

Consider any property of computable sets.

Define it as :

$$P : \text{collection of all computable sets} \rightarrow \{\text{True, False}\}.$$

Property P is non-trivial if it does not assign same value to all computable sets.

Rice's Theorem: For any non-trivial property P , checking if it holds given a TM M_p as input, is undecidable.

proof: Suppose $P(\emptyset) = \text{false}$.
Let $X \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$ such that $P(X) = \text{true}$.

Suppose M_q decides property P.

Define TM M_s as:

On input (P, x) , construct description
of a TM r that works as follows:

On input y, run M_p on x. If it
halts, run TM for X on y and accept
iff $y \in X$.

Run M_q on r and accept (p, x) iff

M_q accepts r .

M_5 accepts $(p, x) \iff M_q$ accepts r

$\iff P(\text{set accepted by } M_r) = \text{true}$

$\iff \text{set accepted by } M_r = \emptyset$

$\iff M_p \text{ halts on } x$

solves Halting problem

Not possible.

Reduction

Given sets $A, B \subseteq \{0,1\}^*$, we say that

reduces to A

Reduces to B if there exists a function

$\{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^*$ such that :

1) f is computable

2) $x \in A \iff f(x) \in B$.

Lemma: Suppose A reduces to B and A is undecidable. Then B is also undecidable.

Halting problem $\rightarrow P_{\text{set}} = \{v \mid P(\text{set accepted by } M_v) = \text{true}\}$.

$$(P, x) \xrightarrow{f} v$$