

# Hints for Lab4-Variou Sets

Exercise for CS363-Computability Theory, Xiaofeng Gao

1. Let  $A, B$  be subsets of  $\mathbb{N}$ . Define sets  $A \oplus B$  and  $A \otimes B$  by

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

$$A \otimes B = \{\pi(x, y) : x \in A \text{ and } y \in B\},$$

where  $\pi$  is the pairing function  $\pi(x, y) = 2^x(2y + 1) - 1$  of Theorem 4-1.2. Prove that

- (a)  $A \oplus B$  is recursive iff  $A$  and  $B$  are both recursive.  
 “ $\Leftarrow$ ” Consider the computability of  $C_{A \oplus B}$  with the help of  $C_A$  and  $C_B$ .  
 “ $\Rightarrow$ ” If  $C_{A \oplus B}$  is computable, rewrite  $C_A$  and  $C_B$  by operations on  $C_{A \oplus B}$ .
- (b) If  $A, B \neq \emptyset$ , then  $A \otimes B$  is recursive iff  $A$  and  $B$  are both recursive.  
 Similar as the above question. Don't forget to prove the both directions.
- (c) Suppose  $B$  is r.e. If  $A$  is creative, then so are  $A \oplus B$  and  $A \otimes B$  (provided  $B \neq \emptyset$ ).
- For  $A \oplus B$ . We need to prove (1)  $A \oplus B$  is r.e.; (2)  $\overline{A \oplus B}$  is productive.  
 (1) can be easily proved according to Q1(a). (2) Apply  $\overline{A}$  is productive with Reduction Theorem of productive set such that  $x \in \overline{A} \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A \oplus B$ .
  - Similarly for  $A \otimes B$ . We need to prove (1)  $A \otimes B$  is r.e.; (2)  $\overline{A \otimes B}$  is productive.  
 (1) can be easily proved according to Q1(b). (2) Apply  $\overline{A}$  is productive with Reduction Theorem of productive set such that  $x \in \overline{A} \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in A \otimes B$ .
- (d) If  $A$  is simple, then  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  is r.e., but neither recursive, creative nor simple.
- i.  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  is r.e. Distinguish what is  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  by pairing function  $\pi_1(x)$ . Then you can easily prove this property.
  - ii.  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  is not recursive. Use the facts that  $A$  is not recursive and Q1(b); or prove by contradiction.
  - iii.  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  is not creative. By contradiction if  $\overline{A \otimes \mathbb{N}}$  is productive and  $x \in \overline{A \otimes \mathbb{N}} \Leftrightarrow x \in \overline{A}$ , then we can have  $A$  is creative, which violates the fact that  $A$  is simple.
  - iv.  $A \otimes \mathbb{N}$  is not simple.  $\overline{A \otimes \mathbb{N}} = \{x \mid \pi_1(x) \notin A\}$ . Find an infinite r.e. subset in this set.
- (e) If  $A, B$  are simple sets, then  $A \oplus B$  is simple,  $A \otimes B$  is not simple but  $\overline{A \otimes B}$  is simple.
- i.  $A \oplus B$  is simple. (1)  $A \oplus B$  is r.e. by Q1(c). (2)  $\overline{A \oplus B} = \overline{A \oplus B}$ . Prove it is infinite and use contradiction to prove it doesn't contain any r.e. subset.
  - ii.  $A \otimes B$  is not simple. Prove  $\overline{A \otimes B}$  has an infinite r.e. subset.
  - iii.  $\overline{A \otimes B} = \{t \mid \pi_1(t) \in \overline{A} \wedge \pi_2(t) \in \overline{B}\} = \{t \mid \pi_1(t) \in A \vee \pi_2(t) \in B\}$ . Prove it is r.e.;  $\overline{A \otimes B}$  is infinite, and by contradiction  $\nexists C \subseteq \overline{A \otimes B}$ , otherwise  $A$  or  $B$  will not be simple.
2. (a) Let  $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$  and  $n > 1$ ; prove if  $B$  is recursive (or r.e.) then the predicate  $M(x_1, \dots, x_n)$  given by “ $M(x_1, \dots, x_n) \equiv 2^{x_1}3^{x_2} \dots p_n^{x_n} \in B$ ” is decidable (or partially decidable).  
 $C_M = C_B(2^{x_1}3^{x_2} \dots p_n^{x_n}) \quad \chi_M = \chi_B(2^{x_1}3^{x_2} \dots p_n^{x_n})$
- (b) Prove that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$  is recursive (or r.e.) iff  $\{2^{x_1}3^{x_2} \dots p_n^{x_n} : (x_1, \dots, x_n) \in A\}$  is recursive (or r.e., respectively).  
 $C_M((\mathbf{x})_1, \dots, (\mathbf{x})_n) \Leftrightarrow C_A(\mathbf{x}) \quad \chi_M((\mathbf{x})_1, \dots, (\mathbf{x})_n) \Leftrightarrow \chi_A(\mathbf{x})$

- (c) Prove that  $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$  is r.e. iff  $A = \emptyset$  or there is a total computable function  $\mathbf{f} : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^n$  such that  $A = \text{Ran}(\mathbf{f})$ . (A *computable function*  $\mathbf{f}$  from  $\mathbb{N}$  to  $\mathbb{N}^n$  is an  $n$ -tuple  $\mathbf{f} = (f_1, \dots, f_n)$  where each  $f_i$  is a unary computable function and  $\mathbf{f}(x) = (f_1(x), \dots, f_n(x))$ .)  
Mimic the proof of Listing Theorem with Coding technique.

3. Which of the following sets are recursive? Which are r.e.? Which are productive? Which are creative? Prove your judgements.

- (a)  $\{x : x \in E_x\}$ ,
- (b)  $\{x : x \text{ is a perfect square}\}$ ,
- (c)  $\{x : \phi_x \text{ is not injective}\}$ ,
- (d)  $\{x : \phi_x \text{ is not surjective}\}$ ,
- (e)  $\{x : \phi_x(x) = f(x)\}$ , where  $f$  is any total computable function.

You can (1) consider the  $C$  or  $\chi$  function, or (2) consider reduction, or (3) try theorems (like Quasi-Rice Theorem) ; and (3) consider the complement of each set.

4. Suppose  $A$  is an r.e. set. Prove the following statements.

- (a) Show that the sets  $\bigcup_{x \in A} W_x$  and  $\bigcup_{x \in A} E_x$  are both r.e.

Describe each form as a combination of quantifier + partial decidable predicates.

- (b) Show that  $\bigcap_{x \in A} W_x$  is not necessarily r.e. (*Hint*:  $\forall t \in \mathbb{N}$  let  $K_t = \{x : P_x(x) \downarrow \text{ in } t \text{ steps}\}$ .)

Show that for any  $t$ ,  $K_t$  is recursive; moreover  $K = \bigcup_{t \in \mathbb{N}} K_t$  and  $\overline{K} = \bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{K}_t$ .)

$\bigcap_{x \in A} W_x$  is not necessarily r.e. means there exists special r.e. set  $A^*$ , such that  $\bigcap_{x \in A^*} W_x$  is not r.e. Firstly, prove all the descriptions from the Hint. Next, since  $K_t$  is recursive,  $\overline{K}_t$  is also recursive, but  $\overline{K} = \bigcap_{t \in \mathbb{N}} \overline{K}_t$  is not r.e. Thus let  $A^* = \mathbb{N}$ .

5. Suppose that  $f$  is a total computable function,  $A$  is a recursive set and  $B$  is an r.e. set. Show that  $f^{-1}(A)$  is recursive and that  $f(A)$ ,  $f(B)$  and  $f^{-1}(B)$  are r.e, but not necessarily recursive. What extra information about these sets can be obtained if  $f$  is a bijection?

Describe  $f(A)$ ,  $f(B)$ ,  $f^{-1}(A)$ ,  $f^{-1}(B)$  by quantifier + predicates and then use reduction. If  $f$  is bijection, then you may have stronger conclusion for some of these sets.

6. Prove Rice's theorem (Theorem 6-1.7) from Rice-Shapiro theorem (Theorem 7-2.16). (*Hint*. Suppose that ' $\phi_x \in \mathcal{B}$ ' is decidable; then both  $\mathcal{B}$  and  $\mathcal{C}_1 \setminus \mathcal{B}$  satisfy the conditions of Rice-Shapiro: consider the cases  $f_\emptyset \in \mathcal{B}$  and  $f_\emptyset \notin \mathcal{B}$ .)

Just follow the hint.

7. Let  $\mathcal{B}$  be a set of unary computable functions, and suppose that  $g \in \mathcal{B}$  is such that for all finite  $\theta \subseteq g$ ,  $\theta \notin \mathcal{B}$ . Prove that the set  $\{x : \phi_x \in \mathcal{B}\}$  is productive. (*Hint*. Follow the first part of the proof of the Rice-Shapiro theorem.)

Define appropriate function then reduce from  $\overline{K}$ .

8. Prove the following statements.

- (a) If  $B$  is r.e. and  $A \cap B$  is productive, then  $A$  is productive.

Construct a  $f$  with  $Dom(f) = K \cap B$ , then construct the productive function of  $A$  with the help of  $f + s\text{-}m\text{-}n$  theorem

- (b) If  $C$  is creative and  $A$  is an r.e. set such that  $A \cap C = \emptyset$ , then  $C \cup A$  is creative.

(1)  $C \cup A$  is r.e. (2)  $\overline{C \cup A}$  is productive by a construction of  $f$  with  $Dom(f) = C \cup A$ .

- (c) Every productive set contains an infinite recursive subset.

r. subset  $\subseteq$  r.e. subset  $\subseteq$  productive set

9. (a) (Cf. Theorem 7-2.14) Let  $A$  be an infinite r.e. set. Show that  $A$  can be enumerated without repetitions by a total computable function.

Listing Theorem +  $\mu$  operator

- (b) Suppose  $f$  is a total injective computable function such that  $Ran(f)$  is not recursive ((a) showed that such functions abound). Show that  $A = \{x : \exists y(y > x \wedge f(y) < f(x))\}$  is simple. (*Hint.* To see that  $\overline{A}$  is infinite, assume the contrary and show that there would then be a sequence of numbers  $y_0 < y_1 < y_2 < \dots$  such that  $f(y_0) > f(y_1) > f(y_2) > \dots$ . To see that  $\overline{A}$  does not contain an infinite r.e. set  $B$ , suppose to the contrary that  $B \subseteq \overline{A}$ . Then show that the problem  $z \in Ran(f)$  is decidable as follows. Given  $z$ , find  $n \in B$  such that  $f(n) > z$ ; now use the fact that  $n \notin A$  to devise a finite procedure for testing whether  $z \in Ran(f)$ .)

Just follow the hint. Notice that  $f(y_0)$  is finite.

## 10. Recursively Inseparable and Effectively Recursively Inseparable

Disjoint sets  $A, B$  are said to be *recursively inseparable* if there is no recursive set  $C$  such that  $A \subseteq C$  and  $B \subseteq \overline{C}$ . Furthermore,  $A$  and  $B$  are said to be *effectively recursively inseparable* if there is a total computable function  $f$  such that whenever  $A \subseteq W_a, B \subseteq W_b$  and  $W_a \cap W_b = \emptyset$  then  $f(a, b) \notin W_a \cup W_b$  (see the right figure). Note: Recursive inseparability for a pair of disjoint sets corresponds to non-recursive for a single set; pair of recursively inseparable sets that are also r.e. correspond to r.e. sets that are not recursive.

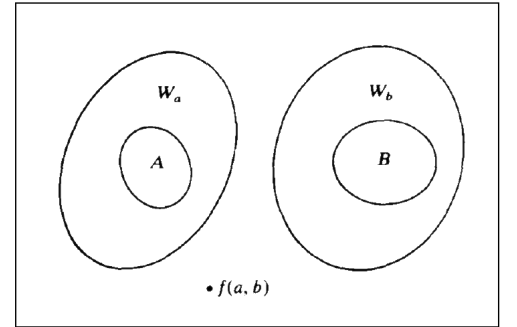


Fig. Effectively Recursively Inseparable Sets

- (a) Show that two disjoint sets  $A, B$  are recursively inseparable iff whenever  $A \subseteq W_a, B \subseteq W_b$  and  $W_a \cap W_b = \emptyset$ , there is a number  $x \notin W_a \cup W_b$ .

Use contradiction, assume  $\forall x, x \in W_a \cup W_b$ , then  $W_a \cup W_b = \mathbb{N}$ .

- (b) Suppose  $A, B$  are effectively recursively inseparable. Prove that if  $A, B$  are both r.e. then they are both creative. (*Note.* Extending the idea of effectiveness to a pair of recursively inseparable sets in this way parallels the step from a nonrecursive set to a set having productive complement; the counterpart to a single creative set is then a pair of effectively recursively separable sets that are both r.e.)

For symmetry, you only need to prove  $\overline{A}$  is productive. Construct computable function  $g$  with  $Dom(g) = K \cup B$ , then create the productive function from  $f$  and  $g$ .

- (c) Let  $K_0 = \{x : \phi_x(x) = 0\}$  and  $K_1 = \{x : \phi_x(x) = 1\}$ . Show that  $K_0$  and  $K_1$  are r.e. (in particular neither  $K_0$  nor  $K_1$  is recursive), and that they are both recursively inseparable and effectively recursively inseparable. (*Hint.* For recursively inseparable, suppose that there is such a set  $C$  and let  $m$  be an index for its characteristic function; consider

whether or not  $m \in C$ . For effectively recursively inseparable, find a total computable function  $f$  such that if  $W_a \cap W_b = \emptyset$ , then  $\phi_{f(a,b)}(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in W_a, \\ 2 & \text{if } x \in W_b, \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$

Prove by contradiction for recursively inseparable. Then follow the hint for effectively recursively inseparable.