

## Lecture 8

- HW1 due tomorrow on gradescope
- Today : Intro to Context Free Languages  
and Pushdown Automata

# Non-deterministic Finite Aut.

given some DFA  $M$ , want to construct new NFA  $M'$

Say we want to accept  $w$  if either (1) or (2) holds:

(1) : string  $w$  has length exactly 2

(2) :  $w$  ends in one of the 1<sup>st</sup> 3 states  $q_1, q_2, q_3$

$z_1$     $z_2$     $z_3$   
 $q_1$     $q_2$     $q_3$

original

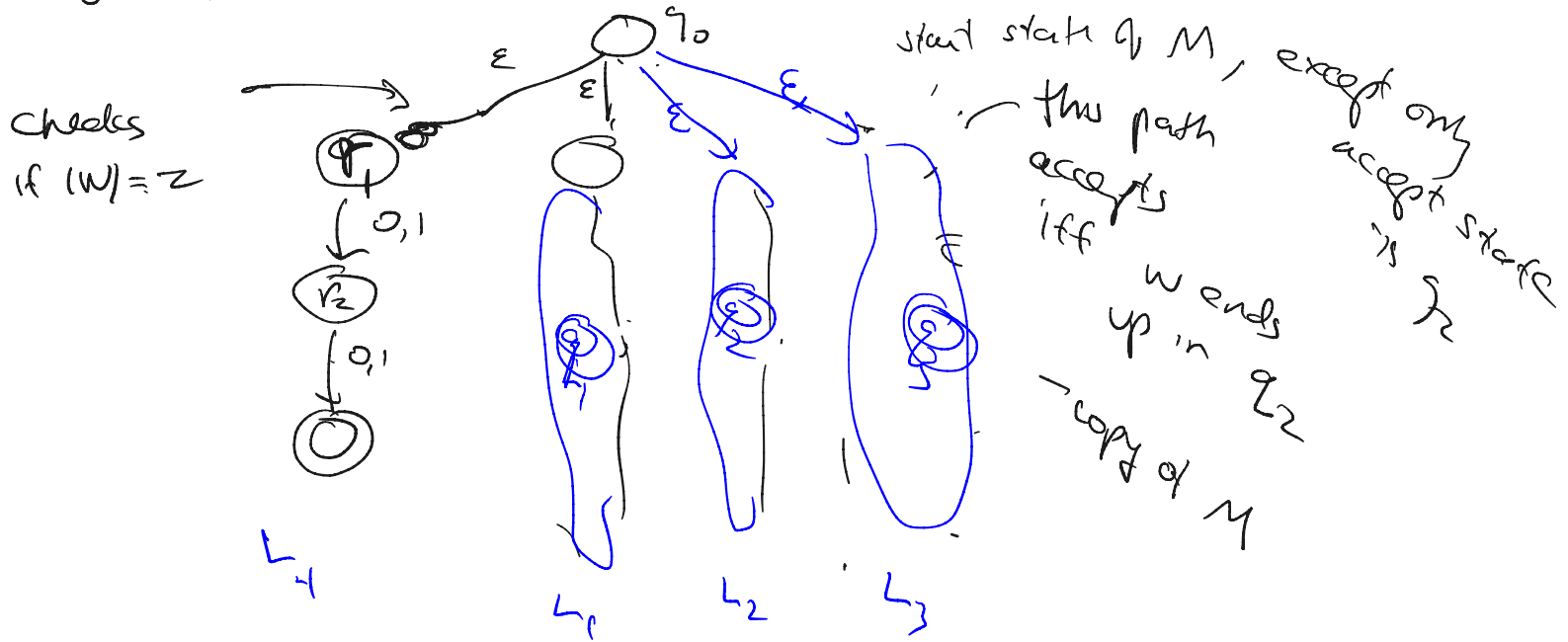
$M : \Sigma^*$

$Q = q_0, q_1, q_2, \dots, q_{10}$

$M'$  : accept if : either  $|w|=2$

or  $w$  ends in one of the states  $q_1, q_2, q_3$

Idea behind NFA is to guess one of these good possibilities + check.



$$L_4 = \{w, |w|=2\}$$

$$L_1 = \{w \mid M(w) \text{ ends in state } q_1\}$$

$$L_2 = \{w \mid \dots \quad q_2\}$$

$$L_3 = \{w \mid \dots \quad q_3\}$$

Now space we want to accept  $w$  iff (1') + (2')  
both hold, where

$L_1$   
 $M_1$   
for  
 $L_1 = \{w \mid |w| \text{ is odd}\}$   
→ (1') :  $|w|$  is odd

$M_2$   
→ (2') :  $M$  on  $w$  ends in state  $q_1$

$M_2$   
 $L_2 = \{w \mid M(w) \text{ ends in state } q_1\}$

want to construct  $M$  accepts  $L_1 \cap L_2$

How to construct  $M$  from  $\underbrace{M_1}_{L_1} \times \underbrace{M_2}_{L_2}$  ?

(1) ~~Use~~ Rewrite "intersection" in terms of  $\underbrace{+}_{\text{union}}$  and negation

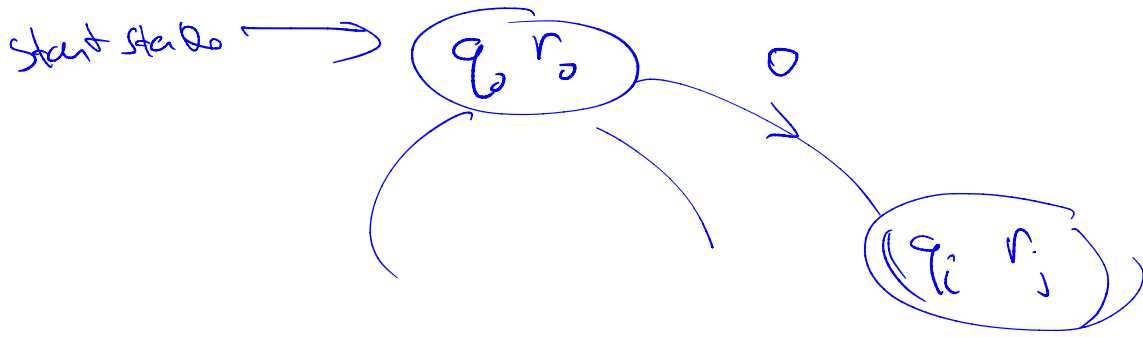
$$\textcircled{L} = \underbrace{L_1}_{M_1} \wedge \underbrace{L_2}_{M_2} = \overline{\underbrace{L_1 + L_2}}$$

(2) "Cross Product" construction.  $\begin{cases} M_1 : Q_1 = q_0 \dots q_{10} \\ M_2 : Q_2 = r_0 \dots r_{12} \end{cases}$

new  $M$ :

$$Q = \{ (q_i, r_j) \mid q_i \in Q_1, r_j \in Q_2 \}$$

$$\delta = (q_i, r_j), 0 \rightarrow (q'_i, r'_j)$$



accept states :  $(q_i r_j)$  |  $\left. \begin{array}{l} q_i \in \text{accept state of } M_1 \\ r_j \in \text{ " " " " } M_2 \end{array} \right\}$

# Context-Free Languages + PushDown Automata

Recall what we did for the class of **Regular Languages**:

- ① For regular languages we first defined the regular languages to be the languages recognized by some **DFA (= NFA)**
- ② We gave an alternative characterization of regular languages:  
Language/generation model: **Regular Expressions**
- ③a We proved that these 2 characterizations are equivalent

$$\underbrace{\text{DFA/NFA}}_{\text{Machine Model}} \equiv \underbrace{\text{Regular Expressions}}_{\text{Language/generation Model}}$$

- ③ Pumping Lemma (for Reg. L's): Used to prove that some languages are not regular.

# Context-Free Languages + PushDown Automata

Now we will define a larger class of Languages that includes all regular Languages plus new ones.

- ① We will first define CFL's to be those Languages accepted by PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA (PDA)
- ② Then we give an alternative characterization of CFLs  
Language/generation Model: Context Free grammars (CFGs)
- ③ 2a We will prove these 2 characterizations are equivalent:  
$$\underbrace{\text{PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA (PDA)}}_{\text{Machine Model}} \equiv \underbrace{\text{Context Free grammars (CFGs)}}_{\text{Language/generation Model}}$$
- ③ Pumping Lemma (for CFL's); used to prove that some Languages are not Context Free Languages





①

## Pushdown Automata

- Regular Languages / NFA

Languages recognizable by scanning input once from left  $\rightarrow$  right, using a finite amount of memory

- We saw examples of Languages that are not regular:

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

- Pushdown Automata (PDAs) generalize NFAs to allow for a limited kind of (unbounded) memory: a stack

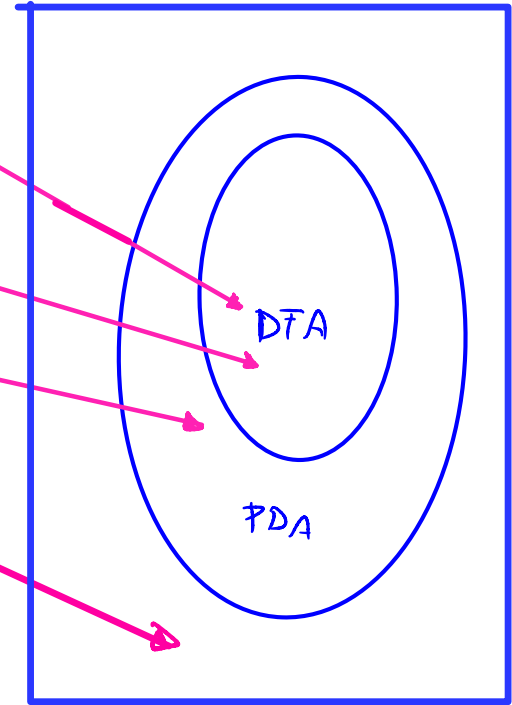
## Examples of Languages

$L_1 = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ has an even number of 1's}\}$

$L_2 = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w \text{ ends with } 011\}$

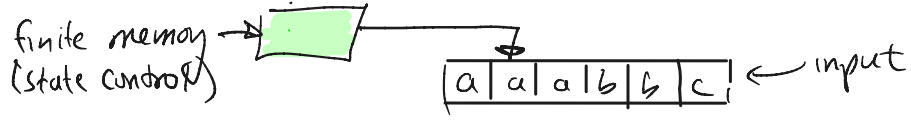
$L_3 = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w = 0^n 1^n, n \geq 1\}$

$L_4 = \{w \in \{0,1,2\}^* \mid w = 0^n 1^n 2^n, n \geq 1\}$

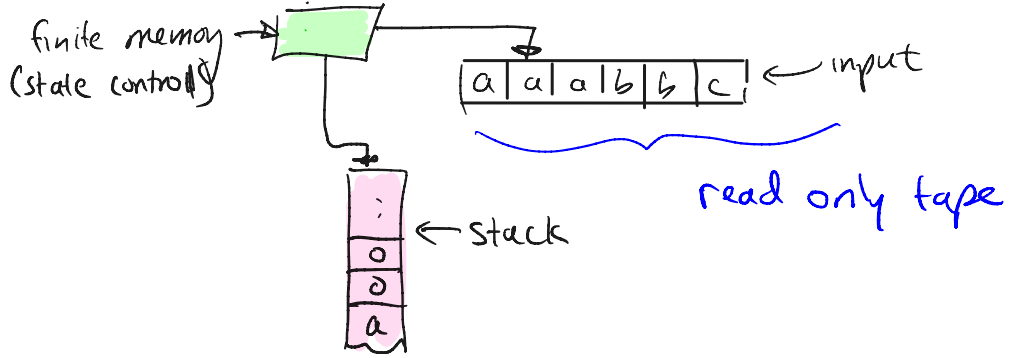


↑  
All Languages  
 $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$

NFA:



PDA: (Like NFAs, PDA is a nondeterministic model)



## Example 1

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

- PDAs are NFA's with extra stack
- In every step we can read next symbol (or  $\epsilon$ -transition), move to a new state and push or pop or 'replace' top symbol on stack

## Idea:

- Start by pushing special "\$" symbol onto stack
- Read 0's and push them onto stack
- As soon as we see a 1, start popping a 0 off stack everytime we see a 1.
- Nondeterministically guess when we are at end of input.  
If there is the symbol "\$" on top of stack, go to accept state

## Example 1

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

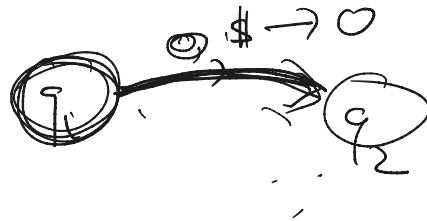
- PDAs are NFA's with extra stack
- In every step we can read next symbol (or  $\epsilon$ -transition),  
move to a new state and push or pop or 'replace' top symbol on stack

transition " $a, b \rightarrow c$ " means when reading input symbol  $a$ , if  $b$  is symbol on top of stack, replace  $b$  by  $c$

pop  $\rightarrow$  " $a, b \rightarrow \epsilon$ " means if reading input symbol  $a$ , can pop  $b$  off stack

push  $\rightarrow$  " $a, \epsilon \rightarrow c$ " means if reading symbol  $a$ , push  $c$  onto top of stack

$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\} \rightarrow$  states  
 $\Sigma = \{0, 1\} \rightarrow$  input alphabet  
 $\Gamma = \{0, \#\} \rightarrow$  stack alphabet  
 $\bar{F} = \{q_0, q_4\} \rightarrow$  accept states  
 $q_0 \rightarrow$  start state



## Example 1

" $a, b \rightarrow c$ " means when reading input symbol  $a$ , if  $b$  is symbol on top of stack, replace  $b$  by  $c$

" $a, b \rightarrow \varepsilon$ " means if reading input symbol  $a$ , can pop  $b$  off stack

" $a, \varepsilon \rightarrow c$ " means if reading symbol  $a$ , push  $c$  onto top of stack

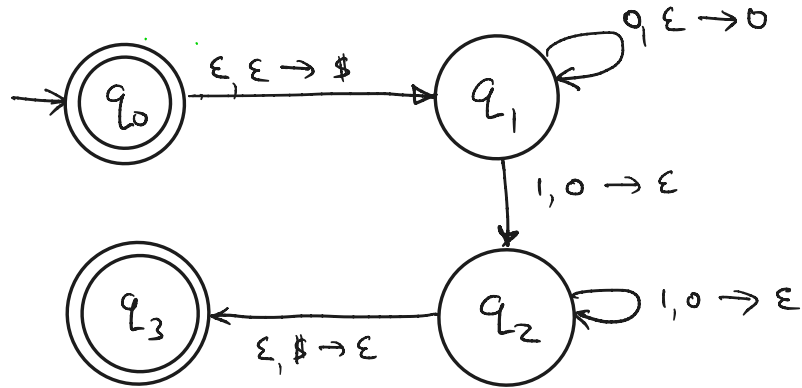
$$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$$

$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Gamma = \{0, \#\}$$

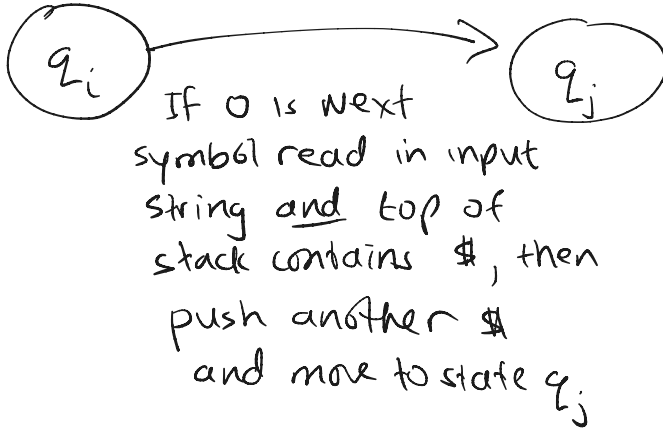
$$\bar{r} = \{q_0, q_3\}$$

$$q_0$$

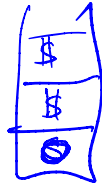
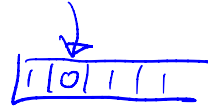
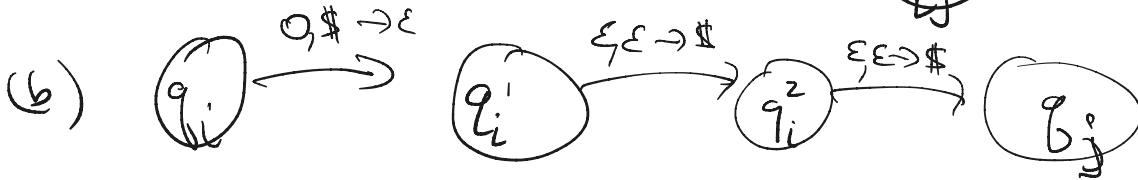
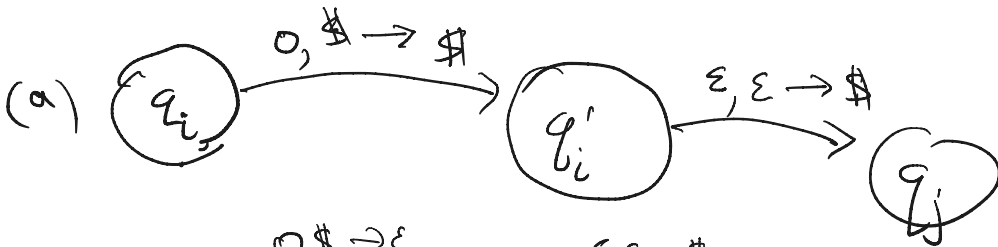


PDA accepts an input  $w$  if there exists a computation path starting in  $q_0$  and ending in an accept state

Say we want to simulate this transition:



This can be simulated by either (a) or (b)





# Example 1

$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$

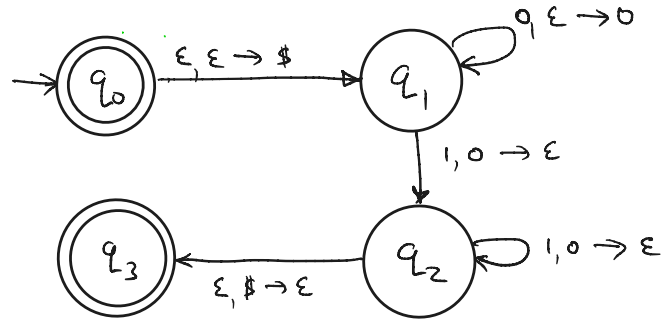
$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$

$\Gamma = \{0, \#, \epsilon\}$

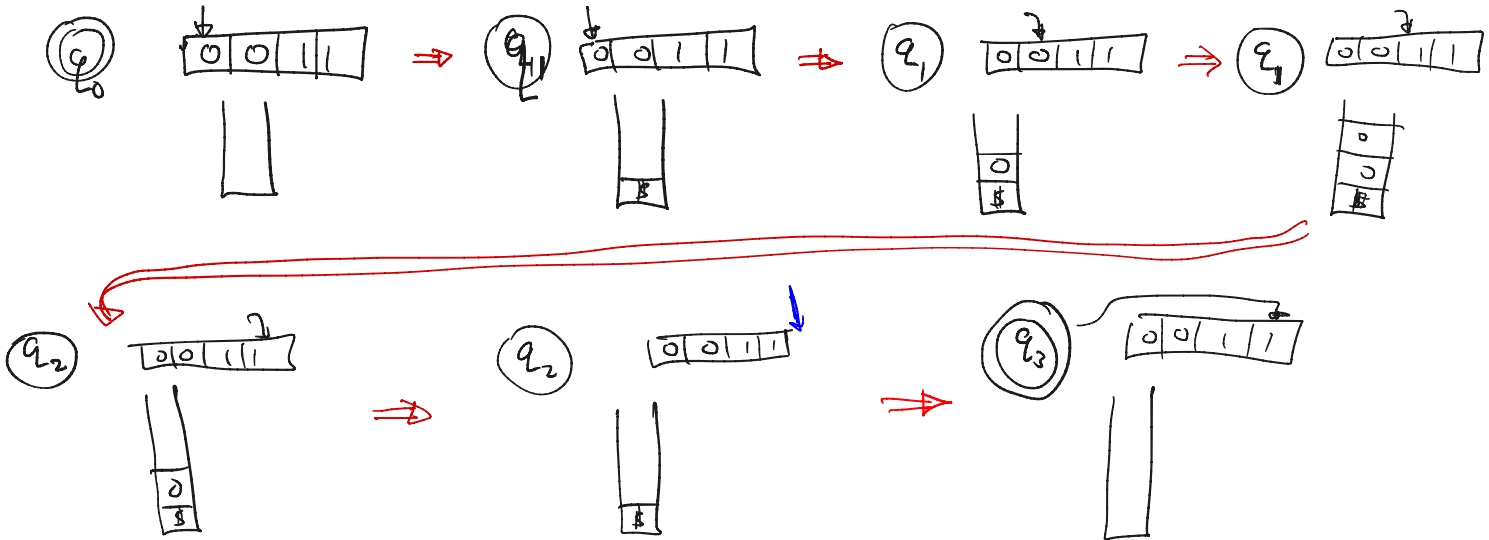
$\bar{r} = \{q_0, q_3\}$

$q_0$

$M:$



on input  $w = 0011$  : (so  $M$  accepts  $w$ )



# Example 1

$$Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2, q_3\}$$

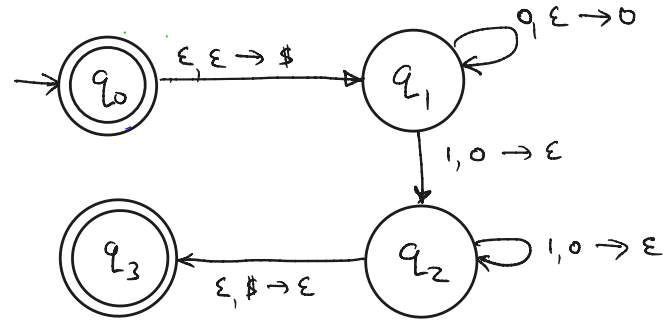
$$\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$$

$$\Gamma = \{0, \#\}$$

$$\bar{\Gamma} = \{\epsilon, q_0, q_2\}$$

$$q_0$$

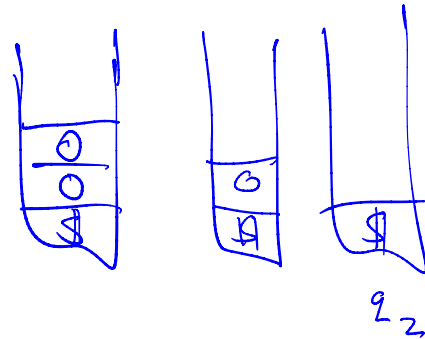
M:



on input  $w = 00111$ :

rejects since no sequence of moves exists that agrees with transition function and ends in accept state

$$L(M) = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$$



# PDA (Formal Description)

A PDA is described by a 6-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$

↑  
states

↑  
input  
alphabet

↑  
stack  
alphabet

↑  
start  
state

↑  
accept  
states

$$\delta: Q \times \{\Sigma \cup \epsilon\} \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\})$$

$M$  accepts  $w$  if  $w$  can be written as  $w = w_1 w_2 w_3 \dots w_m$ , where each  $w_i \in \{\Sigma \cup \epsilon\}$ , and  $\exists$  a sequence of states  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_m \in Q$  and  $\exists$  sequence of strings  $s_0, s_1, \dots, s_m \in \Gamma^*$  satisfying:

$s_i =$  contents of stack at time  $i$

①  $r_0 = q_0, s_0 = \epsilon$  (start state is  $q_0$ , stack initially empty)

② for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$   $(r_{i+1}, b) \in \delta(r_i, w_{i+1}, a)$  where  $s_i = at$   $a, b \in \Gamma \cup \epsilon$   
 $s_{i+1} = bt$   $t \in \Gamma^*$   
 ( $M$  moves according to transition function  $\delta$ )

③  $r_m \in F$  (final state is an accept state)

original  
 $w = 0011$

$w = \epsilon 0 \epsilon \epsilon 0 1 1$

# PDA (Formal Description)

A PDA is described by a 6-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$

states  
↑

input  
alphabet  
↑

tape  
alphabet  
↑

start  
state  
↑

accept  
states  
↑

$$\delta: Q \times \{\Sigma \cup \epsilon\} \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\})$$

$M$  accepts  $w$  if  $w$  can be written as  $w = w_1 w_2 w_3 \dots w_m$ , where each  $w_i \in \{\Sigma \cup \epsilon\}$ , and  $\exists$  a sequence of states  $r_0, r_1, \dots, r_m \in Q$  and  $\exists$  sequence of strings  $\underbrace{s_0, s_1, \dots, s_m}_{s_i = \text{contents of stack at time } i} \in \Gamma^*$  satisfying:

- ①  $r_0 = q_0, s_0 = \epsilon$  (start state is  $q_0$ , stack initially empty)
- ② for all  $i = 0, 1, \dots, m-1$   $(r_{i+1}, b) \in \delta(r_i, w_{i+1}, a)$  where  $s_i = a\bar{t}$   
(M moves according to transition function  $\delta$ )  
 $s_{i+1} = b\bar{t}$ 

$a, b \in \Gamma \cup \epsilon$   
 $\bar{t} \in \Gamma^*$
- ③  $r_m \in F$  (final state is an accept state)

$$\mathcal{L}(M) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid M \text{ accepts } w\}$$

A language is a CFL if some PDA accepts it

## PDA (Formal Description)

A PDA is described by a 6-tuple  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$

states    input alphabet    tape alphabet    start state    accept states

$$\delta: Q \times \{\Sigma \cup \epsilon\} \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\} \rightarrow \mathcal{P}(Q \times \{\Gamma \cup \epsilon\})$$

Notes: We only accept if we are in an accept state when all of  $w$  is processed.

Note that we can accept a string  $w$  even if stack is not empty at end of processing  $w$ .