Logic, Computability and Incompleteness

Arithmetical Definability

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An algorithm is a step-by-step procedure for converting inputs into outputs.

A finite algorithm can't distinguish uncountably many different inputs or outputs.

Any countable domain on which it might operate can be effectively encoded into the natural numbers.

So we can focus on algorithms that operate on \mathbb{N} .

An algorithm is a step-by-step procedure for converting numbers into numbers.

An algorithm computes a function on $\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}$.

A function is **computable** iff there is an algorithm that computes it.

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Two formal models of computable functions:

- A (total) function is computable iff it is computed by a Turing machine.
- A (total) function is computable iff it can be built up from the base functions z, s, p_iⁿ using composition, regular minimization, and primitive recursion.

The two models are equivalent.

A relation is **computable** (**=decidable**) iff there is an algorithm that decides whether any given numbers stand in the relation.

A relation is computable iff its characteristic function is computable.

We can reason about $\ensuremath{\mathbb{N}}$ in first-order theories.

The **language** \mathcal{L}_A **of arithmetic** has non-logical symbols 0, s, +, and \times .

Robinson's Q:

Q1
$$\forall x \forall y (s(x) = s(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

Q2
$$\forall x 0 \neq s(x)$$

Q3
$$\forall x (x \neq 0 \rightarrow \exists y x = s(y))$$

$$\mathbf{Q4} \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \, (\mathbf{x} + 0 = \mathbf{x})$$

Q5
$$\forall x \forall y (x + s(y) = s(x + y))$$

Q6
$$\forall x (x \times 0 = 0)$$

Q7
$$\forall x \forall y (x \times s(y) = (x \times y) + x)$$

First-Order Peano Arithmetic (PA):

Q1
$$\forall x \forall y (s(x) = s(y) \rightarrow x = y)$$

Q2
$$\forall x 0 \neq s(x)$$

Ind
$$A(0) \land \forall x (A(x) \rightarrow A(s(x))) \rightarrow \forall x A(x)$$

$$\mathbf{Q4} \quad \forall \mathbf{x} \, (\mathbf{x} + 0 = \mathbf{x})$$

Q5
$$\forall x \forall y (x + s(y) = s(x + y))$$

Q6
$$\forall x (x \times 0 = 0)$$

Q7
$$\forall x \forall y (x \times s(y) = (x \times y) + x)$$

Claim: All computable functions and relations on \mathbb{N} are definable in \mathfrak{L}_A .

- $x < y \text{ iff } \exists z (x + s(z) = y).$
- x is prime iff $s(0) < x \land \forall y (\exists z (z \times y = x) \rightarrow (y = s(0) \lor y = x)).$
- $x^2 = y$ iff $x \times x = y$.

Claim: All computable functions and relations on $\mathbb N$ are definable in $\mathfrak L_A$.

Any computable function or relation can be defined in terms of addition, multiplication, and logical operations.

Example:

The relation that holds between a sequence of \mathcal{L}_A -sentences A_1, \ldots, A_n and a sentence B iff B is derivable from A_1, \ldots, A_n from the axioms of PA.

A formula A(x,y) **defines** a 2-place relation R if for all $a,b\in\mathbb{N}$,

• R(a,b) iff $\mathfrak{A} \Vdash A(\overline{a},\overline{b})$.

 $(\overline{a} \text{ is the } \mathfrak{L}_A\text{-term for the numeral of } a.)$

E.g.: $\exists z (x + s(z) = y) \text{ defines } <.$

(Definability is a semantic notion.)

A formula A(x,y) **defines** a 1-place function f if for all $a,b \in \mathbb{N}$,

•
$$f(a) = b$$
 iff $\mathfrak{A} \Vdash A(\overline{a}, \overline{b})$.

E.g.: $x \times x = y$ defines the squaring function.

All computable functions and relations on $\mathbb N$ are definable in $\mathfrak L_A$.

Proof strategy:

- Every computable function can be built up from the base functions using composition, regular minimization, and primitive recursion.
- The base functions (zero, successor, projections) are definable in \mathfrak{L}_A .
- Definability in \mathfrak{L}_A is preserved under composition, regular minimization, and primitive recursion.

A formula A(x, y) **represents** a 2-place relation R in a theory T if for all $a, b \in \mathbb{N}$:

- If R(a,b), then $\vdash_T A(\overline{a},\overline{b})$.
- If $\neg R(a, b)$, then $\vdash_T \neg A(\overline{a}, \overline{b})$.

E.g.: $\exists z (x + s(z) = y)$ represents < in Q.

(Representability is a syntactic notion.)

A formula A(x,y) **represents** a 1-place function f in a theory T if for all $a \in \mathbb{N}$:

- $\vdash_T A(\overline{a}, \overline{f(a)})$.
- $\vdash_T \forall y (A(\overline{a}, y) \to y = \overline{f(a)}).$

E.g.: x + y = z represents the addition function in Q.

Claim: All computable functions and relations on $\mathbb N$ are representable in Q.

Since all axioms of Q are true in $\mathfrak A$, it follows that all computable functions and relations are definable in $\mathfrak L_A$.

- If R(a,b), then $\vdash_T A(\overline{a},\overline{b})$, then $\mathfrak{A} \Vdash A(\overline{a},\overline{b})$.
- If $\neg R(a, b)$, then $\vdash_T \neg A(\overline{a}, \overline{b})$, then $\mathfrak{A} \not\models A(\overline{a}, \overline{b})$.

Claim: All computable functions and relations on $\mathbb N$ are representable in Q.

Proof strategy:

- Every computable function can be built up from the base functions using composition, regular minimization, and primitive recursion.
- The base functions (zero, successor, projections) are representable in Q.
- Representability in Q is preserved under composition, regular minimization, and primitive recursion.

In the lecture notes, I

- go through the base functions and the operations $(z, s, p_i^n, \operatorname{Cn}, \operatorname{Pr}, \operatorname{Mn})$ one by one,
- check for each what a theory T needs to prove so that the result can be proved.

I arrive at six conditions, R1–R6.

Then I show that Q satisfies these conditions.

To show:

- The zero function is representable.
- The successor function is representable.
- The projection functions are representable.
- If f and g are representable, then so is Cn[f, g].
- If f and g are representable, then so is Pr[f, g].
- If f is representable, then so is Mn[f].

Most of this is easy.

To show:

- The zero function is representable.
- ...

A(x,y) represents the zero function iff for all a:

(i)
$$\vdash_T A(\overline{a}, \overline{0})$$
,

(ii)
$$\vdash_T \forall y (A(\overline{a}, y) \rightarrow y = \overline{0}).$$

Let A(x, y) be $x = x \land y = 0$, or simply y = 0.

To show:

- ...
- If f and g are representable, then so is Cn[f,g].
- ...

If A(x, y) represents f and B(x, y) represents g then

$$\exists v (B(x,v) \land A(v,y))$$

represents Cn[f, g].

To show:

- ...
- If f and g are representable, then so is Pr[f, g].
- ...

This one is hard.

Example: the factorial function f defined by

$$f(0) = 1$$

$$f(s(y)) = s(y) \times f(y)$$

This defines a sequence $f(0), f(1), f(2), \ldots$

We construct a formula F(x, y) saying that

- there is a number c that codes the sequence $f(0), f(1), \ldots, f(x)$, and
- *y* is the last element in that sequence.

$$\exists z (SEQ(z, x) \land ENTRY(z, s(x), y)).$$

We've shown:

All computable functions and relations are

- definable in \mathfrak{L}_A .
- representable in Q.