

# Finite Automata

## 204213 Theory of Computation

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# Outline

- 1 Examples
- 2 Formal definitions
- 3 Designing finite automata
- 4 Regular operations
- 5 Nondeterminism

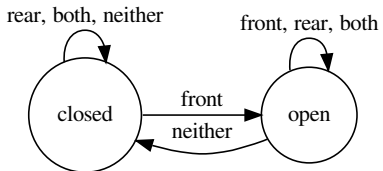
# An automatic door

- Recall our automatic door example from last time?

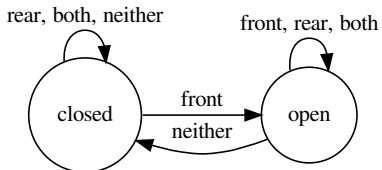
# An automatic door

- Recall our automatic door example from last time?
- Let's see a simulation.

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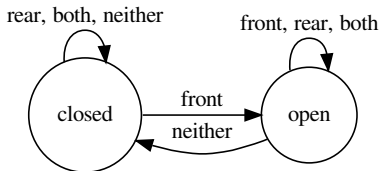


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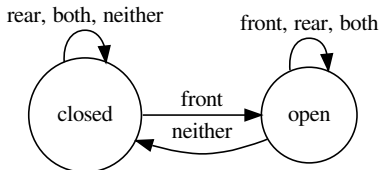
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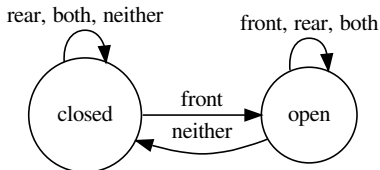
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- There are two **states**: **closed** and **open**
- There are 4 possible inputs, and the state of the machine changes (or remains) after each input.



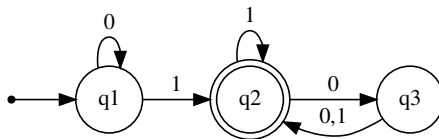
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- See that in table form:

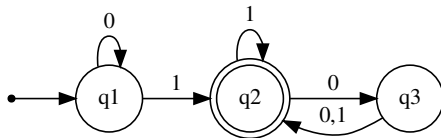
	neither	front	rear	both
closed	closed	open	closed	closed
open	closed	open	open	open

# Another automaton: $M_1$



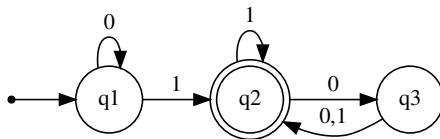
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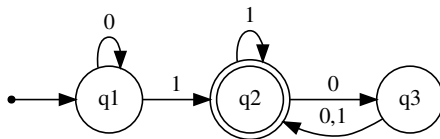
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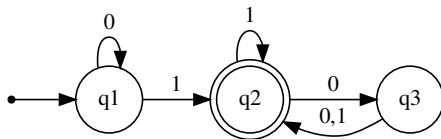
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- Arrows are **transitions**.

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- Notation

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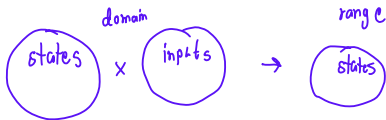
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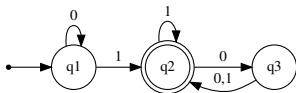


# Definition [finite automaton]

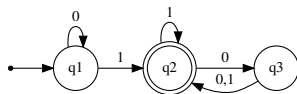
A **finite automaton** is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  where

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

# Formal definition of $M_1$



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$M_1 = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F)$ , where

- ①  $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$ ,
- ②  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ,
- ③  $\delta$  can be described as

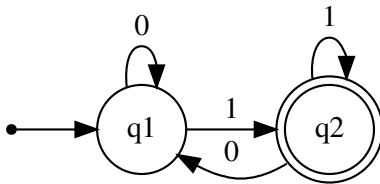
	0	1
$q_1$	$q_1$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_2$
$q_3$	$q_2$	$q_2$

- ④  $q_1$  is the start state, and
- ⑤  $F = \{q_2\}$ .

# Finite automaton $M_2$

$$M_2 = (\{q_1, q_2\}, \{0, 1\}, \delta, q_1, q_2)$$

โดย  $\delta$  มีนิยาม

$$\begin{array}{c|cc} \delta & 0 & 1 \\ \hline q_1 & q_1 & q_2 \\ \hline q_2 & q_1 & q_2 \end{array}$$


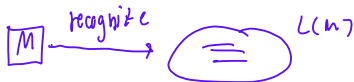
$$L(M_2) = \{w \mid w \text{ is a string that ends with } 1\}$$

# Language of a machine

↓ set of string

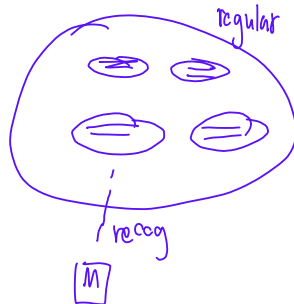
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- We write  $L(M) = A$ .
- We also say that  **$M$  recognizes  $A$** .

not  $A$   
machine



# Language of machine $M_1$

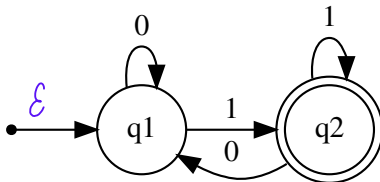
- Let  $A = \{w \mid w \text{ contains at least one 1 and an even number of 0's follow the last 1}\}.$
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- Let  $A = \{w \mid w \text{ contains at least one 1 and an even number of 0's follow the last 1}\}$ .
- $L(M_1) = A$
- Or, we can say that  $M_1$  recognizes  $A$ .

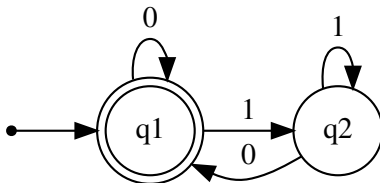


# Finite automaton $M_2$



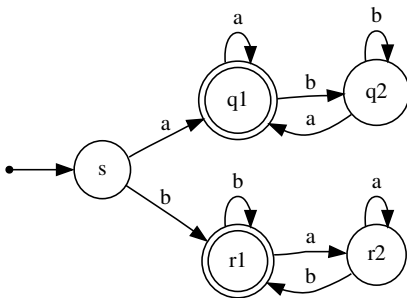
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# Finite automaton $M_3$



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# Finite automaton $M_4$



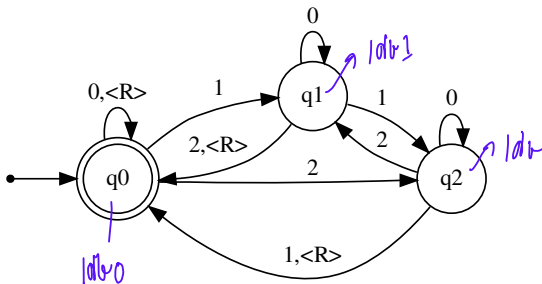
$a \rightarrow q$

$b \rightarrow b$

What is the language that  $M_4$  recognizes?

# Finite automaton $M_5$

$L(M_5) = \{ w \mid w \text{ มีจำนวนตัวอักษรที่มากกว่า 3 ตัว} \}$



What is the language that  $M_5$  recognizes?

# Formal definition of computation

Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a finite automaton and let  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  be a string over alphabet  $\Sigma$ .  **$M$  accepts  $w$**  if

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- ①  $r_0 = q_0$ ,
- ②  $\delta(r_i, w_{i+1}) = r_{i+1}$  for  $i = 0, \dots, n-1$ , and  $\leftarrow$  *intermediate states*
- ③  $r_n \in F$ . *accepting*

# Definition [regular language]

- **$M$  recognizes language  $A$**  if  $A = \{w \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$ .

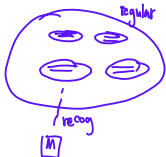


# Definition [regular language]

- **$M$  recognizes language  $A$**  if  $A = \{w \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$ .
- A language is called a **regular language** if some finite automaton recognizes it.



↓  
set of language  
 $\{ "a^n", "n1^n" \}$



# Designing finite automata

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## Tips:

- Pretending that you are the automaton.
- You get one input at a time.
- Think about what you have to **remember** to make decision correctly. (That would be a set of states.)

# Practice

Language consisting of all strings with an odd number of 1's.

# Building more complex finite automata

- Let  $\Sigma = \{0, 1, 2\}$ .
- Can you build a finite automaton  $M_3$  that accepts all strings whose sums are divisible by 3?

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- Can you build a finite automaton  $M_5$  that accepts all strings whose sums are divisible by 3 or 5?

$L_3 \cup L_5$  is regular by the



# Construction from smaller building boxes

This is one of important ideas in computer science.

# Regular operations

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# A set and operations

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- A collection of objects is **closed under some operation** if applying that operation to objects in that set only result in object in that set.
- E.g., a set of natural number  $\mathcal{N}$  is closed under multiplication.

# Definition [regular operations]

For a language  $A$  and  $B$ , the regular operations **union**, **concatenation**, and **star** can be defined as follows.

- **Union:**  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$
- **Concatenation:**  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$  *lai string minon*
- **Star:**  $A^* = \{x_1 x_2 \cdots x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$

*↳ 0, 1, 00, 000, ...*



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- How can we answer that?

$M_1$   $M_2$

$M_1$  recognize  $A_1$

$M_2$  —  $A_2$

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  - **Goal:** to show that there exists a finite automaton recognizing  $A_1 \cup A_2$ ,
  - **Given that:** there are finite automata  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $M_1$  recognizes  $A_1$  and  $M_2$  that recognizes  $A_2$ .

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## Theorem

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

"get"



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- Proof by construction.
- We know that there are finite automata  $M_1$  that recognizes  $A_1$  and  $M_2$  that recognizes  $A_2$ .
- We shall construct  $M$  that recognizes  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

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  - Can we use them to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ ?



# Given

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- Machine  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognizing  $A_1$
- Machine  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognizing  $A_2$

# Machine $M$ recognizing $A_1 \cup A_2$

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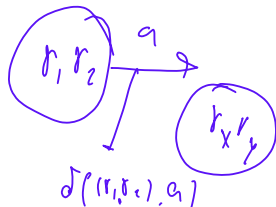
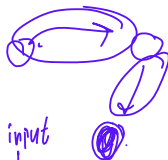
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- $q_0 = (q_1, q_2)$ ,
- $F = \{(r_1, r_2) \mid r_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } r_2 \in F_2\}$



# Other regular operations

concrete note



- Can we use the same technique to prove that  $A_1 \circ A_2$  is regular?



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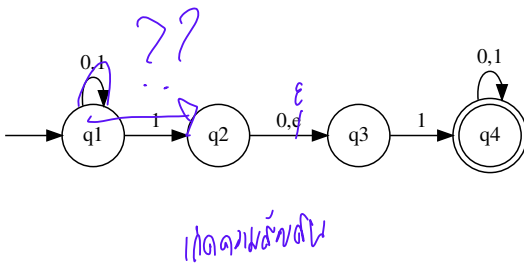
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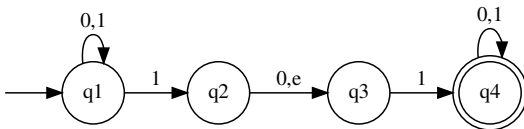
# Example: Nondeterministic Finite Automaton $N_1$



Note:  $\epsilon$  in the figure is  $\epsilon$ .



# Differences



- Duplicate symbols
- Missing symbols
- Empty string:  $\epsilon$

# Deterministic and Nondeterministic Finite Automata

- Previously, we only consider finite automata whose next states are **determined** by their input alphabet and their current states.

↓  
กำหนด ไม่กำหนด

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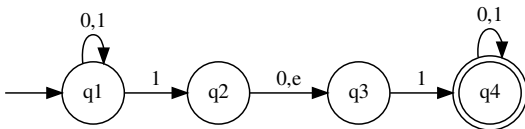
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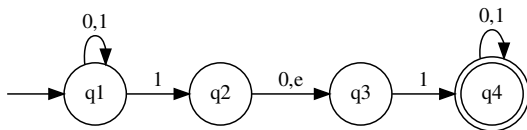
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- Computation where each next step is fully determined is called **deterministic** computation.
- On the other hand, in **nondeterministic** computation, many choices may exist.
- Therefore, we have deterministic finite automata (**DFA**) and nondeterministic finite automata (**NFA**).

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At any point where there are many choices for the next step, the machine **splits** itself into many copies and follow all possible steps in parallel.

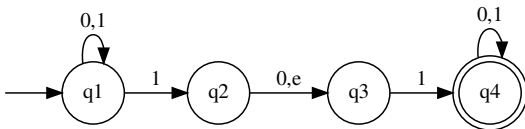
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See simulation.



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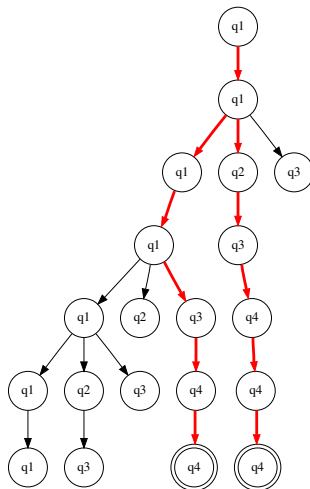
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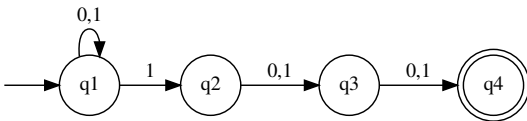
- If there are many choices, split.
- Copies die if they can't move according to the input.
- When to accept a string:
  - At the end of the input, if **any** of the copies is in an accept state, it **accept** the input.

# $N_1$ on 010110

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NFA  $N_2$ : what are the strings accepted by  $N_2$ ?



# NFA $N_3$ : what are the strings accepted by $N_3$ ?

Let  $\{0\}$  be the alphabet for  $N_3$ .

