

Question 1: Shorties

a. True

From $A \leq_m B$, we know there exists function f s.t. $w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$,
From $\overline{B} \leq_m \overline{C}$, we know there exists function g s.t. $w \in \overline{B} \iff g(w) \in \overline{C}$,
Given $a \in A$, then $f(a) \in B$. It follows that $f(a) \notin \overline{B}$, so $g(f(a)) \notin \overline{C}$, so $g(f(a)) \in C$. Similarly, we have if $a \notin A$, then $f(a) \notin B$. It follows that $f(a) \in \overline{B}$, so $g(f(a)) \in \overline{C}$, so $g(f(a)) \notin C$.

Therefore we have shown $a \in A \iff g(f(a)) \in C$ i.e. $A \leq_M C$

b. False

To prove A is map reducible to B , we need to show that there exists a function f such that $w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$. However, we don't require f to be onto or one-to-one. Therefore, we are not guaranteed a map g such that $a \in B \iff g(a) \in A$. So we can't guarantee that $B \leq_m A$.

c. False

$B = \Sigma^*$ is clearly context free. Every language will be a subset of B but not all subset of B is decidable.

d. True

Since A context free, there exists a PDA P that accept A . We could then make a TM M that simulate P . Then M will recognise A . So A is recognisable. Both A and \overline{A} is recognisable, therefore, A is decidable.

Question 2: Context Free

$$S \rightarrow SS|aSaSb|aSbSa|bSaSa|\epsilon$$

We first prove that all strings generated by this production rule will be in C
We do this by induction:

Base case: $S \xrightarrow{1} x$, the only possible x is ϵ , thus $x \in C$

Induction Hypothesis: Assume $S \xrightarrow{i} x$ implies $x \in C$ for all $i \leq k$

Induction Step: Suppose now $S \xrightarrow{k+1} y$,

case(1): $S \xrightarrow{1} SS \xrightarrow{k} y$. Then, we know that $y = y_1y_2$ where y_1, y_2 are both S after k steps of production. By induction hypothesis, $y_1, y_2 \in C$. Thus $\#a(y) = \#a(y_1) + \#a(y_2) = 2\#b(y_1) + 2\#b(y_2) = 2\#b(y)$. Thus, $y \in C$

case(2): $S \xrightarrow{1} aSaSb \xrightarrow{k} y$ (similar case for $S \rightarrow aSbSa$ and $S \rightarrow bSaSa$). Then $y = ay_1ay_2b$ where y_1, y_2 are both S after k steps of production. By induction hypothesis, $y_1, y_2 \in C$.

Thus $\#a(y) = 1 + \#a(y_1) + 1 + \#a(y_2) = 2\#b(y_1) + 2\#b(y_2) + 2 = 2\#b(y)$. Thus, $y \in C$

case(3) $S \xrightarrow{1} \epsilon$. S gets to a terminal in one step so it's not within our discussion here. Also $\epsilon \in C$

Thus we have the strings produced by our grammar is always in C.

Now we want to show that if $x \in C$, then $S \xrightarrow{*} x$

Induction on length of x:

Base case: $|x| \leq 3$, $x = \epsilon$ or aab or aba or baa

IH: For all $x \in C$, $|x| \leq k$, $S \xrightarrow{*} x$

IS: Let $d(x) = \#a(x) - 2\#b(x)$.

Case(1): $d(x) = 0$ for some proper prefix of x. Then write $x = yz$, we know that $y \in C, z \in C$.

By induction $S \xrightarrow{*} y, S \xrightarrow{*} z$.

Thus $S \rightarrow SS \xrightarrow{*} yS \xrightarrow{*} yz = x$

Case(2) $d(y) > 0$ for all proper prefix y of x .

Then there will be many ways we can write, $x = ayazb$. And in at least one way we have $y, z \in C$. (Proof of this at the bottom of the page)

By IH, By induction $S \xrightarrow{*} y, S \xrightarrow{*} z$.

Thus $S \rightarrow aSaSb \xrightarrow{*} ayaSb \xrightarrow{*} ayazb = x$

Case(3) $d(y) < 0$ for all proper prefix y of x .

Then there will be many ways we can write, $x = byaza$. And in at least one way we have $y, z \in C$. (similar reasoning as the one above)

By IH, By induction $S \xrightarrow{*} y, S \xrightarrow{*} z$.

Thus $S \rightarrow bSaSa \xrightarrow{*} byaSa \xrightarrow{*} byaza = x$

Case(4) $d(y) < 0$ for some proper prefix y of x and $d(x) < 0$ for some proper prefix of x and $d(x) \neq 0$ or all proper prefix of x (For example, aaabba)

Then there will be many ways we can write, $x = aybza$. And in at least one way we have $y, z \in C$. (similar reasoning as the one above)

By IH, By induction $S \xrightarrow{*} y, S \xrightarrow{*} z$.

Thus $S \rightarrow aSbSa \xrightarrow{*} aybSa \xrightarrow{*} aybza = x$

Thus by induction hypothesis, if $x \in C$, then $S \xrightarrow{*} x$

In conclusion, we have shown our grammar generates C .

Claim: $x \in C, d(y) > 0$ for all proper prefix y of x and $x = amanb$. Then in at least one way we have $m, n \in C$.

Proof: Since $d(y) > 0$ for all proper prefix y of x , first 3 characters of x can't be b , so $x = aaawb$ for some w . Then let $m = \epsilon, n = aw$ will suffice.

Question 3: Not Context Free

$$D = \{x\#y \mid x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |x| = |y|, \#a(x) = \#a(y)\}$$

Assume D is a context free language.

Then pumping lemma should apply to D .

Given a pumping length $p > 0$.

let $w = a^p b^p \# a^p b^p$

we can then write $w = uvxyz$ where $|vy| > 0, |vxy| \leq p$, then either:

1) z contains $\#$. Then by pumping w zero times, we get $w' = uxz$. since $\#$ is in z , we know that characters after $\#$ will be unchanged and there is less character in the first half of the string. So we no longer have equal number of characters before and after $\#$, so $w' \notin D$

2) u contains $\#$. Then it is similar to case 1). If we pump w 0 times, there $w' = uxzw$ will have character before $\#$ than after $\#$. so $w' \notin D$.

3) x contains $\#$. We want same number of characters before $\#$ and after $\#$ after pumping, so we can assume that $|v| = |y| > 0$. Since $|vxy| < p$, we know that v won't contain any a and y will contain at least one a . That means if we pump w 0 times, strings after $\#$ will have less a . So it is not in D after pumping twice

4) v or y contains $\#$. If we pump w 0 times, we will have no $\#$ in the string. So it is not in D after pumping.

Thus, we have shown that after pumping 0 times, $w' \notin D$. So our original assumption(D is context free language) is False. So D is not context free language.

Question 4: But it is Decidable

M = on input string w ,

1. Scan through the tape from left to right.

If it sees first b after $\#$, then go to reject state.

If it sees first the first b before $\#$, then change that b to \bar{b} and move the head to the $\#$. Then scan through the rest of the tape until it sees first b (or reach the end). If it sees b , then change that b to \bar{b} and move the head to the start of the tape and repeat step 1. If it does not see b , then go to reject state.

If it does not see any b , move its head to the start of the tape and then go to step 2.

2. Scan through the tape from left to right.

If it sees first a after $\#$, then go to reject state.

If it sees first the first a before $\#$, then change that a to \bar{a} and move the head to the $\#$. Then scan through the rest of the tape until it sees first a (or reach the end). If it sees a , then change that a to \bar{a} and move the head to the start of the tape and repeat step 2. If it does not see a , then go to reject state.

If it does not see any a , then go to accept state.

Explanation of my TM: In step 1, we check if there are equal number of b 's on both side of $\#$. In step 2, we check if there are equal number of a 's on both side of $\#$. If either is false, then we reject.

Question 5: Overlapping TM's

$$F = \{\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1, M_2 \text{ are TM's and } L(M_1) \cap L(M_2) \neq \emptyset\}$$

First, let's show F is recognisable:

Pick an ordering on strings x_1, x_2, \dots . Start with $i = 1$, simulate both M_1, M_2 on strings x_1 through x_i for i steps. If any of these is accepted by both M_1 and M_2 , accept. Otherwise, increment i by 1 and continue. We have built a machine that recognise F , thus F is recognisable

We now show that F is not decidable:

We will prove $A_{TM} \leq_M F$

$f =$ "on input $\langle M, x \rangle$:

1. compute/construct a TM M_1, M_2 such that $\langle M, x \rangle \in A_{TM} \iff \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in F$:

$M_1 =$ " on input y :

1. Ignore / erase y .
2. Run M on x , accept y if and only if M accepts x . "

$M_2 =$ " on input y :

1. Ignore / erase y .
2. Run M on x , accept y if and only if M accepts x . "

2. Return $\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle$. "

We claim that M halts on x if and only if $\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle$ is in F .

$$\begin{aligned} \langle M, x \rangle \in A_{TM} &\Rightarrow M \text{ halts on } x \\ &\Rightarrow M_1, M_2 \text{ accepts all input } y \\ &\Rightarrow L(M_1) \cap L(M_2) \neq \emptyset \\ &\Rightarrow \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in F \\ &\Rightarrow f(\langle M, x \rangle) \in F \end{aligned}$$

$$\begin{aligned}
\langle M, x \rangle \notin A_{TM} &\Rightarrow M \text{ does not halt on } x \\
&\Rightarrow M_1, M_2 \text{ accepts no string} \\
&\Rightarrow L(M_1) \cap L(M_2) = \emptyset \\
&\Rightarrow \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \notin F \\
&\Rightarrow f(\langle M, x \rangle) \notin F
\end{aligned}$$

Thus, we have shown that $A_{TM} \leq_M F$. Since A_{TM} is not Turing decidable, we know that F is also not decidable