Linear Grammars

Grammars with
at most one variable at the right side
of a production

Examples:

$$S \to aSb$$
$$S \to \lambda$$

$$S \to Ab$$
$$A \to aAb$$
$$A \to \lambda$$

A Non-Linear Grammar

Grammar G :

$$S \to SS$$

$$S \to \lambda$$

$$S \to aSb$$

$$S \to bSa$$

$$L(G) = \{w : \ n_a(w) = n_b(w)\}$$

Number of a in string w

Another Linear Grammar

Grammar G :

$$S \rightarrow A$$

$$A \rightarrow aB \mid \lambda$$

$$B \rightarrow Ab$$

$$L(G) = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

Right-Linear Grammars

All productions have form: $A \to xB$

or

$A \to x$

string of terminals

Example: $S \to abS$

$S \to a$

Left-Linear Grammars

All productions have form: $A \to Bx$

or

$A \to x$

string of terminals

Example:

$$S \to Aab$$

$$A \to Aab \mid B$$

$$B \to a$$

Regular Grammars

Regular Grammars

A regular grammar is any right-linear or left-linear grammar

Examples:

G_1

$$S \to abS$$
$$S \to a$$

G_2

$$S \to Aab$$
$$A \to Aab \mid B$$
$$B \to a$$

Observation

Regular grammars generate regular languages

Examples:

G_1

$S \to abS$

$S \to a$

$L(G_1) = (ab)^* a$

G_2

$S \to Aab$

$A \to Aab \mid B$

$B \to a$

$L(G_2) = aab(ab)^*$

Regular Grammars Generate Regular Languages

Theorem

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Languages}\\ \text{Generated by}\\ \text{Regular Grammars}\end{array}\right\} = \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Regular}\\ \text{Languages}\end{array}\right\}$$

Theorem - Part 1

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Languages}\\ \text{Generated by}\\ \text{Regular Grammars}\end{array}\right\} \subseteq \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Regular}\\ \text{Languages}\end{array}\right\}$$

Any regular grammar generates a regular language

Theorem - Part 2

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Languages}\\ \text{Generated by}\\ \text{Regular Grammars}\end{array}\right\} \supseteq \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Regular}\\ \text{Languages}\end{array}\right\}$$

Any regular language is generated by a regular grammar

Proof - Part 1

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Languages}\\ \text{Generated by}\\ \text{Regular Grammars}\end{array}\right\} \subseteq \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Regular}\\ \text{Languages}\end{array}\right\}$$

The language $L(G)$ generated by any regular grammar G is regular

The case of Right-Linear Grammars

Let G be a right-linear grammar

We will prove: $L(G)$ is regular

Proof idea: We will construct NFA M with $L(M) = L(G)$

Grammar G is right-linear

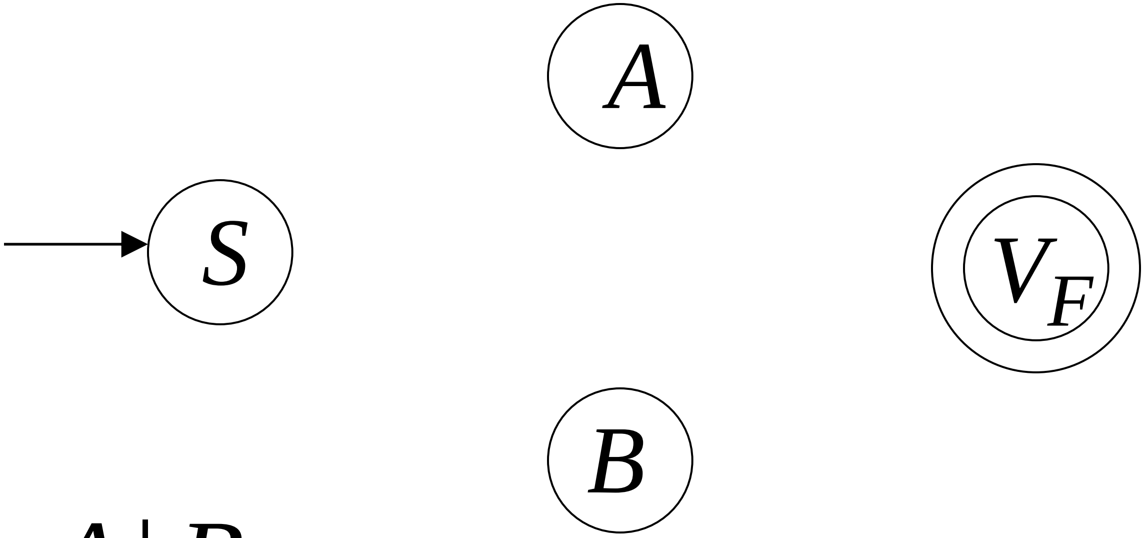
Example:

$$S \to aA \mid B$$

$$A \to aa\,B$$

$$B \to b\,B \mid a$$

Construct NFA M such that every state is a grammar variable:



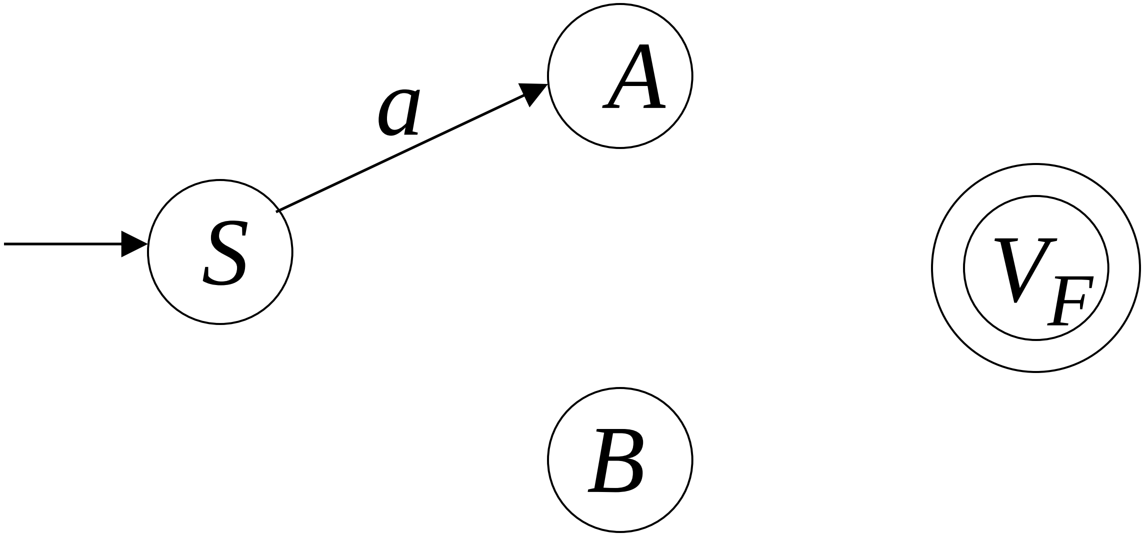
special final state

$$S \to aA \mid B$$

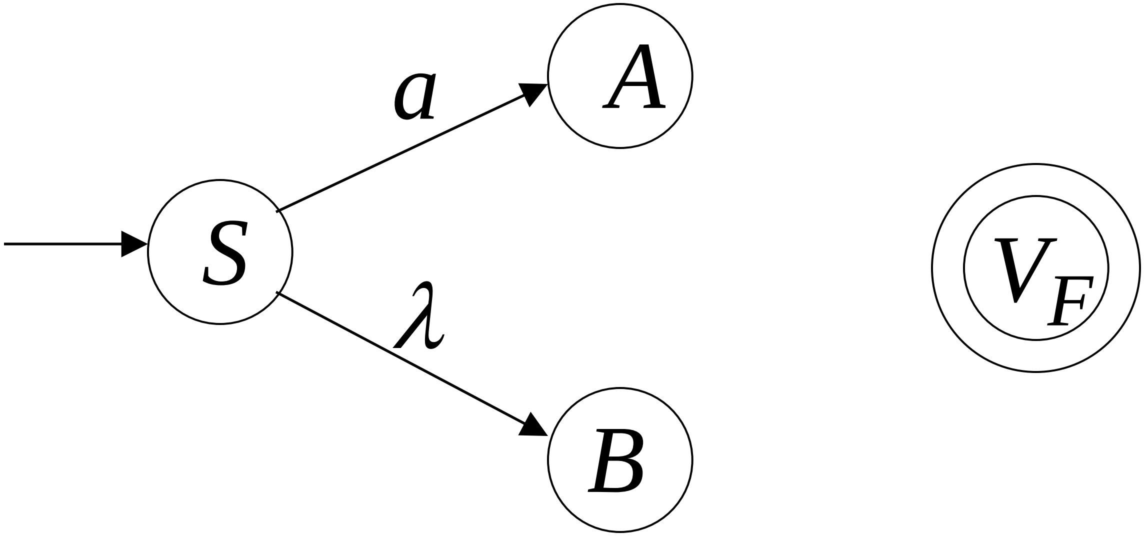
$$A \to aa\,B$$

$$B \to b\,B \mid a$$

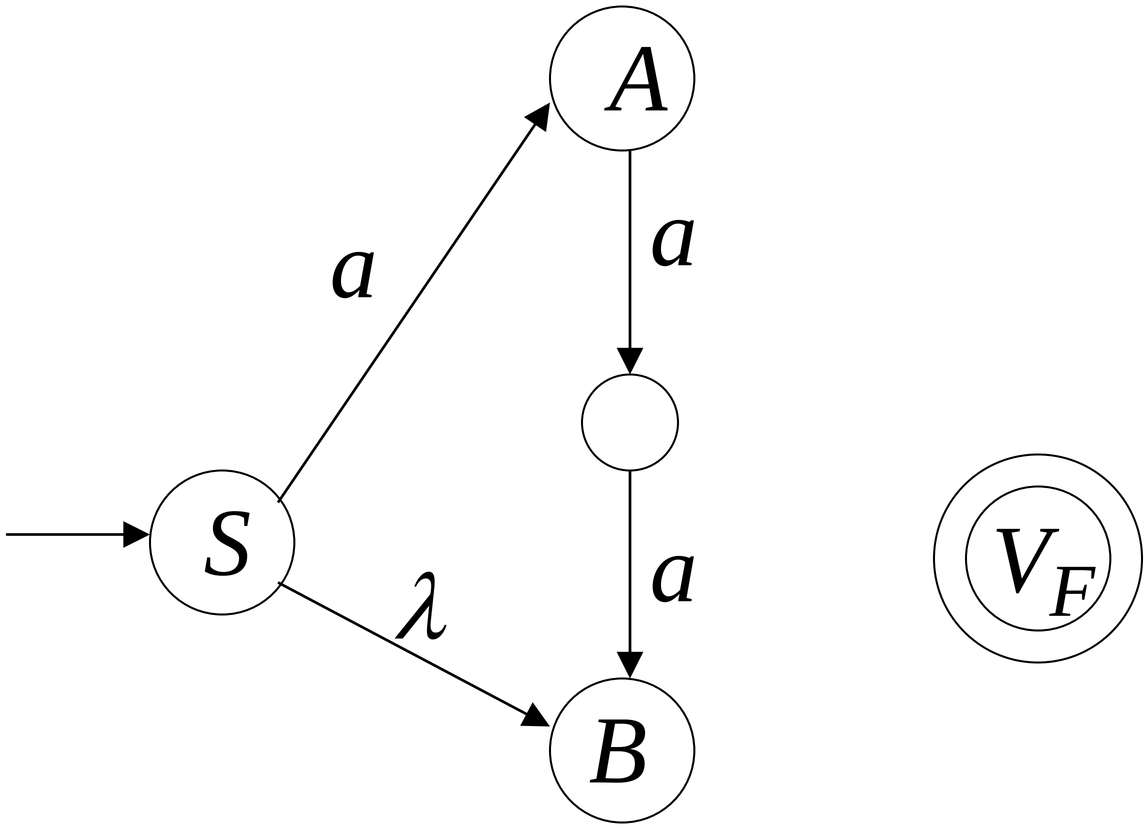
Add edges for each production:



$$S \rightarrow aA$$

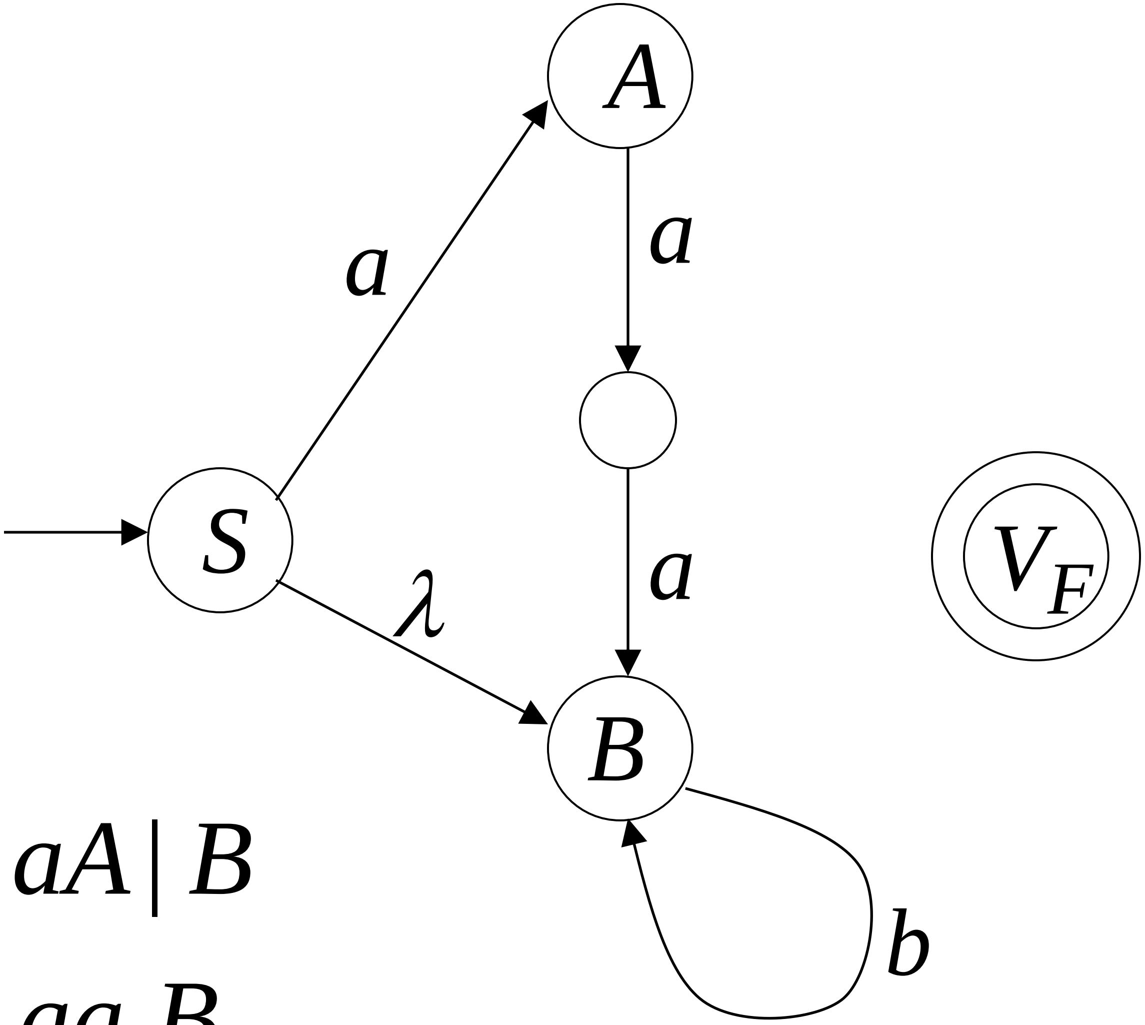


$$S \to aA \mid B$$



$$S \to aA \mid B$$

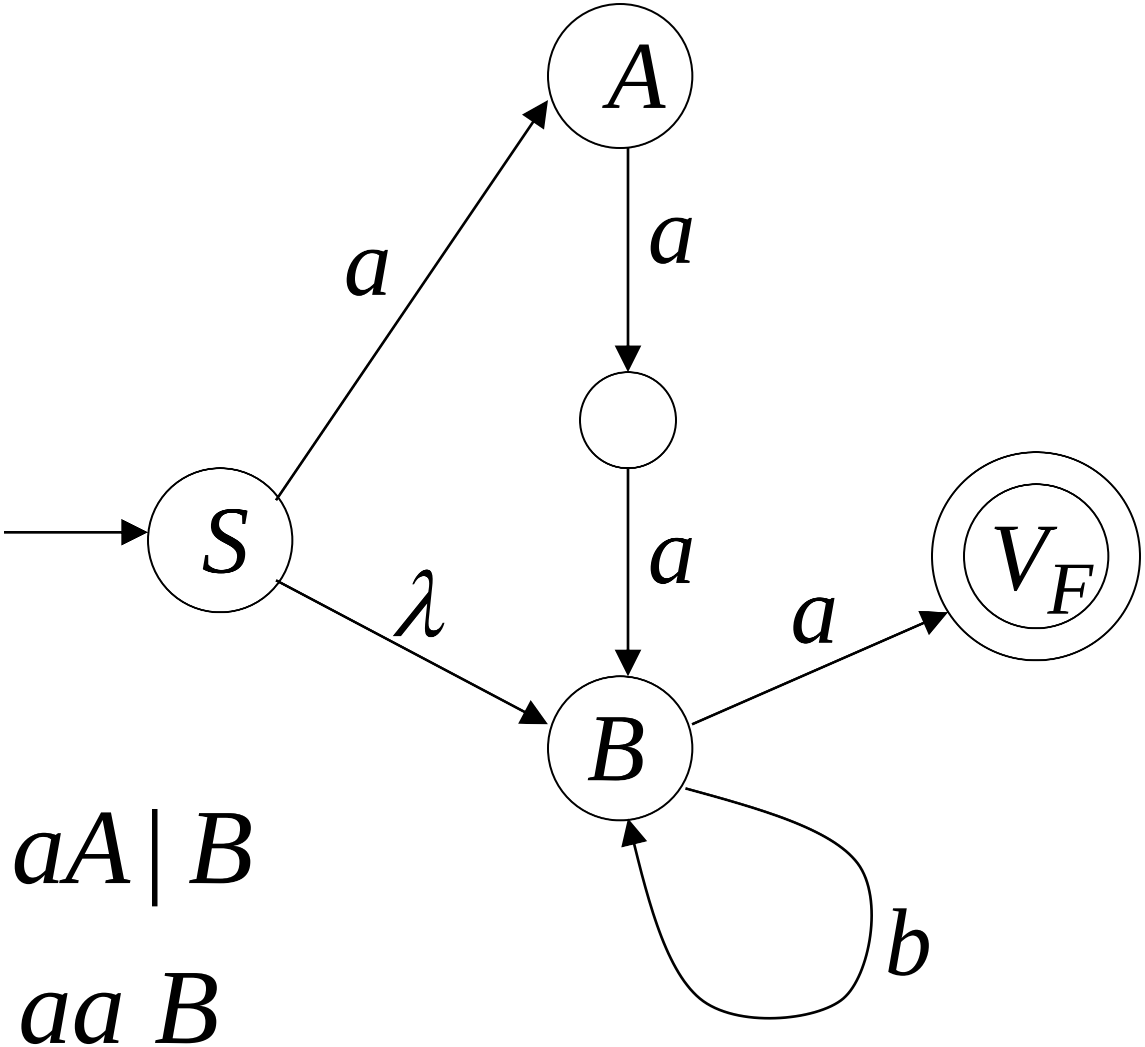
$$A \to aa\ B$$



$$S \to aA \mid B$$

$$A \to aa\ B$$

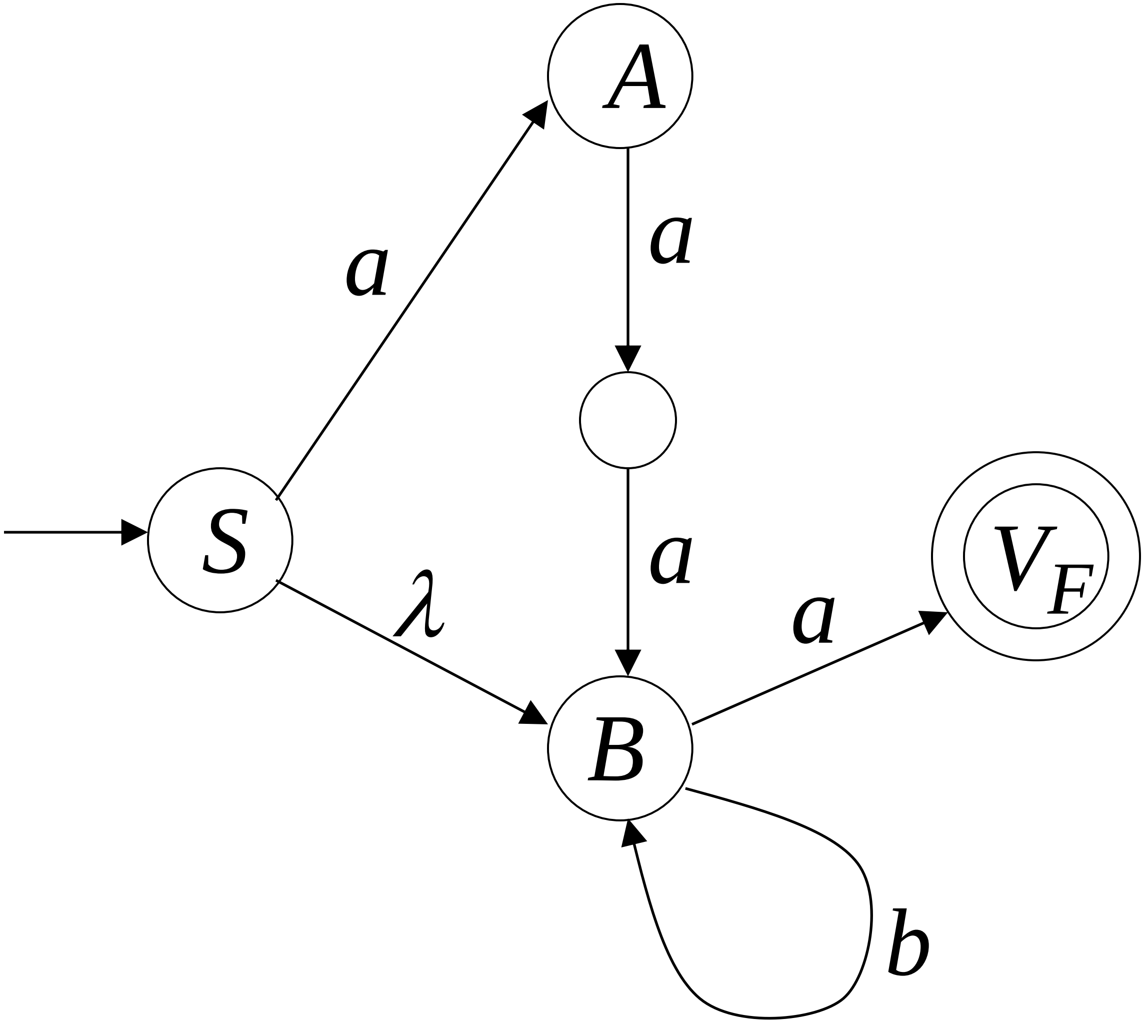
$$B \to bB$$



$$S \to aA \mid B$$

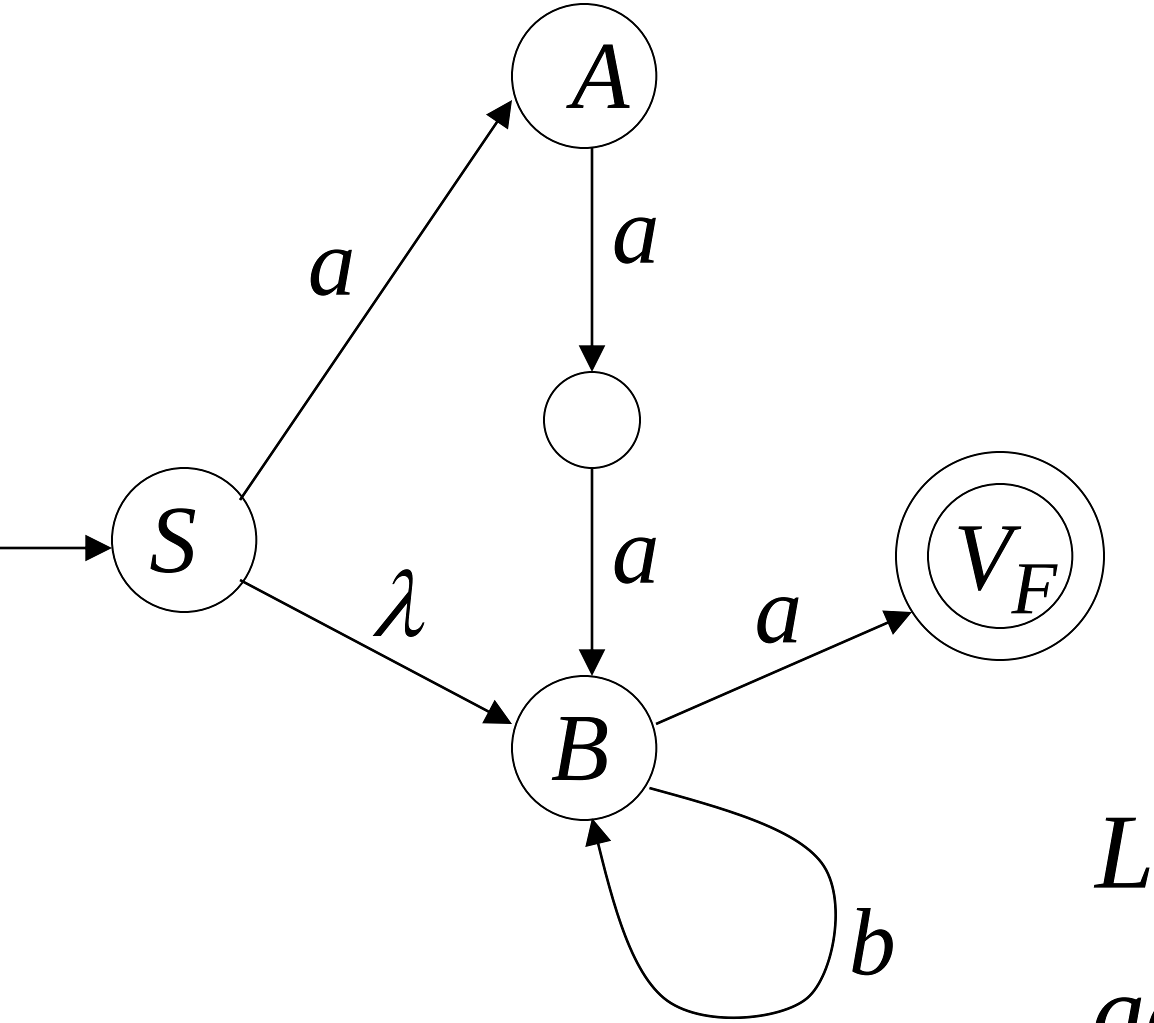
$$A \to aa\ B$$

$$B \to bB \mid a$$



$$S \Rightarrow aA \Rightarrow aaaB \Rightarrow aaabB \Rightarrow aaaba$$

NFA M



Grammar G

$$S \to aA \mid B$$

$$A \to aa\ B$$

$$B \to bB \mid a$$

$$L(M) = L(G) =$$

$$aaab^*a + b^*a$$

In General

A right-linear grammar G

has variables: $V_0, V_1, V_2, \dots$

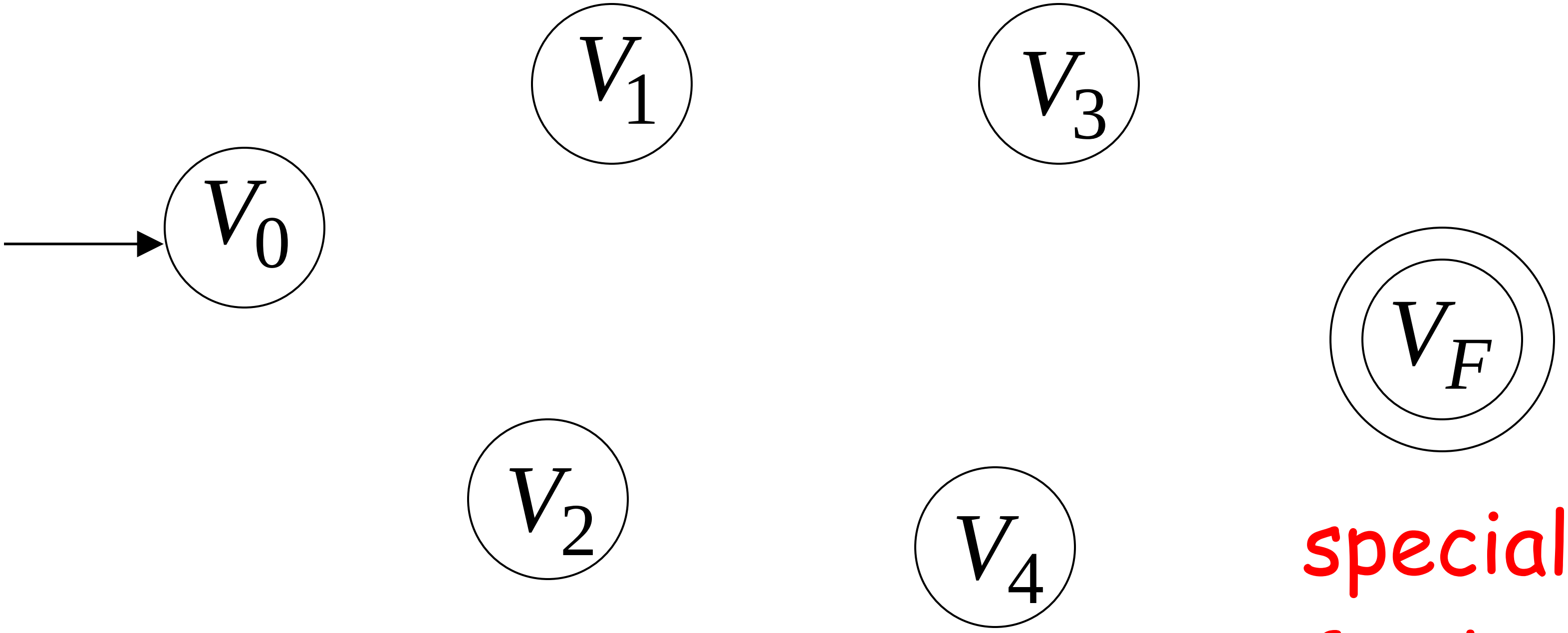
and productions: $V_i \to a_1 a_2 \cdots a_m V_j$

or

$$V_i \to a_1 a_2 \cdots a_m$$

We construct the NFA M such that:

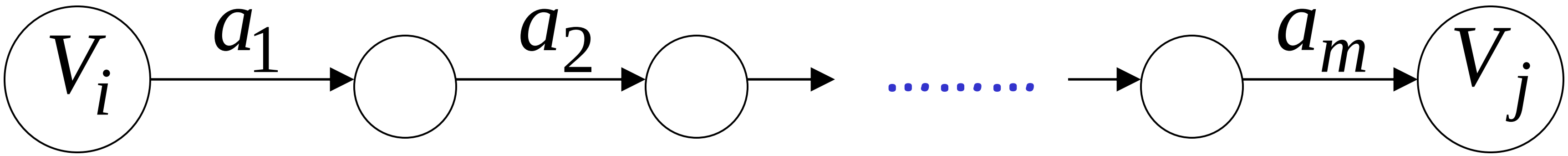
each variable V_i corresponds to a node:



special final state

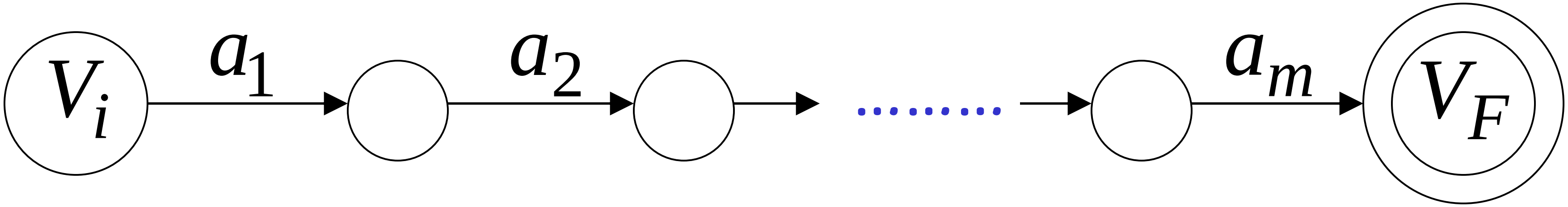
For each production: $V_i \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \cdots a_m V_j$

we add transitions and intermediate nodes

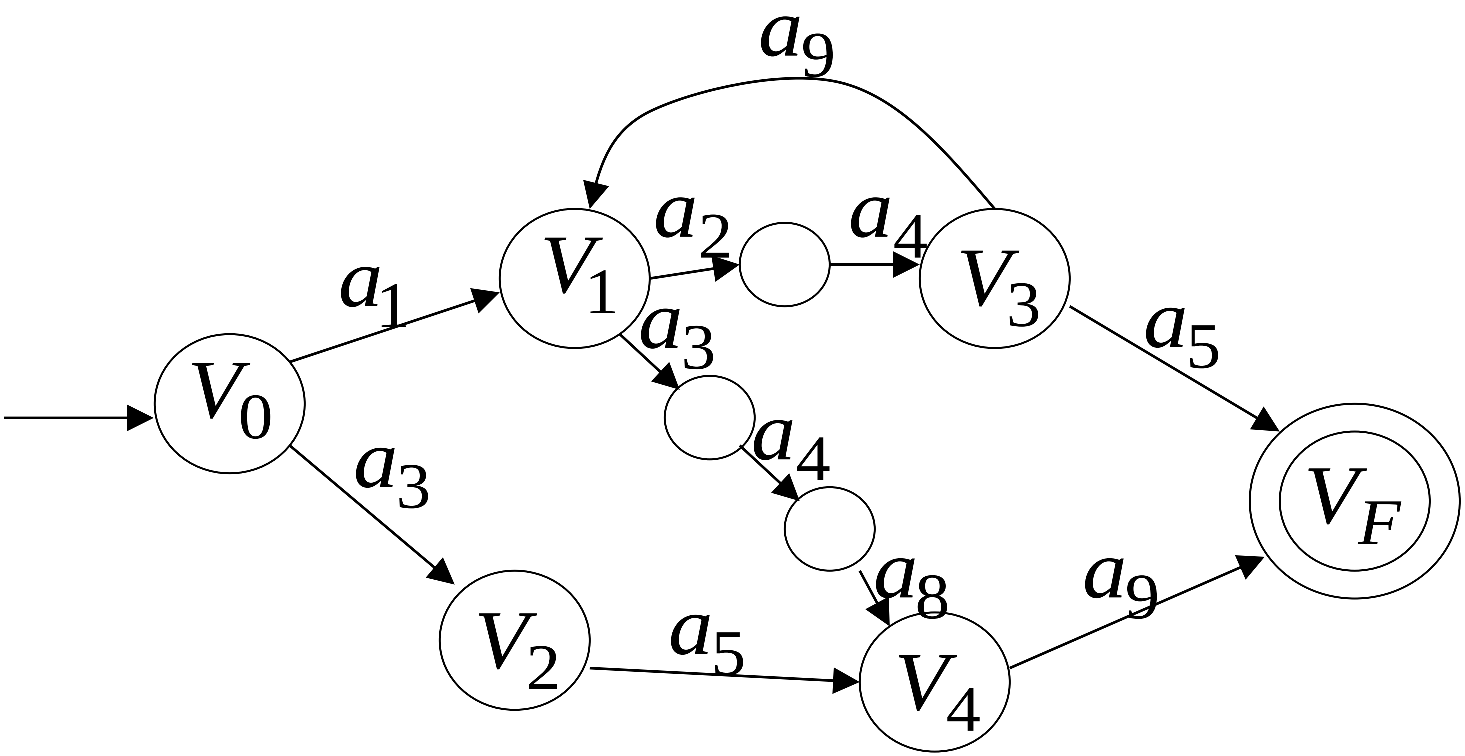


For each production: $V_i \rightarrow a_1 a_2 \cdots a_m$

we add transitions and intermediate nodes



Resulting NFA M looks like this:



It holds that: $L(G) = L(M)$

Proof - Part 2

$$\left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Languages}\\ \text{Generated by}\\ \text{Regular Grammars}\end{array}\right\} \supseteq \left\{\begin{array}{l}\text{Regular}\\ \text{Languages}\end{array}\right\}$$

Any regular language L is generated by some regular grammar G

Any regular language L is generated by some regular grammar G

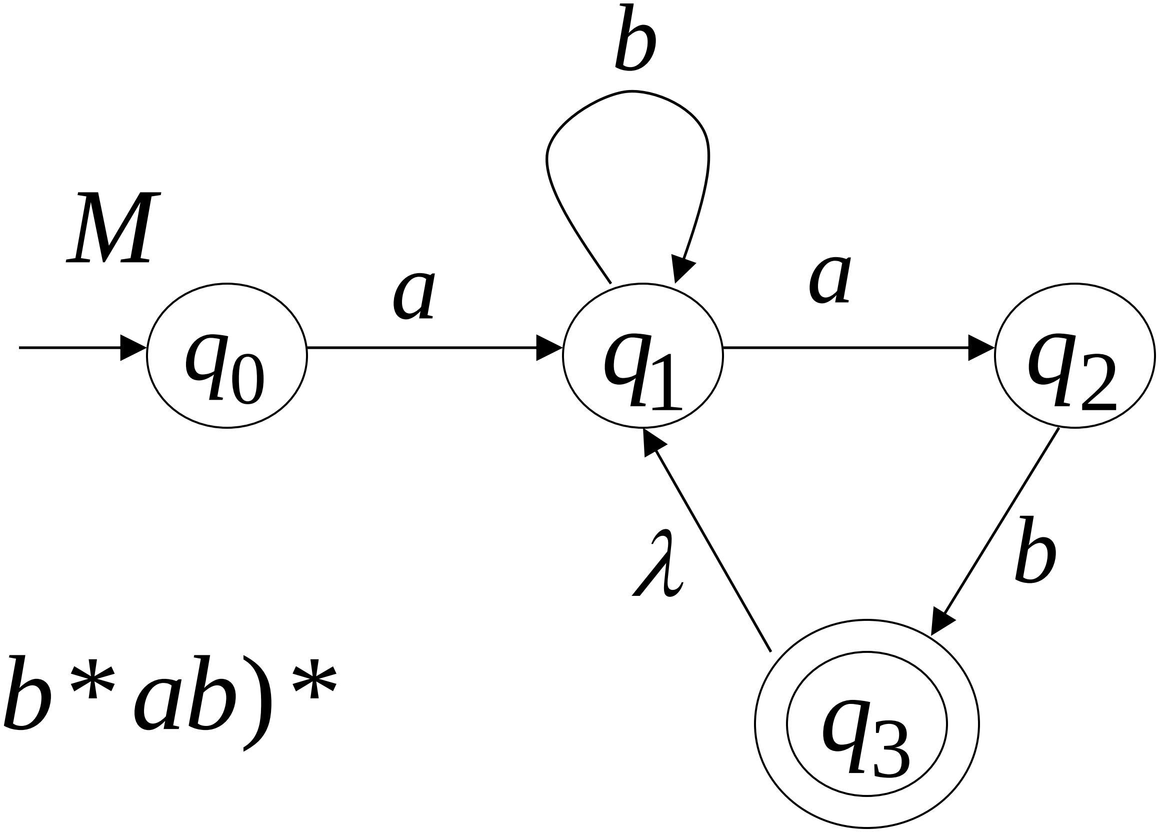
Proof idea:

Let M be the NFA with $L = L(M)$.

Construct from M a regular grammar G such that $L(M) = L(G)$

Since L is regular
there is an NFA M such that $L = L(M)$

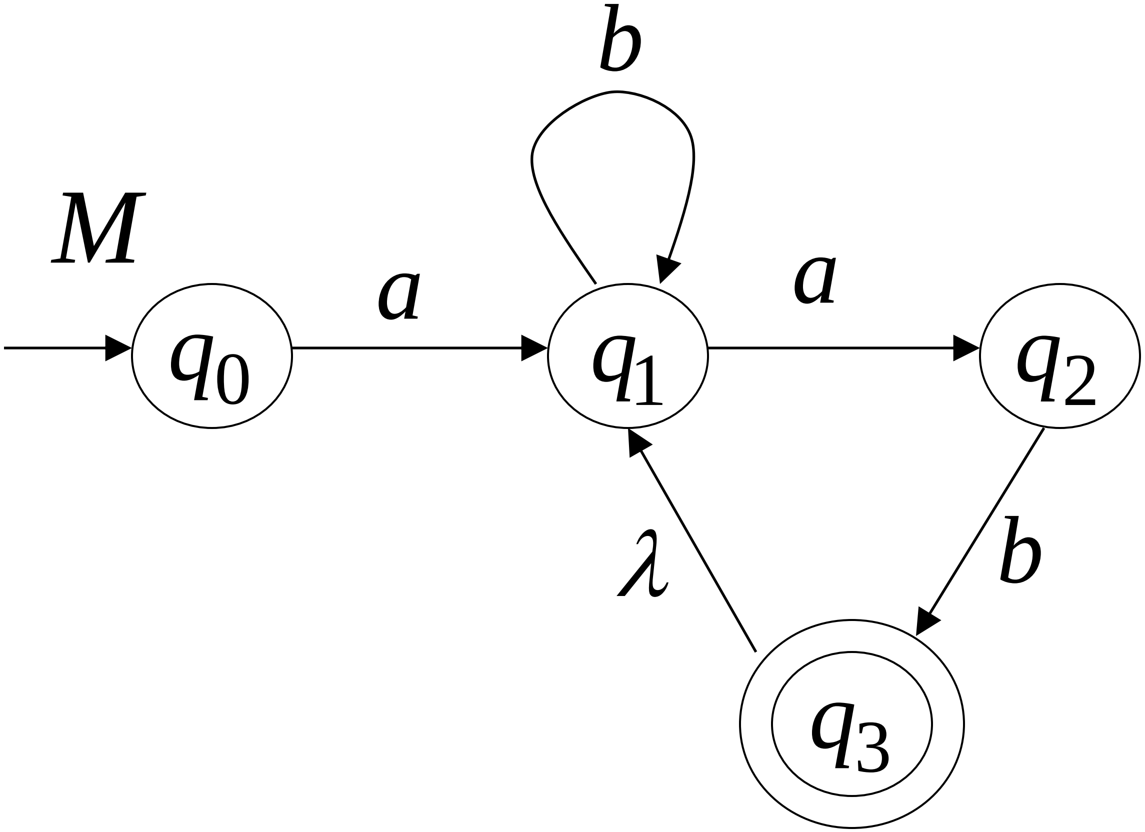
Example:



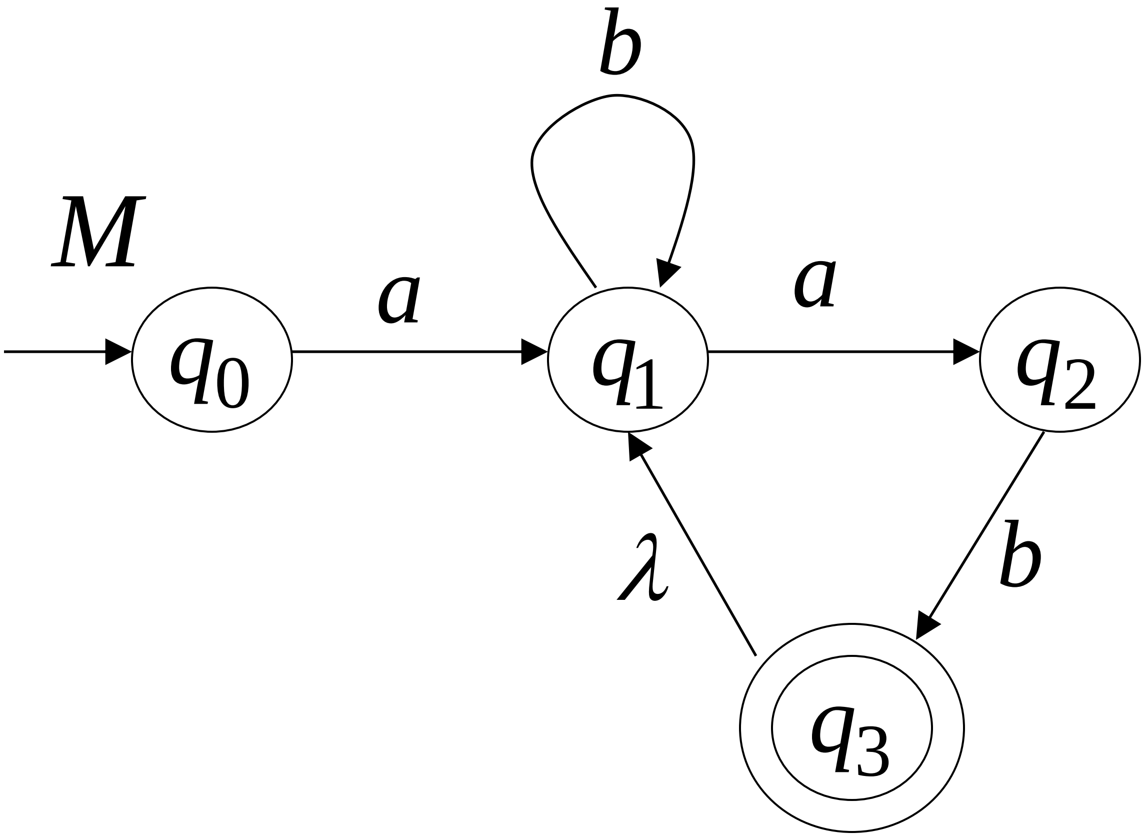
$$L = ab^*ab(b^*ab)^*$$

$$L = L(M)$$

Convert M to a right-linear grammar



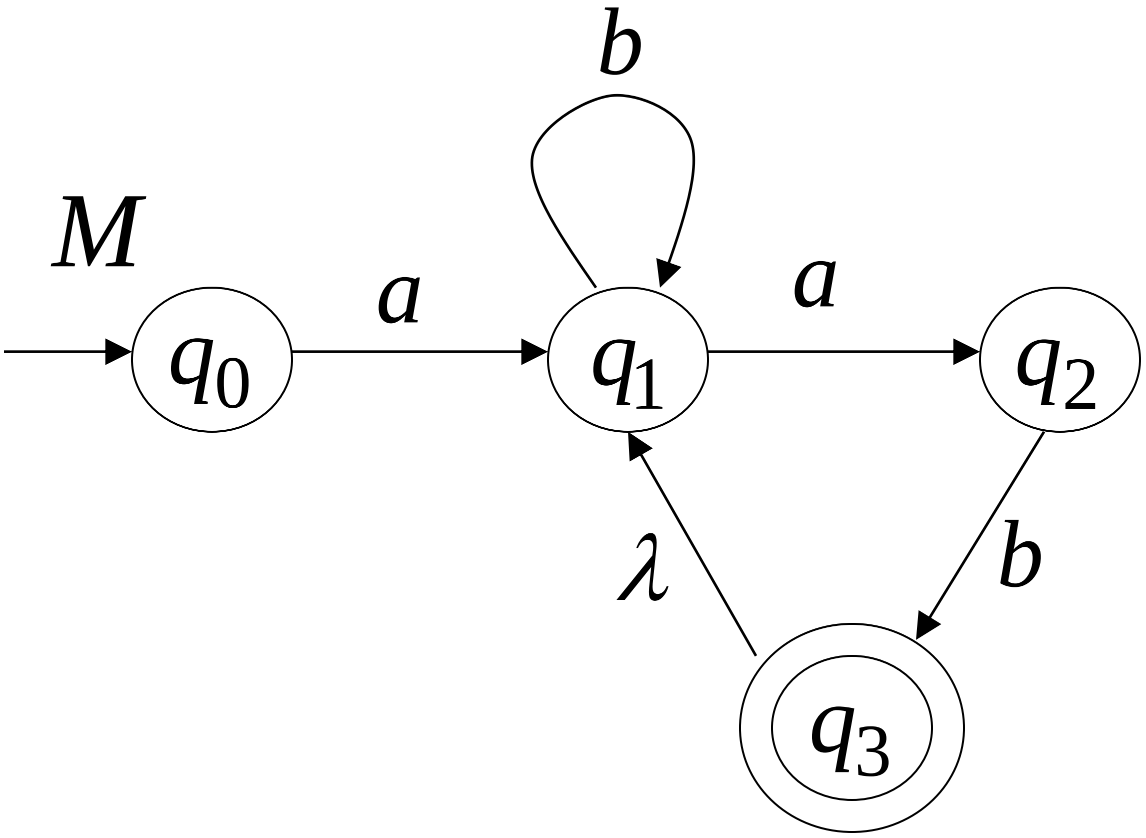
$$q_0 \rightarrow aq_1$$



$$q_0 \to aq_1$$

$$q_1 \to bq_1$$

$$q_1 \to aq_2$$



$$q_0 \rightarrow aq_1$$

$$q_1 \rightarrow bq_1$$

$$q_1 \rightarrow aq_2$$

$$q_2 \rightarrow bq_3$$

$$L(G) = L(M) = L$$

G

$q_0 \to aq_1$

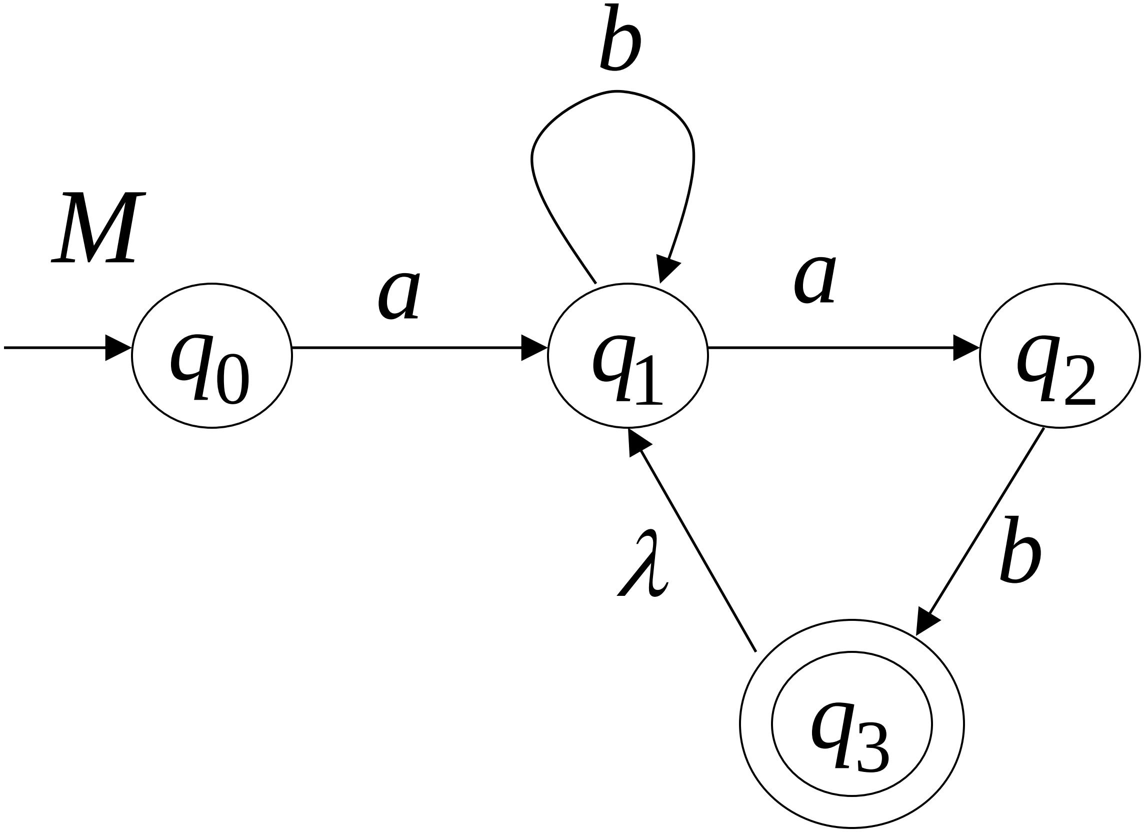
$q_1 \to bq_1$

$q_1 \to aq_2$

$q_2 \to bq_3$

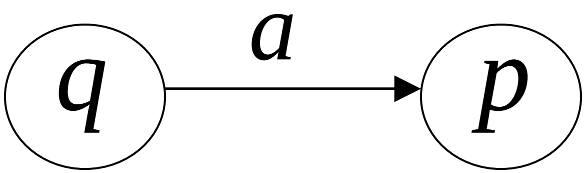
$q_3 \to q_1$

$q_3 \to \lambda$



In General

For any transition:

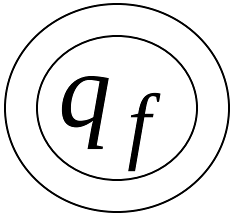


Add production:

$$q \to ap$$

variable terminal variable

For any final state:



Add production: $q_f \to \lambda$

Since G is right-linear grammar

G is also a regular grammar

with $L(G) = L(M) = L$