

Fundamentele Informatica 3

najaar 2016

<http://www.liacs.leidenuniv.nl/~vlietrvan1/fi3/>

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college 8, 25 oktober 2016

8. Recursively Enumerable Languages

8.5. Not Every Language is Recursively Enumerable

9. Undecidable Problems

9.1. A Language That Can't Be Accepted,
and a Problem That Can't Be Decided

**Huiswerkopgave 2,
inleverdatum 10 november 2016, 13:45
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A slide from lecture 7

Chomsky hierarchy

3	reg. languages	FA	reg. grammar	reg. expression
2	cf. languages	PDA	cf. grammar	
1	cs. languages	LBA	cs. grammar	
0	re. languages	TM	unrestr. grammar	

$$\mathcal{S}_3 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_2 \subseteq \mathcal{S}_1 \subseteq \mathcal{R} \subseteq \mathcal{S}_0$$

(modulo Λ)

8.5. Not Every Language is Recursively Enumerable

From Fundamentele Informatica 1:

Definition 8.23.

A Set A of the Same Size as B or Larger Than B

Two sets A and B , either finite or infinite, are the same size if there is a bijection $f : A \rightarrow B$.

A is larger than B if some subset of A is the same size as B but A itself is not.

From Fundamentele Informatica 1:

Definition 8.24.

Countably Infinite and Countable Sets

A set A is *countably infinite* (the same size as \mathbb{N}) if there is a bijection $f : \mathbb{N} \rightarrow A$, or a list a_0, a_1, \dots of elements of A such that every element of A appears exactly once in the list.

A is *countable* if A is either finite or countably infinite.

uncountable: not countable

Theorem 8.25.

Every infinite set has a countably infinite subset,
and every subset of a countable set is countable.

Proof...

(proof of second claim is Exercise 8.35...)

Example 8.26. The Set $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ is Countable

$$\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N} = \{(i, j) \mid i, j \in \mathbb{N}\}$$

although $\mathbb{N} \times \mathbb{N}$ looks much bigger than \mathbb{N}

$$\begin{array}{cccccc} (0, 0) & (0, 1) & (0, 2) & (0, 3) & \dots & \\ (1, 0) & (1, 1) & (1, 2) & (1, 3) & \dots & \\ (2, 0) & (2, 1) & (2, 2) & (2, 3) & \dots & \\ (3, 0) & (3, 1) & (3, 2) & (3, 3) & \dots & \\ \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \dots & \end{array}$$

Example 8.28.

A Countable Union of Countable Sets Is Countable

$$S = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} S_i$$

Same construction as in Example 8.26, but...

Example 8.29. Languages Are Countable Sets

$$L \subseteq \Sigma^* = \bigcup_{i=0}^{\infty} \Sigma^i$$

Two ways to list Σ^*

$$L \subseteq \Sigma^*$$

A slide from lecture 4

Some Crucial features of any encoding function e :

1. It should be possible to decide algorithmically, for any string $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, whether w is a legitimate value of e .
2. A string w should represent at most one Turing machine **with a given input alphabet Σ** , or at most one string z .
3. If $w = e(T)$ or $w = e(z)$, there should be an algorithm for *decoding* w .

A slide from lecture 4

Assumptions:

1. Names of the states are irrelevant.
2. Tape alphabet Γ of every Turing machine T is subset of infinite set $\mathcal{S} = \{a_1, a_2, a_3, \dots\}$, where $a_1 = \Delta$.

A slide from lecture 4

Definition 7.33. An Encoding Function

Assign numbers to each state:

$$n(h_a) = 1, n(h_r) = 2, n(q_0) = 3, n(q) \geq 4 \text{ for other } q \in Q.$$

Assign numbers to each tape symbol:

$$n(a_i) = i.$$

Assign numbers to each tape head direction:

$$n(R) = 1, n(L) = 2, n(S) = 3.$$

A slide from lecture 4

Definition 7.33. An Encoding Function (continued)

For each move m of T of the form $\delta(p, \sigma) = (q, \tau, D)$

$$e(m) = 1^{n(p)}01^{n(\sigma)}01^{n(q)}01^{n(\tau)}01^{n(D)}0$$

We list the moves of T in **some** order as m_1, m_2, \dots, m_k , and we define

$$e(T) = e(m_1)0e(m_2)0 \dots 0e(m_k)0$$

If $z = z_1z_2 \dots z_j$ is a string, where each $z_i \in \mathcal{S}$,

$$e(z) = 01^{n(z_1)}01^{n(z_2)}0 \dots 01^{n(z_j)}0$$

Example 8.30. The Set of Turing Machines Is Countable

Let $\mathcal{T}(\Sigma)$ be set of Turing machines with input alphabet Σ

There is injective function $e : \mathcal{T}(\Sigma) \rightarrow \{0, 1\}^*$

(e is encoding function)

Hence (. . .), set of recursively enumerable languages is countable

Exercise 8.41.

For each case below, determine whether the given set is countable or uncountable. Prove your answer.

a0. The set of all one-element subsets of \mathbb{N} .

a1. The set of all two-element subsets of \mathbb{N} .

a. The set of all three-element subsets of \mathbb{N} .

b. The set of all finite subsets of \mathbb{N} .

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable

Hence, because \mathbb{N} and $\{0, 1\}^*$ are the same size, there are uncountably many languages over $\{0, 1\}$

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable (continued)

No list of subsets of \mathbb{N} is complete,
i.e., every list A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots of subsets of \mathbb{N} leaves out at least one.

Take

$$A = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid i \notin A_i\}$$

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable (continued)

$$A = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid i \notin A_i\}$$

$$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$$

$$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$$

$$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$$

$$A_3 = \emptyset$$

$$A_4 = \{4\}$$

$$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$$

$$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$$

$$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$$

$$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$$

$$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$$

...

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...
$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	...
$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
$A_3 = \emptyset$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_4 = \{4\}$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	...
$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	...
$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
...						...					

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...
$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	...
$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
$A_3 = \emptyset$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_4 = \{4\}$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	...
$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	...
$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
...						...					
$A = \{2, 3, 6, 8, 9, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	...

Hence, there are uncountably many subsets of \mathbb{N} .

Theorem 8.32. Not all languages are recursively enumerable. In fact, the set of languages over $\{0, 1\}$ that are not recursively enumerable is uncountable.

Proof...

(including Exercise 8.38)

Exercise 8.38.

Show that if S is uncountable and T is countable, then $S - T$ is uncountable.

Suggestion: proof by contradiction.

Theorem 8.25.

Every infinite set has a countably infinite subset,
and every subset of a countable set is countable.

Proof...

(proof of second claim is Exercise 8.35...)

Part of a slide from lecture 5

Theorem 8.9. For every language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$,

- L is recursively enumerable

if and only if there is a TM enumerating L ,

9. Undecidable Problems

9.1. A Language That Can't Be Accepted, and a Problem That Can't Be Decided

A slide from lecture 5

Definition 8.1. Accepting a Language and Deciding a Language

A Turing machine T with input alphabet Σ accepts a language $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$,
if $L(T) = L$.

T decides L ,
if T computes the characteristic function $\chi_L : \Sigma^* \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$

A language L is *recursively enumerable*,
if there is a TM that accepts L ,

and L is *recursive*,
if there is a TM that decides L .

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable

Hence, because \mathbb{N} and $\{0, 1\}^*$ are the same size, there are uncountably many languages over $\{0, 1\}$

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable (continued)

No list of subsets of \mathbb{N} is complete,
i.e., every list A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots of subsets of \mathbb{N} leaves out at least one.

Take

$$A = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid i \notin A_i\}$$

Example 8.31. The Set $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ Is Uncountable (continued)

$$A = \{i \in \mathbb{N} \mid i \notin A_i\}$$

$$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$$

$$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$$

$$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$$

$$A_3 = \emptyset$$

$$A_4 = \{4\}$$

$$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$$

$$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$$

$$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$$

$$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$$

$$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$$

...

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...
$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	...
$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
$A_3 = \emptyset$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_4 = \{4\}$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	...
$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	...
$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
...						...					

	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	...
$A_0 = \{0, 2, 5, 9, \dots\}$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	...
$A_1 = \{1, 2, 3, 8, 12, \dots\}$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_2 = \{0, 3, 6\}$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
$A_3 = \emptyset$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_4 = \{4\}$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	...
$A_5 = \{2, 3, 5, 7, 11, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	...
$A_6 = \{8, 16, 24, \dots\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$A_7 = \mathbb{N}$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
$A_8 = \{1, 3, 5, 7, 9, \dots\}$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	...
$A_9 = \{n \in \mathbb{N} \mid n > 12\}$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
...						...					
$A = \{2, 3, 6, 8, 9, \dots\}$	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	...

Hence, there are uncountably many subsets of \mathbb{N} .

Set-up of Example 8.31:

1. Start with list of all subsets of \mathbb{N} : A_0, A_1, A_2, \dots ,
each one associated with specific element of \mathbb{N} (namely i)
2. Define another subset A by:
$$i \in A \iff i \notin A_i$$
3. Conclusion: for all i , $A \neq A_i$
Hence, contradiction
Hence, there are uncountably many subsets of \mathbb{N}

Set-up of constructing language that is not RE:

1. Start with list of RE languages over $\{0, 1\}$
(which are subsets of $\{0, 1\}^*$): $L(T_0), L(T_1), L(T_2), \dots$
each one associated with specific element of $\{0, 1\}^*$
2. Define another language L by:
$$x \in L \iff x \notin (\text{language that } x \text{ is associated with})$$
3. Conclusion: for all i , $L \neq L(T_i)$
Hence, L is not RE

	$e(T_0)$	$e(T_1)$	$e(T_2)$	$e(T_3)$	$e(T_4)$	$e(T_5)$	$e(T_6)$	$e(T_7)$	$e(T_8)$	$e(T_9)$
$L(T_0)$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
$L(T_1)$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
$L(T_2)$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
$L(T_3)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$L(T_4)$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
$L(T_5)$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
$L(T_6)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
$L(T_7)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$L(T_8)$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
$L(T_9)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
...						...				

	$e(T_0)$	$e(T_1)$	$e(T_2)$	$e(T_3)$	$e(T_4)$	$e(T_5)$	$e(T_6)$	$e(T_7)$	$e(T_8)$	$e(T_9)$
$L(T_0)$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1
$L(T_1)$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0
$L(T_2)$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0
$L(T_3)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
$L(T_4)$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
$L(T_5)$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0
$L(T_6)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
$L(T_7)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
$L(T_8)$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1
$L(T_9)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
...						...				
NSA	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1

Hence, NSA is not recursively enumerable.

A slide from lecture 4

Some Crucial features of any encoding function e :

1. It should be possible to decide algorithmically, for any string $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, whether w is a legitimate value of e .
2. A string w should represent at most one Turing machine with a given input alphabet Σ , or at most one string z .
3. If $w = e(T)$ or $w = e(z)$, there should be an algorithm for *decoding* w .

Set-up of constructing language NSA that is not RE:

1. Start with list of RE languages over $\{0, 1\}$
(which are subsets of $\{0, 1\}^*$): $L(T_0), L(T_1), L(T_2), \dots$
each one associated with specific element of $\{0, 1\}^*$
(namely $e(T_i)$)
2. Define another language NSA by:
$$e(T_i) \in NSA \iff e(T_i) \notin L(T_i)$$
3. Conclusion: for all i , $NSA \neq L(T_i)$
Hence, NSA is not RE

Set-up of constructing language NSA that is not RE:

1. Start with **collection** of RE languages over $\{0, 1\}$
(which are subsets of $\{0, 1\}^*$): $\{L(T) \mid \text{TM } T\}$
each one associated with specific element of $\{0, 1\}^*$
(namely $e(T)$)
2. Define another language NSA by:
$$e(T) \in NSA \iff e(T) \notin L(T)$$
3. Conclusion: for all TM T , $NSA \neq L(T)$
Hence, NSA is not RE

Set-up of constructing language L that is not RE:

1. Start with list of RE languages over $\{0, 1\}$
(which are subsets of $\{0, 1\}^*$): $L(T_0), L(T_1), L(T_2), \dots$
each one associated with specific element of $\{0, 1\}^*$
(namely x_i)
2. Define another language L by:
$$x_i \in L \iff x_i \notin L(T_i)$$
3. Conclusion: for all i , $L \neq L(T_i)$
Hence, L is not RE

Every infinite list x_0, x_1, x_2, \dots of different elements of $\{0, 1\}^*$
yields language L that is not RE

	Λ	0	1	00	01	10	11	000	001	010	...
$L(T_0)$	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	...
$L(T_1)$	0	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$L(T_2)$	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	...
$L(T_3)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
$L(T_4)$	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	...
$L(T_5)$	0	0	1	1	0	1	0	1	0	0	...
$L(T_6)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	...
$L(T_7)$	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	...
$L(T_8)$	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	...
$L(T_9)$	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	...
...							...				
newL	0	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	1	...

Hence, newL is not recursively enumerable.

Definition 9.1. The Languages *NSA* and *SA*

Let

$$NSA = \{e(T) \mid T \text{ is a TM, and } e(T) \notin L(T)\}$$

$$SA = \{e(T) \mid T \text{ is a TM, and } e(T) \in L(T)\}$$

(*NSA* and *SA* are for “non-self-accepting” and “self-accepting.”)

A slide from lecture 4

Some Crucial features of any encoding function e :

1. It should be possible to decide algorithmically, for any string $w \in \{0, 1\}^*$, whether w is a legitimate value of e .
2. A string w should represent at most one Turing machine with a given input alphabet Σ , or at most one string z .
3. If $w = e(T)$ or $w = e(z)$, there should be an algorithm for *decoding* w .

Theorem 9.2. The language NSA is not recursively enumerable.
The language SA is recursively enumerable but not recursive.

Proof...

Exercise 9.2.

Describe how a universal Turing machine could be used in the proof that SA is recursively enumerable.