

Midterm Exam

CS 341-452: Foundations of Computer Science II — **Spring 2017, eLearning section**

Prof. Marvin K. Nakayama

Print family (or last) name: \_\_\_\_\_

Print given (or first) name: \_\_\_\_\_

I have read and understand all of the instructions below, and I will obey the University Policy on Academic Integrity.

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Signature and Date

- This exam has 9 pages in total, numbered 1 to 9. Make sure your exam has all the pages.
- Unless other prior arrangements have been made with the professor, the exam is to last 2.5 hours and is to be given on Saturday, March 4, 2017.
- This is a closed-book, closed-note exam. Electronic devices (e.g., calculators, cellphones, smart watches) are not allowed. If you take out an electronic device or notes during the exam, your exam will be taken away immediately and you will be reported to the Dean of Students.
- For all problems, follow these instructions:
  1. Give only your answers in the spaces provided. I will only grade what you put in the answer space, and I will take off points for any scratch work in the answer space. Use the scratch-work area or the backs of the sheets to work out your answers before filling in the answer space.
  2. DFA stands for deterministic finite automaton; NFA stands for nondeterministic finite automaton; CFG stands for context-free grammar; PDA stands for pushdown automaton. TM stands for Turing machine.
  3. For any proofs, be sure to provide a step-by-step argument, with justifications for every step. If you are asked to prove a result X, in your proof of X, you may use any other result Y without proving Y. However, make it clear what the other result Y is that you are using; e.g., write something like, “By the result that  $A^{**} = A^*$ , we know that . . . .”

| Problem | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 | 6 | 7 | Total |
|---------|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|-------|
| Points  |   |   |   |   |   |   |   |       |

1. [20 points] For each of the following, circle TRUE if the statement is correct. Otherwise, circle FALSE

- (a) TRUE FALSE — If  $M = (Q, \Sigma, \Gamma, \delta, q_0, q_{\text{accept}}, q_{\text{reject}})$  is a Turing machine and  $w \in \Sigma^*$  is a string, the TM  $M$  either accepts or rejects  $w$ .
- (b) TRUE FALSE — If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $A$  is a context-free language, then  $B$  is a context-free language.
- (c) TRUE FALSE — The class of context-free languages is closed under complementation.
- (d) TRUE FALSE — Every nonregular language is context-free.
- (e) TRUE FALSE — If  $A$  is a regular language, then  $A$  is finite.
- (f) TRUE FALSE — If  $A$  is a finite language, then  $A$  is context-free.
- (g) TRUE FALSE — If  $A \subseteq B$  and  $B$  is a regular language, then  $A$  is a regular language.
- (h) TRUE FALSE — The language  $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$  has regular expression  $a^* b^*$ .
- (i) TRUE FALSE — If  $A$  is a context-free language that is also regular, then  $A$  has a CFG in Chomsky normal form.
- (j) TRUE FALSE — If  $A$  has an NFA and  $B$  is a finite language, then  $A \cap \overline{B}$  is context-free.

2. [20 points] Give short answers to each of the following parts. **Each answer should be at most a few sentences. Be sure to define any notation that you use.**

(a) Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , and let  $A = \{ w \in \Sigma^* \mid w \text{ contains exactly three } a\text{'s, or at least one } b \}$ . Give a regular expression for  $A$ .

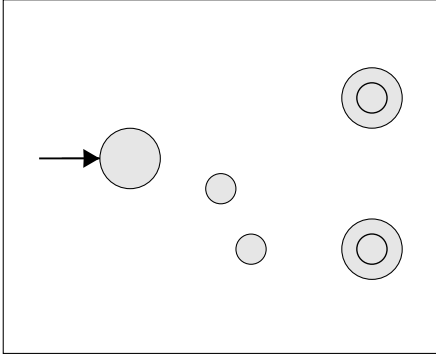
(b) Consider the following CFG  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ , with  $V = \{S, X, Y\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , start variable  $S$ , and rules  $R$  as follows:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow YX \mid ba \mid \varepsilon \\ X &\rightarrow SY \mid aY \mid \varepsilon \\ Y &\rightarrow YX \mid b \mid X \end{aligned}$$

Note that  $G$  is not in Chomsky normal form. List all of the rules in  $G$  that violate Chomsky normal form. Explain your answer.

- (c) Suppose that language  $A_1$  is recognized by NFA  $N_1$  below. Note that the transitions are not drawn in  $N_1$ . Draw a picture of an NFA for  $A_1^*$ .

$N_1$



- (d) Suppose that  $A_1$  is a language defined by a CFG  $G_1 = (V_1, \Sigma, R_1, S_1)$ , and  $A_2$  is a language defined by a CFG  $G_2 = (V_2, \Sigma, R_2, S_2)$ , where the alphabet  $\Sigma$  is the same for both languages and  $V_1 \cap V_2 = \emptyset$ . Let  $A_3 = A_1 \cup A_2$ . Give a CFG  $G_3$  for  $A_3$  in terms of  $G_1$  and  $G_2$ . You do not have to prove the correctness of your CFG  $G_3$ , but do not give just an example.

3. [10 points] Define  $\Gamma = \{\mathbf{a}, \mathbf{b}, \mathbf{c}, \dots, \mathbf{z}\}$  be the set of lower-case Roman letters. Let  $\Sigma = \Gamma \cup \{.\}$  be the alphabet of lower-case Roman letters and the dot. Define the following sets:

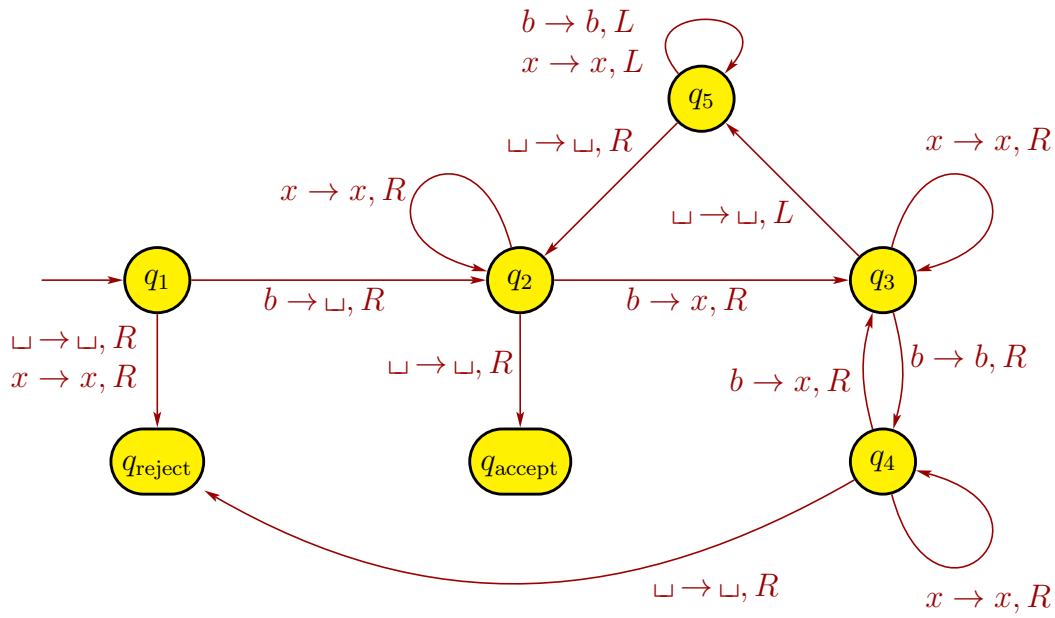
- $S_1 = \{\mathbf{www}.\}$
- $S_2 = \Gamma\Gamma^*$
- $S_3 = \{.\mathbf{com}, .\mathbf{co}.\mathbf{ca}\}$

Then we define

$$L = S_1 S_2 S_3$$

as a certain set of web addresses. Give a DFA for the language  $L$  with alphabet  $\Sigma$ . You only need to draw the graph; do not specify the DFA as a 5-tuple. You must specify *all* transitions. To simplify your drawing, you can define additional notation, e.g.,  $\Sigma_{-\ell} = \Sigma - \{\ell\}$  for any symbol  $\ell \in \Sigma$ , but be sure to explicitly define any new notation.

4. [10 points] The Turing machine  $M$  below has input alphabet  $\Sigma = \{b\}$  and tape alphabet  $\Gamma = \{b, x, \sqcup\}$ .



Give the sequence of configurations that  $M$  enters when started on the input string  $bb$ .

5. [20 points] Let  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , and consider the language  $A = \{b^{2^n}a^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ .

(a) Give a CFG  $G$  for  $A$ . Be sure to specify  $G$  as a 4-tuple  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$ .

(b) Give a PDA for  $A$ . You only need to give the drawing.

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Scratch-work area

Each of the following problems requires you to prove a result. Unless stated otherwise, in your proofs, you can apply any theorems or results that we went over in class (lectures, homeworks) without proving them, except for the result you are asked to prove in the problem. When citing a theorem or result, make sure that you give enough details so that it is clear what theorem or result you are using (e.g., say something like, “By the result that says  $A^{**} = A^*$ , we can show that . . .”)

6. [10 points]

- (a) Show by giving an example that, if  $M$  is an NFA that recognizes language  $C$ , swapping the accept and non-accept states in  $M$  does not necessarily yield a new NFA that recognizes  $\overline{C}$ . Explain your answer.

- (b) Is the class of languages recognized by NFAs closed under complements? Explain your answer.



7. [10 points] Recall the pumping lemma for regular languages:

**Theorem:** If  $L$  is a regular language, then there is a number  $p$  (pumping length) where, if  $s \in L$  with  $|s| \geq p$ , then  $s$  can be split into three pieces,  $s = xyz$ , satisfying the conditions

(i)  $xy^iz \in L$  for each  $i \geq 0$ ,

(ii)  $|y| > 0$ , and

(iii)  $|xy| \leq p$ .

Consider the language  $A = \{b^{2^n}a^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ . Prove that  $A$  is not a regular language.