CENG 280

Formal Languages and Abstract Machines

Spring 2018-2019

Take Home Exam 2 - Solutions

Due date: April 26, 2019, Friday, 23:55

1 Context-Free Grammars

(20 pts)

a. Formally construct CFGs that generate each of the following languages.

(10 pts)

(i) $\{a^i b a^j b a^{i+j} \in \{a, b\}^* \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$

$$G = (\{a, b, S, S_1, S_2\}, \{a, b\}, R, S), \text{ where,}$$

$$R = \{S \to S_1, \quad S_1 \to aS_1 a \,|\, bS_2, \quad S_2 \to aS_2 a \,|\, b\}$$

generates the given language.

(ii) $\{w \in \{a,b\}^* \mid \text{ the first, last and middle character of } w \text{ are equal, } |w| > 3 \text{ and is odd} \}.$

$$G = (\{a,b,S,A,B\}, \{a,b\}, R,S), \, {\rm where}, \,$$

$$S \rightarrow aAa \, | \, bBb, \quad A \rightarrow aAa \, | \, aAb \, | \, bAa \, | \, bAb \, | \, a, \quad B \rightarrow aBa \, | \, aBb \, | \, bBa \, | \, bBb \, | \, b$$

generates the given language.

(iii) $\{a^i b^j c^k \in \{a, b, c\}^* | i, j, k \ge 0 \text{ and } i \ne j \text{ or } j \ne k\}$

The language is the union of $L_1 = \{a^i b^j c^k | i, j, k \in \mathbb{N}, i < j\}, L_2 = \{a^i b^j c^k | i, j, k \in \mathbb{N}, i > j\}, L_3 = \{a^i b^j c^k | i, j, k \in \mathbb{N}, j < k\}, \text{ and } L_4 = \{a^i b^j c^k | i, j, k \in \mathbb{N}, k > j\}.$ Define $V_i = \{a, b, c, S_i, F_i, A, C_i\}$ for $i = 1, 2, 3, 4, \Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$, and

$$R_1 = \{ S_1 \to F_1 C_1, \quad C_1 \to C_1 c \, | \, c, \quad F_1 \to a F_1 b \, | \, F_1 b \, | \, b \}$$

$$R_2 = \{S_2 \to F_2 C_2, \quad C_2 \to C_2 c \mid c, \quad F_2 \to a F_2 b \mid a F_2 \mid a\}$$

$$R_3 = \{S_3 \to C_3 F_3, \quad C_3 \to C_3 a \,|\, a, \quad F_3 \to b F_3 c \,|\, F_3 c \,|\, c\}$$

$$R_4 = \{ S_4 \to C_4 F_4, \quad C_4 \to C_4 a \mid a, \quad F_4 \to b F_4 c \mid b F_4 \mid b \}$$

Then each $G_i=(V_i,\Sigma,R_i,S_i)$ generates L_i where i=1,2,3,4. Constructed grammar $G=(V,\Sigma,R,S)$ where $V=\bigcup_{i=1}^4 V_i \cup \{S\}$ and $R=\bigcup_{i=1}^4 R_i \cup \{S\to S_1\,|\,S_2\,|\,S_3\,|\,S_4\}$ generates the language.

(iv) $\{w_1 c w_2 c \dots c w_k c c w_j^R \in \{a, b, c\}^* \mid k \ge 1, 1 \le j \le k, w_i \in \{a, b\}^+ \text{ for } i = 1, \dots, k\}$

$$G = (\{a,b,c,S,W,W_1,W_2\},\{a,b,c\},R,S) \text{ where,}$$

$$R = \{$$

$$S \to aW_1 \mid bW_2 \mid W,$$

$$W_1 \to aW_1 \mid bW_1 \mid cW \mid cS,$$

$$W \to aWa \mid bWb \mid acW_2ca \mid bcW_2cb,$$

$$W_2 \to aW_2 \mid bW_2 \mid acW_2 \mid bcW_2 \mid ac \mid bc \mid e$$

$$\}$$

b. Consider the CFG $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$, where (10 pts)

$$\begin{split} V &= \{a,b,S,A,B\}, \\ \Sigma &= \{a,b\}, \\ R &= \{S \rightarrow aB \,|\, bA, \\ A \rightarrow a \,|\, aS \,|\, BAA, \\ B \rightarrow b \,|\, bS \,|\, ABB\}. \end{split}$$

Prove that L(G) is the set of all nonempty strings in $\{a,b\}$ that have equal numbers of occurrences of a and b.

Define a function $f: V^+ \to \mathbb{Z}$ such that

$$f(a) = 1, f(b) = -1$$

 $f(A) = 1, f(B) = -1 f(S) = 0$
if $w = w_1 w_2 \dots w_n, n \ge 1$ then $f(w) = f(w_1) + f(w_2) + \dots + f(w_k)$.

Suppose that $x \Rightarrow^* y$, then we show that f(x) = f(y).

If $x \Rightarrow y$, then x = uFv and $y = u\alpha v$ where $F \to \alpha \in R$. From the definition of f, it follows that f(x) = f(u) + f(F) + f(v) and $f(y) = f(u) + f(\alpha) + f(v)$. Then showing $f(F) = f(\alpha)$ where $F \to \alpha \in R$ is sufficient. The following shows this.

$$f(S) = f(aB) = f(bA) = 0$$

 $f(A) = f(a) = f(aS) = f(BAA) = 1$
 $f(B) = f(b) = f(bS) = f(ABB) = -1$

This implies if $x \Rightarrow y$ then f(x) = f(y), which in turn implies if $x \Rightarrow^* y$ then f(x) = f(y).

Now we show that any $x \in L(G)$ has equal number of as and bs.

Since $S \Rightarrow^* x$,

$$f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} f(x_i) = f(S) = 0$$

by the above proven claim. Since each x_i is either a or b, it follows that x has equal number of as and bs.

It remains to prove that G produces all balanced strings. Claim: if f(x) = 0, then $S \Rightarrow^* x$, if f(x) = 1, then $A \Rightarrow^* x$, and if f(x) = -1, then $B \Rightarrow^* x$. We prove this by induction on the length of x. Base cases are $S \Rightarrow aB \Rightarrow ab$, $S \Rightarrow bA \Rightarrow ba$, $A \Rightarrow a$, $B \Rightarrow b$. Assume this holds for strings of length n-1.

First assume |x| = n, n even. (Note that we are interested with xs that satisfy f(x) = 0 only, and since n is even, such x represents all balanced strings.) Then x = ay or x = by. For the former (analogous steps apply for the latter) we have $B \Rightarrow^* y$ since f(y) = -1, |y| = n - 1. But since $S \Rightarrow aB \Rightarrow^* ay = x$ this string is generated by G.

Assume now |x| = n, for n odd. Then f(x) = 1 or f(x) = -1. For the former (analogous steps apply for the latter, again) there are two cases to consider. Then x = ay or x = by. (i) If x = ay, f(y) = 0 and by induction hypothesis we have $S \Rightarrow^* y$. Therefore, $A \Rightarrow aS \Rightarrow^* ay = x$. (ii) If x = by, f(y) = 2. Then y can be written as y = uv where f(u) = f(v) = 1. Then the induction hypothesis applies for u and v, $A \Rightarrow^* u$, $A \Rightarrow^* v$. Therefore $A \Rightarrow BAA \Rightarrow bAA \Rightarrow^* buA \Rightarrow^* buv$.

Since we have shown that if $S \Rightarrow^* x$ then x has equal number of as and bs, and if x has equal number of as and bs then $S \Rightarrow^* x$ we are done.

2 Parse Trees and Derivations

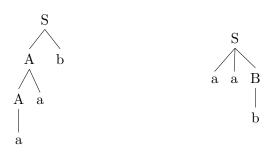
(10 pts)

Consider the CFG $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ where

$$V = \{a, b, S, A, B\}, \ \Sigma = \{a, b\}, \ R = \{S \to Ab \ | \ aaB, \ A \to a \ | \ Aa, \ B \to b\}.$$

a. Find the string s generated by the grammar that has two leftmost derivations. Give these derivations and corresponding derivation trees. (4 pts)

s = aab is the only string causing the ambiguity of given grammar. Two distinct derivations of it are: $S \Rightarrow aab \Rightarrow aab$ and $S \Rightarrow Aab \Rightarrow Aab \Rightarrow aab$. Corresponding parse trees are,



b. Find an equivalent unambiguous context-free grammar.

(3 pts)

 $G = (\{a,b,S,A\},\{a,b\},R,S) \text{ where } R = \{S \rightarrow Ab, \quad A \rightarrow aA \,|\, a\}.$

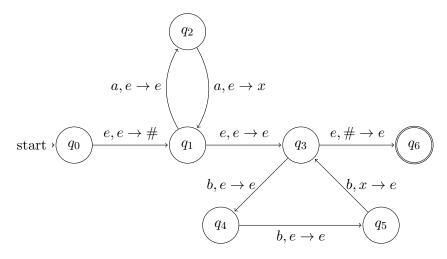
c. Give the unique leftmost derivation and derivation tree for the string s generated from the unambiguous grammar acquired in **b**. (3 pts)

3 Pushdown Automata

(15 pts)

a. Find the language generated by the PDA given below

(5 pts)

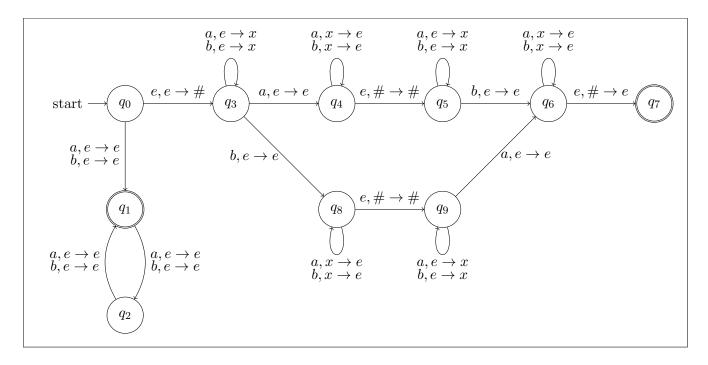


where the transition $((q_i, \alpha, \beta), (q_j, \gamma))$ is represented as:

$$\overbrace{q_i} \quad \alpha, \beta \to \gamma
\overbrace{q_j}$$

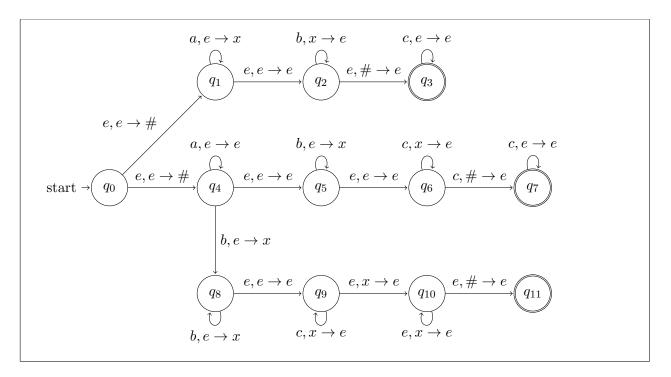
$$L = \{a^{2n}b^{3n} \in \{a, b\}^* \mid n \in \mathbb{N}\}\$$

b. Design a PDA that generates the complement of the language $\{ww \in \{a,b\}^* \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$. (5 pts)



c.

(i) Design a PDA that generates the language $\{a^i b^j c^k | i, j, k \ge 0, \text{ and } i = j \text{ or } j \ne k\}.$ (5 pts)



(ii) Show that $aabcc \in L(M)$ and $bac \notin L(M)$ by tracing M on these strings. (5 pts)

				State
State	Unread Input	Stack	Transition	q_0
q_0	abbcc	e	_	q_4
q_1	abbcc	#	$e, e \rightarrow \#$	q_4
q_1	bbcc	x#	$a, e \rightarrow x$	q_4
q_2	bbcc	x#	$e, e \rightarrow e$	q_5
q_2	bcc	#	$b, x \to e$	q_5
q_3	bcc	#	$e, \# \to e$	q_6
			Rejects.	q_6
				q_7

State	Unread Input	Stack	Transition
q_0	aabcc	e	-
q_4	aabcc	#	$e,e \to \#$
q_4	abcc	#	$a, e \rightarrow e$
q_4	bcc	#	$a, e \rightarrow e$
q_5	bcc	x#	$e, e \rightarrow e$
q_5	cc	x#	$b, e \to x$
q_6	cc	x#	$e, e \rightarrow e$
q_6	c	#	$c, x \to e$
q_7	e	e	$c,\#\to e$
			Accepts.

4 PDA and CFGs

(15 pts)

a. Consider the CFG $G = (V, \Sigma, R, E)$, where

(5 pts)

$$\begin{split} V &= \{a, +, \times, (,), E, T, F\}, \\ \Sigma &= \{a, +, \times, (,)\}, \\ R &= \{E \to E + T \,|\, T, \\ T \to T \times F \,|\, F, \\ F \to (E) \,|\, a\}. \end{split}$$

Convert G to an equivalent PDA.

Apply the construction given in Lemma 3.4.1 of the textbook to build the equivalent PDA $M = (\{p,q\}, \Sigma, V, \Delta, p, \{q\}),$ where,

$$\Delta = \{ \\ ((p, e, e), (q, E)), \\ ((q, e, E), (q, E + T)), \\ ((q, e, T), (q, T \times F)), \\ ((q, e, F), (q, (E))), \\ ((q, e, F), (q, e)), \\ (($$

b. Show that if $M = (K, \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta, s, F)$ is a PDA, then there is another PDA $M' = (K', \Sigma, \Gamma, \Delta', s, F)$ such that L(M') = L(M) and for all $((q_i, u, \beta), (q_j, \gamma)) \in \Delta', |\beta| + |\gamma| \leq 1$.

Apply the first two steps of converting a given PDA to a simple PDA to ensure that $|\beta| \leq 1$ and $|\gamma| \leq 1$. Then we have to only deal with transitions that pushes and pops at one step. We can easily divide this process into two by replacing each $((q_i, u, \beta), (q_j, \gamma))$ by $((q_i, u, \beta), (q_k, e))$ (pop) and $((q_k, u, e), (q_j, \gamma))$ (push) where q_k is a new state whose only incoming transition is from q_i and only

5 Closure Properties and Pumping Theorem (20 pts)

a. Use closure properties for CFLs to prove that the following languages are context-free.

(i)
$$\{a^m b^{m+n} a^n \in \{a, b\}^* \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$$
 (5 pts)

This is the concatenation of the CFL $L = \{a^n b^n \in \{a,b\}^* \mid m \in \mathbb{N}\}$ with $\{b^n a^n \in \{a,b\}^* \mid m \in \mathbb{N}\}$. Since CFLs are closed under concatenation, given language is also a CFL.

(ii)
$$\{a,b\}^* - L$$
, where $L = \{babaabaaab \dots ba^{n-1}ba^n \in \{a,b\}^* \mid n \ge 1\}$ (5 pts)

Call the resulting language L_2 . The words to be excluded from L_2 , i.e., the words in L

- \bullet do not start with a
- \bullet do not end with b
- \bullet do not have consecutive bs
- have each of their substrings that has exactly three bs, and starting and ending with b, in the form $\{ba^nba^m \in \{a,b\}^* \mid n,m \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m=n+1\}$

In view of these, we can write L_2 as

$$L_2 = a\Sigma^* \cup \Sigma^*b \cup \Sigma^*bb\Sigma^* \cup \Sigma^*\{ba^nba^m \mid n+1 \neq m\}\Sigma^*$$

Since each of these languages are context-free, their union is also context-free.

b. Use Pumping Theorem for CFLs to show that following languages are not context-free.

(i)
$$\{a^m b^n \in \{a, b\}^* \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m \le n^2\}$$
 (5 pts)

Assume that the given language is context-free. Consider the string $w = a^{k^2}b^k \in L$ where k is the pumping length. Then w = uvxyz such that |vy| > 0 and $|vxy| \le k$. When v (or(y), including both as and bs, is pumped, the acquired string does not belong to the language as it will mix as and bs. Hence it is either in a^{k^2} or b^k .

Case 1 v is in a^{k^2} and y is in b^k

 $v = a^m, b = a^n \text{ and } 0 < m+n \le k.$ (i) If $n \ge 1$, $uv^0xy^0z = a^{k^2-m}b^{k-n}$. Then $k^2-m \le (k-n)^2$. However, $(k-n)^2 \le (k-1)^2 = k^2 - 2k + 1 \le k^2 - m$, where the last step follows from $m \le k$. (ii) If n = 0, $uv^2xy^2z = a^{k^2+m}b^k$. Then $k^2 + m \le k^2$ which is impossible.

Case 2 v and y are in a^{k^2}

When pumped up, this produces $a^{k^2+m}b^k$ where m=|u|+|y|>0. This implies $k^2+m\leq k^2$ which is impossible.

Case 3 v and y are in b^k

When pumped down, this produces $a^{k^2}b^{k-m}$ where m=|u|+|y|>0. This implies $k^2\leq (k-m)^2=k^2-2m+1$ which is impossible.

(ii) $\{www \in \{a,b\}^* \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$ (5 pts)

Assume that the given language is context-free. Consider the string $w = a^k b a^k b a^k b \in L = \{www \in \{a,b\}^* \mid w \in \{a,b\}^*\}$ where k is the pumping length. Then w = uvxyz such that |vy| > 0 and $|vxy| \le k$, thus, v and y cannot contain more than one b. Assume v contains a b or (not exclusive) y contains a b. Then uv^2xy^2z contains four bs or five bs. Since neither four nor five is divisible by three, this string is not in b. Now assume b0 and b1 which is not in b2. Then b1 and b2 comes after the first b3. Then b2 and b3 which is not in b4. The other cases that are not considered are derivatives of this last case, and identical reasoning applies. Since we reached a contradiction, using Pumping Theorem, our first assumption must be wrong, and the language is not context-free.

6 CNF and CYK

(14 pts)

a. Consider the CFG $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$, where

(6 pts)

$$\begin{split} V &= \{a,b,c,S,A,B,C\}, \\ \Sigma &= \{a,b,c\}, \\ R &= \{S \rightarrow aAB \,|\, bBA \\ A \rightarrow BS \,|\, C \\ B \rightarrow bA \\ C \rightarrow c \,|\, e\}. \end{split}$$

Convert G into an equivalent CFG in Chomsky normal form.

First step is to reduce long production rules. Introduce $F_1 \to AB$ and $F_2 \to BA$ to acquire

 $S \to aF_1 \mid bF_2$ $A \to BS \mid C$

 $B \to bA$

 $C \to c \,|\, e$

 $F_1 o AB$

 $F_2 \to BA$.

Next, we eliminate e-rules. The set of erasable nonterminals is $\mathcal{E} = \{C, A\}$. This elimination yields,

 $S \to aF_1 \mid bF_2$

 $A \to BS \mid C$

 $B \to bA \mid b$

 $C \rightarrow c$

 $F_1 \rightarrow AB \mid B$

 $F_2 \to BA \mid B$.

The only remaining violations are short rules. We build sets $\mathcal{D}(v)$ for $v \in V$ as

$$\mathcal{D}(a) = \{a\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(b) = \{b\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(S) = \{S\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(A) = \{A, C, c\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(B) = \{B, b\},$$
$$\mathcal{D}(C) = \{C, c\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(F_1) = \{F_1, B, b\}, \quad \mathcal{D}(F_2) = \{F_2, B, b\}.$$

Now we remove short rules and replace each rule of the form $A \to BC$ with all possible rules of the form $A \to B'C'$ where $B' \in \mathcal{D}(B)$ and $C' \in \mathcal{D}(C)$.

$$S \rightarrow aF_1 \mid bF_2 \mid aB \mid ab \mid bB \mid bb$$

$$A \to BS \mid bS$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid bC \mid bc$$

$$F_1 \rightarrow AB \mid CB \mid cB \mid Ab \mid Cb \mid cb$$

$$F_2 \rightarrow BA \mid bA \mid BC \mid bC \mid Bc \mid bc$$
.

Since $C \to c$ was a short rule, it is removed, and we can safely refine this grammar by removing any rules of the form $U \to VC$ or $U \to CV$. Then the final grammar is

$$S \rightarrow aF_1 \mid bF_2 \mid aB \mid ab \mid bB \mid bb$$

$$A \to BS \mid bS$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid bc$$

$$F_1 \rightarrow AB \mid cB \mid Ab \mid cb$$

$$F_2 \rightarrow BA \mid bA \mid Bc \mid bc$$
.

b. Using CYK decide whether the following strings belong to L(G).

(8 pts)

(i) $w_1 = babcb$

				$\{b\}$	1
			$\{c\}$	$\{F_1\}$	2
		$\{b\}$	$\{B,F_2\}$	Ø	3
	$\{a\}$	Ø	${S}$	Ø	4
$\{b\}$	Ø	Ø	$\{A\}$	$\{F_1\}$	5
1	2	3	4	5	

Since the cell $N[5,5] = \{F_1\}$, this string can be produced starting from F_1 . But since F_1 is not the starting state of the given PDA, this string is rejected.

(ii) $w_2 = acbbab$

						$\{b\}$	1
					$\{a\}$	$\{S\}$	2
				$\{b\}$	Ø	$\{A\}$	3
			$\{b\}$	Ø	Ø	$\{B\}$	4
		$\{c\}$	$\{F_1\}$	Ø	Ø	$\{F_1\}$	5
	$\{a\}$	Ø	$\{S\}$	Ø	Ø	$\{S\}$	6
-	1	2	3	4	5	6	

We have the starting state S at N[6,6]. From this we conclude that the grammar accepts the string acbbab.

answer to the old version

1) Add a new start state

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to aAB \mid bBA$$

$$A \to Ba \mid C$$

$$B \to bA \,|\, ABA$$

- $C \to c \mid e$
- 2) Remove e productions $(A \rightarrow e)$

a) Eliminate
$$C \to e$$

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to aAB \mid bBA$$

$$A \to Ba \mid C \mid e$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid ABA$$

$$C \rightarrow c$$

b) Eliminate $A \to e$

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \rightarrow aAB \mid aB \mid bBA \mid bB$$

$$A \to Ba \mid C$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid ABA \mid BA \mid AB \mid B$$

- $C \to c$
- 3) Remove unit productions $(A \rightarrow B)$
 - a) Eliminate $B \to B$

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \to aAB \mid aB \mid bBA \mid bB$$

$$A \to Ba \mid C$$

$$B \to bA \mid ABA \mid BA \mid AB$$

- $C \to c$
- b) Eliminate $A \to C$

$$S_0 \to S$$

$$S \rightarrow aAB \mid aB \mid bBA \mid bB$$

$$A \rightarrow Ba \mid c$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid ABA \mid BA \mid AB$$

$$C \to c$$

3) c) Eliminate $S_0 \to S$

$$S_0
ightarrow aAB \, | \, aB \, | \, bBA \, | \, bB$$

$$S \rightarrow aAB \mid aB \mid bBA \mid bB$$

$$A \rightarrow Ba \mid c$$

$$B \to bA \,|\, ABA \,|\, BA \,|\, AB$$

$$C \to c$$

- 4) Replace long productions $(A \to \alpha\beta\gamma)$
 - a) Introduce $F_1 \to BA$

$$S_0 \rightarrow aAB \mid aB \mid bF_1 \mid bB$$

$$S \rightarrow aAB \mid aB \mid bF_1 \mid bB$$

$$A \rightarrow Ba \mid c$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid AF_1 \mid BA \mid AB$$

$$C \to c$$

$$F_1 o BA$$

b) Introduce $F_2 \to AB$

$$S_0 \rightarrow aF_2 \mid aB \mid bF_1 \mid bB$$

$$S \rightarrow aF_2 \mid aB \mid bF_1 \mid bB$$

$$A \to Ba \mid c$$

$$B \rightarrow bA \mid AF_1 \mid BA \mid AB$$

$$C \to c$$

$$F_1 \to BA$$

$$F_2 o AB$$

5) Move terminals to unit productions

$$S_0 \to T_1 F_2 \mid T_1 B \mid T_2 F_1 \mid T_2 B$$

$$S o T_1 F_2 \, | \, T_1 B \, | \, T_2 F_1 \, | \, T_2 B$$

$$A \rightarrow BT_1 \mid c$$

$$B \rightarrow T_2 A | AF_1 | BA | AB$$

$$C \to c$$

$$F_1 \to BA$$

$$F_2 o AB$$

$$T_1 \rightarrow a$$

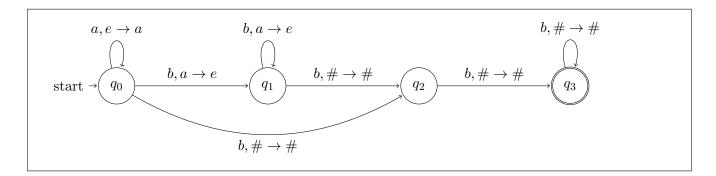
$$T_2 o b$$

7 Deterministic Pushdown Automata

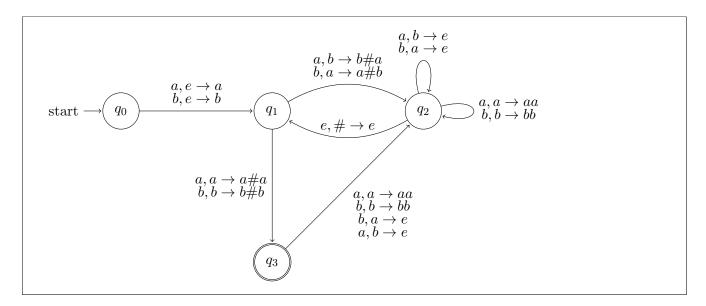
(not graded)

Construct a DPDA that generates the given languages.

a. $\{a^n b^m \in \{a, b\}^* \mid n, m \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } m \ge n + 2\}$



b. $\{w \in \{a,b\}^* \mid w \text{ starts and ends with the same symbol and have the same number of as and bs }$



c. $\{a^n b^m a^n \in \{a, b\}^* \mid m, n \in \mathbb{N}\}$

