



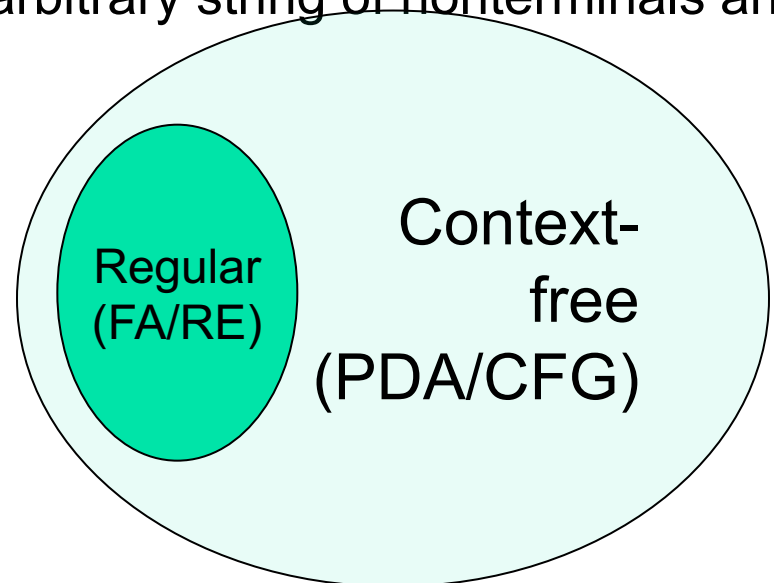
# Pushdown Automata (PDA)

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The structure and the content of the lecture is based on <http://www.eecs.wsu.edu/~ananth/CptS317/Lectures/index.htm>

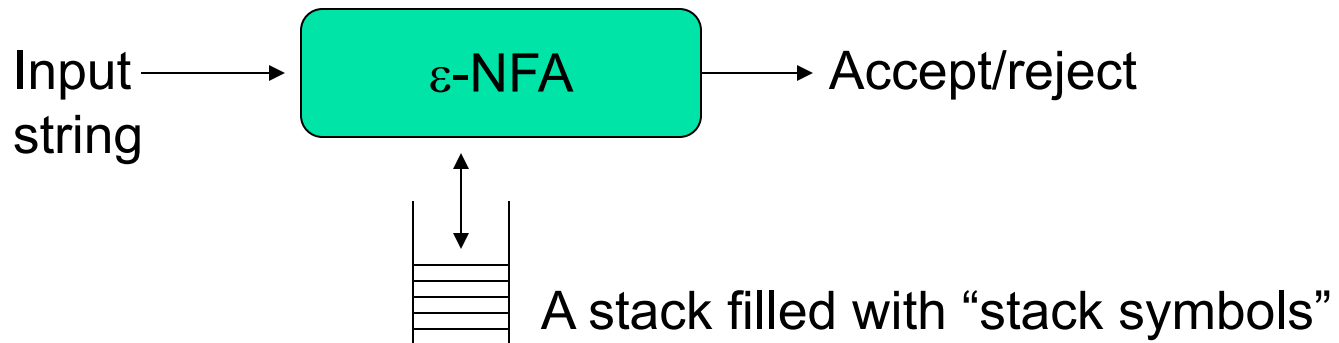
# Excursion: Previous lecture

- **Context-free grammar**  $G=(V,T,P,S)$ , where:
  - $V$ : set of variables or non-terminals
  - $T$ : set of terminals (= alphabet  $\cup \{\epsilon\}$ )
  - $P$ : set of *productions*, each of which is of the form  $V \Rightarrow \alpha_1 \mid \alpha_2 \mid \dots$ 
    - Where each  $\alpha_i$  is an arbitrary string of nonterminals and terminals
  - $S$ : start variable



# PDA - the automata for CFLs

- What is?
  - What FA is to Reg Lang, PDA is to CFL
- $\text{PDA} == [\varepsilon\text{-NFA} + \text{"a stack"}]$
- Why a stack?





# Pushdown Automata - Definition

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- A PDA  $P := (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z_0, F)$ :
  - $Q$ : states of the  $\varepsilon$ -NFA
  - $\Sigma$ : input alphabet
  - $\Gamma$ : stack symbols
  - $\delta$ : transition function
  - $q_0$ : start state
  - $Z_0$ : Initial stack top symbol
  - $F$ : Final/accepting states

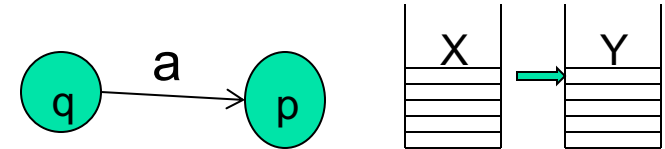
old state   input symb.   stack top   new state(s)   new Stack top(s)

$$\delta : Q \times \Sigma \times \Gamma \Rightarrow Q \times \Gamma$$

# $\delta$ : The Transition Function

$$\delta(q,a,X) = \{(p,Y), \dots\}$$

1. state transition from q to p
2. a is the next input symbol
3. X is the current stack *top* symbol
4. Y is the replacement for X;  
it is in  $\Gamma^*$  (a string of stack symbols)
  - i. Set  $Y = \varepsilon$  for: Pop(X)
  - ii. If  $Y=X$ : stack top is unchanged
  - iii. If  $Y=Z_1Z_2\dots Z_k$ : X is popped and is replaced by Y in reverse order (i.e.,  $Z_1$  will be the new stack top)



	Y = ?	Action
i)	$Y = \varepsilon$	Pop(X)
ii)	$Y = X$	Pop(X) Push(X)
iii)	$Y = Z_1Z_2\dots Z_k$	Pop(X) Push( $Z_k$ ) Push( $Z_{k-1}$ ) ... Push( $Z_2$ ) Push( $Z_1$ )



# Example (palindrome)

Let  $L_{ww^R} = \{ww^R \mid w \text{ is in } \{0,1\}^*\}$

- CFG for  $L_{ww^R}$  :  $S \rightarrow 0S0 \mid 1S1 \mid \varepsilon$

- PDA for  $L_{ww^R}$  :

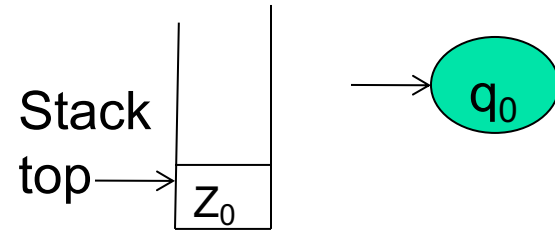
- $P := (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, Z_0, F)$

$= (\{q_0, q_1, q_2\}, \{0, 1\}, \{0, 1, Z_0\}, \delta, q_0, Z_0, \{q_2\})$



Mark the botom of the stack

Initial state of the PDA:



# PDA for $L_{ww^R}$

1.  $\delta(q_0, 0, Z_0) = \{(q_0, 0Z_0)\}$
2.  $\delta(q_0, 1, Z_0) = \{(q_0, 1Z_0)\}$

First symbol push on stack

3.  $\delta(q_0, 0, 0) = \{(q_0, 00)\}$
4.  $\delta(q_0, 0, 1) = \{(q_0, 01)\}$
5.  $\delta(q_0, 1, 0) = \{(q_0, 10)\}$
6.  $\delta(q_0, 1, 1) = \{(q_0, 11)\}$

Grow the stack by pushing new symbols on top of old (w-part)

7.  $\delta(q_0, \varepsilon, 0) = \{(q_1, 0)\}$
8.  $\delta(q_0, \varepsilon, 1) = \{(q_1, 1)\}$
9.  $\delta(q_0, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_1, Z_0)\}$

Switch to popping mode, nondeterministically (boundary between w and  $w^R$ )

10.  $\delta(q_1, 0, 0) = \{(q_1, \varepsilon)\}$
11.  $\delta(q_1, 1, 1) = \{(q_1, \varepsilon)\}$

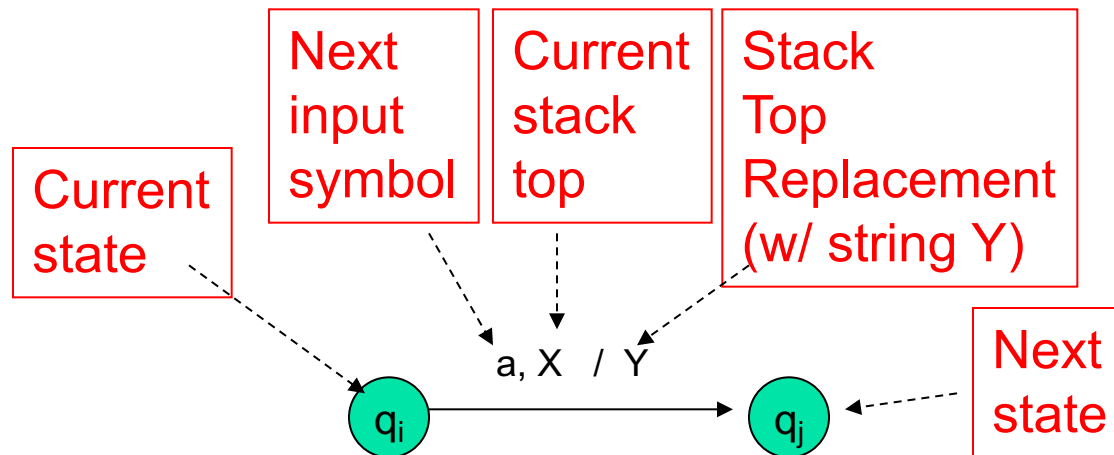
Shrink the stack by popping matching symbols ( $w^R$ -part)

12.  $\delta(q_1, \varepsilon, Z_0) = \{(q_2, Z_0)\}$

Enter acceptance state

# PDA as a state diagram

$$\delta(q_i, a, X) = \{(q_j, Y)\}$$





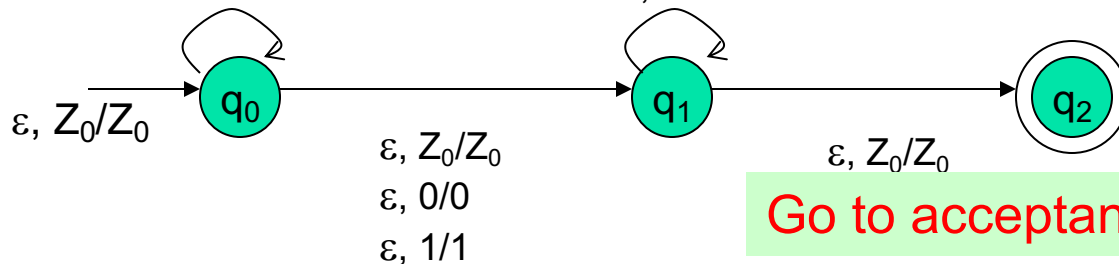
# PDA for $L_{wwr}$ : Transition Diagram

Grow stack

$0, Z_0/0Z_0$   
 $1, Z_0/1Z_0$   
 $0, 0/00$   
 $0, 1/01$   
 $1, 0/10$   
 $1, 1/11$

Pop stack for matching symbols

$0, 0/\epsilon$   
 $1, 1/\epsilon$



Switch to popping mode

Go to acceptance

$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$   
 $\Gamma = \{Z_0, 0, 1\}$   
 $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$

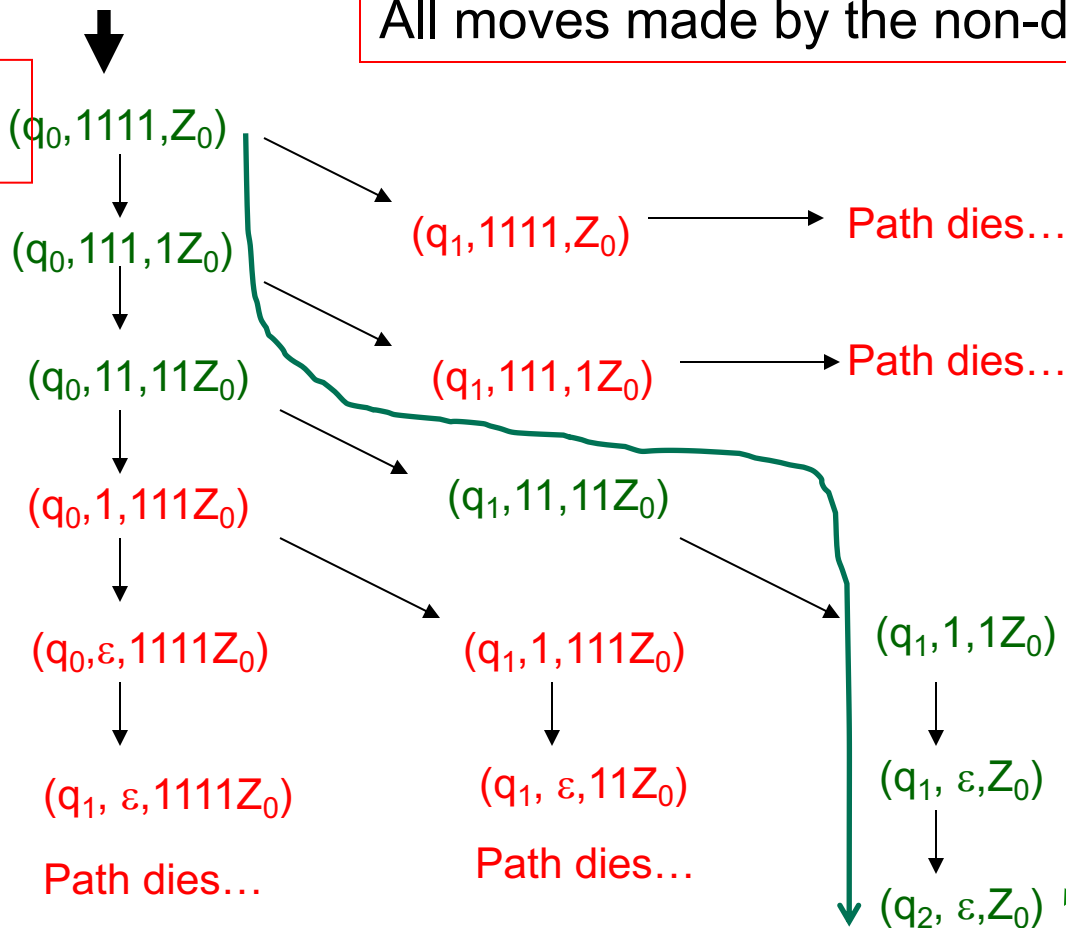
- Push input symbols onto the stack
- Non-deterministically move to a popping state (with or **without** consuming a single input symbol)
- If next input symbol is same as top of stack, pop
- If  $Z_0$  on top of stack move to accept state

Non-deterministic PDA: 2 output transitions i.e:  
 $(q_0, 0, 0) = (q_0, 0)$ ,  $(q_0, \epsilon, 0) = (q_1, 0)$ :

# How does the PDA for $L_{wwr}$ work on input “1111”?

All moves made by the non-deterministic PDA

Instantaneous  
Description (ID)



Acceptance by  
final state:

= empty input  
AND  
final state

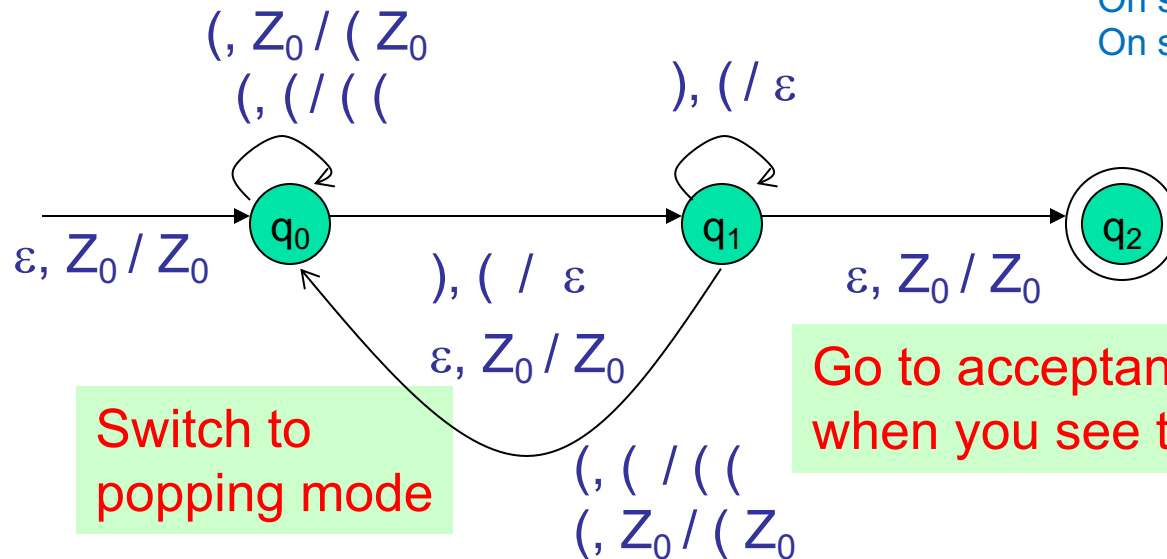
# Example 2: language of balanced paranthesis

Grow stack

Pop stack for matching symbols

$\Sigma = \{ (, ) \}$   
 $\Gamma = \{ Z_0, ( \}$   
 $Q = \{ q_0, q_1, q_2 \}$

On seeing a ( push it onto the stack  
 On seeing a ) pop if a ( is in the stack

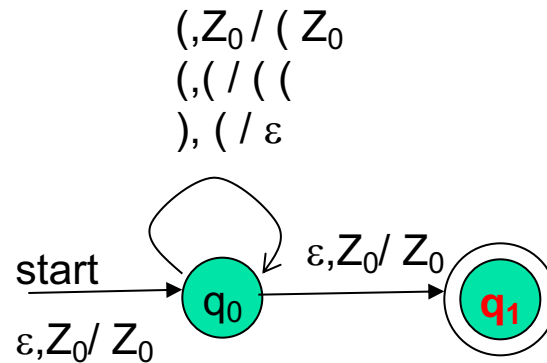


Switch to popping mode

Go to acceptance (by final state) when you see the stack bottom symbol

To allow adjacent blocks of nested paranthesis

## Example 2: language of balanced paranthesis (another design)



$$\begin{aligned}\Sigma &= \{ (, ) \} \\ \Gamma &= \{ Z_0, ( \} \\ Q &= \{ q_0, q_1 \}\end{aligned}$$

There are two types of PDAs that one can design:  
those that accept by final state or by empty stack

## Acceptance by...

- PDAs that accept by **final state**:

- For a PDA  $P$ , the language accepted by  $P$ , denoted by  $L(P)$  by *final state*, is:

- $\{w \mid (q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash^* (q, \varepsilon, A)\}, \text{ s.t., } q \in F$

Checklist:

- input exhausted?
- in a final state?

- PDAs that accept by **empty stack**:

- For a PDA  $P$ , the language accepted by  $P$ , denoted by  $N(P)$  by *empty stack*, is:

- $\{w \mid (q_0, w, Z_0) \vdash^* (q, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)\}, \text{ for any } q \in Q.$

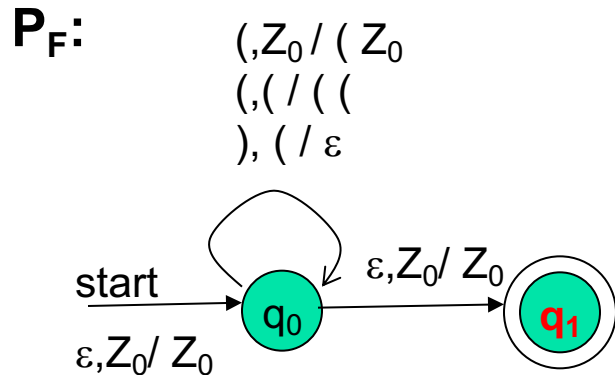
Q) Does a PDA that accepts by empty stack need any final state specified in the design?

Checklist:

- input exhausted?
- is the stack empty?

# Example: L of balanced parenthesis

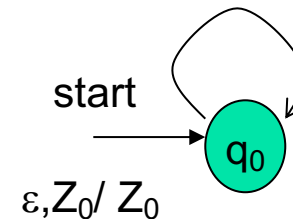
## PDA that accepts by final state



## An equivalent PDA that accepts by empty stack

**P<sub>N</sub>:**

$(, Z_0 / ( Z_0$   
 $(, ( / ( ($   
 $), ( / \epsilon$   
 $\epsilon, Z_0 / \epsilon$



*How will these two PDAs work on the input: ( ( ( ) ) ( ) ) ( )*

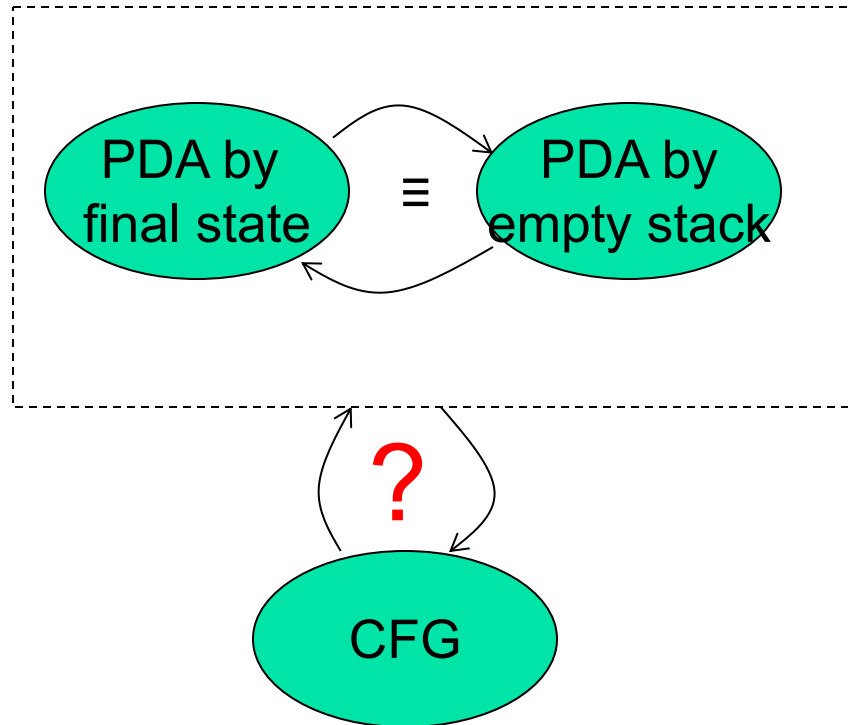
# Equivalence of PDAs and CFGs



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# CFGs == PDAs ==> CFLs

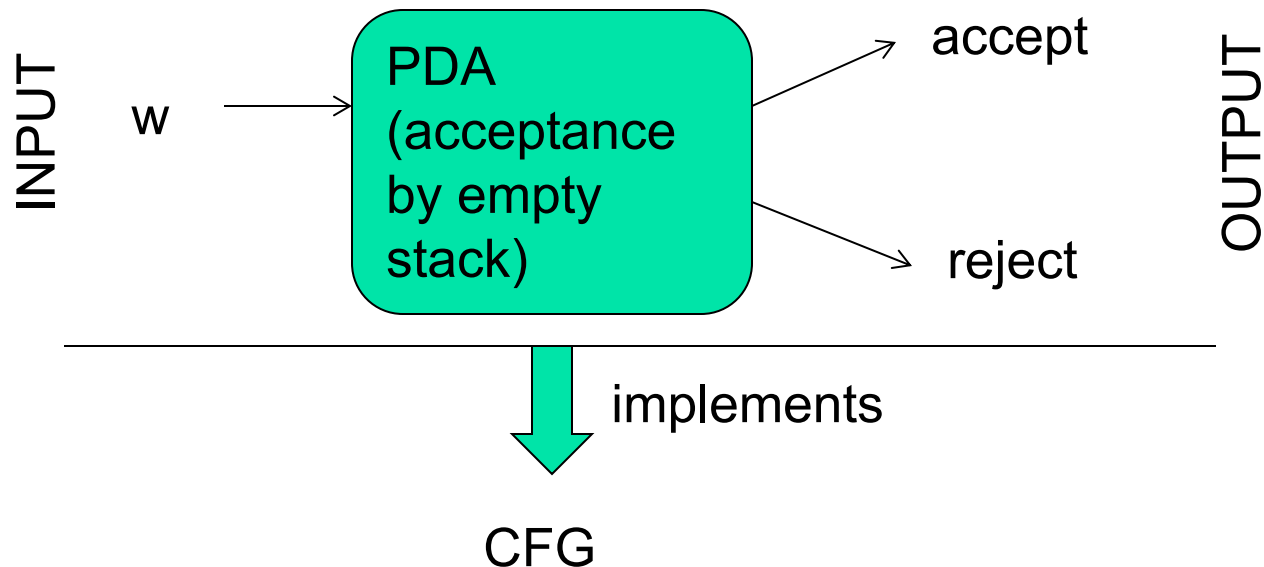




This is same as: “implementing a CFG using a PDA”

# Converting CFG to PDA

Main idea: The PDA simulates the leftmost derivation on a given  $w$ , and upon consuming it fully it either arrives at acceptance (by empty stack) or non-acceptance.

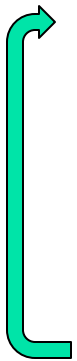




# Converting a CFG into a PDA

Main idea: The PDA simulates the leftmost derivation on a given  $w$ , and upon consuming it fully it either arrives at acceptance (by empty stack) or non-acceptance.

## Steps:

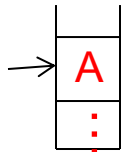
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1. Push the right hand side of the production onto the stack, with leftmost symbol at the stack top
  2. If stack top is the leftmost variable, then replace it by all its productions (each possible substitution will represent a *distinct* path taken by the non-deterministic PDA)
  3. If stack top has a terminal symbol, and if it matches with the next symbol in the input string, then pop it.

# Formal construction of PDA from CFG

Note: Initial stack symbol ( $S$ ) same as the start variable in the grammar

- Given:  $G = (V_N, V_T, S, P)$
- Output:  $P_N = (\{q\}, V_T, V_N \cup V_T, \delta, q, S)$
- $\delta$ :

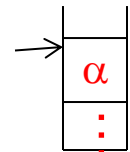
Before:



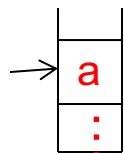
- For all  $A \in V_N$ , add the following transition(s) in the PDA:

- $\delta(q, \varepsilon, A) = \{ (q, \alpha) \mid "A \rightarrow \alpha" \in P \}$

After:



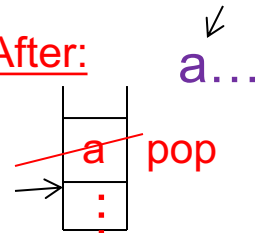
Before:



- For all  $a \in V_T$ , add the following transition(s) in the PDA:

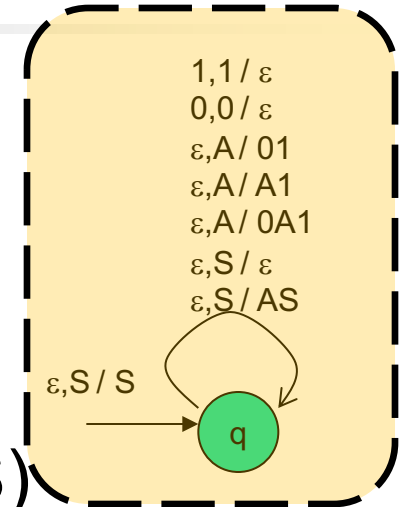
- $\delta(q, a, a) = \{ (q, \varepsilon) \}$

After:



# Example: CFG to PDA

- $G = ( \{S,A\}, \{0,1\}, P, S )$
- $P$ :
  - $S \rightarrow AS \mid \varepsilon$
  - $A \rightarrow 0A1 \mid A1 \mid 01$
- $PDA = ( \{q\}, \{0,1\}, \{0,1,A,S\}, \delta, q, S )$
- $\delta$ :
  - $\delta(q, \varepsilon, S) = \{ (q, AS), (q, \varepsilon) \}$
  - $\delta(q, \varepsilon, A) = \{ (q, 0A1), (q, A1), (q, 01) \}$
  - $\delta(q, 0, 0) = \{ (q, \varepsilon) \}$
  - $\delta(q, 1, 1) = \{ (q, \varepsilon) \}$



How will this new PDA work?

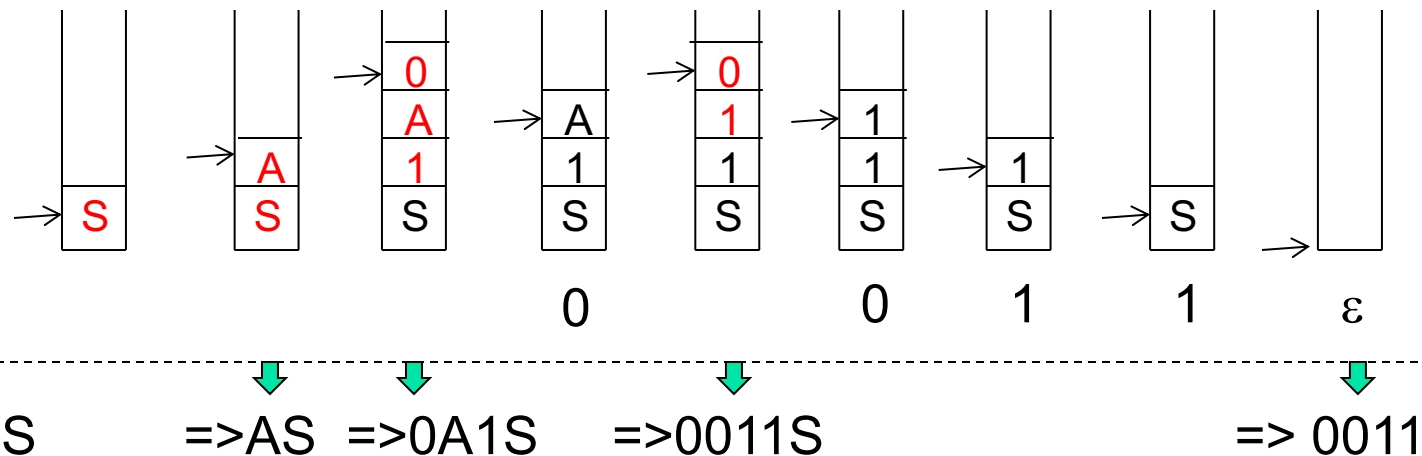
Lets simulate string 0011

# Simulating string 0011 on the new PDA ...

PDA ( $\delta$ ):

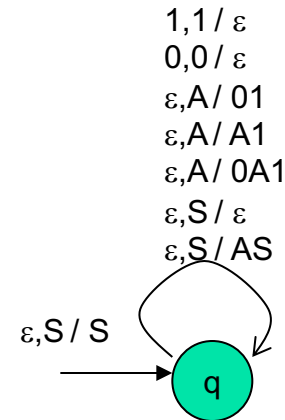
$\delta(q, \varepsilon, S) = \{ (q, AS), (q, \varepsilon) \}$   
 $\delta(q, \varepsilon, A) = \{ (q, 0A1), (q, A1), (q, 01) \}$   
 $\delta(q, 0, 0) = \{ (q, \varepsilon) \}$   
 $\delta(q, 1, 1) = \{ (q, \varepsilon) \}$

Stack moves (shows only the successful path):



Leftmost deriv.:

$S \Rightarrow AS$   
 $\Rightarrow 0A1S$   
 $\Rightarrow 0011S$   
 $\Rightarrow 0011$



Accept by empty stack



# Summary

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- PDA
  - Definition
    - With acceptance – by final state
    - With acceptance – by empty stack
- $\text{PDA (by final state)} = \text{PDA (by empty stack)} \leq \text{CFG}$