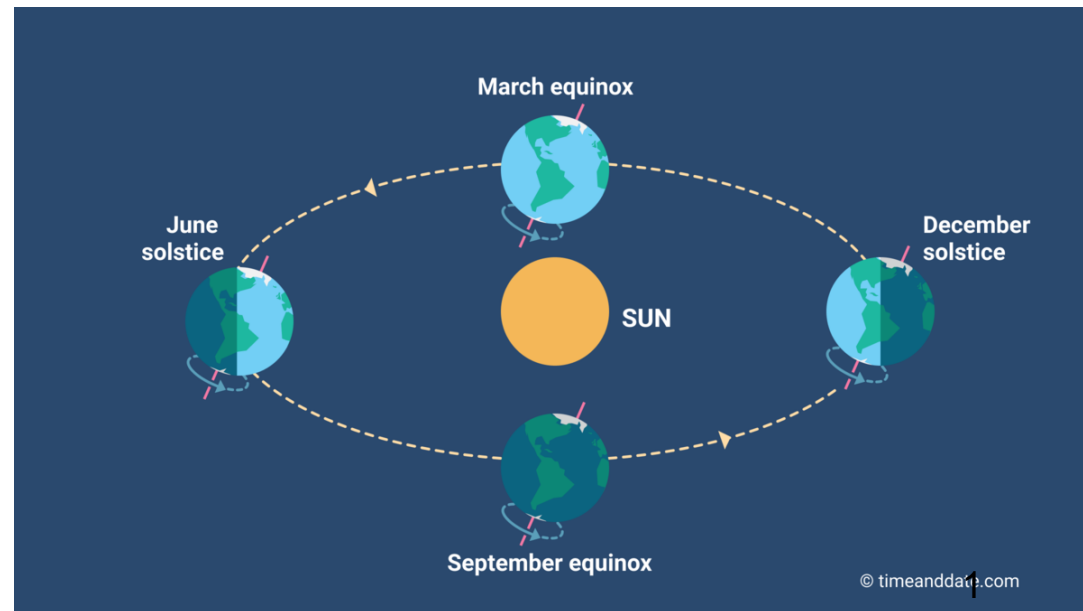


# Equivalence & Minimization of Automata





# First off, schedule for this week

---

- **Mon, Mar 21** (today)
  - Equivalence & Minimization of Automata  
(Table Filling Algorithm)
- **Wed, Mar 23**
  - Finish off topics in context-free languages
    - Non-context free languages
    - Deterministic CFL
  - Review for Mid Term 2
- **Fri, Mar 25**
  - Mid Term 2



# Applications of interest

---

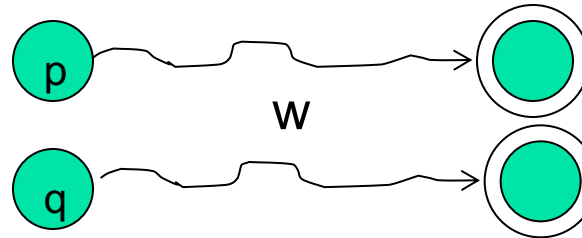
- Comparing two DFAs:
  - $L(\text{DFA}_1) == L(\text{DFA}_2)$ ?
  
- How to minimize a DFA?
  1. Remove unreachable states
  2. Identify & condense equivalent states into one

# When to call two states in a DFA “equivalent”?

Past doesn't matter - only future does!

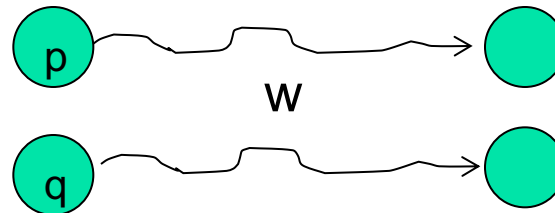
Two states  $p$  and  $q$  are said to be *equivalent* iff:

- i) Any string  $w$  accepted by starting at  $p$  is also accepted by starting at  $q$ ;



AND

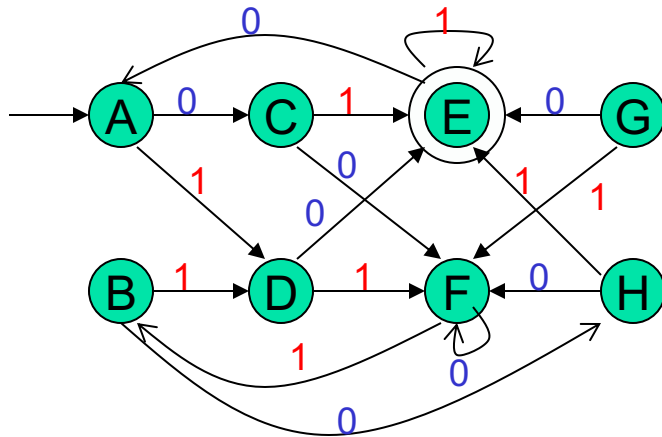
- ii) Any string  $w$  rejected by starting at  $p$  is also rejected by starting at  $q$ .



→  $p \equiv q$

# Computing equivalent states in a DFA

## Table Filling Algorithm



### Pass #0

1. Mark accepting states  $\neq$  non-accepting states

### Pass #1

1. Compare every pair of states
2. Distinguish by one symbol transition
3. Mark = or  $\neq$  or blank(tbd)

### Pass #2

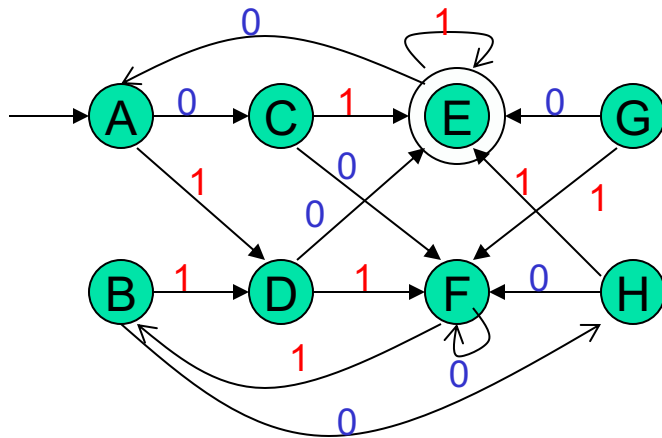
1. Compare every pair of states
2. Distinguish by up to two symbol transitions (until different or same or tbd)

....

(keep repeating until table complete)

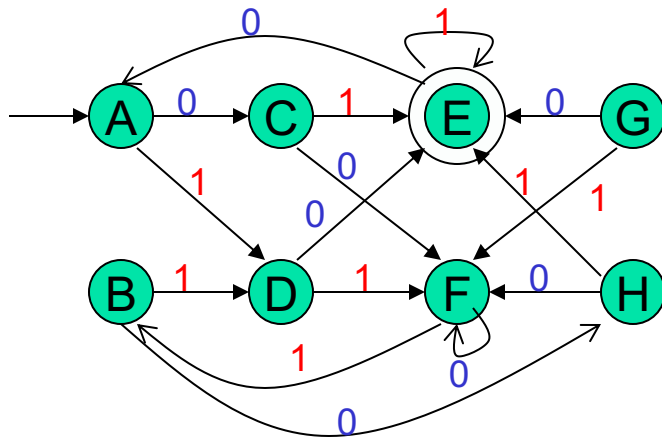
A	=							
B	=	=						
C	x	x	=					
D	x	x	x	=				
E	x	x	x	x	=			
F	x	x	x	x	x	=		
G	x	x	x	=	x	x	=	
H	x	x	=	x	x	x	x	=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step



A	=							
B		=						
C			=					
D				=				
E					=			
F						=		
G							=	
H								=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

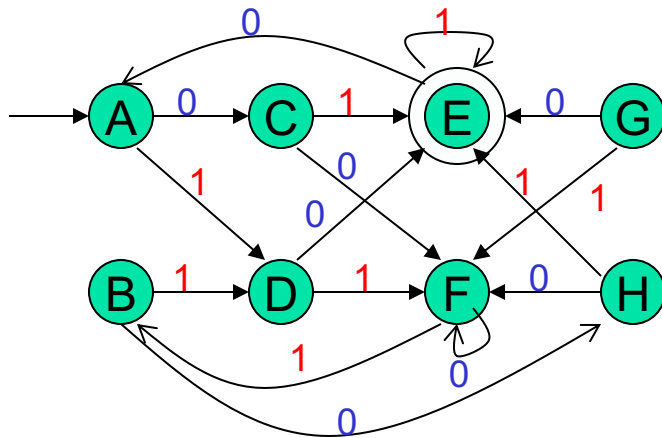
# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step



1. Mark **X** between accepting vs. non-accepting state

A	=							
B		=						
C			=					
D				=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F					X	=		
G					X		=	
H					X			=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

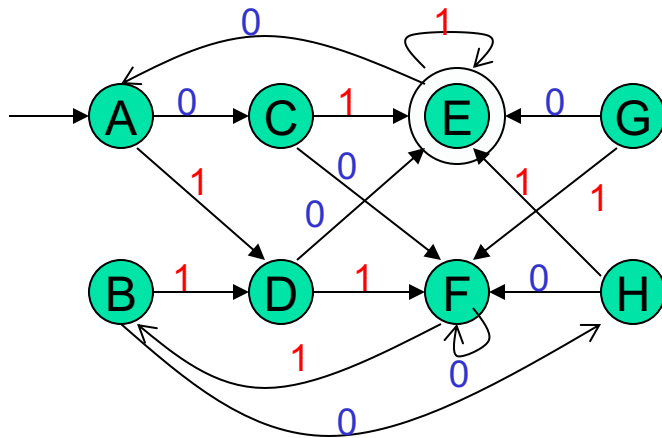


1. Mark X between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X		=					
D	X			=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F					X	=		
G	X				X		=	
H	X				X			=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H



# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

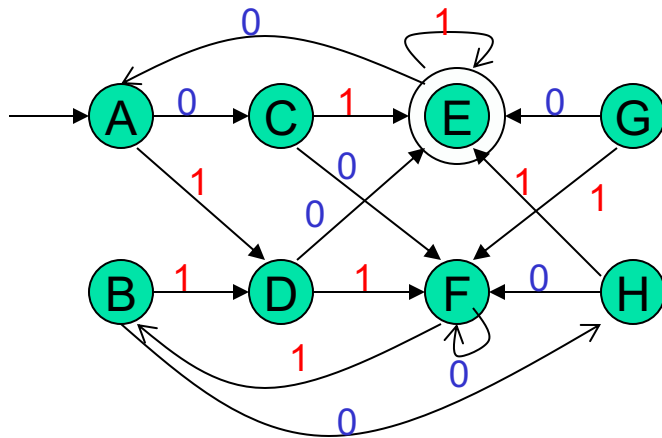


1. Mark X between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X		=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F					X	=		
G	X	X			X		=	
H	X	X			X			=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H



# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

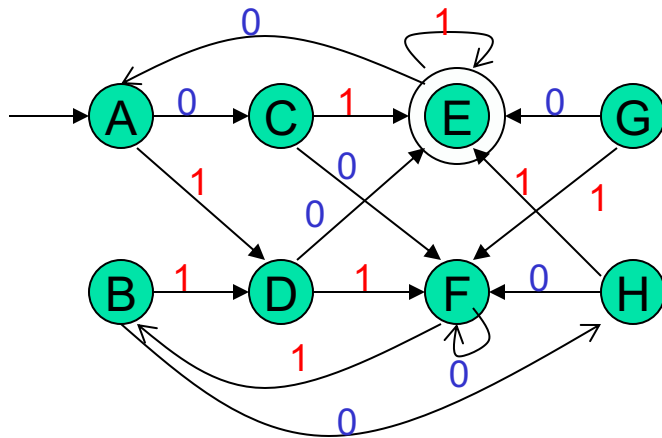


1. Mark **X** between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F			X		X	=		
G	X	X	X		X		=	
H	X	X	=		X			=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

↑

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

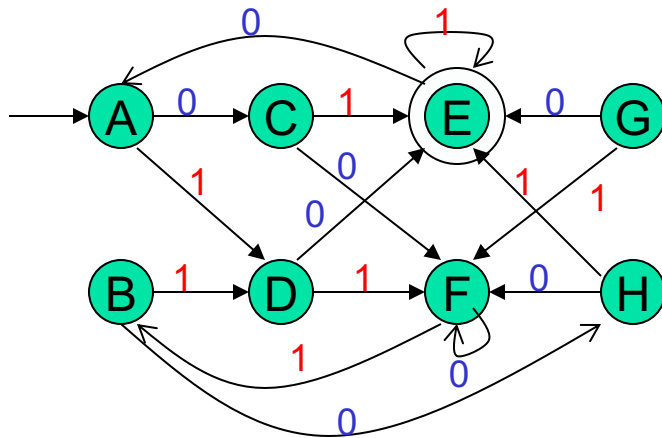


1. Mark X between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F			X	X	X	=		
G	X	X	X	=	X		=	
H	X	X	=	X	X			=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

↑

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

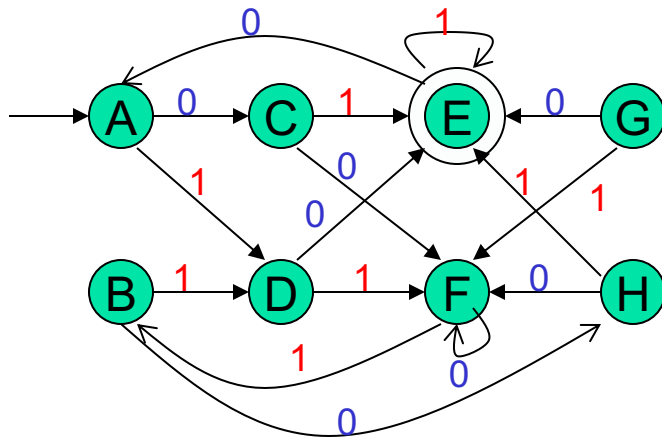


1. Mark **X** between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F			X	X	X	=		
G	X	X	X	=	X	X	=	
H	X	X	=	X	X	X		=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

↑

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step

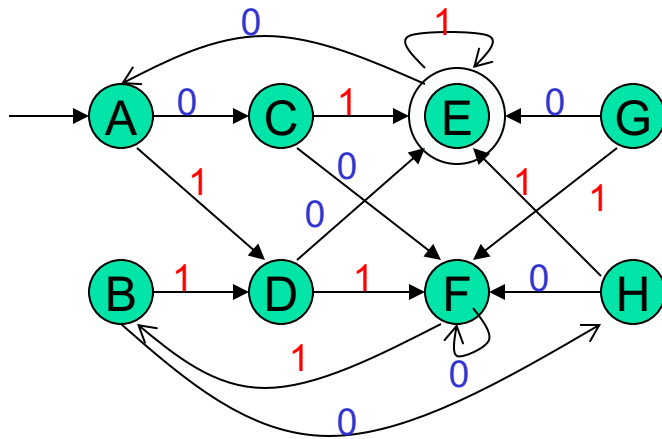


1. Mark X between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

A	=							
B		=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F			X	X	X	=		
G	X	X	X	=	X	X	=	
H	X	X	=	X	X	X	X	=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H



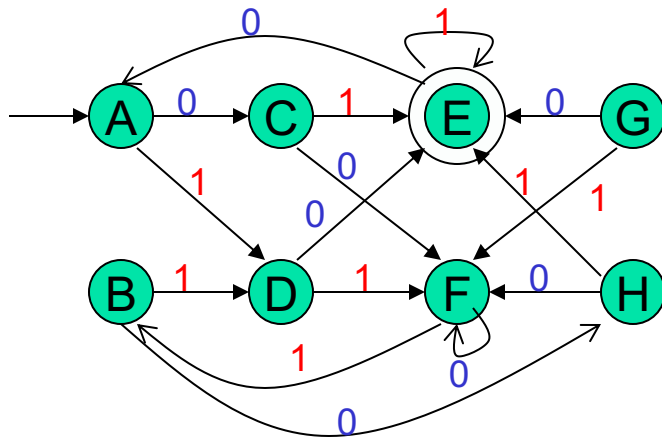
# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step



A	=							
B	=	=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F	X	X	X	X	X	=		
G	X	X	X	=	X	X	=	
H	X	X	=	X	X	X	X	=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

1. Mark **X** between accepting vs. non-accepting state
2. Pass 1:  
Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings
3. Pass 2:  
Look 1-hop away again for distinguishing states or strings  
continue....

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step



A	=							
B	=	=						
C	X	X	=					
D	X	X	X	=				
E	X	X	X	X	=			
F	X	X	X	X	X	=		
G	X	X	X	=	X	X	=	
H	X	X	=	X	X	X	X	=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

1. Mark X between accepting vs. non-accepting state

2. Pass 1:

Look 1- hop away for distinguishing states or strings

3. Pass 2:

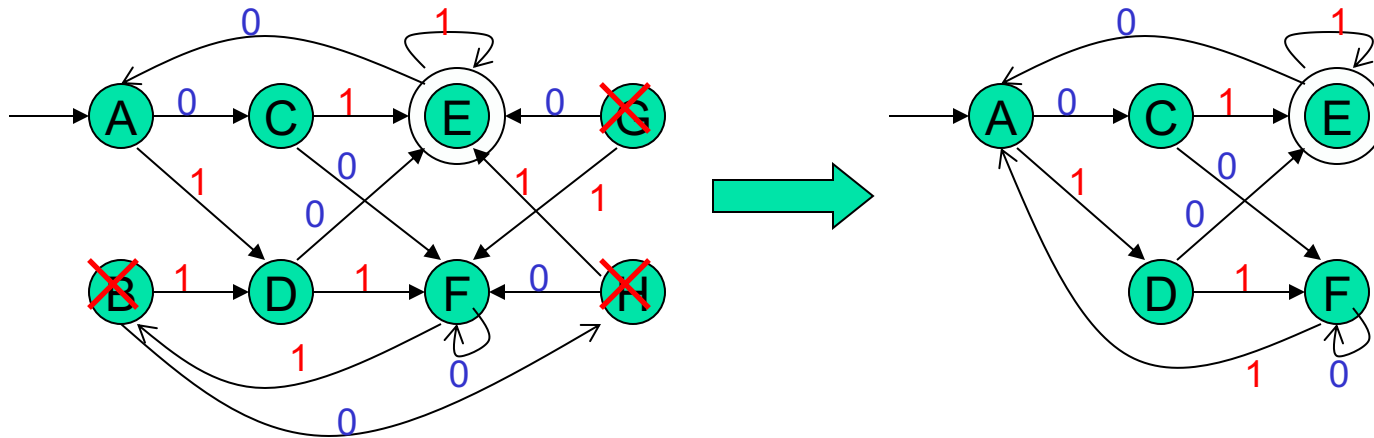
Look 1-hop away again for distinguishing states or strings

continue....

Equivalences:

- A=B
- C=H
- D=G

# Table Filling Algorithm - step by step



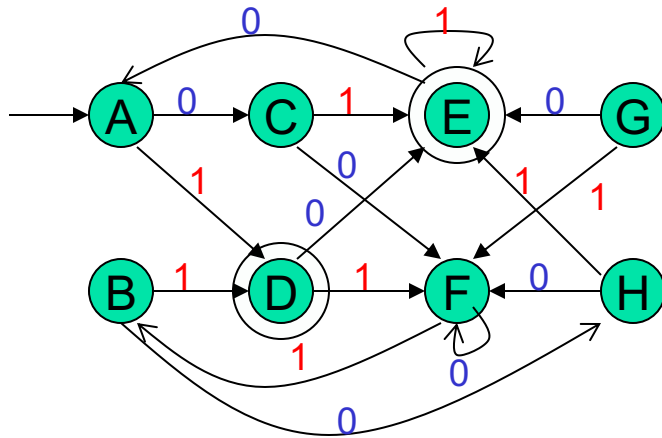
Retrain only one copy for  
each equivalence set of states

Equivalences:

- A=B
- C=H
- D=G



# Table Filling Algorithm – special case



A	=							
B		=						
C			=					
D				=				
E					?	=		
F							=	
G								=
H								=
	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H

Q) What happens if the input DFA has more than one final state?  
Can all final states initially be treated as equivalent to one another?

Putting it all together ...

## How to minimize a DFA?

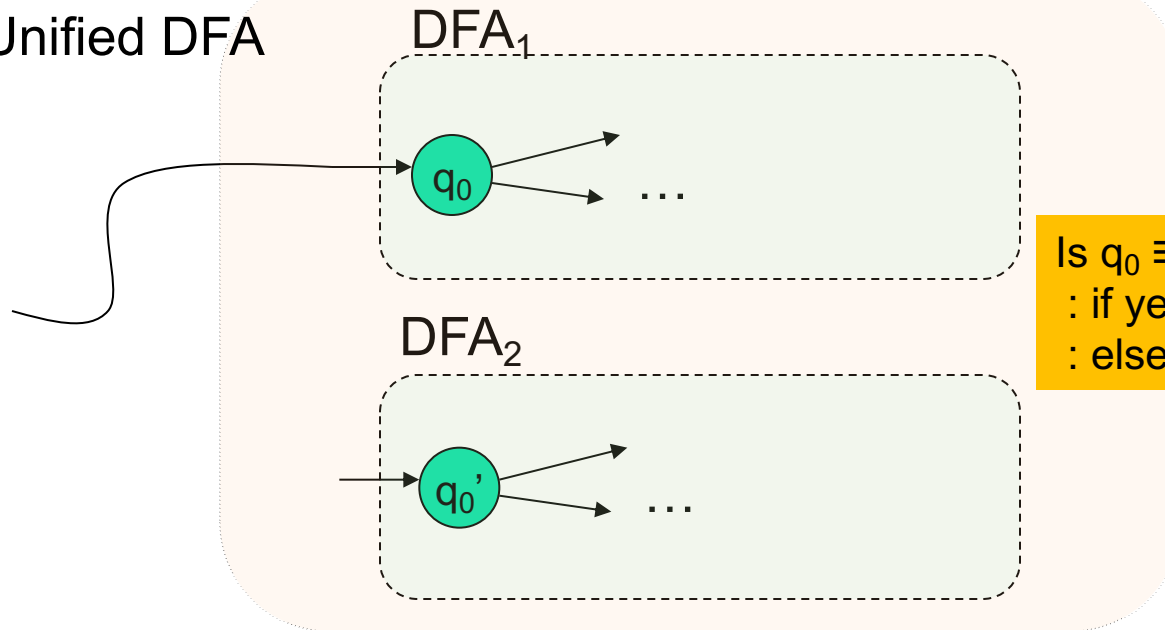
- Goal: Minimize the number of states in a DFA
- Algorithm:
  - 1. Eliminate states unreachable from the start state
  - 2. Identify and remove equivalent states
  - 3. Output the resultant DFA

Depth-first traversal from the start state

Table filling algorithm

# Are Two DFAs Equivalent?

Unified DFA



Is  $q_0 \equiv q_0'$ ?

: if yes, then  $\text{DFA}_1 \equiv \text{DFA}_2$

: else, not equiv.

1. Make a new dummy DFA by just putting together both DFAs
2. Run table-filling algorithm on the unified DFA
3. IF the start states of both DFAs are found to be equivalent,  
    *THEN:*  $\text{DFA}_1 \equiv \text{DFA}_2$   
    *ELSE:* different