Homework 6

- 1. (90 points) For each language below, determine whether or not the language is context-free, and justify your answer. For example, if the language is context-free, you can give a CFG or PDA for the language. If it is not context-free, you can use the pumping lemma for CFLs to prove this. You may use relationships to other languages that we have shown to be context-free or not, and you can use the results from previous parts of this problem when solving subsequent parts.
 - (a) (15 points) $A = a^n b^{(n^2)}$.
 - (b) (15 points) $B = a^n b^n c^*$.
 - (c) (15 points) $C = a^n b^n c^* a^* b^m c^m$.
 - (d) (15 points) $D = a^i b^j, i \neq j$.
 - (e) (15 points) $E = \overline{E_0}$, where $E_0 = a^n b^n c^n$, and the alphabet is $\{a, b, c\}$.
 - (f) (15 points) $F = \{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid (w = w^{\mathcal{R}}) \land (\#0(w) = \#1(w))\}$
- 2. (20 points) Based upon some of the answers to question 1 and languages that we have shown in class (and in Sipser) to be CFLs or not, you can conclude that the CFLs are neither closed under intersection nor complement. Explain.
- 3. (20 points) Consider the following attempt to show that $0^n 1^n 2^n$ is context-free.

It's easy to make a PDA check that its input is of the form $0^*1^*2^*$. Let P be such a PDA that takes the following additional actions as it reads its input (see Figure 1):

- The stack alphabet for p is $\{\$, \diamondsuit\}$. Initially, P pushes a \$ onto its stack.
- Each time P reads a 0, it pushes two \Diamond symbols onto its stack.
- Every other time that P reads a 1, it pops a \Diamond off of its stack.
- Every other time that P reads a 2, it pops another \Diamond off of its stack.
- After reading n 0's, P has pushed 2n ◊'s onto its stack. If P reaches a configuration after reading the entire input where the endmarker, \$, is on the top of the stack, then P must have popped n ◊'s off its stack while reading 1's and another n while reading 2's. This means that the string is in 0ⁿ1ⁿ2ⁿ; P pops the \$ off of the stack and accepts.

We've shown that $0^n 1^n 2^n$ is recognized by a PDA. Therefore, it is context free.

Explain what is wrong with this "proof"



Figure 1: A PDA that alledgedly accepts $0^n 1^n 2^n$

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