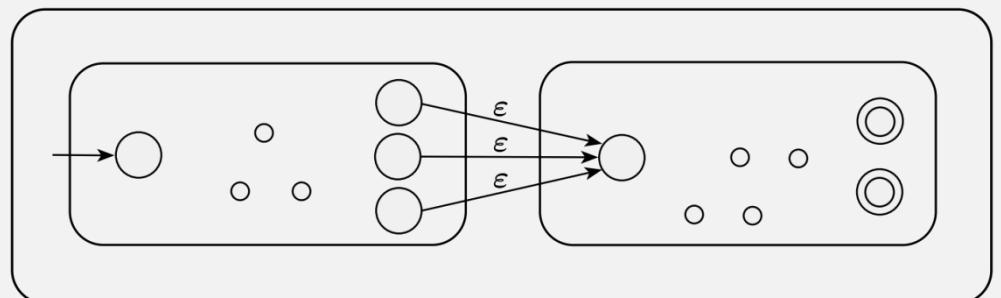


CS 622

# Regular Languages Are Closed Under Concatenation

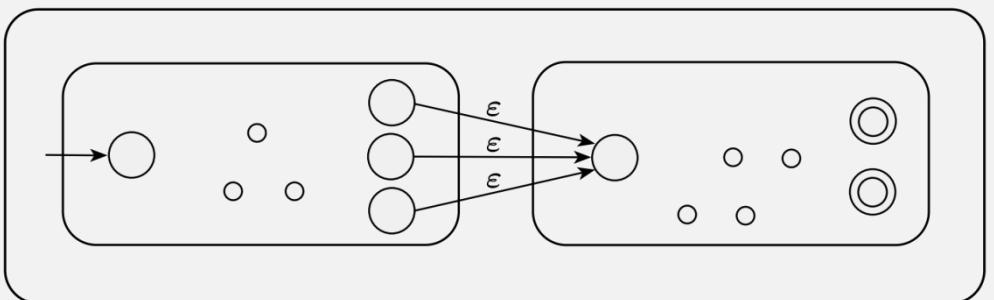
Friday, February 23, 2024

UMass Boston CS



## *Announcements*

- HW 3 out
  - Due Mon 3/4 12pm EST (noon)



Previously

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the **transition function**

# DFA Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$$

- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be an accept state)

Previously

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function

## NFA

# Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):
  - states  $qs \subseteq Q$

Result is set of states

Previously

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function

NFA

# Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

- Domain (inputs):
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  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):  
states  $qs \subseteq Q$

Result is set of states

(Defined recursively)

Base case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \{q\}$$

Recursively Defined Input  
needs  
Recursive Function

Base case

A String is either:

- the **empty string** ( $\varepsilon$ ), or
- $xa$  (non-empty string)  
where
  - $x$  is a **string**
  - $a$  is a “char” in  $\Sigma$

Previously

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function

NFA

# Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):

states  $qs \subseteq Q$

(Defined recursively)

Base case  $\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \{q\}$

Recursive Case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w' w_n) =$$

where  $w' = w_1 \cdots w_{n-1}$

Recursively Defined Input  
needs  
Recursive Function

A String is either:

- the **empty string** ( $\varepsilon$ ), or
- $xa$  (non-empty string)  
where
  - $x$  is a **string**
  - $a$  is a "char" in  $\Sigma$

Recursive case

Recursive part

Recursion on recursive part

"second to last"  
set of states

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w') = \{q_1, \dots, q_k\}$$

Previously

$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function

NFA

# Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):

states  $qs \subseteq Q$

(Defined recursively)

Base case  $\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \{q\}$

Recursive Case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w' w_n) = \bigcup_{i=1}^k \delta(q_i, w_n)$$

where  $w' = w_1 \cdots w_{n-1}$

For each “second to last” state,  
take single step  
on last char

Last char

Recursively Defined Input  
needs  
Recursive Function

A String is either:

- the **empty string** ( $\varepsilon$ ), or
- $xa$  (non-empty string)  
where
  - $x$  is a **string**
  - $a$  is a “char” in  $\Sigma$

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w') = \{q_1, \dots, q_k\}$$

# Adding Empty Transitions

- Define the set  $\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$ 
  - ... to be all states reachable from  $q$  via zero or more empty transitions

(Defined recursively)

- **Base case:**  $q \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$

- **Inductive case:**

A state is in the reachable set if ...

$$\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) = \{r \mid p \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) \text{ and } r \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)\}$$

... there is an empty transition to it from another state in the reachable set

**NFA**

# Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta} : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):
  - states  $qs \subseteq Q$

where  $w' = w_1 \cdots w_{n-1}$

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w') = \{q_1, \dots, q_k\}$$

(Defined recursively)

Base case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$$

Recursive Case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w' w_n) =$$

$$\bigcup_{i=1}^k \delta(q_i, w_n) = \{r_1, \dots, r_\ell\}$$

**NFA**

## Extended Transition Function

$$\hat{\delta} : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$$

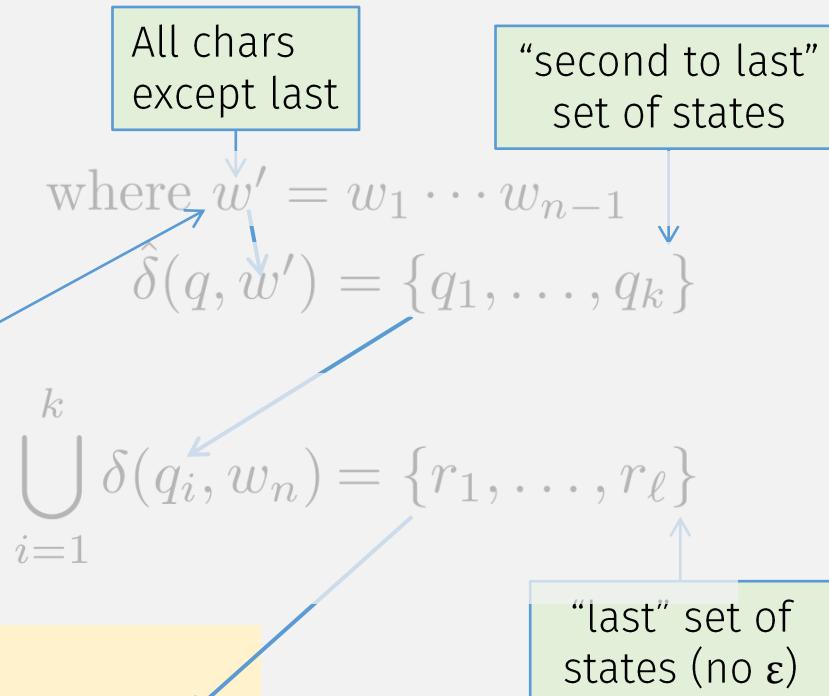
- Domain (inputs):
  - state  $q \in Q$  (doesn't have to be start state)
  - string  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  where  $w_i \in \Sigma$
- Range (output):
  - states  $qs \subseteq Q$

(Defined recursively)

Base case  $\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$

Recursive Case

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w' w_n) = \bigcup_{j=1}^{\ell} \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(r_j)$$



# Summary: NFA vs DFA Computation

## DFAs

- Can only be in one state
- Transition:
  - Must read 1 char
- Acceptance:
  - If final state is accept state

## NFAs

- Can be in multiple states
- Transition
  - Has empty transitions
- Acceptance:
  - If one of final states is accept state

# Is Concatenation Closed?

## **THEOREM**

The class of regular languages is closed under the concatenation operation.

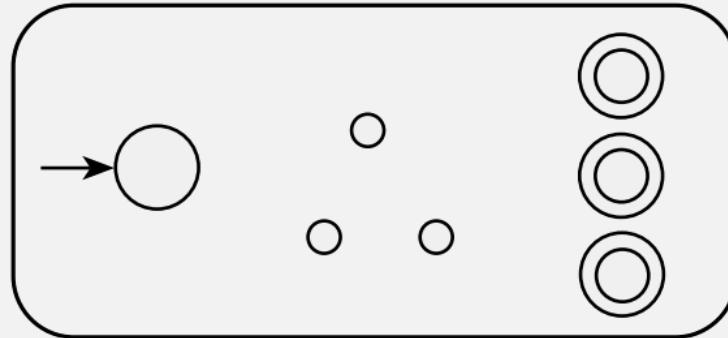
In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages then so is  $A_1 \circ A_2$ .

*Proof requires:* Constructing *new* machine

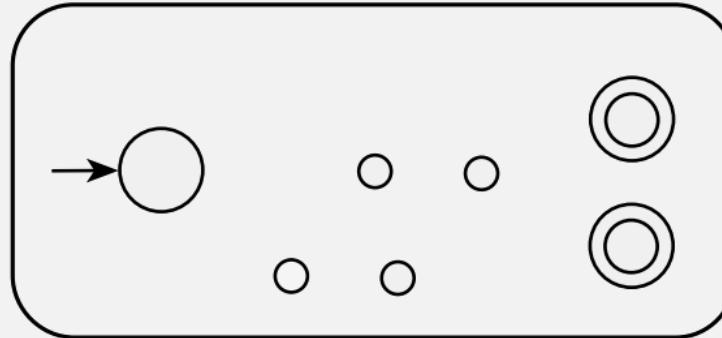
- How does it know when to switch machines?
  - Can only read input once

## Concatenation

$M_1$



$M_2$



Let  $M_1$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  $M_2$  recognize  $A_2$ .

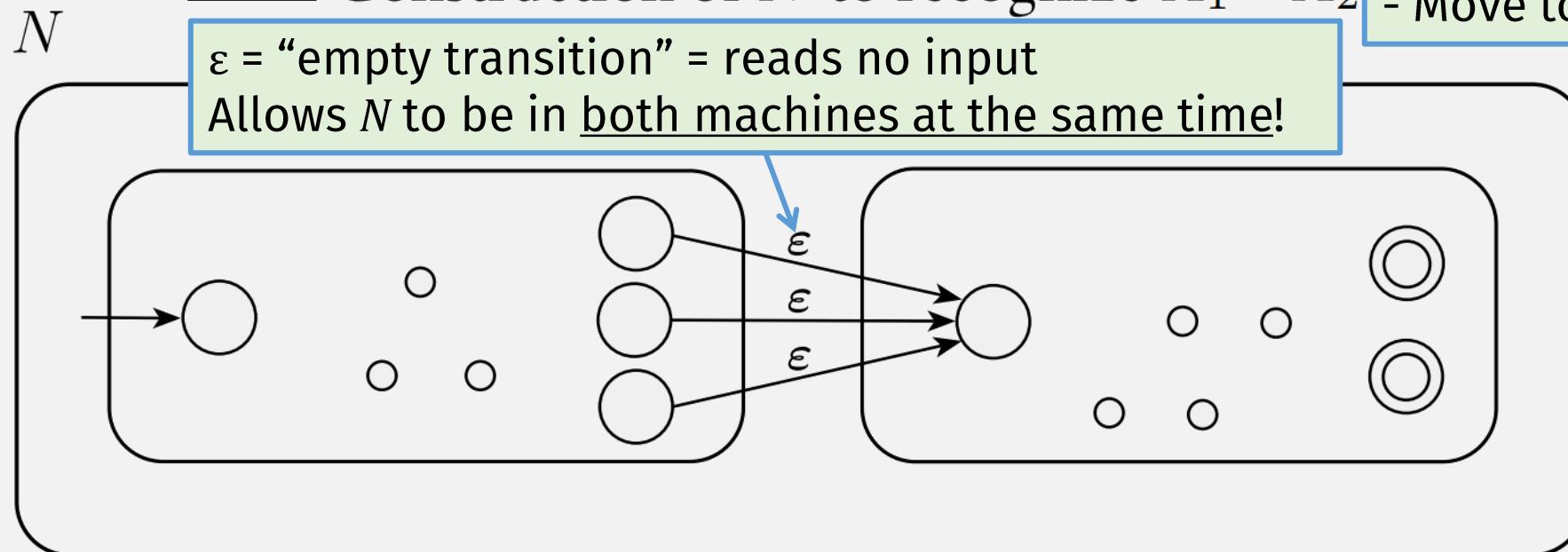
$N$  is an NFA! It can:

- Keep checking 1<sup>st</sup> part with  $M_1$  and
- Move to  $M_2$  to check 2<sup>nd</sup> part

Want: Construction of  $N$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

$\epsilon$  = “empty transition” = reads no input

Allows  $N$  to be in both machines at the same time!



# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Langs

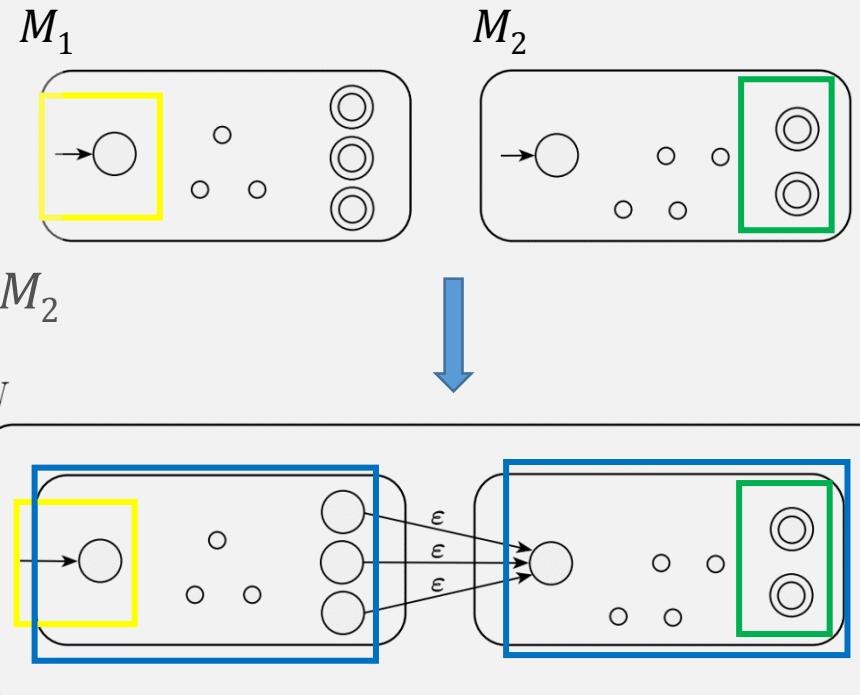
**PROOF** (part of)

Let DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$

DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $M_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $M_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,



# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** (part of)

Let DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$

DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$

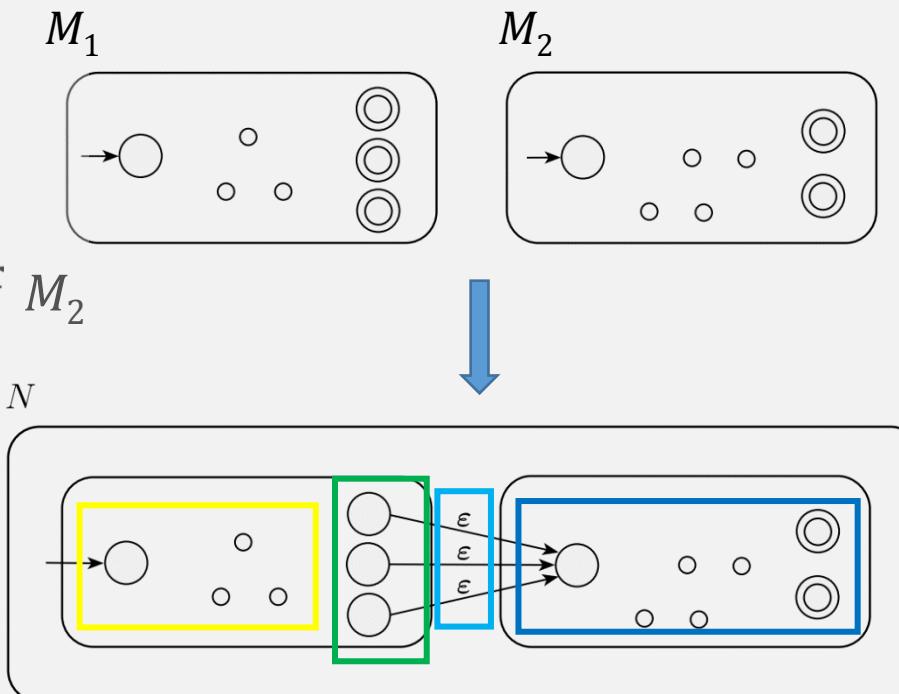
Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $M_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $M_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \{\delta_1(\textcolor{red}{q}, a)\} & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \{\delta_1(\textcolor{red}{q}, a)\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ ? & \{q_2\} \quad q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \{\delta_2(\textcolor{red}{q}, a)\} & q \in Q_2. \end{cases}$$

**NFA def says  $\delta$  must map every state and  $\epsilon$  to set of states**

And:  $\delta(q, \epsilon) = \emptyset$ , for  $q \in Q, q \notin F_1$



# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** (part of)

Let DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$

DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$

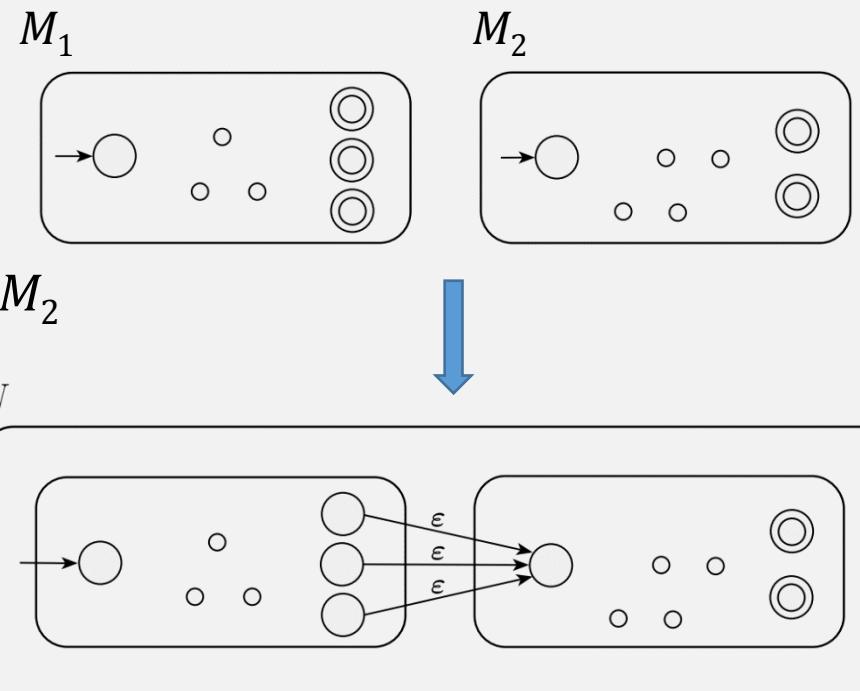
Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $M_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $M_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \{\delta_1(q, a)\} & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \{\delta_1(q, a)\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \varepsilon \\ \{q_2\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \varepsilon \\ \{\delta_2(q, a)\} & q \in Q_2. \end{cases}$$

And:  $\delta(q, \varepsilon) = \emptyset$ , for  $q \in Q, q \notin F_1$

Wait, is this true?



??? ■

# Is Union Closed For Regular Langs?

Proof

## Statements

1.  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages
2. A DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognizes  $A_1$
3. A DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognizes  $A_2$
4. Construct DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
5.  $M$  recognizes  $A_1 \cup A_2$
6.  $A_1 \cup A_2$  is a regular language
7. The class of regular languages is closed under the union operation.

## Justifications

1. Assumption
2. Def of Reg Lang (Coro)
3. Def of Reg Lang (Coro)
4. Def of DFA
5. See Examples Table
6. Def of Regular Language
7. From stmt #1 and #6

In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

Q.E.D.



# Is Concat Closed For Regular Langs?

Proof?

## Statements

1.  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages
2. A DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognizes  $A_1$
3. A DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognizes  $A_2$
4. Construct **NFA**  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
5.  $M$  recognizes  $A_1 \cup A_2$   $A_1 \circ A_2$
6.  $A_1 \cup A_2$   $A_1 \circ A_2$  is a regular language
7. The class of regular languages is closed under concatenation operation.

In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages then so is  $A_1 \circ A_2$ .

## Justifications

1. Assumption
2. Def of Reg Lang (Coro)
3. Def of Reg Lang (Coro)
4. Def of **NFA**
5. See Examples Table
6. **???** Does NFA recognize reg langs?
7. From stmt #1 and #6

Q.E.D.?

Previously

# A DFA's Language

- For DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
- $M$  accepts  $w$  if  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F$
- $M$  recognizes language  $\{w \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$

Definition: A DFA's language is a **regular language**

# An NFA's Language?

- For NFA  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ 
  - Intersection ...
  - ... with accept states ...
- $N$  *accepts*  $w$  if  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset$ 
  - ... is not empty set
- i.e., accept if final states contains at least one accept state
- Language of  $N = L(N) = \{w \mid \hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$

Q: What kind of languages do NFAs recognize?

# Concatenation Closed for Reg Langs?

- Combining DFAs to recognize concatenation of languages ...  
... produces an NFA
- So to prove concatenation is closed ...  
... we must prove that NFAs also recognize regular languages.

Specifically, we must prove:

NFAs  $\Leftrightarrow$  regular languages

# “If and only if” Statements

$$X \Leftrightarrow Y = "X \text{ if and only if } Y" = X \text{ iff } Y = X \Leftrightarrow Y$$

Represents two statements:

1.  $\Rightarrow$  if  $X$ , then  $Y$ 
  - “forward” direction
2.  $\Leftarrow$  if  $Y$ , then  $X$ 
  - “reverse” direction

# How to Prove an “iff” Statement

$$X \Leftrightarrow Y = "X \text{ if and only if } Y" = X \text{ iff } Y = X \Leftrightarrow Y$$

Proof has two (If-Then proof) parts:

1.  $\Rightarrow$  if  $X$ , then  $Y$ 
  - “**forward**” direction
  - assume  $X$ , then use it to prove  $Y$
2.  $\Leftarrow$  if  $Y$ , then  $X$ 
  - “**reverse**” direction
  - assume  $Y$ , then use it to prove  $X$

# NFA $\leftrightarrow$ DFA

A **nondeterministic finite automaton** is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.



A **finite automaton** is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set called the **states**,
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4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the **start state**, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the **set of accept states**.

# Proving NFAs Recognize Regular Langs

Theorem:

A language  $L$  is regular if and only if some NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ .

Proof: 2 parts

⇒ If  $L$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it.

(Easier)

- We know: if  $L$  is regular, then a DFA exists that recognizes it.

- So to prove this part: Convert that DFA → an equivalent NFA! (see HW 3)

⇐ If an NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ , then  $L$  is regular.

Full Statements  
&  
Justifications?

“equivalent” =  
“recognizes the same language”

$\Rightarrow$  If  $L$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it

### Statements

1.  $L$  is a regular language

2. A DFA  $M$  recognizes  $L$

3. Construct NFA  $N = \text{convert}(M)$

4. DFA  $M$  is equivalent to NFA  $N$

5. An NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$

6. If  $L$  is a regular language,  
then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it

### Justifications

1. Assumption

2. Def of Regular lang (Coro)

3. See hw 2 3!

4. See Equiv. table! 

5. ???

Assume the  
“if” part ...

... use it to prove  
“then” part

6. By Stmt #1 and # 5

# “Proving” Machine Equivalence (Table)

Let: DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

NFA  $N = \text{convert}(M)$

$\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F$  for some string  $w$

Note:  
new required column

String	$M$ accepts?	$N$ accepts?	$N$ accepts? Justification
$w$	Yes	??	See justification #1
$w'$	No	??	See justification #2
...			

If  $M$  accepts  $w$  ...

Then we know ...

There is some sequence of states:  $r_1 \dots r_n$ , where  $r_i \in Q$  and

$$r_1 = q_0 \text{ and } r_n \in F$$

Then  $N$  accepts?/rejects?  $w$  because ...

Justification #1?

There is an accepting sequence of set of states in  $N$  ... for string  $w$

# “Proving” Machine Equivalence (Table)

Let: DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

NFA  $N = \text{convert}(M)$

$\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F$  for some string  $w$

$\hat{\delta}(q_0, w') \in F$  for some string  $w'$

If  $M$  accepts  $w'$  ...

Then we know ...

String	$M$ accepts?	$N$ accepts?	$N$ accepts? Justification
$w$	Yes	???	See justification #1
$w'$	No	???	See justification #2?
...			

Then  $N$  accepts?/rejects?  $w'$  because ...

Justification #2?

# Proving NFAs Recognize Regular Langs

Theorem:

A language  $L$  is regular if and only if some NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ .

Proof:

$\Rightarrow$  If  $L$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it.

(Easier)

- We know: if  $L$  is **regular**, then a **DFA** exists that recognizes it.

- So to prove this part: Convert that DFA  $\rightarrow$  an equivalent NFA! (see HW 3)

$\Leftarrow$  If an NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ , then  $L$  is regular.

(Harder)

- We know: for  $L$  to be **regular**, there must be a **DFA** recognizing it

- Proof Idea for this part: Convert given NFA  $N \rightarrow$  an equivalent DFA

“equivalent” =  
“recognizes the same language”

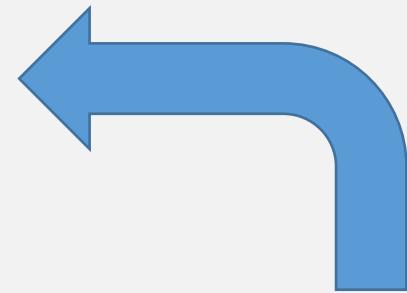
# How to convert NFA→DFA?

A *finite automaton* is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set called the *states*,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite set called the *alphabet*,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the *transition function*,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the *start state*, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the *set of accept states*.

Proof idea:

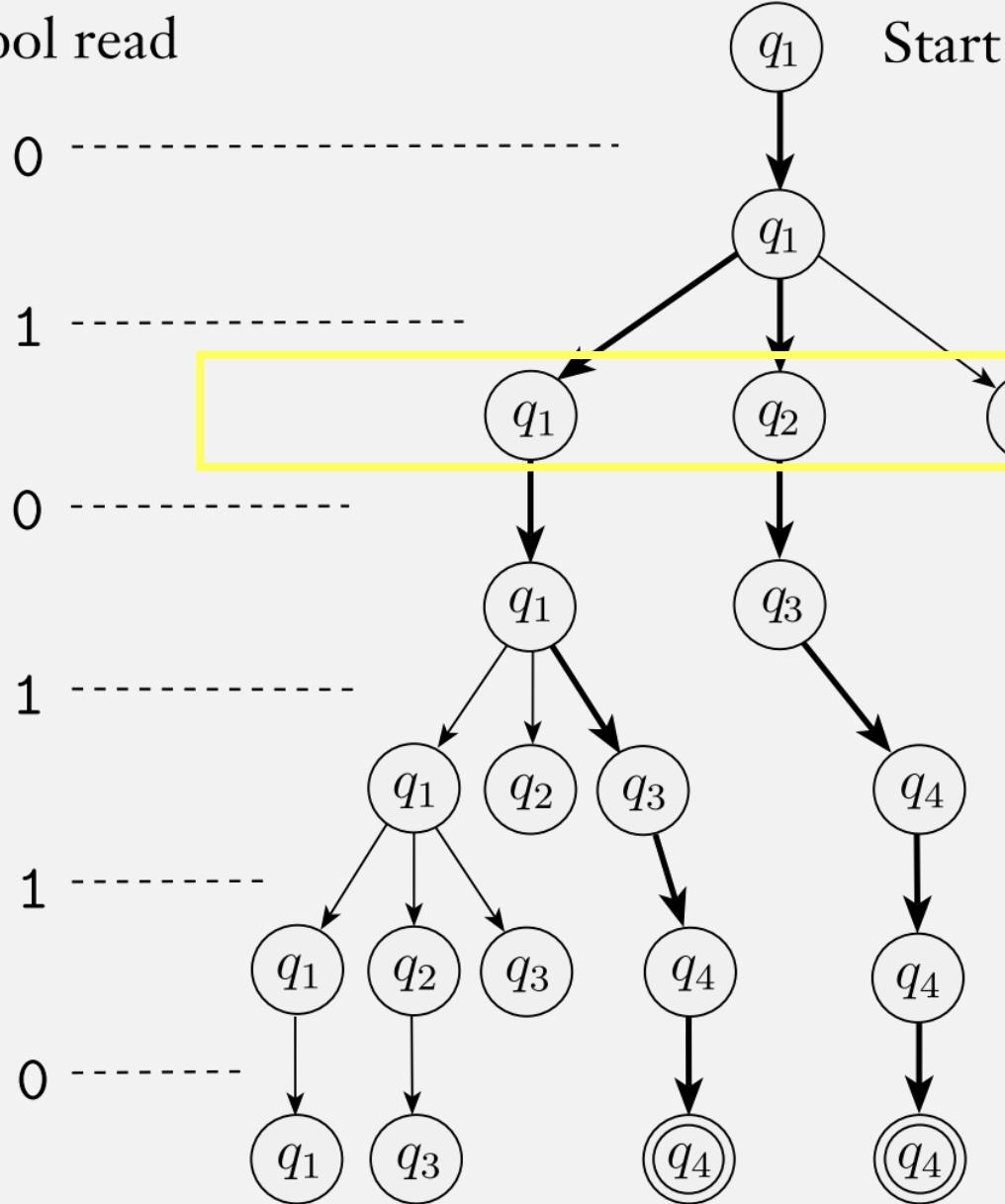
Let each “state” of the DFA  
= set of states in the NFA



A *nondeterministic finite automaton* is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

1.  $Q$  is a finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.

Symbol read



NFA computation can be in multiple states

DFA computation can only be in one state

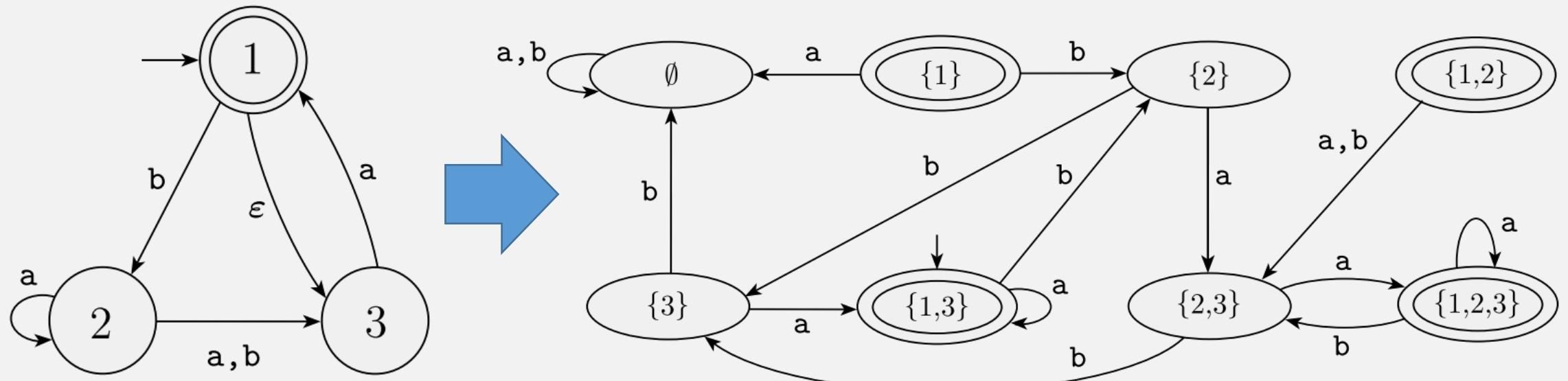
So encode:  
a set of NFA states  
as one DFA state

This is similar to the proof strategy from  
“Closure of union” where:  
a state = a pair of states

# Convert NFA→DFA, Formally

- Let NFA  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
- An equivalent DFA  $M$  has states  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$  (power set of  $Q$ )

# Example:



The NFA  $N_4$

A DFA  $D$  that is equivalent to the NFA  $N_4$

No empty transitions

# NFA→DFA

Have: NFA  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Want: DFA  $M = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_0', F')$

1.  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$  A DFA state = a set of NFA states

2. For  $R \in Q'$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\delta'(R, a) = \bigcup_{r \in R} \delta(r, a)$$

A DFA step = an NFA step for all states in the set

$R$  = DFA state = set of NFA states

3.  $q_0' = \{q_0\}$

4.  $F' = \{R \in Q' \mid R \text{ contains an accept state of } N\}$

# *Flashback:* Adding Empty Transitions

- Define the set  $\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$ 
  - ... to be all states reachable from  $q$  via zero or more empty transitions

(Defined recursively)

- **Base case:**  $q \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$

- **Recursive case:**

A state is in the reachable set if ...

$$\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) = \{r \mid p \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) \text{ and } r \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)\}$$

... there is an empty transition to it from another state in the reachable set

With empty transitions

## NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA

Have: NFA  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Want: DFA  $M = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_0', F')$

1.  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$

2. For  $R \in Q'$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\delta'(R, a) = \bigcup_{s \in S} \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(s)$$

Almost the same, except ...

$$S = \bigcup_{r \in R} \delta(r, a)$$

3.  $q_0' = \underline{\{q_0\}} \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q_0)$

4.  $F' = \{R \in Q' \mid R \text{ contains an accept state of } N\}$

# Proving NFAs Recognize Regular Langs

Theorem:

A language  $L$  is regular if and only if some NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ .

Proof:

⇒ If  $L$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it.

(Easier)

- We know: if  $L$  is **regular**, then a **DFA** exists that recognizes it.
- So to prove this part: Convert that DFA → an equivalent NFA! (see HW 3)

⇐ If an NFA  $N$  recognizes  $L$ , then  $L$  is regular.

(Harder)

- We know: for  $L$  to be **regular**, there must be a **DFA** recognizing it
- Proof Idea for this part: Convert given NFA  $N$  → an equivalent DFA ...  
... using our NFA to DFA algorithm!

Statements  
&  
Justifications?

# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Langs

## PROOF

Let DFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$

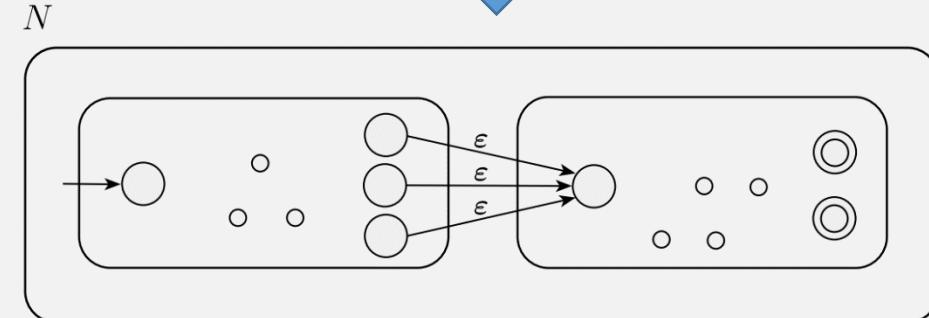
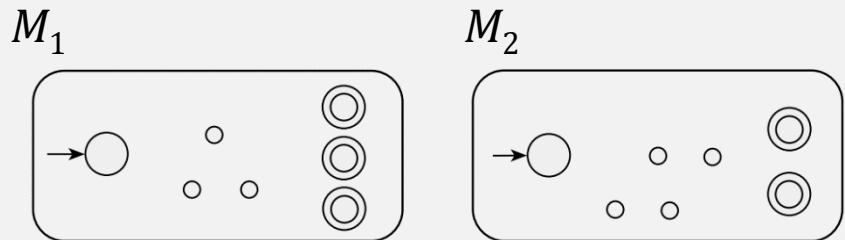
DFA  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $M_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $M_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \{\delta_1(q, a)\} & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \{\delta_1(q, a)\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ \{q_2\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \{\delta_2(q, a)\} & q \in Q_2. \end{cases}$$

If a language has an NFA recognizing it, then it is a **regular** language



Wait, is this true?

■

# Concat Closed for Reg Langs: Use NFAs Only

## PROOF

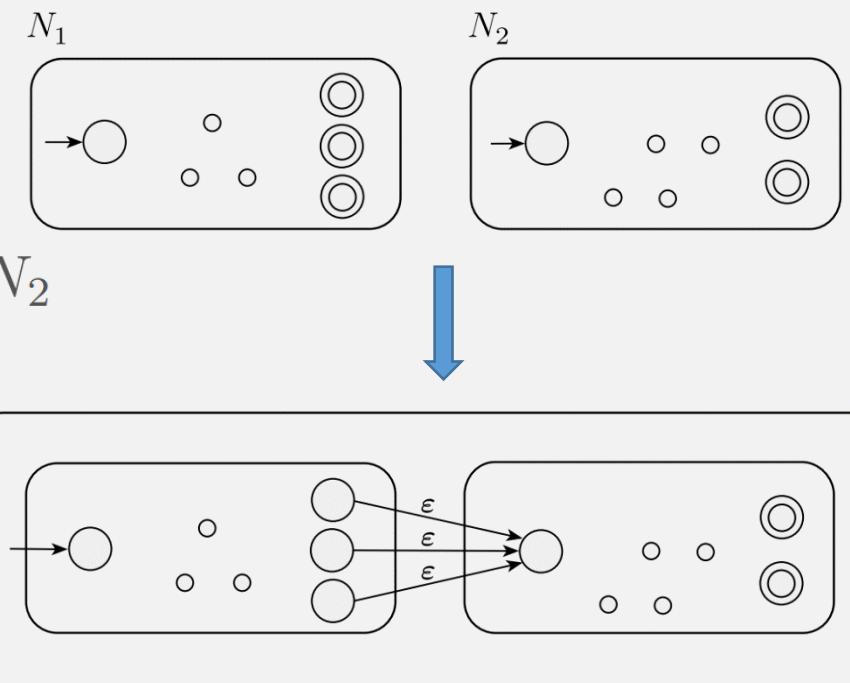
Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
NFAs  $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

If language is **regular**,  
then it has an **NFA** recognizing it ...

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $N_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $N_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(q, a) & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \delta_1(q, a) & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ ? & \{q_2\} \\ \delta_2(q, a) & q \in Q_2. \end{cases}$$



**Union:**  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$

# Flashback: Union is Closed For Regular Langs

## THEOREM

The class of regular languages is closed under the union operation.

In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

### Proof:

- How do we prove that a language is regular?
  - Create a DFA or **NFA** recognizing it!
- Combine the machines recognizing  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ 
  - Should we create a **DFA** or **NFA**?

# *Flashback:* Union is Closed For Regular Langs

## Proof

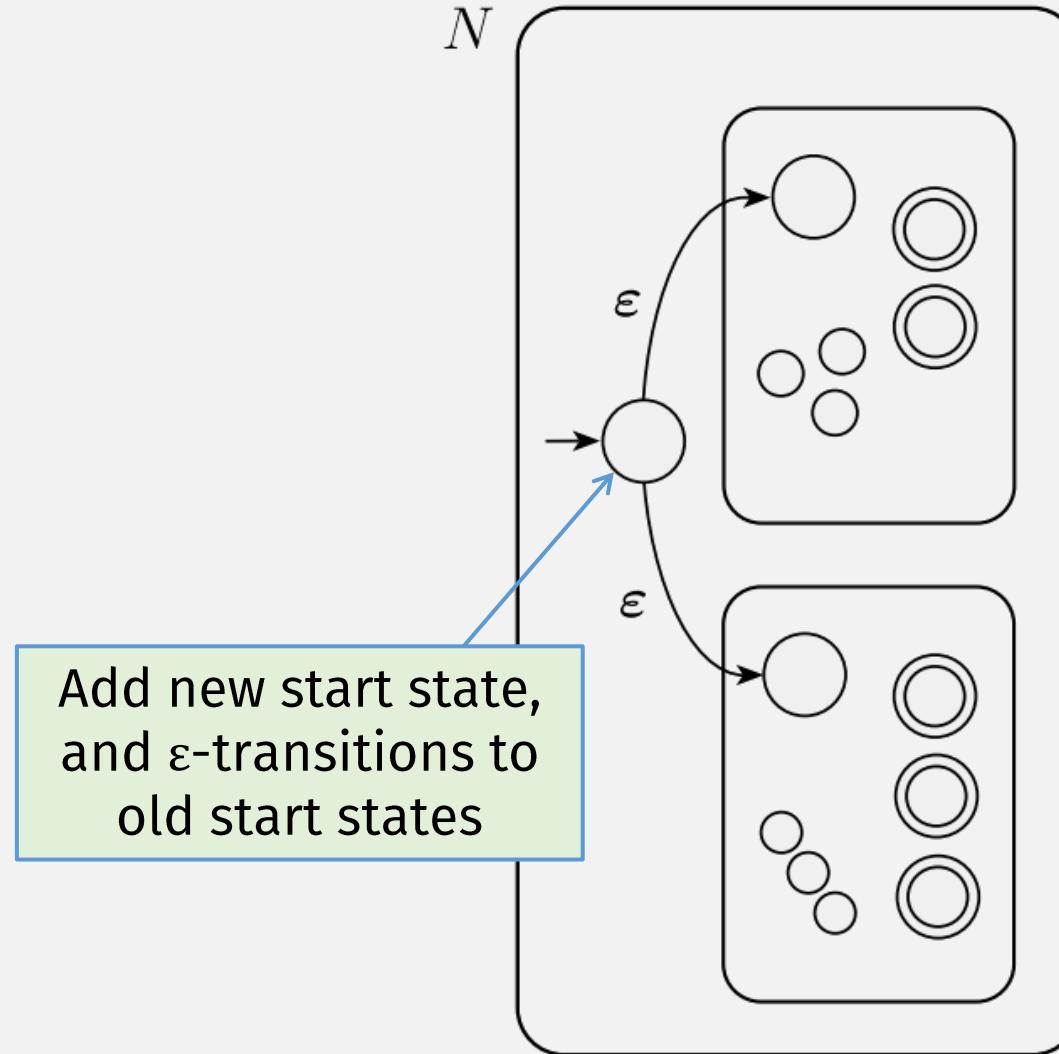
- Given:  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$ , recognize  $A_1$ ,
- $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$ , recognize  $A_2$ ,
- Construct: a new machine  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  using  $M_1$  and  $M_2$
- states of  $M$ :  $Q = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } r_2 \in Q_2\} = Q_1 \times Q_2$   
This set is the **Cartesian product** of sets  $Q_1$  and  $Q_2$
- $M$  transition fn:  $\delta((r_1, r_2), a) = (\delta_1(r_1, a), \delta_2(r_2, a))$
- $M$  start state:  $(q_1, q_2)$
- $M$  accept states:  $F = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } r_2 \in F_2\}$

State in  $M$  =  
 $M_1$  state +  
 $M_2$  state

$M$  step =  
a step in  $M_1$  + a step in  $M_2$

Accept if either  $M_1$  or  $M_2$  accept

# Union is Closed for Regular Languages



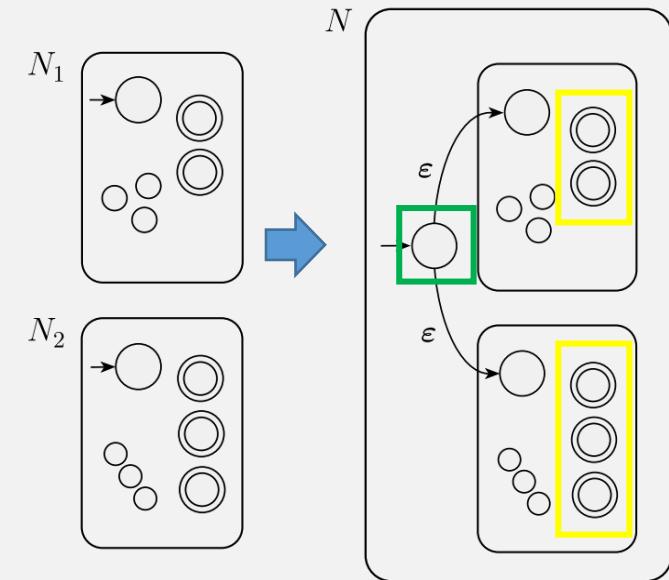
# Union is Closed for Regular Languages

## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, [q_0], F)$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

1.  $Q = [q_0] \cup Q_1 \cup Q_2$ .
2. The state  $[q_0]$  is the start state of  $N$ .
3. The set of accept states  $[F] = F_1 \cup F_2$ .



# Union is Closed for Regular Languages

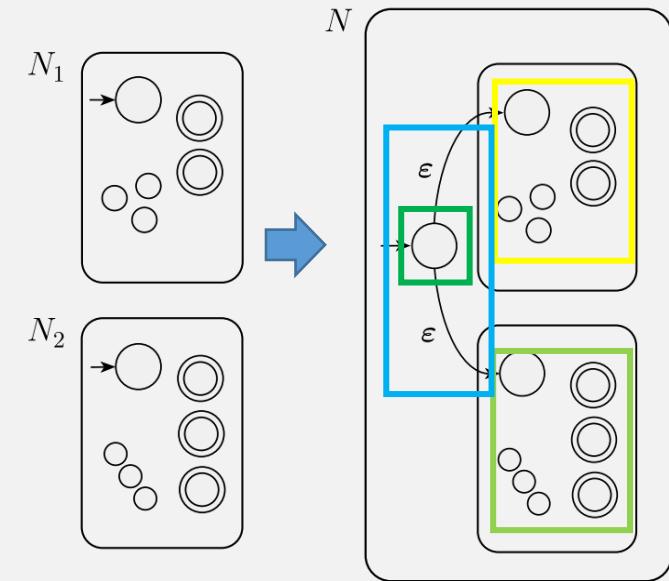
## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1 \cup Q_2$ .
2. The state  $q_0$  is the start state of  $N$ .
3. The set of accept states  $F = F_1 \cup F_2$ .
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(?, a) & q \in Q_1 \\ \delta_2(?, a) & q \in Q_2 \\ \{q_1 ? q_2\} & q = q_0 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \emptyset & q = q_0 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \end{cases}$$



Don't forget  
Statements  
and  
Justifications!

# List of Closed Ops for Reg Langs (so far)

- Union
- Concatentation
- Kleene Star (repetition) ?

**Star:**  $A^* = \{x_1 x_2 \dots x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$

# Kleene Star Example

Let the alphabet  $\Sigma$  be the standard 26 letters  $\{a, b, \dots, z\}$ .

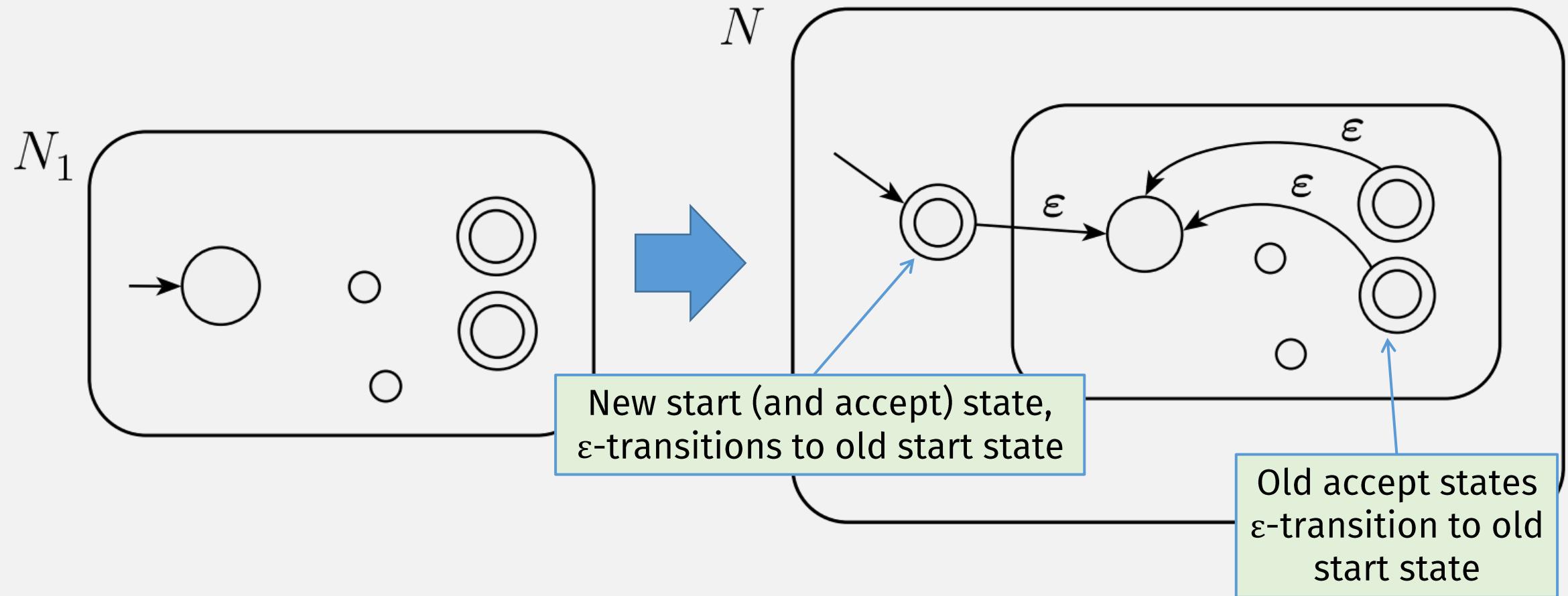
If  $A = \{\text{good}, \text{bad}\}$

$$A^* = \{\epsilon, \text{good}, \text{bad}, \text{goodgood}, \text{goodbad}, \text{badgood}, \text{badbad}, \text{goodgoodgood}, \text{goodgoodbad}, \text{goodbadgood}, \text{goodbadbad}, \dots\}$$

Note: repeat zero or more times

(this is an infinite language!)

## Kleene Star



*In-class exercise:*

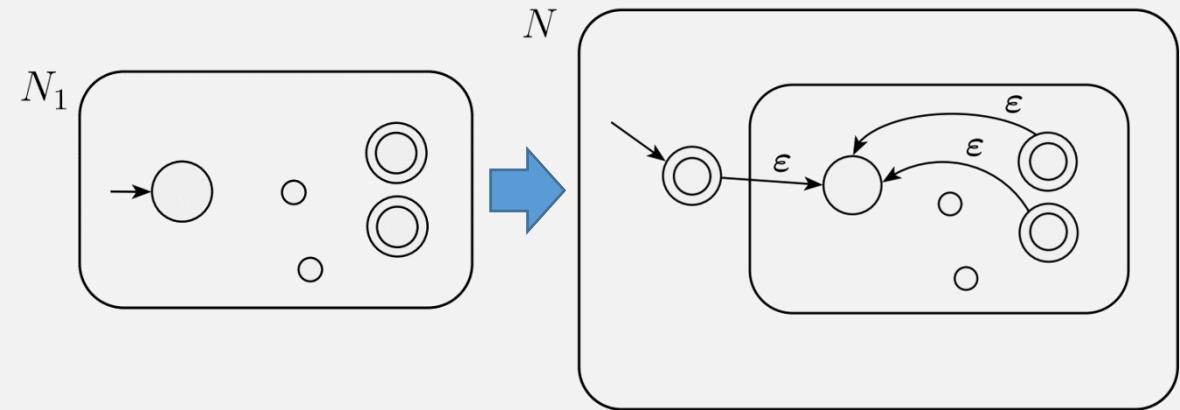
# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

## **THEOREM**

The class of regular languages is closed under the star operation.

# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ . Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ .

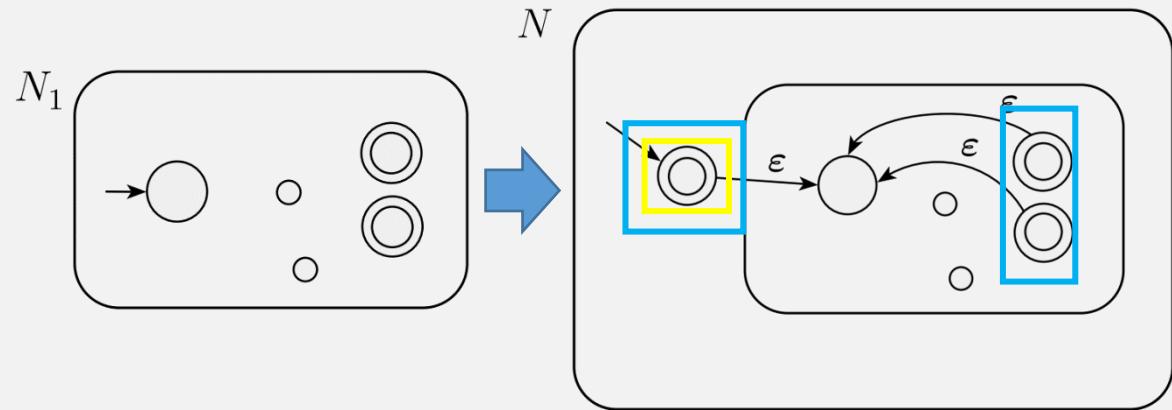


# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ . Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ .

1.  $Q = \boxed{\{q_0\}} \cup Q_1$
2. The state  $\boxed{q_0}$  is the new start state.
3.  $F = \boxed{\{q_0\} \cup F_1}$

Kleene star of a language must accept the empty string!

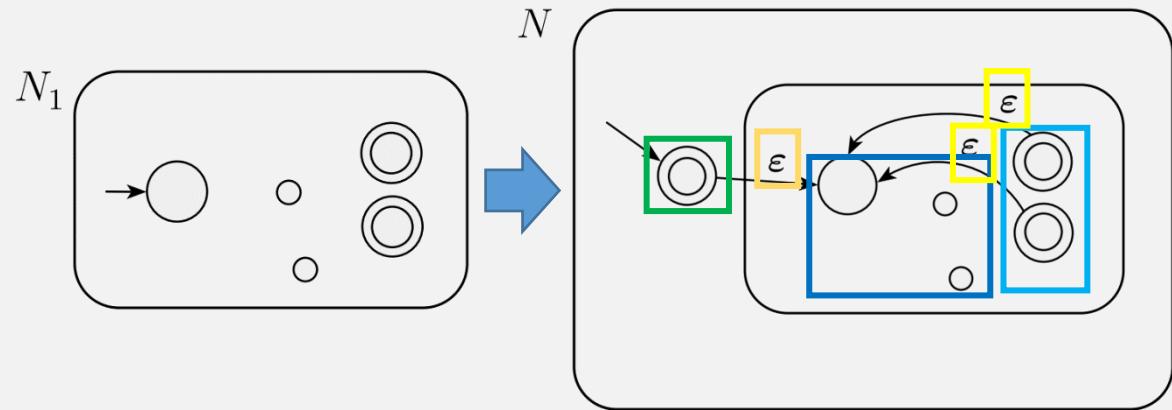


# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ . Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ .

1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1$
2. The state  $q_0$  is the new start state.
3.  $F = \{q_0\} \cup F_1$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(q, a)? & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \delta_1(q, a)? & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ \delta_1(q, a)? \cup \{q_1\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \{q_1\} ? & q = q_0 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \emptyset ? & q = q_0 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon. \end{cases}$$



# *Next Time:* Why These Closed Operations?

- Union
- Concat
- Kleene star

All regular languages can be constructed from:

- single-char strings, and
- these three combining operations!

**Submit in-class work 2/26**

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