

UMB CS 420
PDA ↔ CFL

Monday, March 25, 2024

(AN UNMATCHED LEFT PARENTHESIS
CREATES AN UNRESOLVED TENSION
THAT WILL STAY WITH YOU ALL DAY.

Announcements

- HW 5 in
 - ~~Due Mon 3/25 12pm noon~~
- HW 6 out
 - Due Mon 4/1 12pm noon

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Regular Language vs CFL Comparison

Regular Languages	Context-Free Languages (CFLs)
Regular Expression	Context-Free Grammar (CFG)
<u>describes</u> a Regular Lang	<u>describes</u> a CFL

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Finite State Automaton (FSM)	???
<u>recognizes</u> a Regular Lang	<u>recognizes</u> a CFL

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thm	Regular Expression <u>describes</u> a Regular Lang	Context-Free Grammar (CFG) <u>describes</u> a CFL
def	Finite State Automaton (FSM) <u>recognizes</u> a Regular Lang	Push-down Automata (PDA) <u>recognizes</u> a CFL

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def	Finite State Automaton (FSM) <u>recognizes</u> a Regular Lang	Push-down Automata (PDA) <u>recognizes</u> a CFL
	<u>Proved:</u>	<u>Must Prove:</u>
	Regular Lang \Leftrightarrow Regular Expr <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	CFL \Leftrightarrow PDA ???

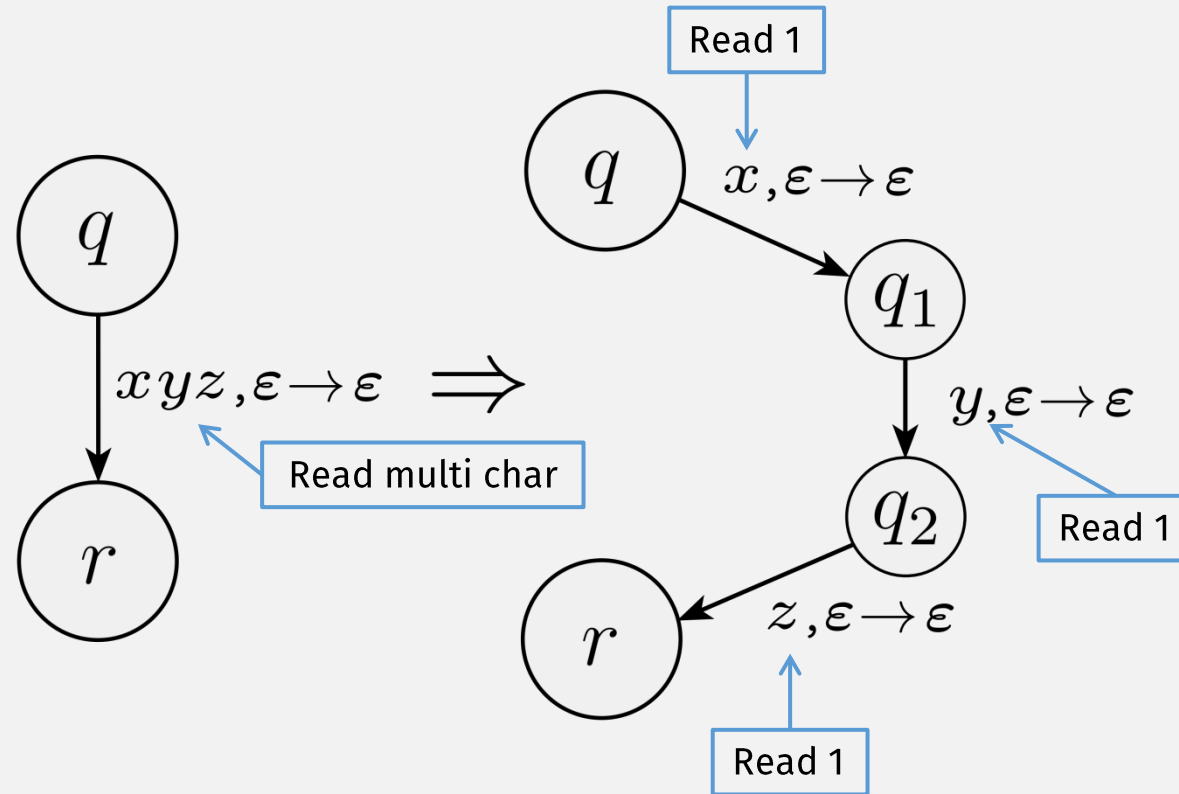
A lang is a CFL iff some PDA recognizes it

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

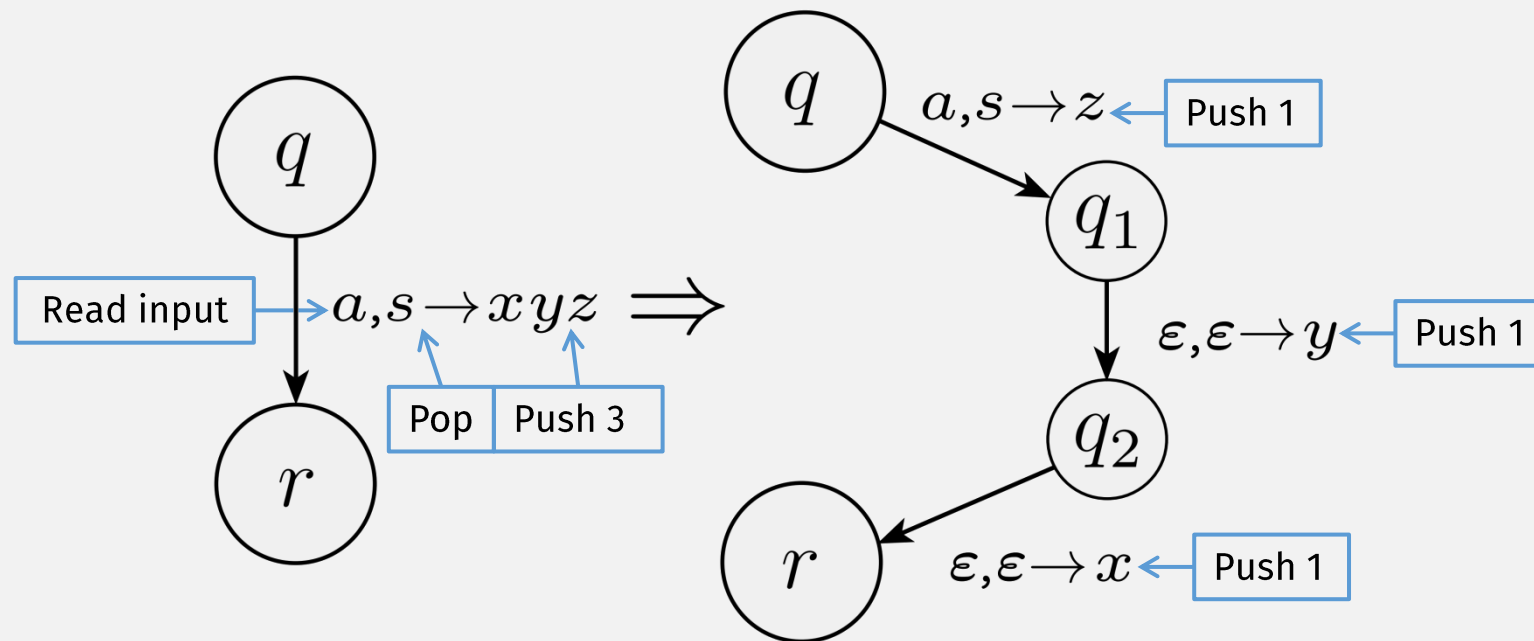
- We know: A CFL has a CFG describing it (definition of CFL)
- To prove this part, show: the CFG has an equivalent PDA

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

Shorthand: Multi-Symbol Read Transition



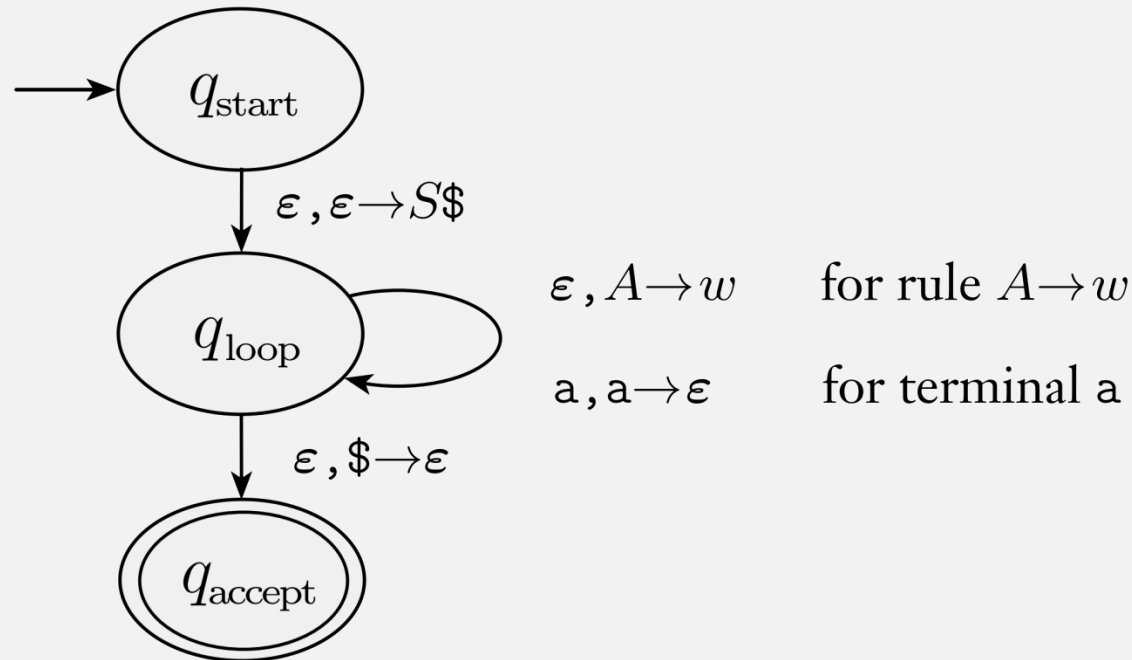
Shorthand: Multi-Stack Push Transition



Note the reverse order of pushes

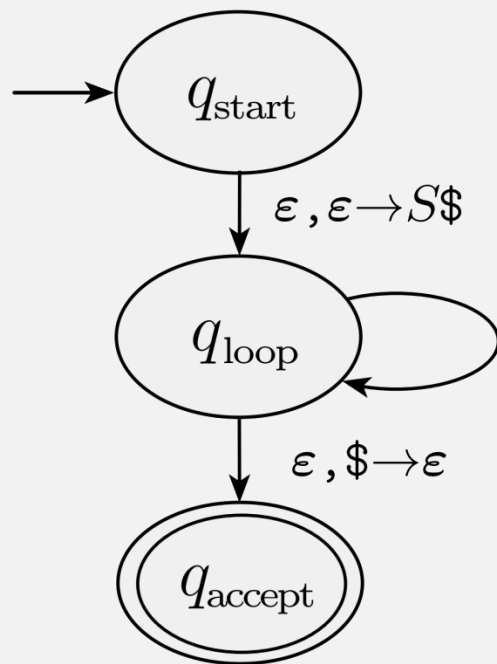
CFG \rightarrow PDA (sketch)

- 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



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Convert: every CFG rule to PDA “loop” transition(s) that:

- Pops LHS variable
- Pushes RHS

$\epsilon, A \rightarrow w$ for rule $A \rightarrow w$

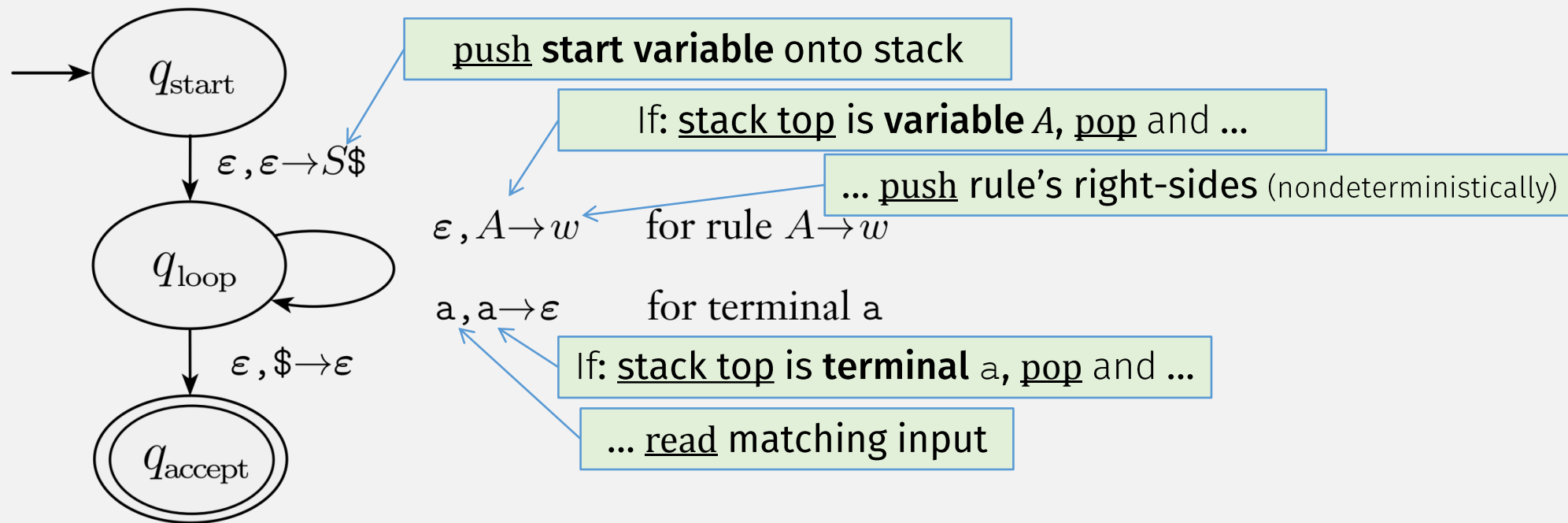
$a, a \rightarrow \epsilon$ for terminal a

Convert: every terminal to “loop” transition that:

- Reads input char
- Pops matching char on stack

CFG \rightarrow PDA (sketch)

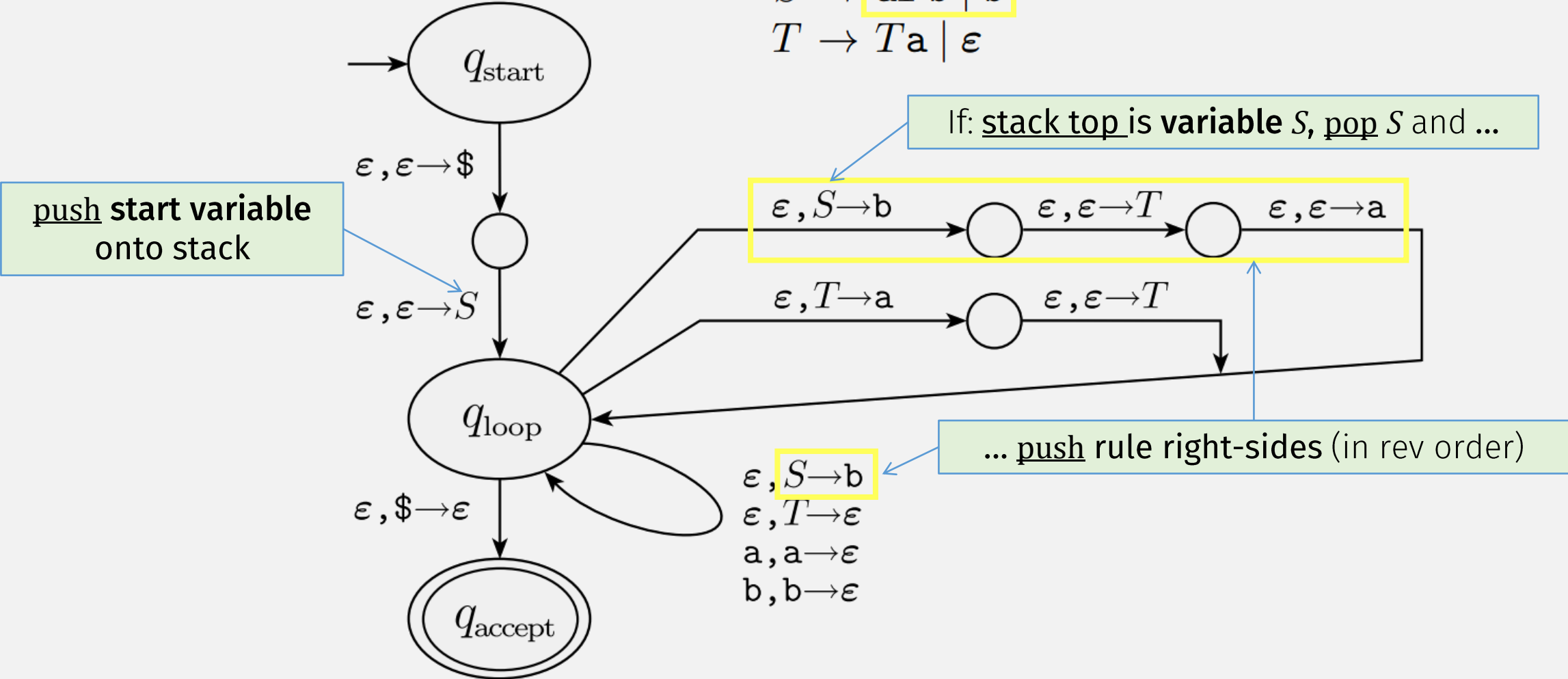
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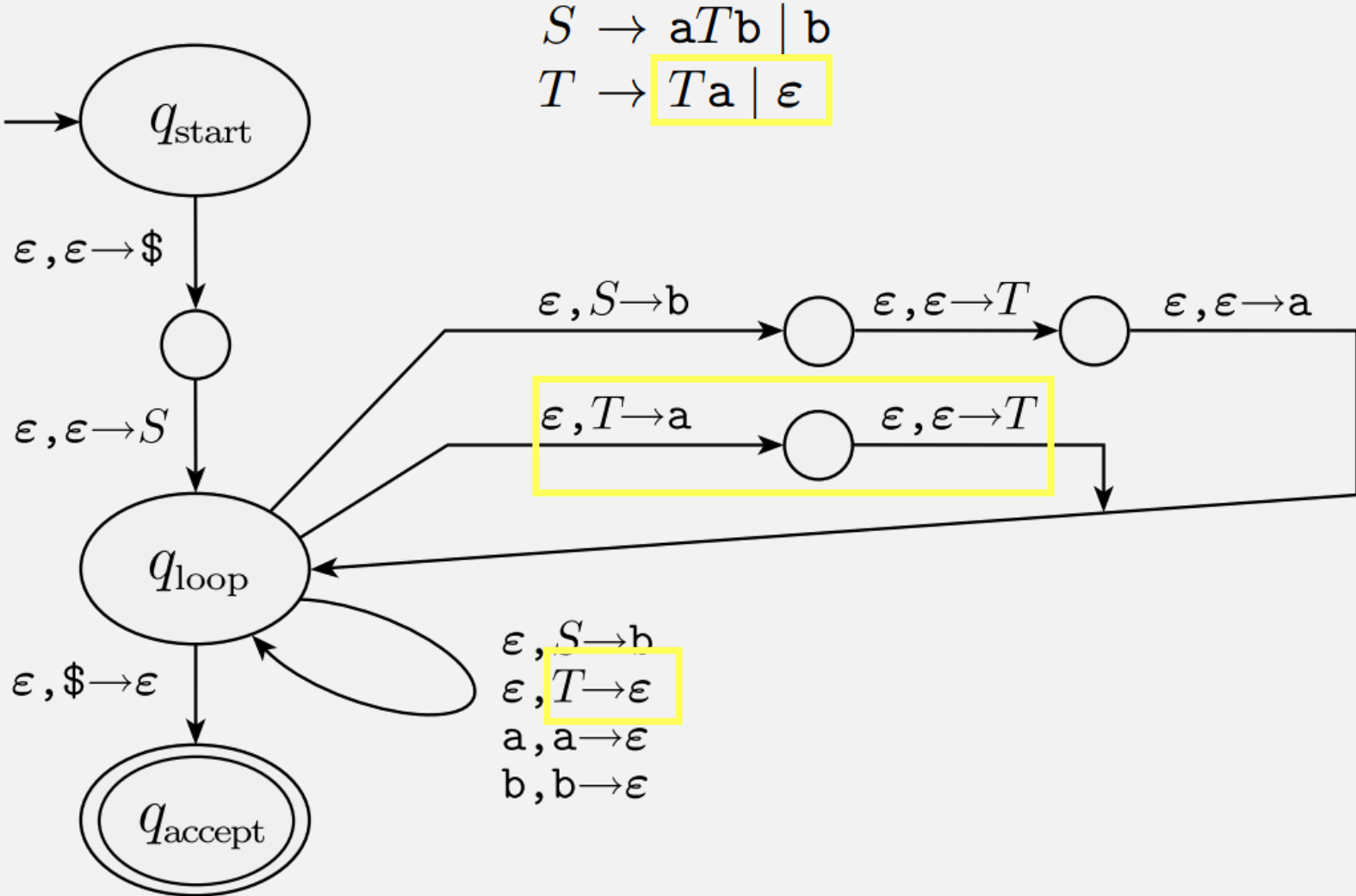
Example CFG \rightarrow PDA

$$S \rightarrow aTb \mid b$$

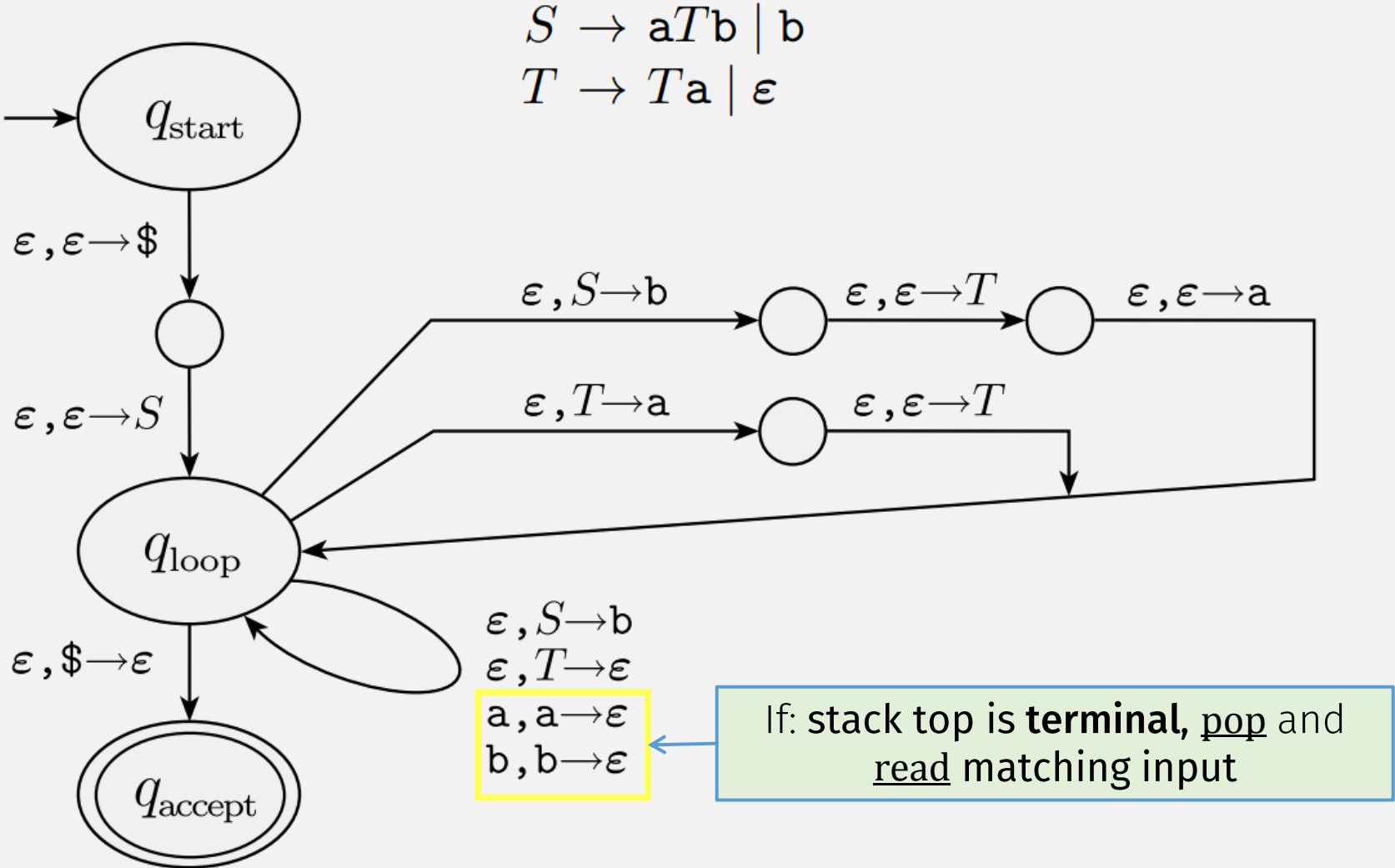
$$T \rightarrow Ta \mid \epsilon$$



Example CFG \rightarrow PDA



Example CFG \rightarrow PDA

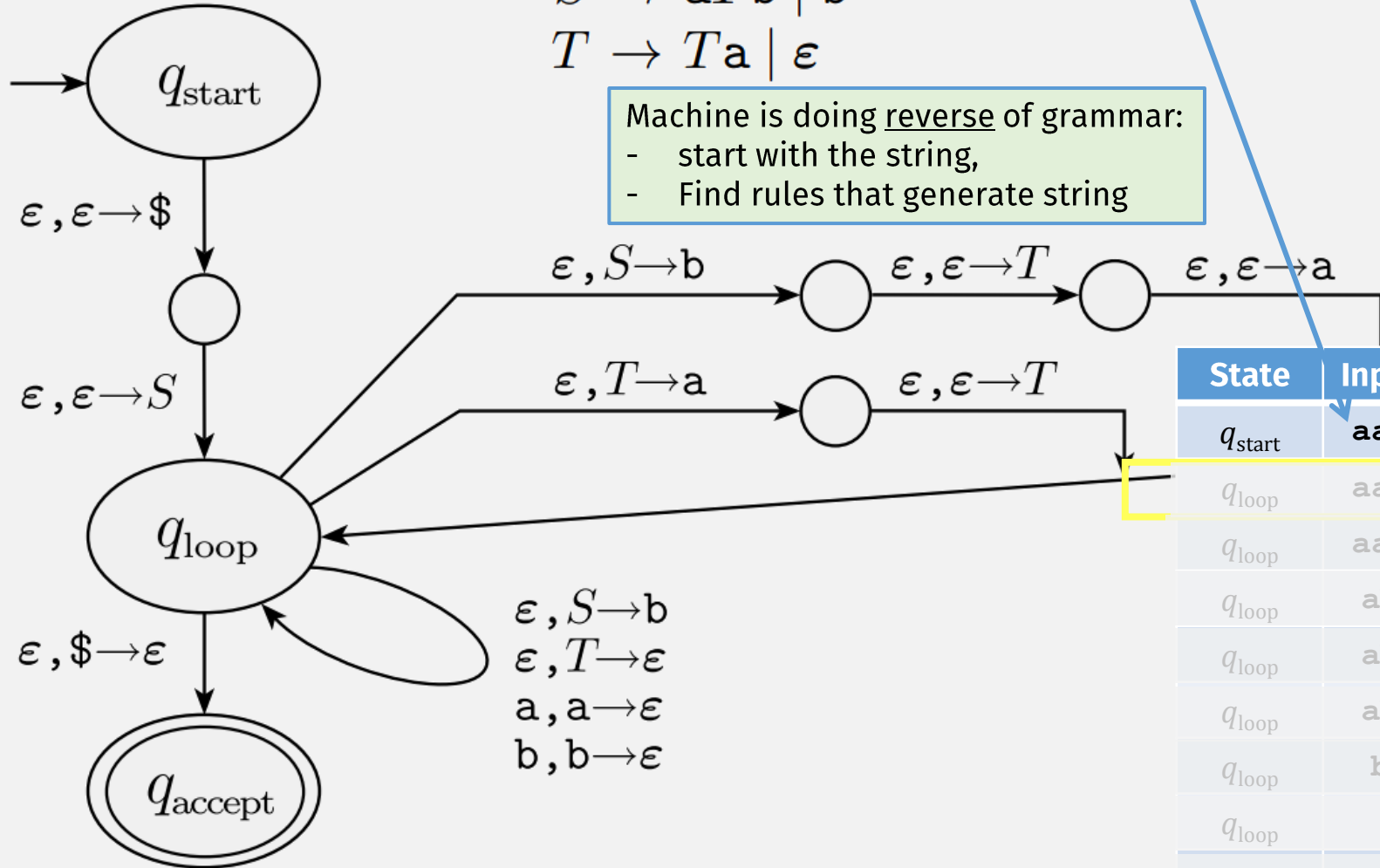


Example CFG → PDA

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

$S \rightarrow aTb \mid b$
 $T \rightarrow Ta \mid \epsilon$

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



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\$	
q_{loop}	ab	Tab\$	$T \rightarrow Ta$
q_{loop}	ab	ab\$	$T \rightarrow \epsilon$
q_{loop}	b	b\$	
q_{loop}		\$	
q_{accept}			

Example CFG \rightarrow PDA

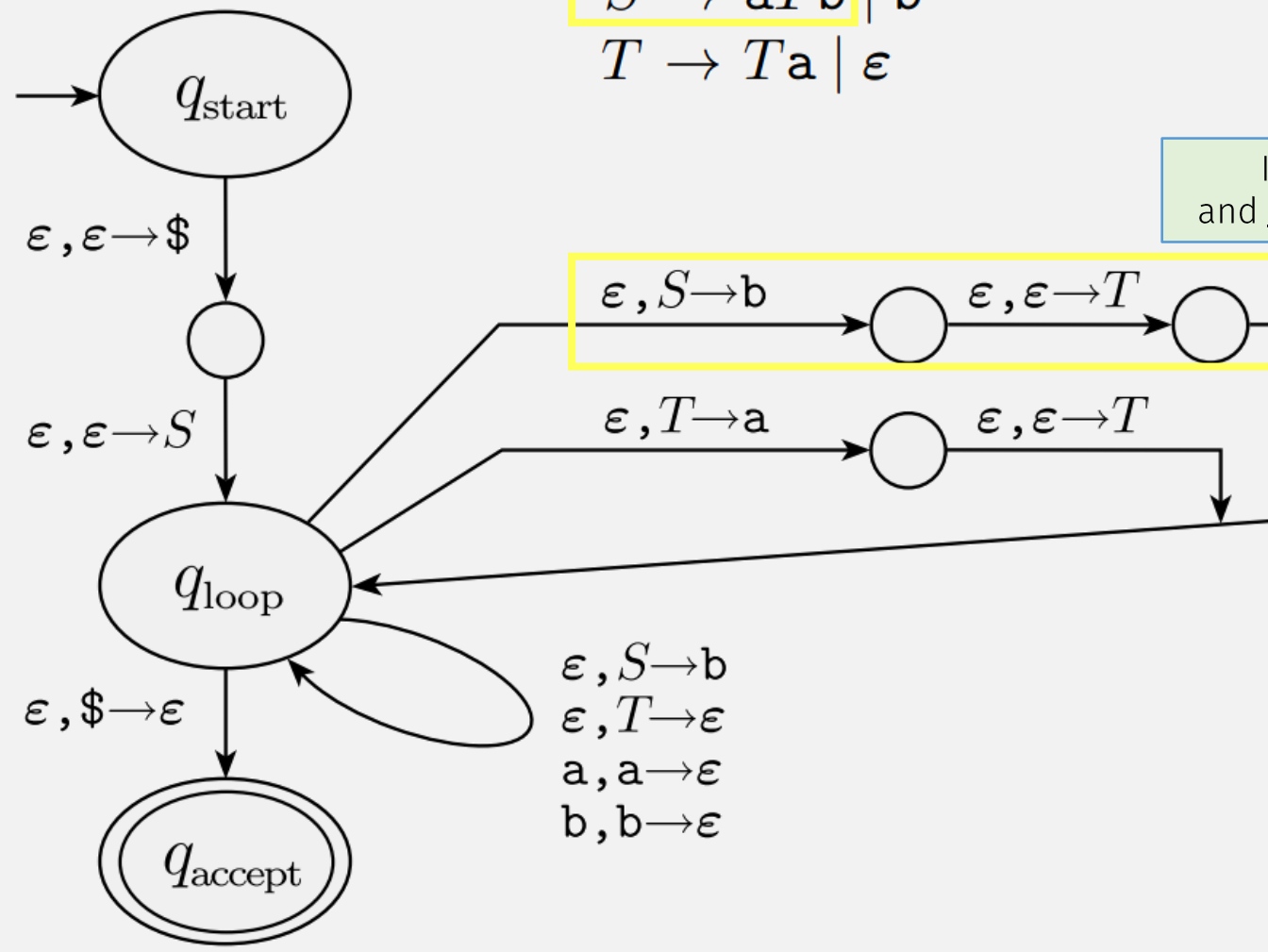
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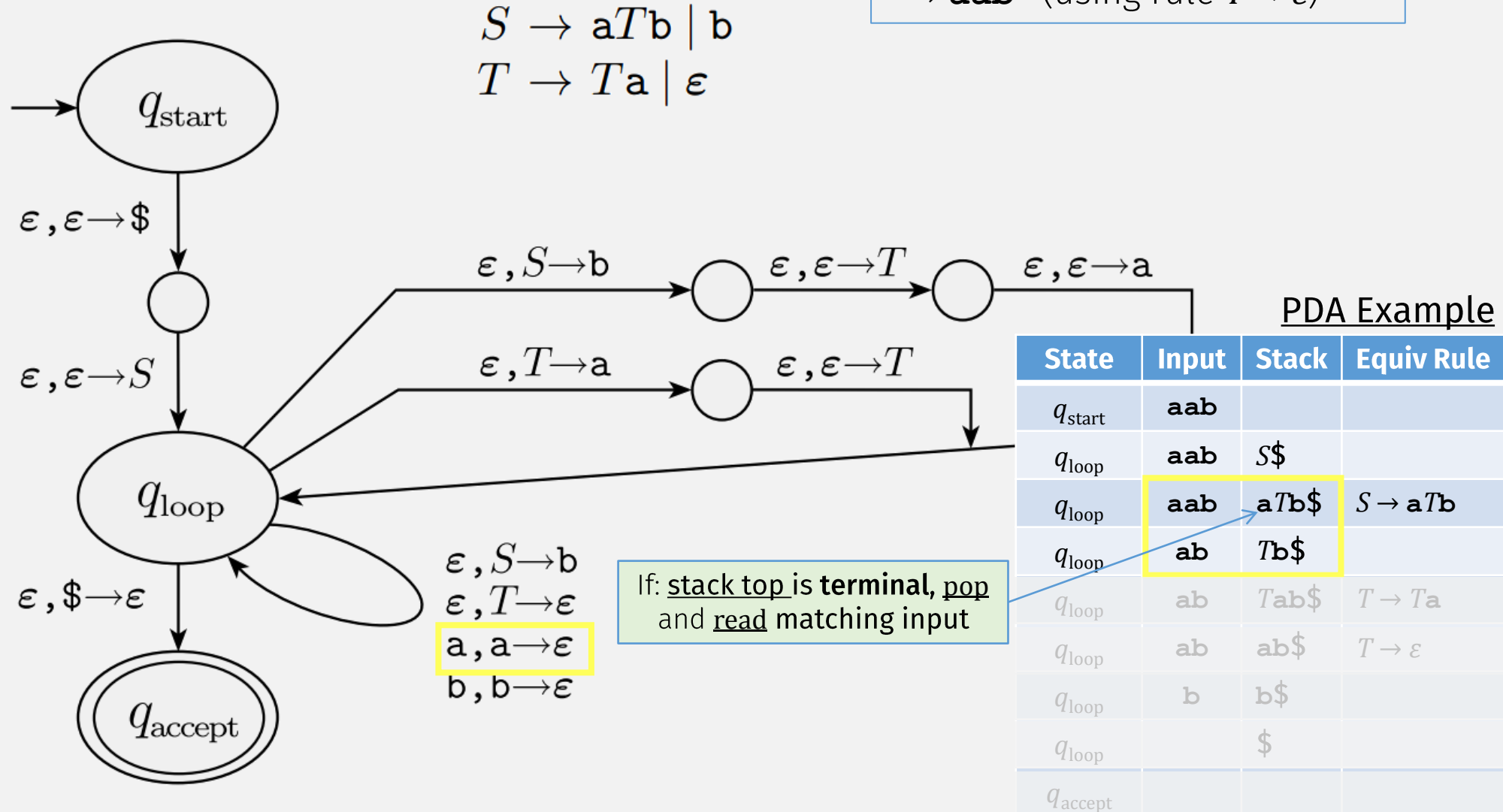
If: stack top is **variable S**, pop S and push rule right-sides (in rev order)

PDA Example

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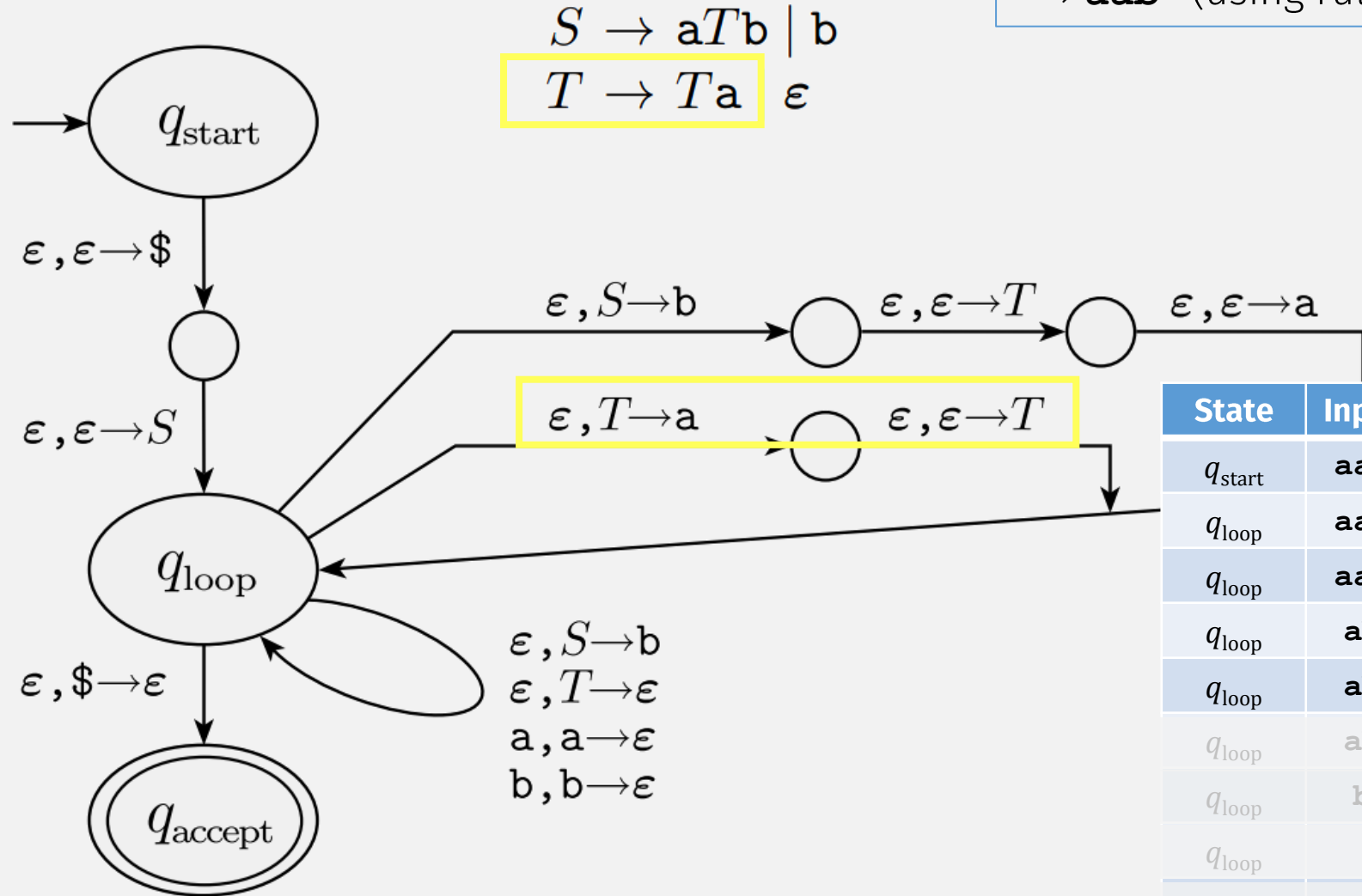
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PDA Example

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A lang is a CFL iff some 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

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

PDA→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)

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

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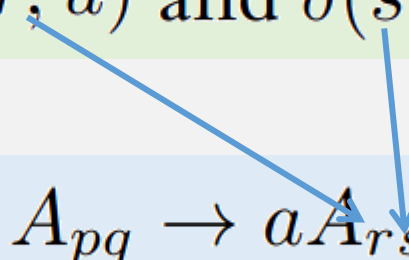
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A language is a CFL \Leftrightarrow A PDA recognizes it

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

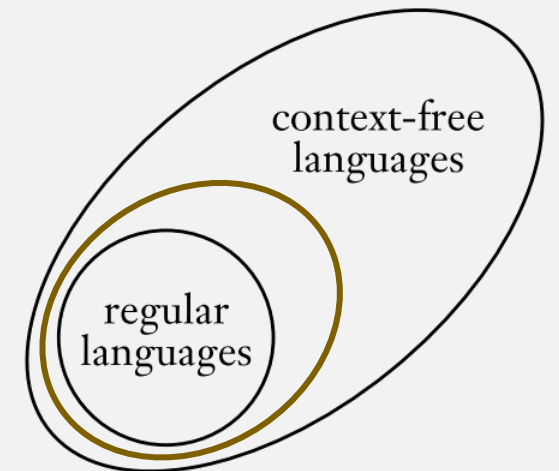
- Convert CFG \rightarrow PDA

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

- Convert PDA \rightarrow CFG



Regular vs Context-Free Languages (and others?)

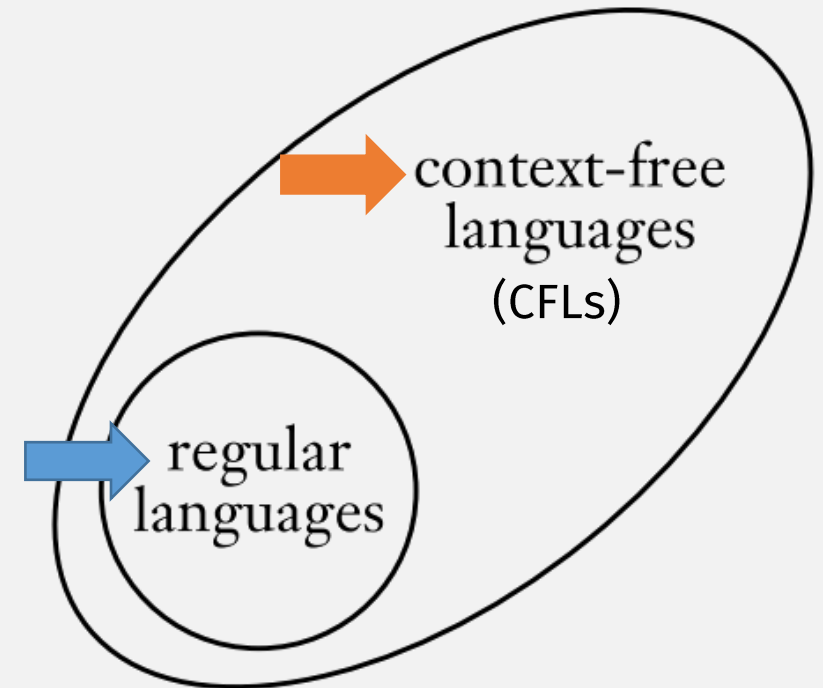


Is This Diagram “Correct”?

(What are the statements implied by this diagram?)

➡ 1. Every regular language is a CFL

➡ 2. Not every CFL is a regular language



How to Prove This Diagram “Correct”?

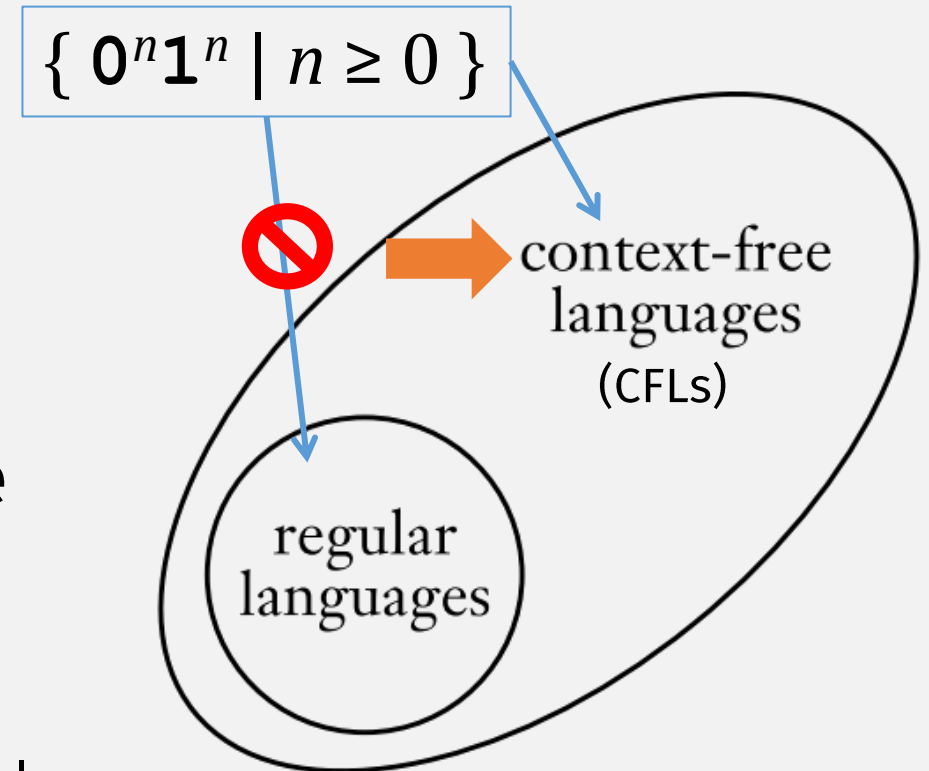
1. Every regular language is a CFL

➔ 2. Not every CFL is a regular language

Find a CFL that is not regular

$\{ 0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0 \}$

- It's a CFL
 - *Proof:* CFG $S \rightarrow 0S1 \mid \varepsilon$
- It's not regular
 - *Proof:* by contradiction using the Pumping Lemma



How to Prove This Diagram “Correct”?

➔ 1. Every regular language is a CFL

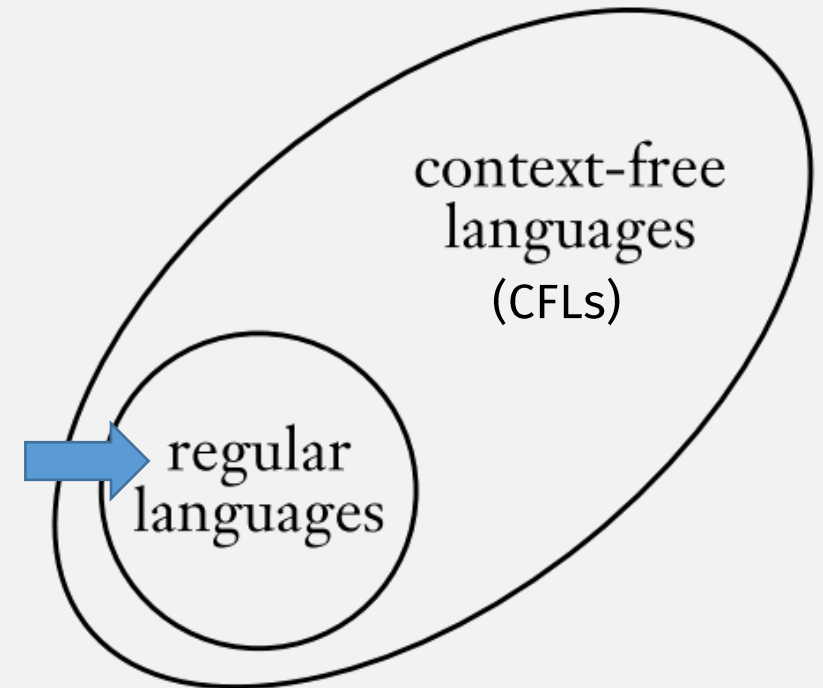
For any regular language A , show ...

... it has a CFG or PDA

☑ 2. Not every CFL is a regular language

A regular language is represented by a:

- DFA
- NFA
- Regular Expression



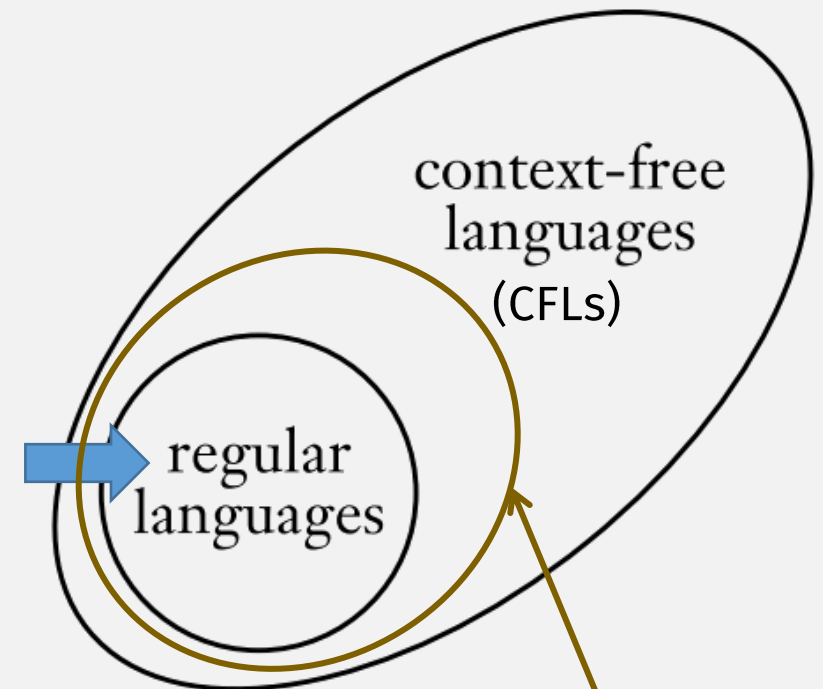
Regular Languages are CFLs: 3 Ways to Prove

- DFA → CFG or PDA

- NFA → CFG or PDA

See HW 6!

- Regular expression → CFG or PDA



Are there other interesting subsets of CFLs?

Deterministic CFLs and DPDAs

Previously: Generating Strings

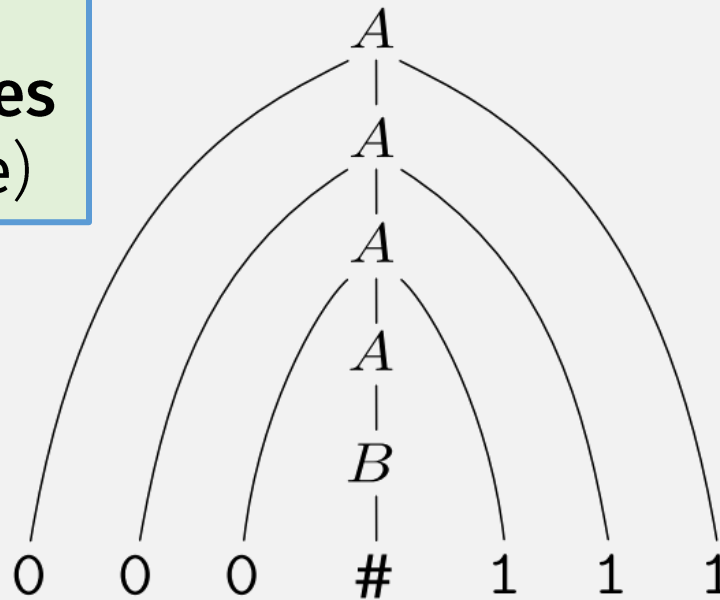
Generating strings:

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

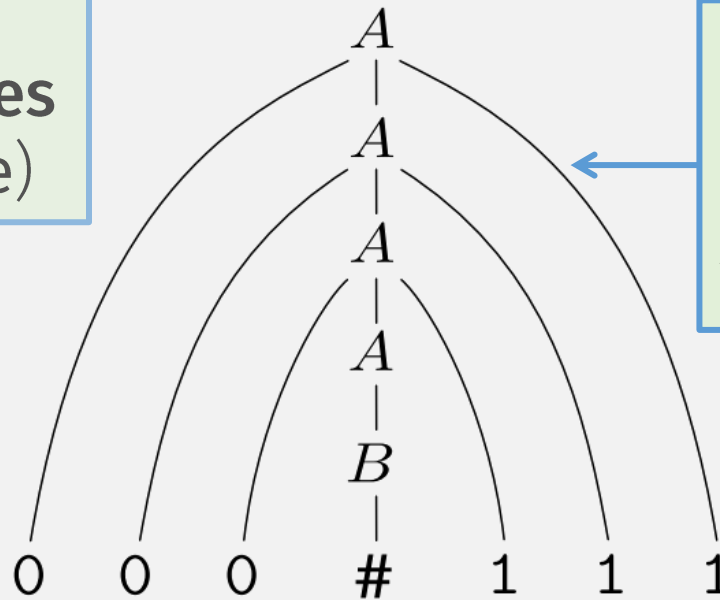
Generating strings:

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In practice, opposite is more interesting:

1. Start with **string**,
2. Then parse into **parse tree**

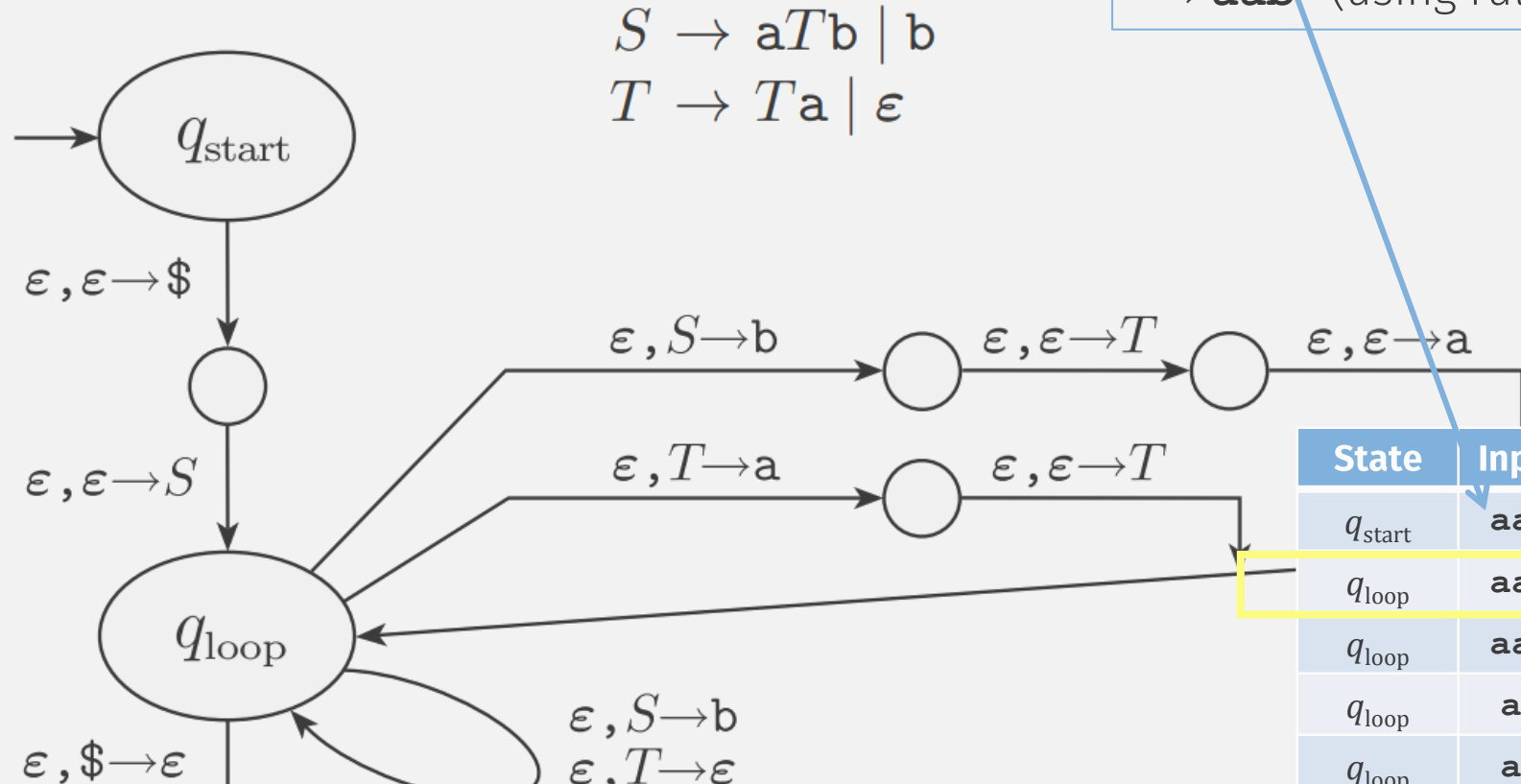
$$A \Rightarrow 0A1 \Rightarrow 00A11 \Rightarrow 000A111 \Rightarrow 000B111 \Rightarrow 000\#111$$

Generating vs Parsing

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

Previously: Example CFG \rightarrow PDA

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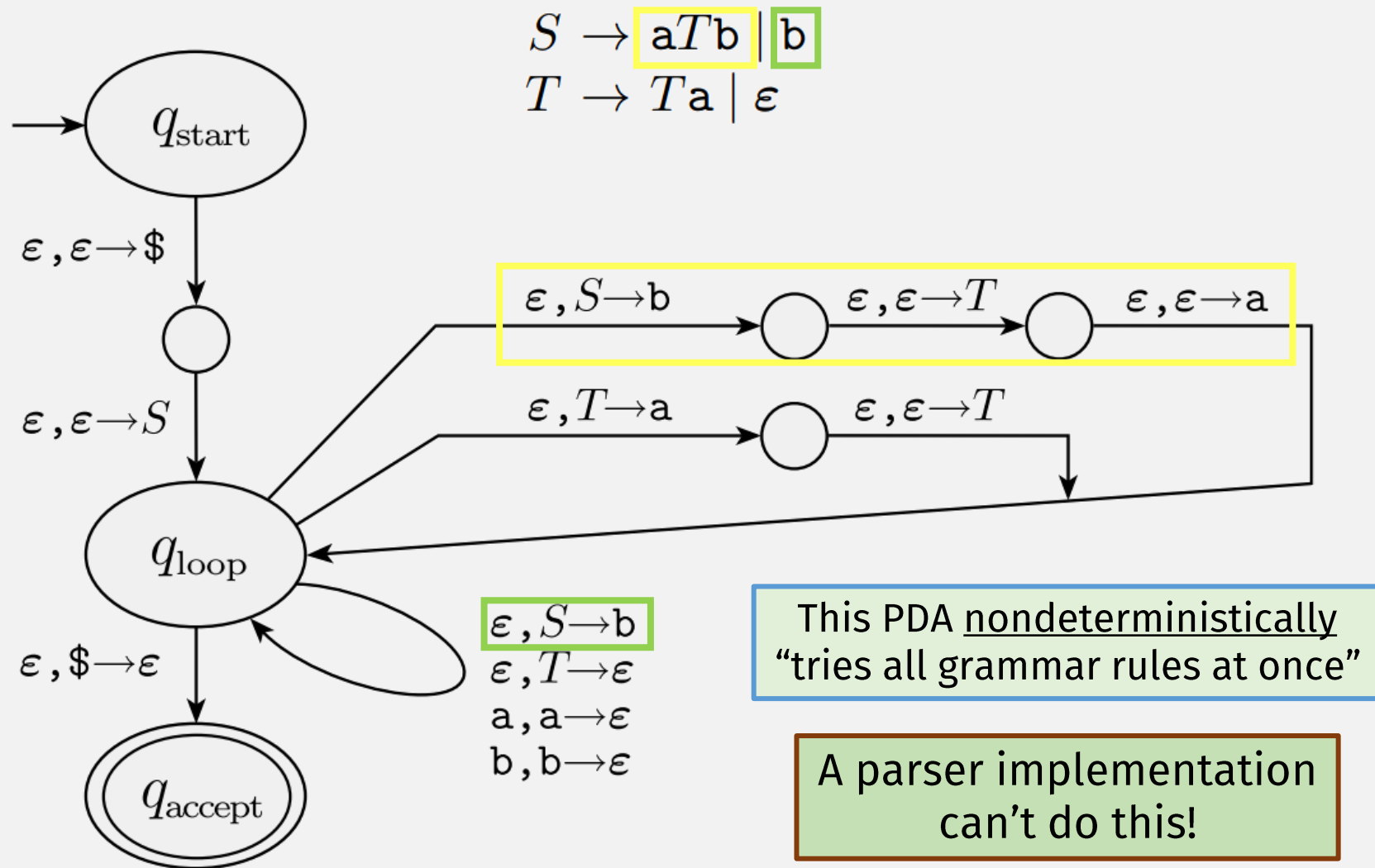
This Machine is parsing:
 1. Start with (input) string,
 2. Find rules that **generate** string

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

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. $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \Gamma_\epsilon \rightarrow (Q \times \Gamma_\epsilon) \cup \{\emptyset\}$ is the transition function
5. $q_0 \in Q$ is the start state, and
6. $F \subseteq Q$ is the set of accept states.

“do nothing”

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,
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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)

Must take into account ϵ reads or stack ops!
E.g., if $\delta(q, a, X)$ does “something”, then $\delta(q, \epsilon, X)$ must “do nothing”

DPDAs are Not Equivalent to PDAs!

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

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

used S rule

$$aa\underline{ab}bb \rightsquigarrow aa\underline{S}bb$$

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

used T rule

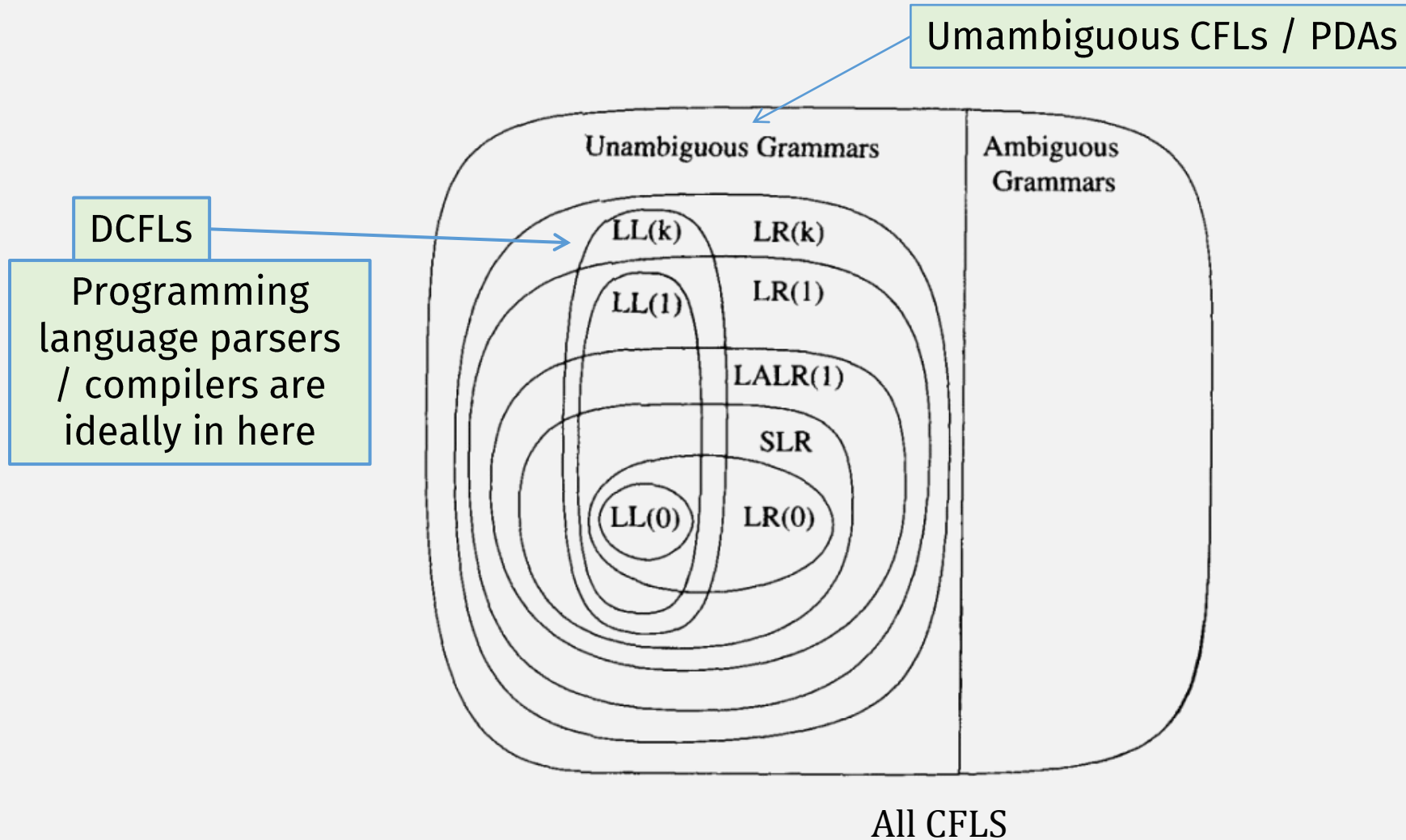
$$aa\underline{ab}bbbb \rightsquigarrow aa\underline{T}bbbb$$

When parsing this string, when does it know which rule was used, 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 program string (chars) (e.g., `a := (5 + 3) ; ...`)



DFAs (recognizing regular languages) in here!



Program "words"

(e.g., `ID(a) ASSIGN LPAREN NUM(5) PLUS NUM(3) RPAREN SEMI ...`)

A Lexer Implementation

```
%{
/* 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 {ADJ; return IF;}
[a-z][a-z0-9]* {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-z]*"\n") | (" " | "\n" | "\t")+ {ADJ;}
. {ADJ; EM_error("illegal character");}
```

DFAs
(represented
as regular
expressions)!

Remember our analogy:
- DFAs are like programs
- All possible DFA tuples is like
a programming language

This DFA is a real program!

A “lex” tool converts the
program:
- from “DFA Lang” ...
- to an equivalent one in C !

Compiler Stages

A program (chars) (e.g., `a := (5 + 3) ; ...`)

Lexer

DFAs (recognizing regular languages) in here!

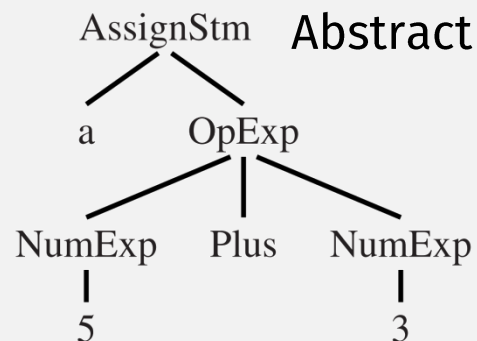
Program "words"

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Parser

DPDAs (recognizing DCFLs) in here!

Abstract Syntax tree (AST), i.e., a **parse tree**!



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

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
```

Just write
the CFG!

Remember our analogy:
CFGs are like **programs**

This CFG is a real program!

A “yacc” tool converts the
program:
- from “CFG Lang” ...
- to an **equivalent** one in C !

DPDAs are Not Equivalent to PDAs!

Parsing = generating reversed:
- start with string
- end with parse tree

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

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

Should use *S* rule

$$aa\underline{abb}b \rightsquigarrow aa\underline{S}bb$$

Should use *T* rule

$$aa\underline{abb}bbb \rightsquigarrow aa\underline{T}bbb$$

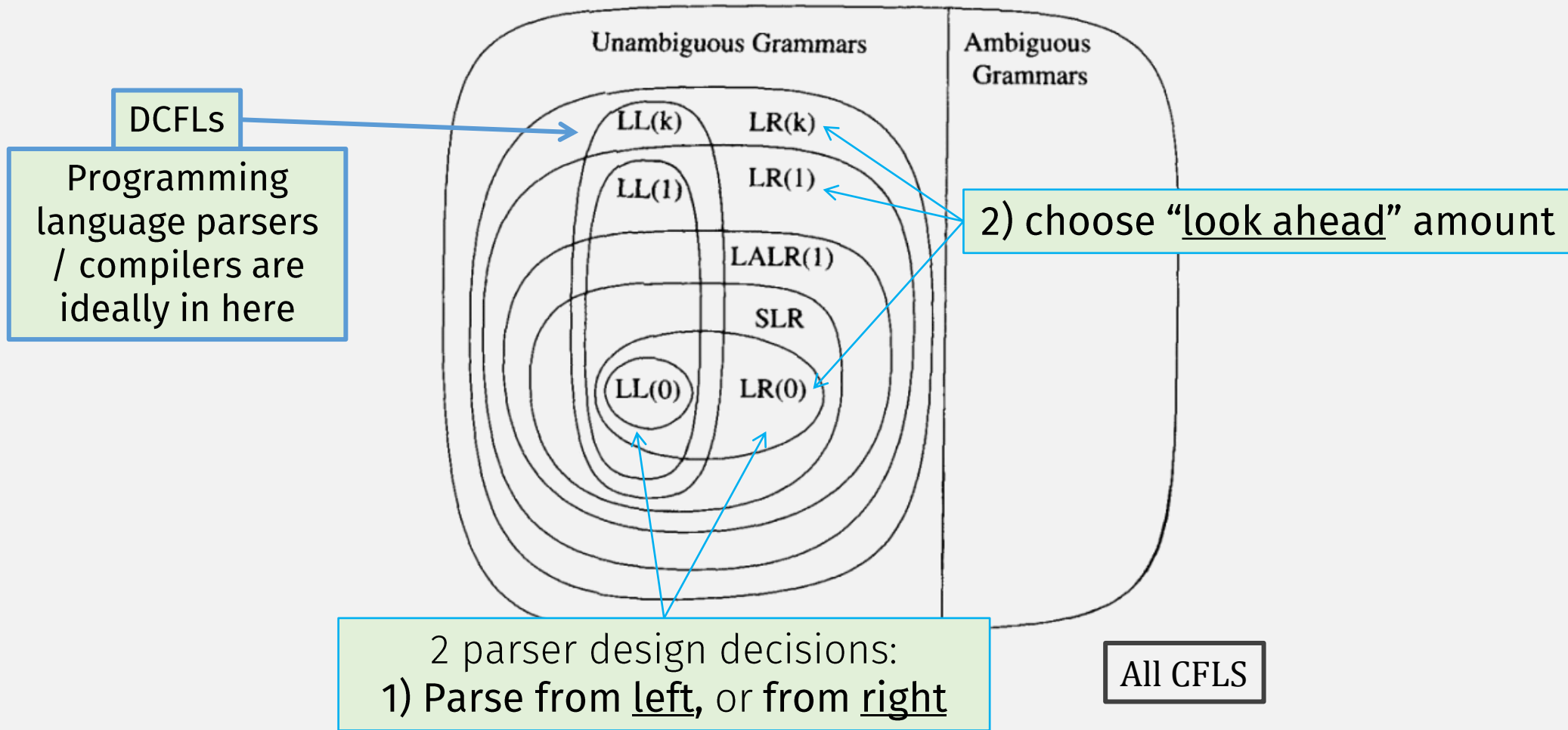
aaa

When parsing reaches this position, does it know which rule, *S* or *T*?

To choose “correct” rule, need to “look ahead” at rest of the input!

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

Subclasses of CFLs



LL parsing

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

Game: “You’re the Parser”:
Guess which rule applies?

(and how much did you have to “look ahead”?)

1 $S \rightarrow$ if E then S else S

2 $S \rightarrow$ begin S L

3 $S \rightarrow$ print E

4 $L \rightarrow$ end

5 $L \rightarrow$; S L

6 $E \rightarrow$ num = num

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

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



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

LL parsing

- **L** = left-to-right
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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

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

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

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

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`

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

LR parsing

- **L** = left-to-right

- **R** = rightmost derivation

1 $S \rightarrow S ; S$

2 $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$

3 $S \rightarrow \text{print} (L)$

4 $E \rightarrow \text{id}$

5 $E \rightarrow \text{num}$

6 $E \rightarrow E + E$

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 (lookahead) to some memory, like a **stack**! this is a job for a (D)PDA!

LR parsing

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

 $S \rightarrow S ; S$ $E \rightarrow \text{id}$ $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$ $E \rightarrow \text{num}$ $S \rightarrow \text{print} (L)$ $E \rightarrow E + E$

a := 7 ;

b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d)

Stack	Input	Action
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift = "push"

push

State name

LR parsing

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

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

<i>Stack</i>	<i>Input</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>
1 id ₄ := 6	7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>



LR parsing

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

$$S \rightarrow S ; S$$

$$E \rightarrow \text{id}$$

$$S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$$

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

$$S \rightarrow \text{print} (L)$$

$$E \rightarrow E + E$$

<i>Stack</i>	<i>Input</i>	<i>Action</i>
1	a := 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>
1 id ₄	:= 7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>
1 id ₄ :=6	7 ; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>shift</i>
1 id ₄ :=6 num ₁₀	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	<i>reduce E → num</i>



LR parsing

- L = left-to-right

- R = rightmost derivation

1 $S \rightarrow S ; S$

4 $E \rightarrow id$

2 $S \rightarrow id := E$

5 $E \rightarrow num$

3 $S \rightarrow print (L)$

6 $E \rightarrow E + E$

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

Can determine (rightmost) rule

LR parsing

- L = left-to-right

- R = rightmost derivation

1 $S \rightarrow S ; S$

4 $E \rightarrow \text{id}$

2 $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$

5 $E \rightarrow \text{num}$

3 $S \rightarrow \text{print} (L)$

6 $E \rightarrow E + E$

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 $S \rightarrow \text{id} := E$

Can determine (rightmost) rule



LR parsing

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

$$S \rightarrow S ; S$$

$$E \rightarrow id$$

$$S \rightarrow id := E$$

$$E \rightarrow num$$

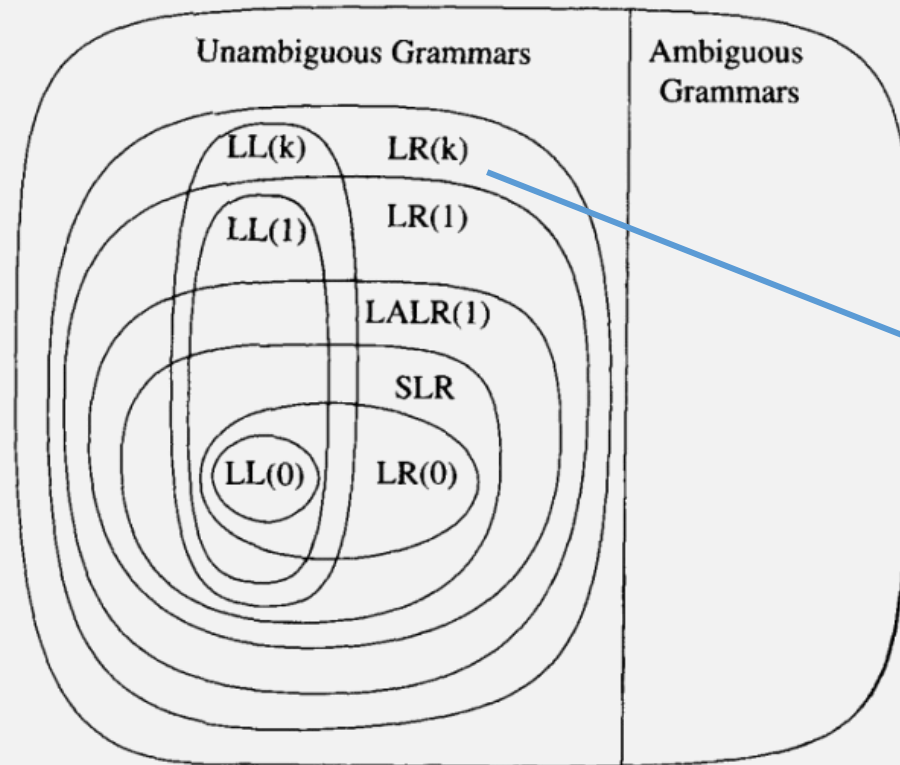
$$S \rightarrow print (L)$$

$$E \rightarrow E + E$$

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 $E \rightarrow num$
1 id ₄ :=6 E ₁₁	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	reduce $S \rightarrow id := E$
1 S ₂	; b := c + (d := 5 + 6 , d) \$	shift

LR Parsers also called "Shift-Reduce" Parsers

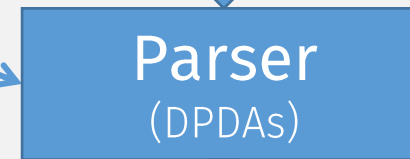
To learn more, take a Compilers Class!



A program (string of chars)



Program "words"



Abstract Syntax tree (AST)



This phase needs computation that goes beyond CFLs