

Kleene's Theorem on Recursive Fans

Let 2^* be $\text{List}(\{0,1\})$ and $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ be $\mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$. For lists l_1, l_2 let $l_1 @ l_2$ be the append operation $[1,2,3] @ [4,5,6] = [1,2,3,4,5,6]$.

Let $\text{GR}(x)$ mean that function $\alpha \in \mathbb{N} \rightarrow \{0,1\}$ is general recursive.

According to the Kleene Normal Form Theorem, this means that we can find an index $a \in \mathbb{N}$ such that $\alpha = \phi_a$ where ϕ_i is an enumeration of the partial recursive functions and the T -predicate $T(i, x, z)$ says that z is a terminating computation of $\phi_i(x)$. The function $U(z)$ picks out the function value from the computation, so

$$\phi_i(x) = U(\mu z T(i, x, z))$$

where μz picks out the least z satisfying the T -predicate. The predicate T and function U are primitive recursive.

Theorem $\exists R: 2^* \rightarrow \mathbb{B}$, R primitive recursive, such that

$$\forall l_1, l_2: 2^*. R(l_1 @ l_2) \supset R(l_1) \ \&$$

$$\forall \alpha: \text{GR}(2^{\mathbb{N}}). \exists x: \mathbb{N}. \neg R(\bar{\alpha}(x)) \ \& \quad (1)$$

$$\forall x: \mathbb{N}. \exists l: 2^*. (|l| = x \ \& \ R(l)). \quad (2)$$

Note, $|l|$ is the length of list l and $\bar{\alpha}(x)$ is the finite list $[\alpha(0), \alpha(1), \dots, \alpha(x)]$.

Proof

$$\text{Define } R(l) = \forall y < |l|. \left[\left(\exists u < |l|. T(y, y, u) \ \& \ U(u) = 0 \right) \supset l(y) = 1 \right. \\ \left. \ \& \ \left(\exists u < |l|. T(y, y, u) \ \& \ U(u) = 1 \right) \supset l(y) = 0 \right]$$

where $l(y)$ is the y -th element of the list l .

Proof continued.

Notice that $\forall l_1, l_2 \in 2^*$. $R(l_1 @ l_2) = R(l_1)$ because if a property holds for all y and u less than $|l_1 @ l_2|$, then it holds for all y, u less than $|l_1|$.

We need to show (1) and (2). We first show (2).

Given any $\kappa: \mathbb{N}$, define the sequence l_x for each $y < x$ as

$$l(y) = 1 \text{ iff } \exists u < \kappa. (T(y, y, u) \& U(u) = 0)$$

Clearly $R(l)$, that is

$$\forall y < |l|. [((\exists u < |l|. T(y, y, u) \& U(u) = 0) \supset l(y) = 1) \& ((\exists u < |l|. T(y, y, u) \& U(u) = 1) \supset l(y) = 0)]$$

Now to prove (1) we note that no general recursive α can satisfy R for all κ , indeed R fails on the index of α . Suppose $\alpha = \phi_a$, $\phi_a(a)$ has value 0 or 1. Since ϕ_a is total, there is a computation that terminates on input a , say u_a ; thus $T(a, a, u_a)$ and either $U(u_a) = 0$ or $U(u_a) = 1$.

If $U(u_a) = 0$ then $\phi_a(a) = 0$ and thus for $\kappa = at + 1$,

$$\neg R(\bar{\alpha}(\kappa)).$$

If $U(u_a) = 1$ then $\phi_a(a) = 1$ and also $\neg R(\bar{\alpha}(\kappa)).$

Qed.

Cor: Fan_D is false on $2^{\mathbb{N}}$ since $\neg R(\kappa)$ bars the fan by (1) but there are arbitrarily long paths to the bar by (2). Intuitively this must be true since the halting problem $\phi_x(i)$ is unsolvable hence no recursive bound on the length of a terminating computation.