

DECIDABLE AND UNDECIDABLE PROBLEMS

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- Notice (important): known problem \rightarrow unknown problem



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$$E = \{\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \mid \varepsilon \in L(\mathcal{A})\}$$



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- consider an instance of HALT: $\langle \mathcal{A}, x \rangle$
- define \mathcal{A}' on input y
 1. erase y
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 3. run \mathcal{A} on x
 4. accept y if \mathcal{A} halts on x



Cont. Decidability of E

$$\bigcirc L(\mathcal{A}') = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } \mathcal{A} \text{ halts on } x, \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$$



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- $L(\mathcal{A}') = \begin{cases} \Sigma^* & \text{if } \mathcal{A} \text{ halts on } x, \\ \emptyset & \text{otherwise} \end{cases}$
- Deciding HALT: Suppose E decidable



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 - construct \mathcal{A}'
 - decide whether \mathcal{A}' accepts ε



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- Deciding HALT: Suppose E decidable
 - construct \mathcal{A}'
 - decide whether \mathcal{A}' accepts ε
 - $\Rightarrow L(\mathcal{A}') \neq \emptyset \Rightarrow \mathcal{A} \text{ halts (Contradiction)}$



Undecidable Problems

- $\text{Reg}_a = \{\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \mid \mathcal{A} \text{ accepts regular set}\}$
- $\text{CFL}_a = \{\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \mid \mathcal{A} \text{ accepts CFL}\}$
- $\text{Rec}_a = \{\langle \mathcal{A} \rangle \mid \mathcal{A} \text{ accepts recursive set}\}$



REDUCTION

How to decide Undecidability?

1. Diagonalisation (we have proven the correctness of this strategy)



How to decide Undecidability?

1. Diagonalisation (we have proven the correctness of this strategy)
2. Reduction (we saw an example)
 - Idea: reducing known undecidable problem to new one



Effectively Computable

Definition

function f **effectively computable** iff f computable by total Turing machine that outputs $f(x)$ on input x



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Examples:

- addition, multiplication
- prime numbers



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$A \subseteq \Sigma^*, B \subseteq \Delta^*$

$\sigma : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \Delta^*$ **reduction** of A to B iff

- σ total, effectively computable
- $\forall x \in \Sigma^* : x \in A \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \in B$



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Definition

$$A \subseteq \Sigma^*, B \subseteq \Delta^*$$

A **reducible** to B iff reduction of A to B exists ($A \leq_\sigma B$)



Reducibility and (Recursively) Enumerable

Theorem

1. $A \leq_{\sigma} B$, B (recursively) enumerable $\Rightarrow A$ (recursively) enumerable
2. $A \leq_{\sigma} B$, A not (recursively) enumerable $\Rightarrow B$ not (recursively) enumerable



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Proof:

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- M TM with $B = L(M)$



- $A \leq_\sigma B$, B (recursively) enumerable, \mathcal{A} TM with $B = L(\mathcal{A})$



- $A \leq_\sigma B$, B (recursively) enumerable, \mathcal{A} TM with $B = L(\mathcal{A})$
- define TM N on input x



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 - accept if \mathcal{A} accepts
- N accepts $x \Leftrightarrow \mathcal{A}$ accepts $\sigma(x) \Leftrightarrow \sigma(x) \in B \Leftrightarrow x \in A$ □



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FIN and $\overline{\text{FIN}}$ are not recursively enumerable.



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- we need: σ with $\langle \mathcal{A}, x \rangle \in \overline{\text{HALT}} \Leftrightarrow \sigma(\langle \mathcal{A}, x \rangle) \in \text{FIN}$



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- i.e. we need TM \mathcal{A}' with (\mathcal{A} does not halt on $x \Leftrightarrow L(\mathcal{A}')$ finite)



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 1. erase input
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 4. accept if \mathcal{A} halts
- \mathcal{A} does not halt on $x \Leftrightarrow L(\mathcal{A}')$ finite
- σ total, effectively computable since
 - $\sigma(\langle \mathcal{A}, x \rangle) = \mathcal{A}$ works



RICE'S THEOREM

Non-trivial Properties of Recursively Enumerable Sets

Definition

\mathcal{R} set of all recursively enumerable sets over Σ

- $P : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \{\text{true}, \text{false}\}$ **non-trivial property** iff P is surjective

(the property is neither universally true nor false)



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Examples: finiteness, regularity, context-freeness, completeness



Rice's Theorem

Theorem (Rice)

Every non-trivial property of the recursively enumerable sets is undecidable.



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- Plan: Reduction of HALT to $\{M \mid P(L(M)) = \text{true}\}$



Cont. Proof Rice's Theorem

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- Reduction: HALT to $\{M \mid P(L(M)) = \text{true}\}$
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 3. run M on x
 4. M halts on $x \Rightarrow$ run K on y and accept iff K accepts



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- M halts on $x \Rightarrow L(M') = A \Rightarrow P(L(M')) = P(A) = \text{true}$



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 4. M halts on $x \Rightarrow$ run K on y and accept iff K accepts
- M halts on $x \Rightarrow L(M') = A \Rightarrow P(L(M')) = P(A) = \text{true}$
- M loops on $x \Rightarrow L(M') = \emptyset \Rightarrow P(L(M')) = P(\emptyset) = \text{false}$



Monotone Properties

Definition

assume: $\text{false} \leq \text{true}$

$P : \mathcal{R} \rightarrow \{\text{false}, \text{true}\}$ monotone iff

$$\forall A, B \in \mathcal{R} : A \subseteq B \Rightarrow P(A) \leq P(B).$$



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Examples:

- infinity, equality to Σ^* are monotone
- finiteness, emptiness not



Rice's Theorem Part II

Theorem

No non-monotone property of recursively enumerable sets is semidecidable

(i.e. P non-monotone property $\Rightarrow T_P = \{M \mid P(L(M)) = \text{true}\}$ not recursively enumerable)



Rice's Theorem Part II

Theorem

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(i.e. P non-monotone property $\Rightarrow T_P = \{M \mid P(L(M)) = \text{true}\}$ not recursively enumerable)

we omit the proof



UNDECIDABLE PROBLEMS ABOUT CFLs

Emptiness Problem for CFLs

- decidable or undecidable?



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- decidable or undecidable?
- Pumping-Lemma \Rightarrow if CFL not empty, then it contains short word



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- CYK-Algo \Rightarrow test all short words



Emptiness Problem for CFLs

- decidable or undecidable?
- Pumping-Lemma \Rightarrow if CFL not empty, then it contains short word
- CYK-Algo \Rightarrow test all short words
- Emptiness problem for CFLs decidable (procedure not nice)



Backward-Chaining

better algorithm for deciding $\text{EMPTY}_{\text{CFL}}$ by considering the grammar w.l.o.g. in CNF

1. mark all terminal symbols



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1. mark all terminal symbols
2. if right hand side of production is completely marked then mark left-hand side and all occurrences of this left-hand side in the right-hand side



Backward-Chaining

better algorithm for deciding $\text{EMPTY}_{\text{CFL}}$ by considering the grammar w.l.o.g. in CNF

1. mark all terminal symbols
2. if right hand side of production is completely marked
then mark left-hand side and all occurrences of this
left-hand side in the right-hand side
3. if nothing newly marked
then return false if S is marked, true otherwise
else goto (2)



Chomsky Hierarchy in Grammars

Type 0	Type 1	Type 2	Type 3
unrestricted	context-sensitive	context-free	right-linear
TM		PDA	DFA/NFA



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- context-sensitive $|LHS| \leq |RHS|$
- right-linear $A \rightarrow aB$



WHILE-PROGRAMS

Syntax of While-Programs

$\text{Var} = \{x, y, \dots\}$ ranging over \mathbb{N} and $\circ \in \{<, >, \leq, \geq, =, \neq\}$

1. simple assignment $x := 0, x := y + 1, x := y$
2. sequential composition $p; q$
3. conditional if $x \circ y$ then p else q
4. for loop for y do p
5. while loop for $x \circ y$ do p



Semantics of While-Programs

Definition

- σ **state/environment**: $\sigma : \text{Var} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$
- Env set of all environments
- $\sigma[x \leftarrow a](x) = a$ and $\sigma[x \leftarrow a](y) = \sigma(y)$ for $y \neq x$



Cont: Inductive Definition of Semantics

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- $\llbracket p; q \rrbracket_\sigma = \llbracket q \rrbracket_\sigma(\llbracket p \rrbracket_\sigma)$



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- $\llbracket \text{while } x \circ y \text{ do } p \rrbracket_\sigma = \begin{cases} \llbracket p \rrbracket_\sigma^n & \text{if } n = \min\{k \in \mathbb{N} \mid \llbracket p \rrbracket_\sigma^k \text{ defined and} \\ & \neg(\llbracket p \rrbracket_\sigma^k(x) \circ \llbracket p \rrbracket_\sigma^k(y))\} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise.} \end{cases}$



Theorem

1. *μ -recursive functions are as powerful as while-programmes and v.v.*
2. *primitive recursive functions are as powerful as for-programmes and v.v.*

