

# 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.

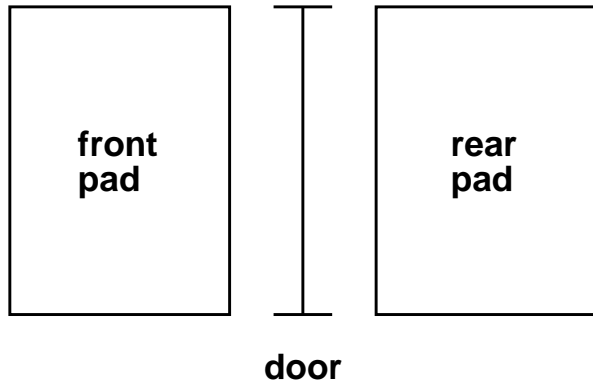
## Talk Outline

- Finite automata and regular languages
- Regular operations
- Sipser's book, chapter [1.1](#)

# Part I

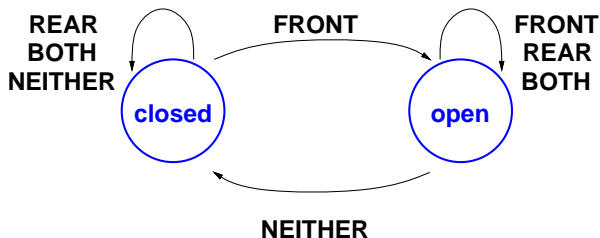
## Finite Automata

## Example: A One-Way Automatic Door



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

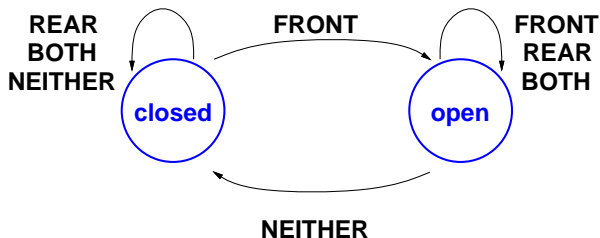
## The Automatic Door as DFA



- 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

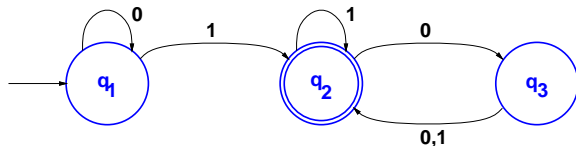
A **DFA** is **D**eterministic **F**inite **A**utomata



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

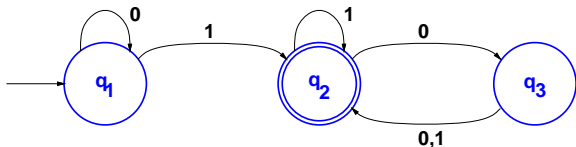
## DFA: Informal definition

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.

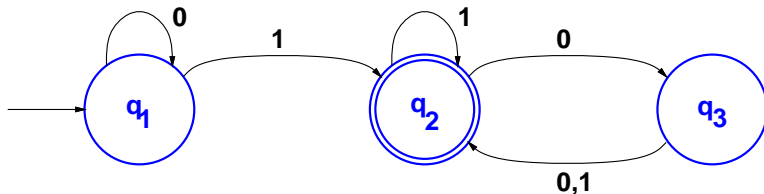
## DFA: Informal definition (cont.)



- 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.



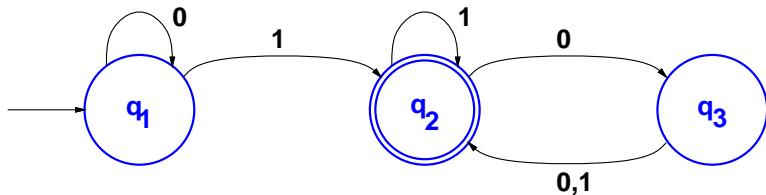
## DFA: Informal definition (cont..)



What happens on the following input strings:

- 1101
- 0010
- 01100
- In general?!

## DFA: Informal definition (cont...)



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

Proof: ?

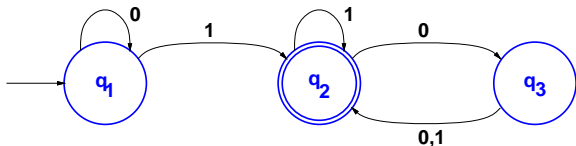
# DFA - Formal Definition

## Definition 1

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

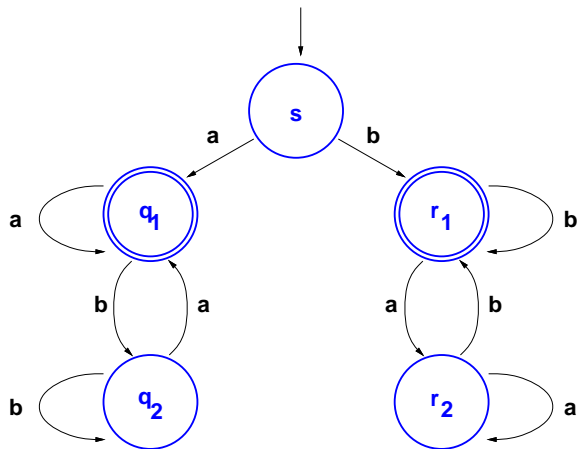
- $Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ,

- 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
- $F = \{q_2\}$ .

## Another Example



## A Formal Model of Computation

### Definition 2

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  **accepts**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  if  $\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F$ .

### Definition 3 ( $\hat{\delta}$ )

For DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , define  $\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \mapsto Q$  by

$$\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \begin{cases} \delta(q, w), & |w| = 1 \\ \delta(\hat{\delta}(q, w_1, \dots, w_{n-1}), w_n), & n = |w| > 1 \\ q, & w = \varepsilon. \end{cases}$$

### Definition 4 (Alternative (and equivalent) definition)

$M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  **accepts**  $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n$ , if exists  $r_0, \dots, r_n \in Q$ , such that

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

## Languages, words and alphabets

### Definition 5

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 6

A **word** (i.e., string) over  $\Sigma$ , is a **finite** sequence of letters from  $\Sigma$ .

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

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

### Definition 7

A **language** over  $\Sigma$  is a (possibly infinite) subset of  $\Sigma^*$ .

# Language Examples

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



## The language of a DFA

### Definition 8

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

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

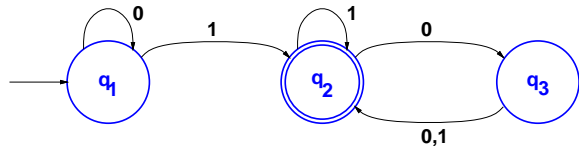
What language does  $M$  accept if it accepts no strings?

### Definition 9

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

## Proving a language of a DFA

$M_1$



### Theorem 10

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

Proof:

### Claim 11 (implies the theorem)

- $\mathcal{L}_1 = \{0^k : k \geq 0\}$
- $\mathcal{L}_2 = \{w10^{2k} : k \geq 0, w \in \Sigma^*\}$
- $\mathcal{L}_3 = \{w10^{2k+1} : k \geq 0, w \in \Sigma^*\}$

$x \in \mathcal{L}_i$  iff  $\hat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_i$ .

## Proving Claim 11

Proof by induction on word length.

- Induction basis (length 0): Easy to see that hypothesis holds for  $\epsilon$  (which is the only word of this length).
- Induction step: Assume hypothesis holds for words of length  $j \geq 0$ .

Let  $x = y\sigma$ , where  $y \in \Sigma^*$  and  $\sigma \in \Sigma$ , be a word of length  $j + 1$  (hence,  $|y| = j$ )

We prove the hypothesis for  $x$ , separately for each  $i \in \{1, 2, 3\}$

$x \in \mathcal{L}_1$  iff  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_1$

•  $x \in \mathcal{L}_1 \implies \widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_1$ .

▶ Assume  $x \in \mathcal{L}_1$ .

▶  $x = 0^{j+1}$ ,  $y = 0^j$  and  $\sigma = 0$ .

▶ Since  $y \in \mathcal{L}_1$ , by induction hypothesis  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, y) = q_1$

▶ By definition,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, 0) = q_1$ .

Therefore,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = \widehat{\delta}(\widehat{\delta}(q, y), \sigma) = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, 0) = q_1$ .

•  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_1 \implies x \in \mathcal{L}_1$ .

▶ Assume  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_1$ .

▶ Let  $q_y = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, y)$  (hence,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = \widehat{\delta}(q_y, \sigma) = q_1$ )

▶ It holds that (?)  $q_y = q_1$  and  $\sigma = 0$

▶ By i.h.  $y = 0^j$ ,

Hence,  $x = y\sigma = 0^j 0 = 0^{j+1} \in \mathcal{L}_1$

$x \in \mathcal{L}_2$  iff  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2$

●  $x \in \mathcal{L}_2 \implies \widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2$ .

▶ Assume  $x \in \mathcal{L}_2$ .

▶  $x = w10^{2k}$  for  $k \geq 1$ , or  $x = w1$ .

▶ If  $x = w1$ , then  $\sigma = 1$ .

Since  $\widehat{\delta}(q_i, 1) = q_2$ , for any  $i$ , then  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2$ .

▶ If  $x = w10^{2k}$ , then  $y = w10^{2k-1}$  and  $\sigma = 0$

Hence,  $y \in \mathcal{L}_3$ .

By i.h.  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, y) = q_3$

Thus,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = \widehat{\delta}(q_3, 0) = q_2$ .

●  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2 \implies x \in \mathcal{L}_2$ .

▶ Assume  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2$

▶ Let  $q_y = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, y)$  (hence,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_y, \sigma) = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_2$ ).

▶ If  $\sigma = 1$ , then  $x \in \mathcal{L}_2$  (?)

▶  $\sigma = 0 \implies q_y = q_3$

By i.h.  $y = w10^{2k+1}$

Therefore  $x = y\sigma = w10^{2k+1}0 \in \mathcal{L}_2$

$x \in \mathcal{L}_3$  iff  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_3$

- $x \in \mathcal{L}_3 \implies \widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_3$ .
  - ▶ Assume  $x \in \mathcal{L}_3$ .
  - ▶  $x = w10^{2k+1}$ ,  $y = w10^{2k}$  and  $\sigma = 0$
  - ▶ Then  $y \in \mathcal{L}_2$ , and by i.h.  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, y) = q_2$ .  
Therefore,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = \widehat{\delta}(q_2, 0) = q_3$ .
- $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_3 \implies x \in \mathcal{L}_3$ .
  - ▶ Assume  $\widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_3$
  - ▶ Let  $q_y = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, y)$  (hence,  $\widehat{\delta}(q_y, \sigma) = \widehat{\delta}(q_1, x) = q_3$ )
  - ▶ Hence,  $q_y = q_2$  and  $\sigma = 0$  (?)
  - ▶ By i.h.  $y = w10^{2k}$
  - ▶ Therefore,  $x = y\sigma = w10^{2k}0 \in \mathcal{L}_3$

## Part II

# Regular Operations

## Additional examples of regular languages

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

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

All the above languages are regular Is there a simple proof?



## The regular operations

Let  $\mathcal{A}$  and  $\mathcal{B}$  be languages.

The **union** operation:

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

The **concatenation** operation:

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

The **star** operation:

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

## The regular operations – Examples

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

Union

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

Concatenation

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

Star

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

## Closure under union

### Theorem 12

If  $\mathcal{A}_1$  and  $\mathcal{A}_2$  are regular languages, then so is  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$ .

### Approach to Proof:

- Some DFA  $M_1$  accepts  $\mathcal{A}_1$
- Some DFA  $M_2$  accepts  $\mathcal{A}_2$
- Construct DFA  $M$  that accepts  $\mathcal{A}_1 \cup \mathcal{A}_2$ .

### 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  $\mathcal{L}_1$ ,
- $M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$  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

### Claim 13

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

Proof:

**Induction hypothesis:**  $\widehat{\delta}((q_1, q_2), x) = (\widehat{\delta}_1(q_1, x), \widehat{\delta}_2(q_2, x))$ .

**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:

$x \in \mathcal{L}(M_1)$  implies  $\widehat{\delta}_1(q_1, x) = r_1 \in F_1$ .

Hence,  $\widehat{\delta}((q_1, q_2), x) = (r_1, r_2) \in F$ .

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

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

Hence,  $\widehat{\delta}_i(q_i, x) = r_i$ ,  $i \in \{1, 2\}$ .

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

## What about concatenation?

### Theorem 14

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

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

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

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**, wait for next class...