

## Programme

- Prove non-decidable properties of TMs
  - Reduction technique
- Describe non-decidable properties of other universal formalisms
  - Chomsky grammars
  - Java
- Prove non-decidable properties of non-universal formalisms
  - Games
  - Context-free grammars

## Reduction - applications

- **Theorem 11.7**  
 $Acc-\Lambda = \{e(T) \mid \Lambda \in L(T)\}$  is not recursive  
*Proof: Show  $Acc \leq Acc-A$*
- **Theorem**  
Let  $T_U$  denote the universal Turing Machine, then  
 $Uni-Acc = \{e(w) \mid w \in L(T_U)\}$  is not recursive  
  
*Proof: Show  $Acc \leq Uni-Acc$*

## Reduction - applications

- **Theorem 11.8**  
 $AccSome = \{e(T) \mid L(T) \text{ is nonempty}\}$  is not recursive  
*Proof: Show  $Acc-\Lambda \leq AccSome$*   
 $AccEver = \{e(T) \mid L(T) \text{ is empty}\}$  is not recursive  
*Proof: Show  $Acc-\Lambda \leq AccEver$*   
 $Subset = \{e(T_1)e(T_2) \mid L(T_1) \subseteq L(T_2)\}$  is not recursive  
*Proof: Show  $Acc-Ever \leq Subset$*

## Rice's Theorem - definition

- **Definition**  
A property of languages is said to be *nontrivial* iff it is satisfied by some but not all recursively enumerable languages

## Nontrivial language properties

$\forall \Lambda \in L$

- $L = \emptyset$
- $L = \Sigma^*$

- L is finite
- L is regular
- All strings in L have even length

## Rice's Theorem

### • Theorem 11.9

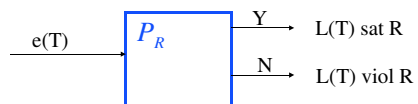
Let R be any *nontrivial* property of languages, then

$P_R = \{e(T) \mid L(T) \text{ has property R}\}$  is not recursive!

*Proof:* Show  $Acc-A \leq P_R$

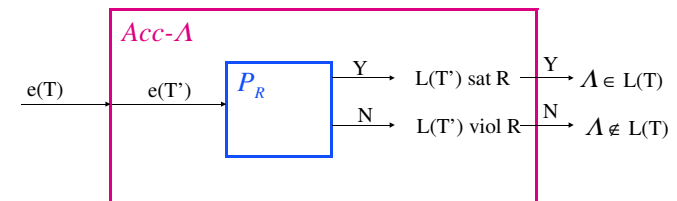
## Reduction: $Acc-A \leq P_R$

- Assume you had TM accepting  $P_R$



## Reduction: $Acc-A \leq P_R$

- Construct TM accepting  $Acc-A$



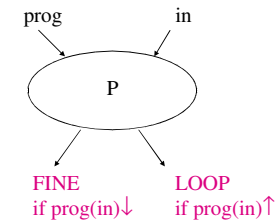
Assume  $\emptyset$  viol R. Then  $T_R$  exists s.t.  $L(T_R)$  sat R  
 Construct  $T'$  s.t. if  $A \in L(T)$  then  $L(T') = \emptyset$  else  $L(T') = L(T_R)$

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  - Context-free grammars

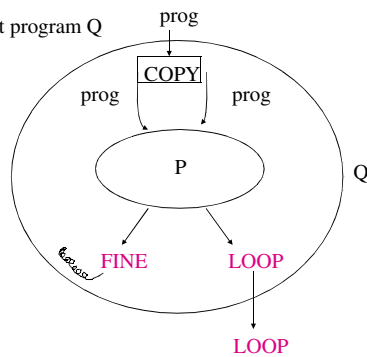
## Harel diagonalization

Assume halting problem solvable in JAVA



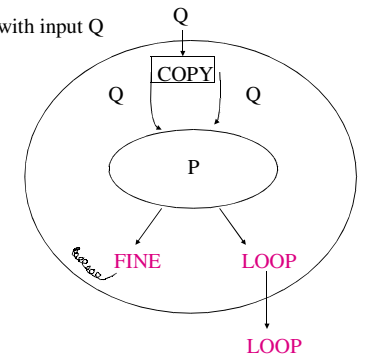
## Harel diagonalization

Construct program Q



## Harel diagonalization

Run Q with input Q



## Busy Beaver

- **Definition**

$BB(n)$  := the maximal number of 1's printed by a Turing machine starting with  $n$  1s on the tape and with  $n$  states

- **Exercise**

BB is not computable!

## Chomsky grammars

- A Chomsky grammar is a tuple

$G = (V, \Sigma, S, P)$ , where

$V$  and  $\Sigma$  are finite disjoint sets of *variables* and *terminals* resp.

$S$  is the *start variable*, an element of  $V$

$P$  is a set of *productions* of the form

*Type 3*:  $A \rightarrow a$  or  $A \rightarrow aB$ , where  $A, B \in V$  and  $a \in \Sigma$

*Type 2*:  $A \rightarrow \beta$ , where  $A \in V$  and  $\beta \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$

*Type 0*:  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta$ , where  $\alpha \in (V \cup \Sigma)^* V (V \cup \Sigma)^*$  and  $\beta \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$

## Chomsky type 0 languages

- Given a Chomsky type 0 grammar  $G = (V, \Sigma, S, P)$ , define

if  $\alpha \rightarrow \beta \in P$ , then for all  $\alpha', \alpha'', \beta', \beta'' \in (V \cup \Sigma)^*$

$\alpha' \alpha \alpha'' \Rightarrow \beta' \beta \beta''$

$L(G) = \{w \in \Sigma^* \mid S \Rightarrow^* w\}$

## Chomsky type 0 example

- Let  $G = (V, \Sigma, S, P)$ , where

$V = \{S, A, B, C\}$        $\Sigma = \{a, b, c\}$

$P$ :  $S \rightarrow FT$

$T \rightarrow ABCT$        $T \rightarrow ABC$

$BA \rightarrow AB$        $CA \rightarrow AC$        $CB \rightarrow BC$

$FA \rightarrow a$        $aA \rightarrow aa$        $aB \rightarrow ab$

$bB \rightarrow bb$        $bC \rightarrow bc$        $cC \rightarrow cc$

$L(G) = \{a^i b^i c^i \mid i > 0\}$

## Turing and Chomsky

- **Theorems 10.8 and 10.9**

For any language  $L \subseteq \Sigma^*$ ,

L is generated by a Chomsky type 0 grammar

iff (constructively!!)

L is accepted by a Turing machine

- **Corollary**

All nontrivial properties of languages for Chomsky type 0 grammars are undecidable!

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## Post's correspondence problem - example

- List A:

$\alpha_1 = b$   
 $\alpha_2 = babbb$   
 $\alpha_3 = ba$

List B:

$\beta_1 = bbb$   
 $\beta_2 = ba$   
 $\beta_3 = a$

Does there exist a sequence of indices  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m \in \{1, 2, 3\}$  such that

$$\alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_m} = \beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_m}$$

## Post's correspondence problem - example

- List A:

$\alpha_1 = b$   
 $\alpha_2 = babbb$   
 $\alpha_3 = ba$

List B:

$\beta_1 = bbb$   
 $\beta_2 = ba$   
 $\beta_3 = a$

Solution?

## Post's correspondence problem - example

- List A:  
 $\alpha_1 = b$   
 $\alpha_2 = babbb$   
 $\alpha_3 = ba$
- List B:  
 $\beta_1 = bbb$   
 $\beta_2 = ba$   
 $\beta_3 = a$

Solution? YES: 2 1 1 3

$$\alpha_2 \alpha_1 \alpha_1 \alpha_3 = babbbba = \beta_2 \beta_1 \beta_1 \beta_3$$

## Post's correspondence problem - example

- List A:  
 $\alpha_1 = ba$   
 $\alpha_2 = abb$   
 $\alpha_3 = bab$
- List B:  
 $\beta_1 = bab$   
 $\beta_2 = bb$   
 $\beta_3 = abb$

Solution?

## Post's correspondence problem - example

- List A:  
 $\alpha_1 = ba$   
 $\alpha_2 = abb$   
 $\alpha_3 = bab$
- List B:  
 $\beta_1 = bab$   
 $\beta_2 = bb$   
 $\beta_3 = abb$

Solution? NO!

## Post's correspondence problem - formally

- Given two finite lists of strings over some alphabet  $\Gamma$

List A:  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k$

List B:  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$

- Does there exist a sequence of indices  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that

$$\alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_m} = \beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_m} ?$$

## Modified Post's correspondence problem

- Given two finite lists of strings over some alphabet  $\Gamma$

List A:  $\alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k$

List B:  $\beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$

- Does there exist a sequence of indices  $i_1, i_2, \dots, i_m \in \{1, 2, \dots, k\}$  such that

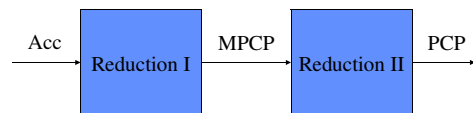
$$\alpha_{i_1} \alpha_{i_2} \dots \alpha_{i_m} = \beta_{i_1} \beta_{i_2} \dots \beta_{i_m} ?$$

## Post's correspondence problem

- Theorem**

Post's correspondence problem is undecidable!

## Post's correspondence problem - reductions



## Modified Post's correspondence problem

- Theorem 11.11**

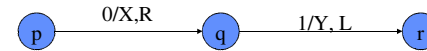
Modified Post's correspondence problem is undecidable!

## Reduction I

- Given Turing machine  $T$  and input  $w$ , construct *algorithmically*  $\text{MPCP}_{T,w}$  such that

$T$  accepts  $w$   
iff  
 $\text{MPCP}_{T,w}$  has a solution

## A Turing Machine



$p010 \vdash Xq10 \vdash rXY0 \dots\dots$

$\# p010 \# Xq10 \# rXY0 \# \dots\dots$

## Reduction I

- Given  $T = (Q, \Sigma, \Pi, \delta, q_0)$  and  $w \in \Sigma^*$  (assume w.l.g. that  $T$  has no Stay-moves!)
- Alphabet of  $\text{MPCP}_{T,w}$   

$$\Gamma := (Q \cup \{h_a, h_r\}) \cup (\Pi \cup \{\Delta\}) \cup \{\#\}$$

## Reduction I - lists of $\text{MPCP}_{T,w}$

- List A:  $\alpha_i = \#$
- List B:  $\beta_i = \#q_0\Delta w\#$



## Reduction I - lists of MPCP<sub>T,w</sub>

List A:	List B:
$\alpha_1 = \#$	$\beta_1 = \#q_0\Delta w\#$
$\alpha_d = X$	$\beta_d = X$ for all $X \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{q,X} = qX$	$\beta_{q,X} = Yp$ if $\delta(q,X) = (p, Y, R)$
$\alpha_{q,X} = ZqX$	$\beta_{q,X} = pZY$ if $\delta(q,X) = (p, Y, L)$
$\alpha_{q,B} = q\#$	$\beta_{q,B} = Yp\#$ if $\delta(q, \Delta) = (p, Y, R)$
$\alpha_{q,B} = Zq\#$	$\beta_{q,B} = pZY\#$ if $\delta(q, \Delta) = (p, Y, L)$

## Reduction I - lists of MPCP<sub>T,w</sub>

List A:	List B:
$\alpha_1 = \#$	$\beta_1 = \#q_0\Delta w\#$
$\alpha_d = X$	$\beta_d = X$ for all $X \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{q,X} = qX$	$\beta_{q,X} = Yp$ if $\delta(q,X) = (p, Y, R)$
$\alpha_{q,X} = ZqX$	$\beta_{q,X} = pZY$ if $\delta(q,X) = (p, Y, L)$
$\alpha_{q,B} = q\#$	$\beta_{q,B} = Yp\#$ if $\delta(q, \Delta) = (p, Y, R)$
$\alpha_{q,B} = Zq\#$	$\beta_{q,B} = pZY\#$ if $\delta(q, \Delta) = (p, Y, L)$
$\alpha_{a1} = Xh_aY$	$\beta_{a1} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{a2} = Xh_a$	$\beta_{a2} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{a3} = h_aY$	$\beta_{a3} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$

## Reduction I - lists of MPCP<sub>T,w</sub>

List A:	List B:
$\alpha_1 = \#$	$\beta_1 = \#q_0\Delta w\#$
$\alpha_d = X$	$\beta_d = X$ for all $X \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{q,X} = qX$	$\beta_{q,X} = Yp$ if $\delta(q,X) = (p, Y, R)$
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$\alpha_{q,B} = Zq\#$	$\beta_{q,B} = pZY\#$ if $\delta(q, \Delta) = (p, Y, L)$
$\alpha_{a1} = Xh_aY$	$\beta_{a1} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{a2} = Xh_a$	$\beta_{a2} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_{a3} = h_aY$	$\beta_{a3} = h_a$ for all $X, Y \in \Gamma$
$\alpha_s = h_a\#\#$	$\beta_s = \#$

## Reduction II

- Given MPCP over alphabet  $\Gamma$
- Construct PCP over alphabet  $\Gamma'$  such that

MPCP has solution  
iff  
PCP has solution

## Definitions

$ir, il: \Gamma^* \rightarrow (\Gamma \cup \{\#\})^*$

$$\begin{aligned} ir(\varepsilon) &= \varepsilon & ir(ax) &= a\# \cdot ir(x) & a \in \Gamma, x \in \Gamma^* \\ il(\varepsilon) &= \varepsilon & il(ax) &= \#a \cdot il(x) & a \in \Gamma, x \in \Gamma^* \end{aligned}$$

Examples:

$$\begin{aligned} ir(\text{bob}) &= \text{b\#o\#b\#} \\ il(\text{bob}) &= \text{\#b\#o\#b} \end{aligned}$$

## Reduction II

- Given MPCP with  $k$  lists over alphabet  $\Gamma$

$$A : \alpha_1, \alpha_2, \dots, \alpha_k \quad B : \beta_1, \beta_2, \dots, \beta_k$$

- Construct PCP with  $k+2$  lists over  $\Gamma \cup \{\#, \$\}$

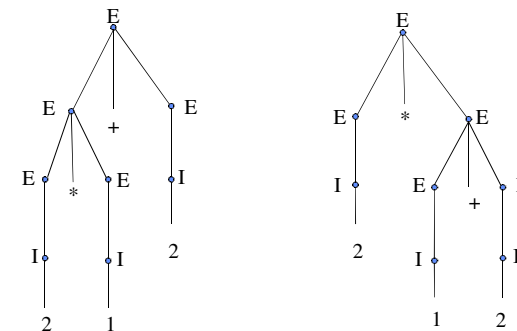
$$\begin{aligned} A' : & & B' : \\ \alpha'_0 &= \#ir(\alpha_1) & \beta'_0 &= il(\beta_1) \\ \alpha'_i &= ir(\alpha_i) & \beta'_i &= il(\beta_i) \quad \text{for } i = 1, 2, \dots, k \\ \alpha'_{k+1} &= \$ & \beta'_{k+1} &= \#\$ \end{aligned}$$

## Context-free Grammar for expressions

- $G = (\{E, I\}, \{1, 2, +, *, (\, )\}, P, S)$

$$\begin{aligned} P: E &\rightarrow I \mid E + E \mid E * E \mid (E) \\ I &\rightarrow 1 \mid 2 \end{aligned}$$

## Ambiguity - example



## Ambiguity - definition

- A grammar  $G$  is said to be *ambiguous* iff some string in  $L(G)$  has two different derivation trees

## Unambiguous grammar for expressions

$$E \rightarrow T \mid E + T$$

$$T \rightarrow F \mid T * F$$

$$F \rightarrow I \mid (E)$$

$$I \rightarrow 1 \mid 2 \mid I1 \mid I2$$

$$\begin{aligned} E &\Rightarrow_G E+T \Rightarrow_G T+T \Rightarrow_G T * F+T \Rightarrow_G F*F+T \\ &\Rightarrow_G I*F+T \Rightarrow_G 2*F+T \Rightarrow_G 2*I+T \Rightarrow_G 2*1+T \\ &\Rightarrow_G 2*1+F \Rightarrow_G 2*1+I \Rightarrow_G 2*1+2 \end{aligned}$$

## Inherently ambiguous context-free language

- $L = \{a^n b^m c^m d^n \mid n, m \geq 1\} \cup \{a^n b^m c^m d^n \mid n, m \geq 1\}$

- (Ambiguous) grammar for  $L$ :

$$S \rightarrow AB \mid C$$

$$A \rightarrow aAb \mid ab$$

$$B \rightarrow cBd \mid cd$$

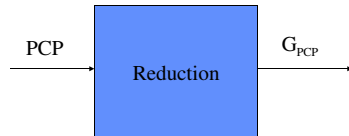
$$C \rightarrow aCd \mid aDb$$

$$D \rightarrow bCd \mid bc$$

## Ambiguity problem for CFG's

- Given a context free grammar  $G = (V, \Sigma, P, S)$   
Is  $G$  ambiguous?
- **Theorem 11.13**  
Ambiguity problem for CFG's is undecidable!

## Ambiguity problem for CFG's - reduction



Construct context-free grammar  $G_{PCP}$  such that  
PCP has solution iff  $G_{PCP}$  is ambiguous

## Reduction

- Given PCP with lists  $A, B$  of  $k$  strings over alphabet  $\Gamma$
- Construct  $G_{PCP} = (\{S, A, B\}, \Delta \cup \{1, 2, \dots, k\}, P, S)$ , where

$$S \rightarrow A \mid B$$

$$A \rightarrow \alpha_1 A 1 \mid \alpha_2 A 2 \mid \dots \mid \alpha_k A k \mid$$

$$\alpha_1 1 \mid \alpha_2 2 \mid \dots \mid \alpha_k k$$

$$B \rightarrow \beta_1 B 1 \mid \beta_2 B 2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_k B k \mid$$

$$\beta_1 1 \mid \beta_2 2 \mid \dots \mid \beta_k k$$

## Undecidable problems for CFG's

- Given two context-free grammars  $G_1, G_2$  over alphabet  $\Sigma$
- Is  $L(G_1) \cap L(G_2) = \emptyset$ ? (*Theorem 11.12*)
- Is  $L(G_1) = \Sigma^*$ ? (*Theorem 11.15 - without proof!*)
- Is  $L(G_1) = L(G_2)$ ? (*Exercise - use 11.15!*)
- Is  $L(G_1)$  regular?

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## Exercises

- Describe (un)decidability
  - 11.3 Reduction theorem for RE
  - 11.5 Fermat's last theorem
  - 11.15 A non-trivial problem solvable for TMs
  - 11.18 Example of PCP
- Explain algorithmic approaches to computability
  - 11.9 A TM reduction
  - 11.13 Unsolvable problems for C-programs
  - 11.19 PCP unsolvable for binary alphabets
  - 11.20 PCP solvable for unary alphabets
  - 11.21 Unsolvable problems for CFG (hint: use Thm 11.15)
  - Show that the Busy Beaver (slide 13) function is non-computable