

# Operations on relations

# Operations on relations

Universe of objects  $U$ , relations  $R, S$  on objects, set of objects  $X$

## Operations on relations

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- Projection\_1**( $R$ ) : returns the set  $\pi_1(R) = \{x \mid \exists y (x, y) \in R\}$ .
- Projection\_2**( $R$ ) : returns the set  $\pi_2(R) = \{y \mid \exists x (x, y) \in R\}$ .
- Join**( $R, S$ ) : returns the relation  $R \circ S = \{(x, z) \mid \exists y \in X (x, y) \in R \wedge (y, z) \in S\}$
- Post**( $X, R$ ) : returns the set  $post_R(X) = \{y \in U \mid \exists x \in X (x, y) \in R\}$ .
- Pre**( $X, R$ ) : returns the set  $pre_R(X) = \{y \in U \mid \exists x \in X (y, x) \in R\}$ .

# Encoding pairs

- Using automata to represent relations requires to encode **pairs** of objects.
- How should we encode a pair  $(n_1, n_2)$  of natural numbers?

# Encoding pairs

- Assume  $n_1, n_2$  are encoded by  $w_1, w_2$  in the *lsbf* encoding
- Which should be the encoding of  $(n_1, n_2)$  ?
- Cannot be  $w_1 w_2$ , then the same word encodes different pairs
- **First attempt**: use a separator symbol  $\&$ , and encode  $(n_1, n_2)$  by  $w_1 \& w_2$  .
  - **Problem**: not even the identity relation is encoded as a regular language!

# Encoding pairs

- **Second attempt:** encode  $(n_1, n_2)$  as a word over  $\{0,1\} \times \{0,1\}$  (intuitively, the automaton reads  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  simultaneously).
  - **Problem:** what if  $w_1$  and  $w_2$  have different length?
  - **Solution:** fill the shortest one with 0s.

Example: the encoding of  $(10, 35)$  is  $\begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$

- We accept that the number  $k$  is encoded by all the words of  $s_k 0^*$ , where  $s_k$  is the *lsbf* encoding of  $k$ .
- We call 0 the **padding symbol** or **padding letter**.

# Encoding pairs

- So we assume:
  - The alphabet contains a padding letter #, different or not from the letters used to encode an object.
  - Each object  $x$  has a minimal encoding  $s_x$ .
  - The encodings of  $x$  are all the words of  $s_x\#^*$ .
  - A pair  $(x, y)$  of objects has a minimal encoding  $s_{(x,y)}$ .



- The encodings of  $(x, y)$  are all the words of  $s_{(x,y)}\#^*$ .

# Redefining acceptance

- **Question:** if objects (pairs of objects) are encoded by **multiple** words, which is the set of objects (pairs) recognized by a DFA or NFA?

(We can no longer say: an object is recognized if ``its encoding'' is accepted by the DFA or NFA, because now there are multiple encodings)

- **Question:** because of the new definition of "set of objects recognized by an automaton", do we have to change the implementation of the set operations?

# Redefining acceptance

- **Definition:** Assume an encoding of objects as words has been fixed. We say
  - An automaton **accepts** an object  $x$  if it accepts **all** encodings of  $x$ .
  - An automaton **rejects** an object  $x$  if it accepts **no** encoding of  $x$ .
  - An automaton recognizes a set of objects  $X$  if it accepts every object of  $X$  and rejects every other object.
- **Observe:** if an automaton accepts some, but not all the encodings of an object, then the automaton does not recognize any set. We say that such an automaton is **ill formed**. Automata that do recognize some set of objects are **well formed**.

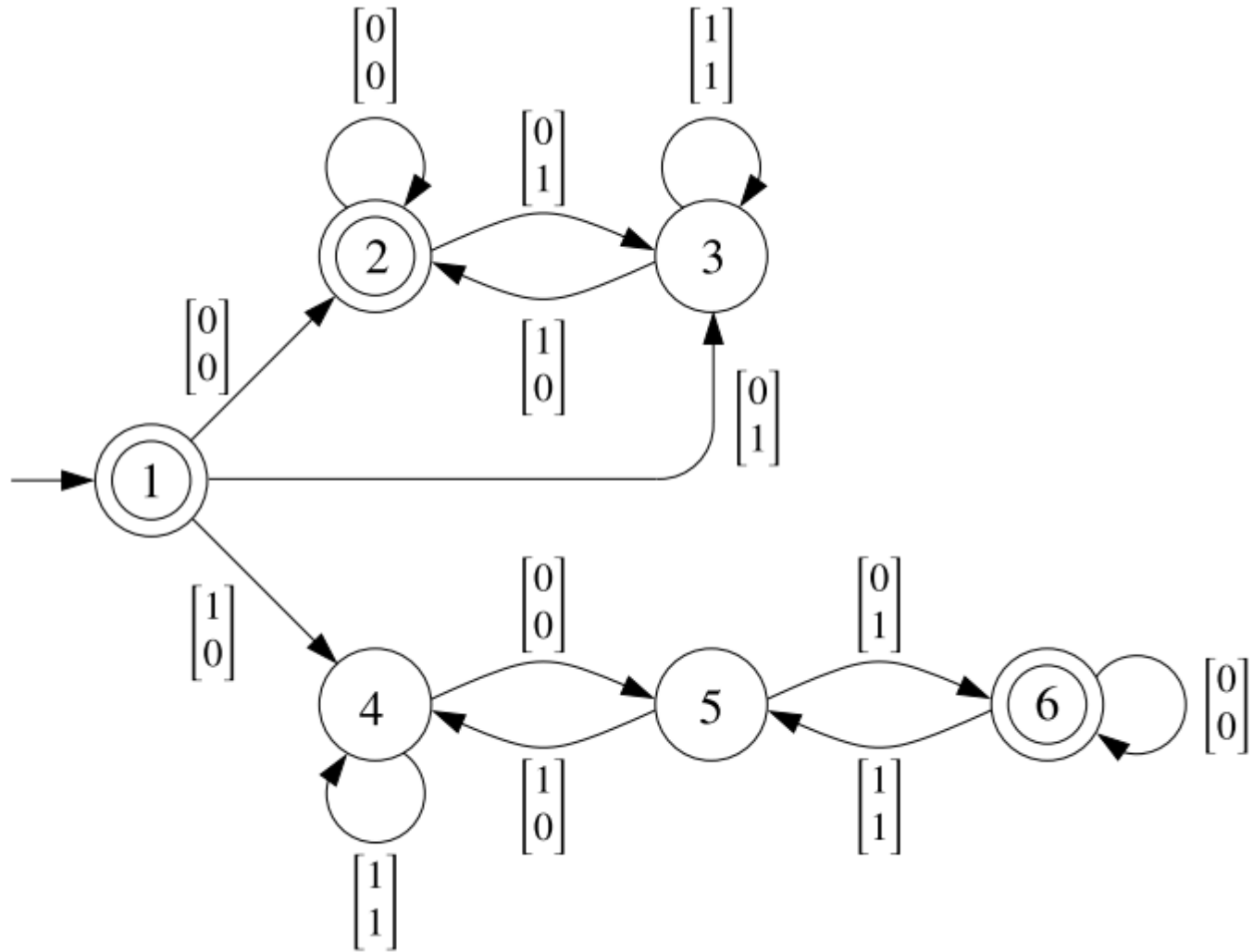


# Redefining acceptance

- The operations we have defined so far still work, in the following sense:
  - If the input(s) is (are) well formed, then the output is well formed
  - The output still satisfies the specification.
- **Example:** If  $A_1, A_2$  are well formed NFAs recognizing sets of objects  $X_1, X_2$  then the automaton  $A := \text{inter}(A_1, A_2)$  is well formed and recognizes  $X_1 \cap X_2$ .

**Proof of well formedness:** If  $A$  recognizes an encoding  $w$  of an object  $x$ , then by definition of  $A$  both  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  recognize  $w$ . Since  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are well formed they recognize all encodings of  $x$ , and so  $A$  also recognizes all encodings of  $x$ .

# Transducers



# Transducers

- A **transducer over  $\Sigma$**  is an NFA over the alphabet  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$ .
- We write  $(a, b) \in \Sigma \times \Sigma$  as  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$
- A transducer **accepts a pair**  $(a_1 \dots a_n, b_1 \dots, b_n)$  **of words** if it accepts the word  $\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} \dots \begin{bmatrix} a_n \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}$ .
- A transducer **accepts a pair of objects** if it accepts all its encodings (which are pairs of words).
- A relation is **regular** if it is recognized by some transducer.

# Examples of regular relations

- Examples of regular relations on numbers (*lsbf* encoding):
  - The identity relation  $\{ (n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$
  - The relation  $\{ (n, 2n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$
  - The relation  $\{ (n, f(n)) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$  where  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  is the Collatz function given by:

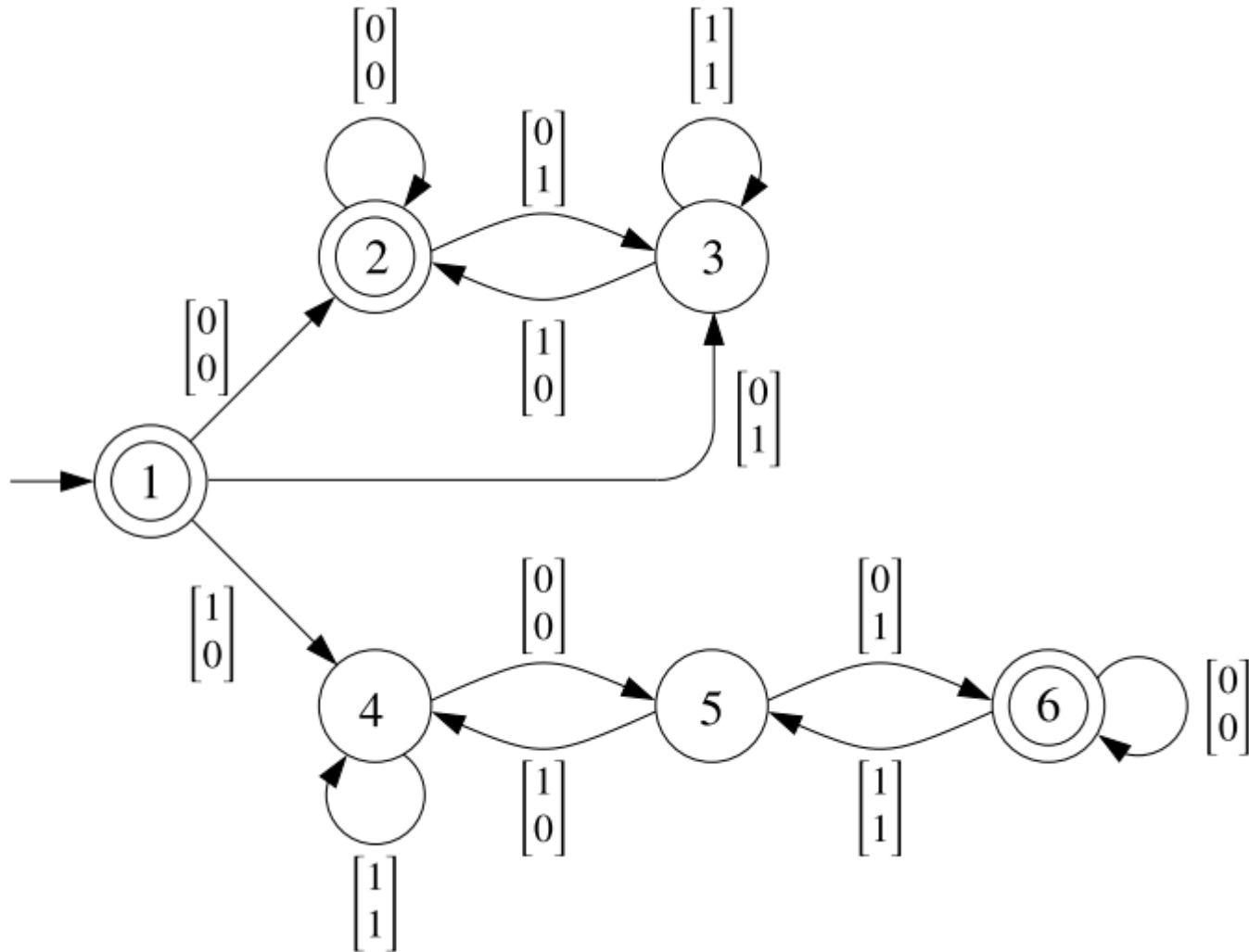
$$f(n) = \begin{cases} 3n + 1 & \text{if } n \text{ is odd} \\ n/2 & \text{if } n \text{ is even} \end{cases}$$

# Deterministic transducers

- A transducer is **deterministic** if it is a DFA.
- **Observe:** if  $\Sigma$  has size  $n$ , then a state of a deterministic transducer with alphabet  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$  has  $n^2$  outgoing transitions.
- **Warning!** There is a different definition of determinism:
  - A letter  $\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}$  is interpreted as "output b on input a"
  - **Deterministic transducer:** only one move (and so only one output) for each input.

Implementing the operations

# Computing projections



# Computing projections

- Deleting the second component of all letters to compute the projection of a relation onto the first component is **incorrect**
  - Counterexample:  $R = \{ (1,4) \}$
  - $S_{(4,1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix}$
  - DFA for  $R$ :



# Computing projections

- **Problem:** we may be accepting  $s_x \#^k \#^*$  instead of  $s_x \#^*$  and so according to the definition we are not accepting  $x$  !
- **Solution:** if after eliminating the second components some non-final state goes with  $\# \dots \#$  to a final state, we mark the state as final.
- **Complexity:** linear in the size of the transducer
- **Observe:** the result of a projection may be a NFA, even if the transducer is deterministic.
- This is the operation that prevents us from implementing all operations directly on DFAs.

# Computing projections

*Proj\_1(T)*

**Input:** transducer  $T = (Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, Q_0, F)$

**Output:** NFA  $A = (Q', \Sigma, \delta', Q'_0, F')$  with  $\mathcal{L}(A) = \pi_1(\mathcal{L}(T))$

- 1  $Q' \leftarrow Q; Q'_0 \leftarrow Q_0; F'' \leftarrow F$
- 2  $\delta' \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 3 **for all**  $(q, (a, b), q') \in \delta$  **do**
- 4     **add**  $(q, a, q')$  **to**  $\delta'$
- 5  $F' \leftarrow \text{PadClosure}((Q', \Sigma, \delta', Q'_0, F''), \#)$

*PadClosure(A, #)*

**Input:** NFA  $A = (\Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F)$

**Output:** new set  $F'$  of final states

- 1  $W \leftarrow F; F' \leftarrow \emptyset$
- 2 **while**  $W \neq \emptyset$  **do**
- 3     **pick**  $q$  **from**  $W$
- 4     **add**  $q$  **to**  $F'$
- 5     **for all**  $(q', \#, q) \in \delta$  **do**
- 6         **if**  $q' \notin F'$  **then add**  $q'$  **to**  $W$
- 7 **return**  $F'$

# Correctness

- **Assume:** transducer  $T$  recognizes a relation
- **Prove:** the projection automaton  $A$  recognizes a set, and this set is the projection onto the first component of the relation recognized by  $T$ .

a)  $A$  accepts either all encodings or no encoding of an object.

Assume  $A$  accepts at least one encoding  $w$  of an object  $x$ .

We prove it accepts all.

If  $A$  accepts  $w$ , then  $T$  accepts  $\begin{matrix} w \\ w' \end{matrix}$  for some  $w'$ .

By assumption  $T$  accepts  $\begin{matrix} w \\ w' \end{matrix} \begin{bmatrix} \# \\ \# \end{bmatrix}^*$ , and so  $A$  accepts  $w \#^*$ .

Moreover,  $w = s_x \#^k$  for some  $k > 0$ , and so, by padding closure,  $A$  also accepts  $s_x \#^j$  for every  $j < k$ .

# Correctness

- b)  $A$  only accepts words that are encodings of objects.  
Follows easily from the fact that  $T$  satisfies the same property for pairs of objects.
- c) If  $A$  accepts an object  $x$ , then  $T$  accepts  $(x, y)$  for some  $y$ .

$x$  is accepted by  $A$   
 $\Rightarrow s_x$  is accepted by  $A$  ( part a )  
 $\Rightarrow \frac{s_x}{w}$  is accepted by  $T$  for some  $w$

By assumption,  $T$  only accepts pairs of words encoding some pair of objects. So  $w$  encodes some object  $y$ . By assumption,  $T$  then accepts all encodings of  $(x, y)$ . So  $T$  accepts  $(x, y)$ .

# Correctness

d) If a pair of objects  $(x, y)$  is accepted by  $T$ , then  $x$  is accepted by  $A$ .

$(x, y)$  is accepted by  $T$

$\Rightarrow$   $w_x$   
 $w_y$  is accepted by  $T$  for some

encodings  $w_x, w_y$  of  $x$  and  $y$

$\Rightarrow$   $w_x$  is accepted by  $A$

$\Rightarrow$   $x$  is accepted by  $A$  (part a))

# Computing joins

- **Goal:** given transducers  $T_1, T_2$  recognizing relations  $R_1, R_2$ , construct a transducer  $T_1 \circ T_2$  recognizing the relation  $R_1 \circ R_2$ .
- **First step:** construct a transducer  $T$  that accepts  $\frac{w}{v}$  iff there is a "connecting" word  $u$  such that  $\frac{w}{u}$  is accepted by  $T_1$  and  $\frac{u}{v}$  is accepted by  $T_2$ .
- We slightly modify the pairing construction.

# Computing joins

## Pairing construction

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{a} \begin{bmatrix} q'_1 \\ q'_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

iff

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{a} q'_1$$

$$q_2 \xrightarrow{a} q'_2$$

## Join construction

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q'_1 \\ q'_2 \end{bmatrix}$$

iff

$$q_1 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}} q'_1$$

$$q_2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} c \\ b \end{bmatrix}} q'_2$$

for some  $c \in \Sigma$

# Computing joins

- With the join construction, transducer  $T$  has a run

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{01} \\ q_{02} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix} \cdots \begin{bmatrix} q_{(n-1)1} \\ q_{(n-1)2} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_n \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q_{n1} \\ q_{n2} \end{bmatrix}$$

iff  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  have runs

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc} q_{01} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{11} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_2 \\ c_2 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{21} & \cdots & q_{(n-1)1} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_n \\ c_n \end{bmatrix}} & q_{n1} \\ q_{02} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{12} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} c_2 \\ b_2 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{22} & \cdots & q_{(n-1)2} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} c_n \\ b_n \end{bmatrix}} & q_{n2} \end{array}$$



# Computing joins

- **Second step:** We have the same problem as before.
  - Let  $R_1 = \{ (2,4) \}$  ,  $R_2 = \{ (4,2) \}$  .  
Then  $R_1 \circ R_2 = \{ (2,2) \}$  .
  - But the operation we have just defined does not yield the correct result.
  - **Solution:** apply the padding closure again with padding symbol  $\begin{bmatrix} \# \\ \# \end{bmatrix}$  .

# Computing joins

*Join*( $T_1, T_2$ )

**Input:** transducers  $T_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_1, Q_{01}, F_1)$ ,

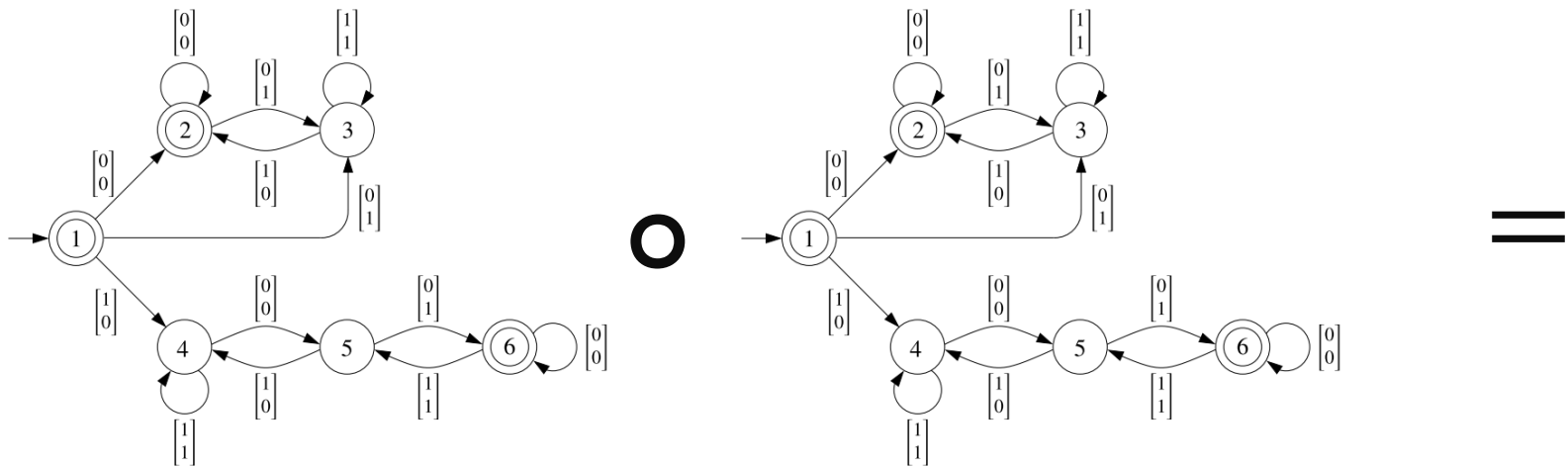
$T_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_2, Q_{02}, F_2)$

**Output:** transducer  $T_1 \circ T_2 = (Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, Q_0, F)$

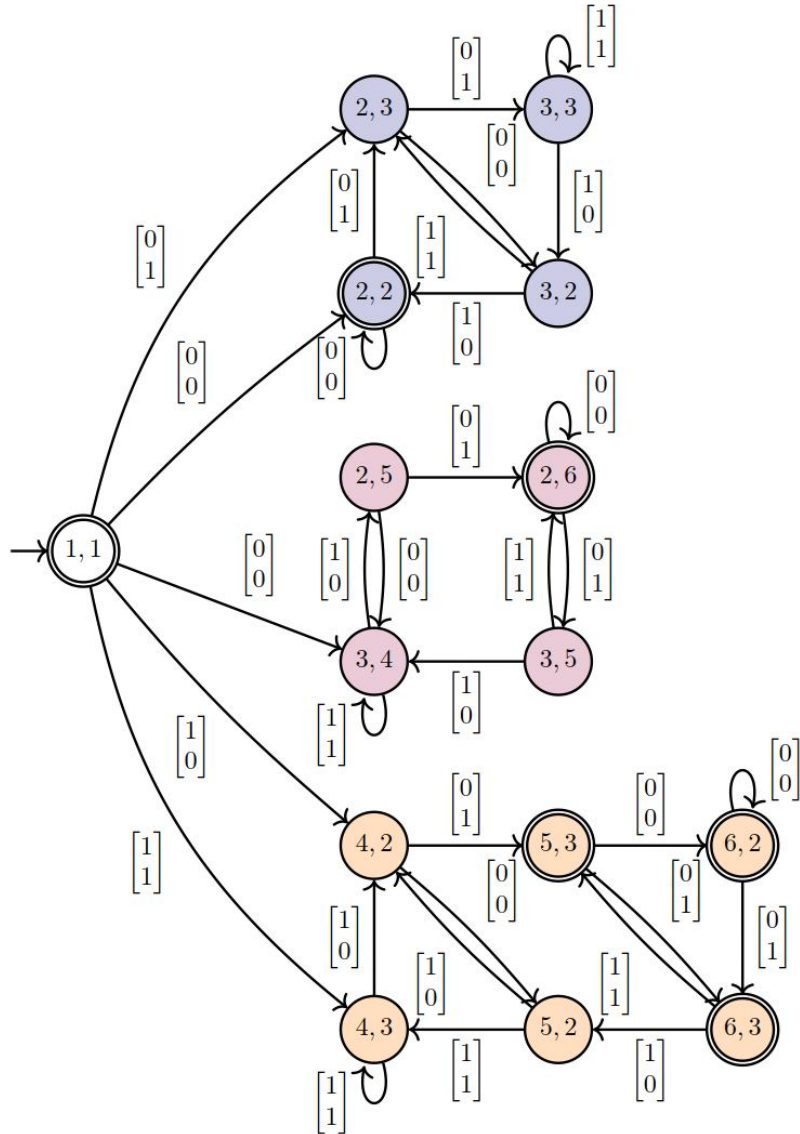
- 1  $Q, \delta, F' \leftarrow \emptyset; Q_0 \leftarrow Q_{01} \times Q_{02}$
- 2  $W \leftarrow Q_0$
- 3 **while**  $W \neq \emptyset$  **do**
- 4     **pick**  $[q_1, q_2]$  **from**  $W$
- 5     **add**  $[q_1, q_2]$  **to**  $Q$
- 6     **if**  $q_1 \in F_1$  and  $q_2 \in F_2$  **then add**  $[q_1, q_2]$  **to**  $F'$
- 7     **for all**  $(q_1, (a, c), q'_1) \in \delta_1, (q_2, (c, b), q'_2) \in \delta_2$  **do**
- 8         **add**  $([q_1, q_2], (a, b), [q'_1, q'_2])$  **to**  $\delta$
- 9         **if**  $[q'_1, q'_2] \notin Q$  **then add**  $[q'_1, q'_2]$  **to**  $W$
- 10  $F \leftarrow \mathbf{PadClosure}((Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, Q_0, F'), (\#, \#))$

# Computing joins

- Example:
  - Let  $f$  be the Collatz function.
  - Let  $R_1 = R_2 = \{ (n, f(n)) \mid n \geq 0 \}$ .
  - Then  $R_1 \circ R_2 = \{ (n, f(f(n))) \mid n \geq 0 \}$ .



# Computing joins



# Computing Pre and Post

- **Goal** (for Post): given
  - an automaton  $A$  recognizing a set  $X$ , and
  - a transducer  $T$  recognizing a relation  $R$

construct an automaton  $B$  recognizing the set

$$\text{Post}(X, R) = \{ y \mid \exists x \in X : (x, y) \in R \}$$

We slightly modify the construction for join.

# Computing Pre and Post

## Join construction

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q'_1 \\ q'_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{array}{l} q_1 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ c \end{bmatrix}} q'_1 \\ q_2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} c \\ b \end{bmatrix}} q'_2 \end{array}$$

for some  $c \in \Sigma$

## Post construction

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_1 \\ q_2 \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{b} \begin{bmatrix} q'_1 \\ q'_2 \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{iff} \quad \begin{array}{l} q_1 \xrightarrow{a} q'_1 \\ q_2 \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a \\ b \end{bmatrix}} q'_2 \end{array}$$

for some  $a \in \Sigma$

# Computing Pre and Post

*Join*( $T_1, T_2$ )

**Input:** transducers  $T_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_1, Q_{01}, F_1)$ ,

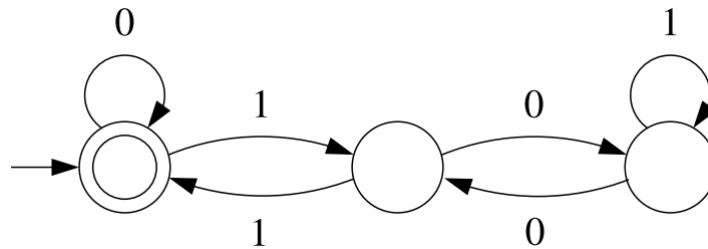
$T_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_2, Q_{02}, F_2)$

**Output:** transducer  $T_1 \circ T_2 = (Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, Q_0, F)$

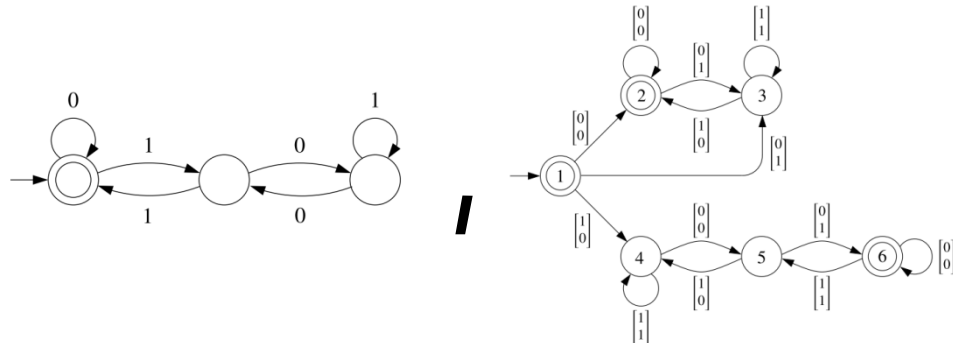
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1   $Q, \delta, F' \leftarrow \emptyset; Q_0 \leftarrow Q_{01} \times Q_{02}$ 
2   $W \leftarrow Q_0$ 
3  while  $W \neq \emptyset$  do
4    pick  $[q_1, q_2]$  from  $W$ 
5    add  $[q_1, q_2]$  to  $Q$ 
6    if  $q_1 \in F_1$  and  $q_2 \in F_2$  then add  $[q_1, q_2]$  to  $F'$ 
7    for all  $(q_1, (a, c), q'_1) \in \delta_1, (q_2, (c, b), q'_2) \in \delta_2$  do
8      add  $([q_1, q_2], (a, b), [q'_1, q'_2])$  to  $\delta$ 
9      if  $[q'_1, q'_2] \notin Q$  then add  $[q'_1, q'_2]$  to  $W$ 
10    $F \leftarrow \text{PadClosure}((Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, Q_0, F'), (\#, \#))$ 
```

# Computing Pre and Post

- Example.
  - Let  $f$  be the Collatz function.
  - We compute the set  $\{f(n) \mid n \text{ is a multiple of } 3\}$
- DFA for the multiples of 3 in *lsfb* encoding



Post(



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# Computing Pre and Post

