

# CS 344 - Scanning

Note Title

1/24/2012

## Announcements

- Essay due on Friday
- Next HW will be up by Friday

$$d^+ = d(d)^*$$

## Last time: Regular expressions

- A character

- The empty string,  $\epsilon$

- 2 regular expressions concatenated

- 2 regular expressions separated by an or (written  $|$ )

- A regular expression followed by  $*$   
(Kleine star - 0 or more occurrences)

+ operator

$(d)^+$



1 or  
more

occurrences

Ex: Give the regular expression for  
 $\{w \mid w \text{ begins with a } 1 \text{ and ends with a } 0\}$

$1(0/1)^*0$

Ex:  $\{w \mid w \text{ starts with } 0 \text{ and has an odd length}\}$

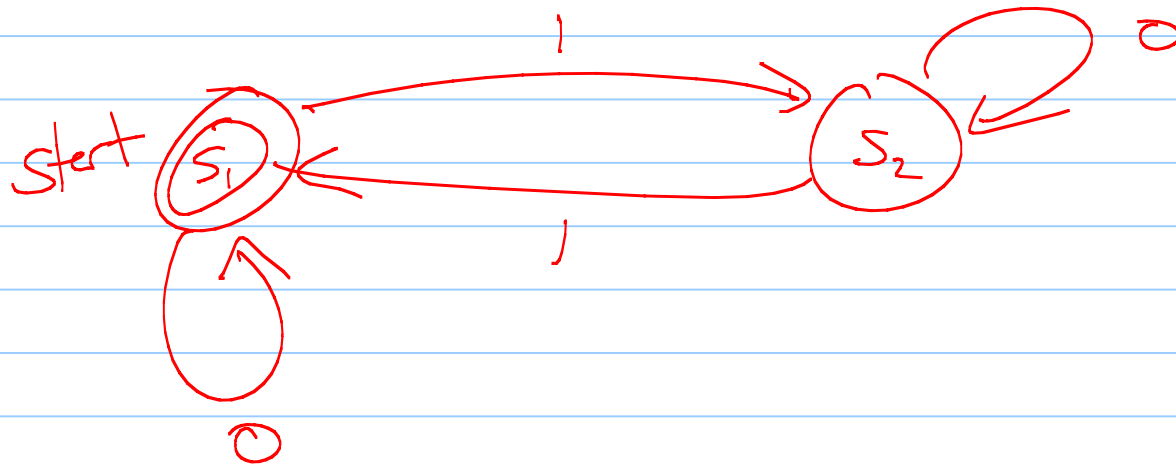
$0((0/1)(0/1))^*$

## Deterministic Finite Automate (DFA)

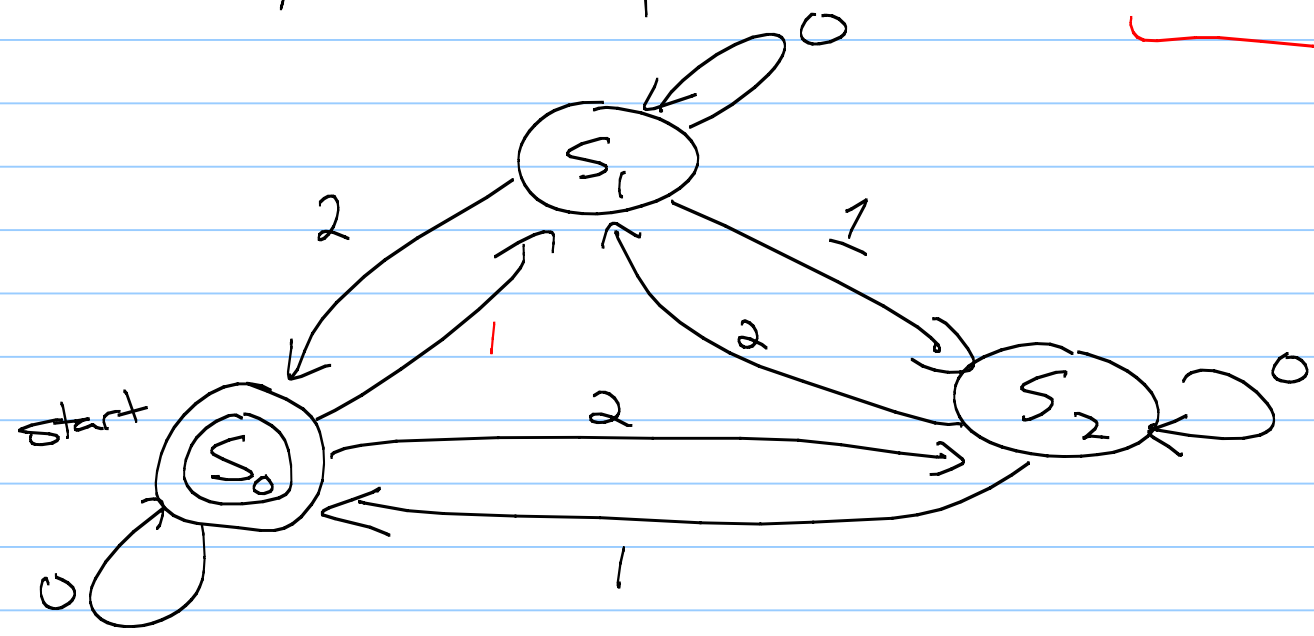
Regular languages are precisely the things recognized by DFAs.

- A set of states
- input alphabet
- A start state
- A set of accept states
- A transition function: given a state  $q$  and an input, output a new state

Ex: String of 0's & 1's:  
accept if number of 1's is even

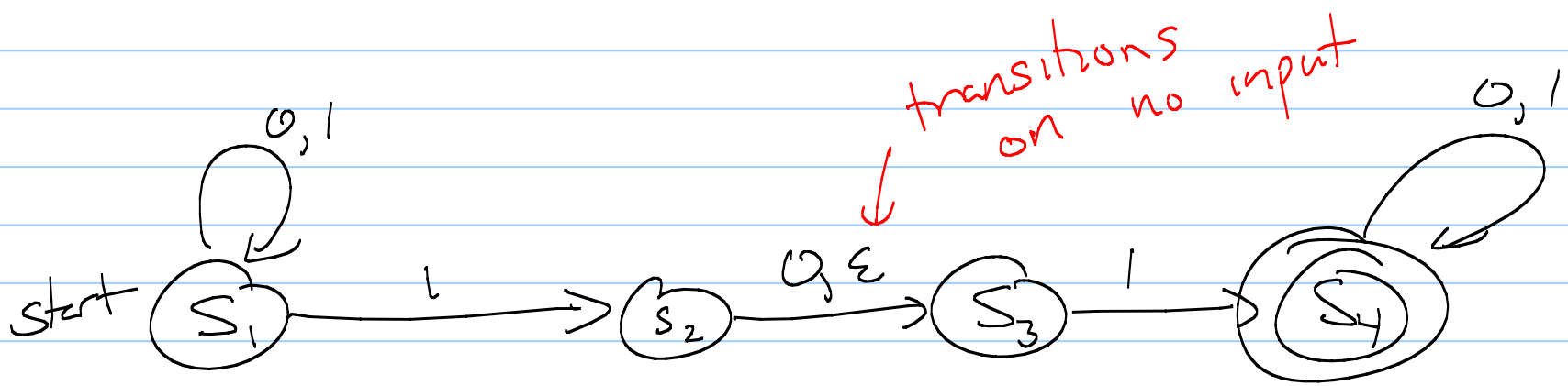


Ex: 3 symbol alphabet:  $\{0, 1, 2\}$



computing mod 3  
accepting if sum of word is  $0 \pmod 3$

# NFAs: DFAs w/ ambiguity

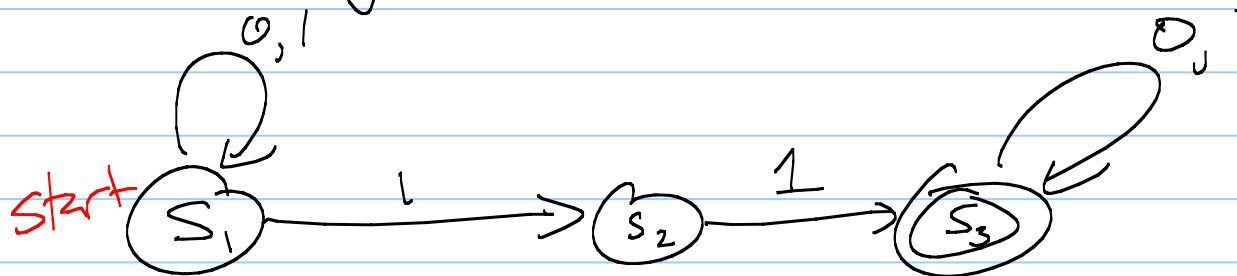


if read in a 1, could go to  $s_1$  or  $s_2$

NFA has  $n$  states  
DFA has up to  $2^n$  states

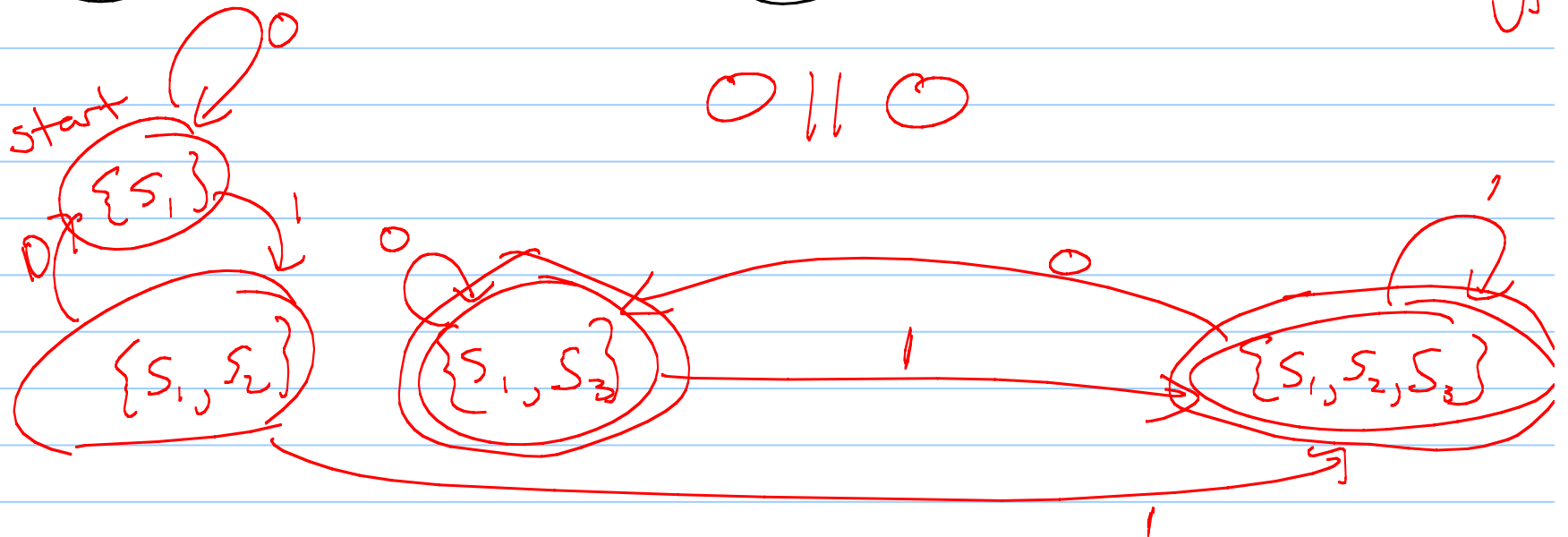
# Converting NFAs to DFAs

$\{s_1, s_2, s_3\}$



$\{w \mid w \text{ contains } 11 \text{ as a substring}\}$

0 1 1 0





# Context free Grammars (BNF)

Ex:

$\text{expr} \rightarrow \text{expr op expr} \mid$   
 $\text{(expr)} \mid \text{-expr} \mid$

terminals  $\rightarrow$  id  $\mid$  number  
 $\uparrow$  variable  $\quad \uparrow$  int/float

$\text{op} \rightarrow + \mid - \mid * \mid /$

$x = 5$   
 $y = 2$

$\uparrow$  terminals

A derivation: derive slope \* x + intercept

↑ variables (ids)

↑

expr  $\Rightarrow$  expr op expr

$\Rightarrow$  expr + expr

$\Rightarrow$  expr + id (intercept)

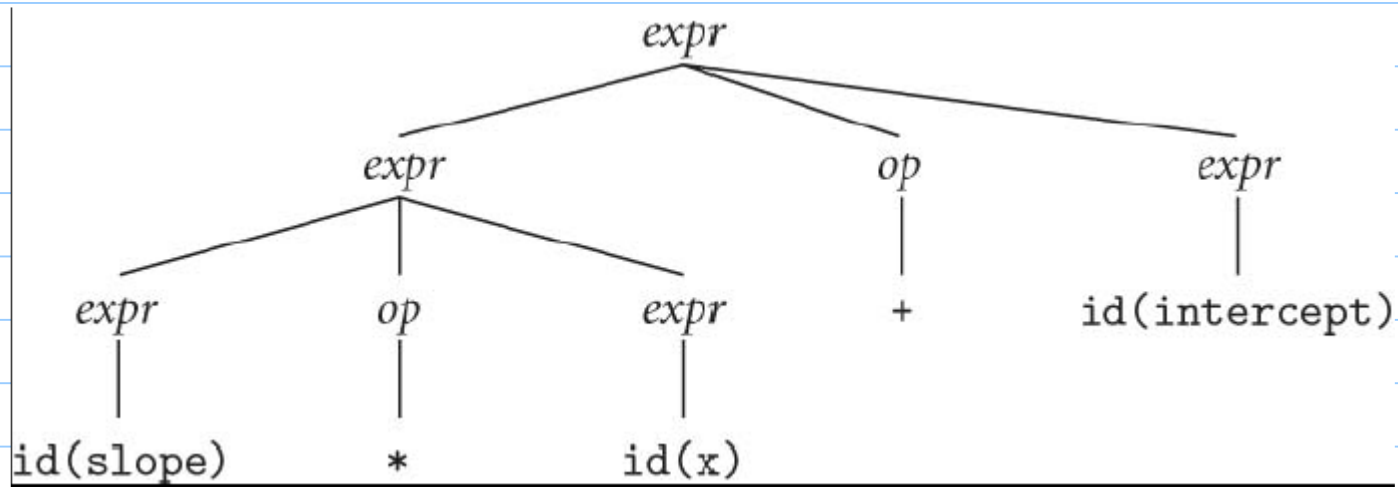
$\Rightarrow$  expr op expr + id

$\Rightarrow$  expr \* expr + id

$\Rightarrow$  expr \* id(x) + id

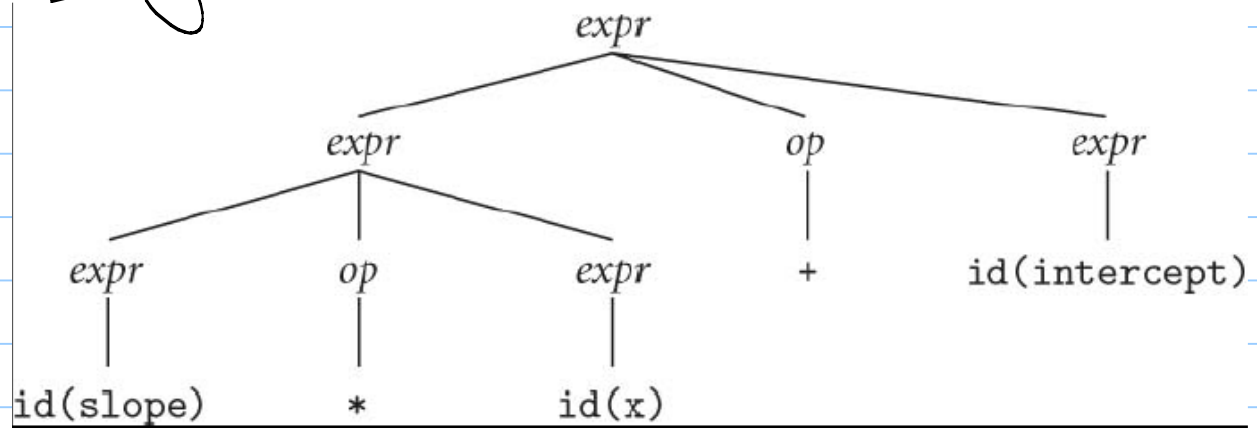
$\Rightarrow$  id(slope) \* id + id

# Derivation tree

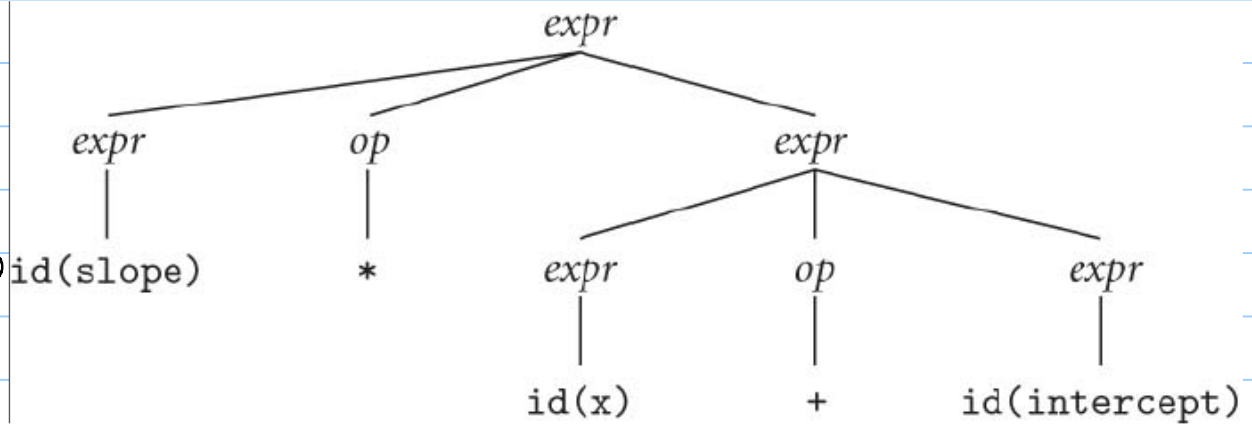


(rightmost derivation)

# Ambiguous grammars



leftmost derivation →



## Grammars

There are infinitely many ways to  
make a grammar for any  
context free language.

Problem in the parsing stage:  
which is better?

(Try to define unambiguous grammars.)

## Another example (from last time)

Expression grammars: Simple calculator

$\text{expr} \rightarrow \underline{\text{term}} / \underline{\text{expr}} \text{ add\_op } \text{term}$

$\text{term} \rightarrow \text{factor} / \text{term} \text{ mult\_op } \text{factor}$

$\text{factor} \rightarrow \text{id} / \underline{\text{number}} / -\text{factor} / (\text{expr})$

$\text{add\_op} \rightarrow \underline{+} / \underline{=}$

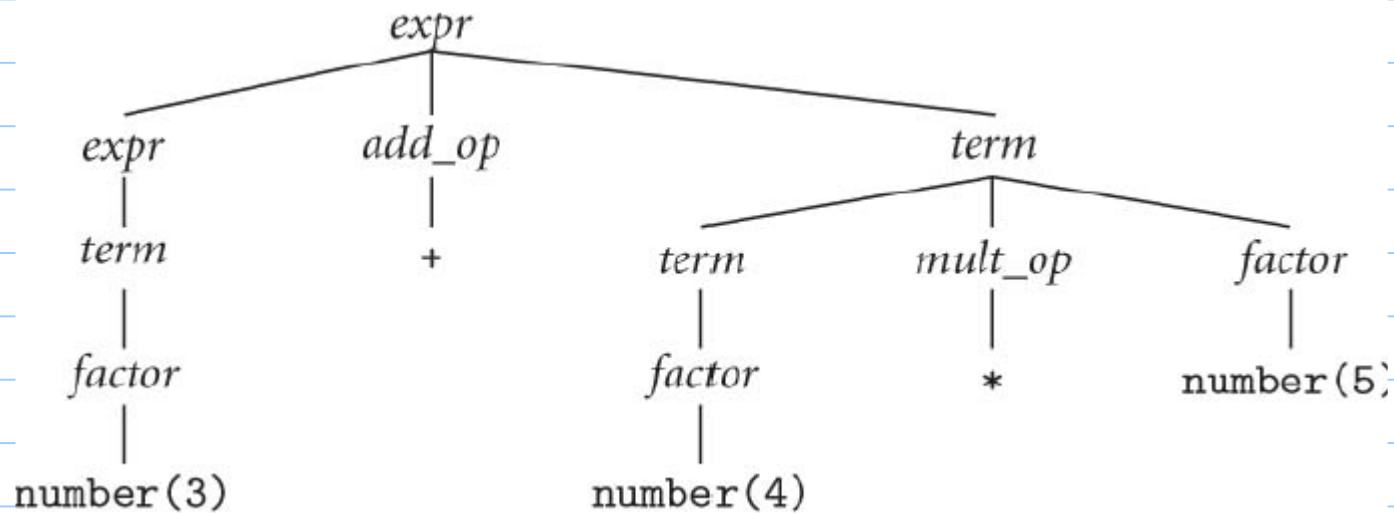
$\text{mult\_op} \rightarrow \underline{*} / \underline{/}$

variable

terminals

# Parse Tree

Ex:  $3 + 4 * 5$



# Scanners

Find the syntax (not semantics)  
of code.

Output tokens.

## 3 types

- Ad-hoc

- Finite automata

  - nested case statements
  - table driven



## Ad-hoc (last time)

if current  $\in \{ \text{"(", ")", "+", "-", "*"} \}$   
return that symbol

if current = ":"  
read next  
if it is "=", announce "assign"  
else announce error

if current = "/"  
read next  
if it is "\*" or "/"  
read until "\*" or "newline" (resp.)  
else return divide

etc.

## Ad-hoc approach

Advantage:

code is fast & compact

Disadvantage:

very U ad-hoc!

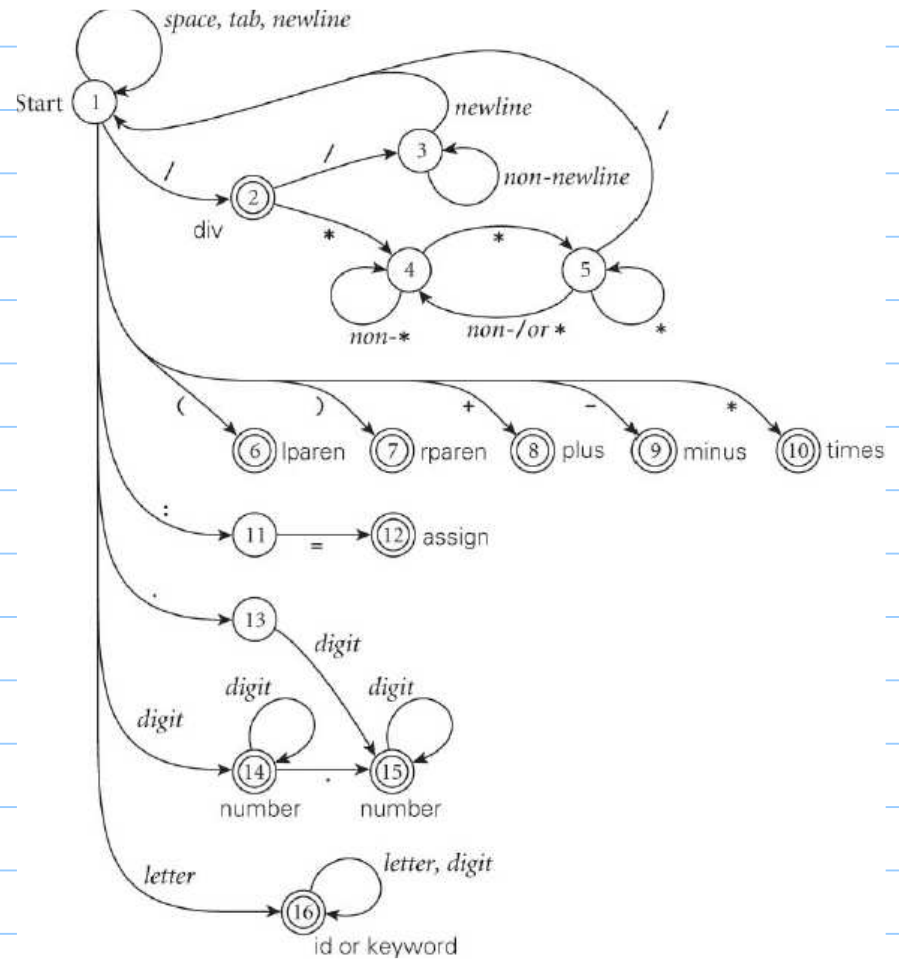
- hard to debug

- no explicit representation

# DFA approach

Recall our simple calculator language.

But how to get this DFA & then how to actually model it?

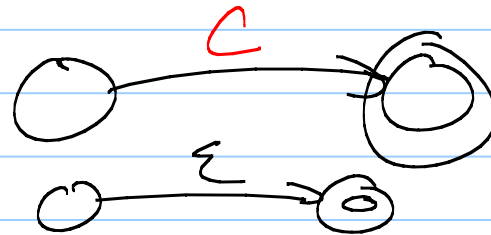


# Constructing a DFA

Given a regular expression, we can construct an NFA.

Simple NFA:

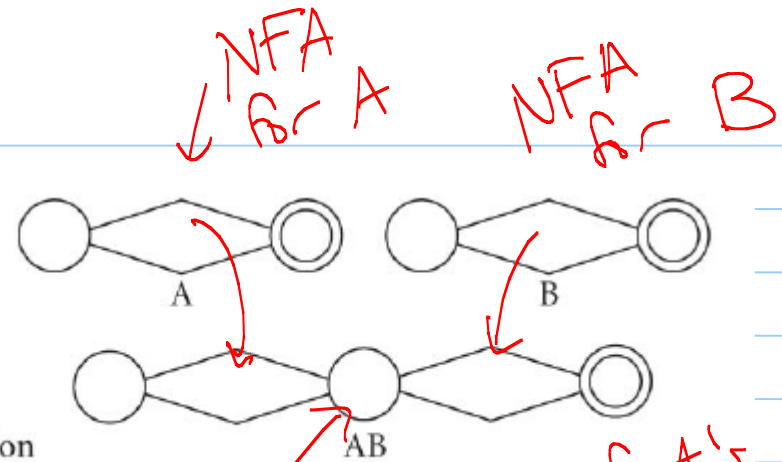
or



(Base case)

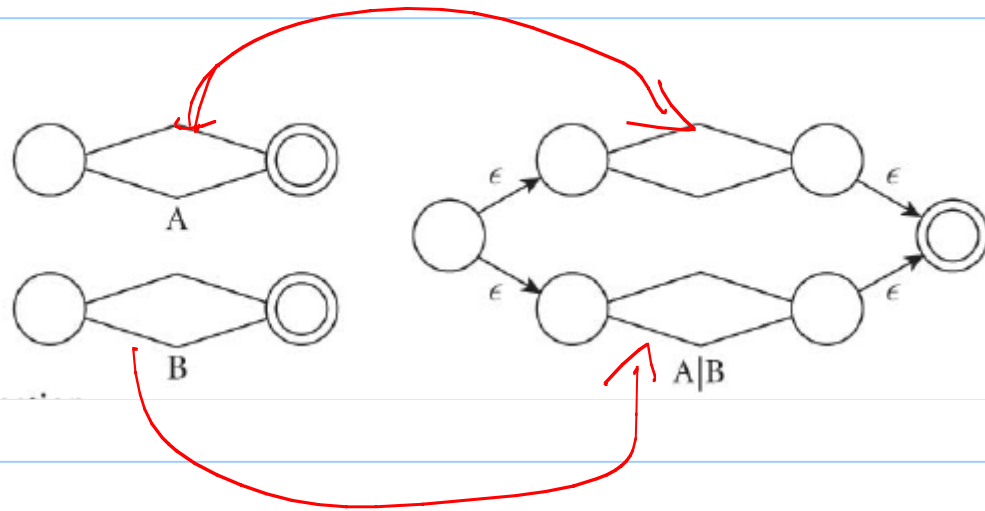
# 3 operations

Concatenation:

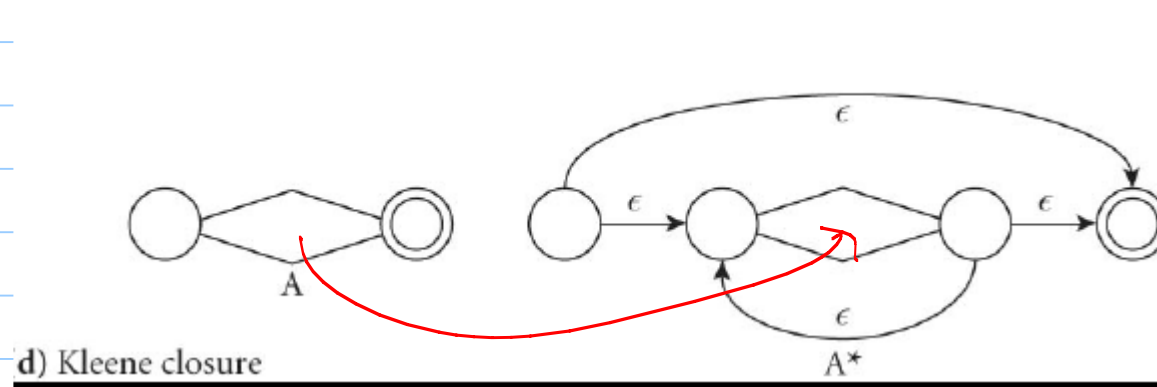


concatenation

Or:

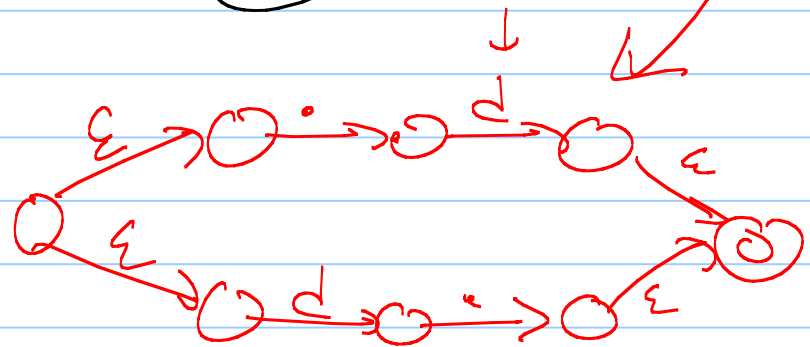
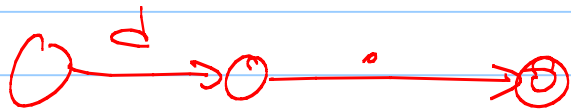
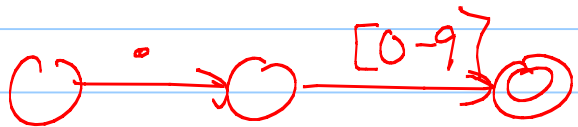
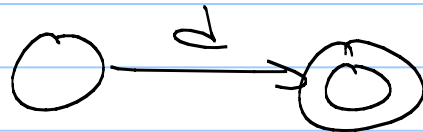


and Kleene closure ( ~~$\epsilon$~~ ).

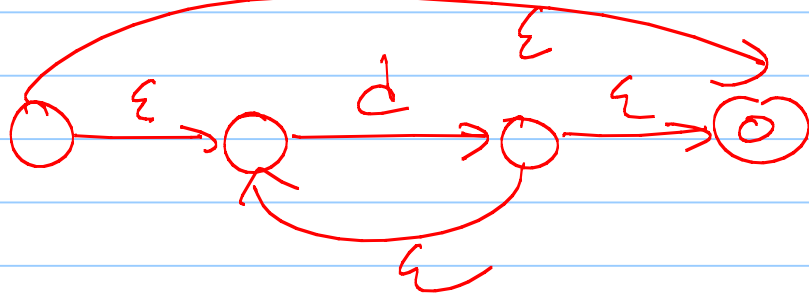


Example: decimals

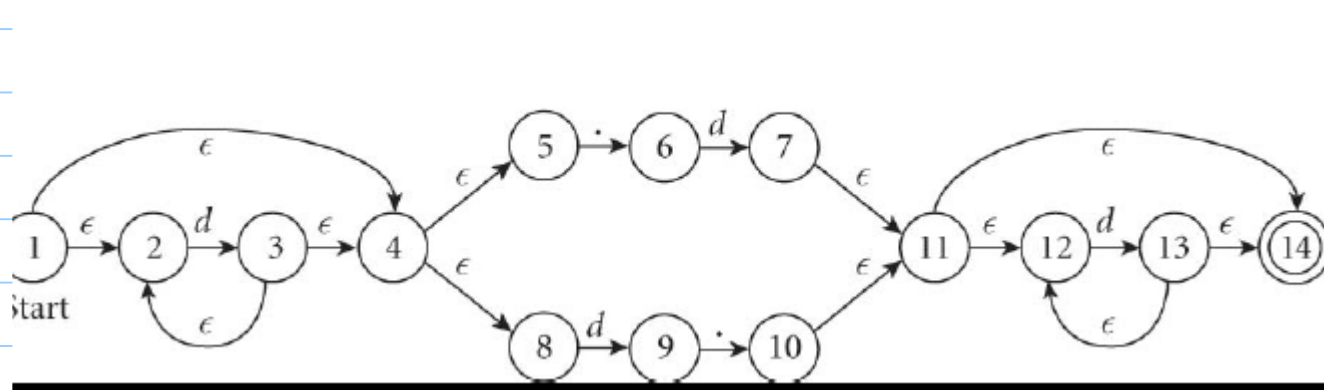
$$d^* (.d | d.) d^*$$



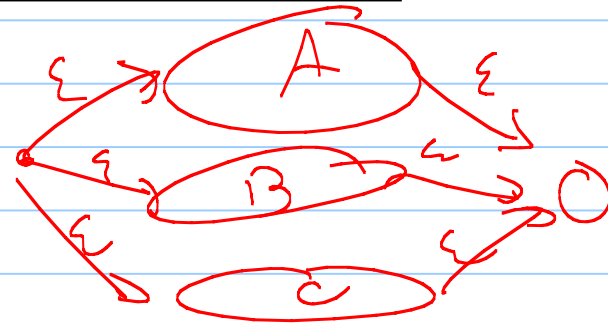
$d^*$   
∴



Final product :



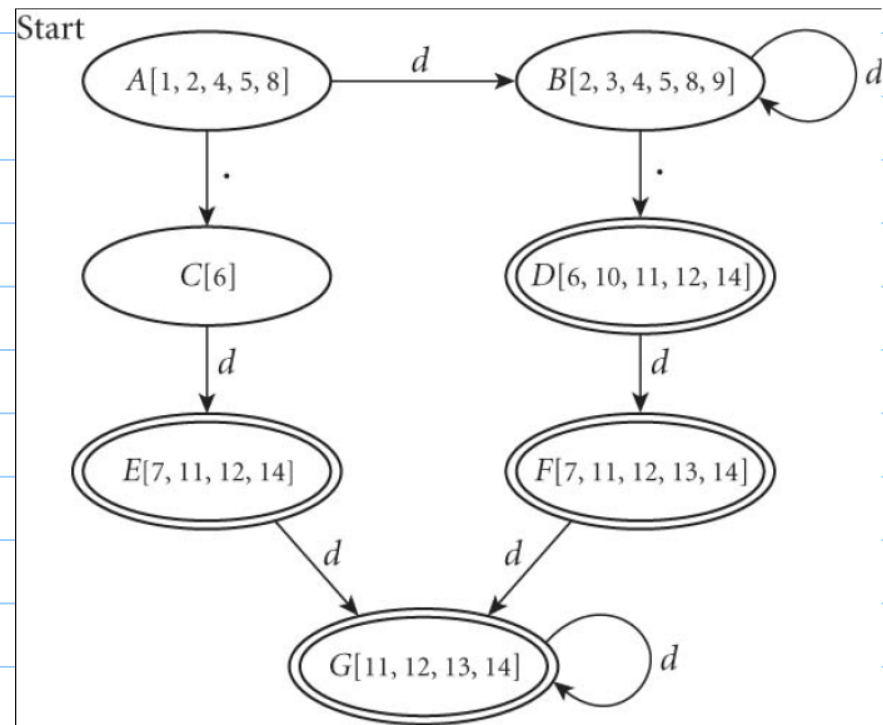
A | B | C





Next: Convert to DFA.  
(lots of states, but same principle as we saw earlier.)

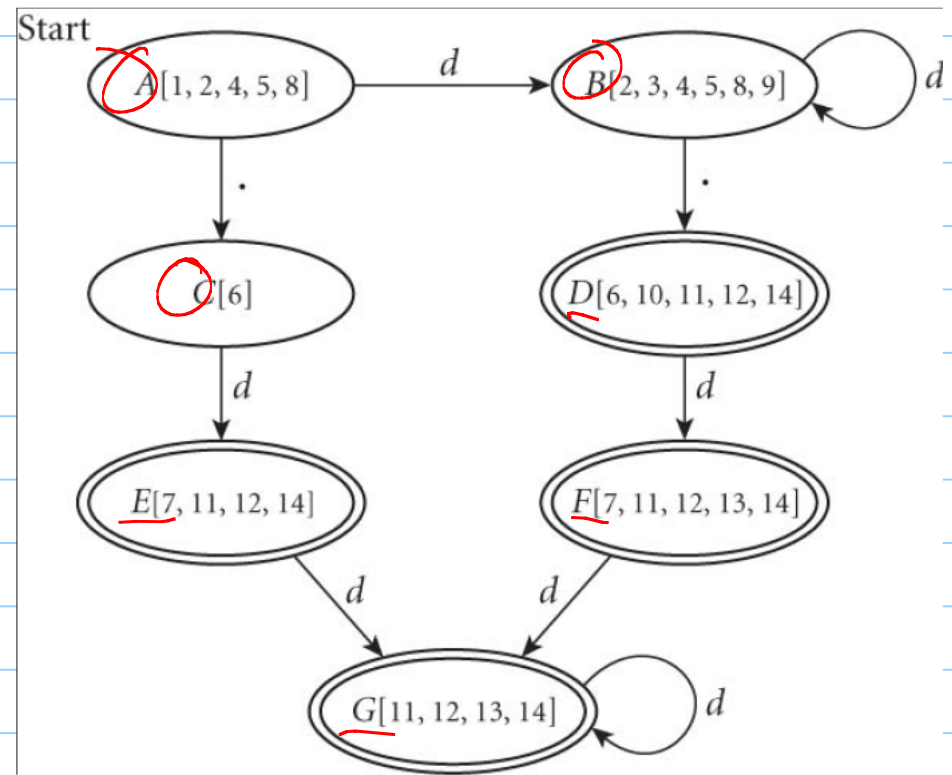
Result ∴  
(see p. 57-58)



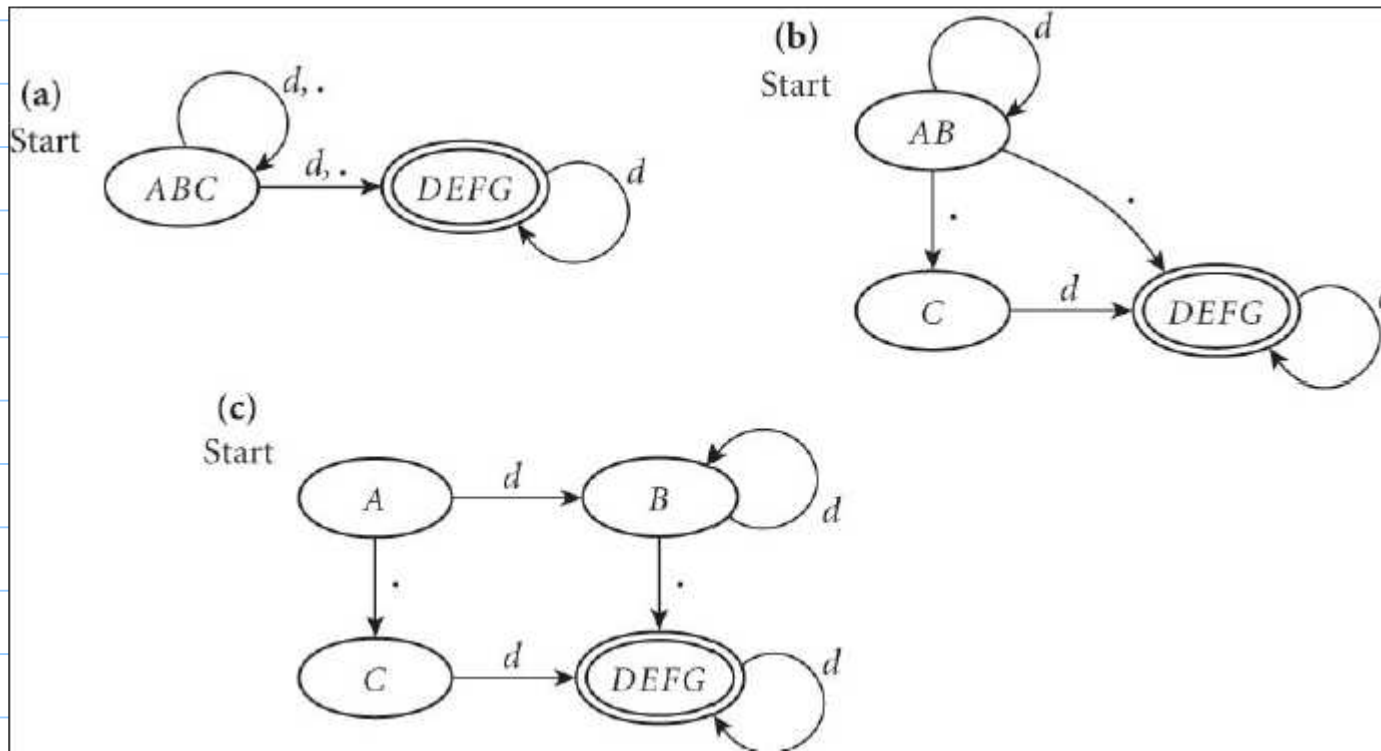
Note: This DFA is a bit redundant.

Not minimal.

Can easily find the equivalence classes and minimize.



# Process to minimize



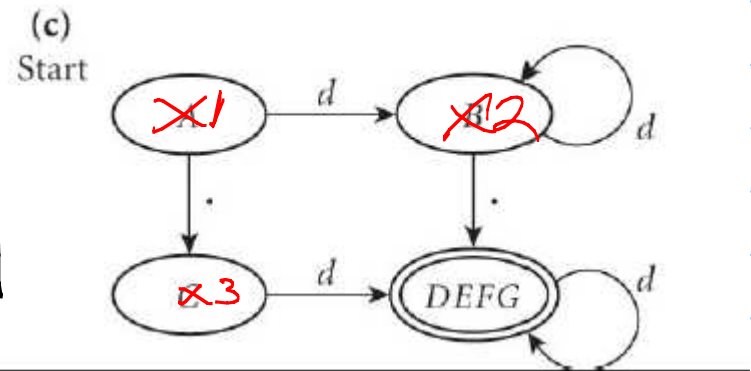
Now:

Given DFA, generate case statements to simulate it.

State = 1  
repeat;  
  read curr\_char  
  case state is:

1 : case curr\_char = d  
          state = 2  
      case curr\_char = .  
          state = 3

2 :



# Scanner Tools

In reality, this DFA is often done automatically.

Specify the rules of regular language, and the program does this for you.

Many such examples:

Lex (flex), Jflex / Jflex,  
Quex, Ragel, ...

Next time:

Lex / Flex : C-style driver

Look for HW on regular expressions,  
NFA / DFA, & context free  
languages

Next programming assignment  
will use flex.