

The Discontinuity Problem

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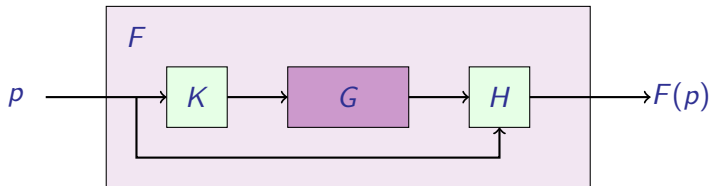
Is There a Simplest Natural Unsolvable Problem?



- ▶ **Simplicity** can be measured in different ways. For instance, the weakest natural unsolvable problem with respect to Turing reducibility seems to be the halting problem, whereas there are weaker natural problems with respect to many-one-reducibility.
- ▶ **Naturality** is supposed to express that the problem is not “artificially constructed” or exists only by invocation of the Axiom of Choice etc. A natural problem should be one with a simple definition that is of independent genuine interest.
- ▶ **Solvability** again refers to the underlying reducibility. Here we are interested in problems as multi-valued functions with respect to Weihrauch reducibility and solvability can either be meant in the computable or in the continuous sense.

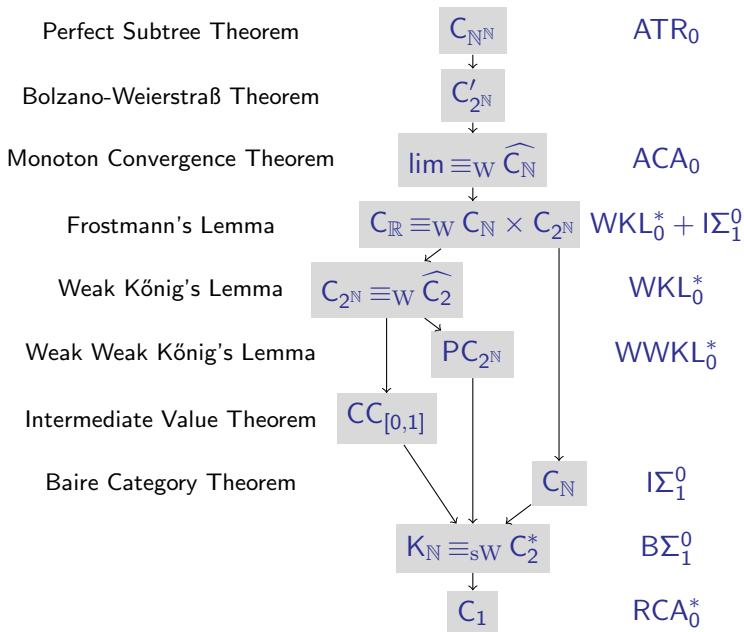
Weihrauch Reducibility

Let $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ and $g : \subseteq Z \rightrightarrows W$ be two multi-valued functions.



- ▶ f is **Weihrauch reducible** to g , $f \leq_W g$, if there are computable $H, K : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that $H\langle \text{id}, GK \rangle \vdash f$ whenever $G \vdash g$.
- ▶ We write $f \leq_W^* g$ for the continuous version of Weihrauch reducibility, where the translation functions H, K are only required to be **continuous**.
- ▶ The mentioned reducibilities all induce lattices. The lattice for \leq_W is usually referred to as **Weihrauch lattice**.

Basic Complexity Classes and Reverse Mathematics



LPO as Simplest Discontinuous Function

By $\text{LPO} : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \{0, 1\}$ we denote the **limited principle of omniscience**, which is defined by $\text{LPO}(p) = 1 : \iff p = 000\dots$

Theorem (Folklore)

For a function $f : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ the following are equivalent:

1. $\text{LPO} \leq_w^* f$,
2. f is discontinuous.

1. Early proofs of this result are due to von Stein (1989), Weihrauch (1992), B. (1993).
2. Pauly (2010) has generalized this result to arbitrary topological spaces (using a modified reducibility).
3. If one combines his proof with Schröder's characterization of sequential continuity, then the theorem generalizes to functions $f : \subseteq X \rightarrow Y$ on admissibly represented spaces X, Y with sequential continuity in place of continuity.

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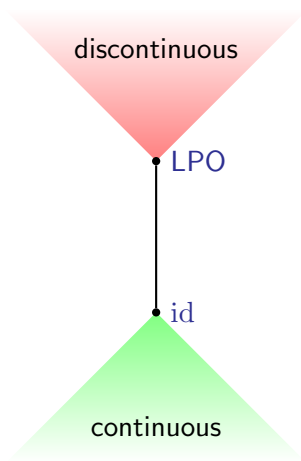
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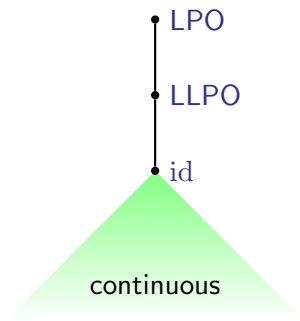
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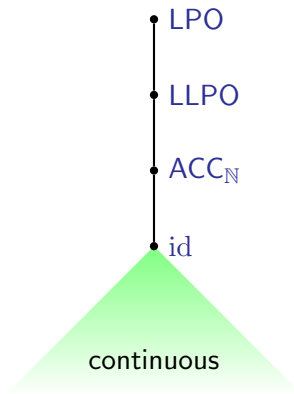
Functions $f : X \rightarrow Y$ on admissibly represented spaces with respect to continuous Weihrauch reducibility \leq_w^* .

The Picture for Multi-Valued Problems



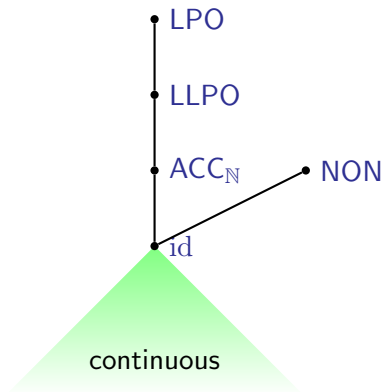
$C_2 = \text{LLPO} : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \{0, 1\}$, the so-called **lesser limited principle of omniscience**, is multi-valued. It is the problem: given an infinite list that is possibly empty or contains at most one digit $n \in \{0, 1\}$, find one digit that is missing.

The Picture for Multi-Valued Problems



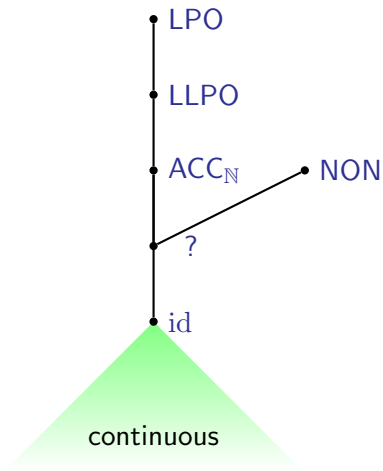
$LLPO_{\infty} = ACC_{\mathbb{N}} : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}$ is multi-valued, the so-called **all-or-co-unique choice principle**, is multi-valued. It is the problem: given an infinite list that is possibly empty or contains at most one digit $n \in \mathbb{N}$, find one digit that is missing.

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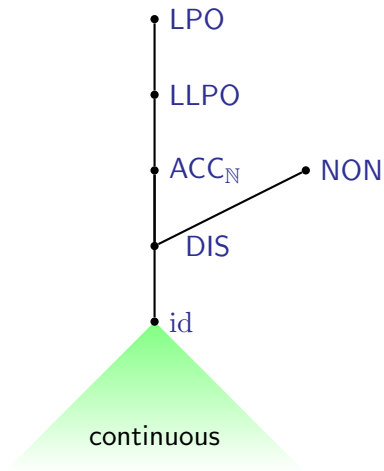


$NON : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}, p \mapsto \{q : q \not\leq_T p\}$ is called the **non-computability problem**.

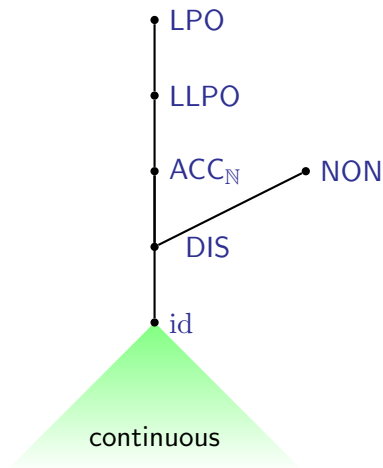
A Weakest Discontinuous Multi-Valued Problem?



The Discontinuity Problem



The Discontinuity Problem



$DIS : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}, p \mapsto \{q : U(p) \neq q\}$, where $U : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ is a fixed universal computable function.

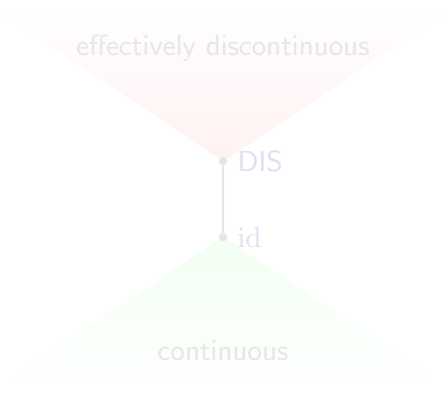
DIS as Simplest Effectively Discontinuous Problem

Theorem

For a problem $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ the following are equivalent:

1. $\text{DIS} \leq_{\text{W}}^* f$,
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The proof is based on the Recursion Theorem.



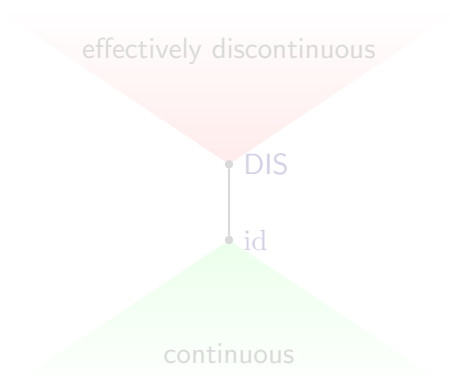
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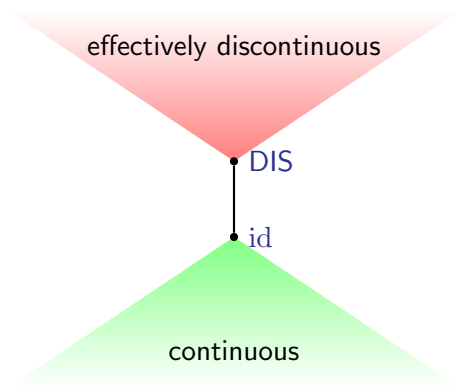
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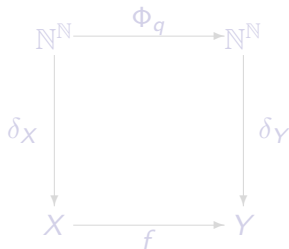
Let Φ be defined by $\Phi_q(p) := U\langle q, p \rangle$.

Definition

Let (X, δ_X) and (Y, δ_Y) be represented spaces. A problem $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ is called **effectively discontinuous** if there is a continuous $D : \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightarrow \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that for all $q \in \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ we obtain

$$D(q) \in \text{dom}(f\delta_X) \text{ and } \delta_Y\Phi_q D(q) \notin f\delta_X D(q).$$

In this case the function D is called a **discontinuity function** of f .



Effective Discontinuity

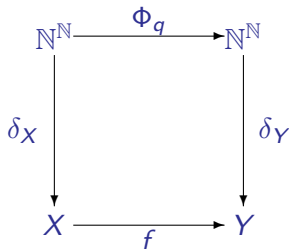
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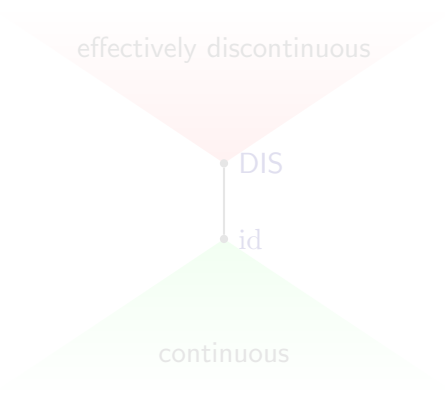
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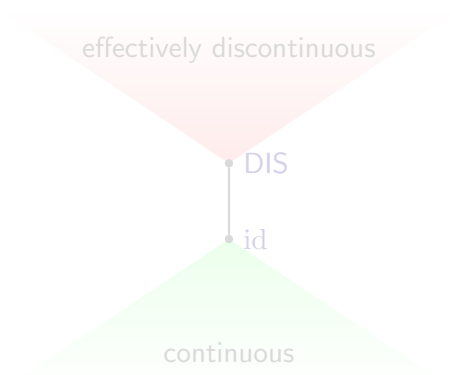
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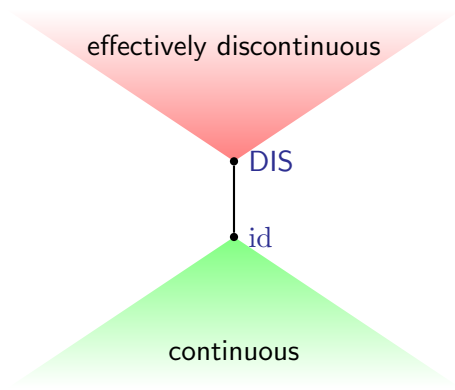
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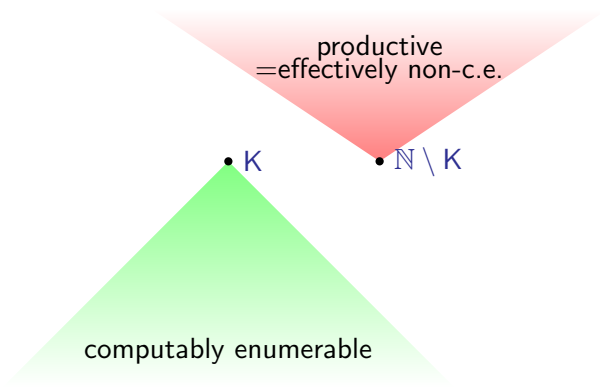
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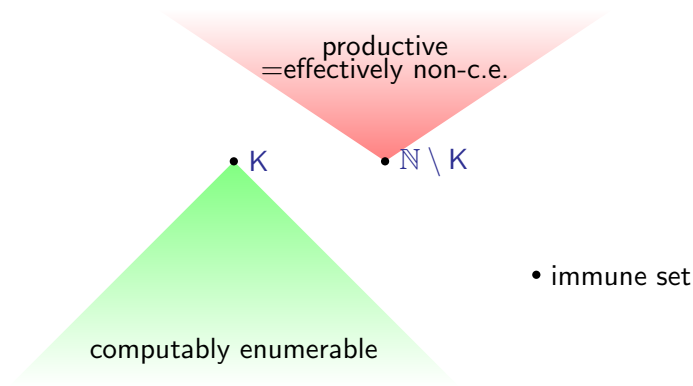
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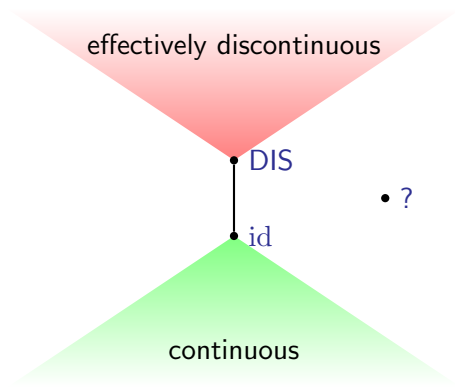
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Theorem

Assuming the Axiom of Choice (AC) there exists a problem $f : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ that is discontinuous, but not effectively so.

1. The fact can be derived from the existence of **Bernstein sets** (which are sets $B \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ such that B as well as its complement have non-empty intersection with every uncountable closed set $A \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$.)
2. This construction can be seen as an infinitary version of Post's construction of an immune set.
3. By a direct transfinite recursion one can even strengthen the result such that f becomes total and parallelizable.
4. Is the Axiom of Choice (AC) really necessary for this construction?



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Pauly and Nobrega have introduced Wadge games for problems.

Definition

Let $f : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$ be a problem. Then in a **Wadge game** f two players I and II consecutively play words

- ▶ Player I: $w_0 \ w_1 \ w_2 \ \dots =: r$,
- ▶ Player II: $v_0 \ v_1 \ v_2 \ \dots =: q$,

with $w_i, v_i \in \mathbb{N}^*$. The concatenated sequences $(r, q) \in (\mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \cup \mathbb{N}^*)^2$ are called a **run** of the game f . Player II **wins** the run (r, q) of f , if $(r, q) \in \text{graph}(f)$ or $r \notin \text{dom}(f)$. Otherwise Player I **wins**.

Theorem

Consider the game $f : \subseteq \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows \mathbb{N}^{\mathbb{N}}$. Then the following hold:

- 1. f is continuous \iff Player II has a winning strategy for f ,*
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A Dichotomy Under Determinacy



Theorem

In $ZF + DC + AD$ every problem $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ is either continuous or effectively discontinuous, i.e., either $f \leq_W^ \text{id}$ or $\text{DIS} \leq_W^* f$.*

Proof idea. The theorem can be proved by a reduction of Wadge games to Gale-Stewart games. Any such game is determined by the axiom AD , which means that either player I or player II has a winning strategy. □

Corollary

In ZFC every problem $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ on Polish spaces X, Y such that $\text{graph}(f)$ and $\text{dom}(f)$ are Borel, is either continuous or effectively discontinuous, i.e., either $f \leq_W^ \text{id}$ or $\text{DIS} \leq_W^* f$.*

Summary: DIS can be considered as the simplest natural discontinuous problem!

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Parallelization and Summation



Definition

For every problem $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ we define its **parallelization** $\Pi f : \subseteq X^{\mathbb{N}} \rightrightarrows Y^{\mathbb{N}}$ by $\text{dom}(\Pi f) := \text{dom}(f)^{\mathbb{N}}$ and

$$\Pi f(x_n) := \{(y_n) \in Y^{\mathbb{N}} : (\forall n) y_n \in f(x_n)\}$$

for all $(x_n) \in X^{\mathbb{N}}$. We usually write $\widehat{f} := \Pi f$ and we call a problem **parallelizable** if $f \equiv_{\mathbb{W}} \widehat{f}$ holds.

Parallelization is known to be a closure operator on the Weihrauch lattice (and an analogue of the ! operator in linear logic).

Theorem

$\widehat{\text{DIS}} \equiv_{\mathbb{W}} \text{NON}$.

The proof is based on the Recursion Theorem.

Slogan: Non-computability is the parallelization of discontinuity!



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Here \overline{Y} denotes the completion of Y (a construction that saw a recent surge of interest after work of Dzhafarov (2019)).

Proposition

The summation operator $f \mapsto \Sigma f$ is an interior operator on the Weihrauch lattice.

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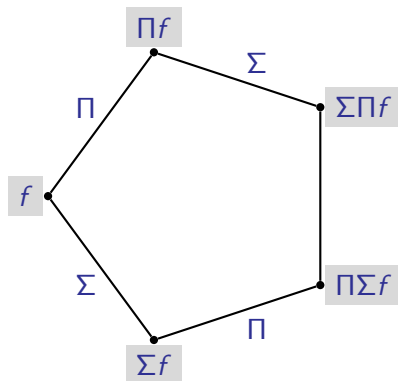
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The Parallelization Summation Pentagons

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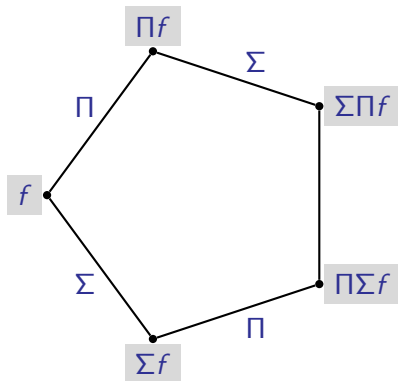


There are no cross reductions in a proper pentagon (otherwise the pentagon collapses to a smaller graph).

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$(\Pi f)^{\mathcal{D}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \Sigma \Pi f$ and $(\Pi \Sigma f)^{\mathcal{D}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \Pi \Sigma f$ for every problem f .

Corollary

$f \mapsto \Sigma f$ and $f \mapsto f^{\mathcal{D}}$ are identical restricted to parallelizable Weihrauch degrees.



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Let $f : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows Y$ be a problem. We define the **Turing cone version** $f^{\mathcal{D}} : \subseteq X \rightrightarrows \mathcal{D}$ by $\text{dom}(f^{\mathcal{D}}) := \text{dom}(f)$ and $f^{\mathcal{D}}(x) := \{\text{deg}_{\text{T}}(q) \in \mathcal{D} : (\exists y \leq_{\text{T}} q) y \in f(x)\}$.

Proposition

$f \mapsto f^{\mathcal{D}}$ is an interior operator on the Weihrauch lattice.

Proposition

$(\Pi f)^{\mathcal{D}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \Sigma \Pi f$ and $(\Pi \Sigma f)^{\mathcal{D}} \equiv_{\text{sW}} \Pi \Sigma f$ for every problem f .

Corollary

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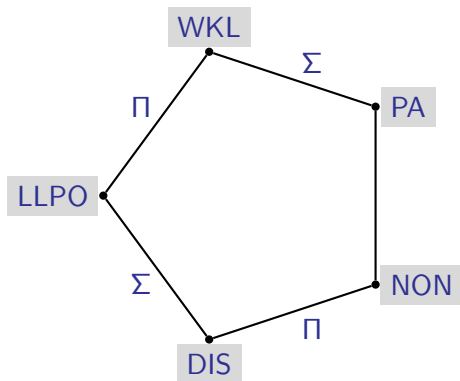
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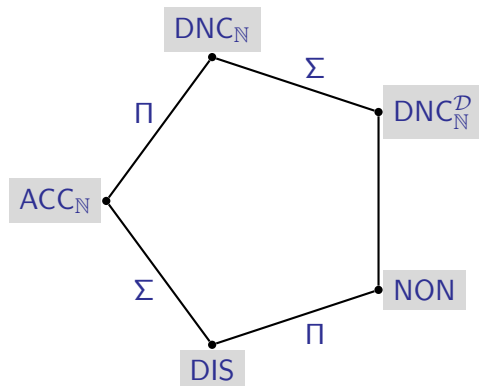
The LLPO Pentagon



Here $\Pi \text{LLPO} \equiv_W \text{WKL}$ was proved by B. and Gherardi (2011).

WKL denotes Weak König's Lemma and **PA** the problem of finding a Turing degree that is of PA degree relative to the given input.

The ACC Pentagon




Here $\Pi ACC_{\mathbb{N}} \equiv_W DNC_{\mathbb{N}}$ was proved independently by Higuchi and Kihara (2014) and B., Hendtlass and Kreuzer (2017).

$DNC_{\mathbb{N}}$ denotes the problem of finding a point in Baire space that is diagonally non-computable relative to the given input.



- ▶ We claim that in a well justified way the discontinuity problem **DIS** can be seen as the weakest natural unsolvable problem.
- ▶ The existence of other weak unsolvable problems depends on the axiomatic setting.
- ▶ Parallelization of the discontinuity problem **DIS** yields the non-computability problem.
- ▶ Summation of **LLPO** (and **ACC_N** and other problems) yields the discontinuity problem **DIS**.
- ▶ Hence the discontinuity problem is also naturally behaved with respect to the algebraic structure of the Weihrauch lattice.
- ▶ All this is work in progress, nothing has been published yet and there are many open questions left.

A Survey as a Reference



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Mathematics > Logic

Weihrauch Complexity in Computable Analysis

Vasco Brattka, Guido Gherardi, Arno Pauly
(Submitted on 11 Jul 2017)

We provide a self-contained introduction into Weihrauch complexity and its applications to computable analysis. This includes a survey on some classification results and a discussion of the relation to other approaches.


Comments: 49 pages plus 10 pages appendix
Subjects: **Logic (math.LO)**; Logic in Computer Science (cs.LO)
Cite as: **arXiv:1707.03202 [math.LO]**
(or **arXiv:1707.03202v1 [math.LO]** for this version)

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There is a bibliography on Weihrauch complexity with more than 130 items:

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