

# **Foundations of Informatics: a Bridging Course**

Week 3: Formal Languages and Processes Part C: Context-Free Languages March 6–10, 2023

Thomas Noll Software Modeling and Verification Group RWTH Aachen University

https://moves.rwth-aachen.de/teaching/ws-22-23/foi/





## **Context-Free Grammars and Languages**

- Context-Free vs. Regular Languages
- **Chomsky Normal Form**
- The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages
- The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages
- **Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**
- Pushdown Automata

# Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages





# Example C.1

Syntax definition of programming languages by "Backus-Naur" rules Here: simple arithmetic expressions

Meaning:

An expression is either 0 or 1, or it is of the form u + v, u \* v, or (u) where u, v are again expressions



## Example C.1 (continued)

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Here we abbreviate  $\langle Expression \rangle$  as *E*, and use " $\rightarrow$ " instead of "::=". Thus:

 $E \rightarrow 0 \mid 1 \mid E + E \mid E * E \mid (E)$ 





# Example C.1 (continued)

Here we abbreviate  $\langle Expression \rangle$  as *E*, and use " $\rightarrow$ " instead of "::=". Thus:

```
E \rightarrow 0 \mid 1 \mid E + E \mid E * E \mid (E)
```

Now expressions can be generated by replacing nonterminal symbols according to rules, beginning with the start symbol E:

 $E \Rightarrow E * E$ 





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$$E \implies E * E$$
$$\implies (E) * E$$
$$\implies (E) * 1$$



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$$\Rightarrow (0 + 1) * 1$$





## **Context-Free Grammars I**

## **Definition C.2**

A context-free grammar (CFG) is a quadruple

$$G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S 
angle$$

where

- *N* is a finite set of nonterminal symbols
- $\Sigma$  is the (finite) alphabet of terminal symbols (disjoint from N)
- *P* is a finite set of production rules of the form  $A \rightarrow \alpha$  where  $A \in N$  and  $\alpha \in (N \cup \Sigma)^*$
- $S \in N$  is a start symbol





## **Context-Free Grammars II**

# Example C.3

For the above example, we have:

- $N = \{E\}$
- $\Sigma = \{0, 1, +, *, (, )\}$
- $P = \{E \rightarrow 0, E \rightarrow 1, E \rightarrow E + E, E \rightarrow E * E, E \rightarrow (E)\}$
- *S* = *E*





## **Context-Free Grammars II**

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# Naming conventions:

- nonterminals start with uppercase letters
- terminals start with lowercase letters
- start symbol = symbol on LHS of first production
- $\Rightarrow$  grammar completely defined by productions





**Definition C.4** 

Let  $\mathbf{G} = \langle \mathbf{N}, \mathbf{\Sigma}, \mathbf{P}, \mathbf{S} \rangle$  be a CFG.

A sentence γ ∈ (N ∪ Σ)\* is directly derivable from β ∈ (N ∪ Σ)\* if there exist π = A → α ∈ P and δ<sub>1</sub>, δ<sub>2</sub> ∈ (N ∪ Σ)\* such that β = δ<sub>1</sub>Aδ<sub>2</sub> and γ = δ<sub>1</sub>αδ<sub>2</sub> (notation: β ⇒ γ or just β ⇒ γ).





- Let  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  be a CFG.
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  - A language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$  is called context-free (CFL) if it is generated by some CFG.
  - Two grammars  $G_1$ ,  $G_2$  are equivalent if  $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$ .





# Example C.5

The language

$$\{a^nb^n\mid n\in\mathbb{N}\}$$

is context-free. It is generated by the grammar  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  with

- $N = \{S\}$
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $P = \{S \rightarrow aSb \mid \varepsilon\}$

(proof: generating a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup> requires exactly *n* applications of the first and one concluding application of the second rule)





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# Example C.5

The language

# $\{a^nb^n\mid n\in\mathbb{N}\}$

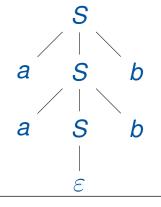
is context-free. It is generated by the grammar  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  with

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(proof: generating  $a^n b^n$  requires exactly *n* applications of the first and one concluding application of the second rule)

# **Remark:** illustration of derivations by derivation trees

- root labelled by start symbol
- leaves labelled by terminal symbols
- successors of node labelled according to right-hand side of production rule
- sequence of leaf symbols = generated word







## **Summary: Context-Free Grammars and Languages**

# Seen:

- Context-free grammars
- Derivations
- Context-free languages





## **Summary: Context-Free Grammars and Languages**

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- Context-free grammars
- Derivations
- Context-free languages

# Next:

• Relation between context-free and regular languages



**Context-Free Grammars and Languages** 

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Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages





#### **Context-Free vs. Regular Languages**

## Theorem C.6

- 1. Every regular language is context-free.
- 2. There exist CFLs which are not regular.

(Thus: regular languages are a proper subset of CFLs.)





## **Context-Free vs. Regular Languages**

# Theorem C.6

- 1. Every regular language is context-free.
- 2. There exist CFLs which are not regular.

(Thus: regular languages are a proper subset of CFLs.)

# Proof.

1. Let *L* be a regular language, and let  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F \rangle$  be a DFA which recognises *L*.  $G_{\mathfrak{A}} := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  is defined as follows:

$$-N := Q, S := q_0$$

– if 
$$\delta(q,a)=q'$$
, then  $q
ightarrow aq'\in P$ 

- if 
$$q \in F$$
, then  $q 
ightarrow arepsilon \in F$ 

Obviously a *w*-labelled run in  $\mathfrak{A}$  from  $q_0$  to *F* corresponds to a derivation of *w* in  $G_{\mathfrak{A}}$ , and vice versa. Thus  $L(\mathfrak{A}) = L(G_{\mathfrak{A}})$  (example on the following slide).

2. An example is  $\{a^nb^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$  (see Lesson 1).

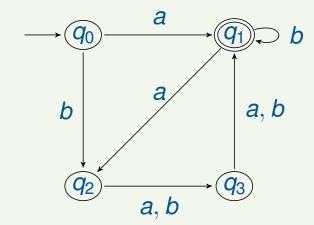
Intuitive reason for non-regularity: recognising this language requires "unbounded counting" capability.





#### Example C.7

DFA  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle \boldsymbol{Q}, \boldsymbol{\Sigma}, \boldsymbol{\delta}, \boldsymbol{q}_0, \boldsymbol{F} \rangle$ :

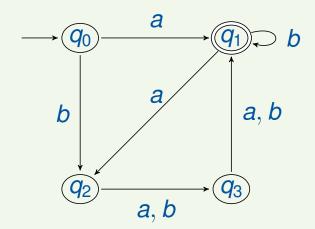




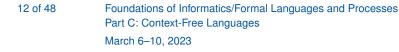


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Corresponding CFG  $G_{\mathfrak{A}} := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ with  $N := Q, S := q_0$ :

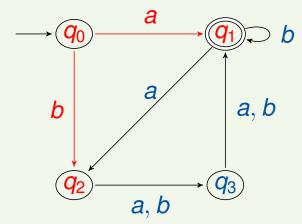






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Corresponding CFG  $G_{\mathfrak{A}} := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ with  $N := Q, S := q_0$ :

 $q_0 \rightarrow a q_1 \mid b q_2$ 





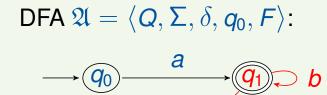
a, b

 $q_3$ 

#### Example C.7

b

 $q_2$ 



а

a, b

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$$egin{array}{rl} q_0 &
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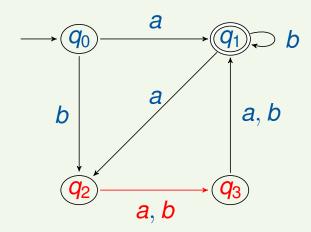
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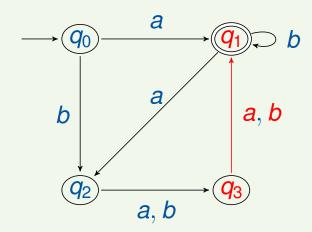






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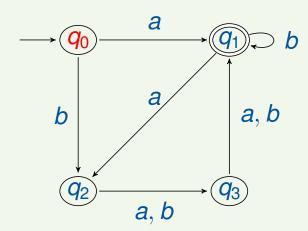






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E.g.,  $\mathfrak{A}$ 's run on input  $baab \in L(\mathfrak{A})$  is simulated by the following derivation in  $G_{\mathfrak{A}}$ :

 $q_0$ 

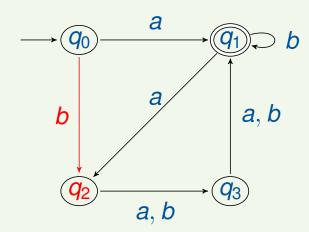






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Corresponding CFG  $G_{\mathfrak{A}} := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ with  $N := Q, S := q_0$ :

<b>q</b> 0	$\rightarrow$	$aq_1$	<i>b q</i> <sub>2</sub>	
$q_1$	$\rightarrow$	$aq_2$	<i>b q</i> <sub>1</sub>	${\mathcal E}$
		$aq_3$		
<b>q</b> 3	$\rightarrow$	<i>a q</i> <sub>1</sub>	<i>b q</i> <sub>1</sub>	

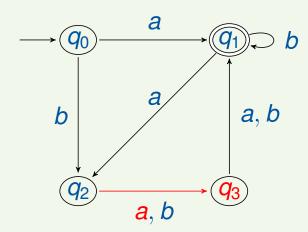
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<i>q</i> <sub>1</sub>	$\rightarrow$	$aq_2$	$bq_1$	ε
		<i>a q</i> 3		
<b>q</b> 3	$\rightarrow$	$aq_1$	<i>b q</i> <sub>1</sub>	

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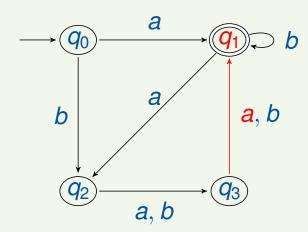
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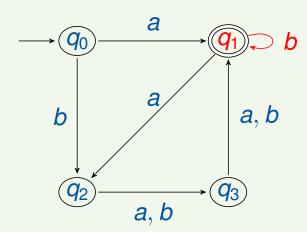




#### From Regular to Context-Free Languages

Example C.7

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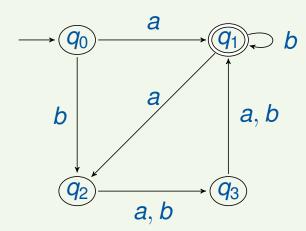




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## Summary: Context-Free vs. Regular Languages

#### Seen:

• CFLs are more expressive than regular languages





Software Modeling

and Verification Chair

## **Summary: Context-Free vs. Regular Languages**

## Seen:

• CFLs are more expressive than regular languages

# Next:

• Decidability of word problem





## **Outline of Part C**

**Context-Free Grammars and Languages** 

Context-Free vs. Regular Languages

# **Chomsky Normal Form**

The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages

The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages

**Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages** 

Pushdown Automata

Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages





#### The Word Problem for CFL

Word Problem for CFL

Given CFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  and  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , decide whether  $w \in L(G)$  or not.





## The Word Problem for CFL

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Given CFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  and  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , decide whether  $w \in L(G)$  or not.

- Important problem with many applications
  - syntax analysis of programming languages
  - HTML parsers

- ...





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- For regular languages this was easy: just let the corresponding DFA run on w.
- But here: how to decide when to stop a derivation?

Software Modeling

d Verification Chair



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— ...

- For regular languages this was easy: just let the corresponding DFA run on w.
- But here: how to decide when to stop a derivation?
- **Solution:** establish normal form for grammars which guarantees that each nonterminal produces at least one terminal symbol
- $\Rightarrow$  Only finitely many combinations to be inspected





## **Chomsky Normal Form**

## **Definition C.8**

A CFG is in Chomsky Normal Form (Chomsky NF) if every of its productions is of the form

 $A \rightarrow BC$  or  $A \rightarrow a$ 



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#### Example C.9

Consider the grammar  $S \rightarrow ab \mid aSb$ , which generates  $L := \{a^n b^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ . An equivalent grammar in Chomsky NF is

$S  ightarrow AB \mid AC$	(generates L)
A  ightarrow a	(generates $\{a\}$ )
B  ightarrow b	(generates $\{b\}$ )
$\mathcal{C}  ightarrow \mathcal{SB}$	(generates $\{a^n b^{n+1} \mid n \ge 1\}$ )



#### **Conversion to Chomsky Normal Form**

Theorem C.10

Every CFL L (without  $\varepsilon$ -productions) can be generated by a CFG in Chomsky NF.





## **Conversion to Chomsky Normal Form**

## Theorem C.10

Every CFL L (without  $\varepsilon$ -productions) can be generated by a CFG in Chomsky NF.

#### Proof.

Let *L* be a CFL, and let  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  be some CFG which generates *L*. The transformation of *P* into rules of the form  $A \to BC$  and  $A \to a$  proceeds in three steps:

- 1. terminal symbols only in rules of the form  $A \rightarrow a$ (thus all other rules have the shape  $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$ )
- 2. elimination of "chain rules" of the form  $A \rightarrow B$
- 3. elimination of rules of the form  $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$  where n > 2

(see following slides for details)





#### Procedure

- 1. For every terminal symbol  $a \in \Sigma$ , introduce a new nonterminal symbol  $B_a \in N$ .
- 2. Add corresponding productions  $B_a \rightarrow a$  to P.
- 3. In each original production  $A \to \alpha$ , replace every  $a \in \Sigma$  with  $B_a$ .

This yields G'.





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# Example C.11 $G: S \rightarrow ab \mid aSb$ is converted to $G': S \rightarrow AB \mid ASB$ $A \rightarrow a$ $B \rightarrow b$



#### Procedure

- 1. Determine all derivations  $A_1 \Rightarrow \ldots \Rightarrow A_n$  with rules of the form  $A \rightarrow B$  without repetition of nonterminals ( $\implies$  only finitely many!).
- **2**. Determine all productions  $A_n \rightarrow \alpha$  with  $\alpha \notin N$ .
- **3**. Add corresponding productions  $A_1 \rightarrow \alpha$  to P.
- 4. Remove all chain rules from *P*.

This yields G''.





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## Example C.12

```
egin{array}{rcl} G': & S &
ightarrow & A \ & A &
ightarrow & B &ert & C \ & B &
ightarrow & A &ert & DA \ & C &
ightarrow & c \ & D &
ightarrow & d \end{array}
```





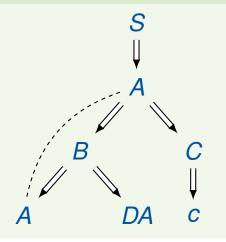
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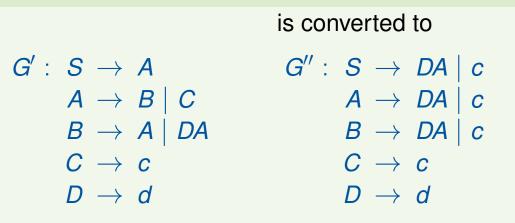


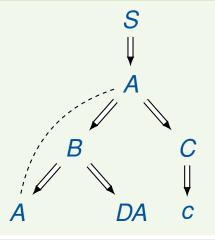
#### Procedure

- 1. Determine all derivations  $A_1 \Rightarrow \ldots \Rightarrow A_n$  with rules of the form  $A \rightarrow B$  without repetition of nonterminals ( $\implies$  only finitely many!).
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#### Example C.12









## **Step 3: Elimination of Rules** $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$ with n > 2

#### Procedure

Iteratively apply the following transformation:

- 1. For every  $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$  with n > 2, introduce a new nonterminal symbol  $B \in N$ .
- 2. Replace original production by  $A \rightarrow A_1 B$ .
- 3. Add new production  $B \rightarrow A_2 \dots A_n$ .

This yields G'''.



## **Step 3: Elimination of Rules** $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$ with n > 2

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Iteratively apply the following transformation:

- 1. For every  $A \rightarrow A_1 \dots A_n$  with n > 2, introduce a new nonterminal symbol  $B \in N$ .
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This yields G'''.

Example C.13		
$\mathit{G}'': \ \mathit{S} \  ightarrow \ \mathit{AB} \mid \mathit{ASB}$	is converted to	$G^{\prime\prime\prime}$ : $S$ $ ightarrow$ $AB$ $\mid$ $AC$
A  ightarrow a		A  ightarrow a
B  ightarrow b		B  ightarrow b
		C  ightarrow SB





## **Summary: Chomsky Normal Form**

#### Seen:

• Chomsky NF: all productions of the form  $A \rightarrow BC$  or  $A \rightarrow a$ 



## **Summary: Chomsky Normal Form**

## Seen:

• Chomsky NF: all productions of the form  $A \rightarrow BC$  or  $A \rightarrow a$ 

# Next:

• Exploit Chomsky Normal Form to solve word problem for CFL



## **Outline of Part C**

**Context-Free Grammars and Languages** 

Context-Free vs. Regular Languages

**Chomsky Normal Form** 

The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages

The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages

**Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages** 

Pushdown Automata

Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages





#### Word Problem for $\varepsilon$ -free CFL

Given CFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  such that  $\varepsilon \notin L(G)$  and  $w \in \Sigma^+$ , decide whether  $w \in L(G)$  or not.

(If  $w = \varepsilon$ , then  $w \in L(G)$  easily decidable for arbitrary G)





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(If  $w = \varepsilon$ , then  $w \in L(G)$  easily decidable for arbitrary G)

## Algorithm C.14 (by Cocke, Younger, Kasami – CYK algorithm)

- 1. Transform G into Chomsky NF
- 2. Let  $w = a_1 \dots a_n \ (n \ge 1)$
- 3. Let  $w[i, j] := a_i \dots a_j$  for every  $1 \le i \le j \le n$
- 4. Consider segments w[i, j] in order of increasing length, starting with  $w[i, i] = a_i$  (i.e., letters)
- 5. In each case, determine  $N_{i,j} := \{A \in N \mid A \Rightarrow^* w[i, j]\}$  using a "dynamic programming" approach:

$$-i = j: N_{i,i} = \{A \in N \mid A \to a_i \in P\} \\ -i < j: N_{i,j} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N, k \in \{i, \dots, j-1\} : A \to BC \in P, B \in N_{i,k}, C \in N_{k+1,j}\}$$

6. Test whether  $S \in N_{1,n}$  (and thus, whether  $S \Rightarrow^* w[1, n] = w$ )





## Matrix Representation of CYK Algorithm

	<i>a</i> <sub>1</sub>	<b>a</b> 2	<b>a</b> 3	•••	<b>a</b> n
i j	1	2	3	•••	n
1	<i>N</i> <sub>1,1</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>1,n</sub>
2	X	<i>N</i> <sub>2,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>2,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>2,n</sub>
3	X	X	<i>N</i> <sub>3,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>3,n</sub>
:	:			•••	:
n	X	X	• • •	•••	<b>N</b> <sub><i>n</i>,<i>n</i></sub>





#### Matrix Representation of CYK Algorithm

	<i>a</i> <sub>1</sub>	<b>a</b> 2	<b>a</b> 3	•••	<b>a</b> n
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	•••	n
1	<i>N</i> <sub>1,1</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>1,n</sub>
2	X	<i>N</i> <sub>2,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>2,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>2,n</sub>
3	X	X	<i>N</i> <sub>3,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>3,n</sub>
:	:			•••	:
n	X	X	• • •	•••	N <sub>n,n</sub>

$$\begin{array}{ll} \textbf{\textit{N}}_{1,1} \ = \ \{\textbf{\textit{A}} \in \textbf{\textit{N}} \mid \textbf{\textit{A}} \rightarrow \textbf{\textit{a}}_1 \in \textbf{\textit{P}} \} \\ \textbf{\textit{N}}_{2,2} \ = \ \{\textbf{\textit{A}} \in \textbf{\textit{N}} \mid \textbf{\textit{A}} \rightarrow \textbf{\textit{a}}_2 \in \textbf{\textit{P}} \} \\ \vdots \end{array}$$



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## Matrix Representation of CYK Algorithm

	<i>a</i> <sub>1</sub>	<b>a</b> 2	<b>a</b> 3	•••	<b>a</b> n
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	•••	n
1	<i>N</i> <sub>1,1</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,3</sub>	•••	<i>N</i> <sub>1,<i>n</i></sub>
2	X	<i>N</i> <sub>2,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>2,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>2,n</sub>
3	X	X	<i>N</i> <sub>3,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>3,n</sub>
:	:			•••	:
n	X	X	• • •	•••	N <sub>n,n</sub>

$$N_{1,1} = \{A \in N \mid A \to a_1 \in P\}$$

$$N_{2,2} = \{A \in N \mid A \to a_2 \in P\}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$N_{1,2} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \to BC \in P, B \in N_{1,1}, C \in N_{2,2}\}$$

$$N_{2,3} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \to BC \in P, B \in N_{2,2}, C \in N_{3,3}\}$$

$$\vdots$$





*c* .

	<i>a</i> <sub>1</sub>	<b>a</b> 2	<b>a</b> 3	•••	<b>a</b> n
i\j	1	2	3	•••	n
1	<i>N</i> <sub>1,1</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,2</sub>	<i>N</i> <sub>1,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>1,n</sub>
2		<i>N</i> <sub>2,2</sub>		•••	<b>N</b> <sub>2,n</sub>
3	X	X	<i>N</i> <sub>3,3</sub>	•••	<b>N</b> <sub>3,n</sub>
1	:			•••	:
n	X	X	• • •	•••	<b>N</b> <sub><i>n</i>,<i>n</i></sub>

$$N_{1,1} = \{A \in N \mid A \rightarrow a_1 \in P\}$$

$$N_{2,2} = \{A \in N \mid A \rightarrow a_2 \in P\}$$

$$N_{1,2} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{1,1}, C \in N_{2,2}\}$$

$$N_{2,3} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{2,2}, C \in N_{3,3}\}$$

$$\vdots$$

$$N_{1,3} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{1,1}, C \in N_{2,3}\}$$

$$\cup \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{1,2}, C \in N_{3,3}\}$$

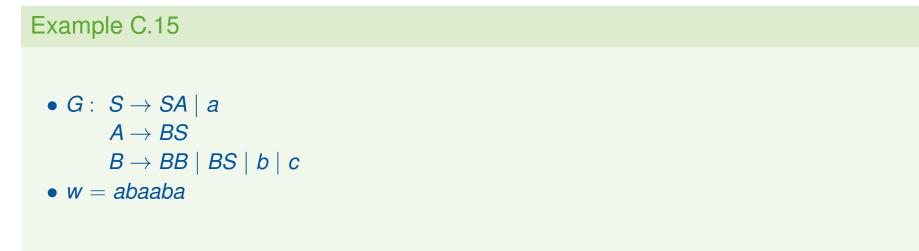
$$\cup \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{1,2}, C \in N_{3,3}\}$$

$$N_{2,4} = \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{2,2}, C \in N_{3,4}\}$$

$$\cup \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{2,2}, C \in N_{3,4}\}$$

$$\cup \{A \in N \mid \exists B, C \in N : A \rightarrow BC \in P, B \in N_{2,3}, C \in N_{3,4}\}$$









## Example C.15

```
• G: S \rightarrow SA \mid a
A \rightarrow BS
B \rightarrow BB \mid BS \mid b \mid c
• w = abaaba
```

	а	b	а	а	b	а
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1						
2	X					
3		X				
4	X	X	X			
5	X	X	X	X		
6	X	X	X	X	X	





## Example C.15

•  $G: S \rightarrow SA \mid a$  $A \rightarrow BS$  $B \rightarrow BB \mid BS \mid b \mid c$ • w = abaaba

	а	b	а	а	b	а
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	{ <b>S</b> }					
2	X					
3	X	X	{ <b>S</b> }			
4	X	X	X	{ <b>S</b> }		
5	X	X	X	X		
6	X	X	X	X	X	{ <b>S</b> }



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	а	b	а	а	b	а
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	{ <i>S</i> }					
2	X	{ <b>B</b> }				
3	X	X	$\{S\}$			
4	X	X	X	{ <i>S</i> }		
5	X	X	X	X	{ <b>B</b> }	
6	X	X	X	X	X	{ <i>S</i> }





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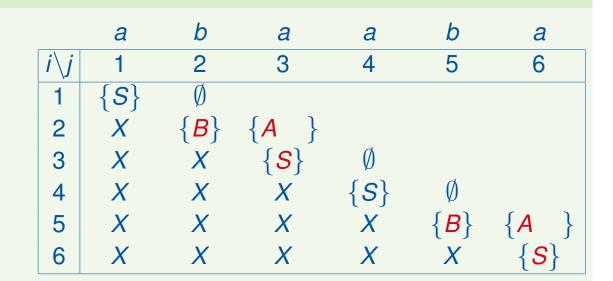
	а	b	а	а	b	а
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	{ <i>S</i> }	Ø				
2	X	{ <i>B</i> }				
3	X	X	$\{S\}$	Ø		
4	X	X	X	$\{S\}$	Ø	
5	X	X	X	X	{ <i>B</i> }	
6	X	X	X	X	X	{ <i>S</i> }





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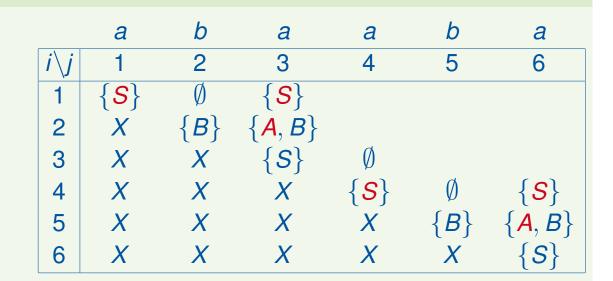
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```

	а	b	а	а	b	а
$i \setminus j$	1	2	3	4	5	6
1	{ <i>S</i> }	Ø				
2	X	{ <b>B</b> }	{ <b>A</b> , <b>B</b> }			
3	X	X	{ <b>S</b> }	Ø		
4	X	X	X	$\{S\}$	Ø	
5	X	X	X	X	{ <b>B</b> }	{ <i>A</i> , <i>B</i> }
6	X	X	X	X	X	{ <b>S</b> }



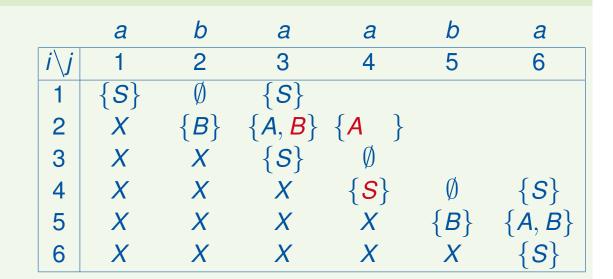


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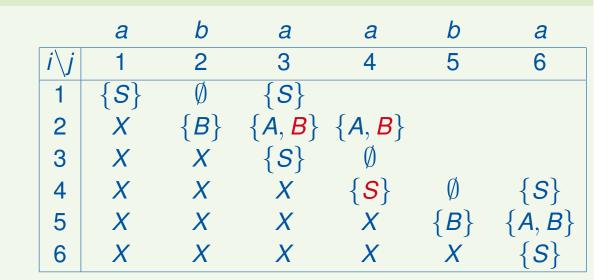
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A \rightarrow BS
B \rightarrow BB \mid BS \mid b \mid c
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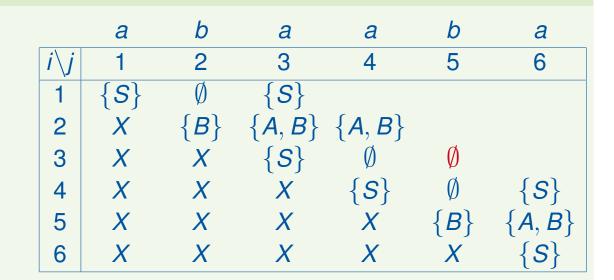
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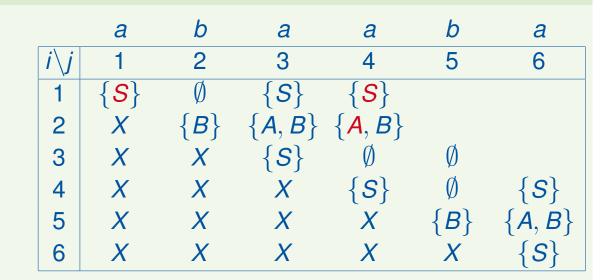
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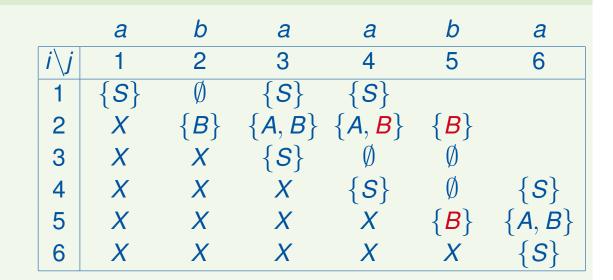


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• G: S \rightarrow SA \mid a
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```



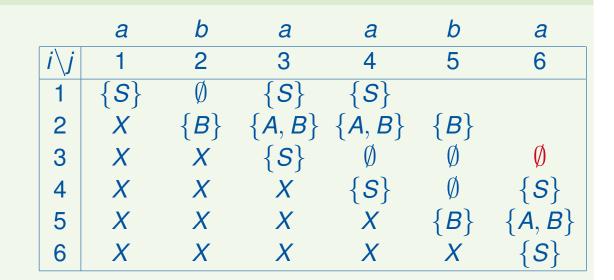


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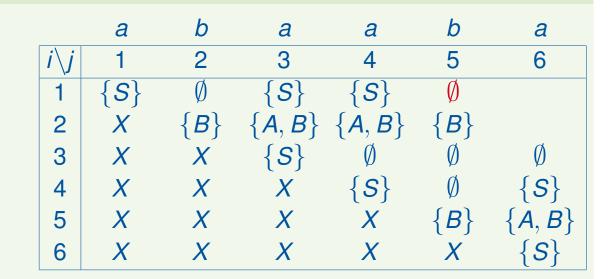
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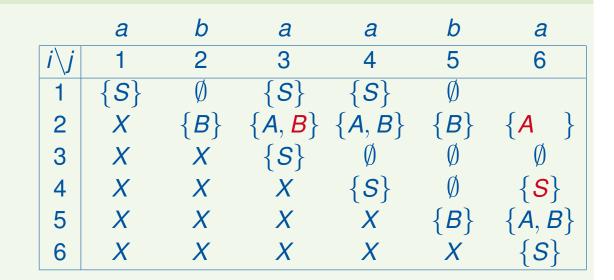
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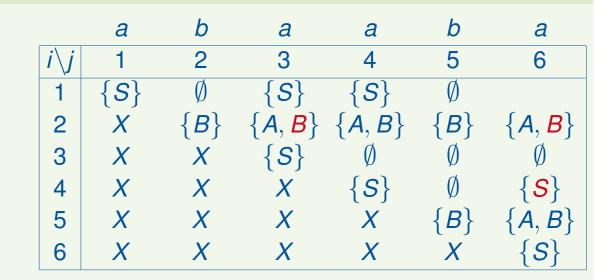
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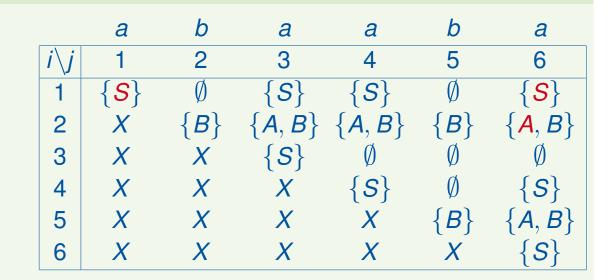
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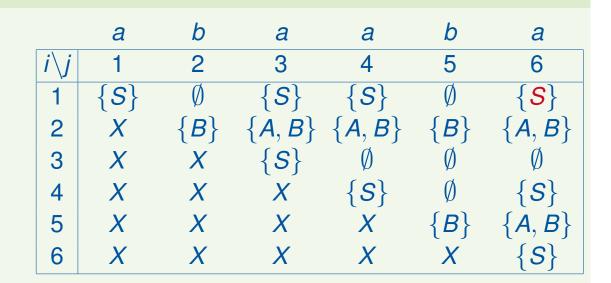






# Example C.15

```
• G: S \rightarrow SA \mid a
A \rightarrow BS
B \rightarrow BB \mid BS \mid b \mid c
• w = abaaba
```



 $S \in N_{1,6} \implies w = abaaba \in L(G)$ 





# Summary: The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages

## Seen:

- Given CFG G and  $w \in \Sigma^*$ , decide whether  $w \in L(G)$  or not
- Decidable using CYK algorithm (based on dynamic programming)
- Cubic complexity





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# Next:

• Emptiness problem



## **Outline of Part C**

**Context-Free Grammars and Languages** 

- Context-Free vs. Regular Languages
- **Chomsky Normal Form**
- The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages

# The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages

- **Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**
- Pushdown Automata

# Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages







### **The Emptiness Problem**

#### **Emptiness Problem for CFL**

Given CFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ , decide whether  $L(G) = \emptyset$  or not.





## **The Emptiness Problem**

### **Emptiness Problem for CFL**

Given CFG  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ , decide whether  $L(G) = \emptyset$  or not.

- Important problem with many applications
  - consistency of context-free language definitions
  - correctness properties of recursive programs

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- For regular languages this was easy: check in the corresponding DFA whether some final state is reachable from the initial state.
- Here: test whether start symbol is productive, i.e., whether it generates a terminal word





Algorithm C.16 (Emptiness Test) Input:  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$ Question:  $L(G) = \emptyset$ ? Procedure: mark every  $a \in \Sigma$  as productive; repeat if there is  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P$  such that all symbols in  $\alpha$  productive then mark A as productive end until no further productive symbols found; Output: "no" if S productive, otherwise "yes"





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 $egin{array}{rcl} G: & S 
ightarrow AB \mid CA \ & A 
ightarrow a \ & B 
ightarrow BC \mid AB \ & C 
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```
G: S \rightarrow AB \mid CAA \rightarrow aB \rightarrow BC \mid ABC \rightarrow aB \mid b
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Initialisation
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G: S \rightarrow AB \mid CAA \rightarrow aB \rightarrow BC \mid ABC \rightarrow aB \mid b
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- 1. Initialisation
- 2. 1st iteration
- 3. 2nd iteration



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 $G: S \rightarrow AB \mid CA$  $A \rightarrow a$  $B \rightarrow BC \mid AB$  $C \rightarrow aB \mid b$ 

- 1. Initialisation
- 2. 1st iteration
- 3. 2nd iteration
- S productive  $\implies L(G) \neq \emptyset$

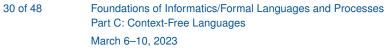




# **Summary: The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages**

### Seen:

• Emptiness problem decidable based on productivity of symbols





Software Modeling

# **Summary: The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages**

# Seen:

• Emptiness problem decidable based on productivity of symbols

## Next:

• Closure properties of CFLs





## **Outline of Part C**

**Context-Free Grammars and Languages** 

- Context-Free vs. Regular Languages
- **Chomsky Normal Form**
- The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages
- The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages
- **Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**
- Pushdown Automata

# Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages







Theorem C.18

The set of CFLs is closed under concatenation, union, and iteration.





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For i = 1, 2, let  $G_i = \langle N_i, \Sigma, P_i, S_i \rangle$  with  $L_i := L(G_i)$  and  $N_1 \cap N_2 = \emptyset$ , and let  $S \notin N_1 \cup N_2$  be a fresh nonterminal. Then





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•  $L_1 \cdot L_2$  is generated by  $G := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  with  $N := \{S\} \cup N_1 \cup N_2$  and

 $\textbf{\textit{P}} := \{\textbf{\textit{S}} \rightarrow \textbf{\textit{S}}_1\textbf{\textit{S}}_2\} \cup \textbf{\textit{P}}_1 \cup \textbf{\textit{P}}_2$ 





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•  $L_1^*$  is generated by  $G := \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  with  $N := \{S\} \cup N_1$  and

$$\boldsymbol{P} := \{\boldsymbol{S} \to \varepsilon \mid \boldsymbol{S}_1 \boldsymbol{S}\} \cup \boldsymbol{P}_1$$





## **Negative Results**

## Theorem C.19

The set of CFLs is not closed under intersection and complement.





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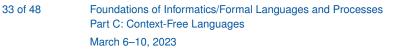
Proof.

• Intersection: both

 $L_1 := \{ a^k b^k c^l \mid k, l \in \mathbb{N} \}$  (generated by  $S \to AC, A \to aAb \mid \varepsilon, C \to Cc \mid \varepsilon )$ 

and

 $L_2 := \{a^k b^l c^l \mid k, l \in \mathbb{N}\}$  (generated by  $S \to AB, A \to aA \mid \varepsilon, B \to bBc \mid \varepsilon$ ) are CFLs,







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are CFLs, but not

$$L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

(without proof).





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are CFLs, but not

$$L_1 \cap L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

(without proof).

• Complement: if CFLs were closed under complement, then also under intersection (as  $L_1 \cap L_2 = \overline{L_1 \cup L_2}$ ).





#### **Overview of Decidability and Closure Results**

Decidability Results						
Class	$w \in L$	$L = \emptyset$	$L_1 = L_2$			
Reg	+	+	+			
CFL	+	+	_			





#### **Overview of Decidability and Closure Results**

Decidability Results						
Class	$w \in L$	$L = \emptyset$	$L_{1} = L_{2}$			
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CFL	+	+	_			

Closure Results							
Class	$L_1 \cdot L_2$	$L_1 \cup L_2$	$L_1 \cap L_2$	T	<b>L</b> *		
Reg	+	+	+	+	+		
CFL	+	+	_	—	+		



## **Summary: Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**

#### Seen:

- Closure under concatenation, union and iteration
- Non-closure under intersection and complement



## **Summary: Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**

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## Next:

• Automata model for CFLs



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- Pushdown Automata

## Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages







### **Pushdown Automata I**

- Goal: introduce an automata model which exactly accepts CFLs
- Clear: DFA not sufficient

(missing "counting capability", e.g. for  $\{a^nb^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )





### **Pushdown Automata I**

- Goal: introduce an automata model which exactly accepts CFLs
- Clear: DFA not sufficient

(missing "counting capability", e.g. for  $\{a^nb^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )

- DFA will be extended to pushdown automata by
  - adding a pushdown store which stores symbols from a pushdown alphabet and uses a special bottom symbol
  - adding push and pop operations to transitions





## Pushdown Automata II

## Definition C.20

A pushdown automaton (PDA) is of the form  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  where

- *Q* is a finite set of states
- $\Sigma$  is the (finite) input alphabet
- $\Delta \subseteq (Q \times \Gamma \times \Sigma_{\varepsilon}) \times (Q \times \Gamma^*)$  is a finite set of transitions
- $q_0 \in Q$  is the initial state
- $Z_0$  is the (pushdown) bottom symbol
- $F \subseteq Q$  is a set of final states

Interpretation of  $((q, Z, x), (q', \delta)) \in \Delta$ : if the PDA  $\mathfrak{A}$  is in state q where Z is on top of the stack and x is the next input symbol (or empty), then  $\mathfrak{A}$  reads x, replaces Z by  $\delta$ , and changes into the state q'.





### **Configurations, Runs, Acceptance**

#### **Definition C.21**

- Let  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  be a PDA.
  - An element of  $Q \times \Gamma^* \times \Sigma^*$  is called a configuration of  $\mathfrak{A}$ .
  - The initial configuration for input  $w \in \Sigma^*$  is given by  $(q_0, Z_0, w)$ .
  - The set of final configurations is given by  $F \times \{\varepsilon\} \times \{\varepsilon\}$ .
  - If  $((q, Z, x), (q', \delta)) \in \Delta$ , then  $(q, Z\gamma, xw) \vdash (q', \delta\gamma, w)$  for every  $\gamma \in \Gamma^*$ ,  $w \in \Sigma^*$ .



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  - $\mathfrak{A}$  accepts  $w \in \Sigma^*$  if  $(q_0, Z_0, w) \vdash^* (q, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$  for some  $q \in F$ .
  - The language accepted by  $\mathfrak{A}$  is  $L(\mathfrak{A}) := \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid \mathfrak{A} \text{ accepts } w \}.$
  - A language *L* is called PDA-recognisable if  $L = L(\mathfrak{A})$  for some PDA  $\mathfrak{A}$ .
  - Two PDA  $\mathfrak{A}_1, \mathfrak{A}_2$  are called equivalent if  $L(\mathfrak{A}_1) = L(\mathfrak{A}_2)$ .



## Example C.22 (PDA for $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )

 $\mathfrak{A} = \langle \textit{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \textit{q}_0, \textit{Z}_0, \textit{F} \rangle$  is given by







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Software Modeling

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$$\Gamma = \{Z_0, Z\}$$

$$-Z_0 = bottom$$

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$$F = \{q_2\}$$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z_0, a), (q_0, ZZ_0))$  $((q_0, Z, a), (q_0, ZZ))$  $((q_0, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ 

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- $F = \{q_2\}$

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- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z_0, a), (q_0, ZZ_0))$  $((q_0, Z, a), (q_0, ZZ))$  $((q_0, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  read first b  $((q_1, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ 
  - read first a read following a's read following b's change to final state
- Observation: no transitions for
  - $-(q_0, Z_0, b)$ : input must start with a
  - $-(q_1, Z, a)$ : no a's following b's
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Accepting run of PDA for input w = aabb: (remember: if  $((q, Z, x), (q', \delta)) \in \Delta$ , then  $(q, Z\gamma, xw) \vdash (q', \delta\gamma, w)$ )

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 $(q_0, Z_0, aabb) \vdash (q_0, ZZ_0, abb) \vdash (q_0, ZZZ_0, bb)$ 





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$$F = \{q_2\}$$

- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z_0, a), (q_0, ZZ_0))$  $((q_0, Z, a), (q_0, ZZ))$  $((q_0, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ 
  - read first *a* read following *a*'s read first *b* read following *b*'s change to final state
- Observation: no transitions for
  - $-(q_0, Z_0, b)$ : input must start with a
  - $-(q_1, Z, a)$ : no a's following b's
  - $-(q_1, Z_0, b)$ : more b's than a's

. . .

Accepting run of PDA for input w = aabb: (remember: if  $((q, Z, x), (q', \delta)) \in \Delta$ , then  $(q, Z\gamma, xw) \vdash (q', \delta\gamma, w)$ )

 $(q_0, Z_0, aabb) \vdash (q_0, ZZ_0, abb) \vdash (q_0, ZZZ_0, bb) \vdash (q_1, ZZ_0, b)$ 





# Example C.22 (PDA for $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )

 $\mathfrak{A} = \langle \textit{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \textit{q}_0, \textit{Z}_0, \textit{F} \rangle$  is given by

- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ 
  - $q_0$ : construction of PD while reading *a*'s
  - $-q_1$ : deconstruction while reading b's
  - q<sub>2</sub>: accepting state
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- $\Gamma = \{Z_0, Z\}$ 
  - $-Z_0 = bottom$

$$- #Z$$
 on PD =  $#a - #b$  read so far

• 
$$F = \{q_2\}$$

- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z_0, a), (q_0, ZZ_0))$  $((q_0, Z, a), (q_0, ZZ))$  $((q_0, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z, b), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ 
  - read first *a* read following *a*'s read first *b* read following *b*'s change to final state
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 $(q_0, Z_0, aabb) \vdash (q_0, ZZ_0, abb) \vdash (q_0, ZZZ_0, bb) \vdash (q_1, ZZ_0, b) \vdash (q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon)$ 

. . .





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 $\mathfrak{A} = \langle \textit{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \textit{q}_0, \textit{Z}_0, \textit{F} \rangle$  is given by

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  - read first *a* read following *a*'s read first *b* read following *b*'s change to final state
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. . .





## Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
- 4. accepts with empty pushdown



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- 4. accepts with empty pushdown

Formally:  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$ 

•  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ 





## Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

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- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$
- Γ = {*Z*<sub>0</sub>, *a*, *b*}
- $F = \{q_2\}$





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- $F = \{q_2\}$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_0, cZ))$  for  $Z \in \Gamma, c \in \Sigma$  (1)  $((q_0, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (2)  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, Z_0))$  (2)  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (3)  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$  (4)





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- $F = \{q_2\}$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_0, cZ))$  for  $Z \in \Gamma, c \in \Sigma$  (1)  $((q_0, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (2)  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, Z_0))$  (2)  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (3)  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  (4)

$$((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon)) \tag{4}$$

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba)$ 





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

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- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
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Formally:  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$ 

- $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$
- Σ = {*a*, *b*}
- $\Gamma = \{Z_0, a, b\}$
- $F = \{q_2\}$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_0, cZ))$  for  $Z \in \Gamma, c \in \Sigma$  (1)  $((q_0, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (2)  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, Z_0))$  (2)  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (3)  $((q_1, Z, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  (4)

$$((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon)) \tag{4}$$

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba)$ 





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
- 4. accepts with empty pushdown

Formally:  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$ •  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_0, cZ))$  formally:•  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ •  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_1, c))$  formally:•  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ •  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, z_0))$ 

- $\Gamma = \{Z_0, a, b\}$
- $F = \{q_2\}$

 $\begin{array}{ll} \Delta: \left( \left( q_{0}, Z, c \right), \left( q_{0}, cZ \right) \right) & \text{for } Z \in \Gamma, c \in \Sigma \quad (1) \\ \left( \left( q_{0}, c, c \right), \left( q_{1}, \varepsilon \right) \right) & \text{for } c \in \Sigma \quad (2) \\ \left( \left( q_{0}, Z_{0}, \varepsilon \right), \left( q_{1}, Z_{0} \right) \right) & (2) \\ \left( \left( q_{1}, c, c \right), \left( q_{1}, \varepsilon \right) \right) & \text{for } c \in \Sigma \quad (3) \\ \left( \left( q_{0}, Z_{0}, \varepsilon \right), \left( q_{0}, \varepsilon \right) \right) & (2) \\ \left( \left( q_{0}, Z_{0}, \varepsilon \right), \left( q_{0}, \varepsilon \right) \right) & \text{for } c \in \Sigma \quad (3) \\ \left( \left( q_{0}, Z_{0}, \varepsilon \right), \left( q_{0}, \varepsilon \right) \right) & (2) \\ \end{array}$ 

$$((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon)) \tag{4}$$

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba)$ 





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# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
- 4. accepts with empty pushdown

Formally:  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$ •  $\Delta$ : (( $q_0, Z, c$ ), ( $q_0, cZ$ )) for  $Z \in \Gamma$ ,  $c \in \Sigma$ (1) $((q_0, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$ •  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ (2) $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, Z_0))$ (2)•  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$ for  $c \in \Sigma$ (3)•  $\Gamma = \{Z_0, a, b\}$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ (4)•  $F = \{q_2\}$ 

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_1, aZ_0, a)$ 





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input *w*

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
- 4. accepts with empty pushdown

Formally: 
$$\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$$
•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_0, cZ))$  for  $Z \in \Gamma, c \in \Sigma$  (1)•  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$ •  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, Z, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (2)•  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (2)•  $\Gamma = \{Z_0, a, b\}$  $((q_1, C, C), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$  (3)•  $F = \{q_2\}$ ((q\_1, Z\_0, \varepsilon), (q\_2, \varepsilon))

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_1, aZ_0, a) \vdash (q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon)$ 





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
- 3. compares w and  $w^R$  symbol-wise by matching steps
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Formally:  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$ •  $\Delta$ : (( $q_0, Z, c$ ), ( $q_0, cZ$ )) for  $Z \in \Gamma$ ,  $c \in \Sigma$ (1) $((q_0, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$  for  $c \in \Sigma$ (2)•  $Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}$  $((q_0, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_1, Z_0))$ (2)•  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$  $((q_1, c, c), (q_1, \varepsilon))$ for  $c \in \Sigma$ (3)•  $\Gamma = \{Z_0, a, b\}$  $((q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon), (q_2, \varepsilon))$ (4)•  $F = \{q_2\}$ 

Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_1, aZ_0, a) \vdash (q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon) \vdash (q_2, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ 





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

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Formally: 
$$\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$$
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Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_1, aZ_0, a) \vdash (q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon) \vdash (q_2, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$ **Observation:**  $\mathfrak{A}$  is nondeterministic – in a configuration of the form  $(q_0, cv, cw)$  $(c \in \Sigma, v, w \in \Sigma^*)$ , both (1) and (2) are applicable.





# Example C.23 (PDA for $L = \{ww^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ (palindromes of even length))

#### Idea: 1. $\mathfrak{A}$ pushes input w

- 2. switches nondeterministically to the  $w^R$  recognition phase
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Formally: 
$$\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$$
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Accepting run of PDA for input w = abba:

 $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_1, aZ_0, a) \vdash (q_1, Z_0, \varepsilon) \vdash (q_2, \varepsilon, \varepsilon)$  **Observation:**  $\mathfrak{A}$  is nondeterministic – in a configuration of the form  $(q_0, cv, cw)$   $(c \in \Sigma, v, w \in \Sigma^*)$ , both (1) and (2) are applicable. This yields rejecting runs, e.g.,  $(q_0, Z_0, abba) \vdash (q_0, aZ_0, bba) \vdash (q_0, baZ_0, ba) \vdash (q_0, bbaZ_0, a) \vdash (q_0, abbaZ_0, \varepsilon) \nvDash$ 





**Definition C.24** 

A PDA  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is called deterministic (DPDA) if for every  $q \in Q, Z \in \Gamma$ , 1. for every  $x \in \Sigma_{\varepsilon}$ , there is at most one (q, Z, x)-transition in  $\Delta$  and

2. if there is a (q, Z, a)-transition in  $\Delta$  for some  $a \in \Sigma$ , then there is no  $(q, Z, \varepsilon)$ -transition in  $\Delta$ .

**Remark:** this excludes two types of nondeterminism:

1. if 
$$((q, Z, x), (q'_1, \delta_1)), ((q, Z, x), (q'_2, \delta_2)) \in \Delta$$
:  
 $(q'_1, \delta_1 \gamma, w) \dashv (q, Z\gamma, xw) \vdash (q'_2, \delta_2 \gamma, w)$   
2. if  $((q, Z, a), (q'_1, \delta_1)), ((q, Z, \varepsilon), (q'_2, \delta_2)) \in \Delta$ :  
 $(q'_1, \delta_1 \gamma, w) \dashv (q, Z\gamma, aw) \vdash (q'_2, \delta_2 \gamma, aw)$ 





**Definition C.24** 

A PDA  $\mathfrak{A} = \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is called deterministic (DPDA) if for every  $q \in Q, Z \in \Gamma$ , 1. for every  $x \in \Sigma_{\varepsilon}$ , there is at most one (q, Z, x)-transition in  $\Delta$  and

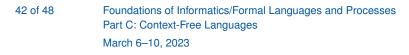
2. if there is a (q, Z, a)-transition in  $\Delta$  for some  $a \in \Sigma$ , then there is no  $(q, Z, \varepsilon)$ -transition in  $\Delta$ .

**Remark:** this excludes two types of nondeterminism:

1. if 
$$((q, Z, x), (q'_1, \delta_1)), ((q, Z, x), (q'_2, \delta_2)) \in \Delta$$
:  
 $(q'_1, \delta_1 \gamma, w) \dashv (q, Z\gamma, xw) \vdash (q'_2, \delta_2 \gamma, w)$   
2. if  $((q, Z, a), (q'_1, \delta_1)), ((q, Z, \varepsilon), (q'_2, \delta_2)) \in \Delta$ :  
 $(q'_1, \delta_1 \gamma, w) \dashv (q, Z\gamma, aw) \vdash (q'_2, \delta_2 \gamma, aw)$ 

Corollary C.25

In a DPDA, every configuration has at most one  $\vdash$ -successor.







**One can show:** determinism restricts the set of acceptable languages (DPDA-recognisable languages are closed under complement, which is generally not true for PDA-recognisable languages)





#### **Expressiveness of DPDA**

**One can show:** determinism restricts the set of acceptable languages (DPDA-recognisable languages are closed under complement, which is generally not true for PDA-recognisable languages)

#### Example C.26

The set of palindromes of even length is PDA-recognisable, but not DPDA-recognisable (without proof).





## Summary: Pushdown Automata

## Seen:

- Extension of finite automata by pushdown store
- Enables "counting" (e.g.,  $\{a^nb^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )
- Determinism restricts expressivity (in contrast to finite automata)



## Summary: Pushdown Automata

# Seen:

- Extension of finite automata by pushdown store
- Enables "counting" (e.g.,  $\{a^nb^n \mid n \ge 1\}$ )
- Determinism restricts expressivity (in contrast to finite automata)

# Next:

• Relation between PDA and context-free languages





## **Outline of Part C**

- **Context-Free Grammars and Languages**
- Context-Free vs. Regular Languages
- **Chomsky Normal Form**
- The Word Problem for Context-Free Languages
- The Emptiness Problem for Context-Free Languages
- **Closure Properties of Context-Free Languages**
- Pushdown Automata

## Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages





#### Theorem C.27

A language is context-free iff it is PDA-recognisable.





# Theorem C.27

A language is context-free iff it is PDA-recognisable.

# Proof.

# "⇐": omitted

"⇒": let  $G = \langle N, \Sigma, P, S \rangle$  be a CFG. Construction of PDA  $\mathfrak{A}_G$  recognising L(G):

- $\mathfrak{A}_G$  simulates a derivation of G where always the leftmost nonterminal of a sentence is replaced ("leftmost derivation")
- begin with S on pushdown
- if nonterminal on top: apply a corresponding production rule
- if terminal on top: match with next input symbol
- (cf. formal construction on following slide)





#### Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

- " $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by
  - $Q := \{q_0\}$

• for each  $A \rightarrow \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")

•  $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$ 

- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$  F := Q





#### Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

• F := Q

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
- $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$

- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$ •  $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $Z_0 = S$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

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- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $Z_0 = S$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
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angle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $Z_0 = S$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$ 

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

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- $Z_0 := S$  F := Q

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$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta \colon ((q_0, \mathcal{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle)) & ((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon) \\ & ((q_0, \mathcal{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \mathcal{S} \rangle)) & ((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon) \\ & ((q_0, \mathcal{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \mathcal{SS})) \end{array} \end{array}$$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
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- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
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$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} 
angle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$

$$\Delta: ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle)) \quad ((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon)\rangle) \\ ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle)) \quad ((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \\ ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





# Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
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$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta : \left((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \boldsymbol{\langle})\right) & \left((q_0, \langle, \langle\rangle, (q_0, \varepsilon)\right) \\ \left((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \boldsymbol{S} \rangle)\right) & \left((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon)\right) \\ \left((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \boldsymbol{SS})\right) & \end{array}$$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





# Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
- $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$

- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$  F := Q

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$
- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





# Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

• F := Q

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
- $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$

• for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")

•  $Z_0 := S$ 

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \textit{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \textit{q}_{0}, \textit{Z}_{0}, \textit{F} 
angle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$ •  $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $Z = \{\langle, \rangle\}, 1 = \{0, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$

•  $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$ 

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
- $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$

•  $Z_0 = S$ 

- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$  F := Q

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$ •  $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :  $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S, \rangle \rangle \rangle$ 





## Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion") •  $Q := \{q_0\}$
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- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$ • F := Q

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \to \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} 
angle$$
 with

- $Q = F = \{q_0\}$
- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$
- $Z_0 = S$

$$\Delta : ((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle)) \quad ((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon)\rangle) \\ ((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \boldsymbol{S} \rangle)) \quad ((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \\ ((q_0, \boldsymbol{S}, \varepsilon), (q_0, \boldsymbol{SS}))$$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :

 $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \quad \vdash \ (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \ \vdash \ (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \ \vdash \ (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S, \rangle \rangle ) \vdash (q_0, S, \rangle \rangle$  $\vdash (q_0, \langle \rangle, \langle \rangle)$ 





# Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
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- $Z_0 := S$  F := Q

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \rightarrow \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \mathcal{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \mathcal{q}_{0}, \mathcal{Z}_{0}, \mathcal{F} \rangle$$
 with

•  $Q = F = \{q_0\}$ 

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- $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ •  $Z_0 = S$
- $\Delta$ :  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle))$   $((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle))$   $((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon))$  $((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS))$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :

 $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, S, \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \mapsto (q_0, \rangle S, \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle)$ 





# Proof of Theorem C.27 (continued).

" $\Rightarrow$ ": Formally,  $\mathfrak{A}_G := \langle Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, q_0, Z_0, F \rangle$  is given by

• F := Q

- $Q := \{q_0\}$  for each  $A \to \alpha \in P$ :  $((q_0, A, \varepsilon), (q_0, \alpha)) \in \Delta$  ("expansion")
- $\Gamma := N \cup \Sigma$

- for each  $a \in \Sigma$ :  $((q_0, a, a), (q_0, \varepsilon)) \in \Delta$  ("matching")
- $Z_0 := S$

Example C.28 ("Bracket language" given by  $G: S \to \langle \rangle \mid \langle S \rangle \mid SS$ )

$$\mathfrak{A}_{G} = \langle \textit{Q}, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, \textit{q}_{0}, \textit{Z}_{0}, \textit{F} 
angle$$
 with

•  $Q = F = \{q_0\}$ •  $\Sigma = \{\langle, \rangle\}, \Gamma = \{S, \langle, \rangle\}$ 

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•  $Z = \chi(1, 1), T = \chi(3, 1), T$ •  $Z_0 = S$ 

$$\begin{array}{ll} \Delta &: ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle \rangle)) & ((q_0, \langle, \langle), (q_0, \varepsilon) \\ & ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, \langle S \rangle)) & ((q_0, \rangle, \rangle), (q_0, \varepsilon) \\ & ((q_0, S, \varepsilon), (q_0, SS)) \end{array}$$

Accepting run for input  $w = \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle$ :

 $(q_0, S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, SS, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, \langle S \rangle S, \langle \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S \rangle S, \langle \rangle \rangle \langle \rangle) \vdash (q_0, S, \langle \rangle)$ 





#### Summary: Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages

#### Seen:

- Construction of PDA for given CFG ( $\Rightarrow$  parser generation!)
- Reverse direction also possible
- Thus: PDA and CFG equivalent



## Summary: Pushdown Automata and Context-Free Languages

## Seen:

- Construction of PDA for given CFG ( $\Rightarrow$  parser generation!)
- Reverse direction also possible
- Thus: PDA and CFG equivalent

# **Outlook:**

- Equivalence problem for CFG and PDA (" $L(X_1) = L(X_2)$ ?"): generally undecidable, but decidable for DPDA
- Pumping Lemma for CFL (e.g., to prove that  $\{a^nb^nc^n \mid n \ge 1\}$  not context-free)
- Greibach Normal Form for CFG
- Systematic construction of deterministic and efficient parsers for compilers (*LL/LR* grammars)
- Non-context-free grammars and languages
   (e.g., context-sensitive languages such as {a<sup>n</sup>b<sup>n</sup>c<sup>n</sup> | n ≥ 1})



