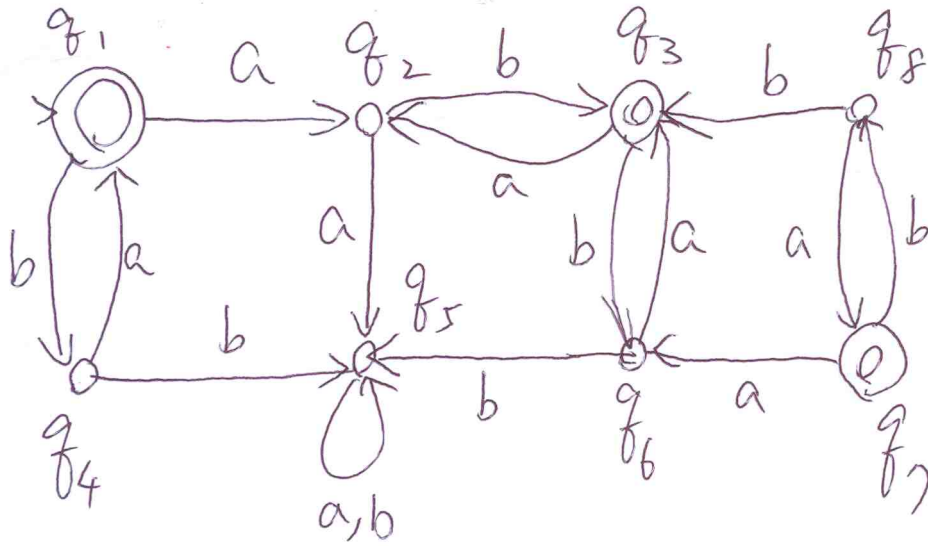


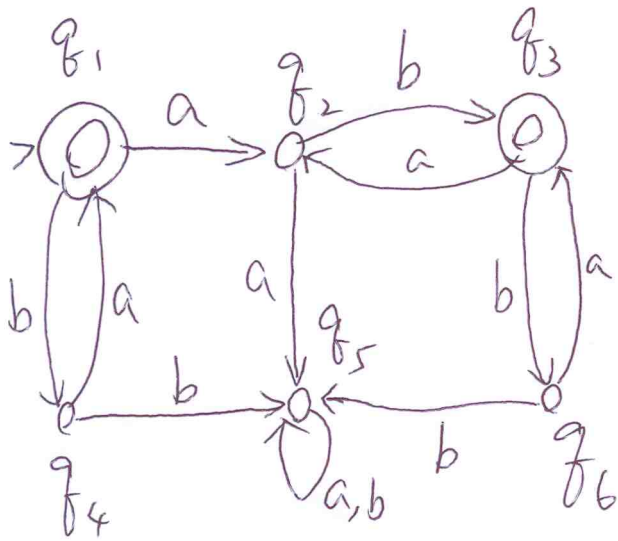
# State Minimization

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NOV. 6, 2012



$q_7$  and  $q_8$  : unreachable.



$(ab \cup ba)^*$

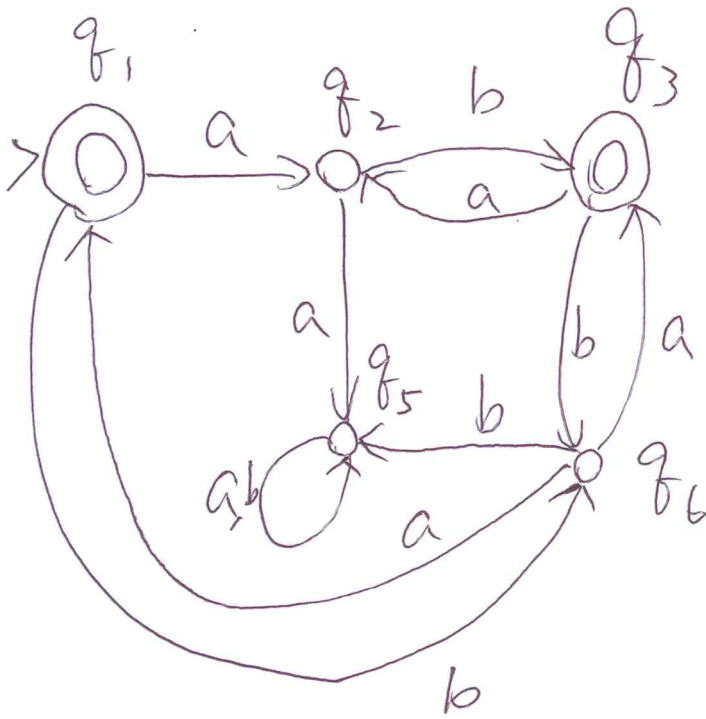
$q_4 \xrightarrow{a(ba \cup ab)^*} f \in \bar{F}$

$q_6 \xrightarrow{a(ba \cup ab)^*} f' \in \bar{F}$

equivalent.

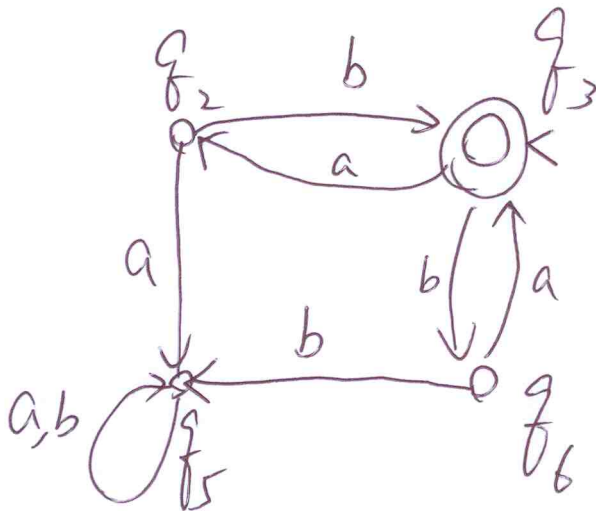
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non deterministic.

If  $(q_1, x) \vdash_M^* (f, e)$ , where  $f \in \bar{F}$ , then  
 $(q_3, x) \vdash_M^* (f', e)$ , where  $f' \in \bar{F}$ .



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Nov. 6, 2012

Def. Let  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be a language,  
and let  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$ . We say

$x \approx_L y$  if for all  $z \in \Sigma^*$ ,

$xz \in L$  iff  $yz \in L$ . ( $\approx_L$  is an equivalence relation.)

$[x]$ : the equivalence class with respect to  $L$  to which  $x$  belongs.

$$L = (ab \cup ba)^*$$

Four equivalence classes:

$$[e] = L \quad \{e, ab, ba, abab, abba, \dots\}$$

$$[a] = La \quad \{a, aba, baa, ababa, abbaa, \dots\}$$

$$[b] = Lb \quad \{b, abb, bab, ababb, abbab, \dots\}$$

$$[aa] = L(aa \cup bb)\Sigma^* \quad \{aa, bb, abaa, abbb, \dots\}$$

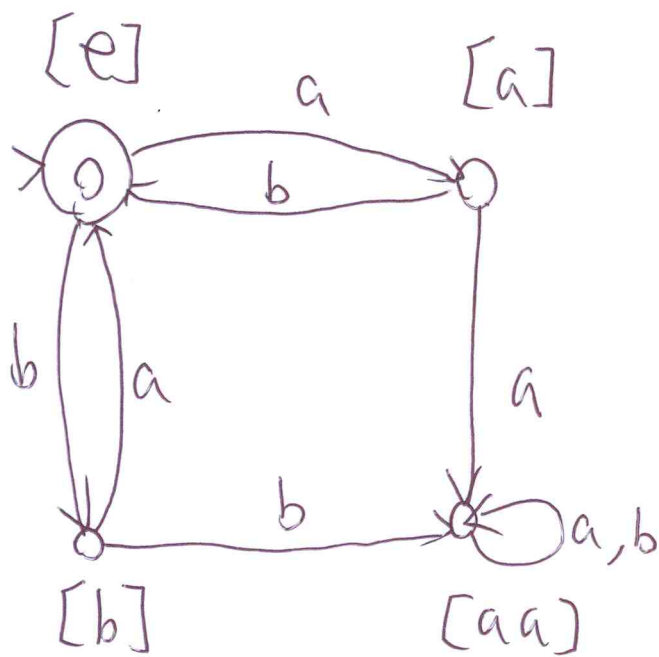
For any string  $x \in [e]$ , <sup>we have</sup>  $xa \in [a]$ , <sup>and</sup>  $xb \in [b]$ .

For any string  $x \in [a]$ , we have  $xb \in [e]$  and  $xa \in [aa]$ .

For any string  $x \in [b]$ , we have  $xa \in [e]$  and  $xb \in [aa]$ .

For any string  $x \in [aa]$ , we have  $xa \in [aa]$  and  $xb \in [aa]$ .

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Nov. 6, 2012



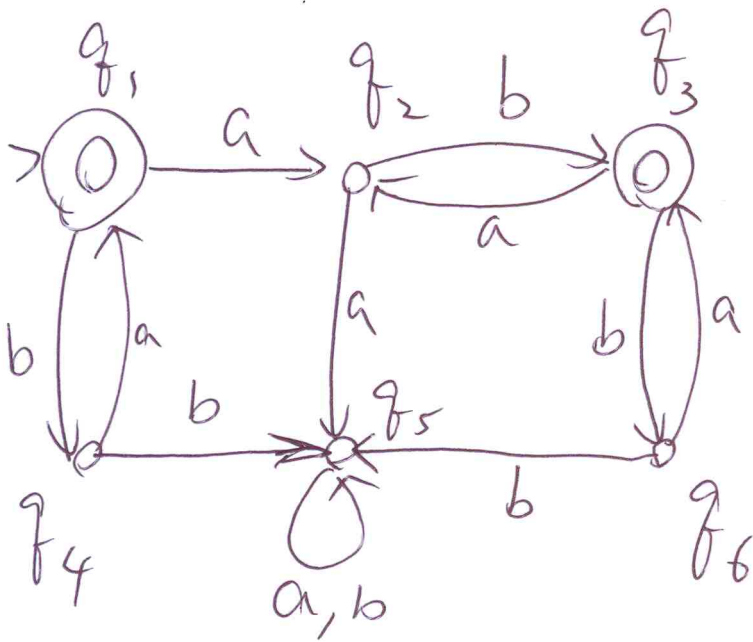
Thm. Let  $L$  be a regular language. There is a DFA with as many states as there are equivalence classes in  $\approx_L$  that accepts  $L$ .

Def. Let  $M$  be a DFA. Two strings  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$  are equivalent with respect to  $M$ , denoted  $x \sim_M y$ , if they both drive  $M$  from the initial state to the same state. That is,  $x \sim_M y$  if  $\exists$  a state  $q$  such that  $(s, x) \vdash_M^* (q, e)$  and  $(s, y) \vdash_M^* (q, e)$ .

$$L = (ab \cup ba)^*$$

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Nov. 6, 2012



$$E_{q_1} = (ba)^*$$

$$\subseteq [e]$$

$$E_{q_2} = (ba)^* a (b \cup a \cup \emptyset^*)$$

$$\subseteq [a]$$

$$E_{q_3} = (ba)^* ab \cup \emptyset$$

$$\subseteq [e]$$

$$E_{q_4} = b (ab)^*$$

$$\subseteq [b]$$

$$E_{q_5} = L (aa \cup bb) \Sigma^*$$

$$\subseteq [aa]$$

$$E_{q_6} = (ba)^* ab \cup \emptyset$$

$$\subseteq [b]$$

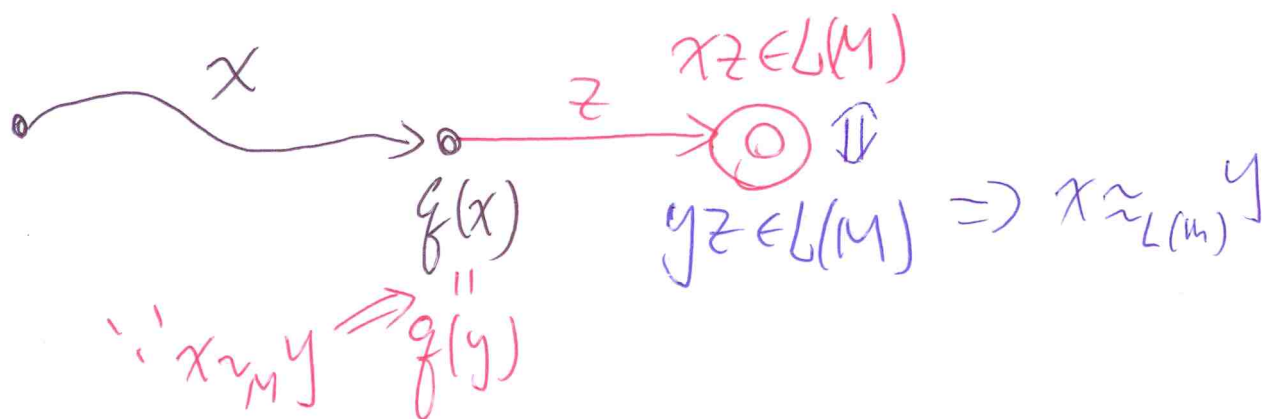


Thm.

$$x \sim_M y \Rightarrow x \sim_{L(M)} y$$

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Nov. 6, 2012



The number of states of a DFA accepting  $L$  is no less than the number of equivalence classes under  $\sim_L$ .

Corollary: A language  $L$  is regular iff  $\sim_L$  has finitely many equivalence classes.

\*  $L = \{a^i b^i : i \geq 0\}$  is not regular because

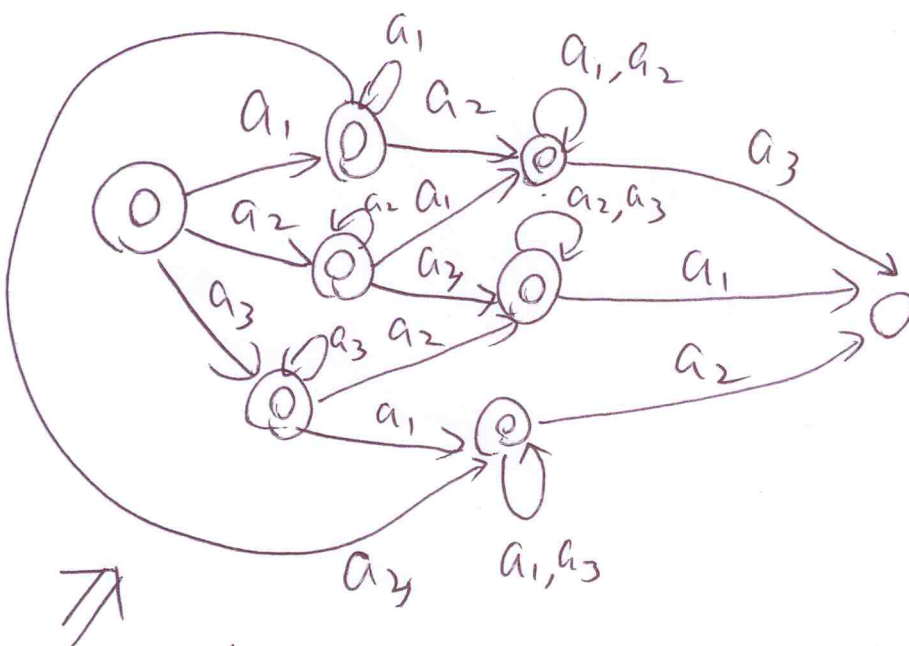
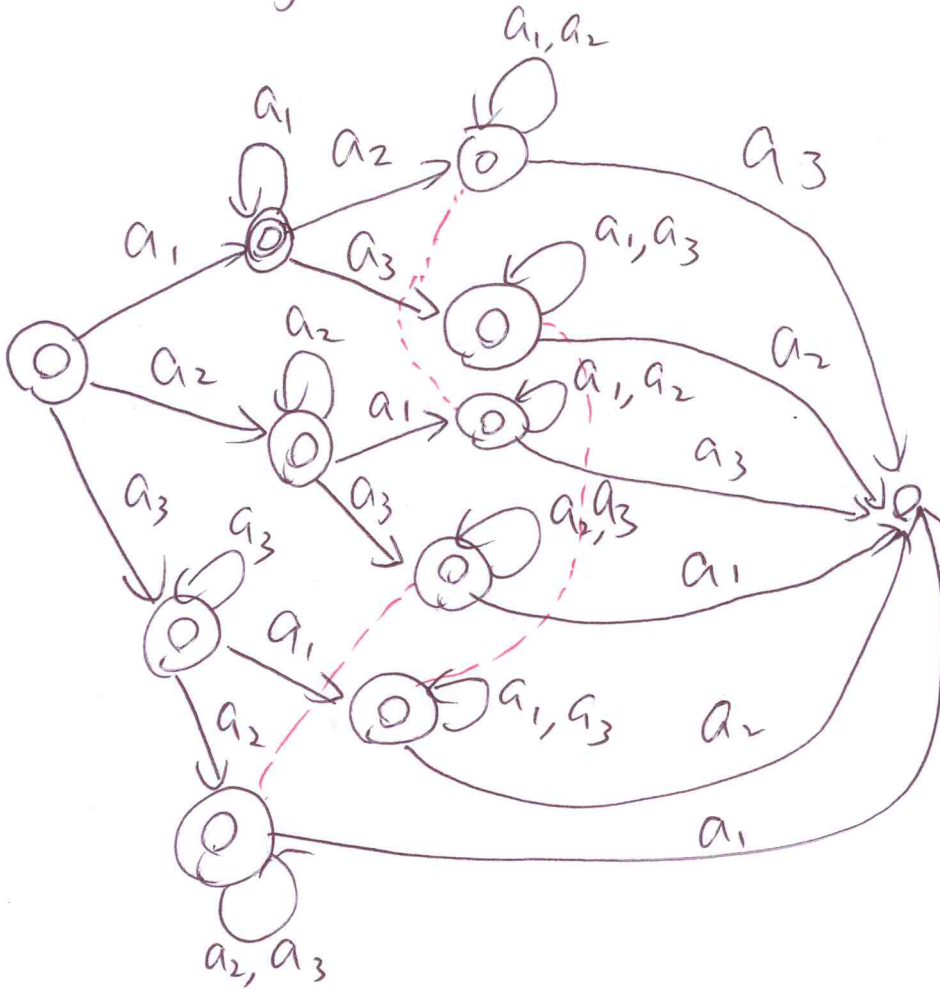
$\sim_L$  has infinitely many equivalence classes

$[e], [a], [aa], [aaa], [aaaa], \dots$

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Nov. 6, 2012

Ex.  $L = \{w \in \{a_1, a_2, a_3\}^* : w \text{ does not contain occurrences of all three symbols}\}$

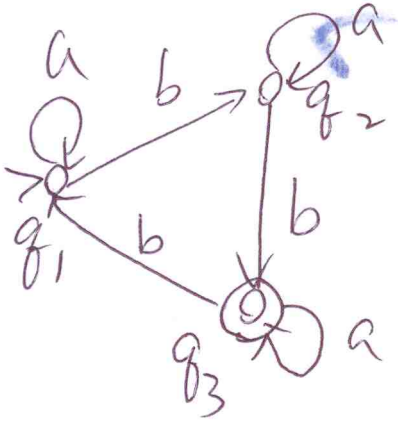


- $[e] = \{e\}$
- $[a_1] = \{a_1, a_1 a_1, \dots\}$
- $[a_2] = \{a_2, a_2 a_2, \dots\}$
- $[a_3] = \{a_3, a_3 a_3, \dots\}$
- $[a_1 a_2] = \{a_1 a_2, a_1 a_1 a_2, \dots\}$
- $[a_1 a_3] = \{a_1 a_3, \dots\}$
- $[a_2 a_3] = \{a_2 a_3, a_2 a_2 a_3, \dots\}$
- $[a_1 a_2 a_3] = \{a_1 a_2 a_3, \dots\}$

These states are all necessary because  $\approx_L$  has 8 equivalence classes.

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Nov. 6, 2012



$q_1$ :  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{get-next-symbol};$   
if  $\sigma$  is EOF then Reject;  
else if  $\sigma = a$  then goto  $q_1$ ;  
else if  $\sigma = b$  then goto  $q_2$ ;

$q_2$ :  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{get-next-symbol};$   
if  $\sigma$  is EOF then Reject;  
else if  $\sigma = a$  then goto  $q_2$ ;  
else if  $\sigma = b$  then goto  $q_3$ ;

$q_3$ :  $\sigma \leftarrow \text{get-next-symbol};$   
if  $\sigma$  is EOF then Accept;  
else if  $\sigma = a$  then goto  $q_3$ ;  
else if  $\sigma = b$  then goto  $q_1$ ;