

## EXERCISES ABOUT PUSHDOWN AUTOMATA (PDAs)

- 1 Consider the context-free language over the alphabet  $\Sigma=\{a,b\}$  defined by:  $L = \{a^n b^k \mid n \leq k \leq 2n\}$ .
  - a) Write a context-free grammar (CFG) for  $L$ .
  - b) Obtain a PDA for recognizing that language.
  - c) Show the sequences of instantaneous descriptions of the automaton for the input string  $aabbb$ .
  - d) What does happen when the input string is  $aaabb$ ? Justify using the instantaneous descriptions.

- 2 Consider the CFG  $G = (\{S, A\}, \{0, 1\}, P, S)$  with productions:

$$S \rightarrow A 1 A$$

$$A \rightarrow 1A \mid 0A \mid \varepsilon$$

Obtain a PDA, accepting by empty stack, which recognizes the language of the grammar  $G$ .

- 3 Consider the CFG  $G = (\{S\}, \{i, e\}, P, S)$  with the following productions:

$$S \rightarrow S S \mid i S \mid i S e S \mid \varepsilon$$

Obtain a PDA, accepting by empty stack, which recognizes the language of the grammar  $G$ .

- 4 Consider the following PDA which accepts by empty stack

$$P = (\{p, s\}, \{0, 1\}, \{Z, 0, 1\}, \delta, p, Z).$$

Function  $\delta$  is defined as follows:

$$\delta(p, 0, Z) = \{ (p, 0Z) \}$$

$$\delta(p, 0, 1) = \{ (p, \varepsilon) \}$$

$$\delta(p, 0, 0) = \{ (p, 00) \}$$

$$\delta(p, \varepsilon, Z) = \{ (s, \varepsilon) \}$$

$$\delta(p, 1, Z) = \{ (p, 1Z) \}$$

$$\delta(p, 1, 0) = \{ (p, \varepsilon) \}$$

$$\delta(p, 1, 1) = \{ (p, 11) \}$$

- a) Show the sequence of reachable configurations when starting from configuration  $(p, 1100, Z)$ .
  - b) Is the string 1100 recognized by the automaton? Why?
  - c) What does happen with the sequence of reachable configurations when starting from configuration  $(p, 101, Z)$ ?
- 5 “A context-free grammar is ambiguous if there exist a leftmost and a rightmost derivation of at least a string recognized by the grammar”. Is this statement true? Justify.