

## 2. Pushdown Automata

**Definition** A PDA  $A$  is a 7-tuple

$(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z_0, F)$  where

$Q$  : a finite set of states;

$\Sigma$  : input alphabet;

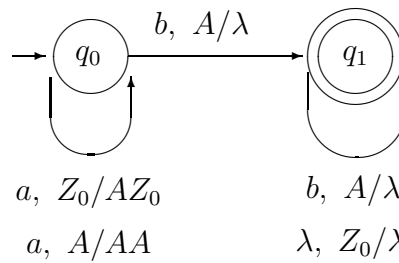
$\Gamma$  : stack alphabet;

$\delta$  :  $Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}) \times \Gamma \times Q \times \Gamma^*$  transition relation;

$q_0 \in Q$  : the initial state;

$Z_0 \in \Gamma$  : the bottom-of-stack symbol;

$F \subseteq Q$  : set of final states;



**By Final State** :  $\{a^i b^j \mid i \geq j \geq 1\}$

## Instantaneous descriptions (IDs)

$$\left( \underbrace{q}_{\text{current state}}, \underbrace{x}_{\text{remaining part of the input}}, \underbrace{\alpha}_{\text{current content of the stack}} \right)$$

**An ID describes a configuration of a PDA.**

### Example

ID for the initial configuration

$$\begin{aligned} & \overbrace{(q_0, aab, Z_0)} \quad \vdash (q_0, ab, AZ_0) \vdash (q_0, b, AAZ_0) \\ & \quad \vdash \underbrace{(q_1, \varepsilon, AZ_0)} \end{aligned}$$

ID for an accepting configuration

## Acceptance methods of PDA:

**(1) by final state**

$$T(A) = \{w \mid (q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash^* (q_f, \varepsilon, \alpha), \quad q_f \in F\}$$

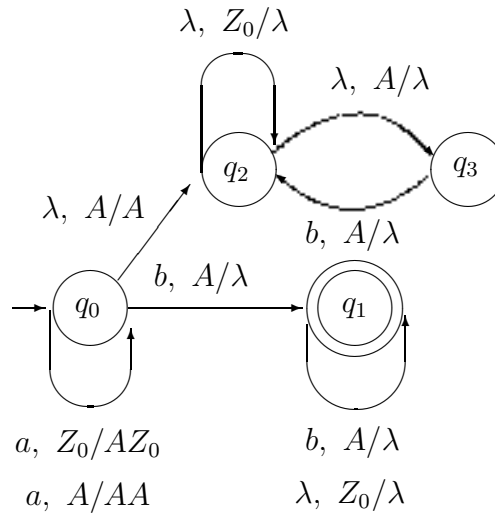
**(2) by empty stack**

$$N(A) = \{w \mid (q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash^* (q, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)\}$$

**(3) by both final state and empty stack**

$$L(A) = \{w \mid (q_0, w, Z_0, ) \vdash^* (q_f, \varepsilon, \varepsilon), \quad q_f \in F\}$$

## Example



$$N(B) = \{a^i b^i \mid i > 0\} \cup \{a^{2i} b^i \mid i > 0\}$$

$$L(B) = \{a^i b^i \mid i > 0\}$$

$$T(B) = \{a^i b^j \mid i \geq j > 0\}$$

## Deterministic Context-free Languages

**Definition** A PDA  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z_0, F)$  is deterministic if

- 1) for each  $q$  in  $Q$ ,  $a$  in  $\Sigma \cup \{\varepsilon\}$ , and  $X \in \Gamma$ ,  $\delta(q, a, X)$  contains at most one element,
- 2) whenever  $\delta(q, a, X)$  is nonempty for some  $a \in \Sigma$ , then  $\delta(q, \varepsilon, X)$  is empty.

Note that

- DPDA allow  $\varepsilon$  – *transitions*.
- Each transition is determined by the current state, the input symbol, and the top-of-stack symbol.

So, for each pair of a state and an input symbol, there can be several transitions, one for each stack symbol.

- $\delta(q, \varepsilon, X)$  should not be defined if  $\delta(q, a, X)$  is defined for any  $a \in \Sigma$ .

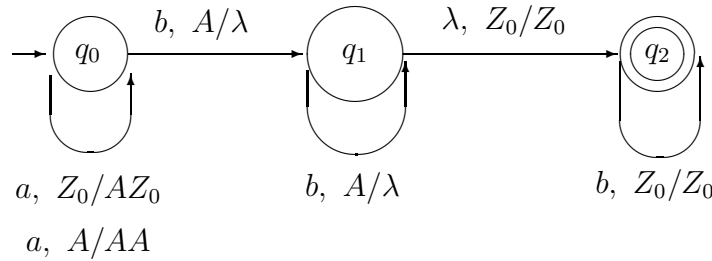
Let  $\mathcal{T}_{DPDA}$ ,  $\mathcal{N}_{DPDA}$ , and  $\mathcal{L}_{DPDA}$  denote the sets of languages accepted by DPDA with acceptance by “final state”, “empty stack”, and “final state and empty stack”, respectively.

Then  $\mathcal{N}_{DPDA} = \mathcal{L}_{DPDA} \subset \mathcal{T}_{DPDA}$

### Example

$$L = \{a^m b^n | m \leq n, \text{ and } m, n > 0\}$$

Then  $L = T(A)$  where  $A$ :



But  $L \notin \mathcal{N}_{DPDA}$

Definition The family of deterministic context-free languages is the set of all languages accepted by DPDA with acceptance by final state.

The family of DCFLs is a proper subset of the family of CFLs.

### Examples

The following CFLs are not DCFLs

1.  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n} \mid n \geq 0\}$
2.  $\{ww^R \mid w \in Z^*\}$
3.  $\overline{\{ww \mid w \in Z^*\}}$

The family of DCFLs is closed under

- (1) complementation,
- (2) intersection with regular sets,

not closed under

- (1) union
- (2) intersection.

## △ Closure Properties

We show that  $\mathcal{L}_{CF}$  is closed under  $\cup$ ,  $\bullet$ ,  $*$ , but not under  $\cap$  and  $^-$ .

### 1. Union

$L_1, L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF}$  (i.e  $L_1, L_2$  are CFLs).

Show that  $L = L_1 \cup L_2$  is CF.

Proof:

$G_1 = (N_1, \Sigma_1, P_1, S_1)$ ,  $G_2 = (N_2, \Sigma_2, P_2, S_2)$

Assume  $N_1 \cap N_2 = \emptyset$ . Construct

$G =$

$(N_1 \cup N_2 \cup \{S\}), \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2, P_1 \cup P_2 \cup \{S \rightarrow S_1 | S_2\}, S).$

Then  $L(G) = L(G_1) \cup L(G_2)$

## 2. Catenation

$$L_1, L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF} \Rightarrow L_1 L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF}$$

$$G_1 = (N_1, \Sigma_1, P_1, S_1) , G_2 = (N_2, \Sigma_2, P_2, S_2)$$

$$G = (N_1 \cup N_2 \cup \{S\}, \Sigma_1 \cup \Sigma_2, \\ P_1 \cup P_2 \cup \{S \rightarrow S_1 S_2\}, S))$$

$$L(G) = L(G_1) \bullet L(G_2)$$

## 3. \*

$$L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF} \Rightarrow L_1^* \in \mathcal{L}_{CF} \quad (L(G_1))^*$$

$$S \rightarrow S_1 S | \varepsilon$$

## 4. Intersection

$$L_1, L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF} \not\Rightarrow L_1 \cap L_2 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF}$$

$$L = \{a^i b^i c^i \mid i \geq 0\} \text{ is not in CF}$$

$$L_1 = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i = j, i, j, k \geq 0\}$$

$$L_2 = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid j = k, i, j, k \geq 0\}$$

$$L_1 \cap L_2 = L$$



## 5. Complementation

$$L_1 \in \mathcal{L}_{CF} \not\Rightarrow \overline{L_1} \in \mathcal{L}_{CF}$$

**Proof:**

Assume  $\mathcal{L}_{CF}$  is closed under  $\neg$ .

Consider two arbitrary CFLs  $L_1, L_2$ .

$$L = L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}}.$$

$L$  is CF

$\mathcal{L}_{CF}$  is closed under  $\cap$ .

This is a contradiction.