

RGPV 2002

Q. Write a short note on non-deterministic finite automata ?

Ans. Non deterministic finite automata refer as NDFA or NFA allows a set of possible moves. For example from a state an input '1' can transit 0 times, 1 times or more than 1 times.

Its not determined in NFA like in DFA.

NDFA is defined as 5 tuple machine:

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

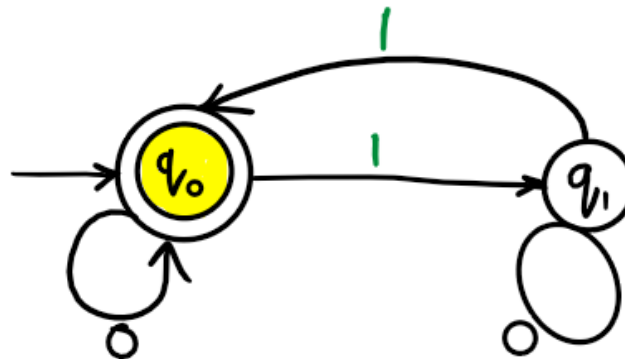
1. Q is a finite non empty set of states.
2. Σ is a finite non empty set of input symbols.
3. δ is a transition function, $Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$
4. q_0 is an initial state belong to Q .
5. F is the set of final states belong to Q .

To understand NDFA, let's compare it with DFA.

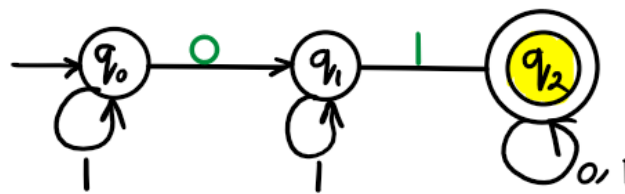
NDFA	DFA
Non Deterministic Finite Automata	Deterministic Finite Automata
Empty String transition allowed in NDFA.	Empty String transition not allowed in DFA.
In NDFA, the next possible state is not determined.	In DFA, the next possible state is determined.
For NDFA, DFA may or may not exist.	For all DFA there exist NDFA
NDFA is like combination of many machines.	DFA is like a single machine.
NDFA is easy to construct.	DFA is tough to construct compare to NDFA.

Some examples of NDFA:

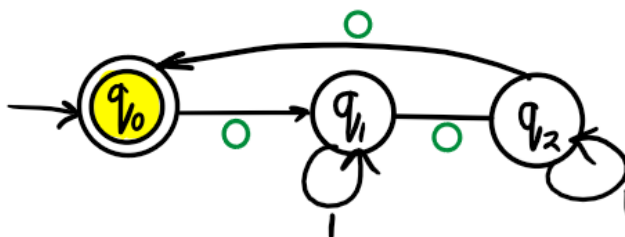
Problem 01: Construct a NDFA for the language accepting strings having even number of 1's over input alphabets $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.



Problem 02: Construct a NDFA for the language accepting strings containing '01' as substring over input alphabets $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.



Problem 03: Construct a NDFA for the language accepting strings containing '0' as divisible by 3 over input alphabets $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$.



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