

Theory of Computation, Fall 2022
Assignment 6 (Due October 31 Monday 10:00 am)

Q1. Show that if L is context-free, so is

$$L^R = \{w^R : w \in L\}.$$

Q2. Let a, b, c be three distinct symbols. Use pumping theorem to show that $A = \{wcw : w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ is not context-free.

Q3. Let A be a context-free language. Let B be a regular language. Prove that $A \cap B$ is context-free. You may assume that A and B are defined over the same alphabet Σ . (Hint: let P_A be a PDA accepting A . Let M_B be an NFA accepting B . Construct a PDA P_\cap that conceptually runs P_A and M_B in parallel.)

Q4. Let $A = \{w \in \{a, b, c\}^* : w \text{ has same number of } a\text{'s, } b\text{'s, and } c\text{'s}\}$.

- (a) Prove that A is not context-free. (Hint: It is not necessary to use pumping theorem. You may try the conclusion of Q3.)
- (b) Show that \overline{A} is context-free. (Hint: it suffices to show that \overline{A} is a union of several context-free languages.)
- (c) What conclusion can you draw from (a) and (b)?

Q5. Suppose that L is context-free and R is regular. Is $L - R$ necessarily context-free? What about $R - L$? Justify your answer.