

Languages, grammars, automata

Czech instant sources:

[1] M. Demlová: A4B01JAG

http://math.feld.cvut.cz/demlova/teaching/jag/

Pages 1-27, in PAL, you may wish to skip: Proofs, chapters 2.4, 2.6, 2.8.

[2] I. Černá, M. Křetínský, A. Kučera: Automaty a formální jazyky l http://is.muni.cz/do/1499/el/estud/fi/js06/ib005/Formalni_jazyky_a_automaty_l.pdf Chapters 1 and 2, skip same parts as in [1].

English sources:

[3] B. Melichar, J. Holub, T. Polcar: **Text Search Algorithms**

http://cw.felk.cvut.cz/lib/exe/fetch.php/courses/a4m33pal/melichar-tsa-lectures-1.pdf Chapters 1.4 and 1.5, it is probably reasonably short, there is nothing to skip.

[4] J. E. Hopcroft, R. Motwani, J. D. Ullman: Introduction to Automata Theory folow the link at http://cw.felk.cvut.cz/doku.php/courses/a4m33pal/literatura_odkazy Chapters 1., 2., 3., there is a lot to skip, consult the teacher preferably.

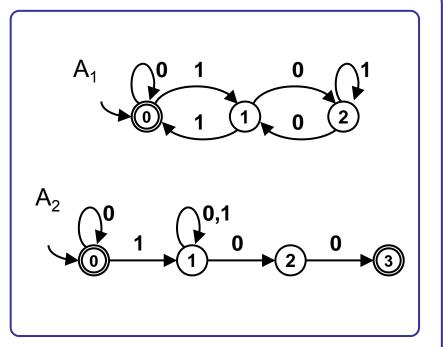
For more references see PAL links pages http://cw.felk.cvut.cz/doku.php/courses/b4m33pal/odkazy-zdroje (CZ) https://cw.fel.cvut.cz/wiki/courses/be4m33pal/references (EN)

Finite Automata

1

Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA) Nondeterministic Finite Automaton (NFA)

Both DFA nd NFA consist of: Finite input alphabet Σ . Finite set of internal states Q. One start state $q_0 \in Q$. Nonempty set of accept states $F \subseteq Q$. Transition function δ .



DFA transition function is $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$. DFA is always in one of its states $q \in Q$.

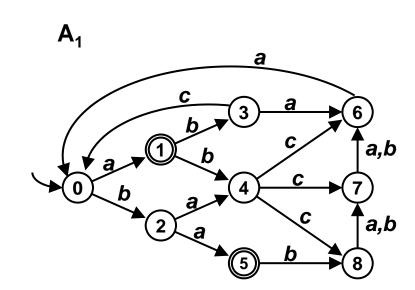
DFA transits from current state to another state depending on the current input symbol.

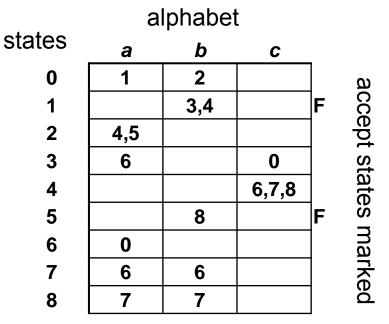
NFA transition function is $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow P(Q)$ (P(Q) is the powerset of Q) NFA is always (simultaneously) in a set of some number of its states. NFA transits from set of current states to another set of states depending on the current input symbol.



2

NFA A_1 , its transition diagram and its transition table



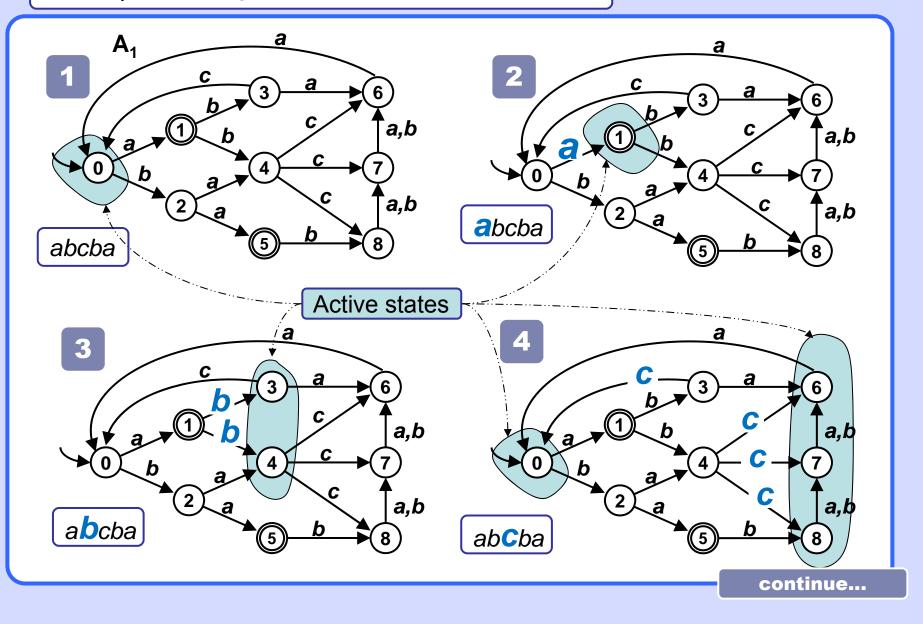


Indeterminism

NFA at work

3

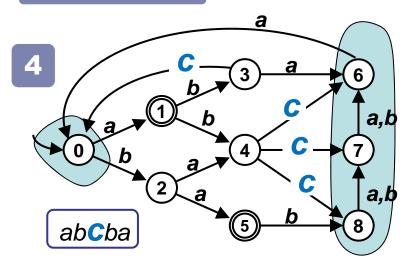
NFA A_1 processing input word *abcba*

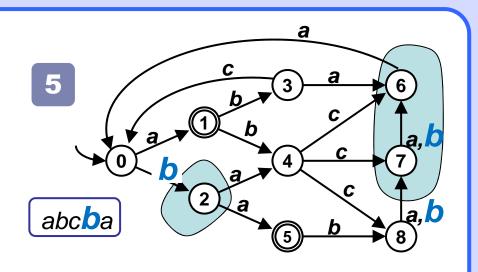


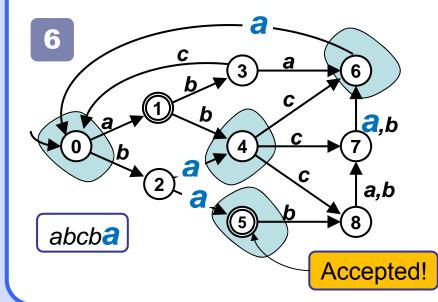
Indeterminism

NFA at work

...continued







NFA A_1 has processed the word *abcba* and went through the input characters and respective sets(!) of states

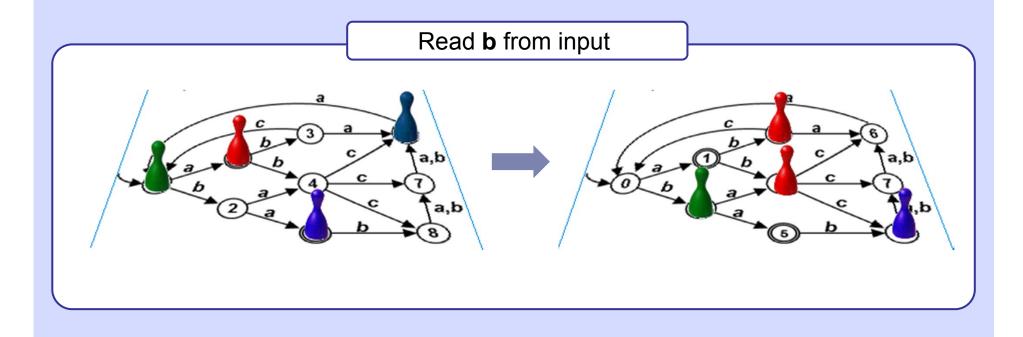
 $\begin{cases} 0 \} \rightarrow a \rightarrow \{1\} \rightarrow b \rightarrow \{3, 4\} \rightarrow c \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \{0, 6, 7, 8\} \rightarrow b \rightarrow \{2, 6, 7\} \rightarrow a \rightarrow \\ \rightarrow \{0, 4, 5, 6\}. \end{cases}$

4

Indeterminism

NFA simulation without transform to DFA

Each of the current states is occupied by one token. Read an input symbol and move the tokens accordingly. If a token has more movement possibilities it will split into two or more tokens, if it has no movement possibility it will leave the board, uhm, the transition diagram.



NFA simulation without transform to DFA

Idea:

Register all states to which you have just arrived. In the next step, read the input symbol *x* and move SIMULTANEOUSLY to ALL states to which you can get from ALL active states along transitions marked by *x*.

Input: NFA, text in array t

```
SetOfStates S = {q0}, S_tmp;
i = 1;
while( (i <= t.length) && (!S.isEmpty()) ) {
    S_tmp = Set.emptySet();
    for( q in S ) // for each state in S
        S_tmp.union( delta(q, t[i]) );
    S = S_tmp;
    i++;
}
return S.containsFinalState(); // true or false
```

Generating DFA A_2 equivalent to NFA A_1 using transition tables

Data

Each state of DFA is a subset of states of NFA. Start state of DFA is an one-element set containing the start state of NFA. A state of DFA is an accept state iff it contains at least one accept state of NFA.

Construction

Create the start state of DFA and the corresponding first line

of its transition table (TT).

For each state Q of DFA not yet processed do {

Decompose Q into its constituent states Q1, ..., Qk of NFA

For each symbol x of alphabet do {

S = union of all references in NFA table at positions [Q1] [x], ..., [Qk][x]

if (S is not among states of DFA yet)

add S to the states of DFA and add a corresponding line to TT of DFA TT[Q][x] := S

} // for each symbol

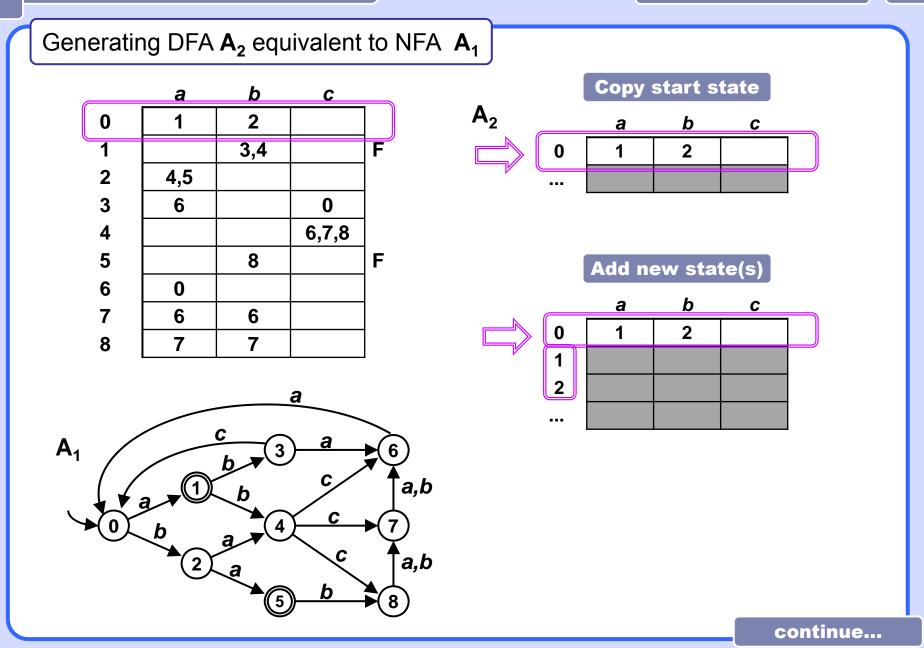
Mark Q as processed

} // for each state

// Remember, empty set is also a set ot states, it can be a state of DFA

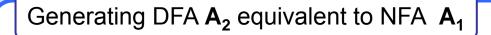


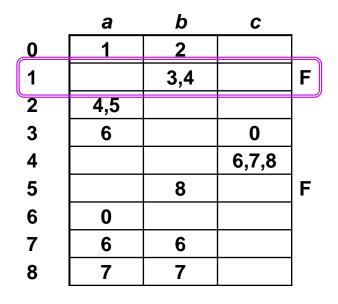
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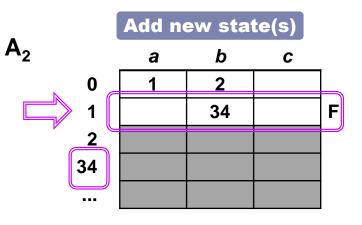


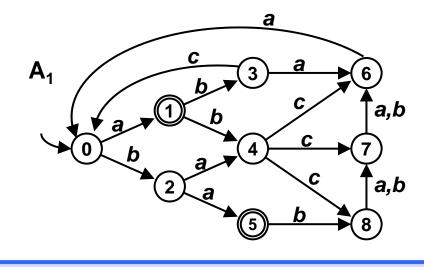
Example

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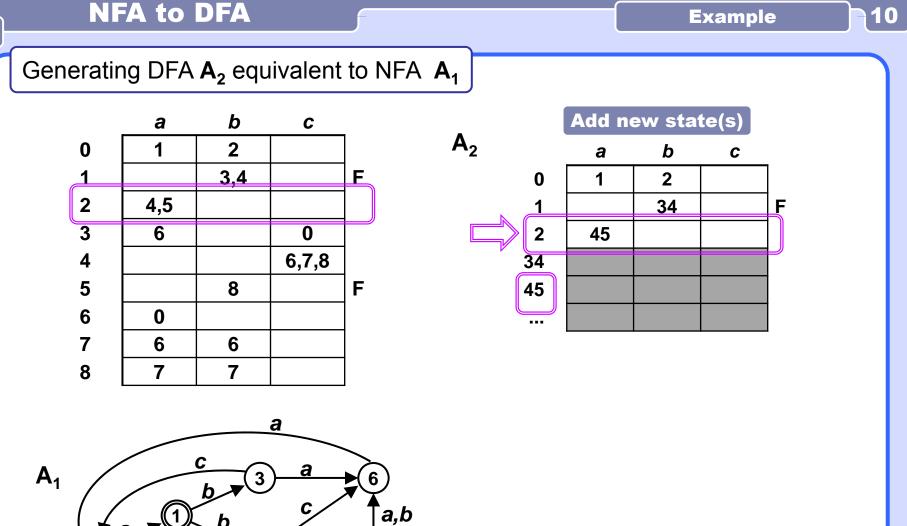


continue...

D

2

Example



С

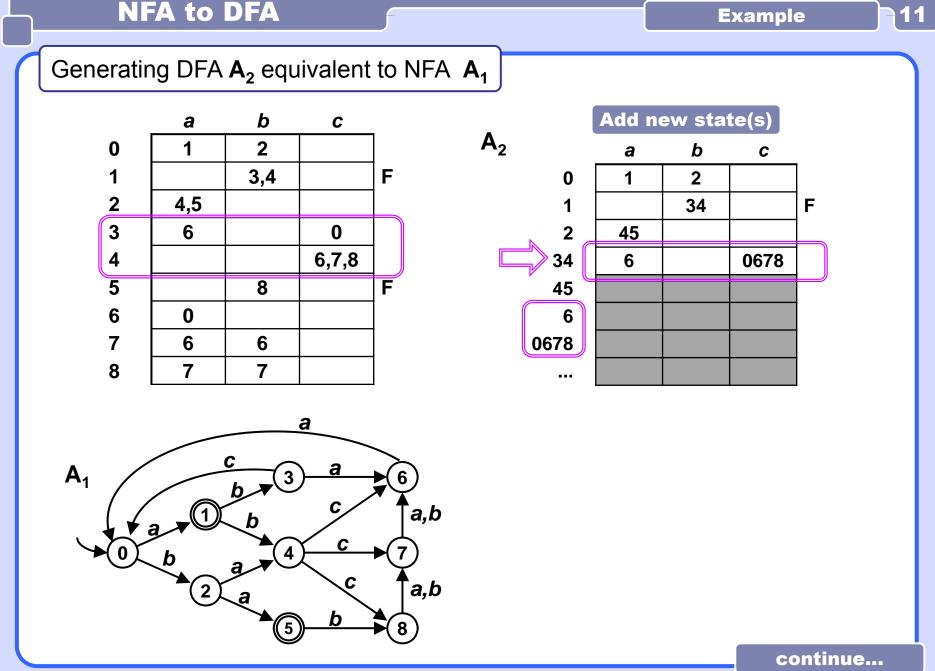
b

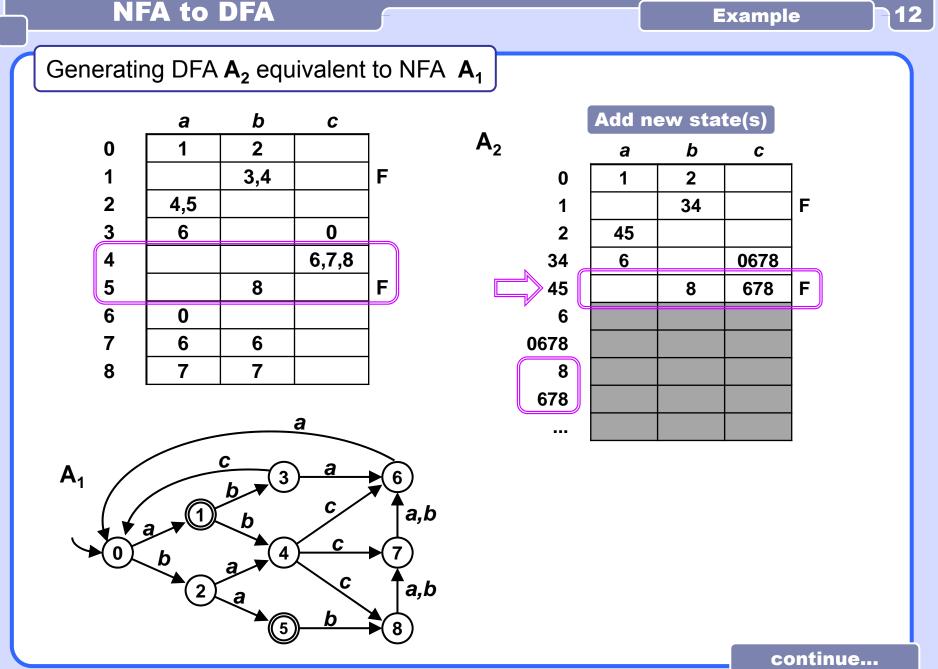
(5)

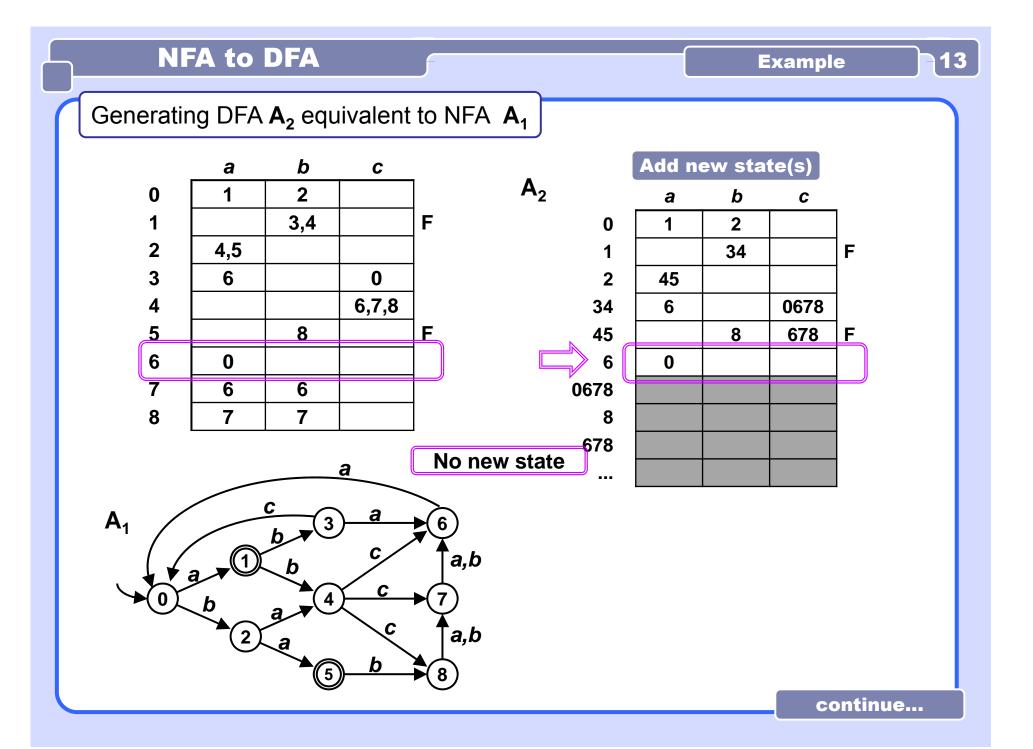
С

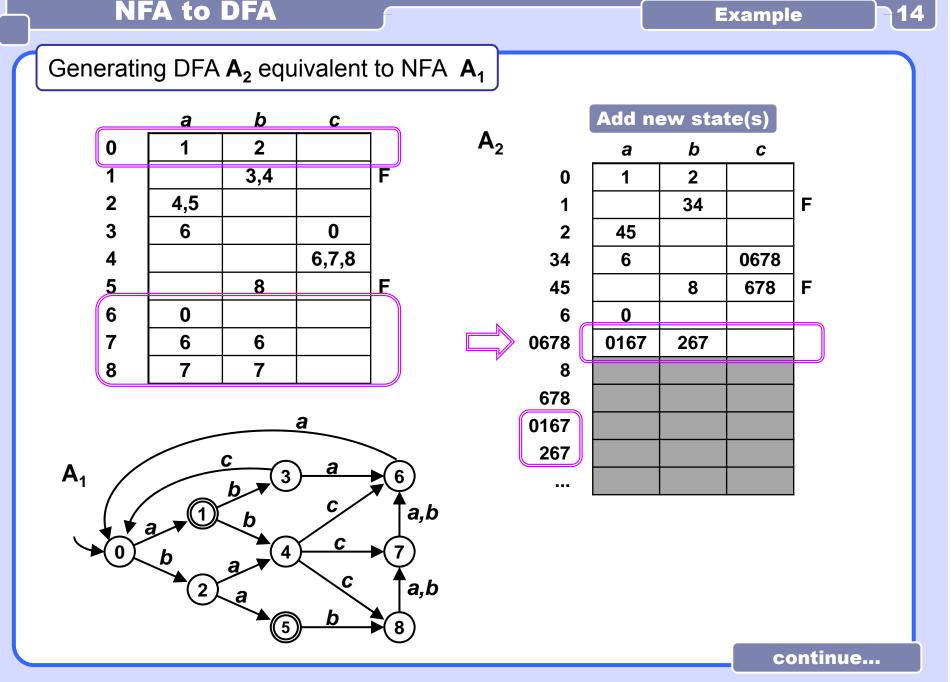
a,b

continue...

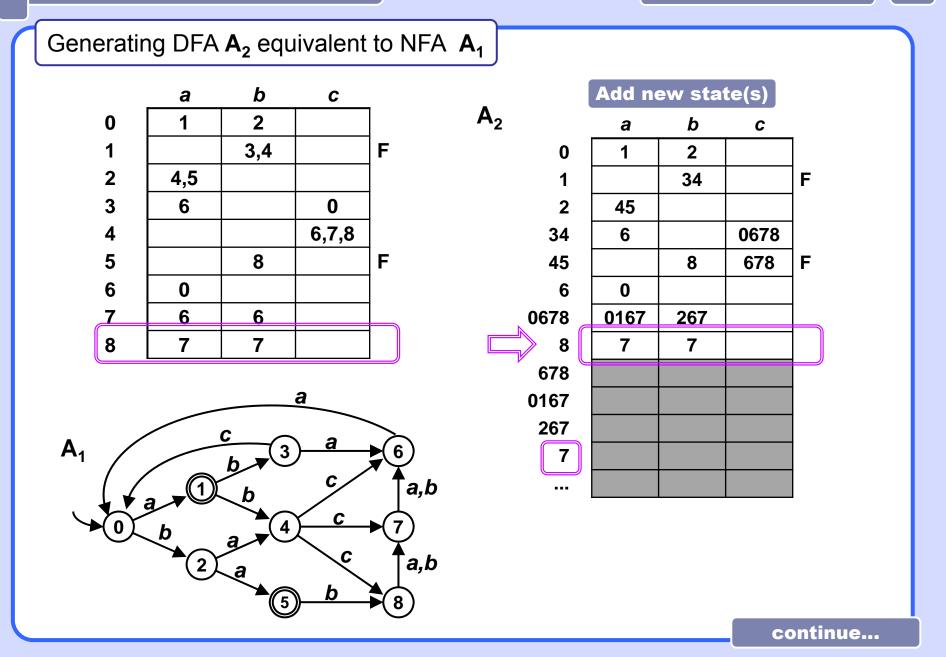




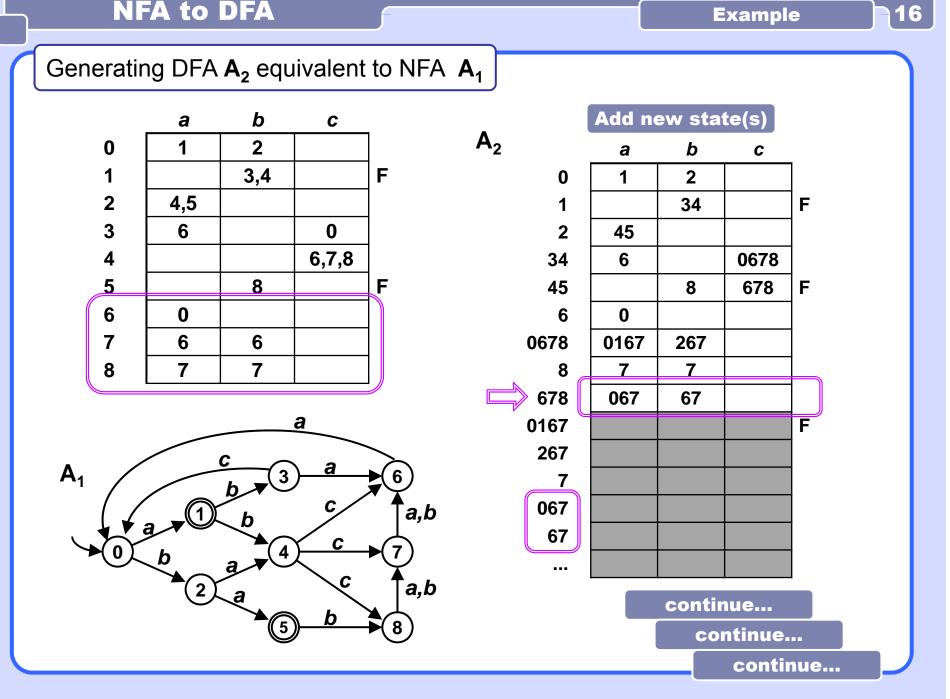


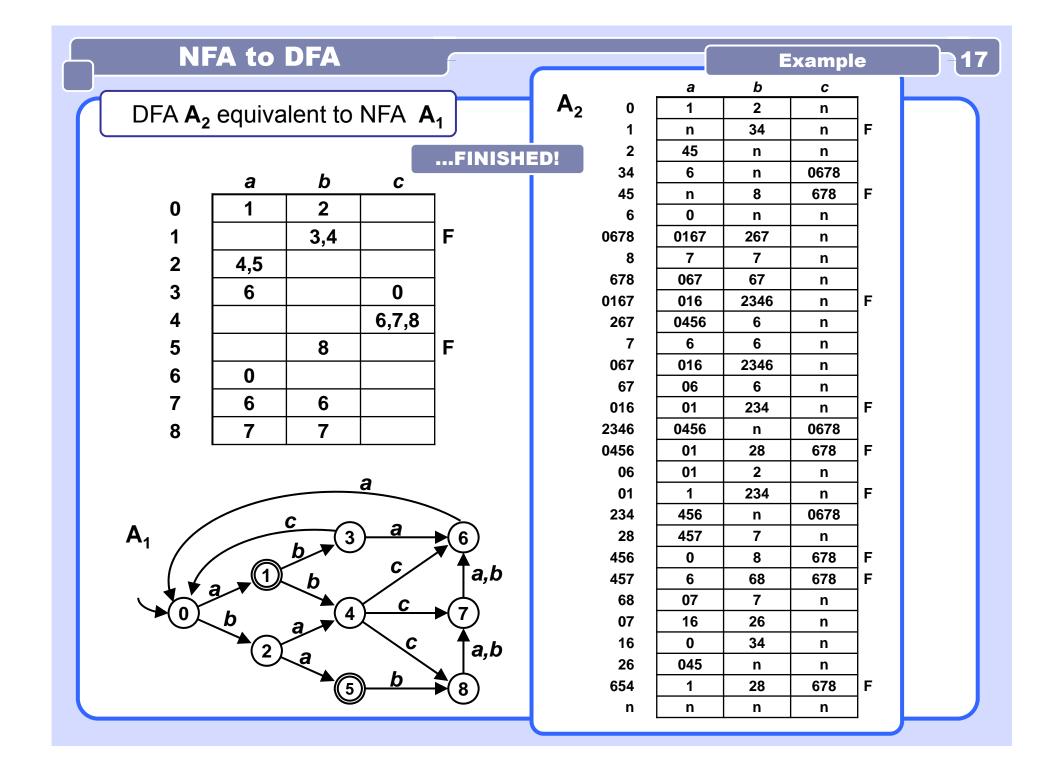


Example



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Naïve approach

- 1. Align the pattern with the beginning of the text.
- 2. While corresponding symbols of the pattern and the text match each other move forward by one symbol in the pattern.

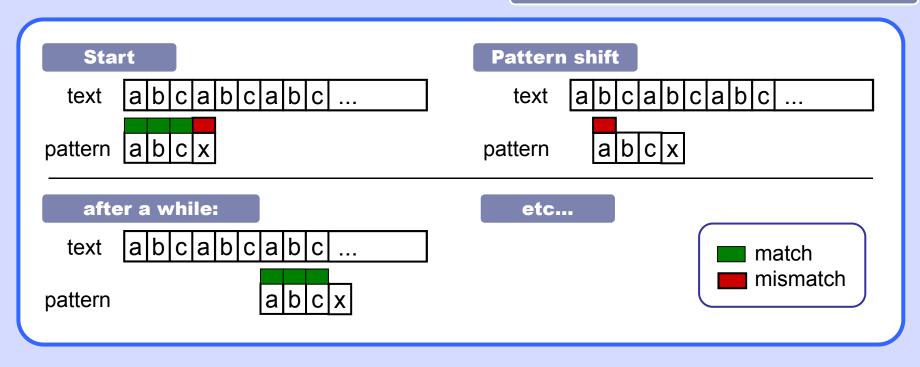
3. When symbol mismatch occurs shift the pattern forward by one symbol, reset position in the pattern to the beginning of the pattern and go to 2.

To be used with great caution!

4. When the end of the pattern is passed report success, shift the pattern forward by one symbol, reset position in the pattern to its beginning and go to 2.

5. When the end of the text is reached stop.

Might be efficient in a favourable text



Alphabet: Finite set of symbols.
Text: Sequence of symbols of the alphabet.
Pattern: Sequence of symbols of the same alphabet.
Goal: Pattern occurrence is to be detected in the text.

Text is often fixed or seldom changed, pattern typically varies (looking for different words in the same document), pattern is often significantly shorter than the text.

Notation

Alphabet: Σ Symbols in the text: $t_1, t_2, ..., t_n$. Symbols in the pattern: $p_1, p_2, ..., p_m$. It holds $m \le n$, usually m << n

Example

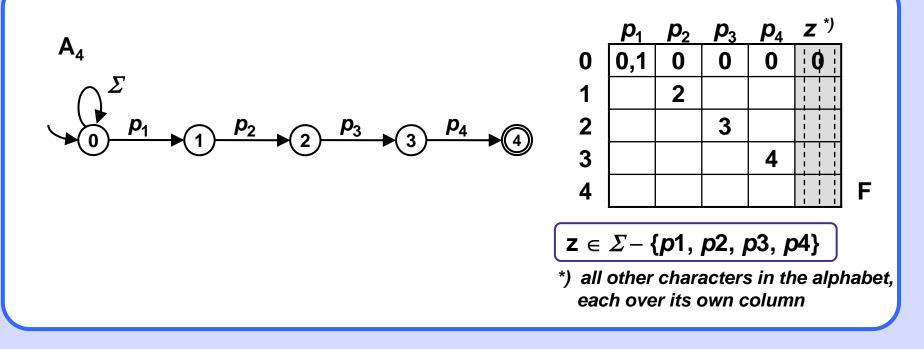
Text: ...task is very simple but it is used very freq... Pattern: simple

20

NFA A₃ which accepts just a single word $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$.

$$A_3 \longrightarrow 0 \xrightarrow{p_1} 1 \xrightarrow{p_2} 2 \xrightarrow{p_3} 3 \xrightarrow{p_4} 4$$

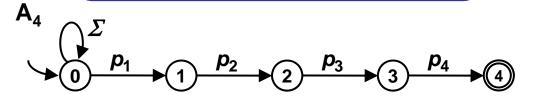
NFA A₄ which accepts each word with suffix $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ and its transition table.

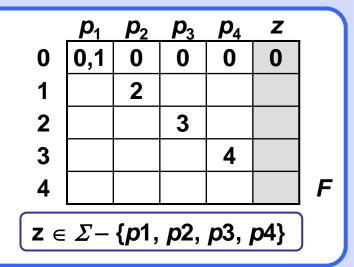


Easy description

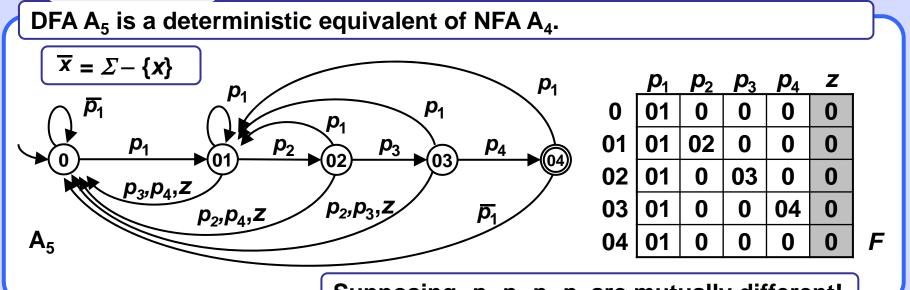


NFA A₄ which accepts each word with suffix $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ and its transition table.





equivalently



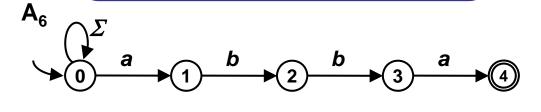
Supposing $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ are mutually different!

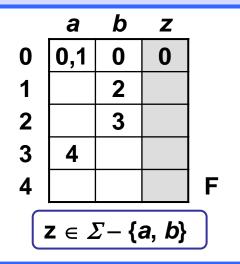
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Easy construction

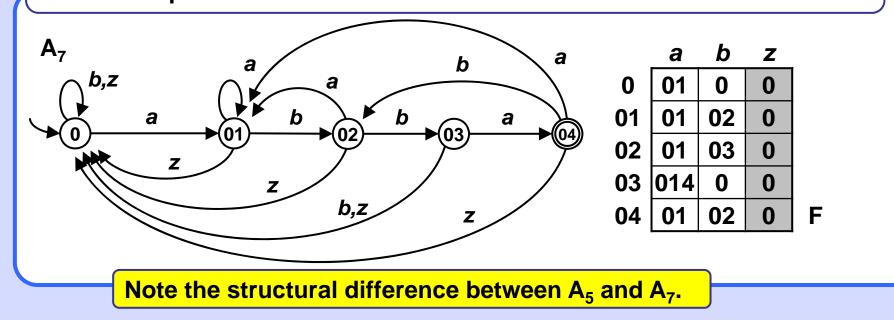


NFA A₆ which accepts each word with suffix *abba* and its transition table





DFA A_7 is a deterministic equivalent of NFA A_6 . It also accepts each word with suffix *abba*.



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NFA accepting exactly one word $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$.

$$\searrow 0 \xrightarrow{p_1} 1 \xrightarrow{p_2} 2 \xrightarrow{p_3} 3 \xrightarrow{p_4} 4$$

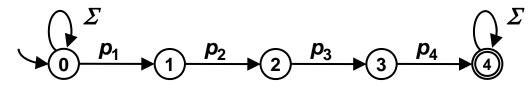
NFA accepting any word with suffix $p_1p_2p_3p_4$.

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & &$$

NFA accepting any word with substring (factor) $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ anywhere in it.

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & & & \\ & & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & &$$

NFA accepting any word with substring (factor) $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ anywhere in it.



Can be used for searching, but the following reduction is more frequent.

Text search NFA for finding pattern $P = p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ in the text.

$$\begin{array}{c} & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & & \\ & & & \\$$

Whenever at least one of the active states is final, report pattern detection in the text.

Note that multiple occurences of the patern in the text, even overlapping ones, are all detected, due to indeterminism and Sigma-loop in the start state.

Text search automaton

Text search automaton may be defined as a 6-tuple consisting of

- 1. Finite input alphabet Σ .
- 2. Finite set of internal states Q.
- 3. One start state $q_0 \in Q$.
- 4. Nonempty set of accept states $F \subseteq Q$.
- 5. Transition function $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow P(Q)$ (P(Q) is the powerset of Q)
- 6. Detection function χ : $P(Q) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

With the properties:

A. $\forall \alpha \in \Sigma$: $q_0 \in \delta(q_0, \alpha)$ (loop in the start state labeled by the whole alphabet) B. $\forall S \subseteq Q$: $\chi(S) = 1 \iff S \cap F \neq \emptyset$ (a string in text is detected when $\chi(\{active states\}) = 1)$

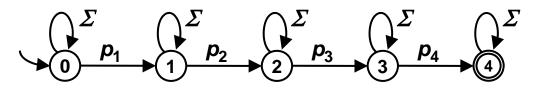
Notation and terminology note:

Formally speaking, a text search automaton is clearly neither DFA nor NFA. However, when component 6. and property B are removed from the definition the result is a NFA. This NFA is specified unambiguously by the text search automaton.

Usually, when speaking about "text search NFA x" we keep in mind a "text search automaton y", from which x is obtained by removing component 6 and property B. The rest of the slides follows this slightly inexact terminology, as do also many other sources.

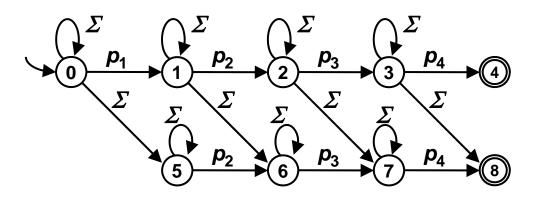
Example

NFA accepting any word with subsequence $p_1 p_2 p_3 p_4$ anywhere in it.



Example

NFA accepting any word with subsequence $p_1p_2p_3p_4$ anywhere in it, one symbol in the sequence may be altered.



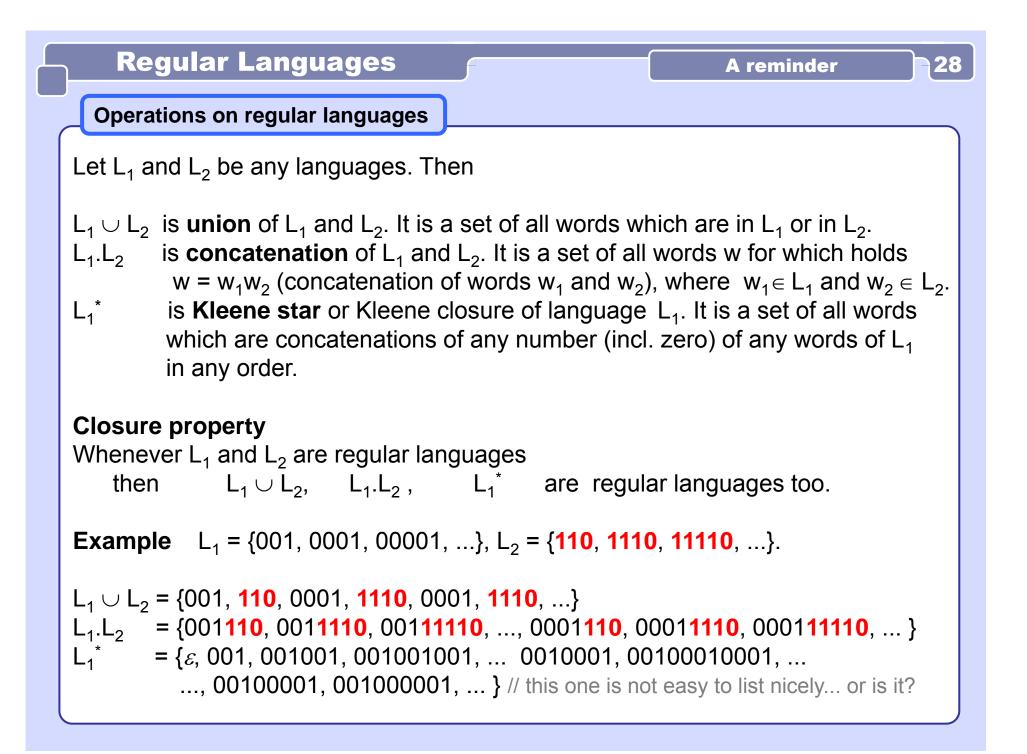
Alternatively: NFA accepting any word containing a subsequence Q whose Hamming distance from $p_1p_2p_3p_4$ is at most 1.

Search NFA can search for more than one pattern simultaneously. The number of patterns can be

finite -- this leads also to a dictionary automaton (we will meet it later)or infinite -- this leads to a regular language.

Chomsky language hierarchy remainder		
Grammar	Language	Automaton
Туре-0 Туре-1	Recursively enumerable Context-sensitive	Turing machine Linear-bounded non-deterministic Turing machine
Type-2 Type-3	Context-free Regular	Non-deterministic pushdown automaton Finite state automaton (NFA or DFA)

Only regular languages can be processed by NFA/DFA. More complex languages cannot. For example, any language containing *well-formed parentheses* is context-free and not regular and cannot be recognized by NFA/DFA.



Regular Expressions

Regular expressions defined recursively

Symbol ε is a regular expression. Each symbol of alphabet Σ is a regular expression. Whenever e_1 and e_2 are regular expressions then also strings (e_1), e_1+e_2 , e_1e_2 , $(e_1)^*$ are regular expressions.

Languages represented by regular expressions (RE) defined recursively RE ε represents language containing only empty string. RE *x*, where $x \in \Sigma$, represents language {x}. Let RE's e_1 and e_2 represent languages L_1 and L_2 . Then RE (e_1) represents L_1 , RE e_1+e_2 represents $L_1 \cup L_2$, REs e_1e_2 , $e_1.e_2$ represent $L_1.L_2$, RE (e_1)* represents L_1^* .

Examples

0+1(0+1)^{*} all integers in binary without leading 0's 0.(0+1)^{*}1 all finite binary fractions ∈ (0, 1) without trailing 0's ((0+1)(0+1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9) + 2(0+1+2+3)):(0+1+2+3+4+5)(0+1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9) all 1440 day's times in format hh:mm from 00:00 to 23:59 (mon+(wedne+t(ue+hur))s+fri+s(atur+un))day English names of days in the week (1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9)(0+1+2+3+4+5+6+7+8+9)^{*}((2+7)5+(5+0)0) all decimal integers ≥ 100 divisible by 25

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Convert regular expression to NFA

Input: Regular expression R containing *n* characters of the given alphabet. Output: NFA recognizing language L(R) described by R.

```
Create start state S
```

```
for each k (1 \le k \le n) {
```

```
assign index k to the k-th character in R
```

```
// this makes all characters in R unique: c[1], c[2], ..., c[n].
create state S[k] // S[k] corresponds directly to c[k]
```

```
}
```

```
<u>for each</u> k (1 \le k \le n) \{
```

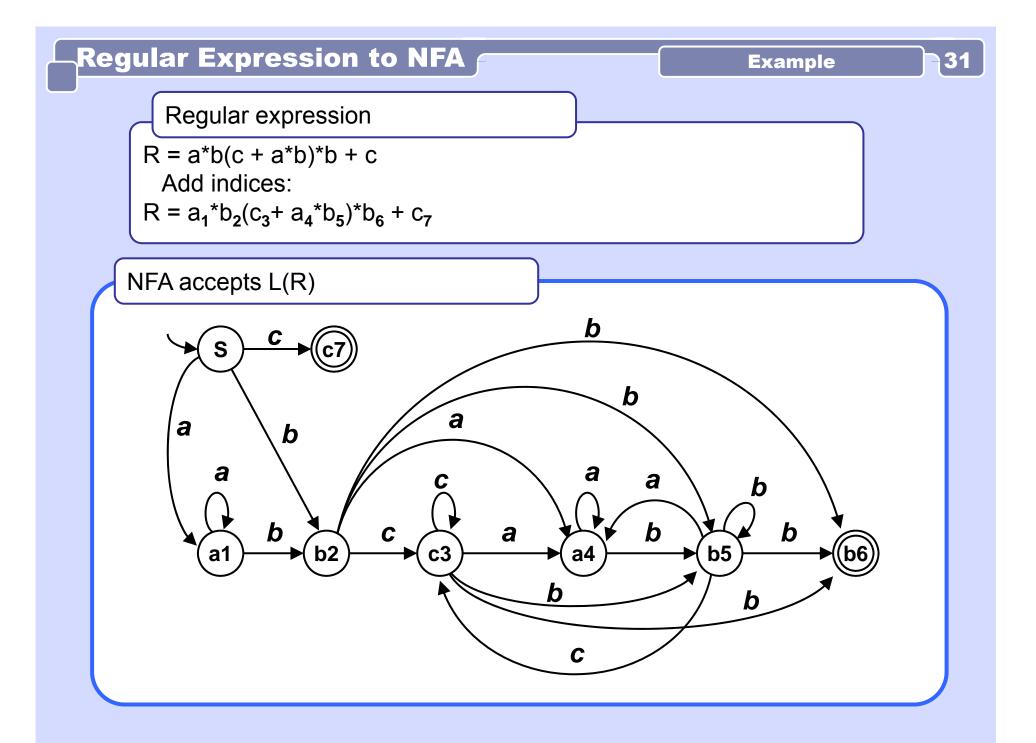
<u>if</u> c[k] can be the first character in some string described by R <u>then</u> create transition $S \rightarrow S[k]$ labeled by c[k] with index stripped off <u>if</u> c[k] can be the last character in some string described by R

then mark S[k] as final state

for each $p (1 \le p \le n)$

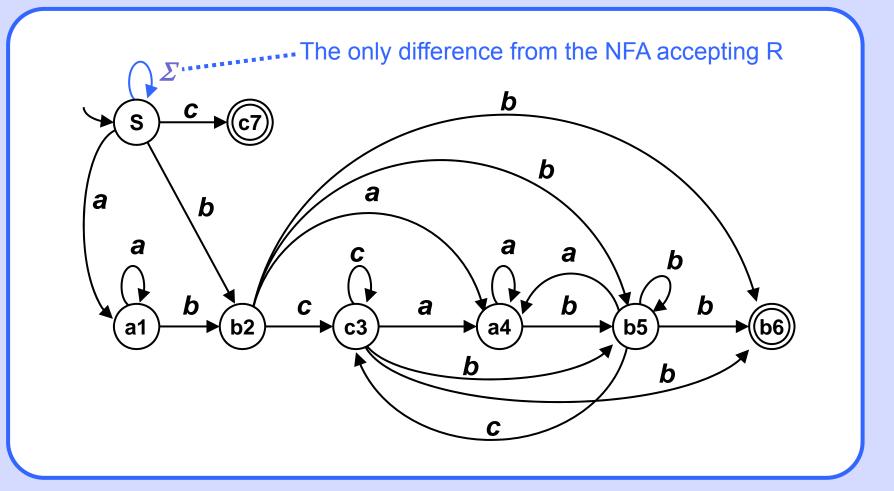
<u>if</u> (c[*k*] can follow immediately after c[*p*] in some string described by R) <u>then</u> create transition S[*p*] \rightarrow S[*k*] labeled by c[*k*] with index stripped off

}



Regular Expressions

 $R = a^{*}b(c + a^{*}b)^{*}b + c$



Bonus

To find a subsequence representing a word $\in L(R)$, where R is a regular expression, do the following:

Create NFA acepting L(R)

Add self loops to the states of NFA:

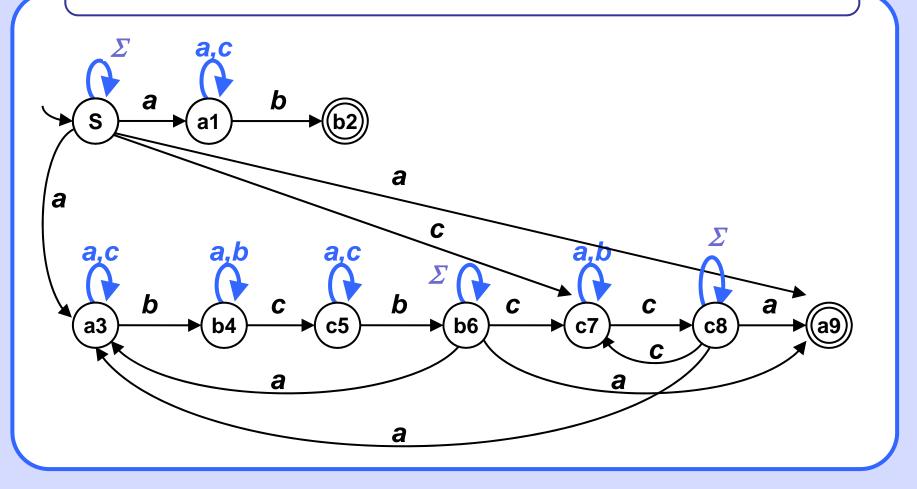
- 1. Self loop labeled by \varSigma (whole alphabet) at the start state.
- 2. Self loop labeled $\Sigma \{x\}$ at each state whose outgoing transition(s) are labeled by single $x \in \Sigma$. // serves as an "optimized" wait loop
- 3. Self loop labeled by Σ at each state whose outgoing transition(s) are labeled by more than single symbol from Σ . // serves as an "usual" wait loop
- 4. No self loop to all other states. // which have no outgoing loop = final ones

Regular Expressions

Bonus

NFA searches the text for any occurence of any subsequence representing a word of L(R)

$$R = ab + (abcb + cc)^* a$$

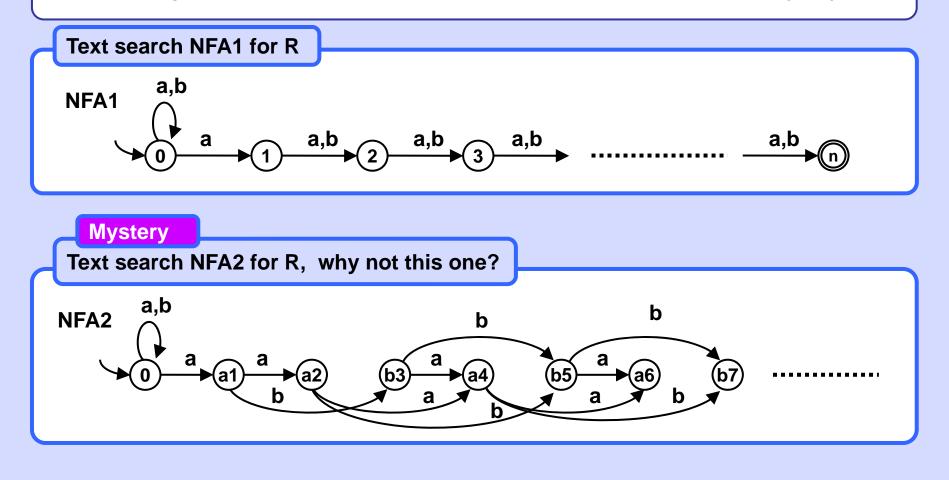


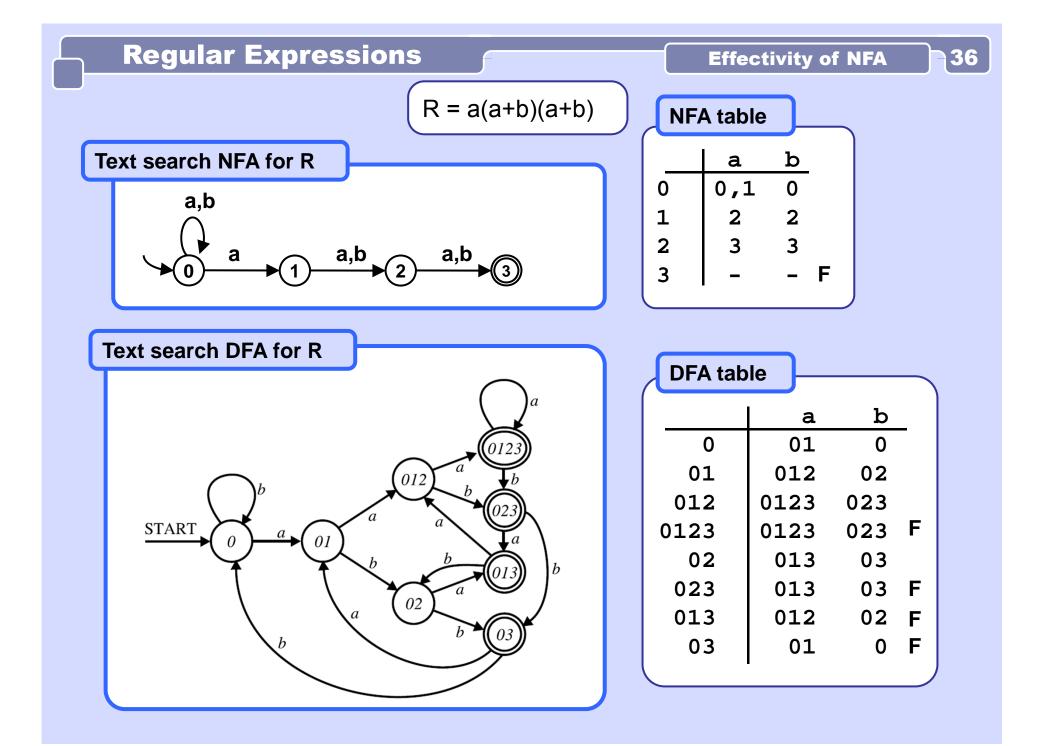
Regular Expressions

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Transforming NFA which searches text for an occurrence of a word of a given regular language into the equivalent DFA might take exponential space and thus also exponential time. Not always, but sometimes yes:

Consider regular expression $\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b})(\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b})\dots(\mathbf{a}+\mathbf{b})$ over alphabet {a, b}.





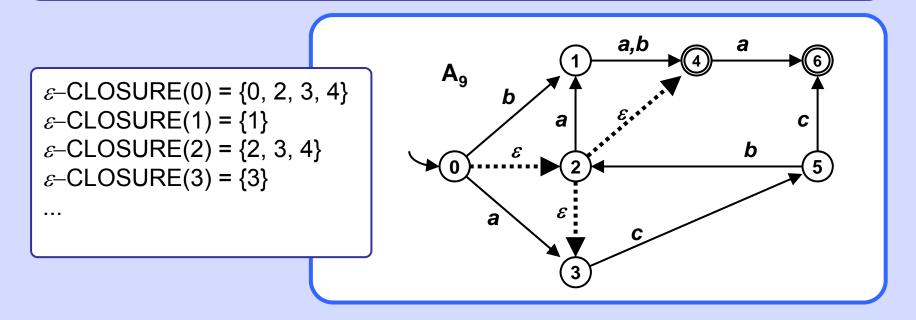
Search the text for more than just exact match

NFA with *ɛ*–transitions

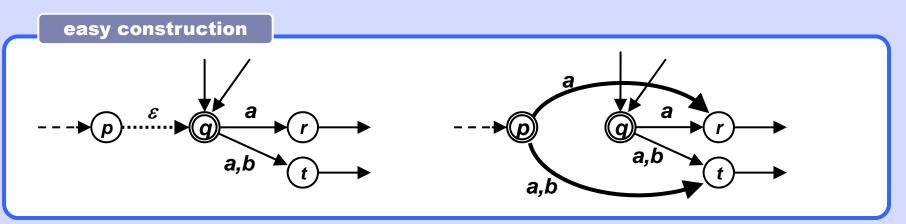
The transition from one state to another can be performed **without** reading any input symbol. Such transition is labeled by symbol ε .

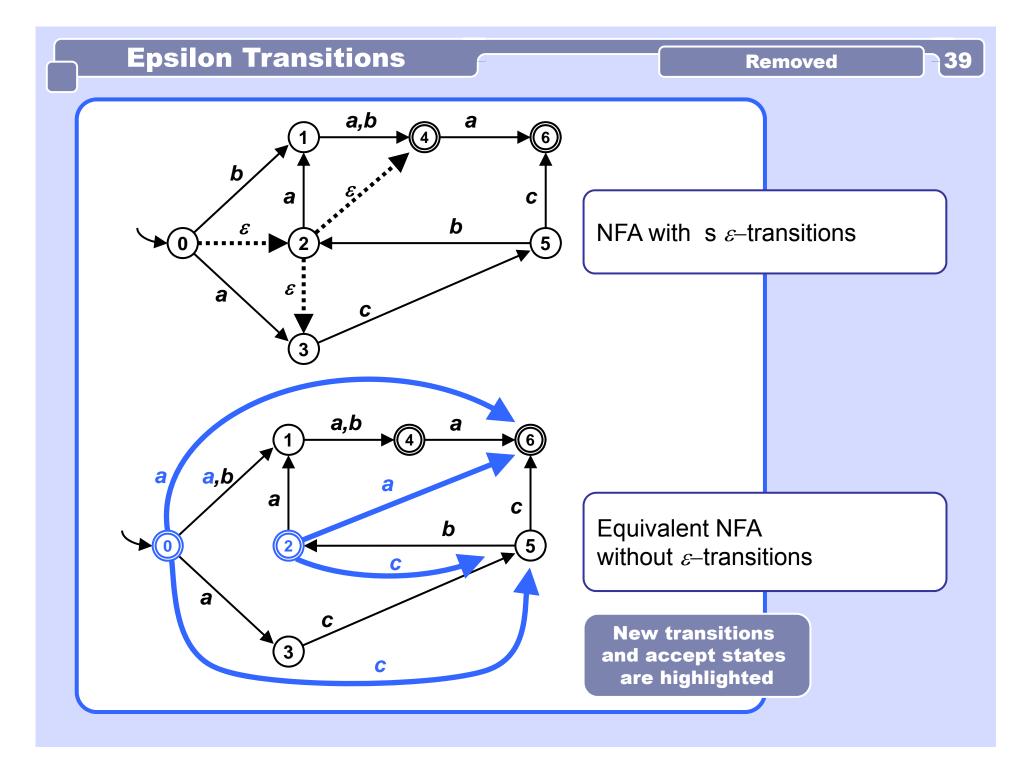
E-closure

Symbol \mathcal{E} -CLOSURE(*p*) denotes the union of {*p*} and the set of all states *q*, which can be reached from state *p* using only \mathcal{E} -transitions By definition, \mathcal{E} -CLOSURE(*p*) = {*p*} when there is no \mathcal{E} -transition out from *p*.



Construction of equivalent NFA without ε -transitions Input: NFA *A* with some ε -transitions. Output: NFA *A*' without ε -transitions. 1. *A*' = exact copy of *A*. 2. Remove all ε -transitions from *A*'. 3. In *A*' for each (*q*, *a*) do: add to the set $\delta(p,a)$ all such states *r* for which it holds $q \in \varepsilon$ -CLOSURE(*p*) and $\delta(q,a) = r$. 4. Add to the set of final states *F* in *A*' all states *p* for which it holds ε -CLOSURE(*p*) $\cap F \neq \emptyset$.

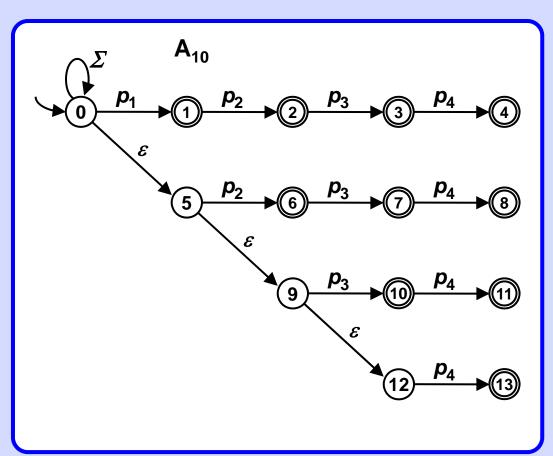




Epsilon Transitions

Application

NFA for search for any unempty substring of pattern $p_1p_2p_3p_4$ over alphabet Σ . Note the ε -transitions.



Powerful trick!

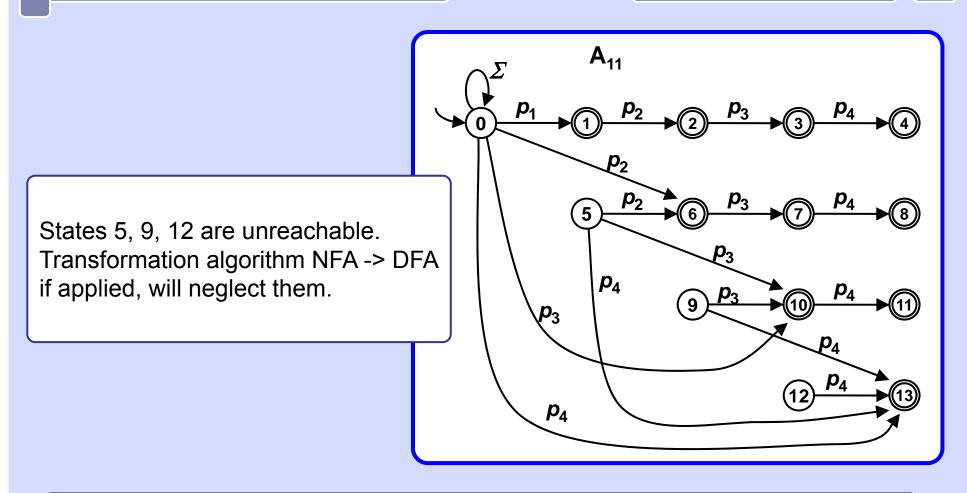
Union of two or more NFA:

Create additional start state S and add ε -transitions from S to the start states of all involved NFA's. Draw an example yourself!

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Epsilon Transitions

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Equivalent NFA for search for any unempty substring of pattern $p_1p_2p_3p_4$ with ε -transitions removed.

Epsilon Transitions



A₁₁ p_1 p_2 p_3 **p**₄ Ζ 0,10 0,13 0 0,6 0.1 0 2 0 F 1 p_2 p_3 p_4 Ζ p_1 F 3 0 2 0.6 0.10 0.13 0 0.1 F 0 3 4 0 0.1 0 0.1 0.2.6 0.10 0.13 F F 4 0 0 0.6 0.1 0.6 0.7.10 0.13 F 5 6 10 13 0 F 0 0.10 0.1 0.6 0.10 0.11.13 7 0 F 6 F 0.13 0.1 0.6 0.10 0.13 0 F 7 8 0 0 F F 0.2.6 0.1 0.6 0.3.7.10 0.13 0 8 F 0.7.10 0.1 0.6 0.10 0.8.11.13 0 9 10 13 0 0 0.11.13 0.1 0.6 0.10 0.13 0 F 10 11 F F 0.3.7.10 0.6 0.10 0.4.8.11.13 0 F 0 0.1 11 0.8.11.13 0.1 0.6 0.10 F 12 0.13 0 13 0 0 F 0 F 0.4.8.11.13 0.1 13 0.6 0.10 0.13

Transition table of NFA A_{11} (without ε -transitions).

Transition table of DFA which is equivalent to A_{11} .

DFA in this case has less states than the equivalent NFA. Q: Does it hold for any automaton of this type? Proof? Text search using NFA simulation without transform to DFA

Input: NFA, text in array t

```
SetOfStates S = eps_CLOSURE(q0), S_tmp;
int i = 1;
while ((i <= t.length) && (!S.empty())) {</pre>
 for (q in S)
                         // if( chi(S) == 1 )
   if (q.isFinal)
    print(q.final_state_info); // pattern found
                     // transiton to next
 S tmp = Set.empty();
                     // set of states
 for (q in S)
   S_tmp.union(eps_CLOSURE(delta(q, t[i])));
 S = S tmp;
                              // next char in text
 i++;
return S.containsFinalState(); // true or false
```