Recursively Enumerable Sets and Degrees: A Study of Computable Functions and Computably Generated Sets

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Contents

1 Recursive Functions

1.1 Formal Definitions of Computable Functions

1.1.1 Primitive Recursive Functions

Definition 1.1. The class of primitive recursive functions is the smallest class $\mathcal{C}$ of functions closed under the following schema

1. the **successor function**, $\lambda x[x+1] \in \mathcal{C}$
2. the **constant functions**, $\lambda x_1 \ldots x_n[m] \in \mathcal{C}$, $0 \leq n, m$
3. the **identity function**, $\lambda x_1 \ldots x_n[x_i] \in \mathcal{C}$, $1 \leq i \leq n$
4. (Composition) If $g_1, \ldots, g_m, h \in \mathcal{C}$, then

$$f(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = h(g_1(x_1, \ldots, x_n), \ldots, g_m(x_1, \ldots, x_n))$$

   is in $\mathcal{C}$ where $g_1, \ldots, g_m$ are functions of n variables and h is a function of m variables

5. (Primitive Recursion) If $g, h \in \mathcal{C}$ and $n \geq 1$ then $f \in \mathcal{C}$ where

$$f(0, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = g(x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$
$$f(x_1+1, x_2, \ldots, x_n) = h(x_1, f(x_1, \ldots, x_n), x_2, \ldots, x_n)$$

Hence a function is primitve recursive if there is a **derivation**, namely a sequence $f_1, \ldots, f_k = f$ s.t. for each $f_i, i \leq k$ is either an initial function or obtained from 4 or 5.

A predicate (relation) is **primitive recursive** if its characteristic function is.

1.1.2 Diagonalization and Partial Recursive Functions

Although the primitive recursive functions include all the usual functions from elementary number theory they fail to include **all** computable functions. Each derivation of a primitive recursive function is a finite string of symbols from a fixed finite alphabet, and thus all derivations can be effectively listed. Let f_n be the function corresponding to the nth derivation in this listing. Then the function $g(x) = f_x(x) + 1$ cannot be primitive recursive.

The same argument applies to any effective set of schemata which produces only **total** functions. *Thus to obtain all computable functions we are forced to consider computable **partial** functions.*

Definition 1.2 (Kleene)**.** The class of **partial recursive** (p.r.) functions is the least class obtained by closing under schemata 1 through 5 for the primitive recursive functions and the following schemata 6. A **total recursive** function (abbreviated **recursive** function) is a partial recursive function which is total.

6. (Unbounded Search) If $\theta(x_1, \ldots, x_n, y)$ is a partial recursive function of $n + 1$ variables, and

$$\psi(x_1, \ldots, x_n) = \mu y[\theta(x_1, \ldots, x_n, y) \downarrow= 0 \\ \wedge (\forall z \leq y)[\theta(x_1, \ldots, x_n, z) \downarrow]]$$

Definition 1.3. A relation $R \subseteq \omega^n, n \geq 1$ is **recursive** (**primitive recursive**, has property P) if its characteristic function χ_R is recursive (primitive recursive) where $\chi_R(x_1 \ldots, x_n) = 1$ if and only if $(x_1, \ldots, x_n) \in R$.

1.1.3 Turing Computable Functions

A **Turing machine** M includes a two-way infinite **tape** divided into **cells**, a **reading head** which scans one cell of the tape at a time, and a finite set of internal **states** $Q = \{q_0, \ldots, q_n\}, n \geq 1$. Each cell is either blank (B) or has written on it the symbol 1. In a single step the machine may simultaneously

1. change from one state to another
2. change the scanned symbol s to another symbol $s' \in S = \{1, B\}$
3. move the reading head one cell to the right (R) or left (L)

The operation of M is controlled by a partial map $\delta : Q \times S \rightarrow Q \times S \times \{R, L\}$

The map δ viewed as a finite set of quintuples is called a **Turing program**. The **input** integer x is represented by a string of $x + 1$ consecutive 1's.

1.1.4 Exercises

Exercise 1.1.1 (Definition by cases). If $g_1(x), \ldots, g_n(x)$ are primitive recursive functions and $R_1(x), \ldots, R_n(x)$ are primitive recursive relations which are mutually exclusive and exhaustive show that f is primitive where $f(x) = g_1(x)$ if $R_1(x)$,. . .,$f(x) = g_n(x)$ if $R_n(x)$

Proof. $f(x) = \sum_{i=1}^{n} \chi_{R_i}(x) \times g_i(x)$ □

1.2 The Basic Results

Church's Thesis asserts that these functions coincide with the intuitively computable functions. We shall accept Church's Thesis and from now on shall use the terms *"partial recursive"* *"Turing computable"* and *"computable"* interchangeably

Definition 1.4. Let P_e be the Turing program with code number (Gödel number) e (also called **index** e) in this listing and let $\varphi_e^{(n)}$ be the partial fucntions of n variables computed by P_e, where φ_e abbreviates $\varphi_e^{(1)}$

Lemma 1.5 (Padding Lemma)**.** *Each partial recursive function φ_x has $\aleph_0$ indices, and furthermore for each x we can effectively find an infinite set A_x of indices for the same partial function*

Proof. For any program P_x mentioning internal states $\{q_0, \ldots, q_n\}$ add extraneous instructions $q_{n+1}Bq_{n+1}BR, q_{n+2}Bq_{n+2}, BR, \ldots$ to get new programs for the same functions □

Theorem 1.6 (Normal Form Theorem (Kleene)**.** *There exist a predicate $T(e, x, y)$ (called the **Kleene T-predicate**) and a function $U(y)$ which are recursive (indeed primitive recursive) s.t.*

$$\varphi_e(x) = U(\mu y T(e, x, y))$$

Proof. Informallz, the predicate $T(e, x, y)$ asserts that y is the code number of some Turing computation according to program P_e with input x. To see whether $T(e, x, y)$ holds we first effectively recover from e the Program P_e; then recover from y the computation $c_0, c_1, \ldots, c_n$ if y codes such a computation. Now check whether $c_0, \ldots, c_n$ is a computation according to P_e with x as the input in c_0. If so $U(y)$ simply outputs the number of 1's in the final configuration c_n. □

It follows from the Normal Form Theorem that every Turing computable partial function is partial recursive. To prove the converse one constructs Turing machines corresponding to the schemata (1) → (6).

Note by Theorem 1.6 it follows that every partial recursive function can be obtained from two primitive recursive functions by **one** application of the μ-operator

Theorem 1.7 (Enumeration Theorem)**.** *There is a p.r. function of 2 variables $\varphi_z^{(2)}(e, x)$ s.t. $\varphi_z^{(2)}(e, x) = \varphi_e(x)$. Indeed the Enumeration Theorem holds for p.r. functions of n variables*

Proof. Let $\varphi_z^{(2)}(e, x) = U(\mu y T(e, x, y))$. For $\varphi_z^{(n)}(e, x_1, \ldots, x_{n-1})$, by *s-m-n* theorem,

$$\varphi_z^{(n)}(e, \bar{x}) = \varphi_{s^2_{n-1}(z,e)}^{(n-1)}(\bar{x})$$

Thus we only need to make sure that $s^2_{n-1}(z, e) \in A_e$, which can be effectively found. $\square$

Theorem 1.8 (Parameter Theorem (s-m-n Theorem))**.** *For every $m, n \geq 1$ there exists a 1:1 recursive function s^m_n of $m + 1$ variables s.t. for all $x, y_1, y_2, \ldots, y_m$*

$$\varphi^{(n)}_{s^m_n(x,y_1,\ldots,y_m)} = \lambda z_1, \ldots, z_n(\varphi^{(m+n)}_x(y_1, \ldots, y_m, z_1, \ldots, z_n))$$

Proof. (informal). For simplicity consider the case $m = n = 1$. $\varphi^{(1)}_{s^1_1(x,y)} = \lambda z(\varphi^{(2)}_x(y, z))$ The program $P_{s^1_1(x,y)}$ on input z first obtains P_x and then applies P_x to input (y, z). Now $s = s^1_1$ is a recursive function by Church's Thesis since this is an effective procedure in x and y. If s is not already 1:1 it may be replaced by a 1:1 recursive function s' s.t. $\varphi_{s(x,y)} = \varphi_{s'(x,y)}$ by sing the padding lemma, and by defining $s'(x, y)$ in increasing order of $\langle x, y\rangle$, where $\langle x, y\rangle$ is the image of (x, y) under the pairing function $\square$

Remark. Here is an interesting question in StackExchange

The s-m-n theorem asserts that y may be treated as a fixed parameter in the program $P_{s(x,y)}$ which operate on z and furthermore that the index $s(x, y)$ of this program is effective in x and y. A simple application of the s-m-n theorem is the existence of a recursive function $f(x)$ s.t. $\varphi_{f(x)} = 2\varphi_x$. Let $\psi(x, y) = 2\varphi_x(y)$. By Church's Thesis $\psi(x, y) = \varphi^{(2)}_e(x, y)$ for some e. Let $f(x) = s^1_1(e, x)$

We let $\langle x, y\rangle$ denote the image of (x, y) under the standard pairing function $\frac{1}{2}(x^2 + 2xy + y^2 + 3x + y)$ which is a bijective recursive function from $\omega^2 \to \omega$. Let π_1 and π_2 denote the inverse functions $\pi_1(\langle x, y\rangle) = x$

For a relation $R \subseteq \omega^n$, $n > 1$, we say that R has some property P iff the set $\{\langle x_1, \ldots, x_n\rangle : R(x_1, \ldots, x_n)\}$ has property P

Definition 1.9. We write $\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y$ if $x, y, e < s$ and y is the output $\varphi_e(x)$ in $< s$ steps of the Turing machine P_e. If such a s exists we say $\varphi_{e,s}(x)$ **converges**, which we write as $\varphi_{e,s}(x) \downarrow$, and **diverges** ($\varphi_{e,s}(x) \uparrow$). Similarly, we write $\varphi_e(x) \downarrow$ if $\varphi_{e,s}(x) \downarrow$ for some s

Theorem 1.10.

1. *The set $\{\langle e, x, s\rangle : \varphi_{e,s}(x) \downarrow\}$ is recursive*
2. *The set $\{\langle e, x, y, s\rangle : \varphi_{e,s}(x) = y\}$ is recursive*

Proof. From Church's Thesis since they are all computable $\square$

1.2.1 Exercises

Exercise 1.2.1. Prove the following alternative definition of $\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y$ also satisfies Theorem 1.10 as well as the convenient properties:

$$\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y \Longrightarrow e, x, y < s$$

and

$$(\forall s)(\exists \text{ at most one } \langle e, x, y \rangle)[\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y \ \&\ \varphi_{e,s-1}(x) \uparrow]$$

and hence

$$(\forall s)(\exists \text{ at most one } \langle e, x \rangle)[x \in W_{e,s+1} - W_{e,s}]$$

Define $\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y$ by recursion on s on follows. Let $\varphi_{e,0}(x) \uparrow$ for all x. Let $\varphi_{e,s+1}(x) = y$ iff $\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y$, or $s = \langle e, x, y, t \rangle$ for some $t > 0$ and y is the output of $\varphi_e(x)$ in $\leq t$ steps of the Turing program P_e

1.3 Recursively Enumerable Sets and Unsolvable Problems

Definition 1.11.
1. A set A is **recursively enumerable** (r.e.) if A is the domain of some p.r. function
2. let the eth r.e. set be denoted by

$$W_e = \text{dom}(\varphi_e) = \{x : \varphi_e(x) \downarrow\} = \{x : (\exists y) T(e, x, y)\}$$

3. $W_{e,s} = \text{dom}(\varphi_{e,s})$

Note that $\varphi_e(x) = x$ iff $(\exists s)[\varphi_{e,s} = y]$ and $x \in W_e$ iff $(\exists s)(x \in W_{e,s})$

Definition 1.12. Let $K = \{x : \varphi_x(x) \text{ converges }\} = \{x : x \in W_x\}$

Proposition 1.13. *K is r.e.*

Proof. K is the domain of the following p.r. function

$$\psi(x) = \begin{cases} x & \text{if } \varphi_x(x) \text{ converges,} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now ψ is p.r. by Church's Thesis since $\psi(x)$ *can be computed by applying program P_x to input x and giving output x only if $\varphi(x)$ converges*. Alternatively and more formally, $K = \text{dom}(\theta)$ where $\theta(x) = \varphi_z^{(2)}(x, x)$ for $\varphi_z^{(2)}$ the p.r. function defined in the Enumeration Theorem 1.7 □

Corollary 1.14. *K is not recursive*

Proof. If K had a recursive characteristic function χ_K then the following function would be recursive

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \varphi_x(x) + 1 & \text{if } x \in K \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

However f cannot be recursive since $f \neq \varphi_x$ for any x □

Definition 1.15. $K_0 = \{\langle x, y\rangle : x \in W_y\}$

K_0 is p.r. $K_0 = \operatorname{dom} \theta_0$, where $\theta(\langle x, y\rangle) = \varphi_z^{(2)}(y, x)$

Corollary 1.16. *K_0 is not recursive*

Proof. $x \in K$ iff $\langle x, x\rangle \in K_0$ □

The **halting problem** is to decide for arbitrary x and y whether $\varphi_x(y)\downarrow$. Corollary 1.16 asserts the unsolvability of the halting problem.

Definition 1.17.
1. A is a **many-one reducible** (**m-reducible**) to B (written $A \leq_m B$) if there is a recursive function f s.t. $f(A) \subseteq B$ and $f(\bar{A}) \subseteq \bar{B}$, i.e. $x \in A$ iff $f(x) \in B$
2. A is **one-one reducible** (**1-reducible**) to B ($A \leq_1 B$) if $A \leq_m B$ by a 1:1 recursive function

The proof of corollary 1.16 established that $K \leq_1 K_0$ via the function $f(x) = \langle x, x\rangle$

Definition 1.18.
1. $A \equiv_m B$ if $A \leq_m B$ and $B \leq_m A$
2. $A \equiv_1 B$ if $A \leq_1 B$ and $B \leq_1 A$
3. $\deg_m(A) = \{B : A \equiv_m B\}$
4. $\deg_1(A) = \{B : A \equiv_1 B\}$

The equivalence classes under $\equiv_m$ and $\equiv_1$ are called the **m-degrees** and **1-degrees** respectively

Proposition 1.19. *If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recursive then A is recursive*

Proof. $\chi_A(x) = \chi_B(f(x))$ □

Theorem 1.20. $K \leq_1$ *Tot* $:= \{x : \varphi_x$ *is a total function*$\}$

Proof. Define the function

$$\psi(x,y) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in K \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

By *s-m-n* theorem, there is a 1:1 recursive function f s.t. $\varphi_{f(x)}(y) = \psi(x,y)$. Choose e s.t. $\varphi_e(x,y) = \psi(x,y)$ since ψ is p.r. and define $f(x) = s_1^1(e,x)$. Note that

$$x \in K \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} = \lambda y[1] \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} \text{ total} \Longrightarrow f(x) \in \text{Tot}$$
$$x \notin K \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} = \lambda y[\text{undefined}] \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} \text{ not total} \Longrightarrow f(x) \notin \text{Tot}$$

□

Definition 1.21. A set $A \subseteq \omega$ is an **index set** if for all x and y

$$(x \in A \wedge \varphi_x = \varphi_y) \Longrightarrow y \in A$$

Theorem 1.22. *If A is a nontrivial index set, i.e., $A \neq \emptyset, \omega$, then either $K \leq_1 A$ or $K \leq_1 \overline{A}$*

Proof. Choose e_0 s.t. $\varphi_{e_0}(y)$ is undefined for all y. If $e_0 \in \overline{A}$, then $K \leq_1 A$ as follows. Since $A \neq \emptyset$ we can choose $e_1 \in A$. Now $\varphi_{e_1} \neq \varphi_{e_0}$ because A is an index set. By *s-m-n* theorem define a 1:1 recursive function f s.t.

$$\varphi_{f(x)}(y) = \begin{cases} \varphi_{e_1}(y) & x \in K \\ \text{undefined} & x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Now

$$x \in K \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} = \varphi_{e_1} \Longrightarrow f(x) \in A$$
$$x \notin K \Longrightarrow \varphi_{f(x)} = \varphi_{e_0} \Longrightarrow f(x) \in \overline{A}$$

□

It's possible that both $K \leq_1 A$ and $K \leq_1 \overline{A}$ for an index set A, for example if $A = \text{Tot}$

Corollary 1.23 (Rice's Theorem)**.** *Let $\mathcal{C}$ be any class of partial recursive functions. Then $\{n : \varphi_n \in \mathcal{C}\}$ is recursive iff $\mathcal{C} = \emptyset$ or $\mathcal{C}$ is the set of all partial recursive functions*

Proof. $\mathcal{C}$ is an index set and hence is trivial. □

Definition 1.24.

$$K_1 = \{x : W_x \neq \emptyset\}$$
$$\text{Fin} = \{x : W_x \text{ is finite}\}$$
$$\text{Inf} = \omega - \text{Fin} = \{x : W_x \text{ is infinite}\}$$
$$\text{Tot} = \{x : \varphi_x \text{ is total}\} = \{x : W_x = \omega\}$$
$$\text{Con} = \{x : \varphi_x \text{ is total and constant}\}$$
$$\text{Cof} = \{x : W_x \text{ is cofinite}\}$$
$$\text{Rec} = \{x : W_x \text{ is recursive}\}$$
$$\text{Ext} = \{x : \varphi_x \text{ is extendible to a total recursive function}\}$$

Definition 1.25. An r.e. set A is **1-complete** if $W_e \leq_1 A$ for every r.e. set W_e

K_0 is 1-complete because $x \in W_e$ iff $\langle x, e \rangle \in K_0$

Definition 1.26. Let A **join** B written $A \oplus B$ be

$$\{2x : x \in A\} \cup \{2x + 1 : x \in B\}$$

1.3.1 Exercises

Exercise 1.3.1. 1. $A \leq_m A \oplus B$ and $B \leq_m A \oplus B$
2. if $A \leq_m C$ and $B \leq_m C$ then $A \oplus B \leq_m C$

Proof. 1.
2. Easy

□

Exercise 1.3.2. $K \equiv_1 K_0 \equiv_1 K_1$

Proof. $K \leq_1 A$ for $A = K_1$, con or Inf.
$K_0 \leq K$ for the same reason.
For $K \leq K_1$

$$\varphi_{f(x)}(y) = \begin{cases} x & x \in K \\ \text{undefined} & x \notin K \end{cases}$$

For $K_0 \leq_1 K$, the same (find a x s.t. $x \in W_x$)
Also note that K and K_1 are 1-complete □

Exercise 1.3.3. Prove directly (without Rice's theorem) that $K \leq_1$ Fin

Proof. Let

$$\varphi_{f(x)}(s) = \begin{cases} 0 & x \notin K_s \\ \text{undefined} & x \in K_s \end{cases}$$

where $K_s = W_{e,s}$ for some e s.t. $K = W_e$. If $x \in K$, then $\mathrm{dom}(\varphi_{f(x)})$ is finite □

Exercise 1.3.4. For any x show that $\overline{K} \leq_1 \{y : \varphi_x = \varphi_y\}$ and $\overline{K} \leq_1 \{y : W_x = W_y\}$

Proof. Use the method of exercise 1.3.3. If $x \notin W_x$, then $\mathrm{dom}(\varphi_{f(x)}) = \omega$. □

Exercise 1.3.5. $\mathrm{Ext} \neq \omega$

Proof. Use K. If $\psi(x)$ can be extended to a recursive function, then K would be recursive. □

Exercise 1.3.6.
1. Disjoints sets A and B are **recursively inseparable** if there is no recursive set C s.t. $A \subseteq C$ and $C \cap B = \emptyset$. Show that there exists disjoint r.e. sets which are recursively inseparable.
2. Give an alternative proof that $\mathrm{Ext} \neq \omega$
3. For A and B as in part 1, prove that $K \equiv_1 A$ and $K \equiv_1 B$

Proof.
1. Consider $A = \{x : \varphi_x(0) = 0\}$ and $B = \{x : \varphi_x(0) = 1\}$.
2. corollary from 1.
3.

□

Exercise 1.3.7. A set A is **cylinder** if $(\forall B)[B \leq_m A \Longrightarrow B \leq_1 A]$
1. Show that any index set is a cylinder
2. Show that any set of the form $A \times \omega$ is a cylinder
3. Show that A is a cylinder iff $A \equiv_1 B \times \omega$ for some set B

Proof.
1. If different $x, y \in B$ and $f(x) = f(y)$, we could just add redundent computation and $\varphi_{f(x)} = \varphi_{f(y)}$
2. to make sure images are different by ω
3.

□

Exercise 1.3.8. Show that the partial recursive functions are not closed under μ, i.e., there is a p.r. function ψ s.t. $\lambda x[\mu y[\psi(x,y) = 0]]$ is not p.r.

Proof. $\psi(x,y) = 0$ if $y = 1$ or $y = 0$ and $\varphi_x(x)\downarrow$. □

Exercise 1.3.9. If A is recursive and $B, \overline{B}$ are each $\neq \emptyset$, then $A \leq_m B$

Proof. choose elements $b \in B$ and $b' \in \overline{B}$. Then

$$\psi_{f(x)}(s) = \begin{cases} b & x \in A \\ b' & x \notin A \end{cases}$$

□

Exercise 1.3.10. Prove that Inf $\equiv_1$ Tot $\equiv_1$ Con

Proof. Tot $\equiv_1$ Con is obvious. For Inf $\leq_1$ Con, define

$$\psi(e, x) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } (\exists y > x)[\varphi_e(y)\downarrow] \\ \uparrow & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

□

Exercise 1.3.11. Fin $\leq_1$ Cof

Proof.

$$\varphi_{f(e)}(s) = \begin{cases} \uparrow & \text{if } W_{e,s+1} - W_{e,s} \neq \emptyset \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

□

1.4 Recursive Permutation and Myhill's Isomorphism Theorem

Definition 1.27.
1. A **recursive permutation** is a 1:1, recursive function from ω to ω
2. A property of set is **recursively invariant** if it's invariant under all recursive permutation

Examples:
1. A is r.e. ($A \leq_1$ im(A))
2. A has cardinality n
3. A is recursive

Properties that not recursively invariant:
1. $2 \in A$
2. A contains the even integers
3. A is an index set

Definition 1.28. A is **recursively isomorphic** to B (written $A \equiv B$) if there is a recursive permutation p s.t. $p(A) = B$

Definition 1.29. The equivalence classes under $\equiv$ are called **recursive isomorphism types**

Theorem 1.30 (Myhill Isomorphism Theorem)**.** $A \equiv B \iff A \equiv_1 B$

Proof. ($\Longrightarrow$) trivial.

($\Longleftarrow$) Let $A \leq_1 B$ via f and $B \leq_1 A$ via g. We define a recursive permutation h by stages so that $h(A) = B$. We let $h = \bigcup_s h_s$, where $h_0 = \emptyset$ and h_s is that portion of h defined by the end of stage s. Assume h_s is given so that in particular we can effectively check for membership in $\operatorname{dom} h_s$ and $\operatorname{ran}(h_s)$ which we both assume finite

Stage $s + 1 = 2x + 1$. Assume that h_s is $1:1$, $\operatorname{dom} h_s$ is finite and $y \in A$ iff $h_s(y) \in B$ for all $y \in \operatorname{dom} h_s$.If $h_s(x)$ is defined, do nothing. Otherwise enumerate the set $\{f(x), f(h_s^{-1} f(x)), \ldots, f(h_s^{-1} f)^n(x), \ldots\}$ until the fist element y not yet in $\operatorname{ran}(h_s)$. Define $h_{s+1}(x) = y$. y must exist since f and h_s are $1:1$ and $x \notin \operatorname{dom} h_s$

Stage $s + 1 = 2x + 2$. Define $h^{-1}(x)$ similarly with f, h_s, dom and ran replaced by g, h_s^{-1}, ran, dom respectively ☐

Definition 1.31. A function f **dominates** a function g if $f(x) \geq g(x)$ for almost every (all but finitely many) $x \in \omega$

1.4.1 Exercises

Exercise 1.4.1 ($\times$). Prove that the primitive recursive permutations do not form a group under composition

Proof. Define $g(x) = \mu y T(e, x, y)$. g dominates all primitive recursive functions since $y \geq U(y)$ for all y. Suppose f is a primitive recursive permutation and $f(g(x)) = x$ if x is even. Note that given y we can primitively recursively compute whether there is an x s.t. $g(x) = y$ ☐

Exercise 1.4.2. Let $\omega = \bigcup_n A_n = \bigcup_n B_n$ where the sequences $\{A_n\}_{n\in\omega}$ and $\{B_n\}_{n\in\omega}$ are each pairwise disjoint. Let f and g be 1:1 recursive functions s.t. $f(A_n) \subseteq B_n$ and $g(B_n) \subseteq A_n$ for all n. Show that the construction of Theorem 1.30 produces a recursive permutation h s.t. $h(A_n) = B_n$ for all n

Proof. stage $s + 1 = 2x + 1$: assume h_s is 1:1, $\operatorname{dom} h_s$ is finite. Hence there is $a \in \omega$ not in $\operatorname{dom} h_s$. Then by... ☐

Exercise 1.4.3 (Rogers). Let $\mathcal{P}$ be the class of partial recursive functions of one variable. A **numbering** of the p.r. function is a map π from ω onto $\mathcal{P}$. The numbering $\{\varphi_e\}_{e\in\omega}$ is called the **standard numbering**. Let $\hat{\pi}$ be another numbering and let ψ_e denote $\hat{\pi}(e)$. Then $\hat{\pi}$ is an **acceptable** numbering if there are recursive functions f and g s.t.

1. $\varphi_{f(x)} = \psi_x$
2. $\psi_{g(x)} = \varphi_x$

Show that for any acceptable numbering $\hat{\pi}$, there is a recursive permutation p of ω s.t. $\varphi_x = \psi_{p(x)}$ for all x

Proof. Define $e_1 \sim e_2$ if φ_{e_1} and φ_{e_2} computes the same p.r. function. Then we get an enumeration $([e_i])_{i\in\omega} = A/\sim$. Define $A_i = [e_i]$. Obviously $f(A_i) \subseteq B_i$ and vice versa

By exercise 1.4.2 with appropriate definitions of A_n and B_n it suffices to convert f and g to a 1:1 recursive functions f_1 and g_1 satisfying (1) and (2).

To define f_1 from f use the Padding Lemma 1.5. To define $g_1(x)$ we must be able (uniformly in x) to effectively generate an infinite set S_x of indices s.t. for each $y \in S_x$ $\psi_y = \psi_{g(x)}$. Take any two recursively inseparable r.e. sets A and B, such as those of Exercise 1.3.6, and define

$$\varphi_{k(x,y)}(z) = \begin{cases} \varphi_x(z) & y \in A \\ 0 & y \in B \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

and similarly $\varphi_{l(x,y)}$ with 1 in place of 0. Let $C_x = \{k(x,y) : y \in A\}$ and $D_x = \{l(x,y) : y \in A\}$. If $\varphi_x \neq \lambda z[0]$, then $g(C_x)$ cannot be finite or else A and B are recursively separable. Hence $S_x = g(C_x) \cup g(D_x)$ is infinite. Note we do not have to know this in order to see that S_x is infinite $\square$

2 Fundamentals of Recursively Enumerable Sets and the Recursion Theorem

2.1 Equivalent Definitions of Recursively Enumerable Sets

Definition 2.1.
1. A set A is a **projection** of some relation $R \subseteq \omega \times \omega$ if $A = \{x : (\exists y)R(x,y)\}$
2. A set A is in Σ_1**-form** (abbreviated "A is Σ_1") if A is the projection of some recursive relation $R \subseteq \omega \times \omega$.

Theorem 2.2 (Normal Form Theorem for r.e. sets)**.** *A set A is r.e. iff A is Σ_1*

Proof. If A is r.e., then $A = W_e$ for some e. Hence

$$x \in W_e \Leftrightarrow (\exists s)[x \in W_{e,s}] \Leftrightarrow (\exists s)T(e, x, s)$$

and $T(e, x, s)$ is primitive recursive

Let $A = \{x : (\exists y)R(x, y)\}$, where R is recursive. Then $A = \operatorname{dom} \psi$, where $\psi(x) = (\mu y)R(x, y)$ □

Theorem 2.3 (Quantifier Contraction Theorem)**.** *If there is a recursive relation*

$$R \subseteq \omega^{n+1}$$

and

$$A = \{x : (\exists y_1) \ldots (\exists y_n)R(x, y_1, \ldots, y_n)\}$$

then A is Σ_1

Proof. Define the recursive relation $S \subseteq \omega^2$ by

$$S(x, z) \Leftrightarrow R(x, (z)_1, \ldots, (z)_n)$$

where $z = p_1^{(z)_1} \ldots p_k^{(z)_k}$ □

Corollary 2.4. *The projection of an r.e. relation is r.e.*

Definition 2.5. The **graph** of a (partial) function ψ is the relation

$$(x, y) \in \operatorname{graph} \psi \Leftrightarrow \psi(x) = y$$

Using Theorem 1.10 the following sets and relations are r.e.:

1. $K = \{e : e \in W_e\} = \{e : (\exists s, y)[\varphi_{e,s}(e) = y]\}$
2. $K_0 = \{\langle x, e\rangle : x \in W_e\} = \{\langle x, e\rangle : (\exists s, y)[\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y]\}$
3. $K_1 = \{e : W_e \neq 0\} = \{e : (\exists s, x)[x \in W_{e,s}]\}$
4. $\operatorname{im} \varphi_e = \{y : (\exists s, x)[\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y]\}$
5. $\operatorname{graph} \varphi_e = \{(x, y) : (\exists s)[\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y]\}$

Theorem 2.6 (Uniformization Theorem)**.** *If $R \subseteq \omega^2$ is an r.e. relation, then there is a p.r. function ψ (called a **selector function** for R) s.t.*

$$\psi(x) \downarrow \Leftrightarrow (\exists y)R(x, y)$$

and in this case $(x, \psi(x)) \in R$

Proof. Since$R$ is r.e. and hence Σ_1, there is a recursive relation S s.t. $R(x, y)$ holds iff $(\exists z)S(x, y, z)$. Define the p.r. function

$$\theta(x) = (\mu u)S(x, (u)_1, (u)_2)$$

and set $\psi(x) = (\theta(x))_1$ □

Theorem 2.7 (Graph Theorem)**.** *A partial function ψ is partial recursive iff its graph is r.e.*

Proof. If the graph of ψ is r.e., then ψ is its own selector function.

If ψ is p.r., there is e s.t. $\varphi_e = \psi$ □

Theorem 2.8 (Listing Theorem)**.** *A set A is r.e. iff $A = \emptyset$ or A is the range of a total recursive function.. Furthermore, f can be found uniformly in an index for A as explained in Exercise 2.1.10*

Proof. Let $A = W_e \neq \emptyset$. Find the least integer $\langle a, t\rangle$ s.t $a \in W_{e,t}$. Define the recursive function f by

$$f(\langle s, t\rangle) = \begin{cases} x & x \in W_{e,s+1} - W_{e,s} \\ a & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Clearly $A = \operatorname{im} f$.

If A is the range of a total recursive function, A is Σ_1 □

Theorem 2.9 (Union Theorem)**.** *The r.e. sets are closed under union and intersection uniformly effectively, namely there are recursive functions f and g s.t. $W_{f(x,y)} = W_x \cup W_y$, and $W_{g(x,y)} = X_x \cap W_y$*

Proof. Using the *s-m-n* Theorem define $f(x, y)$ by enumerating $z \in W_{f(x,y)}$ if $(\exists s)[z \in W_{x,s} \cup W_{y,s}]$ □

Corollary 2.10 (Reduction Principle for r.e. sets)**.** *Given any two r.e. sets A and B, there exist r.e. sets $A_1 \subseteq A$ and $B_1 \subseteq B$ s.t. $A_1 \cap B_1 = \emptyset$ and $A_1 \cup B_1 = A \cup B$*

Proof. Define the relation $R := A \times \{0\} \cup B \times 1$ which is r.e. by Theorem 2.9. By the Uniformization Theorem 2.6, let ψ be the p.r. selector function for R. Let $A_1 = x : \psi(x) = 0$ and $B_1 = x : \psi(x) = 1$ □

Definition 2.11. A set A is in Δ_1**-form** (abbreviated "A is Δ_1") if both A and $\bar{A}$ is Σ_1.

Theorem 2.12 (Complementation Theorem)**.** *A set A is recursive iff both A and $\bar{A}$ are r.e. (i.e., iff $A \in \Delta_1$)*

Proof. Let $A = W_e$, $\bar{A} = W_i$. Define the recursive function

$$f(x) = (\mu s)[x \in W_{e,s} \vee x \in W_{i,s}]$$

Then $x \in A$ iff $x \in W_{e,f(x)}$, so A is recursive □

Corollary 2.13. *$\bar{K}$ is not r.e.*

Definition 2.14.
1. A **lattice** $\mathcal{L} = (L; \leq, \vee, \wedge)$ is a partially ordered set (poset) in which any two elements have a least upper bound and greatest lower bound. If a and b are elements of a lattice $\mathcal{L}$, $a \vee b$ denote the least upper bound (lub) of a and b, $a \wedge b$ the greatest lower bound (glb). If $\mathcal{L}$ contains a least element and greatest element these are called the **zero** element and **unit** element 1. In such a lattice a is the **complement** of b if $a \vee b = 1$
2. A lattice is **distributive** if all its elements satisfy the distributive laws $(a \vee b) \wedge c = (a \wedge c) \vee (b \wedge c)$ and $(a \wedge b) \vee c = (a \vee c) \wedge (b \vee c)$
3. A lattice is **complemented** if every element has a complement
4. A poset closed under suprema but not necessarily under infima is an **upper semi-lattice**
5. $\mathcal{M} = (\langle M; \leq, \vee, \wedge)$ is a **sublattice** of $\mathcal{L}$ if $M \subseteq L$ and M is closed under the operations $\vee$ and $\wedge$ in $\mathcal{L}$
6. A nonempty subset $I \subseteq L$ forms an **ideal** $\mathcal{I} = (I, \leq, \wedge, \vee)$ of $\mathcal{L}$ if I satisfies the conditions
   (a) $[a \in L \;\&\; a \leq b \in I] \Longrightarrow a \in I$
   (b) $[a \in I \;\&\; b \in I] \Longrightarrow a \vee b \in I$
7. A subset $D \subseteq L$ forms a **filter** $\mathcal{D} = (D; \leq, \wedge, \vee)$ of $\mathcal{L}$ if it satisfies the dual conditions
   (a) $[a \in L \;\&\; a \geq b \in D] \Longrightarrow a \in D$
   (b) $[a \in D \;\&\; b \in D] \Longrightarrow a \wedge b \in D$
8. Let $\mathcal{L}$ be an upper semi-lattice. The definitions of ideal and filter are the same except that we require (2) only when $a \wedge b$ exists. Furthermore, we say $\mathcal{D}$ is a **strong filter** in $\mathcal{L}$ if $\mathcal{D}$ satisfies (1) and also:
   (a) $[a \in \mathcal{D} \;\&\; b \in \mathcal{D}] \Leftrightarrow (\exists c \in \mathcal{D})[c \leq a \;\&\; c \leq b]$

The collection of all subsets of ω forms a Boolean algebra, $\mathcal{N} = (2^{\omega}; \subseteq, \cup, \cap)$ with $\emptyset$ as least element and ω as the greatest element. The finite sets form an ideal $\mathcal{F}$ of $\mathcal{N}$ and the cofinite sets form a filter $\mathcal{C}$ in $\mathcal{N}$

Definition 2.15.
1. By Theorem 2.9 the r.e. sets form a distributive lattice $\mathcal{E}$ under inclusion with greatest element ω and least element $\emptyset$
2. By Theorem 2.12 an r.e. set $A \in \mathcal{E}$ is recursive iff $\bar{A} \in \mathcal{E}$. Hence the recursive sets form a Boolean algebra $\mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{E}$.

2.1.1 exercise

Exercise 2.1.1.
1. Prove that $A \leq_m B$ and B r.e. imply A r.e.
2. Show that Fin and Tot are not r.e.
3. Show that Cof is not r.e.

Proof.
1. Let $f : A \to B$, then $A = \{a : (\exists b)((a, b) \in \text{graph } f)\}$?

□

Exercise 2.1.2. Prove that if A is r.e. and ψ is p.r. then $\psi(A)$ is r.e. and $\psi^{-1}(A)$ is r.e.

Proof. Let $\psi = \varphi_e$ and $\psi(A) = \{y : (\exists s, x)\varphi_{e,s}(x) = y\}$ □

Exercise 2.1.3. Prove that if f is recursive, then graph f is recursive

Exercise 2.1.4. A function f is **increasing** if $f(x) < f(x+1)$ for all x. Show that an infinite set A is recursive iff A is the range of an increasing recursive function

Proof.

$$\chi_A(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & (\exists y < x) f(y) = x \\ 0 & \end{cases}$$

□

Exercise 2.1.5. Prove that any infinite r.e. set is the range of a 1:1 recursive function

Exercise 2.1.6. Prove that every infinite r.e. set contains an infinite recursive subset

Exercise 2.1.7. A set A is **co-r.e.** (or equivalently Π_1) if $\bar{A}$ is r.e. Use Exercise 1.3.6 to prove that the reduction principle fails for Π_1 sets

Exercise 2.1.8. The **separation principle** holds for a class $\mathcal{C}$ of sets if for every $A, B \in \mathcal{C}$ s.t. $A \cap B = \emptyset$ there exists C s.t. $C, \bar{C} \in \mathcal{C}$, $A \subseteq C$ and $B \subseteq \bar{C}$. By Exercise 1.3.6 the separation fails for r.e. sets. Use Corollary 2.10 to show that the separation principle holds for co-r.e. sets

Exercise 2.1.9. Prove that if $A \leq_1 B$ and A and B are r.e. and A is infinite then $A \leq_1 B$ via some f s.t. $f(A) = B$

Exercise 2.1.10. Show that the proof of Theorem 2.8 is uniform in e in the sense that there is a p.r. function $\psi(e, y)$ s.t. if $W_e \neq 0$ then $\lambda y \psi(e, y)$ is total and $W_e = \{\psi(e, y) : y \in \omega\}$.

2.2 Uniformity and Indices for Recursive and Finite Sets

A theorem will be said to hold **uniformly** if such an effective procedure exists.

Definition 2.16.
1. We say that e is Σ_1**-index** (r.e. index) for a set A if $A = W_e = \{x : (\exists y)T(e, x, y)\}$
2. $\langle e, i \rangle$ is a Δ_1**-index** for a recursive set A if $A = W_e$ and $\bar{A} = W_i$
3. e is a Δ_0**-index** (**characteristic index**) for A if φ_e is the characteristic function for A

Theorem 2.17. *There is no p.r. function ψ s.t. if $W_x = A$ and A is recursive then $\psi(x)$ converges and $W_{\psi(x)} = \bar{A}$. (There is no uniformly effective way to pass from Σ_1-indices to Δ_0-indices for recursive sets)*

Proof. Define the recursive function f by

$$W_{f(x)} = \begin{cases} \omega & x \in K \\ \emptyset & \end{cases}$$

Now

$$\begin{aligned} x \in K &\Longrightarrow W_{f(x)} = \omega \Longrightarrow W_{\psi f(x)} = \emptyset \\ x \notin K &\Longrightarrow W_{f(x)} = \emptyset \Longrightarrow W_{\psi f(x)} = \omega \end{aligned}$$

Hence

$$x \in \bar{K} \Longleftrightarrow W_{\psi f(x)} \neq \emptyset \Longleftrightarrow (\exists y, s)[y \in W_{\psi f(x), s}]$$

so $\bar{K}$ is Σ_1 and hence r.e., contradicting Corollary 2.13 □

Corollary 2.18. *The recursive sets are closed under $\cup, \cap$ and complementation. The closure under $\cup$ and $\cap$ is uniformly effective w.r.t. both Σ_1 and Δ_1-indices. The closure under complementation is uniformly effective w.r.t. Δ_1-indices*

A finite set, being recursive, has both a Σ_1-index and Δ_0-index.

Definition 2.19. 1. Given a finite set $A = \{x_1, \ldots, x_k\}$, where $x_1 < x_2 < \cdots < x_k$, the number $y = 2^{x_1} + \cdots + 2^{x_k}$ is the **canonical index** of A. Let D_y denote finite set with canonical index y and D_0 denote $\emptyset$

2. A sequence $\{D_{f(x)}\}_{x \in \omega}$ for some recursive function f is called a **recursive sequence** or a **strong array** of finite sets.

There is no p.r. function ψ s.t. if φ_x is the characteristic function of D_y, then $\psi(x)$ converges and $\psi(x) = |D_y|$. (If ψ exists, define $\varphi_{f(x)}(s) = 1$ if $x \in K_{s+1} - K_s$ and $\varphi_{f(x)}(s) = 0$ otherwise. Thus $\psi \circ f$ is actually the characteristic function of K)

Definition 2.20. 1. A sequence $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ of r.e. sets is **uniformly r.e.** (**u.r.e**), also called **simultaneously r.e.** (**s.r.e.**) if there is a recursive function f s.t. $V_n = W_{f(n)}$ for all n

2. A sequence $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ of recursive sets is **uniformly recursive** if there is a recursive function $g(x, n)$ s.t. $\lambda x[g(x, n)]$ is the characteristic function of V_n for all n

From now on we assume that we have define $\varphi_{e,s}$ and $W_{e,s}$ using Exercise 1.2.1

Definition 2.21. A **recursive enumeration** (usually called simply an **enumeration**) of an r.e. set A consists of a strong array $\{A_s\}_{s \in \omega}$ (of finite sets) s.t. $A_s \subseteq A_{s+1}$ and $A = \bigcup_s A_s$

For example, $\{W_{e,s}\}_{s \in \omega}$ is an enumeration of W_e

Definition 2.22. 1. A **simultaneous (recursive) enumeration** of a u.r.e. sequence $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ of r.e. sets is a strong array $\{V_{n,s}\}_{n,s \in \omega}$ s.t. for all $s, n \in \omega$

   (a) $V_{n,s} \subseteq V_{n,s+1}$
   (b) $|V_{n,s+1} - V_{n,s}| \leq 1$
   (c) $V_n = \bigcup_{s \in \omega} V_{n,s}$

2. A **standard enumeration** (of the r.e. sets) is a simultaneous enumeration of $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ where $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ is some acceptable numbering of the r.e. sets as defined in Exercise 1.4.3

For example, an easy way to give a simultaneous enumeration of any u.r.e. sequence $\{V_n\}_{n \in \omega}$ is to choose a 1:1 recursive function f with range $\{\langle x, n\rangle : x \in V_n\}$ and to define

$$V_{n,s} = \{x : (\exists t < s)[f(t) = \langle x, n\rangle]\}$$

Definition 2.23. Let $\{X_s\}_{s\in\omega}$ and $\{Y_s\}_{s\in\omega}$ be recursive enumeration of r.e. sets X and Y

1. Define $X \setminus Y = \{z : (\exists s)[z \in X_s - Y_s]\}$, the elements enumerated in X before (if ever) being enumerated in Y
2. Define $X \searrow Y = (X \setminus Y) \cap Y$, the elements enumerated in X and later in Y

2.2.1 Exercises

Exercise 2.2.1.

1. Given recursive enumeration $\{X_s\}_{s\in\omega}$ and $\{Y_s\}_{s\in\omega}$ of r.e. sets X and Y prove that both $X \setminus Y$ and $X \searrow Y$ are r.e. sets
2. Prove that $X \setminus Y = (X - Y) \cup (X \searrow Y)$
3. Prove that if $X - Y$ is nonrecursive then $X \searrow Y$ is infinite
4. Give an alternative proof of Corollary 2.10 by letting $A_1 = W_x \setminus W_y$ and $B_1 = W_y \setminus W_x$ where $W_x = A$ and $W_y = B$
5. Let f be a 1:1 recursive function from ω onto K_0. Define

$$W_{e,s} = \{x : (\exists t \leq s)[f(t) = \langle x, e\rangle]\}$$

Show that $\{W_{e,s} : e, s \in \omega\}$ satisfies condition

$$(\forall s)(\exists \text{ at most one } \langle e, x\rangle)[x \in W_{e,s+1} - W_{e,s}]$$

Proof.

1. Prove (x, z) is recursive
3.
4. $W_x = \{W_{x,s}\}_{s\in\omega}$

□

Exercise 2.2.2. Prove that there is a recursive function f s.t. $\{W_{f(n)}\}_{n\in\omega}$ consists precisely of the recursive sets. Hence we can give an effective list of Σ_1-indices for the recursive sets but not of Δ_1-indices

Proof. Obtain $W_{f(n)} \subseteq W_n$ by enumerating W_n, placing in $W_{f(n)}$ only those elements enumerated in increasing order, and applying Exercise 2.1.4. Note that we are using the uniformity shown in Exercise 2.1.10 □

Exercise 2.2.3. Prove that there is a recursive function $f(e, s)$ s.t. $D_{f(e,s)} = W_{e,s}$ and hence that $W_e = \bigcup_s D_{f(e,s)}$

Exercise 2.2.4. Prove that there are recursive functions f and g s.t. $D_x \cup D_y = D_{f(x,y)}$ and $D_x \cap D_y = D_{g(x,y)}$

2.3 The Recursion Theorem

Theorem 2.24 (Recursion Theorem (Kleene))**.** *For every recursive function f there exists an n (called a **fixed point** of f) s.t. $\varphi_n = \varphi_{f(n)}$*

Proof. Define the recursive "diagonal" function $d(u)$ by

$$\varphi_{d(u)}(z) = \begin{cases} \varphi_{\varphi_u(u)}(z) & \varphi_u(u) \text{ converges} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Note that d is 1:1 and total by the s-m-n theorem. Note also that d is independent of f.

Given f, choose an index v s.t.

$$\varphi_v = f \circ d$$

We claim that $n = d(v)$ is a fixed point of f. First note that f total implies fd is total, so $\varphi_v(v)$ converges and $\varphi_{d(v)} = \varphi_{\varphi_v(v)}$. Now

$$\varphi_n = \varphi_{d(v)} = \varphi_{\varphi_v(v)} = \varphi_{fd(v)} = \varphi_{f(n)}$$

$\square$

Corollary 2.25. *For every recursive function f, there exists n s.t. $W_n = W_{f(n)}$*

Remark. From [Owi73].

In a typical diagonal argument there is a square array of objects $\{\alpha_{x,u}\}_{x,u\in\omega}$ and one constructs a sequence $D' = \{\alpha'_x\}_{x\in\omega}$ s.t. $\alpha'_x \neq \alpha_{x,x}$, where $D = \{\alpha_{x,x}\}_{x\in\omega}$ is the diagonal sequence, and hence D' is **not** one of the rows, $R_u = \{\alpha_{x,u}\}_{x\in\omega}$.

Now consider the matrix where $\alpha_{x,u} = \varphi_{\varphi_u(x)}$, and where it is understood that $\alpha_{x,u}$ and $\varphi_{\varphi_u(x)}$ denote the totally undefined function if $\varphi_u(x)$ diverges. Here the strong closure properties of the partial recursive functions under the s-m-n Theorem guarantee that the diagonal sequence $D = \{\alpha_{x,x}\}_{x\in\omega}$ **is** one of the rows, namely the e-th row, $R_e = \{\varphi_{\varphi_e(x)}\}_{x\in\omega}$, where $\varphi_e = d$. Equivalently, for any x, $d(x) = \varphi_x(x)$. This is obviously computable.

Now any recursive function f induces a transformation on the rows $R_u = \{\varphi_{\varphi_u(x)}\}_{x\in\omega}$ of this matrix, mapping R_u to the row $\{\varphi_{f\varphi_u(x)}\}_{x\in\omega}$. In particular, f maps the "diagonal" row $R_e = \{\varphi_{d(x)}\}_{x\in\omega}$ to $R_v = \{\varphi_{fd(x)}\}_{x\in\omega}$. Since R_e is the diagonal sequence, the vth element of the sequence, namely $\varphi_{d(v)} = \varphi_{\varphi_v(v)}$, must be unchanged by this action of f, and hence $\varphi_{d(v)} = \varphi_{fd(v)}$

A typical application of the Recursion Theorem is that there exists n s.t. $W_n = \{n\}$. (By the s-m-n Theorem define $W_{f(x)} = \{x\}$ and by the Recursion Theorem choose n s.t. $W_n = W_{f(n)} = \{n\}$)

Proposition 2.26. *In the Recursion Theorem, n can be computed from an index for f by a 1:1 recursive function g*

Proof. Let $v(x)$ be a recursive function s.t. $\varphi_{v(x)} = \varphi_x \circ d$. Let $g(x) = d(v(x))$. Both d and v are 1:1 by the s-m-n Theorem $\square$

Proposition 2.27. *In the Recursion Theorem, there is an infinite r.e. set of fixed points for f.*

Proof. By the Padding Lemma 1.5 there is an infinite r.e. set V of indices v s.t. $\varphi_v = f \circ d$, but d is 1:1 so $\{d(v)\}_{v \in V}$ in infinite and r.e. $\square$

Theorem 2.28 (Recursion Theorem with Parameters (Kleene))**.** *If $f(x, y)$ is a recursive function, then there is a recursive function $n(y)$ s.t. $\varphi_{n(y)} = \varphi_{f(n(y),y)}$*

Proof. Define a recursive function d by

$$\varphi_{d(x,y)}(z) = \begin{cases} \varphi_{\varphi_x(x,y)}(z) & \varphi_x(x, y) \text{ converges} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Choose v s.t. $\varphi_v(x, y) = f(d(x, y), y)$. Then $n(y) = d(v, y)$ is a fixed point, since $\varphi_{d(v,y)} = \varphi_{\varphi_v(v,y)} = \varphi_{f(d(v,y)),y)}$ $\square$

Informally, the Recursion Theorem allows us to define a p.r. function φ_n (or an r.e. set W_n) using its own index n in advance as part of the algorithm, $\varphi_n(z) : \ldots n \ldots$. This circularity is removed by the Recursion Theorem because we are really using the s-m-n Theorem to define a function $f(x)$,$\varphi_{f(x)}(z) : \ldots x \ldots$ and then taking a fixed point $\varphi_n(z) = \varphi_{f(n)}(z) : \ldots n \ldots$ The only restriction on the informal method is that we cannot use in the program any special properties of φ_n (such as φ_n being total or $W_n \neq \emptyset$). For example, if for all x the function $\varphi_{f(x)}$ being defined is total, then the fixed point $\varphi_{f(x)} = \varphi_n$ will be total. However, the instructions for $\varphi_{f(x)}$ must not say "wait until $\varphi_x(z)$ converges, take the value $v = \varphi_x(z)$ and do $\ldots$"

Theorem 2.29. *There is no r.e. function ψ s.t. if W_x is recursive then $\psi(x)$ converges and $\varphi_{\psi(x)}$ is the characteristic function for W_x. Equivalent to Theorem 2.17*

Proof. Using the Recursion Theorem define a recursive set

$$W_n = \begin{cases} \{0\} & \psi(n) \downarrow \ \& \ \varphi_{\psi(n)}(0) \downarrow = 0 \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Now $\varphi_{\psi(n)}$ cannot be the characteristic function of W_n because $0 \in W_n$ iff $\varphi_{\psi(n)}(0) = 0$ □

Theorem 2.30. *If $\psi(x, y)$ is a partial recursive function, then there is a recursive function $n(y)$ s.t.*

$$(\forall y)[\psi(n(y), y) \downarrow \Longrightarrow \varphi_{n(y)} = \varphi_{\psi(n(y), y)}]$$

Proof. Same as Theorem 2.28 □

2.3.1 Exercises

Exercise 2.3.1. A set A is **self-dual** if $A \leq_m \bar{A}$. For example if $A = B \oplus \bar{B}$ then A is self-dual

1. Use the Recursion Theorem to prove that no index set A can be self-dual
2. Give a short proof of Rice's Theorem 1.23

Proof. 1. Suppose $f : A \leq_m \bar{A}$. f is recursive and there is some n that $\varphi_n = \varphi_{f(n)}$. However, $x \in A$ iff $f(x) \in \bar{A}$

2. If a recursive set is non-trivial, then it's self-dual

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} \mu y(\chi_A(y) = 0) & \chi_A(x) = 1 \\ \mu y(\chi_A(y) = 1) & \chi_A(x) = 0 \end{cases}$$

□

Exercise 2.3.2. Show that for any p.r. function $\psi(x, y)$ there is an n s.t. $\varphi_n(y) = \psi(n, y)$

Proof. $\psi(n, y) = \varphi_{f(n)}(y) = \varphi_n(y)$ □

Exercise 2.3.3. Show that Corollary 2.25 is equivalent to: For every r.e. set A

3 Reference

References

[Owi73] James C. Owings. Diagonalization and the recursion theorem. *Notre Dame J. Formal Log.*, 14(1):95–99, 1973.