

There are a total of  $n$  problems. You have to solve all of them.

Problem 1 (CO5): Nonregular Language (25 points)

Use the pumping lemma to **demonstrate** that  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  are not regular.

- (a)  $L_1 = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* : w = 0^n! \text{ where } n \geq 0\}$  (5 points)  
 (b)  $L_2 = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* : w = 0^a 1^b 1^c 0^d \text{ where } a + b = c + d \text{ and } a, b, c, d \geq 0\}$  (5 points)



- (a) Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $L_1$  is regular. Then let  $p$  be the pumping length for  $L_1$ . Now we take the string

$$w = 0^{p!} \in L_1.$$

Then the length of  $w$  is  $|w| = p! \geq p$ . So  $w$  can be split into  $xyz$  such that  $|y| > 0$ ,  $|xy| \leq p$ , and  $xy^i z \in L_1$  for each  $i \geq 0$ .  $y$  consists of only 0s, so

$$xy^i z = 0^{p! + (i-1)|y|}$$

Then, for  $i = 2$ ,  $xy^2 z$  will be

$$xy^2 z = xy y z = 0^{p! + |y|}.$$

Now,  $|y| \leq p < p \cdot p!$ , hence,

$$p! < p! + |y| < p! + p \cdot p! = p!(1 + p) = (p + 1)!$$

So  $p! < p! + |y| < (p + 1)!$ , and the length of  $xy^2 z$  is strictly between two consecutive factorials. Hence, it cannot be a factorial. Thus we get a contradiction! Hence,  $L_1$  is not a regular language.

- (b) Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $L_2$  is regular. Then let  $p$  be the pumping length for  $L_2$ . Now we take the string

$$w = 0^p 1^{10^p} \in L_2.$$

Then the length of  $w$  is  $|w| = 2p + 2 \geq p$ . So  $w$  can be split into  $xyz$  such that  $|y| > 0$ ,  $|xy| \leq p$ , and  $xy^i z \in L_2$  for each  $i \geq 0$ .  $|xy| \leq p$ , so  $y$  consists of only 0s, so

$$xy^i z = 0^{p + (i-1)|y|} 1^{10^p}.$$

We choose  $i = 4$ , so that

$$xy^4 z = 0^{p+3|y|} 1^{10^p}.$$

Since this is in  $L_2$ , one can write it as  $0^a 1^b 1^c 0^d$  for  $a + b = c + d$ . By equating

$$0^{p+3|y|} 1^{10^p} = 0^a 1^b 1^c 0^d,$$

we get  $a = p + 3|y|$ ,  $d = p$  and  $b + c = 2$ . So  $c - b \leq 2$ . Furthermore,

$$c - b = a - d = 3|y| \geq 3,$$

as  $|y| \geq 1$ . So we get  $c - b \leq 2$  and  $c - b \geq 3$ , which is a contradiction! Therefore,  $L_2$  is not regular.

- (b) (**Alternate Solution**) Assume for the sake of contradiction that  $L_2$  is regular. Then let  $p$  be the pumping length for  $L_2$ . Now we take the string

$$w = 0^p 1^p 1^p 0^p \in L_2.$$

Then the length of  $w$  is  $|w| = 4p \geq p$ . So  $w$  can be split into  $xyz$  such that  $|y| > 0$ ,  $|xy| \leq p$ , and  $xy^i z \in L_2$  for each  $i \geq 0$ .  $|xy| \leq p$ , so  $y$  consists of only 0s, so

$$xy^i z = 0^{p + (i-1)|y|} 1^p 1^p 0^p.$$

We choose  $i = 2p + 2$ , so that

$$xy^{2p+2} z = 0^{p + (2p+1)|y|} 1^p 1^p 0^p.$$

Since this is in  $L_2$ , one can write it as  $0^a 1^b 1^c 0^d$  for  $a + b = c + d$ . By equating

$$0^{p+(2p+1)|y|} 1^p 1^p 0^p = 0^a 1^b 1^c 0^d,$$

we get  $a = p + (2p + 1)|y|$ ,  $d = p$  and  $b + c = 2p$ . So  $c - b \leq 2p$ . Furthermore,

$$c - b = a - d = (2p + 1)|y| \geq 2p + 1,$$

as  $|y| \geq 1$ . So we get  $c - b \leq 2p$  and  $c - b \geq 2p + 1$ , which is a contradiction! Therefore,  $L_2$  is not regular.