

Decidability

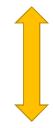
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What we are going to discuss?

- Decidable problems concerning
 - Regular languages
 - Context-free languages
- Undecidability
 - Diagonalization method
 - An unrecognizable language

"exploring the limits of algorithmic solvability"

knowing that a problem is algorithmically unsolvable



to solve, we need to simplify it

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



Theorem 4.1

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

- 1. Simulate B on input w.
- 2. If the simulation ends in an accept state, accept. If it ends in a nonaccepting state, reject."

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



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

- 1. Convert NFA B to an equivalent DFA C, using the procedure for this conversion given in Theorem 1.39.
- **2.** Run TM M from Theorem 4.1 on input $\langle C, w \rangle$.
- **3.** If M accepts, accept; otherwise, reject."

Theorem 4.2

$A_{REX} = \{\langle R, w \rangle | R \text{ is a regular expression that generates } w\}$



Theorem 4.3

P = "On input $\langle R, w \rangle$, where R is a regular expression and w is a string:

- 1. Convert regular expression R to an equivalent NFA A by using the procedure for this conversion given in Theorem 1.54.
- **2.** Run TM N on input $\langle A, w \rangle$.
- **3.** If N accepts, accept; if N rejects, reject."

$E_{DFA} = \{\langle B, w \rangle | B \text{ is a DFA and } L(B) = \emptyset \}$



Theorem 4.4

T = "On input $\langle A \rangle$, where A is a DFA:

- **1.** Mark the start state of *A*.
- 2. Repeat until no new states get marked:
- 3. Mark any state that has a transition coming into it from any state that is already marked.
- **4.** If no accept state is marked, accept; otherwise, reject."

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



Theorem 4.5

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

F = "On input $\langle A, B \rangle$, where A and B are DFAs:

- 1. Construct DFA C as described.
- **2.** Run TM T from Theorem 4.4 on input $\langle C \rangle$.
- 3. If T accepts, accept. If T rejects, reject."

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



Theorem 4.7

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

- 1. Convert G to an equivalent grammar in Chomsky normal form.
- 2. List all derivations with 2n-1 steps, where n is the length of w; except if n=0, then instead list all derivations with one step.
- 3. If any of these derivations generate w, accept; if not, reject."

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



Theorem 4.8

R = "On input $\langle G \rangle$, where G is a CFG:

- 1. Mark all terminal symbols in G.
- 2. Repeat until no new variables get marked:
- 3. Mark any variable A where G has a rule $A \to U_1 U_2 \cdots U_k$ and each symbol U_1, \ldots, U_k has already been marked.
- 4. If the start variable is not marked, accept; otherwise, reject."

A = L(G) for some CFG G



Theorem 4.9

 M_G = "On input w:

- **1.** Run TM S on input $\langle G, w \rangle$.
- 2. If this machine accepts, accept; if it rejects, reject."

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



We'll do it later in Chapter 5, by reducing it to HALT!
I'll promise ...

An Undecidable Problem

The general problem of software verification **is not** solvable by computers.

Researchers show off remote attack against Tesla Model S

The researchers were able to remotely control the braking system, sunroof, door locks, trunk, side-view mirrors and more.

