PDAs Accept Context-Free Languages

Theorem:

Context-Free
Languages
(Grammars)

Languages
Accepted by
PDAs

Proof - Step 1:

Convert any context-free grammar $\,G\,$ to a PDA $\,M\,$ with: $\,L(G)=L(M)\,$

Proof - Step 2:

Convert any PDA M to a context-free grammar G with: L(G) = L(M)

Proof - step 1

Convert

Context-Free Grammars
to
PDAs

Take an arbitrary context-free grammar G

We will convert G to a PDA M such that:

$$L(G) = L(M)$$

Conversion Procedure:

For each For each production in G terminal in G $A \rightarrow w$ Add transitions $a, a \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ $\mathcal{E}, A \rightarrow w$ $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E} \to S$

Grammar

$$S \rightarrow aSTb$$

$$S \rightarrow b$$

$$T \rightarrow Ta$$

$$T \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$$

Example

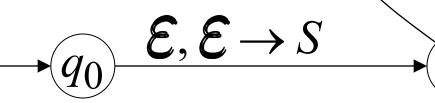
PDA

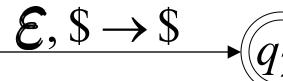
$$\mathcal{E}, S \rightarrow aSTb$$

$$\mathcal{E}, S \rightarrow b$$

$$\mathcal{E}, T \to Ta$$
 $a, a \to \mathcal{E}$

$$\mathcal{E}, T \to \mathcal{E}$$
 $b, b \to \mathcal{E}$





PDA simulates leftmost derivations

Grammar

Leftmost Derivation

S

$$\Rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k X_1 \cdots X_m$$

$$\Rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_n$$

Scanned symbols

PDA Computation

$$(q_0, \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_n, \$)$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_1 \cdots \sigma_k \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_n, S\$)$$

$$\succ \cdots$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_n, X_1 \cdots X_m \$)$$

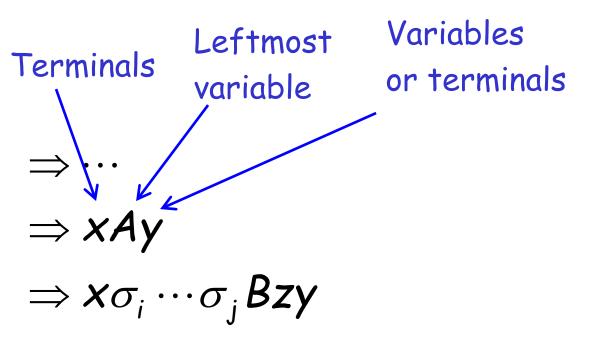
$$\succ \cdots$$

$$\succ (q_2, \mathcal{E}, \$)$$

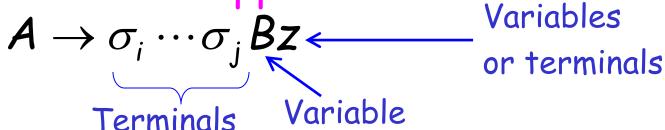
Stack contents

Grammar

Leftmost Derivation



Production applied



Grammar Leftmost Derivation

PDA Computation

$$\Rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow xAy$$

$$\Rightarrow x\sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy$$

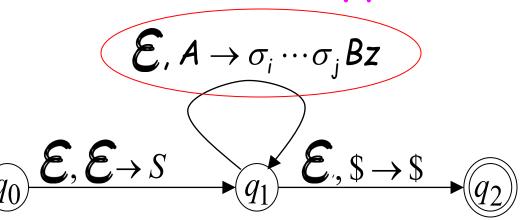
$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, Ay\$)$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy\$)$$

Production applied

$$A \rightarrow \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bz$$

Transition applied



Grammar Leftmost Derivation

PDA Computation

$$\Rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow xAy$$

$$\Rightarrow x\sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, Ay\$)$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy\$)$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_n, \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_j Bzy\$)$$

Read σ_i from input and remove it from stack

Transition applied $\sigma_i, \sigma_i \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$

Grammar

Leftmost Derivation

 $\Rightarrow \cdots$

 $\Rightarrow xAy$

 \Rightarrow $x\sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy$

All symbols $\sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j$ have been removed from top of stack

PDA Computation

 $\succ \cdots$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, Ay\$)$$

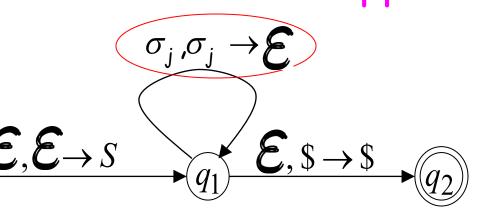
$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_n, \sigma_i \cdots \sigma_j Bzy\$)$$

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_n, \sigma_{i+1} \cdots \sigma_j Bzy\$)$$

> · · ·

$$\succ (q_1, \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_n, Bzy\$)$$

Last Transition applied



The process repeats with the next leftmost variable

$$\Rightarrow \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow xAy \qquad \qquad \succ \cdots$$

$$\Rightarrow x\sigma_{i} \cdots \sigma_{j} Bzy \qquad \qquad \succ (q_{1}, \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_{n}, Bzy\$)$$

$$\Rightarrow x\sigma_{i} \cdots \sigma_{j} \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_{k} Cpzy \qquad \qquad \succ (q_{1}, \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_{n}, \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_{k} Cpzy\$)$$

$$\qquad \qquad \succ \cdots$$

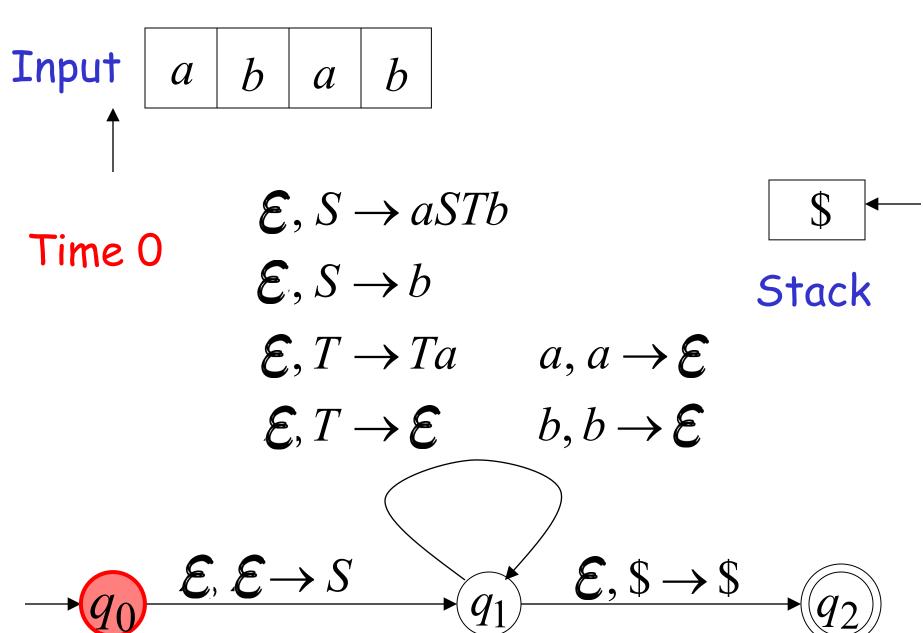
$$\qquad \qquad \succ (q_{1}, \sigma_{k+1} \cdots \sigma_{n}, Cpzy\$)$$

Production applied

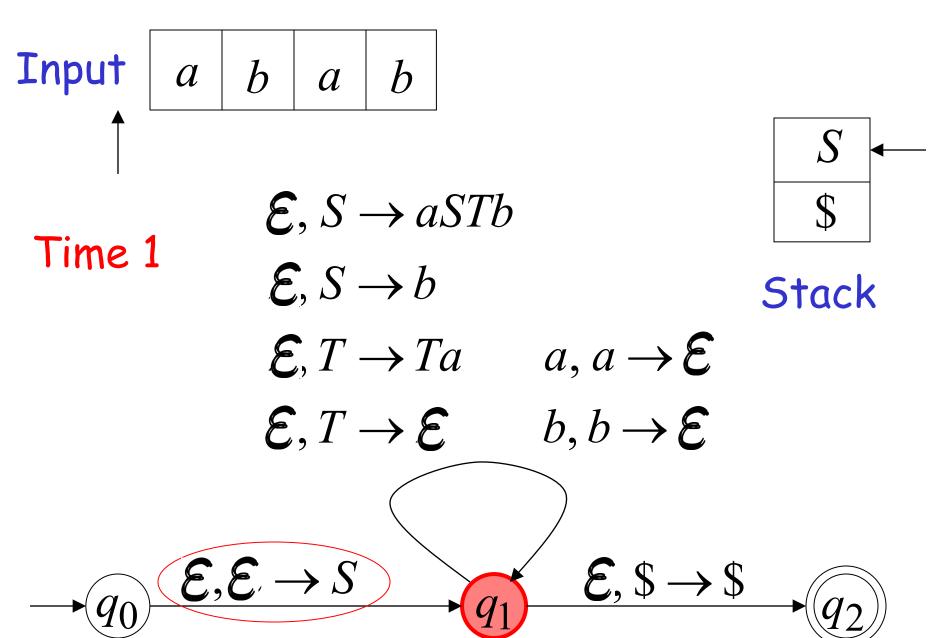
$$B \to \sigma_{j+1} \cdots \sigma_k Cp$$

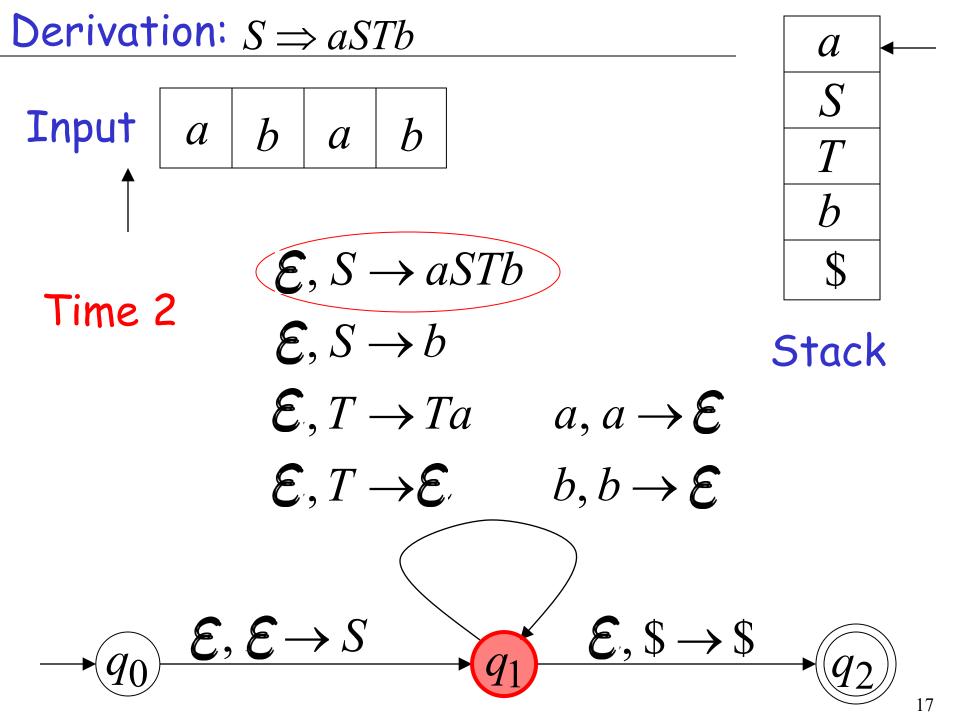
And so on.....

Example:



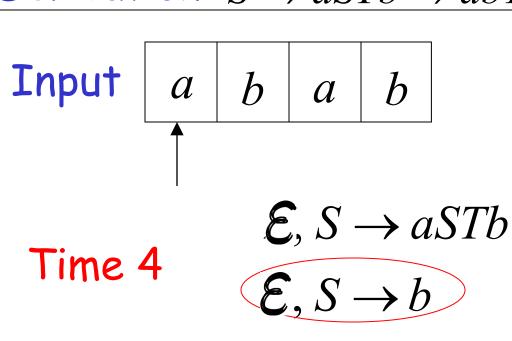
Derivation: S

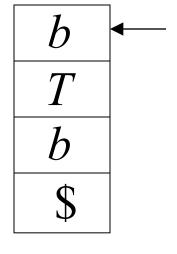




Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb$ Input $\mathcal{E}, S \rightarrow aSTb$ Time 3 $\mathcal{E}, S \rightarrow b$ Stack $\mathcal{E}, T \rightarrow Ta$ $(a, a \rightarrow \mathcal{E})$ $b,b \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ $\mathcal{E}, T \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ ε , $s \to s$ $\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E} \to S$

Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb$





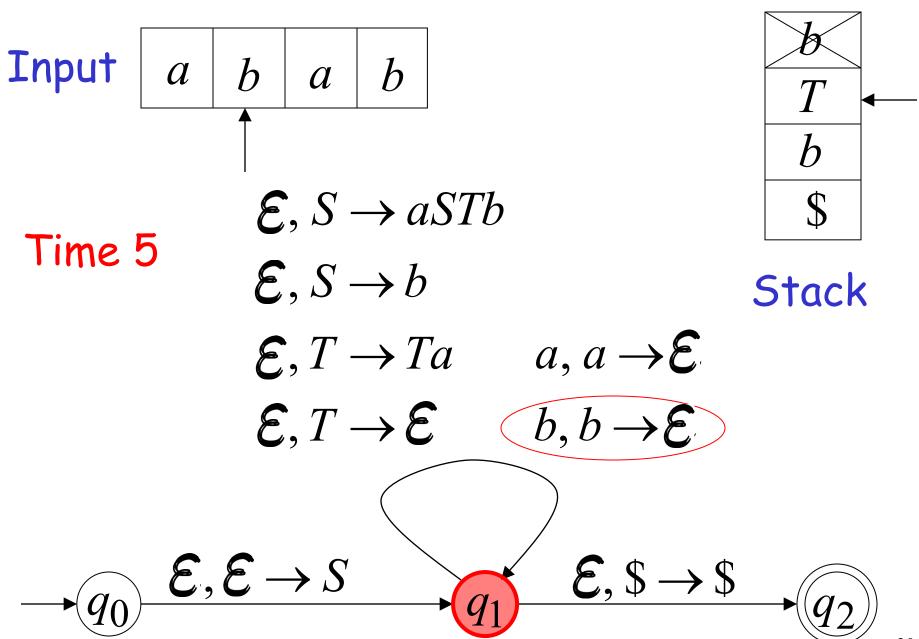
Stack

$$\mathcal{E}, T \to Ta \qquad a, a \to \mathcal{E}$$

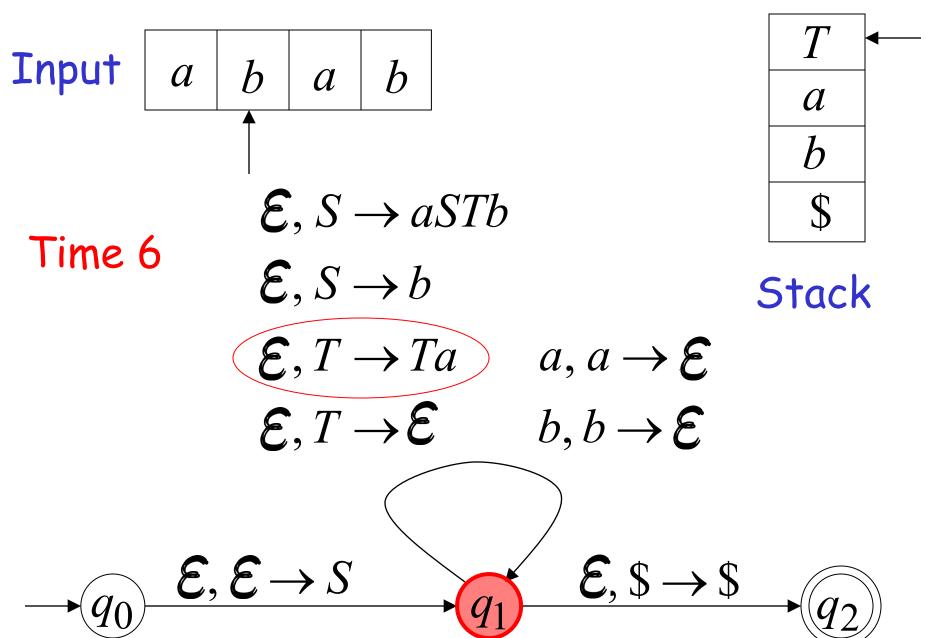
$$\mathcal{E}, T \to \mathcal{E} \qquad b, b \to \mathcal{E}$$

$$\mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E} \to S \qquad \mathcal{E}, \$ \to \$$$

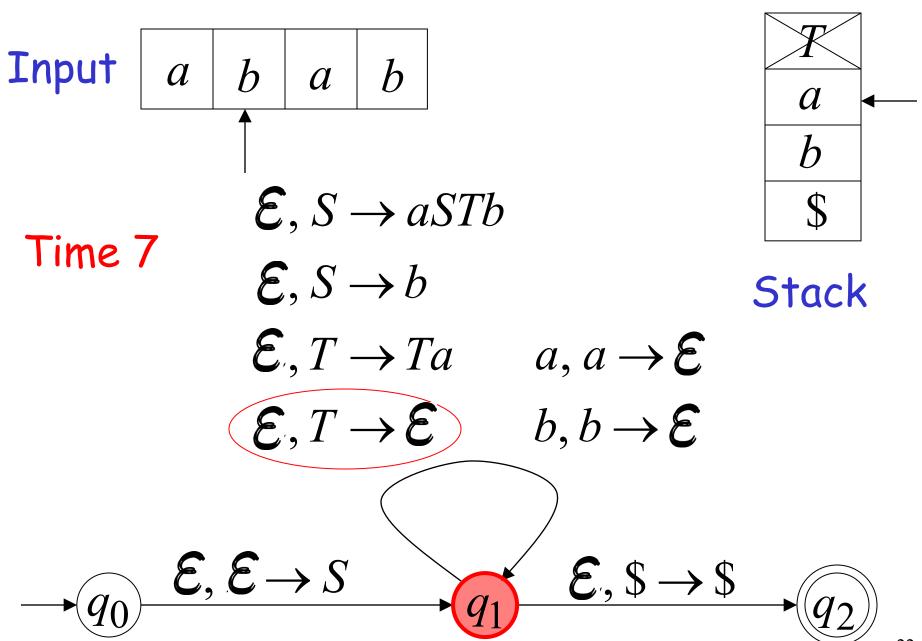
Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb$



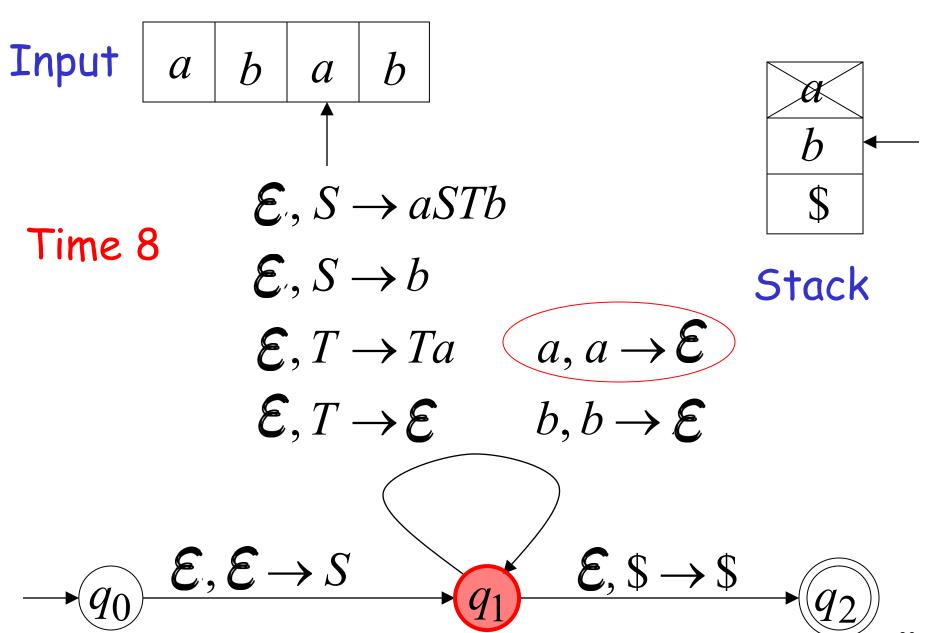
Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb \Rightarrow abTab$



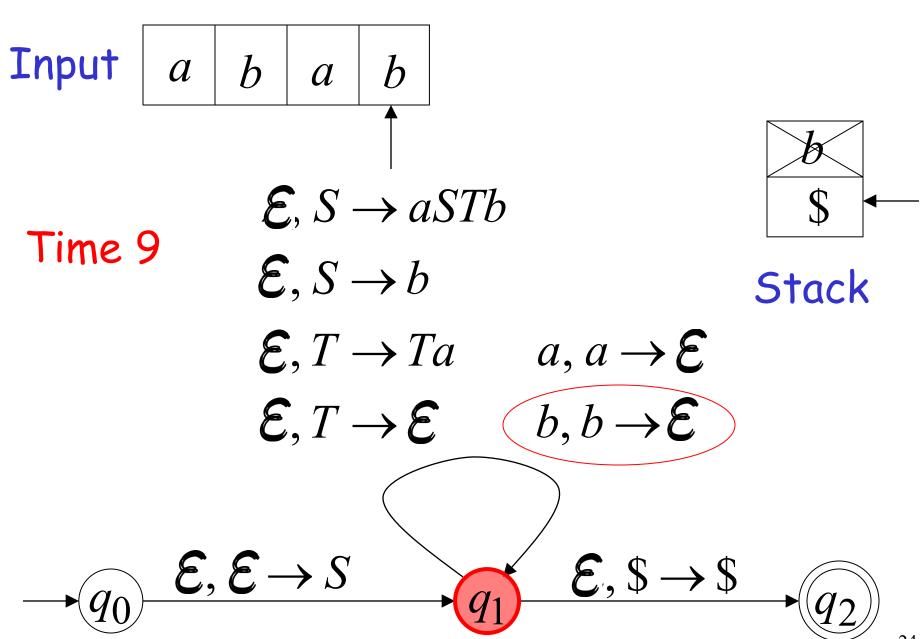
Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb \Rightarrow abTab \Rightarrow abab$



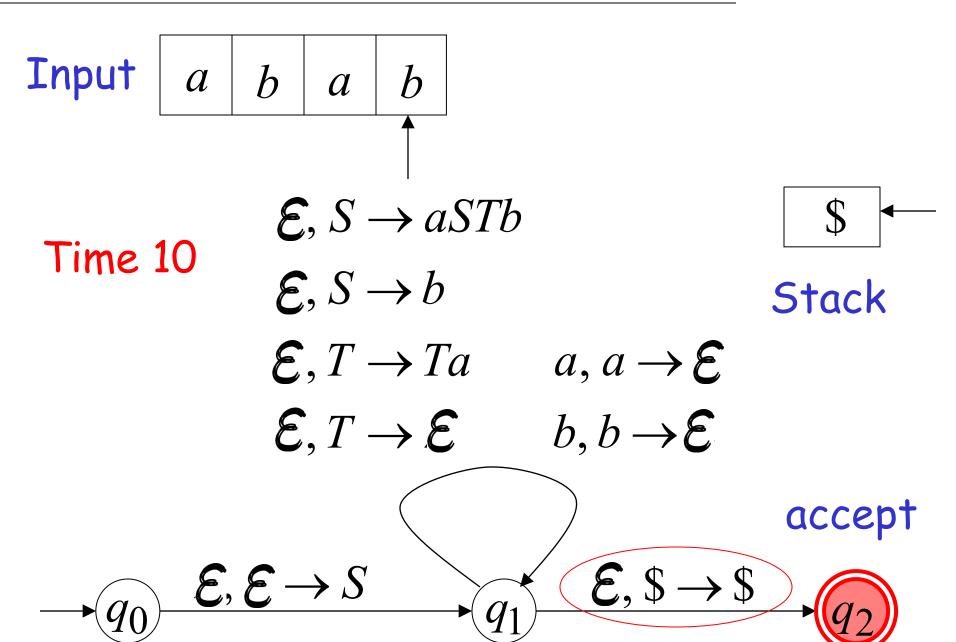
Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb \Rightarrow abTab \Rightarrow abab$



Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abTb \Rightarrow abTab \Rightarrow abab$



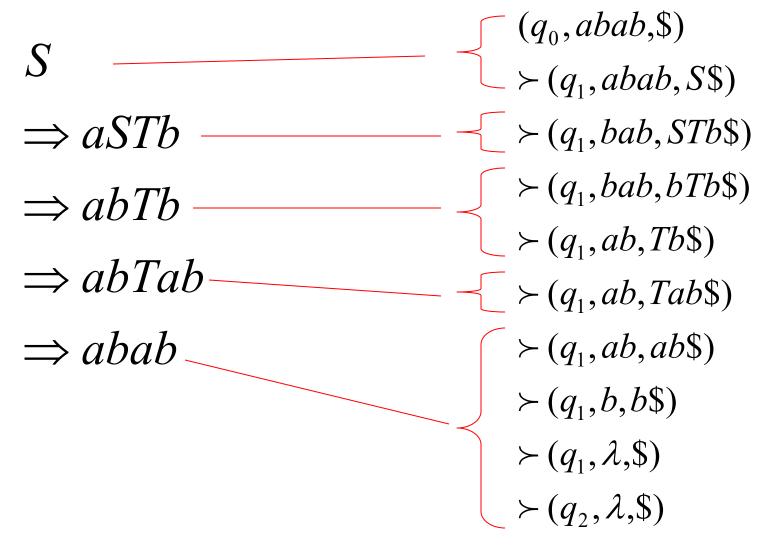
Derivation: $S \Rightarrow aSTb \Rightarrow abT\underline{b} \Rightarrow abTab \Rightarrow abab$



Grammar

PDA Computation

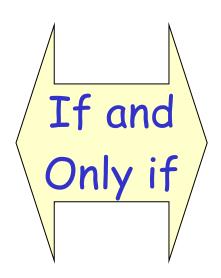
Leftmost Derivation



In general, it can be shown that:

Grammar Ggenerates
string W

 $S \stackrel{*}{\Longrightarrow} w$



PDA M
accepts w

$$(q_0, w,\$) \succ (q_2, \mathcal{E},\$)$$

Therefore
$$L(G) = L(M)$$

Proof - step 2

Convert

PDAs
to
Context-Free Grammars

Take an arbitrary PDA $\,M\,$

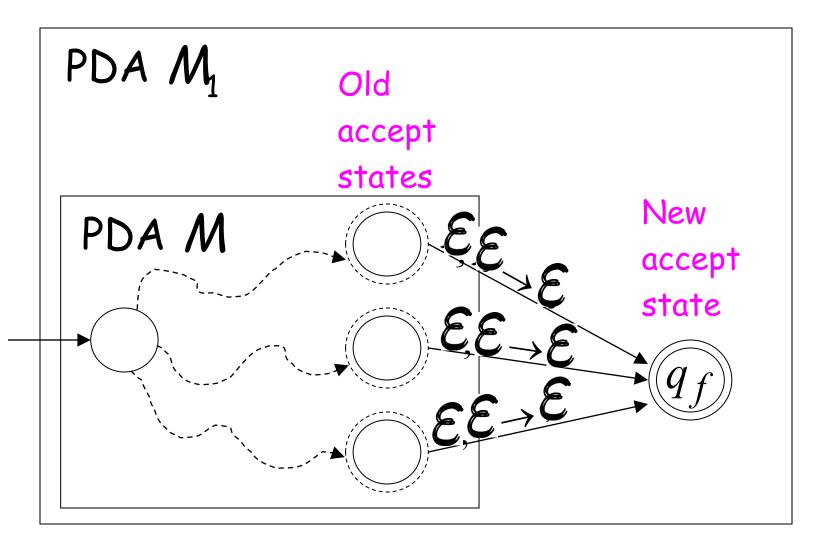
We will convert M to a context-free grammar G such that:

$$L(M) = L(G)$$

First modify PDA M so that:

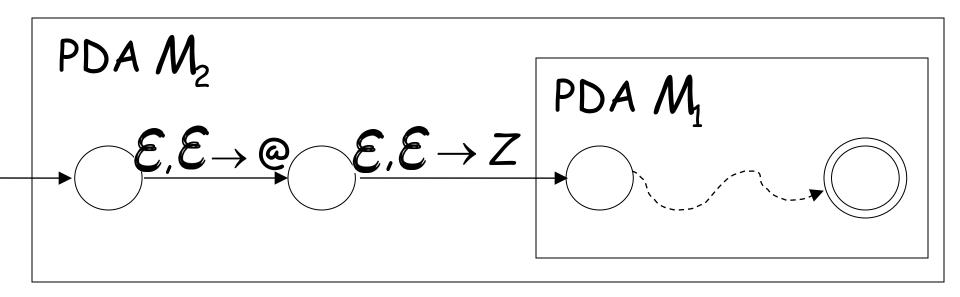
- 1. The PDA has a single accept state
- 2. Use new initial stack symbol #
- 3. On acceptance the stack contains only stack symbol #
- 4. Each transition either pushes a symbol or pops a symbol but not both together

1. The PDA has a single accept state



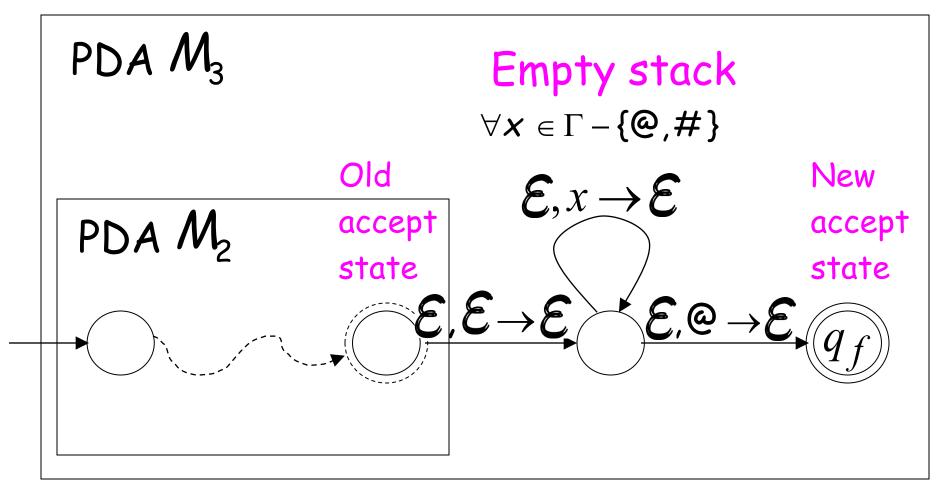
2. Use new initial stack symbol # Top of stack

Z ← old initial stack symbol
 @ auxiliary stack symbol
 # new initial stack symbol

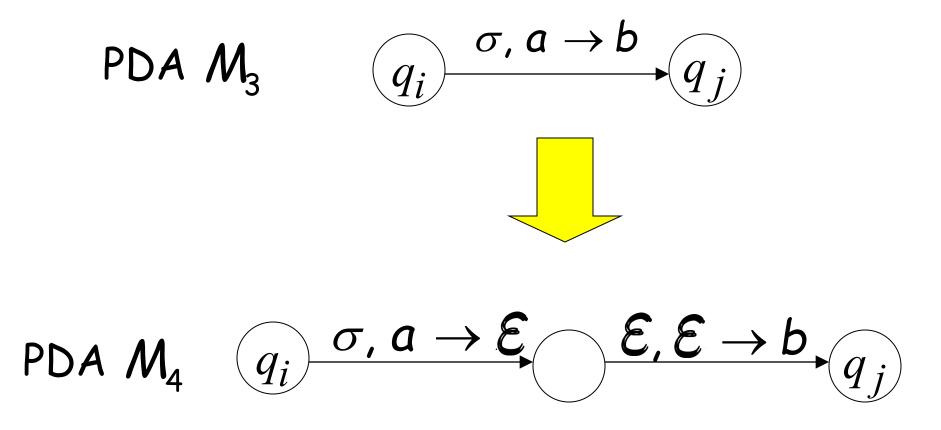


 $M_{\rm f}$ still thinks that Z is the initial stack

3. On acceptance the stack contains only stack symbol



4. Each transition either pushes a symbol or pops a symbol but not both together



PDA
$$M_3$$
 q_i $\sigma, \mathcal{E} \to \mathcal{E}$ q_j

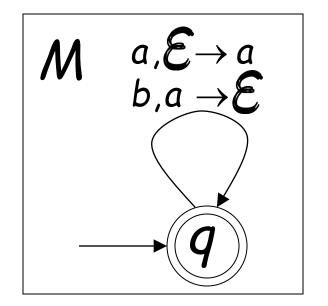
PDA M_{a} q_{i} σ , $\mathcal{E} \rightarrow \delta$ \mathcal{E} , $\delta \rightarrow \mathcal{E}$ q_{i}

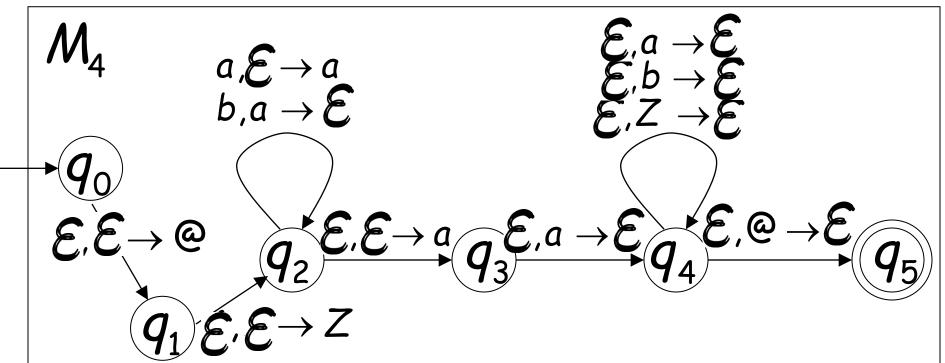
Where δ is a symbol of the stack alphabet

PDA M_4 is the final modified PDA

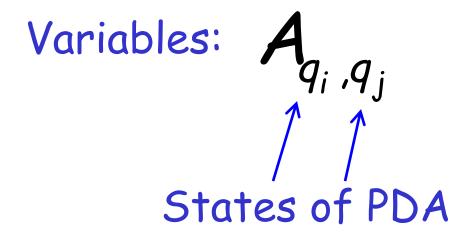
Note that the new initial stack symbol # is never used in any transition

Example:





Grammar Construction



Kind 1: for each state



Grammar

$$A_{qq} \to \mathcal{E}$$

Kind 2: for every three states





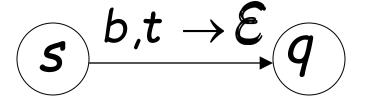


Grammar

$$A_{pq} \rightarrow A_{pr} A_{rq}$$

Kind 3: for every pair of such transitions

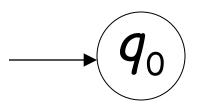
$$p \xrightarrow{a, \mathcal{E} \to t} r$$



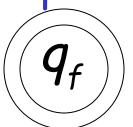
Grammar

$$A_{pq} \rightarrow aA_{rs}b$$

Initial state



Accept state



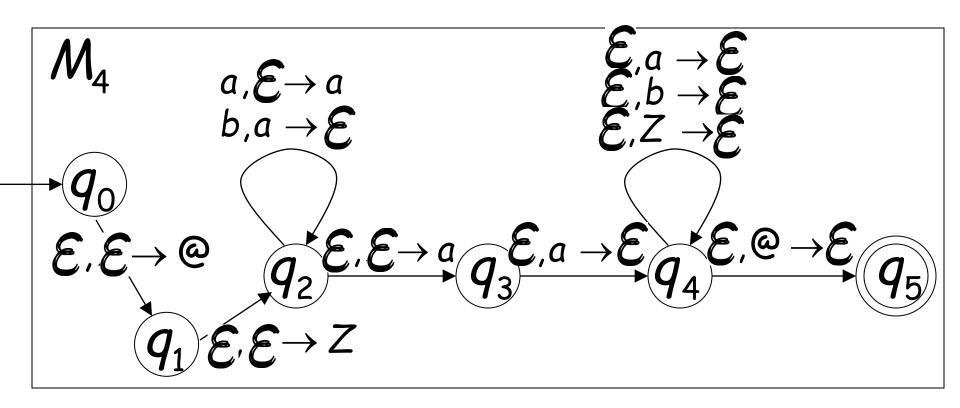
Grammar

Start variable



Example:

PDA



Grammar

Kind 1: from single states

$$egin{aligned} & oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_0q_0}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_1q_1}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_2q_2}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_3q_3}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_4q_4}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_5q_5}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & oldsymbol{\mathcal{A}}_{q_5q_5}
ightarrow oldsymbol{\mathcal{E}} \ & old$$

Kind 2: from triplets of states

$$\begin{array}{l} A_{q_{0}q_{0}} \rightarrow A_{q_{0}q_{0}} A_{q_{0}q_{0}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{1}} A_{q_{1}q_{0}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{2}} A_{q_{2}q_{0}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{3}} A_{q_{3}q_{0}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{4}} A_{q_{4}q_{0}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{5}} A_{q_{5}q_{0}} \\ A_{q_{0}q_{1}} \rightarrow A_{q_{0}q_{0}} A_{q_{0}q_{1}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{1}} A_{q_{1}q_{1}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{2}} A_{q_{2}q_{1}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{3}} A_{q_{3}q_{1}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{4}} A_{q_{4}q_{1}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{5}} A_{q_{5}q_{1}} \\ \vdots \\ A_{q_{0}q_{5}} \rightarrow A_{q_{0}q_{0}} A_{q_{0}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{1}} A_{q_{1}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{2}} A_{q_{2}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{3}} A_{q_{3}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{4}} A_{q_{4}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{0}q_{5}} A_{q_{5}q_{5}} \\ \vdots \\ A_{q_{5}q_{5}} \rightarrow A_{q_{5}q_{0}} A_{q_{0}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{5}q_{1}} A_{q_{1}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{5}q_{2}} A_{q_{2}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{5}q_{3}} A_{q_{3}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{5}q_{4}} A_{q_{4}q_{5}} \mid A_{q_{5}q_{5}} A_{q_{5}q_{5}} \end{array}$$

Start variable $A_{q_0q_5}$

Kind 3: from pairs of transitions

$$A_{q_0q_5} o A_{q_1q_4} ext{ } A_{q_2q_4} o aA_{q_2q_4} ext{ } A_{q_2q_2} o A_{q_3q_2} b$$
 $A_{q_1q_4} o A_{q_2q_4} ext{ } A_{q_2q_2} o aA_{q_2q_2} b ext{ } A_{q_2q_4} o A_{q_3q_3}$
 $A_{q_2q_4} o aA_{q_2q_3} ext{ } A_{q_2q_4} o A_{q_3q_4}$

Suppose that a PDA $\,M$ is converted to a context-free grammar $\,G$

We need to prove that L(G) = L(M)

or equivalently

$$L(G) \subseteq L(M)$$
 $L(G) \supseteq L(M)$

$$L(G) \subseteq L(M)$$

We need to show that if G has derivation:

$$A_{q_0q_f} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} W$$
 (string of terminals)

Then there is an accepting computation in M:

$$(q_0, w, \#)^* (q_f, \mathcal{E}, \#)$$

with input string W

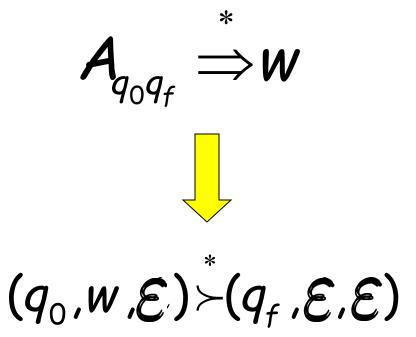
We will actually show that if G has derivation:

$$A_{pq} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} W$$

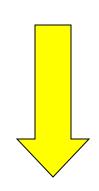
Then there is a computation in M:

$$(p,w,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Therefore:



Since there is no transition with the # symbol



$$(q_0, w, \#)^* (q_f, \mathcal{E}, \#)$$

Lemma:

If
$$A_{pq} \stackrel{*}{\Rightarrow} W$$
 (string of terminals)

then there is a computation from state p to state q on string W which leaves the stack empty:

$$(p,w,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Proof Intuition:

$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$

Type 2

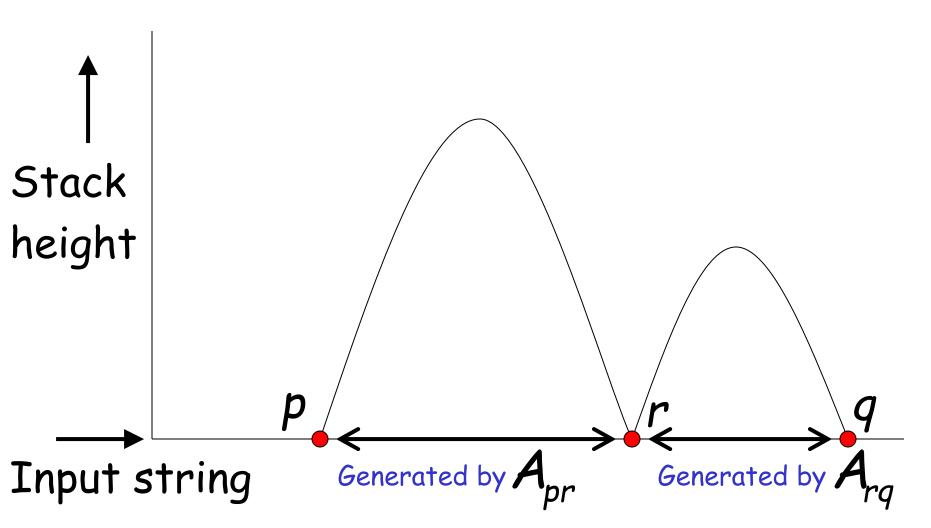
Type 3

Case 1:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$

Case 2: $A_{pq} \Rightarrow aA_{rs}b \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow w$

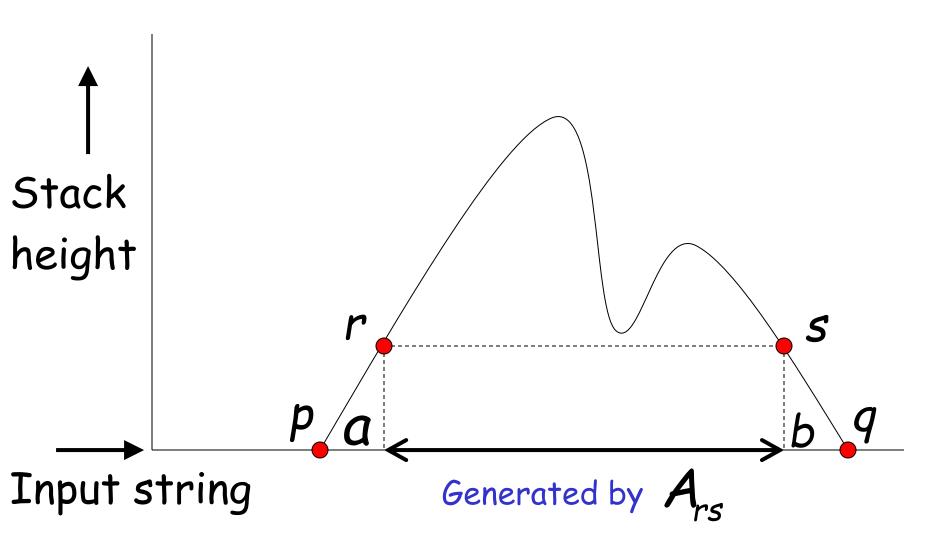
Type 2

Case 1: $A_{pq} \Rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$



Type 3

Case 2:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow aA_{rs}b \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow w$$



Formal Proof:

We formally prove this claim by induction on the number of steps in derivation:

$$A_{pq} \Longrightarrow \cdots \Longrightarrow W$$

number of steps

Induction Basis:
$$A_{pq} \Longrightarrow W$$
 (one derivation step)

A Kind 1 production must have been used:

$$A_{pp} \to \mathcal{E}$$

Therefore, p=q and $w=\mathcal{E}$

This computation of PDA trivially exists:

$$(p,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})^* + (p,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Induction Hypothesis:

$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$
 $k \text{ derivation steps}$

suppose it holds:

$$(p,w,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Induction Step:

$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$
 $k+1$ derivation steps

We have to show:

$$(p,w,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$
 $k+1$ derivation steps

Case 1:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$

Type 2

Type 3

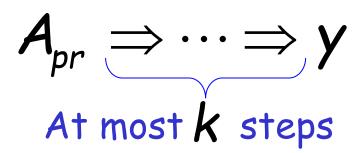
Case 2:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow aA_{rs}b \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow w$$

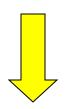
Case 1:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$
 $k+1$ steps

We can write
$$W = yZ$$

$$A_{pr} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow y$$

$$A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow Z$$
At most k steps
$$A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow Z$$





From induction hypothesis, in PDA: $(p,y,\mathcal{E}) \stackrel{*}{\succ} (r,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$

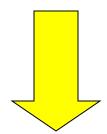
$$A_{rq} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow Z$$
At most k steps



From induction hypothesis, in PDA:

$$(r,z,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

$$(p,y,\mathcal{E})^* - (r,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$
 $(r,z,\mathcal{E})^* - (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$



$$(p,yz,\mathcal{E})^*(r,z,\mathcal{E})^*(q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

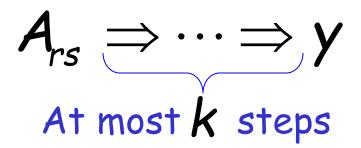
since
$$W = yz$$

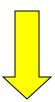
$$(p,w,\mathcal{E})^* + (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Case 2:
$$A_{pq} \Rightarrow aA_{rs}b \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow W$$
 $k+1$ steps

We can write
$$w = ayb$$

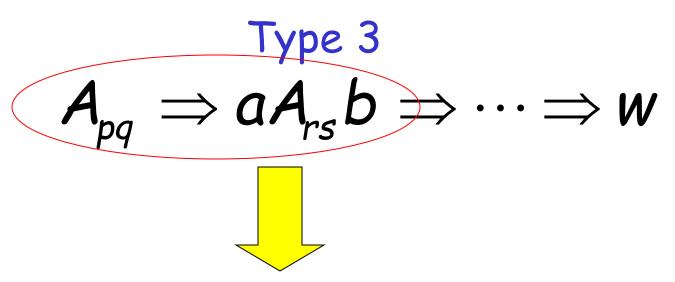
$$A_{rs} \Rightarrow \cdots \Rightarrow y$$
At most k steps





From induction hypothesis, the PDA has computation:

$$(r,y,\mathcal{E})^*$$
 $(s,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$



Grammar contains production

$$A_{pq} \rightarrow aA_{rs}b$$

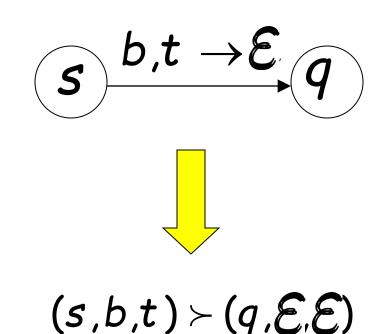
And PDA Contains transitions

$$p \xrightarrow{a, \varepsilon \to t} r$$

$$(s) \xrightarrow{b,t} \mathcal{E}_{q}$$

$$\begin{array}{c}
a, \mathcal{E} \rightarrow t \\
\hline
\end{array}$$

$$(p,ayb,\mathcal{E}) \succ (r,yb,t)$$



We know

$$(r,y,\mathcal{E})^*$$
 $(s,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$ $(r,yb,t)^*$ (s,b,t)

We also know

$$(p,ayb,\mathcal{E}) \succ (r,yb,t)$$

$$(s,b,t) \succ (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

Therefore:

$$(p,ayb,\mathcal{E}) \succ (r,yb,t) \stackrel{*}{\succ} (s,b,t) \succ (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

$$(p,ayb,\mathcal{E}) \succ (r,yb,t) \stackrel{*}{\succ} (s,b,t) \succ (q,\mathcal{E},\mathcal{E})$$

since
$$w = ayb$$

$$(p, w, \mathcal{E}) \stackrel{*}{\succ} (q, \mathcal{E}, \mathcal{E})$$

END OF PROOF

So far we have shown:

$$L(G) \subseteq L(M)$$

With a similar proof we can show

$$L(G) \supseteq L(M)$$

Therefore:
$$L(G) = L(M)$$