

Non-regular Languages

Arjun Chandrasekhar

Regular languages

Show that the following language is regular

$$\{0^n 1^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\} = \{\epsilon, 01, 0011, 000111, \dots\}$$

- You may construct a DFA, NFA, or a regex to recognize the language

Non-regular languages

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Non-regular languages

- ▶ Are DFAs an all-purpose computing device?
Can DFAs be used to recognize *every* language?
- ▶ How do we show that a particular language cannot be recognized by *any* DFA?
 - ▶ We certainly can't exhaustively check every possible DFA...

Non-regular

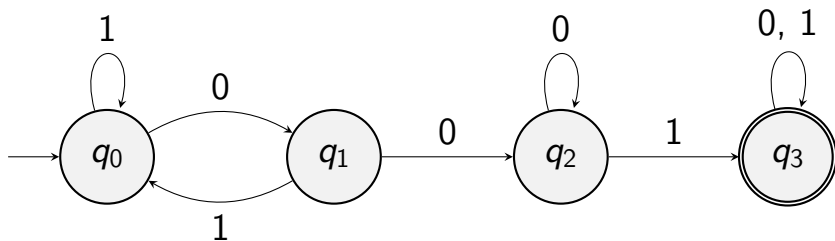
- ▶ Are D
- Can D
- ▶ How c
- cannot
- ▶ V
- p



device?
language?
gauge
every

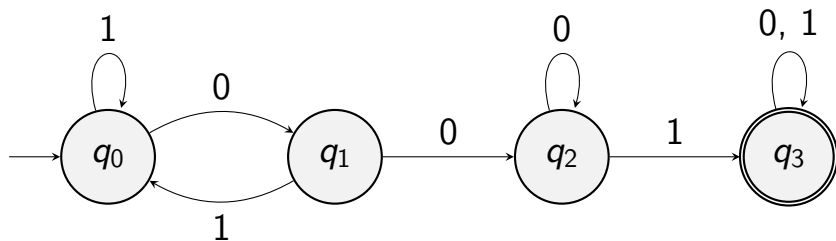
Repeated states

How many symbols can we read before we are forced to repeat a state?



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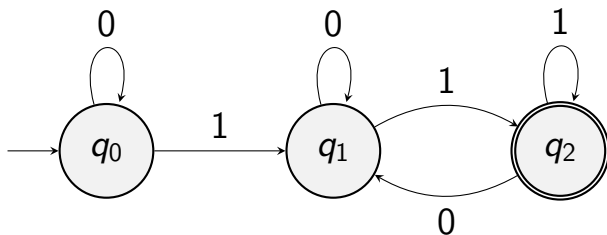
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4 symbols

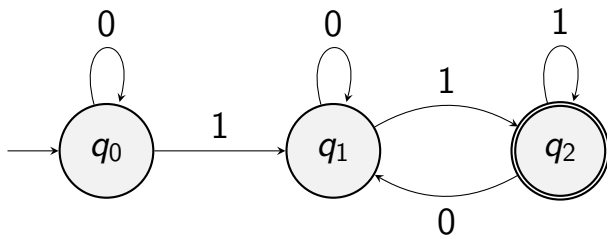
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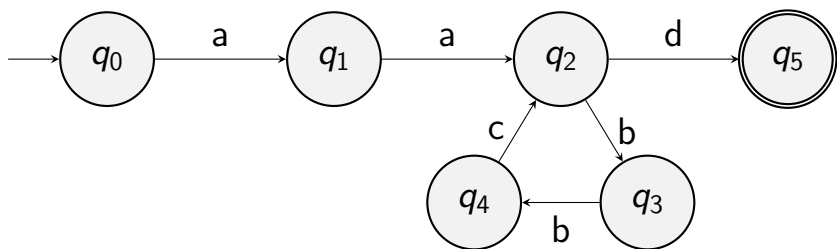
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 - ▶ At least one visited state is a repeat (pigeonhole principle)

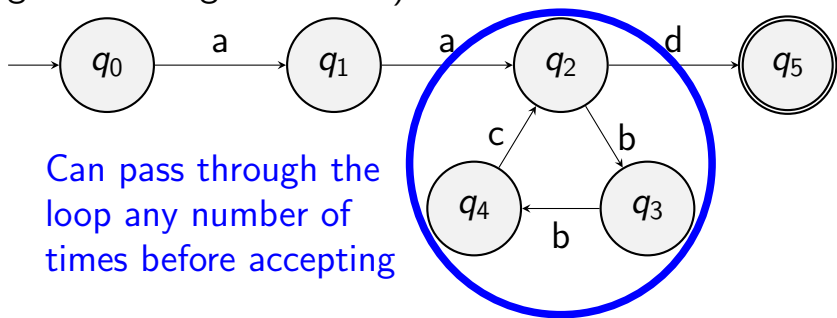
Pumping lemma illustration

What strings are accepted by the following DFA?
(Ignore missing transitions)



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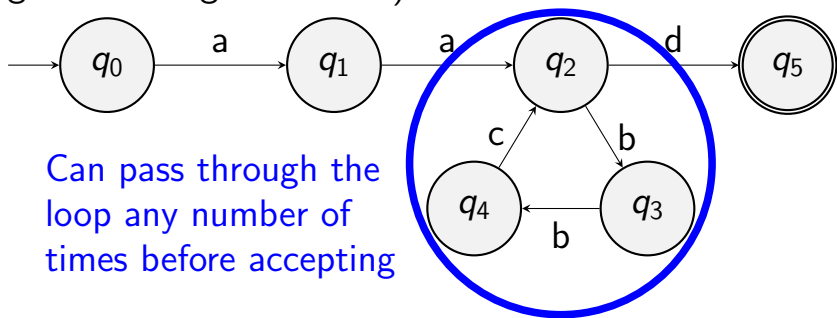
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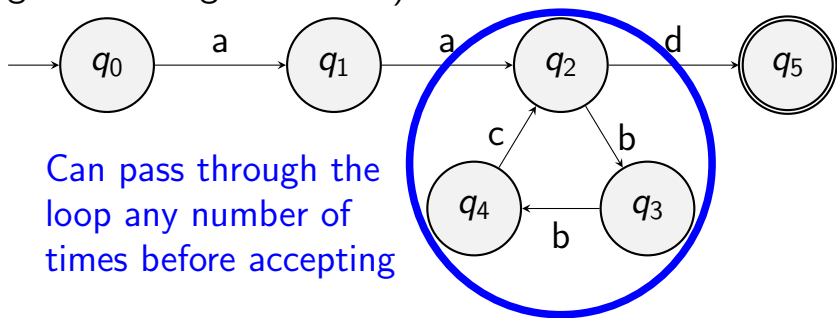


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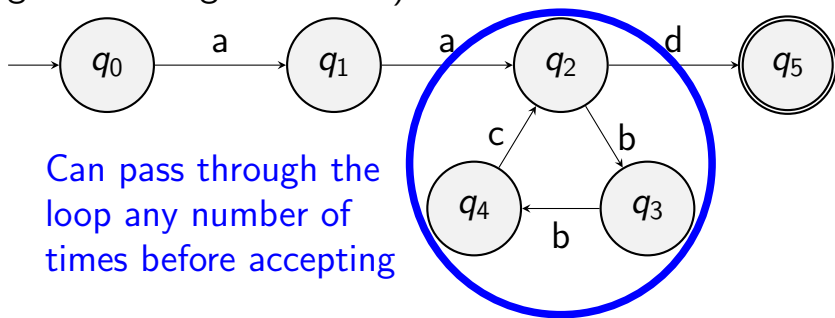


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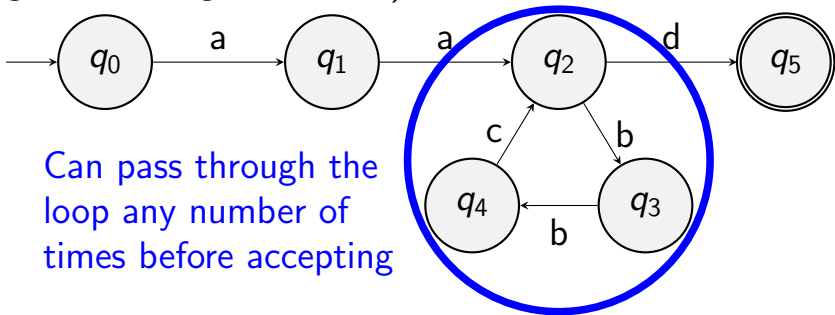
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► *aa**bbcbbcd***

► *aa**bbcd***

► *aa**bbcbbcbcbcbcbcd***
 $(bbc)^n$

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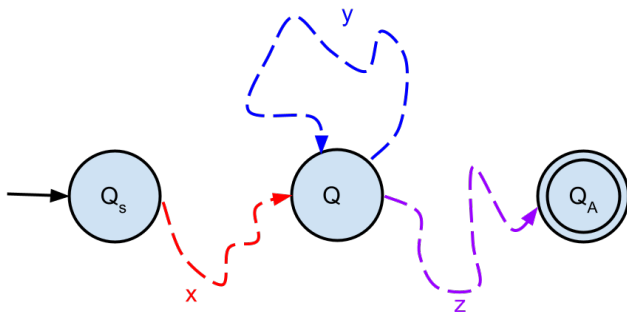
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- ▶ Let's consider the implications of one state being visited twice.

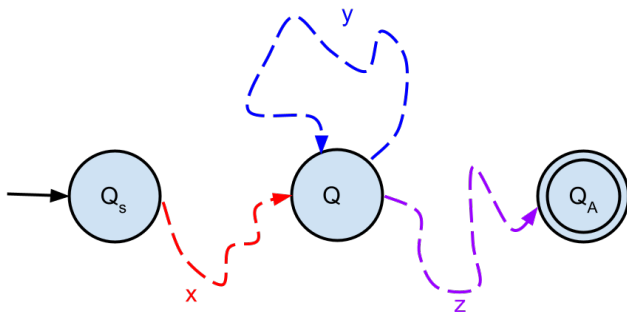
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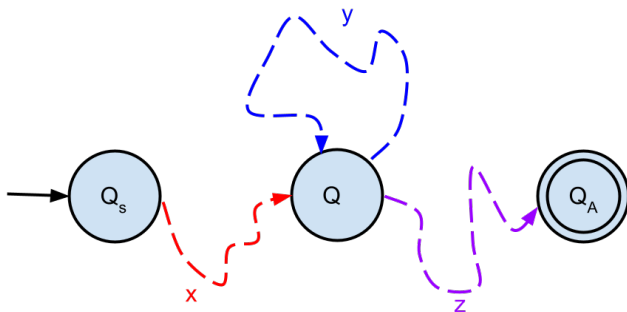
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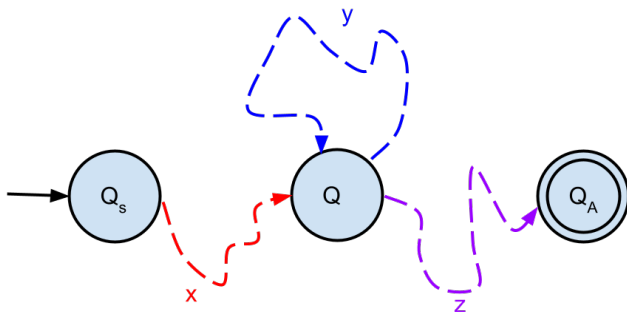


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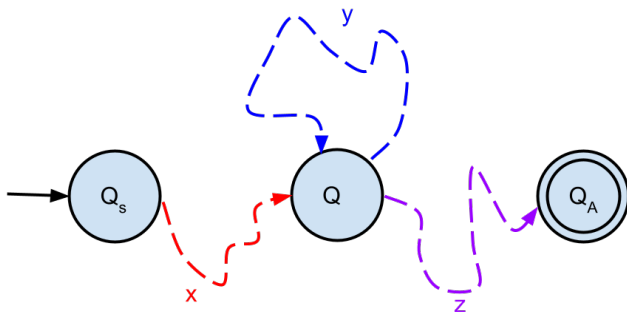
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 y^n

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 - ▶ We can add (or remove) any number of copies of y , and the new string will still be in the language

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3. $xy^iz \in L$ for all $i \in \mathbb{N}$

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- ▶ In principle, we don't need to go around the loop just once; we could 'pump' around the loop any number of times (or not at all) before going to the accept state.
- ▶ Thus, the "middle" (i.e. loop) part of the string can be pumped to make other strings that are accepted

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- ▶ Let $x = s_1\dots s_{j-1}$, $y = s_j\dots s_{l-1}$, $z = s_l\dots s_n$. Then $|y| > 0$, $|xy| \leq p$, and xy^iz will be accepted for all i

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- ▶ Is this a contradiction?

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 - ▶ L does not contain a string of length $\geq p$ that is not pumpable.
 - ▶ Thus the pumping lemma is satisfied.

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- ▶ The pumping lemma says that if L is regular, then L has a pumping length p
- ▶ **The contrapositive is that if L does not have a valid pumping length, it cannot possibly be regular.**

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- ▶ Let $w = \textcolor{red}{x} \textcolor{blue}{y} \textcolor{violet}{z}$ with $|xy| \leq p$ and $|y| > 0$

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► Let $w = xyz$ with $|xy| \leq p$ and $|y| > 0$

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▶ $w \in L$ is not pumpable, which contradicts the pumping lemma. We conclude L is not regular

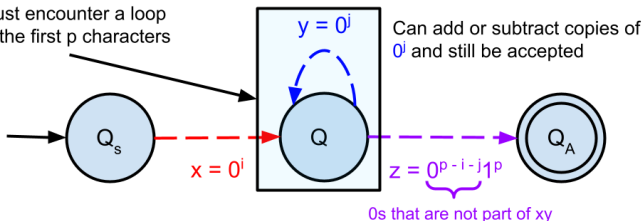
The Pumping Lemma Example

$$L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$

AFSOC L can be decided by a DFA with p states

$$s = 0^p 1^p = \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_p \underbrace{1 \dots 1}_p \in L$$

We must encounter a loop within the first p characters



Any DFA that accepts $0^p 1^p$ would accept $0^i 0^j 0^j 0^{p-i-j} 1^p = 0^{p+j} 1^p \notin L$

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4. Player 2 tries to create a string $w' \notin L$ by pumping y up or down
5. If Player 2 wins if s/he can pump to create a string $w' \notin L$. Otherwise, Player 1 wins

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 - ▶ There is always a valid way to split up *any* string of length $\geq p$ such that pumping won't cause a problem
- ▶ If L is not regular, Player 2 can win for *every* possible p
 - ▶ For any p , there exists a string $w \in L$ with length $\geq p$ that cannot be pumped no matter how it is split up

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3. Player 1 splits up $w = xyz$ according to the pumping lemma rules

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3. Player 1 splits up $w = xyz$ according to the pumping lemma rules
4. No matter how Player 1 splits up w , Player 2 can pump up or down to make the 0s and 1s unequal

The pumping lemma

Proposition: Let $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$. L is not a regular language.

1. Player 1 claims L is regular and declares a pumping length p
2. Player 2 picks $w = 0^p 1^p$
3. Player 1 splits up $w = xyz$ according to the pumping lemma rules
4. No matter how Player 1 splits up w , Player 2 can pump up or down to make the 0s and 1s unequal
5. Player 2 will win for every p , so we conclude L is not regular.

Pumping Lemma Example

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Let $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$. Let's prove that $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \Sigma^*\}$ (i.e. a string followed by the reverse of that string) is not regular

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- ▶ $w \in L$ is not pumpable; conclude L is not regular

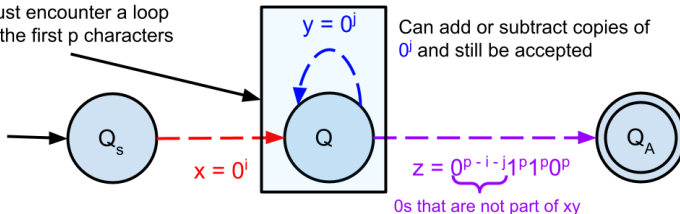
Pumping Lemma Example

$$L = \{ww^R \mid n \geq 0\}$$

AFSOC L can be decided by a DFA with p states

$$s = 0^p 1^p 1^p 0^p = \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_p \underbrace{1 \dots 1}_p \underbrace{1 \dots 1}_p \underbrace{0 \dots 0}_p \in L$$

We must encounter a loop within the first p characters



Any DFA that accepts $0^p 1^p 1^p 0^p$ would accept

$$0^i 0^j 0^j 0^{p-i-j} 1^p 1^p 0^p = 0^{p+j} 1^p 1^p 0^p \notin L$$

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► $xy^2z = \underbrace{a \dots a}_x \underbrace{a \dots a}_{y^2} \underbrace{a \dots ab \dots b}_z$

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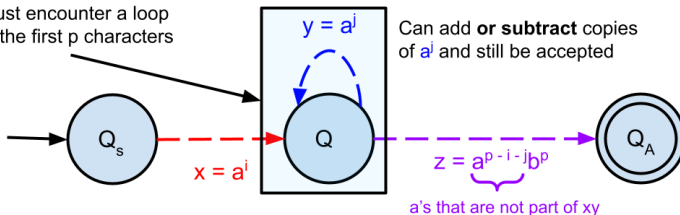
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We must encounter a loop within the first p characters



Any DFA that accepts $a^p b^p$ would accept

$$a^i a^{j \cdot p - i - j} b^p = a^i a^{p-i-j} b^p = a^{p-j} b^p \notin L$$

Pumping Lemma Example

Let $\Sigma = \{0, 1, +, =\}$. Consider the following language:

$\text{ADD} = \{i+j=k \mid i, j, k \text{ are binary numbers, equation is valid}\}$

Which of the following strings are in the language?

A) $1100+11=1111$

C) $1111+0=1111$

B) $1001+0000=0110$

D) $001=111+111=000$

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Which of the following strings are in the language?

A) $1100+11=1111$ ✓

C) $1111+0=1111$ ✓

B) $1001+0000=0110$
Numbers don't add up

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Wrong format

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Let's prove that ADD is not regular

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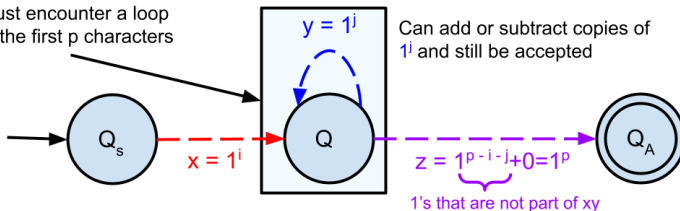
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We must encounter a loop within the first p characters



Any DFA that accepts $1^p + 0 = 1^p$ would accept

$$1^i 1^j 1^j 1^{p-i-j} + 0 = 1^p \rightarrow 1^{p+j} + 0 = 1^p \notin L$$