

(pp. 111-125) **Push Down Automata** (Sec. 2.2)

- **Push Down Automata (PDA)** = DFA + Stack
 - Capable of recognizing CFLs
- Difference from NFA: at each transition
 - Can read (& *pop*) current top value on stack in δ arguments
 - Each δ rule specifies not just new state but optional value to *push* onto a **stack**
- Stack depth may become infinite – allows recognizing languages with arbitrary components
 - Notional execution for $\{0^n 1^n\}$ – non-regular language
 - At start, for each 0 input, push a 0 to stack
 - At first 1, for each 1 input, pop a 0 off stack
 - If stack & input run out at same time, accept
 - Else reject
- See Fig. 2.12 on p. 110

- **Formal Definition:** PDA $M = 6$ tuple $(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$
 - Same kind of nondeterminism as in NFA
 - Q, Σ, q_0, F as before
 - Γ (“gamma”) is **stack alphabet**: symbols that may be on stack
 - Need not have any relation to Σ
 - $\delta: Q \times \Sigma_\epsilon \times \Gamma_\epsilon \rightarrow P(Q \times \Gamma_\epsilon)$
 - $\Sigma_\epsilon = \Sigma \cup \epsilon$
 - $\Gamma_\epsilon = \Gamma \cup \epsilon$
 - A rule $\delta(q, x, s)$ is applicable only if
 - Machine is in state q
 - x from Σ matches next character on input
 - If $x = \epsilon$, then we don’t need a character on input
 - Like ϵ rules in NFA
 - s from Γ matches the current top of the stack
 - If $s = \epsilon$, then we don’t look at stack top
 - If a rule has a non- ϵ s and is chosen:
 - s is “popped” off stack before rhs is performed
 - Range of a δ rule is a $(state, z)$ where $z \in \Gamma_\epsilon$
 - If $z \in \Gamma$, push z onto stack
 - If $z = \epsilon$, leave stack unchanged.

- Computation of PDA M
 - Assume
 - Input string w can be written as $w = w_1, \dots, w_m$, each character w_i either in Σ or an ϵ
 - I.e. whatever input is, we can assume ϵ s can be assumed present between any 2 characters
 - Sequence of states r_0, r_1, \dots, r_m (i.e. $|w|+1$ states)
 - Sequence of stack *strings* s_0, s_1, \dots, s_m
 - Each string is the stack at some time
 - Where leftmost symbol of each string is the “top”
 - A valid **computation** is when
 - $r_0 = q_0$ and r_m is in F
 - $s_0 = \epsilon$ (stack is initially empty)
 - For $i = 0$ to $m-1$
 - (r_{i+1}, b) is in $\delta(r_i, w_i, a)$ where
 - $s_i = at$, a in Γ_ϵ , t in Γ^* (i.e. a is top, t rest of stack)
 - If $a \neq \epsilon$, we **pop** it off of stack before update
 - $s_{i+1} = bt$, a in Γ_ϵ , t stack after above step
 - If $b \neq \epsilon$, we **push** it onto stack

- State diagrams similar to NFA but labels augmented
 - Instead of “a”, write “a,b->c” where
 - a in Σ_ϵ is character on input that causes transition
 - a = ϵ says ignore input
 - b in Γ_ϵ must likewise match stack top
 - b = ϵ says ignore stack top
 - b $\neq \epsilon$ says we must match, AND pop after transition
 - **Shorthand** “a->c” for “a, ϵ -> c”
 - c in Γ_ϵ give stack top after transition
 - c = ϵ implies push nothing
 - c $\neq \epsilon$ implies push c
 - **Shorthand** “a,b” for “a,b-> ϵ ”
 - Summary of stack changes for a,b->c. Assume $s_i = xt$

| b (match for stack) | c (new stack top) | New stack s_{i+1} |
|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| b = ϵ | c = ϵ | NOP: $s_{i+1} = s_i = xt$ |
| b = ϵ | c $\neq \epsilon$ | Push: $s_{i+1} = cxt$ |
| b $\neq \epsilon$ i.e. $x=b, s_i=bt$ | c = ϵ | Pop: $s_{i+1} = t$ |
| b $\neq \epsilon$ i.e. $x=b, s_i=bt$ | c $\neq \epsilon$ | Change: $s_{i+1} = ct$ |

- See pages 112-116 for examples