

Solutions for Worksheet 5: Pumping Lemma for CFG

1. Show that L is not context free.
 $L = \{0^n \mid \text{where } n \text{ is prime.}\}$

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,
there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p$, where p is prime.

If v is 0^a and y is 0^b ($1 \leq a + b \leq p$), $uv^{1+p}xy^{1+p}z$ will be $0^{p+p(a+b)} = 0^{p(1+a+b)} \notin L$, where $p(1+a+b)$ is not prime.

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

2. Show that L is not context free.

$L = \{w \mid \text{where } w \in \{0,1\}^*, w \text{ is a palindrome with an equal \# of 0's and 1's.}\}$

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{2p} 0^p \notin L$, where # of 0's and 1's are different.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{2p+a} 0^p \notin L$, where # of 0's and 1's are different.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{2p} 0^{p+a} \notin L$, where # of 0's and 1's are different.

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{2p+b} 0^p \notin L$, which is not palindrome. (# of 0's and 1's can be the same here.)

If v is 1^a and y is 0^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{2p+a} 0^{p+b} \notin L$, which is not palindrome. (# of 0's and 1's can be the same here.)

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

3. Show that L is not context free.

$L = \{w \mid \text{where } w \in \{0,1\}^*, w \text{ has length } 2 \bmod 3, \text{ and}$
the characters at position $\lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil$ and $\lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$ are 0's.}

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 1^p 0 1^p 0 1^p$.

Case 1: v or y contains either of the 0's.

Then, uxz contains less than two 0's which does not satisfy the second requirement. (At least two 0's are required.) Therefore, $uxz \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain only the 1's.

To satisfy the second requirement: *the characters at position $\lceil \frac{n}{3} \rceil$ and $\lceil \frac{2n}{3} \rceil$ are 0's*, the three strings before/between/after 0's must have the same length.

However, pumping up/down can only change the length of two out of three strings.

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

4. Show that L is not context free.

$L = \{w\bar{w} \mid \text{where } w \in \{0,1\}^*, \bar{w} \text{ is a complement of } w.\}$

For example, if $w = 000011$, then $\bar{w} = 111100$.

The choice of string s is very important to this question.

Convince yourself that $s = 0^p 1^p 1^p 0^p$ will not work.

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p \notin L$.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{p+a} 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p \notin L$.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^p 0^{p+a} 1^p 0^p 1^p \notin L$.

The following solution process is also the same...

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{p+b} 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p \notin L$.

If v is 1^a and y is 0^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p 0^p 1^p$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{p+a} 0^{p+b} 1^p 0^p 1^p \notin L$.

The following solution process is also the same...

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

5. Show that L is not context free.

$$L = \{0^i 1^j \mid \text{where } i \geq 0, i^2 = j.\}$$

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p 1^{p^2}$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{p^2} \notin L$.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{p^2+a} \notin L$.

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{p^2+b} \notin L$.

For the above, assume $(p+a)^2 = p^2 + b$

$$p^2 + 2ap + a^2 = p^2 + b \equiv 2ap + a^2 = b$$

Because $p > b$, $2ap + a^2 \neq b$ and $(p+a)^2 \neq p^2 + b$

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

6. Show that L is not context free.

$$L = \{0^i 1^j 2^k \mid \text{where } i, j, k \geq 0, i \times j = k.\}$$

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^p 2^{p^2} \notin L$.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{p+a} 2^{p^2} \notin L$.

If vy is 2^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2+a} \notin L$.

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^{p+a} 1^{p+b} 2^{p^2} \notin L$.

For the above, assume $(p+a)(p+b) = p^2$

$$p^2 + (a+b)p + ab = p^2 \equiv (a+b)p + ab = 0$$

Because $a, b, p > 0$, $(a+b)p + ab \neq 0$ and $(p+a)(p+b) \neq p^2$

If v is 1^a and y is 2^b ($2 \leq a+b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^p 2^{p^2}$, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will be $0^p 1^{p+a} 2^{p^2+b} \notin L$.

For the above, assume $p(p+a) = p^2 + b$

$$p^2 + ap = p^2 + b \equiv ap = b$$

Because $p > b$, $ap \neq b$ and $p(p+a) \neq p^2 + b$

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

7. Show that L is not context free.

$$L = \{0^i 1^j 2^k 3^r \mid \text{where } i, j, k \geq 0, i + j = k, i = r \text{ or } j = r \text{ or both.}\}$$

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^i xy^i z \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, $uv^2 xy^2 z$ will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2 xy^2 z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1+2a} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p \notin L$.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1} 1^{p+2a} 2^{2p+1} 3^p \notin L$.

If vy is 2^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1+2a} 3^p \notin L$.

If vy is 3^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^{p+2a} \notin L$.

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1+2a} 1^{p+2b} 2^{2p+1} 3^p \notin L$.

If v is 1^a and y is 2^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1} 1^{p+2a} 2^{2p+1+2b} 3^p \notin L$.

If v is 2^a and y is 3^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1} 3^p$, $uv^3 xy^3 z$ will be $0^{p+1} 1^p 2^{2p+1+2a} 3^{p+2b} \notin L$.

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.

8. Show that L is not context free.
 $L = \{ww^Rw \mid \text{where } w \in \{0, 1\}^*\}.$

The choice of string s is very important to this question.

Convince yourself that $s = 0^p0^p0^p$ and $s = 0^p110^p0^p1$ will not work.

Solution:

Assuming L is context free,

there is a pumping length p such that any string $s \in L$ of length $\geq p$ can be written as $s = uvxyz$, where $vy \neq \varepsilon$, $|vxy| \leq p$, and for all $i \geq 0$, $uv^ixy^iz \in L$.

Let $s = uvxyz = 0^p1^p1^p0^p0^p1^p = 0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p$.

Case 1: v or y contains multiple types of characters.

Then, uv^2xy^2z will contain characters out of order. Therefore, $uv^2xy^2z \notin L$.

Case 2: v and y contain the same character.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^{p+a}1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p \notin L$.

The length of uv^2xy^2z is $6p + a$, which means that w is at least $2p$ in length.

Counting from the beginning,

we can say that w has $(p + a)$ 0's and some 1's.

Because there are two more w 's remaining, we need $(2p + 2a)$ 0's.

Because there are $2p$ 0's left, this case does not make sense.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^p1^{2p+a}0^{2p}1^p \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

If vy is 1^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p+a}1^p \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

If vy is 0^a ($1 \leq a \leq p$), and it is in $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^p1^{2p}0^{2p}1^{p+a} \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

Continued...

Case 3: v and y contain different characters.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^{2p} 1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^{p+a} 1^{2p+b} 0^{2p} 1^p \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

If v is 1^a and y is 0^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^{2p} 1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^p 1^{2p+a} 0^{2p+b} 1^p \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

If v is 0^a and y is 1^b ($2 \leq a + b \leq p$ and $a, b \geq 1$), and it is in $0^p 1^{2p} 0^{2p} 1^p$, uv^2xy^2z will be $0^p 1^{2p} 0^{2p+a} 1^{p+b} \notin L$.

Follow the above approach.

Therefore, L is not context free by contradiction.