) + (R_2) = (R_1 + R_2) = (R_1) + R_2 = R_1 + (R_2)$$

$$R_1 \cdot R_2 = R_1 R_2 = (R_1) R_2 = R_1 (R_2) = (R_1 R_2)$$

$$R^* = (R)^* = (R^*)$$

$$R^+ = (R)^+ = (R^+)$$

not wff  
(not exp)

$$R_1 (+) R_2$$



$$R_1 (\cdot) R_2$$



$$R^{(*)}$$



$$R^{(+)}$$



# Properties of $+$ and $\cdot$

*or Concatenation*  
*Binary*

- Associative :
- Identity
- Commutative
- Distributive
- Annihilator (dominator)



# Associativity



$$(A \circ B) \circ C = A \circ (B \circ C)$$

Left operator      Right operator

Left Associative      Right Associative

$$(a+b)+c = a+(b+c)$$

$\{a, b, c\}$

$$(a \cdot b) \cdot c = a \cdot (b \cdot c)$$

$abc$

$$+ : (A+B)+C = A+(B+C)$$

+ satisfies Associative

$$\cdot : (A \cdot B) \cdot C = A \cdot (B \cdot C)$$

• Satisfies Associative



# Identity

$$\phi + \phi = \phi$$

$$a + \phi = a$$

$$\phi + a = a$$

$$ab + \phi = ab$$

$$\varepsilon + \phi = \varepsilon$$

$$ab \cdot \varepsilon = ab$$

$$\varepsilon \cdot ab = ab$$

$$\varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon = \varepsilon$$

$$\varepsilon \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$A \circ I = I \circ A = A$$

Right  
Identity

Left  
Identity

$$+ : A + \boxed{\phi} = \boxed{\phi} + A = A$$

$\phi$  is identity for  $+$

$$\cdot : A \cdot \boxed{\varepsilon} = \boxed{\varepsilon} \cdot A = A$$

$\varepsilon$  is identity for  $\cdot$



# Commutativity

$$A \circ B = B \circ A$$

$$R \cdot \epsilon = \epsilon \cdot R$$

$$R = R$$

$$a \cdot b \neq b \cdot a$$

$$\underbrace{ab} \neq \underbrace{ba}$$

Different

$$+ : A + B = B + A$$

+ satisfies commutative

$$\cdot : A \cdot B \neq B \cdot A$$

• not satisfies commutative



# Distributivity

Left distribution

$\circ$  over  $\square$  :  $A \circ (B \square C) = (A \circ B) \square (A \circ C)$

$\circ$  is distributed over  $\square$

$\square$  over  $\circ$  :  $(A \square B) \circ C = (A \circ C) \square (B \circ C)$

Right distribution

$+$  over  $\cdot$  :  $A + (B \cdot C) \neq (A + B) \cdot (A + C)$

$a + bc \neq (a+b) \cdot (a+c)$   
 $\{a, bc\} \quad \{aa, ac, ba, bc\}$

$\cdot$  should not be distributed over  $+$  :  $(A \cdot B) + C \neq (A + C) \cdot (B + C)$

$\cdot$  over  $+$  :  $A \cdot (B + C) = (A \cdot B) + (A \cdot C)$   
 $(A + B) \cdot C = (A \cdot C) + (B \cdot C)$

$a \cdot (b + c) = ab + ac$



$$\left( A + \left[ (B^+) \cdot (C^*) \right] \right) \Leftarrow A + B^+ \cdot C^*$$

Highest  $1^{st}$  : Kleene star/Kleene plus  
 $2^{nd}$  : Concatenation  
 Lowest  $3^{rd}$  : OR

# Annihilator (Dominator)

$$a \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$\varepsilon \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$\phi \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$R \cdot \varepsilon = R$$

identity

$$R \cdot \phi = \phi$$

dom

+

:

$$A + \boxed{\Sigma^*} = \boxed{\Sigma^*} + A = \boxed{\Sigma^*}$$

contains all strings  
Universal set

$$A \circ \mathbb{D} = \mathbb{D} \circ A = \mathbb{D}$$

Dominator

$$A \cdot \boxed{\phi} = \boxed{\phi} \cdot A = \boxed{\phi}$$



# Basic Regular Expressions



	Associative	Identity	Commutative	Dominator (annihilator)
OR	✓	$\emptyset$	✓	$\Sigma^*$
Concatenation	✓	$\epsilon$	✗	$\emptyset$



# Basic Regular Expressions

$$\textcircled{1} \quad \epsilon + \epsilon = \epsilon$$

$$\textcircled{2} \quad \phi + \phi = \phi$$

$$\textcircled{3} \quad a + a = a$$

$$\textcircled{4} \quad R + R = R$$

$$\textcircled{5} \quad \epsilon \cdot \epsilon = \epsilon$$

$$\textcircled{6} \quad \phi \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$\textcircled{7} \quad a \cdot a = aa = a^2$$

$$\textcircled{8} \quad R \cdot R = RR = R^2$$

$$\textcircled{9} \quad \epsilon^* = \epsilon$$

$$\textcircled{10} \quad \phi^* = \epsilon$$

$$\textcircled{11} \quad a^* = a^0 + a^1 + a^2 + a^3 + \dots$$

$$\textcircled{12} \quad R^* = R^0 + R^1 + \dots$$

$$\textcircled{13} \quad \epsilon^+ = \epsilon$$

$$\textcircled{14} \quad \phi^+ = \phi$$

$$\textcircled{15} \quad a^+ = a^1 + a^2 + a^3 + \dots$$

$$\textcircled{16} \quad R^+ = R^1 + R^2 + R^3 + \dots$$

$$\phi \equiv \phi$$

empty exp      empty set

$$L(\phi) = \phi$$

exp      set

$\varepsilon \cdot \varepsilon$

$$\{\varepsilon\} \cdot \{\varepsilon\} = \{\varepsilon\varepsilon\} = \{\varepsilon\}$$

---

$$\emptyset \cdot \emptyset = \emptyset$$

$$\{a\} \cdot \{a\} = \{aa\}$$



# Basic Regular Expressions

$$(17) \quad \varepsilon + \phi = \varepsilon$$

$$*** (18) \quad \varepsilon + a = \varepsilon + a$$

$$(19) \quad \phi + a = a$$

$$(20) \quad R + \phi = R$$

$$*** (21) \quad R + \varepsilon = R + \varepsilon$$

$$(22) \quad a + \varepsilon = a + \varepsilon = (18)$$

$$(23) \quad \varepsilon \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$(24) \quad \phi \cdot \varepsilon = \phi$$

$$(25) \quad \varepsilon \cdot a = a$$

$$(26) \quad a \cdot \varepsilon = a$$

$$(27) \quad \phi \cdot a = \phi$$

$$(28) \quad a \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$(29) \quad R \cdot \phi = \phi$$

$$(30) \quad \phi \cdot R = \phi$$



$$a + \varepsilon \Rightarrow \{a\} \cup \{\varepsilon\} = \{a, \varepsilon\} = a + \varepsilon$$

$$a + \underbrace{\phi}_{= a} \Rightarrow \{a\} \cup \{\} = \{a\} \Rightarrow a$$

$$\varepsilon + a = \varepsilon + a = a + \varepsilon$$

Diagram illustrating the concatenation of the empty string  $\varepsilon$  and a string  $a$ . Arrows point from  $\varepsilon$  and  $a$  to the word "string".

$$\{\varepsilon\} \cup \{a\} = \{\varepsilon, a\}$$
$$= \{a, \varepsilon\}$$



## Basic Regular Expressions

$$(31) \quad (a + \epsilon)^* =$$

$$(32) \quad (a + \epsilon)^+ =$$

$$(33) \quad (\phi + \epsilon)^* =$$


$$(34) \quad (\phi + a)^* =$$

$$(35) \quad (a \cdot \phi)^* =$$

Q.1



Number of prefixes of "n" length string is \_\_\_\_  
(assume all the symbols in given string are different)

- A.  $n$
-  B.  $n+1$
- C.  $n+2$
- D.  $n-1$



Q.2



$R \cdot \phi = \phi$   <sup>$\nearrow$  Dominator</sup>

$(ab)^* \cdot \phi = \phi$

$((ab)^* \cdot \emptyset)$  is equivalent to

A.  $(ab)^*$

☒ B.  $\emptyset$

C.  $(a+b)^*$

D. None

$R \cdot \epsilon = R$

$(ab)^* \cdot \epsilon = (ab)^*$

Q.3



$$(\emptyset^* \cup (bb^*)) =$$

- A. Epsilon
- B.  $\emptyset$
- C.  $b^+$
- ☒ D.  $b^*$



$$\epsilon \cup b^+$$

$$\epsilon + b^+$$

$$b^0 + b^+ = b^*$$

$$a \cdot a^* = a^+$$

$$a^* \cdot a = a^+$$

$$b \cdot b^* = b^+$$

$$b^* \cdot b = b^+$$



Which of the following is TRUE?

- ✓ A.  $(ab)^*a = a(ba)^*$
- B.  $(aa)^*b = a(ab)^*$
- C.  $(ba)^*a = b(aa)^*$
- D. All of the above

Q.5



OR operator in regular expression satisfies

- A. Associative
- B. Commutative
- ☒ C. both A and B
- D. Neither A nor B



Concatenation operator in regular expression satisfies

- ☒ A. Associative
- ☐ B. Commutative
- ☐ C. both A and B
- ☐ D. Neither A nor B

Which of the following distribution is valid in regular expressions?

- A. OR over CONCATENATION
- ☒ B. CONCATENATION over OR
- C. Both A and B
- D. Neither A nor B



Match the following groups over  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .

**Group-1:**

1. OR identity
2. OR dominator
3. Concatenation identity
4. Concatenation dominator

**Group-2:**

- a. Epsilon
- b. Empty Expression
- c.  $(a+b)^*$
- d.  $(aa)^*$

A. 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d

☒ B. 1-b, 2-c, 3-a, 4-b

C. 1-d, 2-a, 3-b, 4-c

D. None

Q.9



If  $R1 = a^*$ , and  $R2 = (aa)^*$  then  $R1.R2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

- A.  $R1$
- B.  $R2.R1$
- C.  $R1+R2$
- ☒ D. All of these



If  $R1 = a(aa)^*$ , and  $R2 = (aa)^*$  then  $R1 + R2 = \underline{\hspace{2cm}}$

- A.  $R1$
- B.  $R2.R1$
- ☒ C.  $R1^*$
- D. None

# Summary

→ or + ✓

• ✓

Kleene star ✓

Kleene plus ✓

$\phi^0$   
Take zero occurrences of  $\phi$   
 $= \epsilon$

$R^0 = \epsilon$

$S^0 = \epsilon$

$Q^0 = \epsilon$



