

## Problem Set #2

1. (a)  $L = \{M : M \text{ has an useless state } q\}$

Language  $L$  is undecidable. Suppose  $L$  was decidable then we can use that as a sub routine to solve  $\overline{HP}$  as follows:

- Consider a new machine  $\dot{M}$  which has two states - start and accept state. It writes its input  $y$  on a separate tape.
- It then runs  $M$  on input  $x$ . If  $M$  halts on  $x$  it accepts its input  $y$ .

The machine  $\dot{M}$  can be described as :

$$\dot{M} = \begin{cases} \dot{M} \text{ has no useless state} & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \dot{M} \text{ has an useless accept state} & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Since our assumption is that  $L$  is decidable implies there exists a total turing machine  $K$  which accepts  $L$ . Giving  $\dot{M}$  as input to  $K$ , we can totally compute if  $M$  halts on  $x$ . But we know there is no such total turing machine. Hence, language  $L$  is not decidable.

(b)

- (c)  $L = \{(M1, M2) : L(M1) = \overline{L(M2)}\}$

$L$  is undecidable. If  $L$  was decidable we can use the total turing machine  $K$  accepting  $L$  as a sub routine to solve  $HP$  as follows:

Consider two machines  $M1$  and  $M2$  which does the following:

- Both machines simulate  $M$  on  $x$ . If  $M$  halts on  $x$  then machine  $M1$  accepts its input  $y$ , while machine  $M2$  rejects input  $y$ .

So the language of machine  $M1$  can be described as :

$$L(M1) = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Similarly the language accepted by machine  $M2$  can be described as:

$$L(M2) = \begin{cases} \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Giving machines  $(M1, M2)$  as input to machine  $K$  can help in totally computing if machine  $M$  halts on input  $x$ . Since, there is no such total turing machine, hence no such total turing machine  $K$  exists.

- (d)  $L = \{M : \exists x \in \Sigma^* \text{ s.t. } M \text{ runs forever on input } x\}$

This language is undecidable. If this language was decidable by a total turing machine  $K$ , then we can use it as a sub routine to solve  $\overline{HP}$  as follows:

Consider machine  $\dot{M}$  which does the following:

- $\tilde{M}$  writes its input  $y$  on a separate track.
- It runs machine  $M$  on input  $x$ . If  $M$  halts on  $x$ , then it accepts its input  $y$ .

The machine  $\tilde{M}$  can be described as follows:

$$\tilde{M} = \begin{cases} \text{For all inputs } \tilde{M} \text{ doesn't run forever} & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \text{There exists an input for which } \tilde{M} \text{ runs forever} & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Giving  $\tilde{M}$  as input to machine  $K$  can help in totally computing if machine  $M$  halts on input  $x$ . Since, there is no such total machine, hence no such total turing machine  $K$  exists.

- (e)  $L = \{M: M \text{ accepts atleast one plaindromic string}\}$

$L$  is undecidable. If  $L$  was decidable we can use the total turing machine  $K$  accepting  $L$  as a sub routine to solve  $HP$  as follows:

Consider machine  $\tilde{M}$  which does the following:

- Machine  $\tilde{M}$  simulates  $M$  on input  $x$ .
- If  $M$  halts on  $x$ , then  $\tilde{M}$  accepts its input  $y$

So the language of machine  $M$  can be described as :

$$L(M) = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Since,  $\Sigma^*$  contains atleast one palindromic string, Giving machine  $M$  as input to machine  $K$  can help in totally computing if machine  $M$  halts on input  $x$ . Since, there is no such total turing machine, hence no such total turing machine  $K$  exists.

- (f)  $L = \{M: M \text{ accepts only plaindromic strings}\}$

$L$  is undecidable. If  $L$  was decidable we can use the total turing machine  $K$  accepting  $L$  as a sub routine to solve  $HP$  as follows:

Consider machine  $\tilde{M}$  which does the following:

- Machine  $\tilde{M}$  simulates  $M$  on input  $x$ .
- If  $M$  halts on  $x$ , then  $\tilde{M}$  checks if its input  $y$  is a plaindrome. If yes, it accepts  $y$ , else rejects  $y$ .

So the language of machine  $M$  can be described as :

$$L(M) = \begin{cases} P & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Where  $P$  is the set of all palindromes.

Giving machine  $M$  as input to machine  $K$  can help in totally computing if machine  $M$  halts on input  $x$ . Since, there is no such total turing machine, hence no such total turing machine  $K$  exists.

- (g)  $L = \{(M1, M2): L(M1) \cap L(M2) \neq \emptyset\}$

$L$  is undecidable. If  $L$  was decidable we can use the total turing machine  $K$  accepting  $L$  as a sub routine to solve  $HP$  as follows:

Consider two machines  $M1$  and  $M2$  which does the following:

- Both machines simulate  $M$  on  $x$ . If  $M$  halts on  $x$  then both machines  $M1$  and  $M2$  accept their inputs  $y1, y2$  respectively.

So the language of machine  $M1$  can be described as :

$$L(M1) = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Similarly the language accepted by machine  $M2$  can be described as:

$$L(M2) = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

And the Language  $L(M1) \cap L(M2)$  can be described as :

$$L(M1) \cap L(M2) = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } M \text{ halts on } x \\ \emptyset & \text{if } M \text{ does not halt on } x \end{cases}$$

Giving machines ( $M1, M2$ ) as input to machine  $K$  can help in totally computing if machine  $M$  halts on input  $x$ . Since, there is no such total turing machine, hence no such total turing machine  $K$  exists.

2.

3.

4. (a)

(b)  $L$  is decidable  $\Rightarrow L \leq_m 1^*0^*$

To show this we have to find a  $\sigma : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$  :

- $\sigma$  is totally computable
- $\forall x, x \in L \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \in 1^*0^*$

Since,  $L$  is decidable, there exists a total turing machine  $K$  such that,  $L(K) = L$ . Let  $\sigma$  be defined as follows :

$$\sigma(x) = \begin{cases} 10 & \text{if } K \text{ accepts } x \\ 01 & \text{if } K \text{ rejects } x \end{cases}$$

$\sigma$  is totally computable since  $K$  is total.

$$x \in L \Leftrightarrow K \text{ accepts } x \Leftrightarrow (\sigma(x) = 10 \in 1^*0^*)$$

Therefore,  $L \leq_m 1^*0^*$

$L$  is decidable  $\Leftrightarrow L \leq_m 1^*0^*$

RHS implies there exists a totally computable  $\sigma$  such that  $\forall x, x \in L \iff \sigma(x) \in 1^*0^*$ .

For any input  $x$ , calculating  $\sigma(x) \in 1^*0^*$ , can be done by a total turing machine. (Keep 4 states. when on state 1 implies seeing 1's. First time a 0 is seen, move to state 2. Or if end of input is seen, move to state 3 and accept. In state 2, if end of input is reached go to state 3 and accept. If a 1 is seen, move to state 4 and reject). Hence,  $x \in L$  can be totally computed. Therefore,  $L$  is decidable.

5.