

CSE-233 : Section A  
Summer 2020

# Conversion from NFA to DFA

Reference:  
Book2 Chapter 1.2

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# Equivalence of NFA and DFA

- Every language that can be described by some NFA can also be described by some DFA
- DFA in practice has almost the same states as NFA, but it has more transitions
- In worst case the smallest DFA can have  $2^n$  transitions (for a smallest NFA with  $n$  states)

From NFA to DFA:

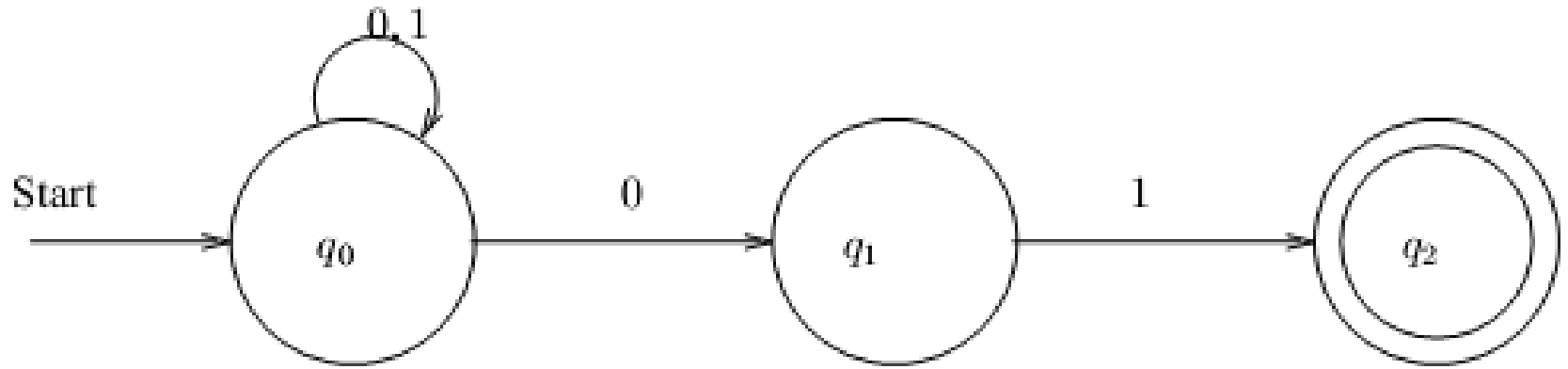
- We have a NFA  $N$
- The goal is to construct a DFA  $D$  where  $L(D) = L(N)$

$$N = (Q_N, \Sigma, \delta_N, q_0, F_N) \quad D = (Q_D, \Sigma, \delta_D, \{q_0\}, F_D)$$

# Formal Idea

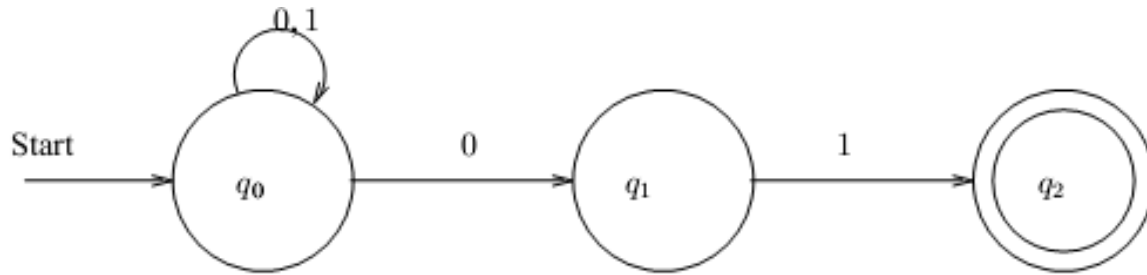
	NFA	DFA
states	$q_0, q_1, \dots, q_n$	$\{ \}, \{q_0\}, \{q_1\}, \{q_0, q_1\}, \dots, \{q_0, \dots, q_n\}$ one for each <b>subset of states</b> in the NFA
initial state	$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$
transitions	$d$	$d'(\{q_{i1}, \dots, q_{ik}\}, a) =$ $d(q_{i1}, a) \cup \dots \cup d(q_{ik}, a)$
accepting states	$F \subseteq Q$	$F' = \{S: S \text{ contains } \text{some state} \text{ in } F\}$

# Example



We'll need to figure out the equivalent function for DFA

# Equivalent DFA Table



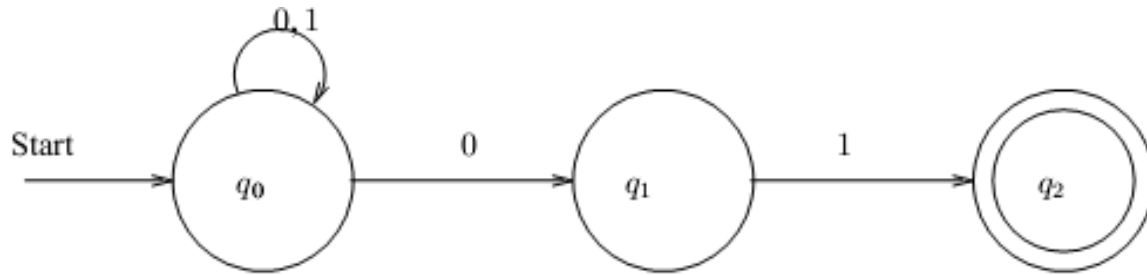
$Q_N = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$  then  $Q_D = \{\emptyset, \{q_0\}, \{q_1\}, \{q_2\}, \{q_0, q_1\} \dots\}$ , i.e.,  $Q_D$  has 8 states (each one corresponding to a subset of  $Q_N$ )

		0	1
	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
→	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
	$\{q_1\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{q_2\}$
*	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$
*	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
*	$\{q_1, q_2\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{q_2\}$
*	$\{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$

Note

1. Arrow means starts state
2. \* Denotes the final states

# Equivalent DFA Table



We can rename the states for easier understanding

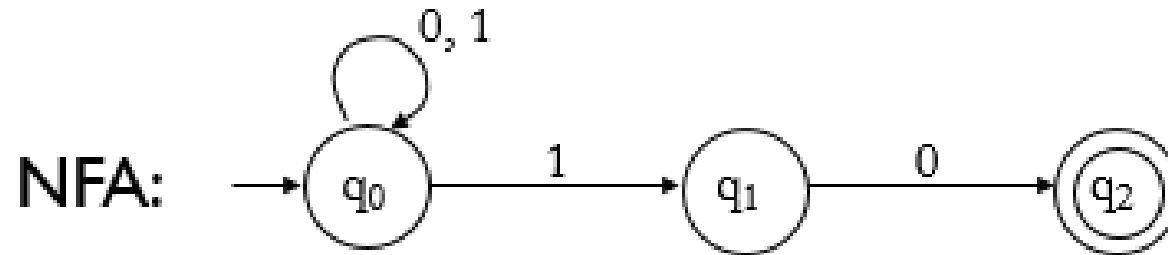
		0	1
	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
$\rightarrow$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0 \ q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
	$\{q_1\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{q_2\}$
*	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$
	$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0 \ q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$
*	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0 \ q_1\}$	$\{q_0\}$
*	$\{q_1, q_2\}$	$\emptyset$	$\{q_2\}$
*	$\{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$	$\{q_0 \ q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$

		0	1
	A	A	A
$\rightarrow$	B	E	B
	C	A	D
*	D	A	A
	E	E	F
*	F	E	B
*	G	A	D
*	H	E	F

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method

- No need to write all the subsets
- Start with the initial state, and generate states for all inputs
- For only the generated states, generate next states for all inputs

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



NFA:

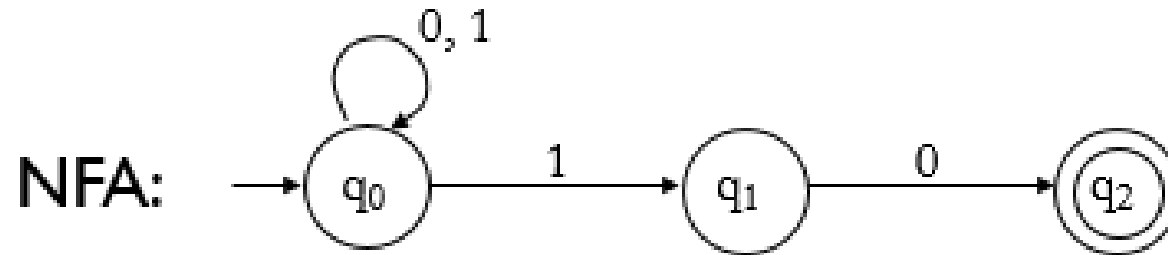
	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\{q_0\}$		



# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



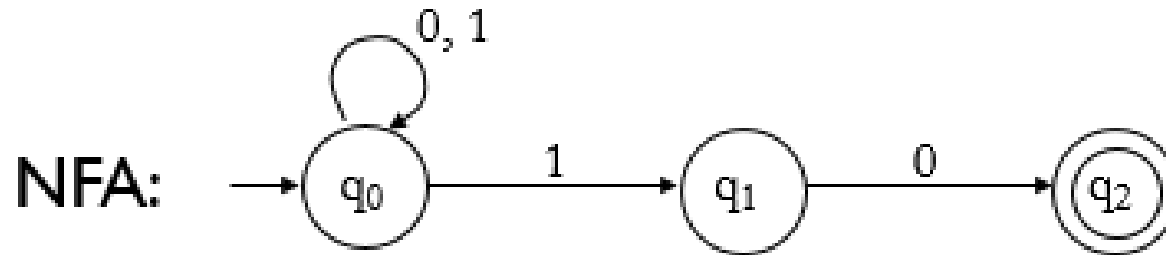
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



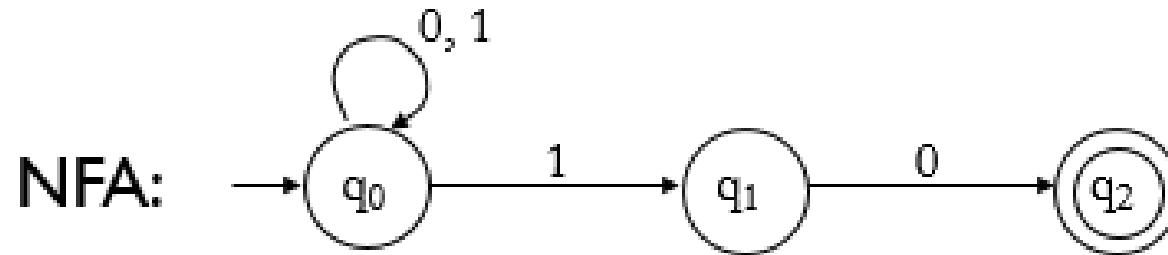
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



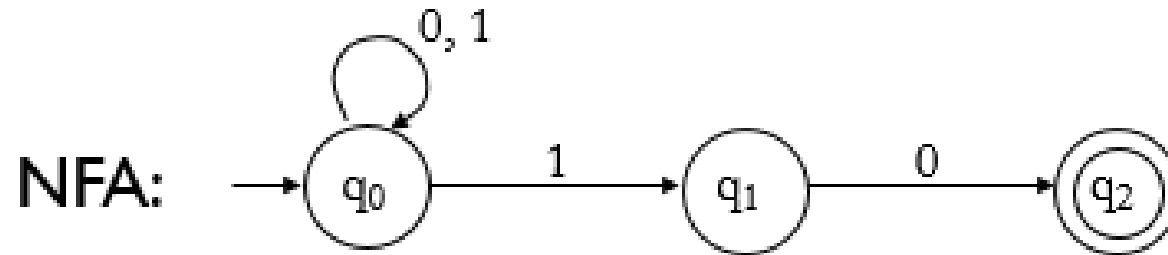
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



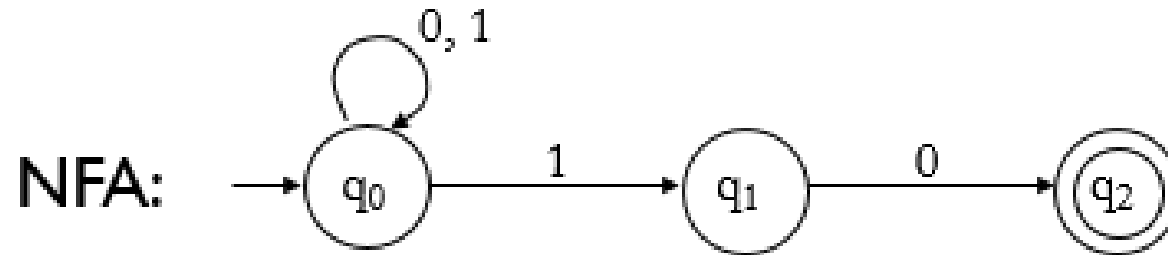
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\rightarrow \{q_0\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$* \{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



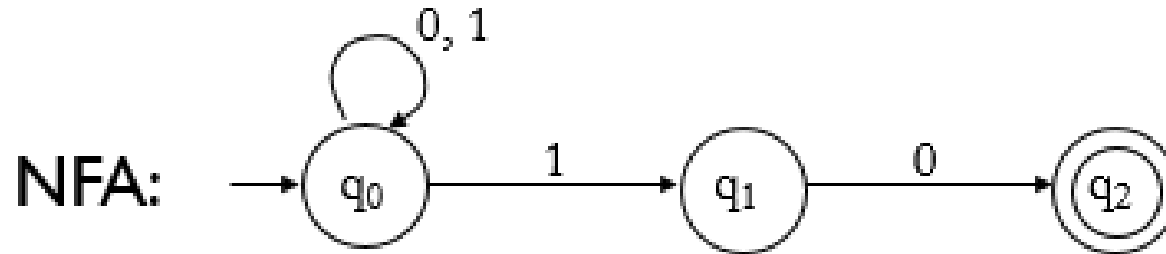
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\rightarrow A$	A	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$\{q_0, q_1\}$	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$* \{q_0, q_2\}$	A	$\{q_0, q_1\}$

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



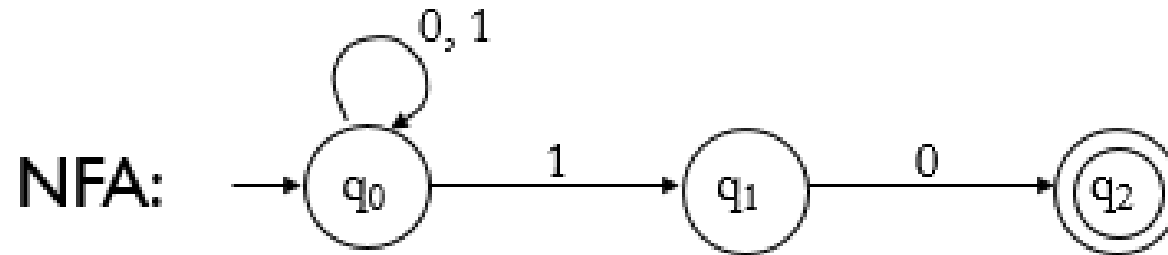
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\rightarrow A$	A	B
B	$\{q_0, q_2\}$	B
$* \{q_0, q_2\}$	A	B

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



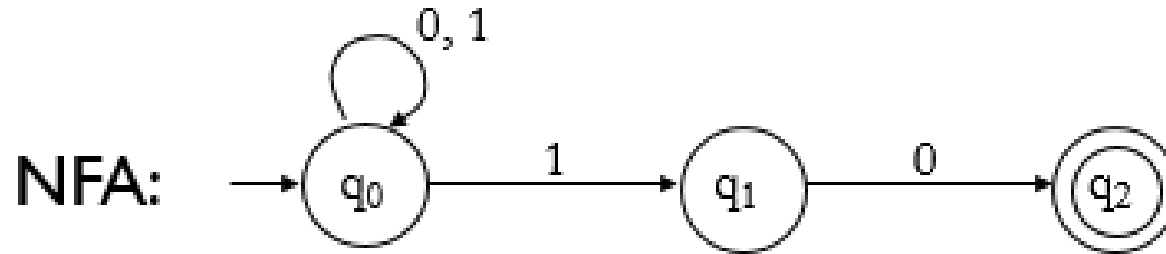
NFA:

	inputs	
	0	1
states		
$q_0$	$\{q_0\}$	$\{q_0, q_1\}$
$q_1$	$\{q_2\}$	$\emptyset$
$q_2$	$\emptyset$	$\emptyset$

Equivalent DFA:

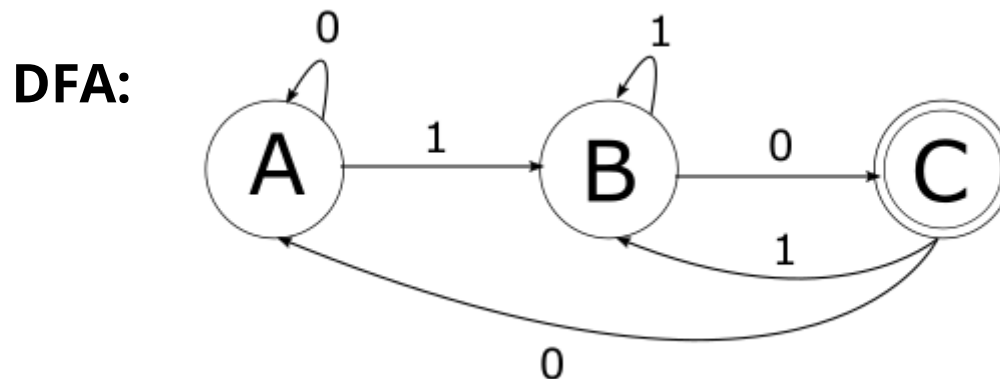
	Inputs	
	0	1
States		
$\rightarrow A$	A	B
B	C	B
* C	A	B

# Shortcut: Subset Construction Method



**Equivalent DFA:**

		Inputs	
		0	1
States	→ A	A	B
	B	C	B
	* C	A	B





# Example: Subset Construction

	r	b
→ 1	2,4	5
2	4,6	1,3,5
3	2,6	5
4	2,8	1,5,7
5	2,4,6,8	1,3,7,9
6	2,8	3,5,9
7	4,8	5
8	4,6	5,7,9
* 9	6,8	5

	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
{2,4}		
{5}		

**Alert:** What we're doing here is the *lazy* form of DFA construction, where we only construct a state if we are forced to.

# Example: Subset Construction

	r	b
→ 1	2,4	5
2	4,6	1,3,5
3	2,6	5
4	2,8	1,5,7
5	2,4,6,8	1,3,7,9
6	2,8	3,5,9
7	4,8	5
8	4,6	5,7,9
* 9	6,8	5

	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
{2,4}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7}
{5}		
{2,4,6,8}		
{1,3,5,7}		

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	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
{2,4}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7}
{5}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,7,9}
{2,4,6,8}		
{1,3,5,7}		
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	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
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{5}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,7,9}
{2,4,6,8}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
{1,3,5,7}		
* {1,3,7,9}		
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	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
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{5}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,7,9}
{2,4,6,8}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
{1,3,5,7}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
* {1,3,7,9}		
* {1,3,5,7,9}		

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* 9	6,8	5

	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
{2,4}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7}
{5}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,7,9}
{2,4,6,8}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
{1,3,5,7}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
* {1,3,7,9}	{2,4,6,8}	{5}
* {1,3,5,7,9}		

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	r	b
→ {1}	{2,4}	{5}
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{5}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,7,9}
{2,4,6,8}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
{1,3,5,7}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}
* {1,3,7,9}	{2,4,6,8}	{5}
* {1,3,5,7,9}	{2,4,6,8}	{1,3,5,7,9}

# Practice

Convert to a DFA the following NFA:

	0	1
$\rightarrow p$	$\{p, q\}$	$\{p\}$
$q$	$\{r\}$	$\{r\}$
$r$	$\{s\}$	$\emptyset$
$*s$	$\{s\}$	$\{s\}$