COMS 3261: Computer Science Theory

Problem Set 3, due Wednesday, 10/30/13, at the beginning of the class

Please follow the Homework Guidelines.

Try to make your answers as precise, succinct, and clear as you can.

Part A: [30 points] Do the problems posted at Gradiance.

Problem 1. [15 points]

1. [10 points] Describe the languages generated by the following grammars with start symbol S. Provide brief justifications.

a.
$$S \rightarrow 0S \mid S1 \mid \epsilon$$

b.
$$S \rightarrow AB$$

$$A \rightarrow 0A1 \mid \epsilon$$

$$B \rightarrow 1B0 \mid \epsilon$$

2. [5 points] For each of the above grammars, determine whether it is ambiguous. For each ambiguous grammar give two different parse trees for some string in the language.

Problem 2. [15 points] Give context-free grammars for the following languages. Provide brief explanations. The alphabet in all cases is $\{0,1\}$.

- 1. All strings that end in 001.
- 2. All strings of odd length whose middle symbol is 0.
- 3. $\{0^i 1^j \mid i \neq j, i, j \geq 0\}$

Problem 3. [20 points] Do Exercise 5.1.4 in the textbook (page 182). We reproduce the exercise below for convenience.

A context-free grammar is said to be *right-linear* if each production body has at most one variable, and that variable is at the right end. That is, all productions of a right-linear grammar are of the form $A \to wB$ or $A \to w$, where A and B are variables and w some string of zero or more terminals.

a. Show that every right-linear grammar generates a regular language.

Hint: Construct an ε -NFA that simulates leftmost derivations, using its state to represent the lone variable in the current left-sentential form.

b. Show that every regular language has a right-linear grammar. *Hint:* Start with a DFA and let the variables of the grammar represent states.

Problem 4. [20 points]

- 1. Give a PDA that accepts the language $\{0^i1^{2i} \mid i \ge 0\}$.
- 2. Give a PDA that accepts the language $\{0^i1^j \mid 2i \ge j \ge i \ge 0\}$. In each case, describe first in English informally how your PDA operates, and then give the precise specification.