
Recursion Theory

Recap

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Computability, Decidability, Enumerability

Without formalizing the notion of “algorithm” yet, we say that..

- .. an algorithm \mathcal{A} computes a partial function $f: \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$, if \mathcal{A} terminates on input \bar{x} iff $f(\bar{x})$ is defined. Furthermore, if $f(\bar{x})$ is defined, then \mathcal{A} has to return $f(\bar{x})$. We say f is *computable*.
 - .. an algorithm \mathcal{A} decides a set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$, if \mathcal{A} on input \bar{x} terminates and returns 1 if $\bar{x} \in A$ and 0 if $\bar{x} \notin A$. We say A is *decidable*.
 - .. an algorithm \mathcal{A} enumerates a set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$, if \mathcal{A} started without input returns the members of A one after the after (in any order). We say that A is *enumerable*.
1. A decidable iff A and $\mathbb{N}^n \setminus A$ enumerable.
 2. A enumerable iff $A = \text{dom}(f)$ for some computable f .

Unlimited Register Machines

Very simple notion of algorithm (no distinction between machine and code!)

An unlimited register machine (URM) is a list $\mathcal{P} = I_1, \dots, I_k$ of instructions such that $I_k = k \text{ STOP}$ and for every $j < k$ is

- $I_j = j \text{ INC}(X_i)$,
- $I_j = j \text{ DEC}(X_i)$, or
- $I_j = j \text{ IF } X_i > 0 \text{ GOTO } \ell$

with $\ell \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ and $i \geq 1$.

Configuration: (k_0, k_1, k_2, \dots) where

- $k_0 \in \{1, \dots, k\}$ is the current line number, and
- $k_i \in \mathbb{N}$ is the current content of register i .

Successor configuration of (k_0, k_1, k_2, \dots) :

- none, if $k_0 = k$ (termination)
- $(k_0 + 1, k_1, \dots, k_{i-1}, k_i + 1, k_{i+1}, \dots)$, if $l_j = j$ INC(X_i)
- $(k_0 + 1, k_1, \dots, k_{i-1}, k_i - 1, k_{i+1}, \dots)$, if $l_j = j$ DEC(X_i)
- (k'_0, k_1, k_2, \dots) , if $l_j = j$ IF $X_i > 0$ GOTO ℓ , where $k'_0 = \ell$, if $k_i > 0$, and $k'_0 = k_0 + 1$, if $k_i = 0$.

- $\mathcal{P}_{x_1 \cdots x_n} \downarrow$, if \mathcal{P} starting with conf. $(1, x_1, \dots, x_n, 0, \dots)$ reaches configuration of the form (k, y_1, y_2, \dots) .
- Then: $\mathcal{P}_{x_1 \cdots x_n} \downarrow y_1$.
- Otherwise: $\mathcal{P}_{x_1 \cdots x_n} \uparrow$.

Encoding URM's

- The pairing function $[x, y] = 2^x(2y + 1) - 1$ is bijective.
- The inverses
 - $[z]_1 =$ “exponent of 2 in prime factorization of $z + 1$ ” and
 - $[z]_2 = (z + 1)/[z]_1$satisfy $[[z]_1, [z]_2] = z$.

- The sequence encoding $\langle \varepsilon \rangle = 0$ and

$$\langle x_0, \dots, x_k \rangle = p_0^{x_0} \cdots p_{k-1}^{x_{k-1}} p_k^{x_k+1} - 1$$

is bijective.

Encoding URM's cont'd

Instructions encoded by

- $\text{code}(\text{INC}(X_i)) = [0, i]$
- $\text{code}(\text{IF } X_i > 0 \text{ GOTO } \ell) = [i, \ell]$
- $\text{code}(\text{DEC}(X_i)) = [i, 0]$
- $\text{code}(\text{STOP}) = 0$

URM $\mathcal{P} = I_1, \dots, I_k$ encoded by

$$\text{code}(\mathcal{P}) = \langle \text{code}(I_1), \dots, \text{code}(I_k) \rangle$$

- Some e do not encode an URM.
- Let \mathcal{P}_e be URM encoded by e , if e encodes one, otherwise an always non-terminating URM.
- $\varphi_e^{(n)}$: n -ary function computed by \mathcal{P}_e , e is an index of $\varphi_e^{(n)}$.
- $W_e^{(n)}$: domain of $\varphi_e^{(n)}$.

Primitive Recursive Functions

Base functions:

- Successor $S(x) = x + 1$
- n -ary constant zero $c_0^{(n)}(\bar{x}) = 0$
- i -th n -ary projection $p_i^{(n)}(x_1, \dots, x_n) = x_i$ for $1 \leq i \leq n$

Composition: given $h: \mathbb{N}^m \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and $g_1, \dots, g_m: \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ define $f: \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ via

$$f(\bar{x}) = h(g_1(\bar{x}), \dots, g_m(\bar{x}))$$

Primitive recursion: given $g: \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and $h: \mathbb{N}^{n+2} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ define $f: \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ via

$$f(\bar{x}, 0) = g(\bar{x})$$

$$f(\bar{x}, y + 1) = h(\bar{x}, y, f(\bar{x}, y))$$

Primitive Recursive Functions

Definition

1. A function is primitive recursive, if it can be constructed from the base functions, composition, and primitive recursion.
2. A set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$ is primitive recursive, if its characteristic function is primitiverecursive.

Syntactic Sugar:

- Bounded sum and product, e.g., $\text{sum}_g(\bar{x}, y) = \sum_{z=0}^y g(\bar{x}, y, z)$
- Bounded quantification, e.g., $QE\bar{x}y \Leftrightarrow \exists z \leq y R\bar{x}yz$
- Bounded minimization, e.g.,

$$\mu z \leq y R\bar{x}yz = \min(\{z \leq y \mid R\bar{x}yz\} \cup \{y\})$$

- Case distinction (if the conditions are primitive recursive)

μ -recursive Functions

Unbounded minimization (μ -operator): given $g: \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ define $f: \mathbb{N}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ via

$$f(\bar{x}) = \min\{y \mid g(\bar{x}, y) = 0 \text{ and } g(\bar{x}, z) > 0 \text{ for all } z < y\}$$

where $\min \emptyset = \perp$.

Notation: $f(\bar{x}) = \mu y: g(\bar{x}, y) = 0$

Definition

1. A function is μ -recursive, if it can be constructed from the base functions, composition, primitive recursion, and unbounded minimization.
2. A set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^n$ is μ -recursive, if its characteristic function is μ -recursive.

Kleene Normal Form Theorem

Theorem

There is a primitive recursive function $U: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ and a primitive recursive predicate $T_n \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{n+2}$ for every n such that for every n -ary URM-computable function f , we have

$$f(\bar{x}) = U(\mu y T_n e \bar{x} y)$$

for some suitable e (an index of f).

Note: U and T_n independent on f , only e depends on f .

- Converse is true as well: every μ -recursive function is URM-computable.
- Corollary: every μ -recursive function is definable with just one application of the μ -operator.

Non-recursive Sets

- $K = \{e \mid \varphi_e(e) \downarrow\} = \{e \mid e \in W_e\} = \{e \mid \exists y T_1 e e y\}$.
- $\text{Tot} = \{e \mid \varphi_e \text{ total}\} = \{e \mid W_e = \mathbb{N}\} = \{e \mid \forall x \exists y T_1 e x y\}$.

Theorem

1. K is not recursive.
2. Tot is not recursive.

Universal Functions

Let \mathcal{R} be a class of n -ary functions. $F: \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ is universal for \mathcal{R} , if

- for every $f \in \mathcal{R}$ there exists e such that $f(\bar{x}) = F(e, \bar{x})$, and
- for every e , the function $\bar{x} \mapsto F(e, \bar{x})$ is in \mathcal{R} .

Let $\Phi^{(n+1)}: \mathbb{N}^{n+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ be defined by $\Phi(e, \bar{x}) = U(\mu y T_n e \bar{x} y)$.

Theorem

Φ^{n+1} is universal for the class of n -ary μ -recursive functions, and is itself μ -recursive.

Theorem

1. *There is no universal function for the class of n -ary total μ -recursive functions that is itself total and μ -recursive.*
2. *There is no universal function for the class of n -ary p.r. functions that is itself total and p.r..*

s-m-n, Rice and Recursion Theorem

Theorem

For all $m, n \geq 1$ there is a total μ -recursive $s_n^m: \mathbb{N}^{m+1} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $\varphi_e^{(m+n)}(\bar{x}, \bar{y}) = \varphi_{s_n^m(e, \bar{x})}^{(n)}(\bar{y})$ for all $\bar{x} \in \mathbb{N}^m, \bar{y} \in \mathbb{N}^n$.

- $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ represents semantic program property, if there is a class \mathcal{F} of functions s.t. $e \in A \Leftrightarrow \varphi_e \in \mathcal{F}$.
- A is non-trivial, if $A \neq \emptyset$ and $A \neq \mathbb{N}$.

Theorem

Every non-trivial set that represents a semantic program property is not μ -recursive.

Theorem

For every total μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ there is an e s.t. $\varphi_e = \varphi_{f(e)}$.

Theorem

Let $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ be non-empty. The following three conditions are equivalent:

1. There is a total μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $A = f(\mathbb{N})$.
2. There is a μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $A = f(\mathbb{N})$.
3. There is a μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ s.t. $A = \text{dom}(f)$.

Such an A is called (μ -recursively) enumerable.

Theorem

K is enumerable.

Reductions

Let $A, B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$.

- $A \leq_m B$ if there exists a total μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in B$.
- $A \leq_1 B$ if there exists an injective total μ -recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in B$.

Lemma

1. \leq_1, \leq_m are reflexive and transitive.
2. $A \leq_1 B$ implies $A \leq_m B$.
3. $A \leq_1 B$ iff $\bar{A} \leq_1 \bar{B}$.
4. $A \leq_m B$ iff $\bar{A} \leq_m \bar{B}$.
5. $A \leq_m B$ and B μ -recursive, then A μ -recursive.
6. $A \leq_m B$ and B enumerable, then A enumerable.

Theorem

A, \bar{A} enumerable iff A μ -recursive.

Hence: \bar{K} not enumerable.

A is 1-complete (m -complete) if

- A is enumerable, and
- $B \leq_1 A$ ($B \leq_m A$) for all enumerable B .

Theorem

K is 1-complete and m -complete.

Degrees and Myhill's Theorem

- $A \equiv_1 B$ iff $A \leq_1 B$ and $B \leq_1 A$.
- $A \equiv_m B$ iff $A \leq_m B$ and $B \leq_m A$.

Equivalence classes are called degrees.

A and B are recursively isomorphic, if there is a recursive bijection $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow f(x) \in B$.

Theorem

$A \equiv_1 B$ iff A and B are recursively isomorphic.

Productive and Creative Sets

- $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is productive, if there is a recursive $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that

$$W_x \subseteq A \Rightarrow f(x) \downarrow \text{ and } f(x) \in A \setminus W_x.$$

- $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is creative, if A is enumerable and \bar{A} is productive.

Lemma

Productive sets are not enumerable.

Theorem

1. K is creative.
2. If $A \leq_m B$ and A productive, then B productive.

Theorem

1. *Every infinite enumerable set contains an infinite recursive subset.*
 2. *Every productive set contains an infinite enumerable subset.*
- $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is immune, if it is infinite and contains no infinite enumerable subset.
 - $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is simple, if it is enumerable and \overline{A} is immune.

Theorem

There exists a simple set S .

Comparing Degree Structures

Theorem

There are sets $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ and $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ such that $A \equiv_m B$ and $A \not\equiv_1 B$.

Theorem

$A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ is creative iff A is m -complete.

Theorem

Every simple set is enumerable, not recursive, but also not m -complete.

Truth-table Reductions

- A truth-table condition is a pair $((y_1, \dots, y_n), \alpha)$ where $\alpha: \mathbb{B}^n \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$.
- $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ satisfies the condition, if $\alpha(\chi_B(y_1), \dots, \chi_B(y_n)) = 1$.
- tt-conditions are enumerable.

$A \leq_{tt} B$ if there exists a total recursive function $f: \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}$ such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow B$ satisfies tt-condition $f(x)$.

Lemma

1. \leq_{tt} is reflexive and transitive.
2. $A \leq_m B$ implies $A \leq_{tt} B$ but the converse is not necessarily true.
3. $A \leq_{tt} \bar{A}$ for every $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$.
4. $A \leq_{tt} B$ and B μ -recursive, then A μ -recursive.

Turing Reductions

Consider URMs with additional oracle instructions

j IF $x_i \in B$ GOTO l

- \mathcal{P}_e^B : program with code e and oracle B
- φ_e^B : unary function computed by \mathcal{P}_e^B .
- W_e^B : domain of φ_e^B .

1. $A \leq_T B$, if $\chi_A = \varphi_e^B$ for some e (A recursive in B).
2. A enumerable in B , if $A = W_e^B$ for some e .

Lemma

1. A, \bar{A} enumerable in A iff A recursive in B .
2. \leq_T is reflexive and transitive.
3. $A \leq_{tt} B$ implies $A \leq_T B$, but the converse is not necessarily true.
4. $A \leq_T B$ and B μ -recursive, then A μ -recursive.
 - $A \equiv_T B$ if $A \leq_T B$ and $B \leq_T A$.
 - Equivalence classes are Turing degrees.
 - A Turing degree is enumerable, if it contains an enumerable set.

Theorem

There are incomparable enumerable Turing degrees.

The Turing Jump

For $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ let $A' = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \varphi_x^A(x) \downarrow\}$ and $A^{(n)} = A \overset{n \text{ times}}{\dots'}$.

Lemma

1. $A \leq_T A'$, but $A' \not\leq_T A$.
2. $\emptyset' \equiv_T K$.

Theorem

Let B be enumerable in A . Then, $B \leq_m A'$.

The Arithmetic Hierarchy

Define hierarchy Σ_n^0, Π_n^0 of relations via

- $\Sigma_0^0 = \Pi_0^0$ are the class of recursive relations.
- Σ_{n+1}^0 is the class of relations R such that

$$R\bar{x} \Leftrightarrow \exists y_1 \cdots \exists y_m Q\bar{x}y_1 \cdots y_m$$

for some $Q \in \Pi_n^0$.

- Π_{n+1}^0 dually with universal quantifiers and $Q \in \Sigma_n^0$.
- Define $\Delta_n^0 = \Sigma_n^0 \cap \Pi_n^0$.

R is arithmetic if it is in some Σ_n^0 .

The Arithmetic Hierarchy

Lemma

1. $R \in \Sigma_n^0 \Leftrightarrow \bar{R} \in \Pi_n^0$
2. $\Sigma_n^0, \Pi_n^0, \Delta_n^0$ are closed under union and intersection.
3. $\Sigma_n^0, \Pi_n^0 \subsetneq \Delta_{n+1}^0 \subsetneq \Sigma_{n+1}^0, \Pi_{n+1}^0$.
4. $A \in \Sigma_n^0$ implies $T^A \in \Delta_{n+1}^0$.
5. $\emptyset^{(n)} \in \Sigma_n^0$.

Theorem

1. $A \in \Sigma_{n+1}^0$ iff A is enumerable in some $B \in \Sigma_n^0$.
2. $A \in \Delta_{n+1}^0$ iff $A \leq_T B$ for some $B \in \Sigma_n^0$.
3. $A \in \Sigma_n^0$ iff $A \leq_m \emptyset^{(n)}$.
4. $A \in \Delta_{n+1}^0$ iff $A \leq_T \emptyset^{(n)}$.