

$$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\} \quad \text{or} \quad \{0, 1\}$$

the alphabet

A language is a set of strings taken  
some alphabet.

For  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$ ,

$\{01^n0 \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  is a language

$$\mathbb{N} = \{0, 1, 2, 3, \dots\}$$

$\{0x \mid x \text{ is a string}\}$  is a language

$\emptyset$  is a language

The biggest language is the set of all strings on  $\Sigma$ ,  
written  $\Sigma^*$  & "the Kleene closure"  
of  $\Sigma$ .

$$\{0x \mid x \in \Sigma^*\}$$

A spoken language has an alphabet, and the language is the set of all allowable sentences.

$\Sigma = \{a, b, c, \dots, z, -\}$ ,      english language  $= E$

then

- i have a dog  $\in E$
- i have a dog  $\notin E$
- i have i have i have  $\notin E$

A programming language is all giant strings which make legal programs.

The interpreter acts as a validity checker

A simple machine to "accept" or "reject" strings.

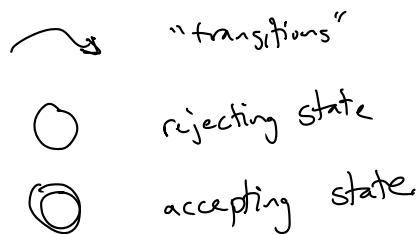
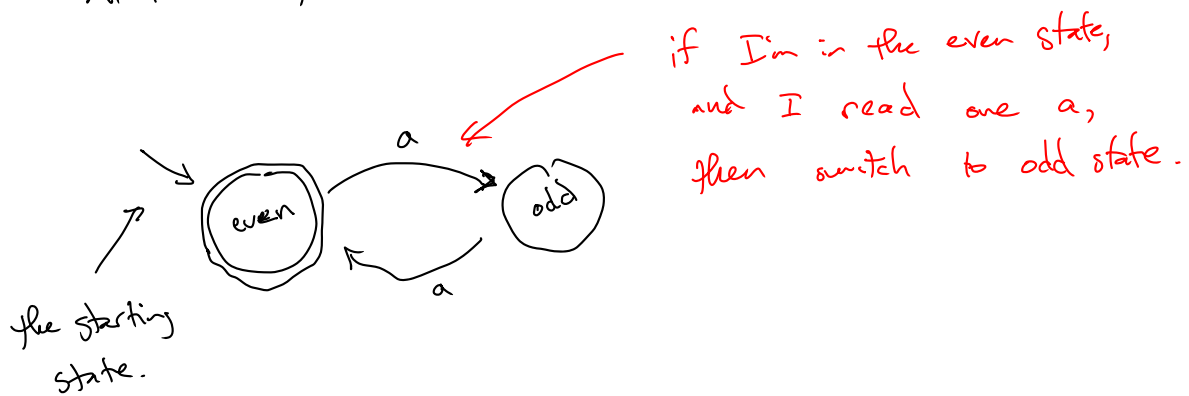
Deterministic Finite Automaton (DFA)

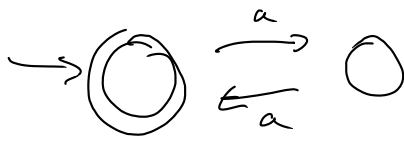
- no randomness  
same input always gives  
the same result.
- the machine has  
only finitely many  
states
- machine

Ex1 An even-length machine on  $\Sigma = \{a\}$

We'll make a DFA which reads the string  
and accepts if the length is even,  
rejects if the length is odd.

A DFA reads the string 1 letter at a time, L to R,  
and after each letter, maybe changes state.  
At the end, it either accepts or rejects.





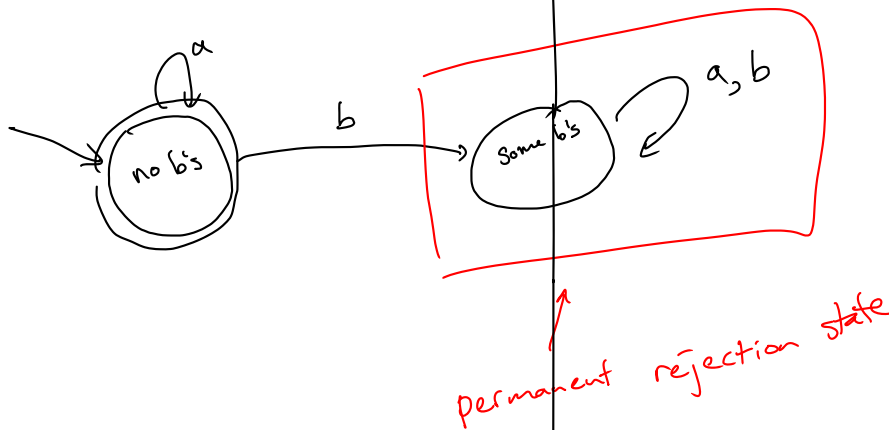
To evaluate a string,  
just follow the arrows.

aaa is rejected

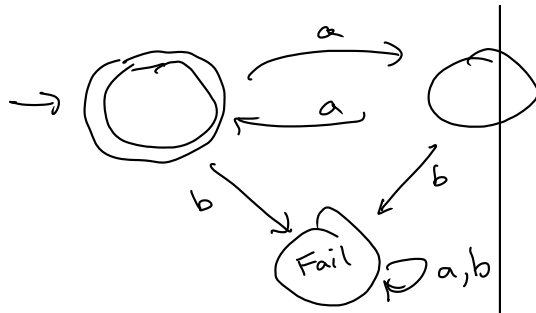
aaaa is accepted. etc.

$\epsilon$  is accepted.

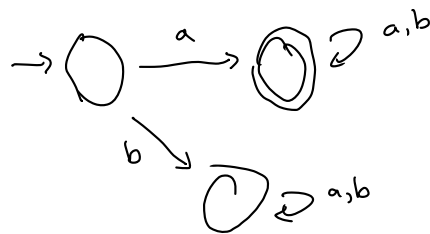
on  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  make a DFA to accept  
any string with no b's.



Ex A DFA on  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  which accepts  
any string with an even # of a's  
and no b's.



- Accepts any string starting with a  $\Sigma = \{a,b\}$
- - - - - ending with a.



ending with a:

