

Exercise: (Section 3.3.2 from textbook)

27/10/2010

E 4.1

Consider the following languages over  $\Sigma = \{0, 1\}$

$$L_e = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid \mathcal{L}(M) = \emptyset \}$$

$$L_{ne} = \{ \langle M \rangle \mid \mathcal{L}(M) \neq \emptyset \}$$

Hence:  $L_e$  ... set of all strings that encode T.M.s that accept the empty language

$L_{ne}$  ... complement of  $L_e$

Claim 1:  $L_{ne}$  is R.E.

Proof: construct NTM  $N$  for  $L_{ne}$

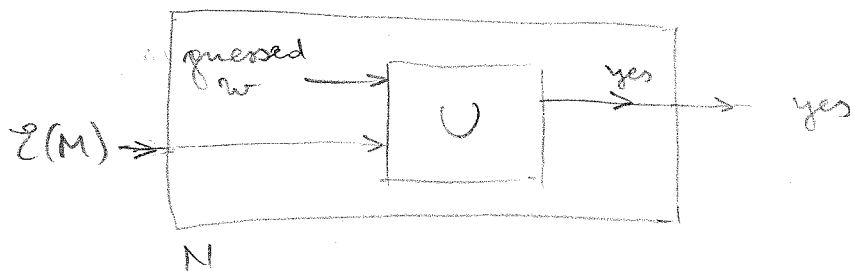
(and then convert  $N$  to an ordinary T.M.)

$N$  works as follows: on input  $\langle M \rangle$

1) guess a string  $w \in \Sigma^*$

2) simulate  $M$  on  $w$  (like a UTM)

3) accept  $\langle M \rangle$  if  $M$  accepts  $w$



We have  $\langle M \rangle \in \mathcal{L}(N) \iff \exists w \text{ s.t. } \langle M, w \rangle \in \mathcal{L}(U)$   
 $\iff \exists w \text{ s.t. } w \in \mathcal{L}(M)$   
 $\iff \langle M \rangle \in L_{ne}$

Claim 2:  $L_{ne}$  is non-recursive

Proof: by reduction from  $L_n$  to  $L_{ne}$

Reduction  $R$  is a function computable by a halting T.M.

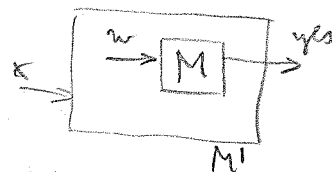
with input: instance  $\langle M, w \rangle$  of  $L_n$

output: instance  $\Sigma(M')$  of  $L_{ne}$

end-obj.  $\langle M, w \rangle \in L_n \iff \Sigma(M') \in L_{ne}$

Description of  $M'$ :

- $M'$  ignores completely its own input string  $x$
- instead, it replaces its input by the string  $\langle M, w \rangle$  and runs  $M$  on  $w$  (see (\*) below)
- if  $M$  accepts  $w$ , then  $M'$  accepts  $x$
- if  $M$  never halts on  $w$  or rejects  $w$ , then  $M'$  also never halts or rejects  $x$



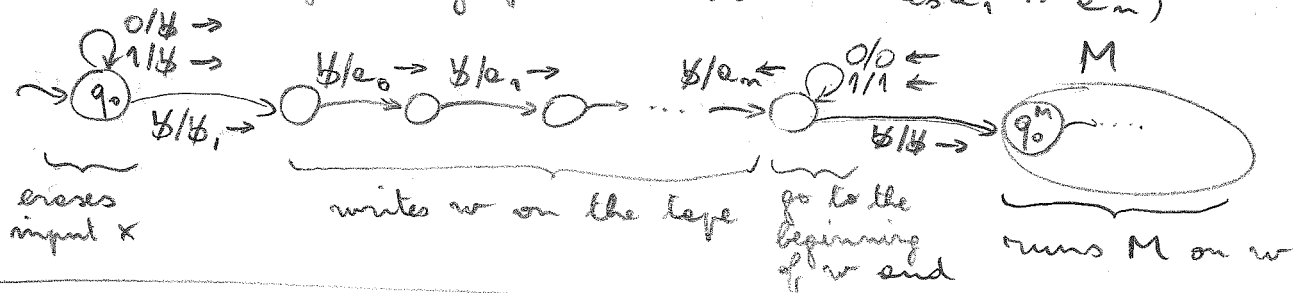
Note: if  $w \in \Sigma(M) \implies \Sigma(M') = \Sigma^*$

if  $w \notin \Sigma(M) \implies \Sigma(M') = \emptyset$

hence  $\langle M, w \rangle \in L_n \iff \Sigma(M') \in L_{ne}$

We can construct a halting T.M.  $M_R$  that, given  $\langle M, w \rangle$  as input, constructs  $\Sigma(M')$  for an  $M'$  that behaves as above.

(\*)  $M'$  has the following form: (let  $w = a_0 a_1 \dots a_n$ )



q.e.d.

To sum up, we have that  $L_{ne}$  is RE but non-recursive.

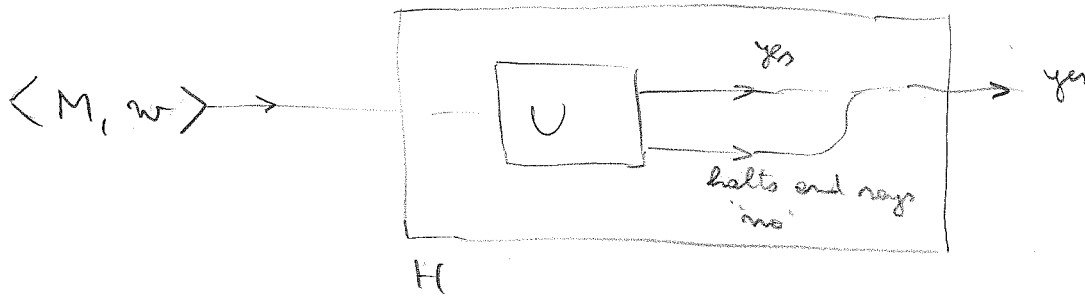
Hence  $L_e$  must be non-RE.

Exercise 9.2.1

The halting problem,  $L_{Halt}$ , the set  $\langle M, w \rangle$  s.t.  $M$  halts on  $w$  (with or without accepting) is R.E. but not recursive.

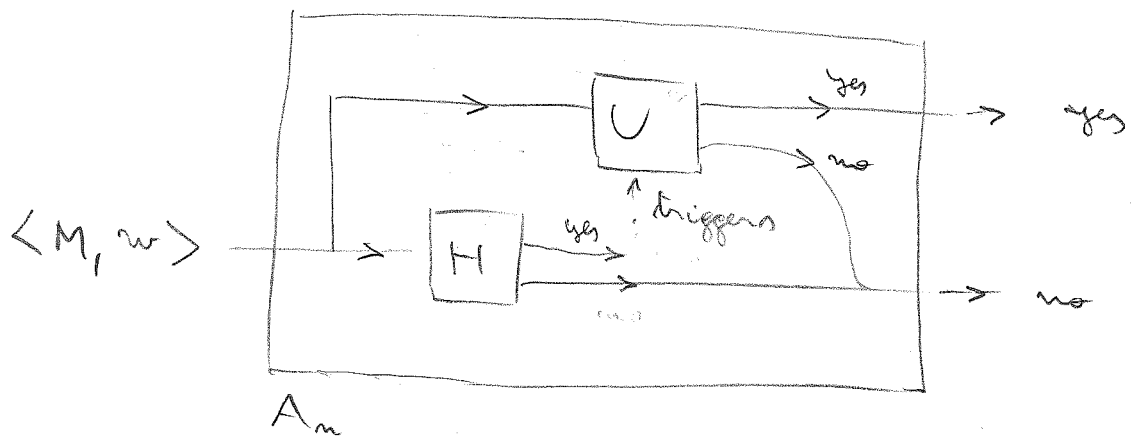
To show R.E., we construct a T.M.  $H$  s.t.

$$L(H) = L_H = \{ \langle M, w \rangle \mid M \text{ halts on } w \}$$



To show that  $L_H$  is not recursive, we assume by contradiction it is so, and derive that  $L_u$  is recursive.

By contradiction, let  $H$  be an algorithm for  $L_H$  and  $U$  a procedure for  $L_u$



$A_u$  would be an algorithm for  $L_u$ .  
Contradiction

Let  $L$  be R.E. and  $\bar{L}$  be non-R.E.

Consider  $L' = \{0w \mid w \in L\} \cup \{1w \mid w \notin L\}$ .

What do we know about  $L'$  and  $\bar{L}'$ ?

We show that  $L'$  is non-R.E.

Suppose by contradiction that we have a procedure  $M_{L'}$  for  $L'$ .

Then we can construct a procedure  $M_{\bar{L}}$  for  $\bar{L}$  as follows.

- on input  $w$ ,  $M_{\bar{L}}$  changes the input to  $1w$  and simulates  $M_{L'}$ .

- if  $M_{L'}$  accepts  $1w$ , then  $w \in \bar{L}$ , and  $M_{\bar{L}}$  accepts.

- if  $M_{L'}$  does not terminate or terminates and answers no, then  $w \notin \bar{L}$ , and  $M_{\bar{L}}$  does not terminate or terminates and answers no.

$\Rightarrow M_{\bar{L}}$  would accept exactly  $\bar{L}$ . Contradiction.

$$\bar{L}' = \{0w \mid w \notin L\} \cup \{1w \mid w \in L\} \cup \{\epsilon\}$$

Reasoning as for  $L'$ , we get that  $\bar{L}'$  is non-R.E.

$\bar{H}$ , the complement of the halting problem, i.e., the set of pairs  $\langle M, w \rangle$  such that  $M$  on input  $w$  does not halt, is non-R.E.

Proof: By reduction from  $\bar{L}_u$ , which is non-R.E.

Idea: we show how to convert any TM  $M$  into another TM  $M_H$  s.t.  $M_H$  halts on  $w$  iff  $M$  accepts  $w$ .

Construction:

- 1) Ensure that  $M_H$  does not halt unless  $M$  accepts.
  - add to the states of  $M$  a new loop state  $q$ , with
 
$$\delta(q, x) = (q, x, \epsilon) \quad \text{for all } x \in \Gamma$$
  - for each  $\delta(q, y)$  that is undefined and  $q \in F$ , add  $\delta(q, y) = (q, y, \epsilon)$
- 2) Ensure that, if  $M$  accepts, then  $M_H$  halts
  - make  $\delta(q, x)$  undefined for all  $q \in F$  and  $x \in \Gamma$
- 3) The other moves of  $M_H$  are as those of  $M$ .

□ q.e.d.