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In this paper, we analyze a subclass of the regular languages, namely the union-free regular languages. These languages can be given by regular expressions without the operation union. In a union-free language the words look like each other, each word contains the so-called “backbone” word of the language in scattered way. The family of special type of finite automata is investigated to recognize these languages. These automata are the 1-cycle-free-path-automata. In these class from each state there is exactly one cycle-free path going to the final state. We also have result about regular expressions with union describing union-free languages.

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