Regular Languages

Natural Language Processing CS 4120/6120—Spring 2016 Northeastern University

David Smith with material from Jason Eisner, Andrew McCallum, and Lari Karttunen

Brief History: 1950s

- Early NLP on machines less powerful than pocket calculators
 - E.g., how to compress a word list into memory
- Foundational work on automata, formal languages, information theory
- First speech systems (Bell Labs)
- Machine translation heavily funded by military, basically just word substitution
- Little formalization of syntax, semantics, pragmatics

Brief History: 1960s

- ALPAC report (Alvey, 1966) ends funding for MT in U.S.
 - Lack of practical results, recommends basic research
- ELIZA and other early AI dialogue systems
 - Risibly easy Turing tests
- Early corpora: Brown Corpus (Kučera & Francis)

Brief History: 1970s

- Winograd's SHRDLU (1971): existence proof of NLP (in tangled Lisp code)
 - Interpreted language about "blocks world"
 - Which cube is sitting on the table?
 - The large green one which supports the red pyramid.
 - Is there a large block behind the pyramid?
 - Yes, three of them. A large red one, a large green cube, and the blue one.
 - Put a small one onto the green cube which supports a pyramid.
 - OK.
- Hidden Markov models for speech recognition

Brief History: 1980s

- Procedural \rightarrow declarative
 - Grammars, logic programming
 - Separation of processing (parser) from description of linguistic knowledge
- Representations of meaning: procedural semantics (SHRDLU), semantic nets (Schank), logic (starting in 1970s, Montague, Partee)
- Knowledge representation (Lenat: Cyc, still going!)
- MT in limited domains (METEO)
- HMMs for part-of-speech tagging (independently, Church & DeRose)

Brief History: 1990s

- Probabilistic paradigm shift
 - Speech recognition methods take over the world
- IR-style evaluations take over the world
- Finite-state methods in speech and beyond
- Large amounts of monolingual and multilingual text become available, esp. on WWW
- Classification problems and *ambiguity resolution* (in syntax, lexical semantics, translation, etc.)

Brief History: Now

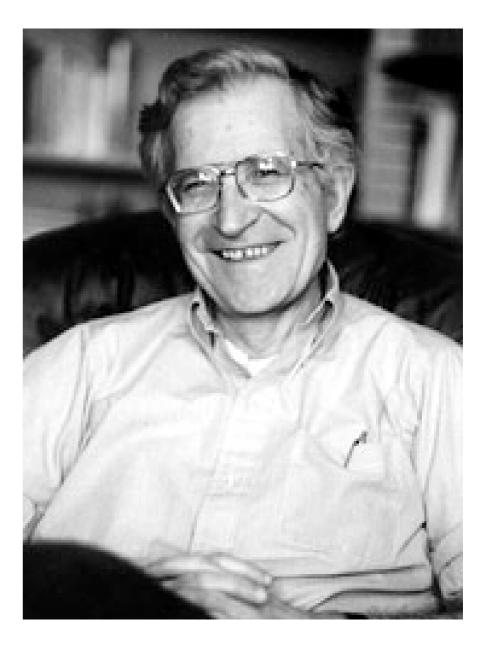
- Even more machine learning
 - Successful unsupervised systems
- Even more data, and tasks
- Widely usable—and used—speech recognition and machine translation
- Widely usable syntactic parsing
- Some usable dialog systems
- Convergence with IR, question answering, probabilistic knowledge representation

Noam Chomsky 1928–

Formal languages (Chomsky hierarchy)

Generative grammar

Anarcho-Socialist



A Language

- Some sentences in the language
 - The man took the book.
 - Colorless green ideas sleep furiously.
 - This sentence is false.
- Some sentences not in the language
 - *The girl, the sidewalk, the chalk, drew.
 - *Backwards is sentence this.
 - * *Je parle anglais.

Languages as Rewriting Systems

- Start with some "non-terminal" symbol **S**
- Expand that symbol, using a rewrite rule.
- Keep applying rules until all non-terminals are expanded to terminals.
- The string of terminals is a sentence of the language.

Chomsky Hierarchy

- Let Caps = nonterminals; lower = terminals; Greek = strings of terms/nonterms
- Recursively enumerable (Turing equivalent)
 - * Rules: $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$
- Context-sensitive
 - * Rules: $\alpha A \beta \rightarrow \alpha \gamma \beta$
- Context-free
 - ✤ Rules: A→α
- Regular (finite-state)
 - * Rules: $A \rightarrow aB$; $A \rightarrow a$

Regular Language Example

- Nonterminals: S, X
- Terminals: m, o
- Rules:
 - S→mX
 - X→oX
 - X→o

S mX moX mooX

One expansion

• Start symbol: S

Another Regular Language

- Strings in and not in this language
 - In the language:
 - "ba!", "baa!", "baaaaaaaa!"
 - Not in the language:
 - "ba", "b!", "ab!", "bbaaa!", "alibaba!"

а

s3

s4

- Regular expression: baa*!
- Finite state automaton

s2

b

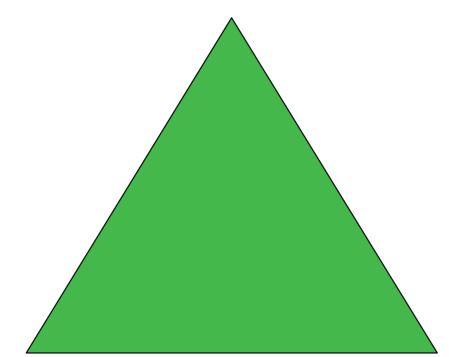
s1

double circle indicates "accept state"

Regular Languages

Regular Languages

the accepted strings



Finite-state Automata

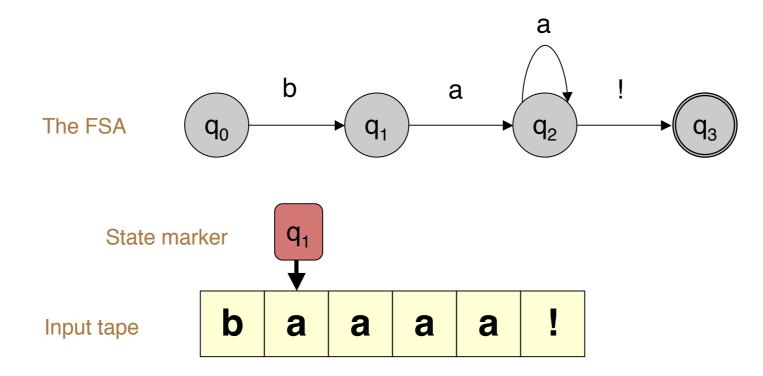
machinery for accepting

Regular Expressions

a way to type the automata

Finite-State Automata

- A (deterministic) finite-state automaton is a 5-tuple (Q, Σ , q₀, F, δ (q,i))
 - Q: finite set of states $q_0, q_1, q_2, ..., q_N$
 - * Σ : finite set of terminals
 - * $\delta(q,i)$: transition function (relation if non-deterministic)
 - ✤ q₀: start state
 - ✤ F: set of final states



Transition Table

	Input			
State	b	а	!	
0 1	1	Ø 2	Ø	
2	Ø	2	ی 3	
3	Ø	Ø	Ø	

Regular Expressions

- Two types of characters
- Literal
 - Every "normal" alphanumeric character is an RE, and matches itself
- Meta-characters
 - Special characters that allow you to combine REs in various ways
- Example:
 - * a matches a
 - a* matches ε or a or aa or aaa or ...

Regular Expressions

	Pattern	Matches
Concatenation	abc	abc
Disjunction	a b (a bb)d	a b ad bbd
Kleene star	a* c(a bb)* The emp	<i>ɛ</i> a aa aaa ca cbba

Regular expressions / FSAs are closed under these operations

Practical Applications

- Word processing find & replace
- Validate fields in database (dates, email, ...)
- Searching for linguistic patterns
- Finite-state machines
 - Language modeling in speech recognition (where things need to be real-time or better)
 - Information extraction
 - Morphology

	Pattern	Matches
Character Concat	went	went
Alternatives	(go went) [aeiou]	go went a o u
disjunc. negation wildcard char	[^aeiou]	bcdfg az&
Loops & skips	a*	ε a aa aaa
one or more	a+	a aa aaa
zero or one	colou?r	color colour

- Special characters
 - $\ t$ tab $\ v$ vertical tab $\ n$ newline $\ r$ carriage return
- Aliases (shorthand)

— \ d	digits	[0-9]
— \D	non-digits	[^0-9]
— \w	alphabetic	[a-zA-Z]
— \W	non-alphabetic	[^a-zA-Z]
— \s	whitespace	[\t\n\r\f\v]
— \w	alphabetic	[a-zA-Z]

- Examples
 - \d+ dollars 3 dollars, 50 dollars, 982 dollars
 - $\mathbf{w*oo}\mathbf{w*}$ food, boo, oodles
- Escape character
 - \ is the general escape character; e.g. \. is not a wildcard, but matches a period .
 - if you want to use $\ in a string it has to be escaped <math>\$

- Anchors. AKA, "zero width characters".
- They match positions in the text.
 - ^ beginning of line
 - \$ end of line
 - \mathbf{b} word boundary, i.e. location with \mathbf{w} on one side but not on the other.
 - **B** negated word boundary, i.e. any location that would not match \b
- Examples:
 - \bthe\b <u>the</u> together
- Counters {1}, {1,2}, {3,}

- Grouping
 - a (good|bad) movie
 - He said it (again and)*again.
- Parens also indicate Registers (saved contents)

 $-b(\w+)h\1$

matches *boohoo* and *baha*, but not *boohaa* The digit after the \ indicates which of multiple paren groups, as ordered by when then were opened.

Grouping without the cost of register saving
 - He went (?:this|that) way.

- Non-consuming tests
 - (?=...) Positive lookAHEAD
 - (?!...) Negative lookAHEAD
 - (?<=...) Positive lookBEHIND</pre>
 - (?<!...) Negative lookBEHIND</pre>
- Example
 - $-(? \leq [Hh]e) \setminus w + ed (? \leq w + ly)$

ELIZA (Weizenbaum 1966)

- User: Men are all alike.
- ELIZA: IN WHAT WAY?
- User: They're always bugging us about something or other.
- ELIZA: CAN YOU THINK OF A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE?
- User: Well, my boyfriend made me come here.
- ELIZA: YOUR BOYFRIEND MADE YOU COME HERE.
- User: He say's I'm depressed much of the time.
- ELIZA: I'M SORRY TO HEAR THAT YOU ARE DEPRESSED.

Implemented with regular expression substitution!

s/.* I'm (depressed|sad) .*/I AM SORRY TO HEAR THAT YOU ARE \1/ s/.* always .*/CAN YOU THINK OF A SPECIFIC EXAMPLE?/

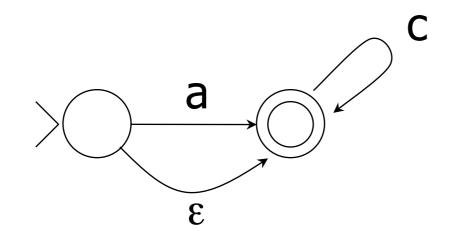
Reading

 Karttunen, Chanod, Grefenstette, Schiller.
 Regular expressions for language engineering. JNLE, 1997.

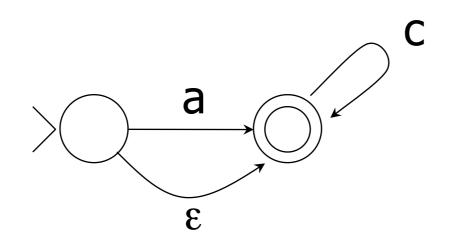
<u>http://www.stanford.edu/~laurik/</u> publications/jnle-97/rele.pdf

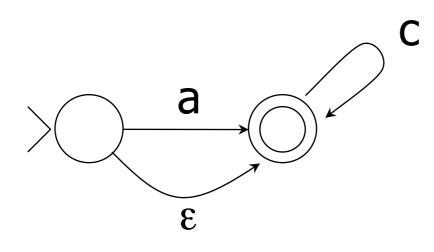
• RE/FSA background: Jurafsky & Martin, c.2

Finite-State Machines: Acceptors and Transducers

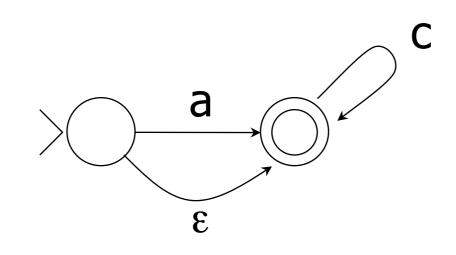




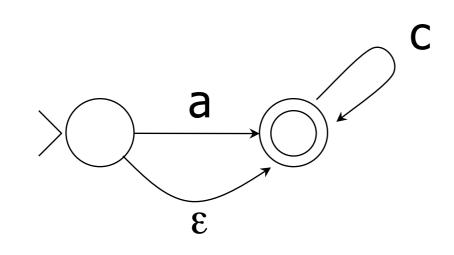




 Regexps
 Union, Kleene *, concat, intersect, complement, reversal



- Regexps
- Union, Kleene *, concat, intersect, complement, reversal
- Determinization, minimization



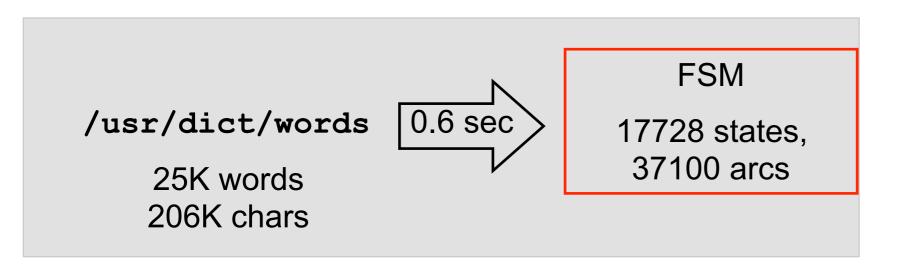
- Regexps
- Union, Kleene *, concat, intersect, complement, reversal
- Determinization, minimization
- Pumping, Myhill-Nerode

slide courtesy of L. Karttunen (modified)

A useful FSA ...

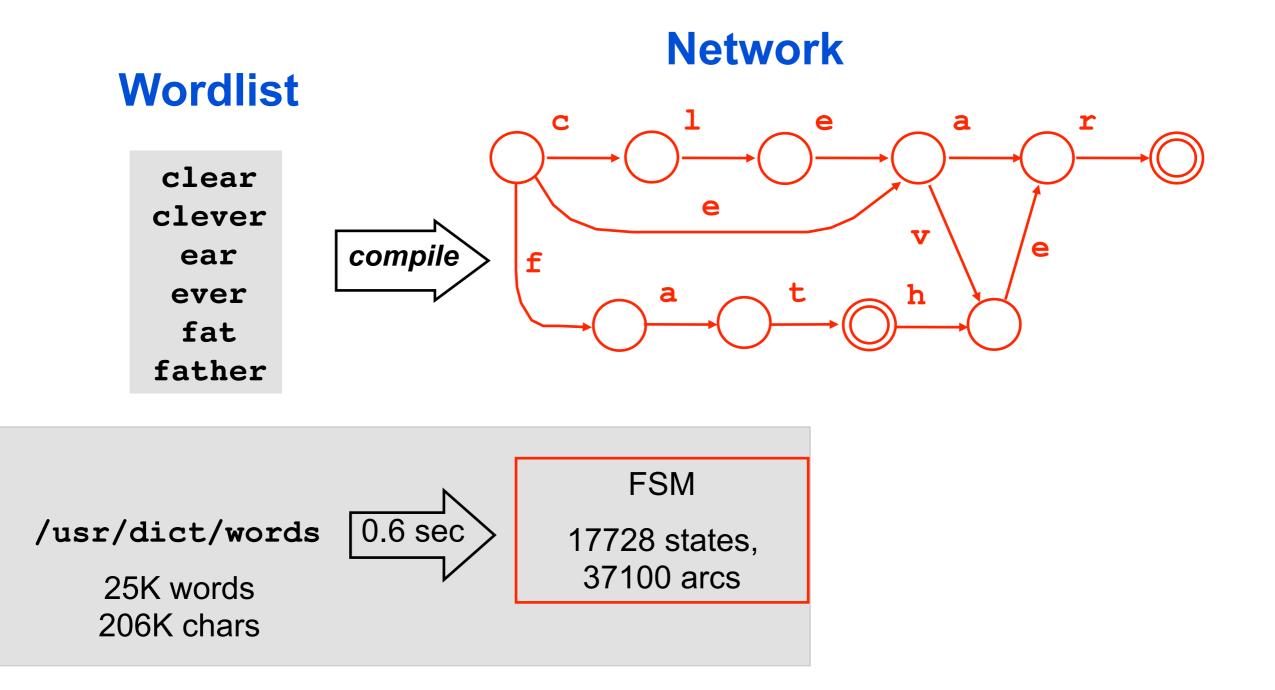
Wordlist

clear clever ear ever fat father

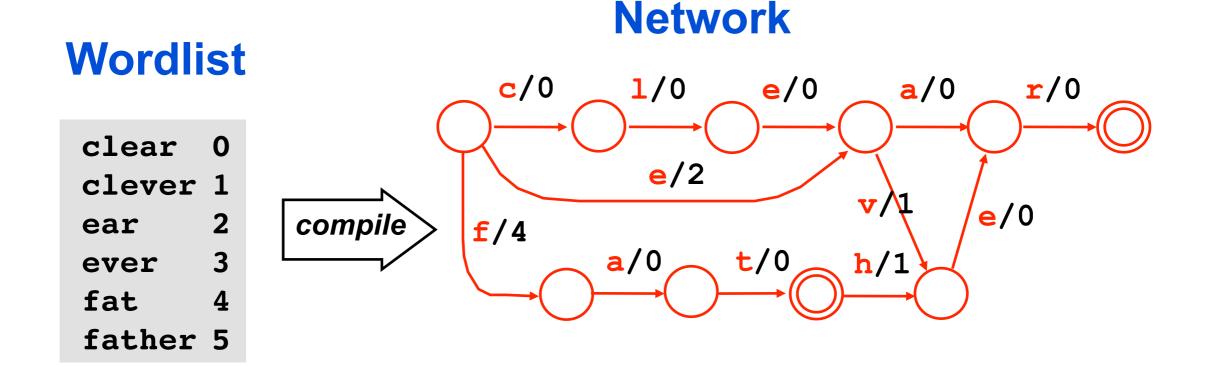


slide courtesy of L. Karttunen (modified)

A useful FSA ...

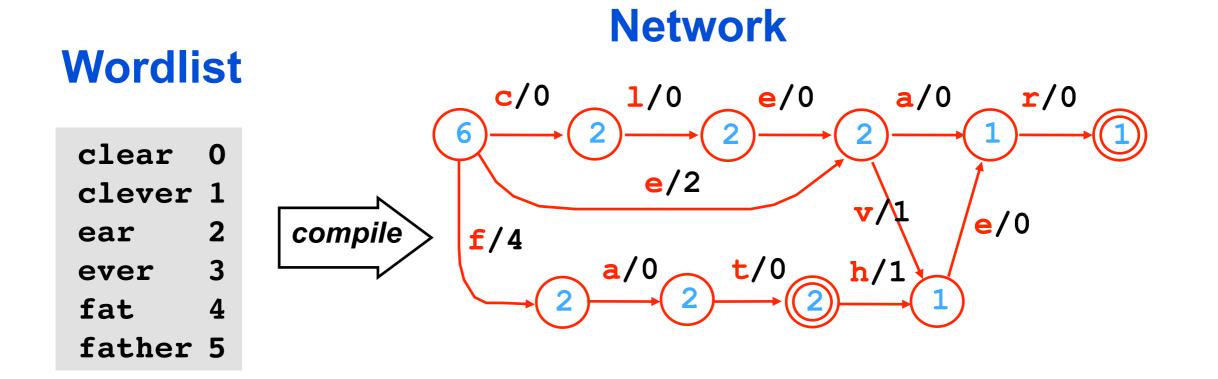


Weights are useful here too!

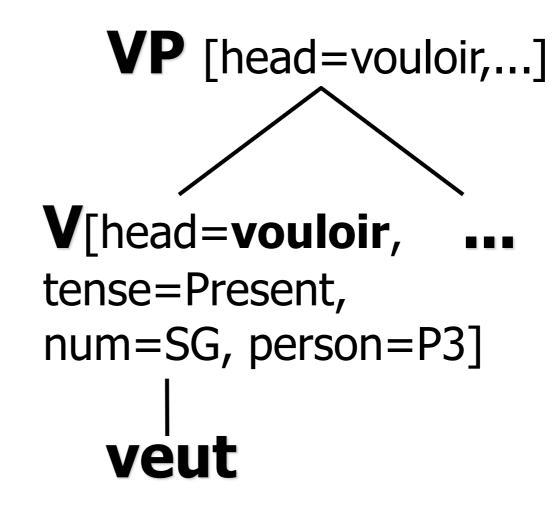


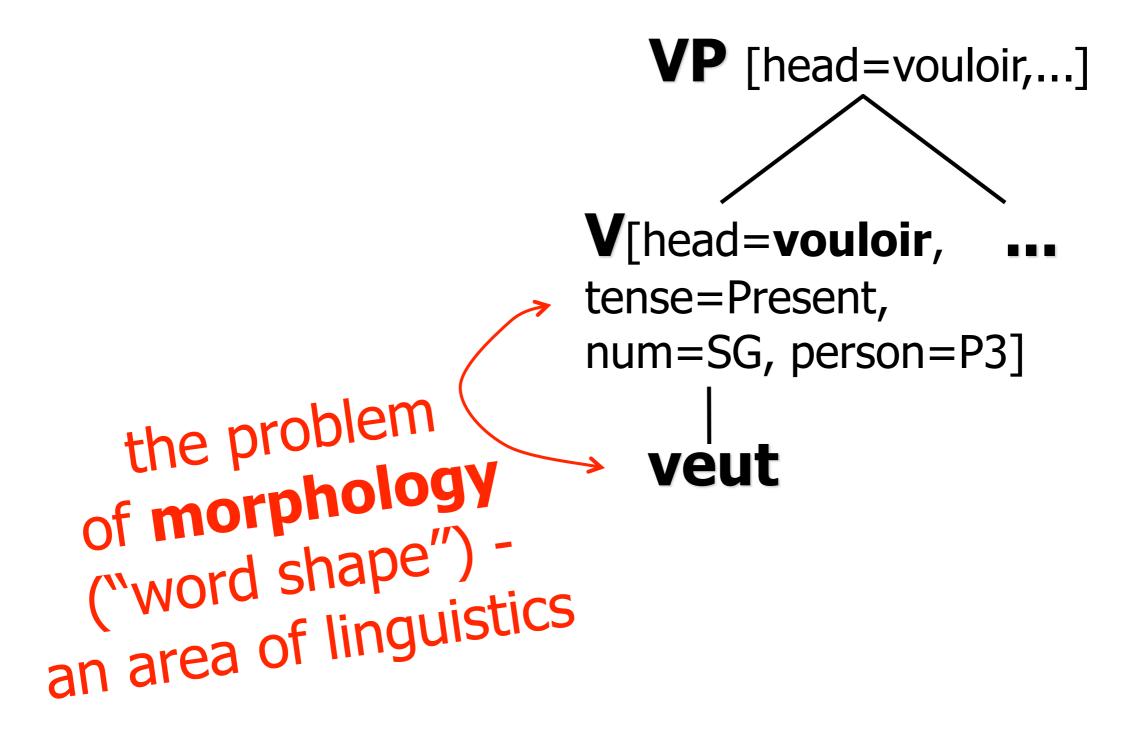
Computes a perfect hash!

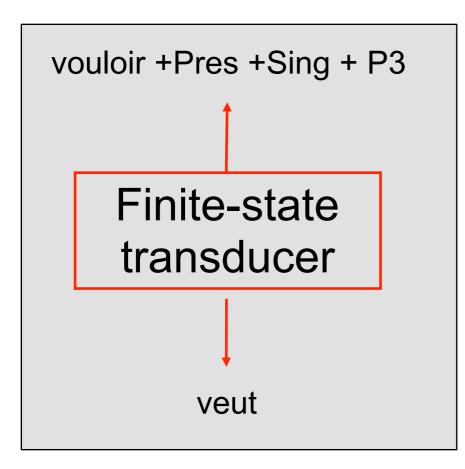
Example: Weighted acceptor

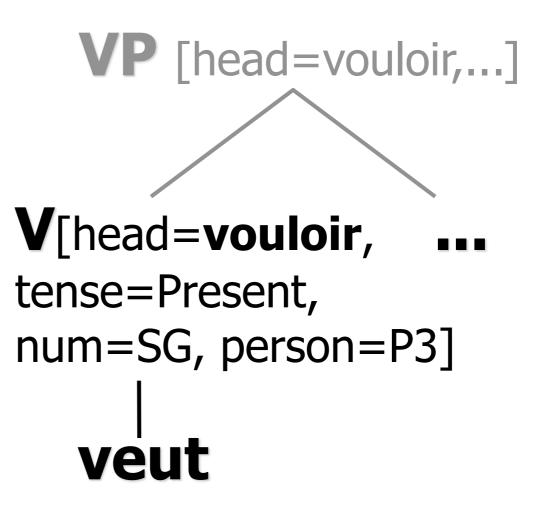


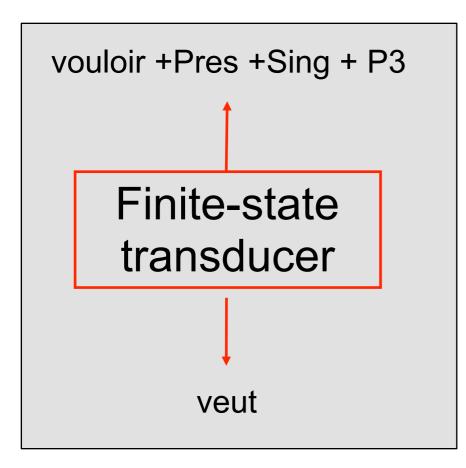
- Compute number of paths from each state (Q: how?) A: recursively, like DFS
- Successor states partition the path set
- Use offsets of successor states as arc weights
- **Q**: Would this work for an arbitrary numbering of the words?

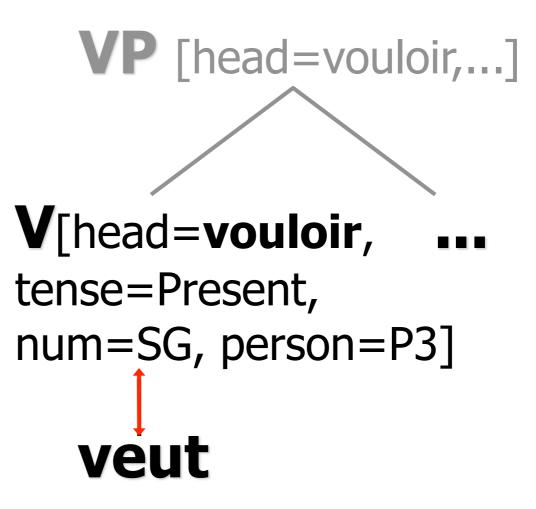


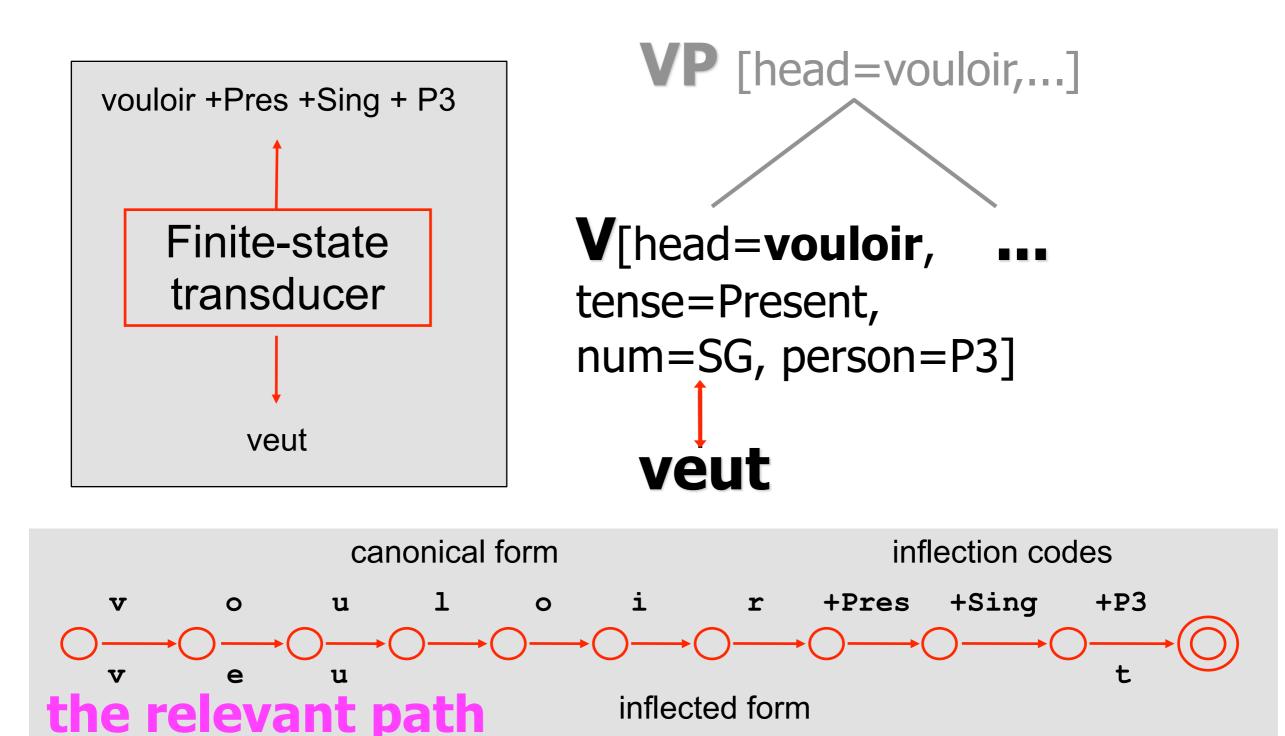


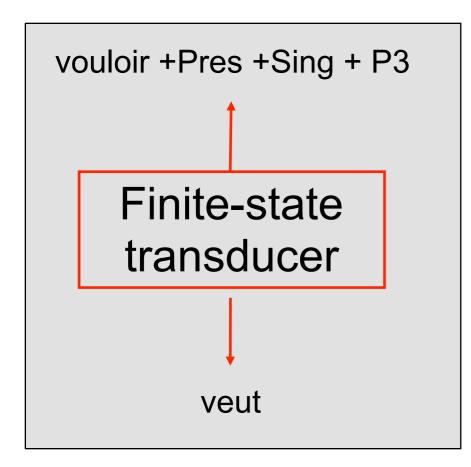




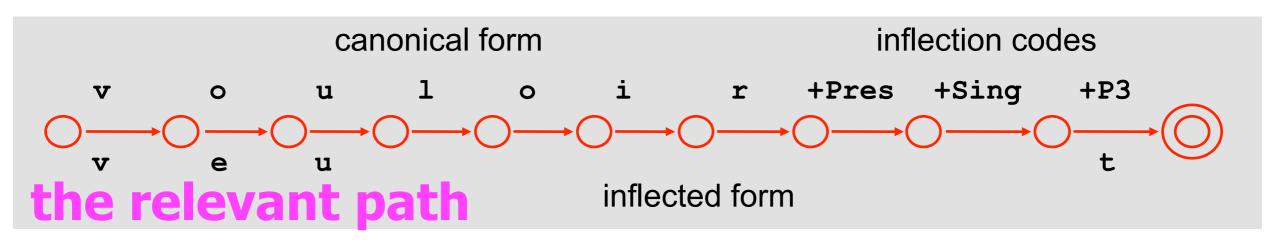


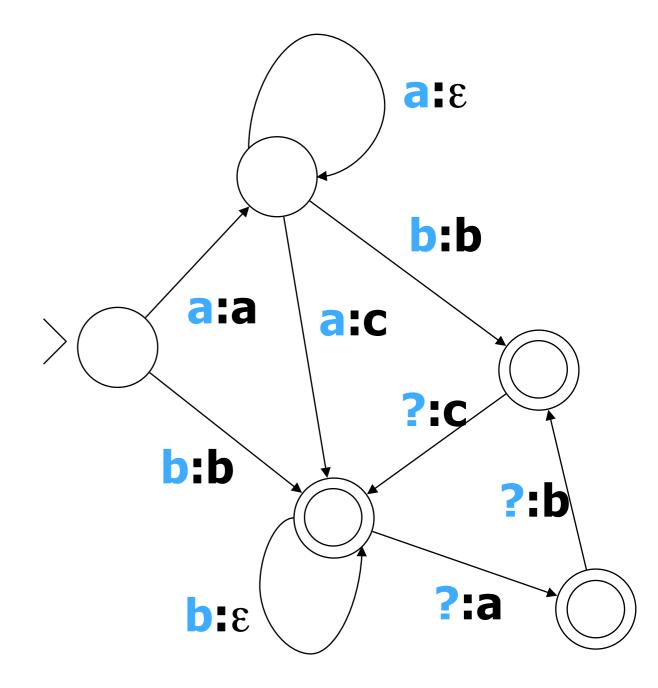




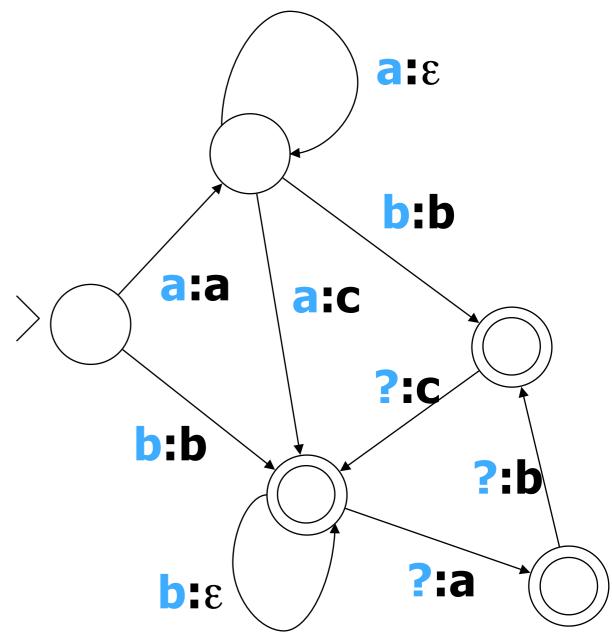


- Bidirectional: generation or analysis
- Compact and fast
- Xerox sells for about 20 languages including English, German, Dutch, French, Italian, Spanish, Portuguese, Finnish, Russian, Turkish, Japanese, ...
- Research systems for many other languages, including Arabic, Malay

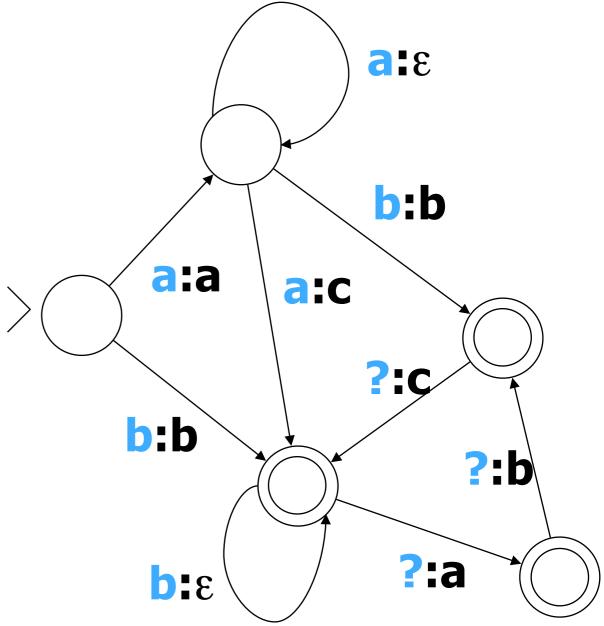




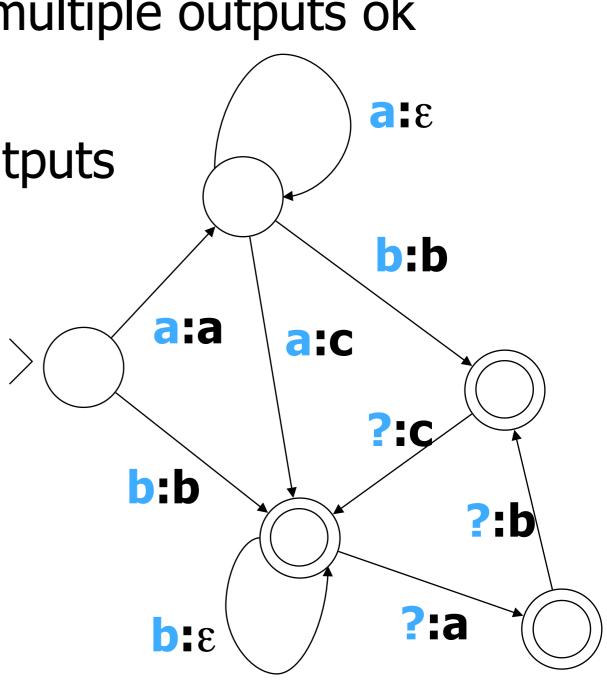
Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok



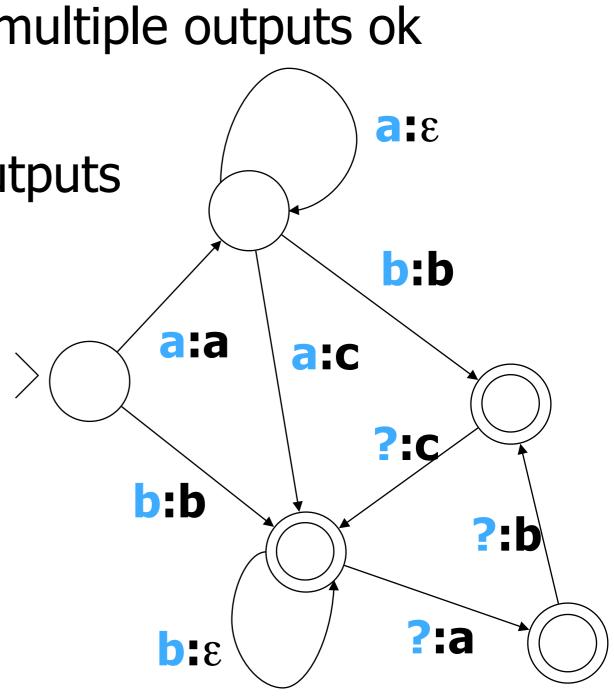
Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
 Regular: finite-state



- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
- Regular: finite-state
- Transducer: automaton w/ outputs

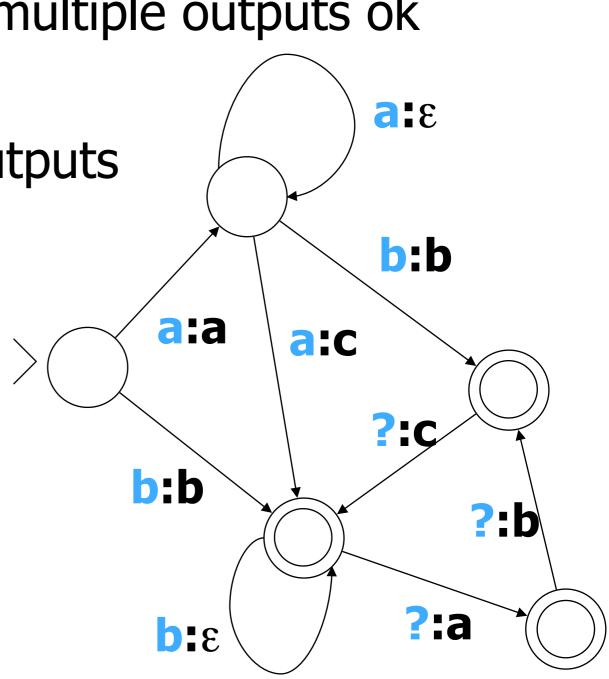


- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
- Regular: finite-state
- Transducer: automaton w/ outputs
- b \rightarrow ? a \rightarrow ?



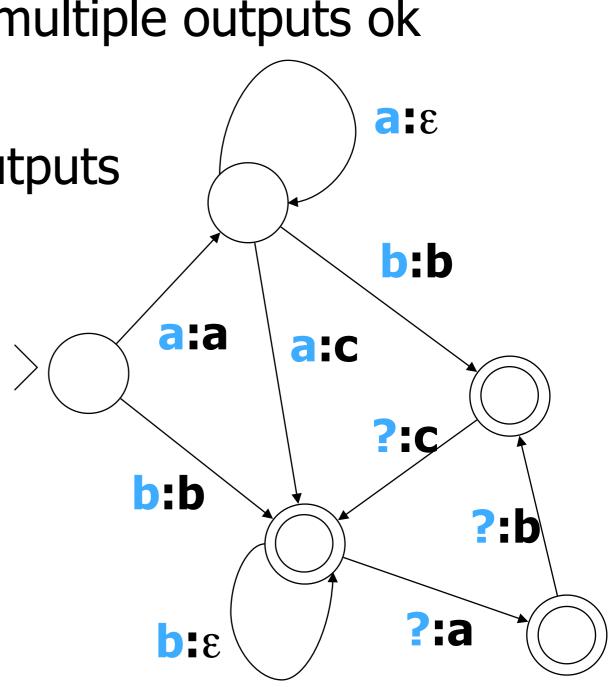
- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
- Regular: finite-state
- Transducer: automaton w/ outputs

• b
$$\rightarrow$$
 {b} a \rightarrow ?

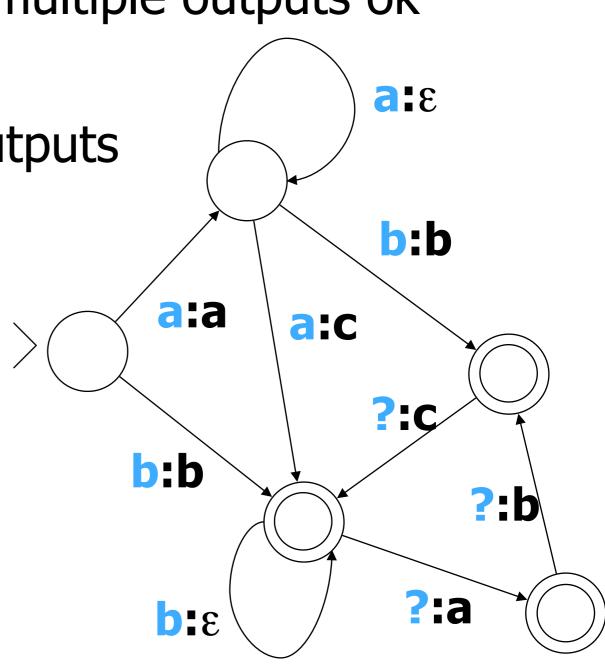


- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
- Regular: finite-state
- Transducer: automaton w/ outputs

$$\bullet \rightarrow \{b\} \quad a \rightarrow \{\}$$

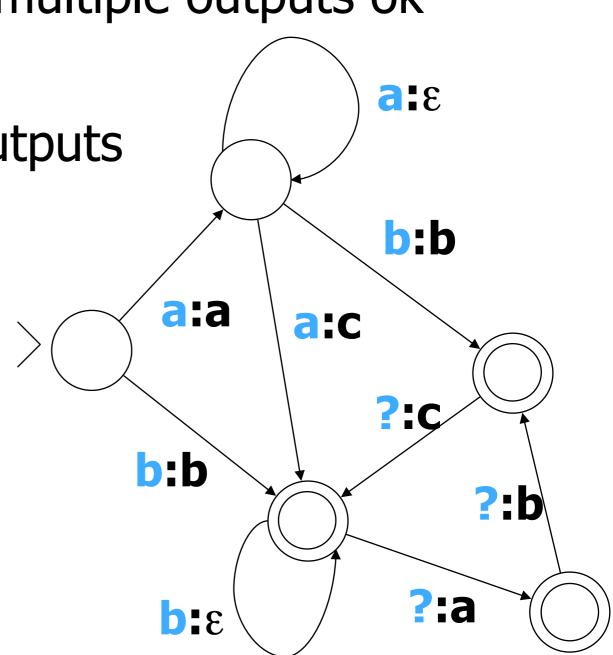


- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
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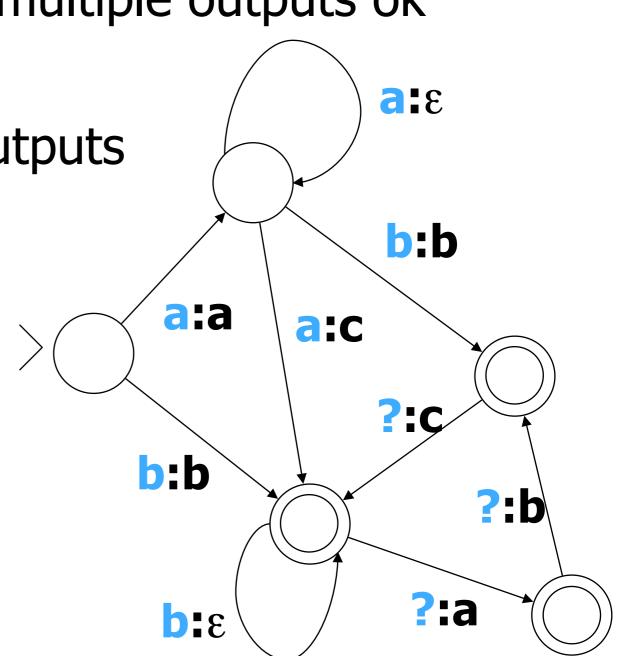
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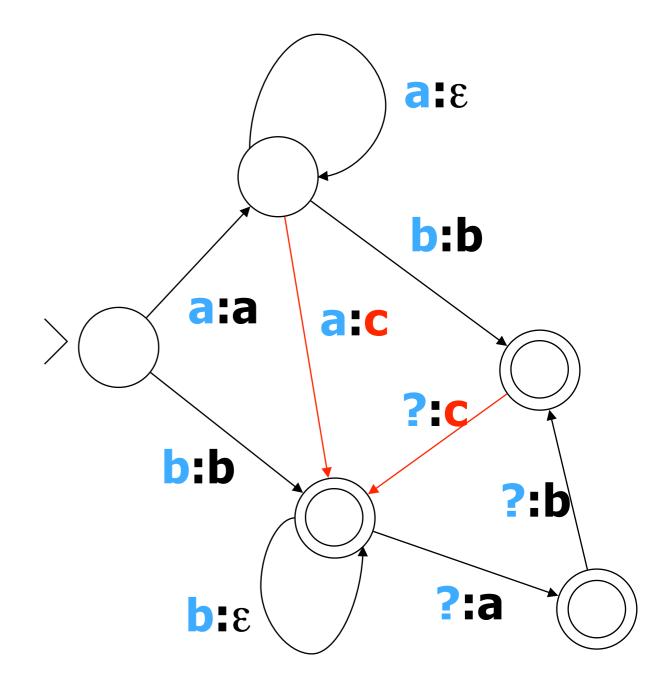
Invertible?



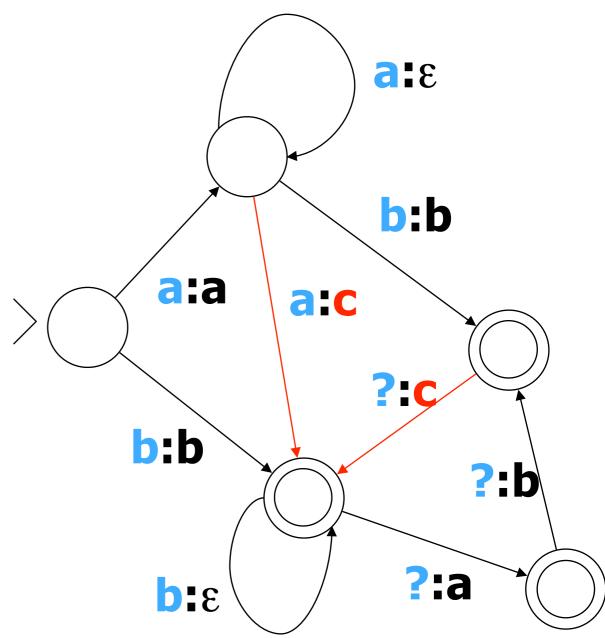
- Relation: like a function, but multiple outputs ok
- Regular: finite-state
- Transducer: automaton w/ outputs

- Invertible?
- Closed under composition?

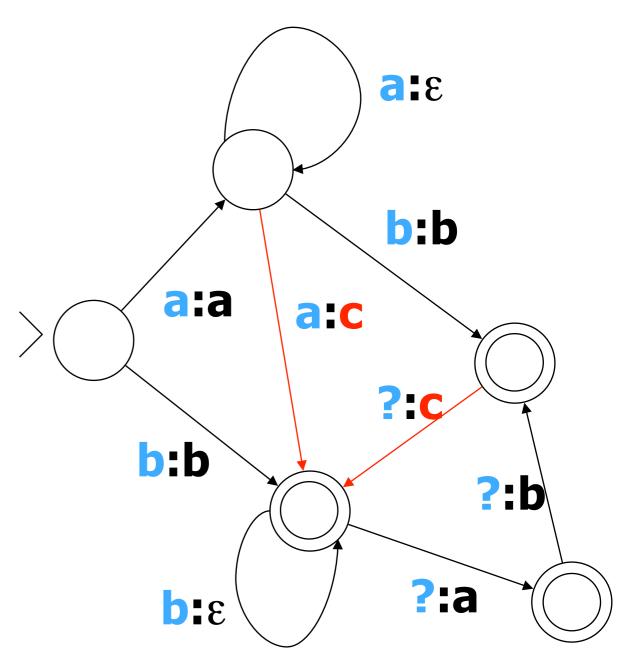




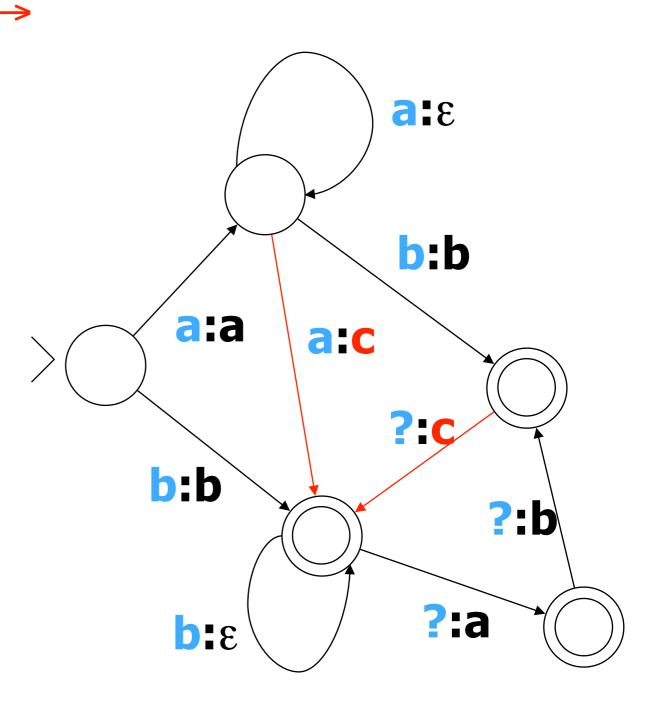
• Can weight the arcs: \rightarrow vs. \rightarrow



Can weight the arcs: \rightarrow vs. \rightarrow b \rightarrow {b} a \rightarrow {}

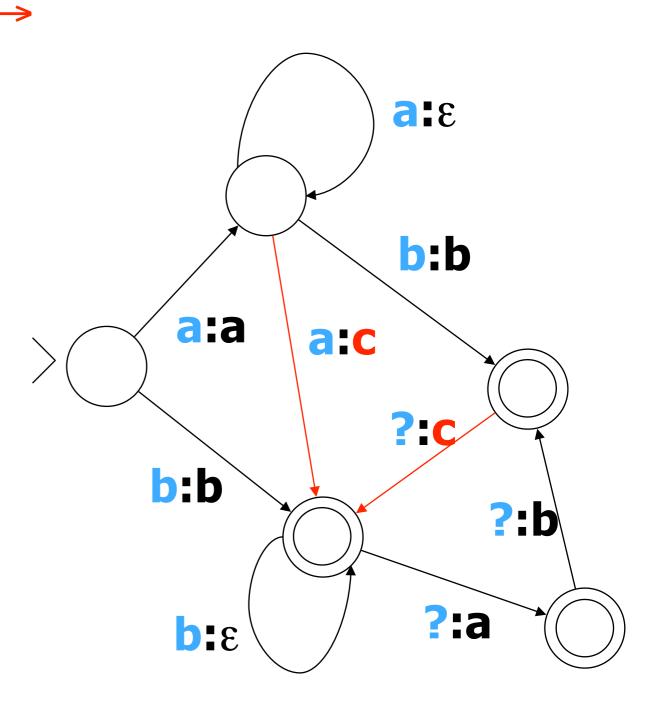


Can weight the arcs: → vs. →
b → {b} a → {}
aaaaa → {ac, aca, acab, acabc}



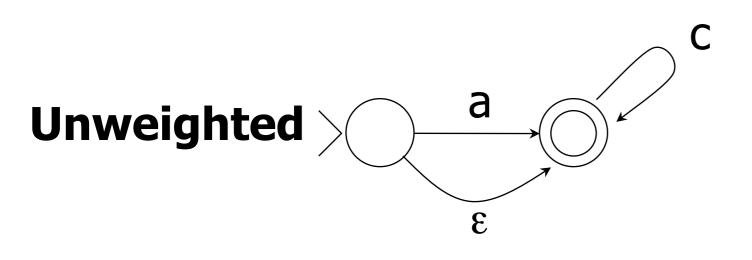
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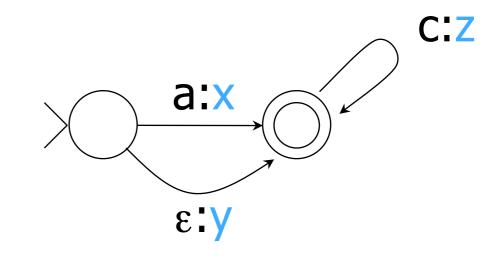
How to find <u>best</u> outputs?

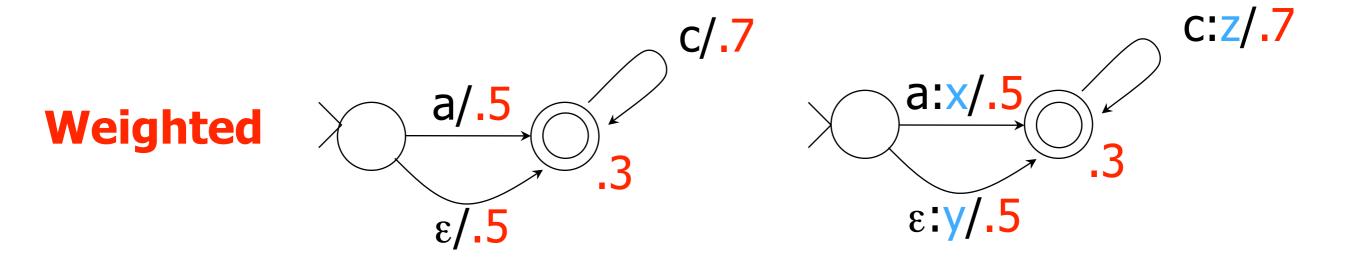


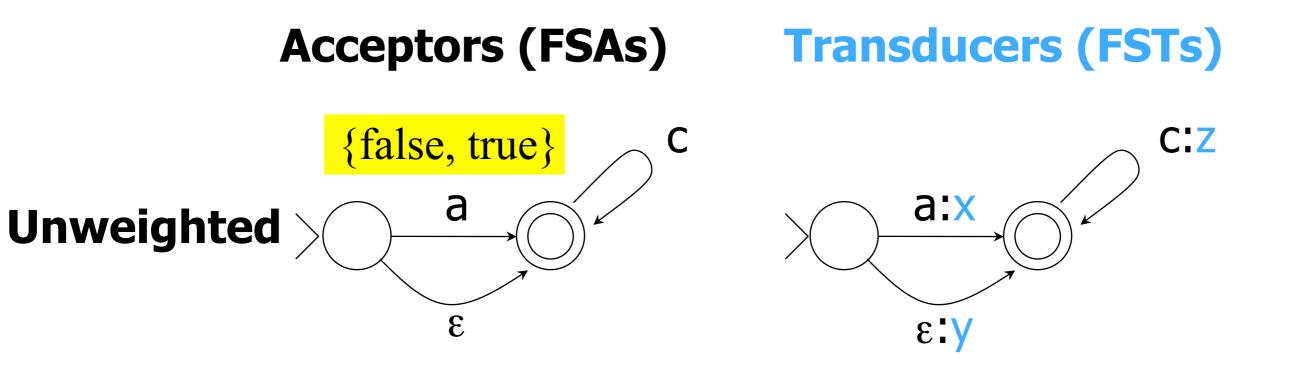
Acceptors (FSAs)

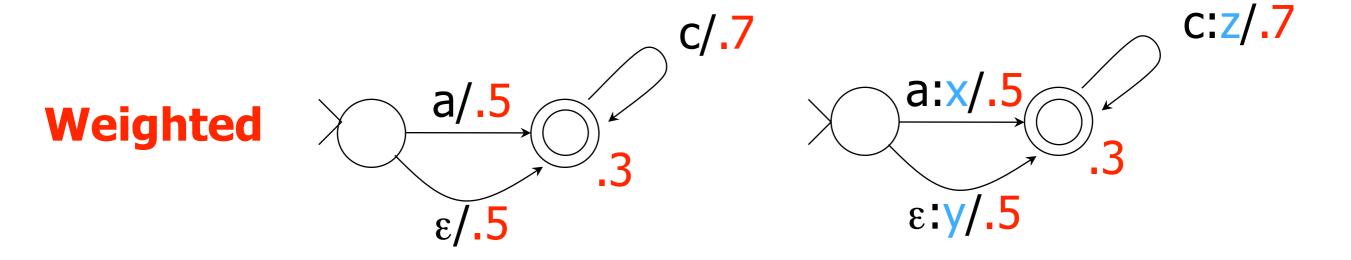
Transducers (FSTs)

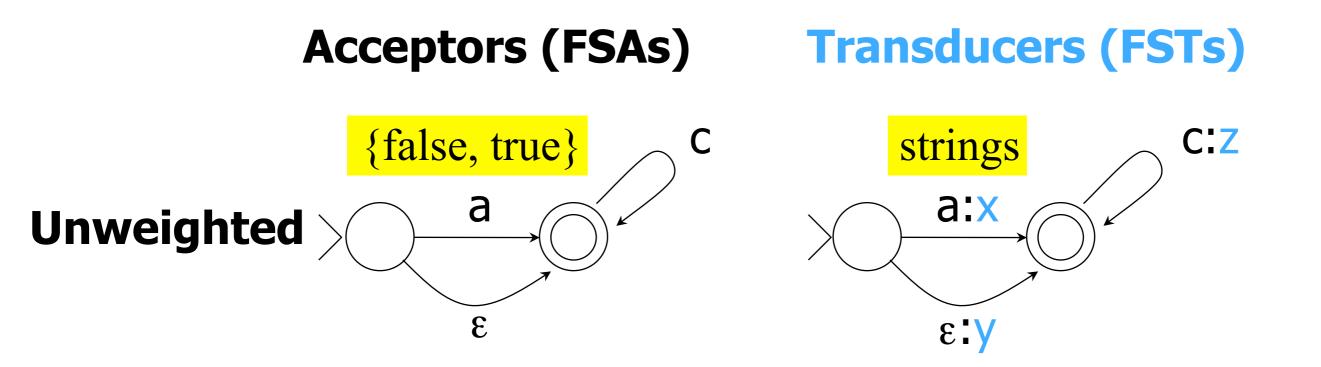


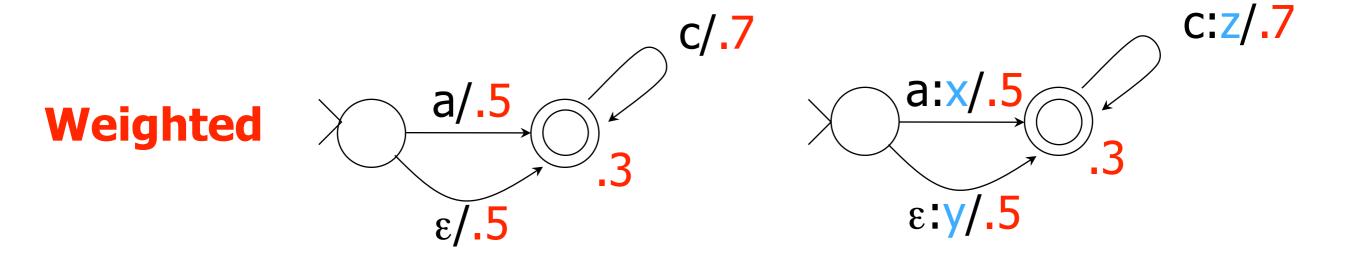


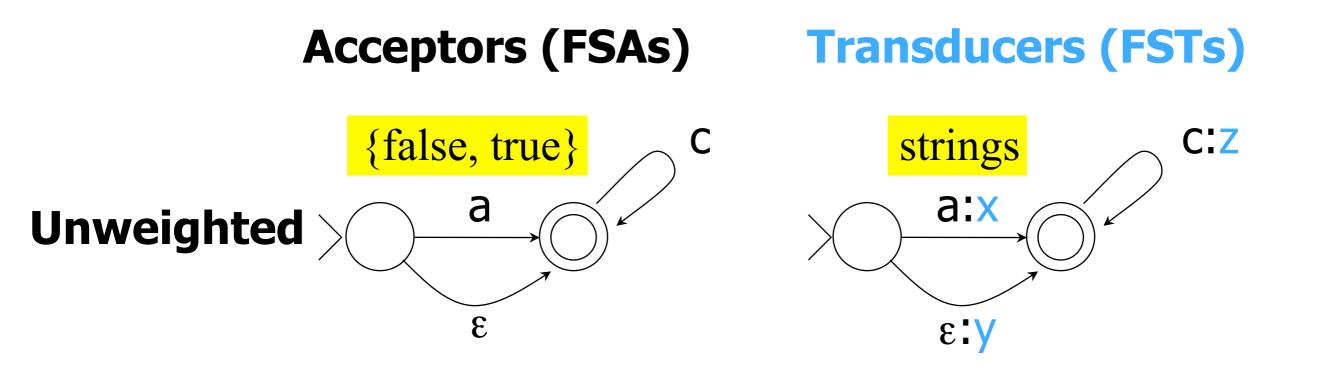


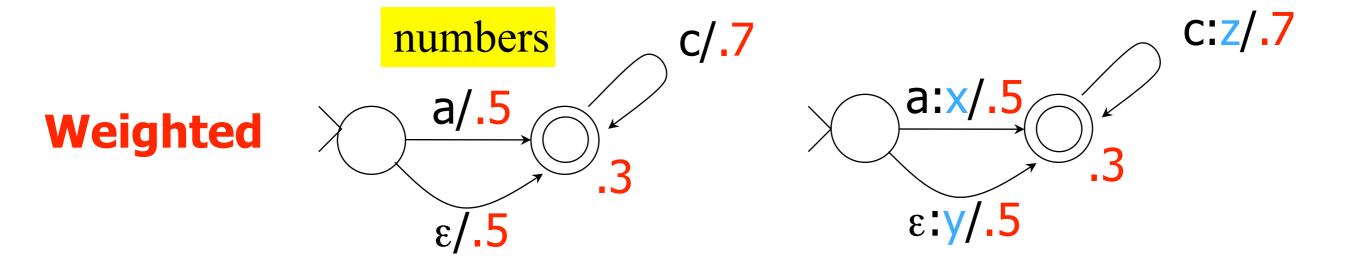


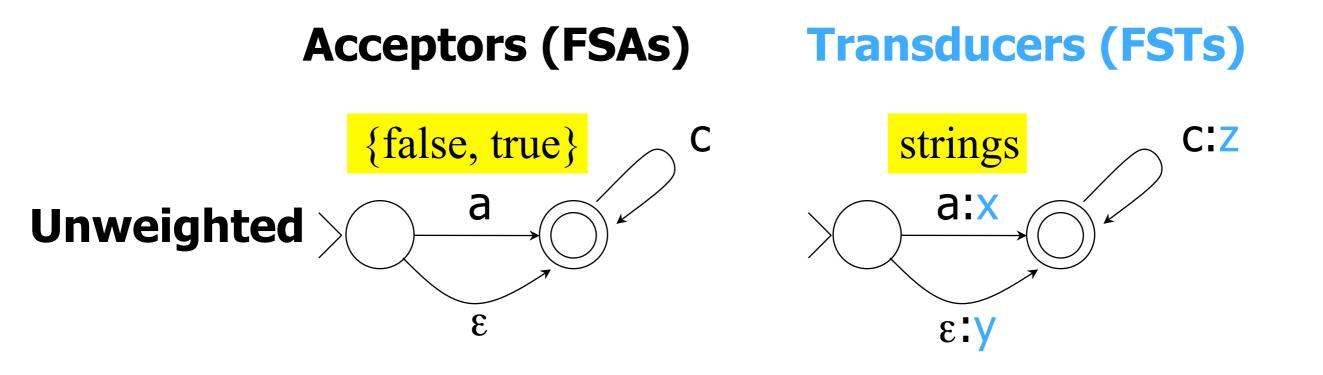


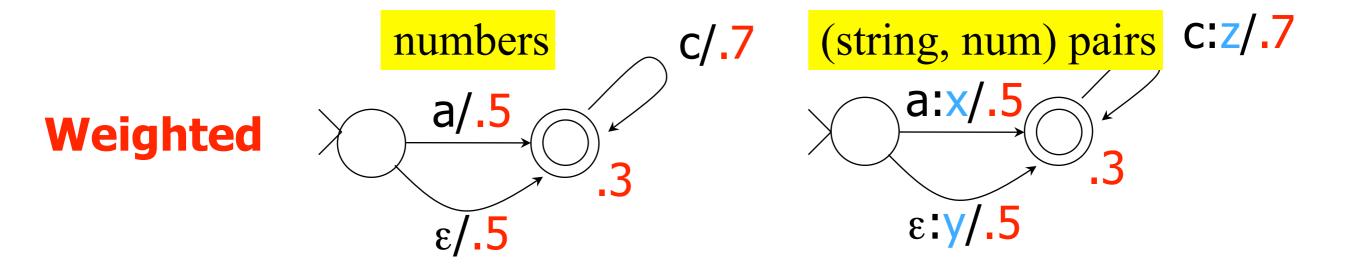












Acceptors (FSAs)

{false, true}

Unweighted

numbers

(string, num) pairs

Transducers (FSTs)

strings

Weighted

Acceptors (FSAs)

{false, true}

Unweighted Grammatical?

Transducers (FSTs)

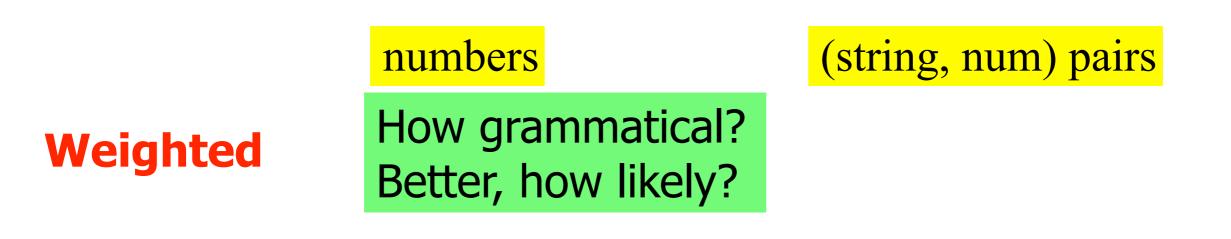
strings

numbers

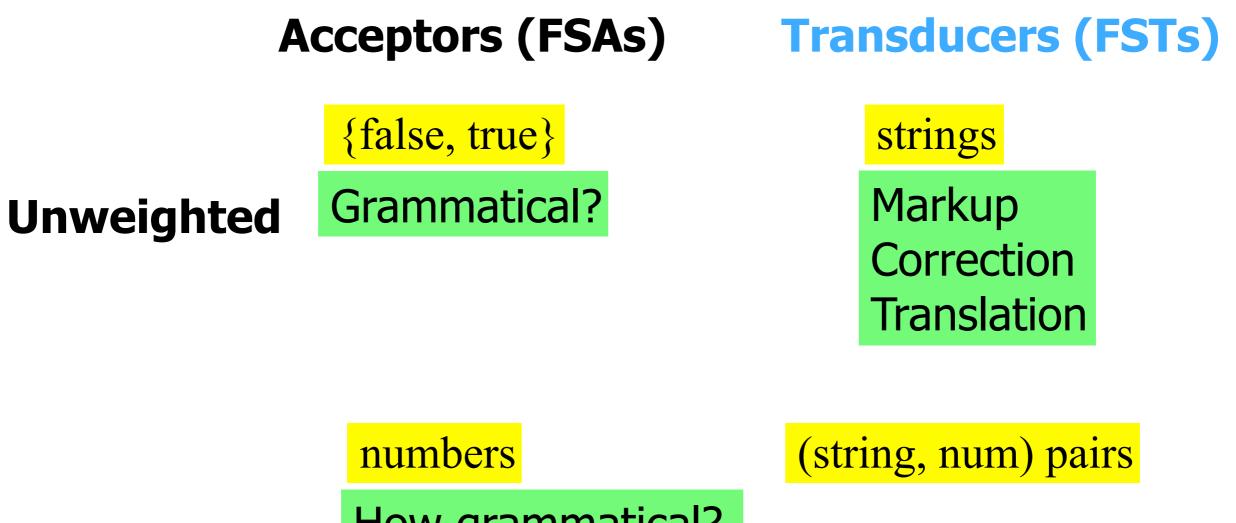
(string, num) pairs

Weighted

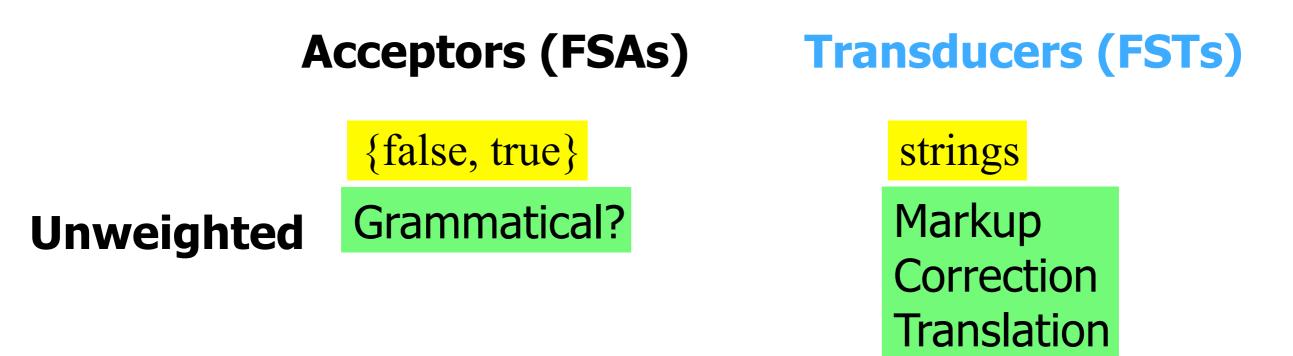
Acceptors (FSAs)Transducers (FSTs){false, true}stringsUnweightedGrammatical?



Weighted



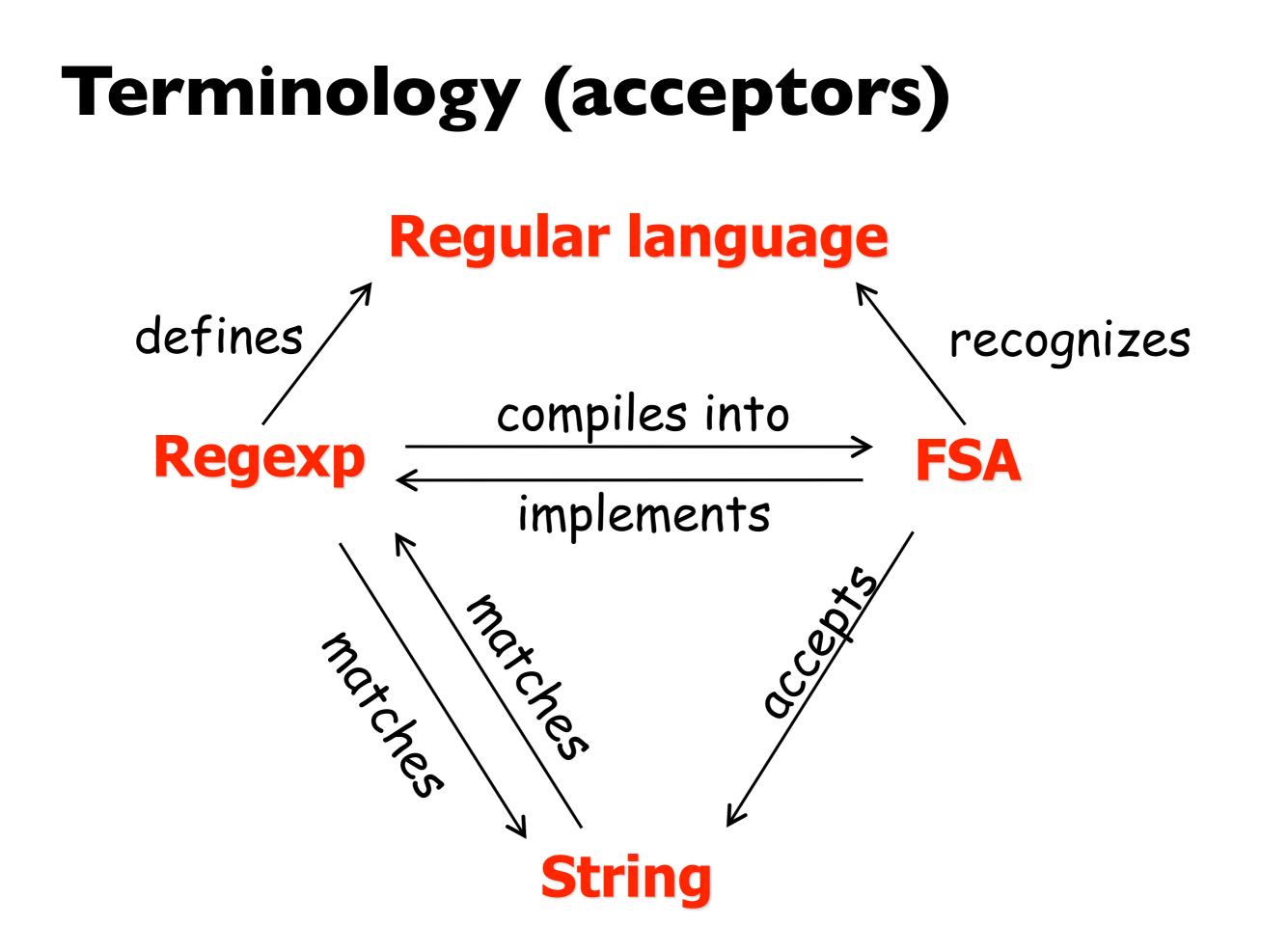
How grammatical? Better, how likely?

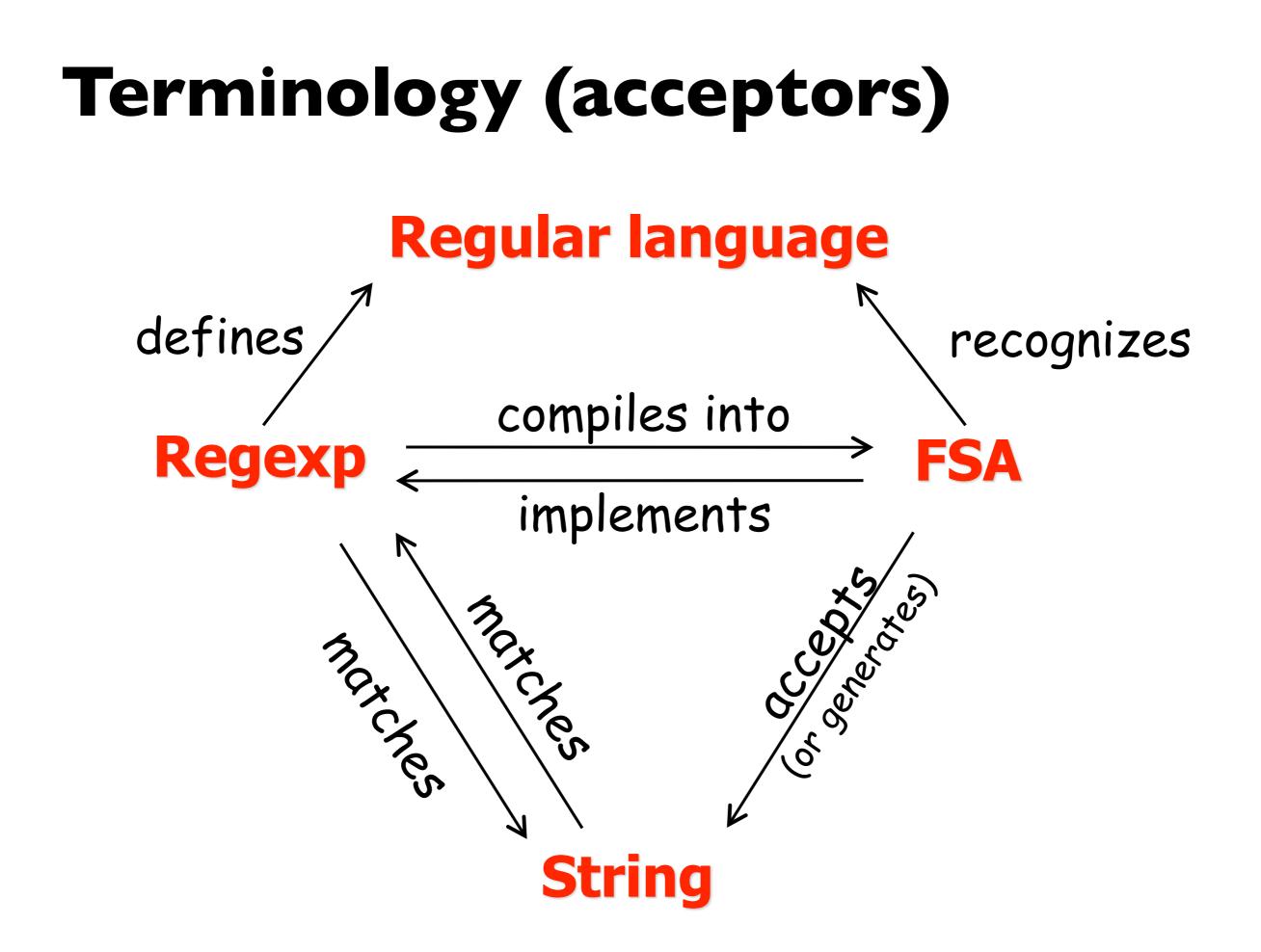


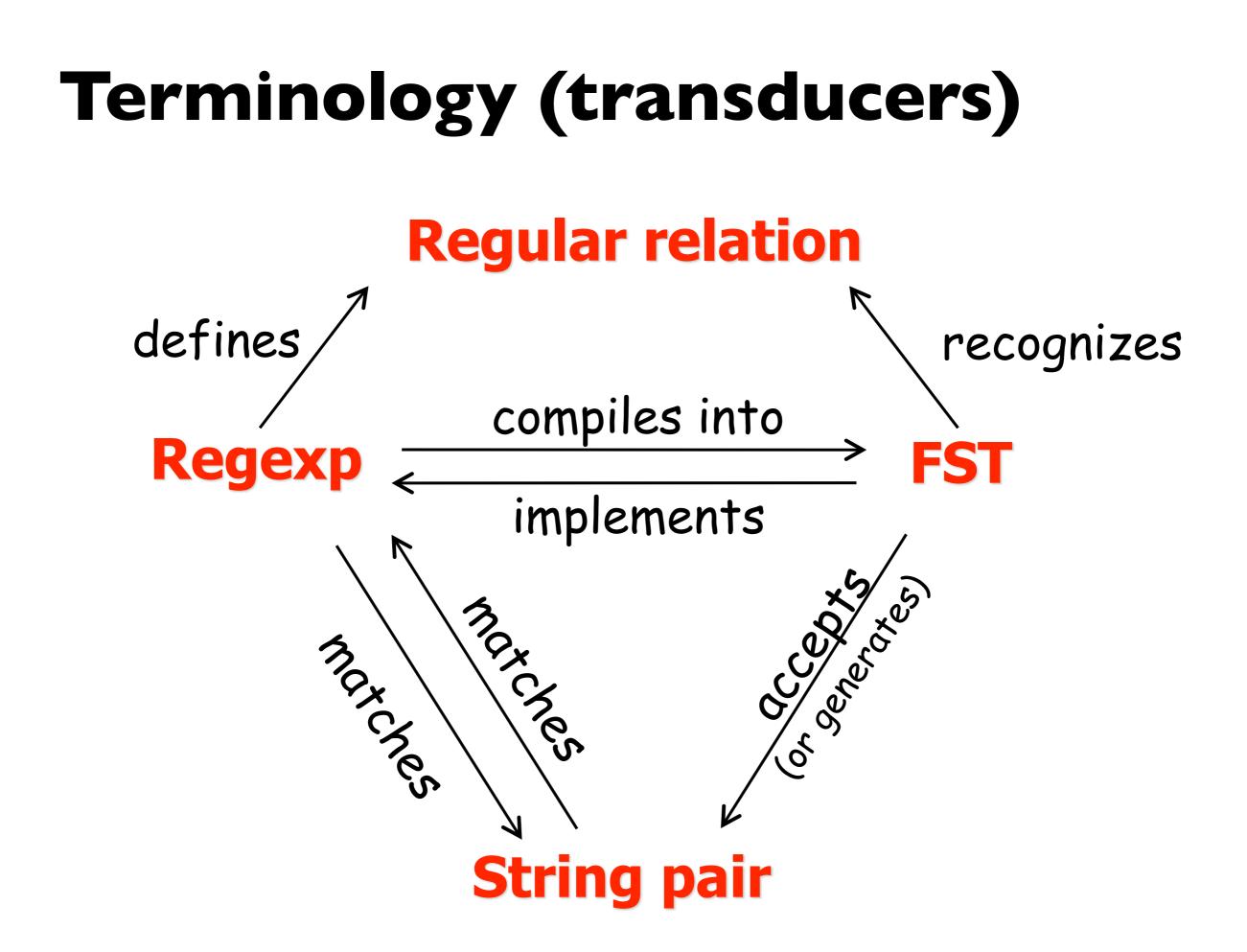


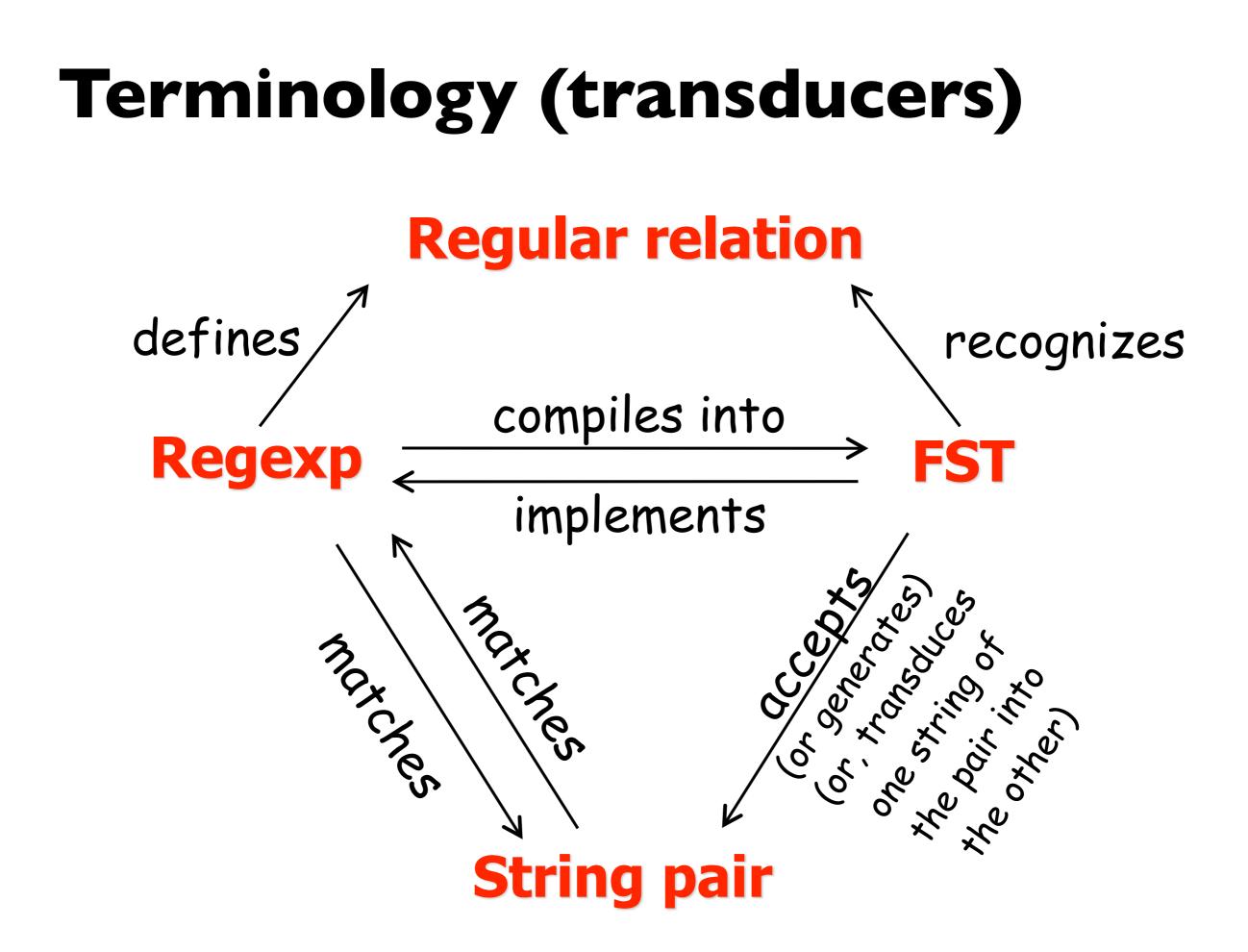
Weighted

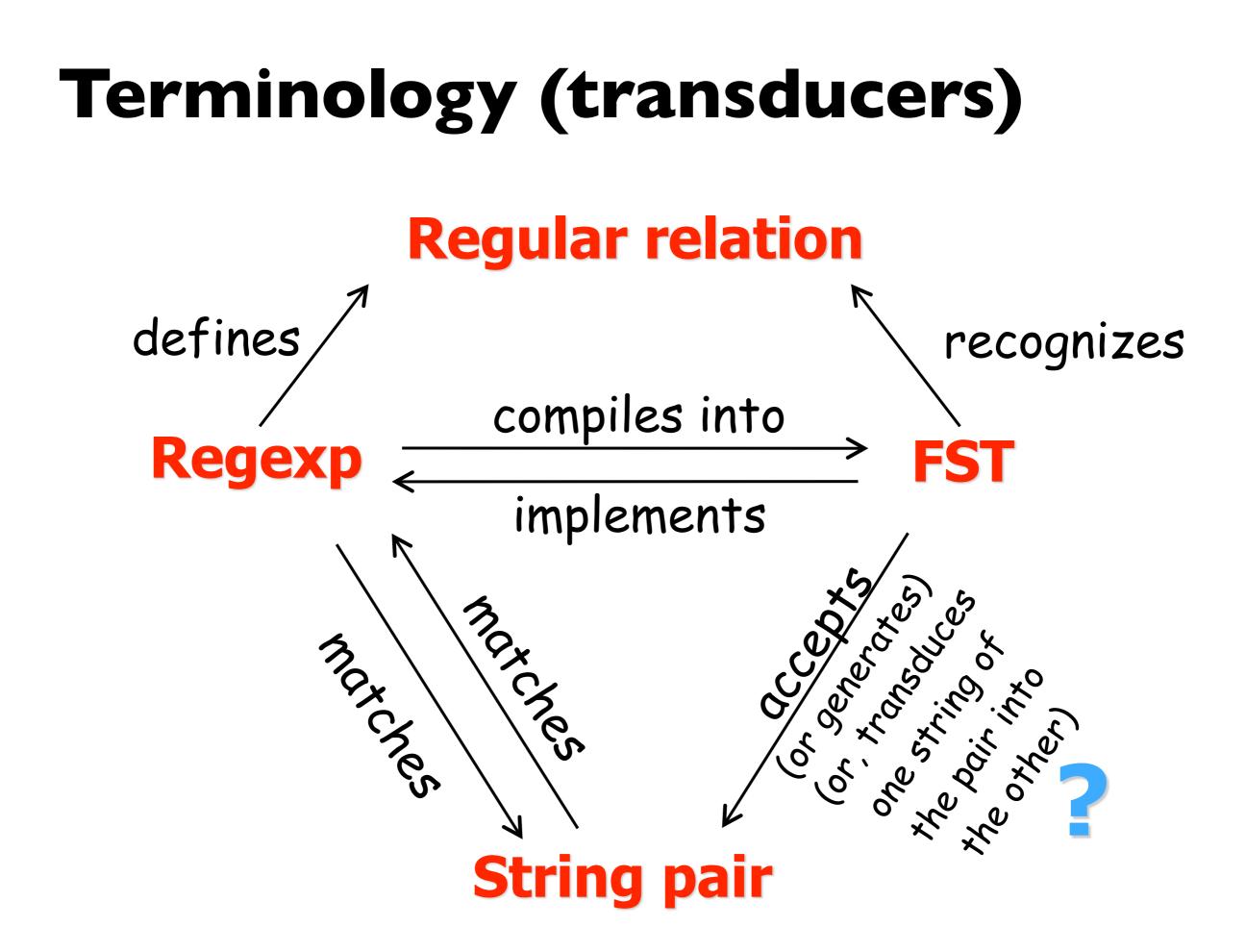
How grammatical? Better, how likely? (string, num) pairs Good markups Good corrections Good translations





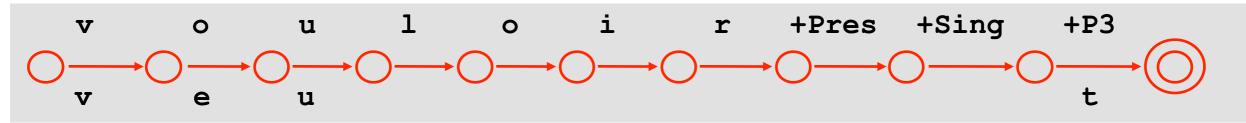






Perspectives on a Transducer

- Given 0 strings, generate a new string pair (by picking a path)
- Given one string (upper or lower), transduce it to the other kind
- Given two strings (upper & lower), decide whether to accept the pair

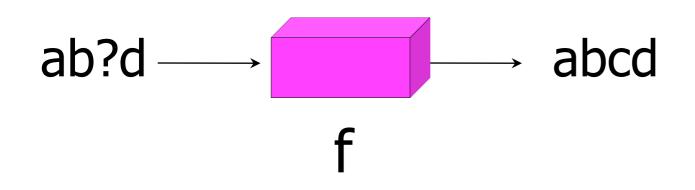


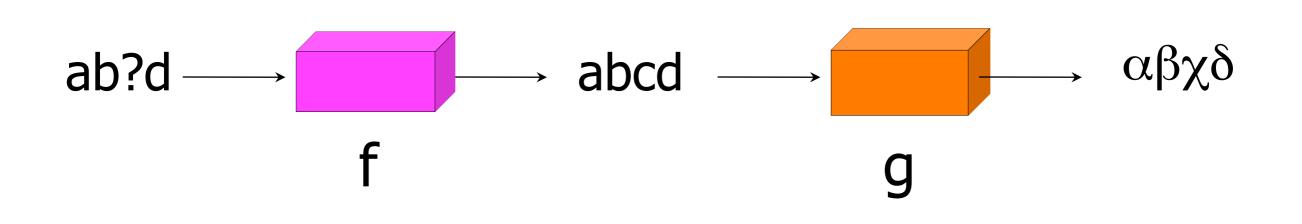
FST just defines the regular relation (mathematical object: set of pairs).

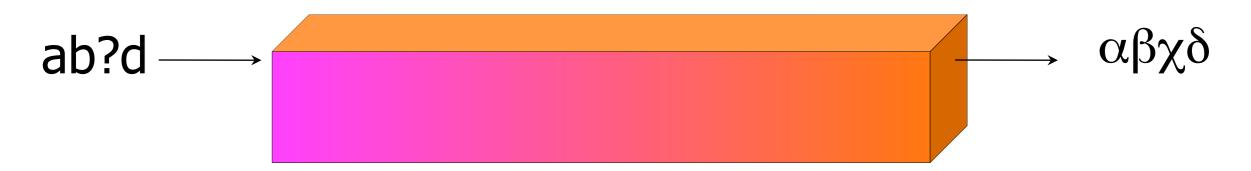
What's "input" and "output" depends on what one <u>asks</u> about the relation.

The 0, 1, or 2 given string(s) constrain which paths you can use.

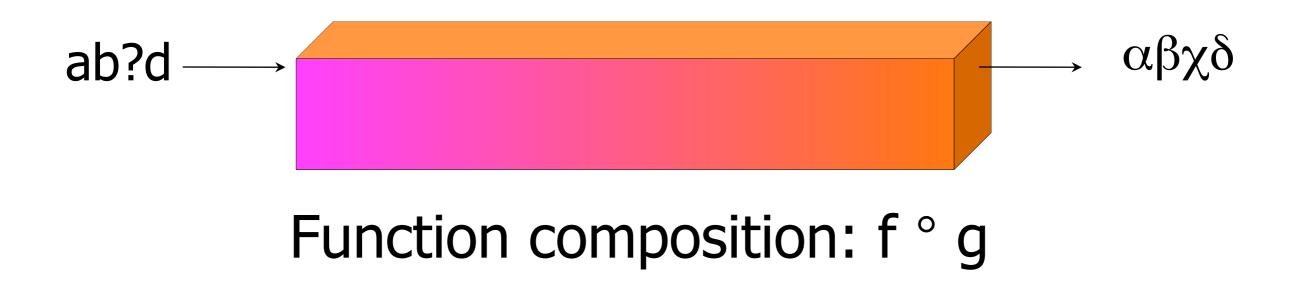
 $ab?d \longrightarrow$



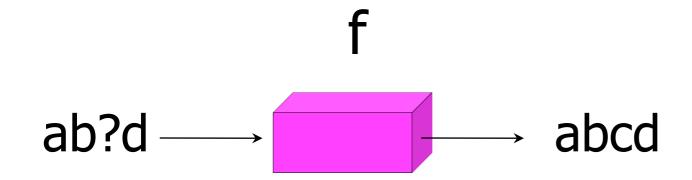


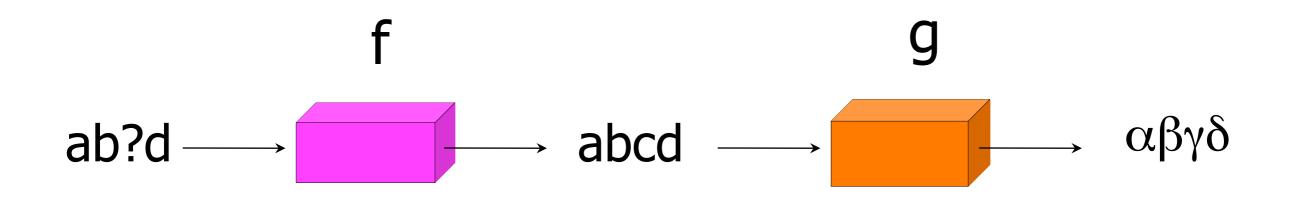


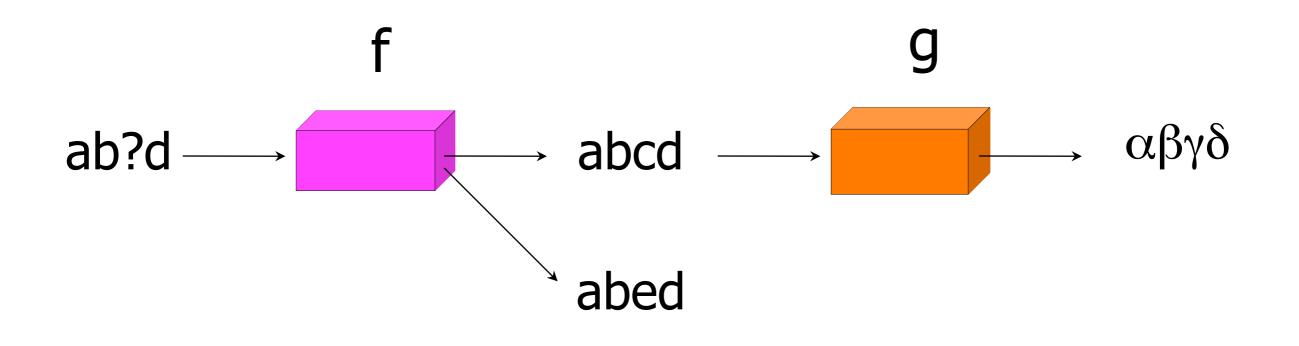
Function composition: f ° g

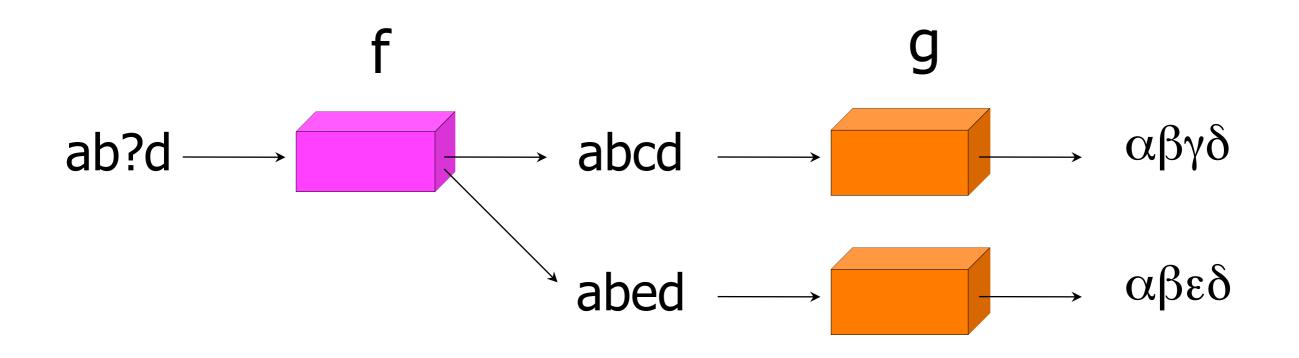


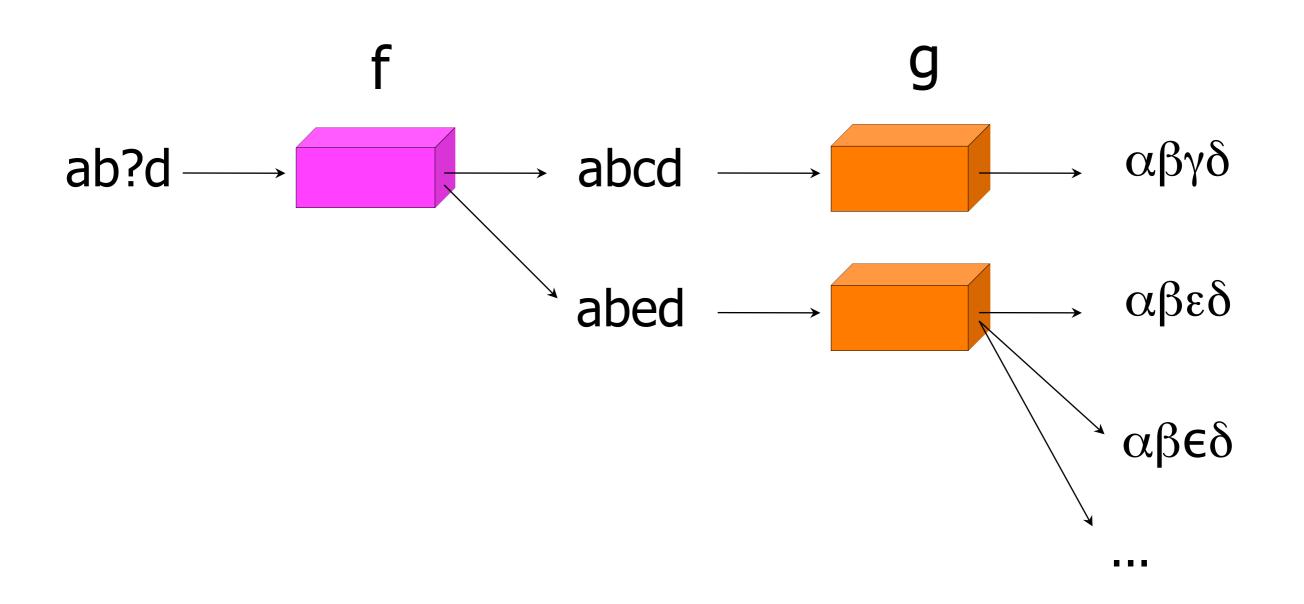
[first f, then g – intuitive notation, but opposite of the traditional math notation]

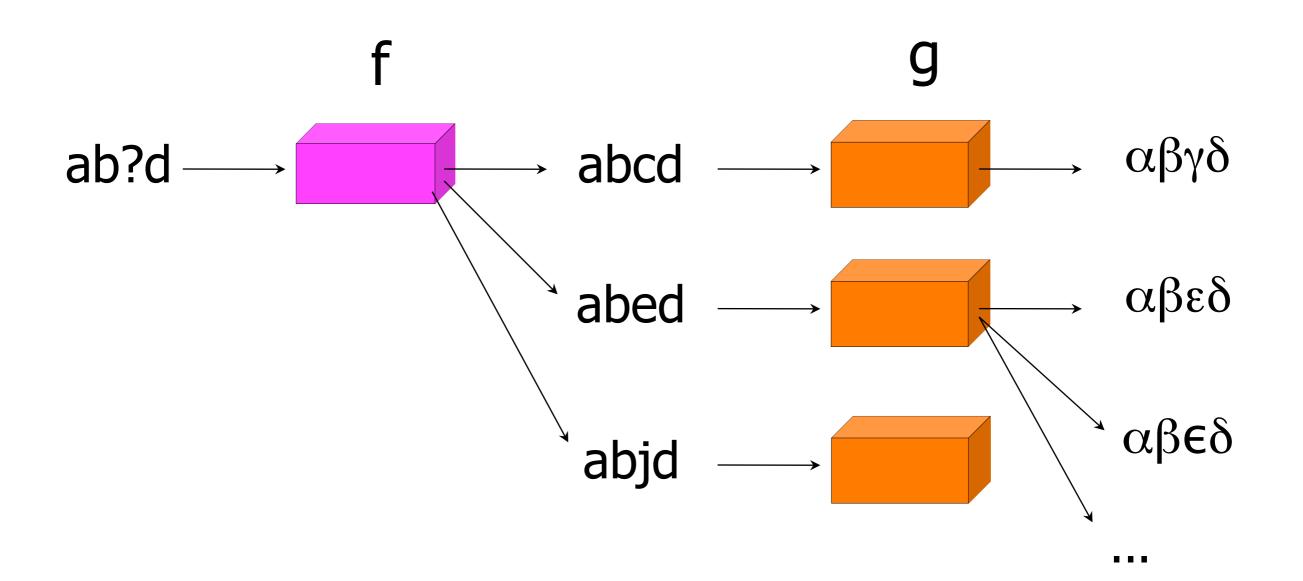


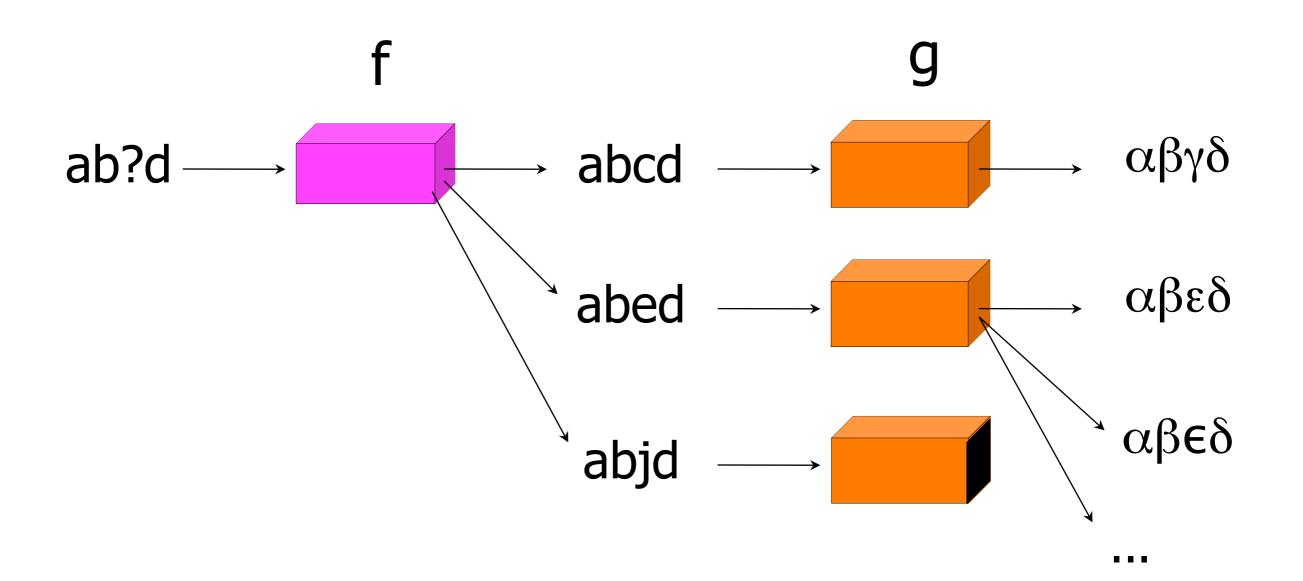


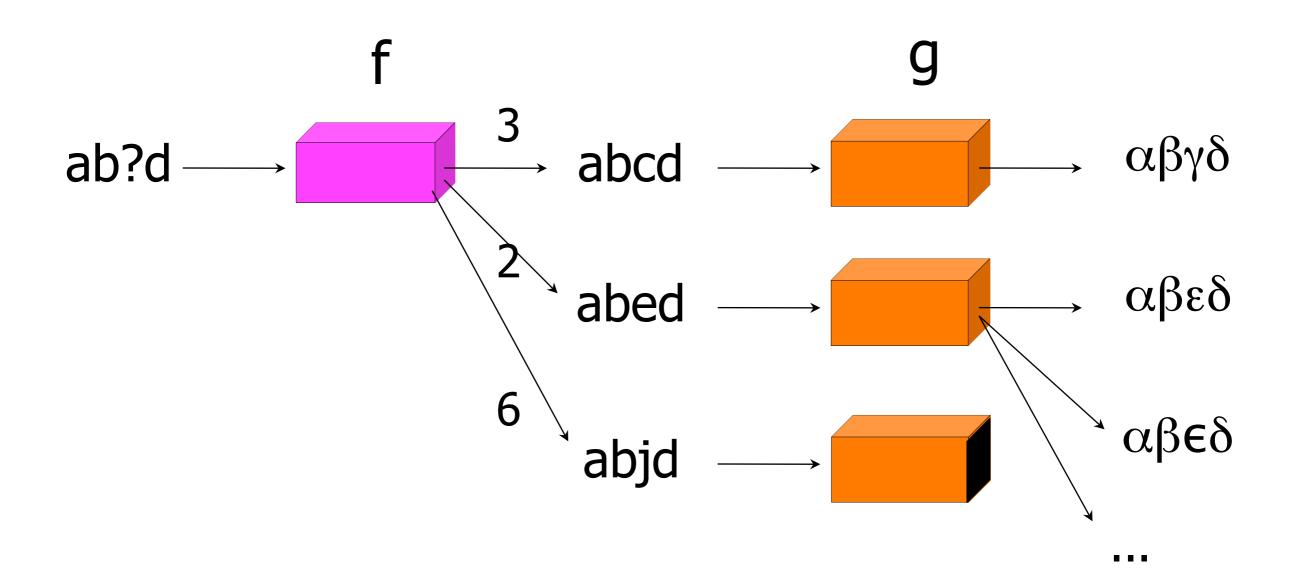


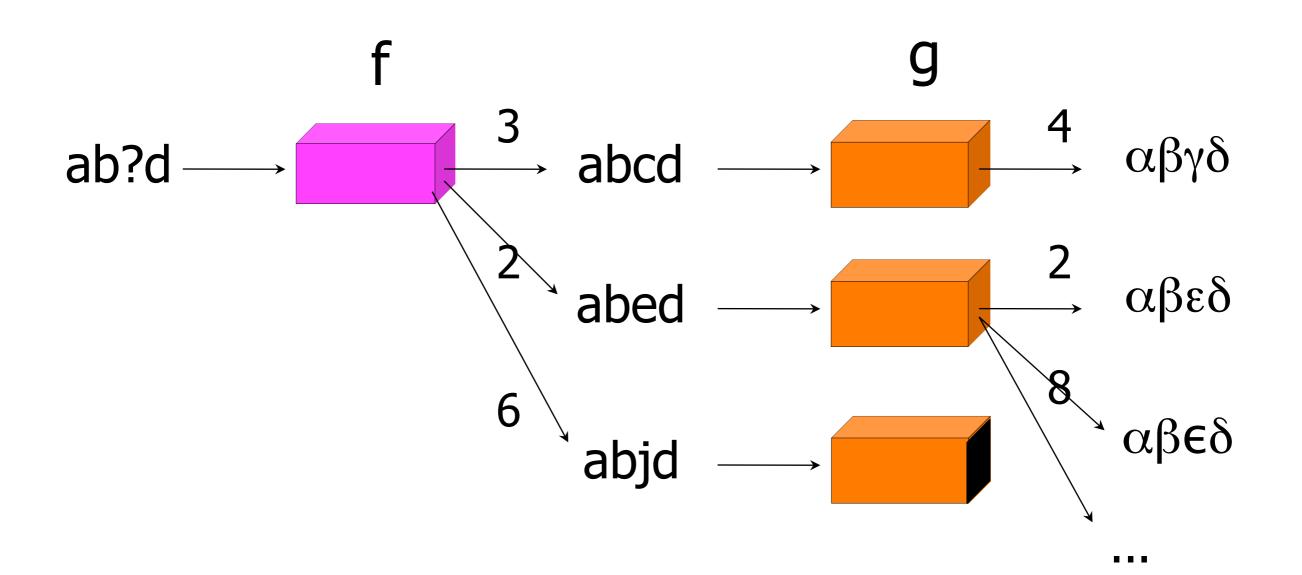


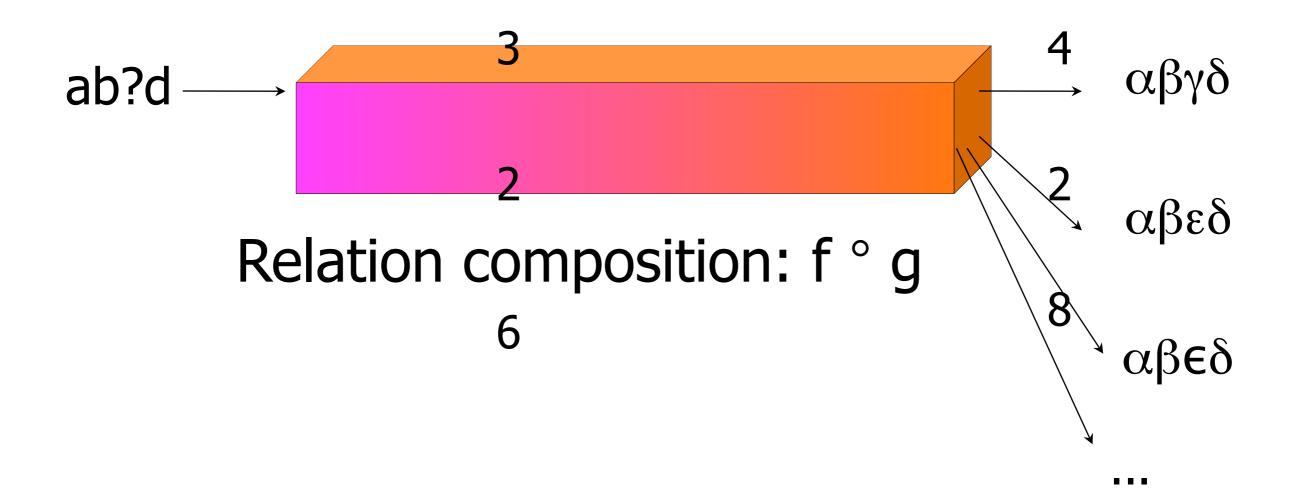














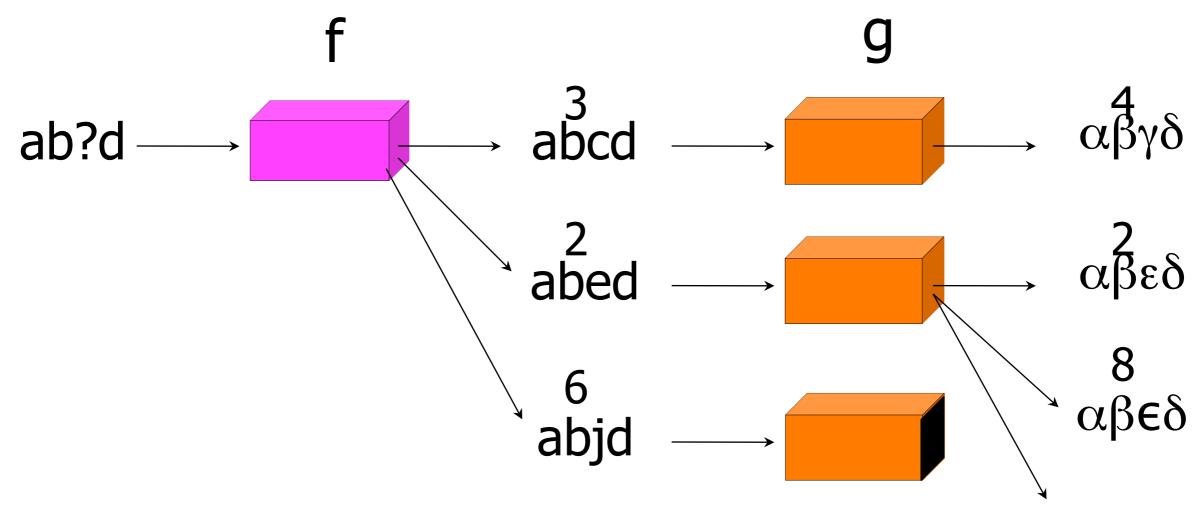




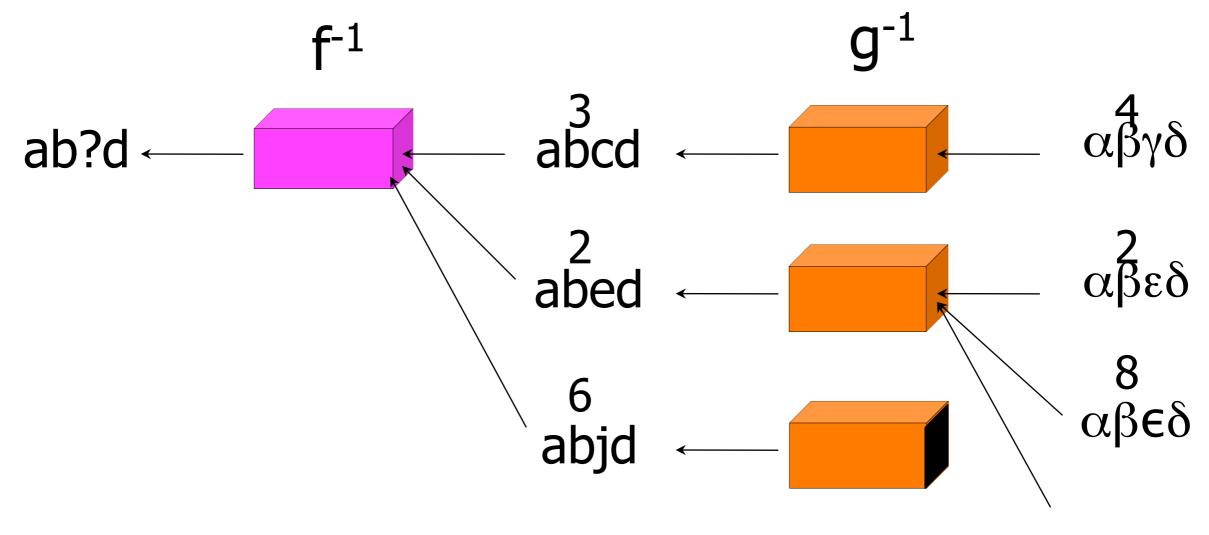


Often in NLP, all of the functions or relations involved can be described as finite-state machines, and manipulated using standard algorithms.

Inverting Relations

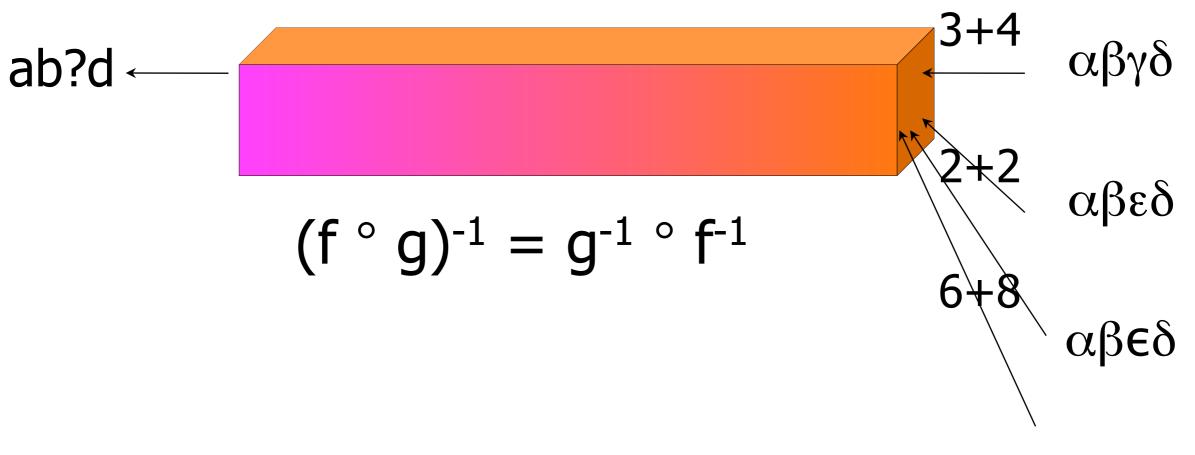


Inverting Relations



. . .

Inverting Relations

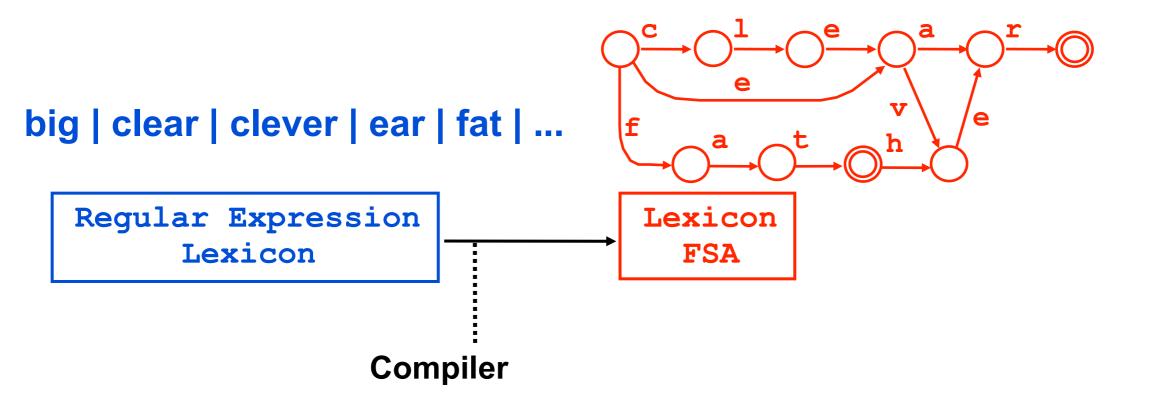


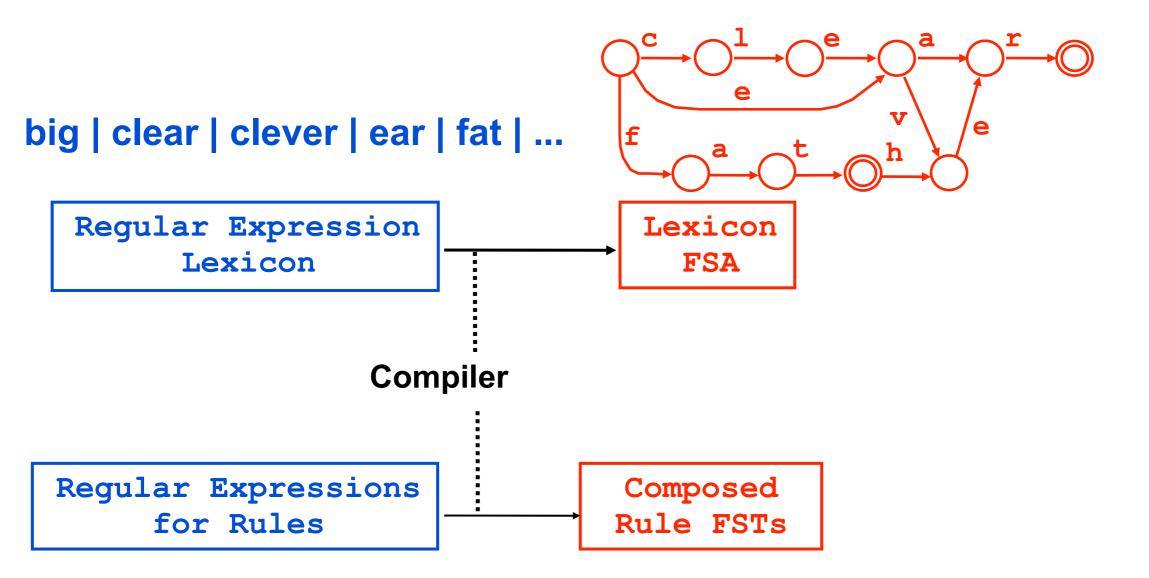
. . .

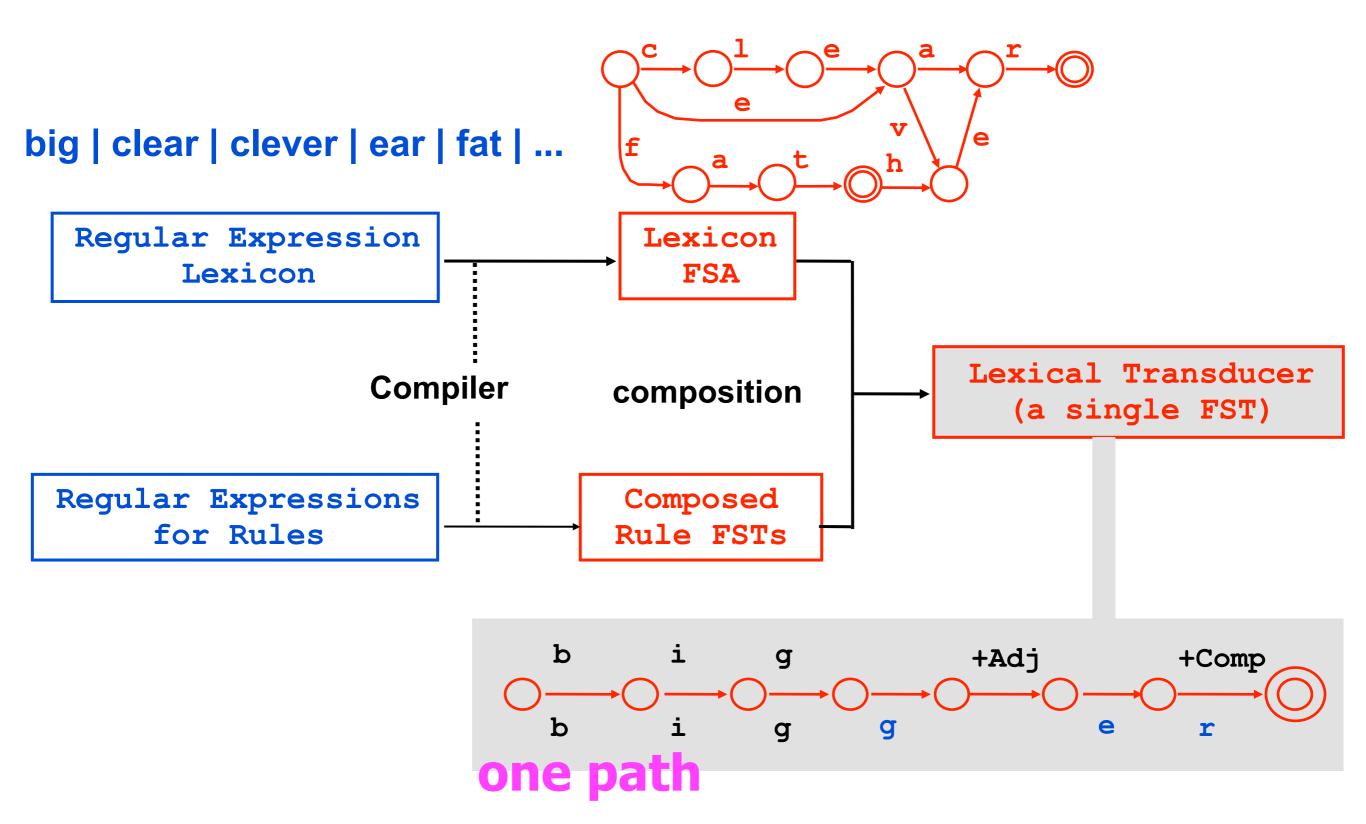
Building a lexical transducer

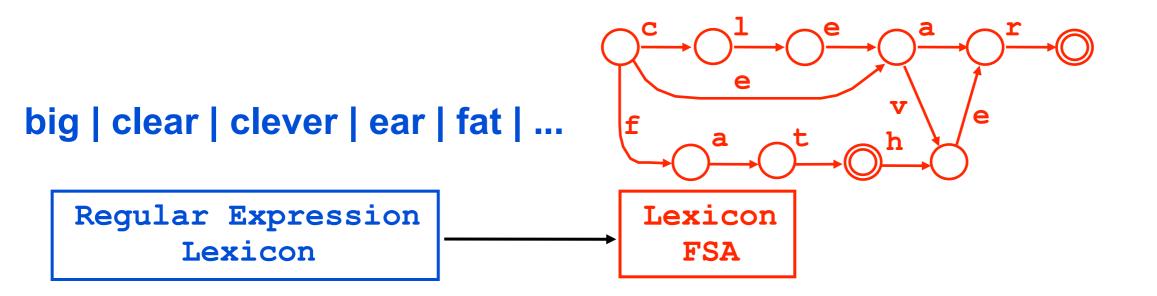
big | clear | clever | ear | fat | ...

Regular Expression Lexicon

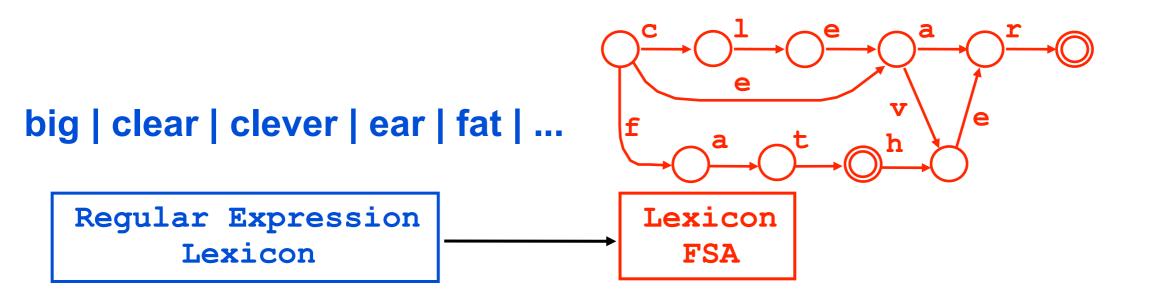




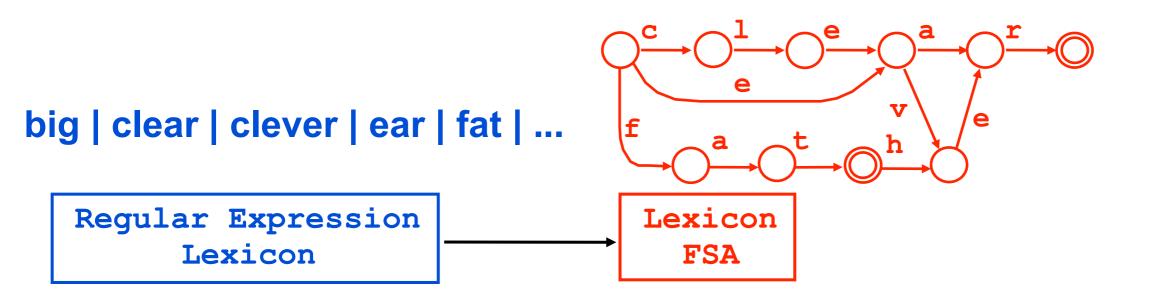




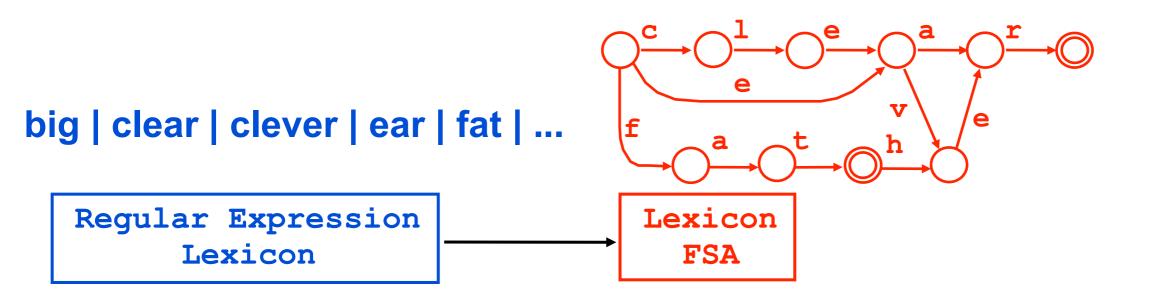
Building a lexical transducer



 Actually, the lexicon must contain elements like big +Adj +Comp

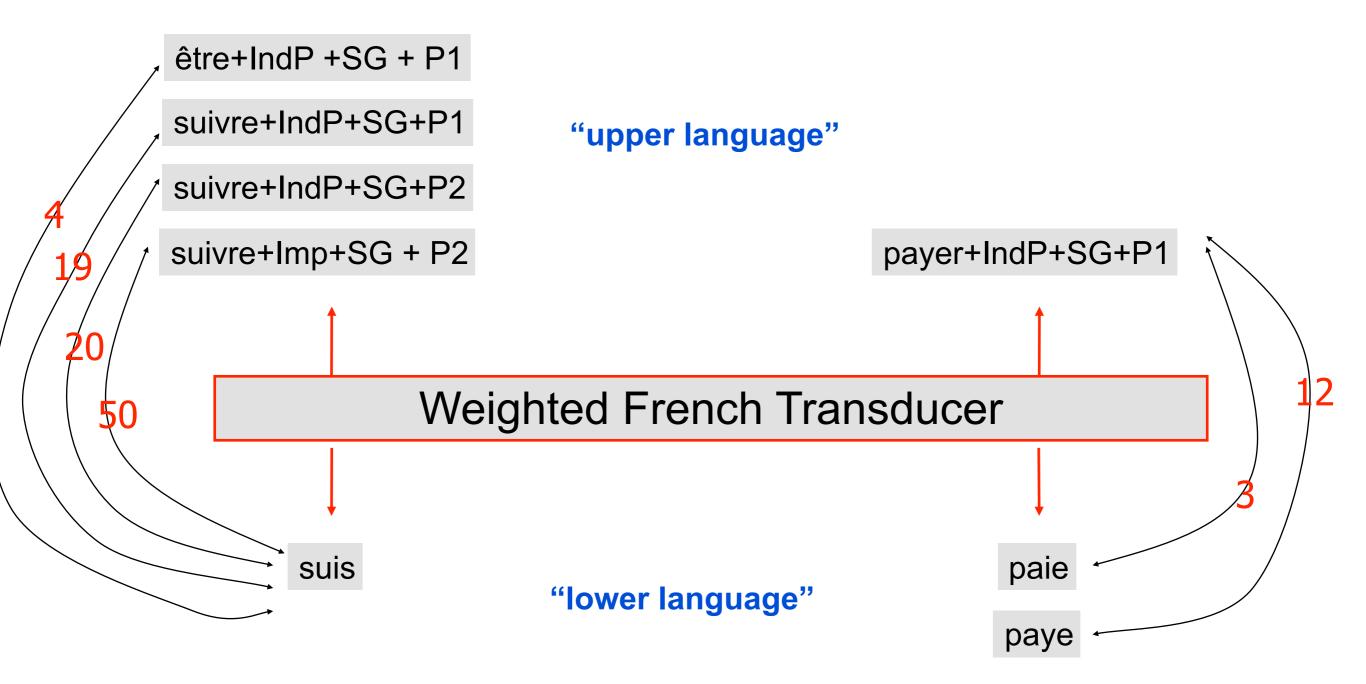


- Actually, the lexicon must contain elements like big +Adj +Comp
- So write it as a more complicated expression: (big | clear | clever | fat | ...) +Adj (ε | +Comp | +Sup) ← adjectives | (ear | father | ...) +Noun (+Sing | +PI) ← nouns |...



- Actually, the lexicon must contain elements like big +Adj +Comp
- So write it as a more complicated expression: (big | clear | clever | fat | ...) +Adj (ε | +Comp | +Sup) ← adjectives | (ear | father | ...) +Noun (+Sing | +PI) ← nouns | ...
- Q: Why do we need a lexicon at all?

Weighted version of transducer: Assigns a weight to each string pair



Constructing Regular Languages

Xerox Regex Notation (Paper)

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E
I	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \;
.x.	crossproduct	E .x.
.0.	composition	Ε.ο.

- . u upper (input) language
- . lower (output) language
- + **x**, F-E "domain" E.u E.I "range"

Common Regular Expression Operators (in XFST notation)

concatenation



$\mathsf{EF} = \{\mathsf{ef}: \mathsf{e} \in \mathsf{E}, \mathsf{f} \in \mathsf{F}\}\$

ef denotes the concatenation of 2 strings.

EF denotes the concatenation of 2 languages.

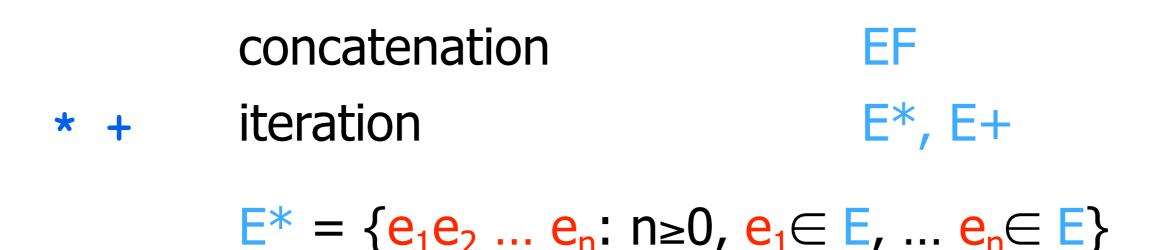
- To pick a string in EF, pick $e \in E$ and $f \in F$ and concatenate them.
- To find out whether $w \in EF$, look for at least one way to split w into two "halves," w = ef, such that $e \in E$ and $f \in F$.

A **language** is a set of strings.

It is a **regular language** if there exists an FSA that accepts all the strings in the language, and no other strings.

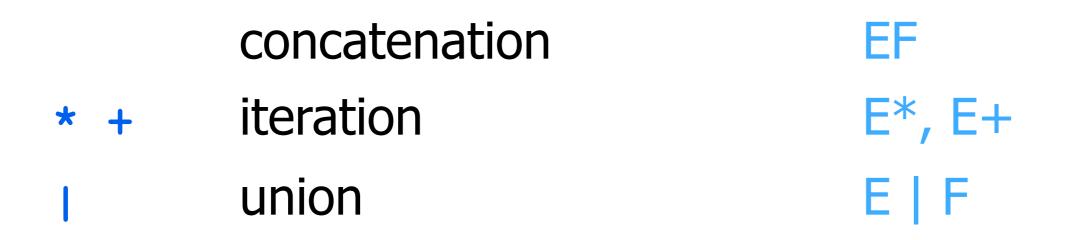
If E and F denote regular languages, than so does EF. (We will have to prove this by finding the FSA for EF!)

Common Regular Expression Operators (in XFST notation)



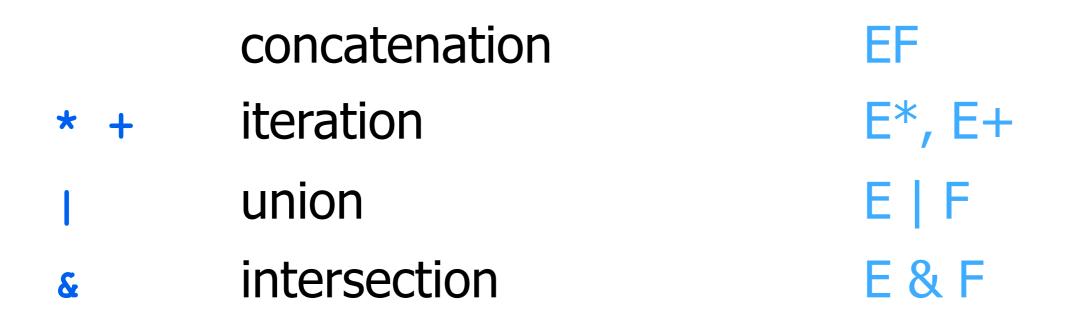
- To pick a string in E*, pick any number of strings in E and concatenate them.
- To find out whether w ∈ E*, look for at least one way to split w into 0 or more sections, e₁e₂ ... e_n, all of which are in E.

$$E + = \{e_1 e_2 \dots e_n : n > 0, e_1 \in E, \dots e_n \in E\} = EE^*$$



$E | F = \{w: w \in E \text{ or } w \in F\} = E \cup F$

- To pick a string in E | F, pick a string from either E or F.
- To find out whether $w \in E \mid F$, check whether $w \in E$ or $w \in F$.



$E \& F = \{w: w \in E \text{ and } w \in F\} = E \cap F$

- To pick a string in E & F, pick a string from E that is also in F.
- To find out whether $w \in E \& F$, check whether $w \in E$ and $w \in F$.

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
I	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, F-E

 $\sim E = \{e: e \notin E\} = \Sigma^* - E$ $E - F = \{e: e \in E \text{ and } e \notin F\} = E \& \sim F$ $E = \Sigma - E \quad (any single character not in E)$ $\Sigma \text{ is set of all letters; so } \Sigma^* \text{ is set of all strings; } ?* in XFST$

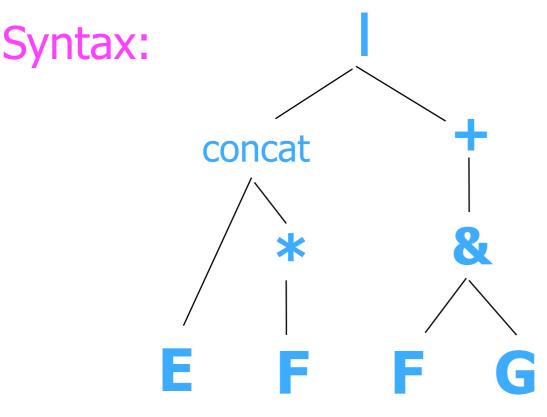
Regular Expressions

A language is a set of strings.

It is a **regular language** if there exists an FSA that accepts all the strings in the language, and no other strings.

If E and F denote regular languages, than so do EF, etc.

Regular expression: EF* | (F & G)+



Semantics:

Denotes a regular language. As usual, can build semantics compositionally bottom-up. E, F, G must be regular languages. As a base case, e denotes {e} (a language containing a single string), so ef*|(f&g)+ is regular.

Regular Expressions for Regular Relations

A language is a set of strings.

It is a **regular language** if there exists an FSA that accepts all the strings in the language, and no other strings.

If E and F denote regular languages, than so do EF, etc.

A **relation** is a set of pairs – here, pairs of strings.

It is a **regular relation** if here exists an FST that accepts all the pairs in the language, and no other pairs.

If E and F denote regular <u>relations</u>, then so do EF, etc.

$EF = \{(ef,e'f'): (e,e') \in E, (f,f') \in F\}$

Can you guess the definitions for E*, E+, E | F, E & F when E and F are regular relations?

Surprise: E & F isn't necessarily regular in the case of relations; so not supported.

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, F-E
. X .	crossproduct	E .x. F

$\mathsf{E} . \mathsf{x}. \mathsf{F} = \{(\mathsf{e},\mathsf{f}): \mathsf{e} \in \mathsf{E}, \mathsf{f} \in \mathsf{F}\}\$

Combines two regular <u>languages</u> into a regular <u>relation</u>.

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, F-E
. x .	crossproduct	E .x. F
.0.	composition	E .o. F

E .o. $F = \{(e,f): \exists m. (e,m) \in E, (m,f) \in F\}$

- Composes two regular <u>relations</u> into a regular <u>relation</u>.
- As we've seen, this generalizes ordinary function composition.

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
I	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, F-E
.x.	crossproduct	E .x. F
.0.	composition	E .o. F
.u	upper (input) language	E.u "domain"
	E.u = { <mark>e</mark> : ∃m. (<mark>e,m</mark>) ∈ E}	

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
I	union	E F
&	intersection	E & F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, F-E
.x.	crossproduct	E .x. F
.0.	composition	E .o. F
.u	upper (input) language	E.u "domain"
.1	lower (output) language	E. "range"

Finite-State Programming

Finite-state "programming"

Function

Source code Object code

Compiler Optimization of object code Function on (set of) strings

Regular expression Finite state machine

Regexp compiler Determinization, minimization, pruning

Finite-state "programming"

Function composition	(Weighted) composition
Higher-order function	Operator
Function inversion (available in Prolog)	Function inversion
Structured programming	Ops + small regexps

Finite-state "programming"

Parallelism Nondeterminism Stochasticity

Apply to set of strings

Nondeterminism

Prob.-weighted arcs

Some Xerox Extensions

- \$ containment
- => restriction
- -> @-> replacement

Make it easier to describe complex languages and relations without extending the formal power of finite-state systems.

\$[ab*c]

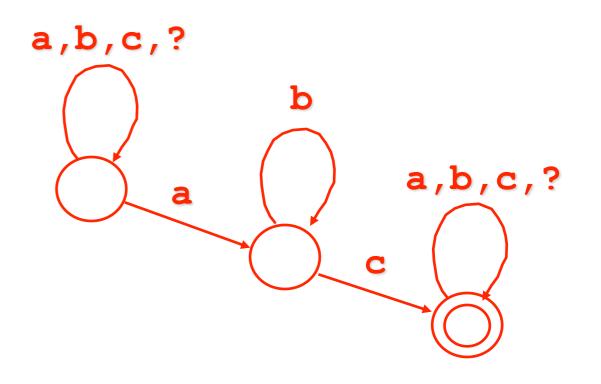
"Must contain a substring that matches ab*c."

> Accepts **xxxacyy** Rejects **bcba**

\$[ab*c]

"Must contain a substring that matches ab*c."

> Accepts **xxxacyy** Rejects **bcba**



\$[ab*c]

"Must contain a substring that matches ab*c."

> Accepts **xxxacyy** Rejects **bcba**

> > ?* [ab*c] ?*

a,b,c,?

a

b

С

a,b,c,?

Equivalent expression

a,b,c,? b \$[ab*c] a,b,c,? a "Must contain a substring C that matches ab*c." Warning: ? in regexps means Accepts **xxxacyy** "any character at all." Rejects **bcba** But ? in machines means "any character not explicitly mentioned anywhere [ab*c] in the machine." ?* ?*

Equivalent expression

Restriction

Restriction

a => b _ c

"Any a must be preceded by b and followed by c."

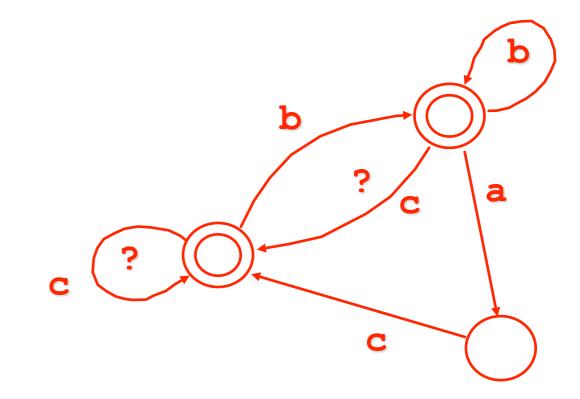
> Accepts **bacbbacde** Rejects **bac<u>a</u>**

Restriction

a => b _ c

"Any a must be preceded by b and followed by c."

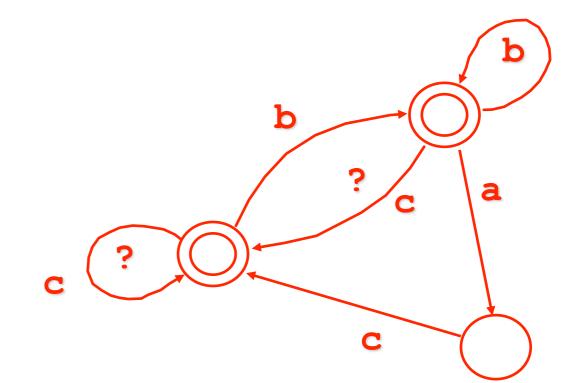
> Accepts **bacbbacde** Rejects **bac<u>a</u>**



Restriction

a => b _ c

"Any a must be preceded by b and followed by c."



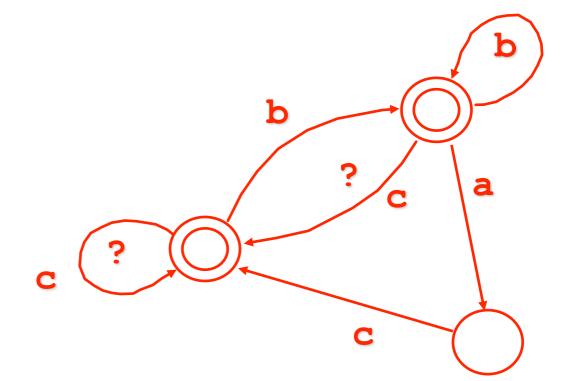
Accepts **bacbbacde** Rejects **bac<u>a</u>**

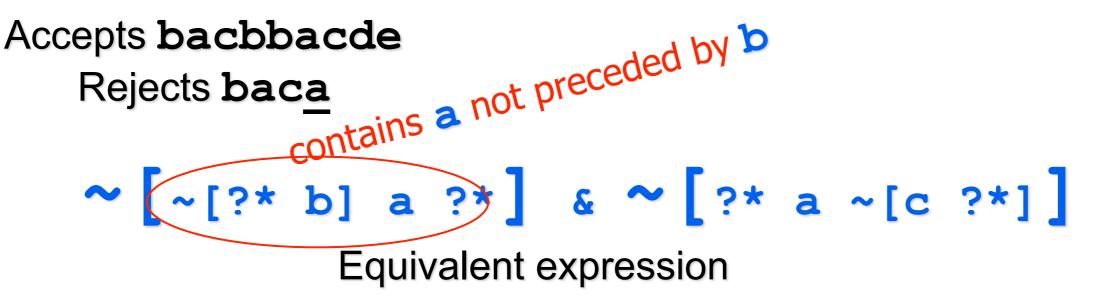
~ [~[?* b] a ?*] & ~ [?* a ~ [c ?*]]
Equivalent expression

Restriction

a => b _ c

"Any a must be preceded by b and followed by c."

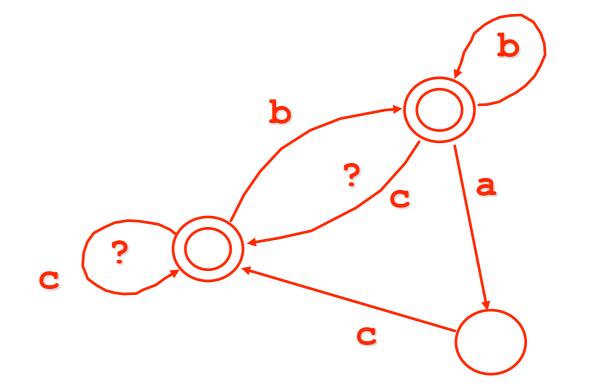


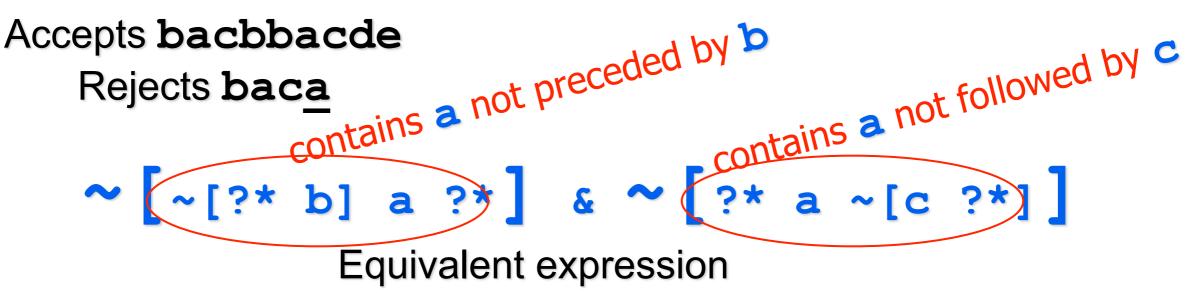


Restriction

a => b _ c

"Any a must be preceded by b and followed by c."





Replacement

Replacement

a b -> b a

"Replace 'ab' by 'ba'."

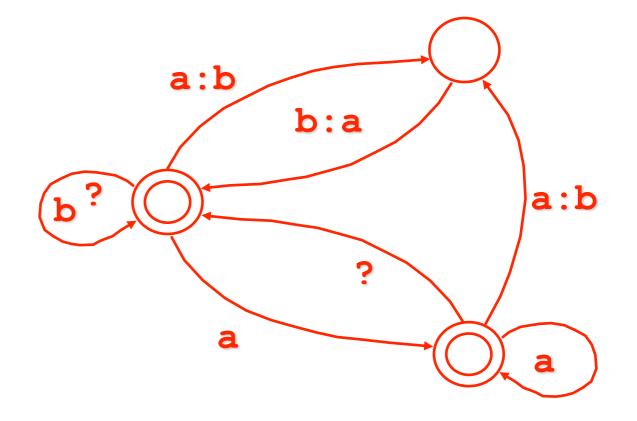
Transduces <u>abcdbaba</u> to <u>bacdbba</u>a

Replacement

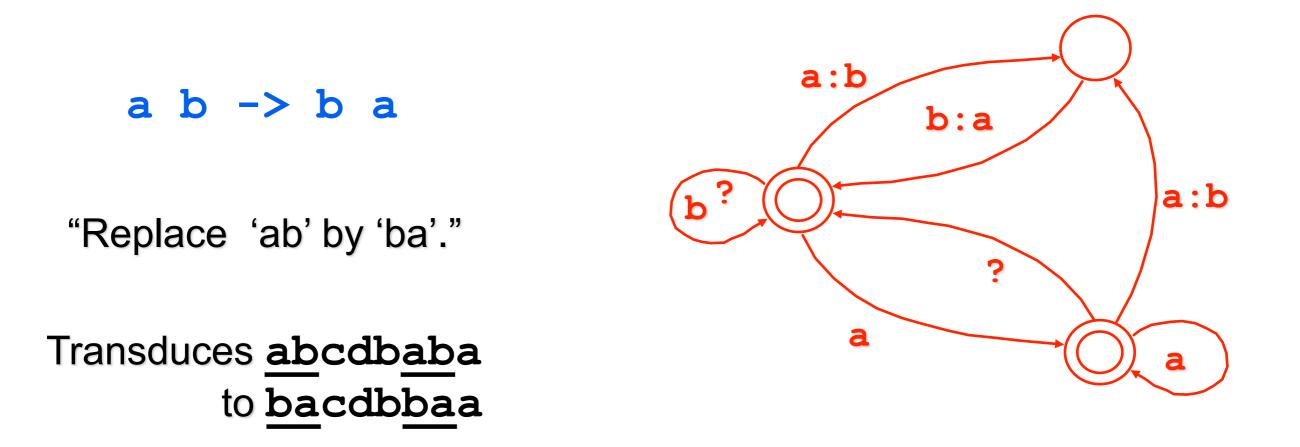


"Replace 'ab' by 'ba'."

Transduces <u>abcdbaba</u> to <u>bacdbbaa</u>



Replacement



[~\$[a b] [[a b] .x. [b a]]] * ~\$[a b] Equivalent expression

a b -> b a | x

"Replace 'ab' by 'ba' or 'x', nondeterministically."

Transduces <u>abcdbaba</u> to {<u>bacdbbaa</u>, <u>bacdbxa</u>, <u>xcdbbaa</u>, <u>xcdbxa</u>}

[a b -> b a | x] .o. [x => _ c]

"Replace 'ab' by 'ba' or 'x', nondeterministically."

Transduces <u>abcdbaba</u> to {<u>bacdbbaa</u>, <u>bacdbxa</u>, <u>xcdbbaa</u>, <u>xcdbxa</u>}

[a b -> b a | x] .o. [x => _ c]

"Replace 'ab' by 'ba' or 'x', nondeterministically."



a b | b | b a | a b a -> x

applied to "aba" Four overlapping substrings match; we haven't told it which one to replace so it chooses nondeterministically

a b a	a b a	a b a	
a ba			
a x a	a x	x a	
X			

More Replace Operators

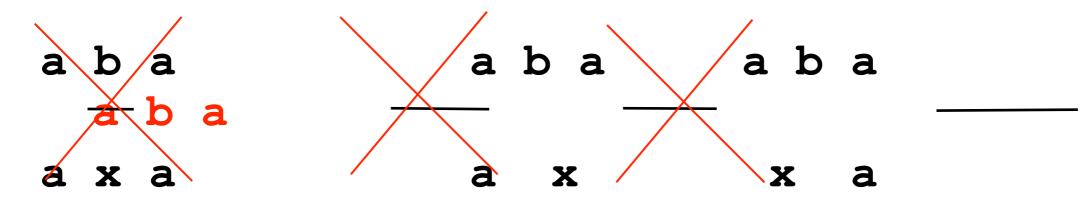
Optional replacement: a b (->) b a

- Directed replacement
 - guarantees a unique result by constraining the factorization of the input string by
 - Direction of the match (rightward or leftward)
 - Length (longest or shortest)

Q-> Left-to-right, Longest-match Replacement

a b | b | b a | a b a @-> x

applied to "aba"

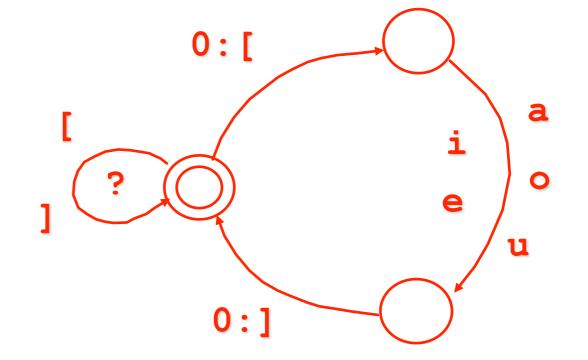


@-> left-to-right, longest match (cf. perl s///)

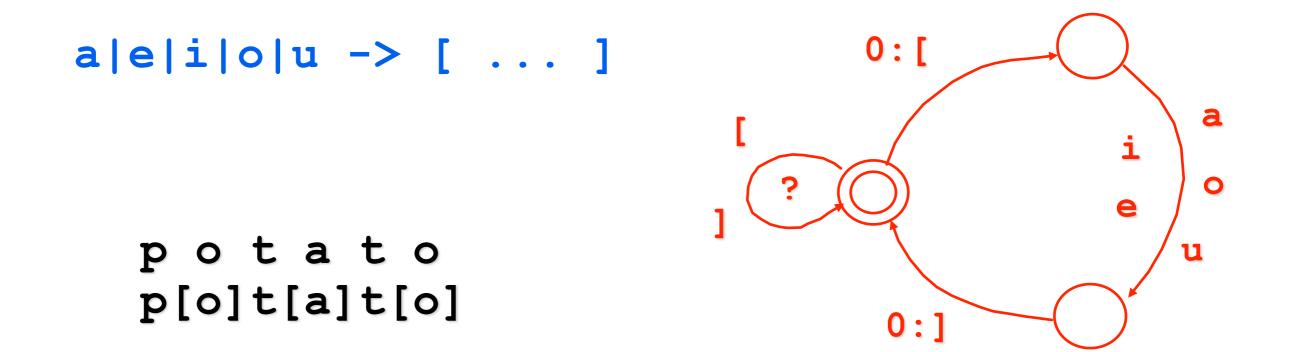
- @> left-to-right, shortest match
- ->@ right-to-left, longest match
- >@ right-to-left, shortest match

Using "..." for marking

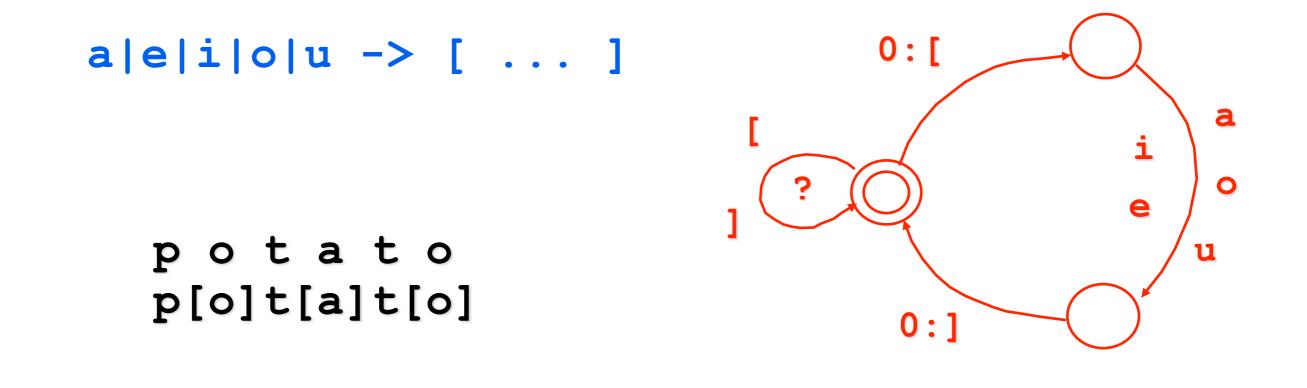
a|e|i|o|u -> [...]



Using "..." for marking

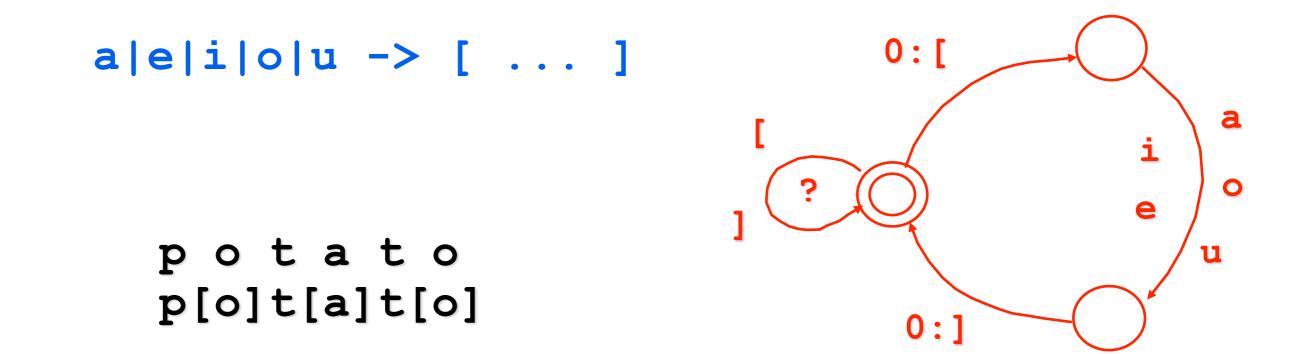


Using "..." for marking



Note: actually have to write as -> %[... %] or -> "[" ... "]" since [] are parens in the regexp language

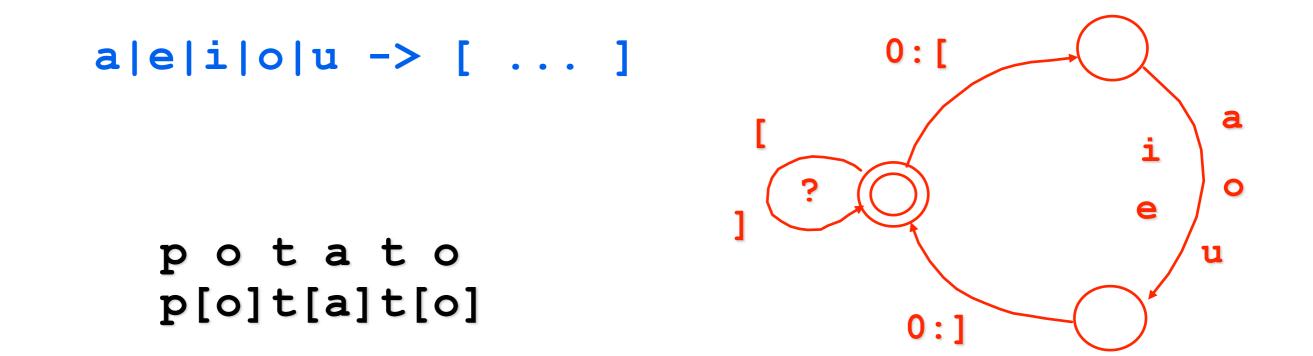
Using "..." for marking



Which way does the FST transduce potatoe?

potato e vs. potato e
p[o]t[a]t[o][e] vs. p[o]t[a]t[o e]

Using "..." for marking



Which way does the FST transduce potatoe?

p o t a t o evs.p o t a t o ep[o]t[a]t[o][e]vs.p[o]t[a]t[o e]

How would you change it to get the other answer?

define C [b | c | d | f ... define V [a | e | i | o | u | y | ä | ...

define C [b | c | d | f ... define V [a | e | i | o | u | y | ä | ...

$[C*V+C*] @-> \dots "-" || _ [CV]$

"Insert a hyphen after the longest instance of the C* V+ C* pattern in front of a C V pattern."

$[C*V+C*] @-> \dots "-" || _ [CV]$

"Insert a hyphen after the longest instance of the C* V+ C* pattern in front of a C V pattern."

define C [b | c | d | f ... define V [a | e | i | o | u | y | ä | ...

$[C*V+C*] @-> \dots "-" || _ [CV]$

"Insert a hyphen after the longest instance of the C* V+ C* pattern in front of a C V pattern." why?

Conditional Replacement

Conditional Replacement



The relation that replaces **A** by **B** between **L** and **R** leaving everything else unchanged.

Conditional Replacement



The relation that replaces **A** by **B** between **L** and **R** leaving everything else unchanged.

Sources of complexity:

- Replacements and contexts may overlap
- Alternative ways of interpreting "between left and right."

Hand-Coded Example: slide courtesy of L. Karttunen Parsing Dates

Today is [Tuesday, July 25, 2000].

Hand-Coded Example: slide courtesy of L. Karttunen Parsing Dates

Today is [Tuesday, July 25, 2000].

Best result

Today is Tuesday, [July 25, 2000]. Today is [Tuesday, July 25], 2000. Today is Tuesday, [July 25], 2000. Today is [Tuesday], July 25, 2000.

Bad results

Hand-Coded Example: slide courtesy of L. Karttunen Parsing Dates

Today is [Tuesday, July 25, 2000].

Best result

Today is Tuesday, [July 25, 2000]. Today is [Tuesday, July 25], 2000. Today is Tuesday, [July 25], 2000. Today is [Tuesday], July 25, 2000.

Bad results

Need left-to-right, longest-match constraints.

Source code: Language of Dates

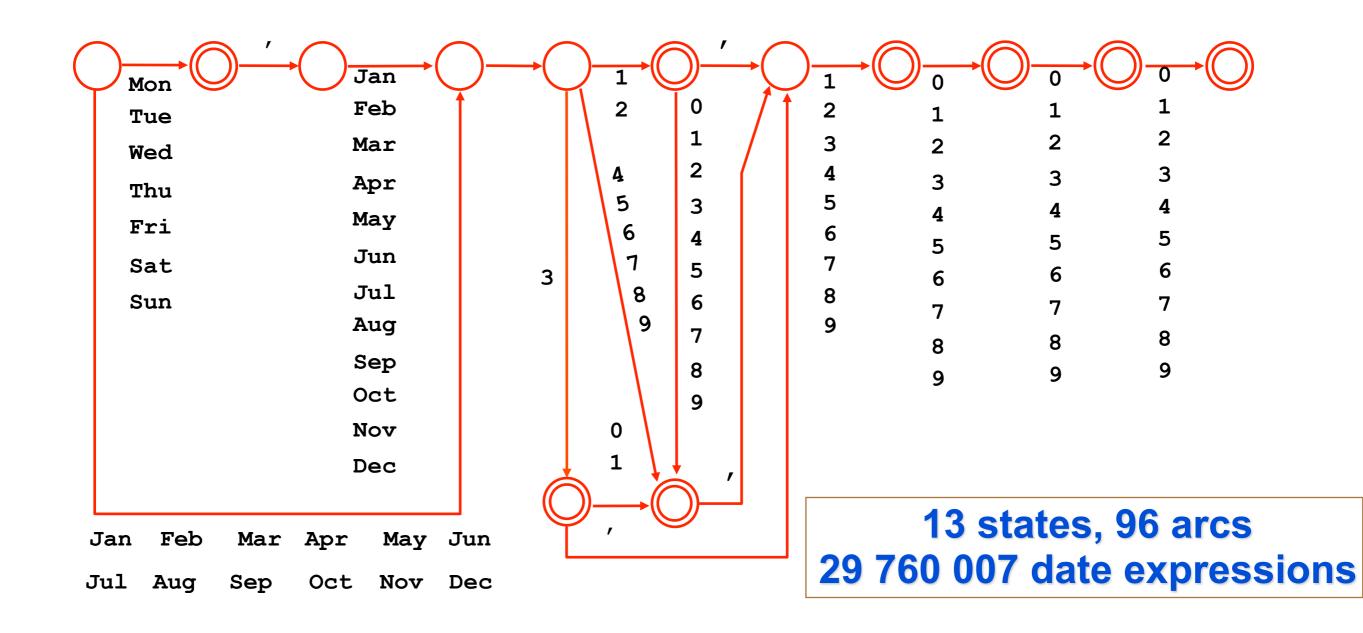
Source code: Language of Dates

Day = Monday | Tuesday | ... | Sunday Month = January | February | ... | December Date = 1 | 2 | 3 | ... | 3 1 Year = %0To9 (%0To9 (%0To9 (%0To9))) - %0?* from 1 to 9999

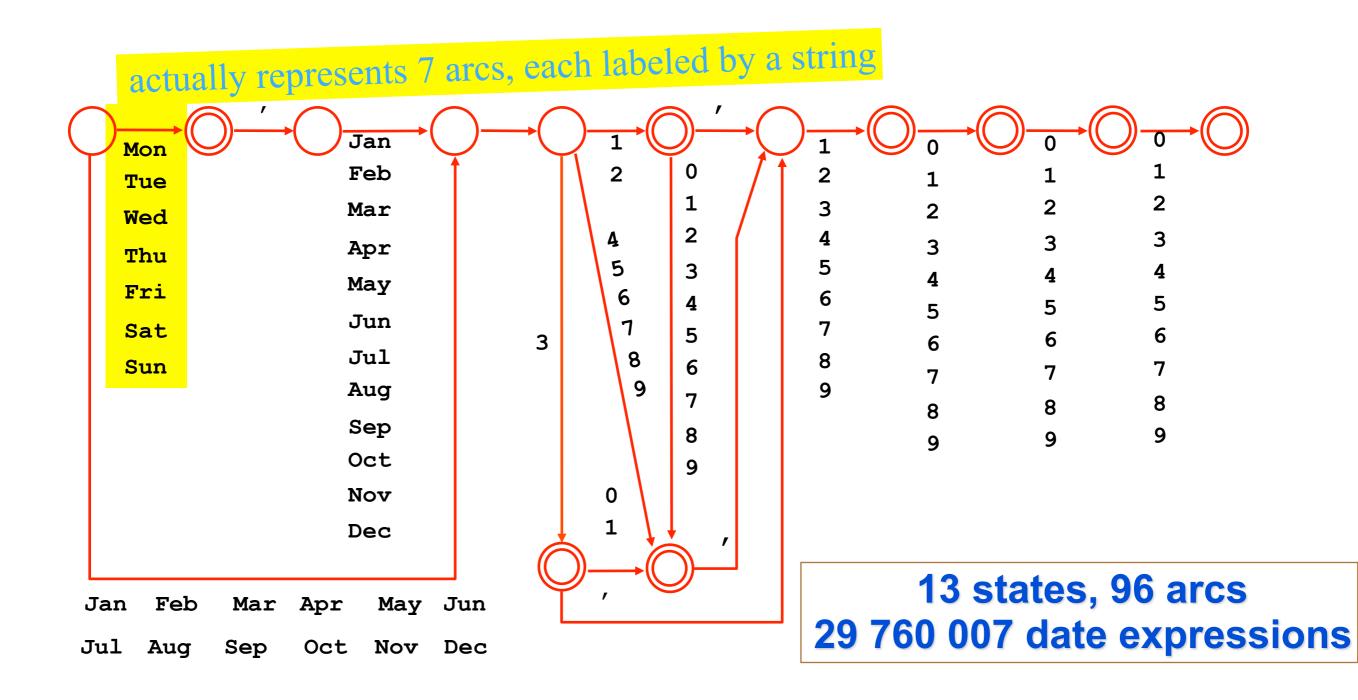
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Day = Monday | Tuesday | ... | Sunday Month = January | February | ... | December Date = 1 | 2 | 3 | ... | 3 1 Year = %0To9 (%0To9 (%0To9 (%0To9))) - %0?* from 1 to 9999

Object code:slide courtesy of L. KarttunenAll Dates from I/I/I to I2/3I/9999



Object code:slide courtesy of L. KarttunenAll Dates from I/I/I to I2/3I/9999



Parser for Dates

Parser for Dates

AllDates @-> "[DT " ... "]"

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Compiles into an unambiguous transducer (23 states, 332 arcs).

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AllDates @-> "[DT " ... "]"

Compiles into an unambiguous transducer (23 states, 332 arcs).

Today is [DT Tuesday, July 25, 2000] because yesterday was [DT Monday] and it was [DT July 24] so tomorrow must be [DT Wednesday, July 26] and not [DT July 27] as it says on the program.

Parser for Dates

AllDates @-> "[DT " ... "]"

Compiles into an unambiguous transducer (23 states, 332 arcs).

Xerox left-to-right replacement operator

Today is [DT Tuesday, July 25, 2000] because yesterday was [DT Monday] and it was [DT July 24] so tomorrow must be [DT Wednesday, July 26] and not [DT July 27] as it says on the program.

Problem of Reference

Valid dates

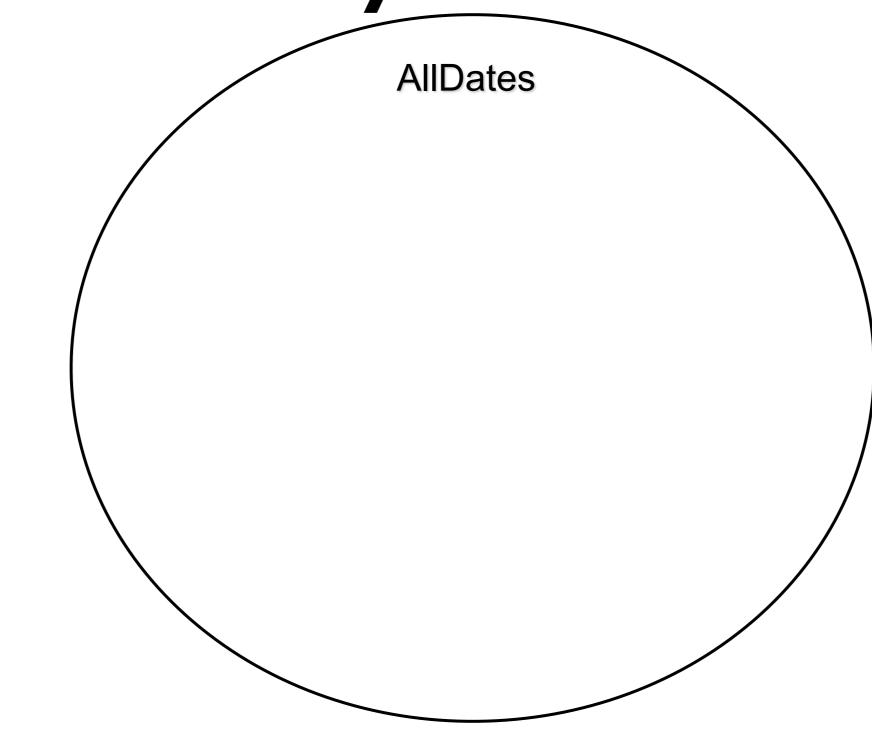
Tuesday, July 25, 2000

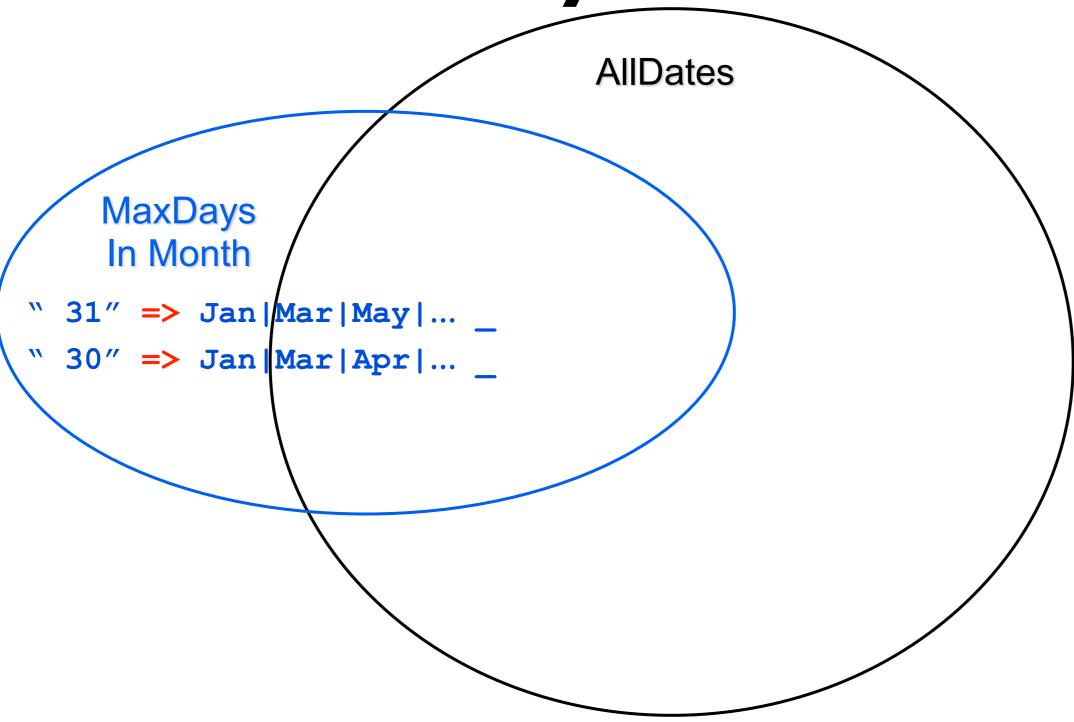
Tuesday, February 29, 2000

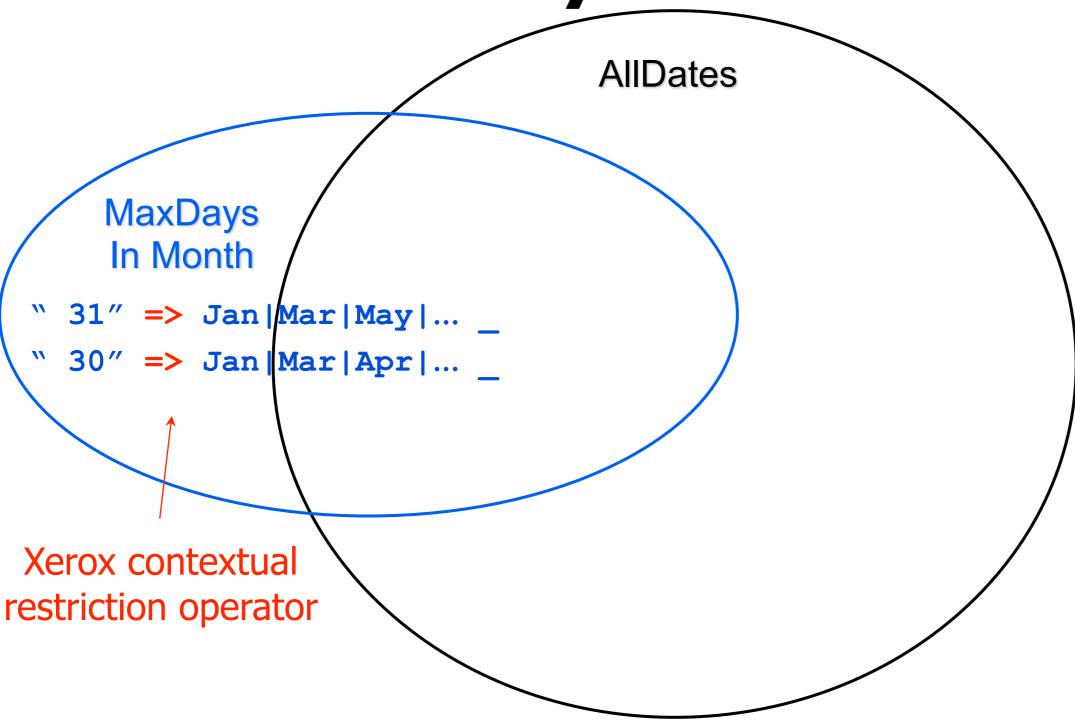
Monday, September 16, 1996

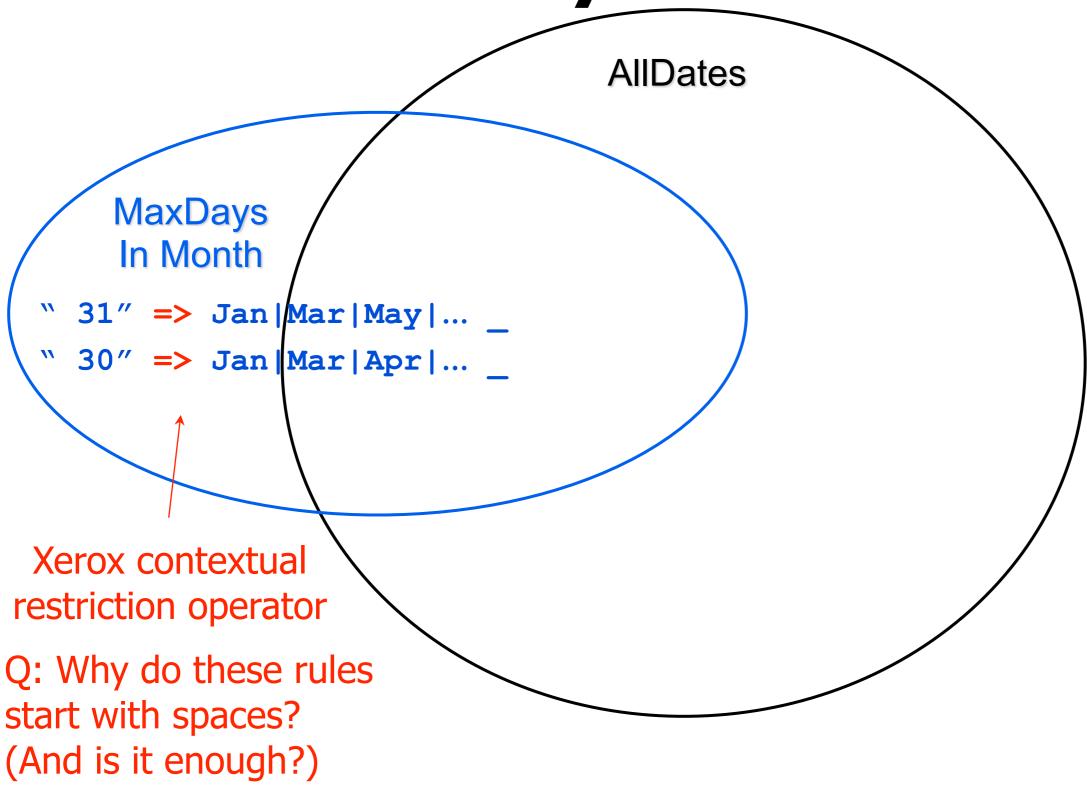
Invalid dates

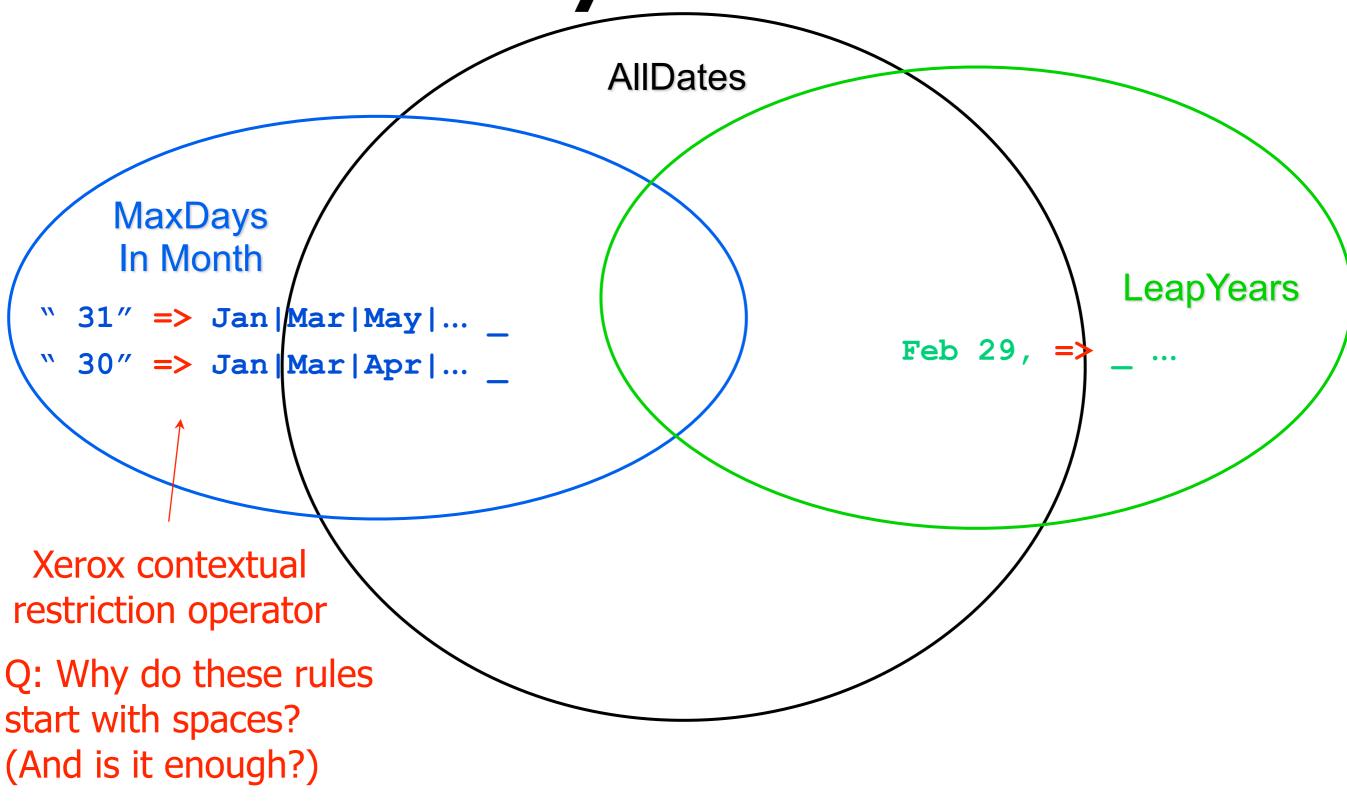
Wednesday, April 31, 1996 Thursday, February 29, 1900 Tuesday, July 26, 2000

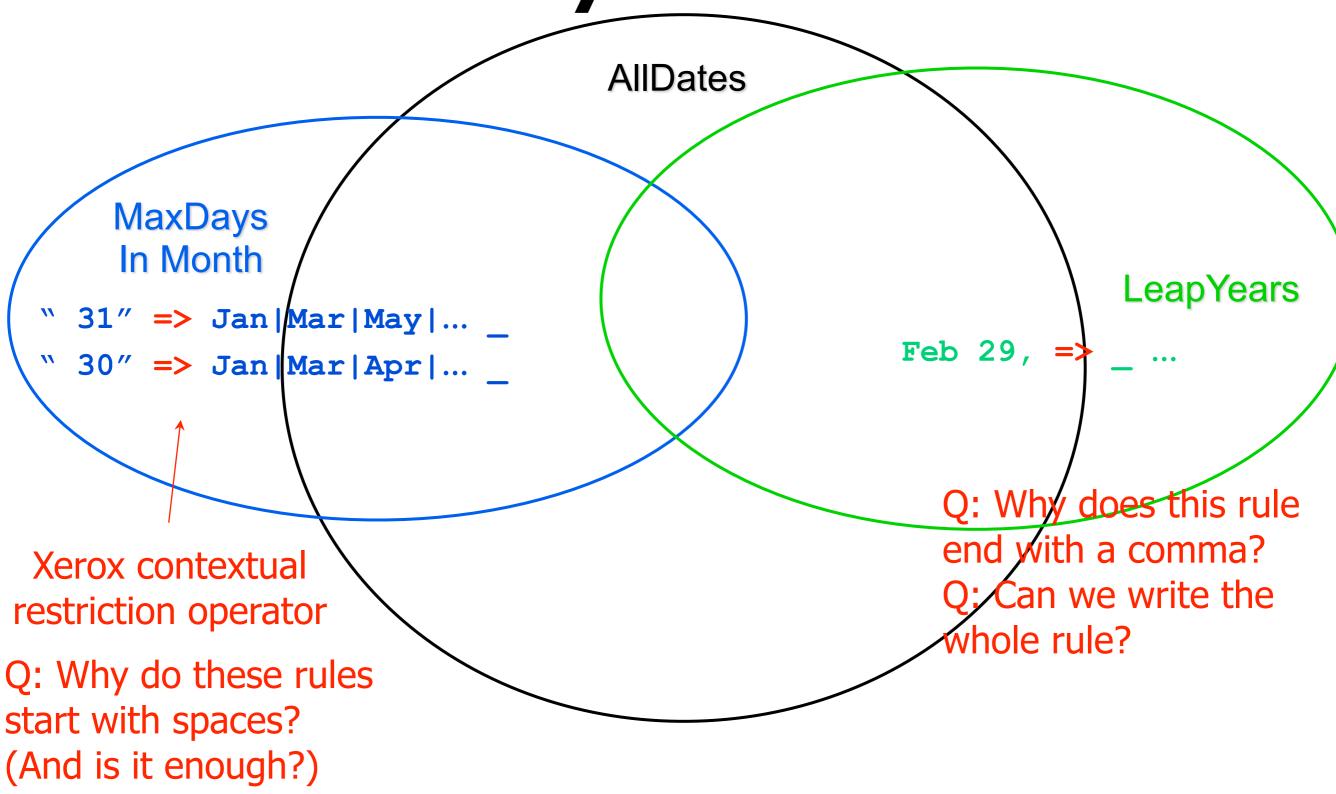


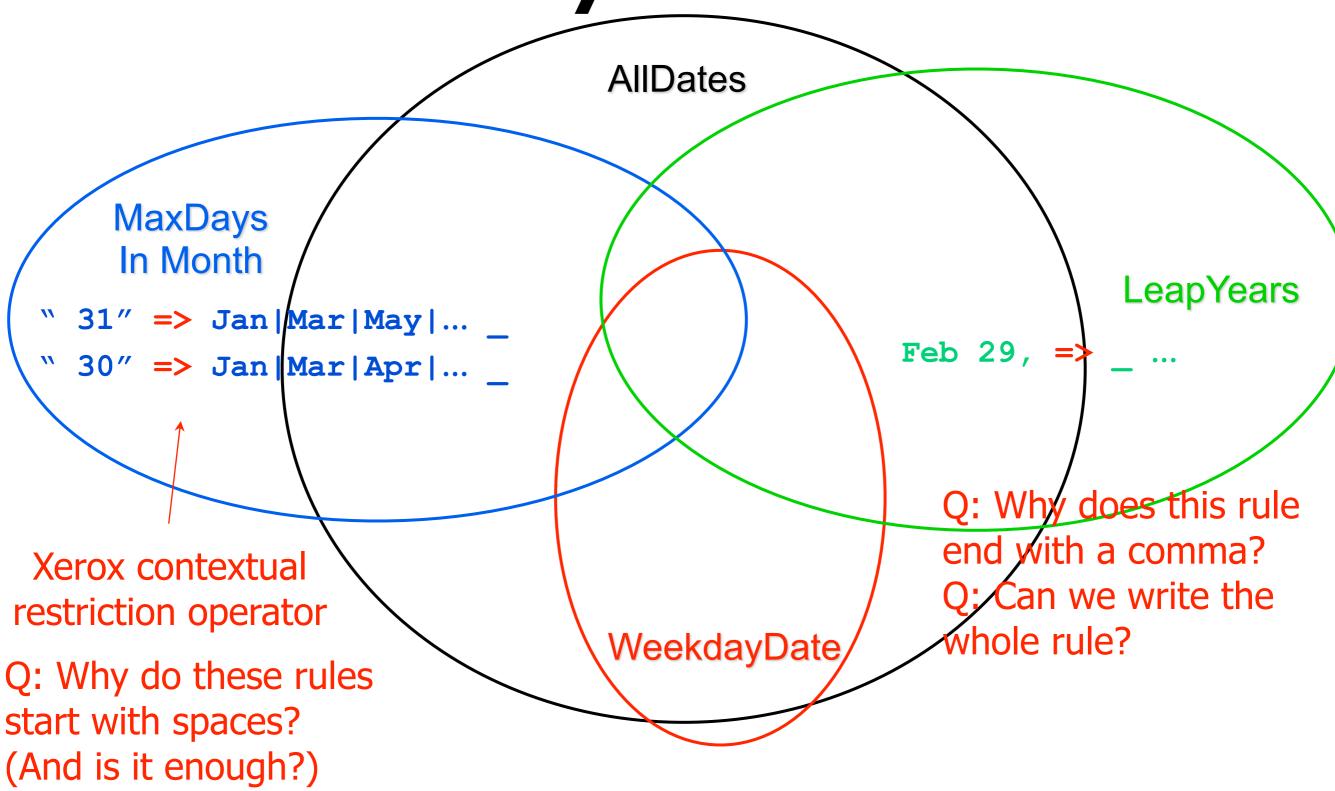


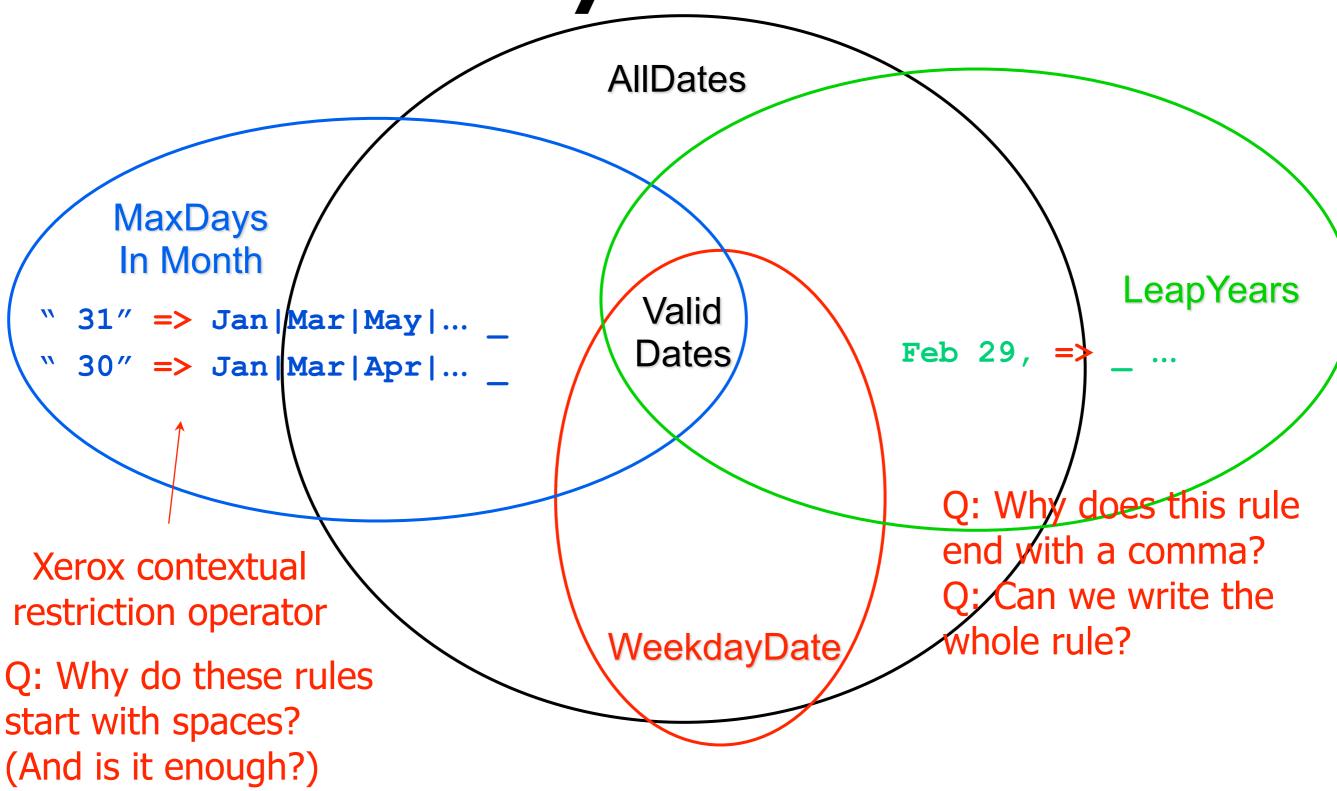












slide courtesy of L. Karttunen

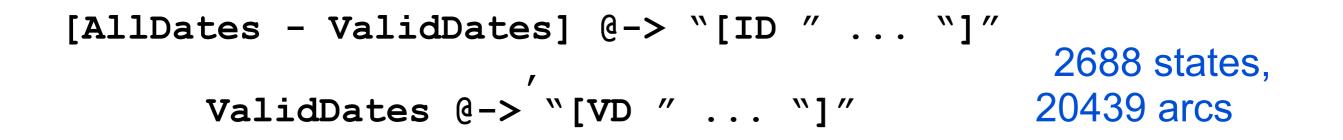
Defining Valid Dates

AllDates: 13 states, 96 arcs 29 760 007 date expressions

= ValidDates

ValidDates: 805 states, 6472 arcs 7 307 053 date expressions

Parser for Valid and Invalid Dates



Today is [VD Tuesday, July 25, 2000], not [ID Tuesday, July 26, 2000]. valid date invalid date

Parser for Valid and Invalid Dates

Today is [VD Tuesday, July 25, 2000],valid datenot [ID Tuesday, July 26, 2000].invalid date

Markup

- Markup
 - Dates, names, places, noun phrases; spelling/grammar errors?

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 - Hyphenation

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 - Informative templates for information extraction (FASTUS)

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- Learning ...

FASTUS – Information Extraction Appelt et al, 1992-?

Input: Bridgestone Sports Co. said Friday it has set up a joint venture in Taiwan with a local concern and a Japanese trading house to produce golf clubs to be shipped to Japan. The joint venture, Bridgestone Sports Taiwan Co., capitalized at 20 million new Taiwan dollars, will start production in January 1990 with ...

Output:	
Relationship:	TIE-UP
Entities:	"Bridgestone Sports Co."
	"A local concern"
	"A Japanese trading house"
Joint Venture Company:	"Bridgestone Sports Taiwan Co."
Amount:	NT\$2000000

FASTUS: Successive Markups

(details on subsequent slides)

Tokenization .0. **Multiwords** .0. Basic phrases (noun groups, verb groups ...) .0. **Complex phrases** .0. Semantic Patterns .0. Merging different references

FASTUS: Tokenization

- Spaces, hyphens, etc.
- wouldn't \rightarrow would not
- their \rightarrow them 's
- company. \rightarrow company . but Co. \rightarrow Co.

FASTUS: Multiwords

- "set up"
- "joint venture"
- "San Francisco Symphony Orchestra,"
 "Canadian Opera Company"
- use a specialized regexp to match musical groups.
- what kind of regexp would match company names?

FASTUS : Basic phrases

Output looks like this (no nested brackets!): ... [NG it] [VG had set_up] [NP a joint_venture] [Prep in] ...

Company Name:	Bridgestone Sports Co.
Verb Group:	said
Noun Group:	Friday
Noun Group:	it
Verb Group:	had set up
Noun Group:	a joint venture
Preposition:	in
Location:	Taiwan
Preposition:	with
Noun Group:	a local concern

FASTUS: Noun Groups

Build FSA to recognize phrases like approximately 5 kg more than 30 people the newly elected president the largest leftist political force a government and commercial project Use the FSA for left-to-right longest-match markup

What does FSA look like? See next slide ...

FASTUS: Noun Groups

Described with a kind of non-recursive CFG ... (a regexp can include names that stand for other regexps)

NG \rightarrow Pronoun | Time-NP | Date-NP NG \rightarrow (Det) (Adjs) HeadNouns

Adjs → sequence of adjectives maybe with commas, conjunctions, adverbs

 $\mathsf{Det} \to \mathsf{DetNP} \mid \mathsf{DetNonNP}$

DetNP → detailed expression to match "the only five, another three, this, many, hers, all, the most ..."

. . .

. . .

FASTUS: Semantic patterns

```
BusinessRelationship =
NounGroup(Company/ies) VerbGroup(Set-up)
NounGroup(JointVenture) with NounGroup(Company/ies)
...
```

ProductionActivity = VerbGroup(Produce) NounGroup(Product)

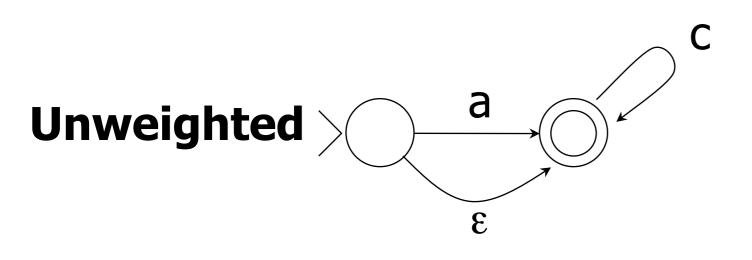
NounGroup(Company/ies) → NounGroup & ... is made easy by the processing done at a previous level

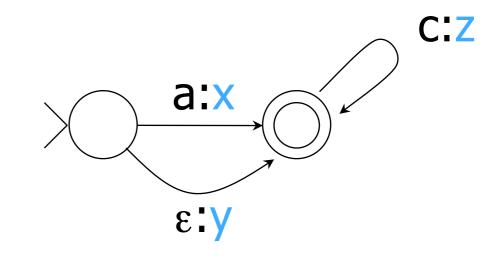
Use this for spotting references to put in the database.

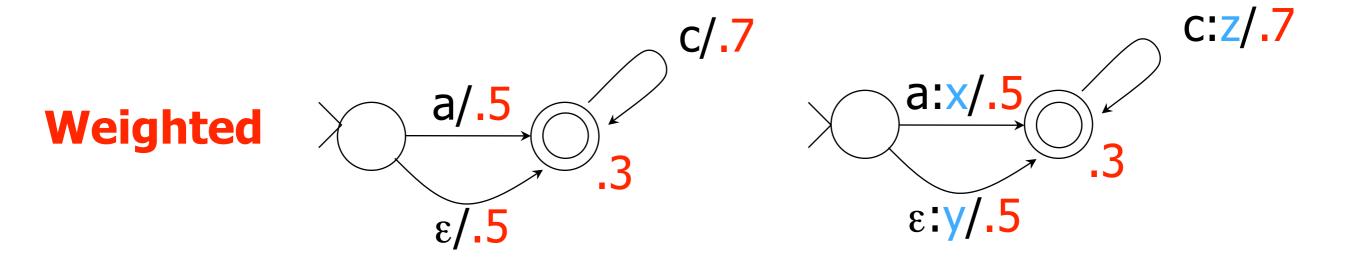
Weighted FSMs

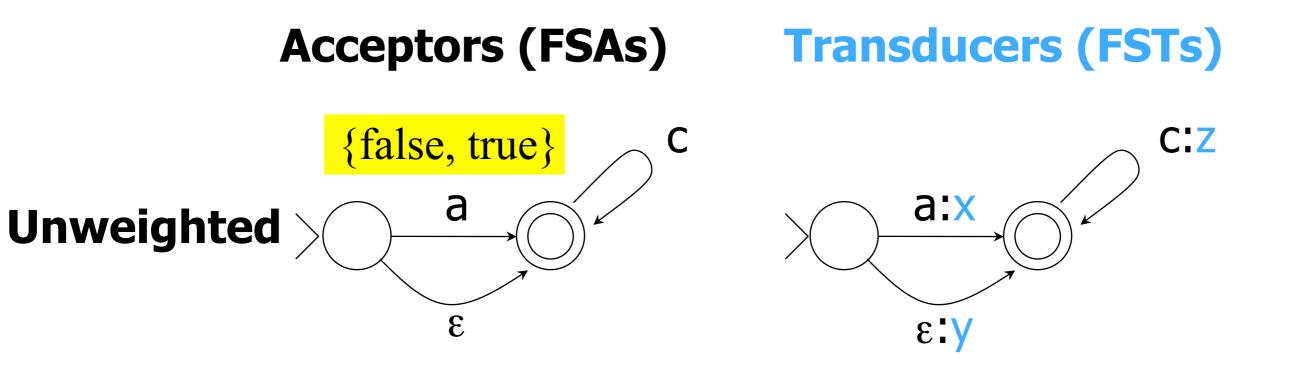
Acceptors (FSAs)

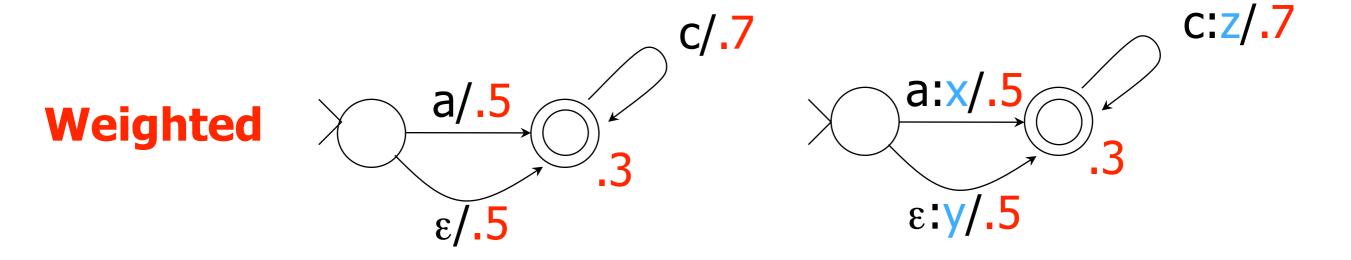
Transducers (FSTs)

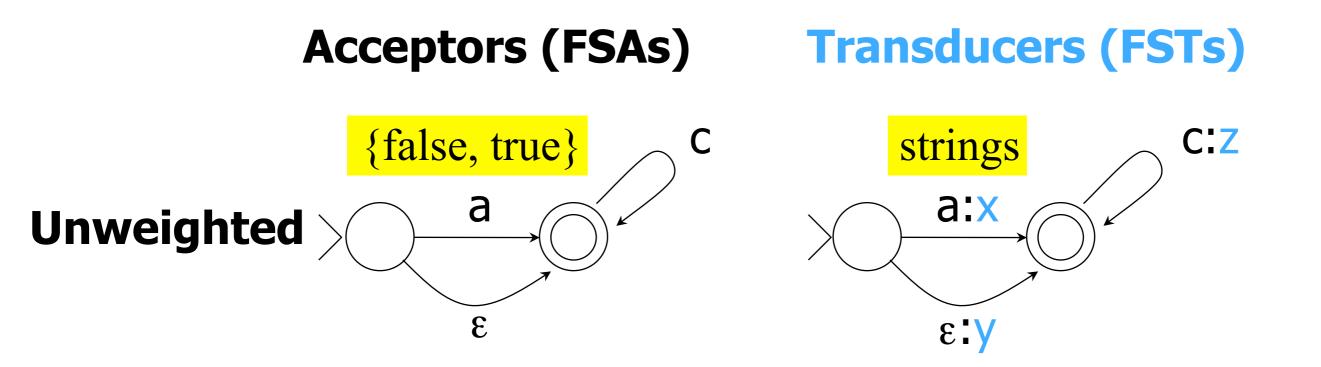


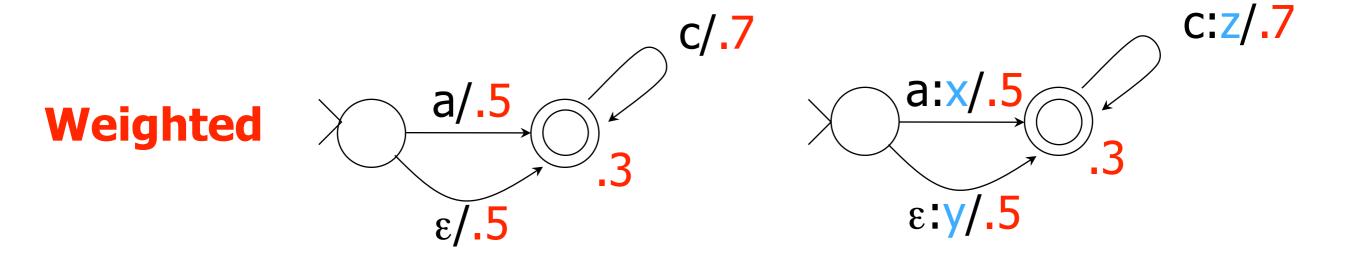


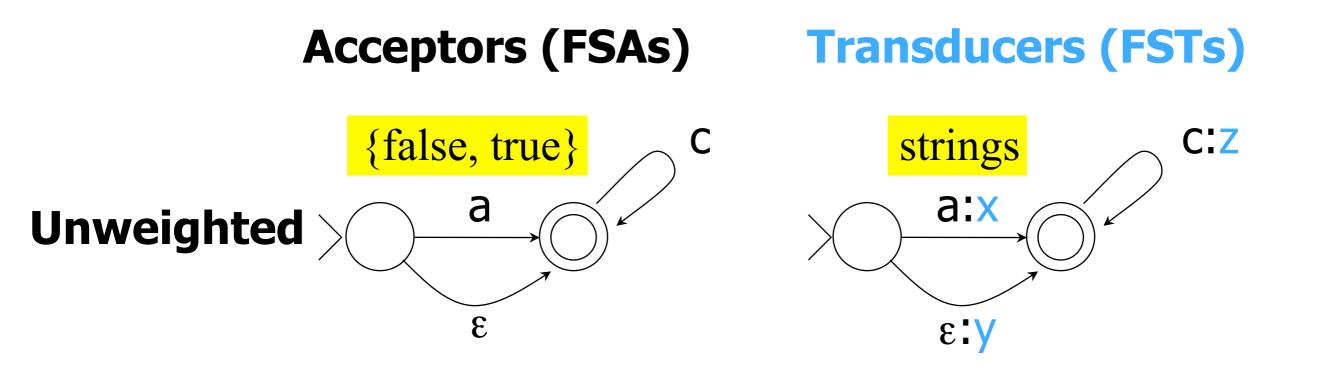


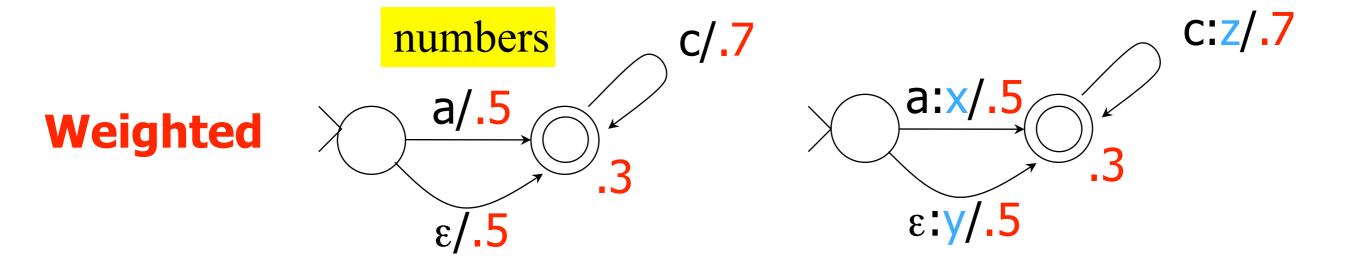


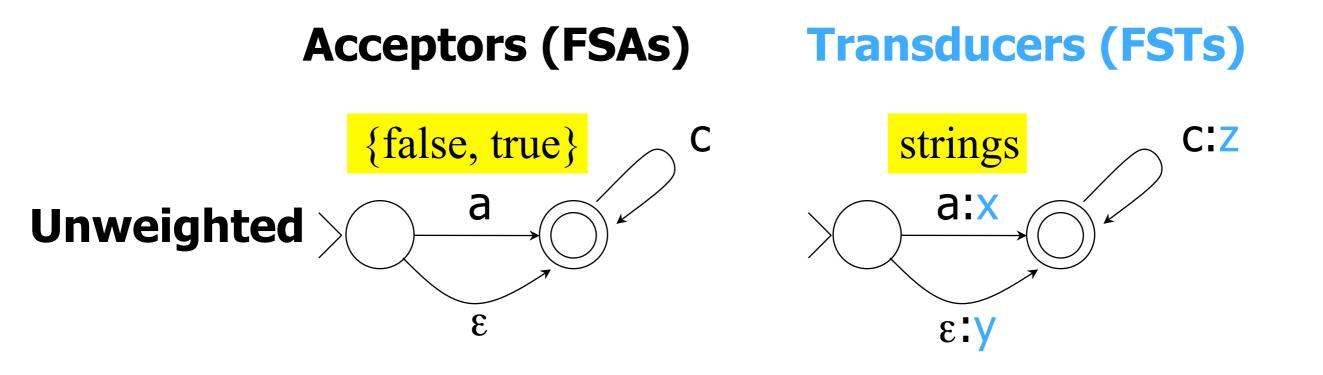


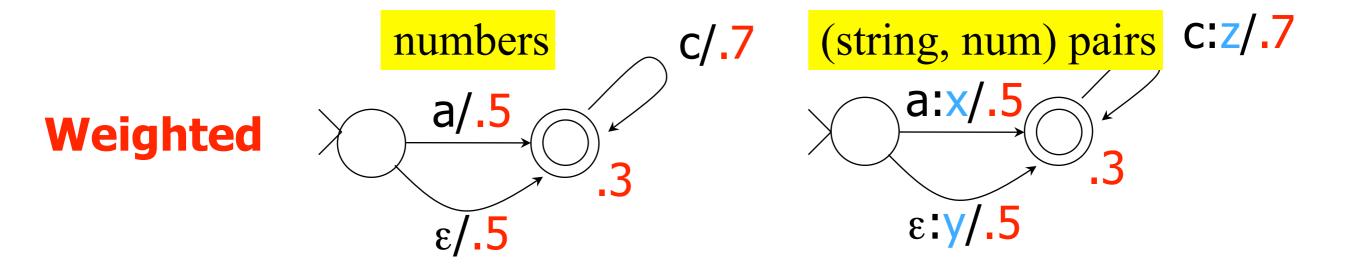












Weighted Relations

- If we have a language [or relation], we can ask it: Do you contain this string [or string pair]?
- If we have a weighted language [or relation], we ask: What weight do you assign to this string [or string pair]?
- Pick a semiring: all our weights will be in that semiring.
 What?!

Semirings

	Set	\oplus	\otimes	0	I
Prob	R+	+	X	0	Ι
Max	R+	max	X	0	Ι
Log	R∪{±∞}	log+	+	- 00	0
"Tropical"	R∪{±∞}	max	+	- 00	0
Shortest path	R∪{±∞}	min	+	∞	0
Boolean	{0, I }	V	\wedge	F	Т
String	$\Sigma^* \cup \{\infty\}$	longest common prefix	concat	∞	3

Weighted Relations

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- If we have a weighted language [or relation], we ask: What weight do you assign to this string [or string pair]?
- Pick a semiring: all our weights will be in that semiring.
 - **Don't panic!** We will cover this again when we get to HMMs and parsing.
 - The unweighted case is the boolean semiring {true, false}.
 - If a string is not in the language, it has weight 0.
 - If an FST or regular expression can choose among multiple ways to match, use
 to combine the weights of the different choices.
 - If an FST or regular expression matches by matching multiple substrings, use is to combine those different matches.

Which Semiring Operators are Needed?

concatenationEF \star +iteration E^*, E^+ Iunion $E \mid F$ ~ \ -complementation, minus $\sim E, \setminus x, I$

- intersection
- .x. crossproduct
- .o. composition
- . u upper (input) language
- . lower (output) language

~E, \x, E-F E & F E .x. F E .o. F E.u "domain" E. "range"

Which Semiring Operators are Needed?

	concatenation	EF	
* +	iteration	E*, E+	
	union \oplus to sum over 2 choices	E F	
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&	intersection	E & F	
. X .	crossproduct	E .x. F	
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	concatenation	EF
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Common Regular Expression Operators (in XFST notation)



$\mathsf{E} \mid \mathsf{F} = \{\mathsf{w}: \mathsf{w} \in \mathsf{E} \text{ or } \mathsf{w} \in \mathsf{F}\} = \mathsf{E} \cup \mathsf{F}$

 Weighted case: Let's write E(w) to denote the weight of w in the weighted language E.

$$(\mathsf{E}|\mathsf{F})(\mathsf{w}) = \mathsf{E}(\mathsf{w}) \oplus \mathsf{F}(\mathsf{w})$$

	concatenation	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
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	concatenation need both	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
	union ① to sum over 2 choices	E F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, E-F
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concatenation iteration ⊗ EF E*, E+

• +

$\mathsf{EF} = \{\mathsf{ef}: \mathsf{e} \in \mathsf{E}, \mathsf{f} \in \mathsf{F}\}$

 Weighted case must match two things (⊗), but there's a choice (⊕) about which two things:

$$(EF)(W) = \bigcup_{e,f \text{ such}} (E(e) \otimes F(f))$$

that w=ef

	concatenation need both	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
	union ① to sum over 2 choices	E F
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, E-F
&	intersection	E & F
. x .	crossproduct against E and F	E .x. F
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* +	concatenation iteration ⊗	EF E*, E+
	union ① to sum over 2 choices	EIF
~ \ -	complementation, minus	~E, \x, E-F
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	concatenation need both and	EF
* +	iteration	E*, E+
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 - An FST is simply a finite directed graph, with some labels.
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 - output function s: Q x Σ ? x Q --> Δ ?

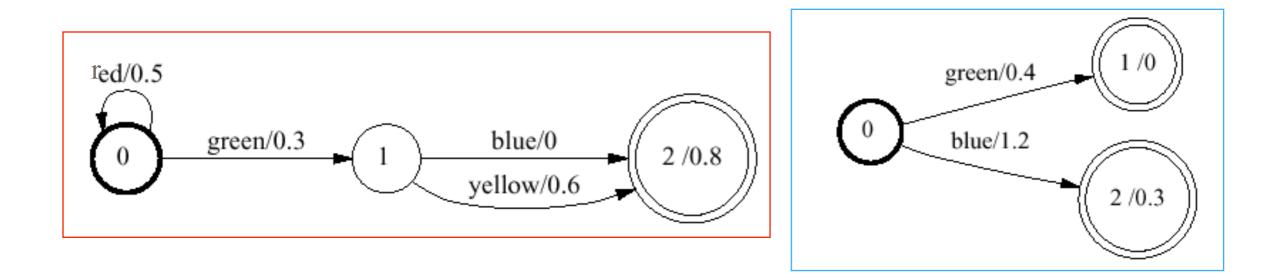
slide courtesy of L. Karttunen (modified)

How to implement?

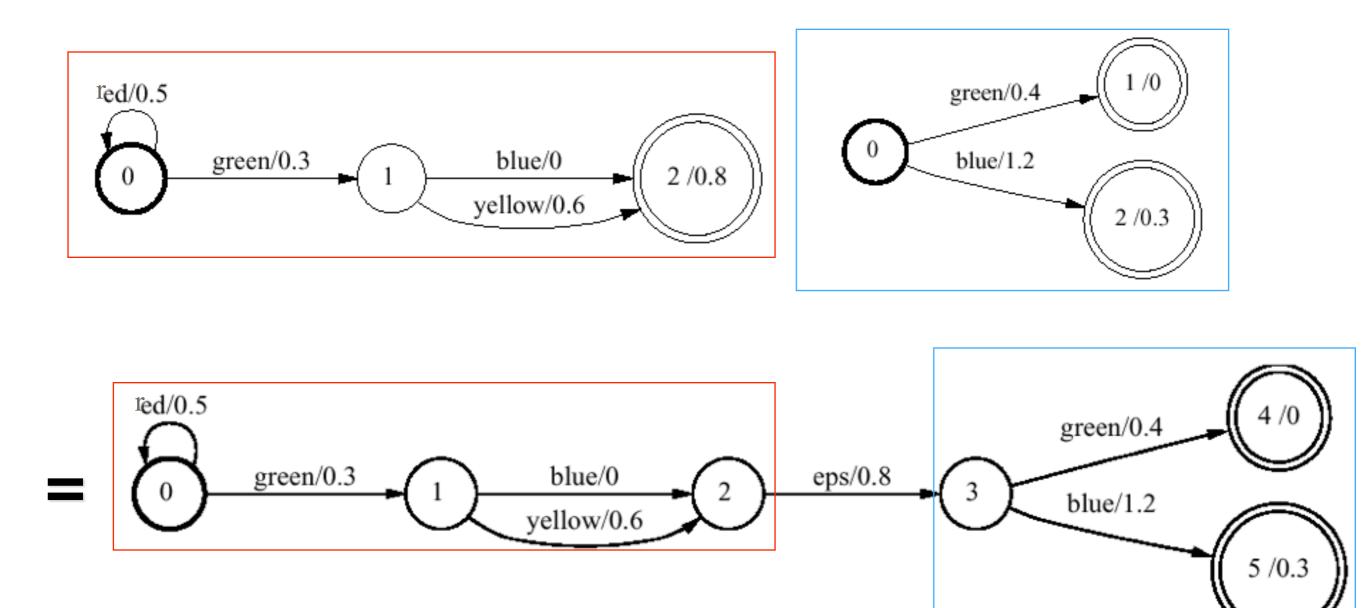
concatenation

- + iteration
 E^{*}
- complementation, minus
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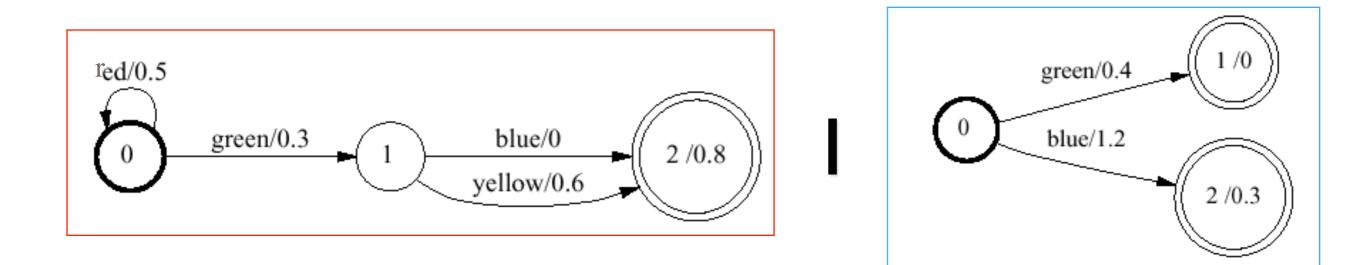
Concatenation



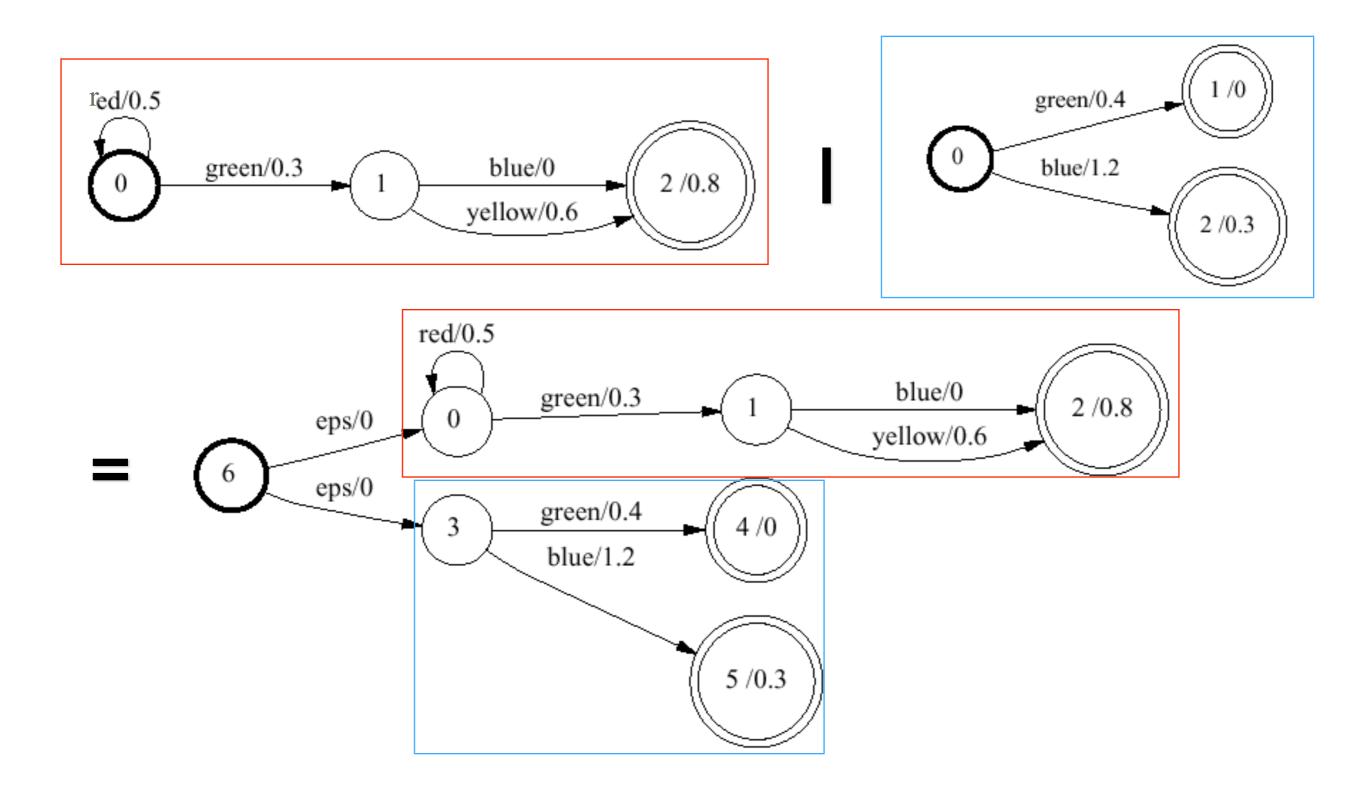
Concatenation

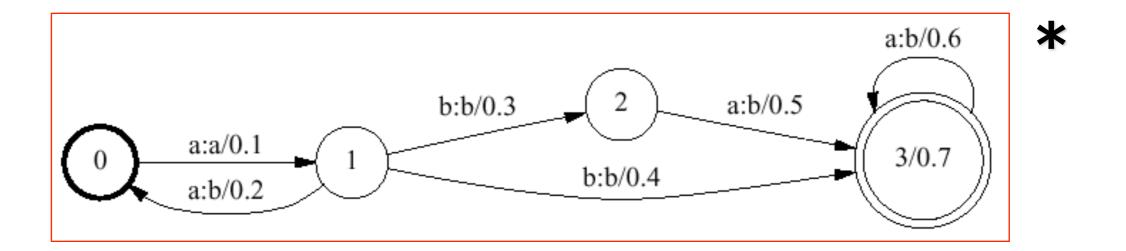


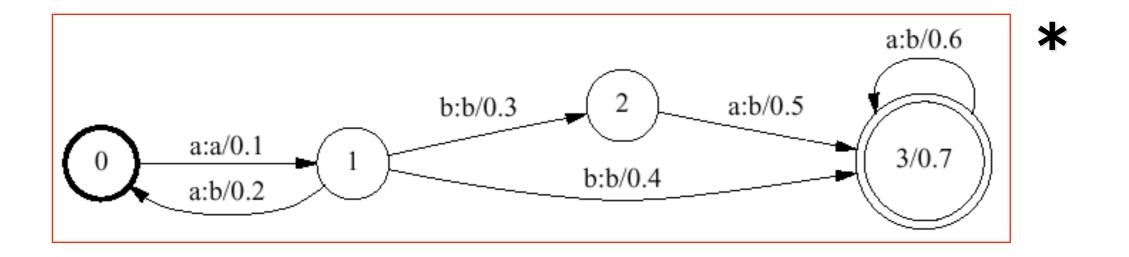
Union

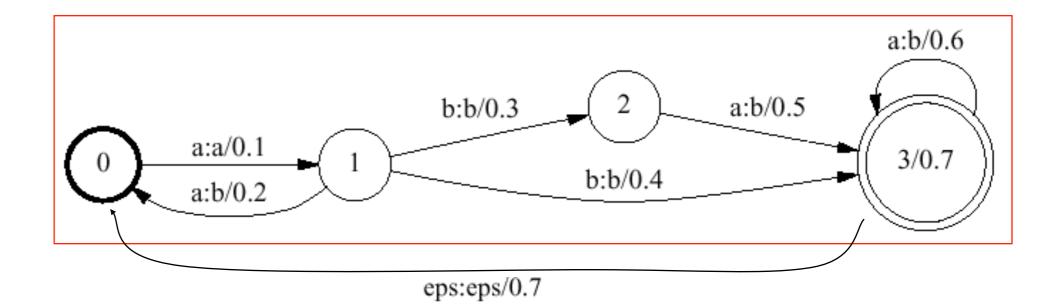


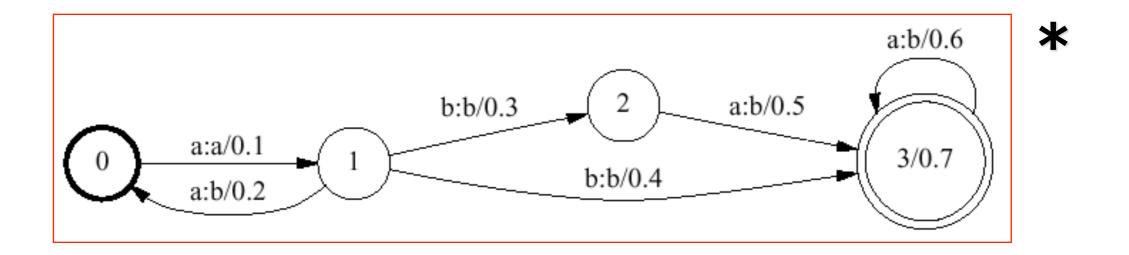
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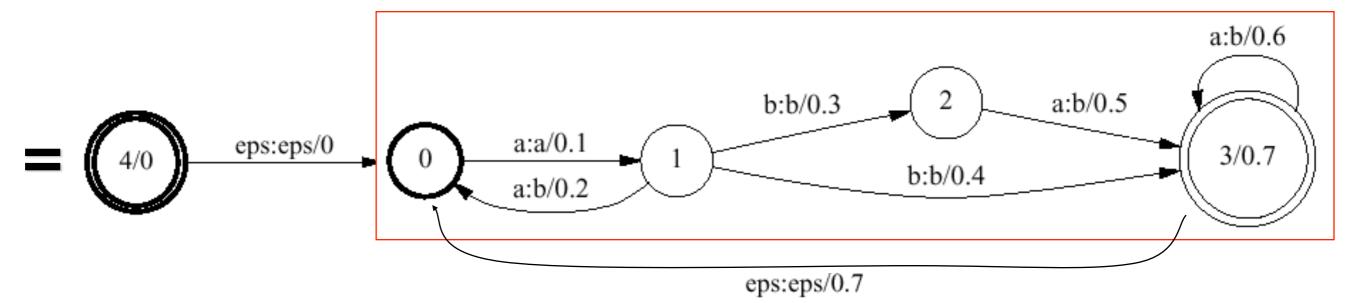


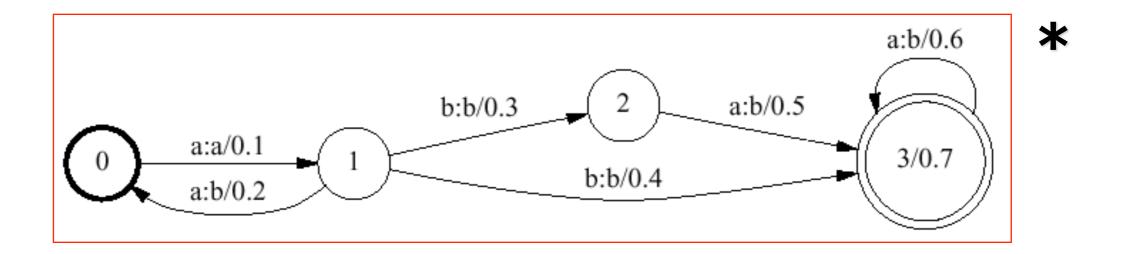


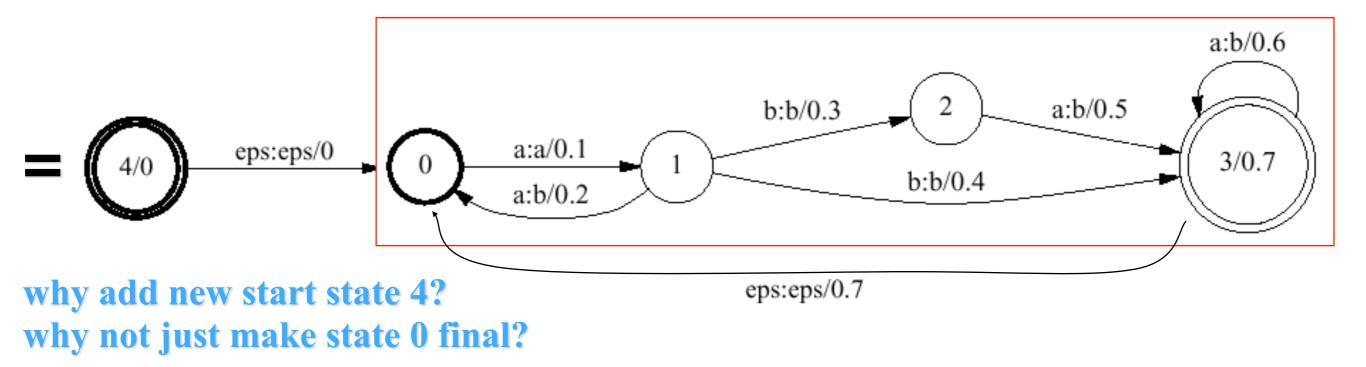




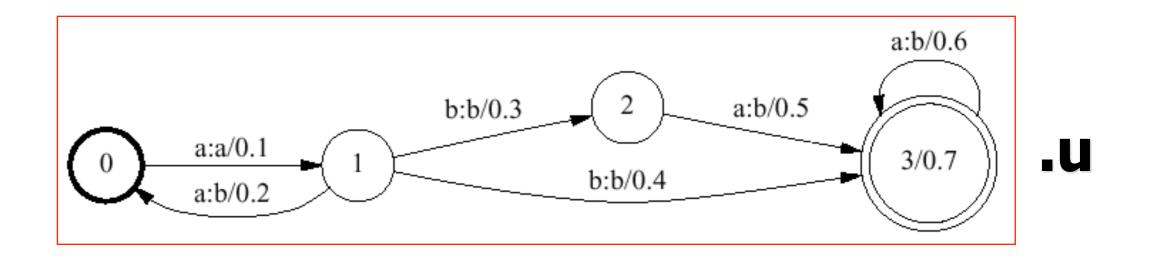


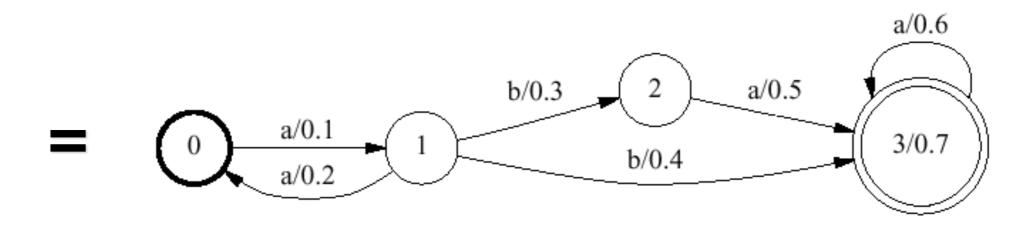




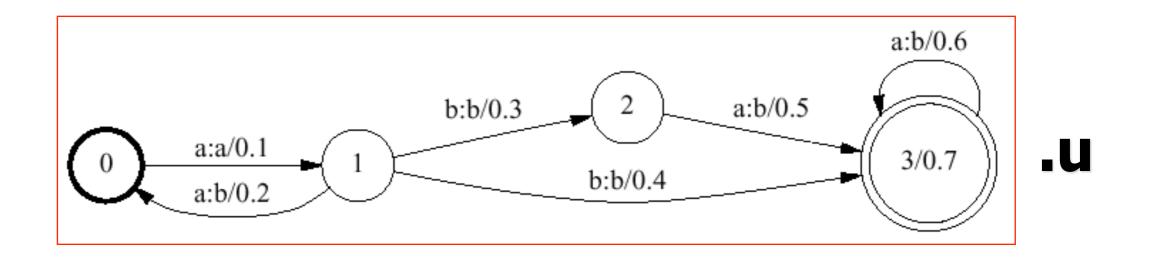


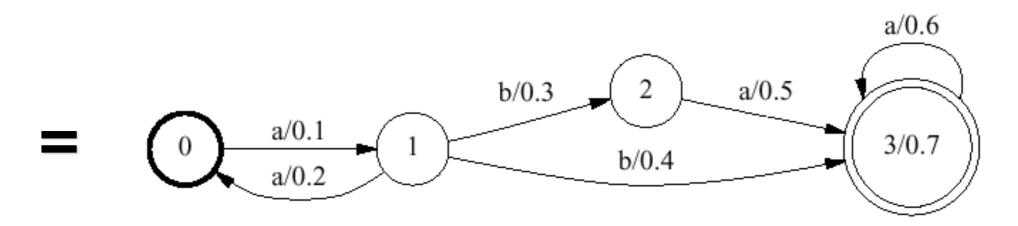
Upper language (domain)





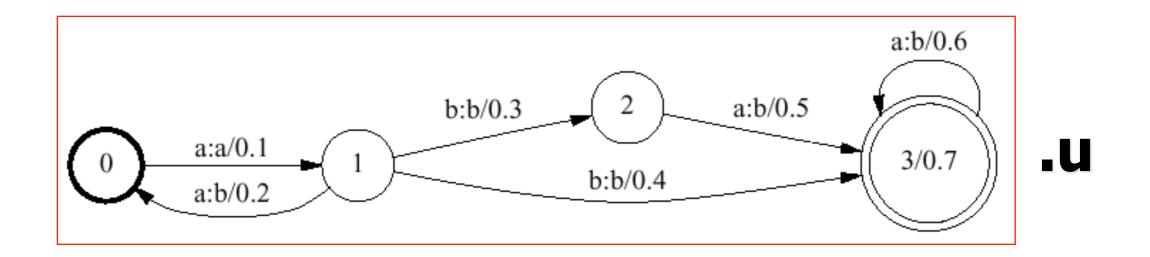
Upper language (domain)

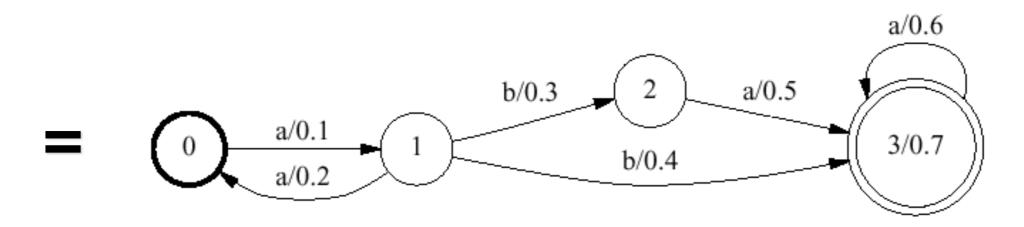




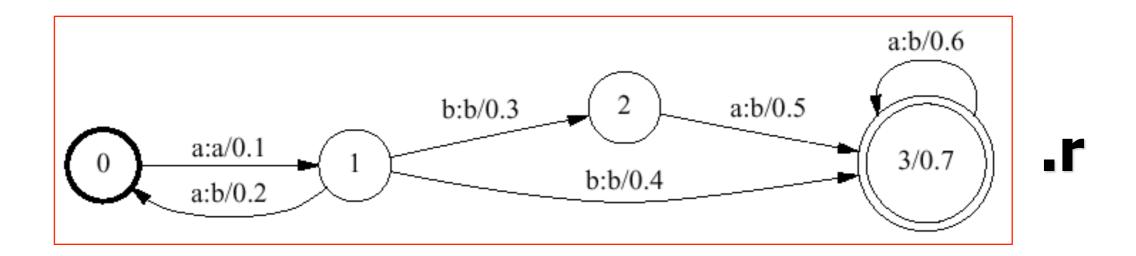
similarly construct lower language .I

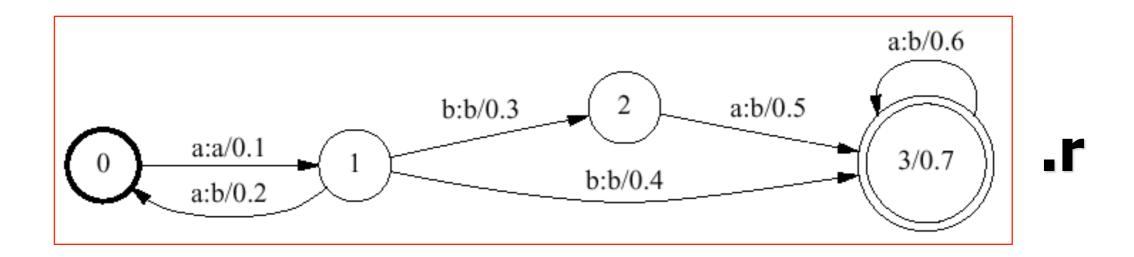
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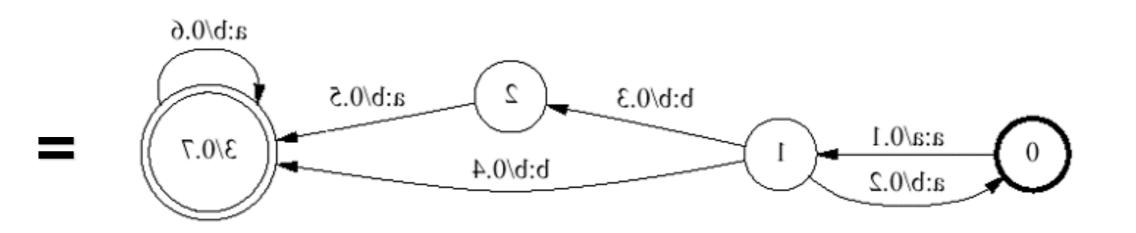


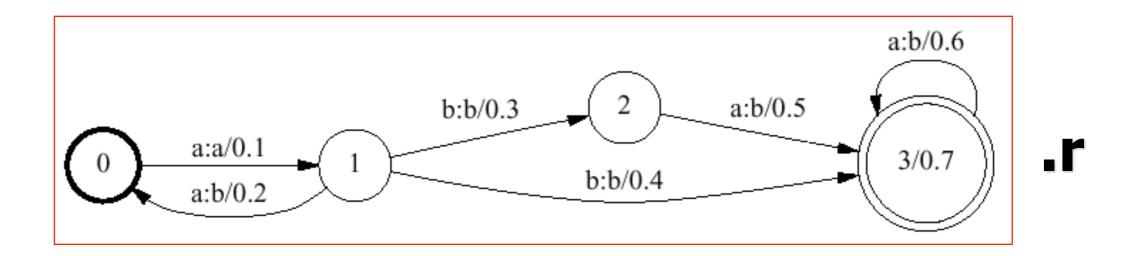


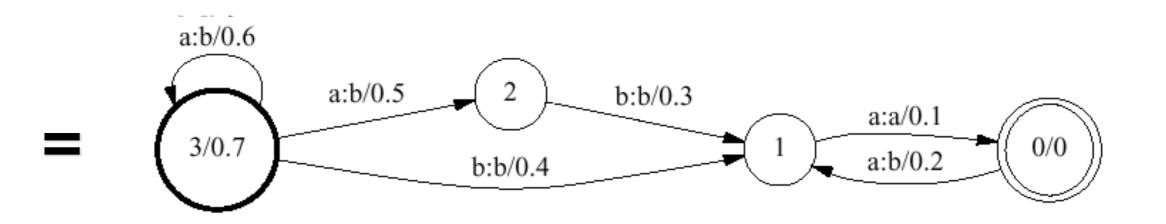
similarly construct lower language .l also called input & output languages



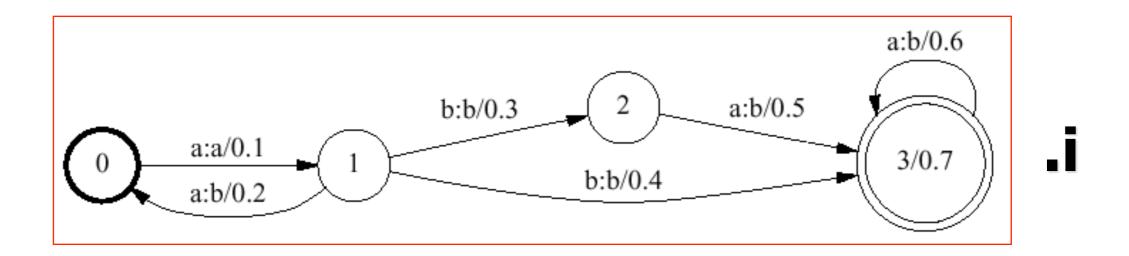




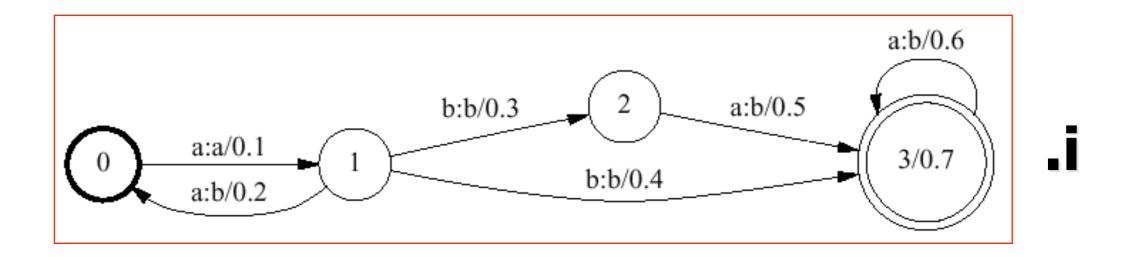


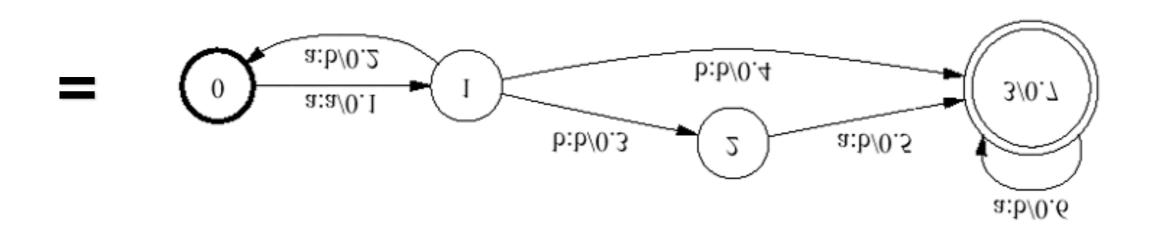


Inversion

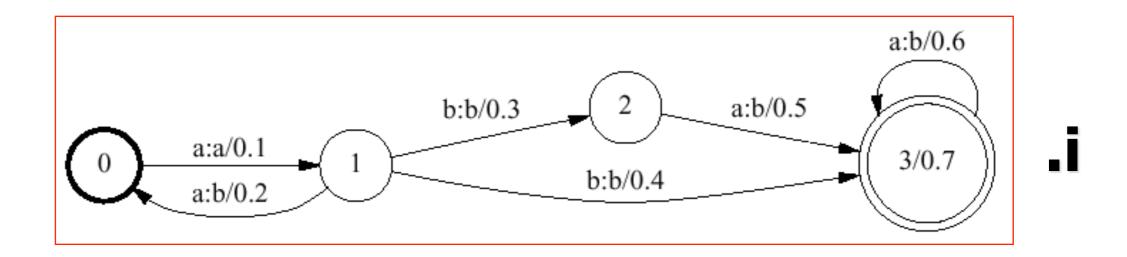


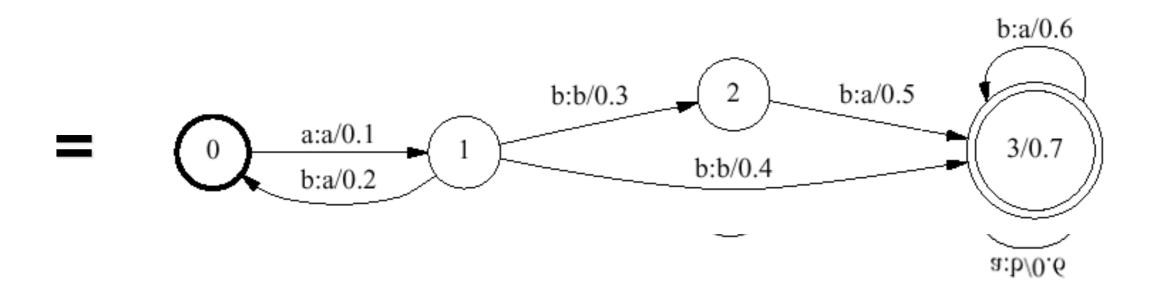
Inversion



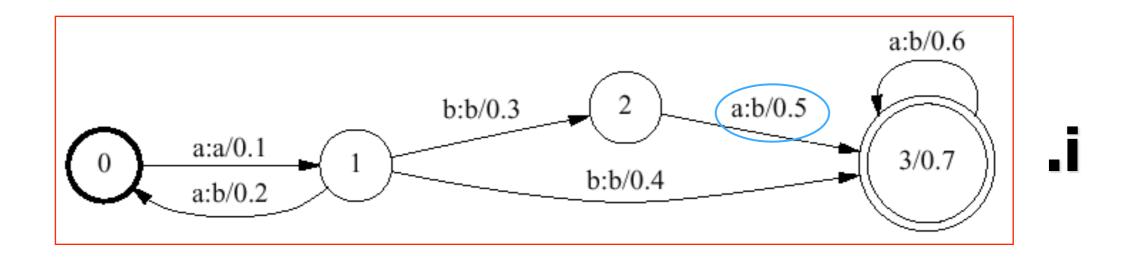


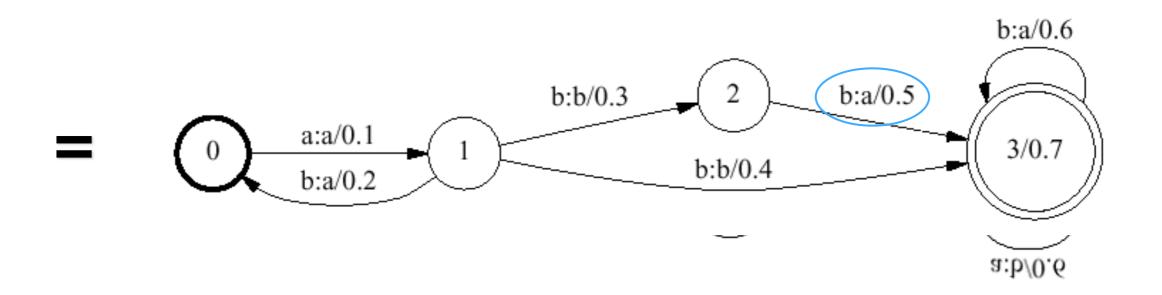
Inversion





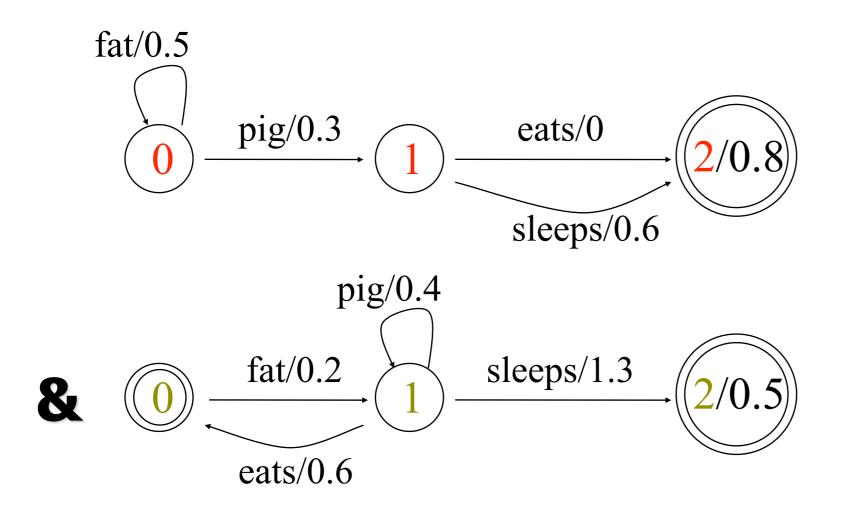
Inversion

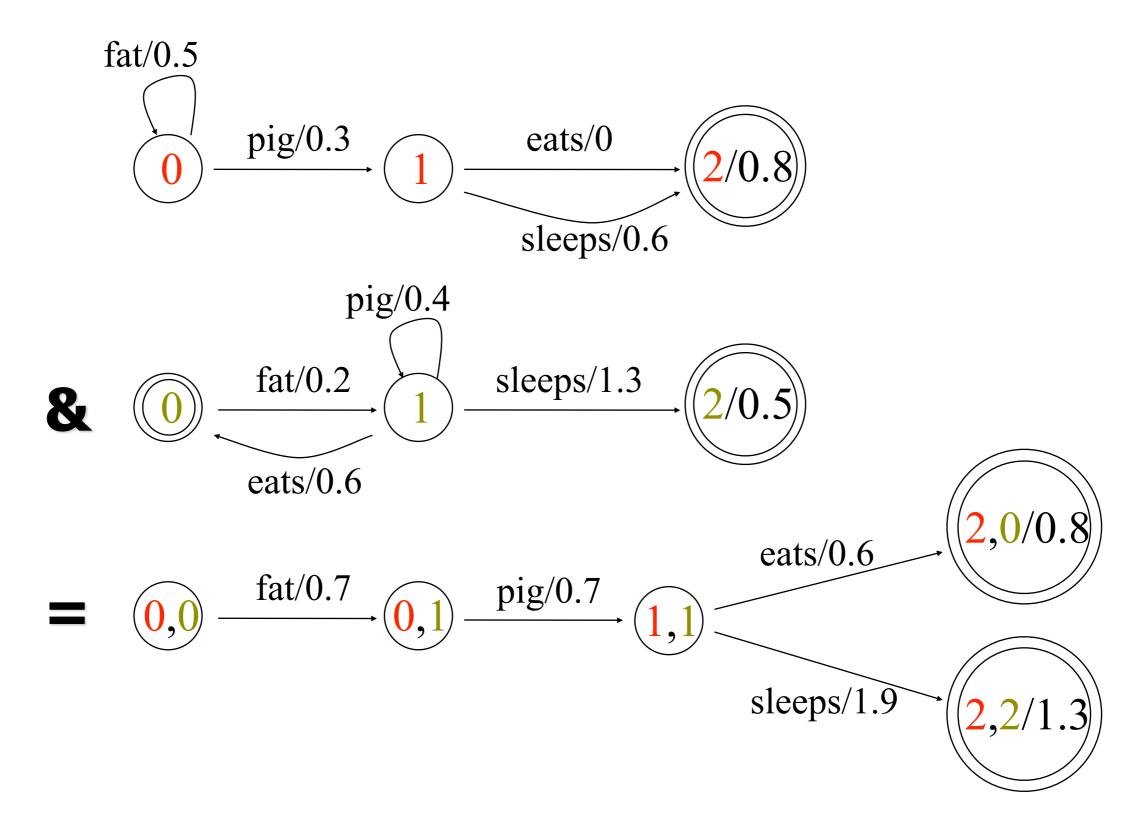


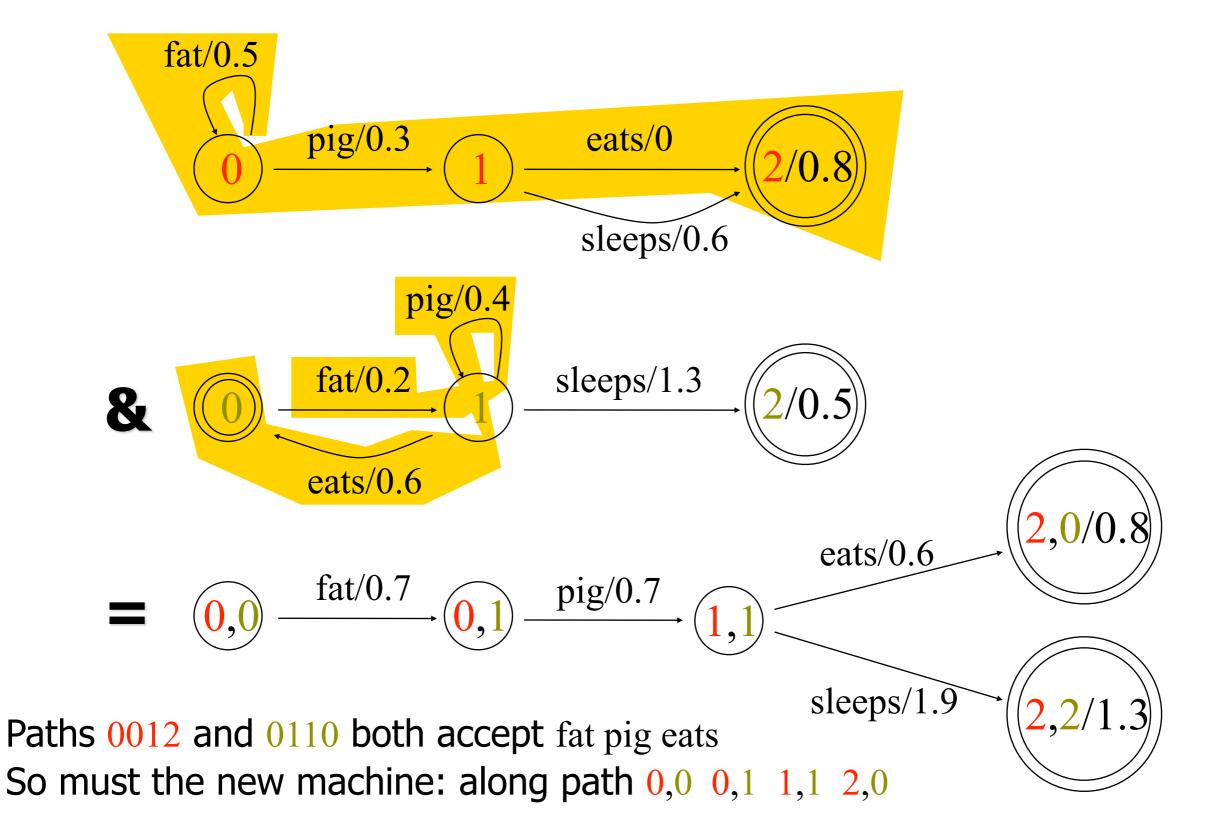


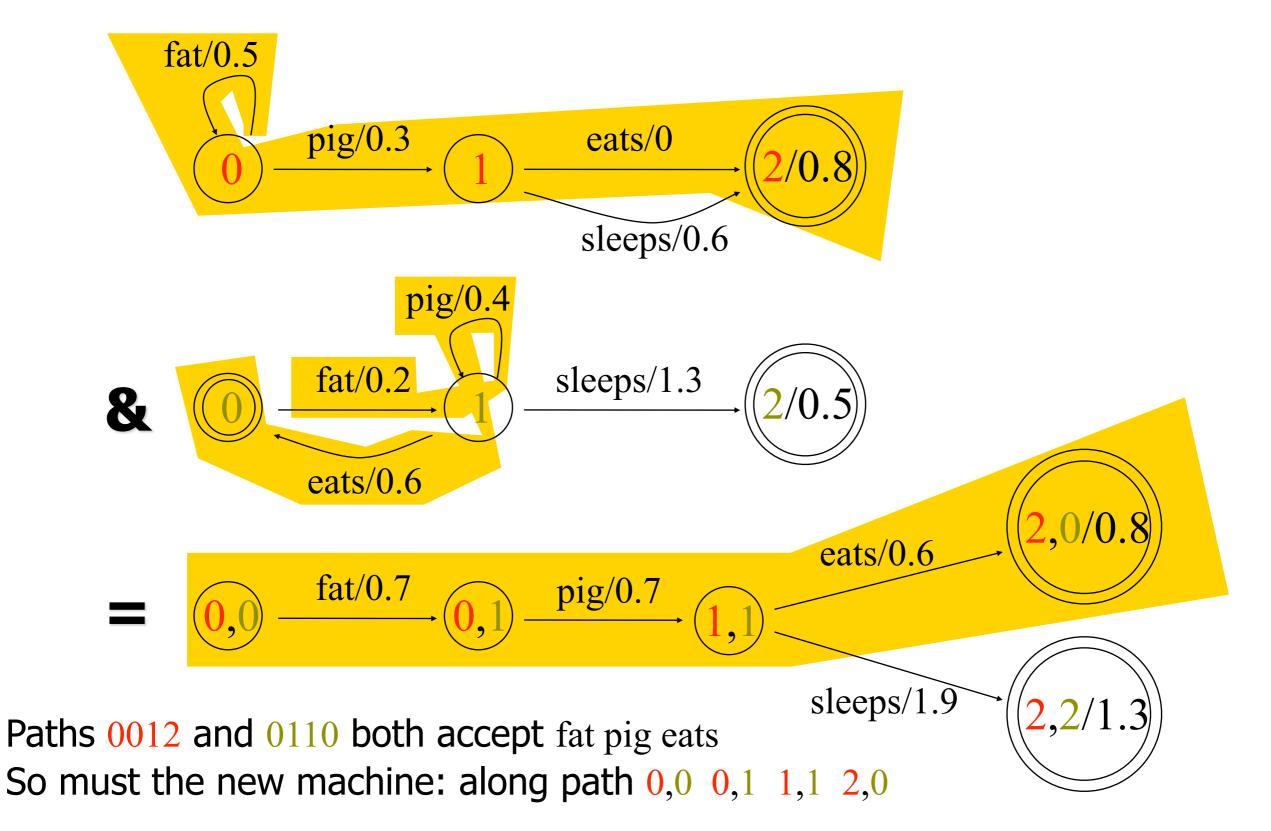
Complementation

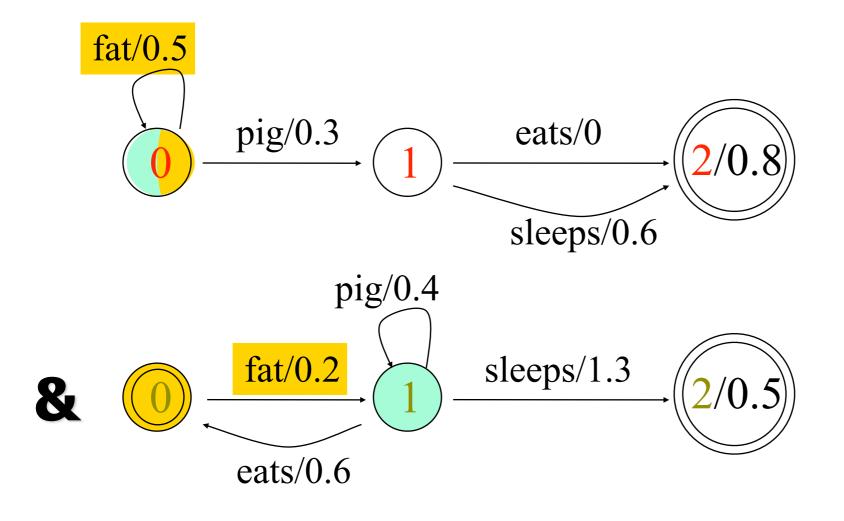
- Given a machine M, represent all strings not accepted by M
- Just change final states to non-final and vice-versa
- Works only if machine has been determinized and completed first





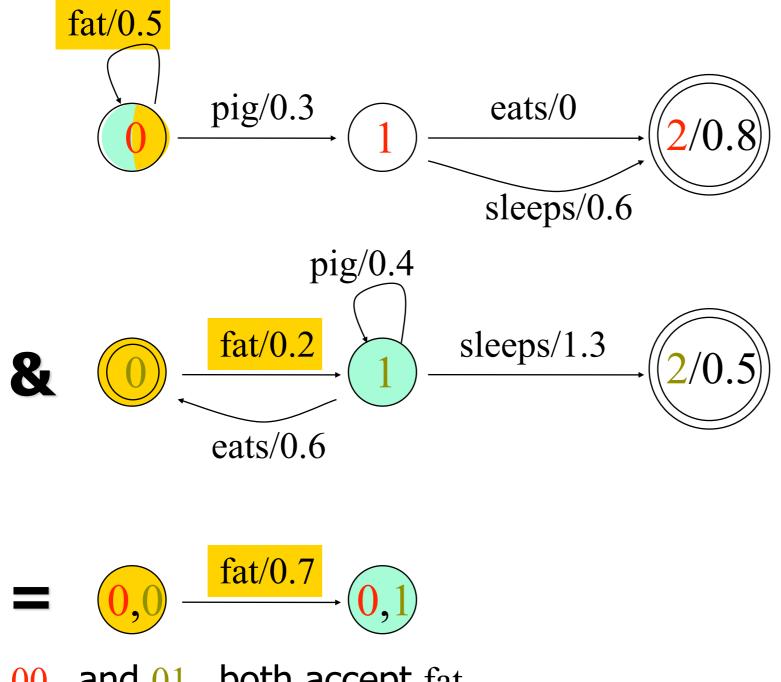




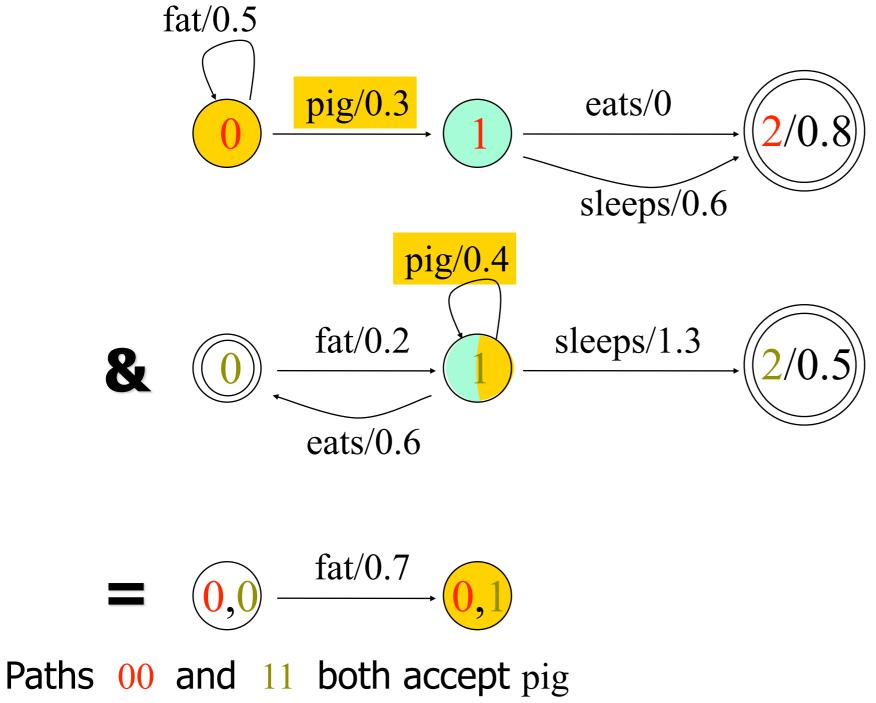




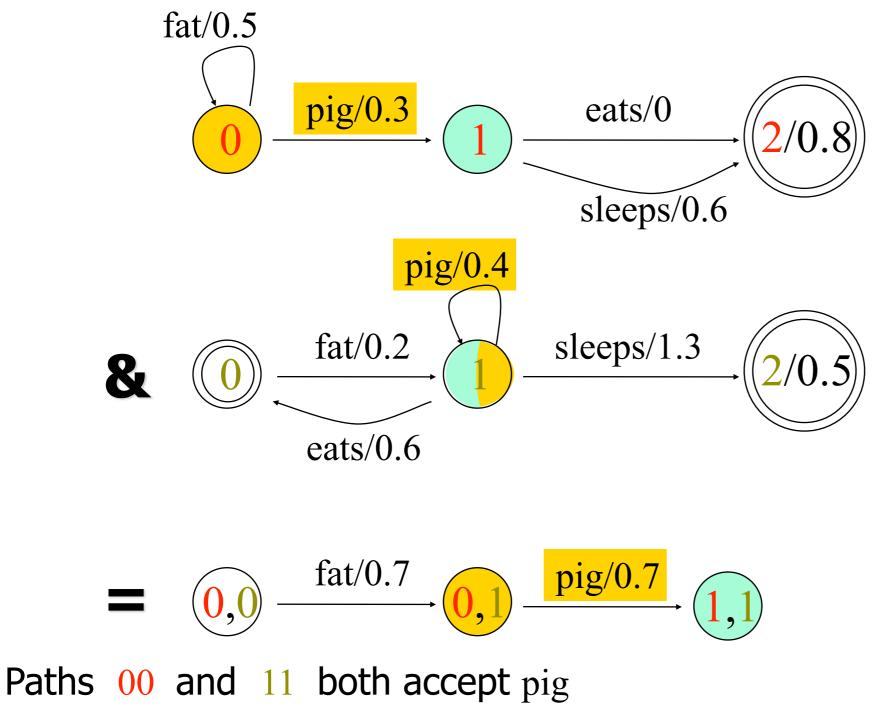
Paths 00 and 01 both accept fat So must the new machine: along path 0,0 0,1



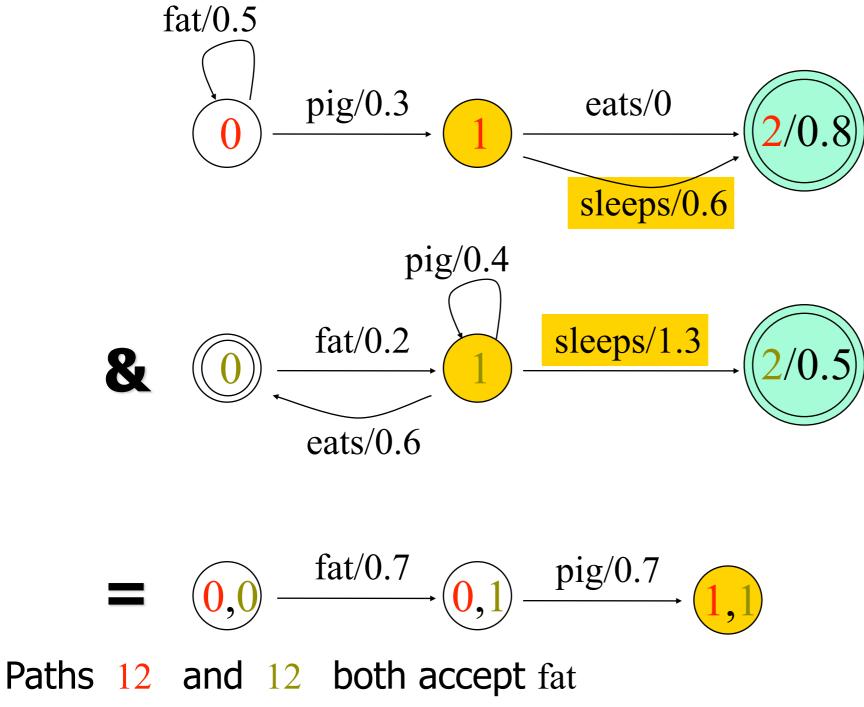
Paths 00 and 01 both accept fat So must the new machine: along path 0,0 0,1



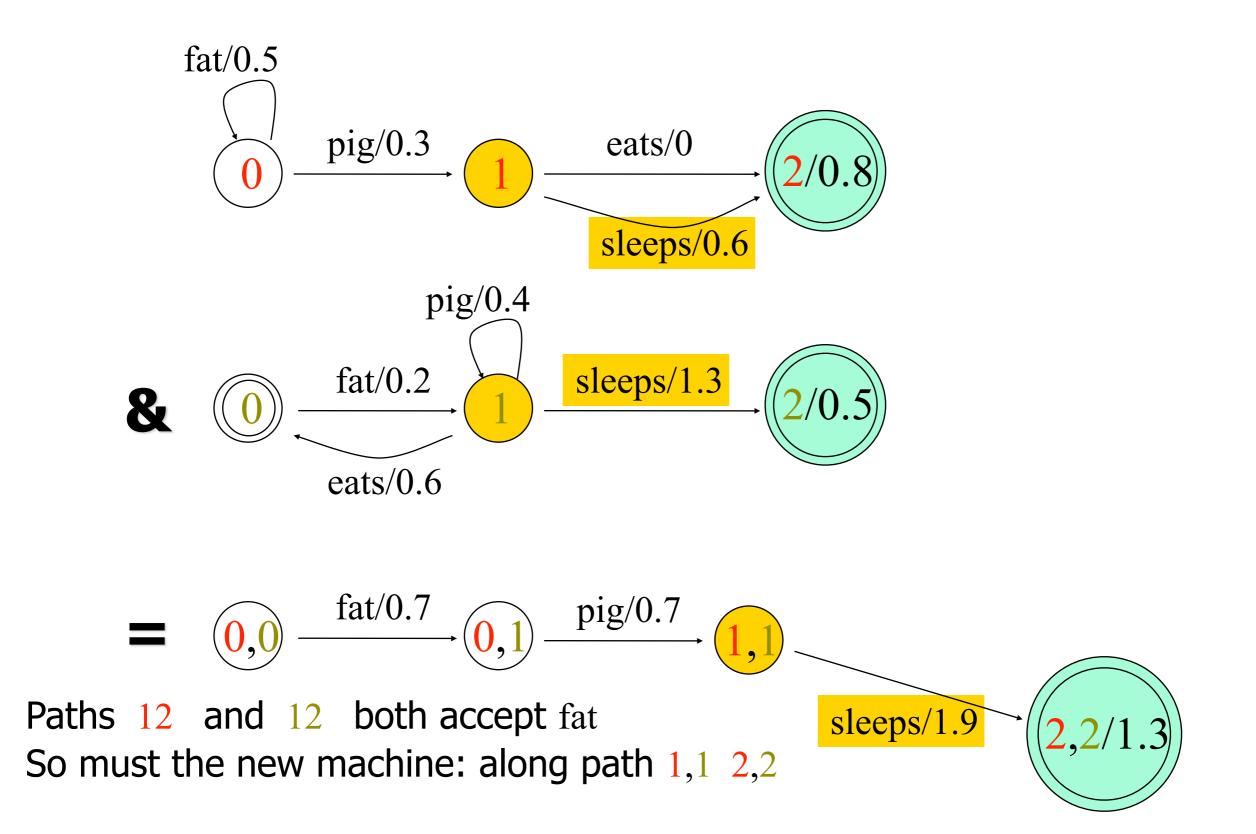
So must the new machine: along path 0,1 1,1

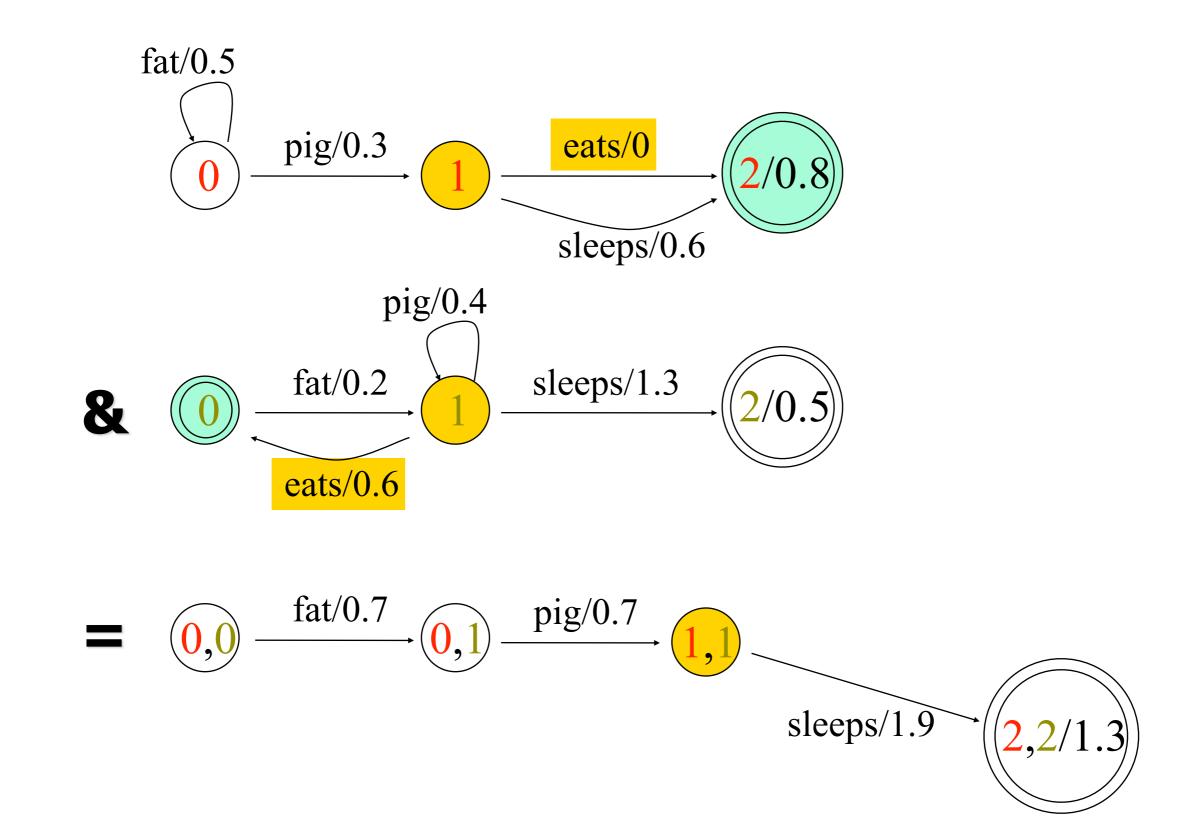


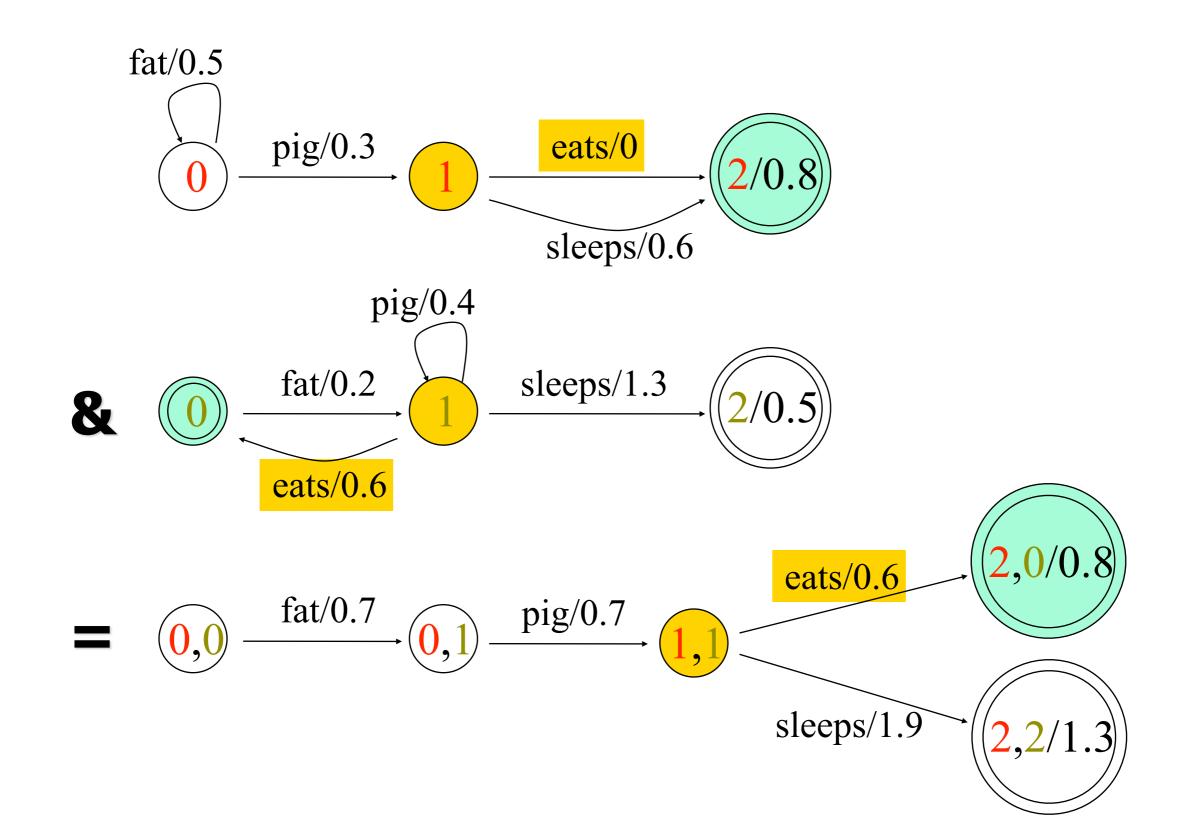
So must the new machine: along path 0,1 1,1

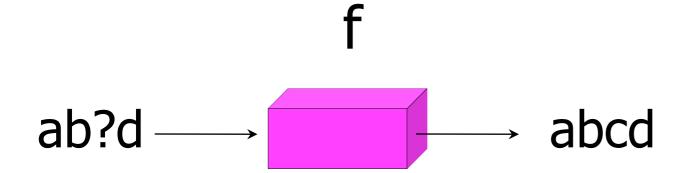


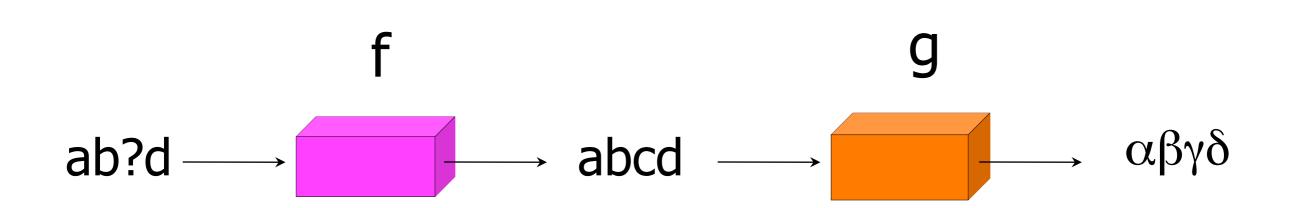
So must the new machine: along path 1,1 2,2

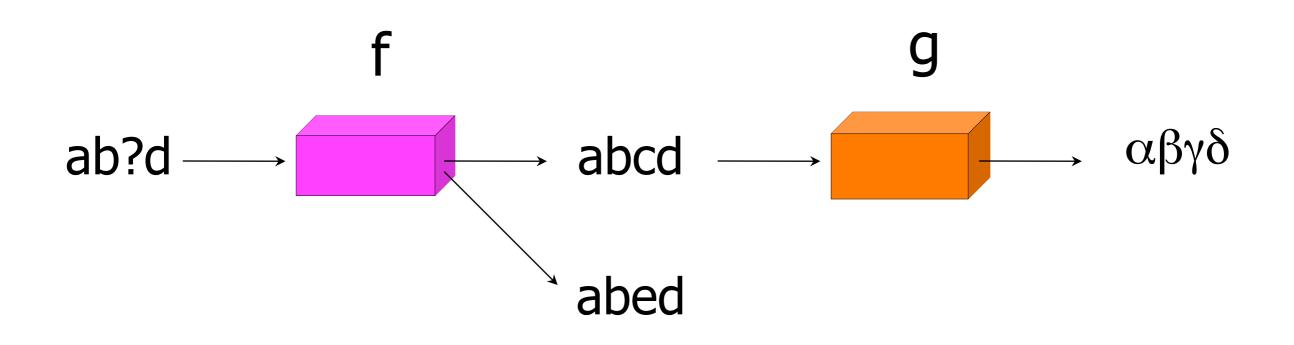


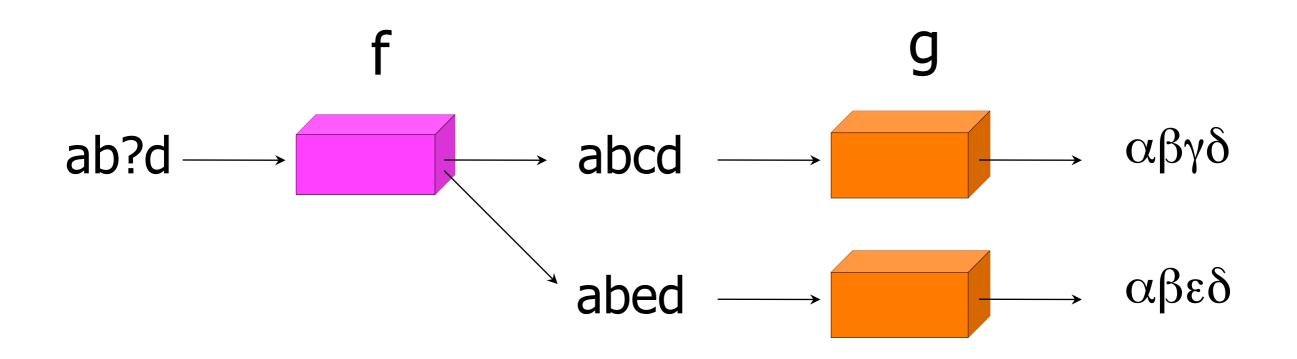


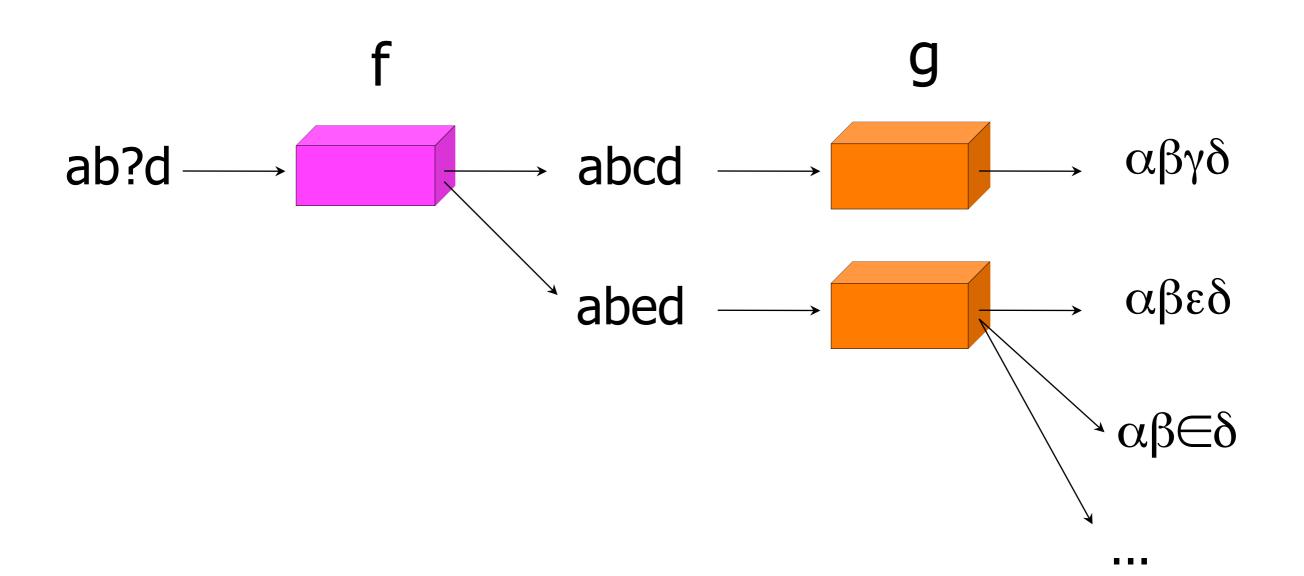


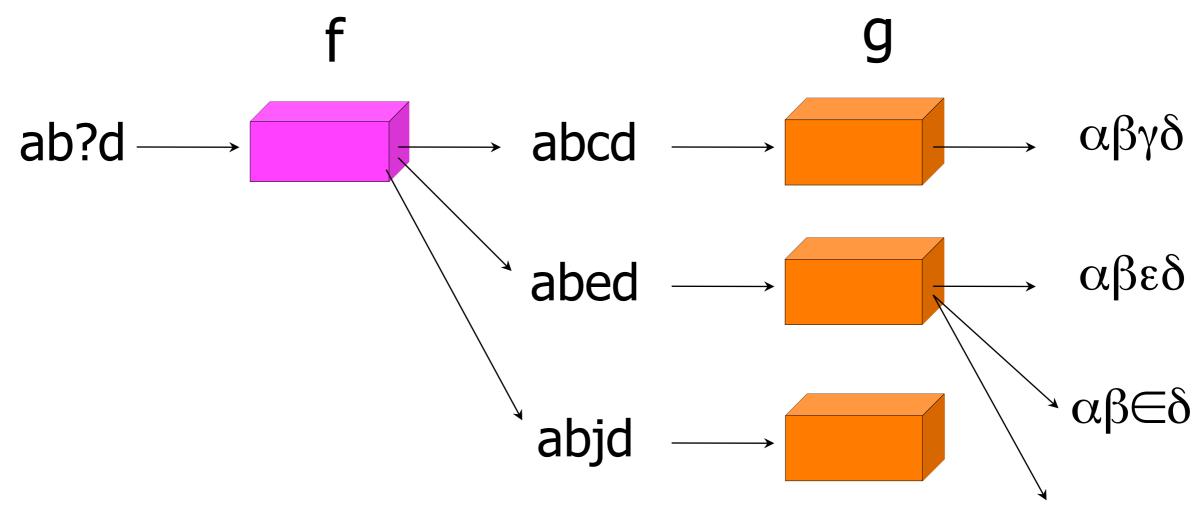


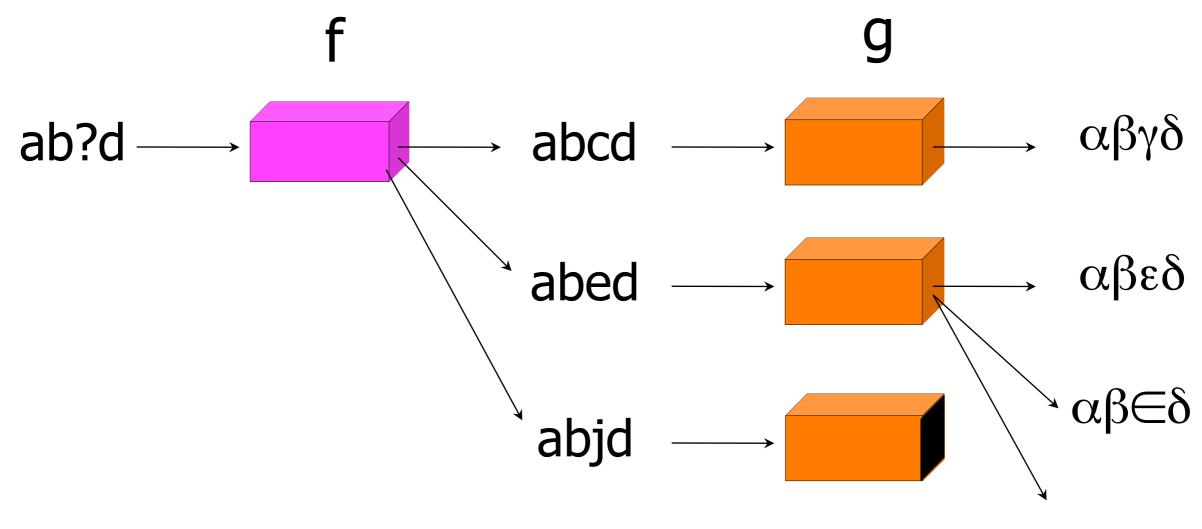


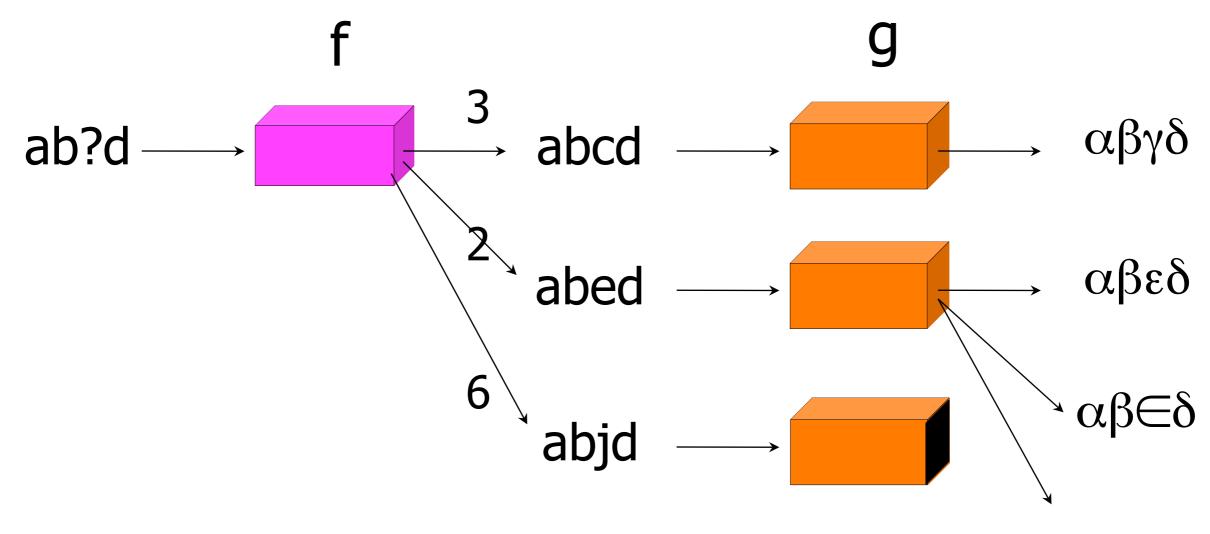


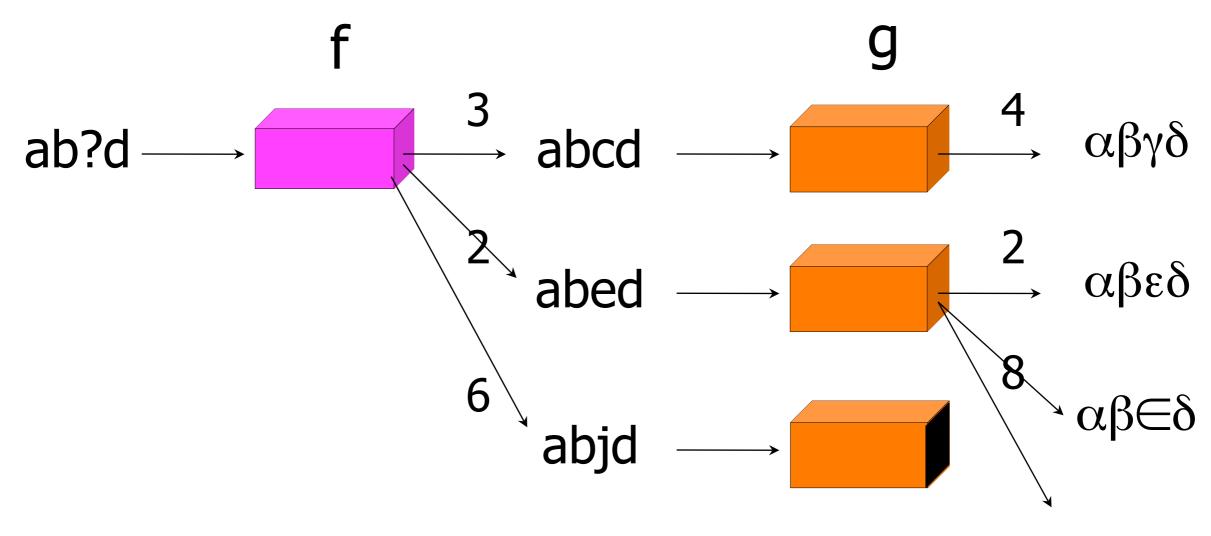


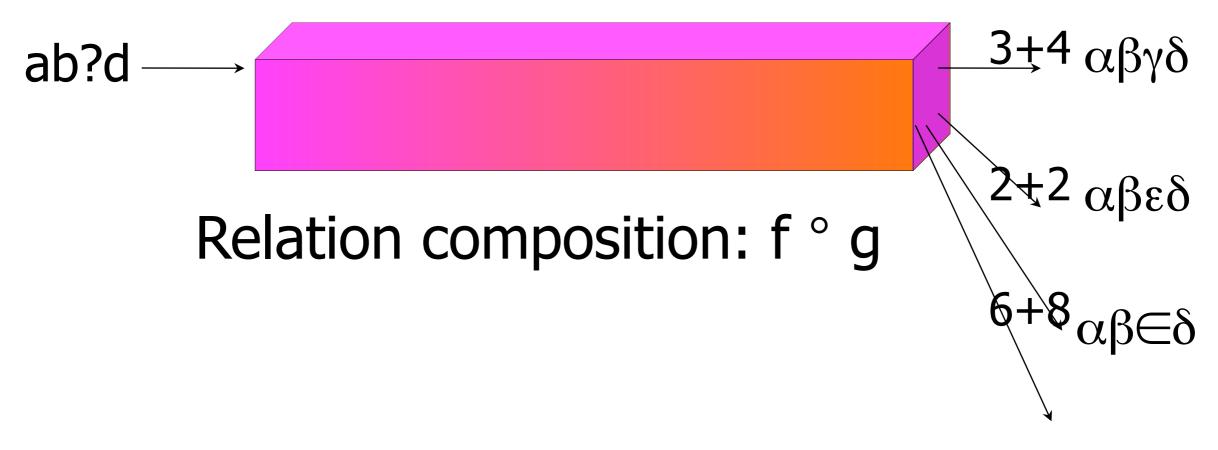




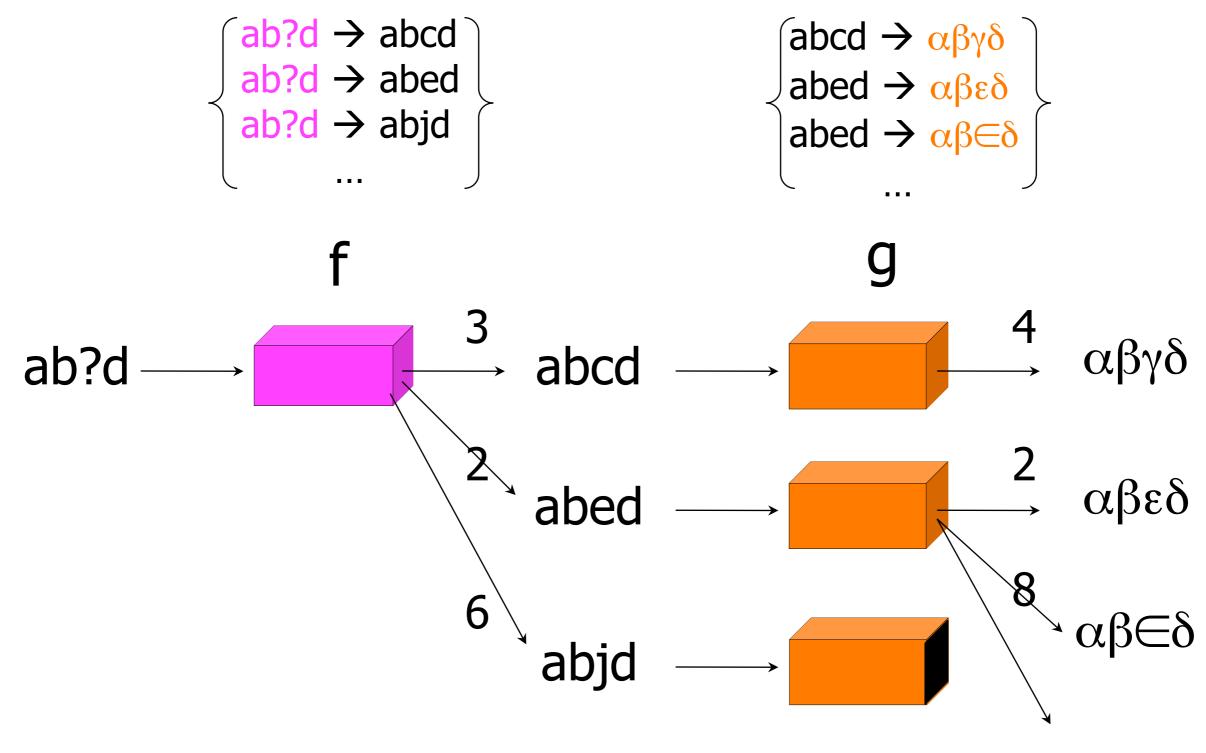


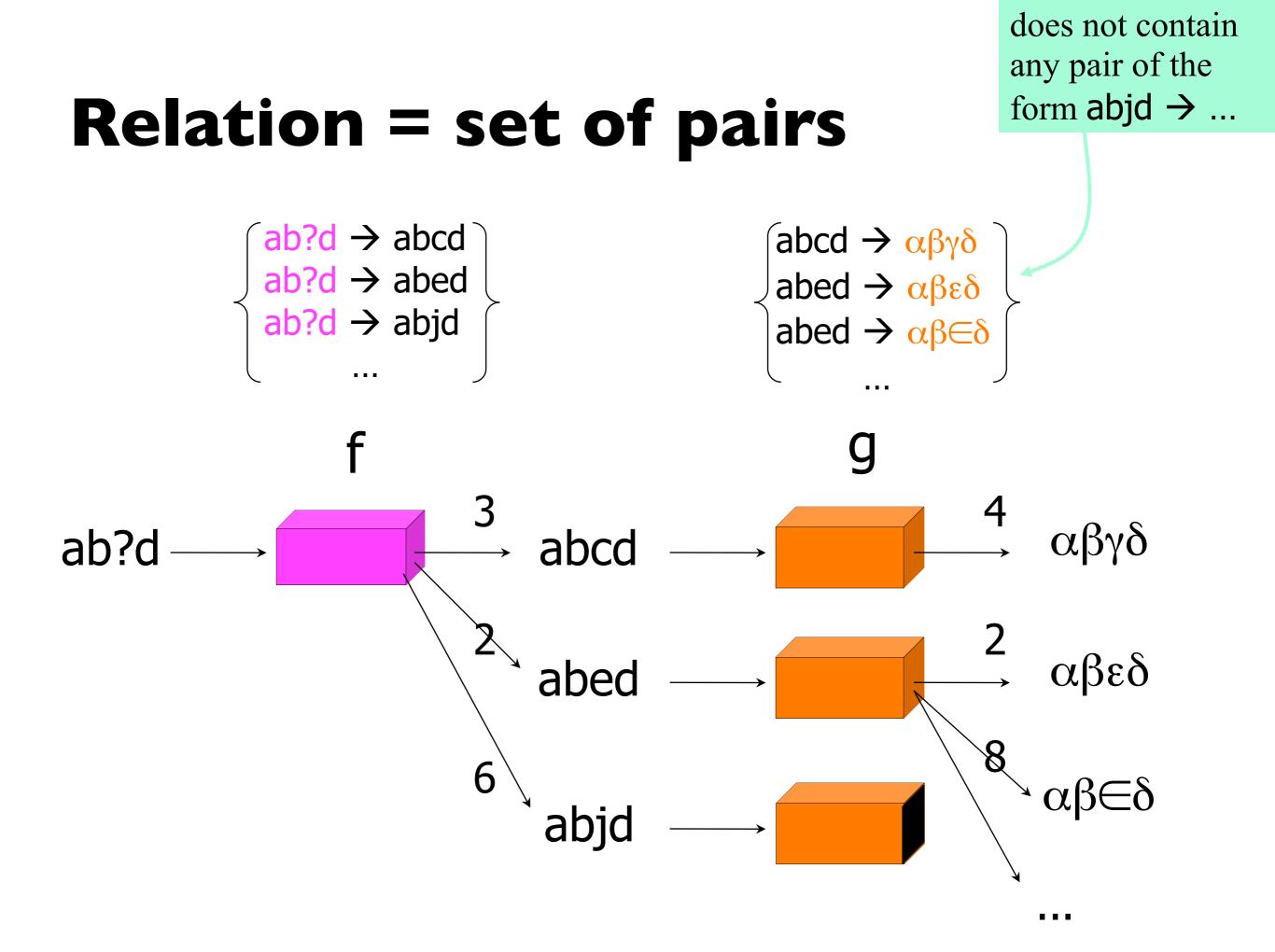




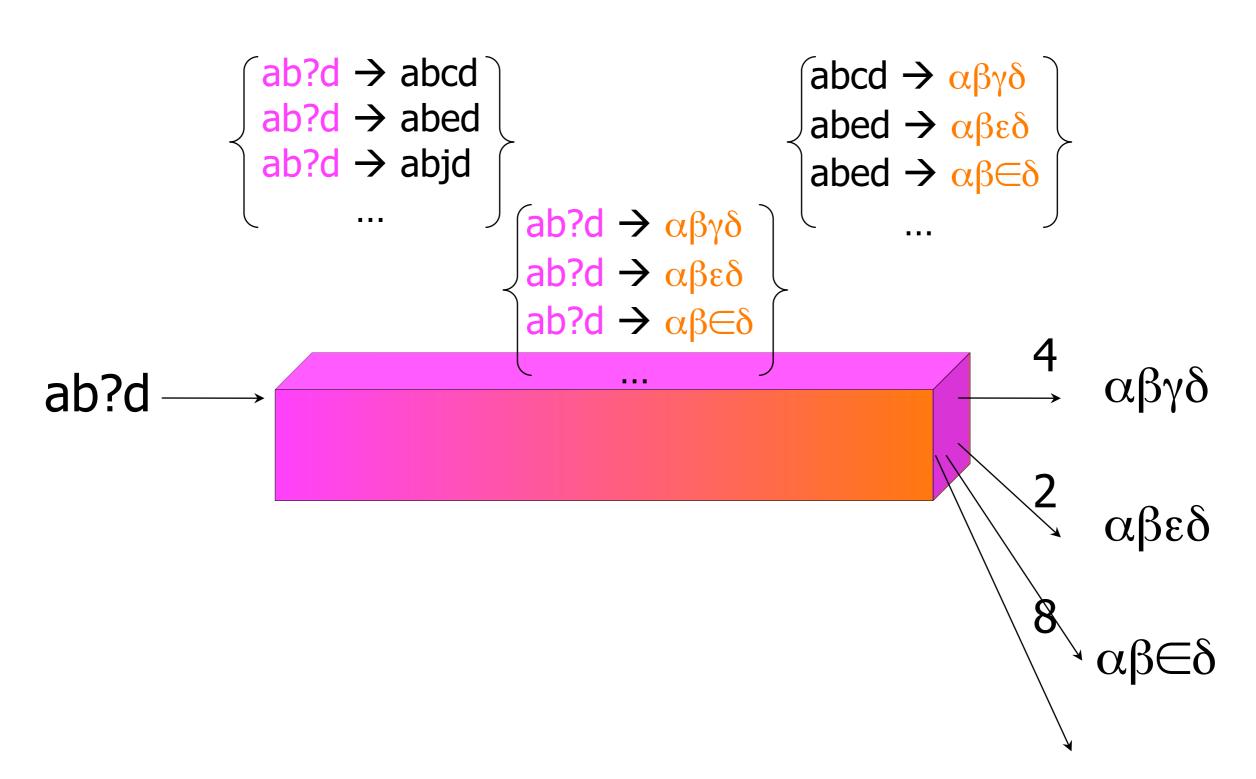


Relation = set of pairs

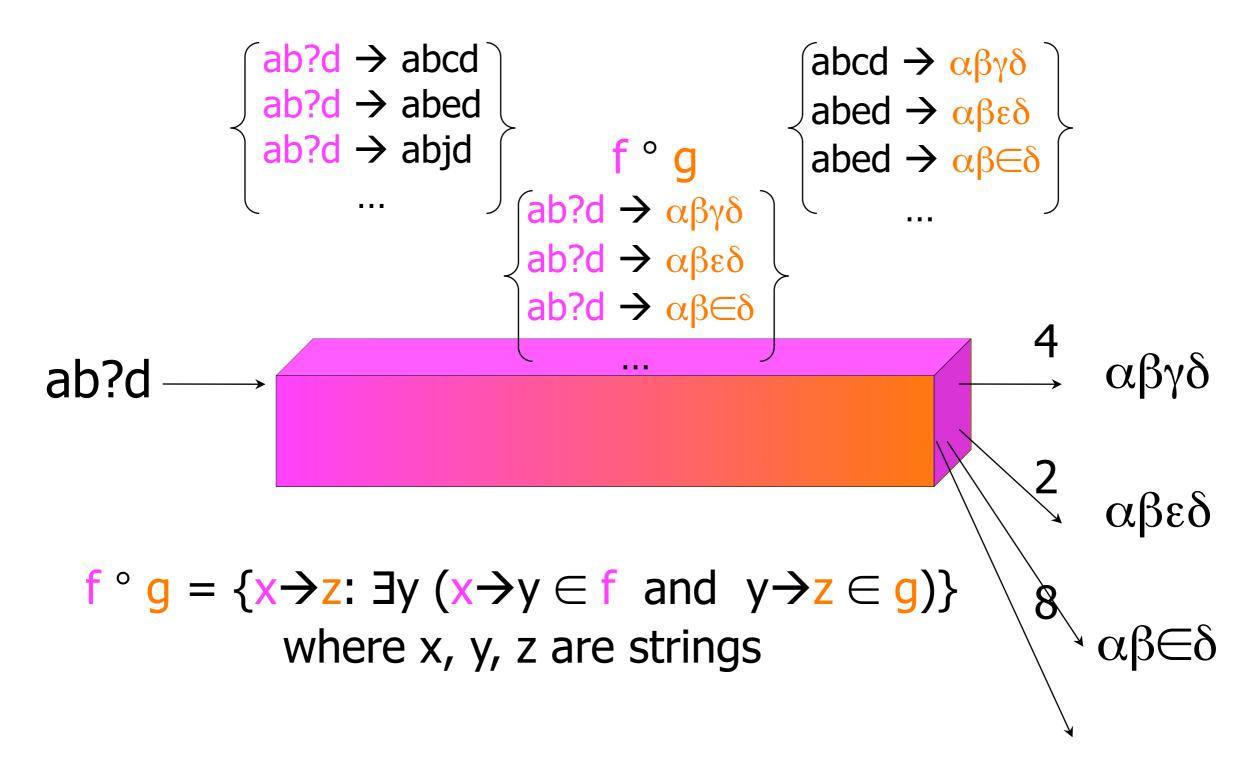




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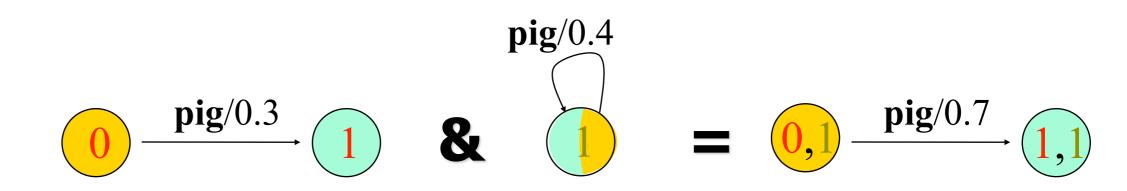


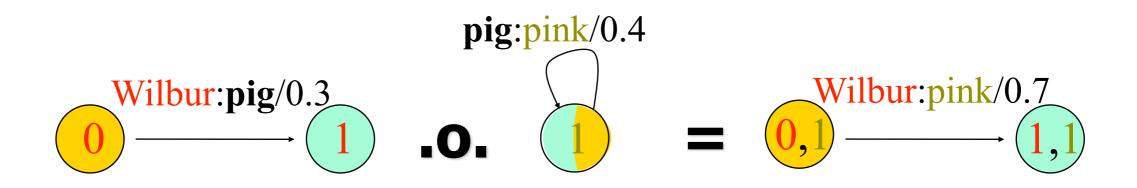
Relation = set of pairs



Intersection vs. Composition

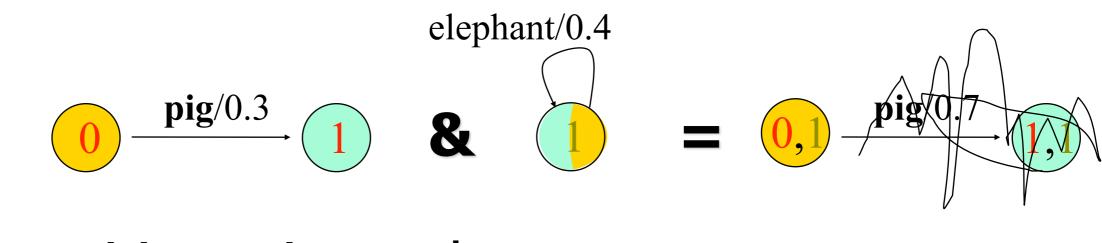
Intersection



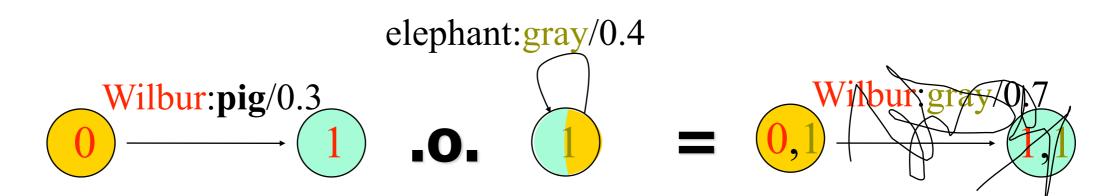


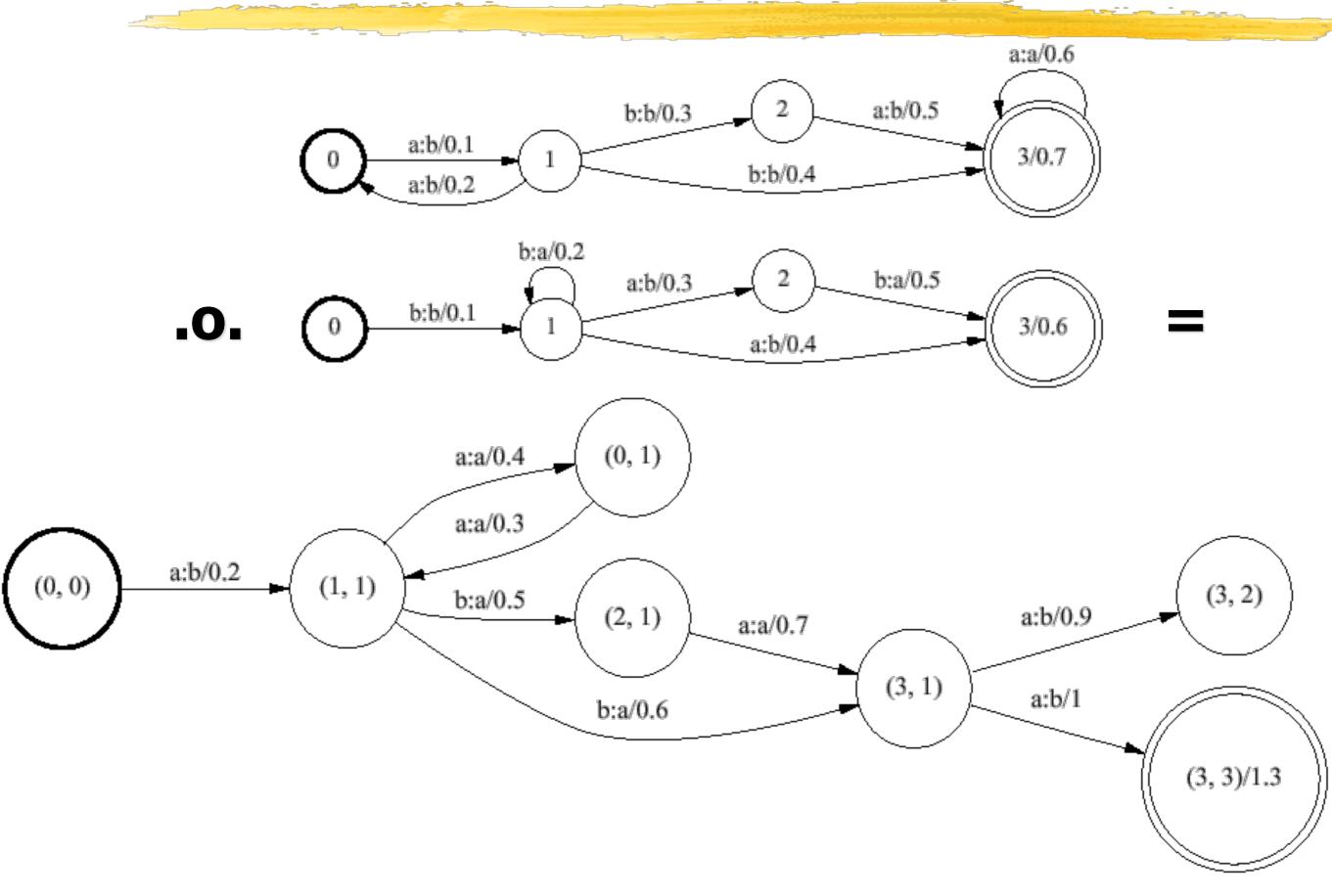
Intersection vs. Composition

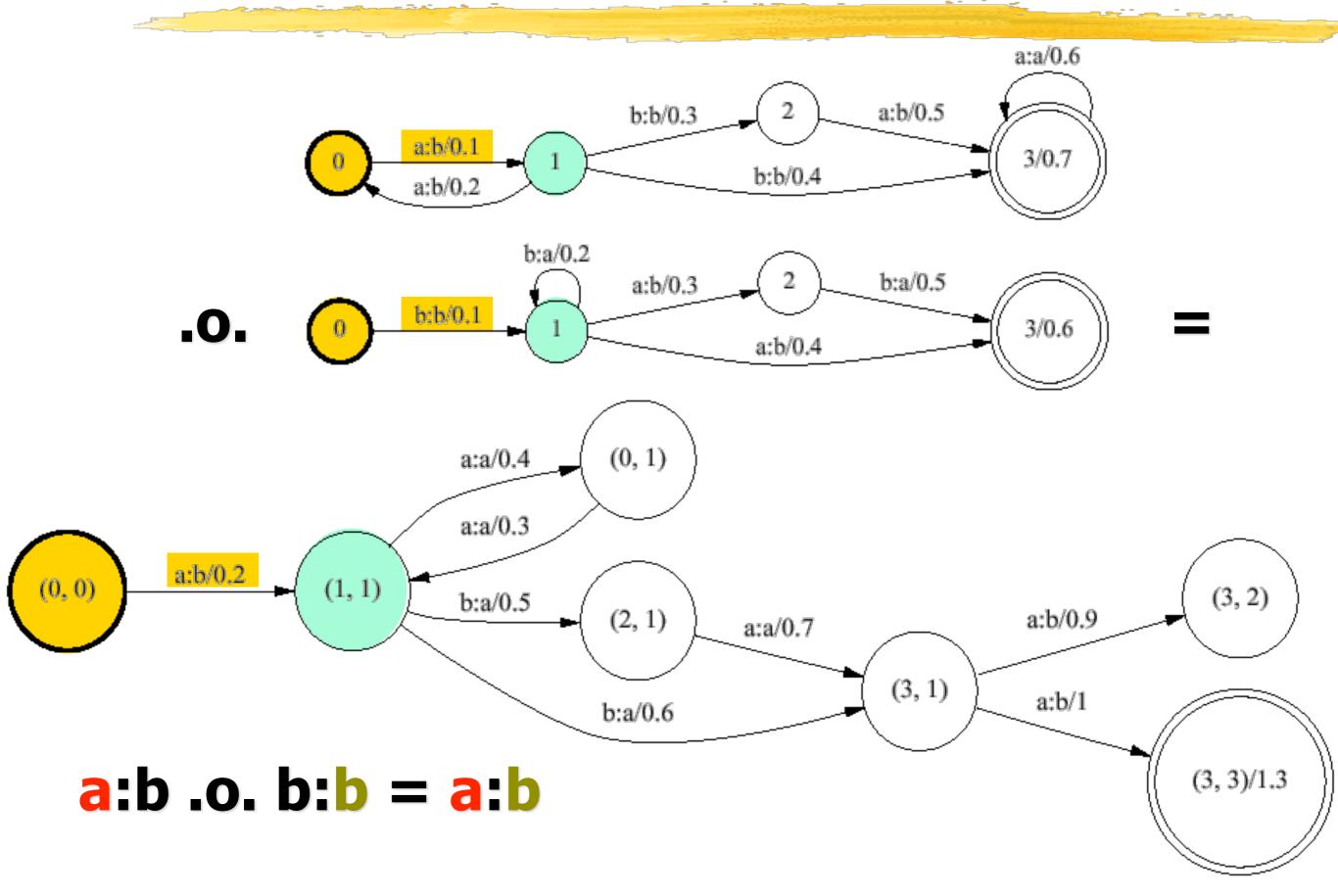
Intersection mismatch

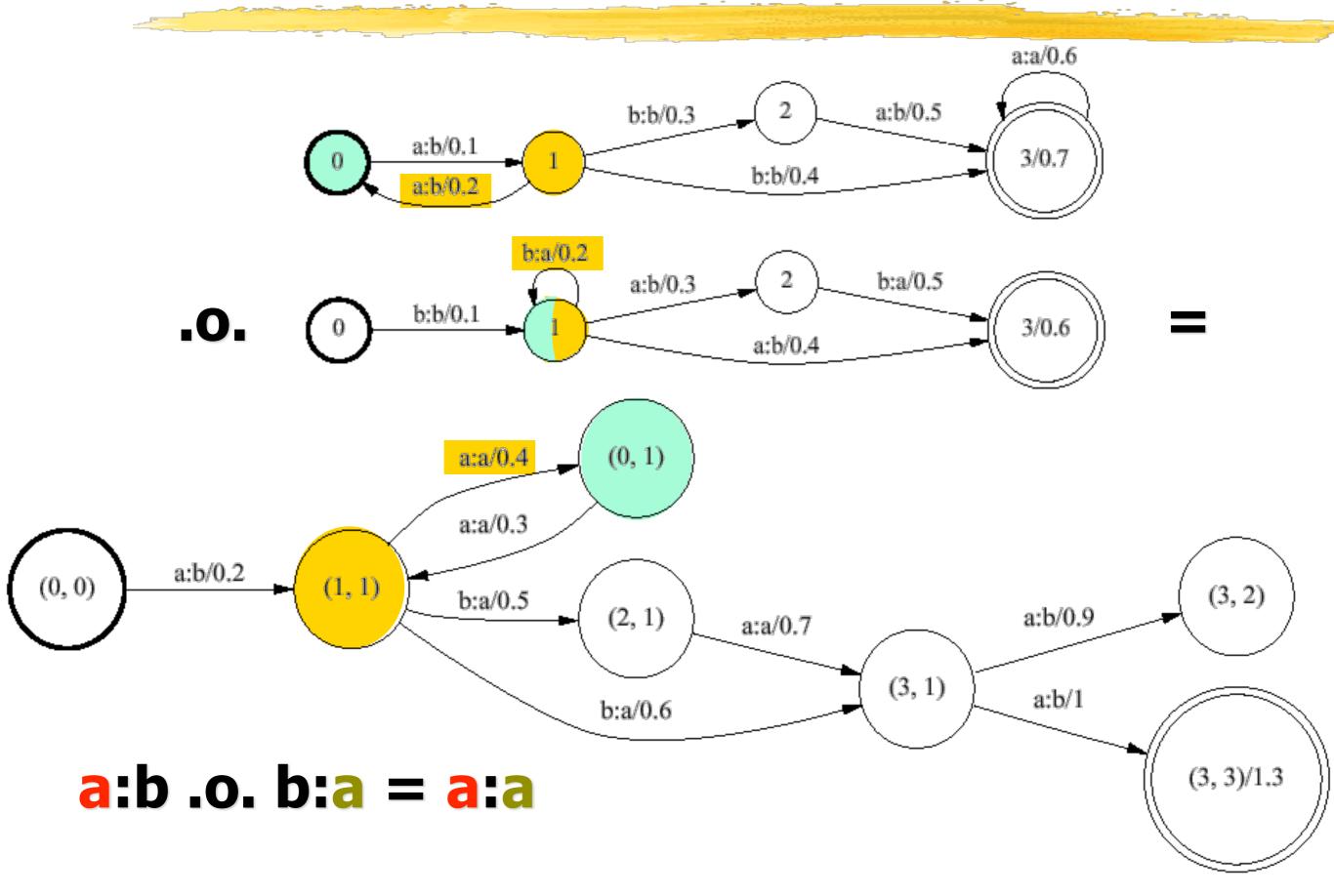


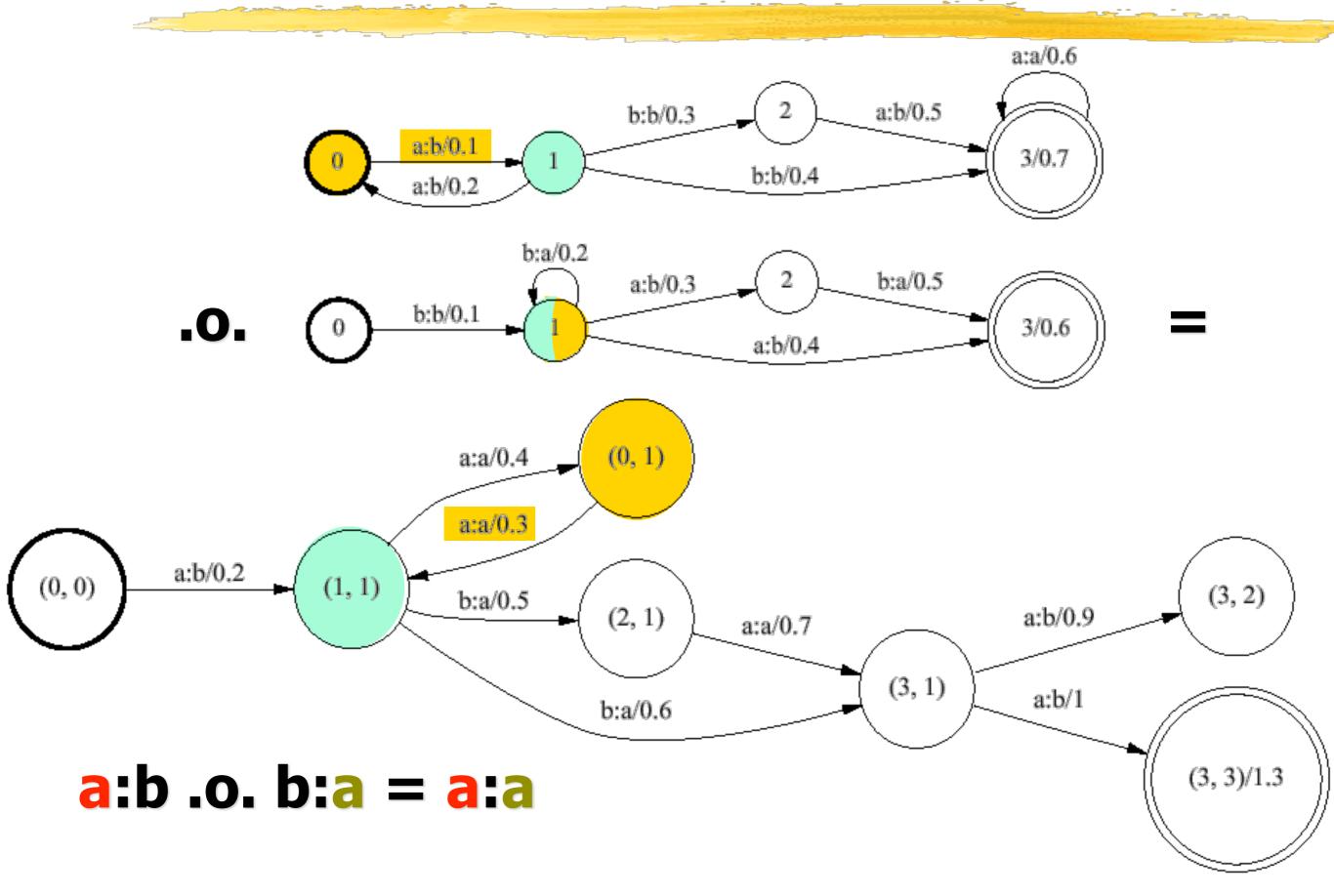
Composition mismatch

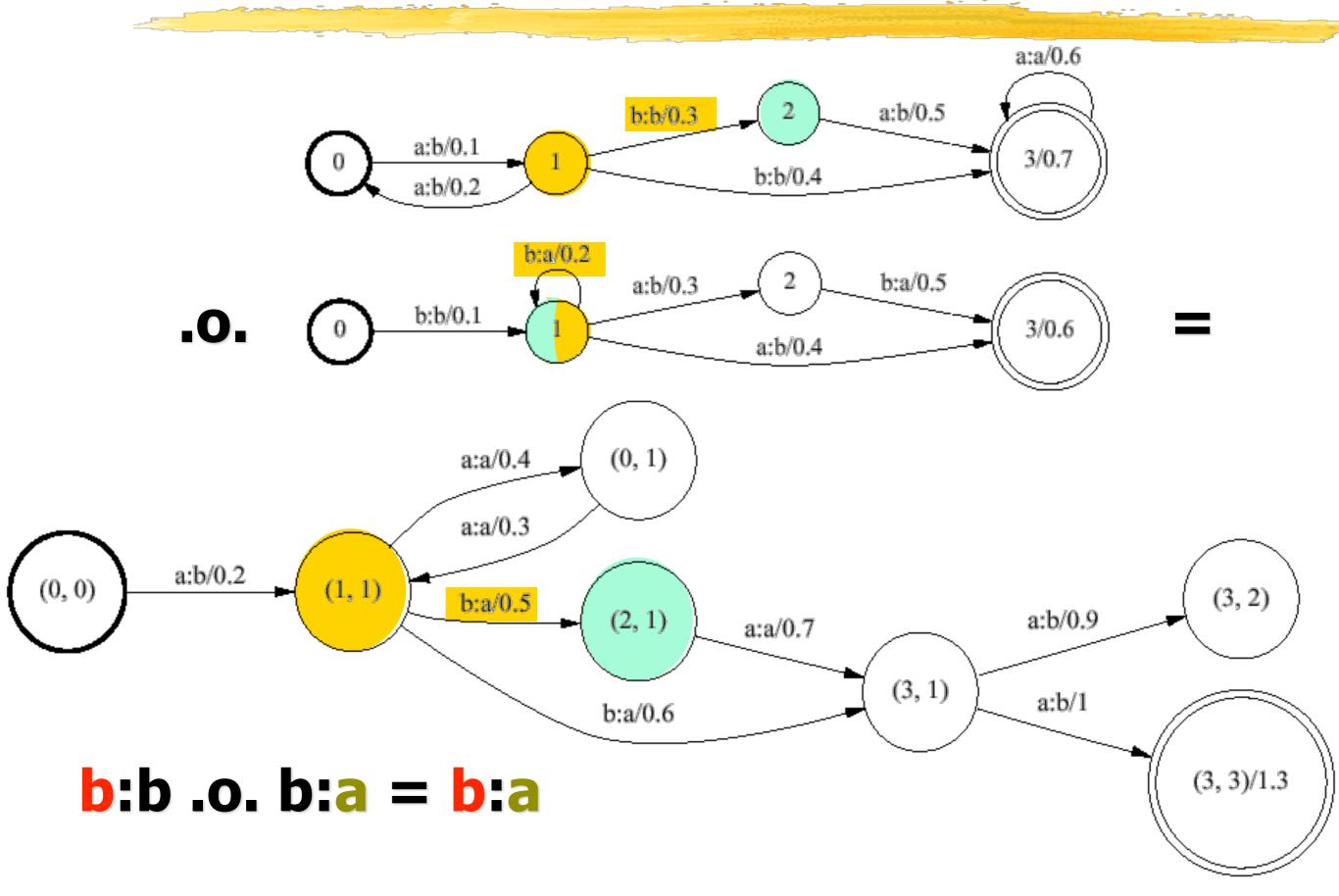


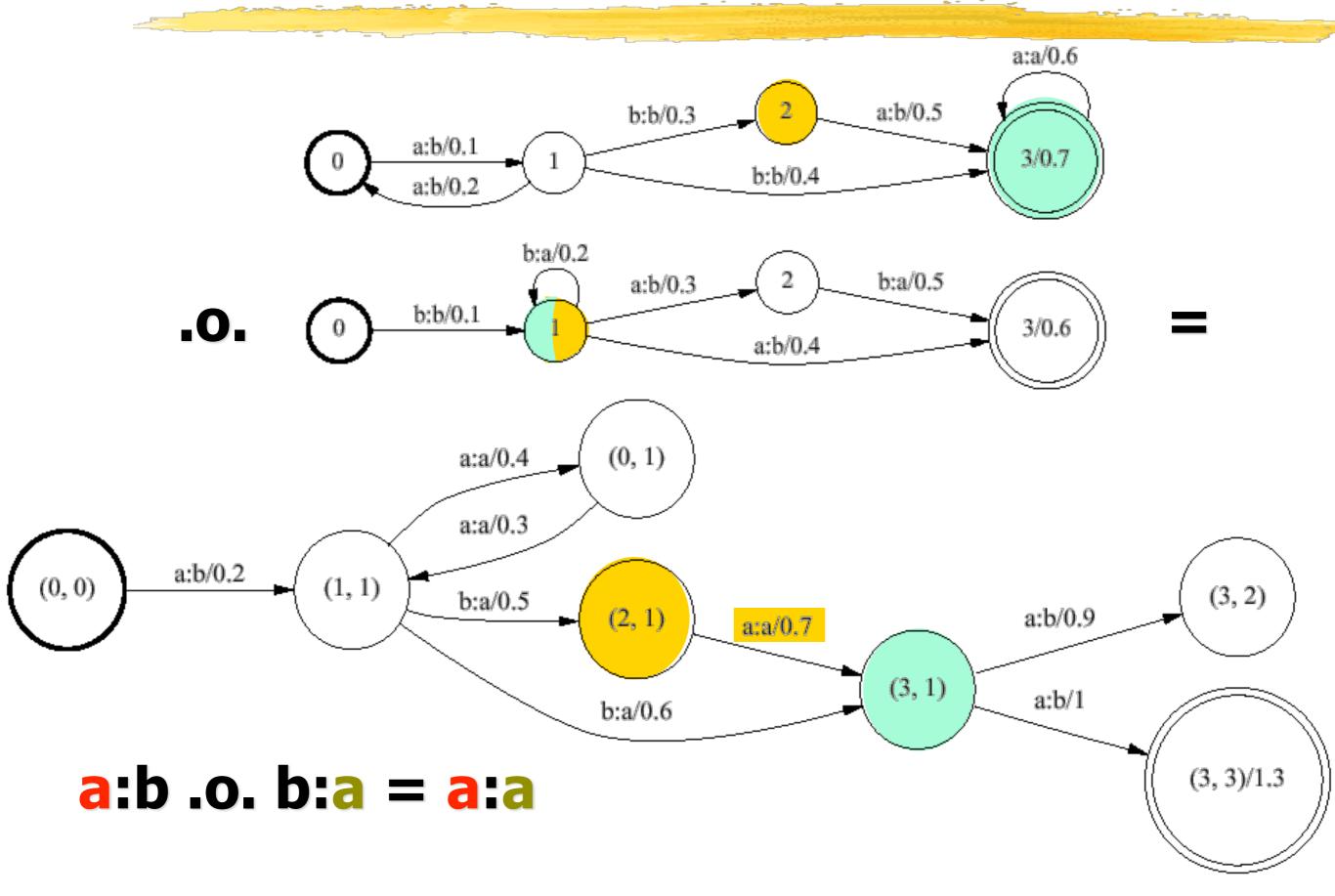


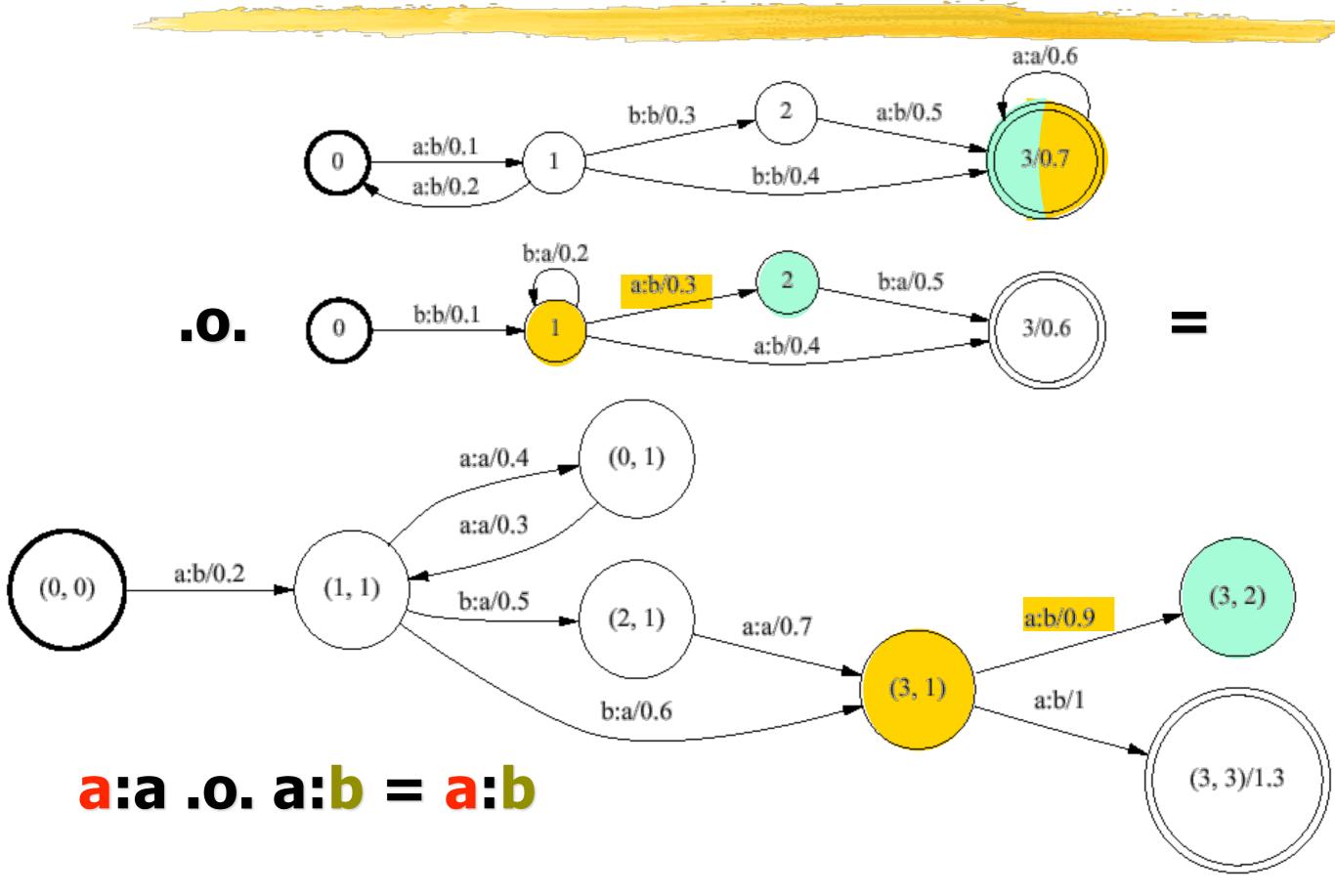


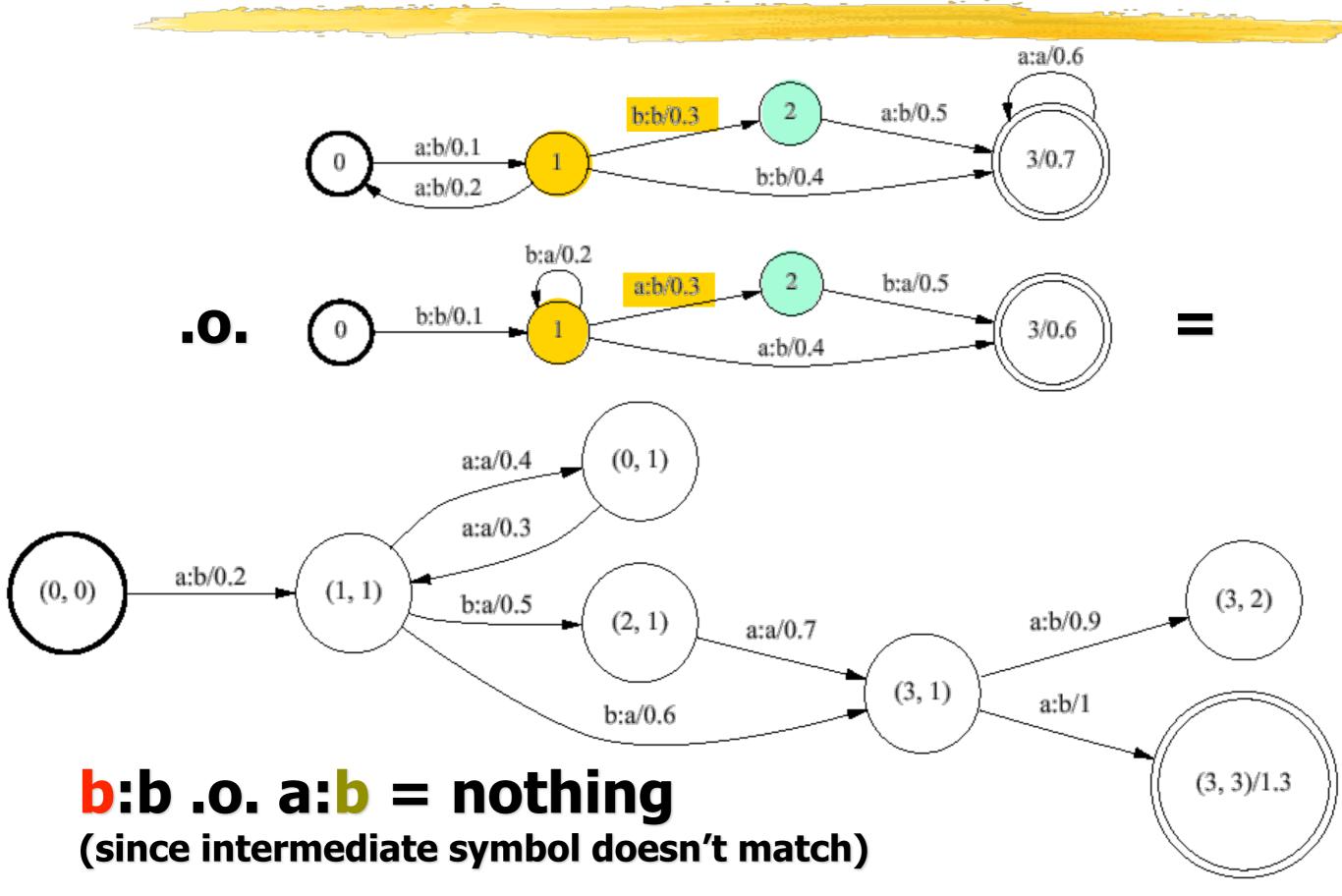


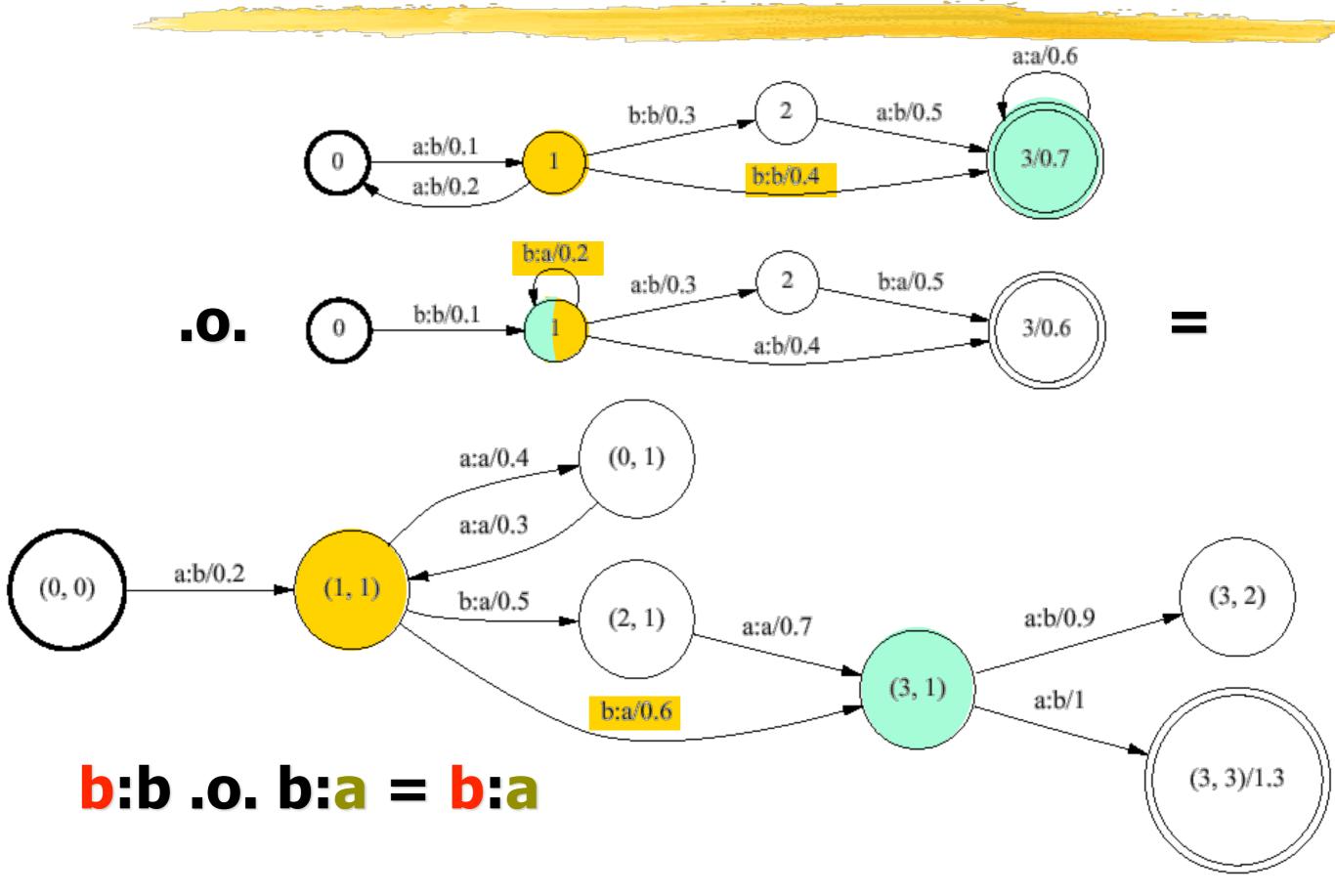


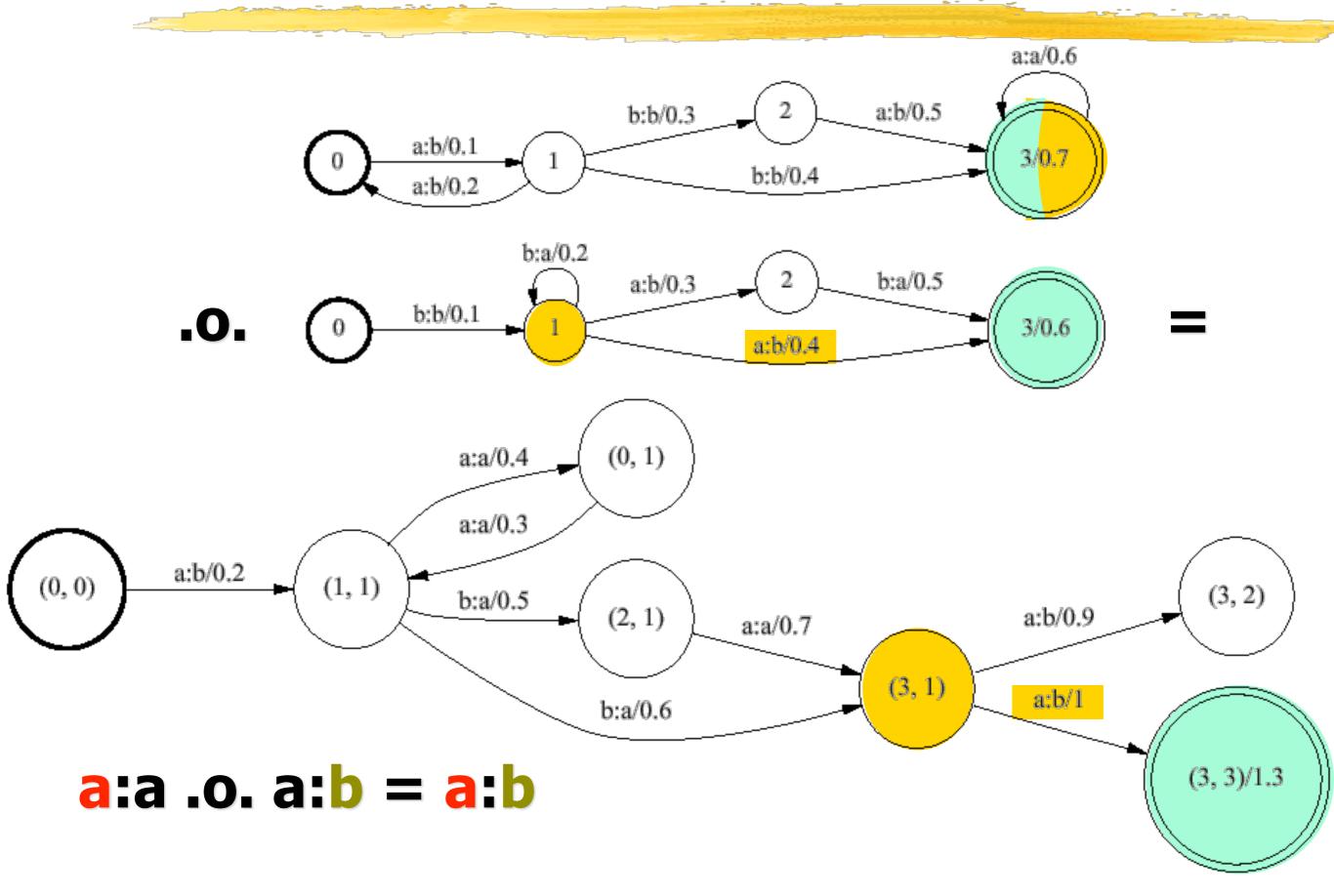




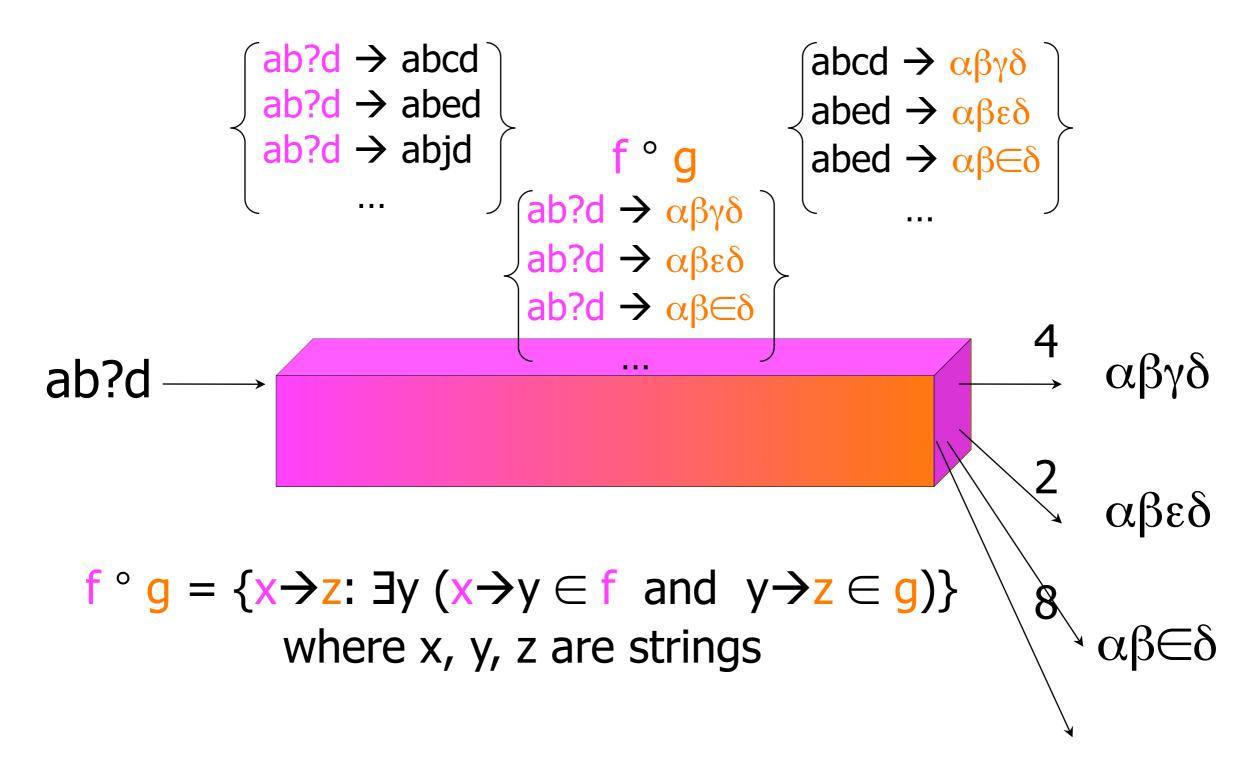








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• Two sets (acceptors) – same as intersection:
A ° B = {x:
x \in A and
x \in B }

Composition and Coercion

- Really just treats a set as identity relation on set {abc, pqr, ...} = {abc→abc, pqr→pqr, ...}
 Two relations (FSTs): A ° B = {x→z: ∃y (x→y ∈ A and y→z ∈ B)}
- Set and relation is now special case (if ∃y then y=x):
 - $A \circ B = \{x \rightarrow z: x \rightarrow x \in A \text{ and } x \rightarrow z \in B\}$
- Relation and set is now special case (if ∃y then y=z):
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- Two sets (acceptors) is now special case: $A \circ B = \{x \rightarrow x: x \rightarrow x \in A \text{ and } x \rightarrow x \in B \}$

Feed string into Greek transducer:

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• {abed \rightarrow abed} .0. Greek = {abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\in\delta$ }

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Feed string into Greek transducer:

- {abed→abed} .0. Greek = {abed→ $\alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$, abed→ $\alpha\beta\in\delta$ }
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- $[{abed} .0. Greek] .I = {\alpha\beta\epsilon\delta, \alpha\beta\in\delta}$

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Feed several strings in parallel:

{abcd, abed} .o. Greek

= {abcd $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\gamma\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$ }

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= {abcd $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\gamma\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\in\delta$ }

[{abcd,abed} .0. Greek].| = {αβγδ, αβεδ, αβ∈δ}

Feed string into Greek transducer:

- {abed \rightarrow abed} .0. Greek = {abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\in\delta$ }
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 $[{abcd,abed} .0. Greek].| = {\alpha\beta\gamma\delta, \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta, \alpha\beta\in\delta}$

• Filter result via No $\varepsilon = \{ \alpha \beta \gamma \delta, \dots \}$

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- $[{abcd, abed} .0. Greek] .| = {\alpha\beta\gamma\delta, \alpha\beta\epsilon\delta, \alpha\beta\in\delta}$
- Filter result via No $\varepsilon = \{\alpha\beta\gamma\delta, \alpha\beta\in\delta, ...\}$

- {abcd,abed} .o. Greek .o. No ϵ

= {abcd $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\gamma\delta$, abed $\rightarrow \alpha\beta\in\delta$ }

What are the "basic" transducers?

 The operations on the previous slides combine transducers into bigger ones
 But where do we start?

a:ε for a ∈ Σ
ε:x for x ∈ Δ

• Q: Do we also need a:x? How about ε : ε ?