

```

procedure MergeStates ( accepts DFA  $D$  defined by
    transition table  $T[\cdot][\cdot]$  )
returns a potentially new  $T[\cdot][\cdot]$ 

```

$T[\text{row}][\cdot]$ uniquely identifies one state of D , and each $T[r][c]$ identifies the unique transition from state r to state $T[r][c]$ on input character $c \in \Sigma$.

```

let  $M$  be an empty set
let  $L$  be an empty stack
push ( {accepting states of  $D$  },  $\Sigma$  ) onto  $L$ 
push ( {non-accepting states of  $D$  },  $\Sigma$  ) onto  $L$ 
repeat (
     $S, C \leftarrow \text{pop } L$ 
    remove an element  $c$  from  $C$ 
    Partition states  $s$  in  $S$  by  $T[s][c]$  into sets
         $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_k$ 
    foreach (  $X_i$  of  $X_1, X_2, X_3, \dots, X_k$  with  $|X_i| > 1$  ) do (
        if (  $C = \emptyset$  ) then (
            add  $X_i$  to  $M$ 
        ) else (
            push (  $X_i, C$  ) onto  $L$ 
        )
    )
) while (  $|L| > 0$  )
foreach (  $S \in M$  ) do (
    merge rows of  $T[\cdot][\cdot]$  identified by states in  $S$ ,
    fixing up transitions to these states as well!
    if ( starting state of  $D \in S$  ) then (
        mark the newly merged row as the
        starting state of  $D$ 
    )
)
return  $T[\cdot][\cdot]$ 

```

Let DFA D be defined by transition table $T[\cdot][\cdot]$.
 $T[\text{row}][\cdot]$ uniquely identifies one state of D , and
each $T[r][c]$ identifies the unique transition from
state r to state $T[r][c]$ on input character $c \in \Sigma$.

```
repeat (
     $T' \leftarrow \text{MergeStates}(T)$ 
    if (  $|T| = |T'|$  ) then (
        break loop
    ) else (
         $T \leftarrow T'$ 
    )
)
```

$T'[\cdot][\cdot]$ is now a well (near?) optimized *DFA* equivalent
to D with a reasonable number of effective states.

(Dead or unreachable states may still exist.)