

**Theory of Computation, CSCI 438 spring 2022**  
**Pushdown automaton to a context-free grammar, pages 119-123**  
**Feb. 28**

A language is context-free iff some pushdown automaton recognizes it (Theorem 2.20, page 117)

(if,  $\Leftarrow$ )

If a PDA recognizes some language, then the language is context-free (Lemma 2.27, page 121)

Given a PDA translate it to a CFG.

Step 1: Translate the PDA to an equivalent PDA with:

1. Only 1 accept state,  $q_{\text{accept}}$
2. Empties the stack before accepting
3. Every transition either pushes something onto the stack or pops something from it. No transition both pushes and pops

Step 2: Create a grammar for the new PDA as follows:

Let  $P=(Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \{q_{\text{accept}}\})$  and construct a grammar with variables  $\{V_{pq} \mid p, q \in Q\}$ , terminal symbols  $\Sigma$ , start variable  $V_{q_0, q_{\text{accept}}}$  and the following rules:

1. For each  $p, q, r, s \in Q, t \in \Gamma$ , and  $a, b \in \Sigma_\epsilon$ , if  $\delta(p, a, \epsilon)$  contains  $(r, t)$  and  $\delta(s, b, t)$  contains  $(q, \epsilon)$ , add the rule  $V_{pq} \rightarrow aV_{rs}b$ .
2. For each  $p, q, r \in Q$ , add the rule  $V_{pq} \rightarrow V_{pr}V_{rq}$ .
3. For each  $p \in Q$ , add the rule  $V_{pp} \rightarrow \epsilon$ .