

# Operations on relations: Implementation on NFAs

**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**( $R_1, R_2$ ) : returns  $R_1 \circ R_2 = \{(x, z) \mid \exists y \in X (x, y) \in R_1 \wedge (y, z) \in R_2\}$

**Post**( $Y, R$ ) : returns  $post_R(Y) = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in Y : (y, x) \in R\}$ .

**Pre**( $Y, R$ ) : returns  $pre_R(Y) = \{x \in X \mid \exists y \in Y' : (x, y) \in R\}$ .

# Encoding objects

- So far we have assumed for convenience:
  - a) every word encodes one object.
  - b) every object is encoded by exactly one word.

We now analyze this in more detail.

- Example: objects  $\rightarrow$  natural number    encoding  $\rightarrow$  *lsbf*  
 $lsbf(5) = 101$      $lsbf(0) = \varepsilon$ .  
Satisfies b), but not a).
- We argue that a) can be easily weakened to:
  - a') the set of words encoding objects is a regular language.
- The *lsbf* encoding satisfies a'):  
set of encodings  $\rightarrow \{\varepsilon\} \cup \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid w \text{ ends with } 1\}$

# Encoding pairs

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

- Consider the pair  $(n_1, n_2)$  .
- Assume  $n_1, n_2$  encoded by  $w_1, w_2$  in *lsbf* encoding
- Which should be the encoding of  $(n_1, n_2)$  ?
  - Cannot be  $w_1 w_2$ .  
Then same word encodes many pairs, violates b).
- **First attempt:** use a separator symbol &, and encode  $(n_1, n_2)$  by  $w_1 \& w_2$  .
  - **Problem:** not even the identity relation gives a regular language!



- **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.
  - Satisfies b) and a'), but not (a):
    - 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**.

- 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  $s_{(x,y)}$ .

$$\begin{array}{l}
 \boxed{s_x} \quad \# \# \# \# \# \# \\
 \boxed{s_y}
 \end{array} = s_{(x,y)}$$

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

- **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!)

- **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?

**Definition 5.2** Assume an encoding of  $X$  over  $\Sigma^*$  has been fixed. Let  $A$  be an NFA.

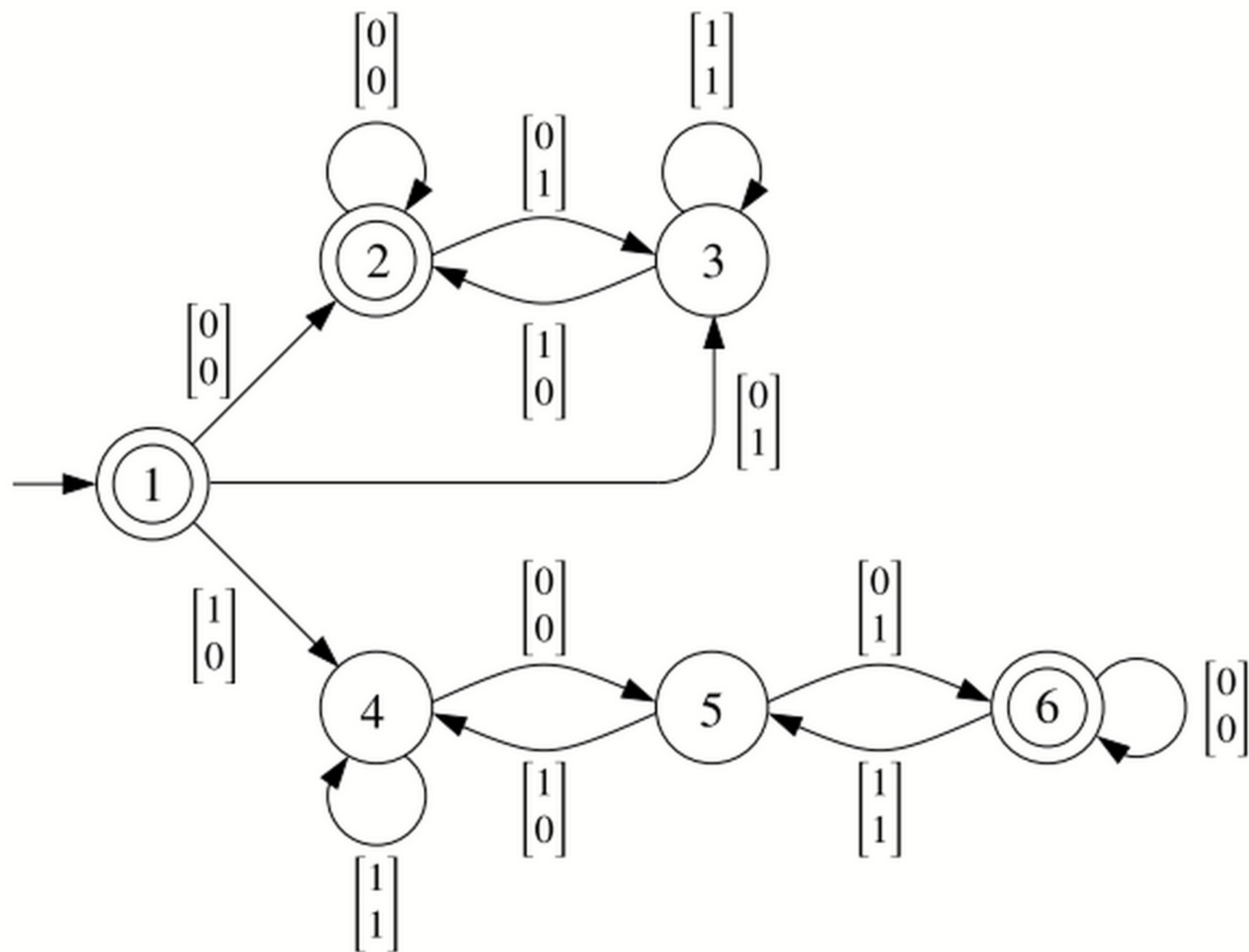
- $A$  accepts  $x \in X$  if it accepts all encodings of  $x$ .
- $A$  rejects  $x \in X$  if it accepts no encoding of  $x$ .
- $A$  recognizes a set  $Y \subseteq X$  if

$$\mathcal{L}(A) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid w \text{ encodes some element of } Y\} .$$

A subset  $Y \subseteq X$  is regular (with respect to the fixed encoding) if it is recognized by some NFA.

Notice that with this definition a NFA may neither accept nor reject a given  $x$ . In this case the NFA does not recognize any subset of  $X$ .

# Transducers



**Definition 5.3** A transducer over  $\Sigma$  is an NFA over the alphabet  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$ .

**Definition 5.4** Let  $T$  be a transducer over  $\Sigma$ . Given words  $w_1 = a_1a_2 \dots a_n$  and  $w_2 = b_1b_2 \dots b_n$ , we say that  $T$  accepts the pair  $(w_1, w_2)$  if it accepts the word  $(a_1, b_1) \dots (a_n, b_n) \in (\Sigma \times \Sigma)^*$ .

**Definition 5.5** Let  $T$  be a transducer.

- $T$  accepts a pair  $(x, y) \in X \times X$  if it accepts all encodings of  $(x, y)$ .
- $T$  rejects a pair  $(x, y) \in X \times X$  if it accepts no encoding of  $(x, y)$ .
- $T$  recognizes a relation  $R \subseteq X \times X$  if

$$\mathcal{L}(T) = \{(w_x, w_y) \in (\Sigma \times \Sigma)^* \mid (w_x, w_y) \text{ encodes some pair of } R\} .$$

A relation is regular if it is recognized by some transducer.



- Examples of regular relations on numbers (*lsbf* encoding):
  - The identity relation  $\{ (n, n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$
  - The relation  $\{ (n, 2n) \mid n \in \mathbb{N} \}$

**Example 5.6** The *Collatz function* is the function  $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$  defined as follows:

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

# Determinism

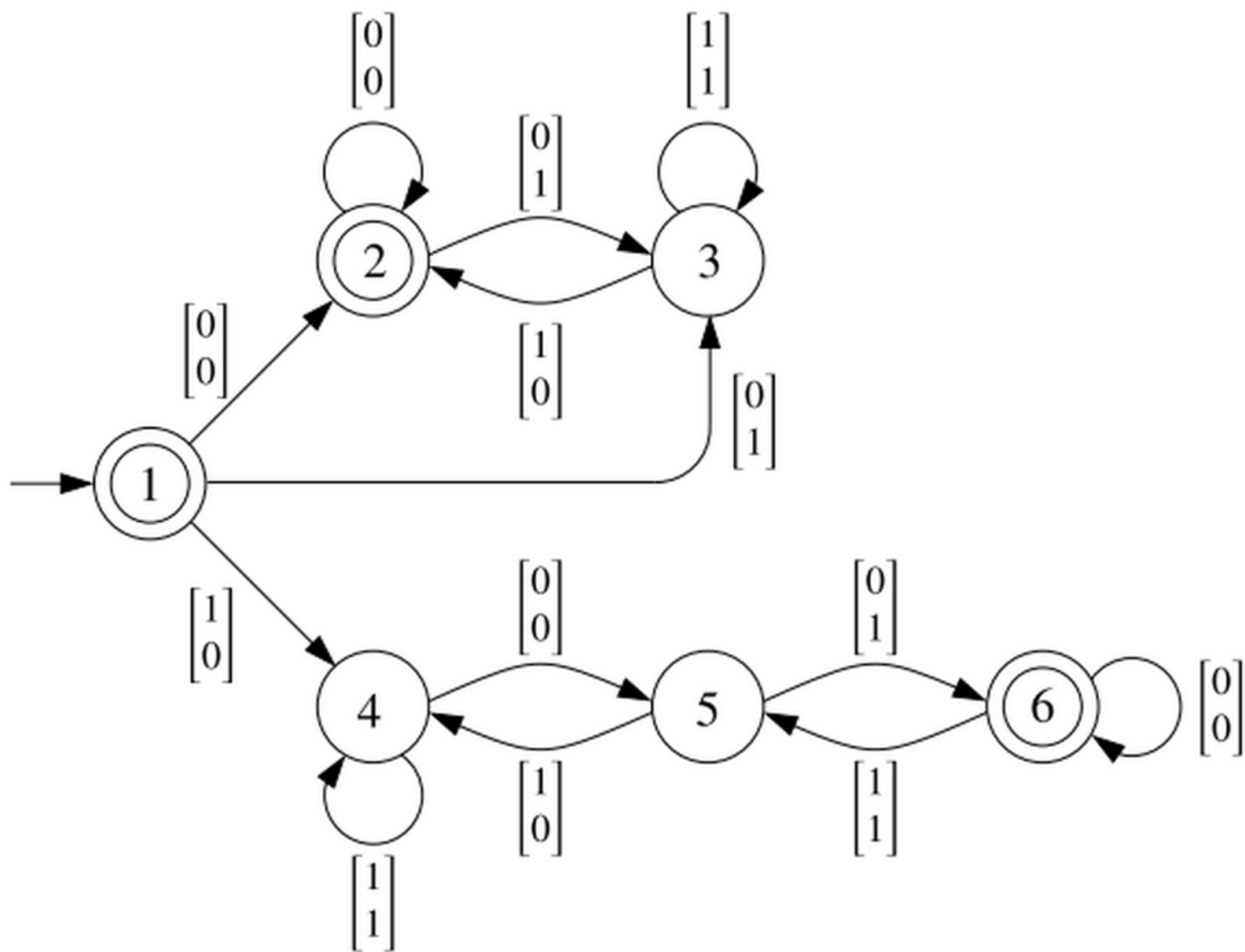
- A transducer is **deterministic** if it is a DFA.
- **Observe**: if  $\Sigma$  has size  $n$ , then a state of a deterministic transducer with alphabet  $\Sigma \times \Sigma$  has  $n^2$  outgoing transitions.
- **Warning!** There is a different definition of determinism:
  - A letter  $\begin{bmatrix}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



- Before implementing the new operations:
  - How do we check membership?
  - Can we compute union, intersection and complement of relations as for sets?

# **Implementing the operations**

# Projection



- Deleting the second component is not correct
  - Counterexample:  $R = \{ (4,1) \}$
  - $s_{(4,1)} = \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 1 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 0 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 1 \\ 0 \end{bmatrix}$
  - DFA for  $R$ :

*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, #)

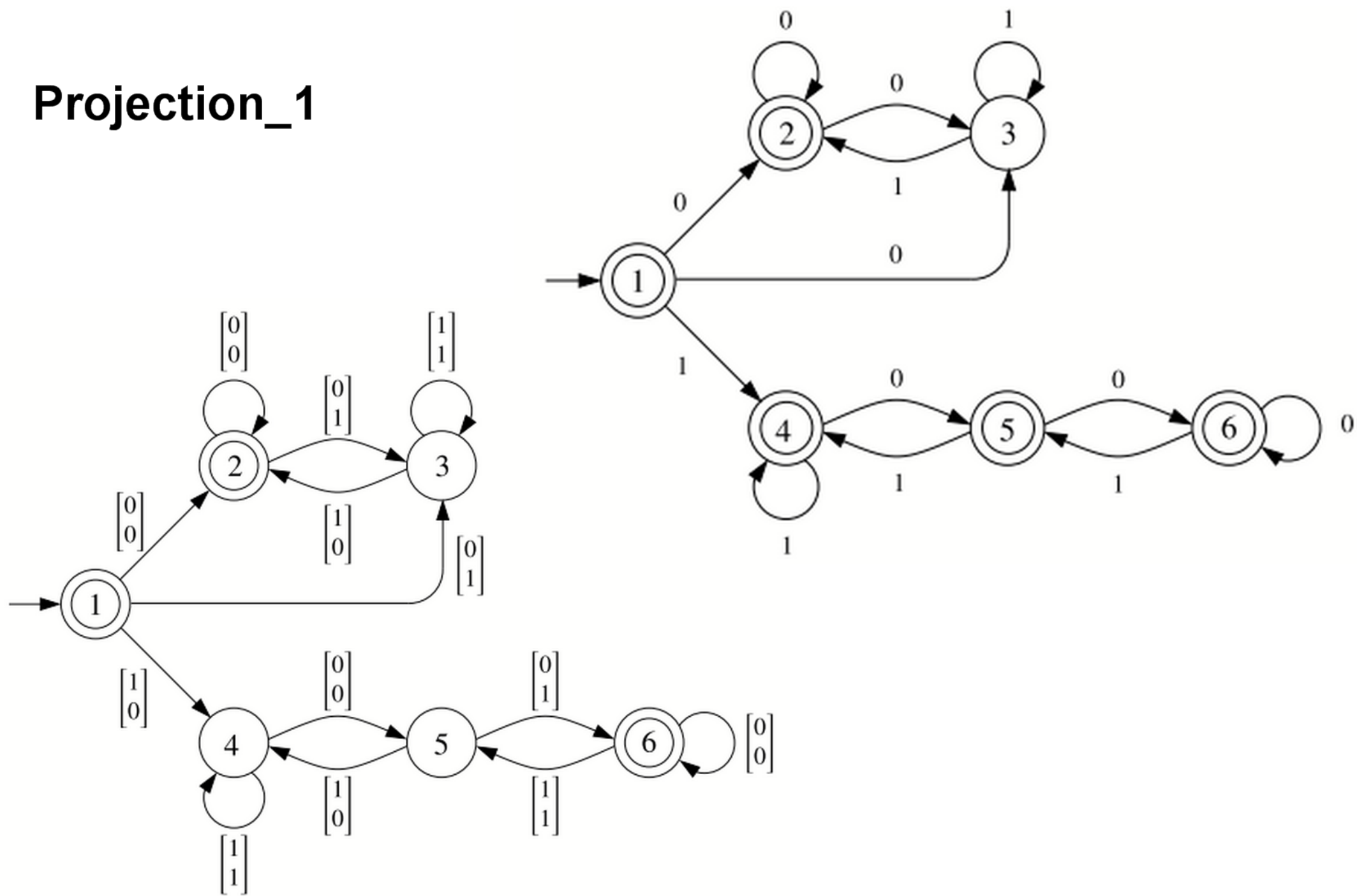
**Input:** NFA  $A = (\Sigma \times \Sigma, Q, \delta, q_0, F)$

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

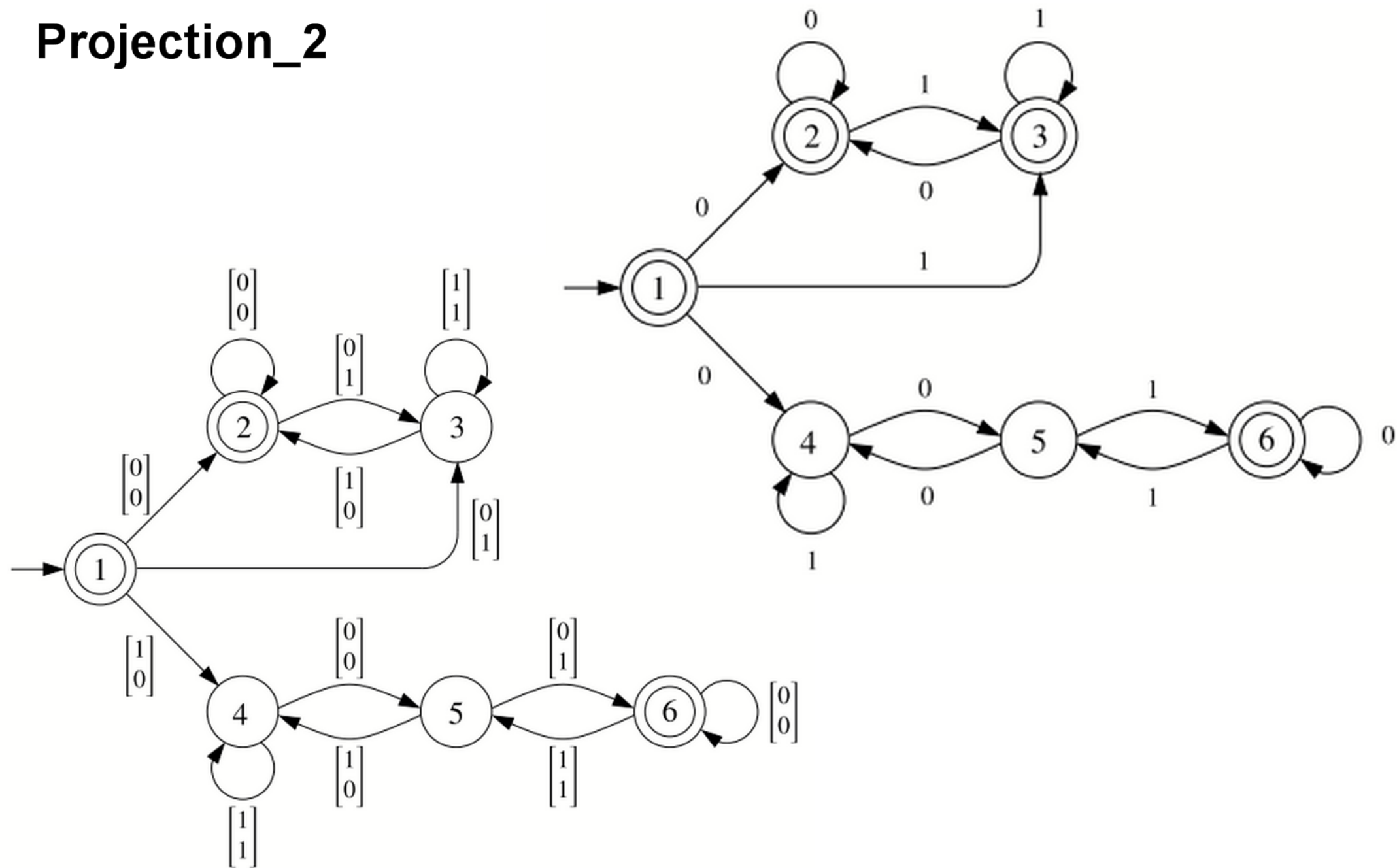
- 1  $W \leftarrow F; F' \leftarrow \emptyset;$
- 2 **while**  $W \neq \emptyset$  **do**
- 3     **pick**  $q$  **from**  $W$
- 4     **add**  $q$  **to**  $F'$
- 5     **for all**  $(q', \#, q) \in \delta$  **do**
- 6         **if**  $q' \notin F'$  **then add**  $q'$  **to**  $W$
- 7 **return**  $F'$

- **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.

# Projection\_1



## Projection\_2





# Correctness proof

- **Assume:** transducer  $T$  recognizes a set of pairs
- **Prove:** the projection automaton  $A$  recognizes a set, and this set is the projection onto the first component of the set of pairs 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  $\begin{smallmatrix} w \\ w' \end{smallmatrix}$  for some  $w'$ . By

assumption  $T$  accepts  $\begin{smallmatrix} w \\ w' \end{smallmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \# \\ \# \end{bmatrix}^*$ , 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  $j < k$ .

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.

## Correctness proof

c) If  $A$  accepts an object  $x$  , then there is an object  $y$  such that  $T$  accepts  $(x, y)$  .

$x$  accepted by  $A$

$\Rightarrow s_x$  accepted by  $A$  ( part a)

$\Rightarrow \begin{matrix} s_x \\ w \end{matrix}$  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 proof

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

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

$\Rightarrow$   $w_x$   
 $w_y$  accepted by  $T$  for some  
encodings  $w_x, w_y$  of  $x$  and  $y$

$\Rightarrow w_x$  accepted by  $A$

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

**Remember:**

**The projection automaton of a deterministic transducer may be nondeterministic.**

# Joi

- **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.

Instead of:

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{01} \\ q_{02} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{a_1} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

iff

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_{01} & \xrightarrow{a_1} & q_{11} \\ q_{02} & \xrightarrow{a_1} & q_{12} \end{array}$$

we now use

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{01} \\ q_{02} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix}$$

iff

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_{01} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{11} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} & \\ q_{02} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & q_{12} \end{array}$$

for some letter  $c_1$

The transducer  $T$  has a run

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

iff  $T_1$  and  $T_2$  have runs

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

- 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  $\begin{bmatrix} \# \\ \# \end{bmatrix}$ .



*Join*( $T_1, T_2$ )

**Input:** transducers  $T_1 = (Q_1, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_1, q_{01}, F_1)$ ,  $T_2 = (Q_2, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta_2, q_{02}, F_2)$

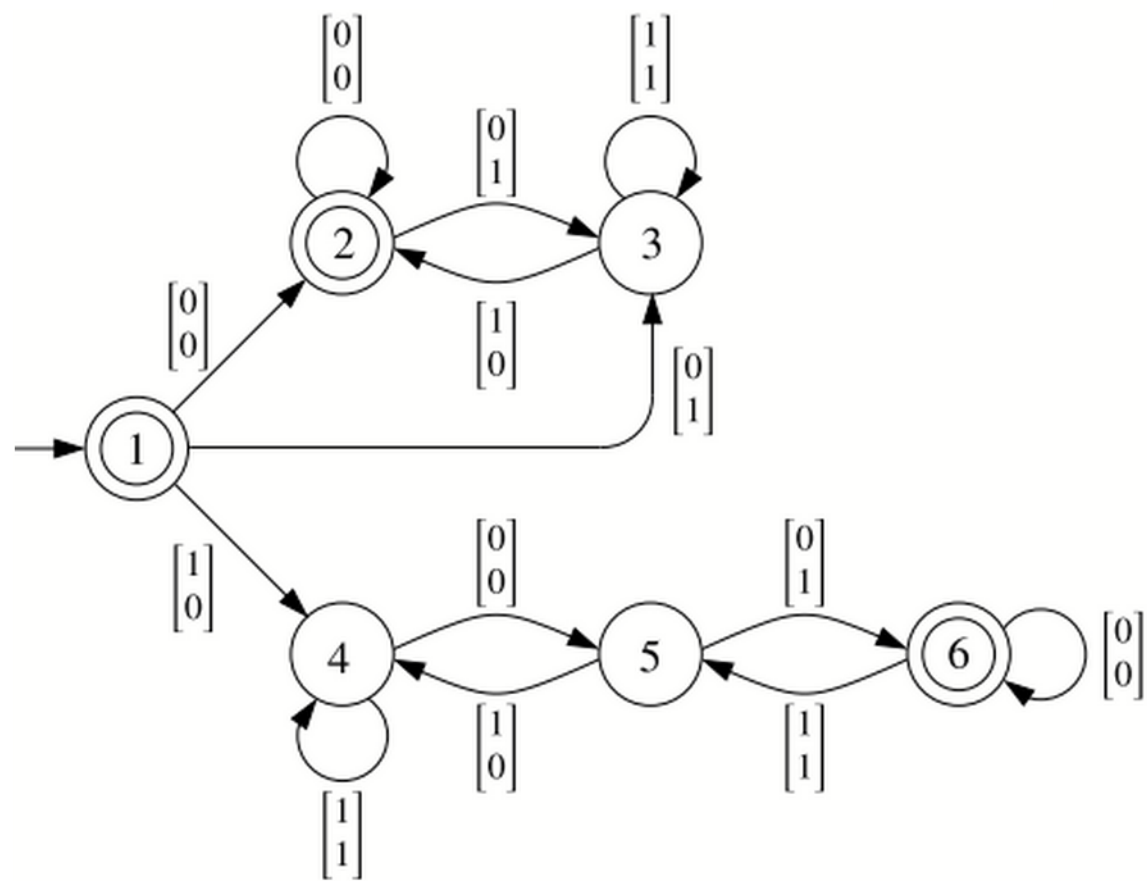
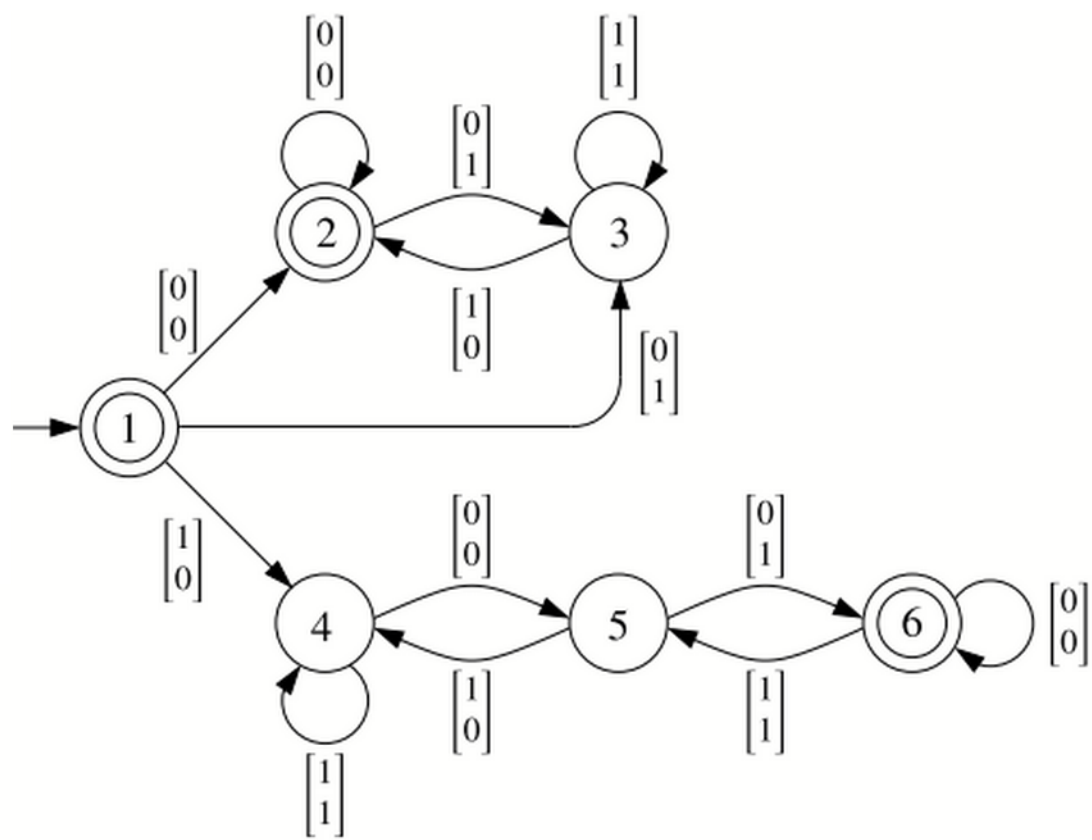
**Output:** transducer  $T_1 \circ T_2 = (Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

```
1   $Q, \delta, F' \leftarrow \emptyset; q_0 \leftarrow [q_{01}, q_{02}]$ 
2   $W \leftarrow \{[q_{01}, q_{02}]\}$ 
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  $F \leftarrow \text{PadClosure}((Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma \delta, q_0, F'), (\#, \#))$ 
```

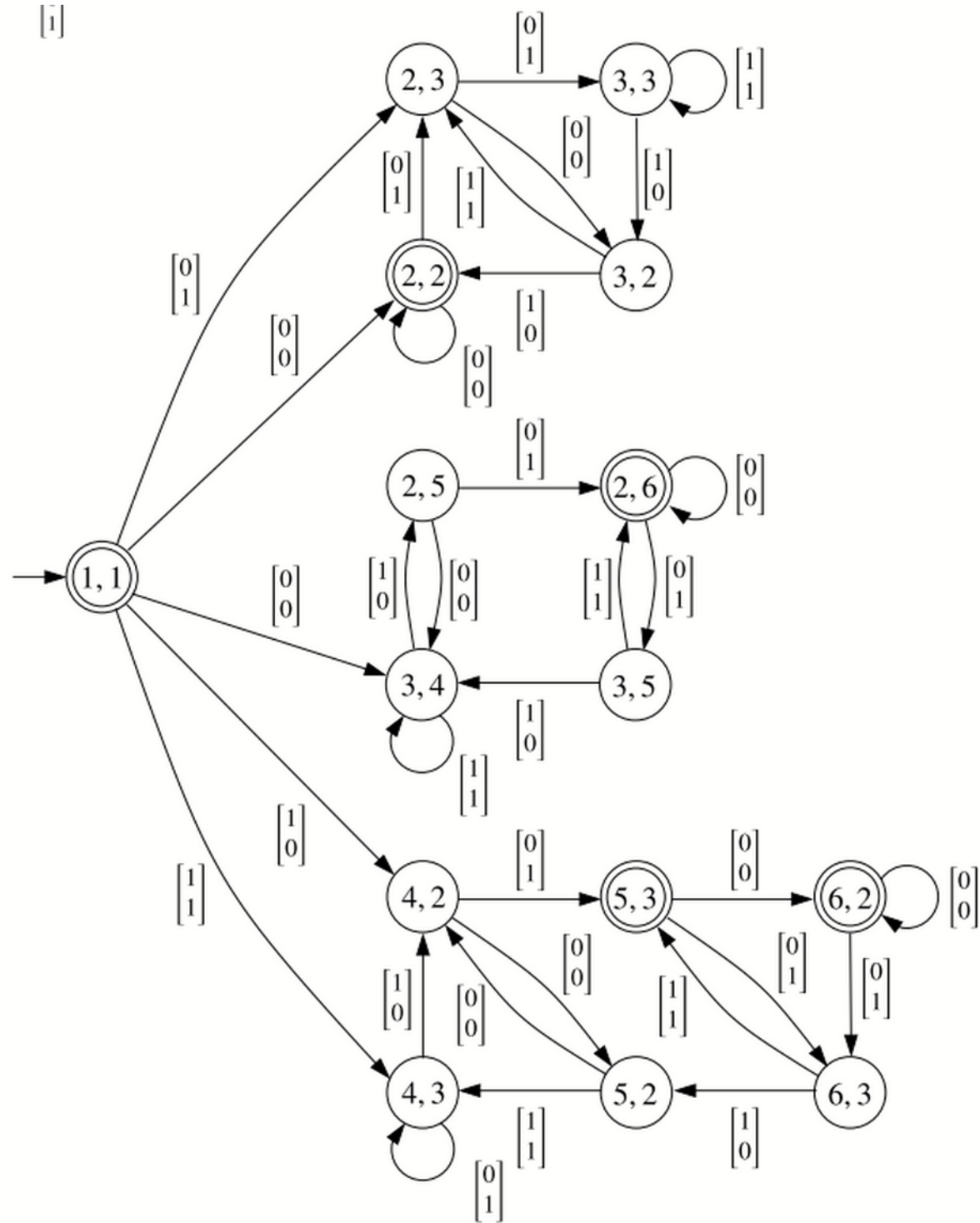
Complexity: similar to pairing

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

$$f(f(n)) = \begin{cases} n/4 & \text{if } n \equiv 0 \pmod{4} \\ 3n/2 + 1 & \text{if } n \equiv 2 \pmod{4} \\ 3n/2 + 1/2 & \text{if } n \equiv 1 \pmod{4} \text{ or } n \equiv 3 \pmod{4} \end{cases}$$



[i]



# 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

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

We slightly modify the construction for join.

Instead of:

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{01} \\ q_{02} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix}} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{iff}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_{01} & \xrightarrow{\begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ c_1 \end{bmatrix}} & q_{11} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} c_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} & \\ q_{02} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & q_{12} \end{array}$$

for some letter  $c_1$

we now use

$$\begin{bmatrix} q_{01} \\ q_{02} \end{bmatrix} \xrightarrow{b_1} \begin{bmatrix} q_{11} \\ q_{12} \end{bmatrix} \quad \text{iff}$$

$$\begin{array}{ccc} q_{01} & \xrightarrow{a_1} & q_{11} \\ & \begin{bmatrix} a_1 \\ b_1 \end{bmatrix} & \\ q_{02} & \xrightarrow{\quad} & q_{12} \end{array}$$

for some letter  $a_1$

# From Join to 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  $T_1 \circ T_2 = (Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

```
1   $Q, \delta, F' \leftarrow \emptyset$ ;  $q_0 \leftarrow [q_{01}, q_{02}]$ 
2   $W \leftarrow \{[q_{01}, q_{02}]\}$ 
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  $F \leftarrow \text{PadClosure}((Q, \Sigma \times \Sigma \delta, q_0, F'), (\#, \#))$ 
```

**Example: compute the set  $\{ f(n) \mid n \text{ multiple of } 3 \}$**

