

CMSC 330: Organization of Programming Languages

Finite Automata 2

Recap

- ▶ Languages
 - Sets of strings
 - Operations on languages
- ▶ Regular expressions
 - Constants
 - Operators
 - Precedence
- ▶ Finite automata
 - States
 - Transitions
 - Accept strings

Examples

- ▶ Construct a DFA to accept all strings whose binary interpretation is divisible by 3

Examples

- ▶ Construct a DFA to accept a string containing a zero followed by a one

Examples

- ▶ Construct a DFA to accept a string containing two consecutive zeroes followed by two consecutive ones

The Questions

- ▶ Are FAs **equivalent** to regular expressions?
 - Every FA can be translated into an RE
 - Every RE can be translated into an FA
 - Yes!
- ▶ How can we **generate** an FA for a given RE?
 - If we can do this, we can implement RE matching
- ▶ How can we **optimize** an FA?
 - Many FAs can implement the same language
 - Some might be more efficient than others

Practice

Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:

▶ $((0|1)(0|1)(0|1)(0|1)(0|1))^*$

▶

Practice

Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:

- ▶ $((0|1)(0|1)(0|1)(0|1)(0|1))^*$
 - All strings with length a multiple of 5
- ▶

Practice

Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:

▶ $(01)^*|(10)^*|(01)^*0|(10)^*1$

▶

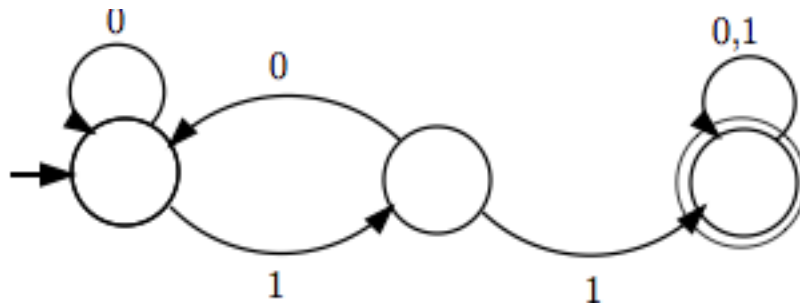
Practice

Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:

- ▶ $(01)^*|(10)^*|(01)^*0|(10)^*1$
 - All alternating binary strings
- ▶

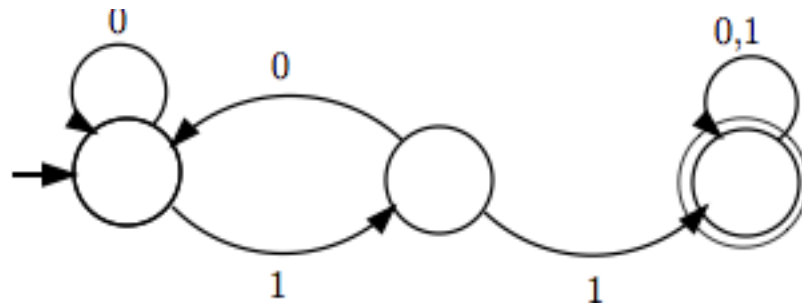
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Practice

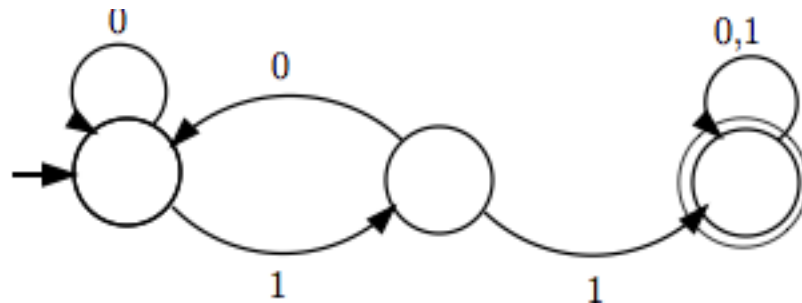
Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:



All binary strings containing the substring “11”

Practice

Give the English descriptions and the DFA or regular expression of the following languages:



All binary strings containing the substring “11”

Practice

- ▶ Give the regular expressions and finite automata for the following languages
 - You and your neighbors' names
 - All protein-coding DNA strings (including only ATCG and appearing in multiples of 3)
 - All binary strings containing an even length substring of all 1's
 - All binary strings containing exactly two 1's
 - All binary strings that start and end with the same number

Types of Finite Automata

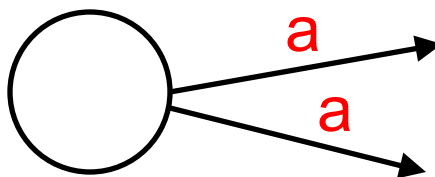
- ▶ Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)
 - Exactly one sequence of steps for each string
 - All examples so far

Types of Finite Automata

- ▶ Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)
 - Exactly one sequence of steps for each string
 - 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

Comparing DFAs and NFAs

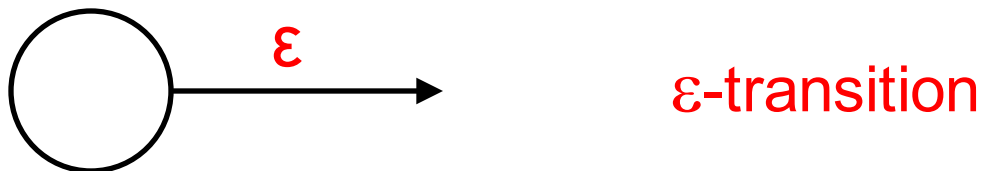
- ▶ NFAs can have **more** than one transition leaving a state on the same symbol



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

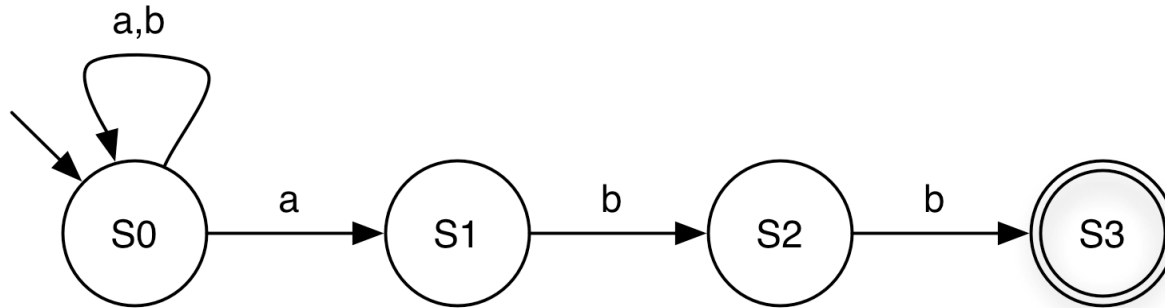
Comparing DFAs and NFAs (cont.)

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



- ▶ DFA transition must be labeled with symbol
 - DFA is a special case of NFA

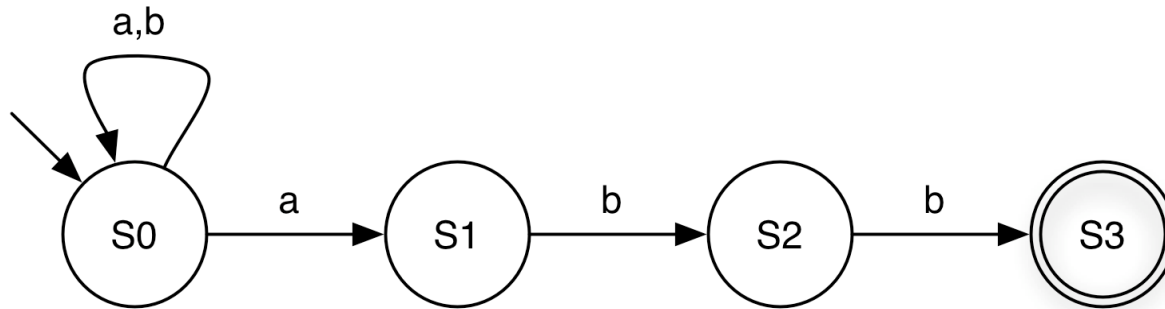
NFA for $(a|b)^*abb$



► **ba**

- Has paths to either **S0** or **S1**
- Neither is final, so rejected

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



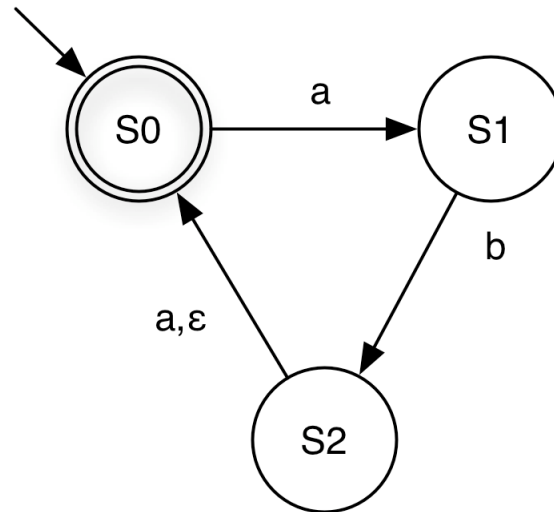
► ba

- Has paths to either S0 or S1
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► babaabb

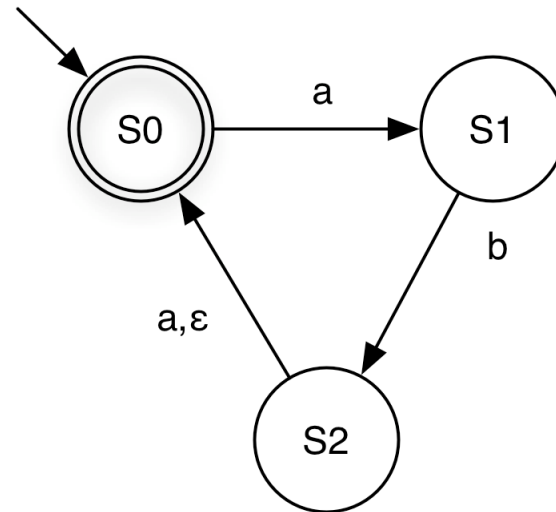
- Has paths to different states
- One path leads to S3, so accepts string

NFA for $(ab|aba)^*$



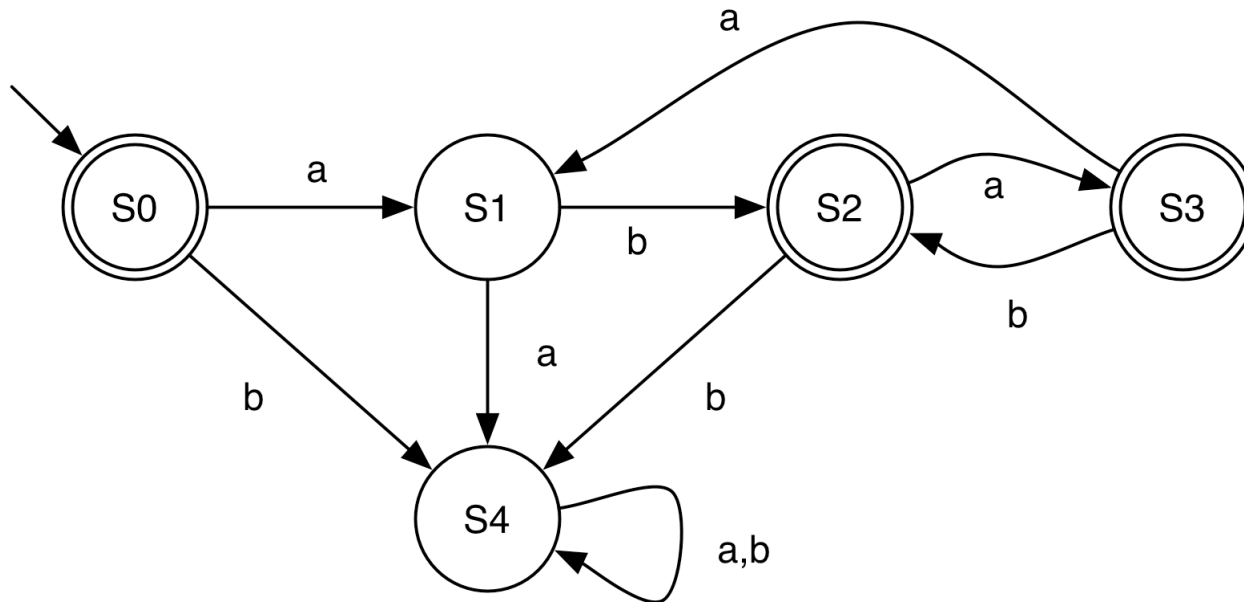
- ▶ **aba**
 - Has paths to states S0, S1

NFA for $(ab|aba)^*$



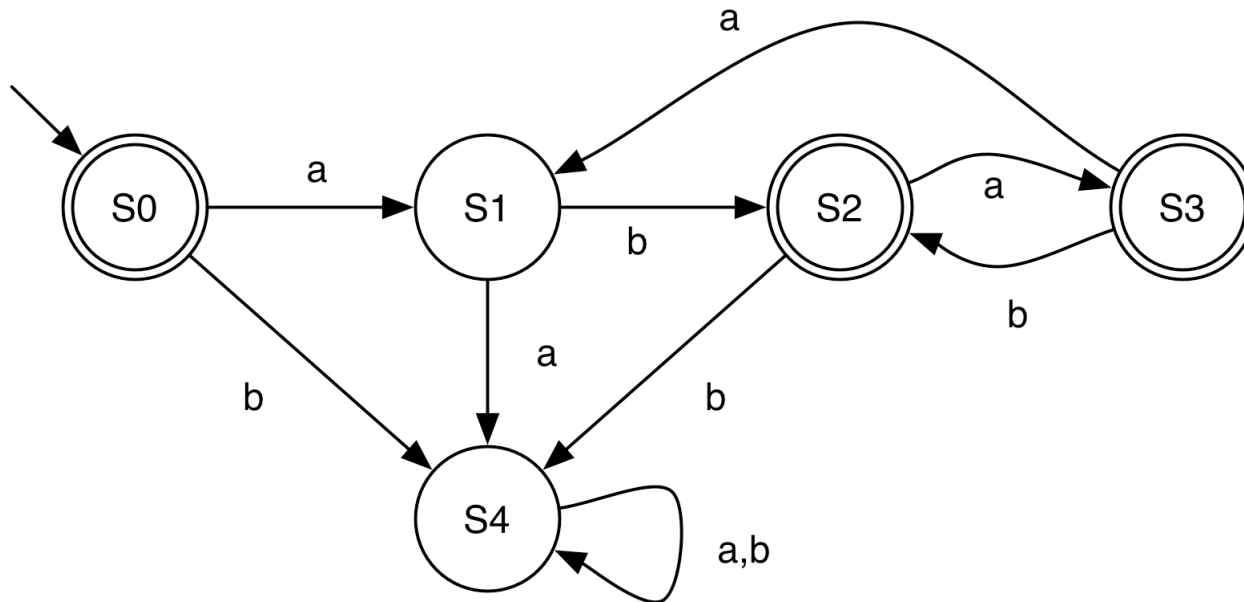
- ▶ **aba**
 - Has paths to states S0, S1
- ▶ **ababa**
 - Has paths to S0, S1
 - Need to use ϵ -transition

Another example DFA



► Language?

Another example DFA

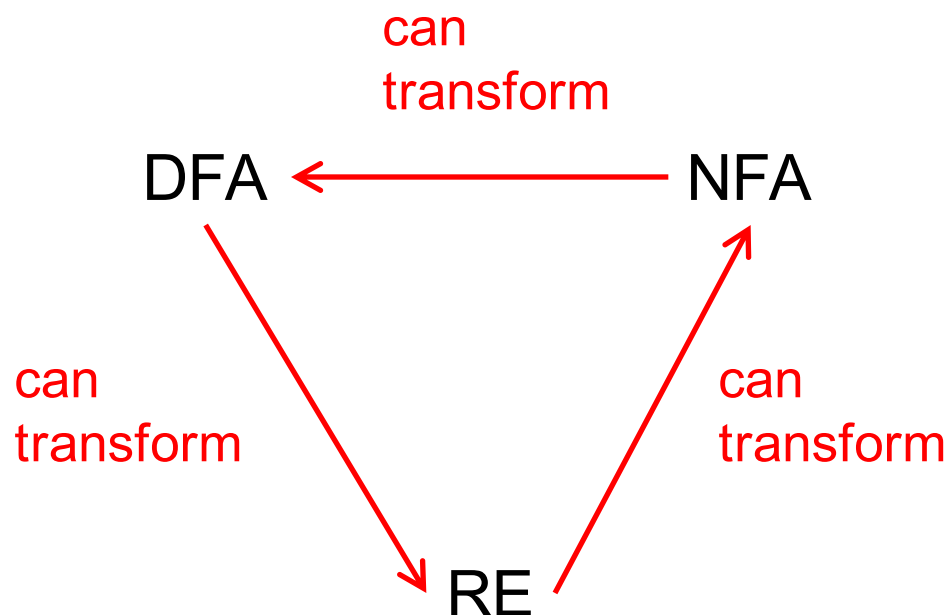


► Language?

- $(ab|aba)^*$

Relating REs to DFAs and NFAs

- ▶ Regular expressions, NFAs, and DFAs accept the same languages!



Formal Definition

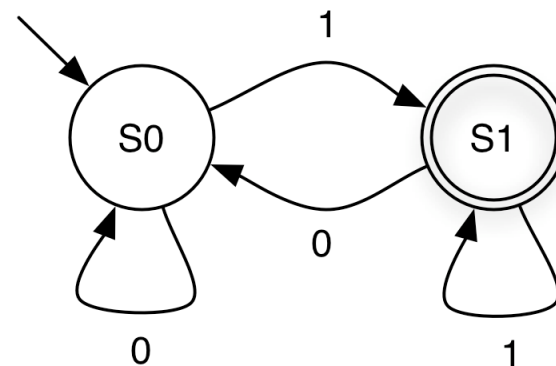
- ▶ A **deterministic finite automaton** (*DFA*) is a 5-tuple $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$ where
 - Σ is an alphabet
 - Q is a nonempty set of states
 - $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state
 - $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of final states
 - $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ specifies the DFA's transitions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

Formal Definition: Example

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

-

δ	0	1
S0	S0	S1
S1	S0	S1



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

Nondeterministic Finite Automata (NFA)

- ▶ An *NFA* is a 5-tuple $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$ where
 - Σ is an alphabet
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 - $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of final states
 - $\delta \subseteq Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \times Q$ specifies the NFA's transitions
 - Transitions on ϵ are allowed – can optionally take these transitions without consuming any input
 - Can have more than one transition for a given state and symbol
 - δ is a relation, not a function
- ▶ An NFA accepts s if there is **at least one** path from its start to final state on s

Nondeterministic Finite Automata (NFA)

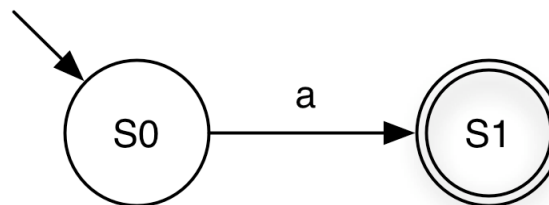
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Difference from DFA

Reducing Regular Expressions to NFAs

- ▶ Goal: Given regular expression e , construct NFA: $\langle e \rangle = (\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$
 - Remember regular expressions are defined recursively from primitive RE languages
 - Invariant: $|F| = 1$ in our NFAs
 - Recall F = set of final states

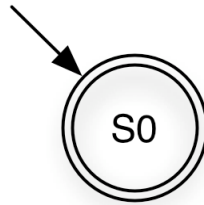
- ▶ Base case: a



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

Reduction (cont.)

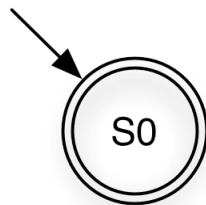
- ▶ Base case: ϵ



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

Reduction (cont.)

- ▶ Base case: ε



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

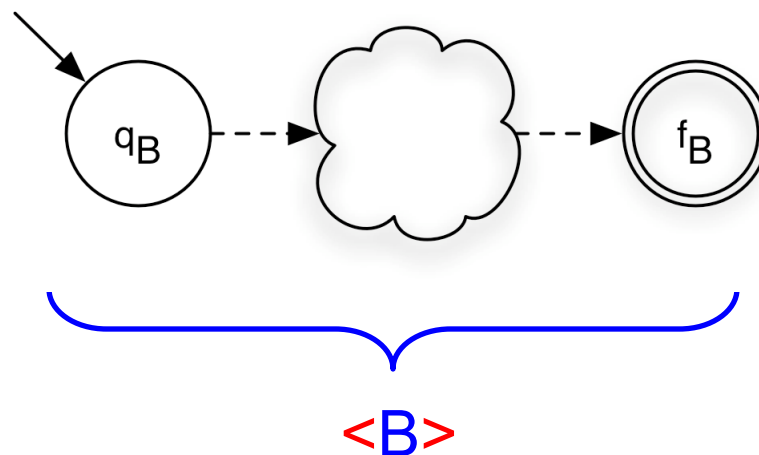
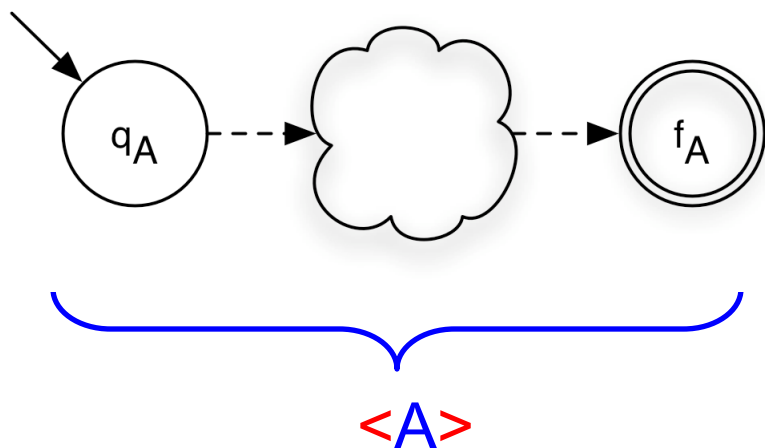
- ▶ Base case: $\emptyset$



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

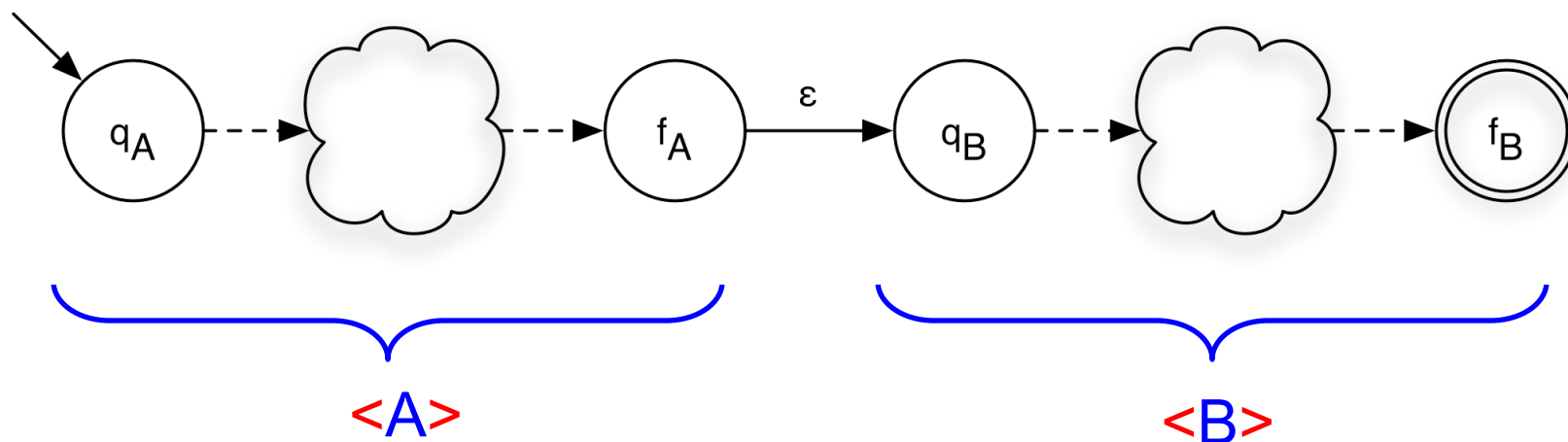
Reduction: Concatenation

► Induction: AB



Reduction: Concatenation (cont.)

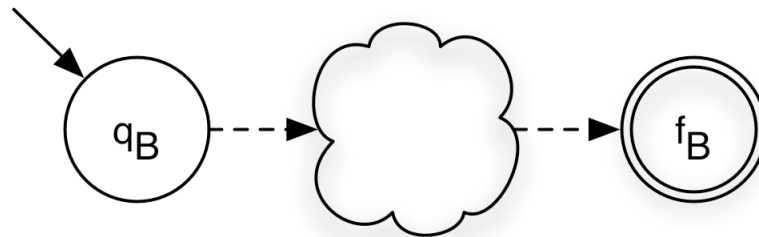
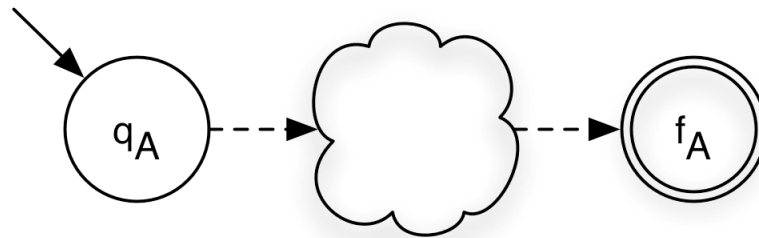
► Induction: AB



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

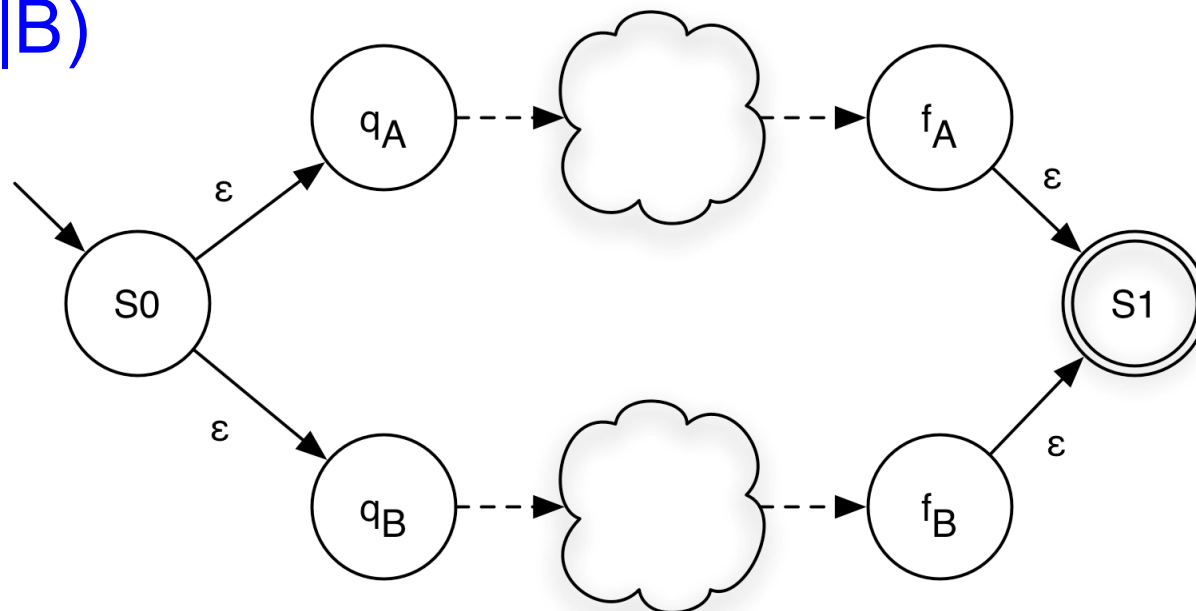
Reduction: Union

► Induction: $(A|B)$



Reduction: Union (cont.)

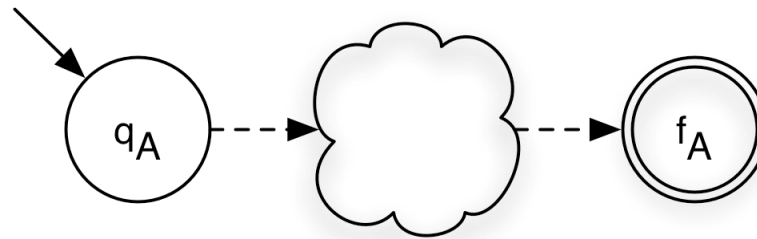
► Induction: $(A|B)$



- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle B \rangle = (\Sigma_B, Q_B, q_B, \{f_B\}, \delta_B)$
- $\langle (A|B) \rangle = (\Sigma_A \cup \Sigma_B, Q_A \cup Q_B \cup \{S0, S1\}, S0, \{S1\}, \delta_A \cup \delta_B \cup \{(S0, \varepsilon, q_A), (S0, \varepsilon, q_B), (f_A, \varepsilon, S1), (f_B, \varepsilon, S1)\})$

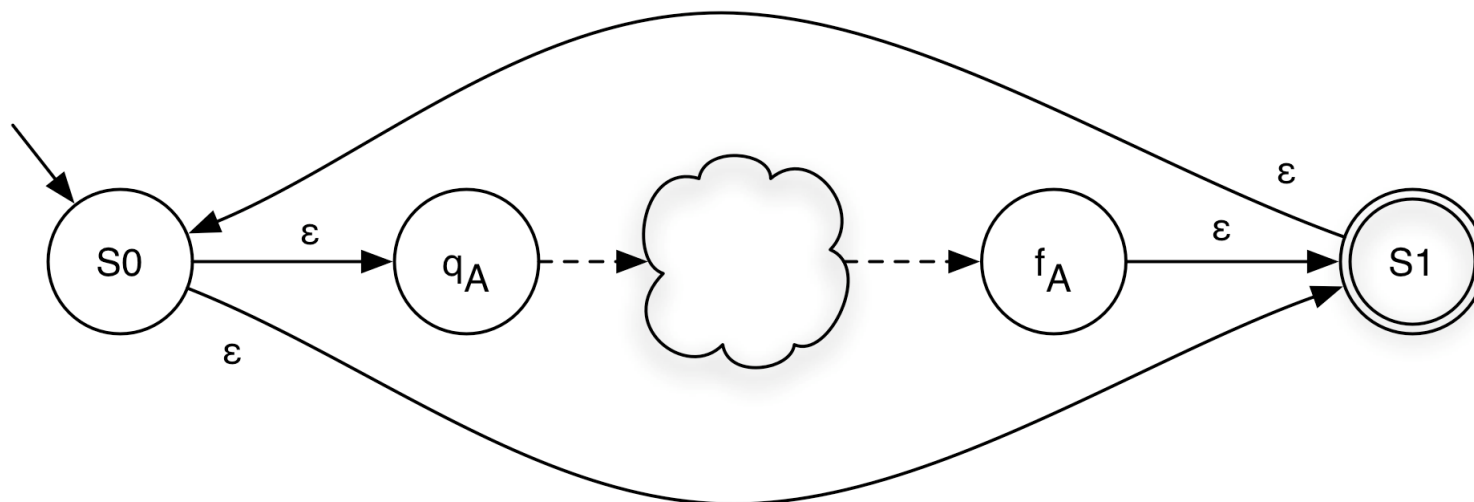
Reduction: Closure

- ▶ Induction: A^*



Reduction: Closure (cont.)

► Induction: A^*



- $\langle A \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$
- $\langle A^* \rangle = (\Sigma_A, Q_A \cup \{S_0, S_1\}, S_0, \{S_1\}, \delta_A \cup \{(f_A, \epsilon, S_1), (S_0, \epsilon, q_A), (S_0, \epsilon, S_1), (S_1, \epsilon, S_0)\})$

RE-> NFA

Draw NFAs for the regular expression $(0|1)^*110^*$

RE-> NFA

Draw NFAs for the regular expression $(ab^*c|d^*a|ab)d$

Reduction Complexity

- ▶ Given a regular expression A of size n ...
Size = # of symbols + # of operations
- ▶ How many states does $\langle A \rangle$ have?

Reduction Complexity

- ▶ Given a regular expression A of size n ...
Size = # of symbols + # of operations
- ▶ How many states does $\langle A \rangle$ have?
 - 2 added for each $|$, 2 added for each $*$
 - $O(n)$
 - That's pretty good!

Practice

- ▶ Draw NFAs for the following regular expressions and languages
 - $101^*|111$
 - all binary strings ending in 1 (odd numbers)
 - all alphabetic strings which come after “hello” in alphabetic order

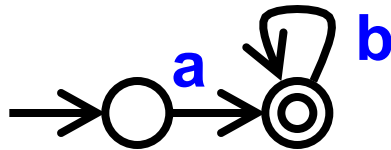
Recap

► Finite automata

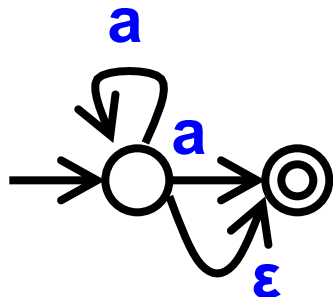
- Alphabet, states...
- $(\Sigma, Q, q_0, F, \delta)$

► Types

- Deterministic (DFA)

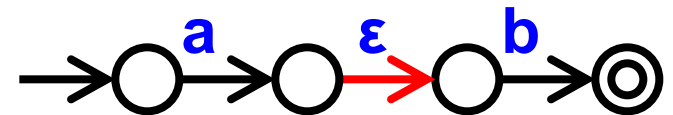


- Non-deterministic (NFA)

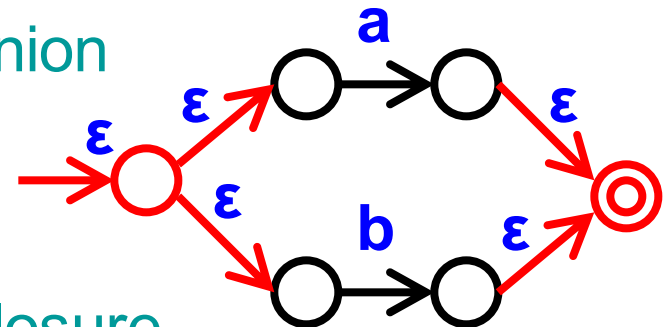


► Reducing RE to NFA

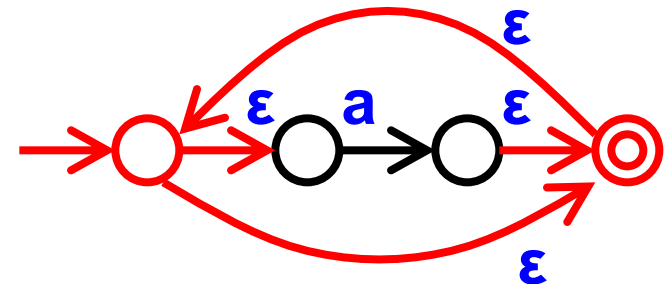
- Concatenation



- Union



- Closure



Next

- ▶ Reducing NFA to DFA
 - ϵ -closure
 - Subset algorithm
- ▶ Minimizing DFA
 - Hopcroft reduction
- ▶ Complementing DFA
- ▶ Implementing DFA

How NFA Works

- ▶ When NFA processes a string
 - NFA may be in several possible states
 - Multiple transitions with same label
 - ϵ -transitions

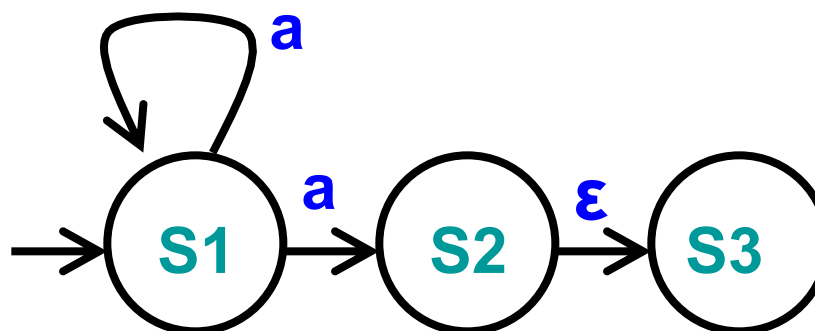
- ▶ Example

- After processing “a”
 - NFA may be in states

S1

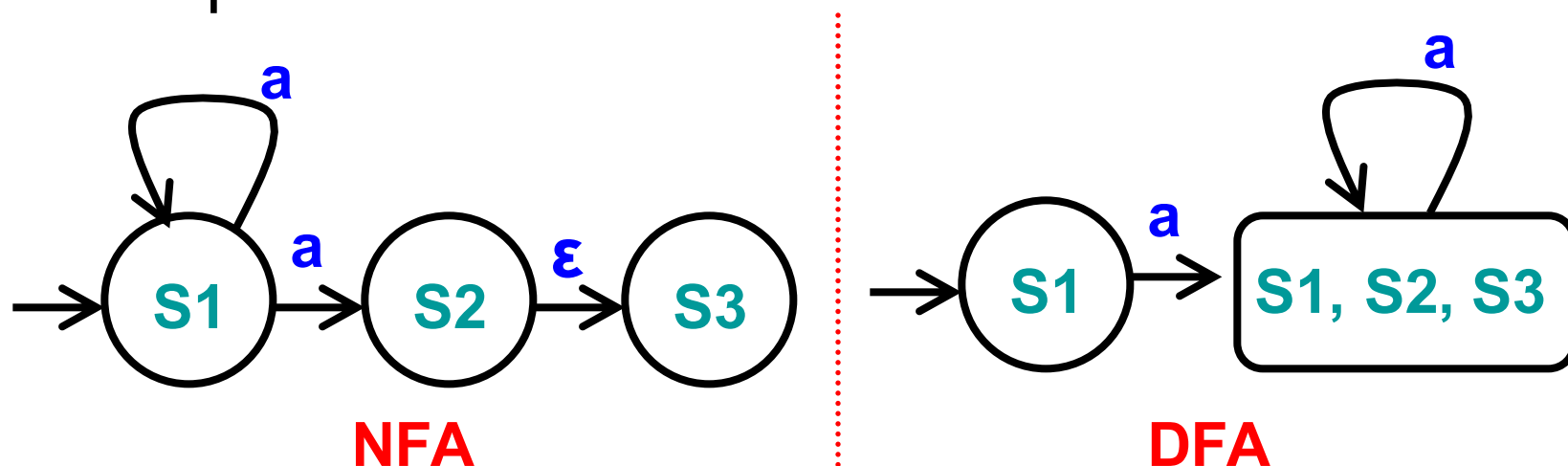
S2

S3



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 states
- ▶ Example



Reducing NFA to DFA (cont.)

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

ϵ -transitions and ϵ -closure

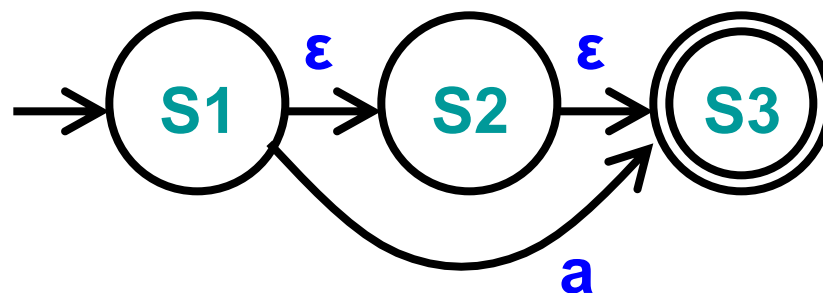
- ▶ We say $p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q$
 - If it is possible to go from state p to state q by taking only ϵ -transitions
 - If $\exists p, p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n, q \in Q$ such that
 - $\{p, \epsilon, p_1\} \in \delta, \{p_1, \epsilon, p_2\} \in \delta, \dots, \{p_n, \epsilon, q\} \in \delta$
- ▶ ϵ -closure(p)
 - Set of states reachable from p using ϵ -transitions alone
 - Set of states q such that $p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q$
 - ϵ -closure(p) = $\{q \mid p \xrightarrow{\epsilon} q\}$
 - Note
 - ϵ -closure(p) always includes p
 - ϵ -closure() may be applied to set of states (take union)

ϵ -closure: Example 1

► Following NFA contains

- $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S2$
- $S2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S3$
- $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S3$

► Since $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S2$ and $S2 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S3$



► ϵ -closures

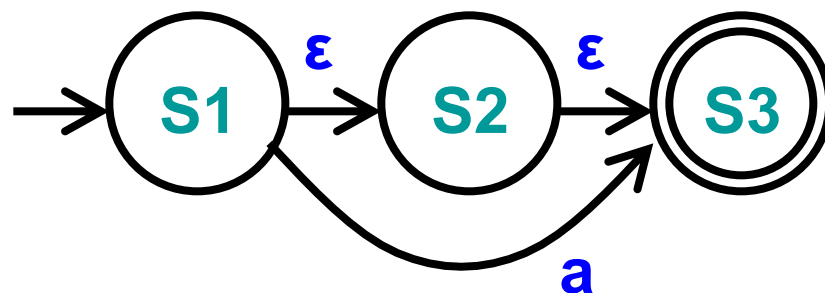
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S1) = \{ S1, S2, S3 \}$

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► ϵ -closures

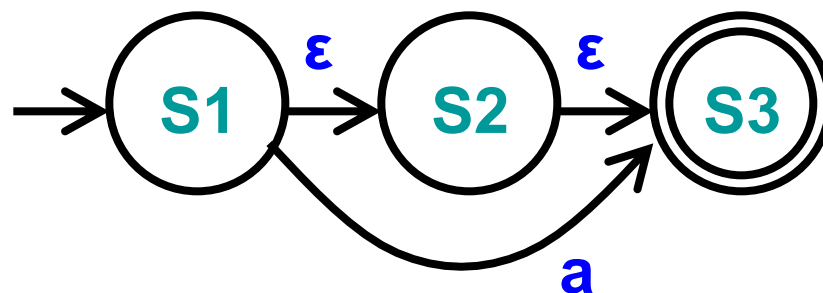
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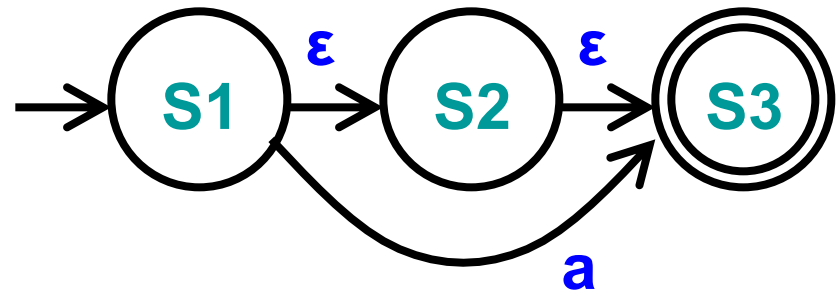
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► ϵ -closures

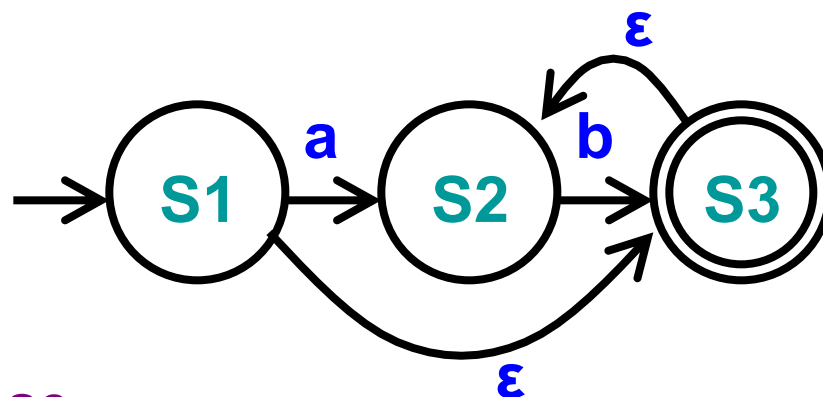
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- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S2) = \{ S2, S3 \}$
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S3) = \{ S3 \}$
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(\{ S1, S2 \}) = \{ S1, S2, S3 \} \cup \{ S2, S3 \}$

ϵ -closure: Example 2

► Following NFA contains

- $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S3$
- $S3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S2$
- $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S2$

► Since $S1 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S3$ and $S3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon} S2$



► ϵ -closures

- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S1) = \{ S1, S2, S3 \}$
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S2) = \{ S2 \}$
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(S3) = \{ S2, S3 \}$
- $\epsilon\text{-closure}(\{ S2, S3 \}) = \{ S2 \} \cup \{ S2, S3 \}$

Calculating $\text{move}(p,a)$

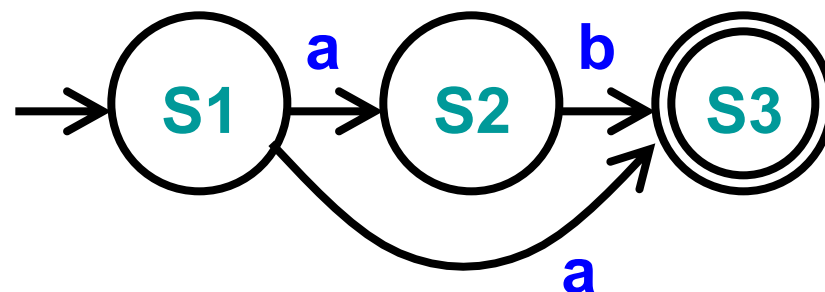
► $\text{move}(p,a)$

- Set of states reachable from p using exactly one transition on a
 - Set of states q such that $\{p, a, q\} \in \delta$
 - $\text{move}(p,a) = \{q \mid \{p, a, q\} \in \delta\}$
- Note: $\text{move}(p,a)$ may be empty $\emptyset$
 - If no transition from p with label a

move(a,p) : Example 1

► Following NFA

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



► Move

- $\text{move}(S1, a) = \{ S2, S3 \}$
- $\text{move}(S1, b) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(S2, a) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(S2, b) = \{ S3 \}$
- $\text{move}(S3, a) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(S3, b) = \emptyset$

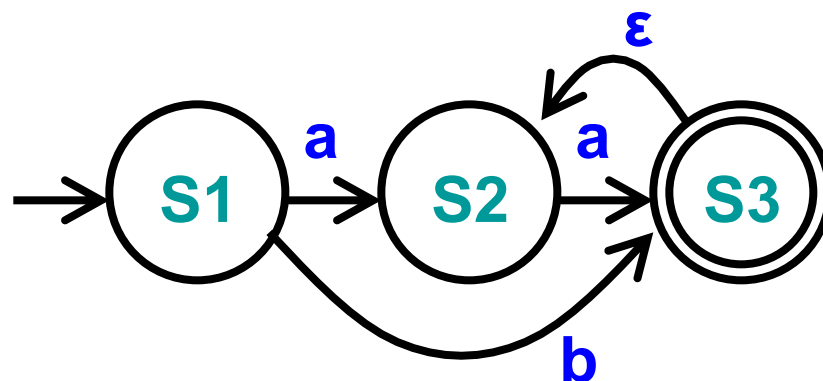
move(a,p) : Example 2

► Following NFA

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

► Move

- $\text{move}(S1, a) = \{ S2 \}$
- $\text{move}(S1, b) = \{ S3 \}$
- $\text{move}(S2, a) = \{ S3 \}$
- $\text{move}(S2, b) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(S3, a) = \emptyset$
- $\text{move}(S3, b) = \emptyset$



NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Reduction Algorithm

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

► Algorithm

Let $r_0 = \varepsilon\text{-closure}(q_0)$, 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 $a \in \Sigma$

// for each letter a

Let $S = \{s \mid q \in r \text{ \& move}(q,a) = s\}$

// states reached via a

Let $e = \varepsilon\text{-closure}(S)$

// states reached via ε

If $e \notin R$

// if state e is new

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

// add e to R (unmarked)

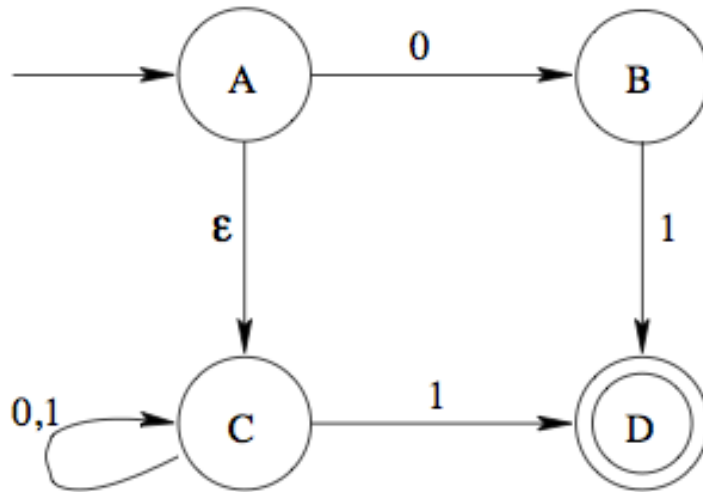
Let $\delta = \delta \cup \{r, a, e\}$

// add transition $r \rightarrow e$

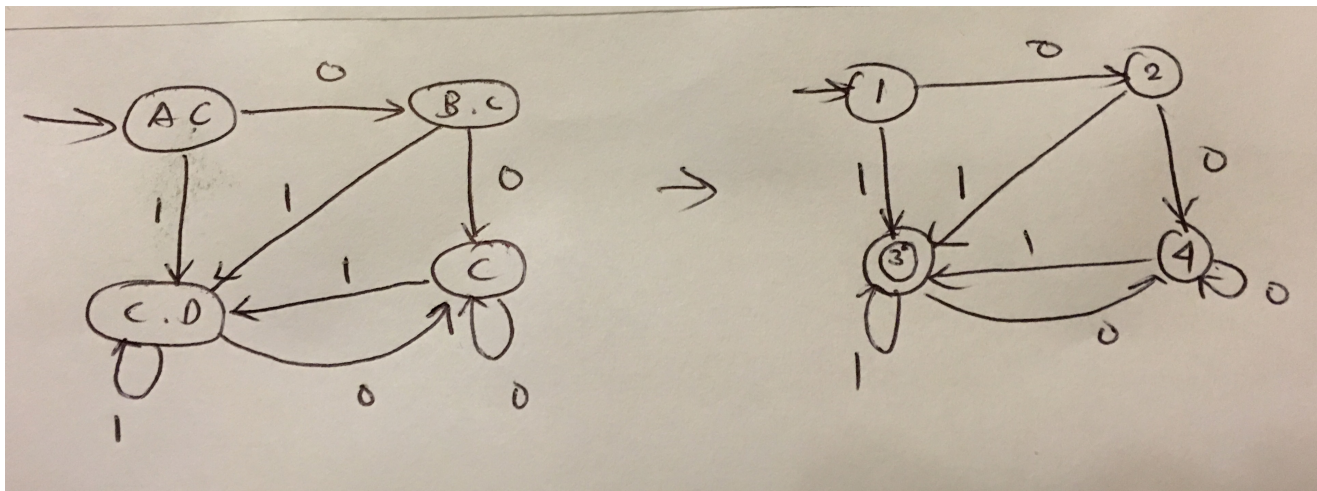
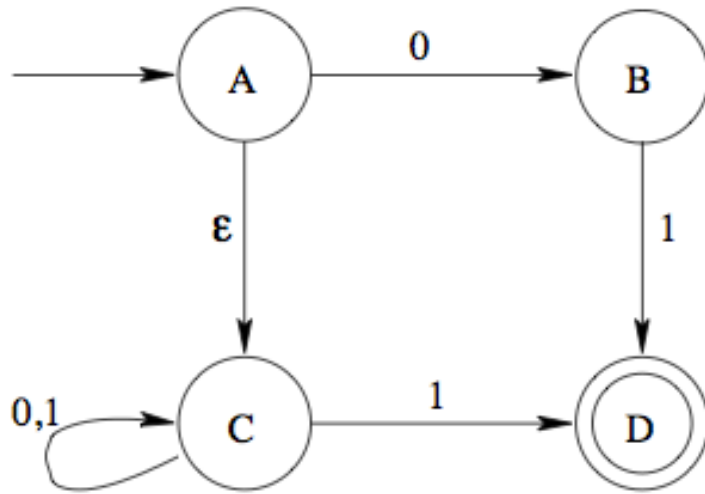
Let $F_d = \{r \mid \exists s \in r \text{ with } s \in F_n\}$

// final if include state in F_n

NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 1

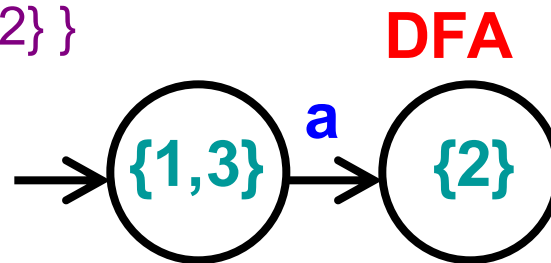
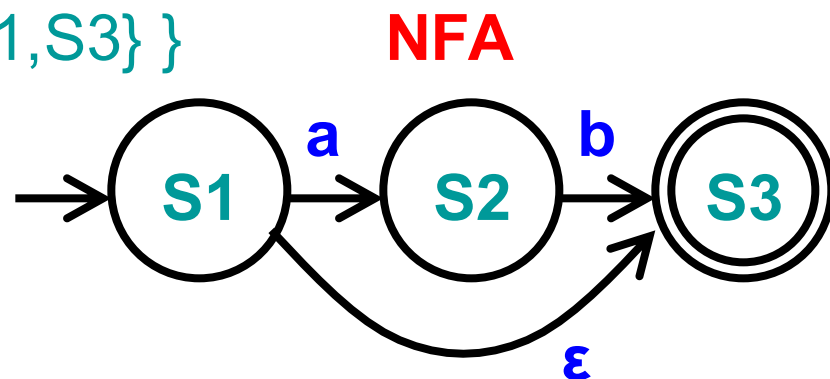


NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 1



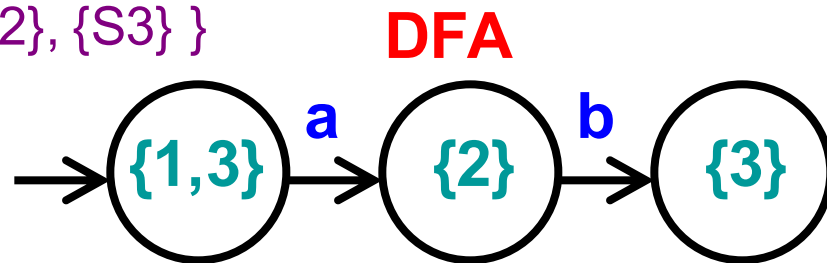
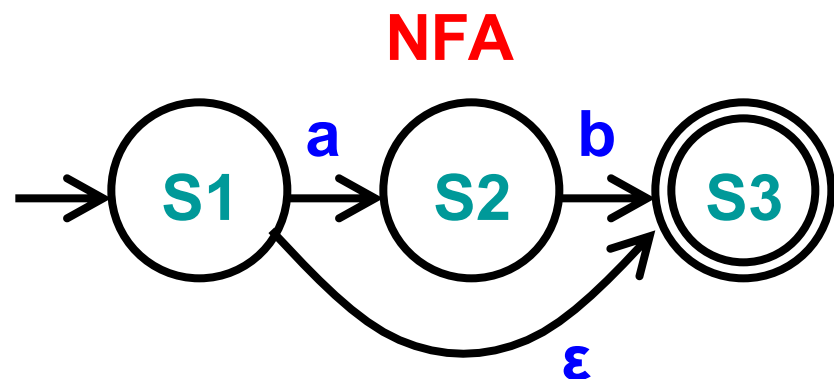
NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 1

- Start = ε -closure(S1) = { {S1,S3} }
- $R = \{ \{S1,S3\} \}$
- $r \in R = \{S1,S3\}$
- $\text{Move}(\{S1,S3\},a) = \{S2\}$
 - $e = \varepsilon$ -closure({S2}) = {S2}
 - $R = R \cup \{\{S2\}\} = \{ \{S1,S3\}, \{S2\} \}$
 - $\delta = \delta \cup \{\{S1,S3\}, a, \{S2\}\}$
- $\text{Move}(\{S1,S3\},b) = \emptyset$



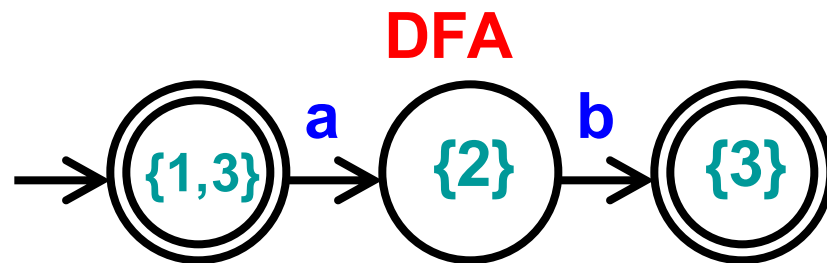
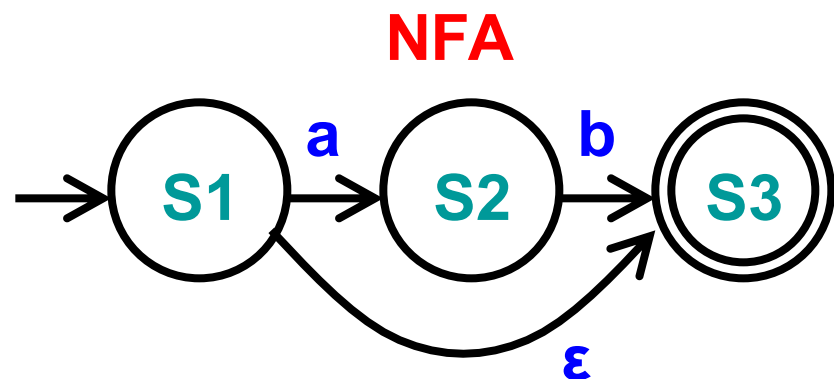
NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 1 (cont.)

- $R = \{ \{S1, S3\}, \{S2\} \}$
- $r \in R = \{S2\}$
- $\text{Move}(\{S2\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\text{Move}(\{S2\}, b) = \{S3\}$
 - $e = \varepsilon\text{-closure}(\{S3\}) = \{S3\}$
 - $R = R \cup \{\{S3\}\} = \{ \{S1, S3\}, \{S2\}, \{S3\} \}$
 - $\delta = \delta \cup \{\{S2\}, b, \{S3\}\}$



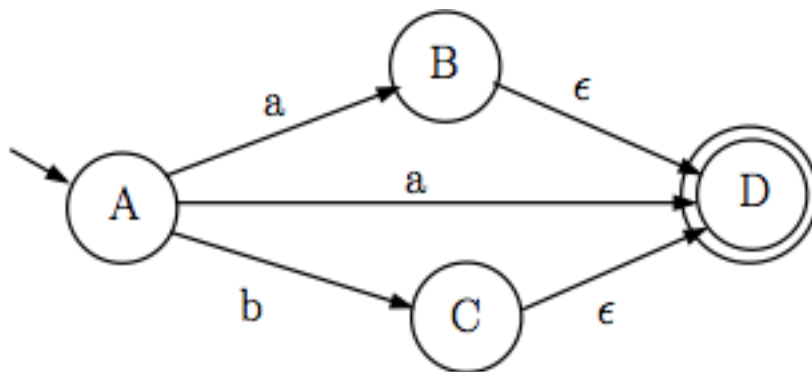
NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 1 (cont.)

- $R = \{ \{S1, S3\}, \{S2\}, \{S3\} \}$
- $r \in R = \{S3\}$
- $\text{Move}(\{S3\}, a) = \emptyset$
- $\text{Move}(\{S3\}, b) = \emptyset$
- Mark $\{S3\}$, exit loop
- $F_d = \{ \{S1, S3\}, \{S3\} \}$
 - Since $S3 \in F_n$
- Done!

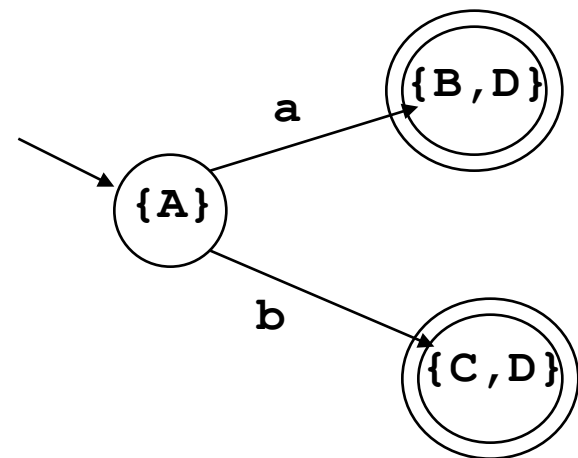


NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 2

► NFA



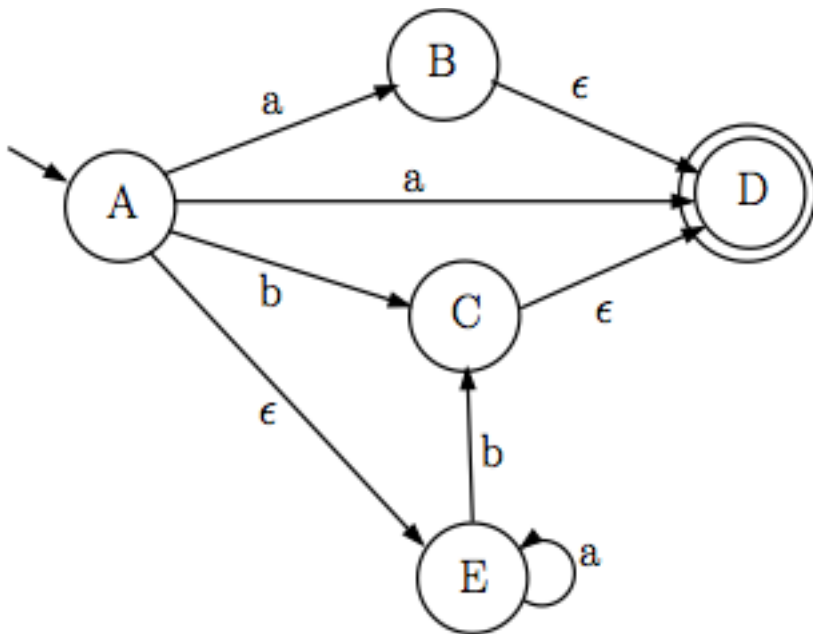
► DFA



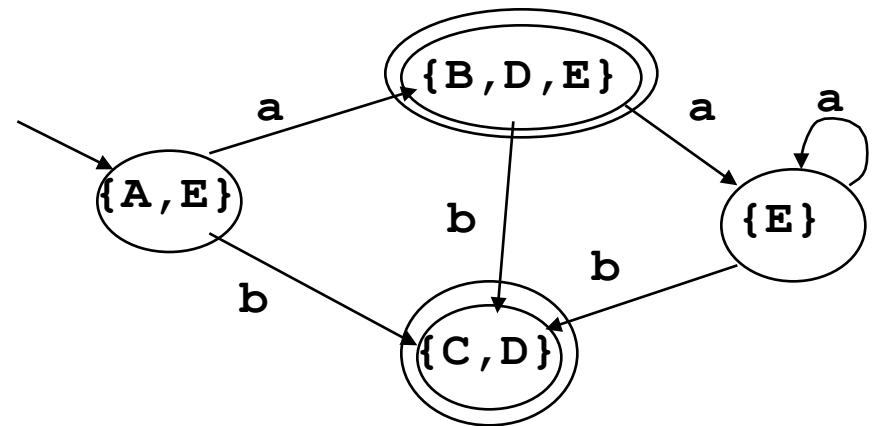
$$R = \{ \boxed{\{A\}}, \boxed{\{B,D\}}, \boxed{\{C,D\}} \}$$

NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA Example 3

► NFA



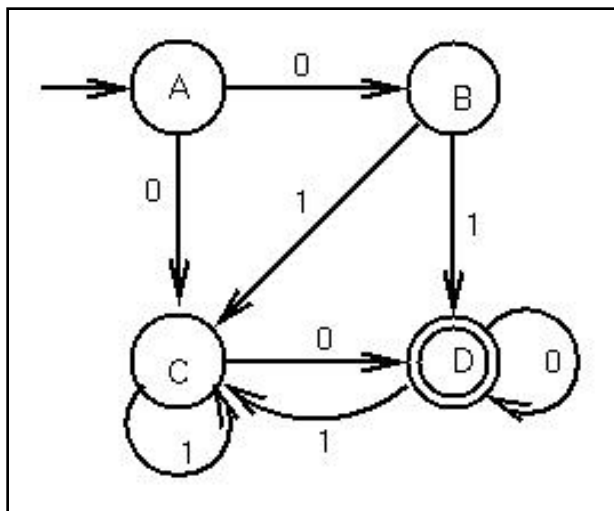
► DFA



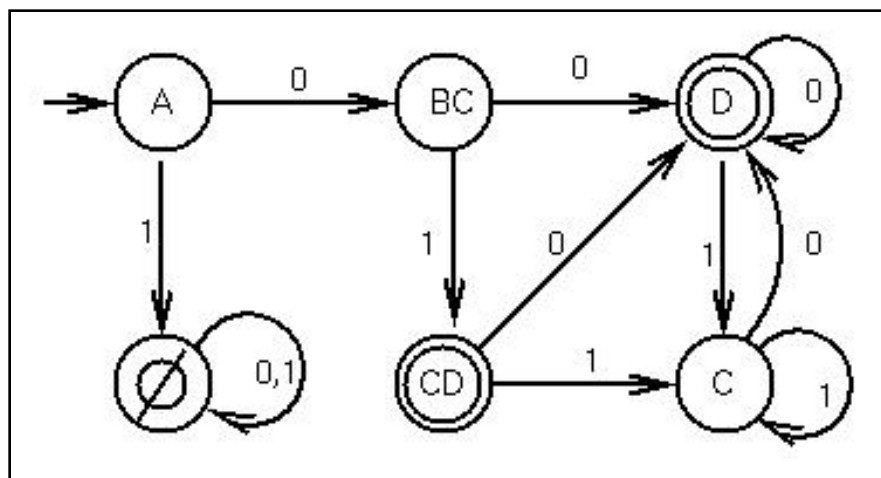
$$R = \{ \boxed{\{A,E\}}, \boxed{\{B,D,E\}}, \boxed{\{C,D\}}, \boxed{\{E\}} \}$$

Analyzing the reduction

- Any string from $\{A\}$ to either $\{D\}$ or $\{CD\}$
 - Represents a path from A to D in the original NFA



NFA



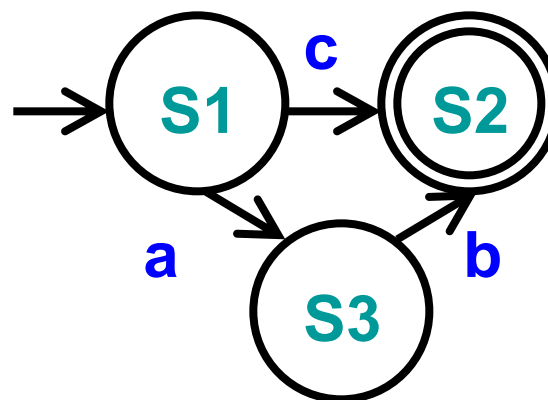
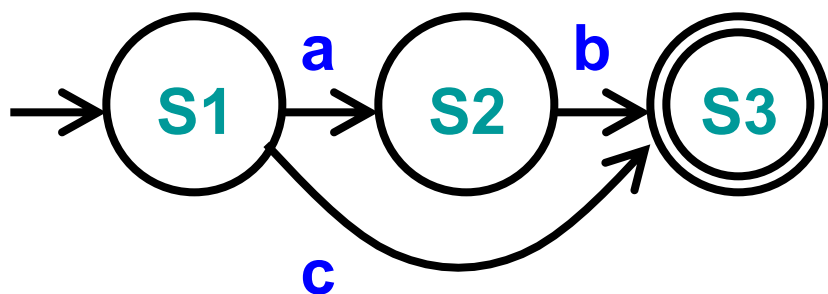
DFA

Analyzing the reduction (cont'd)

- ▶ 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 $O(2^n)$

Minimizing DFA

- ▶ Result from CS theory
 - Every regular language is recognizable by a minimum-state DFA that is **unique** up to state names
- ▶ In other words
 - For every DFA, there is a unique DFA with minimum number of states that accepts the same language
 - Two minimum-state DFAs have **same** underlying shape



Minimizing DFA: Hopcroft Reduction

► Intuition

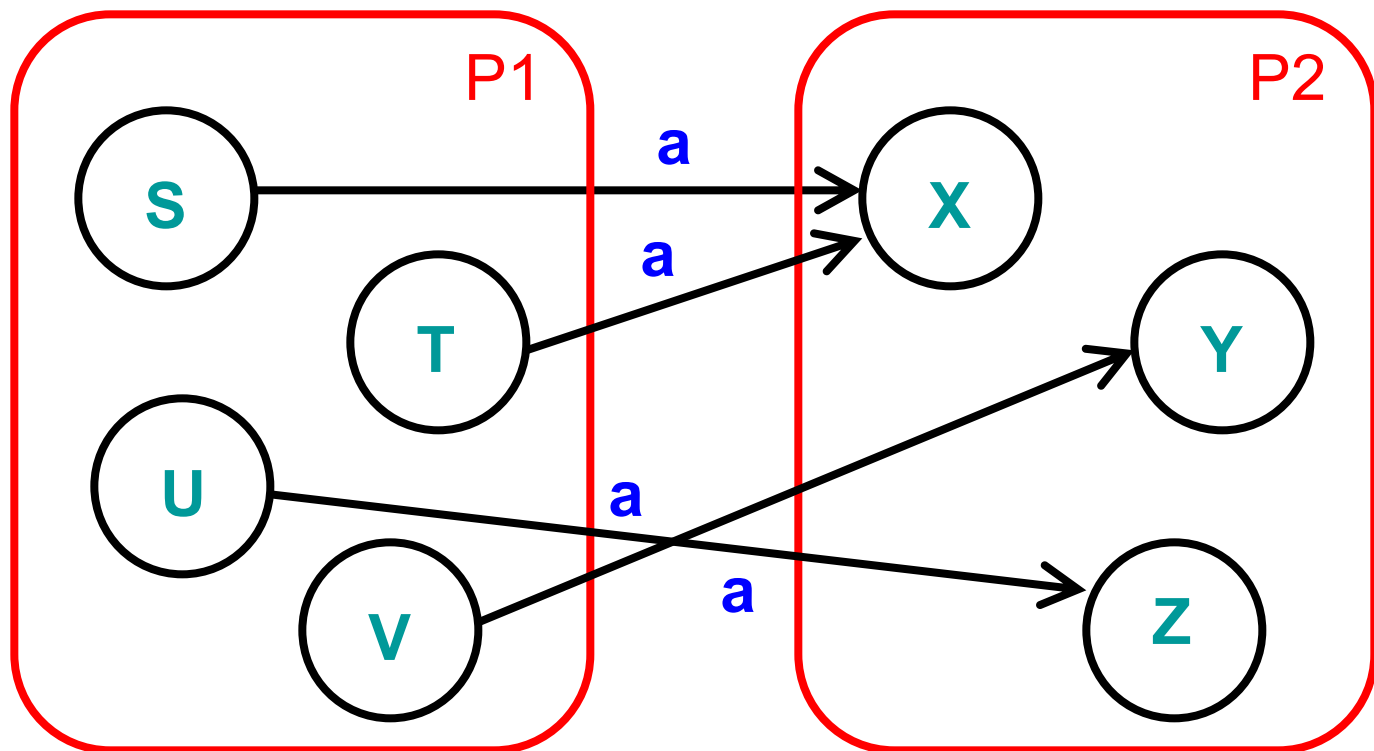
- Look to distinguish states from each other
 - End up in different accept / non-accept state with identical input

► Algorithm

- Construct initial partition
 - Accepting & non-accepting states
- Iteratively refine 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

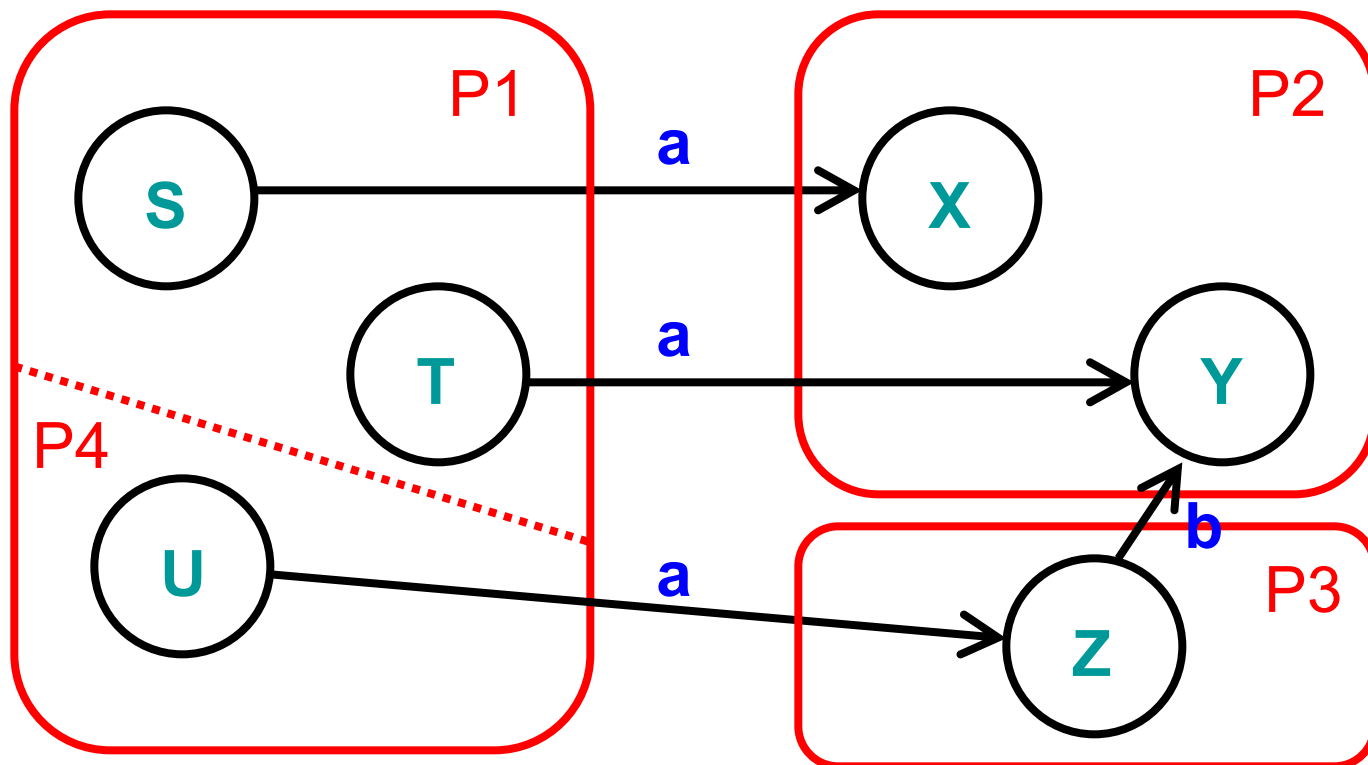
Splitting Partitions

- ▶ 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



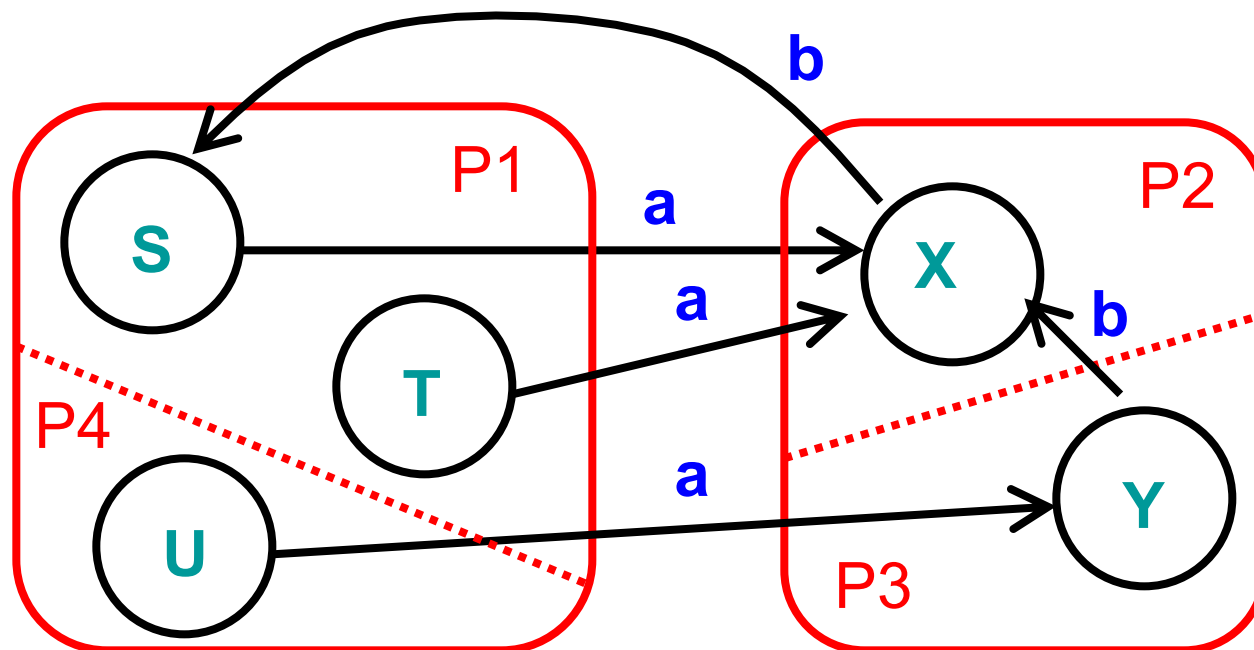
Splitting Partitions (cont.)

- ▶ 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 $P3$



Resplitting Partitions

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



DFA Minimization Algorithm (1)

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

► Algorithm

Let $p_0 = F_n, p_1 = Q - F$ // initial partitions = final, nonfinal states
Let $R = \{ p \mid p \in \{p_0, p_1\} \text{ and } p \neq \emptyset \}, P = \emptyset$ // add p to R if nonempty
While $P \neq R$ do // while partitions changed on prev iteration
 Let $P = R, R = \emptyset$ // P = prev partitions, R = current partitions
 For each $p \in P$ // for each partition from previous iteration
 $\{p_0, p_1\} = \text{split}(p, P)$ // split partition, if necessary
 $R = R \cup \{ p \mid p \in \{p_0, p_1\} \text{ and } p \neq \emptyset \}$ // add p to R if nonempty
 $r_0 = p \in R \text{ where } q_0 \in p$ // partition w/ starting state
 $F_d = \{ p \mid p \in R \text{ and exists } s \in p \text{ such that } s \in F_n \}$ // partitions w/ final states
 $\delta(p, c) = q \text{ when } \delta(s, c) = r \text{ where } s \in p \text{ and } r \in q$ // add transitions

DFA Minimization Algorithm (2)

► Algorithm for $\text{split}(p, P)$

Choose some $r \in p$, let $q = p - \{r\}$, $m = \{\}$ // pick some state r in p

For each $s \in q$ // for each state in p except for r

For each $c \in \Sigma$ // for each symbol in alphabet

If $\delta(r, c) = q_0$ and $\delta(s, c) = q_1$ and // q 's = states reached for c

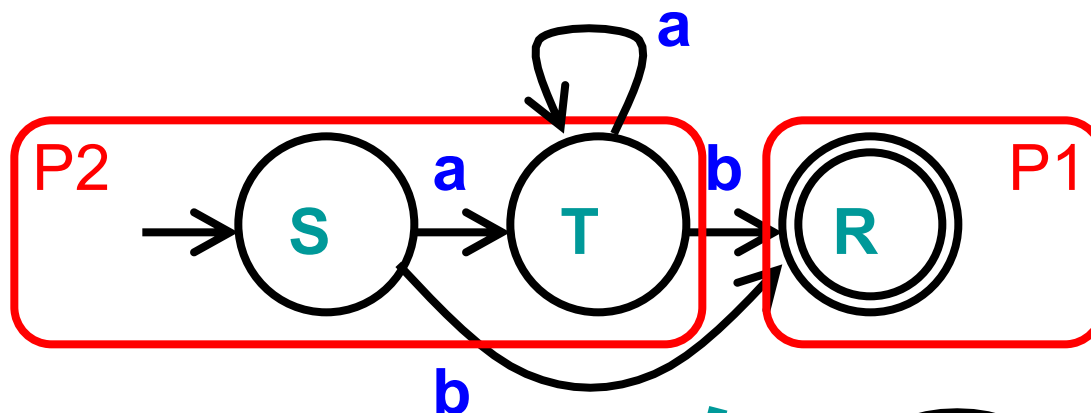
there is no $p_1 \in P$ such that $q_0 \in p_1$ and $q_1 \in p_1$ then

$m = m \cup \{s\}$ // add s to m if q 's not in same partition

Return $p - m$, m // m = states that behave differently than r
// m may be $\emptyset$ if all states behave the same
// $p - m$ = states that behave the same as r

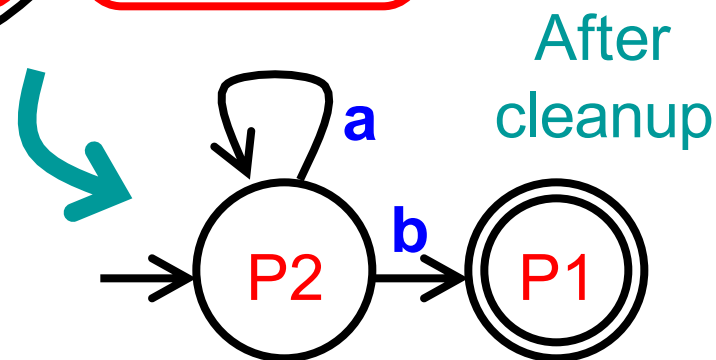
Minimizing DFA: Example 1

► DFA



► Initial partitions

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

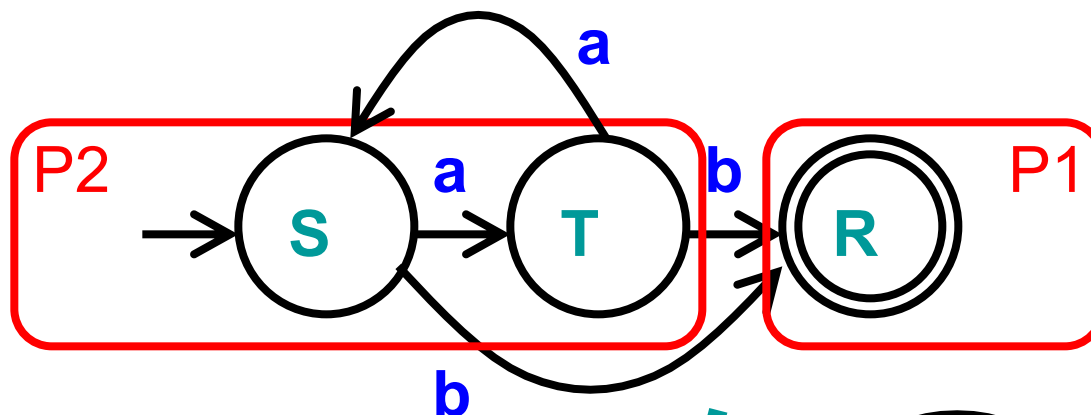


► Split partition? → Not required, minimization done

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

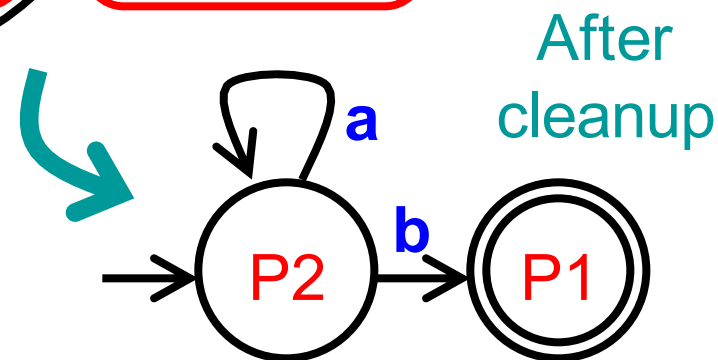
Minimizing DFA: Example 2

► DFA



► Initial partitions

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

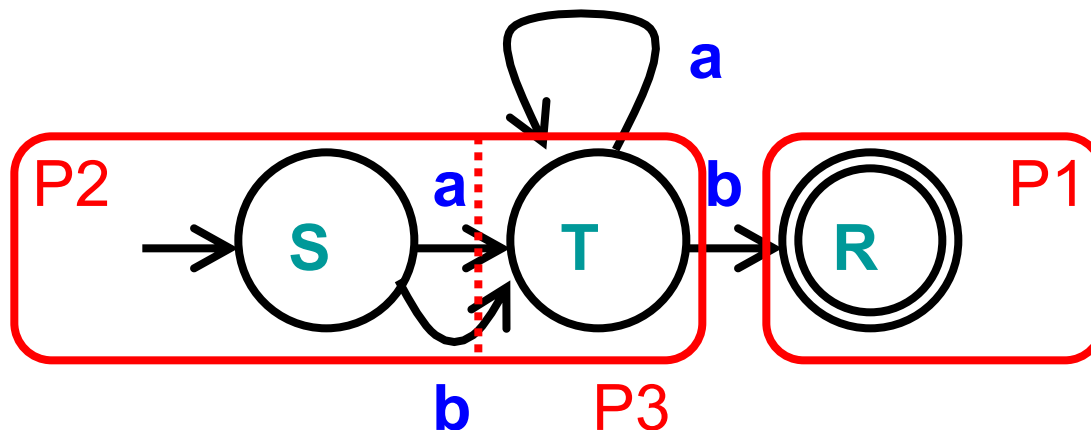


► Split partition? → Not required, minimization done

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

Minimizing DFA: Example 3

► DFA



► Initial partitions

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

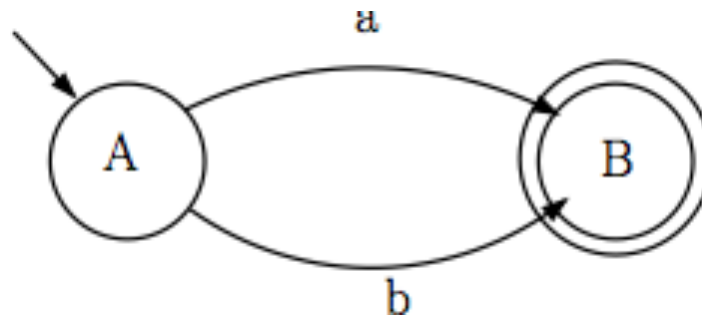
DFA
already
minimal

► Split partition? → Yes, different partitions for B

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

Complement of DFA

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



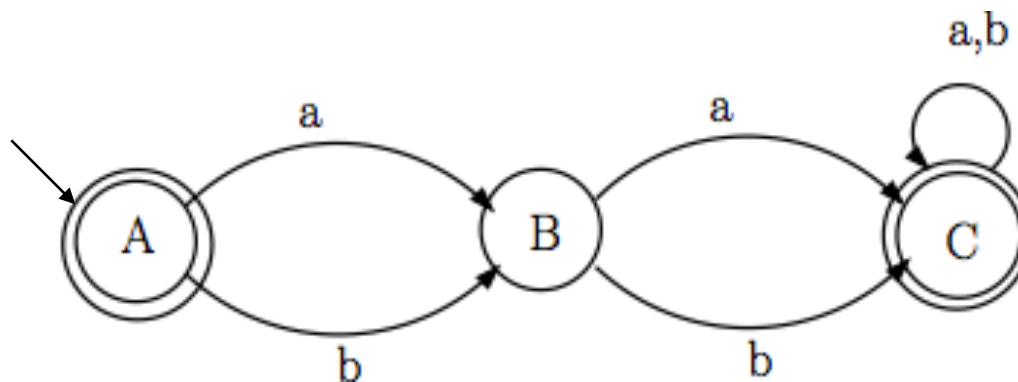
Complement of DFA (cont.)

► 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

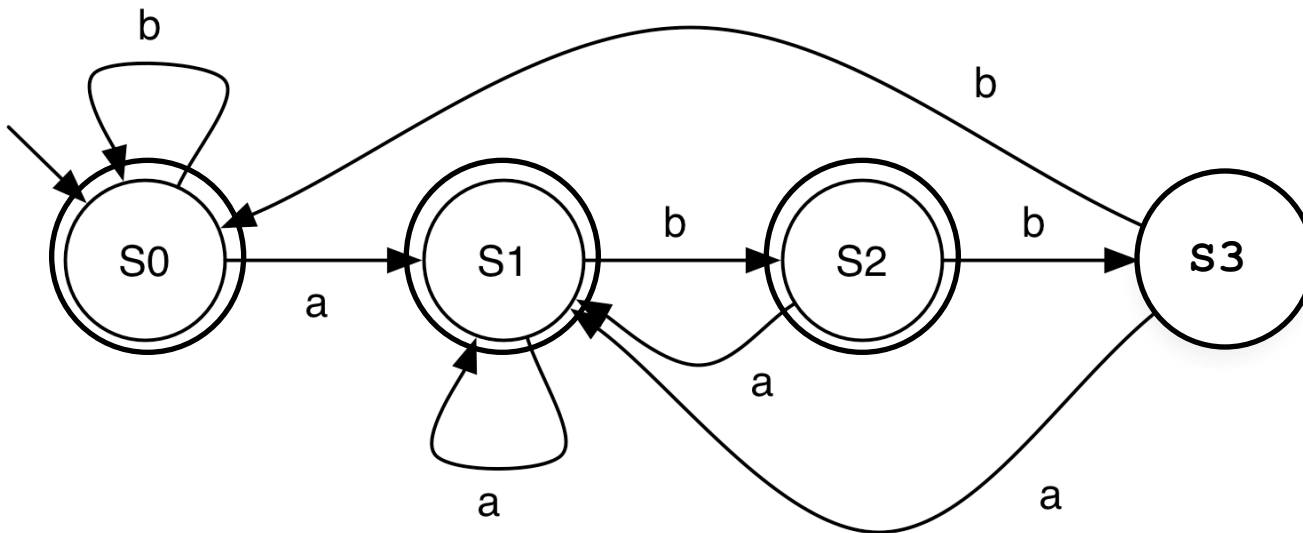
► Note this **only** works with DFAs

- Why not with NFAs?



Practice

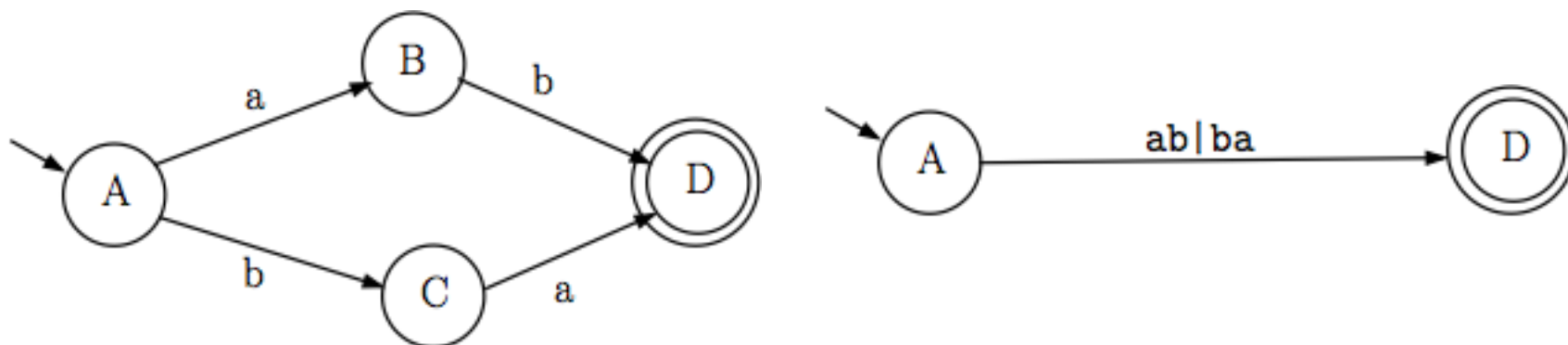
Make the DFA which accepts the complement of the language accepted by the DFA below.



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

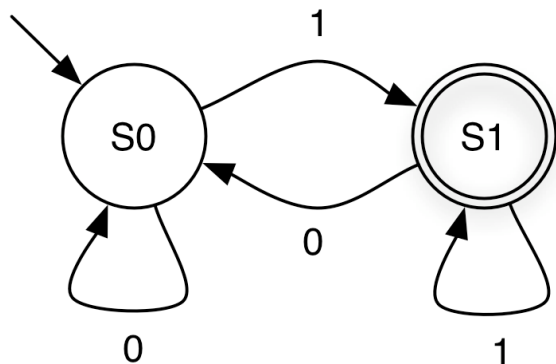


Relating REs to DFAs and NFAs

- ▶ Why do we want to convert between these?
 - Can make it easier to express ideas
 - Can be easier to implement

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;

    }

}
```

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  $s$  of the input string)  
     $q := \delta(q, s)$ ;  
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

Run Time of DFA

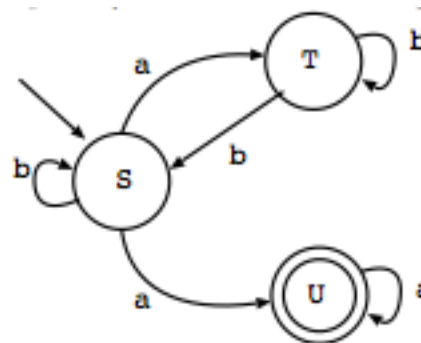
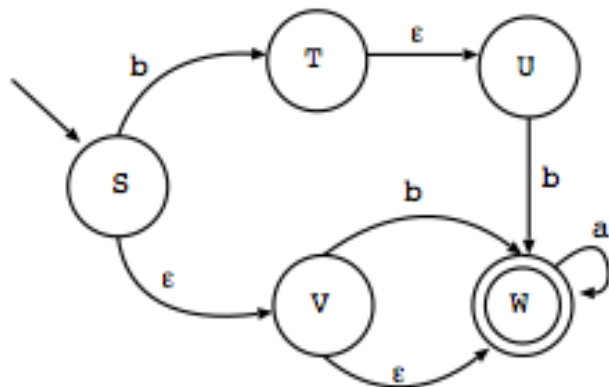
- ▶ How long for DFA to decide to accept/reject string s ?
 - Assume we can compute $\delta(q, c)$ in constant time
 - Then time to process s is $O(|s|)$
 - Can't get much faster!
- ▶ Constructing DFA for RE A may take $O(2^{|A|})$ time
 - But usually not the case in practice
- ▶ So there's the initial overhead
 - But then processing strings is fast

Regular Expressions in Practice

- ▶ Regular expressions are typically “compiled” into tables for the generic algorithm
 - Can think of this as a simple byte code interpreter
 - But really just a representation of $(\Sigma, Q_A, q_A, \{f_A\}, \delta_A)$, the components of the DFA produced from the RE
- ▶ Regular expression implementations often have extra constructs that are non-regular
 - I.e., can accept more than the regular languages
 - Can be useful in certain cases
 - Disadvantages
 - Nonstandard, plus can have higher complexity

Practice

► Convert to a DFA



► Convert to an NFA and then to a DFA

- $(0|1)^*11|0^*$
- Strings of alternating 0 and 1
- $aba^*|(ba|b)$

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, complement
 - Implementation