

pp. 201-210. **Undecidability** (Sec. 4.2)

- Remember $A_{DFA} = \{ \langle B, w \rangle \mid B \text{ a DFA that accepts } w \}$
 - We proved it is decidable
 - I.e. Given any $\langle B, w \rangle$ some TM can
 - Decide if B accepts w, or not!
 - And the TM always halts
- *Consider **$A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ is a TM and } M \text{ accepts } w \}$**
 - If A_{TM} is decidable, then
 - we can take ANY program and ANY input,
 - and determine yes/no if M accepts w in finite time
 - Good for doing automatic program verification
- Question: is this possible?
- **KEY:** we can write a *recognizer* U, *but not a decider*
 - U interprets M executing with w (i.e. your TM project)
 - If M stops, U stops
 - Thus if M accepts w, so does U
- This section: prove we cannot write a TM decider
 - Cannot write a TM U that always stops with correct answer when M does not halt

- (p. 202)* **Theorem 4.11 A_{TM} is undecidable**
 - First, simpler version of proof than book's
 - **ASSUME a TM H exists which decides A_{TM}**
 - Imagine following (large) table
 - i th row for all possible machines M_i
 - Ordered by "size" of $\langle M \rangle$
 - one column for each possible string w
 - Ordered by length of w
 - Entry (i,j) has accept or reject in it, depending on what M_i does with string w_j

	w0	w1	w2	w3	...
M1	reject	accept	reject	accept	
M2	reject	accept	reject	reject	
M3	accept	reject	reject	reject	
M4	reject	reject	accept	accept	
...					

- H should be able to compute this, one (M,w) entry at a time, notionally in a "diagonal" order

- If H always stops with accept/reject, then can define D
 - D accepts when H rejects and vice versa
 - Given $\langle M_i, w_j \rangle$
 - Run H on $\langle M_i, w_j \rangle$
 - If H accepts, D rejects and if H rejects then D accepts
 - If D is a TM, then it corresponds to some row in table
 - i.e. gives accept/reject for each w_j
 - So H applied to $\langle D, w_j \rangle$ gives what D returns
- **BUT D SUPPOSED TO GIVE OPPOSITE OF WHAT H DOES**
- So assumption that H exists must be false

	w0	w1	w2	w3	...
M1	reject	accept	reject	accept	
M2	reject	accept	reject	reject	
D	accept	reject	reject	reject	
M4	reject	reject	accept	accept	
...					

- (p. 202) Book's Proof **Theorem 4.11 A_{TM} is undecidable**
 - Definitions: Assume sets A & B, & function $f:A \rightarrow B$
 - f is **one-to-one (or injective)** if $f(a) \neq f(b)$ when $a \neq b$.
 - f is **onto (or surjective)** if for all b, there is an a: $f(a)=b$
 - f is a **correspondences (or bijective)** if both
 - Equivalent to pairing each a with exactly one b
 - (p. 202) Step 1: **The diagonalization method**
 - Discovered by Cantor in 1873 to compare infinite sets
 - If there is some correspondence between 2 infinite sets, then they are "same size"
 - E.g. $N = \{1,2,3,4,\dots\}$ $E = \{2,4,6,8,\dots\}$ are the same size
 - For any n in N, pair up with $f(n) = 2n$ in E
 - (p. 203) Set A is **countable** if finite or same size as N
 - i.e. each element of A matchable to an integer
 - Now consider $Q = \{m/n \mid m,n \text{ in } N\}$ (**Rationals**)
 - Q seems much larger than N, but *not so*
 - See p. 204 Fig. 4.16 for correspondence with N
 - i'th row contains all rationals with i as numerator
 - j'th column has all rationals with j as denominator
 - Count diagonally
 - Skip any i/j that reduces to an earlier #
 - Q has same size as N!

- **Uncountable** if no correspondence with \mathbb{N}
- (p. 205) **Theorem 4.17: Reals \mathbb{R} is uncountable**
 - Proof by contradiction
 - Suppose bijective function f between \mathbb{N} and \mathbb{R}
 - i.e. can map each integer into a real and v.v.
 - Show that such an f always misses at least 1 number x
 - Suppose f exists
 - Then $f(1) = \dots, f(2) = \dots$ for some numbers like π
 - Construct an x not in correspondence
 - Let 1st digit of x be anything different from 1st digit of fraction of $f(1)$ – thus $x \neq f(1)$
 - Let 2nd digit of x be anything different from 2nd digit of fraction of $f(2)$ – thus $x \neq f(2)$
 - ...
 - Thus x is different from $f(n)$ **for any n** because it differs in n th digit!
 - Thus f is not a correspondence
- (p. 206) **Aside: define $\mathbb{B} = \text{Infinite Binary Sequences}$:**
unending sequence of 0s & 1s
 - \mathbb{B} is uncountable using similar proof as for \mathbb{R}

- (p. 206) Corollary 4.18 **Some languages are not Turing Recognizable**

- Proof:

- **Set of all TMs is countable**

- Each TM has an encoding into finite string $\langle M \rangle$
- If we omit all illegal encodings, we get set of all TMs
- Each encoding can be converted into an integer

- Now define $L =$ set of all languages over Σ

- $|L|$ is infinite – but what about its size?
- Let $\Sigma^* = \{s_1, s_2, s_3, \dots\}$ = set of strings; Σ is finite

- Question:  is this set countable? Yes

- Each language A in L has a unique **binary sequence** from $B =$ set of unending sequence of 1s and 0s

- i th bit is 1 if s_i is in A , and 0 if not
- set of bits called its **characteristic sequence**
- See page 206 for example
- Function $f:L \rightarrow B$ where $f(A)$ is its characteristic sequence & B is set of binary sequences
 - Clearly one-to-one and onto
 - Thus B and L are same size
- Since B is uncountable, so must L

- **Which means there are more languages than TMs!**

- (p. 207) Now re-consider $A_{TM} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \}$.
 - Assume A_{TM} is decidable by TM H
 - On input $\langle M, w \rangle$
 - H halts and accepts $\langle M, w \rangle$ if M accepts w
 - H halts and rejects if M **fails to accept** w
 - Now construct TM D with input $\langle M \rangle$ as follows
 - D calls H to determine what M does given its own description $\langle D \rangle$ as its input string
 - i.e. look at language $\{ \langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle \}$
 - Whatever H does, D does the opposite
 - D = “On input $\langle M \rangle$, where M is a TM
 - Run H on input $\langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle$
 - Output the opposite of what H does
 - Note: $\langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle$ is like a compiler compiling itself
 - Thus $D(\langle M \rangle)$
 - = accepts if M does not accept $\langle M \rangle$
 - = rejects if M accepts $\langle M \rangle$
 - Now run D on $\langle D \rangle$:
 - $D(\langle D \rangle)$ **accepts** if D **rejects** $\langle D \rangle$!
 - $D(\langle D \rangle)$ **rejects** if D **accepts** $\langle D \rangle$!
- No matter what D does, it must do opposite.
- **THUS neither D nor H can exist!**

- See Fig. 4.19 – 4.21 for how diagonalization comes into play
- THUS A_{TM} is undecidable! (but it is TM recognizable)
- *Define L is **co-Turing-recognizable** if it is complement of a Turing-recognizable language
- (p. 209)* **Theorem 4.22. A is decidable iff it is both Turing recognizable and co-Turing recognizable.**
 - \Rightarrow : if A is decidable then clearly it is both recognizable and co-recognizable
 - \Leftarrow : Construct M from M1 for recognizer and M2 for co-recognizer. Then
 - Run machines in parallel on same input
 - If M1 accepts, accept; if M2 accepts, reject
 - Every string is either in A or not(A)
 - Thus one machine halts
 - Thus M is a decider, and thus A is decidable
- (p. 210) **Corollary 4.23 not(A_{TM}) is not Turing recognizable**
 - If it were then A_{TM} would be decidable
 - But A_{TM} is not decidable
 - Then not(A_{TM}) cannot be recognizable