

State Type: *atis*Equifinality

(State type is part of the metatheory and describes configurations and properties that characterize a state of that type.)

Equifinality, ${}_{EQ}\mathfrak{S}$, =_{df} a system that is behavior-predictable from more than one preceding system behavior.

$${}_{EQ}\mathfrak{S} =_{df} \mathfrak{S} \mid \mathcal{B}_1(\mathfrak{S})_{t(1)} \vee \mathcal{B}_2(\mathfrak{S})_{t(1)} \vee \dots \vee \mathcal{B}_n(\mathfrak{S})_{t(1)} \Vdash \mathcal{B}(\mathfrak{S})_{t(2)}$$

Equifinality is a system such that various system behaviors at time t_1 yield the system behavior at time t_2 . The behavior of a system that results from equifinality is absolutely predictable from any of the preceding system behaviors. Equifinality determines the predictability of system behavior from more than one preceding system behavior.

Equifinality can also be applied to achieving the same output from different inputs, and as the result of different derived production processes.

Examples: The education system of the United States exhibits equifinality; that is, there are numerous distinct school systems that result in comparable student output.