

# Deterministic PDAs

Linz 6<sup>th</sup>, Section 7.3 DPDA's and  
Deterministic Context-Free Languages

To begin with we require:

# A Non Context-Free Language

(We will prove it at the next class)

# Non Context-free languages

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

## Context-free languages

$$a^n b^n$$

## Regular languages

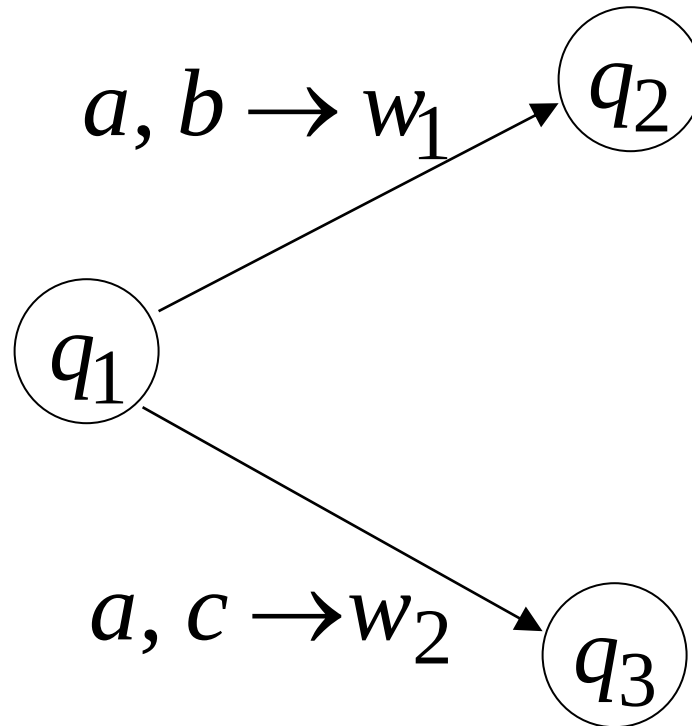
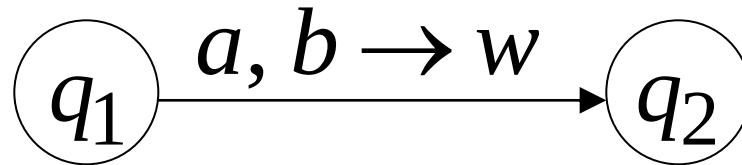
$$a^* b^*$$

# Deterministic PDAs

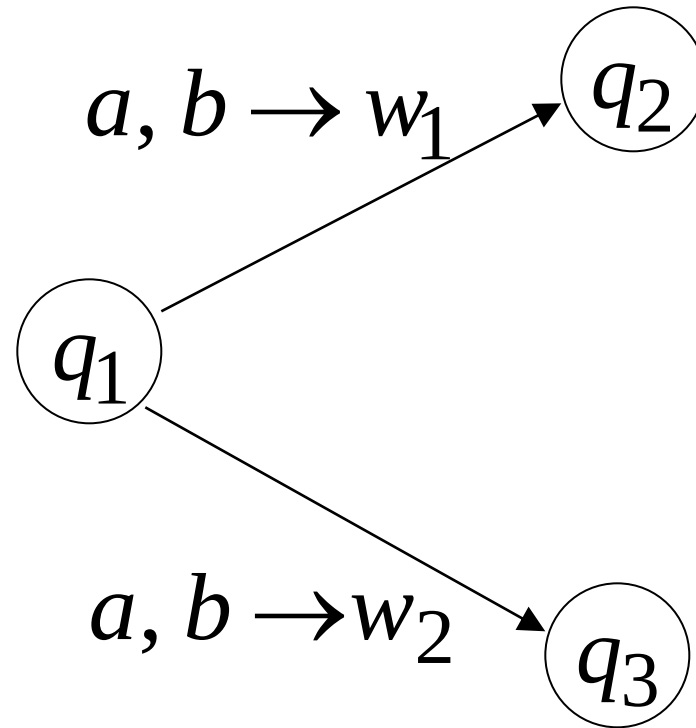
## DPDAs

# DPDAs

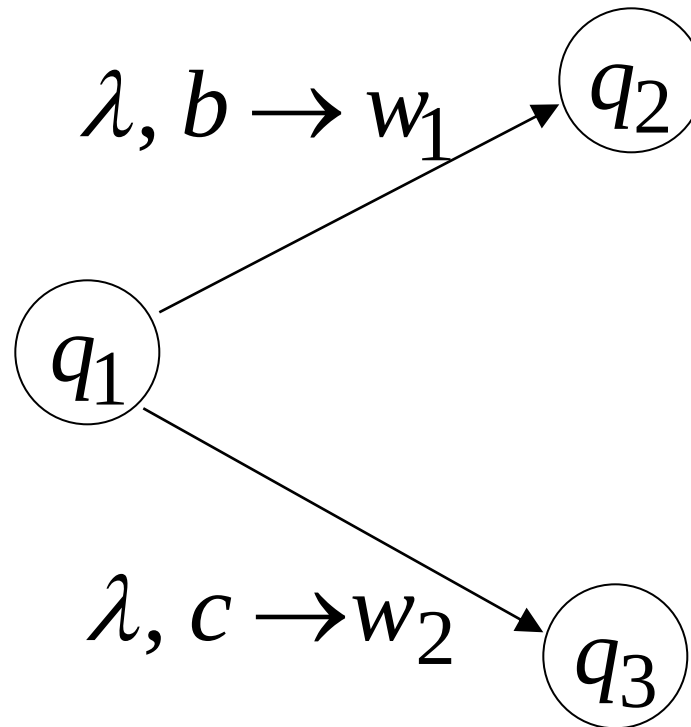
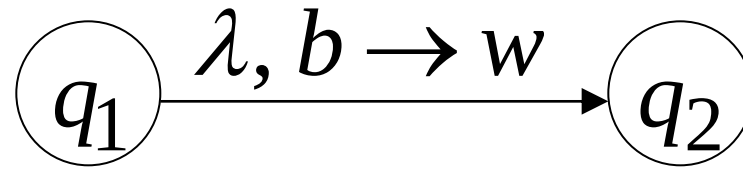
Allowed:



Not allowed:

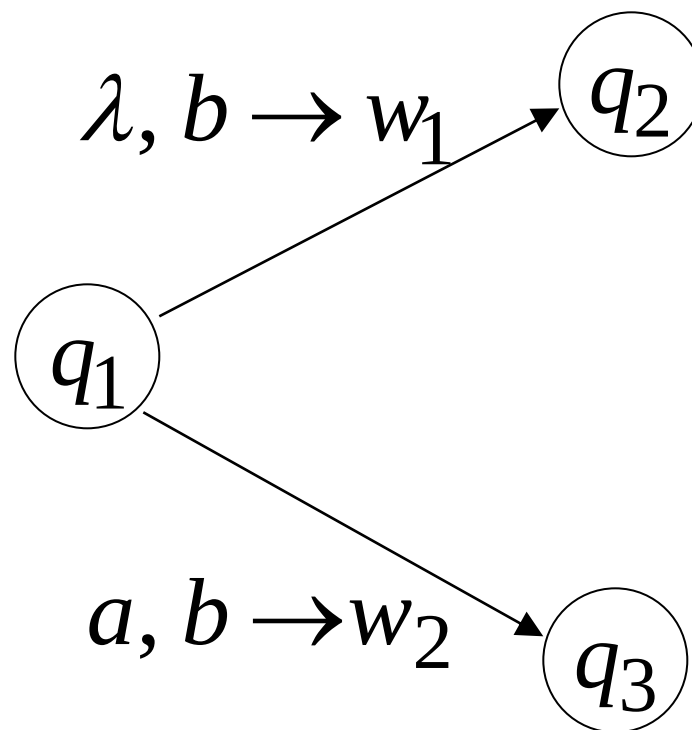


Allowed:



Something must be matched from the stack <sup>7</sup>

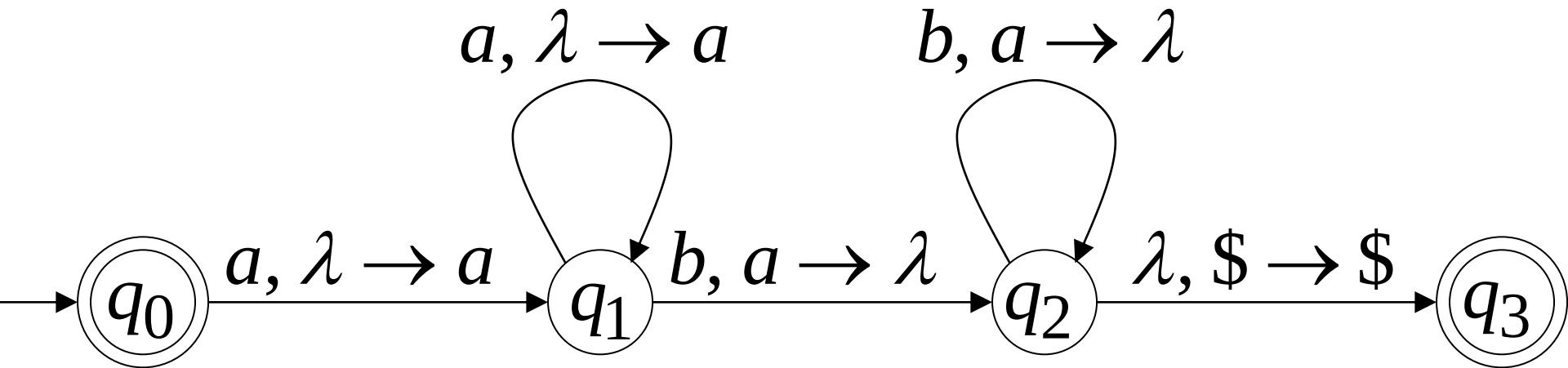
Not allowed:





# DPDA example

$$L(M) = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$



The language  $L(M) = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$

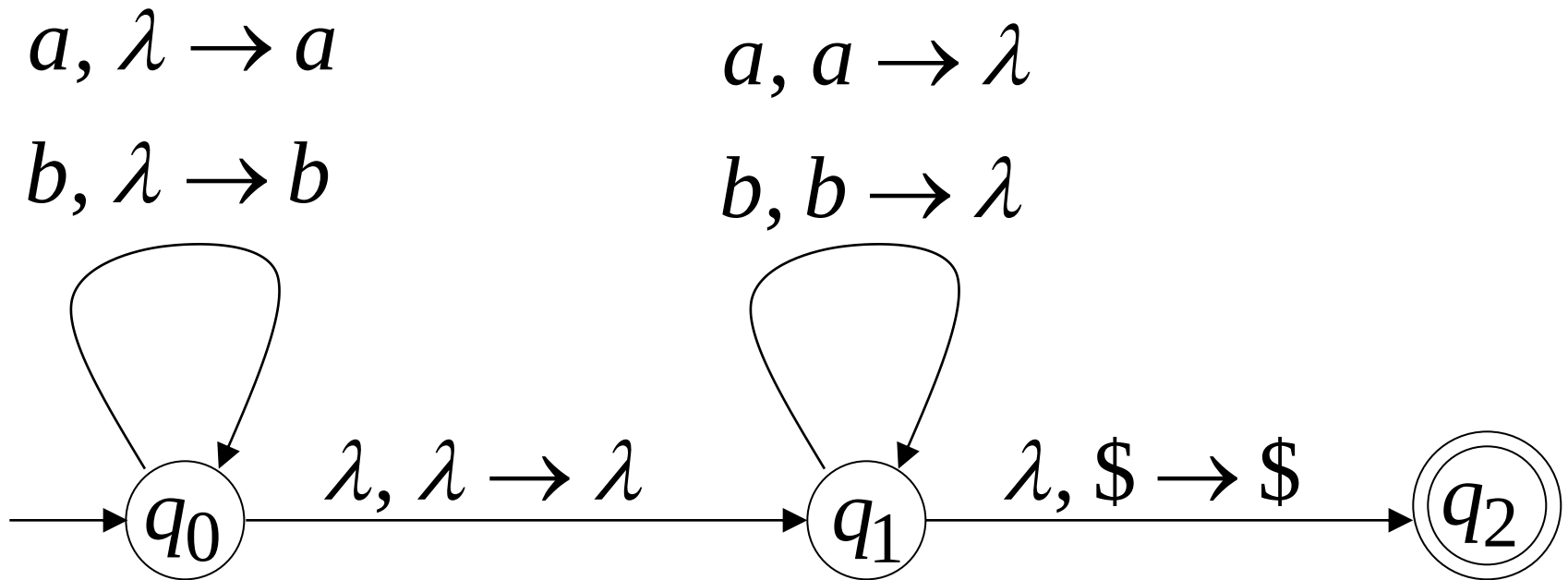
is deterministic context-free

## Definition:

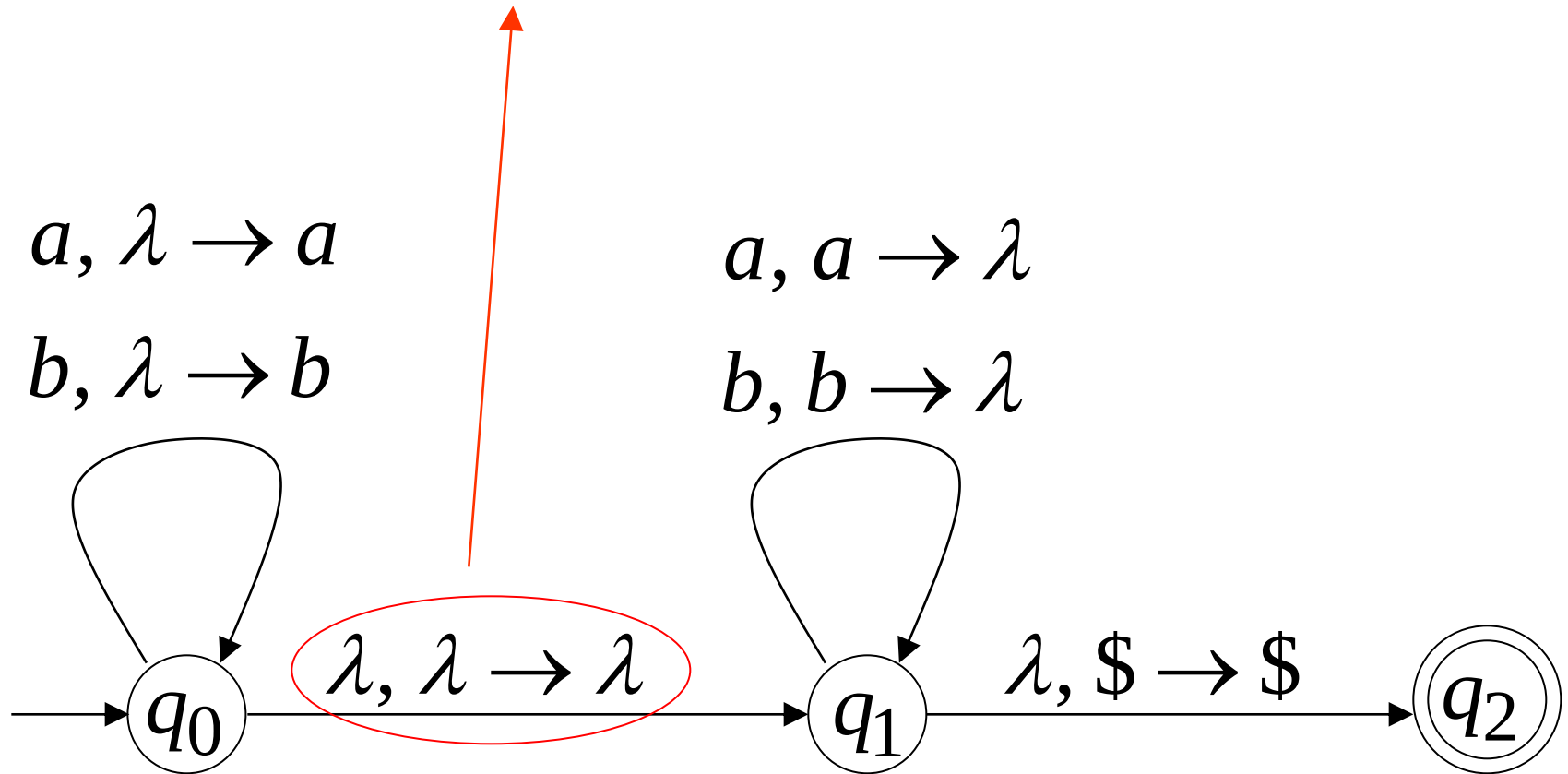
A language is **deterministic context-free**  
if some DPDA accepts it

# Example of Non-DPDA (NPDA)

$$L(M) = \{ww^R\}$$



## Not allowed in DPDAs



NPDAs

Have More Power than

DPDAs

We will show:

there is a context-free language  $L$   
(accepted by a NPDA)

which is **not** deterministic context-free  
(**not** accepted by a DPDA)

The language is:

$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$$

$$n \geq 0$$



$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$$

The language  $L$  is context-free

Context-free grammar for  $L$  :

$$S \rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$$

$$S_1 \rightarrow aS_1b \mid \lambda$$

$$S_2 \rightarrow aS_2bb \mid \lambda$$

there is an NPDA  
that accepts  $L$

# Theorem:

The language  $L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$

is **not** deterministic context-free

(there is **no** DPDA that accepts  $L$  )

**Proof:** Assume for contradiction that

$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$$

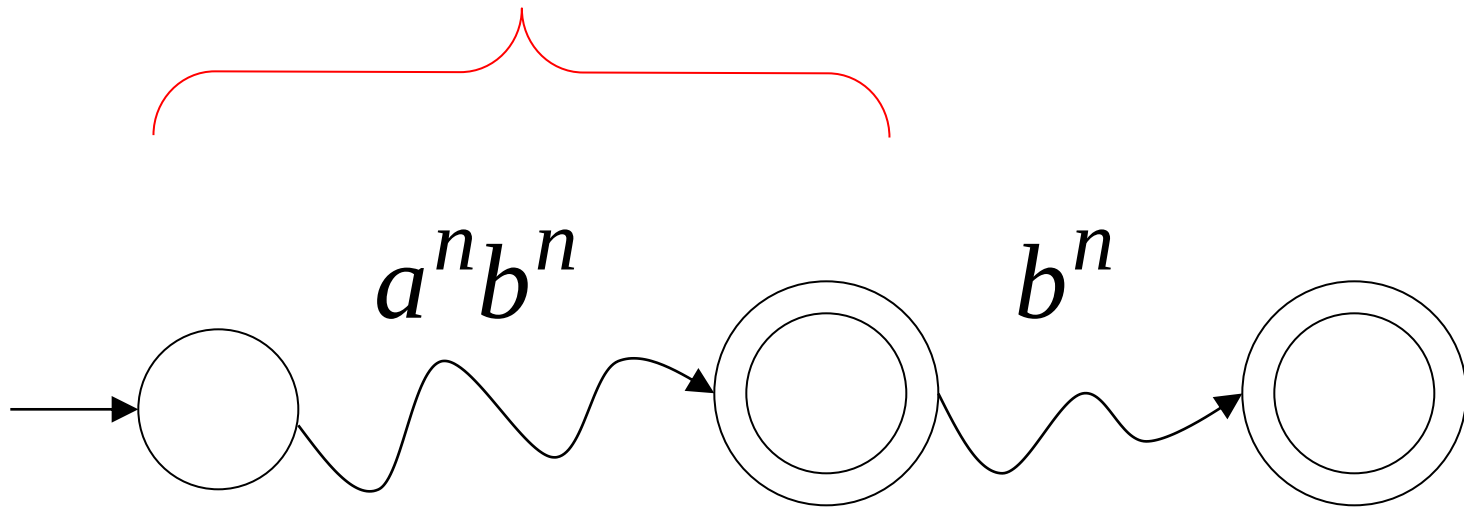
is deterministic context free

Therefore:

there is a DPDA  $M$  that accepts  $L$

DPDA  $M$  with  $L(M) = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$

accepts  $a^n b^n$



accepts  $a^n b^{2n}$

**Fact 1:** The language  $\{a^n b^n c^n\}$   
is **not** context-free

(we will prove it later)

Example 8.1, page  
217. The proof uses  
the context-free  
pumping lemma.

**Fact 2:** The language  $L \cup \{a^n b^n c^n\}$   
is **not** context-free

$$(L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\})$$

This is what we really need now. And, it can be proved by the pumping in the same manner as  $\{a^n b^n c^n\}$ .

We will construct a NPDA that accepts:

$$L \cup \{a^n b^n c^n\}$$

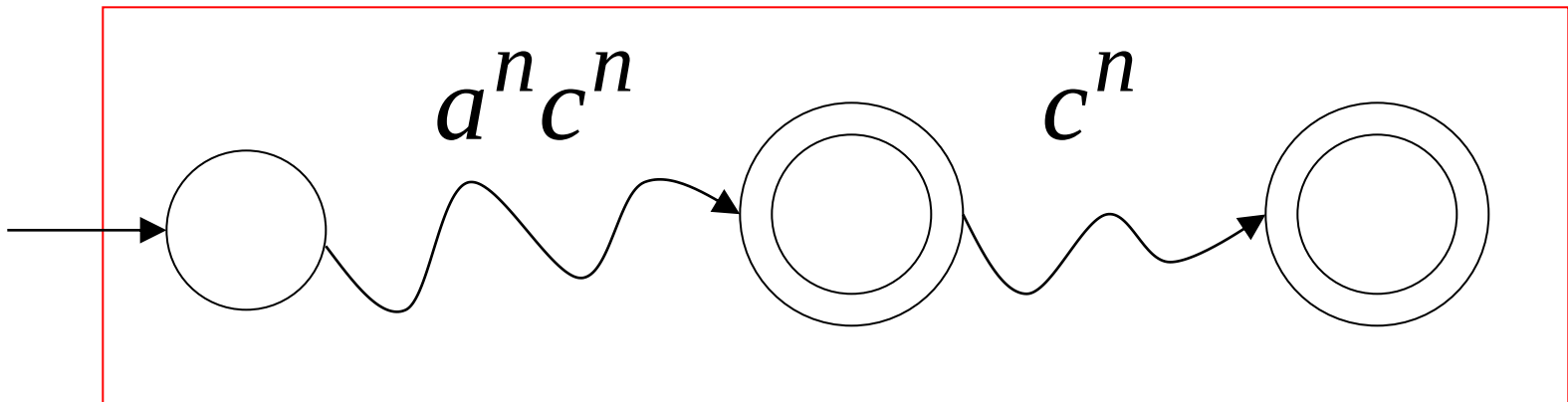
Contradiction!

$$(L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\})$$

We modify  $M$  ( $L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$ )

Replace  $b$  with  $c$

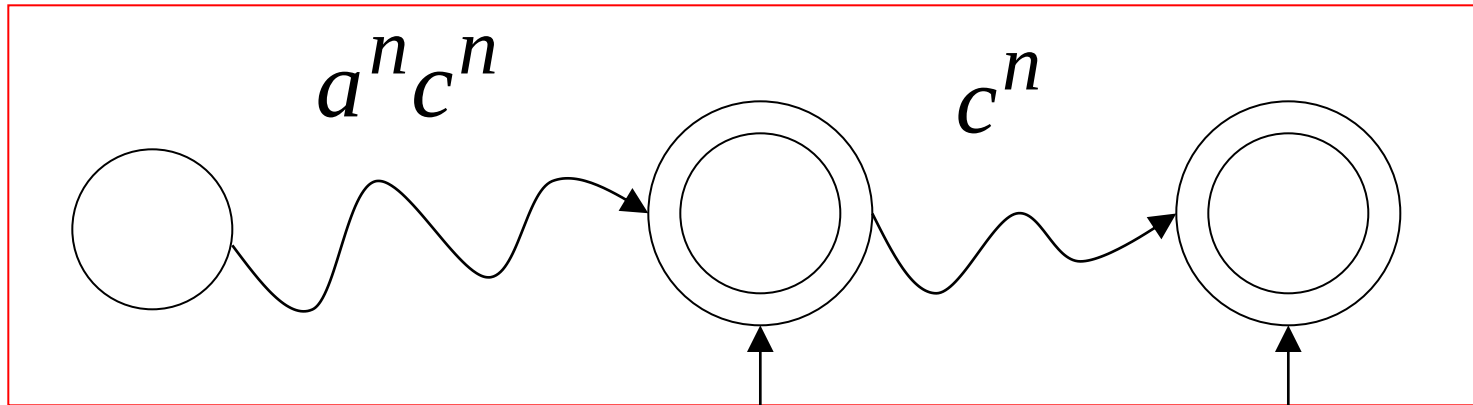
Modified  $M$  ( $L' = \{a^n c^n\} \cup \{a^n c^{2n}\}$ )



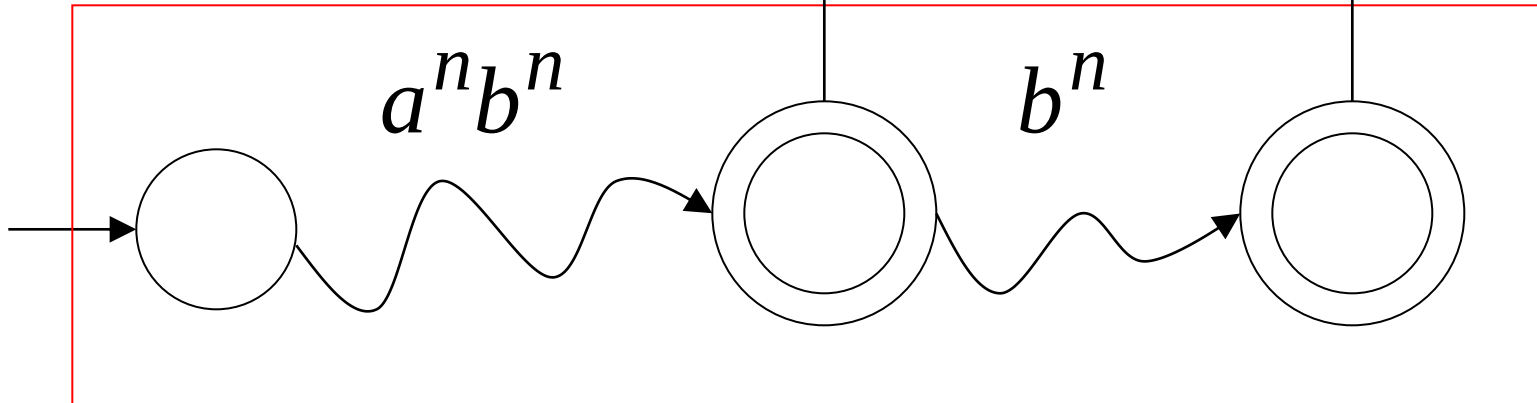


The NPDA that accepts  $L \cup \{a^n b^n c^n\}$

Modified  $M$



Original  $M$



$\lambda$

$\lambda$

Since  $L \cup \{a^n b^n c^n\}$  is accepted by a NPDA  
it is context-free

**Contradiction!**

(since  $L \cup \{a^n b^n c^n\}$  is not context-free)

Therefore:

There is **no** DPDA that accepts

$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{a^n b^{2n}\}$$

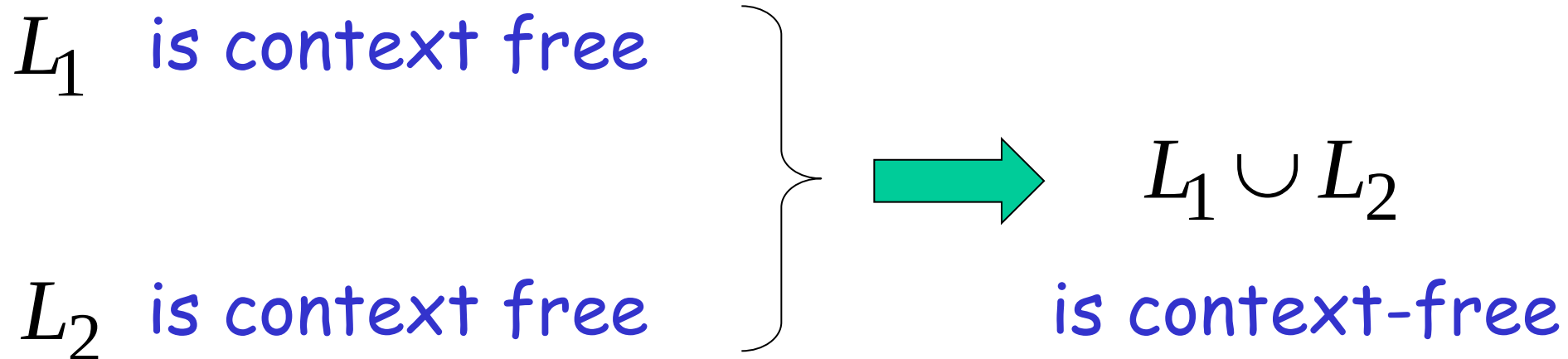
**Not** deterministic context free

End of Proof

# Positive Properties of Context-Free languages

# Union

Context-free languages  
are closed under: **Union**



# Example

Language

Grammar

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^n\}$$

$$S_1 \rightarrow aS_1b \mid \lambda$$

$$L_2 = \{ww^R\}$$

$$S_2 \rightarrow aS_2a \mid bS_2b \mid \lambda$$

Union

$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \cup \{ww^R\}$$

$$S \rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$$

In general:

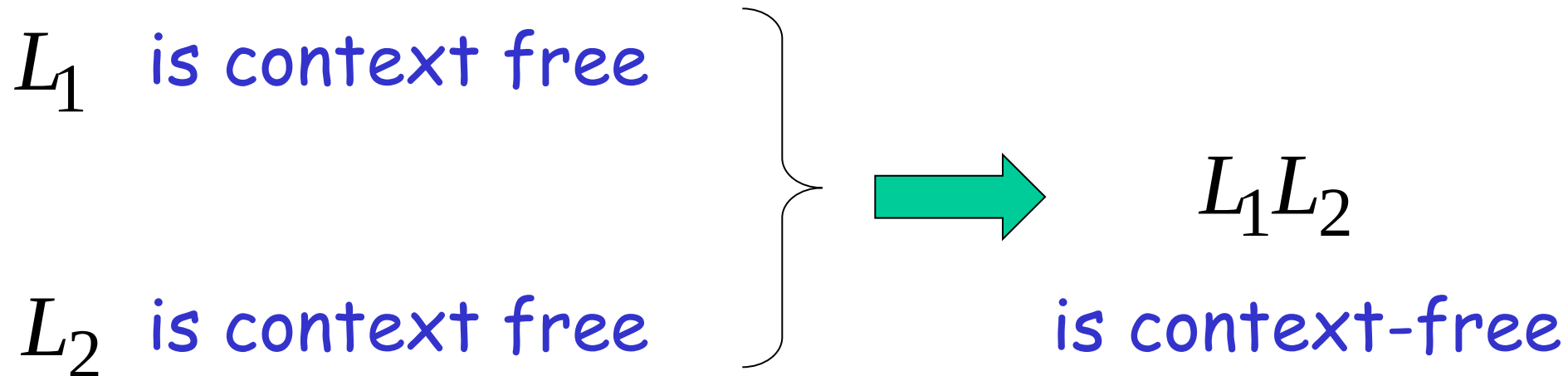
|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| For context-free languages | $L_1, L_2$ |
| with context-free grammars | $G_1, G_2$ |
| and start variables        | $S_1, S_2$ |

|                                 |                              |
|---------------------------------|------------------------------|
| The grammar of the <b>union</b> | $L_1 \cup L_2$               |
| has new start variable          | $S$                          |
| and additional production       | $S \rightarrow S_1 \mid S_2$ |

# Concatenation

Context-free languages  
are closed under:

**Concatenation**





# Example

Language

Grammar

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^n\}$$

$$S_1 \rightarrow aS_1b \mid \lambda$$

$$L_2 = \{ww^R\}$$

$$S_2 \rightarrow aS_2a \mid bS_2b \mid \lambda$$

## Concatenation

$$L = \{a^n b^n\} \{ww^R\}$$

$$S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$$

In general:

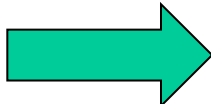
|                            |            |
|----------------------------|------------|
| For context-free languages | $L_1, L_2$ |
| with context-free grammars | $G_1, G_2$ |
| and start variables        | $S_1, S_2$ |

|   |                         |
|---|-------------------------|
| The grammar of the <b>concatenation</b> | $L_1 L_2$               |
| has new start variable                  | $S$                     |
| and additional production               | $S \rightarrow S_1 S_2$ |

# Star Operation

Context-free languages  
are closed under:

**Star-operation**

$L$  is context free   $L^*$  is context-free

# Example

Language

Grammar

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

$$S \rightarrow aSb \mid \lambda$$

## Star Operation

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

$$S_1 \rightarrow SS_1 \mid \lambda$$

In general:

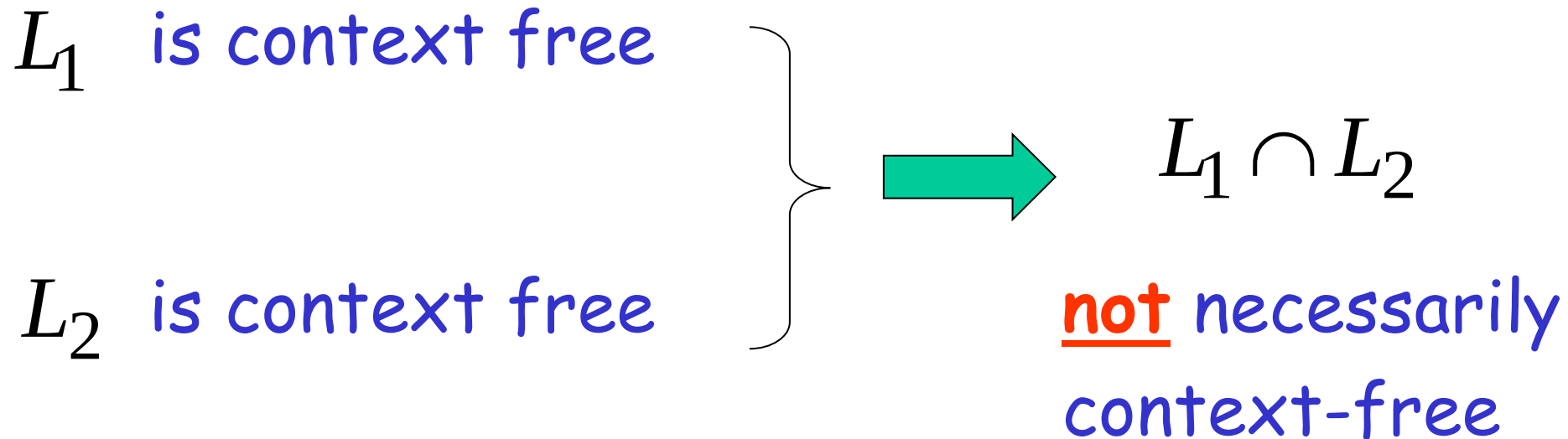
|                           |     |
|---------------------------|-----|
| For context-free language | $L$ |
| with context-free grammar | $G$ |
| and start variable        | $S$ |

|  |                                     |
|--|-------------------------------------|
| The grammar of the <b>star operation</b> | $L^*$                               |
| has new start variable                   | $S_1$                               |
| and additional production                | $S_1 \rightarrow SS_1 \mid \lambda$ |

# Negative Properties of Context-Free Languages

# Intersection

Context-free languages  
are not closed under: **intersection**



# Example

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^n c^m\}$$

Context-free:

$$S \rightarrow AC$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb \mid \lambda$$

$$C \rightarrow cC \mid \lambda$$

$$L_2 = \{a^n b^m c^m\}$$

Context-free:

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aA \mid \lambda$$

$$B \rightarrow bBc \mid \lambda$$

Intersection


$$L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n\} \quad \text{NOT context-free}$$



# Complement

Context-free languages  
are not closed under:

complement

$L$  is context free   $\overline{L}$  not necessarily  
context-free

# Example

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^n c^m\}$$

$$L_2 = \{a^n b^m c^m\}$$

Context-free:

$$S \rightarrow AC$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb \mid \lambda$$

$$C \rightarrow cC \mid \lambda$$

Context-free:

$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow aA \mid \lambda$$

$$B \rightarrow bBc \mid \lambda$$

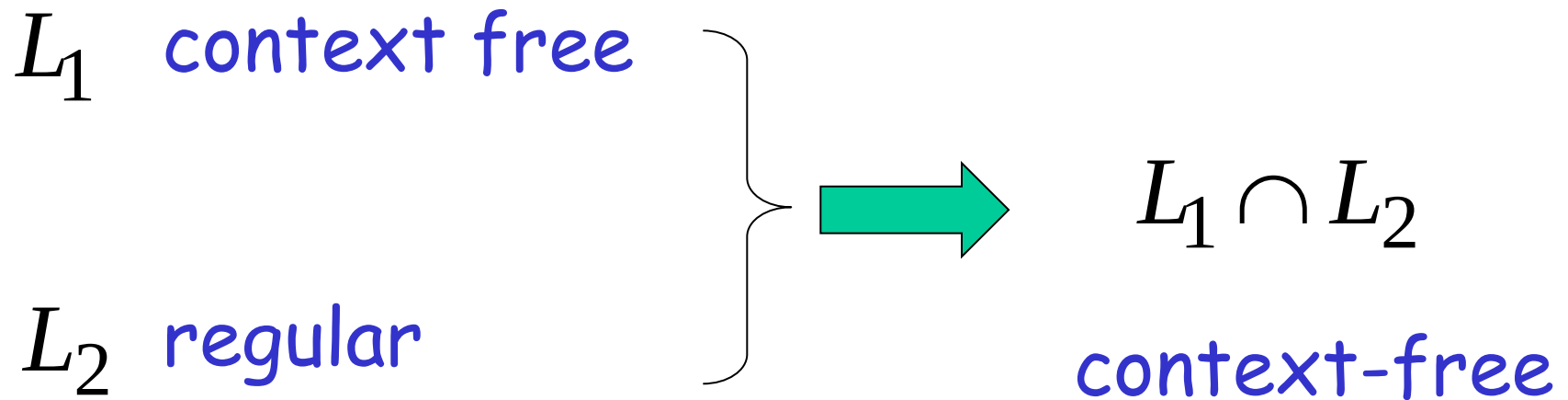
Complement

$$\overline{\overline{L_1} \cup \overline{L_2}} = L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n\}$$

NOT context-free

# Intersection of Context-free languages and Regular Languages

The intersection of  
a context-free language and  
a regular language  
is a context-free language



Machine  $M_1$

NPDA for  $L_1$   
context-free

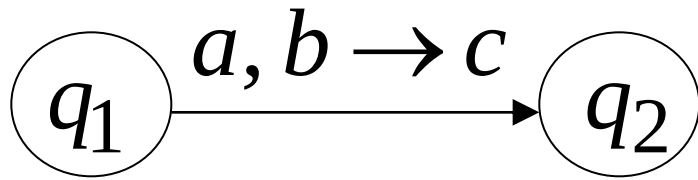
Machine  $M_2$

DFA for  $L_2$   
regular

Construct a new NPDA machine  $M$   
that accepts  $L_1 \cap L_2$

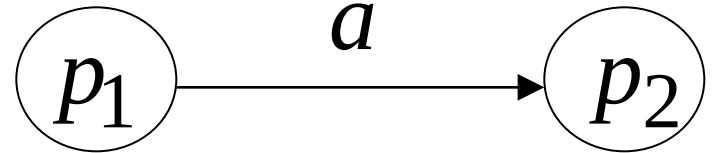
$M$  simulates in parallel  $M_1$  and  $M_2$

NPDA  $M_1$

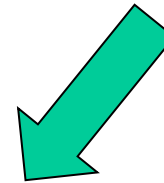
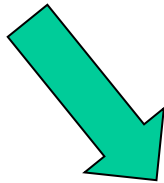


transition

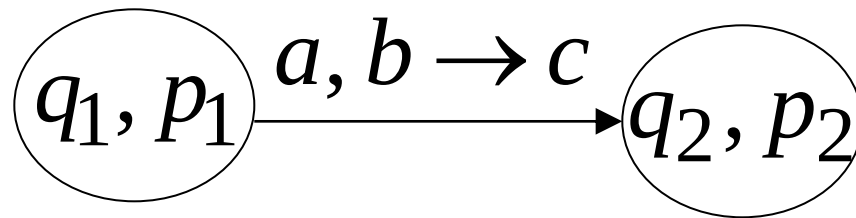
DFA  $M_2$



transition

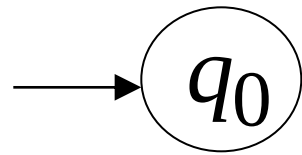


NPDA  $M$



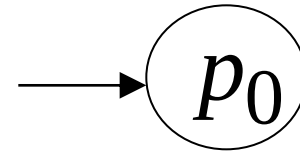
transition

NPDA  $M_1$

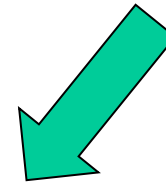


initial state

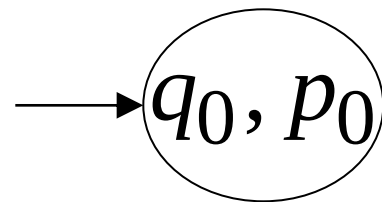
DFA  $M_2$



initial state

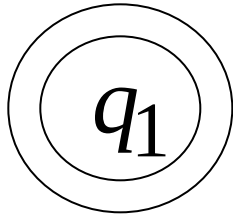


NPDA  $M$



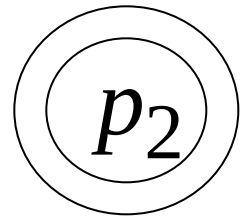
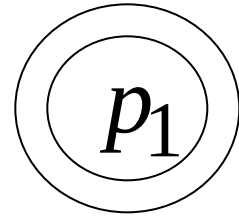
Initial state

NPDA  $M_1$



final state

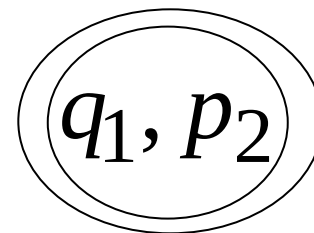
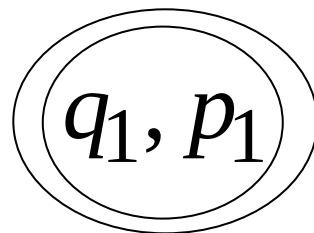
DFA  $M_2$



final states



NPDA  $M$



final states



$M$  simulates in parallel  $M_1$  and  $M_2$

$M$  accepts string  $w$  if and only if

$M_1$  accepts string  $w$  and

$M_2$  accepts string  $w$

$$L(M) = L(M_1) \cap L(M_2)$$

Therefore:  $L(M_1) \cap L(M_2)$  is context-free

(since  $M$  is NPDA)



$L_1 \cap L_2$  is context-free