

# **Theory of Computation**

**CFG and PDA Equivalence**

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## Lemma:

If a **PDA** recognizes a language, then it is context-free.

## Proof idea:

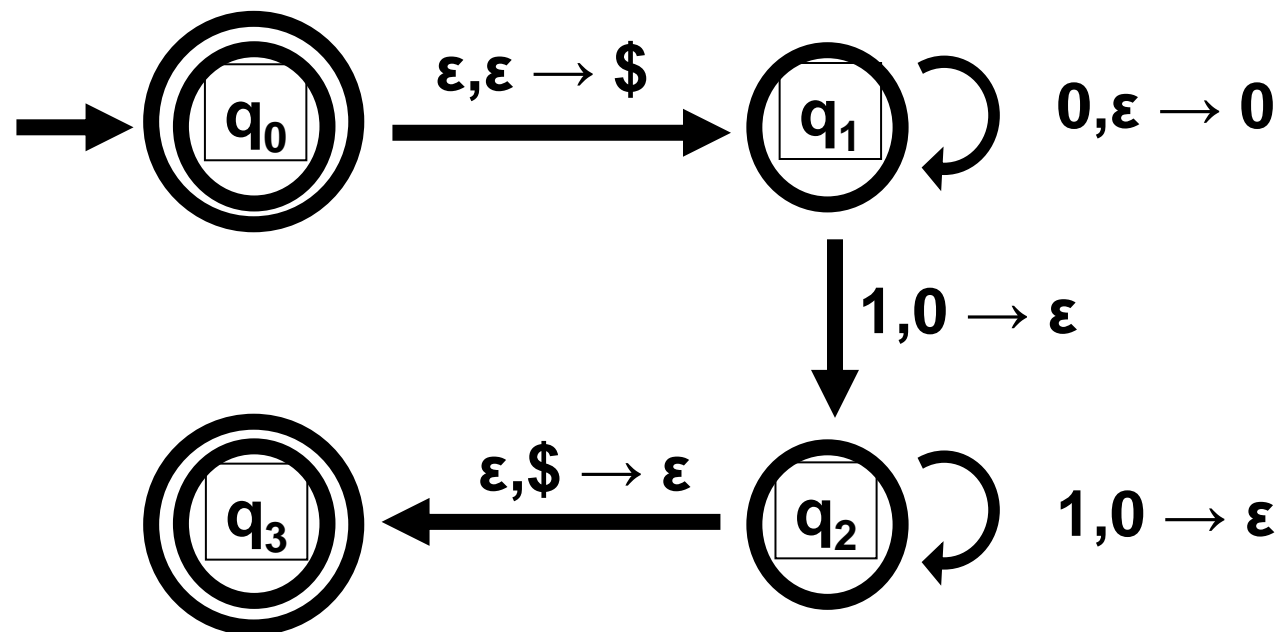
Given PDA **P** =  $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q, F)$

Construct a CFG **G** =  $(V, \Sigma, R, S)$  such that  $L(\mathbf{G}) = L(\mathbf{P})$

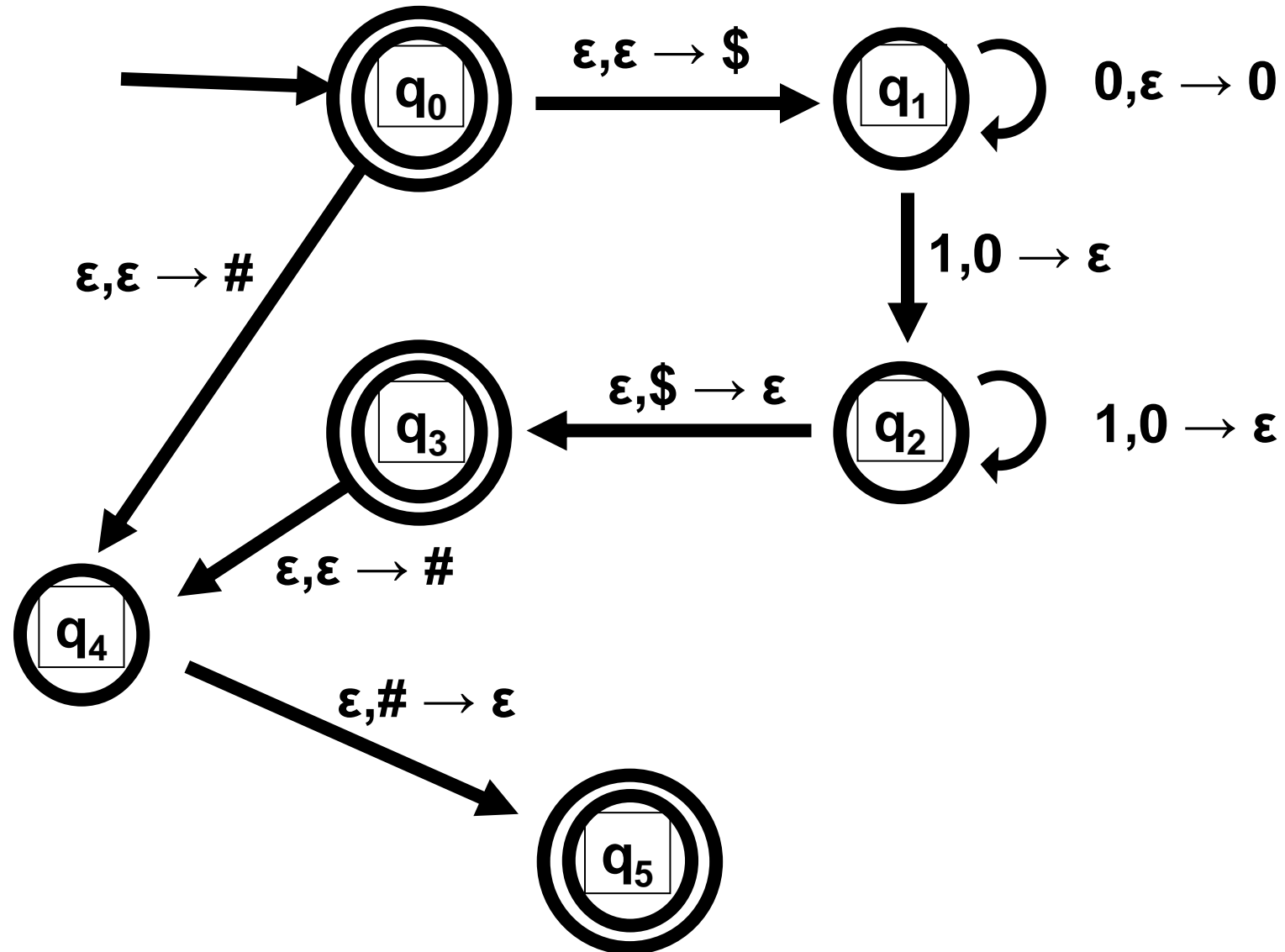
**First, simplify  $P$  to have the following form:**

- (1) It has a unique accept state,  $q_{acc}$**
- (2) It empties the stack before accepting**
- (3) Each transition either pushes a symbol or pops a symbol, but not both at the same time**

# SIMPLIFY



(1) It has a unique accept state,  $q_{acc}$



Idea For Our Grammar **G**:

For every pair of states **p** and **q** in PDA **P**,

**G** will have a variable **A<sub>pq</sub>** whose production rules will generate all strings **x** that can take:

**P** from **p** with an empty stack  
to **q** with an empty stack

$$V = \{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$$

$$S = A_{q_0 q_{acc}}$$

**WANT:**  $A_{pq}$  generates all strings that take  $p$  with an empty stack to  $q$  with empty stack

Let  $x$  be such a string

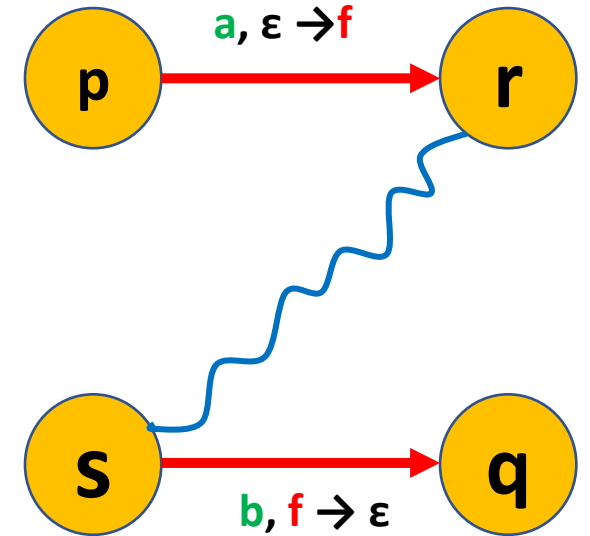
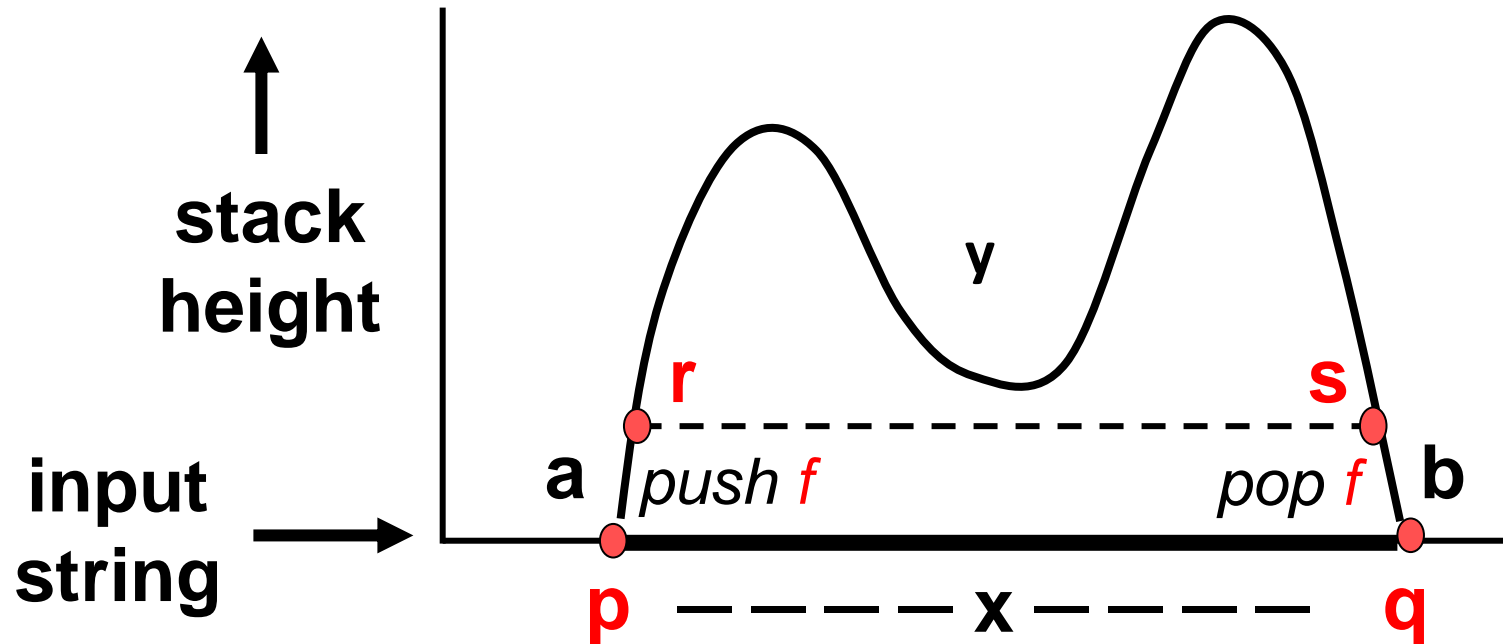
- $P$ 's **first move** on  $x$  must be a **push**
- $P$ 's **last move** on  $x$  must be a **pop**

Two possibilities:

1. The symbol popped at the end is exactly the one pushed at the beginning
2. The symbol popped at the end is not the one pushed at the beginning

$x = ayb$  takes  $p$  with empty stack to  $q$  with empty stack

1. The symbol  $f$  popped at the end is exactly the one pushed at the beginning

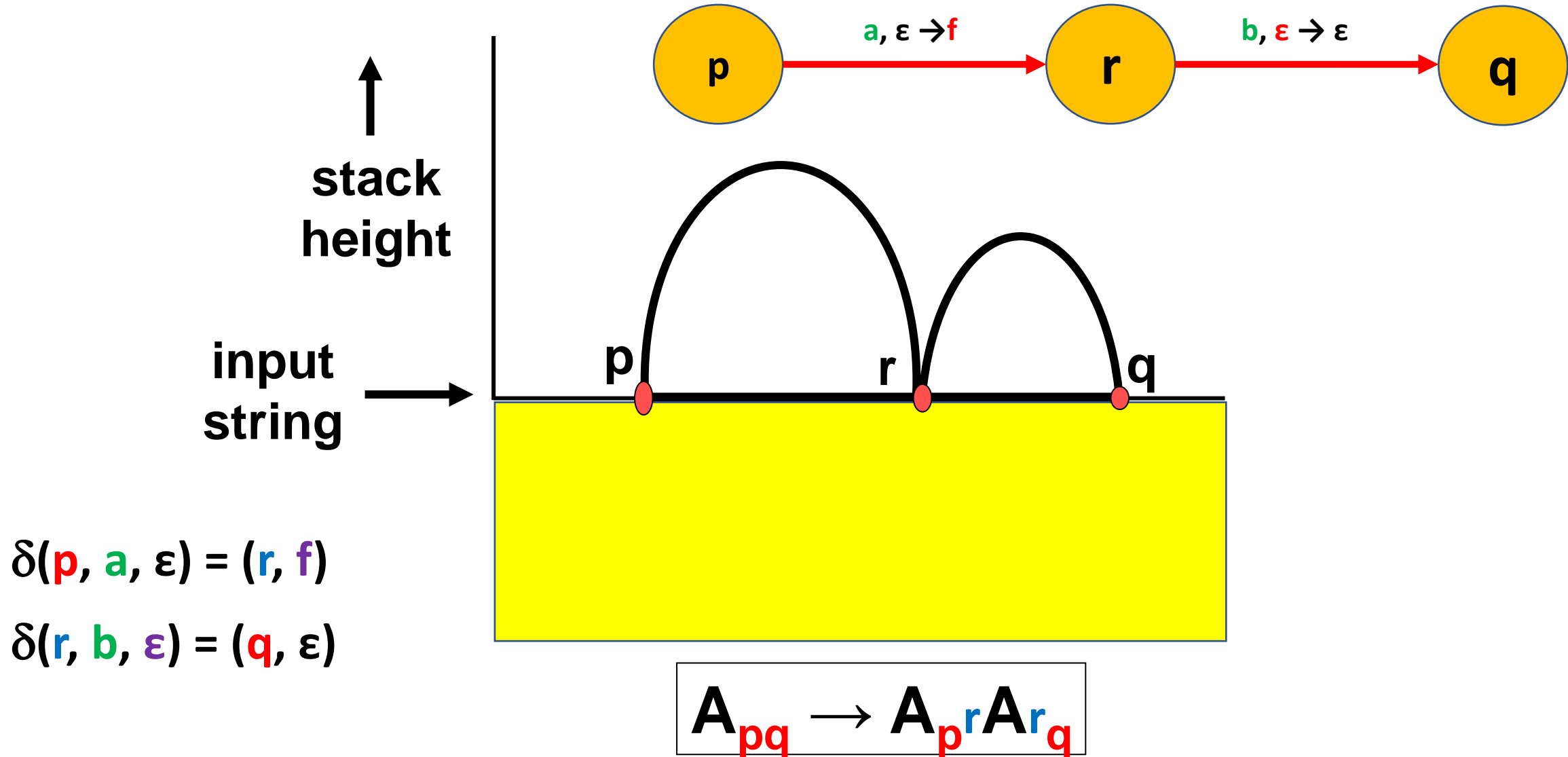


$$\delta(p, a, \epsilon) \rightarrow (r, f)$$

$$\delta(s, b, f) \rightarrow (q, \epsilon) \quad A_{pq} \rightarrow aA_{rs}b$$



2. The symbol popped at the end is not the one pushed at the beginning



Formally:

$$V = \{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$$

$$S = A_{q_0 q_{acc}}$$

For every  $p, q, r, s \in Q, f \in \Gamma$  and  $a, b \in \Sigma_\epsilon$

If  $\delta(p, a, \epsilon) = (r, f)$  and  $\delta(s, b, f) = (q, \epsilon)$

add the rule  $A_{pq} \rightarrow aA_{rs}b$

For every  $p, q, r \in Q,$

If  $\delta(p, a, \epsilon) = (r, f)$  and  $\delta(r, b, \epsilon) = (q, \epsilon)$

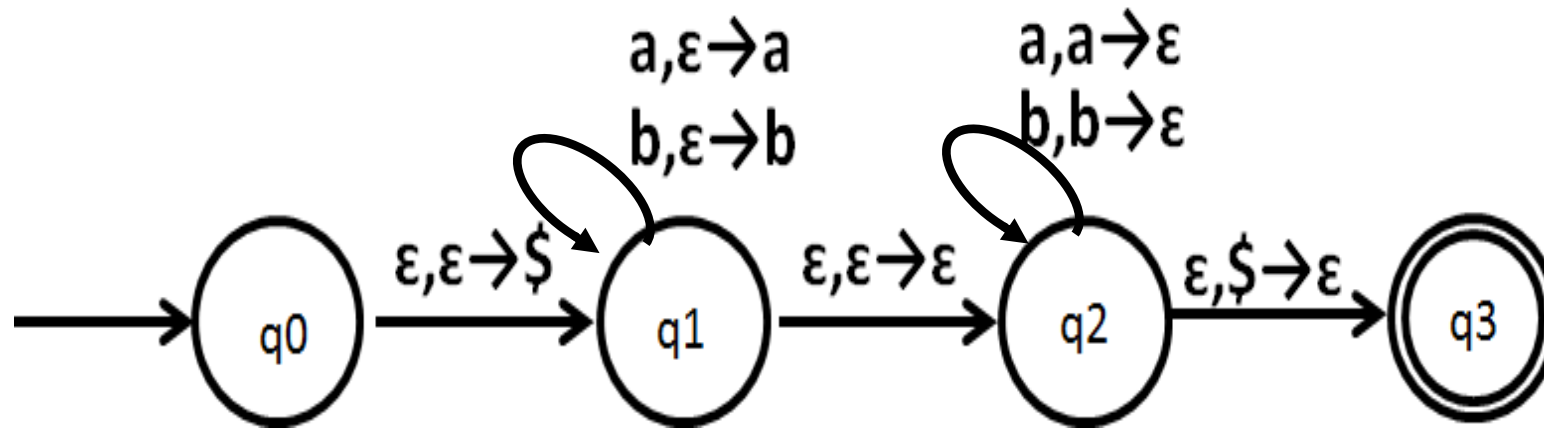
add the rule  $A_{pq} \rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq}$

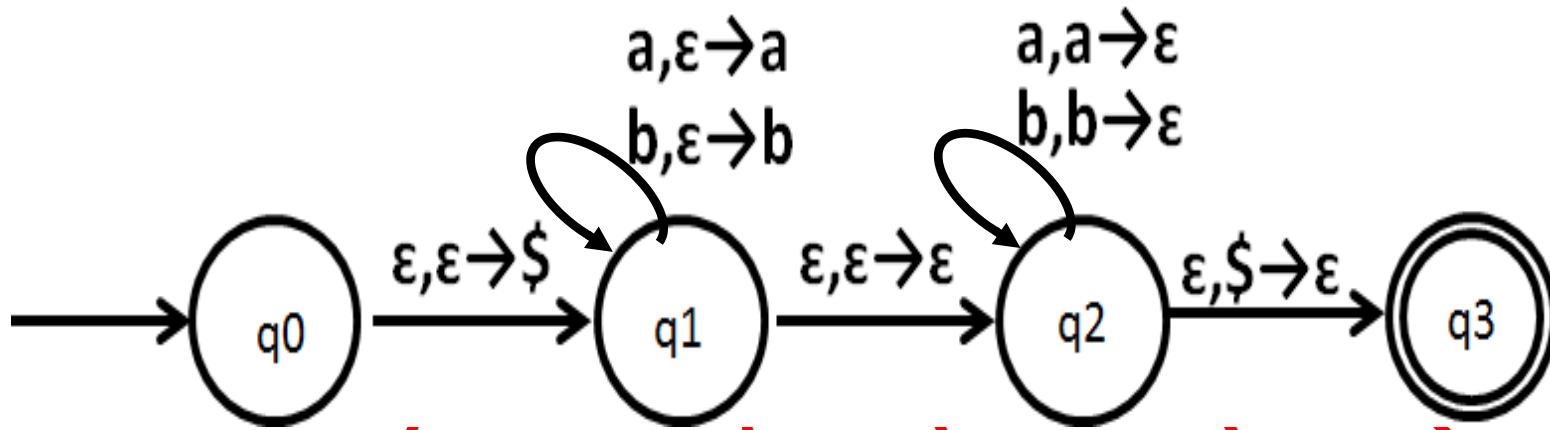
For every  $p \in Q,$

add the rule  $A_{pp} \rightarrow \epsilon$

# Example

Write a CFG for the following PDA





1.  $\delta(q0, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q1, \$)$

2.  $\delta(q1, a, \epsilon) = (q1, a)$

3.  $\delta(q1, b, \epsilon) = (q1, b)$

4.  $\delta(q1, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q2, \epsilon)$

5.  $\delta(q2, a, a) = (q2, \epsilon)$

6.  $\delta(q2, b, b) = (q2, \epsilon)$

7.  $\delta(q2, \epsilon, \$) = (q3, \epsilon)$

1.  $\delta(q_0, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q_1, \$)$
2.  $\delta(q_1, a, \epsilon) = (q_1, a)$
3.  $\delta(q_1, b, \epsilon) = (q_1, b)$
4.  $\delta(q_1, \epsilon, \epsilon) = (q_2, \epsilon)$
5.  $\delta(q_2, a, a) = (q_2, \epsilon)$
6.  $\delta(q_2, b, b) = (q_2, \epsilon)$
7.  $\delta(q_2, \epsilon, \$) = (q_3, \epsilon)$

$$\begin{aligned}
 A_{00} &\rightarrow \epsilon \\
 A_{11} &\rightarrow \epsilon \\
 A_{22} &\rightarrow \epsilon \\
 A_{33} &\rightarrow \epsilon
 \end{aligned}$$

$$A_{03} \rightarrow \epsilon A_{12} \epsilon \quad 1, 7$$

$$A_{01} \rightarrow A_{01} A_{11} \quad 1, 2$$

$$A_{01} \rightarrow A_{01} A_{11} \quad 1, 3$$

$$A_{02} \rightarrow A_{01} A_{12} \quad 1, 4$$

$$1, 5$$

$$1, 6$$

$$A_{11} \rightarrow A_{11} A_{11} \quad 2, 3$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_{11} A_{12} \quad 2, 4$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow a A_{12} a \quad 2, 5$$

$$2, 6$$

$$2, 7$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_{11} A_{12} \quad 3, 4$$

$$3, 5$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow b A_{12} b \quad 3, 6$$

$$3, 7$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_{12} A_{22} \quad 4, 5$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow A_{12} A_{22} \quad 4, 6$$

$$A_{13} \rightarrow A_{12} A_{23} \quad 4, 7$$

$$A_{22} \rightarrow A_{22} A_{22} \quad 5, 6$$

$$A_{23} \rightarrow A_{22} A_{23} \quad 5, 7$$

$$A_{23} \rightarrow A_{22} A_{23} \quad 6, 7$$



$$A_{03} \rightarrow \varepsilon A_{12} \varepsilon$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow a A_{12} a$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow b A_{12} b$$

$$A_{03} \rightarrow A_{12}$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow aA_{12}a$$

$$A_{12} \rightarrow bA_{12}b$$

$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid \epsilon$$

$$S \rightarrow aSa$$

$$S \rightarrow bSb$$