

Top Hat # 3768

Compare the following two loops, given $G = (V, \Sigma, R, S)$:

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set(V) N =  $\emptyset$ 
bool changed = true;
while (changed) {
  changed = false;
  for (each  $A \in V \setminus N$ ) {
    if (A has a rule  $A \rightarrow \vec{X}$ 
        with  $\vec{X} \in N^*$ ) {
      N = N  $\cup$  {A};
      changed = true;
    }
  }
}
Output N;

```

{or init to $\{A : A \rightarrow \epsilon \text{ is a rule}\}$ }

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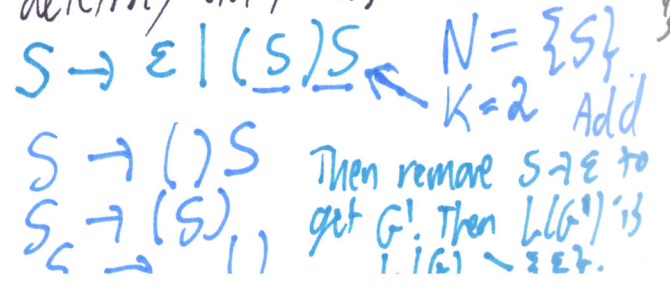
set(V  $\cup$   $\Sigma$ ) N =  $\Sigma$ 
bool changed = true;
while (changed) {
  changed = false;
  for (each  $A \in V \setminus N$ ) {
    if (A has a rule  $A \rightarrow \vec{X}$ 
        with  $\vec{X} \in N^*$ ) {
      N = N  $\cup$  {A};
      changed = true;
    }
  }
}
Output N;

```

Claim: Routine is a decider - same reason.
 At the end, $S \in N \iff \epsilon \in L(G)$.
 inductively, N becomes $\{A : A \Rightarrow^* \epsilon\}$.
 as also $\epsilon_{CFG} = \{G : \epsilon \in L(G)\}$ is
 decidable in $O(|V| \cdot |R|)$ time.

The while loop must halt within $|V|$ iterations, so this algm is total, i.e. a decider. Time $\approx O(|V| \cdot |R|)$.
Claim: At the end, N equals the set of variables that are "live" in the sense of deriving terminal strings, and $S \in N \iff L(G) \neq \emptyset$.

Since the set N of nullable variables is identified, we can "bypass" ϵ -rules by taking every rule $B \rightarrow \vec{Y}$ with some number k of nullable variables and making $2^k - 1$ more rules by deleting any subset of their occurrences.
 HB text does this on-the-fly while building N.
 other way, this step toward ChNF can take exponential time. But there is a list-based algorithm to do this in $O(|V| \cdot |R|)$ time.



A_CFG: INST: $\langle G, x \rangle$, i.e. a CFG G and an input $x \in \Sigma^*$.
 QUES: Is $x \in L(G)$?

Decider: If $x = \epsilon$, use the decider for " $S \in N$?"

Else, convert G to strict Chomsky NF G' , so that $x \in L(G) \iff x \in L(G')$. Key fact about G' in ChNF is that if x is derivable at all, it is derivable using $|x|-1$ $A \rightarrow BC$ kind of rules and $|x|$ $A \rightarrow \epsilon$ kind of rules. Hence with $n = |x|$ we can try all derivations of $2n-1$ steps, and reject if none gives x .

FYI: There is an algorithm called "CKY" or "CYK" that does this in n^3 time via dynamic programming. Combined with the better conversion to GNF, this in fact classifies A_CFG into polynomial time.

We've seen that E_CFG, NE_CFG, ϵ _CFG, and A_CFG are all decidable. How about ALL_CFG = $\{ \langle G \rangle = L(G) = \Sigma^* \}$? Δ ALL_CFG is not decidable nor even recognizable.

Can we show that there are undecidable, indeed unrecognizable, languages

"Diagonalization"

D_TM: INST: The code $w = \langle M \rangle$ of a det^c Turing machine M .

QUES: Does M not accept its own code, i.e., $w \notin L(M)$?

As a language, $D_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle = \underbrace{q}_q \text{ does not accept } \underbrace{\langle M \rangle}_q \}$.

Theorem: There does not exist a TM Q s.t. $L(Q) = D_{TM}$. So D_{TM} is not c.e. so undecidable.

Proof: If so, then the "quixotic" TM Q would have a code $q = \langle Q \rangle$. Then

$q \in D_{TM} \iff q \notin L(Q)$ by defn of $q \in D_{TM}$

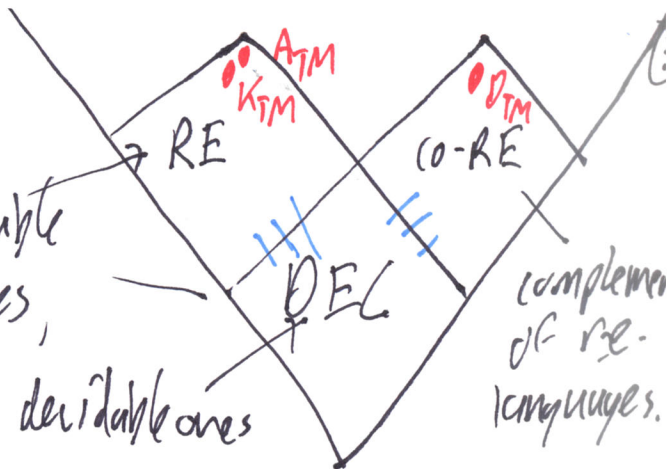
$\iff q \in L(Q)$ by $L(Q) = D_{TM}$.

A logical stmt can never be equivalent to its negation. This is a contradiction. So Q cannot exist. \square

Conceptual "Landscape"

Convention #1: \tilde{L} is shown as mirror image to L . Hence also $\underline{\text{co-RE}} = \{ \tilde{L} : L \text{ is recognizable?} \}$.

Turing-recognizable languages, including decidable ones



What is the complement of D_{TM} ? Essentially ignoring the issue of invalid codes, or lumping them into D_{TM} .

$\underline{K_{TM}} = \{ \langle M \rangle : M \text{ does accept } \langle M \rangle \}$. Recall that I did define $\underline{A_{TM}} = \{ \langle M, w \rangle : M \text{ accepts } w \}$, and showed A_{TM} is re. since it is the language of a univ. TM.

$$\langle M \rangle \in K_{TM} \Leftrightarrow \langle M, \langle M \rangle \rangle \in A_{TM}$$

So K_{TM} too is re.

Theorem: L is decidable $\Leftrightarrow \tilde{L}$ is decidable

Proof: If $L \neq \tilde{L}$ with M total, we can interchange q_{acc} and q_{rej} .

$\therefore K_{TM}$ is (re-but) not decidable, since D_{TM} is undecidable and not even re.

$\therefore A_{TM}$ is likewise (re-but) undecidable.

This finishes Ch 4 coverage — know as facts for the exam

Added: The diagram also conveys that $RE \cap \text{co-RE} = \text{DEC}$, which says that a language is decidable if (and only if) it is c.e. and co-c.e. If L is decidable then L is automatically c.e., and since \tilde{L} is decidable too, \tilde{L} is c.e., so L is co-c.e. as well. Conversely, if L and \tilde{L} are both c.e., then one can use (non-total) TMs M and M' for them to build a total TM deciding L . Next week we will have something more general involving reductions to c.e. and co-c.e. language.