

# Assignment 5

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## 1 Textbook exercises

**5.4** If  $A \leq_m B$  and  $B$  is a regular language, does that imply that  $A$  is a regular language? Why or why not?

**Proof (by contradicting example).**

1. Consider the languages  $A = \{a^n b^n | n \geq 0\}$  and  $B = \{b\}$  over alphabet  $\Sigma = \{a, b\}$ .
2.  $A \leq_m B$  means that there is a computable function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ , where for every  $w$  :  
 $w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$  (*Sipser Def. 5.20*).
3. Let us define  $f$  as:

$$f(w) = \begin{cases} b & \text{if } w \in A \\ a & \text{if } w \notin A \end{cases}$$

Note that in  $f$ :

- (a)  $A$  is a CFL, that implies that  $A$  is also a Turing-decidable.
  - (b) By (a) and *Sipser Def. 6.16*  $f$  must be a computable function.
  - (c)  $f(w) \in B$  iff  $w \in A$ .
  - (d) Considering 1-3 we see that  $f$  correctly allows  $A$  to be mapping reducible to  $B$ .
4. Now we observe that:
    - (a) Language  $B$  is finite and thus regular.
    - (b) Language  $A$  is **not** regular (*Sipser example 1.73*).
  5. Thus the fact that  $A \leq_m B$  and  $B$  is a regular language does **NOT** imply that  $A$  is a regular language.

**5.30 (a)** Using reduction, prove the undecidability of the language  $INFINITE_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) \text{ is an infinite language} \}$ .

**Proof (by contradiction; reduction from  $A_{TM}$ ;  $A_{TM} \leq INFINITE_{TM}$ )**

1. Note the following facts about  $INFINITE_{TM}$ :
  - (a) It contains **some**, but not **all** TM descriptions.
  - (b) It doesn't contain descriptions of the machines that accept empty languages.
2. Assume  $I$  decides  $INFINITE_{TM}$  (for the sake of showing that this assumption allows us to construct a TM  $S$  that decides  $A_{TM}$ .)
3. Let  $N$  be a TM, where  $N \in INFINITE_{TM}$ .
4. For any TM  $M$ , string  $w$ , let:
 

$C = \text{"on input } x\text{"}$

  - (a) Simulate  $M$  on  $w$
  - (b) If  $M$  rejects  $w$ , REJECT.
  - (c) Run  $N$  on  $x$  and do what it does"

Note the following about the language of the machine  $C$ :

$M, w$	$L(C)$
$M$ accepts $w$	$L(C) = L(N)$
$M$ rejects $w$	$L(C) = \emptyset$
$M$ loops $w$	$L(C) = \emptyset$

5. To decide  $A_{TM}$ , construct:
 

$S = \text{"on input } \langle M, w \rangle\text{, where } M \text{ is a TM and } w \text{ is a string}$

  - (a) Create  $C$  with  $M$  and  $w$ .
  - (b) Run  $I$  on  $\langle C \rangle$  and do what it does.

Note, that if  $I$  accepts  $\langle C \rangle$  hence  $M$  accepts  $w$ , otherwise  $M$  rejects or loops on  $w$ .
6. Thus, our assumption about the existence of a decider for  $INFINITE_{TM}$  led us to **contradiction**. Hence that assumption is wrong, and the  $INFINITE_{TM}$  is **undecidable** language.

**Proof (by mapping reduction  $A_{TM} \leq_m INFINITE_{TM}$ )**

1. Language  $A$  is **mapping reducible** to language  $B$ , written  $A \leq_m B$ , if there is a computable function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ , where for every  $w : w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$  (*Sipser Def. 5.20*).
2. The following machine  $F$  computes a reduction  $f$  that takes input of the form  $\langle M, w \rangle$  and returns output of the form  $\langle M' \rangle$ .
 

$F = \text{"on input } \langle M, w \rangle\text{,}$

  - (a) Construct the following machine  $M'$ :
 

$M' = \text{"On input } x\text{:}$

    1. Run  $M$  on  $w$
    2. If  $M$  halts and accepts, ACCEPT
    3. If  $M$  halts and rejects, LOOP."
    - (b) Output  $\langle M' \rangle$ ."

Note the following about the language of the machine  $M'$ :

$M, w$	$L(M')$
$M$ accepts $w$	$L(M') = \Sigma^*$
$M$ rejects $w$	$L(M') = \emptyset$
$M$ loops $w$	$L(M') = \emptyset$

Thus, only if  $M'$  accept anything (essentially infinite language)  $M$  would accept  $w$ .  $M'$  accepts nothing if  $M$  rejects or loops. Formally:  $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$  iff  $\langle M' \rangle \in INFINITE_{TM}$

3. The existence of a valid computable (trivially we can construct and simulate TM) reduction function proves that  $A_{TM}$  is mapping reducible to  $INFINITE_{TM}$ . That in turn proves that  $INFINITE_{TM}$  is **undecidable** language. (*Sipser corollary 5.23*).

- 5.30 (c)** Prove the undecidability of the language  $ALL_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } L(M) = \Sigma^* \}$ . You should use Rices theorem for this proof. You may follow the structure of the books sample solution for 5.30 (a), but make sure you show each sub-part carefully.

**Proof (using Rice's Theorem)**

1. By definition,  $ALL_{TM}$  is a language of TM descriptions.
2. Note, that it satisfies the two conditions of Rices theorem:
  - (a) Subset of TM description, given in  $ALL_{TM}$ , is nontrivial because:
    - i. It is not empty. For example, machine  $M_1$  is in  $ALL_{TM}$ , where  $M_1$ :  
 $M_1 = \text{"on input } w, \text{ ACCEPT"}$
    - ii. It is a proper subset of the set of all recursively enumerable languages. For example, T.R. machine  $M_2 \notin ALL_{TM}$ , where  $M_2$ :  
 $M_2 = \text{"on input } w,$ 
      1. If  $w = aaa$ , REJECT
      2. Otherwise ACCEPT"
  - (b) Membership in  $ALL_{TM}$  depends only on the Turing machines language, i.e. if  $L(M_1) = L(M_3)$  then  $\langle M_1 \rangle \in L \Leftrightarrow \langle M_3 \rangle \in L$ . For example, machine  $M_3$  is in  $ALL_{TM}$ , despite its description differs from  $M_1$ , where  $M_3$ :  
 $M_3 = \text{"on input } w, \text{ if } w = aaa, \text{ ACCEPT, otherwise ACCEPT.}$
3. Consequently, Rices theorem implies that  $ALL_{TM}$  is undecidable.

**5.30 co-TR** Is  $INFINITE_{TM}$  co-Turing-recognizable? Prove your answer.

**Lemma:** If  $A \leq_m B$  and B is co-Turing-recognizable, then A is co-T.R.

1. We say that a language is co-Turing-recognizable if it is the complement of a Turing-recognizable language
2. Let M be a TM that recognizes  $\overline{B}$  and let  $f$  be the reduction from  $\overline{A}$  to  $\overline{B}$ .
3. Let us construct TM N that recognizes  $\overline{A}$ :  
N = "On input  $w$ ,  
    (a) Compute  $f(w)$   
    (b) Run M on input  $f(w)$  and do what M does.
4. Knowing that  $\overline{A}$  is T.R. we derive that  $A$  is co-T.R.

**Corollary:** If  $A \leq_m B$  and A is not co-Turing-recognizable, then B is not co-T.R.

1. Assume that B is co-T.R. despite A is not co-T.R.
2. That leads to a logical contradiction to the lemma, which states that in that case A must be co-T.R.
3. That contradiction proves assumption to be wrong and corollary to be correct.

**Proof 1 (by mapping reduction)**

1.  $A_{TM}$  by Sipser, Thm. 4.11:  
    (a) is undecidable;  
    (b) Turing-recognizable language.
2. That implies (by Sipser, Thm. 4.22) that  $A_{TM}$  must be **not** co-Turing-recognizable;
3. We already showed a mapping reduction  $A_{TM} \leq_m INFINITE_{TM}$ .
4. Thus we have:  $A_{TM} \leq_m INFINITE_{TM}$  and  $A_{TM}$  is **not** co-T.R., hence  $INFINITE_{TM}$  must be **not** co-Turing-Recognizable by the corollary mentioned above.

**5.30 extra** Is  $INFINITE_{TM}$  Turing-recognizable? Prove your answer.

**Lemma:**  $HALT_{TM}$  is mapping reducible to a  $\overline{INFINITE_{TM}}$

1. Language A is **mapping reducible** to language B, written  $A \leq_m B$ , if there is a computable function  $f : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Sigma^*$ , where for every  $w : w \in A \Leftrightarrow f(w) \in B$  (*Sipser Def. 5.20*).
2. Let us construct reduction function  $f$  as following:  
 $F = \text{"On input } \langle M, w \rangle \text{ where } M \text{ is a TM and } w \text{ is a string,}$ 
  - (a) Construct the TM  $M'$ :  
 $M_1 = \text{"on input } x$ 
    1. Run  $M$  on  $w$  for  $|x|$  steps
    2. if  $M$  has not halted, ACCEPT
  - (b) Output  $\langle M' \rangle$ ."

Note the following about the  $L(M')$ :

$M, w$	$L(M')$
$M \text{ halts } w$	$finite$
$M \text{ loops } w$	$\Sigma^*$

3. Thus  $M$  halts  $w$  iff  $L(M')$  is finite, because:
  - (a) If  $M$  halts on  $w$  then  $M'$  accepts fixed-length strings only, hence  $L(M')$  is finite.
  - (b) If  $M$  does not halt, that is loops, on  $w$ , then  $M'$  accept everything, naturally infinite language.
4. Note, that  $f$  is computable function because it's described via TM.
5. Thereby we proved that  $HALT_{TM} \leq_m \overline{INFINITE_{TM}}$ .

**Proof (by mapping reduction  $HALT_{TM} \leq_m \overline{INFINITE_{TM}}$ )**

1.  $A_{TM}$  is T.R.
2.  $\overline{A_{TM}}$  must be **not** Turing-recognizable from *Sipser Corollary 4.23*.
3. We know that  $HALT_{TM} \leq_m A_{TM}$  (*Sipser example 5.24*).
4. The definition of mapping reducibility implies that  $A \leq_m B$  means the same as  $\overline{A} \leq_m \overline{B}$ .
5. Thus  $\overline{HALT_{TM}} \leq_m \overline{A_{TM}}$
6. If  $A \leq_m B$  and A is not Turing-recognizable, then B is not Turing-recognizable (*Sipser 5.29*).
7. Thus  $\overline{HALT_{TM}}$  is **not** T.R.
8. We already proved the lemma that  $HALT_{TM} \leq_m \overline{INFINITE_{TM}}$ .
9. Thus  $\overline{HALT_{TM}} \leq_m INFINITE_{TM}$ .
10. Hence  $INFINITE_{TM}$  must be **not** Turing-recognizable as well.