COMPUTER SCIENCE TRIPOS Part IB – 2021 – Paper 4

4 Compiler Construction (tgg22)

(a) Show that the following grammar for the language of balanced parenthesis is ambiguous.

$$\begin{array}{ccc}
S & \to & \epsilon \\
& | & (S) \\
& | & SS
\end{array}$$

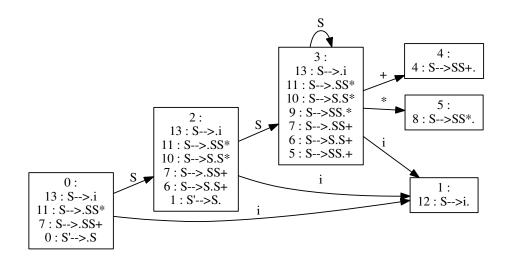
[5 marks]

(b) An arithmetic expression such as x * ((z * u) + y) can be represented without parenthesis in postfix notation as xzu * y + *. This representation is ideal for evaluation using a stack machine.

Below is a simple grammar for postfix expressions:

$$\begin{array}{ccc} S & \rightarrow & i \\ & \mid & SS+ \\ & \mid & SS* \end{array}$$

The terminal i represents the lexical class of identifiers. Here is a DFA for the LR(0) items of this grammar.



- (i) Using the DFA, construct the SLR(1) ACTION and GOTO tables for this grammar. Explain your work. [6 marks]
- (ii) Show a trace of a parsing of w = iii * i + *. Justify every step. [9 marks]