

**Harvard University  
Computer Science 121**

**Problem Set 5**

Due Tuesday, October 22, 2013 at 11:59 PM.

Submit your solutions electronically to cs121+ps5@seas.harvard.edu with “ps5 submission” in the subject line. The solutions to each part should be attached as separate PDF files, called lastname+ps5a.pdf, lastname+ps5b.pdf, and lastname+ps5c.pdf.

Late problem sets may be turned in until Friday, October 25, 2013 at 11:59 PM with a 20% penalty.

See syllabus for collaboration policy.

**PART C (Graded by Nick)**

PROBLEM 1 (15 points)

Let ROMANIAN denote the set of all grammatical sentences in Romanian over an alphabet  $\Sigma$  consisting of all words in Romanian. Let  $S$  denote the set of all Romanian sentences as defined below:

$$S = \{(\text{Pe cine})^i (\text{cui})^j \text{ ai vrut } (\text{sa rogi})^i (\text{sa spuna})^j \text{ povestea: } i, j > 0\}$$

Let  $f : \{a, b, c, d, x, y\}^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  be the following homomorphism:

$$f(w) = \begin{cases} \text{pe cine} & \text{if } w = a \\ \text{cui} & \text{if } w = b \\ \text{sa rogi} & \text{if } w = c \\ \text{sa spuna} & \text{if } w = d \\ \text{ai vrut} & \text{if } w = x \\ \text{povestea} & \text{if } w = y \end{cases}$$

(A) Given that a string “(Pe cine)<sup>i<sub>0</sub></sup> (cui)<sup>j<sub>0</sub></sup> ai vrut (sa rogi)<sup>i<sub>1</sub></sup> (sa spuna)<sup>j<sub>1</sub></sup> povestea”  $\in \Sigma^*$  is in ROMANIAN if and only if  $i_0 = i_1 > 0$  and  $j_0 = j_1 > 0$ , describe the following language  $L$  in set notation:

$$L = f^{-1}(\text{ROMANIAN} \cap ((\text{pe cine})^*(\text{cui})^* \text{ ai vrut } (\text{sa rogi})^*(\text{sa spuna})^* \text{ povestea}))$$

(B) Using  $L$ , argue that ROMANIAN is non-context-free.

(Note: For those interested, we give the translation of the sentences of  $S$  below. The top line is the Romanian, the middle line is a word for word translation, and the bottom line is the English translation.)

- (1)    (Pe cine)<sup>i</sup>    (cui)<sup>j</sup>            ai    vrut    (sa rogi)<sup>i</sup> (sa spuna)<sup>j</sup> povestea?  
         (who.ACC)<sup>i</sup> (who.DAT)<sup>j</sup> have wanted (to ask)<sup>i</sup> (to tell)<sup>j</sup>    story?  
         “Who have you wanted to ask to ask who ... to tell who...to tell who the story?”

(A)

$$f^{-1}(\text{ROMANIAN} \cap ((\text{pe cine})^*(\text{cui})^* \text{ ai vrut } (\text{sa rogi})^*(\text{sa spuna})^* \text{ povestea})) = \{a^n b^m c^n d^m : n, m > 0\}$$

(B) We prove the language  $L$  as defined above is non-context-free. The closure of context free languages under inverse-homomorphism and intersection with regular languages thus ensures the non-context-freeness of Romanian.

Let  $p$  be the pumping length associated with  $L$ . Let  $w = a^p b^p c^p d^p$ . We consider the various cases for partition  $w = uvxyz$ .

1.  $v, y$  contain only  $a$ 's: Take  $w' = uv^2xy^2z$ . Then  $w'$  has more  $a$ 's than  $c$ 's, so  $w' \notin L$ .
2.  $v$  contains only  $a$ 's and  $y$  contains only  $b$ 's; or  $v$  or  $y$  contain  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's: In this case  $w' = uv^2xy^2z$  will have more  $a$ 's and  $b$ 's than  $c$ 's and  $d$ 's, so  $w' \notin L$ .
3.  $v, y$  contain only  $b$ 's: See 1. above for  $v, y$  contain only  $a$ 's.
4.  $v$  contains only  $b$ 's and  $y$  contains only  $c$ 's; or  $v$  or  $y$  contain  $b$ 's and  $c$ 's: See 2. above, identical argument.
5.  $v, y$  contain only  $c$ 's: See 1. above for  $v, y$  contain only  $a$ 's.
6.  $v$  contains only  $c$ 's and  $y$  contains only  $d$ 's; or  $v$  or  $y$  contain  $c$ 's and  $d$ 's: See 2. above, identical argument.
7.  $v, y$  contain only  $d$ 's: See 1. above for  $v, y$  contain only  $a$ 's.

It follows that  $L$  is non-context-free, thus completing the proof.

## PROBLEM 2 (5+5 points)

Let  $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$  where  $V = \{S, V\}$ ,  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ , and  $R$  is the set of rules:

$$\begin{aligned} S &\rightarrow bSS \mid aS \mid aV \\ V &\rightarrow aVb \mid bVa \mid VV \mid \varepsilon \end{aligned}$$

(A) Transform  $G$  into an equivalent grammar  $G'$  in Chomsky normal form.

(B) Verify that the string  $abaab$  is generated by  $G'$ , using the recognition algorithm for grammars in Chomsky normal form given in class. Show the complete filled-in matrix.

(A) Add a new start symbol:

$$S' \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow bSS \mid aS \mid aV$$

$$V \rightarrow aVb \mid bVa \mid VV \mid \varepsilon$$

Eliminate  $V \rightarrow \varepsilon$ :

$$S' \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow bSS \mid aS \mid aV \mid a$$

$$V \rightarrow aVb \mid bVa \mid VV \mid ab \mid ba$$

Eliminate long rules:

$$S' \rightarrow S$$

$$S \rightarrow bW \mid aS \mid aV \mid a$$

$$V \rightarrow aX \mid bY \mid VV \mid ab \mid ba$$

$$W \rightarrow SS$$

$$X \rightarrow Vb$$

$$Y \rightarrow Va$$

Eliminate unit rules:

$$S' \rightarrow bW \mid aS \mid aV \mid a$$

$$S \rightarrow bW \mid aS \mid aV \mid a$$

$$V \rightarrow aX \mid bY \mid VV \mid ab \mid ba$$

$$W \rightarrow SS$$

$$X \rightarrow Vb$$

$$Y \rightarrow Va$$

Eliminate terminal-generating rules:

$$S' \rightarrow BW \mid AS \mid AV \mid a$$

$$S \rightarrow BW \mid AS \mid AV \mid a$$

$$V \rightarrow AX \mid BY \mid VV \mid AB \mid BA$$

$$W \rightarrow SS$$

$$X \rightarrow VB$$

$$Y \rightarrow VA$$

$$A \rightarrow a$$

$$B \rightarrow b$$

(B)

$S'$  is present in the lower left corner, so  $abaab$  is generated by  $G'$ .

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 & & a & & & & \\
 |S'SA| & & & b & & & \\
 |V & |B & | & & a & & \\
 |S'SY|V & & |S'SA| & & & a & \\
 |S'SW|S'SY|S'SW|S'SA| & & & & & b & \\
 |S'S & |V & |S'S & |V & |B & | & 
 \end{array}$$