

2.4 Give context-free grammars that generate the following languages. In all parts, the alphabet Σ is $\{0, 1\}$.

b. $\{w \mid w \text{ starts and ends with the same symbol}\}$

Solution. $S \rightarrow 0T0 \mid 1T1$
 $T \rightarrow TT \mid 0 \mid 1 \mid \epsilon$

■

c. $\{w \mid \text{the length of } w \text{ is odd}\}$

Solution. $S \rightarrow ST \mid 0 \mid 1$
 $T \rightarrow 00 \mid 01 \mid 10 \mid 11 \mid \epsilon$

■

2.9 Give a context-free grammar that generates the language
 $A = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i = j \text{ or } j = k \text{ where } i, j, k \geq 0\}$.
 Is your grammar ambiguous? Why or why not?

Solution. We can have a CFG $G = (\{S, T, U, V, W\}, \{a, b, c\}, R, S)$ with these rules:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow UV \mid TW \\ T &\rightarrow aT \mid \epsilon \\ U &\rightarrow aUb \mid \epsilon \\ V &\rightarrow cV \mid \epsilon \\ W &\rightarrow bWc \mid \epsilon \end{aligned}$$

This grammar is ambiguous because if we choose to have the string abc , we have two derivations:

$S \rightarrow UV \rightarrow aUbV \rightarrow abV \rightarrow abcV \rightarrow abc$

and

$S \rightarrow TW \rightarrow aTW \rightarrow aW \rightarrow abWc \rightarrow abc$

■

2.10 Give an informal description of a pushdown automaton that recognizes the language A in Exercise 2.9.

Solution. When we begin the pushdown automaton, we start by pushing $\$$ into our stack and the automaton will make a decision on whether we need to push a into the stack or not. The decision then leads to two branches that will check either if the number of a 's and b 's are equal or the number

of b 's and c 's are equal.

Assume we are inputting n number of a 's, which means that we need to input the same n number of b 's. In our stack, we would have n number of a 's being pushed into the stack. We then proceed to inputting b 's, popping a 's out of the stack depending on the number of times we input b . Lastly, to check if we can have an accepted state, we check to see if we can pop $\$$ out the stack. If $\$$ is on top of the stack, we can pop it out and have an accepted state, stating that we have an equal number of a 's and b 's. If $\$$ is not on top of the stack, this would mean that we do not have an equal number of a 's and b 's and we do not have an accepted state. Assuming we do have an equal number of a 's and b 's, we do not need to do anything with the stack when inputting c 's since we satisfied the language's rules.

Assume we want to have the same number of b 's and c 's in this scenario. We can ignore pushing a 's into the stack since we are not accounting for that in this scenario. We do push b 's into the stack the same number of times we take b 's as input and when we input c 's, we would pop the b 's out of the stack according to the number of times we input c 's. Same as before, if we are able to pop $\$$ at the end, then the state would be accepted, and if we cannot pop $\$$, the state would not be accepted.

■

2.14 Convert the following CFG into an equivalent CFG in Chomsky normal form, using the procedure given in Theorem 2.9.

$$A \rightarrow BAB|B|\epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow 00|\epsilon$$

Solution. Add a new start variable S and the rule $S \rightarrow A$ into the CFG:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|B|\epsilon \\ B &\rightarrow 00|\epsilon \end{aligned}$$

Next is to remove the ϵ rules:

Removing $B \rightarrow \epsilon$ gives us:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|B|AB|BA|A|\epsilon \\ B &\rightarrow 00 \end{aligned}$$

Removing $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ give us:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A|\epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|B|AB|BA|A|BB \\ B &\rightarrow 00 \end{aligned}$$

Next is to remove unit rules:

Removing $A \rightarrow A$ gives us:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A|\epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|B|AB|BA|BB \\ B &\rightarrow 00 \end{aligned}$$

Removing $S \rightarrow B$ gives us:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow A|\epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|00|AB|BA|BB \\ B &\rightarrow 00 \end{aligned}$$

Removing $S \rightarrow A$ gives us:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow BAB|00|AB|BA|BB|\epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow BAB|00|AB|BA|BB \\ B &\rightarrow 00 \end{aligned}$$

Next is to convert the remaining rules into proper form:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow BD|CC|AB|BA|BB|\epsilon \\ A &\rightarrow BD|CC|AB|BA|BB \\ B &\rightarrow CC \\ C &\rightarrow 0 \\ D &\rightarrow AB \end{aligned}$$

