

Lec 2/5

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Def: A Partial function f is a subset of $\omega \times \omega$ so that if $(a,b), (a,c) \in f$ then $b=c$. If $(n,a) \in f$ we say $f(n)=a$.

Thus a total function is a special case of a partial function.

If f and g are partial functions then $f=g$ iff $\forall n \left[\begin{array}{l} f(n)=g(n) \Leftrightarrow \text{either both are} \\ \text{undefined or both are defined} \\ \& \text{equal} \end{array} \right]$

Def A partial function is called partial recursive if it is computed by some TM. That is, $\exists M$ s.t. $\forall n$, if $f(n)$ is defined, then $M(n) \downarrow$ with value $f(n)$ as its output. otherwise, $M(n) \uparrow$ (may or may not halt).

Note: a computable fn is partial recursive, & a p.r.f. defined $\forall n \in \omega$ is cptble. We denote partial function computed by TM M_i by φ_i .

S_{mn} theorem Let f be a p.r.f. then \exists a total recursive function σ s.t. $\forall i, j, \varphi_{\sigma(i)}(j) = f(\langle i, j \rangle)$

Proof given i , let M be a Turing machine that, given input j , ^{this is computable, intuitively.} encodes $\langle i, j \rangle$ on the tape & then simulates the machine which computes f on this input. Let $\sigma(i)$ be the index of M . \square

Recursion theorem (fixed-point form): Let σ be a total recursive function.

Then $\exists i$ s.t. $\varphi_i = \varphi_{\sigma(i)}$. (there is a fixed point of $\lambda x. \varphi_{\sigma(x)}$).

Proof. Consider the p.r.f. $f(\langle i, j \rangle) = \varphi_{\sigma(\varphi_i(i))}(j)$. This is p.r. since every action necessary to compute it is partial recursive. (if $\varphi_i(i)$ is undefined then $f(\langle i, j \rangle)$ is too). By S_{mn} theorem,

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"rabbit-out-of-the-hat proof"

(*)
 $\sigma(\varphi_n(n))$. Let new s.t. M_n compute g . As a
special case of (*), $\varphi_{g(n)} = \varphi_{\sigma(\varphi_n(n))}$. But $\varphi_n = g$
Since M_n computes g . So $\varphi_{g(n)} = \varphi_{\sigma(g(n))}$. Thus the
theorem is proved ($g(n)$, the desired fixed pt exists since g is total) \square