

Indian Institute of Technology (ISM), Dhanbad  
Department of Computer Science and Engineering  
Theory of Computation (CSC208)

End Semester, Date: 12 May 2023

Timing: 3 PM - 6 PM

Winter Semester 2022-23

Max mark: 100

Attempt all questions. Write full justifications for your answers to be evaluated. Write your proofs/constructions in mathematically precise language. Unclear, incomplete, and/or dubious statements would be severely penalized.

1. Consider the following context-free grammar to generate arithmetic expressions in one variable  $a$ , involving addition and multiplication operations only. Here,  $E$  is the start symbol.

$$E \rightarrow E + E \mid E * E \mid a$$

- (a) Draw all the parse trees for the string  $a + (a * a) + a$  following this grammar.

- (b) Propose an unambiguous grammar that ensures that the precedence of the  $*$  over  $+$  is maintained and operations are evaluated from left to right. Using your grammar draw the parse tree for the expression string in Part (a) of this question. NOTE: Incorporation of any additional symbol or production in the grammar will induce a heavy penalty.

- (a) State the pumping lemma for context-free languages.

- (b) Use the pumping lemma stated above to show that the language  $L = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  is not context-free.

3. Consider the following context-free grammar  $G$  in Chomsky normal form.

$$S \rightarrow AB \mid BC$$

$$A \rightarrow BA \mid a$$

$$B \rightarrow CC \mid b$$

$$C \rightarrow AB \mid a$$

Use the CYK algorithm to test the membership of the string 'baaba' in the language of the given grammar  $G$ . Clearly show the working steps. Note: Use of any other approach for testing the membership will induce zero marks.

4. Consider the following language over  $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ :

$$L_1 = \{a^i (bc)^j \mid i, j \geq 0 \text{ and } i \geq j\}$$

- (a) Design a Pushdown Automata (PDA)  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, s, \perp, F)$  to accept  $L_1$ .  $M$  must contain at most two states. Clearly define the components of the PDA. Draw the transition diagram. Mention clearly whether your machine  $M$  accepts by final state or empty stack.

- (b) What do you mean by the instantaneous description of a PDA? Explain with relevant mathematical notations.



✓ 5. Consider the language  $L = \{ww \mid w \in \{1\}^+\}$ . Design a Turing machine  $M$  that generates the corresponding string in  $L$  if a  $w$  is already on the tape e.g. if  $w = 111$  is on the tape then the machine should write 111111 on the tape and halt. Assume that  $\Gamma$  (tape symbols)  $= \{1, z\}$  and the tape head is placed on the leftmost '1' on the tape. Your machine should not have more than 4 (four) states.

(a) Clearly write the steps of execution of your Turing machine. (4)

(b) Define the components of your Turing machine  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, \text{halt}, F)$ , where the notations have standard meaning. (4)

(c) Draw transition diagram for  $M$ . (4)

✓ 6. Suppose you have a new problem  $P_2$  and you wish to show that  $P_2$  is undecidable. Let  $P_1$  be a known undecidable problem.

(a) With the help of a construction, show how you will prove the undecidability of  $P_2$  using  $P_1$ . (5)

(b) Clearly state the characteristics of the modules used in your construction. (3)

7. Prove that the class of context-free languages are closed under

(a) Union (4)

(b) Concatenation (3)

(c) Kleene closure (3)

(d) Homomorphism (5)

✓ 8. Consider a multi-tape Turing machine  $M$  with two tapes.

(a) State the construction of a (single tape multi-track) Turing machine  $M_d$ , that may be used to simulate the working of  $M$ . You are allowed to store composite information in the state of the machine. But that should be finite and well-justified. (5)

(b) Clearly state (with an example if necessary), the working of a single step of the above simulation. (5)

(c) Suppose  $M$  runs for  $t$  steps on a given input. Use worst-case complexity analysis to estimate the run-time complexity of  $M_d$  simulating the  $t$  steps of  $M$  on the same input, in terms of  $t$ . (5)

✓ 9. Answer the following questions (Unnecessarily long answers will NOT be evaluated.)

(a) State and discuss the Church-Turing thesis. (3)

(b) State the difference between recursively enumerable and recursive languages. (4)

(c) What do you mean by the non-trivial property of a recursively enumerable language? (3)

