

How can we prove that two regular expressions are equivalent?

How can we prove that two DFAs (or two NFAs) are equivalent?

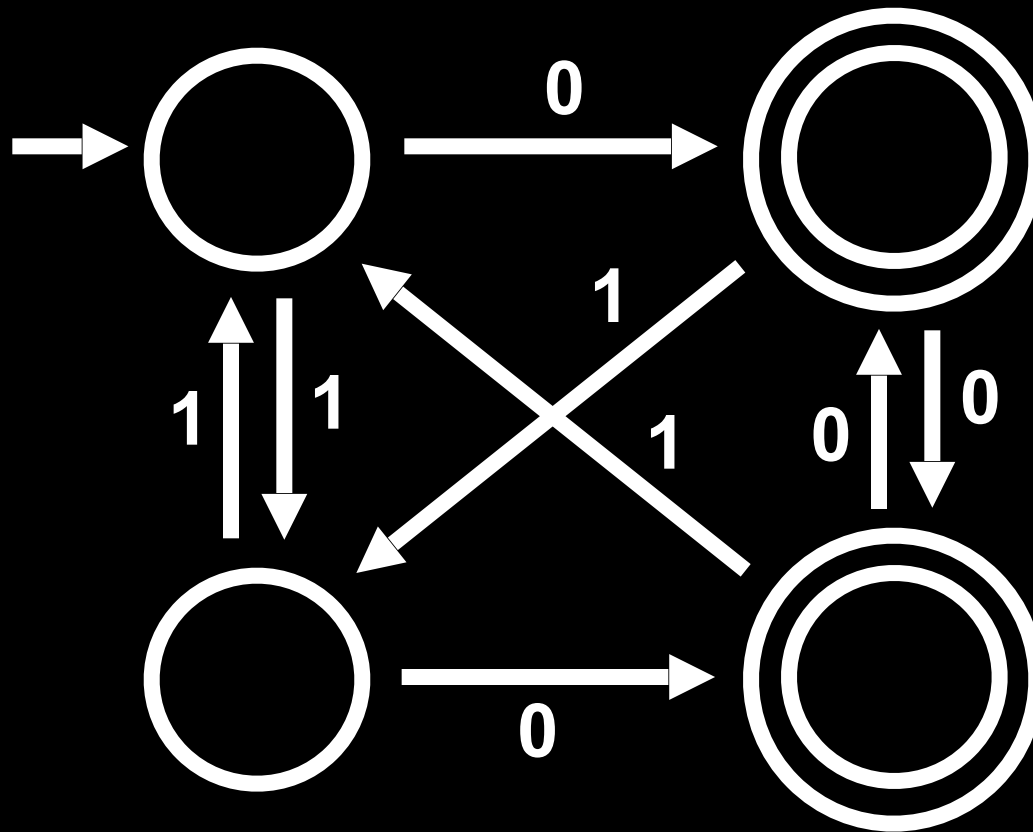
How can we prove that two regular languages are equivalent?
(Does this question make sense?)

**How can we prove that two DFAs
(or two NFAs) are equivalent?**

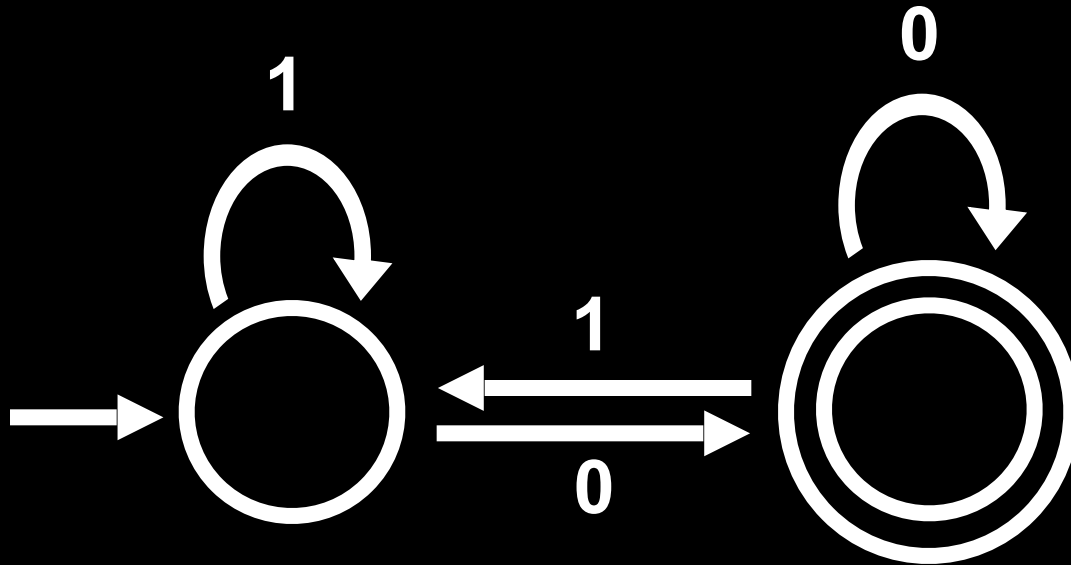
MINIMIZING DFAs

IS THIS MINIMAL?

NO



IS THIS MINIMAL?



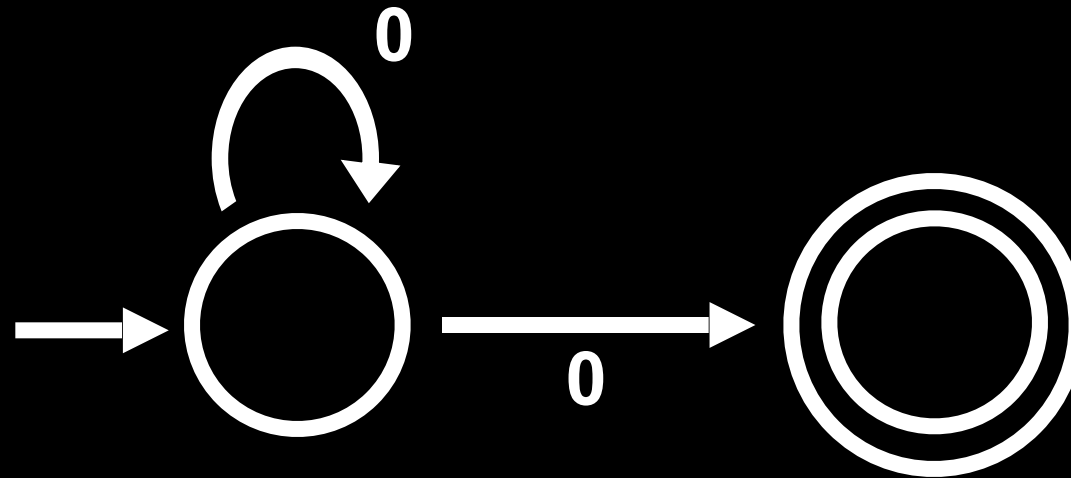
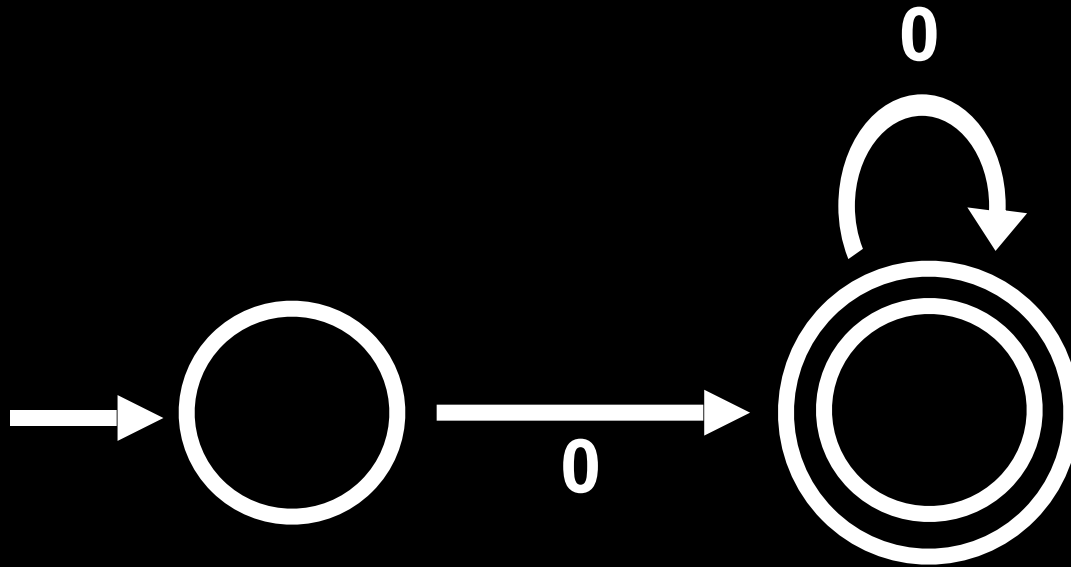
THEOREM

For every regular language **L**, there exists a **UNIQUE** (up to re-labeling of the states) minimal DFA **M** such that **L = L(M)**

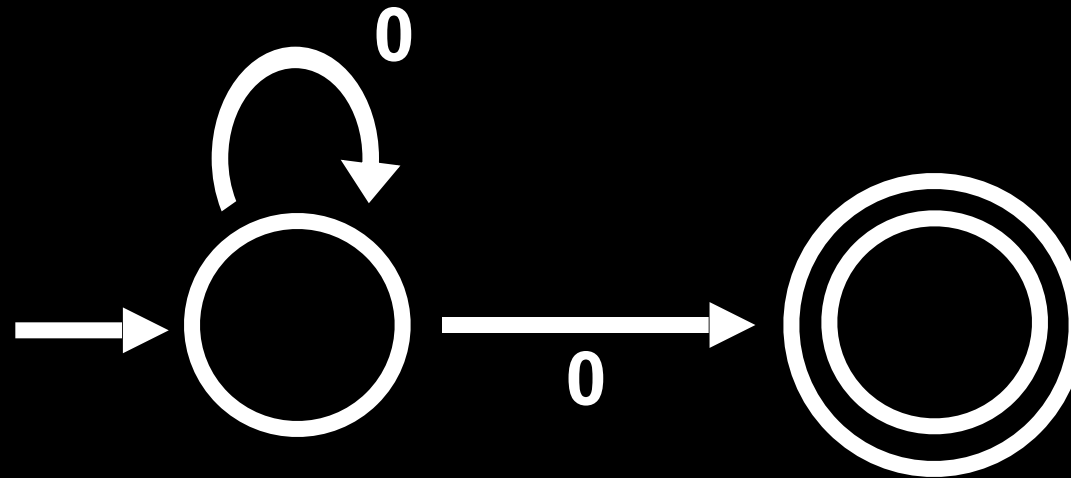
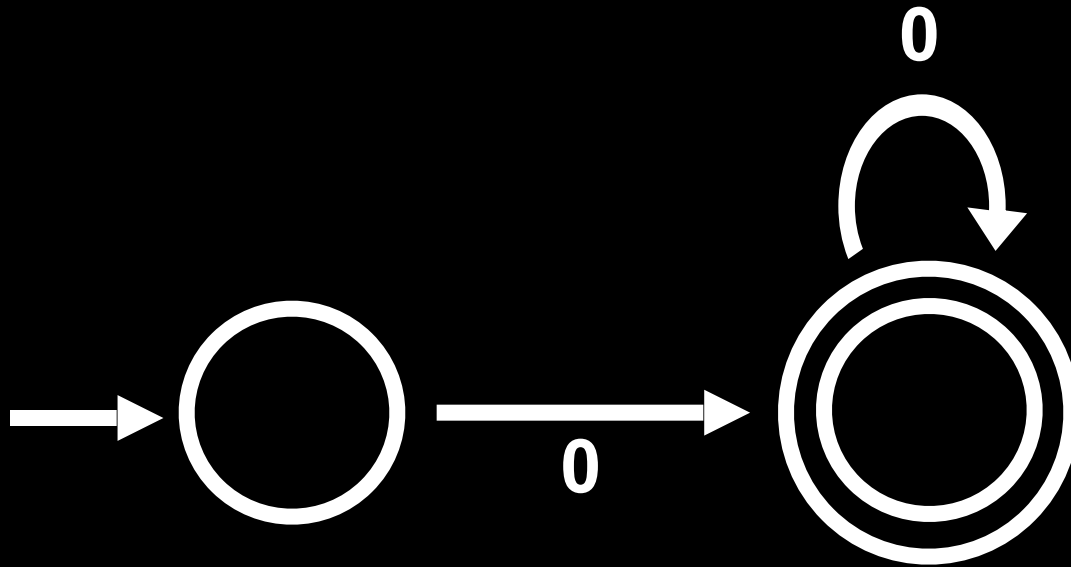
Minimal means wrt number of states

Given a specification for **L**, via **DFA**, **NFA** or **regex**, this theorem is constructive.

NOT TRUE FOR NFAs



NOT TRUE FOR RegExp



EXTENDING δ

Given DFA $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ extend δ to

$\hat{\delta} : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$ as follows:

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = q$$

$$\hat{\delta}(q, \sigma) = \delta(q, \sigma)$$

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

Note: $\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F \Leftrightarrow M$ accepts w

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

$$\hat{\delta}(p, w) \in F \Leftrightarrow \hat{\delta}(q, w) \notin F$$

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String $w \in \Sigma^*$ **distinguishes** states p and q iff exactly ONE of $\hat{\delta}(p, w)$, $\hat{\delta}(q, w)$ is a final state

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

DEFINITION:

p is *distinguishable* from q

iff

there is a $w \in \Sigma^*$ that distinguishes p and q

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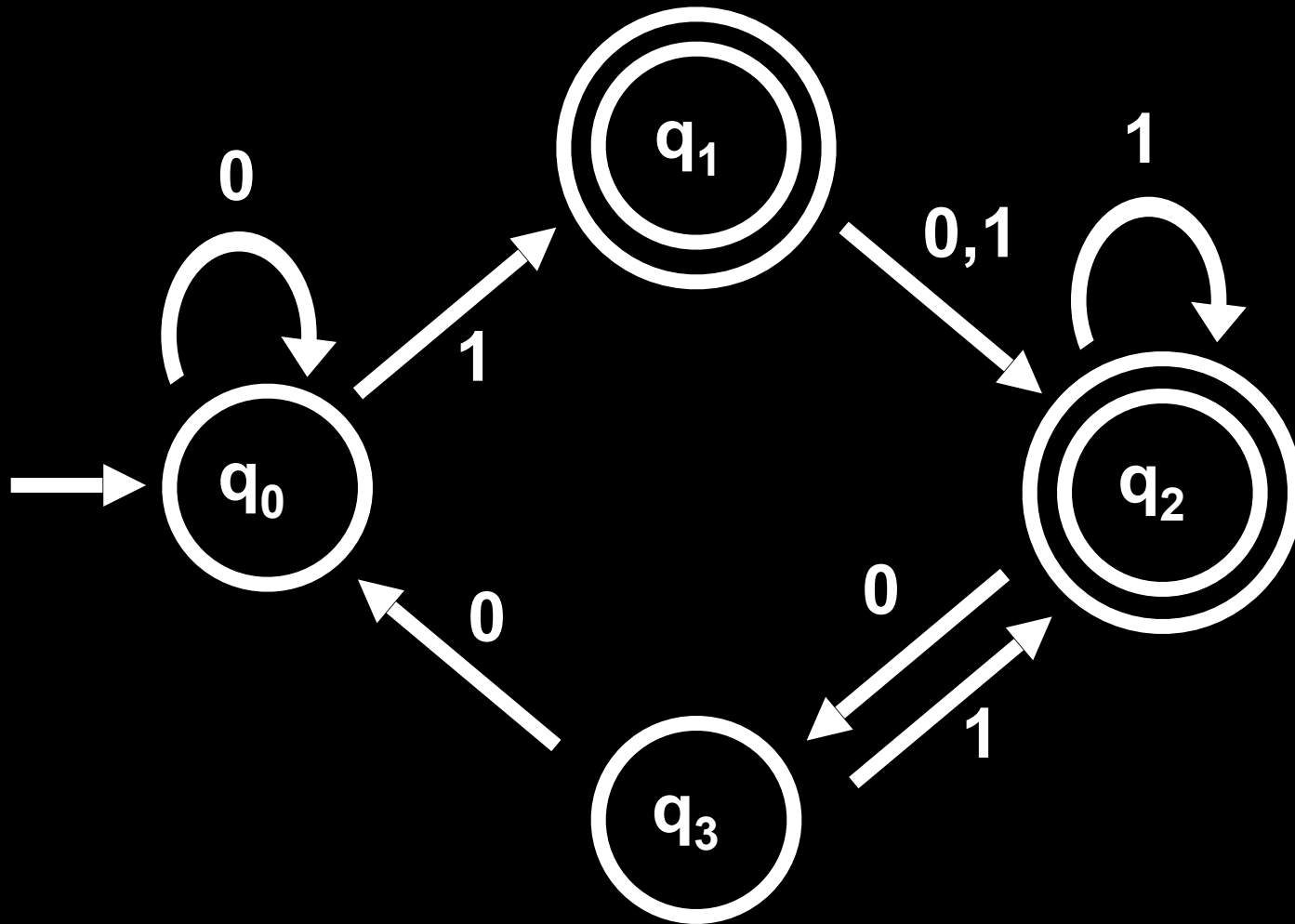
p is *indistinguishable* from q

iff

p is **not** distinguishable from q

iff

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



ε distinguishes accept from non-accept states

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

Define relation \sim :

$p \sim q$ 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 (of transitivity): for all w , we have:

$$\delta(\hat{p}, w) \in F \Leftrightarrow \delta(\hat{q}, w) \in F \Leftrightarrow \delta(\hat{r}, w) \in F$$

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

so \sim partitions the set of states of M into disjoint equivalence classes

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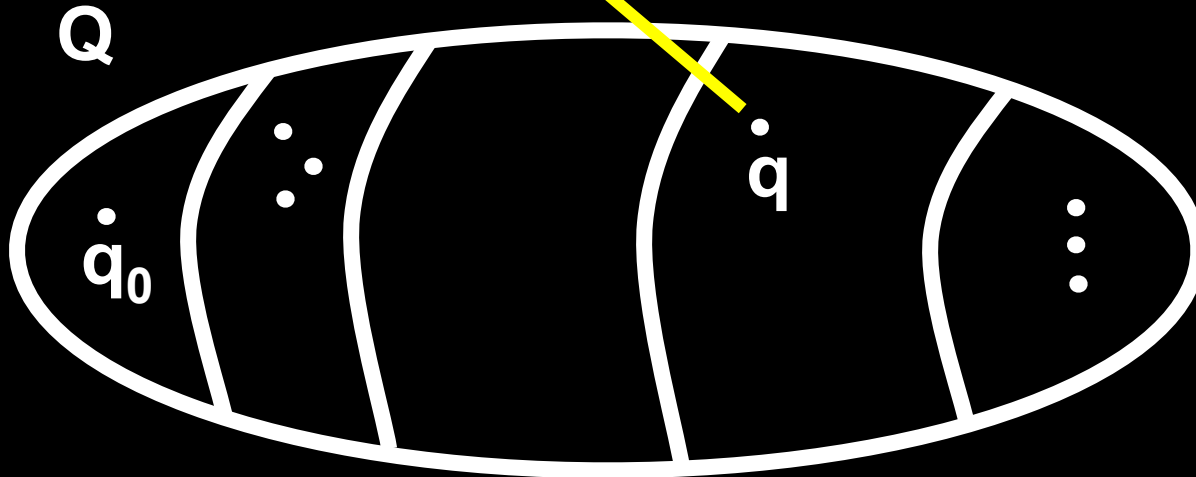
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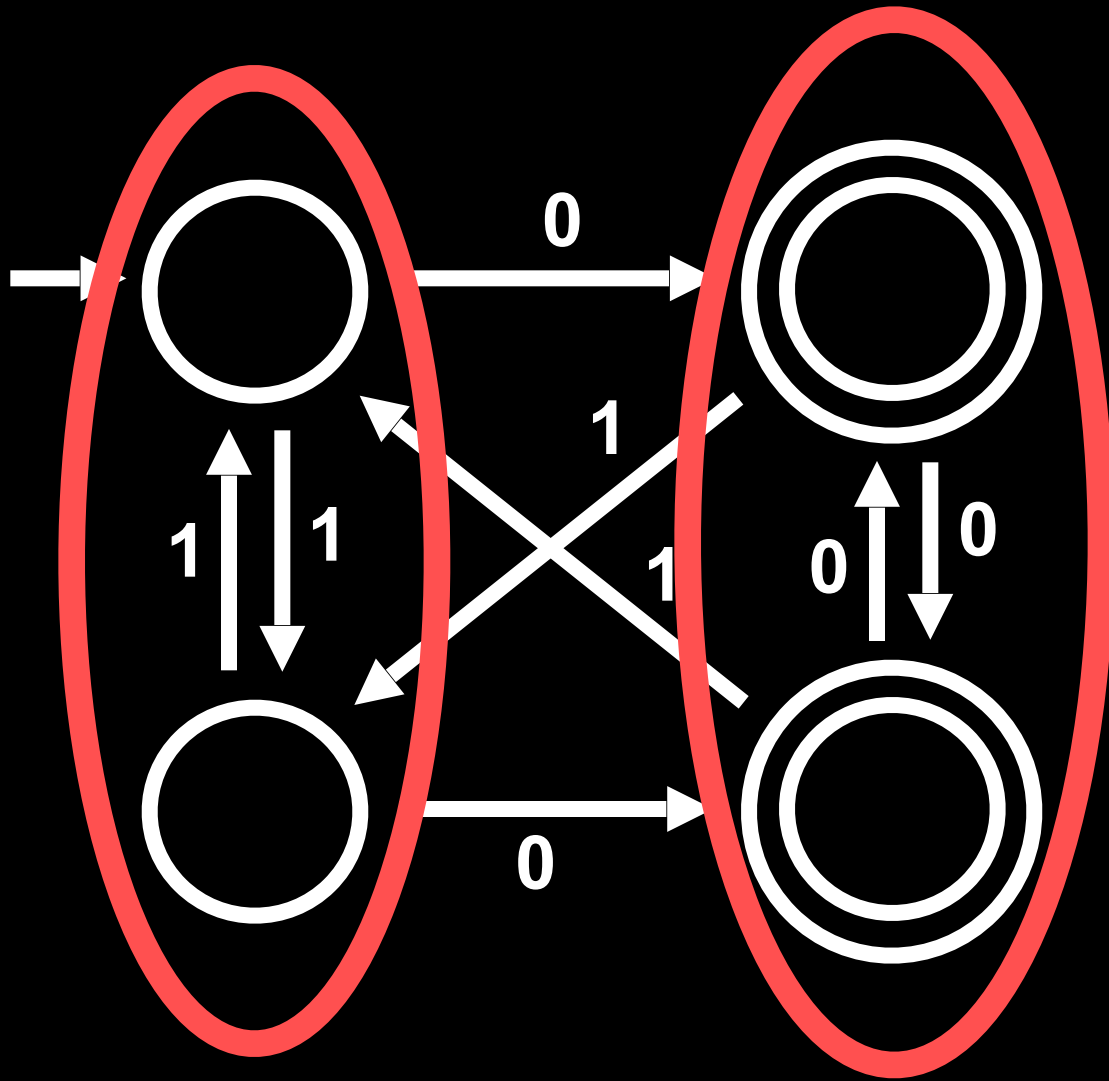
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so \sim partitions the set of states of M into disjoint equivalence classes

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

$$[q] = \{ p \mid p \sim q \}$$





Algorithm MINIMIZE

Input: DFA M

Output: DFA M_{MIN} such that:

$M \equiv M_{\text{MIN}}$ (that is, $L(M) = L(M_{\text{MIN}})$)

M_{MIN} has no inaccessible states

M_{MIN} is *irreducible*

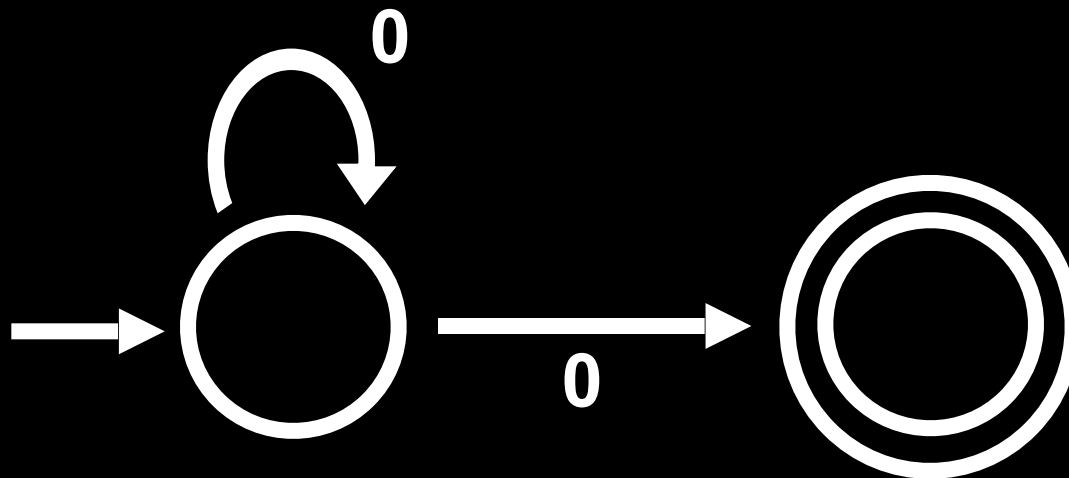
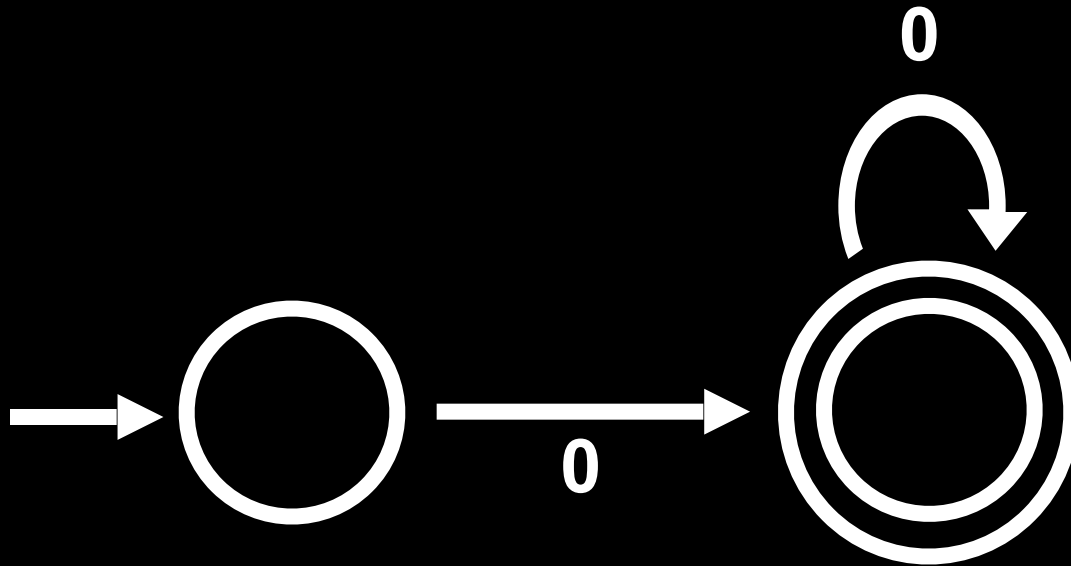
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all states of M_{MIN} are pairwise distinguishable

Theorem: M_{MIN} is the *unique** minimum DFA
equivalent to M

*up to relabelling

NOTE: **Theorem** not true for NFAs



What does this say about Regexs?

Intuition for Algorithm:
States of M_{MIN} will be
blocks of equivalent states of M

We'll find these equivalent states with
a "Table-Filling" Algorithm

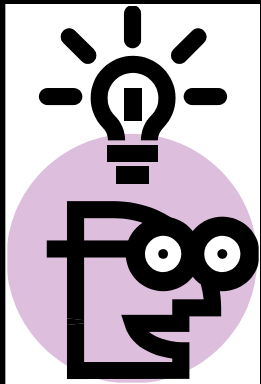
TABLE-FILLING ALGORITHM

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

Output: (1) $D_M = \{ (p, q) \mid p, q \in Q \text{ and } p \neq q \}$

(2) $E_M = \{ [q] \mid q \in Q \}$

IDEA:



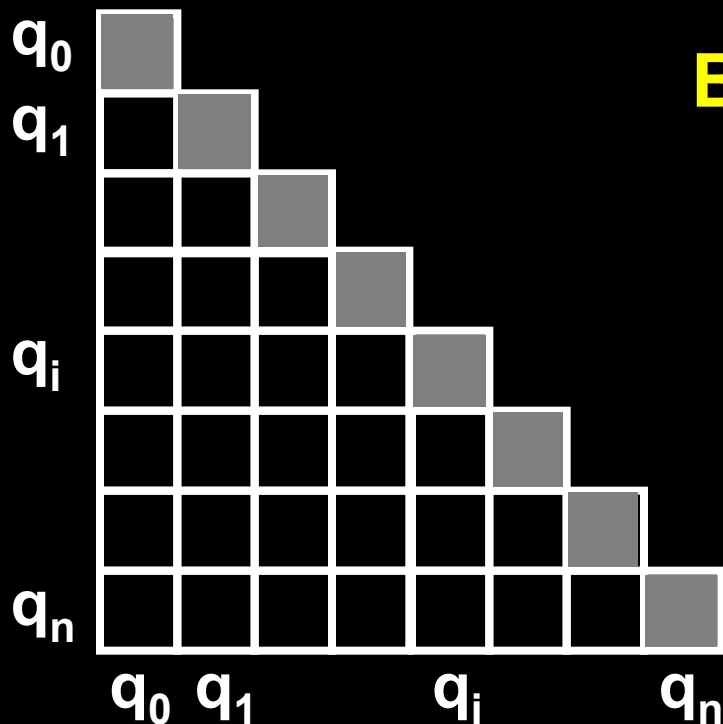
- We know how to find those pairs of states that ϵ distinguishes...
- Use this and recursion to find those pairs distinguishable with *longer* strings
- Pairs left over will be indistinguishable

TABLE-FILLING ALGORITHM

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

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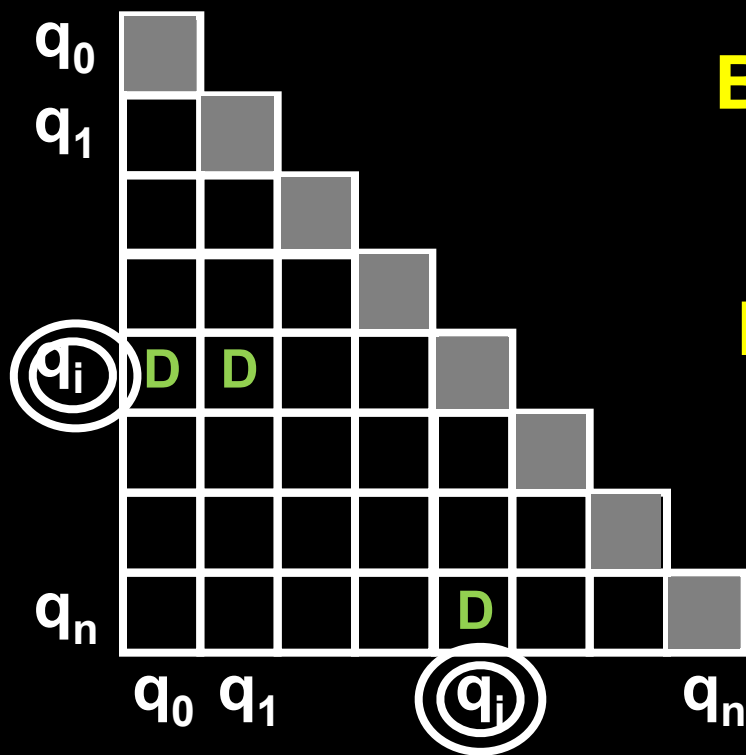
Base Case: p accepts
and q “rejects” $\Rightarrow p \not\sim q$

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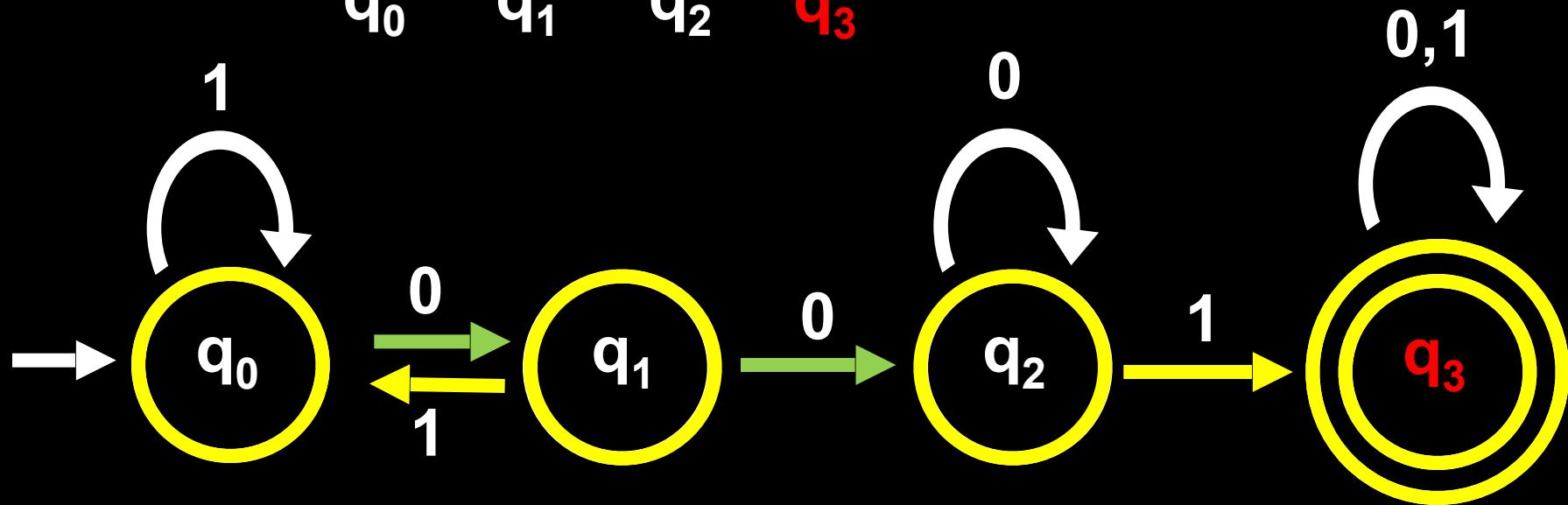
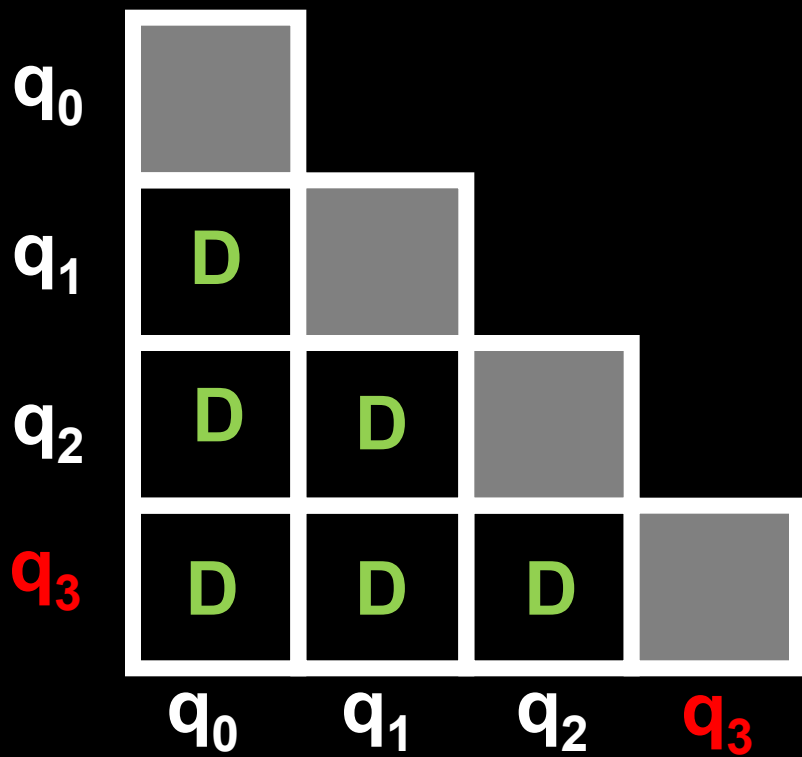


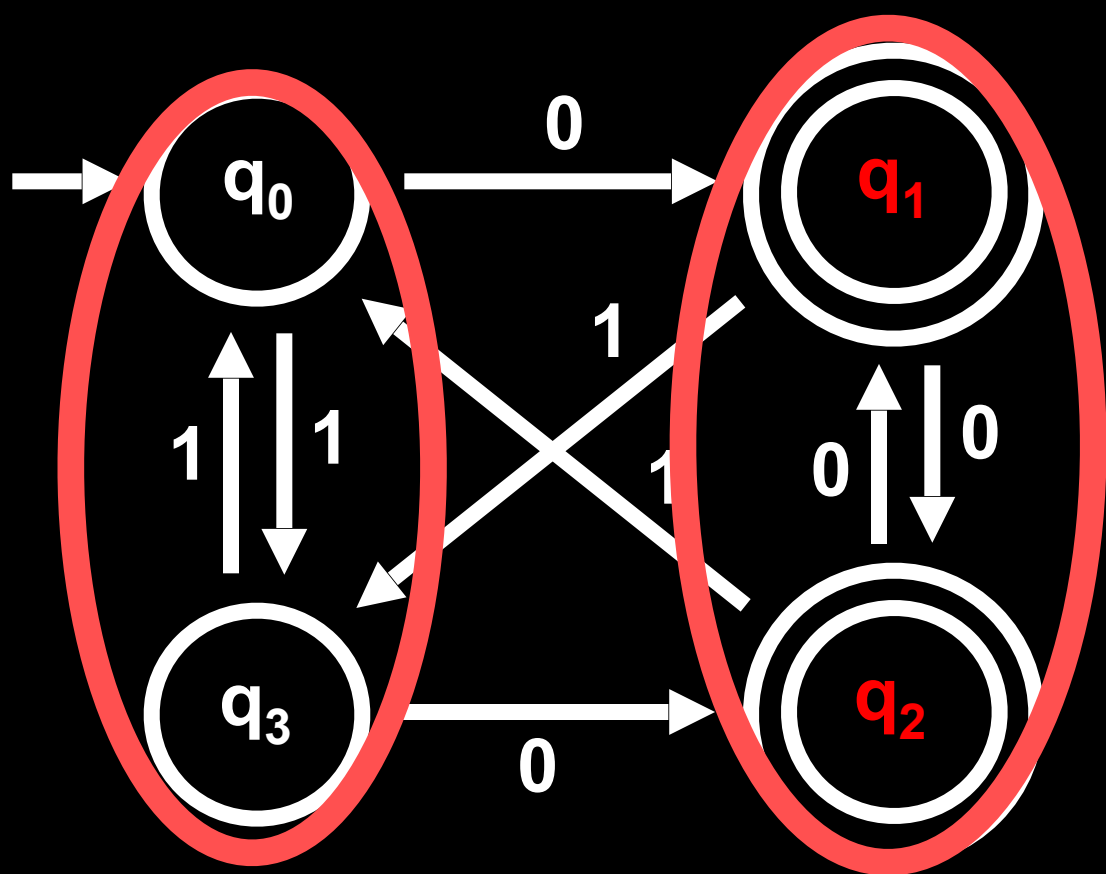
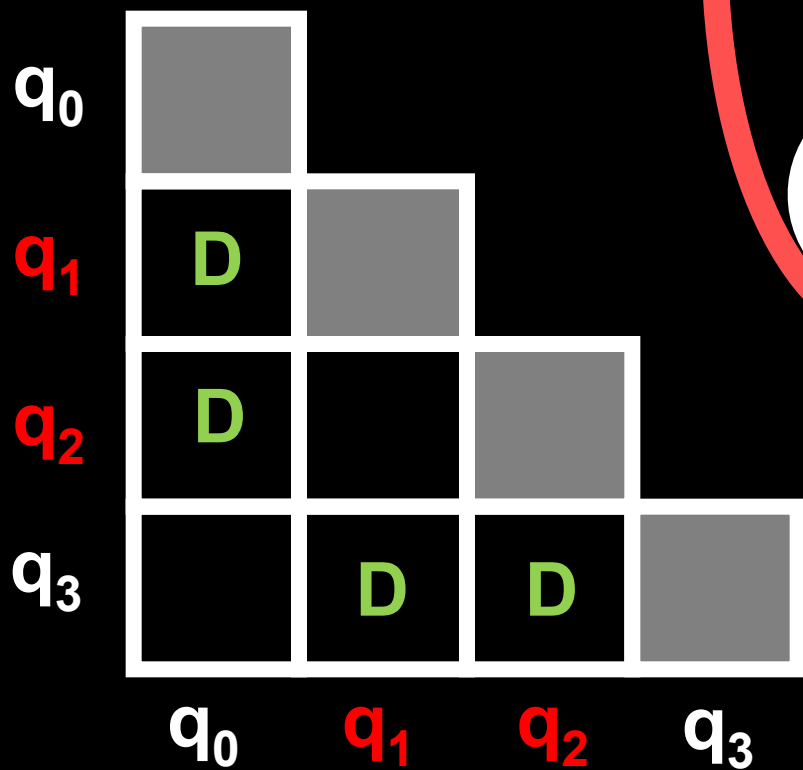
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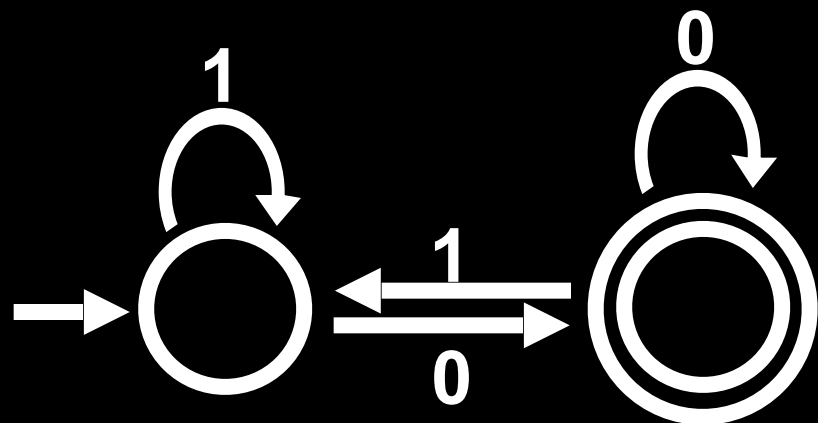
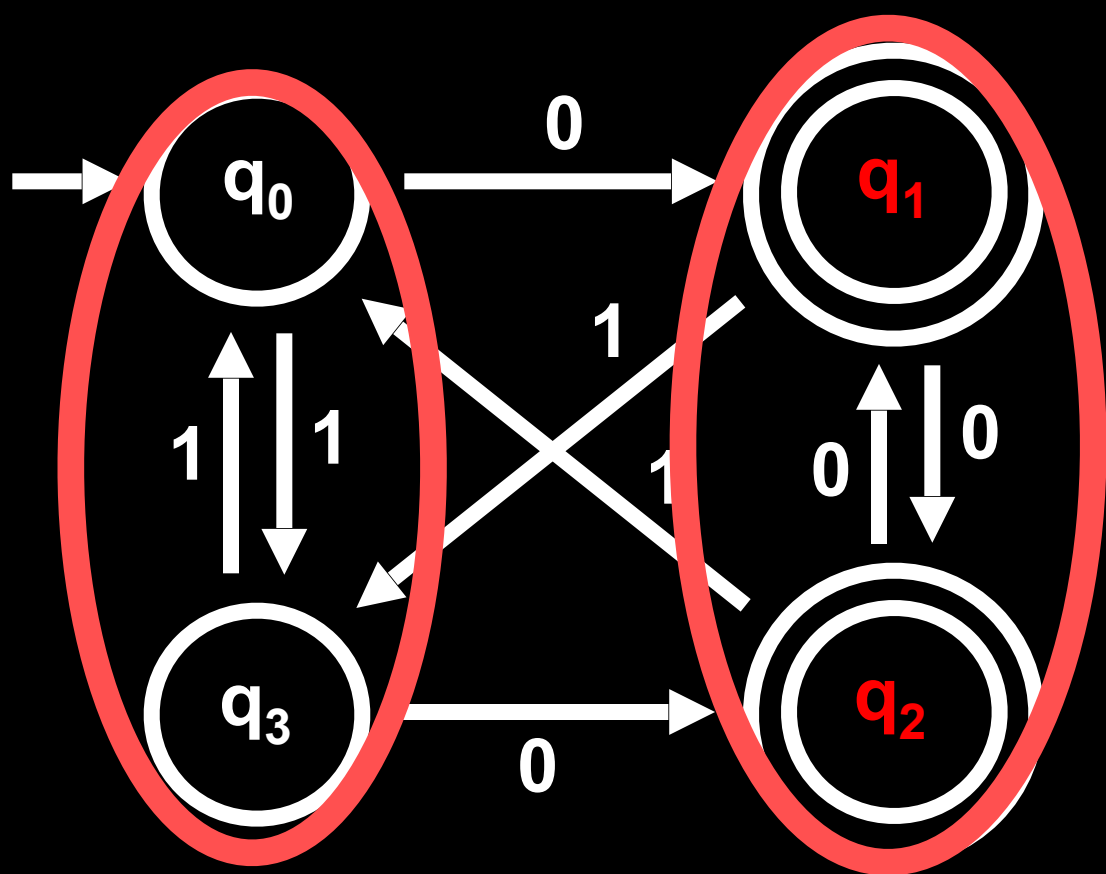
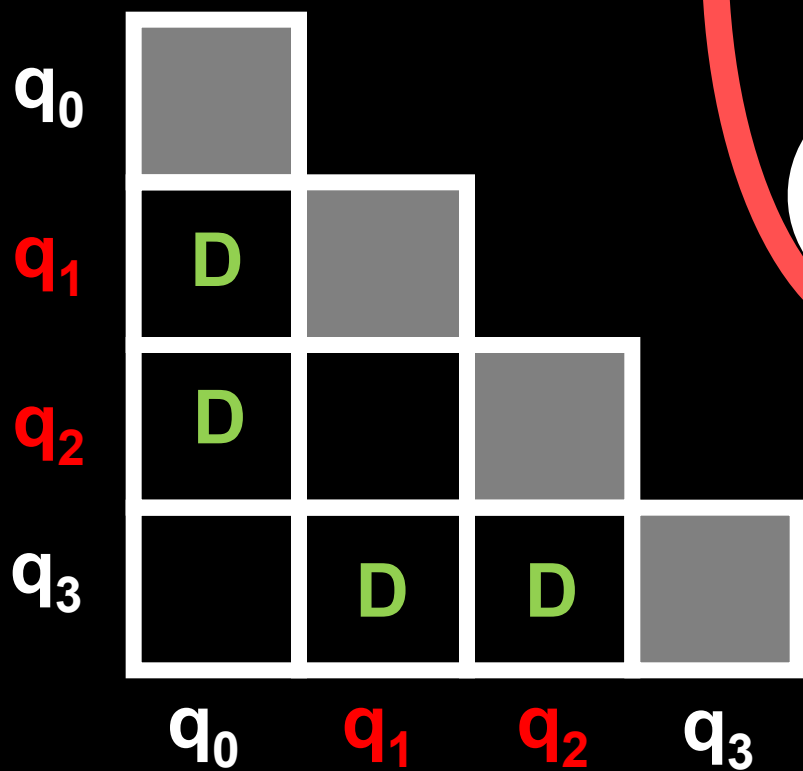
Recursion:

$p \xrightarrow{\sigma} p'$
 $q \xrightarrow{\sigma} q'$
 $\not\sim \Rightarrow p \not\sim q$

Repeat until no more new **D's**







Claim: If p, q are distinguished by Table-Filling algorithm (ie pair labelled by D), then $p \not\sim q$

Proof: By induction on the stage of the algorithm

Claim: If p, q are not distinguished by Table-Filling algorithm, then $p \sim q$

Proof (by contradiction):

Claim: If p, q are distinguished by Table-Filling algorithm (ie pair labelled by D), then $p \not\sim q$

Proof: By induction on the stage of the algorithm

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

Suppose (p, q) is marked D at **stage $n+1$**

Then there are states p', q' , string $w \in \Sigma^*$
and $\sigma \in \Sigma$ such that:

1. (p', q') are marked $D \Rightarrow p' \not\sim q'$ (by induction)
 $\Rightarrow \delta^\wedge(p', w) \in F$ and $\delta^\wedge(q', w) \notin F$
2. $p' = \delta(p, \sigma)$ and $q' = \delta(q, \sigma)$

The string σw distinguishes p and q !

Claim: If p, q are **not distinguished** by Table-Filling algorithm, then $p \sim q$

Proof (by contradiction):

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

Suppose (p, q) is a bad pair with the shortest **w**.

$\delta^{\wedge}(p, w) \in F$ and $\delta^{\wedge}(q, w) \notin F$ (Why is $|w| > 0$?)

So, $w = \sigma w'$, where $\sigma \in \Sigma$

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

Then (p', q') cannot be marked **D (Why?)**

But (p', q') is distinguished by w' !

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

Contradiction!

Algorithm MINIMIZE

Input: DFA M

Output: DFA M_{MIN}

(1) Remove all inaccessible states from M

(2) Apply Table-Filling algorithm to get:
 $E_M = \{ [q] \mid q \text{ is an accessible state of } M \}$

Define: $M_{\text{MIN}} = (Q_{\text{MIN}}, \Sigma, \delta_{\text{MIN}}, q_{0 \text{ MIN}}, F_{\text{MIN}})$

$Q_{\text{MIN}} = E_M, q_{0 \text{ MIN}} = [q_0], F_{\text{MIN}} = \{ [q] \mid q \in F \}$

$\delta_{\text{MIN}}([q], \sigma) = [\delta(q, \sigma)]$

Must show δ_{MIN} is well defined!

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Claim: $\hat{\delta}_{\text{MIN}}([q], w) = [\hat{\delta}(q, w)], w \in \Sigma^*$

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$\delta_{MIN}([q], \sigma) = [\delta(q, \sigma)]$

So: $\hat{\delta}_{MIN}([q_0], w) = [\hat{\delta}(q_0, w)], w \in \Sigma^*$

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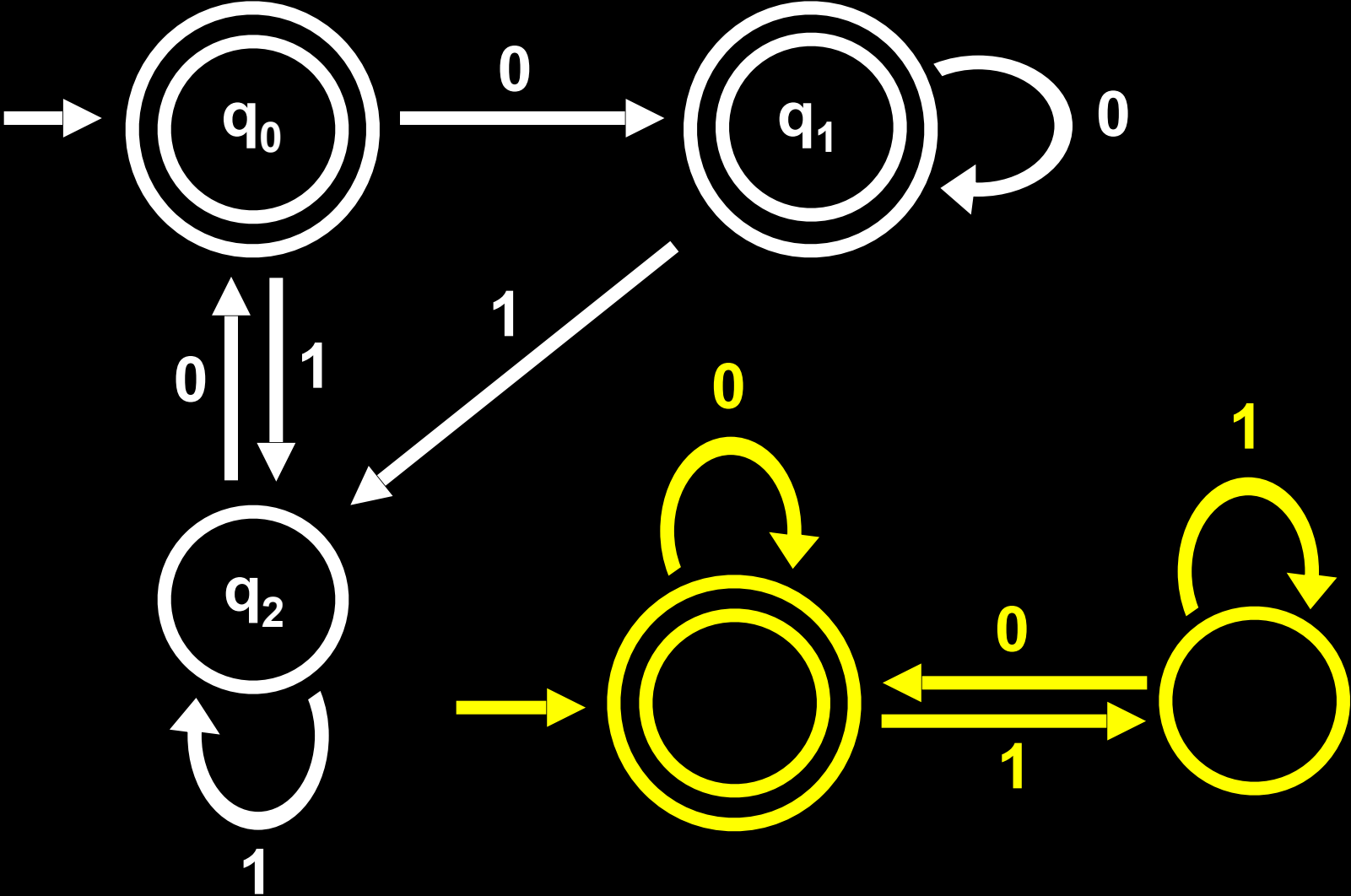
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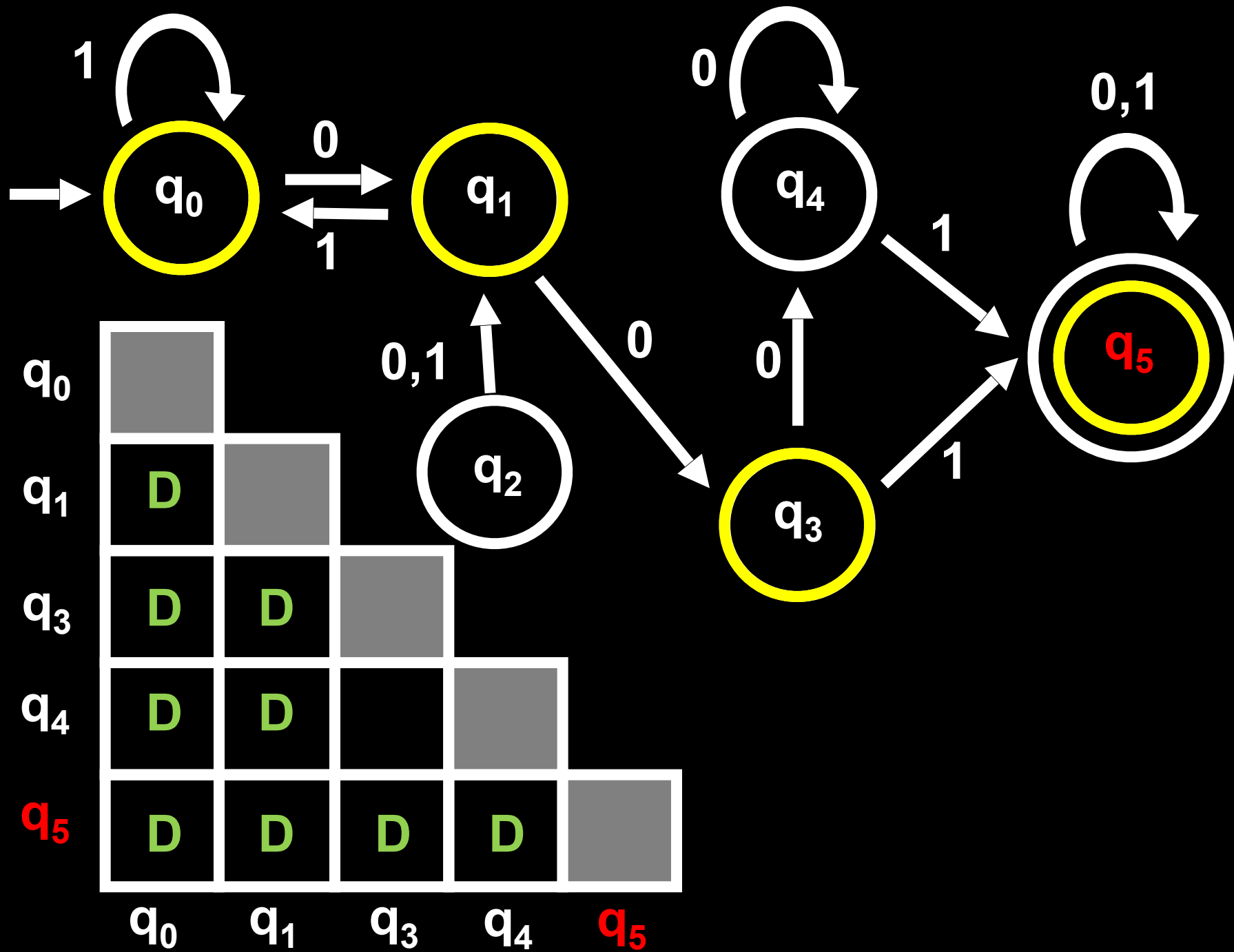
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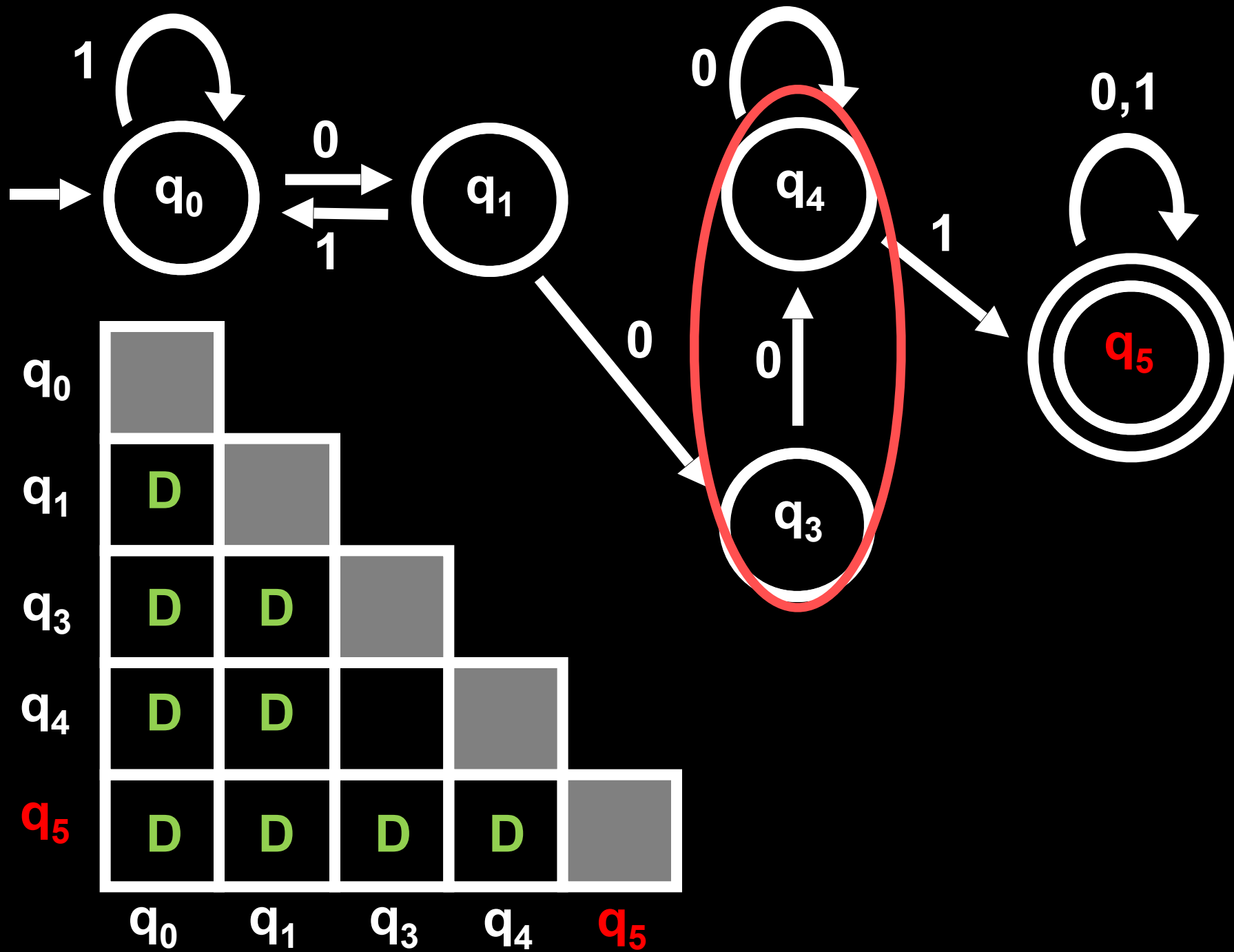
$\delta_{\text{MIN}}([q], \sigma) = [\delta(q, \sigma)]$

Follows: $M_{\text{MIN}} \equiv M$

MINIMIZE







PROPOSITION. Suppose $M' \equiv M$ and M' has no inaccessible states **and** is irreducible

Then, there exists a 1-1 onto correspondence between M_{MIN} and M' (preserving transitions)

i.e., M_{MIN} and M' are “Isomorphic”

COR: M_{MIN} is unique minimal DFA $\equiv M$

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Proof of Prop: We will construct a map recursively

Base Case: $q_{0 \text{ MIN}} \rightarrow q_0'$

Recursive Step: If $p \rightarrow p'$
 $\downarrow \sigma \quad \downarrow \sigma$ Then $q \rightarrow q'$
 $q \quad q'$

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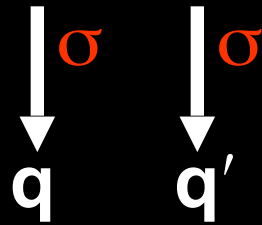
and $\delta(p, \sigma) = q$ and $\delta(p', \sigma) = q'$ Then $q \rightarrow q'$

We need to show:

- The map is **everywhere defined**
- The map is **well defined**
- The map is a **bijection (1-1 and onto)**
- The map **preserves transitions**

Base Case: $q_{0 \text{ MIN}} \rightarrow q_0'$

Recursive Step: If $p \rightarrow p'$



Then $q \rightarrow q'$

The map is everywhere defined:

That is, for all $q \in M_{\text{MIN}}$

there is a $q' \in M'$ such that $q \rightarrow q'$

If $q \in M_{\text{MIN}}$, there is a string w such that

$$\hat{\delta}_{\text{MIN}}(q_{0 \text{ MIN}}, w) = q \text{ (WHY?)}$$

Let $q' = \hat{\delta}'(q_0', w)$. q will map to q' (by induction)

Base Case: $q_0 \text{ MIN} \rightarrow q_0'$

Recursive Step: If $p \rightarrow p'$
 $\downarrow \sigma \quad \downarrow \sigma$ Then $q \rightarrow q'$
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The map is well defined

That is, for all $q \in M_{\text{MIN}}$

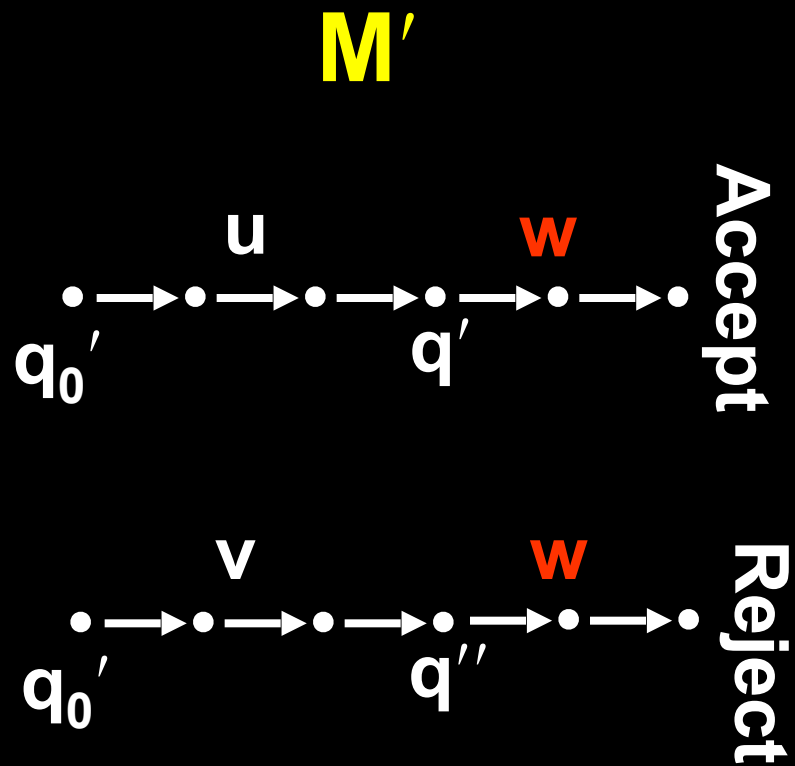
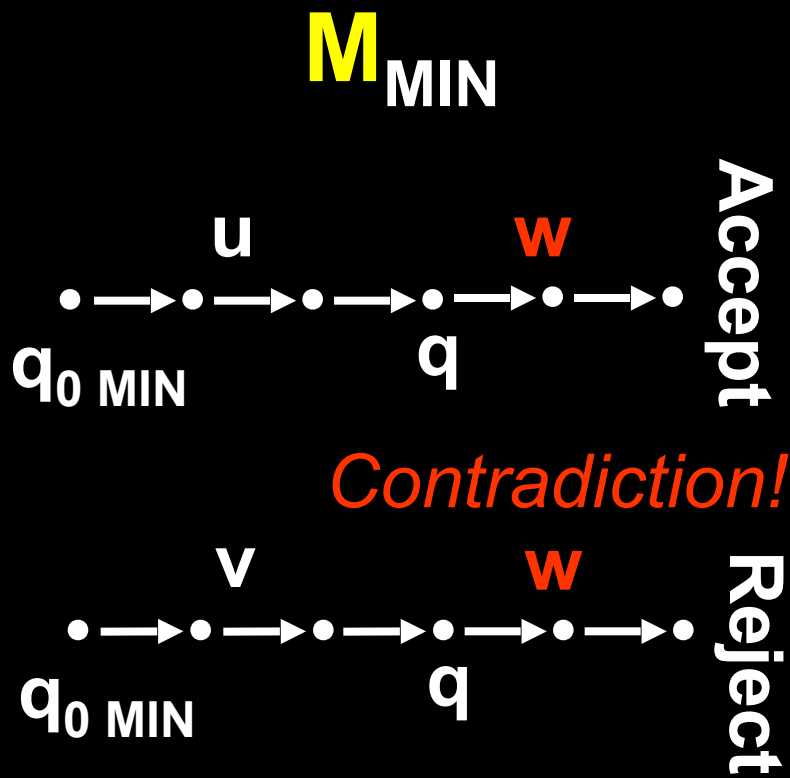
there is at most one $q' \in M'$ such that $q \rightarrow q'$

Suppose there exist q' and q'' such that
 $q \rightarrow q'$ and $q \rightarrow q''$

We show that q' and q'' are **indistinguishable**,
so it must be that $q' = q''$ (**Why?**)

Suppose there exist q' and q'' such that
 $q \rightarrow q'$ and $q \rightarrow q''$

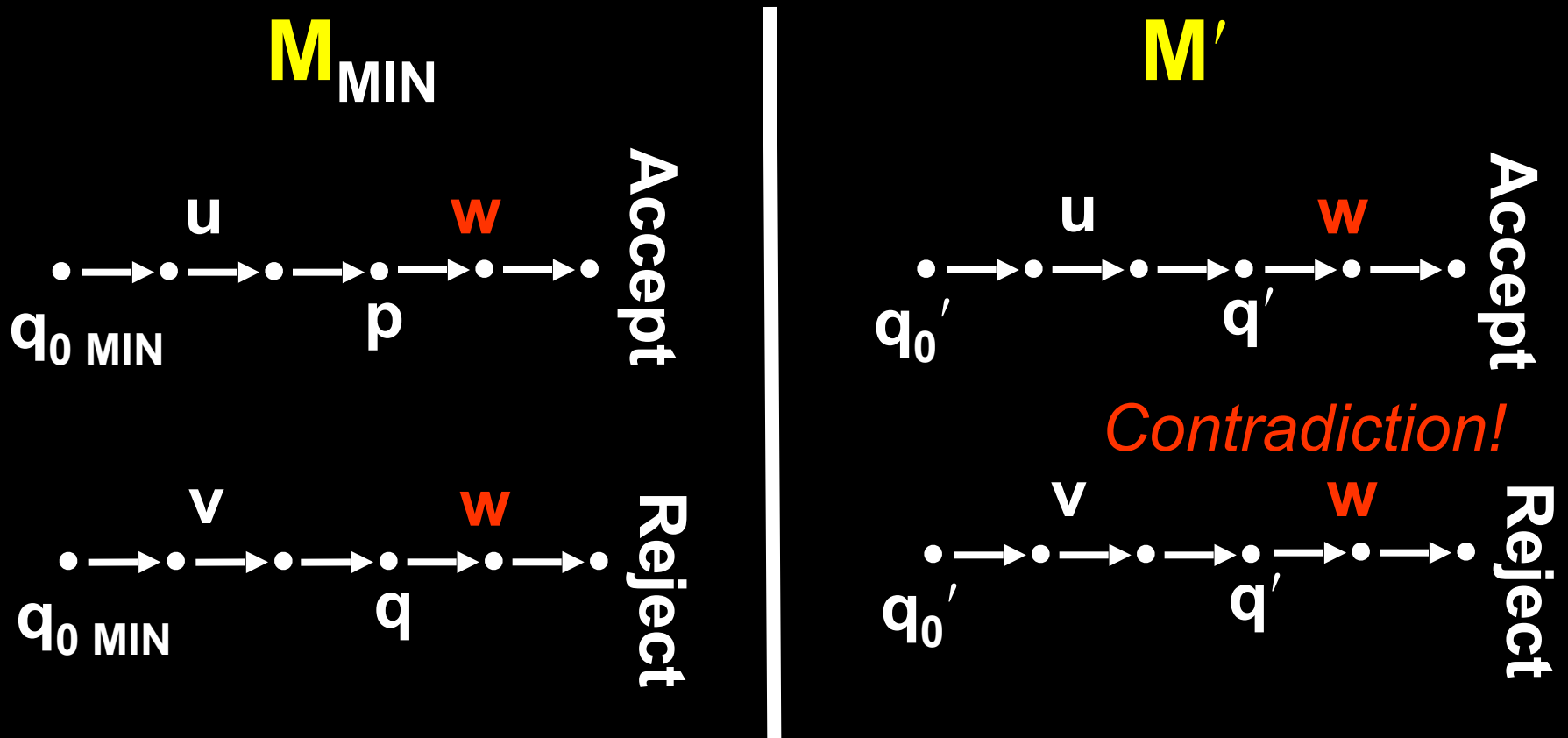
Suppose q' and q'' are **distinguishable**



The map is 1-1

Suppose there are distinct p and q such that
 $p \rightarrow q'$ and $q \rightarrow q'$

p and q are **distinguishable** (why?)



Base Case: $q_{0 \text{ MIN}} \rightarrow q_0'$

Recursive Step: If $p \rightarrow p'$
 $\downarrow \sigma \quad \downarrow \sigma$ Then $q \rightarrow q'$
 $q \quad q'$

The map is onto

That is, for all $q' \in M'$ there is a $q \in M_{\text{MIN}}$
such that $q \rightarrow q'$

If $q' \in M'$, there is w such that
 $\delta^\wedge(q_0', w) = q'$

Let $q = \delta_{\text{MIN}}^\wedge(q_{0 \text{ MIN}}, w)$. q will map to q' (**why?**)

Base Case: $q_0 \text{ MIN} \rightarrow q_0'$

Recursive Step: If $p \rightarrow p'$
 $\downarrow \sigma \quad \downarrow \sigma$ Then $q \rightarrow q'$
 $q \quad q'$

The map preserves transitions

That is, if $p \rightarrow p'$ and $q \rightarrow q'$ and $\delta(p, \sigma) = q$
then, $\delta'(p', \sigma) = q'$

(Why?)

**How can we prove that two
regular expressions are
equivalent?**

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Read Chapters 2.1 & 2.2 for next time