# Halting problem proofs refuted on the basis of software engineering?

This is an explanation of a possible new insight into the halting problem provided in the language of software engineering. Technical computer science terms are explained using software engineering terms. No knowledge of the halting problem is required.

It is based on fully operational software executed in the x86utm operating system. The x86utm operating system (based on an excellent open source x86 emulator) was created to study the details of the halting problem proof counter-examples at the much higher level of abstraction of C/x86.

```
typedef void (*ptr)();
int H(ptr p, ptr i); // simulating halt decider

void P(ptr x)
{
   int Halt_Status = H(x, x);
   if (Halt_Status)
       HERE: goto HERE;
   return;
}
int main()
{
   Output("Input_Halts = ", H(P, P));
}
```

## When simulating halt decider H(P,P) simulates its input it can see that:

- (1) Function H() is called from P().
- (2) With the same arguments to H().
- (3) With no instructions in P preceding its invocation of H(P,P) that could escape repeated simulations.

This is the same criteria used for infinite recursion detection that has been adapted so that it does not need static local memory to see that the same function has been called with the same arguments twice in sequence with no conditional-branch escape.

Because H knows its own machine address H need not see P call H(P,P) more than once because H already knows that it was called with these same arguments. This eliminates the need for H to have static local memory that communicates between different invocations of itself.

The above shows that the simulated P cannot possibly (reachs it "return" instruction and) terminate normally. H(P,P) simulates its input then P calls H(P,P) to simulate itself again. When H sees that this otherwise infinitely nested simulation would never end it aborts its simulation of P and rejects P as non-halting.

In computability theory, the halting problem is the problem of determining, from a description of an arbitrary computer program and an input, whether the program will finish running, or continue to run forever. Alan Turing proved in 1936 that a general algorithm to solve the halting problem for all possible program-input pairs cannot exist.

For any program H that might determine if programs halt, a "pathological" program P, called with some input, can pass its own source and its input to H and then specifically do the opposite of what H predicts P will do. **No H can exist that handles this case.** <a href="https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halting\_problem">https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Halting\_problem</a>

H and P implement the exact pathological relationship to each other as described above. Because H(P,P) does handle this case the above halting problem undecidable input template has been refuted.

### When this halt deciding principle understood to be correct:

A halt decider must compute the mapping from its inputs to an accept or reject state on the basis of the actual behavior that is actually specified by these inputs.

Within the common knowledge that the correct simulation of a program (or TM description) accurately measures the actual behavior of this program:

Then (by logical necessity) this correctly implements the halting deciding principle: Every simulating halt decider that correctly simulates its input until it correctly predicts that this simulated input would never terminate normally, correctly rejects this input as non-halting.

H may or may not be an actual computable function. In any case H should at least apply to the <u>Termination analysis</u>. It really seems that H is a <u>Pure function</u> thus implements a <u>Computable function</u> Thus H is Turing computable.

A halt decider must compute the mapping from its inputs to an accept or reject state on the basis of the actual behavior that is actually specified by these inputs.

It is common knowledge that a correct simulation of a program is a correct measure of the behavior of this program. The concept of a Universal Turing Machine (UTM) is invalidated unless it is accepted that the correct simulation of a machine description is computationally equivalent to the underlying computation.

**Example 03** shows the details of the execution trace of H(P,P) proving that this input would never reach its "C:"return" or x86:"ret" instruction.

**computation that halts ...** the Turing machine will halt whenever it enters a final state. (Linz:1990:234)

**Linz, Peter 1990**. An Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata. Lexington/Toronto: D. C. Heath and Company. (317-320)

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## Example 01: H0 correctly determines that Infinite\_Loop() never halts

```
void Infinite_Loop()
    HERE: goto HERE;
}
int main()
    Output("Input_Halts = ", HO((u32)Infinite_Loop));
  Infinite_Loop()
[00001102](01) 55
[00001103](02) 8bec
[00001105](02) ebfe
[00001107](01) 5d
[00001108](01) c3
                                                          push ebp
                                                          mov ebp,esp
jmp 00001105
                                  8bec
                                  ebfe
                                                          pop ebp
                                                           ret
Size in bytes: (0007) [00001108]
_main()
[00001192](01)
[00001193](02)
[00001195](05)
[00001196](03)
[00001196](01)
[000011a2](01)
[000011a3](05)
[000011ad](03)
[000011b0](02)
[000011b2](01)
Size in bytes:
                                                          push ebp
                                  8bec mov ebp, esp
6802110000 push 00001102
e8d3fbffff call 00000d72
                                   83c404
                                                          add esp,+04
                                  50 push eax
68a3040000 push 000004a3
e845f3ffff call 000004f2
                                  83c408
                                                          add esp,+08
                                                          xor eax, eax
                                   33c0
                                  5d
                                                          pop ebp
 Size in bytes:(0034) [000011b3]
  machine
                       stack
                                              stack
                                                                   machine
                                                                                           assembly
  address
                       address
                                                                   code
                                                                                           language
 [00001192][00101ef8][00000000] 55 push ebp
[00001193][00101ef8][00000000] 8bec mov ebp,esp
[00001195][00101ef4][00001102] 6802110000 push 00001102
[0000119a][00101ef0][0000119f] e8d3fbffff call 00000d72
HO: Begin Simulation Execution Trace Stored at:211fac [00001102][00211f9c][00211fa0] 55 push ebp [00001103][00211f9c][00211fa0] 8bec mov ebp,esp [00001105][00211f9c][00211fa0] ebfe jmp 00001105 [00001105][00211f9c][00211fa0] ebfe jmp 00001105 HO: Infinite Loop Detected Simulation Stopped
  return 1:
 [0000119f][00101ef8][00000000] 83c404 add esp,+04 [000011a2][00101ef4][00000000] 50 push eax [000011a3][00101ef0][000004a3] 68a3040000 push 000004a3 [000011a8][00101ef0][000004a3] e845f3ffff call 000004f2
Input_Halts = 0
[000011ad][00101ef8][00000000] 83c408
[000011b0][00101ef8][00000000] 33c0
[000011b2][00101efc][00100000] 5d
[000011b3][00101f00][00000004] c3
                                                                                          add esp,+08
                                                                                          xor eax, eax
                                                                                          pop ebp
                                                                                           ret
Number of Instructions Executed(554) == 8 Pages
```

## Example 02: H correctly determines that Infinite\_Recursion() never halts

```
void Infinite_Recursion(int N)
     Infinite_Recursion(N);
  int main()
      Output("Input_Halts = ", H((u32)Infinite_Recursion, 0x777));
  push ebp
                                                           mov ebp,esp
                                    8b4508
                                                           mov_eax, [ebp+08]
                                                           push eax
call 000010f2
                                    e8f4ffffff
                                    83c404
                                                           add esp,+04
                                                           pop ebp
  Size in bytes:(0017) [00001102]
_main()
[000011b2](01)
[000011b3](02)
[000011b5](05)
[000011b4](05)
[000011b4](05)
[000011c4](03)
                                                           push ebp
                                   8bec mov ebp,esp
6877070000 push 00000777
                                   68f2100000 push 000010f2
e8aefdffff call 00000f72
                                    83c408
                                                           add esp,+08
  [000011c4] (03)
[000011c7] (01)
[000011c8] (05)
[000011cd] (05)
[000011d2] (03)
[000011d5] (02)
[000011d7] (01)
[000011d8] (01)
                                                           push eax
                                   68a3040000 push 000004a3
e820f3ffff call 000004f2
                                    83c408
                                                           add esp,+08
                                                           xor eax,eax
                                    33c0
                                    5d
  Size in bytes:(0039) [000011d8]
    machine
                                               stack
                                                                    machine
                                                                                            assembly
                         stack
    address
                         address
                                               data
                                                                    code
                                                                                            language
  [_________
[_000011b2] [00101f39] [00000000]
[000011b3] [00101f39] [00000000]
[000011b5] [00101f35] [00000777]
[000011ba] [00101f31] [000010f2]
[000011bf] [00101f2d] [000011c4]
   [000011b2][00101f39]
                                                                                            push ebp
                                                                   8bec mov ebp, esp
6877070000 push 000010f2
68f2100000 push 000010f2
                                                                   e8aefdffff call 00000f72
 H: Begin Simulation Execution Trace Stored at:111fe5 [000010f2] [00111fd1] [00111fd5] 55 push ebp [000010f3] [00111fd1] [00111fd5] 8bec mov ebp,esp [000010f5] [00111fd1] [00111fd5] 8b4508 mov eax,[ebp-1000010f8] [00111fc9] [000010fe] e8f4ffffff call 000010f2 [001011fc5] [00111fd1] 55 push ebp [000010f3] [00111fc5] [00111fd1] 8bec mov ebp,esp [000010f5] [00111fc5] [00111fd1] 8bec mov ebp,esp [000010f5] [00111fc1] [0000077] 50 push eax [000010f8] [00111fc1] [000010fe] e8f4ffffff call 000010f2 H: Infinite Recursion Detected Simulation Stopped
                                                                                           mov ebp,esp
mov eax,[ebp+08]
                                                                    50 push eax // push 0x777
e8f4ffffff call 000010f2 // call Infinite_Recursion
                                                                                           mov eax, [ebp+08]
                                                                   50 push eax // push 0x777 e8f4ffffff call 000010f2 // call Infinite_Recursion
  H: Infinite Recursion Detected Simulation Stopped
```

#### If the execution trace of function X() called by function Y() shows:

- (1) Function P() is called twice in sequence from the same machine address of Y().
- (2) With the same parameters to X().
- (3) With no control flow instructions between the invocation of X() and the call to Y() from X().

```
 \begin{bmatrix} 0000011c4 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f39 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00000000 \end{bmatrix} & 83c408 & add & esp, +08 \\ 0000011c7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f35 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 000000000 \end{bmatrix} & 50 & push & eax \\ 0000011c8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f31 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 000004a3 \end{bmatrix} & 68a3040000 & push & 000004a3 \\ 000011cd \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f31 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 000004a3 \end{bmatrix} & e820f3fffff & call & 000004f2 \\ 101011f31 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 000000000 \end{bmatrix} & 83c408 & add & esp, +08 \\ 000011d2 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f39 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 000000000 \end{bmatrix} & 33c0 & xor & eax, eax \\ 000011d7 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f30 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00000013 \end{bmatrix} & pop & ebp \\ 0000011d8 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00101f41 \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} 00000013 \end{bmatrix} & c3 & ret \\ Number of Instructions Executed (1118) & = 17 Pages
```

### Example 03: H(P,P) correctly determines that its input never halts

```
void P(ptr x)
    int Halt_Status = H(x, x);
if (Halt_Status)
                                                                                           From a purely software engineering
                                                                                           perspective (anchored in the semantics of
        HERE: goto HERE;
                                                                                           the x86 language) it is proven that H(P,P)
    return:
                                                                                           correctly predicts that its correct and
                                                                                           complete x86 emulation of its input would
 int main()
                                                                                           never reach the "ret" instruction (final state)
    Output("Input_Halts = ", H(P, P));
                                                                                           of this input. Copyright 2022 PL Olcott
[000013c6](01)
[000013c7](02)
[000013c9](01)
[000013ca](03)
[000013cd](01)
                                                                                                  Save Base Pointer register onto the stack
Load Base Pointer with Stack Pointer
Save the value of ecx on the stack
                                                   push ebp
                              8bec
                                                   mov ebp, esp
                                                   push ecx
                              8b4508
                                                   mov eax, [ebp+08]
                                                                                                  Load eax with argument to P
                                                                                                   push 2nd argument to H onto the stack
                                                   push eax
                                                                                                 push 2nd argument to H onto the stack
Load ecx with with argument to P
push 1st argument to H onto the stack
push return address on the stack; call simulated H
remove call arguments from stack
load Halt_Status with return value from H
compare Halt_Status to 0
  000013ce1(03)
                              8b4d08
                                                   mov ecx, [ebp+08]
                                                  push ecx
call 00001106
  000013d1
 [000013d2](05)
[000013d7](03)
[000013da](03)
[000013dd](04)
                              e82ffdffff
                                                  add esp,+08
mov [ebp-04],eax
cmp dword [ebp-04],+00
jz 000033e5
                              83c408
                              8945fc
                              837dfc00
 [000013d1](02)
[000013e3](02)
[000013e3](02)
[000013e7](01)
[000013e8](01)
                                                                                                   if Halt_Status == 0 goto 000013e5
                              7402
                                                  jmp 000013e3
mov esp,ebp
pop ebp
                                                                                               / goto 13e3
/ Load Stack Pointer with Base Pointer
/ Restore Base_Pointer value from stack
                              ebfe
                              8be5
                              5d
                                                                                              // return to caller
                                                    ret
 Size in bytes:(0035) [000013e8]
_main()
[000013f6] (01)
[000013f7] (02)
[000013f9] (05)
[00001403] (05)
[00001408] (03)
[0000140b] (01)
[0000140b] (05)
[00001411] (05)
[00001416] (03)
[0000141b] (01)
[0000141b] (01)
[0000141c] (01)
                                                                                  Save Base Pointer register onto the stack
Load Base Pointer with Stack Pointer
                                                  push ebp
                              8bec mov ebp.esp //
68c6130000 push 000013c6 //
68c6130000 push 000013c6 //
e8fefcffff call 00001106 //
                                                                                  Push P (2nd argument to H) onto the stack
Push P (1nd argument to H) onto the stack
                                                                                  push return address onto the stack and call executed H
                                                                                  remove call arguments from stack frame
                              83c408
                                                   add esp,+08
                                                                                 Push return value from H onto the stack
Push address of "Input_Halts = " onto the stack
call Output with its pushed arguments.
remove call arguments from stack frame
                              50 push eax //
6837050000 push 00000537 //
e870f1fffff call 00000586 //
                              83c408
                                                   add esp,+08
                              33c0
                                                   xor eax, eax
                                                                                  set eax to 0
                              5d
                                                                                  Restore Base Pointer register from stack
                                                   pop ebp
 [0000141c](01)
                                                                                  return to 0 operating system
 Size in bytes:(0039) [0000141c]
  machine
                     stack
                                        stack
                                                          machine
                                                                               assembly
  address
                     address
                                        data
                                                          code
                                                                               language
 [000013f6] [0010235f] [00000000] 55 push ebp
[000013f7] [0010235f] [00000000] 8bec mov ebp,esp
[000013f9] [0010235b] [000013c6] 68c6130000 push 000013c6 // Push P (2nd argument to H) onto the stack
[000013fe] [00102357] [000013c6] 68c6130000 push 000013c6 // Push P (1nd argument to H) onto the stack
[00001403] [00102353] [00001408] e8fefcffff call 00001106 // push return address; call executed H
[00001408] [0010235f] [00000000]
[0000140b] [0010235b] [00000000]
[0000140c] [00102357] [00000537]
[00001411] [00102357] [00000537]
                                                                               add esp,+08
                                                         83c408
                                                         push eax // Push return value from H onto the stack 6837050000 push 00000537 // Push address of "Input_Halts = " onto see 870f1ffff call 00000586 // call Output with its pushed arguments
                                                                                                                                                                          onto stack
 Input_Halts = 0

[00001416][0010235f][00000000]

[00001419][0010235f][00000000]

[0000141b][00102363][00000018]

[0000141c][00102367][0000000]
                                                         83c408
                                                                               add esp,+08
                                                          33c0
                                                                              xor eax, eax
                                                                                                        // set eax to 0
                                                         5d
                                                                              pop ebp
                                                                                                         // return to 0 operating system
                                                                               ret
Number of Instructions Executed(987) == 15 Pages
```

## Halt Decider source-code

```
#include <stdio.h>
#include <stdint.h>
 #include <stdlib.h>
#include <time.h>
#pragma warning (disable: 4717)
//#define OUTPUT_SIMULATED_LINE
#define u8  uint8_t
#define u32 uint32_t
#define u16 uint16_t
#define s8 int8_t
#define s16 int16_t
#define s32 int32_t
typedef void (*ptr)();
 typedef struct x86_Registers
        u32 EIP:
        u32 EAX;
        u32
                         EBX;
        u32
                         ECX;
        u32
                          EDX;
        u32
                           ESI;
        u32
                           EDI;
        u32
                          EBP;
        u32
                          ESP;
        u32
                         EFLG;
        u16 CS;
        u16 SS;
        u16 DS;
        u16 ES;
        u16 FS;
u16 GS;
} Registers;
#define
#
typedef struct Decoded
{
        u32 Address;
        u32 ESP;
                                                                            // Current value of ESP
        u32 TOS; // C
u32 NumBytes;
u32 Simplified_Opcode;
                                                                            // Current value of Top of Stack
        u32 Decode_Target;
} Decoded_Line_Of_Code;
u8 BEGIN[] = "BEGIN STATIC DATA"; // Required to force allocation
u32 Heap_PTR = 0x11111111; // forces memory allocation u32 Heap_END = 0x22222222; // forces memory allocation
u32 Heap_END = 0x22222222; // for u8 END[] = "END STATIC DATA";
                                                                                                                                           // Required to force allocation
```

```
// Empty Stub Functions of Virtual Machine Instructions
// x86utm operating system calls
void OutputString(char* S) {}
void Output(char* S, u32 N) {}
u32* Allocato(u22 size) { ret
u32 Infinite_Loop_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace
    (Decoded_Line_Of_Code* execution_trace, Decoded_Line_Of_Code *current)
  Decoded_Line_Of_Code *traced;
  u32 Conditional_Branch_Count = 0;
                                    // 2021-04-06
// 2021-04-06
  u32* ptr = (u32*)execution_trace;
  u32 size = ptr[-1]; // 2021-04-06
u32 next2last = (size/sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code)) -2;
  for (s32 N = next2last; N >= 0; N--)
    traced = &execution_trace[N];
                                                           // JCC
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == JCC)
      Conditional_Branch_Count++;
    if (current->Simplified_Opcode == JMP)
                                                           // JMP
      if (current->Decode_Target <= current->Address)
                                                           // upward
        if (traced->Address == current->Decode_Target)
                                                           // to this address
          if (Conditional_Branch_Count == 0)
                                                           // no escape
            return 1:
  return 0;
u32 Infinite_Recursion_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace
    (Decoded_Line_Of_Code* execution_trace, Decoded_Line_Of_Code *current)
  Decoded_Line_Of_Code *traced;
  u32 Conditional_Branch_Count = 0;
                                     // 2021-04-06
// 2021-04-06
  u32* ptr = (u32*)execution_trace;
  u32 size = ptr[-1]; // 2021-04-06
u32 next2last = (size/sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code)) -2;
  for (s32 N = next2last; N >= 0; N--)
    traced = &execution_trace[N];
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == JCC)
                                                           // JCC
      Conditional_Branch_Count++;
    if (current->Simplified_Opcode == CALL)
      if (current->Simplified_Opcode == traced->Simplified_Opcode) // CALL
        if (current->Address == traced->Address)
          if (Conditional_Branch_Count == 0)
                                                             // no escape
              return 2;
  return 0;
```

```
u32 Infinite_Simulation_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace
    (Decoded_Line_Of_Code* execution_trace,
     Decoded_Line_Of_Code *current, u32 P, u32 I)
  Decoded_Line_Of_Code *traced;
  u32 Count_PUSH_Instructions = 0;
  u32 Num_PUSH_Matched
                                = 0;
  u32 Conditional_Branch_Count = 0;
                                       // 2021-04-06
// 2021-04-06
  u32* ptr = (u32*)execution_trace;
  u32 \text{ size} = ptr[-1];
  u32 next2last = (size/sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code)) -2;
  for (s32 N = next2last; N \geq 0; N--)
    traced = &execution_trace[N];
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == JCC)
                                                             // JCC
      Conditional_Branch_Count++;
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == PUSH)
                                                             // PUSH
      Count_PUSH_Instructions++;
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == PUSH &&
        traced->Decode_Target == P && Count_PUSH_Instructions == 1)
      Num_PUSH_Matched++;
    if (traced->Simplified_Opcode == PUSH &&
        traced->Decode_Target == I && Count_PUSH_Instructions == 2)
      Num_PUSH_Matched++:
    if (Num_PUSH_Matched == 2 && N == 0 && Conditional_Branch_Count == 0)
      return 3:
  return 0;
u32 Needs_To_Be_Aborted(Decoded_Line_Of_Code* execution_trace,
                         u32 Address_of_H, u32 P, u32 I)
u32 Aborted = 0;

u32* ptr = (u32*)execution_trace; // 2021-04-06

u32 size = ptr[-1]; // 2021-04-06

//output("Needs_to_Be_Aborted(size):", size);
  Decoded_Line_Of_Code* current = &execution_trace[last];
  if (current->Simplified_Opcode == CALL)
    if (current->Decode_Target == Address_of_H)
      Aborted = Infinite_Simulation_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace
                 (execution_trace, current, P, I);
      Aborted = Infinite_Recursion_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace
                 (execution_trace, current);
  else if (current->Simplified_Opcode == JMP)
    Aborted = Infinite_Loop_Needs_To_Be_Aborted_Trace(execution_trace, current);
  return Aborted;
}
```

```
This is called every time the a line ocf x86 code is emulated
u32 Decide_Halting(char*
                                                          Halt_Decider_Name,
                                                          execution_trace,
                         u32*
                         Decoded_Line_Of_Code**
                                                          decoded.
                         u32
                                                          code_end,
                         Registers**
                                                          master_state,
                         Registers**
u32**
                                                          slave_state,
                                                          slave_stack,
                         u32
                                                          Address_of_H, u32 P, u32 I)
  u32 Aborted = 0;
  while (Aborted == 0)
     #ifdef OUTPUT_SIMULATED_LINE
     Output_Decoded((u32)*decoded);
#endif
    When we are not recursively simulatng H we don't need this is statement if (EIP > Last_Address_Of_Operating_System()) // Don't examine any OS code PushBack(*execution_trace, (u32)*decoded, sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code)); Aborted = Needs_To_Be_Aborted((Decoded_Line_Of_Code*)*execution_trace, Address_of_H, P, I);
  if (Aborted) // 2021-01-26 Must be aborted
     OutputString(Halt_Decider_Name);
     if (Aborted == 1)
  OutputString("Infinite Loop Detected Simulation Stopped\n\n");
if (Aborted == 2)
  OutputString("Infinite Recursion Detected Simulation Stopped\n\n");
if (Aborted == 3)
       OutputString("Infinitely Recursive Simulation Detected "
"Simulation Stopped\n\n");
     return 0;
                          // 2021-01-26 Need not be aborted
  return 1;
// This only works with ONE PARAMETER to the called function
void Init_slave_state(u32 P, u32 I, u32 End_Of_Code,
                             Registers* slave_state, u32* slave_stack)
  u32 Top_of_Stack;
  u32 Capacity;
  u32 Size;
  Top_of_Stack = StackPush(slave_stack, I);  // Data for Function to invoke
Top_of_Stack = StackPush(slave_stack, End_Of_Code); // Return Address in Halts()
  SaveState(slave_state);
                                     // Based on this point in execution
  Capacity = slave_stack[-2];
  Size = slave_stack[-1];
  slave_state->EIP = P;  // Function to invoke
slave_state->ESP = Top_of_Stack;
  slave_state->EBP = Top_of_Stack;
}
```

```
u32 H(ptr P, ptr I)
HERE:
  u32 End_Of_Code;
                                          // 2022-06-17
  u32 Address_of_H;
  u32 code_end = get_code_end((u32)P);
Decoded_Line_Of_Code *decoded = (Decoded_Line_Of_Code*)
Allocate(sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code));
                                        = (Registers*) Allocate(sizeof(Registers));
= (Registers*) Allocate(sizeof(Registers));
  Registers*
                 master_state
                 slave_state
  Registers*
  u32* slave_stack = Allocate(0x10000); // 64k;
u32 execution_trace = (u32)Allocate(sizeof(Decoded_Line_Of_Code) * 10000);
                                           // 10000 lines of x86 code
// 2022-06-18
// 2022-06-18
// 2022-06-18
  __asm lea eax, HERE
  __asm sub eax, 6
__asm mov Address_of_H, eax
    _asm mov eax, END_OF_CODE
_asm mov End_Of_Code, eax
  &slave_state, &slave_stack, Address_of_H, (u32)P, (u32)I))
goto END_OF_CODE;
return 0; // Does not halt
END_OF_CODE:
  OutputString("H: End Simulation
                                             Input Terminated Normally\n\n");
   return 1; // Input has normally terminated
// Dummy Place holder needed to know where
// the x86utm operating system is located.
// THIS FUNCTION MAY BE OBSOLETE
u32 Halts(u32 P, u32 I)
   return 0;
void P(ptr x)
   int Halt_Status = H(x, x);
if (Halt_Status)
     HERE: goto HERE;
   return;
int main()
  Output("Input_Halts = ", H(P, P));
```

## Appendix (Simulating halt decider applied to Peter Linz proof)

The following is the same idea a shown above this time it is applied to the Peter Linz Halting Problem proof. It can only be undertood within the context of this proof.

A simulating halt decider (SHD) computes the mapping from its inputs to its own final states on the basis of the behavior of its correctly simulated input.

All of the conventional halting problem counter-example inputs are simply rejected by a simulating halt decider as non-halting because they fail to meet the Linz definition of halting:

**computation that halts ...** the Turing machine will halt whenever it enters a final state. (Linz:1990:234)

## USENET comp.theory: On 4/11/2022 3:19 PM, Malcolm McLean wrote:

- > PO's idea is to have a simulator with an infinite cycle detector.
- > You would achieve this by modifying a UTM, so describing it as
- > a "modified UTM", or "acts like a UTM until it detects an infinite
- > cycle", is reasonable. And such a machine is a fairly powerful
- > halt decider. Even if the infinite cycle detector isn't very
- > sophisticated, it will still catch a large subset of non-halting
- > machines.

The following simplifies the syntax for the definition of the Linz Turing machine  $\hat{H}$ . There is no need for the infinite loop after H.qy because it is never reached. The halting criteria has been adapted so that it applies to a simulating halt decider (SHD).

 $\hat{H}.q_0 \langle \hat{H} \rangle \vdash^* H \langle \hat{H} \rangle \langle \hat{H} \rangle \vdash^* \hat{H}.qy$ 

If the correctly simulated input  $\langle \hat{H} \rangle \langle \hat{H} \rangle$  to H would reach its own final state of  $\langle \hat{H}.qy \rangle$  or  $\langle \hat{H}.qn \rangle$ .

 $\hat{H}.q_0 \langle \hat{H} \rangle \vdash^* H \langle \hat{H} \rangle \langle \hat{H} \rangle \vdash^* \hat{H}.qn$ 

If the correctly simulated input  $\langle \hat{H} \rangle \langle \hat{H} \rangle$  to H would never reach its own final state of  $\langle \hat{H}, qy \rangle$  or  $\langle \hat{H}, qn \rangle$ .

When  $\hat{H}$  is applied to  $\langle \hat{H} \rangle$  // subscripts indicate unique finite strings  $\hat{H}$  copies its input  $\langle \hat{H}_0 \rangle$  to  $\langle \hat{H}_1 \rangle$  then H simulates  $\langle \hat{H}_0 \rangle \langle \hat{H}_1 \rangle$ 

Then these steps would keep repeating: (unless their simulation is aborted)

 $\hat{H}_0$  copies its input  $\langle \hat{H}_1 \rangle$  to  $\langle \hat{H}_2 \rangle$  then  $H_0$  simulates  $\langle \hat{H}_1 \rangle$   $\langle \hat{H}_2 \rangle$ 

 $\hat{H}_1$  copies its input  $\langle \hat{H}_2 \rangle$  to  $\langle \hat{H}_3 \rangle$  then  $H_1$  simulates  $\langle \hat{H}_2 \rangle$   $\langle \hat{H}_3 \rangle$ 

 $\hat{H}_2$  copies its input  $\langle \hat{H}_3 \rangle$  to  $\langle \hat{H}_4 \rangle$  then  $H_2$  simulates  $\langle \hat{H}_3 \rangle$   $\langle \hat{H}_4 \rangle ...$ 

Since we can see that the simulated input:  $\langle \hat{H}_0 \rangle$  to H would never reach its own final state of  $\langle \hat{H}_0.qy \rangle$  or  $\langle \hat{H}_0.qn \rangle$  we know that it is non-halting.

Linz, Peter 1990. An Introduction to Formal Languages and Automata. Lexington/Toronto: D. C. Heath and Company. (317-320) this paper copyright 2022 by PL Olcott

## Infinite recursion / infinitely recursive emulation detection criteria

```
int H(ptr p, ptr i)
{
   p(i);
}

void P(ptr x)
{
   H(x, x);
   return;
}

int main()
{
   H(P,P);
}
```

If the execution trace of function P() called by function H() shows:

- (1) Function H() is called twice in sequence from the same machine address of P().
- (2) With the same parameters to H().
- (3) With no control flow instructions between the invocation of P() and the call to H() from P().

### Then the function call from P() to H() is infinitely recursive.

The exact same pattern applies when H() simulates its input with an x86 emulator.

When H is an infinite recursion detector it simply matches the above criteria in its execution trace of P, aborts its simulation of its input and reports that its simulated input would never reach its "return" instruction.

To avoid using static local memory for its stored execution trace H must know its own address and see itself called from P with the same arguments that it was called with.

https://www.liarparadox.org/2022\_07\_22.zip
This is the complete system that compiles under:

Microsoft Visual Studio Community 2017 https://visualstudio.microsoft.com/vs/older-downloads/

It has not been recently compiled under UBUNTU