

# BBM401-Lecture 2: DFA's and Closure Properties

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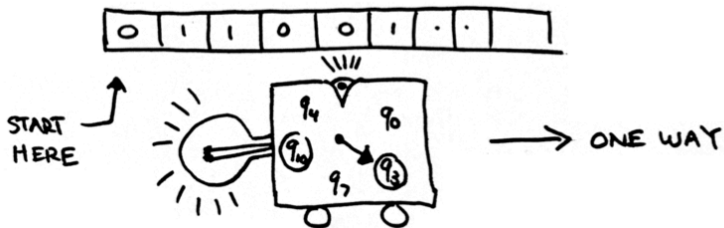
Resources for the presentation:

<http://ocw.mit.edu/courses/electrical-engineering-and-computer-science/6-045j-automata-computability-and-complexity-spring-2011/Syllabus/>  
<https://courses.engr.illinois.edu/cs498374/lectures.html>

## *DFAs* (also called *FSMs*)

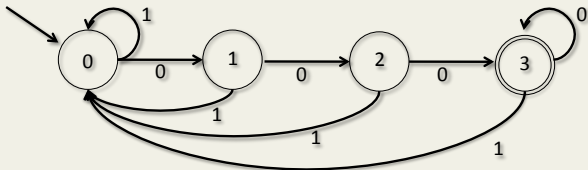
- A simple(st?) model of what a computer is
- Many devices modeled, programmed as DFAs
  - Vending machines
  - Elevators
  - Digital watch logic
  - Calculators
  - Lexical analysis part of program compilation
- Very limited, but observable universe is finite...

## Typical DFA



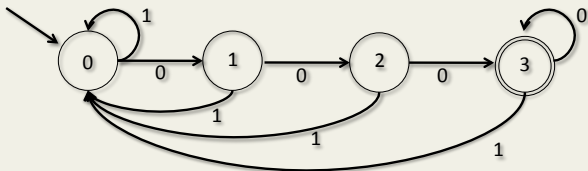
- Start state  $q_0$
- Start at left, scan symbol, change state, move right.
- Rules of form “if in state  $q$  scanning symbol  $s$  then go to state  $p$  and move right.”
- Some states (circled) are *accepting*.
- $M$  *accepts* the input string if a circled state is reached after scanning the last symbol.

## Graphical Representation



- Directed graph with edges labeled with chars in  $\Sigma$
- For each state (vertex)  $q$  and symbol  $a$  in  $\Sigma$  there is *exactly* one edge leaving  $q$  labeled with  $a$ .  $q \xrightarrow{a} p$
- Accepting state(s) are double-circled
- Initial state has pointer, or is obviously labeled (0,  $q_0$ , "start"...)

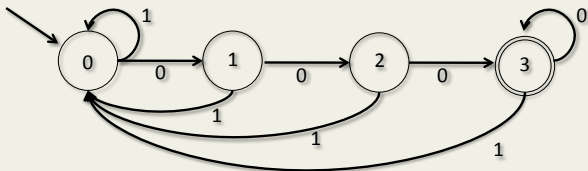
## Graphical Representation



- Where does 001 lead? 10010?
- Which strings end up in accepting state?
- Prove it
- *Every string* has *one path* that it follows

$$q \xrightarrow{a} p \text{ versus } q \xrightarrow{w} p$$

## Graphical Representation



### Definition

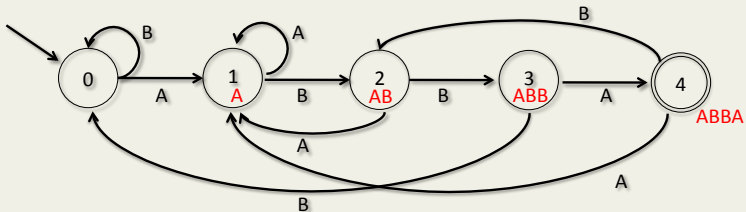
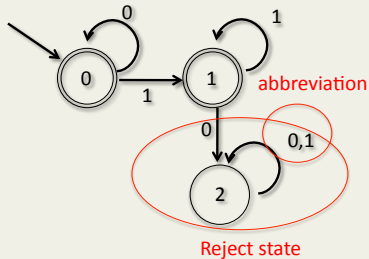
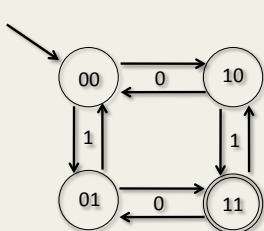
- A DFA  $M$  *accepts a string*  $w$  iff the unique path starting at the initial state and spelling out  $w$  ends at an accepting state.
- The *language accepted* (or “recognized”) by a DFA  $M$  is denoted  $L(M)$  and defined by

$$L(M) = \{ w \mid M \text{ accepts } w \}$$

## *Warning*

- “ $M$  accepts language  $L$ ” **does not mean** simply that  $M$  accepts each string in  $L$ .
- “ $M$  accepts language  $L$ ” **means**  
 **$M$  accepts each string in  $L$  and no others!**
- $M$  “recognizes”  $L$  is a better term, but “accepts” is widely accepted (and recognized).

## Examples: What is $L(M)$ ?



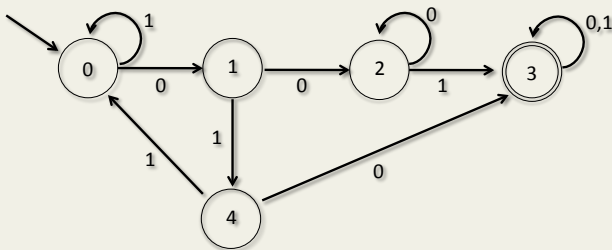


## *State = Memory*

- The state of a DFA is its entire memory of what has come before
- The state must capture enough information to complete the computation on the suffix to come
- When designing a DFA, think “what do I need to know at this moment?” *That* is your state.

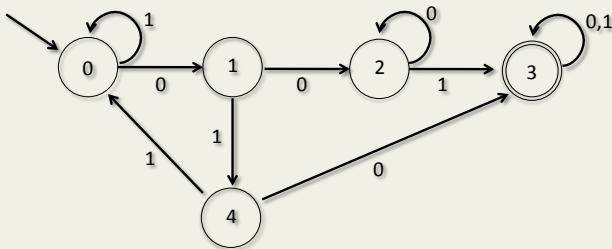
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$



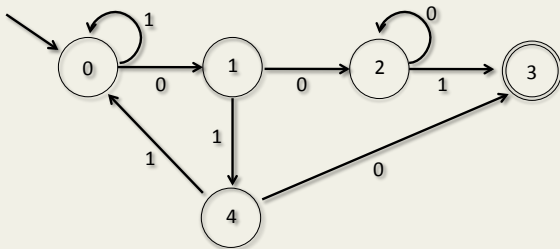
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$



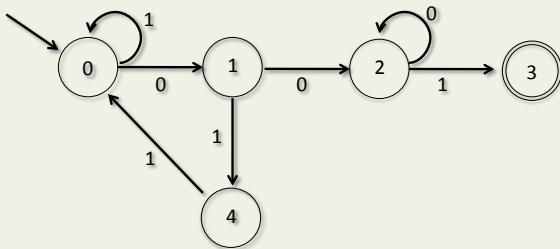
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$   
*ends with*



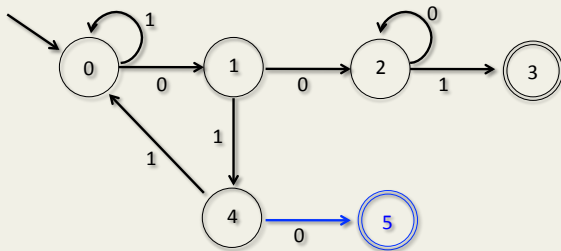
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$



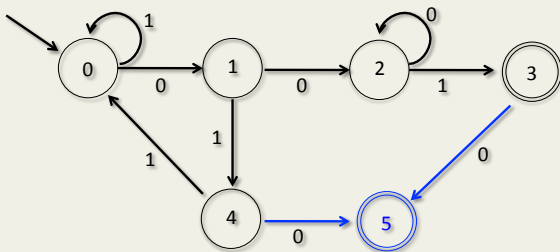
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$



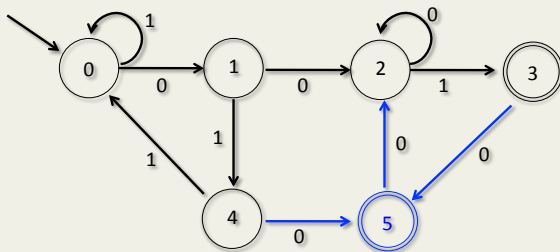
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$  ends with



## Construction Challenge

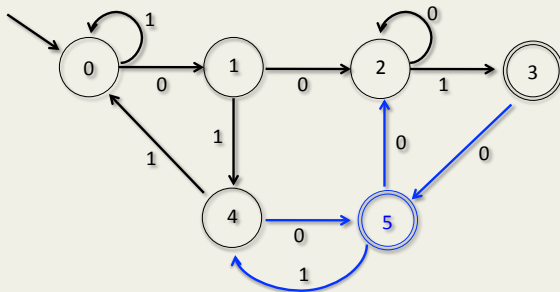
- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ ends with } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$





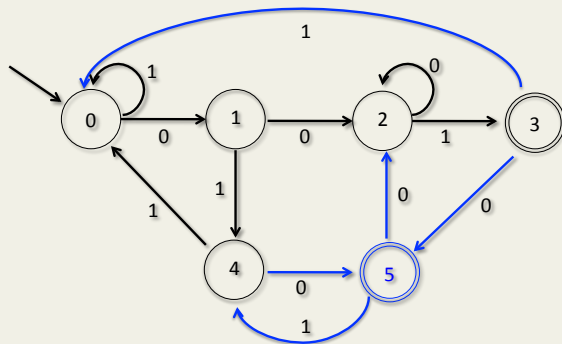
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ ends with } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$



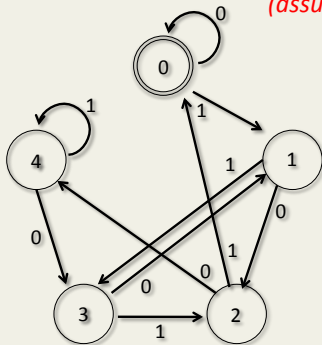
## Construction Challenge

- $L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 001 \text{ or } 010\}$    
 *ends with*



## Binary #s congruent to 0 mod 5

(assume no leading 0s)



### Key Idea

If  $w \bmod 5 = a$ , then:

- $w0 \bmod 5 = 2a \bmod 5$
- $w1 \bmod 5 = 2a+1 \bmod 5$

Test:  $1101011 = 107 = 2 \bmod 5$

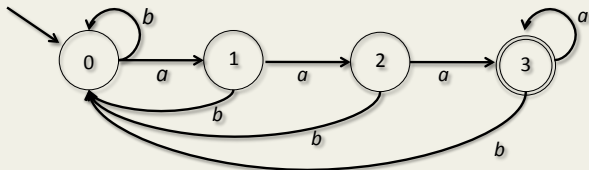
## *Formal (tuple) Representation*

Sometimes, it is easier to specify the DFA using this formalism, instead of drawing a graph

A DFA is a quintuple  $M=(Q,\Sigma,\delta,q_0,F)$ , where:

- $Q$  is a finite set of *states*
- $\Sigma$  is a finite *alphabet* of symbols
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is a *transition function*
- $q_0$  is the *initial state*
- $F \subseteq Q$  is the set of *accepting states*

## Example



- $Q = \{0,1,2,3\}$
- $\Sigma = \{a,b\}$
- $\delta$  specified at right
- $q_0 = 0$
- $F = \{3\}$

input \ state	a	b
0	1	0
1	2	0
2	3	0
3	3	0

## Extending $\delta$

- $\delta(q, a) = p$  means in graph that  $q \xrightarrow{a} p$
- But how can we define  $\delta(q, w)$  to express  $q \xrightarrow{w} p$
- Must extend  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$

–  $\delta(q, \epsilon) = q$  for every  $q$ ;  $\delta(q, a)$  already defined

–  $\delta(q, au) = \delta(\delta(q, a), u)$  for  $|u| \geq 1$ , all  $q, a$



take first step according to  $\delta$



take rest of steps inductively according to  $\delta$

$\delta(q, w) = p$  corresponds to  $q \xrightarrow{w} p$

## *Formal definition of $L(M)$*

Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a DFA

Then  $L(M) = \{w \mid \delta(q_0, w) \in F\}$

We will show later that:

### *Theorem*

*$L$  is regular if and only if  $L = L(M)$  for some DFA  $M$*

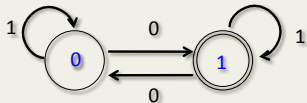
## *Example use*

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ in base } b \text{ is congruent to } k \text{ mod } m$

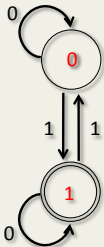
- $Q = \{0, 1, \dots, m-1\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, \dots, b-1\}$
- $q_0 = 0$
- $\delta(n, a) = bn+a \text{ mod } m$
- $F = \{k\}$



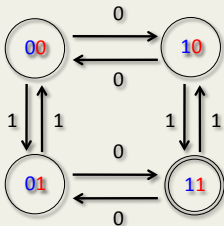
# *M* simulating both $M_1$ and $M_2$



$M_1$  accepts #0 = odd



$M_2$  accepts #1 = odd



*Cross-product machine*

$M$  accepting  $L(M_1) \cap L(M_2)$

$$Q = Q_1 \times Q_2$$

$$q_0 = (q_0^{(1)}, q_0^{(2)})$$

$$F = F_1 \times F_2 = \{ (q_1, q_2) \mid q_1 \text{ in } F_1 \text{ and } q_2 \text{ in } F_2 \}$$

Transition function:

$$\delta((q_1, q_2), a) = (\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a))$$

$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{a} (p_1, p_2)$  if and only if

- $q_1 \xrightarrow{a}_1 p_1$  in  $M_1$
- $q_2 \xrightarrow{a}_2 p_2$  in  $M_2$

## Proof that simulation is correct

- Induction *on what?* that *what?*
- Will need to prove that action of machine is correct starting from any states.
- We know that:

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{a} (p_1, p_2) \text{ iff}$$

- $q_1 \xrightarrow{a}_1 p_1$  in  $M_1$
- $q_2 \xrightarrow{a}_2 p_2$  in  $M_2$

By definition

Show that:

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{w} (p_1, p_2) \text{ iff}$$

- $q_1 \xrightarrow{w}_1 p_1$  in  $M_1$
- $q_2 \xrightarrow{w}_2 p_2$  in  $M_2$

Just like definition of  $\delta$ ,  
but with  $w$  instead of  $a$

DEF for M:

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{a} (p_1, p_2)$$

means

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{a}_1 p_1 \text{ and } q_2 \xrightarrow{a}_2 p_2$$

BY INDUCTION  
on  $|w|$

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{w} (p_1, p_2)$$

iff

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{w}_1 p_1 \text{ and } q_2 \xrightarrow{w}_2 p_2$$

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow[a]{u} (p_1, p_2)$$

$(r_1, r_2)$

pull apart the computation

$$(q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{a} (r_1, r_2)$$

apply definition

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{a}_1 r_1 \text{ and } q_2 \xrightarrow{a}_2 r_2$$

$$(r_1, r_2) \xrightarrow{u} (p_1, p_2)$$

apply inductive hypothesis since  $|u| < |w|$

$$r_1 \xrightarrow{u}_1 p_1 \text{ and } r_2 \xrightarrow{u}_2 p_2$$

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{w}_1 p_1$$

paste the computations back together

$$q_2 \xrightarrow{w}_2 p_2$$

## Finishing up...

- We proved:

$$\begin{array}{c} (q_1, q_2) \xrightarrow{w} (p_1, p_2) \\ \text{iff} \\ q_1 \xrightarrow{w} p_1 \text{ and } q_2 \xrightarrow{w} p_2 \end{array}$$

By definition,  $w$  accepted by  $M$

$$\text{iff } (q_0^{(1)} q_0^{(2)}) \xrightarrow{w} (f_1, f_2) \text{ in } F_1 \times F_2$$

$$\text{iff } q_0^{(1)} \xrightarrow{w} f_1 \text{ in } F_1 \text{ AND } q_0^{(2)} \xrightarrow{w} f_2 \text{ in } F_2$$

$$\text{iff } w \text{ in } L(M_1) \text{ AND } w \text{ in } L(M_2)$$

## Formal proof that simulation is correct

- We know *by definition* that:
  - for all  $q_1$  in  $Q_1$ , for all  $q_2$  in  $Q_2$
  - for all characters  $a$

$$\delta((q_1, q_2), a) = (\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a))$$

- We prove by induction on  $|w|$  that:
  - for all  $q_1$  in  $Q_1$ , for all  $q_2$  in  $Q_2$
  - for all strings  $w$

$$\delta((q_1, q_2), w) = (\delta_1(q_1, w), \delta_2(q_2, w))$$

Looks just like definition of  $\delta$ , but with  $w$  instead of  $a$

To prove:  $\delta((q_1, q_2), w) = (\delta_1(q_1, w), \delta_2(q_2, w))$

Induction on  $|w|$

- Base Case:  $|w| = 0$ , so  $w = \epsilon$ .

$$\delta((q_1, q_2), \epsilon) = (q_1, q_2) = (\delta_1(q_1, \epsilon), \delta_2(q_2, \epsilon))$$

- Assume true for strings  $u$  of length  $< n$ .
- Let  $w = au$  be an arbitrary string of length  $n$ .

- $\delta((q_1, q_2), au)$

$$= \delta(\delta((q_1, q_2), a), u)$$

defn of  $\delta$  extension

$$= \delta((\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a)), u)$$

by defn of  $\delta$

$$= \delta((r_1, r_2), u)$$

define  $r$ 's to simplify

$$= (\delta_1(r_1, u), \delta_2(r_2, u))$$

by induction ( $|u| < n$ )

$$= (\delta_1(\delta_1(q_1, a), u), \delta_2(\delta_2(q_2, a), u))$$

get rid of  $r$ 's

$$= (\delta_1(q_1, au), \delta_2(q_2, au))$$

unsplitting

$$= (\delta_1(q_1, w), \delta_2(q_2, w))$$

## *Properties of Regular languages*

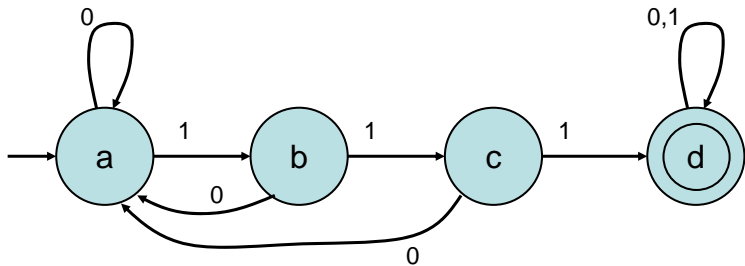
- We've shown how to accept intersection of two regular languages
- What about union?
- If  $L$  is accepted by a DFA, what about  $\bar{L}$  ?
- What about concatenation, and Kleene \* ?
- Is there a DFA for  $L_1 - L_2$  given  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  ?

The answer to all of these questions, and more, is "Yes."

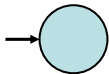


# Example 1

- An FA diagram, machine M



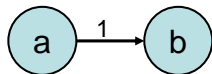
- Conventions:



Start state

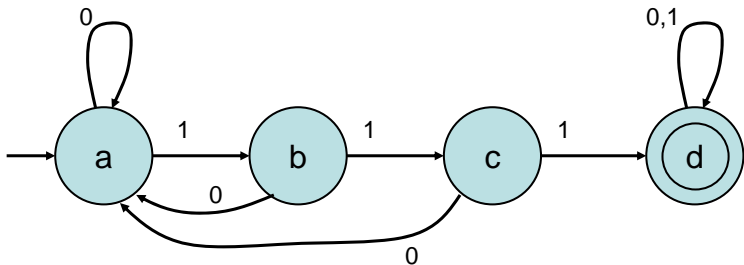


Accept state



Transition from a to b on  
input symbol 1.  
Allow self-loops

# Example 1



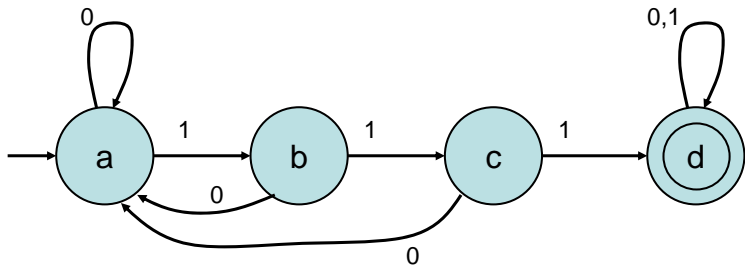
- **Example computation:**

- Input word  $w$ : 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 1 0

- States: a b a b c a b c d d

- We say that **M accepts  $w$** , since  $w$  leads to  $d$ , an accepting state.

# Example 1



- What is  $L(M)$  for Example 1?
- $\{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ contains } 111 \text{ as a substring} \}$
- Note: Substring refers to consecutive symbols.

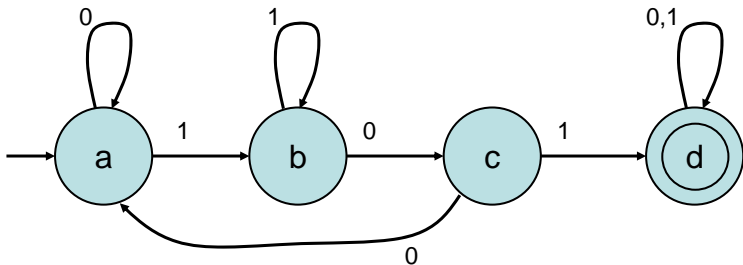
# Example 1

- What is the 5-tuple  $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ ?
- $Q = \{ a, b, c, d \}$
- $\Sigma = \{ 0, 1 \}$
- $\delta$  is given by the state diagram, or alternatively, by a table:
- $q_0 = a$
- $F = \{ d \}$

	0	1
a	a	b
b	a	c
c	a	d
d	d	d

## Example 2

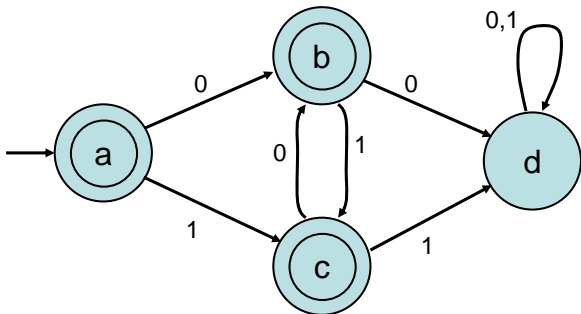
- Design an FA  $M$  with  $L(M) = \{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ contains } 101 \text{ as a substring} \}$ .



- Failure from state  $b$  causes the machine to remain in state  $b$ .

# Example 3

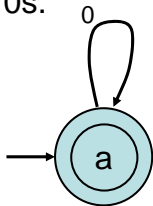
- $L = \{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ doesn't contain either } 00 \text{ or } 11 \text{ as a substring} \}$ .



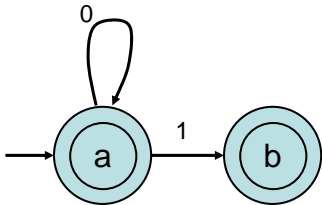
- State d is a **trap state** = a nonaccepting state that you can't leave.
- Sometimes we'll omit some arrows; by convention, they go to a trap state.

# Example 4

- $L = \{ w \mid \text{all nonempty blocks of 1s in } w \text{ have odd length} \}$ .
- E.g.,  $\epsilon$ , or 100111000011111, or any number of 0s.
- Initial 0s don't matter, so start with:



- Then 1 also leads to an accepting state, but it should be a different one, to “remember” that the string ends in one 1.

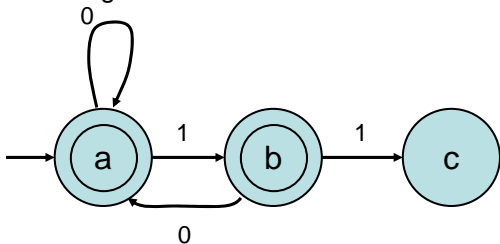
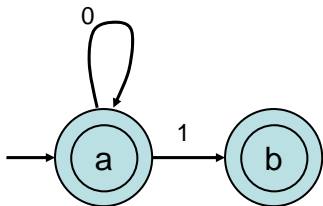


# Example 4

- $L = \{ w \mid \text{all nonempty blocks of 1s in } w \text{ have odd length} \}$ .

- From b:

- 0 can return to a, which can represent either  $\epsilon$ , or any string that is OK so far and ends with 0.
- 1 should go to a new **nonaccepting state**, meaning “the string ends with two 1s”.

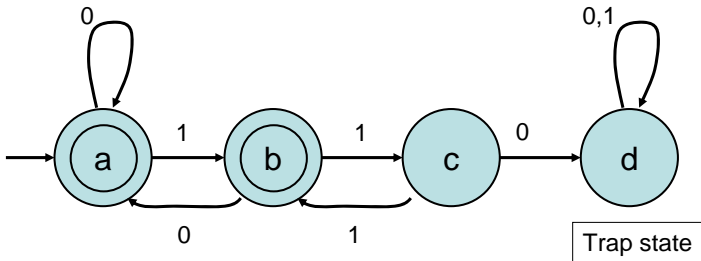


- Note: c isn't a trap state---we can accept some extensions.



# Example 4

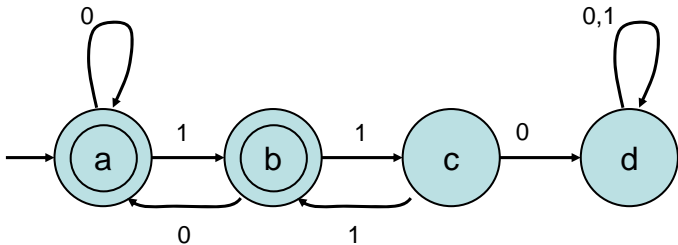
- $L = \{ w \mid \text{all nonempty blocks of 1s in } w \text{ have odd length} \}$ .



- From c:
  - 1 can lead back to b, since future acceptance decisions are the same if the string so far ends with any odd number of 1s.
    - Reinterpret b as meaning “ends with an odd number of 1s”.
    - Reinterpret c as “ends with an even number of 1s”.
  - 0 means we must reject the current string and all extensions.

# Example 4

- $L = \{ w \mid \text{all nonempty blocks of 1s in } w \text{ have odd length} \}$ .



- Meanings of states (more precisely):
  - a: Either  $\epsilon$ , or contains no **bad block** (even block of 1s followed by 0) so far and ends with 0.
  - b: No bad block so far, and ends with odd number of 1s.
  - c: No bad block so far, and ends with even number of 1s.
  - d: Contains a bad block.

# Example 5

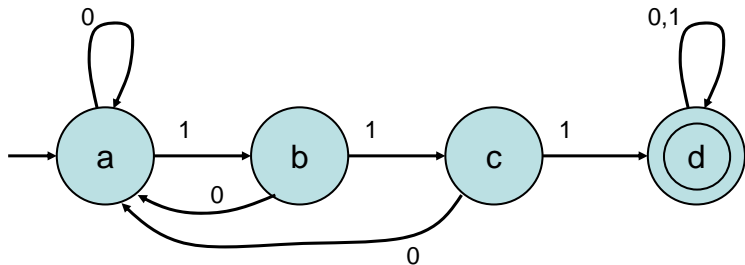
- $L = EQ = \{ w \mid w \text{ contains an equal number of 0s and 1s} \}$ .
- No FA recognizes this language.
- Idea (not a proof):
  - Machine must “remember” how many 0s and 1s it has seen, or at least the difference between these numbers.
  - Since these numbers (and the difference) could be anything, there can't be enough states to keep track.
  - So the machine will sometimes get confused and give a wrong answer.
- We'll turn this into an actual proof next week.

# Closure under operations

- The set of FA-recognizable languages is closed under all six operations (union, intersection, complement, set difference, concatenation, star).
- This means: If we start with FA-recognizable languages and apply any of these operations, we get another FA-recognizable language (for a different FA).
- **Theorem 1:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under complement.
- **Proof:**
  - Start with a language  $L_1$  over alphabet  $\Sigma$ , recognized by some FA,  $M_1$ .
  - Produce another FA,  $M_2$ , with  $L(M_2) = \Sigma^* - L(M_1)$ .
  - Just interchange accepting and non-accepting states.

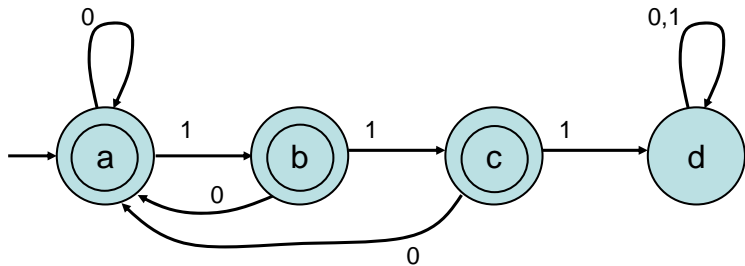
# Closure under complement

- **Theorem 1:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under complement.
- **Proof:** Interchange accepting and non-accepting states.
- **Example:** FA for  $\{ w \mid w \text{ does not contain } 111 \}$ 
  - Start with FA for  $\{ w \mid w \text{ contains } 111 \}$ :



# Closure under complement

- **Theorem 1:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under complement.
- **Proof:** Interchange accepting and non-accepting states.
- **Example:** FA for  $\{ w \mid w \text{ does not contain } 111 \}$ 
  - Interchange accepting and non-accepting states:



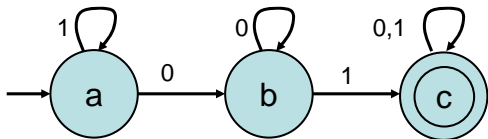
# Closure under intersection

- **Theorem 2:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under intersection.
- **Proof:**
  - Start with FAs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  for the same alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
  - Get another FA,  $M_3$ , with  $L(M_3) = L(M_1) \cap L(M_2)$ .
  - Idea: Run  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  “in parallel” on the same input. If both reach accepting states, accept.
  - Example:
    - $L(M_1)$ : Contains substring 01.
    - $L(M_2)$ : Odd number of 1s.
    - $L(M_3)$ : Contains 01 and has an odd number of 1s.

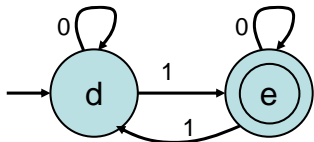
# Closure under intersection

- Example:

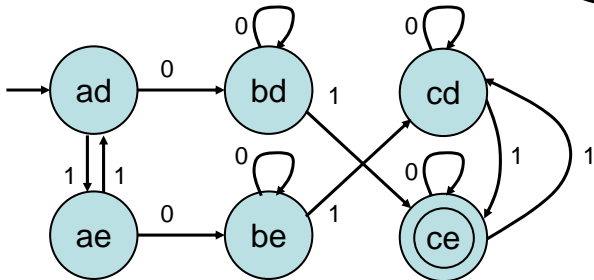
$M_1$ : Substring 01



$M_2$ : Odd number of 1s



$M_3$ :





# Closure under intersection, general rule

- Assume:
  - $M_1 = ( Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_{01}, F_1 )$
  - $M_2 = ( Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_{02}, F_2 )$
- Define  $M_3 = ( Q_3, \Sigma, \delta_3, q_{03}, F_3 )$ , where
  - $Q_3 = Q_1 \times Q_2$ 
    - Cartesian product,  $\{(q_1, q_2) \mid q_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } q_2 \in Q_2\}$
  - $\delta_3((q_1, q_2), a) = (\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a))$
  - $q_{03} = (q_{01}, q_{02})$
  - $F_3 = F_1 \times F_2 = \{(q_1, q_2) \mid q_1 \in F_1 \text{ and } q_2 \in F_2\}$

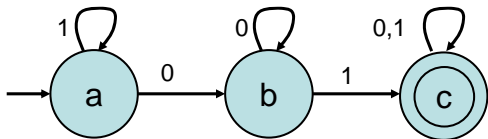
# Closure under union

- **Theorem 3:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under union.
- **Proof:**
  - Similar to intersection.
  - Start with FAs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  for the same alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
  - Get another FA,  $M_3$ , with  $L(M_3) = L(M_1) \cup L(M_2)$ .
  - Idea: Run  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  “in parallel” on the same input. If **either reaches an accepting state**, accept.
  - Example:
    - $L(M_1)$ : Contains substring 01.
    - $L(M_2)$ : Odd number of 1s.
    - $L(M_3)$ : Contains 01 **or** has an odd number of 1s.

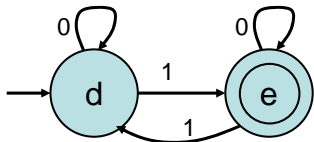
# Closure under union

- Example:

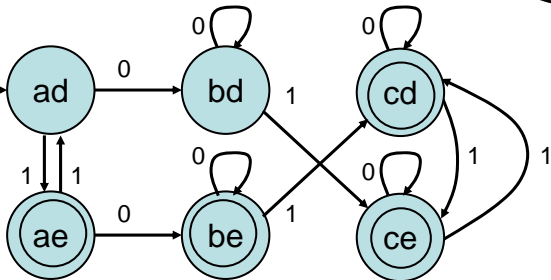
$M_1$ : Substring 01



$M_2$ : Odd number of 1s



$M_3$ : 1



# Closure under union, general rule

- Assume:
  - $M_1 = ( Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_{01}, F_1 )$
  - $M_2 = ( Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_{02}, F_2 )$
- Define  $M_3 = ( Q_3, \Sigma, \delta_3, q_{03}, F_3 )$ , where
  - $Q_3 = Q_1 \times Q_2$ 
    - Cartesian product,  $\{(q_1, q_2) \mid q_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } q_2 \in Q_2\}$
  - $\delta_3((q_1, q_2), a) = (\delta_1(q_1, a), \delta_2(q_2, a))$
  - $q_{03} = (q_{01}, q_{02})$
  - $F_3 = \{ (q_1, q_2) \mid q_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } q_2 \in F_2 \}$

# Closure under set difference

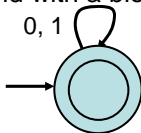
- **Theorem 4:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under set difference.
- **Proof:**
  - Similar proof to those for union and intersection.
  - Alternatively, since  $L_1 - L_2$  is the same as  $L_1 \cap (L_2)^c$ , we can just apply Theorems 2 and 3.

# Closure under concatenation

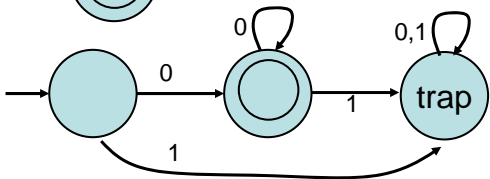
- **Theorem 5:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under concatenation.
- **Proof:**
  - Start with FAs  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  for the same alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
  - Get another FA,  $M_3$ , with  $L(M_3) = L(M_1) \circ L(M_2)$ , which is  $\{ x_1 x_2 \mid x_1 \in L(M_1) \text{ and } x_2 \in L(M_2) \}$
  - Idea: ???
    - Attach accepting states of  $M_1$  somehow to the start state of  $M_2$ .
    - But we have to be careful, since we don't know when we're done with the part of the string in  $L(M_1)$ ---the string could go through accepting states of  $M_1$  several times.

# Closure under concatenation

- **Theorem 5:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under concatenation.
- **Example:**
  - $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ,  $L_1 = \Sigma^*$ ,  $L_2 = \{0\}^+$  (just 0s, at least one).
  - $L_1 L_2 =$  strings that end with a block of at least one 0
  - $M_1$ :



- $M_2$ :



- How to combine?
- We seem to need to “guess” when to shift to  $M_2$ .
- Leads to our next model, NFAs, which are FAs that can guess.

# Closure under star

- **Theorem 6:** FA-recognizable languages are closed under star.
- **Proof:**
  - Start with FA  $M_1$ .
  - Get another FA,  $M_2$ , with  $L(M_2) = L(M_1)^*$ .
  - Same problems as for concatenation---need guessing.
  - ...
  - We'll define NFAs next, then return to complete the proofs of Theorems 5 and 6.