

Finite State Machines

Lecture 3

Recall a Language is Regular if

- L is empty
- L contains a single string (could be the empty string)
- If L_1, L_2 are regular, then $L = L_1 \cup L_2$ is regular
- If L_1, L_2 are regular, then $L = L_1 L_2$ is regular
- If L is regular, then L^* is regular

Unbounded vs. Infinite

- Why do we need bullet 5?
- Why can't we say that L^* is the infinite union of $\{\epsilon\} \cup L \cup LL \cup LLL \cup \dots$
- Recursive definitions: at every branch of recursion we need to reach a base case in **finite number** of steps.
- We can invoke the union rule for any integer n number of steps
- infinity is **not a number!** I can only produce infinite sets by an operation like the $*$.



Complexity of Languages



Central Question: How complex an algorithm is needed to compute (aka decide) a language? How much memory do I need?

Today: a simple class of algorithms, that are fast and can be implemented using minimal hardware

Finite State Machines -Deterministic Finite Automata (FSM-DFA)

DFAs around us: Vending machines, Elevators, Digital watch logic, Calculators, Lexical analyzers (part of program compilation), ...

Multiple of 5

MULTIPLEOF5($w[1..n]$):

$rem \leftarrow 0$

for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n

$rem \leftarrow (2 \cdot rem + w[i]) \bmod 5$

if $rem = 0$

return TRUE

else

return FALSE

- Could do long division, keep the intermediate results in an array but I don't want to spend that much memory!
- Only one variable, rem , which represents the remainder of the part of the string I read so far when I divided by 5.



Multiple of 5

MULTIPLEOF5($w[1..n]$):

$rem \leftarrow 0$

for $i \leftarrow 1$ to n

$rem \leftarrow (2 \cdot rem + w[i]) \bmod 5$

if $rem = 0$

 return TRUE

else

 return FALSE

$m_0 = 2m$ if I see "0" next
 $m_1 = 2m + 1$ if I see "1" next

- If I know the remainder for $m \bmod 5$, and I read one more bit then **line 3** tells me what the new remainder is (either m_0 or m_1)



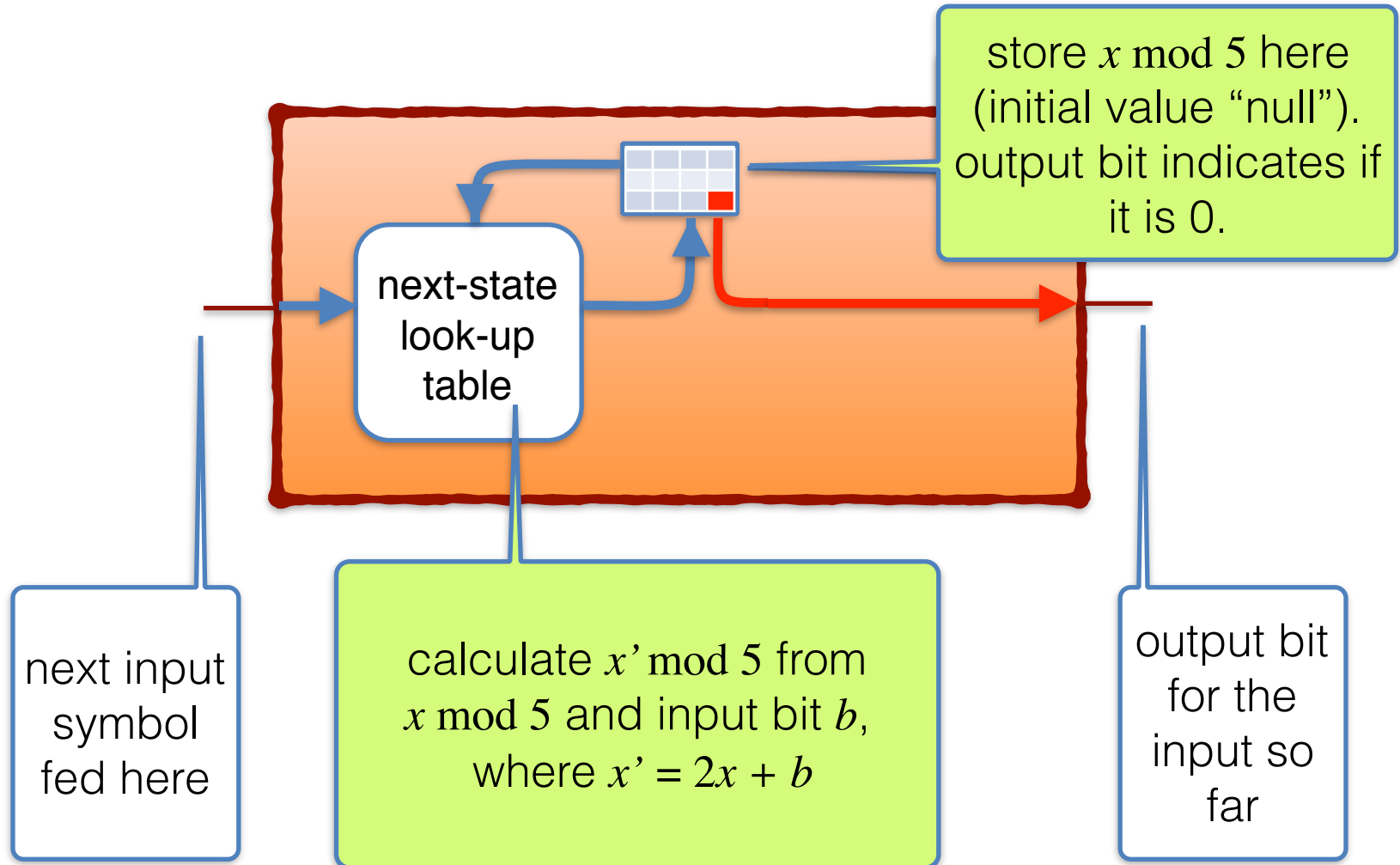
Multiple of 5

- Important feature of algorithm: Aside from variable i which counts the input bits and is necessary to read input, I only have one variable rem , which takes only a small (5) number of values.
- Streaming algorithm : Data flies by! Once $w[i]$ is gone, it is gone forever.
- Variable has a very small number of states, which I am able to specify at compile time. Very small amount of memory!



DFA (a.k.a. FSM)

check if binary input is a multiple of 5



“Lookup” table

```
DO SOMETHING COOL( $w[1..n]$ ):
```

```
 $q \leftarrow 0$ 
```

```
for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$ 
```

```
     $q \leftarrow \delta[q, w[i]]$ 
```

```
return  $A[q]$ 
```

- q encapsulates the state of the algorithm
- Takes a small amount of values, which I know up front (e.g. q is a number between 1 and 4). Unbounded, not infinite!
- Depending on the character I read at position i , I change my state with function called delta (δ).
- I have a hardcoded array A and based on what the state is when I finish reading the string, I output the value of the array.



“Lookup” table

DO SOMETHING COOL($w[1..n]$):

```
 $q \leftarrow 0$   
for  $i \leftarrow 1$  to  $n$   
     $q \leftarrow \delta[q, w[i]]$   
return  $A[q]$ 
```

If we want to use our new DO SOMETHING COOL algorithm to implement MULTIPLEOF5, we simply give the arrays δ and A the following hard-coded values:

q	$\delta[q, 0]$	$\delta[q, 1]$	$A[q]$
0	0	1	TRUE
1	2	3	FALSE
2	4	0	FALSE
3	1	2	FALSE
4	3	4	FALSE

only one
accepting
state!

Instead of doing arithmetic at all, I could just **hard code** this lookup table into the code and simply do a lookup



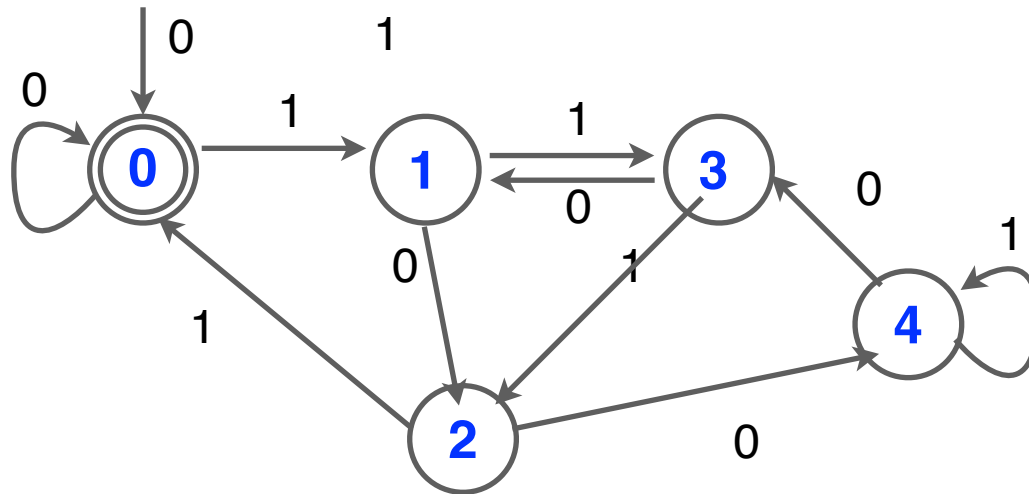
DFA (a.k.a. FSM)



- Algorithm or Machine? Algorithm is a Machine!!
- Once you program the machine, you don't have to monitor it. It runs **AUTOMATICALLY** (Automaton...)

DFA (a.k.a. FSM)

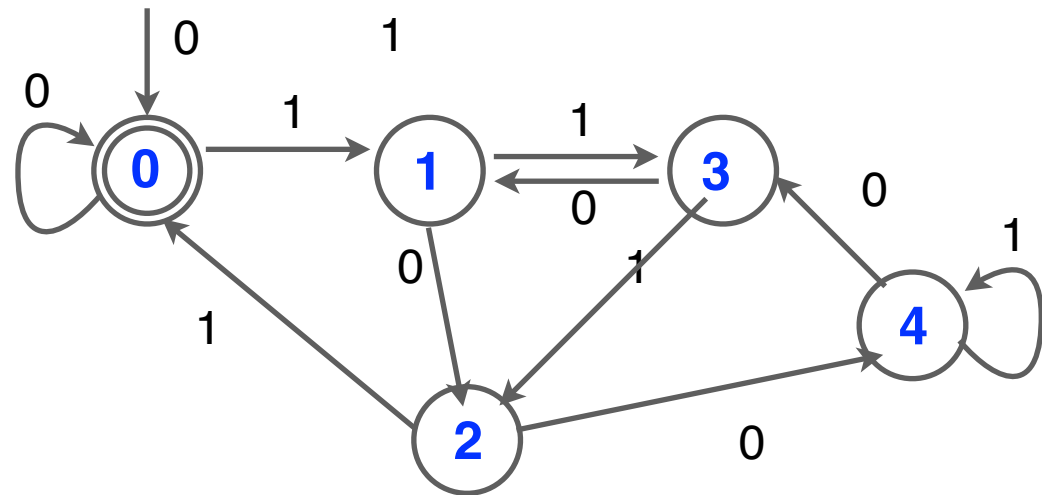
- Equivalent view as a graph!



DFA (a.k.a. FSM)

Example: check if input **01010101** is a multiple of 5

input bit	current state	next state
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	2
1	2	0
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	1	2
1	2	0



DFA (a.k.a. FSM)

check if input (MSB first) is a multiple of 5

input bit	current state	next state
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	0	2
1	2	0
0	0	0
1	0	1
0	1	2
1	2	0

How to fully specify a DFA (syntax):

FINITE Alphabet: Σ

FINITE Set of States: Q

Start state: $s \in Q$

Set of Accepting states: $A \subseteq Q$

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

$$\delta(q, a) = (2q + a) \bmod 5$$

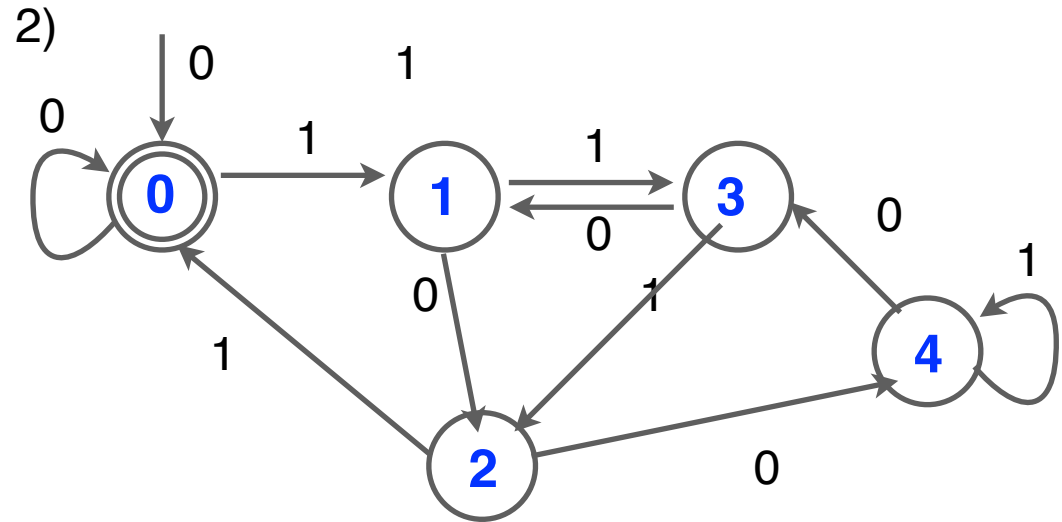


DFA (a.k.a. FSM)

3 equivalent ways to specify a FSM:

1)

q	$\delta[q, 0]$	$\delta[q, 1]$	$A[q]$
0	0	1	TRUE
1	2	3	FALSE
2	4	0	FALSE
3	1	2	FALSE
4	3	4	FALSE



3)

$$\delta(q, a) = (2q + a) \bmod 5$$

Together with a description of what are the states and what are the accepting states



How to interpret these functions?

$$M = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, s, F)$$

- $\delta^*(q, w)$ be the state M reaches starting from a state $q \in Q$, on input $w \in \Sigma^*$

- *Recursive definition?*

- *What are the cases going to be?*

Behavior of a DFA on an input

$$M = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, s, F)$$

- $\delta^*(q, w)$ be the state M reaches starting from a state $q \in Q$, on input $w \in \Sigma^*$
- Formally,

- $\delta^*(q, w) = q$ if $w = \varepsilon$
- $\delta^*(q, w) = \delta^*(\delta(q, a), x)$ if $w = ax$

recursion!

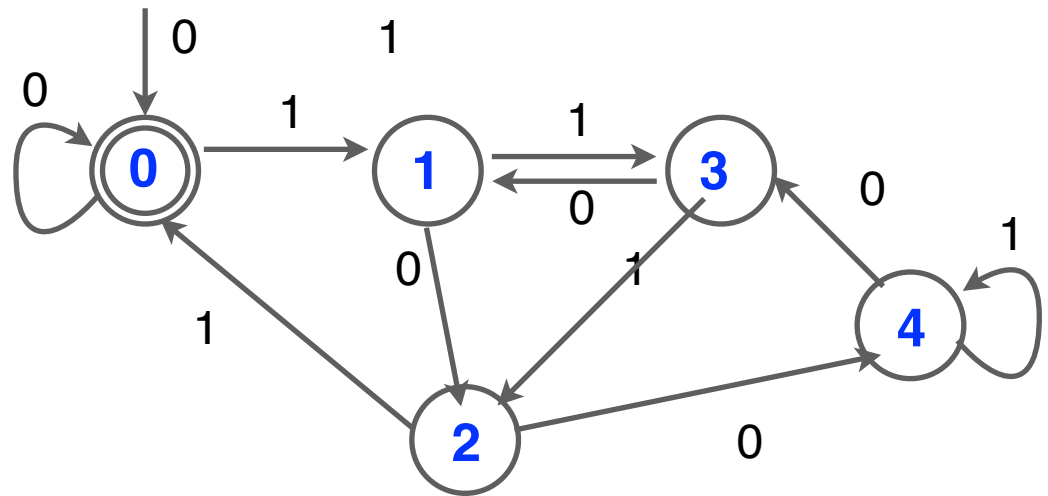
Behavior of a DFA on an input

$$\delta^*(\mathbf{0}, 01001) = \mathbf{4}$$

$$\delta^*(\mathbf{0}, \varepsilon) = \mathbf{0}$$

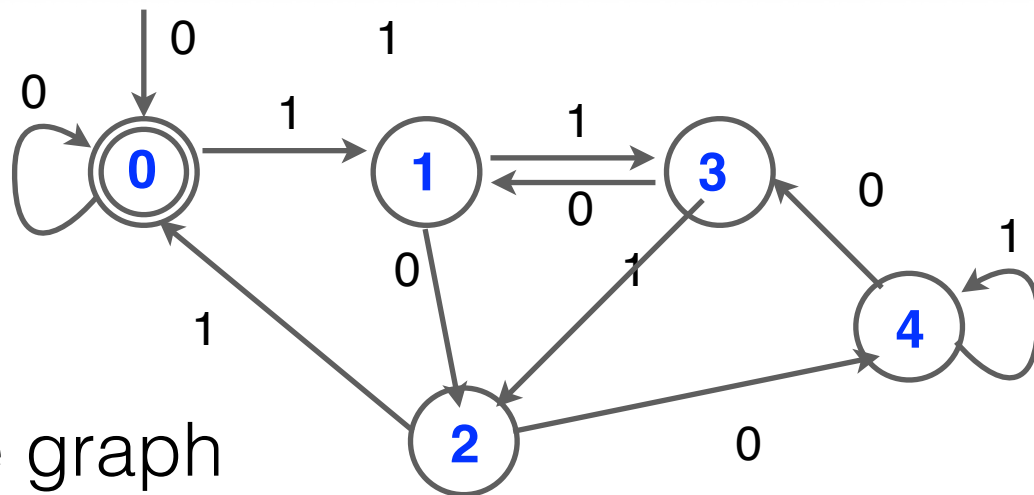
$$\delta^*(\mathbf{0}, 010) = \mathbf{2}$$

$$\delta^*(\mathbf{2}, 01) = \mathbf{4}$$

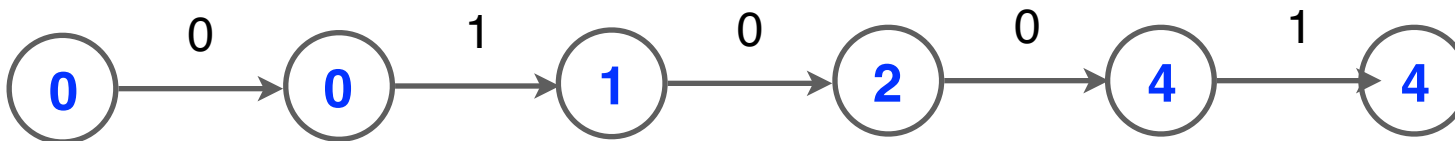


Behavior of a DFA on an input

$$\delta^*(0, 01001) = 4$$



- Specify a walk in the graph
- Best represented as



Example: What strings does this machine accept?

Alphabet: $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$

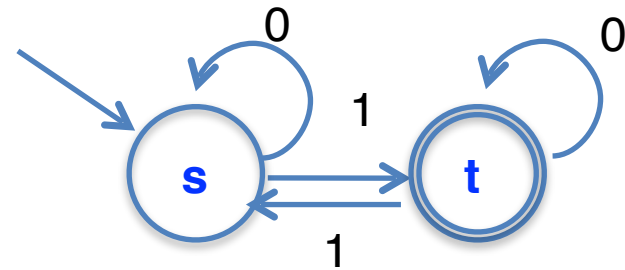
Set of States: $Q = \{s,t\}$

Start state: $s \in Q$

Accepting state: $t \in Q$

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

$\delta(s,0)=s, \delta(s,1)=t, \delta(t,0)=t, \delta(t,1)=s$



Question: what is $L(M)$?

Answer: strings with odd number of ones!

Input Accepted by a DFA

We say that M **accepts** $w \in \Sigma^*$ if M , on input w , starting from the start state s , reaches a final state

$$\text{i.e., } \delta^*(s, w) \in F$$

$L(M)$ is the set of all strings accepted by M

$$\text{i.e., } L(M) = \{ w \mid \delta^*(s, w) \in F \}$$

Called the **language** accepted by M



Input Accepted by a DFA



What kind of language is accepted by FSM?

- Automatic (it is an automaton after all)!
- We will use: **REGULAR** (not a coincidence)

Language is regular iff

- it is accepted by a finite state automaton
- it is described by a regular expression

Warning

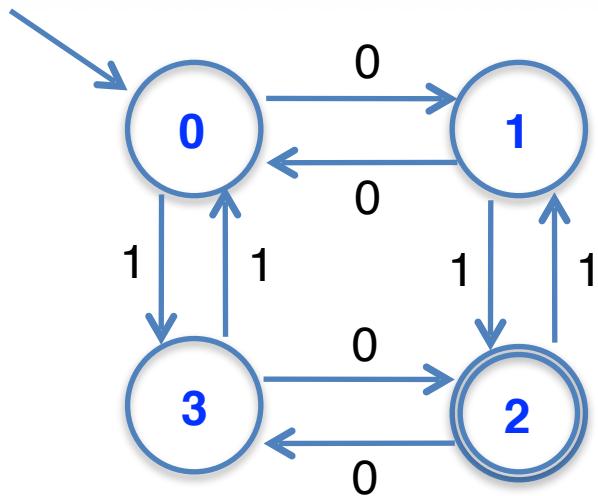
“ M accepts language L ” does not mean simply that M accepts each string in L .

“ M accepts language L ” means M accepts each string in L and no others!

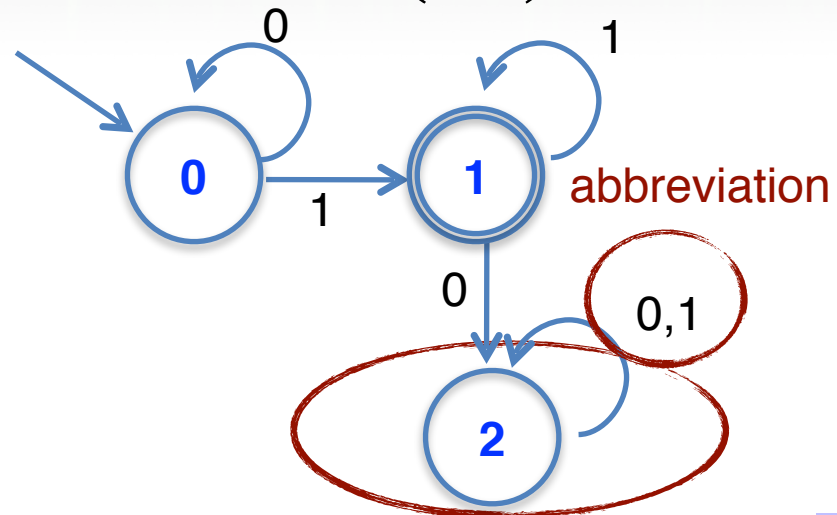
$$L(M) = L$$



Examples: What is $L(M)$?



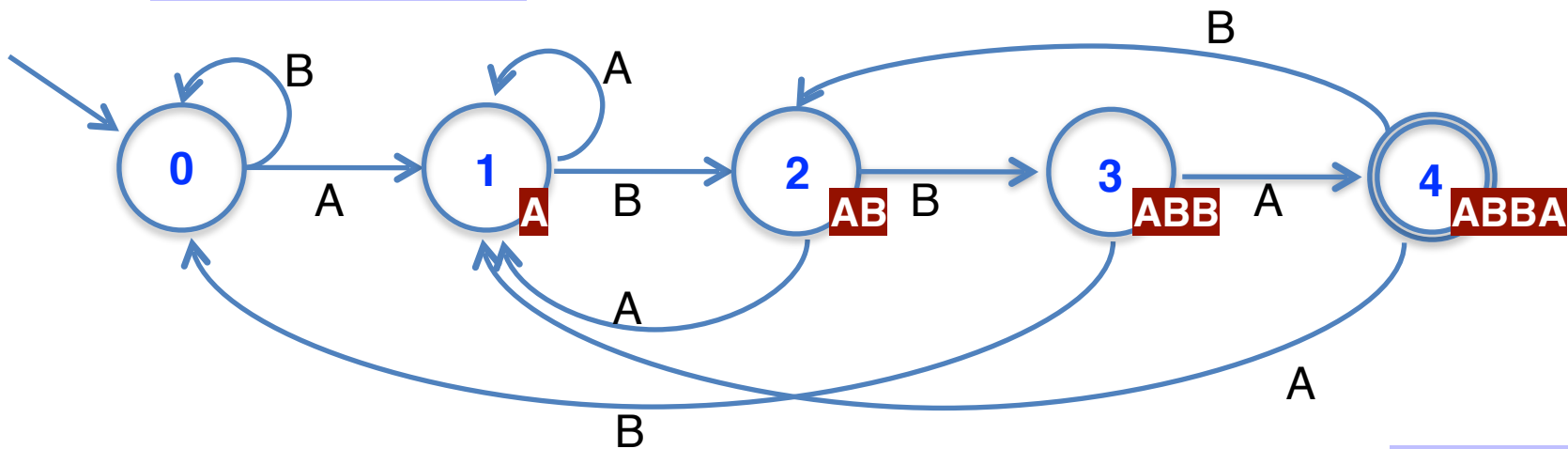
odd #0 and odd #1



abbreviation

Reject state

0^*11^*



$(A+B)^*ABBA$

Building DFAs

State = Memory

First, decide on Q

The state of a DFA is its entire memory of what has come before

The state must capture enough information to complete the computation on the suffix to come

When designing a DFA, think “what do I need to know at this moment?” That is your state.



Construction Exercise

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$

Is it regular??

$(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$

What should be in the memory?



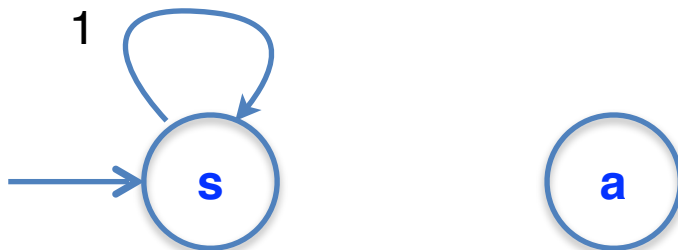
Construction Exercise

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$

Is it regular??

$(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$

What should be in the memory?



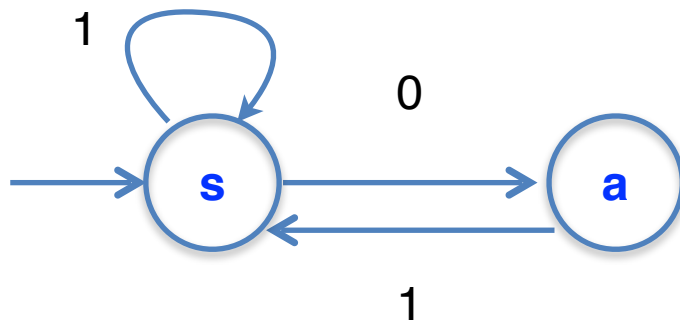
Construction Exercise

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$

Is it regular??

$(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$

What should be in the memory?



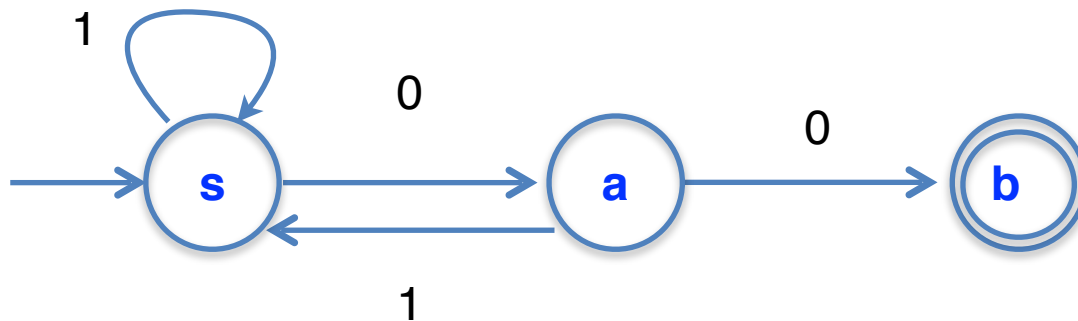
Construction Exercise

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$

Is it regular??

$(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$

What should be in the memory?



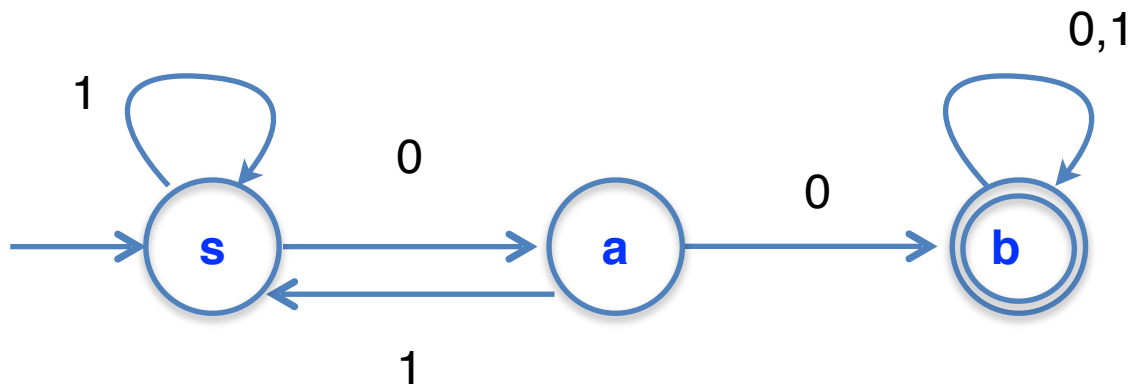
Construction Exercise

$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$

Is it regular??

$(0+1)^*00(0+1)^*$

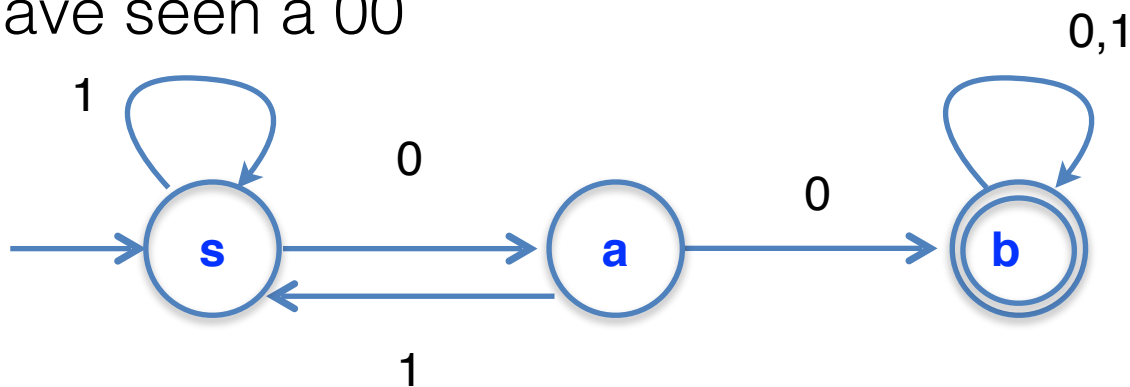
What should be in the memory?



Construction Exercise

$$L(M) = \{w \mid w \text{ contains } 00\}$$

- s : I haven't seen a 00, previous symbol was not 0
- a: I haven't seen a 00, previous symbol was a 0
- b: I have seen a 00



- We have exhausted of all strings. Either accepted (with 00) or not.

