



Zayd

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These questions, based on Section 5.1 of HMU, are not in either of the other two homeworks on CFG's, but are available for use.

Help

1. Let L be the language of all strings of a's and b's such that no prefix (proper or not) has more b's than a's. Let G be the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aS \mid aSbS \mid \varepsilon$$

To prove that $L = L(G)$, we need to show two things:

1. If $S \Rightarrow^* w$, then w is in L .
2. If w is in L , then $S \Rightarrow^* w$.

We shall consider only the proof of (1) here. The proof is an induction on n , the number of steps in the derivation $S \Rightarrow^* w$. Here is an outline of the proof, with reasons omitted. You need to supply the reasons.

Basis:

- 1) If $n=1$, then w is ε because _____.

- 2) w is in L because _____.
 Induction:

- 3) Either (a) $S \Rightarrow aS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ or (b) $S \Rightarrow aSbS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ because _____.

- 4a) In case (a), $w = ax$, and $S \Rightarrow^{n-1} x$ because _____.

- 5a) In case (a), x is in L because _____.

- 6a) In case (a), w is in L because _____.

- 4b) In case (b), w can be written $w = aybz$, where $S \Rightarrow^p y$ and $S \Rightarrow^q z$ for some p and q less than n because _____.

- 5b) In case (b), y is in L because _____.

- 6b) In case (b), z is in L because _____.

- 7b) In case (b), w is in L because _____.

For which of the steps above the appropriate reason is contained in the following argument:

"The following two statements are true

- (i) if string x has no prefix with more b's than a's, then neither does string ax ,
- (ii) if strings y and z are such that no prefix has more b's than a's, then neither does string $aybz$."

- a) 2
- b) 6b

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This question is giving two ways to reach the final conclusion. As such, it has to be either 6a or 7b.

- c) /b
d) 4a

Answer submitted: c)

You have answered the question correctly.

2. Which of the following grammars derives a subset of the language:

$\{x \mid x \text{ contains a and c in proportion 4:3 and there are no two consecutive c's}\}$?

- a) $S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid S \rightarrow aScSaScSaS$
b) $S \rightarrow acacaca \mid S \rightarrow SaScSaScSaScSaS \mid S \rightarrow SaSaSaScSaScSa$
c) $S \rightarrow acacaca \mid S \rightarrow SacSaScSaScSaS$
d) $S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid S \rightarrow aacacac \mid S \rightarrow SaScSaScSaScSa$

Answer submitted: c)

You have answered the question correctly.

3. Consider the grammar G with start symbol S:

$S \rightarrow bS \mid aA \mid b$
 $A \rightarrow bA \mid aB$
 $B \rightarrow bB \mid aS \mid a$

Which of the following is a word in $L(G)$?

- a) bababbabaababaa
b) ababbbbbb
c) babbbbaaaab
d) bbbaababaaa

Answer submitted: d)

You have answered the question correctly.

4. Consider the grammar $G_1: S \rightarrow \varepsilon, S \rightarrow aS, S \rightarrow aSbS$ and the language L that contains exactly those strings of a's and b's such that every prefix has at least as many a's as b's. We want to prove the claim: G_1 generates all strings in L.

We take the following inductive hypothesis to prove the claim:

For $n < k$, G_1 generates every string of length n in L.

To prove the inductive step we argue as follows:

"For each string w in L either _____ (a1) or _____ (a2) holds. In both cases we use the inductive hypothesis and one of the rules to show that string w can be generated by the grammar. In the first case we use rule $S \rightarrow aS$ and in the second case we use rule $S \rightarrow aSbS$."

Which phrases can replace the _____ so that this argument is correct?

- a) a1: each prefix has equal number of a's and b's.
a2: there is a b in string w such that the part of the string until the b belongs in L by inductive hypothesis and the part after this b belongs in L by inductive hypothesis.
- b) a1: there is a b in string w such that for the part of the string until the b (b also included) each prefix has as many a's as b's and for the part after b each prefix has as many a's as b's.
a2: each prefix has more a's than b's.
- c) a1: w can be written as $w=aw'$ where each prefix of w' has as many a's as b's.
a2: w can be written as $w=aw'bw''$ where for both w' and w'' it holds that each prefix has as many a's as b's.

Keys to look for in wrong answers:
1. String provided has a way to make two c's next to each other (choice a).
2. Major productions do not have 4 a's and 3 c's in order.

To be accepted by this grammar, the string must have the number of a's be a multiple of three.

Be careful to read the second half of the question after the blanks. In choice a you use the production $S \rightarrow aS$ so must have at least as many a's as b's. For the second one, they could be equal or there could be more a's than b's.

- d) a1: each prefix has equal number of b's and a's.
 a2: w can be written as $w=aw'bw''$ where for both w' and w'' it holds that each prefix has as many a's as b's.

Answer submitted: **c)**

You have answered the question correctly.

Choose the right production that can lead to any number of b's. Selection b is invalid as there must be a finite number of productions.

5. Programming languages are often described using an extended form of context-free grammar, where curly brackets are used to denote a construct that can repeat 0, 1, 2, or any number of times. For example, $A \rightarrow B\{C\}D$ says that an A can be replaced by a B and a D , with any number of C 's (including 0) between them. This notation does not allow us to describe anything but context-free languages, since an extended production can always be replaced by several conventional productions.

Suppose a grammar has the extended production:

$A \rightarrow a\{b\}B$

Convert this extended production to conventional productions. Identify, from the list below, the conventional productions that are equivalent to the extended production above.

- a) $A \rightarrow aA_1B$
 $A_1 \rightarrow bA_1 \mid b$
- b) $A \rightarrow aB \mid abB \mid abbB \mid abbbB \mid \dots$
- c) $A \rightarrow aA_1B$
 $A_1 \rightarrow b \mid \epsilon$
- d) $A \rightarrow aA_1B$
 $A_1 \rightarrow bA_1 \mid \epsilon$

Answer submitted: **d)**

You have answered the question correctly.

6. Consider the following languages and grammars. $G_1: S \rightarrow aA|aS, A \rightarrow ab$
 $G_2: S \rightarrow abS|aA, A \rightarrow a$
 $G_3: S \rightarrow Sa|AB, A \rightarrow aA|a, B \rightarrow b$
 $G_4: S \rightarrow aS|b$
 $L_1: \{a^ib \mid i=1,2,\dots\}$
 $L_2: \{(ab)^iaa \mid i=0,1,\dots\}$
 $L_3: \{a^ib \mid i=2,3,\dots\}$
 $L_4: \{a^iba^j \mid i=1,2,\dots, j=0,1,\dots\}$
 $L_5: \{a^ib \mid i=0,1,\dots\}$

Match each grammar with the language it defines. Then, identify a correct match from the list below.

- a) G_4 defines L_5 .
 b) G_1 defines L_2 .
 c) G_4 defines L_2 .
 d) G_4 defines L_1 .

Answer submitted: **a)**

You have answered the question correctly.

7. Here are eight simple grammars, each of which generates an infinite language of strings. These strings tend to look like

alternating a 's and b 's, although there are some exceptions, and not all grammars generate all such strings.

G1, G2, G4, and G8
produce same language

1. $S \rightarrow abS \mid ab$
2. $S \rightarrow SS \mid ab$
3. $S \rightarrow aB; B \rightarrow bS \mid a$
4. $S \rightarrow aB; B \rightarrow bS \mid b$
5. $S \rightarrow aB; B \rightarrow bS \mid ab$
6. $S \rightarrow aB \mid b; B \rightarrow bS$
7. $S \rightarrow aB \mid a; B \rightarrow bS$
8. $S \rightarrow aB \mid ab; B \rightarrow bS$

The initial symbol is S in all cases. Determine the language of each of these grammars. Then, find, in the list below, the pair of grammars that define the same language.

- a) $G1: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, B \rightarrow ab$
 $G2: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, S \rightarrow ab$
- b) $G1: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, B \rightarrow b$
 $G2: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, S \rightarrow b$
- c) $G1: S \rightarrow abS, S \rightarrow ab$
 $G2: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, B \rightarrow ab$
- d) $G1: S \rightarrow SS, S \rightarrow ab$
 $G2: S \rightarrow aB, B \rightarrow bS, S \rightarrow ab$

Answer submitted: **d)**

You have answered the question correctly.

8. Which of the following pairs of grammars define the same language?

- a) $G_1: S \rightarrow AB|a, A \rightarrow b$
 $G_2: S \rightarrow a$
- b) $G_1: S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow aAA|\epsilon, B \rightarrow baBB|\epsilon$
 $G_2: S \rightarrow CB|B|\epsilon, C \rightarrow aCC|aC|a, B \rightarrow baBB|baB|ba$
- c) $G_1: S \rightarrow SaScSaS|aca|\epsilon$
 $G_2: S \rightarrow SaBaS|aca, B \rightarrow cS|\epsilon$
- d) $G_1: S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow aAA|\epsilon, B \rightarrow baB|\epsilon$
 $G_2: S \rightarrow CB|C|B, C \rightarrow aCC|aC|a, B \rightarrow baBB|baB|ba$

For choice a, $S \rightarrow AB$ is useless as no production for B .
For choice c, the issue arises when $B \rightarrow \epsilon$ so no middle c .
For choice d, the issue is the first grammar can produce the empty string while the second cannot.

Answer submitted: **a)**

You have answered the question correctly.

Keys to look for in wrong answers:
1. String provided has a way to make two c 's next to each other (choice a).
2. Major productions do not have 4 a 's and 3 c 's in order.

9. Which of the following grammars derives a subset L_s of the language: $L = \{x \mid \text{(i) } x \text{ contains } a \text{ and } c \text{ in proportion } 4:3, \text{ (ii) } x \text{ does not begin with } c \text{ and (iii) there are no two consecutive } c\text{'s}\}$ such that L_s is missing at most a finite number of strings from L .

- a) $S \rightarrow \epsilon, S \rightarrow SaScSaScSa$
- b) $S \rightarrow \epsilon, S \rightarrow SaScSaScSaSaSaS$
- c) $S \rightarrow \epsilon, S \rightarrow acacaScSaS$
- d) $S \rightarrow \epsilon, S \rightarrow SaScSaScSaScSaS$

Answer submitted: **d)**

You have answered the question correctly.

10. Let L be the language of all strings of a 's and b 's such that no prefix (proper or not) has more b 's than a 's. Let G be the grammar with productions

$$S \rightarrow aS \mid aSbS \mid \varepsilon$$

To prove that $L = L(G)$, we need to show two things:

1. If $S \Rightarrow^* w$, then w is in L .
2. If w is in L , then $S \Rightarrow^* w$.

We shall consider only the proof of (1) here. The proof is an induction on n , the number of steps in the derivation $S \Rightarrow^* w$. Here is an outline of the proof, with reasons omitted. You need to supply the reasons.

Basis:

1)

If $n=1$, then w is ε because _____.

2)

w is in L because _____.

Induction:

3)

Either (a) $S \Rightarrow aS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ or (b) $S \Rightarrow aSbS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ because _____.

4a)

In case (a), $w = ax$, and $S \Rightarrow^{n-1} x$ because _____.

5a)

In case (a), x is in L because _____.

6a)

In case (a), w is in L because _____.

4b)

In case (b), w can be written $w = aybz$, where $S \Rightarrow^p y$ and $S \Rightarrow^q z$ for some p and q less than n because _____.

5b)

In case (b), y is in L because _____.

6b)

In case (b), z is in L because _____.

7b)

In case (b), w is in L because _____.

For which of the steps above the appropriate reason is contained in the following argument:

"All n -step derivations of w produce either ε (for $n=1$) or use one of the productions with at least one nonterminal in the body (for $n > 1$). In case the production $S \rightarrow aS$ is used, then $w=ax$ with x being produced by a $(n-1)$ -step derivation. In case the production $S \rightarrow aSbS$ is used then $w=aybz$ with y and z being produced by derivations with number of steps less than n ."

- a) 2
- b) 5a
- c) 7b
- d) 3

Answer submitted: **d**

You have answered the question correctly.

11. Identify in the list below a sentence of length 6 that is generated by the grammar $S \rightarrow (S)S \mid \varepsilon$

- a) $)()(($
- b) $((()))($
- c) $((())($
- d) $((())($

Answer submitted: **d**

You have answered the question correctly.

12. Consider the grammar G and the language L :

$$S \rightarrow aS \mid aSbS \mid \varepsilon$$

To prove that $L = L(G)$, we need to show two things:

1. If $S \Rightarrow^* w$, then w is in L .
2. If w is in L , then $S \Rightarrow^* w$.

We shall consider only the proof of (1) here. The proof is an induction on n , the number of steps in the derivation $S \Rightarrow^* w$. Here is an outline of the proof, with reasons omitted. You need to supply the reasons.

Basis:

1)

If $n=1$, then w is ε because _____.

2)

w is in L because _____.

Induction:

3)

Either (a) $S \Rightarrow aS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ or (b) $S \Rightarrow aSbS \Rightarrow^{n-1} w$ because _____.

4a)

In case (a), $w = ax$, and $S \Rightarrow^{n-1} x$ because _____.

5a)

In case (a), x is in L because _____.

6a)

In case (a), w is in L because _____.

4b)

In case (b), w can be written $w = aybz$, where $S \Rightarrow^p y$ and $S \Rightarrow^q z$ for some p and q less than n because _____.

5b)

In case (b), y is in L because _____.

6b)

In case (b), z is in L because _____.

7b)

In case (b), w is in L because _____.

For which of the steps above the appropriate reason is contained in the following argument:

"All n -step derivations of w produce either ε (for $n=1$) or use one of the productions with at least one nonterminal in the body (for $n > 1$). In case the production $S \rightarrow aS$ is used, then $w=ax$ with x being produced by a $(n-1)$ -step derivation. In case the production $S \rightarrow aSbS$ is used then $w=aybz$ with y and z being produced by derivations with number of steps less than n ."

- a) 2
- b) 5a
- c) 7b
- d) 3

Answer submitted: **d**

You have answered the question correctly.

11. Identify in the list below a sentence of length 6 that is generated by the grammar $S \rightarrow (S)S \mid \varepsilon$

- a) $)()(($
- b) $((()))($
- c) $((())($
- d) $((())($

Answer submitted: **d**

You have answered the question correctly.

12. Consider the grammar G and the language L :

$G: S \rightarrow AB \mid a \mid abC, A \rightarrow b, C \rightarrow abC \mid c$

$L: \{w \mid w \text{ a string of a's, b's, and c's with an equal number of a's and b's}\}.$

In the grammar, a is always before b but that is not required by the language.

Grammar G does not define language L. To prove, we use a string that either is produced by G and not contained in L or is contained in L but is not produced by G. Which string can be used to prove it?

- a) abababc
- b) cacabbb
- c) bababa
- d) ababc

Answer submitted: c)

You have answered the question correctly.

13. Consider the grammar G1:

$S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid aS \mid aSbS$

Which of the following is correct (for a choice to be correct, all propositions must be correct)?

- a) The string aaba is not generated by the grammar.
- b) a) G1 generates all and only the strings of a's and b's such that every string has at least as many a's as b's. b) The inductive hypothesis to prove it is: For $n < k$, it holds: Any word in G1 of length n, is such that all its prefixes contain more a's than b's or as many a's as b's.
- c) a) G1 generates all and only the strings of a's and b's such that every prefix has at least as many a's as b's. b) The following inductive hypothesis will prove it: For $n < k$, it holds that: Any word in G1 of length n, is such that all its prefixes contain at least as many a's as b's.
- d) The string aaabbbabbaabbaaabb is not generated by the grammar.

In choice d, the substring aaabbbabb has more b's than a's.

Answer submitted: d)

You have answered the question correctly.

14. Consider the grammars:

$G_1: S \rightarrow AB, A \rightarrow aAA \mid \varepsilon, B \rightarrow abBB \mid \varepsilon$

$G_2: S \rightarrow CB, C \rightarrow aCC \mid aC \mid a, B \rightarrow abBB \mid abB \mid ab$

$G_3: S \rightarrow CB \mid C \mid B \mid \varepsilon, C \rightarrow aCC \mid aC \mid a, B \rightarrow abBB \mid abB \mid ab$

$G_4: S \rightarrow ASB \mid \varepsilon, A \rightarrow aA \mid \varepsilon, B \rightarrow abB \mid \varepsilon$

$G_5: S \rightarrow ASB \mid AB, A \rightarrow aA \mid a, B \rightarrow abB \mid ab$

$G_6: S \rightarrow ASB \mid aab, A \rightarrow aA \mid a, B \rightarrow abB \mid ab$

Describe the language of each of these grammars. Then, identify from the list below a pair of grammars that define the same language?

- a) G_1 and G_6
- b) G_1 and G_3
- c) G_5 and G_6
- d) G_3 and G_2

Answer submitted: b)

You have answered the question correctly.

G1, G3, and G4 are equal. G2 and G5 are equal.

You have answered the question correctly.

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