

# DFAs, NFAs and Regular Expressions

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CSE 105 Week 3 Discussion

# Deadlines and Logistics

- Review your HW 1 grade
- Schedule your tests asap on PrairieTest !
- HW 3 due next week on 22nd (Tuesday) at 5 PM
- As always, slides are not self-contained
- Link for the slides :  
[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vYfZESYxh\\_BaQ-rno0CJJbf4R40-iHGaWi\\_nNVcK40I/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1vYfZESYxh_BaQ-rno0CJJbf4R40-iHGaWi_nNVcK40I/edit?usp=sharing)

# Poll : Dark mode fan or light mode enjoyer ?

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31 CTTATTTGGTGTAAATAAAACAAAGAATTAATGTCATAGGAAACCTTATGAG
32 GGGAAAATACCTGGGGACCAAAATCTACAAAGCTAAAGGGAAAAGTCAGGTTGGAA
33 CTGCTTGGGAAATCTGCCCTCATTCCATCCTACACGACACCCATCTGTCACCGAGATA
34 AATGCATACCTGATTGCTCATTGGAGGGTAACTAGCAATGCAAAAGAATGAAACCA
35 TTGTCCTTACCTACCTAGCTGGAGGCCCTGTCAGGCTTCTCACCTTCTGGA
```

# Dark mode fan or light mode enjoyer ?



## Current progress - Answer Y/N

1. Given a DFA and a string, I can tell tell if the string is accepted or not
2. Given a DFA, I can identify the language that is recognized by it
3. Given a regular expression or a Language, I can define and draw a DFA  
and,
4. Given an NFA and a string, I can tell tell if the string is accepted or not
5. Given an NFA, I can identify the language that is recognized by it
6. Given a regular expression or a Language, I can define and draw an NFA

# Today's Topics

1. Recap of  $\epsilon$ -transitions in an NFA
2. Closure over  $U$ ,  $\cap$ ,  $\complement^*$  and  $\circ$  operations in NFAs, DFAs
3. Equivalence of DFAs, NFAs
4. Tying it all together : DFAs, NFAs and regular expressions : Regular languages  
(if time permits)

# $\varepsilon$ -transitions

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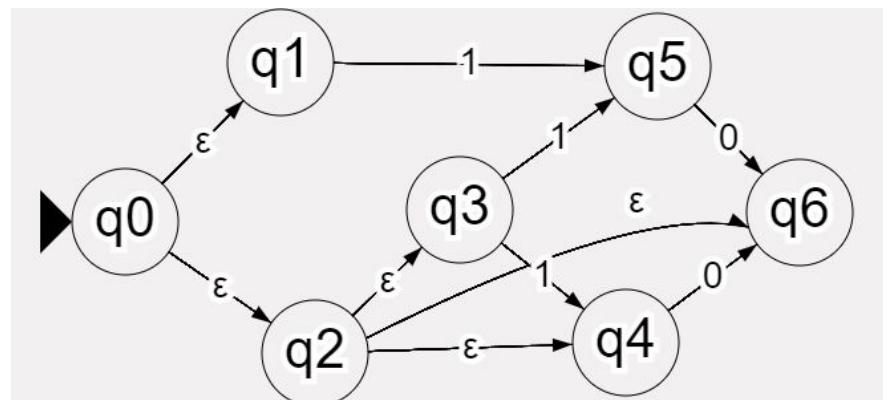
## $\epsilon$ -transitions

$\epsilon$ -transitions are essentially spontaneous moves - you can (and have to) traverse them whenever you encounter them !

# $\varepsilon$ -transitions

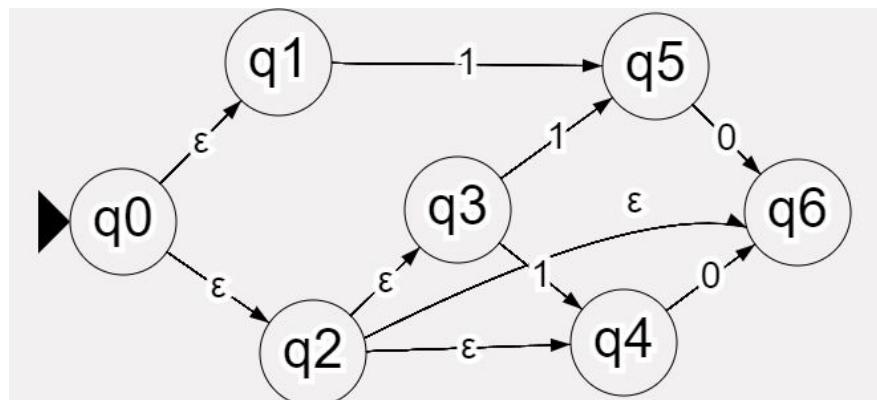
1. What state(s) do you reach when you read:

- a. 10
- b. 1
- c. 0
- d.  $\varepsilon$



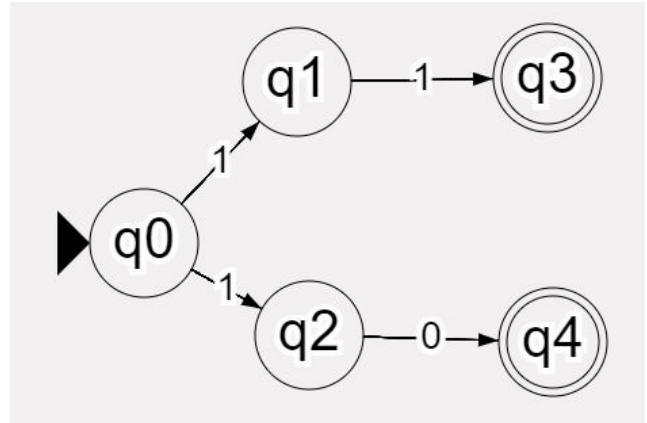
# $\varepsilon$ -transitions

1. What state(s) do you reach when you read:
  - a. 10 : Q6
  - b. 1: Q4, Q5
  - c. 0 : Q6
  - d.  $\varepsilon$ : Q0, Q1, Q2, Q3, Q4, Q6



Modify this NFA to...

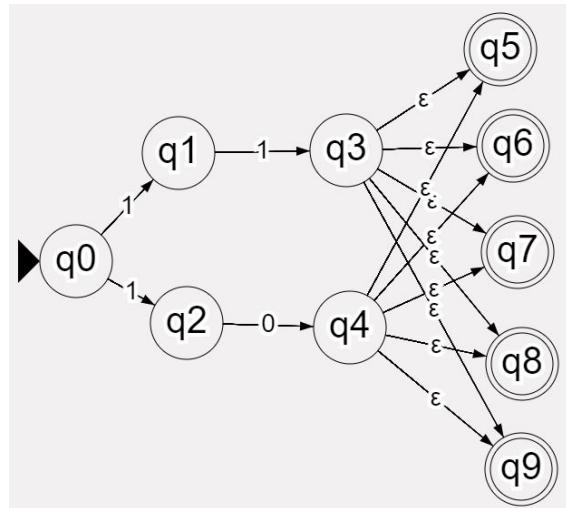
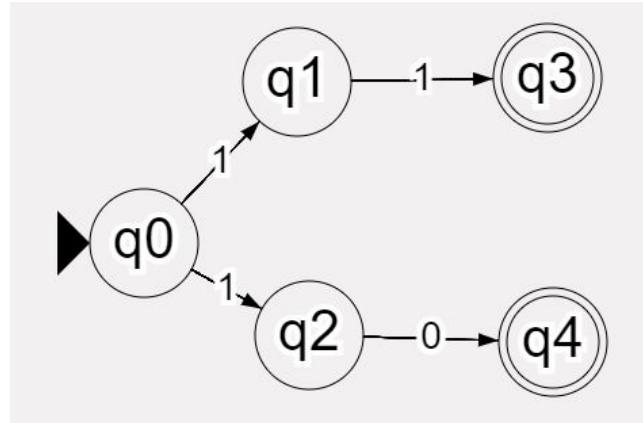
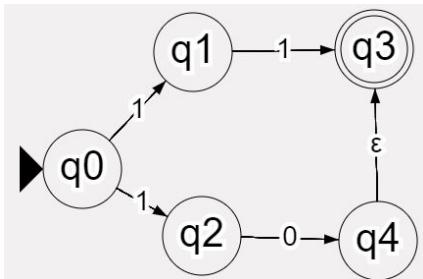
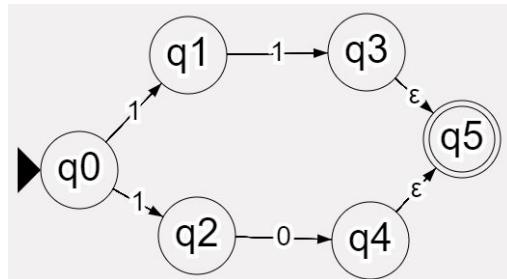
1. Have exactly one accept state
  - a. With and without changing Q (the set of states) in the 5-tuple definition
2. Have 5 accept states,  $q_3 \notin F$ ,  $q_4 \notin F$



Note - The modified NFA has to recognize the same language !

# Modify this NFA to...

1. Have exactly one final state
  - a. With and without changing Q (the set of states) in the 5-tuple definition
2. Have 5 final states,  $q_3 \notin F$ ,  $q_4 \notin F$



# DFA and NFA closure over $U$ , $*$ and $\circ$

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# Closure - What we learnt last week

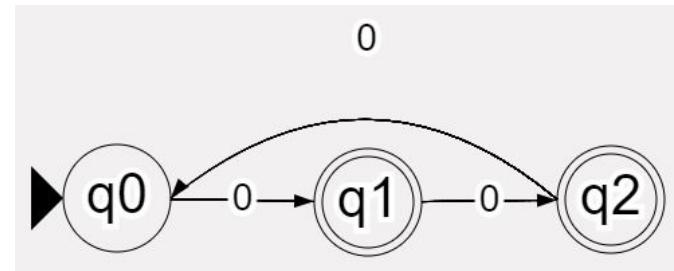
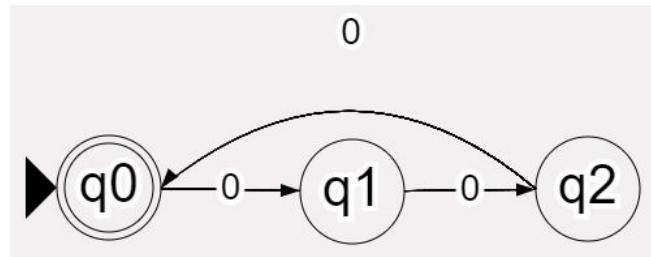
**Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under complementation**

Strategy :

# Closure - What we learnt last week

**Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under complementation**

Strategy : Flip the accept states and non-accept states



# Closure - What we learnt last week

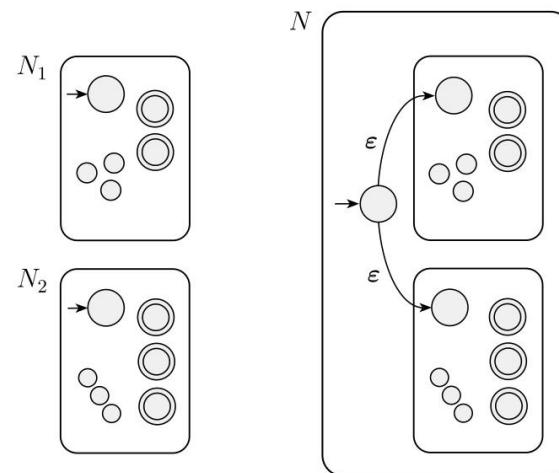
**Languages accepted by NFAs are closed under union**

Strategy:

# Closure - What we learnt

Languages accepted by NFAs are closed under union

Strategy:



**FIGURE 1.46**

Construction of an NFA  $N$  to recognize  $A_1 \cup A_2$

## Closure - New stuff

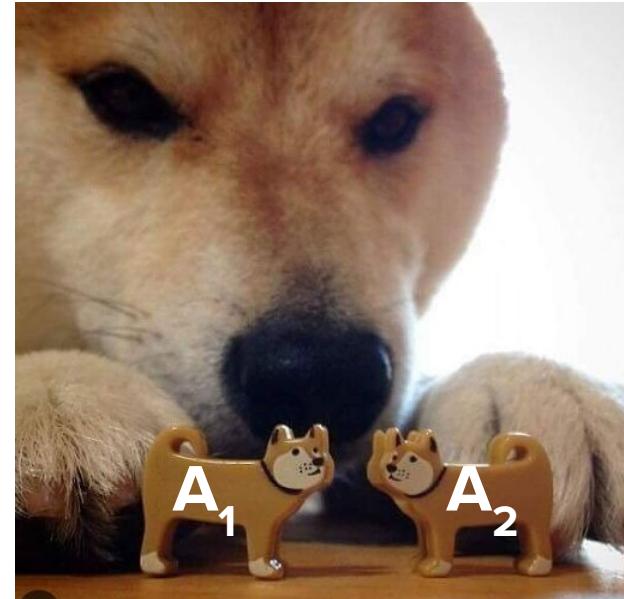
1. Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under union
2. Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under intersection

Strategy:

## Closure - New stuff

1. Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under union
2. Languages accepted by DFAs are closed under intersection

Strategy: Parallel Computation



## Motivating example : $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$

$L(A_1)$  : Set of all strings over  $\Sigma$  containing even number of 0's

$L(A_2)$  : Set of all strings containing non negative integer repeats of 10

$A_1$  and  $A_2$  are DFAs

Create a DFA A such that :

1.  $L(A) = A_1 \cup A_2$
2.  $L(A) = A_1 \cap A_2$

# Last Friday's lecture formalized this process !

Suppose  $A_1, A_2$  are languages over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ . **Claim:** if there is a DFA  $M_1$  such that  $L(M_1) = A_1$  and DFA  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_2) = A_2$ , then there is another DFA, let's call it  $M$ , such that  $L(M) = A_1 \cup A_2$ .  
Theorem 1.25 in Sipser, page 45

Proof idea: **Keep track of both computations** 

Formal construction:

Consider  $A_1$  over  $\Sigma$ , recognized by  $M_1(Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1)$  and  $A_2$  over  $\Sigma$ , recognized by  $M_2(Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$

Define  $M: (\emptyset, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

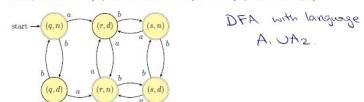
$$\begin{aligned} Q &= \{(q_1, q_2') \mid q_1 \in Q_1 \text{ and } q_2' \in Q_2\} = Q_1 \times Q_2 \\ q_0 &= (q_1, q_2) \quad F = \{(q_1, q_2') \mid q_1 \in F_1 \text{ or } q_2' \in F_2\} \\ &= F_1 \times Q_2 \cup Q_1 \times F_2 \end{aligned}$$

and  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$  is defined by

$$\delta((q_1, q_2'), x) = (\delta_1(q_1), \delta_2(q_2'))$$

where  $q_1 \in Q_1, q_2' \in Q_2, x \in \Sigma$

Example: When  $A_1 = \{w \mid w \text{ has an } a \text{ and ends in } b\}$  and  $A_2 = \{w \mid w \text{ is of even length}\}$ .



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Suppose  $A_1, A_2$  are languages over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ . **Claim:** if there is a DFA  $M_1$  such that  $L(M_1) = A_1$  and DFA  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_2) = A_2$ , then there is another DFA, let's call it  $M$ , such that  $L(M) = A_1 \cap A_2$ .  
Footnote to Sipser Theorem 1.25, page 46

Proof idea: Same construction, change  $F$  to  $F_1 \cap F_2$

Formal construction:

copy  
paste for  
 $Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0$   
from previous construction

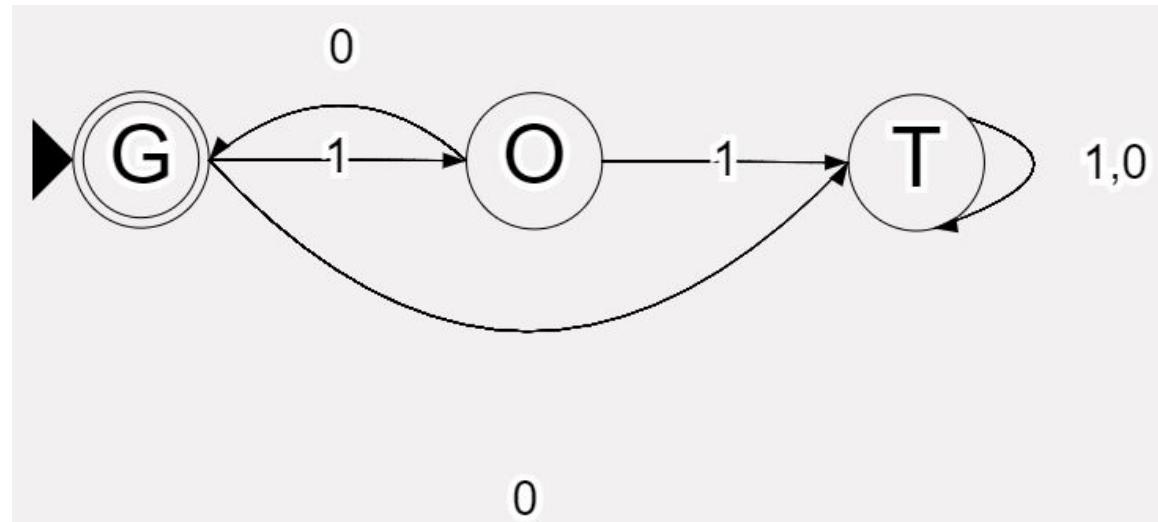
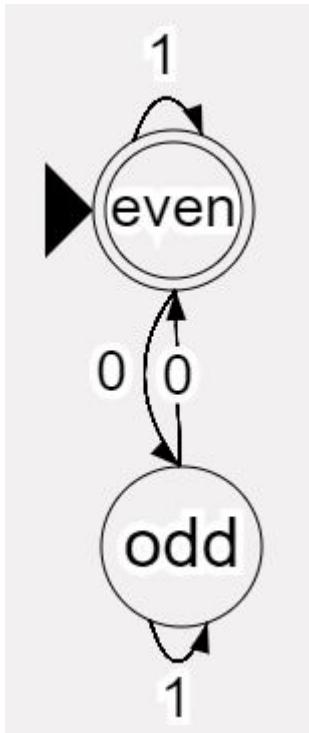
## Week 2, Page 7

# Let us develop some informal intuition !

$L(A_1)$  : Set of all strings over  $\Sigma$  containing even number of 0's

$L(A_2)$ : Set of all strings containing non negative integer repeats of 10

## $A_1$ (L) and $A_2$ (R)

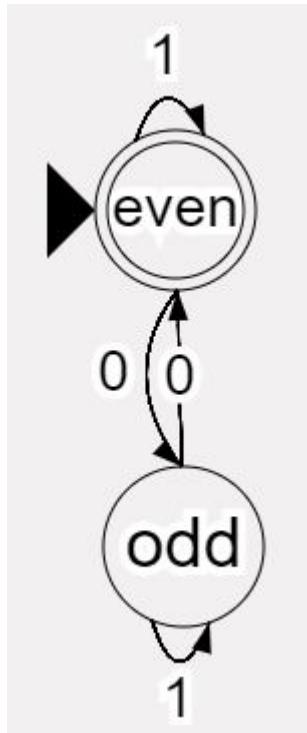


G - (G)ood to go !

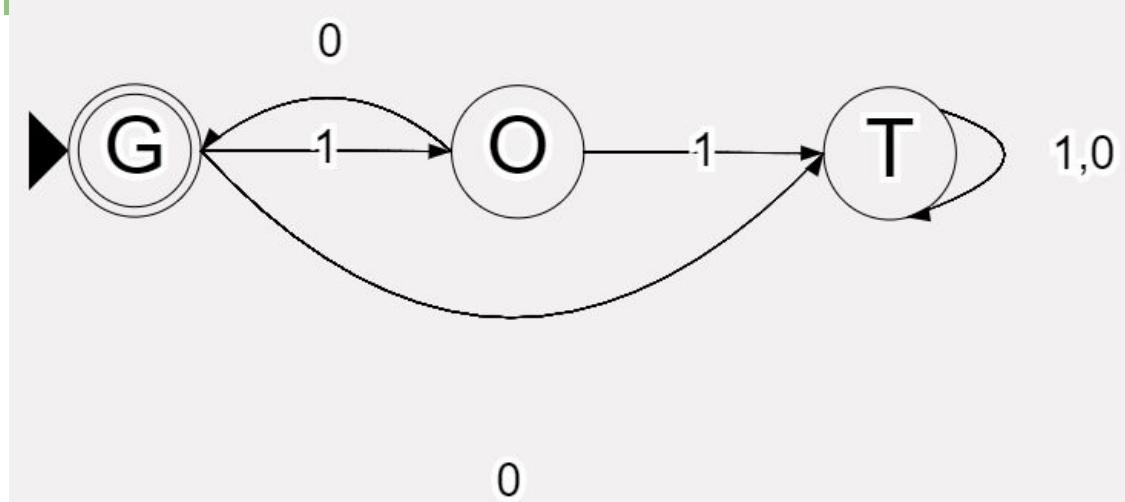
O - I read a (O)ne !

T - (T)rapped - no returns !

## $A_1$ (L) and $A_2$ (R)



You don't have to actually label your states like this, but it is good to have an idea what each state indicates, especially when you are drawing out smaller state diagrams like these !



G - (G)ood to go !

O - I read a (O)ne from G !

T - (T)rapped - no returns !

# 1: Identify states (Q)

G\_e

O\_e

T\_e

G\_o

O\_o

T\_o

# 1: Identify states (Q)

G\_e

O\_e

T\_e

G\_o

O\_o

T\_o

Think and answer :

- What does G\_e represent ?
- What about T\_o ?
- What strings will end at state G\_o?
- What strings will end at state O\_O
- What about O\_e ?

# 1: Identify states (Q)

G\_e

O\_e

T\_e

G\_o

O\_o

T\_o

Think and answer :

- What strings will end at state G\_e
- What strings will end at state T\_o ?
- What strings will end at state G\_o?
- What strings will end at state O\_O
- What strings will end at state O\_e ?

# 1: Identify states (Q)

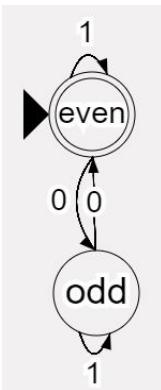
Think and answer :

- What strings will end at state G\_e
- What strings will end at state T\_o ?
- What strings will end at state G\_o?
- What strings will end at state O\_0
- What strings will end at state O\_e ?

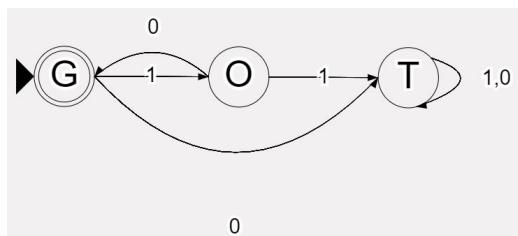
Non exhaustive examples:

- 10101010, 1010,  $\epsilon$
- 000, 0, 010011
- 10, 101010
- 101, 1010101
- 1, 10101

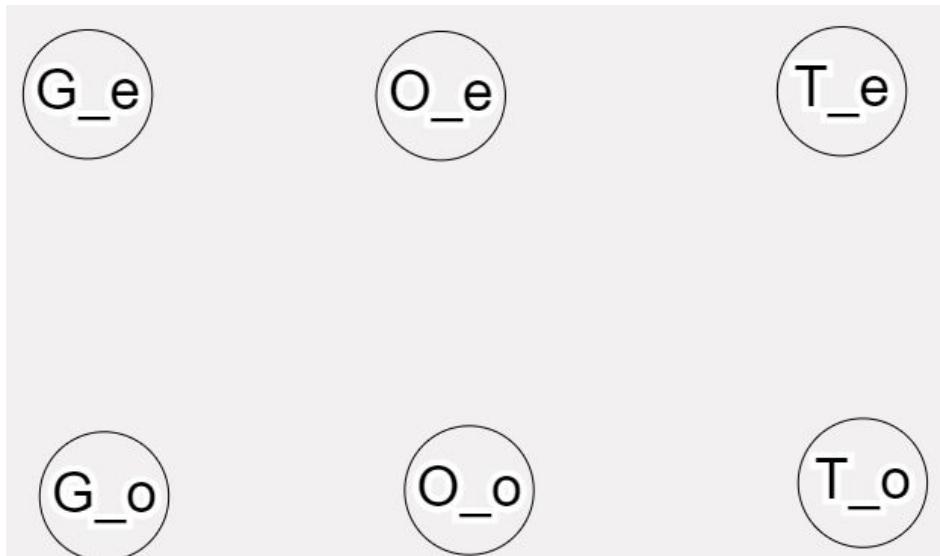
2: Identify  $q_0$



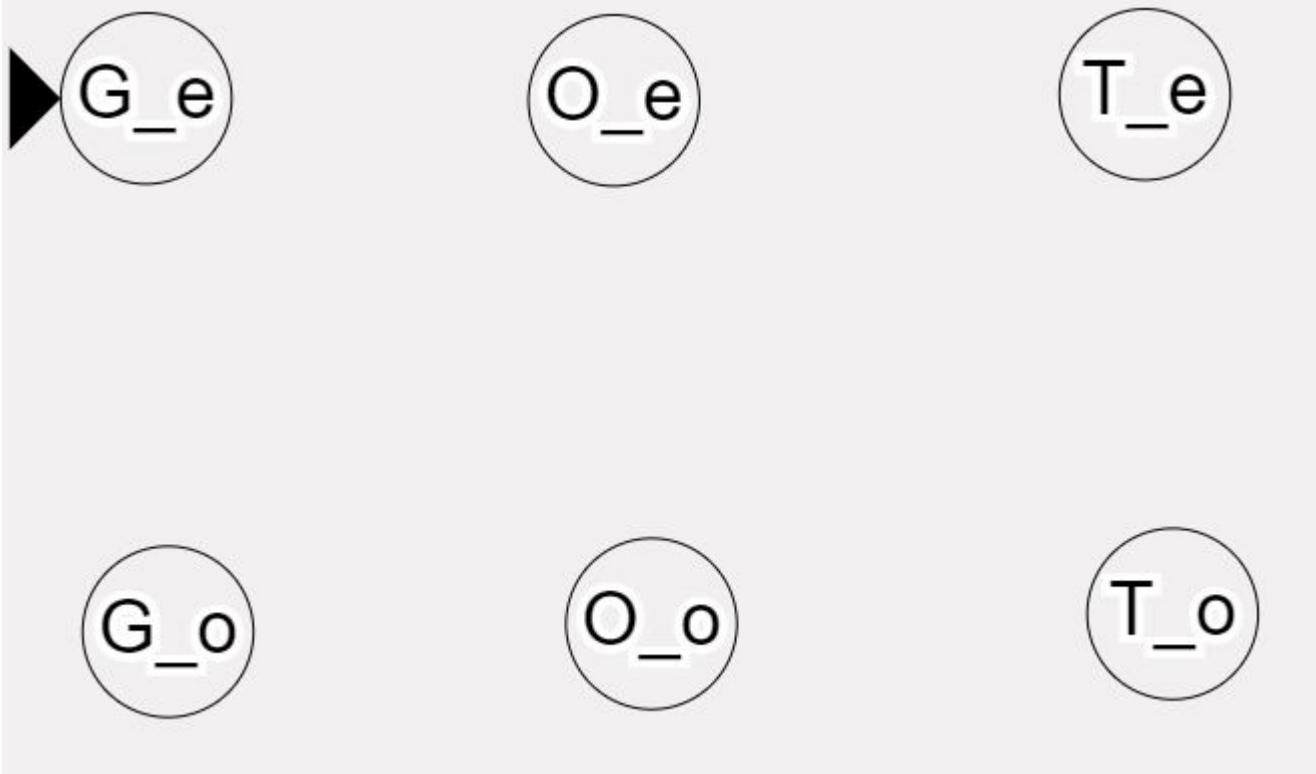
$A_1$



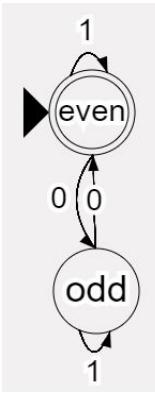
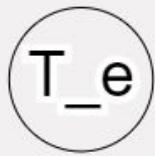
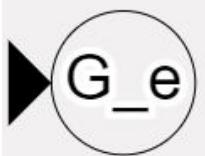
$A_2$



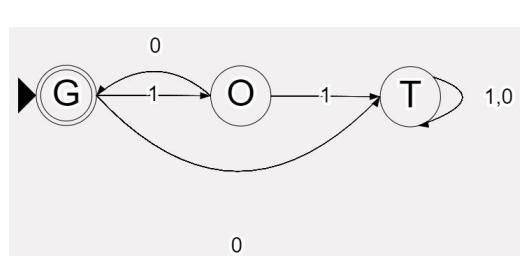
## 2: Identify $q_0$



### 3: Identify $\delta$

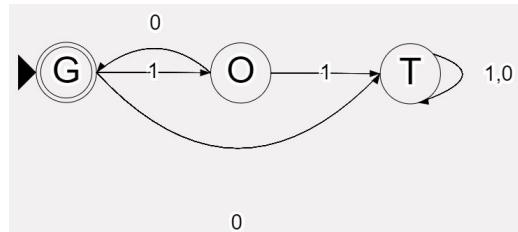
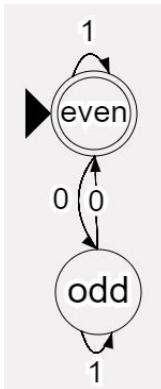
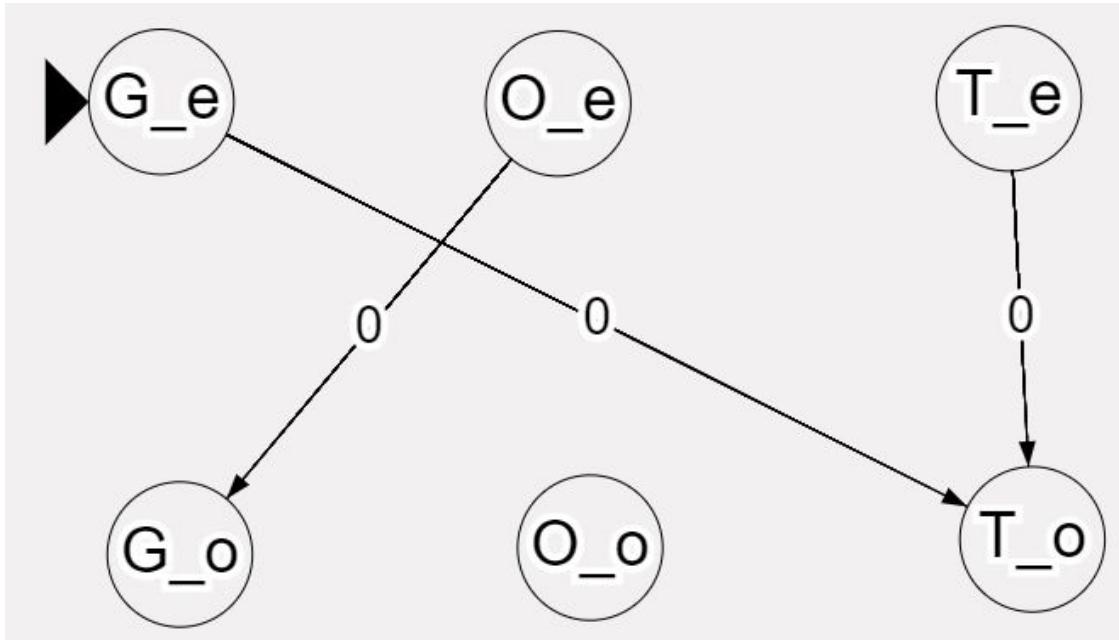


$A_1$



$A_2$

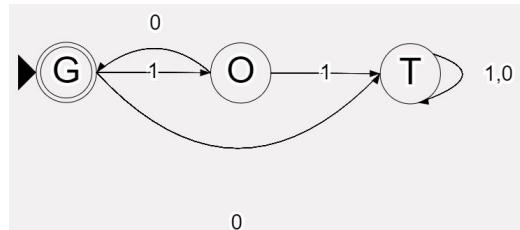
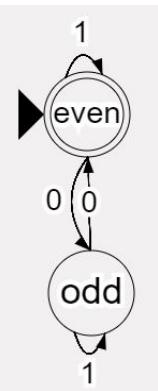
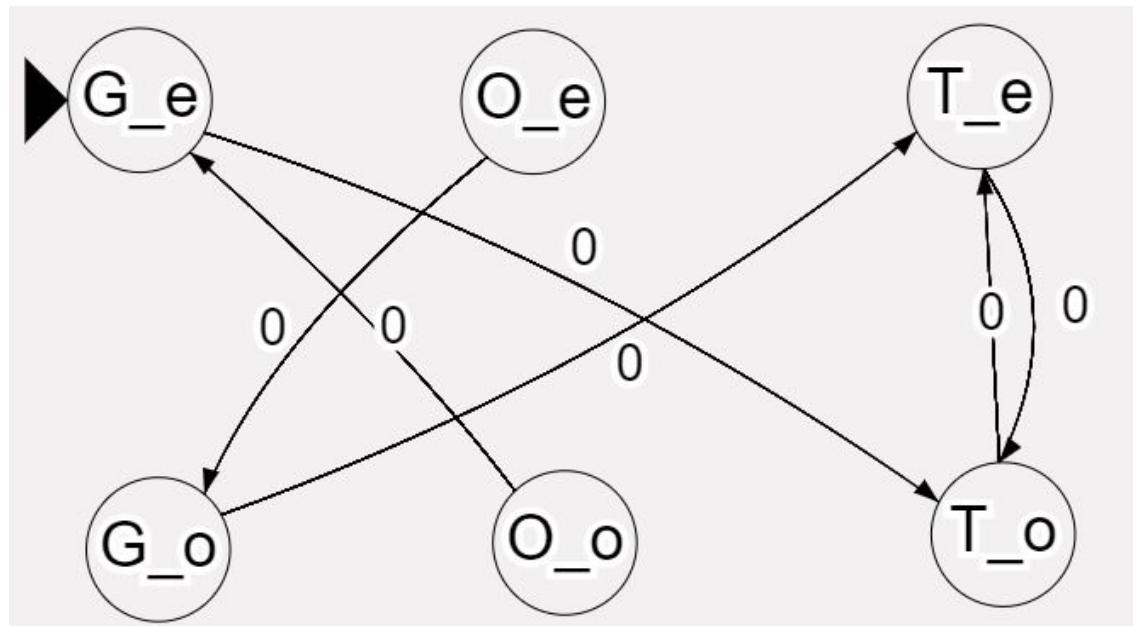
### 3: Identify $\delta$



$A_1$

$A_2$

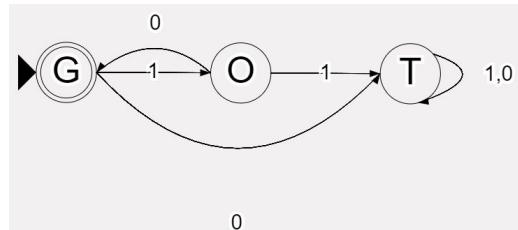
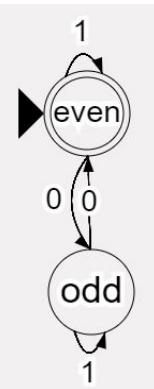
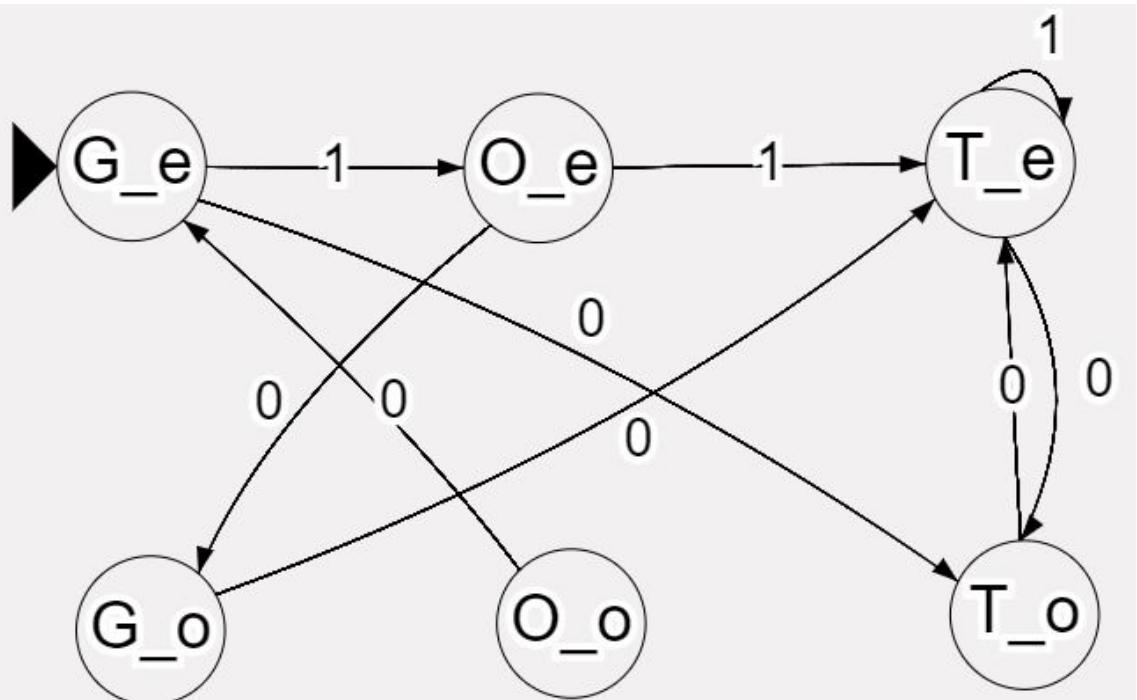
### 3: Identify $\delta$



$A_1$

$A_2$

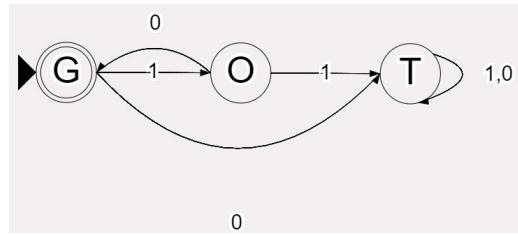
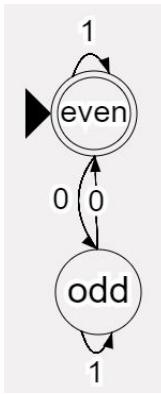
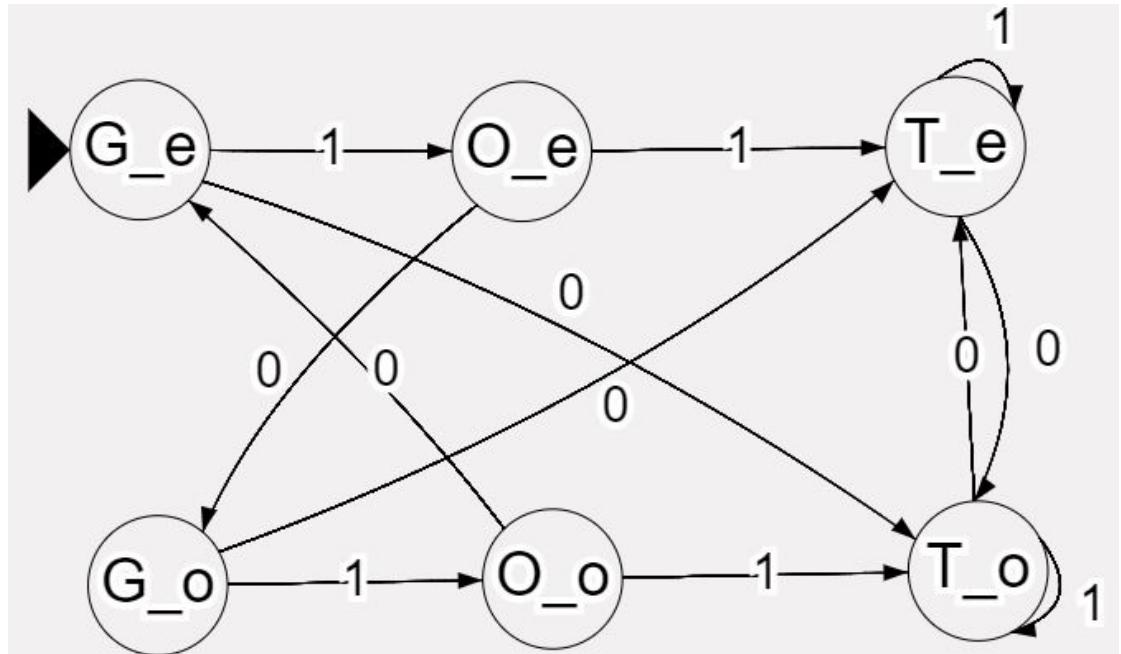
### 3: Identify $\delta$



$A_1$

$A_2$

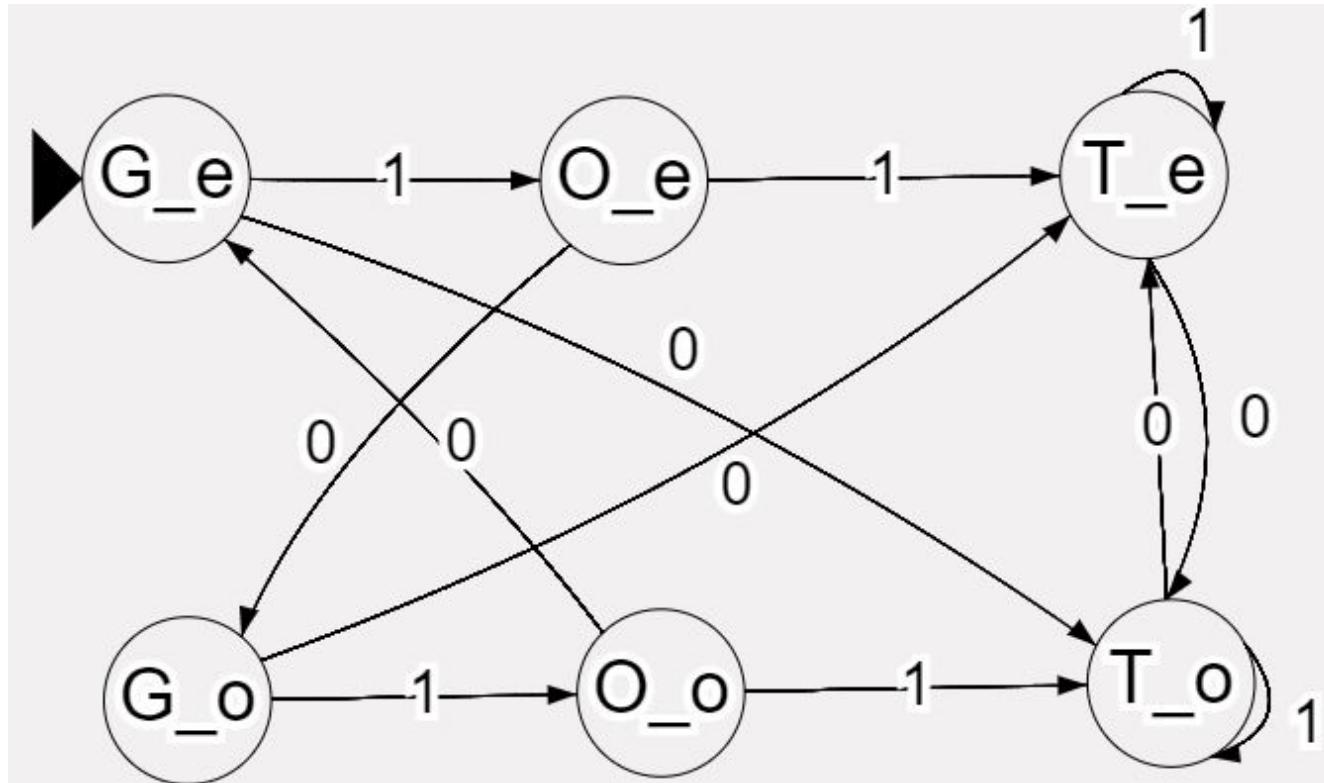
### 3: Identify $\delta$



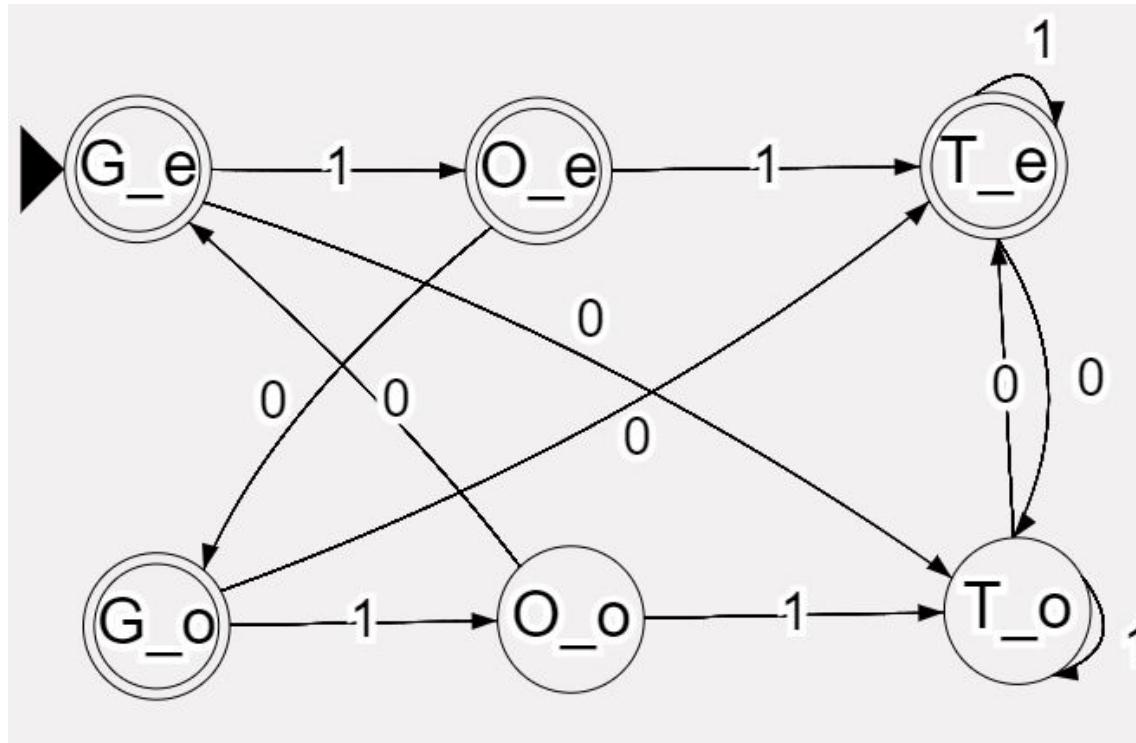
$A_1$

$A_2$

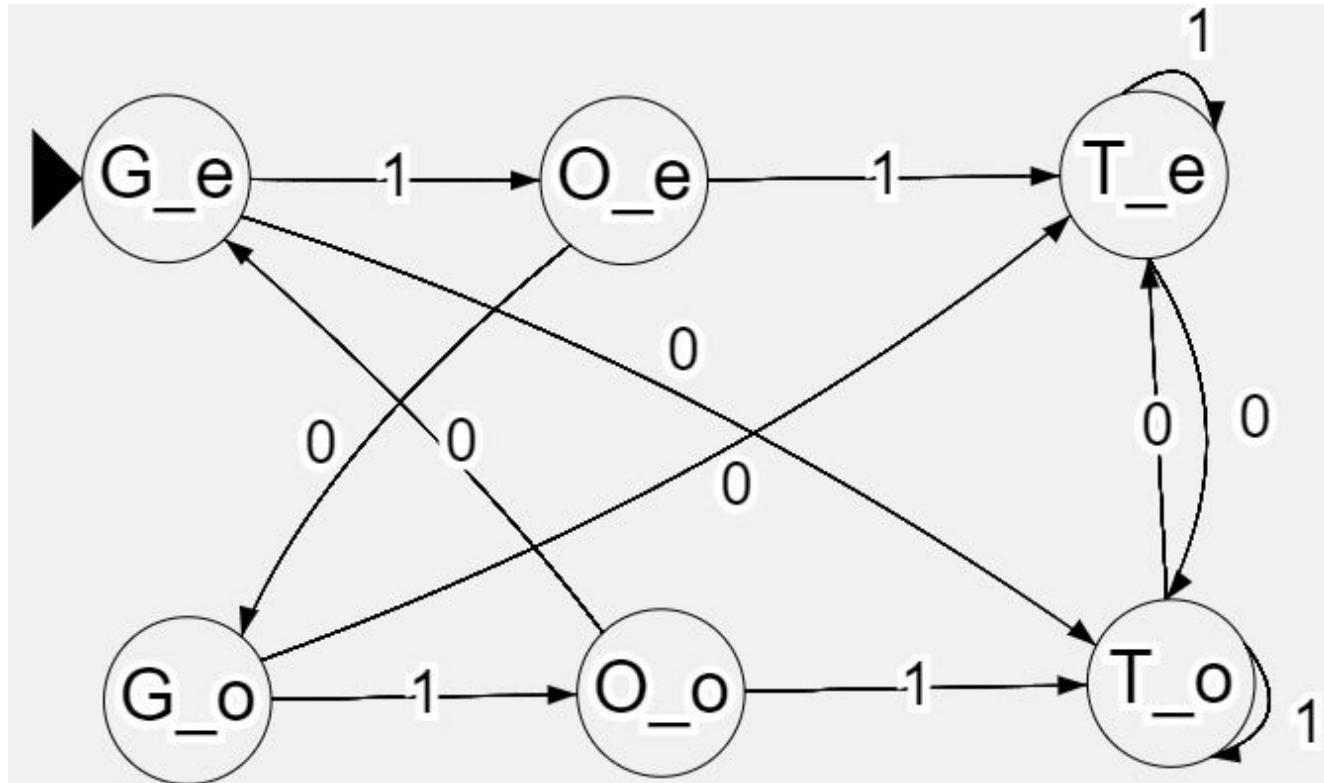
4: Identify  $F : A_1 \cup A_2$



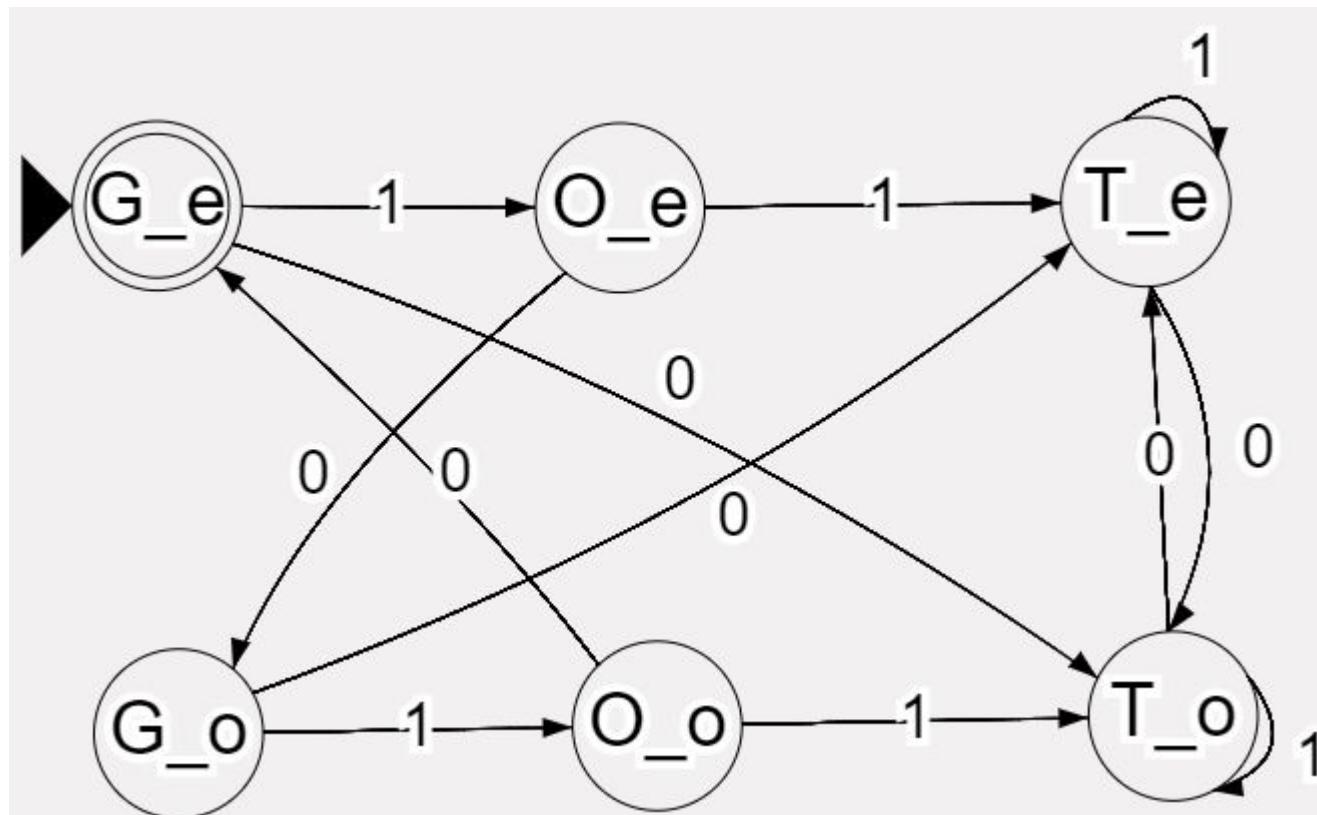
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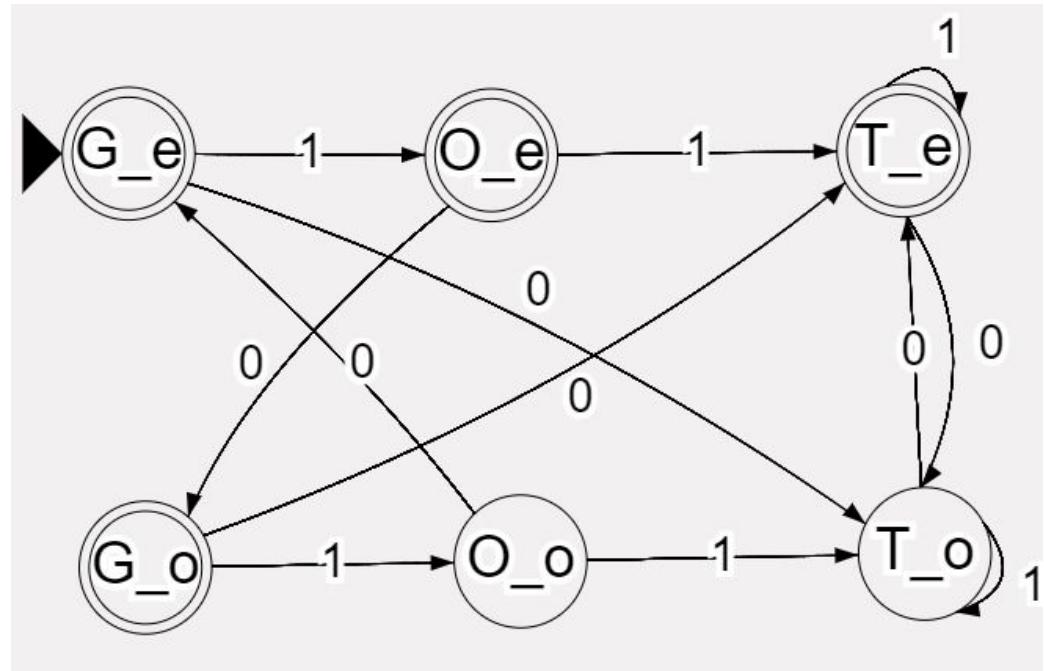
4: Identify  $F : A_1 \cap A_2$



# Reading strings over this automaton

Think and answer :

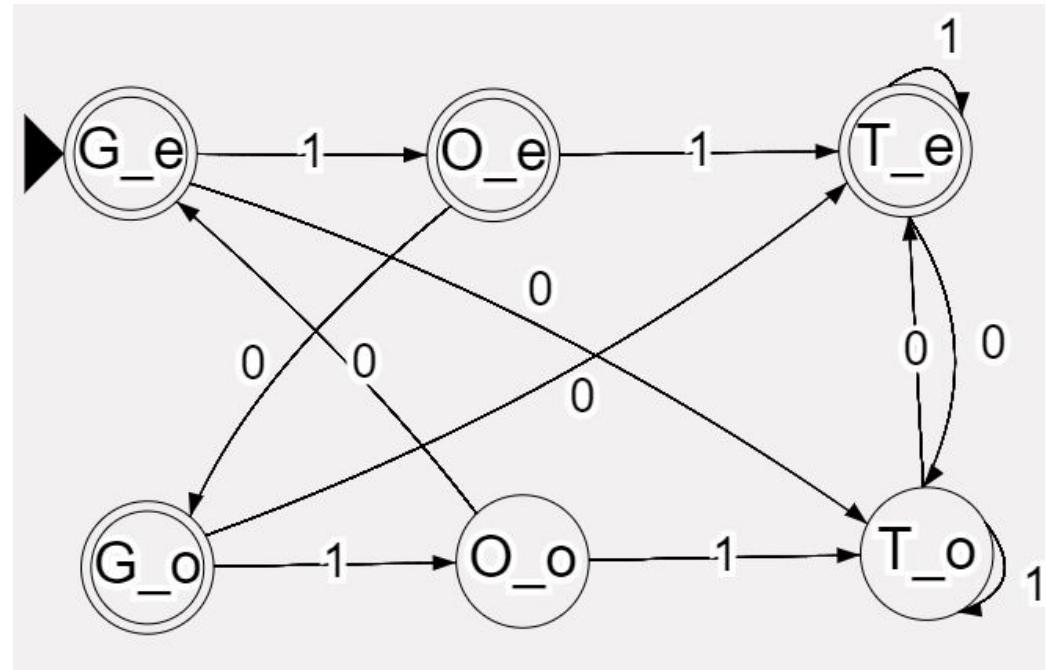
- What strings will end at state G\_e
- What strings will end at state T\_o ?
- What strings will end at state G\_o?
- What strings will end at state O\_o
- What strings will end at state O\_e ?



# Reading strings over this automaton : Trace and verify !

Non exhaustive examples:

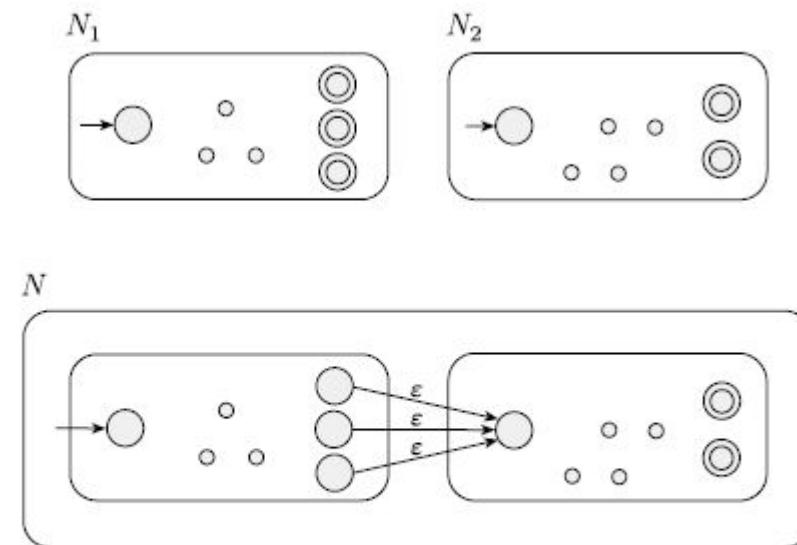
- 10101010, 1010,  $\epsilon$
- 000, 0, 010011
- 10, 101010
- 101, 1010101
- 1, 10101



# Set operations over L(NFAs)

Languages accepted by NFAs are closed under concatenation

Strategy :

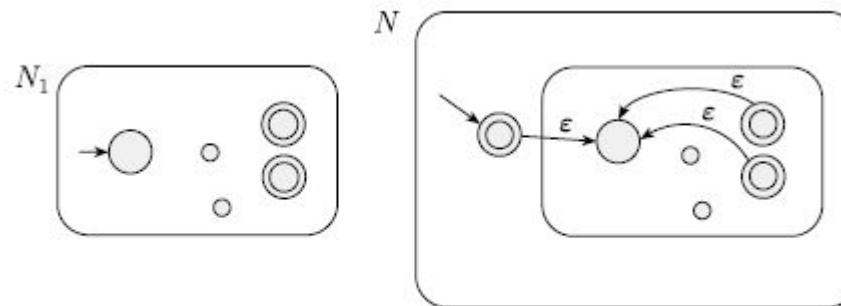


**FIGURE 1.48**  
Construction of  $N$  to recognize  $A_1 \circ A_2$

# Set operations over L(NFAs)

Languages accepted by NFAs are closed under Kleene \*

Strategy :



**FIGURE 1.50**  
Construction of  $N$  to recognize  $A^*$

DFAs, NFAs and Regular Expressions are equally expressive



# Let us start with DFA and NFA equivalence

Alice : “To find an NFA which is equivalent to a given DFA is easy ! All DFAs are NFAs by default”

True or False ?



# Let us start with DFA and NFA equivalence

Alice : “To find an NFA which is equivalent to a given DFA is easy ! All DFAs are NFAs by default”

False ! Remember that the 5-tuple formal definition for DFAs and NFAs is *slightly* different. Recall what changes need to be made to quickly “convert” a DFA to an equivalent NFA

# Let us start with DFA and NFA equivalence

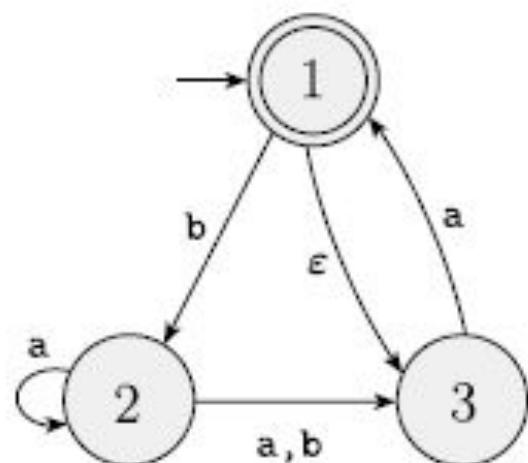
Bob : “To find a DFA which is equivalent to a NFA is slightly harder. I should have paid attention during lecture today and I possibly need to revise the material from Sipser pg 54-58”

True or False ?

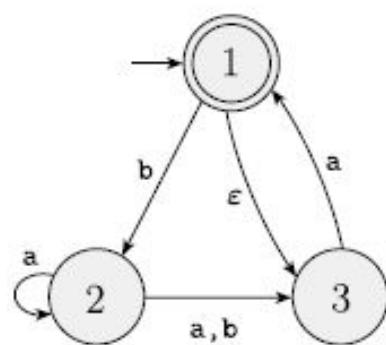
# Let us start with DFA and NFA equivalence

General Idea - Create “Macro States” for the DFA that keeps track of combinations of states of a given NFA

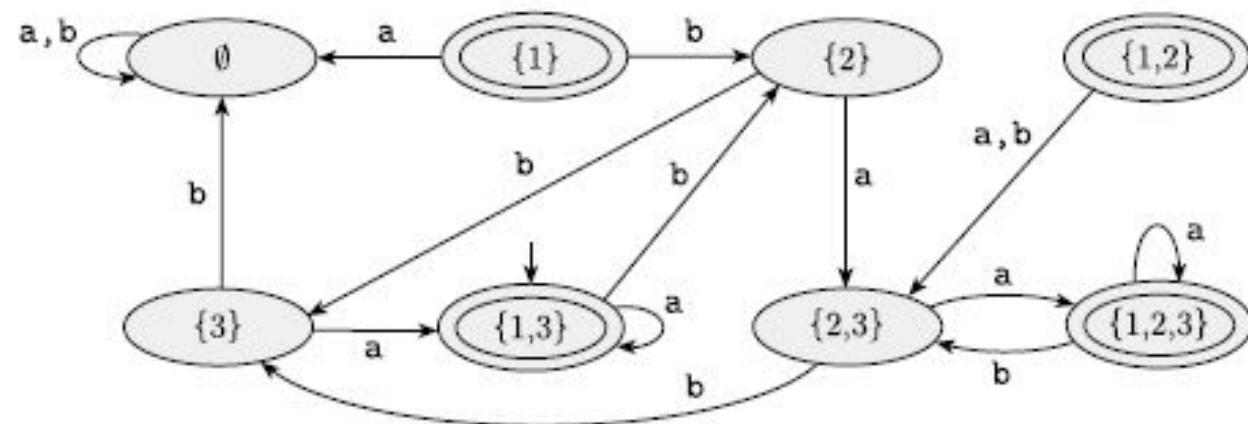
Sipser pg 57



# Sipser pg 57



NFA N



DFA D recognizing  $L(N)$

# Now, NFA and RegEx equivalence



# Regex to NFA

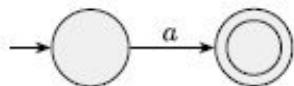
Recall :

1.  $R = a$ , where  $a \in \Sigma$
2.  $R = \varepsilon$
3.  $R = \emptyset$
4.  $R = (R_1 \cup R_2)$ , where  $R_1, R_2$  are themselves regular expressions
5.  $R = (R_1 \circ R_2)$ , where  $R_1, R_2$  are themselves regular expressions
6.  $(R_1^*)$ , where  $R_1$  is a regular expression.

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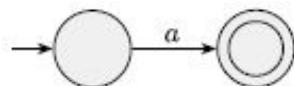
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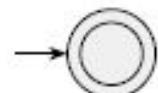
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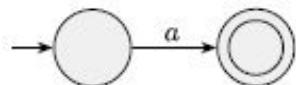
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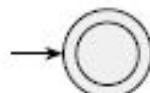
# Regex to NFA

Recall :

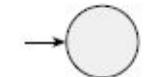
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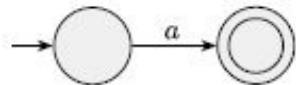
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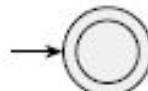
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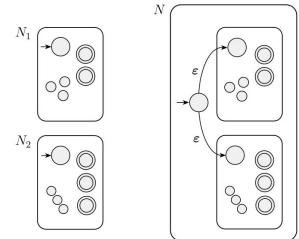
2.  $R = \epsilon$



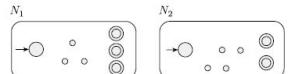
3.  $R = \emptyset$



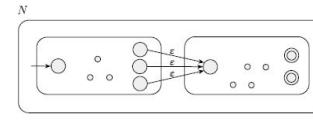
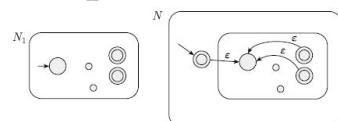
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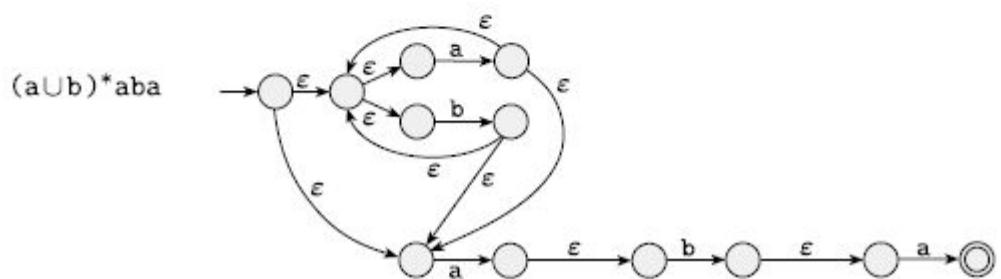
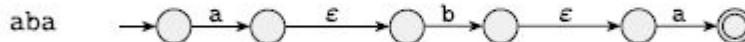
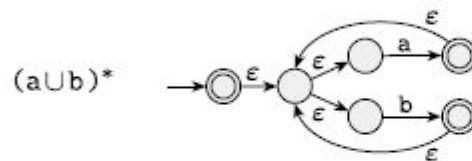
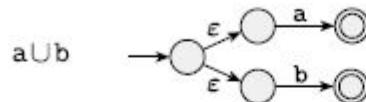
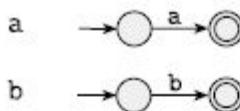


6.  $(R_1^*)$ , where  $R_1$  is a regular expression.



Practice :  $(aUb)^*aba$

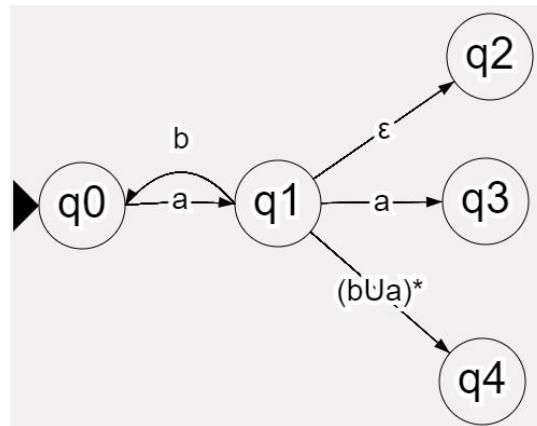
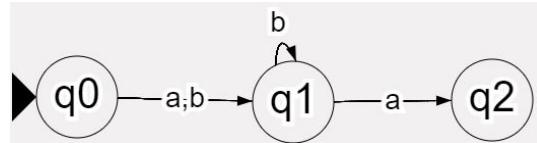
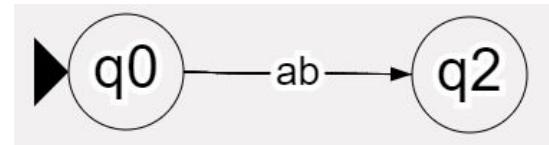
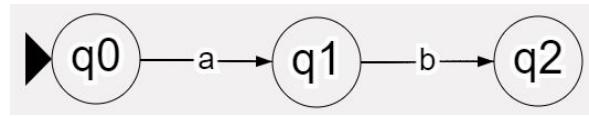
Practice :  $(a \cup b)^* aba$



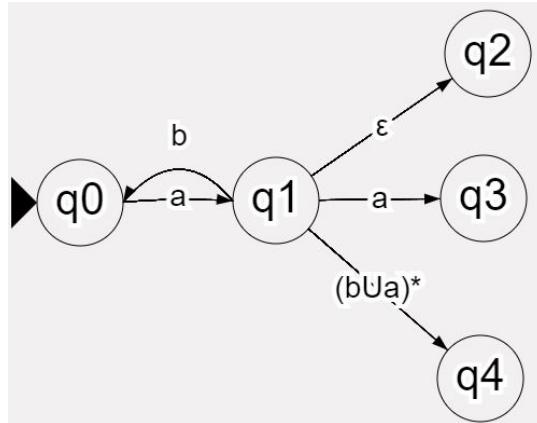
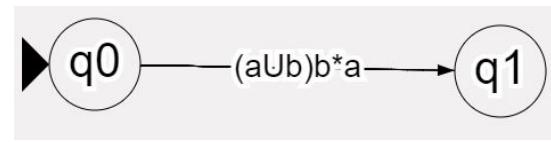
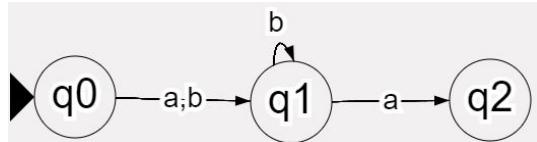
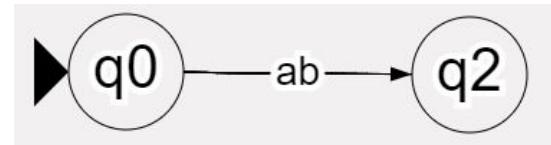
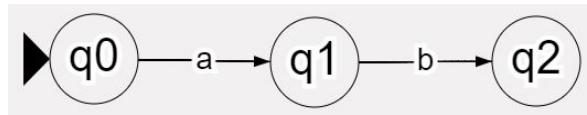
# NFA/DFA to Regex

1. Add one extra start and end state respectively, and make requisite connections
2. Prune away states one by one making sure to re-make edge connections such that the state diagram is equivalent to itself prior to pruning. Remade edges can be labelled with regular expressions.
3. Rinse and repeat till you have a single edge between the added start and end state.

## Examples of removing states (q1)



## Examples of removing states (q1)



## Examples of removing states (q1)

