# **Finite state machines**

Combinational circuit: implements Boolean function Sequential circuit: implements finite state machine

May also contain combinational circuit In programming languages (i.e., 330), DFA (deterministic finite automaton)

Essentially the same, but different purpose

DFA:

Q, a set of states

S, a single state which is an element of Q. This is the start state.

F, a set of states designated as the final states

Sigma, the input alphabet

delta, a transition function that maps a state and a letter from the input alphabet,

to the next state

DFA is used to recognize a language L, which is composed of a set of strings made up from an input alphabet

If DFA can recognize strings in the language, then L has a regular grammar To use DFA:

Start in initial state S

Process each character in the input string, moving from state to state

If DFA in a final state after processing the last character, string in language Example: alphabet a, b

Is string "aabb" recognized by a DFA?

### **Finite state machines**

Finite state machine (FSM) with output

Q, a set of states

S, a single state which is an element of Q. This is the start state.

Sigma, the input alphabet

Pi, the output alphabet

delta, a transition function that maps a state and a letter from the input alphabet,

to a state and a letter from the output alphabet

**Primary differences with FSA:** 

No final state

Transition function generates output as well as determining next state Purpose is not to recognize strings, but to generate set of outputs

Describes how inputs and current state generate outputs For circuits:

Input alphabet: set of k-bit strings

Output alphabet: set of m-bit strings

Transitions from a given state must be:

Mutually exclusive: only 1 choice for any single input value

Exhaustive: all possible inputs have a transition

"Nothing happens": remain in same state

### **Finite state machines**

Example:

Start state



States: represented by circles, 2-bit values  $q_1q_0$ 

N states require ceil(Ig N) bits to represent (the ceiling of log base 2 of N) Inputs: represented by arrows labeled x (number of bits depends on number of transitions) 2<sup>k</sup> arrows for k bits of input

Trace:	State	00 (Start)	01	10	01	01	10
	Input	1	1	0	0	1	

#### **Finite state machines: Moore**

So far: inputs tell which state to go to next, but no outputs Moore machines: have outputs for each state Output for a state is written following the state itself:



## **Finite state machines: Mealy**



Notice numbering of states: can select any combination of 2 bits

Input	x		1	1	0	1	1	0
State	ql	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
	<b>q</b> 0	0	1	1	1	0	1	1
Output	Z	0	1	0	1	1	1	1

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