

Automata, Computability and Complexity

Jean Gallier

Practice Final Exam

December 6, 2017

Problem 1 (10 pts). Let Σ be an alphabet.

(1) What is an ambiguous context-free grammar? What is an inherently ambiguous context-free language?

(2) Is the following context-free grammar ambiguous, and if so demonstrate why?

$$E \longrightarrow E + E$$

$$E \longrightarrow E * E$$

$$E \longrightarrow (E)$$

$$E \longrightarrow a.$$

Problem 2 (5pts). Given any trim DFA $D = (Q, \Sigma, \delta, q_0, F)$ accepting a language $L = L(D)$, if D is a minimal DFA, then prove that its Myhill-Nerode equivalence relation \simeq_D is equal to ρ_L .

Problem 3 (10 pts).

Consider the following DFA D_0 with start state A and final state D given by the following transition table:

| | | |
|-----|-----|-----|
| | a | b |
| A | B | A |
| B | C | A |
| C | D | A |
| D | D | A |

Reverse all the arrows of D_0 , obtaining the following NFA N (without ϵ -transitions) with start state D and final state A given by the following table:

| | a | b |
|-----|-------------|------------------|
| A | \emptyset | $\{A, B, C, D\}$ |
| B | $\{A\}$ | \emptyset |
| C | $\{B\}$ | \emptyset |
| D | $\{C, D\}$ | \emptyset |

This NFA accepts the language $\{aaa\}\{a, b\}^*$.

- (1) Use the subset construction to convert N to a DFA D (with 5 states).
- (2) Prove that D is a minimal DFA.

Problem 4 (10 pts). Given any context-free grammar $G = (V, \Sigma, P, S')$, with special starting production $S' \rightarrow S$ where S' only appears in this production, the set of characteristic strings C_G is defined by

$$C_G = \{\alpha\beta \in V^* \mid S' \xrightarrow{rm}^* \alpha B v \xrightarrow{rm} \alpha\beta v, \\ \alpha, \beta \in V^*, v \in \Sigma^*, B \rightarrow \beta \in P\}.$$

Consider the grammar G with nonterminal set $\{S, A, C\}$ and terminal set $\{a, b, c\}$ given by the following productions:

$$\begin{aligned} S' &\rightarrow S \\ S &\rightarrow AC \\ A &\rightarrow aAb \\ A &\rightarrow ab \\ C &\rightarrow c. \end{aligned}$$

Describe all *rightmost* derivations and the set C_G .

Problem 5 (20 pts).

- (i) Give a context-free grammar for the language

$$L_1 = \{a^m b^n c^p \mid n \neq p, m, n, p \geq 1\}.$$

- (ii) Prove that the language L is not regular.

Problem 6 (10 pts).

- (i) Give a context-free grammar for the language

$$L_2 = \{a^m b^n \mid n < 3m, m > 0, n \geq 0\}.$$

Problem 7 (10 pts).

Prove that if the language $L_1 = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 1\}$ is not context-free (which is indeed the case), then the language $L_2 = \{w \mid w \in \{a, b, c\}^*, \#(a) = \#(b) = \#(c)\}$ is not context-free either.

Problem 8 (10 pts). (1) Prove that the following sets are not computable ($\varphi_1, \varphi_2, \dots, \varphi_i, \dots$ is an enumeration of the partial computable functions):

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_i = \varphi_a * \varphi_b\} \\ B &= \{\langle i, j, k \rangle \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_i = \varphi_j * \varphi_k\} \\ C &= \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_i(i) = a\} \end{aligned}$$

where a and b are two fixed natural numbers.

(2) Prove that C is listable.

Problem 9 (5 pts). Define the sets K , K_0 and TOTAL. For each one, state whether it is computable, computably enumerable, or not computably enumerable.

Problem 10 (5 pts).

Let $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be a total computable function. Prove that if f is a bijection, then its inverse f^{-1} is also (total) computable.

Problem 11 (10 pts). Recall that the **Clique Problem** for undirected graphs is this: Given an undirected graph $G = (V, E)$ and an integer $K \geq 2$, is there a set C of nodes with $|C| \geq K$ such that for all $v_i, v_j \in C$, there is *some* edge $\{v_i, v_j\} \in E$? Equivalently, does G contain a complete subgraph with at least K nodes?

Give a polynomial reduction from the **Clique Problem** for undirected graphs to the **Satisfiability Problem**.

Assuming that the graph $G = (V, E)$ has n nodes and that the budget is an integer K such that $2 \leq K \leq n$, create nK boolean variables x_{ik} with intended meaning that $x_{ik} = \mathbf{T}$ if node v_i is chosen as the k th element of a clique C , with $1 \leq k \leq K$, and write clauses asserting that K nodes are chosen to belong to a clique C .