

# Chapter-6

## Regular Expressions

### Regular Expression (RE)

A RE is a string that can be formed according to the following rules:

1.  $\emptyset$  is a RE.
2.  $\epsilon$  is a RE.
3. Every element in  $\Sigma$  is a RE.
4. Given two REs  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha\beta$  is a RE.
5. Given two REs  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $\alpha \cup \beta$  is a RE.
6. Given a RE  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha^*$  is a RE.
7. Given a RE  $\alpha$ ,  $\alpha^+$  is a RE.
8. Given a RE  $\alpha$ ,  $(\alpha)$  is a RE.

if  $\Sigma = \{a,b\}$ , the following strings are regular expressions:

$$\emptyset, \epsilon, a,b, (a \cup b)^*, abba \cup \epsilon.$$

### Semantic interpretation function L for the language of regular expressions:

1.  $L(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ , the language that contains no strings.
2.  $L(\epsilon) = \{\epsilon\}$ , the language that contains empty string.
3. For any  $c \in \Sigma$ ,  $L(c) = \{c\}$ , the language that contains single character string  $c$ .
4. For any regular expressions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $L(\alpha\beta) = L(\alpha) L(\beta)$ .
5. For any regular expressions  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$ ,  $L(\alpha \cup \beta) = L(\alpha) \cup L(\beta)$ .
6. For any regular expression  $\alpha$ ,  $L(\alpha^*) = (L(\alpha))^*$ .
7. For any regular expression  $\alpha$ ,  $L(\alpha^+) = L(\alpha\alpha^*) = L(\alpha) (L(\alpha))^*$
8. For any regular expression  $\alpha$ ,  $L((\alpha)) = L(\alpha)$ .

### Analysing Simple Regular Expressions

$$\begin{aligned} 1. L((a \cup b)^*b) &= L((a \cup b)^*)L(b) \\ &= (L((a \cup b)))^*L(b) \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= (L(a) \cup L(b))^*L(b) \\
 &= (\{a\} \cup \{b\})^*\{b\} \\
 &= \{a,b\}^*\{b\}
 \end{aligned}$$

$(a \cup b)^*b$  is the set of all strings over the alphabet  $\{a, b\}$  that end in  $b$ .

2.  $L((a \cup b)(a \cup b)a(a \cup b)^*)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 &= L(((a \cup b)(a \cup b)))L(a) L((a \cup b)^*) \\
 &= L((a \cup b)(a \cup b)) \{a\} (L((a \cup b)))^* \\
 &= L((a \cup b))L((a \cup b)) \{a\} \{a,b\}^* \\
 &= \{a, b\} \{a, b\} \{a\} \{a, b\}^*
 \end{aligned}$$

- $((a \cup b)(a \cup b)a(a \cup b)^*$  is

$\{xay : x \text{ and } y \text{ are strings of a's and b's and } |x| = 2\}$ .

### Finding RE for a given Language

1. Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : |w| \text{ is even}\}$ .

$$L = \{aa, ab, abba, aabb, ba, baabaa, \dots\}$$

$$RE = ((a \cup b)(a \cup b))^* \text{ or } (aa \cup ab \cup ba \cup bb)^*$$

2. Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ starting with string } abb\}$ .

$$L = \{abb, abba, abbb, abbab, \dots\}$$

$$RE = abb(a \cup b)^*$$

3. Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ ending with string } abb\}$ .

$$L = \{abb, aabb, babb, ababb, \dots\}$$

$$RE = (a \cup b)^*abb$$

4.  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ have } 001 \text{ as a substring}\}$ .

$$L = \{\underline{001}, 1\underline{001}, 00\underline{01}, \dots\}$$

$$RE = (0 \cup 1)^*001(0 \cup 1)^*$$

5.  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ does not have } 001 \text{ as a substring}\}$ .

$$L = \{0, 1, 010, 110, 101, \dots\}$$

$$RE = (1 \cup 01)^*0^*$$

6.  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ contains an odd number of a's}\}$ .

$L = \{a,aaa,ababa,bbaaaaba,-----\}$

RE =  $b^*(ab^*ab^*)^* a b^*$  or  $b^*ab^*(ab^*ab^*)^*$

7.  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \#a(w) \bmod 3 = 0\}$ .

$L = \{aaa,abbaba,baaaaaa,---\}$

RE =  $(b^*ab^*ab^*a)^*b^*$

8. Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \#a(w) \leq 3\}$ .

$L = \{a,aa,ba,aaab,bbbabb,-----\}$

RE =  $b^*(a \cup \epsilon)b^*(a \cup \epsilon)b^*(a \cup \epsilon)b^*$

9.  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ contains no consecutive 0's}\}$

$L = \{0, \epsilon, 1,01,10,1010,110,101,-----\}$

RE =  $(0 \cup \epsilon)(1 \cup 10)$

10.  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ contains at least two 0's}\}$

$L = \{00,1010,1100,0001,1010,100,000,-----\}$

RE =  $(0 \cup 1)^*0(0 \cup 1)^*0(0 \cup 1)^*$

11.  $L = \{a^n b^m / n \geq 4 \text{ and } m \leq 3\}$

RE =  $(aaaa)a^*(\epsilon \cup b \cup bb \cup bbb)$

12.  $L = \{a^n b^m / n \leq 4 \text{ and } m \geq 2\}$

RE =  $(\epsilon \cup a \cup aa \cup aaa \cup aaaa)bb(b)^*$

13.  $L = \{a^{2n} b^{2m} / n \geq 0 \text{ and } m \geq 0\}$

RE =  $(aa)^*(bb)^*$

14.  $L = \{a^n b^m : (m+n) \text{ is even}\}$

$(m+n)$  is even when both a's and b's are even or both odd.

RE =  $(aa)^*(bb)^* \cup a(aa)^*b(bb)^*$

**Three operators of RE in precedence order(highest to lowest)**

1. Kleene star
2. Concatenation
3. Union

Eg:  $(a \cup bb^*a)$  is evaluated as  $(a \cup (b(b^*)a))$

**Kleene's Theorem**

**Theorem 1:**

Any language that can be defined by a regular expression can be accepted by some finite state machine.

**Theorem 2:**

Any language that can be accepted by a finite state machine can be defined by some regular expressions.

**Note: These two theorems are proved further.**

**Buiding an FSM from a RE**

**Theorem 1:For Every RE, there is an Equivalent FSM.**

Proof: The proof is by construction.

We can show that given a RE  $\alpha$ ,

we can construct an FSM M such that  $L(\alpha) = L(M)$ .

Steps:

1. If  $\alpha$  is any  $c \in \Sigma$ , we construct simple FSM shown in Figure(1)

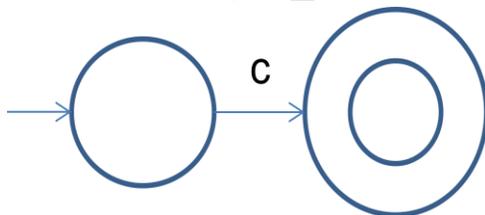


Figure (1)

2. If  $\alpha$  is any  $\emptyset$ , we construct simple FSM shown in Figure(2).

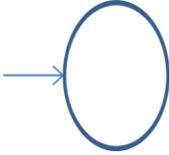


Figure (2)

3. If  $\alpha$  is  $\epsilon$ , we construct simple FSM shown in Figure(3).

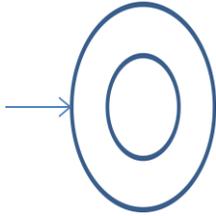


Figure (3)

4. Let  $\beta$  and  $\gamma$  be regular expressions.

If  $L(\beta)$  is regular, then FSM  $M1 = (K1, \Sigma, \delta1, s1, A1)$ .

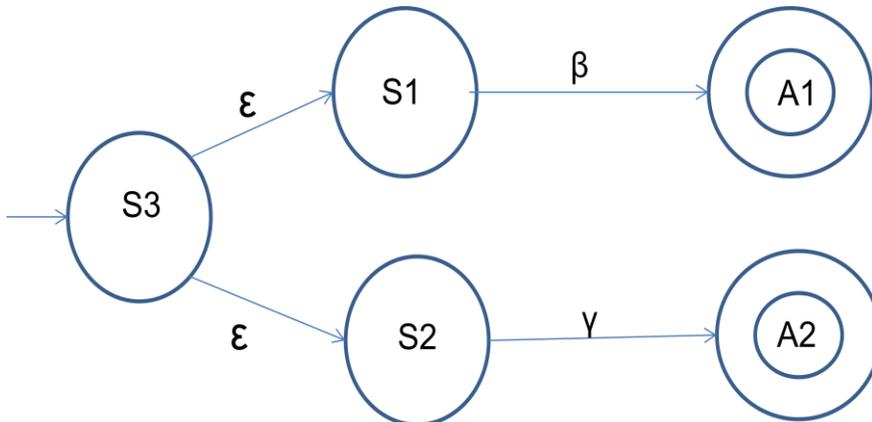
If  $L(\gamma)$  is regular, then FSM  $M2 = (K2, \Sigma, \delta2, s2, A2)$ .

If  $\alpha$  is the RE  $\beta \cup \gamma$ , FSM  $M3 = (K3, \Sigma, \delta3, s3, A3)$  and

$L(M3) = L(\alpha) = L(\beta) \cup L(\gamma)$

$M3 = (\{S3\} \cup K1 \cup K2, \Sigma, \delta3, s3, A1 \cup A2)$ , where

$\delta3 = \delta1 \cup \delta2 \cup \{((S3, \epsilon), S1), ((S3, \epsilon), S2)\}$ .



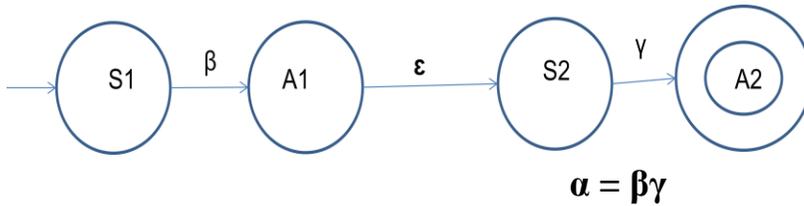
$\alpha = \beta \cup \gamma$

5. If  $\alpha$  is the RE  $\beta\gamma$ , FSM  $M3 = (K3, \Sigma, \delta3, s3, A3)$  and

$L(M3) = L(\alpha) = L(\beta)L(\gamma)$

$M3 = (K1 \cup K2, \Sigma, \delta3, s1, A2)$ , where

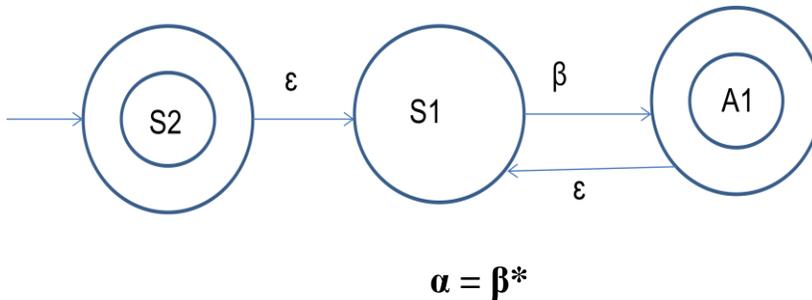
$$\delta_3 = \delta_1 \cup \delta_2 \cup \{ ((q, \epsilon), S_2) : q \in A_1 \}$$



6. If  $\alpha$  is the regular expression  $\beta^*$ , FSM  $M_2 = (K_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, s_2, A_2)$  such that  $L(M_2) = L(\alpha) = L(\beta)^*$ .

$$M_2 = (\{S_2\} \cup K_1, \Sigma, \delta_2, S_2, \{S_2\} \cup A_1), \text{ where}$$

$$\delta_2 = \delta_1 \cup \{ ((S_2, \epsilon), S_1) \} \cup \{ ((q, \epsilon), S_1) : q \in A_1 \}.$$



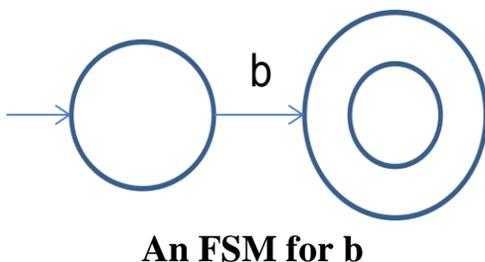
**Algorithm to construct FSM, given a regular expression  $\alpha$**

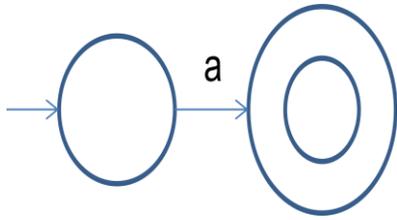
**regextofsm**( $\alpha$  : regular expression) =

- Beginning with the primitive subexpressions of  $\alpha$  and working outwards until an FSM for an of  $\alpha$  has been built do:
- Construct an FSM as described in previous theorem.

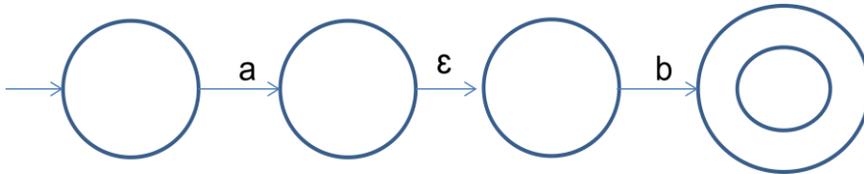
**Building an FSM from a Regular Expression**

1. Consider the regular expression  $(b \cup ab)^*$ .

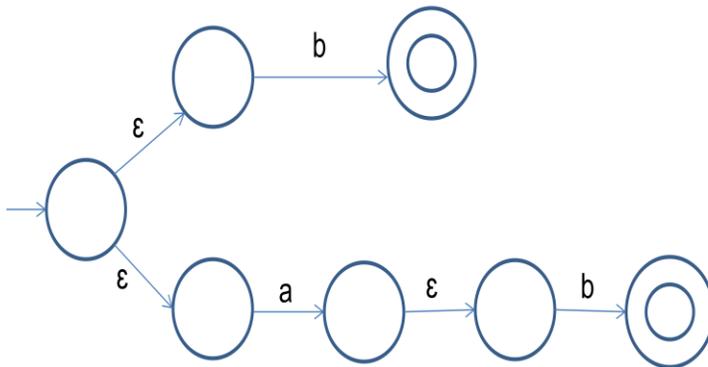




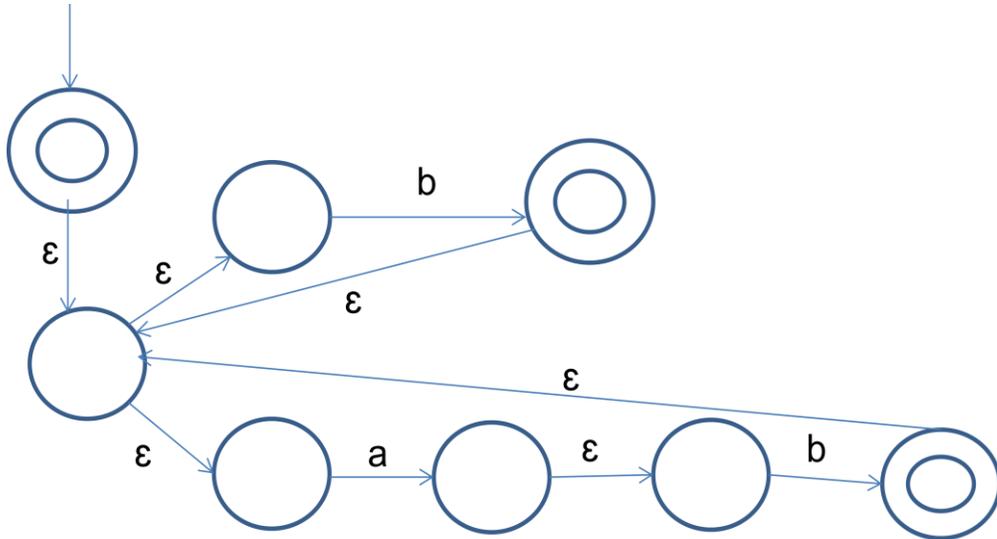
**An FSM for a**



**An FSM for ab**

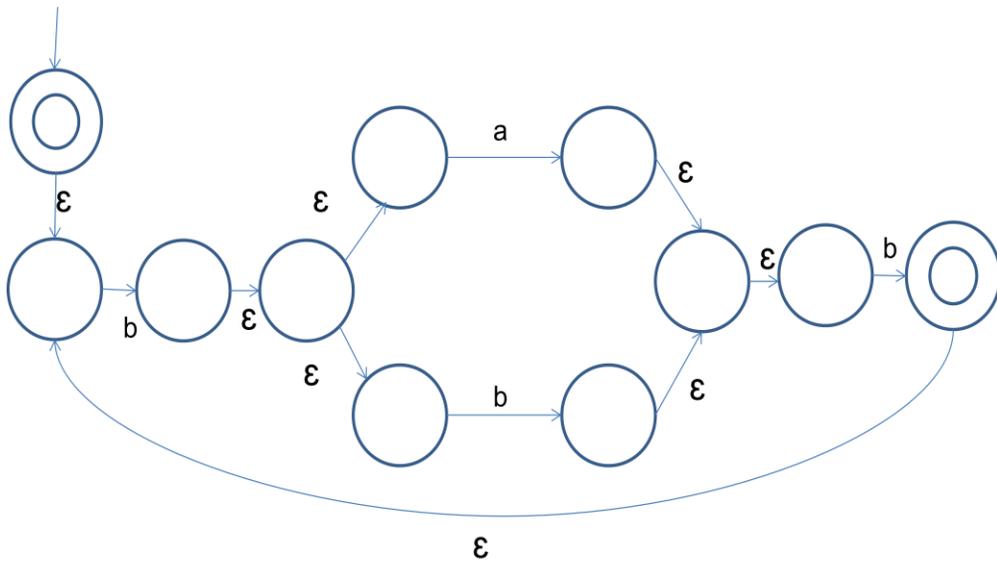


**An FSM for (b U ab)**

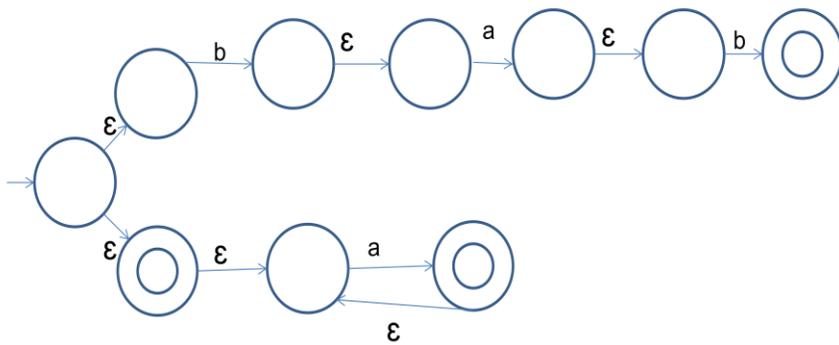


An FSM for  $(b \cup ab)^*$

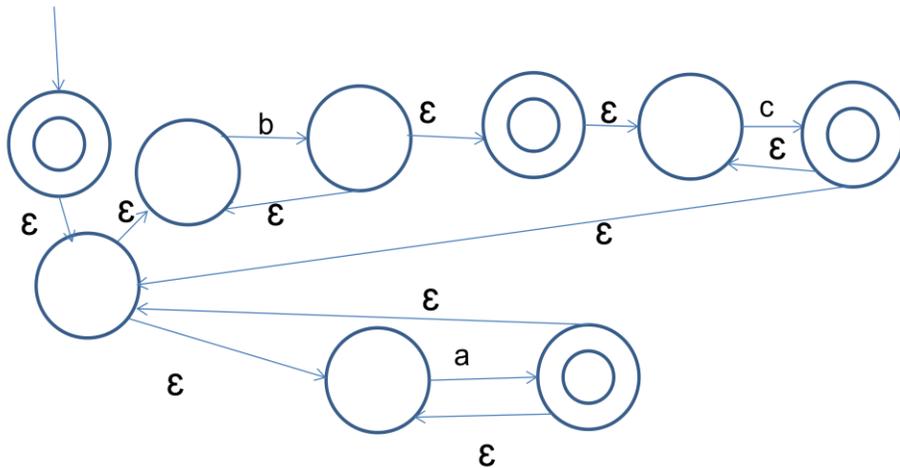
2. Construct FSM for the RE  $(b(a \cup b)b)^*$



3. Construct FSM for the RE **bab U a\***

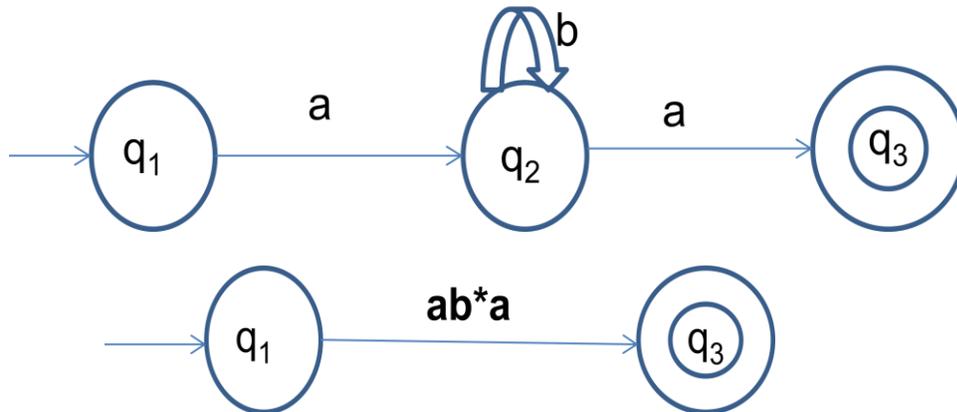


**FSM for RE =  $(a^* \cup b^*c^*)^*$**



## Building a Regular Expression from an FSM

Building an Equivalent Machine M



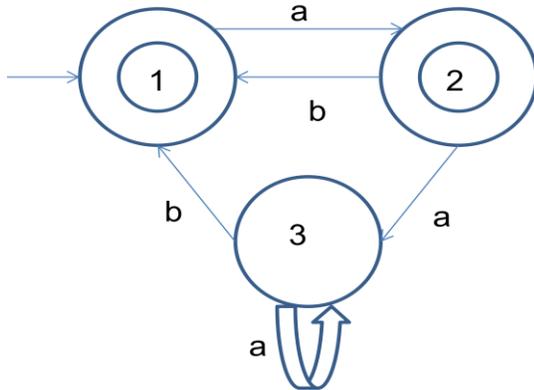
### Algorithm for FSM to RE(heuristic)

fsmtoregexheuristic(M: FSM) =

1. Remove from M-any unreachable states.
2. No accepting states then return the RE  $\emptyset$ .
3. If the start state of M is has incoming transitions into it, create a new start state s.
4. If there is more than one accepting state of M or one accepting state with outgoing transitions from it, create a new accepting state.
5. M has only one state, So  $L(M) = \{ \epsilon \}$  and return RE  $\epsilon$ .
6. Until only the start state and the accepting state remain do:
  - 6.1. Select some state rip of M.
  - 6.2. Remove rip from M.
  - 6.3. Modify the transitions. The labels on the rewritten transitions may be any regular expression.
7. Return the regular expression that labels from the start state to the accepting state.

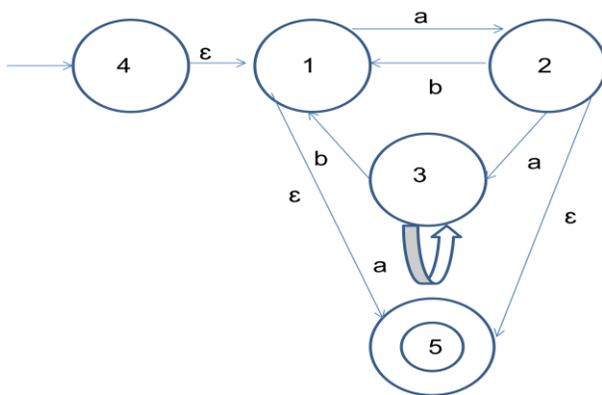
**Example 1 for building a RE from FSM**

Let M be:

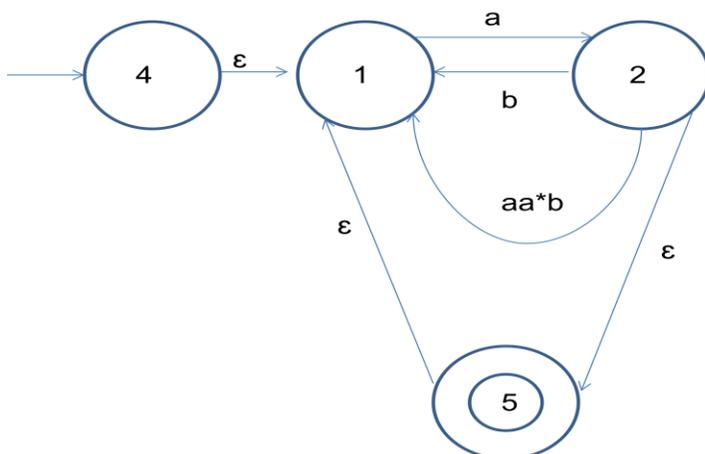


**Step 1:** Create a new start state and a new accepting state and link them to M

After adding new start state 4 and accepting state 5



**Step 2:** let rip be state 3



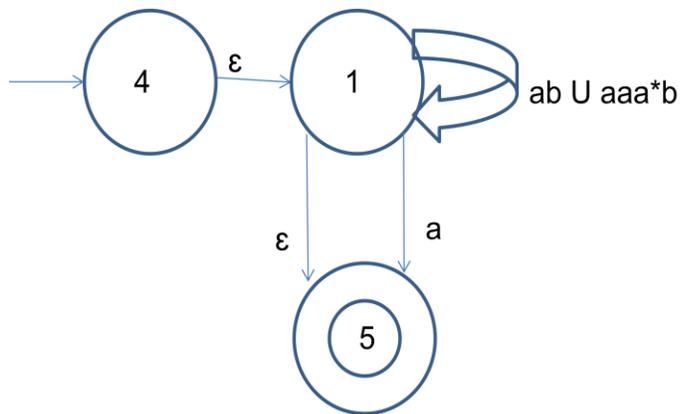
After removing rip state 3

1-2-1:ab U aaa\*b

1-2-5:a

**Step 3:** Let rip be state 2

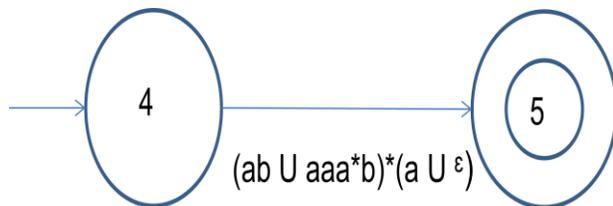
After removing rip state 2



4-1-5: (ab U aaa\*b)\*(a U ε)

**Step 4:** Let rip be state 1

After removing rip state 1



**RE = (ab U aaa\*b)\*(a U ε)**

**Theorem 2 :For Every FSM ,there is an equivalent regular expression**

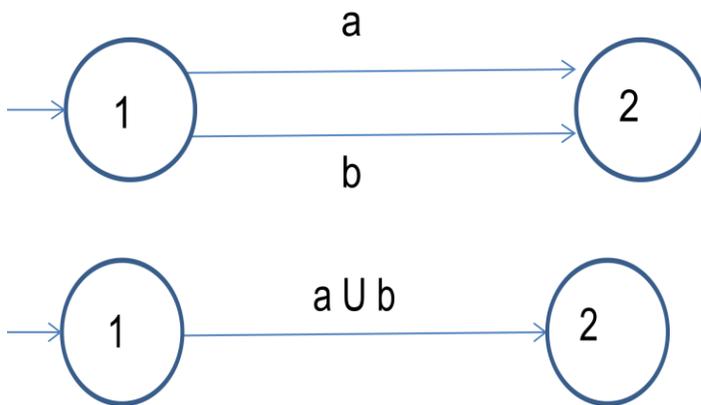
Statement : Every regular language can be defined with a regular expression.

Proof : By Construction

Let FSM  $M = (K, \Sigma, \delta, S, A)$ , construct a regular expression  $\alpha$  such that

$$L(M) = L(\alpha)$$

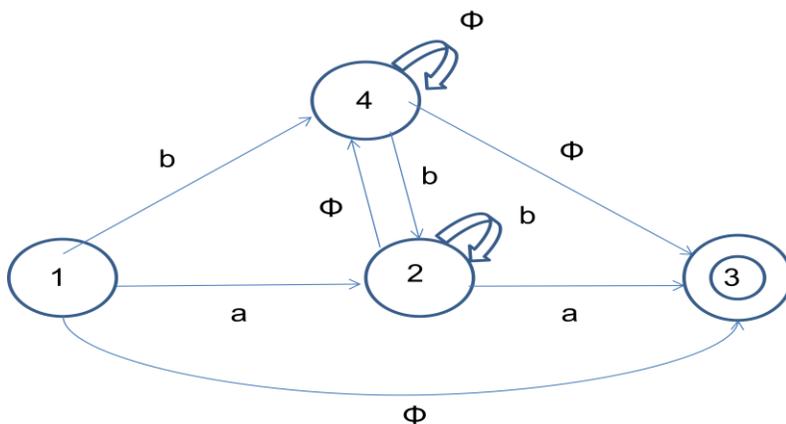
Collapsing Multiple Transitions



$\{C1, C2, C3, \dots, Cn\}$  - Multiple Transition

Delete and replace by  $\{C1 \cup C2 \cup C3, \dots, \cup Cn\}$

If any of the transitions are missing, add them without changing  $L(M)$  by labeling all of the new transitions with the RE  $\emptyset$ .



Select a state rip and remove it and modify the transitions as shown below.

Consider any states p and q. once we remove rip, how can M get from p to q?

Let  $R(p,q)$  be RE that labels the transition in M from P to Q. Then the new machine M' will be removing rip, so  $R'(p,q)$

$$\mathbf{R'(p,q) = R(p,q) \cup R(p,rip)R(rip,rip)^*R(rip,q)}$$

Ripping States out one at a time

$$\begin{aligned} R'(1,3) &= R(1,3) \cup R(1,rip)R(rip,rip)^*R(rip,3) \\ &= R(1,3) \cup R(1,2)R(2,2)^*R(2,3) \\ &= \emptyset \cup ab^*a \\ &= ab^*a \end{aligned}$$

**Algorithm to build RE that describes  $L(M)$  from any FSM  $M = (K, \Sigma, \delta, S, A)$**

Two Sub Routines:

1. **standardize** : To convert M to the required form
2. **buildregex** : Construct the required RE from  
modified machine M

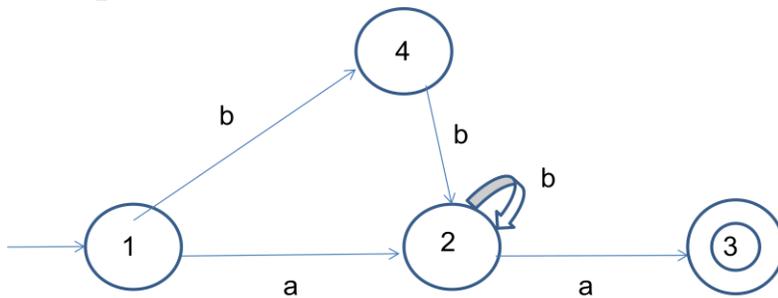
### 1.Standardize (M:FSM)

- i. Remove unreachable states from M
- ii. Modify start state
- iii. Modify accepting states
- iv. If there is more than one transition between states p and q, collapse them to single transition
- v. If there is no transition between p and q and  $p \notin A, q \notin S$ , then create a transition between p and q labeled  $\Phi$

**2.buildregex(M:FSM)**

- i. If M has no accepting states then return RE  $\Phi$
- ii. If M has only one accepting state ,return RE  $\epsilon$
- iii. until only the start state and the accepting state remain do:
  - a. Select some state rip of M
  - b. Find  $R'(p,q) = R(p,q) \cup R(p,rip).R(rip,rip)^*.R(rip,q)$
  - c. Remove rip on d all transitions into ad out of it
- iv. Return the RE that labels from start state to the accepting state

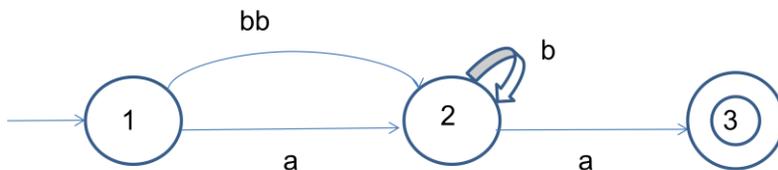
**Example 2: Build RE from FSM**



**Step 1:** let RIP be state 4

1-4-2 : bb

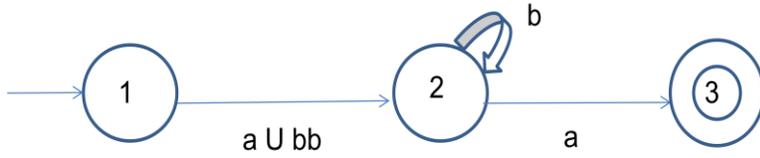
After removing rip state 4



**Step 2:** Collapse multiple transitions from state 1 to state 2

1-2: a U bb

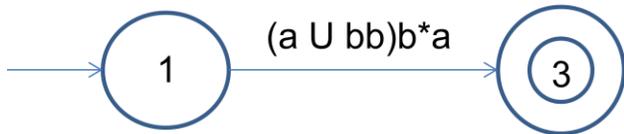
After collapsing multiple transitions from state 1 to state 2



**Step 3:** let rip be state 2

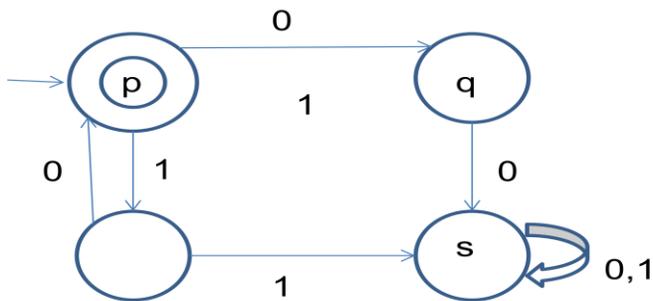
1-3:  $(a \cup bb)^*b^*a$

After removing rip state 2



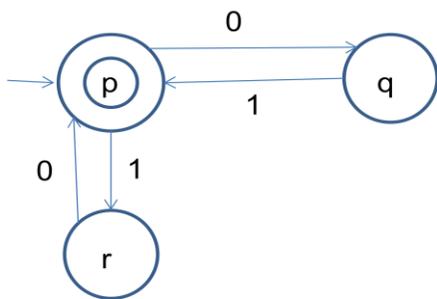
**RE =  $(a \cup bb)^*b^*a$**

**Example 3: Build RE From FSM**



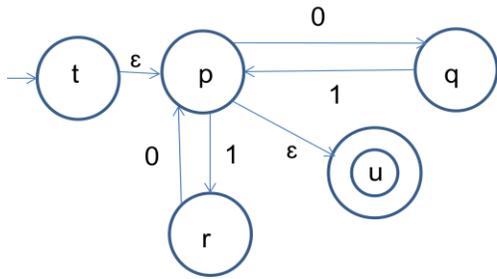
**Step 1:** Remove state s as it is dead state

After removing state s



**Step 2:** Add new start state t and new accepting state u

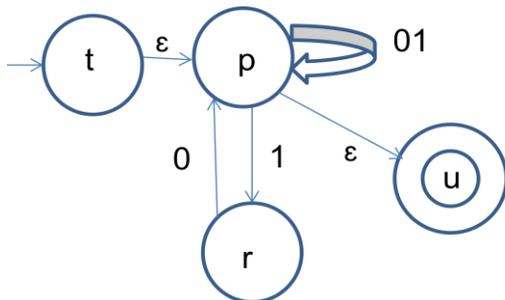
After adding t and u



**Step 3:** Let rip be state q

p-q-p: 01

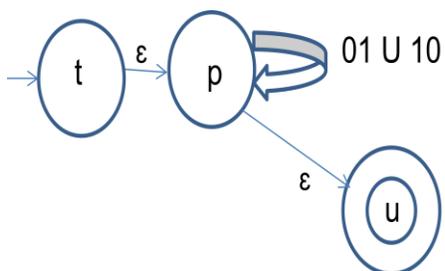
After removing rip state q



**Step 4:** Let rip be state r

p-r-p: 10

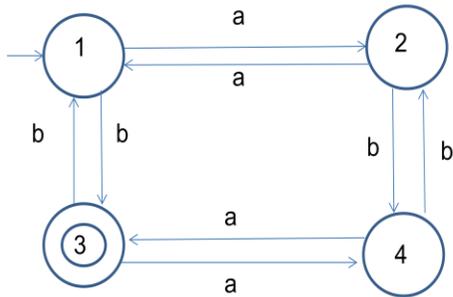
After removing rip state r



**RE = (01 U 10)\***

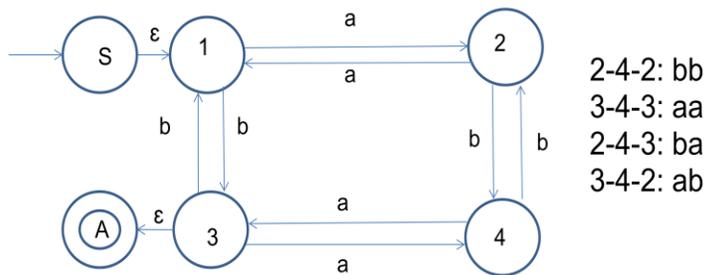
**Example 4:A simple FSM with no simple RE**

$L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : w \text{ contains an even no of a's and an odd number of b's}\}$



**[3] even a's odd b's**

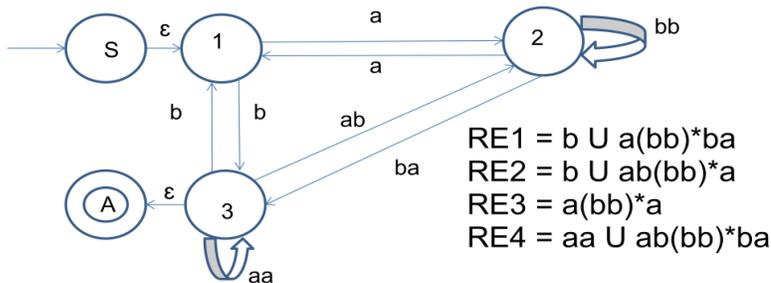
Step 1: Add new start state S and new accepting state A.



2-4-2: bb  
3-4-3: aa  
2-4-3: ba  
3-4-2: ab

Step 2: let rip be state 4

Result after removing rip state 4

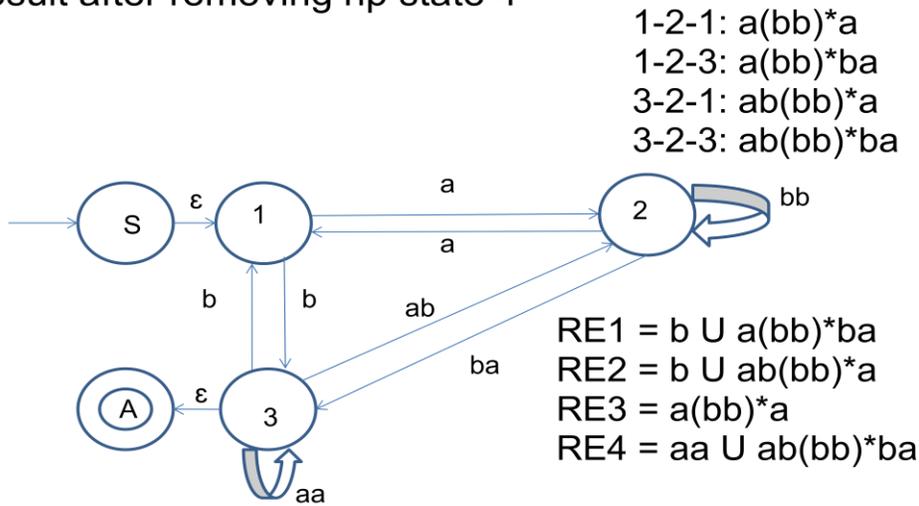


1-2-1: a(bb)\*a  
1-2-3: a(bb)\*ba  
3-2-1: ab(bb)\*a  
3-2-3: ab(bb)\*ba

RE1 = b U a(bb)\*ba  
RE2 = b U ab(bb)\*a  
RE3 = a(bb)\*a  
RE4 = aa U ab(bb)\*ba

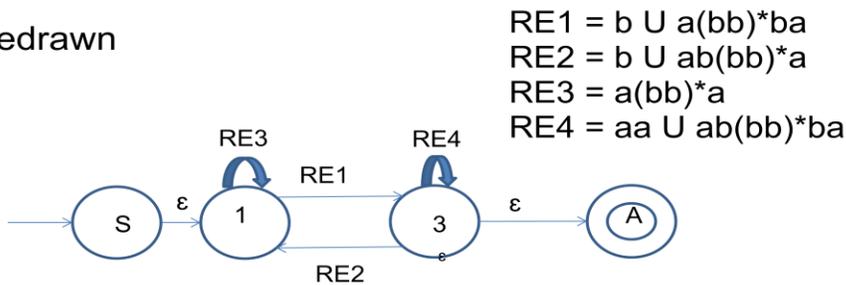
Step 3: let rip be state 2

Result after removing rip state 4



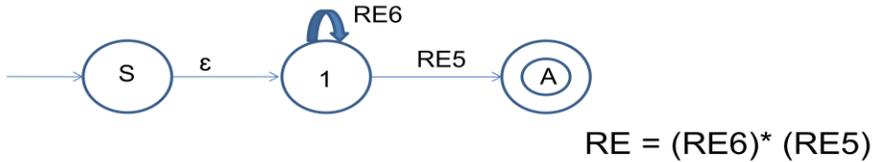
Step 3: let rip be state 2

Redrawn



Step 4: let rip be state 3

RE5 =  $(RE1)(RE4)^*$   
 RE6 =  $(RE3) \cup (RE1)(RE4)^*(RE2)$

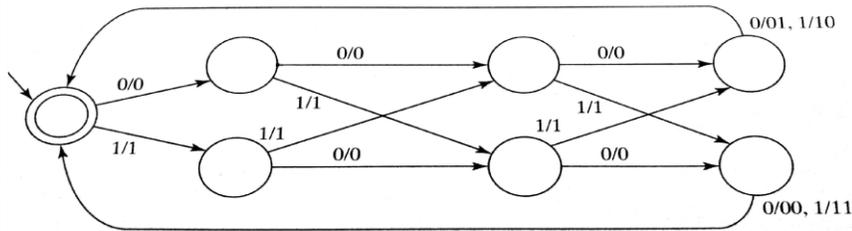


Last Step: let rip be state 1



$$\begin{aligned}
 RE &= (RE6)^*(RE5) \\
 &= ((RE3) \cup (RE1)(RE4)^*(RE2))^*((RE1)(RE4)^*) \\
 &= ((a(bb)^*a) \cup (b \cup a(bb)^*ba)(aa \cup ab(bb)^*ba)^*(b \cup ab(bb)^*a))^*((b \cup a(bb)^*ba)((a \cup ab(bb)^*ba)^*)
 \end{aligned}$$

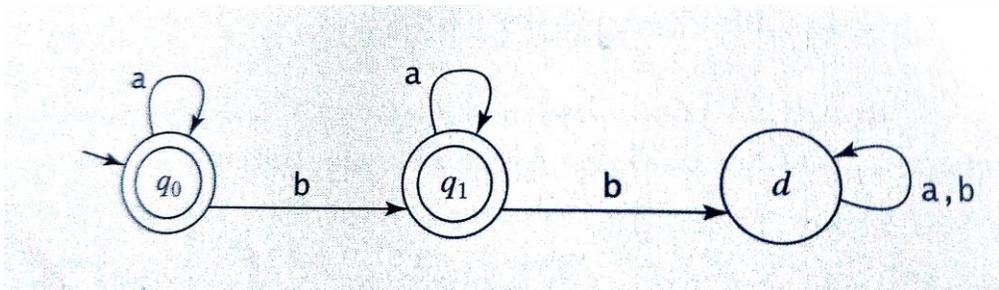
**Example 5:Using fsmto regex heuristic construct a RE for the following FSM(Example 5.3 from textbook)**



RE = (0000 U 0001 U 1100 U 1101 U 0010 U 1110 U 1100 U 0100 U 0011 U 1111 U 1101 U 0101)

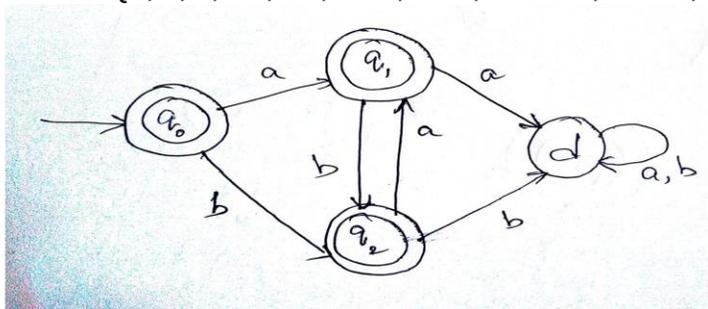
### Writing Regular Expressions

- Let  $L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{there is no more than one } b\}$   
 $L = \{\epsilon, b, a, aa, ab, ba, aba, baa, abaa, aabaa, \dots\}$   
**RE =  $a^*(b \cup \epsilon)a^*$**



### Writing Regular Expressions

- Let  $L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{No two consecutive letters are same}\}$   
**RE =  $(b \cup \epsilon)(ab)^*(a \cup \epsilon)$  or  $(a \cup \epsilon)(ba)^*(b \cup \epsilon)$**   
 $L = \{\epsilon, a, b, ab, ba, aba, bab, ababa, baba, \dots\}$



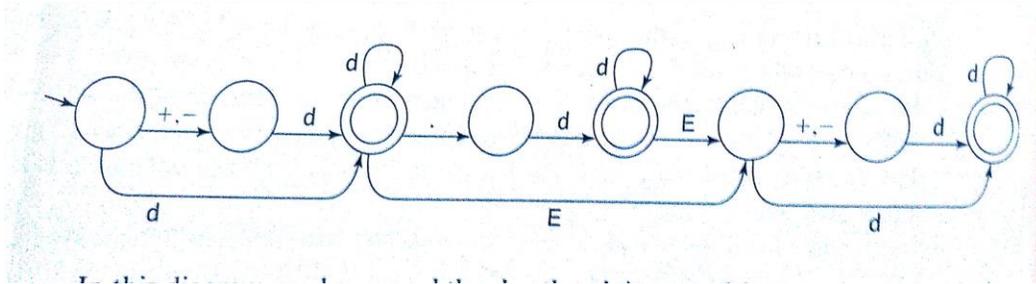
## Writing Regular Expressions

- Floating point Numbers

D stands for  $(0 \cup 1 \cup 2 \cup 3 \cup 4 \cup 5 \cup 6 \cup 7 \cup 8 \cup 9)$

**RE =  $(\epsilon \cup + \cup -)D^+(\epsilon \cup .D^+)(\epsilon \cup (E(\epsilon \cup + \cup -)D^+)$**

**L = { 24.06, +24.97E-05,-----}**



### Building DFSM

- It is possible to construct a DFSM directly from a set of patterns
- Suppose we are given a set K of n keywords and a text string s.
- Find the occurrences of s in keywords K

- K can be defined by RE

$(\Sigma^*(K_1 \cup K_2 \cup \dots \cup K_n)\Sigma^+)^+$

- Accept any string in which at least one keyword occurs

### Algorithm- buildkeywordFSM

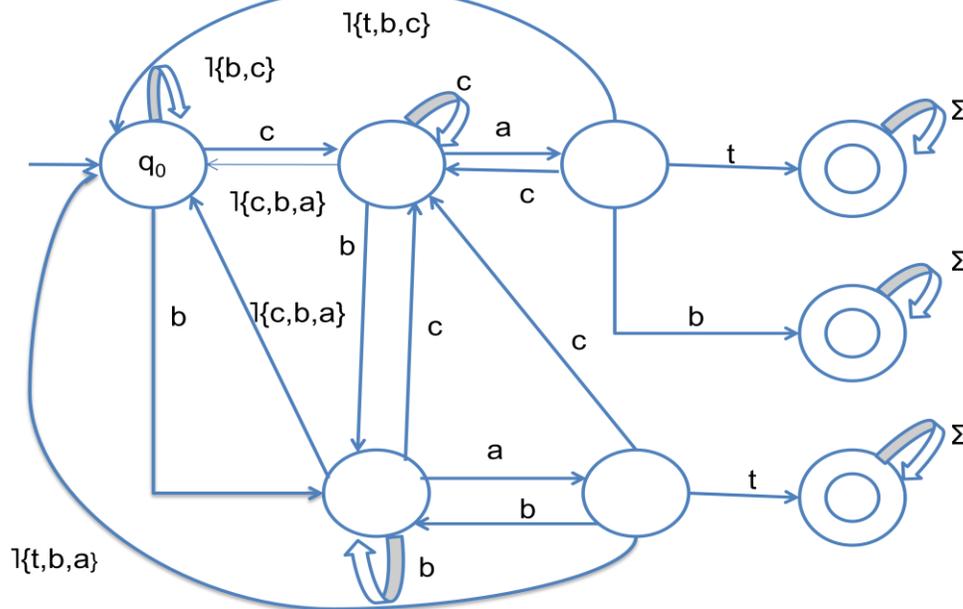
- To build dfsm that accepts any string with atleast one of the specified keywords

#### **Buildkeyword(K:Set of keywords)**

- Create a start state  $q_0$
- For each element k of K do  
Create a branch corresponding to k

- Create a set of transitions that describe what to do when a branch dies
- Make the states at the end of each branch accepting

Ex:Keywords Set = {cat,bat,cab}



### Applications Of Regular Expressions

- Many Programming languages and scripting systems provide support for regular expression matching
- Re's are used in emails to find spam messages
- Meaningful words in protein sequences are called motifs
- Used in lexical analysis
- To Find Patterns in Web
- To Create Legal passwords
- Regular expressions are useful in a wide variety of text processing tasks,

- More generally string processing, where the data need not be textual.
- Common applications include data validation, data scraping (especially web scraping), data wrangling, simple parsing, the production of syntax highlighting systems, and many other tasks.

### **RE for Decimal Numbers**

**RE =  $-? ([0-9]^+(\.[0-9]^*)?) | \.[0-9]^+$**

- $(\alpha)?$  means the RE  $\alpha$  can occur 0 or 1 time.
- $(\alpha)^*$  means the RE  $\alpha$  can repeat 0 or more times.
- $(\alpha)^+$  means the RE  $\alpha$  can repeat 1 or more times.

24.23,-24.23, .12, 12. ----- are some examples

### **Requirements for legal password**

- A password must begin with a letter
- A password may contain only letters numbers and a underscore character
- A password must contain atleast 4 characters and no more than 8 characters

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z))$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_ \cup \epsilon)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_ \cup \epsilon)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_ \cup \epsilon)$

$((a-z) \cup (A-Z) \cup (0-9) \cup \_ \cup \epsilon)$

Very lengthy regular expression

### Different notation for writing RE

- $\alpha$  means that the pattern  $\alpha$  must occur exactly once.
- $\alpha^*$  means that the pattern may occur any number of times(including zero).
- $\alpha^+$  means that the pattern  $\alpha$  must occur atleast once.
- $\alpha\{n,m\}$  means that the pattern must occur **atleast n times** but not more than **m times**
- $\alpha\{n\}$  means that the pattern must occur **n times exactly**
- So RE of a legal password is :

$$\mathbf{RE = ((a-z) U (A-Z))((a-z) U (A-Z) U (0-9) U \_)\{3,7\}}$$

Examples: RNSIT\_17,Bangalor, VTU\_2017 etc

- RE for an ip address is :

$$\mathbf{RE = ((0-9)\{1,3\}(\.(0-9)\{1,3\}))\{3\}}$$

Examples: 121.123.123.123

118.102.248.226

10.1.23.45

### Manipulating and Simplifying Regular Expressions

Let  $\alpha$ ,  $\beta$ ,  $\gamma$  represent regular expressions and we have the following identities.

1. Identities involving union
2. Identities involving concatenation
3. Identities involving Kleene Star

#### Identities involving Union

- Union is Commutative

$$\alpha U \beta = \beta U \alpha$$

- Union is Associative

$$(\alpha \cup \beta) \cup \gamma = \alpha \cup (\beta \cup \gamma)$$

- $\Phi$  is the identity for union

$$\alpha \cup \Phi = \Phi \cup \alpha = \alpha$$

- union is idempotent

$$\alpha \cup \alpha = \alpha$$

- For any 2 sets A and B, if  $B \subseteq A$ , then  $A \cup B = A$

$$a^* \cup aa = a^*, \text{ since } L(aa) \subseteq L(a^*).$$

### **Identities involving concatenation**

- Concatenation is associative

$$(\alpha\beta)\gamma = \alpha(\beta\gamma)$$

- $\varepsilon$  is the identity for concatenation

$$\alpha\varepsilon = \varepsilon\alpha = \alpha$$

- $\Phi$  is a zero for concatenation.

$$\alpha\Phi = \Phi\alpha = \Phi$$

- Concatenation distributes over union

$$(\alpha \cup \beta)\gamma = (\alpha\gamma) \cup (\beta\gamma)$$

$$\gamma(\alpha \cup \beta) = (\gamma\alpha) \cup (\gamma\beta)$$

### **Identities involving Kleene Star**

- $\Phi^* = \varepsilon$

- $\varepsilon^* = \varepsilon$

- $(\alpha^*)^* = \alpha^*$

- $\alpha^*\alpha^* = \alpha^*$

- If  $\alpha^* \subseteq \beta^*$  then  $\alpha^*\beta^* = \beta^*$
  - Similarly If  $\beta^* \subseteq \alpha^*$  then  $\alpha^*\beta^* = \alpha^*$
- $a^*(a \cup b)^* = (a \cup b)^*$ , since  $L(a^*) \subseteq L((a \cup b)^*)$ .
- $(\alpha \cup \beta)^* = (\alpha^*\beta^*)^*$
  - If  $L(\beta) \subseteq L(\alpha)$  then  $(\alpha \cup \beta)^* = \alpha^*$
- $(a \cup \varepsilon)^* = a^*$ , since  $\{\varepsilon\} \subseteq L(a^*)$ .

### Simplification of Regular Expressions

1.  $((a^* \cup \Phi)^* \cup aa) = (a^*)^* \cup aa$  //  $L(\Phi) \subseteq L(a^*)$   
 $= a^* \cup aa$  //  $(\alpha^*)^* = \alpha^*$   
 $= a^*$  //  $L(aa) \subseteq L(a^*)$
2.  $(b \cup bb)^*b^* = b^*b^*$  //  $L(bb) \subseteq L(b^*)$   
 $= b^*$  //  $\alpha^*\alpha^* = \alpha^*$
3.  $((a \cup b)^* b^* \cup ab)^*$   
 $= ((a \cup b)^* \cup ab)^*$  //  $L(b^*) \subseteq L(a \cup b)^*$   
 $= (a \cup b)^*$  //  $L(a^*) \subseteq L(a \cup b)^*$
4.  $((a \cup b)^* (a \cup \varepsilon) b^* = (a \cup b)^*$  //  $L((a \cup \varepsilon) b^*) \subseteq L(a \cup b)^*$
5.  $(\Phi^* \cup b)b^* = (\varepsilon \cup b)b^*$  //  $\Phi^* = \varepsilon$   
 $= b^*$  //  $L(\varepsilon \cup b) \subseteq L(b^*)$
6.  $(a \cup b)^*a^* \cup b = (a \cup b)^* \cup b$  //  $L(a^*) \subseteq L((a \cup b)^*)$   
 $= (a \cup b)^*$  //  $L(b) \subseteq L((a \cup b)^*)$
7.  $((a \cup b)^+)^* = (a \cup b)^*$

## Chapter-7

### Regular Grammars

Regular grammars sometimes called as right linear grammars.

A regular grammar  $G$  is a quadruple  $(V, \Sigma, R, S)$

- $V$  is the rule alphabet which contains nonterminals and terminals.
- $\Sigma$  (the set of terminals) is a subset of  $V$
- $R$  (the set of rules) is a finite set of rules of the form  
 $X \rightarrow Y$
- $S$  (the start symbol) is a nonterminal.

All rules in  $R$  must:

- Left-hand side should be a single nonterminal.
- Right-hand side is  $\epsilon$  or a single terminal or a single terminal followed by a single nonterminal.

### **Legal Rules**

$S \rightarrow a$

$S \rightarrow \epsilon$

$T \rightarrow aS$

### **Not legal rules**

$S \rightarrow aSa$

$S \rightarrow TT$

$aSa \rightarrow T$

$S \rightarrow T$

- The language generated by a grammar  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  denoted by  $L(G)$  is the set of all strings  $w$  in  $\Sigma^*$  such that it is possible to start with  $S$ .
- Apply some finite set of rules in  $R$ , and derive  $w$ .
- Start symbol of any grammar  $G$  will be the symbol on the left-hand side of the first rule in  $R_G$

### Example of Regular Grammar

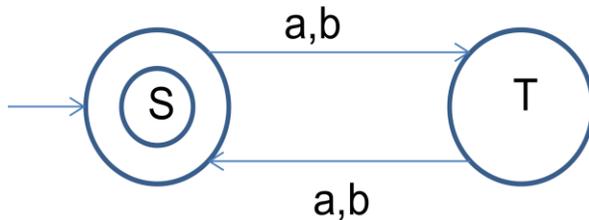
Example 1: Even Length strings

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : |w| \text{ is even}\}$ .

The following regular expression defines  $L$ :

$((aa) \cup (ab) \cup (ba) \cup (bb))^*$  or  $((a \cup b)(a \cup b))^*$

DFA accepting  $L$



Regular Grammar  $G$  defining  $L$

$S \rightarrow \epsilon$

$S \rightarrow aT$

$S \rightarrow bT$

$T \rightarrow aS$

$T \rightarrow bS$

**Derivation of string using Rules**

**Derivation of string “abab”**

$S \Rightarrow aT$

$\Rightarrow abT$

$\Rightarrow abaS$

$\Rightarrow ababS$

$\Rightarrow abab$

### Regular Grammars and Regular Languages

#### **THEOREM**

Regular Grammars Define Exactly the Regular Languages

#### **Statement:**

The class of languages that can be defined with regular grammars is exactly the regular languages.

**Proof:** Regular grammar  $\rightarrow$  FSM

FSM  $\rightarrow$  Regular grammar

The following algorithm constructs an FSM  $M$  from a regular grammar  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  and assures that

$L(M) = L(G)$ :

#### **Algorithm-Grammar to FSM**

**grammartofsm ( G: regular grammar) =**

1. Create in  $M$  a separate state for each nonterminal in  $V$ .
2. Make the state corresponding to  $S$  the start state.
3. If there are any rules in  $R$  of the form  $X \rightarrow w$ , for some  $w \in \Sigma$ , then create an additional state labeled  $\#$ .
4. For each rule of the form  $X \rightarrow wY$ ,

add a transition from X to Y labeled w.

5. For each rule of the form  $X \rightarrow w$ , add a transition from X to # labeled w.

6. For each rule of the form  $X \rightarrow \epsilon$ , mark state X as accepting.

7. Mark state # as accepting.

8. If M is incomplete then M requires a dead state.

Add a new state D. For every (q, i) pair for which no transition has already been defined, create a transition from q to D labeled i. For every i in  $\Sigma$ , create a transition from D to D labeled i.

### **Example 2: Grammar $\rightarrow$ FSM**

#### **Strings that end with aaaa**

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ end with the pattern aaaa}\}$ .

RE =  $(a \cup b)^* aaaa$

Regular Grammar G

$S \rightarrow aS$

$S \rightarrow bS$

$S \rightarrow aB$

$B \rightarrow aC$

$C \rightarrow aD$

$D \rightarrow a$

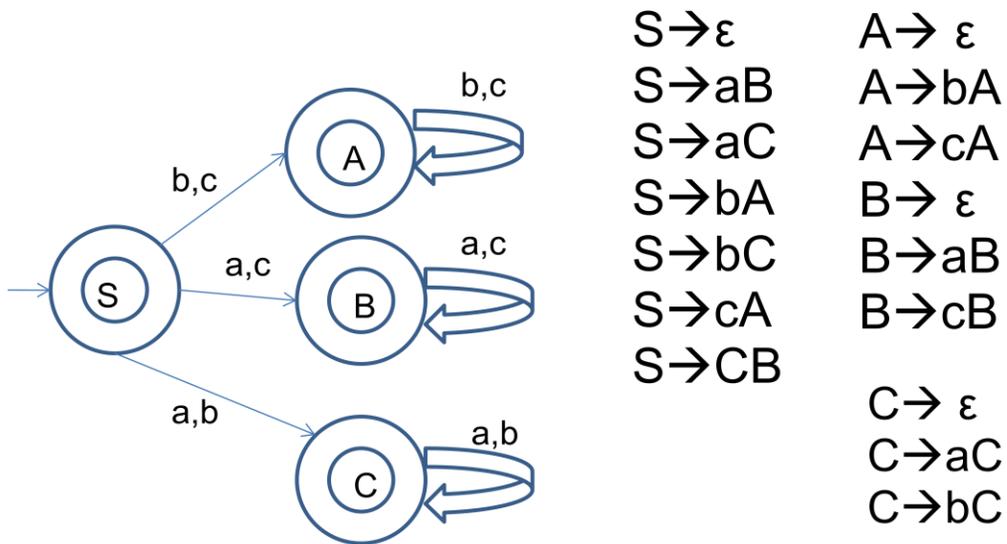
**Example 3: The Missing Letter Language**

Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ .

$L_{\text{Missing}} = \{ w : \text{there is a symbol } a \in \Sigma \text{ not appearing in } w \}$ .

Grammar G generating  $L_{\text{Missing}}$

**FSM for Missing Letter Language**



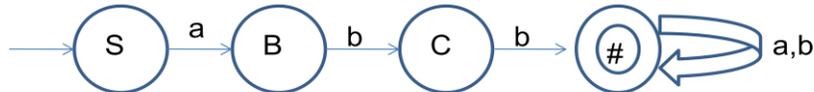
### Example 4 :Strings that start with abb.

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ starting with string } abb\}$ .

RE =  $abb(a \cup b)^*$

Regular Grammar G

$S \rightarrow aB$   
 $B \rightarrow bC$   
 $C \rightarrow bT$   
 $T \rightarrow aT$   
 $T \rightarrow bT$   
 $T \rightarrow \epsilon$



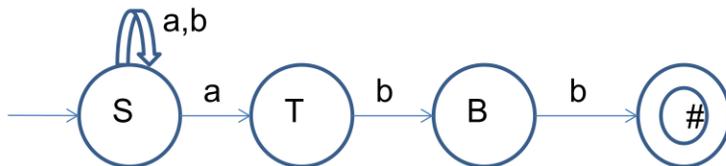
### Example 5 :Strings that end with abb.

Let  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ ending with string } abb\}$ .

RE =  $(a \cup b)^*abb$

Regular Grammar G

$S \rightarrow aS$   
 $S \rightarrow bS$   
 $S \rightarrow aT$   
 $T \rightarrow bB$   
 $B \rightarrow b$



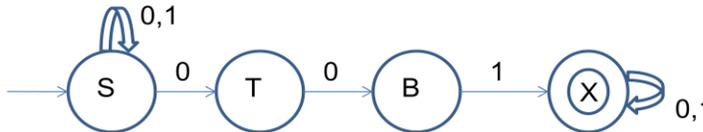
**Example 6: Strings that contain substring 001.**

Let  $L = \{w \in \{0, 1\}^* : w \text{ containing the substring } 001\}$ .

RE =  $(0 \cup 1)^*001(0 \cup 1)^*$

Regular Grammar G

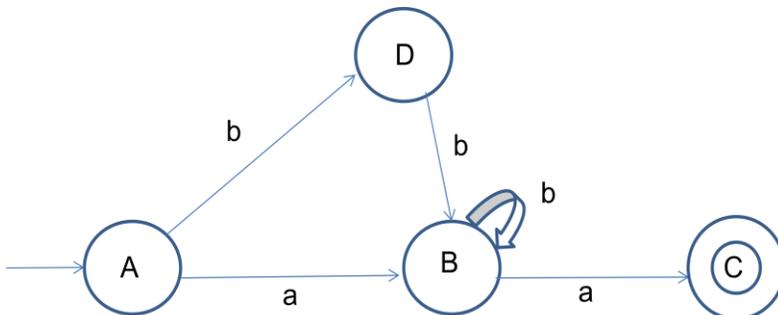
- $S \rightarrow 0S$
- $S \rightarrow 1S$
- $S \rightarrow 0T$
- $T \rightarrow 0P$
- $P \rightarrow 1X$
- $X \rightarrow 0X$
- $X \rightarrow 1X$
- $X \rightarrow \epsilon$



**Algorithm FSM to Grammar**

1. Make M deterministic (to get rid of  $\epsilon$ -transitions).
2. Create a nonterminal for each state in the new M.
3. The start state becomes the starting nonterminal.
4. For each transition  $\delta(T, a) = U$ , make a rule of the form  $T \rightarrow aU$ .
5. For each accepting state T, make a rule of the form  $T \rightarrow \epsilon$ .

**Example 7: Build grammar from FSM**



**RE = (a U bb)b\*a**

Grammar

$A \rightarrow aB$

$A \rightarrow bD$

$B \rightarrow bB$

$B \rightarrow aC$

$D \rightarrow bB$

$C \rightarrow \epsilon$

**Derivation of string “aba”**

$A \Rightarrow aB$

$\Rightarrow abB$

$\Rightarrow abaC$

$\Rightarrow aba$

**Derivation of string “bba”**

$A \Rightarrow bB$

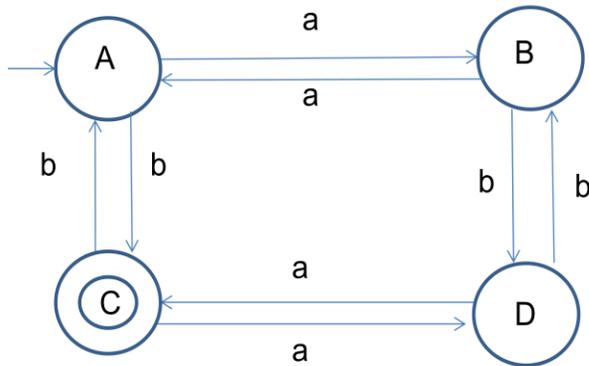
$\Rightarrow bbB$

$\Rightarrow bbaC$

$\Rightarrow bba$

**Example 8:A simple FSM with no simple RE**

$L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : w \text{ contains an even no of a's and an odd number of b's}\}$



**Grammar**

$A \rightarrow aB$

$A \rightarrow bC$

$B \rightarrow aA$

$B \rightarrow bD$

$C \rightarrow bA$

$C \rightarrow aD$

$D \rightarrow bB$

$D \rightarrow aC$

$C \rightarrow \epsilon$

**Derivation of string “ababb”**

$A \Rightarrow aB$

$\Rightarrow abD$

$\Rightarrow abaC$

$\Rightarrow ababA$

$\Rightarrow ababbC$

$\Rightarrow ababb$

## RE, RG and FSM for given Language

Let  $L = \{ w \in \{a, b\}^* : \text{every } a \text{ in } w \text{ is immediately followed by atleast one } b. \}$

$L = \{ b, ab, abab, abb, \dots \}$

**RE =  $(ab \cup b)^*$**

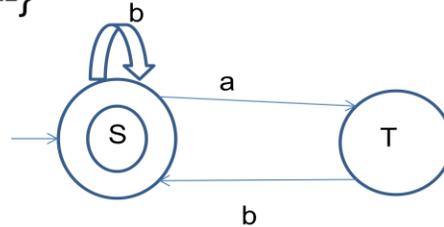
**Regular Grammar**

**$S \rightarrow aT$**

**$S \rightarrow bS$**

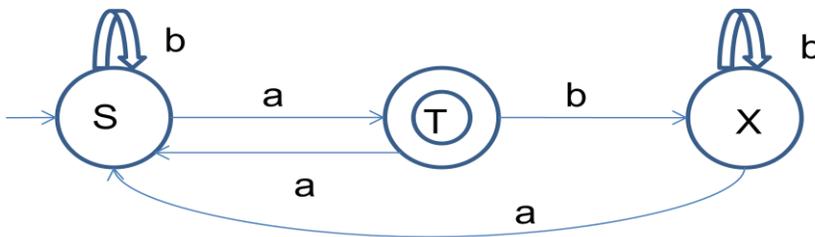
**$S \rightarrow \epsilon$**

**$T \rightarrow bS$**



## Satisfying Multiple Criteria

Let  $L = \{ w \in \{a, b\}^* : w \text{ contain an odd number of } a\text{'s and } w \text{ ends in } a \}$ .



**$S \rightarrow bS$**

**$S \rightarrow aT$**

**$T \rightarrow \epsilon$**

**$T \rightarrow aS$**

**$T \rightarrow bX$**

**$X \rightarrow aS$**

**$X \rightarrow bX$**

### Conclusion on Regular Grammars

- Regular grammars define exactly the regular languages.
- But regular grammars are often used in practice as FSMs and REs are easier to work.
- But as we move further there will no longer exist a technique like regular expressions.
- So we discuss about context-free languages and context-free-grammars are very important to define the languages of push-down automata.

## Chapter-8

### Regular and Nonregular Languages

- The language  $a^*b^*$  is regular.
- The language  $A^nB^n = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$  is not regular.
- The language  $\{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{every } a \text{ is immediately followed by } b\}$  is regular.
- The language  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \text{every } a \text{ has a matching } b \text{ somewhere and no } b \text{ matches more than one } a\}$  is not regular.
- Given a new language  $L$ , how can we know whether or not it is regular?

### **Theorem 1: The Regular languages are countably infinite**

#### **Statement:**

There are countably infinite number of regular languages.

#### **Proof:**

- We can enumerate all the legal DFMS with input alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
- Every regular language is accepted by at least one of them.
- So there cannot be more regular languages than there are DFMS.

- But the number of regular languages is infinite because it includes the following infinite set of languages:  
 $\{a\}, \{aa\}, \{aaa\}, \{aaaa\}, \{aaaaa\}, \{aaaaaa\}, \dots$
- Thus there are at most a countably infinite number of regular languages.

### **Theorem 2 : The finite Languages**

**Statement:** Every finite language is regular.

**Proof:**

- If  $L$  is the empty set, then it is defined by the R.E  $\emptyset$  and so is regular.
  - If it is any finite language composed of the strings  $s_1, s_2, \dots, s_n$  for some positive integer  $n$ , then it is defined by the R.E:  $s_1 \cup s_2 \cup \dots \cup s_n$
  - So it too is regular
- 
- ❖ Regular expressions are most useful when the elements of  $L$  match one or more patterns.
  - ❖ FSMs are most useful when the elements of  $L$  share some simple structural properties.

**Examples:**

- $L_1 = \{w \in \{0-9\}^*: w \text{ is the social security number of the current US president}\}.$

$L_1$  is clearly finite and thus regular. There exists a simple FSM to accept it.

- $L_2 = \{1 \text{ if Santa Claus exists and } 0 \text{ otherwise}\}.$
- $L_3 = \{1 \text{ if God exists and } 0 \text{ otherwise}\}.$

$L_2$  and  $L_3$  are perhaps a little less clear.

So either the simple FSM that accepts  $\{0\}$  or the simple FSM that accepts  $\{1\}$  and nothing else accepts  $L_2$  and  $L_3$ .

- $L_4 = \{1 \text{ if there were people in north America more than } 10000 \text{ years ago and } 0 \text{ otherwise}\}.$
- $L_5 = \{1 \text{ if there were people in north America more than } 15000 \text{ years ago and } 0 \text{ otherwise}\}.$

$L_4$  is clear. It is the set  $\{1\}$ .

$L_5$  is also finite and thus regular.

- $L_6 = \{w \in \{0-9\}^*: w \text{ is the decimal representation, without leading } 0\text{'s, of a prime Fermat number}\}$

- Fermat numbers are defined by

$$F_n = 2^{2^n} + 1, n \geq 0.$$

- The first five elements of  $F$  are  $\{3, 5, 17, 257, 65537\}$ .
- All of them are prime. It appears likely that no other Fermat numbers are prime. If that is true, then  $L_6$

is finite and thus regular.

- If it turns out that the set of Fermat numbers is infinite, then it is almost surely not regular.

Four techniques for showing that a language  $L$  (finite or infinite) is regular:

1. Exhibit a R.E for  $L$ .
2. Exhibit an FSM for  $L$ .
3. Show that the number of equivalence of  $\approx_L$  is finite.
4. Exhibit a regular grammar for  $L$ .

### **Closure Properties of Regular Languages**

The Regular languages are closed under

- Union
- Concatenation
- Kleene star
- Complement
- Intersection
- Difference
- Reverse
- Letter substitution

### **Closure under Union, Concatenation and Kleene star**

**Theorem:** The regular languages are closed under union, concatenation and Kleene star.

**Proof:** By the same constructions that were used in the proof of Kleene's theorem.

### **Closure under Complement**

**Theorem:**

The regular languages are closed under complement.

**Proof:**

- If  $L_1$  is regular, then there exists a DFSM  $M_1=(K,\Sigma,\delta,s,A)$  that accepts it.
- The DFSM  $M_2=(K, \Sigma,\delta,s,K-A)$ , namely  $M_1$  with accepting and nonaccepting states swapped, accepts  $\neg(L(M_1))$  because it rejects all strings that  $M_1$  accepts and rejects all strings that  $M_1$  accepts.

Steps:

1. Given an arbitrary NDFSM  $M_1$ , construct an equivalent DFSM  $M'$  using the algorithm ndfsmtodfsm.
2. If  $M_1$  is already deterministic,  $M' = M_1$ .
3.  $M'$  must be stated completely, so if needed add dead state and all transitions to it.
4. Begin building  $M_2$  by setting it equal to  $M'$ .
5. Swap accepting and nonaccepting states. So

$$M_2=(K, \Sigma,\delta,s,K-A)$$

Example:

- Let  $L = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* : w \text{ is the string ending with } 01\}$   
 $RE = (0 \cup 1)^*01$
- The complement of  $L(M)$  is the DFSM that will accept strings that do not end with 01.

**Closure under Intersection**

**Theorem:**

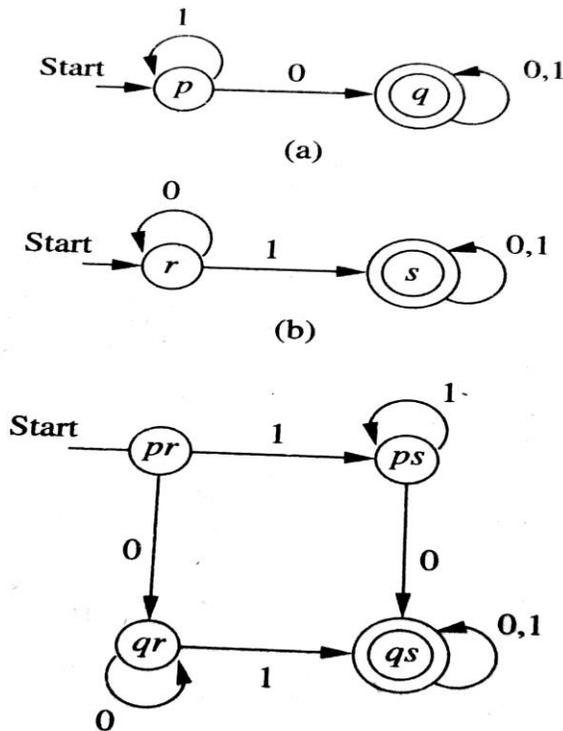
The regular languages are closed under intersection.

**Proof:**

- Note that

$$L(M_1) \cap L(M_2) = \neg (\neg L(M_1) \cup \neg L(M_2)).$$

- We have already shown that the regular languages are closed under both complement and union.
- Thus they are closed under intersection.
- Example:



- Fig (a) is DFSA L1 which accepts strings that have 0.
- Fig(b) is DFSA L2 which accepts strings that have 1.

- Fig(c) is Intersection or product construction which accepts that have both 0 and 1.

**The Divide and Conquer Approach**

- Let  $L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : w \text{ contains an even number of a's and an odd number of b's and all a's come in runs of three}\}$ .

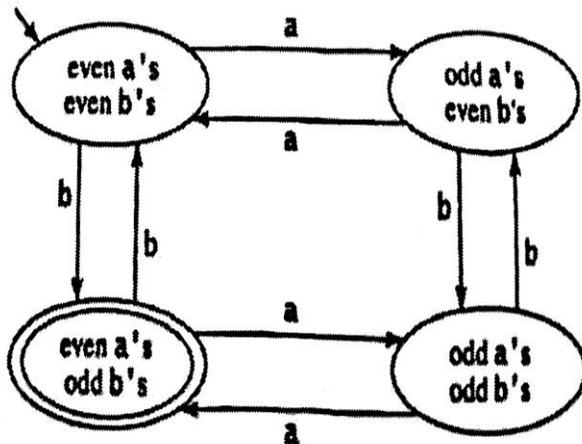
- L is regular because it is the intersection of two regular languages,

$L = L_1 \cap L_2$ , where

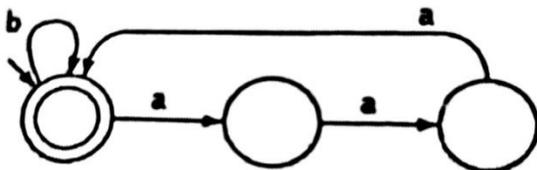
- $L_1 = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : w \text{ contains an even number of a's and an odd number of b's}\}$ ,and

$L_2 = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{all a's come in runs of three}\}$ .

- L1 is regular as we have an FSM accepting L1



- $L_2 = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : \text{all a's come in runs of three}\}$ .
- L2 is regular as we have an FSM accepting L2



$L = \{w \in \{a,b\}^* : w \text{ contains an even number of } a\text{'s and an odd number of } b\text{'s and all } a\text{'s come in runs of three } \}$ .

L is regular because it is the intersection of two regular languages,  $L = L_1 \cap L_2$

### Closure under Set difference

#### **Theorem:**

The regular languages are closed under set difference.

#### **Proof:**

$$L(M_1) - L(M_2) = L(M_1) \cap \neg L(M_2)$$

- Regular languages are closed under both complement and intersection is shown.
- Thus regular languages are closed under set difference.

### Closure under Reverse

#### **Theorem:**

The regular languages are closed under reverse.

#### **Proof:**

- $L^R = \{w \in \Sigma^* : w = x^R \text{ for some } x \in L\}$ .

Example:

1. Let  $L = \{001,10,111\}$  then  $L^R = \{100,01,111\}$
2. Let L be defined by RE  $(0 \cup 1)0^*$  then  $L^R$  is  $0^*(0 \cup 1)$

$\text{reverse}(L) = \{x \in \Sigma^* : x = w^R \text{ for some } w \in L\}$ .

By construction.

- Let  $M = (K, \Sigma, \delta, s, A)$  be any FSM that accepts L.
- Initially, let  $M'$  be M.

- Reverse the direction of every transition in  $M'$ .
- Construct a new state  $q$ . Make it the start state of  $M'$ .
- Create an  $\epsilon$ -transition from  $q$  to every state that was an accepting state in  $M$ .
- $M'$  has a single accepting state, the start state of  $M$ .

### Closure under letter substitution or Homomorphism

- The regular languages are closed under letter substitution.
- Consider any two alphabets,  $\Sigma_1$  and  $\Sigma_2$ .
- Let **sub** be any function from  $\Sigma_1$  to  $\Sigma_2^*$ .
- Then **letsub** is a letter substitution function from  $L_1$  to  $L_2$  iff **letsub**( $L_1$ ) = {  $w \in \Sigma_2^* : \exists y \in L_1 (w = y$  except that every character  $c$  of  $y$  has been replaced by **sub**( $c$ )) }.
- Example 1

Consider  $\Sigma_1 = \{a,b\}$  and  $\Sigma_2 = \{0,1\}$

Let **sub** be any function from  $\Sigma_1$  to  $\Sigma_2^*$ .

$\text{sub}(a) = 0, \text{sub}(b) = 11$

$\text{letsub}(a^n b^n : n \geq 0) = \{ 0^n 1^{2n} : n \geq 0 \}$

- Example 2

Consider  $\Sigma_1 = \{0,1,2\}$  and  $\Sigma_2 = \{a,b\}$

Let **h** be any function from  $\Sigma_1$  to  $\Sigma_2^*$ .

$h(0) = a, h(1) = ab, h(2) = ba$

$h(0120) = h(0)h(1)h(2)h(0)$

$= aabbaa$

$$h(01^*2) = h(0)h(1)^*h(2)$$

$$= a(ab)^*ba$$

### Long Strings Force Repeated States

**Theorem:** Let  $M=(K,\Sigma,\delta,s,A)$  be any DFMSM. If  $M$  accepts any string of length  $|K|$  or greater, then that string will force  $M$  to visit some state more than once.

**Proof:**

- $M$  must start in one of its states.
- Each time it reads an input character, it visits some state. So ,in processing a string of length  $n$ ,  $M$  creates a total of  $n+1$  state visits.
- If  $n+1 > |K|$ , then, by the pigeonhole principle, some state must get more than one visit.
- So, if  $n \geq |K|$ , then  $M$  must visit at least one state more than once.

### The Pumping Theorem for Regular Languages

**Theorem:** If  $L$  is regular language, then:

$\exists k \geq 1 (\forall \text{strings } w \in L, \text{ where } |w| \geq k (\exists x, y, z (w = xyz,$

$$|xy| \leq k,$$

$$y \neq \epsilon, \text{ and}$$

$$\forall q \geq 0 (xy^qz \in L))).$$

**Proof:**

- If  $L$  is regular then it is accepted by some DFMSM  $M=(K,\Sigma,\delta,s,A)$ .

Let  $k$  be  $|K|$

- Let  $w$  be any string in  $L$  of length  $k$  or greater.
- By previous theorem to accept  $w$ ,  $M$  must traverse some loop at least once.

- We can carve  $w$  up and assign the name  $y$  to the first substring to drive  $M$  through a loop.
- Then  $x$  is the part of  $w$  that precedes  $y$  and  $z$  is the part of  $w$  that follows  $y$ .
- We show that each of the last three conditions must then hold:
- $|xy| \leq k$

$M$  must not traverse thru a loop.

It can read  $k - 1$  characters without revisiting any states.

But  $k$ th character will take  $M$  to a state visited before.

- $y \neq \epsilon$

Since  $M$  is deterministic, there are no loops traversed by  $\epsilon$ .

- $\forall q \geq 0 (xy^qz \in L)$

$y$  can be pumped out once and the resulting string must be in  $L$ .

**Steps to prove Language is not regular by contradiction method.**

1. Assume  $L$  is regular.
2. Apply pumping theorem for the given language.
3. Choose a string  $w$ , where  $w \in L$  and  $|w| \geq k$ .
4. Split  $w$  into  $xyz$  such that  $|xy| \leq k$  and  $y \neq \epsilon$ .
5. Choose a value for  $q$  such that  $xy^qz$  is not in  $L$ .
6. Our assumption is wrong and hence the given language is not regular.

**Problems on Pumping theorem (Showing that the language is not regular)**

**1. Show that  $A^nB^n$  is not Regular**

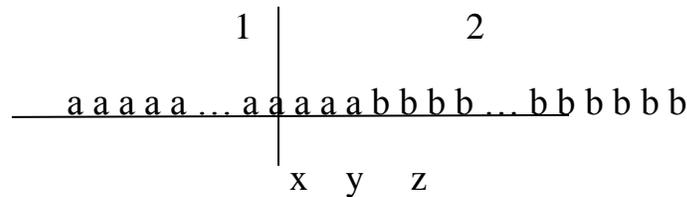
Let  $L$  be  $A^nB^n = \{ a^n b^n : n \geq 0 \}$ .

Proof by contradiction.

Assume the given language is regular.

Apply pumping theorem and split the string  $w$  into  $xyz$

Choose  $w$  to be  $a^k b^k$  (We get to choose any  $w$ ).



We show that there is no  $x, y, z$  with the required properties:

$$k \leq |xy| ,$$

$$y \neq \epsilon$$

$\forall q \geq 0$  ( $xy^qz$  is in  $L$   $y$  must be in region 1).

So  $y = a^p$  Since  $|xy| \leq k$  for some  $p \leq k$ . Let  $q = 2$ , producing:  $a^{k+p} b^k \notin L$ , since it has more  $a$ 's than  $b$ 's.

**2.  $\{a^i b^j : i, j \geq 0 \text{ and } i - j = 5\}$ .**

- Not regular.
- $L$  consists of all strings of the form  $a^i b^j$  where the number of  $a$ 's is five more than the number of  $b$ 's.
- We can show that  $L$  is not regular by pumping.
- Let  $w = a^{k+5} b^k$ .
- Since  $|xy| \leq k$ ,  $y$  must equal  $a^p$  for some  $p > 0$ .

- We can pump  $y$  out once, which will generate the string  $a^{k+5}b^k$ , which is not in  $L$  because the number of  $a$ 's is less than 5 more than the number of  $b$ 's.

