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Def An NFA is a 4-tuple (fix Σ as the alphabet)
 $N = (Q, Q_0, \Delta, F)$

Q : set of states, $Q_0 \subseteq Q$ (start states; not plural)

$\Delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow 2^Q$ (2^Q is the powerset of Q)

[$\Delta \subseteq Q \times \Sigma \times Q$ or $\forall a \in \Sigma \Delta_a$ is a binary relation on Q]

Given Δ we can define $\Delta^*: 2^Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow 2^Q$

def $\Delta^*(A, \epsilon) = A$

$\Delta^*(A, \omega a) \stackrel{?}{=} \Delta(A, \Delta^*(A, \omega), a)$ // $A \subseteq Q, a \in \Sigma, \omega \in \Sigma^*$
 ← NOT QUITE RIGHT

$$= \bigcup_{q \in \Delta^*(A, \omega)} \Delta(q, a)$$

FACT (1) $\Delta^*(A \cup B, \omega) = \Delta^*(A, \omega) \cup \Delta^*(B, \omega)$

(2) $\Delta^*(A, xy) = \Delta^*(\Delta^*(A, x), y)$

DEF $L(N) \stackrel{\text{def}}{=} \{\omega \in \Sigma^* \mid \Delta^*(Q_0, \omega) \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$

Thm Given an NFA N there exists a DFA M such that $L(M) = L(N)$.

Proof Let $M = (S, s_0, \delta, \hat{F})$; we will describe it explicitly: $S = 2^Q$; $s_0 = Q_0$ [Do the types make sense?]

$\hat{F} = \{A \subseteq Q \mid A \cap F \neq \emptyset\}$

$\delta(A, a) = \bigcup_{q \in A} \Delta(q, a) = \Delta^*(A, a)$.

Now we must prove $L(M) = L(N)$.

Lemma $\Delta^*(A, \omega) = \delta^*(A, \omega) \quad \forall \omega \in \Sigma^*$

Proof By induction on $|\omega|$

Base $\omega = \epsilon$. $\Delta^*(A, \epsilon) = A = \delta^*(A, \epsilon)$

Ind. Case Let $\omega = xa$ & assume $\forall A \subseteq Q$
 $\Delta^*(A, x) = \delta^*(A, x)$

(2)

$$\begin{aligned}
\delta^*(A, xa) &= \delta(\delta^*(A, x), a) && [\text{Def. of } \delta^*] \\
&= \delta(\Delta^*(A, x), a) && [\text{Def. of } \delta \text{ Ind. Hyp}] \\
&= \Delta^*(\Delta^*(A, x), a) && [\text{Def of } \delta] \\
&= \Delta^*(A, xa) && [\text{Fact (2)}]
\end{aligned}$$

Lemma is proved.

Completion of the proof of the theorem:

$$\begin{aligned}
L(N) &= \{w \mid \Delta^*(Q_0, w) \cap F \neq \emptyset\} \\
&= \{w \mid \Delta^*(Q_0, w) \in \hat{F}\} && [\text{Def of } \hat{F}] \\
&= \{w \mid \delta^*(Q_0, w) \in \hat{F}\} && \text{by Lemma} \\
&= \{w \mid \delta^*(s_0, w) \in \hat{F}\} && \text{by def. of } s_0 \\
&= L(M). \quad \blacksquare
\end{aligned}$$

NFA with ϵ -moves

$$N = (Q, Q_0, \Delta: Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \rightarrow 2^Q, F)$$

Def ϵ -closure of $q \in Q$ def

$$\{q' \mid \text{there is an } \epsilon\text{-path from } q \text{ to } q'\}.$$

We modify Δ^* to $\hat{\Delta}: 2^Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}) \rightarrow 2^Q$

$$\hat{\Delta}(A, \epsilon) = \epsilon\text{-closure}(A) = \bigcup_{q \in A} \epsilon\text{-closure}(q).$$

$$\hat{\Delta}(A, xa) = \epsilon\text{-cl}(\Delta(\hat{\Delta}(A, x), a))$$

Define $N' = (Q, Q_0, \Delta', F')$

$$\Delta'(q, a) = \hat{\Delta}(\{q\}, a)$$

$$F' = \begin{cases} F \cup \{q_0\} & \text{if } \epsilon\text{-closure}(q_0) \cap F \neq \emptyset \\ F & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Not too hard to see $L(N) = L(N')$

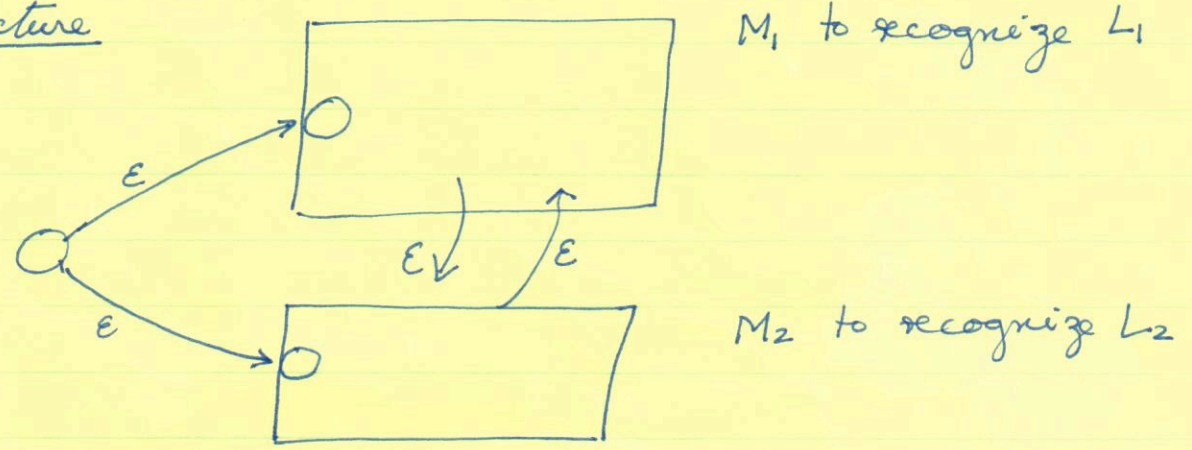
Therefore DFA, NFA & NFA with ϵ -moves all have the same power.

Example Suppose L_1, L_2 are regular languages

$$L_1 \parallel L_2 = \{x_1 y_1 x_2 y_2 \dots x_k y_k \mid x_1 x_2 \dots x_k \in L_1 \& y_1 y_2 \dots y_k \in L_2\}$$

The shuffle of two languages is also regular
How do we prove this?

Picture



Use ϵ -transitions to go back and forth.
We need to remember where we were.

$$M_1 = (S_1, s_1, \delta_1, F_1) \quad M_2 = (S_2, s_2, \delta_2, F_2)$$

New NFA + ϵ m/c (Q, q_0, Δ, F)

$$Q = (S_1 \times S_2 \times \{1\}) \cup (S_1 \times S_2 \times \{2\}) \cup \{q_0\}$$

$$q_0 = \{q_0\}$$

$$\Delta(q_0, \epsilon) = \{(s_1, s_2, 1), (s_1, s_2, 2)\}$$

$$\Delta((s, s', 1), a) = \{(s, \delta_1(s', a), s', 1)\}$$

$$\Delta((s, s', 2), a) = \{(s, \delta_2(s', a), 2)\}$$

$$\Delta((s, s', 1), \epsilon) = \{(s, s', 2)\}$$

$$\Delta((s, s', 2), \epsilon) = \{(s, s', 1)\}$$

$$F = \{(s, s', 1) \mid s \in F_1 \& s' \in F_2\} \cup \{(s, s', 2) \mid s \in F_1 \& s' \in F_2\}$$