

Theorem A language L is decidable $\Leftrightarrow L$ is Turing-recognizable and co-Turing-recognizable.

Proof " \Rightarrow " If L is decidable $\Rightarrow L$ is Turing-recognizable. Note that if L is decidable $\Rightarrow \exists$ a Turing machine M that decides L . Build a Turing machine \tilde{M} that reverses the output of M , i.e. if M accepts a string w , then \tilde{M} rejects the same string w . If M rejects w , then \tilde{M} accepts w . \tilde{M} is therefore a decider for $\bar{L} \Rightarrow \bar{L}$ is Turing-decidable $\Rightarrow \bar{L}$ is Turing-recognizable, so L is Turing-recognizable and co-Turing-recognizable.

" \Leftarrow " If both L and \bar{L} are Turing-recognizable $\Rightarrow \exists M_1$ that recognizes L and $\exists M_2$ that recognizes \bar{L} . We use Turing machines M_1 and M_2 to build a decider M for L as follows:

$M =$ on input w , where w is a string:

1. Run both M_1 and M_2 on input w in parallel.
2. If M_1 accepts, accept; if M_2 accepts, then reject.

Running M_1 and M_2 in parallel simply means that M has two tapes, one for simulating M_1 and one for simulating M_2 .

Note that for any string w , either $w \in L$ or $w \in \bar{L}$, which means either M_1 or M_2 accepts $w \Rightarrow M$ either accepts or rejects any string. In fact, M accepts $w \Leftrightarrow w \in L$ by construction $\Rightarrow M$ is a decider for L .

$\Rightarrow L$ is Turing decidable.

(g.e.d.)

Corollary $\overline{L_{TM}}$ is not Turing-recognizable.

Proof We proved L_{TM} is Turing-recognizable. If $\overline{L_{TM}}$ were Turing-recognizable, then L_{TM} would be both Turing-recognizable and co-Turing-recognizable $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$ by the previous theorem, L_{TM} would be Turing-decidable $\Rightarrow \Leftarrow$ as we proved the contrary $\Rightarrow \overline{L_{TM}}$ is not Turing-recognizable, and we have constructed our example of a non-Turing-recognizable language.
(g.e.d.)