

Definition Reminder

A set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is **saturated** (or extensional) if: $\forall x, y \in \mathbb{N}: (x \in A \wedge \varphi_x = \varphi_y) \Rightarrow y \in A$

Negation: A set A is **NOT saturated** if: $\exists x, y \in \mathbb{N}: (x \in A \wedge \varphi_x = \varphi_y \wedge y \notin A)$

In other words, we need to find two indices that compute the same function, but only one belongs to A .

General Strategy

Step 1: Understand What Makes a Set Non-Saturated

A set is NOT saturated when its membership depends on:

- **Index properties** (like the value of the index itself)
- **Syntactic properties** (like program length, specific representation)
- **Computational steps** (like number of steps to terminate)

Rather than purely **semantic properties** (like function behavior).

Step 2: Standard Approach

1. **Construct a specific function** using Second Recursion Theorem
2. **Find two different indices** for the same function
3. **Show they have different membership** in the set

Method 1: Using Second Recursion Theorem

Template Proof Structure

Theorem: The set $A = \{\text{definition}\}$ is not saturated.

Proof:

1. **Define auxiliary function:** Define $g: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by

$g(x, y) = \{\text{specific definition based on the set } A\}$

2. **Apply smn-theorem:** Since g is computable, by smn-theorem there exists a total computable function $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\varphi_{s(x)}(y) = g(x, y)$.
3. **Apply Second Recursion Theorem:** By the Second Recursion Theorem, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\varphi_e = \varphi_{s(e)}$.

4. **Analyze membership:** Show that $e \in A$ (or $e \notin A$).
5. **Find different index:** Since there are infinitely many indices for any computable function, there exists $e' \neq e$ such that $\varphi_e = \varphi_{e'}$.
6. **Show different membership:** Demonstrate that e' has opposite membership from e in A .
7. **Conclude:** Since $\varphi_e = \varphi_{e'}$, but e and e' have different membership in A , the set A is not saturated. \square

Worked Examples from Real Exams

Example 1: The Halting Set $K = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_x(x) \downarrow\}$

Theorem: K is not saturated.

Proof:

1. **Define auxiliary function:** Define $g: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y = x; \\ \uparrow & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} = \mu z. |y - x|$$

2. **Apply smn-theorem:** Since g is computable, by the smn-theorem there exists a total computable function $s: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\varphi_{s(x)}(y) = g(x, y)$.
3. **Apply Second Recursion Theorem:** By the Second Recursion Theorem, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\varphi_e = \varphi_{s(e)}$. Therefore:

$$\varphi_e(y) = g(e, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y = e; \\ \uparrow & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

4. **Analyze membership:** Clearly $e \in K$ since $\varphi_e(e) = 0 \downarrow$.
5. **Find different index:** Since there are infinitely many indices for any computable function, there exists $e' \neq e$ such that $\varphi_e = \varphi_{e'}$.
6. **Show different membership:** We have $e' \notin K$ since $\varphi_{e'}(e') = \varphi_e(e') = \uparrow$ (because $e' \neq e$).
7. **Conclusion:** Since $\varphi_e = \varphi_{e'}$ but $e \in K$ and $e' \notin K$, the set K is not saturated. \square

Example 2: $B = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \exists k \in \mathbb{N}: k \cdot x \in W_x\}$ (From Exam)

Theorem: B is not saturated.

Proof:

1. **Define auxiliary function:** Define $g: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(x, y) = \begin{cases} 0 & \text{if } y = x; \\ \uparrow & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$

2. **Apply smn and SRT:** By the smn-theorem and Second Recursion Theorem, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that:

$$\phi_e(y) = \{0 \text{ if } y = e; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$$

Therefore $W_e = \{e\}$.

3. **Analyze membership:** $e \in B$ since $1 \cdot e = e \in W_e = \{e\}$.
4. **Find different index:** There exists $e' > e$ such that $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$, so $W_{e'} = W_e = \{e\}$.
5. **Show different membership:** $e' \notin B$ since for any $k \in \mathbb{N}$:
- If $k > 0$: $k \cdot e' > e$, so $k \cdot e' \notin W_{e'} = \{e\}$
 - If $k = 0$: $k \cdot e' = 0 \neq e$, so $k \cdot e' \notin W_{e'} = \{e\}$
6. **Conclusion:** Since $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$ but $e \in B$ and $e' \notin B$, the set B is not saturated. \square

Example 3: $C = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \phi_x(x) = x^2\}$ (From Exam)

Theorem: C is not saturated.

Proof:

1. **Define auxiliary function:** Define $g: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(x, y) = \{x^2 \text{ if } y = x; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$$

2. **Apply smn and SRT:** By the smn-theorem and Second Recursion Theorem, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that:

$$\phi_e(y) = \{e^2 \text{ if } y = e; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$$

3. **Analyze membership:** $e \in C$ since $\phi_e(e) = e^2$.
4. **Find different index:** There exists $e' \neq e$ such that $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$.
5. **Show different membership:** $e' \notin C$ since $\phi_{e'}(e') = \phi_e(e') = \uparrow$ (because $e' \neq e$).
6. **Conclusion:** Since $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$ but $e \in C$ and $e' \notin C$, the set C is not saturated. \square

Example 4: $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid [0, x] \subseteq W_x\}$ (From Exam)

Theorem: A is not saturated.

Proof:

1. **Define auxiliary function:** Define $g: \mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ by

$$g(e, x) = \{e \text{ if } x \leq e; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$$

2. **Apply smn and SRT:** By the smn-theorem and Second Recursion Theorem, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that:

$$\phi_e(x) = \{e \text{ if } x \leq e; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$$

Therefore $W_e = [0, e]$ (assuming $e \neq 0$).

3. **Analyze membership:** $e \in A$ since $[0, e] \subseteq W_e = [0, e]$.
4. **Find different index:** There exists $e' > e$ such that $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$, so $W_{e'} = W_e = [0, e]$.
5. **Show different membership:** $e' \notin A$ since $[0, e'] \not\subseteq [0, e] = W_{e'}$ (because $e' > e$).
6. **Conclusion:** Since $\phi_e = \phi_{e'}$ but $e \in A$ and $e' \notin A$, the set A is not saturated. \square

When Sets ARE Saturated: Rice vs Rice-Shapiro Applications

Rice's Theorem: Proving "Not Recursive"

Template: Let $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ be saturated with $A \neq \emptyset$ and $A \neq \mathbb{N}$. By Rice's theorem, A is not recursive.

Exam Example 1: $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid E_x \cap X \neq \emptyset\}$ where X is finite and non-empty

Solution:

1. **Show saturation:** $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \phi_x \in \mathcal{A}\}$ where $\mathcal{A} = \{f \mid \text{cod}(f) \cap X \neq \emptyset\}$
2. **Show non-triviality:**
 - $A \neq \emptyset$: If e is such that $\phi_e = \text{id}$, then $e \in A$ since $X \cap E_e = X \cap \mathbb{N} = X \neq \emptyset$
 - $A \neq \mathbb{N}$: If e' is such that $\phi_{e'} = \emptyset$, then $e' \notin A$ since $X \cap E_{e'} = X \cap \emptyset = \emptyset$
3. **Apply Rice:** By Rice's theorem, A is not recursive. \square

Rice-Shapiro Theorem: Proving "Not R.E."

Template: Use Rice-Shapiro to show A is not r.e. by finding:

- $\exists f \in \mathcal{A}$ but $\forall \theta \subseteq f$ finite: $\theta \notin \mathcal{A}$, OR
- $\exists f \notin \mathcal{A}$ but $\exists \theta \subseteq f$ finite: $\theta \in \mathcal{A}$

Exam Example 2: $B = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid W_x \neq \emptyset \wedge \min(W_x) > 0\}$

Solution:

1. **Show saturation:** $B = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \phi_x \in \mathcal{B}\}$ where $\mathcal{B} = \{f \mid \text{dom}(f) \neq \emptyset \wedge \min(\text{dom}(f)) > 0\}$
2. **Apply Rice-Shapiro for B not r.e.:**
 - Consider $\text{id} \notin \mathcal{B}$ since $\text{dom}(\text{id}) = \mathbb{N}$, so $\min(\text{dom}(\text{id})) = 0$
 - Define $\theta(x) = \{1 \text{ if } x = 1; \uparrow \text{ otherwise}\}$

- Then $\theta \subseteq \text{id}$, θ is finite, and $\theta \in \mathcal{B}$ since $\min(\text{dom}(\theta)) = 1 > 0$
- By Rice-Shapiro, \mathcal{B} is not r.e.

3. Apply Rice-Shapiro for $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ not r.e.:

- $\theta \notin \bar{\mathcal{B}}$ (since $\theta \in \mathcal{B}$)
- $\emptyset \subseteq \theta$, \emptyset is finite, and $\emptyset \in \bar{\mathcal{B}}$ since $\text{dom}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$
- By Rice-Shapiro, $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ is not r.e.

4. Conclusion: Both \mathcal{B} and $\bar{\mathcal{B}}$ are not r.e., hence not recursive. \square

Exam Example 3: $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid W_x \setminus E_x \text{ is infinite}\}$

Solution:

1. Show saturation: $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_x \in \mathcal{A}\}$ where $\mathcal{A} = \{f \mid \text{dom}(f) \setminus \text{cod}(f) \text{ is infinite}\}$

2. Apply Rice-Shapiro for \mathcal{A} not r.e.:

- Consider constant function $1 \in \mathcal{A}$ since $\text{dom}(1) = \mathbb{N}$, $\text{cod}(1) = \{1\}$, so $\text{dom}(1) \setminus \text{cod}(1) = \mathbb{N} \setminus \{1\}$ is infinite
- For any finite $\theta \subseteq 1$: $\text{dom}(\theta)$ is finite, so $\text{dom}(\theta) \setminus \text{cod}(\theta)$ is finite, hence $\theta \notin \mathcal{A}$
- By Rice-Shapiro, \mathcal{A} is not r.e.

3. Apply Rice-Shapiro for $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ not r.e.:

- $\emptyset \in \bar{\mathcal{A}}$ since $\text{dom}(\emptyset) \setminus \text{cod}(\emptyset) = \emptyset$ is finite
- $1 \notin \bar{\mathcal{A}}$ (since $1 \in \mathcal{A}$) and $\emptyset \subseteq 1$
- By Rice-Shapiro, $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ is not r.e.

4. Conclusion: Both \mathcal{A} and $\bar{\mathcal{A}}$ are not r.e., hence not recursive. \square

When SRT is Not Applicable

Sometimes you can directly construct counterexamples:

Example: $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \text{program length} \leq 10\}$

Proof:

1. Find same function, different lengths: Consider the zero function:

- $m = \gamma(Z(1))$ has length ≤ 10 , so $m \in A$
- $n = \gamma(Z(1) Z(1) \dots Z(1))$ (with 20 copies) has length > 10 , so $n \notin A$

2. Same function: $\varphi_m = \varphi_n = 0$ (constant zero function)

3. Conclusion: A is not saturated. \square

Common Mistakes to Avoid

- Don't confuse syntax with semantics:** Sets based on program properties (not function properties) are typically not saturated.
- Verify function equality:** Always confirm that $\varphi_x = \varphi_y$ before claiming non-saturation.

3. **Check the construction:** In SRT proofs, verify that your constructed function actually has the desired properties.
4. **Index vs. behavior:** Remember that non-saturated sets depend on indices, not just function behavior.

Quick Recognition Patterns

A set is likely **NOT saturated** if it involves:

- $\lambda x "x \in W_x"$ (self-reference to index)
- $\lambda x "\varphi_x(x) = \text{specific value involving } x"$
- $\lambda x "\text{program properties}"$ (length, syntax)
- $\lambda x "\text{number of computation steps}"$
- $\lambda x "k \cdot x \in W_x"$ (index arithmetic)

A set is likely **saturated** if it only involves:

- ✓ Domain properties: " W_x has property P"
- ✓ Codomain properties: " E_x has property P"
- ✓ Function properties: " φ_x is total/partial/constant"

Complete Formal Strategy for Exams

Step-by-Step Classification Process

1. Check if set is saturated

- **If NOT saturated:** Use Second Recursion Theorem method (this guide)
- **If saturated:** Continue to step 2

2. Apply appropriate theorem

- **Rice's Theorem:** Always gives "not recursive" for non-trivial saturated sets
- **Rice-Shapiro:** Use to prove "not r.e." by finding function/subfunction contradictions

3. Check for r.e. property

- Try to write semicharacteristic function $sc_A(x) = 1(\mu w \dots)$
- If successful: set is r.e. but not recursive
- If Rice-Shapiro shows not r.e.: set is not r.e., hence not recursive

4. Analyze complement

- If A is r.e. but not recursive: \bar{A} is not r.e.
- If both A and \bar{A} are not r.e. (Rice-Shapiro): both are not recursive

Formal Writing Template for Exams

For NON-SATURATED sets: "To show that A is not saturated, we apply the Second Recursion Theorem. Define $g(x,y) = [\text{specific function}]$. By the smn-theorem and SRT, there exists e such that $\varphi_e = [\text{specific form}]$. Then $e \in A$, but there exists $e' \neq e$ with $\varphi_e = \varphi_{e'}$ and $e' \notin A$, contradicting saturation."

For SATURATED sets: "The set A is saturated since $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_x \in \mathcal{A}\}$ where $\mathcal{A} = [\text{function property}]$. Since $A \neq \emptyset$ and $A \neq \mathbb{N}$ [provide examples], by Rice's theorem A is not recursive. [Optional: Apply Rice-Shapiro to show r.e./not r.e. status]"

Final Exam Checklist

- ✓ **Always state what you're proving:** "not saturated", "not recursive", "not r.e."
- ✓ **Use precise notation:** $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$, $\varphi_x \in \mathcal{A}$, etc.
- ✓ **Reference theorems by name:** "By Rice's theorem", "By the Second Recursion Theorem"
- ✓ **Verify all conditions:** saturation, non-triviality, function constructions
- ✓ **State conclusions clearly:** "Therefore, A is not recursive"