

Chapter 7

Pushdown Automata

Vocabulary

- Backus Naur Form (BNF)
- λ -productions
- λ -free languages
- Unit production
- s-grammars

Backus Naur Form

- Variables are enclosed in $\langle \rangle$ if A was a variable it would be denoted by " $\langle A \rangle$ ".
- $::=$ is used instead of \rightarrow
- Terminals have no special markup.

Additional Normal forms for CFGs

Chomsky normal form

All productions are of the form

$$A \rightarrow BC$$

or

$$A \rightarrow a$$

Where

$$A, B, C \in V$$

$$a \in T$$

Additional Normal forms for CFGs

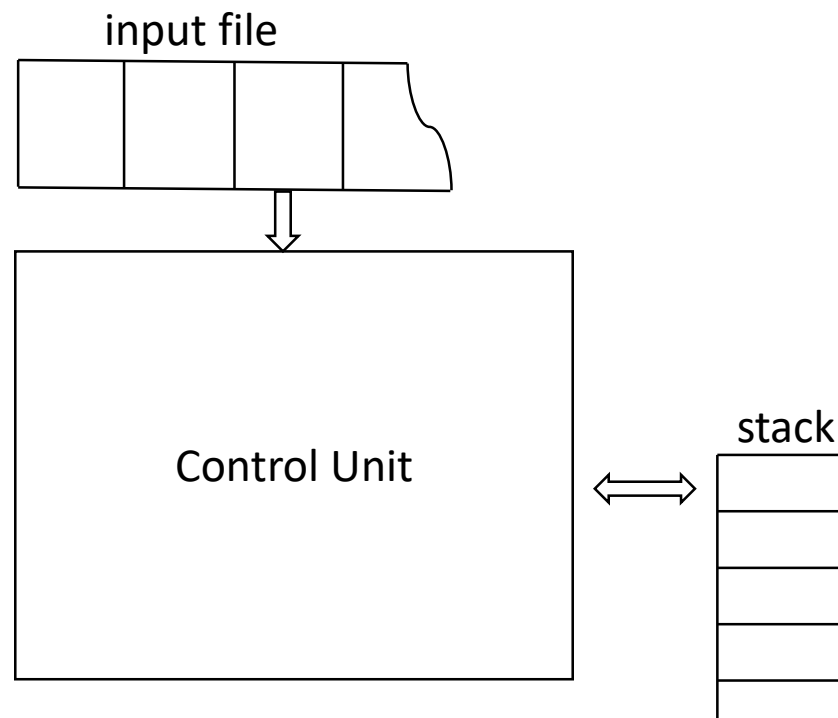
Greibach normal form

Form like s-grammars but no restriction on how many times a variable can produce a particular terminal.

Pushdown Automata

- a class of machines that allows counting with limitless memory.
- nondeterministic pushdown automata accepts context-free languages.
- NO equivalence between nondeterministic pdas and deterministic pdas.
- deterministic pdas accept deterministic context-free languages.

PDA schematic



Nondeterministic PDA

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

where

Q is a finite set of internal states of the control unit

Σ is the input alphabet

Γ is a finite set of symbols called the stack alphabet

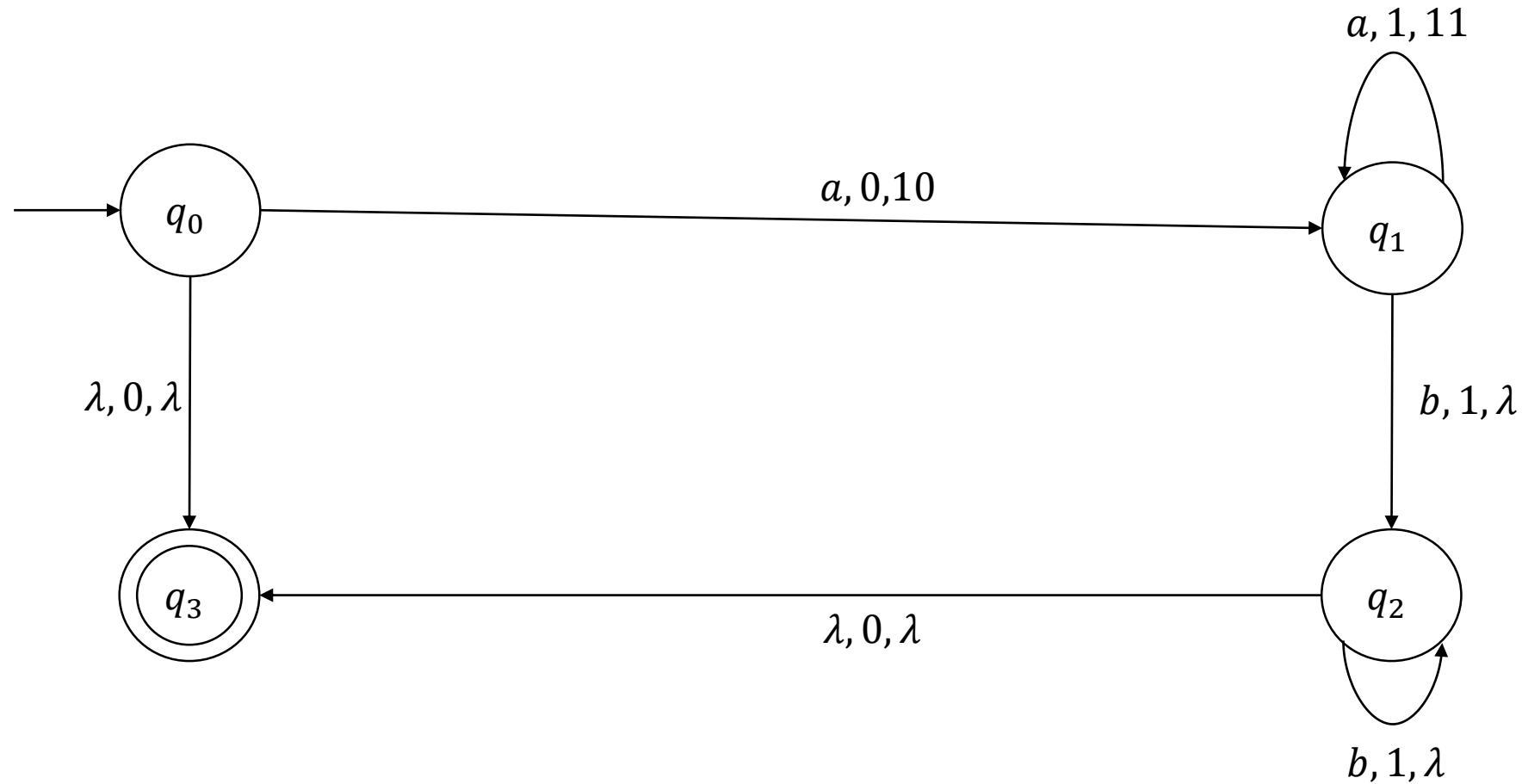
$\delta: Q \times (\Sigma \cup \{\lambda\}) \times \Gamma \rightarrow$ set of finite states of $Q \times \Gamma^*$ is the
transition function

$q_0 \in Q$ is the initial state of the control unit

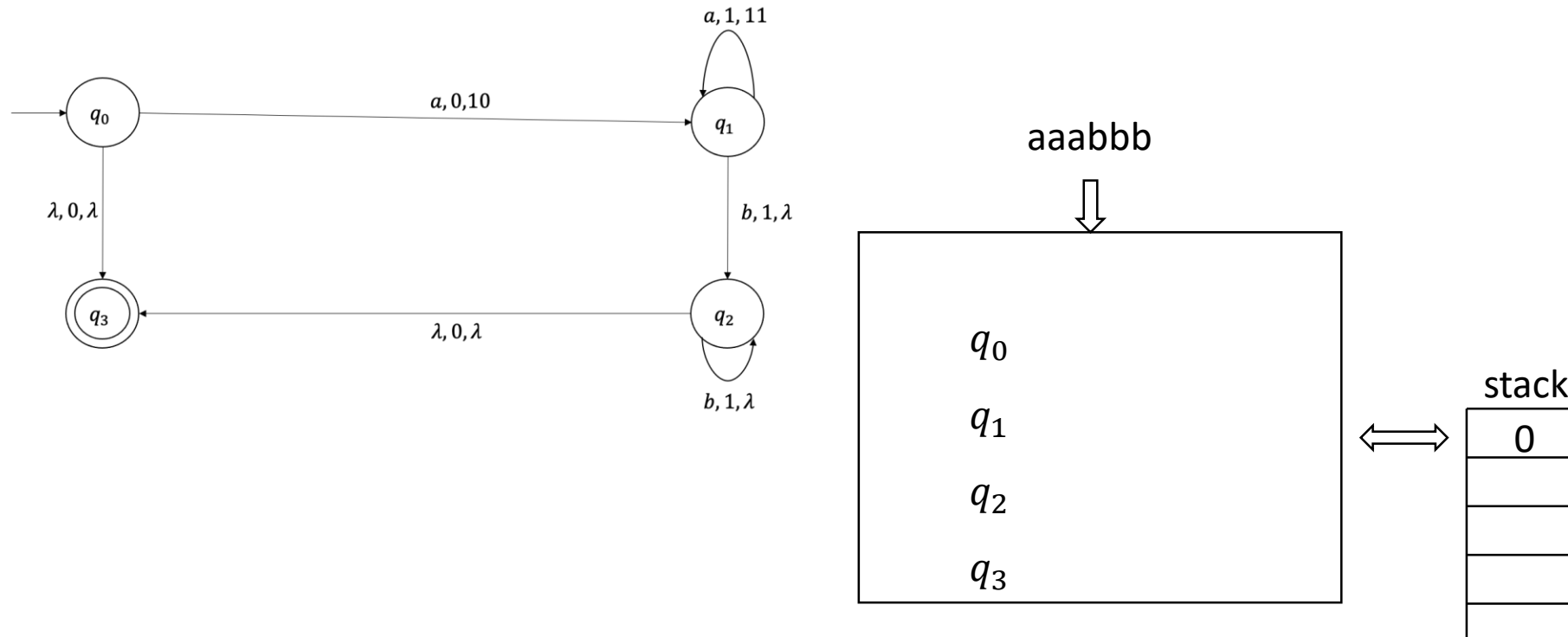
$z \in \Gamma$ is the stack start symbol

$F \subseteq Q$ is the set of final states.

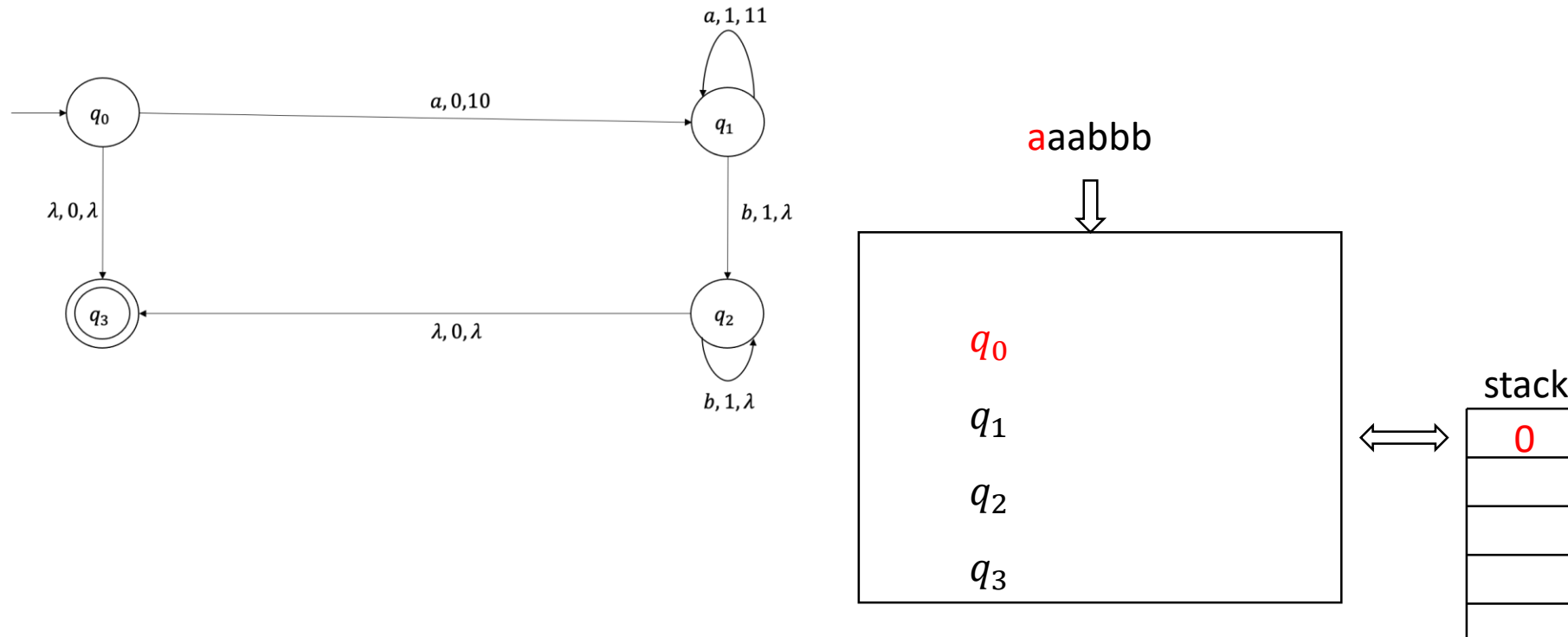
Example 1: Is $L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$ a CFL?



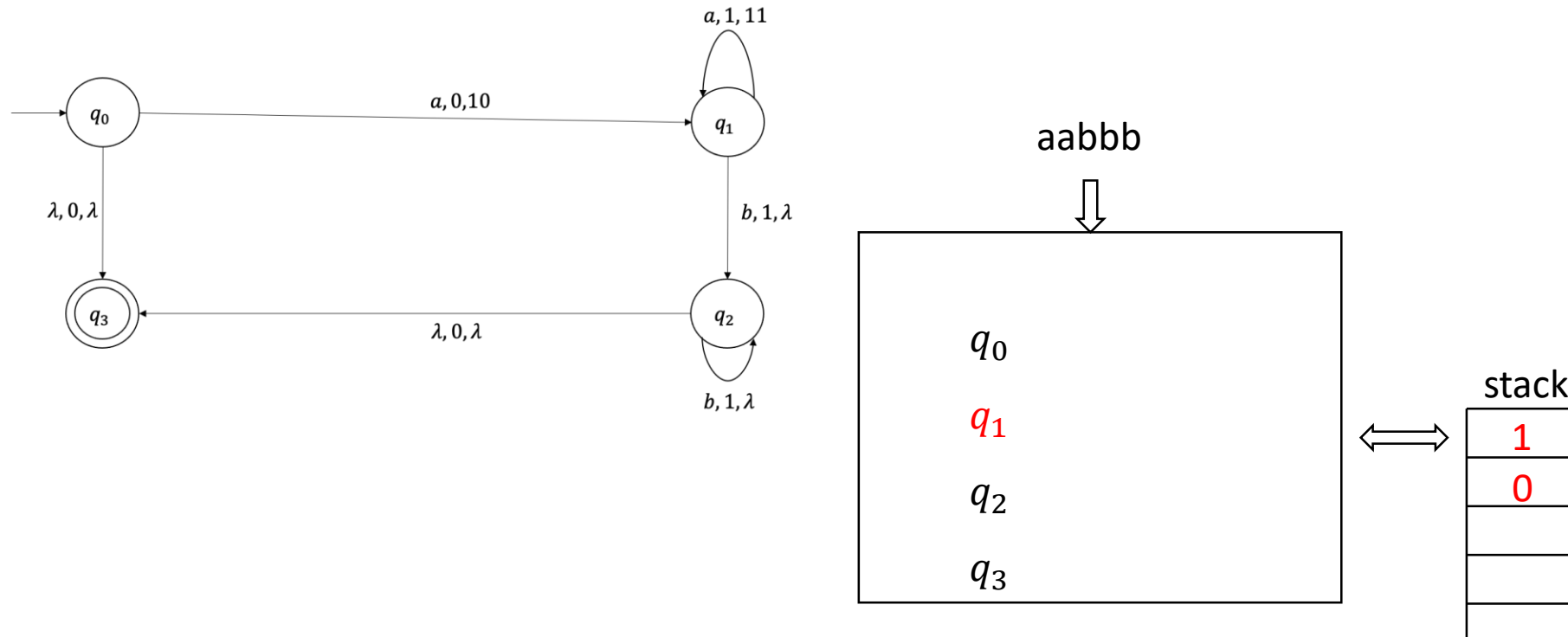
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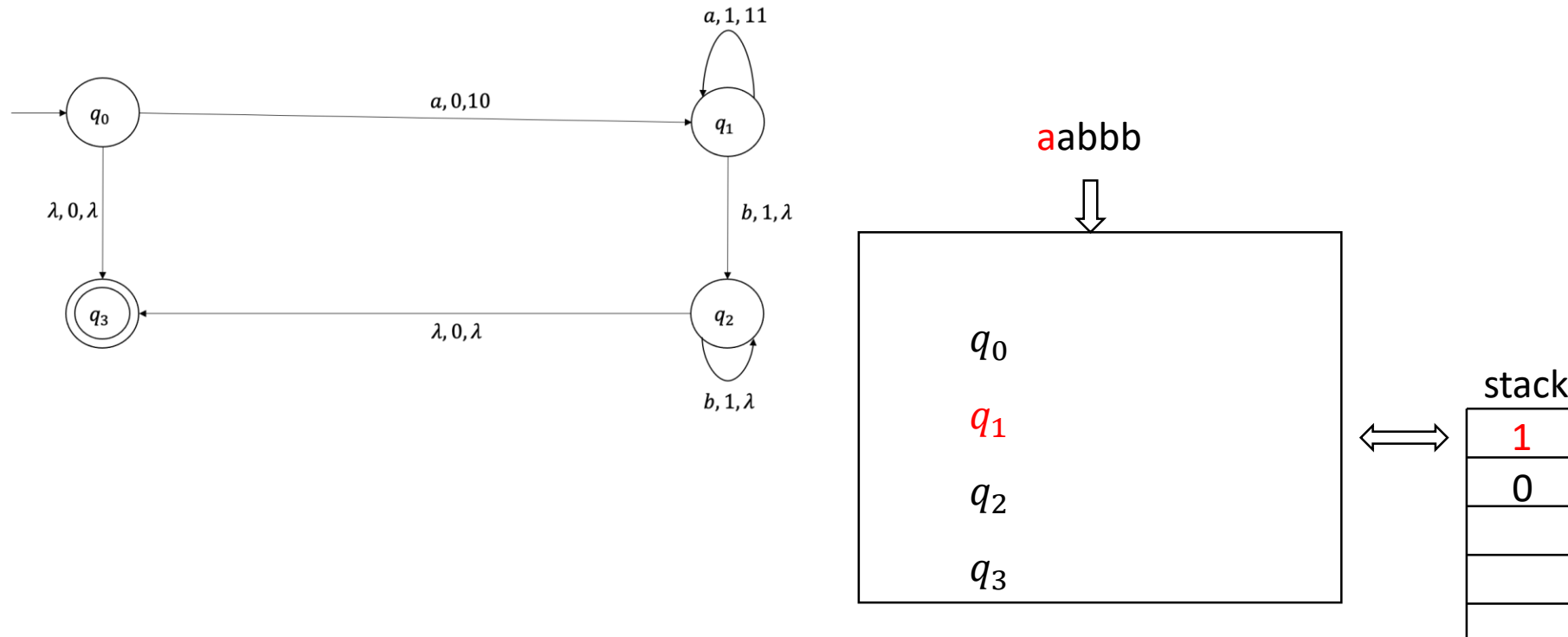
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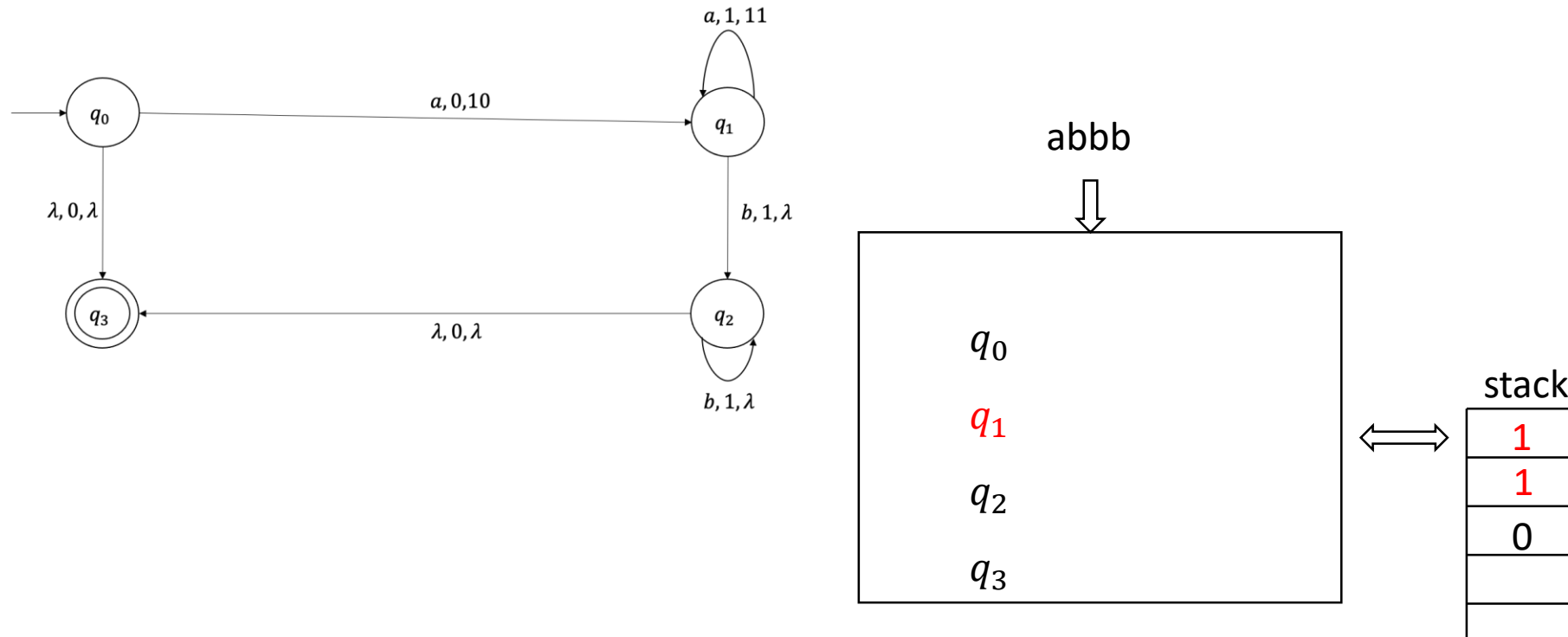
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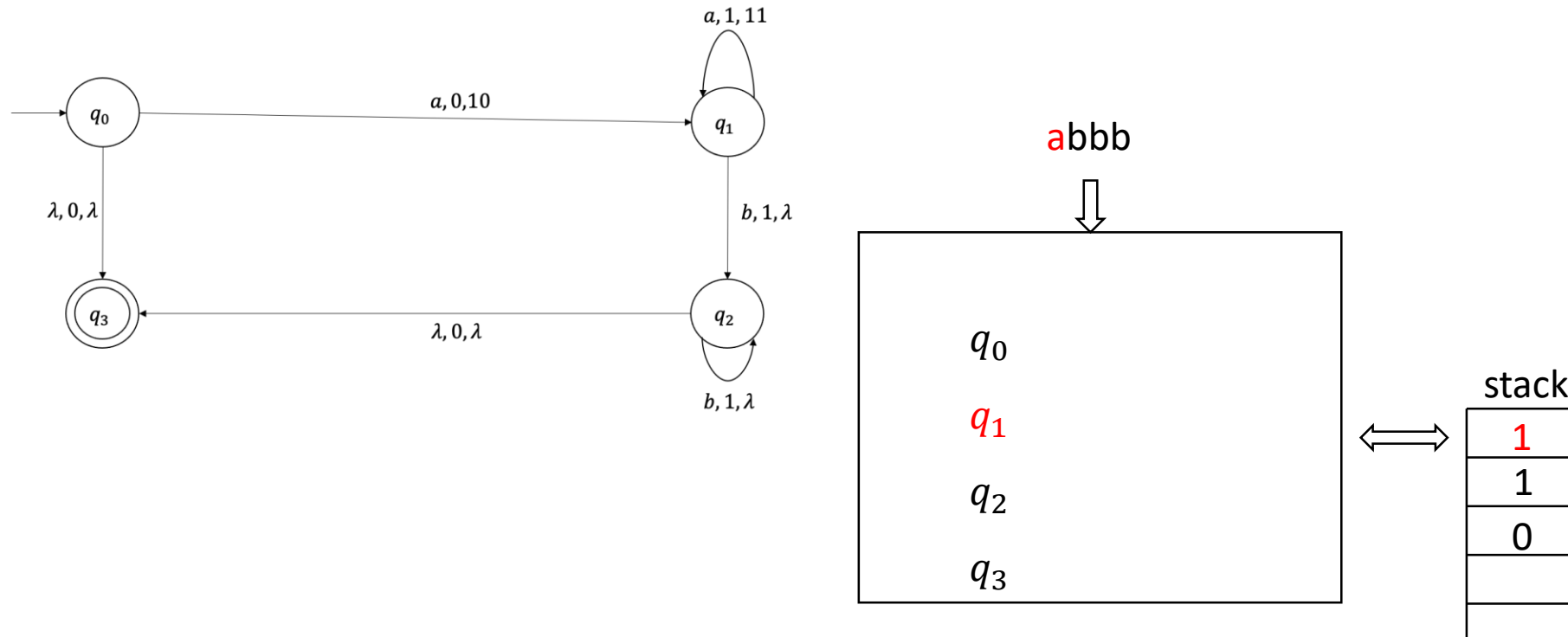
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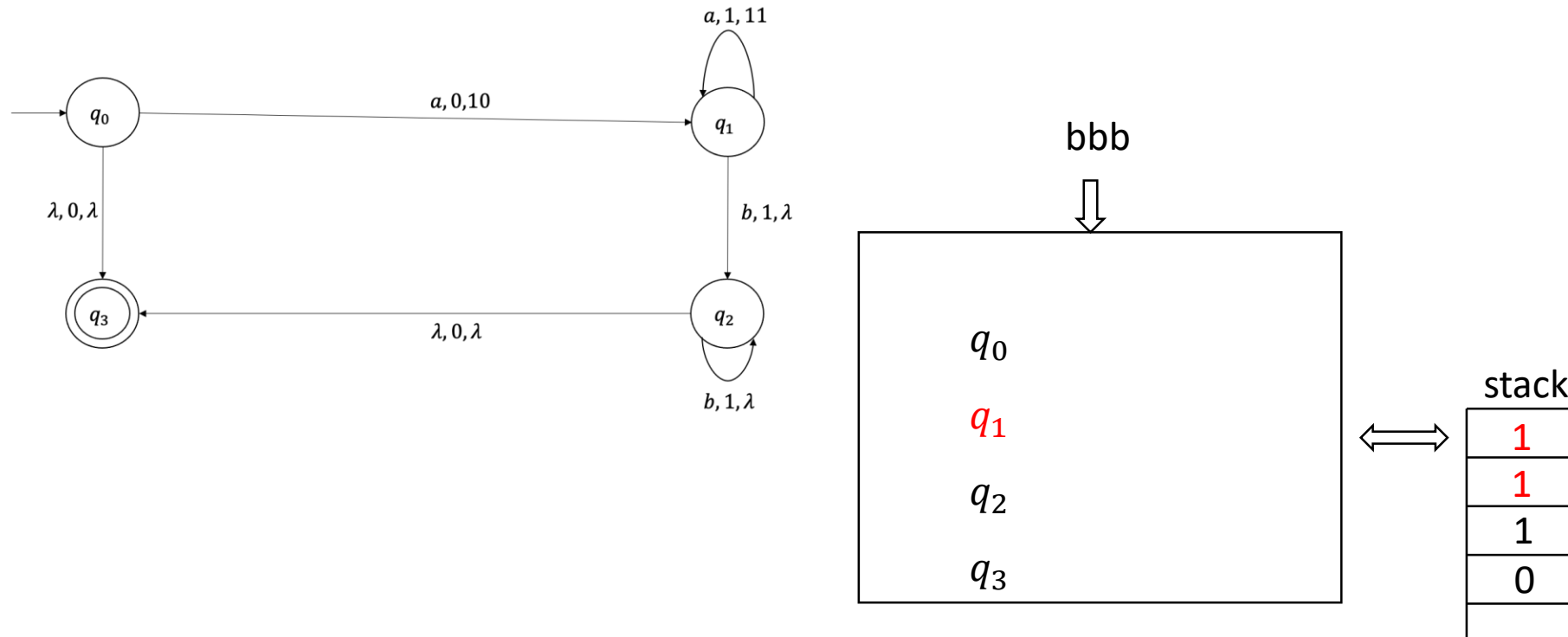
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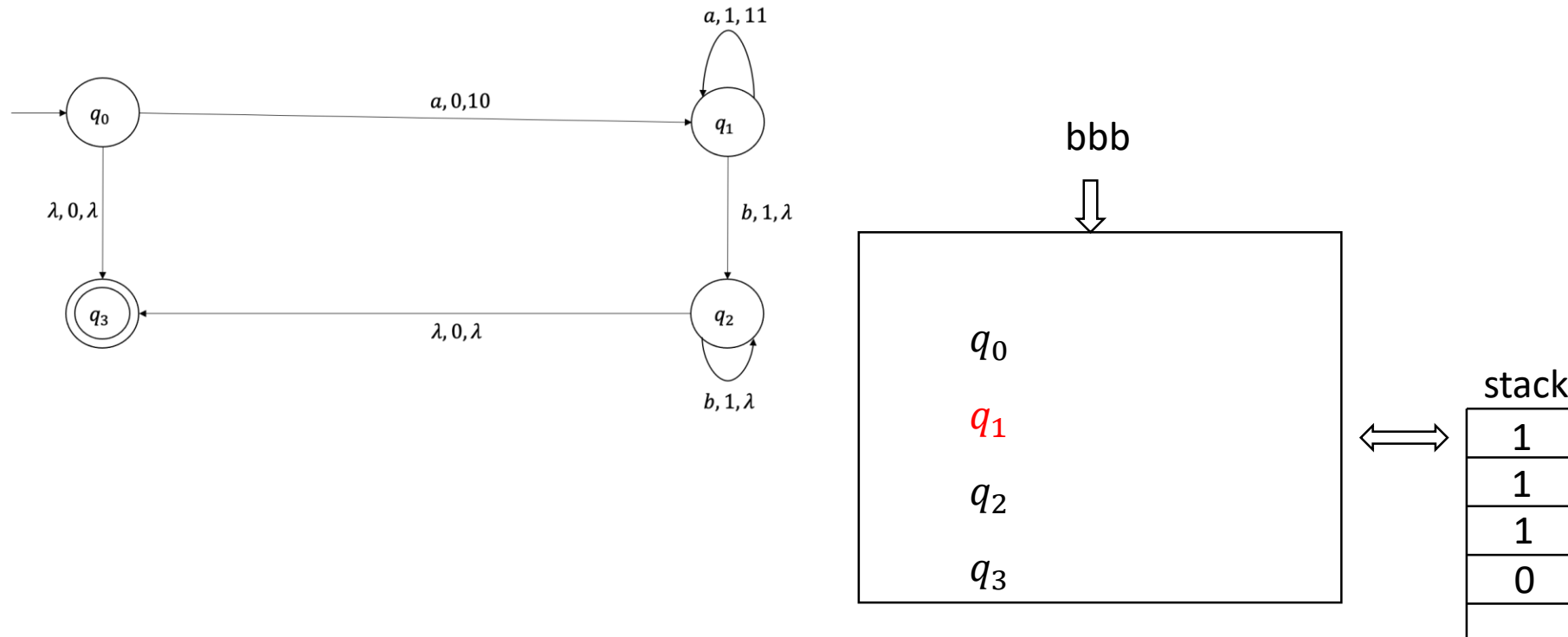
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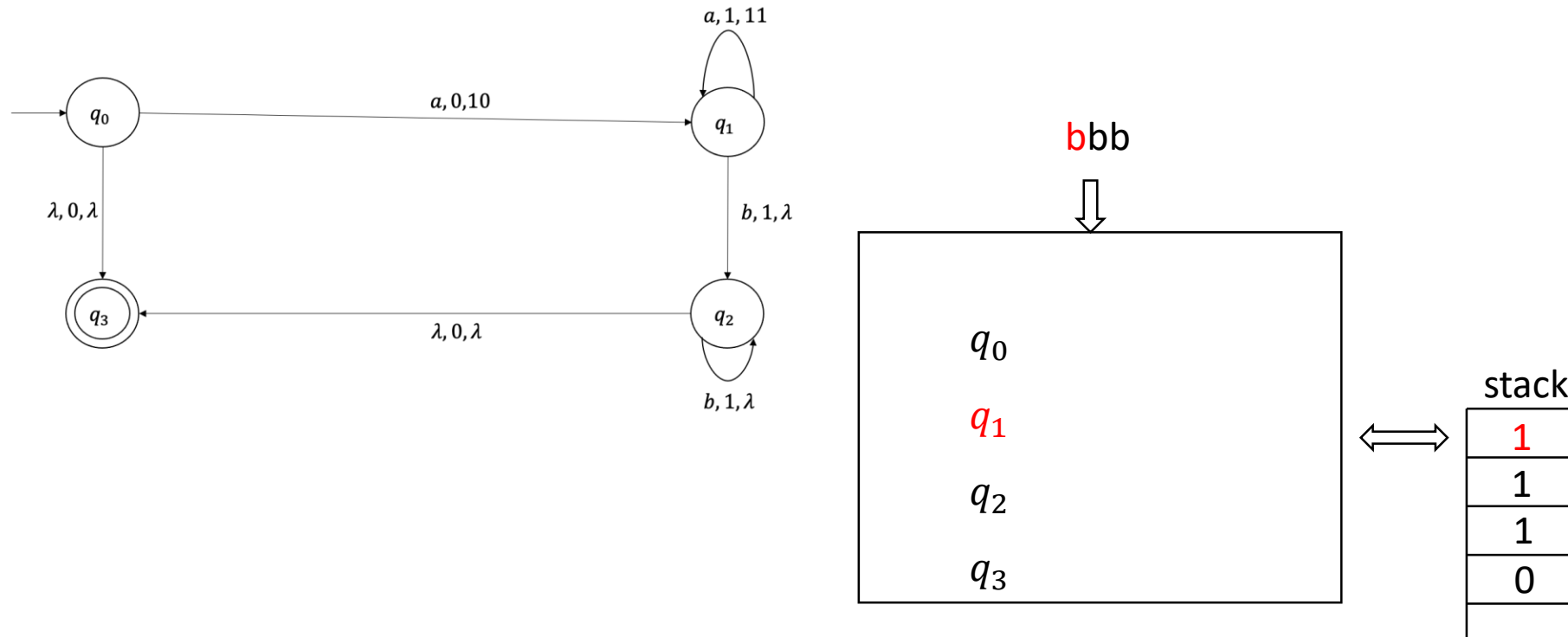
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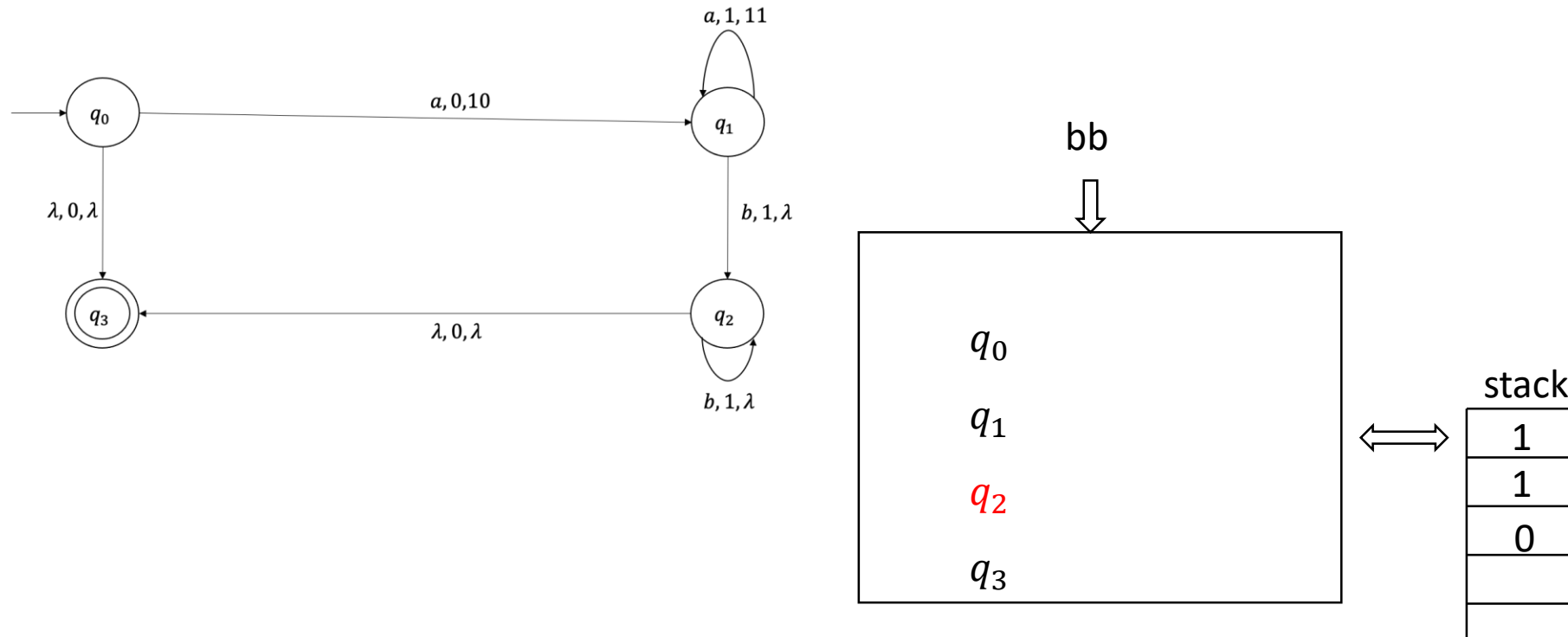
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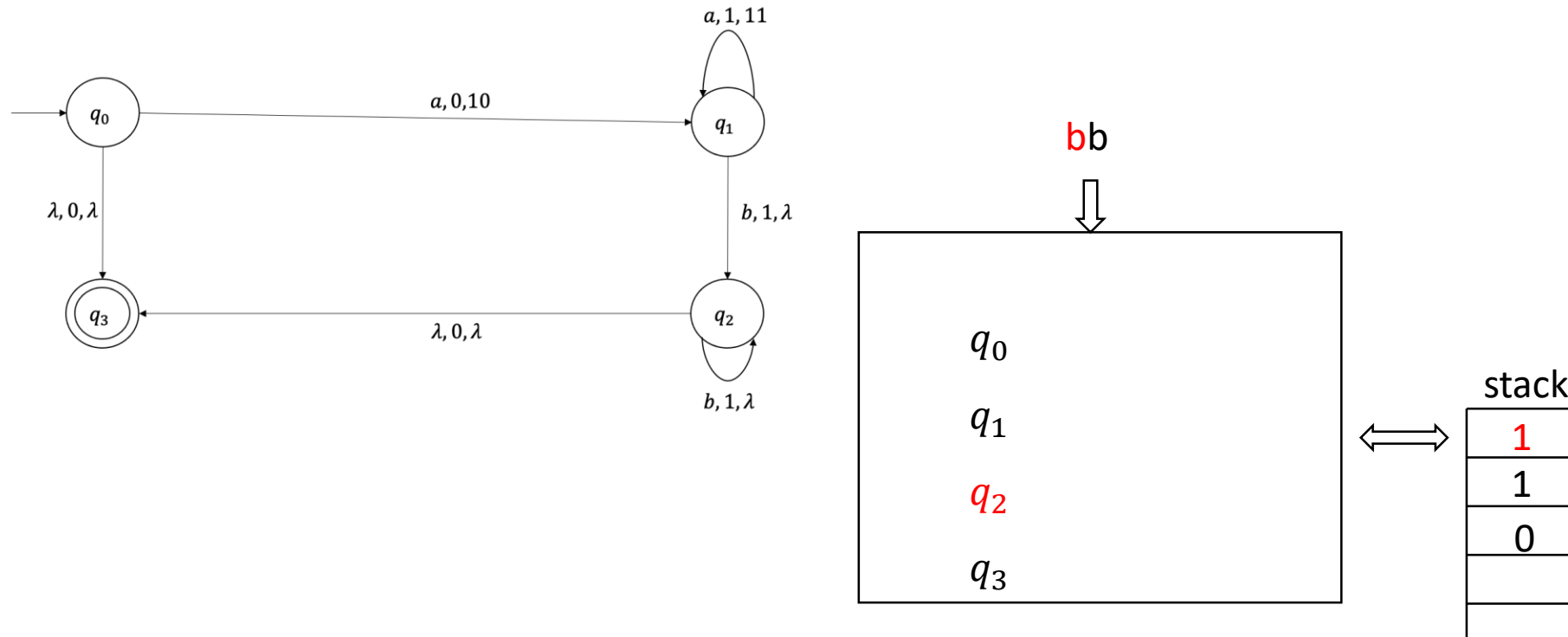
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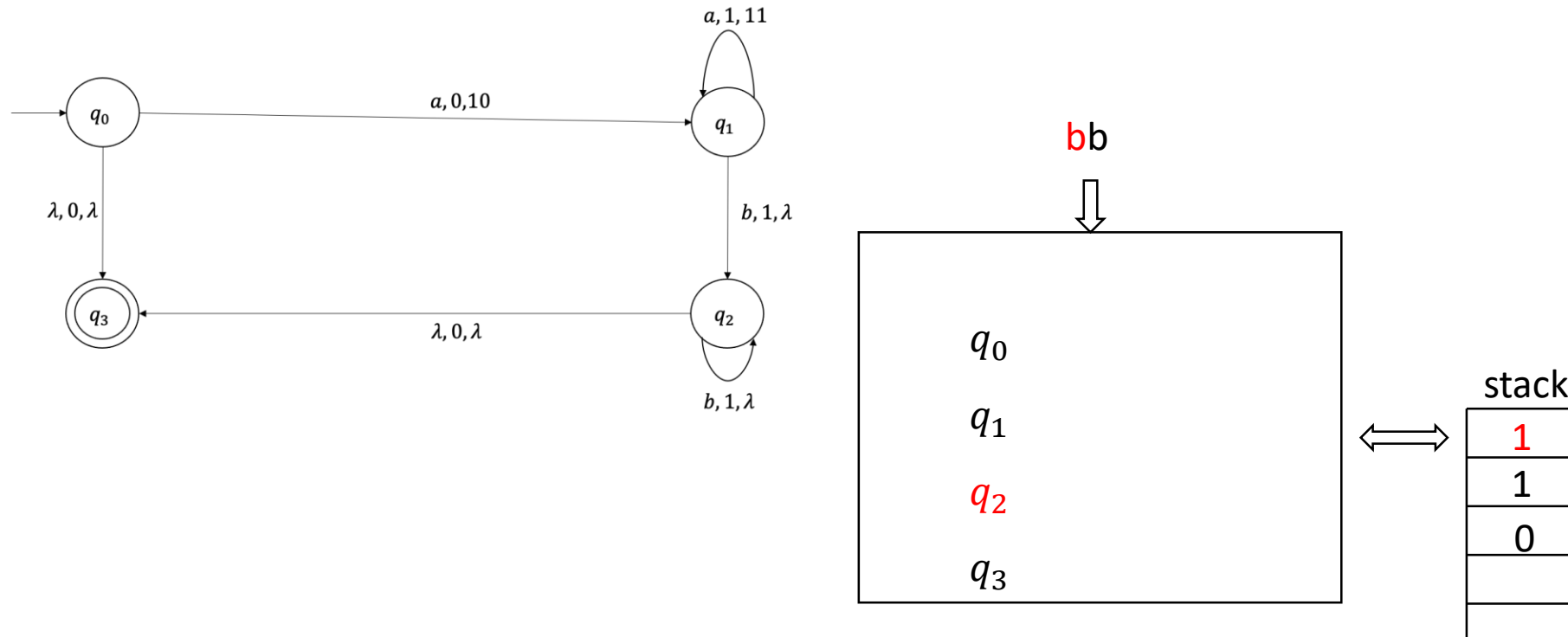
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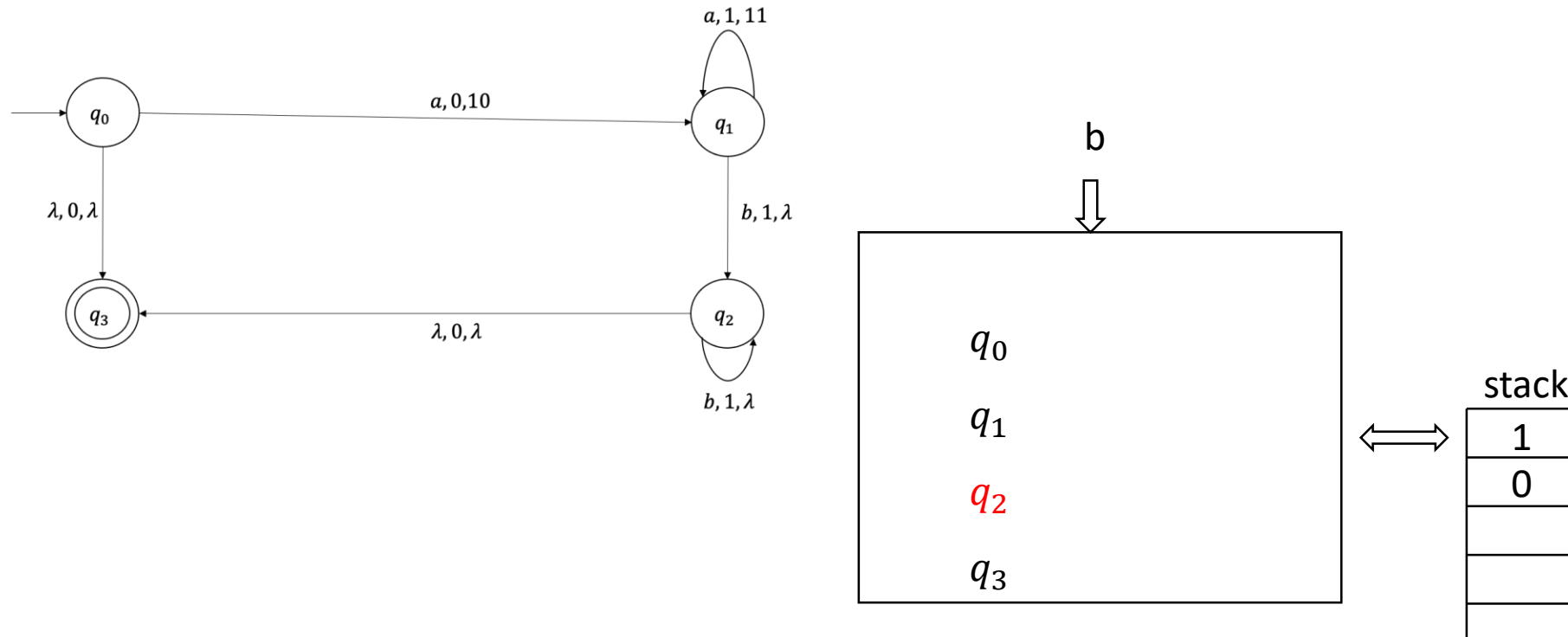
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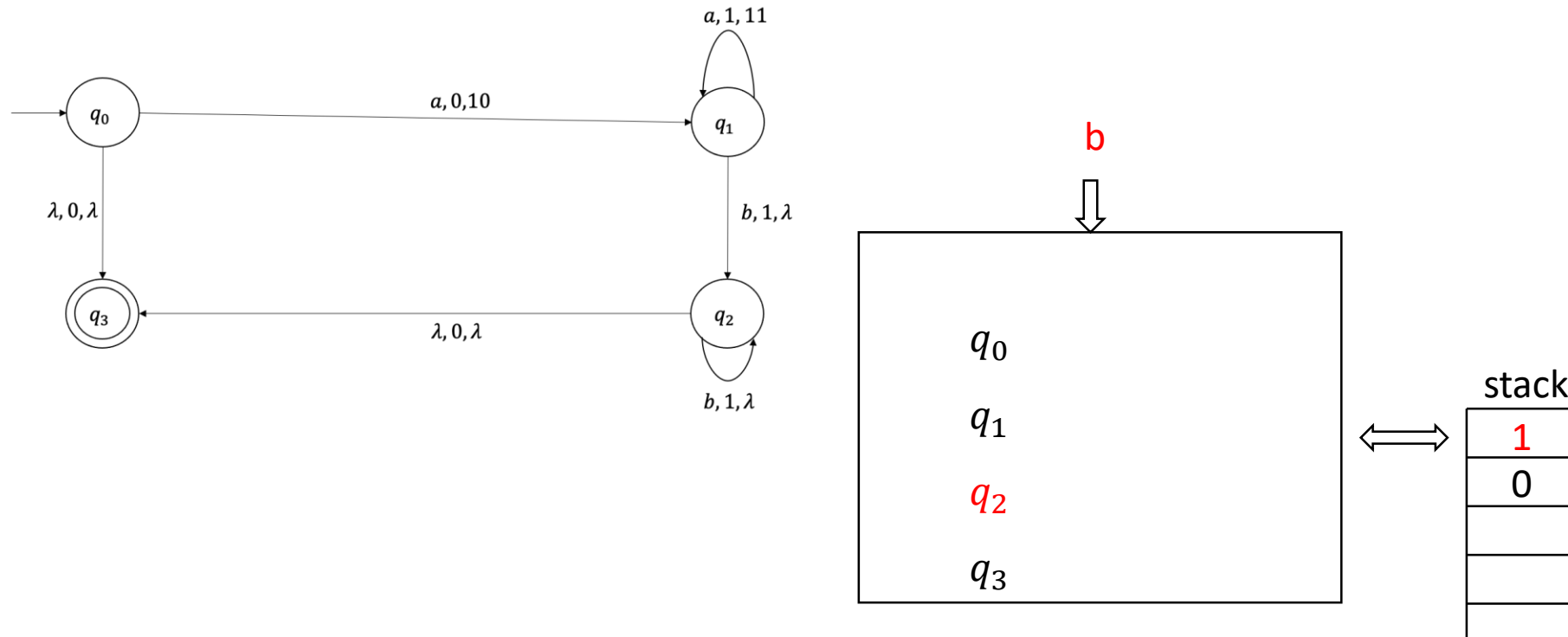
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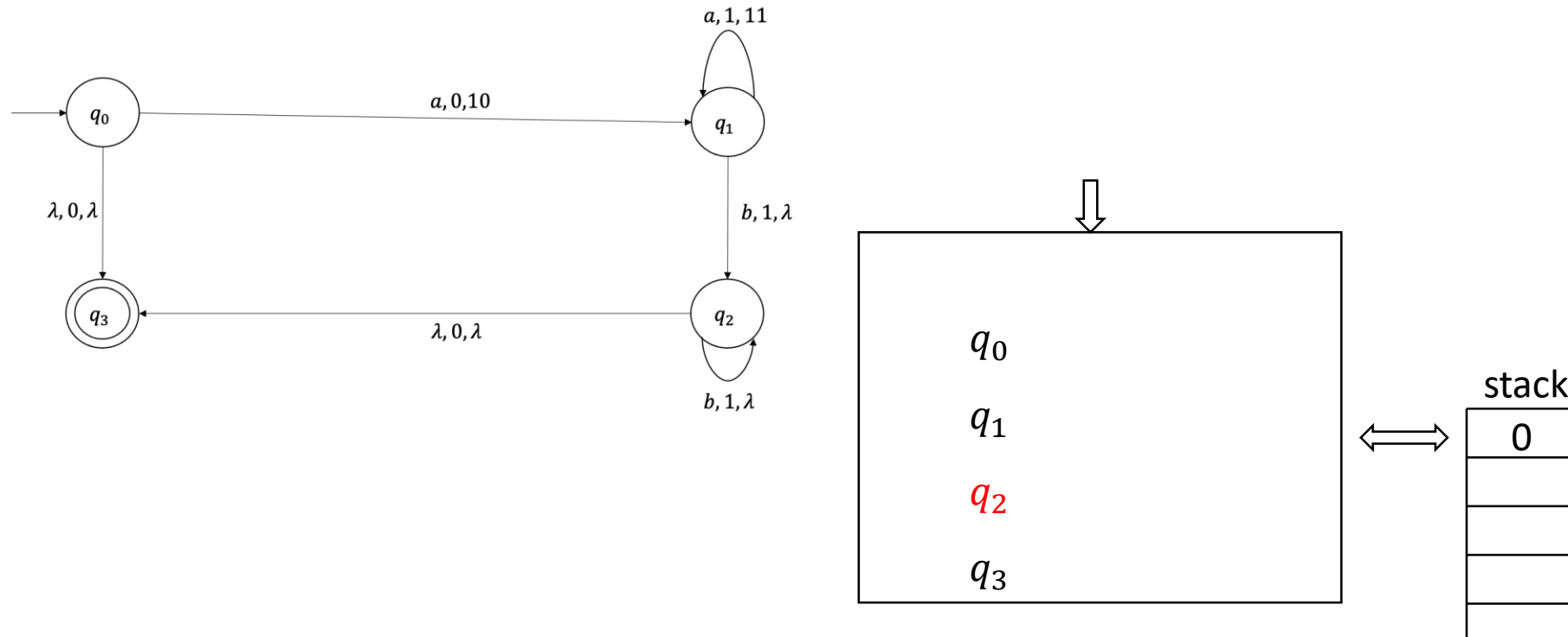
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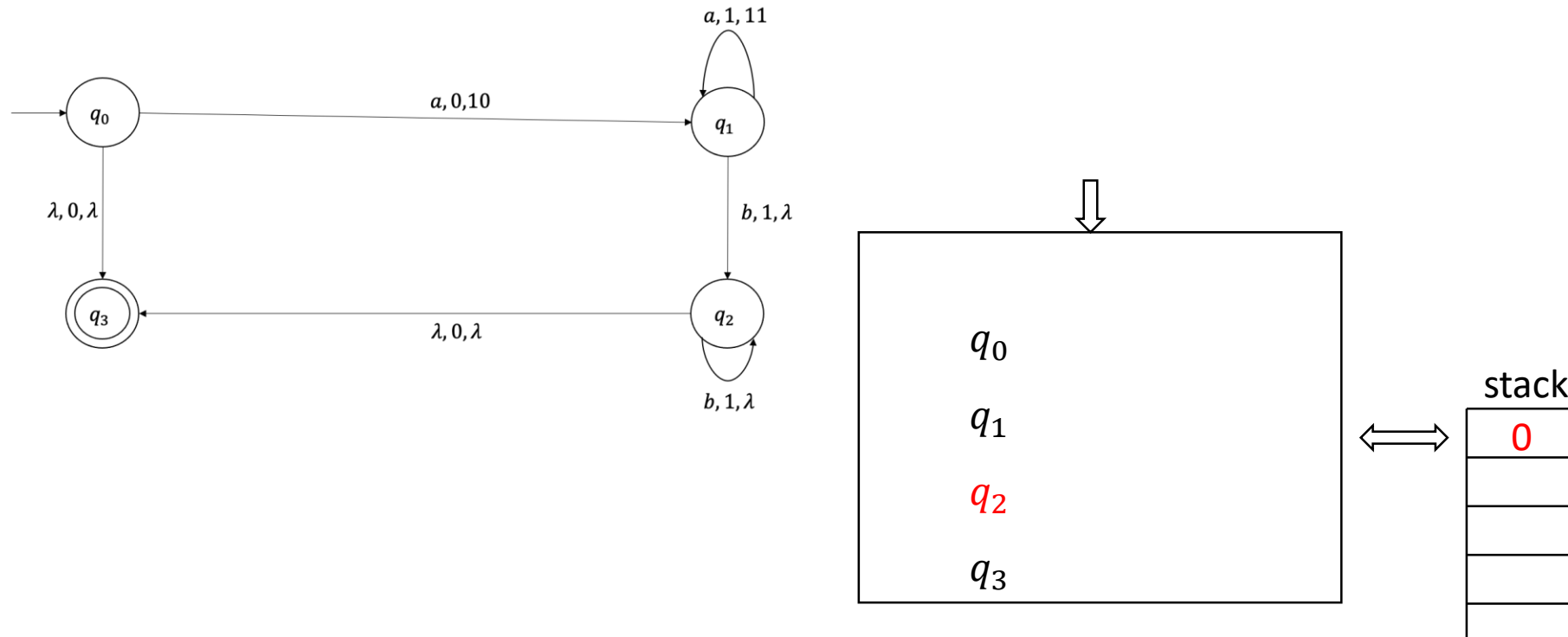
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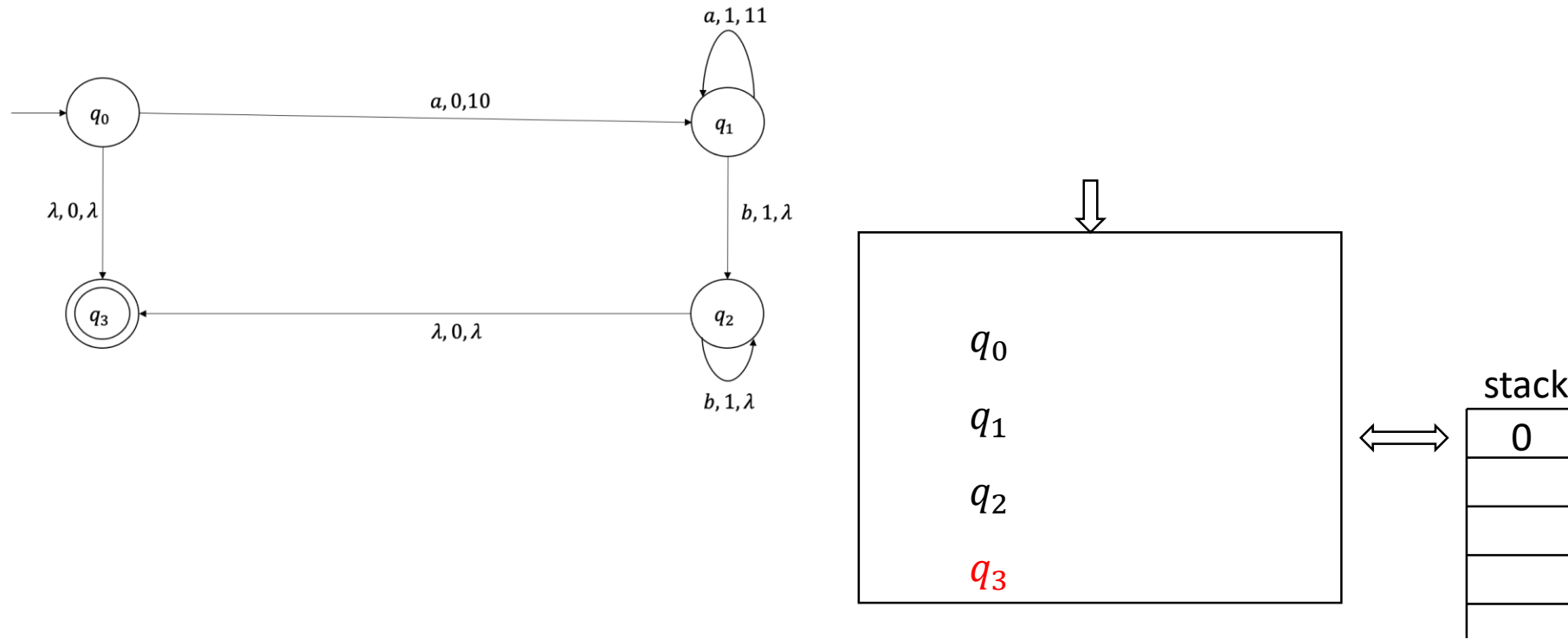
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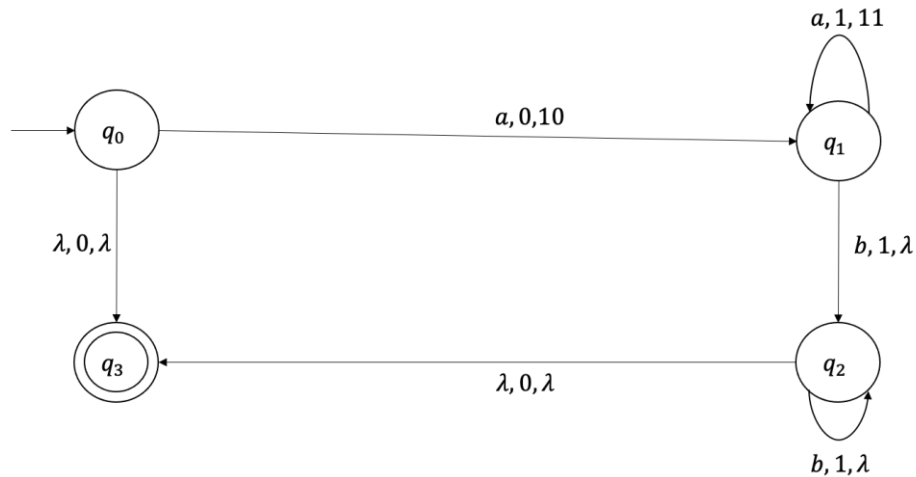
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$$M = (\{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}, \{a, b\}, \{0, 1\}, \delta, q_0, 0, \{q_3\})$$

$$\delta(q_0, a, 0) = \{(q_1, 10)\}$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, 0) = \{(q_3, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, 1) = \{(q_1, 11)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, 1) = \{(q_2, \lambda)\}$$

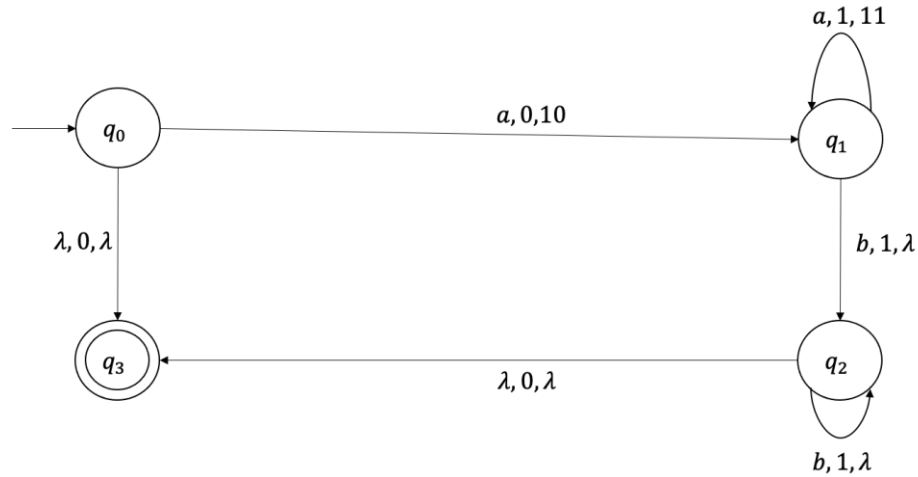
$$\delta(q_2, b, 1) = \{(q_2, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_2, \lambda, 0) = \{(q_3, \lambda)\}$$

Instantaneous Description

- In the form (current state, unread string, contents of stack)
- \vdash denotes a move from one instantaneous description to another
- \vdash_M denotes a move from a particular pushdown automaton

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$(q_0, aaabbb, 0) \vdash_M (q_1, aabbb, 10) \vdash_M (q_1, abbb, 110) \vdash_M (q_1, bbb, 1110) \vdash_M (q_2, bb, 110) \vdash_M$
 $(q_2, b, 10) \vdash_M (q_2, \lambda, 0) \vdash_M (q_3, \lambda, \lambda)$

$$\delta(q_0, a, 0) = \{(q_1, 10)\}$$

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$$\delta(q_2, b, 1) = \{(q_2, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_2, \lambda, 0) = \{(q_3, \lambda)\}$$

Relationship between PDA and CFL

- Given a CFG we can construct an NPDA for that grammar
- Given a NPDA for a CFL, we can construct a CFG.

Construction of an NPDA from a Greibach Normal Form grammar

$S \rightarrow aSA \mid a$

$A \rightarrow bB$

$B \rightarrow b$

1. Put Start symbol onto the stack

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

2. The NPDA will be simulated by taking S from the stack and replacing it with SA and removing a from the beginning of the input.

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, SA), (q_1, \lambda)\}$$

3. Do all productions the same way

$$\delta(q_1, b, A) = \{(q_1, B)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, B) = \{(q_1, \lambda)\}$$

4. Stack start symbols appears back on top of the stack

$$\delta(q_1, \lambda, z) = \{(q_2, \lambda)\}$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Substitution rule

Given that we have productions in the form $A \rightarrow x_1 B x_2$ in grammar

$$G = (V, T, S, P)$$

$$B \rightarrow y_1 | y_2 | \dots | y_n$$

$$L(G) = L(\hat{G})$$

$$\hat{G} = (V, T, S, \hat{P})$$

Delete all production where B is in the right side of productions ($A \rightarrow x_1 B x_2$) and replace with the sentinel forms ($y_1 | y_2 | \dots | y_n$) of productions where B is the left side ($B \rightarrow y_1 | y_2 | \dots | y_n$) symbol

$$A \rightarrow x_1 B x_2 \Rightarrow A \rightarrow x_1 y_1 x_2 \mid x_1 y_2 x_2 \mid x_1 \dots x_2 \mid x_1 y_n x_2$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

By applying the substitution rule, then we may introduce **useless productions**.

Some useless production can occur by not having a path to a variable during derivation such as

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow aSb \mid ab \\ A &\rightarrow aAb \mid \lambda \end{aligned}$$

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Methods of Transforming Grammars

Other **useless productions**.

When introducing a variable into a derivation that has no way of being removed which means no sentence can be derived.

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

$$A \rightarrow aA$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Other **useless productions**.

When introducing a variable into a derivation that has no way of being removed which means no sentence can be derived.

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

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Methods of Transforming Grammars

Removing λ -production for λ -free languages

$$L1 = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 0\}$$

$$L2 = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 1\}$$

$$G = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, P)$$

$$S \rightarrow aAb$$

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

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Removing λ -production for λ -free languages

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

$$L = \{a^n b^n : n \geq 1\}$$

$$G = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, P)$$

$$S \rightarrow aAb$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb$$

$$A \rightarrow \lambda$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Removing λ -production for λ -free languages

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

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$$G = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, P)$$

$$S \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$$

$$A \rightarrow \lambda$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Removing λ -production for λ -free languages

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

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$$G = (\{S, A\}, \{a, b\}, S, P)$$

$$S \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$$

General Algorithm to remove λ -productions from λ -free languages (Theorem 6.3)

1. For any $A \in V$ and there is a production $A \rightarrow \lambda$ put A in a list of nullable variables. A nullable variable is any variable that starting with that variable there is a path that produces the empty string.
2. Repeat the process of replacing on the right side of productions with different combinations of nullable variables. If there is a combination that makes a new variable nullable, then you add it to the list of nullable variables until no new nullable values are added.
3. Now take all productions in the grammar $G = (V, T, S, P)$ and add to grammar $\hat{G} = (V, T, S, \hat{P})$. Exclude production in the form of $A \rightarrow \lambda$
4. Add productions that replaces each nullable variable in all combinations in a production.

Example 2: Find a equivalent grammar without any λ -productions

$$S \rightarrow ABaC$$

$$A \rightarrow BC$$

$$B \rightarrow b \mid \lambda$$

$$C \rightarrow D \mid \lambda$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

Example 2: Find a equivalent grammar without any λ -productions

$S \rightarrow ABaC$

$A \rightarrow BC$

$B \rightarrow b$

$B \rightarrow \lambda$

$C \rightarrow D$

$C \rightarrow \lambda$

$D \rightarrow d$

Nullable variables

B, C

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$S \rightarrow ABaC$

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$B \rightarrow b$

$B \rightarrow \lambda$

$C \rightarrow D$

$C \rightarrow \lambda$

$D \rightarrow d$

Nullable variables

B, C

Example 2: Find a equivalent grammar without any λ -productions

$S \rightarrow ABaC$

$A \rightarrow BC \mid B \mid C \mid \lambda$

$B \rightarrow b$

$B \rightarrow \lambda$

$C \rightarrow D$

$C \rightarrow \lambda$

$D \rightarrow d$

Nullable variables

B, C

Example 2: Find a equivalent grammar without any λ -productions

$$S \rightarrow ABaC$$

$$A \rightarrow BC \mid B \mid C$$

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$$B \rightarrow b$$

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$$C \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

Nullable variables

B, C, A

Example 2: Find a equivalent grammar without any λ -productions

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$$C \rightarrow \lambda$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

Nullable variables

B, C, A

$$S \rightarrow ABaC \mid BaC \mid AaC \mid ABa \mid aC \mid Ba \mid Aa \mid a$$

$$A \rightarrow BC \mid B \mid C$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow D$$

$$D \rightarrow d$$

Methods of Transforming Grammars

Unit-Productions

Any production in the form of $A \rightarrow B$ where $A, B \in V$.

Any production with $A \rightarrow A$ can be removed without consequence; however where the left side variable and right side variable are different, we need to be careful.

We need to find all dependencies in the grammar and if

$A \overset{*}{\Rightarrow} B$ where $A, B \in V$

then we need to add non-unit productions of B to A

Example 3: Remove unit-productions from grammar

$$S \rightarrow Aa \mid B$$

$$A \rightarrow a \mid bc \mid B$$

$$B \rightarrow A \mid bb$$

$$S \rightarrow B$$

$$S \rightarrow A$$

$$A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow A$$

Example 3: Remove unit-productions from grammar

$$S \rightarrow Aa \mid B$$

$$A \rightarrow a \mid bc \mid B$$

$$B \rightarrow A \mid bb$$

Revised Productions (\hat{P})

$$S \rightarrow B$$

$$S \rightarrow A$$

$$A \rightarrow B$$

$$B \rightarrow A$$

Example 3: Remove unit-productions from grammar

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow Aa \mid B \\ A &\rightarrow a \mid bc \mid B \\ B &\rightarrow A \mid bb \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow B \\ S &\rightarrow A \\ A &\rightarrow B \\ B &\rightarrow A \end{aligned}$$

Revised Productions (\hat{P})

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$S \rightarrow Aa \mid bb \mid a \mid bc$
 $A \rightarrow a \mid bc$
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$B \rightarrow bb \mid a \mid bc$

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Revised Productions (\hat{P})

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow Aa \mid bb \mid a \mid bc \\ A &\rightarrow a \mid bc \mid bb \end{aligned}$$

Theorem 7.1: For any CFL L , there exists an npda M such that $L = L(M)$

- The npda will be $M = (\{q_0, q_1, q_f\}, T, V \cup \{z\}, \delta, q_0, z, \{q_f\})$
- The transition function will include $\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$
- Given $A \rightarrow ax$, $(q_1, x) \in \delta(q_1, a, A)$
 $\delta(q_1, a, A) = \{\dots, (q_1, x), \dots\}$
- $\delta(q_1, \lambda, z) = \{(q_f, z)\}$

$$(q_0, w, z) \vdash (q_1, w, Sz) \vdash \dots \vdash (q_f, \lambda, z)$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow aABC \mid bB \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow aABC \mid bB \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, A)\}$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow aABC \mid bB \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, A)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, A) = \{(q_1, ABC)\}$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow aABC \mid bB \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, A)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, A) = \{(q_1, ABC), (q_1, \lambda)\}$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$\textcolor{blue}{A} \rightarrow aABC \mid \textcolor{green}{b}\textcolor{red}{B} \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, A)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, A) = \{(q_1, ABC), (q_1, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, \textcolor{green}{b}, \textcolor{blue}{A}) = \{(q_1, \textcolor{red}{B})\}$$

Example 4: Consider the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aA$$

$$A \rightarrow aABC \mid bB \mid a$$

$$\textcolor{blue}{B} \rightarrow \textcolor{green}{b}$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

$$\delta(q_0, \lambda, z) = \{(q_1, Sz)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, S) = \{(q_1, A)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, a, A) = \{(q_1, ABC), (q_1, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, A) = \{(q_1, B)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, \textcolor{green}{b}, \textcolor{blue}{B}) = \{(q_1, \textcolor{red}{\lambda})\}$$

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$$\delta(q_1, b, B) = \{(q_1, \lambda)\}$$

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$$\delta(q_1, b, A) = \{(q_1, B)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, b, B) = \{(q_1, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, c, C) = \{(q_1, \lambda)\}$$

$$\delta(q_1, \lambda, z) = \{(q_f, z)\}$$

More general Construction

$$A \rightarrow Bx$$

$$\delta(q_1, \lambda, A) = \{(q_1, Bx)\}$$

$$A \rightarrow abBx$$

$$\delta(q_1, ab, A) = \{(q_1, Bx)\}$$