# Theory of Computing Context-Free Languages

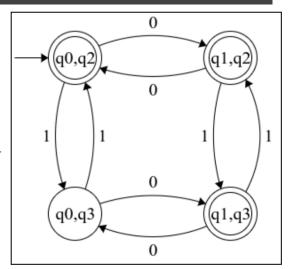
2ND YFAR - FNSIA

## PRE-TUTORIAL EXERCISES

- 1. Convert the following NFA to RegEx
- 2. Produce the context free grammar for the following language:

The number of b + 2 = the number of a. The number of a is more than b but with strictly only two letters.

Example of words in the language : aa , aaba, baaa, aabbaa, baaaab,....



## **EXERCISES**

#### Exercise C1 (Introductory)

Given the fact that any two words W and Z with odd length, if they have different centers, then when contacting the words W and Z to generate a new word B, Then B can be divided into two words of the same length and are guaranteed to be different.

Example:

# W=111, Z=1110111

# WZ=1**1**111 10111

Let D =  $\{xy | x, y \in \{0,1\} * \text{ and } |x| = |y| \text{ but } x \neq y\}$ . Show that D is a context-free language by :

- Creating the CFG grammar.
- Creating the PDA without using the CFG/PDA conversion algorithm.

(Can you prove the statement given as a fact above ?)

#### Exercise C2 (Pumping Lemma)

Use the pumping lemma to show that the following languages are not context free.

- 1.  $\{0^n 1^n 0^n 1^n \mid n \ge 0\}$
- 2.  $\{0^n \# 0^{2n} \# 0^{3n} \mid n \ge 0\}$

#### Exercise C3 (Pumping lemma):

- 1. Let B be the language of all palindromes over  $\{0,1\}$  containing equal numbers of 0s and 1s. Show that B is not context free.
- 2. Prove that  $L = \{a^n \mid n \text{ is prime}\}\$  is not CFL.

#### Exercise R1 (Revision): (NFA / RegEx ) [If there is enough time] :

- Over alphabet {0,1}, Produce the RegExs for the languages :
  - L whose words do not contain the substring 101
  - L which does not contain the string 101
- The pre-tutorial exercise to be done in class if there is enough time.

#### Exercise P1 ( Optional )

For each case below, decide whether the given language is a CFL, and prove your answer.

- Given a CFG L, the set of all prefixes of elements of L ( The language containing all words that can be derived from any word provided that we start from the first symbol, if w=00111 from L, set of all prefixes are {0,00,001,0011,00111})
- 2. Given a CFG L, the set of all suffixes of elements of L
- 3. Given a CFG L, the set of all substrings of elements of L (all words that can be derived as substrings for any word belonging to L, if L={aabb}, then substrings that can be generated are : {a,aa,ab,aab,b,bb,abb})
- 4.  $\{x \in \{a, b\} * \mid |x| \text{ is even and the first half of } x \text{ has more a's than the second} \}$
- 5.  $\{x \in \{a, b, c\} * \mid n_a(x), n_b(x), and n_c(x)\}$  have a common factor greater than 1

### Exercise P2 ( Optional )

For each case below, decide whether the given language is a CFL, and prove your answer.

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1. L = \{x \in \{a, b\} * \mid n_a(x) \text{ is a multiple of } n_b(x)\}
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- 2. L =  $\{a*b* \mid n_a(x) \text{ is a multiple of } n_b(x)\}$
- 3. L = { $a*b* \mid n_b(x)$  is a multiple of  $n_a(x)$ }

#### Exercise P3 (Optional):

Let  $\Sigma = \{1, 2, 3, 4\}$  and  $C = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid \text{in } w, \text{ the number of 1s equals the number of 2s, and the number of 3s equals the number of 4s}. Show that C is not context free.$ 

#### Exercise P4 (Optional):

In each case below, show using the pumping lemma that the given language is not a CFL.

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a. L = \{w\#t \mid w \text{ is a substring of t, where } w, t \in \{a, b\}*\}
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- b. L =  $\{t_1 \# t_2 \# \cdot \cdot \cdot \# t_k \mid k \ge 2, \text{ each } t_i \in \{a, b\} *, \text{ and } t_i = t_j \text{ for some } i \ne j\}$
- c. L =  $\{a^i b^j c^k | i < j < k\}$
- d. L =  $\{a^{2n} \mid n \ge 0\}$
- e. L =  $\{x \in \{a, b\} * \mid n_b(x) = n_a(x)^2$
- f. L =  $\{a^n b^{2n} a^n | n \ge 0\}$
- g. L = {x  $\in$  {a, b, c}\* |  $n_a(x) = \max \{n_b(x), n_c(x)\}$ }
- h. L =  $\{x \in \{a, b, c\} * \mid n_a(x) = \min \{n_b(x), n_c(x)\}\}$
- i. L =  $\{a^n b^m a^n b^{n+m} \mid m, n \ge 0\}$

#### Exercise P5 (Optional) :

Prove that  $L = \{a^n \mid n \text{ is a power of 2}\}\$ is not CFL.

#### Exercise P6 (Optional):

Provided that the language  $L = \{ww \mid w \in \Sigma^* \}$  is not context-free grammar.

- Is the complement of L which is L also not context-free grammar?
- If it is a context free grammar, provide the context free grammar.

#### Exercise P7 (Optional )

Let A =  $\{wtw^R \mid w, t \in \{0,1\}* \text{ and } |w| = |t|\}$ . Prove that A is not a CFL

#### Exercise P8 (Optional)

Let A be the language  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \ge 0\}$  and let B the complement of A.

Using closure of the context-free languages under union, give a context-free grammar that generates B.