

## Refutation of Halting Problem Diagonalization Argument

```
#define u32 uint32_t

int Simulate(u32 P, u32 I)
{
    ((void(*) (u32))P)(I);
    return 1;
}

int D(u32 P)    // P is a machine address
{
    if ( H(P, P) )
        return 0    // reject when H accepts
    return 1;    // accept when H rejects
}

int main()
{
    H((u32)D, (u32)D);
}
```

We can know that simulating halt decider H must stop simulating its input because if H did not stop simulating its input then D would have the same halting behavior as if D called Simulate instead of H.

The above analysis is confirmed by actual execution of the above function in the x86utm operating system. H detects an infinitely repeating non-halting pattern that never reaches the second line of D.

X86utm was designed so that halting problem computations can be examined concretely at the high level of abstraction of the C programming language. The x86utm operating system provides a DebugStep() function to allow any C function to execute the x86 machine language of another C function in debug step mode. Because these C functions are executed in separate process contexts they do not interfere with each other.

The partial halt decider H invokes an x86 emulator to execute its input D in debug step mode. The input is the machine address of the input x86 function cast to a 32-bit unsigned integer.

H examines the complete execution trace of D immediately after each x86 instruction of D is simulated. As soon as the partial halt decider H recognizes a non-terminating behavior pattern of D it aborts the simulation of D and reports not-halting.

When H is a simulating halt decider H(D,D) rejects its input as a halting computation on the basis that H(D,D) specifies infinitely nested simulation to H unless H aborts its simulation of D(D).

**Table T (All Turing machines on each other as input)**

	<M1>	<M2>	<M3>...	<D>...
M1	accept			reject
M2		reject		accept
M3			~halt	accept
...				
D	reject	accept	accept	<b>accept</b>
...				

Table TH is defined on the basis of Table T where:

(a) accept becomes reject (b) reject becomes accept (c) ~Halt becomes reject

**Table TH (Turing machine H on all Turing Machine pairs as input)**

	<M1>	<M2>	<M3>...	<D>...
M1	accept			reject
M2		reject		accept
M3			reject	accept
...				
D	reject	accept	accept	<b>reject</b>
...				

On the diagonal: a TM is executed with its own TM description as input. Table TD only has a single input that reverses the value of the diagonal of table TH for each TM description on the horizontal axis of table TH.

**Table TD (reverses H decision along the diagonal of table TH)**

	<M1>	<M2>	<M3>...	<D>...
D	reject	accept	accept	<b>accept</b>

**All of the table values are correct.**

Table T has the {accept, reject, ~halt} values of how every TM would decide every TM description including how each would decide its own TM description on the diagonal. The TMs are labeled on the vertical axis and the TM descriptions are on the horizontal axis.

Table TH is a copy of table T except that ~halt values are replaced with reject.

Table DH is a copy of the diagonal of table TH with all the values reversed.

It is possible for TD(<D>) to have the same value as T(D,<D>)

It is possible for TD(<D>) to have the opposite value as TH(D,<D>)

It is not possible for T(<D>) to have the same value as TH(D,<D>)

Table element TH(D,<D>) is required to have the opposite value of itself.

When-so-ever there is a requirement for an object to have simultaneous mutually exclusive properties then this requirement is necessarily erroneous.

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**Sipser, Michael 1997.** Introduction to the Theory of Computation. Boston: PWS Publishing Company (165-167)