

# Chapter 5.3 Practice Key

Use Rice's Theorem, if possible, to prove that the following languages are undecidable.

1.  $L_1 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ accepts some input}\}$

The property P is “ $L(M)$  accepts some input”

- P is non-trivial since there is a TM that accepts some input and a TM that accepts nothing
- P is a property of the language of TM's since for any two machines  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$

$$\begin{aligned}M_1 \in L_1 &\Leftrightarrow L(M_1) = \text{accepts some input} \\&\Leftrightarrow L(M_2) = \text{accepts nothing} \\&\Leftrightarrow M_2 \in L_1\end{aligned}$$

2.  $L_2 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and accepts all even numbers}\}$

The property P is “ $L(M)$  accepts all even numbers”

- P is non-trivial since there is a TM that accepts all strings of even numbers and a TM that accepts all strings of odd numbers
- P is a property of the language of TM's since for any two machines  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$

$$\begin{aligned}M_1 \in L_2 &\Leftrightarrow L(M_1) = \text{accepts strings of even numbers} \\&\Leftrightarrow L(M_2) = \text{accepts strings of odd numbers} \\&\Leftrightarrow M_2 \in L_2\end{aligned}$$

3.  $L_3 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and accepts at least two strings of different lengths}\}$

The property P is “ $L(M)$  accepts at least two strings of different lengths”

- P is non-trivial since there is a TM that accepts strings of even length and a TM that accepts strings of odd length
- P is a property of the language of TM's since for any two machines  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_1) = L(M_2)$

$$\begin{aligned}M_1 \in L_3 &\Leftrightarrow L(M_1) = \text{accepts strings of even length} \\&\Leftrightarrow L(M_2) = \text{accepts strings of even length} \\&\Leftrightarrow M_2 \in L_3\end{aligned}$$

4.  $L_4 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and accepts when given } \langle M \rangle \text{ as an input}\}$   
 $\langle M \rangle$  given as an input is not a property P, so Rice's Theorem does not apply
5.  $L_5 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid \text{whenever } M \text{ is given two positive integers as input on its input tape it halts with their sum on its work tape}\}$   
 $M$  is given two positive integers as input on its input tape and halting with their sum on its work tape is not a property of the language of TMs, since it refers to the contents of the work tape, so Rice's Theorem does not apply
6.  $L_1 = \{\langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and accepts the string } 001\}$   
The property P is “L( $M$ ) accepts the string 001”
- P is non-trivial since there is a TM that accepts the string 001 and a TM that accepts the empty string
  - P is a property of the language of TM's since for any two machines  $M_1$  and  $M_2$  such that  $L(M_1) = L(M_1)$
- $$\begin{aligned} M_1 \in L_3 &\Leftrightarrow L(M_1) = \text{accepts the string } 001 \\ &\Leftrightarrow L(M_2) = \text{accepts the empty string} \\ &\Leftrightarrow M_2 \in L_3 \end{aligned}$$