Homework 12

Due Wednesday, 5/1/2019

Please submit your homework solutions on Gradescope as usual. If you have more than one file to be turned in, please put it in a folder and zip it up before turning it in.

1. (0 points) Academic Honesty

2. (10 points) Computable Functions and semi-decidability

(a) Show that a set L is semi-decidable iff it is the domain of a Turing-computable (partial) function. That is, L is semi-decidable iff there is a Turing-computable function f such that $L = \{x | f(x) halts\}$.

Hint: (\Rightarrow) Use the TM accepting L to define a function whose domain is L. Note that it doesn't matter what the function returns as a value. Reverse the hint for the other direction.

(b) Show that a set L is semi-decidable iff it is the range of a Turing-computable (partial) function. That is, L is semi-decidable iff there is a Turing-computable function g such that $L = \{y | there is an x such that g(x) = y\}.$

Hint: (\Rightarrow) Use the dovetailing technique to compute a function. If you try hard enough you can actually show (for two points extra credit) that a semi-decidable set L is either finite or the range of an injective total Turing computable function. For another point of extra credit show a semi-decidable set L is either empty or the range of a total Turing computable function.

3. (20 points) More Diagonalization

Let $TOTAL_{TM} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid M \text{ is a Turing machine that halts on all inputs} \}$. In class we showed that $TOTAL_{TM}$ is not decidable. Prove that neither $TOTAL_{TM}$ nor its complement is semi-decidable.

Hints: Recall that a language is decidable if and only if both it and its complement are semidecidable.

For $TOTAL_{\rm TM}$, assume that it is the range of a computable function (see the previous problem) and then diagonalize to obtain a contradiction. Then show that if the complement of $TOTAL_{\rm TM}$ is semi-decidable, then so is the complement of $H_{\rm TM}$.

4. (10 points) **Programming language undecidability**

Problem 21.7c in Rich, page 484

5. (10 points) CFG undecidability

Problem 22.7c in Rich, page 509.