

**CS 341, Fall 2010**  
**Solutions for Midterm, eLearning Section**

1.
  - (a) True. The language  $\emptyset$  is finite, so slide 1-81 shows that it is regular. Corollary 2.32 then implies that  $\emptyset$  is also context-free.
  - (b) False. For example, let  $A$  have regular expression  $(0 \cup 1)^*$ , so it is an infinite language. Since  $A$  has a regular expression, it is a regular language by Theorem 1.54.
  - (c) True. By Corollary 1.40,  $A$  is regular since it has an NFA. Corollary 2.32 then implies that  $A$  is context-free, so it has a PDA by Theorem 2.20.
  - (d) False. The language  $A = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  is nonregular, which we can show by the pumping lemma for regular languages (choose the string  $a^p b^p c^p$  to get a contradiction). But slide 2-105 shows that  $A$  is also non-context-free.
  - (e) False. Let  $A = \{0^n 1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  and  $B$  have regular expression  $(0 \cup 1)^*$ . Then  $B$  is regular since it has a regular expression (Theorem 1.54). Also, note that  $A \subseteq B$ , but  $A$  is nonregular, as shown on slide 1-90.
  - (f) False. Homework 6, problem 2b.
  - (g) True. Since  $A$  is finite, it is regular by slide 1-81. Thus,  $\overline{A}$  is regular by Homework 2, problem 3. Also,  $B$  is regular since it has a regular expression (Theorem 1.54), so  $\overline{A} \cap B$  is regular by slide 1-28. Hence, Corollary 2.32 implies  $\overline{A} \cap B$  is context-free.
  - (h) False. The derivation  $S \Rightarrow 0$  generates the string 0, which is not in the language, so the CFG cannot be correct.
  - (i) True. Homework 5, problem 3b.
  - (j) True. Since  $A$  has a PDA, it is context-free by Theorem 2.20, so the statement then follows from Theorem 2.9.
2.
  - (a)  $1^*0(1 \cup 01^*0)^*$
  - (b)
    - $S \rightarrow Y$  is not in Chomsky normal form since unit rules are not allowed.
    - $S \rightarrow ba$  is improper since a rule cannot have more than one terminal on the RHS.
    - $X \rightarrow XS$  is improper since starting variable  $S$  cannot be on RHS of rule.
    - $X \rightarrow \varepsilon$  is improper since  $\varepsilon$  cannot be on the RHS of rule when the left side is not  $S$ .
    - $Y \rightarrow XXY$  is improper since the RHS cannot have more than two variables.
  - (c) slide 1-50.
  - (d) Homework 5, problem 3a.
3. Below is a DFA for the language  $L$ . There are other correct DFAs for  $L$ .



7. Suppose that  $A$  is a regular language. Let  $p$  be the pumping length, and consider the string  $s = a^p b^{p+1} \in A$ . Note that  $|s| = 2p + 1 \geq p$ , so the pumping lemma implies we can write  $s = xyz$  with  $xy^i z \in A$  for all  $i \geq 0$ ,  $|y| > 0$ , and  $|xy| \leq p$ . Now,  $|xy| \leq p$  implies that  $x$  and  $y$  have only  $a$ 's (together up to  $p$  in total) and  $z$  has the rest of the  $a$ 's at the beginning, followed by  $b^{p+1}$ . Hence, we can write  $x = a^j$  for some  $j \geq 0$ ,  $y = a^k$  for some  $k \geq 0$ , and  $z = a^\ell b^{p+1}$ , where  $j + k + \ell = p$  since  $xyz = s = a^p b^{p+1}$ . Also,  $|y| > 0$  implies  $k > 0$ . Now consider the string  $xyyz = a^j a^k a^k a^\ell b^{p+1} = a^{p+k} b^{p+1}$  since  $j + k + \ell = p$ . Note that  $xyyz \notin A$  since  $k \geq 1$  so the number of  $b$ 's in the string is not greater than the number of  $a$ 's. This contradicts (i), so  $A$  is not a regular language.