

Compilers

Finite Automata

- Regular expressions = specification
- Finite automata = implementation
- A finite automaton consists of
 - An input alphabet Σ
 - A set of states S
 - A start state n
 - A set of accepting states $F \subseteq S$
 - A set of transitions $\text{state} \rightarrow^{\text{input}} \text{state}$

- Transition

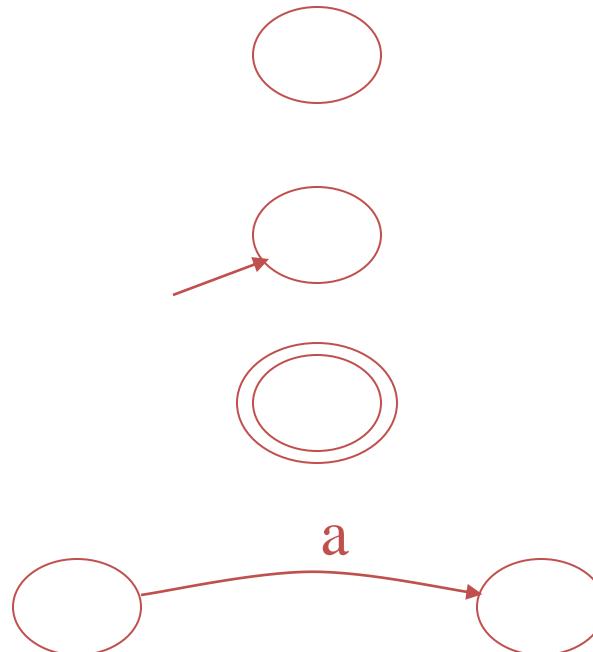
$$s_1 \xrightarrow{a} s_2$$

- Is read

In state s_1 on input a go to state s_2

- If end of input and in accepting state => accept
- Otherwise => reject

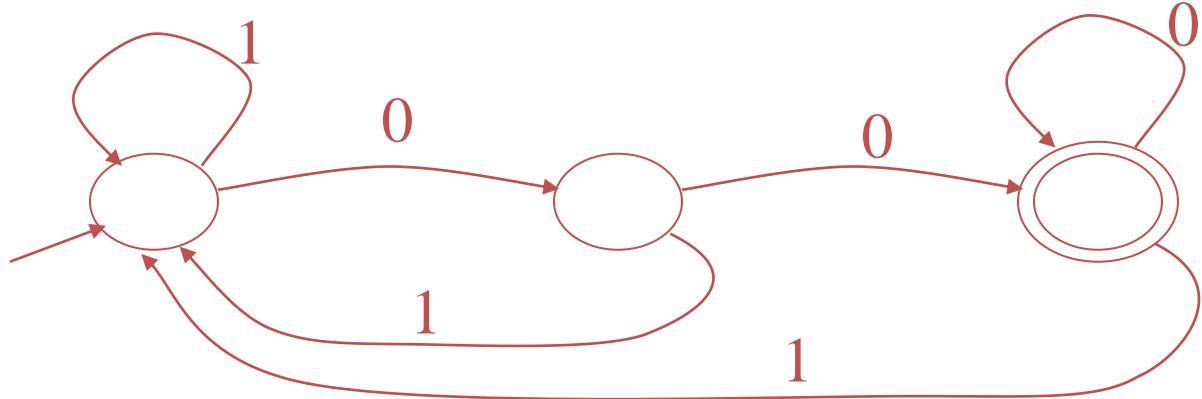
- A state
- The start state
- An accepting state
- A transition



- A finite automaton that accepts only “1”

- A finite automaton accepting any number of 1's followed by a single 0
- Alphabet: {0,1}

Select the regular language that denotes the same language as this finite automaton



- $(0 + 1)^*$
- $(1^* + 0)(1 + 0)$
- $1^* + (01)^* + (001)^* + (000^*1)^*$
- $(0 + 1)^*00$

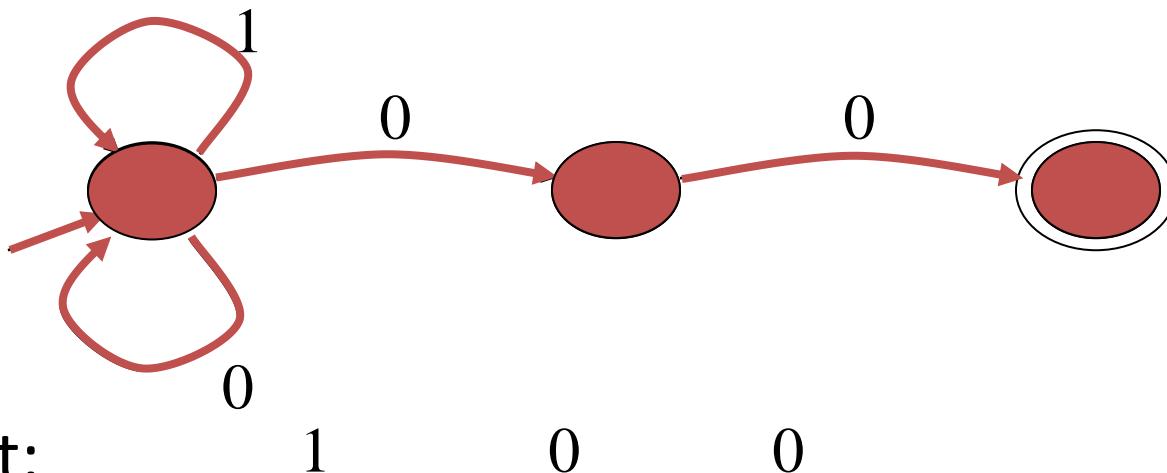
- Another kind of transition: ε -moves



- Deterministic Finite Automata (DFA)
 - One transition per input per state
 - No ϵ -moves
- Nondeterministic Finite Automata (NFA)
 - Can have multiple transitions for one input in a given state
 - Can have ϵ -moves

- A DFA takes only one path through the state graph
- An NFA can choose

- An NFA can get into multiple states



- Input:
- States:

- NFAs and DFAs recognize the same set of languages
 - regular languages
- DFAs are faster to execute
 - There are no choices to consider
- NFAs are, in general, smaller