

1. Let $L = \{\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \mid M_1, M_2 \text{ is a TM and } |\mathcal{L}(M_1)| < |\mathcal{L}(M_2)| < \infty\}$

2. L is recognizable

3. L is not co-recognizable

WTS: L is not co-recognizable

$\implies HALT \leq_m \bar{L}$

Consider the following TM F and the reduction it computes:

$F =$ “On input $\langle M, w \rangle$:

1. Construct a TM M_1 as follows:

$M_1 =$ “On input x :

1. \triangleright empty Part1

2. run M on w

3. if $x = 0$ then accept else loop”

2. Construct a TM M_2 as follows:

$M_2 =$ “On input x :

1. \triangleright empty Part1

2. run M on w

3. if $x = 0$ or $x = 1$ then accept else loop”

3. return $\langle M_1, M_2 \rangle$ ”

We argue that $\langle M, w \rangle \in HALT \iff \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in L$

(\implies)

Suppose $\langle M, w \rangle \in HALT$

M halts on w [definition of $HALT$]

$\implies M_1$ accepts only the string 0 [description of M_1]

M_2 accepts only the strings 0 and 1 [description of M_2]

$\implies |\mathcal{L}(M_1)| < |\mathcal{L}(M_2)| < \infty$ [$\mathcal{L}(M_1) = \{0\}$ so $|\mathcal{L}(M_1)| = 1$ and $\mathcal{L}(M_2) = \{0, 1\}$ so $|\mathcal{L}(M_2)| = 2$]

$\implies \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \in L$ [definition of L]

as wanted.

(\Leftarrow)

Suppose $\langle M, w \rangle \notin HALT$

M loops on w [definition of $HALT$]

$\implies M_1$ loops on every input [description of M_1]

M_2 loops on every input [description of M_2]

$\implies |\mathcal{L}(M_1)| = |\mathcal{L}(M_2)|$ [$\mathcal{L}(M_1) = \emptyset$ so $|\mathcal{L}(M_1)| = 0$ and $\mathcal{L}(M_2) = \emptyset$ so $|\mathcal{L}(M_2)| = 0$]

$\implies \langle M_1, M_2 \rangle \notin L$ [definition of L]

as wanted.