3.1.1

Graphical representation of DFA

## Graphical Representation/State Machine



- Directed graph with nodes representing states and edge/arcs representing transitions labeled by symbols in $\Sigma$
- For each state (vertex) $\boldsymbol{q}$ and symbol $\boldsymbol{a} \in \Sigma$ there is exactly one outgoing edge labeled by a
- Initial/start state has a pointer (or labeled as $\boldsymbol{s}, \boldsymbol{q}_{0}$ or "start")
- Some states with double circles labeled as accepting/final states


## Graphical Representation



- Where does 001 lead?
- Where does 10010 lead?
- Which strings end up in accepting state?
- Can you prove it?
- Every string $w$ has a unique walk that it follows from a given state $q$ by reading one letter of $w$ from left to right


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## Graphical Representation



## Definition

A DFA $M$ accepts a string $w$ iff the unique walk starting at the start state and spelling out $\boldsymbol{w}$ ends in an accepting state.

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" $M$ accepts language $L$ " does not mean simply that that $M$ accepts each string in $L$.
It means that $M$ accepts each string in $L$ and no others. Equivalently $M$ accepts each string in $\boldsymbol{L}$ and does not accept/rejects strings in $\Sigma^{*} \backslash \boldsymbol{L}$.
$M$ "recognizes" $L$ is a better term but "accepts" is widely accepted (and recognized) (joke attributed to Lenny Pitt)

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## THE END

## (for now)

