

## Liuyi Zhang Challenge Problem Solution

**Theorem:**  $S_{\text{Even}}$ , as defined below, generates all even strings that are not in  $L_{\text{ww}}$ .

- (1)  $S_{\text{Even}} \rightarrow XY \mid YX$
- (2)  $X \rightarrow ZXZ \mid \mathbf{0}$
- (3)  $Y \rightarrow ZYZ \mid \mathbf{1}$
- (4)  $Z \rightarrow \mathbf{0} \mid \mathbf{1}$

**Lemma 1.**  $S_{\text{Even}}$  can generate all the strings length equal to  $2n$  ( $n > 0$ ,  $n$  is integer) in the following two forms:

$$Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k \text{ and } Z^j \mathbf{1} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{0} Z^k$$

where  $j, k$  are integers,  $j \geq 0, k \geq 0$ , and  $2j+2k+2 = 2(j+k+1) = 2n$ . This follows from the grammar rules. The first form corresponds to derivations of the form:

$$S_{\text{Even}} \rightarrow XY \rightarrow ZXZY \rightarrow \dots \rightarrow Z^j X Z^j Y \xrightarrow{\text{(j uses of rule 2a)}} Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Y \xrightarrow{\text{(by rule 2b)}} Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k Y Z^k \xrightarrow{\text{(k uses of rule 3a)}} Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k Y Z^k \xrightarrow{\text{(using rule 3b)}} Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$$

The second form corresponds similarly to derivations that start with  $S_{\text{Even}} \rightarrow YX$ .

Since each  $Z$  produces either 0 or 1, we can equivalently write the two forms above by replacing  $Z^j Z^k$  with  $Z^k Z^j$  as:  $Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^k Z^j \mathbf{1} Z^k$  and  $Z^j \mathbf{1} Z^k Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^k$

**Lemma 2.** We know the grammar could only generate strings in the following format  $Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$  or  $Z^j \mathbf{1} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{0} Z^k$ .

**Proof.** With only  $X$  productions  $X \rightarrow ZXZ \mid \mathbf{0}$  we can only generate strings in the following format by repeating using the grammar. As there is no other production for  $X$ , we can conclude that  $X = Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j$

Similarly, with only  $Y$  productions  $Y \rightarrow ZYZ \mid \mathbf{1}$  we can only generate strings in the following format  $Y = Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$  by repeating using the grammar. As there is no other rule for  $Y$ , we can conclude that  $Y = Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$

Combining both parts, with grammar  $S_{\text{Even}} \rightarrow XY \mid YX$  we know that all strings produced by  $S_{\text{Even}}$  could only be the following format  $Z^j \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$  or  $Z^j \mathbf{1} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{0} Z^k$ .

**Proof:**

To prove that  $S_{\text{Even}}$  generates  $L_{\text{ww}}$ , the language of all even-length strings that are *not* composed of two matching halves, we observe that for any string  $s \in L_{\text{ww}}$  there must be some position  $i$  in the string where the value of  $s[i]$  is different from the value of  $s[|s|/2 + i]$ . We show that  $S_{\text{Even}}$

can generate all such strings, and generates no strings without a mismatch at some position. There are only two symbols in the alphabet, so these two cases cover all possibilities:  $s[i]=\mathbf{0}$  and  $s[i]=\mathbf{1}$  where  $0 \leq i < \lfloor s \rfloor / 2$ .

**Case 1.  $s[i] = \mathbf{0}$ .**

First, we show the grammar produces all of the even-length strings in  $L_{\wedge_{\text{ww}}}$  where there is some  $i$ ,  $0 \leq i < \lfloor s \rfloor / 2$ , such that  $s[i] = \mathbf{0}$  and  $s[\lfloor s \rfloor / 2 + i] = \mathbf{1}$ . All even length strings  $t$  of length  $2n$  can be divided into two equal length strings of length  $n$ :  $t = t_1 t_2$ . Since we are covering the case where  $s[i] = 0$ , and  $s[\lfloor s \rfloor / 2 + i] = 1$ , all strings have the form  $t = Z^i \mathbf{0} Z^k Z^i \mathbf{1} Z^k$  where  $n = i + k + 1$ . From the lemma,  $S_{\text{Even}}$  generates all such strings by substituting  $i$  and  $j$ .

Now, we show that the grammar does not produce any strings in  $L_{\text{ww}}$ . We prove by contradiction: if  $t$  is in  $L_{\text{ww}}$ , then  $t_1$  must equal to  $t_2$ . We know the grammar could only generate strings in the following format  $Z^i \mathbf{0} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{1} Z^k$  or  $Z^i \mathbf{1} Z^j Z^k \mathbf{0} Z^k$  (from Lemma 2). If we separate the string into two equal length strings  $t=t_1 t_2$ , we can only separate it as  $t_1 = Z^i \mathbf{0} Z^k$  and  $t_2 = Z^i \mathbf{1} Z^k$ , then, in  $t_1$ , there must be  $j$  symbols in front of the 0; same in  $t_2$ , there are  $j$  symbols in front of the 1. As there will be different alphabet appear on the same position, therefore  $t_1$  always NOT equal to  $t_2$ . Thus, we have a contradiction.

**Case 2.  $s[i] = \mathbf{1}$ .** This follows identically to case 1, except using the second form corresponding to the  $S_{\text{Even}} \rightarrow YX$  rule.