

CS341 Automata Theory (Summer 2008)  
Homework Assignment #4

Do not forget to write your name and EID.

1. Define the language that is generated by each of the following context-free grammars:

(a)  $S \rightarrow aSa|bSb|a|b.$

(b)  $S \rightarrow aS|bS|\varepsilon.$

(c)  $S \rightarrow aS|Sb|\varepsilon.$

2. For each of the following languages  $L$ , construct a context-free grammar that generates it:

(a)  $\{a^n b^m | m \geq n, m - n \text{ is even}\}.$

(b)  $\{xc^n | x \in \{a, b\}^*, \#_a(x) = n \text{ or } \#_b(x) = n\}.$

(c)  $\{xc^n | x \in \{a, b\}^*, \#_a(x) + \#_b(x) \geq n\}.$

(d)  $\{a^i b^j | 2i = 3j + 1\}.$

3. Construct pushdown automata that accept each of the following languages:

(a)  $L = \{a^m b^n | m \leq n \leq 2m\}.$

(b)  $L = \{w \in \{a, b\}^* | w \text{ has twice as many } a\text{'s as } b\text{'s}\}.$

(c)  $L = \{a^m b^n | m \geq n\}.$

4. For each of the following languages, each one is either (I) regular, (II) context-free but not regular, or (III) not context-free. Decide to which category each language belongs and prove your answer.

(a)  $L = \{a^i b^n | i, n \neq 0, i = n \text{ or } i = 2n\}.$

(b)  $L = \{xy | x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |x| = |y|\}.$

(c)  $L = \{0^i 1^j | j = i^2\}$

(d)  $L = \{x_1 \# x_2 \# x_3 \dots \# x_k | k \geq 2, x_i \in \{a, b\}^* \forall i, \text{ and } x_i = x_j \text{ for some } i \neq j\}$

(e)  $L = \{0^n \# 0^{2n} \# 0^{3n} | n \geq 0\}$

5. Consider  $L = \{0^i 1^i | i \geq 0\}$ . What is wrong with the following proof that  $L$  is not regular? Describe the problem clearly, and correct the proof.

Assume BWOC that  $L$  is regular, and let  $p$  be the pumping length. Choose  $w = 0^p 1^p$ . So  $w \in L$  and  $|w| \geq p$ . So the pumping lemma tells us that  $w = xyz$  such that  $|xy| \leq p$ ,  $|y| > 0$ , and  $xy^i z \in L$  for all  $i \geq 0$ .

Since  $|xy| \leq p$ , it follows that

$x = 0^i, y = 0^j, z = 0^{p-i-j}1^p$  where  $j > 0$ .

Let  $j = 1$ . Then  $xz = xy^0z = 0^{p-1}1^p$ , and so the  $\#_0(xz) \neq \#_1(xz)$ . So  $xz \notin L$ .

Contradiction! So  $L$  is not regular.