

Give context-free grammars for each of the following languages.

**1**  $\{0^{2n}1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$

**Solution:**  $S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid 00S1$ .

**2**  $\{0^m1^n \mid m \neq 2n\}$

(Hint: If  $m \neq 2n$ , then either  $m < 2n$  or  $m > 2n$ .)

### Solution:

To simplify notation, let  $\Delta(w) = \#(0, w) - 2\#(1, w)$ . Our solution follows the following logic. Let  $w$  be an arbitrary string in this language.

- Because  $\Delta(w) \neq 0$ , then either  $\Delta(w) > 0$  or  $\Delta(w) < 0$ .
- If  $\Delta(w) > 0$ , then  $w = 0^i z$  for some integer  $i > 0$  and some suffix  $z$  with  $\Delta(z) = 0$ .
- If  $\Delta(w) < 0$ , then  $w = x1^j$  for some integer  $j > 0$  and some prefix  $x$  with either  $\Delta(x) = 0$  or  $\Delta(x) = 1$ .
- Substrings with  $\Delta = 0$  is generated by the previous grammar; we need only a small tweak to generate substrings with  $\Delta = 1$ .

Here is one way to encode this case analysis as a CFG. The nonterminals  $M$  and  $L$  generate all strings where the number of 0s is More or Less than twice the number of 1s, respectively. The last nonterminal generates strings with  $\Delta = 0$  or  $\Delta = 1$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow M \mid L & \{0^m1^n \mid m \neq 2n\} \\ M \rightarrow 0M \mid 0E & \{0^m1^n \mid m > 2n\} \\ L \rightarrow L1 \mid E1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m < 2n\} \\ E \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid 0 \mid 00E1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m = 2n \text{ or } 2n + 1\} \end{array}$$

Here is a different correct solution using the same logic. We either identify a non-empty prefix of 0s or a non-empty prefix of 1s, so that the rest of the string is as “balanced” as possible. We also generate strings with  $\Delta = 1$  using a separate non-terminal.

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow AE \mid EB \mid FB & \{0^m1^n \mid m \neq 2n\} \\ A \rightarrow 0 \mid 0A & 0^+ = \{0^i \mid i \geq 1\} \\ B \rightarrow 1 \mid 1B & 1^+ = \{1^j \mid j \geq 1\} \\ E \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid 00E1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m = 2n\} \\ F \rightarrow 0E & \{0^m1^n \mid m = 2n + 1\} \end{array}$$

Alternatively, we can separately generate all strings of the form  $0^{\text{odd}}1^*$ , so that we don't have to worry about the case  $\Delta = 1$  separately.

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow D \mid M \mid L & \{0^m1^n \mid m \neq 2n\} \\ D \rightarrow 0 \mid 00D \mid D1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m \text{ is odd}\} \\ M \rightarrow 0M \mid 0E & \{0^m1^n \mid m > 2n\} \\ L \rightarrow L1 \mid E1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m < 2n \text{ and } m \text{ is even}\} \\ E \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid 00E1 & \{0^m1^n \mid m = 2n\} \end{array}$$

### Solution:

Intuitively, we can parse any string  $w \in L$  as follows. First, remove the first  $2k$  0s and the last  $k$  1s, for the largest possible value of  $k$ . The remaining string cannot be empty, and it must consist entirely of 0s, entirely of 1s, or a single 0 followed by 1s.

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow 00S1 \mid A \mid B \mid C & \{0^m 1^n \mid m \neq 2n\} \\ A \rightarrow 0 \mid 0A & 0^+ \\ B \rightarrow 1 \mid 1B & 1^+ \\ C \rightarrow 0 \mid 0B & 01^+ \end{array}$$

Lets elaborate on the above, since  $k$  is maximal,  $w = 0^{2k}w'1^k$ . If  $w'$  starts with 00, and ends with a 1, then we can increase  $k$  by one. As such,  $w'$  is either in  $0^+$  or  $1^+$ . If  $w'$  contains both 0s and 1s, then it can contain only a single 0, followed potentially by  $1^+$ . We conclude that  $w' \in 0^+ + 1^+ + 01^+$ .

**3**  $\{0,1\}^* \setminus \{0^{2n}1^n \mid n \geq 0\}$

### Solution:

This language is the union of the previous language and the complement of  $0^*1^*$ , which is  $(0+1)^*10(0+1)^*$ .

$$\begin{array}{ll} S \rightarrow T \mid X & \{0,1\}^* \setminus \{0^{2n}1^n \mid n \geq 0\} \\ T \rightarrow 00T1 \mid A \mid B \mid C & \{0^m 1^n \mid m \neq 2n\} \\ A \rightarrow 0 \mid 0A & 0^+ \\ B \rightarrow 1 \mid 1B & 1^+ \\ C \rightarrow 0 \mid 0B & 01^+ \\ X \rightarrow Z10Z & (0+1)^*10(0+1)^* \\ Z \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid 0Z \mid 1Z & (0+1)^* \end{array}$$

### Work on these later:

**4**  $\{w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid \#(0,w) = 2 \cdot \#(1,w)\}$  – Binary strings where the number of 0s is exactly twice the number of 1s.

### Solution:

$$S \rightarrow \varepsilon \mid SS \mid 00S1 \mid 0S1S0 \mid 1S00.$$

Here is a sketch of a correctness proof.

For any string  $w$ , let  $\Delta(w) = \#(0,w) - 2 \cdot \#(1,w)$ . Suppose  $w$  is a binary string such that  $\Delta(w) = 0$ . Suppose  $w$  is nonempty and has no non-empty proper prefix  $x$  such that  $\Delta(x) = 0$ . There are three possibilities to consider:

- Suppose  $\Delta(x) > 0$  for every proper prefix  $x$  of  $w$ . In this case,  $w$  must start with 00 and end with 1. Thus,  $w = 00x1$  for some string  $x \in L$ .

- Suppose  $\Delta(x) < 0$  for every proper prefix  $x$  of  $w$ . In this case,  $w$  must start with **1** and end with **00**. Let  $x$  be the shortest non-empty prefix with  $\Delta(x) = 1$ . Thus,  $w = 1X00$  for some string  $x \in L$ .
- Finally, suppose  $\Delta(x) > 0$  for some prefix  $x$  and  $\Delta(x') < 0$  for some longer proper prefix  $x'$ . Let  $x'$  be the shortest non-empty proper prefix of  $w$  with  $\Delta < 0$ . Then  $x' = 0y1$  for some substring  $y$  with  $\Delta(y) = 0$ , and thus  $w = 0y1z0$  for some strings  $y, z \in L$ .

**5**  $\{0, 1\}^* \setminus \{ww \mid w \in \{0, 1\}^*\}$ .

### Solution:

All strings of odd length are in  $L$ .

Let  $w$  be any even-length string in  $L$ , and let  $m = |w|/2$ . For some index  $i \leq m$ , we have  $w_i \neq w_{m+i}$ . Thus,  $w$  can be written as either  $x1y0z$  or  $x0y1z$  for some substrings  $x, y, z$  such that  $|x| = i - 1$ ,  $|y| = m - 1$ , and  $|z| = m - i$ . We can further decompose  $y$  into a prefix of length  $i - 1$  and a suffix of length  $m - i$ . So we can write any even-length string  $w \in L$  as either  $x1x'z'0z$  or  $x0x'z'1z$ , for some strings  $x, x', z, z'$  with  $|x| = |x'| = i - 1$  and  $|z| = |z'| = m - i$ . Said more simply, we can divide  $w$  into two odd-length strings, one with a **0** at its center, and the other with a **1** at its center.

$S \rightarrow AB \mid BA \mid A \mid B$	strings not of the form $ww$
$A \rightarrow 0 \mid \Sigma A \Sigma$	odd-length strings with <b>0</b> at center
$B \rightarrow 1 \mid \Sigma B \Sigma$	odd-length strings with <b>1</b> at center
$\Sigma \rightarrow 0 \mid 1$	single character