# **Automata and Formal Languages (4)**

Email: christian.urban at kcl.ac.uk

Office: S1.27 (1st floor Strand Building)

Slides: KEATS (also home work is there)

### **Last Week**

#### Last week I showed you

- a tokenizer taking a list of regular expressions
- tokenization identifies lexeme in an input stream of characters (or string) and cathegorizes them into tokens

### **Two Rules**

- Longest match rule (maximal munch rule): The longest initial substring matched by any regular expression is taken as next token.
- Rule priority: For a particular longest initial substring, the first regular expression that can match determines the token.

```
"if true then then 42 else +"
KEYWORD:
```

```
"if", "then", "else",
WHITESPACE:
  " ","\n",
IDFNT:
 LETTER · (LETTER + DIGIT + " ")*
NUM:
  (NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + "0"
OP:
  " + "
COMMENT:
  "/*" · (ALL* · "*/" · ALL*) · "*/"
```

#### "if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if). WHITESPACE, IDENT(true), WHITESPACE, KEYWORD(then), WHITESPACE. KEYWORD(then), WHITESPACE. NUM(42), WHITESPACE, KEYWORD(else). WHITESPACE, OP(+)

#### "if true then then 42 else +"

KEYWORD(if), IDENT(true), KEYWORD(then), KEYWORD(then), NUM(42), KEYWORD(else), OP(+) There is one small problem with the tokenizer. How should we tokenize:

$$"x - 3"$$

```
OP:
"+","-"
NUM:
(NONZERODIGIT · DIGIT*) + "0"
NUMBER:
NUM + ("-" · NUM)
```

### **Deterministic Finite Automata**

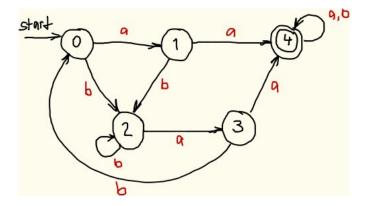
#### A deterministic finite automaton consists of:

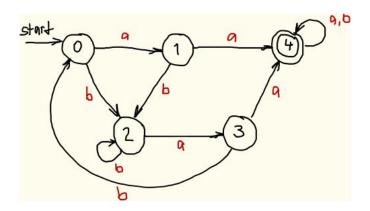
- a finite set of states
- one of these states is the start state
- some states are accepting states, and
- there is transition function

which takes a state and a character as arguments and produces a new state

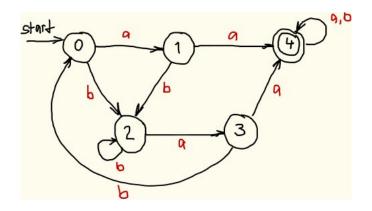
this function might not always be defined everywhere

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





- start can be an accepting state
- there is no accepting state
- all states are accepting



#### for this automaton $\delta$ is the function

$$\begin{array}{lll} (q_0,a) \rightarrow q_1 & (q_1,a) \rightarrow q_4 & (q_4,a) \rightarrow q_4 \\ (q_0,b) \rightarrow q_2 & (q_1,b) \rightarrow q_2 & (q_4,b) \rightarrow q_4 \end{array} \cdots$$

# **Accepting a String**

Given

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

you can define

$$\begin{split} \hat{\delta}(q,"") &= q \\ \hat{\delta}(q,c :: s) &= \hat{\delta}(\delta(q,c),s) \end{split}$$

# **Accepting a String**

Given

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

you can define

$$\begin{split} \hat{\delta}(q,"") &= q \\ \hat{\delta}(q,c :: s) &= \hat{\delta}(\delta(q,c),s) \end{split}$$

Whether a string s is accepted by A?

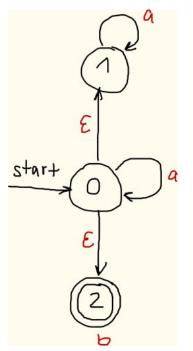
$$\hat{\delta}(q_0,s)\in F$$

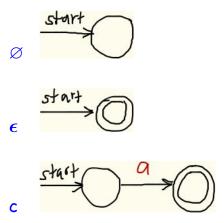
### Non-Deterministic Finite Automata

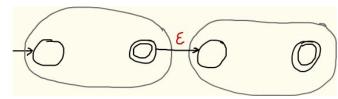
A non-deterministic finite automaton consists again of:

- a finite set of states
- one of these states is the start state
- some states are accepting states, and
- there is transition relation

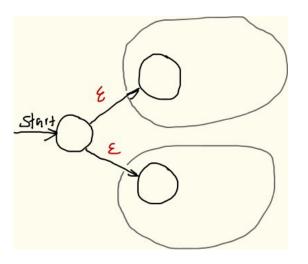
$$(q_1, a) \rightarrow q_2 \ (q_1, a) \rightarrow q_3 \ (q_1, \epsilon) \rightarrow q_2$$



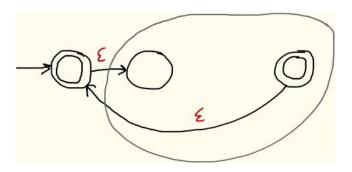




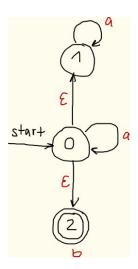
 $\textbf{r}_1 \boldsymbol{\cdot} \textbf{r}_2$ 

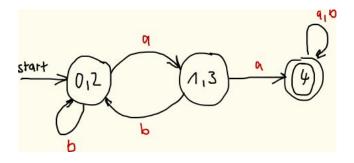


 $r_1 + r_2$ 



r\*





## Languages

A language is regular iff there exists a regular expression that recognises all its strings.

## Languages

A language is regular iff there exists a regular expression that recognises all its strings.

not all languages are regular, e.g.  $a^nb^n$ .

- Assuming you have the alphabet {a, b, c}
- Give a regular expression that can recognise all strings that have at least one b.

 The star-case in our proof needs the following lemma

$$Derc A^* = (Derc A)@A^*$$

- If "" ∈ A, then
   Derc(A @ B) = (DercA) @ B ∪ (DercB)
- If "" ∉ A, then
   Derc(A @ B) = (Derc A) @ B