

CS 6041

Theory of Computation

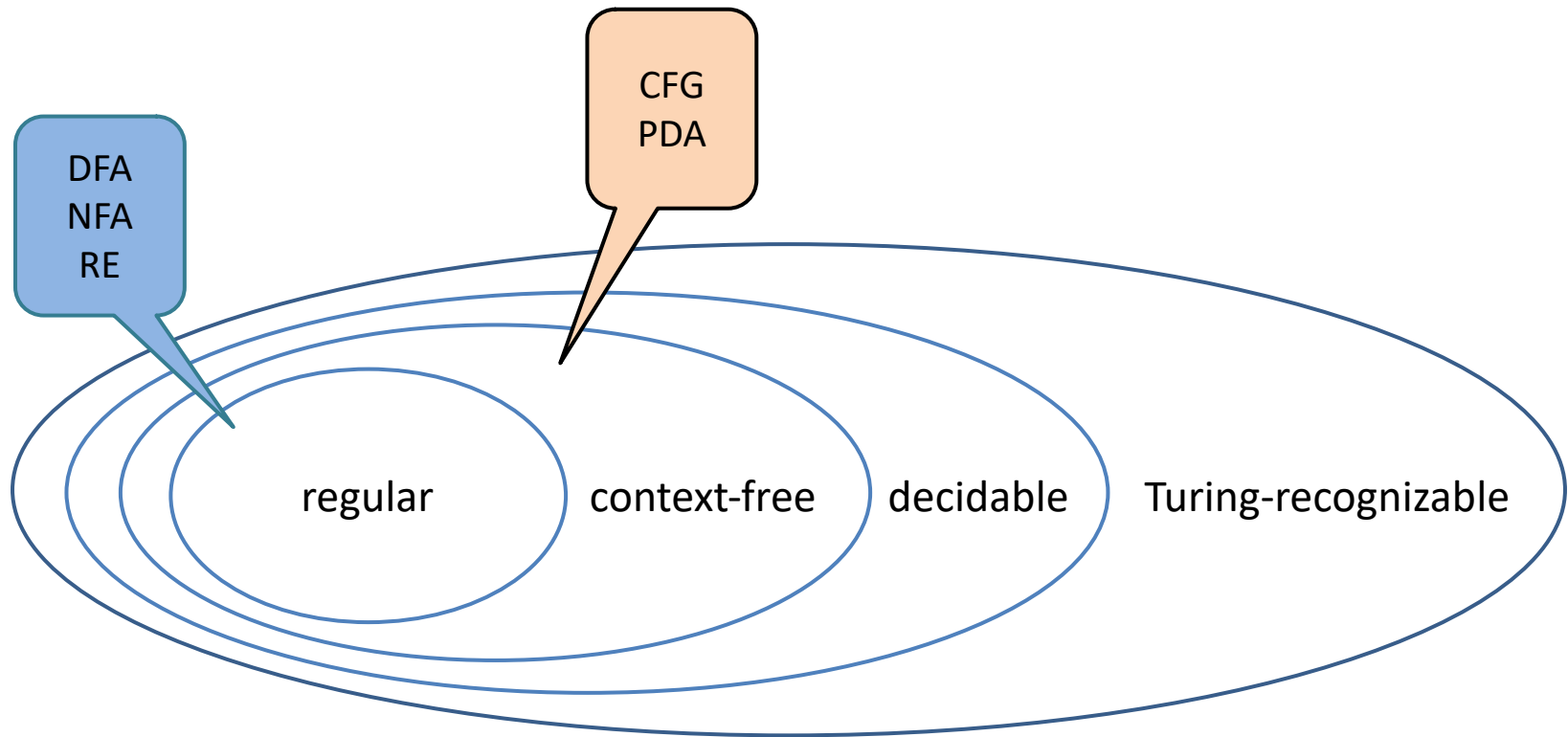
Pushdown Automata

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<https://kevinsuo.github.io/>

Pushdown Automata (PDA)



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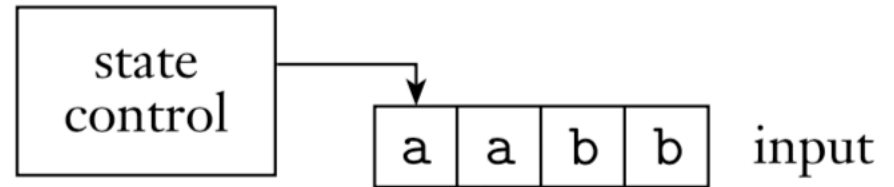
- Pushdown automatas are equivalent in power to context-free grammars (PDA=CFG)
- PDA can recognize some nonregular languages



What does PDA look like?

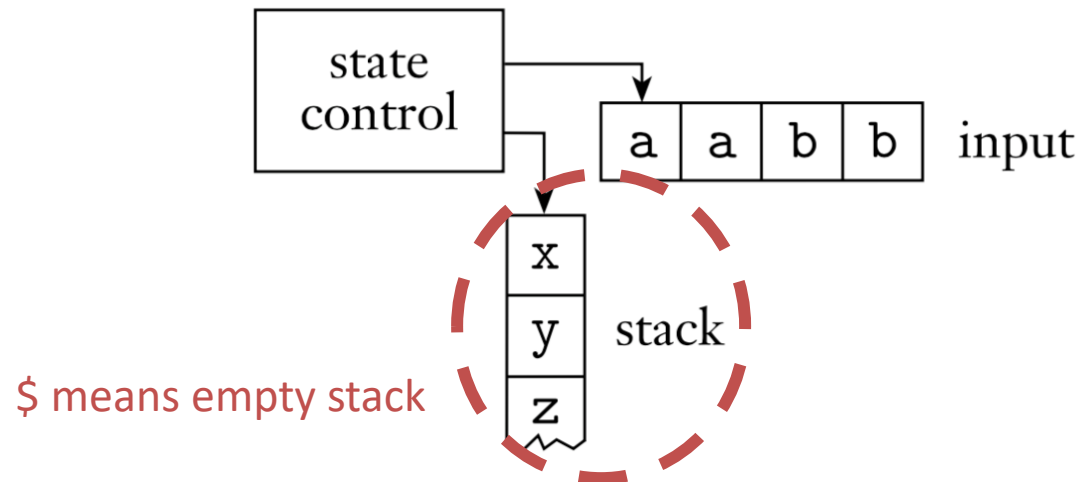
finite automaton

Memory = 1



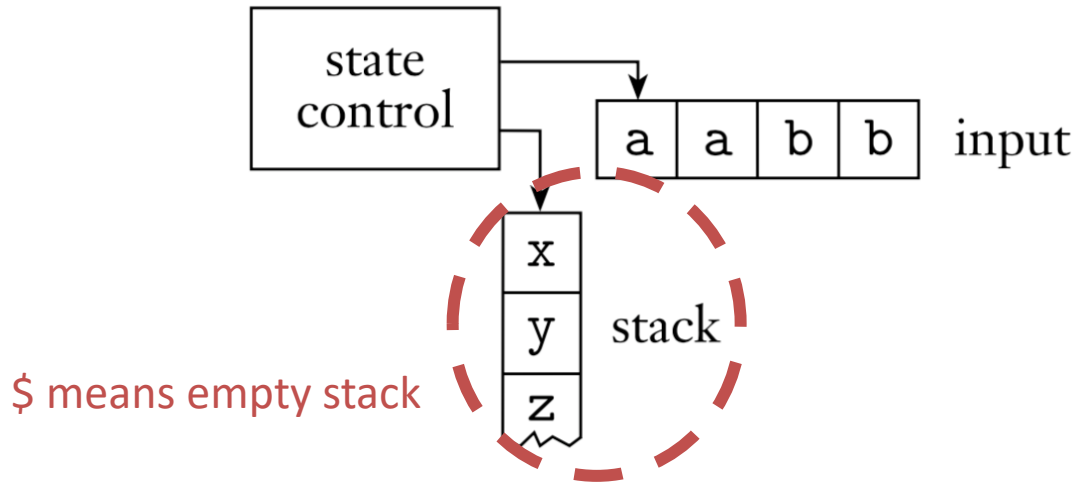
pushdown automaton

Memory = N



What does PDA looks like?

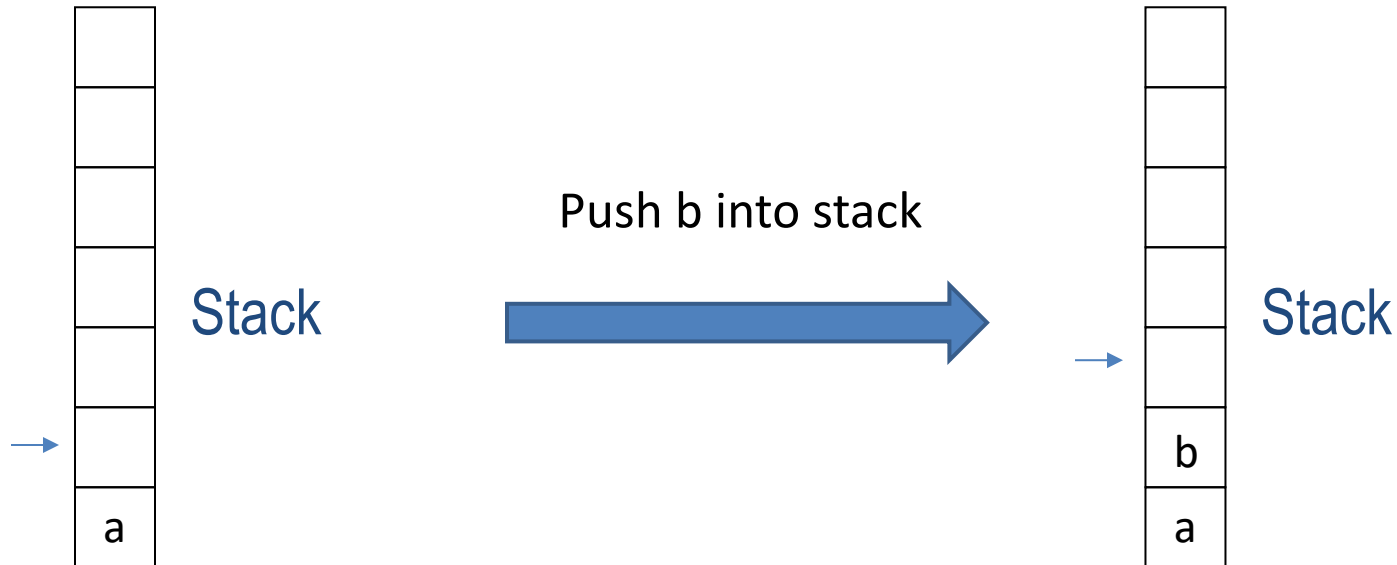
pushdown automaton



- Pushdown automata has more memories than finite automata
- PDA = finite automata + **A stack (unlimited size)**

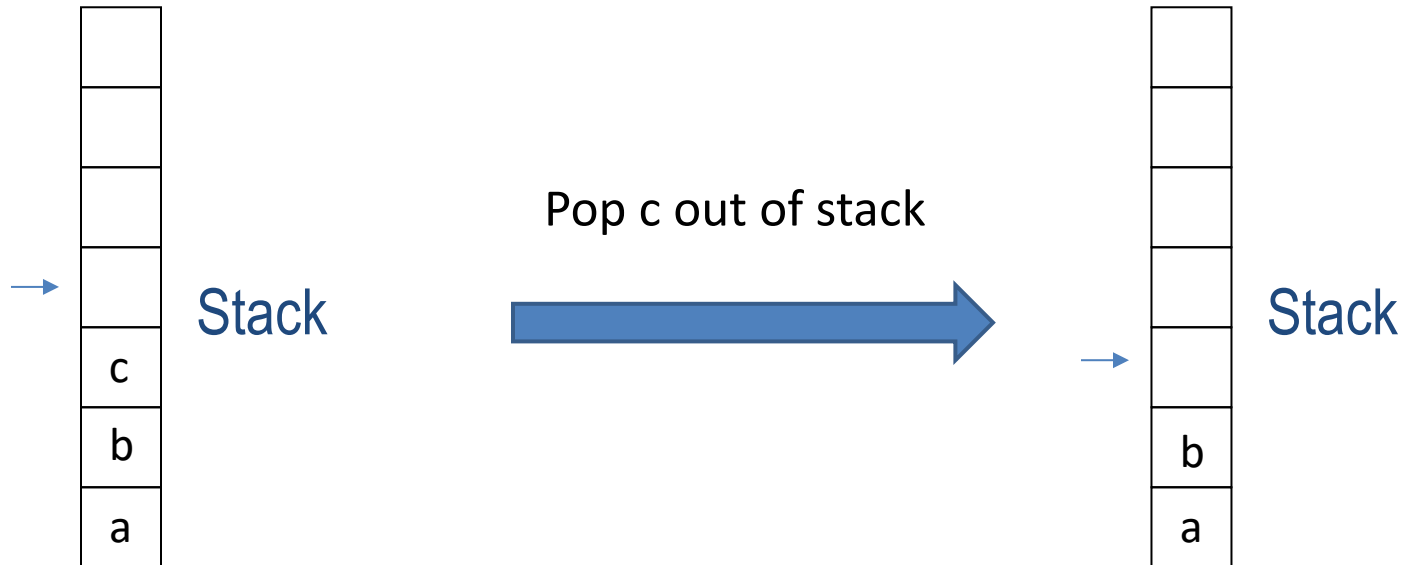
Stack operation

- Push: add to the top of stack



Stack operation

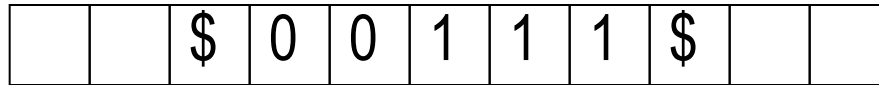
- Pop: remove from the top of stack



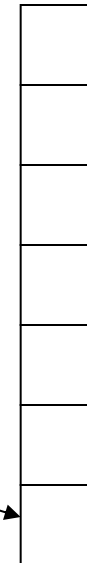
To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n

Single direction (\rightarrow),
read only input tape

$\{ 0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$



Single direction
read only head

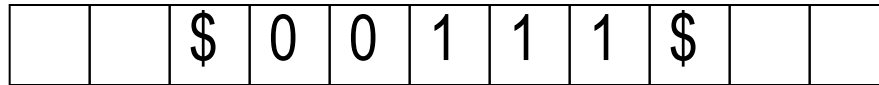


Stack



To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n

Single direction,
read only input tape



Single direction
read only head



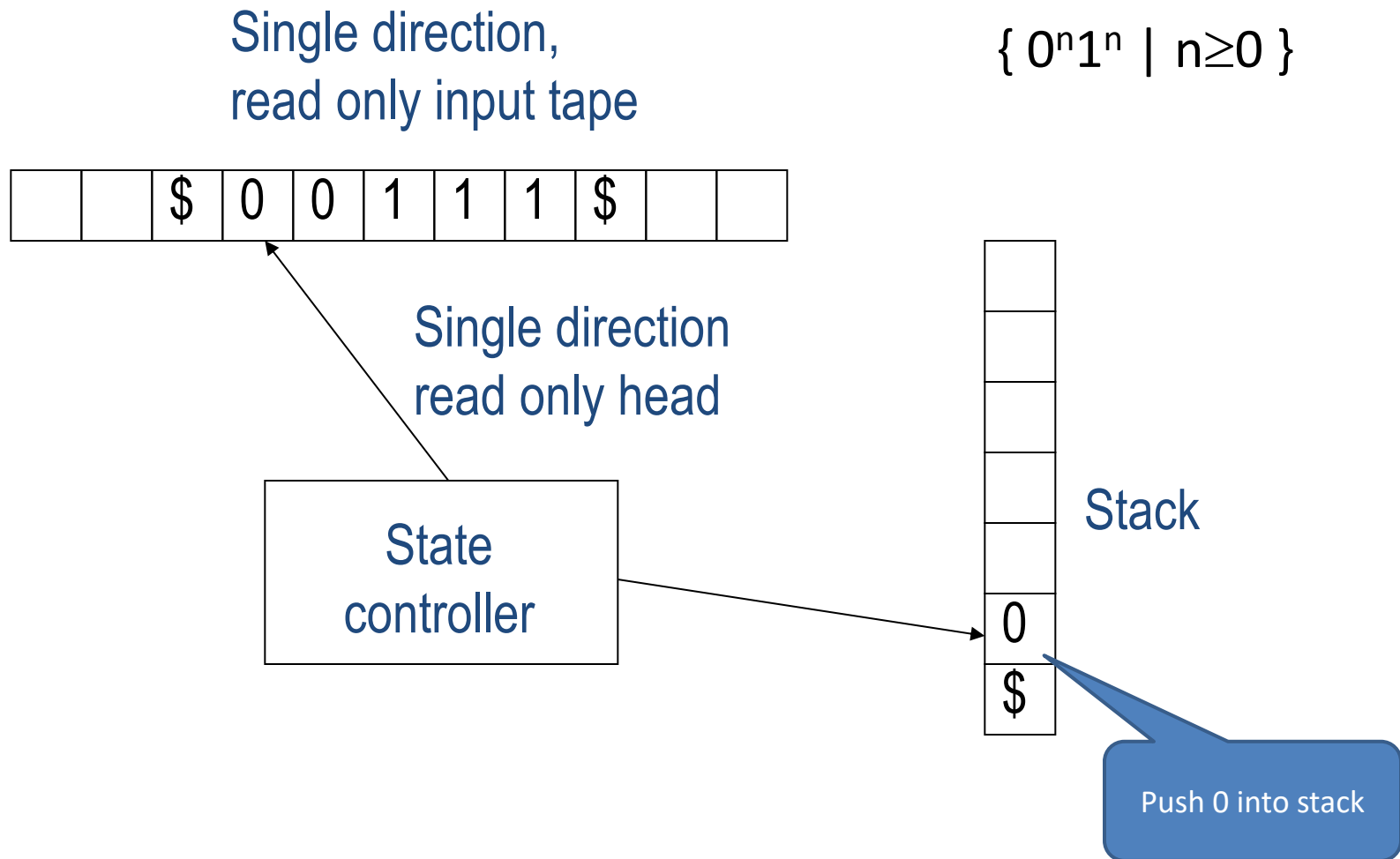
$\{ 0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$

Stack



Push \$ into stack: means start reading,
and the stack is empty

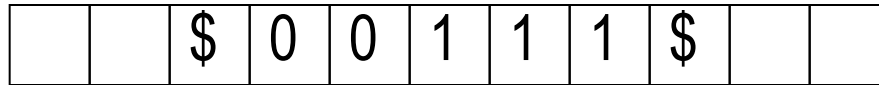
To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n



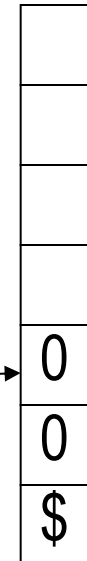
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Single direction,
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Single direction
read only head



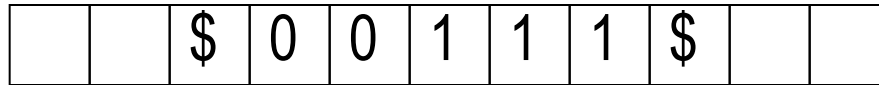
Stack



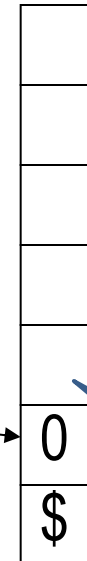
To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n

Single direction,
read only input tape

$\{ 0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$



Single direction
read only head



Stack

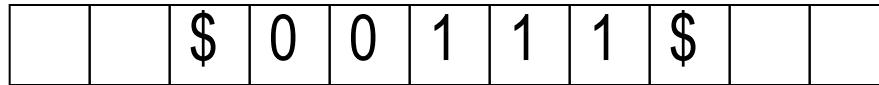
Pop 0 out of stack



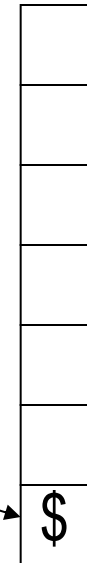
To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n

Single direction,
read only input tape

$\{ 0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$



Single direction
read only head



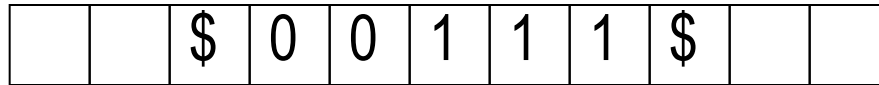
Stack



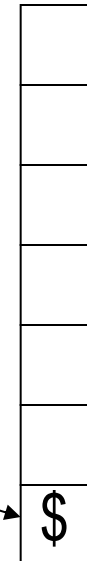
To test whether 00111 is in 0^n1^n

Single direction,
read only input tape

$\{ 0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$



Single direction
read only head



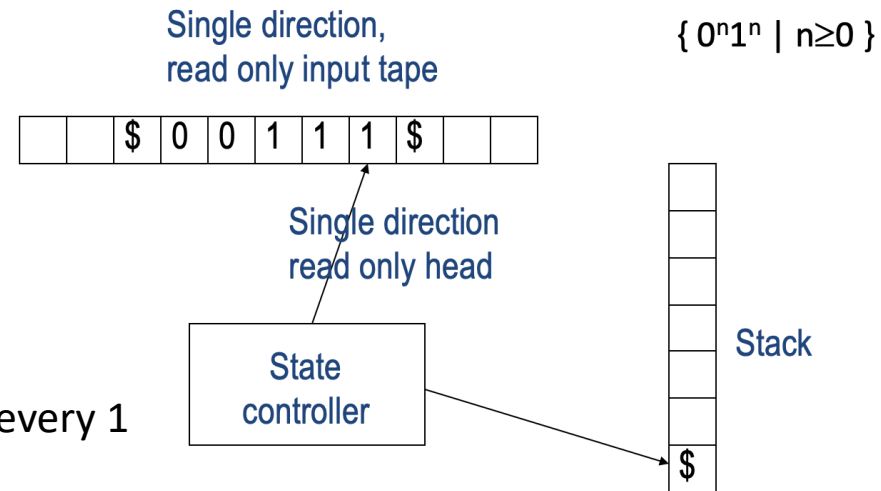
Stack

No 0 to pop
out of stack



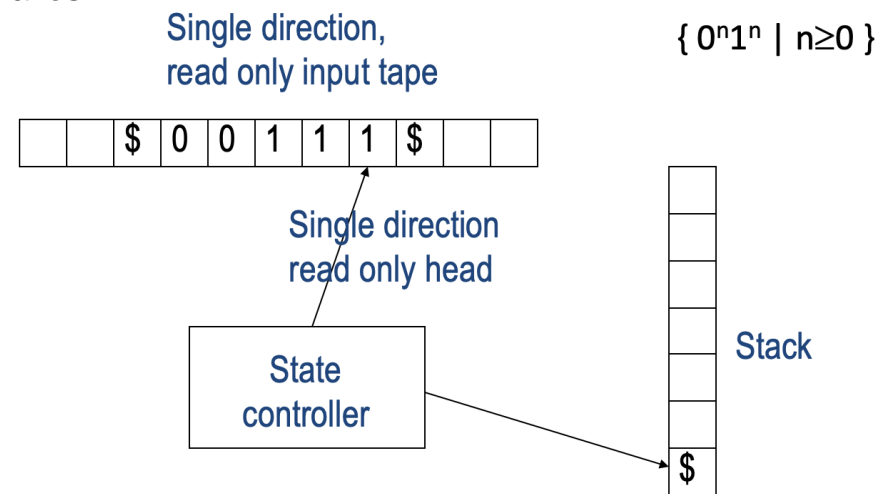
Informal description for PDA to recognize some languages

- $A = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- Read symbols from input
 - Operation
 - ▶ For every 0s, push 0 into stack
 - ▶ When read 1s, pop one 0 from stack for every 1
 - Determine accept/reject:
 - ▶ When finish reading string and there is no 0s in stack, **accept**;
 - ▶ When there exist 0s after 1s, **reject**.
 - ▶ When tape is not finished while the stack is empty, **reject**;
 - ▶ When tape finished while the stack is non-empty, **reject**;



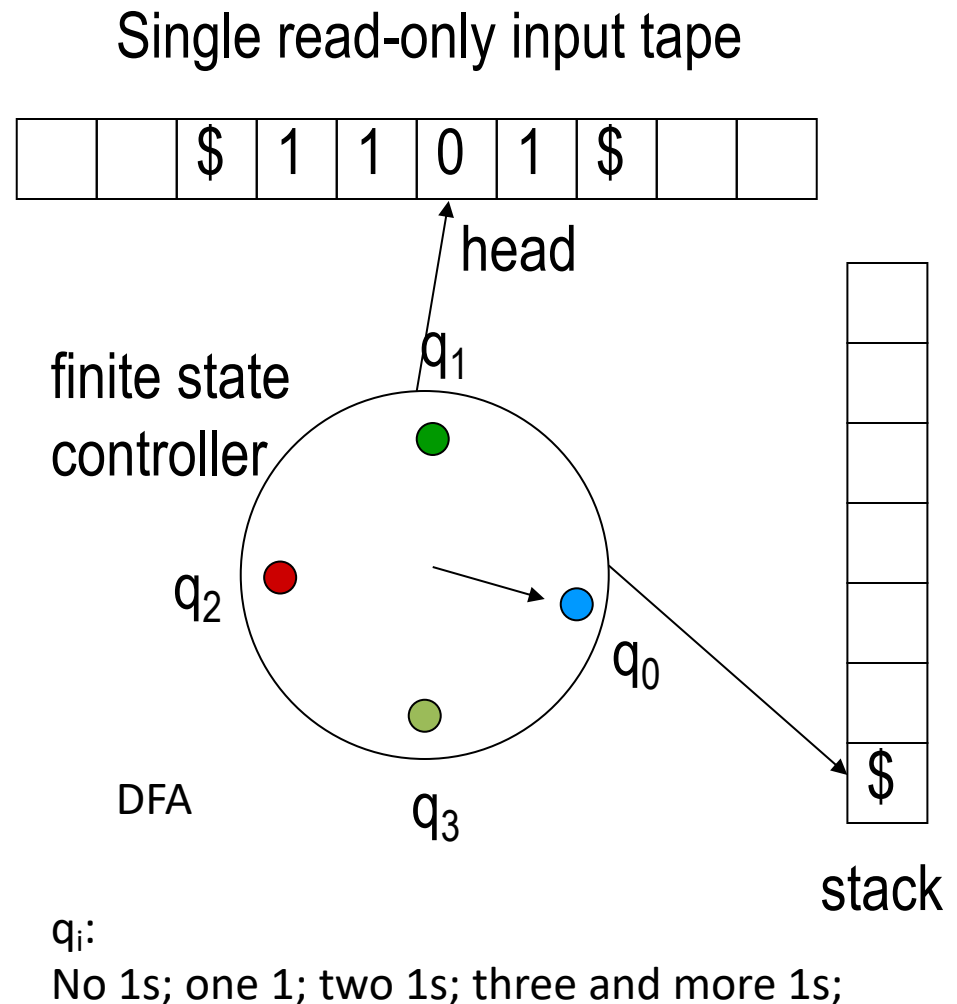
Informal description for PDA to recognize some languages

- $L = \{w \mid w \text{ has some features}\}$
- Read symbols from input
 - **STEP1: regular?**
 - If the language is regular, do not need to use stack; if not regular, define operations on stack
 - **STEP2: define operations:**
 - When to push
 - When to pop
 - **STEP 3: determine accept/reject:**
 - Under which cases, accept
 - Under which cases, reject



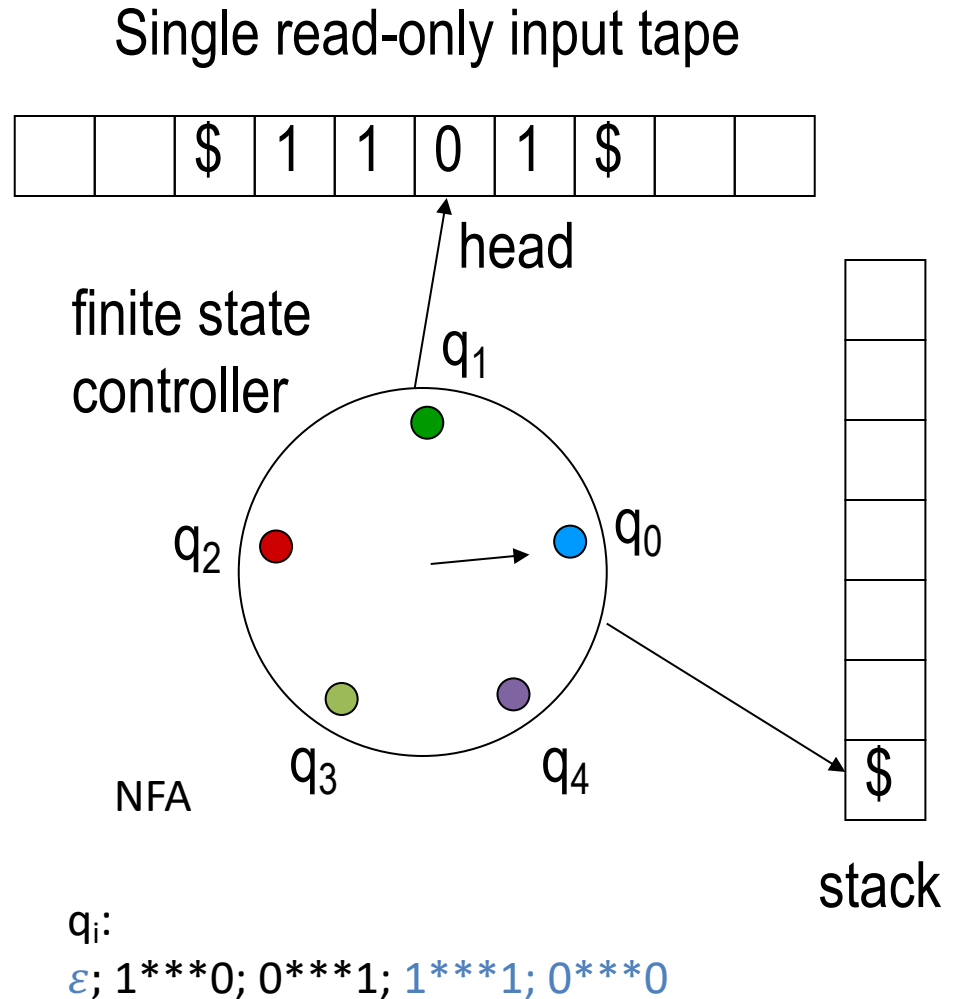
Question: Informal description

- $L1 = \{w \mid w \text{ has at least three } 1\text{s}\}$
 - This set is regular ($\Sigma^*1\Sigma^*1\Sigma^*1\Sigma^*$), so the PDA doesn't even need to use its stack.
 - The PDA scans the string and uses its finite control to maintain a counter which counts up to 3. The PDA accepts the moment it sees three ones.



Question: Informal description

- $L_2 = \{w \mid w \text{ starts and ends with the same symbol}\}$
 - This set is regular, so the PDA doesn't even need to use its stack.
 - The PDA scans the string and keep track of the first and last symbol in its finite control. If they are the same, accepts.



Question: Informal description

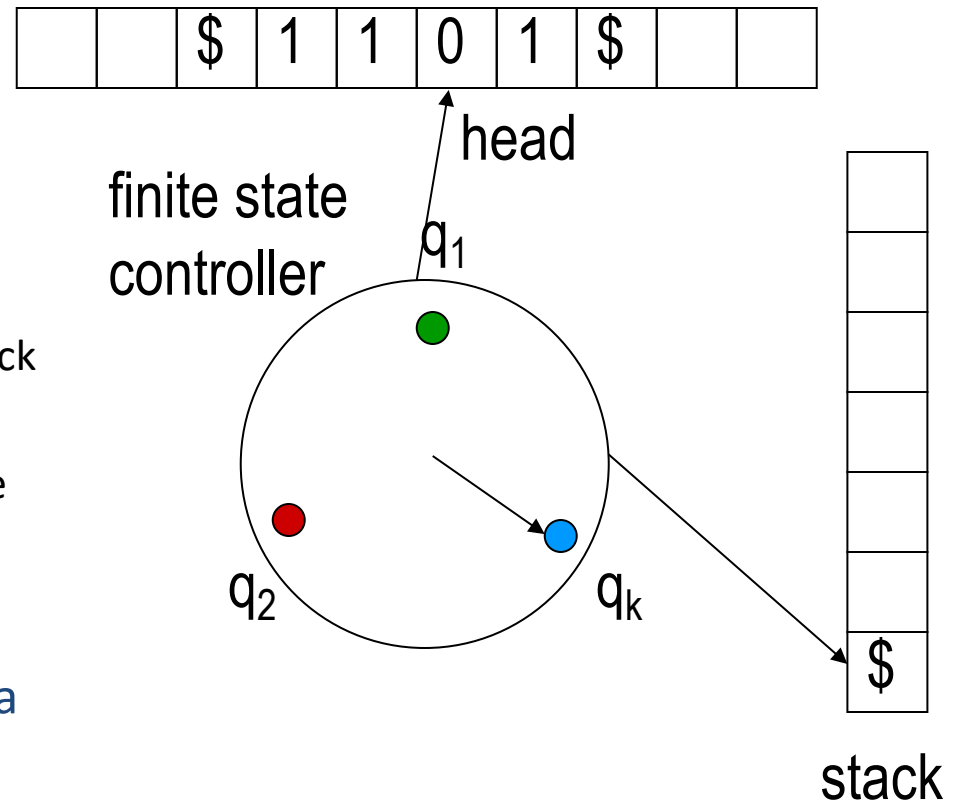
- $L_3 = \{w \mid w \text{ has more 1s than 0s}\}$ Single read-only input tape

- This set is not regular.

- The PDA scans across the input.

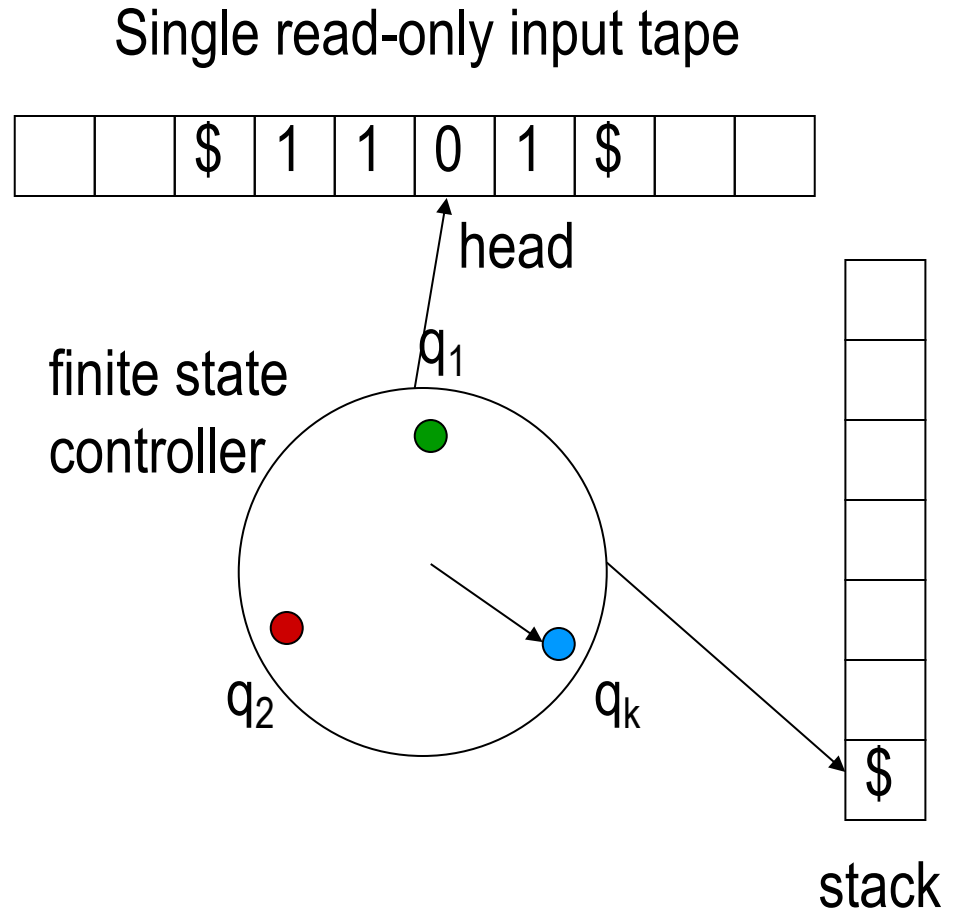
- ▶ POP: If it sees a 1 and its top stack symbol is a 0, it pops the stack. Similarly, if it scans a 0 and its top stack symbol is a 1, it pops the stack.
- ▶ PUSH: In all other cases, it pushes the input symbol onto the stack.

- After it scans the input, if there is a 1 on top of the stack, it accepts. Otherwise it rejects.



Question: Informal description

- $L_4 = \emptyset$
 - Just reject.



Definition of PDA (non-deterministic)

- PDA $M=(Q,\Sigma,\Gamma,\delta,q_0,F)$, where

1) Q : set of states

2) Σ : input alphabet, $\Sigma_\epsilon=\Sigma\cup\{\epsilon\}$

3) Γ : stack alphabet, $\Gamma_\epsilon=\Gamma\cup\{\epsilon\}$

4) $\delta: Q\times\Sigma_\epsilon\times\Gamma_\epsilon\rightarrow P(Q\times\Gamma_\epsilon)$,

transition function

5) $q_0\in Q$: start state

6) $F\subseteq Q$: accept state set



PDA vs. NFA

A *pushdown automaton* is a 6-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$, where Q , Σ , Γ , and F are all finite sets, and

1. Q is the set of states,
2. Σ is the input alphabet,
3. Γ is the stack alphabet,
4. $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \Gamma_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_\epsilon)$ is the transition function,
5. $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state, and
6. $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of accept states.

A *nondeterministic finite automaton* is a 5-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$, where

1. Q is a finite set of states,
2. Σ is a finite alphabet,
3. $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q)$ is the transition function,
4. $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state, and
5. $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of accept states.

Computation on PDA

- $M=(Q,\Sigma,\Gamma,\delta,q_0,F);$

input $w=w_1w_2...w_m,$

$w_i \in \Sigma_\epsilon$

- Computation: (state, stack)

$(r_0, s_0), (r_1, s_1), \dots, (r_m, s_m),$

Where $r_i \in Q, s_i \in \Gamma^*,$ satisfying

1) $(r_0, s_0) = (q_0, \epsilon);$

At first, the first state is q_0 and stack is empty

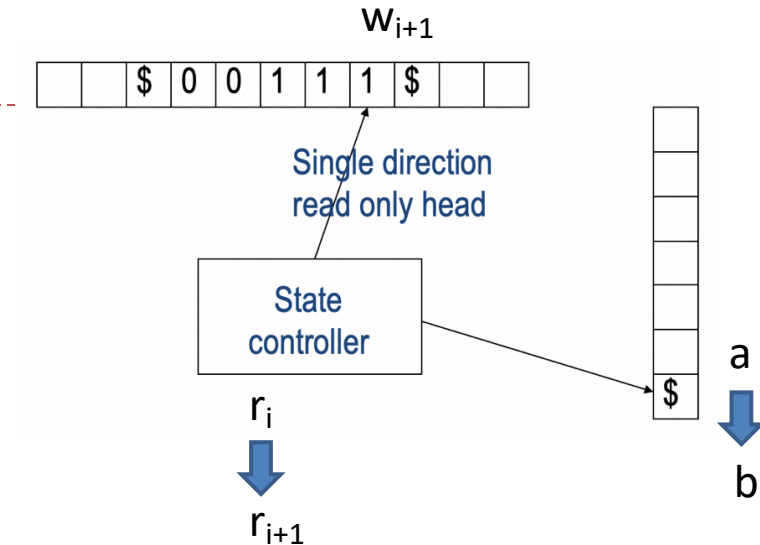
2) $(r_{i+1}, b) \in \delta(r_i, w_{i+1}, a);$

where $s_i = at; s_{i+1} = bt,$

$a, b \in \Sigma_\epsilon,$

$t \in \Gamma^*$ (t are other elements in stack)

After input w_{i+1} , state changes from r_i to r_{i+1} and the top element in stack changes from a to b



Computation on PDA

- Accept of computation:

3) $r_m \in F$;

- M accepts w:

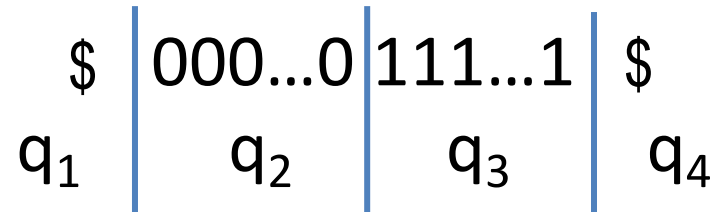
M is at accept states after input of w

- The language that M accepts:

$$L(M) = \{ x \mid M \text{ accepts } x \}$$



PDA example



- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, \$\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$

Can you explain what this PDA means?

Definition of PDA (non-deterministic)

- PDA $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$, where

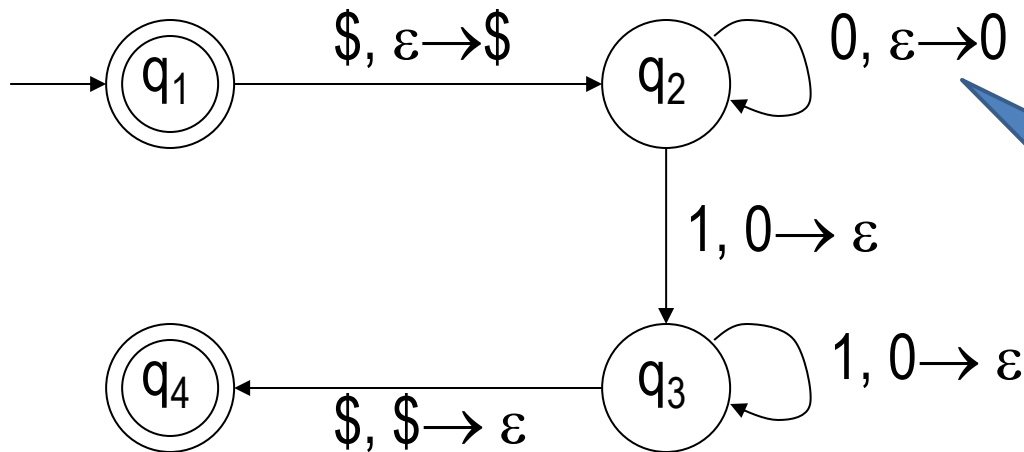
- 1) Q : set of states
- 2) Σ : input alphabet, $\Sigma_\epsilon = \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$
- 3) Γ : stack alphabet, $\Gamma_\epsilon = \Gamma \cup \{\epsilon\}$
- 4) $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \Gamma_\epsilon \rightarrow P(Q \times \Gamma_\epsilon)$,
transition function
- 5) $q_0 \in Q$: start state
- 6) $F \subseteq Q$: accept state set

PDA example

\$	000...0	111...1	\$
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, \$\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$

We only put 0 or \$ into stack



$a, b \rightarrow c$
 a : input
 $b \rightarrow c$: the top of stack changes

M_1

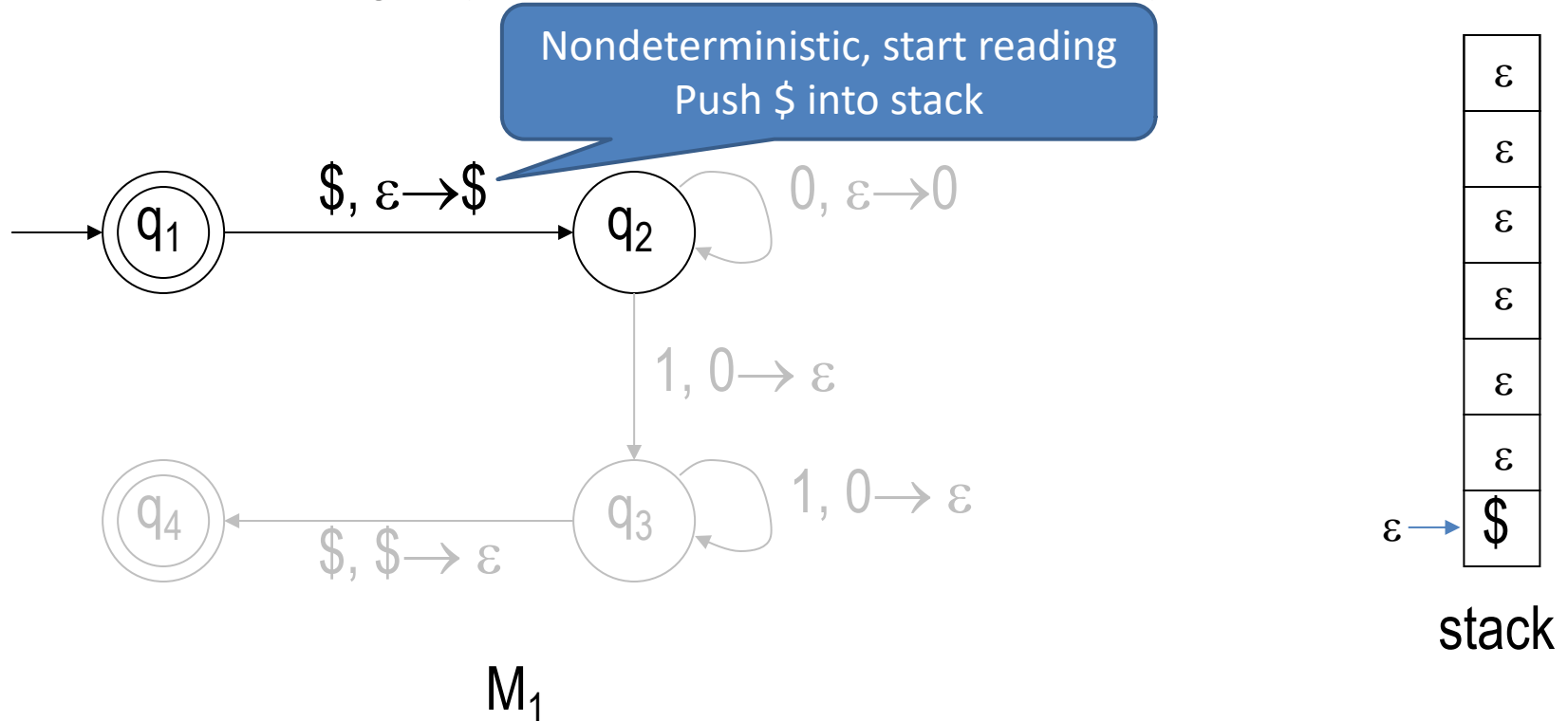


PDA example

\$	000...0	111...1	\$
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4



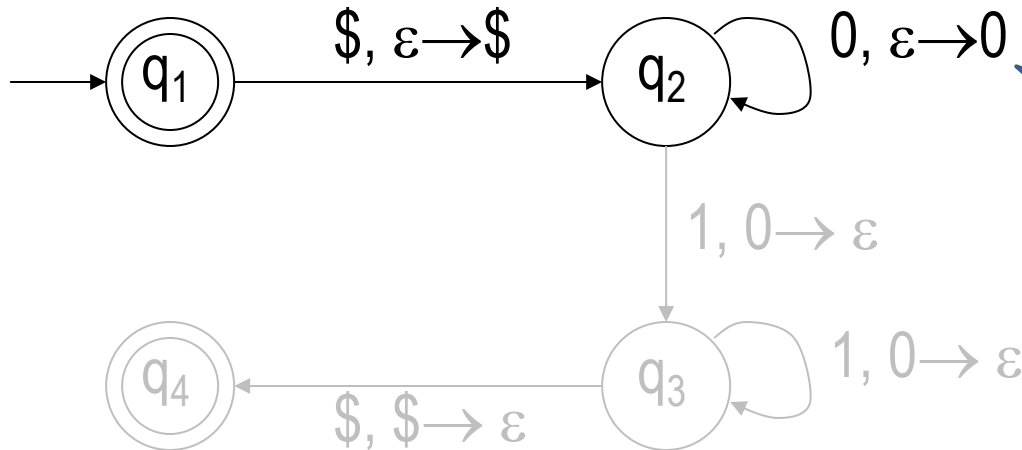
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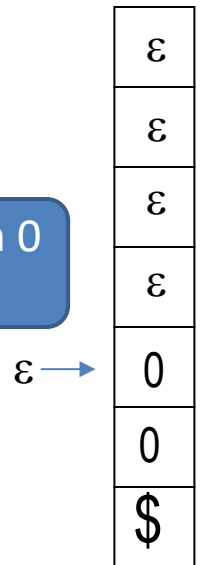
PDA example

\$	000...0	111...1	\$
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, \$\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$



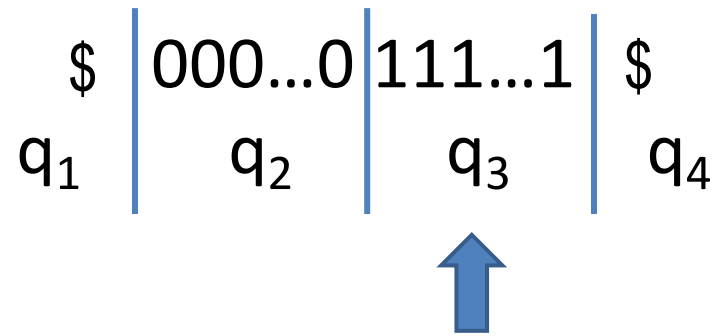
For input 0, push 0 into the stack



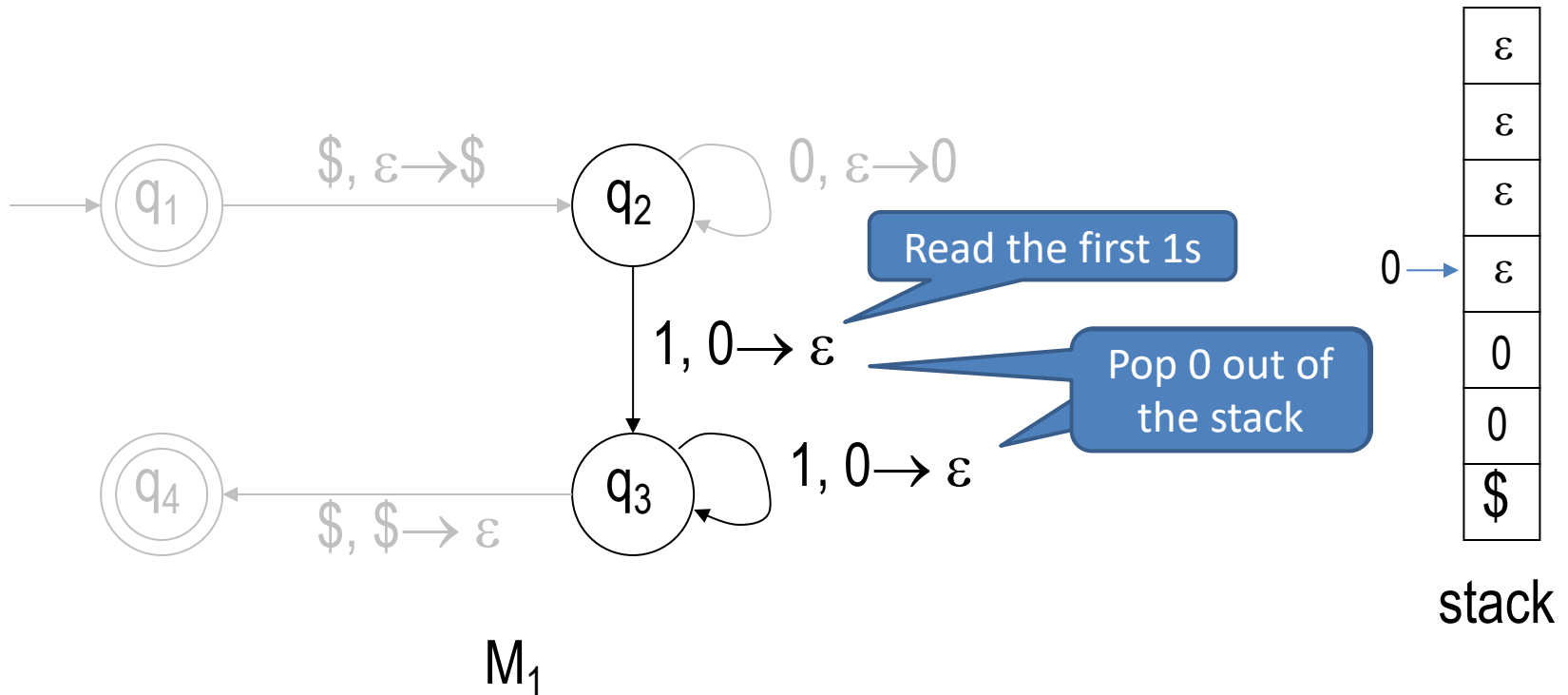
stack

M_1

PDA example



- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{\$, \varepsilon\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$

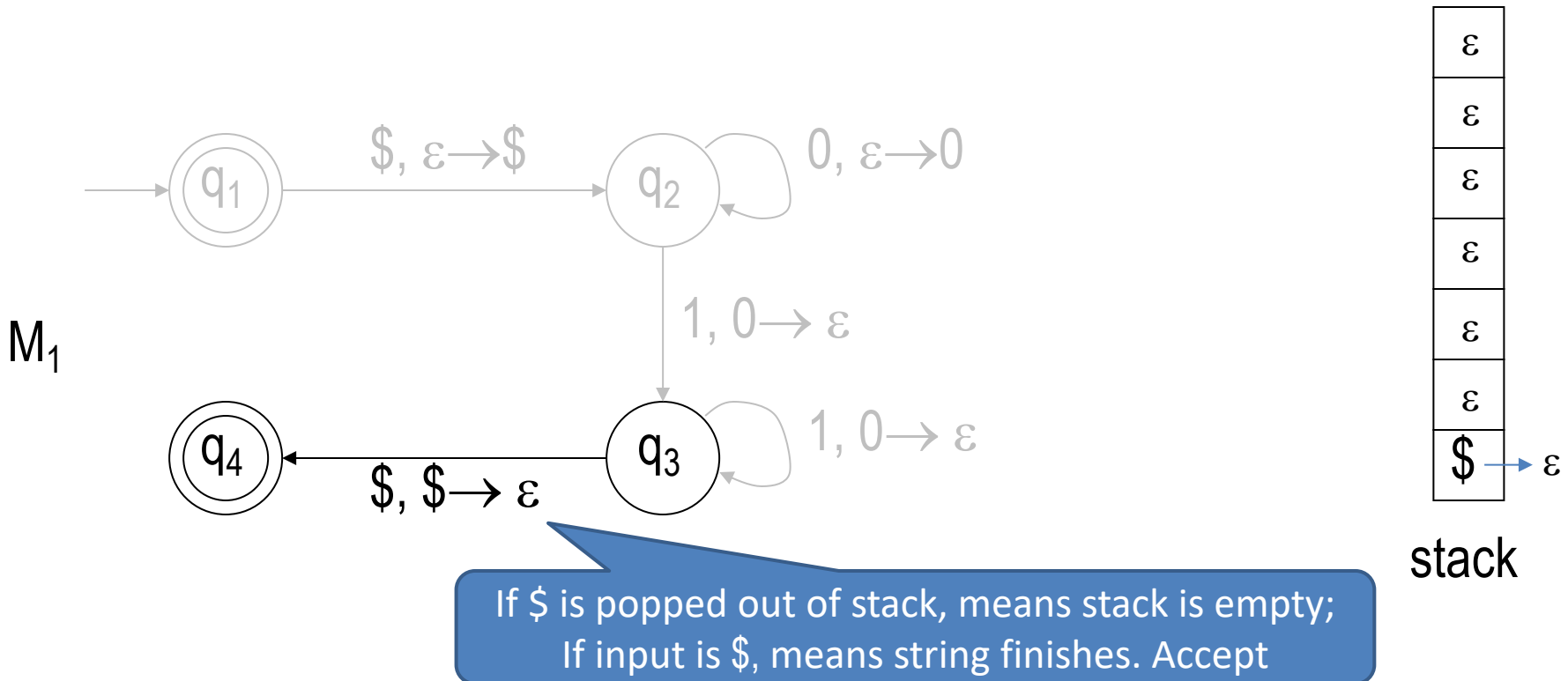


PDA example

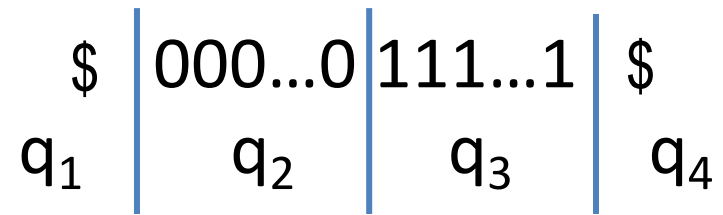
\$	000...0	111...1	\$
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4



- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, \$\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$



PDA example



- $L = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$
- $M_1 = (\{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, \$\}, \delta, q_1, \{q_1, q_4\})$

If input is 0,
(q₂, ε) changes to (q₂, 0)
ε in stack change to 0 (PUSH 0)

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \times \Gamma_\varepsilon \rightarrow P(Q \times \Gamma_\varepsilon)$$

δ table

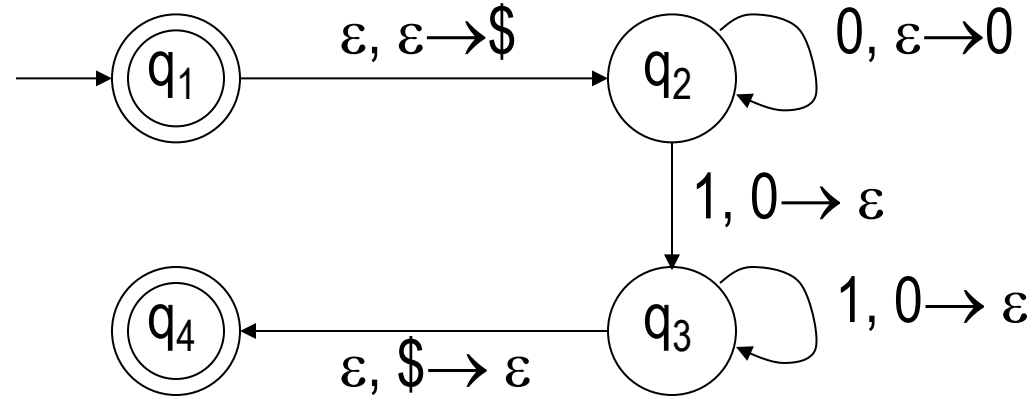
Σ_ε		Input			0			1			ε		
Γ_ε		stack			0	\$	ε	0	\$	ε	0	\$	ε
Q	state	q ₁	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	{(q ₂ , \$)}
		q ₂	∅	∅	{(q ₂ , 0)}	{(q ₃ , ε)}	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅
		q ₃	∅	∅	∅	{(q ₃ , ε)}	∅	∅	∅	{(q ₄ , ε)}	∅	∅	∅
		q ₄	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅	∅



PDA example

$\epsilon, \epsilon \rightarrow \$$
 $=$
 $\$, \epsilon \rightarrow \$$

δ graph



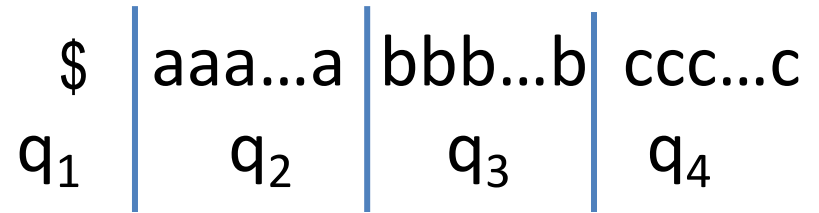
II

δ table

Input		0			1			ϵ		
stack		0	\$	ϵ	0	\$	ϵ	0	\$	ϵ
state	q_1	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_2, \$)\}$
	q_2	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_2, 0)\}$	$\{(q_3, \epsilon)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset
	q_3	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_3, \epsilon)\}$	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	$\{(q_4, \epsilon)\}$	\emptyset
	q_4	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset	\emptyset



Design PDA



- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$

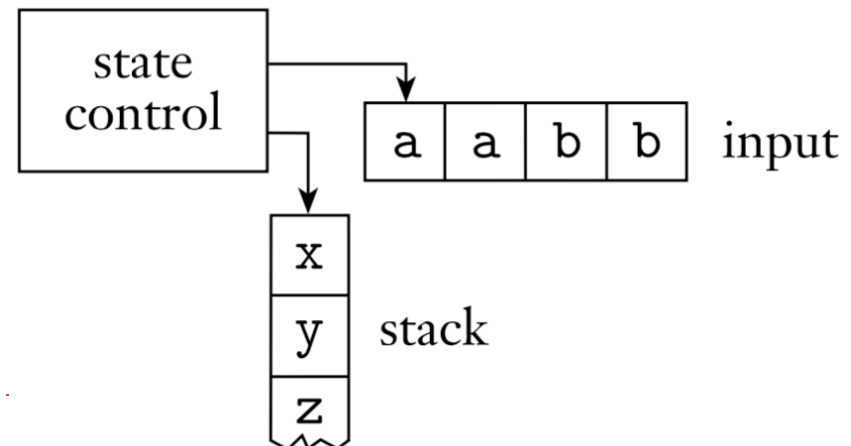
- ▶ Operation:

- For an input a, and push a into stack
- For an input b, pop one a from the stack

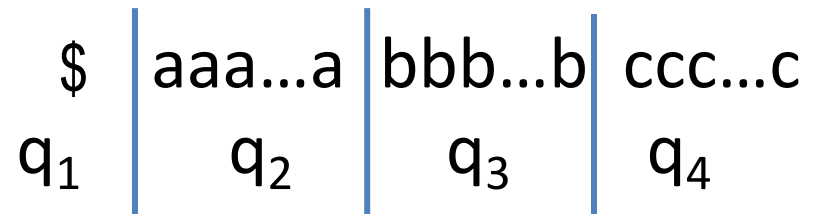
- ▶ Determine accept/reject

- If the stack is empty when finish reading b, then after reading all the cs, accept;
- Otherwise, reject;

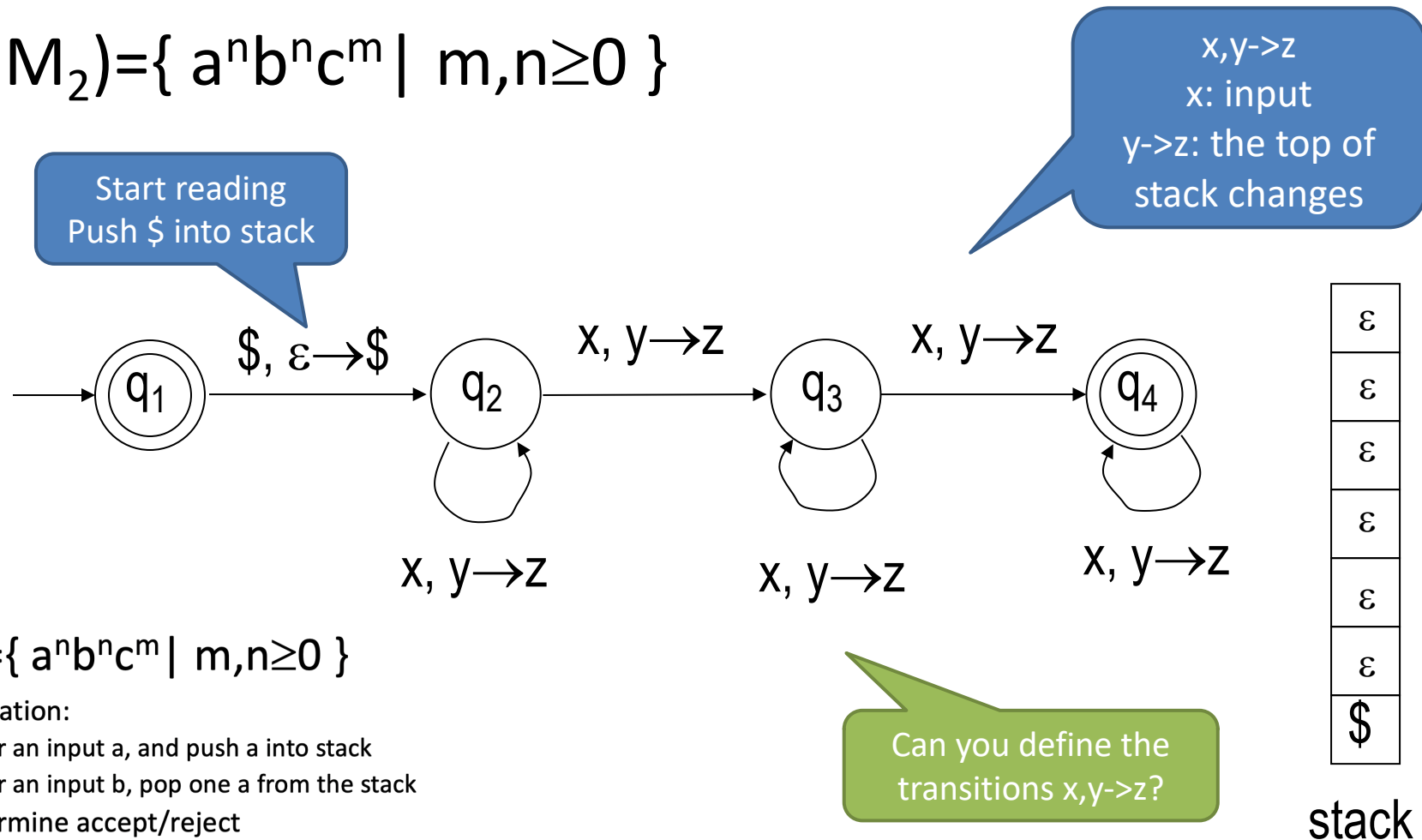
Can you explain the states?



Design PDA



- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$

► Operation:

- For an input a, and push a into stack
- For an input b, pop one a from the stack

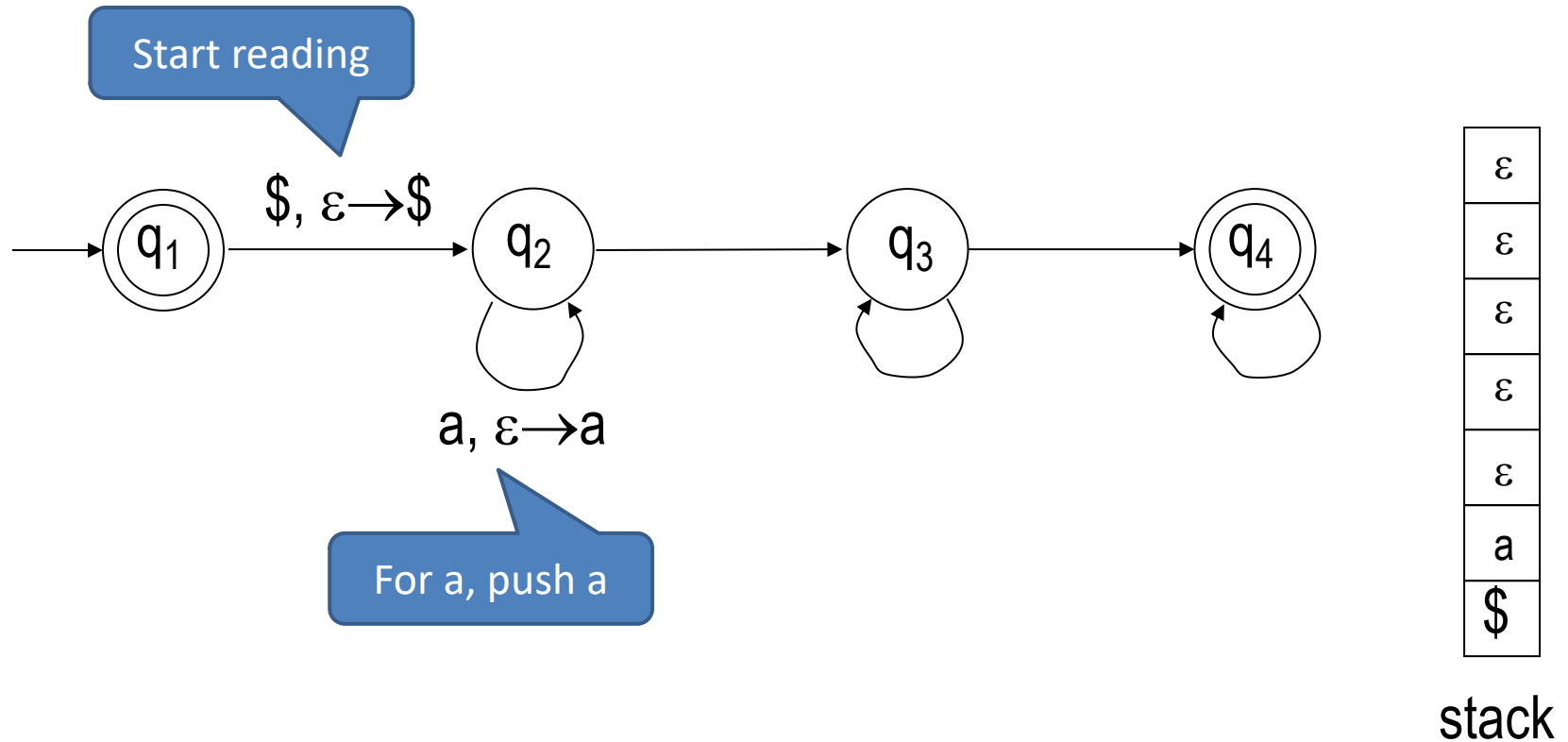
► Determine accept/reject

- If the stack is empty when finish reading b, then after reading all the cs, accept;
- Otherwise, reject;

Design PDA

\$	aaa...a	bbb...b	ccc...c
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

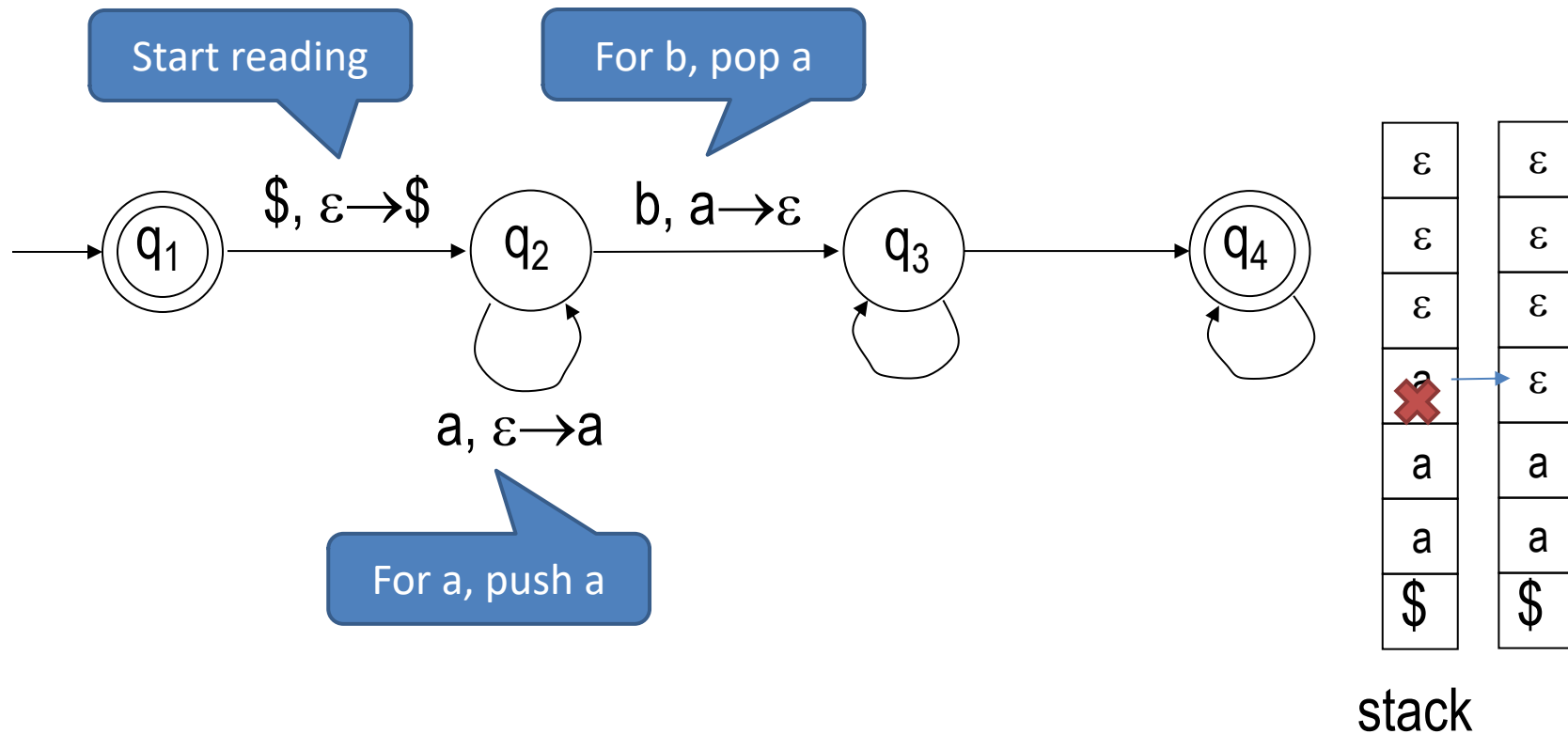
- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



Design PDA

\$	aaa...a	bbb...b	ccc...c
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

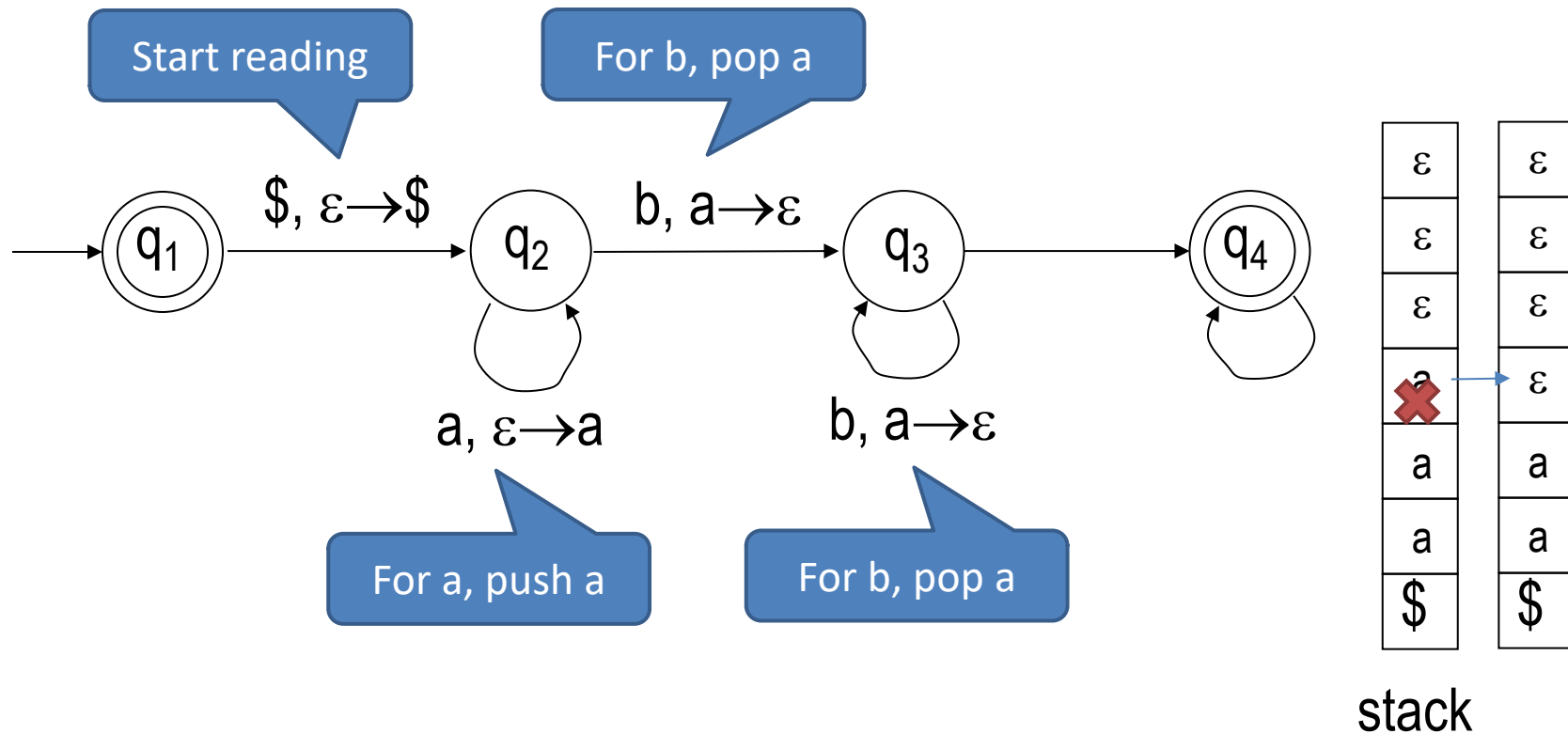
- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



Design PDA

\$	aaa...a	bbb...b	ccc...c
q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



\$	aaa...a	bbb...b	ccc...c
q ₁	q ₂	q ₃	q ₄

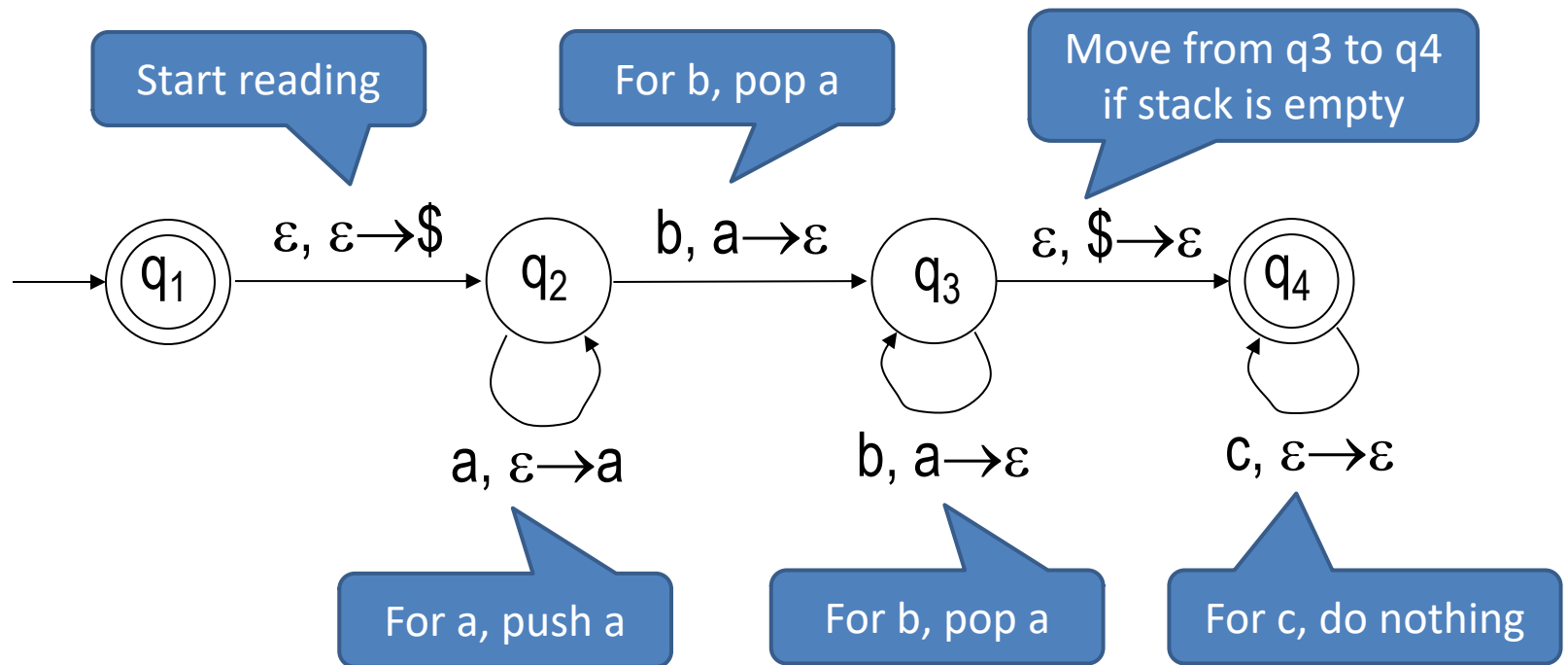
-
- Diagram illustrating a Turing Machine (TM) for matching parentheses, with states q_1 (start), q_2 , q_3 , and q_4 (final).
- Transitions and Callouts:
- $q_1 \xrightarrow{\$, \epsilon \rightarrow \$} q_2$: Start reading
 - $q_2 \xrightarrow{a, \epsilon \rightarrow a} q_2$: For a, push a
 - $q_2 \xrightarrow{b, a \rightarrow \epsilon} q_3$: For b, pop a
 - $q_3 \xrightarrow{b, a \rightarrow \epsilon} q_3$: For b, pop a
 - $q_3 \xrightarrow{\epsilon, \$ \rightarrow \epsilon} q_4$: Move from q_3 to q_4 if stack is empty
 - $q_4 \xrightarrow{\epsilon, \epsilon \rightarrow \epsilon} q_4$: (Self-loop on final state)
- Stack contents (from bottom to top): $\$, \epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon, \epsilon$. A red X marks the transition from the bottom ϵ to the $\$$ symbol, indicating a failure to match.



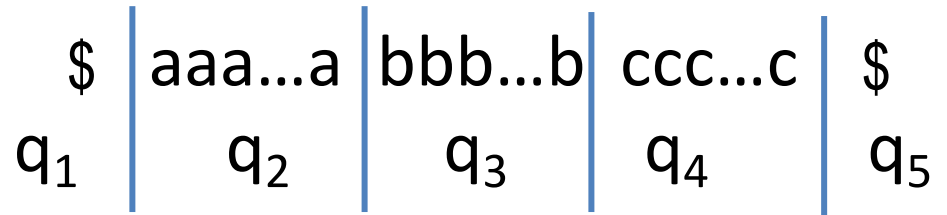
Design PDA

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q_1	q_2	q_3	q_4

- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



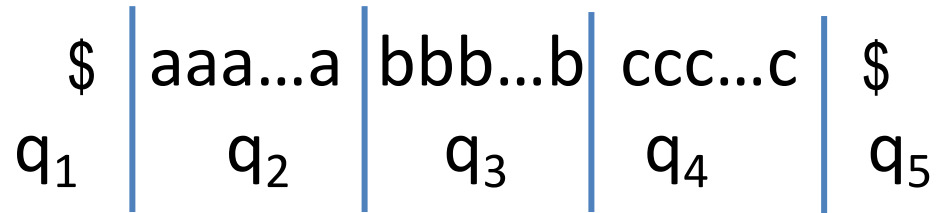
Design PDA



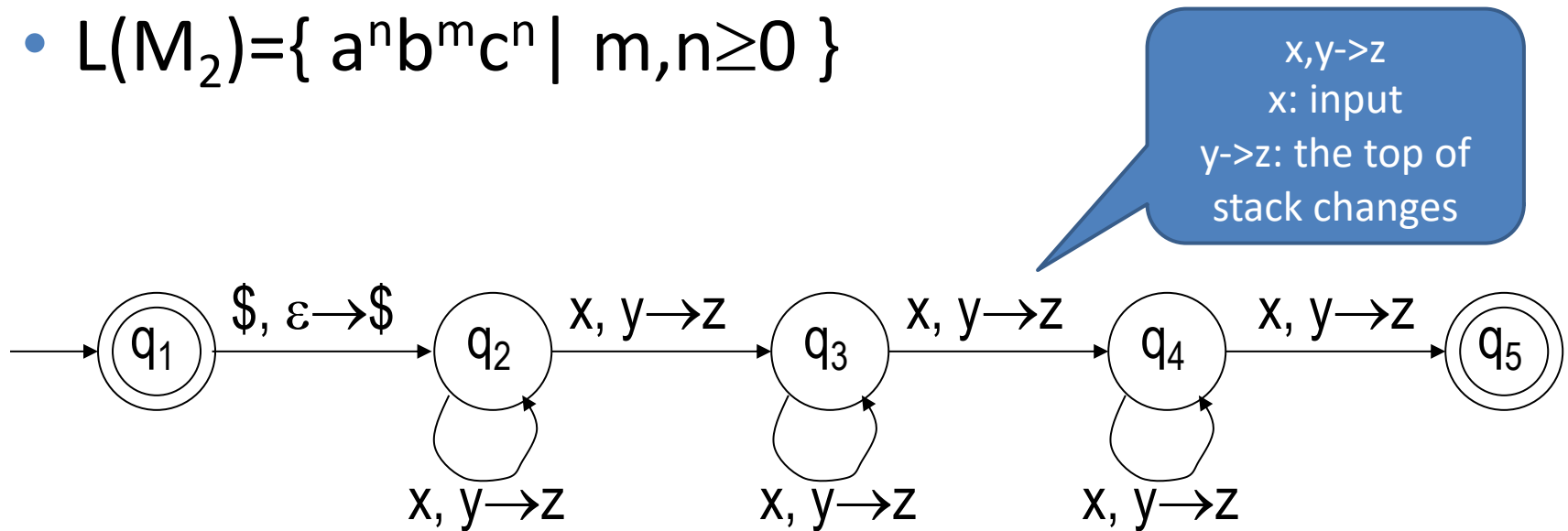
- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^m c^n \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$
 - ▶ Operation:
 - For an input a, and push a into stack
 - After reading some bs, every time, for an input c, pop one a from the stack
 - ▶ Determine accept/reject
 - If the stack is empty when input is done, accept;
 - Otherwise, reject.



Design PDA



- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^m c^n \mid m, n \geq 0 \}$



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► Operation:

- For an input a , and push a into stack
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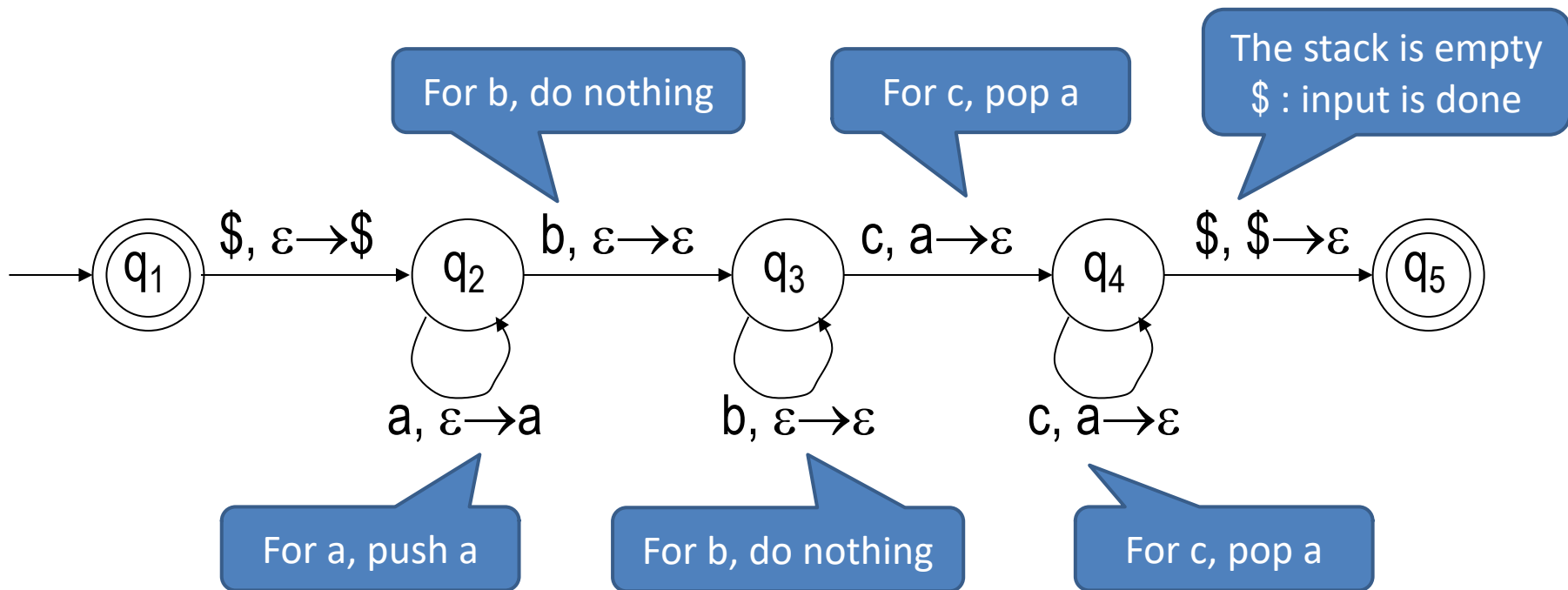
► Determine accept/reject

- If the stack is empty when input is done, accept;
- Otherwise, reject.

Design PDA

\$	aaa...a	bbb...b	ccc...c	\$
q ₁	q ₂	q ₃	q ₄	q ₅

- $L(M_2) = \{ a^n b^m c^n \mid m, n > 0 \}$



Design PDA

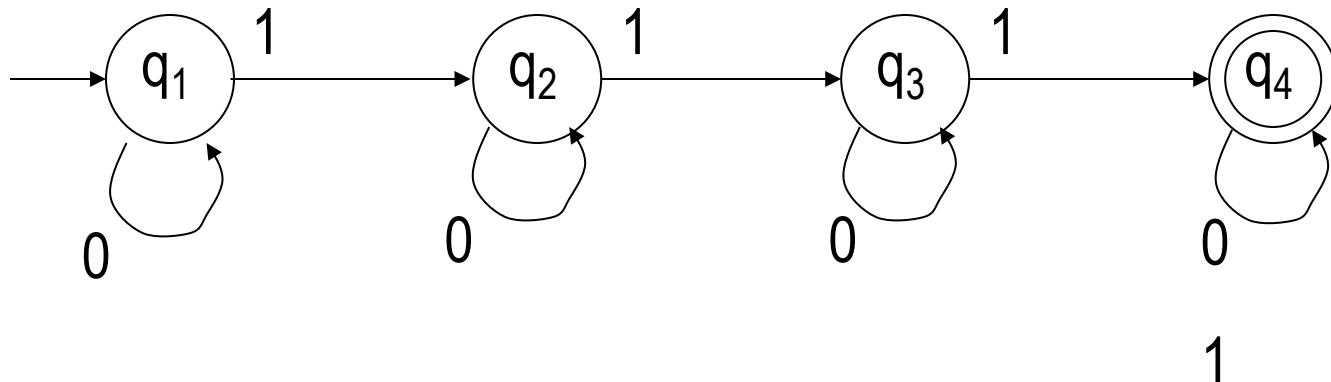
- $L(M_3) = \{ w \mid w \text{ contains at least three 1s} \}$, input = $\{0, 1\}$
 - ▶ Input : 001101
 - Output : Accepted
 - ▶ Input : 100010
 - Output : Not Accepted
 - ▶ Regular language
 - Does not need the stack, $\varepsilon \rightarrow \varepsilon$



Design PDA

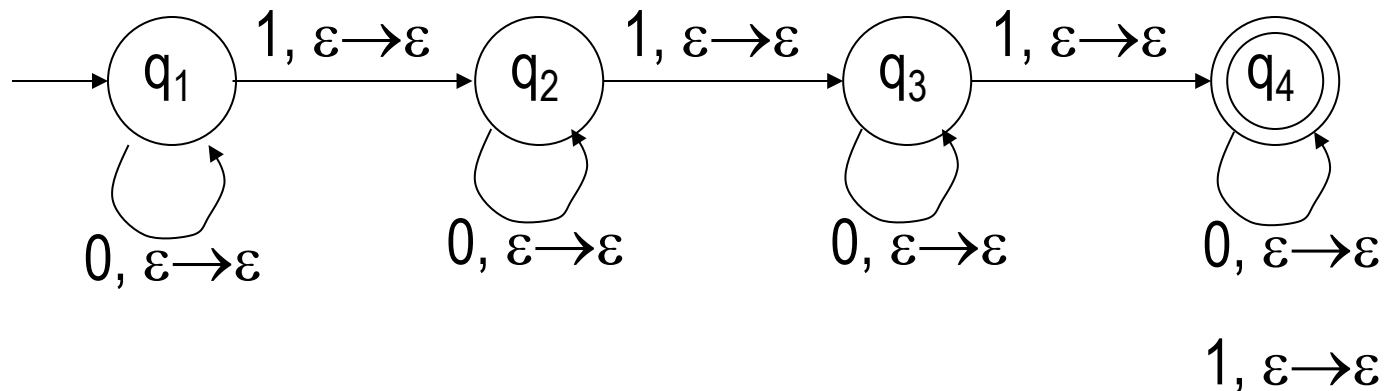
- $L(M_3) = \{ w \mid w \text{ contains at least three 1s} \}$, input = $\{0, 1\}$

What are the states?

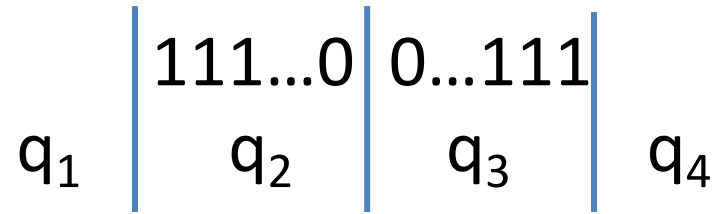


Design PDA

- $L(M_3) = \{ w \mid w \text{ contains at least three 1s} \}$, input = $\{0, 1\}$



Design PDA: $\{ ww^R \}$



- Palindromes:
- Examples:
 - NOON
 - 123321
 - abba

What are the states?



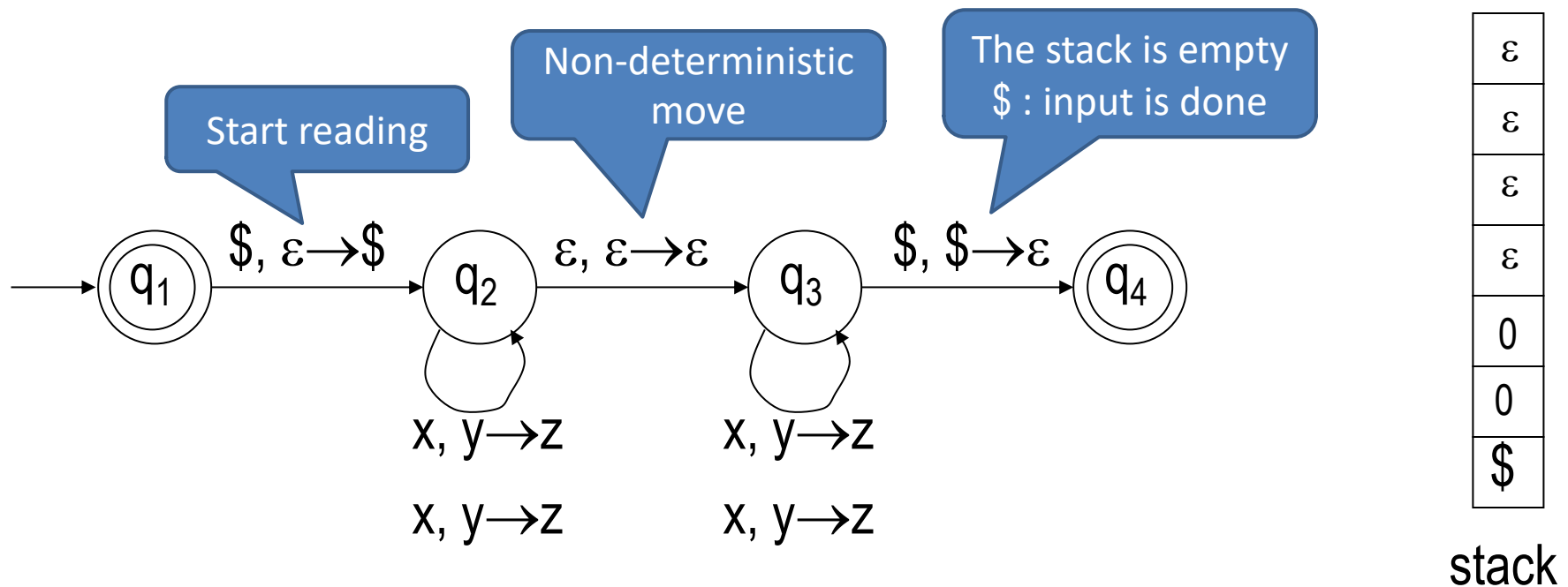
Design PDA: $\{ ww^R \}$

q_1

111...0	0...111
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 q_2
 q_3
 q_4

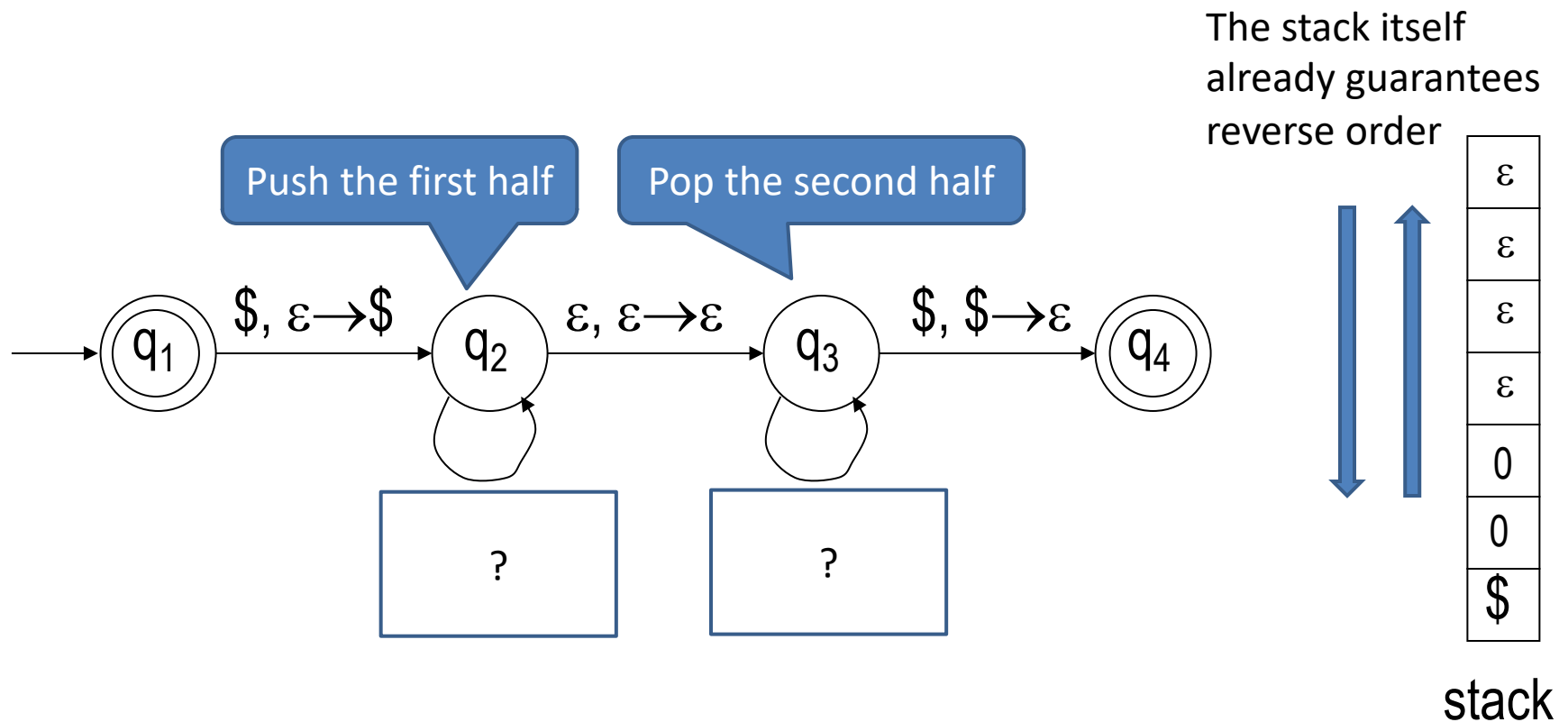
- Palindromes:



Design PDA: $\{ ww^R \}$

q_1 | $abc\dots z$ | $z\dots cba$ | q_4
 q_2 | q_3

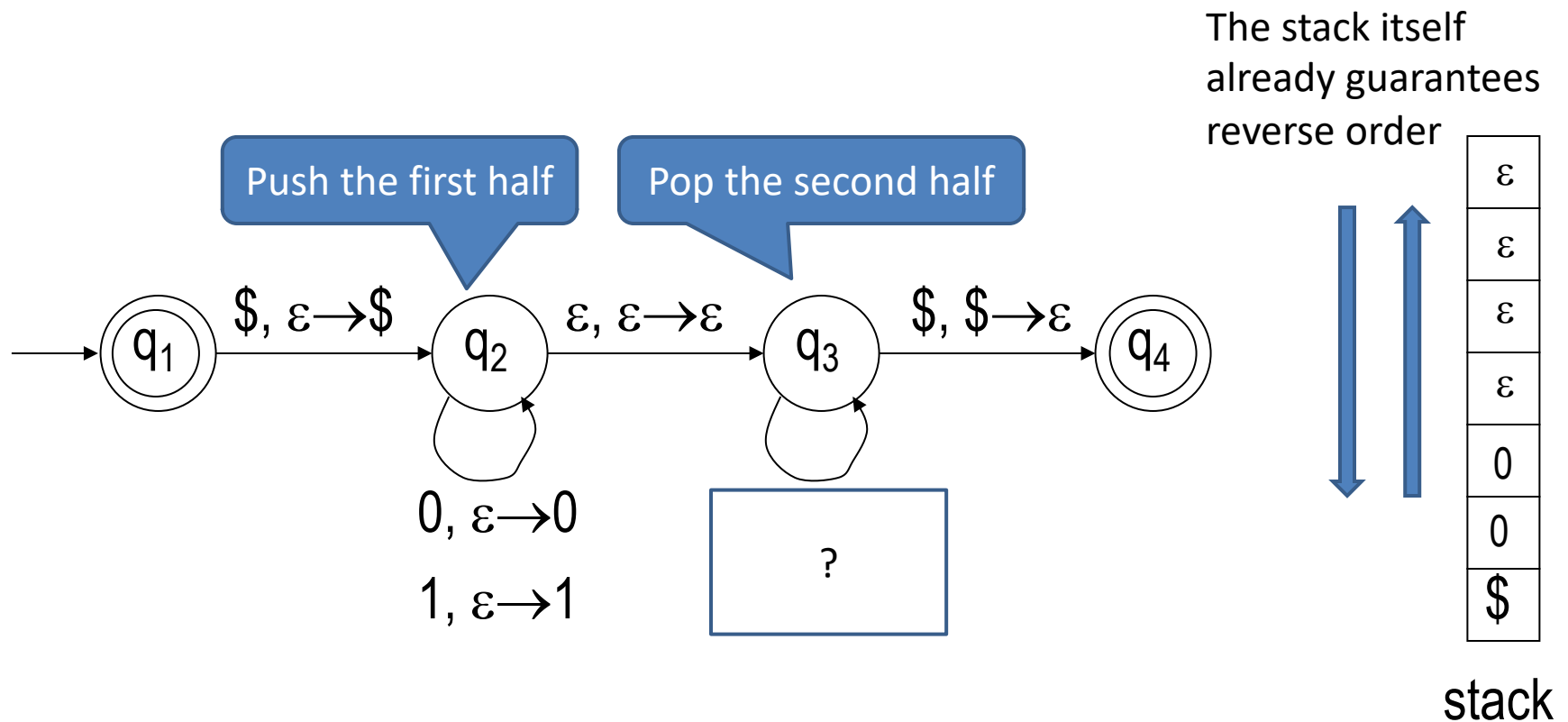
- Palindromes:



Design PDA: $\{ ww^R \}$

q_1 | $abc\dots z$ | $z\dots cba$ | q_4
 q_2 q_3

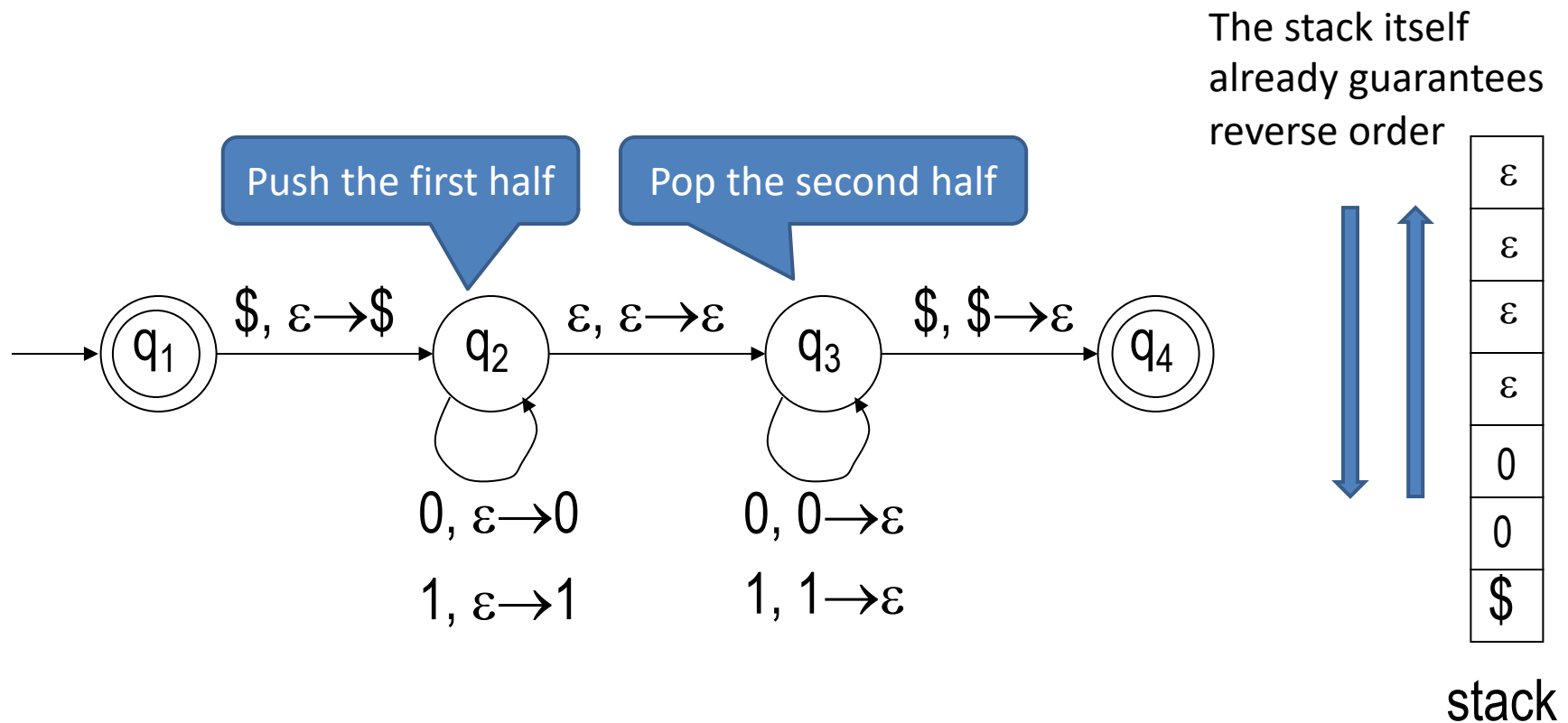
- Palindromes:



Design PDA: $\{ ww^R \}$

q_1 | $abc\dots z$ | $z\dots cba$ | q_4
 q_2 | q_3

- Palindromes:



Conclusion

- What is pushdown automata (PDA)?
- How to use PDA to recognize some CFL? Informal description
- Definition of PDA $M=(Q,\Sigma,\Gamma,\delta,q_0,F)$
- PDA examples, $\delta: x, y \rightarrow z$

PUSH $z: x, \varepsilon \rightarrow z$

POP $z. : x, z \rightarrow \varepsilon$

