List of decision problems

Jens Kristian Refsgaard Nielsen

5. april 2019

1 The theory

A decision problem is something that takes an input and asks a question, we wish to determine whether it is possible to make a general algorithm that can answer this question.

1.1 Reduces to, $P_1 \leq P_2$

We say a decision problem $P_1 = (I_1, Q_1)$ reduces to another problem $P_2 = (I_2, Q_2)$ iff $\exists F : I_1 \to I_2$ such that $\forall i \in I_1 : i$ is a yes instance of Q_1 iff F(i) is a yes instance of Q_2 .

1.2 Reduction theorem

Given two problems and a reduction $P_1 \leq P_2$ we get two very important results:

Decideable if P_2 is decideable then so is P_1 ,

"if you live inside something solveable, then you too are solveable"

Undecideable if P_1 is undecideable then so is P_2 ,

"if something unsolveable lives inside of you, there is no salvation in more data"

1.3 Rice theorem

- 1.3.1 Language property
- 1.3.2 Examples

2 The list

In order to decide whether something is decideable or not, it is very important to have a good list of results to use for our deductions. What follows are lists of problems handled in the lectures and exercise classes of "Beregnelighed & Logik" at Aarhus university in the spring of 2019. Each will be of the form: Name I: input Q: question Notation:

TM = set of turing machines

CFG = set of context free grammars

REG = set of regular languages

2.1 Decideable problems

 $\begin{array}{ccc} \text{I:} & & \text{Q:} & & \text{(2.1)} \\ \text{I:} & & \text{Q:} & & \text{(2.2)} \end{array}$

2.2 Undecideable problems

Halting I: T \in TM, $w \in \Sigma_T$, Q: does T halt on w? (2.3)

I: Q: (2.4)