

CMSC 330: Organization of Programming Languages

DFAs, and NFAs, and Regexp

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The story so far, and what's next

- ▶ Goal: Develop an algorithm that determines whether a string s is matched by regex R
 - I.e., whether s is a member of R 's language
- ▶ Approach to come: Convert R to a finite automaton FA and see whether s is accepted by FA
 - Details: Convert R to a nondeterministic FA (NFA), which we then convert to a deterministic FA (DFA),
 - ▶ which enjoys a fast acceptance algorithm

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Two Types of Finite Automata

- ▶ **Deterministic** Finite Automata (DFA)
 - Exactly one sequence of steps for each string
 - ▶ Easy to implement acceptance check
 - (Almost) all examples so far
- ▶ **Nondeterministic** Finite Automata (NFA)
 - May have many sequences of steps for each string
 - Accepts if any path ends in final state at end of string
 - More compact than DFA
 - ▶ But more expensive to test whether a string matches

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Comparing DFAs and NFAs

- ▶ NFAs can have **more** than one transition leaving a state on the same symbol



- ▶ DFAs allow only one transition per symbol
 - I.e., transition function must be a valid function
 - DFA is a special case of NFA

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Comparing DFAs and NFAs (cont.)

- ▶ NFAs may have transitions with empty string label
 - May move to new state without consuming character

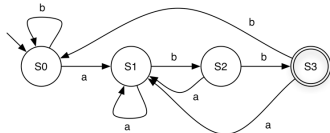


- ▶ DFA transition must be labeled with symbol
 - A DFA is a specific kind of NFA

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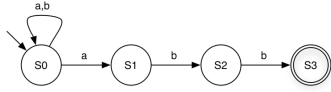
DFA for $(a|b)^*abb$



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NFA for $(a|b)^*abb$

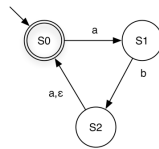


- ▶ **ba**
 - Has paths to either **S0** or **S1**
 - Neither is final, so rejected
- ▶ **babaabb**
 - Has paths to different states
 - One path leads to **S3**, so accepts string

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NFA for $(ab|aba)^*$

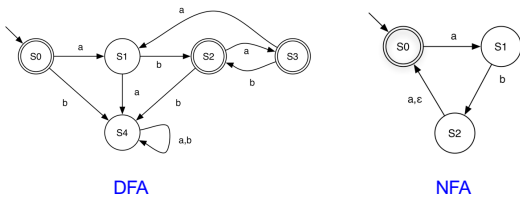


- ▶ **aba**
- ▶ **ababa**
 - Has paths to states **S0**, **S1**
 - Need to use ϵ -transition

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NFA and DFA for $(ab|aba)^*$



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Formal Definition

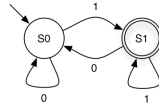
- ▶ A **deterministic finite automaton (DFA)** is a 5-tuple $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$ where
 - Σ is an alphabet
 - Q is a nonempty set of states
 - $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state
 - $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of final states
 - $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ specifies the DFA's transitions
 - > What's this definition saying that δ is?
- ▶ A DFA accepts s if it **stops** at a final state on s

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Formal Definition: Example

- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- $Q = \{S0, S1\}$
- $q_0 = S0$
- $F = \{S1\}$
- $\delta =$



input state \ symbol	0	1
S0	S0	S1
S1	S0	S1

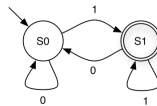
or as $\{(S0,0,S0), (S0,1,S1), (S1,0,S0), (S1,1,S1)\}$

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Implementing DFAs (one-off)

It's easy to build a program which mimics a DFA



```
cur_state = 0;
while (1) {
    symbol = getchar();
    switch (cur_state) {
        case 0: switch (symbol) {
            case '0': cur_state = 0; break;
            case '1': cur_state = 1; break;
            case '\n': printf("rejected\n"); return 0;
            default: printf("rejected\n"); return 0;
        }
        break;
        case 1: switch (symbol) {
            case '0': cur_state = 0; break;
            case '1': cur_state = 1; break;
            case '\n': printf("accepted\n"); return 1;
            default: printf("rejected\n"); return 0;
        }
        break;
        default: printf("unknown state, I'm confused\n");
        break;
    }
}
```

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Implementing DFAs (generic)

More generally, use generic table-driven DFA

```
given components  $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$  of a DFA:  
let  $q = q_0$   
while (there exists another symbol  $\sigma$  of the input string)  
   $q := \delta(q, \sigma)$ ;  
if  $q \in F$  then  
  accept  
else reject
```

- q is just an integer
- Represent δ using arrays or hash tables
- Represent F as a set

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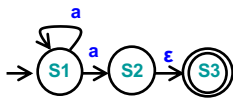
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Nondeterministic Finite Automata (NFA)

► An NFA is a 5-tuple $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$ where

- Σ, Q, q_0, F as with DFAs
- $\delta \subseteq Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times Q$ specifies the NFA's transitions



Example

- $\Sigma = \{a\}$
- $Q = \{S1, S2, S3\}$
- $q_0 = S1$
- $F = \{S3\}$
- $\delta = \{(S1, a, S1), (S1, a, S2), (S2, \epsilon, S3)\}$

► An NFA accepts s if there is **at least one path** via s from the NFA's start state to a final state

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NFA Acceptance Algorithm (Sketch)

► When NFA processes a string s

- NFA must keep track of several "current states"
 - > Due to multiple transitions with same label, and ϵ -transitions
- If any current state is final when done then accept s

► Example

• After processing "a"

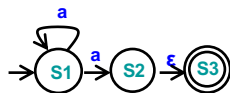
> NFA may be in states

S1

S2

S3

> Since S3 is final, s is accepted



► Algorithm is slow, space-inefficient; prefer DFAs!

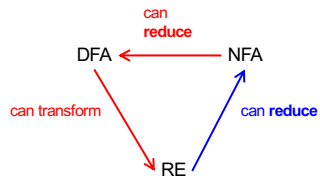
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Relating REs to DFAs and NFAs

- Regular expressions, NFAs, and DFAs accept the same languages! *Can convert between them*



NB. Both *transform* and *reduce* are historical terms; they mean "convert"

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Reducing Regular Expressions to NFAs

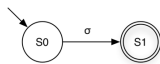
- Goal: Given regular expression A , construct NFA: $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$
 - Remember regular expressions are defined recursively from primitive RE languages
 - Invariant: $|F| = 1$ in our NFAs
 - Recall F = set of final states
- Will define $\langle A \rangle$ for base cases: $\sigma, \epsilon, \emptyset$
 - Where σ is a symbol in Σ
- And for inductive cases: $AB, A|B, A^*$

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Reducing Regular Expressions to NFAs

- Base case: σ



Recall: NFA is $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$ where
 Σ is the alphabet
 Q is set of states
 q_0 is starting state
 F is set of final states
 δ is transition relation

$\langle \sigma \rangle = ((\sigma), \{S_0, S_1\}, S_0, \{S_1\}, \{(S_0, \sigma, S_1)\})$
 $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$

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Reduction

- ▶ Base case: ϵ



$$\langle \epsilon \rangle = (\emptyset, \{S0\}, S0, \{S0\}, \emptyset)$$

Recall: NFA is $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$
 where
 Σ is the alphabet
 Q is set of states
 q_0 is starting state
 F is set of final states
 δ is transition relation

- ▶ Base case: \emptyset



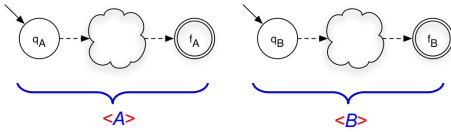
$$\langle \emptyset \rangle = (\emptyset, \{S0, S1\}, S0, \{S1\}, \emptyset)$$

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Reduction: Concatenation

- ▶ Induction: AB



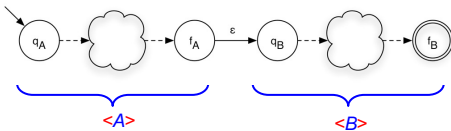
- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle B \rangle = (\Sigma_B, Q_B, q_B, \{f_B\}, \delta_B)$

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Reduction: Concatenation

- ▶ Induction: AB



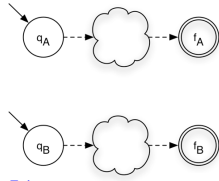
- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle B \rangle = (\Sigma_B, Q_B, q_B, \{f_B\}, \delta_B)$
- $\langle AB \rangle = (\Sigma_A \cup \Sigma_B, Q_A \cup Q_B, q_A, \{f_B\}, \delta_A \cup \delta_B \cup \{(f_A, \epsilon, q_B)\})$

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Reduction: Union

► Induction: $A|B$



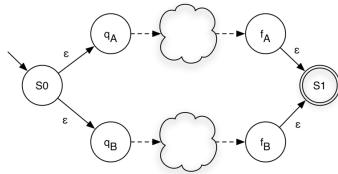
- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle B \rangle = (\Sigma_B, Q_B, q_B, \{f_B\}, \delta_B)$

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Reduction: Union

► Induction: $A|B$



- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle B \rangle = (\Sigma_B, Q_B, q_B, \{f_B\}, \delta_B)$
- $\langle A|B \rangle = (\Sigma_A \cup \Sigma_B, Q_A \cup Q_B \cup \{s_0, s_1\}, s_0, \{s_1\}, \delta_A \cup \delta_B \cup \{(s_0, \epsilon, q_A), (s_0, \epsilon, q_B), (f_A, \epsilon, s_1), (f_B, \epsilon, s_1)\})$

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Reduction: Closure

► Induction: A^*



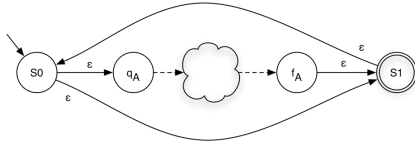
- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$

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Reduction: Closure

► Induction: A^*



- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle A^* \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A \cup \{S0, S1\}, S0, \{S1\}, \delta_A \cup \{(f_A, \epsilon, S1), (S0, \epsilon, q_A), (S0, \epsilon, S1), (S1, \epsilon, S0)\})$

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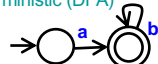
Recap

► Finite automata

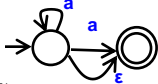
- Alphabet, states...
- $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$

► Types

- Deterministic (DFA)



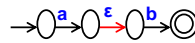
- Non-deterministic (NFA)



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► Reducing RE to NFA

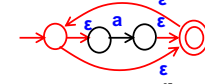
- Concatenation



- Union



- Closure



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Reduction Complexity

► Given a regular expression A of size n ...

Size = # of symbols + # of operations

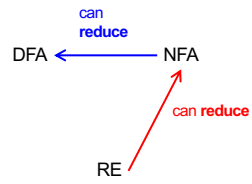
► How many states does $\langle A \rangle$ have?

- Two added for each $|$, two added for each $*$
- $O(n)$
- That's pretty good!

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Reducing NFA to DFA

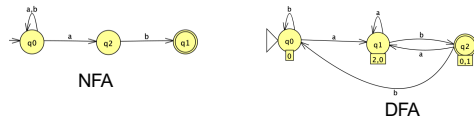


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Why NFA \rightarrow DFA

- ▶ DFA is generally more efficient than NFA



Language: $(a|b)^*ab$

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Why NFA \rightarrow DFA

- ▶ DFA has the same expressive power as NFAs.
 - Let language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$, and suppose L is accepted by NFA $N = (\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$. There exists a DFA $D = (\Sigma, Q', q'_0, F', \delta')$ that also accepts L . ($L(N) = L(D)$)
- ▶ NFAs are more flexible and easier to build. But DFAs have no less power than NFAs.

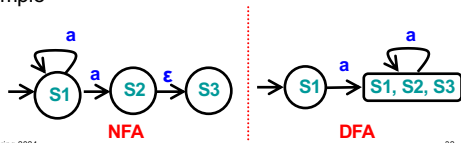
NFA \leftrightarrow DFA

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Reducing NFA to DFA

- ▶ NFA may be reduced to DFA
 - By explicitly tracking the set of NFA states
- ▶ Intuition
 - Build DFA where
 - ▶ Each DFA state represents a set of NFA "current states"
- ▶ Example



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Algorithm for Reducing NFA to DFA

- ▶ Reduction applied using the **subset** algorithm
 - DFA state is a subset of set of all NFA states
- ▶ Algorithm
 - Input
 - ▶ NFA $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$
 - Output
 - ▶ DFA $(\Sigma, R, r_0, F_d, \delta)$
 - Using two subroutines
 - ▶ ϵ -closure (δ, p) (and ϵ -closure (δ, Q))
 - ▶ move (δ, p, σ) (and move (δ, Q, σ))
 - (where p is an NFA state)

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ϵ -transitions and ϵ -closure

- ▶ We say $p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q$
 - If it is possible to go from state p to state q by taking only ϵ -transitions in δ
 - If $\exists p, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n, q \in Q$ such that
 - ▶ $\{p, \epsilon, p_1\} \in \delta, \{p_1, \epsilon, p_2\} \in \delta, \dots, \{p_n, \epsilon, q\} \in \delta$
- ▶ ϵ -closure (δ, p)
 - Set of states reachable from p using ϵ -transitions alone
 - ▶ Set of states q such that $p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q$ according to δ
 - ▶ ϵ -closure $(\delta, p) = \{q \mid p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q \text{ in } \delta\}$
 - ▶ ϵ -closure $(\delta, Q) = \{q \mid p \in Q, p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q \text{ in } \delta\}$
 - Notes
 - ▶ ϵ -closure (δ, p) always includes p
 - ▶ We write ϵ -closure (p) or ϵ -closure (Q) when δ is clear from context

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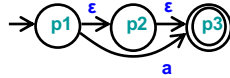
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ϵ -closure: Example 1

▶ Following NFA contains

- $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p2$
- $p2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p3$
- $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p3$
- ▶ Since $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p2$ and $p2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p3$



▶ ϵ -closures

- ϵ -closure($p1$) = { $p1, p2, p3$ }
- ϵ -closure($p2$) = { $p2, p3$ }
- ϵ -closure($p3$) = { $p3$ }
- ϵ -closure({ $p1, p2$ }) = { $p1, p2, p3$ } \cup { $p2, p3$ }

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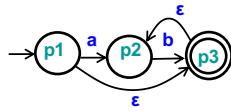
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ϵ -closure: Example 2

▶ Following NFA contains

- $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p3$
- $p3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p2$
- $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p2$
- ▶ Since $p1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p3$ and $p3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} p2$



▶ ϵ -closures

- ϵ -closure($p1$) = { $p1, p2, p3$ }
- ϵ -closure($p2$) = { $p2$ }
- ϵ -closure($p3$) = { $p2, p3$ }
- ϵ -closure({ $p2, p3$ }) = { $p2$ } \cup { $p2, p3$ }

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ϵ -closure Algorithm: Approach

▶ Input: NFA ($\Sigma, Q, q_0, F_n, \delta$), State Set R

▶ Output: State Set R'

▶ Algorithm

- ```

 Let $R' = R$ // start states
 Repeat
 Let $R' = R'$ // continue from previous
 Let $R' = R' \cup \{q \mid p \in R, (p, \epsilon, q) \in \delta\}$ // new ϵ -reachable states
 Until $R' = R'$ // stop when no new states

```

This algorithm computes a **fixed point**

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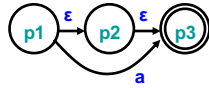
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## $\epsilon$ -closure Algorithm Example

► Calculate  $\epsilon$ -closure( $\delta, \{p1\}$ )

| R            | R'           |
|--------------|--------------|
| {p1}         | {p1}         |
| {p1}         | {p1, p2}     |
| {p1, p2}     | {p1, p2, p3} |
| {p1, p2, p3} | {p1, p2, p3} |



Let  $R' = R$   
 Repeat  
 Let  $R = R'$   
 Let  $R' = R \cup \{q \mid p \in R, (p, \epsilon, q) \in \delta\}$   
 Until  $R = R'$

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## Calculating $\text{move}(p, \sigma)$

►  $\text{move}(\delta, p, \sigma)$

- Set of states reachable from  $p$  using exactly one transition on symbol  $\sigma$ 
  - > Set of states  $q$  such that  $\{p, \sigma, q\} \in \delta$
  - >  $\text{move}(\delta, p, \sigma) = \{q \mid \{p, \sigma, q\} \in \delta\}$
  - >  $\text{move}(\delta, Q, \sigma) = \{q \mid p \in Q, \{p, \sigma, q\} \in \delta\}$ 
    - i.e., can "lift"  $\text{move}()$  to a set of states  $Q$

• Notes:

- >  $\text{move}(\delta, p, \sigma)$  is  $\emptyset$  if no transition  $\{p, \sigma, q\} \in \delta$ , for any  $q$
- > We write  $\text{move}(p, \sigma)$  or  $\text{move}(R, \sigma)$  when  $\delta$  clear from context

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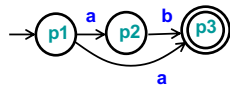
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## $\text{move}(p, \sigma)$ : Example 1

► Following NFA

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$



► Move

- $\text{move}(p1, a) = \{p2, p3\}$
  - $\text{move}(p1, b) = \emptyset$
  - $\text{move}(p2, a) = \emptyset$
  - $\text{move}(p2, b) = \{p3\}$
  - $\text{move}(p3, a) = \emptyset$
  - $\text{move}(p3, b) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(\{p1, p2\}, b) = \{p3\}$

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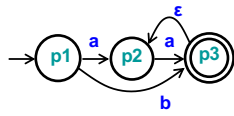
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## move(p,σ) : Example 2

► Following NFA

- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$



► Move

- $\text{move}(p1, a) = \{p2\}$
  - $\text{move}(p1, b) = \{p3\}$
  - $\text{move}(p2, a) = \{p3\}$
  - $\text{move}(p2, b) = \emptyset$
  - $\text{move}(p3, a) = \emptyset$
  - $\text{move}(p3, b) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(\{p1, p2\}, a) = \{p2, p3\}$

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## NFA → DFA Reduction Algorithm (“subset”)

► Input NFA  $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F_n, \delta)$ , Output DFA  $(\Sigma, R, r_0, F_d, \delta')$

► Algorithm

- ```

Let  $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$ , add it to R           // DFA start state
While  $\exists$  an unmarked state  $r \in R$                 // process DFA state r
  Mark r                                           // each state visited once
  For each  $\sigma \in \Sigma$                          // for each symbol  $\sigma$ 
    Let  $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$                 // states reached via  $\sigma$ 
    Let  $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$             // states reached via  $\epsilon$ 
    If  $e \notin R$                                    // if state e is new
      Let  $R = R \cup \{e\}$                            // add e to R (unmarked)
      Let  $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$         // add transition  $r \rightarrow e$  on  $\sigma$ 
  Let  $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$  // final if include state in  $F_n$ 
    
```

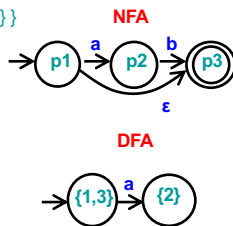
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NFA → DFA Example

- $\text{Start} = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, p1) = \{p1, p3\}$
- $R = \{p1, p3\}$
- $r \in R = \{p1, p3\}$
- $\text{move}(\delta, \{p1, p3\}, a) = \{p2\}$
 - $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, \{p2\}) = \{p2\}$
 - $R = R \cup \{p2\} = \{p1, p3, p2\}$
 - $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{p1, p3, a, p2\}$
- $\text{move}(\delta, \{p1, p3\}, b) = \emptyset$



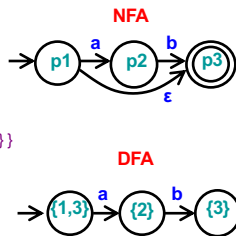
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NFA → DFA Example (cont.)

- $R = \{ \{p1,p3\}, \{p2\} \}$
- $r \in R = \{p2\}$
- $move(\delta, \{p2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $move(\delta, \{p2\}, b) = \{p3\}$
 - > $e = e\text{-closure}(\delta, \{p3\}) = \{p3\}$
 - > $R = R \cup \{\{p3\}\} = \{ \{p1,p3\}, \{p2\}, \{p3\} \}$
 - > $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{ \{p2, b, \{p3\} \}$



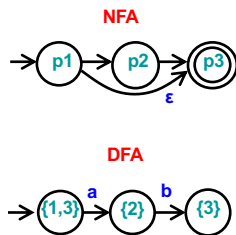
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NFA → DFA Example (cont.)

- $R = \{ \{p1,p3\}, \{p2\}, \{p3\} \}$
- $r \in R = \{p3\}$
- $Move(\{p3\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $Move(\{p3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- Mark $\{p3\}$, exit loop
- $F_a = \{ \{p1,p3\}, \{p3\} \}$
 - > Since $p3 \in F_n$
- Done!



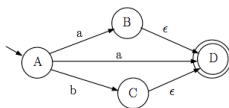
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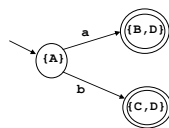
45

NFA → DFA Example 2

► NFA



► DFA



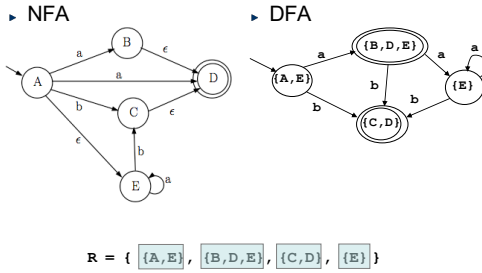
$$R = \{ \{A\}, \{B,D\}, \{C,D\} \}$$

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NFA → DFA Example 3

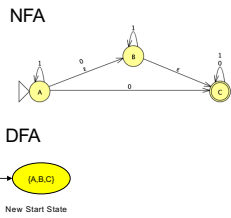


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Detailed NFA → DFA Example

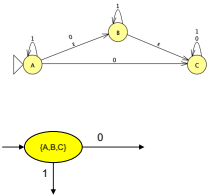


→ Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



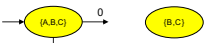
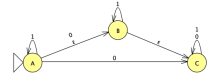
→ Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$



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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



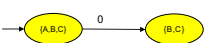
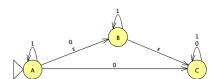
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	
{B,C}		{A,B,C}

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta_0, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



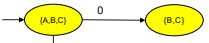
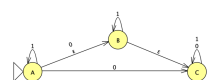
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	
{B,C}		{A,B,C}

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta_0, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



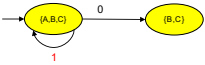
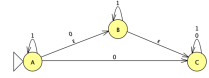
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	
{B,C}		{A,B,C}

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta_0, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
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 If $e \notin R$
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 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



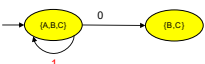
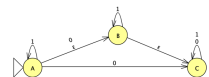
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
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 If $e \notin R$
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 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



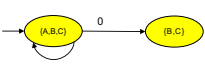
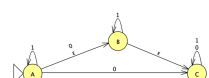
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
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 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



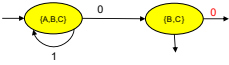
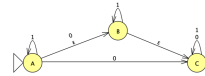
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
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 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
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 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



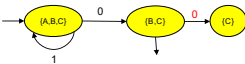
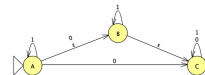
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}

Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



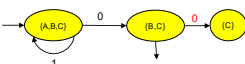
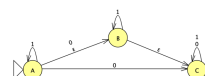
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{C}	{C}	{A,B,C}

Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



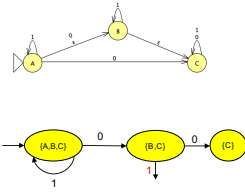
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{C}	{C}	{A,B,C}

Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



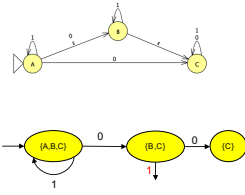
Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	?
{C}		

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



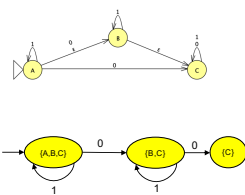
Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}		

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



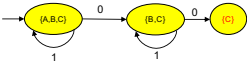
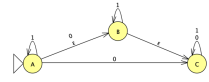
Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \notin R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}		

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R

While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$

Mark r

For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1

Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$

Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$

If $e \notin R$

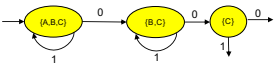
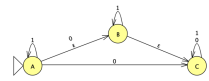
Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$

Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$

Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R

While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$

Mark r

For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$

Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$

Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$

If $e \notin R$

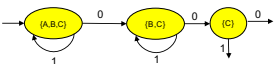
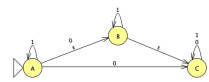
Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$

Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$

Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}		

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R

While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$

Mark r

For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0

Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$

Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$

If $e \notin R$

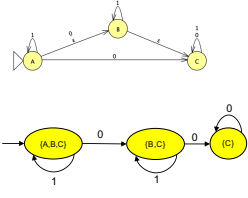
Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$

Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$

Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



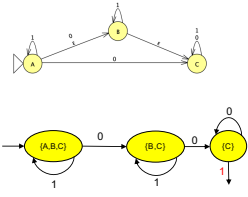
	0	1
{A, B, C}	{B, C}	{A, B, C}
{B, C}	{C}	{B, C}
{C}	{C}	

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //0
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
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 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

65

Detailed NFA → DFA Example



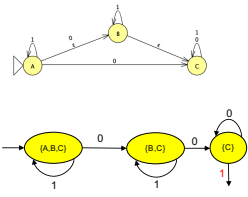
	0	1
{A, B, C}	{B, C}	{A, B, C}
{B, C}	{C}	{B, C}
{C}	{C}	

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Let $r_0 = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, q_0)$, add it to R
 While \exists an unmarked state $r \in R$
 Mark r
 For each $\sigma \in \Sigma$ //1
 Let $E = \text{move}(\delta, r, \sigma)$
 Let $e = \epsilon\text{-closure}(\delta, E)$
 If $e \neq R$
 Let $R = R \cup \{e\}$
 Let $\delta' = \delta' \cup \{r, \sigma, e\}$
 Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



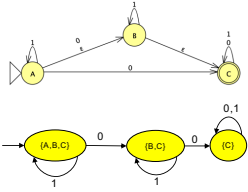
	0	1
{A, B, C}	{B, C}	{A, B, C}
{B, C}	{C}	{B, C}
{C}	{C}	

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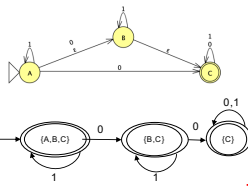
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}	{C}	{C}

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Detailed NFA → DFA Example



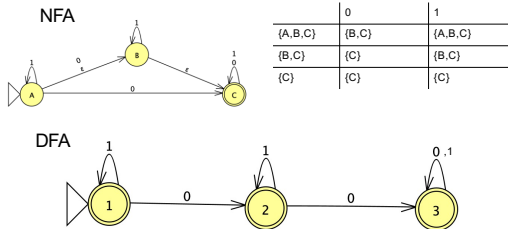
	0	1
{A,B,C}	{B,C}	{A,B,C}
{B,C}	{C}	{B,C}
{C}	{C}	{C}

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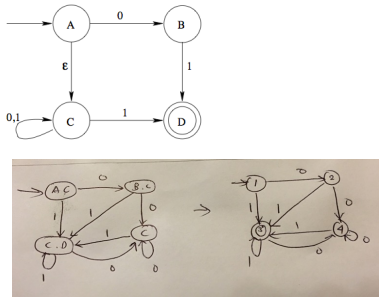
Detailed NFA → DFA Example: Completed



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NFA → DFA Example

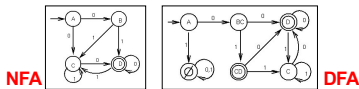


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Analyzing the Reduction

- ▶ Can reduce any NFA to a DFA using subset alg.
- ▶ How many states in the DFA?
 - Each DFA state is a subset of the set of NFA states
 - Given NFA with n states, DFA may have 2^n states
 - Since a set with n items may have 2^n subsets
 - Corollary
 - Reducing a NFA with n states may be $O(2^n)$



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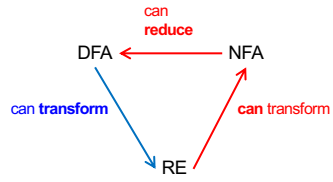
Recap: Matching a Regex R

- ▶ Given R , construct NFA. Takes time $O(R)$
- ▶ Convert NFA to DFA. Takes time $O(2^{|R|})$
 - But usually not the worst case in practice
- ▶ Use DFA to accept/reject string s
 - Assume we can compute $\delta(q, \sigma)$ in constant time
 - Then time to process s is $O(|s|)$
 - Can't get much faster!
- ▶ Constructing the DFA is a one-time cost
 - But then processing strings is fast

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Closing the Loop: Reducing DFA to RE



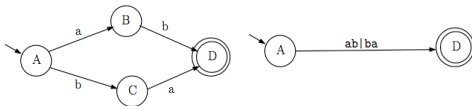
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Reducing DFAs to REs

General idea

- Remove states one by one, labeling transitions with regular expressions
- When two states are left (start and final), the transition label is the regular expression for the DFA



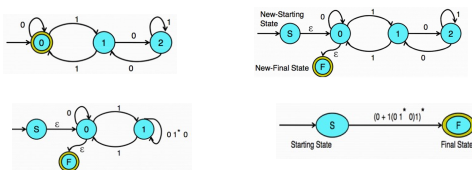
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DFA to RE example

Language over $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$ such that every string is a multiple of 3 in binary



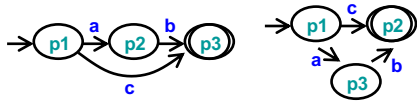
$$(0 + 1(01^*0)1)^*$$

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Minimizing DFAs

- ▶ Every regular language is recognizable by a **unique** minimum-state DFA
 - Ignoring the particular names of states
- ▶ In other words
 - For every DFA, there is a unique DFA with minimum number of states that accepts the same language



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J. Hopcroft, "An n log n algorithm for minimizing states in a finite automaton," 1971

Minimizing DFA: Hopcroft Reduction

- ▶ Intuition
 - Look to distinguish states from each other
 - End up in different accept / non-accept state with identical input
- ▶ Algorithm
 - Construct initial partition
 - Accepting & non-accepting states
 - Iteratively split partitions (until partitions remain fixed)
 - Split a partition if members in partition have transitions to different partitions for same input
 - Two states x, y belong in same partition if and only if for all symbols in Σ they transition to the same partition
 - Update transitions & remove dead states

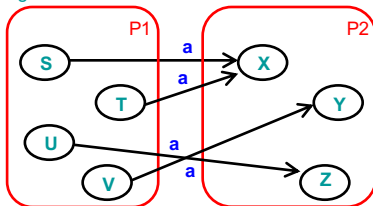
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Splitting Partitions

- ▶ No need to split partition $\{S, T, U, V\}$
 - All transitions on a lead to identical partition $P2$
 - Even though transitions on a lead to different states



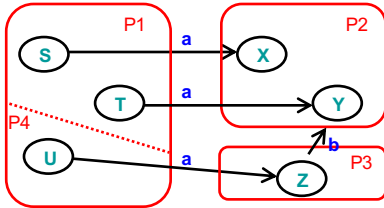
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Splitting Partitions (cont.)

- ▶ Need to split partition $\{S, T, U\}$ into $\{S, T\}$, $\{U\}$
 - Transitions on a from S, T lead to partition $P2$
 - Transition on a from U lead to partition $P3$



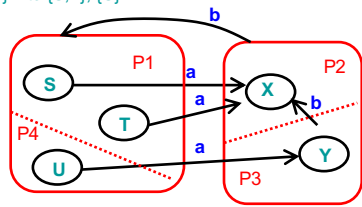
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Resplitting Partitions

- ▶ Need to reexamine partitions after splits
 - Initially no need to split partition $\{S, T, U\}$
 - After splitting partition $\{X, Y\}$ into $\{X\}$, $\{Y\}$ we need to split partition $\{S, T, U\}$ into $\{S, T\}$, $\{U\}$



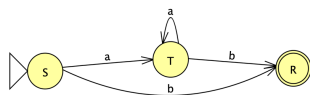
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Minimizing DFA: Example 1

▶ DFA



▶ Initial partitions

▶ Split partition

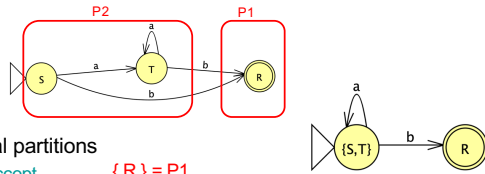
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Minimizing DFA: Example 1

► DFA



► Initial partitions

- Accept $\{R\} = P1$
- Reject $\{S, T\} = P2$

► Split partition? → Not required, minimization done

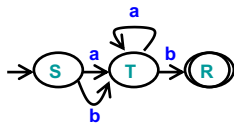
- $move(S,a) = T \in P2$ - $move(S,b) = R \in P1$
- $move(T,a) = T \in P2$ - $move(T,b) = R \in P1$

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Minimizing DFA: Example 2



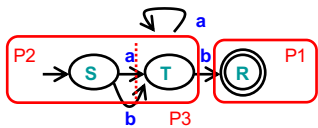
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Minimizing DFA: Example 2

► DFA



► Initial partitions

- Accept $\{R\} = P1$
- Reject $\{S, T\} = P2$

DFA
already
minimal

► Split partition? → Yes, different partitions for B

- $move(S,a) = S \in P2$ - $move(S,b) = T \in P2$
- $move(T,a) = S \in P2$ - $move(T,b) = R \in P1$

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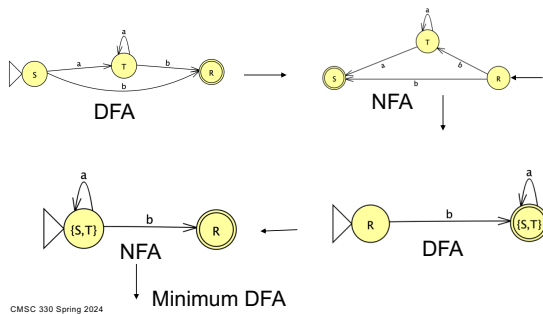
Brzowski's Algorithm: DFA Minimization

1. Given a DFA, reverse all the edges, make the initial state an accept state, and the accept states initial, to get an NFA
2. NFA \rightarrow DFA
3. For the new DFA, reverse the edges (and initial-accept swap) get an NFA
4. NFA \rightarrow DFA

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Brzowski's algorithm

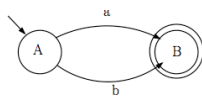


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Complement of DFA

- ▶ Given a DFA accepting language L
 - How can we create a DFA accepting its complement?
 - Example DFA
 - ▶ $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$



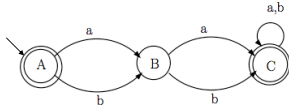
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Complement of DFA

- ▶ Algorithm
 - Add explicit transitions to a dead state
 - Change every accepting state to a non-accepting state & every non-accepting state to an accepting state
- ▶ Note this **only** works with DFAs
 - Why not with NFAs?



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Summary of Regular Expression Theory

- ▶ Finite automata
 - DFA, NFA
- ▶ Equivalence of RE, NFA, DFA
 - RE \rightarrow NFA
 - > Concatenation, union, closure
 - NFA \rightarrow DFA
 - > ϵ -closure & subset algorithm
- ▶ DFA
 - Minimization, complementation

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