

Recursion Theorem 5.10

For any $n > 0$ and any $(n+1)$ -ary partial recursive function f , there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that for all $x_1, \dots, x_n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\{e\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq f(e, x_1, \dots, x_n)$$

Proof. Define $g(y, x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq f(s'_n(y, y), x_1, \dots, x_n)$.

Then g is partial recursive, and hence has an index, say d . Let $e = s'_n(d, d)$.

Then $\{e\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq \{s'_n(d, d)\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$

$$\begin{aligned} &\simeq \{d\}^{n+1}(d, x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq g(d, x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq f(s'_n(d, d), x_1, \dots, x_n) \\ &\quad \uparrow \\ &\text{by the s-m-n theorem} \qquad \qquad \qquad \simeq f(e, x_1, \dots, x_n) \end{aligned}$$

□

Lemma 5.11 If $f(y_1, \dots, y_n)$ is a recursive function then for any $m > 0$ the partial function g defined by

$$g(y_1, \dots, y_n, x_1, \dots, x_m) \simeq \{f(y_1, \dots, y_n)\}^m(x_1, \dots, x_m) \text{ is partial recursive.}$$

Proof. Since $\{f(y_1, \dots, y_n)\}^m(x_1, \dots, x_m) \simeq (\mu z T_m(f(y_1, \dots, y_n), x_1, \dots, x_m, z))_0$ and the right hand side is partial recursive it follows that g is partial recursive.

□

Corollary to s-m-n theorem 5.12

For any $m \geq 1$ and $n \geq 1$ and any $(m+n)$ -ary partial recursive function f there is a m -ary recursive function g such that for all $x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n \in \mathbb{N}$

$$\{g(x_1, \dots, x_m)\}^n(y_1, \dots, y_n) \simeq f(x_1, \dots, x_m, y_1, \dots, y_n).$$

Fixed Point Theorem 5.13

For any recursive function $f(x)$ and $n \geq 1$, there exists a natural number e such that

$$\{e\}^n = \{f(e)\}^n$$

Proof. Define $g(y, x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq \{f(y)\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$. Then by lemma 5.11 g is partial rec. By the recursion thm, there exists $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\{e\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq g(e, x_1, \dots, x_n)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{N}$. But then $\{e\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq g(e, x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq \{f(e)\}^n(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ for all $x \in \mathbb{N}$, so $\{e\}^n = \{f(e)\}^n$. □

Examples 1. There is a number e such that for all x $\{e\}(x) \simeq x^e$.

Proof. Let $g(y, x) = x^y$ for all x, y . Then g is recursive. Hence, by the recursion theorem there exists e such that $g(e, x) \simeq \{e\}(x)$ for all x . Thus $\{e\}(x) \simeq x^e$ for all x . □

2. There is a number e such that $\text{dom}(\{e\}) = \{e\}$.

Proof. Let $f(x, y) \simeq \mu z (z = x \wedge z = y)$. Then f is partial recursive so by the (corollary to the) s-m-n theorem there is a recursive function g such that $f(x, y) \simeq \{g(x)\}(y)$. By the fixed point theorem there exists e such that $\{e\} = \{g(e)\}$, and $\text{dom}(\{e\}) = \text{dom}(\{g(e)\}) = \{e\}$ □

Proposition 5.14 For every relation R , the following are equivalent

- (i) R is r.e.
- (ii) R is the domain of a partial recursive function.

Proof. Suppose that $R(x_1, \dots, x_n)$ is r.e.

Then $R(x_1, \dots, x_n) \iff \exists y P(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$ where P is a recursive relation.

Define $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq \mu y P(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)$.

Then $R = \{(x_1, \dots, x_n) \in \mathbb{N}^n : \exists y P(x_1, \dots, x_n, y)\} = \text{dom}(f)$

Now suppose that $R = \text{dom}(f)$ where f is a partial recursive function. Then by the normal form theorem $f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \simeq (\mu y T_n(e, x_1, \dots, x_n, y))_0$ for some $e \in \mathbb{N}$. Define a relation P by

$$P(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) \iff T_n(e, x_1, \dots, x_n, y).$$

Then P is recursive and

$$\begin{aligned} R(x_1, \dots, x_n) &\iff f(x_1, \dots, x_n) \downarrow \\ &\iff (\mu y T_n(e, x_1, \dots, x_n, y))_0 \downarrow \\ &\iff \exists y T_n(e, x_1, \dots, x_n, y) \\ &\iff \exists y P(x_1, \dots, x_n, y) \end{aligned}$$

, so R is r.e.



Proposition 5.15 If $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}$ then the following are equivalent

- (i) A is r.e.
- (ii) A is the domain of a partial recursive function.
- (iii) A is the range of a unary partial recursive function.

If $A \neq \emptyset$ then in (iii) we can change "partial recursive" to "recursive".

Proof. If $A = \emptyset$ then the proposition follows from the fact that the nowhere defined function is partial recursive. So assume that $A \neq \emptyset$.

Then (i) $\Leftrightarrow$ (ii) follows from proposition 5.14, so it is sufficient to prove (i) $\Leftrightarrow$ (iii).

Suppose that A is r.e.

Then there is a recursive relation $R(x, y)$ such that $x \in A \Leftrightarrow \exists y R(x, y)$. Let $k \in A$ and

define $f(z) = \begin{cases} (z)_0 & \text{if } R((z)_0, (z)_1) \text{ is true} \\ k & \text{if } R((z)_0, (z)_1) \text{ is false} \end{cases}$

Then, f is recursive and the range of f is A .

Now suppose that A is the range of a recursive function f . Then G_f is recursive and

$x \in A \Leftrightarrow \exists y G_f(y, x)$ so A is r.e.



Proposition 5.16 For a relation R the following are equivalent

- (i) R is recursive
- (ii) R and $\neg R$ are r.e.

Proof. If R is recursive then $\neg R$ is recursive and hence (by lemma 5.0) R and $\neg R$ are r.e.

Suppose that $R(x_1 \dots x_n)$ and $\neg R(x_1 \dots x_n)$ are r.e.

Then there are recursive relations $P(x_1 \dots x_n, x_{n+1})$ and $Q(x_1 \dots x_n, x_{n+1})$ such that

$$R(x_1 \dots x_n) \iff \exists y P(x_1 \dots x_n, y) \text{ and } \\ \neg R(x_1 \dots x_n) \iff \exists y Q(x_1 \dots x_n, y)$$

Define $f(x_1 \dots x_n) = \mu y (P(x_1 \dots x_n, y) \vee Q(x_1 \dots x_n, y))$

Then f is a recursive function and

$$R(x_1 \dots x_n) \iff P(x_1 \dots x_n, f(x_1 \dots x_n)) \vee Q(x_1 \dots x_n, f(x_1 \dots x_n))$$

so R is recursive.



For any $e, n \in \mathbb{N}$, let $W_e^n = \text{dom}(\{e\}^n)$.

If $n=1$, we write W_e instead of W_e^1 .

By proposition 5.14, for every n -ary r.e. relation R there is $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $R = W_e^n$, and in particular, for every r.e. set A there is $e \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $A = W_e$.

We say that such a number e is an index for R (or A). By Corollary 5.8 it follows that every r.e. relation (or set) has infinitely many indices.

Rice's Theorem 5.17

(i) Let $\mathcal{C}$ be a set of partial recursive functions and let $E = \{e \in \mathbb{N} : \{e\} \in \mathcal{C}\}$.

If $E \neq \emptyset$ and $E \neq \mathbb{N}$ then E is not recursive.

(ii) Let $\mathcal{B}$ be a set of r.e. sets, and let

$$F = \{e \in \mathbb{N} : W_e \in \mathcal{B}\}.$$

If $F \neq \emptyset$ and $F \neq \mathbb{N}$ then F is not recursive.

Proof. (i) First observe that for any $e_0, e_1 \in \mathbb{N}$,

(*) if $e_0 \in E$ and $\{e_0\} = \{e_1\}$ then $e_1 \in E$.

Suppose that $E \neq \emptyset$, $E \neq \mathbb{N}$ and E is recursive.

Then choose $a \in E$ and $b \notin E$ and define a function

$$f \text{ by } f(x) = \begin{cases} a & \text{if } x \notin E \\ b & \text{if } x \in E \end{cases}$$

Then for all x

$$(2) \quad x \in E \iff f(x) \notin E$$

and f is recursive so by the fixed point theorem there exists e such that

$$\{e\} = \{f(e)\}.$$

By (1) we have $e \in E \iff f(e) \in E$, but this contradicts (2).

(ii) is proved in a similar way. $\square$

Corollary 5.18 For any partial recursive function f , the set $\{e \in \mathbb{N} : \{e\} = f\}$ is not recursive.

Proposition 5.19 Let $K = \{e \in \mathbb{N} : \{e\}(e) \downarrow\}$.

Then K is r.e. but not recursive.

Proof. We have

$$e \in K \iff \{e\}(e) \downarrow \iff (\mu y T_1(e, e, y))_0 \downarrow$$

$$\iff \exists y T_1(e, e, y) \text{ so } K \text{ is r.e.}$$

Suppose that K is recursive.

$$\text{Define } f(x) = \begin{cases} \{x\}(x) + 1 & \text{if } x \in K \\ 0 & \text{if } x \notin K \end{cases}$$

Then f is a recursive function. Let e be an index for f . Then $\{e\} = f$ so $\{e\}(e) \simeq f(e)$, but we also have $f(e) \simeq \{e\}(e) + 1$ which is a contradiction.
Hence K is not recursive. $\square$

Proposition 5.20 Define a binary relation K_0 by $K_0(x, y) \iff \{x\}(y) \downarrow$. Then K_0 is r.e. but not recursive.

Proof. We have $x \in K \iff K_0(x, x)$ so if K_0 would be recursive, so would K , which would be a contradiction. $\square$

Example Let $K_1 = \{e : W_e \neq \emptyset\}$.

Let $\mathcal{B} = \{A \subseteq \mathbb{N} : A \text{ r.e. and } A \neq \emptyset\}$. Then $K_1 \neq \emptyset$ and $K_1 \neq \mathbb{N}$ and $K_1 = \{e : W_e \in \mathcal{B}\}$, so by Rice's theorem K_1 is not recursive.

But since $e \in K_1 \iff \exists x y T_1(e, x, y)$, K_1 is r.e.

Let $\bar{K}_1 = \mathbb{N} - K_1$. If $\bar{K}_1$ would be r.e. then

by prop. 5.16 K_1 would be recursive, a contradiction. Hence $\bar{K}_1$ is not r.e.