# Chapter 2 Context-Free Languages

#### CS 341: Foundations of CS II

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- ullet Regular Language  $\Rightarrow$  CFL
- Pumping Lemma for CFLs

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# **Context-Free Languages (CFLs)**

#### **Definition of CFG**

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- ullet Consider language  $\{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$ , which is nonregular.
- ullet Start variable S with "substitution rules":

$$S \rightarrow 0S1$$

- $S \to \varepsilon$
- ullet Rules can **yield** string  $0^k1^k$  by
  - $\blacksquare$  applying rule " $S \to 0S1$ " k times,
  - $\blacksquare$  followed by rule " $S \to \varepsilon$  " once.
- **Derivation** of string  $0^31^3$

 $S \Rightarrow 0S1 \Rightarrow 00S11 \Rightarrow 000S111 \Rightarrow 000\varepsilon111 = 000111$ 

**Definition:** Context-free grammar (CFG)  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  where

- 1. V is finite set of variables (AKA nonterminals)
- 2.  $\Sigma$  is finite set of **terminals** (with  $V \cap \Sigma = \emptyset$ )
- 3. R is finite set of substitution **rules** (AKA **productions**), each of the form

$$L \to X$$

where

- $L \in V$
- $X \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$
- 4. S is **start variable**, where  $S \in V$

# Example of CFG

**Example:** Language  $\{ 0^n 1^n | n \ge 0 \}$  has CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ 

- ullet Variables  $V=\{S\}$
- ullet Terminals  $\Sigma = \{0,1\}$
- ullet Start variable S
- ullet Rules R:

$$S \to 0S1$$
$$S \to \varepsilon$$

 Combine rules with same left-hand side in Backus-Naur (or Backus Normal) Form (BNF):

$$S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \varepsilon$$

# **Deriving Strings Using CFG**

# Definition: If

- $ullet u,v,w\in (V\cup \Sigma)^*$ , and
- $\bullet \ A \to w$  is a rule of the grammar,

then uAv yields uwv, written

$$uAv \Rightarrow uwv$$

#### Remark:

 A single-step derivation "⇒" consists of substituting a variable by a string of variables and terminals according to a substitution rule.

**Example:** With the rule " $A \rightarrow BC$ ", we can have  $01AD0 \implies 01BCD0.$ 

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Language of CFG

**Definition:** u derives v, written  $u \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} v$ , if

- $\bullet u = v$ , or
- $\bullet \exists u_1, u_2, \dots, u_k$  for some  $k \geq 0$  such that

$$u \Rightarrow u_1 \Rightarrow u_2 \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow u_k \Rightarrow v$$

**Remark:** " $\stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow}$ " denotes a sequence of  $\geq 0$  single-step derivations.

**Example:** With the rules " $A \rightarrow B1 \mid D0C$ ",

$$0AA \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} 0D0CB1$$

**Definition:** The **language** of CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  is

$$L(G) = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} w \}.$$

Such a language is called **context-free**, and satisfies  $L(G) \subseteq \Sigma^*$ .

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Example of CFG

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
- 1.  $V = \{S\}$
- 2.  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- 3. Rules R:

$$S \to 0S \mid \varepsilon$$

- Then  $L(G) = \{ 0^n | n \ge 0 \}.$
- For example, S derives  $0^3$

$$S \Rightarrow 0S \Rightarrow 00S \Rightarrow 000S \Rightarrow 000\varepsilon = 000$$

- Note that  $\rightarrow$  and  $\Rightarrow$  are different.
  - $lue{}$  ightarrow used in defining rules
  - ⇒ used in derivation

# Example of CFG

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S\}$
  - 2.  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
  - 3. Rules R:

$$S \rightarrow 0S \mid 1S \mid \varepsilon$$

- Then  $L(G) = \Sigma^*$ .
- ullet For example, S derives 0100

$$S \Rightarrow 0S \Rightarrow 01S \Rightarrow 010S \Rightarrow 0100S \Rightarrow 0100$$

# **Example of CFG**

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S\}$
  - 2.  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
  - 3. Rules R:

$$S \rightarrow 0S \mid 1S \mid 1$$

- Then  $L(G)=\{\,w\in\Sigma^*\,|\,w=s1 \text{ for some }s\in\Sigma^*\,\}$ , i.e., strings that end in 1.
- ullet For example, S derives 011

$$S \Rightarrow 0S \Rightarrow 01S \Rightarrow 011$$

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# Example of CFG

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S, Z\}$
  - 2.  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
  - 3. Rules R:

$$S \to 0S1 \mid Z$$
$$Z \to 0Z \mid \varepsilon$$

- Then  $L(G) = \{ 0^i 1^j | i \ge j \}.$
- $\bullet$  For example, S derives  $0^5 1^3$

$$S \Rightarrow 0S1 \Rightarrow 00S11 \Rightarrow 000S111 \Rightarrow 000Z111$$
  
 $\Rightarrow 0000Z111 \Rightarrow 00000Z111 \Rightarrow 000000\varepsilon111$   
 $= 00000111$ 

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# CFG for Palindrome

- PALINDROME = {  $w \in \Sigma^* | w = w^{\mathcal{R}}$  }, where  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .
- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S\}$
  - 2.  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
  - 3. Rules R:

$$S \rightarrow aSa \mid bSb \mid a \mid b \mid \varepsilon$$

- Then L(G) = PALINDROME
- $\bullet$  S derives bbaabb

$$S \Rightarrow bSb \Rightarrow bbSbb \Rightarrow bbaSabb \Rightarrow bba\varepsilon abb = bbaabb$$

 $\bullet$  S derives aabaa

$$S \, \Rightarrow \, aSa \, \, \Rightarrow \, \, aaSaa \, \, \Rightarrow \, \, aabaa$$

#### **CFG for EVEN-EVEN**

- Recall language EVEN-EVEN is the set of strings over  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  with even number of a's and even number of b's.
- EVEN-EVEN has regular expression

$$(aa \cup bb \cup (ab \cup ba)(aa \cup bb)^*(ab \cup ba))^*$$

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S, X, Y\}$
  - 2.  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
  - 3. Rules R:

$$S \to aaS \mid bbS \mid XYXS \mid \varepsilon$$

$$X \to ab \mid ba$$

$$Y \to aaY \mid bbY \mid \varepsilon$$

• Then L(G) = EVEN-EVEN

# **CFG** for Simple Arithmetic Expressions

- CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  with
  - 1.  $V = \{S\}$
- 2.  $\Sigma = \{+, -, \times, /, (, ), 0, 1, 2, ..., 9\}$
- 3. Rules R:

$$S \rightarrow S + S \mid S - S \mid S \times S \mid S/S \mid (S) \mid -S \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \cdots \mid 9$$

- $\bullet$  L(G) is a set of valid arithmetic expressions over single-digit integers.
- S derives string  $2 \times (3 + 4)$

$$S \Rightarrow S \times S \Rightarrow S \times (S) \Rightarrow S \times (S+S)$$
  
  $\Rightarrow 2 \times (S+S) \Rightarrow 2 \times (3+S) \Rightarrow 2 \times (3+4)$ 

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#### **Derivation Tree**

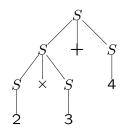
• CFG

$$S \rightarrow S + S \mid S - S \mid S \times S \mid S/S \mid (S) \mid -S \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \cdots \mid 9$$

• Can generate string  $2 \times 3 + 4$  using derivation

$$S \Rightarrow S+S \Rightarrow S \times S+S \Rightarrow 2 \times S+S$$
  
  $\Rightarrow 2 \times 3+S \Rightarrow 2 \times 3+4$ 

- **Leftmost derivation**: leftmost variable replaced in each step.
- Corresponding derivation (or parse) tree



- Depth-first traversal of tree
  - Starting at **root**, walk around tree with left hand always touching tree.
  - string = sequence of **leaves** visited.

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# Ambiguous CFG

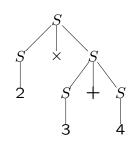
$$S \rightarrow S + S \mid S - S \mid S \times S \mid S/S \mid (S) \mid -S \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \cdots \mid 9$$

• Another derivation of string  $2 \times 3 + 4$ :

$$S \Rightarrow S \times S \Rightarrow S \times S + S \Rightarrow 2 \times S + S$$
  
  $\Rightarrow 2 \times 3 + S \Rightarrow 2 \times 3 + 4$ 

which is **not** a **leftmost derivation**.

• Corresponding derivation tree:



**Definition:** CFG G is **ambiguous** if  $\exists$  string  $w \in L(G)$  having different parse trees (or equivalently, different leftmost derivations).

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# Applications of CFLs

• Model for natural languages (Noam Chomsky)

```
 \langle \mathsf{SENTENCE} \rangle \to \langle \mathsf{NOUN-PHRASE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{VERB-PHRASE} \rangle \\ \langle \mathsf{NOUN-PHRASE} \rangle \to \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \mid \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{ADJ} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \\ \langle \mathsf{VERB-PHRASE} \rangle \to \langle \mathsf{VERB} \rangle \mid \langle \mathsf{VERB} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN-PHRASE} \rangle \\ \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \to \text{a} \mid \text{the} \\ \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \to \text{girl} \mid \text{boy} \mid \text{cat} \\ \langle \mathsf{ADJ} \rangle \to \text{big} \mid \text{small} \mid \text{blue} \\ \langle \mathsf{VERB} \rangle \to \text{sees} \mid \text{likes} \\ \\ \mathsf{Using above CFG, which has } \langle \mathsf{SENTENCE} \rangle \text{ as start variable, can derive} \\ \langle \mathsf{SENTENCE} \rangle \to \langle \mathsf{NOUN-PHRASE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{VERB-PHRASE} \rangle \\ \to \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \langle \mathsf{VERB-PHRASE} \rangle \\ \to \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \langle \mathsf{VERB} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN-PHRASE} \rangle \\ \to \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle \langle \mathsf{VERB} \rangle \langle \mathsf{ARTICLE} \rangle \langle \mathsf{ADJ} \rangle \langle \mathsf{NOUN} \rangle
```

# **Applications of CFLs**

- Specification of programming languages:
  - parsing a computer program
- Describes mathematical structures, etc.
- Intermediate class between
  - regular languages (Chapter 1) and
  - computable languages (Chapters 3 and 4)

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# **Context-Free Languages**

**Definition:** Any language that can be generated by CFG is a **context-free language (CFL)**.

 $\Rightarrow$  the girl sees a blue cat

**Remark:** The CFL  $\{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \ge 0 \}$  shows us that certain CFLs are nonregular.

#### **Questions:**

- 1. Are all regular languages context-free?
- 2. Are all languages context-free?

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#### **Chomsky Normal Form**

**Definition:** CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  is in **Chomsky normal form** if each rule is in one of three forms:

$$\begin{array}{c} A \to BC \\ \text{or} \ A \to x \\ \text{or} \ S \to \varepsilon \end{array}$$

with

- variables  $A \in V$  and  $B, C \in V \{S\}$ , and
- ullet terminal  $x \in \Sigma$

**Example:** Rules of CFG in Chomsky normal form with  $V = \{S, W, X\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ :

$$S \to XX \mid XW \mid a \mid \varepsilon$$
$$X \to WX \mid b$$
$$W \to a$$

Remark: Grammars in Chomsky normal form are far easier to analyze.

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# Can Always Put CFG into Chomsky Normal Form

Recall: CFG in Chomsky normal form if each rule has form:

$$A \to BC$$
 or  $A \to x$  or  $S \to \varepsilon$ 

 $\text{ where } A \in V; \quad B,C \in V - \{S\}; \quad x \in \Sigma.$ 

#### Theorem 2.9

Every CFL can be described by a CFG in Chomsky normal form.

#### **Proof Idea:**

- Start with CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ .
- Replace, one-by-one, every rule that is not "Chomsky".
- Need to take care of:
  - Start variable (not allowed on RHS of rules)
  - ullet  $\varepsilon$ -rules ( $A \to \varepsilon$  not allowed when A isn't start variable)
  - $\blacksquare$  all other violating rules  $(A \to B, A \to aBc, A \to BCDE)$

#### **Converting CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

- 1. Start variable not allowed on RHS of rule, so introduce
  - New start variable  $S_0$
  - New rule  $S_0 \to S$
- 2. Remove  $\varepsilon$ -rules  $A \to \varepsilon$ , where  $A \in V \{S\}$ .
  - Before:  $B \to xAy$  and  $A \to \varepsilon \mid \cdots$
  - After:  $B \rightarrow xAy \mid xy$  and  $A \rightarrow \cdots$
- 3. Remove unit rules  $A \to B$ , where  $A \in V$ .
  - Before:  $A \to B$  and  $B \to xCy$
  - ullet After: A o xCy and B o xCy

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4. Replace problematic terminals a by variable  $T_a$  with rule  $T_a \to a$ .

• Before:  $A \rightarrow ab$ 

• After:  $A \to T_a T_b$ ,  $T_a \to a$ ,  $T_b \to b$ .

5. Shorten long RHS to sequence of RHS's with only 2 variables each:

• Before:  $A \to B_1 B_2 \cdots B_k$ 

• After:  $A \to B_1 A_1, A_1 \to B_2 A_2, \ldots, A_{k-2} \to B_{k-1} B_k$ 

■ Thus,  $A \Rightarrow B_1A_1 \Rightarrow B_1B_2A_2 \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow B_1B_2\cdots B_k$ 

- 6. Be careful about removing rules:
  - Do not introduce new rules that you removed earlier.
    - **Example:**  $A \rightarrow A$  simply disappears
  - ullet When removing  $A \to \varepsilon$  rules, insert all new replacements:
  - Before:  $B \to AbA$  and  $A \to \varepsilon \mid \cdots$
  - After:  $B \to AbA \mid bA \mid Ab \mid b$  and  $A \to \cdots$

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**Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form** 

Initial CFG  $G_0$ :

$$S \to XSX \mid aY$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \rightarrow b \mid \varepsilon$$

1. Introduce new start variable  $S_0$  and new rule  $S_0 \to S$ :

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \to b \mid \varepsilon$$

# **Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

From previous slide

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \to b \mid \varepsilon$$

2. Remove  $\varepsilon$ -rules for which left side is not start variable:

(i) remove 
$$Y \to \varepsilon$$

(ii) remove 
$$X \to \varepsilon$$

$$S_{0} \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a$$

$$X \rightarrow Y \mid S \mid \varepsilon$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$S_{0} \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow X$$

$$X \rightarrow Y$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$S_{0} \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a$$

$$X \rightarrow Y \mid S \mid \varepsilon$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$S_{0} \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS \mid S$$

$$X \rightarrow Y \mid S$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

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From previous slide

3. Remove unit rules:

(i) remove unit rule  $S \to S$ 

 $S_0 \to S$ 

 $Y \rightarrow b$ 

 $X \to Y \mid S$ 

 $S_0 \to S$ 

 $X \to Y \mid S$  $Y \rightarrow b$ 

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# **Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

From previous slide

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$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \to b$$

(ii) remove unit rule  $S_0 \to S$ 

$$S_0 \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \to b$$

**Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form** 

**Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form** 

 $S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS \mid S$ 

 $S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$ 

From previous slide

$$S_0 \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \to Y \mid S$$

$$Y \to b$$

(iii) remove unit rule  $X \to Y$ 

$$S_0 \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \to XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \to S \mid b$$

$$Y \to b$$

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# **Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

From previous slide

$$S_0 \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow S \mid b$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

(iv) remove unit rule 
$$X \to S$$

$$S_0 \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow b \mid XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

#### **Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

From previous slide

$$S_0 \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow b \mid XSX \mid aY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

4. Replace problematic terminals a by variable U with  $U \to a$ .

$$S_0 \rightarrow XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow b \mid XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$U \rightarrow a$$

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#### **Example: Convert CFG into Chomsky Normal Form**

From previous slide

$$S_0 \rightarrow XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow b \mid XSX \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$U \rightarrow a$$

5. Shorten long RHS to sequence of RHS's with only 2 variables each

$$S_{0} \rightarrow XX_{1} \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$S \rightarrow XX_{1} \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$X \rightarrow b \mid XX_{1} \mid UY \mid a \mid SX \mid XS$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$U \rightarrow a$$

$$X_{1} \rightarrow SX$$

which is a CFG in Chomsky normal form.

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# Pushdown Automata (PDAs)

- Pushdown automata (PDAs) are for CFLs what finite automata are for regular languages.
  - lacksquare PDA is presented with a string w over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ .
  - lacksquare PDA accepts or doesn't accept w.
- Key Differences Between PDA and DFA:
  - PDAs have a single stack.
  - PDAs allow for nondeterminism.
- **Defn: Stack** is data structure of unlimited size with 2 operations
  - push adds item to top of stack,
- **pop** removes item from top of stack.

Last-In-First-Out (LIFO)

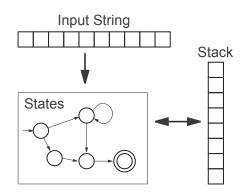
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PDA has

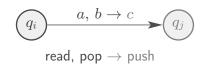
- States
- Stack with alphabet □
- Transitions among states based on
  - current state
  - what is read from input string
  - what is popped from stack.
- At end of each transition, symbol may be pushed on stack.

**PDA Uses Stack** 

- **General idea:** CFLs are languages that can be recognized by automata that have one stack:
  - $\{0^n1^n | n \ge 0\}$  is a CFL
  - $\blacksquare$  {  $0^n 1^n 0^n \mid n \ge 0$  } is not a CFL
- Recall for alphabet  $\Sigma$ , we defined  $\Sigma_{\varepsilon} = \Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ .
- Let Γ be **stack alphabet** 
  - Symbols in Γ can be pushed onto and popped off stack.
  - Often have  $\$ \in \Gamma$  to mark bottom of stack.
- Let  $\Gamma_{\varepsilon} = \Gamma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ .
  - lacksquare Pushing or popping arepsilon leaves stack unchanged.

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**PDA Transitions** 

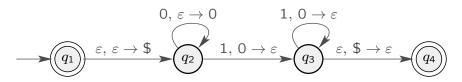


• If PDA

- lacksquare currently in state  $q_i$ ,
- lacksquare reads  $a\in \Sigma_{arepsilon}$ , and
- pops  $b \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  off the stack,
- then PDA can
  - $\blacksquare$  move to state  $q_i$
  - push  $c \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  onto top of stack
- If  $a = \varepsilon$ , then no input symbol is read.
- If  $b = \varepsilon$ , then nothing is popped off stack.
- If  $c = \varepsilon$ , then nothing is pushed onto stack.

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**How a PDA Computes** 

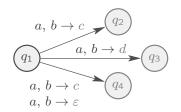


- ullet PDA starts in start state with input string  $w \in \Sigma^*$ 
  - stack initially empty
- PDA makes transitions among states
  - Edge label: "read, pop  $\rightarrow$  push"
- Based on current state, what from  $\Sigma_{\varepsilon}$  is next read from w, and what from  $\Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  is popped from stack.
- Nondeterministically move to state and push from  $\Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  onto stack.
- ullet If possible to end in accept state  $\in F \subseteq Q$  after reading entire input w without crashing, then M accepts w.

#### **Definition of PDA**

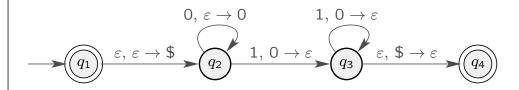
**Defn:** Pushdown automaton (PDA)  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$ :

- ullet Q is finite set of states
- $\Sigma$  is (finite) input alphabet
- Γ is (finite) stack alphabet
- $q_0$  is start state,  $q_0 \in Q$
- $\bullet$  F is set of accept states,  $F \subseteq Q$
- $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon} \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon} \to \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon})$  is transition function



**Nondeterministic**: multiple choices when in state  $q_1$ , read  $a \in \Sigma_{\varepsilon}$ , and pop  $b \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$ ;  $\delta(q_1, a, b) = \{ (q_2, c), (q_3, d), (q_4, c), (q_4, \varepsilon) \}$ 

**Example:** PDA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_1, F)$ 



- $\bullet Q = \{q_1, q_2, q_3, q_4\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
- $\Gamma = \{0,\$\}$  (use \$ to mark bottom of stack)
- $\bullet$   $q_1$  is the start state
- $\bullet F = \{q_1, q_4\}$

Will see that M recognizes language  $\{ 0^n 1^n | n \ge 0 \}$ .

CS 341: Chapter 2 0,  $\varepsilon \to 0$  1,  $0 \to \varepsilon$  2-39  $q_1 \longrightarrow q_2 \longrightarrow q_3 \longrightarrow \varepsilon, \$ \to \varepsilon \longrightarrow q_4 \longrightarrow q_$ 

• transition function  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon} \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon} \to \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon})$ 

Input:	0			1			arepsilon		
Stack:	0	\$	ε	0	\$	$\varepsilon$	0	\$	ε
$q_1$									$\{(q_2,\$)\}$
$q_2$			$\{(q_2,0)\}$	$\{(q_3,\varepsilon)\}$					
$q_3$				$\{(q_3,\varepsilon)\}$				$\{(q_4,\varepsilon)\}$	
$q_4$									

- e.g.,  $\delta(q_2, 1, 0) = \{ (q_3, \epsilon) \}.$
- Blank entries are  $\emptyset$ .
- Let's process string 000111 on our PDA.
  - PDA uses stack to match each 0 to a 1.

CS 341: Chapter 2 2-40  $0, \varepsilon \to 0 \qquad 1, 0 \to \varepsilon$   $q_1 \qquad \varepsilon, \varepsilon \to \$ \qquad q_2 \qquad 1, 0 \to \varepsilon \qquad q_3 \qquad \varepsilon, \$ \to \varepsilon \qquad q_4$ 

|| Current state

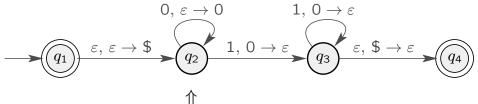
Bottom

Input string

Stack

- Start in start state  $q_1$  with stack empty.
- No input symbols read so far.
- Next go to state  $q_2$ 
  - reading nothing, popping nothing, and pushing \$ on stack.





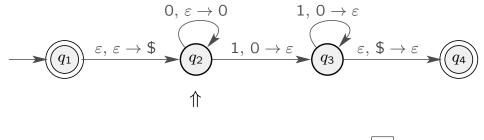


Stack

- Next return to state  $q_2$ 
  - reading input symbol 0
  - popping nothing from stack

Input string

pushing 0 on stack.



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Stack

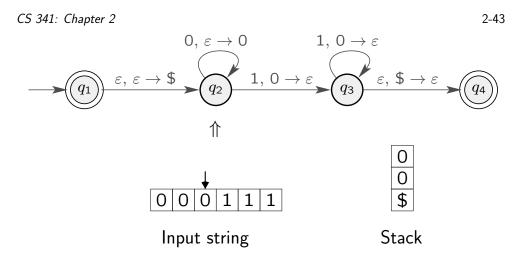
 $\bullet$  Next return to state  $q_2$ 

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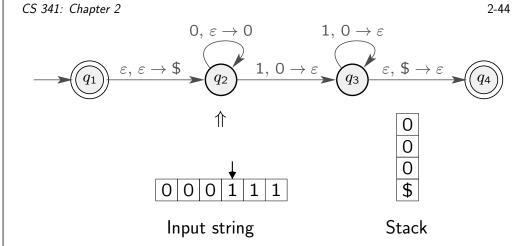
- reading input symbol 0
- popping nothing from stack

Input string

■ pushing 0 on stack.

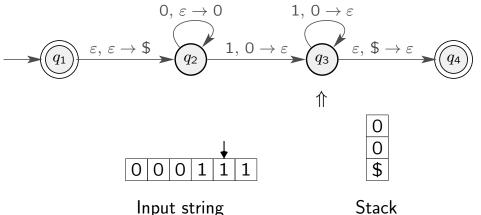


- ullet Next return to state  $q_2$ 
  - reading input symbol 0
  - popping nothing from stack
  - pushing 0 on stack.

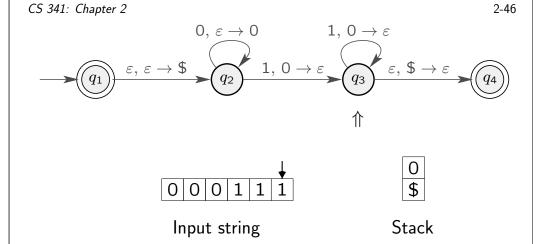


- Next go to state  $q_3$ 
  - reading input symbol 1
  - popping 0 from stack
  - pushing nothing on stack.

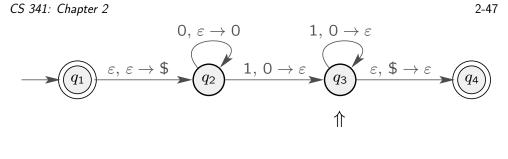


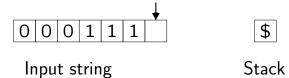


- Next return to state  $q_3$ 
  - reading input symbol 1
  - popping 0 from stack
  - pushing nothing on stack.

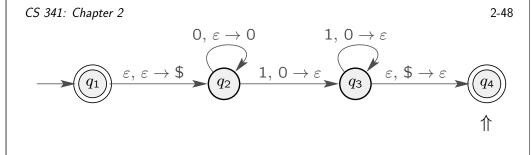


- Next return to state  $q_3$ 
  - reading input symbol 1
  - popping 0 from stack
  - pushing nothing on stack.





- Next go to state  $q_4$ 
  - reading nothing
  - popping \$ from stack
  - pushing nothing on stack.



Stack



Input string

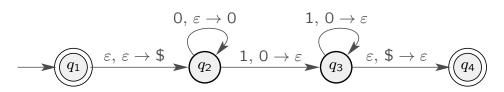
0 0 0 1

- $\blacksquare$  ended in an accept state  $q_4$ , and
- PDA read the entire input string without crashing.

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On input w = 000111, the (state; stack) evolution is  $(q_1; \varepsilon) \overset{\varepsilon, \varepsilon \to \$}{\longrightarrow} (q_2; \$) \overset{0, \varepsilon \to 0}{\longrightarrow} (q_2; 0\$) \overset{0, \varepsilon \to 0}{\longrightarrow} (q_2; 00\$)$   $\overset{0, \varepsilon \to 0}{\longrightarrow} (q_2; 000\$) \overset{1, 0 \to \varepsilon}{\longrightarrow} (q_3; 00\$) \overset{1, 0 \to \varepsilon}{\longrightarrow} (q_3; 0\$) \overset{1, 0 \to \varepsilon}{\longrightarrow} (q_3; \$)$   $\overset{\varepsilon, \$ \to \varepsilon}{\longrightarrow} (a_{\texttt{A}} : \varepsilon).$ 

- Stack grows to the left, so leftmost symbol in stack is on top.
- ullet Concatenation of what is read in sequence of transitions is arepsilon 000111 arepsilon = w.

$$(q_1) \begin{array}{c} 0, \varepsilon \to 0 \\ \hline \\ (q_2) \end{array} \begin{array}{c} 1, 0 \to \varepsilon \\ \hline \\ (q_3) \end{array} \begin{array}{c} \varepsilon, \$ \to \varepsilon \\ \hline \\ (q_4) \end{array}$$

• On input w = 0111, the (state; stack) evolution is  $(q_1:\varepsilon) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon,\varepsilon\to\$} (q_2;\$) \xrightarrow{0,\varepsilon\to0} (q_2;0\$) \xrightarrow{1,0\to\varepsilon} (q_3;\$) \xrightarrow{\varepsilon,\$\to\varepsilon} (q_4;\varepsilon)$ 

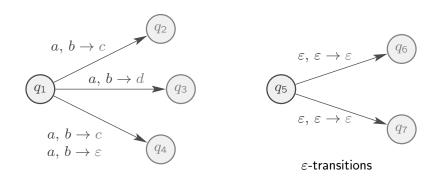
- $\bullet$  Only first two symbols 01 were read from input w= 0111.
- ullet PDA then crashes: there are still unread symbols 11 in input string w but PDA can't make any more transitions from  $q_4$ .
- No other way of processing, so string 0111 not accepted.
- Can show that PDA M recognizes language  $\{0^n1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ .

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# PDA May Be Nondeterministic

Recall: PDA transition function allows for nondeterminism

$$\delta: Q \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon} \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon} \to \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon})$$



Multiple choices when in state  $q_1$ , read  $a \in \Sigma_{\varepsilon}$ , and pop  $b \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$ ;  $\delta(q_1, a, b) = \{ (q_2, c), (q_3, d), (q_4, c), (q_4, \varepsilon) \}$ 

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# Formal Definition of PDA Computation

- Recall PDA transition function  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon} \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon} \to \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon})$ .
- PDA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$  accepts string  $w \in \Sigma^*$  if
  - w can be written as  $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_m$ , where each  $w_i \in \Sigma_{\varepsilon}$ ,
  - $\exists$  a sequence of states  $r_0, r_1, \ldots, r_m \in Q$  and strings  $s_0, s_1, \ldots, s_m \in \Gamma^*$  [stack contents on each transition] and the following hold:
  - $r_0 = q_0$  and  $s_0 = \varepsilon$ . [M starts in start state with empty stack.]
  - For each i = 0, 1, ..., m 1,

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

where  $s_i = at$  and  $s_{i+1} = bt$  for some  $a, b \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  and  $t \in \Gamma^*$ . [M moves properly according to state, what's read, and stack.]

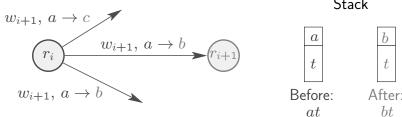
•  $r_m \in F$ . [M ends in an accept state after reading entire input.]

# **Computation Requires Valid Sequence of Transitions**

Recall for proper computation, we require for each transition i.

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

where  $s_i = at$  and  $s_{i+1} = bt$  for some  $a, b \in \Gamma_{\varepsilon}$  and  $t \in \Gamma^*$ .



**Definition:** The set of all input strings that are accepted by PDA M is the **language recognized by** M and is denoted by L(M).

• Note that  $L(M) \subset \Sigma^*$ .

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**Example:** PDA for language  $\{a^ib^jc^k | i, j, k > 0 \text{ and } i = j \text{ or } i = k\}$ 

# **Equivalence of PDAs and CFGs**

#### Theorem 2.20

A language is context free iff some PDA recognizes it.

Showing this equivalence requires two steps.

#### • Lemma 2.21

If A = L(G) for some CFG G, then A = L(M) for some PDA M.

#### • Lemma 2.27

If A = L(M) for some PDA M. then A = L(G) for some CFG G.

We will only show how the first lemma works.

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**Example:** PDA for language  $\{ww^{\mathcal{R}} \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$ 

$$0, \varepsilon \to 0 \qquad 0, 0 \to \varepsilon$$

$$1, \varepsilon \to 1 \qquad 1, 1 \to \varepsilon$$

$$(q_1) \quad \varepsilon, \varepsilon \to \$ \qquad (q_2) \quad \varepsilon, \varepsilon \to \varepsilon \qquad (q_3) \quad \varepsilon, \$ \to \varepsilon$$

PDA works as follows:

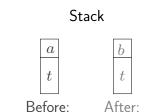
•  $q_1 \rightarrow q_2$ : First pushes \$ on stack to mark bottom

 $\bullet q_2 \rightarrow q_2$ : Reads in first half w of string, pushing it onto stack

 $\bullet$   $q_2 \rightarrow q_3$ : Guesses that it has reached middle of string

•  $q_3 \to q_3$ : Reads second half  $w^{\mathcal{R}}$  of string, matching symbols from first half in reverse order (recall: stack LIFO)

•  $q_3 \rightarrow q_4$ : Makes sure that no more input symbols on stack



PDA guesses if it should match the a's

- with the b's (state  $q_3$ ), or
- with the c's (state  $q_5$ )

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#### **Lemma 2.21**

If A = L(G) for some CFG G, then A = L(M) for some PDA M.

#### **Proof Idea:**

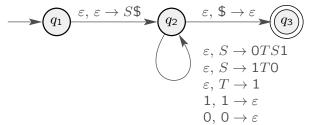
- Given CFG G, convert it into PDA M with L(M) = L(G).
- Basic idea: build PDA that simulates a leftmost derivation.
- For example, consider CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ 
  - $\blacksquare$  Variables  $V = \{S, T\}$
  - $\blacksquare$  Terminals  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$
  - Rules:  $S \rightarrow 0TS1 \mid 1T0, T \rightarrow 1$
- Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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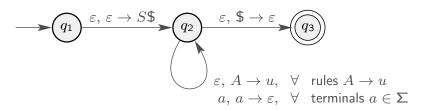
- ullet Recall CFG rules:  $S o 0TS1 \mid 1T0, \quad T o 1$
- Corresponding PDA:

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- PDA is non-deterministic.
- $\blacksquare$  Input alphabet of PDA is the terminal alphabet of CFG
  - $\Delta \Sigma = \{0, 1\}.$
- Stack alphabet consists of all variables, terminals and "\$"
  - $\Gamma = \{S, T, 0, 1, \$\}.$
- PDA simulates a **leftmost derivation** using CFG
  - ▲ Pushes RHS of rule in **reverse order** onto stack.

• Convert CFG into PDA as follows:

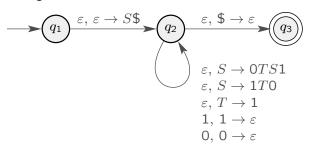


- PDA works as follows:
  - 1. Pushes \$ and then S on the stack, where S is start variable.
  - 2. Repeats following until stack empty
  - (a) If top of stack is variable  $A \in V$ , then replace A by some  $u \in (\Sigma \cup V)^*$ , where  $A \to u$  is a rule in R.
  - (b) If top of stack is terminal  $a \in \Sigma$  and next input symbol is a, then read and pop a.
  - (c) If top of stack is \$, then pop it and accept.

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ullet Recall CFG rules:  $S o 0TS1 \mid 1T0, \quad T o 1$ 

Corresponding PDA:

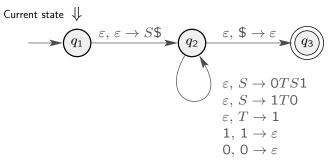


• Recall leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

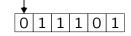
$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

- Let's now process string 011101 on PDA.
- When in state  $q_2$ , look at top of stack to determine next transition.

0. Start in state  $q_1$  with 011101 on input tape and empty stack.



Next unread symbol



Input string



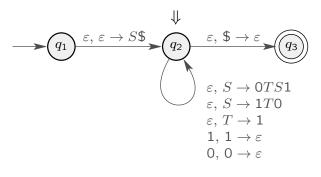
Stack

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Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

1. Read nothing, pop nothing, move to  $q_2$ , and push \$ and then S.



011101

Input string

*S* \$

Stack

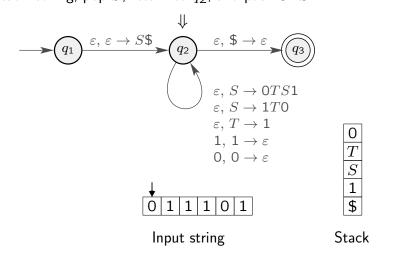
2-64

Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$\underline{S} \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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2. Read nothing, pop S, return to  $q_2$ , and push 0TS1.

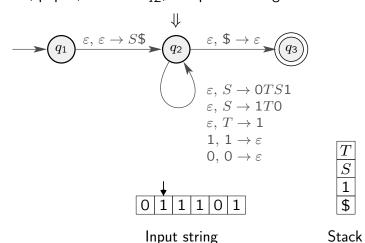


Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow \underline{0TS1} \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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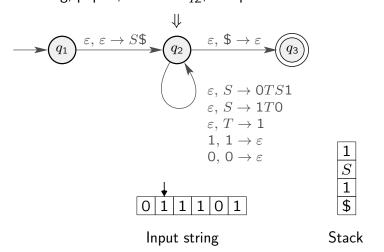
3. Read 0, pop 0, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.



Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow \underline{0TS1} \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

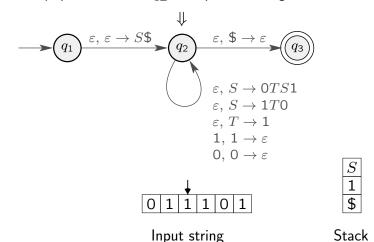
4. Read nothing, pop T, return to  $q_2$ , and push 1.



Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

5. Read 1, pop 1, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.

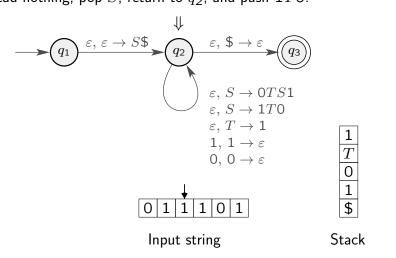


Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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6. Read nothing, pop S, return to  $q_2$ , and push 1T0.



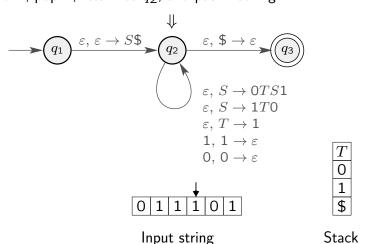
Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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7. Read 1, pop 1, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.



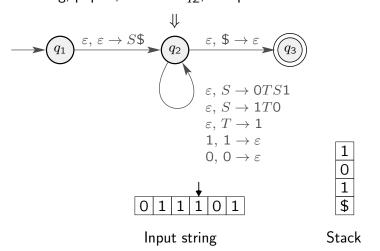
Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \ \Rightarrow \ 0TS1 \ \Rightarrow \ 01S1 \ \Rightarrow \ \underline{011T01} \ \Rightarrow \ 011101$$

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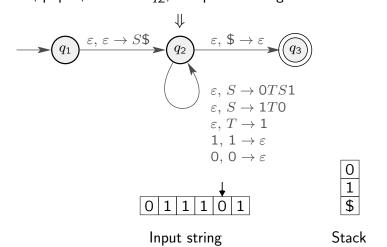
8. Read nothing, pop T, return to  $q_2$ , and push 1.



Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

9. Read 1, pop 1, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.

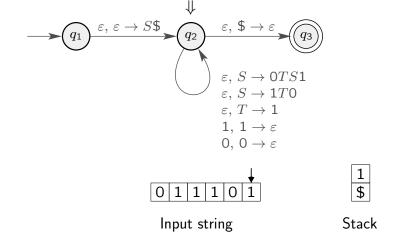


Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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10. Read 0, pop 0, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.

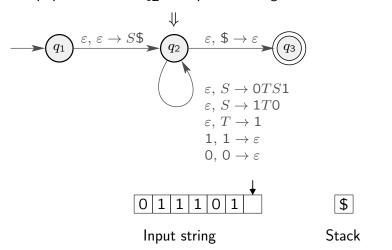


Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow 011101$$

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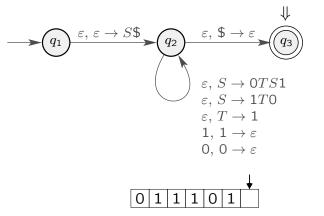
11. Read 1, pop 1, return to  $q_2$ , and push nothing.



Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow \underline{011101}$$

12. Read nothing, pop \$, move to  $q_3$ , push nothing, and accept.



Input string

Stack

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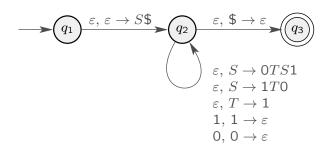
Leftmost derivation of string  $011101 \in L(G)$ :

$$S \Rightarrow 0TS1 \Rightarrow 01S1 \Rightarrow 011T01 \Rightarrow \underline{011101}$$

Constructed DDA is Not Co

# **Constructed PDA is Not Compliant**

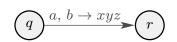
- ullet Recall CFG rules:  $S 
  ightarrow 0 TS1 \mid 1 T0, \quad T 
  ightarrow 1$
- Corresponding PDA:



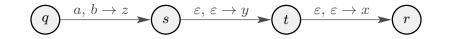
- ullet Problem: pushing strings onto stack instead of  $\leq 1$  symbols, which is not allowed in PDA specification.
  - PDA transition fcn  $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon} \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon} \to \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_{\varepsilon})$

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Solution: Add Extra States as Needed

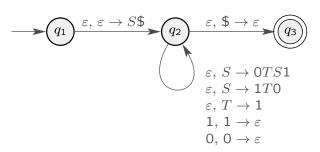


becomes



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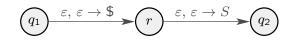
• For example, in our PDA



we replace

$$q_1$$
  $\varepsilon, \varepsilon \to S$   $q_2$ 

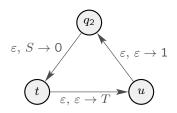
with



Also, replace



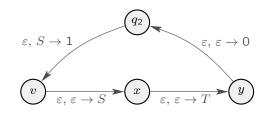
with



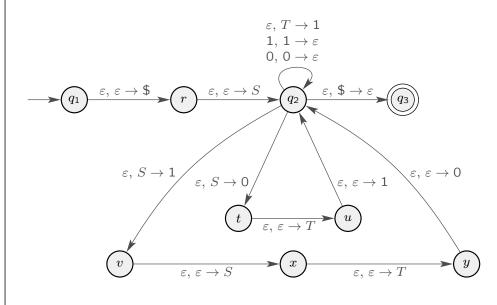
and replace



with



So our final PDA from the CFG is



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 $Regular \Rightarrow CFL$ 

# Corollary 2.32

If A is a regular language, then A is also a CFL.

#### Proof.

- ullet Suppose A is regular.
- $\bullet$  Corollary 1.40 implies A has an NFA.
- But an NFA is just a PDA that ignores stack (always pops/pushes  $\varepsilon$ ).
- $\bullet$  So A has a PDA.
- $\bullet$  Thus, Theorem 2.20 implies A is context-free.

**Remark:** Converse is not true.

For example,  $\{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \ge 0 \}$  is CFL but not regular.

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# **Pumping Lemma for CFLs**

- Previously saw pumping lemma for regular languages.
- ullet Analogous result for context-free language A.
- Basic Idea: Derivation of long string  $s \in A$  has repeated variable R.
  - Long string implies tall parse tree, so must have repeated variable.
  - Can split string  $s \in A$  into **5 pieces** s = uvxyz based on R.
  - $uv^ixy^iz \in A \text{ for all } i \geq 0.$
- ullet Consider language A with CFG G

$$S \rightarrow CDa \mid CD$$
 
$$C \rightarrow aD$$
 
$$D \rightarrow Sb \mid b$$

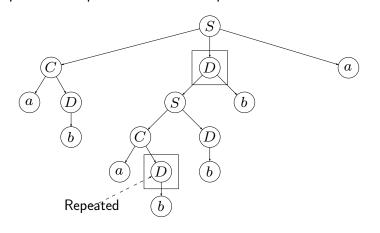
• Below "long" derivation using G repeats variable R = D:

$$S \Rightarrow CDa \Rightarrow aDDa \Rightarrow ab\underline{D}a \Rightarrow abSba \Rightarrow abCDba \\ \Rightarrow aba\underline{D}Dba \Rightarrow ababDba \Rightarrow ababbba$$

# Repeated Variable in Path of Parse Tree

• Derivation of "long" string  $s = ababbba \in A$  repeats variable D:

ullet "Tall" parse tree repeats variable D on path from root to leaf.



# **Split String Into 5 Pieces**

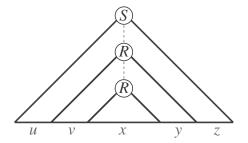
• In depth-first traversal of tree

- u = ab is before D-D subtree
- v = a is before second D within D-D subtree
- $\mathbf{x} = b$  is what second D eventually becomes
- y = bb is after second D within D-D subtree
- z = a is after D-D subtree

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**Split Long String Into 5 Pieces** 

- $\begin{tabular}{ll} \bullet \begin{tabular}{ll} \bf More & generally, & consider & "long" \\ & string & s \in A. \end{tabular}$
- Parse tree is "tall"
  - $\blacksquare$   $\exists$  repeated variable R in path from root S to leaf.

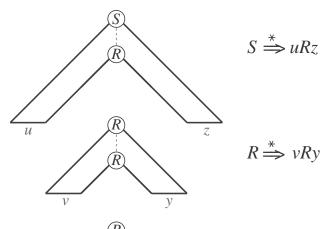


- Split string s = uvxyz into 5 pieces based on repeated variable R:
  - $\blacksquare$  u is before R-R subtree (in depth-first order)
  - v is before second R within R-R subtree
  - $\blacksquare$  x is what second R eventually becomes
  - lacksquare y is after second R within R-R subtree
  - lacksquare z is after R-R subtree

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# Subtrees Yield ...

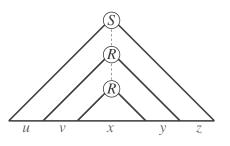




 $R \stackrel{*}{\Longrightarrow} x$ 

# Can Pump To Obtain Other Strings in A

- ullet Parse tree for string  $s \in A$  implies
  - $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz \text{ for } u, z \in \Sigma^*$
  - $\blacksquare R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy \text{ for } v, y \in \Sigma^*$
  - $\blacksquare R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x \text{ for } x \in \Sigma^*$



ullet Can derive string  $s=uvxyz\in A$   $S\ \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow}\ uRz\ \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow}\ uvRyz\ \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow}\ uvxyz\ \in\ A$ 

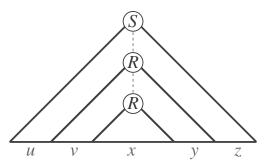
ullet Also for each  $i \geq 0$ , can derive string

$$S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uvRyz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uvvRyyz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} \cdots \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uv^{i}Ry^{i}z$$

$$\stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uv^{i}xy^{i}z \in A$$

#### **Pumping a Parse Tree**

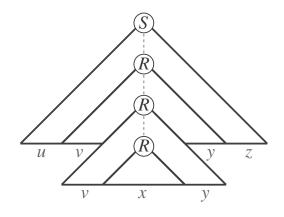
- Recall:  $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$
- ullet Consider parse tree of  $uvxyz \in A$



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Pumping Up a Parse Tree

- Recall:  $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$
- ullet Using R-R subtree **twice** shows  $uvvxyyz=uv^2xy^2z\in A$

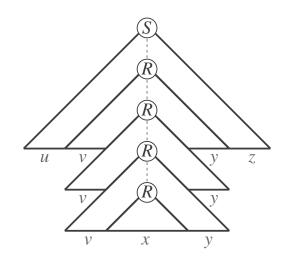


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**Pumping Up Multiple Times** 

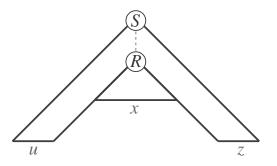
- Recall:  $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$
- Using R-R subtree **thrice** shows  $uv^3xy^3z \in A$



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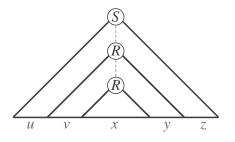
#### **Pumping Down a Parse Tree**

- Recall:  $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$ ,  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$
- Removing R-R subtree shows  $uxz = uv^0xy^0z \in A$



#### When Is Pumping Possible?

- **Key to Pumping**: repeated variable *R* in parse tree.
  - $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz \text{ for } u, z \in \Sigma^*$
  - $\blacksquare R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy \text{ for } v, y \in \Sigma^*$
  - $\blacksquare \ R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x \ \text{ for } x \in \Sigma^*$
  - $\blacksquare$  string  $s = uvxyz \in A$



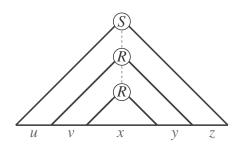
• Repeated variable  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$ , so "v-y pumping" possible:

$$S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uvRyz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uv^iRy^iz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uv^ixy^iz \in A$$

- If tree is tall enough, then repeated variable in path from root to leaf.
  - lacktriangle CFG has finite number |V| of variables.
  - How tall does parse tree have to be to ensure pumping possible?
  - **Length** of path between two nodes = # edges in path.
  - Tree **height** = # edges on longest path from root to a leaf.

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Can Pump If Parse Tree Is Tall Enough



- ullet Path from root S to leaf
  - lacksquare Leaf is a terminal  $\in \Sigma$
  - lacksquare All other nodes along path are variables  $\in V$ .
- ullet If height of tree  $\geq |V|+1$ , where |V|=# variables in CFG
  - $\blacksquare$  then  $\exists$  repeated variable on longest path from root to leaf.
- ullet How long does string  $s \in A$  have to be to ensure tall enough tree?

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#### **Previous Example**

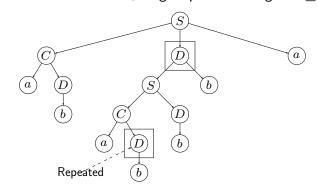
• |V| = 3 variables in below CFG:

$$S \rightarrow CDa \mid CD$$

$$C \rightarrow aD$$

$$D \rightarrow Sb \mid b$$

■ In parse tree for ababbba, longest path has length  $5 \ge |V| + 1 = 4$ 



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# If String s is Long Enough, Then Can Pump

ullet Let A have CFG in which longest rule has right-side length  $b\geq 2$ :

 $C \to D_1 \cdots D_b$ 

- So each node in tree has  $\leq b$  children.
- At most b leaves one step from root.
- At most  $b^2$  leaves 2 steps from root, and so on.
- If tree has height  $\leq h$ , then
  - $\blacktriangle \le b^h$  leaves, so generated string s has length  $|s| \le b^h$ .
- Equiv: If string  $s \in A$  has  $|s| \ge b^h + 1$ , then tree height  $\ge h + 1$ .
- Let |V| = # variables in CFG.
- If string  $s \in A$  has length  $|s| > p \equiv b^{|V|+1}$ , then
  - tree height  $\geq |V| + 1$  because  $b^{|V|+1} \geq b^{|V|} + 1$ .
  - some variable on longest path in tree is repeated
  - can pump parse tree.

#### **Pumping Lemma for CFLs**

#### Theorem 2.34

If A is context-free language, then  $\exists$  pumping length p where, if  $s \in A$  with |s| > p, then s can be split into s pieces

s = uvxyz

satisfying the properties

- 1.  $uv^i x y^i z \in A$  for each  $i \ge 0$ ,
- 2. |vy| > 0, and
- $3. |vxy| \le p.$

#### Remarks:

- Property 1 implies that  $uxz \in A$  by taking i = 0.
- ullet Property 2 says that vy cannot be the empty string.
- Property 3 is sometimes useful.

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# **Proof of Pumping Lemma for CFLs**

- Let  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  be CFG of A.
- Maximum size of rules is b > 2:  $C \rightarrow D_1 \cdots D_b$
- From slide 2-93: If string  $s \in A$  has length  $|s| \ge p \equiv b^{|V|+1}$ ,
  - $\blacksquare$  then longest path in parse tree has some repeated variable R:

 $S \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uRz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uvRyz \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} uvxyz$ 

- It follows that  $uv^i x y^i z \in A$  for all  $i = 0, 1, 2, \ldots$
- Assume
  - lacktriangleright parse tree is smallest one for string s
  - lacktriangleright repeated R is among the bottom |V|+1 variables on longest path.
- Then in tree, repeated part  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$  and  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$  satisfy
  - |vy| > 0 because tree is minimal.
  - bottom subtree with  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} vRy$  and  $R \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} x$  has height  $\leq |V| + 1$ , so  $|vxy| \leq b^{|V|+1} = p$ .

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#### Non-CFL

**Remark:** CFL Pumping Lemma (PL) mainly used to show certain languages are **not** CFL.

**Example:** Prove that  $B = \{ a^n b^n c^n \mid n \ge 0 \}$  is non-CFL. **Proof.** 

- Suppose B is CFL, so PL implies B has pumping length  $p \ge 1$ .
- Consider string  $s = a^p b^p c^p \in B$ , so  $|s| = 3p \ge p$ .
- PL: can split s into 5 pieces  $s = uvxyz = a^pb^pc^p$  satisfying
- 1.  $uv^i x y^i z \in B$  for all i > 0
- 2. |vy| > 0
- 3. |vxy| < p
- For contradiction, show **cannot** split s = uvxyz satisfying 1–3.
  - Show **every** possible split satisfying Property 2 violates Property 1.

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- $\bullet \ \text{Recall} \ s = uvxyz = \underbrace{aa\cdots a}_{p} \underbrace{bb\cdots b}_{p} \underbrace{cc\cdots c}_{p}.$
- ullet Possibilities for split s=uvxyz satisfying Property 2: |vy|>0
  - (i) Strings v and y are **uniform** [e.g.,  $v = a \cdots a$  and  $y = b \cdots b$ ].
    - Then  $uv^2xy^2z$  won't have same number of a's, b's and c's because |vy|>0.
    - Hence,  $uv^2xy^2z \notin B$ .
- (ii) Strings v and y are **not both uniform** [e.g.,  $v = a \cdots ab \cdots b$  and  $y = b \cdots b$ ].
  - Then  $uv^2xy^2z \notin L(a^*b^*c^*)$ : symbols not grouped together.
  - Hence,  $uv^2xy^2z \notin B$ .
- Thus, every split satisfying Property 2 has  $uv^2xy^2z \notin B$ , so Property 1 violated.
- Contradiction, so  $B = \{ a^n b^n c^n \mid n \ge 0 \}$  is not a CFL.

Prove  $C = \{ a^i b^j c^k \mid 0 \le i \le j \le k \}$  is not CFL

- ullet Suppose C is CFL, so PL implies C has pumping length p.
- $\bullet \text{ Take string } s = \underbrace{aa\cdots a}_{p} \underbrace{bb\cdots b}_{p} \underbrace{cc\cdots c}_{p} \in C \text{, so } |s| = 3p \geq p.$
- PL: can split  $s=a^pb^pc^p$  into 5 pieces s=uvxyz satisfying 1.  $uv^ixy^iz\in C$  for every  $i\geq 0$ , 2. |vy|>0, 3.  $|vxy|\leq p$ .
- ullet Property 3 implies vxy can't contain 3 different types of symbols.
- ullet Two possibilities for v,x,y satisfying |vy|>0 and  $|vxy|\leq p$ :
  - (i) If  $vxy \in L(a^*b^*)$ , then z has all the c's
    - string  $uv^2xy^2z$  has too few c's because z not pumped
    - Hence,  $uv^2xy^2z \notin C$
  - (ii) If  $vxy \in L(b^*c^*)$ , then u has all the a's
    - string  $uv^0xy^0z = uxz$  has too many a's
    - Hence,  $uv^0xy^0z \notin C$
- ullet Every split s=uvxyz satisfying 2–3 violates 1, so C isn't CFL.

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**Prove**  $D = \{ ww | w \in \{0, 1\}^* \}$  is not **CFL** 

- ullet Suppose D is CFL, so PL implies D has pumping length p.
- $\bullet \ \mathsf{Take} \ s = \underbrace{00 \cdots 0}_{p} \underbrace{11 \cdots 1}_{p} \underbrace{00 \cdots 0}_{p} \underbrace{11 \cdots 1}_{p} \in D \text{, so } |s| = 4p \geq p.$
- PL: can split s into 5 pieces s = uvxyz satisfying
- 1.  $uv^i xy^i z \in D$  for every  $i \ge 0$ , 2. |vy| > 0, 3.  $|vxy| \le p$ .
- (i) If vxy is entirely left of middle of  $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$ ,
  - lacktriangle then second half of  $uv^2xy^2z$  starts with a 1
  - so can't write  $uv^2xy^2z$  as ww because first half starts with 0.
- (ii) Similar reasoning: if vxy is entirely right of middle of  $\mathbf{0}^p \mathbf{1}^p \mathbf{0}^p \mathbf{1}^p$ ,
  - $\blacksquare \text{ then } uv^2xy^2z \not\in D$
- (iii) If vxu straddles middle of  $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$ .
  - then  $uv^0xy^0z = uxz = 0^p 1^j 0^k 1^p \notin D$ (because j or k < p)
- ullet Every split s=uvxyz satisfying 2–3 violates 1, so D isn't CFL.

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# Remarks on CFL Pumping Lemma

Often more difficult to apply CFL pumping lemma (Theorem 2.34) than pumping lemma for regular languages (Theorem 1.70).

- $\bullet$  Carefully choose string s in language to get contradiction.
  - lacksquare Not all strings s will give contradiction.
- CFL pumping lemma: "... can split s into 5 pieces s=uvxyz satisfying all of Properties 1–3."
- To get contradiction, must show **cannot** split s into 5 pieces s = uvxyz satisfying all of Properties 1–3.
- Need to show **every possible** split s = uvxyz **violates** at least one of Properties 1–3.

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#### **CFLs Closed Under Union**

Is class of CFLs closed under standard operations?

Theorem:

If  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  are CFLs, then union  $A_1 \cup A_2$  is CFL.

Proof.

- Assume
  - $A_1$  has CFG  $G_1 = (V_1, \Sigma, R_1, S_1)$
  - $A_2$  has CFG  $G_2 = (V_2, \Sigma, R_2, S_2)$ .
- Assume that  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ .
- $A_1 \cup A_2$  has CFG  $G_3 = (V_3, \Sigma, R_3, S_3)$  with
  - $\blacksquare V_3 = V_1 \cup V_2 \cup \{S_3\}$ , where  $S_3 \notin V_1 \cup V_2$  is new start variable
  - $R_3 = R_1 \cup R_2 \cup \{S_3 \to S_1, S_3 \to S_2\}.$

**Example of Union of CFLs** 

ullet Suppose  $A_1$  has CFG  $G_1$  with rules:

$$S \to aS \mid bXb$$
$$X \to ab \mid baXb$$

ullet Suppose  $A_2$  has CFG  $G_2$  with rules:

$$S \to Sbb \mid aXba$$
$$X \to b \mid XaX$$

• Then  $A_1 \cup A_2$  has CFG  $G_3$  with start variable  $S_3$  and rules:

$$S_3 \rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$$

$$S_1 \rightarrow aS_1 \mid bX_1b$$

$$X_1 \rightarrow ab \mid baX_1b$$

$$S_2 \rightarrow S_2bb \mid aX_2ba$$

$$X_2 \rightarrow b \mid X_2aX_2$$

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Some Closure Properties of CFLs

- Let  $A_1$  and  $A_2$  be two CFLs.
- Can prove that
  - $\blacksquare$  union  $A_1 \cup A_2$  is always CFL (slide 2-101)
  - lacktriangle concatenation  $A_1 \circ A_2$  is always CFL
  - Kleene-star  $A_1^*$  is always CFL
- But
  - lacktriangle intersection  $A_1 \cap A_2$  is not necessarily CFL
    - $A_1 = \{ a^n b^n c^k \mid n \ge 0, k \ge 0 \} \text{ and } A_2 = \{ a^k b^n c^n \mid n \ge 0, k \ge 0 \}$
  - lacktriangle complement  $\overline{A_1} = \Sigma^* A_1$  is not necessarily CFL.

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Hierarchy of Languages (so far)

All languages

Context-free
(CFG, PDA)

Regular
(DFA, NFA, Reg Exp)

Finite

 $\{ 0^n 1^n 2^n | n \ge 0 \}$ 

 $\{ 0^n 1^n | n \ge 0 \}$ 

 $(0 \cup 1)^*$ 

**Examples** 

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#### **Summary of Chapter 2**

- Context-free language is defined by CFG
- Parse trees
- ullet Chomsky normal form:  $A \to BC$  or  $A \to x$ , with  $A \in V$ ,  $B,C \in V \{S\}$ ,  $x \in \Sigma$ . Also allow rule  $S \to \varepsilon$ .
- Pushdown automaton is NFA with stack for additional memory.
- Equivalence of PDAs and CFGs
- Regular  $\Rightarrow$  CFL, but CFL  $\not\Rightarrow$  Regular.
- Pumping lemma for CFLs: long strings in CFL can be pumped.
  - Repeat part of tall parse tree corresponding to repeated variable
  - Used to prove certain languages are non-CFL
- Class of CFLs closed under union, Kleene star, concatenation
- Class of CFLs not closed under intersection, complementation