

Definition. Let G be a CFG, then $L(G)$ is the language generated by G . If L is a language then L' is its complement.

8.1) Use the Pumping Lemma to show that the following languages are not a context-free.

a) $L = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i < j < k\}$

Hint: let $u = a^n b^{n+1} c^{n+2}$. If $wy = c^l$ let $m = 0$, otherwise let $m \geq 2$ ($vwxyz = u$).

c) $L = \{a^n b^{2n} c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$

Hint: let $u = a^n b^{2n} c^n$ and $m \neq 1$.

e) $L = \{a^n b^m a^n b^{n+m} \mid m, n \geq 0\}$

Hint: let $u = a^n b^n a^n b^{2n}$ and $m \neq 1$.

8.5)

a) Claim: $L = \{a^n b^m a^m b^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$ is context-free.

Proof: If G is the CFG with the following productions: $S \rightarrow aSb \mid T \mid T \rightarrow bTa \mid \Lambda$, then $L(G) = L$.

b) Claim: $L = \{xayb \mid x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |x| = |y|\}$ is context-free.

Proof: If G is the CFG with the following productions: $S \rightarrow Tb \mid TbT \rightarrow aTa \mid aTb \mid bTa \mid bTb \mid a$, then $L(G) = L$.

c) Claim: $L = \{xcx \mid x \in \{a, b\}^*\}$ is not context-free.

Hint: use the Pumping Lemma with $u = a^n b^n c a^n b^n$ and $m \neq 1$.

d) Claim: $L = \{xyx \mid x, y \in \{a, b\}^*, |x| \geq 1\}$ is context-free.

Proof: If G is the CFG with the following productions: $S \rightarrow aTa \mid bTb \mid T \rightarrow aT \mid bT \mid \Lambda$, then $L(G) = L$.

8.8)

a) $L = \{a^i b^j c^k \mid i \geq j \text{ or } i \geq k\}$ is context-free, but its complement is not.

Proof: If G is the CFG with the following productions: $S \rightarrow aS \mid aSc \mid C \mid B \mid B \rightarrow Bb \mid \Lambda$, $C \rightarrow Cc \mid D$, $D \rightarrow aDb \mid \Lambda$, then $L(G) = L$.

To show that $L' = \{a, b, c\}^* \setminus L$, the complement of L , is not context-free use Ogden's Lemma with the string $u = a^n b^{n+1} c^{n+1}$ with only the last $n + 1$ positions distinguished. Then wy doesn't contain any a 's so that setting $m = 0$ transforms u into a string in L .

8.10)

a) Claim: Let L be a CFL and F be finite. Then $L - F$ is a CFL.

Proof: F is finite, and hence regular, so that F' is regular. Hence, $L - F = L \cap F'$ is a CFL by Theorem 8.4.

b) Claim: Let L be a non CFL and F be finite. Then $L - F$ is not a CFL.

Proof: Towards a contradiction assume that L is not a CFL and F is finite, but that $L - F$ is a CFL. F is finite, and hence regular (and context-free) so $L = (L - F) \cup F$ is a CFL, since CFL's are closed under union. But this contradicts the assumption that L is not a CFL.

c) Claim: Let L be a non CFL and F be finite. Then $L \cup F$ is not a CFL.

Proof: Towards a contradiction assume that L is not a CFL and F is finite, but that $L \cup F$ is a CFL. F is finite, and hence regular, so that F' is regular. Hence, $L - F = (L \cup F) \cap F'$ is a CFL by Theorem 8.4. But this contradicts (b).