## Software Specifications Context Free Grammar Pumping Lemma Examples

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## Example

where 
$$(P1)$$
  $v \neq \varepsilon$  or  $x \neq \varepsilon$   
 $(P2)$   $|vwx| \leq P$   
 $(P3)$  for each  $i \geq 0$ :  $uv^iwx^iy \in L$ 

Consider the Language of Squares:

$$L_2 = \{ww \mid w \in \{a, b\} * \}.$$

The claim is that  $L_2$  is not context free.

Note: showing that  $L_2$  is not CF, roughly speaking, shows that variable declarations cannot be specified with CF Grammars.

**attempt 1** The Question is what string s should we use to derive a contradiction with the Pumping Lemma? The first (bad) idea for s is the following:

$$s = a^p b a^p b \in L_2.$$
  
$$s = a^{p-1} a b a^{p-1} b.$$

Where:

$$u = a^{p-1}$$

$$v = a$$

$$w = b$$

$$x = a$$

$$y = a^{p-1}b$$

Let p be the constant yielded from the pumping lemma. Additionally as given by the pumping lemma, s = uvwxy for all context free languages. However, there is **no contradiction** with s as v and x can be repeated in parallel.

**attempt 2** We have to show that **any** way of writing a string in 5 parts, as per the pumping lemma, does *not* satisfy the pumping lemma in order to show that a language is context free. We need to also make sure that the middle part of the string (vwx) with length at most p.

Thus, we will try a better idea for s:

$$s = a^p b^p a^p b^p.$$

Thus, we will start our proof:

For the sake of contradiction assume that  $L_2$  is context free and let p be the constant given by the pumping lemma.

$$s = a^p b^p a^p b^p$$
.

by the pumping lemma, s can be written in 5 parts:

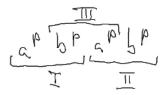
$$s = uvwxy$$

where u, v, w, x, y satisfy the 3 properties of the pumping lemma. we shall divide s into 3 parts such that:

$$I = a^p b^p$$

$$II = a^p b^p$$

$$III = b^p a^p$$



Since  $|vwx| \le p$ , the substring vwx must be within one of the parts I, II, III.

- part I vwx is inside the prefix  $a^pb^p$  in the string  $uv^2wx^2y$ . The first symbol of the second half of the prefix is b and the first symbol of the first half is an a. Therefore,  $uv^2wx^2y$  is not in  $L_2$
- part II Similarly, if vwx is inside the suffix  $a^pb^p$  in the string  $uv^2wx^2y$  then the last symbol of the first half is a and the last symbol of the second half is b. Again,  $uv^2wx^2y \notin L_2$
- part III The last case is that vxy is in the middle part. Now,  $uv^0wx^0y = uwy$  is of the form  $a^pb^ia^jb^p$  where  $i \neq p$  or  $j \neq p$ . Again,  $uv^0wx^0y \notin L_2$ , which produces **a contradiction**, and thus,  $L_2$  is not context free.