

Halting Problem

$$\begin{aligned} H &:= \{ w \in \{0,1\}^* \mid w = \langle M_n, w_n \rangle, M_n \text{ halts on } w_n \} \\ &= \{ \langle \langle M_n \rangle, w_n \rangle \mid M_n \text{ halts on } w_n, \langle M_n \rangle, w_n \in \{0,1\}^* \} \\ &= \{ \langle \langle M \rangle, w \rangle \mid M \in TM_{\{0,1\}}, w \in \{0,1\}^*, M \text{ halts on } w \} \end{aligned}$$

Codings necessary: (easy computable)

► $\langle \cdot \rangle : TM_{\{0,1\}} \rightarrow \{0,1\}^*$ bijective of Turing machines

► $\langle \cdot, \cdot \rangle : \{0,1\}^* \times \{0,1\}^* \rightarrow \{0,1\}^*$ bijective of pairs of binary words

$M_n := \langle \cdot \rangle^{-1}(w_n)$ n-th machine
for an enumeration $\{0,1\}^* = \{w_0, w_1, w_2, \dots\}$ of binary words
 $\begin{matrix} \varepsilon & 0 & 1 \end{matrix}$

Theorem. H is r.e., but not recursive.

(i) H is recursively enumerable:

We can build a machine $M^{(H)}$ that accepts H as follows:

Given $w \in \{0,1\}^*$, we obtain $w_n = \langle M_n \rangle$ and w_m such that $\langle w_n, w_m \rangle = w$ (by inverting the codings). Then $M^{(H)}$ runs M_n on w_m . If M_n halts on w_m , the $M^{(H)}$ accepts $w = \langle \langle M_n \rangle, w_m \rangle$. Otherwise $M^{(H)}$ runs forever (and does not accept).

Then $L(M^{(H)}) = H$.

Assm

(ii) H is not recursive:

Suppose that H is recursive. Then there exists $M^{(H)}$ such that $L(M^{(H)}) = H$ and $M^{(H)}$ halts on all of its inputs.

Then $M^{(H)}$ permits us to fill in the following table and diagonalize out of it:

	w_0	w_1	w_2	...
$M_0 = w_0, M_0$	$h(M_0, w_0)$	$h(M_0, w_1)$	$h(M_0, w_2)$	...
$M_1 = w_1, M_1$	$h(M_1, w_0)$	$h(M_1, w_1)$	$h(M_1, w_2)$	...
$M_2 = w_2, M_2$	$h(M_2, w_0)$	$h(M_2, w_1)$	$h(M_2, w_2)$	...
$M_3 = w_3, M_3$	...	...	$h(M_3, w_3)$	...

$$\begin{aligned} h(M_i, w_j) &= \\ &= \begin{cases} 1 & \dots M_i \text{ halts on } w_j \\ 0 & \dots M_i \text{ does not halt on } w_j \end{cases} \end{aligned}$$

We now build a machine $\tilde{M}^{(H)}$ that halts/does not halt opposite to all machines in the list:

$\tilde{M}^{(H)}: w_i \mapsto \langle w_i, w_i \rangle \xrightarrow{M^{(H)}} \begin{cases} \text{cycles forever} & \dots M^{(H)} \text{ accepts } \langle w_i, w_i \rangle \\ \text{accepts} & \dots M^{(H)} \text{ rejects } \langle w_i, w_i \rangle \end{cases}$

The machine $\tilde{M}^{(H)}$ has a halting behaviour that is different from any Turing machine. This is a contradiction. $\leftarrow$ since Assm cannot be sustained. $\Rightarrow H$ not recursive

Further explanation:

$\tilde{M}^{(H)} = M_{\tilde{e}}$ for some $\tilde{e} \in \mathbb{N}$.

$\tilde{M}^{(H)}$ has the property by its construction:

$$(1) \left\{ \begin{array}{l} \tilde{M}^{(H)} \text{ halts on } w_i \iff M^{(H)} \text{ rejects } \langle w_i, w_i \rangle \\ \iff \langle \langle M_i \rangle, \langle M_i \rangle \rangle \notin L(M^{(H)}) = H \\ \text{Assm } L(M^{(H)}) = H \\ \iff M_i \text{ does not hold on } \langle M_i \rangle \end{array} \right.$$

Now: What about $\tilde{M}^{(H)} = M_{\tilde{e}}$ halting on $\langle \tilde{M}^{(H)} \rangle = \langle M_{\tilde{e}} \rangle$?

$$\tilde{M}^{(H)} = M_{\tilde{e}} \text{ halts on } \langle M_{\tilde{e}} \rangle \xLeftrightarrow[\text{due to (1)}] M_{\tilde{e}} \text{ does not hold on input } \langle M_{\tilde{e}} \rangle$$

This is a contradiction.

Therefore our assm. (Assm) that H is recursive.

$\Rightarrow H$ is not recursive! ∇