

## Problem Session 4

The problems below are a rough indication of the material to be covered in the session. The amount of time spent on each topic will depend on the needs of those attending. For discussion of solutions, attend the session or talk to course personnel in office hours.

1. [**Pumping lemma for CFLs**] Use the pumping lemma for CFLs to show that  $L$  is not context-free, for  $L = \{a^i b^i c^j \mid j \leq i\}$ .
2. [**Construction of a transition diagram of a TM**] Give a high-level description and transition diagram of a deterministic Turing machine that accepts the language  $L = \{a^i b^{2i} \mid i \geq 0\}$ . Demonstrate how your Turing machine works by showing the sequence of transitions taken to accept the string  $abb$ .
3. [**Construction of a high-level description of a TM**] Give an informal but detailed description of a *nondeterministic* Turing machine that on input  $cw_1cw_2c \dots cw_kdx$ , where the  $w_i$ 's and  $x$  are non-empty strings over  $\{a, b\}$  and  $k$  is any positive integer, accepts if and only if  $x = w_i$  for some  $i$ . You may use multiple tapes if you wish.

Do not draw a transition diagram; just give a written description.

4. We define the *shuffle* of two strings  $x$  and  $y$ , denoted  $x\mathcal{S}y$ , to be the set of strings formed by interleaving the symbols of  $x$  and  $y$ , any number at a time. That is,  $x\mathcal{S}y = \{x_1y_1 \dots x_my_m \mid x = x_1 \dots x_m, y = y_1 \dots y_m\}$  and for each  $i$ ,  $x_i$  and  $y_i$  are each strings of any length, zero or greater. For two languages  $L_1$  and  $L_2$ , we define  $L_1\mathcal{S}L_2 = \cup_{x \in L_1, y \in L_2} x\mathcal{S}y$ . Prove that the class of r.e. languages is closed under shuffle.