

Generally useful information.

- The notation $z = \langle x, y \rangle$ denotes some 1-1 onto pairing function with inverses $x = \langle z \rangle_1$ and $y = \langle z \rangle_2$.
- The minimization notation $\mu y [P(\dots, y, \dots)]$ means the least y (starting at 0) such that $P(\dots, y, \dots)$ is true.
- A function P is a predicate if it is a logical function that returns either **1 (true)** or **0 (false)**. Thus, $P(x)$ means P evaluates to **true** on x , but we can also take advantage of the fact that **true** is **1** and **false** is **0** in formulas like $y \times P(x)$, which would evaluate to either y (if $P(x)$) or **0** (if **not** $P(x)$).
- The tilde symbol, \sim , means the complement. Thus, set $\sim S$ is the set complement of set S , and the predicate $\sim P(x)$ is the logical complement of predicate $P(x)$.
- A set S is recursive (decidable) if S has a total recursive characteristic function χ_S , such that $x \in S \Leftrightarrow \chi_S(x)$. Note χ_S is a total predicate. Thus, it evaluates to **0 (false)**, iff $x \notin S$.
- When I say a set S is re, unless I explicitly say otherwise, you may assume any of the following equivalent characterizations:
 1. S is either empty or the range of a total recursive function (algorithm) f_S .
 2. S is the domain of a partial recursive function (one that may diverge on some input) g_S .
 3. S is the range of a partial recursive function (one that may diverge on some input) h_S .
 4. S is recognizable by a Turing Machine.
 5. S is the language generated by a phrase structured grammar.
- If I say a function g is partially computable, then there is an index g (I know that's overloading, but that's okay as long as we understand each other), such that $\varphi_g(x) = \varphi(g, x) = g(x)$. Here φ is a universal partial recursive function (an interpreter).
 Moreover, there is a primitive recursive predicate **STP**, such that
STP(g, x, t) is **1 (true)**, just in case g , started on x , halts in t or fewer steps.
STP(g, x, t) is **0 (false)**, otherwise.
 Finally, there is another primitive recursive function **VALUE**, such that
VALUE(g, x, t) is $g(x)$, whenever **STP(g, x, t)**.
VALUE(g, x, t) is defined but meaningless if \sim **STP(g, x, t)**.
- The notation $f(x) \downarrow$ means that f converges when computing with input x , but we don't care about the value produced. In effect, this just means that x is in the domain of f .
- The notation $f(x) \uparrow$ means f diverges when computing with input x . In effect, this just means that x is **not** in the domain of f .
- The **Halting Problem** for any effective computational system is the problem to determine of an arbitrary effective procedure f and input x , whether or not $f(x) \downarrow$. The set of all such pairs is a classic re non-recursive one. The set of all such $\langle f, x \rangle$ is denoted K_0 or **HALT**. A related set K is the set of all f that halt on their own indices. Thus, $K = \{ f \mid \varphi_f(f) \downarrow \}$ and $K_0 = \{ \langle f, x \rangle \mid \varphi_f(x) \downarrow \}$
- The **Uniform Halting Problem** is the problem to determine of an arbitrary effective procedure f , whether or not f is an algorithm (halts on all input). The set of all such function indices is a classic non-re one and is often called **TOTAL**. It can be described as $\{ f \mid \forall x \varphi_f(x) \downarrow \}$.

- Remember that Context Free Languages can be generated by Context Free Grammars and recognized by non-deterministic Pushdown Automata.
- Remember that Context Sensitive Grammar rules are non-length reducing, but Phrase Structured Grammars may have length-reducing rules. Also, recall that Context Sensitive Languages are generated by Context Sensitive Grammars and recognized by Linear Bounded Automata. Phrase Structured Languages are generated by Phrase Structured Grammars and recognized by Turing Machines.
- The language $\{ww \mid w \text{ is a word in some alphabet with more than one letter}\}$ is not a CFL. The language $\{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ is not a CFL. Both of these are, however, CSLs. The language $\{ww^R \mid w \text{ is a word in some alphabet with more than one letter}\}$ is a CFL, but is not **Regular**. The language $\{a^n b^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ is also a CFL, but is not **Regular**.
- The **Post Correspondence Problem (PCP)** is known to be undecidable. This problem is characterized by instances that are described by a finite alphabet, Σ , a number $n > 0$ and two n -ary sequences of non-empty words $\langle x_1, x_2, \dots, x_n \rangle$, $\langle y_1, y_2, \dots, y_n \rangle$, each in Σ^+ . The question is whether or not there exists a sequence, i_1, i_2, \dots, i_k , such that $1 \leq i_j \leq n$, $1 \leq j \leq k$, and $x_{i_1} x_{i_2} \dots x_{i_k} = y_{i_1} y_{i_2} \dots y_{i_k}$
- When I ask for a reduction of one set of indices to another, the formal rule is that you must produce a computable function that takes an index and produces another index having whatever property you require. However, I allow some laxness here. For example, you can start with a function, given its index, and constructively produce another function, knowing it will have a computable index.
- When I ask you to show one set of indices, A , is many-one reducible (or simply reducible) to another, B , denoted $A \leq_m B$, you must demonstrate a total computable function f , such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in B$. The stronger relationship that A and B are many-one equivalent, $A \equiv_m B$, requires that you show $A \leq_m B$ and $B \leq_m A$.
- The related notions of polynomial reducibility and equivalence require that the reducing function, f above, be computable in polynomial time in the size of the instance of the element being checked. The notation just replaces the m with a p , as in $A \leq_p B$ and $A \equiv_p B$.
- A decision problem A is in P if it can be solved by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.
- A decision problem A is in NP if it can be solved by a non-deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time. Alternatively, A is in NP if a proposed proof of any instance having answer yes can be verified by a deterministic Turing machine in polynomial time.
- A decision problem A is NP -complete if and only if it is in NP and, for any problem B in NP , it is the case that $B \leq_p A$.

- 4 1. Choosing from Regular (**REG**), Context Free (**CFL**) and Context Sensitive (**CSL**), categorize each of the following closure properties. No proofs are required. In each consider **R1** and **R2** to be Regular and **L1** and **L2** to be CFLs.

| Problem / Language Class | L is ? |
|--------------------------|--------|
| $L = L1 \cap L2 ?$ | |
| $L = L1 / R1$ | |
| $L = R1 / R2$ | |
| $L = R1 - L1 ?$ | |

- 4 2. Write a **Context Free Grammar** for the language
 $L = \{ a^k b^m c^n \mid k = m+n, m>0, n>0 \}$.

- 6 3. Choosing from among (**D**) **decidable**, (**U**) **undecidable**, categorize each of the following decision problems about grammars, **G**, and their associated languages, **L(G)**. No proofs are required. Note: Read \supseteq as “contains and may equal.”

| Problem / Grammar Class of G | Regular (Right Linear) | Context Free | Context Sensitive | Phrase Structured |
|-------------------------------|------------------------|--------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| $L(G) \supseteq \{\lambda\}?$ | | | | |
| $L(G)$ is infinite? | | | | |
| $L(G) = \Sigma^* ?$ | | | | |

- 6 4. Use the Pumping Lemma for context-free languages to show that $L = \{ a^n b^n c^{n^2} \mid n > 0 \}$ is not context-free. Note: This is the same language as in #4. I will give you a good head start.

We: Posit that $L = \{ a^n b^n c^{n^2} \mid n > 0 \}$ is a Context-Free Language

P.L.: Provides $N > 0$

We: Choose $a^N b^N c^{N^2}$ in L

(You can choose a string other than this, but make that clear if you do so.)

P.L.: Tells us $a^N b^N c^{N^2} = uvwxy$, $|vwx| \leq N$ and $|vx| > 0$.

Moreover, the P.L. claims that $uv^i wx^i y$ is in L , for all $i \geq 0$.

Now, you take over, analyzing the cases that are necessary to show L is not a CFL.

- 3 5. Prove that any class of languages, C , closed under union, concatenation, intersection with regular languages, homomorphism and substitution (e.g., the Context-Free Languages) is closed under **Left Quotient with Regular Sets**, where $L \in C$, R is Regular, L and R are over the alphabet Σ , and $L \setminus R = \{ y \mid \exists x \in R, \text{ such that } xy \in L \}$. (Note this differs from normal Quotient)
 You may assume substitution $f(a) = \{a, a'\}$, and homomorphisms $g(a) = a'$ and $h(a) = a, h(a') = \lambda$. Here $a \in \Sigma$ and a' is a new character associated with each such $a \in \Sigma$.
 You only need give me the definition of $L \setminus R$ in an expression that obeys CFL closure properties; you do not need to prove or even justify your expression.

$L \setminus R =$

- 5 6. Consider the following instance of the Post Correspondence Problem (**PCP**) (Look at fact sheet for definition). Our instance, **P**, is over the alphabet $\{a,b\}$ and the two vectors **X** and **Y** are each of length 3.

X = (aba, bb, a); Y = (bab, b, baa)

Using the construction shown in class, produce a context free grammar, **G**, that is ambiguous if and only if the instance **P** of PCP has a solution. That is, create your context free grammar **G** based on this instance **P**, such that some string **w** has two or more distinct parses iff **P** has a solution. As **P** has a solution, **G** is ambiguous. One such solution is **2, 3, 1, 2**. To illustrate this, show the associated string that can be derived ambiguously in your grammar **G**.

- 2 7. Fill in True/False (T/F) answers for each of the following statements:

| Statement | True/False |
|--|------------|
| Any problem that is both RE and CO-RE is Recursive | |
| The UNIV (universal) function is a PRF* | |
| The pairing function $\langle x,y \rangle$ is 1-1 onto the natural numbers | |
| PRFs* are closed under unbounded minimization | |

* **PRF = primitive recursive function**

10 8. Choosing from among **(REC) recursive/decidable**, **(RE) re non-recursive**, **(coRE) co-re non-recursive**, **(NRNC) non-re/non-co-re**, categorize each of the sets in a) through d). Justify your answer by showing some minimal quantification of some known recursive predicate.

a) $A = \{ \langle f, x \rangle \mid \text{if } \varphi_f(x) \text{ ever converges (it might not), it takes at least 10 steps to do so} \}$.

b.) $B = \{ f \mid \text{range}(\varphi_f) \text{ is empty} \}$

c.) $C = \{ \langle f, x \rangle \mid \varphi_f(x) \downarrow \text{ but takes at least 10 steps to do so} \}$

d.) $D = \{ f \mid \varphi_f \text{ diverges for some value of } x \}$

2 9. Looking back at Question 8, which of these are candidates for using Rice's Theorem to show their unsolvability? Check all for which Rice Theorem might apply.

a) _____ b) _____ c) _____ d) _____

5 10. Using the definition that S is recursively enumerable iff S is the domain of some effective procedure f_S (partial recursive function), prove that if both S and its complement $\sim S$ are recursively enumerable (using semi-decision effective procedures f_S and $f_{\sim S}$) then S is decidable. To get full credit, you must show the characteristic function for S , χ_S , in all cases. Also, be sure to discuss why your χ_S works.

$\chi_S(x) =$ _____

Justification:

11. Define $\mathbf{NAT} = \{ f \mid \mathbf{range}(f) = \mathbb{N} \}$. That is, $f \in \mathbf{NAT}$ iff f 's range includes every natural number.

4 a.) Use Rice's Theorem to prove that \mathbf{NAT} is undecidable.

4 b.) Show that $\mathbf{TOT} \leq_m \mathbf{NAT}$, where $\mathbf{TOT} = \{ f \mid \forall x \phi_f(x) \downarrow \}$.

5 12. Match concepts in the left with related descriptions in the right column (see first answer). Note: Every Concept must be aligned to a Description.

| # | Concept | Description | Concept # |
|----|-------------------------------|--|-----------|
| 1 | Problem A is in NP | The classic NP-Complete problem | 10 |
| 2 | Problem A is in co-NP | A is the problem TOTAL (set of Algorithms) | |
| 3 | Problem A is in P | A is decidable in deterministic polynomial time | |
| 4 | Problem A is non-RE/non-Co-RE | If B is in NP then $B \leq_P A$ | |
| 5 | Problem A is NP-Complete | A is in RE and, if B is in RE, then $B \leq_m A$ | |
| 6 | Problem A is RE | A is verifiable in deterministic polynomial time | |
| 7 | Problem A is Co-RE | A is in NP and if B is in NP then $B \leq_P A$ | |
| 8 | Problem A is RE-Complete | A is semi-decidable | |
| 9 | Problem A is NP-Hard | A is the complement of B and B is RE | |
| 10 | Satisfiability | A's complement is in NP | |

- 8 15. Consider the decision problem to determine if there is an **Independent Set** of vertices of size $k > 0$ in some undirected graph $G = (V, E)$. Here we always assume that $k \leq |V|$ and $|V| > 0$, for if not the answer is a resounding **NO**. An independent set, V' , is any subset of V , such that if t and u are in V' then (t, u) is not an edge in E .

Using **3-SAT** as a known **NP-Complete** Problem, show **Independent Set** is **NP-Hard**. Just showing the construct with its gadgets for the **3-SAT** expression

$(a + \sim b + c) (\sim a + b + \sim c) (a + b + c) (\sim a + b + b)$

and indicating the value of k , along with a choice of k independent vertices, is sufficient.

Complete the proof that **Independent Set** is **NP-Complete** by effectively arguing that **Independent Set** is in **NP**.