

**Discussion Week of 3/11: Midterm Preparation**

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## 1 Regular Expressions

1. (a) Write a regex that matches binary strings divisible by 8.  
(b) Provide a *regular* grammar for the regex from part (a).

## 2 Finite State Automata

1. (a) Write the corresponding NFA for the regular expression  $(0|1)^(10|01)^+$ ;  
(b) Convert the NFA from part (a) into a DFA.

## 3 Grammar Rewriting and LL(k) Parsing

Consider the simple ambiguous grammar (which we've seen before):

$$\begin{aligned} S &: E \neg \\ E &: E + E \\ &| E * E \\ &| \text{ID} \end{aligned}$$

1. Show that the grammar is ambiguous with two different leftmost derivations of the string  $a+b*c$ ;
2. Rewrite this grammar so that it preserves the standard order of operations, is LL(1), and is unambiguous. Draw the resulting tree for the string  $a+b*c$ ;
3. Write down the equivalent unambiguous grammar that enforces both **left** associativity and correct precedence. Why can't this be achieved with an LL(1) grammar?

## 4 Earley's Algorithm

Consider the following grammar:

$$\begin{aligned}
 P &: E \rightarrow \\
 E &: ID \\
 &| \lambda ID . E \\
 &| E E
 \end{aligned}$$

1. Use it to parse the following expression with Earley's algorithm:  $\lambda ID . ID ID \rightarrow$

	$\lambda$		ID	.	ID	ID
	0	1	2	3	4	5
a						
b						
c						
d						
e						
f						
g						
h						
i						
j						

2. Is the expression in the language? Is the grammar ambiguous?