

## Session 10

### Nondeterministic Finite Automata with $\Lambda$ -transitions

## NFA- $\Lambda$

- Motivation & concept
- Definition
- $\Lambda$ -closure of a set of states
- Extended Transition Function for NDF- $\Lambda$
- Converting NFA- $\Lambda$  into NFA
- Converting FA into NFA- $\Lambda$

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## Motivation

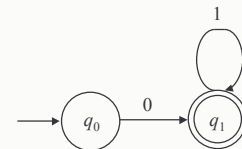
- If there are machines  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  accepting  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  there are machines  $M_u$ ,  $M_i$  and  $M_d$  accepting:
  - $L(M_u) = L_1 \cup L_2$
  - $L(M_i) = L_1 \cap L_2$
  - $L(M_d) = L_1 - L_2$
- What about machines  $M_c$  and  $M_k$  for the inductive part of the definition of  $RE$ ?
  - $L(M_u) = L_1 \cup L_2$
  - $L(M_c) = L_1 L_2$
  - $L(M_k) = L_1^*$

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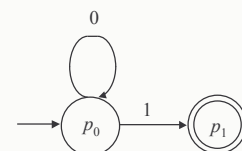
## First: union and concatenation

- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$

- $L_1 = 01^* = \{0\}\{1\}^*$



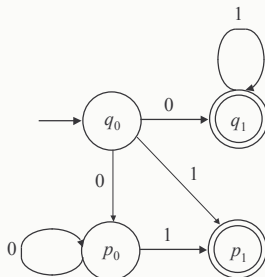
- $L_2 = 0^*1 = \{0\}^*\{1\}$



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## The union, again

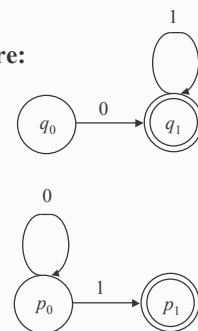
- $L_1 \cup L_2 = 01^* + 0^*1 = \{0\}\{1\}^* \cup \{0\}^*\{1\}$



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## Union

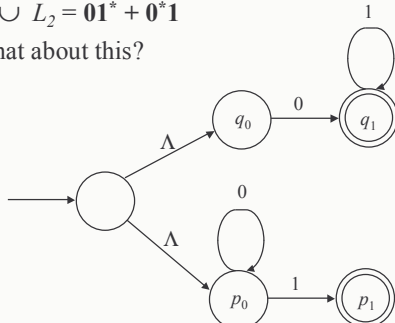
- $L_1 \cup L_2 = 01^* + 0^*1$
- The original structure:



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## Union

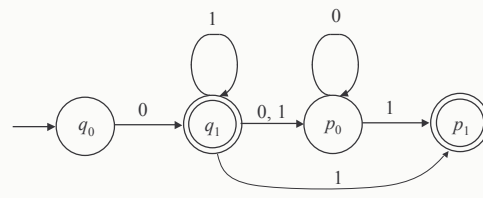
- $L_1 \cup L_2 = 01^* + 0^*1$
- What about this?



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## Concatenation

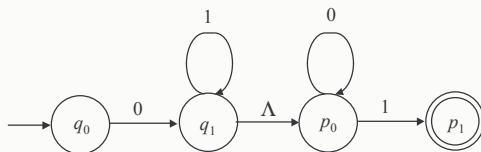
- $L_1 \cup L_2 = 01^*0^*1$



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## Concatenation

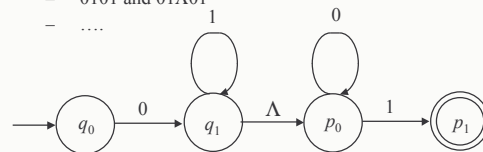
- $L_1 \cup L_2 = 01^*0^*1$
- But, what about this:



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## Corresponding strings

- But now... a much larger set of strings can be accepted: those with  $\Lambda$  symbols:
  - 01 and 0 $\Lambda$ 1
  - 0101 and 01 $\Lambda$ 01
  - ....

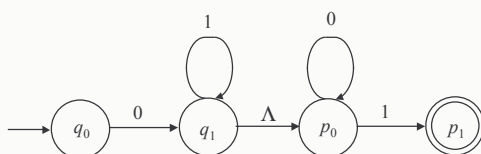


- The  $\Lambda$ 's are never there in the input string: If the machine is an state with a  $\Lambda$ -transition, it can either:
  - Read the next symbol of  $\Sigma$  on the input string
  - Move (spontaneously) to the state after the  $\Lambda$ -transition!

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## Corresponding strings

- There is a string without  $\Lambda$ -transitions corresponding to a string with the  $\Lambda$ -transitions:
  - 01 corresponds to 0 $\Lambda$ 1
  - 0101 corresponds to 01 $\Lambda$ 01
- The sequence of transitions on the NFA- $\Lambda$  will correspond to the strings with the  $\Lambda$ -transitions!



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## NFA- $\Lambda$

- Provides a further degree of expressive power
- Allows to express abstractions (specifications) in simple and direct ways!
- Provides the means to expressing the abstractions that can be expressed through Regular Expressions directly!

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## NFA with $\Lambda$ -transitions: NFA- $\Lambda$

- A nondeterministic finite Automaton with  $\Lambda$ -transitions (NFA- $\Lambda$ ) is a 5-tuple:

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

where

- $Q$  is a finite set (of states)
- $\Sigma$  is a finite alphabet
- $q_0 \in Q$  (the initial state)
- $A \subseteq Q$  (the set of accepting states)
- $\delta$  transition function:  

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

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## Transition function

- Transition function for DFA:  

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$$
- Transition function for NFA:  

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$$
- Transition function for NFA- $\Lambda$   

$$\delta: Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\Lambda\}) \rightarrow 2^Q$$
- We add the empty string to the set of input symbols

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## The extended transition function for NFA- $\Lambda$

- $\delta^*(q, x)$  denotes the set of states the machine is taken from the state  $q$  on the string  $x$
- But now, a string  $x \in \Sigma^*$  can correspond to many strings with  $\Lambda$ -transitions
- We need to make sure to reach the right set of states for  $x$ , regardless all  $\Lambda$ -transitions, in the paths from  $q$  to  $\delta^*(q, x)$
- How can we include this last condition in the definition of  $\delta^*$  for NFA- $\Lambda$ ?

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## $\Lambda$ -closure of a set of states

- $\Lambda$ -Closure of a state (or a set of states): the set of states that can be reached through  $\Lambda$ -transitions from that state (or set of states)
- Let  $M(Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$  be an NFA- $\Lambda$ , and  $S$  be any subset of  $Q$ . The  $\Lambda$ -Closure of  $S$  is the set  $\Lambda(S)$  defined as follows:
  - Every element of  $S$  is an element of  $\Lambda(S)$
  - For any  $q \in \Lambda(S)$ , every element of  $\delta(q, \Lambda)$  is in  $\Lambda(S)$
  - No other elements of  $Q$  are in  $\Lambda(S)$

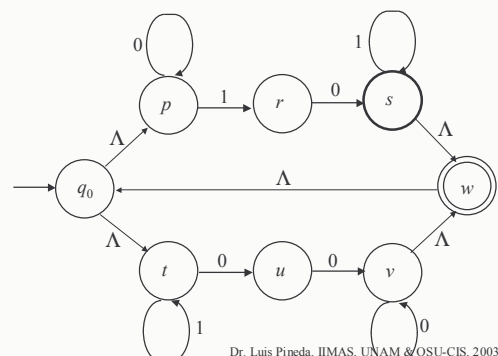
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## Computing the $\Lambda$ -closure $\Lambda(S)$ of $S$

- Let  $S$  be a set of states of a  $\Lambda$ -NFA
- Let  $T = S$  where  $T$  is the states in the  $\Lambda(S)$ 
  - For all  $q \in T$  add to  $T$  all  $\delta(q, \Lambda)$  which are not already in  $T$
  - Repeat until there are no more states to be added!

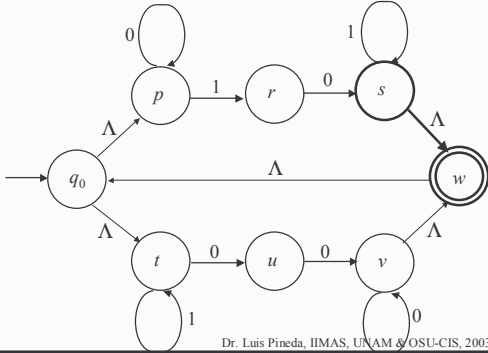
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## Computing $\Lambda(\{s\})$ : $T = \{s\}$



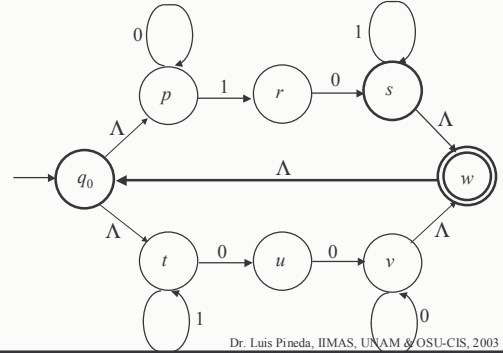
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Computing  $\Lambda(\{s\})$ :  $\delta(s, \Lambda) = \{w\}$   
 $T = \{s, w\}$



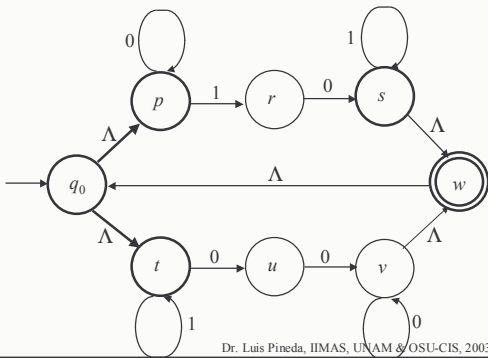
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Computing  $\Lambda(\{s\})$ :  $\delta(w, \Lambda) = \{q_0\}$   
 $T = \{s, w, q_0\}$



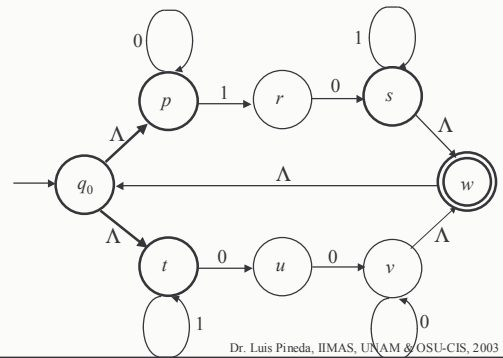
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Computing  $\Lambda(\{s\})$ :  $\delta(q_0, \Lambda) = \{p, t\}$   
 $T = \{s, w, q_0, p, t\}$



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Computing  $\Lambda(\{s\})$ :  $\delta(p, \Lambda) = \delta(t, \Lambda) = \emptyset$   
 $T = \{s, w, q_0, p, t\}$



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### $\Lambda$ -closure of S

- $\Lambda(S)$  computes the extended transition function  $\delta^*$  for paths starting in the states of  $S$  that have  $\Lambda$ -transitions!
- If  $\delta^*(q, y)$  is the set of all states that can be reached from  $q$  on  $y$  including  $\Lambda$ -transitions, then the set of states that can be reached from this set in one more transition on the symbol  $a$  is:

$$\bigcup_{r \in \delta^*(q, y)} \delta(r, a)$$

- The  $\Lambda$ -closure of this set includes any additional states that can be reached with  $\Lambda$ -transition

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### Extended Transition function for NFA- $\Lambda$

- Let  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$  be a NFA- $\Lambda$
- The extended transition function:

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

is defined as follows:

- For any  $q \in Q$ ,  $\delta^*(q, \Lambda) = \Lambda(\{q\})$ .
- For any  $q \in Q$ ,  $y \in \Sigma^*$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ :

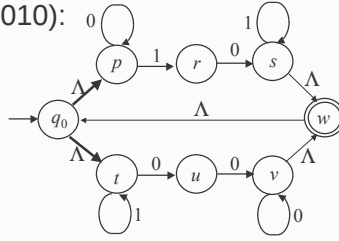
$$\delta^*(q, ya) = \Lambda \left( \bigcup_{r \in \delta^*(q, y)} \delta(r, a) \right)$$

- A string  $x$  is accepted by  $M$  if  $\delta^*(q_0, x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$
- The language recognized by  $M$  is the set  $L(M)$  of all strings accepted by  $M$

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Computing:  $\delta^*(q_0, 010)$ :

$$\delta^*(q_0, \Lambda) = \Lambda(\{q_0\}) = \{q_0, p, t\}$$

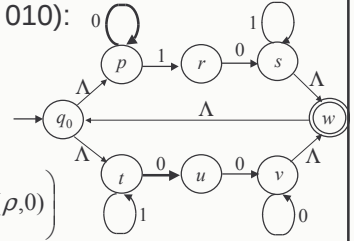


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Computing:  $\delta^*(q_0, 010)$ :

$$\delta^*(q_0, \Lambda) = \{q_0, p, t\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q_0, 0) &= \Lambda\left(\bigcup_{r \in \delta^*(q_0, \Lambda)} \delta(r, 0)\right) \\ &= \Lambda(\delta(q_0, 0) \cup \delta(p, 0) \cup \delta(t, 0)) \\ &= \Lambda(\emptyset \cup \{p\} \cup \{u\}) \\ &= \Lambda(\{p, u\}) \\ &= \{p, u\} \end{aligned}$$

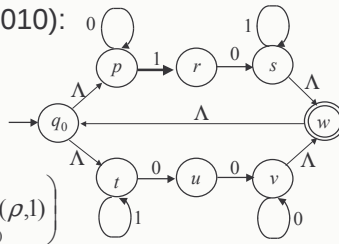


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Computing:  $\delta^*(q_0, 010)$ :

$$\delta^*(q_0, 0) = \{p, u\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q_0, 01) &= \Lambda\left(\bigcup_{r \in \delta^*(q_0, 0)} \delta(r, 1)\right) \\ &= \Lambda(\delta(p, 1) \cup \delta(u, 1)) \\ &= \Lambda(\{r\} \cup \emptyset) \\ &= \Lambda(\{r\}) \\ &= \{r\} \end{aligned}$$

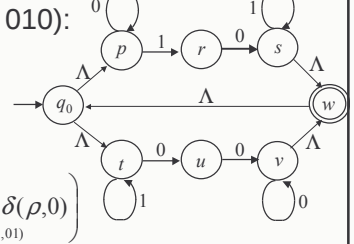


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Computing:  $\delta^*(q_0, 010)$ :

$$\delta^*(q_0, 01) = \{r\}$$

$$\begin{aligned} \delta^*(q_0, 010) &= \Lambda\left(\bigcup_{r \in \delta^*(q_0, 01)} \delta(r, 0)\right) \\ &= \Lambda(\delta(r, 0)) \\ &= \Lambda(\{s\}) \\ &= \{s, w, q_0, p, t\} \end{aligned}$$

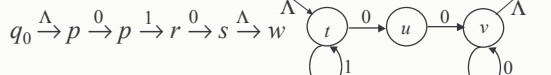


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### Acceptance by a NFA- $\Lambda$

- A string  $x$  is accepted by  $M$  if  $\delta^*(q_0, x) \cap A \neq \emptyset$
- $A = \{w\}$
- $\delta^*(q_0, 010) = \{s, w, q_0, p, t\}$
- $\delta^*(q_0, x) \cap A = \{w\} \neq \emptyset$

- Accepting 010:



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### NFA- $\Lambda$ are equivalent to NFA

- If  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is a language that is accepted by the NFA- $\Lambda$

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

then there is a NFA

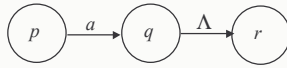
$$M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, q_1, A_1, \delta_1)$$

that also accepts  $L$

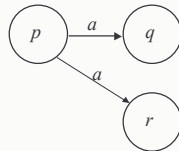
- $M_1$  is the NFA without  $\Lambda$ -transitions corresponding to the NFA- $\Lambda$   $M$

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## Eliminating $\Lambda$ -transitions



is equivalent to



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## Eliminating $\Lambda$ -transitions

- Through  $\delta^*$  will be able to reach all the states that are reachable from any state of NFA- $\Lambda$  (including  $\Lambda$ -transitions) on a string of any length
- These will include all the states of the NFA- $\Lambda$  that can be reached on strings of length one!
- These strings are the symbols of the alphabet!
- We can bypass the  $\Lambda$ -transitions, substituting such transitions by the corresponding transitions on the symbol of the alphabet

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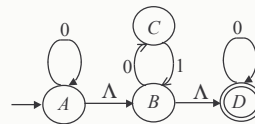
## Eliminating $\Lambda$ -transitions

- To find the NFA corresponding to a NFA- $\Lambda$ :
  - Giving the transition function for the NFA- $\Lambda$
  - Compute the extended transition function of the NFA- $\Lambda$  for all the states for all the symbols of the alphabet (strings of length 1). This is, compute for every  $q_i$ 

$$\delta^*(q_i, \Lambda) = \Lambda(\{q_i\})$$
and
$$\delta^*(q_i, \Lambda a) \text{ for every } a \in \Sigma$$
  - This provides the transition function for the corresponding NFA!

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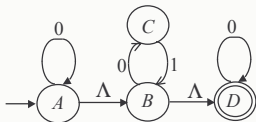
## Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA



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## Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

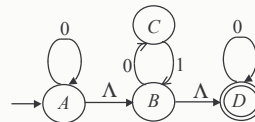
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |



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## Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

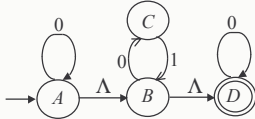
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

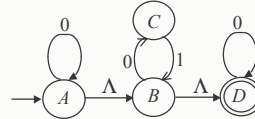
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A\}$          |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

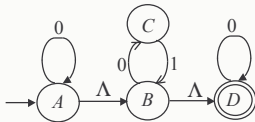
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B\}$       |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

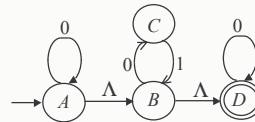
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B, C\}$    |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

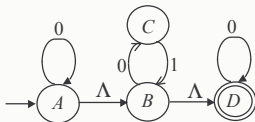
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B, C, D\}$ |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

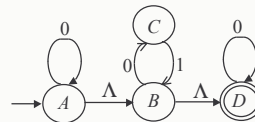
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B, C, D\}$ |                  |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        |                  |                  |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    |                  |                  |



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### Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

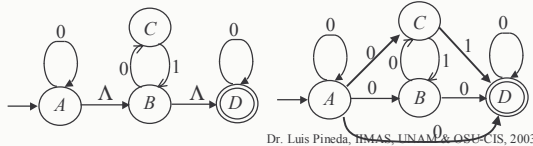
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B, C, D\}$ | $\emptyset$      |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{C, D\}$       | $\emptyset$      |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        | $\emptyset$      | $\{B, D\}$       |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{D\}$          | $\emptyset$      |



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## Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

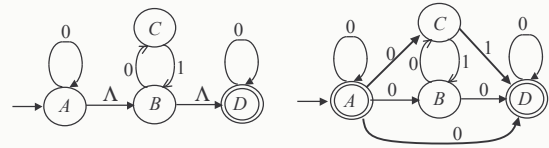
| $q$ | $\delta(q, \Lambda)$ | $\delta(q, 0)$ | $\delta(q, 1)$ | $\delta^*(q, 0)$ | $\delta^*(q, 1)$ |
|-----|----------------------|----------------|----------------|------------------|------------------|
| $A$ | $\{B\}$              | $\{A\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{A, B, C, D\}$ | $\emptyset$      |
| $B$ | $\{D\}$              | $\{C\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{C, D\}$       | $\emptyset$      |
| $C$ | $\emptyset$          | $\emptyset$    | $\{B\}$        | $\emptyset$      | $\{B, D\}$       |
| $D$ | $\emptyset$          | $\{D\}$        | $\emptyset$    | $\{D\}$          | $\emptyset$      |



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## Converting NFA- $\Lambda$ to NFA

Finally, if there are accepting states that can be reached by  $\Lambda$ -transition from the initial state of the NFA- $\Lambda$ , then the initial state of the corresponding NFA is also accepting



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## NFA- $\Lambda$ are equivalent to NFA

- If  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is a language that is accepted by the NFA- $\Lambda$   $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$  then there is a NFA  $M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, q_1, A_1, \delta_1)$  that also accepts  $L$
- This is the case if and only if:

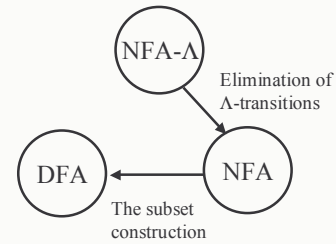
$$\delta_1^*(q, y) = \delta^*(q, y)$$

- $Q_1 = Q$  and the accepting states:  

$$A_1 = \begin{cases} A \cup \{q_0\} & \text{if } \Lambda(\{q_0\}) \cap A \neq \emptyset \text{ in } M \\ A & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$
- The proof is by induction

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## The Family of FA



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## Converting FA into NFA- $\Lambda$

- We have so far:
  - $L$  can be recognized by a FA
  - $L$  can be recognized by a NFA
  - $L$  can be recognized by a NFA- $\Lambda$
- These three statements are equivalent:
  - For any NFA there is an equivalent FA (the subset construction)
  - For any NFA- $\Lambda$  there is an equivalent NFA (eliminating  $\Lambda$ -transitions)
  - For any FA there is an equivalent NFA- $\Lambda$ !

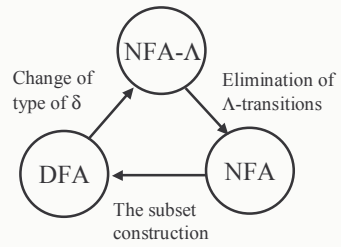
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## FA are equivalent to NFA- $\Lambda$

- Suppose that  $L$  is accepted by a DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta)$ ; we construct an NFA- $\Lambda$   $M_1 = (Q, \Sigma, q_0, A, \delta_1)$ 
  - The same set of states
  - The same alphabet
  - The same initial state
  - The same set of accepting states!
  - We define  $\delta_1$  of type:
 
$$\delta_1 : Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\Lambda\}) \rightarrow 2^Q$$
 as follows (for any  $q \in Q$  and  $a \in \Sigma$ ):
 
$$\delta(q, \Lambda) = \emptyset \quad \delta(q, a) = \{\delta(q, a)\}$$
- The trivial NFA- $\Lambda$  with no non-deterministic or  $\Lambda$ -transitions!

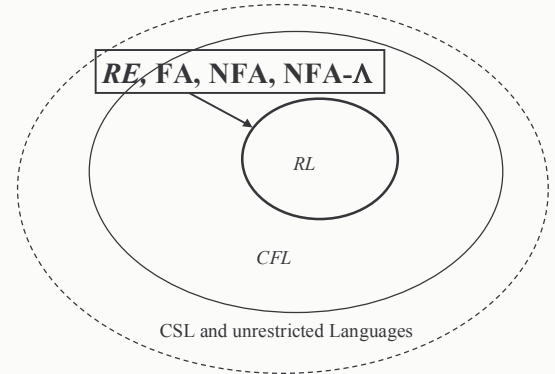
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## The Family of FA



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## The 4th description of $RL$



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