

Limits of Turing Machines

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- 2 Decidable Languages
- 3 Uncountability and Power Sets
- 4 Undecidable Languages
- 5 Next Class



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Algorithm

Definition

An *algorithm* is a computational process that is describable in terms of a Turing machine.



Connected Graphs Example

$M =$ "On input $\langle G \rangle$, the string encoding of a graph G :

- 0 Check that $\langle G \rangle$ is in the correct format
- 1 Select the first node in G and mark it.
- 2 Repeat the following until no new nodes are marked:
 - 3 For each node in G , mark it if it is attached by an edge to a node that is already marked.
- 4 Scan all the nodes of G , if they are all marked, *accept*; otherwise *reject*."



Decidable Unions

Given two *decidable* languages L_1 and L_2 and corresponding Turing machines M_1 and M_2 the union of the languages can be decided by:

$M =$ "On input w :

- 0 Check that w is in the correct format.
- 1 Run M_1 on w . If it accepts, *accept*.
- 2 Run M_2 on w . If it accepts, *accept*.
- 3 Otherwise *reject*"



Recognizable Unions

Given two *Turing recognizable* languages L_1 and L_2 and corresponding Turing machines M_1 and M_2 the union of the languages can be recognized by:

$M =$ "On input w :

- 0 Check that w is in the correct format.
- 1 Run M_1 and M_2 alternately on w step by step. If either accepts, *accept*.
- 2 If both halt or reject, *reject*."



Decidable vs. Recognizable

Definition

A Language is *Turing-decidable* or simply *decidable* if some Turing machine decides it; the machine always reaches an accept or reject state. Given any word there is a TM that can tell if the word is or is not in the language.



Decidable vs. Recognizable

Definition

A Language is *Turing-decidable* or simply *decidable* if some Turing machine decides it; the machine always reaches an accept or reject state. Given any word there is a TM that can tell if the word is or is not in the language.

Definition

A Language is *Turing-recognizable* if some Turing machine recognizes it; in this case the machine reaches an accept state, reject state, or it may loop (fail to accept). There is a TM that accepts words in the language, but may fail to reach a verdict if a word is not in the language.



Decidable Intersections

Given two *decidable* languages L_1 and L_2 and corresponding Turing machines M_1 and M_2 the intersections of the languages can be decided by:
M=“On input w :

- 0 Check that w is in the correct format.
- 1 Run M_1 and M_2 on w . If they both accept, *accept*.
- 2 Otherwise *reject*”



Decidable Intersections

Given two *decidable* languages L_1 and L_2 and corresponding Turing machines M_1 and M_2 the intersections of the languages can be decided by:
M=“On input w :

- 0 Check that w is in the correct format.
- 1 Run M_1 and M_2 on w . If they both accept, *accept*.
- 2 Otherwise *reject*”

Why didn't we say “Run M_1 and M_2 alternately on w step by step?”



Decidable Complements

Given a *decidable* language L_1 and corresponding Turing machine M_1 the complement of the languages can be decided by:

$M =$ "On input w :

- 0 Check that w is in the correct format.
- 1 Run M_1 on w . If it accepts, *reject*.
- 2 Otherwise *accept*"



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Deterministic Finite Automaton

Theorem

The set

$$A_{DFA} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is a DFA that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.



Deterministic Finite Automaton

$M =$ "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a DFA and w is a string:

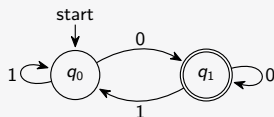
- 0 Check the format of the input.
- 1 Simulate B on input w .
- 2 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



Deterministic Finite Automaton

$M =$ "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a DFA and w is a string:

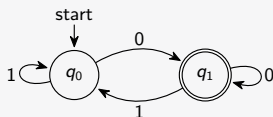
- 0 Check the format of the input.
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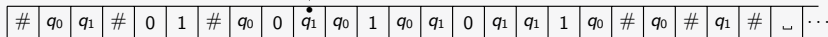
Deterministic Finite Automaton

$M =$ "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a DFA and w is a string:

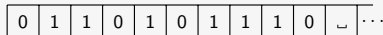
- 0 Check the format of the input.
- 1 Simulate B on input w .
- 2 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



Machine $\langle B \rangle$



Word w



Nondeterministic Finite Automaton

Theorem

The set

$$A_{NFA} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is an NFA that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

$N =$ "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a NFA and w is a string:

- 1 Convert B to a DFA C .
- 2 Run M from the previous theorem on input $\langle C, w \rangle$.
- 3 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



Regular Expressions

Theorem

The set

$$A_{REG} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ is a regex that accepts string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

P= "On input $\langle B, w \rangle$, where B is a RegEx and w is a string:

- 1 Convert B to a NFA C .
- 2 Run N from the previous theorem on input $\langle C, w \rangle$.
- 3 If the simulation ends in an accept state, *accept*; otherwise, *reject*."



Empty Languages

Theorem

The set

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

is a decidable language.

T= “On input $\langle A \rangle$, the string encoding of DFA A :

- 1 Select the start state in A and mark it.
- 2 Repeat the following until no new states are marked:
 - 3 For each state in A , mark it if there is a transition from a marked state.
- 4 Scan the accept states of A , if any are marked, *reject*; otherwise *accept*.”



Equal Languages

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{DFA} = \{ \langle A, B \rangle \mid A \text{ and } B \text{ are DFAs and } L(A) = L(B) \}$$

is a decidable language.

- Note, DFAs are closed under *unions*, *intersections*, and *compliments*.
- Construct the *symmetric difference* of A and B , $C \equiv A \text{ XOR } B$ or

$$L(C) = \left(L(A) \cap \overline{L(B)} \right) \cup \left(\overline{L(A)} \cap L(B) \right).$$

- Check if C is empty using T from the previous theorem.



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$A_{CFG} = \{ \langle G, w \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG that generates the string } w \}$$

is a decidable language.

$S =$ "On input $\langle G, w \rangle$, where G is a CFG and w is a string:

- 1 Convert G to Chomsky Normal Form.
- 2 List all derivations with $2n - 1$ steps, $n = |w|$; except for $n=0$, then list derivations with one step. (Why $2n - 1$?)
- 3 If w is generated, *accept*; otherwise *reject*."



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$E_{CFG} = \{\langle G \rangle \mid G \text{ is a CFG and } L(G) = \emptyset\}$$

is a decidable language.

R= "On input $\langle G \rangle$, the string encoding of CFG G :

- 1 Mark the terminals in G .
- 2 Repeat the following until no new variables get marked:
 - 3 Mark any variable A where $A \rightarrow U_1 U_2 \cdots U_k$ is in G and the U_i are all marked already.
- 4 If the start variable of G is not marked, *accept*; otherwise *reject*."



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{CFG} = \{\langle G, H \rangle \mid G \text{ and } H \text{ are CFGs and } L(G) = L(H)\}$$

is not a decidable language.



CFLs

Theorem

The set

$$EQ_{CFG} = \{\langle G, H \rangle \mid G \text{ and } H \text{ are CFGs and } L(G) = L(H)\}$$

is not a decidable language. (Proof held until after Chapter 5.)



CFLs

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- Recall, CFLs are not necessarily closed under intersections and complementation.



CFLs

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is not a decidable language. (Proof held until after Chapter 5.)

- Recall, CFLs are not necessarily closed under intersections and complementation.
- $L(G) = \{a^m b^n c^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$



CFLs

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- $L(G) = \{a^m b^n c^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$
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CFLs

Theorem

The set

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is not a decidable language. (Proof held until after Chapter 5.)

- Recall, CFLs are not necessarily closed under intersections and complementation.
- $L(G) = \{a^m b^n c^n \mid m, n \geq 0\}$
- $L(H) = \{a^n b^n c^m \mid m, n \geq 0\}$
- $L(G) \cap L(H) = \{a^n b^n c^n \mid n \geq 0\}$ is not context-free by the pumping lemma



Hierarchy of Languages

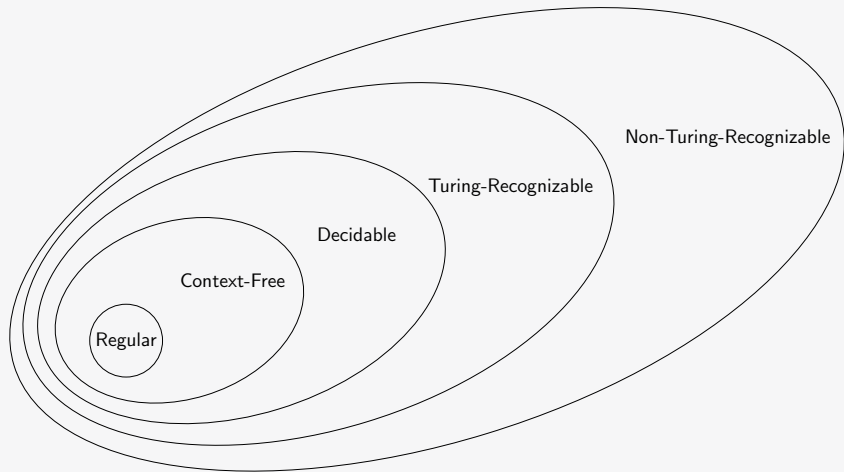


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Cardinality: Naive Definition

Definition

The *cardinality* of a set is the number of elements in the set and two sets have the same cardinality if they have the same number of elements.

$$A = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5\}$$

$$B = \{a, b, c, d, e\}$$

$$C = \{!, @, \#, \$, \%, \wedge\}$$

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, \dots\}$$

$$\mathbb{Z} = \{0, \pm 1, \pm 2, \pm 3, \dots\}$$

$$\mathbb{Q} = \{a/b \mid a, b \in \mathbb{Z} \text{ and } b \neq 0\}$$



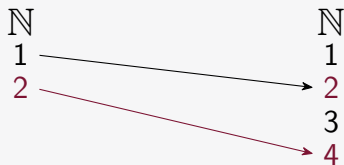
Cardinality: Improved Definition

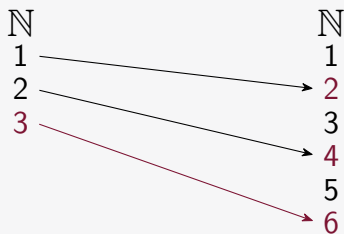
Definition

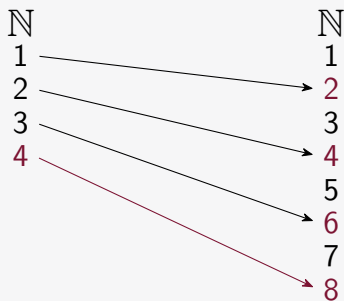
The *cardinality* of a finite set is the number of elements in the set. A set is *infinite* if there is a one-to-one correspondence between the set and a proper subset of the set. And, two sets have the same cardinality if there exists a one-to-one correspondence between their elements.

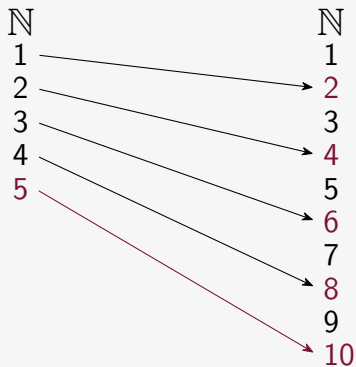


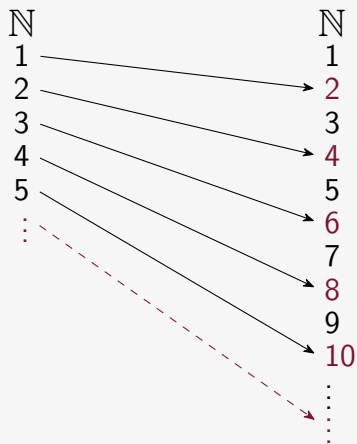
\mathbb{N} to $2\mathbb{N}$ 

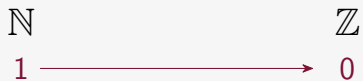
\mathbb{N} to $2\mathbb{N}$ 

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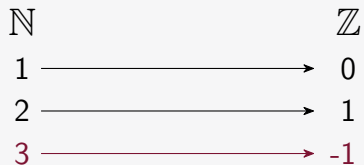
\mathbb{N} to $2\mathbb{N}$ 

\mathbb{N} to $2\mathbb{N}$ 

\mathbb{N} to $2\mathbb{N}$ 

\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} 

\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} 

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\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} 

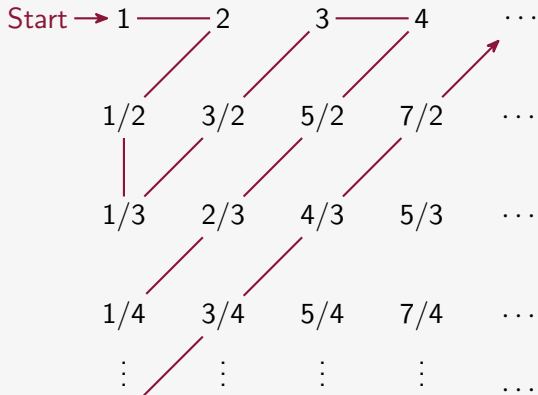
\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} 

\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Z} 

\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Q}^+

1	2	3	4	...
1/2	3/2	5/2	7/2	...
1/3	2/3	4/3	5/3	...
1/4	3/4	5/4	7/4	...
⋮	⋮	⋮	⋮	...



\mathbb{N} to \mathbb{Q}^+ 

Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.7$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.74$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.741$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.7412$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.74128$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.741287$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.7412873$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.74128731$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.741287318$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.7412873187\dots$$



Cantor Diagonalization

\mathbb{N}	\mathbb{R}
1	0.65395501314...
2	0.73800613014...
3	0.05050813247...
4	0.10810350448...
5	0.04587954758...
6	0.66716666577...
7	0.73243627345...
8	0.27311930829...
9	0.17177211903...
10	0.45518277788...
\vdots	\vdots

New Number:

$$x = 0.7412873187 \dots$$

Avoiding 0's and 9's when
replacing digits since

$$0.19999 \dots = 0.20000 \dots$$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{\emptyset, \{1\}, \{2, 3\}, \{4\}, \{8\}, \{7, 19, 83\}, \{101, 23, 7\}, \dots\}$$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

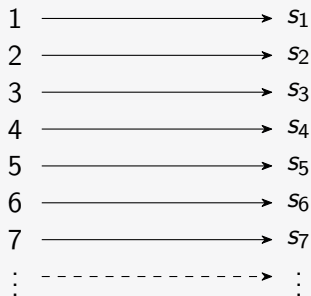
$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5 \dots\}$$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, \dots\}$$



Define a new set X as follows

$$X = \{n \mid n \notin s_n\}$$

Thus, if

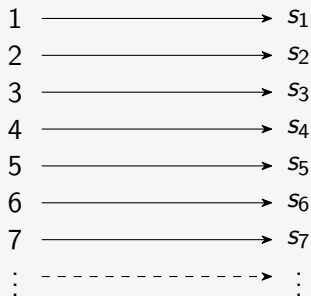
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, \dots\}$$



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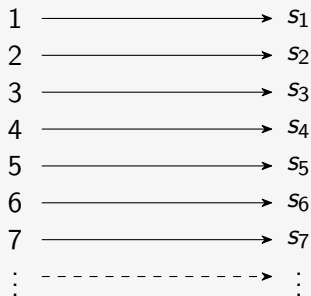
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$
- $1 \notin s_1$, then $1 \in X$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

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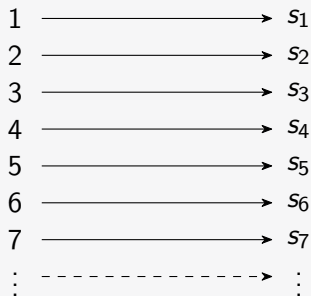
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$
- $1 \notin s_1$, then $1 \in X$
- $2 \in s_2$, then $2 \notin X$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, \dots\}$$



Define a new set X as follows

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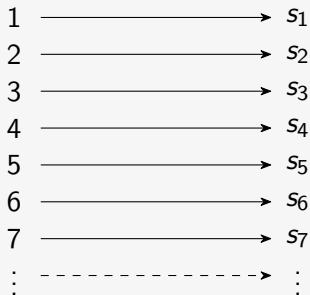
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$
- $1 \notin s_1$, then $1 \in X$
- $2 \in s_2$, then $2 \notin X$
- $2 \notin s_2$, then $2 \in X$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, \dots\}$$



Define a new set X as follows

$$X = \{n \mid n \notin s_n\}$$

Thus, if

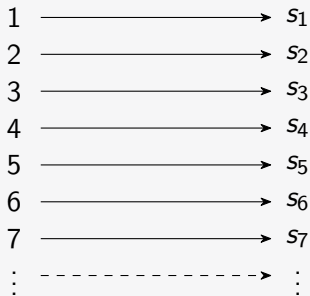
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$
- $1 \notin s_1$, then $1 \in X$
- $2 \in s_2$, then $2 \notin X$
- $2 \notin s_2$, then $2 \in X$
- $3 \in s_3$, then $3 \notin X$



Power Sets

$$\mathbb{N} = \{1, 2, 3, 4, 5, \dots\}$$

$$\mathcal{P}(\mathbb{N}) = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, s_5, \dots\}$$



Define a new set X as follows

$$X = \{n \mid n \notin s_n\}$$

Thus, if

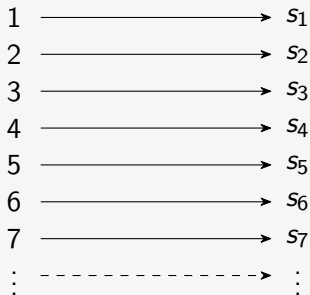
- $1 \in s_1$, then $1 \notin X$
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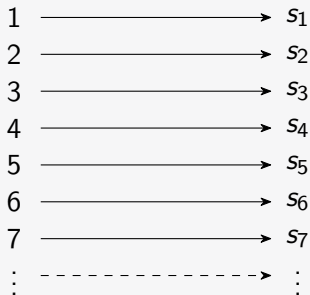
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Thus, if

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- etc.

And therefore $\forall n : X \neq s_n$.



A Theorem on Power Sets

Theorem

Given a set S , the cardinality of $\mathcal{P}(S)$ is always greater than the cardinality of S ; there are infinitely many infinities.



Table of Contents

- 1 Algorithms
- 2 Decidable Languages
- 3 Uncountability and Power Sets
- 4 Undecidable Languages**
- 5 Next Class



A_{TM} is Undecidable

Theorem

Given the set

$$A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w \},$$

A_{TM} is undecidable.



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$U =$ “ On input $\langle M, w \rangle$, where M is a TM and w is a string:

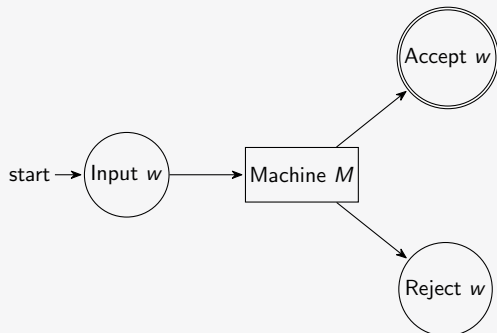
- ① Simulate M on w .
- ② If M ever enters its accept state, *accept*; If M ever enters its reject state, *reject*.”

This is a *universal Turing machine* and shows that A_{TM} is **recognizable**.



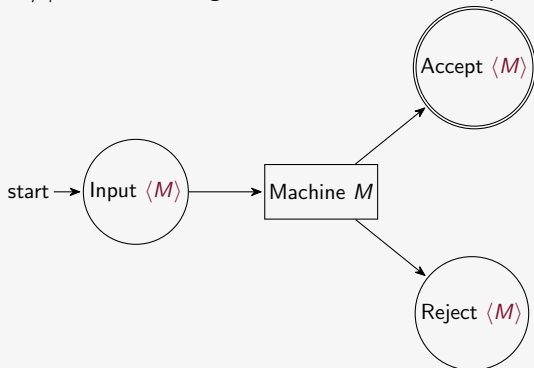
An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$



An Undecidable Language

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(Think C++ compiler written in C++.)



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
- Suppose there's a *decider* H for A_{TM}

$$H(\langle M, w \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } M \text{ accepts } w \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } M \text{ does not accept } w \end{cases}$$



An Undecidable Language

- $A_{TM} = \{\langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing Machine and } M \text{ accepts } w\}$
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- D can't decide $\langle D \rangle$

$$D(\langle D \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } D \text{ does not accept } \langle D \rangle \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } D \text{ accepts } \langle D \rangle \end{cases}$$



An Undecidable Language

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- D can't decide $\langle D \rangle$

$$D(\langle D \rangle) = \begin{cases} \text{accept} & \text{if } D \text{ does not accept } \langle D \rangle \\ \text{reject} & \text{if } D \text{ accepts } \langle D \rangle \end{cases}$$

- \therefore Neither D nor H can exist and so A_{TM} is undecidable



Machine D

	$\langle M_1 \rangle$	$\langle M_2 \rangle$	$\langle M_3 \rangle$	$\langle M_4 \rangle$	\dots	$\langle D \rangle$
M_1	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	\dots	<i>accept</i>
M_2	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	<i>reject</i>
M_3	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	<i>reject</i>
M_4	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>accept</i>	\dots	<i>accept</i>
\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\dots
D	<i>reject</i>	<i>reject</i>	<i>accept</i>	<i>reject</i>	\dots	?



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\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\vdots	\ddots	\dots
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Non-Turing Recognizable Languages

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Some languages are not Turing-Recognizable.



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- $\mathcal{L} = \{A \mid A \text{ is a language}\} = \mathcal{P}(\Sigma^*)$
- \mathcal{L} is uncountable
- \therefore Some languages are not Turing-recognizable



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- $\Sigma^* = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, s_4, \dots\}$



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- $\chi_A = f(A)$ is called the *characteristic sequence* of A



Decidability vs. Recognizably

Definition

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Theorem (contrapositive)

A language is non-decidable if and only if it is not Turing-recognizable or not co-Turing-recognizable.



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Theorem (contrapositive)

A language is non-decidable if and only if it is not Turing-recognizable or not co-Turing-recognizable.

Corollary

The language $\overline{A_{TM}}$ is non-Turing-recognizable.



Proof of Corollary

- We showed that A_{TM} is Turing Recognizable and is not Turing Decidable.



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- By the theorem above, since A_{TM} is not Turing Decidable, either A_{TM} or $\overline{A_{TM}}$ is not Turing Recognizable.



Proof of Corollary

- We showed that A_{TM} is Turing Recognizable and is not Turing Decidable.
- By the theorem above, since A_{TM} is not Turing Decidable, either A_{TM} or $\overline{A_{TM}}$ is not Turing Recognizable.
- Finally, since A_{TM} is Turing Recognizable, we conclude that $\overline{A_{TM}}$ is not.



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Next Class

- Some Undecidable Problems



Next Class

- Some Undecidable Problems
- Specific Undecidable Problem



Next Class

- Some Undecidable Problems
- Specific Undecidable Problem
- Mapping Reducibility



Limits of Turing Machines

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