

# Computability Final Test — 2012-02-06

## Notes.

- Write your name and matriculation number on each of your sheets.
- Solve no more than four (4) exercises. This will be strictly enforced: including more than 4 answers will result in the immediate failure of the test.
- Significantly wrong answers will result in negative scores.
- Always provide a justification for your answers.
- To achieve higher scores ( $\geq 27$ ) you have to solve the exercise marked with  $\star$  below.

*Reminder:* when equating results of partial functions (as in  $\phi_i(3) = \phi_i(5)$ ), we mean that either 1) both sides of the equation are defined, and evaluate to the same natural number, or 2) both sides are undefined.

**Exercise 1.** *Comment on this statement by Mr. Rouge Hareng: is it correct?*

*We proved that  $A$  is semantically closed. Let  $f(x) = x$  and  $g(x) =$  undefined for all  $x$ . It is then easy to check that  $f \in \mathcal{F}_A$  and  $g \notin \mathcal{F}_A$ . Also,  $g$  is a finite restriction of  $f$ . So, by Rice-Shapiro ( $\Rightarrow$ ),  $A \notin \mathcal{RE}$ .*

**Solution (sketch).** Everything is correct, but for the last step, which is wrong. In order to apply Rice-Shapiro ( $\Rightarrow$ ), one has to consider *all* the possible finite restrictions of  $f$ , and not only the specific  $g$  Mr. Hareng chose.  $\square$

**Exercise 2.** *Let  $f \in (\mathbb{N}^2 \rightarrow \mathbb{N})$  be a recursive total function. Prove whether there exists a total recursive  $g \in (\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \mathbb{N})$  such that  $\text{ran}(g) = \text{ran}(f)$ .*

**Solution (sketch).** Yes, take  $g(n) = f(\text{proj1}(n), \text{proj2}(n))$ . Then,  $\text{ran}(g) = \text{ran}(f)$  because ...  $\square$

**Exercise 3.** *Let  $A = \{i \mid \text{dom}(\phi_i) \text{ finite} \wedge \text{ran}(\phi_i) \text{ finite}\}$  and  $B = \{i \mid \text{dom}(\phi_i) \text{ finite}\}$ . Prove that  $B \leq_m A$ .*

**Solution (sketch).** Follows immediately from  $A = B$ , since a function with finite domain must also have a finite range.  $\square$

**Exercise 4.** *Consider the sets  $A = \{i \mid \forall x \in \{5, 6, 7\}. \phi_i(x) = 8\}$  and  $B = \{i \mid \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. \phi_i(x) = 8\}$ . Does  $A \in \mathcal{RE}$ ? Does  $B \in \mathcal{RE}$ ?*

**Solution (sketch).**  $A = \{i \mid \phi_i(5) = 8 \wedge \phi_i(6) = 8 \wedge \phi_i(7) = 8\}$  so it is defined using a conjunction of three  $\mathcal{RE}$  properties: indeed a semi-verifier for the first would be

$$S = \lambda i. \mathbf{Eq}(\mathbf{Eval1} \ i \ \ulcorner 5 \urcorner) \ulcorner 8 \urcorner$$

The other semi-verifiers only differ for the involved numeric constants. Hence,  $A \in \mathcal{RE}$ .

$B \notin \mathcal{RE}$  by Rice-Shapiro ( $\Rightarrow$ ).  $B$  is semantically closed (because ...).  $f(x) = 8$  is a recursive function in  $\mathcal{F}_B = \{f\}$ , but no finite restriction  $g$  of it can belong to  $\mathcal{F}_B$ , because otherwise  $g = f$ , implying that  $g$  is total, hence not finite.  $\square$

**Exercise 5.** Let  $A = \{i \mid \phi_i(3) = 5\}$ ,  $B = \{i \mid \phi_i(5) = 30\}$ . For each function  $f$  below, state whether it is a  $m$ -reduction for  $A \leq_m B$ . When it is such, prove it; otherwise, justify why it is not an  $m$ -reduction by providing at least an informal argument.

$$\begin{aligned} f_1(n) &= \#(\lambda x. \phi_n(3) + 25) & f_2(n) &= \#(\lambda x. \phi_n(3) - 25) & f_3(n) &= \#(\lambda x. \phi_n(5) - 25) \\ f_4(n) &= \# \left( \lambda x. \begin{cases} 30 & \text{if } \phi_n(3) = 5 \wedge x = 5 \\ 31 & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right) \\ f_5(n) &= \# \left( \lambda x. \begin{cases} 5 & \text{if } \phi_n(5) = 30 \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right) \end{aligned}$$

**Solution (sketch).**  $f_1$  works: if  $n \in A$ , then  $\phi_n(3) = 5$ , hence  $\phi_{h(n)}(5) = 5 + 25 = 30$ , so  $h(n) \in B$ . Also, if  $n \notin A$ , then  $\phi_n(3) = y \neq 5$  ( $y$  possibly undefined), hence  $\phi_{h(n)}(5) = y + 25 \neq 30$ , so  $h(n) \notin B$ .

$f_2$  does not work: if  $n \in A$ , then  $\phi_n(3) = 5$ , Hence  $\phi_{h(n)}(5) = \phi_n(3) - 25 = 5 - 25 \neq 30$  and so  $h(n) \notin B$  instead of  $h(n) \in B$ .

$f_3$  does not work: if  $n \in A$ , then  $\phi_n(3) = 5$ , but  $\phi_n(5)$  is unconstrained (it could be anything, including undefined). Hence  $\phi_{h(n)}(5) = \phi_n(5) - 25$  could be anything, and we can not conclude  $h(n) \in B$ .

$f_4$  is not well-defined. The body of the  $\#(\lambda x. b(n, x))$  is not recursive. Indeed, if it were such, we could build a verifier for “ $\phi_n(3) = 5$ ” by just computing  $b(n, 5)$  and comparing it to 30. This would contradict the fact that “ $\phi_n(3) = 5$ ” is not recursive, as one can prove using Rice.

$f_5$  is similar to  $f_3$ :  $n \in A$  does not imply anything about  $\phi_n(5)$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 6.** Show that  $\bar{K} \leq_m A = \{i \mid \forall x > 300. \phi_i(x) = x + \phi_i(x - 1)\}$

**Solution (sketch).** Take

$$h(n) = \#(\lambda x. \phi_n(n))$$

If  $n \in \bar{K}$ , then  $\phi_{h(n)}$  is always undefined, and since  $\text{undefined} = x + \text{undefined}$  (for all  $x$ ) we have  $h(n) \in A$ . Instead, if  $n \in K$ , we have that  $\phi_{h(n)}(x) = \phi_n(n) = y \neq \text{undefined}$  for all  $x$ . In that case,  $\phi_{h(n)}(301) = y \neq 301 + y = 301 + \phi_{h(n)}(300)$ , so  $h(n) \notin A$ .  $\square$

**Exercise 7.** Let  $A = \{i \mid \exists x. \phi_i(x) > \phi_i(x+1)\}$ . Show that  $A \leq_m \mathbb{K}$  and that  $\mathbb{K} \leq_m A$ .

**Solution (sketch).**  $A \leq_m \mathbb{K}$  follows from  $A \in \mathcal{RE}$ . Indeed,  $A$  is defined via an existential quantification of the predicate  $p(x, i) = \phi_i(x) > \phi_i(x+1)$  which is  $\mathcal{RE}$  since it can be semi-verified by using a universal program to compute both sides and then comparing the results.

$\mathbb{K} \leq_m A$  is obtained e.g. using the reduction

$$h(n) = \# \left( \lambda x. \begin{cases} (1-x)^2 & \text{if } n \in \mathbb{K} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right)$$

Indeed, the above is well-defined because ... (hence it is recursive and total), and is a reduction because ...  $\square$

**Exercise 8.** State whether there exists a recursive bijection  $f$  between  $\mathbb{N}$  and  $P = \{p \in \mathbb{N} \mid p \text{ prime}\}$ .

**Solution (sketch).** Yes,  $f(n) = p_n$  where  $p_n$  is the  $n$ -th prime number is computable, and is obviously a bijection. Justifying that  $f$  is recursive is a programming exercise.  $\square$

**Exercise 9.** Given a total  $f \in \mathcal{R}$ , let

$$A_f = \{i \mid \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. \phi_i(f(x)) = \phi_i(f(x+1))\}$$

Define, when possible, three total functions  $f, g, h \in \mathcal{R}$  such that

$$A_f \in \mathcal{R} \quad A_g \in \mathcal{RE} \setminus \mathcal{R} \quad A_h \notin \mathcal{RE}$$

**Solution (sketch).**

- Using  $f(x) = 0$  we have  $A_f = \mathbb{N} \in \mathcal{R}$ .
- Defining such  $g$  is *not* possible. Indeed, if  $g$  is a constant total function, we have  $A_g = \mathbb{N} \in \mathcal{R}$ . Otherwise, assume  $g(a) \neq g(a+1)$  for some  $a \in \mathbb{N}$ . Then, we prove  $A_g \notin \mathcal{RE}$  by establishing  $\mathbb{K} \leq_m A_g$ . Indeed, the following  $l(n)$  is a reduction:

$$l(n) = \# \left( \lambda y. \begin{cases} y & \text{if } n \in \mathbb{K} \\ \text{undefined} & \text{otherwise} \end{cases} \right)$$

- If  $n \in \bar{\mathbb{K}}$ , then  $\phi_{l(n)}(y) = \text{undefined}$  for all  $y$ , hence  $\forall x. \phi_{l(n)}(g(x)) = \text{undefined} = \phi_{l(n)}(g(x+1))$ , so  $l(n) \in A_g$ .
- If  $n \in \mathbb{K}$ , then  $\phi_{l(n)}(y) = y$  for all  $y$ , hence  $\phi_{l(n)}(g(a)) = g(a) \neq g(a+1) = \phi_{l(n)}(g(a+1))$ , hence  $\neg \forall x. \phi_{l(n)}(g(x)) = \phi_{l(n)}(g(x+1))$ , so  $l(n) \notin A_g$ .

- Any non-constant  $h$  works, by part (g) above.  
Alternative solution: take  $h(x) = x$ . In that case,  $A_h = \{i \mid \forall x \in \mathbb{N}. \phi_i(x) = \phi_i(x+1)\}$  is not  $\mathcal{RE}$ . Indeed,  $A_h$  is semantically closed (it is defined only in terms of  $\phi_i$ ). The always undefined function  $g(x) = \text{undefined}$  (which has a finite domain) belongs to  $\mathcal{F}_{A_h}$ , while the identity function  $f(x) = x$  is a recursive extension of  $g$  that does not belong to  $\mathcal{F}_{A_h}$ , since otherwise we would get  $x = x+1$  for all  $x$ . So, by Rice-Shapiro ( $\Leftarrow$ )  $A_h \notin \mathcal{RE}$ .

□

**Exercise 10.** ★ Recall the WHILE imperative programming language, which has the following syntax. Below,  $c$  are commands (statements),  $b$  are boolean expressions,  $e$  are arithmetic expressions, and  $x$  are variables.

$$\begin{aligned} e &::= 0 \mid 1 \mid x \mid e+e \mid e-e \mid e*e \\ b &::= \text{true} \mid \text{false} \mid e=e \mid e \leq e \mid e < e \mid e \geq e \mid e > e \mid b \wedge b \mid b \vee b \mid \neg b \\ c &::= x := e \mid c; c \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } c \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c \mid \text{for } x := e \text{ to } e \text{ do } c \end{aligned}$$

Now, restrict the syntax of WHILE as follows. Name this restriction  $W$ .

$$\begin{aligned} e &::= \dots (\text{unchanged}) \dots & b &::= \dots (\text{unchanged}) \dots \\ c &::= \underline{x := x} \mid \underline{x := e; c} \mid \text{if } b \text{ then } c \text{ else } c \mid \text{while } b \text{ do } c \mid \text{for } x := e \text{ to } e \text{ do } c \end{aligned}$$

(Changes are underlined). The set  $W$ -definable functions is then the set of functions implementable in  $W$ , using the inherited WHILE semantics.

Question: state whether the set of  $W$ -definable functions is larger, smaller, or equal to  $\mathcal{R}$  (and justify your claim).

**Solution (sketch).** Intentionally omitted.

□