

Fresh-Register Automata

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Oxford University Computing Laboratory

What this talk is about

*What is a basic automata-theoretic model
of computation with names and
fresh-name generation?*

Names in computation

```
int mainClass NameTest {
    public void main(String[] args){

        Object A = new Object();
        Object B = new Object();

        System.out.println(A.equals(B));
    }
}
```

Names in computation

```
new x=3 in f(); assert(x==3)
```

Names in computation

```
new x1, x2, x3, x4, x5 in
  fn x => case x of
    | x1 => x2
    | x2 => x3
    | x3 => x4
    | x4 => x5
    | _  => x1
```

Motivation and related work

What is a basic automata-theoretic model of computation with names and fresh-name generation?

- Programming languages
 - Operational, denotational models of higher-order computation with names
 - Nominal game semantics

Names in computation (II)

$$P(a) = \nu b. \bar{a}b. P(b)$$

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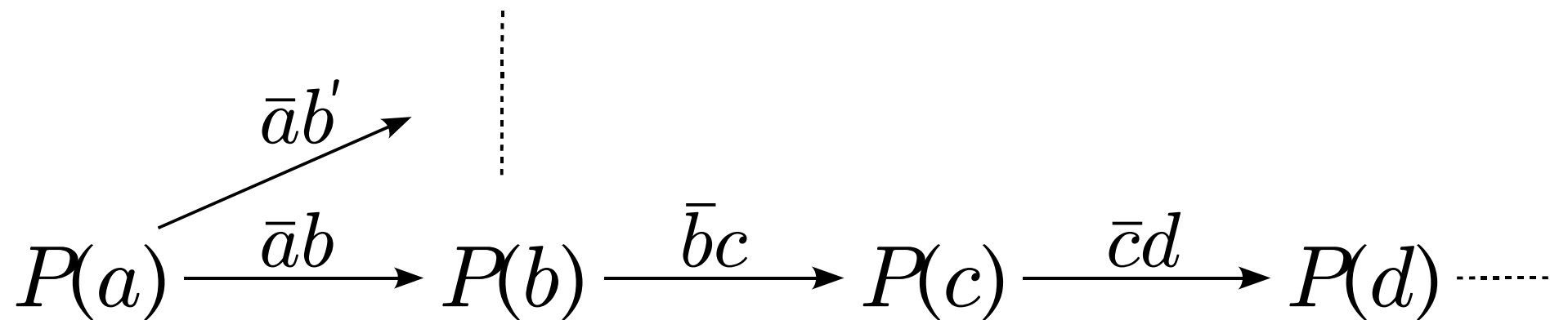
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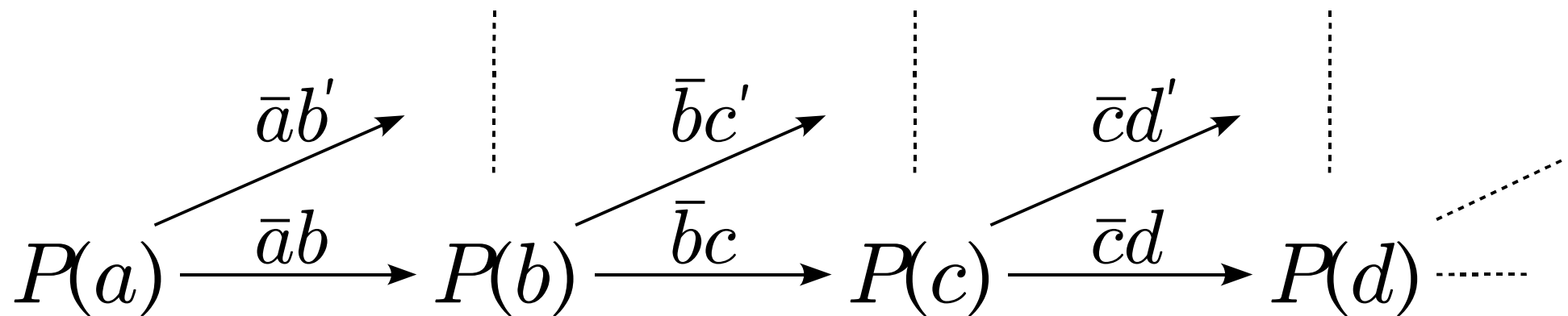
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 - Operational, denotational models of higher-order computation with names
 - Nominal game semantics
- Process calculi
 - Semantics of mobility
 - History-Dependent automata

Specifications

What is a basic automata-theoretic model of computation with names and fresh-name generation?

- Simple machines of “first principles”
- Infinite alphabet
- Freshness recognition

An appealing paradigm

Theoretical Computer Science 134 (1994) 329–363
Elsevier

329

Finite-memory automata*

Michael Kaminski

*Department of Computer Science, The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology,
Clear Water Bay, Kowloon, Hong Kong*

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*Department of Computer Science, Technion – Israel Institute of Technology, Technion-city,
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Communicated by A.R. Meyer

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Abstract

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1. Introduction

In this paper we introduce a model of computation dealing with *infinite alphabets*, a generalization of the classical Rabin–Scott finite-state automata [6]. In doing so, we are aiming towards a very restrictive model, capable of recognizing only the natural analog of *regular languages* over finite alphabets. In addition, we would like our

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- *Regular languages* over infinite alphabets
- *Closure* properties
- Finite-state + finite memory
- *Local* reasoning

Fresh-Register Automata

- FMA's satisfy the specifications:
 - *Simple machines of “first principles”*
 - *Infinite alphabet*
- but not:
 - *Freshness recognition*
- Extend FMA's with transitions for fresh names.

Do names with registers

- Let \mathbb{A} be an infinite set of *names*
- Let \mathbb{C} be a finite set of *constants*
- Consider finite-state automata over:

$$\mathbb{L}_n = \mathbb{C} \cup \{ i, i^\bullet, i^{\circledast} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n \}$$

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- but operate in reality over:

$$\mathbb{C} \cup \mathbb{A}$$

Definition

- Recall: $\mathbb{L}_n = \mathbb{C} \cup \{i, i^\bullet, i^{\circledast} \mid 1 \leq i \leq n\}$
- Define *register assignments* of size n by:

$$\text{Reg}_n = \left\{ \sigma : \{1, \dots, n\} \rightarrow \mathbb{A} \cup \{\#\} \right. \\ \left. \mid \forall i \neq j. \sigma(i) = \sigma(j) \implies \sigma(i) = \# \right\}$$

Definition

A *fresh-register automaton (FRA)* of n registers is a quintuple $\mathcal{A} = \langle Q, q_0, \sigma_0, \delta, F \rangle$ where:

- Q is a finite set of states,
- $q_0 \in Q$ is the initial state,
- $\sigma_0 \in \text{Reg}_n$ is the initial register assignment,
- $\delta \subseteq Q \times \mathbb{L}_n \times Q$ is the transition relation,
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$$(q, \sigma, H) \in Q \times \text{Reg}_n \times \mathcal{P}_{\text{fn}}(\mathbb{A})$$



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state

register
assignment

history

\hat{Q}

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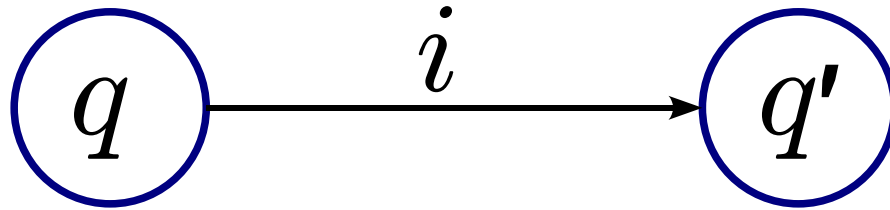
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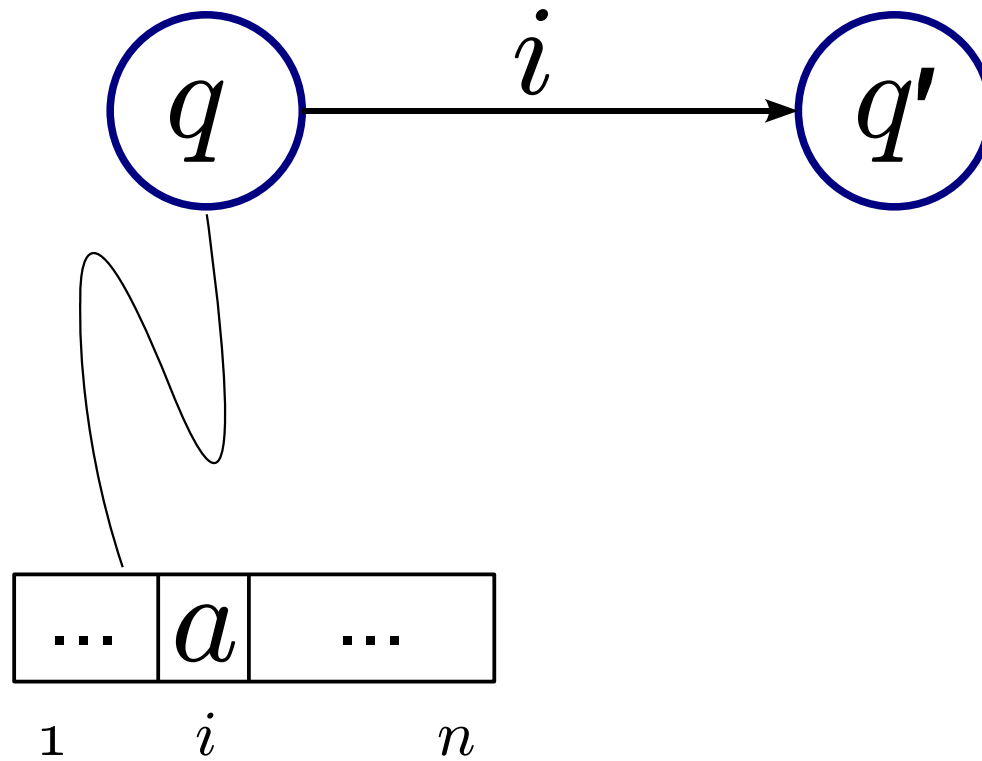
$$(q, \sigma, H) \in Q \times \text{Reg}_n \times \mathcal{P}_{\text{fn}}(\mathbb{A})$$

- Transitions between config's: the 'true' semantics

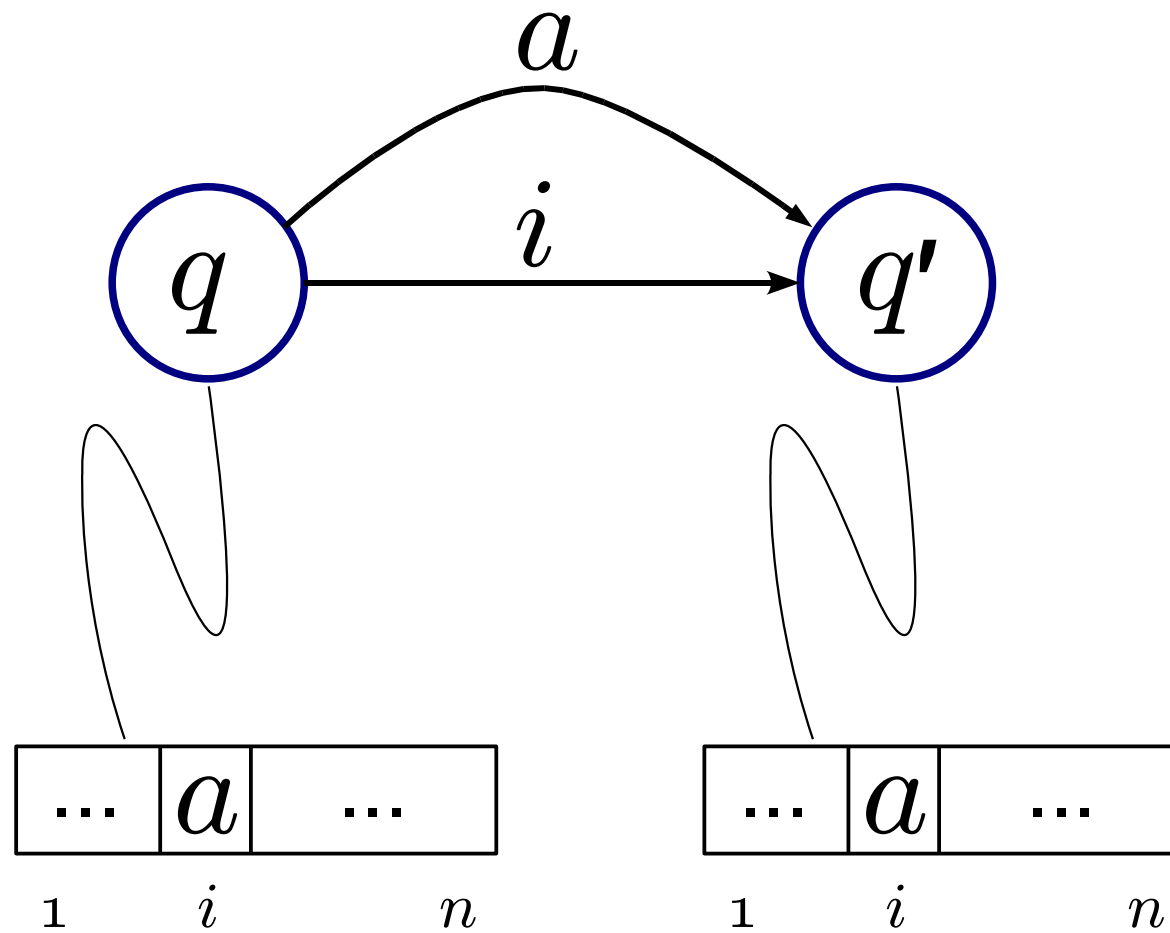
Demo: *known* transitions



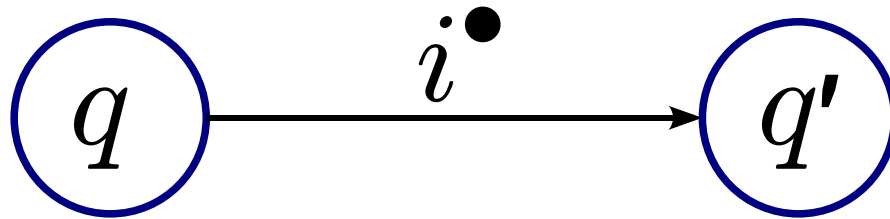
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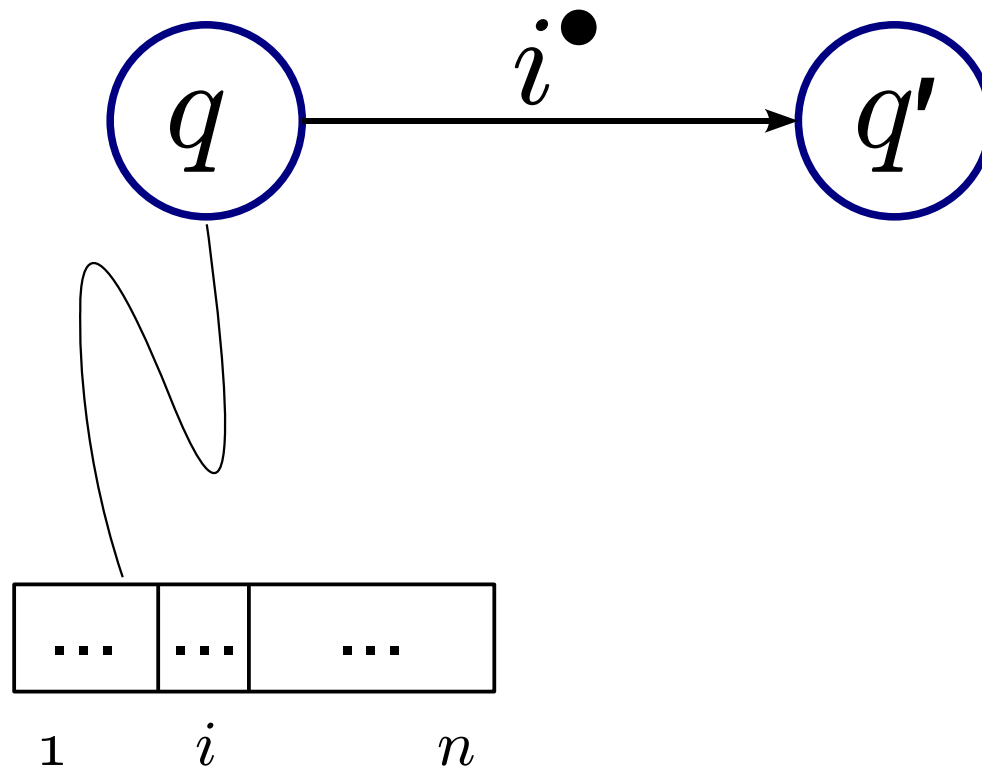
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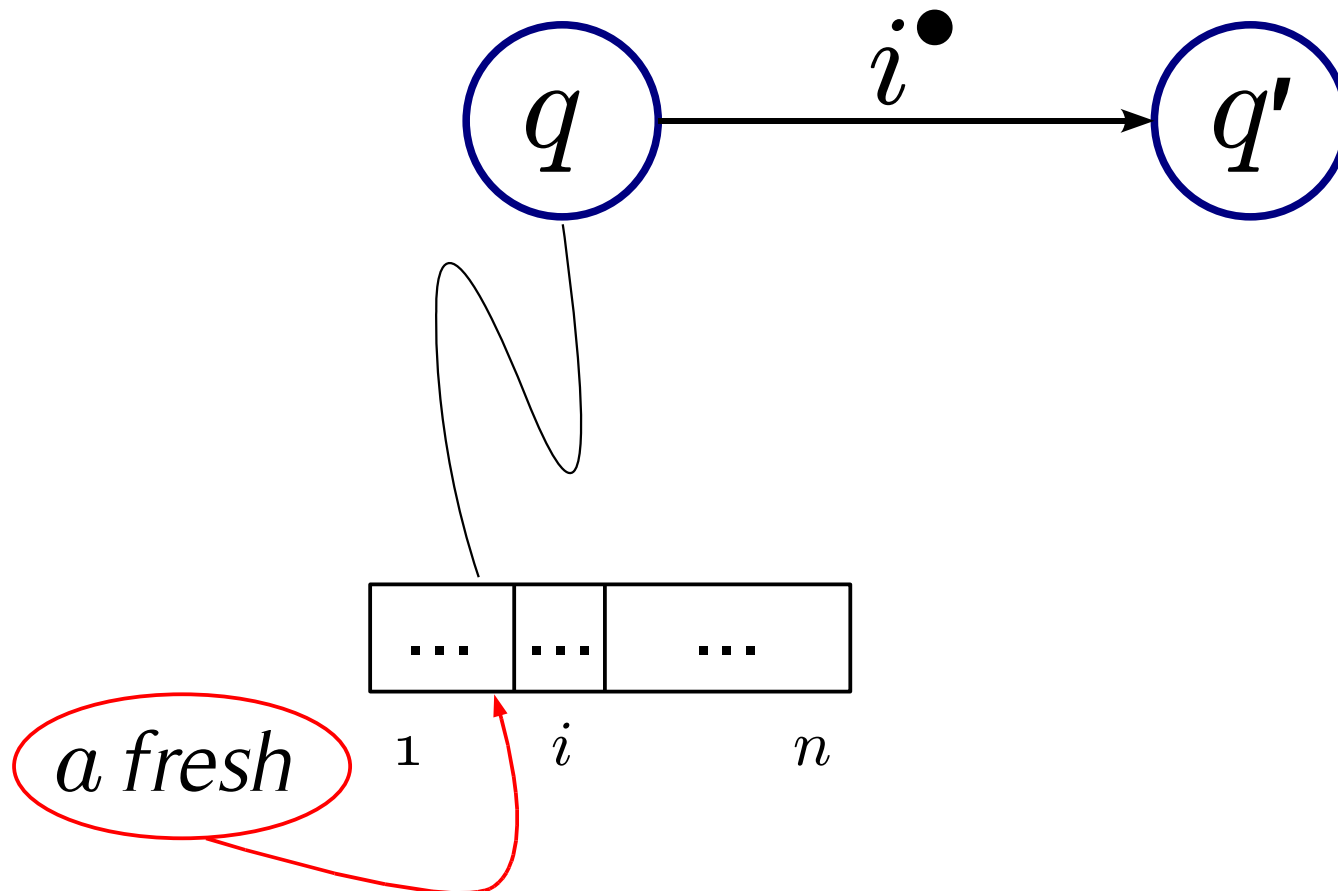
Demo: *locally fresh* transitions



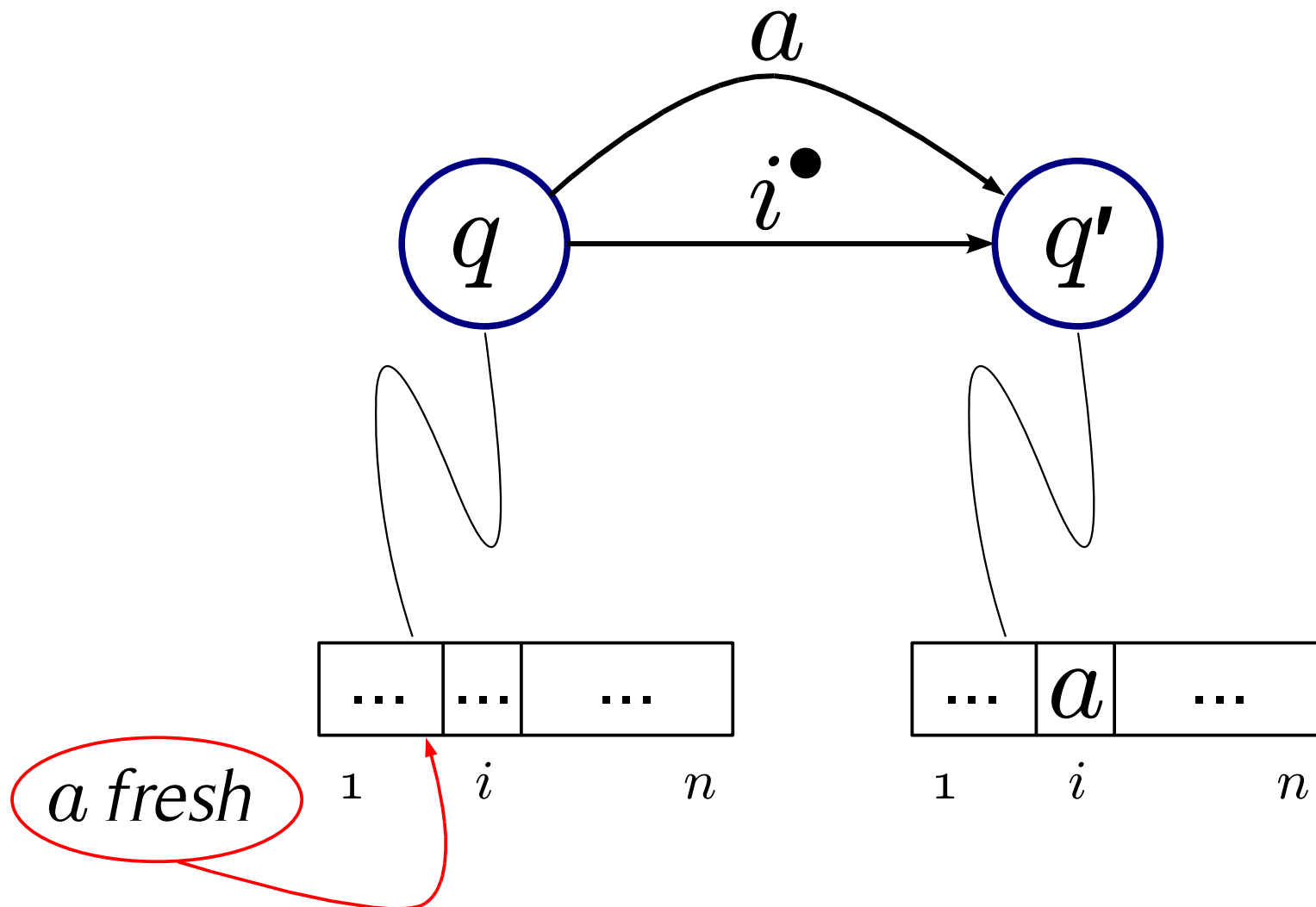
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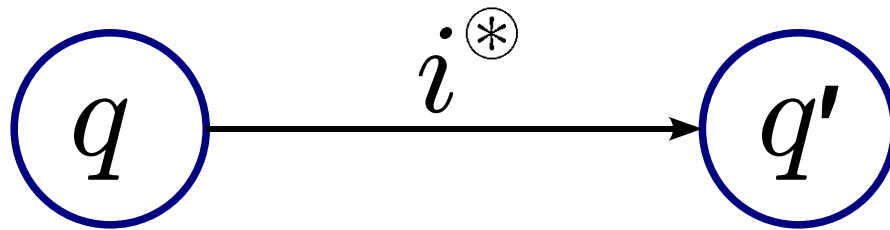
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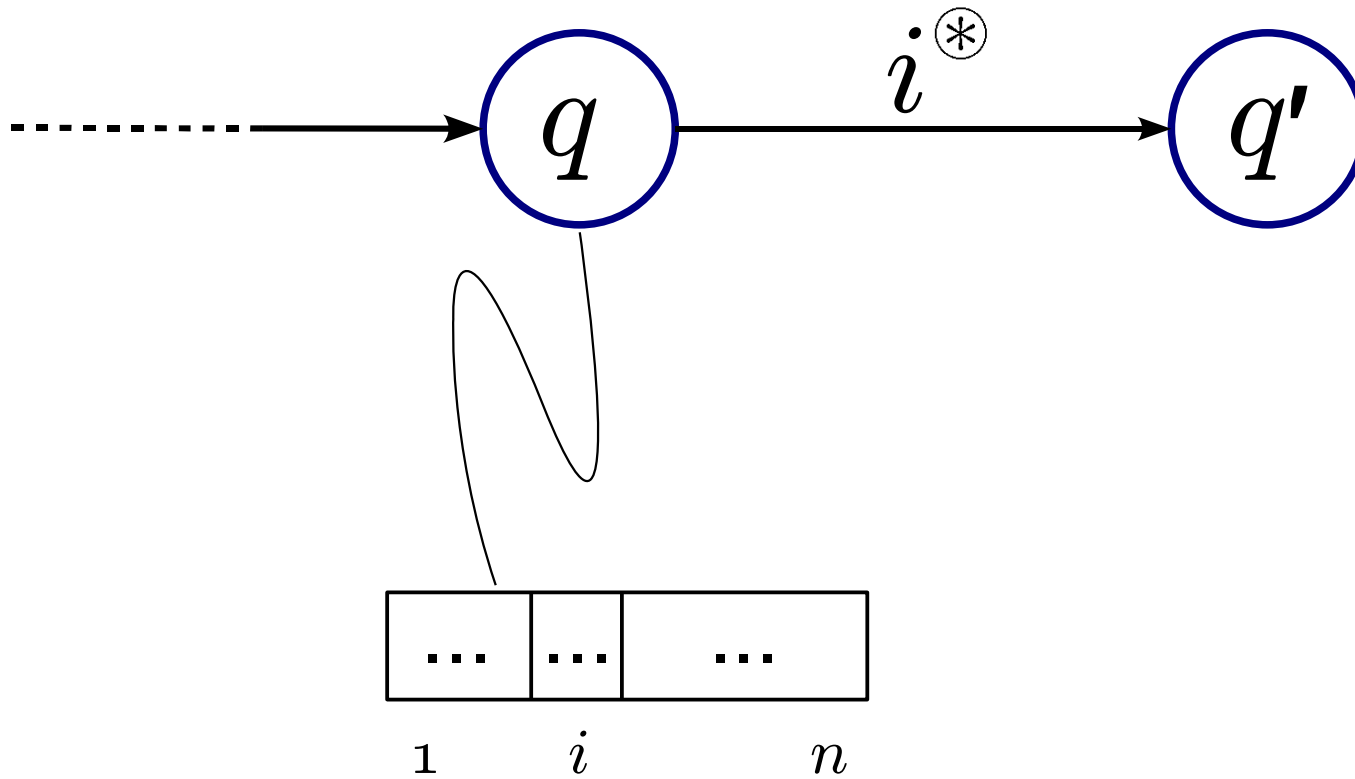
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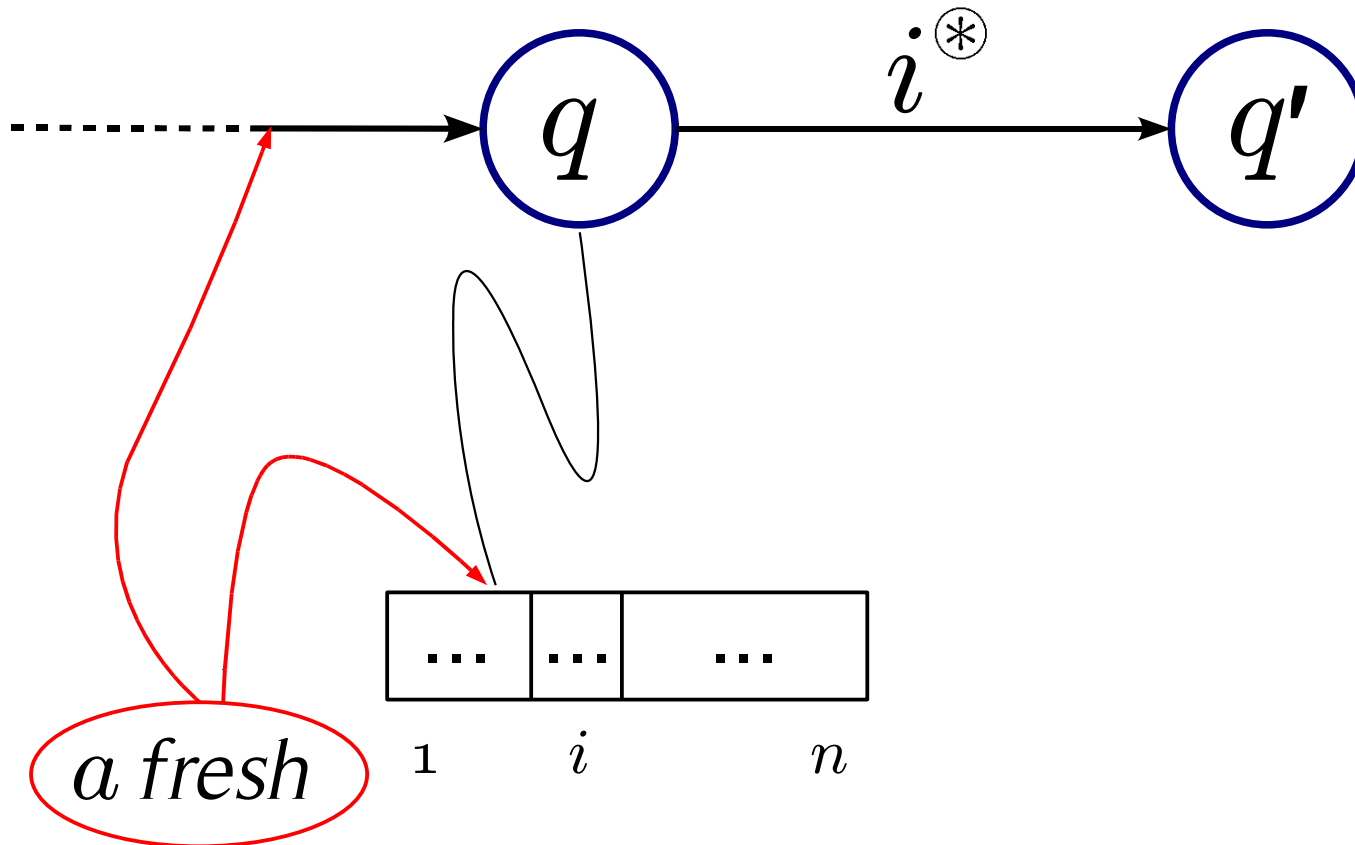
Demo: *globally fresh* transitions



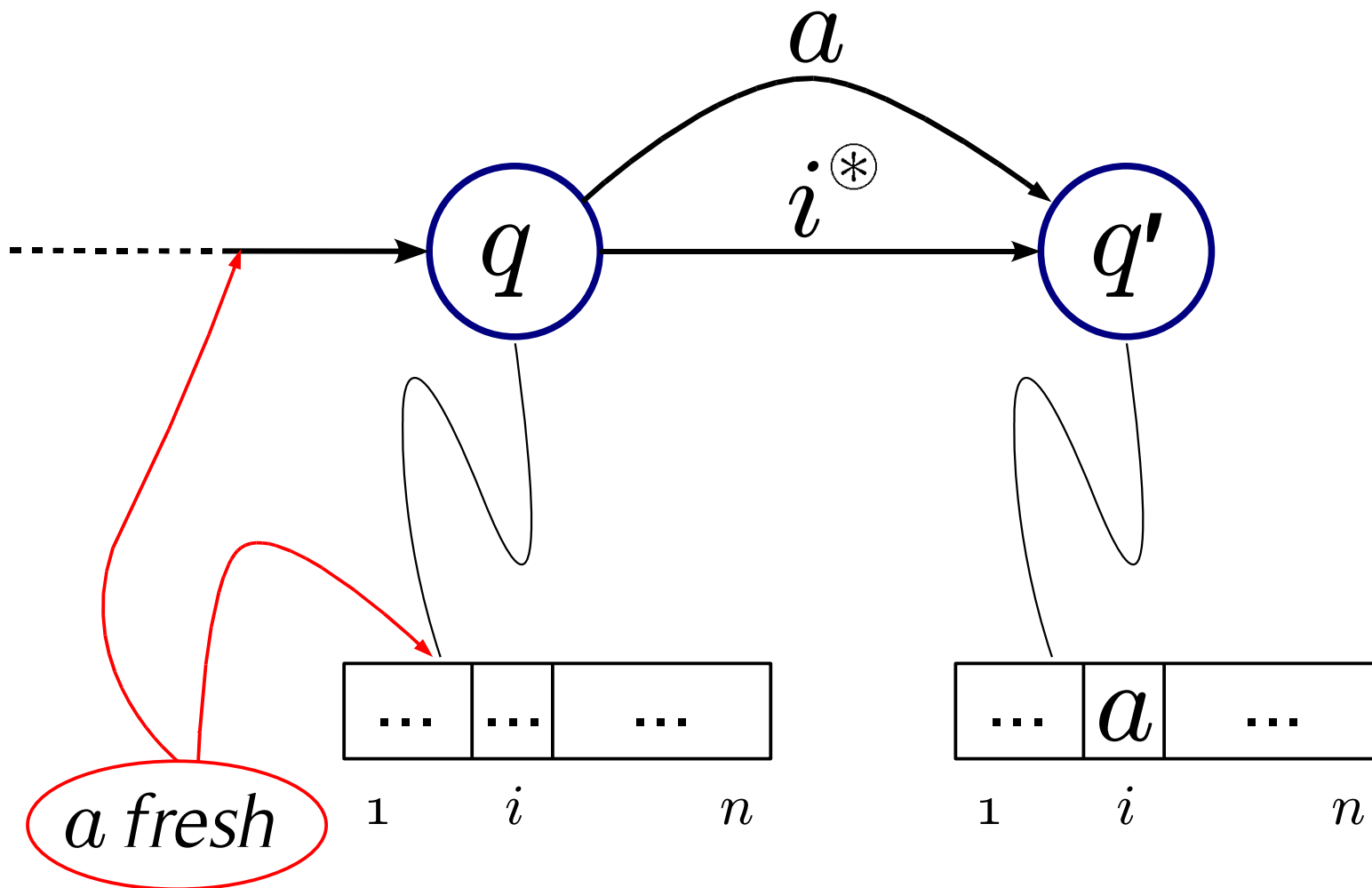
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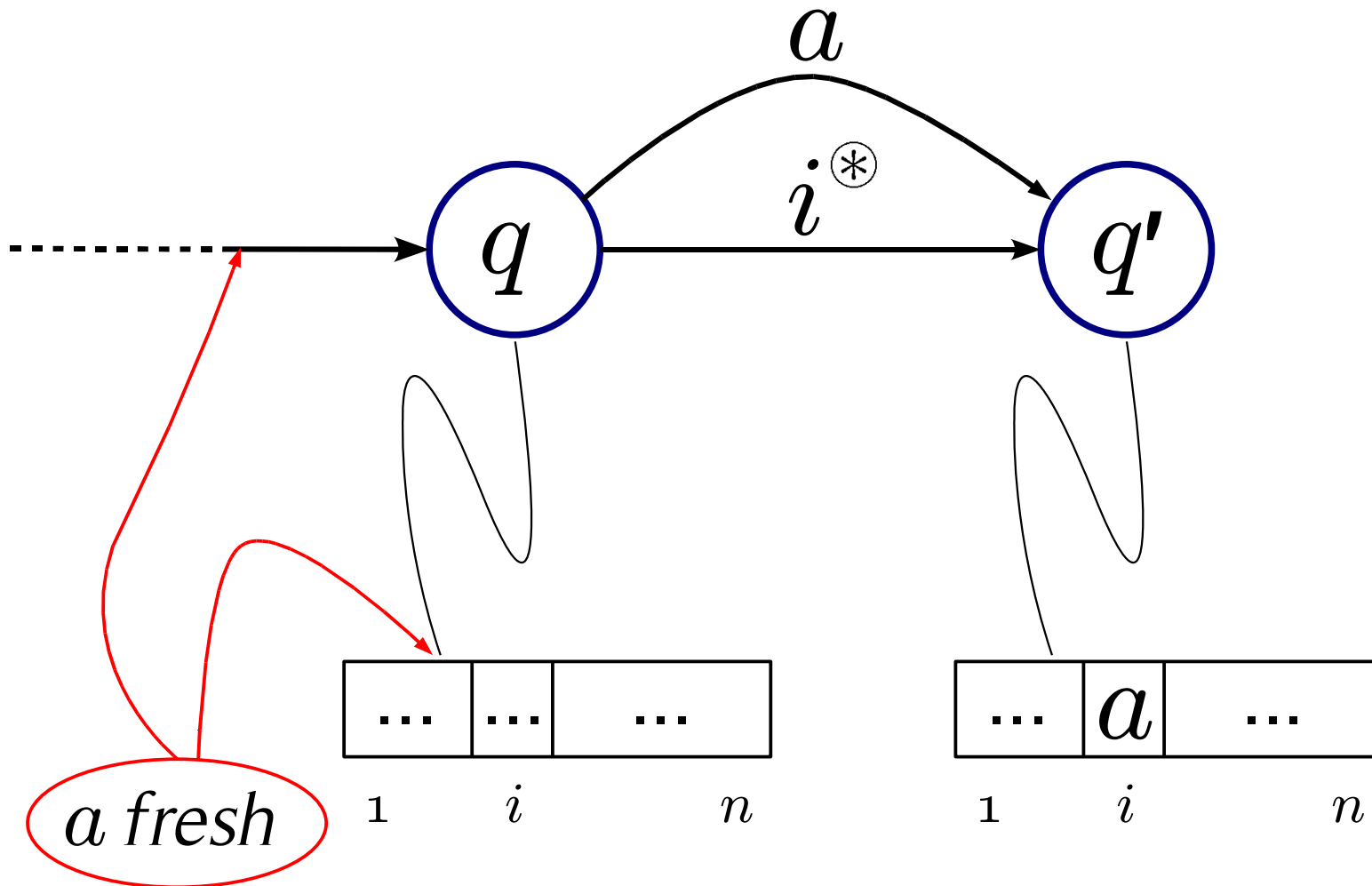


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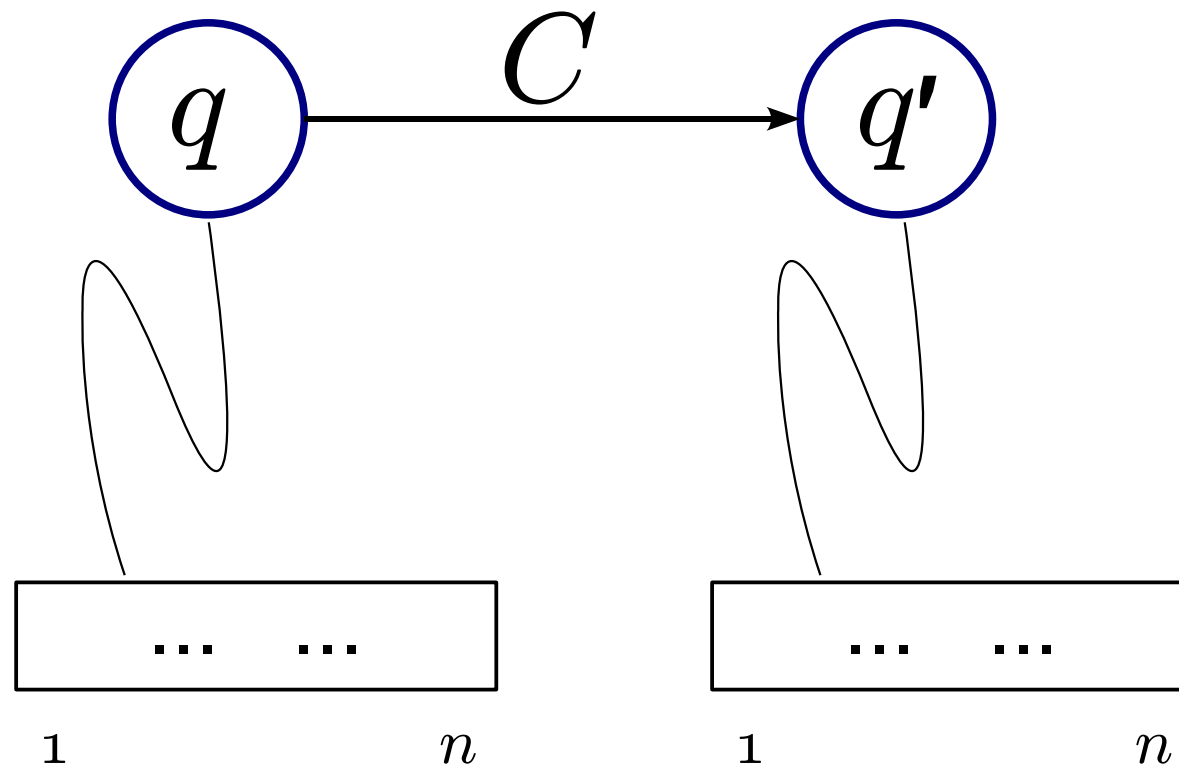


Demo: *globally fresh* transitions

An FMA is (equivalent to) an FRA without $(q, i^{\circledast}, q') \in \delta$



Demo: *constant* transitions



FRA's as language acceptors

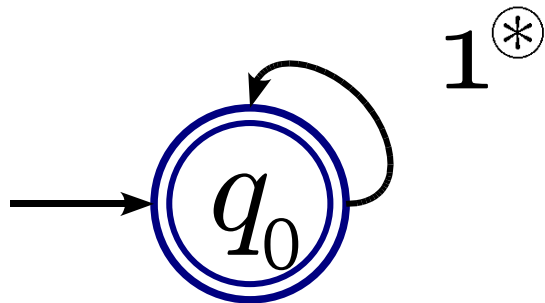
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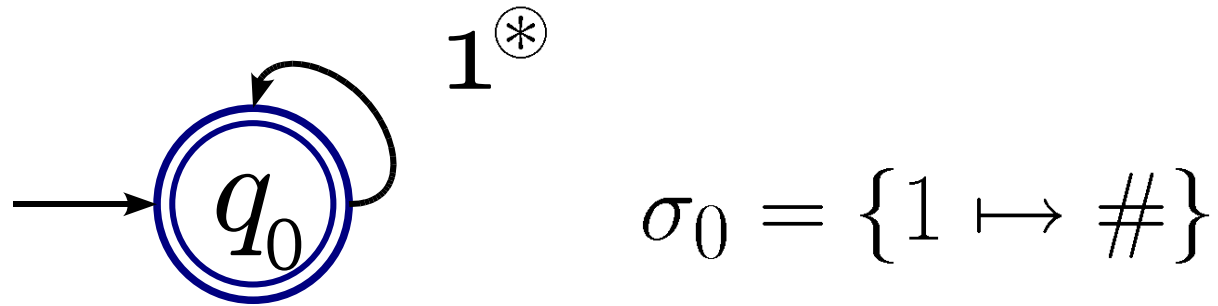
$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \{ \vec{\ell} \in (\mathbb{A} \cup \mathbb{C})^* \mid (q_0, \sigma_0, \emptyset) \xrightarrow{\vec{\ell}} (q, \sigma, H) \wedge q \in F \}$$

A name generator

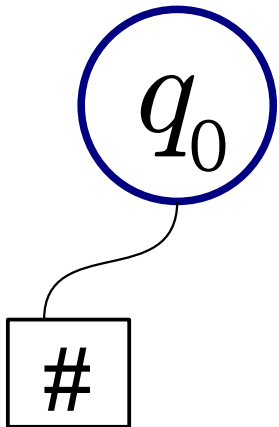


$$\sigma_0 = \{1 \mapsto \#\}$$

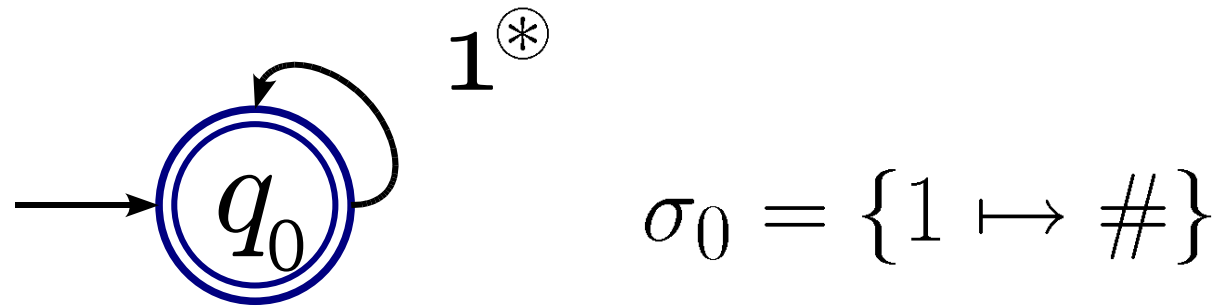
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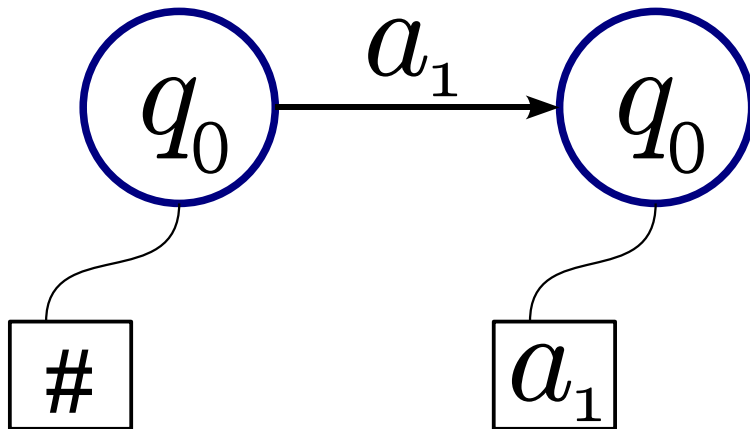
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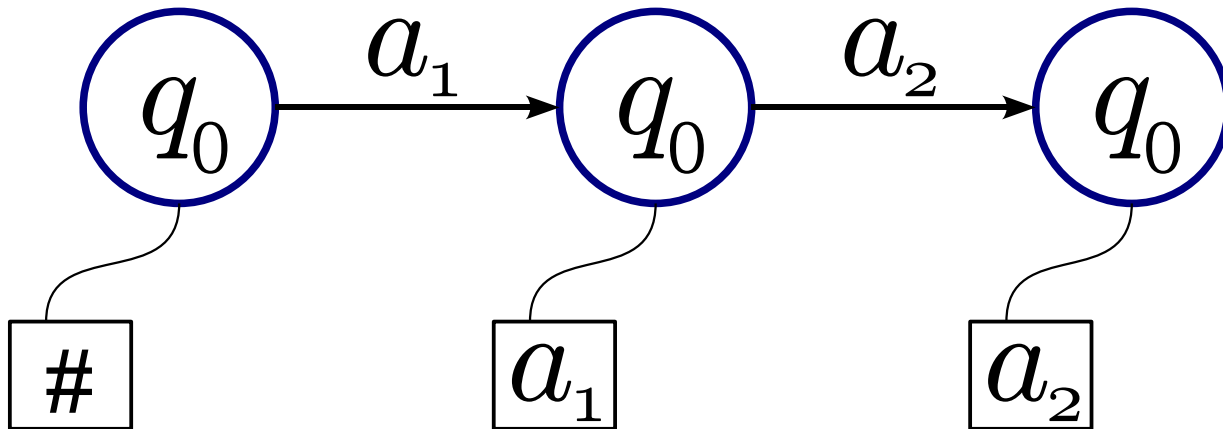
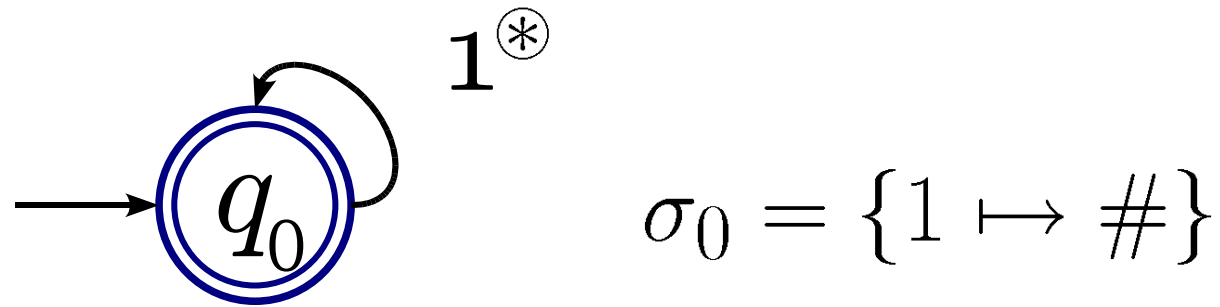
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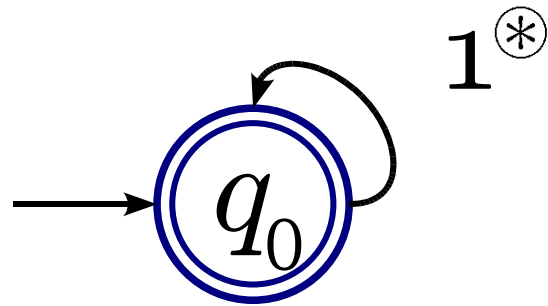
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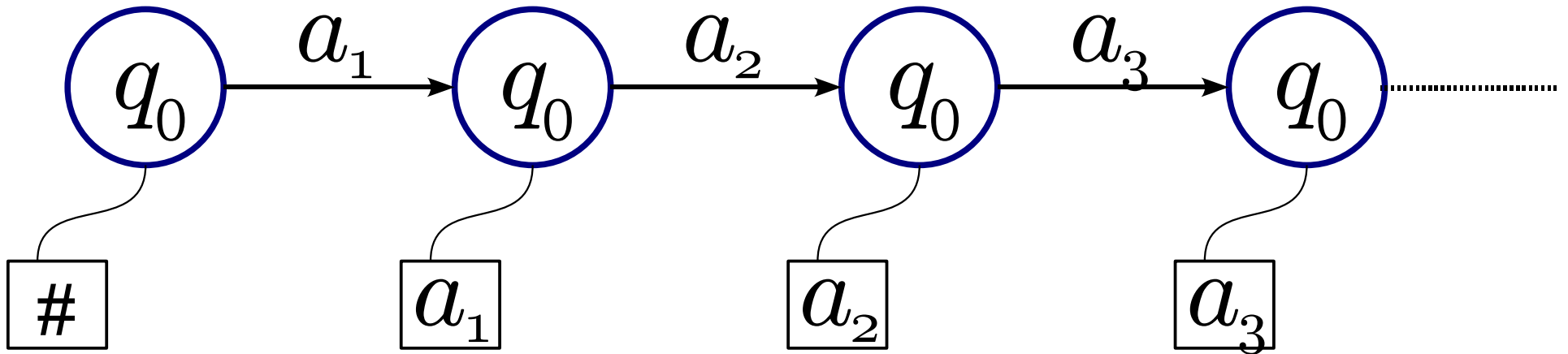
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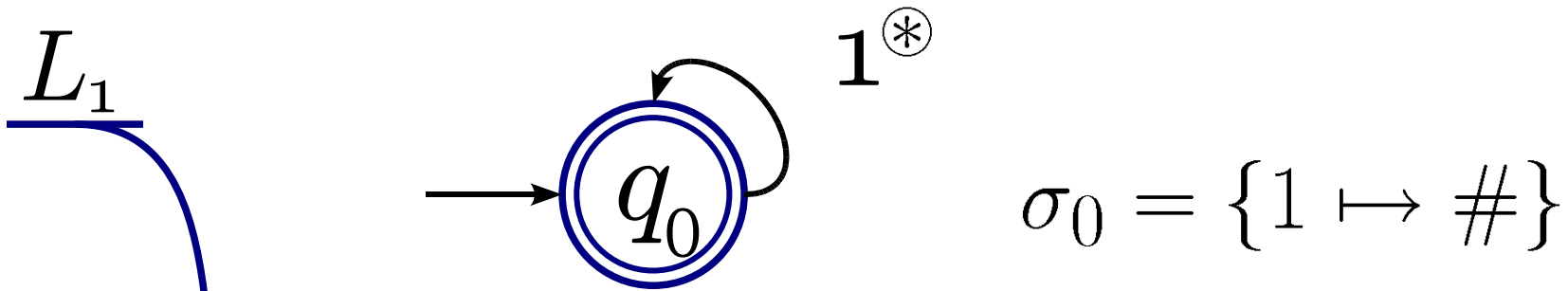
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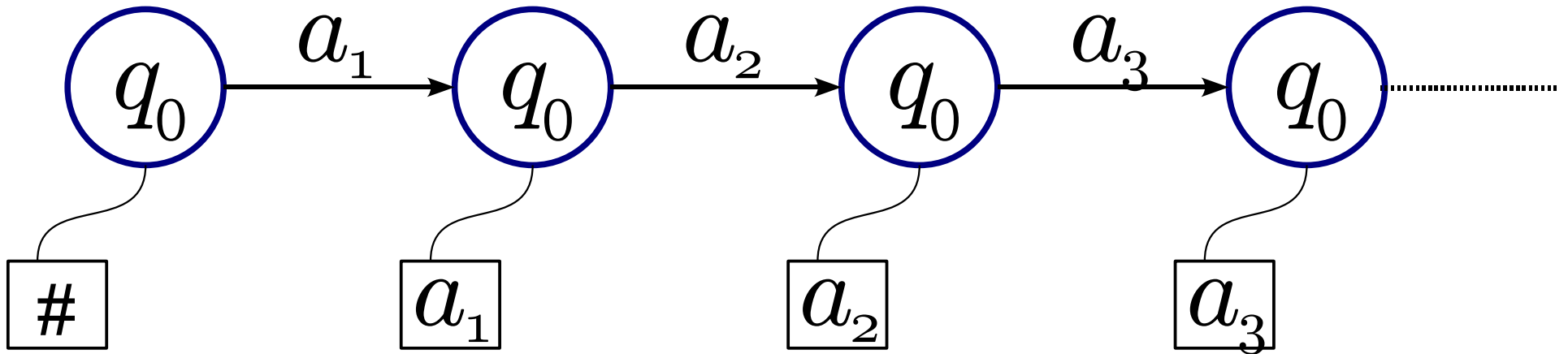
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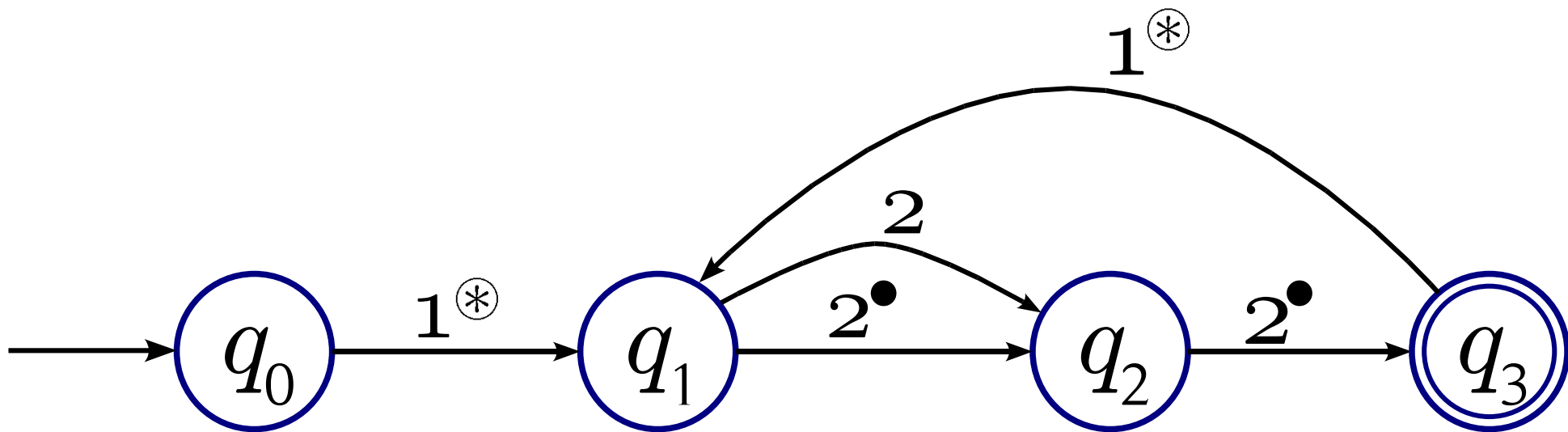
A name generator



$$\mathcal{L}(\mathcal{A}) = \{a_1 \cdots a_k \in \mathbb{A}^* \mid \forall i \neq j. a_i \neq a_j\}$$



Another example



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Properties

- Closure under union and intersection.
- Non-closure under concatenation and Kleene star.

E.g. $L_1^* L_1$ is not FRA-recognisable.

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Nominal versions of concatenation and Kleene star?

Properties

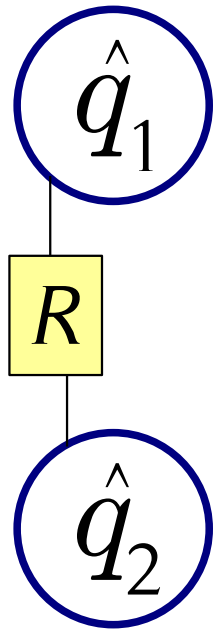
- Closure under union and intersection.
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E.g. $L_1^* L_1$ is not FRA-recognisable.
- Non-closure under complementation.
E.g. $\overline{L_1^* L_1}$ is FRA-recognisable.

Bisimulations

- Recall: $\hat{Q} = Q \times \text{Reg}_n \times \mathcal{P}_{\text{fn}}(\mathbb{A})$
- Let $\mathcal{A}_1, \mathcal{A}_2$ be FRA's. Consider relations $R \subseteq \hat{Q}_1 \times \hat{Q}_2$

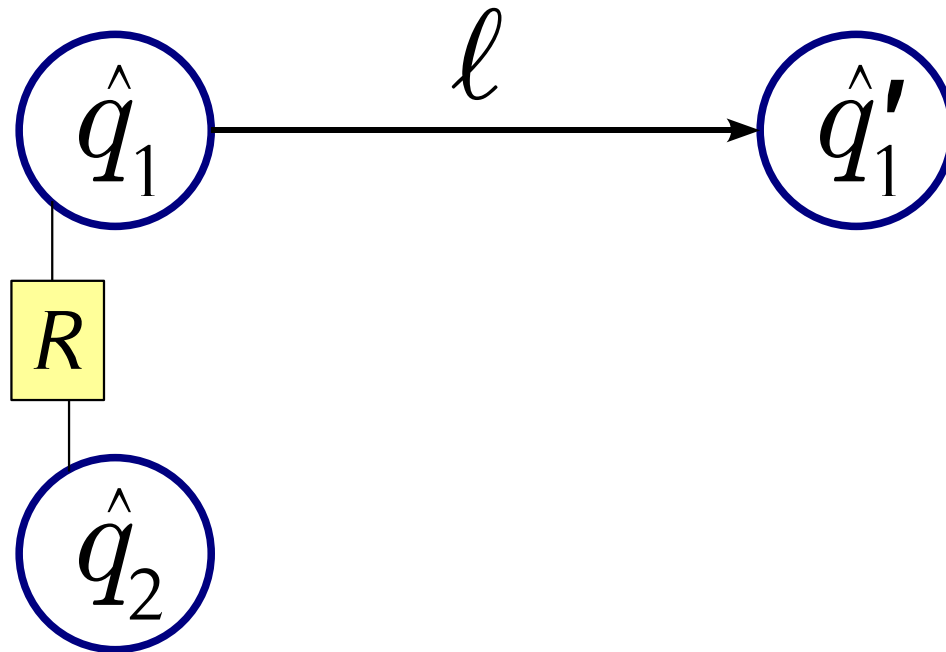
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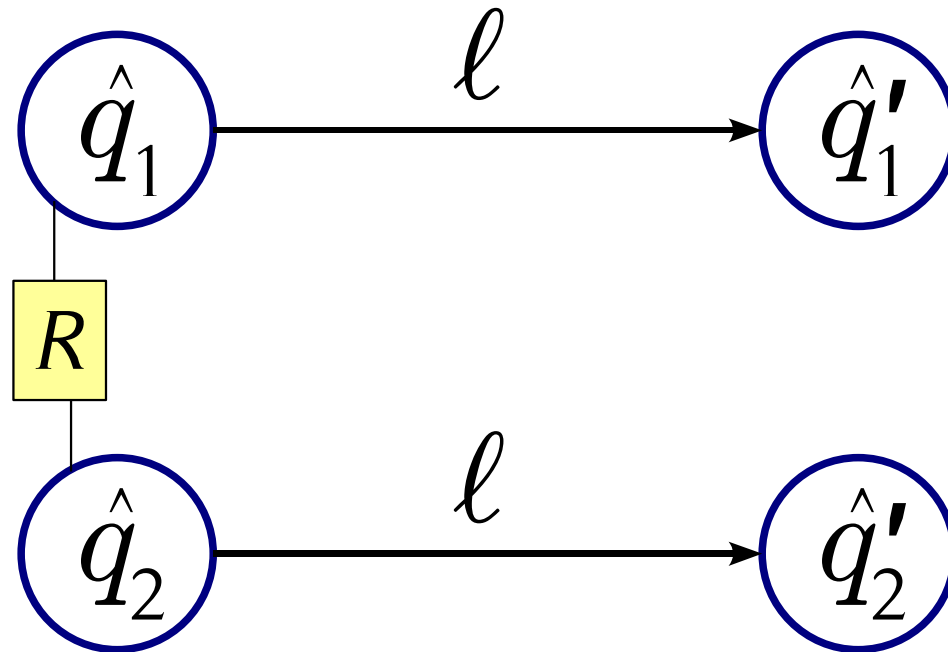
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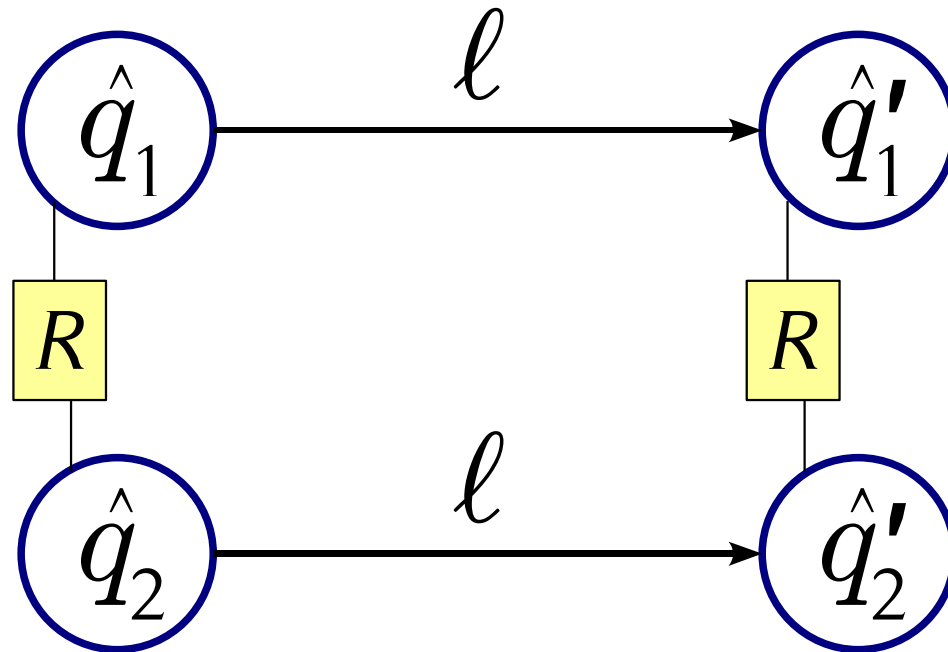
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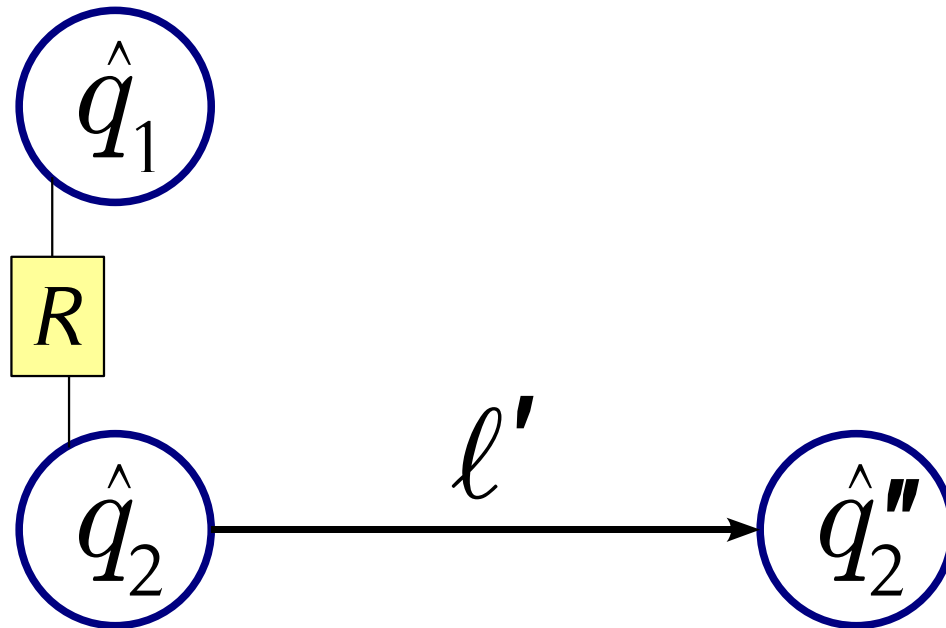
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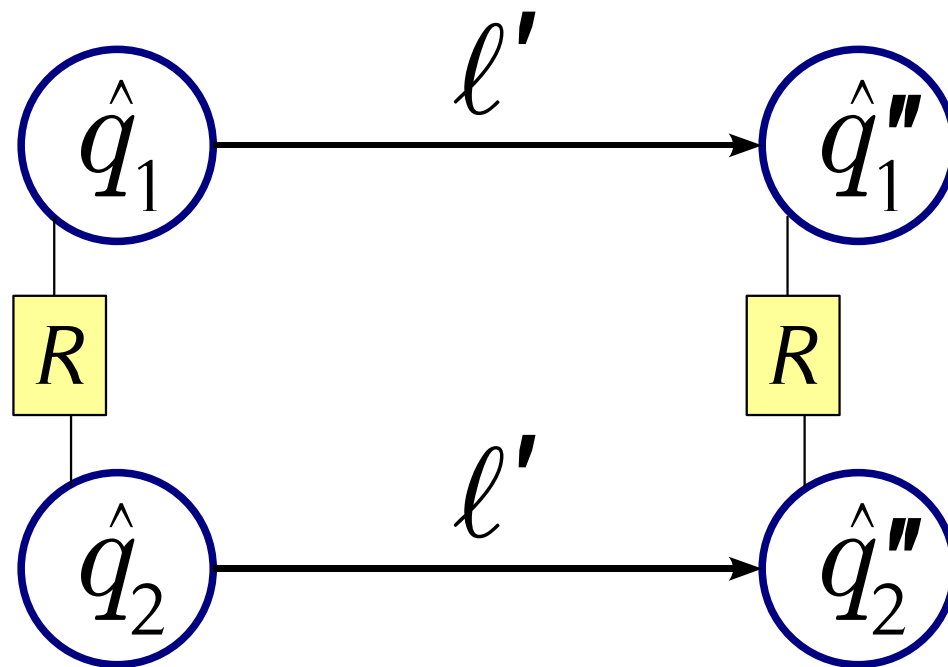
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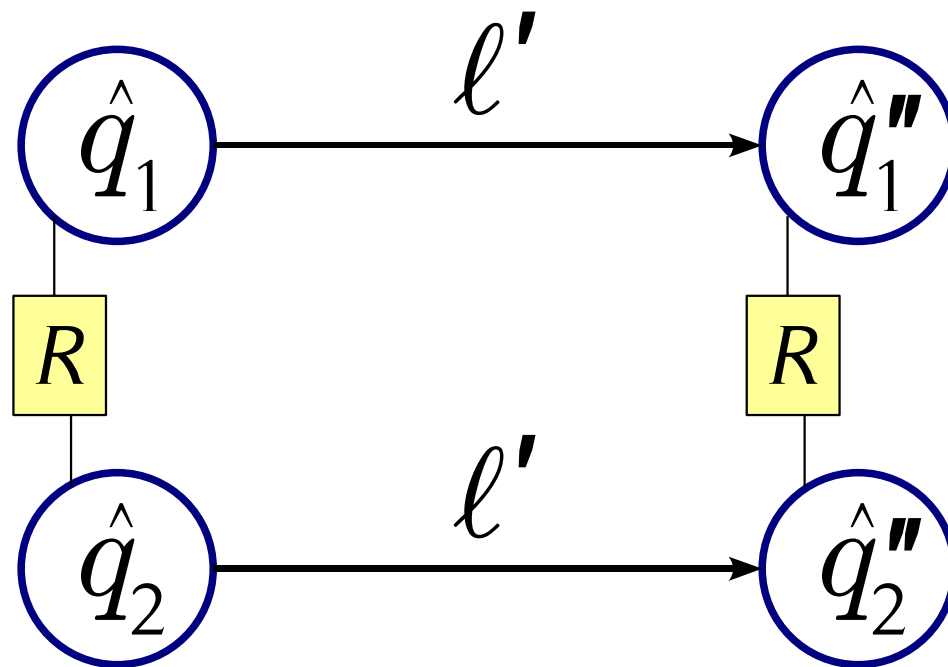
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Lemma. Bisimilarity implies language equivalence.

Bisimulations formally

$R \subseteq \hat{Q}_1 \times \hat{Q}_2$ is called a **simulation** on \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 if, whenever $(q_1, \sigma_1, H_1) R (q_2, \sigma_2, H_2)$,

- if $q_1 \in F_1$ then $q_2 \in F_2$,
- if $(q_1, \sigma_1, H_1) \xrightarrow{\ell} (q'_1, \sigma'_1, H'_1)$ then there is (q'_2, σ'_2, H'_2) with:
 $(q_2, \sigma_2, H_2) \xrightarrow{\ell} (q'_2, \sigma'_2, H'_2)$ and $(q'_1, \sigma'_1, H'_1) R (q'_2, \sigma'_2, H'_2)$.

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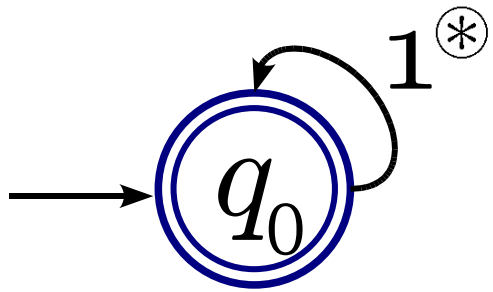
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We say that \mathcal{A}_1 and \mathcal{A}_2 are **bisimilar**, written $\mathcal{A}_1 \sim \mathcal{A}_2$, if there is a bisimulation R such that:

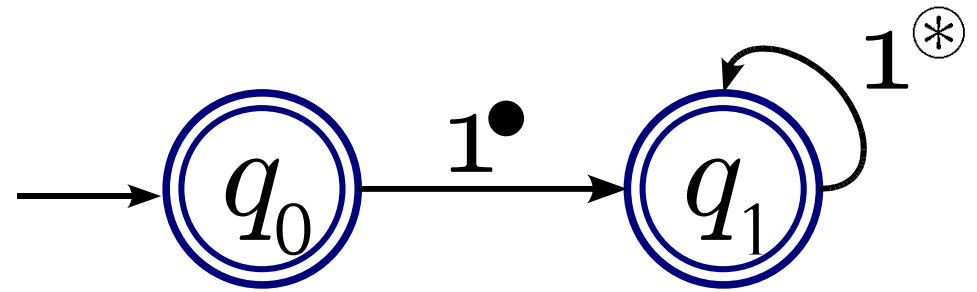
$$(q_{01}, \sigma_{01}, \emptyset) R (q_{02}, \sigma_{02}, \emptyset)$$

Example



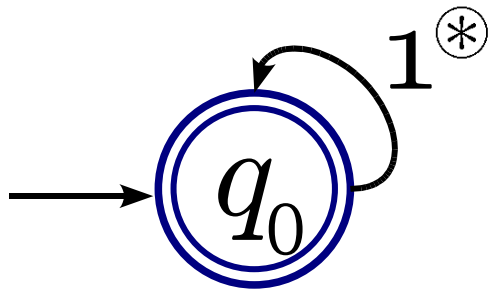
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\sim



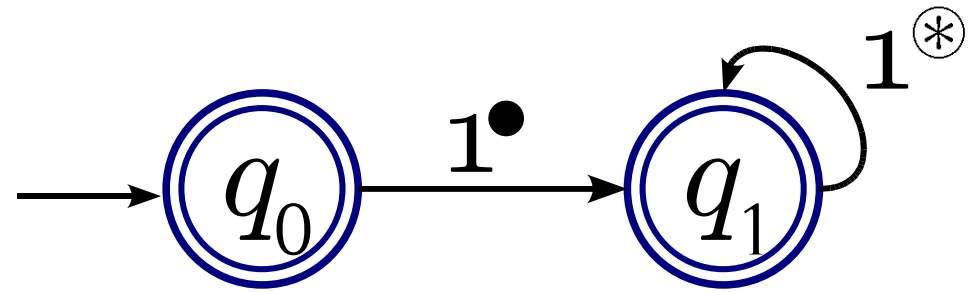
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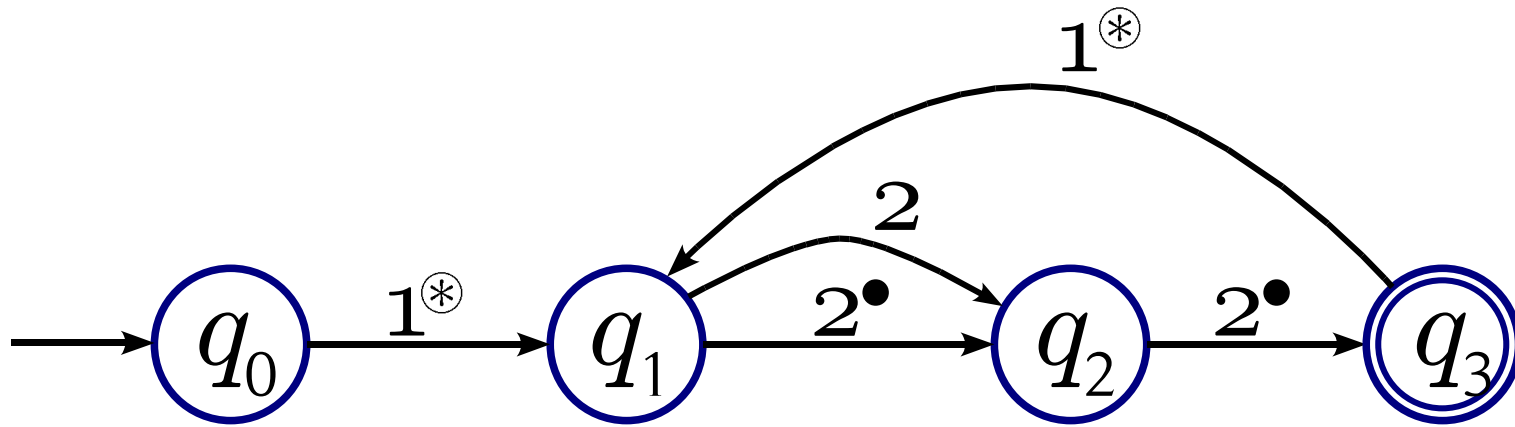
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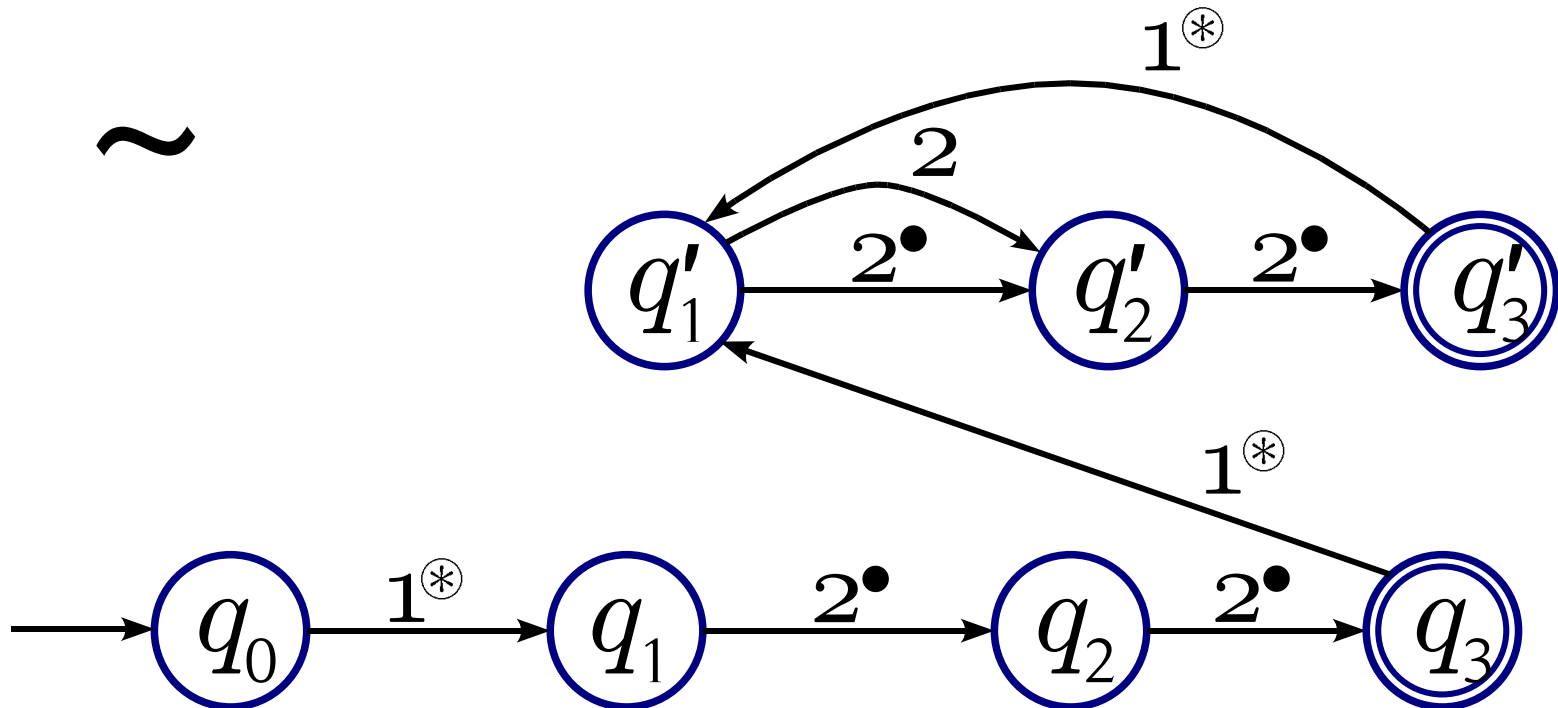
$$\sigma_0 = \{1 \mapsto \#\}$$

$$R = \{((q_0, \sigma_0, \emptyset), (q_0, \sigma_0, \emptyset))\} \cup \{((q_0, \sigma_1, H), (q_1, \sigma_2, H))\}$$

Another example



\sim



Closed FRA's

- \mathcal{A} is *closed* if it has no blocking transitions:

$$(q_0, \sigma_0, \emptyset) \xrightarrow{\vec{\ell}} (q, \sigma, H) \wedge (q, i, q') \in \delta \implies \sigma(i) \neq \#$$

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Lemma. For any FRA \mathcal{A} we can effectively construct a closed FRA $\bar{\mathcal{A}} \sim \mathcal{A}$.

Corollary. FRA-emptiness is decidable.

Symbolic bisimulations

- *Symbolic* reasoning can be used for bisimulations too:
 - We can define a notion of symbolic bisimulation:

$$R \subseteq Q_1 \times \{0, \dots, n_1 + n_2\} \times (n_1 \rightleftharpoons n_2) \times Q_2$$

- capturing (actual) bisimilarity.

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Corollary. FRA-bisimilarity is decidable.

Results on FRA's

- As language acceptors:
 - Closure under union and intersection.
 - Non-closure under concatenation and Kleene star.
 - Non-closure under complementation.
 - Emptiness is decidable.
 - Containment, universality are undecidable.
- Bisimilarity is decidable by symbolic means.

Application: the pi-calculus

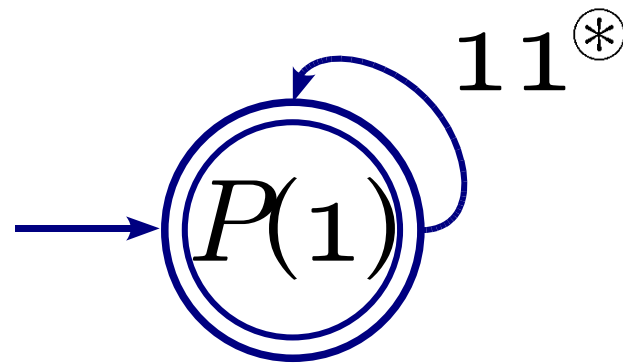
Application: the pi-calculus

INP1 $\frac{}{\sigma \vdash a(b).P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash (b).P} \sigma(i)=a$	MATCH $\frac{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}{\sigma \vdash [a = a]P \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}$	SUM $\frac{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}{\sigma \vdash P+Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}$
INP2A $\frac{}{\sigma \vdash (b).P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash P\{a/b\}} \sigma(i)=a$	INP2B $\frac{}{\sigma \vdash (b).P \xrightarrow{i^\bullet} \sigma[i \mapsto b] \vdash P} i = \min\{i \mid \sigma(i) \notin \text{fn}(P)\}$	
OUT1 $\frac{}{\sigma \vdash \bar{a}b.P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash b.P} \sigma(i)=a$	OUT2 $\frac{}{\sigma \vdash b.P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash P} \sigma(i)=b$	REC $\frac{\sigma \vdash P\{\vec{a}/\vec{b}\} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}{\sigma \vdash p(\vec{a}) \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'} p(\vec{b})=P$
RES $\frac{(\sigma + a) \vdash \hat{P} \xrightarrow{\alpha} (\sigma' + a) \vdash \hat{P}'}{\sigma \vdash \nu a.\hat{P} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma' \vdash \nu a.\hat{P}'} \alpha \neq (\sigma +1)$	OPEN $\frac{\sigma[i \mapsto a] \vdash P_{\text{out}} \xrightarrow{i} \sigma[i \mapsto a] \vdash P}{\sigma \vdash \nu a.P_{\text{out}} \xrightarrow{i^\circledast} \sigma[i \mapsto a] \vdash P} i = \min\{i \mid \sigma(i) \notin \text{fn}(P)\}$	
PAR1 $\frac{\sigma \vdash \hat{P} \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}'}{\sigma \vdash \hat{P} \mid Q \xrightarrow{\alpha} \sigma \vdash \hat{P}' \mid Q} \alpha = i/\tau$	PAR2 $\frac{\sigma \vdash \hat{P} \xrightarrow{i^\bullet/i^\circledast} \sigma[i \mapsto b] \vdash P'}{\sigma \vdash \hat{P} \mid Q \xrightarrow{j^\bullet/j^\circledast} \sigma[j \mapsto b] \vdash P' \mid Q} j = \min\{j \mid \sigma(j) \notin \text{fn}(P', Q)\}$	
COMM $\frac{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{\bar{i}j} \sigma \vdash P' \quad \sigma \vdash Q \xrightarrow{ij} \sigma \vdash Q'}{\sigma \vdash P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\tau} \sigma \vdash P' \mid Q'}$	CLOSE $\frac{(\# + \sigma) \vdash P \xrightarrow{\bar{i}1^\circledast} (b + \sigma) \vdash P' \quad (\# + \sigma) \vdash Q \xrightarrow{i1^\bullet} (b + \sigma) \vdash Q'}{\sigma \vdash P \mid Q \xrightarrow{\tau} \sigma \vdash \nu b.(P' \mid Q')}$	
DBLOUT $\frac{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash P_{\text{out}} \xrightarrow{j/j^\circledast} \sigma' \vdash P'}{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{\bar{i}j/\bar{i}j^\circledast} \sigma' \vdash P'}$	DBLINP $\frac{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{i} \sigma \vdash P_{\text{inp}} \xrightarrow{j/j^\bullet} \sigma' \vdash P'}{\sigma \vdash P \xrightarrow{ij/ij^\bullet} \sigma' \vdash P'}$	

Table 1. The transition relation for the $\lambda\pi$ -calculus (symmetric counterparts of SUM, PAR, COMM, CLOSE omitted⁸).

Application: the pi-calculus

$$P(a) = \nu b. \bar{a}b. P(b)$$



Application: the pi-calculus

- Algorithmic description which is:
 - name-free
 - finitely-branching
- Bisimilarity can be captured symbolically
 - In the finitary case: decide bisimilarity

Interesting directions

- *Algorithmic game semantics*
 - e.g. (finitary) Reduced ML
- Connections to HD-automata
- Nominal notions of concatenation, Kleene closure
- Variations:
 - Labels
 - Stores
 - Stack