CS 536 Announcements for Wednesday, January 31, 2024

Course websites:

`pages.cs.wisc.edu/~hasti/cs536`
`www.piazza.com/wisc/spring2024/compsci536`

Programming Assignment 1

- test code due Sunday, Feb. 4 by 11:59 pm
- other files due Thursday, Feb. 8 by 11:59 pm

Last Time

- start scanning
- finite state machines
  - formalizing finite state machines
  - coding finite state machines
  - deterministic vs non-deterministic FSMs

Today

- non-deterministic FSMs
- equivalence of NFAs and DFAs
- regular languages
- regular expressions

Next Time

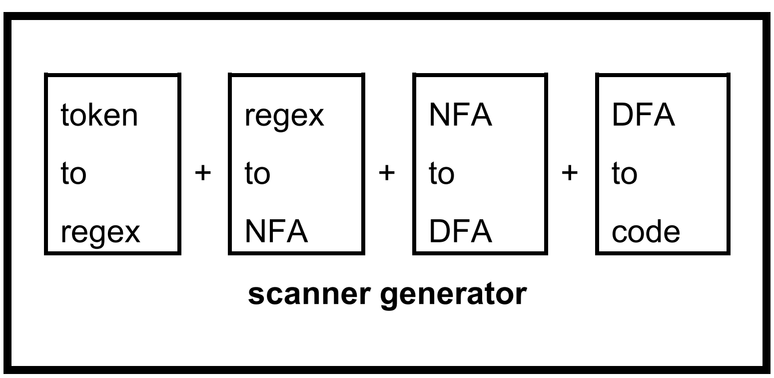
- regular expressions → DFAs
- language recognition → tokenizers
- scanner generators
- JLex

Recall

- scanner : converts a sequence of characters to a sequence of tokens
- scanner implemented using FSMs
- FSMs can be DFA or NFA

Creating a scanner

scanner =



NFAs, formally

finite state machine *M* = (*Q*, Σ, δ, *q*, *F*)

L(*M*) = the language of FSM *M* = set of all strings *M* accepts

Example:

"Running" an NFA

To check if a string is in L(*M*) of NFA *M*, simulate set of choices it could make.

The string is in L(*M*) iff there is at least one sequence of transitions that

- consumes all input (without getting stuck) and
- ends in one of the final states

NFA and DFA are equivalent

Two automata *M* and *M** are equivalent iff L(*M*) = L(*M**)

Lemmas to be proven:

Lemma 1: Given a DFA *M*, one can construct an NFA *M** that recognizes the same language as *M*, i.e., L(*M**) = L(*M*)

Lemma 2: Given an NFA *M*, one can construct a DFA *M** that recognizes the same language as *M*, i.e., L(*M**) = L(*M*)

Proving Lemma 2

Lemma 2: Given an NFA *M*, one can construct a DFA *M** that recognizes the same language as *M*, i.e., L(*M**) = L(*M*)

Part 1: Given an NFA *M* without ε-transitions, one can construct a DFA *M** that recognizes the same language as *M*

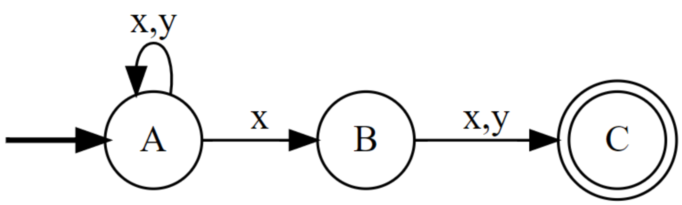
Part 2: Given an NFA *M* with ε-transitions, one can construct a NFA *M** without ε-transitions that recognizes the same language as *M*

NFA without ε-transitions to DFA

Observation: we can only be in finitely many subsets of states at any one time

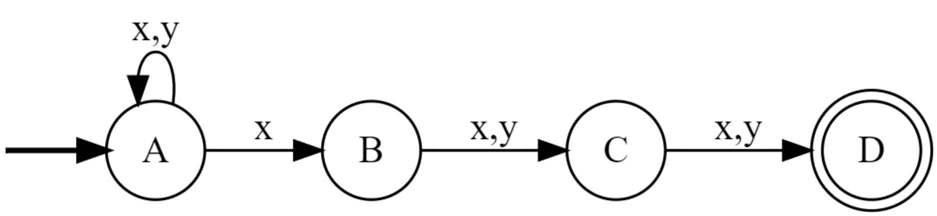
Idea: to do NFA *M* → DFA *M**, use a single state in *M** to simulate sets of states in *M*

Suppose *M* has |*Q*| states. Then *M** can have only up to states.
Why?



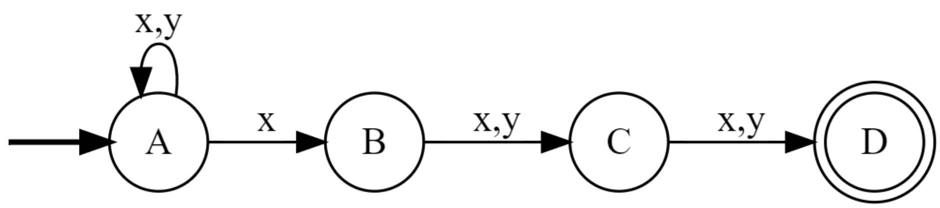
A	**B**	**C**
0	**0**	**0**
0	**0**	**1**
0	**1**	**0**
0	**1**	**1**
1	**0**	**0**
1	**0**	**1**
1	**1**	**0**
1	**1**	**1**

Example



NFA without ε-transitions to DFA

Given NFA *M*:

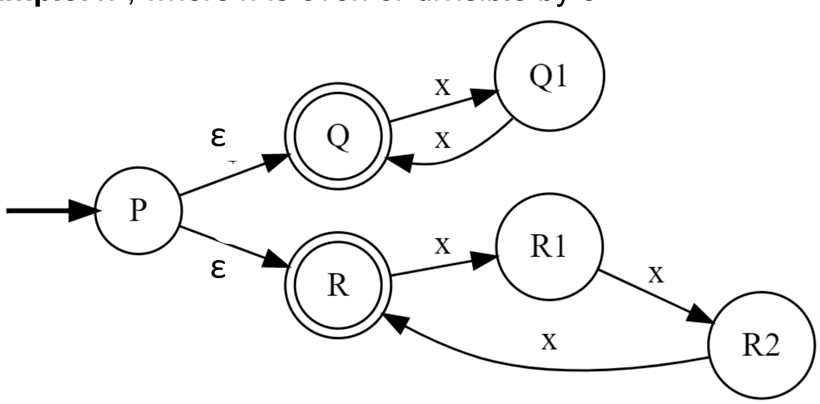


Build new DFA *M**

To build DFA: Add an edge in *M** from state *S** on character *c* to state *T** if *T** represents the set of all states that a state in *S** could possibly transition to on input *c*

ε-transitions

Example: x^n, where *n* is even or divisible by 3

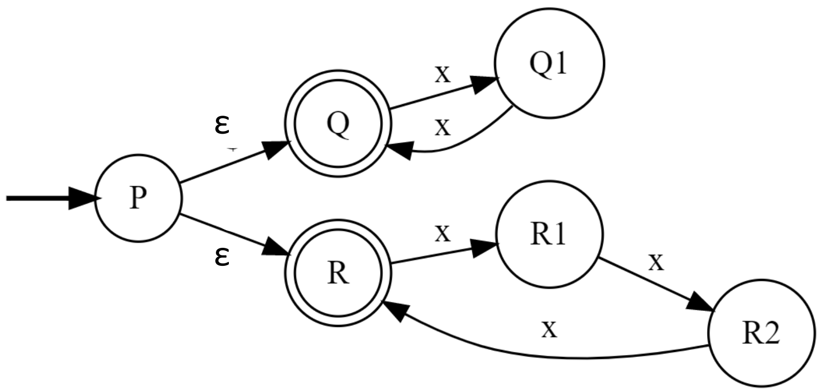


Eliminating ε-transitions

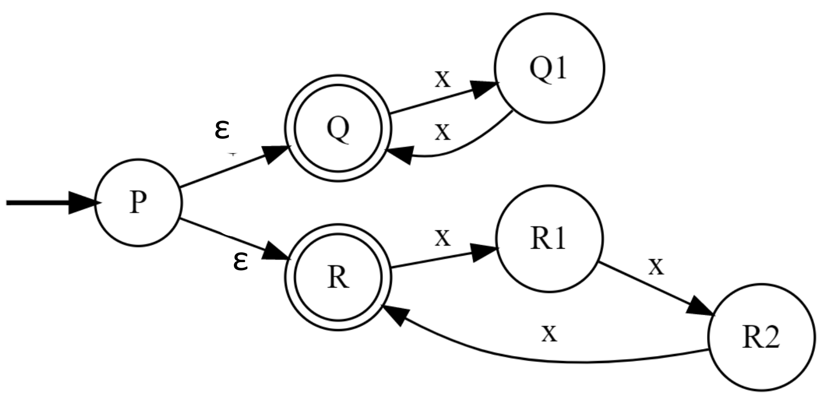
Goal: given NFA *M* with $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$-transitions, construct an $\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$-free NFA *M** that is equivalent to *M*

Definition: *epsilon closure*

eclose(*S*) = set of all states reachable from *S* using 0 or more epsilon transitions



	eclose
P	
Q	
R	
Q1	
R1	
R2	



Summary of FSMs

DFAs and NFAs are equivalent

- an NFA can be converted into a DFA, which can be implemented via the table-driven approach

ε-transitions do not add expressiveness to NFAs

- algorithm to remove ε-transitions

Regular Languages and Regular Expressions

Regular language

Any language recognized by an FSM is a *regular language*

Examples:

- single-line comments beginning with //
- hexadecimal integer literals in Java
- C/C++ identifiers
- {ε, ab, abab, ababab, abababab, …}

Regular expression

= a pattern that defines a regular language

regular language: (potentially infinite) set of strings

regular expression: represents a (potentially infinite) set of strings by a single pattern

Example: {$\boldsymbol{\varepsilon}$, ab, abab, ababab, abababab, …} ←→ (ab)*

Why do we need them?

- Each token in a programming language can be defined by a regular language
- Scanner-generator input = one regular expression for each token to be recognized by the scanner

→

Formal definition

A **regular expression** over an alphabet Σ is any of the following:

- ∅ (the empty regular expression)
- ε
- *a* (for any $a \in \Sigma$)

Moreover, if R_1 and R_2 are regular expressions over Σ, then so are: $R_1 \mid R_2$, $R_1 \cdot R_2$, R_1^*

Regular expressions (as an expression language)

regular expression = pattern describing a set of strings

operands: single characters, epsilon

operators:

alternation ("or"): a | b

concatenation ("followed by"): a.b ab

iteration ("Kleene star"): a*

Conventions

aa	is a.a
a+	is aa*
letter	is a|b|c|d|…|y|z|A|B|…|Z
digit	is 0|1|2|…|9
not(x)	is all characters except x

parentheses for grouping and overriding precedence, e.g., (ab)*

Example: single-line comments beginning with //

Example: hexadecimal integer literals in Java

- must start 0x or 0X
- followed by at least one hexadecimal digit (hexdigit)
  - hexdigit = 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, a, b, c, d, e, f, A, B, C, D, E, F
- optionally can add long specifier (`l` or `L`) at end

Example: C/C++ identifiers (with one added restriction)

- sequence of letters/digits/underscores
- cannot begin with a digit
- cannot end with an underscore