

## Chapter-3 : Regular Languages and Regular Grammars

3.1 Regular Expressions.

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### 3.1 Regular Expressions:

The language accepted by finite automata are easily described by simple expressions called **regular** expressions.

The regular expression is the most effective way to represent any language.

#### Problems:

- 1) Write the regular expression for the language accepting all combinations of a's over the set  $\Sigma = \{a\}$

*Solution :* All combinations of a's means a may be single, double, tripple and so on. There may be the case that a is appearing for zero times, which means a null string. That is we expect the set of  $\{e, a, aa, aaa, \dots\}$ . So we can give regular expression for this as

$$R = a^*$$

That is kleen closure of a

- 2) Write the regular expression for the language accepting all combinations of a's except the null string over the set  $\Sigma = \{a\}$

*Solution :* The regular expression has to be built for the language

$$L = \{a, aa, aaa, \dots\}$$

This set indicates that there is no null string. So we can denote r.e. as

$$R = a^+$$

As we know, positive closure indicates the set of strings without a null string.

- 3) Design the regular expression for the language accepting all the strings containing any number of a's and b's over the set  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$

**Solution :** The regular expression will be

$$\text{r.e.} = (a + b)^*$$

This will give the set as  $L = \{\epsilon, a, aa, ab, b, ba, bab, abab, \dots\}$  any combination of  $a$  and  $b$  .

The  $(a + b)^*$  means any combination with  $a$  and  $b$  even a null string.

### 3.2 Applications of Regular Expression:

1. Text editors : Text editors are some programs which are used for processing the text. For example UNIX text editor uses the regular expression for substituting the strings, such as

$\$/bbb*/b/$

substitutes a single blank for the first string of two or more blanks found in a given line.

2. Lexical Analyzers: Compiler uses a lexical analyzer to scan the input program and separate out the tokens. For example, Identifier is a category of token in the source language and it can be identified by a regular expression as shown below.

$(\text{letter})(\text{letter}+\text{digit})^*$  where  $\text{letter} = \{A, B, \dots, Z, a, b, \dots, z\}$  and  $\text{digit} = \{0, 1, \dots, 9\}$

If anything in the source language matches with this regular expression then it is recognized as an identifier.

### 3.3 Connection between Regular Expressions and Regular Languages:

#### Regular Language:

The language accepted by some regular expression is known as a regular language-

For every regular language there is a regular expression, and for every regular expression there is a regular language

If  $r$  and  $s$  are two regular expressions denoting the Languages  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  respectively ,then

$r+s$  is equivalent to  $L_1 \cup L_2$  i.e union.

$r.s$  is equivalent to  $L_1 .L_2$  i.e concatenation.

$r^*$  is equivalent to  $L_1^*$  i.e closure.

#### Thoerm:

Let  $r$  be a regular expression, then there exists a NFA accepts the  $L(r)$ , consequently  $L(r)$  is a regular Language.

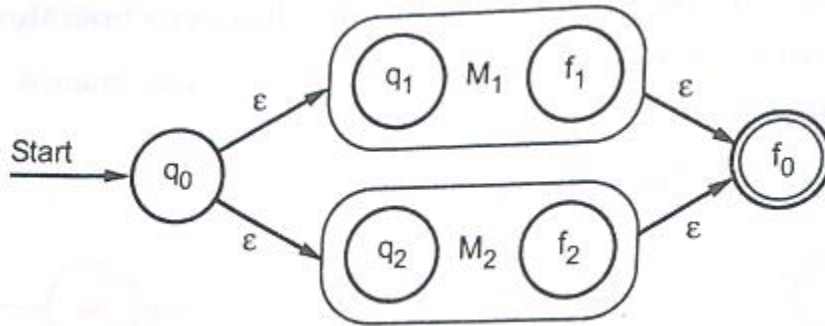
### Case 1 : Union case

Let  $r = r_1 + r_2$  where  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  be the regular expressions.

There exists two NFA's  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma_1, \delta_1, \{f_1\})$

and  $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma_2, \delta_2, \{f_2\})$

$L(M_1) = L(r_1)$  means the language states by regular expression  $r_1$  is same which is represented by  $M_1$ . Similarly  $L(M_2) = L(r_2)$ .



### Case 2 : Concatenation case

Let,  $r = r_1 r_2$  where  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  are two regular expressions. The  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  denotes the two machines such that  $L(M_1) = L(r_1)$  and  $L(M_2) = L(r_2)$ .

The construction of the NFA for the concatenation of two regular expressions is as follows:

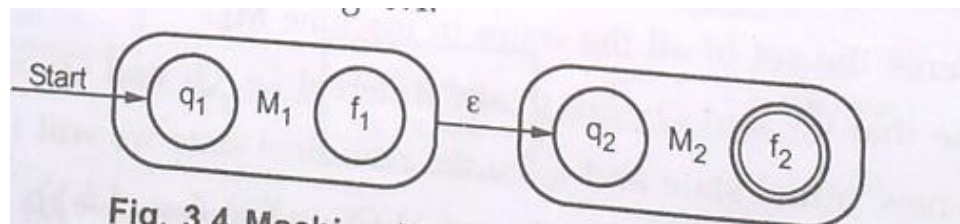
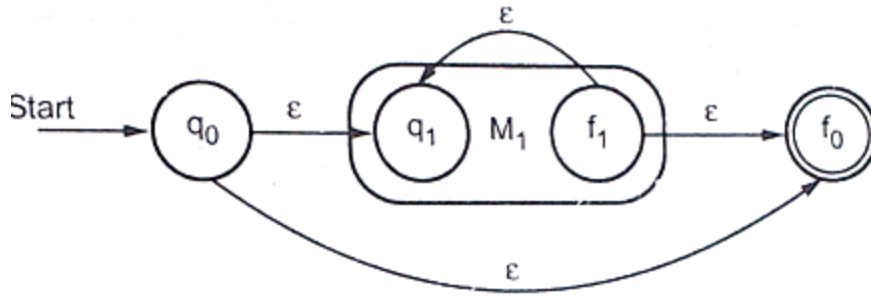


Fig. 3.4 Mochi

### Case 3 : Closure case

Let  $r = r_1^*$  where  $r_1$  be a regular expression.

The machine  $M_1$  is such that  $L(M_1) = L(r_1)$ .



**Problems:**

- 1), Construct NFA for the Regular Expression  $b+ba^*$ .

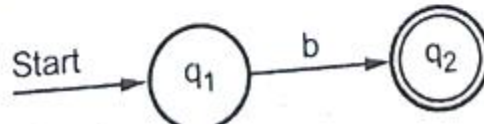
**Solution :** The regular expression

$r = b + ba^*$  can be broken into  $r_1$  and  $r_2$  as

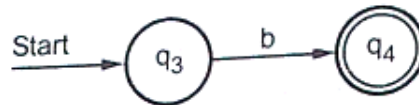
$$r_1 = b$$

$$r_2 = ba^*$$

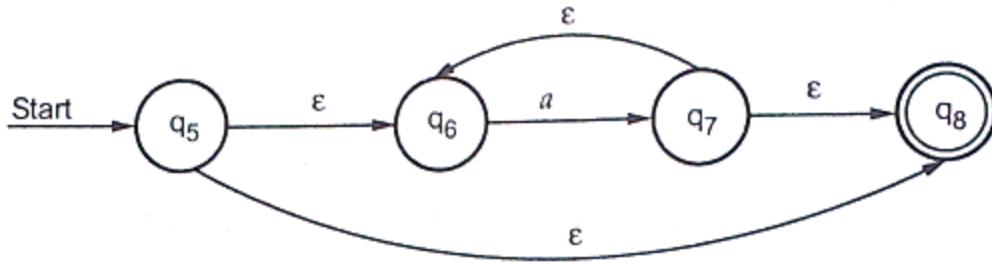
Let us draw the NFA for  $r_1$ , which is very simple.



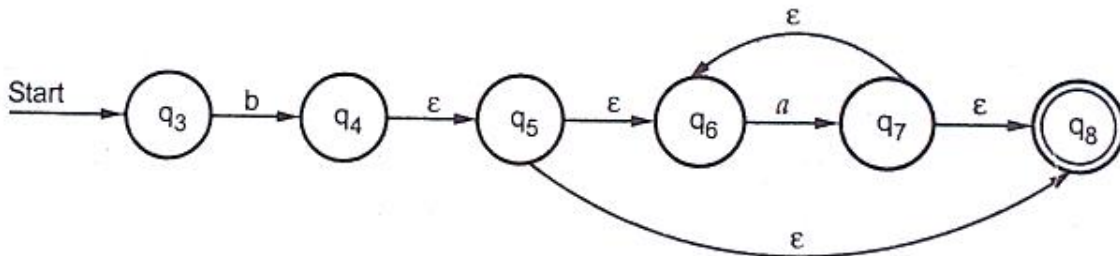
Now, we will go for  $r_2 = ba^*$ , this can be broken into  $r_3$  and  $r_4$  where  $r_3 = b$  and  $r_4 = a^*$ . Now the case for concatenation will be applied. The NFA will look like this  $r_3$  will be shown in Fig. 3.7.



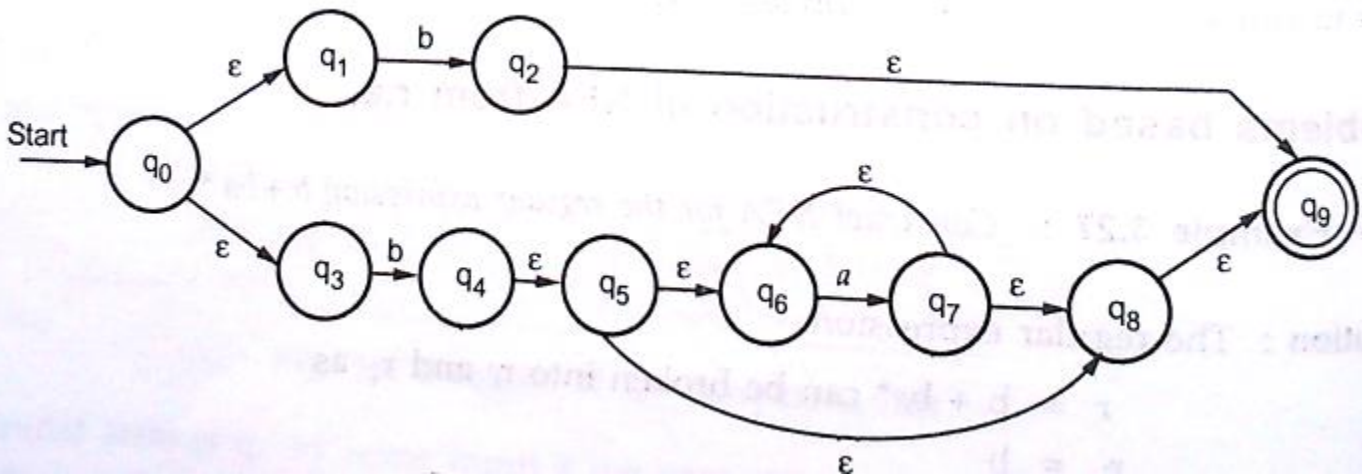
and  $r_4$  will be shown as



The  $r_2$  will be  $r_2 = r_3 \cdot r_4$



Now, we will draw NFA for  $r = r_1 + r_2$  i.e.  $b + ba^*$



2) Construct NFA with  $\epsilon$  moves for the regular expression  $(0+1)^*$ .

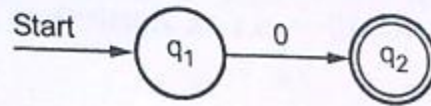
**Solution:**

$$r_3 = (r_1 + r_2)$$

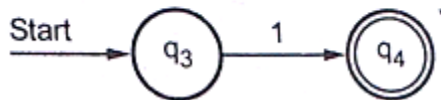
$$r = r_3^*$$

where  $r_1 = 0$ ,  $r_2 = 1$

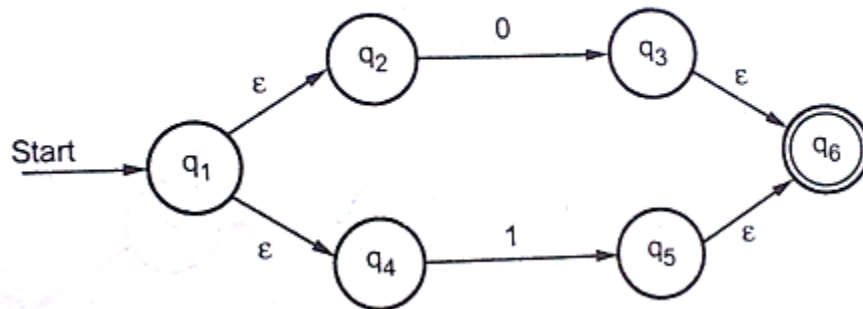
NFA for  $r_1$  will be



NFA for  $r_2$  will be

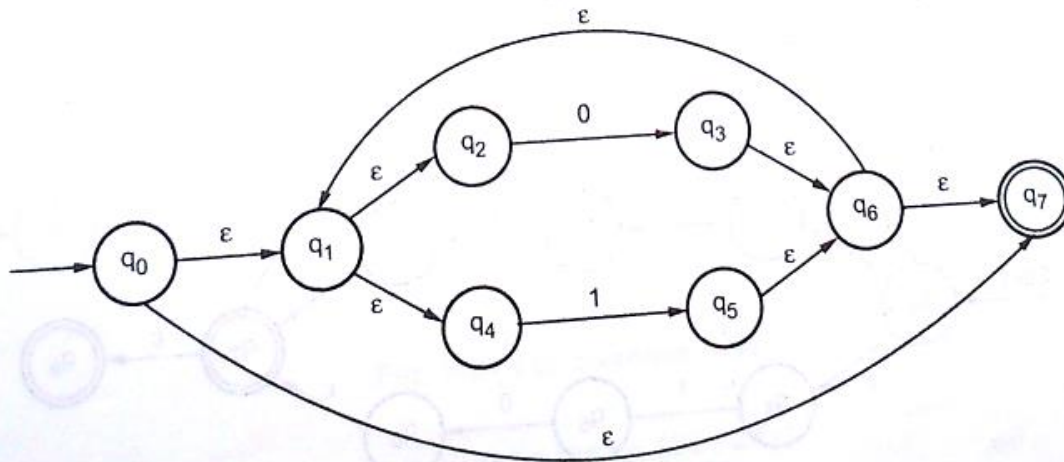


NFA for  $r_3$  will be





And finally



### 3.4 Regular Grammars :

A regular grammar is defined as  $G = (V, T, P, S)$  where

V is set of symbols called non terminals

T is a set of symbols called terminals.

P is a set of production rules.

S is a start symbol

The production rules P are of the form.

$$\begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow aB \\ A \rightarrow a \end{array}$$

Where A and B are non-terminal symbols and a is terminal symbol.

For example

Consider  $G = (V, T, P, S)$  with

$$V = \{S, A\}$$

$$T = \{0, 1\}$$

S is a start symbol and production rules are as given below -

$$S \rightarrow 0S$$

$$S \rightarrow 1B$$

$$B \rightarrow \epsilon$$

### Right-Linear and Left-Linear Grammar:

#### 3.4.1 Right-Linear Grammar:

If the non terminal symbol appears as a rightmost symbol in each production of regular grammar then it is called right linear grammar.

The right linear grammar is of following form

$$A \rightarrow aB$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

Where A and B are non-terminal symbols and a is a terminal symbol.



### 3.4.2 Left-Linear Grammar:

If the non terminal symbol appears as a left most symbol in each production of regular grammar then it is called left linear grammar.

The left- linear grammar is of following form:

$$\begin{array}{l} A \rightarrow Ba \\ A \rightarrow a \\ A \rightarrow \epsilon \end{array}$$

Where A and B are non-terminal symbols and a is a terminal symbol.

**A Regular Grammar is one that is either Right-linear or left-linear Grammar.**

**Example 3.12** The grammar  $G_1 = (\{S\}, \{a, b\}, S, P_1)$ , with  $P_1$  given as

$$S \rightarrow abS|a$$

is right-linear. The grammar  $G_2 = (\{S, S_1, S_2\}, \{a, b\}, S, P_2)$ , with productions

$$\begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow S_1ab, \\ S_1 \rightarrow S_1ab|S_2, \\ S_2 \rightarrow a, \end{array}$$

is left-linear. Both  $G_1$  and  $G_2$  are regular grammars.

The sequence

$$S \Rightarrow abS \Rightarrow ababS \Rightarrow ababa$$

is a derivation with  $G_1$ . From this single instance it is easy to conjecture that  $L(G_1)$  is the language denoted by the regular expression  $r = (ab)^* a$ . In a similar way, we can see that  $L(G_2)$  is the regular language  $L(aab(ab)^*)$ . ■

**Example 3.13** The grammar  $G = (\{S, A, B\}, \{a, b\}, S, P)$  with productions

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A, \\ A &\rightarrow aB|\lambda, \\ B &\rightarrow Ab, \end{aligned}$$

is not regular. Although every production is either in right-linear or left-linear form, the grammar itself is neither right-linear nor left-linear, and

### 3.4.3 Regular Grammar and Finite Automata:

Let  $M = (\{q_0, q_1, \dots, q_n\}, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  be a DFA. The equivalent grammar  $G$  can be constructed from this DFA such that productions should correspond to transitions. The derivations can be terminated by a production rule giving terminals. For such production rule, the transitions terminating at some final state is encountered.

Let,

$$G = (\{A_0, A_1, \dots, A_n\}, \Sigma, P, A_0)$$

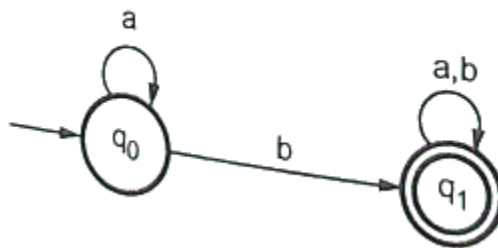
Where  $P$  the set of production rules can be defined by following rules.

1.  $A_i \rightarrow a A_j$  is a production rule if  $\delta(q_i, a) = q_j$ , where  $q_j \notin F$

2.  $A_i \rightarrow a A_j$  and  $A_i \rightarrow a$  are production rules if  $\delta(q_i, a) = q_j$  where  $q_j \in F$ .

Thus the given grammar is accepted by DFA  $M$ .

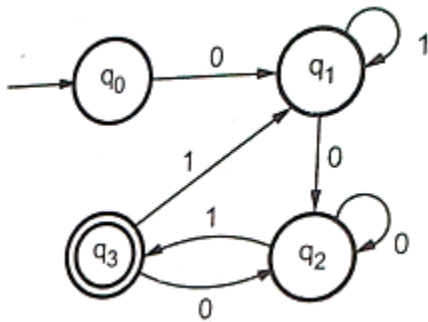
1) Construct Regular Grammar for given Finite Automata.



**Solution:**

$$\begin{aligned}G &= (V, T, P, S) \\V &= \{A_0, A_1\} \\T &= \{a, b\} \\A_0 &\rightarrow a A_0 \quad A_1 \rightarrow a A_1 | a \\A_0 &\rightarrow b A_1 \quad A_1 \rightarrow b A_1 | b \\A_0 &\rightarrow b\end{aligned}$$

2) Construct Regular Grammar for the diagram as given below



**Solution :** The equivalent regular grammar can be denoted by  $G = (V, T, P, S)$  where

$$V = \{A_0, A_1, A_2, A_3\}$$

The production rules can be

$$\begin{aligned}A_0 &\rightarrow 0 A_1 \\A_1 &\rightarrow 1 A_1 \\A_1 &\rightarrow 0 A_2 \\A_2 &\rightarrow 0 A_2 \\A_2 &\rightarrow 1 A_3 \\A_2 &\rightarrow 1 \\A_3 &\rightarrow 1 A_1 \\A_3 &\rightarrow 0 A_2\end{aligned}$$