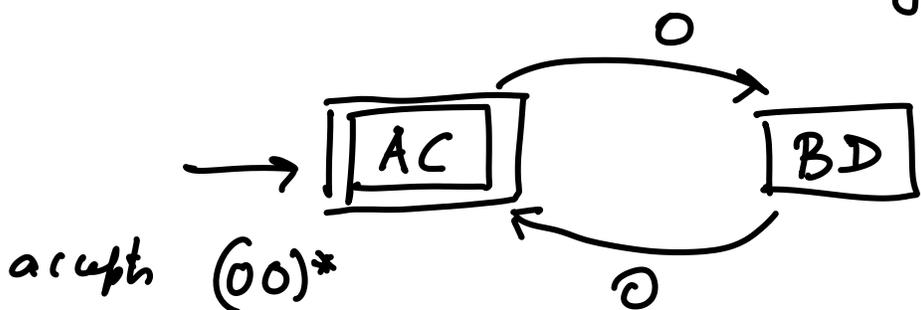


Both accept

$$(00)^* = L(M_1) = L(M_2)$$

- (i) Is there a minimum state machine for a Reg Lang  $L$ ?
- (ii) How are all minimum state machines for  $L$  related?

What happens if we club states of machine - say  $[A, C]$  and  $[B, D]$



This is similar to  $M_2$

What if we club  $[A, B]$  and  $[C, D]$ ?

When and how can we club states together and obtain a legitimate DFA for language  $L$ ?

Two strings  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$  will behave similarly in future if  $\delta(q_0, x) = \delta(q_0, y)$  since  $\delta(q_0, x \cdot z) = \delta(q_0, y \cdot z) \quad \forall z \in \Sigma^*$

So states club together strings whose future behavior w.r.t. concatenation is same — in particular either both are accepted or both are rejected.

$R_M$  ————— This relation is an equivalence relation since it satisfies  $x R_M x$ ,  $x R_M y \Rightarrow y R_M x$  and  $x R_M y$  and  $y R_M z \Rightarrow x R_M z$

$R_{M_1}$

A $\in$	B $0$
C $00+(00)^*$	D $000+(00)^*$

$R_{M_2}$

E $(00)^*$	F $0+(00)^*$
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A special class of equivalence relation for strings in  $\Sigma^*$

$x \sim y$ ,  $x, y \in \Sigma^*$  are "equivalent" under a right invariant property if  $\forall z \in \Sigma^*$   $x \sim y \Rightarrow x \cdot z \sim y \cdot z$

Intuition: Given a DFA,  $M$ , all string  $w \in \Sigma^*$  such that

$$\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) = q'$$

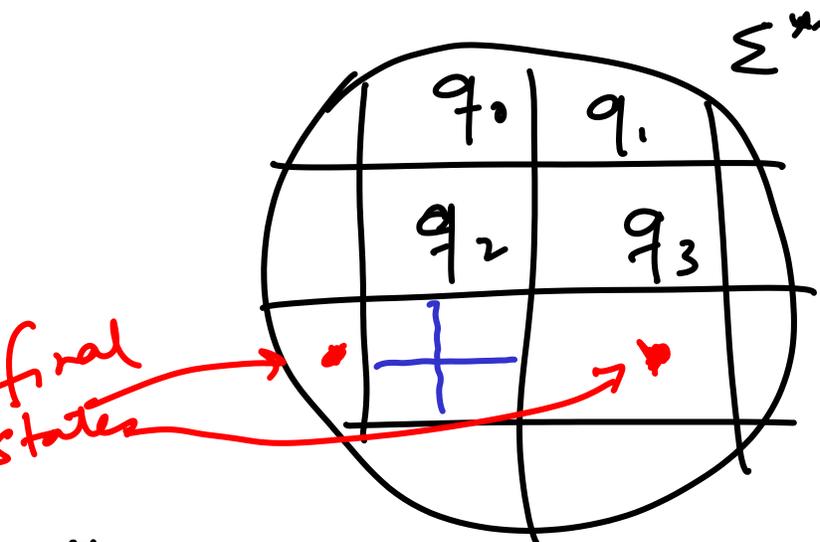
$$x \sim_M y \text{ if } \hat{\delta}(q_0, x) = \hat{\delta}(q_0, y)$$

This equivalence reln  $\sim_M$  is right invariant

$$\text{since } \hat{\delta}(q_0, x \cdot z) = \hat{\delta}(q_0, y \cdot z) \forall z$$

Why is  $\sim_M$  transitive?

$$\text{If } x \sim y \text{ and } y \sim z \Rightarrow x \sim z$$



Any equivalence relation on a set partitions the elements into (disjoint) equivalence classes

# Equivalence classes of  $\sim_M = |Q|$

Can we achieve a reduction in the number of states (equivalence classes) for a given regular language

- ① What is the min no. of equivalence classes - related to minimum state DFA for a language  $L$ ?
- ② Is this machine "unique"?

We want to lighten our defn of the equivalence relation in the following way

$$x \sim_L y \quad \text{iff} \quad \forall z \in \Sigma^* \quad x \cdot z \sim_L y \cdot z$$

The relation that we had defined on the basis of the machine does not force

$x \sim y$  even if  $xz \sim yz$   
 $\forall z \in \Sigma^*$

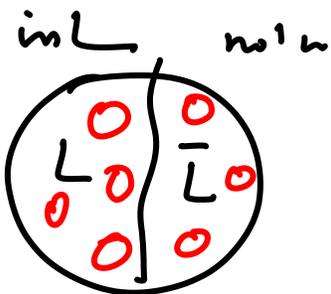
$R_L$ : relation for a language  $L$

Myhill  
Nerode  
Relation

$x R_L y$  iff  $\forall z \in \Sigma^*$  either  
 $x.z$  and  $y.z$  are  
 both in  $L$  or both are  
 not in  $L$ .

$R_M$ : for a specific DFA  $\mathcal{M}$

Claim  $R_L$  is right invariant equivalence relation



Why is it equivalence?  
 reflexive, symmetric : obvious  
 transitive  $x R_L y \quad y R_L z$

$\Rightarrow x R_L z$

R.I. if  $x R_L y$  then  $\forall z \in \Sigma^* x.z R_L y.z$

We know that for all  $z' \in \Sigma^*$   
 $x \cdot z'$  and  $y \cdot z'$  are both in  $L$   
 or not in  $L$   
 from defn of  $x R_L y$   
 We want to show that  $\forall u \in \Sigma^*$   
 $x \cdot u R_L y \cdot u$  or in other words  
 $\forall z \in \Sigma^*$   $xu \cdot z$  and  $yu \cdot z$  are both  
 in  $L$  or not in  $L$   
 → Choose  $z' = uz$

The equivalence classes of the relation  
 $R_L$  for a regular language correspond  
 to the states of min state DFA

### Myhill Nerode Theorem

A language  $L$  is regular iff  
 the no. of equivalence classes of  $R_L$   
 is finite.

For proof we will go thru an indirect construction using  $R_M$

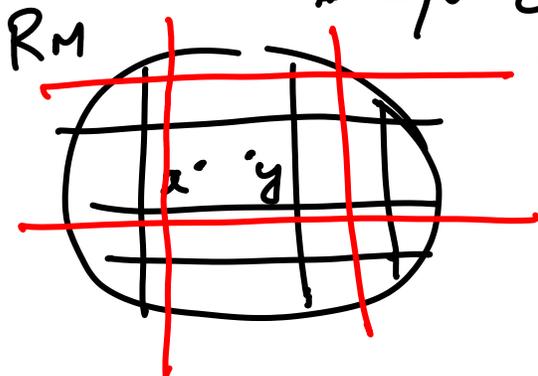
The following statements are equivalent

1.  $L$  is a regular language
2.  $L$  is the union of some number of equivalence classes of a right invariant equivalence reln. of finite index ( $\#$  equivalence classes is finite)
3.  $R_L$  has finite index  $\checkmark$

$\textcircled{1} \Rightarrow \textcircled{2} \Rightarrow \textcircled{3} \Rightarrow \textcircled{1}$

Whenever  $x R_M y \Rightarrow x R_L y$

$\# \text{ eqv classes of } R_L \leq \# \text{ eqv classes of } R_M$



$x R_M y \Rightarrow \exists z \in \Sigma^*$   
 $x \cdot z R_M y \cdot z$  (property of right inv.)

So either both  $xz$  are in  $L$  or not in  $L$   
 $\Rightarrow x R_L y$

