

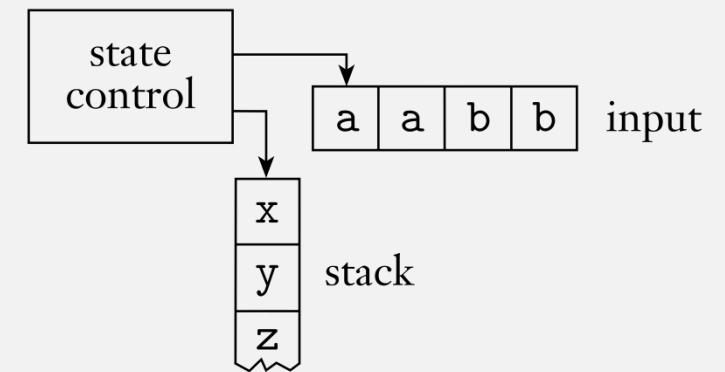
UMB CS 420

CFL \leftrightarrow PDA

Thursday, October 20, 2022

A *context-free grammar* is a 4-tuple (V, Σ, R, S) , where

1. V is a finite set called the *variables*,
2. Σ is a finite set, disjoint from V , called the *terminals*,
3. R is a finite set of *rules*, with each rule being a variable and a string of variables and terminals, and
4. $S \in V$ is the start variable.



Announcements

- HW 5 out
 - Due Sun 10/23 11:59pm EST
- Reminder:
 - Use “Gradescope Regrade Request” for regrade requests
 - Do not email hw to course staff

Flashback: DFA Computation Model

Informally

- “Program” = a finite automata
- Input = string of chars, e.g. “1101”

To run a “program”:

- Start in “start state”
- Repeat:
 - Read 1 char;
 - Change state according to the transition table
- Result =
 - “Accept” if last state is “Accept” state
 - “Reject” otherwise

Formally (i.e., mathematically)

- $M = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$
- $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$
- $r_0 = q_0$
- $r_i = \delta(r_{i-1}, w_i)$, for $i = 1, \dots, n$
- M *accepts* w if sequence of states r_0, r_1, \dots, r_n in Q exists ...

A sequence of states represents a DFA computation

with $r_n \in F$

Flashback: A DFA Extended Transition Fn

Define **extended transition function**:

$$\hat{\delta} : Q \times \Sigma^* \rightarrow Q$$

- Domain:

- Beginning state $q \in Q$ (not necessarily the start state)
- Input string $w = w_1 w_2 \cdots w_n$ where $w_i \in \Sigma$

- Range:

- Ending state (not necessarily an accept state)

(Defined recursively)

This specifies the **sequence of states**
for a **DFA** computation

- Base case: $\hat{\delta}(q, \varepsilon) = q$

- Recursive case: $\hat{\delta}(q, w) = \hat{\delta}(\delta(q, w_1), w_2 \cdots w_n)$

Last Time: PDA Configurations (IDs)

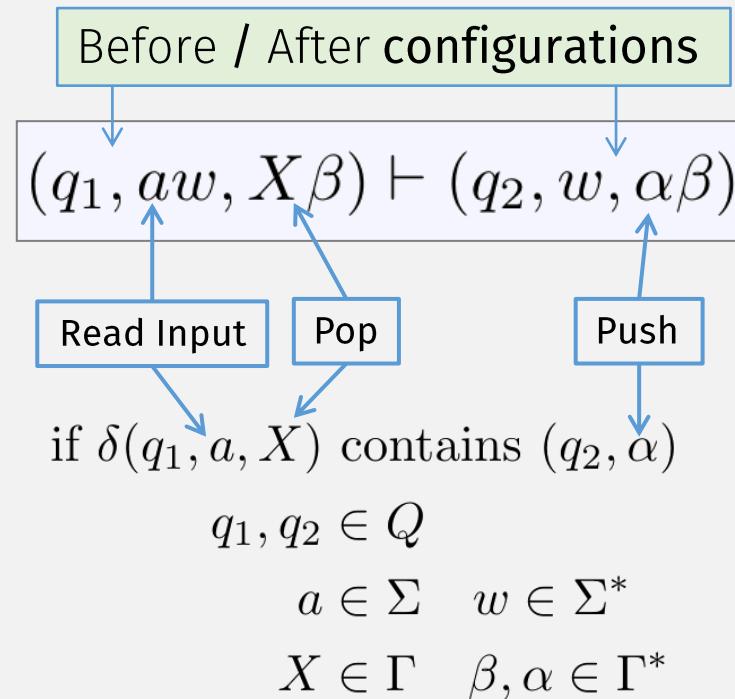
- A **configuration** (or **ID**) is a “snapshot” of a PDA’s computation
- 3 components (q, w, γ) :
 - q = the current state
 - w = the remaining input string
 - γ = the stack contents

A sequence of configurations represents a PDA computation

PDA Computation, Formally

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

Single-step



A configuration (q, w, γ) has three components

q = the current state
 w = the remaining input string
 γ = the stack contents

Extended

- Base Case

$$I \vdash^* I \text{ for any ID } I$$

- Recursive Case

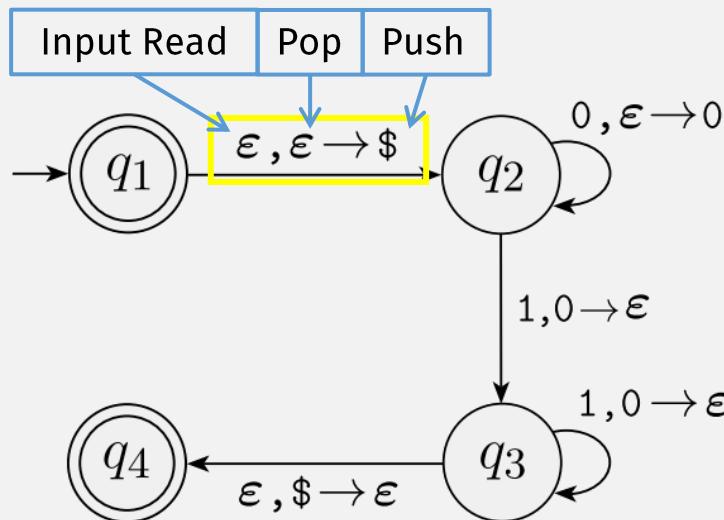
$$I \vdash^* J \text{ if there exists some ID } K \text{ such that } I \vdash K \text{ and } K \vdash^* J$$

This specifies the **sequence of configurations** for a PDA computation

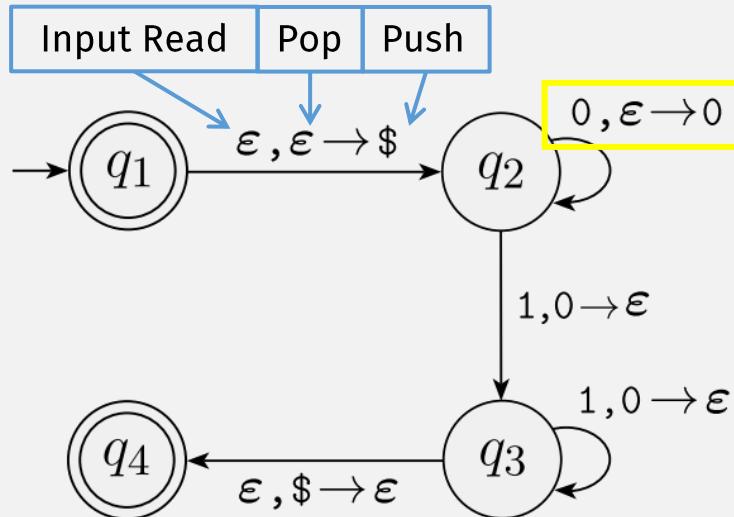
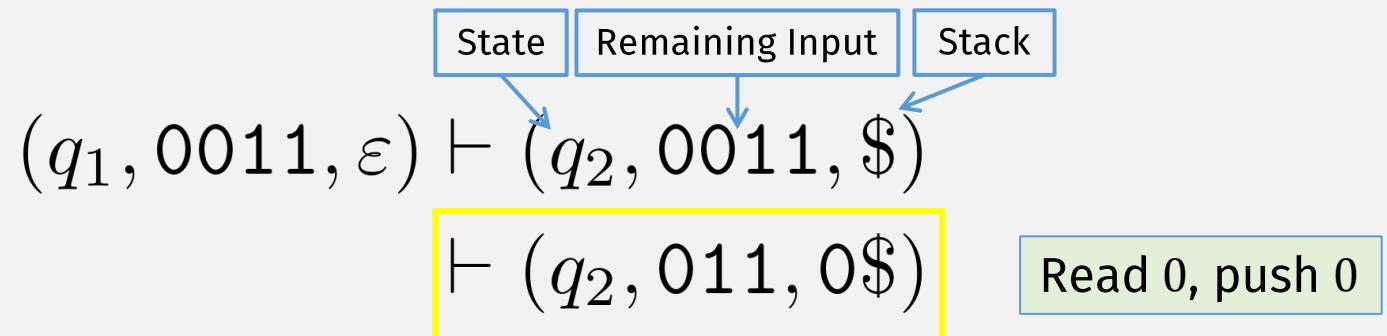
PDA Running Input String Example

($q_1, 0011, \varepsilon$)

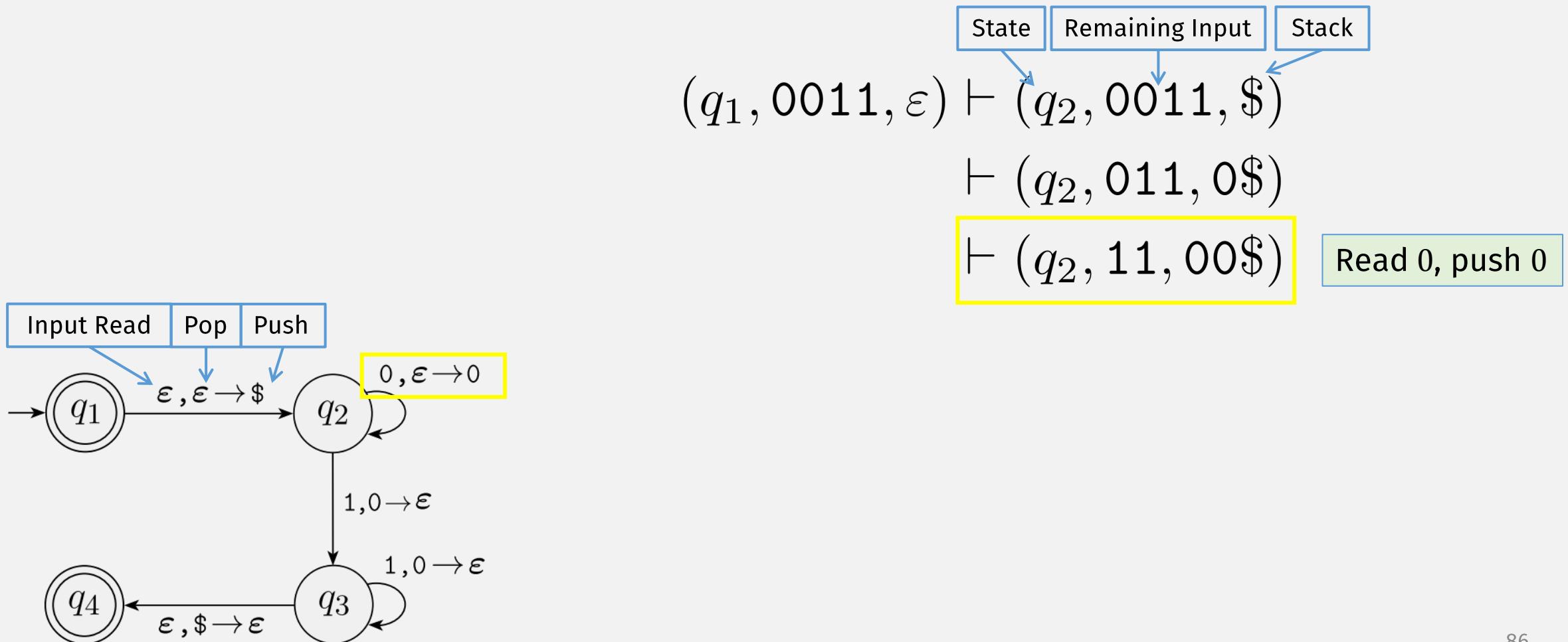
State Remaining Input Stack



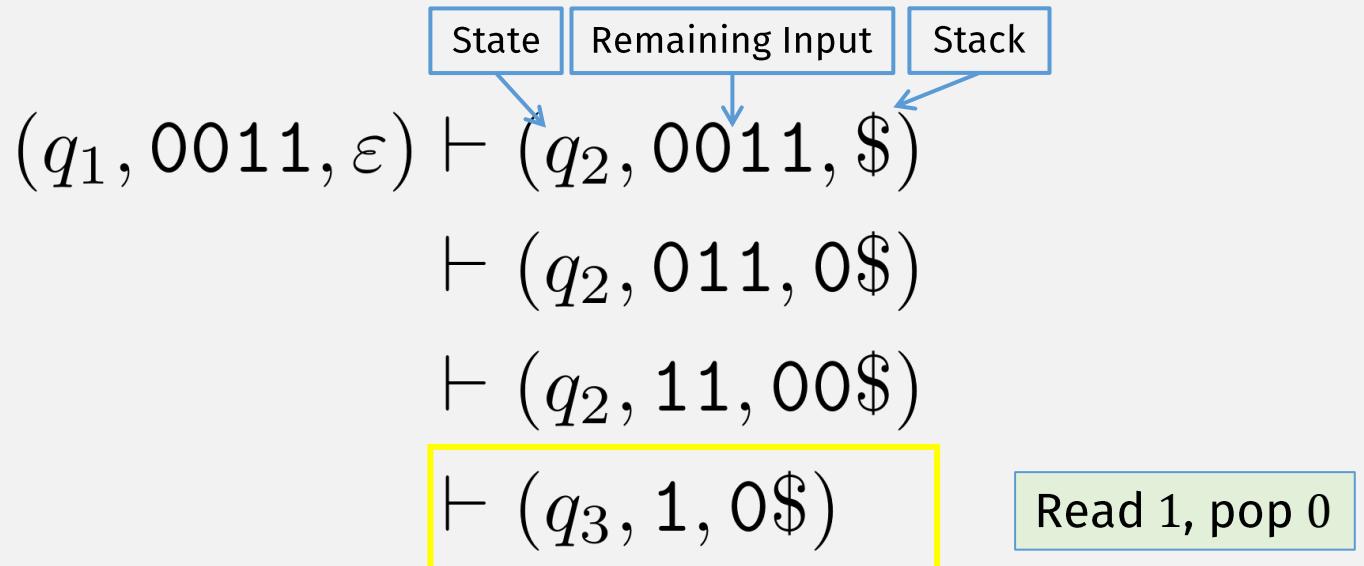
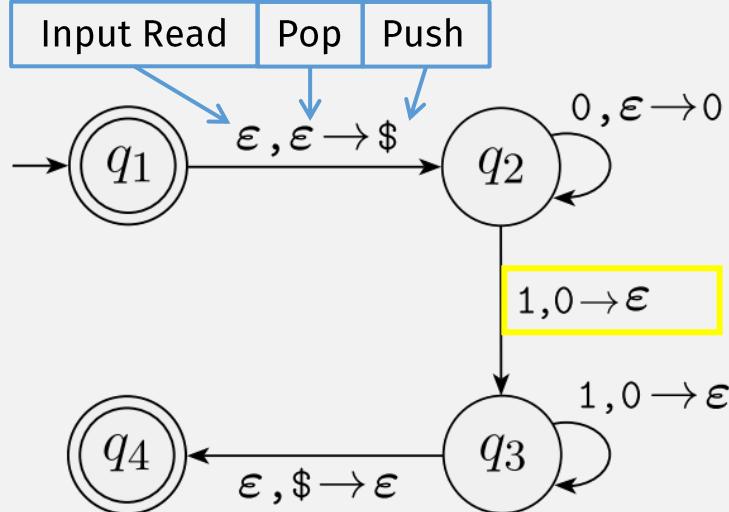
PDA Running Input String Example



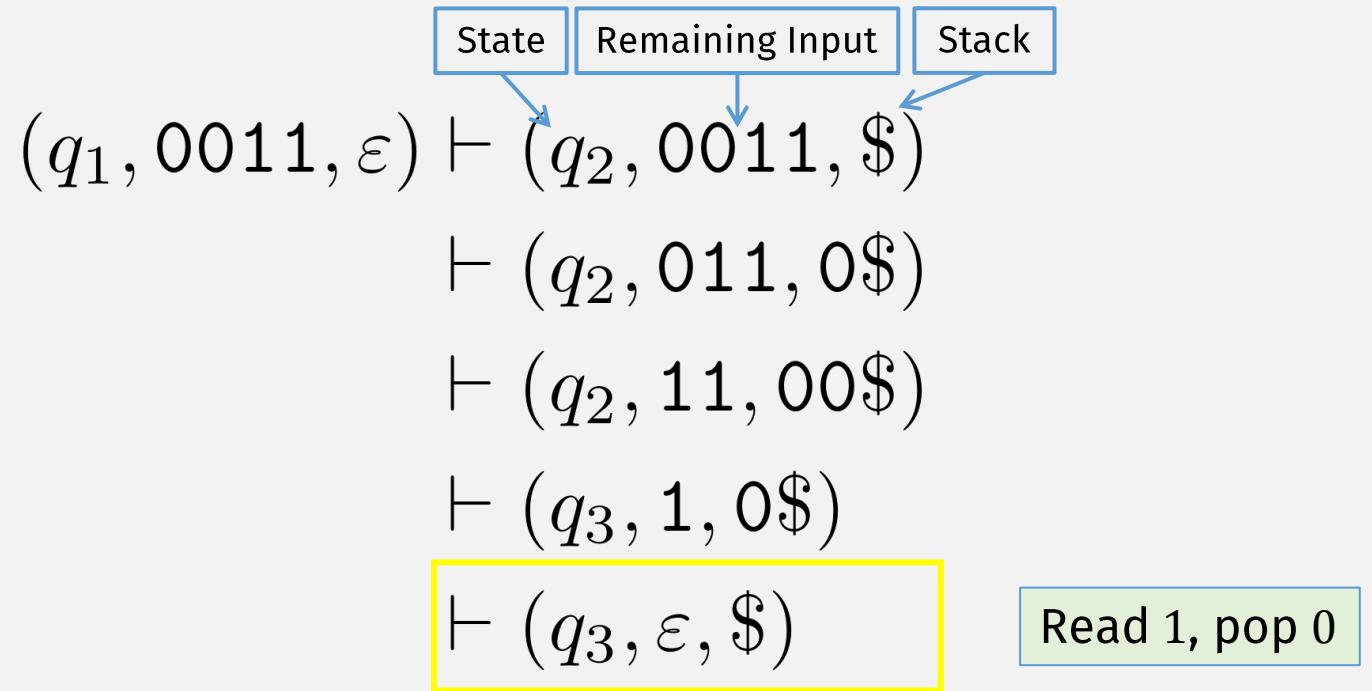
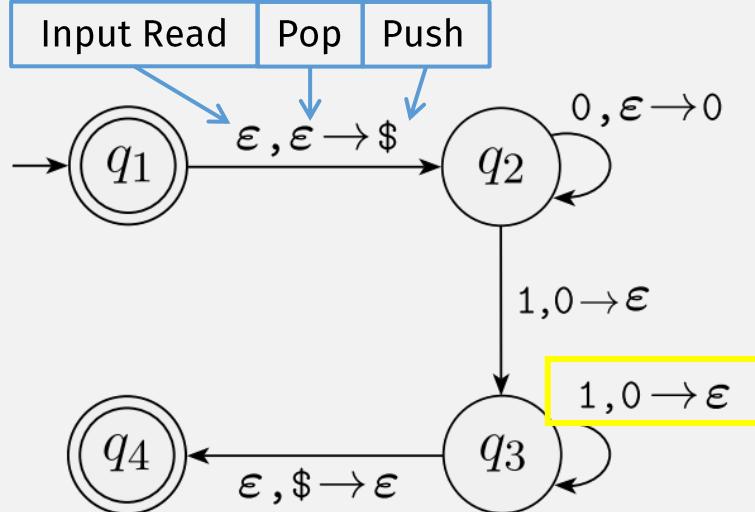
PDA Running Input String Example



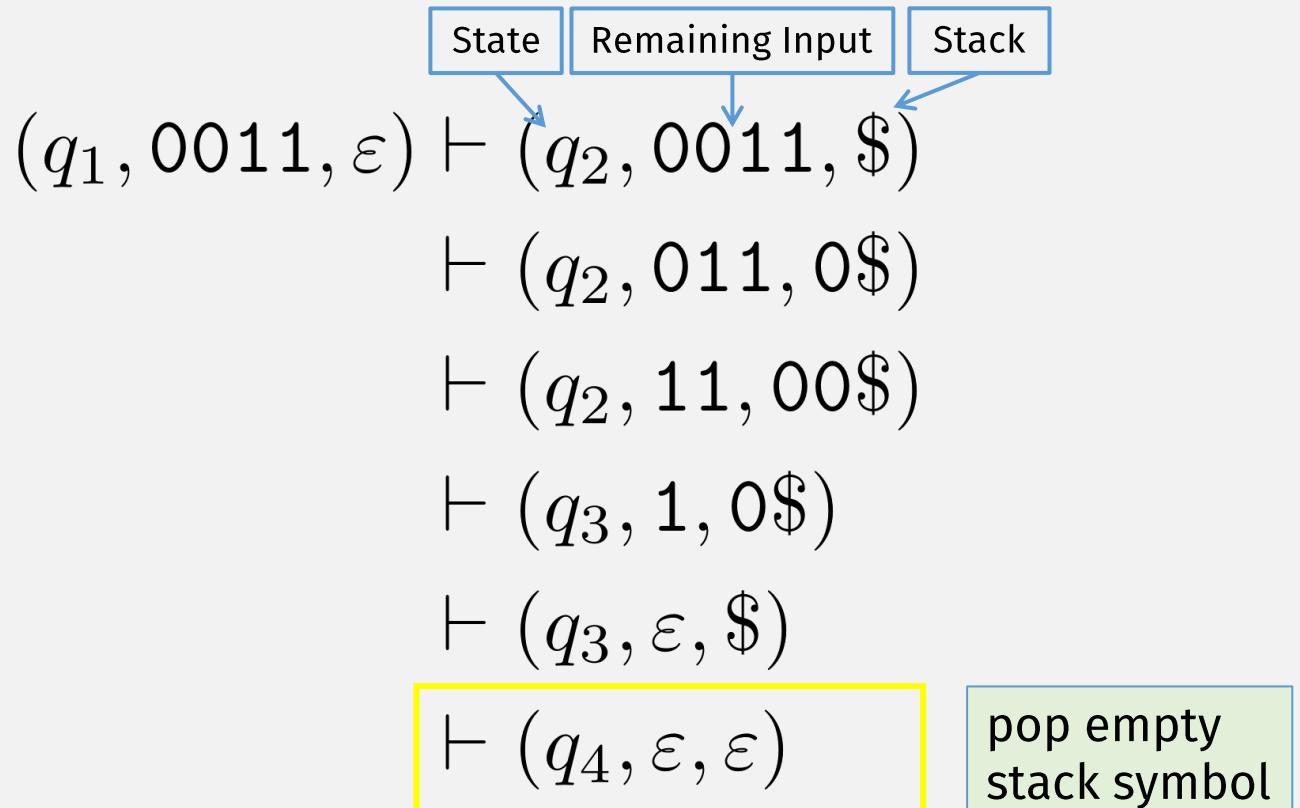
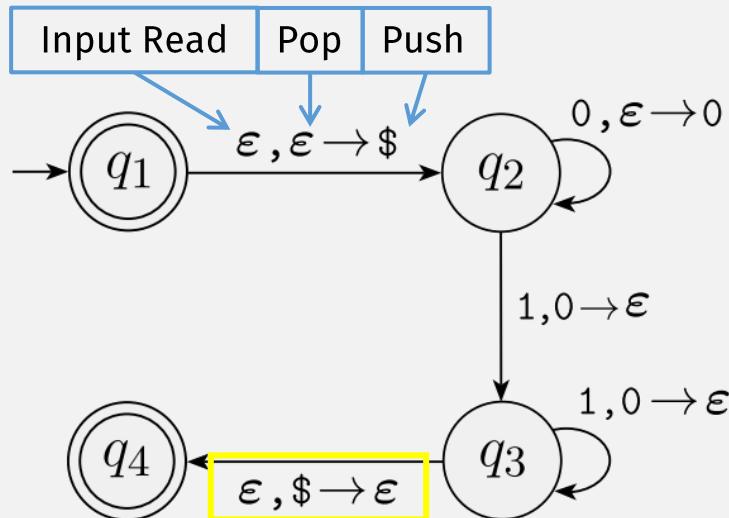
PDA Running Input String Example



PDA Running Input String Example



PDA Running Input String Example

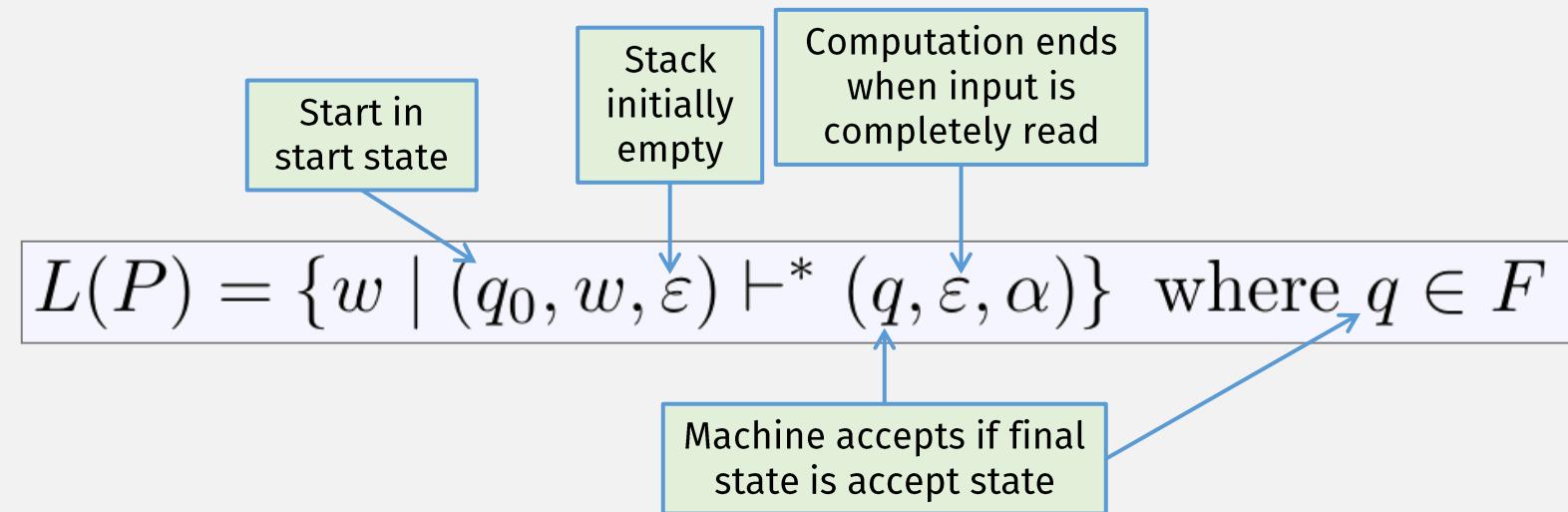


Flashback: Computation and Languages

- The **language** of a machine is the set of all strings that it accepts
- E.g., A DFA M **accepts** w if $\hat{\delta}(q_0, w) \in F$
- Language of $M = L(M) = \{ w \mid M \text{ accepts } w \}$

Language of a PDA

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



A **configuration** (q, w, γ) has three components

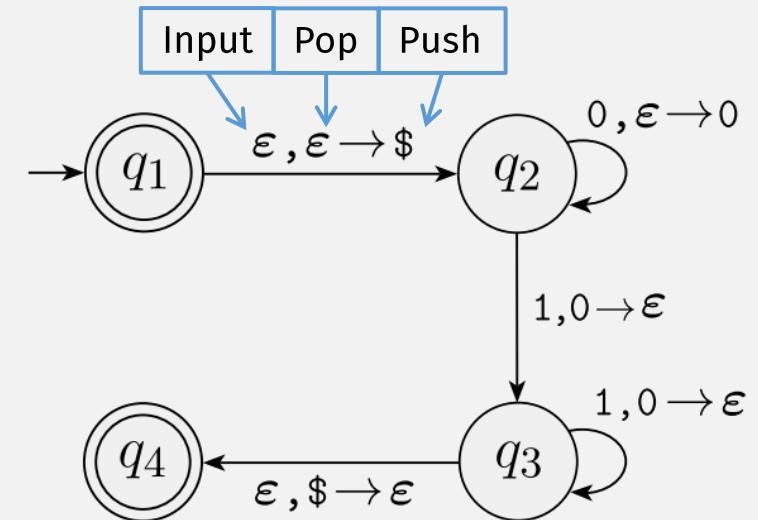
q = the current state

w = the remaining input string

γ = the stack contents

PDAs and CFLs?

- **PDA = NFA + a stack**
 - Infinite memory
 - Can only read/write top location: Push/pop
- Want to prove: PDAs represent CFLs!
- We know: a CFL, by definition, is a language that is generated by a CFG
- Need to show: PDA \Leftrightarrow CFG
- Then, to prove that a language is a CFL, we can either:
 - Create a CFG, or
 - Create a PDA



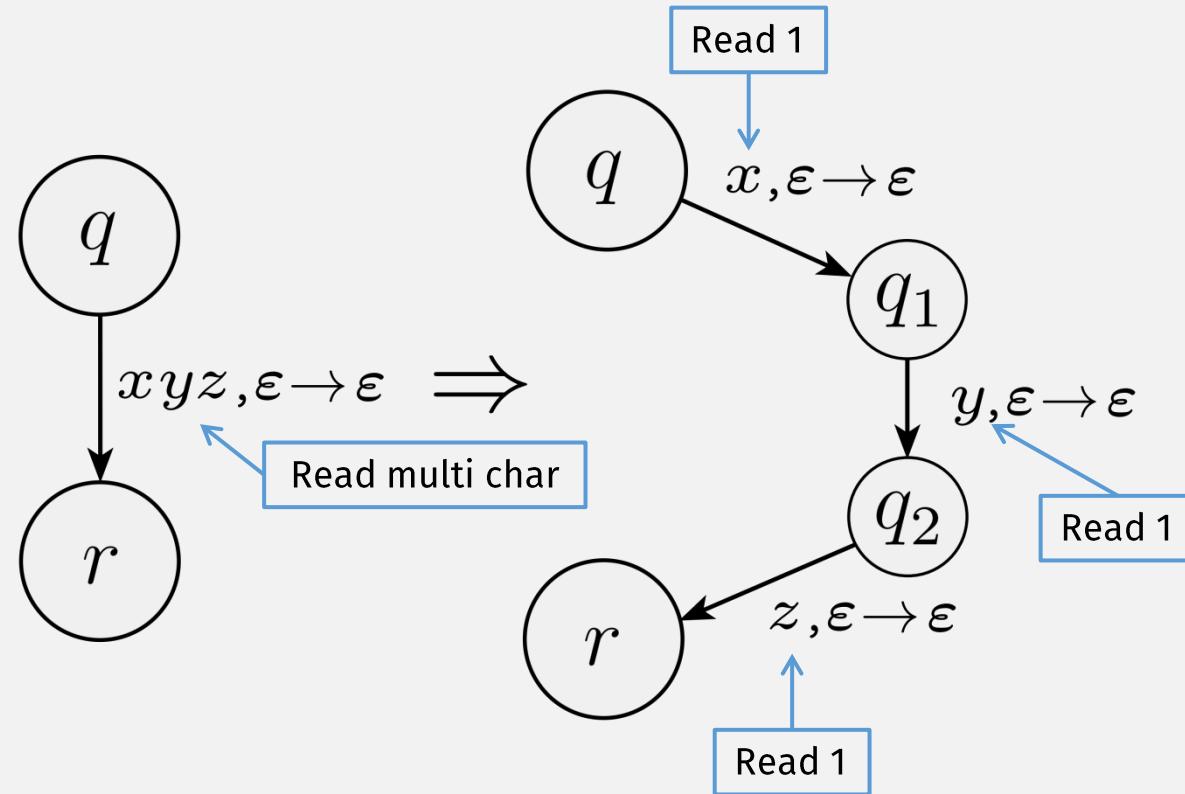
A lang is a CFL iff some PDA recognizes it

⇒ If a language is a CFL, then a PDA recognizes it

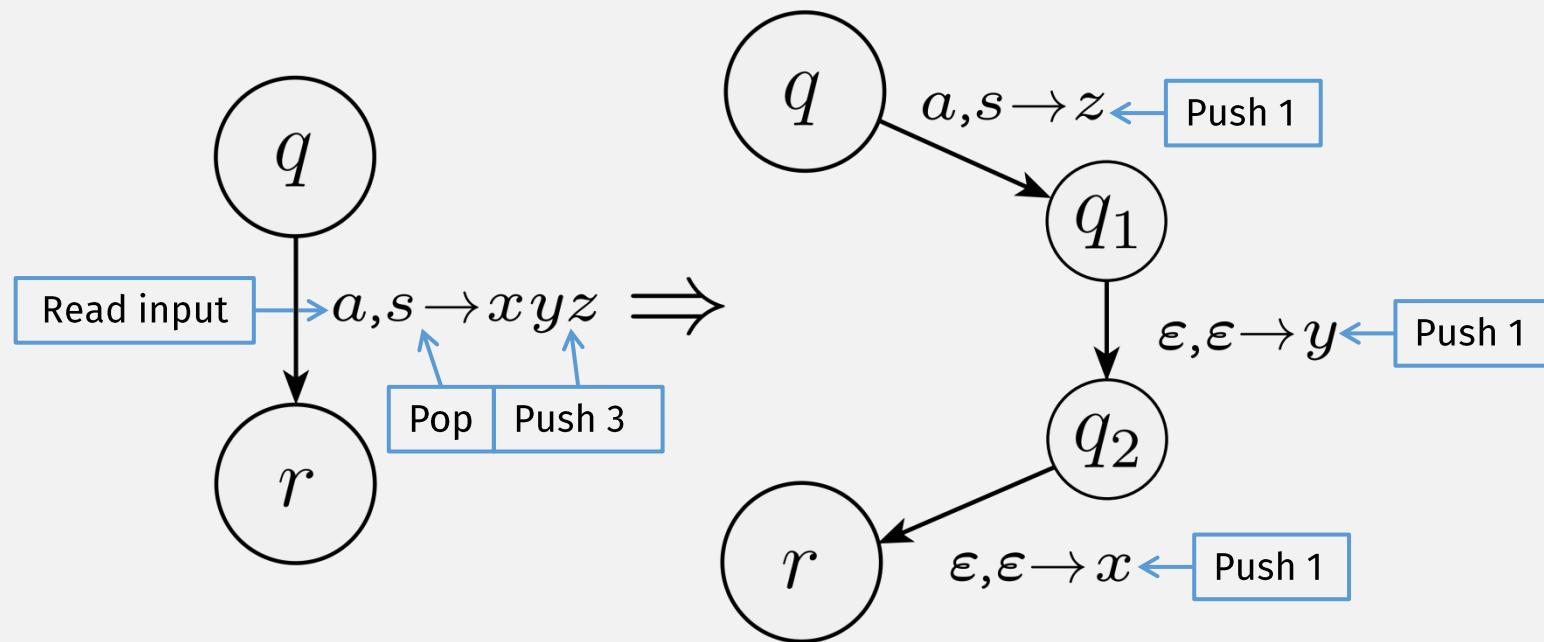
- We know: A CFL has a CFG describing it (definition of CFL)
- To prove this part: show the CFG has an equivalent PDA

⇐ If a PDA recognizes a language, then it's a CFL

Shorthand: Multi-Symbol Read Transition



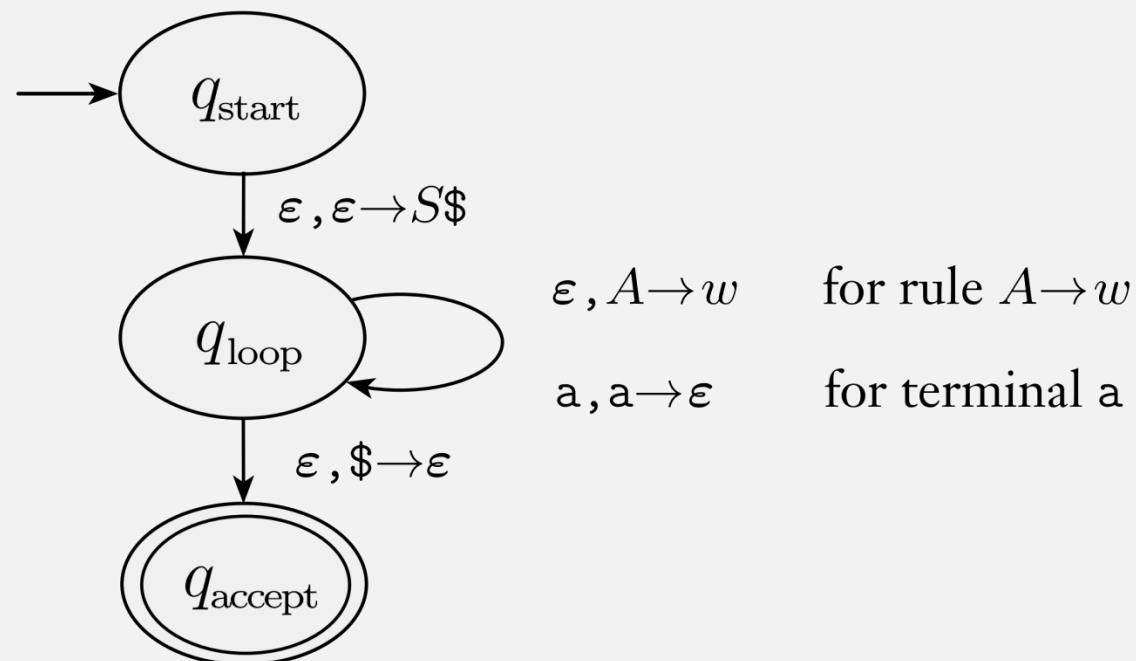
Shorthand: Multi-Stack Push Transition



Note the reverse order of pushes

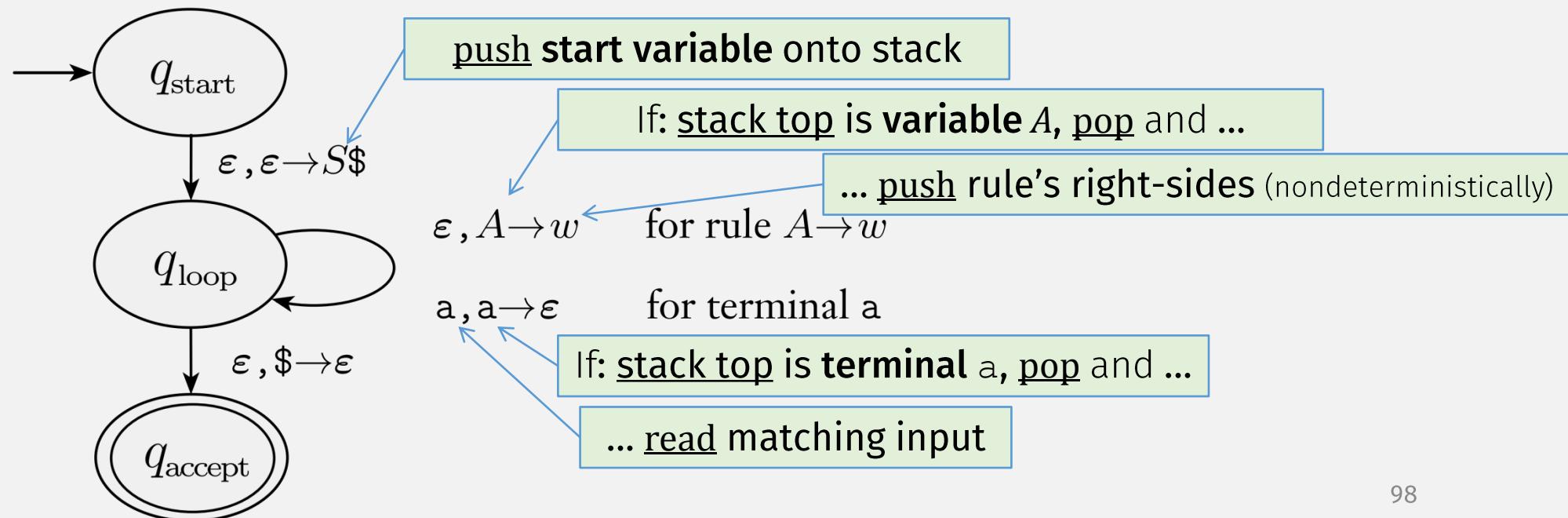
CFG \rightarrow PDA (sketch)

- Construct PDA from CFG such that:
 - PDA accepts input only if CFG generates it
- PDA:
 - simulates generating a string with CFG rules
 - by (nondeterministically) trying all rules to find the right ones

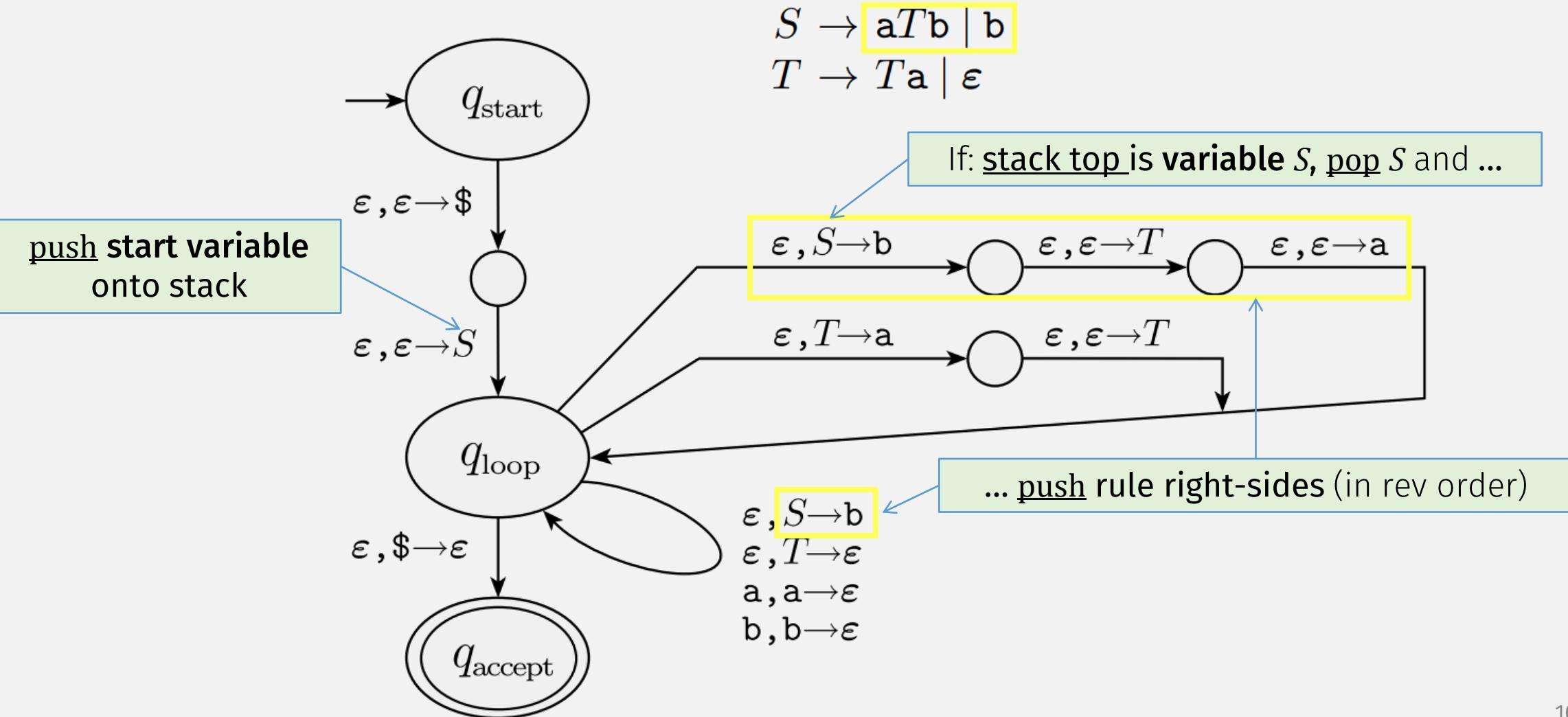


CFG→PDA (sketch)

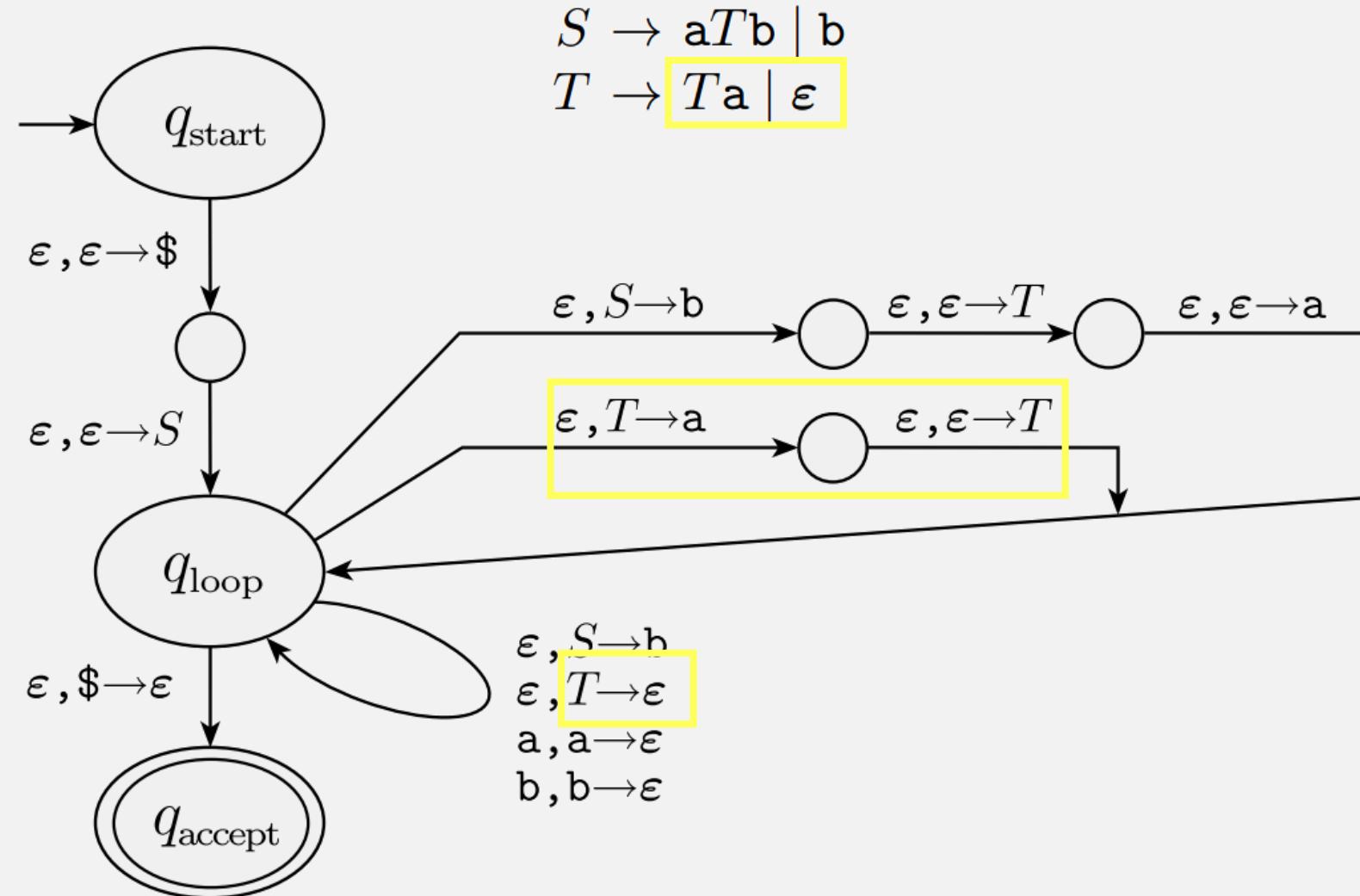
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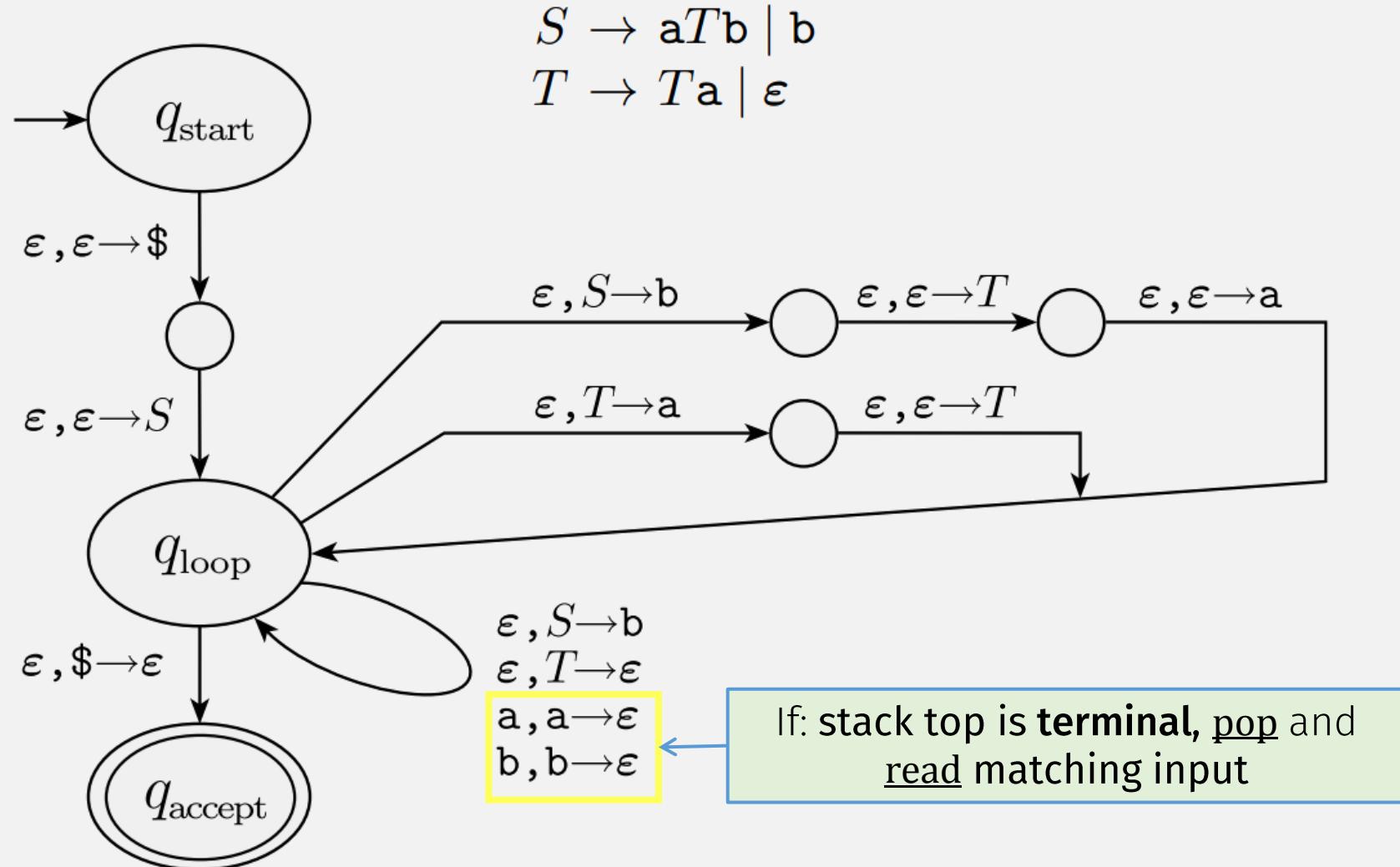
Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



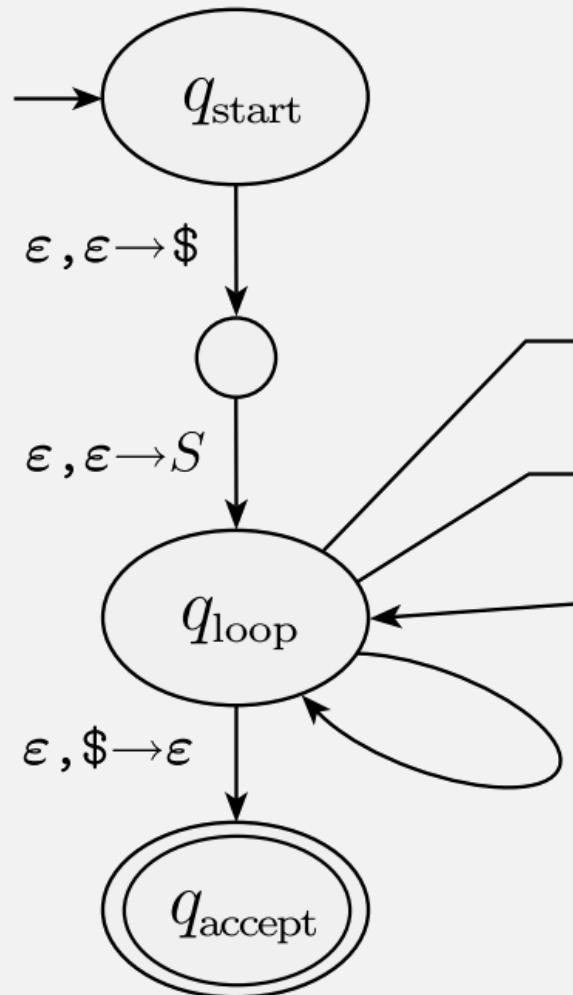
Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example CFG \rightarrow PDA

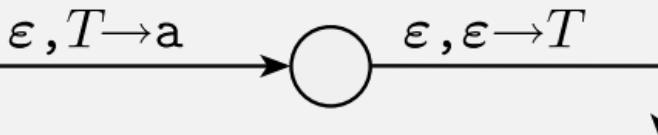
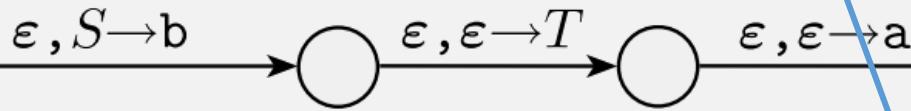


$$S \rightarrow aTb \mid b$$

$$T \rightarrow Ta \mid \epsilon$$

Machine is doing reverse of grammar:
 - start with the string,
 - Find rules that generate string

Example Derivation using CFG:
 $S \Rightarrow aTb$ (using rule $S \rightarrow aTb$)
 $\Rightarrow aTab$ (using rule $T \rightarrow Ta$)
 $\Rightarrow aab$ (using rule $T \rightarrow \epsilon$)

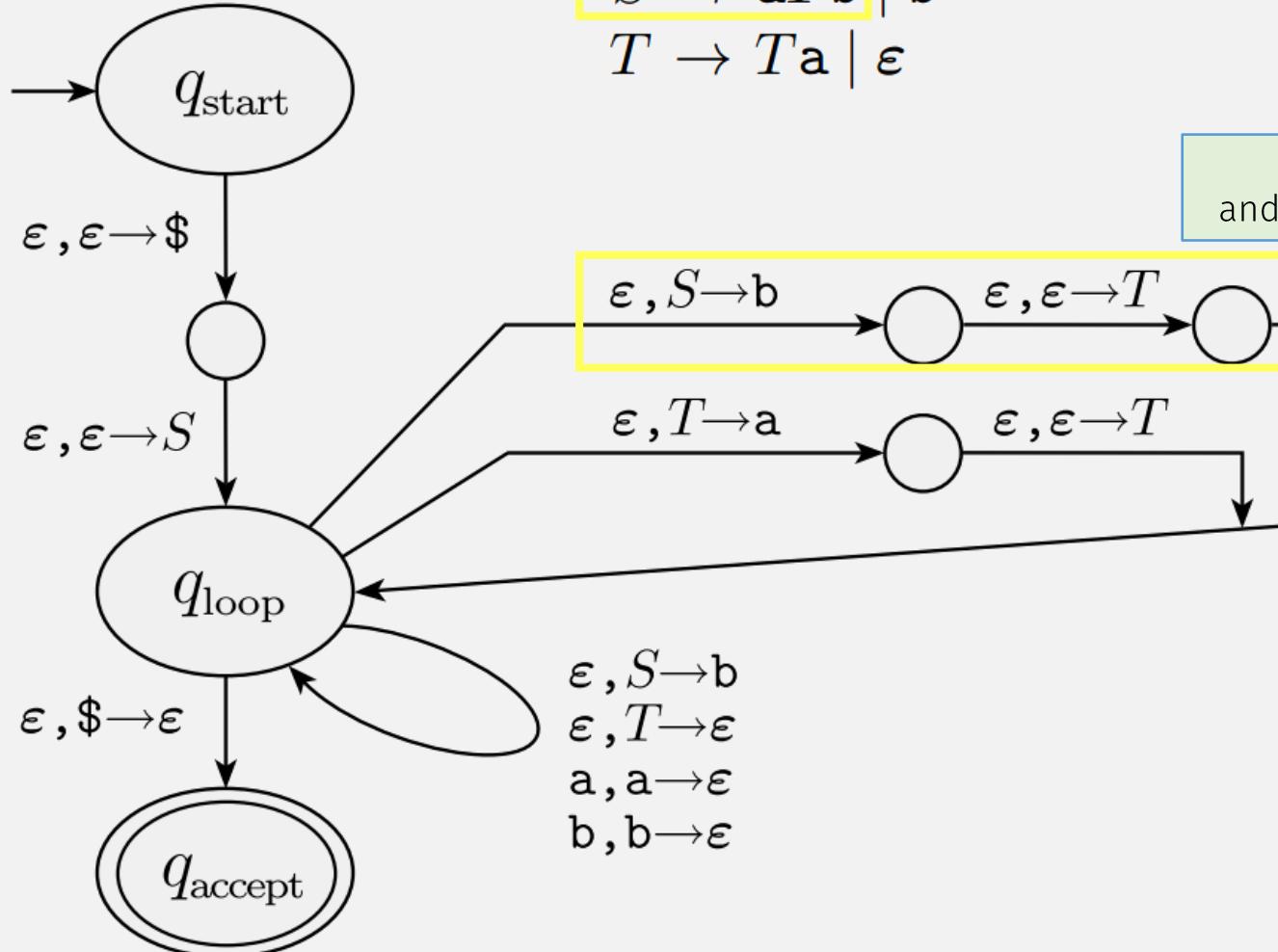


$\epsilon, S \rightarrow b$
 $\epsilon, T \rightarrow \epsilon$
 $a, a \rightarrow \epsilon$
 $b, b \rightarrow \epsilon$

PDA Example

State	Input	Stack	Equiv Rule
q_{start}	aab		
q_{loop}	aab	$S\$$	
q_{loop}	aab	$aTb\$$	$S \rightarrow aTb$
q_{loop}	ab	$Tb\$$	
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q_{loop}	ab	$ab\$$	$T \rightarrow \epsilon$
q_{loop}	b	$b\$$	
		$\$$	
q_{accept}			

Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



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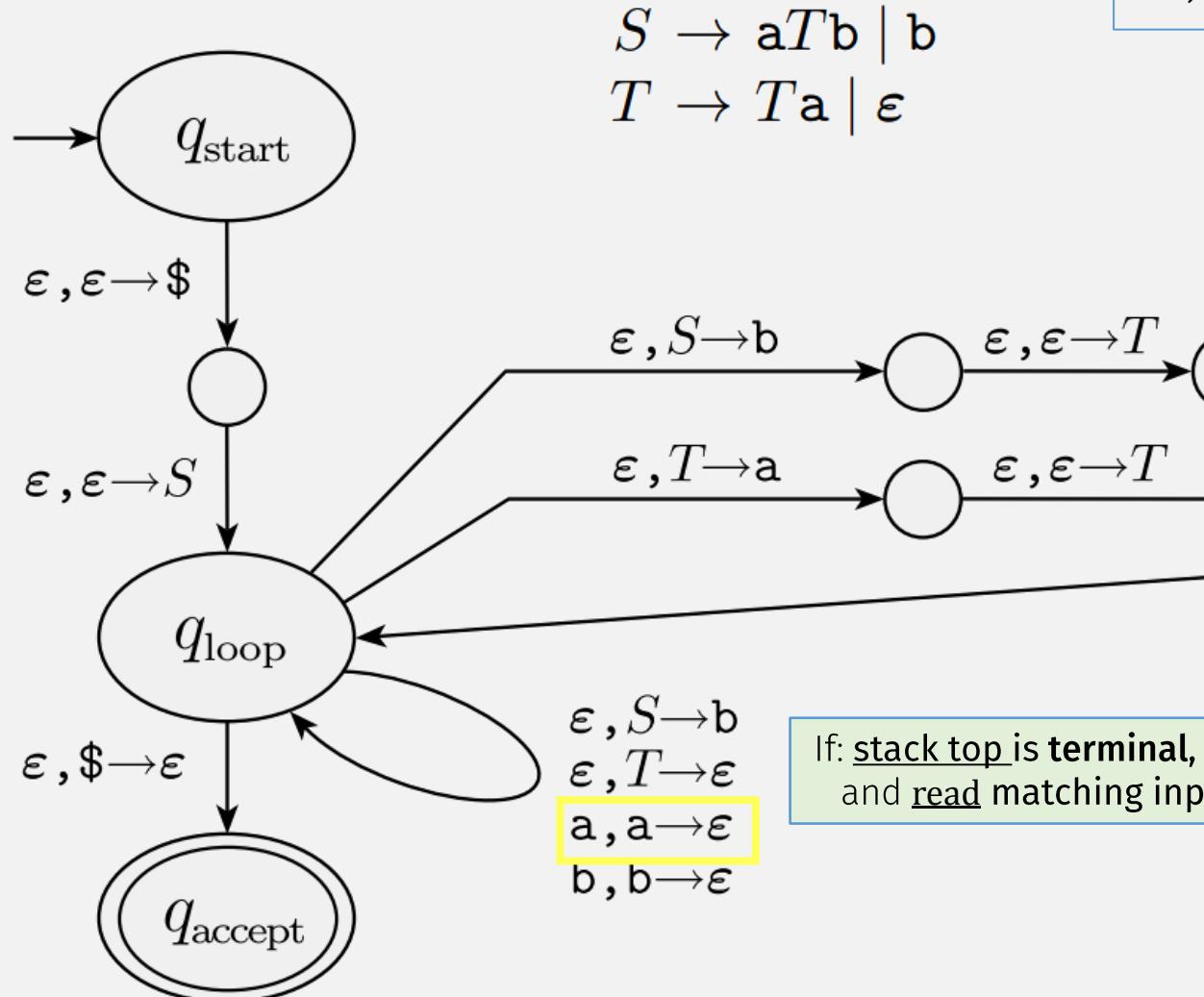
$\Rightarrow aab$ (using rule $T \rightarrow \epsilon$)

If: stack top is variable S , pop S
and push rule right-sides (in rev order)

PDA Example

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q_{loop}	aab	$aTb\$$	$S \rightarrow aTb$
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q_{loop}	b	$b\$$	
		\$	
q_{accept}			

Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example Derivation using CFG:

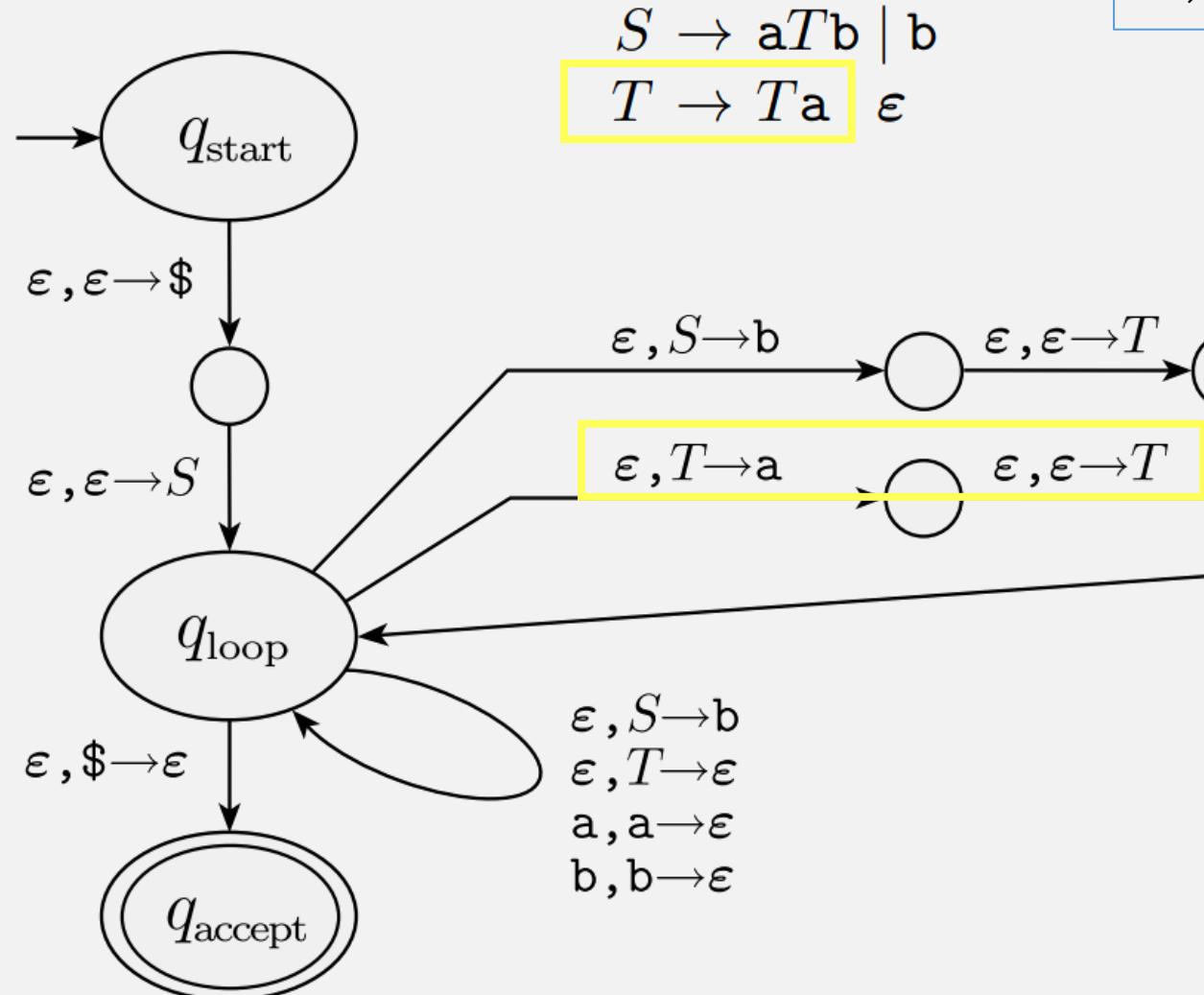
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		\$	
q_{accept}			

If: stack top is terminal, pop and read matching input

Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example Derivation using CFG:

$S \Rightarrow aTb$ (using rule $S \rightarrow aTb$)

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q_{loop}	b	$b\$$	
q_{loop}		\$	
q_{accept}			

A lang is a CFL iff some PDA recognizes it

 ⇒ If a language is a CFL, then a PDA recognizes it

- Convert CFG → PDA

⇐ If a PDA recognizes a language, then it's a CFL

- To prove this part: show PDA has an equivalent CFG

PDA \rightarrow CFG: Prelims

Before converting PDA to CFG, modify it so :

1. It has a single accept state, q_{accept} .
2. It empties its stack before accepting.
3. Each transition either pushes a symbol onto the stack (a *push* move) or pops one off the stack (a *pop* move), but it does not do both at the same time.

Important:

This doesn't change the language recognized by the PDA

PDA $P \rightarrow$ CFG G : Variables

$P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$ variables of G are $\{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$

- Want: if P goes from state p to q reading input x , then some A_{pq} generates x
- So: For every pair of states p, q in P , add variable A_{pq} to G
- Then: connect the variables together by,
 - Add rules: $A_{pq} \rightarrow A_{pr}A_{rq}$, for each state r
 - These rules allow grammar to simulate every possible transition
 - (We haven't added input read/generated terminals yet)
- To add terminals: pair up stack pushes and pops (essence of a CFL)¹⁰⁹

The Key IDEA

PDA $P \rightarrow$ CFG G : Generating Strings

$$P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$$

variables of G are $\{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$

- The key: pair up stack pushes and pops (essence of a CFL)

if $\delta(p, a, \epsilon)$ contains (r, u) and $\delta(s, b, u)$ contains (q, ϵ) ,

put the rule $A_{pq} \rightarrow aA_{rs}b$ in G

PDA $P \rightarrow$ CFG G : Generating Strings

$P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$ variables of G are $\{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$

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PDA $P \rightarrow$ CFG G : Generating Strings

$P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$ variables of G are $\{A_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$

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A language is a CFL \Leftrightarrow A PDA recognizes it

\Rightarrow If a language is a CFL, then a PDA recognizes it

- Convert CFG \rightarrow PDA

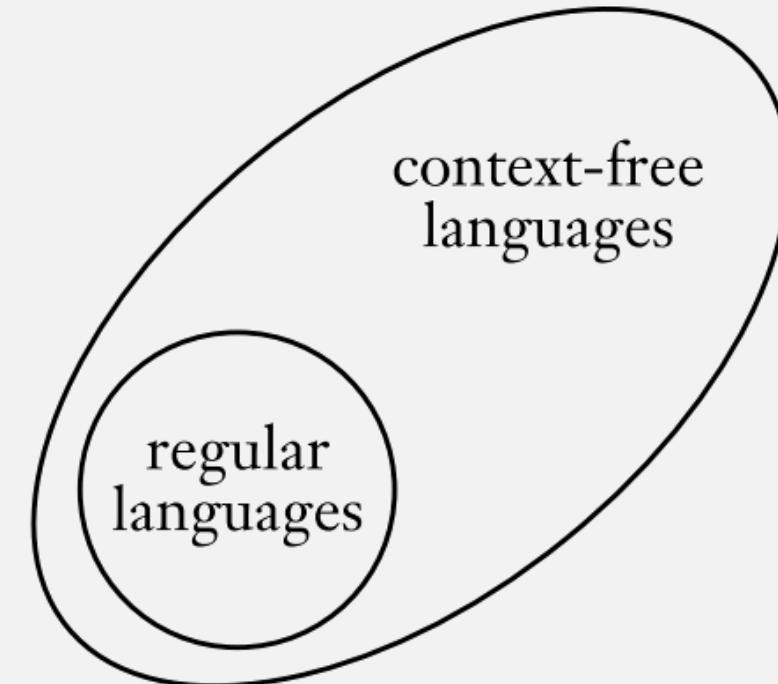
\Leftarrow If a PDA recognizes a language, then it's a CFL

- Convert PDA \rightarrow CFG



Regular Languages are CFLs: 3 Proofs

- DFA \rightarrow CFG
 - HW?
- NFA \rightarrow CFG
 - NFA \rightarrow PDA (with no stack moves) \rightarrow CFG
 - Just now
- Regular expression \rightarrow CFG
 - HW?



Check-in Quiz 10/20

On Gradescope

Previously: CFLs, CFGs, and Parse Trees

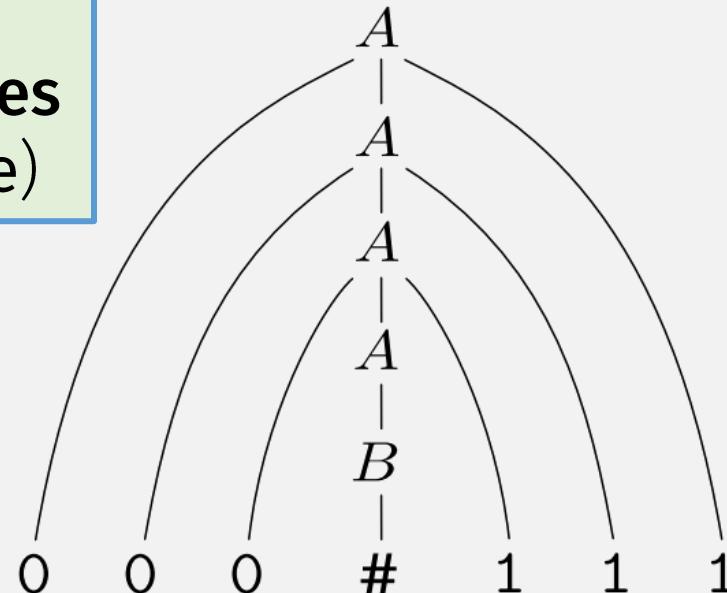
Generating strings:

1. Start with start variable,
2. Repeatedly apply CFG rules
to get string (and parse tree)

$$A \rightarrow 0A1$$

$$A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow \#$$



$$A \Rightarrow 0A1 \Rightarrow 00A11 \Rightarrow 000A111 \Rightarrow 000B111 \Rightarrow 000\#111$$

Generating vs Parsing

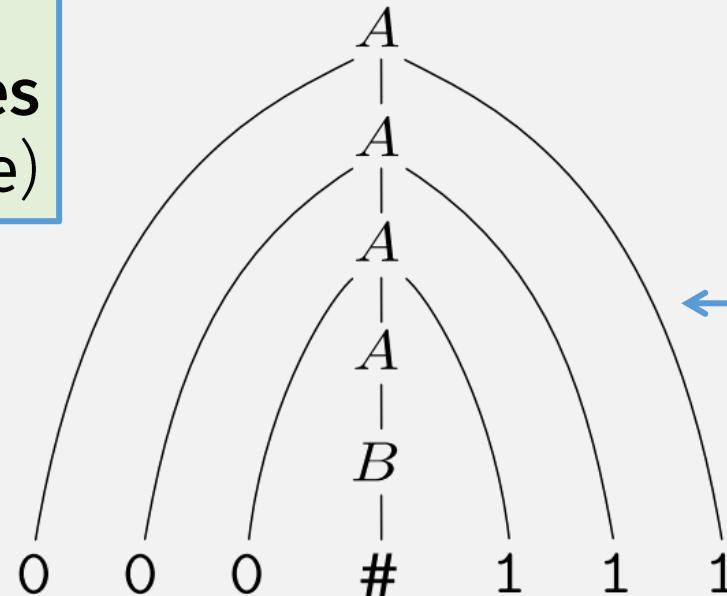
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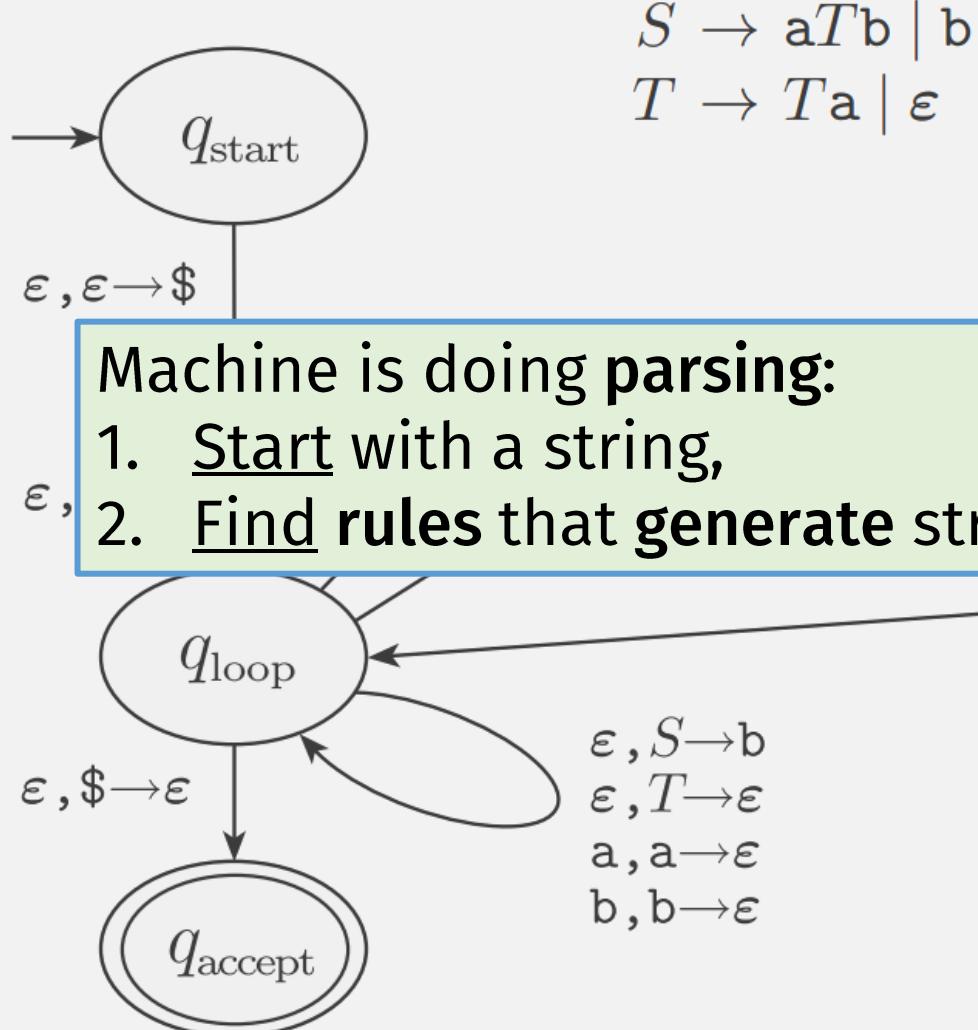
$$A \Rightarrow 0A1 \Rightarrow 00A11 \Rightarrow 000A111 \Rightarrow 000B111 \Rightarrow 000\#111$$

In practice, the opposite is more interesting:
start with a string,
then **parse it into parse tree**

Generating vs Parsing

- In practice, **parsing** a string more important than **generating** one
 - E.g., a **compiler** (first step) parses source code into a parse tree
 - (Actually, *any* program with string inputs must first parse it)

Previously: Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example Derivation using CFG:

$S \Rightarrow aTb$ (using rule $S \rightarrow aTb$)
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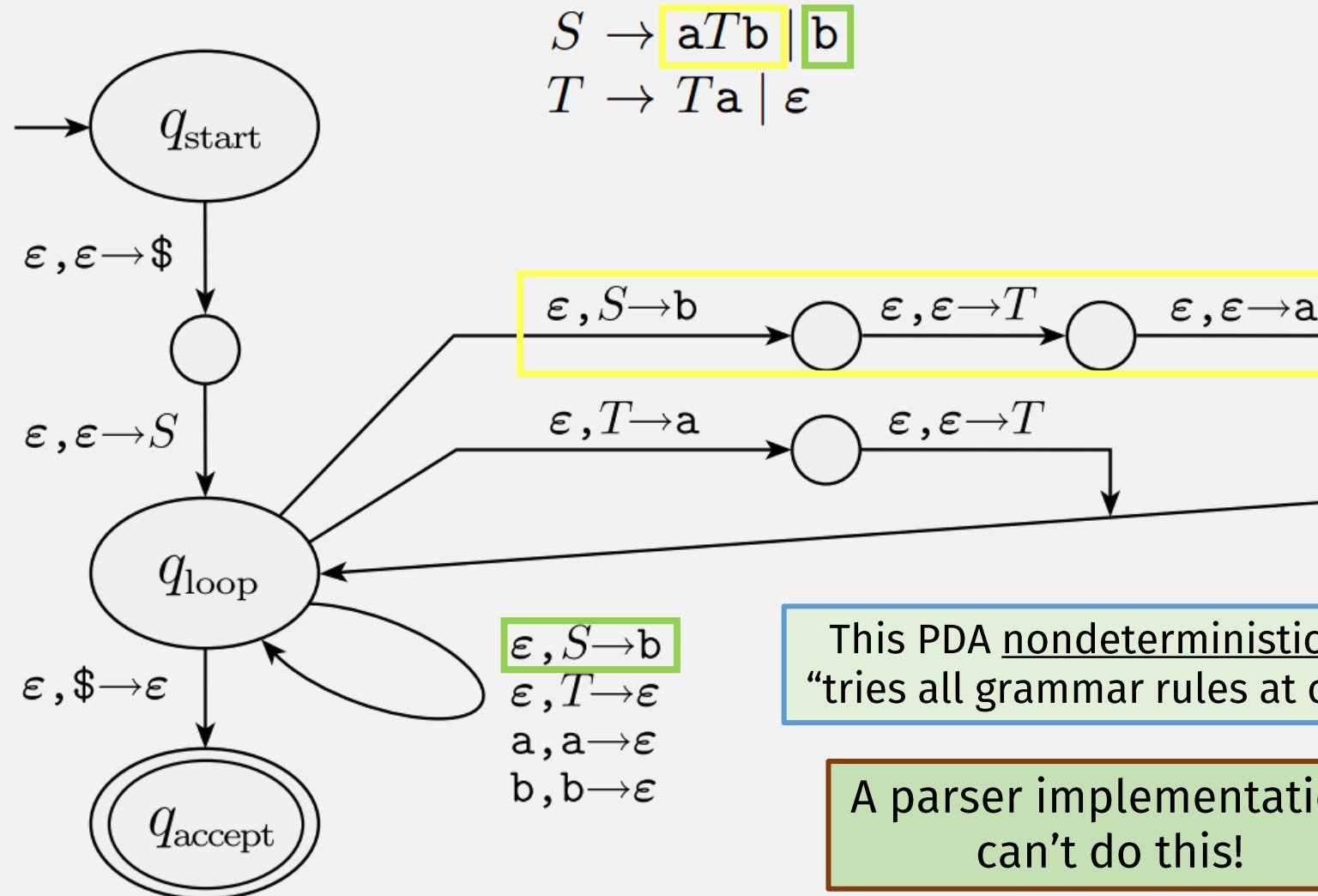
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		\$	
q_{accept}			

Generating vs Parsing

- In practice, **parsing** a string more important than **generating** one
 - E.g., a **compiler** (first step) parses source code into a parse tree
 - (Actually, *any* program with string inputs must first parse it)
- But: the PDAs we've seen are non-deterministic (like NFAs)

Previously: (Nondeterministic) PDA



Generating vs Parsing

- In practice, **parsing** a string more important than **generating** one
 - E.g., a **compiler** (first step) parses source code into a parse tree
 - (Actually, *any* program with string inputs must first parse it)
- But: the PDAs we've seen are non-deterministic (like NFAs)
- Compiler's parsing algorithm must be deterministic
- So: to model parsers, we need a **Deterministic PDA (DPDA)**

DPDA: Formal Definition

The language of a DPDA is called a *deterministic context-free language*.

A **deterministic pushdown automaton** is a 6-tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$, where Q , Σ , Γ , and F are all finite sets, and

1. Q is the set of states,
2. Σ is the input alphabet,
3. Γ is the stack alphabet,
4. $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \times \Gamma_\varepsilon \rightarrow (Q \times \Gamma_\varepsilon) \cup \{\emptyset\}$ is the transition function
5. $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state, and
6. $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of accept states.

A **pushdown automaton** is a 6-tuple

1. Q is the set of states,
2. Σ is the input alphabet,
3. Γ is the stack alphabet,
4. $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\varepsilon \times \Gamma_\varepsilon \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \Gamma_\varepsilon)$
5. $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state, and
6. $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of accept states.

Difference: DPDA has only **one possible action**, for any given state, input, and stack op (similar to DFA vs NFA)

This must take into account ε reads or stack ops!
E.g., if $\delta(q, a, X)$ is valid, then $\delta(q, \varepsilon, X)$ must not be

DPDAs are Not Equivalent to PDAs!

$$\begin{array}{l} R \rightarrow S \mid T \\ S \rightarrow aSb \mid ab \\ T \rightarrow aTbb \mid abb \end{array}$$

Should use S rule

Should use T rule

aaabbb \rightarrow aaSbbb

aaabbbb \rightarrow aaTbbb

- A PDA can non-deterministically “try all rules” (abandoning failed attempts);
- A DPDA must choose one rule at each step!

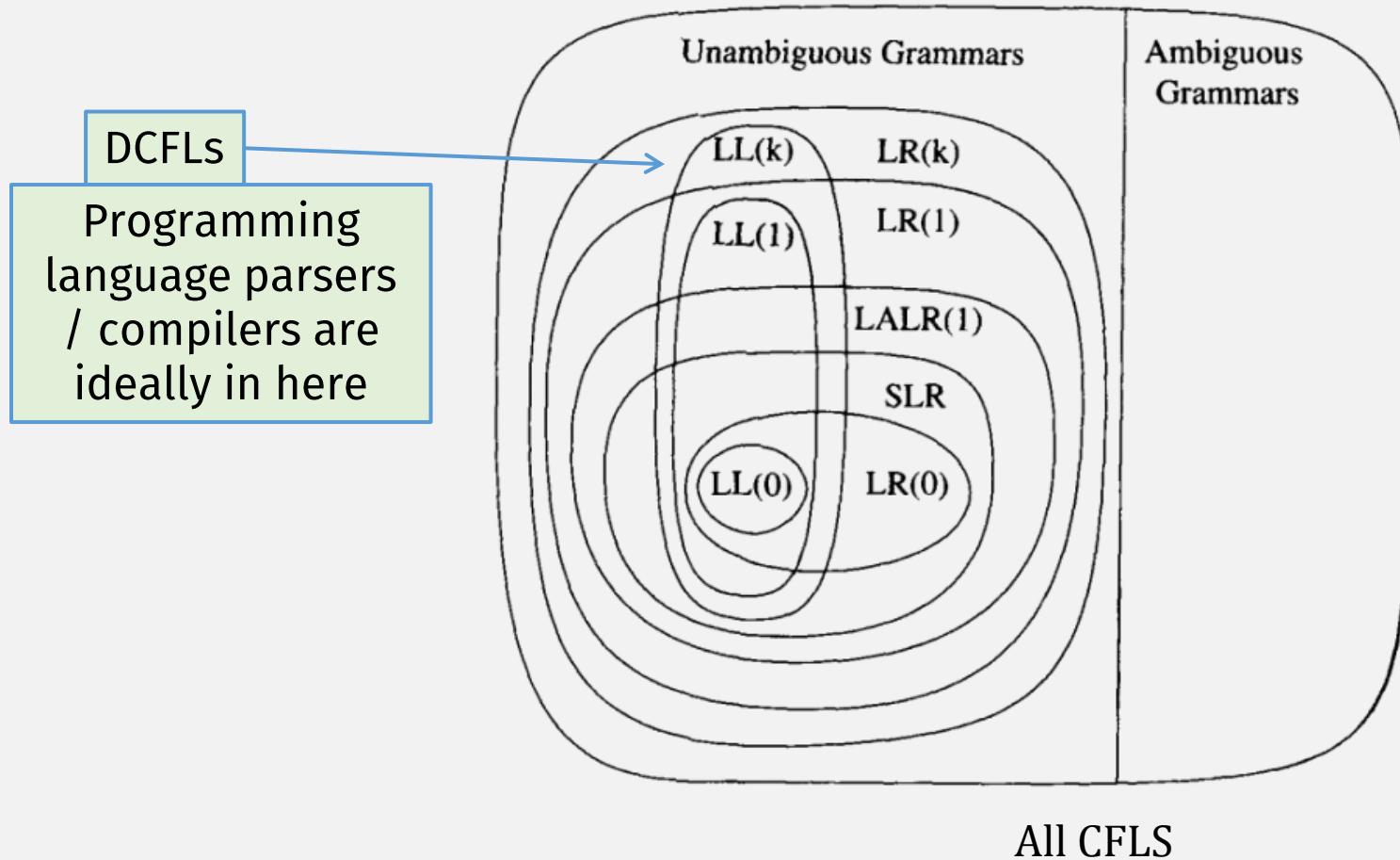
Parsing = deriving reversed:
start with string, end with parse tree

When parsing reaches this input position,
which rule to use, S or T ?

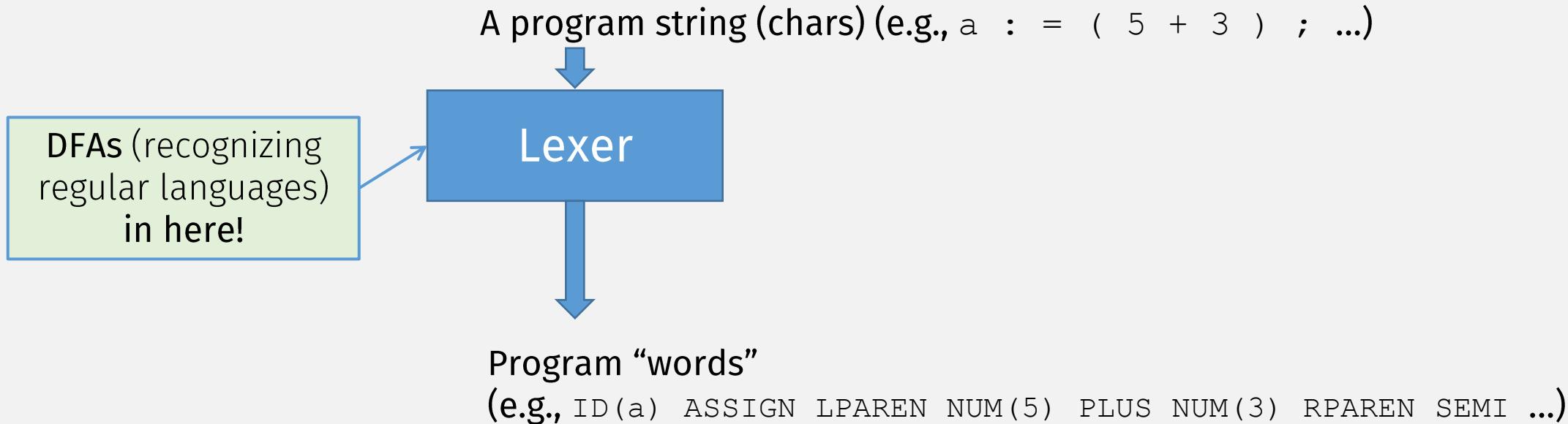
Choosing “correct”
rule depends on rest
of the input!

PDAs recognize CFLs, but DPDAs only recognize DCFLs! (a subset of CFLs)

Subclasses of CFLs



Compiler Stages



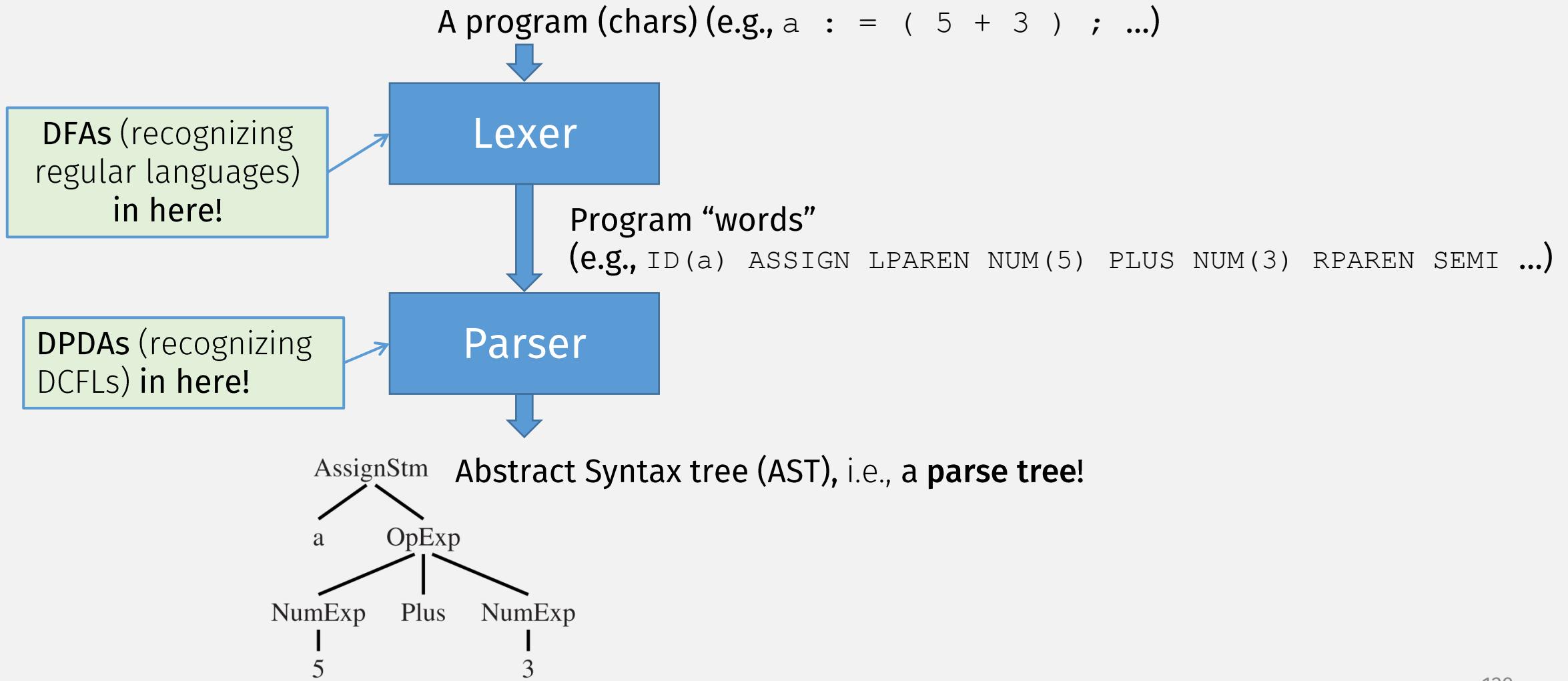
A Lexer Implementation

DFAs
(represented
as regular
expressions!)

```
%{  
/* C Declarations: */  
#include "tokens.h" /* definitions of IF, ID, NUM, ... */  
#include "errmsg.h"  
union {int ival; string sval; double fval;} yylval;  
int charPos=1;  
#define ADJ (EM_tokPos=charPos, charPos+=yyleng)  
%}  
/* Lex Definitions: */  
digits [0-9]+  
%%  
/* Regular Expressions and Actions: */  
if [a-z] [a-zA-Z0-9]* {ADJ; return IF;}  
{ADJ; yylval.sval=String(yytext);  
return ID;}  
{digits} {ADJ; yylval.ival=atoi(yytext);  
return NUM;}  
({digits} "." [0-9]*) | ([0-9]*)." {digits} {ADJ;  
yylval.fval=atof(yytext);  
return REAL;}  
( " -- " [a-zA-Z]* "\n" ) | ( " " | "\n" | "\t" )+ {ADJ; }  
. {ADJ; EM_error("illegal character"); }
```

A “lex” tool translates
this to a (C program)
implementation of a lexer

Compiler Stages



A Parser Implementation

```
%{  
int yylex(void);  
void yyerror(char *s) { EM_error(EM_tokPos, "%s", s); }  
%}  
%token ID WHILE BEGIN END DO IF THEN ELSE SEMI ASSIGN  
%start prog  
%%  
  
prog: stmlist  
  
Just write the CFG! → A “yacc” tool translates  
this to a (C program)  
implementation of a parser  
stm : ID ASSIGN ID  
| WHILE ID DO stm  
| BEGIN stmlist END  
| IF ID THEN stm  
| IF ID THEN stm ELSE stm  
  
stmlist : stm  
| stmlist SEMI stm
```

Parsing

$$\begin{aligned} R &\rightarrow S \mid T \\ S &\rightarrow aSb \mid ab \\ T &\rightarrow aTbb \mid abb \end{aligned}$$

aaabbb \rightarrow aaSb



A parser must be able to choose the one correct rule, when reading input left-to-right

aaabbb \rightarrow aaTbbb



LL parsing

- L = left-to-right
- L = leftmost derivation

Game: You're the Parser:
Guess which rule applies?

1 $S \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then } S \text{ else } S$

2 $S \rightarrow \text{begin } S \text{ } L$

3 $S \rightarrow \text{print } E$

if 2 = 3 begin print 1; print 2; end else print 0



4 $L \rightarrow \text{end}$

5 $L \rightarrow ; \text{ } S \text{ } L$

6 $E \rightarrow \text{num} = \text{num}$

LL parsing

- L = left-to-right
- L = leftmost derivation

1 $S \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then } S \text{ else } S$

2 $S \rightarrow \text{begin } S \text{ } L$

3 $S \rightarrow \text{print } E$

4 $L \rightarrow \text{end}$

5 $L \rightarrow ; \text{ } S \text{ } L$

6 $E \rightarrow \boxed{\text{num} \text{ } = \text{ } \text{num}}$

if 2 \leftarrow 3 begin print 1; print 2; end else print 0
↑

LL parsing

- L = left-to-right
- L = leftmost derivation

1 $S \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then } S \text{ else } S$

2 $S \rightarrow \boxed{\text{begin } S \ L}$

3 $S \rightarrow \text{print } E$

4 $L \rightarrow \text{end}$

5 $L \rightarrow ; \ S \ L$

6 $E \rightarrow \text{num} = \text{num}$

if 2 = 3 begin print 1; print 2; end else print 0



LL parsing

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1 $S \rightarrow \text{if } E \text{ then } S \text{ else } S$

2 $S \rightarrow \text{begin } S \text{ } L$

3 $S \rightarrow \boxed{\text{print } E}$

4 $L \rightarrow \text{end}$

5 $L \rightarrow ; \text{ } S \text{ } L$

6 $E \rightarrow \text{num} \text{ } = \text{ } \text{num}$

if 2 = 3 begin print 1; print 2; end else print 0



“Prefix” languages (like Scheme/Lisp) are easily parsed with LL parsers

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 1 \quad S \rightarrow S ; S & 4 \quad E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 2 \quad S \rightarrow \text{id} := E & 5 \quad E \rightarrow \text{num} \\
 3 \quad S \rightarrow \text{print} (L) & 6 \quad E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

$a := 7 ;$
 ↑
 $b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d)$

When parse is here, can't determine whether it's an assign ($:=$) or addition ($+$)

Need to save input to some temporary memory, like a **stack**: this is a job for a (D)PDA!!

Stack	Input	Action
1	$a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	shift "push"
1 id ₄	$7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	shift
1 id ₄ := 6	$; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	shift
1 id ₄ := 6 num ₁₀	$; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{num}$
1 id ₄ := 6 E ₁₁	$; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	reduce $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$
1 S ₂	$; b := c + (d := 5 + 6, d) \$$	shift

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 S \rightarrow S ; S & E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{id} := E & E \rightarrow \text{num} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{print} (L) & E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

Stack		Input	Action
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		shift
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		shift
1 id ₄ := ₆ 6	7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		shift
1 id ₄ := ₆ num ₁₀	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		reduce $E \rightarrow \text{num}$
1 id ₄ := ₆ E ₁₁	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		reduce $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$
1 S ₂	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$		shift

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 S \rightarrow S ; S & E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{id} := E & E \rightarrow \text{num} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{print} (L) & E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

Stack	Input	Action
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆	7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆ num ₁₀ ←	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{num}$
1 id ₄ := ₆ E ₁₁	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$
1 S ₂	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 1 \ S \rightarrow S ; \ S & 4 \ E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 2 \ S \rightarrow \text{id} := E & 5 \boxed{E \rightarrow \text{num}} \\
 3 \ S \rightarrow \text{print} (\ L \) & 6 \ E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

Stack		Input	Action
1			shift
1 id ₄	a := 7 ; b	:= c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := 6	Can determine (rightmost) rule	:= c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := 6 num ₁₀	,	:= c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce E → num
1 id ₄ := 6 E ₁₁	;	b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce S → id := E
1 S ₂		b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{ll}
 1 \ S \rightarrow S ; \ S & 4 \ E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 2 \boxed{S \rightarrow \text{id} := E} & 5 \ E \rightarrow \text{num} \\
 3 \ S \rightarrow \text{print} (\ L \) & 6 \ E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

Stack	Input	Action
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆	= c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆ num ₁₀	= c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{num}$
1 id ₄ := ₆ E ₁₁	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$
1 S ₂	b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift

Can determine (rightmost) rule

LR parsing

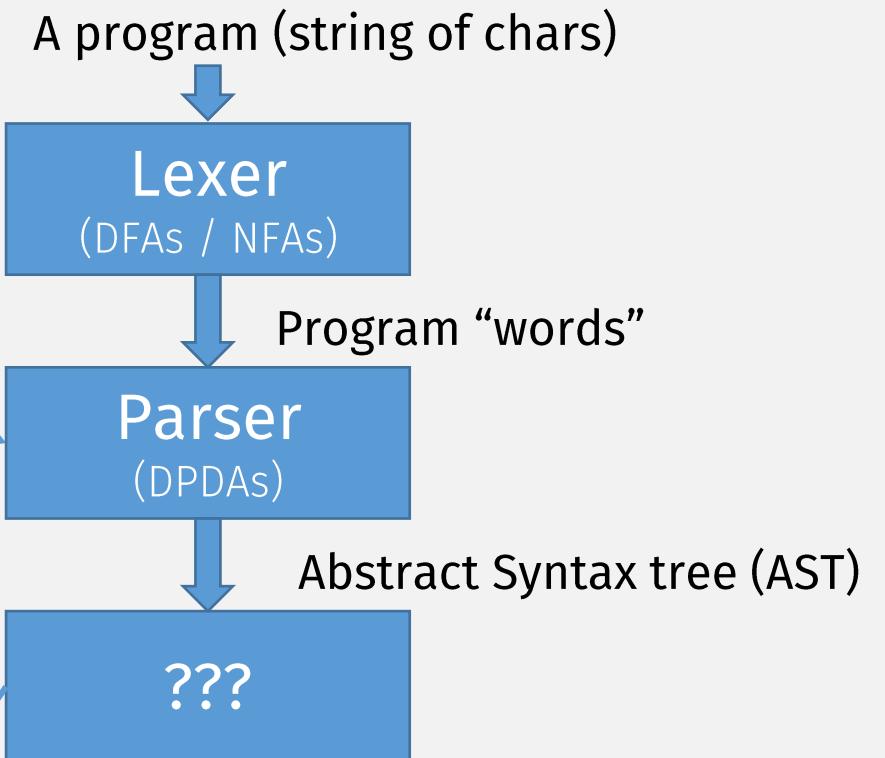
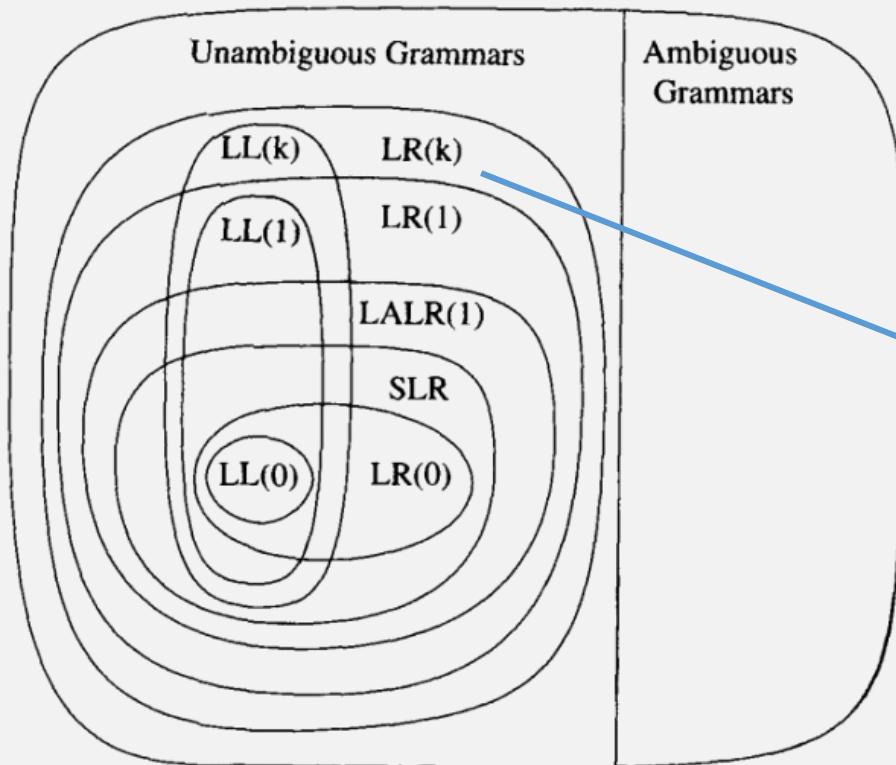
- L = left-to-right
- R = rightmost derivation

$$\begin{array}{lll}
 S \rightarrow S ; S & E \rightarrow \text{id} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{id} := E & E \rightarrow \text{num} \\
 S \rightarrow \text{print} (L) & E \rightarrow E + E
 \end{array}$$

Stack	Input	Action
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆	7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift
1 id ₄ := ₆ num ₁₀	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $E \rightarrow \text{num}$
1 id ₄ := ₆ E ₁₁	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$
1 S ₂	;	shift



To learn more, take a Compilers Class!



This phase needs computation that goes beyond CFLs