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I pledge my honor that I have abided by the Stevens Honor System.

**Problem 1:** Show that the following language is decidable by giving a high-level description of a TM that decides the language.  $\{ \langle M \rangle : M \text{ is a PDA } L(M) \text{ is an infinite language} \}$

Notes:

- Thm 4.7:  $A_{CFG}$  is a decidable language
  - Proven by decider S (from textbook)
  - S = "On input  $\langle G, w \rangle$ , where G is a CFG and w is a string:
    - 1. Convert G to an equivalent grammar in Chomsky normal form.
    - 2. List all derivations with  $2n-1$  steps, where n is the length of w; except if  $n = 0$ , then instead list all derivations with one step.
    - 3. If any of these derivations generate w, accept; if not, reject."
- Thm 4.8:  $E_{CFG}$  is a decidable language
  - Proven by decider R (from textbook)
  - R = "On input  $\langle G \rangle$ , where G is a CFG:
    - 1. Mark all terminal symbols in G.
    - 2. Repeat until no new variables get marked:
    - 3. Mark any variable A where G has a rule  $A \rightarrow U_1 U_2 \dots U_k$  and each symbol  $U_1, \dots, U_k$  has already been marked.
    - 4. If the start variable is not marked, accept; otherwise, reject."
- Thm 4.9: Every context-free language is decidable
- Thm 2.20: A language is context free if and only if some pushdown automaton recognizes it.
- Theorem 2.9: Any context-free language is generated by a context-free grammar in Chomsky normal form.
- Thm 2.34: Pumping Lemma for context-free languages
- When describing strings produced by a grammar, if there is an obvious enough pattern it can be described with a regular expression

Answer:

The following TM I decides the language described above

I = "On input  $\langle A \rangle$ , where A is a PDA:

1. Convert A into a CFG G
2. Compute G's pumping length, p
3. Construct a regular expression D that contains all strings of length p or more
4. Construct a CFG M such that  $L(M) = L(A) \cap L(D)$
5. Test  $L(M) = \emptyset$  using the decider R from Thm 4.8
  - a. If R halts and accepts, REJECT,
  - b. If R halts and rejects, ACCEPT."

I is a decider that tests to see if the intersection of the language of the PDA A and the language of the strings generated by the CFG A are the same, if they are then the PDA is accepted, if not it is rejected.

**Problem 2:** Let  $G$  be a context-free grammar that generates strings over the alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ . Show that the problem of determining if  $G$  generates a string in  $a^*$  is decidable. In other words, show that the following language is decidable:

$\{ \langle G \rangle : G \text{ is a CFG over } \{a, b\} \text{ and } a^* \cap L(G) \neq \phi \}$

Notes:

- CFLs are closed under intersection
- CFLS are closed under union, concatenation, and star operations
- Thm 4.7:  $A_{\text{CFG}}$  is a decidable language
- Thm 4.8:  $E_{\text{CFG}}$  is a decidable language

Answer:

Construct a Turing Machine  $T$  that decides the language of  $G$ .

$T =$  "On input  $\langle G \rangle$ :

1. Construct a CFG  $H$  such that  $L(H) = a^* \cap L(G)$
2. Using the decider  $R$  from  $E_{\text{CFG}}$  test  $L(H) = \phi$
3. If  $R$  halts and accepts, REJECT; if  $R$  halts and rejects, ACCEPT."

**Problem 3:** Let  $A$  be a TM-recognizable language of strings that encode TMs that are deciders. Prove that there is a decidable language which is not decided by any TM in  $A$ . (Hint: start with an enumerator for  $A$ .)

Notes:

- Regular  $\subset$  Context-free  $\subset$  Decidable  $\subset$  Turing-recognizable
- Thm 4.11:  $A_{\text{TM}}$  is undecidable
  - It is turing-recognizable but not decidable
    - TM  $U$  for recognizing  $A_{\text{TM}}$ 
      - $U =$  "On input  $\langle M, w \rangle$ , where  $M$  is a TM and  $w$  is a string:
        - 1. Simulate  $M$  on input  $w$ .
        - 2. If  $M$  ever enters its accept state, accept; if  $M$  ever enters its reject state, reject."
- Thm 3.16: Every nondeterministic Turing machine has an equivalent deterministic Turing machine
  - Corollary 3.18: A language is Turing-recognizable if and only if some nondeterministic Turing machine recognizes it
  - Corollary 3.19: A language is decidable if and only if some nondeterministic Turing machine decides it.
- Thm 3.21: A language is Turing-recognizable if and only if some enumerator enumerates it
- Thm: If  $S$  is any infinite set then no function from  $s$  to  $P(S)$ , the power set of  $S$ , is bijective, and therefore,  $|S| < |P(S)|$
- Use diagonalization to show TM constructed isn't bijective
  - Domain, all TMs and range is all decidable languages
  - Show that there is an extra language
- Print out language strings for language of TM then mark off as a pair

- Go down until all of domain is accounted for, if there is a language in the range that is not pointed to by an element in the domain reject
- Use this general idea but with diagonalization
  - Doing something to every turing machine
- Make a new language not decidable in by any TM in a it must differ from every TM in A at at least one spot
  - Diagonalization for keeping of track of all the different TMs
  - Way to construct a new language that frankenstein's all the TMs in A, this language won't be in A

Answer:

Let TM D be the TM that decides if there is a decidable language that is not decided by any TM encoded by A. It takes A as input.

D = "On input A

1. Split A into components  $\langle A_1 \rangle, \langle A_2 \rangle, \dots, \langle A_n \rangle$  such that each string in  $A_n$  for all  $n > 0$  encodes a specific decider for that language.
  - a. Ex:  $A = \{\langle A_1 \rangle, \langle A_2 \rangle, \dots, \langle A_n \rangle\}$
2. Iterate through A and using an enumerator E print out each  $A_n$  for all  $n > 0$ .
  - a. E prints out an  $A_n$ , and continue until all n pieces of A are printed
3. Once  $A_n$  is printed, construct a decider B encoded as follows
  - a. It's description differs from  $A_1$  in some way
  - b. Inductively define the  $i$ th part of Bs encoding to differ from the encoding of  $A_i$ 
    - i. Note: this makes Bs encoding a combination of all the encodings comprising A, but differ at each value of  $i$ .
4. Run  $A_n$  for  $n > 0$  on B
  - a. If any  $A_n$  halts and accepts, REJECT
  - b. If all  $A_n$  in A have rejected, ACCEPT"

**Problem 4:** Consider the problem of determining whether a TM  $M$  on input  $w$  ever attempts to move its head left when its head is on the leftmost tape cell.

- a) Formulate this problem as a decision problem for a language, and
- b) Show that the language is undecidable.

Notes:

- Thm 4.11:  $A_{TM}$  is undecidable
- Thm 5.1:  $HALT_{TM}$  is undecidable
- Reduce  $A_{TM}$  or  $HALT_{TM}$  to this problem
  - Show if you have  $A_{TM}$  to solve this language then you can use this language to solve this language
- Find some similarity between this problem and  $A_{TM}$  and since  $A_{TM}$  is undecidable this language is undecidable
- Say that there is a TM for this language and run it on the language that is being reduced, and find the contradiction

Answer:

a)  $LEFT_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle : M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } w \text{ is a string that at some point causes } M \text{ to try to move left off of the leftmost cell} \}$

b) Proof: Show that  $A_{TM} \leq LEFT_{TM}$

Assume that  $LEFT_{TM}$  is decidable and let  $K$  be a TM to decide it.

Use  $K$  to construct a TM  $S$  that decides  $A_{TM}$ .

$S =$  "On input  $\langle M, w \rangle$

1. Construct a TM  $M1$ 
  - a.  $M1 =$  "On input  $x$ 
    - i. If  $x \neq w$ , REJECT
    - ii. Run  $M(w)$ 
      1. If  $M$  accepts, REJECT
      2. Otherwise, ACCEPT
2. Run  $K(M1)$ 
  - a. If  $K(M1)$  accepts, then REJECT
  - b. If  $K(M1)$  rejects then, then ACCEPT"

This, however, creates a contradiction.

This is because  $A_{TM}$  is provably undecidable, so no decider can exist for it.

This implies, since  $A_{TM} \leq LEFT_{TM}$ ,  $LEFT_{TM}$  is also undecidable.