

## FCS Week 7 Lecture Note

Notebook: Fundamentals of Computer Science

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Author: SUKHJIT MANN

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Cornell Notes	<b>Topic:</b> Automata Theory Part 1	Course: BSc Computer Science
		Class: CM1025 Fundamentals of Computer Science[Lecture]
		Date: April 28, 2021

### Essential Question:

What is an automata?

### Questions/Cues:

- What is an Alphabet  $\Sigma$ ?
- What is a string or word?
- What are empty strings?
- How do we denote the length of a string?
- How do we denote the set of all strings composed using letters in sigma?
- How do we denote the set of all non-empty strings composed using letters from sigma?
- What is  $\Sigma^k$ ?
- What is a language?
- What is a finite automaton?
- What are states?
- What are transitions?
- What are accepting states?
- What is a 5-tuple?
- What is the language of a automaton?

# Definitions

- An **Alphabet**,  $\Sigma$ , is a non-empty set of symbols
- For example:  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  is a binary alphabet.  $\Sigma = \{a, b, \dots, z\}$  is the collection of lowercase letters
- A **string** or word is a finite sequence of letters drawn from an alphabet
- For example:  $x = 01110101$  is a binary string. "Life is good" is also a string
- Empty strings denoted by  $\epsilon$  are strings with zero occurrences of letters. Empty strings can be from any alphabet.

## Definitions

- Length of a string,  $x$ , is the sum of occurrences of its symbols, denoted by  $|x|$
- For example: if  $x = 01110101$  then  $|x| = 8$ , the length of "Life is good" is 12
- The set of **all strings** composed from letters in  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $\Sigma^*$
- For example: if  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  then  $\Sigma^* = \{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 01, 10, 11, \dots\}$
- The set of **all non-empty strings** composed from letters in  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $\Sigma^+$ .

## Definitions

- The set of **all strings of length  $k$**  composed from letters in  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $\Sigma^k$
- For example:  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  then  $\Sigma^2 = \{00, 01, 10, 11\}$ 
  - $\Sigma^3 = \{000, 001, 010, 011, 100, 101, 110, 111\}$
  - Size of  $\Sigma^k = |\Sigma|^k$
- A language is a collection of strings over an alphabet
- For example: the language of palindromes over the binary alphabet is  $\{\epsilon, 0, 1, 00, 11, 000, 010, 101, 111, \dots\}$ .
  - Note if sigma k is finite, it's size is the size of the alphabet to the power of k.

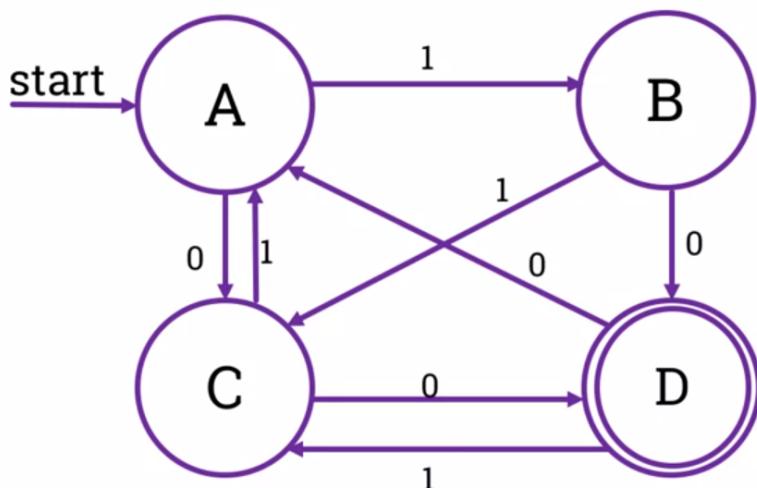
# Examples

- If  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$  then what is  $\Sigma^2$ ?
- There must be  $3^2 = 9$  strings in this set
- $\Sigma^2 = \{aa, ab, ac, ba, bb, bc, ca, cb, cc\}$
- What about  $\Sigma^1$ ?
- $\Sigma^1$  has three strings.  $\Sigma^1 = \{a, b, c\}$
- Is  $\Sigma^1$  the same as  $\Sigma$ ?
- The answer is no! Elements in  $\Sigma$  are called symbols and they are letters, whereas the elements in  $\Sigma^1$  are strings; they just happen to have length 1
- Do not mix types in programming.

## What is a finite automaton?

- A **finite automaton** is a simple mathematical machine; it is a representation of how computations are performed with limited memory space
- It is a model of computation, which consists of a set of states that are connected by transitions
- It has input. We will see later on
- It has output: Reject or Accept.

## Example

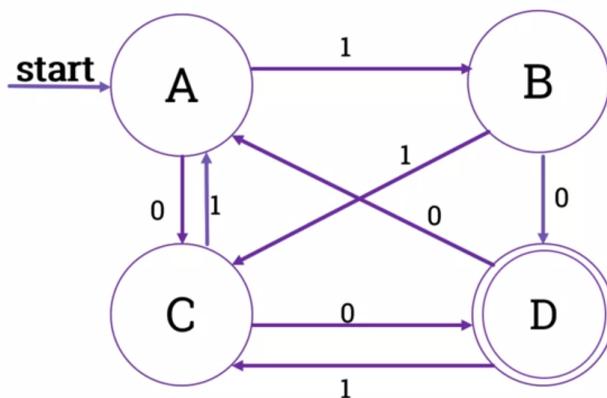


- The circles are the states of the automaton. The one with an arrow coming from nowhere or labeled start is called the initial state or the beginning of the computation.
- The labels or "numbers" on the arrows are called transitions and the labels are the alphabet dictating what to do next
- The arrow labeled "1" or transition "1" from A to B tells us that if we are at state A and we read "1" or one, we go to state B. On the other hand, if we are at A and we read zero or "0", we go the state C
- Double circled states are called accepting states. If the computation ends at any of the accepting states, the machine outputs accept, otherwise it outputs reject.
- Five-tuple = is a sequence of five elements

**An automaton M is 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where:**

- $Q$  is a finite set called the **states**
- $\Sigma$  is a finite set called **the alphabet**
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the **transition function**
- $q_0 \in Q$  is the **start state**
- $F \subseteq Q$  is the **set of accept states**

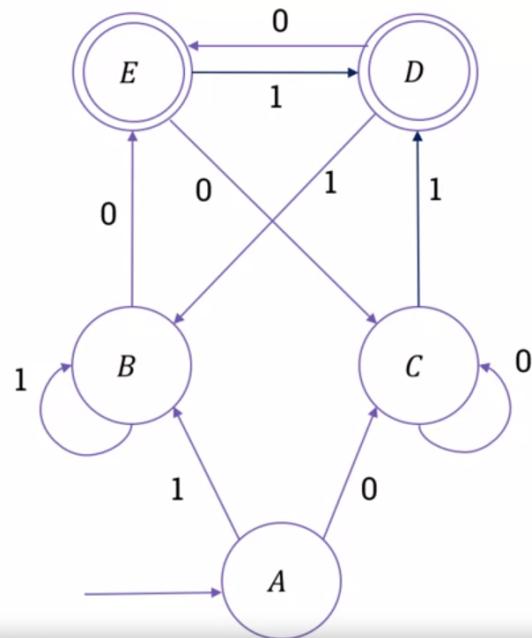
## Example



- $Q = \{A, B, C, D\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- $q_0 = A$
- $F = \{D\}$
- $\delta = ?$

$\delta$	0	1
A	C	B
B	D	C
C	D	A
*D	A	C

# Example

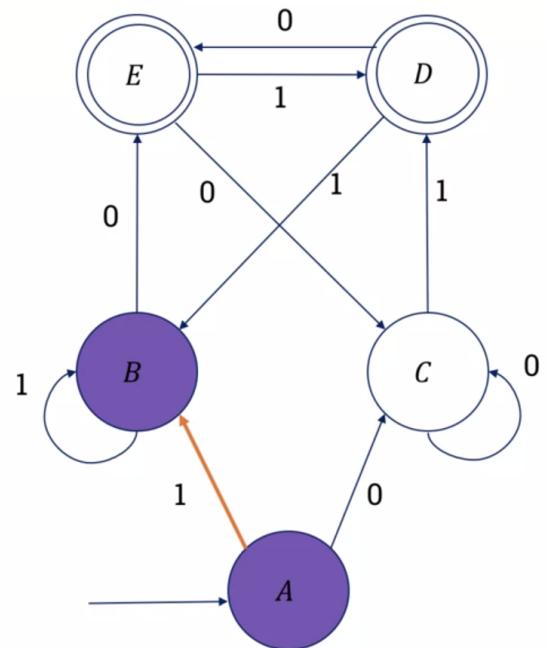


- $Q = \{A, B, C, D, E\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- $q_0 = A$
- $F = \{D, E\}$

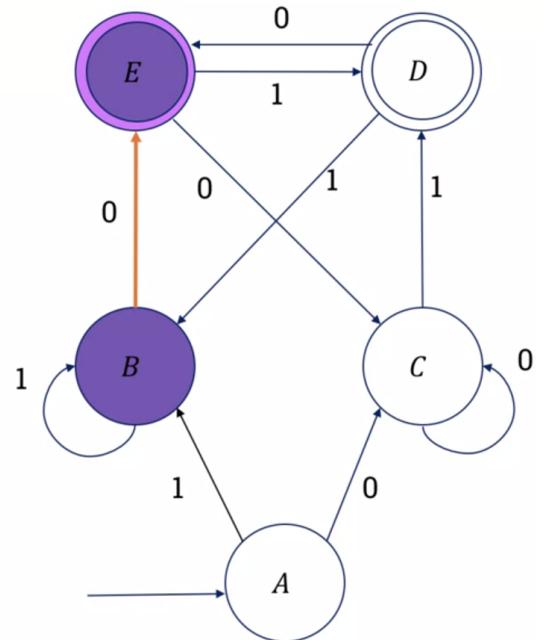
•  $\delta =$

	0	1
A	C	B
B	E	B
C	C	D
*D	E	B
*E	C	D

• 10011  
↑



•10011

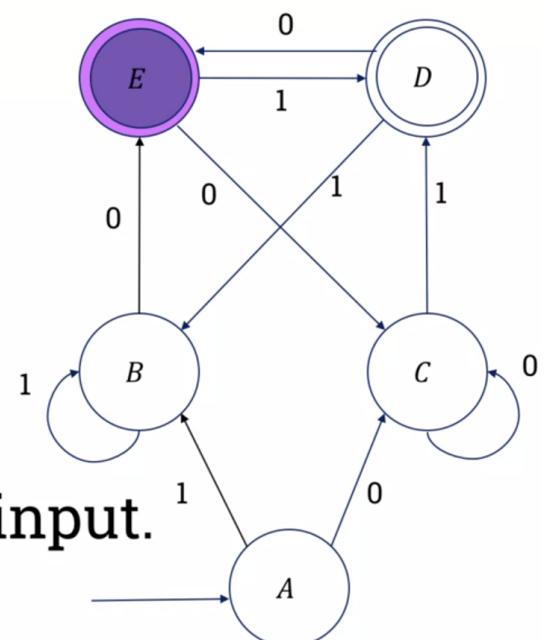


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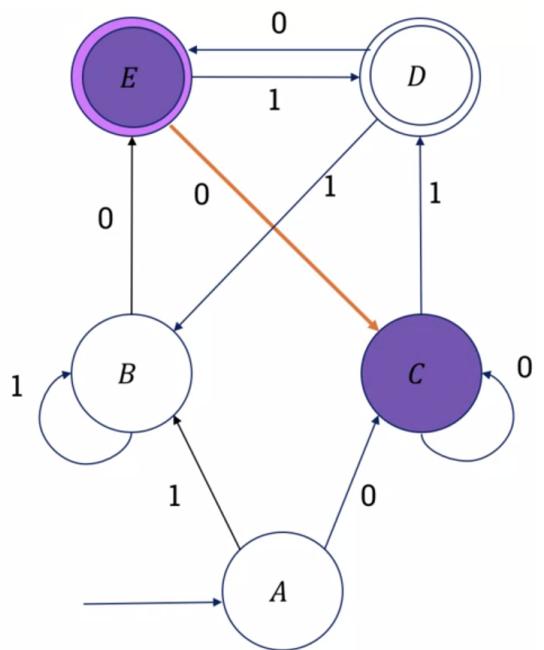


•Do we accept at *E*?

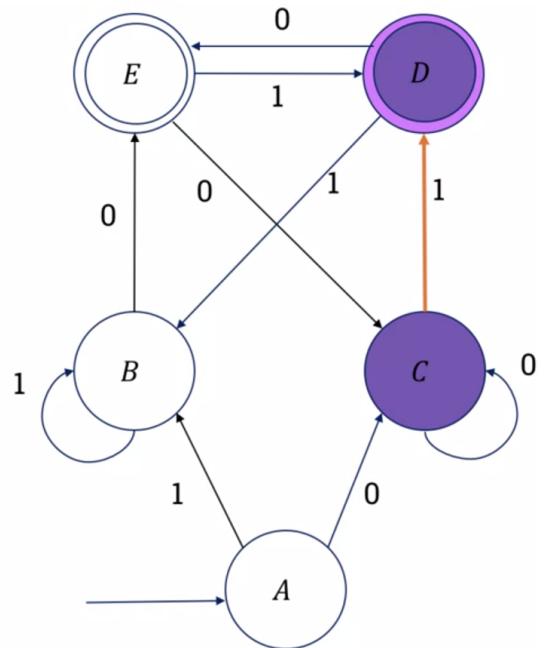
•No, not the end of the input.



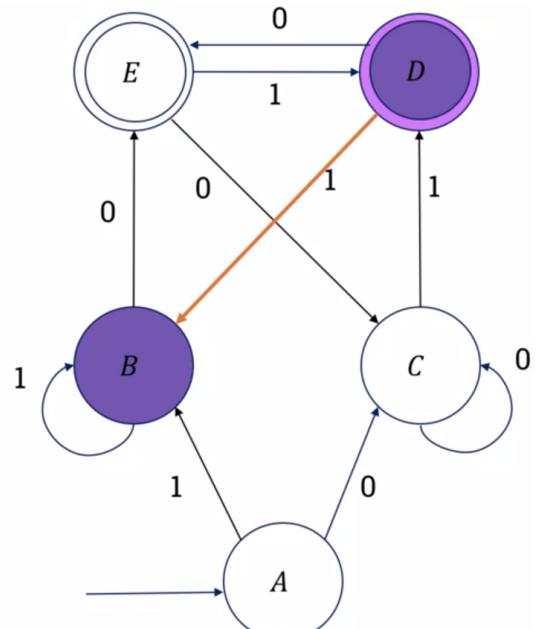
•10011  
↑



•10011  
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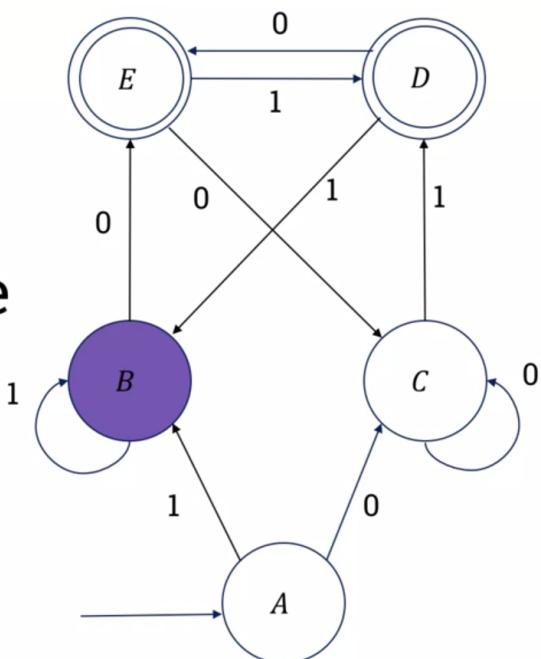
• 10011  
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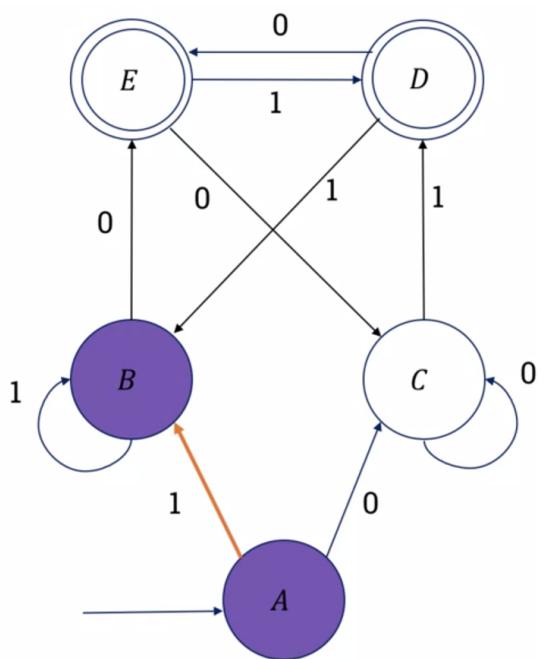
• 10011

• B is not an accept state

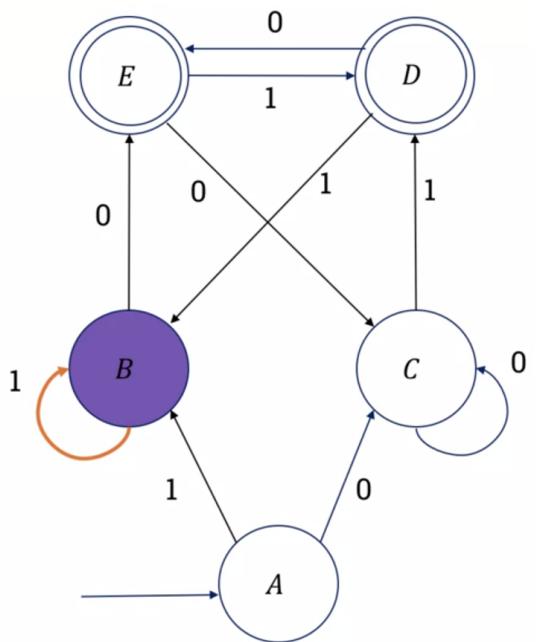
• Reject 10011



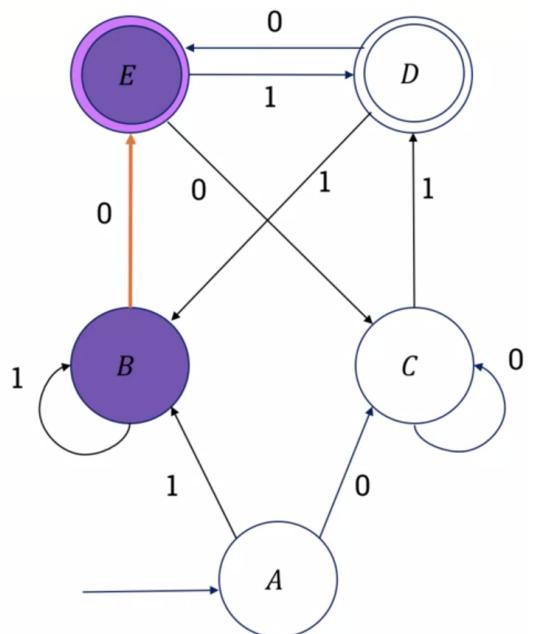
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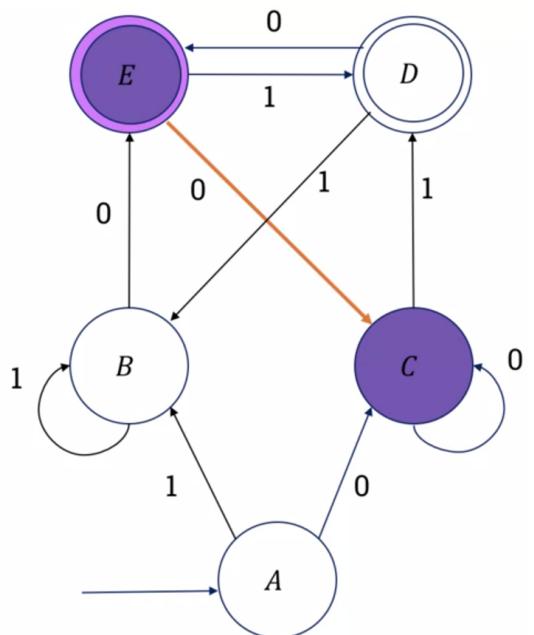
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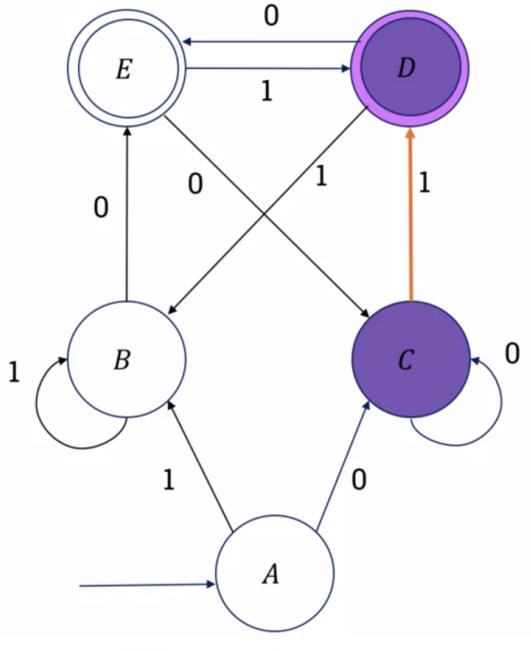
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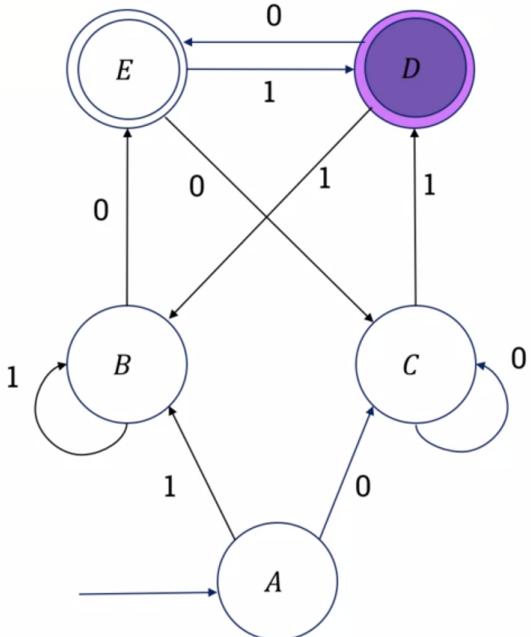
- 11001



- 11001

- Do we accept?
- Yes!

- End of the input at an accepting state.

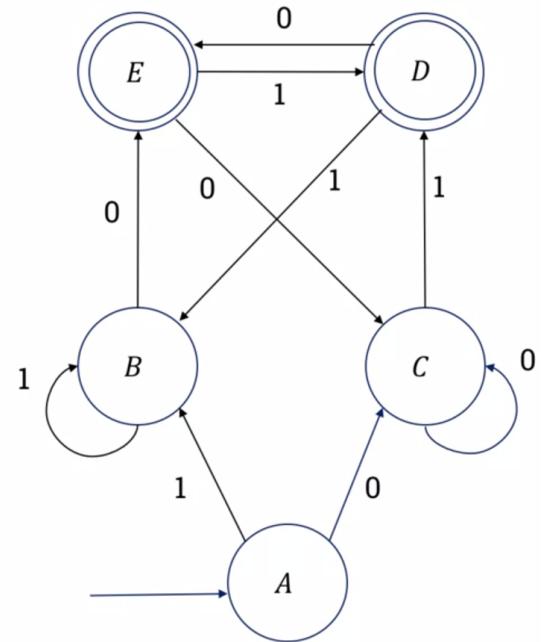


- We do **not** accept when passing through an accepting state.

- Only accept if the input **ends** in an accepting state.

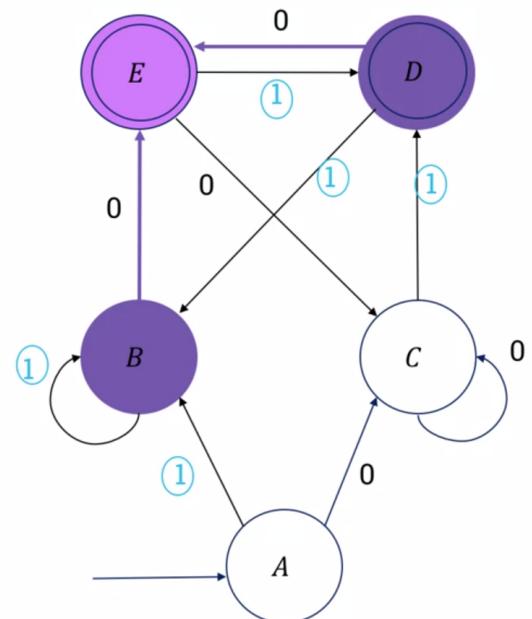
# What else is accepted by this automaton?

- 10
- 110
- 1110
- 1010
- 10110
- Do you see a pattern?



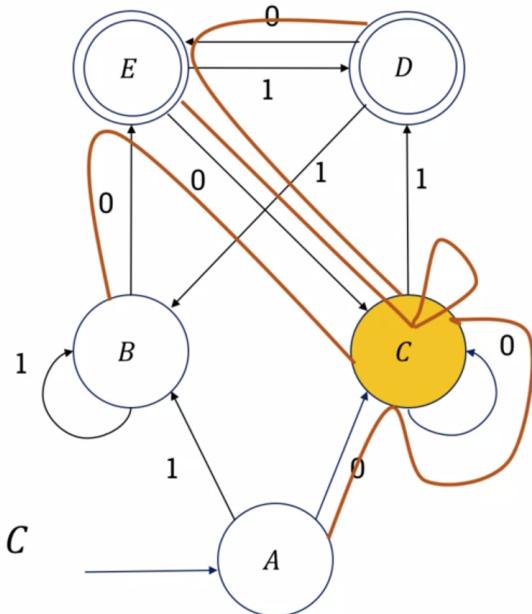
## Backward computation

- Choose an accept state,  $E$
- Incoming transitions to  $E$
- Input ends with 0
- Penultimate states:  $B, D$
- Incoming transitions to  $B, D$
- Input ends with 10



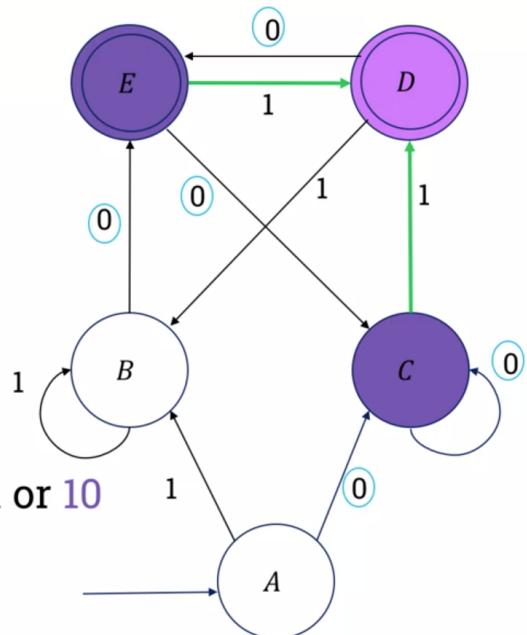
# Backward computation

- Choose an accept state,  $E$
- Incoming transitions to  $E$
- Input ends with 0
- Penultimate states:  $B, D$
- Incoming transitions to  $B, D$
- Input ends with 10
- Check states with incoming 0,  $C$
- Paths to  $C$ :  $ACC, ECC, DEC, BEC$
- No input ending with 10 ends at  $C$



# Backward computation

- Other accepting state:  $D$
- This automaton is symmetrical!
- Input ends with 1
- Penultimate states:  $C, E$
- Incoming transitions to  $C, E$
- Input ends with 01

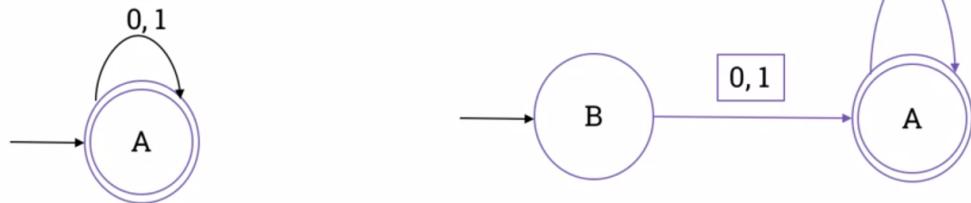


- Any string ending with either 01 or 10
- The set of all strings accepted by an automaton is called the *language* of that automaton
- If  $M$  is an automaton on alphabet  $\Sigma$ , then  $\mathcal{L}(M)$  is the language of  $M$ :

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \{x \in \Sigma^* \mid M \text{ accept } x\}$$

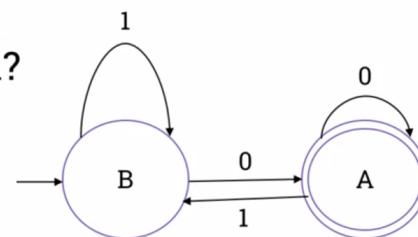
# Automaton accepting every binary

- There is a final state, A
- The incoming arrows have no restriction
- The outgoing arrows from A end at A
- Initial state, B
- 0 and 1 must be accepted



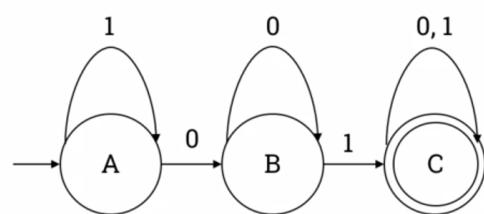
## Automaton accepting strings ending in 0

- There is a final state, A
- The incoming arrow is labelled 0
- The outgoing arrow labelled 0 ends at A
- String 0 is accepted, initial state B
- What happens to arrows labelled 1?
- They cannot end at A
- End at B



## Automaton accepting strings with 01

- String 01 is accepted, so we have at least 3 states
- If we read 01, anything after that is accepted
- Loop over state C with 0, 1
- If we read 0 at state B, we stay put
- What if we read 1 at state A?
- We stay put.



In this week, we learned about finite state automatons and automata theory.