

THEORY OF COMPUTATION

Recursively Enumerable Sets - 13 part 4

Prof. Dan A. Simovici

UMB

1 Diagonalization and Reducibility in the Theory of Computation

2 Reducibility

\mathcal{S} programs can be encoded as numbers, hence every one-argument function computed by an \mathcal{S} program appears in the list

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}_0}^{(1)}, \psi_{\mathcal{P}_1}^{(1)}, \dots$$

The proof of the fact that $\text{HALT}(x, y)$ is not computable is actually a proof by diagonalization. Recall that

$$\text{HALT}(x, y) \Leftrightarrow \psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}(x) \downarrow, \text{ where } \#(\mathcal{P}) = y$$

is not computable.

Suppose that $\text{HALT}(x, y)$ were computable by a program \mathcal{P} with $\#(\mathcal{P}) = y$, that is,

$$\text{HALT}(x, y) = \text{TRUE} \text{ if } \psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}(x) \downarrow,$$

and

$$\text{HALT}(x, y) = \text{FALSE} \text{ if } \psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}(x) \uparrow.$$

The set of \mathcal{S} programs is countable, so we can arrange it in a list:

$$\mathcal{P}_0, \mathcal{P}_1, \dots$$

Consider a list of all one-variable functions computed by these programs $\psi_{\mathcal{P}_0}^{(1)}, \psi_{\mathcal{P}_1}^{(1)}, \dots$ and construct the array:

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}_0}^{(1)}(0) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_0}^{(1)}(1) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_0}^{(1)}(2) \quad \dots$$

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}_1}^{(1)}(0) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_1}^{(1)}(1) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_1}^{(1)}(2) \quad \dots$$

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}_2}^{(1)}(0) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_2}^{(1)}(1) \quad \psi_{\mathcal{P}_2}^{(1)}(2) \quad \dots$$

$$\vdots \quad \vdots \quad \vdots$$

Each row represents one computable function.

Recall that we considered the program \mathcal{P} :

[A] IF HALT(X, X) GOTO A

that computed $\psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}(x)$. We claim that there is no row in the previous table that corresponds to \mathcal{P} . Note that

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}(x) \downarrow \text{ if and only if } \psi_{\mathcal{P}_x}^{(1)}(x) \uparrow .$$

Thus, the row that would correspond to $\psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(1)}$ will differ from the row that corresponds to \mathcal{P}_x in the diagonal entry. This makes impossible for \mathcal{P} to correspond to a row in this table!

Let $TOT = \{z \in \mathbb{N} \mid (\forall x)\Phi(x, z) \downarrow\}$. In other words, TOT is the set of **program codes** z that compute total functions.

Theorem

The set TOT is not r.e.

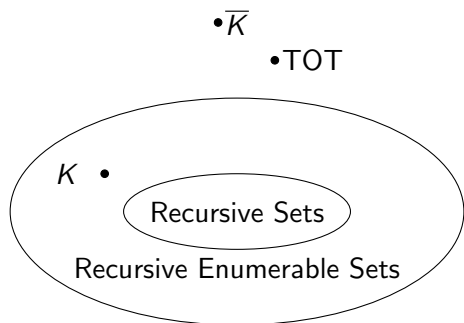
Proof.

Suppose TOT were r.e. Since $TOT \neq \emptyset$, there exists a computable function g such that $TOT = \{g(0), g(1), g(2), \dots\}$. Define $h(x) = \Phi(x, g(x)) + 1$.

Since $g(x)$ is the number of a program that computes a total function, $\Phi(x, g(x)) \downarrow$ for all x . In particular, $h(x) \downarrow$ for all x . Suppose that h is computed by \mathcal{P} with $p = \#(\mathcal{P})$. Then, $p \in TOT$, so $p = g(i)$ for some i . Then,

$$h(i) = \Phi(i, g(i)) + 1 = \Phi(i, p) + 1 = h(i) + 1,$$

which is a contradiction. □



Definition

Let A, B be sets. The set A is **many-one reducible** to B , written $A \leq_m B$ if there exists a computable function f such that

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid f(x) \in B\}.$$

If $A \leq_m B$, testing membership in A is no harder than testing membership in B because to test if $x \in A$, compute $f(x)$ and test whether $f(x) \in B$.

Theorem

Suppose $A \leq_m B$.

If B is recursive, then A is recursive.

If B is r.e., then A is r.e.

Proof.

Part 1: Since $A \leq_m B$ there exists f such that $A = \{x \mid f(x) \in B\}$. If P_B is the characteristic predicate of B , then $A = \{x \mid P_B(f(x)) = 1\}$, which show that $P_A(x) = P_B(f(x))$. Thus, if B is recursive, then P_A is computable so A is recursive. \square

Proof.

Part 2: Suppose B is r.e. Then,

$$B = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid g(x) \downarrow\}$$

for some partially computable function g . Therefore,

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid g(f(x)) \downarrow\}.$$

Since $g(f(x))$ is partially computable, A is r.e. □

Example

The set

$$K_0 = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \Phi_{r(x)}(\ell(x)) \downarrow\} = \{\langle x, y \rangle \mid \Phi_y(x) \downarrow\}$$

is r.e. but **it is not recursive**. K_0 is clearly r.e. We will prove that $K \leq_m K_0$ which should imply that K_0 is not recursive.

Example cont'd

Example

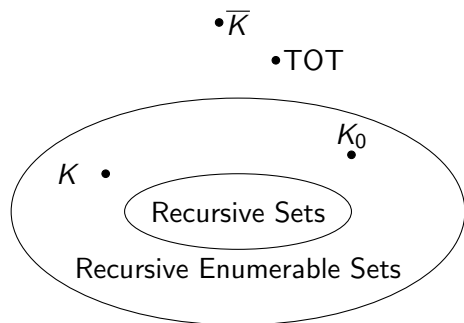
Facts:

- $x \in K$ if and only if $\langle x, x \rangle \in K_0$.
- $f(x) = \langle x, x \rangle$ is computable.

Claim: if A is r.e. then $A \leq_m K_0$:

$$\begin{aligned} A &= \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid g(x) \downarrow\} \text{ for some partially computable } g \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \Phi(x, z_0) \downarrow\} \text{ for some } z_0 \\ &= \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid \langle x, z_0 \rangle \in K_0\}. \end{aligned}$$

In particular, $K \leq_m K_0$.



Definition

A set A is *m -complete* if

- 1 A is r.e., and
- 2 for every r.e. set B we have $B \leq_m A$.

Example

The set K_0 is *m -complete*.

Theorem

If $A \leq_m B$ and $B \leq_m C$, then $A \leq_m C$.

Proof.

Let

$$A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid f(x) \in B\}, \text{ and}$$

$$B = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid g(x) \in C\}.$$

Then, $A = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid g(f(x)) \in C\}$. □

Corollary

If A is m -complete, B is r.e. and $A \leq_m B$, then B is m -complete.

Proof.

If C is r.e., then $C \leq_m A$ and $A \leq_m B$, so $C \leq_m B$, so B is m -complete. □

Note: testing membership in an m -complete set is at least as difficult as testing membership in any r.e. set.

Theorem

The set K is m -complete.

Proof.

We will show that $K_0 \leq_m K$. To this end, we start with a pair $\langle n, q \rangle$ and transform it into a number $f(\langle n, q \rangle)$ of a program such that

$$\Phi_q(n) \downarrow \text{ if and only if } \Phi_{f(\langle n, q \rangle)}(f(\langle n, q \rangle)) \downarrow .$$

In other words, $\langle n, q \rangle \in K_0$ if and only if $f(\langle n, q \rangle) \in K$. □

Proof cont'd

Proof:

Let \mathcal{P} be the \mathcal{S} program $Y \leftarrow \Phi^{(1)}(\ell(X_2), r(X_2))$ and let $p = \#(\mathcal{P})$.

Then, $\psi_{\mathcal{P}}(x_1, x_2) = \Phi^{(1)}(\ell(x_2), r(x_2))$, and

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}(x_1, x_2) = \Phi^{(2)}(x_1, x_2, p) = \Phi^{(1)}(x_1, S_1^1(x_2, p))$$

for all values of x_1 . This holds for all values of x_1 , so in particular,

$$\Phi^{(1)}(n, q) = \Phi_{S_1^1(\langle n, q \rangle, p)}^{(1)}(S_1^1(\langle n, q \rangle, p)).$$

Therefore, $\Phi^{(1)}(n, q) \downarrow$ if and only if $\Phi_{S_1^1(\langle n, q \rangle, p)}^{(1)}(S_1^1(\langle n, q \rangle, p)) \downarrow$,
 so

$$\langle n, q \rangle \in K_0 \text{ if and only if } S_1^1(\langle n, q \rangle, p) \in K.$$

With p held constant, $S_1^1(x, p)$ is a computable unary function.
 Thus, $K_0 \leq_m K$.

Definition

$A \equiv_m B$ means that $A \leq_m B$ and $B \leq_m A$.

$A \equiv_m B$ means that testing membership in A has the same difficulty as testing membership in B .

We proved that both K and K_0 are m -complete and that $K \equiv_m K_0$.

Definition

Let

$$\text{EMPTY} = \{x \in \mathbb{N} \mid W_x = \emptyset\}.$$

Theorem

The set EMPTY is not r.e.

Proof.

We show that $\overline{K} \leq_m \text{EMPTY}$. Since \overline{K} is not r.e, it will follow that EMPTY is not r.e.

Let \mathcal{P} be the \mathcal{S} program $Y \leftarrow \Phi(X_2, X_2)$ with $p = \#(\mathcal{P})$. \mathcal{P} does not use X_1 , so

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(2)}(x, z) \downarrow \text{ if and only if } \Phi(z, z) \downarrow .$$

By the smn theorem

$$\psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(2)}(x, z) = \Phi^{(2)}(z, z, p) = \Phi^{(1)}(x_1, S_1^1(x_2, p)).$$



Proof cont'd

Proof.

For any z we have

$$\begin{aligned}
 z \in \overline{K} &\Leftrightarrow \Phi(z, z) \uparrow \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \psi_{\mathcal{P}}^{(2)}(x, z) \uparrow \text{ for all } x \\
 &\Leftrightarrow \Phi^{(1)}(x, S_1^1(z, p)) \uparrow \text{ for all } x \\
 &\Leftrightarrow W_{S_1^1(z, p)} = \emptyset \\
 &\Leftrightarrow S_1^1(z, p) \in \text{EMPTY}.
 \end{aligned}$$

Since $f(z) = S_1^1(z, p)$ is computable, we have $\overline{K} \leq_m \text{EMPTY}$. \square

