

Chap. 2 Finite Automata

2.1 An Informal Picture of Finite Automata

A man with a wolf, goat, and cabbage is on the left bank of a river

A boat carries one man and only one of the other three.

The wolf eats the goat without the man.

The goat eats the cabbage without the man.

Is it possible to cross the river without the goat or cabbage being eaten?

states: occupants of each bank after a crossing

16 subsets of the man(m), wolf(W), goat(G), and cabbage(C).

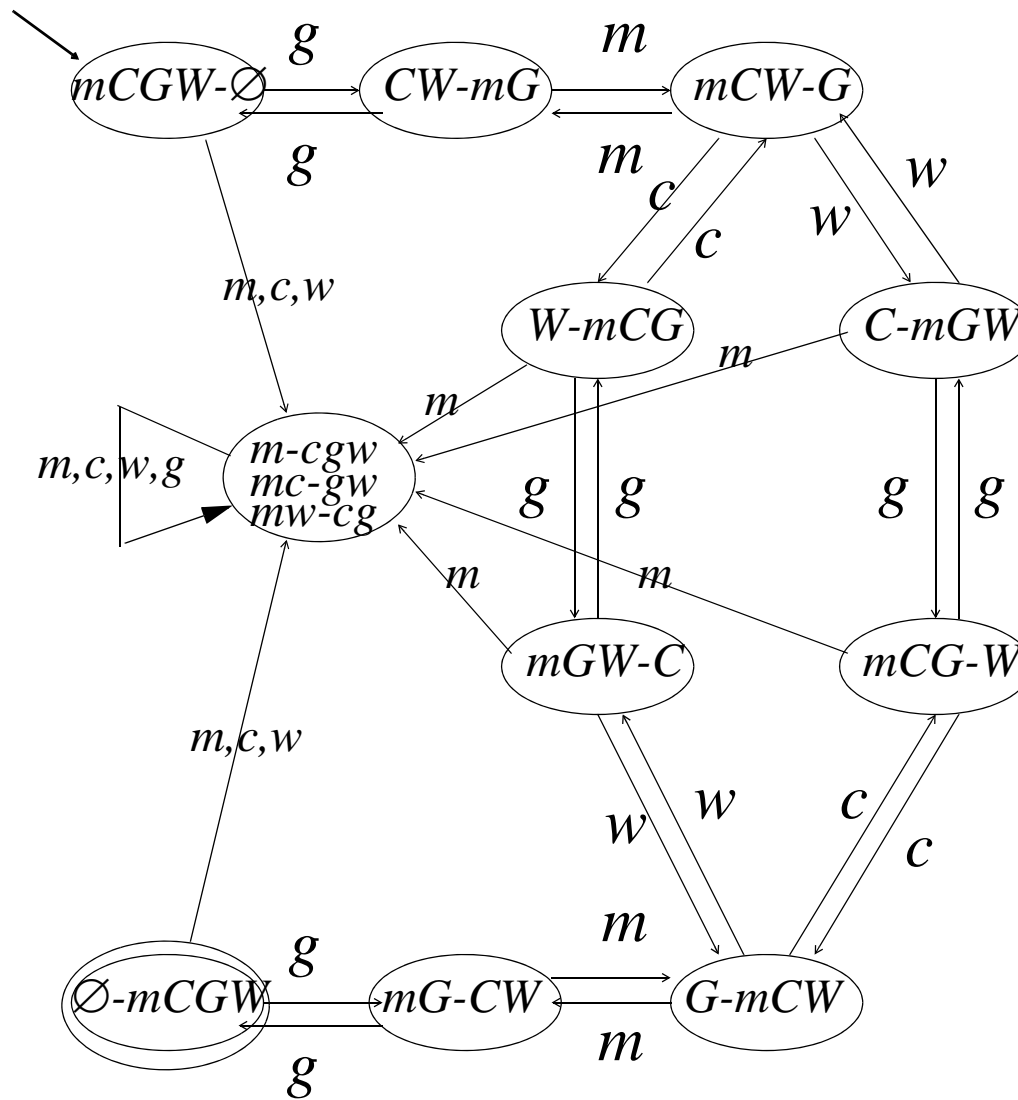
16 states: $mWGC-\emptyset$, $WC-mG$, ..., $\emptyset-mWGC$

input symbol: four ways of crossing the river

man cross alone(m), with the wolf(w), the goat(g), or cabbage(c)

input string: a sequence of crossings(input symbols)

state transition: From a state to another state by a input symbol



2.2 Deterministic Finite Automata

A *deterministic finite automaton* consists of:

1. A *finite set of states*, denoted Q ,
2. A *finite set of input symbols*, denoted Σ ,
3. A *transition function*,

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$$

Let $p, q \in Q$, and $a \in \Sigma$, if we write $\delta(q, a) = p$, meaning that when **current** state is in q and **input** symbol is a , the current state is changed to p , and input symbol is **changed** to the **next(right)** one.

4. A *start(initial)* state, $q_0 \in Q$, and
5. A set of *final or accepting* states, $F \subseteq Q$.

A DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ “five-tuple” notation

2.2.2 How a DFA Processes Strings

How a DFA decides whether or not “accept”

a *input string*(sequence of input symbols)

Suppose $a_1a_2 \dots a_n$ is a sequence of input symbols

1. We start out the DFA with in its **start** state q_0 .
2. We consult the **transition function**, δ ,
with current state and current input symbol,
asumme in the first trial $\delta(q_0, a_1) = q_1$,
3. **Repeat** this step with the **next** state q_1 and the **next** input symbol a_2 .
Assume $\delta(q_1, a_2) = q_2, \delta(q_2, a_3) = q_3, \dots, \delta(q_{n-1}, a_n) = q_n$.
4. **Finally**, check if $\delta(q_{n-1}, a_n) = q_n \in F$ or not.

If $q_n \in F$, **accept** $a_1a_2 \dots a_n$. If $q_n \notin F$ **does not accept** $a_1a_2 \dots a_n$.

$\delta(\delta(\dots\delta(\delta(q_0, a_1), a_2), \dots), a_{n-1}), a_n) = q_n$

where $\delta(q_{i-1}, a_i) = q_i$ for $1 \leq \forall i \leq n$.

Example 2.1 Let $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ and $L = \{x01y \in \Sigma^* \mid x, y \in \Sigma^*\}$.

State q_0 : **initial** state

If it sees 0, go to a **new** state q_1 . If it sees 1 **stay** in the state q_0 .

It has **never** seen 0.

State q_1 : The **last symbol** it has seen is 0.

If it sees 1, go to a **new** state q_2 . If it sees 0, **stay** in the state q_1 .

State q_2 : It has **ever** seen is 01. **final** state

Whether it sees 0 or 1, **stay** in the state q_2 .

$$A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$$

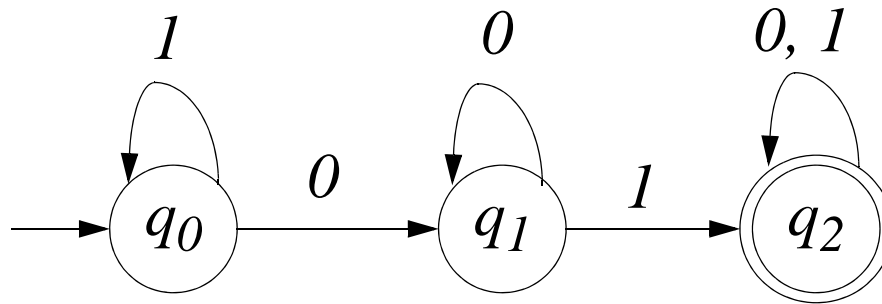
$$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\} \quad \Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\delta = \{\delta(q_0, 0)=q_1, \delta(q_0, 1)=q_0, \delta(q_1, 0)=q_1, \delta(q_1, 1)=q_2, \\ \delta(q_2, 0)=q_2, \delta(q_2, 1)=q_2\}$$

$$F = \{q_2\}$$

2.2.3 Simple notations for DFA's

Transition diagram



Transition table

	0	1
→ q_0	q_1	q_0
q_1	q_1	q_2
* q_2	q_2	q_2

2.2.4 Extend the domain of transition function from symbols to strings

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$$

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$$

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = q \quad \text{basis}$$

$$\hat{\delta}(q, wa) = \delta(\hat{\delta}(q, w), a) \quad \text{recursion}$$

$$q \in Q, w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma, wa \in \Sigma^+.$$

$$\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) = \delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1}), a_n) \quad \text{1st recursion}$$

$$= \delta(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-2}), a_{n-1}), a_n) \quad \text{2nd recursion}$$

= ...

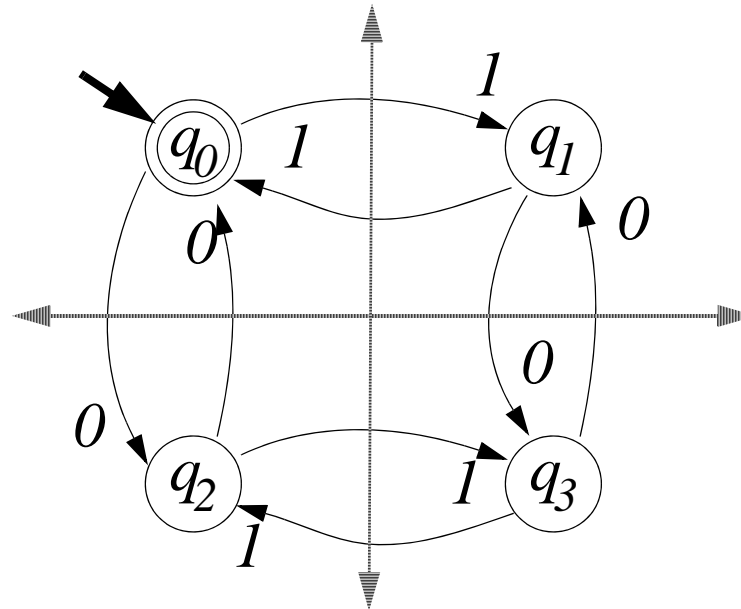
$$= \delta(\delta(\dots \delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1), a_2), \dots), a_{n-1}), a_n) \quad \text{(n-1)-th recursion}$$

$$= \delta(\delta(\dots \delta(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, \varepsilon), a_1), a_2), \dots), a_{n-1}), a_n) \quad \text{n-th recursion}$$

$$= \delta(\delta(\dots \delta(\delta(q_0, a_1), a_2), \dots), a_{n-1}), a_n) \quad \text{basis}$$

If $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = p$, for some $q, p \in Q$ and $w \in \Sigma^*$,
 w is the **path** from the state q to the state p .
 Since $\hat{\delta} \supseteq \delta$, we may use δ instead of $\hat{\delta}$.

Example 2.4



even numbers of 0's and even numbers of 1's.

2.2.5 The Language of DFA

We *define* the language of a DFA $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, $L(A)$,

$L(A) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F\}$ or $\{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \delta(q_0, w) \in F\}$, for short.

$L(A) \subseteq \Sigma^*$ or $L(A) \in 2^{\Sigma^*}$.

Definition: Regular languages

Let L be a language.

If $L = L(A)$ for some **DFA** A , then we say L is a **regular language**.

a class of languages

type-3 languages in Chomsky's language hierarchy

Definition: Equivalence of Automata

Let M_1 and M_2 be two automata. We say two automata M_1 and M_2 are **equivalent**, if $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$.

*The **state** of automata*

*summarizes the information concerning **past inputs** that is needed to **determine** the **behavior** of the automata on **subsequent inputs**.*

Aho and Ullman

Let $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be a DFA and $q \in Q$.

*We define **accessible** input strings from initial state to the state q .*

$$L(q) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \hat{\delta}(q_0, w) = q\}$$

$$L(M) = \cup_{q \in F} L(q).$$

*Consider a **binary relation** R_M on Σ^* and $x R_M y$, if $\hat{\delta}(q_0, x) = \hat{\delta}(q_0, y)$.*

*Then R_M is a **equivalent** relation and*

*the **equivalent class** $[x]_{R_M} = L(q)$, if $\hat{\delta}(q_0, x) = q$.*

*Since R_A is equivalent, $[x]_{R_M}$ is a **partion** of Σ^* .*

2.3 Nondeterministic Finite Automaton

$A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ is a *nondeterministic finite automaton* (NFA), if

1. Q is a *finite set of states*,
2. Σ is a *finite set of input symbols*, open denoted,
3. δ is a *transition function*,

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

If $q \in Q$, $a \in \Sigma$, and $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\} \subseteq Q$ (or $1 \leq \forall i \leq n, p_i \in Q$) then we write $\delta(q, a) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$, meaning that when current state is in q and input symbol is a , the state may be changed to **any** one of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n , and input symbol is changed to the next(right) one.

4. $q_0 \in Q$ is a *start state*, and
5. $F \subseteq Q$ is a set of *final or accepting states*.

Fig. 2.9, 2.10, 2.11

DFA: $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$

$\forall q \in Q, \forall a \in \Sigma, \exists \delta(q, a) \in Q.$

Otherwise

(total) function

partial function

If $A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be a FA with $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ *partial function*,

$L(A) = L(B)$ for DFA $B = (Q \cup \{d\}, \Sigma, \delta', q_0, F)$ where $d \notin Q$,

$\delta' = \delta \cup \{\delta(q, a) = d \mid \delta(q, a) \notin Q\} \cup \{\delta(d, a) = d \mid a \in \Sigma\}$

d : *dead state*

B is the DFA (with total function)

DFA: $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q.$

DFA but partial function: $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q \cup \{\emptyset\}.$

NFA: $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q.$

2.3.3 The Extended Transition Function

DFA

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$$

$$\hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$$

NFA

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$$

$$\delta': 2^Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q \text{ in this lecture}$$

$$\delta': 2^Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q \text{ in this lecture} \quad \hat{\delta}: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q \text{ in the text}$$

Two step extension

1. Set extension: $\delta \Rightarrow \delta'$

We extend the 1st domain of δ to set of states.

$$\delta': 2^Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

Let $P \subseteq Q$, we define

$$\delta'(P, a) = \{q \in Q \mid p \in P, q \in \delta(p, a)\}$$

$$\text{or } \delta' = \bigcup_{p \in P} \delta(p, a)$$

We may write $\delta'(p, a)$ **instead** of $\delta'(\{p\}, a)$ when needed.

2. String extension : $\delta' \Rightarrow \delta^\wedge$ (same as $\delta \Rightarrow \hat{\delta}$)

$$\delta^\wedge : 2^Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

$$\delta^\wedge(P, \varepsilon) = P$$

basis

$$\delta^\wedge(P, wa) = \delta'(\delta^\wedge(P, w), a)$$

recursion

$$P \subseteq Q (\text{or } P \in 2^Q), w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma, wa \in \Sigma^+.$$

We may use δ instead of δ' or δ^\wedge , since $\delta \subseteq \delta', \delta^\wedge$.

Let $N = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be an NFA. Then the **language defined** by the NFA N , denoted as $L(N)$ is,

$$L(N) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \delta^\wedge(\{q_0\}, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset\}.$$

$$L(N) \subseteq \Sigma^* \text{ or } L(N) \in 2^{\Sigma^*}.$$

2.3.5 Equivalence of DFA and NFA

Example 2.10(Fig. 2.12)

Subset construction(NFA \Rightarrow DFA)

Given an NFA $N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_{0N}, F_N)$,

construct DFA $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, q_{0D}, F_D)$.

$$1. Q_D = \{P \mid P \subseteq Q_N\} = 2^{Q_N}.$$

$$3. \delta_D(P, a) = \{q \in Q_N \mid p \in P \subseteq Q_N, q \in \delta_N(p, a)\}$$

$$\text{or} = \cup_{p \in P} \delta_N(p, a)$$

$$\text{or} = \delta_N'(P, a) \quad \text{set extension of } \delta_N.$$

$$\delta_D(P, a) = \delta_N'(P, a) \text{ or } \delta_D = \delta_N' \text{ in short,}$$

where $\delta_D: Q_D \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q_D$, $\delta_N': 2^{Q_N} \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^{Q_N}$, and $Q_D = 2^{Q_N}$.

$$4. q_{0D} = \{q_{0N}\}.$$

$$5. F_D = \{F \in Q_D \mid F \cap F_N \neq \emptyset\}$$

Theorem 2.11 $L(D) = L(N)$ in the above subset construction

Proof $\hat{\delta}_D(q_{0D}, w) = \hat{\delta}'_N(\{q_{0N}\}, w)$ for all $w \in \Sigma^*$.

$$\hat{\delta}_D: Q_D \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q_D = 2^{Q_N} \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^{Q_N}.$$

$\hat{\delta}'_N: 2^{Q_N} \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^{Q_N}$. We may use q_{0N} instead of $\{q_{0N}\}$.

Induction on $|w|$.

basis: Let $|w| = 0$, $\hat{\delta}_D(q_{0D}, \varepsilon) = \hat{\delta}_D(\{q_{0N}\}, \varepsilon) = \{q_{0N}\} = \hat{\delta}'_N(\{q_{0N}\}, \varepsilon)$.

induction: Let $w = xa$ where $a \in \Sigma$, $x \in \Sigma^*$, and $w \in \Sigma^+$. ($|w| = |x| + 1$)

$$\begin{aligned} \hat{\delta}_D(q_{0D}, xa) &= \delta_D(\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_{0N}\}, x), a) && \text{by definition of } \hat{\delta}_D. \\ &= \delta_N'(\hat{\delta}_D(\{q_{0N}\}, x), a) && \text{by subset construction} \\ &= \delta_N'(\hat{\delta}'_N(\{q_{0N}\}, x), a) && \text{by induction hypothesis} \\ &= \hat{\delta}'_N(\{q_{0N}\}, xa) && \text{by definition of } \hat{\delta}'_N. \end{aligned}$$

$\hat{\delta}'_D(\{q_0\}, x) \in F_D$, if and only if, $\hat{\delta}'_N(q_0, x) \cap F_N \neq \emptyset$.

Q.E.D.

Theorem 2.12 A language L is defined by some DFA, if and only if L is defined by some NFA. (NFA \Leftrightarrow DFA)

Proof: (If) subset construction (NFA \Rightarrow DFA)

(Only if) NFA can **easily simulate** DFA (DFA \Rightarrow NFA).

Let a DFA $D = (Q, \Sigma, \delta_D, q_0, F)$. We define an NFA $(Q, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F)$

$$\delta_N(q, a) = \{p \mid \delta_D(q, a) = p\}.$$

Proof for $\forall w \in \Sigma^*$, if and only if, $\hat{\delta}_D(q, w) = p$, then $\hat{\delta}'_D(q, w) = \{p\}$.

Then $L(D) = L(N)$.

$\therefore L$ is regular, iff $L = L(N)$ for some NFA N .

2.5 Finite Automata with Epsilon-Transitions

$A = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ is a fa with epsilon transition (ϵ -NFA), if

$Q, \Sigma, q_0,$ and F are same as NFA, but

3. δ is a transition function,

$$\delta: Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

If $q \in Q$, and $\{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\} \subseteq Q$,

then we write $\delta(q, \epsilon) = \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n\}$, meaning that when current state is in q and **regardless** of input symbol the state may be changed to **any** one of p_1, p_2, \dots, p_n , and next input symbol is **not changed**.

Ex. 2.16, Fig. 2.18

2.5.3 Epsilon-closure

basis: $q \in \varepsilon^*(q)$ (same as $ECLOSE(q)$ in the text)

recursion: If $p \in \varepsilon^*(q)$, and $r \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)$, then $r \in \varepsilon^*(q)$.

Example 2.18

Why $\varepsilon^*(q)$ instead of $ECLOSE(q)$

Let $\varepsilon = \{(p, q) \mid q \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)\}$. Then $\varepsilon \subseteq Q \times Q$ (a binary relation on Q)
and $ECLOSE(q) = \varepsilon^*(q)$ reflexive-transitive closure of ε .

2.5.4 The Extended Transition and Language for ε -NFA's

NFA: $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$.

ε -NFA: $\delta: Q \times (\{\varepsilon\} \cup \Sigma) \rightarrow 2^Q$.

Let's **divide** δ of ε -NFA into δ^1 and δ^0 .

$\delta^1: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$.

$\delta^0: Q \times \{\varepsilon\} \rightarrow 2^Q$.

$$\delta = \delta^1 \cup \delta^0.$$

δ^1 : is **same** as δ in NFA, we use δ **instead** of δ^1 , since $\delta^1 \subseteq \delta$.

$\delta^0 \leftrightarrow_f \varepsilon$ what is the **bijection** f ? We use ε **instead** of δ^0 .

$\varepsilon = \{(p, q) \mid q \in \delta(p, \varepsilon)\} \subseteq Q \times Q$ binary **relation** on Q .

$\varepsilon^* = \bigcup_{i \in \mathbb{N}_0} \varepsilon^i \subseteq Q \times Q$ binary **relation** on Q .

$\varepsilon, \varepsilon^*: Q \rightarrow 2^Q$. **function** from Q to 2^Q .

Let's **extend** the domain of $\delta(=\delta^1)$, ε , and ε^* from **state** to **set of states**.

Let $P \subseteq Q$, we define

$$\delta': 2^Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

$$\delta'(P, a) = \{q \in Q \mid p \in P, \delta(p, a) = q\}$$

$$\text{or} \quad = \cup_{p \in P} \delta(p, a)$$

We may write $\delta'(p, a)$ **instead** of $\delta'(\{p\}, a)$ when needed.

We may write $\delta(P, a)$ **instead** of $\delta'(P, a)$ when needed.

$$\varepsilon': 2^Q \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

$$\varepsilon'(P) = \{q \in Q \mid p \in P, \varepsilon(p) = q\}$$

$$\text{or} \quad = \cup_{p \in P} \varepsilon(p)$$

$$\varepsilon'^*: 2^Q \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

$$\varepsilon'^*(P) = \{q \in Q \mid p \in P, \varepsilon^*(p) = q\} = \cup_{p \in P} \varepsilon^*(p)$$

We write $\varepsilon(P)$ **instead** of $\varepsilon'(P)$ and $\varepsilon^*(P)$ **instead** of $\varepsilon'^*(P)$.

Let's **extend** the of domain of δ from **symbol** to **strings**.

$$\hat{\delta}: 2^Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

$$\hat{\delta}(P, \varepsilon) = \varepsilon^*(P) \quad \text{basis}$$

$$\hat{\delta}(P, wa) = \varepsilon^*(\delta(\hat{\delta}(P, w), a)) \quad \text{recursion}$$

$$P \subseteq Q(\text{or } P \in 2^Q), w \in \Sigma^*, a \in \Sigma, wa \in \Sigma^+.$$

$$\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_n) = \varepsilon^*(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-1}), a_n)) \quad \text{1st recursion}$$

$$= \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1 a_2 \dots a_{n-2}), a_{n-1})), a_n)) \quad \text{2nd recursion}$$

= ...

$$= \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\dots \varepsilon^*(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, a_1), a_2)), \dots), a_{n-1})), a_n)) \quad \text{(n-1)th recursion}$$

$$= \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\dots \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\hat{\delta}(q_0, \varepsilon), a_1)), a_2)), \dots)), a_{n-1})), a_n)) \quad \text{n-th}$$

$$= \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\dots \varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(\delta(\varepsilon^*(q_0), a_1)), a_2)), \dots)), a_{n-1})), a_n)) \quad \text{basis}$$

$$\delta^n = \varepsilon^* \circ \delta \circ \varepsilon^* \circ \dots \circ \delta \circ \varepsilon^* = \varepsilon^* \circ (\delta \circ \varepsilon^*)^n.$$

We may write δ^* *instead* of $\hat{\delta}$, since $\hat{\delta} = \cup_{i \in N_0} \delta^i = \delta^*$.

Let $E = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ be an ε -NFA. Then

the language defined by the ε -NFA E , denoted as $L(E)$ is,

$$L(E) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset\}.$$

$$L(E) \subseteq \Sigma^* \text{ or } L(E) \in 2^{\Sigma^*}$$

2.5.5 Eliminating ε -Transitions

Given an ε -NFA $E = (Q_E, \Sigma, \delta_E, q_0, F_E)$, construct the equivalent DFA $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, q_{0D}, F_D)$ such that $L(D) = L(N)$.

$$1. Q_D = \{P \mid P \subseteq Q_E\} = 2^{Q_E}.$$

$$3. q_{0D} = \varepsilon^*({q_0})$$

$$4. \delta_D(P, a) = \varepsilon^*(\delta_E(P, a)) \quad \text{set extension of } \delta_E \text{ and } \varepsilon\text{-closure}$$

where $P \subseteq Q_E$ ($P \in Q_D$), $a \in \Sigma$, and

$$\delta_D(P, a) \subseteq Q_E \text{ (or } \delta_D(P, a) \in Q_D)$$

$$5. F_D = \{F \in Q_D \mid F \cap F_E \neq \emptyset\}$$

Theorem 2.22 A language L is accepted by some ε -NFA if and only if L is accepted by some DFA.

Proof: (If) ε -NFA can easily simulate DFA (DFA \Rightarrow ε -NFA).

(Only if) Eliminating ε -transitions (ε -NFA \Rightarrow DFA)

Let $E = (Q_E, \Sigma, \delta_E, q_0, F_E)$ be a ε -NFA and

DFA $D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, q_{0D}, F_D)$ is the one in 2.5.5.

We show $\delta_E^\wedge(q_0, w) = \delta_D^\wedge(q_{0D}, w)$ by induction on $|w|$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \text{basis: } \delta_E^\wedge(q_0, \varepsilon) &= \varepsilon^*(q_0) && \text{by basis definition of } \delta_E^\wedge. \\
 &= q_{0D} = && \text{by construction of } \delta_D. \\
 &= \delta_D^\wedge(q_{0D}, \varepsilon) && \text{by basis definition of } \delta_D^\wedge.
 \end{aligned}$$

Induction: Let $w = xa \in \Sigma^+$, $a \in \Sigma$, and $x \in \Sigma^*$.

$$\begin{aligned}
 \delta_E^\wedge(q_0, xa) &= \delta_E(\varepsilon^*(\delta_E^\wedge(q_0, x), a)) && \text{by recursive definition of } \delta_E^\wedge. \\
 &= \delta_E(\varepsilon^*(\delta_D^\wedge(q_{0D}, x), a)) && \text{by induction hypothesis.} \\
 &= \delta_D(\delta_D^\wedge(q_{0D}, x), a) && \text{by construction of } \delta_D. \\
 &= \delta_D^\wedge(q_{0D}, xa) && \text{by recursive definition of } \delta_D^\wedge.
 \end{aligned}$$

2.A Extended Finite Automata(XFA)

$X = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, \delta, F)$ is an extended finite state automata(XFA), if

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q.$$

Given an XFA $X = (Q_X, \Sigma, q_0, \delta_X, F_X)$, **construct**

an equivalent ε -NFA $E = (Q_E, \Sigma, q_0, \delta_E, F_E)$ such that $L(X) = L(E)$.

Construction algorithm

$Q_E := Q_X; F_E := F_X; \delta_E := \emptyset;$

for $\forall (\delta_X(q, x) = P) \in \delta_X$ where $x = a_1 a_2 \dots a_n$ **do**

if $0 \leq n \leq 1 \rightarrow \delta_E(q, x) := P$ where $x \in \Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$

$| n \geq 2 \rightarrow \delta_E(q, a_1) = \delta_E(q, a_1) \cup \{p_1\};$

for $2 \leq \forall i \leq n-1$ **do** $\delta_E(p_{i-1}, a_i) := \{p_i\}$ **od**; $\delta_E(p_{n-1}, a_n) = P;$

$Q_E := Q_E \cup \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}\}$ where $Q_E \cap \{p_1, p_2, \dots, p_{n-1}\} \neq \emptyset$

fi

od

The following statements are **equivalent**,

1. A language L is **regular**.

2. $L = L(D)$ for some DFA D . $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$.

3. $L = L(D)$ for some DFA D with partial function δ .
 $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q \cup \{\emptyset\}$.

4. $L = L(N)$ for some NFA N . $\delta : Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$.

5. $L = L(E)$ for some ε -NFA E . $\delta : Q \times (\{\varepsilon\} \cup \Sigma) \rightarrow 2^Q$.

6. $L = L(X)$ for some XFA X . $\delta : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q$.