

## A Clean CFG and Proof For

$$\{w : \#_b(w) = m\#_a(w)\}$$

by

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ROB - this is part you helped me with. I state it as one lemma, but it will be part of a much bigger lemma that covers all of the cases.

$k \geq m + 1$  and  $\ell \geq m + 1$ . (THIS WAS THE HARD CASE)

**Lemma 0.1** *Let  $m \in \mathbb{N}$ . Let*

$$L = \{w : \#_b(w) = m\#_a(w) + 0\}.$$

*Let  $w \in L$ . Let  $w = w_1 \cdots w_{(m+1)n}$ . (There are  $n$   $a$ 's and  $mn$   $b$ 's.) If  $w = b^k a w' a b^\ell$  where  $k, \ell \geq k + 1$  then one of the following occurs.*

1. *There exists  $x, y \in L$  such that  $w = xy$ .*
2. *There exists  $x, y \in L$  such that*

**Proof:**

**Notation 0.2** Let  $x \in \{a, b\}^*$ .

1.  $\#_a(x)$  is the number of  $a$ 's in  $x$ .
2.  $\#_b(x)$  is the number of  $b$ 's in  $x$ .
3.  $\text{weight}(x) = \#_a(x) - \frac{\#_b(x)}{m}$ .

Note that

$$\text{weight}(b^k a) = 1 - \frac{k}{m} < 0.$$

Note that

$$\text{weight}(b^k a w') = (\#_a(w) - \#_a(ab^\ell)) - \frac{1}{m}(\#_b(w) - \#_b(ab^\ell)) = (n-1) - \frac{1}{m}(mn - \ell) = -1 + \frac{\ell}{m} > 0$$

Hence there must be a prefix of  $w$  of the form  $b^k a z'$  where the weight is  $\geq 0$ . Consider the shortest such extension. It must end in  $a$ , so let it be  $b^k a z a$ .

**Case 1**  $\text{weight}(b^kaza) = 0$ . Then let  $x = b^kaza$  and  $y$  be the rest of the string. Clearly  $x, y \in L$ .

**Case 2**  $\text{weight}(b^kaza) > 0$ . Since the last  $a$  pushed the weight from positive to negative we must have the following:

$$\text{weight}(b^k az) = -\frac{1}{m}$$

So

$$\#_a(b^k az) - \frac{\#_b(b^k az)}{m} = -\frac{1}{m}$$

$$\#_a(az) - \frac{k + \#_b(az)}{m} = -\frac{1}{m}$$

$$\#_a(az) = \frac{k - 1 + \#_b(az)}{m}$$

$$m\#_a(az) = k - 1 + \#_b(az)$$

$$\#_b(az) = m\#_a(az) + 1 - k$$

$$\#_b(b^{k-1}az) = k-1+\#_b(az) = k-1+m\#_a(az)+1-k = m\#_a(az) = m\#_a(b^{k-1}z).$$

So  $b^{k-1}az \in L$ . Hence  $w$  has a prefix of the form  $bx a$  where  $x \in L$ .

By the same reasoning,  $w$  has a suffix of the form  $ay b$  where  $y \in L$ .

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