

Big picture



- All languages

- Decidable

- Turing machines

- NP

- P

- Context-free

 - Context-free grammars, push-down automata

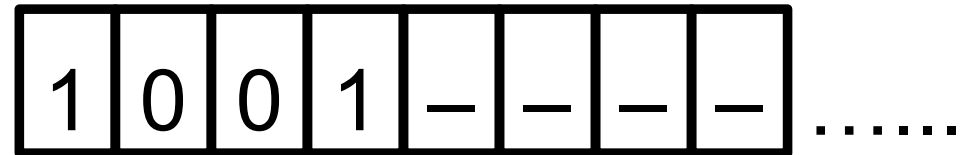
- Regular

 - Automata, non-deterministic automata,
regular expressions

Turing Machines

Like DFA but

- Access to infinite tape, initially containing input and blank (–) everywhere else

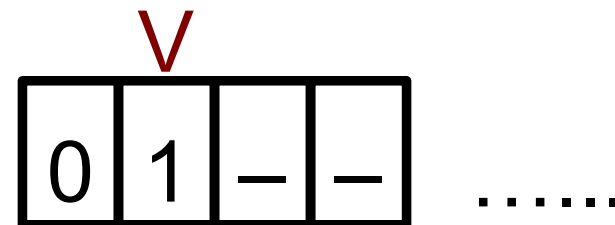


- Read and write on tape
- Move both ways on tape
- Accept, reject take action immediately

Turing Machines (TM)

Details:

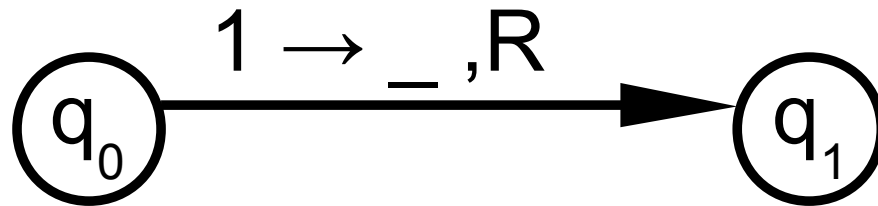
- Tape is infinite to the right only
- TM has head ∇ on one tape cell



- In one step TM can:
- change state
- read/write cell under head,
- move to the left or right of 1 cell

(If TM attempts to go left of first cell, stay put)

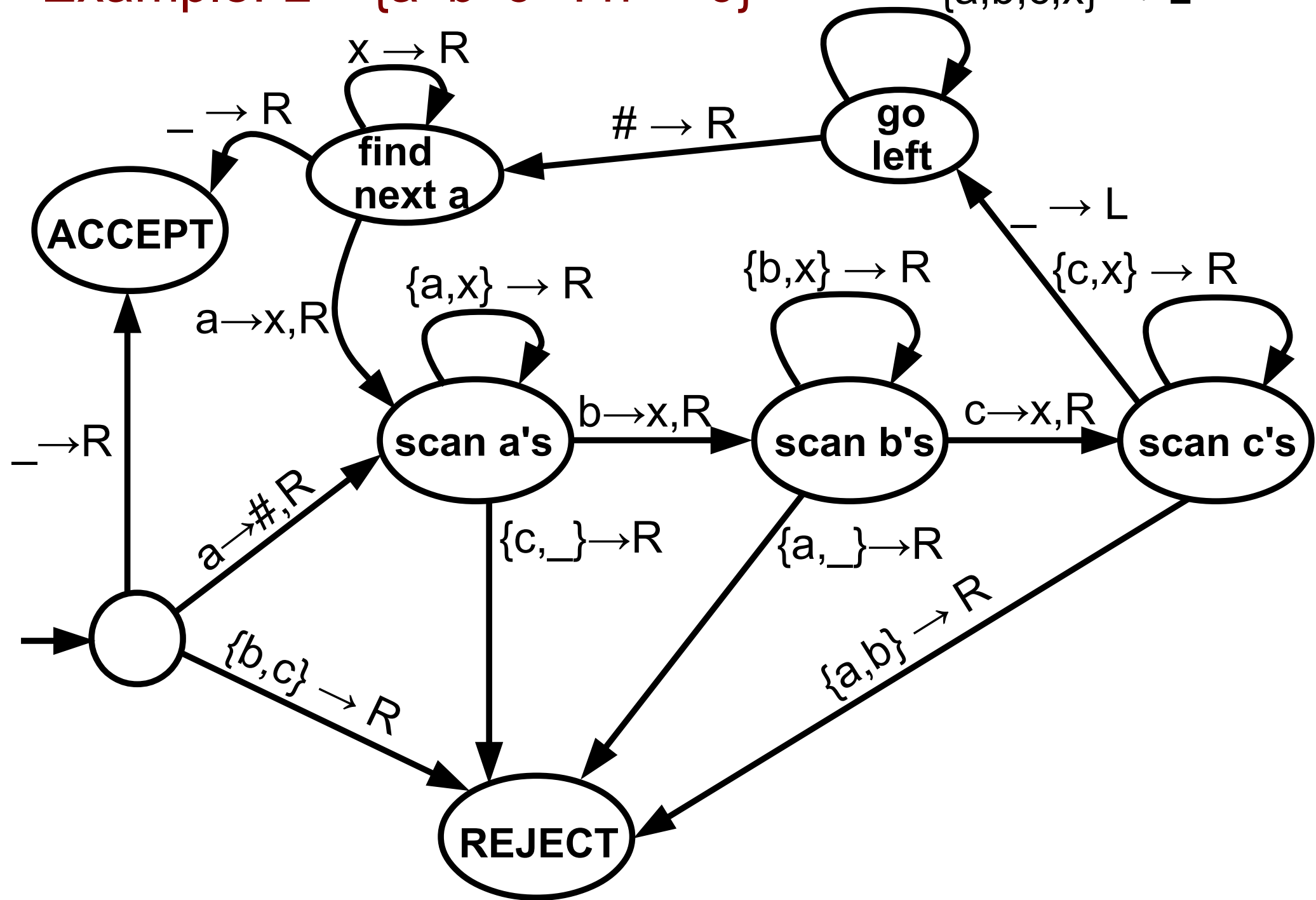
May write TM like DFA with transitions:



- If in state q_0 and tape cell under head contains 1:
write blank ($_$),
move head to the Right,
go to state q_1

Example: $L = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$

$\{a,b,c,x\} \rightarrow L$



- Typically, we do **not** draw state diagrams of TM
- Two reasons:
 - State diagrams are very complicated, hence useless
 - There is equivalent, easier notation (we'll see later)
- Sufficient to give high-level description of TM

Example: A TM for the language $\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$

$M :=$ “On input w .

- 1) Scan tape and **cross off** one a , one b , and one c
- 2) If none of these symbols is found, ACCEPT
- 3) If not all of these symbols is found,
or if found in the wrong order, REJECT
- 4) Go back to 1.”

- State diagram merely implements above

Example: A TM for the language $\{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$

M := "On input w.

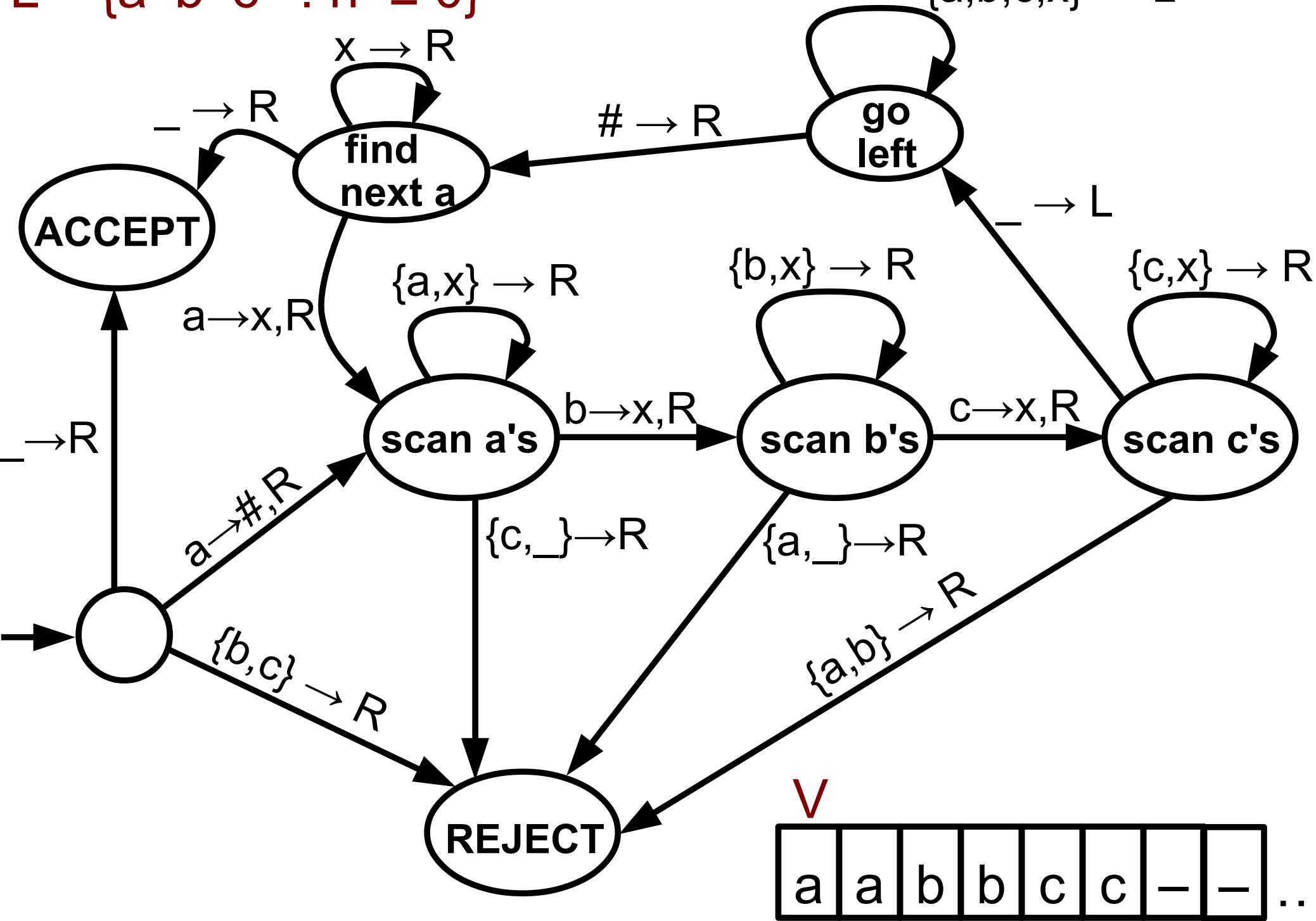
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- State diagram merely implements above

Have extra tape symbols #, X

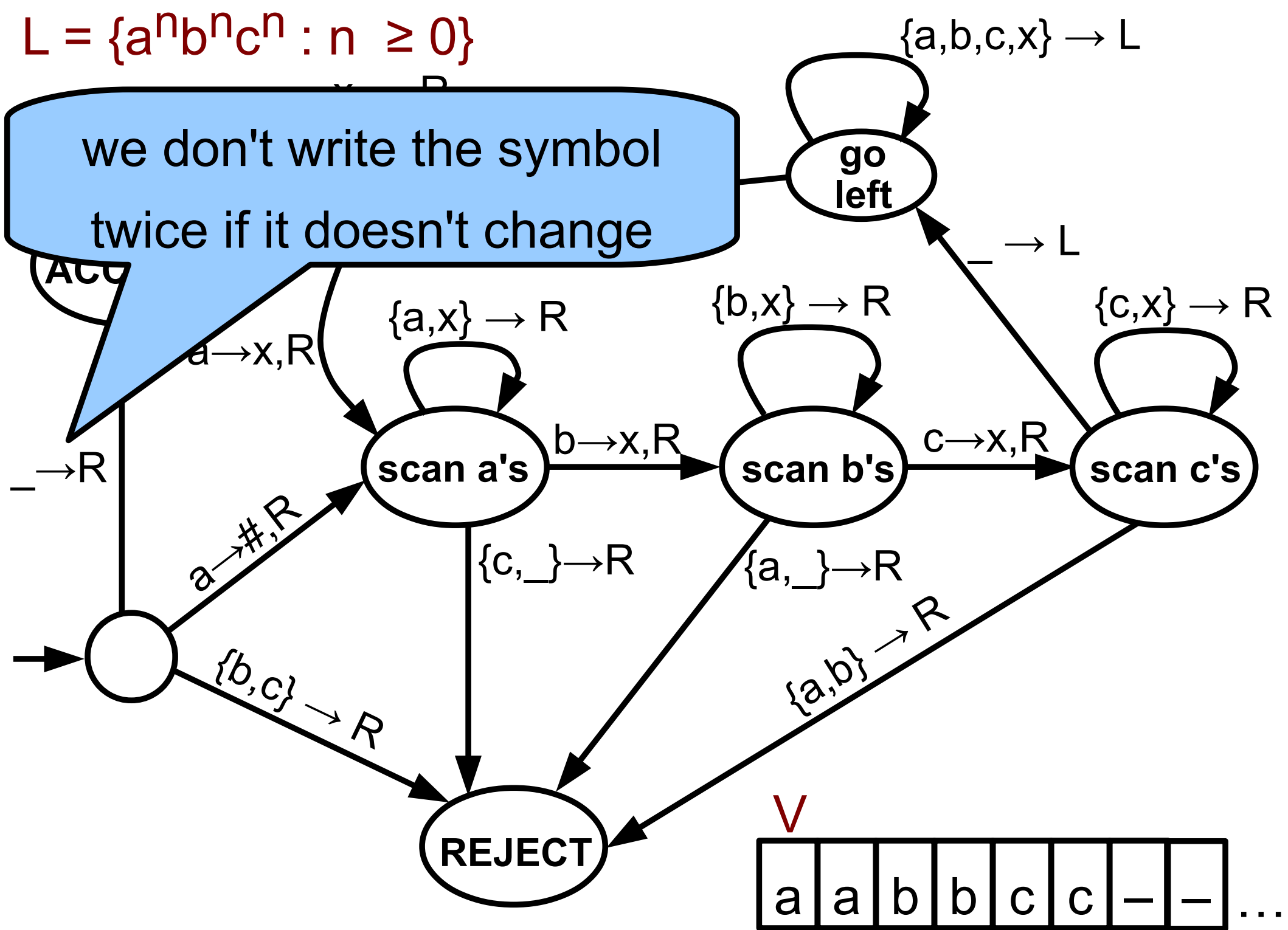
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$\{a,b,c,x\} \rightarrow L$



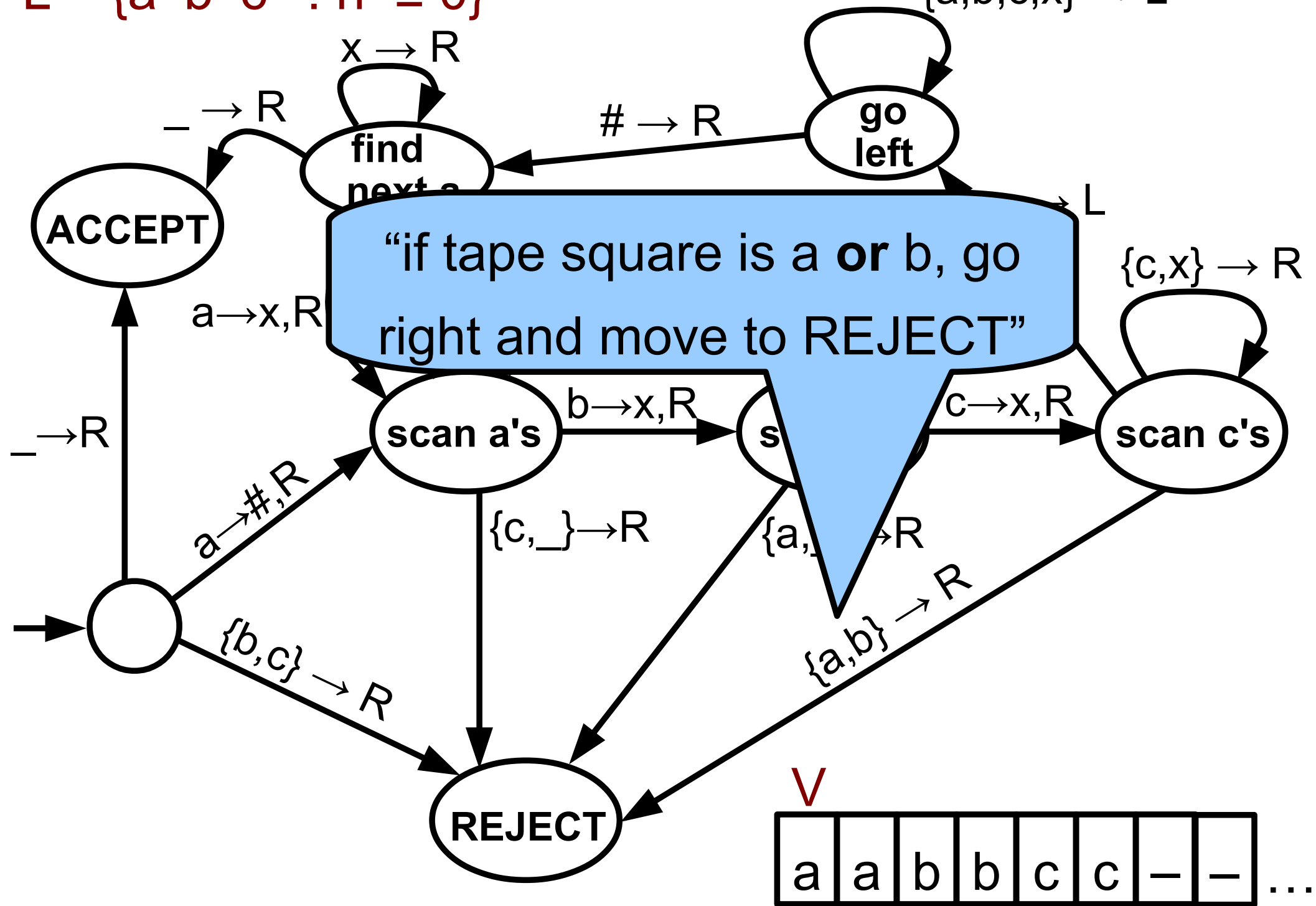
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we don't write the symbol twice if it doesn't change



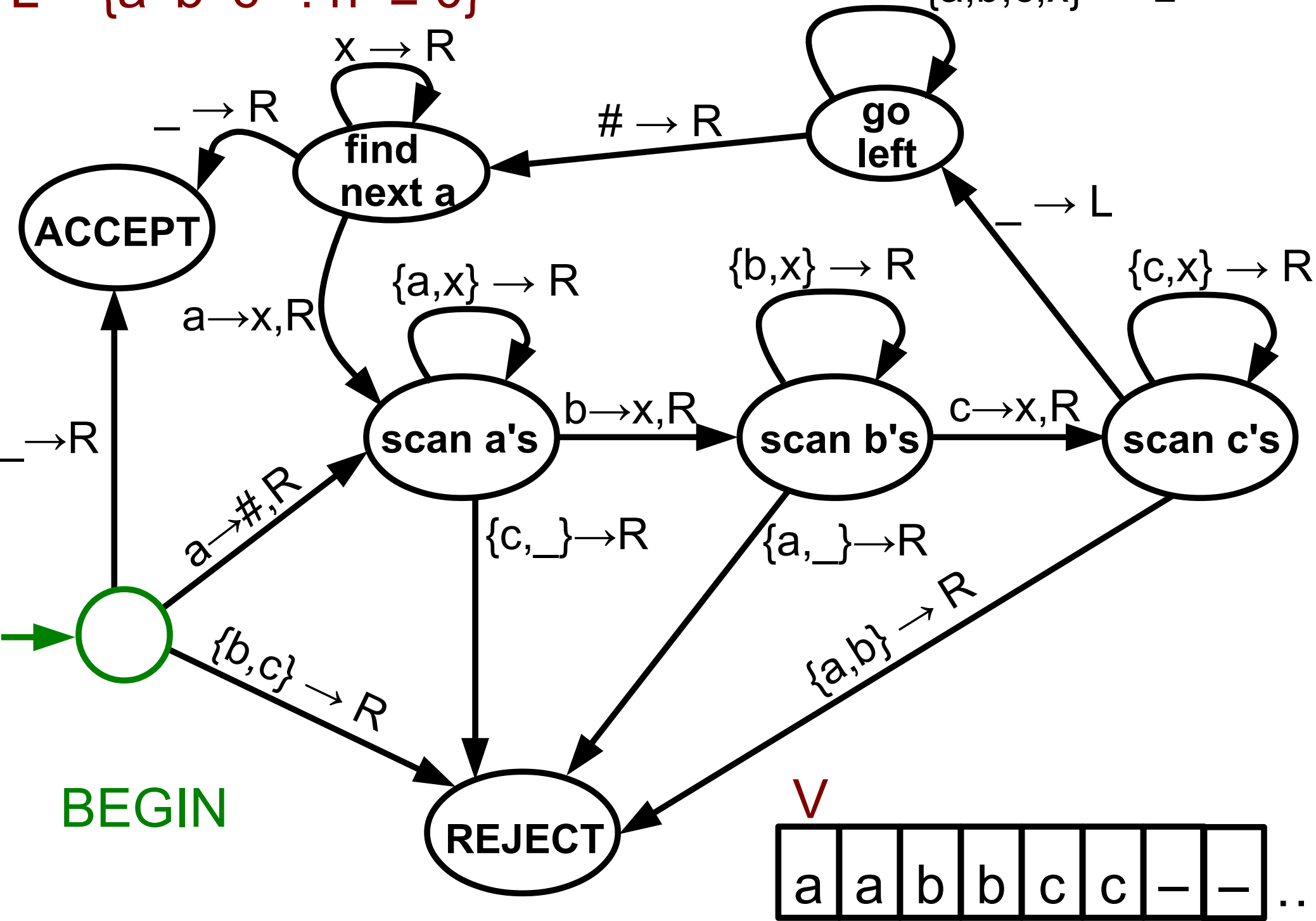
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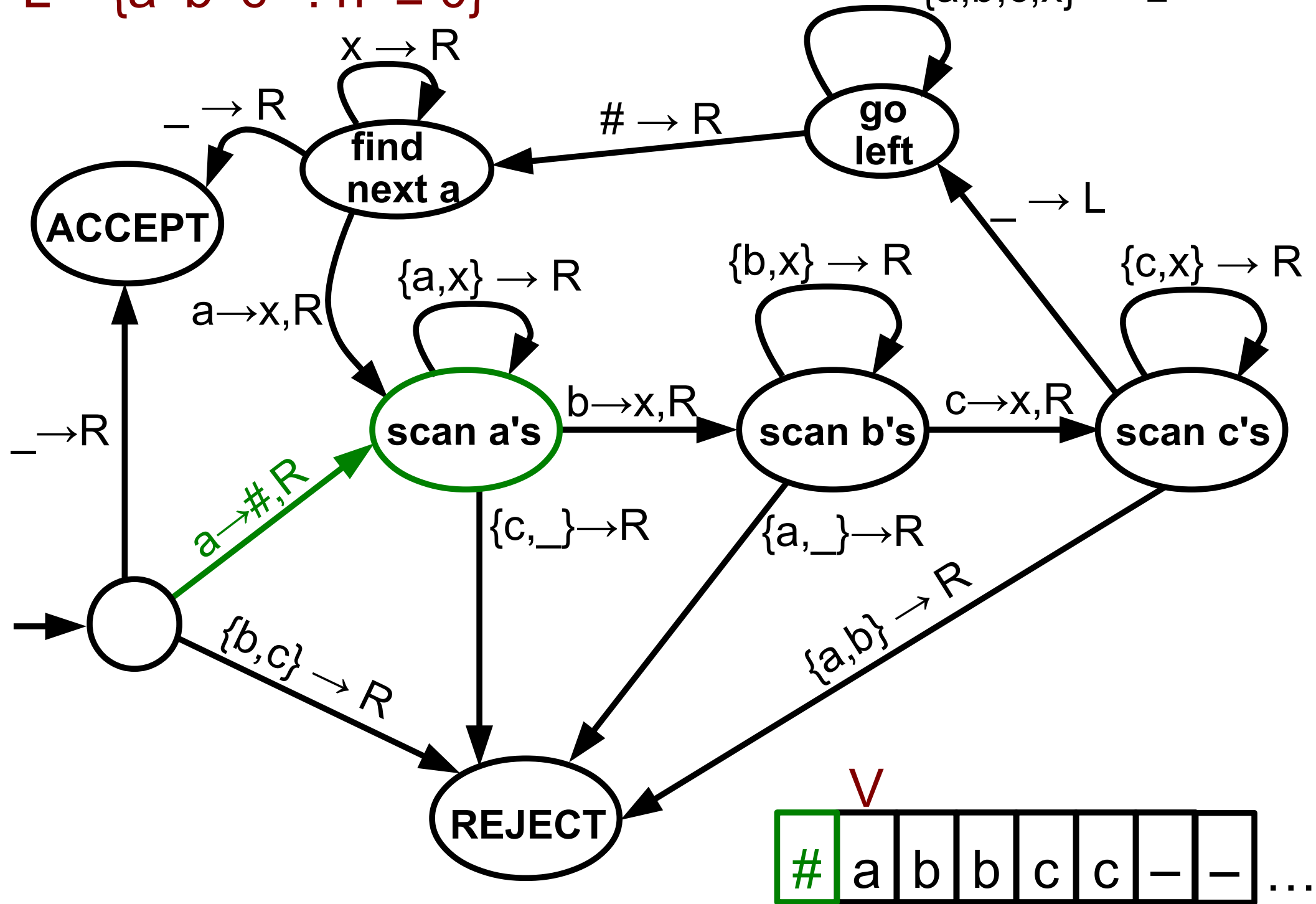
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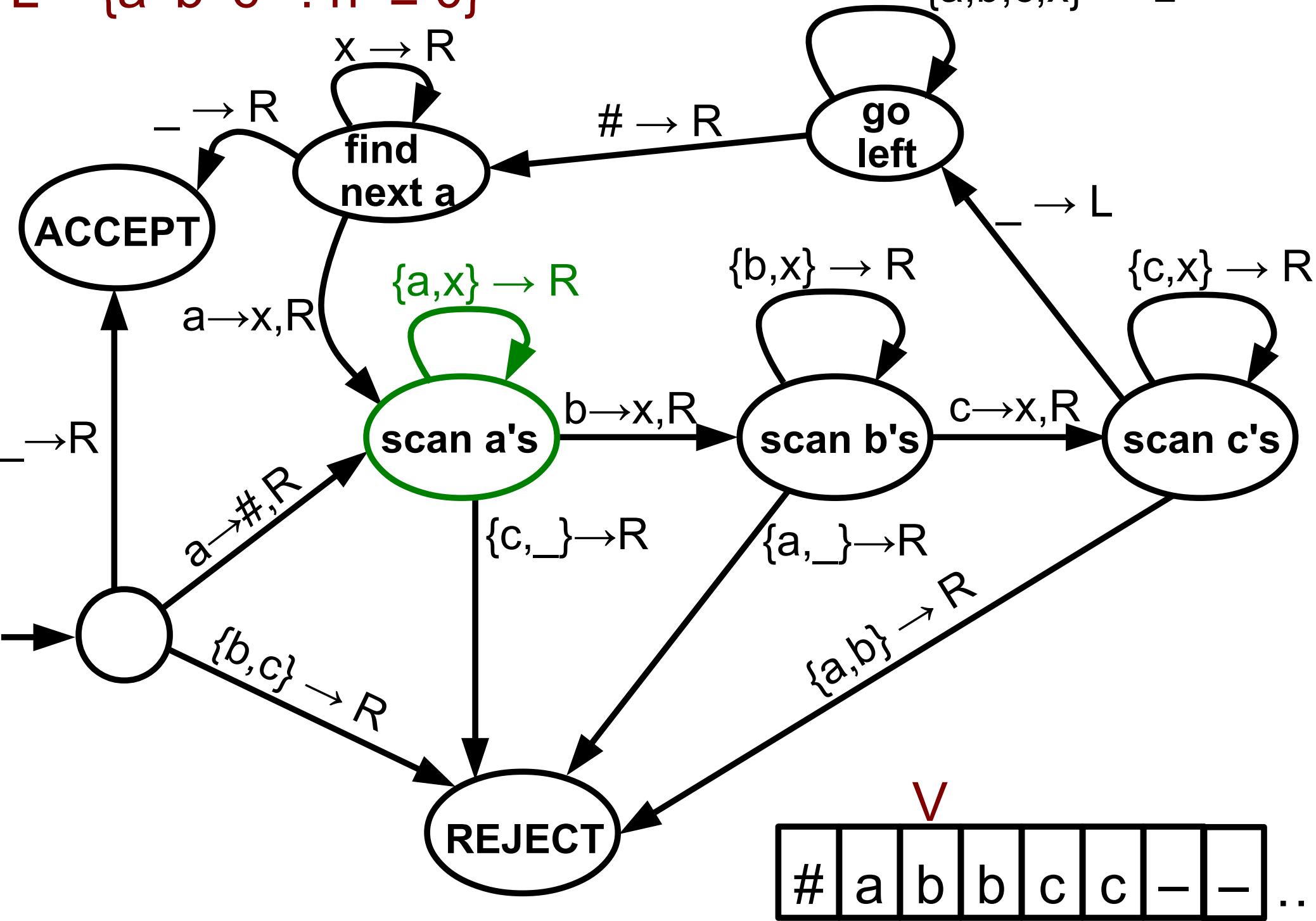
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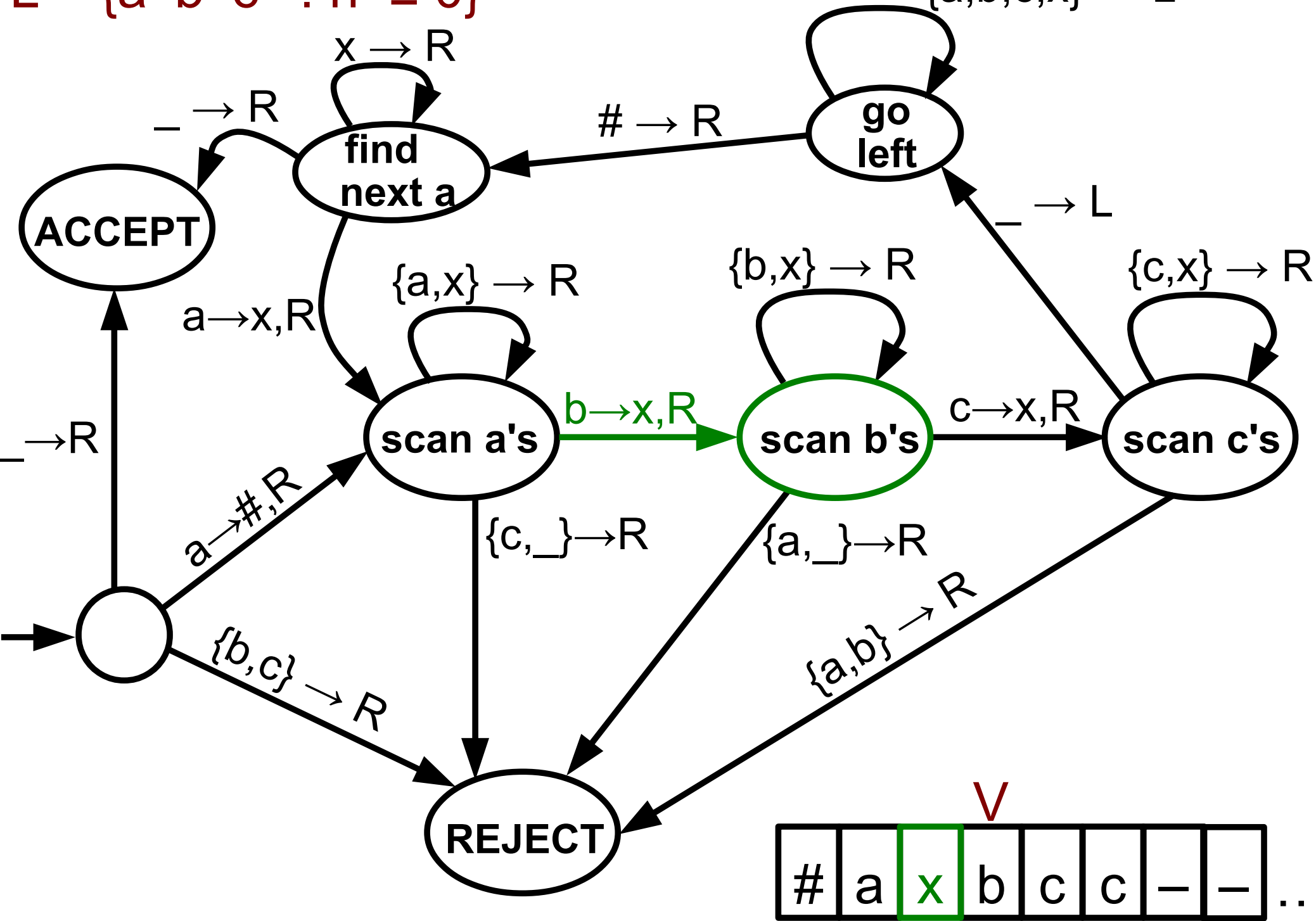
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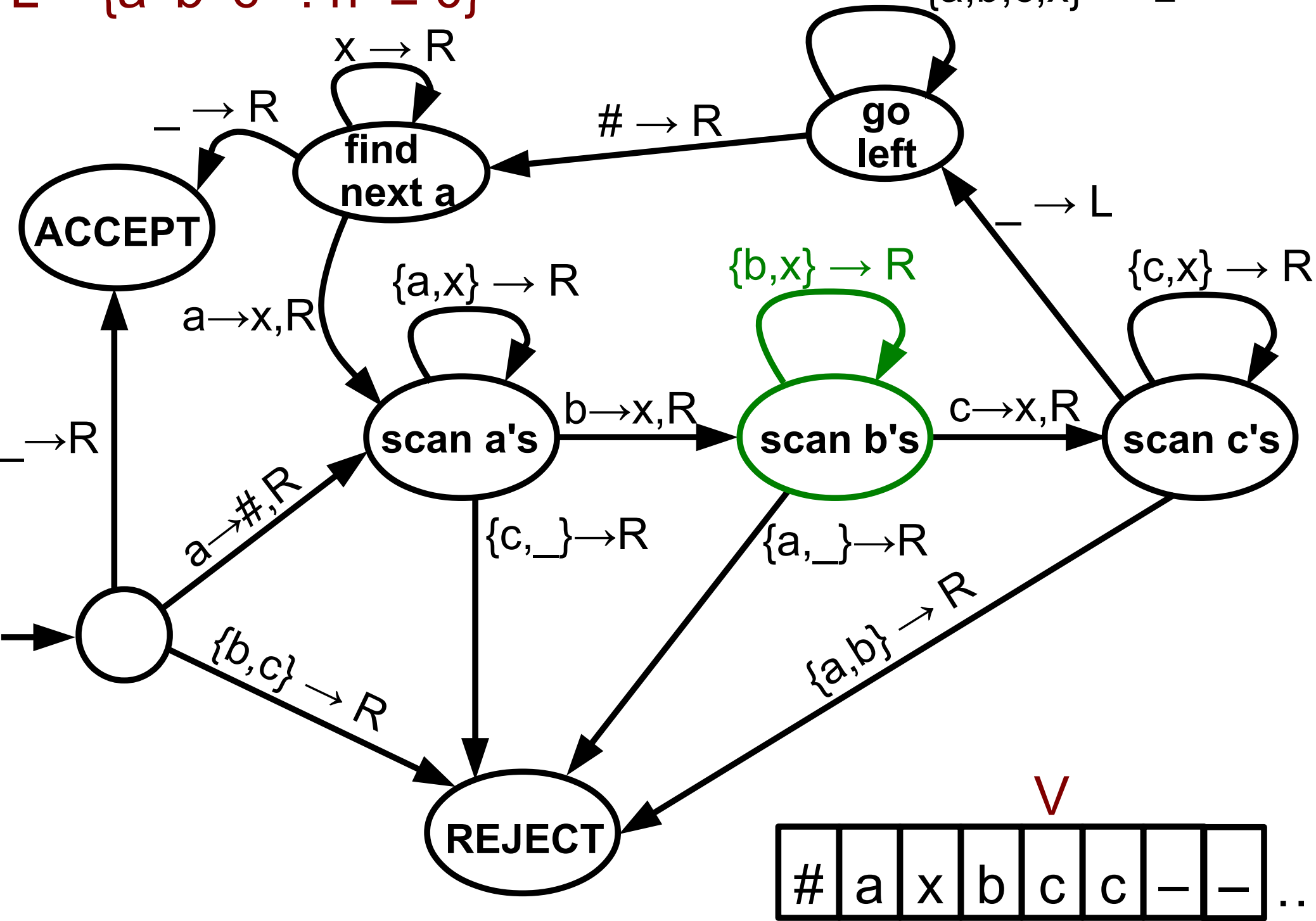
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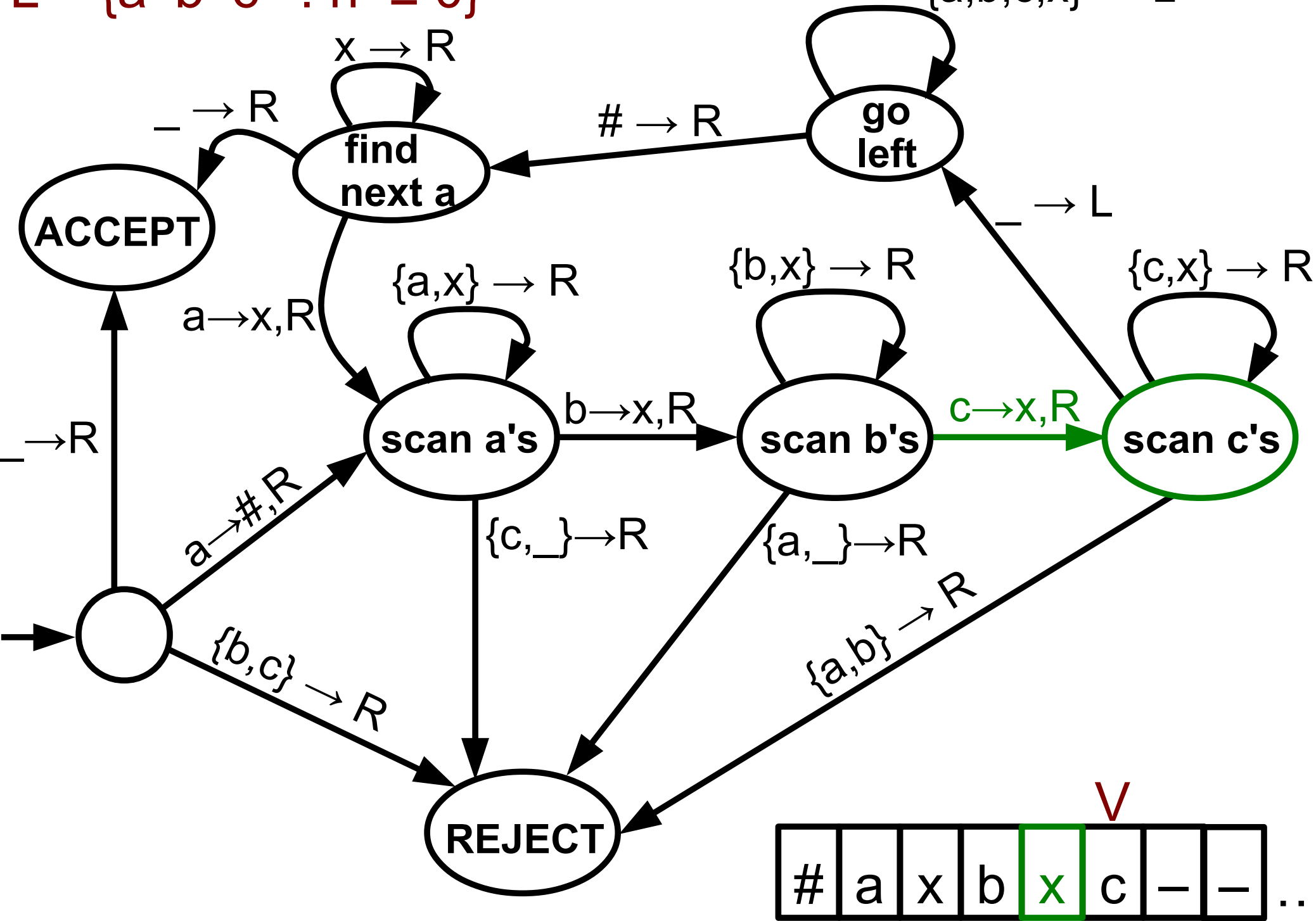
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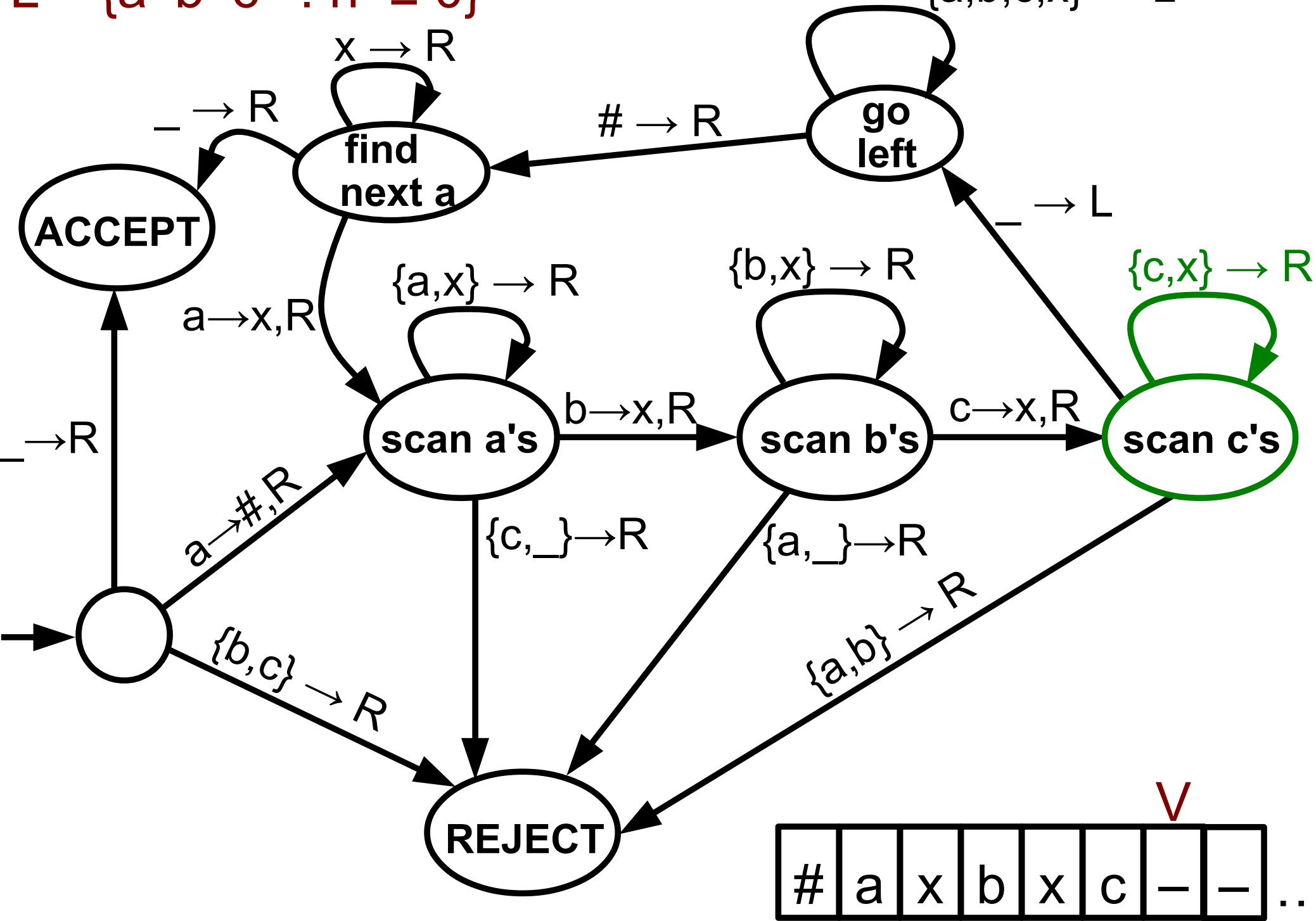
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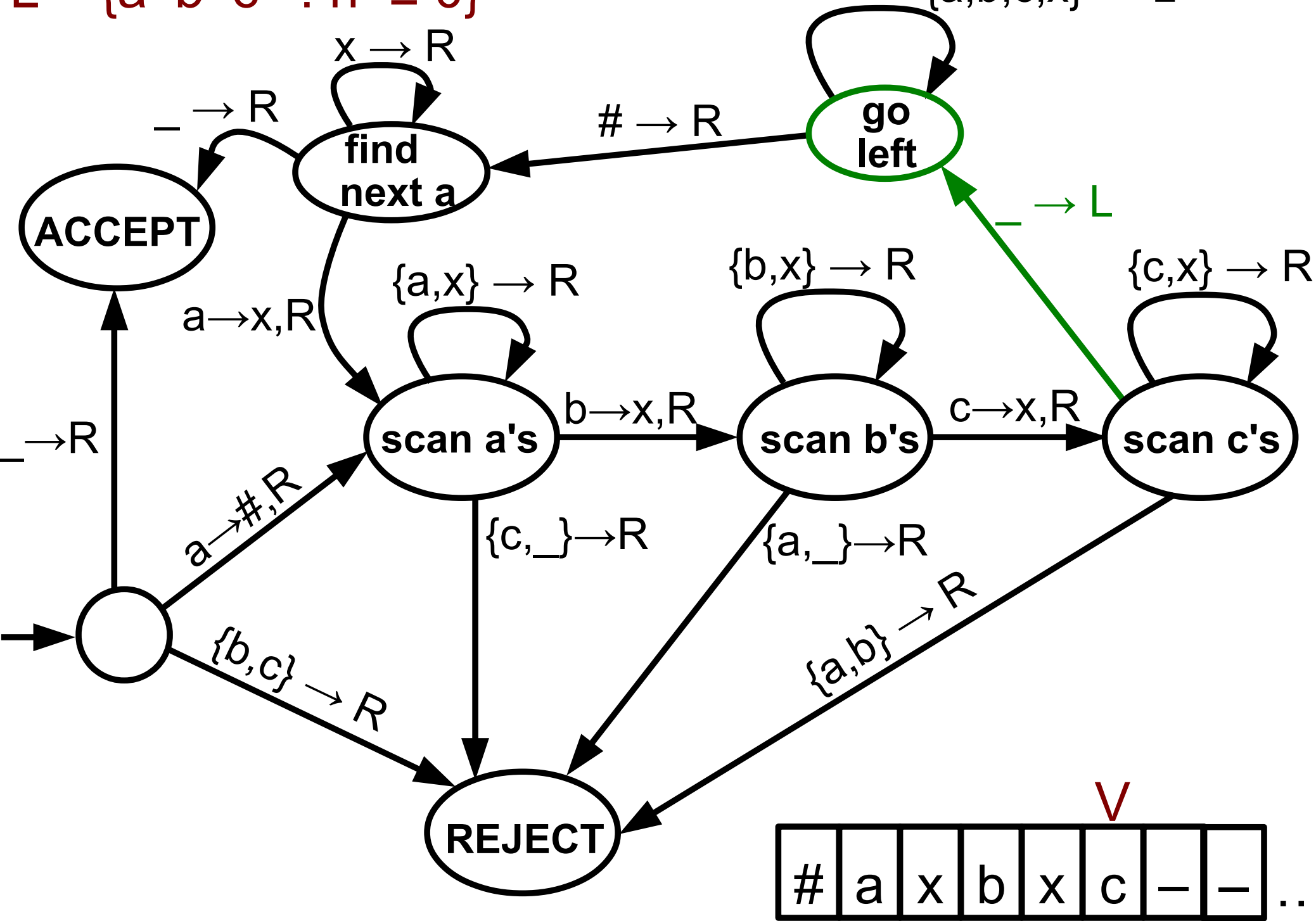
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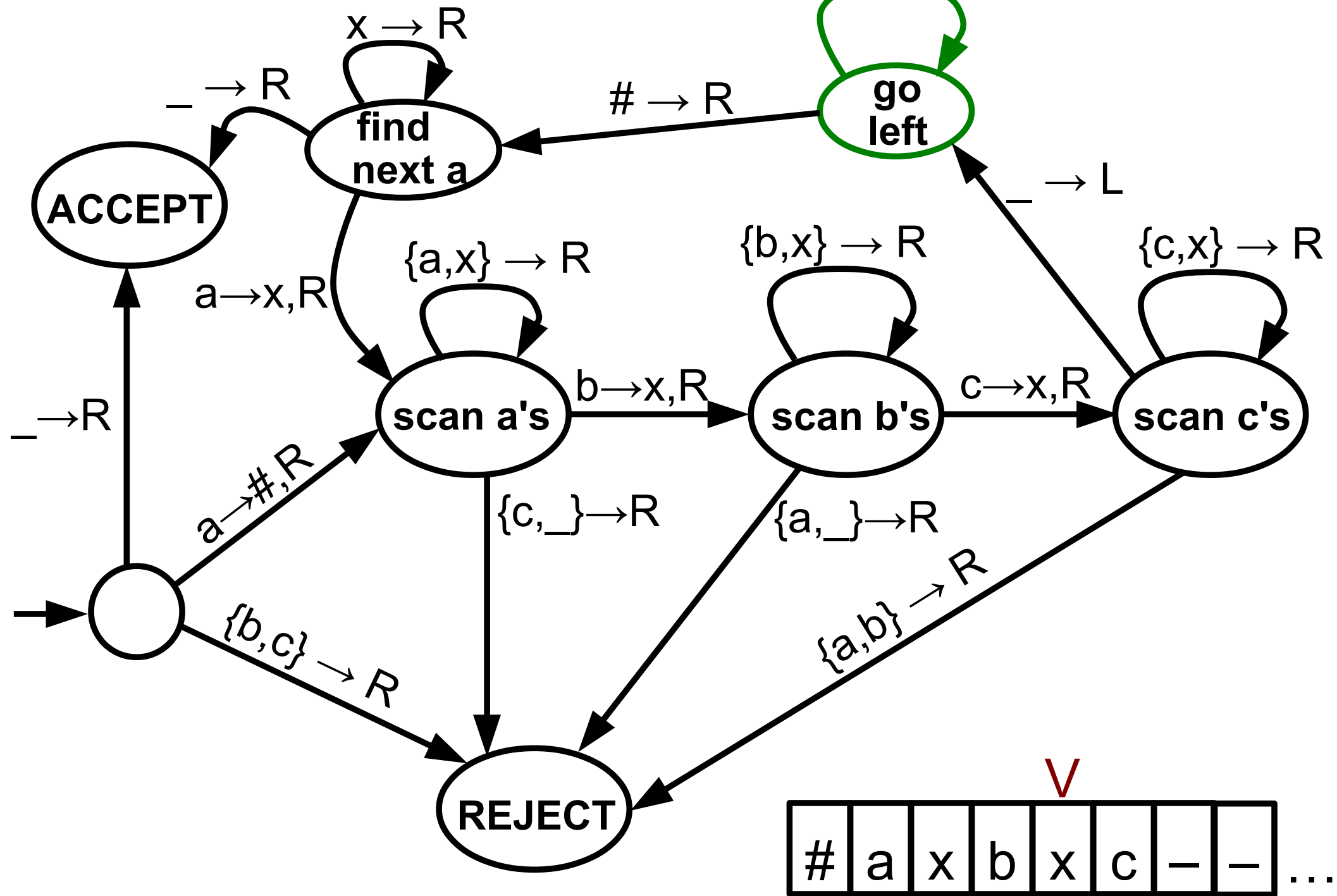


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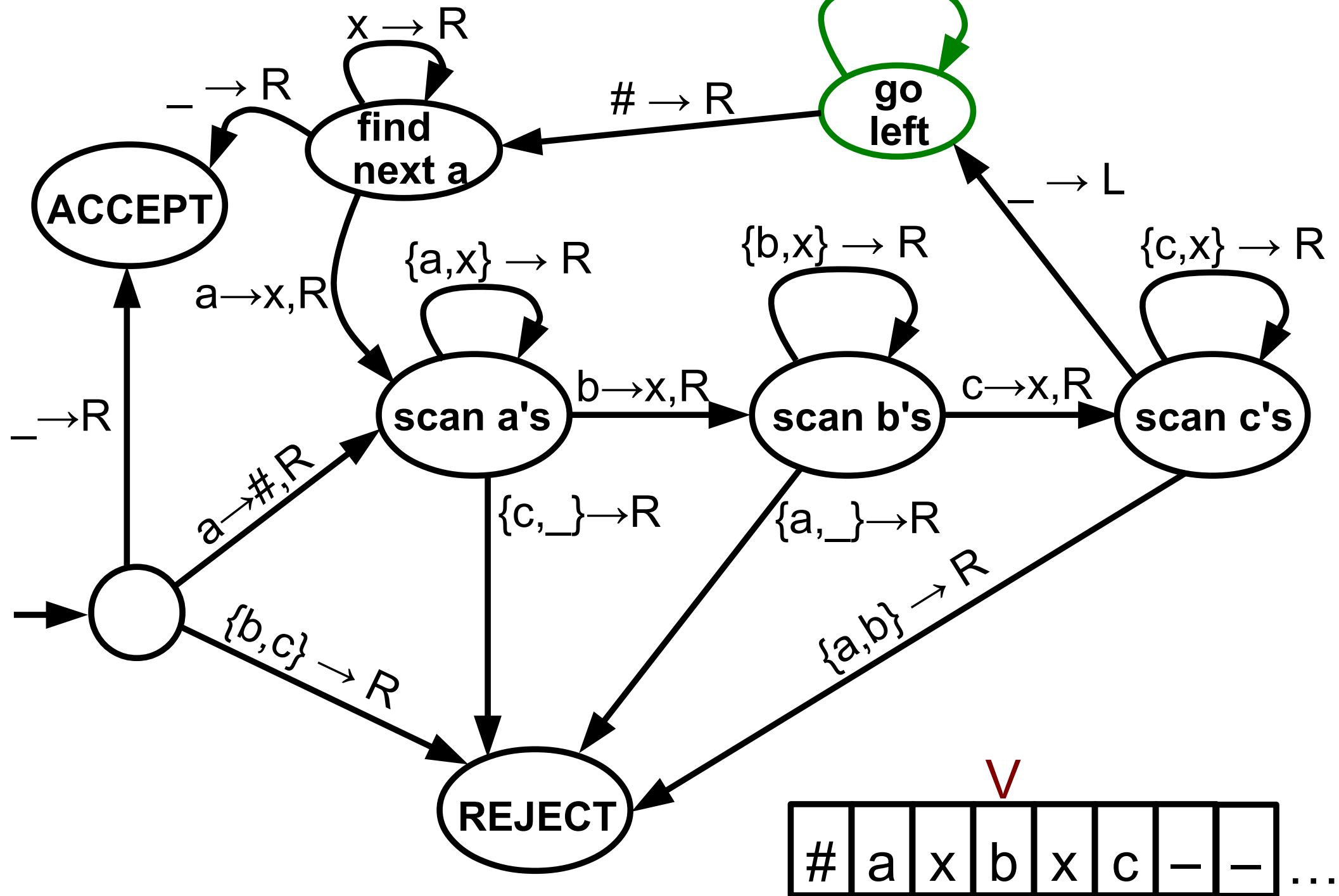
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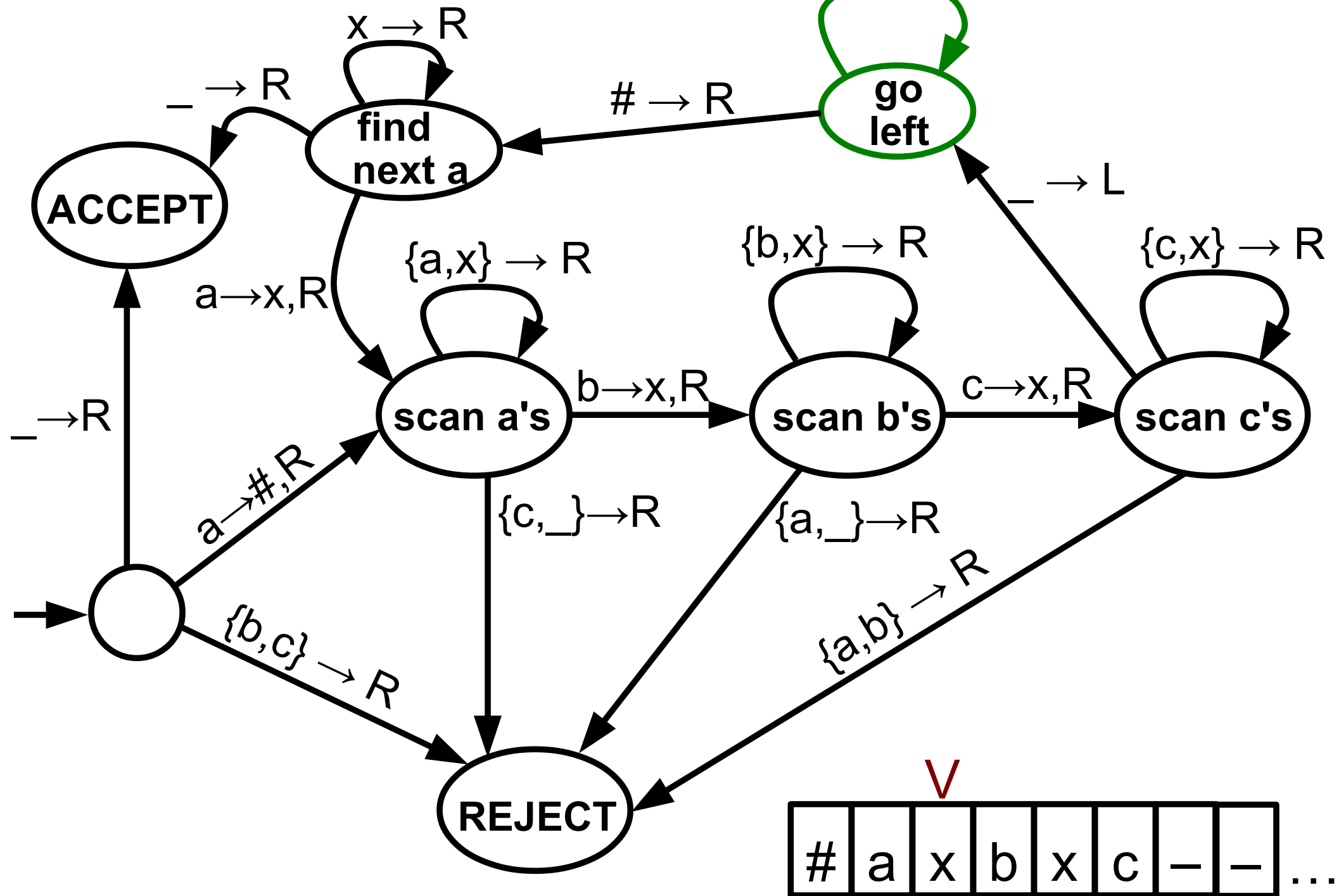
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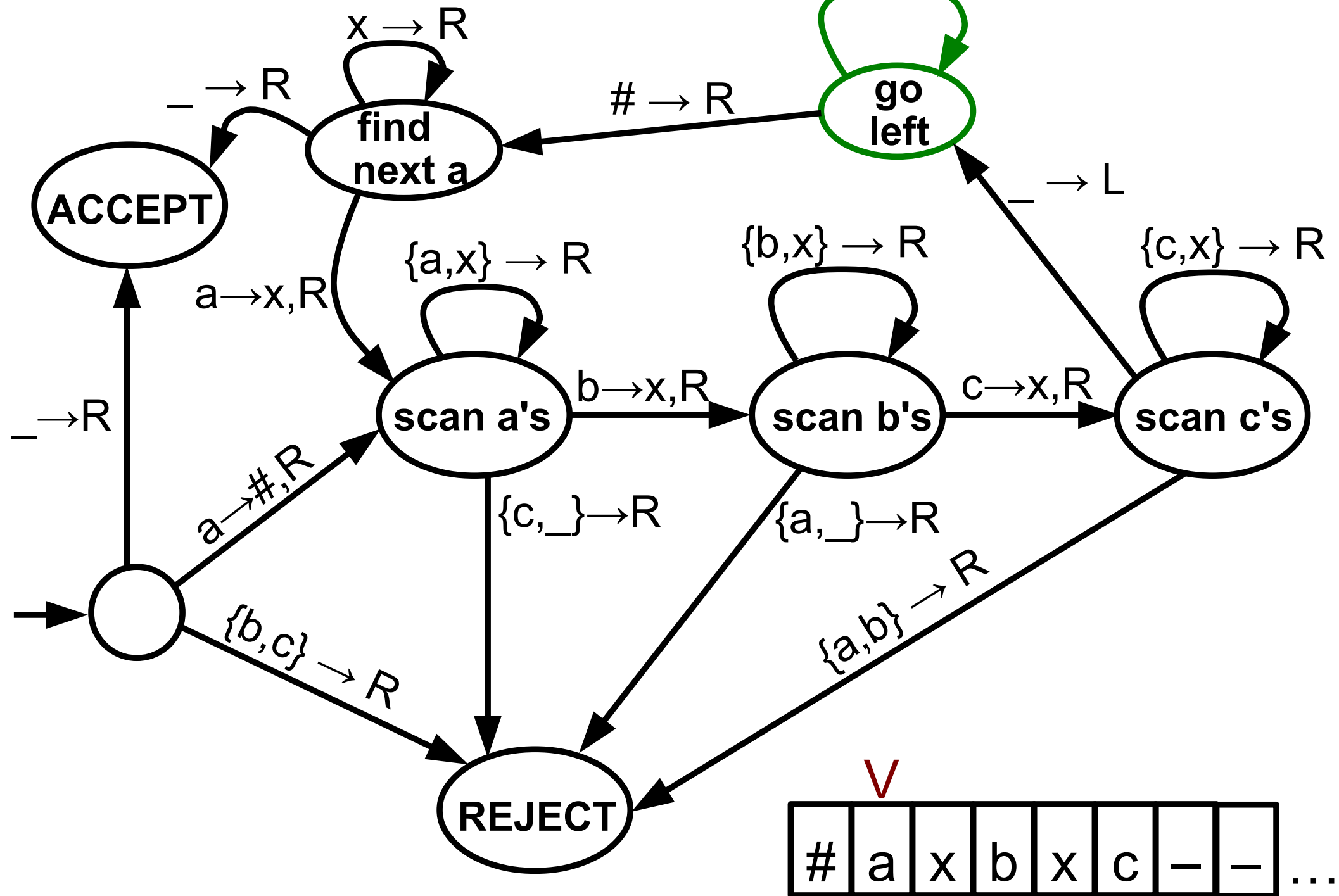
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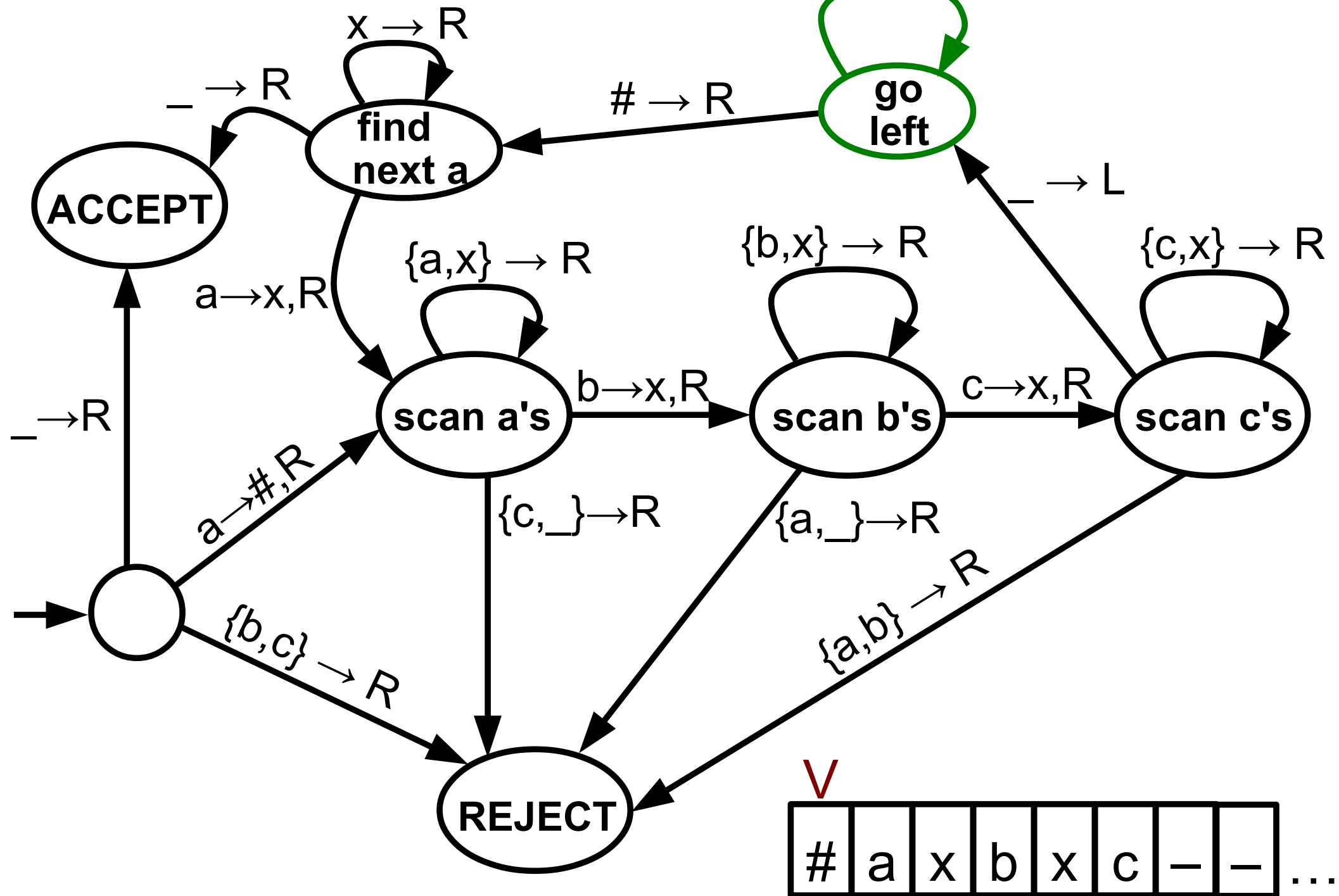
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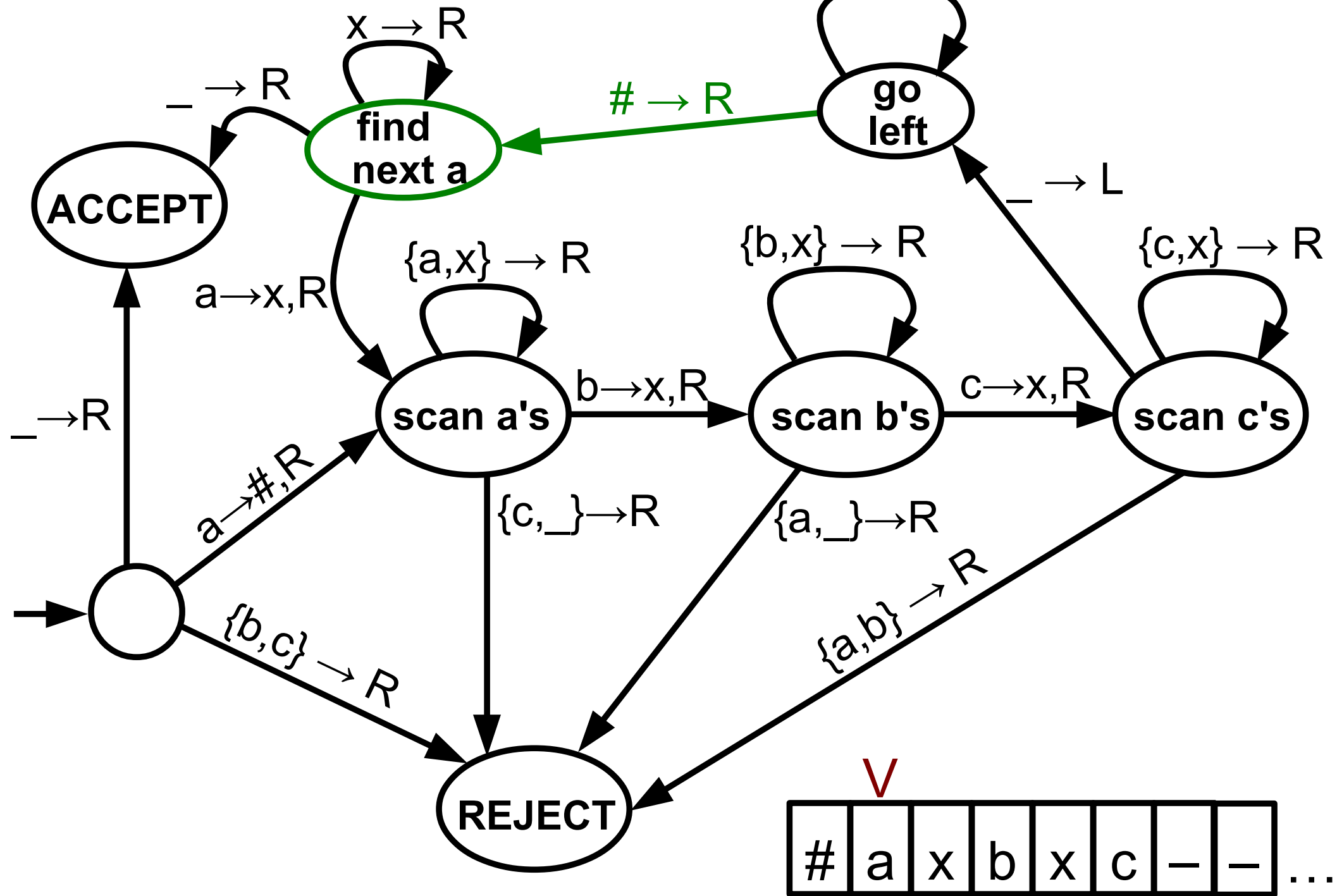
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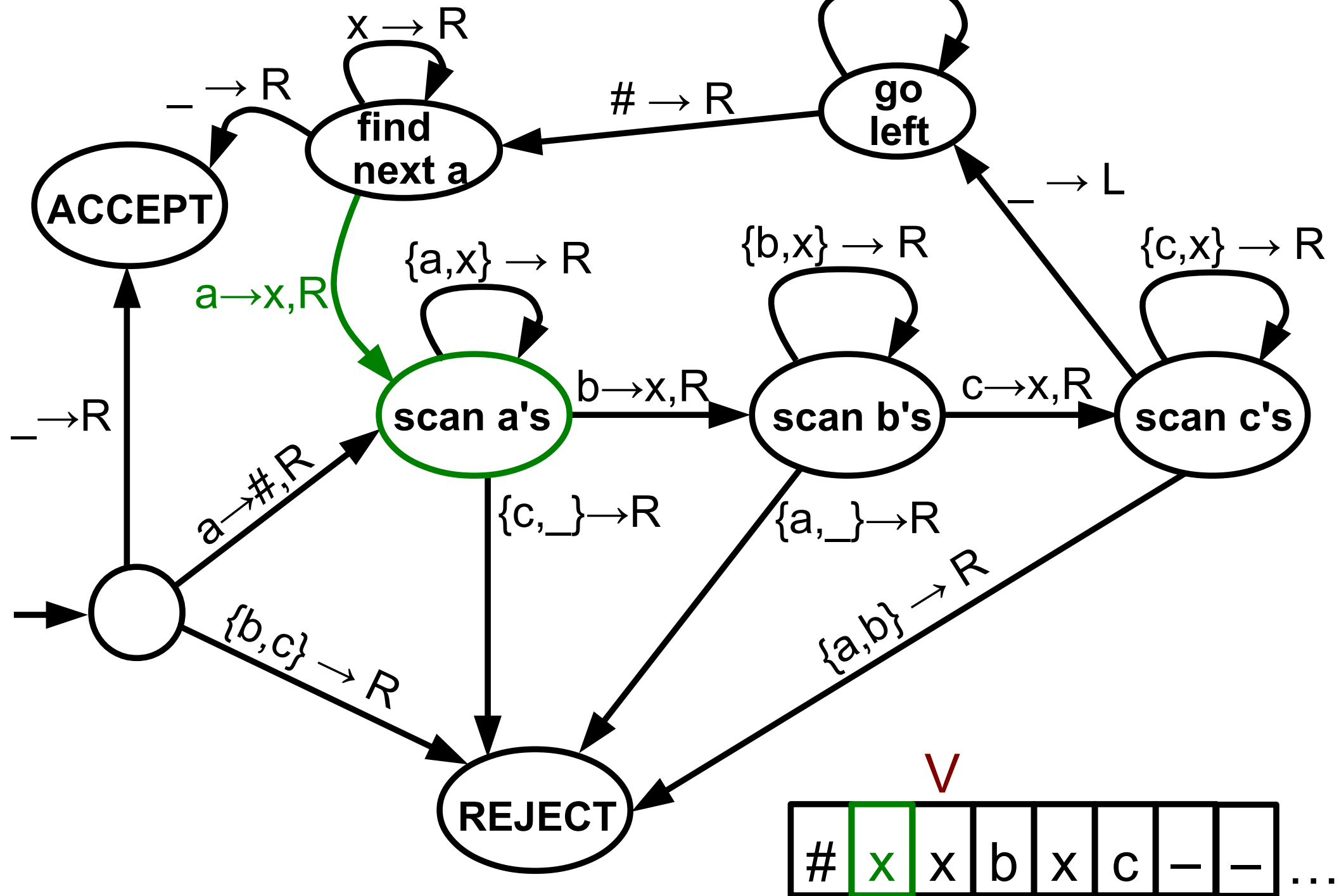
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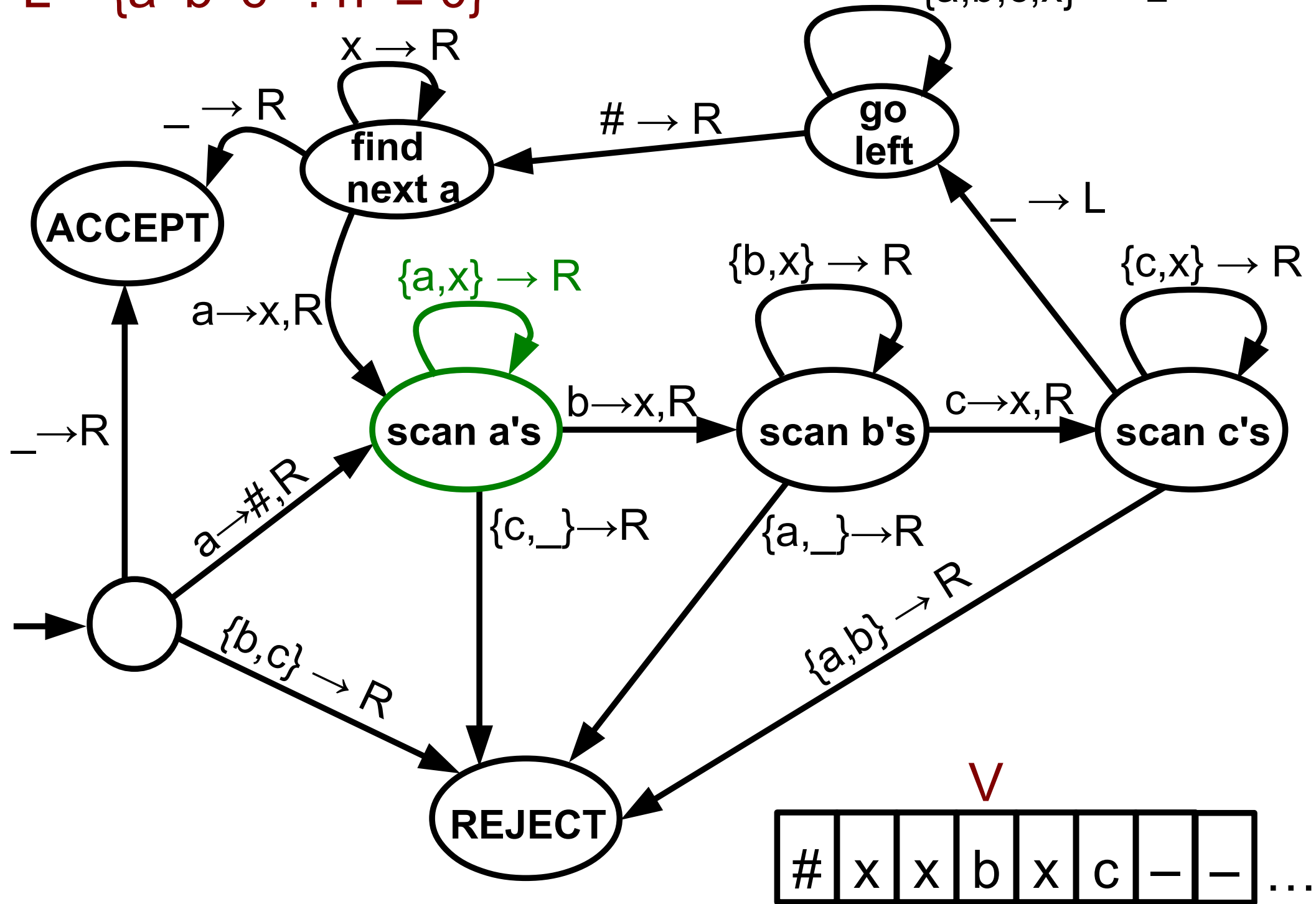
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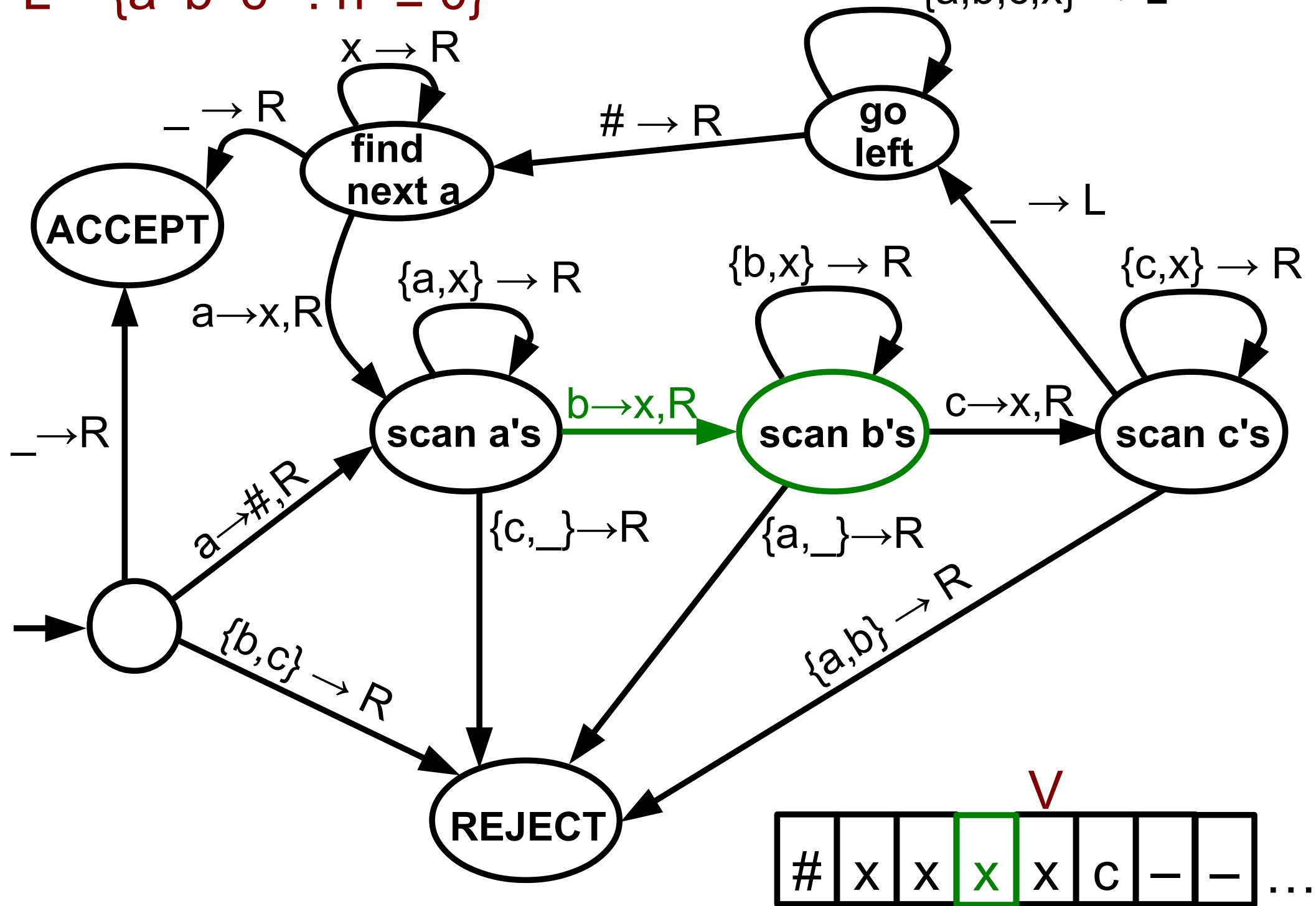


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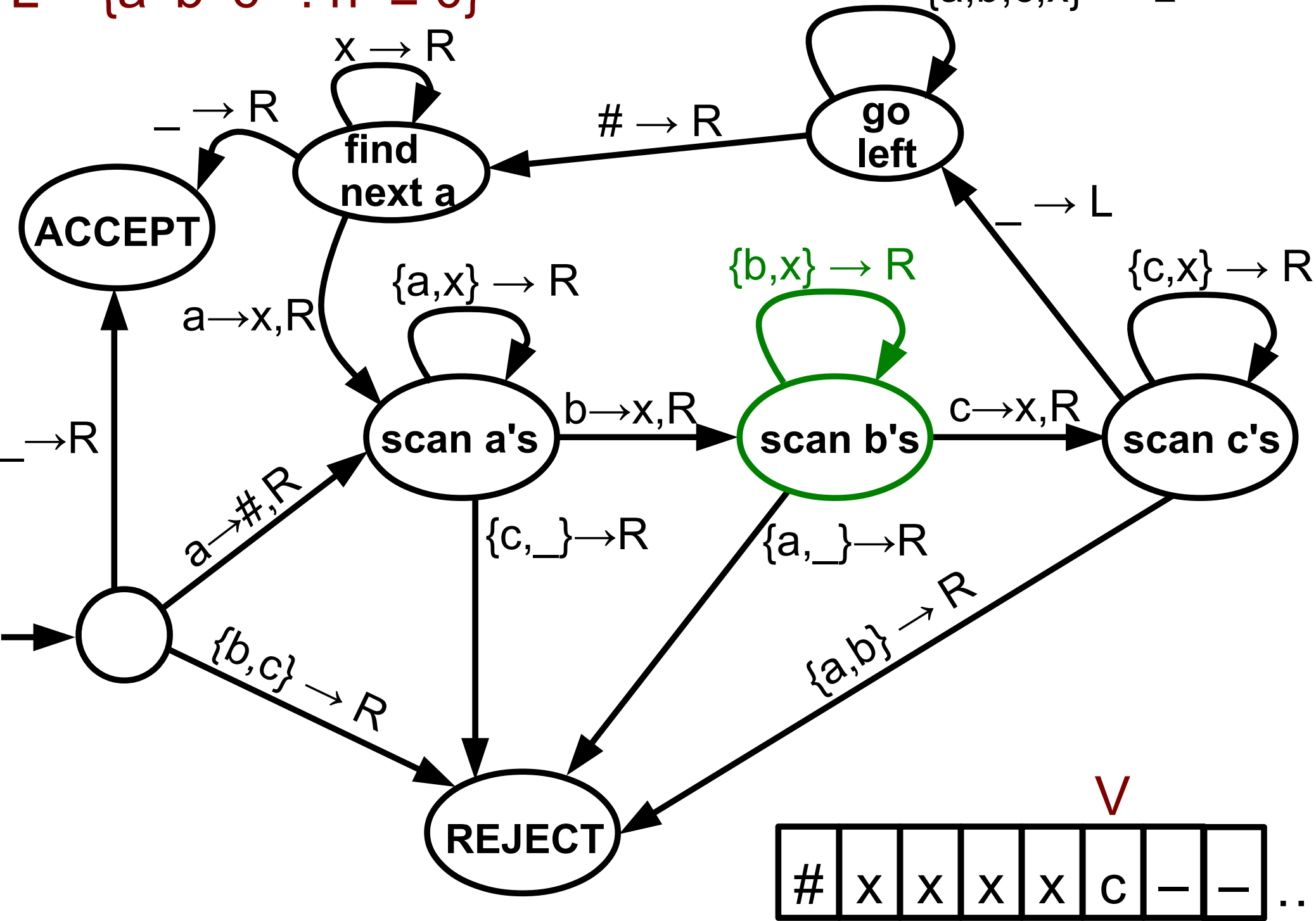
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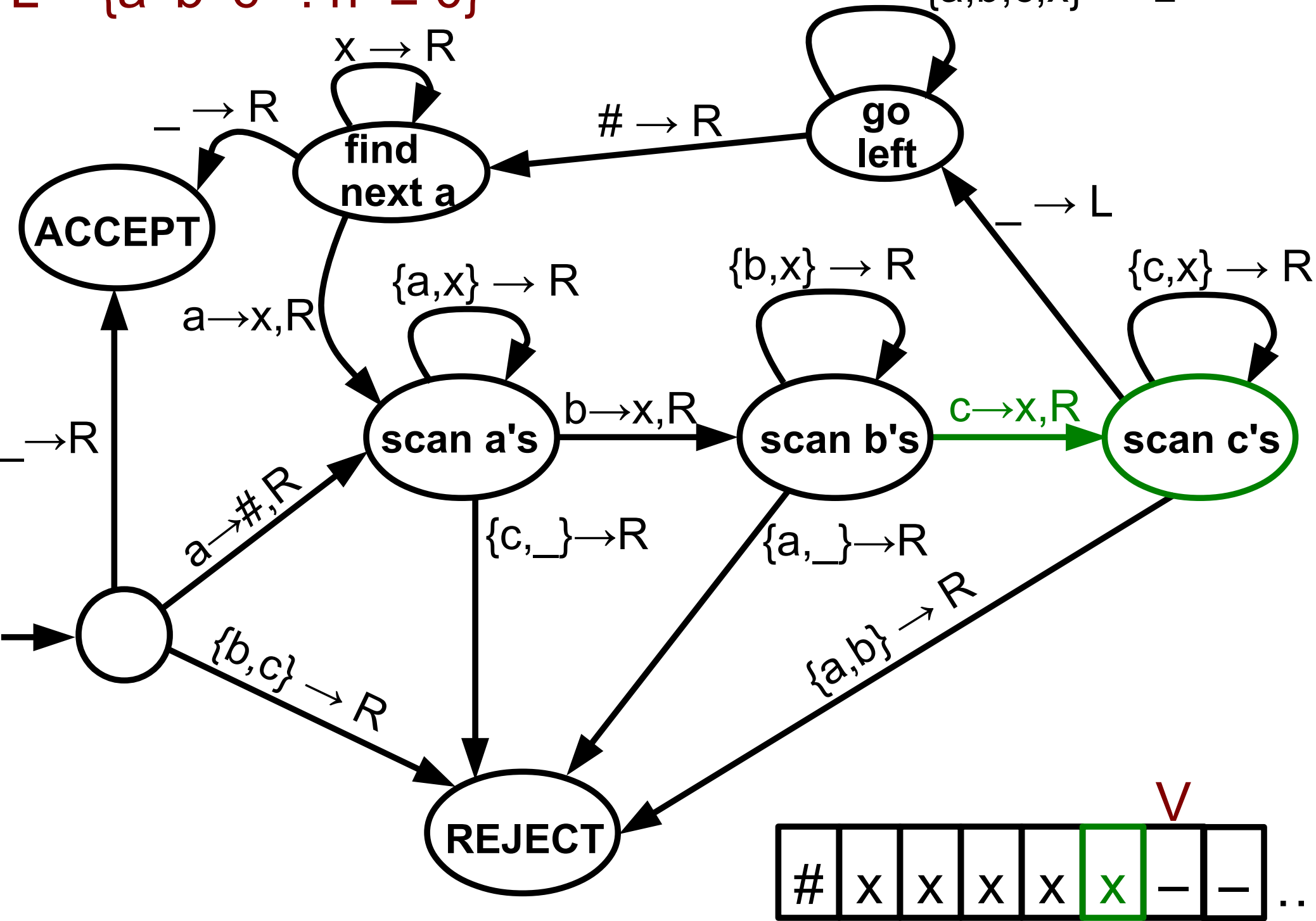
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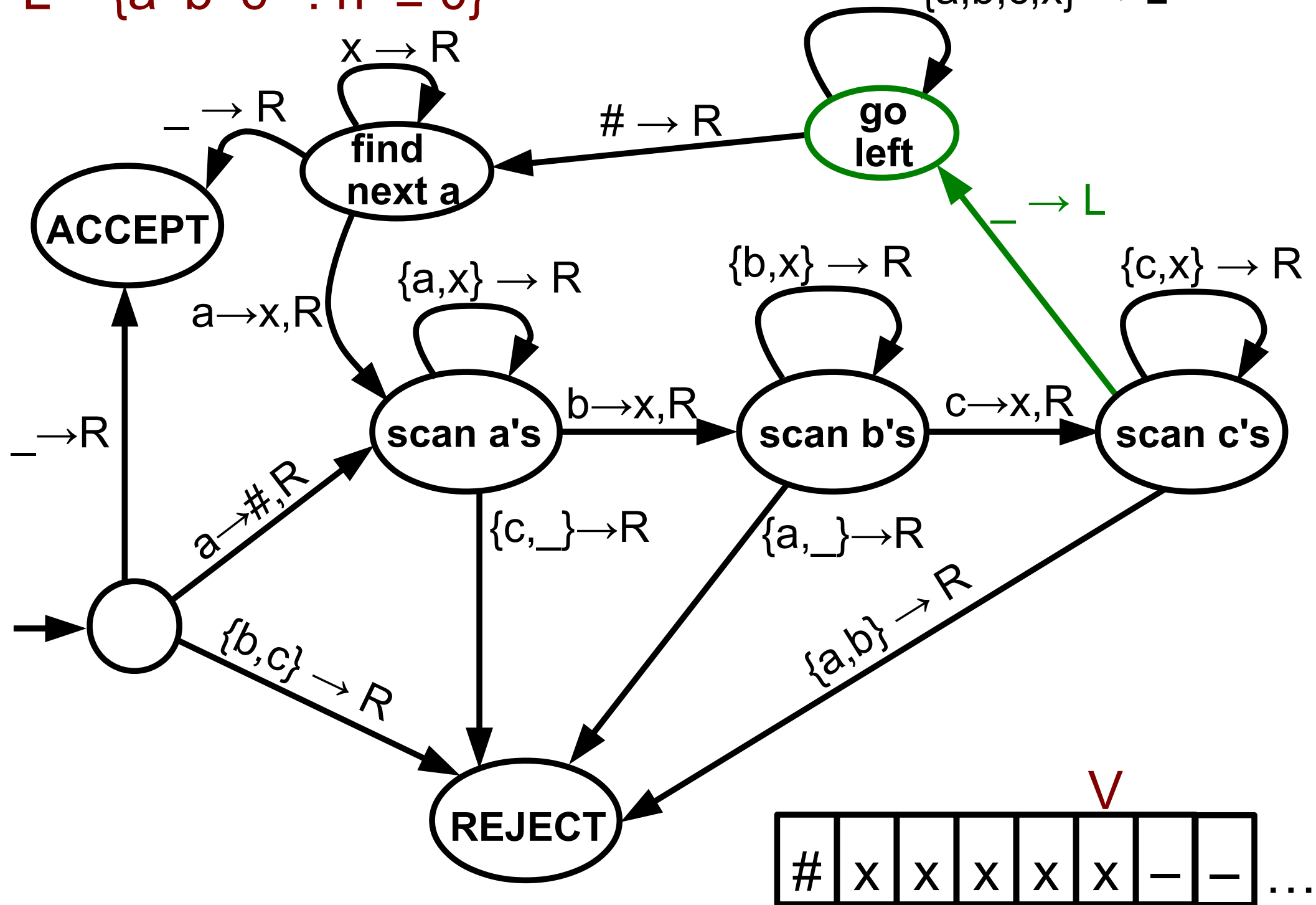


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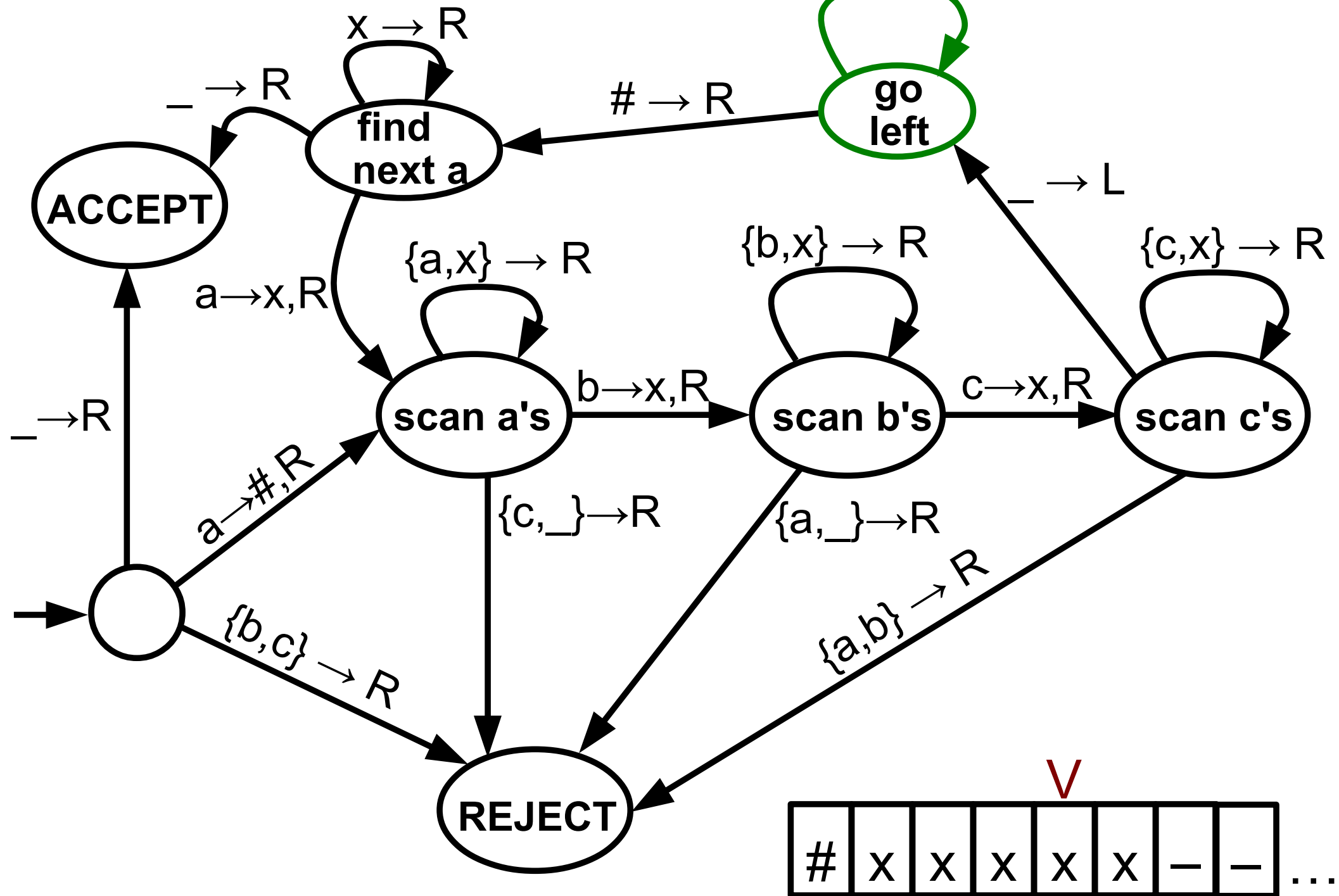
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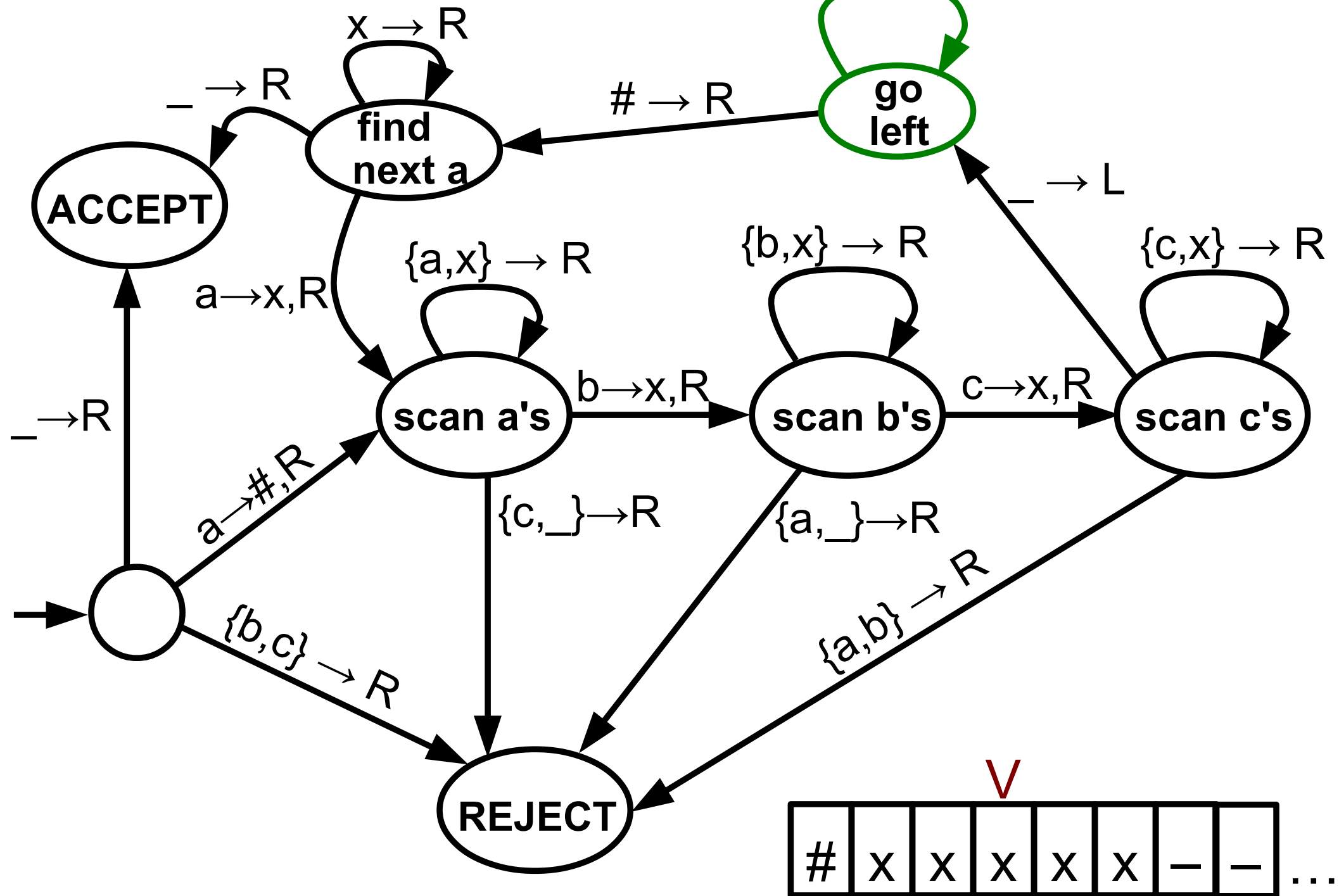
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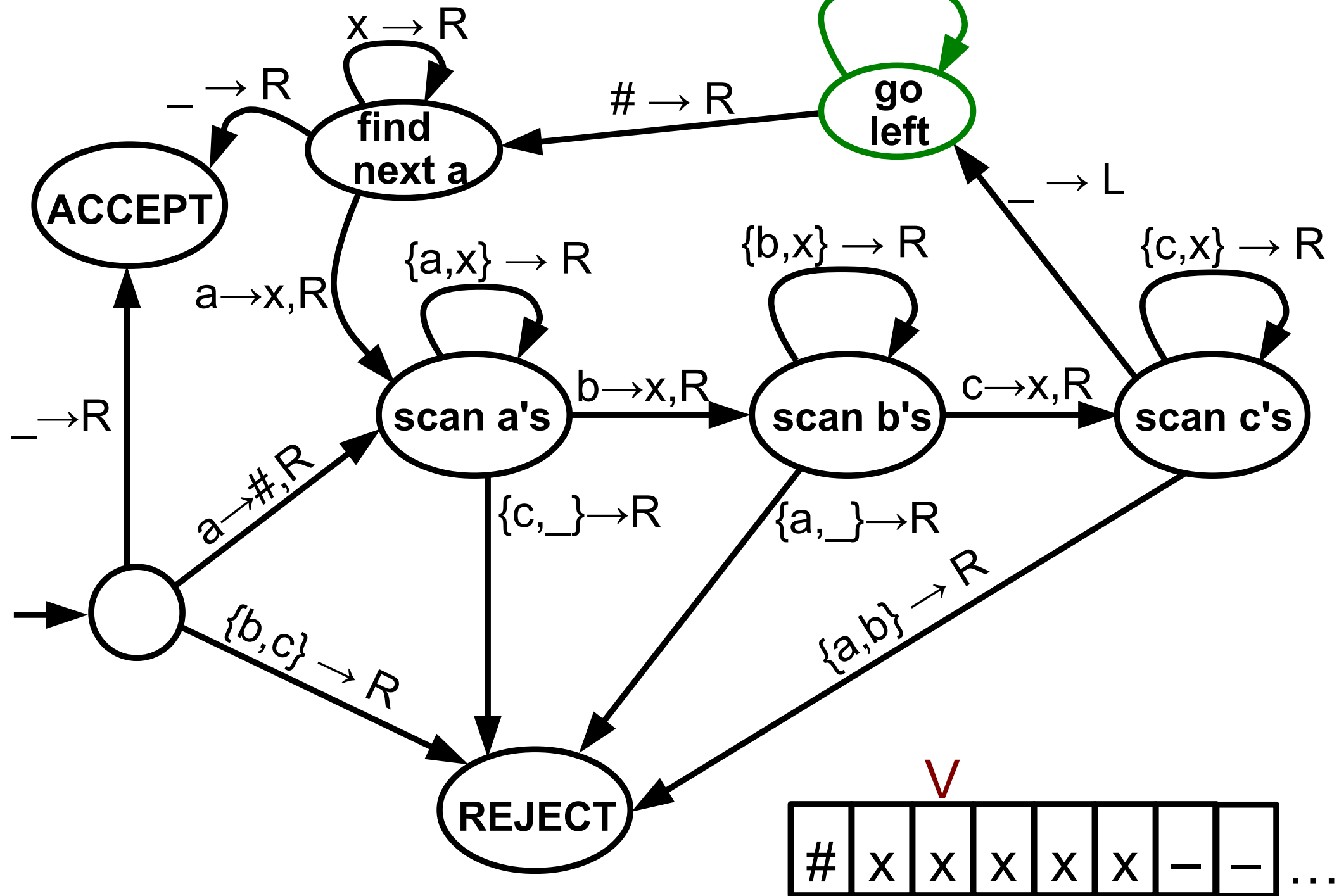
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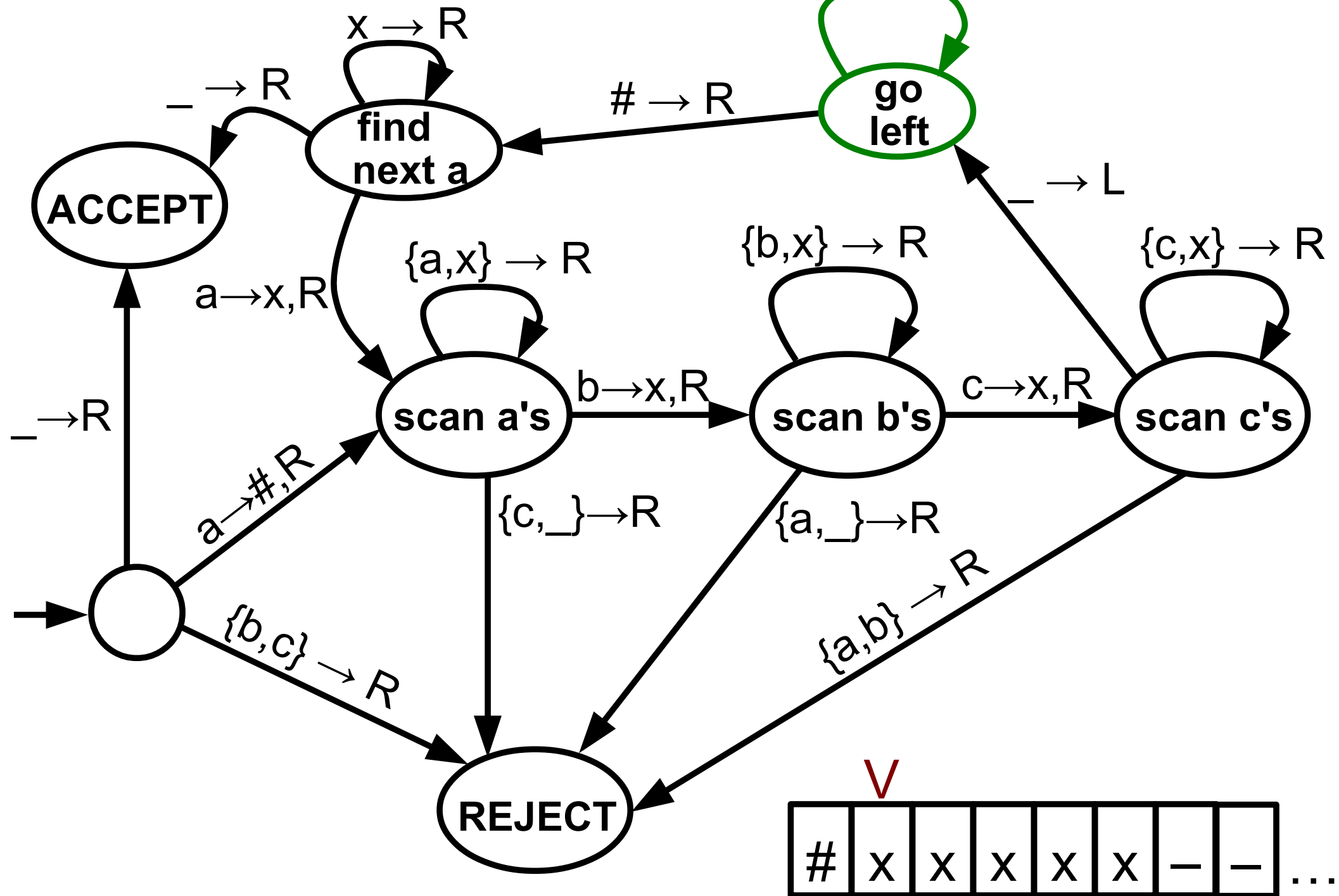
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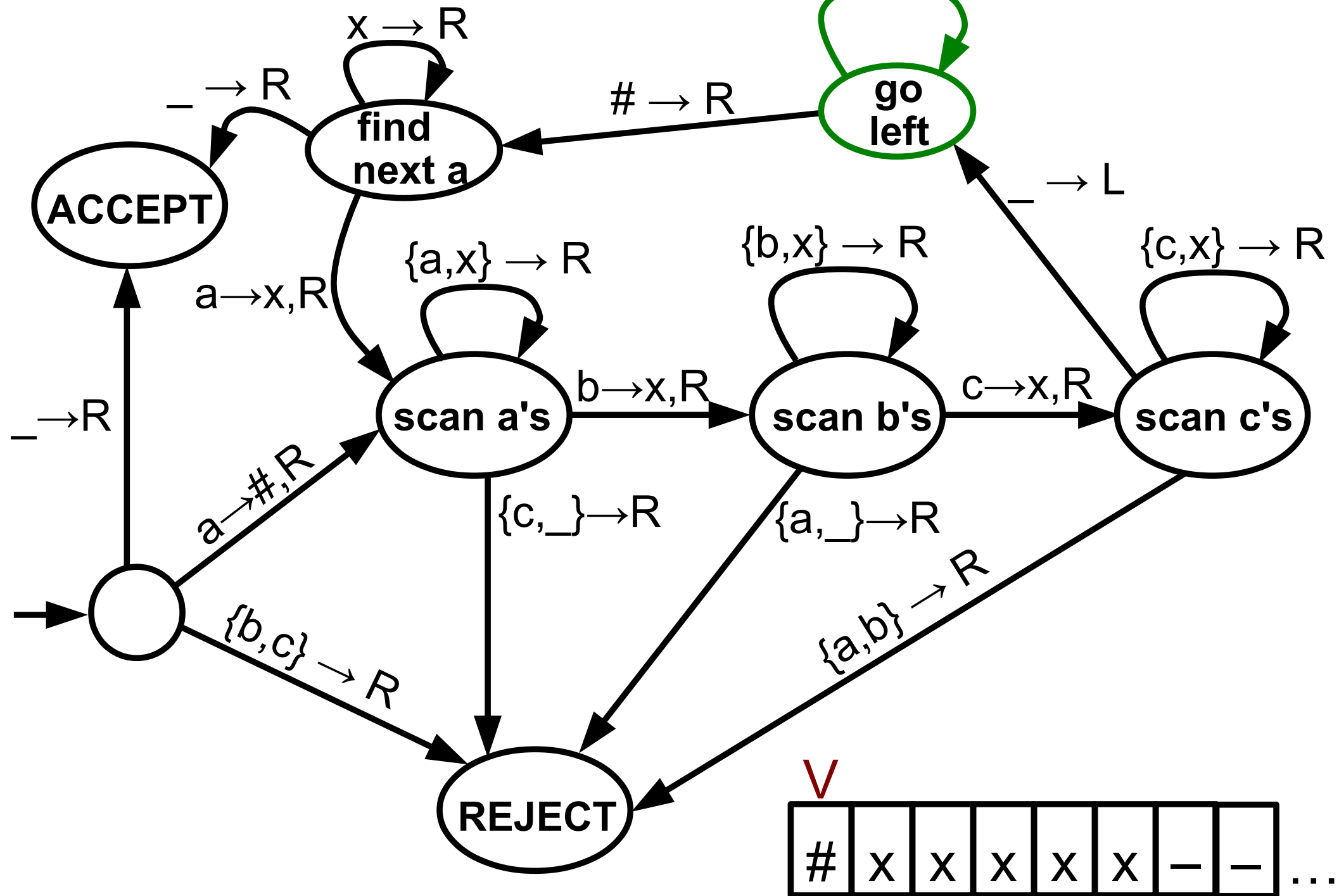
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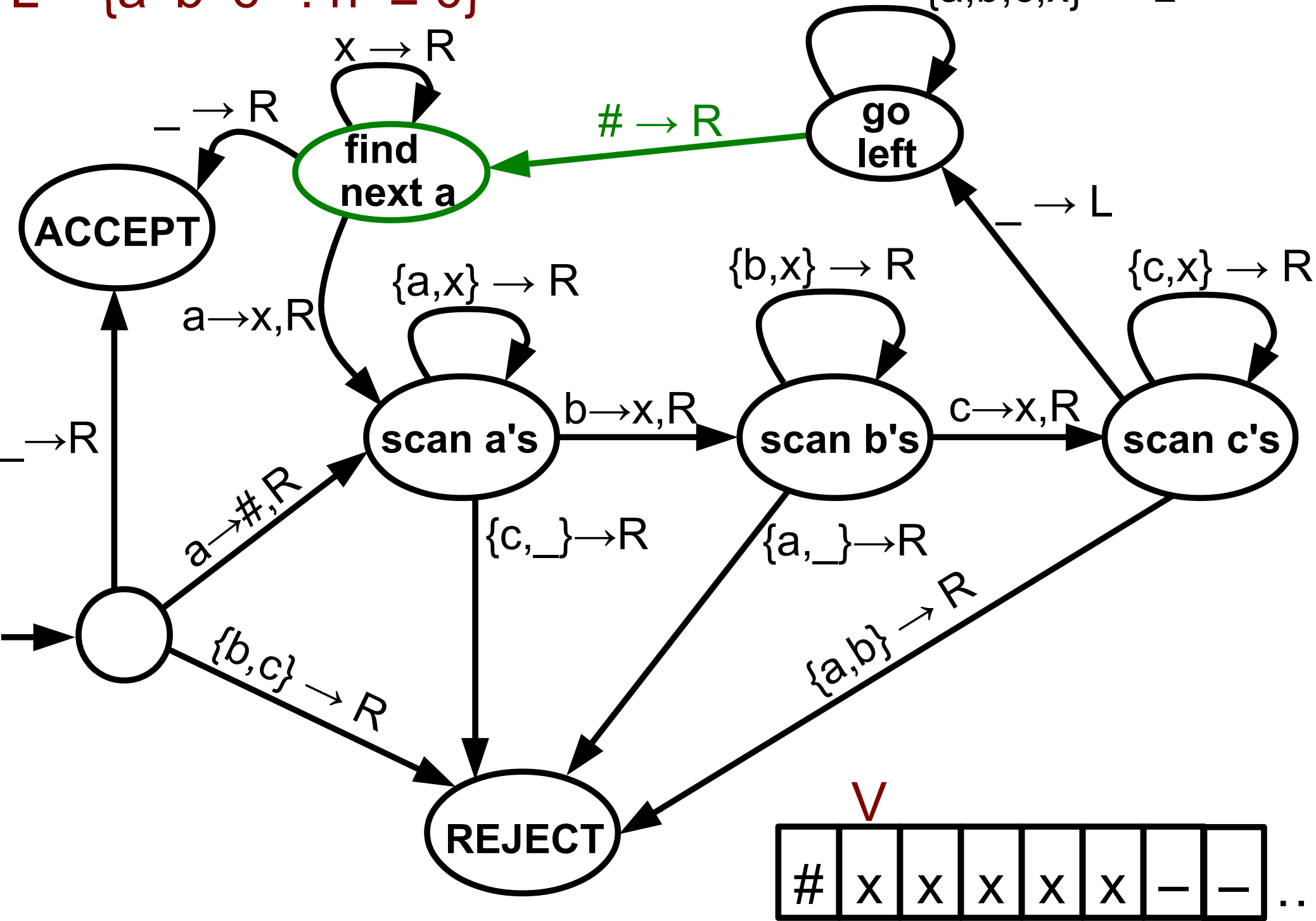
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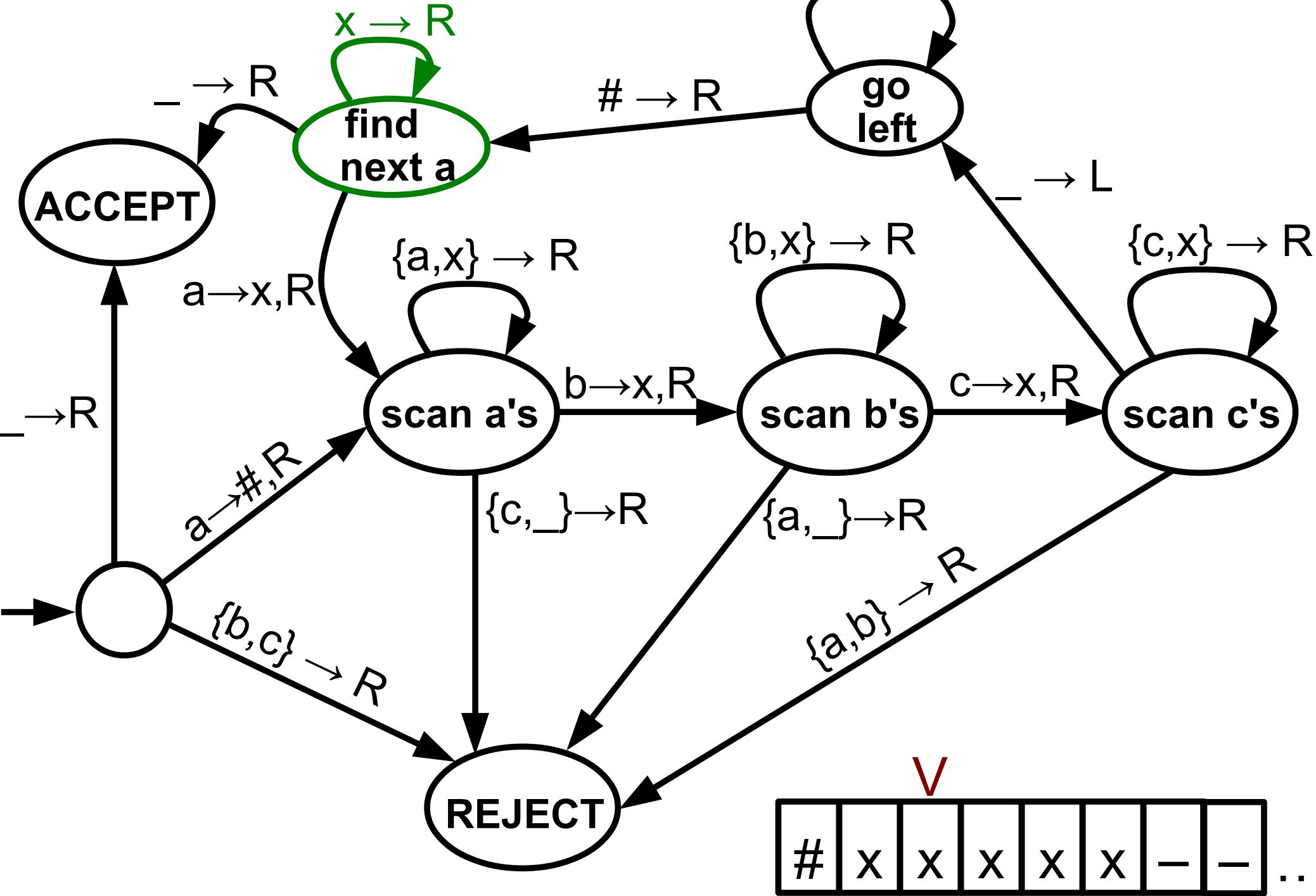
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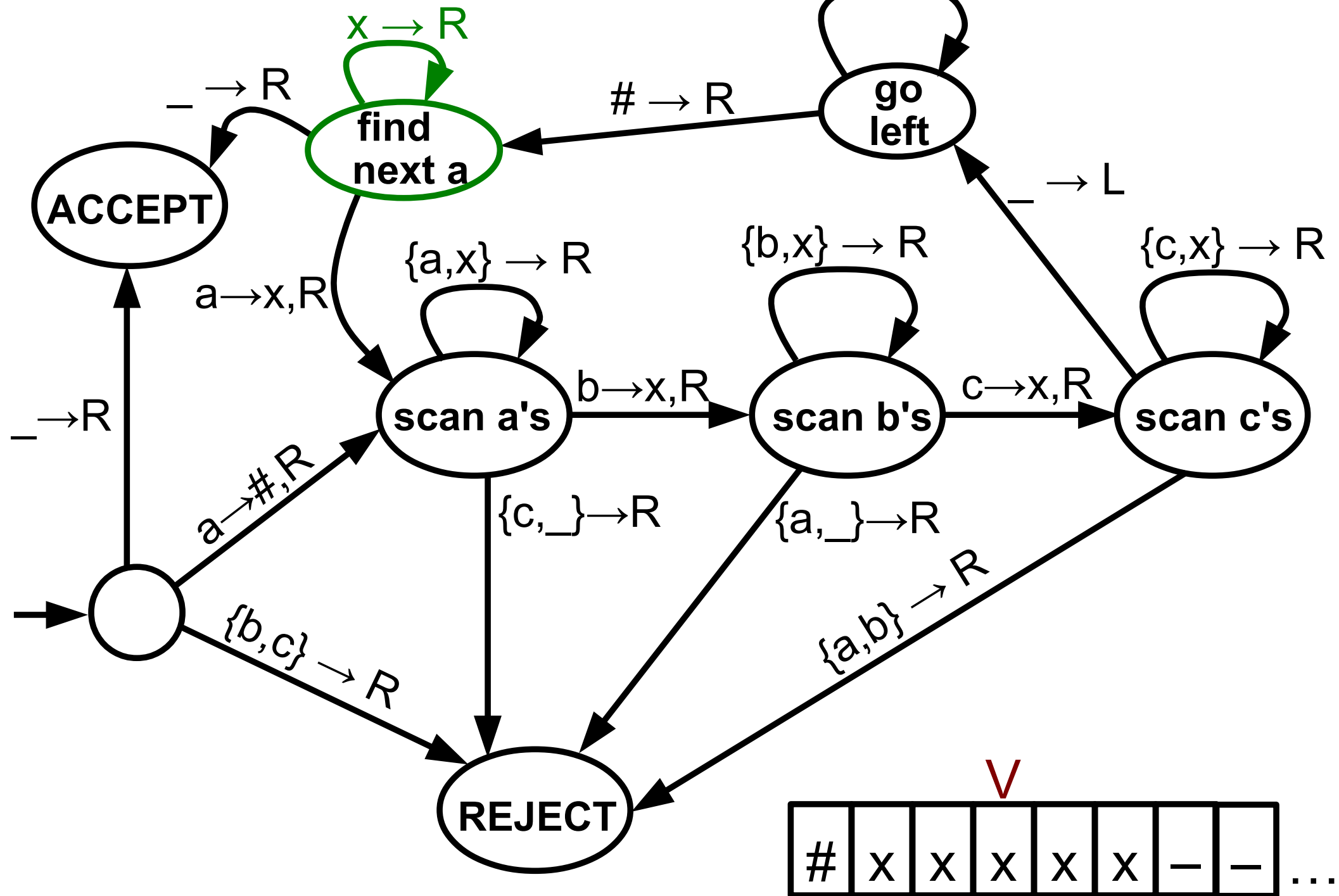


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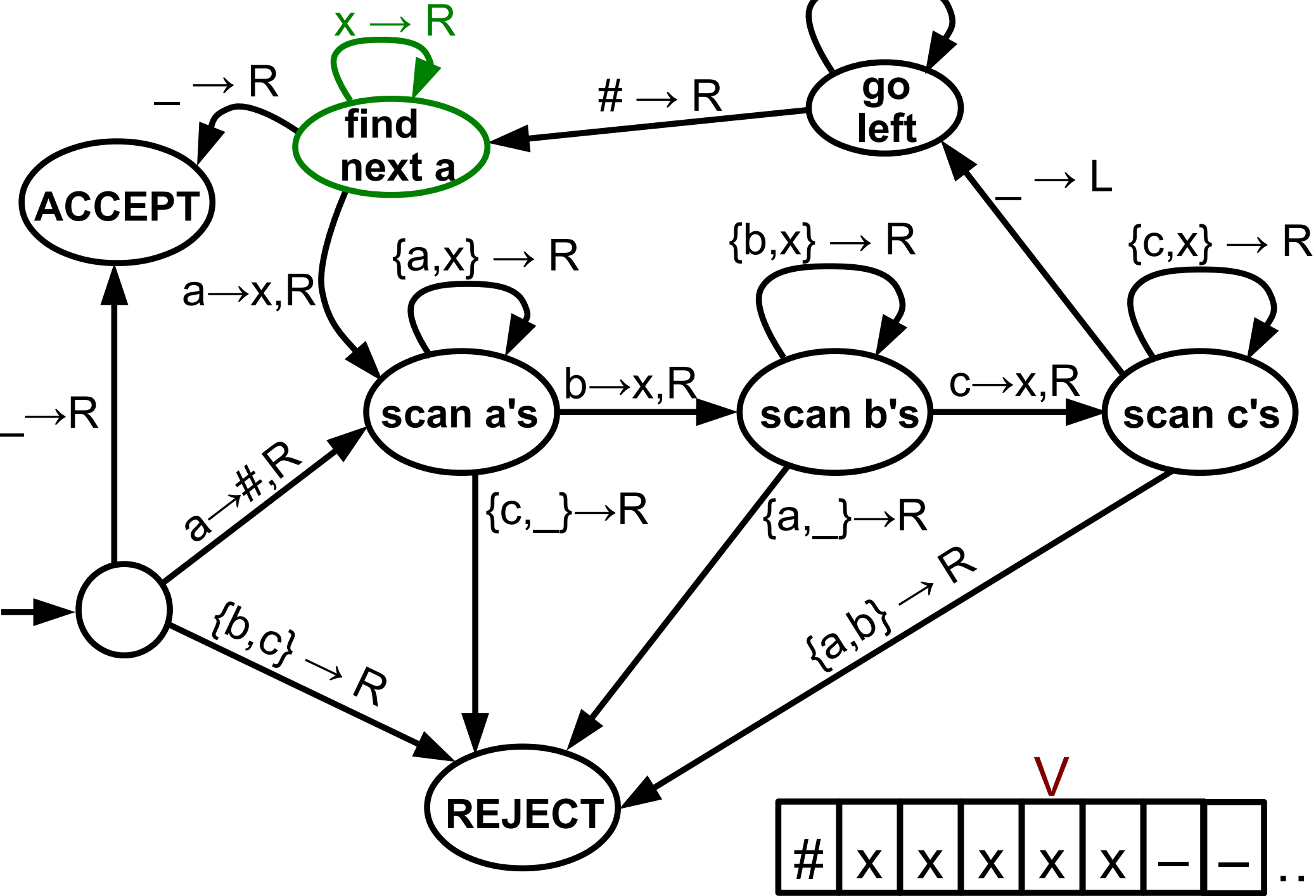


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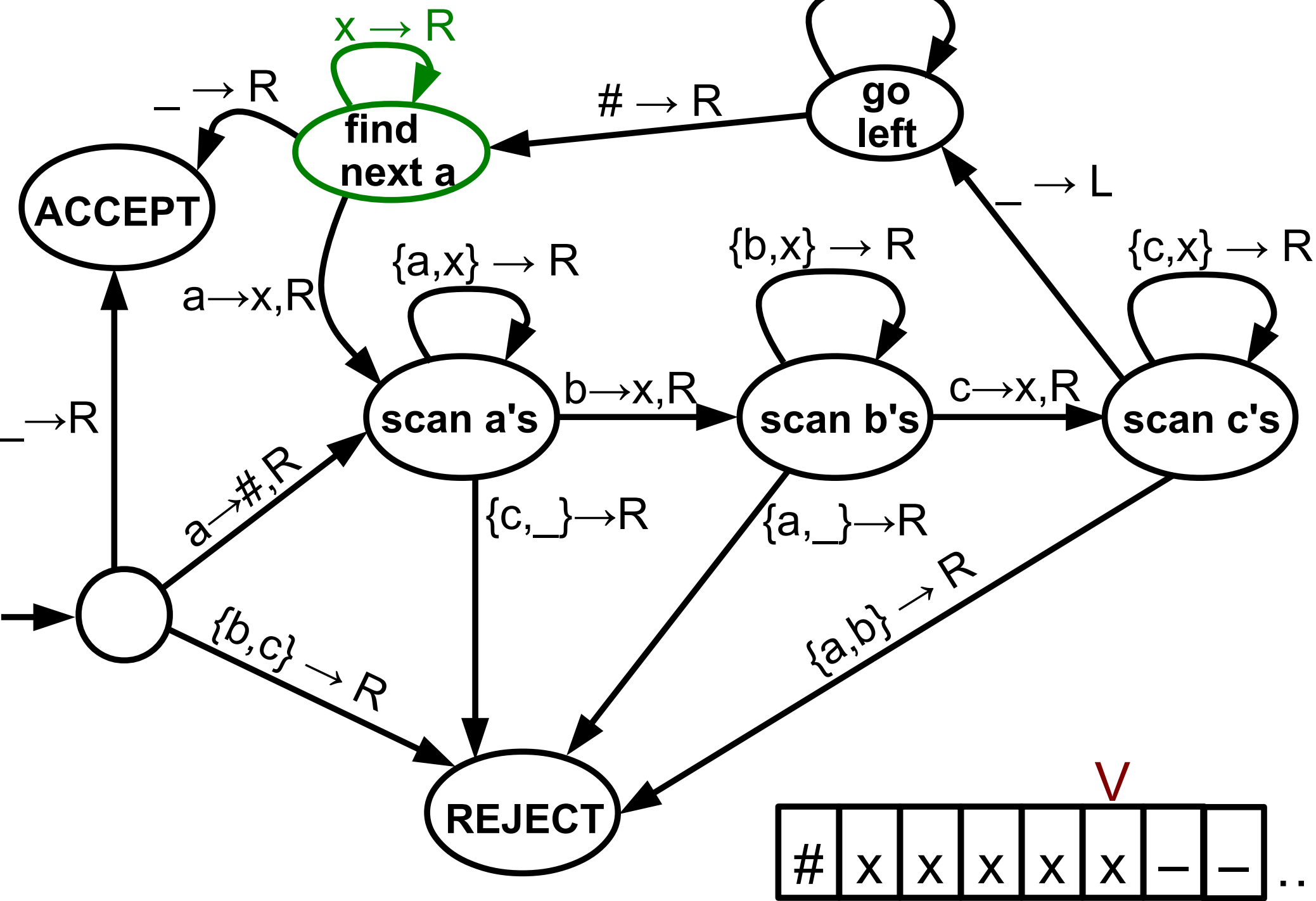
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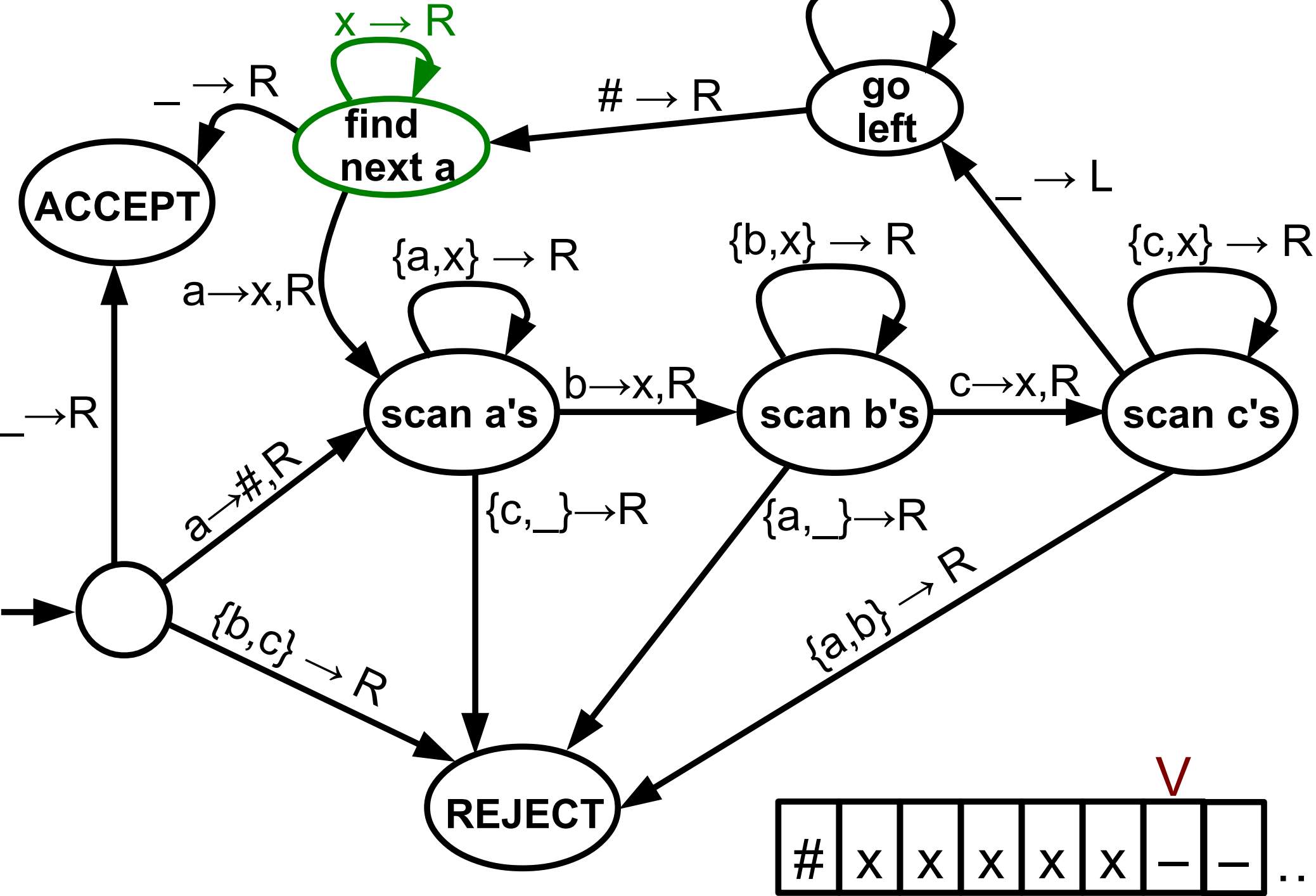
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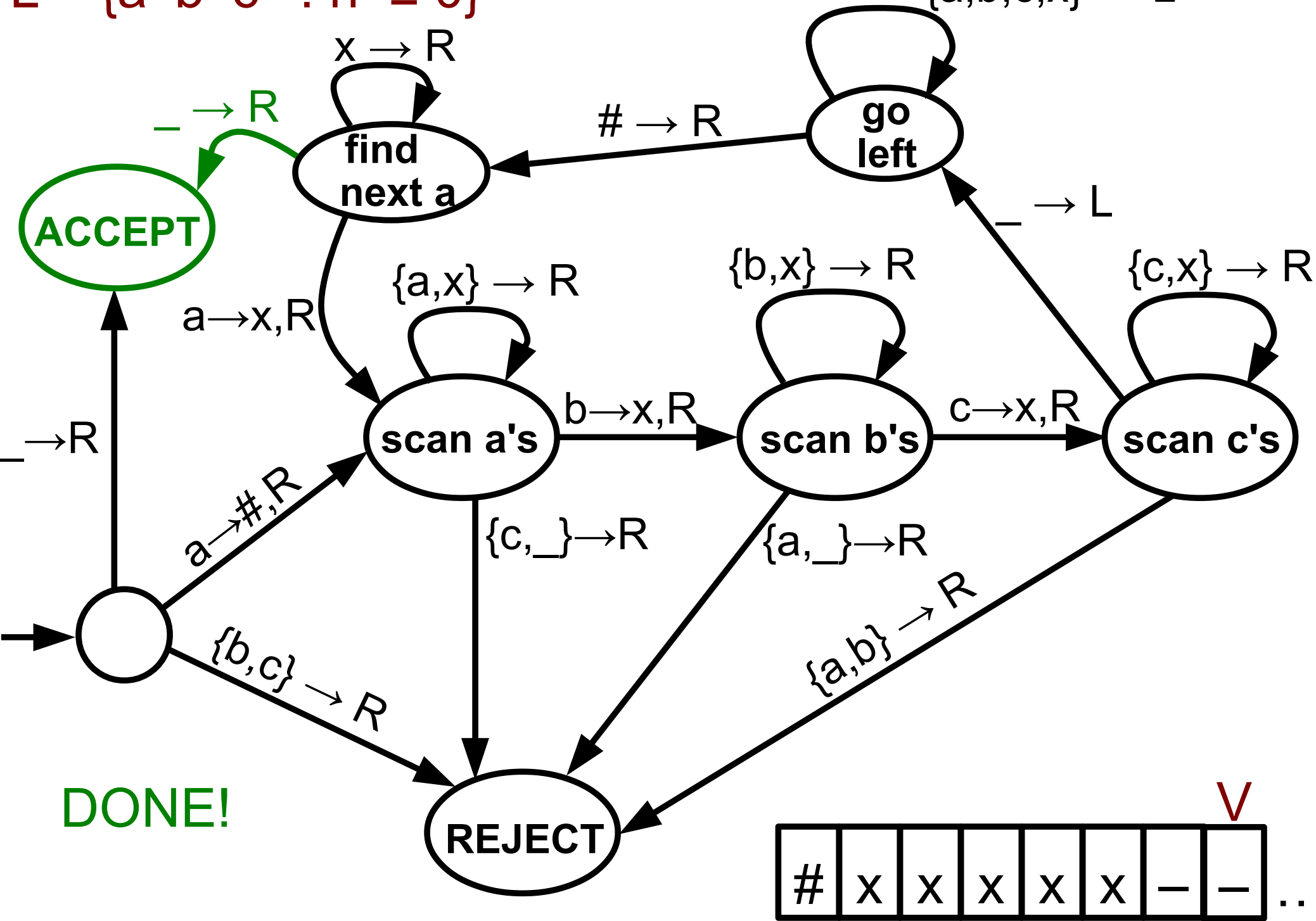
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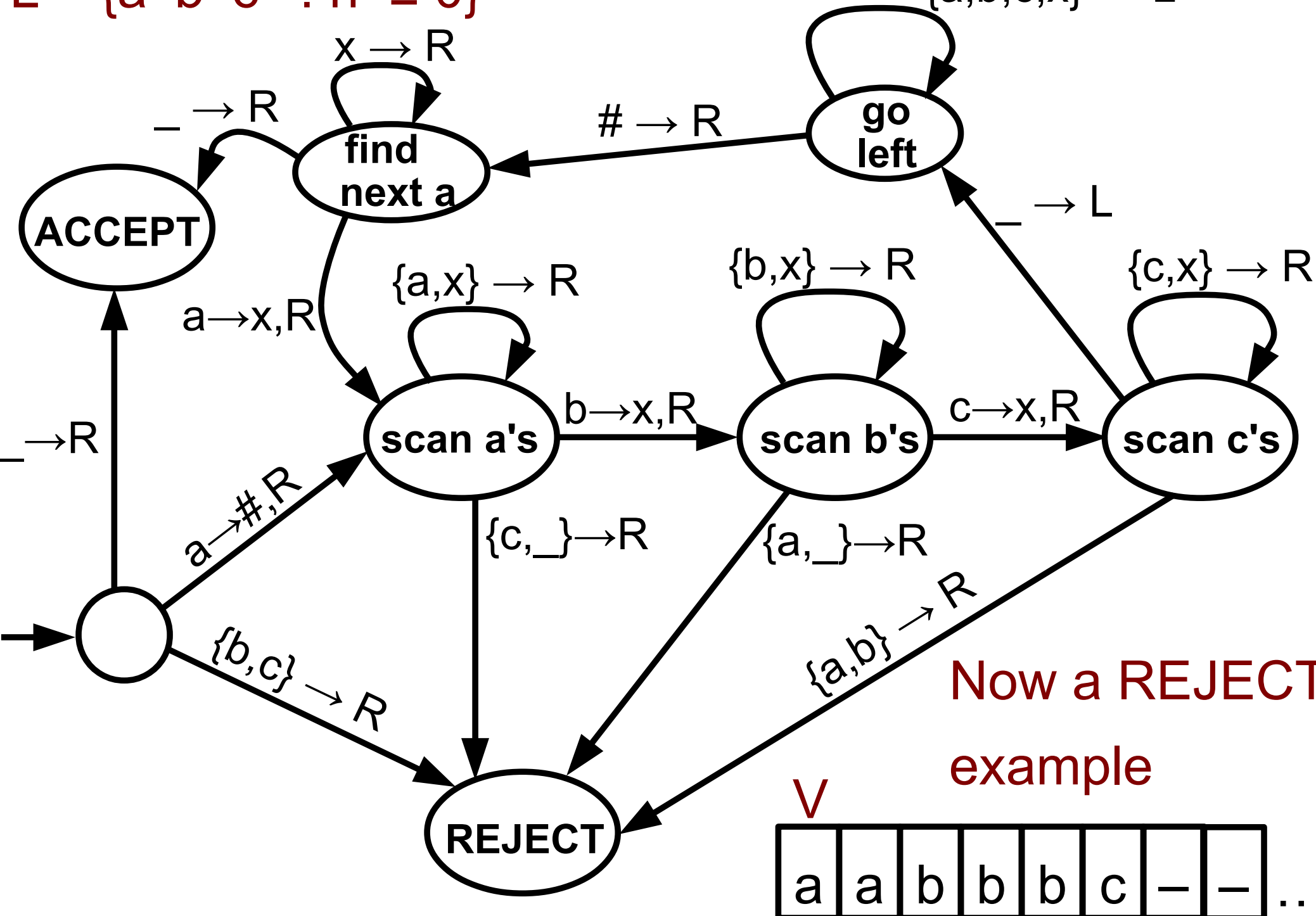
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DONE!

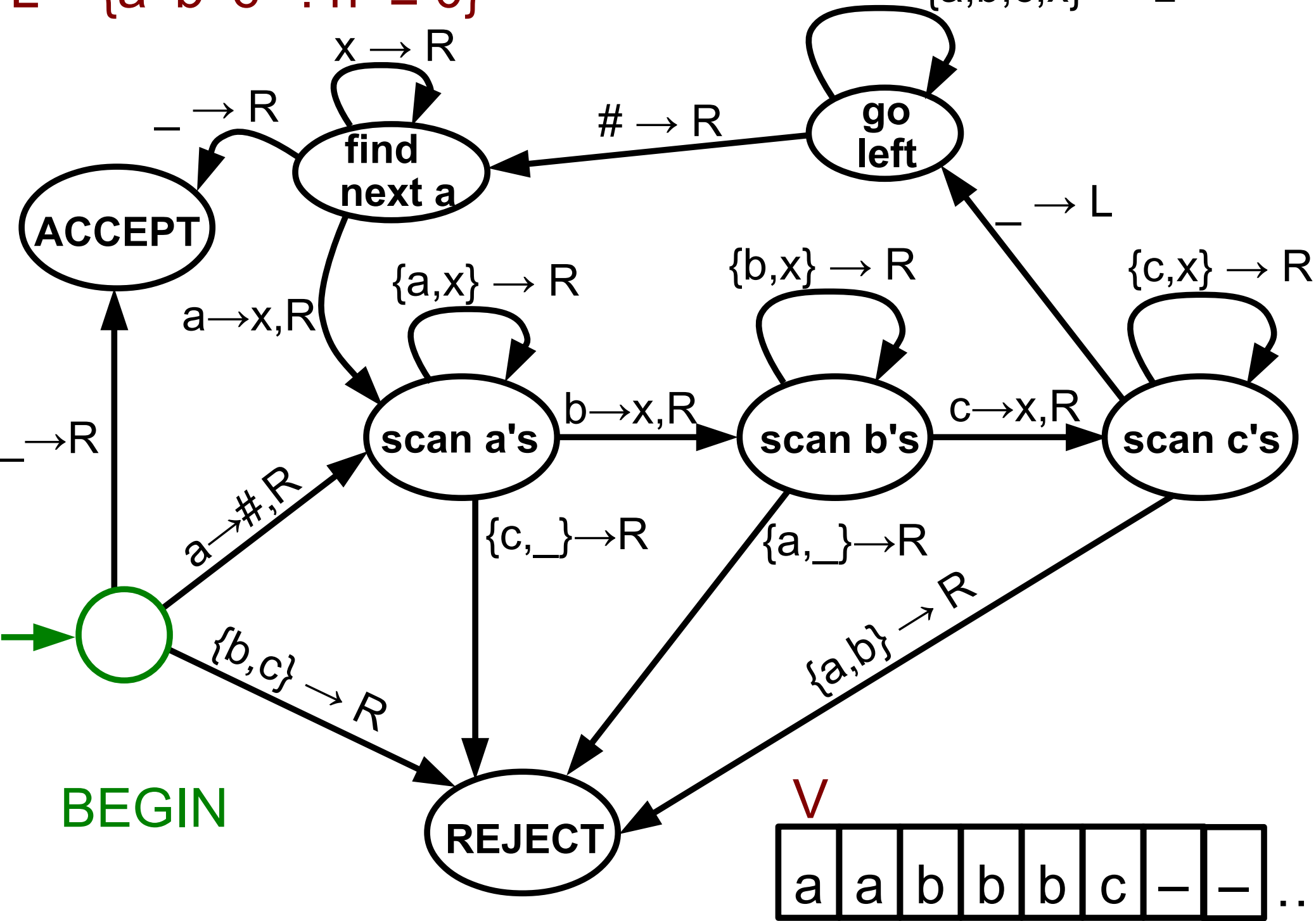
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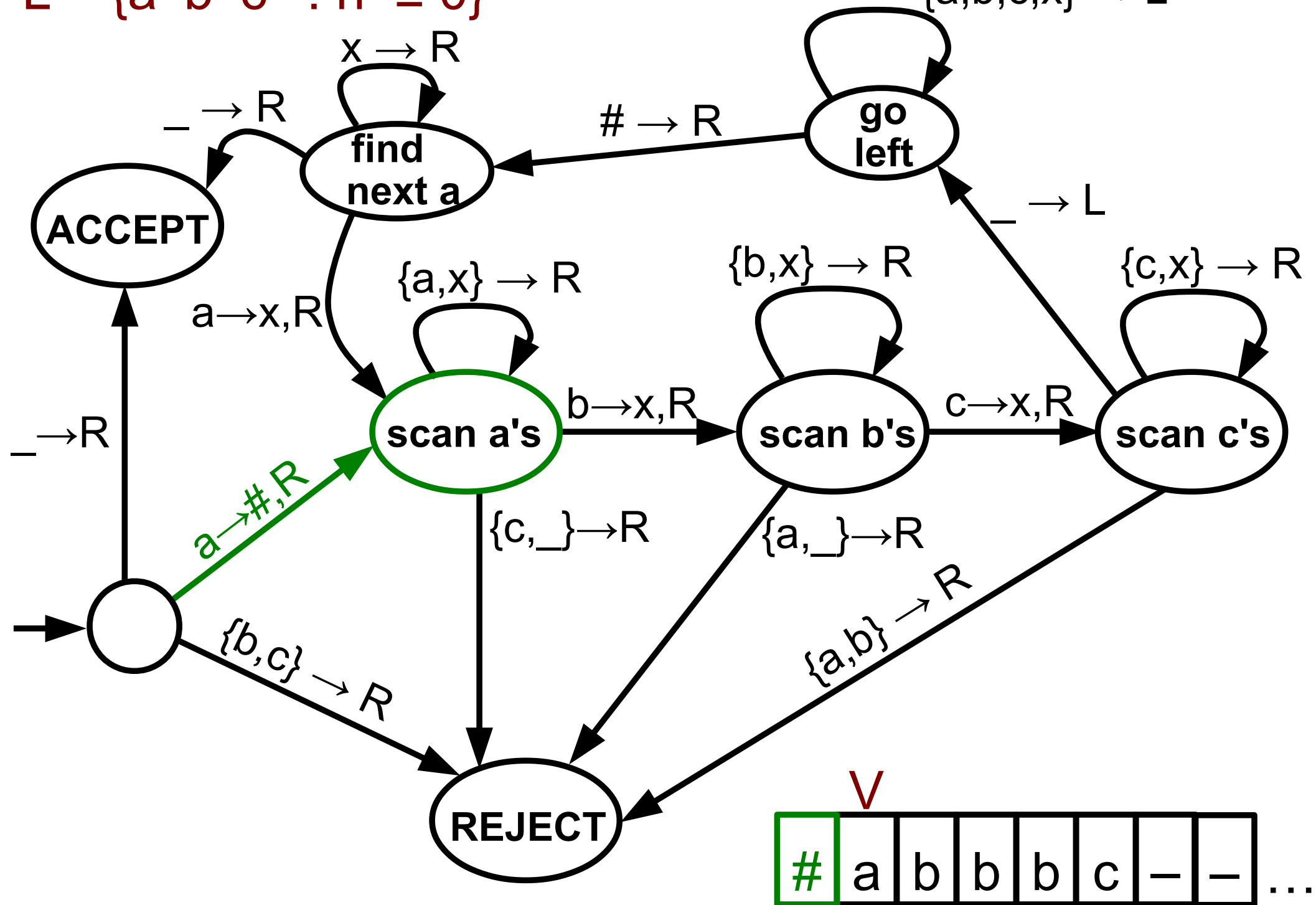


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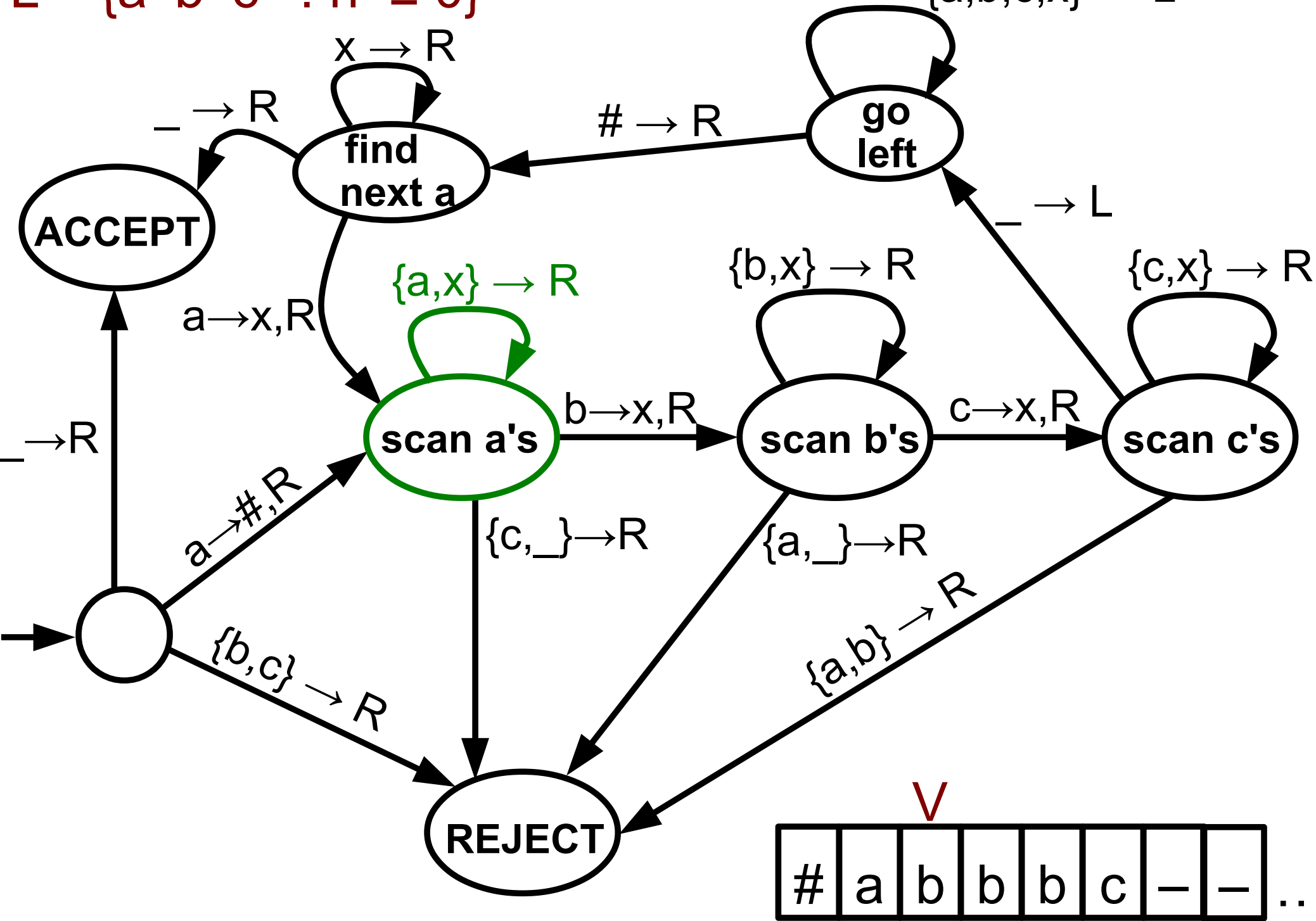


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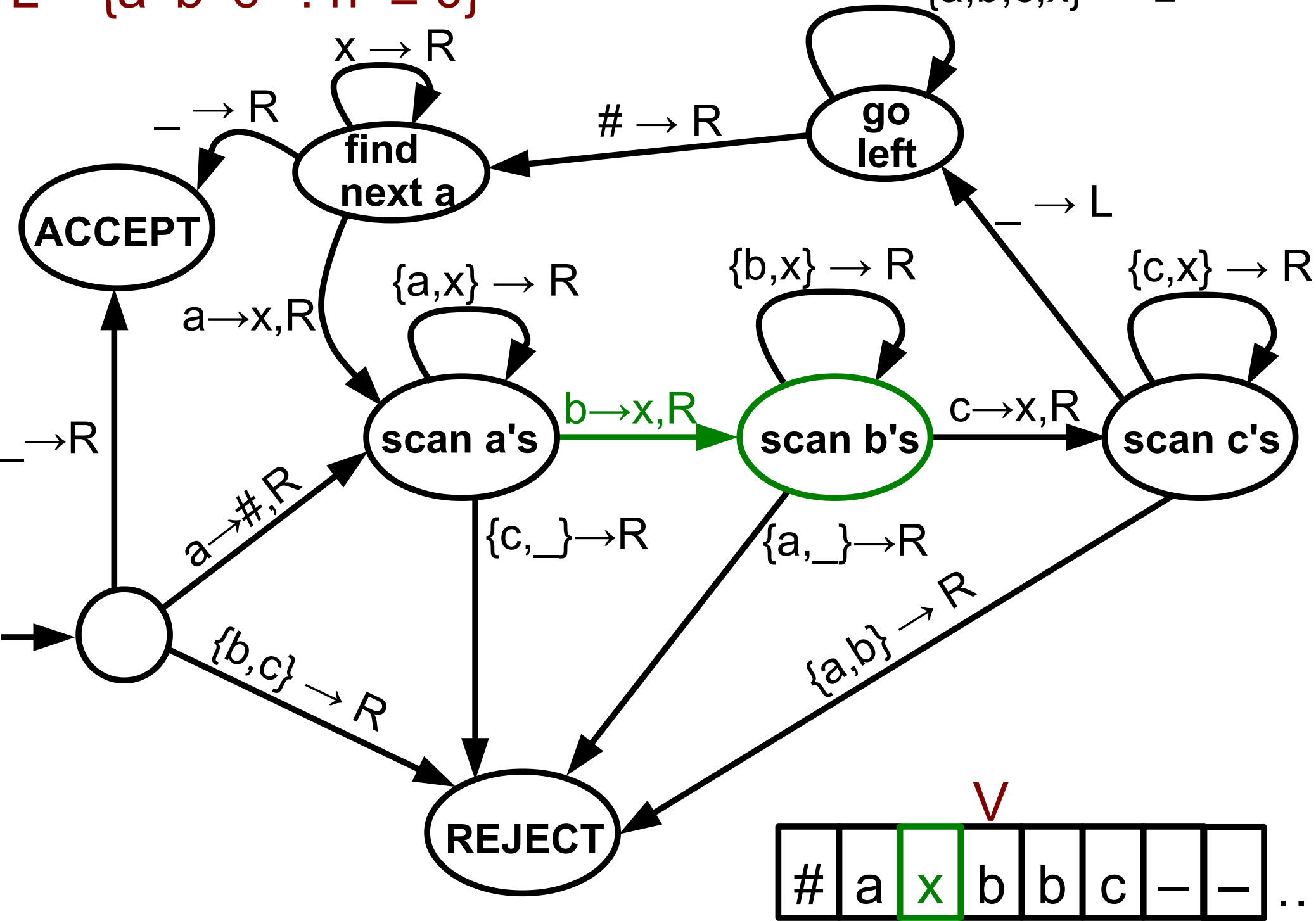
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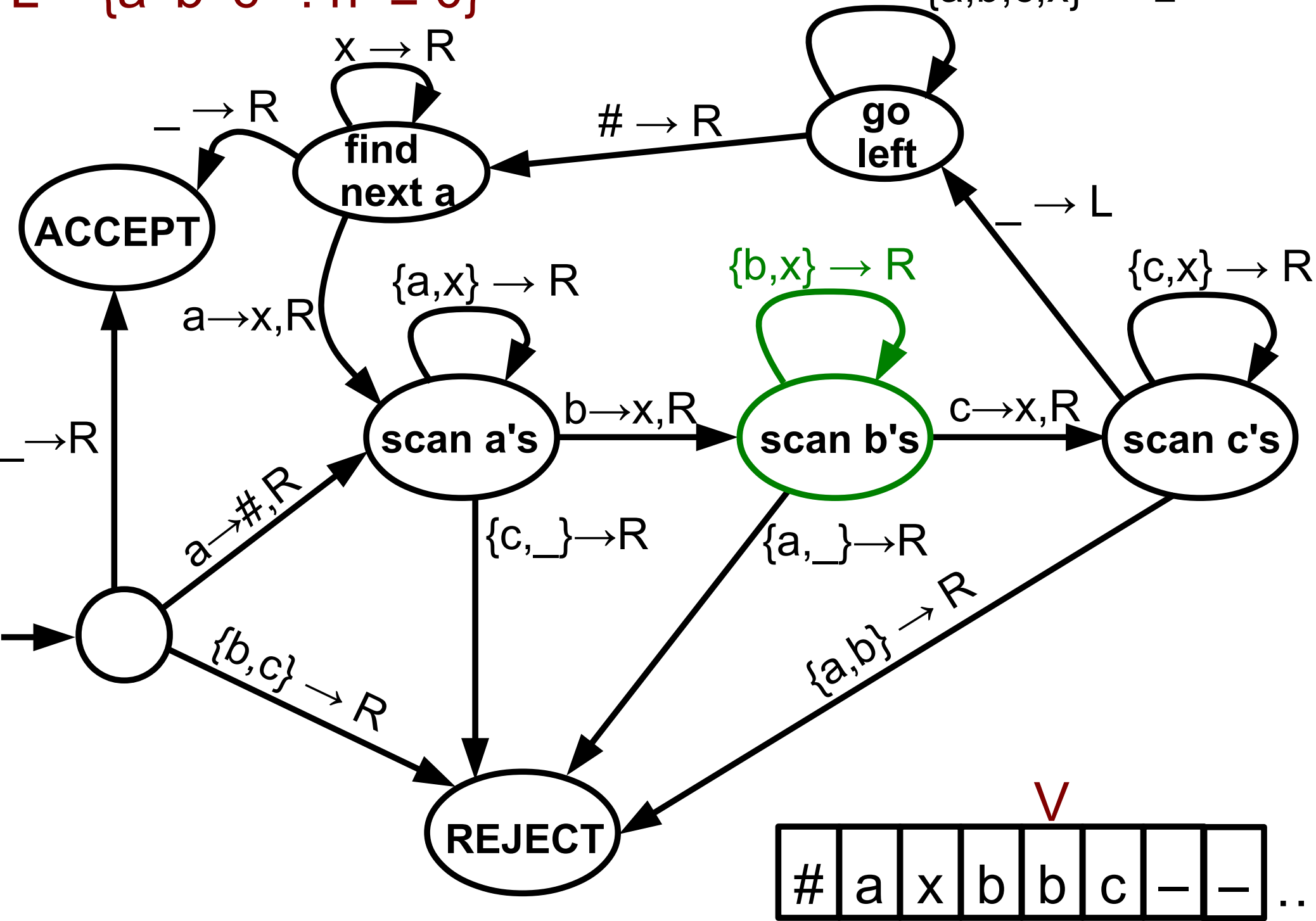
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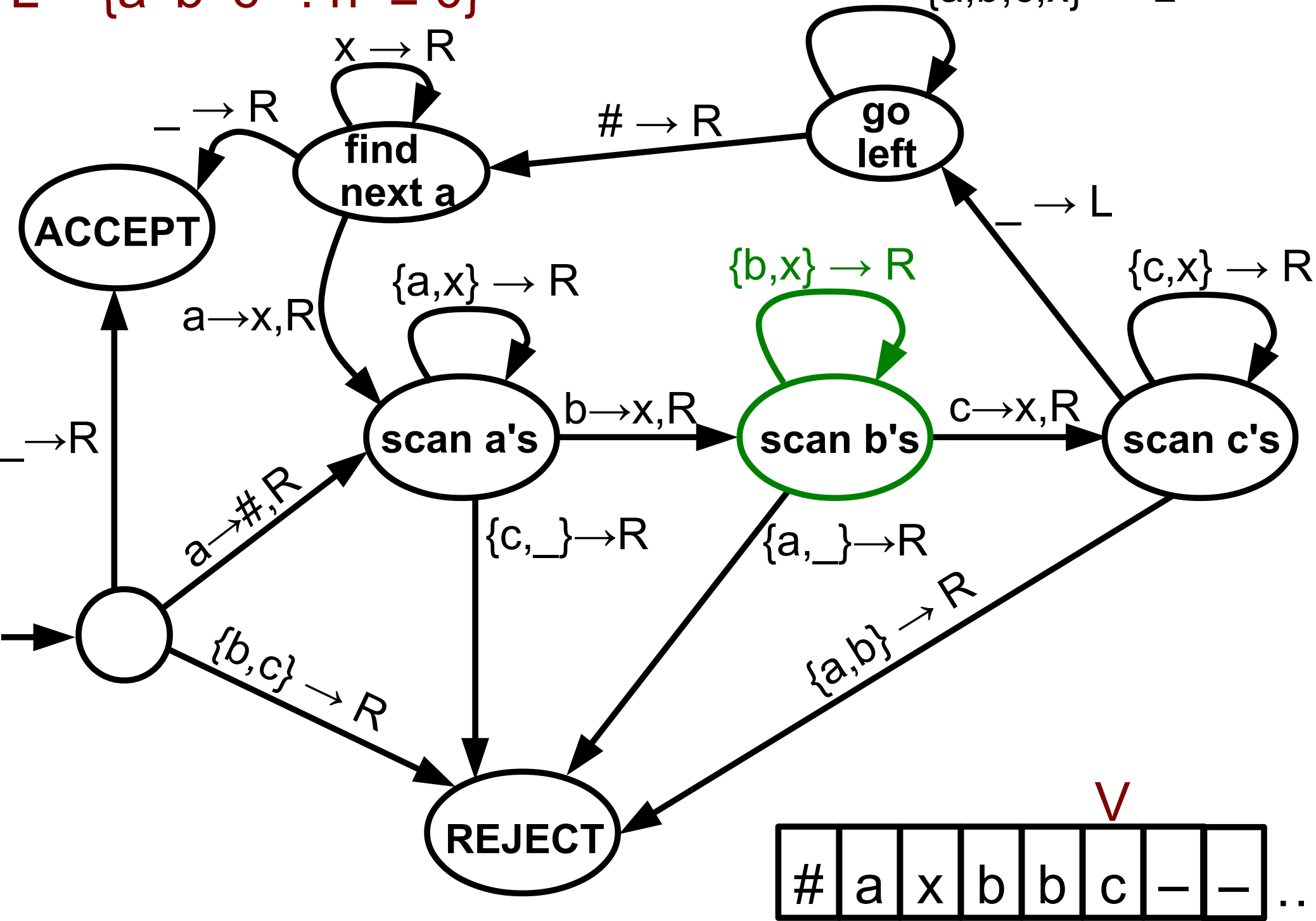
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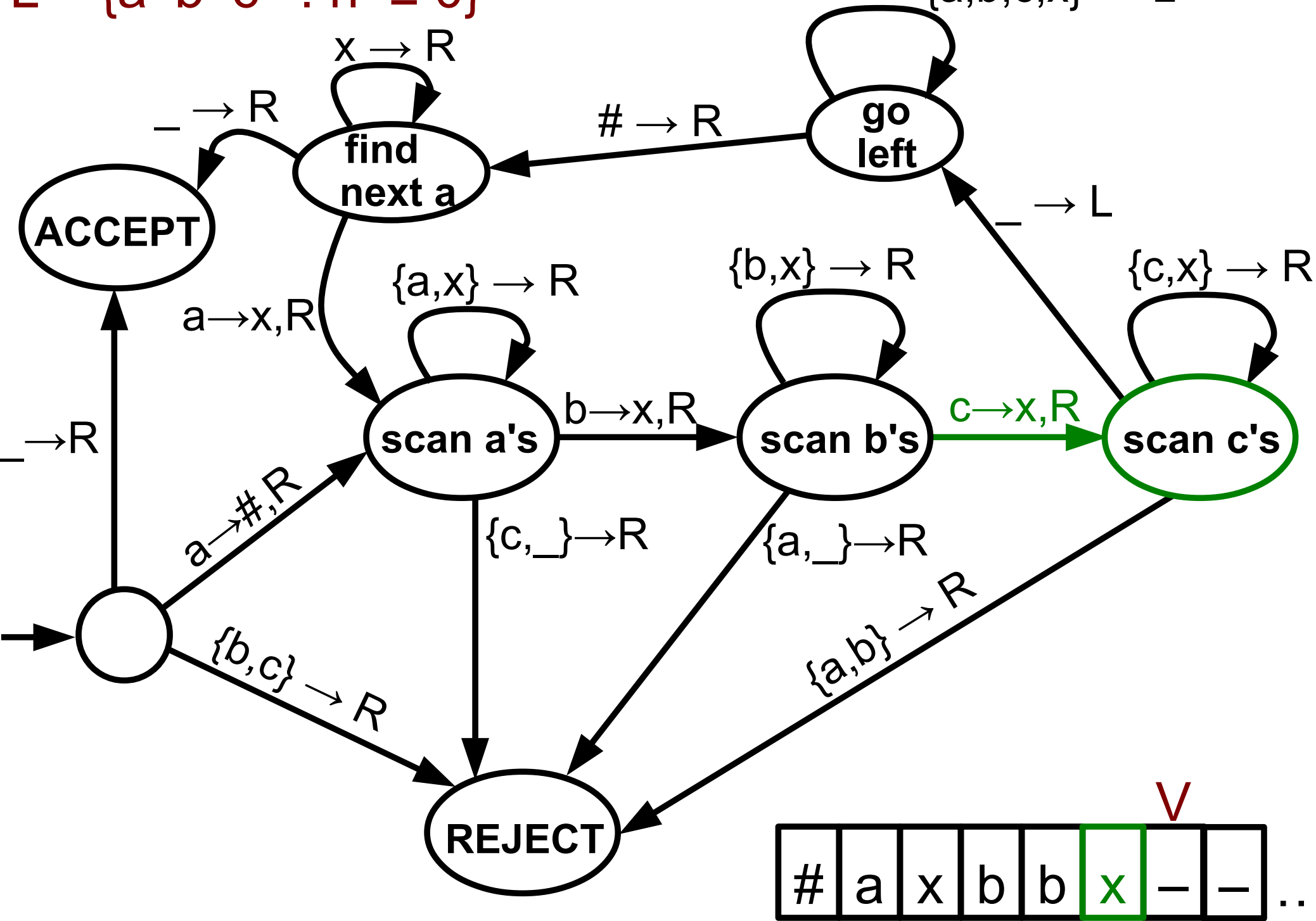
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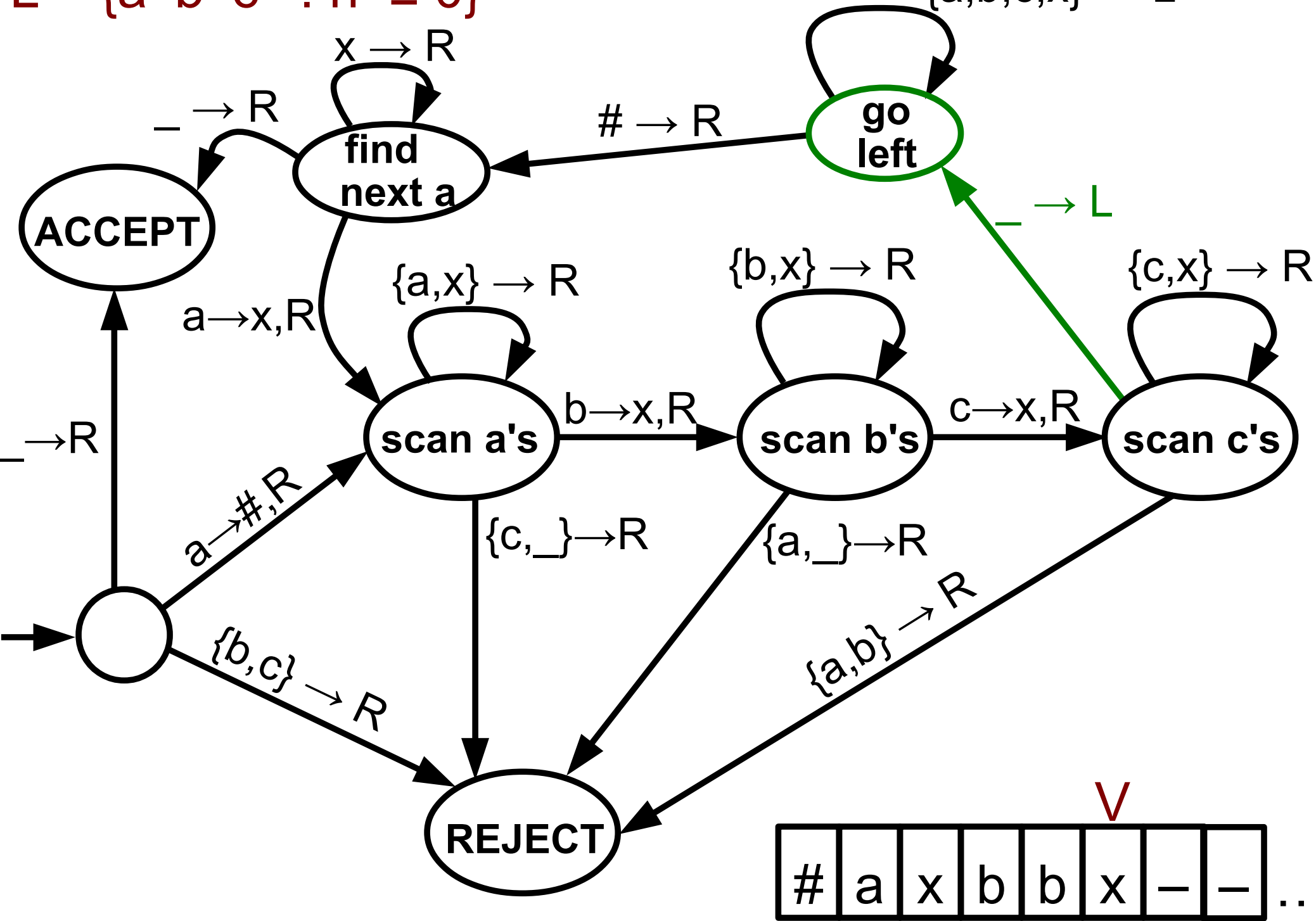
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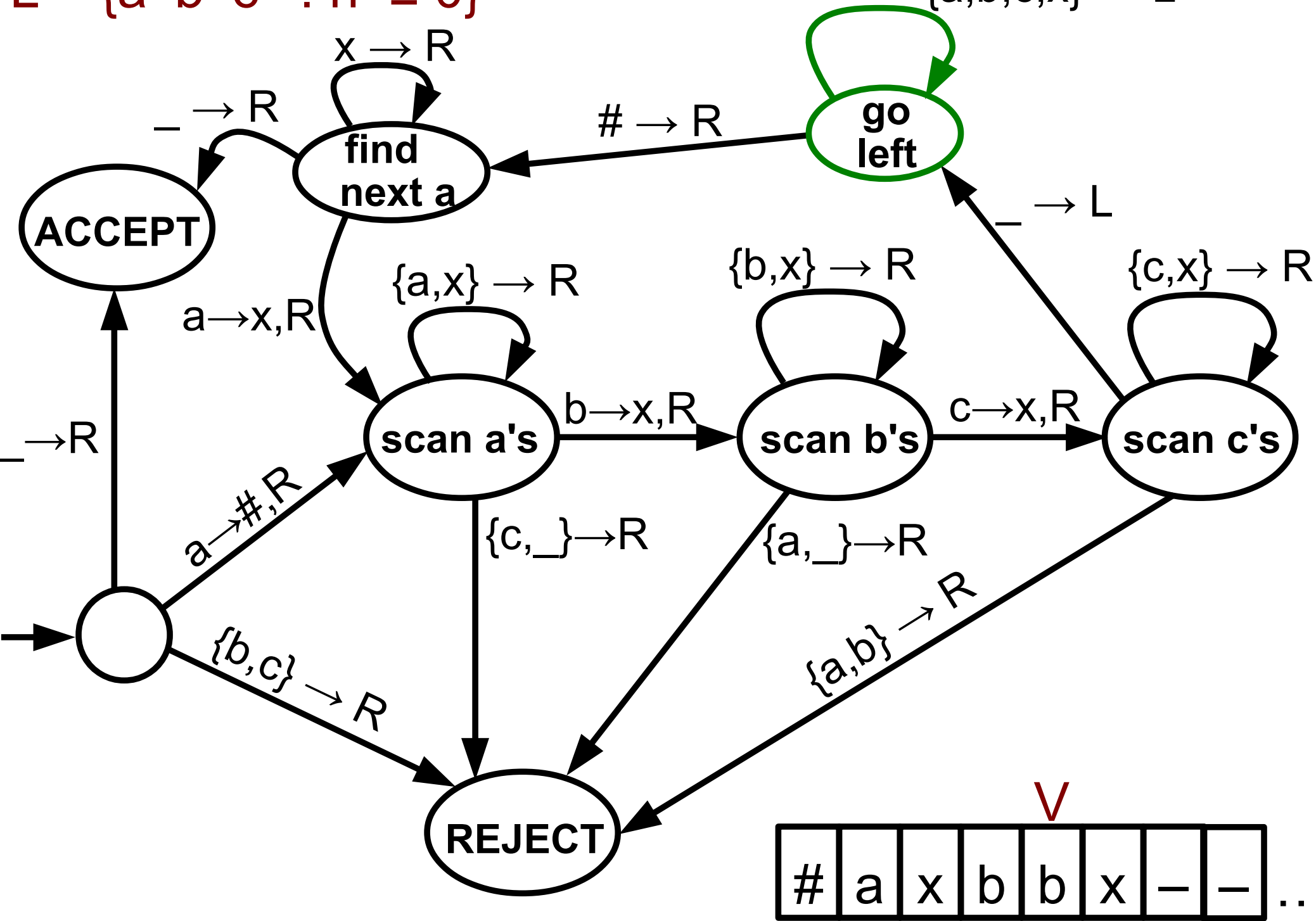


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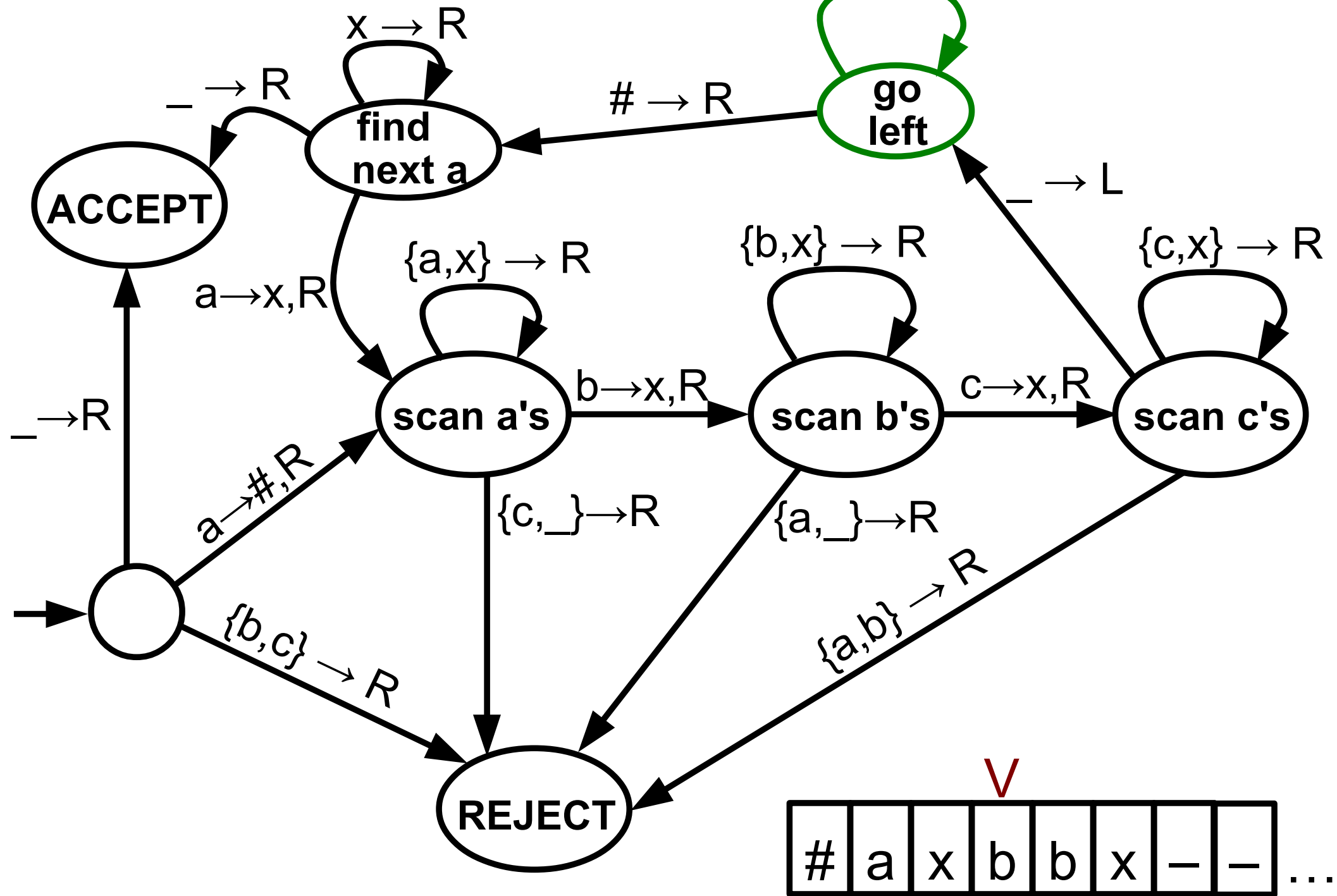
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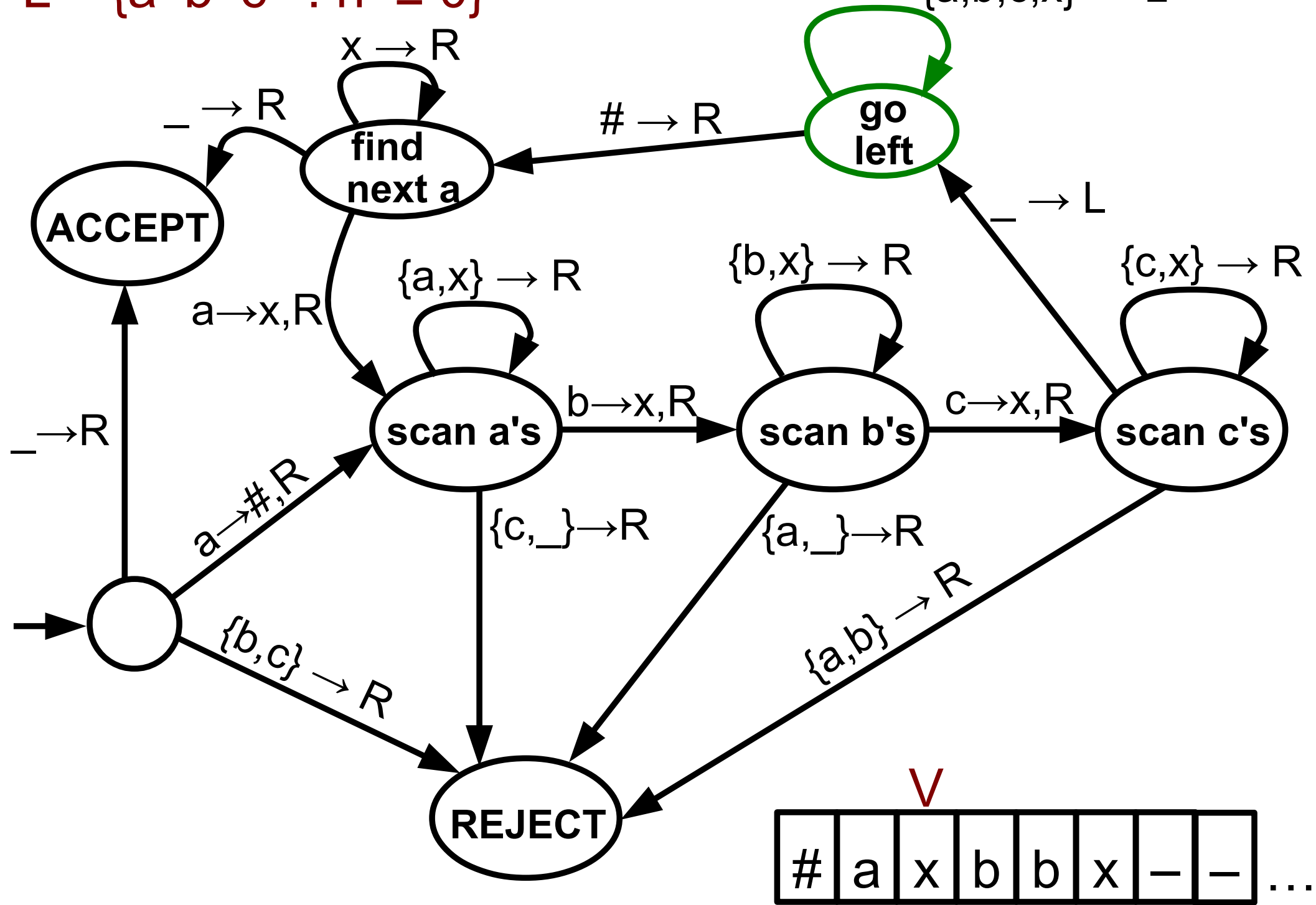
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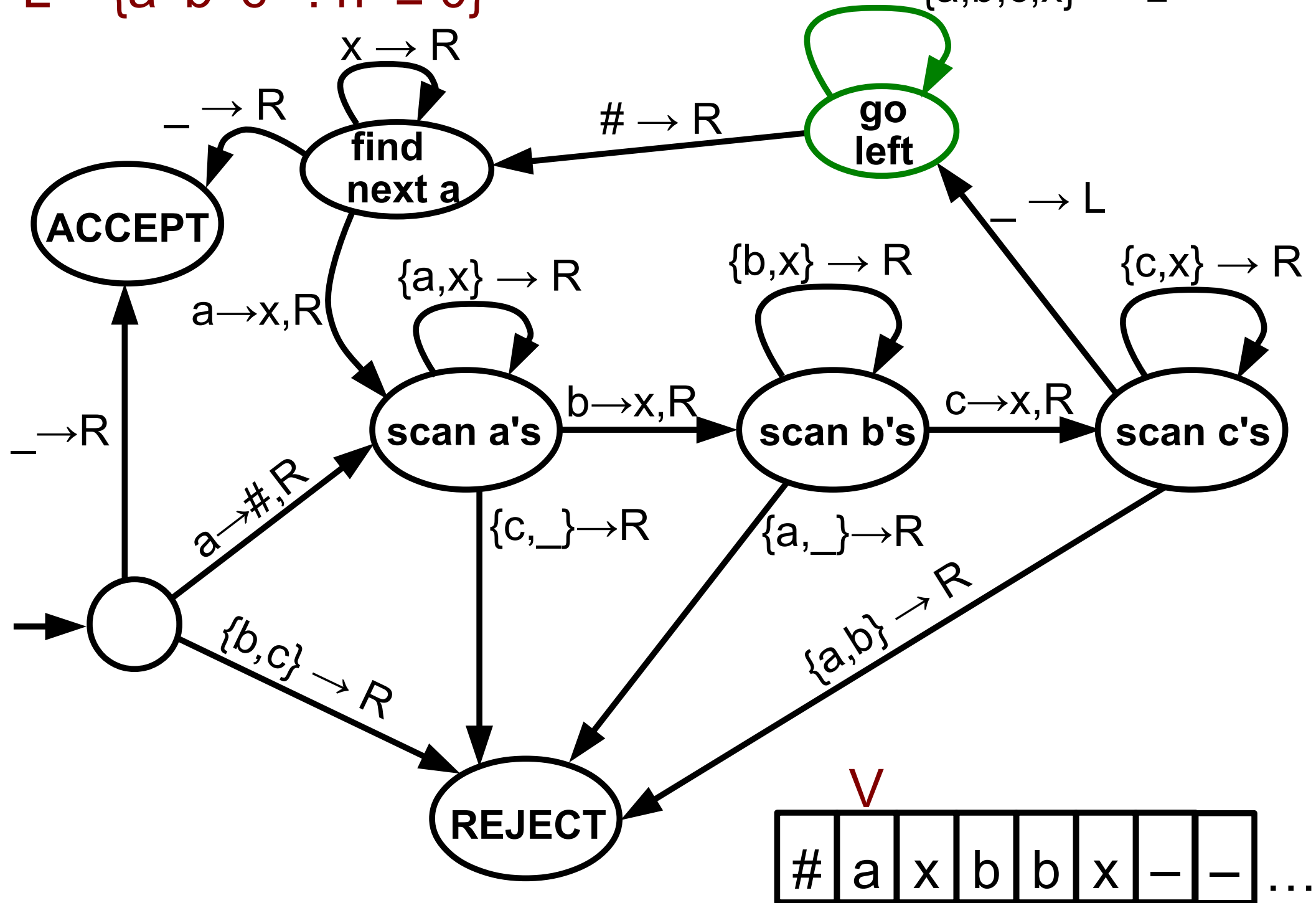
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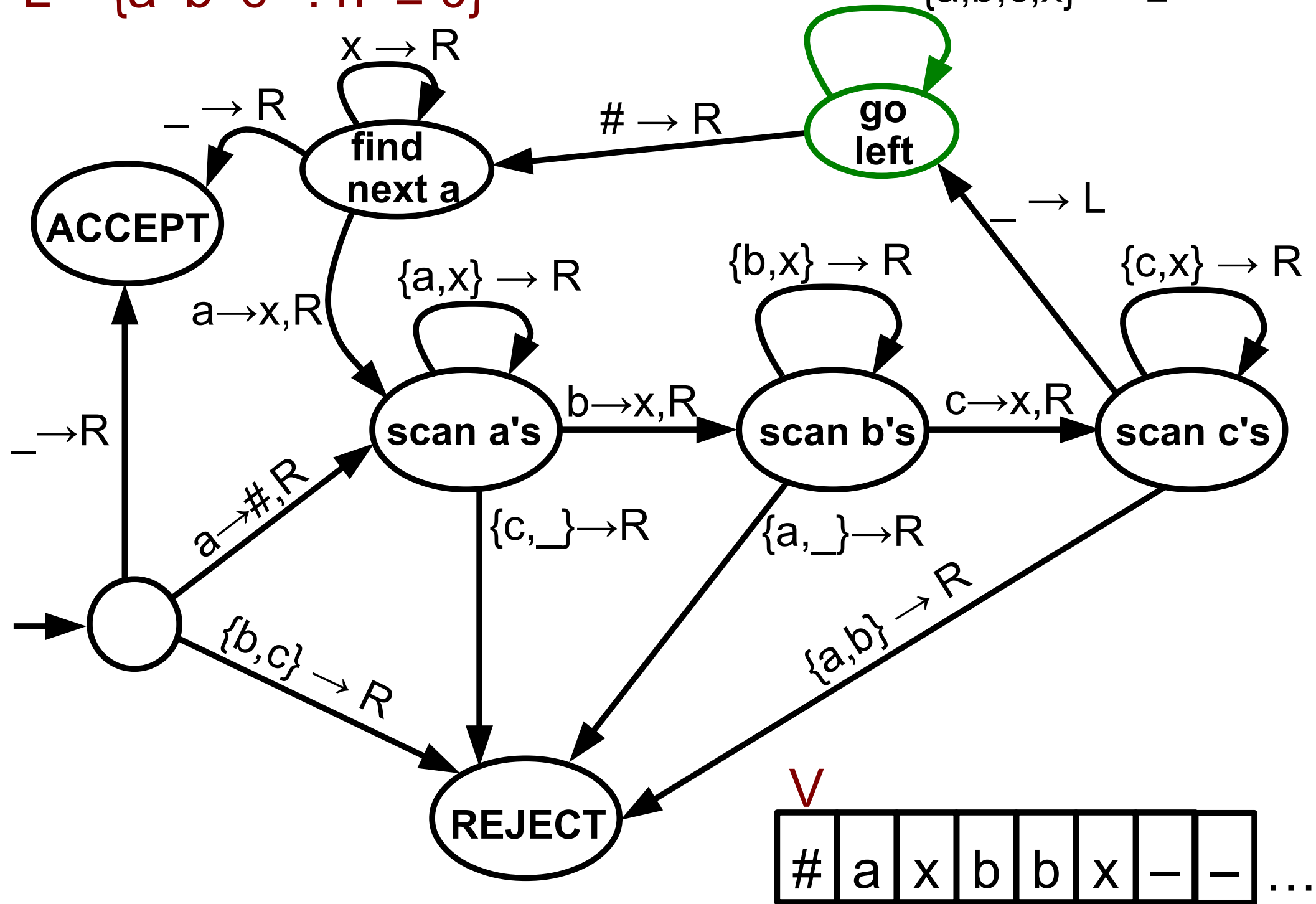
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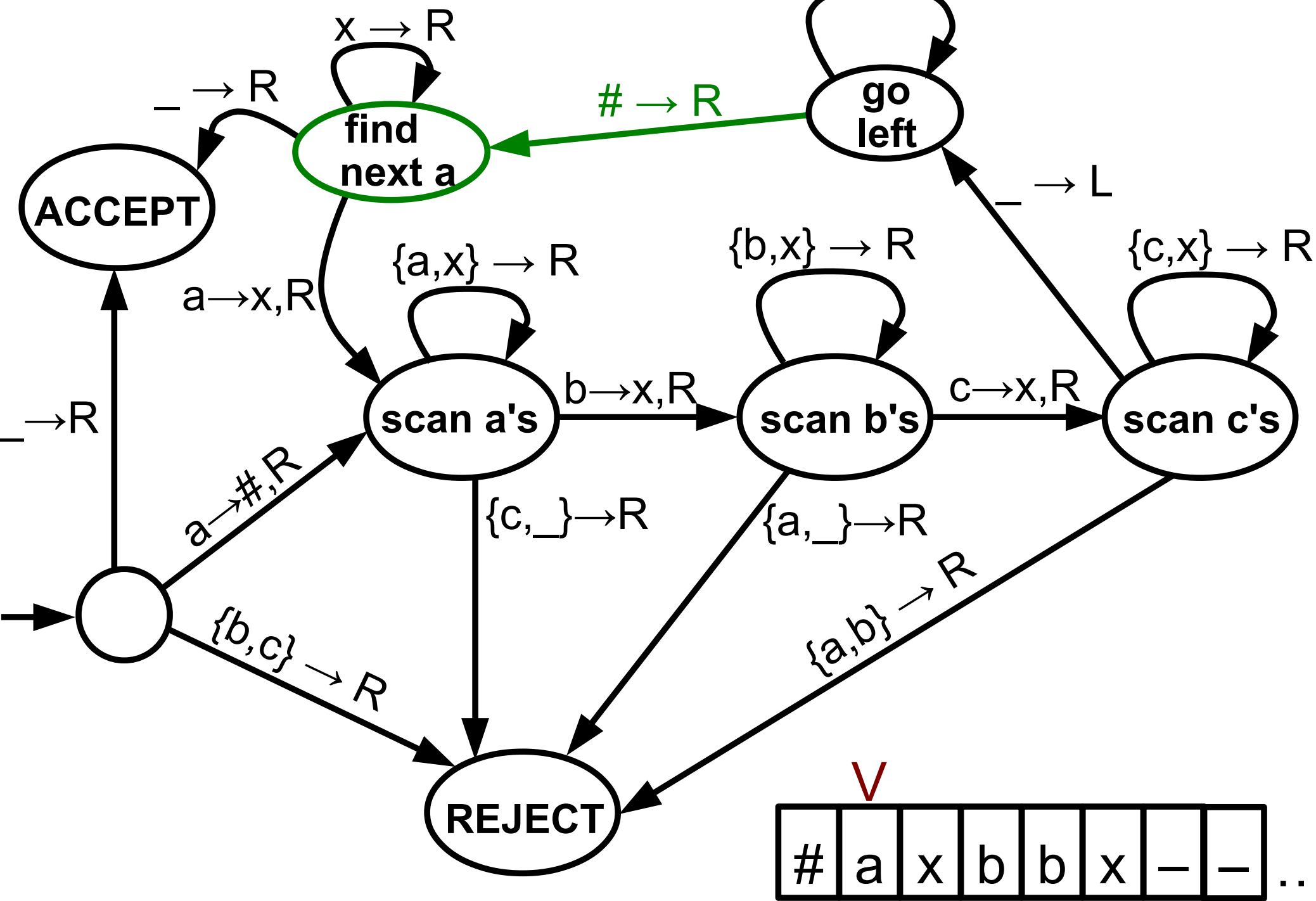
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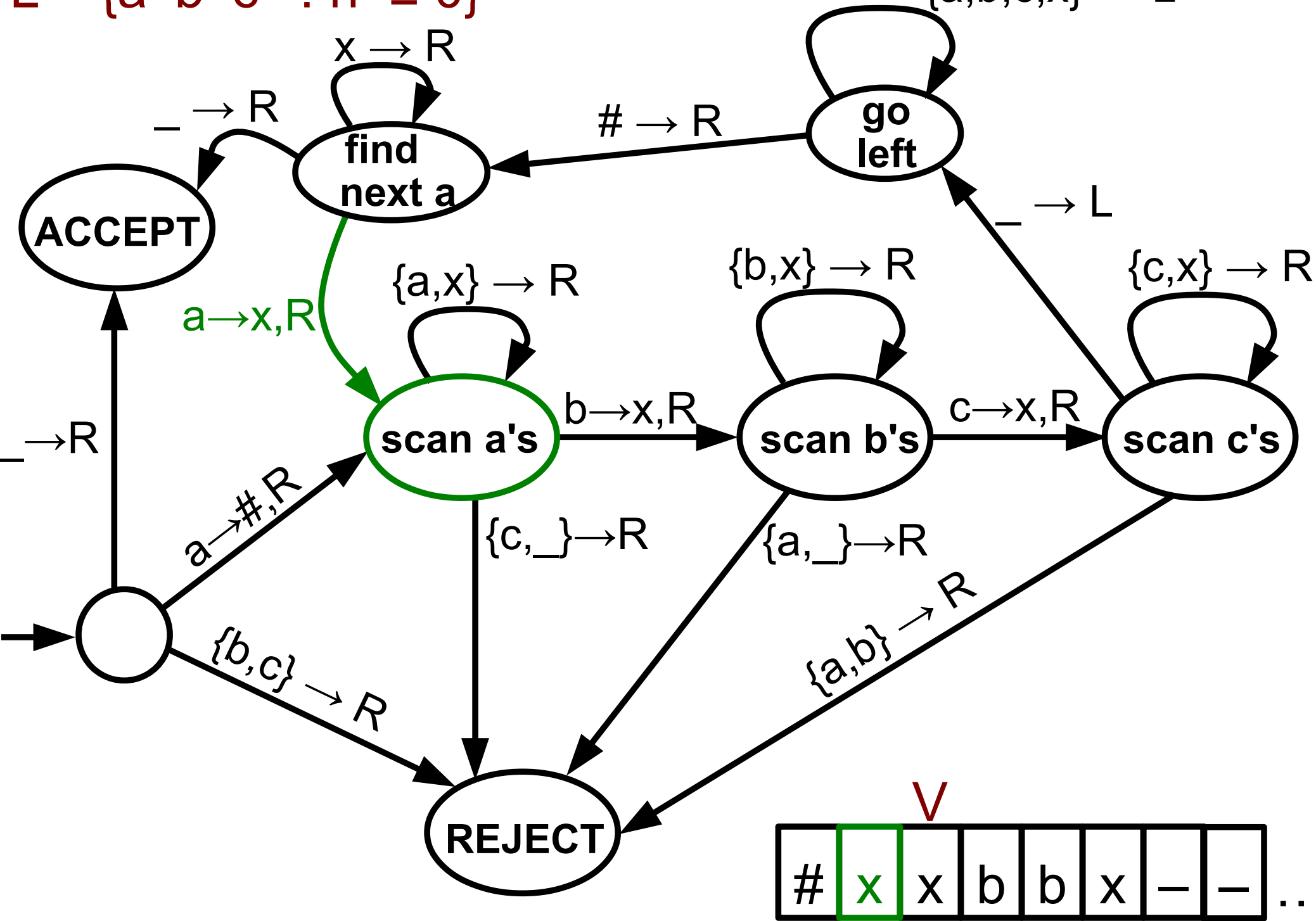
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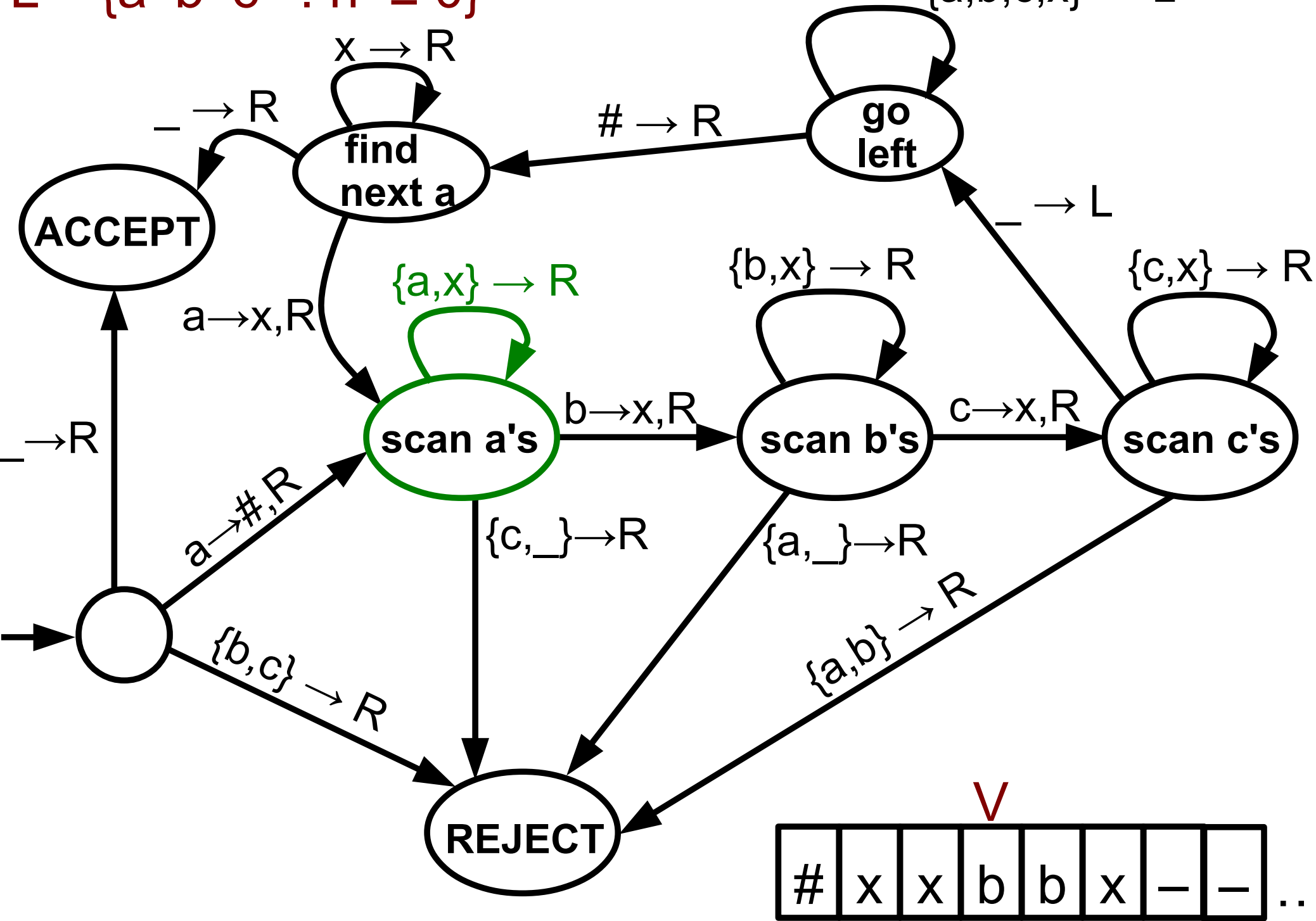
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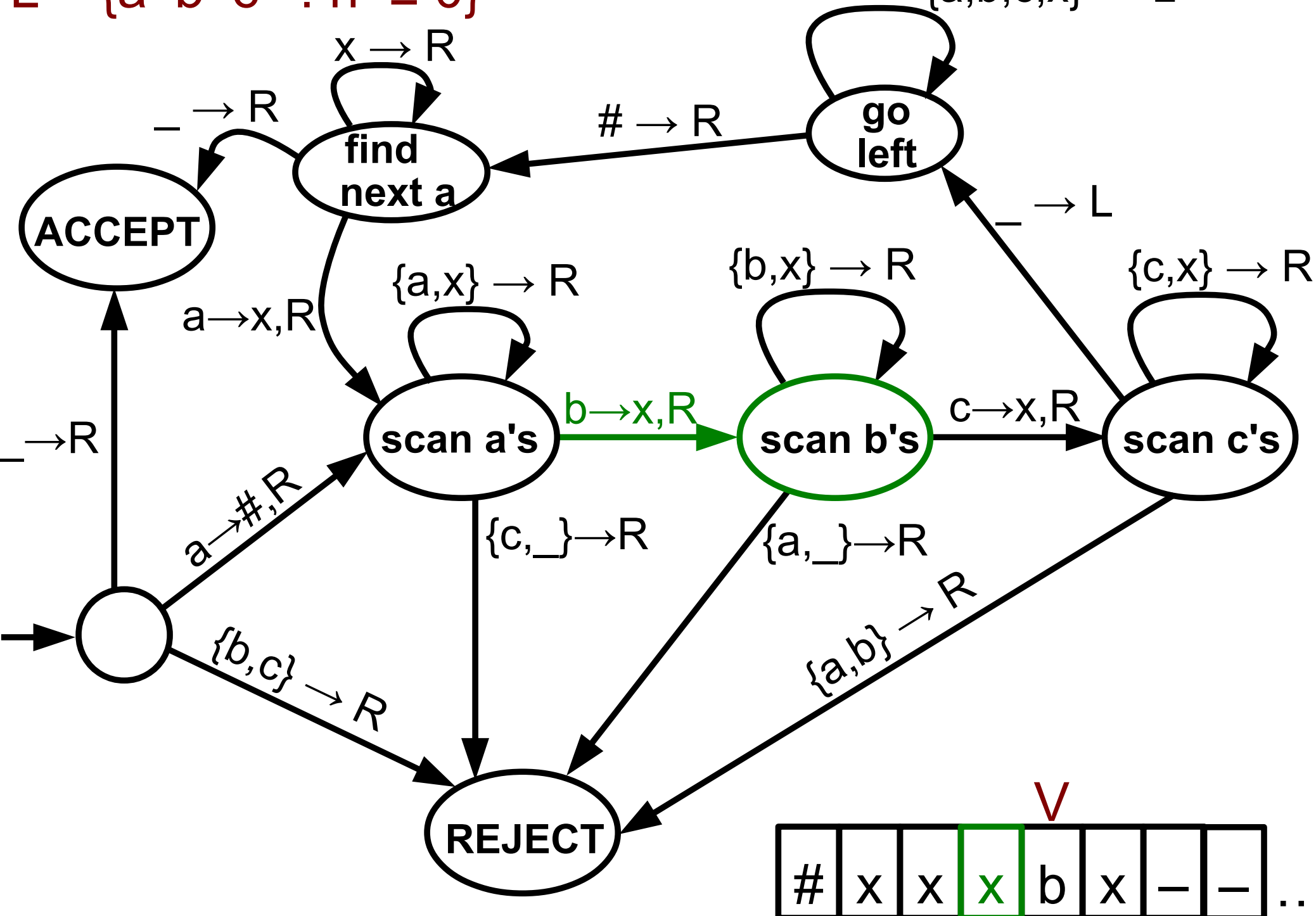
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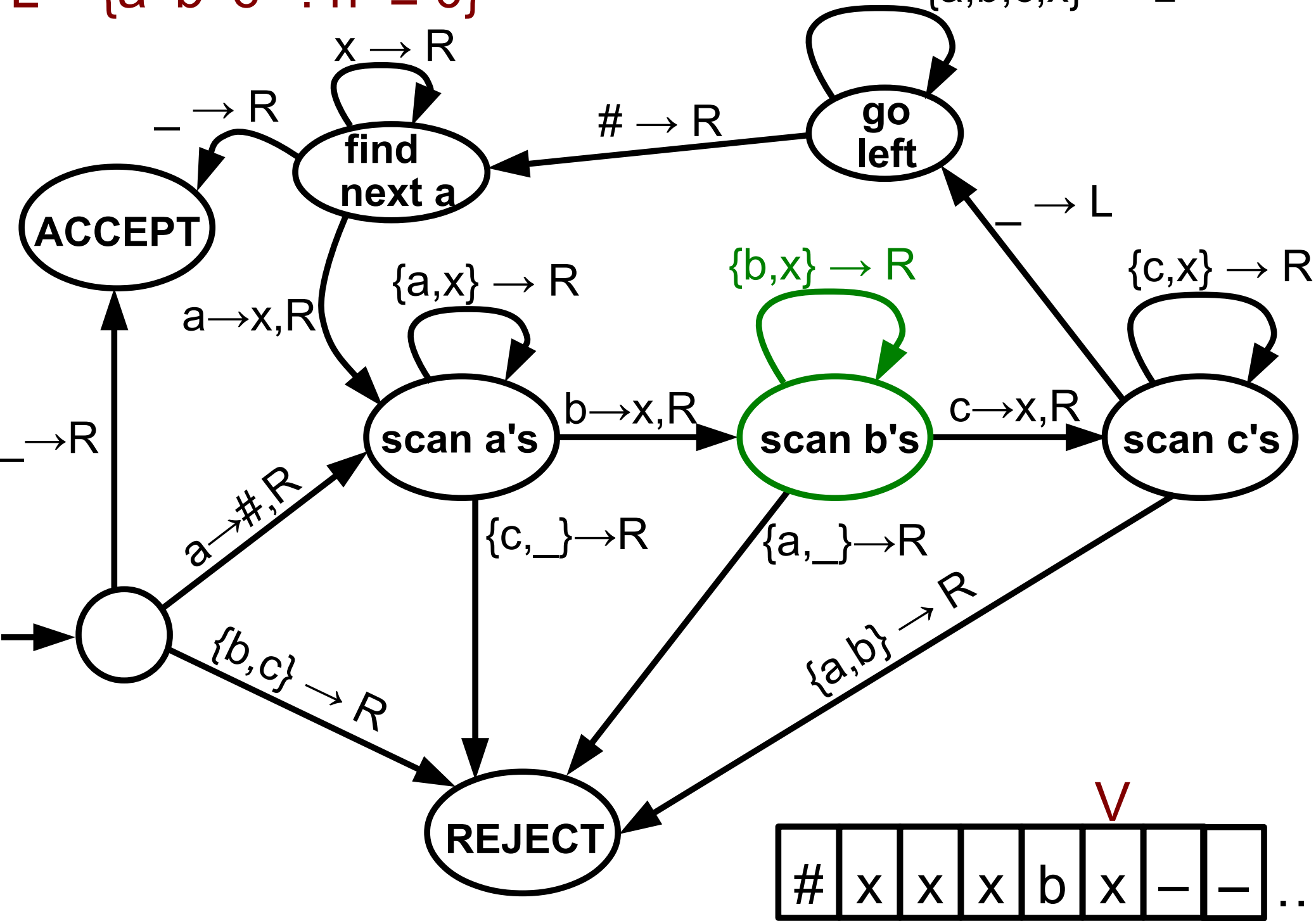
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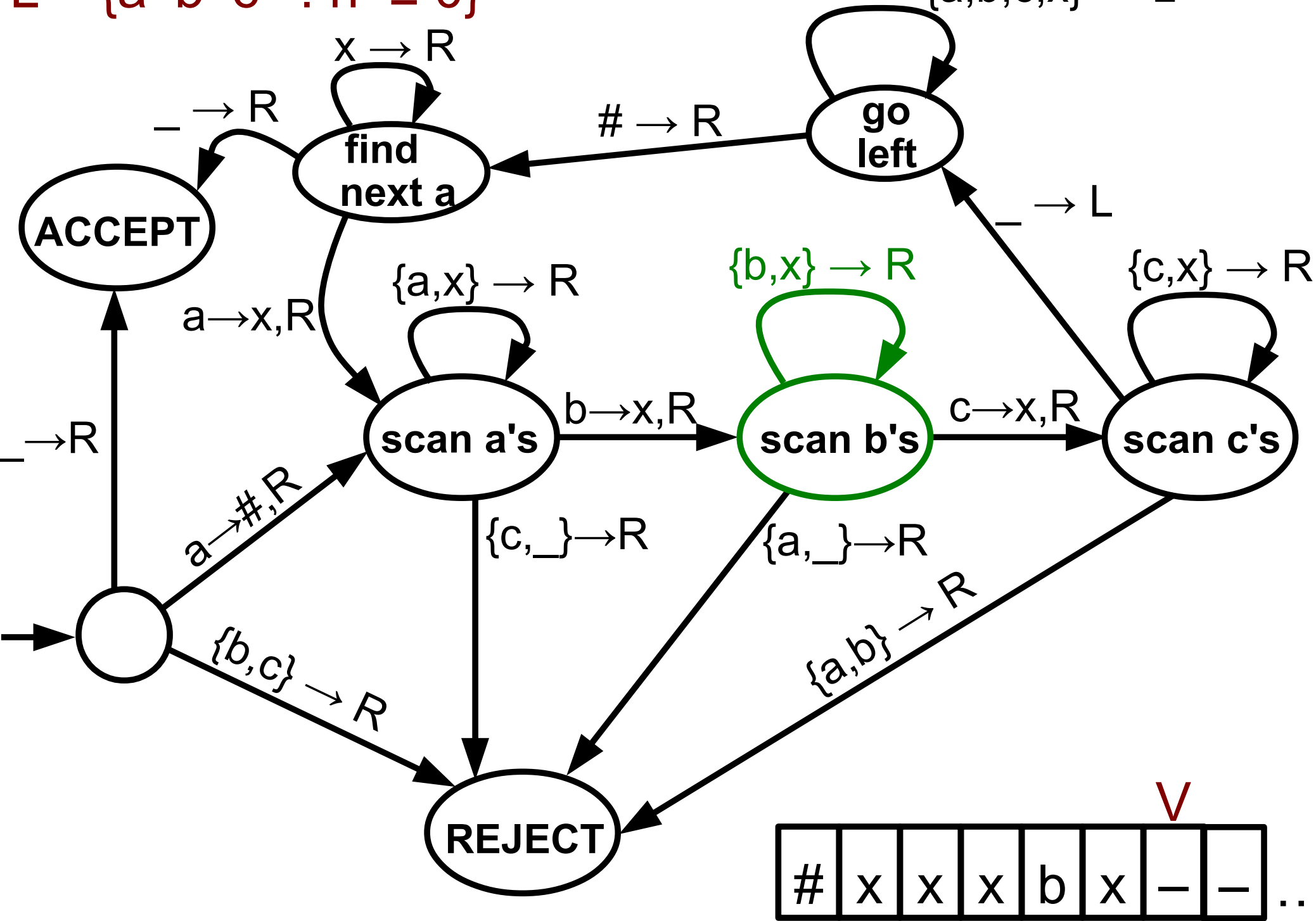
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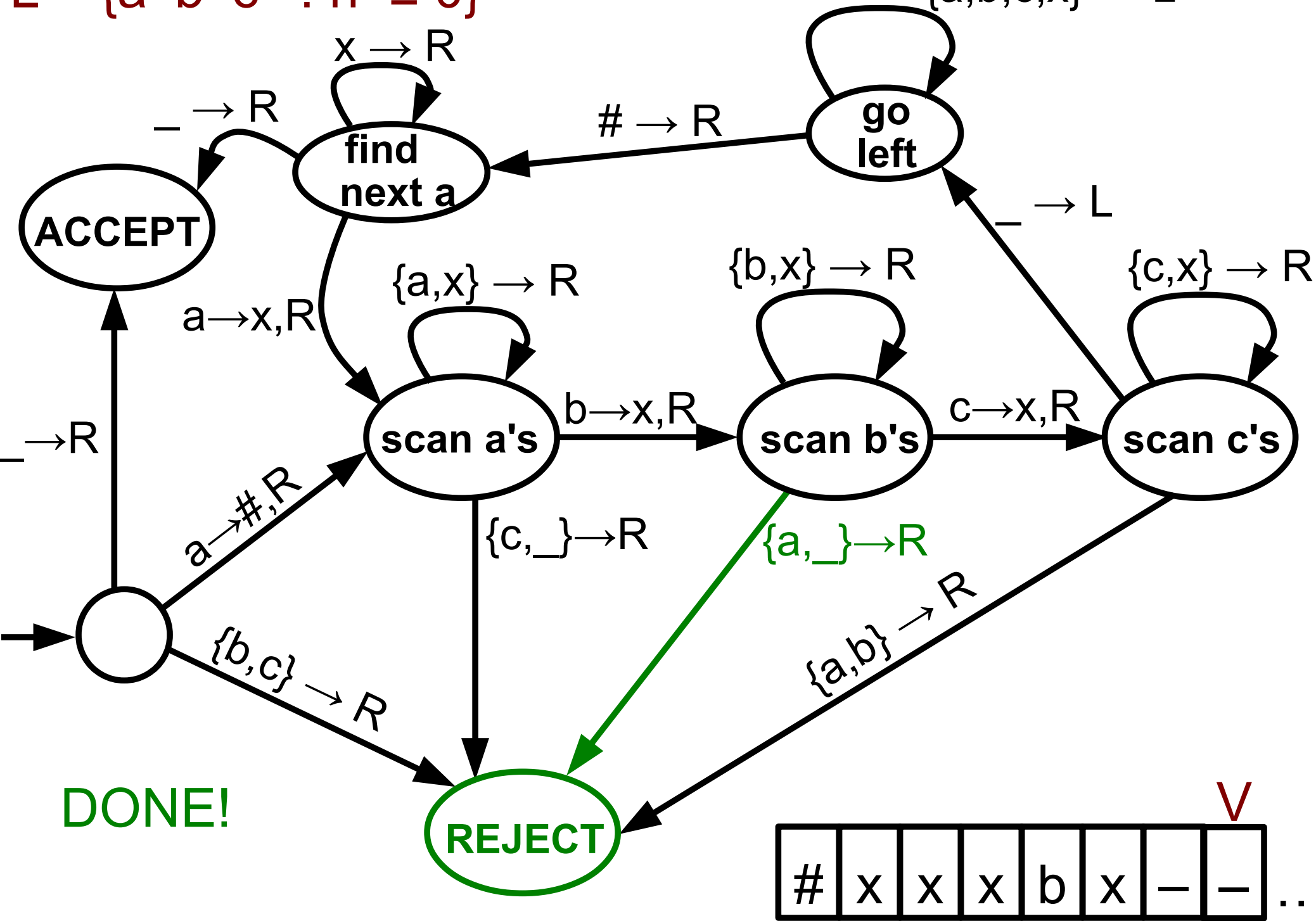
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Example: TM for $L = \{a^n : n \geq 0\}$ 2^n
 $= \{a, aa, aaaa, aaaaaaaaa, \dots\}$

M := "On input w,

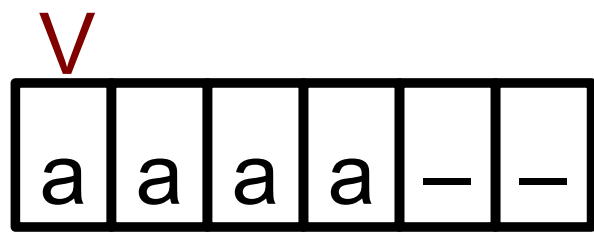
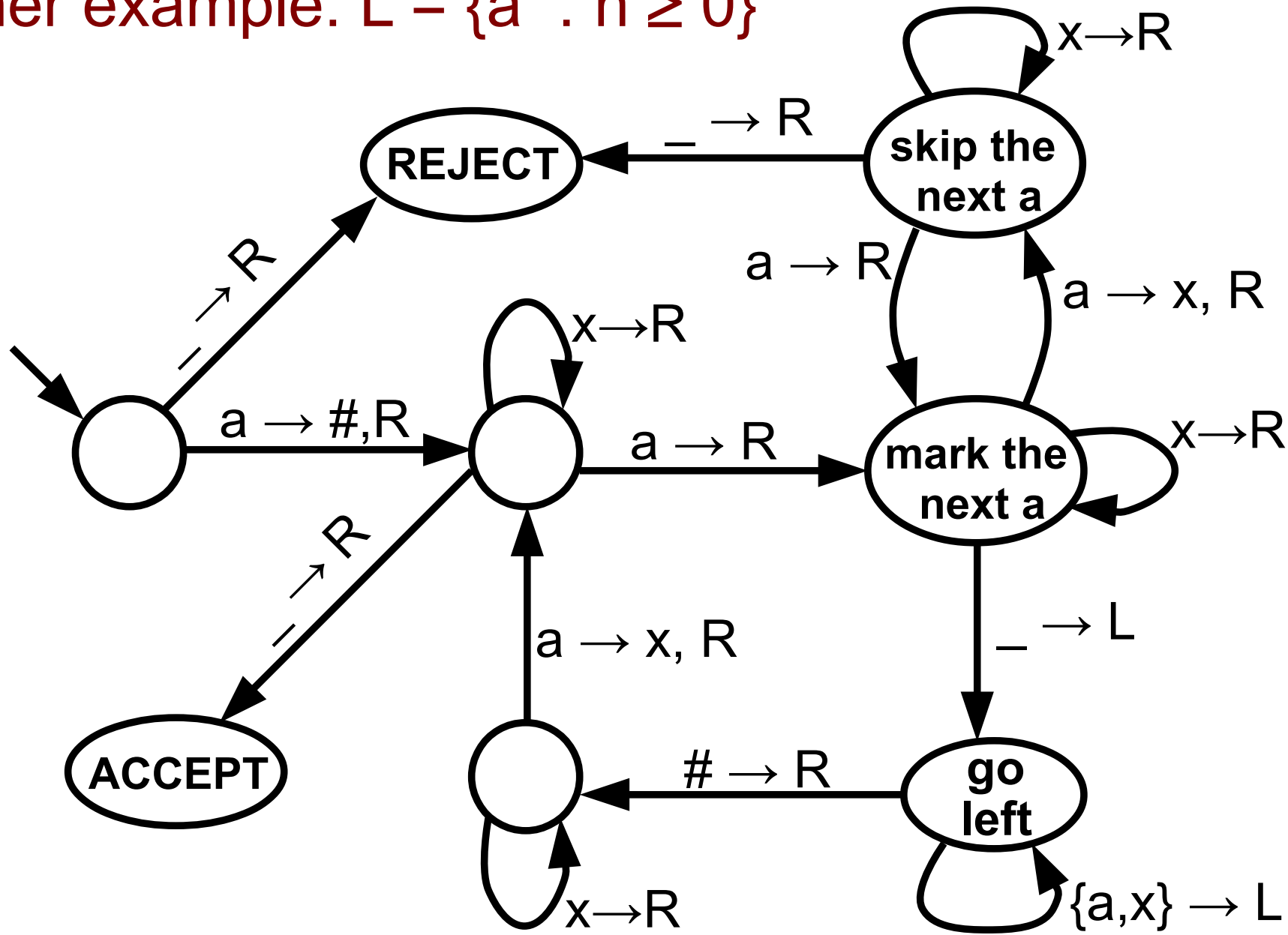
- 1) if only one a, ACCEPT
- 2) **cross off** every other a on the tape
- 3) if the number of a's is odd, REJECT
- 4) Go back to 1)"

For instance:

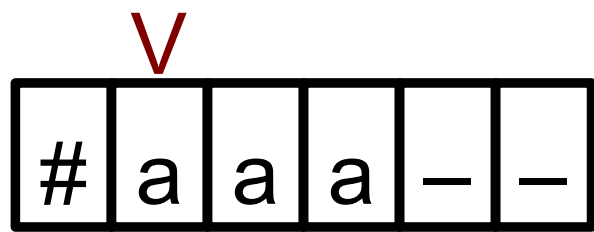
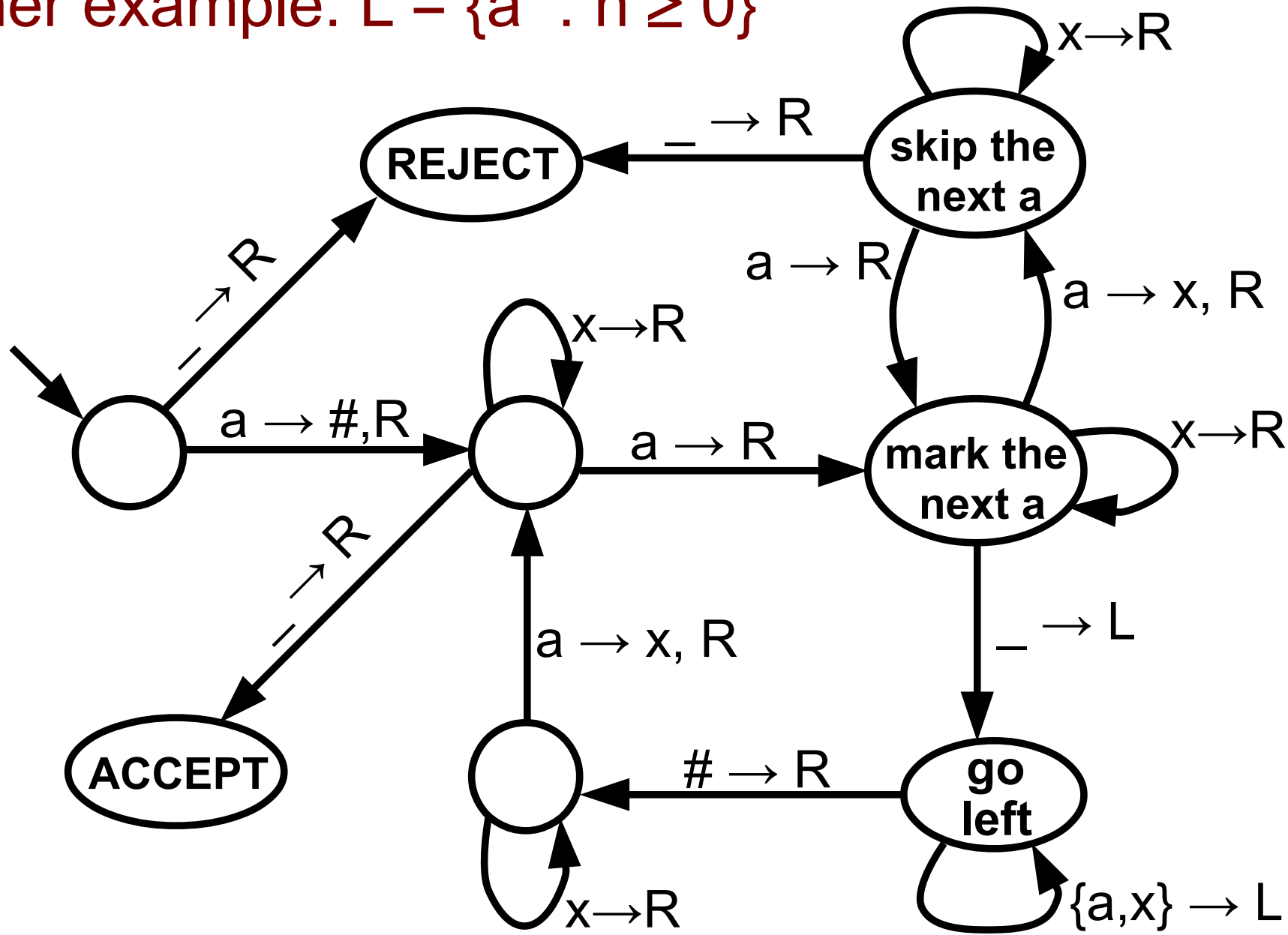
8 a's \rightarrow 4 a's \rightarrow 2 a's \rightarrow 1 a \rightarrow ACCEPT

12 a's \rightarrow 6 a's \rightarrow 3 a's \rightarrow REJECT

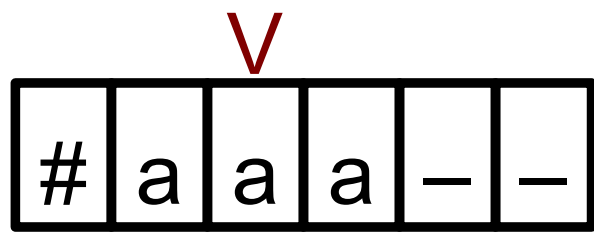
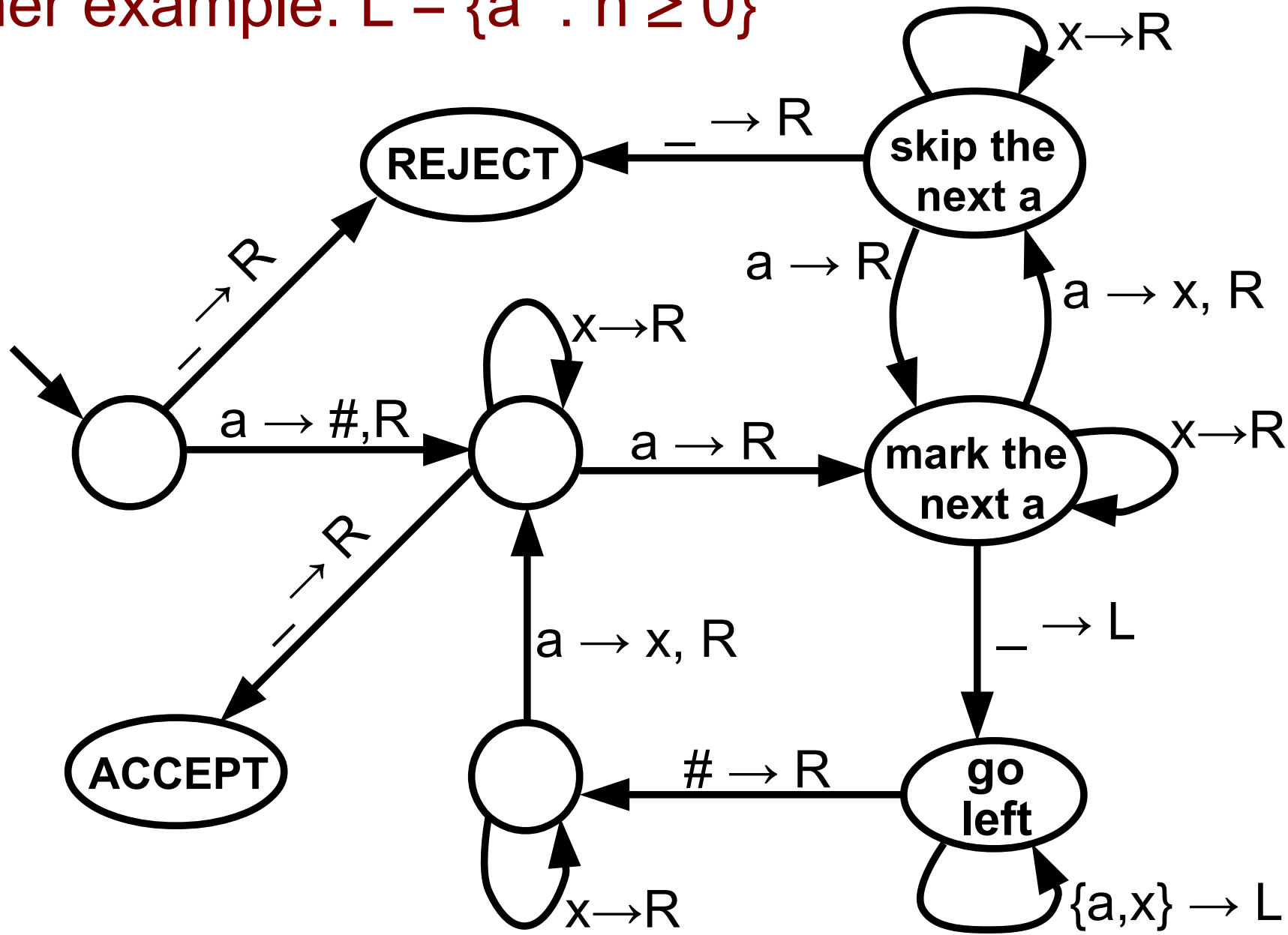
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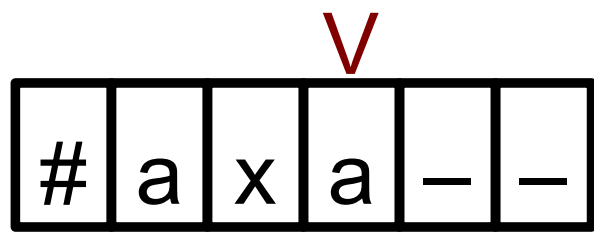
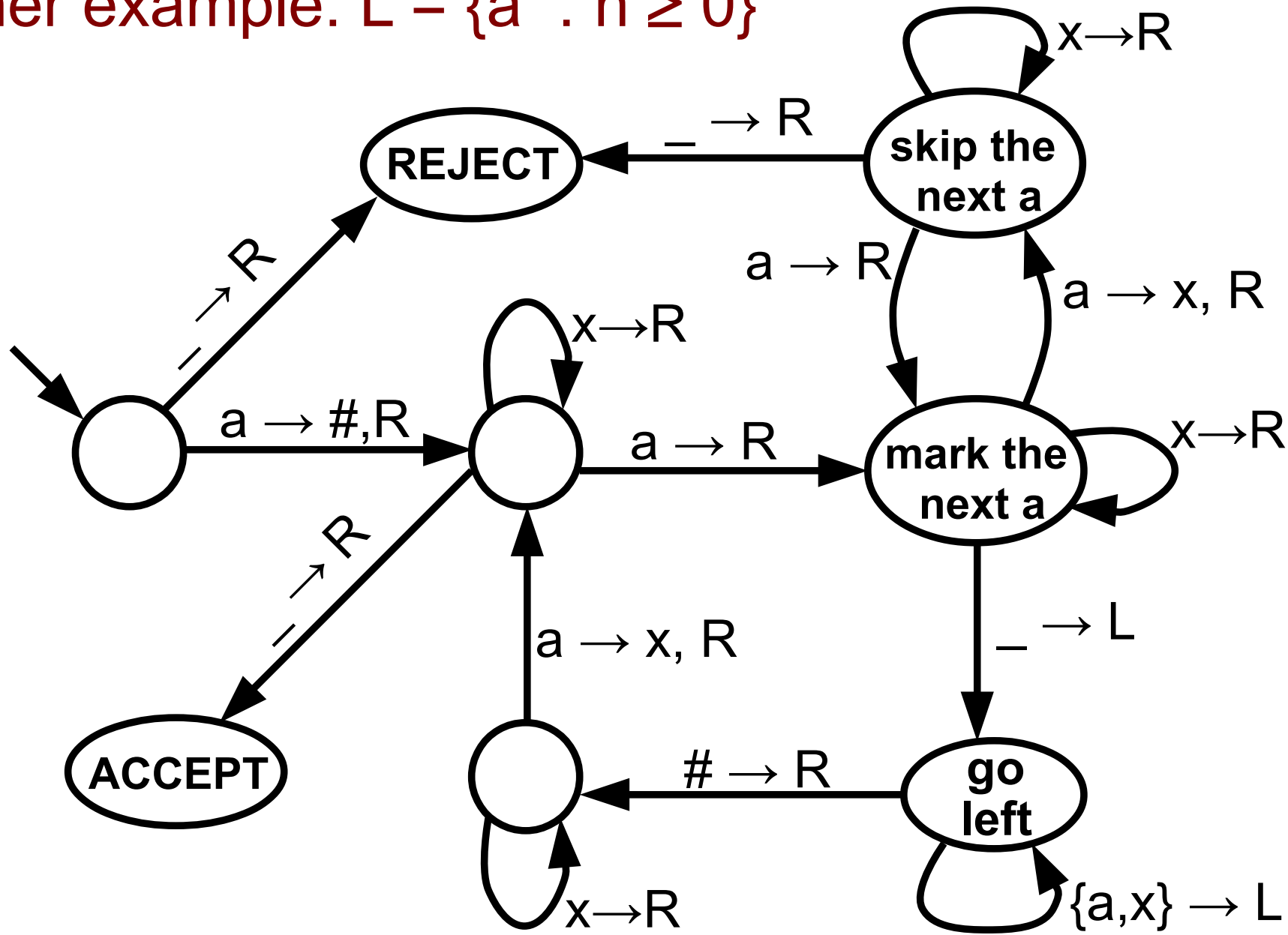
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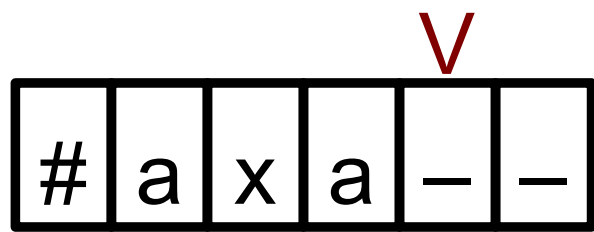
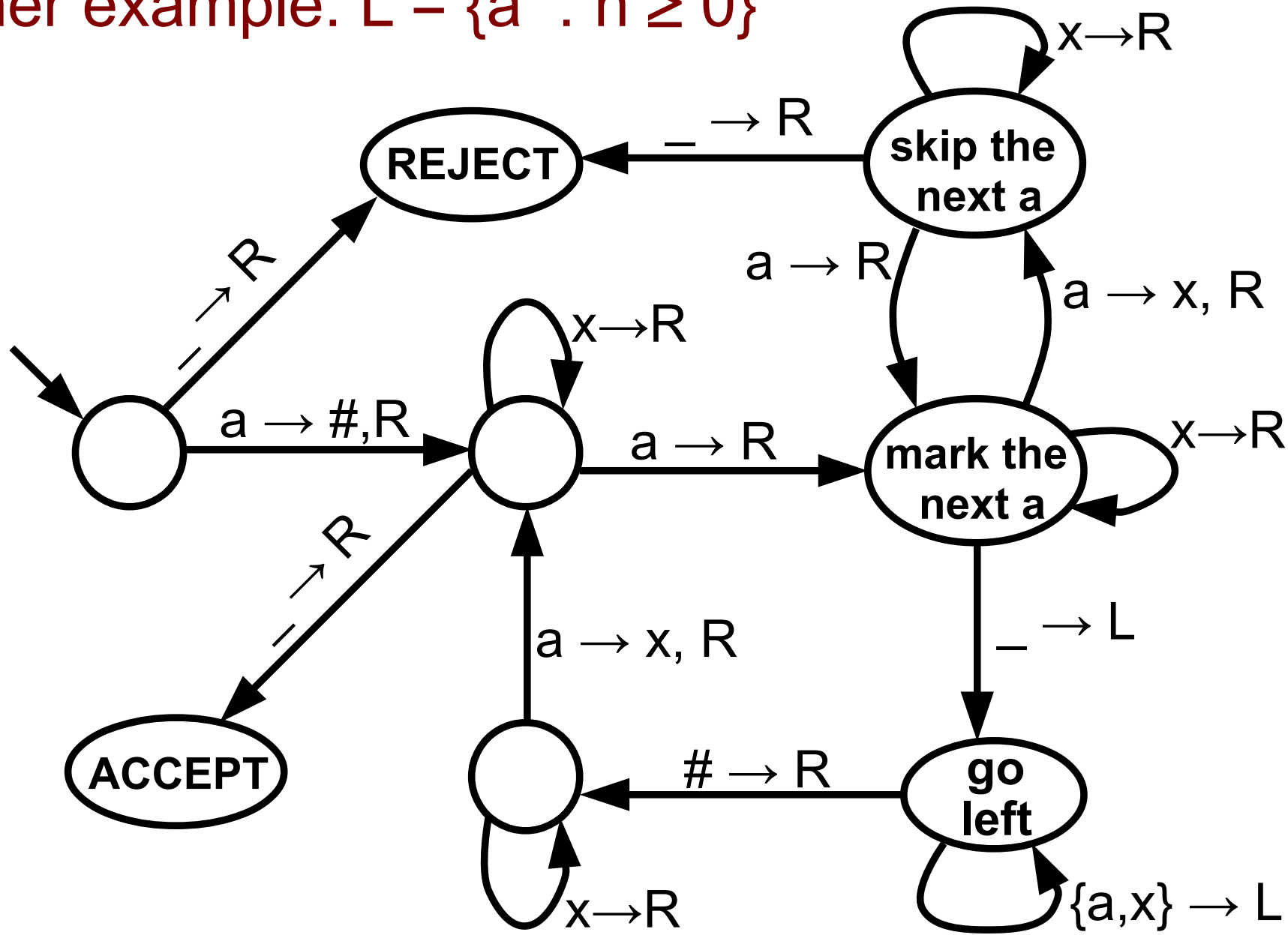
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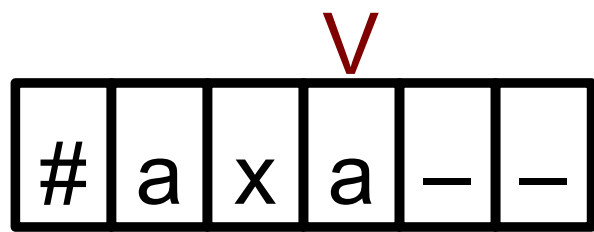
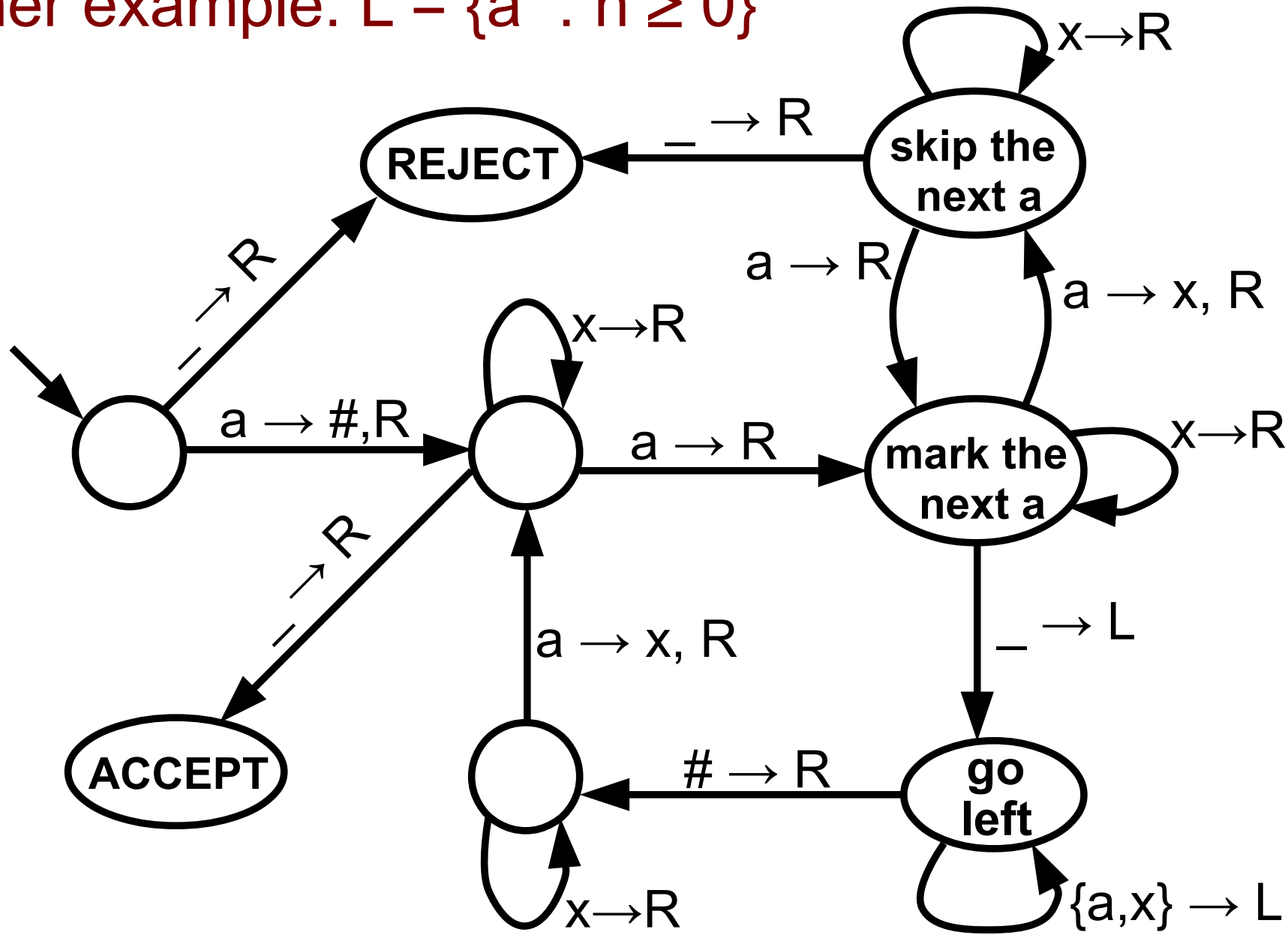
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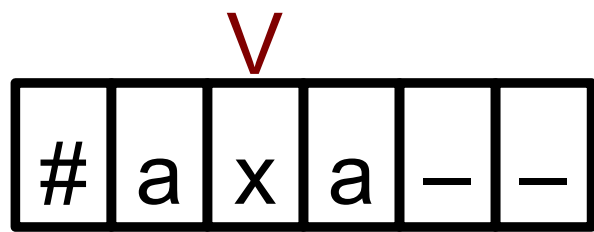
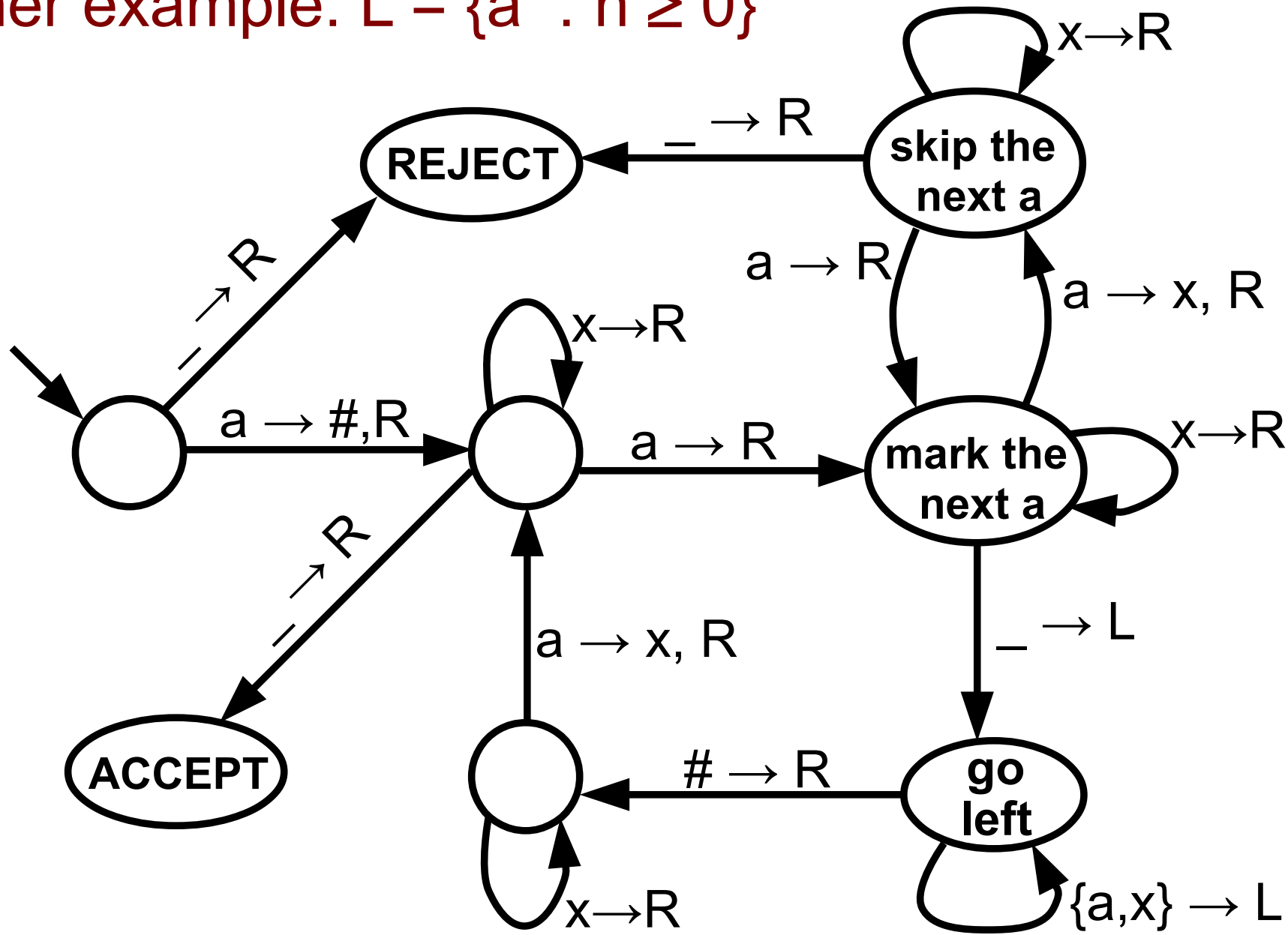
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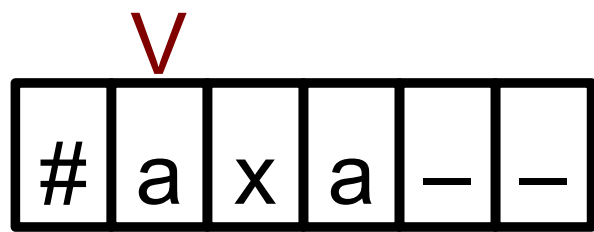
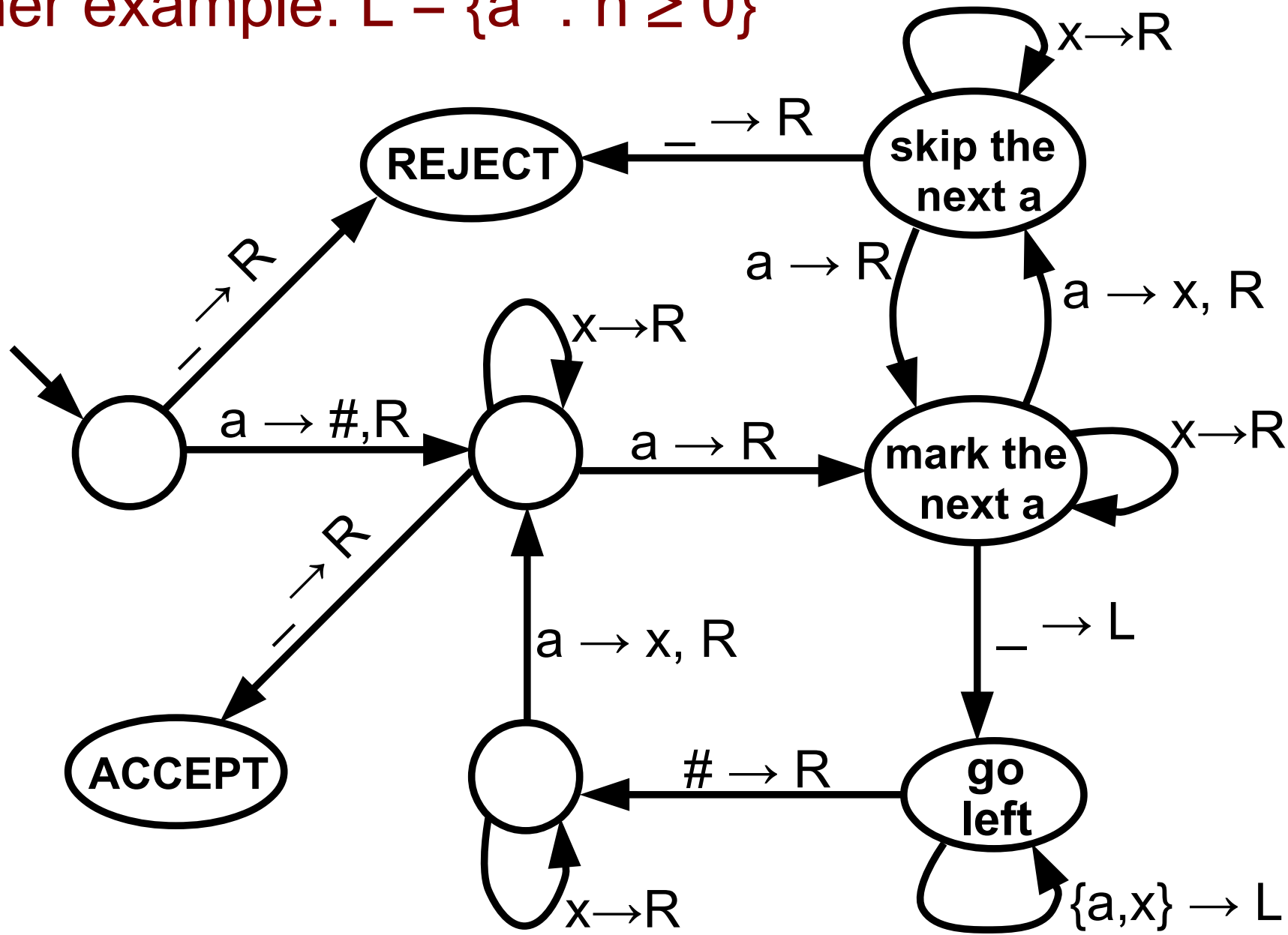
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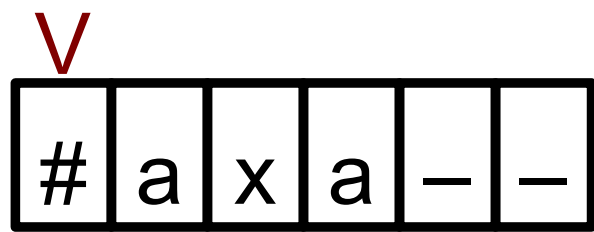
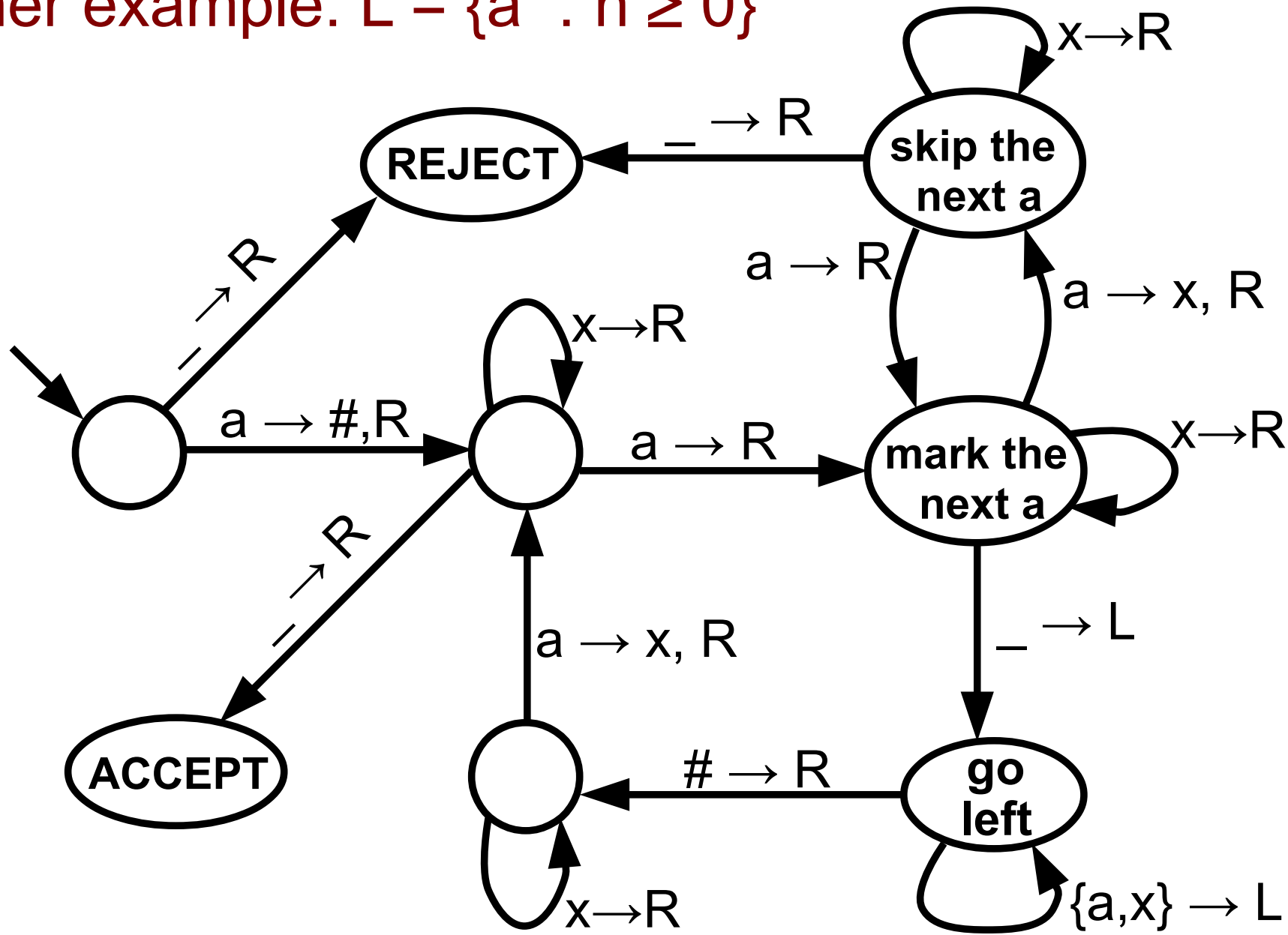
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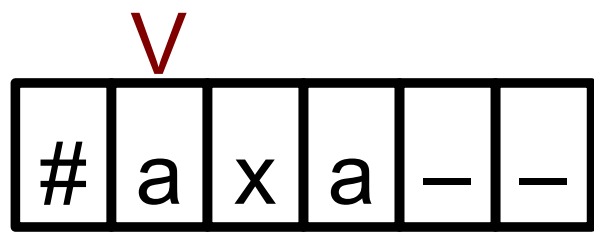
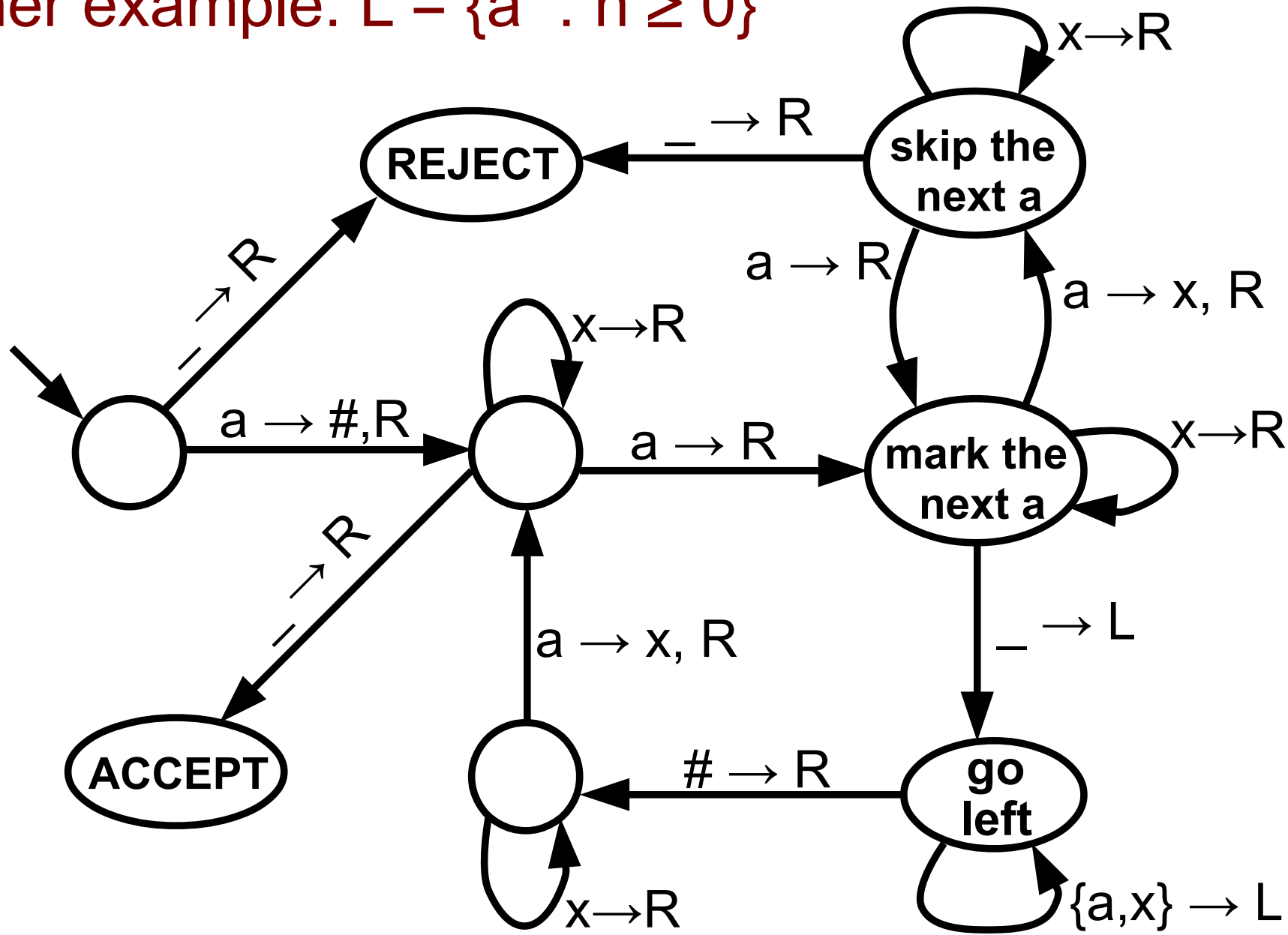
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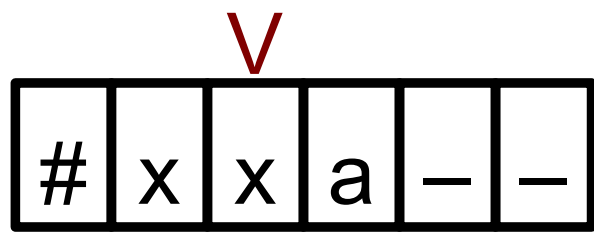
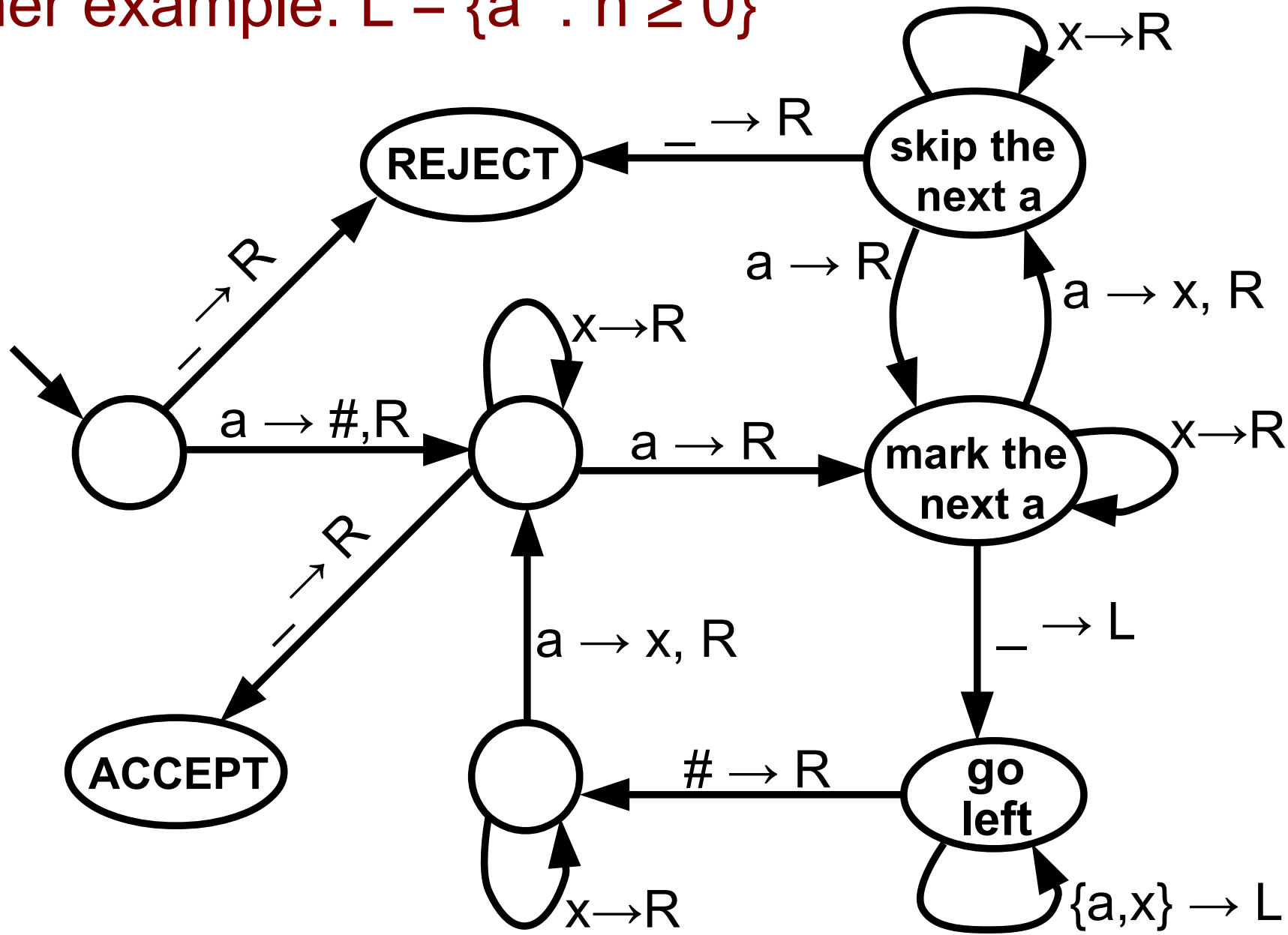
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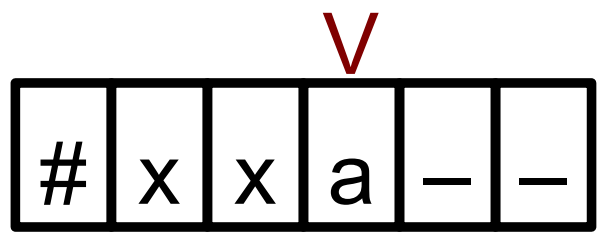
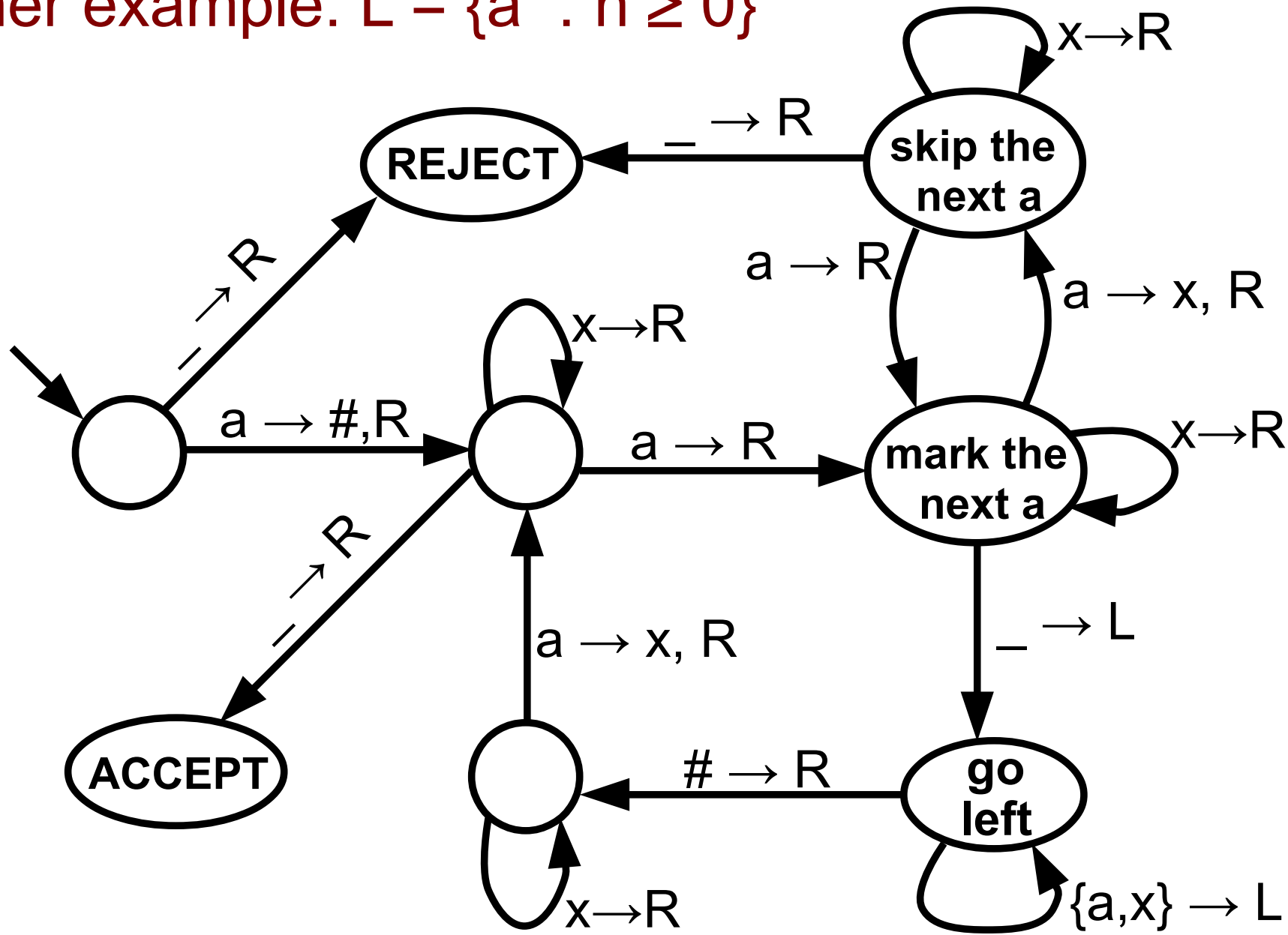
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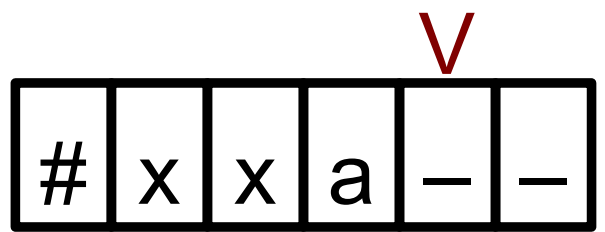
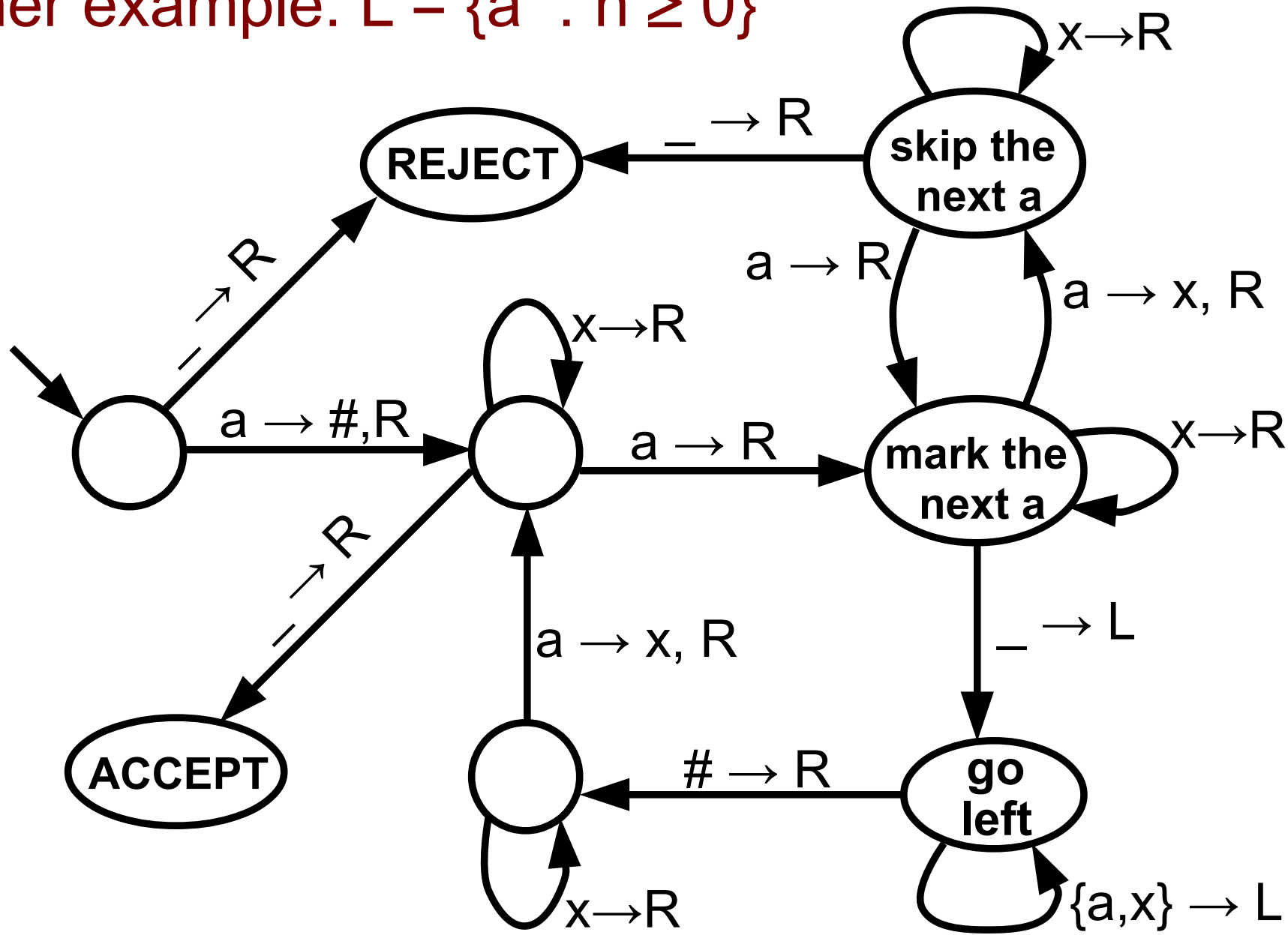
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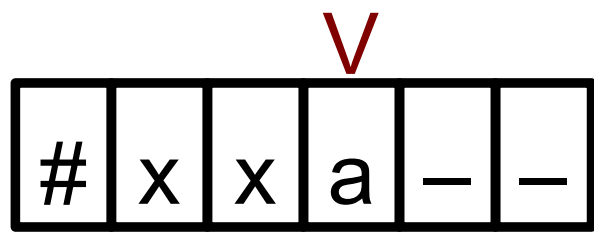
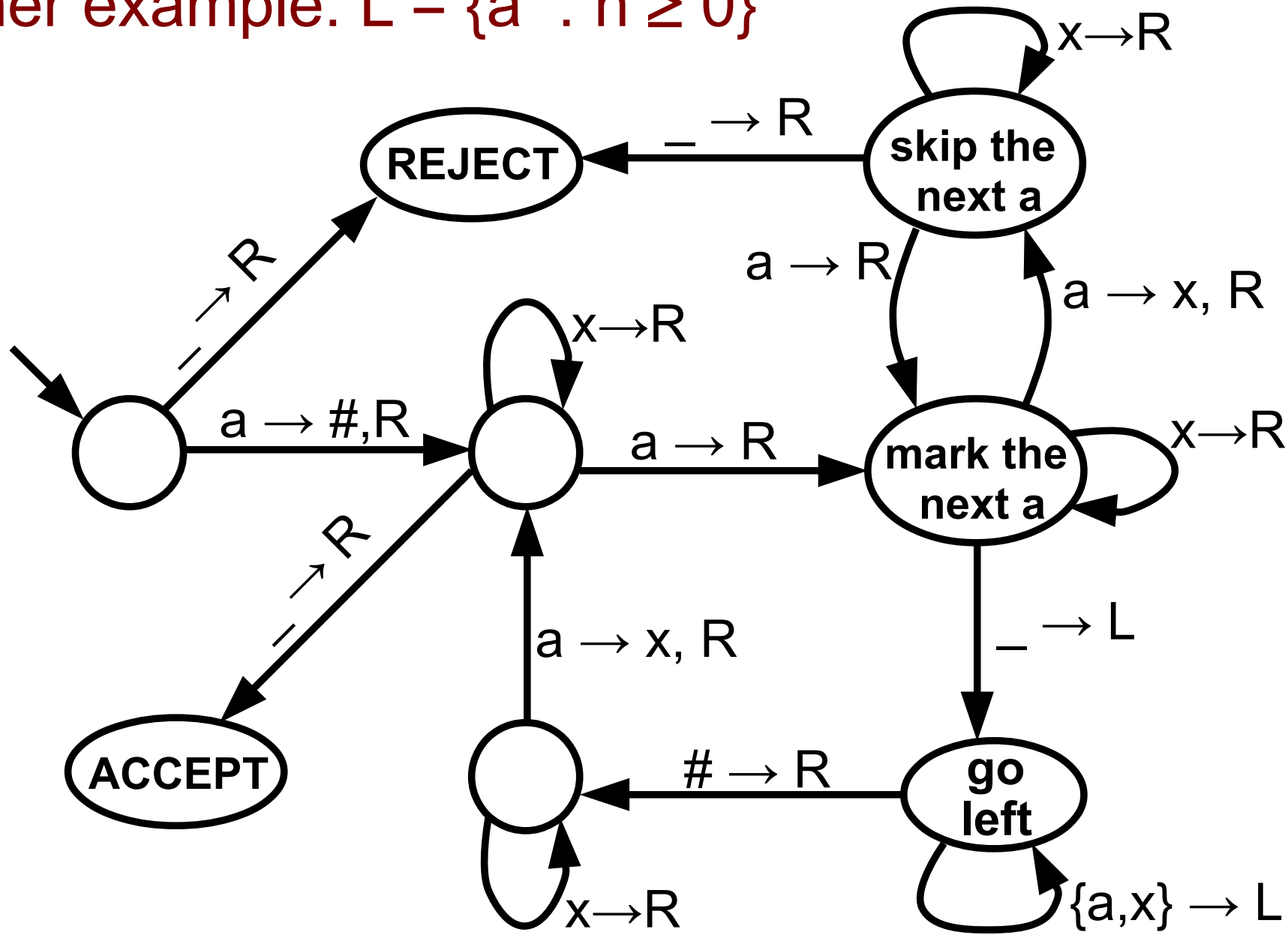
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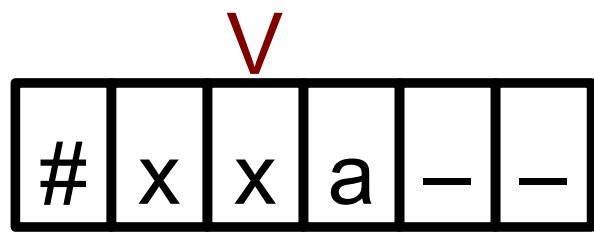
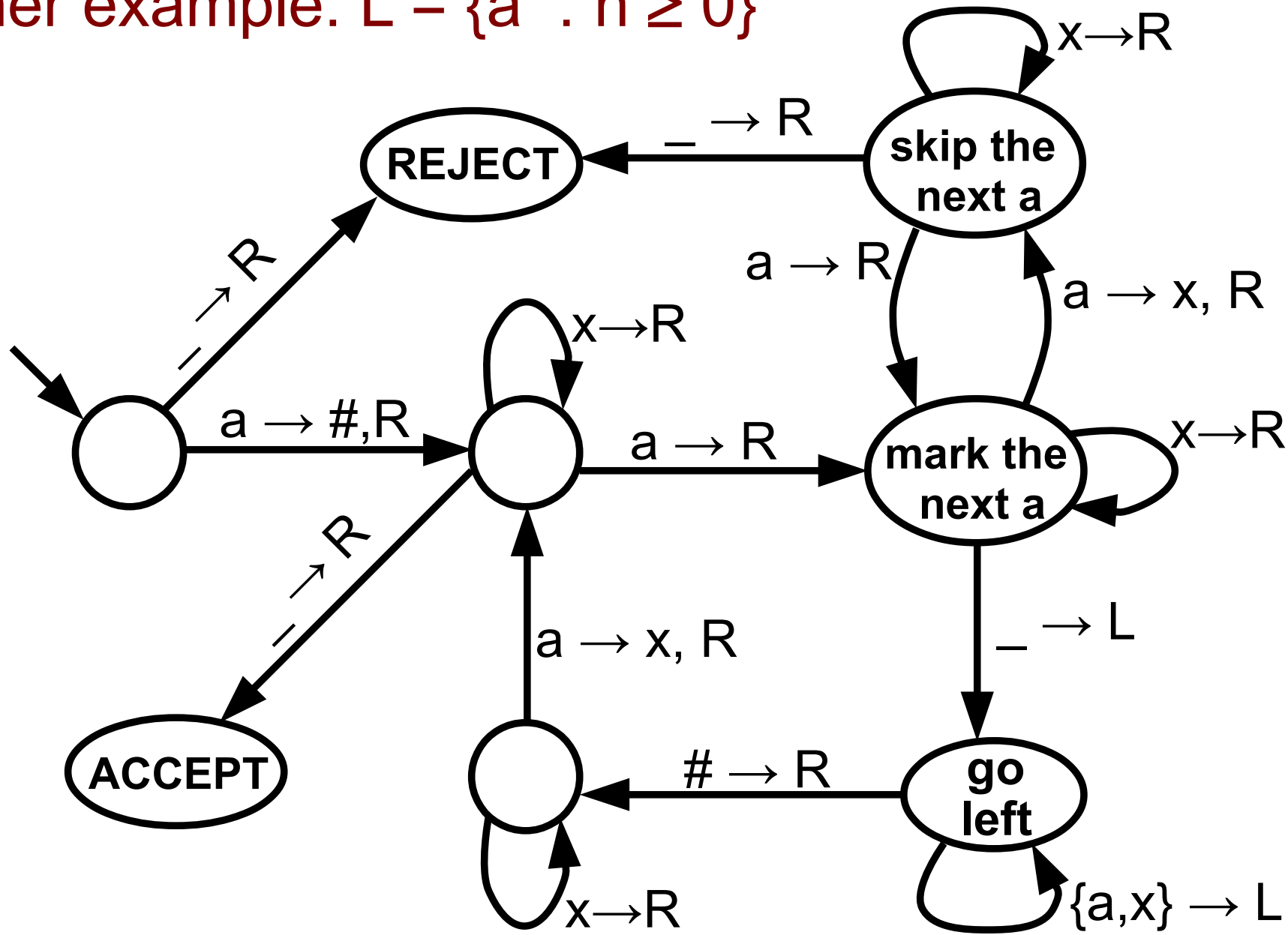
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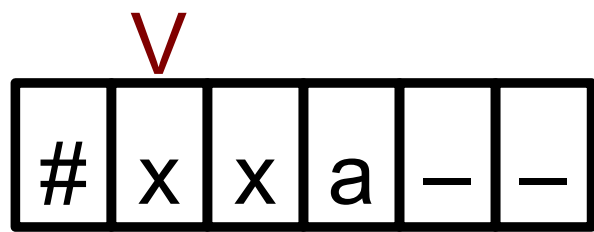
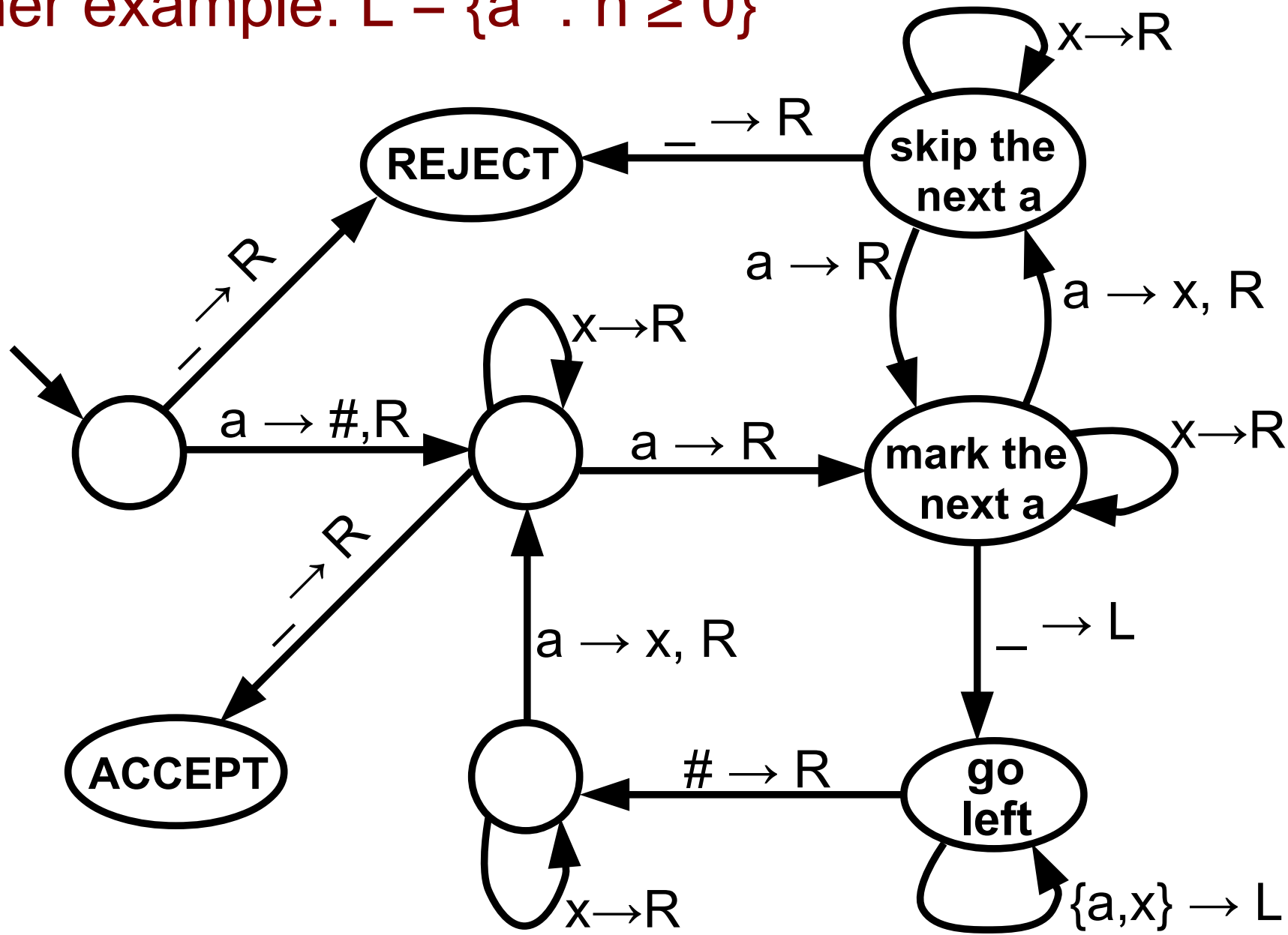
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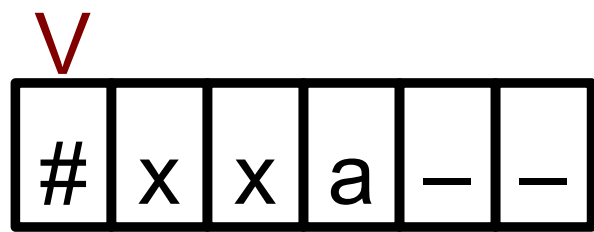
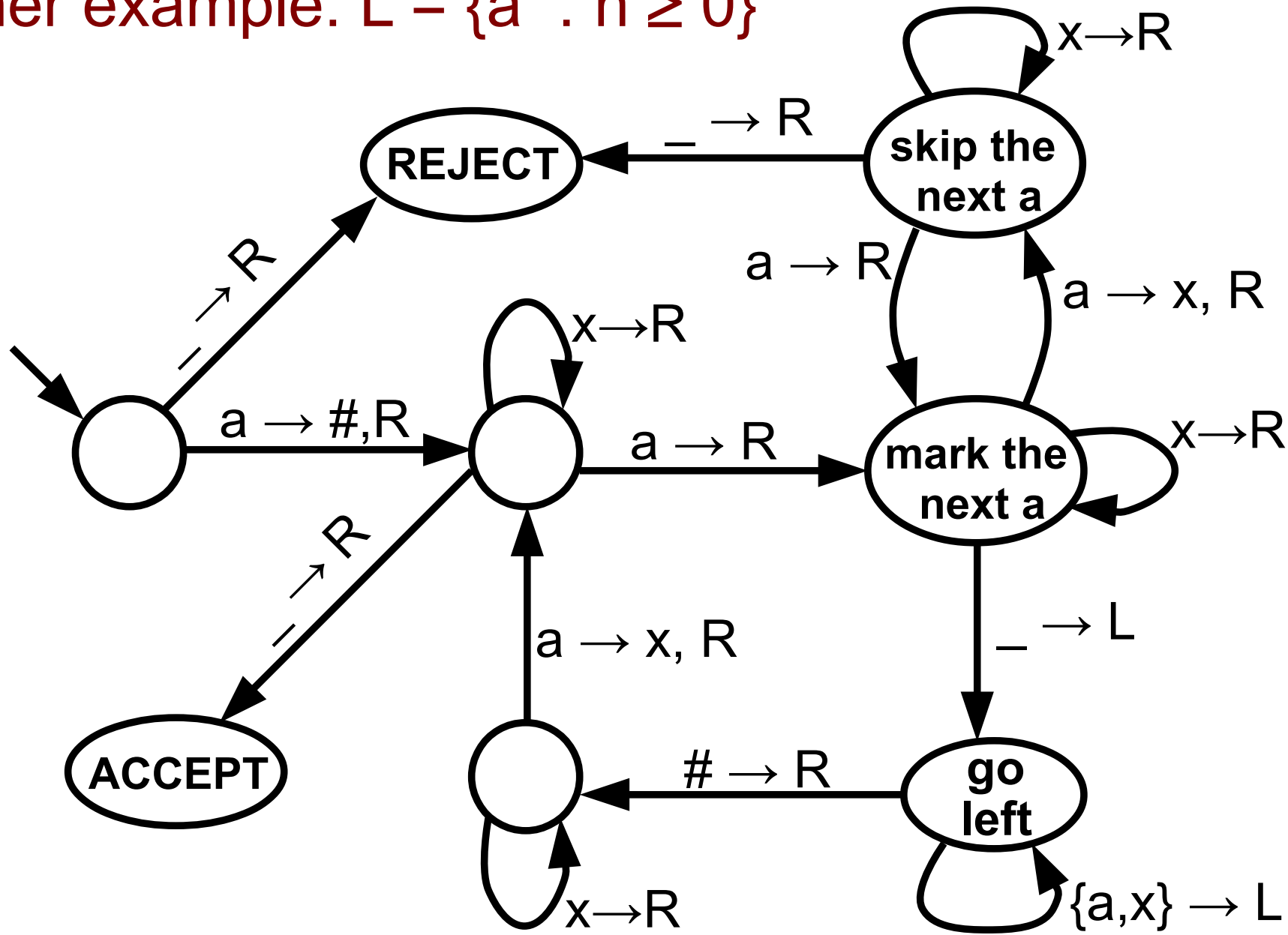
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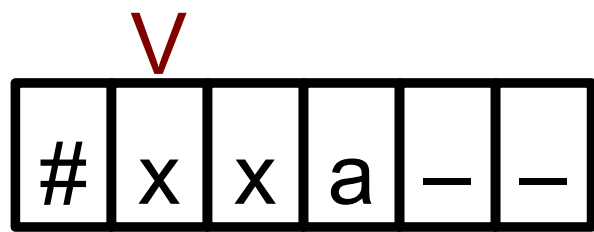
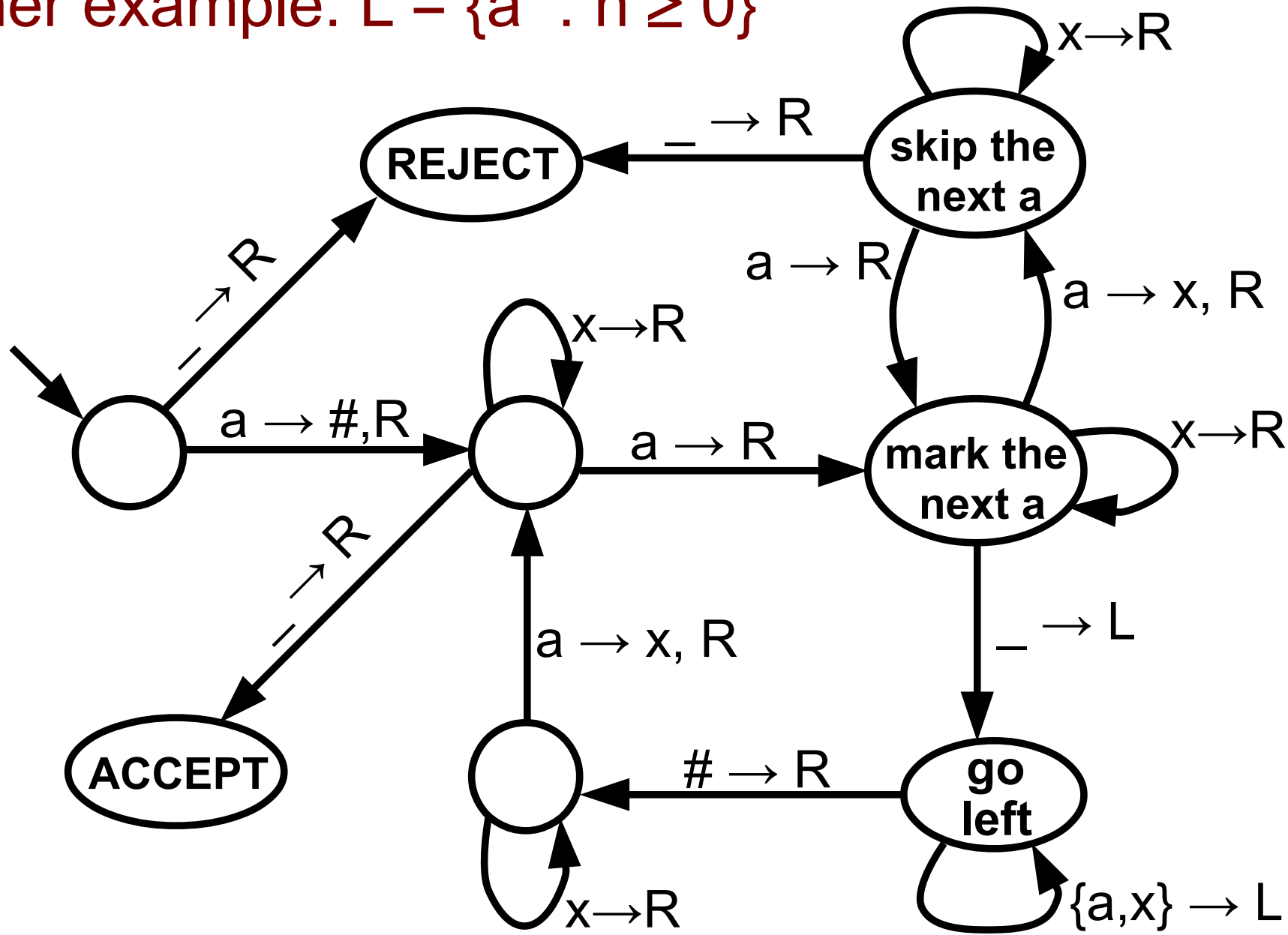
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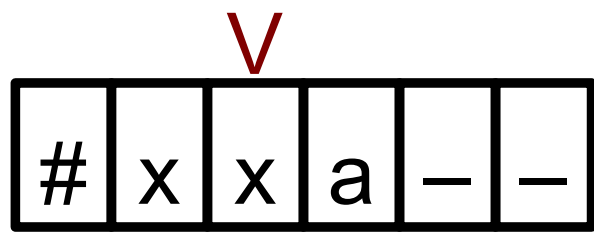
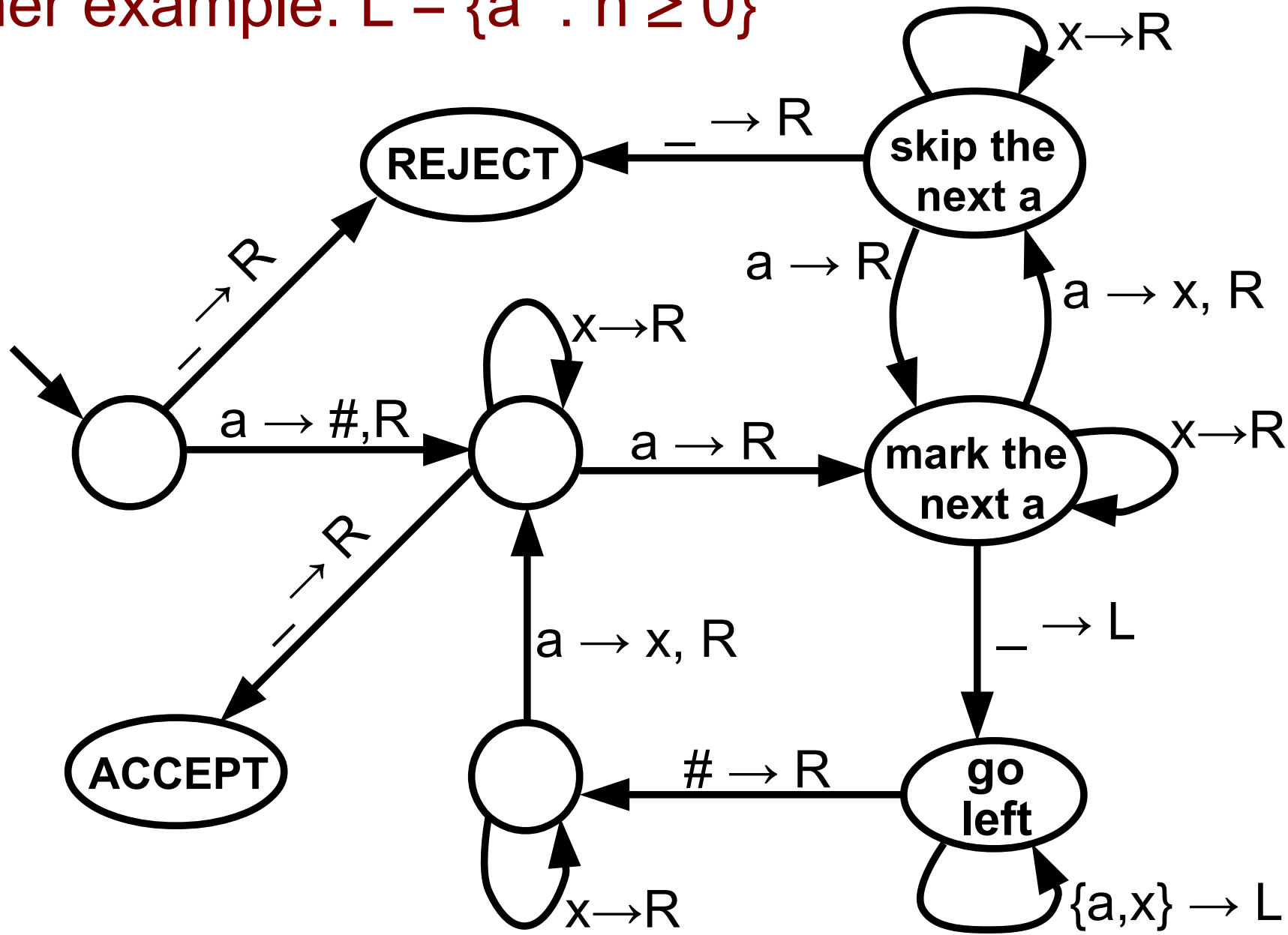
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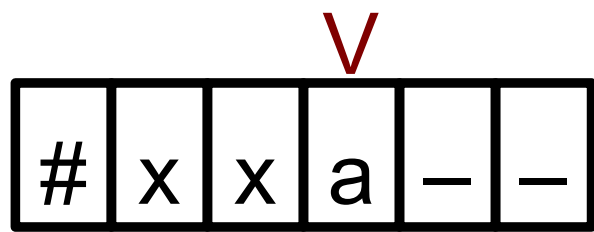
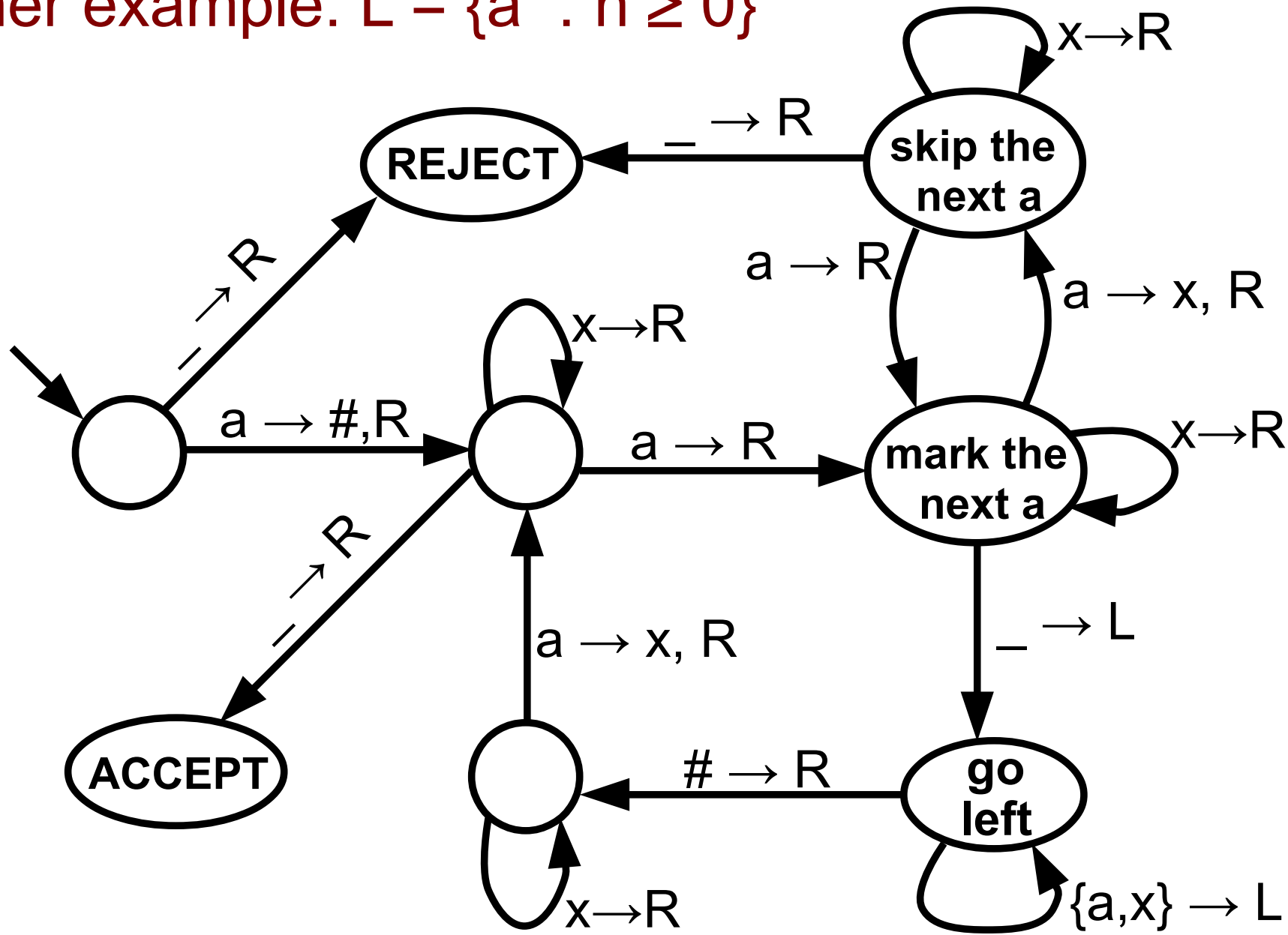
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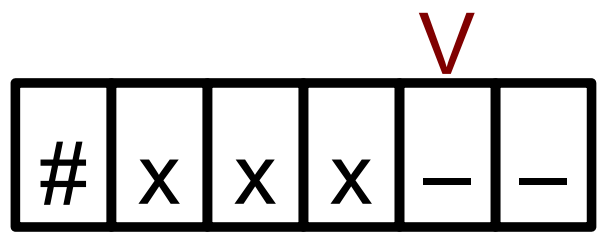
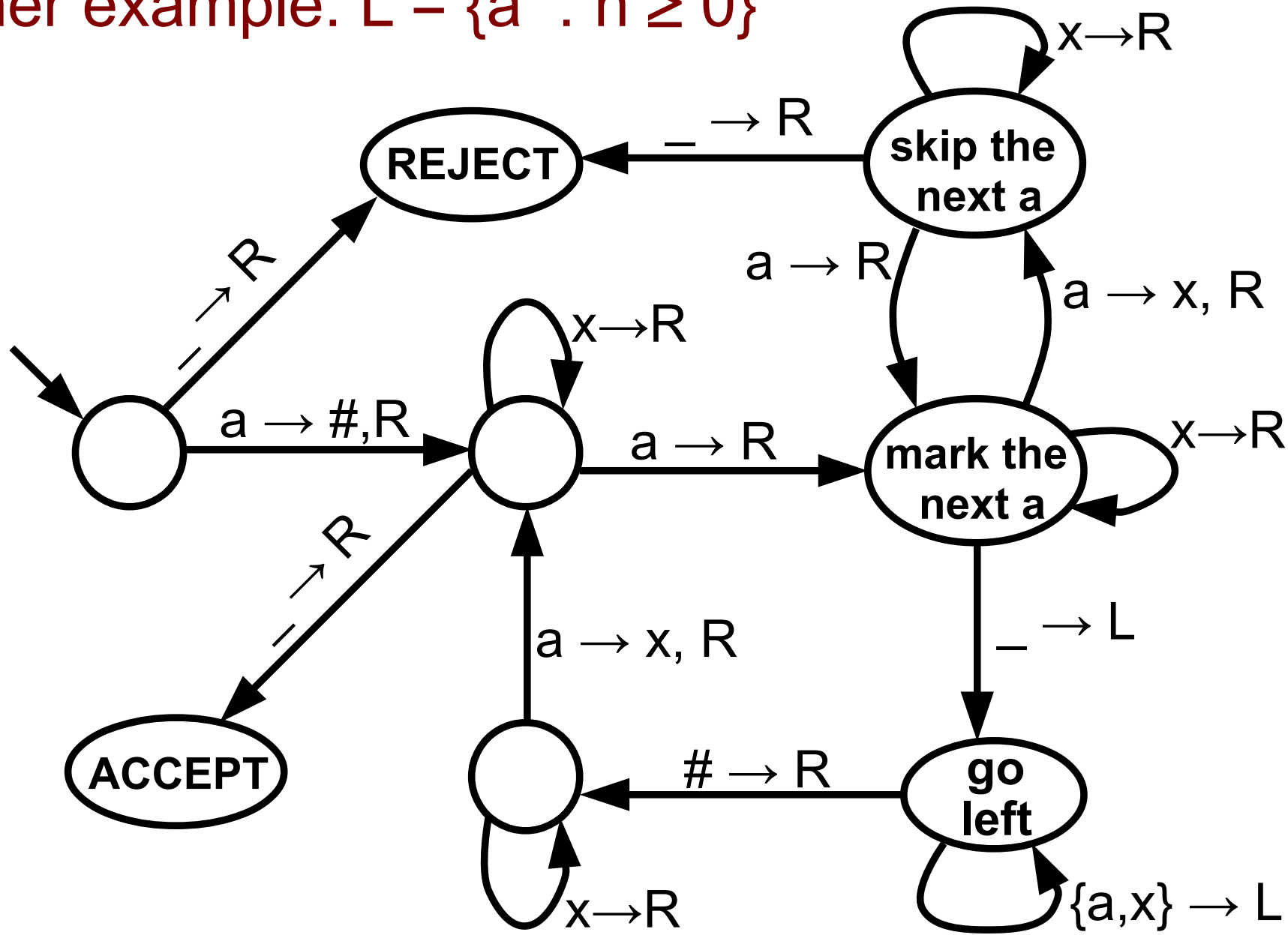
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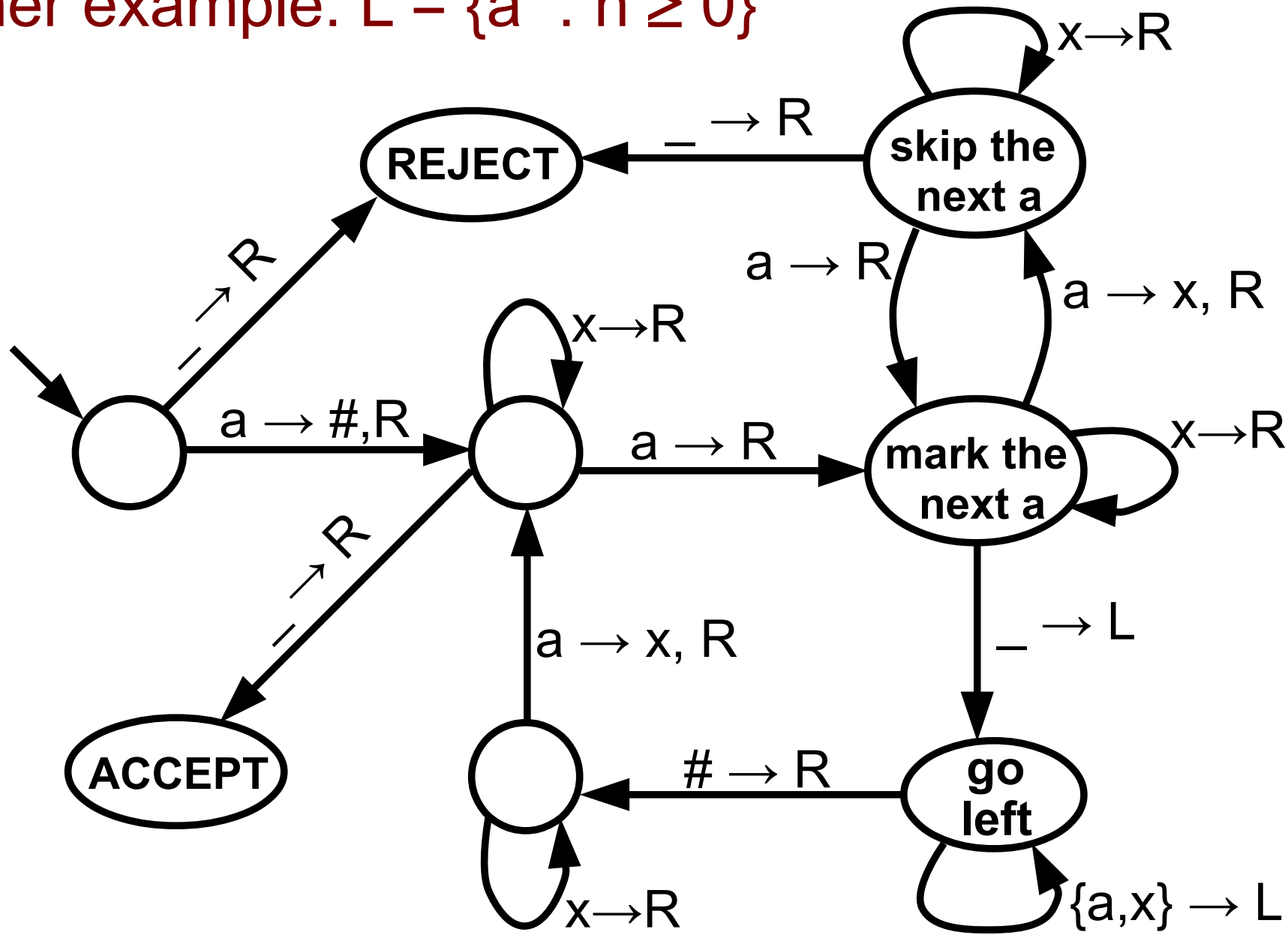
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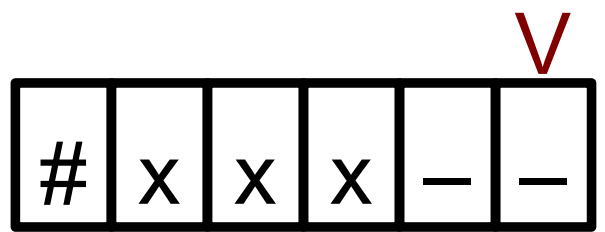
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Another example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$



ACCEPT!

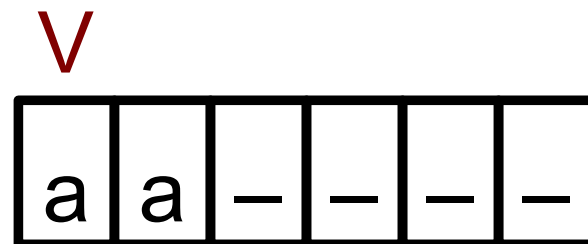
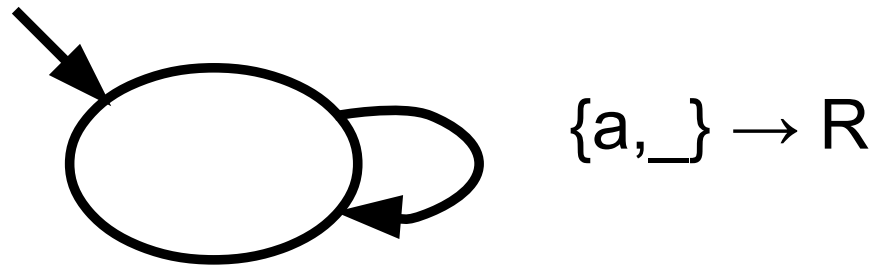


Unlike DFA and PDA,

TM computation may never halt. That is, it may continue forever without entering accept/reject states

This is when your computer “freezes”

Example

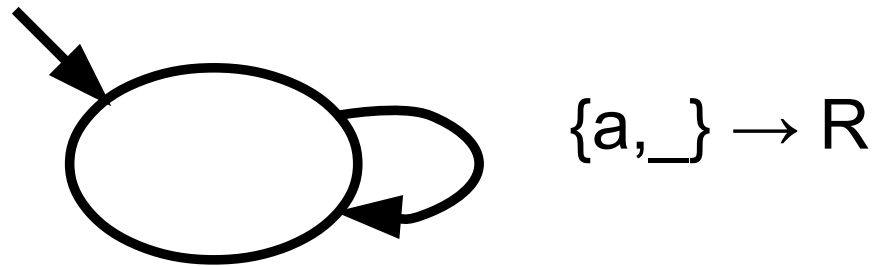


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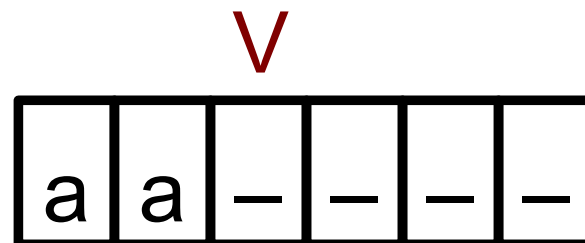
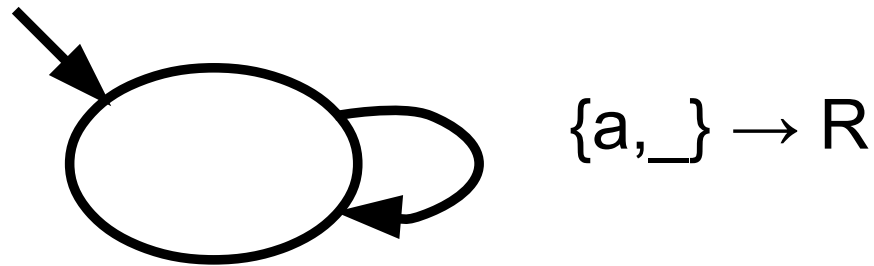


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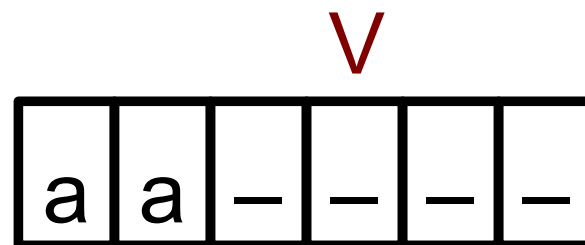
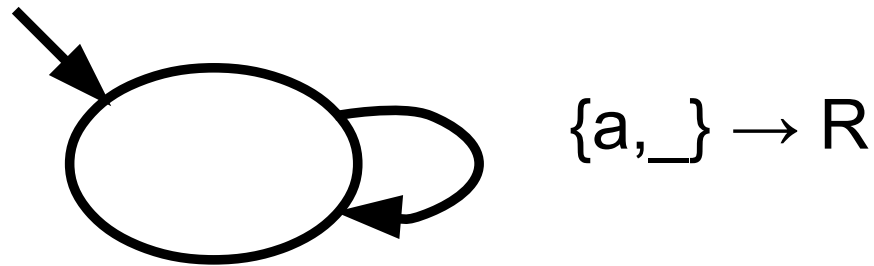


Unlike DFA and PDA,

TM computation may never halt. That is, it may continue forever without entering accept/reject states

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Example



And so on!

- **Definition:** A Turing Machine TM is a 7-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{accept}}, q_{\text{reject}})$ where:
 - Q is a finite, non-empty set of states
 - Σ is the input alphabet. Blank symbol $_ \notin \Sigma$
 - Γ is the tape alphabet, $\Sigma \subseteq \Gamma$ and $_ \in \Gamma$
 - $\delta : Q \times \Gamma \rightarrow Q \times \Gamma \times \{L, R\}$ is the transition function
 - $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state
 - $q_{\text{accept}} \in Q$ is the accept state
 - $q_{\text{reject}} \in Q$ is the reject state; $q_{\text{accept}} \neq q_{\text{reject}}$

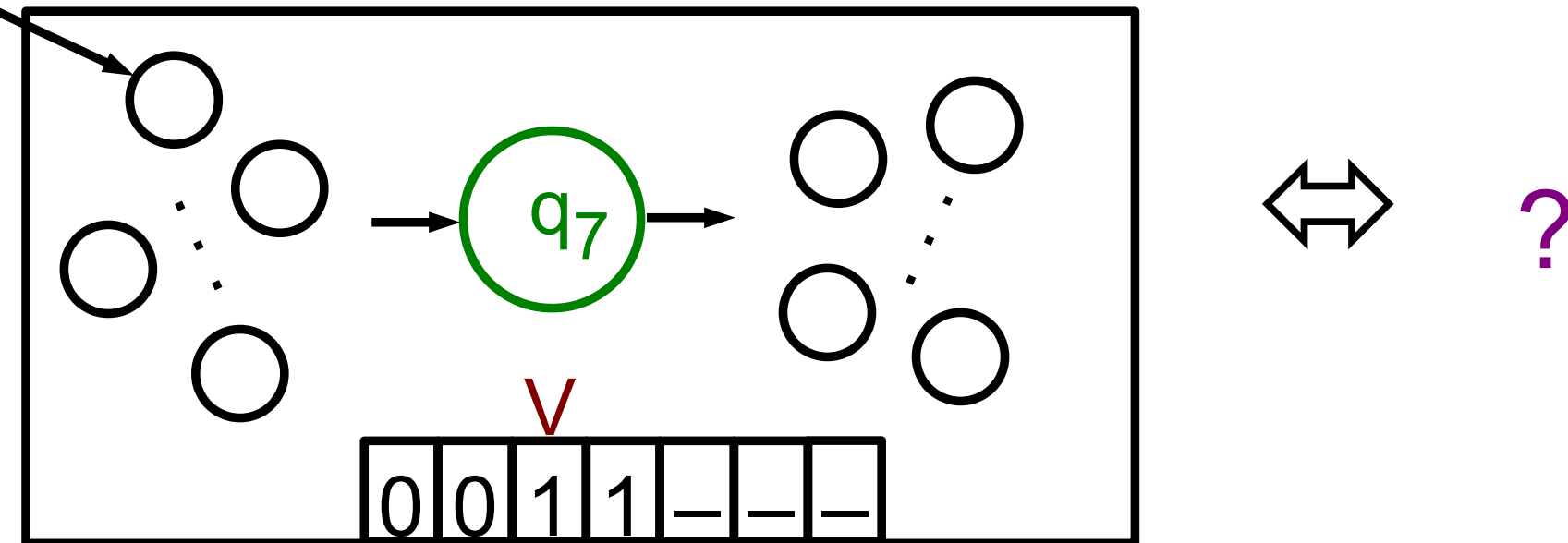
- **Definition:** A configuration of a TM specifies contents of tape, state, head location

It is written as $u q v$ where $q \in Q$, $u, v \in \Gamma^*$

Meaning: 1) TM in state q

2) head is on first symbol of v .

3) Tape contains uv , blanks not shown



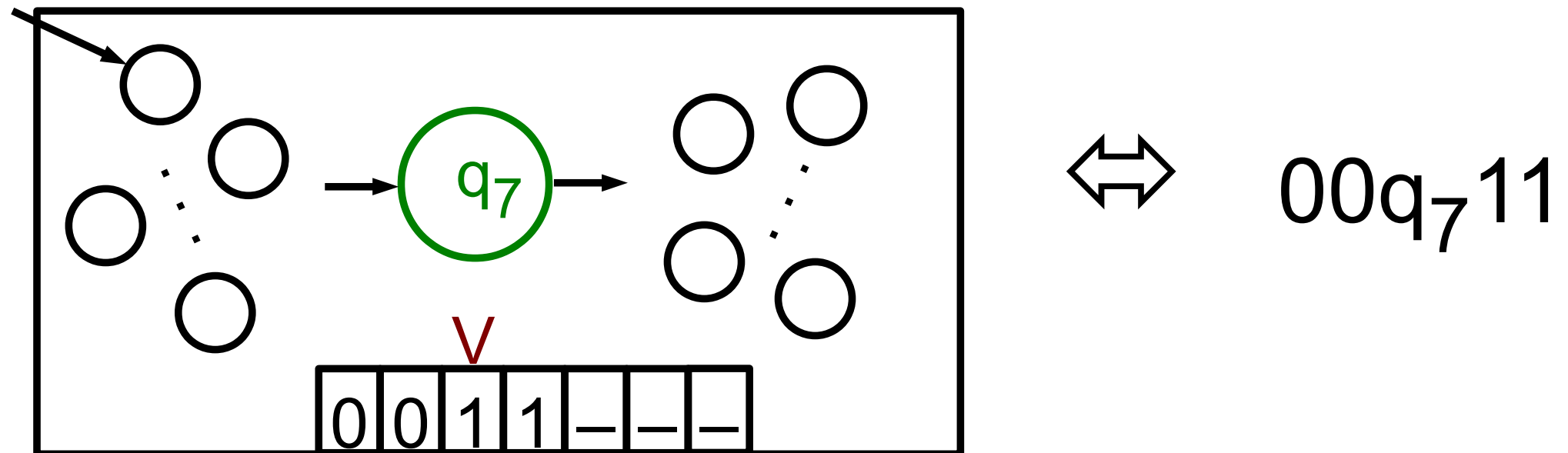
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Meaning: 1) TM in state q

2) head is on first symbol of v .

3) Tape contains uv , blanks not shown



- **Definition:** A configuration C yields a configuration C' if TM goes from C to C' in one step:

- $u a q b v$ yields $u q' a c v$ if $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, L)$
- $u a q b v$ yields $u a c q' v$ if $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, R)$
- $u a q$ is treated like $u a q _$
- $q b v$ yields $q' c v$ if $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, L)$
- $q b v$ yields $c q' v$ if $\delta(q, b) = (q', c, R)$

- **Definition:**

Start configuration of TM on input w is q_0w

Accept configuration: any configuration with q_{accept}

Reject configuration: any configuration with q_{reject}

Halt (stop) configur.: Accept U Reject configur.

- **Definition:** TM M accepts (rejects, halts on) input w if

\exists configurations C_1, C_2, \dots, C_k :

C_1 is start configuration

C_i yields $C_{i+1} \quad \forall i < k$

C_k is accept (reject, halt) configuration

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

q_4 #xxa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

q_4 #xxa

q_5 xxa

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

q_4 #xxa

q_5 xxa

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Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

q_4 #xxa

q_5 xxa

#x q_5 xa

#xx q_5 a

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa

q_1 aaa

#a q_2 aa

#ax q_3 a

#axa q_2

#ax q_4 a

#a q_4 xa

q_4 axa

q_4 #axa

q_5 axa

#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a

#xxa q_2

#xx q_4 a

#x q_4 xa

q_4 xxa

q_4 #xxa

q_5 xxa

#x q_5 xa

#xx q_5 a

#xxx q_1

Example: $L = \{a^{2^n} : n \geq 0\}$

q_0 aaaa
q_1 aaa
#a q_2 aa
#ax q_3 a
#axa q_2
#ax q_4 a
#a q_4 xa
q_4 axa
 q_4 #axa
q_5 axa
#x q_1 xa

#xx q_1 a
#xxa q_2
#xx q_4 a
#x q_4 xa
q_4 xxa
 q_4 #xxa
q_5 xxa
#x q_5 xa
#xx q_5 a
#xxx q_1
#xxx_ q_{ACCEPT}

- **Definition:** A language L is **decidable** if \exists a TM M such that for every input w
 $w \in L \Rightarrow M$ accepts w
 $w \notin L \Rightarrow M$ rejects w

- Is this the same as
 $w \in L \Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w
???

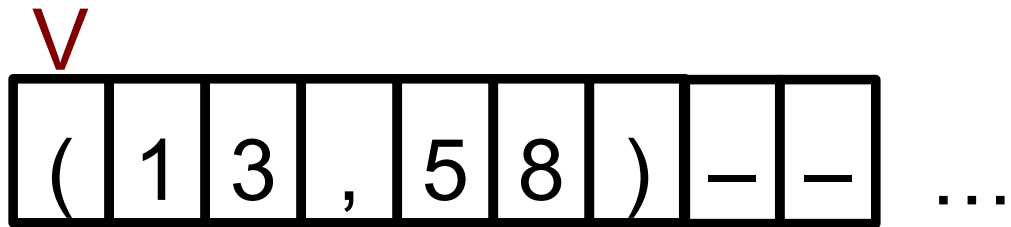
- **Definition:** A language L is **decidable** if \exists a TM M such that for every input w
 $w \in L \Rightarrow M$ accepts w
 $w \notin L \Rightarrow M$ rejects w
- This is NOT the same as
 $w \in L \Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w
because M may LOOP FOREVER (freeze, crash,...)
- We ask something more: TM halts on every input
Such a TM is called a **decider**

- **Definition:** The language of TM M is
 $L(M) = \{w : M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Recall this means $w \in L(M) \Leftrightarrow M \text{ accepts } w$
- **Definition:** A language L is **recognizable** if \exists TM M :
 $L = L(M)$
- However we are more interested in **decidable** L

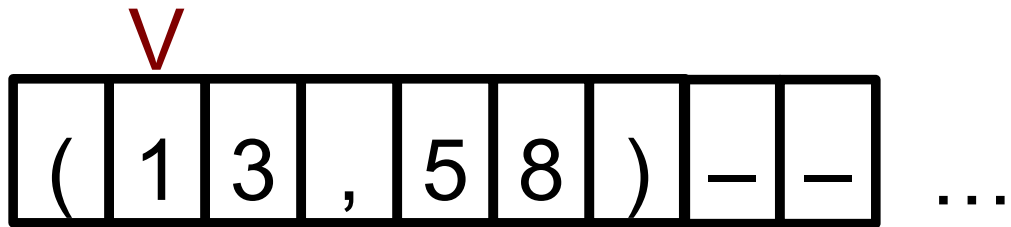
- So far, DFA, CFG, TM recognize **languages**
- Since TM can write on tape, they can also compute **functions**
- **Definition:** A function $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ is **computable** if
 \exists a TM M such that on every input $w \in \Sigma^*$
TM halts with $f(w)$ on the tape

- All common functions such as $+$, \times , $/$, etc. are computable
- Note: Consider for example $+$: $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$
 $+(2,9) = 11$
 $+(15,8) = 23$
How to represent an input pair $(a,b) \in \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$?
- Any reasonable representation will do
For example, use extra symbols for $()$ and $,$

- Example: Computing $+ : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$

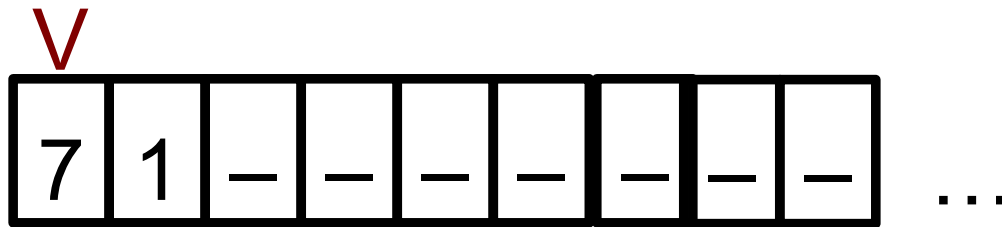


- Example: Computing $+ : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$



Goes on for many steps until...

- Example: Computing $+ : \mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$



- How powerful are TM?
- One can show that regular, and context-free languages are decidable
- We saw TM decide some non-context free languages
- We saw TM also compute functions
- What else can a TM do?

- Surprisingly, TM are very powerful
- Pick your favorite programming language, say JAVA
- **Theorem:** For every language L :
L decidable in JAVA \Leftrightarrow L decidable in TM
- Everything you program, you can do on a TM
Program, algorithm, TM, etc. all mean the same!
- So why not use JAVA? Who cares about TM?

- JAVA and TM are equivalent. However,
- To design programs, JAVA is more convenient.
Higher-level, shorter programs, human readable
You do this in the Algorithms class
- To understand fundamental limits of computing TM
is more convenient.
Simpler description, configurations, head movement
You do this in This class

- Main reason why TM better than JAVA for our aims
- TM computation is **local**:
all action happens in tape symbols adjacent to head
- Not true for JAVA:
no head, any tape (memory) symbol can change
- Locality is exploited in several results we will see
- Let us now make this more precise

- **Fact:** [Locality of TM computation]

TM configuration C_i yields C_{i+1}

$\Leftrightarrow \forall j$, the 6 symbols $(C_i)_j, (C_i)_{j+1}, (C_i)_{j+2}, (C_{i+1})_j, (C_{i+1})_{j+1}, (C_{i+1})_{j+2}$

are consistent with TM transition function δ

- **Example** $C_i = \# a q_2 a a a b c x _ _$
 $C_{i+1} = \# a x q_3 a a b c x _ _$

Consistent: $\delta(q_2, \sigma) = (q, x, R)$ for some $\sigma \in \Gamma, q \in Q$

Note: $\sigma = a$ here, but that is not among the 6 symbols

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- **Example** $C_i = \# a \begin{matrix} q_2 & a & a \end{matrix} a b c x _ _$
 $C_{i+1} = \# a \begin{matrix} x & q_3 & a \end{matrix} a b c x _ _$

Consistent: $\delta(q_2, a) = (q_3, x, R)$

Note: Again only one choice here!

- **Fact:** [Locality of TM computation]

TM configuration C_i yields C_{i+1}

$\Leftrightarrow \forall j$, the 6 symbols $(C_i)_j, (C_i)_{j+1}, (C_i)_{j+2}, (C_{i+1})_j, (C_{i+1})_{j+1}, (C_{i+1})_{j+2}$

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 $C_{i+1} = \# a x \begin{matrix} q_3 & a & a \end{matrix} b c x _ _$

Consistent: $\delta(q, a) = (q_3, \sigma, R)$ for some $q \in Q, \sigma \in \Gamma$

Note: $q = q_2$, but that is not among the 6 symbols

- Fact:** [Locality of TM computation]

TM configuration C_i yields C_{i+1}

$\Leftrightarrow \forall j$, the 6 symbols $(C_i)_j, (C_i)_{j+1}, (C_i)_{j+2}, (C_{i+1})_j, (C_{i+1})_{j+1}, (C_{i+1})_{j+2}$

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- Example** $C_i = \# a q_2 a a a b c x _ _$
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Consistent: $\forall j$, hence C_i yields C_{i+1}

- Fact:** [Locality of TM computation]

TM configuration C_i yields C_{i+1}

$\Leftrightarrow \forall j$, the 6 symbols $(C_i)_j, (C_i)_{j+1}, (C_i)_{j+2}, (C_{i+1})_j, (C_{i+1})_{j+1}, (C_{i+1})_{j+2}$

are consistent with TM transition function δ

- Example** $C_i = \# a q_2 a a a b c x _ _$
 $C_{i+1} = \# a q_2 q_3 a a b a x _ _$

- Not consistent**

- Is there anything beyond JAVA / TM?
- **Church-Turing Thesis:**
Anything that is “effectively computable”
is computable on a TM
- This is **not** a theorem. It is the **belief** that every
computational model humans may ever consider
(DNA computing, quantum computing, etc.)
will still be equivalent to TM

- So far, simple-looking languages like
 $\{0^n 1^n : n \geq 0\}$, $\{w : w \in \{0,1\}^*\}$, $\{a^i b^j c^k : i \leq j \leq k\}$
- Next: $\{D : D \text{ is a DFA and } \dots\}$
 $\{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } \dots\}$
 $\{G : G \text{ is a graph and } \dots\}$
- How to represent D , (M,w) , G is not important
Any reasonable representation will do!
- Example, use formal definitions over $\Sigma = \{a,b,c,\dots\}$

- Is there anything a TM cannot do?
- **Definition:** $ATM = \{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- We are going to prove ATM undecidable:
- Interpretation: Your friend comes to you with a piece a code M and some input w and says: M accepts w !
- Nobody can tell! ...can't you just run M on w ?

- Is there anything a TM cannot do?
- **Definition:** $ATM = \{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- We are going to prove ATM undecidable:
- Interpretation: Your friend comes to you with a piece a code M and some input w and says: M accepts w !
- Nobody can tell! ...can't you just run M on w ?
NO. M on w may never halt. But a decider must halt!

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
is undecidable
- **Idea:** Proof by contradiction

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- **Idea: Proof by contradiction**
 - (1) We assume we have a decider D for ATM
 - (2) Using D , we derive a logical contradiction.

How ?

- (3) We conclude that assumption (1) is false, D cannot exist, and so ATM is undecidable

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- **Idea: Proof by contradiction**
 - (1) We assume we have a decider D for ATM
 - (2) Using D , we derive a logical contradiction.
Construct another decider D'
Show an input Y that D' neither accepts nor rejects
So D' cannot be a decider. **Contradiction**
What is Y ?
 - (3) We conclude that assumption (1) is false,
 D cannot exist, and so ATM is undecidable

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$ is undecidable
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 - (1) We assume we have a decider D for ATM
 - (2) Using D , we derive a logical contradiction.
Construct another decider D'
Show an input Y that D' neither accepts nor rejects
So D' cannot be a decider. **Contradiction**
 Y is D' itself! We run D' on its source code
 - (3) We conclude that assumption (1) is false,
 D cannot exist, and so ATM is undecidable

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof**

Assume D decides ATM

Build $D' :=$ “On input M : Run $D(M, M)$.

If it accepts, REJECT

If it rejects, ACCEPT.”

D' is a decider because ????

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof**

Assume D decides ATM

Build $D' :=$ “On input M : Run $D(M, M)$.
If it accepts, REJECT
If it rejects, ACCEPT.”

D' is a decider because D is. However:

D' accepts $D' \Rightarrow ???$

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof**

Assume D decides ATM

Build $D' :=$ “On input M : Run $D(M, M)$.
If it accepts, REJECT
If it rejects, ACCEPT.”

D' is a decider because D is. However:

D' **accepts** $D' \Rightarrow D(D', D')$ rejects $\Rightarrow ???$

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- **Proof**

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D' accepts $D' \Rightarrow D(D', D')$ rejects $\Rightarrow D'$ rejects D'

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Assume D decides ATM

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If it rejects, ACCEPT.”

D' is a decider because D is. However:

D' accepts $D' \Rightarrow D(D', D')$ rejects $\Rightarrow D'$ rejects D'

D' rejects $D' \Rightarrow D(D', D')$ accepts $\Rightarrow D'$ accepts D'

A contradiction either way. So D cannot exist.

- **Theorem:** $ATM = \{(M, w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
is undecidable
- To prove some other language L undecidable, show
 $L \text{ decidable} \Rightarrow ATM \text{ decidable}$

This is sufficient by theorem above and contrapositive

- Such an implication is called a **reduction of ATM to L**

- **Theorem:** $H = \{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on } w\}$
is undecidable
- Interpretation: You have a piece of JAVA code that you are not sure if it works or if it is going to crash (crash = loop forever, freeze, get stuck, etc.)
- Nobody, by looking at the code, can tell!
H is undecidable

- **Theorem:** $H = \{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on } w\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

Suppose D decides H . We build D' that decides ATM

$D' :=$ “On input (M,w) : Run $D(M,w)$

If it rejects, REJECT

Otherwise, run M on w until it halts

If M accepts, ACCEPT

If M rejects, REJECT.”

- D' accepts $(M,w) \Leftrightarrow M$ does not reject nor freeze on w

Done

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

First, for a TM M and an input w , we define

M'_w as := “On input x ,

If $x \neq 001$, ACCEPT

Otherwise, run M on w ,

if it accepts, ACCEPT

if it rejects, REJECT.”

- Note: M'_w accepts 001 \Leftrightarrow ?

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

First, for a TM M and an input w , we define

M'_w as := “On input x ,

If $x \neq 001$, ACCEPT

Otherwise, run M on w ,

if it accepts, ACCEPT

if it rejects, REJECT.”

- Note: M'_w accepts $001 \Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

Suppose D decides L . We build D' that decides ATM

$D' :=$ “On input (M,w) :

Build M'_w and Run $D(M'_w)$

If it accepts, ACCEPT

If it rejects, REJECT.”

- D' accepts $(M,w) \Leftrightarrow ?$

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

Suppose D decides L . We build D' that decides ATM

$D' :=$ “On input (M,w) :

Build M'_w and Run $D(M'_w)$

If it accepts, ACCEPT

If it rejects, REJECT.”

- D' accepts $(M,w) \Leftrightarrow D$ accepts $M'_w \Leftrightarrow$

?

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

Suppose D decides L . We build D' that decides ATM

$D' :=$ “On input (M,w) :

Build M'_w and Run $D(M'_w)$

If it accepts, ACCEPT

If it rejects, REJECT.”

- D' accepts $(M,w) \Leftrightarrow D$ accepts $M'_w \Leftrightarrow$
 M'_w accepts 001 $\Leftrightarrow ?$

- **Theorem:** $L = \{M : M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } 001\}$
is undecidable

- **Proof:**

Suppose D decides L . We build D' that decides ATM

$D' :=$ “On input (M, w) :

Build M'_w and Run $D(M'_w)$

If it accepts, ACCEPT

If it rejects, REJECT.”

- D' accepts $(M, w) \Leftrightarrow D$ accepts $M'_w \Leftrightarrow$

M'_w accepts 001 $\Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w

Done

- What about

$\{(M,w) : M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is finite}$

$$L(M) = \emptyset$$

$$|L(M)| = 56 \text{ or } 127$$

....

- All undecidable

- TM are so powerful that you
cannot decide anything about what they do!

- The undecidability proofs seen so far have not used anything specific about TM. Same proofs work with JAVA instead of TM
- TM are more useful than JAVA in pinpointing the simplest languages that are undecidable
- We now give a few examples

- $\{ D : D \text{ is a DFA and } L(D) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable?

- $\{ G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

- $\{ D : D \text{ is a DFA and } L(D) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? Yes

How?

- $\{ G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

- $\{ D : D \text{ is a DFA and } L(D) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? Yes

How? Check if every state reachable from start state is accept

- $\{ G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable?

- $\{ D : D \text{ is a DFA and } L(D) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? Yes

How? Check if every state reachable from start state is accept

- $\{ G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? No

Why?

- $\{ D : D \text{ is a DFA and } L(D) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? Yes

How? Check if every state reachable from start state is accept

- $\{ G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$

Decidable? No

Why? Can use it to decide ATM, which is undecidable

Idea: simulate TM via CFG

Would be much more complicated with JAVA

- **Theorem:** $L := \{G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^*\}$ undecidable
- **Proof:** Suppose D decides L
- We construct D' that decides ATM:
- $D' :=$ “On input (M, w) :
 - construct CFG $G : L(G) \neq \Sigma^* \Leftrightarrow M \text{ accepts } w$
 - run D on G
 - if it accepts, REJECT
 - if it rejects, ACCEPT”
- Key of proof is construction of G

- Given (M, w) want $G: L(G) \neq \Sigma^* \Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w
- We construct $G : L(G) =$ all strings that are NOT accepting computations of M on w
- Represent computation by sequence of configurations separated by #: $C_1 \# C_2 \# C_3 \dots$
- **Example:** $q_0 000101 \# 1q_3 00101 \# 10q_2 0101$

- Construct G : $L(G) =$ all strings over $\Delta = \{\#\} \cup \Gamma \cup Q$ that are NOT accepting computations of M on w
- A string $C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\dots\#C_k$ is in $L(G) \Leftrightarrow$
 - (a) C_1 is not the start configuration, or
 - (b) C_k is not an accept configuration, or
 - (c) $\exists i : C_i$ does not yield C_{i+1}
- We construct CFG for (a), (b), and (c) separately then use closure under \cup

- (a) CFG $G_a : L(G_a) = \text{strings } C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\dots\#C_k$
such that C_1 is not the start configuration
- Recall start configuration is q_0w
- Consider Regular Expression $R = q_0w\#\Delta^*$
- $L(R) = \text{strings starting with (start configuration)\#}$
- not $L(R)$ is regular, hence context-free
- All these transformations can be performed by TM

- (b) CFG $G_b : L(G_b) = \text{strings } C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\dots\#C_k$
such that C_k is not an accept configuration
- Consider RE $R = \Delta^* q_{\text{accept}} (\Delta - \{\#\})^*$
 $L(R) = \text{strings where } C_k \text{ contains accept state}$
- not $L(R)$ is regular, hence context-free
- All these transformations can be performed by TM

- (c) CFG G_c : $L(G_c) = \text{strings } C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\dots\#C_k$
such that $\exists i : C_i$ does not yield C_{i+1}
- Here we: use power of CFG, and
exploit locality of TM computation
- **Technical detail:** we show $\exists i : C_i$ does not yield C_{i+1}^R
- Write TM computation as: $C_1\#C_2^R\#C_3\#C_4^R\#\dots$

- (c) CFG $G_c : L(G_c) = \text{strings } C_1\#C_2\#C_3\#\dots\#C_k$
such that $\exists i : C_i \text{ does not yield } C_{i+1}^R$
- Next is the idea; there are a few details to be filled in
- Construct $G_c : L(G_c) = \Delta^* abc (\Delta-\{\#\})^t \# (\Delta-\{\#\})^t fed \Delta^*$
for any $t \geq 0$, any 6 symbols

a	b	c
d	e	f

that are **inconsistent** with TM transition function δ
- Note: Essentially this is CFG for $w\#w^R$ seen before

- Recap:
- **Theorem:** $L := \{G : G \text{ is CFG and } L(G) = \Sigma^*\}$ undecidable
- Key of proof is, on input (M, w) , construct CFG G :
 $L(G) =$ all strings that are NOT accepting computations of M on w
- Use locality of TM computation (easier than JAVA)
- Conceptually simple, but a few details

- **Theorem:** $ECF = \{(G, G') : G, G' \text{ CFG and } L(G) = L(G')\}$
undecidable
- **Meaning:** You think you have a 5-line grammar that is equivalent to another 5000-page grammar
- Nobody can tell if they are indeed equivalent

- **Theorem:** $ECF = \{(G, G') : G, G' \text{ CFG and } L(G) = L(G')\}$
undecidable

- **Proof:** Suppose D decides ECF

We construct D' that decides $\{G : G \text{ CFG, } L(G) = \Sigma^*\}$

$D' :=$ "On input G :

Build CFG $G' = S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid Sa \quad \forall a \in \Sigma$

Run $D(G, G')$

If it accepts, ACCEPT

If it rejects, REJECT."

- $L(G') = \Sigma^*$, so D' accepts $G \Leftrightarrow L(G) = L(G') = \Sigma^*$

- **Undecidability in logic**
- Consider sentences over $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
using variables x, y, z
operations $+$, multiplication,
equality $=$
connectives $\wedge \vee$
quantifiers \exists, \forall
- **Example:** $\exists x > 1 \exists y > 1 : 5039 = xy$
Meaning: ?

- **Undecidability in logic**
- Consider sentences over $\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, \dots\}$
using variables x, y, z
operations $+$, multiplication,
equality $=$
connectives $\wedge \vee$
quantifiers \exists, \forall
- **Example:** $\exists x > 1 \exists y > 1 : 5039 = xy$
Meaning: 5039 is not prime (a false sentence)

- $\forall q \exists p > q \text{ not } (\exists x > 1 \exists y > 1 : p = xy)$

There are infinitely many primes

Proved by Euclid ~ 2300 years ago

- $\forall a \forall b \forall c \forall n > 2, a^n + b^n \neq c^n$

Fermat's last theorem, stated in 1637

Proved by Andrew Wiles in 1995 (358 years later)

- $\forall q \exists p > q \text{ not } (\exists x > 1 \exists y > 1 : p = xy \vee p+2 = xy)$

Twin prime conjecture

- **Theorem** [Godel, Church]

TRUTH = { S : S is a true sentence over \mathbb{N} }

is undecidable

- **Proof sketch:**

Given TM M and input w ,

build a formula $S_{M,w}$ such that:

$S_{M,w}$ true $\Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w

use integers to encode configurations of TM

- **Note:** without multiplication, TRUTH is decidable

- **Undecidability in mathematics**

Polynomials: $p(x,y,z) = x^2 + 56y + 13xy^3z$

- $H10 = \{ p(x_1, \dots, x_n) : p(x_1, \dots, x_n) \text{ is a polynomial and } \exists a_1, \dots, a_n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ such that } p(a_1, \dots, a_n) = 0 \}$
- Hilbert asked for a “decider” for H10 in 1900
- **Theorem** [Matiyasevich, 1970] H10 is undecidable