# THEORETICAL COMPUTER SCIENCE TUTORING (3)

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Remember how Turing machines can be encoded as integers. Let  $f: \mathbb{N} \to \mathbb{N}$  be a function defined as follows:

$$f(i) = \begin{cases} 0 \text{ if } i \text{ is the encoding of the Turing machine} \\ 1 \text{ if } i \text{ isn't the encoding of the Turing machine} \end{cases}$$

After defining the concept of computability of a function, discuss the computability of f(n) by demonstrating your claims.

### **Definition**

A function  $f: \Sigma_1^* \to \Sigma_2^*$  is **computable** if there exists a Turing transducer T such that for every  $x \in \Sigma_1^*$  for which x is defined, T(x) = f(x)



discuss the computability of f(n)





f is the characteristic function associated with the language  $L_T$  of Turing machine encoded as integers

#### Claim

 $L_T$  is decidable

Prove it by yourselves (build a Turing machine)



#### **Theorem**

A language L is decidable if and only if the associated characteristic function f is computable

Let's see the proof

## **Proof**

*L* is decidable  $\Rightarrow$  *f* is computable

There exists a recognizer T such that  $\forall x \in \Sigma^*$ :

$$o_T(x) = \begin{cases} q_A & \text{if } x \in L \\ q_R & \text{if } x \notin L \end{cases}$$

Suppose that *T* has only one tape

T

$$x \in \Sigma^*$$

Let's build a transducer T' that will compute f(x) on two tapes

## **Proof**

*L* is decidable  $\Rightarrow$  *f* is computable

T'

$$x \in \Sigma^*$$

## output tape

- 1. On the first tape, which contains the input x, it performs the computation T(x)
- 2. If T(x) terminates in  $q_a$ , it writes the value 0 on the output tape; otherwise, it writes the value 1

here ends the exercise, let's finish the proof anyway

## **Proof**

f is computable  $\Rightarrow L$  is decidable

f is a total function by definition

There exists a transducer T such that for every x, it computes f(x)

T

 $x \in \Sigma^*$ 

output tape

Let's build a recognizer T' that will decide L on two tapes

## **Proof**

*L* is decidable  $\Rightarrow$  *f* is computable

T'

 $x \in \Sigma^*$ 

## 1/0

- 1. On the first tape, which contains the input x, it performs the computation T(x), writing the result on the second tape
- 2. If  $\bf 0$  has been written on the second tape, then the computation of  $\bf T'$  terminates in the accepting state; **otherwise**, it terminates in the rejecting state

Let  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be a **decidable** language decided by machine  $T_1$ , and let  $L_2 \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be an **acceptable** but undecidable language accepted by machine  $T_2$ . Consider the following language

$$L = \{(x, k) : x \in \Sigma^* \land k \in \mathbb{N} \land [x \notin L_1 \lor (x \notin L_2 \land T_2(x) \text{ rejects in } k \text{ steps})]\}$$

Show whether L is an acceptable or decidable language

$$L_{blue} = \{(x, k) : x \in \Sigma^* \land k \in \mathbb{N} \land x \notin L_1\}$$

$$L_{orange} = \{(x, k) : x \notin L_2 \land T_2(x) \text{ rejects in } k \text{ steps}\}$$

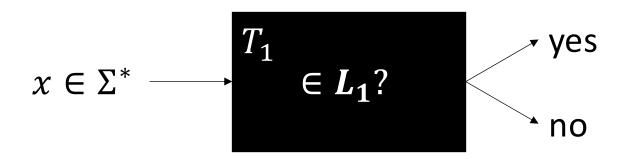
$$L = L_{blue} \cup L_{orange}$$

### Claim

$$L_{blue} = \{(x, k) : x \in \Sigma^* \land k \in \mathbb{N} \land x \notin L_1\}$$
 is decidable

## **Proof**

 $L_1$  is decidable



Suppose that  $T_1$  has only one tape

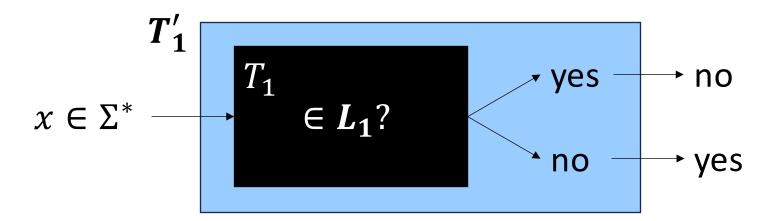
Let's build a recognizer  $T_1'$  that will decide  $L_{blue}$ 

 $T_1'$ 

$$x \in \Sigma^*$$

Simulate  $T_1(x)$ 

- $T_1(x)$  ends in the accepting state  $X T'_1$  rejects
- $T_1(x)$  ends in the rejecting state  $\checkmark$   $T'_1$  accepts

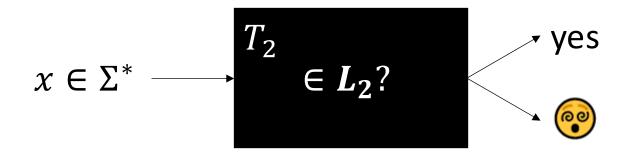


### Claim

 $L_{orange} = \{(x, k): x \notin L_2 \land T_2(x) \text{ rejects in } k \text{ steps}\} \text{ is decidable}$ 

## **Proof**

 $\boldsymbol{L_2}$  is accepatable but not decidable



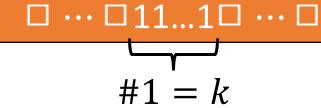
 $oldsymbol{L_2^c}$  is not acceptable but...

Suppose that  $T_2$  has only one tape

Let's build a recognizer  $T_2'$  that will decide  $L_{orange}$ 

 $T_2'$ 

$$x \in \Sigma^*$$



- 1. Simulate one instruction of  $T_2(x)$  on the first tape
- 2. Move the head on the second tape to the right

if  $T_2(x)$  ends in the rejecting state  $\checkmark$  else if  $T_2(x)$  ends in the accepting state or on the second tape the head reads  $\square$  else  $^{\square}$  1

## Claim

 $L = L_{blue} \cup L_{orange}$  decidable

## **Proof**

 $L_{blue}$  and  $L_{orange}$  are decidable, we proved it in the last lesson

Let  $L_1 \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be an acceptable but undecidable language and let  $L_2 \subseteq \Sigma^*$  be a decidable language. Consider the following function  $f: \sigma^* \to \mathbb{N}: \forall x \in \Sigma^*$ 

$$f(x) = \begin{cases} 1 & \text{if } x \in L_1 \\ |x| & \text{if } x \notin L_1 \land x \in L_2 \\ 0 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

Show whether *f* is a computable function