



# Theory of Computation

## Week 7

**Much of the material on this slides comes from the recommended textbook by Elaine Rich**

# Detailed content

## Weekly program

- ✓ Week 1 – Background knowledge revision: logic, sets, proof techniques
- ✓ Week 2 – Languages and strings. Hierarchies. Computation. Closure properties
- ✓ Week 3 – Finite State Machines: non-determinism vs. determinism
- ✓ Week 4 – Regular languages: expressions and grammars
- ✓ Week 5 – Non regular languages: pumping lemma. Closure
- ✓ Week 6 – Context-free languages: grammars and parse trees



### **Week 7 – Pushdown automata**

- Week 8 – Non context-free languages: pumping lemma and decidability. Closure
- Week 9 – Decidable languages: Turing Machines
- Week 10 – Church-Turing thesis and the unsolvability of the Halting Problem
- Week 11 – Decidable, semi-decidable and undecidable languages (and proofs)
- Week 12 – Revision of the hierarchy. Safety-critical systems
- Week 13 – Extra revision (if needed)

# CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

A context-free grammar  $G$  is a quadruple,  $(V, \Sigma, R, S)$ , where:

- $V$  is the rule alphabet, which contains nonterminals and terminals.
- $\Sigma$  (the set of terminals) is a subset of  $V$ ,
- $R$  (the set of rules) is a finite subset of  $(V - \Sigma) \times V^*$ ,
- $S$  (the start symbol) is an element of  $V - \Sigma$ .

A language  $L$  is **context-free** if and only if it is generated by some context-free grammar  $G$ .

# PARSE TREES

A parse tree, derived by a grammar  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ , is a rooted, ordered tree in which:

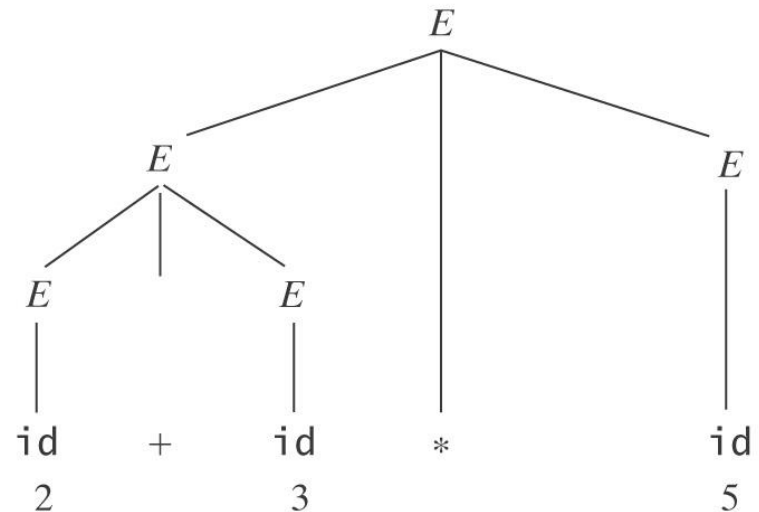
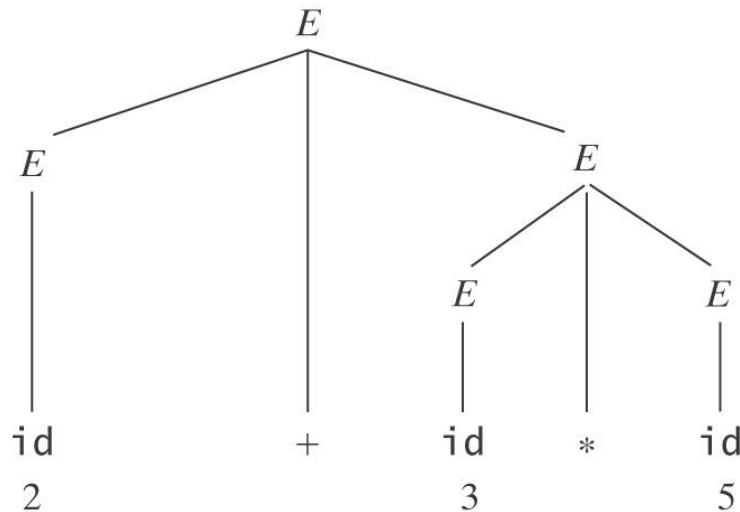
- Every leaf node is labeled with an element of  $\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ ,
- The root node is labeled  $S$ ,
- Every other node is labeled with some element of:  
 $V - \Sigma$ , and
- If  $m$  is a nonleaf node labeled  $X$  and the children of  $m$  are labeled  $x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ , then  $R$  contains the rule  
 $X \rightarrow x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n$ .

# Ambiguity

5

$$E \rightarrow E + E$$
$$E \rightarrow E * E$$
$$E \rightarrow (E)$$
$$E \rightarrow \text{id}$$

2 + 3 \* 5



# Week 07 Videos

## You already know

- ❑ What is Push Down Automata (PDA)
  - ❑ Formal and informal definition
  - ❑ Difference between PDA and FSM
  - ❑ How PDA operates with its stack
  - ❑ When PDA accepts/rejects
  - ❑ Deterministic/Nondeterministic PDA



Videos to watch before lecture



Additional videos to watch for this week

# Week 07 Lecture

## Ambiguity, Normal Forms

- ❑ Normal Forms
- ❑ Conversion to Chomsky Normal Form
- ❑ Pushdown Automata (PDA)
  - ❑ Definition
  - ❑ Computation
  - ❑ Accepting/Rejecting
- ❑ Examples of PDA
- ❑ Nondeterminism in PDA

# NORMAL FORMS

- A normal form  $F$  for a set  $C$  of data objects is a form, i.e., a set of syntactically valid objects, with the following two properties:
- For every element  $c$  of  $C$ , except possibly a finite set of special cases, there exists some element  $f$  of  $F$  such that  $f$  is equivalent to  $c$  with respect to some set of tasks.
- $F$  is simpler than the original form in which the elements of  $C$  are written. By “simpler” we mean that at least some tasks are easier to perform on elements of  $F$  than they would be on elements of  $C$ .



# NORMAL FORMS

If you want to design algorithms, it is often useful to have a limited number of input forms that you have to deal with.

Normal forms are designed to do just that. Various ones have been developed for various purposes.

Examples:

- Clause form for logical expressions to be used in resolution theorem proving
- Disjunctive normal form for database queries so that they can be entered in a query by example grid.
- Various normal forms for grammars to support specific parsing techniques.

# NORMAL FORMS

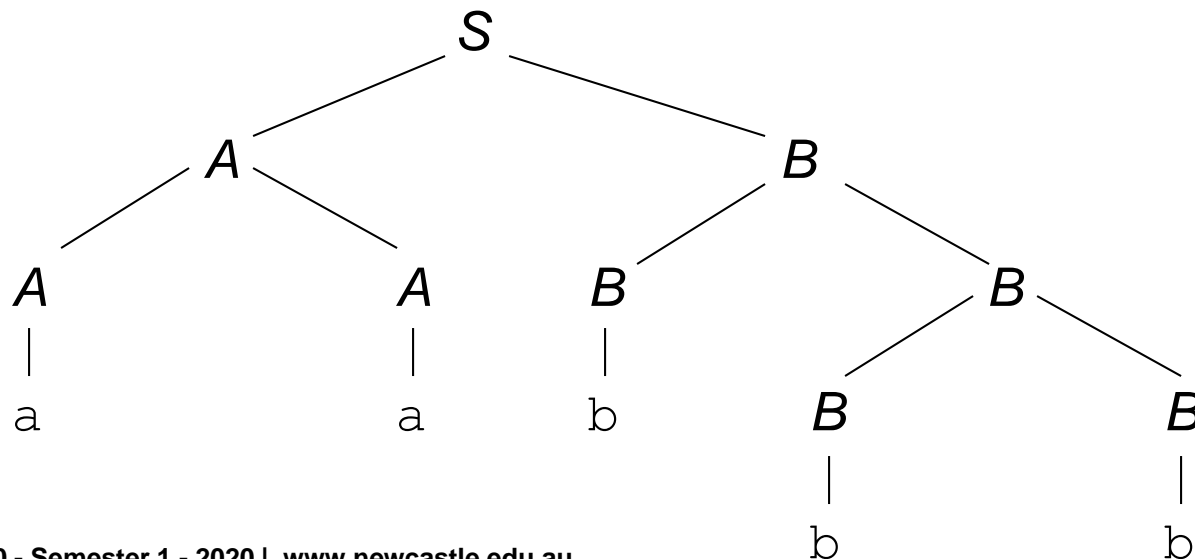
10

**Chomsky Normal Form**, in which all rules are of one of the following two forms:

- $X \rightarrow a$ , where  $a \in \Sigma$ , or
- $X \rightarrow BC$ , where  $B$  and  $C$  are elements of  $V - \Sigma$ .

Advantages:

- Parsers can use binary trees.
- Exact length of derivations is known:



# NORMAL FORMS

**Theorem:** Given a CFG  $G$ , there exists an equivalent Chomsky normal form grammar  $G_C$  such that:

$$L(G_C) = L(G) - \{\varepsilon\}.$$

**Proof:** The proof is by construction.

# CONVERSION TO CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM



12

1. Remove all  $\varepsilon$ -rules (e.g  $X \rightarrow \varepsilon$ ), using the algorithm *removeEps*.
2. Remove all unit productions (rules of the form  $A \rightarrow B$ ).
3. Remove all rules whose right hand sides have length greater than 1 and include a terminal:

(e.g.,  $A \rightarrow aB$  or  $A \rightarrow BaC$  or  $A \rightarrow ab$ )

4. Remove all rules whose right hand sides have length greater than 2:

(e.g.,  $A \rightarrow BCDE$ )

# CONVERTING TO A NORMAL FORM



13

1. Apply some transformation to  $G$  to get rid of undesirable property 1. Show that the language generated by  $G$  is unchanged.
2. Apply another transformation to  $G$  to get rid of undesirable property 2. Show that the language generated by  $G$  is unchanged *and* that undesirable property 1 has not been reintroduced.
3. Continue until the grammar is in the desired form.



# NORMAL FORMS

## Rule Substitution

$$X \rightarrow a Y_c$$

$$Y \rightarrow b$$

$$Y \rightarrow \underline{ZZ}$$

We can replace the  $X$  rule with the rules:

$$X \rightarrow abc$$

$$X \rightarrow a\underline{ZZ}_c$$

$$X \Rightarrow a Y_c \Rightarrow a\underline{ZZ}_c$$

# NORMAL FORMS

## Rule Substitution

15

**Theorem:** Let  $G$  contain the rules:

$$X \rightarrow \alpha Y \beta \quad \text{and} \quad Y \rightarrow \gamma_1 \mid \gamma_2 \mid \dots \mid \gamma_n ,$$

Replace  $X \rightarrow \alpha Y \beta$  by:

$$X \rightarrow \alpha \gamma_1 \beta, \quad X \rightarrow \alpha \gamma_2 \beta, \quad \dots, \quad X \rightarrow \alpha \gamma_n \beta.$$

The new grammar  $G'$  will be equivalent to  $G$ .

# NORMAL FORMS

## Rule Substitution

16

### **Proof:**

Every string in  $L(G)$  is also in  $L(G')$ :

Suppose  $w$  is in  $L(G)$ . We show that  $w$  is also in  $L(G')$ .

If  $X \rightarrow \alpha Y \beta$  is not used, then use same derivation.

If it is used, then one derivation is:

In  $G$ :  $S \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \delta X \phi \Rightarrow \delta \alpha Y \beta \phi \Rightarrow \delta \alpha \gamma_k \beta \phi \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow w$

$$\begin{array}{l} X \rightarrow \alpha Y \beta \\ Y \rightarrow \gamma_k \end{array}$$

Use this one instead:

In  $G'$ :  $S \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow \delta X \phi \Rightarrow \delta \alpha \gamma_k \beta \phi \Rightarrow \dots \Rightarrow w$

$$X \rightarrow \alpha \gamma_k \beta$$

Every string in  $L(G')$  is also in  $L(G)$ : Every new rule  $(X \rightarrow \alpha \gamma_k \beta)$  can be simulated by two old rules  $X \rightarrow \alpha Y \beta$  and  $Y \rightarrow \gamma_k$ .



# THE PRICE OF NORMAL FORMS

17

- CNF version of a grammar may be longer than the original grammar
- Conversion time: Suppose  $n$  be the length of the grammar
  - If run in order Step 1, 2, 3, 4 then Total:  $O(2^n)$
  - If run in order Step 4, 1, 2, 3 then Total:  $O(n^2)$
- Step 1 (*removeEps*) can take  $O(2^n)$  time as we need to rewrite a single rule  $X \rightarrow A_1 A_2 \dots A_k$  into  $2^k - 1$  rules
- But if we apply Step 4 (*removeLong*) first then all rules are of length 2 at most. And none of them will be rewritten with 3 rules. So *removeEps* runs in linear time.
- Step 2 (*removeUnits*) runs in  $O(n^2)$  time
- Step 3 (*removeMixed*) runs in linear time
- Step 4 (*removeLong*) runs in linear time
- Conversion doesn't change weak generative capacity but it may change strong generative capacity.

# RECOGNIZING CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES



18

We need a device similar to an FSM except that it needs more power.

The insight: Precisely what it needs is a stack, which gives it an unlimited amount of memory with a restricted structure.

Example: Bal (the balanced parentheses language)

(((())))

# DEFINITION OF A PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON



19

A ***pushdown automaton*** is a 6-tuple  $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, s, A)$ , where:

- $K$  is a finite set of states
- $\Sigma$  is the input alphabet
- $\Gamma$  is the stack alphabet
- $s \in K$  is the initial state
- $A \subseteq K$  is the set of accepting states, and
- $\Delta$  is the transition **relation**.

# DEFINITION OF A PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON



20

$\Delta$ , the transition relation, is a finite subset of

$$\underbrace{(K \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}) \times \Gamma^*)}_{\substack{\text{state} \quad \text{input or } \varepsilon \quad \text{string of} \\ \text{symbols} \\ \text{to pop} \\ \text{from top} \\ \text{of stack}}} \times \underbrace{(K \times \Gamma^*)}_{\substack{\text{state} \quad \text{string of} \\ \text{symbols} \\ \text{to push} \\ \text{on top} \\ \text{of stack}}}$$

# DEFINITION OF A PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON

A configuration of  $M$  is an element of  $K \times \Sigma^* \times \Gamma^*$ .

The initial configuration of  $M$  is  $(s, w, \varepsilon)$ .

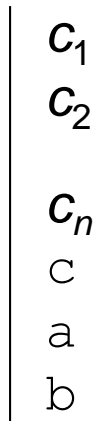
# MANIPULATING THE STACK

22

c
a
b

 will be written as cab

If  $c_1c_2\dots c_n$  (right to left) is pushed onto the stack:  $c_1c_2\dots c_n cab$



# YIELDS

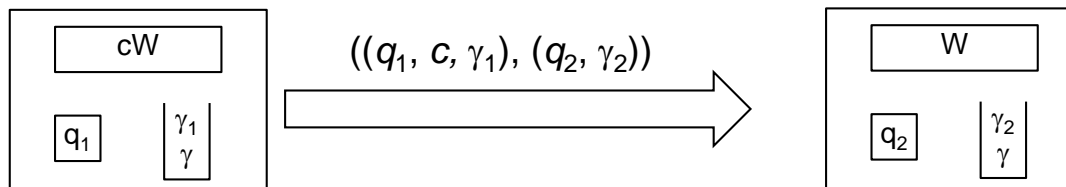
Let  $c$  be any element of  $\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ ,

Let  $\gamma_1, \gamma_2$  and  $\gamma$  be any elements of  $\Gamma^*$ , and

Let  $w$  be any element of  $\Sigma^*$ .

Then:

$(q_1, cw, \gamma_1\gamma) \vdash_M (q_2, w, \gamma_2\gamma)$  iff  $((q_1, c, \gamma_1), (q_2, \gamma_2)) \in \Delta$ .



Let  $\vdash_M^*$  be the reflexive, transitive closure of  $\vdash_M$ .

$C_1$  **yields** configuration  $C_2$  iff  $C_1 \vdash_M^* C_2$

# COMPUTATIONS

A **computation** by  $M$  is a finite sequence of configurations  $C_0, C_1, \dots, C_n$  for some  $n \geq 0$  such that:

- $C_0$  is an initial configuration,
- $C_n$  is of the form  $(q, \varepsilon, \gamma)$ , for some state  $q \in K$  and some string  $\gamma$  in  $\Gamma^*$ , and
- $C_0 \vdash_M C_1 \vdash_M C_2 \vdash_M \dots \vdash_M C_n$ .



# NONDETERMINISM

If  $M$  is in some configuration  $(q_1, s, \gamma)$  it is possible that:

- $\Delta$  contains exactly one transition that matches.
- $\Delta$  contains more than one transition that matches.
- $\Delta$  contains no transition that matches.
- $\Delta$  is a relation not function.

# ACCEPTING



26

A computation  $C$  of  $M$  is an ***accepting computation*** iff:

- $C = (s, w, \varepsilon) \vdash_M^* (q, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ , and
- $q \in A$ .

$M$  ***accepts*** a string  $w$  iff at least one of its computations accepts.

# ACCEPTING

Other paths may:

- Read all the input and halt in a nonaccepting state,
- Read all the input and halt in an accepting state with the stack not empty,
- Loop forever and never finish reading the input, or
- Reach a dead end where no more input can be read.

The ***language accepted by  $M$*** , denoted  $L(M)$ , is the set of all strings accepted by  $M$ .



# REJECTING

A computation  $C$  of  $M$  is a **rejecting computation** iff:

- $C = (s, w, \varepsilon) \vdash_M^* (q, w', \alpha)$ ,
- $C$  is not an accepting computation, and
- $M$  has no moves that it can make from  $(q, w', \alpha)$ .

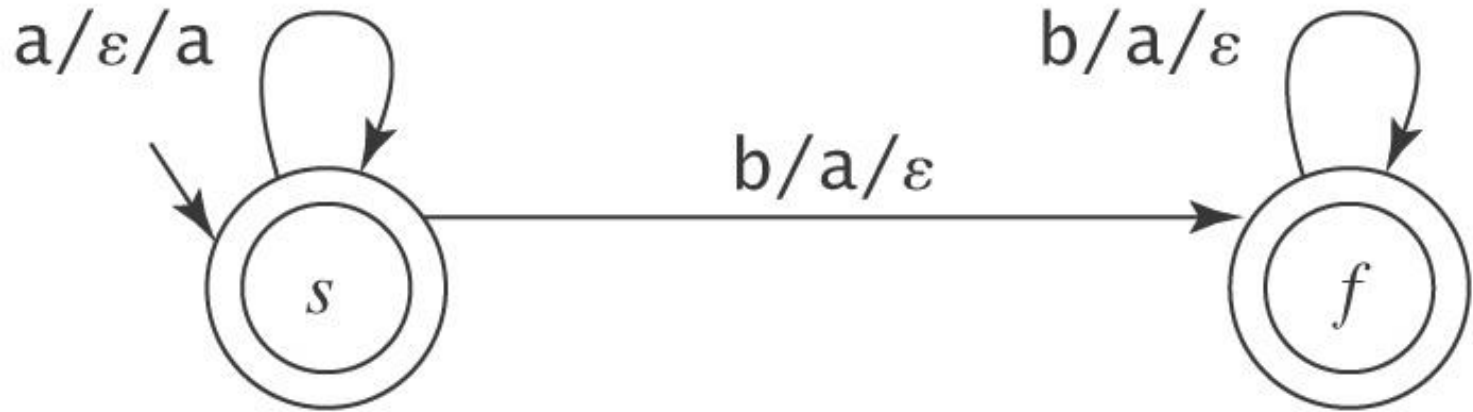
$M$  **rejects** a string  $w$  iff all of its computations reject.

So note that it is possible that, on input  $w$ ,  $M$  neither accepts nor rejects.

# A PDA for $A^nB^n = \{a^mb^n: n \geq 0\}$

# A PDA for $A^nB^n = \{a^m b^n : n \geq 0\}$

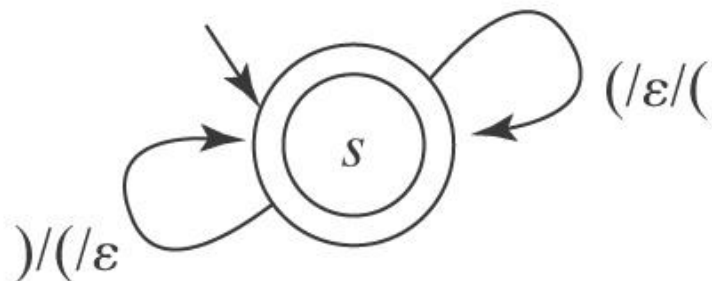
30



# A PDA FOR BALANCED PARENTHESES

# A PDA FOR BALANCED PARENTHESES

32



$M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, s, A)$ , where:

$K = \{s\}$  the states  
 $\Sigma = \{ (, ) \}$  the input alphabet  
 $\Gamma = \{ \}$  the stack alphabet  
 $A = \{s\}$

$\Delta$  contains:

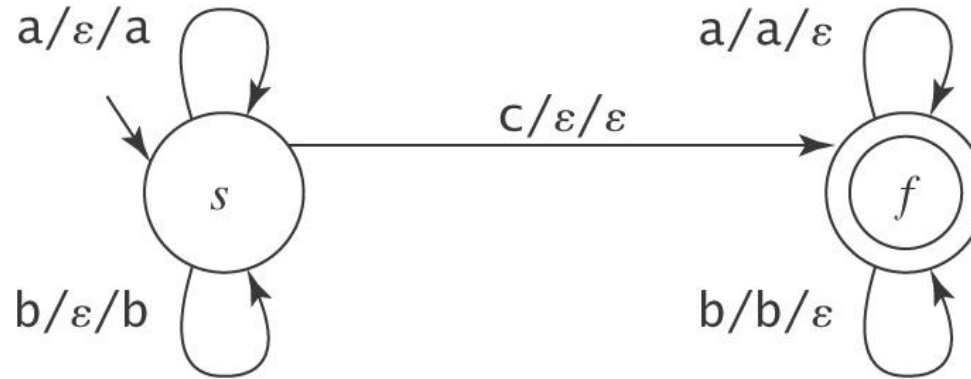
$((s, (, \varepsilon^{**}), (s, ( ) )$   
 $((s, ), ( ), (s, \varepsilon ) )$

**\*\*Important:** This does not mean that the stack is empty



# A PDA for $\{wcw^R: w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$

# A PDA for $\{wcw^R: w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$



$M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, s, A)$ , where:

$K = \{s, f\}$  the states

$\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$  the input alphabet

$\Gamma = \{a, b\}$  the stack alphabet

$A = \{f\}$  the accepting states

$\Delta$  contains:

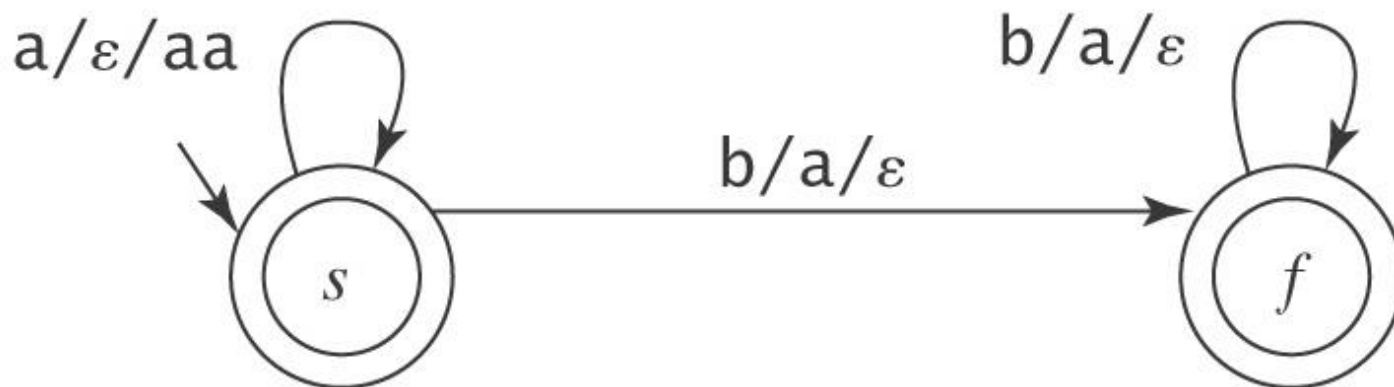
- $((s, a, \epsilon), (s, a))$
- $((s, b, \epsilon), (s, b))$
- $((s, c, \epsilon), (f, \epsilon))$
- $((f, a, a), (f, \epsilon))$
- $((f, b, b), (f, \epsilon))$

# A PDA for $\{a^m b^{2n} : n \geq 0\}$

35

# A PDA for $\{a^m b^{2n} : n \geq 0\}$

36



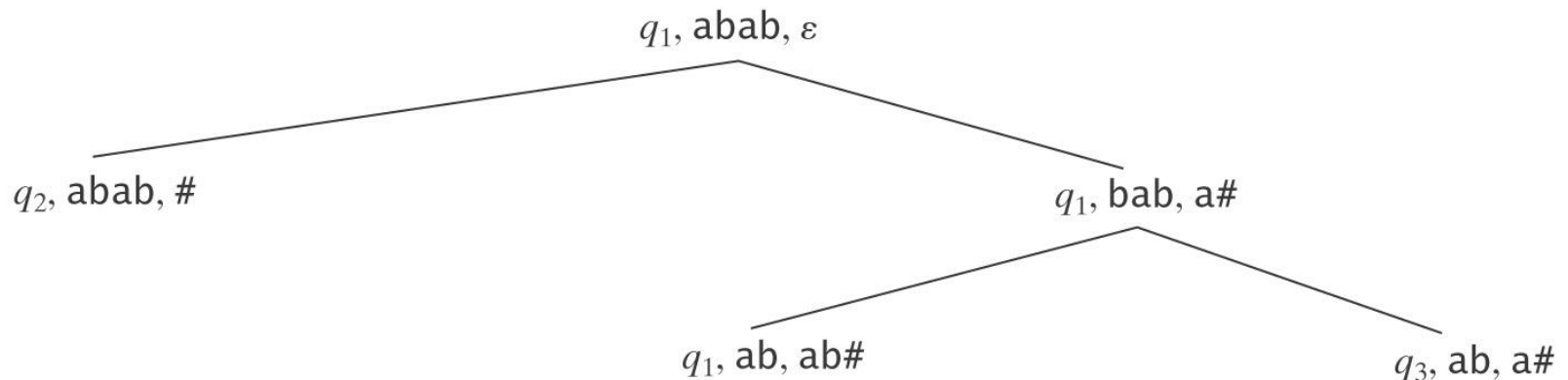


# NONDETERMINISM

A PDA  $M$  is **deterministic** iff:

- $\Delta_M$  contains no pairs of transitions that compete with each other, and
- Whenever  $M$  is in an accepting configuration it is never forced to choose between accepting and continuing. i.e. no transition  $((q, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), (p, a))$  where  $q$  is an accepting state.

But many useful PDAs are not deterministic.



# A PDA for PalEven = $\{ww^R: w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$

38

$$S \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

$$S \rightarrow aSa$$

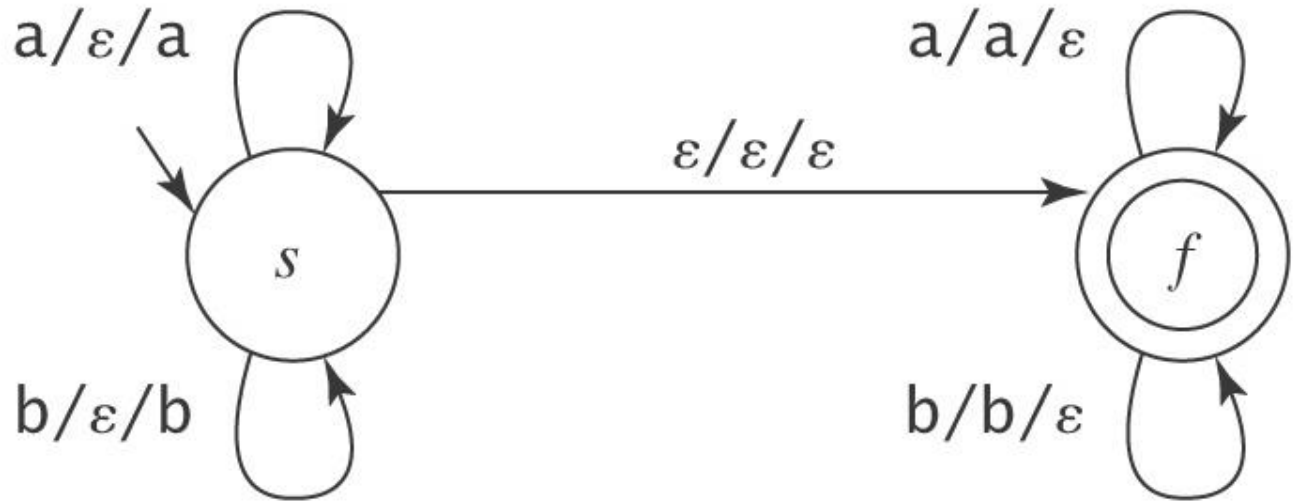
$$S \rightarrow bSb$$

A PDA:

# A PDA for $\text{PalEven} = \{ww^R : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow \varepsilon \\ S &\rightarrow aSa \\ S &\rightarrow bSb \end{aligned}$$

A PDA:

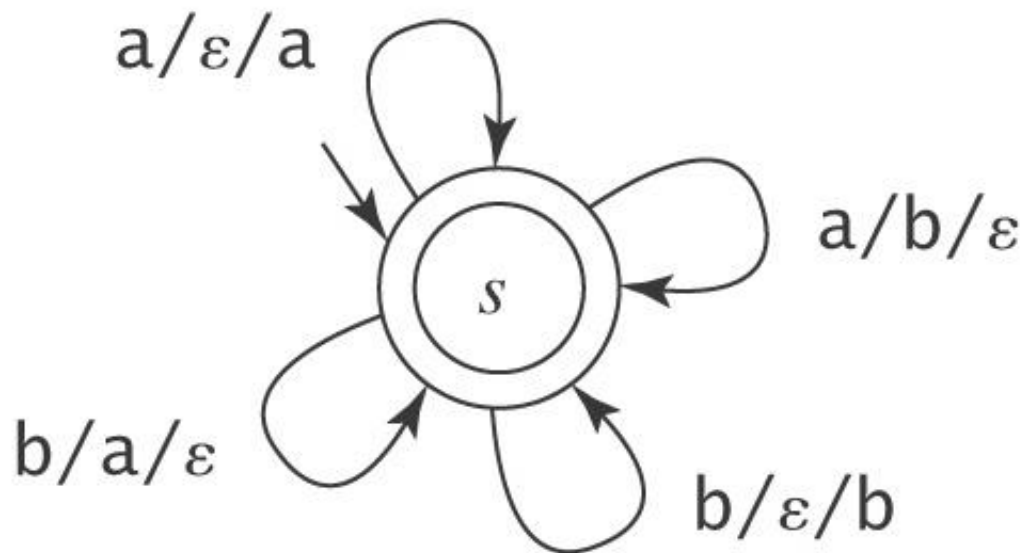


# A PDA for $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \#_a(w) = \#_b(w)\}$



# A PDA for $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* : \#_a(w) = \#_b(w)\}$

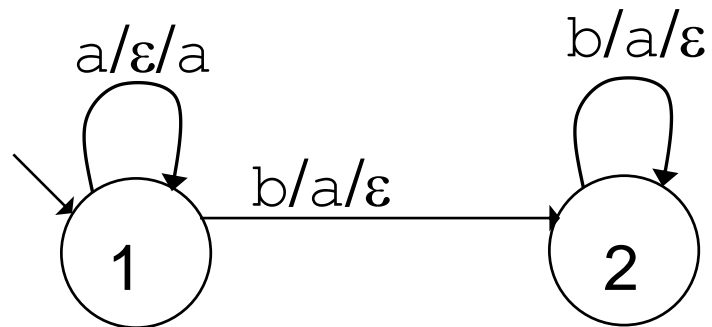
41



# NONDETERMINISM

$$L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$$

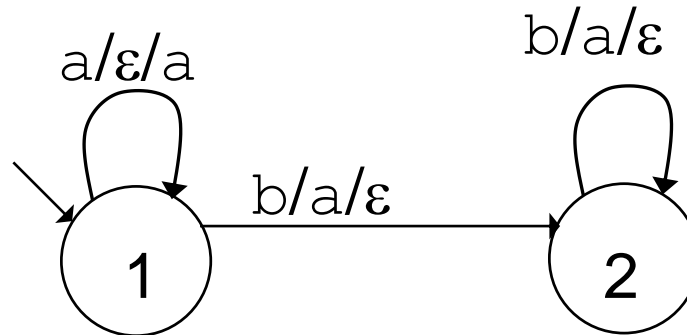
Start with the case where  $n = m$ :



# NONDETERMINISM

$$L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$$

Start with the case where  $n = m$ :



If stack and input are empty, halt and reject.

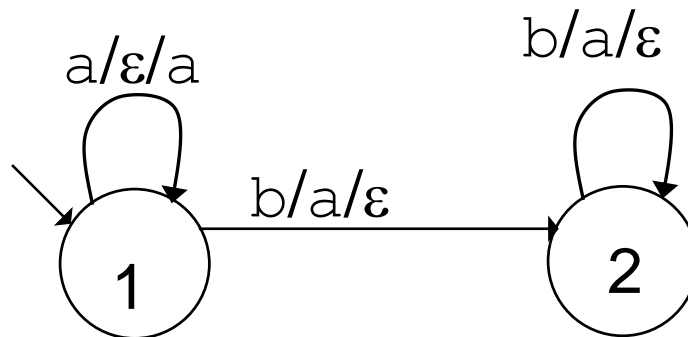
If input is empty but stack is not ( $m > n$ ) (accept):

If stack is empty but input is not ( $m < n$ ) (accept):

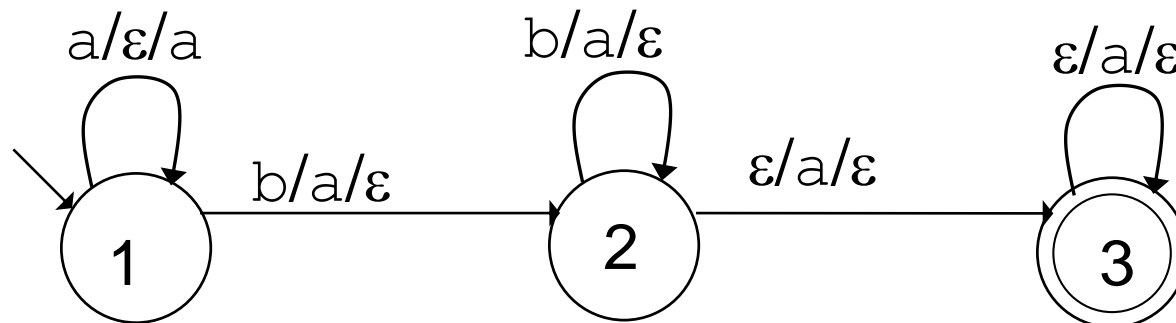
# NONDETERMINISM

44

$$L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$$



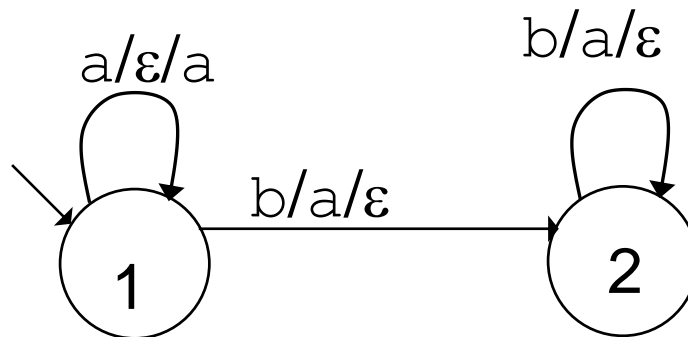
If input is empty but stack is not ( $m > n$ ) (accept):



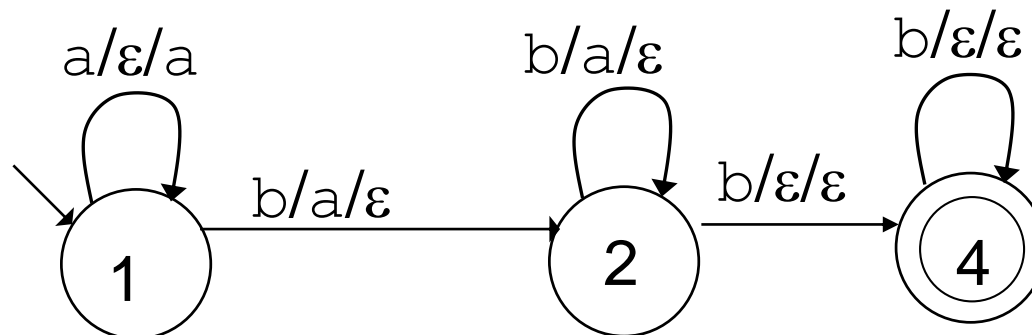
# NONDETERMINISM

45

$$L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$$



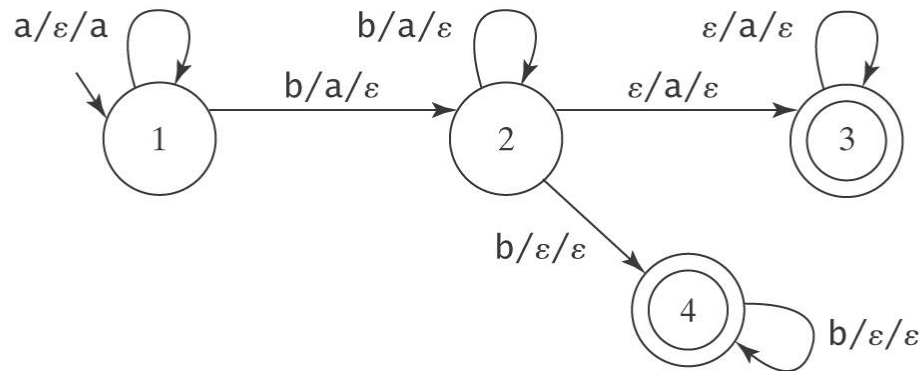
If stack is empty but input is not ( $m < n$ ) (accept):



# PUTTING IT TOGETHER

46

$$L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$$



Jumping to the input clearing state 4:  
Need to detect bottom of stack.

Jumping to the stack clearing state 3:  
Need to detect end of input.

# NONDETERMINISM

47

Consider  $A^nB^nC^n = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$ .

PDA for it?

# NONDETERMINISM

48

Consider  $A^n B^n C^n = \{a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0\}$ .

Now consider  $L = \neg A^n B^n C^n$ .  $L$  is the union of two languages:

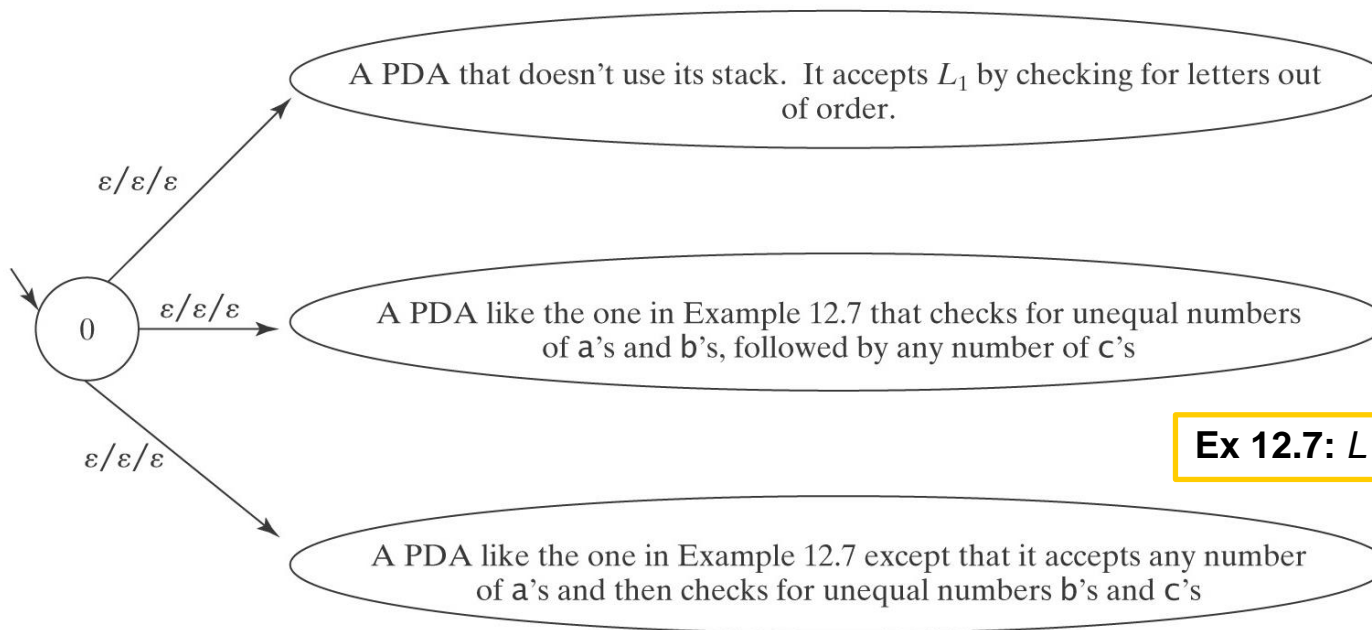
1.  $\{w \in \{a, b, c\}^* : \text{the letters are out of order}\}$ , and
2.  $\{a^i b^j c^k : i, j, k \geq 0 \text{ and } (i \neq j \text{ or } j \neq k)\}$  (in other words, unequal numbers of a's, b's, and c's).



# NONDETERMINISM

49

A PDA for  $L = \neg A^n B^n C^n$



**Ex 12.7:**  $L = \{a^m b^n : m \neq n; m, n > 0\}$

# ARE THE CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES CLOSED UNDER COMPLEMENT?

50

$\neg A^n B^n C^n$  is context free.

If the CF languages were closed under complement, then

$$\neg \neg A^n B^n C^n = A^n B^n C^n$$

would also be context-free.

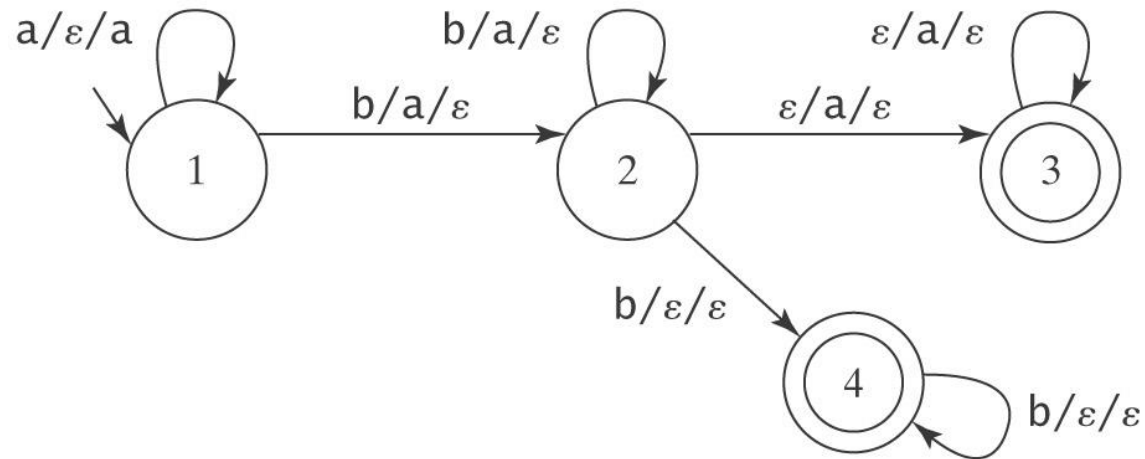
But we will prove that it is not.

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p : n, m, p \geq 0 \text{ and } n \neq m \text{ or } m \neq p\}$$

$S \rightarrow NC$	$/* n \neq m, \text{ then arbitrary } c\text{'s}$
$S \rightarrow QP$	$/* \text{arbitrary } a\text{'s, then } p \neq m$
$N \rightarrow A$	$/* \text{more } a\text{'s than } b\text{'s}$
$N \rightarrow B$	$/* \text{more } b\text{'s than } a\text{'s}$
$A \rightarrow a$	
$A \rightarrow aA$	
$A \rightarrow aAb$	
$B \rightarrow b$	
$B \rightarrow Bb$	
$B \rightarrow aBb$	
$C \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid cC$	$/* \text{add any number of } c\text{'s}$
$P \rightarrow B'$	$/* \text{more } b\text{'s than } c\text{'s}$
$P \rightarrow C'$	$/* \text{more } c\text{'s than } b\text{'s}$
$B' \rightarrow b$	
$B' \rightarrow bB'$	
$B' \rightarrow bB'c$	
$C' \rightarrow c \mid C'c$	
$C' \rightarrow C'c$	
$C' \rightarrow bC'c$	
$Q \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid aQ$	$/* \text{prefix with any number of } a\text{'s}$

# REDUCING NONDETERMINISM

52



Jumping to the input clearing state 4:

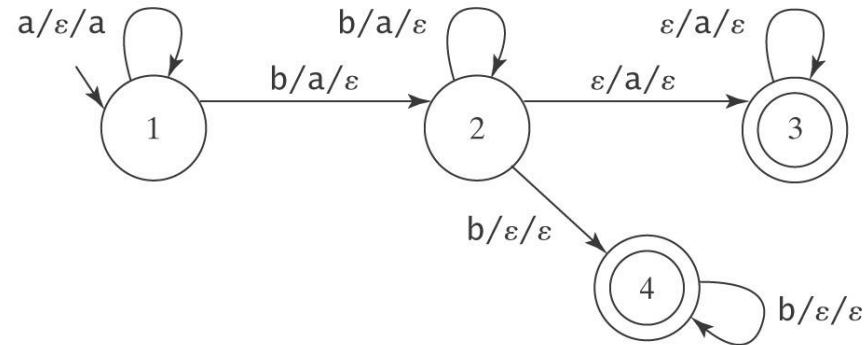
Need to detect bottom of stack, so push # onto the stack before we start.

Jumping to the stack clearing state 3:

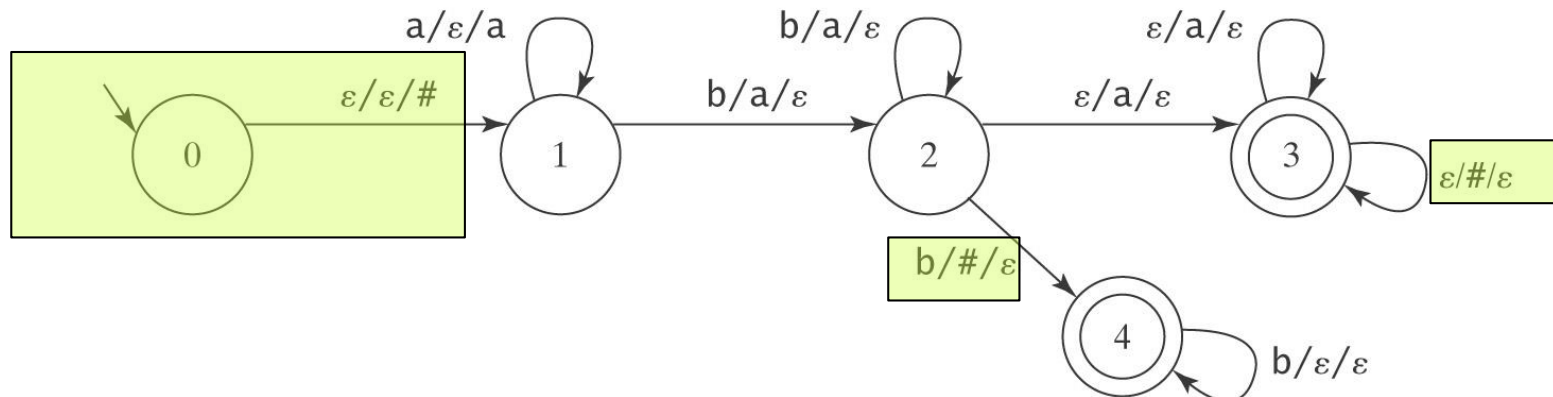
Need to detect end of input. Add to  $L$  a termination character (e.g., \$)

# REDUCING NONDETERMINISM

53

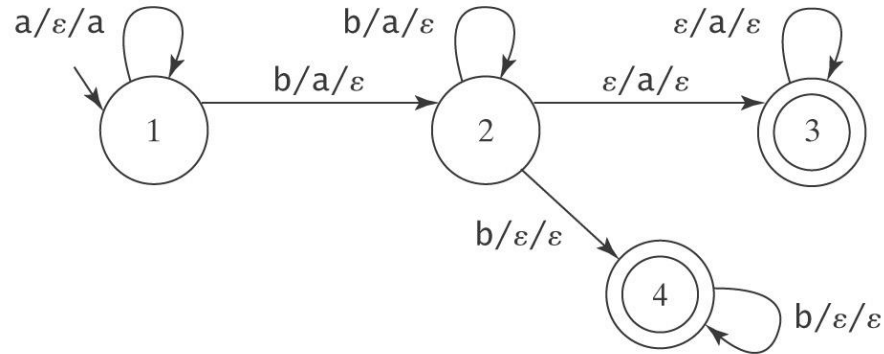


Jumping to the input clearing state 4:

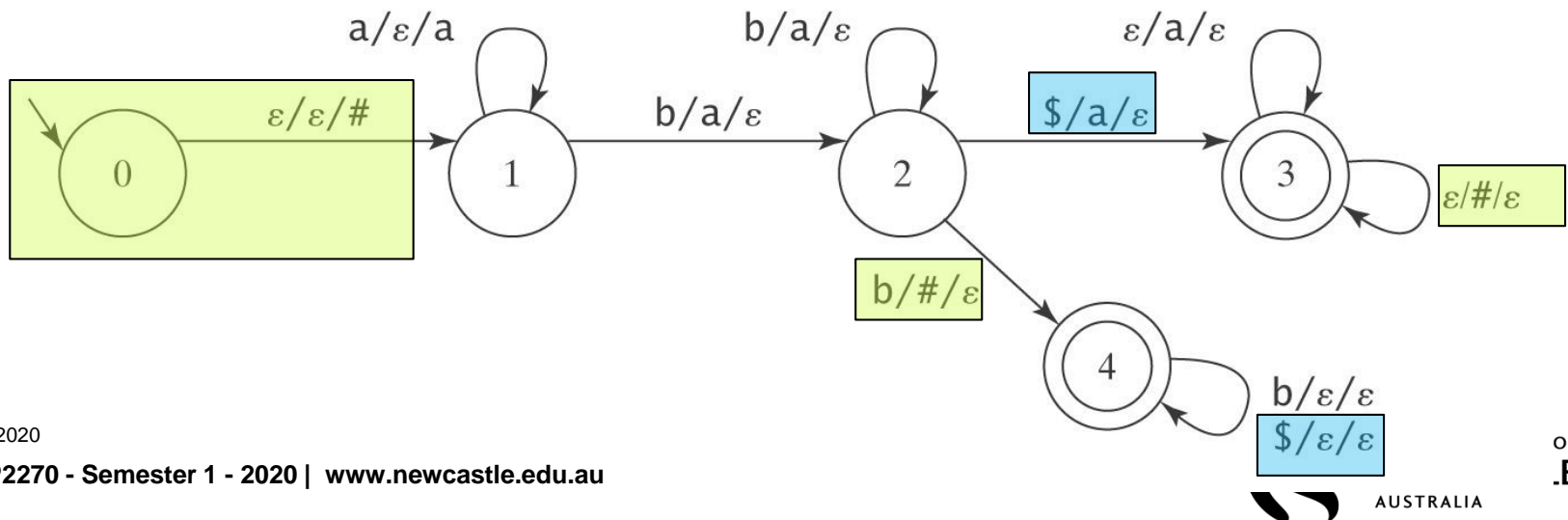


# REDUCING NONDETERMINISM

54

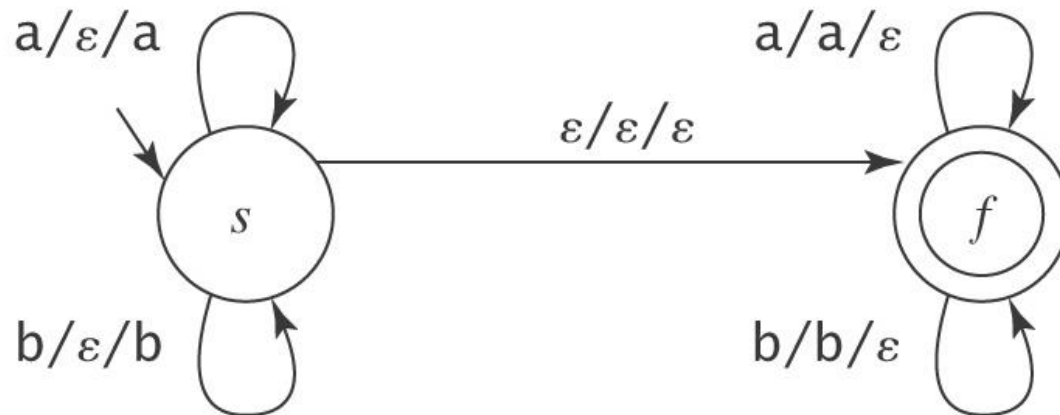


Jumping to the stack clearing state 3:



# MORE ON PDAs

A PDA for  $\{ww^R : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ :



What about a PDA to accept  $\{ww : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ ?

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

56

**Theorem:** The class of languages accepted by PDAs is exactly the class of context-free languages.

Recall: context-free languages are languages that can be defined with context-free grammars.

**Restate theorem:**

Can be described with context-free grammar

—  
—

Can be accepted by PDA



# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From CFG to PDA

57

**Lemma:** Each context-free language is accepted by some PDA.

***Proof (by construction):***

The idea: Let the stack do the work.

Two approaches:

- Top down
- Bottom up

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From CFG to PDA - Top Down

58

The idea: Let the stack keep track of expectations.

Example: Arithmetic expressions  $:: \Sigma = \{ \text{id}, +, *, (, ) \}$

$E \rightarrow E + T$

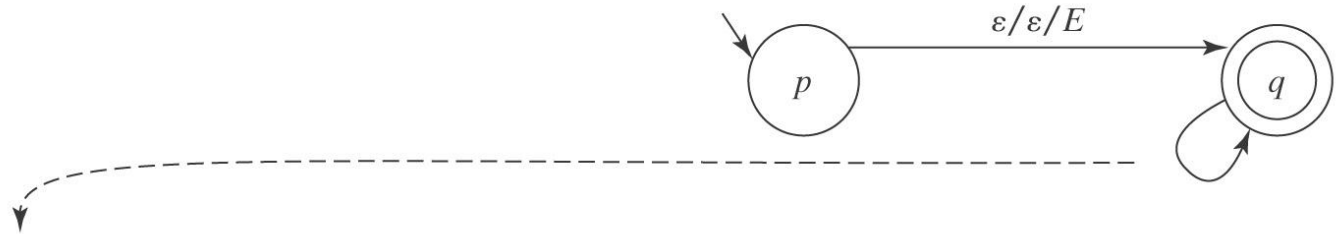
$E \rightarrow T$

$T \rightarrow T * F$

$T \rightarrow F$

$F \rightarrow (E)$

$F \rightarrow \text{id}$



(1)  $(q, \varepsilon, E), (q, E+T)$

(2)  $(q, \varepsilon, E), (q, T)$

(3)  $(q, \varepsilon, T), (q, T^*F)$

(4)  $(q, \varepsilon, T), (q, F)$

(5)  $(q, \varepsilon, F), (q, (E) )$

(6)  $(q, \varepsilon, F), (q, \text{id})$

(7)  $(q, \text{id}, \text{id}), (q, \varepsilon)$

(8)  $(q, (, ( ), (q, \varepsilon)$

(9)  $(q, ), ) ), (q, \varepsilon)$

(10)  $(q, +, +), (q, \varepsilon)$

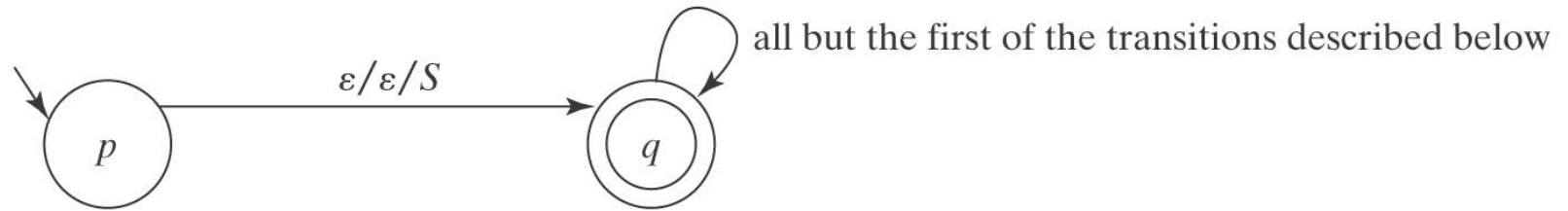
(11)  $(q, *, *), (q, \varepsilon)$

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From CFG to PDA - Top Down

59

The outline of  $M$  is:



$M = (\{p, q\}, \Sigma, V, \Delta, p, \{q\})$ , where  $\Delta$  contains:

- The start-up transition  $((p, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), (q, S))$ .
- For each rule  $X \rightarrow s_1 s_2 \dots s_n$  in  $R$ , the transition:  
 $((q, \varepsilon, X), (q, s_1 s_2 \dots s_n))$ .
- For each character  $c \in \Sigma$ , the transition:  
 $((q, c, c), (q, \varepsilon))$ .

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## Example of the construction

60

$$L = \{a^n b^* a^n\}$$

- (1)  $S \rightarrow \varepsilon$
- (2)  $S \rightarrow B$
- (3)  $S \rightarrow aSa$
- (4)  $B \rightarrow \varepsilon$
- (5)  $B \rightarrow bB$



- 0.  $(p, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), (q, S)$
- 1.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, \varepsilon)$
- 2.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, B)$
- 3.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, aSa)$
- 4.  $(q, \varepsilon, B), (q, \varepsilon)$
- 5.  $(q, \varepsilon, B), (q, bB)$
- 6.  $(q, a, a), (q, \varepsilon)$
- 7.  $(q, b, b), (q, \varepsilon)$

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## Example of the construction

61

$$L = \{a^n b^* a^n\}$$

input = a a b b a a

<i>Trans</i>	<i>state</i>	<i>unread input</i>	<i>stack</i>
	p	a a b b a a	$\epsilon$
0	q	a a b b a a	S
3	q	a a b b a a	aSa
6	q	a b b a a	Sa
3	q	a b b a a	aSaa
6	q	b b a a	Saa
2	q	b b a a	Baa
5	q	b b a a	bBaa
7	q	b a a	Baa
5	q	b a a	bBaa
7	q	a a	Baa
4	q	a a	aa
6	q	a	a
6	q	$\epsilon$	$\epsilon$

0 (p,  $\epsilon$ ,  $\epsilon$ ), (q, S)  
 1 (q,  $\epsilon$ , S), (q,  $\epsilon$ )  
 2 (q,  $\epsilon$ , S), (q, B)  
 3 (q,  $\epsilon$ , S), (q, aSa)  
 4 (q,  $\epsilon$ , B), (q,  $\epsilon$ )  
 5 (q,  $\epsilon$ , B), (q, bB)  
 6 (q, a, a), (q,  $\epsilon$ )  
 7 (q, b, b), (q,  $\epsilon$ )

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## Another example of the construction

62

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p d^q : m + n = p + q\}$$

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## Another example of the construction

63

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p d^q : m + n = p + q\}$$

$$(1) S \rightarrow a S d$$

$$(2) S \rightarrow T$$

$$(3) S \rightarrow U$$

$$(4) T \rightarrow a T c$$

$$(5) T \rightarrow V$$

$$(6) U \rightarrow b U d$$

$$(7) U \rightarrow V$$

$$(8) V \rightarrow b V c$$

$$(9) V \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

input = a a b c d d

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## Another example of the construction

64

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p d^q : m + n = p + q\}$$

(1)  $S \rightarrow a S d$

(2)  $S \rightarrow T$

(3)  $S \rightarrow U$

(4)  $T \rightarrow a T c$

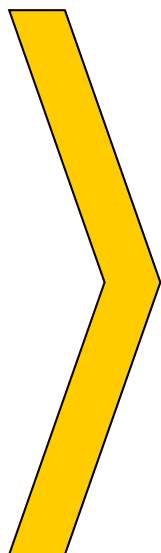
(5)  $T \rightarrow V$

(6)  $U \rightarrow b U d$

(7)  $U \rightarrow V$

(8)  $V \rightarrow b V c$

(9)  $V \rightarrow \varepsilon$



0.  $(p, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), (q, S)$

1.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, a S d)$

2.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, T)$

3.  $(q, \varepsilon, S), (q, U)$

4.  $(q, \varepsilon, T), (q, a T c)$

5.  $(q, \varepsilon, T), (q, V)$

6.  $(q, \varepsilon, U), (q, b U d)$

7.  $(q, \varepsilon, U), (q, V)$

8.  $(q, \varepsilon, V), (q, b V c)$

9.  $(q, \varepsilon, V), (q, \varepsilon)$

10.  $(q, a, a), (q, \varepsilon)$

11.  $(q, b, b), (q, \varepsilon)$

12.  $(q, c, c), (q, \varepsilon)$

13.  $(q, d, d), (q, \varepsilon)$



# THE OTHER WAY TO BUILD A PDA - DIRECTLY

65

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p d^q : m + n = p + q\}$$

$$(1) S \rightarrow a S d$$

$$(2) S \rightarrow T$$

$$(3) S \rightarrow U$$

$$(4) T \rightarrow a T c$$

$$(5) T \rightarrow V$$

$$(6) U \rightarrow b U d$$

$$(7) U \rightarrow V$$

$$(8) V \rightarrow b V c$$

$$(9) V \rightarrow \varepsilon$$

# THE OTHER WAY TO BUILD A PDA - DIRECTLY

66

$$L = \{a^m b^m c^p d^q : m + n = p + q\}$$

(1)  $S \rightarrow a S d$

(2)  $S \rightarrow T$

(3)  $S \rightarrow U$

(4)  $T \rightarrow a T c$

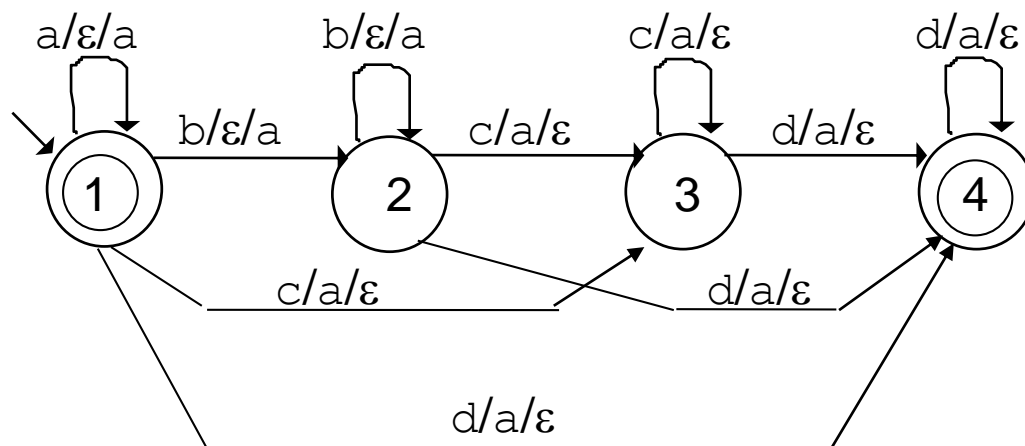
(5)  $T \rightarrow V$

(6)  $U \rightarrow b U d$

(7)  $U \rightarrow V$

(8)  $V \rightarrow b V c$

(9)  $V \rightarrow \varepsilon$



input = a a b c d d

# NONDETERMINISM

67

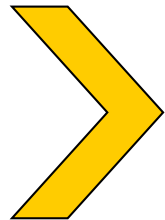
Machines constructed with the algorithm are often nondeterministic, even when they needn't be. This happens even with trivial languages.

Example:  $A^nB^n = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

A grammar for  $A^nB^n$  is:

[1]  $S \rightarrow aSb$

[2]  $S \rightarrow \varepsilon$



A PDA  $M$  for  $A^nB^n$  is:

(0)  $((p, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), (q, S))$

(1)  $((q, \varepsilon, S), (q, aSb))$

(2)  $((q, \varepsilon, S), (q, \varepsilon))$

(3)  $((q, a, a), (q, \varepsilon))$

(4)  $((q, b, b), (q, \varepsilon))$

But transitions 1 and 2 make  $M$  nondeterministic.

A directly constructed machine for  $A^nB^n$ :

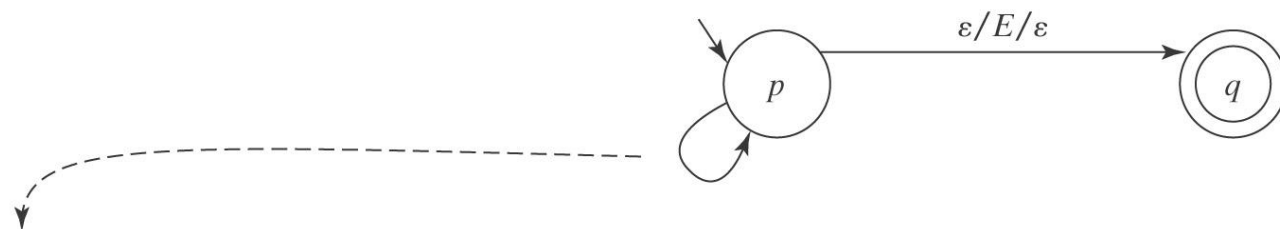
# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From CFG to PDA - Bottom up

68

The idea: Let the stack keep track of what has been found.

- (1)  $E \rightarrow E + T$
- (2)  $E \rightarrow T$
- (3)  $T \rightarrow T * F$
- (4)  $T \rightarrow F$
- (5)  $F \rightarrow (E)$
- (6)  $F \rightarrow id$



### Reduce Transitions:

- (1)  $(p, \varepsilon, T + E), (p, E)$
- (2)  $(p, \varepsilon, T), (p, E)$
- (3)  $(p, \varepsilon, F * T), (p, T)$
- (4)  $(p, \varepsilon, F), (p, T)$
- (5)  $(p, \varepsilon, )E( ), (p, F)$
- (6)  $(p, \varepsilon, id), (p, F)$

### Shift Transitions

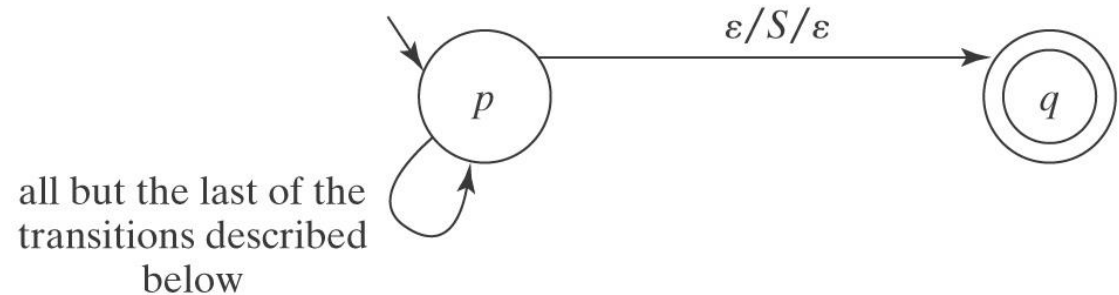
- (7)  $(p, id, \varepsilon), (p, id)$
- (8)  $(p, (, \varepsilon), (p, ($
- (9)  $(p, ), \varepsilon), (p, )$
- (10)  $(p, +, \varepsilon), (p, +)$
- (11)  $(p, *, \varepsilon), (p, *)$

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From CFG to PDA - Bottom up

69

The outline of  $M$  is:



$M = (\{p, q\}, \Sigma, V, \Delta, p, \{q\})$ , where  $\Delta$  contains:

- The shift transitions:  $((p, c, \varepsilon), (p, c))$ , for each  $c \in \Sigma$ .
- The reduce transitions:  $((p, \varepsilon, (s_1 s_2 \dots s_n)^R), (p, X))$ , for each rule  $X \rightarrow s_1 s_2 \dots s_n$  in  $G$ .
- The finish up transition:  $((p, \varepsilon, S), (q, \varepsilon))$ .

# PDAs AND CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

## From PDA to CFG

70

**Lemma:** If a language is accepted by a pushdown automaton  $M$ , it is context-free (i.e., it can be described by a context-free grammar).

***Proof (by construction):***

Step 1: Convert  $M$  to restricted normal form:

Step 2: Convert the PDA (in restricted normal form) to a CFG.

Pages: 265~273 (have a look)

# NONDETERMINISM AND HALTING

71

1. There are CFL for which no deterministic PDA exists.
2. There exist no algorithm to minimize a PDA.
  - It is undecidable whether a PDA is already minimal

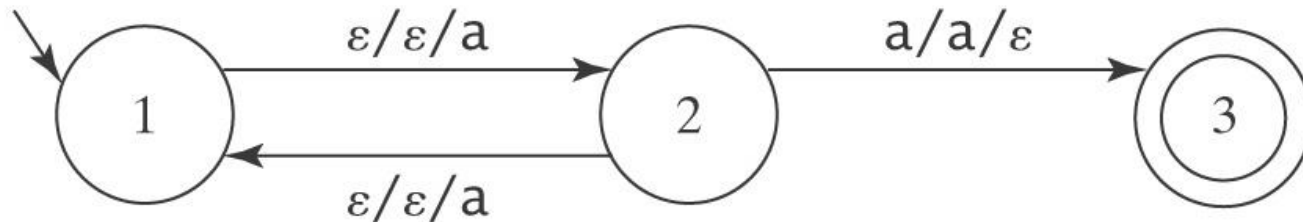
# NONDETERMINISM AND HALTING

72

It is possible that a PDA may

- not halt,
- not ever finish reading its input.

Let  $\Sigma = \{a\}$  and consider  $M =$



$$L(M) = \{a\}: (1, a, \varepsilon) \vdash (2, a, a) \vdash (3, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$$

On any other input except  $a$ :

- $M$  will never halt.
- $M$  will never finish reading its input unless its input is  $\varepsilon$ .



# NONDETERMINISM AND HALTING

73

## Solutions to the Problem

For NDFSMs:

- Convert to deterministic, or
- Simulate all paths in parallel.

For NDPDAs:

- Formal solutions that usually involve changing the form of the grammar.
- Practical solutions that:
  - Preserve the structure of the grammar, but
  - Only work on a subset of the CFLs.

# COMPARING REGULAR AND CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES

74

## Regular Languages

- Regular expressions  
Regular grammars
- **recognize**
- = DFMSs

## Context-Free Languages

- Context-free grammars
- **parse**
- = NDPDAs

- ❑ **Automata, Computability and Complexity. Theory and Applications**
  - By Elaine Rich
- ❑ Chapter 11:
  - Page : 224-227, 232-241.
- ❑ Chapter 12:
  - Page : 249-275.