

Aalto University School of Science  
Department of Information and Computer Science  
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**T-79.1001 Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science T (4 cr)**  
**Exam Wednesday May 21st, 2014, 16:00–19:00**

Ensure that every answer sheet contains:

- Your name, degree programme, student number
- Course name “T-79.1001 Introduction to Theoretical Computer Science T” and the date “May 21, 2014”
- The total number of answer sheets submitted for grading

Use of calculators is not allowed in the exam.

**Note:** if you have not completed your computerized home assignments, your exam will not be graded.

1. Finite state automata ja regular expressions.

- (a) Show that the language  $\{w \in \{a, b\}^* \mid w \text{ starts or ends with the substring } abba\}$  is regular by describing it as a regular expression. 5p.

- (b) Show that the language

$$\{w \in \{a, b, c\}^* \mid w \text{ does not contain the substring } aa \text{ or the substring } ab\}$$

is regular by describing it as a finite state automaton. 5p.

- (c) Design the deterministic finite state automaton with the minimal number of states that accepts the language described by the regular expression  $bc(abc \cup bc)^*$ . 5p.

2. Consider the language

$$L = \{a^n(ca)^mb^{n+1} \mid m \geq 0 \text{ and } n \geq 0\}.$$

- (a) Show that  $L$  is not regular. 7p.
- (b) Design a context free grammar that produces  $L$ . 6p.
- (c) Give parse trees for the strings  $cacab$  and  $aacabbb$  in your grammar. 2p.

3. Design a pushdown automaton that decides whether the input belongs to the language

$$L = \{w \mid w \in \{a, b\}^*, w = w^R\},$$

where  $w^R$  is obtained by taking the characters in  $w$  in reverse order. Is your automaton deterministic or nondeterministic? Present the computation of your automaton with inputs  $\epsilon$ ,  $ab$ , and  $abba$ . 15p.

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4. Let  $L_1$  and  $L_2$  be languages over an alphabet  $\Sigma$ .

- (a) Show that if the language  $L_1$  is regular and  $L_2$  is context-free, then the language  $\overline{L_1}L_2 = \{xy \in \Sigma^* \mid x \notin L_1 \text{ and } y \in L_2\}$  is also context-free. 5p.
- (b) Define the notions of a recursive (“decidable”) and recursively enumerable (“semidecidable”) language. Give an example of a language that is recursively enumerable, but not recursive. (You should provide a precise definition for the language, but need not prove any of its claimed properties.) 5p.
- (c) Show that if the language  $L_1$  is recursive and  $L_2$  is recursively enumerable, then the language  $L = \overline{L_1} \cap L_2$  is recursively enumerable (where  $\overline{L_1} = \{x \in \Sigma^* \mid x \notin L_1\}$  is the complement of the language  $L_1$ ). 5p.

*Total 60p.*