

# Lecture 16 – Equivalence of Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Grammars

COSE215: Theory of Computation

Jihyeok Park



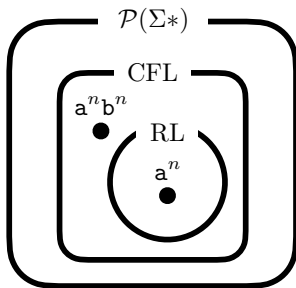
2024 Spring

A **context-free grammar** is a 4-tuple:

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

A **pushdown automaton (PDA)** is a finite automaton with a **stack**.

- Acceptance by **final states**
- Acceptance by **empty stacks**



$\text{PDA}_{\text{FS}}$   
(by final states)

|| ..... ?

$\text{PDA}_{\text{ES}}$   
(by empty stacks)

|| ..... ?

CFG

## 1. Equivalence of PDA by Final States and Empty Stacks

$PDA_{FS}$  to  $PDA_{ES}$

$PDA_{ES}$  to  $PDA_{FS}$

## 2. Equivalence of PDA and CFGs

CFGs to  $PDA_{ES}$

$PDA_{ES}$  to CFGs

$$\begin{array}{ccccc} PDA_{FS} & \longleftrightarrow & PDA_{ES} & \longleftrightarrow & CFG \\ \text{(by final states)} & & \text{(by empty stacks)} & & \end{array}$$

## 1. Equivalence of PDA by Final States and Empty Stacks

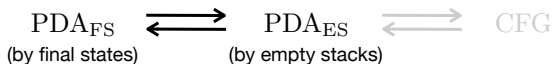
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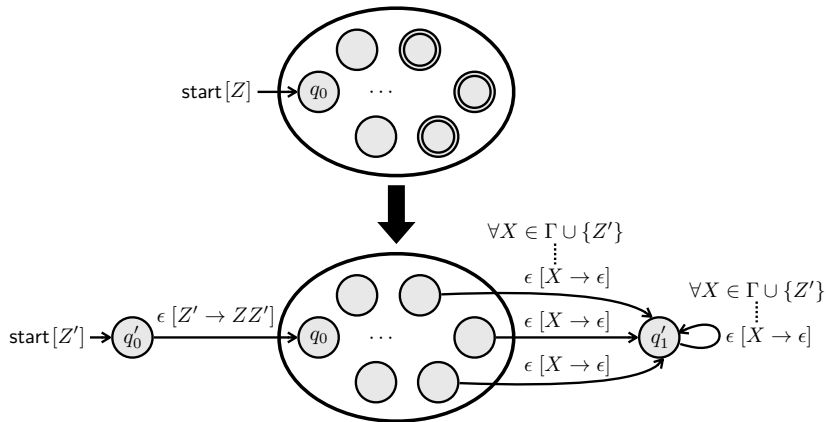


## Theorem (PDA<sub>FS</sub> to PDA<sub>ES</sub>)

*For a given PDA  $P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z, F)$ ,  $\exists$  PDA  $P'$ .  $L_F(P) = L_E(P')$ .*

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Define a PDA

$$P' = (Q \cup \{q'_0, q'_1\}, \Sigma, \Gamma \cup \{Z'\}, \delta', q'_0, Z', \emptyset)$$

where

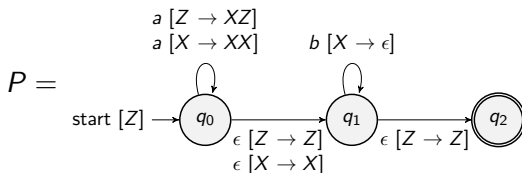
$$\delta'(q'_0, \epsilon, Z') = \{(q_0, ZZ')\}$$

$$\delta'(q \in Q, a \in \Sigma, X \in \Gamma) = \delta(q, a, X)$$

$$\delta'(q \in Q, \epsilon, X \in \Gamma \cup \{Z'\}) = \begin{cases} \delta(q, \epsilon, X) \cup \{(q'_1, \epsilon)\} & \text{if } q \in F \\ \delta(q, \epsilon, X) & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

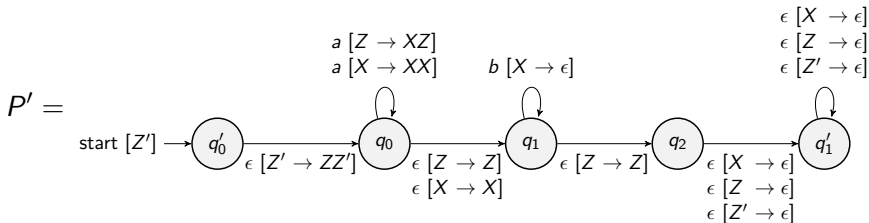
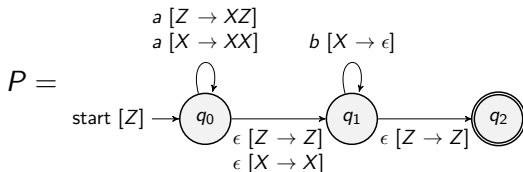
$$\delta'(q'_1, \epsilon, X \in \Gamma \cup \{Z'\}) = \{(q'_1, \epsilon)\}$$

$$L_F(P) = L_E(P') = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$





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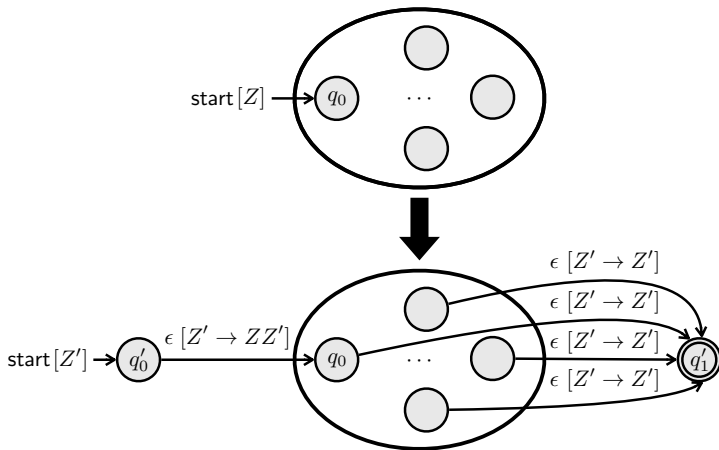


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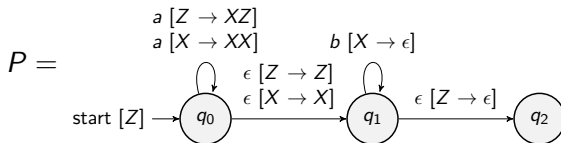
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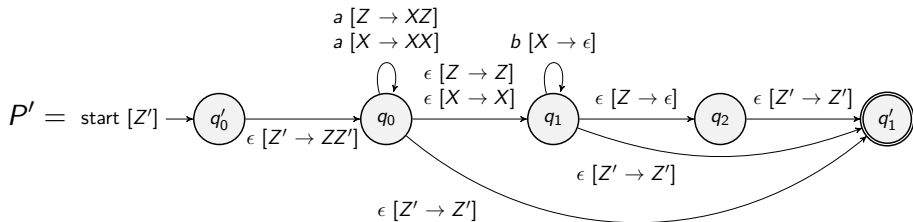
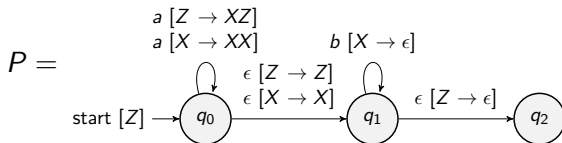
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## 2. Equivalence of PDA and CFGs

CFGs to  $PDA_{ES}$

$PDA_{ES}$  to CFGs



## Theorem (CFGs to $PDA_{ES}$ )

*For a given CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, S, R)$ ,  $\exists$  PDA  $P$ .  $L(G) = L_E(P)$ .*



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Define a PDA

$$P = (\{q\}, \Sigma, V \cup \Sigma, \delta, q, S, \emptyset)$$

where

$$\delta(q, \epsilon, A \in V) = \{(q, \alpha) \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in R\}$$

$$\delta(q, a \in \Sigma, a \in \Sigma) = \{(q, \epsilon)\}$$

$$\begin{aligned}\delta(q, \epsilon, A \in V) &= \{(q, \alpha) \mid A \rightarrow \alpha \in R\} \\ \delta(q, a \in \Sigma, a \in \Sigma) &= \{(q, \epsilon)\}\end{aligned}$$

Consider the following CFG:

$$S \rightarrow \epsilon \mid aSb \mid bSa \mid SS$$

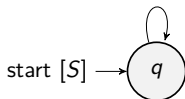
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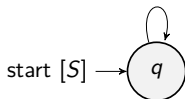
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$\epsilon [S \rightarrow aSb]$	$\vdash (q, bab, Sb)$
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$\epsilon [S \rightarrow SS]$	$\vdash (q, ab, Sab)$
$a [a \rightarrow \epsilon]$	$\vdash (q, ab, ab)$
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### Theorem (PDA<sub>ES</sub> to CFGs)

*For a given PDA  $P = (Q = \{q_0, \dots, q_{n-1}\}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z, F)$ ,  
 $\exists$  CFG  $G$ .  $L_E(P) = L(G)$ .*

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The key idea is defining a variable  $A_{i,j}^X$  for each  $0 \leq i, j < n$  and  $X \in \Gamma$  that generates all words causing the PDA to move from  $q_i$  to  $q_j$  by popping  $X$ :

$$A_{i,j}^X \Rightarrow^* w \quad \text{if and only if} \quad (q_i, w, X) \vdash^* (q_j, \epsilon, \epsilon)$$

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With this idea, we can define a CFG that generates all words accepted by the PDA  $P$  with empty stacks as follows:

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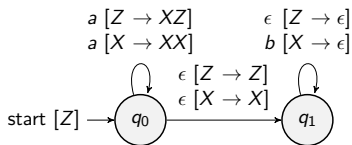
To cover all possible combinations of  $k_1, \cdots, k_m$ , we need to define a production rule for  $A_{i,k_m}^X$  as follows:

$$A_{i,k_m}^X \rightarrow a A_{j,k_1}^{X_1} A_{k_1,k_2}^{X_2} \cdots A_{k_{m-1},k_m}^{X_m} \text{ for all } 1 \leq k_1, \cdots, k_m \leq n$$

$$S \rightarrow A_{0,j}^Z$$

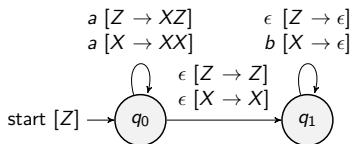
$$A_{i,k_m}^X \rightarrow a A_{j,k_1}^{X_1} A_{k_1,k_2}^{X_2} \cdots A_{k_{m-1},k_m}^{X_m}$$

Consider the following PDA (by empty stacks):



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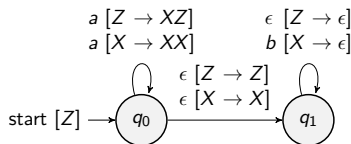
Then, the equivalent CFG is:

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$$\begin{aligned}
 S &\Rightarrow A_{0,1}^Z \\
 &\Rightarrow a A_{0,1}^X A_{1,1}^Z \\
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- Deterministic Pushdown Automata (DPDA)

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