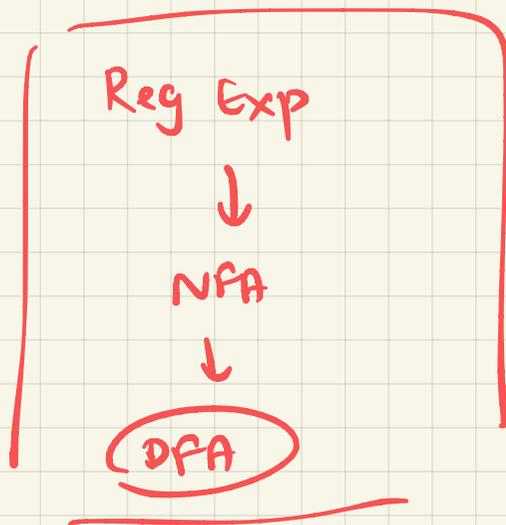


# DISCRETE MATHEMATICS

# LECTURE 12

## Plan:

1. Reg Exp to NFA
2. NFA to DFA
3. Complementation



## Reference:

Section 1.2 and 1.3 of:

Introduction to the Theory of  
Computation

(third edition)

by Michael Sipser

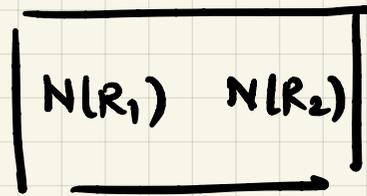
# Regular expressions to NFA:

$a \rightarrow \circ \xrightarrow{a} \odot$

$\epsilon \rightarrow \odot$

$\emptyset \rightarrow \circ$

$R_1 + R_2$



disjoint union of  
NFA ( $R_1$ ) and  
NFA ( $R_2$ )

$R_1 \cdot R_2$

?

$R^*$

?

$R_1 \cdot R_2$ :

$N_1$ : NFA for  $R_1$

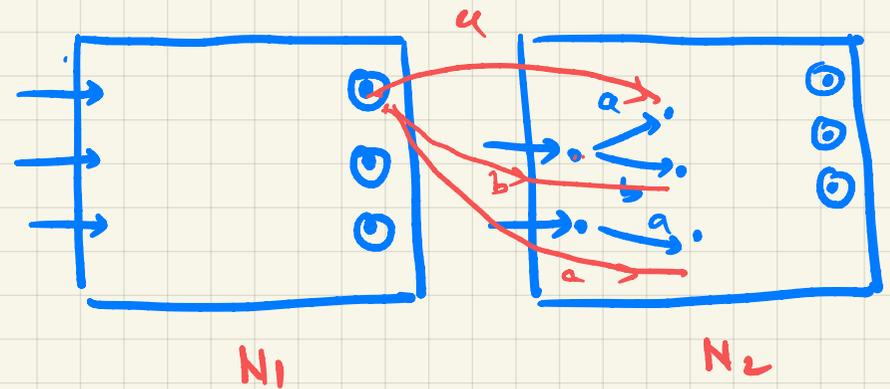
$N_2$ : NFA for  $R_2$

- 1. From every final state  $f$  of  $N_1$   
add transitions:  $f \xrightarrow{a} q_1$   
 $f \xrightarrow{b} q_2$

to the 'a' and 'b' successors  
of every initial state of  $N_2$

- 2. Make accept states of  $N_1$  as  
non-accepting if  $\epsilon$  is not in  $R_2$

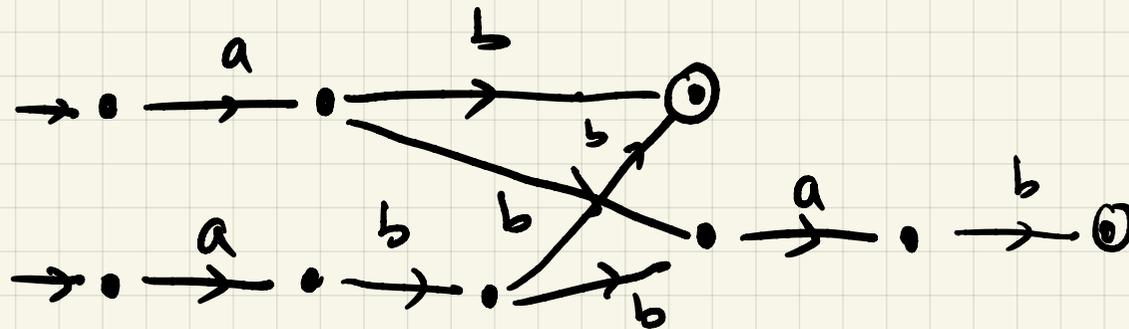
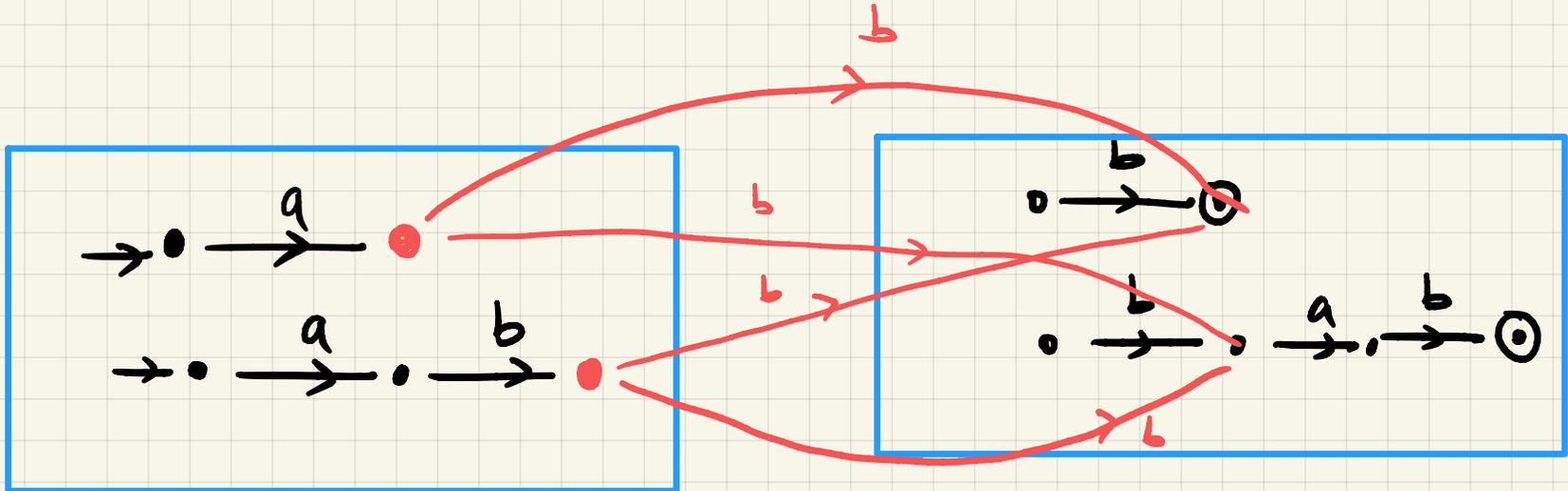
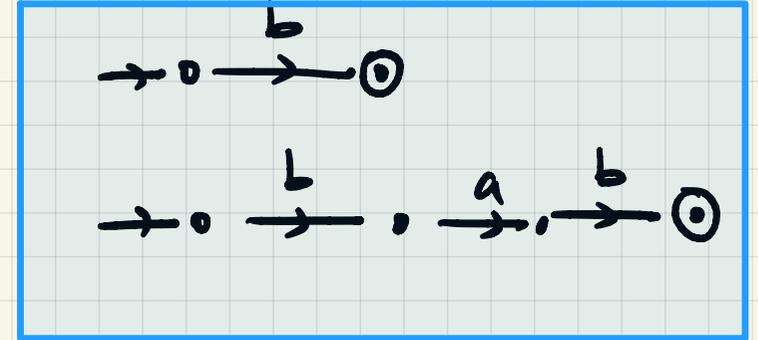
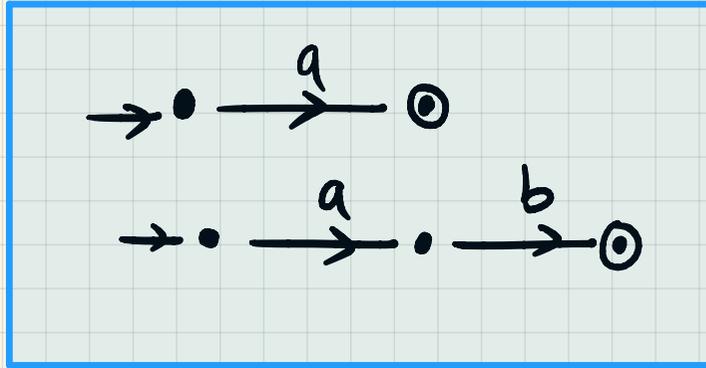
- 3. Make initial states of  $N_2$  as  
non-initial if  $\epsilon$  is not present in  $R_1$ .



Example 1:

$$R_1: a + ab$$

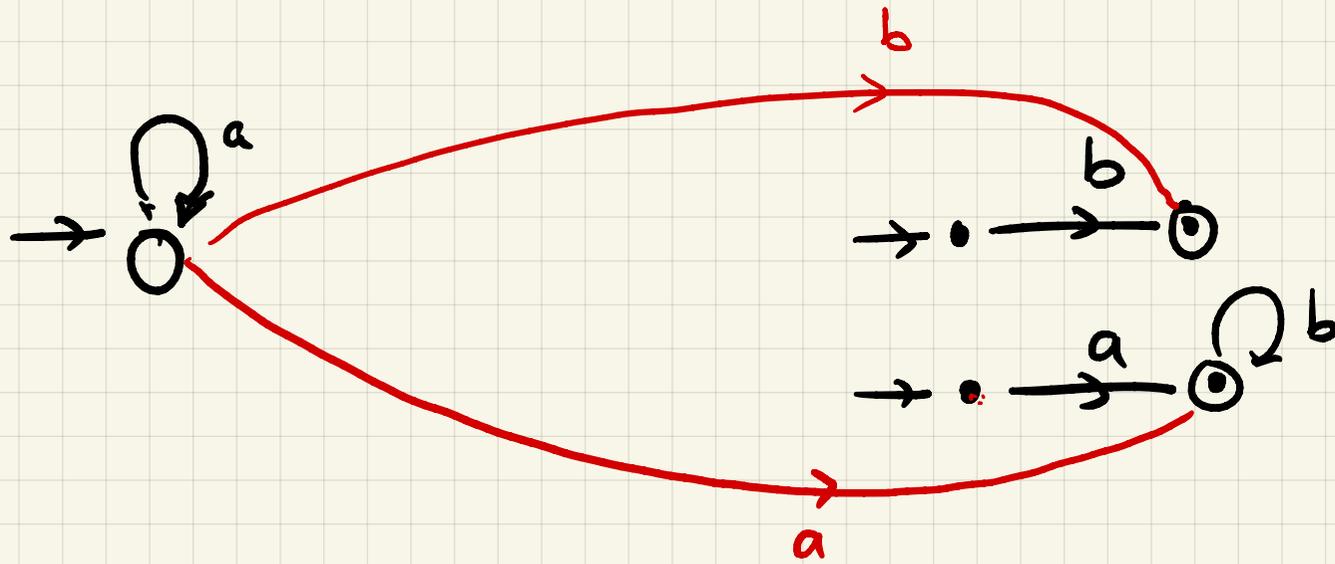
$$R_2: b + bab$$



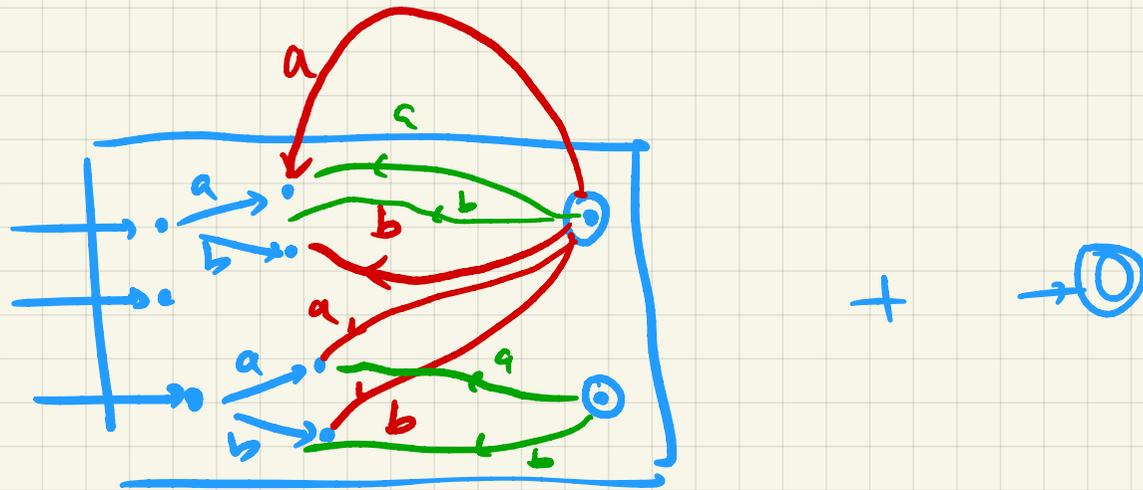
Example 2:

$R_1: a^*$

$R_2: b + ab^*$



R\*:

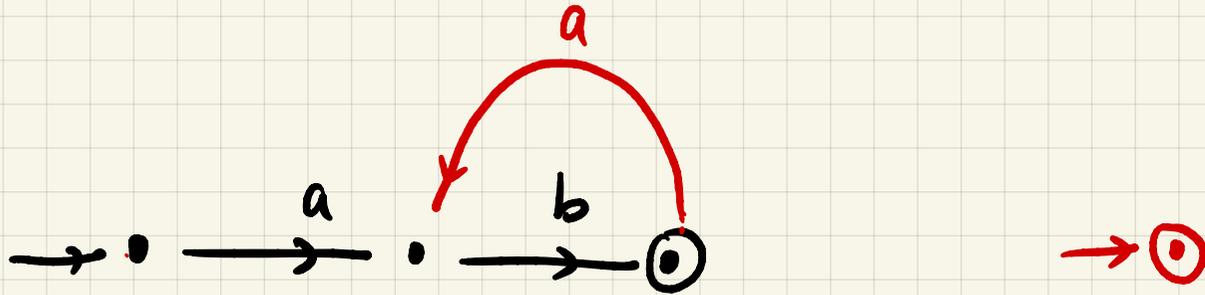


N for R

- 1. From every final state  $f$  of  $N$ , add transitions  $f \xrightarrow{a} p$  to every  $a$ -successor of initial state
- 2. Add an automaton for  $\epsilon$ .

Example 3:

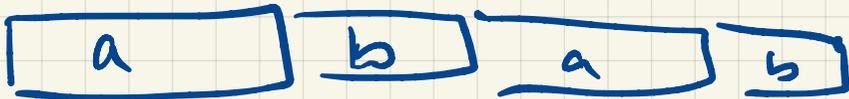
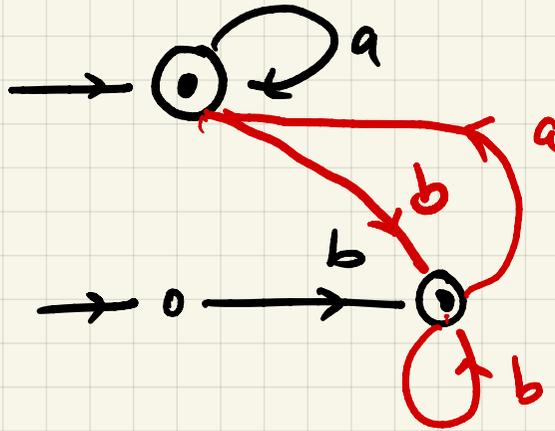
$(ab)^*$



Example 4:

$(a^* + b)^*$

$L = \{ \overbrace{b, \epsilon, a, aa, \dots}^* \}^*$



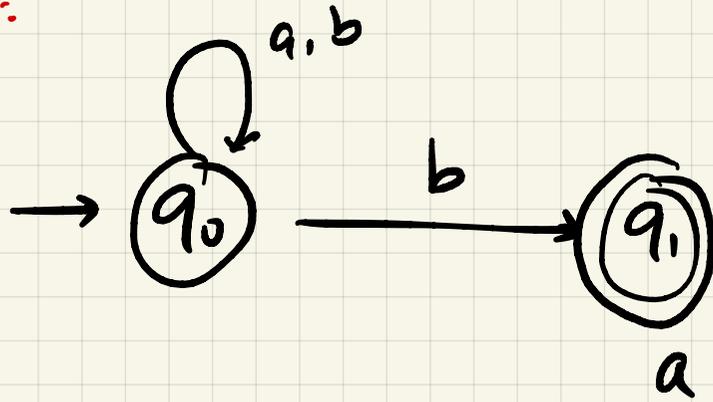
$$L^* = L^0 \cup L^1 \cup L^2 \cup \dots$$
$$= \{ \epsilon, L, L^2, \dots, L^k \}$$

$$\{ w_1 w_2 \dots w_k \mid w_i \in L, k \geq 0 \}$$

NFA to DFA:

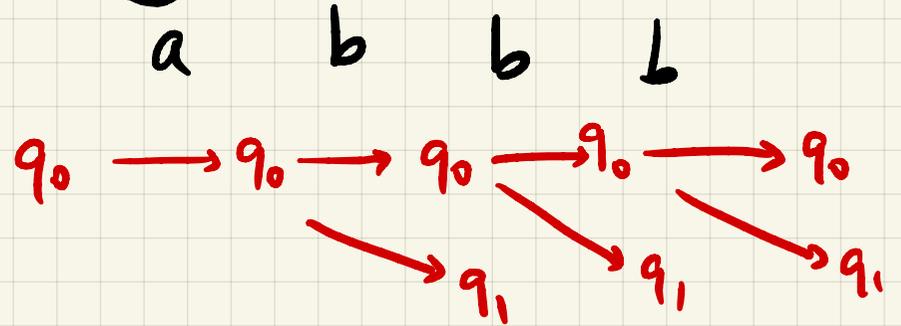
Example 51

NFA:

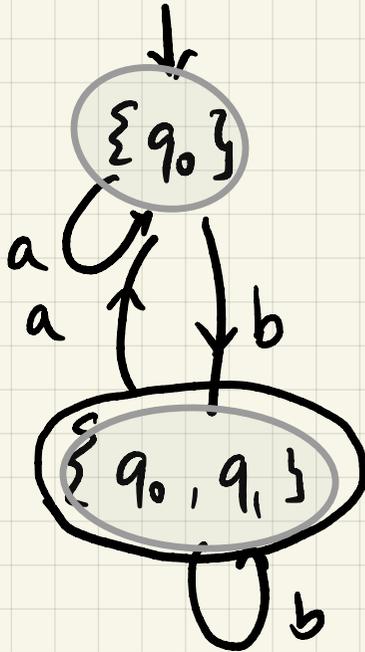


DFA:

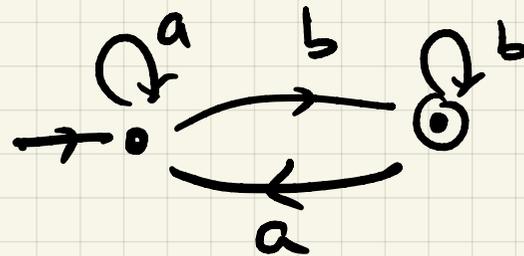
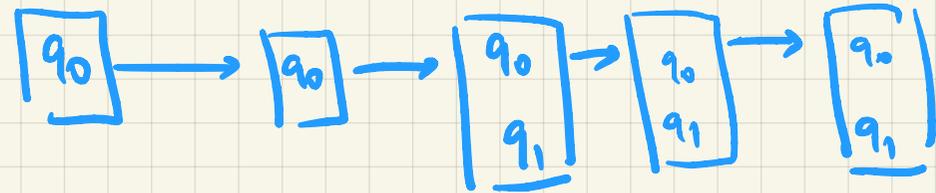
$\{q_0, q_1\}$



~~$\{q_0\}$~~

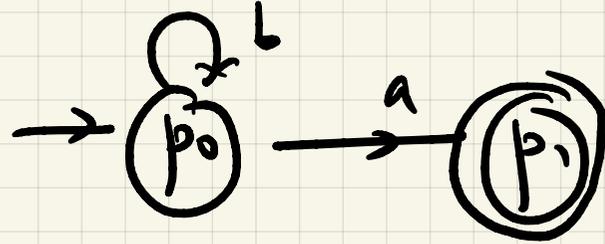
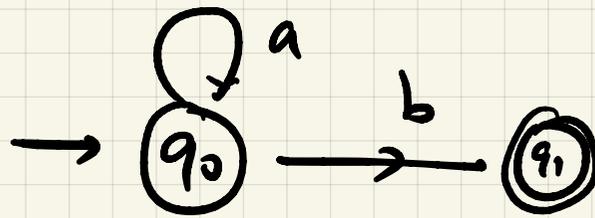


~~$\{q_1\}$~~

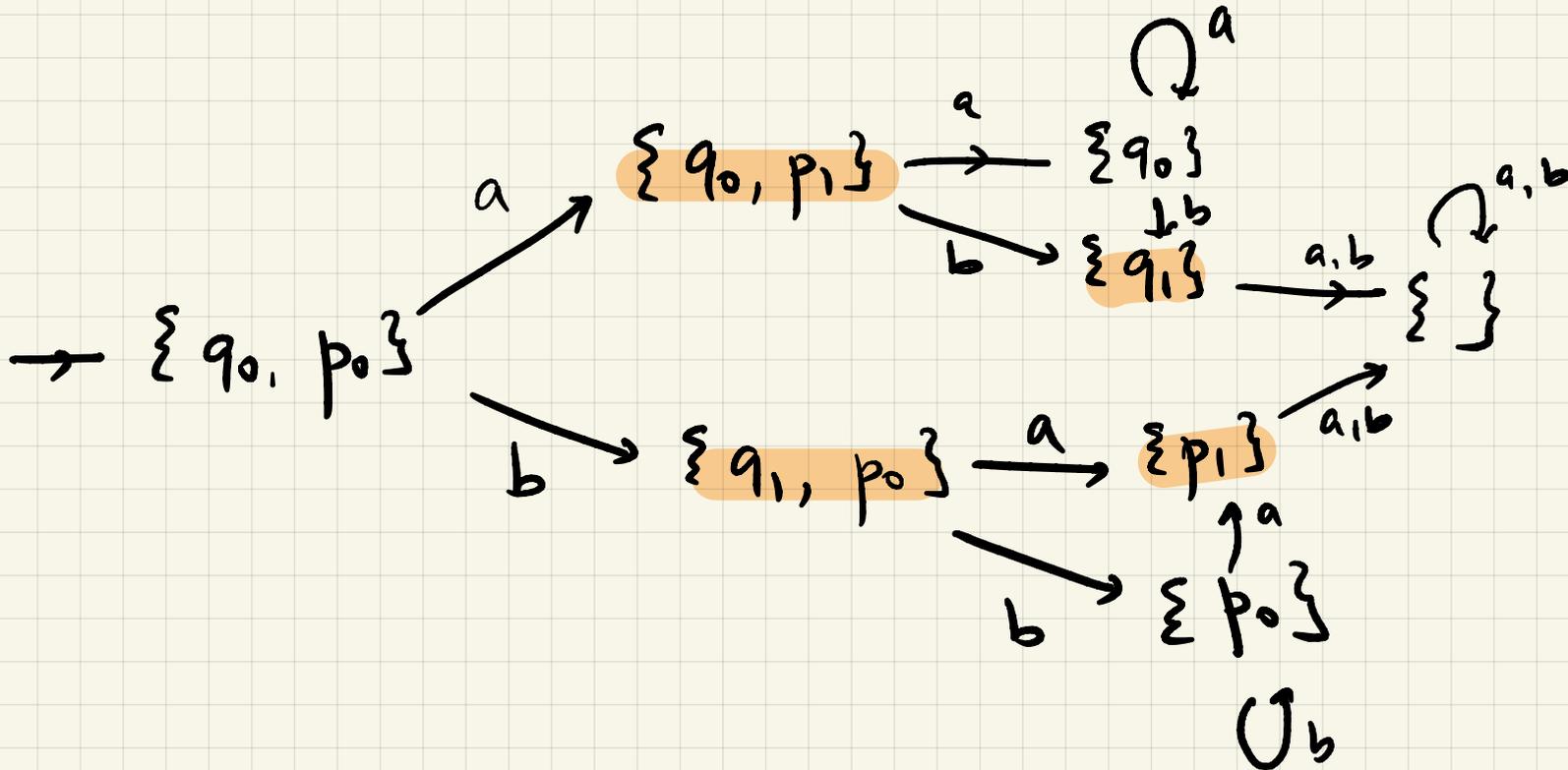
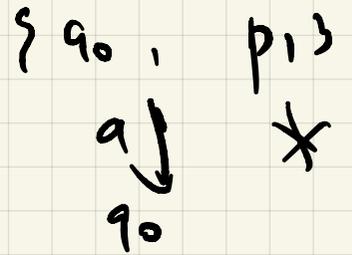
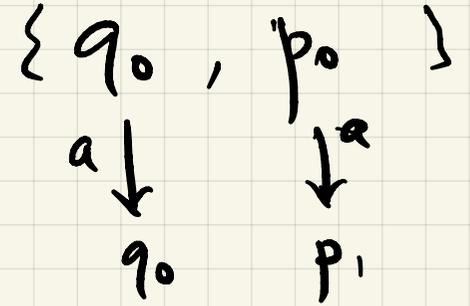


DFA.

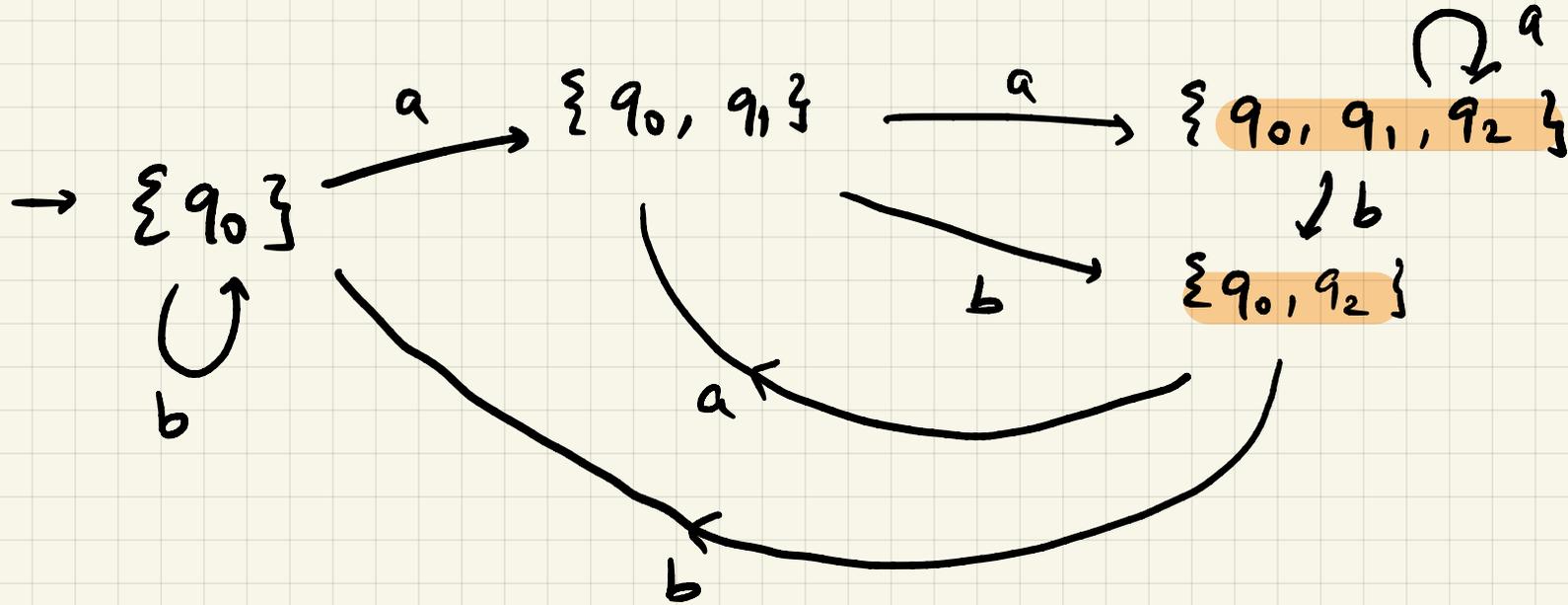
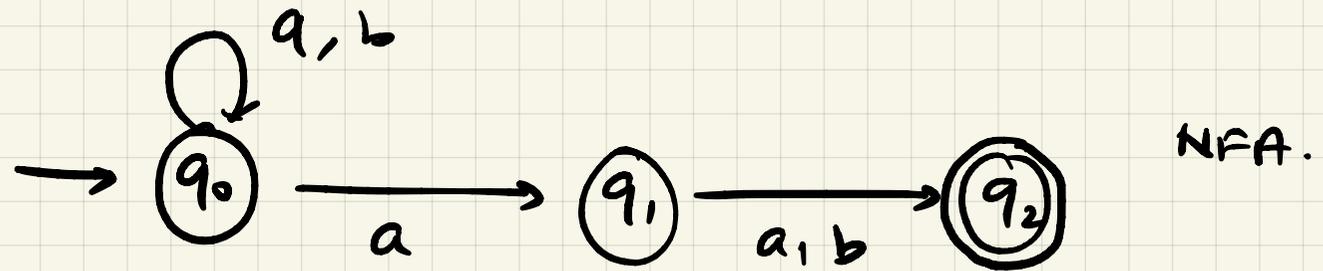
Example 6:



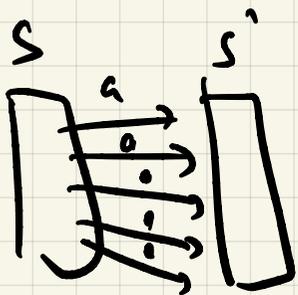
$\{q_0, q_1, p_0, p_1\}$



Example 7:



$$S \xrightarrow{a} S' = S' = \{ q \mid p \xrightarrow{a} q \text{ for some } p \in S \}$$



## NFA $\rightarrow$ DFA:      Subset construction :

NFA  $A$  :  $(Q, \Sigma, Q_0, \Delta, F)$

Equivalent DFA  $B = (S, \Sigma, s_0, \delta, S_F)$  is given as follows:

- states  $S =$  all subsets of  $Q$  - Power set  $\mathcal{P}(Q)$

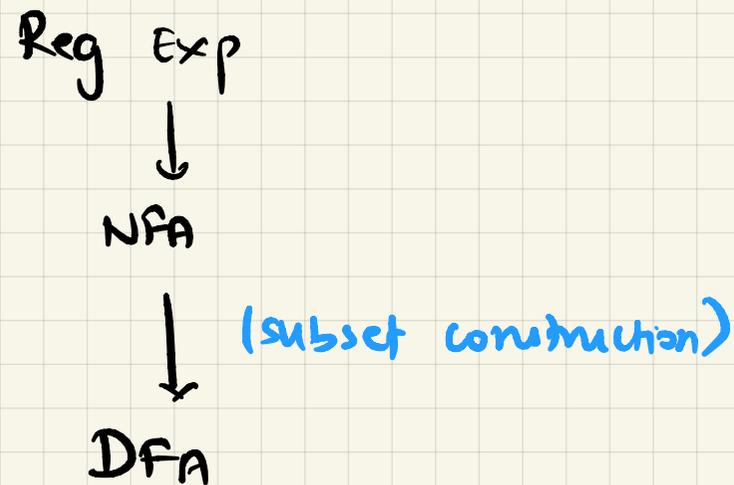
- Initial state  $s_0 =$  the subset  $Q_0$

- Final states  $S_F = \{ T \in \mathcal{P}(S) \mid T \cap F \neq \emptyset \}$

- Transition:  $T \xrightarrow{a} T'$

if  $T' = \{ q' \mid \exists q \in T \text{ with } q \xrightarrow{a} q' \}$

So far:



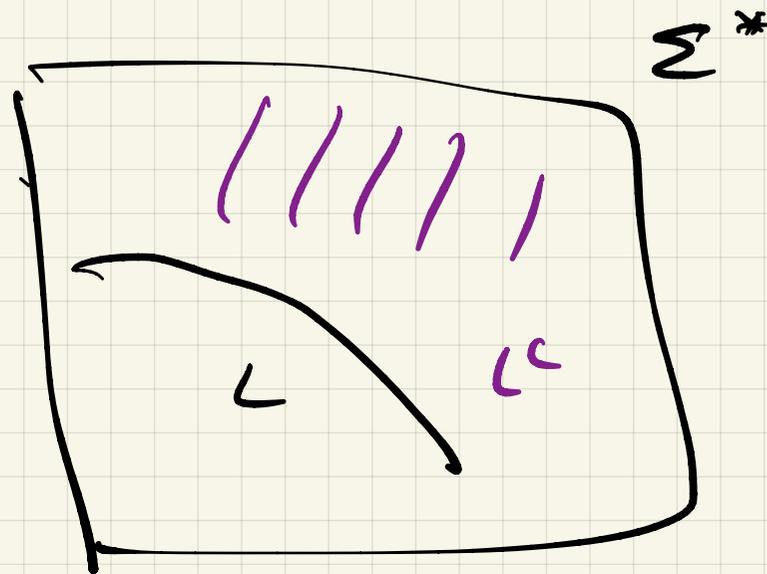
Remark: It is also possible to convert every NFA into a regular expression.

→ Will not do this in this course.

## COMPLEMENTATION:

operations on languages seen so far: union, concatenation, star.

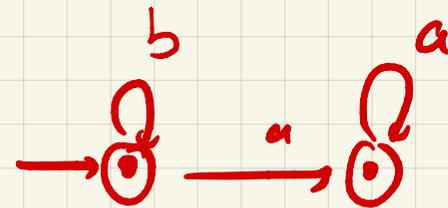
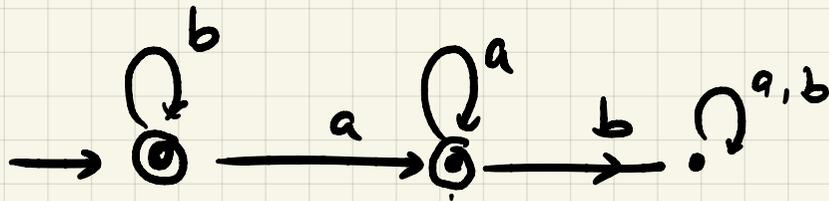
$$L^c = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid w \notin L \}$$



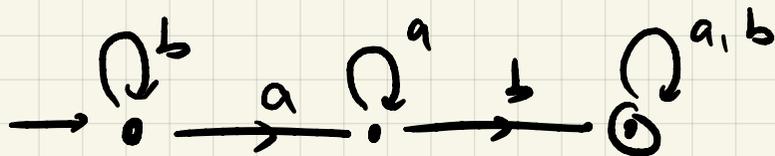
Example:

Draw a DFA for

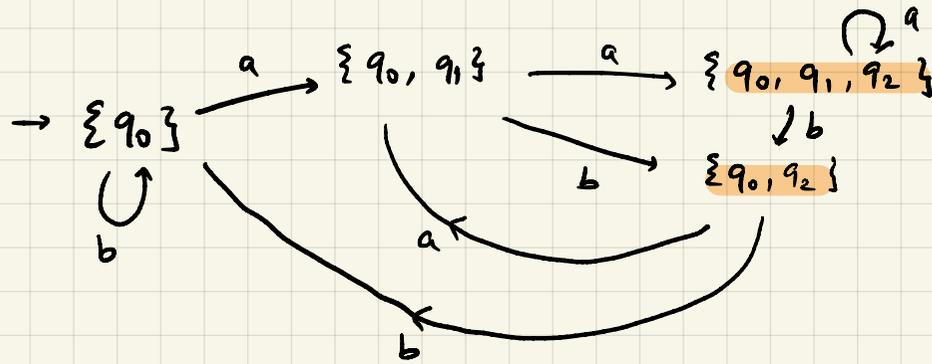
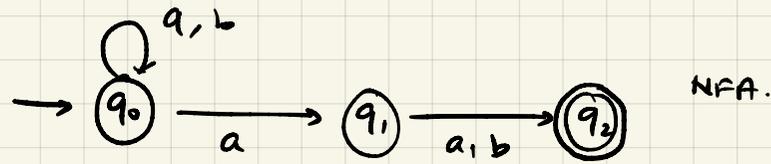
$\{ w \in (a+b)^* \mid w \text{ does not contain 'ab' } \}$ .



DFA for  $\{ w \mid w \text{ contains 'ab' } \}$

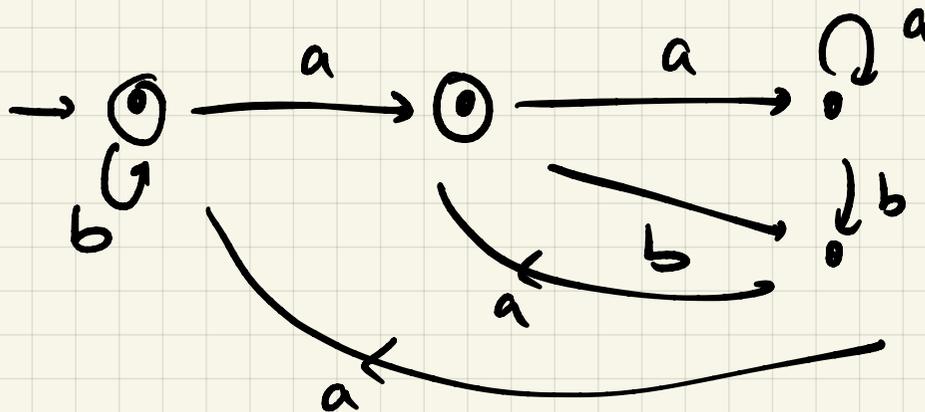


Example:



$L$ : Second last letter is an 'a'

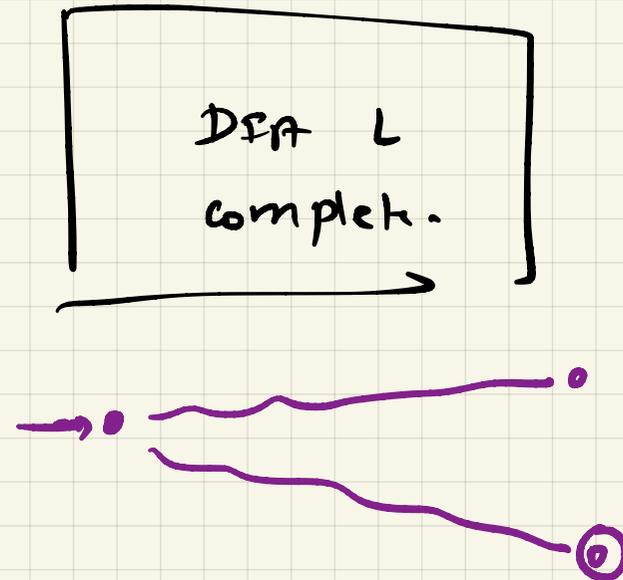
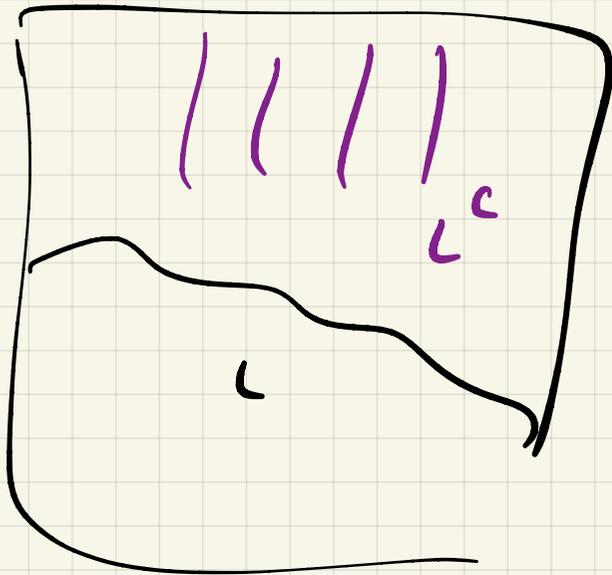
$L^c$ :  $\{\epsilon, a, b\} \cup \{\text{second last letter is a 'b'}\}$



## Complementing a language:

- $L$ : Take a complete DFA for  $L$
- Interchange accepting and non-accepting states.
- This gives the DFA for  $L^c$ .

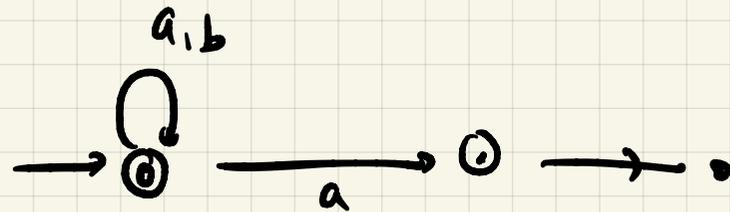
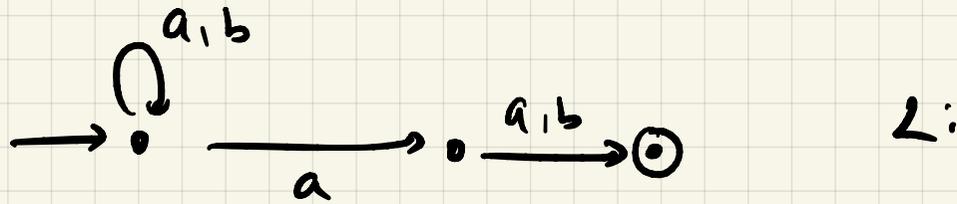
$\Sigma^*$



## Why this works for complete DFA?

- For every word  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , there is a unique run that reads the whole word.
- For words in the language, the last state is accepting. For words in the complement, the last state is non-accepting.
- So interchanging accept and non-accepting states gives the complement of the language.

Why such a construction does not work for NFA?



interchanging acc. & reject  
gives a different language,  
not the complement.

- Consider an NFA for  $L$ . For a word  $w \in L$ , there could be some runs that are accepting and some that are rejecting. Therefore, even after interchanging accept and non-accept states, word  $w$  may get accepted.

## Summary:

- Regular expressions, NFA, DFA.
- Reg. Exp  $\rightarrow$  NFA
- NFA  $\rightarrow$  DFA
- Complementing language given by NFA/DFA.