

Name: _____

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UNIVERSITY OF VICTORIA
EXAMINATIONS- AUGUST 2001
CSC 320 - Foundations of Computer Science
Instructor: W. Myrvold
Time: 3 hours

TO BE ANSWERED ON THE PAPER.

Instructions:

Students **MUST** count the number of pages in this examination paper before beginning to write, and report any discrepancy immediately to the invigilator.

This question paper has ten pages (the last page is blank in case you need extra space) plus the header page.

Use only space provided on exam for answering questions. Closed book. No aids permitted.

Question	Value	Mark
1	20	
2	15	
3	20	
4	15	
5	15	
6	15	
Total	100	

1. [20] For each of the following languages, indicate the most restrictive of the classes below into which it falls
- (a) finite
 - (b) regular
 - (c) context-free
 - (d) Turing-decidable
 - (e) Turing-acceptable
 - (f) None of the above.

Example:

$L = \{ a^n b^n : n \geq 0 \}$ The correct answer is (c) since L is context-free, but is not regular.

In this question, we will use " M " to denote the encoding of a Turing Machine M and " w " to denote the encoding of the string w .

_____ i) $L = \{ w w^R : w \in \{ a \}^* \}$

_____ ii) $L = \{ w w^R : w \in \{ a, b \}^* \}$

_____ iii) $\{ w w : w \in \{ a, b \}^* \}$

_____ iv) $L = (\emptyset)(a \cup b)^*$

_____ v) $\{ a^p : p \text{ is a prime number} \}$

_____ vi) $L = \{ a^n b^m c^p : n = 2p \}$

_____ vii) $L = \{ w \in \{ 0, 1 \}^* : w \text{ does not contain } 01011 \text{ as a substring} \}$

_____ viii) $L = \{ a^n b^n c^n : n \geq 0 \}$

_____ ix) $\{ \text{strings in } \{ a, b \}^* \text{ with an odd number of } a\text{'s and an even number of } b\text{'s} \}$

Question #1 (continued)

- (a) finite
- (b) regular
- (c) context-free
- (d) Turing-decidable
- (e) Turing-acceptable
- (f) None of the above.

_____ x) $\{ \text{strings in } \{ a, b \}^* \text{ with length less than } 93 \}$

_____ xi) $L = \text{the complement of } \{ a^n b^n : n \geq 0 \}$

_____ xii) $L = \{ w c w c w : w \in \{ a, b \}^* \}$

_____ xiii) $\{ "M" "w" : M \text{ is a TM, } w \text{ is an input string} \}$

_____ xiv) $\{ "M" "w" : \text{TM } M \text{ accepts input } w \}$

_____ xv) $\{ "M" "w" : \text{TM } M \text{ does not accept input } w \}$

_____ xvi) $\{ "D" "w" : D \text{ is a DFA which accepts } w \}$

_____ xvii) $\{ "M" "a" : \text{TM } M \text{ never prints an "a" when started on a blank tape} \}$

_____ xviii) $\{ "M" "a" : \text{TM } M \text{ prints the symbol } a \text{ when started on a blank tape after computing for at most one billion steps} \}$

_____ xix) $\{ "M" : M \text{ writes a nonblank symbol when started on a blank tape} \}$

_____ xx) $\{ "M" : \text{there is some string on which } M \text{ halts} \}$

2. The *difference* of two languages L_1 and L_2 , denoted $L_1 - L_2$, is defined to be $\{w : w \in L_1 \text{ and } w \text{ is not in } L_2\}$.
- (a) [6] Prove that regular languages are closed under **difference** by describing a construction for a DFA $M = (K, \Sigma, \delta, s, F)$ for $L_1 - L_2$ given DFA's $M_1 = (K_1, \Sigma, \delta_1, s_1, F_1)$ and $M_2 = (K_2, \Sigma, \delta_2, s_2, F_2)$ for L_1 and L_2 respectively. Hint: a construction similar to the ones derived for union and intersection on the assignment works.

Question #2 (continued)

Draw the transition diagrams for DFA's accepting the following two languages:

(b) [2] $L_1 = (a \cup b)^* a$	(c) [2] $L_2 = (aa \cup ab \cup ba \cup bb)^*$
Label the states q_1, q_2, \dots	Label the states r_1, r_2, \dots

(d) [5] Show the results of your construction from (a) as applied to the DFA's you have given for parts (b) and (c).

Transition function		
State	Symbol	Next state
	a	
	b	
	a	
	b	
	a	
	b	
	a	
	b	

**Transition Diagram
for this DFA**

Question #3 (continued)

Let $L_1 = \{a^{2^n} b^k a^n : n, k \geq 0\}$ (from(a)),

and let $L_2 = \{a^n b^m a^p : n, m, p \geq 0, n \neq m\}$ (from (b)).

(c) [8] What is $L_1 - L_2$? State the pumping theorem and use it to prove that this language is not context-free.

(d) [2] Argue that context-free languages are not closed under difference.

4.(a)[5] Give the machine schema for a TM C which makes a copy of an input string w defined over $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$. Starting with $\# w \#$ on the input tape, the final result should be $\# w \# w \#$. Include lots of comments.

(b) [7] Suppose you are given a TM M_1 which when started with $\#w\#$ halts with $\#Y\#$ if w is in some language L_1 and $\#N\#$ if w is not in L_1 and you also have such a machine for some other language L_2 . Give the machine schema for a machine which works like this for $L_1 - L_2$. Your schema may include the machine C you designed for (a).

(c) [3] What does part (b) tell you about closure under difference?

Question 5:

For this question, you may assume only that $K_0 = \{ \langle M \rangle \langle w \rangle : \text{TM } M \text{ halts when started on input } w \}$ has been shown not to be Turing-decidable.

(a) [5] Let $K = \{ \langle M \rangle : \text{TM } M \text{ halts when started on a blank tape} \}$. Is K Turing acceptable? Justify your answer.

(b) [5] Is K from part (a) Turing-decidable? Justify your answer.

(c) [5] Let $L_1 = \Sigma^*$ where Σ is the alphabet you are using to encode Turing machines. Define K as per part (b). What is $L_2 = L_1 - K$? What (if anything) does this tell you about closure of Turing-acceptable languages under difference?

Use this page if you need extra space. Clearly indicate the question you are answering.