

# Lecture 8

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COT4210 DISCRETE STRUCTURES

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PORTIONS FROM SIPSER, *INTRODUCTION TO THE THEORY OF COMPUTATION*, 3<sup>RD</sup> ED., 2013

# Context-Free Grammars: Chomsky Normal Form

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A simplified form for context-free grammars

- Useful for working with CFGs using algorithms

A CFG is in **Chomsky Normal Form** if:

- Every rule is of one of the following forms:
  - $A \rightarrow BC$
  - $A \rightarrow a$
  - $S \rightarrow \epsilon$
- Where  $A$ ,  $B$  and  $C$  are variables,  $a$  is a terminal, and:
  - $S$  is the starting variable
  - Neither  $B$  nor  $C$  are  $S$  ( $A$  can be)

# Converting to CNF: 4-Step Process

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## 1. Add a new start variable.

It rewrites only to the old start variable:

- $S_0 \rightarrow S$

## 2. Get rid of rewrites to the empty string.

For every rewrite of variable  $X \rightarrow \varepsilon$ :

- Remove the rule  $X \rightarrow \varepsilon$
- Find every instance of a variable  $Y$  being rewritten to anything involving  $X$
- Add a new rule rewriting  $Y$  to the same thing, but with  $X$  removed

## 3. Get rid of unit rules.

For every rewrite of variables  $X \rightarrow Y$ :

- Remove the rule  $X \rightarrow Y$
- Find every instance of  $Y$  being rewritten to anything
- Add a new rule rewriting  $X$  to the same thing

## 4. Convert all the remaining rules.

For every rule  $X \rightarrow y_1y_2y_3\dots y_n$ :

- Remove the rule  $X \rightarrow y_1y_2y_3\dots y_n$
- Make new rules  $X \rightarrow y_1X_1$ ,  $X_1 \rightarrow y_2X_2$ ,  $X_2 \rightarrow y_3X_3$ , ...,  $X_{n-2} \rightarrow y_{n-1}y_n$
- When making these rules, for every  $y_i$  that's a terminal:
  - Replace it with a new variable  $Y_i$
  - Create new rule  $Y_i \rightarrow y_i$

# CNF Conversion Example

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(Board work: 2.10)

# Review: Stacks

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A *stack* is a storage mechanism

- First-in, last-out
- *Push* data *onto* the top of the stack
- *Pop* data *from* the top of the stack
- Items below the top of the stack aren't accessible except by popping the top first

# Pushdown Automata

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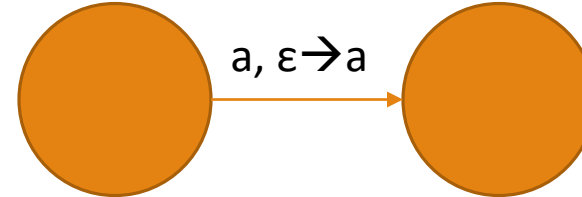
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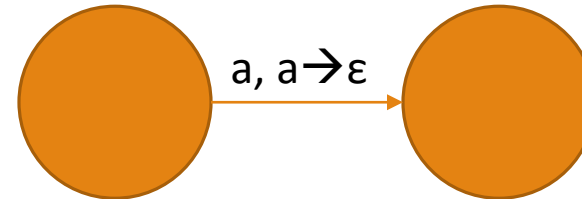
A **pushdown automaton** is an NFA with a stack

On any transition:

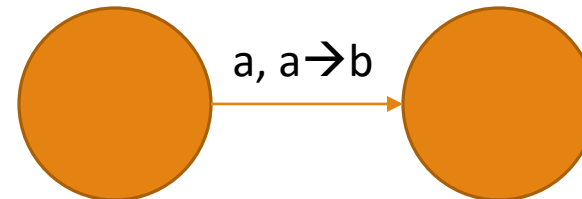
- Push...



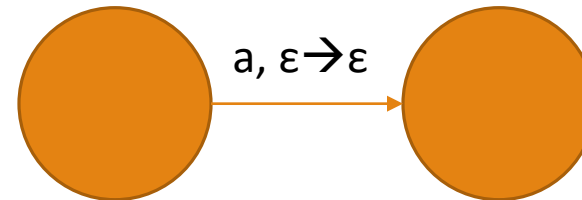
- Pop...



- Both...



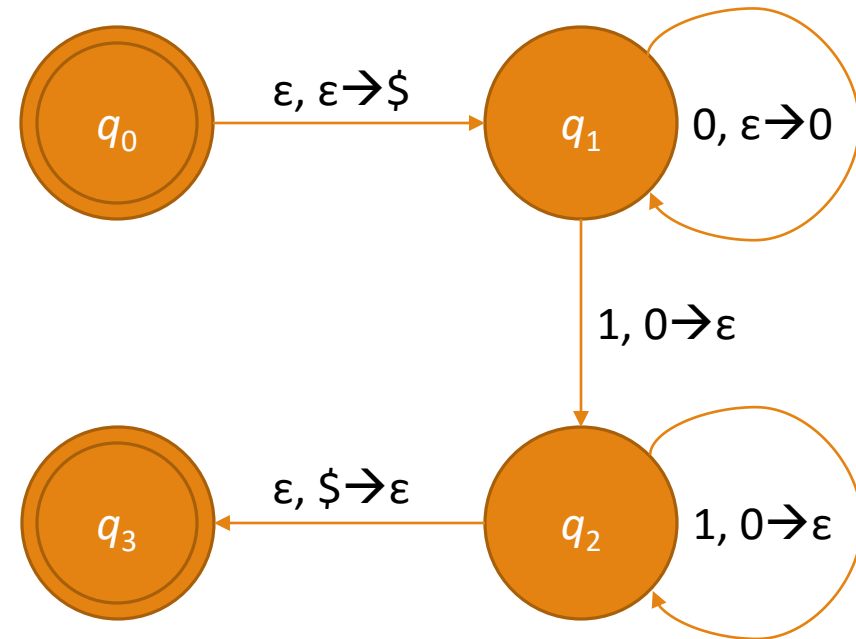
- ...or neither



# Recognizing a Familiar Language

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Can you tell what language this recognizes?

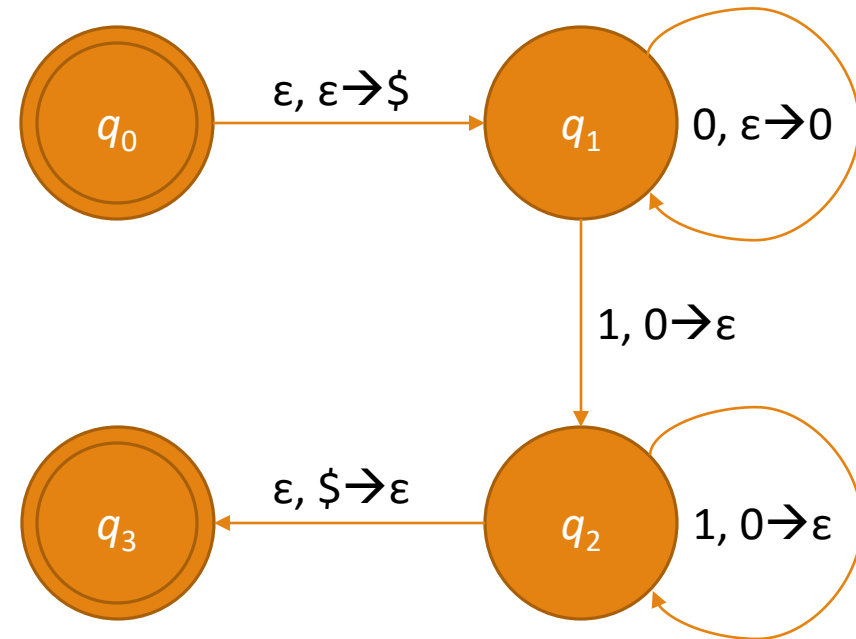


# Recognizing a Familiar Language

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Can you tell what language this recognizes?

$\{0^n 1^n, n \geq 0\}$





# Definition: Pushdown Automaton

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A **pushdown automaton** is a 6-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$  with:

- $Q$  as the set of states,
- $\Sigma$  as the input alphabet,
- $\Gamma$  as the stack alphabet,
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \Gamma_\epsilon \rightarrow P(Q \times \Gamma_\epsilon)$  as the transition function,
- $q_0 \in Q$  as the start state, and
- $F \subseteq Q$  as the accept states.

It accepts a string  $w$  if:

- $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n$ , all  $w_i \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ 
  - (The usual string splitting)
- There's a state sequence  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_m \in Q$ 
  - (The usual state sequence)
- and a string sequence  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_m \in \Gamma^*$ 
  - (A sequence of stack contents)

...so that  $r_0 = q_0$ ,  $s_0 = \epsilon$ ,  $r_m \in F$ , and...

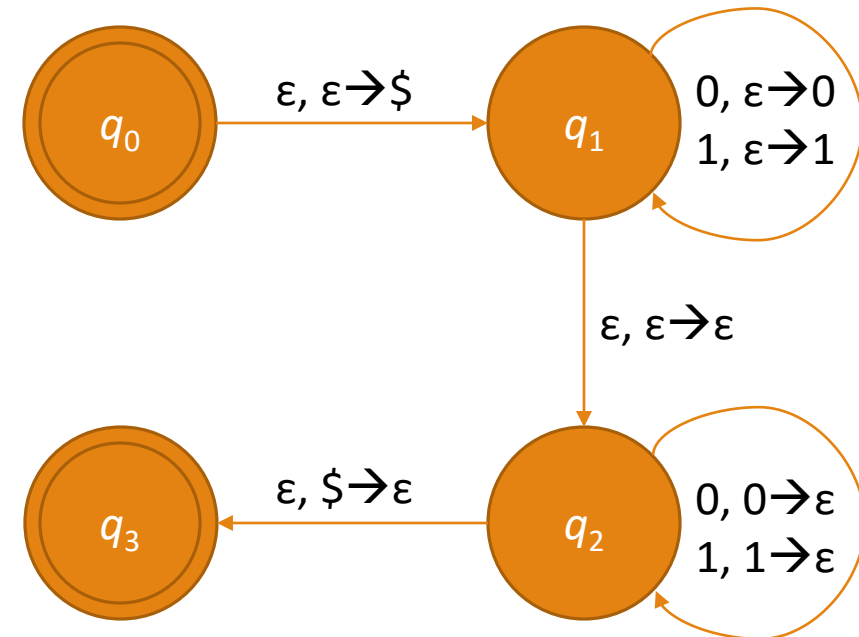
- For  $i$  from 0 to  $m - 1$ ,  $(r_{i+1}, b) \in \delta(r_i, w_{i+1}, a)$ ,
  - (The usual transition mechanics...)
- ...with  $s_i = at$  and  $s_{i+1} = bt$ ,
- ...for some  $a, b \in \Gamma_\epsilon$  and  $t \in \Gamma^*$ 
  - (...with the stack transition mechanics added on)



# Another Familiar Language

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Can you tell what language this recognizes?

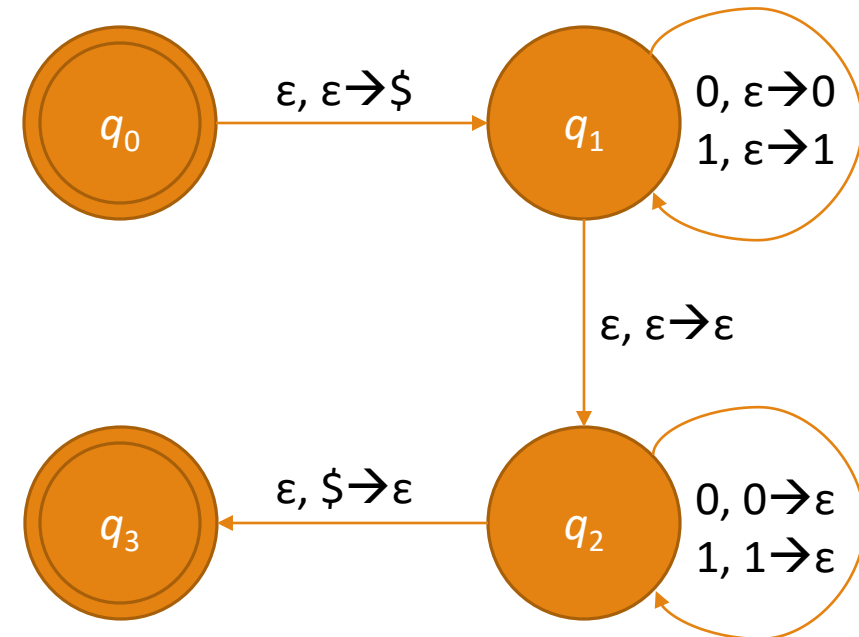


# Another Familiar Language

Can you tell what language this recognizes?

$$\{ ww^R, w \in \{0, 1\}^* \}$$

*Notice that we use the power of nondeterminism to “guess” when we need to switch between the string and its reverse. This is common for PDAs.*



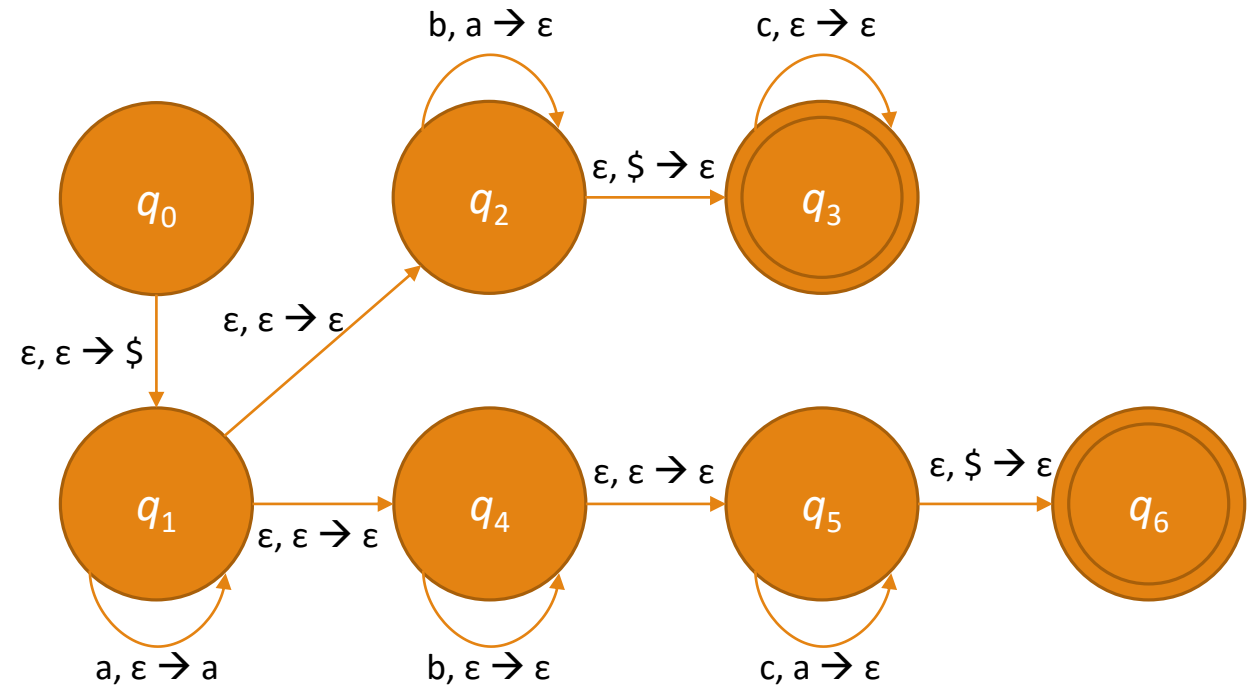
# One More Language

This one recognizes:

$$\{a^i b^j c^k \mid i, j, k \geq 0 \text{ and } i = j \text{ or } i = k\}$$

We use nondeterminism *twice* here

- Once to decide whether we're matching the **b**'s or the **c**'s with the **a**'s
- In the case of matching **c**'s, to decide when to stop throwing away **b**'s and start processing **c**'s



# Standard PDA Tricks, Part 1

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## The Stack Bottom Symbol

- A PDA doesn't normally have any way to tell when the stack is empty
- Many PDAs push a unique “stack bottom” symbol – usually  $\$$  - onto the stack as they begin execution
- This allows testing for an empty stack by looking for that same symbol

## Pushing Strings

- We can push a string onto the stack just as easily as we can a symbol
- Imagine a sequence of empty-string transitions that each push a single symbol of the string
- From now on, we'll allow ourselves to write transitions as though they were pushing strings
- When we do this, *we push the **last** symbol of the string **first*** – if we are pushing  $xyz$ , we push  $z$  then  $y$  then  $x$

# Recognizing CFLs: The Plan

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PDA's are equivalent in power to CFGs

- (admit it, you're not very surprised)
- As always, two things to prove
- First, let's prove that a PDA can recognize any CFL

We *heavily* exploit the nondeterminism of PDA's

- Remember that a derivation in a CFG is a sequence of substitutions
- We want to accept a string if any derivation of it in the grammar exists
- We don't have to figure out which path to take – since a PDA is non-deterministic, it takes them all at once

We use the stack to “walk” the string

- For every variable, try every possible substitution
- For every terminal, try to find a match

# Recognizing CFLs: General Method

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- Push stack-bottom symbol \$
- Repeat forever:
  - Pop the stack, and switch on the result:
    - For variable  $A$ :
      - New non-deterministic branch for each rule with  $A$  as the LHS
      - On each branch:
        - Push the RHS
    - For terminal  $\mathbf{b}$ :
      - Read the next input symbol
      - If the next input symbol is  $\mathbf{b}$ , continue
      - If not, reject on this branch
    - For stack-bottom symbol \$:
      - Enter the accept state
        - Accept the input **if it's all been read**



# Recognizing CFLs: Construction

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Given a CFL  $G = (V, \Sigma_C, R, S)$ :

- $V$  is the *variables*
- $\Sigma$  is the *terminals*
- $R$  is the *rules*
- $S \in V$  is the *start variable*

Create an NFA  $N$  with:

- $Q = \{q_0, q_{loop}, q_{accept}\}$
- $\Sigma = V \cup \Sigma_C$
- $F = \{q_{accept}\}$
- $\delta$ :
  - $\delta(q_0, \epsilon, \epsilon) = \{(q_{loop}, S\$)\}$
  - $\delta(q_{loop}, a \in \Sigma_C, a) = \{(q_{loop}, \epsilon)\}$
  - $\delta(q_{loop}, \epsilon, A \in V) = \{(q_{loop}, RHS(r)) \mid r \in R, LHS(r) = A\}$
  - $\delta(q_{loop}, \epsilon, \$) = \{(q_{accept}, \epsilon)\}$
  - $\emptyset$  otherwise

# Construction Examples

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*(Board work)*

# Standard PDA Tricks, Part 2

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## Single Accept State

- Just as easy as with an ordinary NFA
- Empty string, stack no-operation transitions from what would otherwise be accept states to a unified accept state

## Empty Stack Before Accepting

- Get to a single-accept state
- Make it a non-accept state
- Add an empty-string self-loop that pops anything except  $\$$  off the stack
- Add an empty-string transition, that pops  $\$$ , to a new accept state

## Always Push Or Pop, Never Both

- Rewrite transitions that **push *and* pop** to **pop *then* push**, using a new middle state and an empty-string transition
- Rewrite transitions that neither **push *nor* pop** to **push *then* pop** a dummy symbol, again using a new middle state and an empty-string transition

# Grammars for PDAs: Modifying the PDA

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Let's show that a CFG can generate the language of any PDA

- Take a PDA  $P$
- It suffices to construct a CFG  $G$  that generates the language it accepts

First, let's modify it as we discussed on the last slide. Let  $P_G$  be  $P$  modified so that:

- It has a single accept state
- It empties its stack before it accepts
- Every transition either pushes or pops; not both and not neither
- Since we know  $P_G$  accepts equivalently to  $P$ , it suffices to construct a CFG  $G$  that generates the language of  $P_G$

It suffices in turn to construct a grammar  $G$ , and show that  **$G$  generates a string  $s$  if  $s$  causes  $P_G$  to go from its start state to its accept state**

# Grammars for PDAs: Stack-Preserving Transitions

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Our construction is, fundamentally, as follows:

- Consider **every** pair of states  $(q_w, q_z)$  in  $P_G$
- Create a variable  $V_{wz}$  derivable to all the strings that:
  - Take the machine from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$
  - Leave the stack empty if it starts empty
- Note that the second part is really just “leave the stack like we found it”
  - If we leave the stack empty given that it starts empty, then we will leave it containing string  $s$  given that it started containing string  $s$

# Grammars for PDAs: The Induction Plan

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Remember the restrictions on  $P_G$ :

- Single accept state
- Empty stack before accepting
- Always push or pop, never both or neither

Consider any string  $s$  so that  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness

- The *first* move *must* be a push
- The *last* move *must* be a pop

If the symbol **popped at the end** is the **same symbol pushed at the beginning**, the stack **might** only be empty at the beginning and end

- $V_{wz} = \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$  where:
  - $\mathbf{a}$  is the input read along with that first push
  - $\mathbf{b}$  is the input read along with that last pop
  - $x$  is the state just after  $w$
  - $y$  is the state just before  $z$

Otherwise, the stack is empty **at some point in between**

- $V_{wz} = V_{wx}V_{xz}$  where  $x$  is the state at that point

# Grammars for PDAs: Construction

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Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted so that it:

- Has a single accept state
- Empties its stack before accepting
- Always pushes or pops on a transition, never both or neither

**We have rules to:**

1. Handle the degenerate case of a state transitioning to itself
2. Handle the transitive transition case
3. Handle the push-pop case

Let  $G$  be a CFG and construct its rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $u \in \Gamma$ , and  $a, b \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, a, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, u)$   
**and**  $\delta(y, b, u)$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow aV_{xy}b$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 1 Basis

We want to show that **if**  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$ , **then**  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness.

We show this by induction on the number of steps in the derivation of  $s$ .

**Basis:** The derivation has one step. Therefore, the RHS cannot have variables. The only rules without variables on the RHS in  $G$  are rules of the form  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$ . Clearly  $\varepsilon$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_w$  preserving stack emptiness, as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$



# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 1 Setup

**Induction Hypothesis:** If  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$  by a derivation with  $k$  or fewer steps,  $k \geq 1$ , then  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness.

**Induction:** Show that if  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$  by a derivation with  $k + 1$  steps, then  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness.

Consider  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* s$  in  $k + 1$  steps. The first step must be either  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$  or  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$ .

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 1 Case 1

**Induction:** Show that if  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$  by a derivation with  $k + 1$  steps, then  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness.

Consider  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* s$  in  $k + 1$  steps. The first step must be either  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$  or  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$ .

If it's  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$ , then:

- $s = rt$  so that  $V_{wx} \rightarrow^* r$  and  $V_{xz} \rightarrow^* t$ , both in  $k$  or fewer steps.
- Therefore by the induction hypothesis,  $r$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_x$  and  $t$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_x$  to  $q_z$ , both preserving stack emptiness.
- Therefore,  $rt$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness. Since  $rt = s$ , so does  $s$ , as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 1 Case 2

If it's  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$ , then:

- $s = \mathbf{atb}$  so that  $V_{xy} \rightarrow^* t$  in  $k$  or fewer steps.
- Therefore by the induction hypothesis,  $t$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_x$  to  $q_y$  preserving stack emptiness.
- By part 3 of our construction, since  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$  is a rule, then for some stack symbol  $\mathbf{u}$ ,  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$  and  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$ .
- Therefore,  $P_G$  can:
  - Read  $\mathbf{a}$  and push  $\mathbf{u}$  to go from  $q_w$  to  $q_x$
  - Use  $t$  to go from  $q_x$  to  $q_y$  with only  $\mathbf{u}$  left on the stack
  - Read  $\mathbf{b}$  and pop  $\mathbf{u}$  to go from  $q_y$  to  $q_z$
- ...which leaves the stack empty, and we have completed our transition as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

We're almost done.

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REALLY.



# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 2 Basis

We want to show that **if**  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness, **then**  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$ . We show this by induction on the number of steps in  $P_G$ 's computation from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$ .

**Basis:** The computation has no steps.

- Therefore, it starts and ends at the same state  $w$ .
- Therefore, we need  $V_{ww}$  to generate  $s$ .
- In 0 steps,  $P_G$  can't read anything, so  $s = \varepsilon$ .
- By part 1 of our construction, we have  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$  as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
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3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 2 Setup

**Induction Hypothesis:** If  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness by a computation with  $k$  or fewer steps,  $k \geq 0$ , then  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$ .

**Induction:** Show that if  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving stack emptiness by a computation with  $k + 1$  steps, then  $V_{wz}$  generates string  $s$ .

Suppose  $s$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_z$  preserving emptiness by a computation with  $k + 1$  steps.

Then either the stack becomes empty somewhere in between  $q_w$  and  $q_z$ , or the stack is empty only at the beginning and end of this computation.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
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3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
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**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 2 Case 1

Either the stack becomes empty somewhere in between  $q_w$  and  $q_z$ , or the stack is empty only at the beginning and end of this computation.

If the stack becomes empty between them:

- Let  $q_x$  be the state where it does so.
- Then the computations from  $q_w$  to  $q_x$ , and  $q_x$  to  $q_z$ , have  $k$  or fewer steps.
- Let  $s = rt$  where  $r$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_w$  to  $q_x$  and  $t$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_x$  to  $q_z$ .
- By the induction hypothesis,  $V_{wx} \rightarrow^* r$  and  $V_{xz} \rightarrow^* t$ .
- By part 2 of our construction,  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$ .
- Then  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* rt$ , and since  $rt = s$ ,  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* s$  as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

1. For all  $w \in Q$ 
  - Add rule  $V_{ww} \rightarrow \varepsilon$
2. For all  $w, x, z \in Q$ ,
  - Add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow V_{wx}V_{xz}$
3. For all  $w, x, y, z \in Q$ ,  $\mathbf{u} \in \Gamma$ , and  $\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b} \in \Sigma_\varepsilon$ :
  - **If**  $\delta(w, \mathbf{a}, \varepsilon)$  contains  $(x, \mathbf{u})$   
**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$

# Grammars for PDAs: Showing It Works – Direction 2 Case 2

If the stack *doesn't* become empty in between  $q_w$  and  $q_z$ :

- Observe that the symbol  $\mathbf{u}$  that is pushed at the first move must also be popped at the last move.
- Let  $\mathbf{a}$  be the input read in the first move, and  $\mathbf{b}$  be the input read in the last move, and  $t$  be the part of  $s$  between them, so that  $s = \mathbf{atb}$ .
- Let  $q_x$  be the state just after  $q_w$  and  $q_y$  be the state just before  $q_z$ .
- $t$  takes  $P_G$  from  $q_x$  to  $q_y$  in  $(k - 1)$  steps. Therefore, by the induction hypothesis,  $V_{xy}$  generates  $t$ .
- By the third part of our construction,  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$ . So  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* \mathbf{atb}$ .
- Since  $s = \mathbf{atb}$ ,  $V_{wz} \rightarrow^* s$  as desired.

Let PDA  $P_G = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  restricted to single accept state, empty stack before accept, and always-push-or-pop.

Let  $G$  be a CFG with rules as follows:

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**and**  $\delta(y, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{u})$  contains  $(z, \varepsilon)$   
**then** add rule  $V_{wz} \rightarrow \mathbf{a}V_{xy}\mathbf{b}$



# Construction Examples

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*No.*

# PDA-CFG Equivalence

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We've shown that:

- Any context-free grammar's language can be recognized by a pushdown automaton
- Any pushdown automaton's language can be generated by a context-free grammar

PDA's and CFG's are equal in power. So we can now say all of the following:

- **A language is context-free if and only if a context-free grammar generates it.**
- **A language is context-free if and only if a pushdown automaton recognizes it.**
- **A context-free grammar generates a language if and only if a pushdown automaton recognizes it.**

# A Corollary

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We've just proven that PDAs recognize context-free languages.

- But a PDA is just an NFA with a stack.
- It can ignore its stack just like an NFA can ignore nondeterminism.

# A Corollary

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We've just proven that PDAs recognize context-free languages.

- But a PDA is just an NFA with a stack.
- It can ignore its stack just like an NFA can ignore nondeterminism.

**Every regular language is also a context-free language.**

Next Time:  
Deterministic PDAs, Non-  
CFLs, and More Pigeons

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