

Discrete Event Systems

Exercise Session 1



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Formal Definition of a Finite Automaton

A **finite automaton** (FA) is a 5-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, where

- Q is a finite set called the **states**
- Σ is a finite set called the **alphabet**
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma \rightarrow Q$ is the **transformation function**
- $q_0 \in Q$ is the **start state**
- $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of **accept states** (a.k.a. final states).

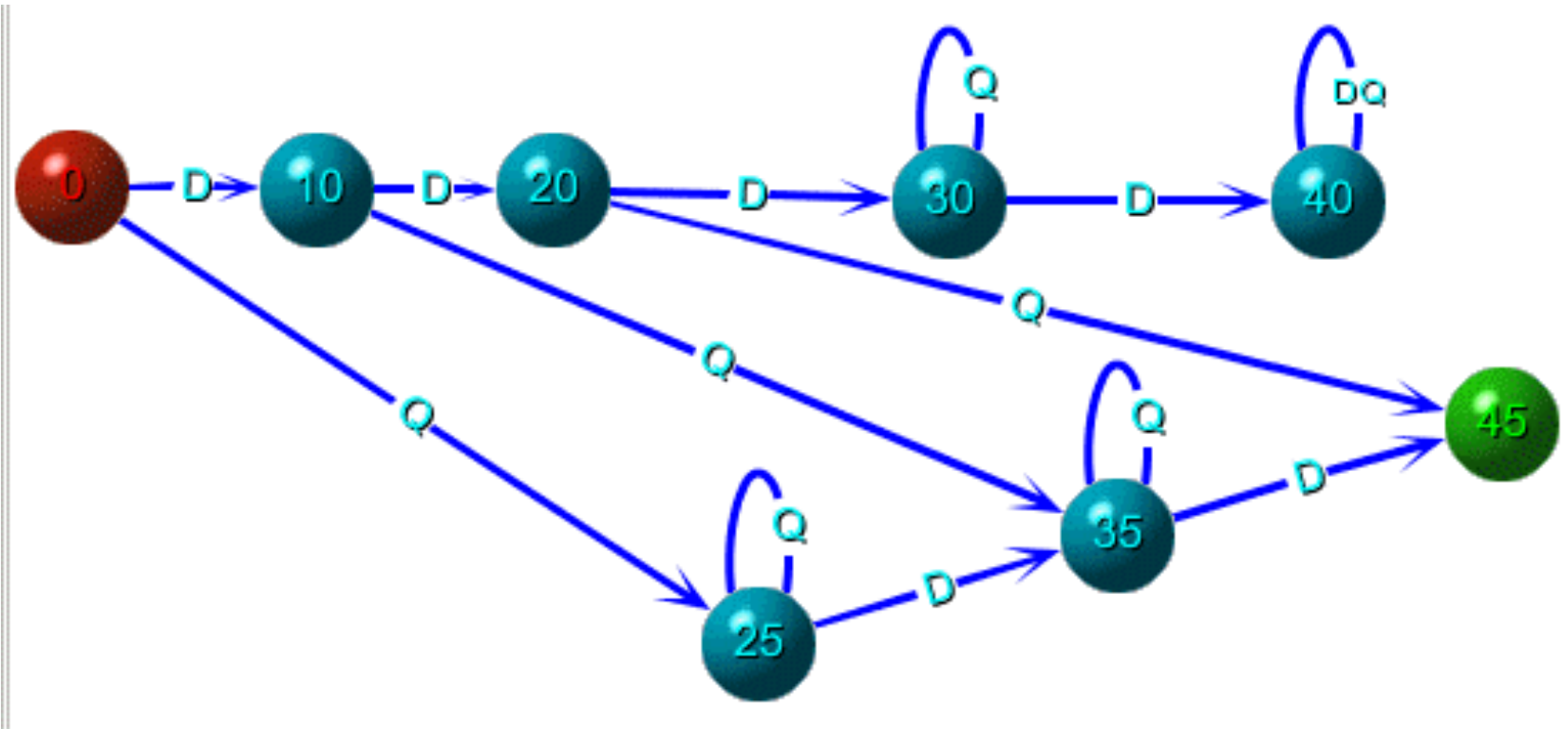
Vending Machine Java Code

```
Soda vend() {  
    int total = 0, coin;  
    while (total != 45) {  
        receive(coin);  
        if ((coin==10 && total==40)  
            || (coin==25 && total>=25))  
            reject(coin);  
        else  
            total += coin;  
    }  
    return new Soda();  
}
```



Overkill?!?

Vending Machine "Logics"



Cartesian Product Construction

- We want to construct a finite automaton M that recognizes any strings belonging to L_1 or L_2 .
- Idea: Build M such that it simulates *both* M_1 and M_2 simultaneously and accept if either of the automata accepts

Formal Definition

- Given two automata

$$M_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, q_1, F_1) \text{ and } M_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, q_2, F_2)$$

- Define the **unioner** of M_1 and M_2 by:

$$M_U = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_1 \times \delta_2, (q_1, q_2), F_U)$$

- where the accept state (q_1, q_2) is the combined start state of both automata

- where F_U is the set of ordered pairs in $Q_1 \times Q_2$ with at least one state an accept state. That is: $F_U = Q_1 \times F_2 \cup F_1 \times Q_2$

- where the transition function δ is defined as

$$\delta((q_1, q_2), j) = (\delta_1(q_1, j), \delta_2(q_2, j)) = \delta_1 \times \delta_2$$

Other constructions: Intersector

- Other constructions are possible, for example an **intersector**:
- Accept only when both ending states are accept states. So the only difference is in the set of accept states. Formally the intersector of M_1 and M_2 is given by
$$M_{\cap} = (Q_1 \times Q_2, \Sigma, \delta_1 \times \delta_2, (q_{0,1}, q_{0,2}), F_{\cap}), \text{ where } F_{\cap} = F_1 \times F_2.$$

Complement

- How about the **complement**? The complement is only defined with respect to some universe.
- Given the alphabet Σ , the *default universe* is just the set of all possible strings Σ^* . Therefore, given a language L over Σ , i.e. $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ the complement of L is $\Sigma^* - L$
- Note: Since we know how to compute set difference, and we know how to construct the automaton for Σ^* we can construct the automaton for \bar{L} .
- Question: Is there a simpler construction for \bar{L} ?
- Answer: Just switch accept-states with non-accept states.