

• You shall receive feedback on the problems *only if*:

1. You submit to **Ekanshdeep** by **2359 hrs on Friday, November 22, 2019**, and
2. **Submit each problem in a separate sheet** with your name on each sheet. This is essential because the TAs divide correction duties by problem.

1. Given two CFGs G_1 and G_2 , show that it is undecidable to check whether $L(G_1) \cap L(G_2) \neq \phi$ by giving a reduction from Post's Correspondence Problem (PCP).
2. Give a queue automaton which accepts the following language:

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

3. In class it was stated that PCP is undecidable. Below is a list of steps by which you can prove this theorem. Follow along and fill in the missing details:

- (a) We introduce Modified PCP as the following problem:

Given $(w_1, v_1), \dots, (w_n, v_n)$, do there exist indices i_2, \dots, i_k such that $w_1 w_{i_2} \dots w_{i_k} = v_1 v_{i_2} \dots v_{i_k}$ (note the fixed first index).

Reduce MPCP to PCP (Hint: In a given instance of MPCP, what would happen if you added a new symbol to the beginning of w_1 and v_1 and viewed it as an instance of PCP? Will this work? If not, what other similar modifications can you make on the strings?)

- (b) The next step is to reduce halting problem to MPCP. Given an instance of halting problem (M, w) , we will construct an instance of MPCP (A, B) which has a solution iff M halts on w .

- The idea is we will simulate partial computations of M on w in our strings. We begin with the initial tape (note the use of MPCP for this), and ensure that the A -string is always one step behind in computation than the B -string.
- Once the computation halts, we will allow the A -string to “catch up” and match the B -string; so the MPCP will have a solution iff M halts on w .

Hint: Let us represent turing machine configurations as uqv , $u, v \in \Sigma^*$, $q \in Q$, and separate successive configurations by $\#$ in the string. In the instance of MPCP, let $w_1 = \#$ and $v_1 = \#q_0w$. Also note that successive turing machine configurations change only near the head—the rest of the tape remains unchanged.

Please refer to *Hopcroft, Motwani, Ullman* for a complete proof of undecidability of PCP.