

# CS154

Pumping Lemma,  
Minimizing DFAs

# CS154

Homework 1 is due!

(11:59pm tonight...)

Homework 2 will appear  
this afternoon

# The Pumping Lemma: Structure in Regular Languages

Let  $L$  be a regular language

Then there is a positive integer  $P$  s.t.

for all strings  $w \in L$  with  $|w| \geq P$   
there is a way to write  $w = xyz$ , where:

1.  $|y| > 0$  (that is,  $y \neq \epsilon$ )
2.  $|xy| \leq P$
3. For *all*  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^iz \in L$

Why is it called the pumping lemma? The word  $w$  gets  
*pumped* into longer and longer strings...

**Proof:** Let  $M$  be a DFA that recognizes  $L$

Let  $P$  be the **number of states in  $M$**

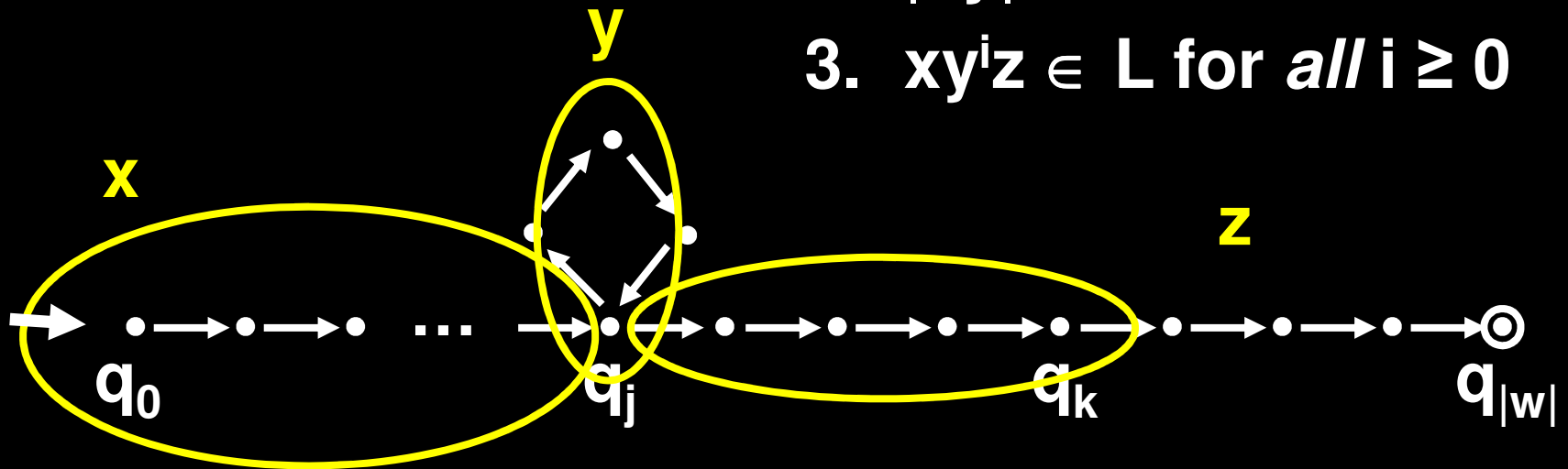
Let  $w$  be a string where  $w \in L$  and  $|w| \geq P$

We show:  $w = xyz$

1.  $|y| > 0$

2.  $|xy| \leq P$

3.  $xy^iz \in L$  for *all*  $i \geq 0$



There must exist  $j$  and  $k$  such that  
 $0 \leq j < k \leq P$ , and  $q_j = q_k$

# Applying the Pumping Lemma

Let's prove that  
 $B = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not regular



**By contradiction.** Assume  $B$  is regular.

Let  $P$  be the number of states in a DFA for  $B$ .

Let  $w = 0^P 1^P$

By the pumping lemma, there is a way to write  $w$  as  $w = xyz$ ,  $|y| > 0$ ,  $|xy| \leq P$ , and for all  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^i z$  is *also* in  $B$

**Claim:** The string  $y$  must be all zeroes.

*Why?* Because  $|xy| \leq P$  and  $w = xyz = 0^P 1^P$

But then  $xyyz$  has more 0s than 1s **Contradiction!**

# Applying the Pumping Lemma

$C = \{ w \mid w \text{ has equal number of 1s and 0s} \}$   
is not regular



Assume  $C$  is regular. Let  $w = 0^P 1^P$  ( $w$  is in  $C$ !)

By the pumping lemma, can write  $w = xyz$ ,  $|y| > 0$ ,  
 $|xy| \leq P$ , where for any  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^i z$  is *also* in  $C$

Note that  $|xy| \leq P$ ,  $w = xyz$ , and  $w = 0^P 1^P$

Therefore  $y$  must be all zeroes.

But then  $xyyz$  has more 0s than 1s

**Contradiction!**

# Applying the Pumping Lemma

Theorem:

$B = \{0^{n^2} \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not regular

Assume  $B$  is regular. Let  $w = 0^{P^2}$

By the pumping lemma, we can write  $w = xyz$ ,  
 $|y| > 0$ ,  $|xy| \leq P$ , and for any  $i \geq 0$ ,  $xy^iz$  is *also* in  $B$

So we have  $xyyz \in B$ . Note that  $xyyz = 0^{P^2+|y|}$

Observe that  $0 < |y| \leq P$

therefore  $P^2 + |y| \leq P^2 + P < P^2 + 2P + 1 = (P+1)^2$

$P^2 < P^2 + |y| < (P+1)^2$

therefore  $P^2 + |y|$  is *not* a perfect square!

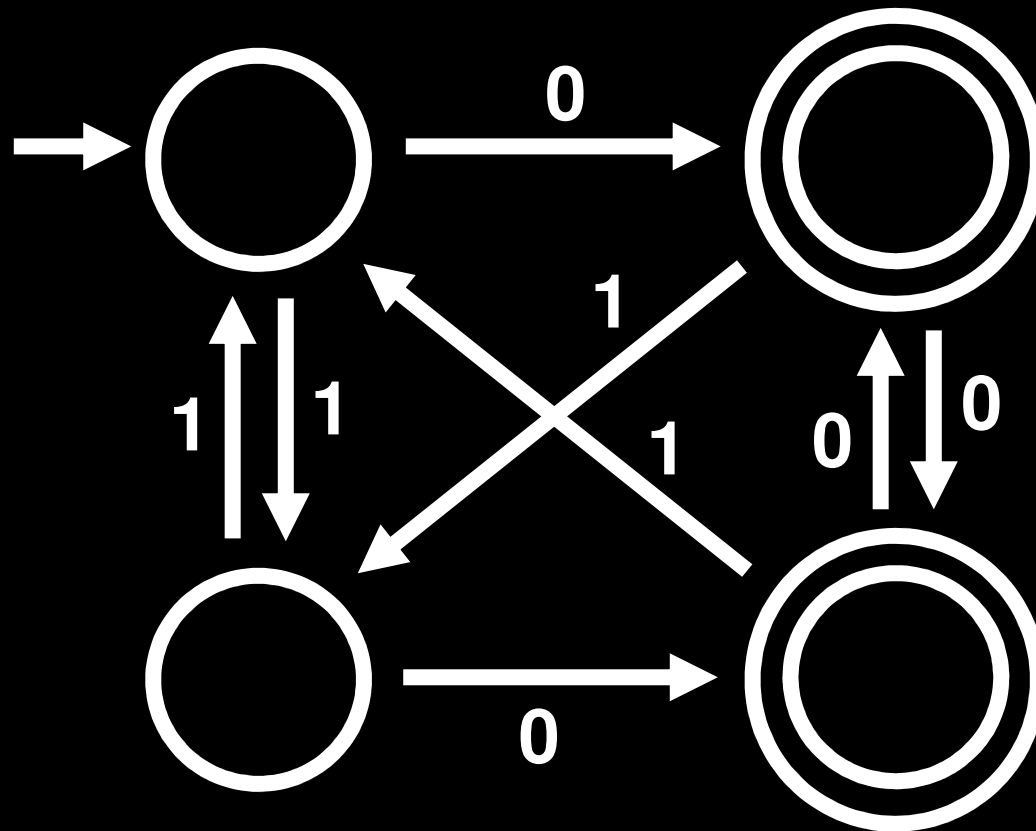
Hence  $0^{P^2+|y|} = xyyz \notin B$ , so our assumption must be false.

That is,  $B$  is not regular!



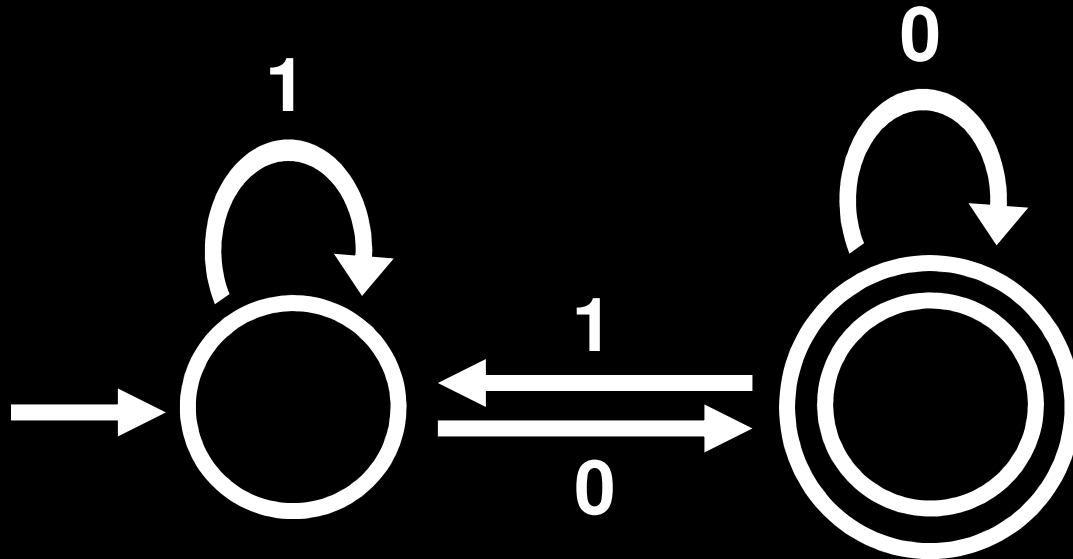
**Does this DFA have a  
minimal number of states?**

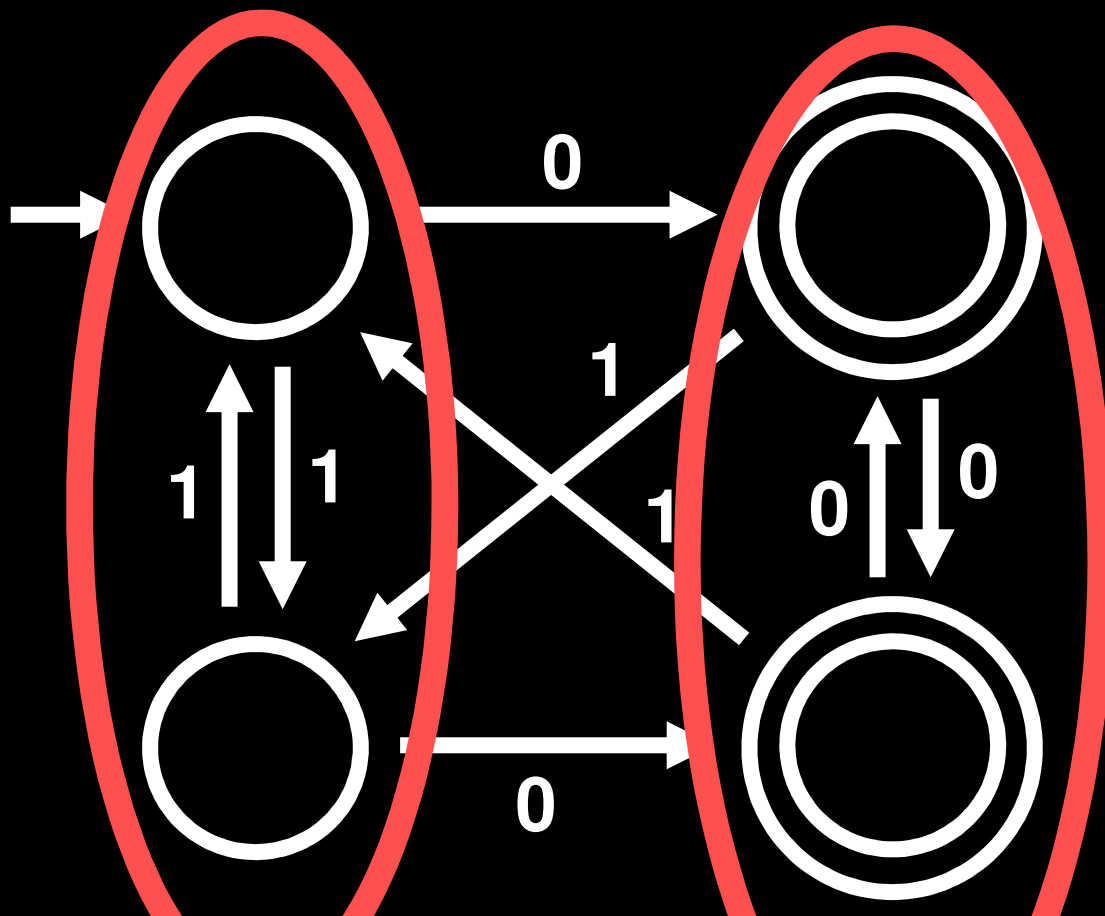
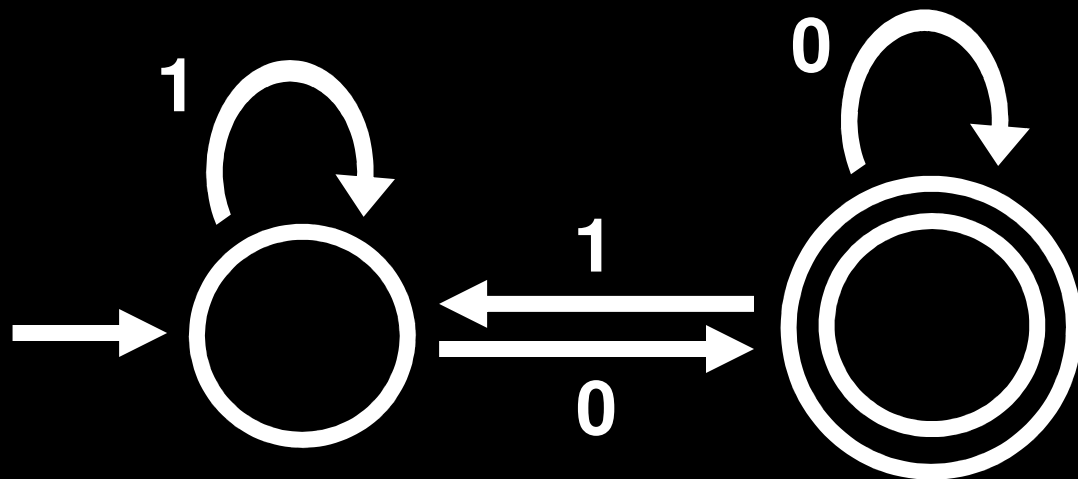
**NO**





Is this minimal?



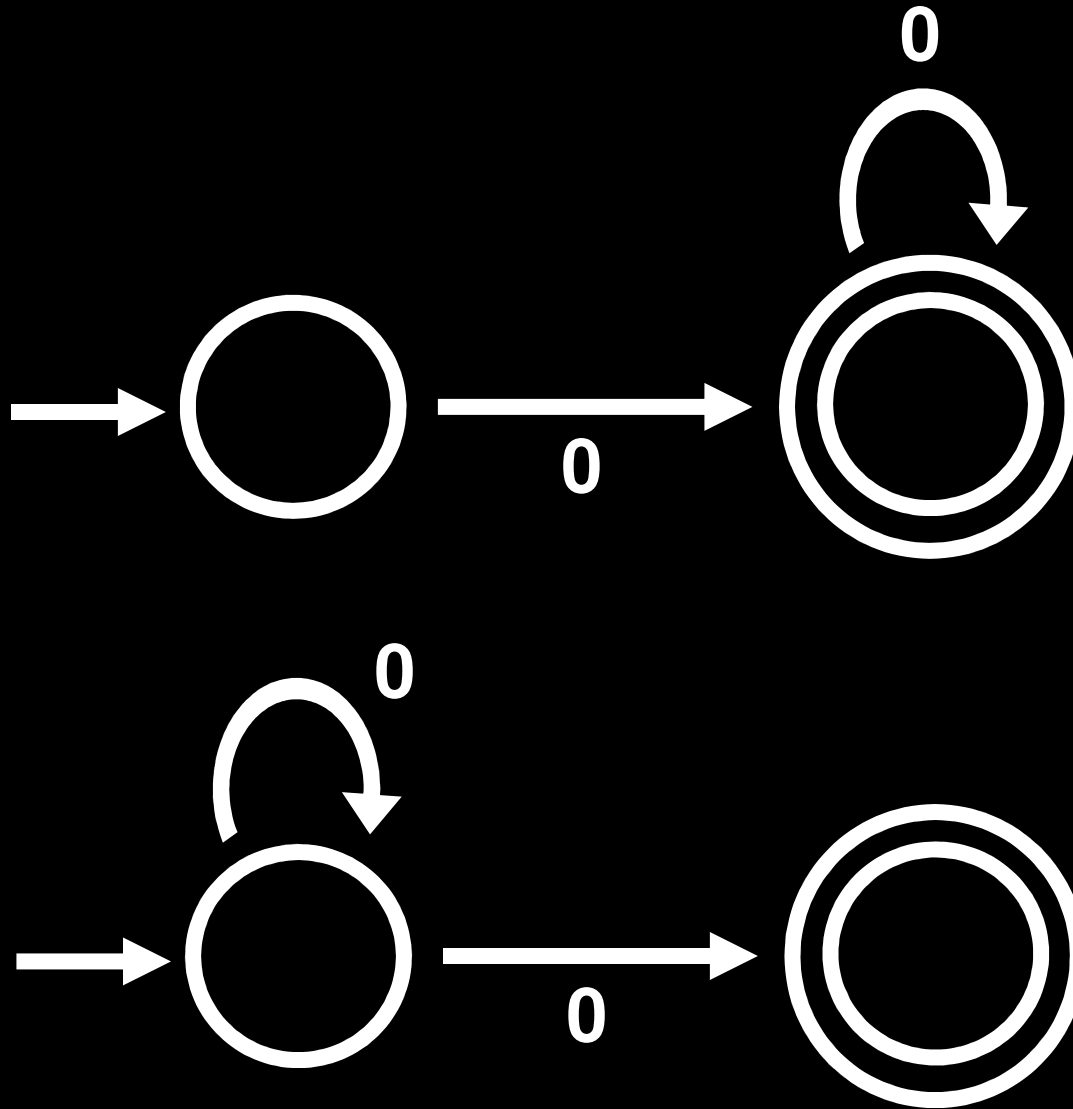


## Theorem

For every regular language  $L$ , there is a **unique** (up to re-labeling of the states) minimal-state DFA  $M^*$  such that  $L = L(M^*)$ .

Furthermore, there is an **efficient algorithm** which, given any DFA  $M$ , will output this unique  $M^*$ .

# There isn't a uniquely minimal NFA



## Extending the transition function $\delta$

Given DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , we extend  $\delta$  to a function  $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$  as follows:

$$\Delta(q, \epsilon) = q$$

$$\Delta(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$$

$$\Delta(q, \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{k+1}) = \delta(\Delta(q, \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k), \sigma_{k+1})$$

$\Delta(q, w)$  = *the state of  $M$  reached after starting in state  $q$  and reading in  $w$*

**Note:**  $\Delta(q_0, w) \in F \iff M$  accepts  $w$

**Def.**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **distinguishes** states  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  iff

$$\Delta(q_1, w) \in F \iff \Delta(q_2, w) \notin F$$

## Extending the transition function $\delta$

Given DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ , we extend  $\delta$  to a function  $\Delta : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$  as follows:

$$\Delta(q, \epsilon) = q$$

$$\Delta(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$$

$$\Delta(q, \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_{k+1}) = \delta(\Delta(q, \sigma_1 \dots \sigma_k), \sigma_{k+1})$$

$\Delta(q, w)$  = *the state of  $M$  reached after starting in state  $q$  and reading in  $w$*

**Note:**  $\Delta(q_0, w) \in F \iff M$  accepts  $w$

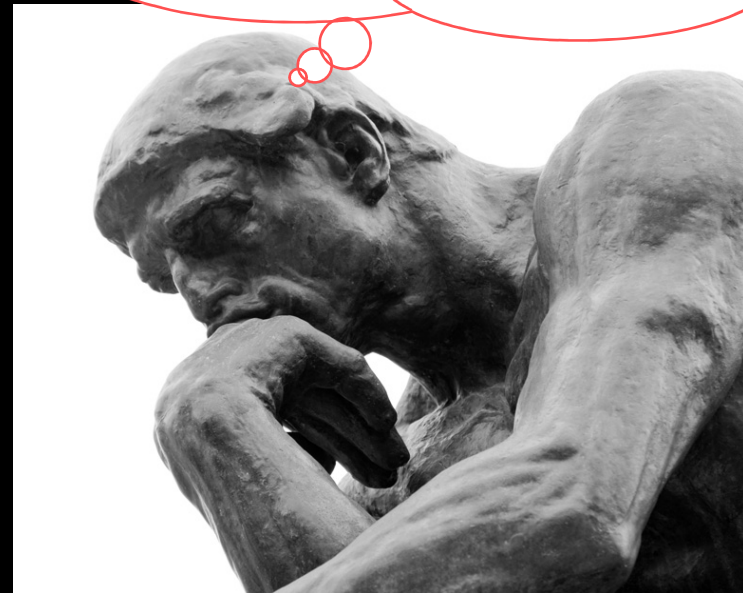
**Def.**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **distinguishes** states  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  iff exactly one of  $\Delta(q_1, w)$ ,  $\Delta(q_2, w)$  is a final state

# Distinguishing two states

**Def.**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **distinguishes** states  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  iff exactly *one* of  $\Delta(q_1, w)$ ,  $\Delta(q_2, w)$  is a final state

I'm in  $q_1$  or  $q_2$ , but which?  
How can I tell?

Here... read this



# Distinguishing two states

**Def.**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  **distinguishes** states  $q_1$  and  $q_2$  iff exactly *one* of  $\Delta(q_1, w)$ ,  $\Delta(q_2, w)$  is a final state

Here... read this



Ok, I'm accepting!  
Must have been  $q_1$





Fix  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  and let  $p, q \in Q$

**Definition:**

State  $p$  is *distinguishable* from state  $q$

iff **some**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  distinguishes  $p$  and  $q$

iff **there is a string**  $w \in \Sigma^*$  so that

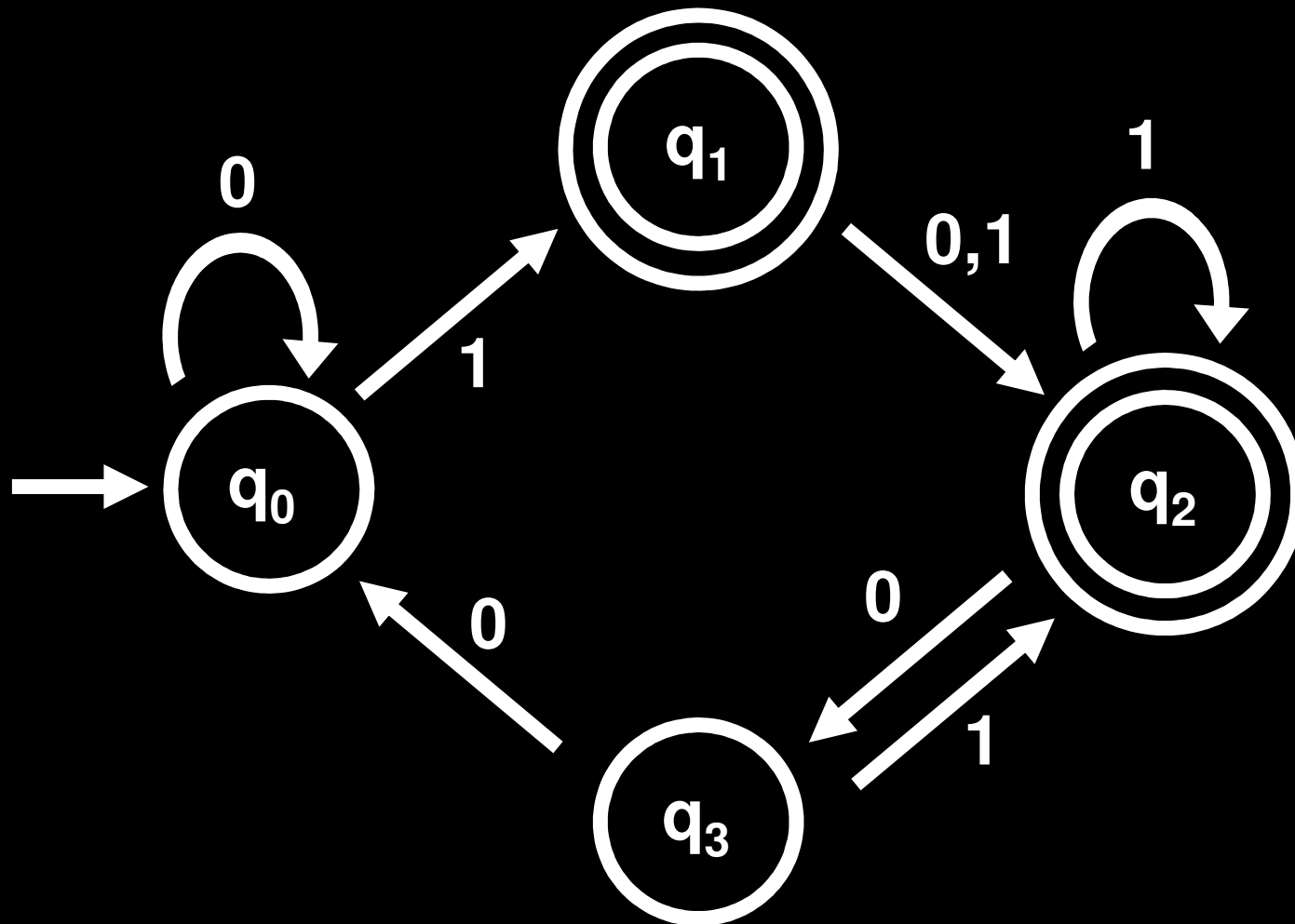
**exactly one** of  $\Delta(p, w), \Delta(q, w)$  is a final state

State  $p$  is *indistinguishable* from state  $q$

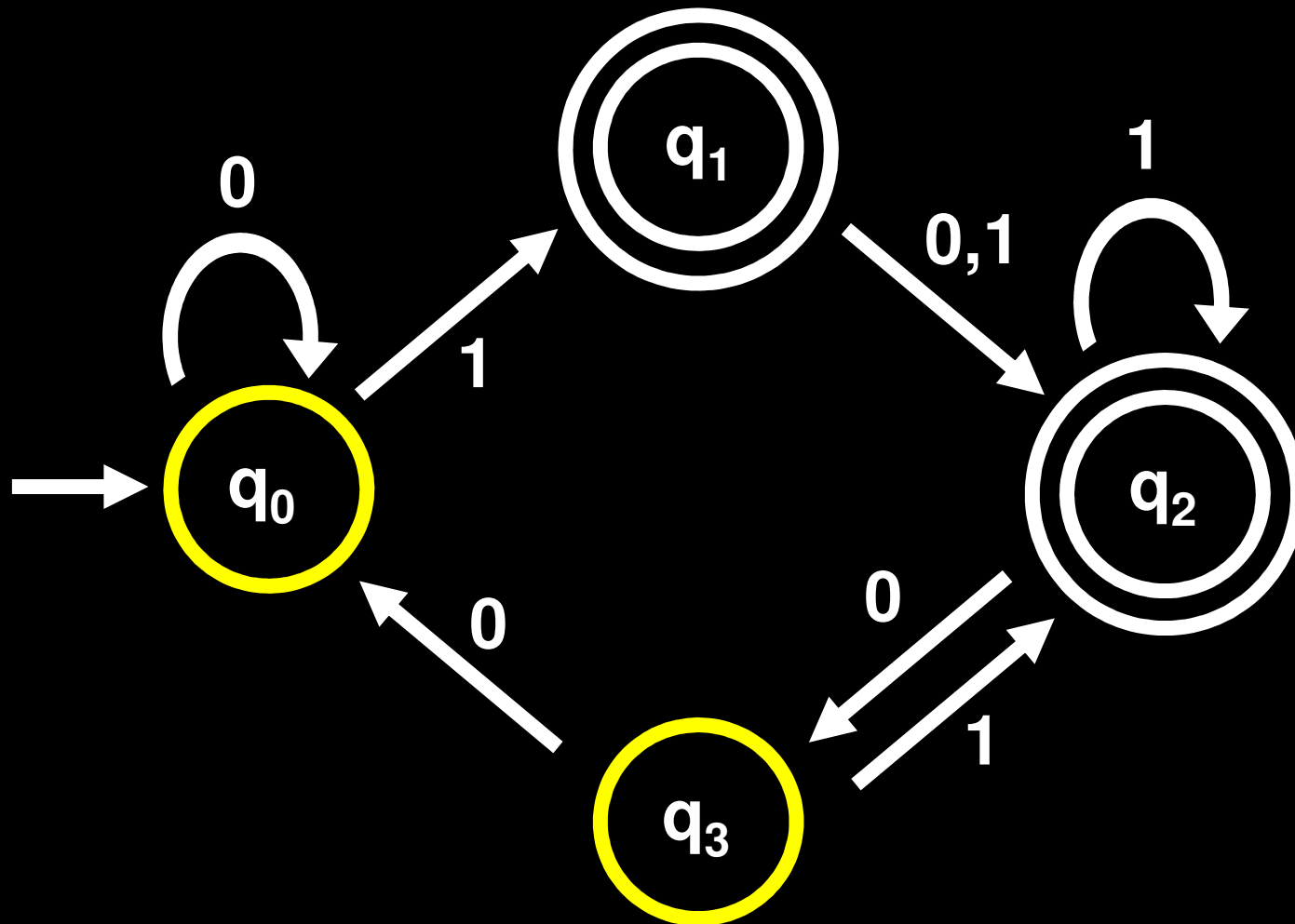
iff  $p$  is **not** distinguishable from  $q$

iff **for all**  $w \in \Sigma^*, \Delta(p, w) \in F \Leftrightarrow \Delta(q, w) \in F$

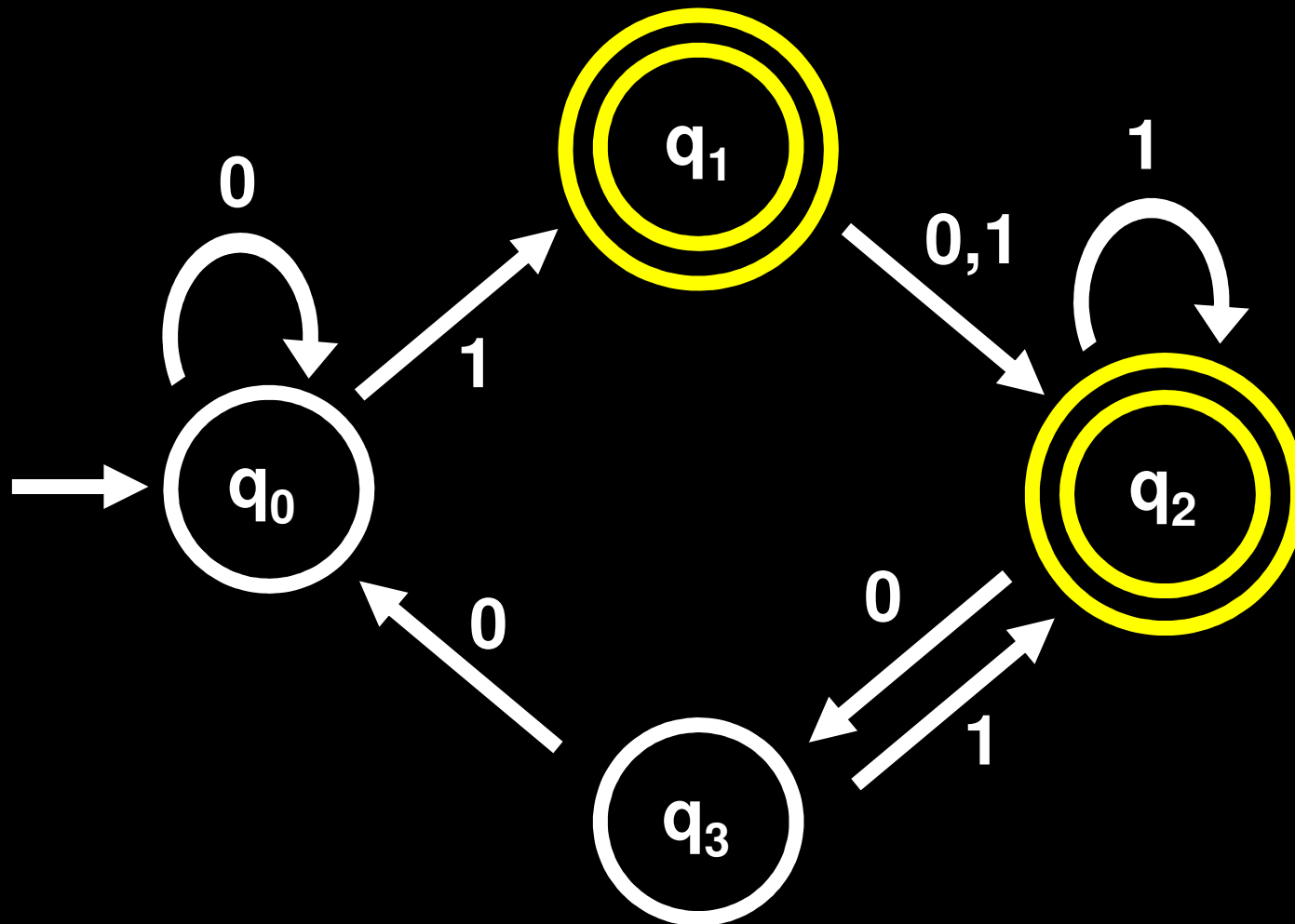
*Pairs of indistinguishable states are **redundant**...  
they lead to the same accept/reject behavior!*



$\varepsilon$  distinguishes accept states  
and non-accept states



The string 10 distinguishes  $q_0$  and  $q_3$



The string 0 distinguishes  $q_1$  and  $q_2$

Fix  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  and let  $p, q, r \in Q$

Define a binary relation  $\sim$  on the states of  $M$ :

$p \sim q$  iff  $p$  is **indistinguishable** from  $q$

$p \not\sim q$  iff  $p$  is distinguishable from  $q$

**Proposition:**  $\sim$  is an **equivalence relation**

$p \sim p$  (**reflexive**)

$p \sim q \Rightarrow q \sim p$  (**symmetric**)

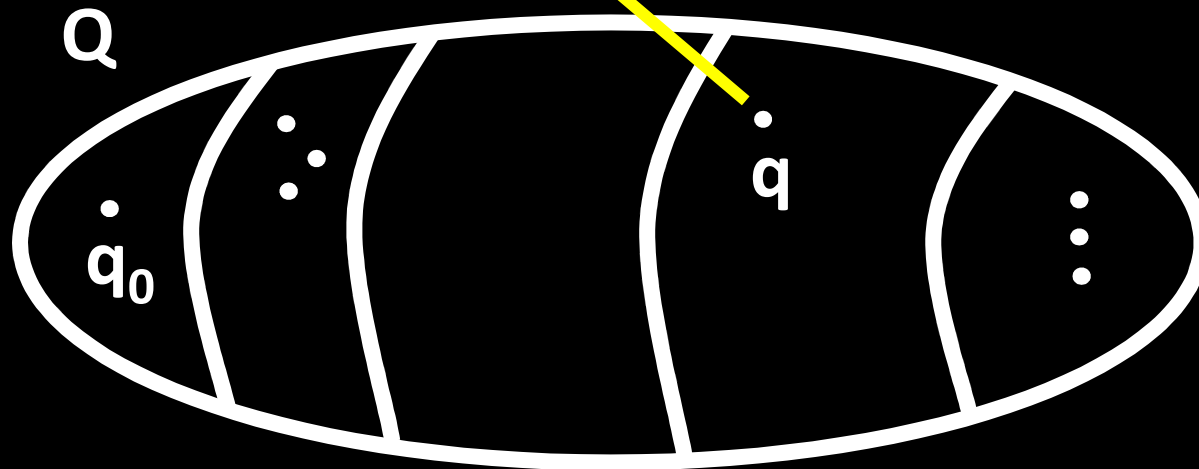
$p \sim q$  and  $q \sim r \Rightarrow p \sim r$  (**transitive**)

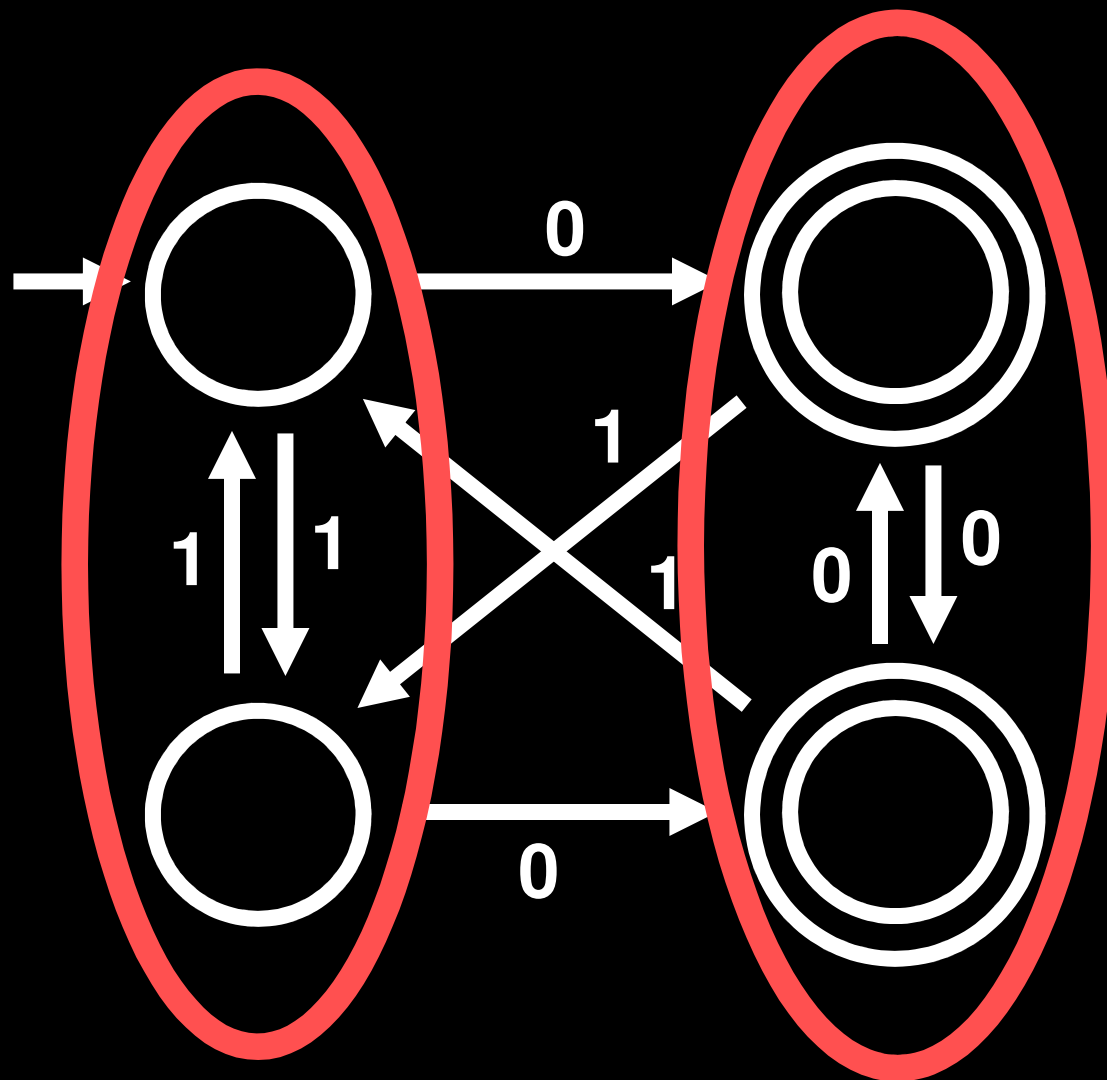
**Proof?**

Fix  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$  and let  $p, q, r \in Q$

Therefore, the relation  $\sim$  partitions  $Q$  into  
disjoint equivalence classes

**Proposition:**  $\sim$  is an equivalence relation  
 $[q] := \{ p \mid p \sim q \}$





## Algorithm: MINIMIZE-DFA

**Input:** DFA  $M$

**Output:** DFA  $M_{\text{MIN}}$  such that:

$$L(M) = L(M_{\text{MIN}})$$

$M_{\text{MIN}}$  has no *inaccessible* states

$M_{\text{MIN}}$  is *irreducible*

||

For all states  $p \neq q$  of  $M_{\text{MIN}}$ ,  $p$  and  $q$  are distinguishable

**Theorem:**  $M_{\text{MIN}}$  is the unique minimal DFA  
that is equivalent to  $M$



**Intuition:** States of  $M_{\text{MIN}}$  will be  
the *equivalence classes* of states of  $M$

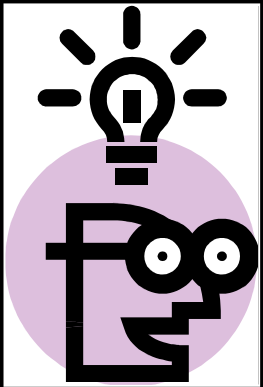
We'll uncover these equivalent states with  
a *dynamic programming* algorithm

# The Table-Filling Algorithm

Input: DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Output: (1)  $D_M = \{ (p, q) \mid p, q \in Q \text{ and } p \not\sim q \}$   
(2)  $\text{EQUIV}_M = \{ [q] \mid q \in Q \}$

## High-Level Idea:



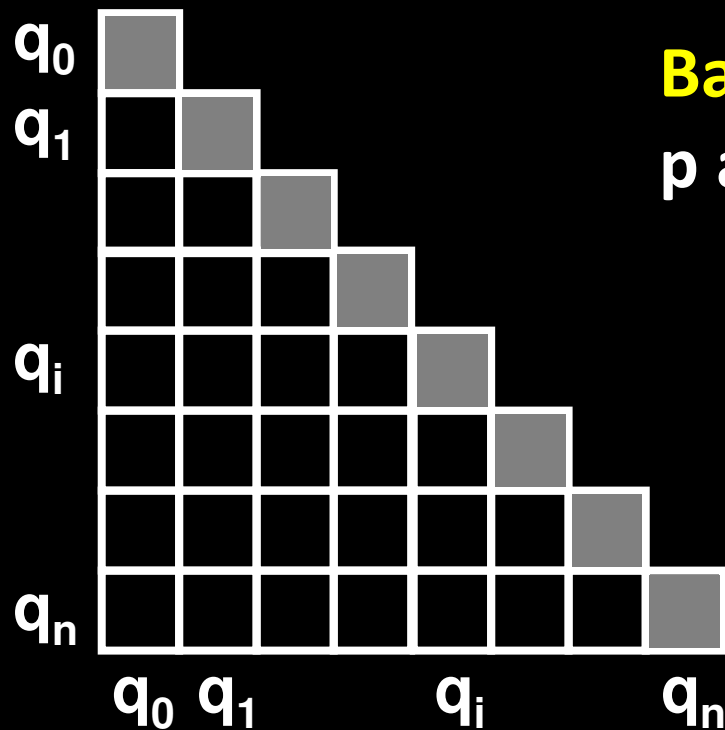
- We know how to find those pairs of states that the string  $\epsilon$  distinguishes...
- Use this and *iteration* to find those pairs distinguishable with *longer* strings
- The pairs of states left over will be indistinguishable

# The Table-Filling Algorithm

Input: DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Output: (1)  $D_M = \{ (p, q) \mid p, q \in Q \text{ and } p \not\sim q \}$

(2)  $\text{EQUIV}_M = \{ [q] \mid q \in Q \}$



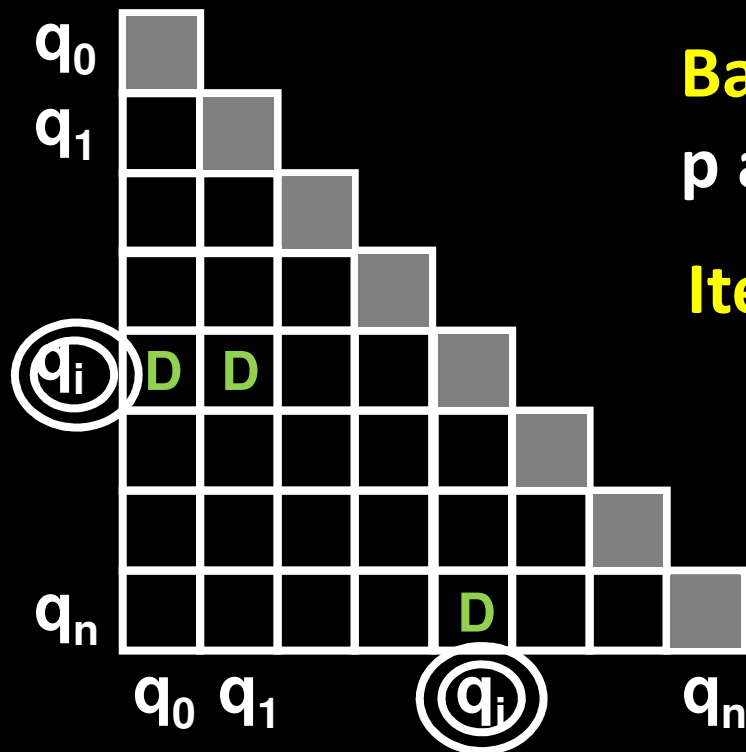
**Base Case:** For all  $(p, q)$  such that  $p$  accepts and  $q$  rejects  $\Rightarrow p \not\sim q$

# The Table-Filling Algorithm

Input: DFA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$

Output: (1)  $D_M = \{ (p, q) \mid p, q \in Q \text{ and } p \not\sim q \}$

(2)  $\text{EQUIV}_M = \{ [q] \mid q \in Q \}$



**Base Case:** For all  $(p, q)$  such that  $p$  accepts and  $q$  rejects  $\Rightarrow p \not\sim q$

**Iterate:** If there are states  $p, q$  and symbol  $\sigma \in \Sigma$  satisfying:

$$\delta(p, \sigma) = p'$$

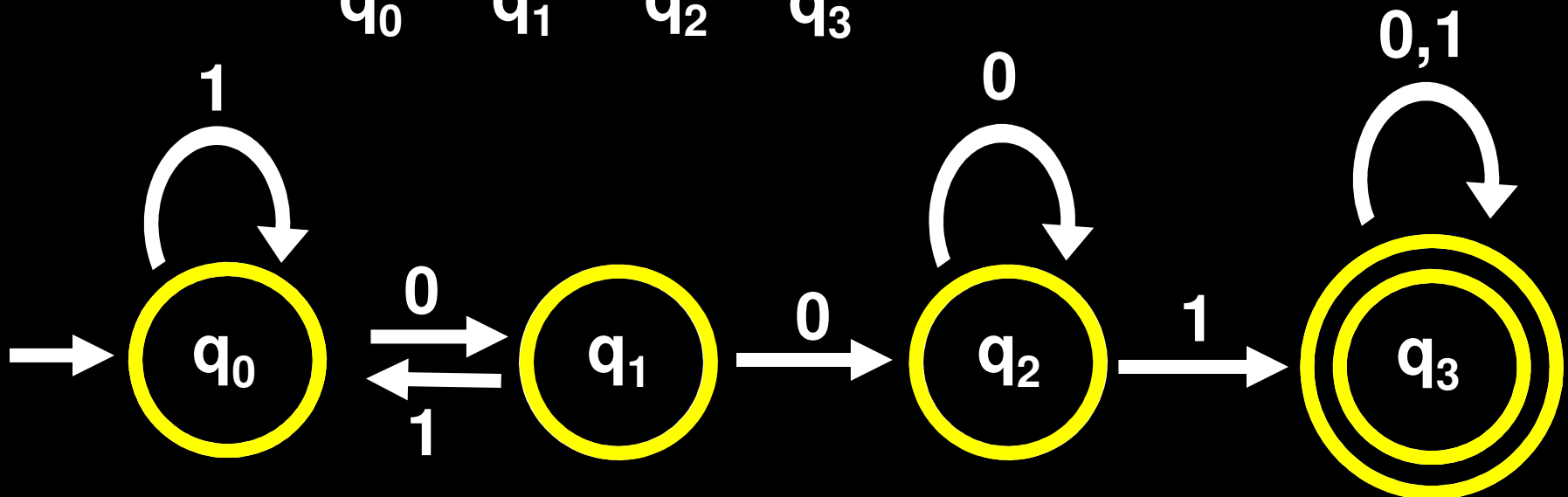
$$\delta(q, \sigma) = q' \Rightarrow$$

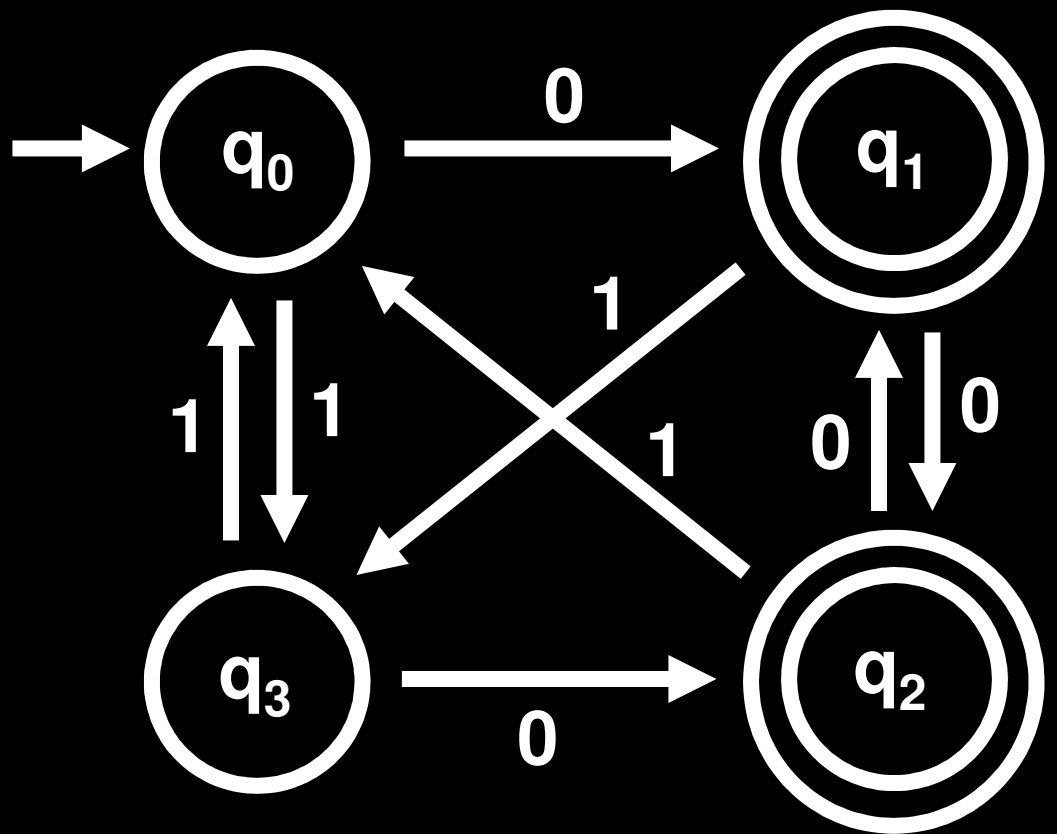
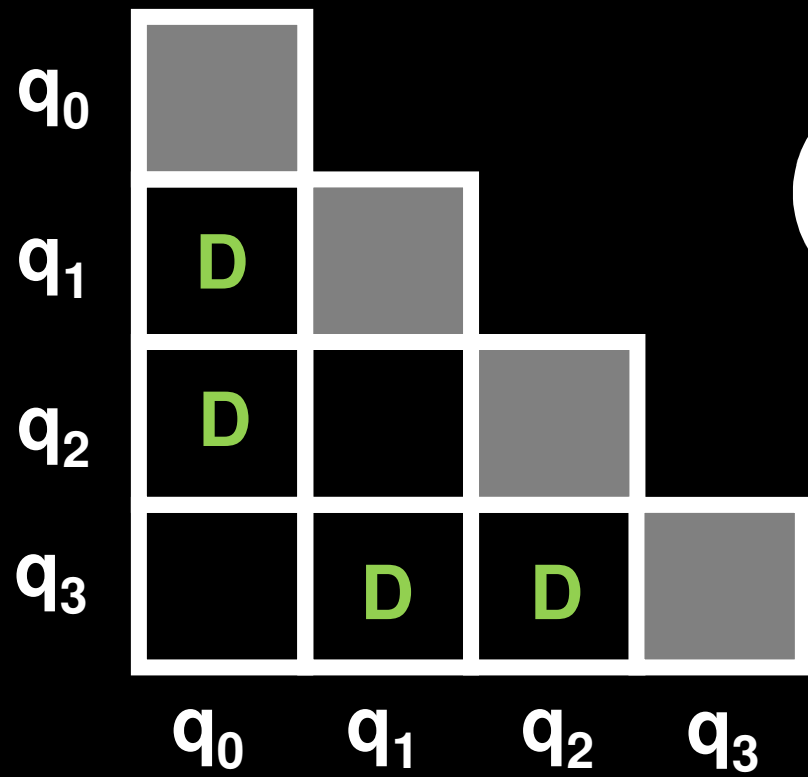
**Mark**

$p \not\sim q$

**Repeat** until no more **D's** can be added

$q_0$				
$q_1$	D			
$q_2$	D	D		
$q_3$	D	D	D	
	$q_0$	$q_1$	$q_2$	$q_3$





**Claim:** If  $(p, q)$  is **marked D** by the Table-Filling algorithm, then  **$p \not\sim q$**

**Proof:** By induction on the length of the string distinguishing  $p$  and  $q$ .

If  $(p, q)$  is marked **D** at the start, then one's in  $F$  and one isn't, so  **$\epsilon$**  distinguishes  $p$  and  $q$

Suppose  $(p, q)$  is marked **D** at a later point.

Then there are states  $p', q'$  such that:

1.  $(p', q')$  are marked **D**  $\Rightarrow$   **$p' \not\sim q'$**  (by induction)

$\Rightarrow$  There is a string  $w$  s.t.  **$\Delta(p', w) \in F \Leftrightarrow \Delta(q', w) \notin F$**

2.  $p' = \delta(p, \sigma)$  and  $q' = \delta(q, \sigma)$ , where  $\sigma \in \Sigma$

**The string  $\sigma w$  distinguishes  $p$  and  $q$ !**

**Claim:** If  $(p, q)$  is **not marked D** by the Table-Filling algorithm, then  $p \sim q$

**Proof (by contradiction):**

Suppose the pair  $(p, q)$  is not marked **D** by the algorithm, yet  $p \not\sim q$  (**call this a “bad pair”**)

Then there is a string  $w$  such that  $|w| > 0$  and:

$\Delta(p, w) \in F$  and  $\Delta(q, w) \notin F$  (Why is  $|w| > 0$ ?)

Of all such bad pairs, let  $p, q$  be a pair with the *shortest* distinguishing string **w**



**Claim:** If  $(p, q)$  is **not marked D** by the Table-Filling algorithm, then  $p \sim q$

**Proof (by contradiction):**

Suppose the pair  $(p, q)$  is not marked **D** by the algorithm, yet  $p \not\sim q$  (**call this a “bad pair”**)

Of all such bad pairs, let  $p, q$  be a pair with the *shortest* distinguishing string **w**

$\Delta(p, w) \in F$  and  $\Delta(q, w) \notin F$  (Why is  $|w| > 0$ ?)

We have  $w = \sigma w'$ , for some string  $w'$  and some  $\sigma \in \Sigma$

Let  $p' = \delta(p, \sigma)$  and  $q' = \delta(q, \sigma)$

**Then  $(p', q')$  is also a bad pair,  
but with a SHORTER  $w'$  !**