

Scribe Notes for
Wednesday, September 22nd

- We reviewed the rules for making a Thue translation.
- We then took a quiz on Thue translations and grammar trees
- David presented :

How to represent the Halting Problem using Thue's word problem

--Review of what Haltcrazy is:

Halt(P,P) checks if a program stops

Haltcrazy(P) runs forever if P stops, and stops if P runs forever.

Halt(Haltcrazy, Haltcrazy) causes a problem, since it is not computable.

-- Review of a Thue Word Problem

There is a word:

$q_1 q_2 q_3 q_4$

and a set of rules:

$q_1 q_2 \Leftrightarrow q_2 q_1$

and we want to know if we can use the rules to change the original word into a new word like for example:

$q_2 q_1 q_3 q_4$

Thue claims that with a given set of rules, we can determine whether a word can be made into another. That is what is called a Word problem. We know that Halt doesn't always work, so if we can transpose it into a Thue problem, we'll know that we can't always find out if a Thue transformation is possible or not.

First, a word is made up of 0s and 1s.

A program has a set of instructions of any length, with a separate character representing each instruction: $q_1 q_2 q_3 \dots q_i$

In order to denote which position we start from, we put q_1 directly before the position in the word which we want. for example:

$h101q_100h$ is the same as $h1 0 1 0 0 h$



Where 'h' denotes the start and end of a 'word'.

All the rules necessary for transformations are as follows:

- 1) print 0
- 2) print 1
- 3) go left + not change
- 4) go right + not change
- 5) GOTO step i if 1 is scanned
- 6) GOTO step i if 0 is scanned
- 7) STOP

5) and 6) are needed for loops.

Each step can be represented via program as such:

- 1) $q_1 1 \Leftrightarrow q_2 0$
- 2) $q_1 0 \Leftrightarrow q_2 1$
- 3) $1 q_1 0 \Leftrightarrow q_2 1 0$
- 4) $0 q_1 1 \Leftrightarrow 0 1 q_2$
- 5) $q_6 1 \Leftrightarrow q_3 1$
- 6) $q_6 0 \Leftrightarrow q_3 0$
- 7) $1 q_i \Leftrightarrow q_i$ (then go right until entire word is empty and its $h q_i h$)

We can represent any program as a word problem: a Haltcrazy program can be transcribed into a word made up of 0s and 1s.

For example:

Let $h10101001h$ be the program Haltcrazy
and let the word which we want to convert it to be $h q_i h$ (or empty).
Which is essential asking whether Haltcrazy will Halt.

Since we know that that is isn't computable, we know that not any Turing word problem is computable, since this specific one isn't.