

# Computational Models - Lecture 1<sup>1</sup>

## Handout Mode

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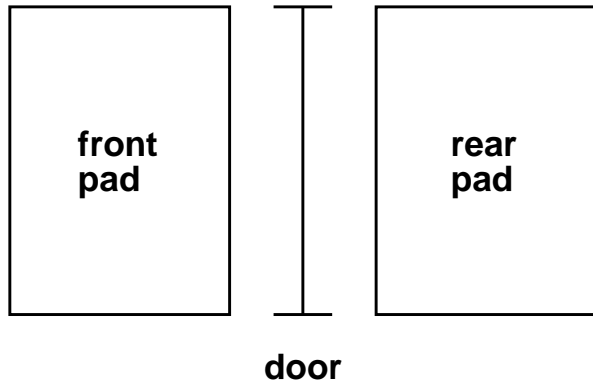
<sup>1</sup>Based on frames by Benny Chor, Tel Aviv University, modifying frames by Maurice Herlihy, Brown University.

# Finite Automata

## Topics covered:

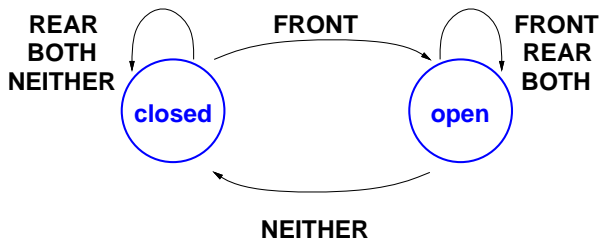
- formal definition of finite automata
- deterministic vs. non-deterministic finite automata
- regular languages
- operations on regular languages
- regular expressions
- pumping lemma

## Example: A One-Way Automatic Door



- open when person approaches
- hold open until person clears
- don't open when someone standing behind door

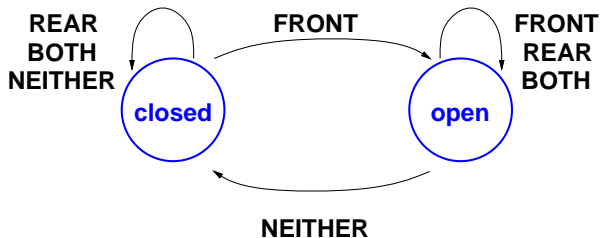
## The Automatic Door as DFA



- States:
  - ▶ OPEN
  - ▶ CLOSED
- Sensor:
  - ▶ FRONT: someone on front pad
  - ▶ REAR: someone on rear pad
  - ▶ BOTH: someone(s) on both pads
  - ▶ NEITHER no one on either pad.

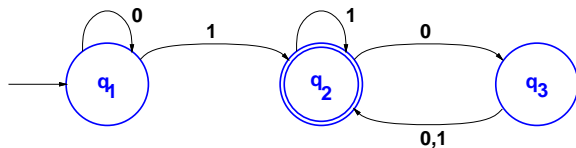
# The Automatic Door as DFA

DFA is Deterministic Finite Automata



	neither	front	rear	both
closed	closed	open	closed	closed
open	closed	open	open	open

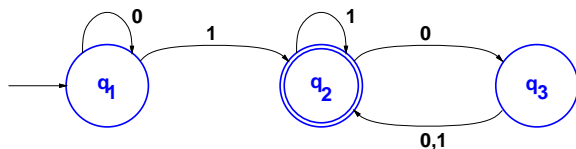
## DFA: Informal Definition



The machine  $M_1$ :

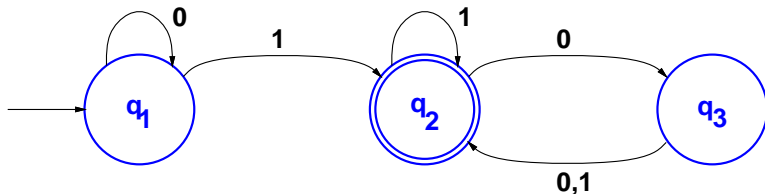
- **states**:  $q_1$ ,  $q_2$ , and  $q_3$ .
- **start** state:  $q_1$  (arrow from “outside”).
- **accept** state:  $q_2$  (double circle).
- **state transitions**: arrows tagged with letters.

## DFA: Informal Definition (cont.)



- On an input string
  - ▶ DFA begins in start state  $q_1$
  - ▶ after reading each symbol, DFA makes **state transition** with matching label.
- After reading last symbol, DFA produces output:
  - ▶ **accept** if DFA is an accepting state.
  - ▶ **reject** otherwise.

## Informal Definition - Example

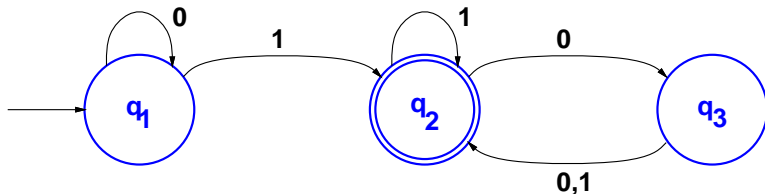


What happens on input strings

- 1101
- 0010
- 01100
- In general?!



## Informal Definition



This DFA **accepts**

- all input strings that end with a 1
- all input strings that contain at least one 1, and end with an even number of 0's
- no other strings

# Languages, words and Alphabets

## Definition 1

An **alphabet**  $\Sigma$  is a finite set of letters.

- $\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \dots, z\}$  – the English alphabet.
- $\Sigma = \{\alpha, \beta, \gamma, \dots, \zeta\}$  – the Greek alphabet.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  – the binary alphabet.
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$  – the digital alphabet.

## Definition 2

A **word (string)** is a finite sequence of letters.

The collection of all strings over  $\Sigma$  is denoted by  $\Sigma^*$ .

For the binary alphabet,  $\epsilon, 1, 0, 00000000, 1111111000$  are all members of  $\Sigma^*$ .

# Languages and Examples

## Definition 3

A **language** over  $\Sigma$  is a subset  $\mathcal{L} \subseteq \Sigma^*$ .

For example

- Modern English.
- Ancient Greek.
- All prime numbers, written using digits.
- $A = \{w : w \text{ has at most seventeen 0's}\}$ .
- $B = \{0^n 1^n : n \geq 0\}$ .
- $C = \{w : w \text{ has an equal number of 0's and 1's}\}$ .

# Languages and DFA

## Definition 4

$\mathcal{L}(M)$ , the **language of a DFA  $M$** , is the set of strings  $\mathcal{L}$  that  $M$  accepts,  $\mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{L}$ .

Note that

- $M$  may accept **many strings**, but
- $M$  accepts only **one language**.

What **language** does  $M$  accept if it accepts **no strings**?

## Definition 5

A language is called **regular** if some deterministic finite automaton accepts it.

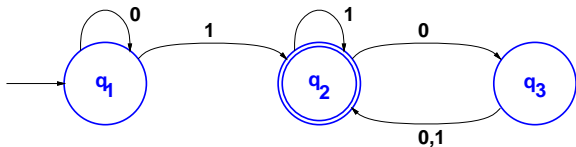
## Formal Definitions

### Definition 6

A **deterministic finite automaton** (DFA) is a 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , where

- $Q$  is a finite set called the **states**,
- $\Sigma$  is a finite set called the **alphabet**,
- $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is the **transition function**,
- $q_0 \in Q$  is the **start state**, and
- $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of **accept states**.

## Back to $M_1$



$M_1 = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F)$  where

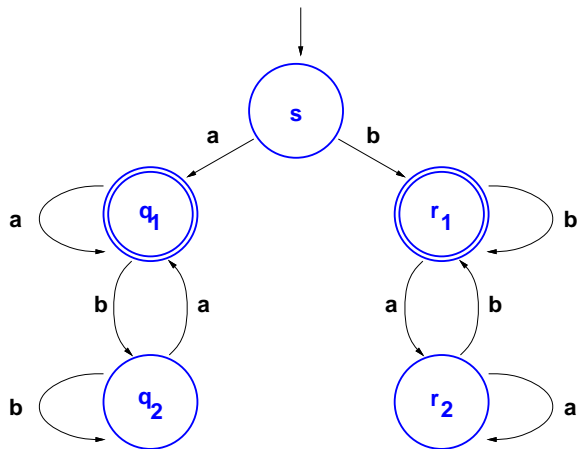
- $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ,

- the transition function  $\delta$  is

	0	1
$q_1$	$q_1$	$q_2$
$q_2$	$q_3$	$q_2$
$q_3$	$q_2$	$q_2$

- $q_1$  is the start state, and  $F = \{q_2\}$ .

## Another Example



## A Formal Model of Computation

- Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a DFA, and
- let  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$  be a string over  $\Sigma$ .

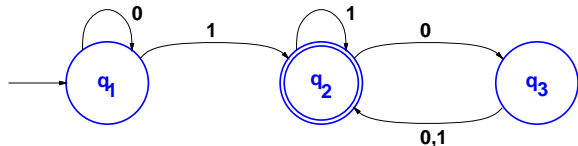
We say that  $M$  **accepts**  $w$  if there is a **sequence of states**  $r_0, \dots, r_n$  ( $r_i \in Q$ ) such that

- $r_0 = q_0$
- $\delta(r_i, w_{i+1}) = r_{i+1}$ ,  $0 \leq i < n$
- $r_n \in F$

**Extend**  $\delta$  to work on strings: for  $\delta(q, y\sigma) = \delta(\delta(q, y), \sigma)$ , for  $|y| \geq 1$ .



## Proving a language of a DFA



### Theorem 7

$$\mathcal{L}(M_1) = \{w10^{2k} : k \geq 0, w \in \Sigma^*\}$$

**Proof:** For each state  $q_i \in Q$  let  $\mathcal{L}(q_i) = \{x : \delta(q_1, x) = q_i\}$ .

Induction hypothesis:

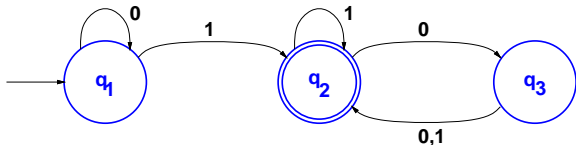
- $\mathcal{L}(q_1) = \{0^k : k \geq 0\}$ .
- $\mathcal{L}(q_2) = \{w10^{2k} : k \geq 0, w \in \Sigma^*\}$ .
- $\mathcal{L}(q_3) = \{w10^{2k+1} : k \geq 0, w \in \Sigma^*\}$ .

**Induction Basis:**  $x = \epsilon$ ,  $|x| = 0$ .

**Induction Step:**  $x = y\sigma$ ,  $|x| = j + 1$ ,  $|y| = j$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

**Prove:**  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_i)$  iff  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_i$ .

## Proving a language of a DFA



**Prove:**  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_i)$  iff  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_i$ .

**Claim:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_1)$  Then  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_1$

If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_1)$  Then  $x = 0^{j+1}$ ,  $y = 0^j$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

$y \in \mathcal{L}(q_1)$ , therefore, by the induction hypothesis,  $\delta(q_1, y) = q_1$ .

By definition,  $\delta(q_1, 0) = q_1$ .

Therefore  $\delta(q_1, x) = \delta(\delta(q_1, y), \sigma) = \delta(q_1, \sigma) = \delta(q_1, 0) = q_1$ .

**Claim:** If  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_1$  Then  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_1)$

Let  $q_y = \delta(q_1, y)$ .

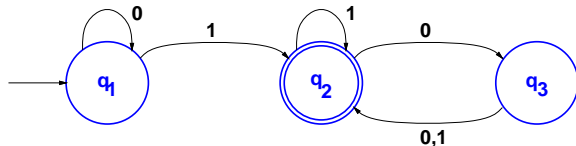
$\delta(q_1, x) = \delta(q_y, \sigma) = q_1$ .

This can happen only if  $q_y = q_1$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

By the induction hypothesis, if  $q_y = q_1$  then  $y = 0^j$ .

Therefore  $x = y\sigma = 0^{j+1} \in \mathcal{L}(q_1)$

## Proving a language of a DFA



**Claim:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$  Then  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_2$

If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$  Then  $x = w10^{2k}$ ,  $k \geq 1$ , or  $x = w1$ .

If  $x = w1$  then  $y = w$  and  $\sigma = 1$ .

Since from any  $q_i$ ,  $\delta(q_i, 1) = q_2$  then  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_2$ .

If  $x = w10^{2k}$  then  $y = w10^{2k-1}$  and  $\sigma = 0$ . Then  $y \in \mathcal{L}(q_3)$ .

By the induction hypothesis  $\delta(q_1, y) = q_3$ .

Then  $\delta(q_3, 0) = q_2$ .

**Claim:** If  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_2$  Then  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$

Let  $q_y = \delta(q_1, y)$  and  $\delta(q_1, x) = \delta(q_y, \sigma) = q_2$ .

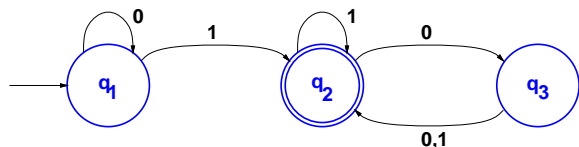
This can happen if either  $\sigma = 1$  or  $q_y = q_3$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

If  $\sigma = 1$  then  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$ .

If  $\sigma = 0$  and  $q_y = q_3$ , then, by the induction hypothesis,  $y = w10^{2k+1}$ .

Therefore  $x = y\sigma = w10^{2k+1}0 \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$

## Proving a language of a DFA



**Claim:** If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_3)$  Then  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_3$

If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_3)$  Then  $x = w10^{2k+1}$ , and  $y = w10^{2k}$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

Then  $y \in \mathcal{L}(q_2)$ , and by the induction hypothesis  $\delta(q_1, y) = q_2$ .

Therefore,  $\delta(q_2, 0) = q_3$ .

**Claim:** If  $\delta(q_1, x) = q_3$  Then  $x \in \mathcal{L}(q_3)$

Let  $q_y = \delta(q_1, y)$  and  $\delta(q_1, x) = \delta(q_y, \sigma) = q_3$ .

This can happen only if  $\sigma = 0$  or  $q_y = q_2$ .

By the induction hypothesis,  $y = w10^{2k}$ .

Therefore  $x = y\sigma = w10^{2k}0 \in \mathcal{L}(q_3)$



## Examples of regular languages

Assume  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ .

- Odd number of 1:; i.e.,  $\{w \mid \#_1(w) \pmod{2} = 1\}$ .
- Sequence of 0 followed by sequence of 1, i.e.,  $\{0^m 1^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$ .
- Any **finite** language.

## The Regular Operations

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be languages.

The **union** operation:

$$A \cup B = \{x : x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$$

The **concatenation** operation:

$$A \parallel B = \{xy : x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$$

The **star** operation:

$$A^* = \{x_1 x_2 \dots x_k : k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$$

## The Regular Operations – Examples

Let  $A = \{\text{good, bad}\}$  and  $B = \{\text{boy, girl}\}$ .

Union

$$A \cup B = \{\text{good, bad, boy, girl}\}$$

Concatenation

$$A \| B = \{\text{goodboy, goodgirl, badboy, badgirl}\}$$

Star

$$A^* = \{\varepsilon, \text{good, bad, goodgood, goodbad, badbad, badgood, \dots}\}$$

## Claim: Closure Under Union

If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

### Approach to Proof:

- some  $M_1$  accepts  $A_1$
- some  $M_2$  accepts  $A_2$
- construct  $M$  that accepts  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

### Attempted Proof Idea:

- first simulate  $M_1$ , and
- if  $M_1$  doesn't accept, then simulate  $M_2$ .

What's **wrong** with this?


**Fix:** Simulate both machines **simultaneously**.



## Closure Under Union: **Correct Proof**

- Suppose  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  accepts  $\mathcal{L}_1$ ,
- and  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  accepts  $\mathcal{L}_2$ .

Define  $M$  as follows ( $M$  will accept  $\mathcal{L}_1 \cup \mathcal{L}_2$ ):

- $Q = Q_1 \times Q_2$ .
- $\Sigma$  is the same.
- For each  $(r_1, r_2) \in Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,  
 $\delta((r_1, r_2), a) = (\delta_1(r_1, a), \delta_2(r_2, a))$
- $q_0 = (q_1, q_2)$
- $F = \{(r_1, r_2) : r_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } r_2 \in F_2\}$ .
- Formal proof (next slide) 

(hey, why not choose  $F = F_1 \times F_2$ ?)

## Correctness of the construction

### Theorem 8

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \mathcal{L}(M_1) \cup \mathcal{L}(M_2).$$

**Proof:**

**Induction hypothesis:**  $\delta((q_1, q_2), x) = (\delta_1(q_1, x), \delta_2(q_2, x))$ .

**Induction Basis:**  $x = \epsilon$ ,  $|x| = 0$ . Trivial

**Induction Step:**  $x = y\sigma$ ,  $|x| = i + 1$ ,  $|y| = i$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ .

Follows from the definition of  $\delta$ .

**Completing the proof:**

If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(M_1)$  then  $\delta_1(q_1, x) = r_1 \in F_1$ .

$\delta((q_1, q_2), x) = (r_1, r_2) \in F$ .

(Similar if  $x \in \mathcal{L}(M_2)$ .)

If  $x \in \mathcal{L}(M)$  then  $\delta((q_1, q_2), x) = (r_1, r_2) \in F$ .

Then,  $\delta_i(q_i, x) = r_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

Since  $(r_1, r_2) \in F$  either  $r_1 \in F_1$  or  $r_2 \in F_2$ .

## What About Concatenation?

### Theorem 9

If  $\mathcal{L}_1, \mathcal{L}_2$  are regular languages, so is  $\mathcal{L}_1\|\mathcal{L}_2$ .

Example:  $\mathcal{L}_1 = \{\text{good, bad}\}$  and  $\mathcal{L}_2 = \{\text{boy, girl}\}$ .

$$\mathcal{L}_1\|\mathcal{L}_2 = \{\text{goodboy, goodgirl, badboy, badgirl}\}$$

This is much harder to prove.

Idea: Simulate  $M_1$  for a while, then **switch** to  $M_2$ .

Problem: But **when** do you switch? This leads us into **non-determinism**.