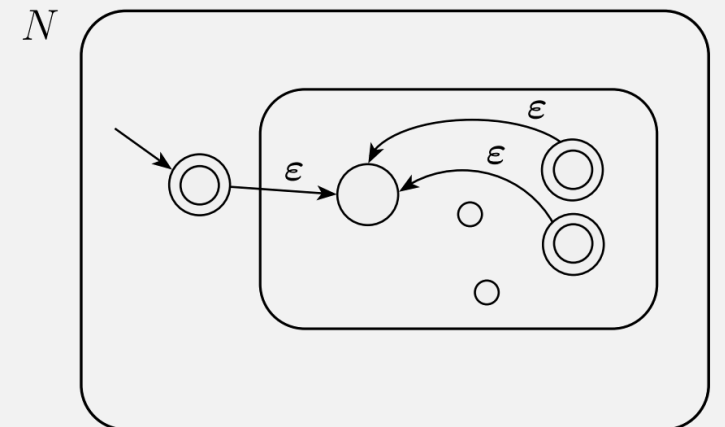


**UMB CS622**

# **Closed Operations on Regular Languages**

Monday, September 20, 2021



# Announcements

- HW1 due yesterday
- HW2 released, due Sun 9/26 11:59pm EST
- Reminder: Post HW questions to Piazza
  - Use anonymous post if you don't want anyone to see
- Midterm / Final exam cancelled

# Last Time: NFAs vs DFAs

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

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

## DFAs

- Can only be in one state
- Transitions:
  - Always reads one char
  - A state must have a transition for every char
- Acceptance:
  - If final state is accept state

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

1.  $Q$  is a finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.

## NFAs

- Can be in multiple states
- Transitions:
  - Can read no chars, i.e., empty transition
  - A state might not have transitions for every char
- Acceptance:
  - If one of final states is accept state

# *Last Time:* NFAs and Regular Languages

## Theorem:

A language  $A$  is regular **if and only if** some NFA  $N$  recognizes it.

## Proof:

$\Rightarrow$  If  $A$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it

- Easier
- We know: if  $A$  is regular, then a **DFA** recognizes it.
- Convert DFA to an NFA! (see HW2)

$\Leftarrow$  If an NFA  $N$  recognizes  $A$ , then  $A$  is regular.

- Harder
- We know: a language is regular if a **DFA** recognizes it.
- Convert NFA to DFA

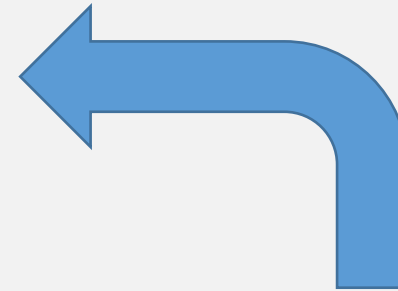
# Last Time: How to convert NFA→DFA?

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

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

## Proof idea:

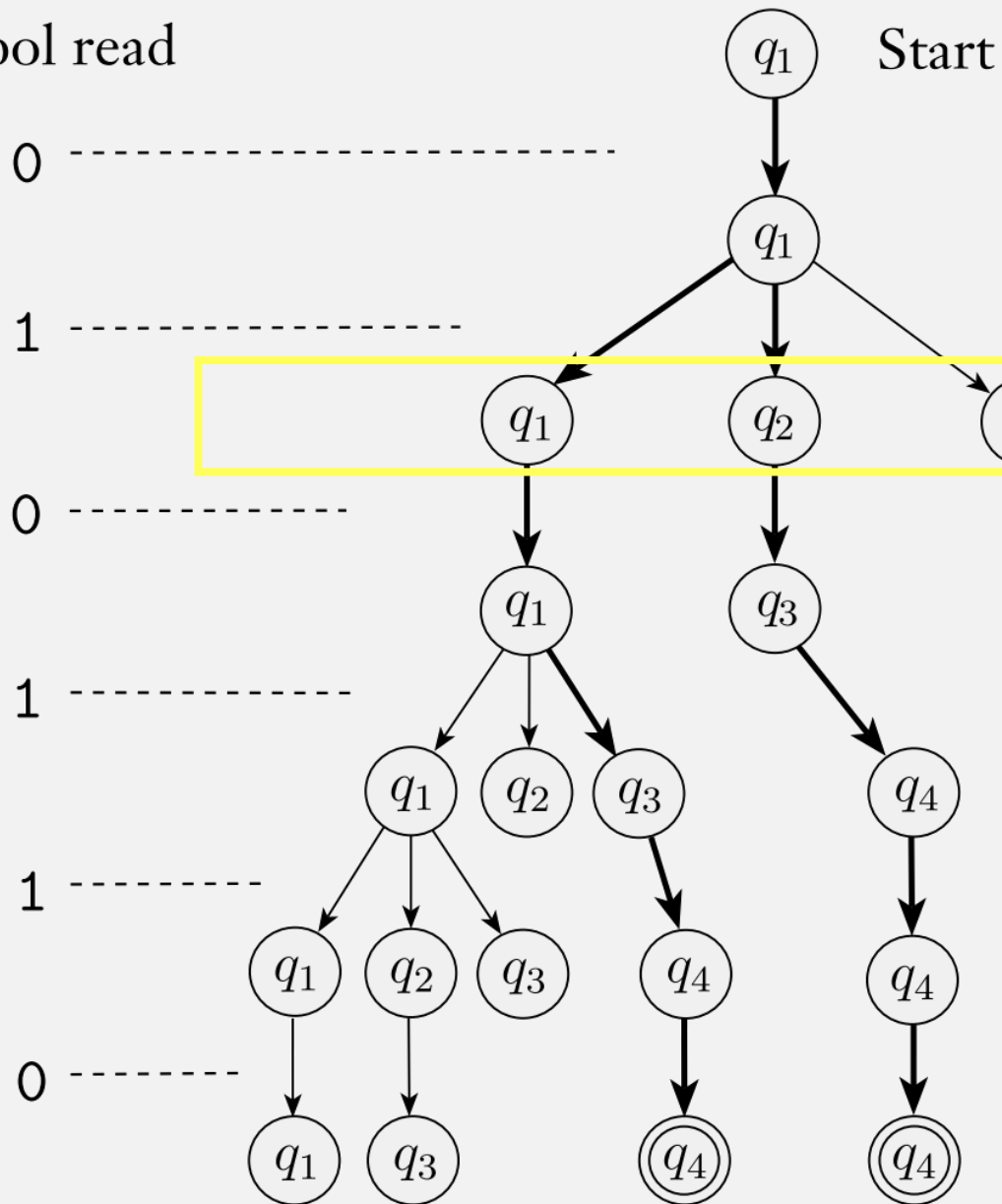
Let each “state” of the DFA be a set of states in the NFA



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

1.  $Q$  is a finite set of states,
2.  $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet,
3.  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$  is the transition function,
4.  $q_0 \in Q$  is the start state, and
5.  $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of accept states.

Symbol read



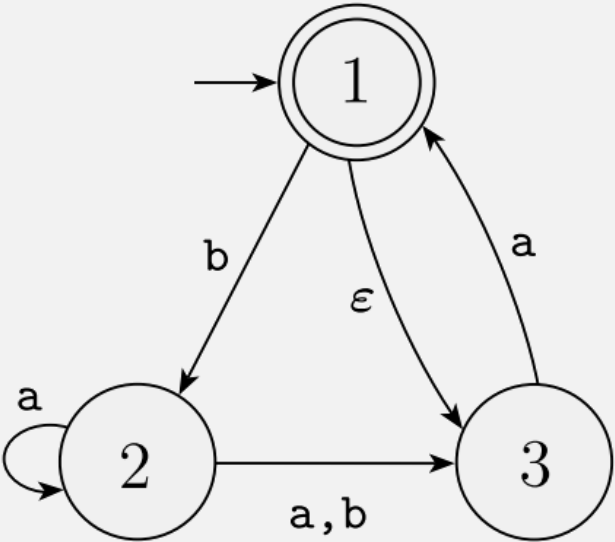
In a DFA, all these states at each step must be only **one** state

So design a state in the DFA to be a **set of NFA states!**

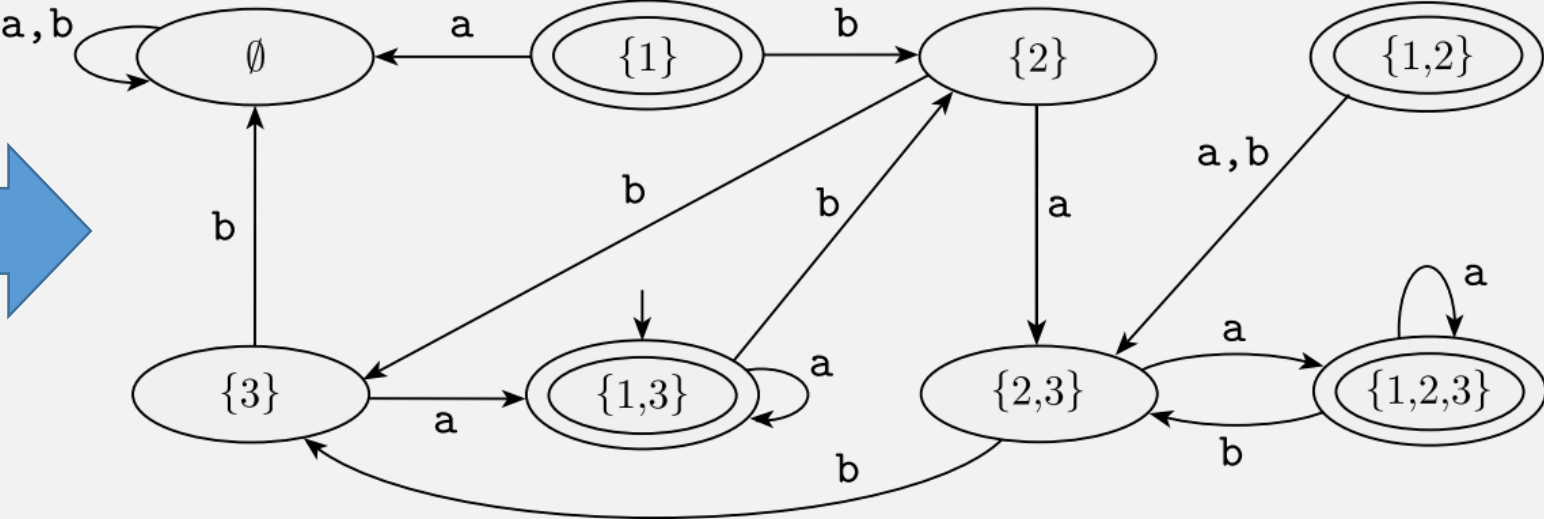
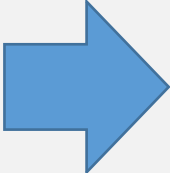
# Convert NFA→DFA, Formally

- Let NFA  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
- An equivalent DFA  $M$  has states  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$  (power set of  $Q$ )

# Example:



The NFA  $N_4$



A DFA  $D$  that is equivalent to the NFA  $N_4$



No empty transitions

**Is this correct?**

# NFA → DFA

Have:  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Want to: construct a DFA  $M = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_0', F')$

1.  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$  A state for  $M$  is a set of states in  $N$

2. For  $R \in Q'$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\delta'(R, a) = \bigcup_{r \in R} \delta(r, a)$$

To compute a single step in the DFA...  
compute next states of each NFA state  $r$  in  $R$ ,  
then union results together

3.  $q_0' = \{q_0\}$

$R = \text{a state in } M = \text{a set of states in } N$

4.  $F' = \{R \in Q' \mid R \text{ contains an accept state of } N\}$

# NFA→DFA Proof of Correctness

Let  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N)$

And let  $\text{NFA} \rightarrow \text{DFA}(N) = D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$

Correctness criteria:  $\text{LANGUAGEOF}(N) = \text{LANGUAGEOF}(D)$

- I.e., for all strings  $w$ ,  $N$  accepts  $w$  **if and only if**  $D$  accepts  $w$
- We will first prove a stronger statement:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, w)$ 
  - I.e., for all strings  $w$ , the DFA and NFA end in the same set of states!

Remember:  
A state in the DFA is a set  
of states in the NFA

# NFA→DFA Proof of Correctness

Let  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N)$

And let  $\text{NFA} \rightarrow \text{DFA}(N) = D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$

Theorem:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, w)$

This produces a set bc we defined states to be sets of states

This produces a set bc of the definition of NFAs

Proof: (by induction on length of  $w$ )

• Base case  $w = \epsilon$   $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, \epsilon)$  and  $\hat{\delta}_N(q_0, \epsilon) =$

• Inductive case  $w = xa$   $\leftarrow a = \text{last char}$

• IH:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, x) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, x)$ , call this set of states  $R$

• NFA last step (from  $\delta_N$  definition)  $\bigcup_{r \in R} \delta_N(r, a)$

• DFA last step (from NFA→DFA definition)  $\bigcup_{r \in R} \delta_D(r, a)$

Go back and review previous definitions to confirm that they are the same

# *Last Time:* Adding Empty Transitions

Define the set  $\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$

... to be all states reachable from  $q$  via one or more empty transitions

- Base case:  $q \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q)$

- Inductive case:

A state is in the reachable set if ...

$$\varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) = \{r \mid p \in \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(q) \text{ and } r \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)\}$$

... there is an empty transition to it from another state in the reachable set

# NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA $\varepsilon$

Have:  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Want to: construct a DFA  $M = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', q_0', F')$

1.  $Q' = \mathcal{P}(Q)$ .

Almost the same, except ...

2. For  $R \in Q'$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ,

$$\delta'(R, a) = \bigcup_{r \in R} \delta(r, a) \text{ } \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(\delta(r, a))$$

3.  $q_0' = \{q_0\} \text{ } \varepsilon\text{-REACHABLE}(\{q_0\})$

4.  $F' = \{R \in Q' \mid R \text{ contains an accept state of } N\}$

# NFA<sub>ε</sub>→DFA Proof of Correctness

Let  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N)$

And let NFA<sub>ε</sub>→DFA( $N$ ) =  $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$

Correctness criteria: LANGUAGEOF( $N$ ) = LANGUAGEOF( $D$ )

- I.e., for all strings  $w$ ,  $N$  accepts  $w$  **if and only if**  $D$  accepts  $w$
- We will first prove a stronger statement:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, w)$ 
  - I.e., for all strings  $w$ , the DFA and NFA end in the same set of states!

(Same as before)

# NFA→DFA<sub>ε</sub> Proof of Correctness

Let  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N)$

And let  $\text{NFA} \rightarrow \text{DFA}(N) = D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$

Theorem:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, w)$

Almost the same, except ...

Proof: (by induction on length of  $w$ )

• Base case  $w = \epsilon$   $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, \epsilon)$  and  $\hat{\delta}_N(q_0, \epsilon) =$

• Inductive case  $w = xa$  ←  $a = \text{last char}$

• IH:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, x) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, x)$ , call this set of states  $R$  **?????**

• NFA last step (from  $\delta_N$  definition)  $\bigcup_{r \in R} \delta_N(r, a)$

• DFA last step (from NFA→DFA definition)  $\bigcup_{r \in R} \delta_D(r, a)$

# NFA→DFA Proof of Correctness

Let  $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N)$

And let NFA→DFA( $N$ ) =  $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$

Last Step ...  
(see hw2)

Correctness criteria: LANGUAGEOF( $N$ ) = LANGUAGEOF( $D$ )

- I.e., for all strings  $w$ ,  $N$  accepts  $w$  **if and only if**  $D$  accepts  $w$
- We will first prove a stronger statement:  $\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_0\}, w) = \hat{\delta}_N(q_0, w)$ 
  - I.e., for all strings  $w$ , the DFA and NFA end in the same set of states!



# Proving that NFAs Recognize Reg Langs

## Theorem:

A language  $A$  is regular **if and only if** some NFA  $N$  recognizes it.

## Proof:

$\Rightarrow$  If  $A$  is regular, then some NFA  $N$  recognizes it

- We know: If  $A$  is regular, then a DFA recognizes it
- So convert that DFA to an NFA

$\Leftarrow$  If an NFA  $N$  recognizes  $A$ , then  $A$  is regular

- We know: A language is regular if there is a DFA recognizing it

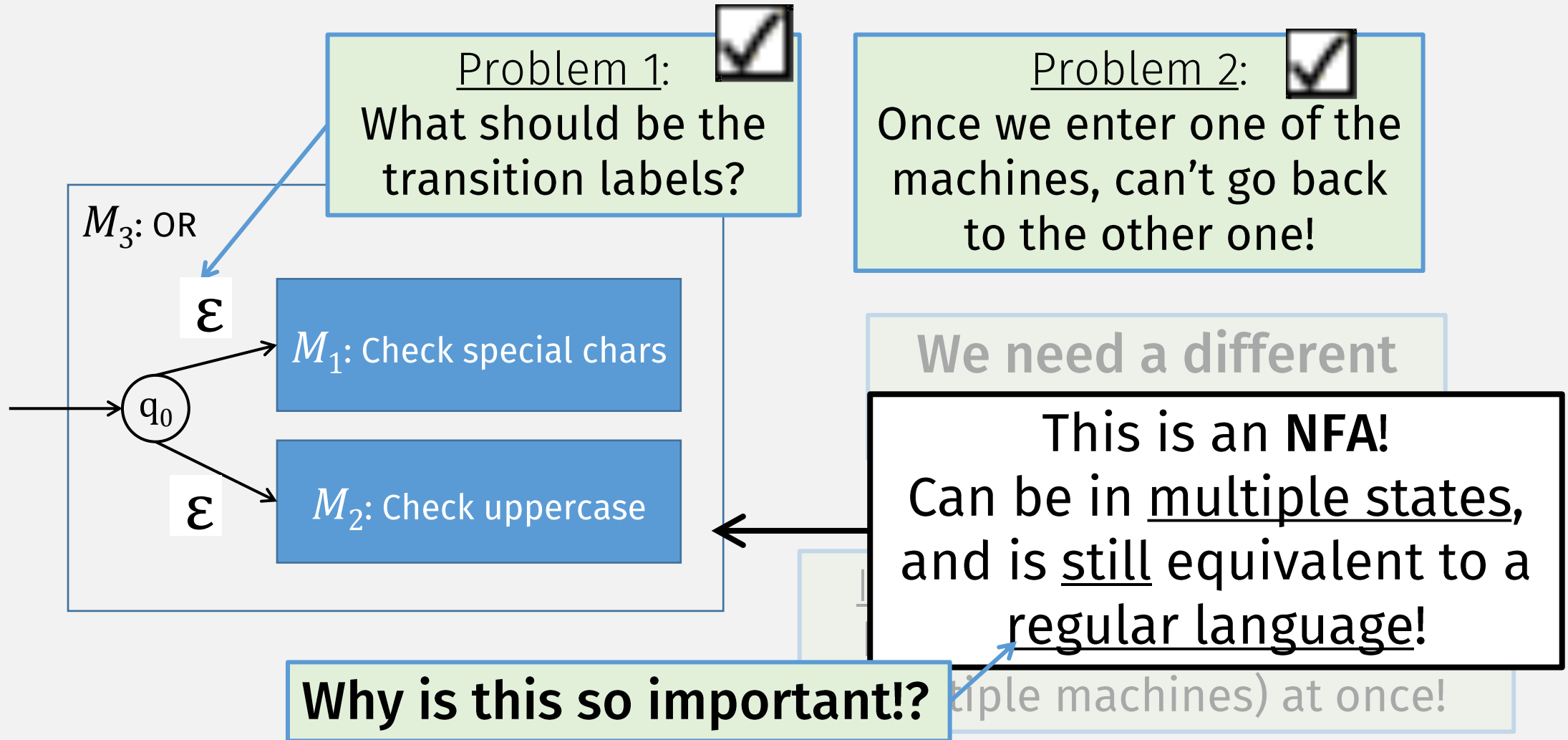


- So convert NFA to DFA ...

- ... Using NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA algorithm we just defined! ■ (Q.E.D.)

I.e., NFAs also represent regular languages!

# Last Time: Combining DFAs



Combine machines again!

Combine machines

## Password Requirements

- » Passwords must have a minimum length of ten (10) characters - but more is better!
- » Passwords **must include at least 3** different types of characters:
  - » upper-case letters (A-Z) ← DFA
  - » lower-case letters (a-z) ← DFA
  - » symbols or special characters (% , & , \* , \$ , etc.) ← DFA
  - » numbers (0-9) ← DFA
- » Passwords cannot contain all or part of your email address ← DFA
- » Passwords cannot be re-used ← DFA

DFA

DFA

DFA

DFA

DFA

DFA

DFA

# Review: “Closed” Operations

- Natural numbers =  $\{0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ 
  - Closed under addition: if  $x$  and  $y$  are Natural, then  $z = x + y$  is a Nat
  - Closed under multiplication?
    - yes
  - Closed under subtraction?
    - no
- Integers =  $\{\dots, -2, -1, 0, 1, 2, \dots\}$ 
  - Closed under addition and multiplication
  - Closed under subtraction?
    - yes
  - Closed under division?
    - no
- Rational numbers =  $\{x \mid x = y/z, y \text{ and } z \text{ are ints}\}$ 
  - Closed under division?
    - No?
    - Yes if  $z \neq 0$

A set is **closed** under an operation if ...  
applying it to members of the set returns a member in the set

# Why Care About Closed Operations?

- Because it allows repeatedly applying an operation to a set
- E.g., Closed operations on regular languages preserves “regularness”
- So result of combining DFAs/NFAs can be combined again and again

# Operations on Regular Languages

Let  $A$  and  $B$  be languages. We define the regular operations *union*, *concatenation*, and *star* as follows:

- **Union:**  $A \cup B = \{x \mid x \in A \text{ or } x \in B\}$ .
- **Concatenation:**  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$ .
- **Star:**  $A^* = \{x_1x_2 \dots x_k \mid k \geq 0 \text{ and each } x_i \in A\}$ .

# Union Example

Let the alphabet  $\Sigma$  be the standard 26 letters  $\{a, b, \dots, z\}$ .

If  $A = \{\text{good, bad}\}$  and  $B = \{\text{boy, girl}\}$ , then

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

# Union is Closed for Regular Languages

## **THEOREM**

The class of regular languages is closed under the union operation.

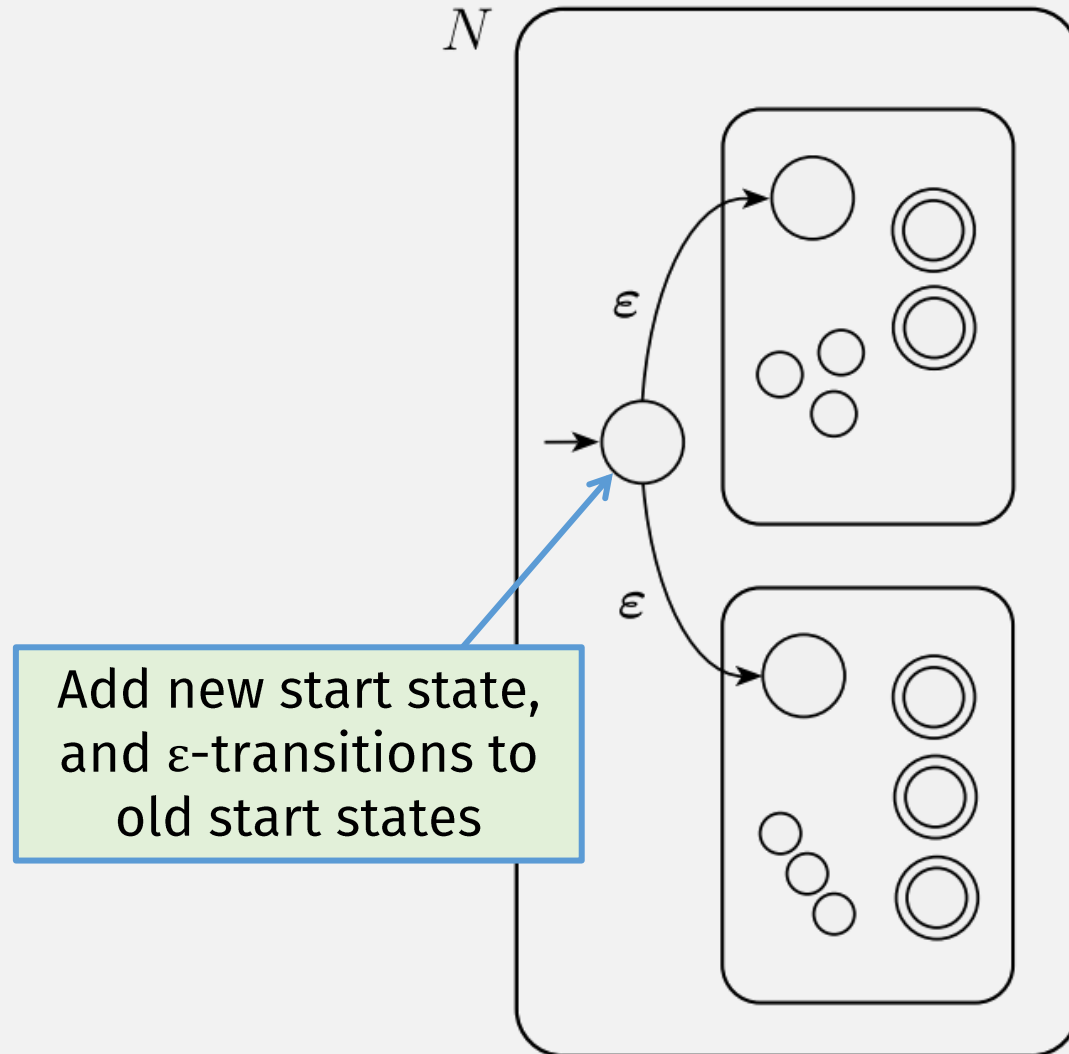
In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages, so is  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

## Proof:

- How do we prove that a language is regular?
  - Create a DFA/NFA recognizing it!
- Create machine combining the machines recognizing  $A_1$  and  $A_2$ 
  - Should we create a DFA or NFA?



# Union is Closed for Regular Languages



# Union is Closed for Regular Languages

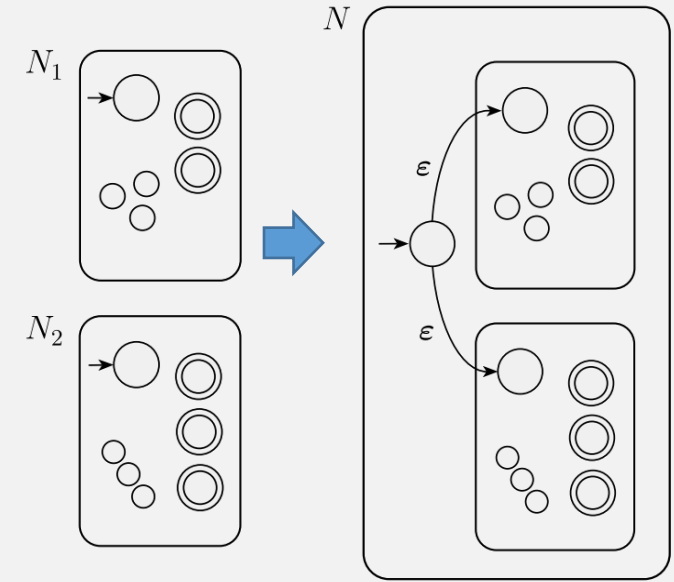
## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1 \cup Q_2$ .
2. The state  $q_0$  is the start state of  $N$ .
3. The set of accept states  $F = F_1 \cup F_2$ .
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(q, a) & q \in Q_1 \\ \delta_2(q, a) & q \in Q_2 \\ \{q_1, q_2\} & q = q_0 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \emptyset & q = q_0 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \end{cases}$$



# Union is Closed for Regular Languages

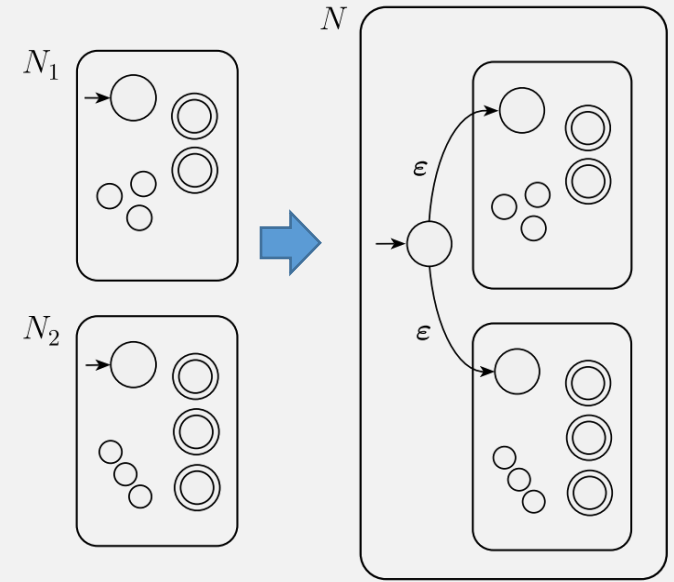
## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$ .

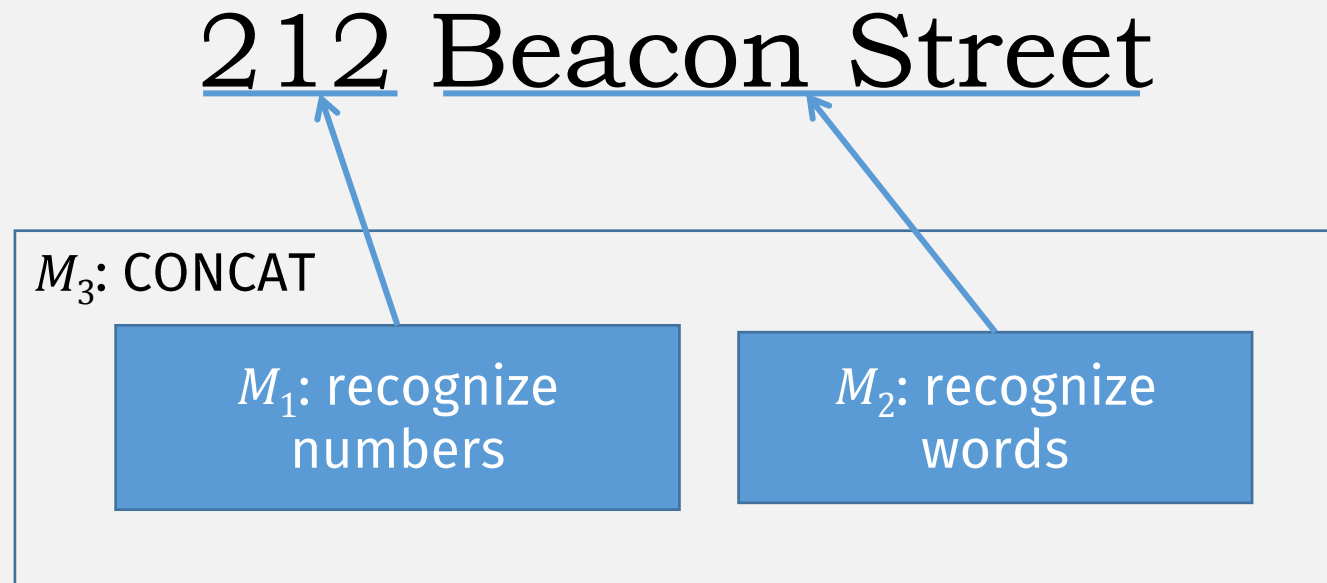
1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1 \cup Q_2$ .
2. The state  $q_0$  is the start state of  $N$ .
3. The set of accept states  $F = F_1 \cup F_2$ .
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{cases}$$



# Another operation: Concatenation

- Example: Matching street addresses



**Concatenation:**  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$

# Concatenation Example

Let the alphabet  $\Sigma$  be the standard 26 letters  $\{a, b, \dots, z\}$ .

If  $A = \{\text{good, bad}\}$  and  $B = \{\text{boy, girl}\}$ , then

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

**Concatenation:**  $A \circ B = \{xy \mid x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\}$

# Concatenation is Closed

## THEOREM

The class of regular languages is closed under the concatenation operation.

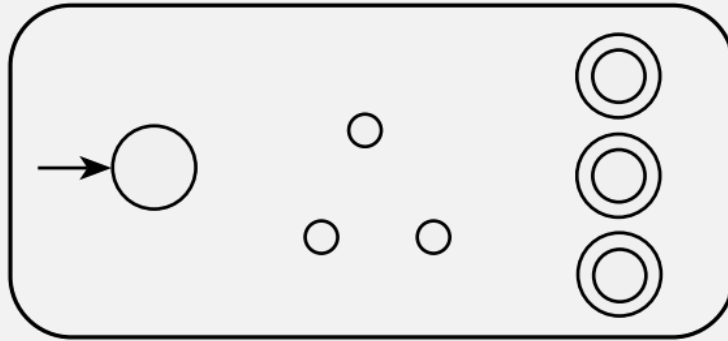
In other words, if  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are regular languages then so is  $A_1 \circ A_2$ .

*Proof:* Construct a new machine? (like union)

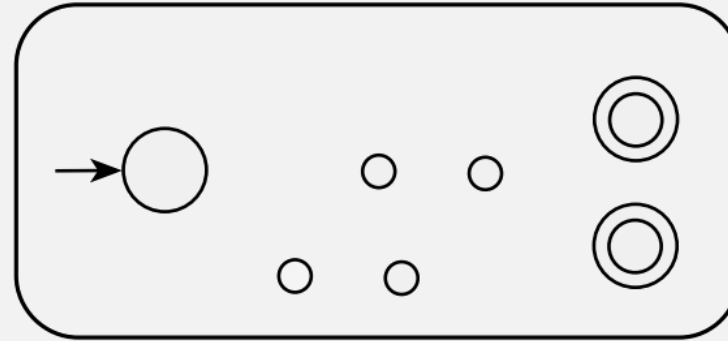
- How does it know when to switch from  $N_1$  to  $N_2$ ?
- Can only read input once

# Concatenation

$N_1$



$N_2$



Let  $N_1$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  $N_2$  recognize  $A_2$ .

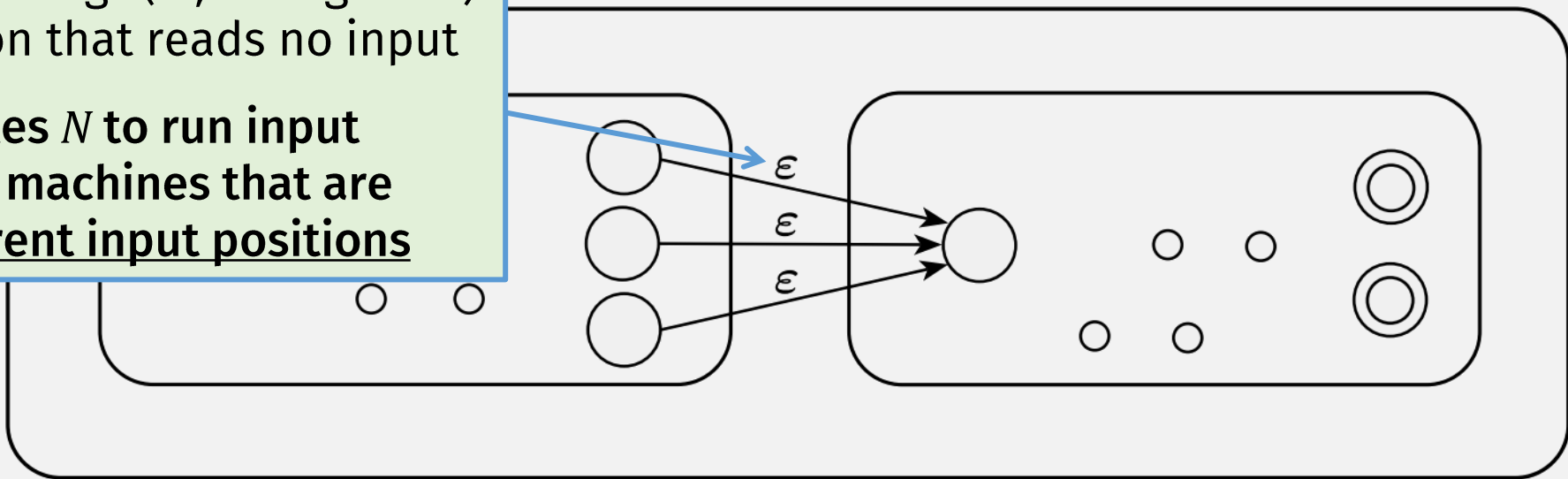
$N$  must simultaneously:

- Keep checking with  $N_1$  **and**
- Move to  $N_2$  to check 2<sup>nd</sup> part

Want: Construction of  $N$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

$\epsilon$  = "empty string" (ie, 0 length str)  
= transition that reads no input

**Enables  $N$  to run input on two machines that are at different input positions**



# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Languages

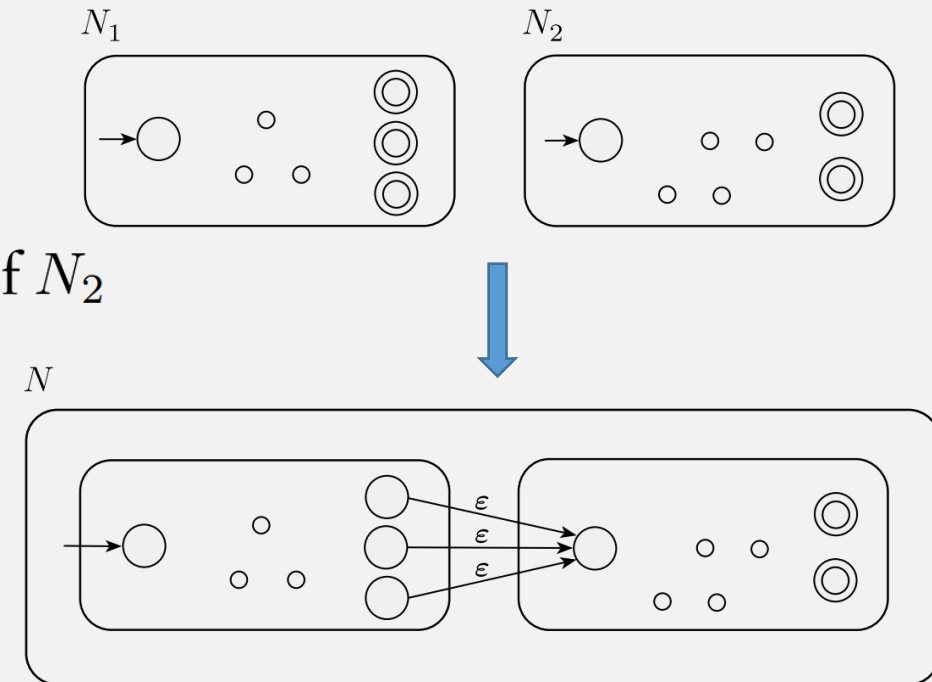
## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $N_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $N_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(q, a) & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \delta_1(q, a) & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ \delta_1(q, a) \cup \{q_2\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \delta_2(q, a) & q \in Q_2. \end{cases}$$





# Concatenation is Closed for Regular Languages

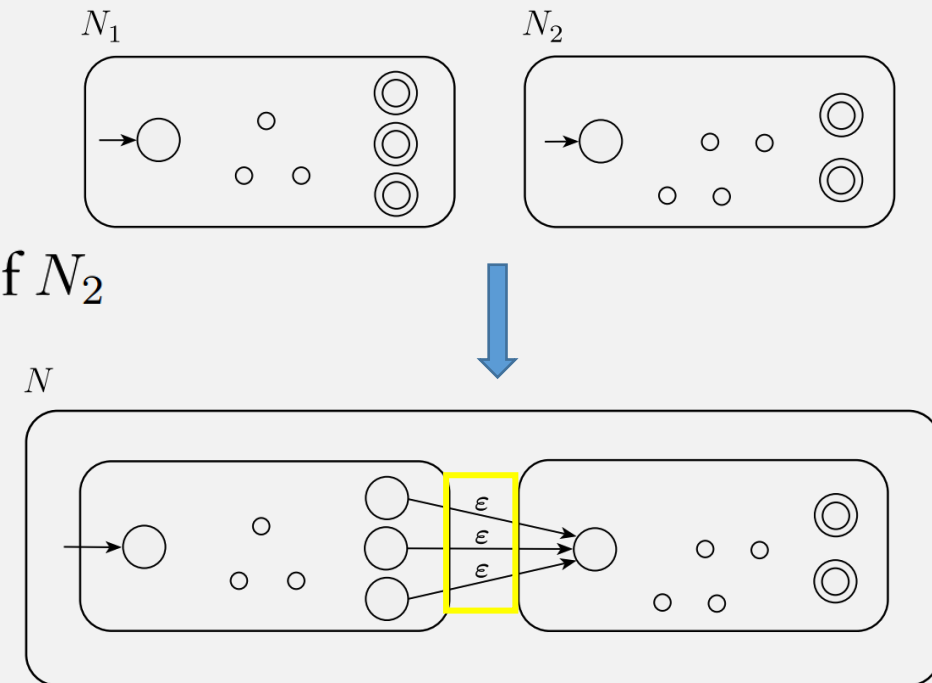
## PROOF

Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ , and  
 $N_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  recognize  $A_2$ .

Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_1, F_2)$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

1.  $Q = Q_1 \cup Q_2$
2. The state  $q_1$  is the same as the start state of  $N_1$
3. The accept states  $F_2$  are the same as the accept states of  $N_2$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{cases} \quad \square$$



# (Kleene) Star Example

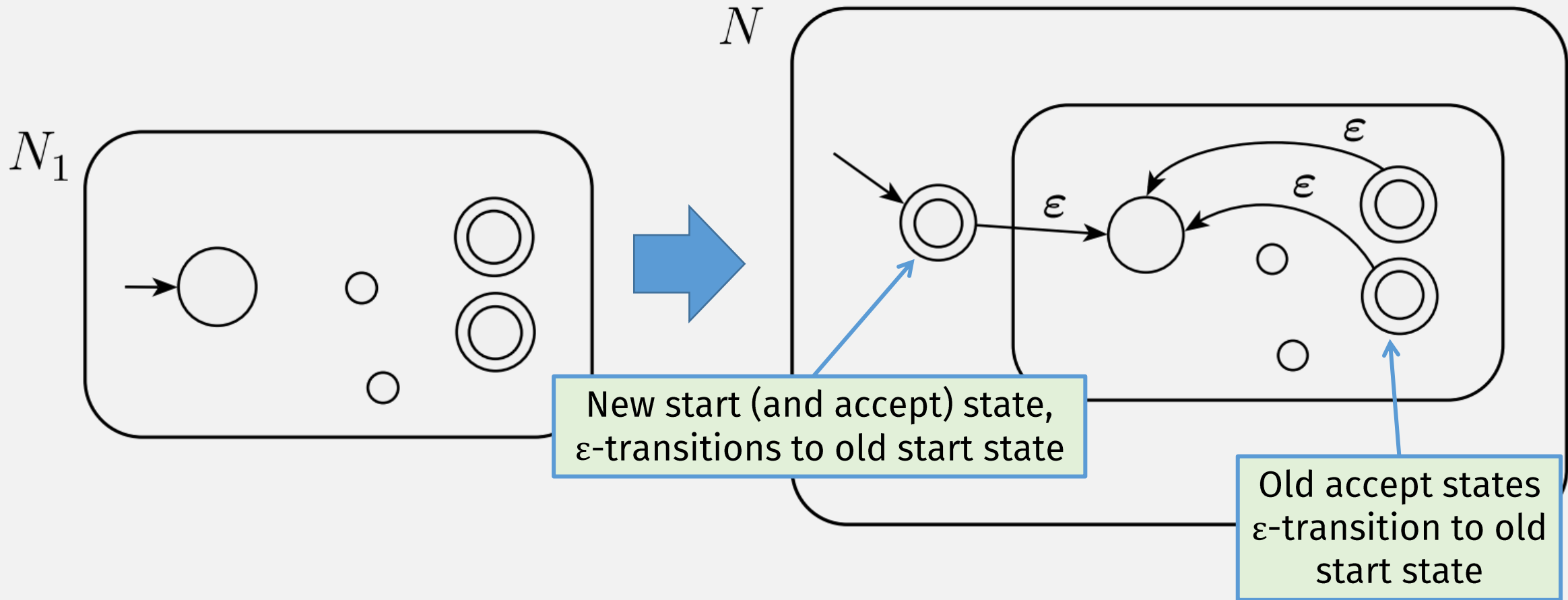
Let the alphabet  $\Sigma$  be the standard 26 letters  $\{a, b, \dots, z\}$ .

If  $A = \{\text{good, bad}\}$  and  $B = \{\text{boy, girl}\}$ , then

$$A^* = \{\epsilon, \text{good, bad, goodgood, goodbad, badgood, badbad, goodgoodgood, goodgoodbad, goodbadgood, goodbadbad, \dots}\}$$

(this is an infinite language)

# Kleene Star



# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

## **THEOREM**

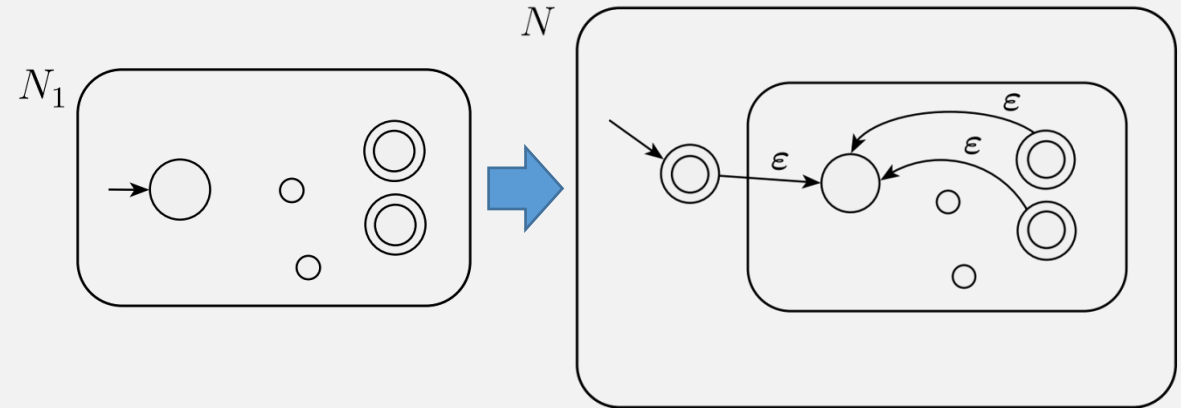
The class of regular languages is closed under the star operation.

# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Languages

**PROOF** Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ .  
Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ .

1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1$
2. The state  $q_0$  is the new start state.
3.  $F = \{q_0\} \cup F_1$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,

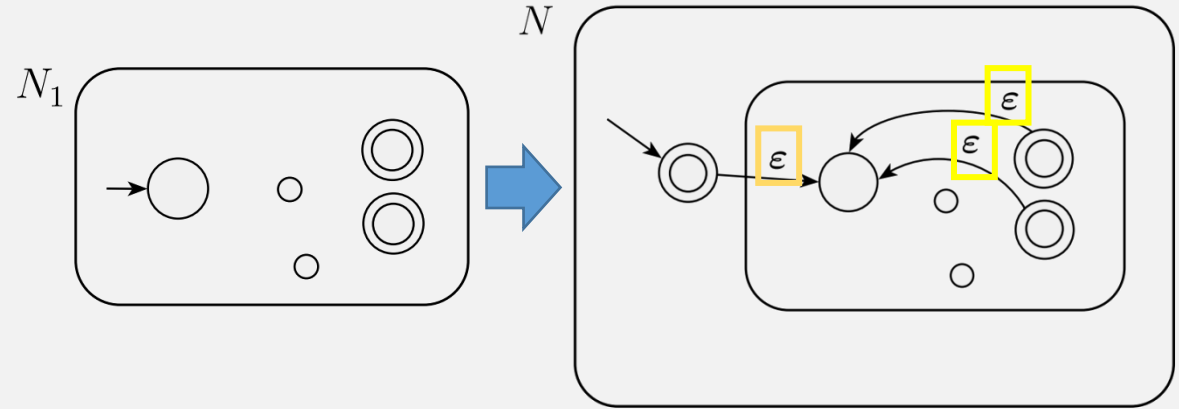
$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} \delta_1(q, a) & q \in Q_1 \text{ and } q \notin F_1 \\ \delta_1(q, a) & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon \\ \delta_1(q, a) \cup \{q_1\} & q \in F_1 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \{q_1\} & q = q_0 \text{ and } a = \epsilon \\ \emptyset & q = q_0 \text{ and } a \neq \epsilon. \end{cases}$$



# Kleene Star is Closed for Regular Langs

**PROOF** Let  $N_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  recognize  $A_1$ .  
Construct  $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  to recognize  $A_1^*$ .

1.  $Q = \{q_0\} \cup Q_1$
2. The state  $q_0$  is the new start state.
3.  $F = \{q_0\} \cup F_1$
4. Define  $\delta$  so that for any  $q \in Q$  and any  $a \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ ,



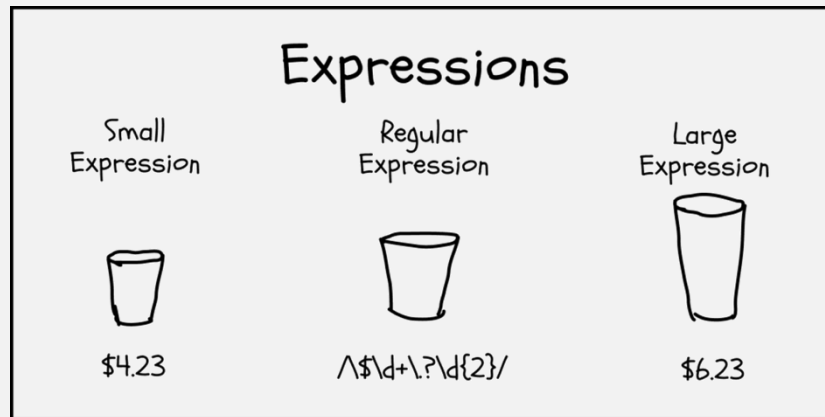
$$\delta(q, a) = \begin{cases} ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \\ ? \end{cases} \quad \begin{matrix} \boxed{\phantom{a}} \\ \boxed{\phantom{a}} \end{matrix}$$

Kleene star of a language must accept the empty string!

# Many More Closed Operations on Regular Languages!

- Complement
- Intersection
- Difference
- Reversal
- Homomorphism
- (See HW2)

# *Next Time:* Regular Expressions





# **In-class quiz 9/20**

See Gradescope