

CS & IT ENGINEERING

Theory of Computation

Push Down Automata:

Practice on CFLs



Lecture No. 7



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TOPICS TO BE COVERED

01

GATE PYQs

02

03

04

05

Q

Which of the following are decidable?

Last chapter

1. Whether the intersection of two regular languages is infinite
2. Whether a given context-free language is regular
3. Whether two push-down automata accept the same language
4. Whether a given grammar is context-free

[2008: 1 Marks]

A 1 and 2

B 1 and 4

C 2 and 3

D 2 and 4

Q

Consider the language

$$L1 = \{0^i 1^j \mid i \neq j\},$$

$$L2 = \{0^i 1^j \mid i = j\},$$

$$L3 = \{0^i 1^j \mid i = 2j + 1\},$$

$$L4 = \{0^i 1^j \mid i \neq 2j\}.$$

Which one of the following statements is true?

[2010: 2 Marks]

- ☐ A Only L2 is context free
- ☐ B Only L2 and L3 are context free
- ☐ C Only L1 and L2 are context free
- ☒ D All are context free

DCFL

$\{a^m b^n \mid m < n \text{ or } m > n\}$

$$= \{0^{2j+1} 1^j\}$$

not reg

Q

Consider the languages L1, L2 and L3 as given below:

$L1 = \{0^p 1^q \mid p, q \in \mathbb{N}\}$, $\rightarrow 0^+ 1^+ \rightarrow$ Regular but not finite

$L2 = \{0^p 1^q \mid p, q \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } p = q\}$ and \rightarrow DCFL but not reg

$L3 = \{0^p 1^q 0^r \mid p, q, r \in \mathbb{N} \text{ and } p = q = r\}$ \rightarrow CSL but not CFL

Which of the following statements is **NOT TRUE** [2011: 2 Marks]

TRUE

A

Push Down Automata (PDA) can be used to recognize L1 and L2.

TRUE

B

L1 is a regular language.

FALSE

C

All the three languages are context free. ✓

TRUE

D

Turing machines can be used to recognize all the languages.

Practice on CFLs



Consider the following languages:

- I. $\{a^m b^n c^p d^q \mid \underline{m} + p = \underline{n} + q, \text{ where } m, n, p, q \geq 0\}$
- II. $\{a^m b^n c^p d^q \mid m = n \text{ and } p = q, \text{ where } m, n, p, q \geq 0\}$
- III. $\{a^m b^n c^p d^q \mid m = n = p \text{ and } p \neq q, \text{ where } m, n, p, q \geq 0\}$
- IV. $\{a^m b^n c^p d^q \mid mn = p + q, \text{ where } m, n, p, q \geq 0\}$

Which of the language above are context-free?

- | | |
|--------------------------|-------------------------|
| A I and IV only | B I and II only |
| C II and III only | D II and IV only |

[2012: 2 Marks]

a^m
push

b^n

c^p

d^q

$b \geq 0$

$b > m$

$b < a$

$b = a$

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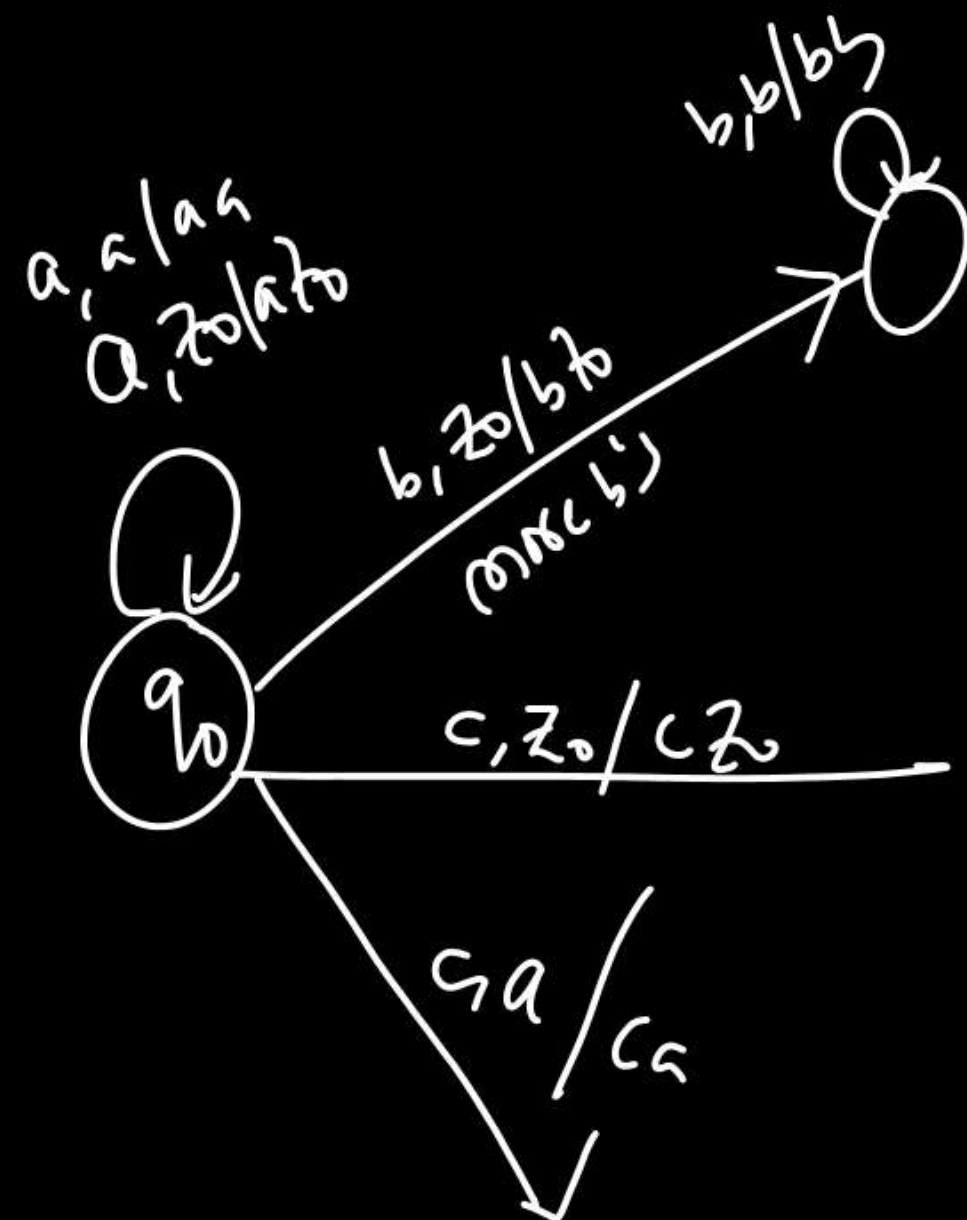
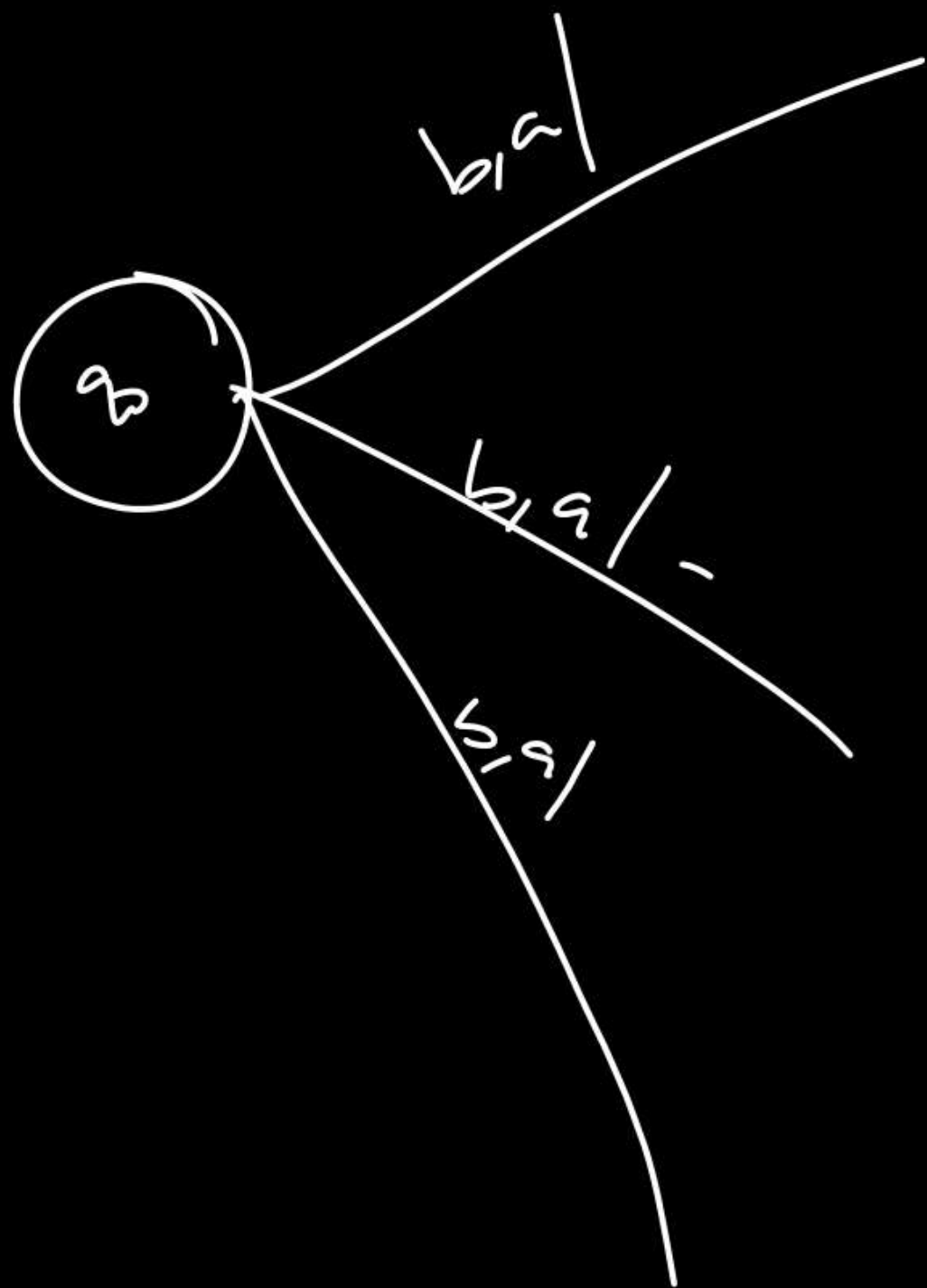
$b = a$

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$b = a$

$b \geq 0$

$b > m$



Q

Consider the following languages

$$L1 = \{0^p 1^q 0^r \mid p, q, r \geq 0\} = 0^* 1^* 0^*$$

$$L2 = \{0^p 1^q 0^r \mid p, q, r \geq 0, p \neq r\}$$

Which one of the following statements is FALSE?

[2013: 2 Marks]

- ☐ A L2 is context-free (T)
- ☒ B $L1 \cap L2$ is context-free $L1 \cap L2 = L2$
- ☒ C Complement of L2 is recursive
- ☒ D Complement of L1 is context-free but not regular

False

Regular but not finite

DCFL but not reg

$\overline{L1} \rightarrow \text{reg}$

$\overline{L2} \rightarrow \text{DCFL}$

Q

Consider the following languages over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{0, 1, c\}$:

$$L_1 = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\} \rightarrow \text{DCFL but not reg}$$

$$L_2 = \{wcw^r \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$$

$$L_3 = \{ww^r \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^*\} \rightarrow \text{CFL but not DCFL}$$

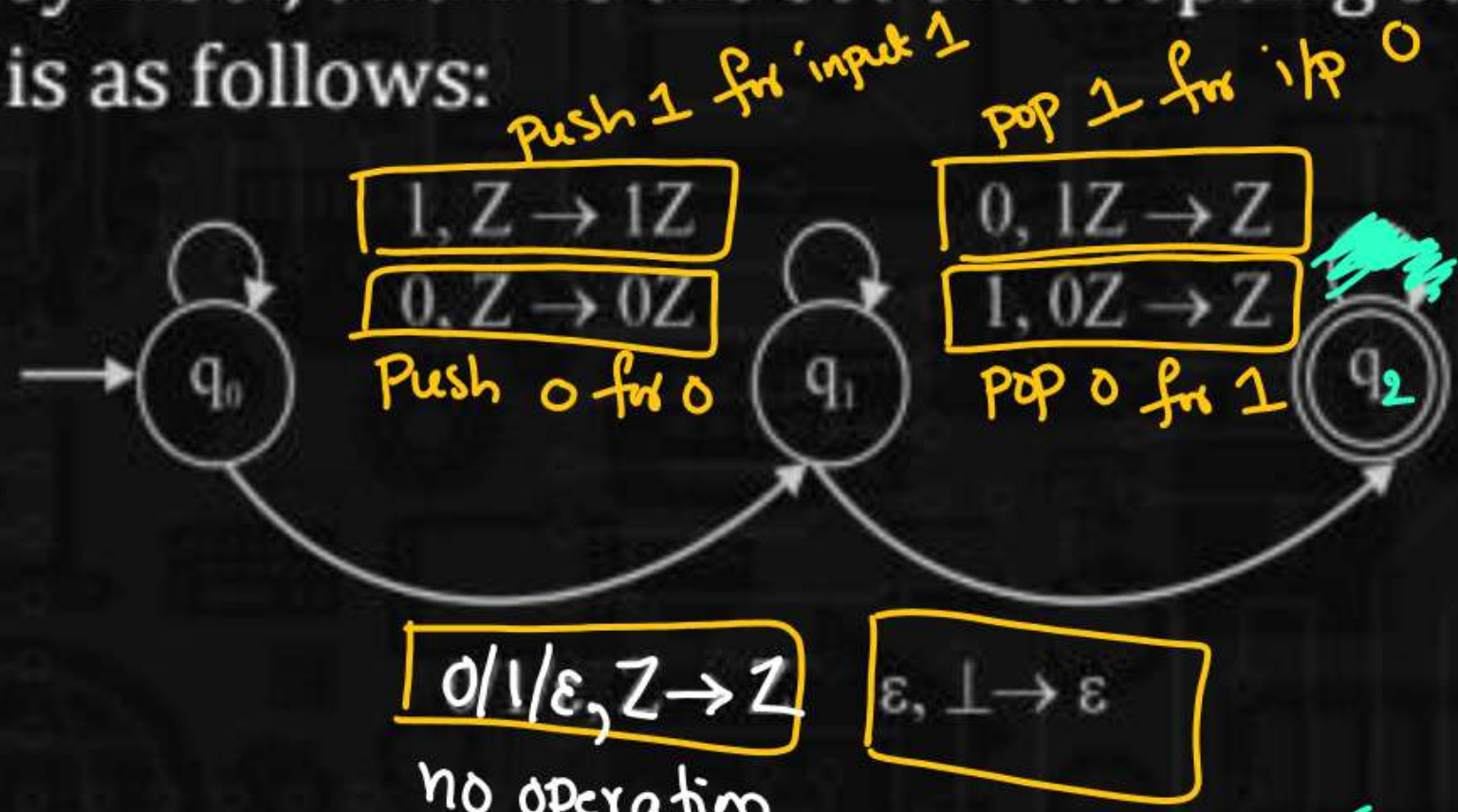
Here, w^r is the reverse of the string w . Which of these languages are deterministic Context-free languages?

[2014-Set3: 2 Marks]

- ☐ A None of the languages
- ☐ B Only L_1
- ☒ C Only L_1 and L_2
- ☐ D All the three languages



Consider the NPDA $\langle Q = \{q_0, q_1, q_2\}, \Sigma = \{0, 1\}, \Gamma = \{0, 1, \perp\}, \delta, q_0, \perp, F = \{q_2\} \rangle$, where (as per usual convention) Q is the set of states, Σ is the input alphabet, Γ is stack alphabet, δ is the state transition function, q_0 is the initial state, \perp is the initial stack symbol, and F is the set of accepting states, The state transition is as follows:



Which of the following sequences must follow the string 101100 so that the overall string is accepted by the automaton?

[2015-Set1: 2 Marks]

- A** 10110
- B** 10010 ✓
- C** 01010
- D** 01001



1, X / 1X
any

1, any / 1any

1, Z / 1Z

1, Y / 1Y

0, 1Z → Z
POP 1

for i/p 0, POP 1

Q

Which of the following languages are context-free?

$L_1 = \{a^m b^n a^n b^m \mid m, n \geq 1\} \rightarrow \text{DCFL}$

$L_2 = \{a^m b^n a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 1\} \rightarrow \text{not CFL}$

$L_3 = \{a^m b^n \mid m = 2n + 1\} \rightarrow \text{DCFL}$

[2015(Set-3): 1 Marks]

- ☐ A L_1 and L_2 only
- ☒ B L_1 and L_3 only
- ☐ C L_2 and L_3 only
- ☐ D L_3 only

$L_4 = \{a^m b^n a^n b^m \mid m, n \geq 0\}$

Handwritten analysis for L_4 :

The string $aa|b$ is shown with a box around the b . Arrows indicate "push a" for the first a and "pop a" for the b . The word "push" is written below the aa .

Conclusion: CFL but not DCFL

Q

Consider the following context-free grammars:

$G_1: S \rightarrow aS \mid B, B \rightarrow b \mid bB$

$G_2: S \rightarrow aA \mid bB, A \rightarrow aA \mid B \mid \epsilon, B \rightarrow bB \mid \epsilon$

Which one of the following pairs of languages is generated by G_1 and G_2 , respectively?

[2016(Set-1): 2 Marks]

A

$\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ or } n > 0\}$ and $\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ and } n > 0\}$.

B

$\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ and } n > 0\}$ and $\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ or } n \geq 0\}$.

C

$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 0 \text{ or } n > 0\}$ and $\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ and } n > 0\}$.

D

$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 0 \text{ and } n > 0\}$ and $\{a^m b^n \mid m > 0 \text{ or } n > 0\}$.

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq 0, n > 0\}$$

$$a^+ b^+$$

$$b^+$$

$$a^+ b^+$$

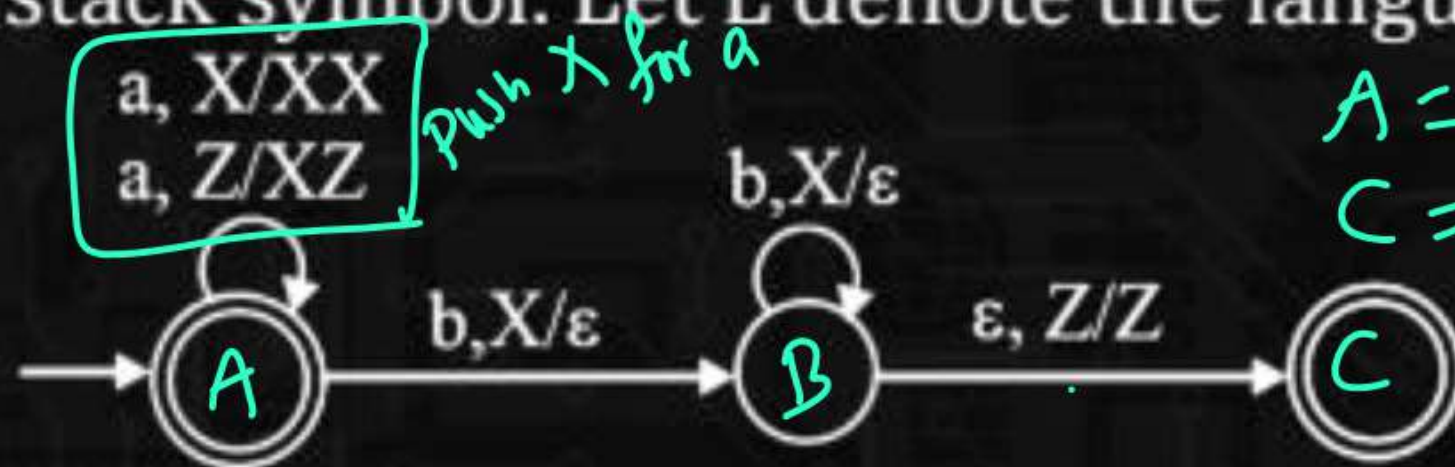
$$b^+$$

$$a^+ b^+ \cup b^+$$

Q



Consider the transition diagram of a PDA given below with input alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ and stack alphabet $\Gamma = \{X, Z\}$. Z is the initial stack symbol. Let L denote the language accepted by the PDA.



$$A = a^*$$

$$C = a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1$$

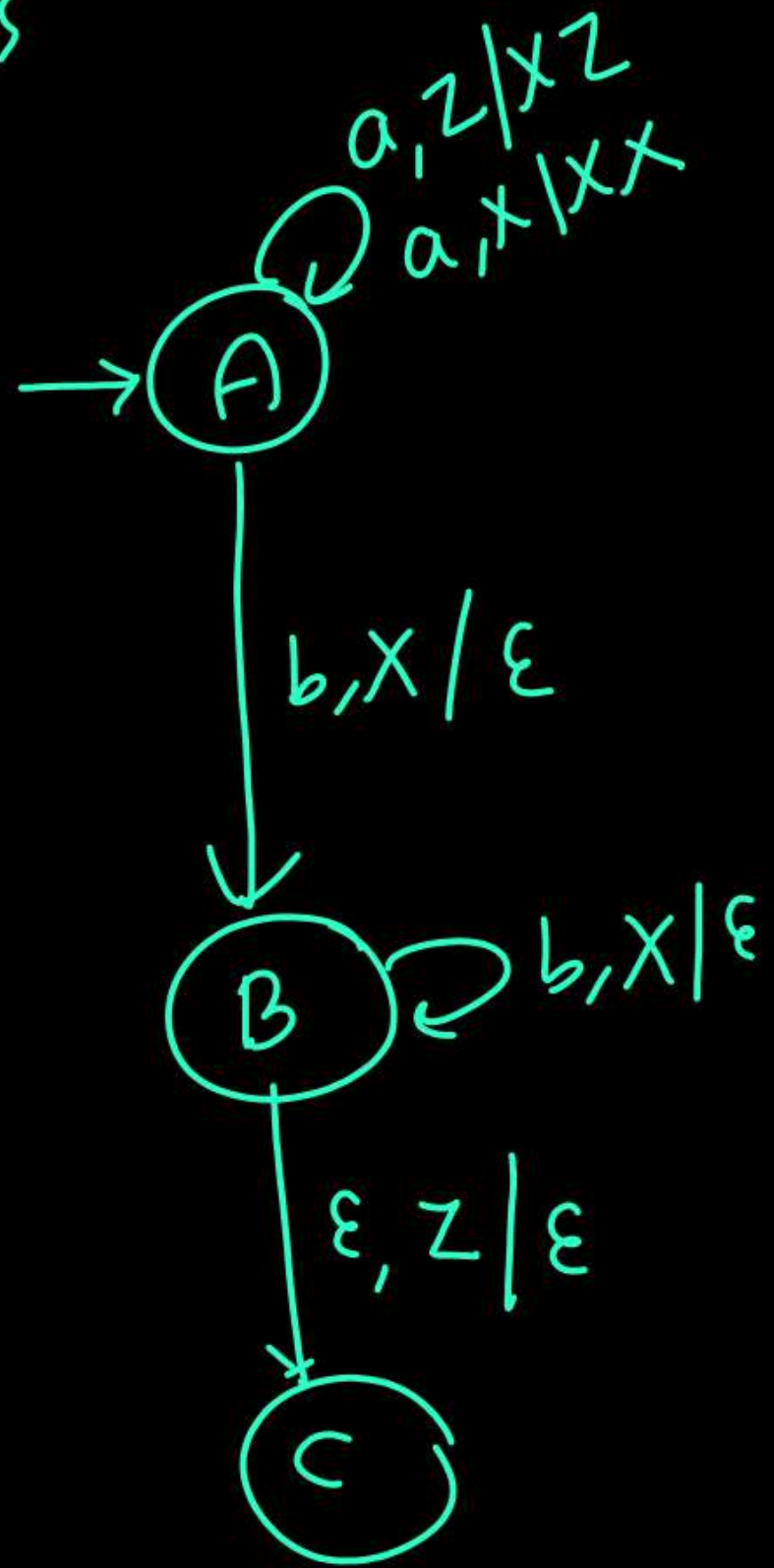
$$L = A \cup C$$

Which one of the following is TRUE?

[2016(Set-1): 2 Marks]

- A** $L = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ and is not accepted by any finite automata.
- B** $L = \{a^n \mid n \geq 0\} \cup \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ and is not accepted by any deterministic PDA.
- C** L is not accepted by any Turing machine that halts on every input.
- D** $L = \{a^n \mid n \geq 0\} \cup \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ and is deterministic context-free.

z is initial tos



If PDA uses empty stack acceptance mechanism, what is language accepted by PDA?

$$L = \left\{ a^n b^n \mid \underbrace{n > 0}_{\text{same as } n \geq 1} \right\}$$

Q

Consider the following languages:

$$L_1 = \{a^n b^m c^{n+m} : m, n \geq 1\}$$

$$L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^{2n} : n \geq 1\}$$

Which one of the following is TRUE?

[2016(Set-2): 2 Marks]

- A** Both L_1 and L_2 are context-free.
- B** L_1 is context-free while L_2 is not context-free
- C** L_2 is context-free while L_1 is not context-free
- D** Neither L_1 nor L_2 is context-free

Q.



Language L_1 is defined by the grammar: $S_1 \rightarrow aS_1b|\epsilon$
Language L_2 is defined by the grammar: $S_2 \rightarrow abS_2|\epsilon$

Consider the following statements:

P: L_1 is regular

Q: L_2 is regular

Which one of the following is TRUE?

[2016(Set-2): 1 Marks]

A

Both P and Q are true

B

P is true and Q is false

C

P is false and Q is true

D

Both P and Q are false

Q



Consider the following context-free grammar over the alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$ with S as the start symbol

$$S \rightarrow abScT \mid abcT$$

$$T \rightarrow bT \mid b$$

Which one of the following represents the language generated by the above grammar?

[2017(Set-1): 1 Marks]

- A $\{(ab)^n(cb)^n \mid n \geq 1\}$
- B $\{(ab)^n cb^{m_1} cb^{m_2} \dots cb^{m_n} \mid n, m_1, m_2, \dots, m_n \geq 1\}$
- C $\{(ab)^n (cb^m)^n \mid m, n \geq 1\}$
- D $\{(ab)^n (cb^n)^m \mid m, n \geq 1\}$

Q



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

Let $L_1 = \{a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0\}$ and

$L_2 = \{a^m b^n c^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$.

Which of the following are context-free languages?

I. $L_1 \cup L_2$

II. $L_1 \cap L_2$

[2017(Set-1): 2 Marks]

A

I only

B

II only

C

I and II

D

Neither I nor II

Q

Consider the context-free grammars over the alphabet $\{a, b, c\}$ given below. S and T are non-terminals.

$$G_1: S \rightarrow aSb \mid T, T \rightarrow cT \mid \epsilon$$

$$G_2: S \rightarrow bSa \mid T, T \rightarrow cT \mid \epsilon$$

The language $L(G_1) \cap L(G_2)$ is

[2017-Set1: 1 Mark]

- A** Finite
- B** Not finite but regular
- C** Context-free but not regular
- D** Recursive but not context-free

Q

Identify the language generated by the following grammar, where S is the start variable.

$$S \rightarrow XY$$

$$X \rightarrow aX \mid a$$

$$Y \rightarrow aYb \mid \epsilon$$

[2017(Set-2): 1 Marks]

A

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq n, n > 0\}$$

B

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m \geq n, n \geq 0\}$$

C

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m > n, n \geq 0\}$$

D

$$\{a^m b^n \mid m > n, n > 0\}$$

Q

Let L_1, L_2 be any two context-free languages and R be any regular language. Then which of the following is/are CORRECT?

- I. $L_1 \cup L_2$ is context-free
- II. \bar{L}_1 is context-free
- III. $L_1 - R$ is context-free
- IV. $L_1 \cap L_2$ is context-free

[2017(Set-2): 1 Marks]

A

I, II and IV only

B

I and III only

C

II and IV only

D

I only

Q

Consider the following languages:

$$L_1 = \{a^p \mid p \text{ is a prime number}\}$$

$$L_2 = \{a^n b^m c^{2m} \mid n \geq 0, m \geq 0\}$$

$$L_3 = \{a^n b^n c^{2n} \mid n \geq 0\}$$

$$L_4 = \{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 1\}$$

Which of the following are CORRECT?

- I. L_1 is context-free but not regular.
- II. L_2 is not context-free.
- III. L_3 is not context-free but recursive.
- IV. L_4 is deterministic context-free.

[2017(Set-2): 2 Marks]

A I, II and IV only

B II and III only

C I and IV only

D III and IV only

Q



Which one of the following languages over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ is NOT context-free?

[2019: 2 Marks]

- A $\{a^n b^i \mid i \in \{n, 3n, 5n\}, n \geq 0\}$
- B $\{w a^n w^R b^n \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, n \geq 0\}$
- C $\{w w^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$
- D $\{w a^n b^n w^R \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, n \geq 0\}$

Q

Consider the following languages:

$$L_1 = \{wxyx \mid w, x, y \in (0 + 1)^+\}$$

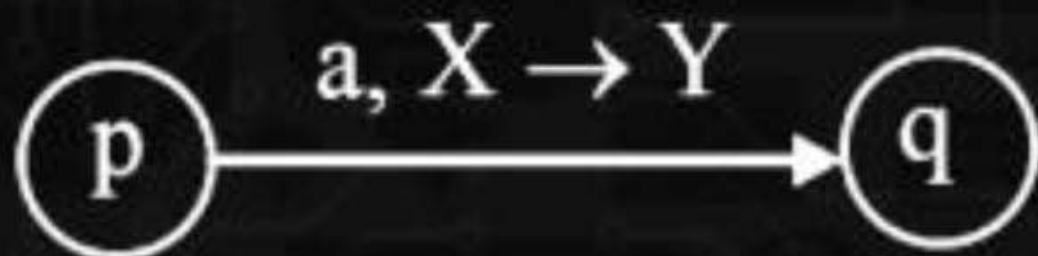
$$L_2 = \{xy \mid x, y \in (a + b)^*, |x| = |y|, x \neq y\}$$

Which of the following is TRUE

[2020: 2 Marks]

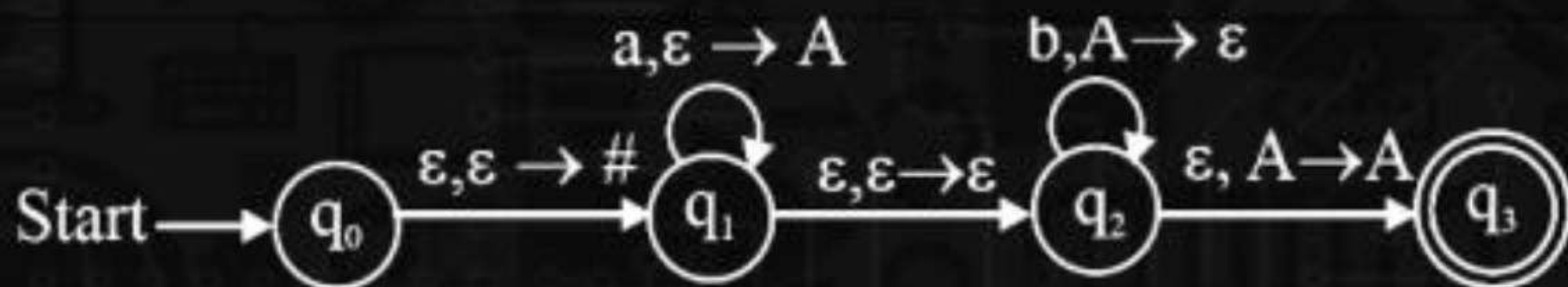
- A** L_1 is regular and L_2 is context-free.
- B** L_1 is context-free but L_2 is not context-free.
- C** Neither L_1 nor L_2 is context-free.
- D** L_1 is context-free but not regular and L_2 context-free.

In a pushdown automaton $P = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, F)$, a transition of the form,



Where $p, q, \in Q$, $a \in \Sigma \cup \{\epsilon\}$, and $X, Y \in \Gamma \cup \{\epsilon\}$ represents
 $(q, Y) \in \delta(p, a, X)$

Consider the following pushdown automaton over the input alphabet $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ and stack alphabet $\Gamma = \{\#, A\}$.



The number of strings of length 100 accepted by the above pushdown automaton is _____.

[2021(Set-1): 2 Marks]

Q

Suppose that L_1 is a regular language and L_2 is a context-free language. Which one of the following languages is NOT necessarily context-free?

[2021(Set-1): 2 Marks]

A $L_1 \cdot L_2$

B $L_1 \cup L_2$

C $L_1 - L_2$

D $L_1 \cap L_2$

Q

For a string w , we define w^R to be the reverse of w . For example, if $w = 01101$ then $w^R = 10110$. Which of the following languages is/are context-free?

[2021(Set-2): 2 Marks]

- A** $\{wxw^Rx^R \mid w, x \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$
- B** $\{wxw^R \mid w, x \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$
- C** $\{ww^Rxx^R \mid w, x \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$
- D** $\{wxx^Rw^R \mid w, x \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$

Q



Let L_1 be a regular language and L_2 be a context-free language. Which of the following languages is/are context-free?

[2021(Set-2)MSQ: 1 Marks]

- A $L_1 \cap \bar{L}_2$
- B $\overline{\bar{L}_1 \cup \bar{L}_2}$
- C $L_1 \cup (L_2 \cup \bar{L}_2)$
- D $(L_1 \cap L_2) \cup (\bar{L}_1 \cap L_2)$

Q

Consider the following languages:

$$L_1 = \{a^n w a^n \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

$$L_2 = \{w x w^R \mid w, x \in \{a, b\}^*, |w|, |x| > 0\}$$

Note that w^R is the reversal of the string w . Which of the following is/are TRUE?

[2022: MSQ: 2 Marks]

- A** L_1 and L_2 are regular.
- B** L_1 and L_2 are context-free.
- C** L_1 is regular and L_2 is context-free.
- D** L_1 and L_2 are context-free but not regular.

Q

Consider the following languages:

$$L_1 = \{ww \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*\}$$

$$L_2 = \{a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0\}$$

$$L_3 = \{a^m b^n c^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$$

Which of the following statements is/are FALSE?

[2022: 2 Marks]

- A** L_1 is not context-free but L_2 and L_3 are deterministic context-free.
- B** Neither L_1 nor L_2 is context-free.
- C** L_2 , L_3 and $L_2 \cap L_3$ all are context-free.
- D** Neither L_1 nor its complement is context-free

Summary



→ PYQs ✓

