

# CHAPTER 2: CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES

CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS ("CFG's")

Definition & Examples

CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM

PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA

Non-deterministic  $\neq$  Deterministic

EQUIVALENCE BETWEEN

CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS  
AND

NON-DETERMINISTIC PUSHDOWN AUTOMATI  
PROOF

PUMPING LEMMA

TO PROVE SOME LANGUAGES  
ARE NOT CONTEXT-FREE

## EXAMPLE

$$\begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow E + T \quad | \quad T \\ T \rightarrow T \times F \quad | \quad F \\ F \rightarrow (E) \quad | \quad a \end{array}$$

$$E \rightarrow E + T$$

$$E \rightarrow T$$

VARIABLES (= "NON TERMINALS")

TERMINALS (SYMBOLS FROM ALPHABET)

RULES (= "PRODUCTIONS")

$$E ::= E + T$$

START VARIABLE. Often "S"

Assume: First rule uses start symbol

$$\begin{array}{l}
 E \rightarrow E + T \mid T \\
 T \rightarrow T \times F \mid F \\
 F \rightarrow (E) \mid a
 \end{array}$$

## DERIVATION

$$\begin{aligned}
 \underline{E} &\Rightarrow \underline{E} + T \Rightarrow \underline{I} + T \Rightarrow \underline{E} + T \Rightarrow a + \underline{T} \\
 &\Rightarrow a + \underline{F} \Rightarrow a + (\underline{E}) \Rightarrow a + (\underline{I}) \\
 &\Rightarrow a + (\underline{I} \times F) \Rightarrow a + (\underline{E} \times F) \\
 &\Rightarrow a + (a \times \underline{F}) = a + (a \times a)
 \end{aligned}$$

WE WRITE:

$$\begin{aligned}
 E &\xrightarrow{*} a + (a \times a) \\
 E &\xrightarrow{*} a + (E) \Rightarrow a + (T) \xrightarrow{*} a + (a \times a)
 \end{aligned}$$

## LEFT-MOST DERIVATION:

Always choose Left-most Variable

$$\dots \Rightarrow \underline{F} + T \Rightarrow \underline{a} + T \Rightarrow \dots a + (a \times a)$$

## RIGHT-MOST DERIVATION:

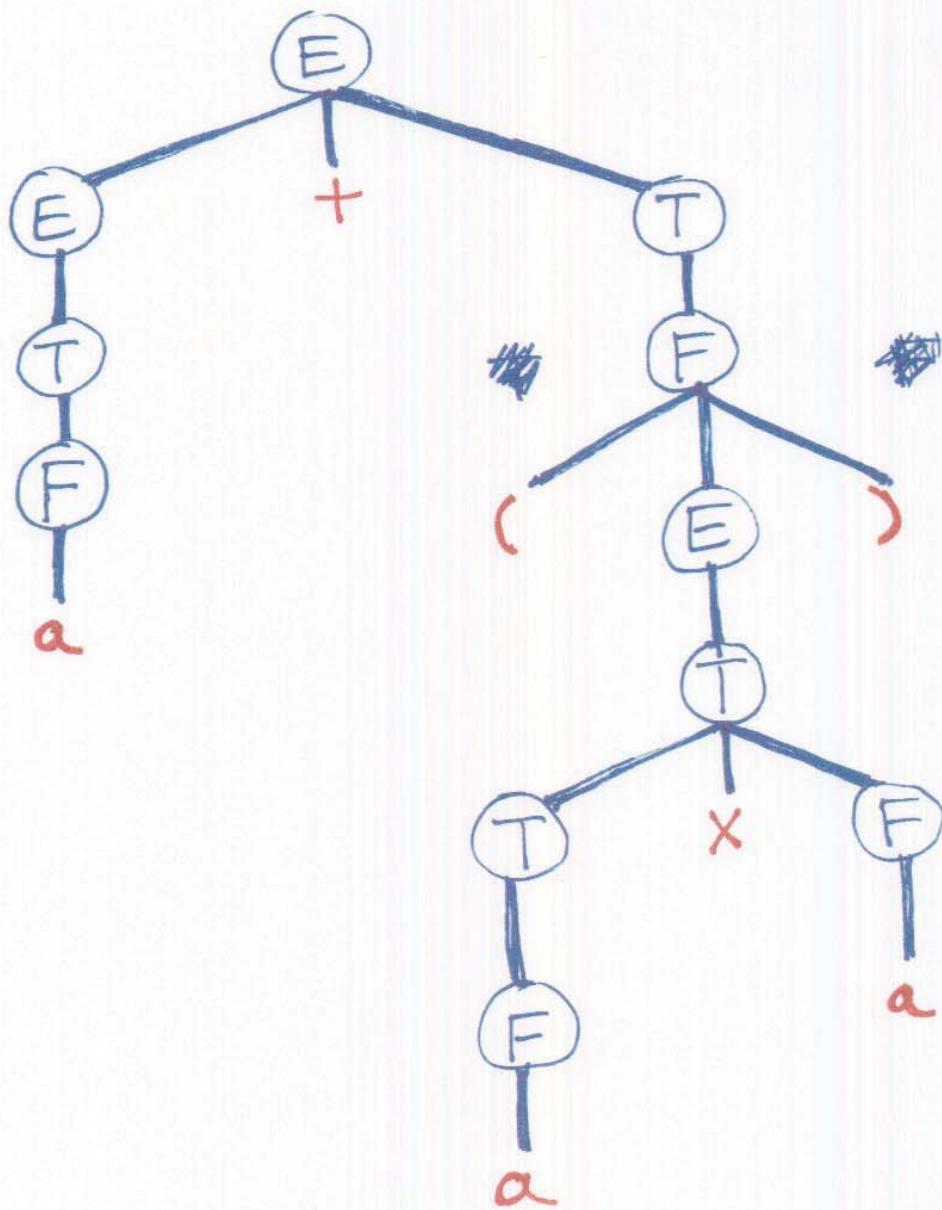
Always choose Right-most Variable

$$\Rightarrow F + \underline{T} \Rightarrow F + \underline{E} \Rightarrow \dots a + (a \times a)$$

**PARSE  
TREES**

$$\begin{array}{l} E \rightarrow E + T \mid T \\ T \rightarrow T \times F \mid F \\ F \rightarrow (E) \mid a \end{array}$$

$$E \xrightarrow{*} a + (axa)$$



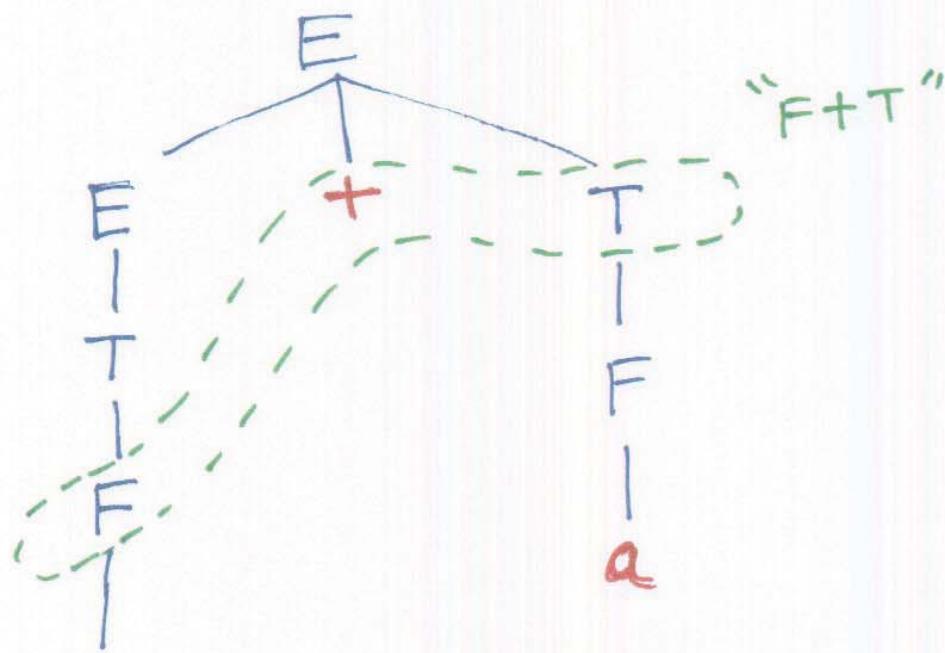
You GET THE SAME RESULT:

$E \rightarrow E + T$		T
$T \rightarrow T \times F$		F
$F \rightarrow (E)$		a

$$\dots \Rightarrow \underline{E} + T \Rightarrow a + \underline{T} \Rightarrow a + \underline{F} \Rightarrow a + a$$

$$\dots \Rightarrow F + \underline{T} \Rightarrow F + \underline{\underline{E}} \Rightarrow \underline{F} + a \Rightarrow a + a$$

PARSE TREE:



The parse tree abstracts away the actual order in which the rules are used. It only remembers which rules were used.

## DEFINITION

A "CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMAR" ("CFG")

$$G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$$

$V$  = The set of VARIABLES (i.e., NON-TERMINALS)

$\Sigma$  = The set of TERMINALS

$$\text{NOTE: } V \cap \Sigma = \emptyset.$$

Both are finite sets.

$R$  = The set of RULES (i.e., PRODUCTIONS)

$S \in V$ .

$S$  = Start Variable.

## DEFINITION

The Language of a grammar is

$$\{ w \mid w \in \Sigma^* \text{ and } S \xrightarrow{*} w \}$$

## DEFINITION

A "CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGE" IS A  
LANGUAGE GENERATED BY A  
CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMAR..

**EXAMPLE CFG**

$$S \rightarrow (S) \mid SS \mid \epsilon$$

Language =  $\{\epsilon, (), ()(), ((())), (\underline{((())}))(\underline{((())}))$ ,  
 $(((()))), ((())((())(())), \dots\}$

**EXAMPLE**

$$\{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$$

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

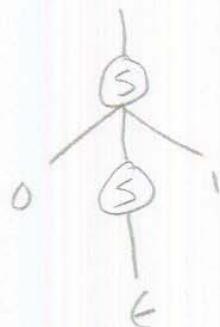
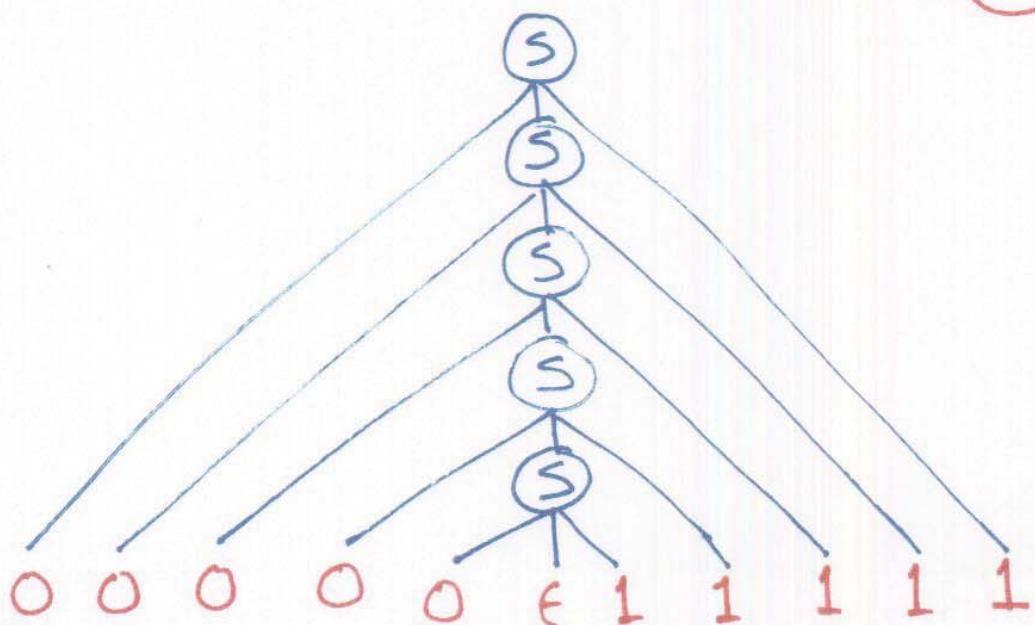
$$S \rightarrow 0S1$$

We used the  
PUMPING LEMMA  
to show this  
is NOT REGULAR.

So:

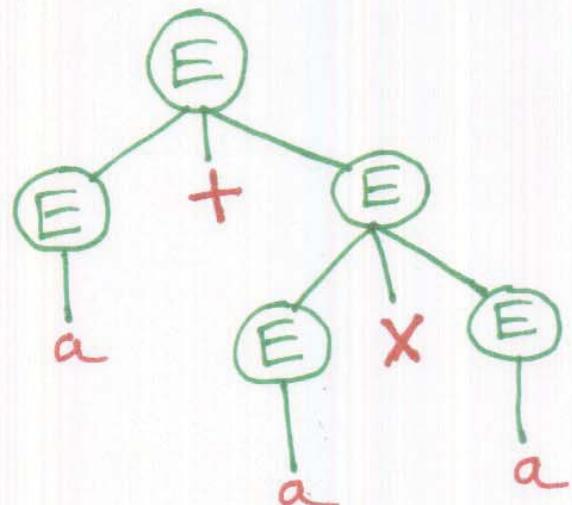
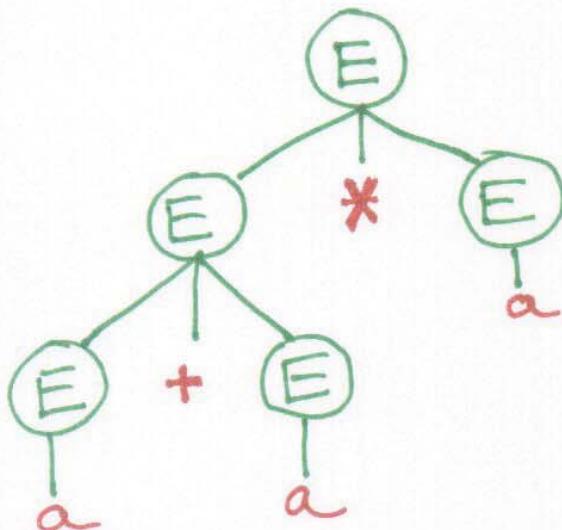
REG  $\subset$  CFL

[PROPER SUBSET]



$E \rightarrow E + E$   
 $\rightarrow E \times E$   
 $\rightarrow (E)$   
 $\rightarrow a$

a + a × a



- FOR EACH PARSE TREE, THERE IS EXACTLY ONE LEFT-MOST DERIVATION. (AND ONE RIGHT-MOST DERIVATION.)

### AMBIGUOUS STRINGS

- MORE THAN ONE PARSE TREE.
- FUNDAMENTALLY DIFFERENT WAYS TO DERIVE THIS STRING.

### AMBIGUOUS GRAMMAR

A grammar is "AMBIGUOUS" if some string can be derived in more than one way.  
I.e., Some string has MULTIPLE PARSE TREES.

## AMBIGUOUS GRAMMAR

$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow E + E \\ &\rightarrow E \times E \\ &\rightarrow (E) \\ &\rightarrow a \end{aligned}$$

## EQUIVALENT UNAMBIGUOUS GRAMMAR

$$\begin{aligned} E &\rightarrow E + T \$ \\ &\rightarrow T \\ T &\rightarrow T \times F \\ &\rightarrow F \\ F &\rightarrow (E) \\ &\rightarrow a \end{aligned}$$

8.1

## AMBIGUOUS STRINGS

MULTIPLE LEFT-MOST DERIVATIONS  
≡ MULTIPLE PARSE TREES.

## AMBIGUOUS GRAMMAR

IF THERE EXISTS SOME STRING  
THAT CAN BE DERIVED AMBIGUOUSLY.

If you have an ambiguous grammar,  
you might be able to find an  
equivalent grammar that is  
unambiguous.

## AMBIGUOUS LANGUAGE

ALL GRAMMARS FOR THE LANGUAGE  
ARE AMBIGUOUS.

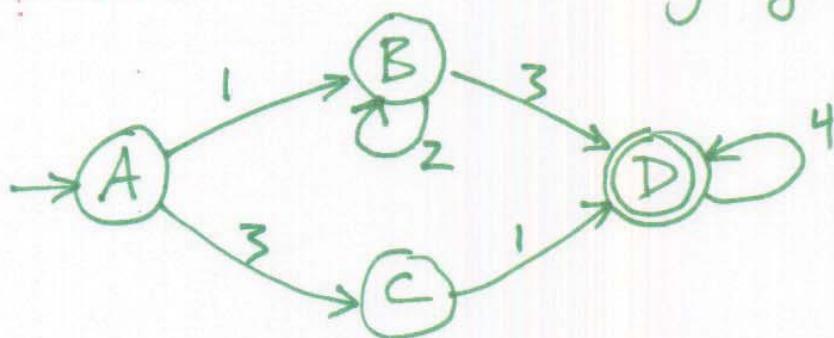
THERE IS NO UNAMBIGUOUS GRAMMAR  
THAT ACCEPTS THE LANGUAGE  
THE LANGUAGE IS "INHERENTLY AMBIGUOUS."

8.12

**EVERY REGULAR LANGUAGE IS  
CONTEXT-FREE.**

PROOF:

Given a DFA for the Language,  
Construct a grammar that  
generates the same Language.



- Make a variable for each state.
- Make the variable for the starting state the starting variable
- Make a rule for each edge
- Add an EPSILON Rule for each accept state.

$$A \rightarrow 1B$$

$$A \rightarrow 3C$$

$$B \rightarrow 2B$$

$$B \rightarrow 3D$$

$$C \rightarrow 1D$$

$$D \rightarrow 4D$$

$$D \rightarrow \epsilon$$

# THE LANGUAGE ONION:

All Languages

Turing Recognizable Languages  
(TM will halt if "yes", but may loop if "no")

Decidable Languages  
(TM will always halt)

Context-Free Languages  
(Nondeterministic Pushdown Automaton)

Unambiguous Languages

LR(k) Languages  
(Deterministic Pushdown Automaton)

LL(k) Languages  
(Predictive Parser)

Regular Languages  
(Finite State Machine, Reg. Expr.)

## CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM

EVERY RULE IN THE GRAMMAR HAS THE FORM

$$A \rightarrow BC$$

OR

$$A \rightarrow a$$

WE CAN ALSO HAVE

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

EXACTLY TWO VARIABLES;  
CAN'T BE "S"

OR A TERMINAL SYMBOL.

## THEOREM

EVERY CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGE CAN BE GENERATED BY A GRAMMAR IN CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM.

Two grammars are "EQUIVALENT" if they generate the same language.

FOR EVERY CFG THERE IS AN EQUIVALENT CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM.

# ALGORITHM TO CONVERT ANY CFG INTO CHOMSKY NORMAL FORM

## STEP 1

MAKE SURE START SYMBOL DOES NOT  
APPEAR ON RIGHHAND SIDE.

## STEP 2

REMOVE RULES LIKE  $A \rightarrow \epsilon$

## STEP 3

GET RID OF ALL UNIT RULES  $A \rightarrow B$

## STEP 4

GET RID OF RULES WITH MORE THAN  
2 SYMBOLS ON RIGHHAND SIDE

$$A \rightarrow BCDE$$

$$A \rightarrow Bcde$$

## STEP 5

MAKE SURE

$$A \rightarrow BC$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

ONLY 2.  
MUST BE  
VARIABLES.

ONLY 1.  
MUST BE A  
TERMINAL  
SYMBOL.

## PROOF

GIVEN A CFG  $G$ , SHOW HOW  
TO CONVERT IT TO CHOMSKY  
NORMAL FORM.

STEP 1: MAKE SURE START SYMBOL  
DOESN'T APPEAR ON RIGHHAND SIDE.  
ADD NEW START SYMBOL.

EXAMPLE

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB$$

$$A \rightarrow B \mid S$$

$$B \rightarrow b \mid \epsilon$$

$$S_0 \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB$$

$$A \rightarrow B \mid S$$

$$B \rightarrow b \mid \epsilon$$

Add new  
start  
symbol

STEP 2:

Can't have  $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ . (unless A is start variable)  
Remove such rules.

$$B \rightarrow BC\boxed{A}C\boxed{B}AB$$



$$B \rightarrow BCACBABA$$

$$B \rightarrow BC\boxed{C}B\boxed{A}B$$

$$B \rightarrow BC\boxed{A}CB\boxed{B}$$

$$B \rightarrow BC\boxed{C}B\boxed{B}$$

} Add these new rules.

$$S_0 \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid a\underline{B}$$

$$A \rightarrow \underline{B} \mid S$$

$$\underline{B} \rightarrow b \mid \underline{\epsilon}$$

Remove  
 $B \rightarrow \epsilon$

$$S_0 \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a$$

$$A \rightarrow B \mid S \mid \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

Remove  
 $A \rightarrow \epsilon$

$$S_0 \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid .SA \mid AS \mid S$$

$$A \rightarrow B \mid S$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

### STEP 3:

GET RID OF ALL "UNIT RULES"

$$A \rightarrow B$$

GIVEN:

$$B \rightarrow xyz$$

ADD:

$$A \rightarrow xyz$$

~~ADD:  $x \rightarrow Axyz$~~

~~ADD:  $C \rightarrow xyz$~~

FROM BEFORE:

$$S_0 \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA | aB | a | SA | AS | \underline{S}$$

$$A \rightarrow B | S$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

Remove  $S \rightarrow S$  (do nothing)

~~$S_0 \rightarrow S$~~

$$S \rightarrow ASA | aB | a | SA | AS$$

$$A \rightarrow B | S$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

Remove  $S_0 \rightarrow S$

$$S_0 \rightarrow ASA | aB | a | SA | AS$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA | aB | a | SA | AS$$

$$A \rightarrow B | S$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

FROM BEFORE:

$$S_0 \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$A \rightarrow \underline{B} \mid S$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

REMOVE  $A \rightarrow B$ :

$$S_0 \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$A \rightarrow b \mid \underline{S}$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

REMOVE  $A \rightarrow S$ :

$$S_0 \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$S \rightarrow ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$A \rightarrow b \mid ASA \mid aB \mid a \mid SA \mid AS$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

#### STEP 4:

Replace

$$A \rightarrow BCDE$$

with

$$A \rightarrow BA_1$$

$$A_1 \rightarrow CA_2$$

$$A_2 \rightarrow D \cancel{E}$$

Introduce new variables to make sure every righthand side is not longer than 2.

FROM BEFORE:

$$\begin{array}{c} S_0 \rightarrow ASA \\ S \rightarrow ASA \\ A \rightarrow b \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} ab \\ aB \\ ASA \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} a \\ a \\ a \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} SA \\ SA \\ SA \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} AS \\ AS \\ AS \end{array}$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

SHORTEN  $S_0 \rightarrow ASA$  and  $S \rightarrow ASA$  and  
By introducing  $A_1$ :  $A \rightarrow ASA$

$$\begin{array}{c} S_0 \rightarrow AA_1 \\ S \rightarrow A A_1 \\ A \rightarrow b \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} aB \\ aB \\ A A_1 \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} a \\ a \\ a \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} SA \\ SA \\ ab \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} AS \\ AS \\ a \end{array} \quad | \quad \begin{array}{c} AS \\ AS \\ SA \end{array}$$

$A_1 \rightarrow SA$

$B \rightarrow b$

## Step 5:

Replace  $A \rightarrow bC$

with:  $A \rightarrow A_1 C$

$A_1 \rightarrow b$

From BEFORE:

$S_0 \rightarrow AA_1 | \underline{aB} | a | SA | AS$

$S \rightarrow AA_1 | \underline{aB} | a | SA | AS$

$A \rightarrow b | AA_1 | \underline{aB} | a | SA | AS$

$A_1 \rightarrow SA$

$B \rightarrow b$

INTRODUCE  ~~$A_2 \rightarrow a$~~

$S_0 \rightarrow AA_1 | \underline{A_2B} | a | SA | AS$

$S \rightarrow AA_1 | \underline{A_2B} | a | SA | AS$

$A \rightarrow b | AA_1 | \underline{A_2B} | a | SA | AS$

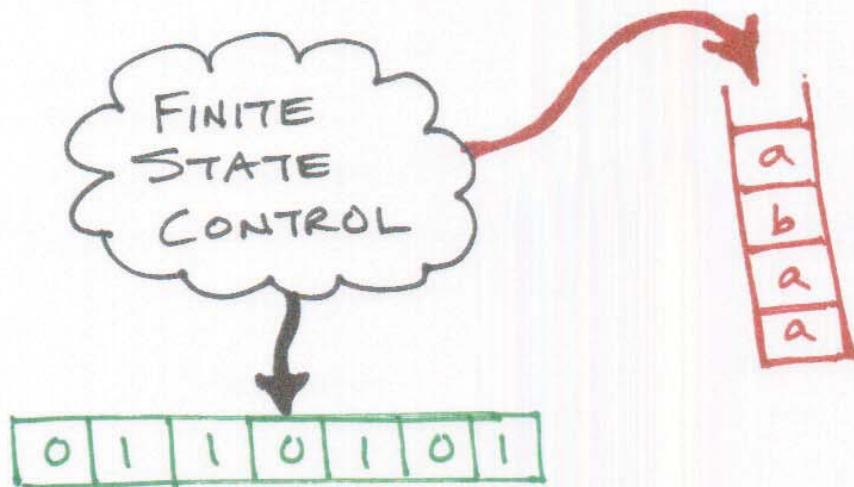
$A_1 \rightarrow SA$

$B \rightarrow b$

$\underline{A_2 \rightarrow a}$

THIS GRAMMAR  
IS NOW IN  
CHOMSKY  
NORMAL  
FORM!

# PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA



INPUT STRING:

SAME AS F.S.M.  
(CANNOT BACK UP)

STACK

OPERATIONS:

READ + POP / IGNORE

PUSH / IGNORE

STACK ALPHABET

$\Gamma$  GAMMA,

MAY BE DIFFERENT FROM INPUT  
ALPHABET,  $\Sigma$

STATE TRANSITIONS:

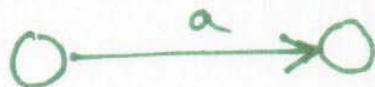
MAY DEPEND ON STACK TOP.

MAY PUSH ONTO THE STACK.

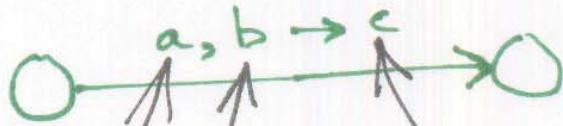
NON-DETERMINISTIC!

18

## FINITE STATE MACHINE



## PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON



Input symbol

May be " $\epsilon$ "

Symbol on top of the stack.  
This symbol is popped.

" $\epsilon$ " means the stack is neither read nor popped

This symbol is pushed onto the stack.

" $\epsilon$ " means nothing is pushed.

## NONDETERMINISM

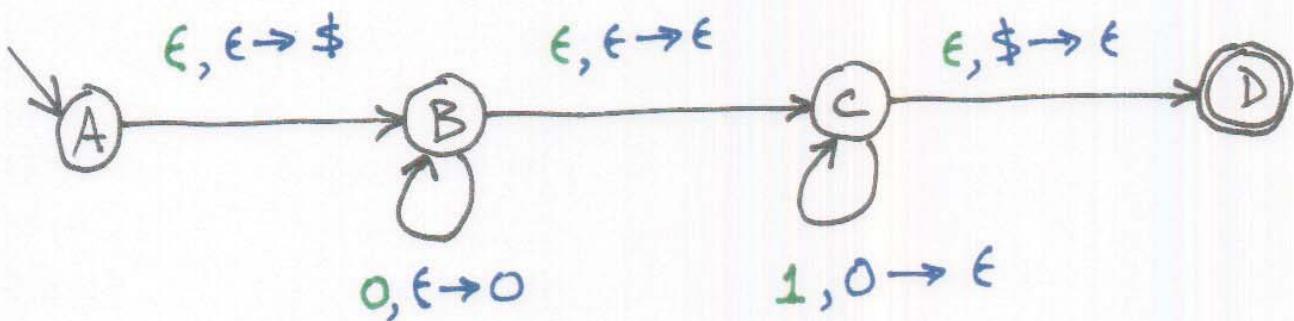
$$\{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$  input alphabet

$\Gamma = \{\$, 0\}$  stack alphabet

To detect bottom of stack.

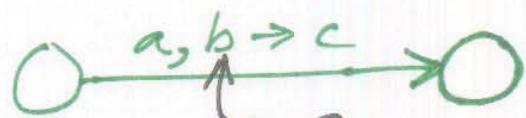
(We could use other symbols,  
but these seem clear enough.)



## WHEN IS A STRING ACCEPTED?

- BEGIN IN THE START STATE.
- END IN AN ACCEPT STATE.
- CONSUME ALL THE INPUT SYMBOLS.  
(OKAY TO LEAVE STUFF ON THE STACK.)
- THERE IS A PATH THRU THE FINITE STATE CONTROL.

NOTE: ■ It is not possible to pop an empty stack.



Read a "b" and pop it.



Don't look at the stack

- NON-DETERMINISTIC:

You just have to find one path to a ACCEPT state.

## FORMAL DEFINITION

$$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$$

$Q$  = Set of states

$\Sigma$  = Input alphabet

$\Gamma$  = Stack alphabet

$$\begin{cases} \Sigma_\epsilon = \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\} \\ \Gamma_\epsilon = \Gamma \cup \{\epsilon\} \end{cases}$$

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

$q_0$ : Starting State  $q_0 \in Q$

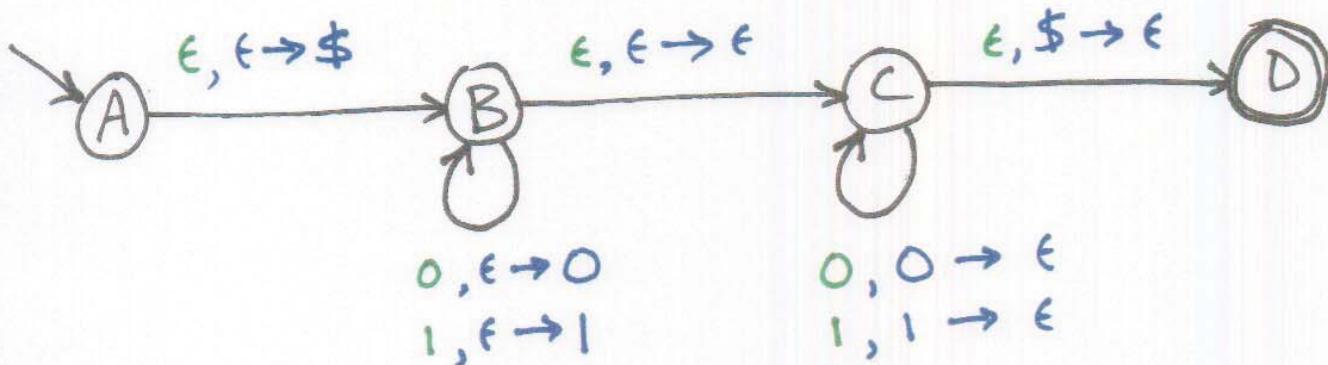
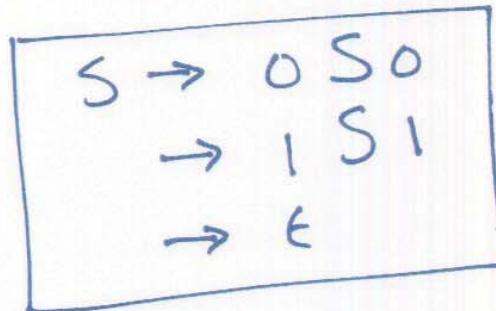
$F$ : Accept States  $F \subseteq Q$

## EXAMPLE

Palindrome

MADAM IM ADAM  
WAS IT A CAT I SAW  
NO LEMON, NO MELON

$\{w \mid w \text{ is a palindrome AND } w \in \{0,1\}^*\}$



**GRAMMAR DESIGN  
CHALLENGE**

$L = \{w \mid w \in \{0,1\}^* \text{ and the number of } 0\text{'s equals the number of } 1\text{'s}\}$

APPROACH: TRY TO THINK OF "MEANINGS"  
FOR THE NON-TERMINALS.

$S = \text{EQUAL } \# \text{ of } 0\text{'s and } 1\text{'s.}$

$A = \text{ONE MORE } "1" \text{ THAN } "0"\text{'s}$

$B = \text{ONE MORE } "0" \text{ THAN } "1"\text{'s}$

**SOLUTION:**

$$S \rightarrow OA \mid 1B \mid \epsilon$$

$$A \rightarrow 1S \mid OAA$$

$$B \rightarrow OS \mid 1BB$$

SOLUTION #2:

$$S \rightarrow SAB | \epsilon$$

$$A \rightarrow 0S1 | \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow 1S0 | \epsilon$$

NOTE:

$$C \rightarrow Cx | \epsilon$$

GENERATES:  $x^*$

$\{ \epsilon, x, xx, xxx, xxxx, \dots \}$

$$S \rightarrow SAB | \epsilon$$

GENERATES:

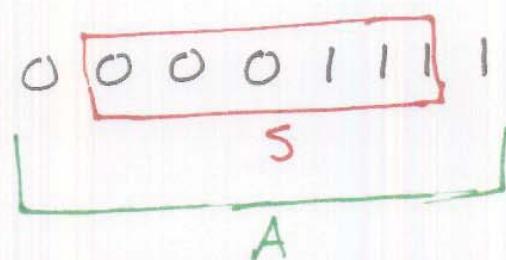
ABAB ABAB ...

EVERY A CAN GO TO  $\epsilon$ .

EVERY B CAN GO TO  $\epsilon$ .

$\Rightarrow$  ANY STRING OF A'S AND B'S!

01 01 01 01  
A A A A



# ARE TWO GRAMMARS EQUIVALENT?

"EQUIVALENT" = GENERATE THE SAME LANGUAGE

UNDECIDABLE!

CANNOT WRITE A COMPUTER PROGRAM.

[PROGRAM MAY NOT HALT!]

## APPROACH:

- GENERATE EVERY STRING IN TURN. (INFINITELY MANY).
- TEST EACH STRING.

ACCEPTED BY GRAMMAR #1?

FIND A PARSE TREE.

(THIS IS DECIDABLE.)

ACCEPTED BY GRAMMAR #2?

- FIND A COUNTER-EXAMPLE?  
HALT; PRINT "NOT EQUIVALENT".

- OTHERWISE, KEEP LOOKING.

MAY NOT HALT... OR MAY...?

- NO WAY TO KNOW WHEN TO STOP LOOKING!!!

## NON-CONTEXT-FREE GRAMMARS

$$L = \{ 0^N 1^N 0^N \mid N \geq 0 \}$$

00000 11111 00000  
5 5 5

IS THIS LANGUAGE CONTEXT-FREE?

NO!

(Use the PUMPING LEMMA FOR  
CFG's TO PROVE IT.)

## CHOMSKY HIERARCHY

TYPE-3 LANGUAGES

REGULAR

TYPE-2 LANGUAGES

CONTEXT-FREE

TYPE-1 LANGUAGES

CONTEXT-SENSITIVE

TYPE-0 LANGUAGES

RECURSIVELY-ENUMERABLE

TURING-ENUMERABLE.

TURING-RECOGNIZABLE

ex:  $ABx \rightarrow ADEy$

27

$$L = \{1^N 2^N 3^N \mid N \geq 0\}$$

### APPROACH:

EACH "A" will turn into a "1".

EACH "B" will turn into a "2".

EACH "C" will turn into a "3".

$S \xrightarrow{*} \dots AAA BBB CCC \xrightarrow{*} \dots 111 222 333$

INITIALLY THE STRING WILL START  
WITH "1"s

111 ~~BBB~~ CCC

Will never use  
"A" actually.

RULES TO FINISH IT UP:

$$1B \rightarrow 12$$

$$2B \rightarrow 22$$

$$2C \rightarrow 23$$

$$3C \rightarrow 33$$

NOTE

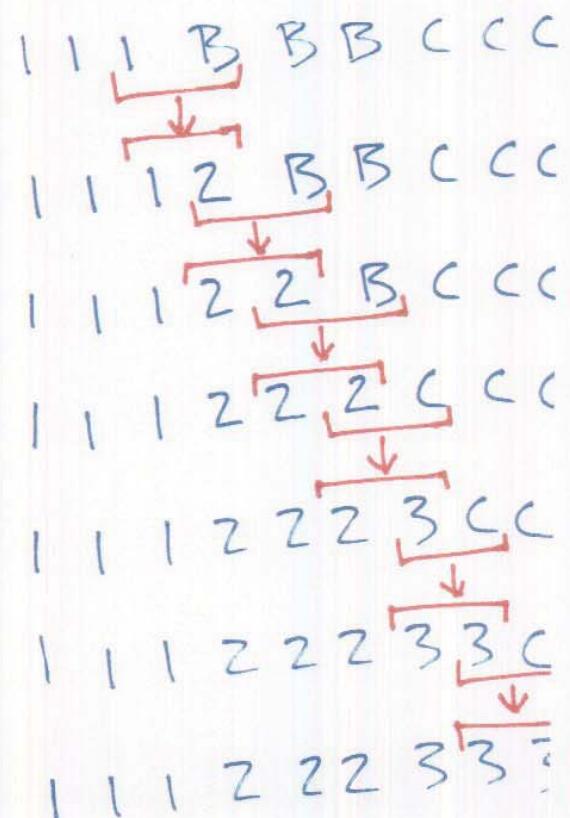
... CB...

CAN NEVER BE REDUCED.

"C" CAN ONLY TURN ~~INTO~~ INTO  
A "3".

AND "3B" CAN NEVER  
BE REDUCED.

$\Rightarrow$  B's MUST PRECEDE C's.



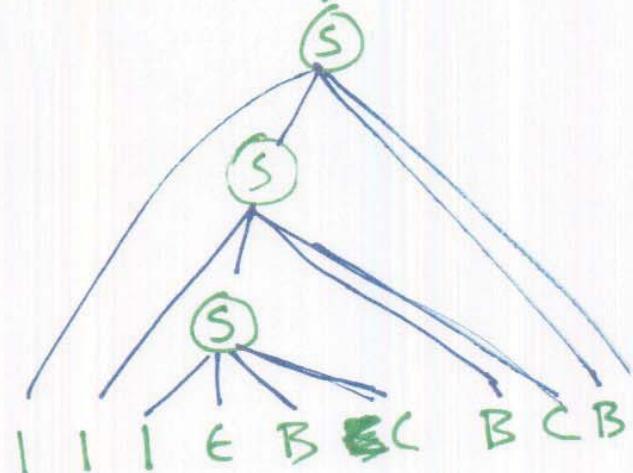
STEP 1: GENERATE THE  
CORRECT NUMBER OF 1's, B's, and C's.  
(JUST NOT THE RIGHT ORDER.).

$$S \rightarrow 1SBC$$

~~S S S S A B C C~~

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon$$

1 1 1 1 BC BC BC BC



STEP 2: GET THE "B's IN FRONT  
OF THE "C"s.

$$CB \rightarrow \bullet BC$$

STEP 3:  
REDUCE 'B' TO '2' AND 'C' TO '3.'

(Rules shown above.)

## CONTEXT-SENSITIVE GRAMMAR

$$L = \{1^n 2^n 3^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$

$$\underline{S} \rightarrow \underline{1} SBC$$

$$\underline{S} \rightarrow \underline{\epsilon}$$

FROM  
BEFORE

$$\underline{CB} \rightarrow \underline{HB}$$

$$\underline{HB} \rightarrow \underline{HC}$$

REVISED

$$\underline{HC} \rightarrow \underline{BC}$$

$$\underline{1B} \rightarrow \underline{12}$$

$$\underline{2B} \rightarrow \underline{22}$$

FROM  
BEFORE

$$\underline{2C} \rightarrow \underline{23}$$

$$\underline{3C} \rightarrow \underline{33}$$

## ARE CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES CLOSED UNDER UNION?

GRAMMAR 1:

$S_1 \rightarrow \dots$  lots of rules...

GRAMMAR 2:

$S_2 \rightarrow \dots$  lots of rules...

UNION:

$S \rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$

$S_1 \rightarrow \dots$

$S_2 \rightarrow \dots$

YES!

## ARE CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES CLOSED UNDER CONCATENATION?

$S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$

$S_1 \rightarrow \dots$

$S_2 \rightarrow \dots$

YES!

ARE CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES  
CLOSED UNDER INTERSECTION?

CONSIDER  $L_1 = \{0^n 1^n 2^n\}$

IT IS A  
"CFL":

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow AB \\ A &\rightarrow 0A1 \mid \epsilon \\ B &\rightarrow 2B \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

CONSIDER  $L_2 = \{0^k 1^n 2^n\}$

IT IS A  
"CFL":

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow AB \\ A &\rightarrow 0A \mid \epsilon \\ B &\rightarrow 1B2 \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

CONSIDER  $L = L_1 \cap L_2$

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

THIS IS NOT A CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGE.

No!

NOT IN GENERAL,  
BUT FOR SOME LANGUAGES  
THE INTERSECTION  
MAY ALSO BE  
CONTEXT-FREE.

# ARE CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGES CLOSED UNDER COMPLEMENT?

THESE ARE SETS.

DEMORGAN'S LAWS APPLY.

$$A \cap B = \overline{\bar{A} \cup \bar{B}}$$

ASSUME: CLOSED UNDER COMPLEMENT.

THEN RIGHT-HAND SIDE IS CLOSED.

THEN LEFT-HAND SIDE IS A C.F.L.

CONTRADICTION.

No!

(NOT IN GENERAL,  
BUT YES FOR SOME LANGUAGES)

## EXAMPLE

$$L = \{ww \mid w \in \{0,1\}^*\}$$

The first half of the string  
is equal to the second half.

L is not context-free.

HOWEVER

$\overline{L}$  IS CONTEXT-FREE.

PHONETICS  
"WWR(w)"

## THEOREM

A LANGUAGE IS CONTEXT-FREE IFF  
SOME PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON RECOGNIZES IT.

## PROOF

### PART 1:

GIVEN A CFG, SHOW HOW TO CONSTRUCT  
A PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON THAT  
RECOGNIZES IT.

### PART 2:

GIVEN A PUSHDOWN AUTOMATON, SHOW  
HOW TO CONSTRUCT A CONTEXT-FREE  
GRAMMAR THAT RECOGNIZES THE  
SAME STRINGS.

GIVEN: A GRAMMAR

$$S \rightarrow BS \mid A$$

$$A \rightarrow \epsilon$$

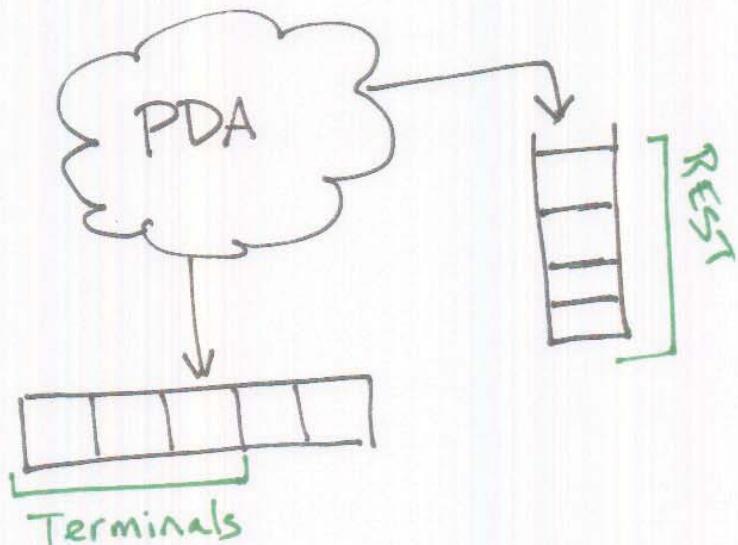
$$B \rightarrow BB1 \mid 2$$

FIND: (OR BUILD) A PDA.

PROOF,  
PART 1

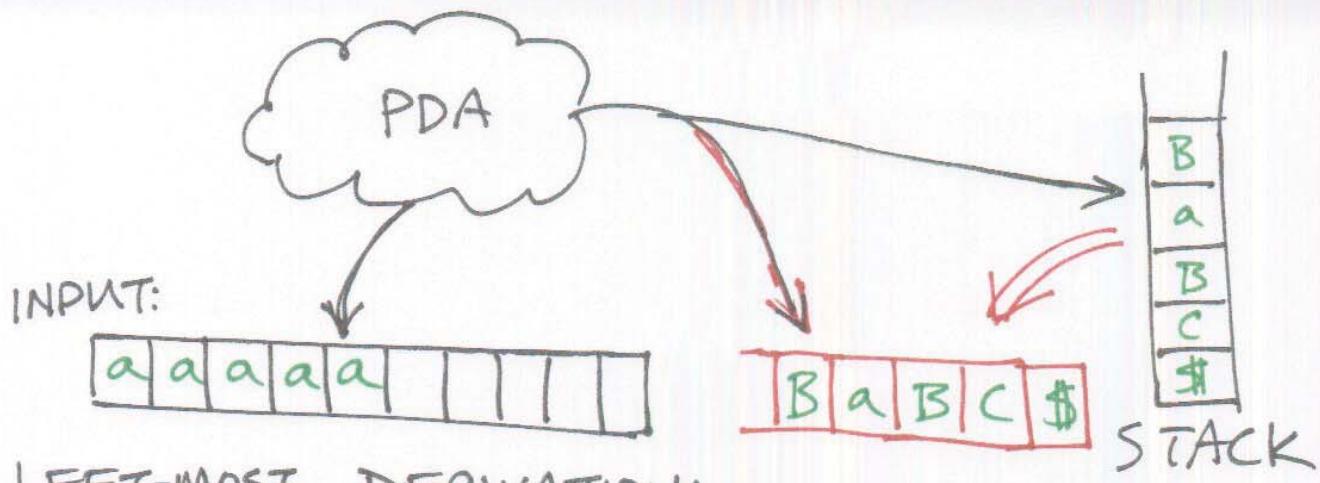
CONSIDER A DERIVATION: (LEFT-MOST)

$$\begin{aligned} & S \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{BS} \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{BB1S} \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{2B1S} \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{221S} \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{221A} \\ \Rightarrow & \overline{221\epsilon} \end{aligned}$$



GENERAL  
FORM:

~~a a a a a~~ B a B B a C a  
Terminals ~~Rest~~ Rest (both)



LEFT-MOST DERIVATION:

$$S^* \Rightarrow \dots \text{ aaaa } \boxed{B a B C} \Rightarrow \dots$$

AT EACH STEP, EXPAND LEFT-MOST NON-TERMINAL.

RULE:

$$B \rightarrow ASA \times BA$$

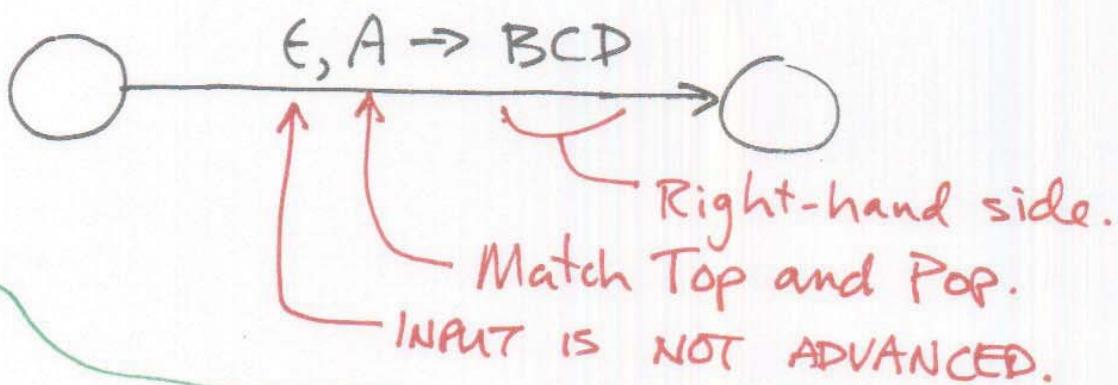
$$\dots \Rightarrow \text{ aaaa } \boxed{A S A \times B A a B C}$$

So:

- MATCH STACK-TOP TO A RULE
- POP STACK
- PUSH RIGHT-HAND SIDE OF RULE ONTO STACK.

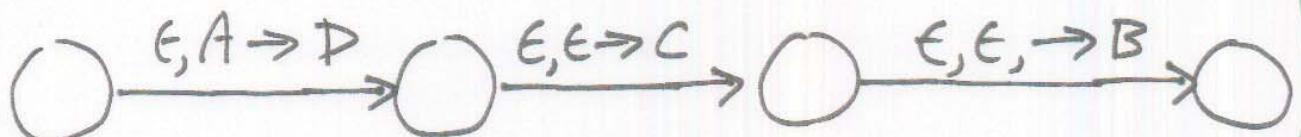
RULE:  $A \rightarrow BCD$

Add this to PDA



NOTE:

To PUSH MULTIPLE ITEMS, YOU'LL NEED TO ADD SOME EXTRA STATES.



WHICH RULE TO USE?

P.D.A.'S ARE NON-DETERMINISTIC!

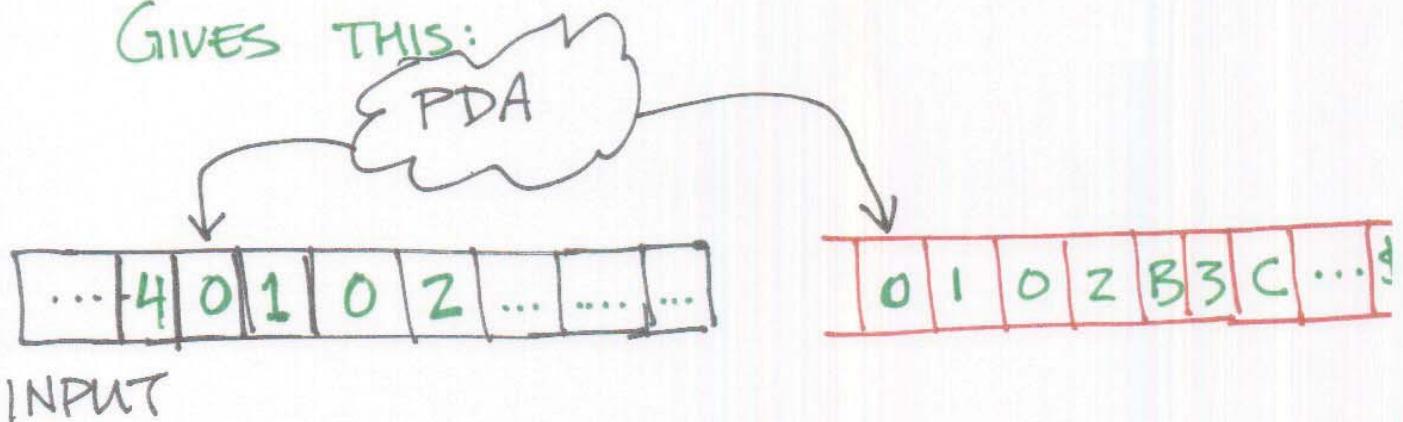
(TRY THEM ALL IN PARALLEL.)

(JUST CHOOSE THE "RIGHT" RULE.)

RULE :

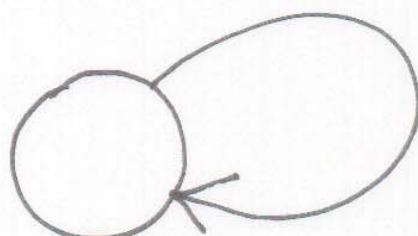
$$A \rightarrow 0102B^3C$$

GIVES THIS:



So:

MATCH TERMINAL SYMBOLS TO  
THE STACK TOP.



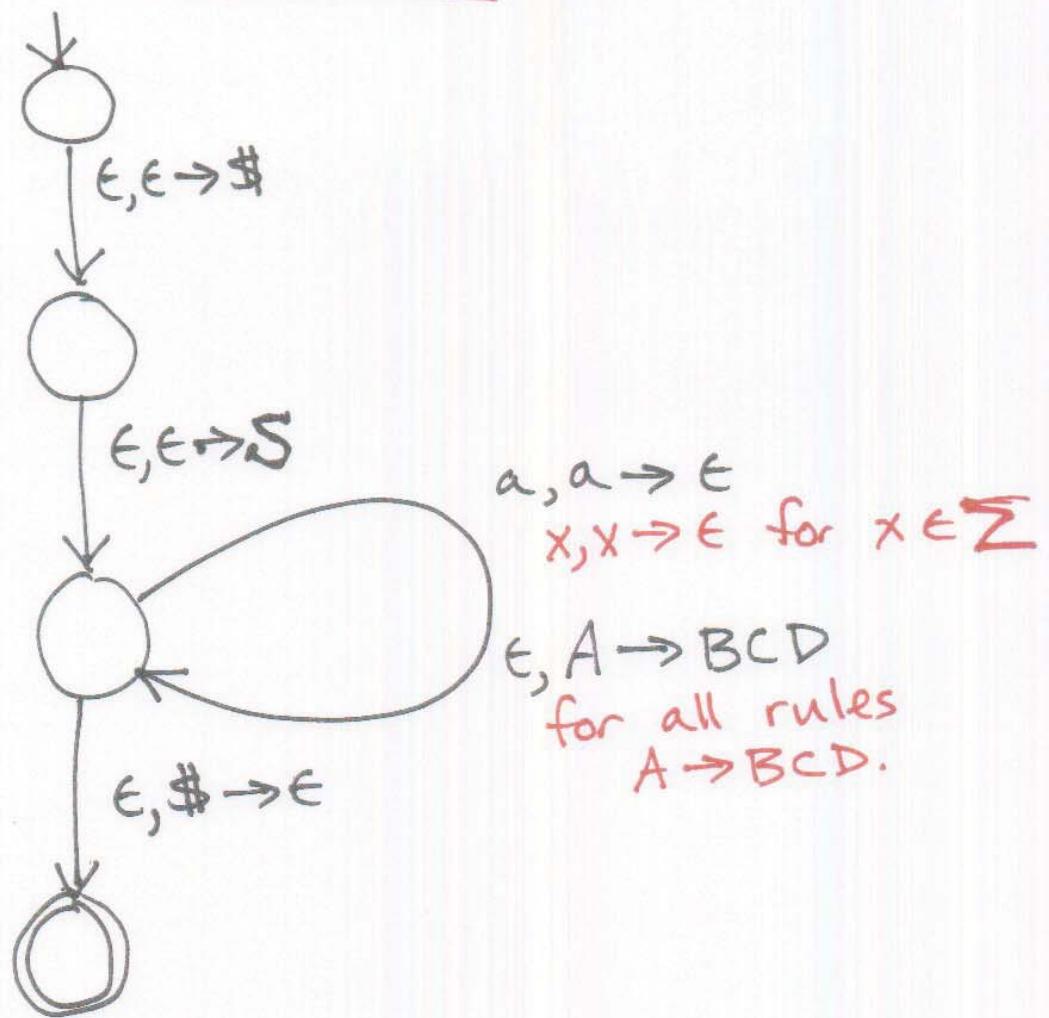
$$0, 0 \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$1, 1 \rightarrow \epsilon$$

$$2, 2 \rightarrow \epsilon$$

etc. for all  $x \in \Sigma$ .

## THE FINAL MACHINE:



## PROOF, PART 2

WE ARE GIVEN: A P.D.A.

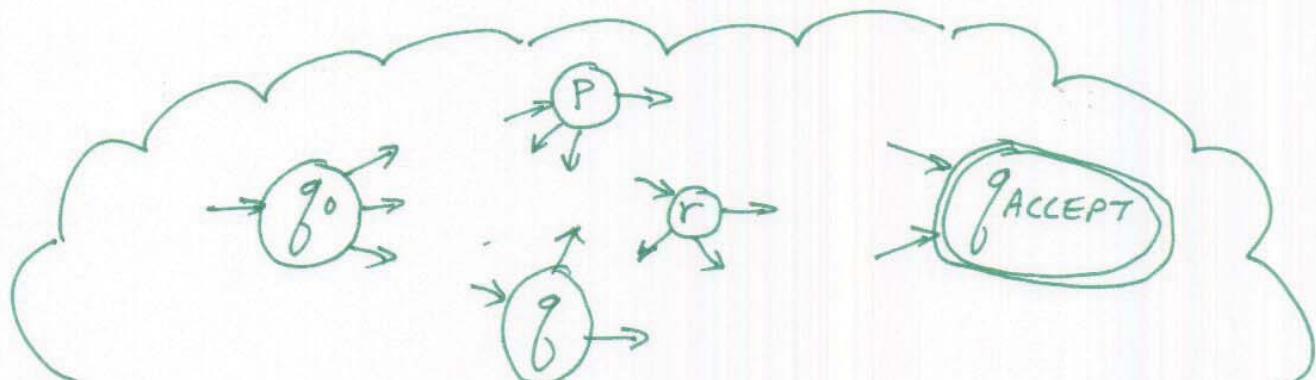
MUST BUILD: A CFG FROM IT.

### STEP 1

SIMPLIFY THE PDA.

### STEP 2

BUILD THE CFG.



There will be a non-terminal  
for ever PAIR of states.

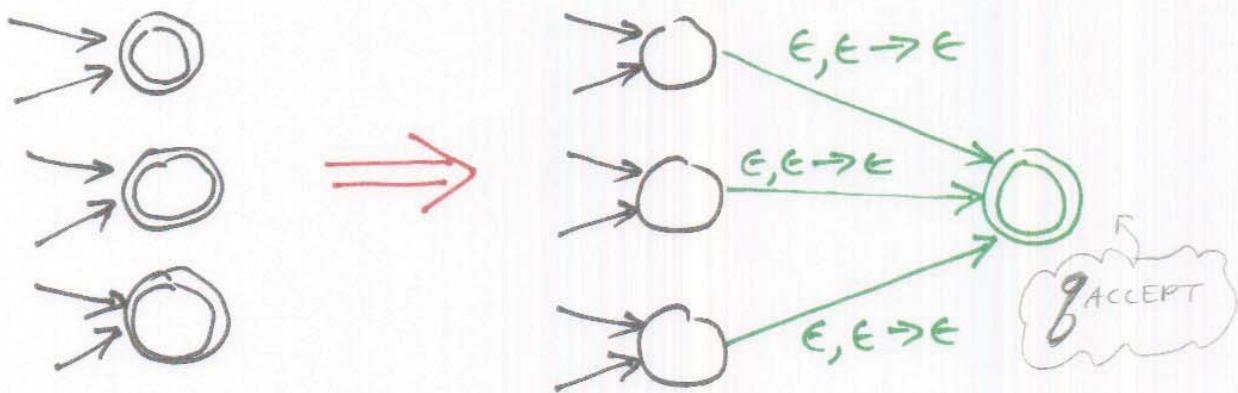
$A_{Pq}$   $A_{qr}$   $A_{rg}$  ...

The starting nonterminal will be

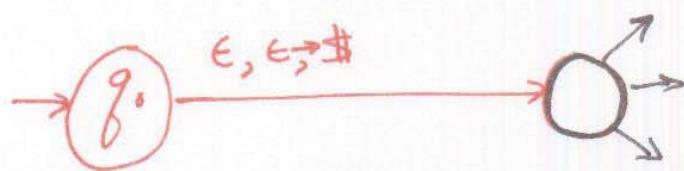
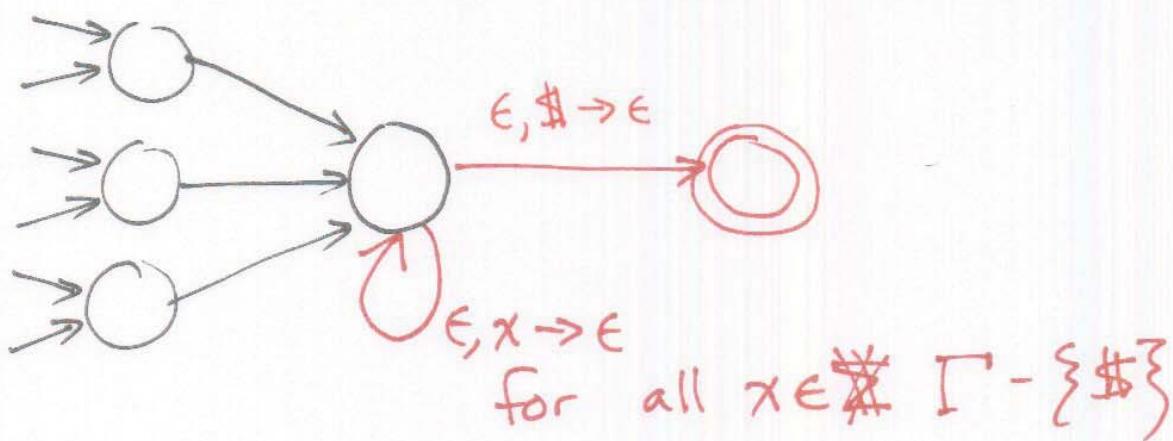
$A_{q_0 q_{\text{ACCEPT}}}$

## SIMPLIFY THE PDA

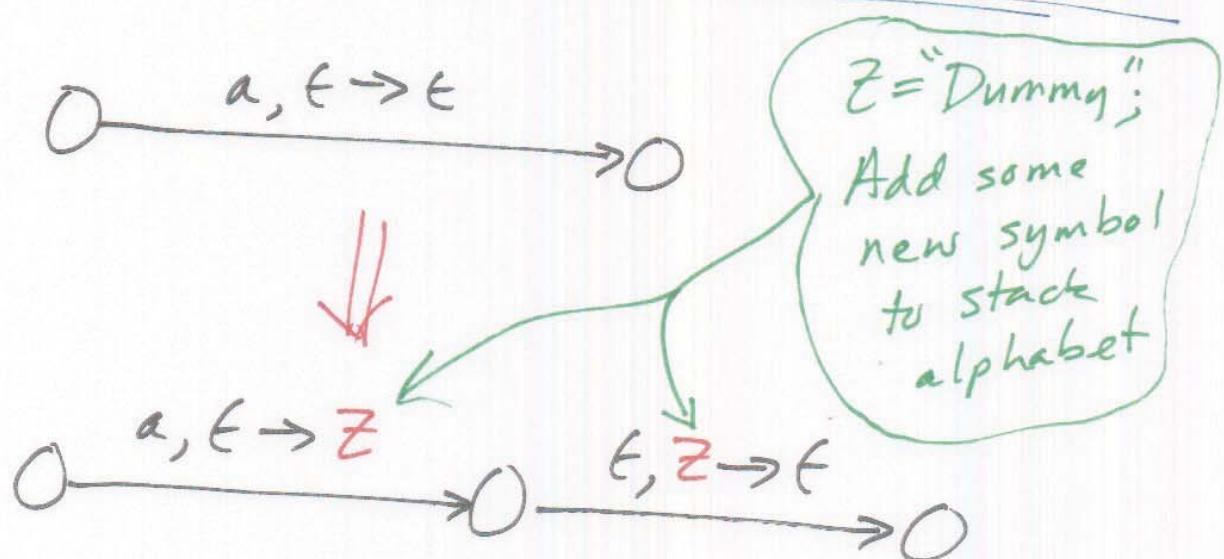
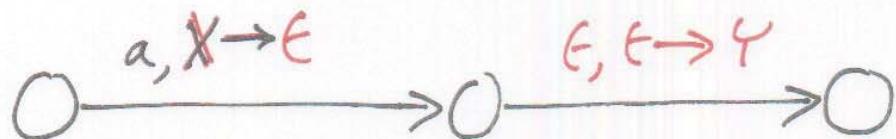
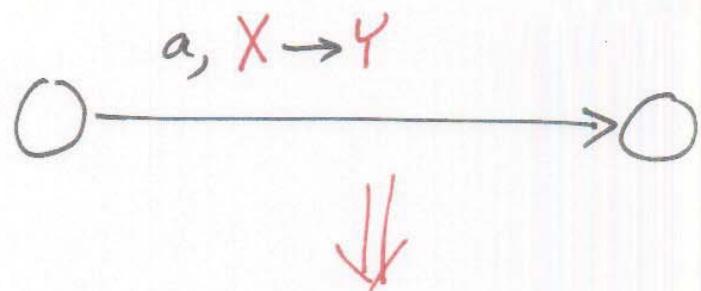
① The PDA has only one ACCEPT state.



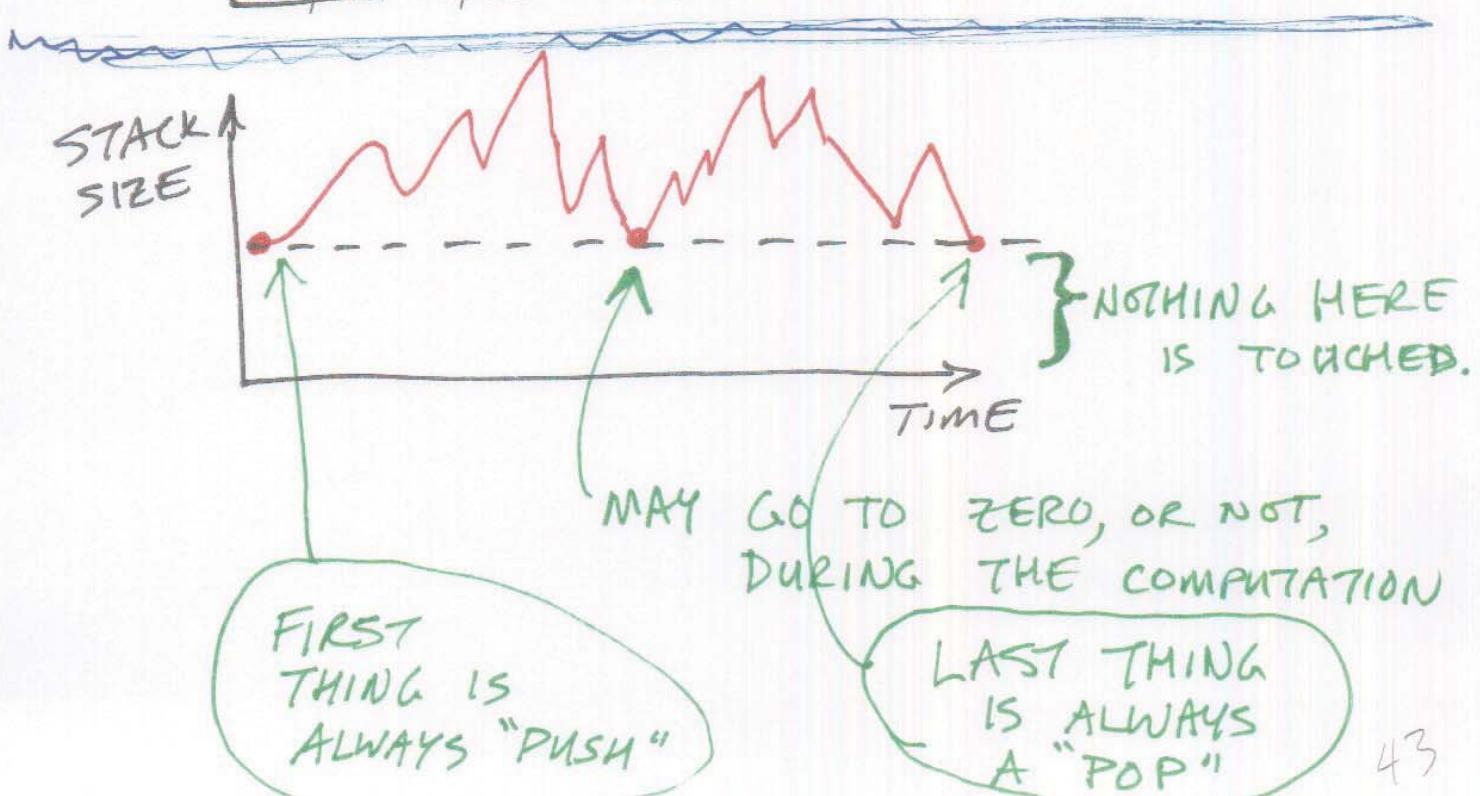
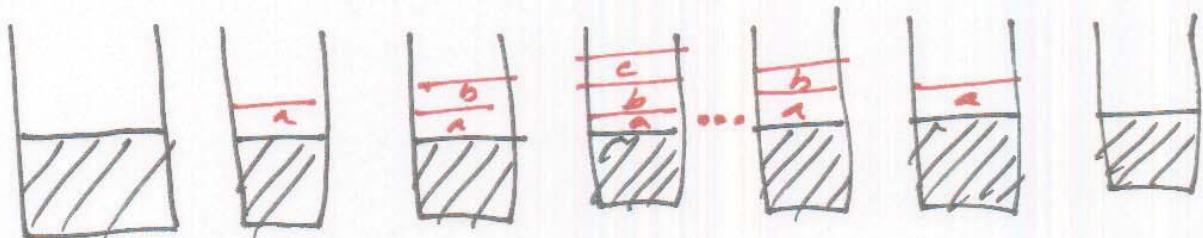
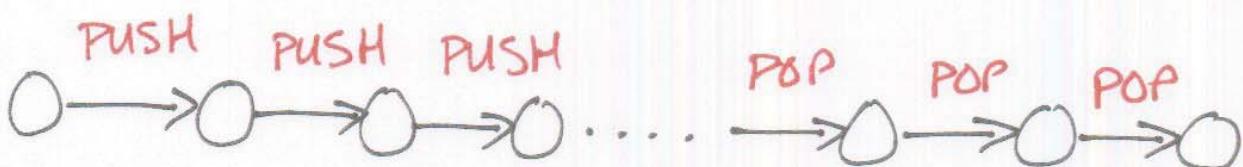
② The PDA empties its stack before ACCEPTING.



③ Each transition either PUSHES or POPS, but does not do both.



- "DON'T MODIFY THE STACK"
- = "START w/ AN EMPTY STACK AND FINISH WITH AN EMPTY STACK"
  - = "DON'T TOUCH THE STACK!"



## MAIN IDEA.

Consider two states  $p$  and  $g$  in the PDA.

Could we go from  $p$  to  $g$  without touching the stack?

What strings would do that?

That is:

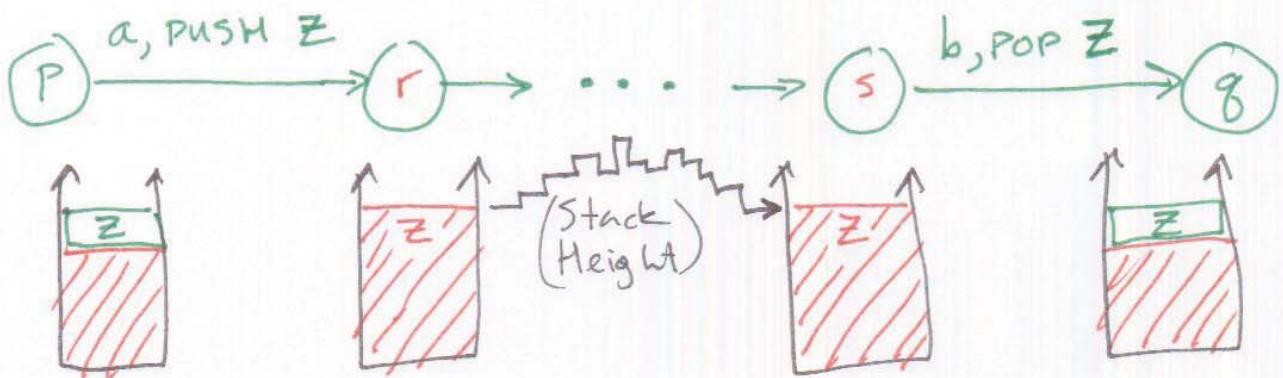
Starting w/ an empty stack,  
we could go from  $p$  to  $g$  and end up with an  
empty stack.

Or if somethings were on the stack they would never be touched.

The grammar we build will have a non-terminal

→ we'll call it  $A_{pq}$

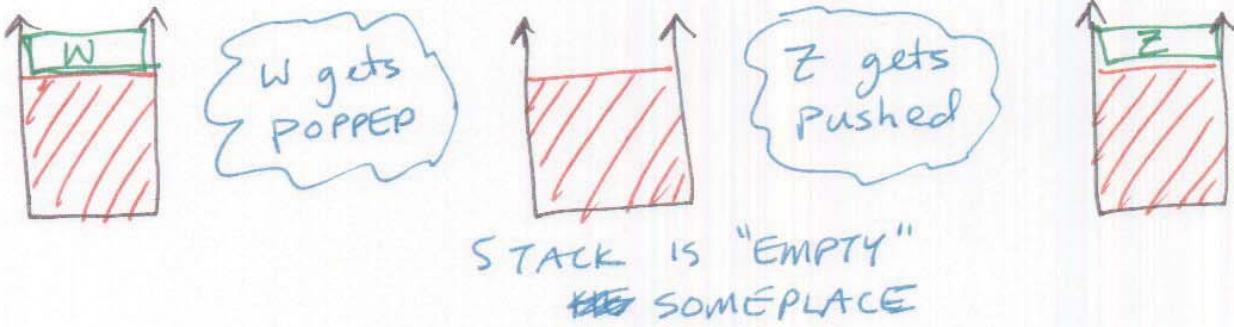
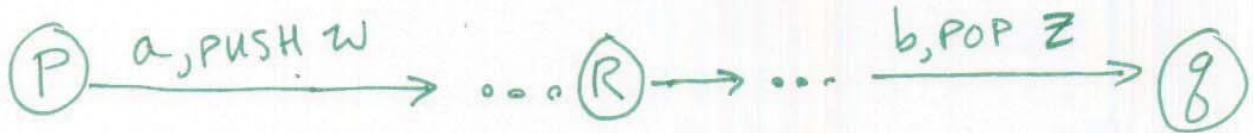
that will generate exactly these strings!



What strings can be generated/accepted by following this path?

"a...b"

$A_{pq} \rightarrow a \underbrace{A_{rs}}_{\text{This rule will generate exactly those strings!}}, b$



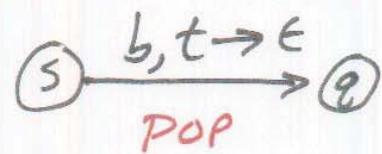
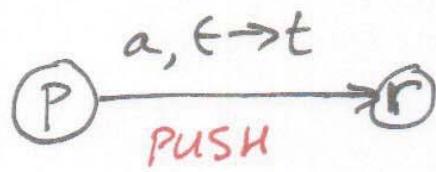
What strings can be generated by following this path?

"aaaa...  $\xrightarrow{a}$  b...bb"  
 From  $\textcircled{P}$  to  $\textcircled{R}$       From  $\textcircled{R}$  to  $\textcircled{q}$

$A_{Pg} \rightarrow A_{Pr} A_{Rg}$

This rule will generate exactly those strings!

If we have these edges



And we could get from R to S without touching the stack,

Then we need a ~~new~~ grammar rule:

$$A_{pg} \rightarrow a A_{rs} b$$

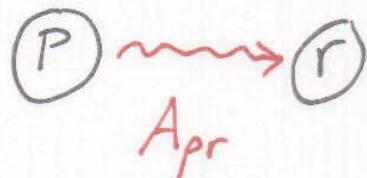
---

FOR EACH  $p, q, r, s \in Q$  in the PDA such that  $\delta(p, a, t) = \text{contains}(r, t)$  and  $\delta(s, b, t) = \text{contains}(q, t)$  [ i.e., "and the edges are labelled as above, for any  $a, b \in \Sigma$  and  $t \in \Gamma$ ... ]

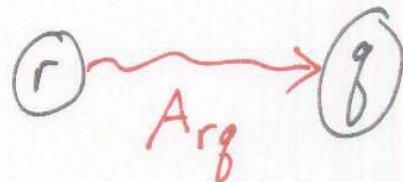
THEN ADD THIS RULE TO THE CFG:

$$A_{pg} \rightarrow a A_{rs} b$$

If we have a way to get from state  $P$  to state  $R$  that doesn't touch the stack



And a way to get from  $R$  to  $g$  that doesn't touch the stack.



THEN We have a new way to get from  $P$  to  $g$  without touching the stack.

---

For every state  $p, r, g \in Q$

Add this rule to the grammar:

$$A_{Pg} \rightarrow Apr Arg$$

There is a trivial way to get from state  $P$  to itself without touching the stack: The string  $\epsilon$ .

So add

$$A_{PP} \rightarrow \epsilon \quad \text{for every state } P.$$

---

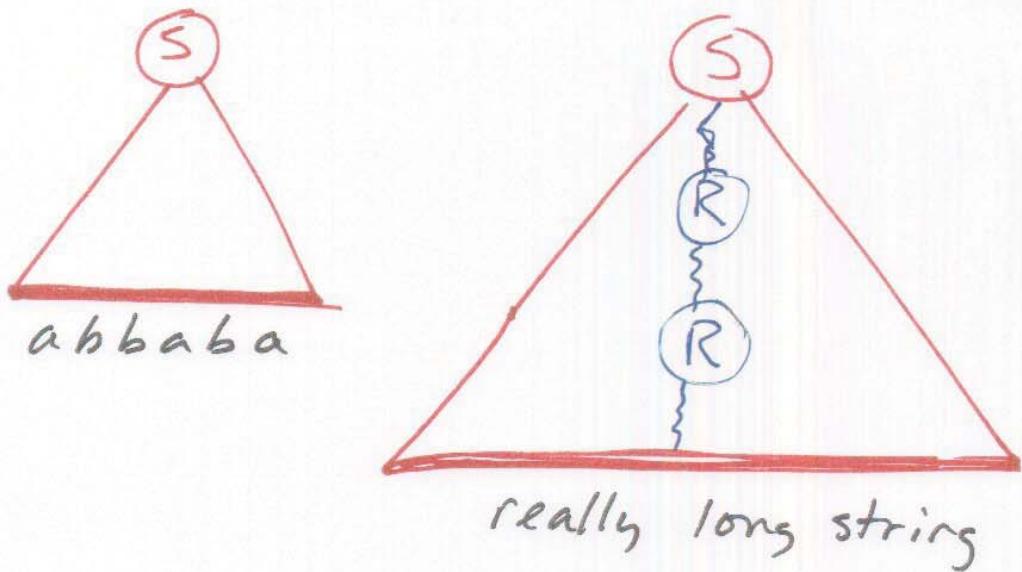
If the PDA accepts some string then there is a way to go from  $q_0$  to  $q_{\text{ACCEPT}}$  that does not modify the stack.

The grammar we seek should generate exactly these strings.

Our START NON-TERMINAL IS:

$$A_{q_0 q_{\text{ACCEPT}}}$$

## PUMPING LEMMA FOR CFG's



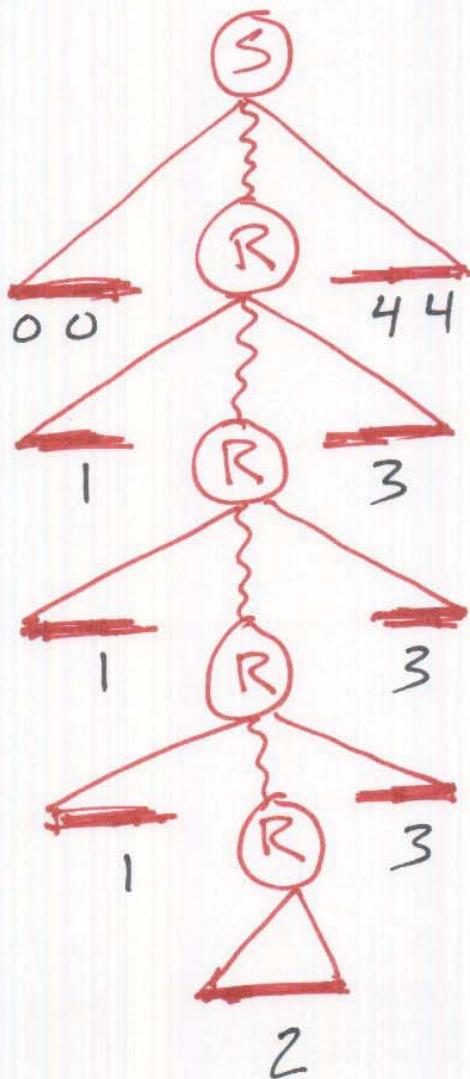
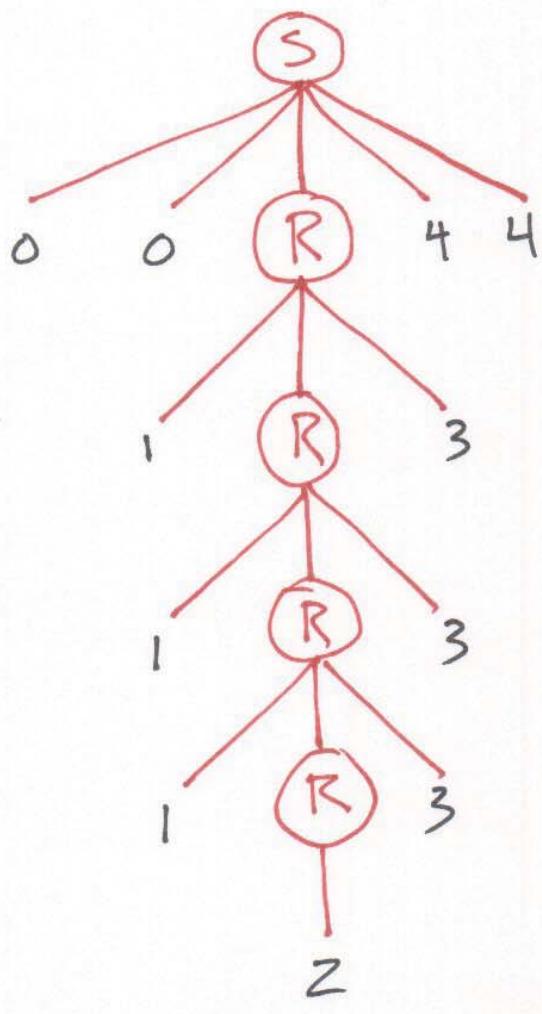
SOME NON-TERMINAL "R" MUST BE USED MORE THAN ONCE.

CONSIDER:

$$L = \{001^N 23^N 44 \mid N \geq 0\}$$

$$\begin{array}{l} S \rightarrow 00R44 \\ R \rightarrow , R_3 | z \end{array}$$

HOW CAN WE GENERATE "REALLY LONG" STRINGS?



$$S \rightarrow 00R44$$

$$R \rightarrow 1R3|z$$

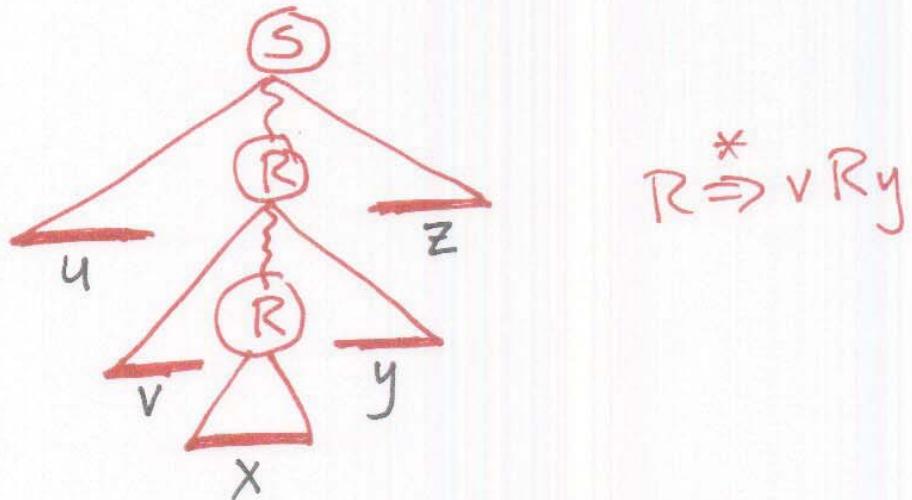
00 2 44  
u    x    z  
00 1 z 3 44  
u    v    x    y    z

00 1111 2 3333 44  
u     $v^4$     x     $y^4$     z

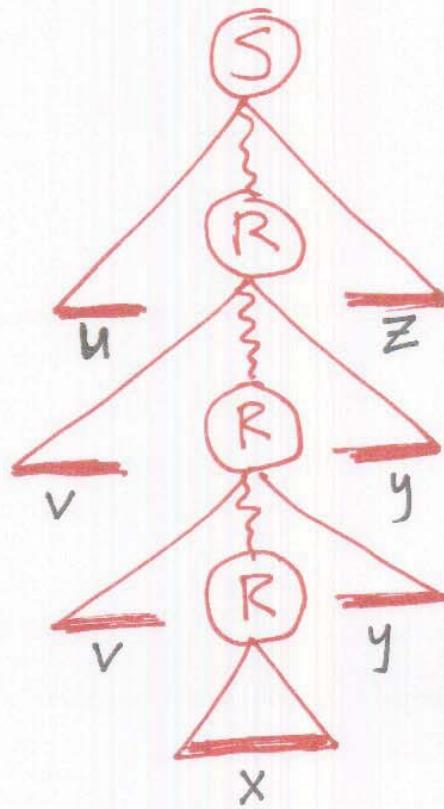
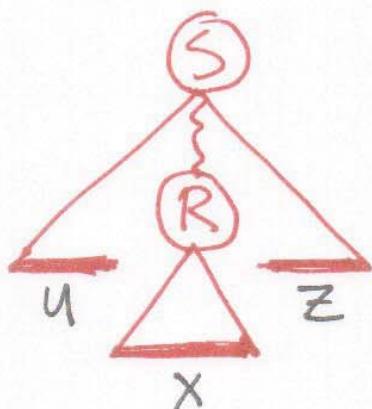
uv<sup>i</sup>xy<sup>j</sup>z  
is also in  
the Language!

52

FOR ALL STRINGS THAT ARE "LONG ENOUGH,"  
 SOME NON-TERMINAL HAS TO BE  
 REPEATED IN THE PARSE TREE.



THEREFORE, THESE ARE ALSO LEGAL  
 PARSE TREES:



UV<sup>i</sup>X<sup>j</sup>Y<sup>k</sup>Z<sup>l</sup>  
 is also in  
 the language!

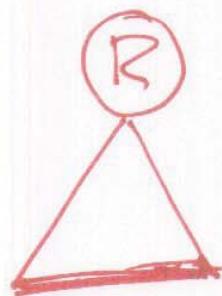
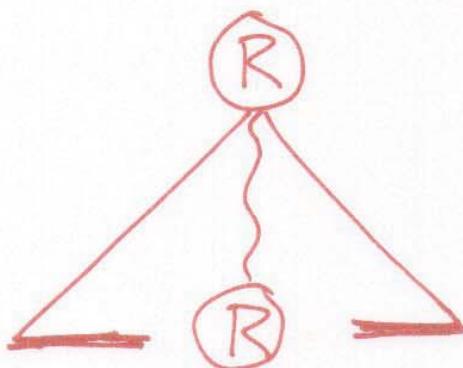
53

IN OTHER WORDS, TO GET LONG STRINGS  
WE MUST USE RECURSION  
IN THE GRAMMAR.

$$R \xrightarrow{*} \dots R \dots$$

AND FINALLY TO FINISH:

$$R \xrightarrow{*} x$$



## PUMPING LEMMA FOR CFG'S

If a string is sufficiently long,  $|s| \geq p$  then it can be pumped.

That is, the string can be broken into parts (someway)

$$\del{s} = uvxyz$$

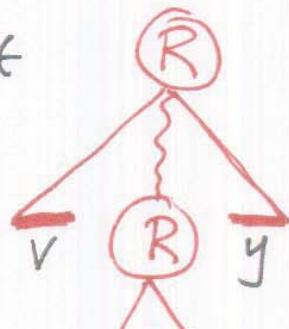
Such that all strings of the form  
 $uv^ixy^iz$   
are also in the language.

### NOTES:

- $v$  and  $y$  cannot both be  $\epsilon$   
 $|vy| > 0$

- The beginning of  $v$  and the end of  $y$  can't be too far apart

$$|vxy| \leq p$$



## PUMPING LEMMA FOR CFG's (REWORDING IT.)

IF  $A$  IS A CONTEXT-FREE LANGUAGE,  
THEN THERE IS A PUMPING LENGTH  $p$   
SUCH THAT, FOR ANY STRING IN  $A$   
WHOSE LENGTH IS LONG ENOUGH,  $|s| \geq p$ ,  
THAT STRING CAN BE BROKEN INTO  
PIECES  $s = uvxyz$

IN A WAY THAT SATISFIES ALL THREE  
OF THESE CONDITIONS:

CONDITION 1:

$uv^ixy^iz$  is in  $A$ , for all  $i \geq 0$

CONDITION 2:

$|ry| > 0$

CONDITION 3:

$|vxy| \leq p$

## LOGIC REFRESHER

How CAN WE NEGATE

"FOR ALL"

$$\neg \forall x. P(\dots) \equiv \exists x. \neg P(\dots)$$

"THERE EXISTS"

$$\neg \exists x. P(\dots) \equiv \forall x. \neg P(\dots)$$

"AND"

$$\neg (\dots P \dots \wedge \dots Q \dots) \equiv (\neg (\dots P \dots) \vee \neg (\dots Q \dots))$$

---

"It's not the case that all numbers are even."

"There exists a number that is not even."

---

"It's not the case that there exists  
a green number."

"All numbers have the "NOT-GREEN"  
property."

57

## PUMPING LEMMA LOGIC

If  $L$  is a context-free language....

### PUMPING PROPERTY

$\exists p$

$\forall s$  in  $L$  where  $|s| \geq p$

$\exists u v \neq x y z = s$

such that

- ①  $uv^ixy^iz \in L, \forall i \geq 0$  AND
- ②  $|vy| > 0$  AND
- ③  $|vxy| \leq p$

To show  $L$  is not context-free, we must  
show that  $\sim(\text{PUMPING PROPERTY})$  holds.

### NOT-PUMPING PROPERTY

$\forall p$

$\exists s$  in  $L$  where  $|s| \geq p$

$\forall u v x y z = s$

such that

- ①  $uv^ixy^iz \notin L, \forall i \geq 0$  OR
- ②  $|vy| \geq 0$  OR
- ③  $|vxy| \neq p$

SHOW  $B = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$   
IS NOT CONTEXT-FREE.

Assume it is CFL. Show  $\neg$ (PUMPING PROPERTY)

Let  $p$  be the pumping length.

(No constraints on  $p$ . We'll show it  $\nexists p$ )

There exists a string...  $|s| \geq p$

We'll use:  $a^p b^p c^p$   $[\exists s \dots]$

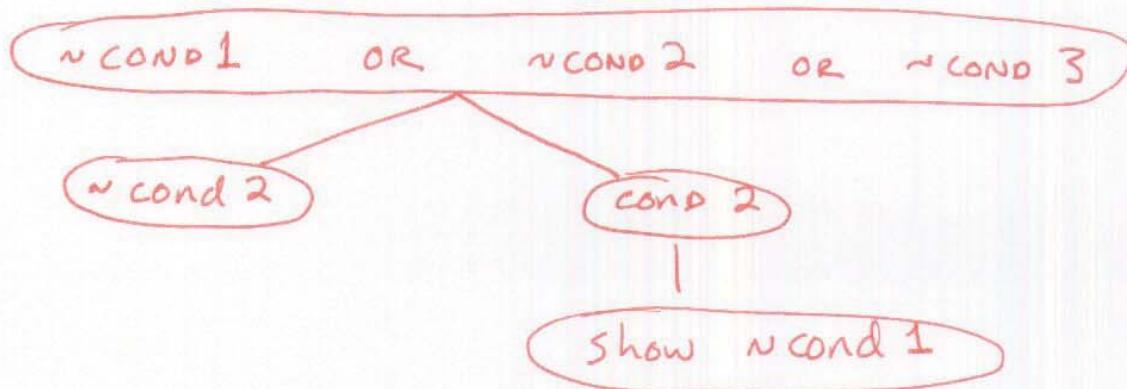
Now look at all ways to divide  
it up.  $[\forall u v w x y z = s \dots]$

~~We'll~~ show some condition will always  
be violated.

Condition (2) says  $|v y| > 0$

Assume this condition ~~is~~ holds.

Now look at two cases.



CASE I

v and y each contain only one type of symbol.

a a a a a b b b b b c c c c  
v y

a a a a b b b b b c c c c  
v y = ε

One symbol will always be left out.

Pump s to  $uv^2xy^2z$

a a a a a a a b b b b b c c c c c  
v v y y

At least one symbol will increase in ~~not~~ number.

At least one symbol will not increase in number.

The string cannot still be in the form

$$a^n b^n c^n$$

10

## CASE 2

Either  $v$  or  $y$  has more than one kind of symbol:

a a a b b b c c c  
v y

a a a b b b c c c  
v y

Pump to  $uv^2xy^2z$ . We might have right number of symbols, but the order will be wrong.

a a a a b b b c c c  
v v y y

Show  $D = \{ww \mid w \in \{0,1\}^*\}$   
is not context-free.

Assume it is a CFL.

Show  $\neg(\text{PUMPING PROPERTY})$

Let  $p$  be the pumping length.

[No constraints on  $p$ . Show  $\forall p$ ]

There exists a string  $s$ ,  $|s| \geq p$ ...

[To show  $\exists s$ , just provide an example; just give ~~a~~ <sup>an</sup>  $s$  that exists.]

$0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$

Look at all ways to divide  $s$  into parts.

[Show  $\nexists u v x y z = s$ ]

Must show that some condition is not satisfied.

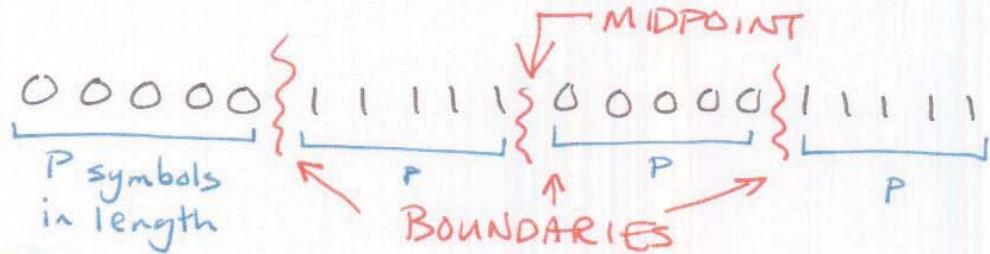
We'll assume condition 3 holds

$|vxy| \leq p$

and show that the other conditions must fail.

62

CONSIDER THE BOUNDARIES BETWEEN 0's AND 1's IN OUR STRING.



**CASE 1:**  $vxy$  does not straddle a boundary.

0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1  
vxy

PUMPING UP WILL YIELD A STRING WITH MORE 1'S AND AN "IMBALANCE"

0 0 0 0 0 1 1 ... 1 1 0 0 0 0 0 1 1 1 1  
P MORE THAN P P P

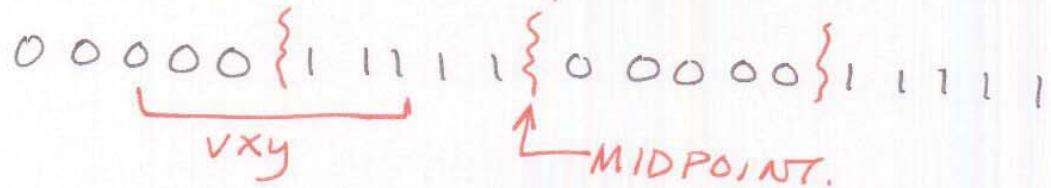
THE STRING NOW HAS THE FORM

0 - - - - 1 - - - -

This string is not of the form  $WW$ .

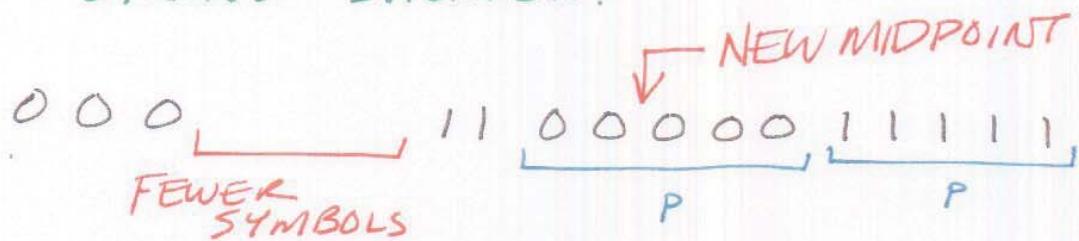
Since  $uv^2xy^2z$  is not in the language, CONDITION 1 is violated.

**CASE 2:**  $vxy$  straddles the first boundary.

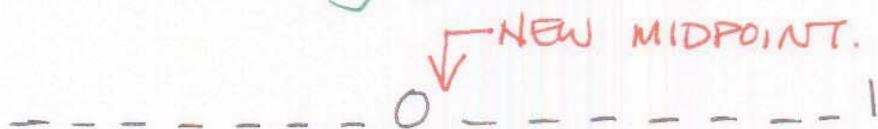


SINCE  $|vxy| \leq p$  it cannot straddle the midpoint.

PUMPING DOWN WILL MAKE THE STRING SHORTER.

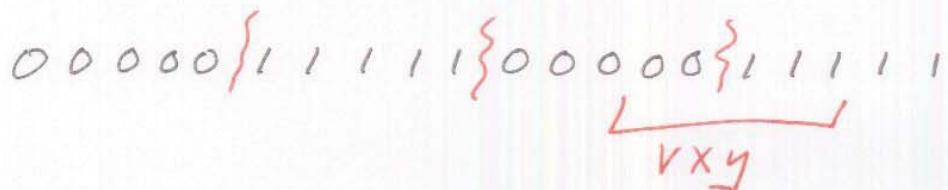


NOTE: The string now has the form:



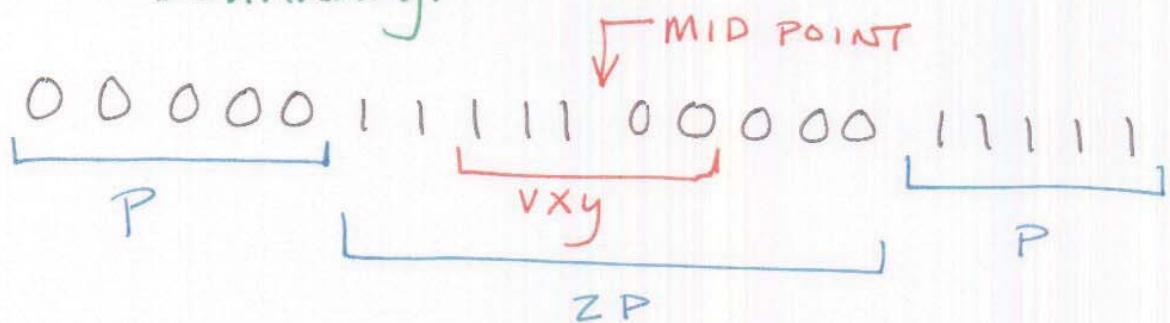
The string is not of the form  $WW$ .

**CASE 2b:**  $vxy$  straddles the ~~second~~ third boundary: It is similar.



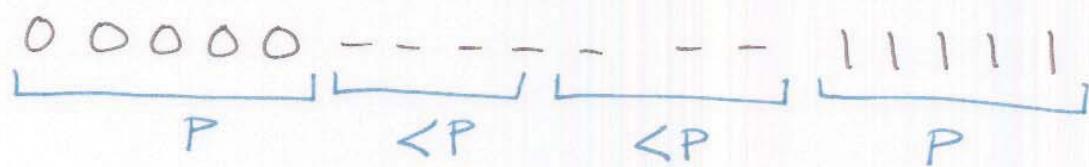
**CASE 3:**  $vxy$  straddles the midpoint.

Since  $|vxy| \leq p$ , it cannot also straddle the first or third boundary.

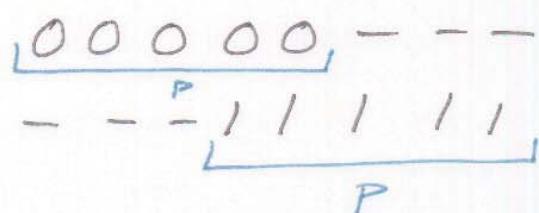


Pumping down will give us a shorter string.

NEW MIDPOINT



Look at the first half of the string and the second half.



They cannot be equal.

This string fails condition 1.