

CS420

Introduction to the Theory of Computation

Lecture 24: Mapping reducibility

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How to write a 21st century proof

Leslie Lamport

A method of writing proofs is described that makes it harder to prove things that are not true. The method, based on hierarchical structuring, is simple and practical. The author's twenty years of experience writing such proofs is discussed.

Source: lamport.azurewebsites.net/pubs/proof.pdf

Why should we read this?

- Structured proofs are just a method of displaying your proofs in a brief, yet rigorous way
- I will be doing structured proofs in this lesson, you can use this method of presenting proofs in the test!

Today we will learn...

- Computable functions
- Mapping reducible
- Mapping reducibility and decidability/undecidability
- Mapping reducibility and Turing recognition/unrecognition

Section 5.3.

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

$$X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

Proof. If A is regular, then let C be the DFA that recognizes A . Let `intersect` be the implementation of \cap and `E_DFA` the decider of E_{DFA} . The following is the decider of X_A .

```
def X_A(D):
    return not E_DFA(intersect(C, D))
```

We reduced the problem of checking if X_A is decidable in terms of checking if E_{DFA} .

Can we generalize this process?

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

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Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.

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Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.
2. For any D we have that $L_1(D)$ is regular. **(Proof?)**

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

$$X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.
2. For any D we have that $L_1(D)$ is regular. **(Proof?)**
3. Let D_{DA} be the DFA that recognizes $L_1(D)$. **(Proof?)**

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

$$X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.
2. For any D we have that $L_1(D)$ is regular. **(Proof?)**
3. Let D_{DA} be the DFA that recognizes $L_1(D)$. **(Proof?)**
4. $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$ iff $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ **(Proof?)** [†]

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

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Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.
2. For any D we have that $L_1(D)$ is regular. **(Proof?)**
3. Let D_{DA} be the DFA that recognizes $L_1(D)$. **(Proof?)**
4. $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$ iff $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ **(Proof?)**[†]
5. The test $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ is decidable, and equivalent to testing $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$, so the latter is decidable?

[†]: Recall that if A decidable, then \overline{A} decidable (Lesson 21).

Mapping reducibility

Intuition

If we can establish an equivalence up to some function, then we can **reduce** a problem into another known problem solved in another language.

Example

4. **(Mapping-reducibility):** $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$ iff $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$
5. **(Decidability):** The test $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ is decidable, and equivalent to testing $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$, so the latter is decidable?

We will now implement a framework on reducibility

Mapping reducibility

Computable function

Definition 5.17

We say that

$$f : \Sigma^* \longrightarrow \Sigma^*$$

is a **computable** function if there exists a Turing Machine M that when given w halts and results in $f(w)$ on its tape.

Intuition

This is a **total** function (terminates for all inputs) encoded in terms of a Turing Machine.

Mapping reducible

Definition 5.20

Language A is **mapping reducible** to language B , notation $A \leq_m B$ if there is a computable function f , where for every w ,

$$w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$$

What can we do with mapping reducible?

- Convert membership testing in A into membership testing in B

Example

$$X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$E_{\text{DFA}} = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) = \emptyset\}$$

We show that $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$.

1. Given a DFA D let $L_1(D)$ be the DFA that recognizes $L(D) \cap A$, where A is regular.
2. We show that $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$

Example

$$X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$$

$$E_{\text{DFA}} = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) = \emptyset\}$$

We show that $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$.

1. Given a DFA D let $L_1(D)$ be the DFA that recognizes $L(D) \cap A$, where A is regular.
2. We show that $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$
 - Show: If $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$, then $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$.
 1. $L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset$ (assumption)
 2. $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ (by 2.1)
 - Show: If $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$, then $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$.
 1. $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$ by $L_1(D) \neq \emptyset$ (assumption)

Ungraded homework exercises

1. Show that \leq_m is a reflexive relation.
2. Show that \leq_m is a transitive relation.

Motivation

If A is regular, then X_A decidable.

Proof (2nd try).

1. Let $L_1(D) = L(D) \cap A$ where D is a DFA.
2. For any D we have that $L_1(D)$ is regular. **(Proof?)**
3. Let D be the DFA that recognizes L_1 . **(Proof?)**
4. $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ (Before: $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$ iff $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$)
5. The test $\langle L_1(D) \rangle \in \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ is decidable, and equivalent to testing $\langle D \rangle \in X_A$, so the latter is decidable?

We will now generalize the (5) step

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is decidable, then A is decidable.

Proof in cogumbreiro/turing.

Completing the running example

If A regular, then $X_A = \{\langle D \rangle \mid D \text{ is a DFA} \wedge L(D) \cap A \neq \emptyset\}$ decidable.

Proof (3rd try).

1. For any D we have that $L_{DA} = L(D) \cap A$ is regular, since:
 - For any DFA D we have that $L(D) \cap A$ is regular, since regular langs are closed for \cap , $L(D)$ is regular (def of reg langs), and A is regular (assumption).
2. $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$, by Slide 9
3. $\overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ is decidable, by Lemma R.4 and E_{DFA} decidable (Theorem 4.4)
4. X_A is decidable, by Theorem 5.22, $\overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ is decidable, and $X_A \leq_m \overline{E}_{\text{DFA}}$ (2)

Lemma R.4 (Lesson 21). If A decidable, then \overline{A} decidable.

Undecidability on membership reducible

Corollary 5.23

If $A \leq_m B$ and A is undecidable, then B is undecidable.

Proof.

Undecidability on membership reducible

Corollary 5.23

If $A \leq_m B$ and A is undecidable, then B is undecidable.

Proof.

1. B is decidable, **by contradiction.**
2. A is decidable, **by Theorem 5.22 and $A \leq_m B$ (assumption) and B decidable (1)**
3. We reach a contradiction: **A is decidable (2) and undecidable (assumption).**

(1)	(2)	(3)
$H0: A \leq_m B$	$H0: A \leq_m B$	$H0: A \leq_m B$
$H1: \sim \text{Decidable } A$	$H1: \sim \text{Decidable } A$	$H1: \sim \text{Decidable } A$
-----	$H2: \text{Decidable } B$	$H2: \text{Decidable } B$
$\sim \text{Decidable } B$	-----	$H3: \text{Decidable } A$
	False	-----
		False

Exercise 5.24

- $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$ holds[†].
- Show that HALT_{TM} is undecidable.

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- $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$ holds[†].
 - Show that HALT_{TM} is undecidable.
1. Apply Corollary 5.23 since A_{TM} is undecidable (Theorem 4.11) and $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$ (hypothesis).

[†] Proof in cogumbreiro/turing.

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Exercise

- $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$

Show that A_{TM} is recognizable via mapping reducibility.

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Exercise

- $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$

Show that A_{TM} is recognizable via mapping reducibility.

Proof.

1. Give a program that recognizes HALT_{TM} (homework!)
2. A_{TM} , by Theorem 5.28, $A_{\text{TM}} \leq_m \text{HALT}_{\text{TM}}$, and (1).

Corollary 5.29

If A is unrecognizable and $A \leq_m B$, then B is unrecognizable.

Theorem R.1

If $A \leq_m B$, then $\overline{A} \leq_m \overline{B}$.

Exercise

Show that \overline{HALT}_{TM} is unrecognizable.

Corollary 5.29

If A is unrecognizable and $A \leq_m B$, then B is unrecognizable.

Theorem R.1

If $A \leq_m B$, then $\overline{A} \leq_m \overline{B}$.

Exercise

Show that \overline{HALT}_{TM} is unrecognizable.

Proof.

1. $\overline{A}_{TM} \leq_m \overline{HALT}_{TM}$, by Theorem R.1 and $A_{TM} \leq_m HALT_{TM}$ (exercise 5.24)
2. \overline{HALT}_{TM} is unrecognizable, by Corollary 5.29, $\overline{A}_{TM} \leq_m \overline{HALT}_{TM}$ (1), and \overline{A}_{TM} is unrecognizable (Corollary 4.23)

Extra proofs

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is decidable, then A is decidable.

Proof.

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is decidable, then A is decidable.

Proof.

1. B is decidable, so let M_B be its decider.
2. Let M_A be a turing machine defined as: $M_A(w) = M_B(f(w))$
Run M_B with input $f(w)$. If M_B accepts, M_A accepts. If M_B rejects, M_A rejects.
3. **Correctness:** Prove that $L(M_A) = A$ **(next slide)**
4. **Termination:** Prove that M_A halts for every input:

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is decidable, then A is decidable.

Proof.

1. B is decidable, so let M_B be its decider.
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Run M_B with input $f(w)$. If M_B accepts, M_A accepts. If M_B rejects, M_A rejects.
3. **Correctness:** Prove that $L(M_A) = A$ (**next slide**)
4. **Termination:** Prove that M_A halts for every input: M_A just runs M_B , which halts for every input.

Our goal is show that there exists a Turing machine that decides A , so we must prove that it does recognize A (correctness) and that it decides A (termination).

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

Proof (Continuation). Show that $L(M_A) = A$.

We do a case analysis on the result of executing M_A with input w and show that w is (not) in A :

Decidability on membership reducible

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Proof (Continuation). Show that $L(M_A) = A$.

We do a case analysis on the result of executing M_A with input w and show that w is (not) in A :

- If M_A accepts some w we must show that $w \in A$. From M_B , we get that $f(w) \in L(B)$, thus, from Def 5.20, we have $w \in A$.

Decidability on membership reducible

Theorem 5.22

Proof (Continuation). Show that $L(M_A) = A$.

We do a case analysis on the result of executing M_A with input w and show that w is (not) in A :

- If M_A accepts some w we must show that $w \in A$. From M_B , we get that $f(w) \in L(B)$, thus, from Def 5.20, we have $w \in A$.
- If M_A rejects some w we must show that $w \notin A$. If reject, then $f(w) \notin L(B)$, thus, from Def 5.20, we have $w \notin A$.

Example 5.24

$HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable

Proof.

1. We show that $A_{TM} \leq_m HALT_{TM}$ with f , where $f(\langle M, w \rangle) = \langle M', w \rangle$ and M' runs $M(w)$ if M rejects, then loop, otherwise accept.
2. Since A_{TM} is undecidable, then $HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable (Corollary 5.23).

Unfold Def 5.20:

$$\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \iff f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$$

Example 5.24

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Proof.

1. We show that $A_{TM} \leq_m HALT_{TM}$ with f , where $f(\langle M, w \rangle) = \langle M', w \rangle$ and M' runs $M(w)$ if M rejects, then loop, otherwise accept.
2. Since A_{TM} is undecidable, then $HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable (Corollary 5.23).

Unfold Def 5.20:

$$\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \iff f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$$

Step 1: $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \implies f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$

Step 2: $f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM} \implies \langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$

Example 5.24

$HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable

Recall that:

$$HALT_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ halts on input } w\}$$

and that M' runs $M(w)$ if M reject, then loop, otherwise accept.

Proof (continuation).

Step 1. $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \implies f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}.$

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and that M' runs $M(w)$ if M reject, then loop, otherwise accept.

Proof (continuation).

Step 1. $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \implies f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$.

- Since $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$, then M accepts w .

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Recall that:

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and that M' runs $M(w)$ if M reject, then loop, otherwise accept.

Proof (continuation).

Step 1. $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM} \implies f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$.

- Since $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$, then M accepts w .
- Thus, M' halts, and therefore $\langle M', w \rangle \in HALT_{TM}$

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Proof (continuation).

Step 2. We have $f(\langle M, w \rangle) = \langle M', w \rangle \in HALT_{TM}$ and must show $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$.

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$HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable

Recall that:

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- Since $f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$ and (1), then M' halts.

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$HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable

Recall that:

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Proof (continuation).

Step 2. We have $f(\langle M, w \rangle) = \langle M', w \rangle \in HALT_{TM}$ and must show $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$.

- Since $f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$ and (1), then M' halts.
- Thus, M' accepts,

Example 5.24

$HALT_{TM}$ is undecidable

Recall that:

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2. M' runs $M(w)$ if M reject, then loop, otherwise accept.

Proof (continuation).

Step 2. We have $f(\langle M, w \rangle) = \langle M', w \rangle \in HALT_{TM}$ and must show $\langle M, w \rangle \in A_{TM}$.

- Since $f(\langle M, w \rangle) \in HALT_{TM}$ and (1), then M' halts.
- Thus, M' accepts, and since M' only accepts when M accepts w , we conclude our proof.

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Detailed proof.

We must show that there exists some M_A that recognizes A .

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1. Let $M_A(w) = M_B(f(w))$.

That is, machine M_A given w computes $f(w)$ and **accepts**.

2. Show that $L(M_A) = A$.

- **Step 1:** If M_A accepts w , then $w \in A$.
- **Step 2:** If $w \in A$, then M_A accepts w .

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Proof (Step 1).

Hypothesis

H1 M_A accepts w

H2 $w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$

H3 M_B recognizes B

H4 $M_A(w) = M_B(f(w))$

Goal: show that $w \in A$

1. Since (H1) M_A accept w and H4, we have that M_B accepts $f(w)$.

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Proof (Step 1).

<i>Hypothesis</i>	
H1	M_A accepts w
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H3	M_B recognizes B
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1. Since (H1) M_A accept w and H4, we have that M_B accepts $f(w)$.
2. From M_B accepts $f(w)$ and H3, we get $f(w) \in B$.

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Goal: show that $w \in A$

1. Since (H1) M_A accept w and H4, we have that M_B accepts $f(w)$.
2. From M_B accepts $f(w)$ and H3, we get $f(w) \in B$.
3. Since $f(w) \in B$ and H2, then $w \in A$.

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Proof. (Step 2)

<i>Hypothesis</i>	
H0	$w \in A$
H1	$w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$
H2	M_B recognizes B
H3	$M_A(w) = M_B(f(w))$

Goal: show that M_A accepts w .

Theorem 5.28

If $A \leq_m B$ and B is recognizable, then A is recognizable.

Proof. (Step 2)

<i>Hypothesis</i>	
H0	$w \in A$
H1	$w \in A \iff f(w) \in B$
H2	M_B recognizes B
H3	$M_A(w) = M_B(f(w))$

Goal: show that M_A accepts w .

1. From (H1) $w \in A$ and H2, we have that $f(w) \in B$.
2. From $f(w) \in B$ and H3, we have that M_B accepts $f(w)$
3. From M_B accepts $f(w)$ and H4, we have that M_A accepts w .

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That is, machine M_A given w computes $f(w)$ and **accepts**.

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- **Step 1:** If M_A accepts w , then $w \in A$.
- **Step 2:** If $w \in A$, then M_A accepts w .